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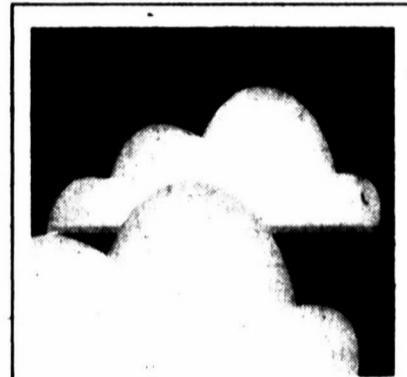
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Pampa

Vol. 97 No. 140 • Pampa, Texas
50¢ Daily • Sunday \$1



High, 85
Low, 63
For weather details, see Page 2.

API plans 16th annual shrimp boil Sept. 22

The Panhandle Chapter of the American Petroleum Institute will be hosting its 16th Annual Membership Drive and Shrimp Boil beginning at 6 p.m., Sept. 22 at Pampa Country Club.

Activities will include door prizes, a Long Drive Contest, dinner and a dance. Music will be the group Flash Bak.

Tickets will be available at the door and are \$15 per person. Memberships may be purchased for \$10.

Retired Teachers Assn. to meet on Monday

Pampa Retired Teachers Association will meet Monday, Sept. 17, at 2 p.m. at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center.

Texas soldiers stand ready for deployment

(AP) — After President Bush's vow of revenge on the perpetrators of Tuesday's terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, members of the military across Texas say they're prepared to do what it takes to defend the country.

"The mood is very upbeat," said Jean Offutt, a Fort Bliss public affairs officer. "The soldiers are prepared to do whatever is needed to be done. ... They're pumped."

The Pentagon plans to activate thousands of military reservists to strengthen defenses of U.S. airspace and to assist in the aftermath of Tuesday's twin terrorist attacks.

George "Bruce" Hooper, 74, welder.

Agriculture 9
Classified 21
Comics 16
Editorial 4
Entertainment 20
Medical 6
Sports 10

West Texas LANDSCAPE
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Bush: War to be long, unrelenting

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush vowed on Saturday that U.S. troops will hunt down terrorists and "smoke them out of their holes" in a long, unrelenting response to Tuesday's ghastly attacks. Americans must brace themselves for great sacrifices, he said, "because the conflict will not be easy."

Echoing the words of his father, former President George H.W. Bush, after Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990, the president said, "This act will not stand."

For the first time, Bush identified Osama bin Laden as a suspect in the attacks on Washington and New York, plus the downing of a commercial plane over Pennsylvania.

Flags to return to top of staff Monday

American flags will return to the top of the staff Monday morning as investigations continue into terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

According to a proclamation issued Tuesday by President George W. Bush, flags were to fly at half staff through

"If he thinks he can hide and run from the United States and our allies he will be sorely mistaken," the president said.

"Those who make war against the

United States have chosen their own destruction."

Weary rescue workers sifted desperately through rubble in New York and out-

side Washington with diminishing hopes of finding survivors. At the Pentagon, workers discovered a large number of bodies, both from the jet liner that crashed into it and from the crushed military complex.

"We are now getting into the heart of the crash site," said Arlington County Fire Chief Ed Plaugher. "I would not be able to describe it in words."

Bush vowed vengeance for the worst terrorist attack on America.

"We will find those who did it. We will smoke them out of their holes, we'll get them running, and we'll bring them to justice. We will not only deal with those

(See BUSH, Page 3)

Business gives PEDC praise after first year

By NANCY YOUNG
Managing Editor

Officials with United Medicorp, Inc., celebrating its first year as a local business, reacted to recent efforts to dissolve the Pampa Economic Development Corporation (PEDC) with disbelief.

"Susan Tripplehorn and the PEDC are responsible for us moving our business to Pampa last year," said Peter W. Seaman, chairman and chief executive officer of UMC.

Seaman said he was stunned when he read in *The Pampa News* on Tuesday that some local citizens are attempting to gather 1,241 signatures of registered voters on a petition to place the decision before the voters on the Nov. 6 ballot.

He said his company has 84 employees and a \$1.5 million local payroll. We

expect to grow, too," he said. "I understand the PEDC has some missteps before Susan took over," he said. "It was because of her enthusiasm, professionalism and incentives that we located here."

UMC has two basic businesses. One is a billing service for hospitals and doctors. The second business bills the guarantor for patient services after insurance pays.

He said the employees also document customer service.

Director of Operation Dennis Bazhaw said there are 436 economic development corporations in Texas, and they are all trying to get businesses into their areas.

"Susan and the local PEDC were the ones who were responsible for getting us in Pampa," he said.

Seaman said the investment banking (See PEDC, Page 3)

(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)

Peter Seaman, chief executive of UMC, took over the work of Janice Gutierrez, a local supervisor with the year-old company.

Petition drive on board's agenda

One of the items the Board of Directors of Pampa Economic Development Corporation (PEDC) plans to discuss is a petition drive to repeal the PEDC at a meeting set for 4 p.m., Monday, Sept. 17, at the PEDC offices, 105 E. Foster Street, Suite 200.

A public comment period will follow reading of the minutes. Citizens who have signed up to speak to the PEDC Board of Directors will be heard at this time.

In compliance with the Texas Open meetings Act, unless the subject matter of the presentation is on the agenda, the PEDC staff and board members are prevented from discussing the subject and may respond only with

statements of factual information or existing PEDC policy. Citizens are limited to three-minute presentations, according to PEDC officials.

The following items are listed for consideration and possible board action on Monday's meeting:

- limitation of TDCJ scholarships to Pampa residents only;
- limiting PEDC projects;
- incentive package items;
- improving communication with the City Commission;
- improving communications with the public;
- payments for expenses for non-PEDC Projects;
- public statements made by or on behalf of PEDC;
- Discussion of 4A versus 4B tax for economic development.



(Pampa News photo by Grover Black)

Sunday Snapshot

Oklahoma.
Family: Late mother, beloved spouse and children.

Favorite Childhood Memory: Every Sunday somewhere in Oklahoma you could find a park with a "state picnic" in progress in the summer.

When I Grew Up I Wanted To Be: A wife and mother.

My Best Friend Was: We moved a lot, so I had lots of best friends.

People Remember Me As Being: I have no idea.

My Favorite Toy: Dolls.

My Favorite Game: Jacks.

My Favorite Radio Show: "Blue Monday Jamboree" (about 1930).

The First Movie I Ever Saw & The Cost: About 10 cents, a Tom Mix cowboy show.

The First Phone I Ever Used Belonged To: The landlords.

The Person That Most Influenced My

Life: My mother when I was a child; my spouse when I was an adult.

The Historical Event That Most Affected My Life & Why: World War II — then the oilfields of Texas and Oklahoma were developing.

The Thing I Remember Most About

The Depression Was: Everybody talked about it, but what was it? I thought it was normal, never-ending.

The Biggest Honor I've Ever Received Is: The proposal of my spouse.

If I Could Change One Thing About

My Past It Would Be: Do more of what an old popular song advised about spouses — "Hug him in the morning, kiss him every night."

My Whole Family Enjoyed: Picnics, movies, vacations, birthdays.

The Person From My Childhood I Wish I Could Visit With Today Is: My mom.

My First Job Was: Baby-sitting, and

cleaning house for a doctor's wife.

Year & Make of The First Vehicle I Drove: My mother's boy friend's car.

Cost of Gasoline When I First Drove: I haven't the faintest idea.

On My First Date I Went To: A movie with a boy named Jack.

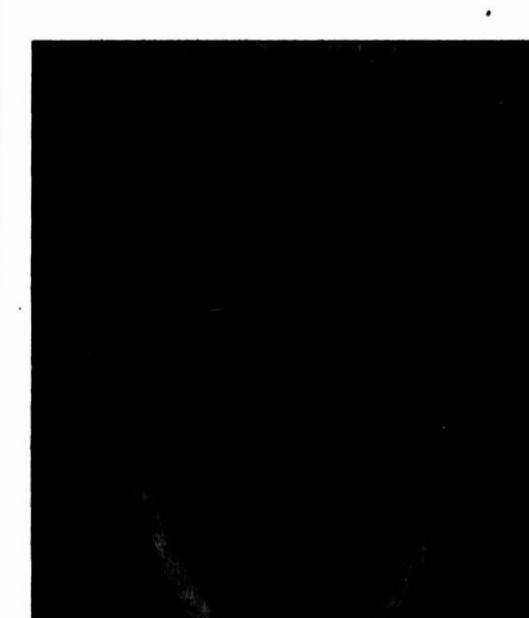
My Favorite Hang Out Spot Was: Who had time to hang out?

The Fashion Trend Was: From short to long and back again, from tight to free skirted and back again.

My Favorite Saying Was: Nuts!

My Favorite Song Was: There were so many! "It Had to Be You" or "Kiss Me Once and Kiss Me Twice."

Another Memory I Want To Share Is: The desperation we all felt during World War II. How it was to have a baby; the first real job I had; graduation from college; burying children and later spouses — the importance of love.



Name: Majaunta Hills.
Birth Date & Place: Jan. 9, 1920.

Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, September 18 at 11:45 a.m. in the M.K. Brown Room of the Pampa Community Building. Speaker will be Norman Stephens - Administrator of Pampa Regional Medical Center. Sponsor: C&S Cable Advertising. Catered by: Dyers BBQ. Cost is \$6.50 per person. For reservations please call the Chamber office at 669-3241.



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Daily Record

Services tomorrow

No services for Monday were reported to the Pampa News by press time Saturday.

Obituaries

GEORGE 'BRUCE' HOOOPER

George "Bruce" Hooper, 74, of Pampa, died Friday, Sept. 14, 2001, at Pampa. Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Dale Moreland, associate pastor of the San Jacinto Baptist Church of Amarillo, and Dr. Randy White, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Pampa, officiating. Burial will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at the Gorman Cemetery in Gorman, Texas, under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Hooper was born Nov. 27, 1926, in the Jake Hammon Community in Comanche County, Texas. He married Arlene Fuller on June 7, 1951, in Gorman. He farmed and ranched for H.R. Taylor, and he was the district manager for Permian Bryan Sales and Service for 23 years.

He had been a resident of Pampa since 1966, moving from Andrews. He was a welder for Ornamental Iron. He was a member of the First Baptist Church, working in the pre-school department.

He was preceded in death by one son, Stephen Miles Hooper; one grandson, James Aragon Hooper; one brother, Bob Hooper; and one sister, Bonnie Lee.

Survivors include his wife, Arlene, of the home; one daughter, Velia Bowers of Bishop, Calif.; one son, Jimmy D. Hooper of Tacoma, Wash.; two grandchildren, Stephen Bowers of Denver, Colo., and Mariah Allen of Lancaster, Calif.; and four great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to First Baptist Church or to First Baptist Church Preschool, 203 N. West, Pampa, TX 79065.

Fires

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

Friday, Sept. 14

8:16 a.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to the 700 block of South Cuyler. The ladder truck was used to place a rope on the flag pole at Clifton Electric, 734 S. Cuyler, so the business could fly the U.S. and Texas flags.

5:48 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 1300 block of Mary Ellen.

6:08 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters were first responders on a medical assist in the 1200 block of South Finley.

9:04 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 300 block of Perry.

Emergency numbers

Ambulance.....	911
Crime Stoppers.....	669-2222
Energas.....	1-888-Energas
Fire.....	911
Police (emergency).....	911
Police (non-emergency).....	669-5700
SPS.....	1-800-750-2520
Water.....	669-5830

Morris: Plastic bags, debris damaging sewage plant

Blowing debris from the city's landfill, especially plastic bags, is playing havoc with the nearby sewage treatment plant to the point some pumps have been damaged or torn up, Public Works Director Richard Morris told the City Commission recently.

To correct the problem, the city has awarded a \$38,596 bid to

two local companies, B&G Electric and Looper Fence Company, to build 1,200 feet of 15-foot-high fencing on the east and south sides of the landfill cell now in use.

"We have been using temporary fencing out there but when there is a big wind it blows that down," Morris said.

Besides keeping bags and

other debris out of the treatment plant, Morris said the new fence will also be welcomed by nearby landowners whose property becomes littered.

In the past, the city has used inmate work crews from the Rufe Jordan Unit to clean up nearby property but due to the prison guard shortage those crews aren't available now, Morris said.

TUNE UP. LIGHT UP. WARM UP.



Remember that you are responsible for the gas line from the meter to the entry of the dwelling and all of the interior piping.

You should also consider calling a heating contractor to schedule a furnace inspection. A furnace inspection should include installing a clean filter, lubricating the blower and bearings if needed; making sure pilot and burners are clean and in proper adjustment; and checking the heat exchanger, safety controls and thermostat.

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Police report

Pampa Police Department reported the following arrest during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. Saturday.

Saturday, Sept. 15

Jimmy D. Burks, 20, 313 N. Dwight, was arrested on a bond surrender for driving with a suspended license.

Sheriff's Office

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

Friday, Sept. 14

Russell Alan Owen, 35, 804 N. Christy, was arrested on bond surrenders for possession of a controlled substance, reckless driving, and traffic tickets.

Patrick D. Mize, 19, Lefors, was arrested on a bond surrender for burglary of a building.

Saturday, Sept. 15

Charles Ray Collins, 69, Council Hills, Okla., was arrested for driving while intoxicated - first offense.

Jesus Alex Ramos Guerreve, 25, 710 N. Christy, was arrested by the Texas Department of Public Safety for driving while intoxicated - first offense.

Ambulance

Rural Metro Ambulance Service responded to the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. Saturday.

Friday, Sept. 14

9:01 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of Williston and transported one to Pampa Regional Medical Center (PRMC).

12:10 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of North Wells and transported one to Golden Plains Hospital, Borger.

1:57 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 400 block of South Barnes and transported one to PRMC.

3:55 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Mary Ellen and transported one to PRMC.

5:44 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of Mary Ellen and transported one to PRMC.

6:05 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of South Finley and transported one to PRMC.

7:22 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the Pampa High School football field. No patient.

7:38 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported one to BSA-West, Amarillo.

8:58 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 300 block of Perry and transported one to PRMC.

Weather focus

PAMPA — Sunday, mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs near 85. Southeast to south winds 10 to 20 mph. Sunday night, mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows 60 to 65. Monday, partly sunny with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. Monday evening, partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Tuesday, partly cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows 60 to 65. Highs in the middle 80s.

Two die, more missing after collapse of bridge

By LYNN BREZOSKY
Associated Press Writer

PORT ISABEL (AP) — Barges rammed a bridge connecting this fishing community to South Padre Island, killing at least two people and leaving several people missing as cars plunged into the water, officials said.

The search for missing vehicles and victims was suspended about 8 a.m. and was expected to resume around 11 a.m. because of unsafe conditions, said Texas Department of Public Safety spokeswoman Lorraine Ronquillo. Divers at the scene were trying to reinforce the structure.

"One of the columns is very unsafe and the waters are muddy," Ronquillo said.

Five vehicles were still under water, possibly more, Ronquillo said. At least 13 people had been rescued.

The tug Brown Water V and its four barges carrying steel coils and phosphate struck a pillar of the Queen Isabella Causeway, officials said.

The crash toppled two 80-foot segments of the bridge, which is 65 feet wide and two lanes in each direction, said Randall Dillard of the Texas Department of Transportation.

Dillard said investigators, including specialized diving crews, with his agency were en route to inspect the damage. Several Coast Guard boats, Texas Parks and Wildlife officials and local police and emergency medical personnel also were called to search the Laguna Madre.

In the meantime, Dillard said officials were working to devise a temporary ferry system to shuttle people from the island. About 2 1/2 miles long, the Queen Isabella Causeway is the state's longest bridge and the only thoroughfare connecting the island to the mainland.

"We'll be looking at the condition of the bridge as it is now and working to develop emergency contracts to make repairs. We need to look at it a little closer to know what the extent of what those repairs are going to be," Dillard said.

Betty Ewart, 62, came to watch the rescue after her husband, Edwin Ewart, 49, didn't arrive home as expected between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m. from his job as a waiter.

"I was at home for about an hour or two. I was waiting by the phone. I didn't want to come out," she said. "He would have called by now. That's what leads me to believe something's wrong."

Michael Lorber was driving back from South Padre Island behind a friend. His friend's car plunged into the water, while he slammed on the breaks.

Lorber returned to the island and took a boat back to Port Isabel. His friend is still missing.

Matt Pechacek, a friend of both men, waited at Port Isabel as divers searched for survivors.

"They should have 50 boats out there. Why isn't there a million boats out there?" said a visibly shaken Pechacek.

Joshua Sharkey, a Coast Guard spokesman, said telephone lines along the bridge had been severed, hampering communications with people on the island.

Southwestern Bell spokesman Bill Noble said workers were splicing together fiber-optic lines and microwave towers also were being brought in to restore telephone communication.

Area homebuilder Clayton Brashears said thousands of volunteers across the region were due to show up Saturday for Adopt-A-Beach day to help out with island beach cleanup efforts.

Meanwhile, rooms at island hotels were about 70 percent booked, mainly with Mexican tourists celebrating Diez y Seis de Septiembre, that nation's independence day.

Continental cuts schedule 20 percent, furloughs 12,000

HOUSTON (AP) — Continental Airlines, expecting a drop in air travel following this past week's terrorist attacks, announced Saturday it is cutting its long-term flight schedule by 20 percent and will furlough 12,000 employees, or more than a-fifth of its payroll.

The Houston-based airline, the nation's fifth-largest, said in a news release the cuts would be made systemwide. Details of the schedule reduction and furloughs would be announced within the week, Continental said.

"These actions are a direct result

of the current and anticipated adverse effects on the demand for air travel caused by this week's terrorist attacks on the United States and the operational and financial costs of dramatically increased security requirements," the company said.

City Briefs

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ALL-U-CAN-EAT 5-7 p.m. \$6.99/salad & sandwich bar \$4.59 thru Sep. We deliver lunch M-F 11-1. Clint & Son's, 1421 N. Hobart.

SPECIAL PRAYER Service For Our Nation, 6:30 p.m. In Our Sanctuary, First United Methodist Church, 201 E. Foster.

BEAUTY 2000 has added a women's fashion boutique, nail tech & massage therapist. 329 N. Hobart.

THE AMERICAN Right To Vote! Sign petition to place PEDC issue before the people. Library North door meeting rm., Sun. Sept. 16th, 1-6 p.m.

HOUSEKEEPER WITH REFERENCES, 665-1848.

TICKETS FOR sale to Bill Gaither Concert in Lubbock. September 28. Cost \$17.50. Central Baptist Church - 665-1631.

LEEANN'S GROOMING, 669-9660.

WATKINS PRODUCTS, Betty Stribling, 665-8806.

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BUSH

who dare attack America, we will deal with those who harbor them and feed them and house them," he said.

"They have stirred up the might of the American people," Bush said as he met with his national security team at the Marine-guarded Camp David presidential retreat in western Maryland.

He warned that the war will be prolonged and carry great risks.

"I will not settle for a token act. Our response must be sweeping, sustained and effective," the president said in his weekly

radio address. "We have much to do and much to ask of the American people."

"You will be asked for your patience, for the conflict will not be short. You will be asked for resolve, because the conflict will not be easy. You will be asked for your strength because the course to victory may be long," he said.

Bush met with his top advisers, including Vice President Dick Cheney, Secretary of State Colin Powell, national security adviser Condoleezza Rice, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and Attorney General John Ashcroft.

Ashcroft said the investigation

has made progress. "We believe the picture is developing a kind of clarity."

Powell announced that Pakistan has offered to "assist us in whatever might be required." Pakistan shares a 1,560-mile border with Afghanistan, which is believed to be harboring bin Laden.

Of the terrorists, Bush said: "We'll get them running and we'll bring them to justice."

Bush on Friday called 50,000 military reservists to duty. "My message is for everybody who wears the uniform, get ready," Bush said Saturday. "The United States will do what it takes to

win this war."

The first arrest in the investigation came Friday, a government official said.

The suspect, whose identity was not made public, was arrested because authorities believe he has information about the attacks and poses a high risk of fleeing the country, said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Two other men picked up in Fort Worth, Texas, were flown to New York for questioning, officials said.

The devastation from Tuesday's attacks was still being assessed.

New York struggled to come to terms with the mounting casualty count: 124 bodies recovered, a total of 184 confirmed dead and more than 4,700 missing. Only five people have been pulled out alive along with more than 400 body parts.

Government authorities said 189 people — a combination of military and civilian employees on the ground and the passengers and crew in the plane — were believed to have died in the attack on the Pentagon.

Lawmakers passed a measure to allow Bush to exercise "all necessary and appropriate force" against the terrorists, their sponsors and protectors. Only Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Calif., voted against it.

On the diplomatic front, support for U.S. action appeared to be solidifying.

Pakistani military and diplomatic sources said Saturday that Pakistan has agreed to a full list of U.S. demands for a possible attack on neighboring Afghanistan, including a multi-

national force to be based within Pakistani borders.

The U.S. demands had also included a closure of Pakistan's border with Afghanistan and permission for flights over Pakistani airspace in the event of military action.

The New York Times reported that a senior State Department official met with 15 Arab representatives and told them they must declare their nations part of an international coalition against terrorism, or run the risk of being isolated in the growing conflict.

In areas far from the calamity and devastation on the East Coast, Americans still struggled to deal with the new realities and fears that have emerged since Tuesday's attacks.

Most airports returned to limited operation. Boston's Logan Airport reopened Saturday, leaving Reagan National Airport, just across the Potomac River from Washington, as the only major airport that will remain closed indefinitely.

PEDC

firm who assisted the company in selecting the location of the company communicated with more than 200 communities wanting to get the company.

Discussions were held with 20 communities before the short list was narrowed to five, he said. Pampa emerged as the company's choice.

"This was because of the PEDC and the incentives they offered to us," he said.

Seaman said the business has been in Pampa for a year.

"We expect to continue to grow," he said. "We don't pollute, and we pay better wages and full benefits."

He said the company chose to leave the Dallas area because the cost of wages and that they couldn't keep employees because of heavy competition in that area. He said the employees would get trained and then go to hospitals and doctors offices due to larger salaries.

Seaman said he took a survey of his employees last week and learned six have purchased homes in Pampa this past year and six others are in the process of buying a home. He said 21 UMC employees have bought cars in the past year.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

"We have had a tremendous impact on the downtown area," he said, saying the employees eat lunch at the eating establishments in the downtown area and also do their shopping on their lunch hour.

"We chose the downtown area," he said.

Seaman also said seven employees with UMC relocated to Pampa this past year.

Bazhaw said the business helps Pampa diversify.

Seaman said he regularly reads about small towns who are struggling because of the exodus in population and lack of businesses to employ the people.

"The PEDC is the best asset Pampa has," he said. "Towns have to be looking ahead and manage changes in a forward direction. The PEDC should be viewed as an investment for the community."

He said the PEDC paid UMC upon the closing of the purchase of the property, and will pay UMC \$27,400 a year for five years.

PEDC is paying UMC an employee grant over an eight year period. He said they are paid \$1,000 per number of jobs per year for the first 50 employees. He said the grant incentive will also include a \$500 per employee over 50.

Also, the agreement states that if UMC does not provide 62,400 hours of employment during a calendar year the company

will pay PEDC \$24,000 per year no later than Feb. 15 of the following year.

Both Seaman and Bazhaw bragged on the quality of workers in Pampa.

"We sent 12 locally-hired employees to train in our Dallas office before we opened a year ago," said Seaman. "Of that number, nine are still with UMC."

"Pampa High School is to be commended for the fine job they have done with the students," said Bazhaw. "The employees here take pride in their work and they know how to work."

"We had 720 applications from people seeking work when we first arrived," said Bazhaw. "Of that number, 700 were qualified for these jobs."

The local UMC provides billing services for three companies in different time zones: Presbyterian Healthcare Services based in Albuquerque, N.M., Inova Health Systems located in northern Virginia and Valley Baptist in Harlingen.

Due to the different time zones, employees work different shifts. The first group of workers begin their day at 7 a.m. and the last group ends their work day at 9 p.m.

"Our clients are extremely pleased and our employees have delivered a superior performance," he said. "The PEDC is attracting business. Is that squandering money?"

Sights, smells punctuate Tri-State Fair

AMARILLO — A flash of color from a whirling ferris wheel, a whiff of funnel cake or Italian sausage sandwiches, a giggling child nuzzled by a baby goat — all are the sights, smells and sounds of the Tri-State Fair, scheduled for Sept. 14-22 at the Fairgrounds in Amarillo.

"No matter what your age or what your idea is of a good time, we're going to have it at the Tri-State Fair," said Fair President Ted Fancher.

The Fair brings families together," he added. "families can bring the little kids to enjoy kiddie rides and the petting zoo, teenagers to enjoy the thrill rides, and the whole family will enjoy the entertainment at the Amarillo National Center. For many families, the Fair is one of the great traditions and they come back with their kids and grandkids year after year."

This year's event also features a three-day rodeo sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA).

Rodeo Amarillo is set for

Sept. 20-22 at the Amarillo National Center (ANC) with events beginning at 7:30 p.m. each night. Also planned at the ANC is the Tri-State Fair Tournament of Champions Calf Roping at 2 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 16.

Other special events at the ANC include Shootfighting and Women's Professional Boxing on Saturday, Sept. 15, at 7:30 p.m., and Amarillo Indoor Motocross & Freestyle Competition at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 18.

Events at the ANC require an additional ticket purchase. If purchased in advance at the Tri-State Fair Office or Civic Center Box Office, the ticket includes gate admission to the fair.

Additional entertainment takes place on the fairgrounds each day. Acts include a petting zoo, chain saw artists, GT Bicycle Air Show, a magician and many local entertainers for the Outdoor Free Stage. In addition, a demolition derby is scheduled for the Outdoor Arena on at 7 p.m.,

Tuesday, Sept. 18. Ground entertainment is included in the gate admission price.

Several special nights have been planned for this year's fair to make it more affordable and to help local organizations.

Children's Miracle Network (CMN) will benefit from four Fair nights, Sept. 16-19. Coupons for wristbands can be purchased for \$15 at any Toot 'N Totem store in Amarillo or at the fair and \$2 of each purchase will benefit CMN.

Thursday, Sept. 20, is set as Coke Cantastic Night, sponsored by Coca-Cola. With six empty Coca-Cola product cans, fairgoers receive an unlimited ride wristband for \$10.

The Fair also offers a Mega Pass again this year. For \$45, a person can receive a Mega Pass allowing unlimited rides throughout the Fair. The Mega Pass can be purchased at any United Supermarket. If purchased during the fair, the cost is \$50.



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CONT. FROM PG. 1

FLAGS

by order, by the authority vested in me as President of the United States of America by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, that the flag of the United States shall be flown at half-staff at the White House and upon all public buildings and grounds, at all military posts and naval stations, and on all naval vessels of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States and its Territories and possessions until sunset, Sunday, Sept. 16, 2001." Bush said in his proclamation issued Tuesday. "I also direct that the flag shall be flown at half-staff for the same length of time at all United States embassies, legations, consular offices, and other facilities abroad, including all military facilities and naval vessels and stations."

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The opinions expressed on this page are not necessarily the opinions of The Pampa News.

Texas Editorials

By The Associated Press

A sampling of editorial opinion around Texas:

Austin American-Statesman on jury awards:

Jurors in personal injury cases have a difficult, if not impossible, job: They are asked to put a price tag on dreams. They are asked to assign a dollar value to potential.

An ongoing debate over whether jurors overvalue dreams and potential is likely to be reignited as the various defective product cases targeting the Bridgestone/Firestone Inc. and Ford Motor Co. move forward.

The first of those cases to reach trial was settled for \$7.5 million even as the jury deliberated in the case filed by a South Texas physician against the tire manufacturer.

Dr. Joel Rodriguez of Pharr sued as the result of a March 2000 crash of a Ford Explorer that left his wife, Marisa Rodriguez, a 39-year-old mother of three, brain-damaged. His wife was injured when the Ford Explorer in which she was riding rolled after the right rear tire separated. The rollover crushed the vehicle's roof over the back seat.

Rodriguez filed a \$1 billion lawsuit against Bridgestone/Firestone. A month before trial, he settled a separate case with Ford for \$6 million.

The company lawyers settled on the fourth day of jury deliberations. Obviously, lawyers were wary of rolling the dice with the jury. It's difficult to know how the jury was leaning, because U.S. District Judge Filomeno Vela advised jurors not to discuss the case.

The judge noted that there were similar cases pending all over the country and a public discussion of the case by jurors might have an impact on pending litigation.

In reaching the settlement, the tire manufacturer admitted no liability for the accident. Evidence was presented that the tire manufacturer knew the risks posed by the tires. Bridgestone/Firestone contends that Ford Explorers were poorly designed and prone to roll over. The litigation will go on for years.

It's reported that 200 cases have already been settled and 300 more are waiting to be tried. Each contains a story of families who can't retrieve the lives they had before the accident. In the unlikely event that all those cases reach trial, juries will be asked how much those lives are worth.

There are formulas for determining earning potential, but none for calculating the price of a smile or a reassuring touch on the arm or the value of discussing the events of the day with a loved one.

That's the emotional component that drives advocates of tort reform to their charts and statistics and anecdotes of juror overreaction. Sometimes, they are right — jurors can overreact. They are only human, after all.

Unfortunately, tort reform discussions too often glide over how defendants met their responsibility to provide safe, reliable products. Ford and Firestone are answering that question one case at a time.

We may hear denunciations of the settlements or awards. But recall that settlements are negotiated and awards are rendered by ordinary people who are asked to put a price tag on the priceless.

From our files

40 years ago

SUNDAY, Sept. 17, 1961. Mrs. Elaine Ledbetter, Pampa High School science instructor, was honored Saturday night as "Adult Leader of the Year" at the Pampa Key Club's third annual Leadership banquet at the high school cafeteria.

MONDAY, Sept. 18, 1961. Babe Curfman, head Coach of the Pampa Harvesters since 1958, resigned his post today.

TUESDAY, Sept. 19, 1961. SKELLYTOWN (Spl) — The student council of White Deer High School held its first meeting recently and elected officers for the 1961-62 school year.

25 years ago

THURSDAY, Sept. 16, 1976. A tornado touched down six miles north of White Deer about 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, but no damages were reported — however rainfall amounts throughout the county ranged from .30 to 2.70 inches.

FRIDAY, Sept. 17, 1976. United Way collections in Pampa reached \$85,363 Thursday, with \$90,000 as the goal, according to Dutch Holland, campaign director.

SUNDAY, Sept. 19, 1976. Fran Finney of Amarillo and Carl King of Dimmitt are the new 31st District Democratic committeewoman and committeeman.

10 years ago

MONDAY, Sept. 16, 1991. The Carson County Square House Museum has acquired a portable video projecting system for use in extended historical video programming.

TUESDAY, Sept. 17, 1991. Plans are being made to open a Crisis Pregnancy Center (CPC) in Pampa, according to initiator Sheila Mick.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 18, 1991. The Pampa Community has the "spirit" to make a difference in the 1991 United Way campaign, speaker Don Lane told those gathered Tuesday for the kick off luncheon of the annual campaign at the M.K. Brown Auditorium.

Recent price-gouging unpatriotic

Sept. 11, 2001, is a date everyone alive will never forget. Terrorists have changed all our lives forever.

The Attack on America has brought out the best in most people and it has brought out the worst in a few others.

Hopefully, Americans will be more united than they have been in many years following this ghastly attack Tuesday morning.

As my daughter-in-law, Amy, and I watched the continuous television coverage in horror Tuesday morning it was very difficult for us like all other Americans to comprehend what was happening. We were at an Amarillo hospital as my youngest son was undergoing a surgical procedure. We were gathered around a television set in a hospital waiting room with many other horrified people watching the horrendous events occur in rapid succession.

My first thoughts were of all the children in New York who had just lost parents. It was sickening. Then, as the severity of the attack began to sink in, I took a mental inventory of the whereabouts of my four children. My mind immediately went to my two oldest children: both are in the military. I have learned that my son is in the Persian Gulf and my oldest daughter is on stand-by to be shipped out. I knew my youngest daughter was in her college classes at that time.

As I left Amarillo that afternoon, I listened to the radio and was astounded by the panic in many people. The long lines at gas pumps and stories of grocery stores being swamped were being discussed on a local station. Then, the report by the owner of a firearms store who said that practically all of his firearms and ammunition had been sold within a few hours following the attack.

Driving through Fritch and Sanford, I saw long, long lines of motorists waiting to fill their



Nancy
Young

Managing editor

vehicles at gas pumps. It was the same when I got to Stinnett — only the lines were much longer. I kept hearing reports of gas gouging, but I couldn't believe that Americans would actually do that. Being in the news business, I know all about rumors. I check out stories on a regular basis, and I really thought these were tales which would be unfounded.

I was wrong.

There has never been a time in our country's history when we Americans need to unite together more — not be concerned with making a quick buck. I am furious to think that some companies and individuals were so greedy that they gouged the gas prices. To put a profit on a priority list above respect and decency above the memory of thousands of people who had just died at the hands of terrorists is heinous.

Yes, I'm emotional about these creeps. Two of my children are among the thousands of other members of the military who are out there ready to fight to protect this country.

There are many other mothers out there like me, I'm sure. There are two other mothers at our office who have children in the military,

also.

These imbeciles are just thinking of money,

and they are Americans! I hope everyone out

there will join me in boycotting the businesses

who made the choice to gouge gas prices.

Pampa certainly wasn't the only town where a few businesses took advantage of a horrible tragedy to make a buck. In fact, I'm told some of the same companies did it in several communities. According to reports, it was happening in isolated instances across the state and nation.

I hope that everyone out there will join me in boycotting the businesses who made the choice to gouge gas prices. Cases have been filed on some of these offenders, and their names have been in the newspaper this week.

But there are many stories of wonderful and caring patriotic people locally and across the nation. There will be a function next week to honor local emergency providers. Many people are flying their flags and proudly wearing red, white and blue to symbolize their support of the United States. Still others are gathering in their churches and homes to pray.

My doctor, Dr. Ed Quiros and his physician wife, Dr. Corazon Quiros, were at a surgeon's convention in Manhattan when the attack occurred Tuesday, and they have been assisting in treating the injured. Helping strangers is not new to the couple as they spent a week this past December in their native land, the Philippines, providing needed medical care to many poor people.

There are many more wonderful people out there than jerks.

We will never forget what has happened, and what lies ahead we don't know. Let's continue to remember the families of these innocent civilians in our prayers. Let's also remember those who have relatives in the military. Support groups consisting of families and friends of the military were formed in many areas during the Persian Gulf War. This might be beneficial locally.

God bless America.

The consequence of too much safety



Walter
Williams

Syndicated columnist

There's the old admonition: It's better to be safe than sorry. The fact of life is that one can be both safe and sorry — that's if we acknowledge the consequences of having too much safety. Let's look at it.

National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) investigators blamed a fuel-tank fire for the July 17, 1996, crash of Paris-bound TWA 800, where all 230 people on board were killed. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) advisory committee recently heard a joint industry-agency task force report concluding that adding nonflammable gases (fuel-tank inerting) would significantly reduce, perhaps eliminate, the risk of fuel-tank explosions. Nonetheless, the task force recommended against an FAA fuel tank-inerting mandate, saying that it would "have an enormous operational impact, with costs that far exceeded the benefits." They estimated that the \$10 billion to \$20 billion cost of fuel-tank modification would save a total of 253 lives.

One predictable response to the agency-industry task force recommendation was the condemnation: You can't put a price on human life. That's a frequently heard response to safety issues, often accompanied by: If it saves one life, it's worth it. Despite the emotional appeal of such pleas, intelligent — not to mention humane — public policy demands that we ask:

Is it worth it to spend \$10 billion to \$20 billion

dollars to save an estimated 253 lives? Of course, if it's your life that's saved, you'll say, "It's worth it," but that's a callous disregard for other lives.

You say, "Williams, what in the world could you possibly mean?" Reconfiguring airliner fuel tanks will cost \$10 billion to \$20 billion.

Guess how airlines will recoup that cost? If you guessed higher ticket prices, go to the head of the class. Higher ticket prices might mean that some families, who might otherwise fly to visit grandmother during the Christmas holidays, would decide to drive instead. Highway travel is many times more hazardous than air travel. So we should ask: How many people would die on the highway as a result of higher ticket prices caused by "fuel-tank inerting"? It might be many more than 253 lives.

Some years ago, there were calls for mandatory airline infant seats. The FAA's analysis showed that forcing parents traveling with

babies to purchase another ticket instead of their infant traveling on their laps would cost an additional \$1 billion in airfare expenses on families over a 10-year period. Because of the higher cost, 20 percent of the families would shift to driving. Because of the higher fatality rate associated with driving, FAA analysis concludes there would be a net increase of 82 infant and adult fatalities over the 10-year period as a result of imposing this "safety" regulation.

So what's the lesson? The first is that if we only look at the benefits of a policy, we'd do darn near anything, including stupid things such as mandating a 5 mph highway speed limit. After all, there's a benefit to anything. The second is that in evaluating public policy we shouldn't only pay attention to what is seen but to what is unseen, as well.

Another way of putting this is: There is no free lunch. Fuel-tank inerting might save 253 lives by preventing fuel-tank explosions, but is the \$10 billion to \$20 billion price tag the only cost? What if higher airfares led to an additional 1,000 highway deaths? Are the 253 lives saved by fuel-tank inerting worth it?

If more of us were familiar with Frederic Bastiat's pamphlet "What Is Seen and What Is Not Seen" (available through fee.org), these questions would be a natural part of the public-policy debate.

Today in history

Today is Sunday, Sept. 16, the 259th day of 2001. There are 106 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 16, 1940, President Franklin Roosevelt signed into law the Selective Training and Service Act, which set up the first peacetime military draft in U.S. history.

On this date:

In 1638, France's King Louis XIV was born.

In 1810, Mexico began its revolt against Spanish rule.

In 1893, hundreds of thousands of settlers swarmed onto a section of land in Oklahoma known as the "Cherokee Strip."

In 1919, the American Legion was incorporated by an act of Congress.

In 1940, Samuel T. Rayburn of Texas was elected Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.

In 1966, the Metropolitan Opera opened its new opera house at New

York's Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.

In

1974,

President

Ford

announced a conditional amnesty

program for Vietnam War deserters

and draft-evaders.

Letters to the editor

We should honor flag, not the flag honor us

To the editor,
I am addressing your recent "Viewpoints" article regarding the lowering of our American flag to half-staff on the day of a veteran's funeral.

As past commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Pampa Post 1657, I feel compelled to address the recent error made by the Gray County Commissioners Court, however well-intended.

At the suggestion of the Veterans Service Office, the Court voted unanimously to authorize the lowering of the American flag at the courthouse on the day of all future Gray County veterans' funerals.

This was most definitely well intended; however, according to public law and established flag etiquette, the president of the United States, and in some limited situations, the governors of the individual states, are the only individuals authorized to order the lowering of our flag to half-staff. I am offering the information as a point of information and not criticism.

Anyone having questions regarding the flag, our military or any related subjects, may contact our post or the Freedom Museum USA, and if we can't give you an immediate answer, we have members who will gladly do the necessary research to obtain that information for you.

The Gray County veteran population is a very proud group, and seeing our flag given all due respect is extremely important to us.

As a veteran, I feel we should honor our flag, not our flag honor us.

John F. Chaney III
Past VFW commander

PEDC should perhaps be abolished?

To the editor,
I've read lots of things in the paper the last few weeks. Not much am I for, but then some things I know we need. I do not agree that a "hog farm" is what we need. I think this will bring us more woes than some of the stuff that our PEDC have brought into our town in the past.

I know the PEDC says it did not invite them but it doesn't really matter. I do not think the town wants them. This may be a "done deal" with our state even — keeps them out of their part of the state and they think they will get income from them and the clean-up will be left up to us beside the having to live with it. That was what I got from a letter I got back after writing. I thought my letter from them was a bunch of political gobble-gook.

I think the PEDC has proven it cannot get what this town needs into our area — if by state limitations on what they can do or what. It is not working. Let's keep the 1/2-cent tax we pay, get rid of the PEDC and it's \$50,000-plus wages per year (and I'm sure this does not include expenses they incur trying to do their job). The Chamber will have to take care of these collected funds until all of our obligations we have already made are over. If we need to "elect" more Chamber members, let's do so.

I also think the vehicle tax raise is best. Our Appraisal District is

pretty good about re-appraising our property at their will, it seems to me, so raising or lowering taxes doesn't help the people or the city-county. We need to get a working budget and do what has to be done to keep our city operating. I really think a raise in the city sales tax is fairest but we may have already taxed ourselves as much as the state allows on sales tax.

Another thing, don't you think it is a little out of line to be paying the PEDC "head" more than our "head" officials are. Of course I think the PEDC is a useless entity if the city government was doing its job in the first place.

Maybe we need to change the way our city and county government is set up instead of making all these other "jobs" for doing work they don't want or have time to do and then give themselves raises. You'd think our "city fathers" would have noted by now how much power they have given them with taxpayers monies and little to show for it. I think our "city fathers" should have the last word over the PEDC's wages and what they bring into our town. (Our elected city fathers.)

We have this prison — why are they short on guards? Are they not hiring local men or have all the youth in our town moved on to better pay? I thought the prison was a ("good" employee but I don't know its wage rate for guards.) If it is anywhere like our police department, I can see they have to be a two wage-earner family.

I have added my thoughts and appreciate this outlet our local paper has given me to express my ideas.

Sarah Blaine
Pampa

The business behind all the smell ...

To the editor,
Six years ago I bought my dream house in Julian, N.C., a picturesque rural community. The property was located between a large hay field and a natural run-off stream. I could grow a garden, add that extra room I needed to work from home; ideal country life.

Shortly after buying the place I started having trouble with nitrates in the low water aquifer well (something that means water source close to the surface), and a new much deeper and much more expensive well had to be dug. Okay, water, nature, go figure. When I approach the hay farmer to buy his hay for my horses he says he can't period, end of conversation. What is going on here?

Nothing will grow on my property except on the crest of one little hill which is, geographically, slightly higher than the hay fields next door. Again, nature, go figure. When I approach the hay farmer to buy his hay for my horses he says he can't period, end of conversation. What is going on here?

Not being one to just let things go, I start making phone calls; Department of Health-Water

Quality Board, Department of Health-Soil Conservation Agency, Agricultural Commission-Zoning Department, County Zoning Commission, anyone who could shed some light on the apparent growing problems of my little piece of paradise.

Twenty-two years ago the hay field next door used to be a hog farm. The man had sold his last hog 17 years prior — let's say that number again — 17 years — and the soil is still so contaminated it cannot grow human or animal consumable goods. Not only that, but because my property lies geographically lower, I have contaminated soil, too.

Department of Health-Soil Conservation says it should take another 10- to 15-years before it's farmable again. Only 10- to 15-years! But at least the deep water well can probably be saved by HTH chlorine treatments. (Doesn't it defeat the purpose of sparkling well water if you have to make it that way?)

Two weeks ago while traveling back east, I heard a story on National Public Radio about the greatest body of fresh water in North America, which happens to sit right under us. Lucky us, one would think. Enough water to drink and bathe in for generations to come except for one little catch. The hog farms migrating into this part of the country are also growing tens of thousands of pounds of grain to feed said hogs. These fields are being irrigated from our water supply, to the tune of 12 million gallons a day. At that rate, our eternal water supply will be gone in 20 years. Yes, it does rain some to replenish the aquifer, but not at the same rate it is being used, and, remember, that water is filtering back through hog waste, contaminated soil to get there.

Those of you with Internet hookups should go to www.npr.org/wunc and key in hog farms to get an example of just some of the hundreds of lawsuits against hog farms and the contamination left behind. If you think the hogs stink, take a look at the business behind them for the real smell.

Lisa Morgan
Canadian

Without people, 'quality of life' is meaningless

To the editor,
I'm amazed what a few land owners and their friends can do. Just because they've been here a few years and have a big government check, they don't care if the population and value of the city in which they (supposedly) trade keeps going down. I don't know if they will be able to stop progress and growth or not.

I do know that if we have any chance of saving our town, we have to stop our population loss. If any of you have any other ideas to get individuals to come to Pampa without the PEDC, you should tell us, so we can proceed. You "anti-growth" people want to throw the baby out with the bath water.

I'm also amazed that our Wal-Mart, grocery stores and all other

Sid Sanders, DPM, R.Ph.

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businesses haven't spoken up positively about growth. Maybe they are scared the land owners won't spend some of the farm subsidy with them (although I know a lot of people who already do most of their shopping in Amarillo).

I went to the meeting with Susan Combs, the Agriculture commissioner. I was so disappointed with the people who booed a speaker — the editor of the Perryton newspaper — and didn't want anyone to hear the positive facts of the hog farm there.

People are passing out petitions to call a vote on our PEDC. Don't sign it! We have had two votes and they both passed in favor of PEDC.

If we want to compete with other towns for new industry, we have to have an economic development corporation. All of our taxing entities are passing large tax increases, while cutting services. If we keep losing population, these increases will go on every year until we are a small community like all our neighbors around the panhandle. The so-called "quality-of-life" everyone talks about will be gone because all the people will be gone. The ones that stay will be left with a dead town with weeds and falling down houses, thank you very much.

I play golf with a bunch of senior citizens like myself. We will probably pass our house on to our kids. If would be nice if they still have some value. I love this town with good schools, streets and churches. Without a stable or growing population, all this quality of life is not possible.

Calvin Lacy
Pampa

Don't listen to rumors, misinformation

To the editor,
As you contemplate whether or not to sign the petition being circulated to dissolve the PEDC, there are some facts you should be aware of:

The PEDC is NOT and has NEVER been funded by the City of Pampa. Our operating funds come ONLY from the 1/2-cent sales tax monies. Because the City is the only entity that can

levy sales tax (other than the City Commission).

I hope this information has been helpful to you and that if you have any questions you will direct them to me at 665-5553. All information in this office is public information and you are welcome to make a written request for it at any time.

Susan Triplehorn, executive director
PEDC

State officials must step up to go to bat

To the editor,

Our elected and appointed Texas state officials — specifically those state officials on environmental, natural resources and agriculture committees — need to step up and shoulder the responsibility of enacting legislation necessary to protect communities such as Pampa from uninvited and unwanted industry — i.e. hog factories (environmental predators.)

These hog factories are notoriously documented in various states to pollute air and water. This pollution has the potential to endanger human and animal health. We, in Pampa, are not opposed to free enterprise and industry which would enhance, rather than deface our community and our county. However, an increasingly sizable group in Pampa and Gray County is very hostile and strongly opposed to the proposed location of NPD, Seaboard or any other hog factory in our county.

(See, LETTERS, Page 8)

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MEDICAL

As disease-causing genes are found, rush to patent office grows

By JEFF DONN
Associated Press Writer

SHARON, Mass. (AP) — Patrick and Sharon Terry gave their two children a faulty gene that could make them go blind. They all donated tissue samples to help researchers find the disease-causing gene.

If not for turning genomic science into their personal fixation, the Terrys would have exercised no control over the medicine built on that gene and meant for families like theirs.

A patent-holding corporation, university or agency might license just one laboratory — maybe 3,000 miles away — to develop or analyze tests for the gene. The patent holder could boost prices with high royalties for patented treatments. It might ultimately snub the small market: This disease, known as pseudoxanthoma elasticum, or PXE, strikes no more than 1 in 25,000.

Two of those who have it are Elizabeth and Ian Terry. "Although we have no molecular biology training, we just became obsessed," says their mother.

Genetics charts went up on the walls, beside family photos, in their suburban Boston home. The shelves of their raised ranch filled up with recondite journal titles like "Nature Biotechnology" and "The American Journal of Human Genetics."

They found other families with the disease and set up a registry and tissue bank for genetic research. They traveled abroad and met patients and scientists. They began working beside researchers, advising on symptoms and even consulting on scientific strategy, sometimes at their dining room table.

Finally, in February, Sharon Terry, a private school chaplain by profession, applied for a patent jointly with researchers on the gene making her children sick.

Genetic patents can be worth millions of dollars, but it's not clear how much money a PXE patent might generate. So far, the gene's mutations appear to hurt few people, and no tests or treatments exist yet. Mrs. Terry's patent stake could give her control, through licensing agreements, over who does research and ultimately provides care.

If it turns out that the gene also contributes to other diseases affecting more people, the Terrys might hold something more valuable. They might use those royalties to fund more PXE research or even subsidize care for people like their children.

Like the Terrys, a rising number of patients, doctors and ethicists are questioning how the patent system handles genetic claims. Many say it awards too many patents, overly rewards their holders, and gives too little back to patients. Yet many industry voices complain the process is moving too slowly to keep up with galloping research and to yield medical care awaited by suffering patients.

The strains from both sides are apt to intensify. The run on genetic patents will grow fiercer in the next several years, spurred by longer lists of genes and derived proteins discovered by genomics and proteomics projects, according to patent experts in business and government.

"The gold rush days are about to begin," says Arthur Caplan, a bioethicist at the University of Pennsylvania. "There are so many targets that look so lucrative that they're falling all over one another to pursue opportunity after opportunity."

Many in government, industry and science say patents spur innovation by publicizing discoveries, instead of keeping them trade secrets. Patents can promote research investment by protecting a future return. The biotechnology industry says it can take more than 10 years and hundreds of millions of dollars to shepherd some drugs to market.

But one with mass appeal can be worth several billion, so there's bound to be a bonanza for the few who are smart, lucky — and quick enough — to seize on genetic medicine. Last year, roughly 21,800 regular biotechnology applications went on file with the U.S. Patent Office, 45 percent more than in 1993.

So far, the office says it has granted claims on only about 1,300 full-length human genes. But DNA within cells appears to carry 30,000 genes or more. The sequence of their chemical bases gives rise to proteins that will likely number in the hundreds of thousands once catalogued by proteomics projects. Many of them, like genes, are potential sources of tests, drugs, or targets for drug action.

The stakes are especially high for gene-based patents. There are, after all, multiple ways to design a better can opener and skirt someone else's patent. So far, there's only one chemistry for a gene. It evolved over millions of years. Also, many of the derived proteins are long, convoluted chains that are more difficult to copy than many classic drugs.

Of course, genes, unlike other biological chemicals, define the human condition. Even some scientists are uneasy with patenting them.

"Genes ... are naturally occurring substances that should not be patented," says Michael Watson, director of the American College of Medical Genetics.

He knows that, over the last 20 years, patent law has come to treat them and their byproducts much as it does other chemicals. Discover an unknown genetic molecule, make your own copy, figure out how to use it, and you can patent it. If others want to use it

for any purpose, they must in theory pay for 20 years. Then it becomes public.

In practice, patent holders virtually always allow pure researchers to elaborate on patented work. It may point to other commercial prospects and add value to the patents.

The Terrys refused to just wait and hope. Elizabeth and Ian, ages 7 and 5 when diagnosed in 1994, already showed the signature neck bumps of PXE. They would likely spread and turn to premature wrinkles. The children's arteries were apt to harden, and they could bleed internally at any time. Their parents read they would likely die by middle age — a belief luckily belied by recent research.

"We were traumatized, terrified, overcome with grief," says their mother.

There was no treatment, much less a cure. That remains true today. The researchers with whom the Terrys collaborated did find the gene in 1999. The work laid the basis for future tests to identify the gene in babies and adult carriers and, maybe someday, for treatments. If granted, the patent will let the couple help decide — through their PXE International foundation — who can develop and provide such care and how much it will cost.

It may turn out that their PXE gene will work with other genes related to the clogging of arteries, a condition that afflicts millions. That might prompt a major drug company to develop an interest in their little gene.

"We want to make science go faster and make the treatments more accessible and affordable," says Mrs. Terry. Already, her daughter, now 13, shows retina damage that could eventually impair her sight.

Olivier Le Saux, a University of Hawaii molecular biologist who consulted with the Terrys, says the couple would sometimes make him aware of published research he had missed. "Basically, they were spending all their time looking for information," he says.

Since then, Patrick Terry, an engineer who managed construction projects, co-founded Genomic Health in Redwood City, Calif. It promises to develop drugs with an especially close eye to patient needs.

While the Terrys are working on the patent process from within, some families are challenging it from without. Parents of children with Canavan disease, a rare genetic disorder of the brain, sued researchers last year.

They blame Miami Children's Hospital, the patent holder, for imposing a \$12.50 fee on diagnostic tests. They say it forced a patient advocacy group to end free testing for gene carriers, who can pass it on to their children. Medical authorities recommend that Jews of European heritage, who are especially prone to the Canavan gene, take the test before they have children.

The \$12.50 may sound like a bargain to be alerted to such a disabling disease. But what if it is combined in five years with tests for dozens of other genetic diseases?

"If we go to testing people for 25, 50, and eventually maybe 100 genes, and each one carries a \$12.50 fee, then the cost of testing becomes prohibitive — or only the rich will get tested," says Judith Tsipis, whose son died of the disease. She is now vice president of the National Tay-Sachs and Allied Diseases Association, which sued along with other patient advocates.

Cynthia Gutierrez, a hospital spokeswoman, says the hospital will ultimately lose money on its Canavan research, because patent rights last only 20 years. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime test. The patent

rights only last for a finite duration, then the patent royalty fees expire," she says.

The molecular biologist who did much of the work, Reuben Matalon, is now at the University of Texas in Galveston. He was also named in the lawsuit but says he earns nothing from the tests. He says when the hospital asked him early on if he wanted a piece of the patent, he said no. Back then, in the late 1980s, in the early days of genetics, he couldn't imagine he was refusing anything so valuable. Now, he says, he might answer differently: "I hate being the only stupid one."

Myriad Genetics of Salt Lake City understands the potential value of genetic patents. It has patented rights to mutations in two genes, BRCA1 and BRCA2, that predict hereditary breast cancer. The company developed diagnostic tests and distributes them nationwide. The test typically ends up costing about \$2,500, doctors say.

Myriad has licensed exclusive rights to drug maker Eli Lilly and Co. to produce drugs based on one of the cancer genes.

Some patient groups, scientists and others say too many patent holders, often capitalizing on publicly funded research, license such tests to a single laboratory. The tests could often be duplicated in many places and given to patients. Robert Nussbaum, a government geneticist, warns of the risk: "There's one lab, and they will come after you for infringement."

Critics also say too many patents are granted on overlapping or vaguely described, poorly understood science. The royalties, ultimately paid for by patients, stack up.

The Patent Office tried to tighten genetic guidelines in January. No more requests, they said, for gratuitous uses for genetic products — like a shampoo additive — that are meant to lock up rights to unforeseen medical applications.

"It's slowing it down and making it a little more complicated for a while," says lawyer Lee Bendekgey at Incyte Genomics of Palo Alto, Calif., a leading genetic patent holder with about 600.

The Patent Office already faces a considerable backlog of genetic claims. It estimates that 25,000 claims covering humans, animals and plants await its 250 examiners. Paperwork for a single application can fill dozens of boxes.

The patent office says it typically decides claims in about two years. John Doll, the office's director of biotechnology, says many are enormously complex. "It's the attorneys and applicants that are pushing the envelope ... of inventions being claimed," he says.

Some industry lawyers say Doll's cadre of examiners is overwhelmed. They say his unit urgently needs more of them, better training and more computer tools to evaluate claims.

"Like any innovative technology, we need things quickly," says Lila Feisee, who oversees patent issues for the Biotechnology Industry Organization. "For us, the backlog is the kiss of death."

She says without strong patents, no one would bother developing some tests and drugs. For her, pricing arguments are secondary.

"If one of my kids was sick and there was a test — but it was the only test — I'd go and try and get that," says Feisee, a mother of three. "The fact that it's there is what's critical to me."

EDITOR'S NOTE — Jeff Donn is the AP's Northeast regional reporter, based in Boston.

Some Web sites:
PXE International: <http://www.pxe.org>
Canavan Foundation: <http://www.canavanfoundation.org>

Study finds no benefit in heart-monitoring procedure

CHICAGO (AP) — A heart-monitoring procedure used more than a million times a year during major operations serves no benefit and may actually raise the risk of heart attacks, researchers say.

Right heart catheterization — in which a thin, flexible tube is inserted into a neck vein and guided into the right side of the heart — is used on patients with a history of heart trouble during major, non-cardiac operations such as hip replacements and gall bladder removal.

It has been used on patients for 30 years to monitor the heart for everything from fluid pressure to oxygen content.

However, researchers at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston found no benefit to the procedure and said the risk of heart attacks and other cardiac problems was three times greater among patients who had it than among those who did not.

The procedure should be re-

evaluated, the researchers said. Their study, which appeared in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association, supports earlier findings.

It is unclear whether the procedure itself causes problems or whether information provided by the monitoring leads to overly aggressive corrective treatments that may harm patients, said Dr. Thomas Lee, an associate professor at Harvard Medical School who led the study.

"Some old-time clinicians feel that younger doctors get hypnotized by the numbers from high-tech monitoring devices, and overreact and treat minor fluctuations in numbers from the catheter," Lee said.

It is also possible that patients who underwent catheterization simply were sicker than the study's data indicated, he said.

The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute is now conducting two studies on the use of right heart catheterization.

"I don't think it's dangerous, but the study shows we have some real work to do to say which patients can really benefit from it," Lee said.

Lee said there are no other safer procedures that monitor heart function to the same extent. Without a catheter, doctors simply keep track of blood pressure and heart rate, as well as oxygen saturation.

The study involved 4,059 patients — 221 had the monitoring procedure and 3,838 did not — 50 and older who underwent major elective non-cardiac operations at Brigham and Women's Hospital between 1989 and 1994.

Researchers came up with 215 matched pairs of patients who did and did not undergo the procedure but had similar medical risks. Those who underwent the procedure had a threefold greater risk of cardiac problems.

The findings appear to support a 1996 study that found patients who underwent right heart catheterization had a 21 percent greater risk of death in the succeeding 30 days. That study prompted calls for more

research and a government moratorium on the procedure. The Food and Drug Administration did not issue a moratorium but did recommend clinical trials.

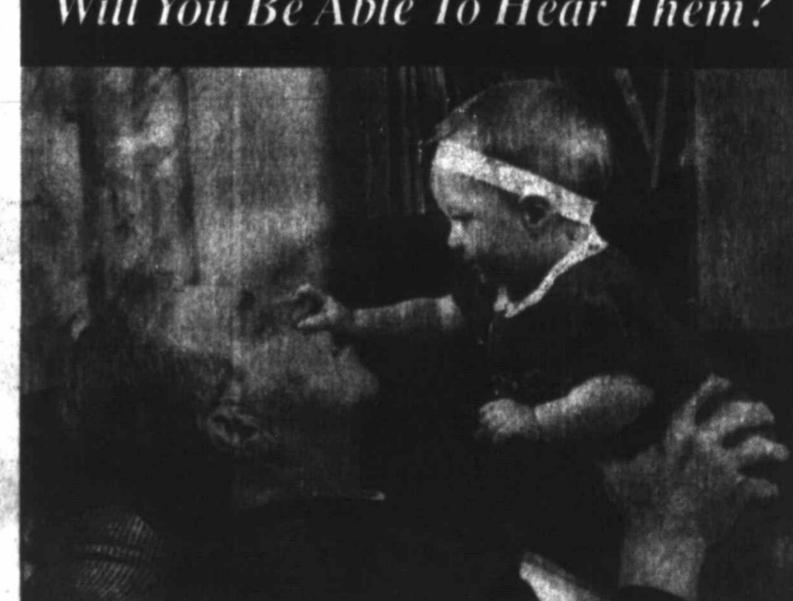
In an editorial accompanying Lee's study, Dr. James Dale of the University of Arizona Health Sciences Center, editor of the Archives of Internal Medicine, said that given the risks and expense of right heart catheterization, it should not routinely be used.

Dr. Ann Thompson, president of the Society of Critical Care Medicine, said the study could have missed crucial differences between patients in the matched pairs.

"I just don't believe that the problem, with rare exceptions, is with the catheter," said Thompson, a professor of anesthesiology, critical care medicine and pediatrics at the University of Pittsburgh. She said it is possible that the fault lies with the surgeons using the catheter.

On the Net: JAMA: <http://jama.ama-assn.org>

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TDH

AUSTIN — A ground is not a ground most people attention. But to Texas Department (TDH), such a sit the list that spa activates disease activities.

Checking dead crows and blu several monitor place in Texas to Nile virus is in state, said Julie TDH's Infect

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may

By LINDSEY T.
AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO (AP) heartburn may not prevent or treat

The research surgery patients during the 10 years treated

Many of the stamping research surgery for heart involves the esophageal

The study was American Medic

The study is patients published is the best treatment — also called gerd. The earlier allowed for two years might alleviate medication.

The 10-year fo asism for surgery estimated 14 million Jon Spechler, wh troenterology at Center in Dallas.

The study ch favor of surgery that it prevents from having to ta

"It has become patients with GERD surgery." Dr. Pe University wrote

Spechler said si patients who can the possibility of

Up to h possibly

CHICAGO (A research shows and recalls of pa other devices desiate the heart's rh quent and likely in

Few deaths have the alerts, but they chological harm to undermine their the devices, research recent Journal of Medical Association

More than half a

Obesity lin

CHICAGO (AP) and inactivity may increase the risk of pancreas, a hard disease that kills Americans each year.

The findings bol that the disease abnormal insulin and diabetes, and lifestyle changes decrease the researchers said.

The study by Harvard's School of Health and affiliated is based on data from several health studies more than 150,000 men and male health nationwide followed 20 years.

• SMILE • SMILE

JOHN

Family

240

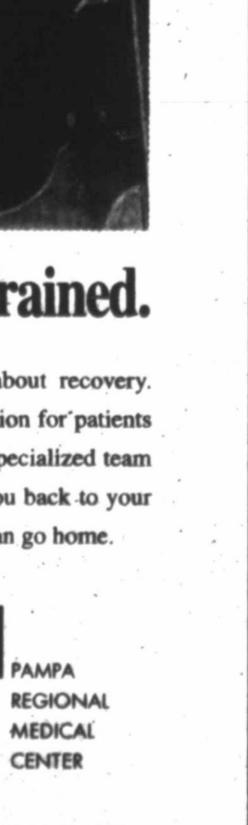
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LETTERS

Once a hog factory locates in county and near a community, farms near the original hog factory site start to "sell-out" their property to other hog farm industries because of the odor and environmental pollution and posed dangers to human health. Once their foot is in the door, the fight with the hog factories goes on and on forever.

A front page article in "The Daily Oklahoman" on Aug. 31, 2001, is entitled "Hog Industry Decrees Proposed Odor Rules." I quote in part from that article:

"WOODWARD — Proposed rules to stifle emissions from large swine barns and lagoons would cripple the industry, hog officials said Thursday. But neighbors living next to the farms said it's time that rules on odors and emission of ammonia and hydrogen sulfide be put on the books. They represent the first time Oklahoma's hog industry is being

urged to meet specific air emission standards. Previous laws have dealt with possible water pollution by hog farms, but not addressed odor concerns. Under the new rules, hog farms would be required to submit generalized emission plans to the state. Odors are coming from the hog barns containing huge pits where the manure accumulates, from lagoons next to the barns where the pits are emptied, and from the fields where manure mixed with water (effluent) is often spread through irrigation systems onto the farmland. The proposal also would require some hog operators to install air-filters in their barns."

"Dan Parrish, head of water quality for the state of Oklahoma Agriculture Department states that the new proposed rules, which are patterned after laws passed by Minnesota, would have the state's agricultural department monitor hog farm air emissions, particularly ammonia and hydrogen sulfide emissions."

South Carolina's new regulations state that "Best Available Technology" must be used regardless of

cost. These new regulations outlaw open-pit lagoons and sprayfields on large-scale farms and go into effect immediately as emergency regulations.

We do not need to "re-invent the wheel" in Texas. What part of these research studies and laws on the legislative books in other states (North Carolina, South Carolina, Minnesota, Oklahoma, etc.) does the TNRCC and our state legislators not understand? If our state requirements in terms of water and air pollution and environmental protection for Texas citizens are lax, the TNRCC and state legislators need to address the issue.

One last question, doesn't it make sense that NPD (National Pig Development), Seaboard and other huge hog farms are going to target locating in states which have lax legislation? The writing is on the wall. Let's read it and act on it, before it is too late.

Warren Chisum is on the Texas Environmental Committee. Susan Combs is the Texas Agricultural commissioner. She states she is not involved in the hog farm issue, but in Oklahoma it is the Agriculture Department which will be monitoring air emissions from hog farms, under the proposed rules.

Robert L. Duncan is Pampa's new Texas state senator and is on the Natural Resources Committee along with our prior Texas State Sen. Teel Bivins of Amarillo. Dick Lewis is a TNRCC spokesman. The head of this committee (TNRCC) may be a closely guarded secret, as I do not currently know who this person might be.

These elected and appointed officials have a responsibility to protect their constituents in a manner similar to the way elected officials in other states are protecting their constituents from hog farms (environmental predators) and their negative impact on communities, counties and states.

Linda Olson
Pampa

How recharge zones relate to NPD ...

To the editor,

The particular recharge zone I am referring to is the recharge zone of the Ogallala Aquifer located on Red Deer Creek east of Pampa. My concept of the recharge zone was a black hole, so to speak, maybe the size of a football field where the water in Red Deer Creek disappeared and magically reappeared in the Ogallala Aquifer. The fact is that it is a much larger area and where the water disappears is a bed of sand in the creek bottom.

On Thursday Sept. 6, I attended a presentation given by Dr. Brent Auvermann, of the Texas A&M University System, on how to design a wastewater lagoon. I was impressed by his knowledge of how the lagoon system should operate. I was particularly interested in the overflow design. To compensate for catastrophic rainfall, a well-designed lagoon will have an overflow spillway to protect the embankment surrounding the lagoon. The spillway will divert the overflow to a suitable location or spread it out over the surrounding area. This is good engineering practice. That is the good news.

The bad news is that the surrounding area is the Recharge Zone for the Ogallala Aquifer. I asked Dr. Auvermann if the overflow from the lagoons could then legally flow into the draws on the proposed site and then flow one mile into the recharge zone as I had envisioned it. His answer was an emphatic "yes." A little later I was corrected by Mr. John Carter, Jr., general manager of NPD, who stated that it was two miles, not one as I stated.

The fact is that in this particular area the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District has classified the elevation of 3,100 feet above sea level and below to be a part of the recharge zone to the Ogallala Aquifer. Almost all of Section 187 and part of section 186 falls into the recharge zone. Of the total tract proposed for the NPD pig factory, approximately one-half is in the Ogallala Recharge Zone. Required setbacks considered, it would be virtually impossible to locate any construction on the proposed site that is more than 4,000 feet from the

recharge zone. This is less than the one mile in my initial statement.

The proposed pig factory site is very close to or in the breaks of Red Deer Creek. The high point of the site is roughly 3,136 feet above sea level and declines to about 2,960 feet above sea level at the low point. A little further north, the main bed of Red Deer Creek is 2,880 to 2,900 feet above sea level.

What this means is that any overflow from the lagoons will be in a rapid run-off area and will reach the recharge zone very quickly. In the event of a heavy rain, the contamination from the lagoons could overflow, reach the recharge zone and only damp ground would be visible in a short period of time. Soil samples could prove that the event had happened. Unfortunately the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission relies heavily on voluntary reporting of incidents like this. They will trust NPD just as they trusted Pantex to report violations of their rules. Do you trust NPD to report their mistakes?

In a previous letter, I gave a list of pathogens contained in pig waste. Do you want these to penetrate to the Ogallala Aquifer? Can you give the Ogallala a shot in the arm and stop these viruses and mutated viruses?

I did find another interesting fact while researching the recharge zone. On or about the 18th of February 2000, a representative of the PEDC called the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District for information about water wells on the proposed NPD site. The information was submitted to them in July 2000.

For comments or suggestions e-mail me at: pigpoop1@hotmail.com

Dale Roth
Pampa

Be that someone to take action!

To the editor,

It seems to me that there is much rhetoric, but little concrete factual information coming from the PEDC director. She continues to blast everyone who dares contradict her. This is typical of those who are on the defensive with little, if anything, to back up their statements. They ignore reputable and reliable studies of the subject and attempt to spread misinformation with nothing but opinion to confirm their stand.

Don't be fooled by this tactic! Think for yourselves and arrive at logical conclusions. Look at the facts. Look at past performance. Do past results, or lack of, indicate the approach being taken is one to inspire confidence or do you have misgivings about the whole affair?

I am afraid the residents of Pampa have been led down the path to a "cesspool" of agricultural dependence rather than diversification. One needs only to look at the small communities who have experienced shrinking population and depressed businesses when they failed to recognize the consequences of lack of other alternatives. We are paying the price with re-districting diluting our voices in Austin and Washington with little hope of improvement in the foreseeable future.

Do we want to continue with failure after failure or do we want the leadership of this city to say "enough already" and change course? The last city election indicated people are looking for change. This can come about only if concerned citizens band together and demand it.

We now have an opportunity to take positive steps to correct a bad situation. A group of concerned citizens have prepared and are circulating a petition to discontinue funding of the PEDC. We are also asking the City Commission, through legal means, to abolish the Corporation. This can be accomplished by placing this issue on the ballot at the next general election, provided the required number of registered voters sign the petition so that it will be placed on the ballot.

(See, LETTERS, 24)

ARC mobilizes massive relief effort

American Red Cross is continuing to rush disaster relief and blood into the Northeast and other areas around the nation following the catastrophic terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania.

"Immediately the American Red Cross responded to these attacks, providing relief and taking steps to ensure an adequate supply of blood," said a local official with Gray County ARC. "The Red Cross will continue to be there with comfort and care for the victims, their families, emergency workers and others affected by these tragedies during the weeks, months and even years that the recovery process will take."

The Red Cross is providing relief in all the affected areas and at airports around the country, providing crisis counseling, shelter, blankets, food and beverages and more for the thousands who are affected by the tragedy.

Under the Federal Response Plan, ARC is designated to provide mass care for those in need. In the wake of these traumatic events, lies a wide path of catastrophic psychological destruction in which countless victims will require assistance. Hundreds of Red Cross disaster mental health workers have been dispatched to the scene, helping those affected with the emotional trauma.

Thousands of Americans

across the country have already given blood. Within the first six hours of the episodes, 700,000 people called to schedule an appointment at Red Cross blood centers across America.

Coffee Memorial Blood Center in Amarillo has established donation centers at its Coulter Street clinic and at the Amarillo Civic Center for residents of the Texas Panhandle.

ARC is asking Americans nationwide to continue to help by calling 1-800-GIVE LIFE to schedule blood donation.

In addition, ARC has sent its Aviation Incident Response Team to the air crash sites from Red Cross disaster relief functions including Disaster Mental Health Services and Mass Care which is activated by the National Transportation Safety Board through the Aviation Disaster Family Assistance ACT of 1996. Red Cross chapters, including Amarillo, are offering assistance to travelers stranded at airports throughout the country.

People trying to locate immediate family in the affected areas can call Gray County ARC at (806) 669-7121. Individuals interested in volunteering should also contact GCARC.

Contributions are being accepted for the ARC Disaster Relief Fund. For more information, call 1-800-HELP NOW or 1-800-257-7575 (Spanish). Internet users can access www.redcross.org. To mail a donation, send your check or money order to your local ARC chapter at: 108 N. Russell, Pampa, TX 79065; or to American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, DC 20013.

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AGRICULTURE

Old Farmer's Almanac predicts mild winter

By DAVID TIRRELL-WYSOCKI
Associated Press Writer

DUBLIN, N.H. (AP) — Jud Hale, editor-in-chief of The Old Farmer's Almanac, is worried. Some of last year's weather forecasts were just too accurate — way above the traditional 80 percent.

That makes it a tough act to follow for the 210th edition, which hits newsstands Tuesday.

"It's disturbing news," Hale said in mock alarm.

The 2002 edition of the Old Farmer's Almanac offers up its usual mix of weather predictions, recipes, astronomical calendars, tide charts, gardening tips and advice on everything from how to avoid social commitments to staying off colds.

For believers, the Almanac predicts the five-month winter season from November through March should be pretty mild in most places except for the

Pacific Northwest, where colder temperatures and above normal snowfall are forecast. But more snow than normal is also possible in New England, the northern Great Lakes, the Texas Panhandle and from Denver to eastern Iowa, Hale said.

A summer drought is possible across the Tennessee Valley into the Smokies and Appalachians and from Virginia to southern New England. But the Almanac is forecasting rainfall well above normal in southwestern Arizona, southern Florida, coastal Georgia and South Carolina.

Not to be confused with the newer Farmer's Almanac published in Maine, the Old Farmer's Almanac — the nation's oldest continuously published periodical — is folksy mix of fun and factual reading.

Among the advice articles: How to get out of doing what you don't want to do. One way, Hale suggests, is "delay, delay,

FARM SCENE

delay and they finally give up."

His personal favorite, though, is by hinting at an "icky" medical problem.

"Intestinal difficulties — that's nice. Or the word 'fungus.' Just mention it and that's probably the end of them asking you to do this particular task," Hale said.

This year's almanac also offers age-old advice on the age-old question of how to avoid catching the worst colds. The Almanac's suggestions include building up a resistance by eating yogurt or garlic and onions, and gargling Tabasco sauce in water. Of course, that combination would likely mean that no one would get close enough to spread the germs that cause colds.

For the body is having to repair tissues like skin, it will take nutrients that animals need for production or growth," said Timothy R. Johnson, a dairy expert

at Purdue University. "It's not wiping out herds like foot-and-mouth disease, but it is having an impact."

A Harrison County farmer near Corydon asked extension agents for help after several of his cows were burned four years in a row, Johnson said.

About 15 percent of the 300-head herd had symptoms of sunburn during a check this spring, Johnson said.

Farm animals such as sheep also can suffer sunburn, particularly if they've been sheared, Johnson said. Pigs protect themselves by wallowing in the mud, leaving a protective coating that shields the skin as clothing does for humans.

While sunburn is more common in Sun Belt states, pastures in Indiana and other Midwestern states often contain certain vegetation that can cause grazing cows to develop sun sensitivity, Johnson said.

Livestock officials seek source of cattle tuberculosis outbreak

AUSTIN — A beef cattle herd in south central Texas has been found to be infected with cattle tuberculosis, and Texas livestock health officials are seeking the source of the infection.

The disease, caused by *Mycobacterium bovis*, can produce internal lesions in animals. Cattle TB can be spread within a herd when an infected animal coughs, releasing bacteria-laden mucus on to feed that is consumed or into air that is inhaled by nearby cows.

The investigation began early this summer, when a federal veterinarian, conducting a routine exam in a slaughter facility, detected lesions in a carcass that were compatible with those of TB," said Dr. Linda Logan, Texas state veterinarian and executive director of Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency. USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Services inspectors are present in all federally inspected slaughter facilities to examine carcasses for indication of disease. The inspectors condemn carcasses that are lesioned.

Tissue samples from the carcass were tested at the National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa, where a definitive diagnosis of cattle TB was made," Logan explained. "We traced the animal back to its original herd in south central Texas. The herd was placed under quarantine, and all of the adult animals were skin-tested for the disease."

Dr. Dan Baca, TAHC TB epidemiologist, explained that, of the 26 animals tested, 10 had positive results. In late August, the 10 animals were slaughtered, and the carcasses examined for internal lesions. Seven had the lesions, and tissue samples were collected and forwarded to NVSL for confirmation tests. The carcasses were incinerated, preventing their entry into food channels. The remaining 16 animals in the herd have also been destroyed.

"Fortunately, herds surrounding the infected

herd have tested negative," Baca said. "The owner of the infected beef herd has been extremely cooperative and has maintained excellent records of sales and purchases, enabling TAHC veterinarians to trace animal movement. Our staff has tracked 79 head of cattle that have been sold out of the infected herd."

Dr. Terry Conger said intensive efforts will be continued to determine the source of the TB infection in the beef herd. He explained the ranch had purchased animals from several herds during the past five years. Three of those herds have tested negative. He said the remaining herds will be tested before the end of September.

He said the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services, Veterinary Services has agreed to provide indemnity — or purchase funds — for depopulating animals involved in this TB case.

Keeping a TB-free designation is particularly important for Texas because it allows ranchers to move cattle across state lines without having them tested for TB which Dr. Conger said can be inconvenient and costly.

In the "restricted zone" of El Paso and Hudspeth Counties, ongoing low levels of TB infection in 10 dairies along the Rio Grande have been detected during the past 15 years. Despite periodic testing and the slaughter of infected animals, all herds in that region have not remained free of disease for more than a few years at a time, Dr. Conger added.

"The TAHC staff will be working closely with producers, private veterinary practitioners and the USDA to finalize the testing of animals moved from the herd," vowed Dr. Logan.

Furthermore, the TAHC staff will continue to investigate how the herd became infected. Until we have looking into every possible source, we have not completed our job for Texas producers."

Farmers unsure when to gamble on planting winter wheat

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — It's been dry for weeks in South Dakota's winter wheat country, and farmers are again not sure when they should plant the crop that will be harvested next summer.

Yields are often better if winter wheat is planted between Sept. 15 and Oct. 1, but much of the wheat planted in dry soil during that period last fall fared poorly.

Conditions are similar this year, said Clair Styrmie, an agronomist at South Dakota State University Extension Service in Rapid City.

"It's scary," he said. "I don't know when it makes sense to plant. This looks just like last fall ... same song, second verse."

Much of the early planted wheat last fall did not germinate until the first week of November. Making matters worse, soil temperatures went from 60 degrees the last week of October to freezing by the end of the first week in November.

Winter wheat normally sprouts and produces at least three to five leaves in the fall, allowing the plants to develop crowns and store energy for the winter dormancy and spring growth. But the desirable growth did not occur last fall, and much of the crop was lost.

Consequently, this year's 12.5 million bushel harvest of South Dakota winter wheat was off 80 percent from last year. Harvested acreage fell 71 percent, and other crops were planted on failed fields.

Although many farmers are unsure when to plant this fall, they should not skip the purchase of crop insurance, Styrmie said.

"To me, the safest money is to go ahead and put your wheat in, particularly where you have protective cover," he said. "But if I

were doing it, I'd certainly insure it."

Depending on weather and soil conditions, winter wheat may be planted well into November. However, later-planted wheat has little or no fall growth, and that means slower development the following spring and summer.



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Researchers: Coal ash could improve feedlots

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Researchers are finding that both animal health and soggy feedlots can benefit when soil is mixed with coal ash, a power plant waste product.

Farmers face a challenge in trying to prevent feedlots from turning into quagmires when they're hit by storms, the spring thaw and heavy animal traffic. Swampy feedlots can spread disease, hamper drainage and manure removal, and cause excessive weight loss for animals moving around in the mud.

Researchers with the University of North Dakota and North Dakota State University have been experimenting with coal ash for the past year as an alternative to concrete for stabilizing bison feedlots at NDSU's Carrington Research Center.

Preliminary results of the three-year study are encouraging.

The researchers found the ash-soil mixture hardened the ground and provided an environmentally sound, cheaper and less physically demanding surface for animals than concrete or soil alone.

The project proves that coal ash can significantly improve animal feeding areas, resting areas and equipment traffic areas," said Debra Pfleghoef-Hassett, manager of the coal ash studies at UND's Energy and Environmental Research Center.

"We see this as a real opportunity to use a local material to reduce costs and increase benefits as it relates to feedlots in the state," she said.

Coal ash is a gray, inorganic byproduct of coal combustion.

North Dakota power plants generate more than 3 million tons annually, and the bulk of it gets buried in landfills. But because it

lends a cement-like quality to streams, ponds or groundwater.

More than 200 ash-based feedlot pads have been built in the state, most for smaller producers raising cattle, pigs and sheep, said Dr. Tarunjit Butalia, coordinator of the Coal Combustion Product pilot extension program at Ohio State University.

"We are seeing a lot more farmers going to this," Butalia said. "It's really a win-win situation."

Ohio officials have allowed the use of coal ash in feedlots for the past four years, provided the runoff of water and manure does not pose a threat to

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COMMUNITY REVIEW

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For expert oil field service, contact Pat Helton Well Service, located in Pampa at 501 South Price Road, phone 665-5801 or 663-6102. Oil companies depend on their expert services to keep their wells in top working condition.

They offer cable tool spudders and rotary rigs for deepening of wells and higher oil production. Dozer and oil field trucking services are other specialties to keep your well performing to maximum efficiency. When high oil production is important to you, Pat Helton Well Service is the company that can show you the advantages of well clean-out and deepening with cable tool spudders. The professionals at Pat Helton Well Service are fully equipped and experienced in the oil field business. Dozer and oil truck crew services are offered, and they will be glad to answer any questions you may have concerning oil field services and the proper maintenance of oil and gas wells.

The oil business has been depressed since 1982 due to foreign oil trade. Along with many others, Pat Helton Well Service believes in the American oil industry and will continue to support local oil and gas producers with professional and reasonably priced service. Whether you have an emergency repair or need regular maintenance service, call them anytime.

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SPORTS

Notebook

VOLLEYBALL

PAMPA — Pampa 7th graders defeated Canyon 15-10, 15-6 in a volleyball match earlier this week.

Pampa coach Kendra Reeves said both teams did outstanding job of serving and they also played well together.

Whitney Morris led Pampa with 10 service points. Cassy Tice and Stephanie McVay had 6 service points each.

Pampa won the B team match by a score of 15-10, 15-1.

Maggie Hopkins led Pampa with 8 service points while Halei Skinner had 6. Kelsie Wyatt and Angela Mechelay added 4 service points apiece.

Both the Pampa 7th and 8th grade teams have matches on Monday in Amarillo against Valleyview and Westover Park.

FLAG FOOTBALL

PAMPA — Pampa Kids & Youth Club is currently having signups for flag football involving both girls and boys, K-12th grades. The signups will be on Saturday, Sept. 22 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

If more information is needed, call 835-2906, 665-0335, 665-3927 or 669-2458.

HOCKEY

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — Colorado Avalanche star Peter Forsberg announced Saturday he is taking time off from hockey. He missed the last 12 games of Colorado's run to the Stanley Cup championship after having his ruptured spleen removed.

"I made a tough decision," Forsberg said at a news conference at Stockholm's Globe Arena, where his team was practicing for an exhibition game on Sunday against a Swedish club.

"I just feel that right now, in my current frame of mind, I can't go out and play at the level I expect out of myself. Over the last few years, the numerous injuries and the recent surgeries made me come to this decision."

Forsberg, a six-time All-Star and Swedish Olympian, had surgery to remove his ruptured spleen and stop internal bleeding early on May 10, hours after Colorado defeated the Los Angeles Kings in Game 7 of the Western Conference semifinals.

He was released from the hospital a few days later and was ruled out for the remainder of the playoffs.

Forsberg's agent, Don Baizley, made the Avalanche aware of Forsberg's decision to take a leave of absence on Friday night, the team said. Forsberg then met with Colorado Avalanche owner Mr. E. Stanley Kroenke and team president Pierre Lacroix to confirm his decision.

"We are shocked with his decision, but we have to respect it," Lacroix said. "Peter told me that he did not have the desire, strength, and mental toughness to compete right now and wanted to step aside."

After having the spleen surgery, Forsberg did not skate again until three weeks ago in Sweden. He also had ankle surgery in the summer.

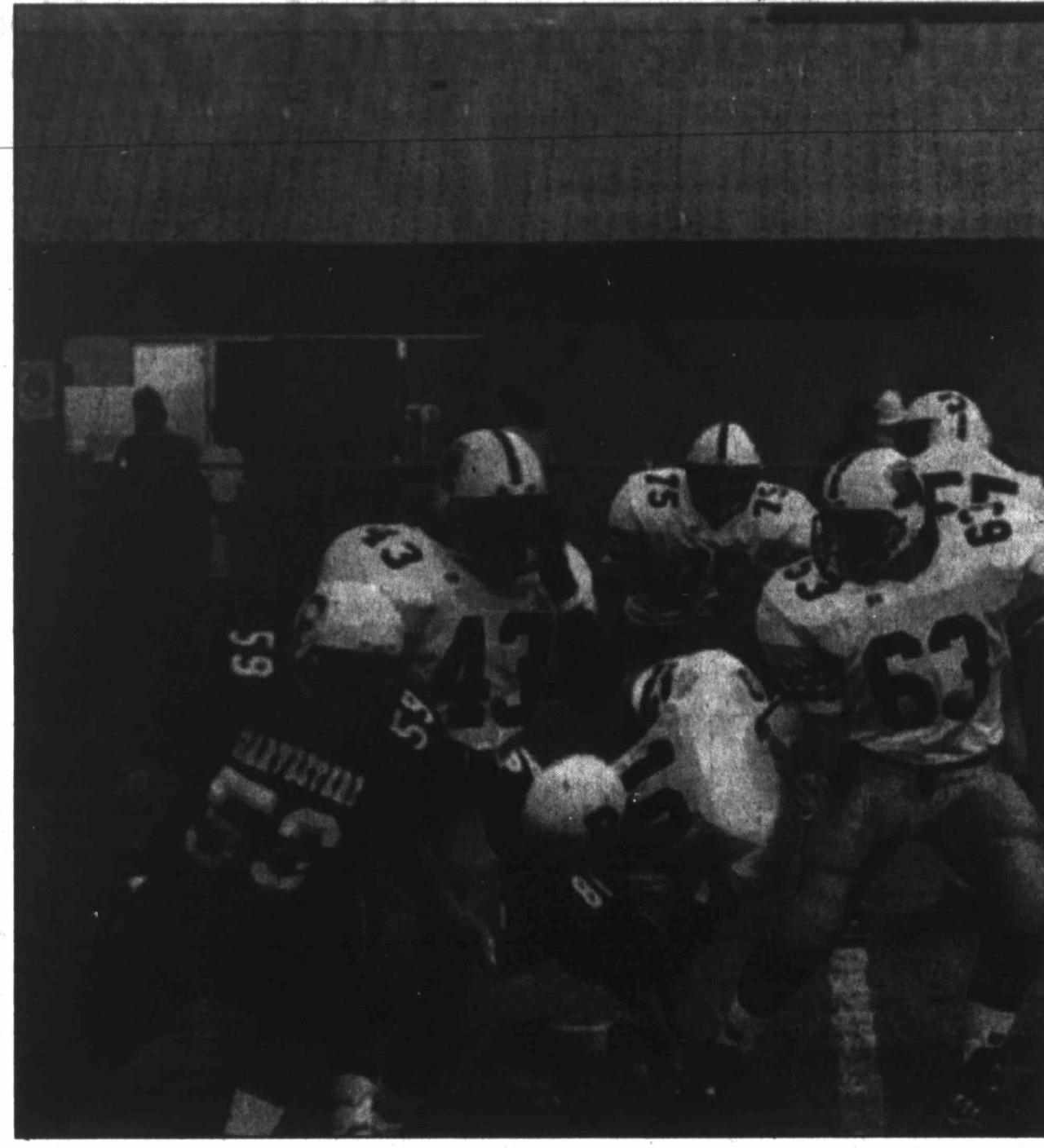
The Avalanche's 20 North American players arrived in the Swedish capital on Monday to open training camp. The team's five Europeans already were in Stockholm.

Their first scheduled game in Sweden had been scheduled for Saturday, but it was canceled after Tuesday's terrorist attacks in the United States.

Flashback

1966: Randy Matson of Texas A&M won the shot put at the Drake Relays with a throw of 65-3.

Matson, a Pampa native, broke his own meet record of 63-11 3/4 set a year ago.



(Photo by Grover Black)

Pampa's Chris Tice (59) moves into help out teammate Oscar Ortega, who sacks Amarillo High quarterback Dale Davis at the goaline

Former CART champion clings to life after crash

KLETTWITZ, Germany (AP) — Two-time CART champion Alex Zanardi was airlifted to a hospital in "extremely critical condition" after being hit by another car at about 200 mph Saturday while inching onto the oval during the American Memorial 500.

Zanardi was leading the race with 12 laps to go when his car left the pits. He was smashed by Alex Tagliani's car, scattering debris across the asphalt track.

Zanardi, seeking his first victory this season, is one of CART's most high-profile drivers. He also had two stints racing on the Formula One circuit.

His car shattered when it was struck at full force before a crowd of 87,600 at the EuroSpeedway for CART's first race in Europe.

Kenny Brack of Sweden won the race under a yellow flag.

Max Papis of Italy was second and Patrick Carpenter third.

It was Brack's fourth victory of the season and moved him into the season's lead in the drivers' standings.

Brack has 131 points with five races remaining.

Defending champion Gil de Ferran had 120 and Michael Andretti has 115. De Ferran finished eighth and Andretti fourth.

"I pray for my friend Alessandro (Zanardi) that he is going to be OK," Papis said.

Zanardi failed in his first try at Formula One, racing for underfinanced teams, and was a surprise pick to drive for Chip Gannassi in 1996 in CART.

He was an immediate star in the Champ car series, winning Rookie of the Year honors, and then winning championships in 1997 and 1998 — one of only three back-to-back series champions ever.

He then left CART for another try at Formula One, but did not fare well with the Williams team and retired from racing.

Zanardi sat out the 2000 season but was lured back to CART by Morris Nunn, his former engineer at Gannassi and now a team owner.

He holds the modern CART record for points in a

season, with 285 in 1998. He also holds the CART record for most consecutive

poles (six), front row starts (11) and top-three finishes in a season (15).

Class 4A Scores

Alice 20, CC Ray 13	Galena Park 21, Crosby 0
Andrews 31, Carlsbad (N.M.) 14	Greenville 34, Terrell 6
Athens 21, Kaufman 0	Gregory-Portland 20, CC Carroll 0
Austin Anderson 20, Elgin 14	Henderson 35, Naugatuck 21
Austin LBJ 27, Round Rock 6	Herrford 28, Lubbock 27
Austin McCallum 28, Austin Travis 15	Hewitt-Trinity 21, Midlothian 6
Austin Reagan 35, Bastrop 21	Highland Park 30, Southlake Carroll 17
Azle 35, North Crowley 30	Houston Chavez 30, Houston Furr 22
Beaumont Ozen 43, Beaumont West Brook	Houston Forest Brook 26, Houston Sterling 6
Beeville 51, CC Flour Bluff 7	Houston Kashmere 21, Houston Austin 20
Beaumont 34, Meribah Falls 0	Houston King 24, Waller 23
Berger 14, Amarillo Tascosa 12	Houston Scarborough 26, Houston Reagan 7
Brazosport 41, Hitchcock 19	Huntsville 25, New Caney 12
Brownsville Lopez 29, La Feria 7	Jasper 42, West Orange-Stark 26
Brownwood 21, Odessa Permian 19	Joshua 31, FW Diamond Hill-Jarvis 0
Burkburnett 33, Bridgeport 13	Justin Northwest 28, Red Oak 14
Burleson 42, Springtown 0	Kerrville Tivy 52, Austin Lanier 0
CC Miller 14, Rockport-Fulton 7	Killeen 56, Sulphur Springs 0
Canyon Creek 30, Livingston 29	Little Cypress-Mauriceville 32, Houston Sam
Canyon Randall 37, Lubbock Estacado 14	Houston 6
Cleburne 23, Dallas Skyline 19	Lumberton 20, Liberty 7
Conroe Oak Ridge 14, Montgomery 3	Mount Pleasant 49, Longview Pine Tree 24
Dallas East 49, Carrollton Smith 30	New Braunfels 49, Seguin 14
Dallas Jefferson 59, Sherman 1	PA Jefferson 33, Silesbee 18
Dallas Lincoln 20, Dallas Princeton 6	Palestine 34, Navasota 14
Dallas Wilson 24, FW North Side 6	Parks North Lamar 35, West Mesquite 20
Denton 43, Channelview 9	Plainview 27, Canyon 21
Denton 31, WF Rider 7	Pleasanton 13, Robstown 0
Denton 47, Granbury 28	Richardson Pearce 34, Richardson 6
Denton Ryan 43, Dallas Samuell 7	SA Alamo Heights 51, SA Lee 0
Dripping Springs 21, New Braunfels Canyon	SA Kennedy 7, SA Fox Tech 3
El Campo 27, Victoria Memorial 7	SA Southside 40, SA Antonian 14
Ennis 45, Mesquite Poteet 17	San Marcos 59, Austin Travis 14
FW Arlington Heights 37, Alvarado 17	Santa Fe 17, Staford 4
FW Bowser 45, Richland 7	Sherman 24, Paris 7
FW Brewer 38, Crowley 28	Smithson Valley 40, Weatherford 18
FW Dunbar 32, South Grand Prairie 17	Texarkana Texas 27, Hallsville 21
FW Trimble Tech 28, Dallas Bishop Dunne	Uvalde 14, Hondo 9
Fredericksburg 19, Bandera 6	Vidor 10, Nederland 8
Friendship 34, Lamesa 22	Waxahachie 7, Lancaster 3
Friendwood 24, Magnolia 23	Whitehouse 27, Tatum 23

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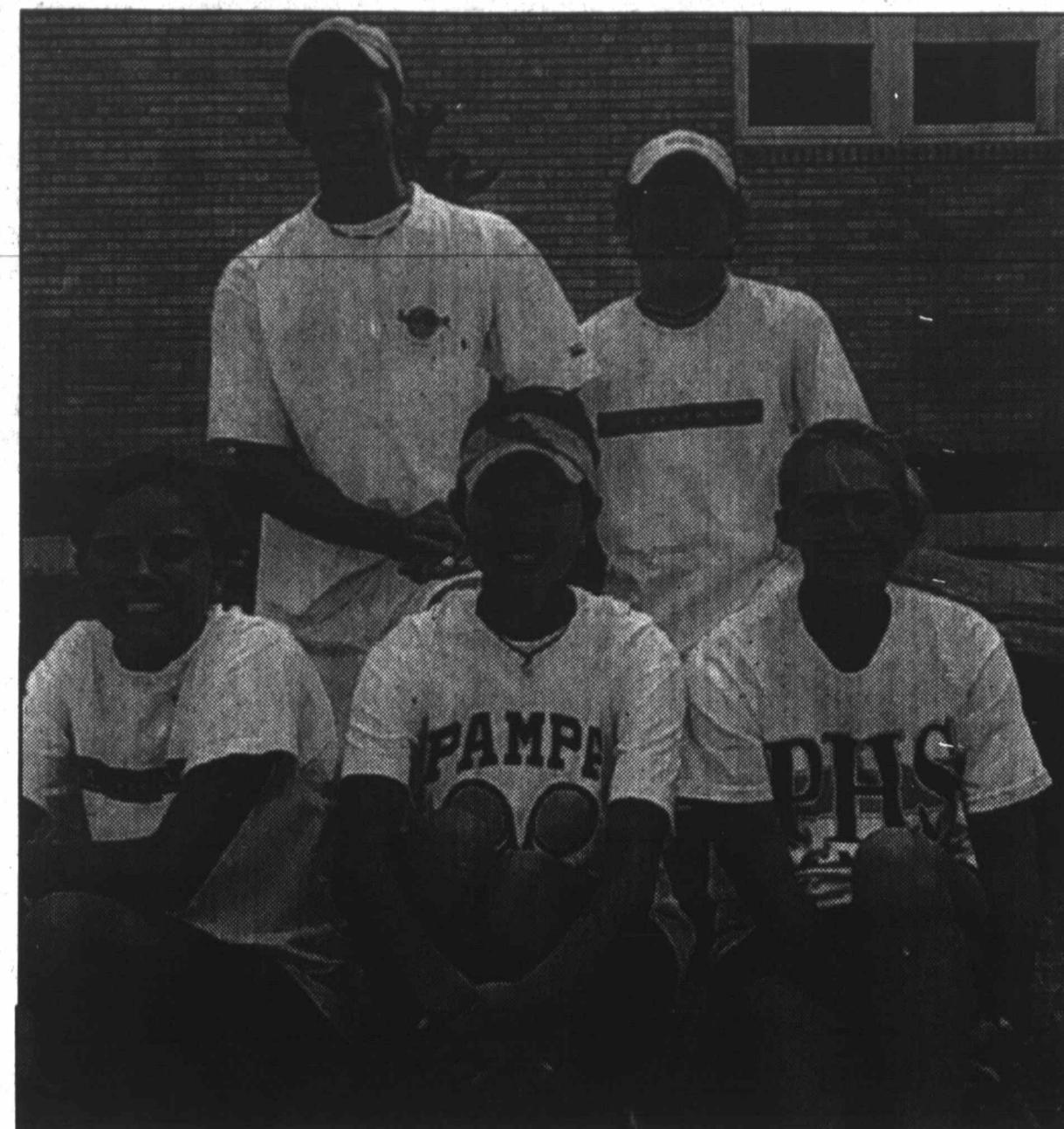
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Tennis seniors

(Courtesy photo)

Seniors this year on the Pampa High tennis team are (front row, from left) Ashlei Jordan, Michelle Lee and Brittany Kindle; (back row, from left) A.J. Smith and Jared Spearman. Pampa hosts Canyon at 4 p.m. Tuesday in a district match.

Friday night lights on in most of country for prep football

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — The Rogers High School football team ran onto the field behind two players carrying a large U.S. flag in honor of the victims of terrorist attacks 3,000 miles away.

Players in Bloomington, Minn., wore flag decals on their helmets and the No. 10 — the jersey number of a graduate who might have helped avert greater disaster aboard one of the four hijacked planes.

While professional and college stadiums remained dark, many high school football stadiums coast to coast filled Friday night for games.

"People want us to try to get back to normal. High school sports seems like a very good way to do that," said John Olson, associate director of the Washington Intercollegiate Activities Association.

In northern Virginia, where one of the hijacked planes crashed into the Pentagon, and in New York, where the World Trade Center towers were devastated by two other suicide flights, most games were called off.

"This is a chance to join together and show our respect for the deceased and their

families," said Henrico County Superintendent Mark Edwards, from suburban Richmond, Va.

But in many other states, high school football provided a distraction from the scenes of destruction that have filled newspapers and TV screens since Tuesday.

In Boise, Idaho, Jake DeGlee and his teammates at Bishop Kelly High School got a pep talk from the principal before the game.

"She said we should carry on as normal, have respect, mourn, but we have to carry on or the terrorists have accomplished their goals," DeGlee said.

Olson said he understood why professional and college games were postponed, since many of the contests require air travel and draw big crowds to stadiums that could be targets for more terrorism.

At the high school level, though, the games give neighbors the opportunity to come together and comfort one another.

Minnesota's high school association sent out a request for a moment of silence and supplied a script for public address announcers; President Bush had declared Friday a national day of

remembrance.

At Bloomington Jefferson High School, where hijacking victim Thomas Burnett Jr. had been a star quarterback in the early 1980s, officials read a short tribute before the game.

"Tom is truly a hero and displayed tremendous courage in giving his life for all Americans on September 11," the speaker said.

The 38-year-old Burnett was aboard United Flight 93, which crashed in western Pennsylvania. In a last-minute cell phone call to his wife, he said he and the other passengers were "going to do something."

Deena Burnett believes their efforts forced the plane to crash in an empty field before the hijackers could use it to kill more people, possibly in Washington, D.C.

Thomas Burnett Sr., his father, attended Friday night's game.

"It was a most wonderful tribute from the people here," he said. "Tom would be happy and proud of it too."

In Texas and West Virginia, two states where football is king, school districts played Friday games.

At Holcomb High School in Kansas, both teams kneeled at the 50-yard line as a minister

gave a short sermon and led the crowd in a moment of silent prayer.

Solon, Iowa, schools Superintendent Brad Manard

said the best thing for the students right now was for them to be together.

"One of the things we can do to help the kids is to main-

tain a regular schedule of things," Manard said. "Friday night football in the fall is about as regular as you can get."

Michael Johnson bids farewell with victory in exhibition relay

YOKOHAMA, Japan (AP) — Michael Johnson ran the final race of his great career Saturday, anchoring his team to victory in an exhibition relay and taking a farewell lap in a gold convertible.

"Even though it was my last race, I still have to go out there and execute," said Johnson, who turned 34 Thursday. "There are no emotions during the race and I just tried to make sure that I did what needed to be done to win."

The Swedish Relay at the Yokohama Super Track meet featured legs of 100, 200, 300 and 400 meters.

Johnson broke away during his 400-meter leg, comfortably ahead of Japan's

Jun Osakada. Johnson's team — which also included Namibian Frankie Fredericks and Americans Terrence Trammell and Shawn Crawford — was timed in 1 minute, 47.93 seconds.

Twelve foreign athletes scheduled to take part in the meet, including five Americans, did not arrive because of the terrorist attacks in the United States.

Johnson was coming off his Goodwill Games performance in which he anchored the U.S. 1,600-meter relay team to the gold medal.

"It's been great to be here," he said. "I thank everyone for all their support over the years. The

Japanese fans have been great to me."

Following the race at International Stadium Yokohama, Johnson took his victory lap to say goodbye to his Japanese fans.

Johnson, the world-record holder in the 200 and 400, is the only man to sweep those events at the same games and the only man to repeat as Olympic 400 champion.

"I've had a long career," Johnson said. "It's been 10 years and I'm proud of the fact that I've been consistent over the years and it's just a result of God-given ability and hard work."

Japan was second in 1:48.27 and Australia was third in 1:48.36.

Athletes lend a hand to help out victims' families

NEW YORK (AP) — Keyshawn Johnson is donating a week's pay to the Red Cross. The PGA Tour is contributing at least \$2 million to various relief funds. Mark Cuban is giving \$1 million to the families of police officers and firefighters.

Athletes, sports organizations and owners continued to come forward pledging whatever help they could to those affected by terrorist attacks on New York and

Washington. Johnson did not know how much the donation would be, but he usually makes about \$31,250 per week.

The New York Giants canceled plans to have a large group of players visit the site of the attack in Manhattan on Friday.

The players met after practice and decided to purchase supplies and help load supply boats in Jersey City on Saturday. Plans are being dis-

cussed for the team to visit Manhattan hospitals on Tuesday.

The NBA made a monetary contribution to disaster relief while also donating everything from socks and sweatshirts to unused office space that will be taken over Monday by the New York mayor's office of management and budget.

Cuban, owner of the Dallas Mavericks basketball team, contributed \$1 million on

behalf of the city to a fund to help relatives of those police and firefighters killed in the rescue effort at the World Trade Center.

The PGA Tour will donate \$2 million to relief funds, an amount that could grow if fans choose to forsake seeking refunds for events that were canceled this weekend.

The NCAA executive committee voted Wednesday to donate \$5 million for disaster relief.

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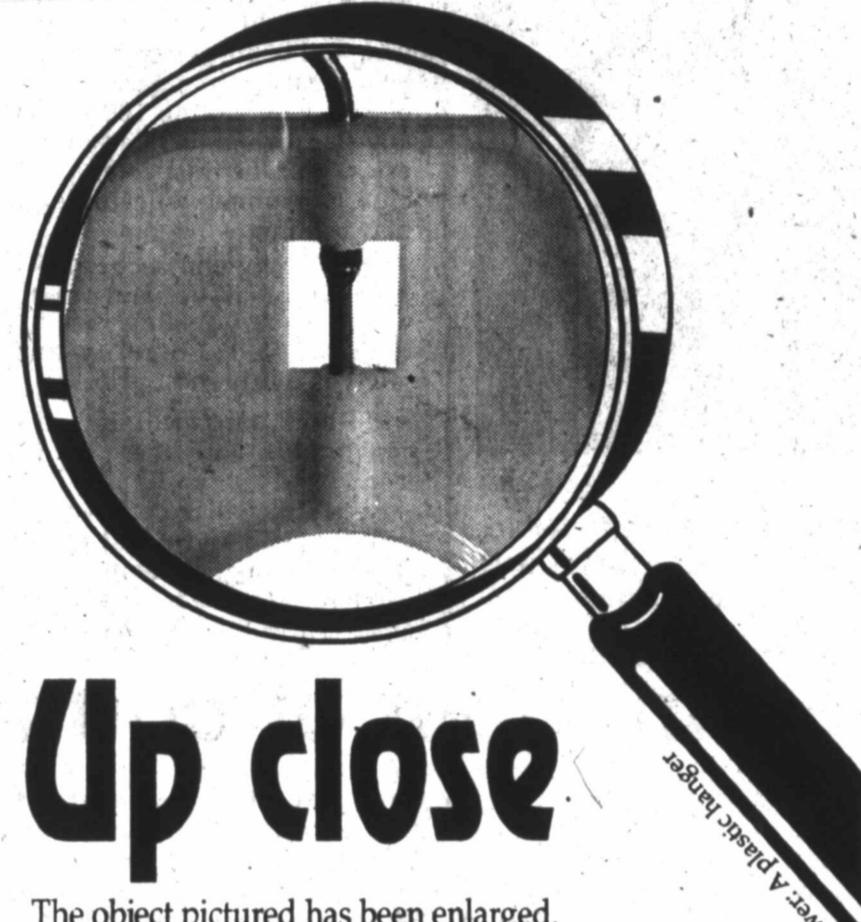


Happy Birthday,
Mr. President

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT

William Howard Taft was the president of the United States from 1909 until 1913. He was born on September 15, 1857, in Cincinnati, Ohio, the son of a prominent family. He studied law at the University of Cincinnati and he began his political career as a prosecuting attorney. He became a judge of the Superior Court of Ohio in 1887, when he was only 30 years old. He ran for president in 1908 and was inaugurated in March 1909.

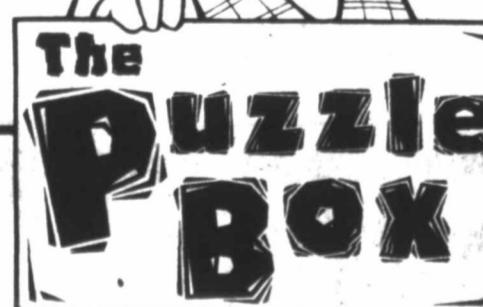
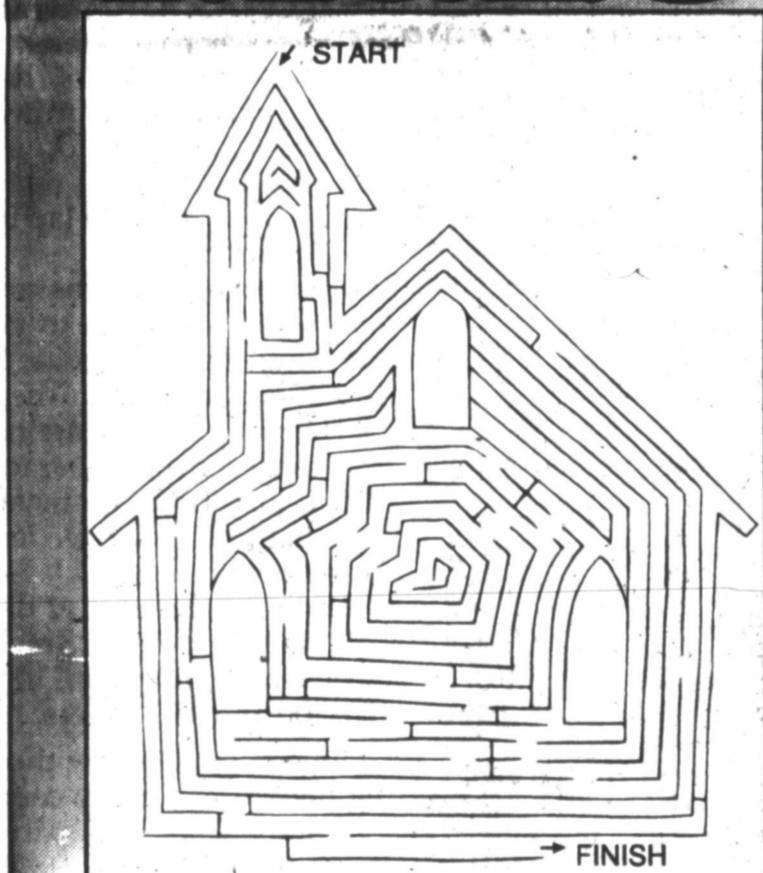
Taft served as president for only one term. He was the first president to present Congress with a complete national budget so Congress would know how much money to collect in taxes. After he left office he became a professor of law at Yale University. In 1921, President Warren G. Harding appointed Taft to the Supreme Court. He served there until 1930. He is the only president to have also served on the Supreme Court.



The object pictured has been enlarged.
Can you guess what it is?

ANSWER: A plastic baggie

Maze



Playing Post Office

By Martha J. Morrison, Candor, NY

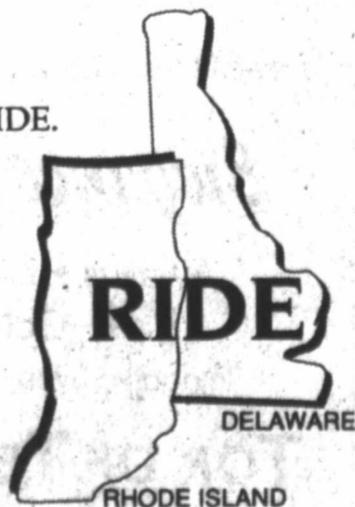
The post office uses the following abbreviations (listed in alphabetical order of the states they represent).

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IL	IN	IA	KS	KY	LA	ME	MD	MA	MI	MN	MS
MO	MT	NE	NV	NH	NJ	NM	NY	NC	ND	OH	OK
OR	PA	RI	SC	SD	TN	TX	UT	VT	VA	WA	WV
WI	WY										

Use the following clues to combine sets of two into common four-letter words.

Ex.: The smallest state and the state with Dover as its capital is RIDE.

1. The state with Pikes Peak and the Sooner State
2. The state with the Liberty Bell and the home of the Indy 500
3. The homes of Plymouth Rock and Niagara Falls
4. The home of the Atlanta Braves and the easternmost state
5. The site of Mardi Gras and the state with Bismarck as its capital
6. The state with the same name as one of the Great Lakes and the Cornhusker State



Answers: 1. COOK, 2. PAINT, 3. MARY, 4. GAME, 5. LAND, 6. MINE



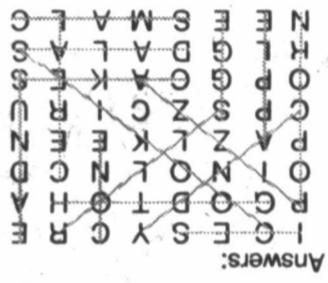
Find the words in the word list by looking across, up and down, diagonally, forward and backward.

I	C	E	S	Y	C	R	E
P	G	O	D	T	O	H	A
O	I	N	O	L	N	C	D
P	A	Z	L	K	E	E	N
C	P	S	Z	C	I	R	U
O	P	G	C	A	K	E	S
R	L	G	D	A	L	A	S
N	E	E	S	M	A	L	C

APPLE
CAKES
CANDY
CEREAL
CLAMS

CONE
COOKIES
EGGS
HOT DOG
ICES

PIZZA
POPCORN
ROLLS
SALAD
SUNDAE

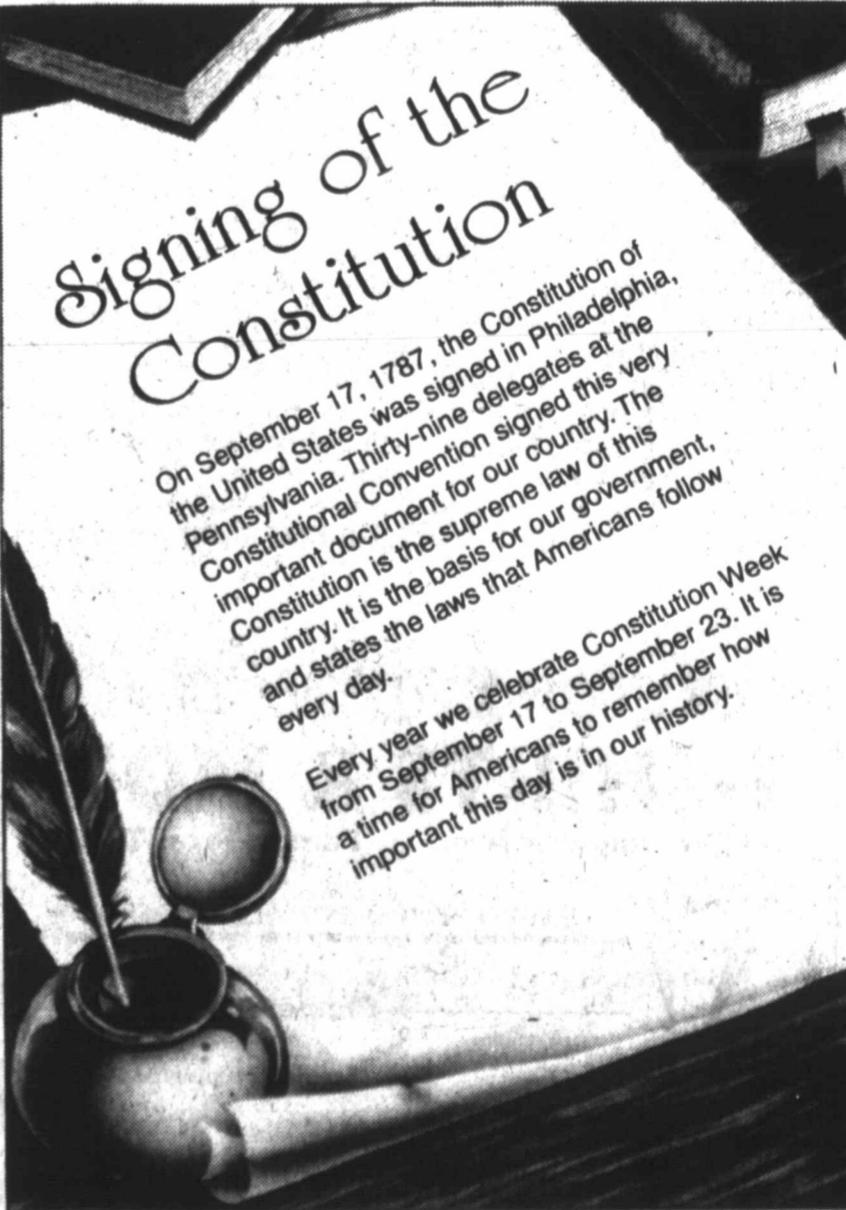


ANSWERS:



1. In what month do people talk the least?
2. What do astronauts eat for dinner?
3. Why do apples fall off trees?
4. Why did the old woman tie skates on the rocking chair?
5. How many vampires does it take to put in a light bulb?

Answers:
1. February—because it's the shortest month of the year!
2. Lunch meat
3. So they can become applesauce.
4. Because she wanted to rock and roll.
5. None. Vampires like the dark.



Signing of the Constitution

On September 17, 1787, the Constitution of the United States was signed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Thirty-nine delegates at the Constitutional Convention for our country signed this very important document. It is the supreme law of this country. It is the basis for our government, and states the laws that Americans follow every day.

Every year we celebrate Constitution Week from September 17 to September 23. It is a time for Americans to remember how important this day is in our history.

S
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1



*The Pampa News is providing the
“paper flag” above for you to place
in your windows to show support for
Our Country ... America*

LIFESTYLE

America stands tall



Mary M. (Maggie) Thomas and Eric Zamudio

Thomas-Zamudio

Mary M. (Maggie) Thomas and Eric Zamudio, both of Pampa, plan to wed Oct. 13, 2001, in St. Matthews Episcopal Church of Pampa. The bride-elect is the daughter of John and Laverne Thomas of Groom. She graduated from Groom High School in 1998 and is currently attending West Texas A&M University, where she is pursuing a teaching certificate. She is employed at Hastings.

The prospective groom is the son of Juan and Elisa Zamudio of Pampa. He graduated from Pampa High School in 1996 and is currently employed as manager of Hoagie's Deli.

Tuesday began as any other day. Prepare for work, feed the cats, write the column. As I opened the car door, a friend stopped, in the street and quickly relayed the atrocious news unfolding in New York.

As a nation, we watch the horror, stunned by realities too incomprehensible to believe. Perceptions of national safety vanished in a fiery instant. The lives of total strangers became instantly entwined with our own.

In spite of our individualism and diversity, we are, I think, a collective people of great compassion, generosity and insurmountable spirit. Our spirit is not defined by the physical comforts and trappings in a commercial society. We are bound solidly by the premise of freedom, however fleetingly we think about it.

This monumental tragedy snapped us out of complacency. The freedoms we quietly take for granted are now mighty icons dearly cherished. We are a nation of workers and volunteers, ready immediately to comfort, repair and rebuild.

This act of terror unleashed the soul of America. In a heartbeat, we became a united melting pot capable of unlimited service, undaunted in the face of horror and immensely compassionate to the

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Message from the publisher

Beginning immediately, *The Pampa News* is instituting a new policy concerning photographs that appear in the newspaper.

- Anyone bringing photographs that bears a photographer's name, a studio name or a copyright must have a signed publication release from the studio or professional photographer.

- The release must accompany the photo to the newspaper or the photo will not be accepted.

grieving. Once again we donned the beautiful cloak of national pride. Prayers of comfort and strength winged immediately through the heavens.

'Blue and crimson and white it shines,
Over the steel-tipped, ordered lines.

Hat's off!
The colors before us fly:

But more than the flag is passing by.

Sign of a nation, great and strong
To ward her people from foreign wrong:

Pride and glory and honor, — all
Live in the colors to stand or fall."

—Excerpts from "The Flag Goes By" by Henry Holcomb Bennett.



Amber Gilbreath of Lefors and Buddy Plunk

Gilbreath-Plunk

Amber Gilbreath of Lefors and Buddy Plunk of Pampa were wed Aug. 11, 2001, in First Baptist Church of Lefors with the Rev. Dean Young, grandfather of the bride of Boswell First Baptist Church in Boswell, Okla., officiating.

The matron of honor was Starla Hamilton, sister of the bride of Pampa. The bridesmaids were Christy Ferguson, sister of the groom, and Heather Hickerson, cousin of the bride, both of Pampa. The flower girl was Trysten Plunk, daughter of the groom of Pampa.

The best man was Rick Plunk of Pampa. The groomsmen were Steve Ferguson, brother-in-law of the groom, and Heath Keelin, both of Pampa. The ring bearer was Nathan Ferguson, nephew of the groom of Pampa.

The ushers were Jeremy Howard, cousin of the bride of Panhandle, and Tommy Cox of Pampa.

Registering the guests were Ashlee Ferguson of Pampa and Jonna Gilbreath of Clinton, Okla.

Music was provided by Tony Doyle of Pampa.

A reception was held following the service in fellowship hall of the church with Linda Cooley of Irving, Daphanie Banks of Mesquite, Betty Gilbreath of Clinton, Texas, Lawausa McCurley of White Deer and Nancy Neel of Lefors serving the guests.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Gilbreath of Lefors. She graduated from Lefors High School and attended Frank Phillips College for two years. She is currently enrolled at Amarillo College, seeking to become a certified radiology technician.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Rick Plunk of Pampa. He graduated from Pampa High School and has worked for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for eight years.

The couple planned a honeymoon trip to Amarillo and intend to make their home in Pampa.

Newsmakers

Sarah Fraser, a senior at Pampa High School, was recently named a National Merit Scholarship Program semifinalist.

Fraser, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Fraser, ranks in the top 10 percent of her class at PHS. Her honors, activities and accomplishments include: Choir, speech and debate, D-FY-IT and National Honor Society. Active in various church activities and programs, she also works as a lifeguard and a waitress.

The PHS student is among approximately 16,000 semifinalists nationwide included in the 47th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. More than 1.2 million students in over 20,000 U.S. high schools entered the 2002 Merit Program when they were juniors by taking the 2000 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

Semifinalists are the highest scoring entrants in each state and represent less than 1 percent of the state's seniors.

About 90 percent of the semifinalists are expected to advance to the finalist level, and some 8,000 of the finalists will become Merit Scholarship winners. The winners will be chosen by professionals on the basis of academic skills and achievements, extracurricular accomplishments and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

NMSC will release the names of 2002 scholarship recipients beginning in April 2002. Previous PHS semifinalists include: Laura Hamilton (1991); Joshua Seabourn (1993); and Joyce Osborne (1994).

Kira Chumbley, 2001 Pampa High School valedictorian, recently nominated PHS science teacher Beth Shannon for a teacher achievement award in the amount of \$500. Shannon is a three-time award-winner.

Chumbley was awarded a \$1,000 college scholarship from Tulsa, Okla.-based Williams Mid-American Pipeline subsidiary.

Under the program, scholarship winners are asked to choose a teacher who made an impression on their life.

Chumbley followed two other Pampa alumni by selecting Shannon, saying, "She showed me that chemistry can be fun and interesting." Now, Chumbley plans to study biochemistry at McMurry University in Abilene.

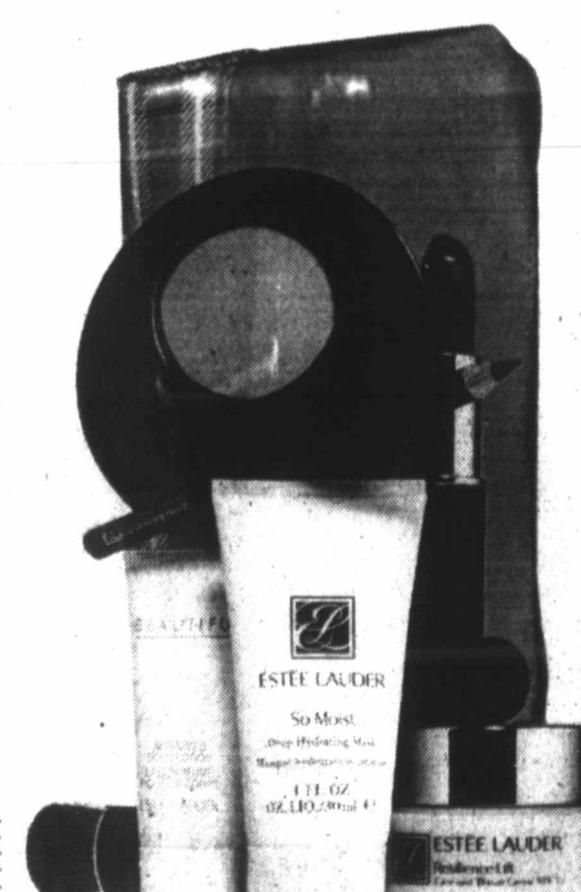
Previous scholarship recipients who named Shannon for the award were Edith Osborne (1996) and Ashleigh McWilliams (1999).

Rick Archer, a manager for Williams, said, "Beth's success in our program is just about unprecedented. To be picked that many times by her students speaks volumes. Obviously, she's a pretty special person and a very gifted teacher."

Twenty-seven graduates and their teachers in the Midwest, Southwest and Rocky Mountain states were honored this year. A total of 151 students and their teachers have earned more than \$225,000 since the program's inception six years ago.

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Susan G. Komen Ultimate Drive breast cancer fund-raiser coming to Amarillo

AMARILLO — The fifth Ultimate Drive for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, which kicked off simultaneously in Silver Springs, Md., and Wilmington, Del., this spring, will spend Sept. 22 at the Autoplex BMW in Amarillo.

The Ultimate Drive is a unique grassroots fund-raising partnership between BMW of North America, LLC, and the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. The Drive is designed to raise money and awareness for breast cancer in over 200 cities across America. This program has successfully raised over \$4 million over the past four years, and BMW expects to hit the \$5 million mark this year.

From May through November, two fleets of specially marked BMWs will criss-cross the country, making stops in approximately 200 cities. Each city and town will host a day-long fund-raising event, inviting the community to come out and test-drive a BMW. For every mile test-driven, BMW will donate \$1 to the Komen Foundation. Over the past four years, the Ultimate Drive has attracted over 115,000 participants.

During each event, the Ultimate Drive will also identify a "local hero," a community member that will be celebrated for their outstanding efforts in the fight against breast cancer. A photograph of each hero will be permanently affixed to a specially designed BMW Signature Vehicle.

The local hero and all participants then sign this vehicle, making it a striking visual testimonial to the individuals who are making a difference in the fight against this deadly disease.

The Signature Vehicle in each fleet this year will be a BMW 3 Series Sport Wagon.

For the second year, the Ultimate Drive will be accompanied by The Ultimate Child Safety Seat Clinic. Spurred on by statistics that revealed that only about 4 percent of child safety seats are installed correctly, BMW and Britax (the world's largest safety seat manufacturer) last year established the clinic — a

"For five years, BMW and the Komen Foundation have been putting the brakes on breast cancer and driving home a message of hope and commitment to people around the country. Together, we have demonstrated that it is possible for communities and corporations to come together for the greater good," said Tom Purves, president, BMW of North America, LLC.

hands-on safety program geared towards parents. Due to popular demand, the clinic will once again travel across country with the Ultimate Drive.

In a dedicated tent, Child Passenger Safety Technicians, guided by the IACP Traffic Safety committee, will provide one-on-one demonstrations on the proper way to install child safety seats. Technicians will then oversee the participants install a seat in their own vehicle — whether or not it is a BMW.

"For five years, BMW and the Komen Foundation have been putting the brakes on breast cancer and driving home a message of hope and commitment to people around the country. Together, we have demonstrated that it is possible for communities and corporations to come together for the greater good," said Tom Purves, president, BMW of North America, LLC. "And, with the addition of the Ultimate Child Safety Seat Clinic, we are able to broaden our safety mission by demonstrating the proper installation of child safety seats at each event. Together, all of these components convey a powerful message: one person can make a difference."

"Our partnership with BMW has been instrumental in educating people and raising awareness of breast cancer," said Nancy Brinker, founding chair of the Komen Foundation. "This year we celebrate our Fifth Anniversary. This is a significant milestone and proves that by working together we can work to eradicate this deadly disease."

"Britax is thrilled to join forces once again with BMW on the Ultimate Child Safety Seat Clinic," remarked Tom Baloga, president of Britax Child Safety, Inc./U.S. "The Ultimate Drive has proven that the grassroots approach to educating the public is a powerful force."

The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation was established in 1982 by Nancy Brinker to honor the memory of her sister, Susan G. Komen, who died from breast cancer at the age of 36. The Foundation is an international organization with a network of volunteers working through affiliates to eradicate breast cancer as a life-threatening disease by advancing research, education, screening and treatment.

The Komen Foundation runs one of the most innovative, responsive grant programs in breast cancer today, having awarded more than \$68 million in research grants since its inception. In addition to funding research, the Foundation and its affiliates fund nonduplicative, community-based breast health education and breast cancer screening and treatment projects for the medically underserved.

For more information about breast health or breast cancer, call the Komen Foundation's National toll-free Breast Care Helpline at 1-800-462-9273, or visit the Foundation's website at www.breastcancerinfo.com.

Cornyn praises new consumer scam protection

MIDLAND — Texas Attorney General John Cornyn met recently with Permian Basin senior citizens to discuss the ways they can shield themselves from consumer scams.

During his visit, Attorney General Cornyn spoke about a new State law that gives Texans additional protections against telemarketing fraud. The Texas Telemarketing Disclosure and Privacy Act (HB 472) takes effect next year.

"Senior citizens in Texas are the most popular targets of consumer fraud, including telemarketing fraud," Attorney General Cornyn said. "I want to ensure that all consumers and service providers are aware of the laws that target those who want to cheat or deceive the public."

Attorney General Cornyn offered several tips on how to recognize potential telemarketing scams, including:

An offer of free gifts that requires you to pay shipping and handling charges or other fees before delivery;

"Get-rich-quick" schemes

that promise high profits and no-risk investments in gold, oil, gas, real estate or gems;

High-pressure sales tactics to get you to "act now" because the offer will not be available tomorrow;

"Buy one, get one free" offers for vacations or other products;

Charity solicitations for an organization named similarly to that of a well-known charity;

Phony contests offering prizes in which you must provide your credit card or bank account number for "verification" purposes;

Sales pitches that include a 900-number for further information; and

Foreign lotteries in which scam artists say they are selling you tickets as part of a pool of ticket purchasers.

State lawmakers passed HB 472 during the recent 77th Texas Legislative Session. The bill contains several provisions to protect consumers from unwanted solicitations. Telemarketers who

break the new law could face penalties of up to \$3,000 per violation.

Highlights of the new law, to be effective next year, include:

The Texas Public Utility Commission (PUC), which regulates telecommunications, will establish a "no call" list that contains the telephone numbers of persons in Texas who have requested to be on the list;

Texans will be able to include their names on the "no call" list via several channels, such as a toll-free number or the Internet;

Telemarketers will be prohibited from making a call to a telephone number that has been on the "no call" list more than 60 days;

Telemarketers will be required to provide information that is accessible by a caller identification service; and

The Office of the Attorney General may investigate alleged violations of the new law, along with the PUC and some State agencies.

The state and federal govern-

ment are working to help stop telemarketing fraud. However, the best defense against deceptive telephone solicitation practices is an aware consumer,"

Attorney General Cornyn said. "Remember, they called you. When in doubt, say no and hang up the phone."

Seniors, or any Texans who believe they have been the victim of any type of consumer fraud, can file a complaint with Attorney General Cornyn's Consumer Protection Division (CPD). The toll-free hotline number is 1-800-621-0508; complaint forms are also available on the agency's web site at www.oag.state.tx.us. Consumer complaints may also be filed with the local district attorney's office or the Better Business Bureau.

When HB 472 takes effect in January, seniors and other consumers in Texas will be able to choose from a number of agencies with which to file complaints, depending on the nature of the telemarketer's business.

The following business was conducted and announcements made:

Norris read minutes from the previous meeting.

Calvert brought a scrapbook dedicated to the club, dating from its inception in 1956.

Dues for the new year were collected and birthday money paid.

A block party is planned in October.

Officers for the new year are: Calvert, president; Jewel Holmes, vice president; and Mairlyn Kirkwood, secretary-treasurer.

The next meeting will be in October at the home of Johnnie Rhodes.

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Club news

Club news is published strictly on a first come, first serve basis due to space limitations. The deadline each week for Sunday's paper is Wednesday at 5 p.m. (Tuesday at 12 noon on holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas.) The deadline does not guarantee publication. Thank you.

Las Pampas DAR

During a recent meeting of Las Pampas Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution, Regent Nancy Coffee was elected delegate to the Texas State Daughters of the American Revolution fall forum held in Austin earlier this month.

Reports included current environmental

information — the household hazardous waste disposal at the Community Recycling Center; American Natives; DAR supported schools; flag tribute; and an update on missile defense.

Mary Cantrell and Louisa Britton presented the program on the amendments to the constitution and the commemorative events of the constitution for the month. They have set up a display recognizing constitution week, Sept. 16-22, at Lovett Library.

Highland Hobby Club

Highland Hobby Club met recently in the home of hostess Gloria Norris with President Ferline Calvert presiding. Five

members and two guests were present.

The following business was conducted and announcements made:

Norris read minutes from the previous meeting.

Calvert brought a scrapbook dedicated to the club, dating from its inception in 1956.

Dues for the new year were collected and birthday money paid.

A block party is planned in October.

Officers for the new year are: Calvert, president; Jewel Holmes, vice president; and Mairlyn Kirkwood, secretary-treasurer.

The next meeting will be in October at the home of Johnnie Rhodes.



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Struggling pupils can simply be out-of-focus

By CYNTHIA CIELUCH
San Antonio Express-News

SAN ANTONIO — Math problems on the chalkboard became so blurry, Valerie Polk had to move to the front of the classroom to see them.

That was last school year, when Valerie was in first grade.

"She passed the school screenings," says Evelyn Polk, Valerie's mother. "Then later, I noticed the squinting and the headaches."

Polk scheduled Valerie for an eye exam by an optometrist, who diagnosed the 7-year-old San Antonio girl with near-sightedness, meaning she can't focus on far-away objects.

Experts say the kind of routine eye exam Valerie had should be on every child's back-to-school to-do list, along with shopping for clothes, a backpack and shoes.

Mike Smith, executive director for the American Optometric Association, says countless children are not getting their eyes checked because parents simply don't know the importance of having routine checkups.

"There are literally millions of children walking around with undiagnosed vision disorders," Smith says.

"Then what happens is kids get frustrated because they can't do their homework, then the parents get frustrated because it takes their kids so long to do homework. When they finally realize it's all because of a vision problem, it's like a miracle."

According to the American Optometric Association, more than 80 percent of children's first 12 years of learning is achieved visually.

"I really don't mind (wearing glasses)," says Valerie, who attends Longs Creek Elementary. "My math problems and reading are easier because of them."

Polk says that while Valerie exhibited a lot of vision warning signs, her older daughter, Candice, did not. Candice, an 11-year-old at Driscoll Elementary, got glasses two years ago.

"She probably needed them earlier, but she had just accommodated," Polk says.

"It's funny because you feel like a really bad parent if you don't notice these things, but most of the time children compensate so they can see, like moving closer to the TV."

Now, Polk takes Valerie to see an optometrist every six months, and Candice goes once a year.

Dr. Maribel Garcia, an optometrist at Today's Vision, says comprehensive eye exams are necessary because school and pediatrician screenings are not always accurate.

Also, many children are good at giving away signs that their sight is slipping, so they won't have to wear glasses. This may lead to bad grades, clumsiness or a withdrawn personality.

If children with failing vision don't get corrective lenses, "they'll probably avoid reading, they'll get behind and they won't be as proficient," Garcia says.

Garcia urges parents to take their children to an optometrist as early as 1 to 2 years of age, and at least once a year.

She says an appointment with an ophthalmologist is only necessary if a patient is diagnosed with a serious eye disease or needs eye surgery.

"You're never too young (to get your eyes checked)," Garcia says.

"There are a lot of eye conditions we can catch early. If we catch them early enough, we can prevent serious conditions in the future, such as amblyopia."

Amblyopia, commonly known as "lazy eye," is a condition in which one eye becomes dominant and retains good vision, while the other eye's nerves fail to develop normally. This leads to lack of depth perception, and blurred vision; in some cases, the eye can become useless.

The condition is so serious, the National Council of Jewish Women in San Antonio participates in Prevent Blindness Texas' Project Sight Saver, a program that sends volunteers to schools to screen for amblyopia and suggest followup visits with local optometrists.

It's a disorder that can be treated, but only if diagnosed early.

"If (patients) come in when they're 8 or 9 for the first time, there's usually nothing we can do about it," Garcia says.

When choosing a doctor for your child, Garcia suggests asking a lot of questions: What is included in the exam? (Ask for a comprehensive exam, she says.) How long does the doctor spend with the patient? (It should be a minimum of 20 minutes.)

"And don't just look for the best deal," Garcia says.

"Look for someone who can build a relationship with your (children), so when you bring them back, the doctor will be able to look at their history more thoroughly."

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Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore



Sunday, September 16

Page 16

Students' Medical History Should Be Ready At Hand

DEAR ABBY: The letter in your column about what legal documents students should have once they reach the age of 18 prompted me to write.

With college starting again, please recommend that students have a personal fact sheet on hand, in a place where it can be easily located. It should include important information such as parents' names, address and phone numbers, food and drug allergies, prescription and non-prescription medications and dosages, the name and phone number of their family physician, dentist and pharmacy, their medical history and insurance information, etc.

New friends and acquaintances may not know these facts, or in an emergency will not remember them. The time it takes to look up the information in school records may mean the difference between life and death.

Because of my complex medical history and numerous prescriptions, this has been a lifesaver after accidents, when seeing new physicians and in emergency situations — especially when out of town. I keep it on my computer and hand the information out when necessary. Doctors and nurses rely on having an accurate and complete list of data.

BETTY NOLAN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

DEAR BETTY: You have made a good point. In the past, I have usually targeted these suggestions to older adults. But everyone who lives independently should obey the Boy Scout motto: Be prepared. And that means

Dear Abby

Is written by
Pauline Phillips and
daughter Jeanne Phillips.

printing out copies of emergency information and informing friends, roommates and dormitory advisers where they can easily find it in an emergency.

DEAR ABBY: I'm responding to the letter from "Teen-Age Aunt" in Illinois, who felt guilty about reporting that she saw her sister's boyfriend hit her.

Seven years ago, 19 days before my eighth birthday, my sister was murdered by her boyfriend. Then he committed suicide. My sister loved him very much, but he didn't love her. They had two children.

He hit me only twice, but every time he hit my sister I would grab my niece and nephew and hide with them under the table. Once I almost called 911, but he left. I was afraid of him, but my sister made me promise not to tell anyone — and I didn't.

I'm now 14, and we adopted my niece and nephew. I love them dearly, but I miss my older sister

very much.
If only I had told my father what was going on, I might have saved my sister's life. I recently told my father what happened — seven years too late. I regret that I didn't tell, and I'll regret it for the rest of my life.

"Teen-Age Aunt" — if you love your sister and your niece, please tell someone!

REGRETFUL TEEN IN GEORGIA

Now, please accept some unsolicited advice: You were a small child when this tragedy occurred. You were doing what your sister asked you to do, and at the age of 7, you couldn't have been expected to be independent enough in your judgment to have done otherwise. If you cannot let go of your feelings of guilt, talking them out with a professional counselor would be helpful. As much as one might wish it, no one can change the past. We can only change the future.

Dear Abby is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips.

Have A Story Idea...

Contact Dee Dee or Nancy
669-2525 800-687-3348
deedee@pan-tex.net

Wildwood



Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 42 Winter gliders

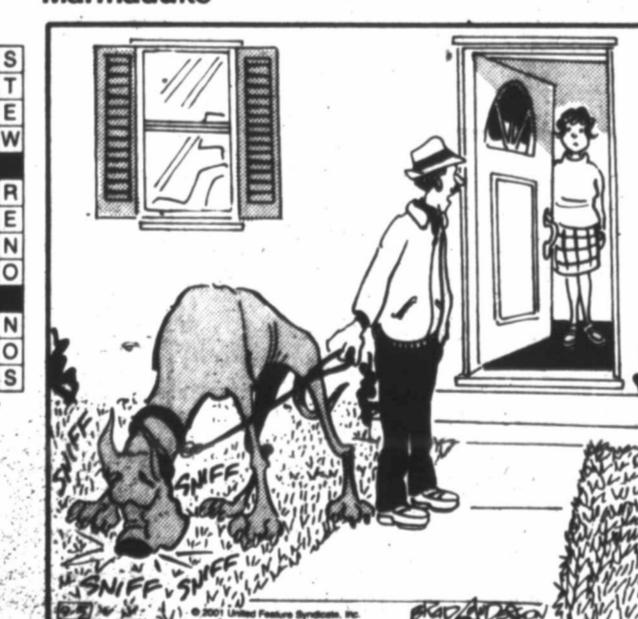
DOWN 1 Pointed the finger at 2 Nabokov novel 3 Quarterback Johnny 4 Budget amount 5 Open passage 6 From the USSR 7 On the — vive 8 Square 9 High flier 10 Tête topper

PEELS TEENS
ELLIE ALLOT
NIECE BEENE
VIPS AVOW
STAT EDNA
ART SCOOTER
MOOLA ERODE
STRIDES RAN
SCAR AMMO
ACHE GURU
LOONY ROSIN
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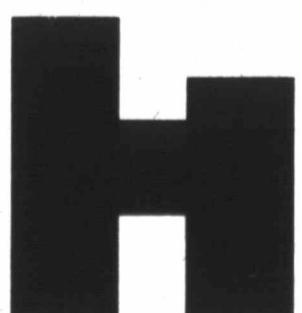
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ENTERTAINMENT

Billboard music charts

By The Associated Press

Weekly charts for the nation's best-selling recorded music as they appear in next week's issue of Billboard magazine. Reprinted with permission. (Platinum signifies more than 1 million copies sold; Gold signifies more than 500,000 copies sold.)

Billboard Hot 100: Top 10

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports collected, compiled and provided by SoundScan; radio playlists; and monitored radio by Broadcast Data Systems)

1. "I'm Real," Jennifer Lopez (feat. Ja Rule). Epic.
 2. "Fallin'," Alicia Keys. J.
 3. "Where The Party At," Jagged Edge With Nelly. So So Def.
 4. "Hit 'Em Up Style (Oops!)," Blu Cantrell. RedZone.
 5. "Someone To Call My Lover," Janet. Virgin.
 6. "U Remind Me," Usher. Arista.
 7. "It's Been Awhile," Staind. Flip/Elektra.
 8. "Let Me Blow Ya Mind," Eve (feat. Gwen Stefani). Ruff Ryders.
 9. "Family Affair," Mary J. Blige. MCA.
 10. "You Rock My World," Michael Jackson. Epic.
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The Billboard 200 Top Albums: Top 10

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports collected, compiled and provided by SoundScan)

1. "Songs In A Major," Alicia Keys. J. (Platinum — certified sales of 1 million units)
 2. "Toxicity," System Of A Down. American.
 3. "Aaliyah," Aaliyah. Blackground. (Platinum)
 4. "Now 7," Various Artists. EMI/Universal/Sony/Zomba/Virgin.
 5. "No More Drama," Mary J. Blige. MCA.
 6. "Break The Cycle," Staind. Flip/Elektra. (Platinum)
 7. "Hybrid Theory," Linkin Park. Warner Bros. (Platinum)
 8. "Now," Maxwell. Columbia/CRG.
 9. "Celebrity," 'N Sync. Jive. (Platinum)
 10. "The Good Times," Afroman. Universal.
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Hot Adult Contemporary

(Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Broadcast Data Systems)

1. "There You'll Be," Faith Hill. Warner Bros.
2. "Thank You," Dido. Arista.

3. "If You're Gone," matchbox twenty. Lava.

4. "Only Time," Enya. Warner Sunset.

5. "I Hope You Dance," Lee Ann Womack With Sons Of The Desert. MCA Nashville.

6. "More Than That," Backstreet Boys. Jive.

7. "One More Day," Diamond Rio. Arista Nashville.

8. "Follow Me," Uncle Kracker. Top Dog/Lava/Atlantic.

9. "Never Had A Dream Come True," S Club 7. A&M.

10. "This I Promise You," 'N Sync. Jive.

Top Gospel Albums

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports collected, compiled and provided by SoundScan)

1. "Live In London And More..." Donnie McClurkin. Verity. (Gold)
2. "Thankful," Mary Mary. C2/Columbia. (Gold)
3. "CeCe Winans," CeCe Winans. Wellspring Gospel.
4. "The Experience," Yolanda Adams. Elektra.
5. "Persuaded — Live In D.C.," Richard Smallwood With Vision. Verity/Zomba.
6. "Still Tramaine," Tramaine Hawkins. Gospo Centric.
7. "WoW Gospel 2001: The Year's 30 Top Gospel Artists And Songs," Various Artists. EMI/Word. (Gold)
8. "Mountain High... Valley Low," Yolanda Adams. Elektra.
9. "Awesome Wonder," Kurt Carr & The Kurt Carr Singers.

Gospo Centric.

10. "Sing For Me," Dez Destiny.

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Mainstream Rock Tracks

(Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Broadcast Data Systems)

1. "How You Remind Me," Nickelback. Roadrunner.
2. "Gets Me Through," Ozzy Osbourne. Epic.
3. "Schism," Tool. Tool Dissectional.
4. "Control," Puddle Of Mudd. Flawless/Geffen/Interscope.
5. "It's Been Awhile," Staind. Flip/Elektra.
6. "Family Affair," Mary J. Blige. MCA.
7. "Fallin'," Alicia Keys. J.
8. "Izzo (H.O.V.A.)" Jay-Z. Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG.
9. "Contagious," The Isley Brothers (feat. Ronald Isley AKA Mr. Biggs). DreamWorks.
10. "Astounded," Tantric. Maverick.

Modern Rock Tracks

(Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Broadcast Data Systems)

1. "How You Remind Me," Nickelback. Roadrunner.
2. "Smooth Criminal," Alien Ant Farm. New Noize/DreamWorks.
3. "I Wish You Were Here," Incubus. Immortal/Epic.
4. "Fat Lip," Sum 41. Island.
5. "Clint Eastwood," Gorillaz. Virgin.
6. "Schism," Tool. Tool Dissectional.
7. "Control," Puddle Of Mudd. Flawless/Geffen/Interscope.
8. "Down With The Sickness," Disturbed. Giant/Reprise.
9. "Crawling," Linkin Park. Warner Bros.
10. "It's Been Awhile," Staind. Flip/Elektra.

Hot Country Singles and Tracks

(Compiled from a national sample of monitored country radio by Broadcast Data Systems)

1. "What I Really Meant To Say," Cyndi Thomson. Capitol.
 2. "I'm Just Talkin' About Tonight," Toby Keith. DreamWorks.
 3. "Austin," Blake Shelton. Giant.
 4. "Where I Come From," Alan Jackson. Arista Nashville.
 5. "I Would've Loved You Anyway," Trisha Yearwood. MCA Nashville.
 6. "Only In America," Brooks & Dunn. Arista Nashville.
 7. "Angry All The Time," Tim McGraw. Curb.
 8. "Where The Blacktop Ends," Keith Urban. Capitol.
 9. "Six-Pack Summer," Phil Vassar. Arista Nashville.
 10. "Complicated," Carolyn Dawn Johnson. Arista Nashville.
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Hot Rap Singles

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports collected, compiled, and provided by SoundScan)

1. "Raise Up," Petey Pablo. Jive.
 2. "My Projects," Coo Coo Cal. Infinite/Tommy Boy.
 3. "Po' Punch," Po' White Trash & The Trailer Park Symphony. Pocket Change.
 4. "Living It Up," Ja Rule (feat. Case). Murder Inc.
 5. "All My Thugs," Young Phantom Heartless.
 6. "Let's Be Friends," Ta Ta Brando (feat. Larry Poteat Of The Donz). Heartless.
 7. "Grippin' Grain," The Young Urban Millionaires.
 8. "Purple Hills," D-12. Shady.
 9. "Bounce," Survivalist. Fo' Life.
 10. "We Right Here," DMX. Ruff Ryders.
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Top Country Albums

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports collected, compiled and provided by SoundScan)

1. Soundtrack: "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" Mercury. (Platinum)
2. "Pull My Chain," Toby Keith. DreamWorks.
3. Soundtrack: "Coyote Ugly," Curb. (Platinum)
4. "Set This Circus Down," Tim McGraw. Curb. (Platinum)
5. "New Favorite," Alison Krauss & Union Station. Rounder/IDJMG.

6. "I'm Already There," Lonestar. BNA. (Gold)

7. "I Hope You Dance," Lee Ann Womack. MCA Nashville. (Platinum)

8. "Greatest Hits," Kenny Chesney. BNA. (Platinum)

9. "Keep It Coming," 7 (feat. Mona Monet). King Street.

9. "Greatest Hits," Tim McGraw. Curb. (Platinum)

10. "Blake Shelton," Blake Shelton. Warner Bros./WRN.

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5. "I Feel Loved," Depeche Mode. Mute/Reprise.

6. "Feel This 2001," Robbie Rivera. Strictly Rhythm.

7. "Little L," Jamiroquai. Epic.

8. "Crystal," New Order. Reprise.

9. "Digital Love," Daft Punk. Virgin.

10. "Thank You," Dido. Arista.

Hot Latin Tracks

(Compiled from national Latin radio airplay reports)

1. "Come Olvidar," Olga Tanon. WEA Latina.

2. "Azul," Cristian Ariola.

3. "O Me Voy O Te Vas," Marco Antonio Solis. Fonovisa.

4. "No Me Conoces Aun," Palomo. Disa.

5. "Como Se Cura Una Herida," Jaci Velasquez. Sony Discos.

6. "Me Vas A Extranar," Pepe Aguilar. Musart.

7. "Pueden Decir," Gilberto Santa Rosa. Sony Discos.

8. "Con Cada Beso," Huey Dunbar. Sony Discos.

9. "Abrazame Muy Fuerte," Juan Gabriel. Ariola.

10. "No Vale La Pena," Nydia Con Juan Gabriel. Hollywood.

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The Billboard Latin 50: Top 10 Albums

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports collected, compiled and provided by SoundScan)

1. "Uniendo Fronteras," Los Tigres Del Norte. Fonovisa.

2. "Historia Musical," Los Angeles Azules. Disa.

3. "Thalia Con Bandas Grandes," Thalia. EMI Latin.

4. "Historia Musical Romantica," Grupo Bryndis. Disa.

5. "Shhh!" A.B. Quintanilla Y Los Kumbia Kings. EMI Latin.

6. "Paulina," Paulina Rubio. Universal Latino. (Gold)

7. "Corazon De Mujer," Melina Leon. Sony Discos.

8. "Despreciable," Lupillo Rivera. Sony Discos. (Gold)

9. "Mas Con El Numero Uno," Vicente Fernandez. Sony Discos.

10. "Historia De Un Idolito Vol. 1," Vicente Fernandez. Sony Discos.

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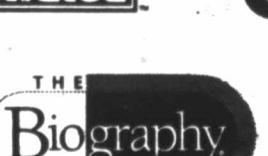
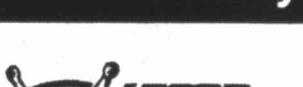
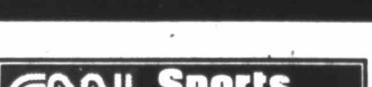
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Johnson's image evolves with Middleton's release of tapes

By KELLEY SHANNON
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — Lyndon B. Johnson returned to Texas in 1969 with the misery of the Vietnam War shrouding his just-finished presidency.

It would be more than two decades before Americans witnessed Johnson's private anguish about Vietnam through tape recordings he secretly made of his telephone conversations with aides and senators.

His commitment to civil rights legislation and the War on Poverty as well as his finely honed powers of political persuasion also come through in the tapes, reminding listeners of the scope of Johnson's administration.

The man responsible for making the tapes public — and thus, some say, for enhancing Johnson's image in history — is Harry Middleton, the 79-year-old director of the LBJ Library and Museum.

He is retiring as library director at the end of October, shortly after turning 80. A former presidential aide to Johnson, Middleton has held the job since the LBJ Library opened 30 years ago at the University of Texas amid tight security and protesters' anti-war chants.

"I had no idea when I started this that it was going to be a 30-year adventure, but it has been that — rich, rewarding," Middleton said.

Middleton built a reputation for fairness and openness, perhaps best demonstrated by his release beginning in 1993 of the hundreds of audio tapes. About two-thirds have been made public, representing taped conversations from 1963 through 1965.

Johnson left the Dictabelt tapes to former assistant Mildred Stegall, now 92, with instructions that they remain sealed until 50 years after his death. As Johnson had asked, Stegall gave them to the library with those instructions after the president died in 1973.

As librarians worked to preserve the old tapes, Middleton realized he wanted them released during his tenure.

"I didn't know what was in them, but I was certain that there was going to be important historical material," he said.

After some tapes were unsealed as part of the libel lawsuit Westmoreland v. CBS, the road toward opening the tapes was partially cleared, Middleton said.

"I felt that really effectively, at least figuratively, broke the seal," he said.

He got assurances from a lawyer with the National Archives that there were no legal barriers to opening the tapes. Then he sought to persuade Lady Bird Johnson to join him in his decision.

"I really wanted her acquiescence if I was going to go ahead and do this because I thought I might get a lot of static," Middleton said. "I thought that possibly the LBJ loyalists might give me some problems about violating his instructions."

Johnson's widow backed Middleton, and the time-consuming work began to archive and release the tapes.

Historian and author Robert Dallek suggested that Middleton and Lady Bird Johnson were wise to unseal the tapes because they have enhanced Johnson's reputation as a strong leader.

"He was a man with a vision as president and this was all demonstrated in the tapes," said Dallek, author of the books "Lone Star Rising" and "Flawed Giant."

Taped conversations show Johnson's commitment to his domestic agenda, including housing, education and other aid for the poor; clean air and water; and the National Endowment for the Arts, Dallek said.

Surprisingly, Dallek said, some conversations show Johnson worrying that passage of civil rights legislation might cause a violent revolt in the South. But southerners generally viewed the changes as a legislative matter without responding violently, he said.

Dallek, Middleton and others were surprised about the despair Johnson expressed regarding the military escalation in Vietnam.

"I'll tell you the more that I stayed awake last night thinking of this thing, the more I think of it. I don't know what in the hell — it looks to me like we're getting into another Korea. It just worries the hell out of me," Johnson told National Security Advisor McGeorge Bundy in May 1964.

A look at the LBJ Library, Museum:

LOCATION: University of Texas at Austin
OPENED: 1971
OUTGOING DIRECTOR: Harry Middleton
INCOMING DIRECTOR: Betty Sue Flowers
HOUSES: 46 million of Lyndon B. Johnson's papers
YEARLY VISITORS: 250,000
RESEARCHERS SO FAR: More than 9,000
BOOKS PUBLISHED BASED ON HOLDINGS: 700
WEB SITE: www.lbjlib.utexas.edu

Michael Beschloss, in his book "Taking Charge, The Johnson White House Tapes, 1963-1964," praised Middleton's mission.

"A different kind of library director might have attempted to hide behind LBJ's spoken instructions to keep the tapes under seal until at least 2023 and used lawyers to thwart whatever legal challenges historians might have raised to their closure," Beschloss wrote.

Texas Monthly political writer Paul Burka concludes that Middleton's decision to release the tapes saved Johnson's image.

"As degrading as the Nixon tapes had been," Burka wrote last year, "the Johnson tapes were just as uplifting."

Because the tapes seem to have benefited the late president's reputation, Middleton said if Johnson were alive he would be happy about their release.

"He would undoubtedly come around to thinking it was his idea," he said with a chuckle.

Not all the recordings were of serious matters. In one blunt conversation Johnson ordered pants from Joseph Haggard Jr., chairman of The Haggard Co.

"He gave the man a good deal of anatomical information," Middleton said.

Middleton, a former Associated Press reporter and magazine and free-lance journalist, joined Johnson's presidential staff in 1967 as a writer of speeches and messages to Congress.

After the administration ended he came to Texas to assist Johnson with his memoirs. Then he

was named library director when the previous director resigned before the institution opened.

From the start, Middleton said, Johnson was hands on with the library and expressed a desire for openness.

Even when Middleton sought to shield certain papers because they might embarrass a public official, he said, Johnson tended to want them open.

"He set the pattern and we followed it," he said.

Today Middleton maintains a close relationship with Lady Bird Johnson, with whom Middleton and his wife, Miriam, travel occasionally.

"He has been everything that Lyndon had hoped for in his library director," the former first lady said after Middleton announced he was retiring.

Middleton has been praised for organizing library speeches and symposia, at times involving critics of Johnson.

The library houses 46 million of Johnson's papers, most of them in bright red cartons stacked four stories high in glass cases. Some 250,000 classified papers are locked in a vault.

More than 9,000 researchers have visited the library in person to study the papers. The museum attracts 250,000 visitors a year.

They view Johnson political memorabilia, family portraits, a 1968 presidential limousine and displays on Vietnam and the Great Society.

The new library director will be Betty Sue Flowers, an English professor at the University of Texas.

Middleton plans to keep working with the library as executive director of the LBJ Foundation, overseeing the public release of the final third of the audio tapes.

So, his adventures continue.

"I've had a great experience of encountering history past and present that has been exciting and endlessly rewarding," Middleton said.

On the Net: LBJ Library and Museum: www.lbjlib.utexas.edu

SEPTEMBER 2001

Buyers and sellers turning to auctions

BROWNSVILLE — Garage sales, flea markets and pawnshops are often the places people look when searching for great deals on some amazing merchandise. Sometimes a search turns up a hidden gem, and other times a buy that seemed too good to be true is just that.

An increasingly popular alternative is auctions. Licensed auction houses offer guarantees, and laws are in place to ensure a truthful deal.

With good deals and the rush that comes with fast-paced bidding and fast-talking auctioneers, this kind of sale can become a thrill for many buyers.

People with merchandise to sell are also turning to auctions. With traditional sales methods, a seller could wait an indefinite amount of time to liquidate items, but at auction, sales are most often immediate.

Robert Haywood has been involved with auctions for many years, and 11 years ago began auctioning antiques and collectibles in the Rio Grande Valley. Haywood got into the auction business as a way to help other businesses liquidate their excess inventory. He attended an auctioneers school, where he learned the many tricks of the auctioning trade.

"The key is, apart from learning advertising and regulations, you need to have a chant," Haywood said. The chant is the fast-paced speech the auctioneer uses to make the bidding process move more smoothly.

"The key to a live auction is the excitement, and that is really generated by the auctioneer," Haywood said.

He said many sellers are trying to liquidate excess merchandise, but others need money. The advantage of auctions is that you get immediate cash, he explained. It brings whatever it makes that day at the auction.

To sell items by auction, a person needs to sign a consignment agreement with the auctioneer.

"It gives us the right to sell, as well as protecting the seller and the auction company," Haywood said. Next, the seller, now a consignor, merely needs to bring in the items for sale, which the auctioneer then sells at the highest bid.

The bid money then goes into an neutral, third-party escrow account, and from there it goes to the consignor, with the auctioneer keeping a pre-determined commission.

There are two objectives in an auction, Haywood said.

"We want it to bring a fortune and the buyer wants to (get items for a) steal, and we meet somewhere in-between."

Bid prices can vary as all items are different, and on any given day bidders might be more eager to buy than other days. Haywood says that on average most items have between three and five bids.

"Typically we sell everything, but if it gets completely ridiculous, like if I'm asking \$1,000 for something and I get \$200 bids, I will take it out of the auction," he added.

"The most expensive piece of jewelry I sold was a platinum bracelet," Haywood said. "It brought \$24,500, and that was here in Brownsville."

He said there are two main types of bidders: those who buy to own items, and those who buy to resell them for a profit later. Bidders buying for resale often have ideal prices in mind, but will bid higher if they see others are interested in an item as well.

"But if you're buying something for you personally," Haywood said, "it's whatever it is worth to you as an individual."

Online auction houses like eBay are another outlet for people wishing to sell their inventory. Haywood said the Internet is a good place to auction items, but it is not as immediate as a live auction. There may take a while and shipping may or may not be a problem, Haywood said.

He also noted that at a live auction, a bidder has the chance to inspect the merchandise first-hand.

The best thing to do (before bidding) is come and inspect the merchandise, he advised. Check to make sure that it is really what you want.

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Earlier this year, local governments in seven counties — Runnels, Callahan, Comanche, Nolan, Eastland, Coleman and Taylor — committed the money necessary to form the association. Also, AEP/West Texas Utilities paid to include the portion of Coke County that drains into the utility's Oak Creek Lake.

The four-year project's first-year cost is estimated at \$517,871, of

which the state will provide \$240,504.

The association contracted with a weather modification company to operate the project and provide pilots, meteorologists, planes, weather radar and other equipment.

From his office at Elmdale Airport, Hahn directs pilots to clouds that are likely to yield rainfall. The first flight took off June 30. Through the end of July, the program recorded 13 flights for seeding and three for reconnaissance and more than 31 flying hours.

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1106 N. RUSSELL
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1800 LYNN
Price has been reduced on this spacious brick home. Two living areas, three bedrooms, 1 3/4 baths, utility room, large sunroom, office with outside entrance, double garage, priced at \$69,900. MLS 5439.

2236 WILLISTON
Lovely home in Austin School District with three bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, detached garage plus central heat and air. MLS 5433.

2133 WILLISTON
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PERSONS HAVING
CLAIMS AGAINST THE
ESTATE OF
TRAVIS G. CLEMENT,
DECEASED**

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Travis G. Clement, Deceased, were issued on July 23, 2001, in Docket No. 8777, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to Guy Todd Clement.

The residence of the Independent Executor, Guy Todd Clement, is in Dallas, Texas. The post office

K-13 Sept. 16, 2001

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Pampa Independent

School District will re-

ceive sealed proposals in

the Business Office at 321

W. Albert, Pampa, Texas

79065, until 2:00 p.m.,

September 25, 2001, for

Remodel of the Mann

Support Center. For speci-

fications or additional in-

formation please call Anita

Patterson, Purchasing Di-

rector at (806)669-4700

K-11 Sept. 14, 2001

ADVERTISING

FOR PROPOSALS

Sealed proposals for Roof

Replacements and Repairs

will be received in the

Business Office, Clarendon

College, 1122 College

Drive, Clarendon, Texas

79226 until 10:00 a.m.,

Tuesday, October 2, 2001.

Work will include

replacement and repair of

existing built-up roof,

carpentry, electrical, HVAC

and related sheet metal in

accordance with Project

Documents. Proposals re-

ceived after this time will

not be accepted and will

be returned unopened.

All prospective bidders

will be required to attend a

mandatory pre-proposal

conference starting at 9:00

a.m., Monday, Septem-

ber 24, 2001 at the Busi-

ness Administration Of-

fice, Clarendon College,

1122 College Drive, Clare-

ndon, Texas. Prospective

Bidders shall be prepared

to complete inspection of

conditions and site at time

of pre-bid conference.

Bind bond or cashier's

check in the amount of

\$30,000.00. OE.

ALL

PROPOSALS

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1**14s Plumbing/Heat**

Larry Baker
Plumbing
Heating & Air Conditioning
Burger Hwy. 665-4392

14t Radio/Tv**RENT TO RENT**

RENT TO OWN
We have TVs, VCRs, camcorders, to suit your needs. Rent by hour, day, week. We do service on most major brand of TVs & VCRs. Call for estimate. Johnson Home Entertainment, 2211 Perryton Pkwy., 665-0504.

19 Situations

DETAIL & maintenance housecleaning with references affordable rates. Call Stacy @ 669-7383.

HOUSECLEANING HAVE REFERENCES
665-5654

21 Help Wanted

NOTICE: All ads that contain phone numbers or give reference to a number with an area code of 806 or a prefix of 011 are international toll numbers and you will be charged international long distance rates. For more information and assistance regarding the investigation of work at home opportunities and job lists, *The Pampa News* urges its readers to contact the Better Business Bureau of South Texas, 609 S. International Blvd., Weslaco, Tx. 78596, (210) 968-3678.

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

ST. ANN'S Nursing Home in Panhandle, needs Full-time & Part-time CNA's - all shifts New competitive rates for all nursing. Apply in person or call Wanda @ 537-3194.

NEEDED in the Canadian Area a CLASS A CDL Driver to haul products to oil locations. Must be able to lift 100# bags, HAZ-MAT endorsement. Excellent benefit pkg. Call 806-323-9233 ask for Kevin.

OWN a computer? Put it to work! \$25-\$75/hr. PT/FT. 888-673-0195 www.ownacompiler.com

CNA'S, LVN'S, RN'S, \$9-524 hr. Call AA Nursing Services, 866-406-8773, (866-40-NURSE).

HOMEWORKERS needed \$65 wkly. processing mail. Easy! No exp. 888-393-3164 ext. 1025 24 hrs

ST. ANN'S Nursing Home, Panhandle, needs full-time LVN, 3-11 p. New competitive rates for all nursing. Apply in person or call Wanda @ 537-3194.

EVERGREEN Well Service (EWS) has an immediate opening for Service Supervisor exp. in supervising hydraulic fracturing treatments. Our core area of operations are centered 12 mi. west of Trinidad, Colo. Contact Mike Much 719-846-7898. EWS also has openings for Equipment Operators. Must have a CDL. Exp. in fracturing pumping services is a definite plus. International travel may be involved, a current passport is desired. Equipment Operators contact Terry Smith 719-846-7898.

SIVALL'S Inc. needs welder / fabricators. Welding & drug test req'd. 806-665-7111, Pampa, Tx.

RN-LVN need for 10-6 shift. Contact Ivonne at 665-5746.

POSITION available, immediately: RN, Weekend Supervisor, salary negotiable. Please contact Cindy at McLean Care Center, 806-779-2469.

MULTIPLE openings for Charge Nurse positions: RN or LVN needed. Various shifts avail. Please contact Cindy at McLean care center, 806-779-2469.

NURSE Aide positions open immediately. Various shifts avail. Certification preferred, but will certify if needed. Contact Cindy at McLean Care Center, 806-779-2469.

RN'S, LVN'S, CNA'S. All shifts. Pampa Nursing Center, 1321 W. Ken tucky, EOE.

MYSTERY SHOPPERS Project assignments. Detail/accuracy critical. Call only Tu-Th 10 AM-5 PM PST 800-462-8765 X13; fax 800-210-3350 or visit website www.dsgt.com

WANTED experience carpenter for steady work. Call 665-0447.

NEED individuals to put up road signs. Must be 18 years old. Call 806-236-1799.

AARON Telemarketing from residence; comm. Call 1-800-459-7875.

CAPROCK Home Health needs providers in Pampa. No exp. required. Must be 21 plus. Call 372-8480.

LABORERS / Roofers - Apply in person, 7 a.m.-Mon.-Fri. at 805 S. Cuyler.

FULL-TIME live-in caregiver needed for elderly gentleman in White Deer. 806-359-9974.

NEEDED Class A CDL, clean record, local. Call 669-9661.

21 Help Wanted

DATA ENTRY
FT/PT, No Experience Needed. Training Provided! Medical Billing. High Income Potential. Computer required. 1-800-240-1548, Dept. 589. www.spamed.net

POSITION avail. immediately for janitor, full time with valid drivers license. 665-2667.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL OF TEXAS COUNCIL

520 Medical Dr., Guymon, Ok. 73942

(580)338-3113 ext. 2225

JOB LINE:

(580)338-3113 ext. 2125

See our web site @

www.memorialhospital.org

We are currently seeking individuals to join our healthcare team for the following positions:

Med/Surg-RN (3 positions)

(1) RN House Supervisor, Full-time, F, S, S day shift 7a-7p. (1)

Full time, 7a-7p, varied nights, (1) Part-time, Sunday 7a-7p & Wednesday 7a-7p, Oklahoma license required. Hospital experience preferred.

Med/Surg-RN (4) Per Requested Need (PRN), flexible hours, some weekends required. Hospital experience preferred.

Med/Surg-Nurse Aide (2) Full time positions, (1) Full time, 7a-7p, flexible days, experience preferred. (1) Full time, 7a-7p, flexible nights, experience preferred.

ICU-RN (1) Full time, 7a-7p, flexible nights, Oklahoma license required. Hospital experience preferred.

ICU-RN (1) Per Requested Need (PRN), flexible hours, some weekends required. Oklahoma license required. Hospital experience preferred.

ICU-Telemetry Tech (1) Full time, 7a-7p, monitor telemetry units, ward clerks, assist nurses.

OB-RN-(1) Full time, 7a-7p, varied hours and shifts, every other weekend, Oklahoma license required. Hospital experience preferred.

OB-RN-(1) Per Requested Need (PRN), flexible hours, some weekends required. Oklahoma license required. Hospital experience preferred.

OB-RN-(1) Full time, 7a-7p, flexible days, experience preferred. (1) Full time, 7a-7p, flexible nights, experience preferred.

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God Bless America

**COCA COLA
DR. PEPPER
Or SPRITE
1/2 Liter 6 Pkg.
2 For \$4.00**

**DASANTI WATER
12 Oz. 24 Case
\$5.99**

**ANGEL SOFT
BATH TISSUE
4 Roll Pkg. 89¢**

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PAPER TOWELS
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175 Ct. Box 89¢**

**PLANTERS
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Prescription Delivery
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PRINT FILM
24 Exposure • 35mm • 100 Speed**

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DISPOSABLE
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27 Exp. • Pkg. Of 2 Cameras

\$12.99

**CANON DIGITAL
ELPH CAMERA
Model S100**

\$499.99

**NEW SHIPMENT
HOLLAND
FLOWER BULBS**

**One Large Group
SUMMER
MERCANDISE
75% OFF RETAIL**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE EIGHT

LETTERS

In order to include this in the November election, we must have the required signatures on the petition, and submitted to the City Secretary for her approval no later than Sept. 20th. If those of you who agree with this course of action have not been contacted for your signature by the time this letter appears, please contact anyone you know who is active in this endeavor.

Remember, someone needs to take action and that someone can be you!

Jim Terry
Pampa

So many untruths circulating about pig industry

To the editor,
At a recent local meeting regarding NPD's plans to construct a hog site in Gray County, it was reported that when a similar project was constructed for Texas Farm in Perryton, all of the construction material and labor was brought in from "back east," and no local vendors or contractors were used.

This statement is absolutely untrue and defamatory. I know, because it was my company, FarmPRO, that did all of the construction in Perryton. Although our company started in Pennsylvania, our corporate headquarters have been in Guymon, Okla., since 1997. During the construction of the Perryton project, we purchased an office in Perryton where we operated from for the duration of the job. We hired many local employees, several who still work for us today. Some of our former employees now work for Texas Farm and have stayed and purchased homes in Perryton.

It is always our policy to purchase as many materials and services as possible from the local community. The notion that the buildings were "pre-packaged and shipped in" is ludicrous. But don't take my word for it. Ask Irwin Auto, where we purchased five vehicles, or Bartletts Hardware, or Busch Electric, Perryton Redi-Mix, CE Williams Construction, Herring Construction, Perryton Equity or any of the other more than 25 vendors or subcontractors that worked with us, and still work with us, on that project. We spent millions of dollars in the local community, and

we are still purchasing things there today. The statements made about Perryton are typical of the untruths that are often circulated by those who are opposed to this industry. If they lied about this, what else are they lying about?

Ken Stonecipher
President, FarmPRO

Price gouging in wake of tragedy is despicable

To the editor,
A terrible tragedy has been inflicted on our country. We are all mourning the losses with the rest of the country.

I have noticed in recent weeks that our little community has begun

to unite and stand together to resolve problems that have plagued our town.

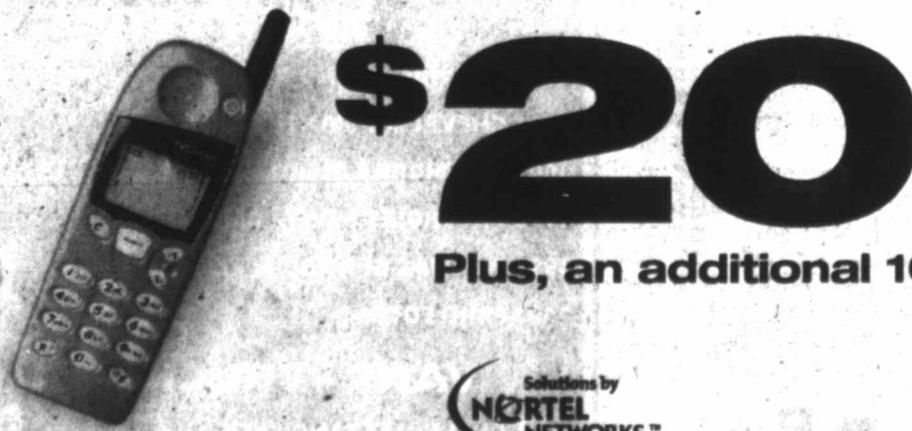
Now we have another problem that needs addressing. Price Gouging. I have contacted the Taylor Mart on Highway 60 and asked them about the sudden \$.30 price raise immediately after the tragedy at the Twin Towers. They have not responded satisfactorily. I am going to send a written complaint to the attorney general.

I ask you, why do you wonder why people don't want to shop Pampa? People like this who will take advantage of a catastrophe to gouge their fellow citizens need to be reported. It is my opinion they need to be boycotted for a period of time. It is all Taylor Marts that have raised their gas prices. They will make a lot of profit before the attorney general will ever get to them to make them lower their price back down to where it belongs.

If you have to shop in Pampa, shop at gas stations that are not raising their prices in the wake of this disaster.

Kevin Moxon
Pampa

**"Clear calls. Local service.
It's my only phone!"**



**\$20 for 600 minutes
with our new digital service.**

Plus, an additional 1000 mobile-to-mobile minutes.

CELLULARONE
act now on this limited time offer

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Computer Services
669-4336
Radio Shack
256-5357
669-2253

Offer good for a limited time on new activations on select rate plans only, and are subject to change without notice. 600 minutes includes 100 anytime minutes; 250 "night" minutes for calls made from 8:00 p.m. to 5:59 a.m. Monday through Thursday, and 250 "weekend" minutes per monthly bill cycle for calls made from 8:00 p.m. Friday to 11:59 p.m. Sunday, from within home calling area only. 1000 mobile to mobile minutes excess requires all parties to be on the Cellular One/Western Wireless network. Unused airtime expires each monthly billing period and cannot be carried over. Service fee excludes taxes, assessments, surcharges, roaming, long distance, or other toll charges. Incoming and outgoing calls are rounded up and billed in full-minute increments from the time the network begins to process the call before the call rings or is answered) through commencement of the 18-month agreement period with the monthly cancellation. Additional charges apply for cellular roaming. Cellular One is not affiliated with Cellular One. Coverage area, service may be analog, and certain digital features such as text messaging may not function. See digital coverage maps and written materials in-store for complete details. Other restrictions apply.

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WORTH THE WAIT PROGRAM

Pampa's Worth the Wait will sponsor a program on date rape drugs to be facilitated by Jamie Moore, RNC, WHCNP, TDH, from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 18 in North Medical Office Building. Pampa Regional Medical Center will co-sponsor the program.

CPC LUNCHEON

The Contract Procurement Center in Amarillo will sponsor a business luncheon for small, minority, and women entrepreneurs from 11:45-1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 18 at Luby's Cafeteria, 4530 Canyon Dr., Amarillo. The guest speaker will be Trent Sisemore.

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Gray County Chapter of the American Red Cross is seeking volunteers from the community to respond during times of crisis in Pampa and other parts of the county. As well as personal satisfaction, volunteers learn how to protect themselves and cope with disaster by planning ahead, particularly essential during tornado season. In addition, ARC is willing to deliver informational discussions on disaster preparedness to area church or community organizations. For more information, call (806) 669-7121.

TEXANS CARING FOR TEXANS

Texans Caring for Texans Award Banquet will be held at 12:45 p.m. Monday, Sept. 17 at Amarillo College Business and Industry Center in Amarillo. A reception is scheduled prior to the recognition ceremony at 11:30 a.m. The guest speaker will be Texas Speaker of the House James E. "Pete" Laney. Texans Caring for Texans is an annual event recognizing the accomplishments and contributions of state employees.

HOSPITALITY TRAINING

Pampa Chamber of Commerce will host three hospitality training sessions from 9 a.m.-11 a.m., from 1-3 p.m. and from 5-7 p.m., Sept. 27 in the M.K. Brown Room of Pampa Community Building. Cost will be \$10 per person to cover cost of materials. For more information or to register, call the Chamber at 669-3241.

WCRA WORKING RANCH RODEO

WCRA Working Ranch Rodeo and Chuckwagon Cook-off is slated Sept. 29-30. For more information, contact the Top O' Texas Rodeo Association at (806) 669-0434.