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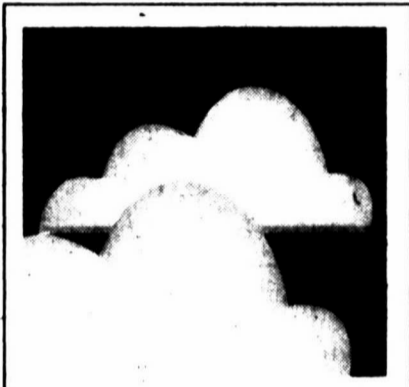
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Pampa

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

Pampa Cyber Internet
 for the New Millenium
 Disrupt or die



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.

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Bush: War to be long, unrelenting

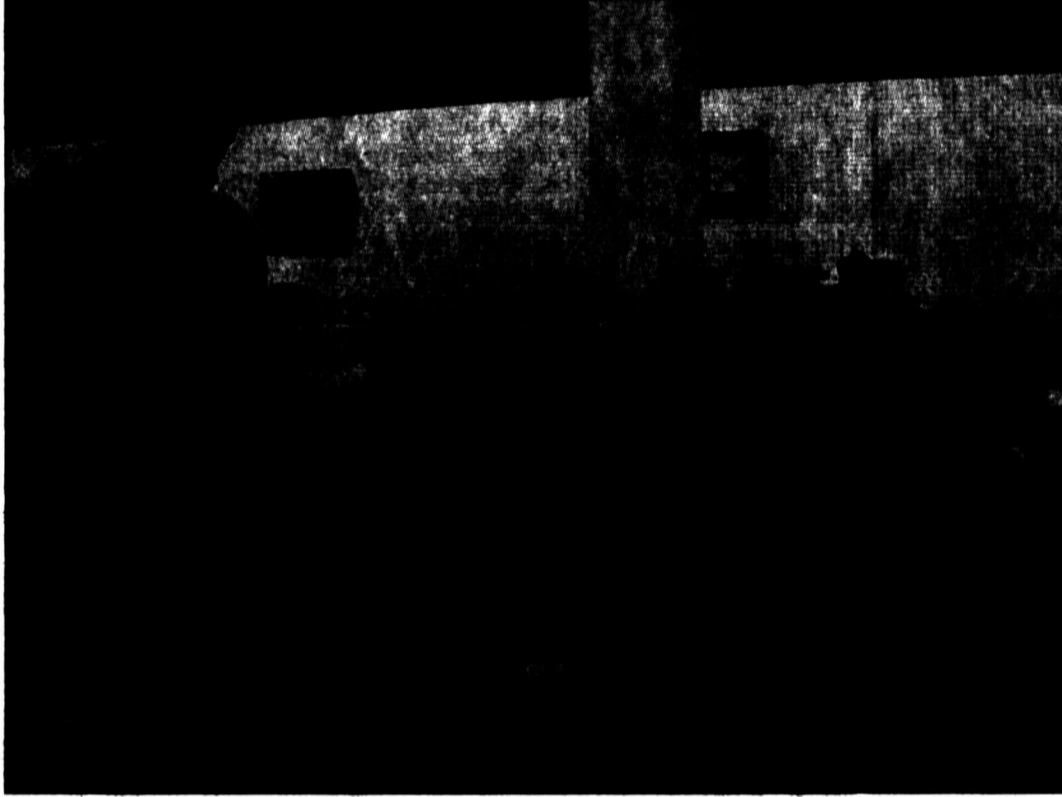
WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush vowed on Saturday that U.S. troops will hunt down terrorists and "smoke them out of their holes" in a long, unrelenting response to Tuesday's ghastly attacks. Americans must brace themselves for great sacrifices, he said, "because the conflict will not be easy." Echoing 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 today. Monday, flags will be returned to the top of the staff. "As a mark of respect for those killed by the heinous acts of violence perpetrated by faceless cowards upon the people and the freedom of the United States on Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2001, I here- (See FLAGS, Page 3)

"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)



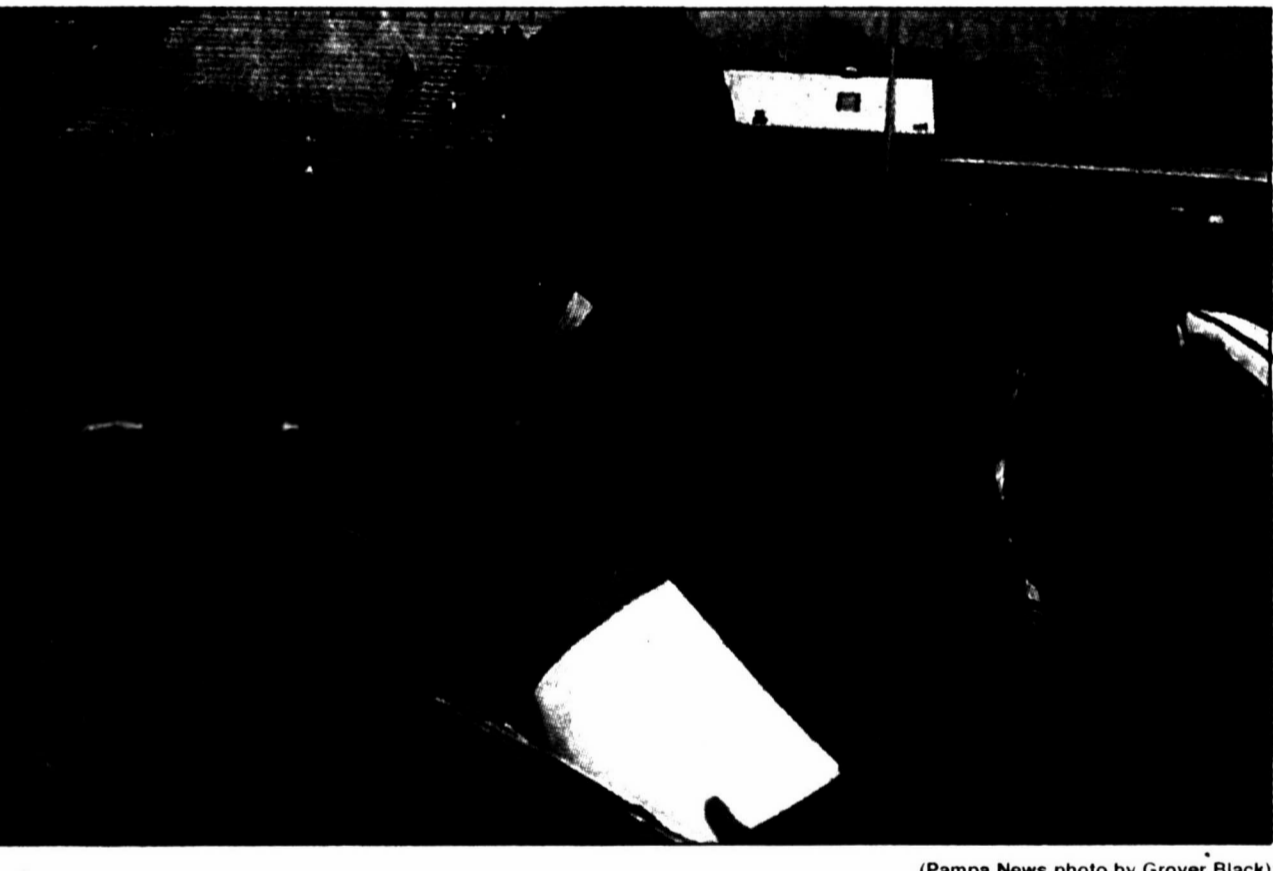
Peter Seantari, chief executive of UMC, looks over the work of Janice Gultick, a local supervisor with the year-old company.

Business gives PEDC praise after first year

By NANCY YOUNG Managing Editor
 Officials with United Medigroup, 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)

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 PED 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.



Eva Isbell, Pampa Sheltered Workshop director, talks with 2001 United Way chair Dr. Dawson Orr at this year's campaign United Way kick-off in Harvester Stadium Friday night.

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.

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' HOOPER

George "Bruce" Hooper, 74, of Pampa, died Friday, Sept. 14, 2001, at Pampa. Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Carmichael-Whitely 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-Whitely 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 Pre-School, 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.

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 Guerre, 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 transferred 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 transferred 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 transferred 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 Brashear 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.

Bridge Facts

(AP) - Facts about South Padre Island and the Queen Isabella Causeway, which was hit by a barge and collapsed Saturday:

- The 2.37-mile Queen Isabella Causeway is the state's longest bridge, linking South Padre Island with the small fishing village of Port Isabel.

- The causeway is the only bridge to the island separating South Texas from the Gulf of Mexico.

- The causeway is a concrete pier and beam-style bridge, and reaches 85 feet above the water at its highest point.

- The bridge was used by 7.2 million vehicles in 1999.

- Before Saturday's accident, lawmakers had considered building a second causeway, an eight-mile bridge from Laguna Vista to the island. The island's economic development corporation commissioned an \$80,000 study on the benefits of a second bridge, saying it was needed in case of a hurricane evacuation.

- South Padre Island, incorporated in the early 1970s, is home to about 2,000 permanent residents, but hosts thousands more vacationers each year. The island is busiest during Spring Break, when college student fill hotels, bars and gift shops.

Source: Texas Department of Transportation.

The crash comes amid a call for public hearings to discuss building a second causeway to the island.

Cameron County Judge Gilberto Hinojosa said the accident occurred within 48 hours of a discussion he had with South Padre Island Mayor Ed Cyganiewicz about constructing another link to the island.

State Rep. Jim Solis, D-San Benito, said last week that he supports a resolution from the city of Port Isabel seeking further study and a traffic flow plan - early steps needed to build a bridge between Holly Beach and the island.

A draft of the plan, which is supported by city and business officials, was to be presented Sept. 27 at a Texas Transportation Commission meeting in Austin.

Impact studies and public hearings also have received public support from state Sen. Eddie Lucio, D-Brownsville, who won \$10 million in Transportation Department funding for causeway construction during the 77th Legislature.

Vicky Lopez, a clerk at the Break Time convenience store in Port Isabel, said several customers were concerned about the possibility of terrorism in light of Tuesday's attacks on the East Coast.

"There were rumors that it may have been a bomb, but police said it wasn't," Lopez said. "It's just tragic. I was just praying for all those poor people in New York, now here it is in my own back yard."

State Sen. Eddie Lucio Jr., D-Brownsville, said authorities were investigating the crash as an accident.

"I think there's some contributing factors - current, bad lighting - but we have no reason to believe it was anything but an accident," he said.

The barges were owned by American Commercial Lines LLC of Jeffersonville, Ind., and were being pushed by a tugboat owned by Brown Water Marine Services Inc. of Rockport, American Commercial assistant vice president Jim Adams said.

They were loaded in Brownsville and destined for Tennessee, Adams said.

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

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

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SILVER CITY is under new management. Come see us. Jim & Barbara.

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.

RIBBONS, RIBBONS, due to overwhelming response, we are out of ribbons & don't expect to receive any more. Thank You, & God Bless America! Pampa News

WEEKLY TIP: Dry wood burns more efficiently & creates less creosote in your chimney. courtesy of Fireside Comfort.



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

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 to 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.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

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.

"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.

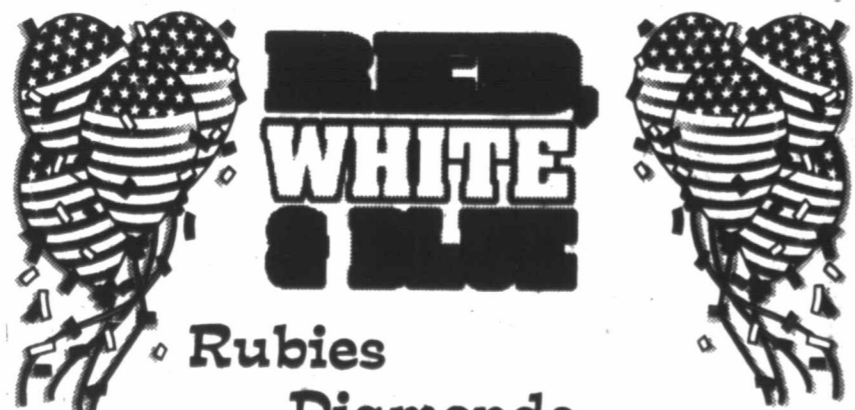
Thursday, Sept. 20, is set as Coke Cantastic Night, sponsored by Coca-Cola. With six empty Coca-Cola product cans, fair goers receive an unlimited ride wristband for \$10.

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.

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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VIEWPOINTS

THE Pampa NEWS

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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 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 Filemon 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 (Sp) - 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.

The consequence of too much safety

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



Walter Williams

Syndicated columnist

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

By The Associated Press

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.

In 1976, the Episcopal Church, at its General Convention in Minneapolis, formally approved the ordination of women as priests and bishops.

In 1977, Maria Callas, the American-born prima donna famed for her lyric soprano and fiery temperament, died in Paris at age 53.

In 1982, the massacre of hundreds of Palestinian men, women and children by Lebanese Christian militiamen began in west Beirut's Sabra and Chatilla refugee camps.

Ten years ago: A federal judge in Washington dismissed all Iran-Contra charges against Oliver North. Confirmation hearings began on the nomination of Robert Gates to head the CIA. Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas concluded five days of testimony at his confirmation hearing.

Know thy ancestors; know thy country

The New York Times had this to say about Jefferson Davis, the president of the Confederacy, upon his death:

"The death of Jefferson Davis ends a most remarkable chapter of history. He was the chosen chieftain of the new Republic which strove to establish itself, and whose adherents battled for its existence with a heroism the memory of which is everywhere cherished as one that does honor to the American character and name. He sacrificed all for the cause he cherished, and he alone of all the South had borne the cross of martyrdom. He was a man of commanding ability, spotless integrity, and controlling conscience. He was proud, sensitive, and honorable in all his dealings and in every relation of life. A great soul has passed.

"The South loves his memory as it should love it," the editorial continued. "Were the people of the South to forget him, or fail to honor the man who endured so patiently for their sake, they in turn should deserve none of the respect or place in the minds of men. Jefferson Davis will live longer in history and better than will any who have ever spoken against him."

Needless to say, The New York Times in 1889 is not The New York Times in 2001. The latter seems more inclined to eulogize, should the occasion occur, Al Sharpton or Bill Clinton.

I'm grateful to Gordon A. Cotton, curator and director of the Old Court House museum in Vicksburg, Miss., for sharing his collection of essays on Davis, from which that quote was



Charley Reese

Syndicated columnist

taken. Davis was an exceptional man. Mr. Cotton's book of essays includes many publicly recorded quotes from Davis' former slaves, all expressing their grief at his death and love for the man. I've often related the story of Robert Brown, one of those former slaves, who knocked an abolitionist unconscious for insulting Davis in the presence of Davis' children. As others have noted, there was some unusual quality in the man that caused people who knew him to love him.

I bring this up just to remind you that in our ideological age - in which so many so-called experts and historians are tainted by ideology - if you want to know the truth about American history - North or South, East or West - you need to make the effort to read original sources.

There is, in my judgment, an ongoing campaign to teach American children to hate their own country and their own ancestors. Certainly, the South has recently come under fire from people who seem intent on committing cultural

genocide by damning everyone in it and every aspect of it.

Well, when you do that, you damn an important part of America. The Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights were all largely the work of Southerners. What kind of country would have emerged if there had been no George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, James Madison, John Marshall, James Monroe, John Randolph and all the others?

And can you not see the irony of people today who claim to be bent out of shape by slavery - which they never experienced - damning a man whose own slaves loved him?

Thanks to technology, many books written and published in the 19th century have been reproduced. You can read the actual words of the Founding Fathers or the words of people who knew our Founding Fathers and shared their lives and adventures.

Here are three publishers from whom you can request a catalog:

The Liberty Fund Inc., 7440 N. Shadeland Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46250.

Sprinkle Publications, P.O. Box 1094, Harrisonburg, VA 22801.

American Foundation Publications, P.O. Box 355, Bridgewater, VA 22812 (www.afpub.com).

The fewer left-wing lies you believe and the more truth you learn about America, the more you will love it. You can't know thyself unless you know your ancestors and your country.

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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-wook.

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 it's 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, I can live with that. Five years later and the much deeper well is now having the same trouble. How can this be?

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 only 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

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 State of Texas), the State Comptroller sends the sales tax monies to the City each month and the City then writes us a check for our 1/2 cent portion.

Those are all the monies we can use in our economic development efforts. These monies are monitored by the State Comptroller, as a result of legislation which controls how we can spend these funds. We are required to file annual reports on expenditures and we must be audited each year. This audit is included within the City of Pampa's annual audit as well.

Now, to NPD. The PEDC is NOT recruiting this company to Pampa. We have paid for hotels rooms and the use of M.K. Brown Auditorium for the public meeting. I am the one that insisted that the company come to Pampa and hold the public meeting so you, the citizens, would have the opportunity to hear first-hand what their plans were. I felt it was extremely important that you know about the company since the hog business is very controversial. For this, I take full blame if you must.

There are some folks circulating the petition that will tell you that the PEDC paid for a country club membership for NPD. This also is misinformation. The membership in question is part of our original incentive package to Moody Dairy. In fact, we have given memberships, paid for three years each, to four other entities, again as part of our incentive packages. All of this information was reported in this newspaper at the time the incentive packages were offered by our board and approved by 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 uninvented 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 professes 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 genomics, 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 Dalen 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.

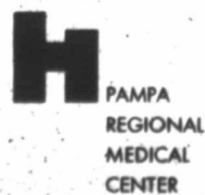
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TDH

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

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By LINDSEY T
AP Medical Wr

CHICAGO (A heartburn may r during the 10 y patients treated

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The study is patients publish is the best treat — also called ga GERD. The earl lowed for two y might alleviate medication.

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Obesity lin

CHICAGO (AP and inactivity may increase the risk of pancreas, a hard- ease that kills n Americans each y found.

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

The study by re Harvard's School Health and affiliat is based on data fr eral health studie more than 150,000 e and male hea nationwide followe 20 years.

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TDH cautions Texans about deadly West Nile virus

AUSTIN — A dead bird on the ground is not a sight that captures most people's immediate attention. But to officials at the Texas Department of Health (TDH), such a situation is high on the list that sparks interest and activates disease surveillance activities.

Checking dead birds, especially crows and blue jays, is one of several monitoring systems in place in Texas to detect if West Nile virus is introduced to the state, said Julie Rawlings of TDH's Infectious Disease

Epidemiology and Surveillance Division. Others include testing mosquitoes, maintaining flocks of chickens for testing at strategic sites in the state, working with veterinarians who treat horses and checking tests of people hospitalized with symptoms of encephalitis.

The West Nile virus, closely related to both St. Louis encephalitis (SLE) and dengue viruses, was first seen in the United States along the East Coast in 1999. Now the virus has been reported in states ranging

from New York and New Hampshire southward to Georgia and Florida.

Wild birds are the principal hosts for mosquito-borne encephalitis viruses. Mosquitoes feed on infected birds, then transmit the serious, sometimes deadly organisms to humans and animals. These diseases include SLE and West Nile infections along with both western and eastern equine encephalomyelitis. The illness is not spread from person to person or from bird to human. Testing birds that have recently

died is critical to the West Nile virus surveillance, Rawlings said. Unlike other encephalitis viruses that do not harm the birds that carry them, West Nile virus is fatal to some species, especially crows and blue jays.

"We are asking people to call us when they see freshly dead birds, where it's not obviously trauma, so the birds can be tested to determine if they are infected with the West Nile virus," Rawlings said. The phone number in Austin is (512) 458-7255.

To detect West Nile virus, TDH is concentrating on monitoring mosquito species likely to feed on birds migrating from the northeastern United States through the Gulf Coast. Most of the surveillance will be in the eastern third of the state, generally in counties east of the I-35 corridor.

Areas involved in the monitoring system include Chambers, Galveston, Brazoria, Nueces, Kleberg, Kenedy, Cameron and Hidalgo counties. Harris County has its own monitoring system. In addition, testing for West Nile virus is now included in the long-established monitoring programs in Brazos, Dallas, El Paso,

Jefferson, Orange, Lubbock and Wichita counties. Also, city and county health departments, public health regions, military installations, universities and other local mosquito control programs send specimens to the TDH Laboratory for identification, Rawlings said.

Daily during late spring, summer and fall, the TDH Laboratory receives box after box of cylinders filled with dozens of lively mosquitoes. More than 200,000 mosquito specimens are processed by the TDH Lab yearly, each carefully recorded and checked for disease. It's a major part of the early warning system for encephalitis, helping prevent human outbreaks. Information from the testing allows local mos-

quito control personnel to reduce mosquito populations in affected areas before people are exposed.

Mild infections of SLE may occur with a fever and headache. West Nile infections are usually mild with flu-like symptoms including fever, headache, sore throat, body aches and fatigue, often with skin rash and swollen lymph glands. More severe infections of both SLE and West Nile may include headache, high fever, neck stiffness, disorientation, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness and, in rare cases, death.

People may reduce their risk of encephalitis by avoiding mosquito bites and reducing mosquito breeding sites, especially by eliminating standing water.

Surgery for chronic heartburn may not end need for medication

By LINDSEY TANNER
AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Surgery for chronic severe heartburn may not eliminate the need for medication or prevent throat cancer, a study found.

The research also unexpectedly found that surgery patients were much more likely to die during the 10 years after their operations than patients treated with medication alone.

Many of the deaths were due to heart disease, stumping researchers who could not explain how surgery for heartburn — which, despite its name, involves the esophagus — might affect the heart.

The study was published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

The study is a follow-up to research on 247 patients published in 1992 suggesting that surgery is the best treatment for severe, chronic heartburn — also called gastroesophageal reflux disease, or GERD. The earlier research, based on patients followed for two years, also suggested that surgery might alleviate the need for antacids or other medication.

The 10-year follow-up should temper enthusiasm for surgery to treat GERD, which affects an estimated 14 million Americans, said Dr. Stuart Jon Spechler, who led the study as chief of gastroenterology at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Dallas.

The study challenges the main arguments in favor of surgery: that it offers permanent relief, that it prevents cancer and that it frees people from having to take antireflux medicine.

"It has become a bit easier for physicians to offer patients with GERD reasons not to have antireflux surgery," Dr. Peter Kahrilas of Northwestern University wrote in an accompanying editorial.

Spechler said surgery might still be advised for patients who cannot tolerate medication, offering the possibility of at least a few years' relief.

GERD is caused by a faulty valve that allows stomach contents to back up and cause heartburn. Sufferers run an increased risk of esophageal cancer, presumably because of the constant irritation.

Medication is the most common treatment. But surgery also is done frequently and has become even more popular since 1991, when operations using tiny incisions — or laparoscopies — were introduced for reflux disease.

About 35,000 such operations are done annually, but they involve the same procedure as the more invasive surgery. Spechler's patients underwent — creating a new valve by wrapping part of the stomach around the end of the esophagus. The researchers suggest that laparoscopies could have yielded the same results.

The new research involved 37 reflux patients operated on in the late 1980s and 90 treated with drugs alone. Medication included proton pump inhibitors, prescription drugs that stop the stomach from making acid.

Ten years after their operations, 62 percent, or 23, of the surgery patients reported that they were using antireflux medications regularly.

Four medicine patients and one surgery patient developed esophageal cancer, but the difference was not considered statistically significant.

Seventy-nine of the original 247 patients died. 40 percent of the original surgery patients but just 28 percent of the medicine group. Nearly half the surgery patient deaths were from heart disease.

Spechler said it is unknown whether surgery has some unknown harmful effects on the heart or whether reflux medications might somehow protect against heart disease.

On the Net:

JAMA: <http://jama.ama-assn.org>
American Gastroenterological Association: <http://www.gastro.org/public/heartburn.html>

Up to half a million heart devices could possibly be affected by recalls, alerts

CHICAGO (AP) — New research shows that safety alerts and recalls of pacemakers and other devices designed to regulate the heart's rhythm are frequent and likely increasing.

Few deaths have been linked to the alerts, but they can cause psychological harm to patients and undermine their confidence in the devices, researchers said in a recent *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

More than half a million of the

devices were subject to recalls or alerts nationwide over the past decade. Last year alone, advisories affected almost 16 percent of the nearly 800,000 U.S. patients with the devices, the study found.

Hardware malfunctions and computer errors accounted for most of the recalls between 1990 and 2000. While not every recalled device is defective, the advisories cost about \$870 million for the decade, due mainly to

increased outpatient appointments and hospital stays, the researchers said.

Dr. William H. Maisel of Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital, the lead researcher, said intense research efforts have resulted in "remarkable technological advances" in the devices.

He said the study underscores the need for "an equally intense effort from manufacturers and the Food and Drug Administration to improve the overall safety of these devices and reduce the number and rate of recall."

His review of safety data found 52 advisories during the decade involving 523,145 pacemakers and implantable defibrillators — the kind of device Vice President Dick Cheney recently received.

Sixty-five percent of the devices affected since 1990 were recalled from January 1999 onwards, the study found.

During the decade, the number of patients living with the devices increased 49 percent, due in part to the aging population, the researchers said.

The findings appear in an issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Obesity and inactivity have been linked to numerous health problems, including other types of cancer.

Until now, cigarette smoking was the only convincing "modifiable" risk factor linked to pancreatic cancer. Drs. Susan Gapstur and Peter Gann of Northwestern University said in an accompanying commentary. If additional research confirms the findings, there could be "a profound impact" on public health.

"These factors could account for as much as 15 percent of all pancreatic cancer cases beyond those attributable to smoking," Gapstur and Gann said.

Obesity linked to pancreatic cancer

CHICAGO (AP) — Obesity and inactivity may significantly increase the risk of cancer of the pancreas, a hard-to-treat disease that kills nearly 29,000 Americans each year, a study found.

The findings bolster evidence that the disease is linked to abnormal insulin production and diabetes, and suggest that lifestyle changes might help decrease the risk, the researchers said.

The study by researchers at Harvard's School of Public Health and affiliated hospitals is based on data from two general health studies involving more than 150,000 female nurses and male health workers nationwide followed for up to 20 years.

Research suggests HBP not treated properly

BOSTON (AP) — Several million Americans could lower their risk of heart disease and stroke if they were simply treated correctly for their high blood pressure, according to a new study.

The vast majority of people with uncontrolled hypertension have health insurance and see a doctor, despite the perception that poverty and lack of health care are largely to blame, researchers said.

"Although lack of health care is a problem for some people, the big hunk of these people are right under the health care system's nose," said Dr. David Hyman, lead author of the study done at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

Hyman and colleague Valory Pavlik, both specialists in community health, studied data from an earlier survey of 16,095 adults age 25 or older. Their findings are published in a recent issue of *New England Journal of Medicine*.

An estimated 42 million Americans have high blood pressure, the study says. Of those, only 10 million are successfully treating it.

According to the study, 92 percent of adults with untreated or unsuccessfully treated high blood pressure have health insurance. Also, 72 percent who are unaware of their condition or letting it go untreated have visited a doctor at least once in the previous year.

The researchers acknowledge that blacks are more apt than whites to develop high blood pressure, a long-known phenomenon often blamed on inadequate health care among many poor people. But the study found that the same percent of whites and blacks with high blood pressure are successfully treated: 24 percent for each group. Hyman said that suggests strides in public awareness in the black community.

Dr. Richard Pasternak, a cardiologist at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, said the findings will be an eye-opener to some people who watch public health trends. "Often people have looked at this problem globally and said it must be related to inadequate health care coverage," he said.

The researchers said 77 percent of people with high blood pressure don't know about it, choose not to treat it, or treat it without success.

They blame the high number partly on the reluctance of many doctors to treat some cases aggressively enough, especially in elderly patients. The study found most cases of unsuccessfully treated high blood pressure among patients 65 and older.

The most commonly accepted trigger for treatment is a blood pressure reading of more than 140/90. The first number represents the so-called systolic pressure while the heart is contracting; the second number, diastolic pressure during the heart's resting phase.

Doctors almost universally agree that diastolic pressure above 90 should generally be treated. But many doctors fear that drugs knocking down mildly high systolic pressure — between 140 and 160 — may do harm by also lowering diastolic pressure and cutting off blood flow to the brain and other organs. Especially in elderly people, the theory goes, mental function could be hindered.

But Dr. Aram Chobanian, a heart specialist who is dean of Boston University School of Medicine, said the latest studies don't bear out such worries. Chobanian, who wrote an accompanying editorial in the journal, said there are many patients who need more aggressive treatment. "That's where the focus ought to be."

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LETTERS

Once a hog factory locates in a 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 Decries 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 and health 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

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 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: pig-poop1@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)

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

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 a 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 staving 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 a 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.

"The rule should be 'Have no one come within 25 feet of you,'" Hale conceded. "How do you go about doing that? Eat a bunch of garlic, swallow a bunch of onions and gargle with Tabasco sauce."

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. (AP) — Could too much sun cause a cow's milk production to drop?

Agricultural experts at Purdue University aren't yet suggesting that farmers smother their cattle with sunscreen each morning. But they have encountered two cases this year in which Indiana dairy cows and beef cattle suffered red, blistered skin and subsequent scars that probably are making them less productive farm animals.

"If 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."

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 Pflughoeff-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 when mixed with certain substances, ash is used in highway construction, as backfill material and as an ingredient in cement blocks and cement powder.

North Dakota is not the first state to experiment with the use of ash in livestock pens. Researchers in Pennsylvania, Texas and Iowa also are trying the technology.

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

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. Utilities are saving money on landfill space, and farmers are getting better quality feedlots at a relatively low cost."

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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 Stymiest, 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, Stymiest 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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COMMUNITY REVIEW

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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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Conveniently located in Pampa at 201 North Cuyler Street, phone 669-0558, Best Sales & Rentals offers an extensive selection of household furnishings including bedroom and dining room furniture, living room sets, washers, dryers, TVs, stereos and other electronics and appliances. Compare the costs, and you will discover their low rates, no credit checks and affordable terms to be the most reasonable in the area. During the rental period, they offer free service—parts and labor—and will supply a free loaner when needed. For your convenience, they are open six days a week. Serving the community for many years, they provide an affordable service for everyone.

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Cellular Connections' digital, cellular and advanced services are unique. They all provide flexibility and peace of mind. Personalize your communications today by visiting them and discussing the many services they offer.

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.

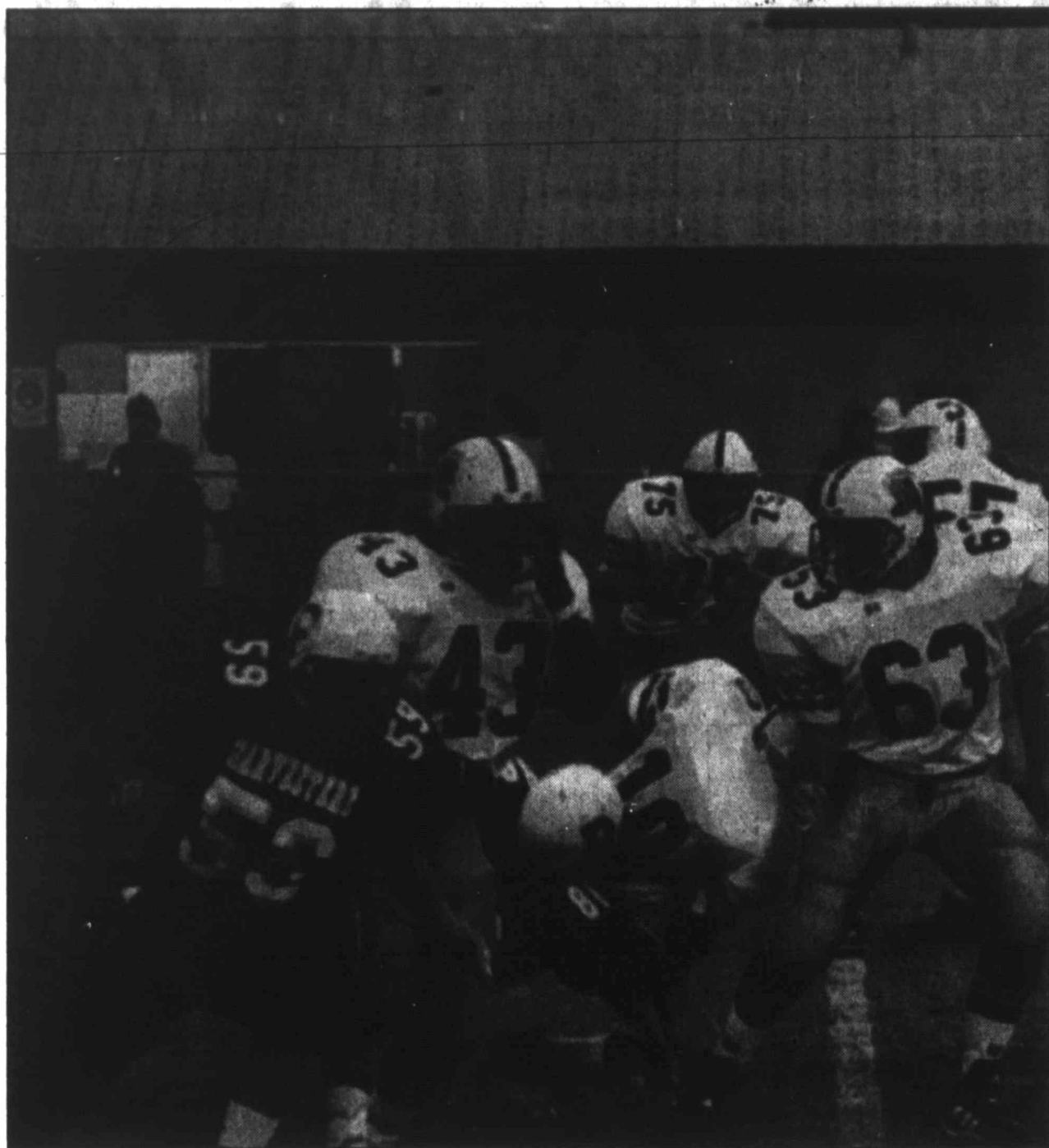
The Avalanche's 20 North American players arrived in the Swedish capital on Monday to open training camp. The team's five Europeans already were in Stockholm.

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, a 34-year-old Italian, was in "extremely critical condition, with injuries to both lower extremities and severe loss of blood," CART physician Dr. Steve Olvey said.

Zanardi was breathing on his own and responding to commands, the doctor said. Tagliani, a Canadian, was "awake and alert" with back injuries, according to Olvey. Both drivers were flown to a clinic in Berlin for treatment.

The race was originally

called the German 500 but was renamed to honor the terrorist victims in the United States. CART is one of the few major U.S.-based sports competing this weekend. The NFL and major league baseball called off all games, while NASCAR postponed its Winston Cup New Hampshire 300 race.

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 Carpentier 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

Ferrari had 120 and Michael Andretti has 115. De Ferrari 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

Pampa comes up short against AHS

PAMPA — Pampa dominated the game statistically except on the scoreboard as Amarillo High came away with a 10-7 win Friday, night at Harvester Stadium.

With the exception of a 79-yard touchdown run by AHS' Matt Tate in the first quarter, the Harvester defense for the most part controlled the visitors' movement. Pampa's offense, meanwhile, was moving the ball against AHS, but the end zone always seemed just out of reach.

The Harvesters got on the scoreboard with 3:37 left in the game when quarterback John Braddock sneaked in from five yards out. The score was set up by the Pampa defense when a slew of Harvesters, led by Andrew Curtis, downed an AHS player on the Sandie 5 after a bad snap sailed over kicker Austin Brennen, following a punting situation on the AHS 45.

On the ensuing kickoff, the Sandies were able to keep possession until the clock ran out.

It looked like Pampa would knot the score in the second quarter when Braddock guided the Harvesters to the AHS 5, but an offsides penalty and a sack forced Pampa to attempt a field goal. Kicker Jered Snelgrooves made good on a 37-yard effort, but a personal foul called on the Sandies changed

the situation.

The Harvesters decided to nullify the field goal and take a first down on the AHS 5. However, Pampa would come away with no points when Braddock was sacked on the 1 by Adam Lewis on a fourth-down play.

The Sandies added a field goal in the third quarter on a 51-yarder by Feagan.

Pampa finished with 238 yards total offense compared to 196 for Amarillo High. Pampa also led in first downs 16-6.

On the ground, Ty Elledge led Pampa with 56 yards on a dozen carries. Jordan Klaus rushed for 50 yards on five carries.

Braddock completed 12 of 26 pass attempts for 101 yards. Klaus caught three passes for 32 yards and Jon East also snared three passes for 12 yards. Randy Tice had two catches for 40 yards.

Pampa defenders turned in some outstanding plays throughout the contest as Aaron Willis recovered a fumble and Tristan Brown had a pass interception from their safety positions. Tackle Jake Bolin, linebackers Tanner Dyer, Oscar Ortega and Chris Lewis were among the Harvesters who a big night defensively.

AHS 0 0 3 0-10
Pampa 0 0 0 7-7
A-Matt Tate 79 run (Shane Feagan kick)
A-Feagan 51-yard field goal
P - John Braddock 5 run (Jered Snelgrooves kick)

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, Nacogdoches 21
Austin LBJ 27, Round Rock 6	Hereford 28, Big Spring 27
Austin McCallum 28, Austin Travis 15	Hewitt Midway 21, Marlin 6
Austin Reagan 35, Bastrop 21	Highland Park 30, Southlake Carroll 17
Azle 35, North Crowley 30	Houston Chavez 30, Houston Furr 20
Beaumont Ozen 43, Beaumont West Brook 6	Houston Forest Brook 26, Houston Sterling 6
Beville 51, CC Flour Bluff 7	Houston Kashmere 21, Houston Austin 20
Boerne 34, Marble Falls 0	Houston King 24, Waller 23
Borger 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	Kilgore 56, Sulphur Springs 0
Caney Creek 30, Livingston 29	La Marque 41, Houston Smiley 0
Canyon Randall 37, Lubbock Estacado 14	Little Cypress-Mauriceville 32, Houston Sam 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 Hillcrest 40, Carrollton Smith 30	New Braunfels 42, Seguin 14
Dallas Jefferson 56, Seagoville 7	PA Jefferson 33, Silsbee 18
Dallas Lincoln 20, Dallas Pinkston 6	Palestine 34, Nevada 14
Dallas Wilson 24, FW North Side 6	Paris North Lamar 35, West Mesquite 20
Dayton 43, Channelview 9	Plainview 27, Canyon 21
Denison 31, WF Rider 7	Pleasanton 13, Robstown 0
Denton 47, Granbury 28	Richardson Pearce 34, Richardson 6
Denton Ryan 43, Dallas Samuel 7	SA Alamo Heights 51, SA Lee 0
Dripping Springs 21, New Braunfels Canyon 13	SA Kennedy 7, SA Fox Tech 3
El Campo 27, Victoria Memorial 7	SA Southside 44, SA Antonian 14
Ennis 45, Mesquite Poteet 17	San Marcos 59, Austin Travis 14
FW Arlington Heights 37, Alvarado 17	Santa Fe 17, Stafford 14
FW Boswell 45, Richland 7	Sherman 24, Paris 7
FW Brewer 38, Crowley 28	Smithson Valley 40, SA O'Connor 7
FW Dunbar 32, South Grand Prairie 17	Stephenville 38, Weatherford 18
FW Trimble Tech 28, Dallas Bishop Dunne 10	Texarkana Texas High 27, Hallsville 21
Fredericksburg 19, Bandera 6	Uvalde 14, Hondo 9
Frenship 34, Lamesa 22	Vidor 10, Nederland 8
Friendswood 24, Magnolia 23	Waxahachie 7, Lancaster 3
	Whitehouse 27, Tatum 12

Cougars shut out Higgins

HIGGINS — Larry Lee Horn led the way with four touchdowns as Fort Elliott shut out Higgins 49-0 in six-man action Friday night.

The game was called at the 7:37 mark of the third quarter due to the 45-point mercy rule.

Horn scored on runs of 6, 30 and 11 yards and finished with 221 tackles on four carries.

Jason Hathaway threw touchdown passes to Monty Hand (3 yards) and Junior Newman (25 yards). Caleb Kirkpatrick also tossed a TD pass, which went to Newman from 8 yards out. Newman had 4 catches for 65 yards and 2 touchdowns, while Hand had 3 catches for 23 yards and a touchdown. Hand kicked 3 extra points.

Horn also 10 tackles and 3 unassisted tackles on defense.



(Photo by Christy Pritchett)

Seth Foster begins the freshmen game against Borger with a booming kick.

Freshmen beat Borger

BORGER — Pampa defeated Borger 20-14 in a freshmen football game last week. Mark Williams rushed for two touchdowns and over 100 yards to lead the Pampa 9th graders to their third straight win.

Pampa got on the board first when Williams plowed through the Borger defense from the 2-yard line. Seth Foster added the extra point to make the score 7-0.

On the next drive, Tyler Doughty found Britten East open in the end zone and the resulting touchdown made the score 13-0. Pampa's final touchdown was scored by Williams on a 55-yard run. Once again, Foster added the extra point and Pampa led 20-0.

Pampa's offensive line was led by Daniel Resendiz and Jacob Potter, who created huge holes during the game. Pampa's defense was led by Q.B. Cobb and Michael Pergeson.

Tennis seniors



Seniors this year on the Pampa High tennis team are (front row, from left) Ashlee 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.

Major League baseball will have new security measures

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball will only go so far in its increased security measures following this week's terrorist attacks.

Coolers and backpacks will be banned from stadiums when games resume Monday, but there will be no metal detectors or more drastic measures.

"Quite honestly my view is that is an extreme," said Kevin Hallinan, baseball's senior vice president of security. "That's not an expectation of our fans and it's not something we deem necessary. As security experts we are able to address many of these issues very quietly and not turn it into a security event."

Under the plan announced Friday, all bags will be inspected; there will be more uniformed police officers; stadiums will be inspected each day before gates open; parking will be restricted within 100 feet of any stadium; all ballpark deliveries will be inspected; and club personnel will undergo new training.

"Fan safety and security is a paramount issue and that's what we're dealing with," Hallinan said. "Security and safety is our highest priority."

"I think fans will be very comfortable with these provisions."

Fans still will be allowed to bring in food and nonalcoholic drinks, as long as the items are in plain view. Reds chief operating officer John Allen said the

goal is to make fans feel safe without becoming too restrictive.

"It's a fine line, whether you're going to a baseball game or to a mall or to anything we do in our daily lives," Allen said. "I think we're all going to contemplate how this impacts it — not just in sports events, but everything we do."

Baseball stopped short of more drastic measures, such as the use of metal detectors for fans before entering stadiums.

Colorado Rockies owner Jerry McMorris agreed metal detectors were unnecessary but encouraged fans to arrive earlier than normal to accommodate the new inspections.

"Overall, it's not going to be

anything heavy-handed," McMorris said. "It's going to be appropriate to the situation."

"I would think everybody's got to be operating with a higher level of security and consciousness than they normally would," he said.

Hallinan said baseball officials are planning to meet with Federal Aviation

Administration officials to discuss team travel. Hallinan said baseball will have no say in altering flight patterns to keep airplanes away from stadiums.

"Those kinds of issues are out of our purview," Hallinan said. "The FBI, police and all those folks deal with those issues."

Major League Standings

American League					National League				
At A Glance					By The Associated Press				
All Times EDT					All Times EDT				
East Division					East Division				
New York	86	57	.601	—	Atlanta	78	64	.549	—
Boston	72	69	.511	13	Philadelphia	75	68	.525	3 1/2
Toronto	70	73	.489	16	New York	71	73	.493	8
Baltimore	55	87	.387	30 1/2	Florida	66	77	.461	12 1/2
Tampa Bay	50	93	.350	36	Montreal	61	82	.427	17 1/2
Central Division					Central Division				
Cleveland	82	62	.569	—	Houston	84	59	.587	—
Minnesota	76	68	.528	6	St. Louis	79	64	.552	5
Chicago	74	70	.514	8	Chicago	78	65	.545	6
Detroit	57	86	.399	24 1/2	Milwaukee	63	81	.438	21 1/2
Kansas City	57	86	.399	24 1/2	Cincinnati	58	86	.403	26 1/2
West Division					West Division				
x-Seattle	104	40	.722	—	Arizona	81	62	.566	—
Oakland	87	57	.604	17	San Francisco	80	64	.556	1 1/2
Anaheim	73	71	.507	31	Los Angeles	78	65	.545	3
Texas	66	78	.458	38	San Diego	70	73	.489	11
x-clinched playoff spot					Colorado				
					62	80	.437	18 1/2	

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 knelt 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 maintain 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 sweat-shirts 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 forgo 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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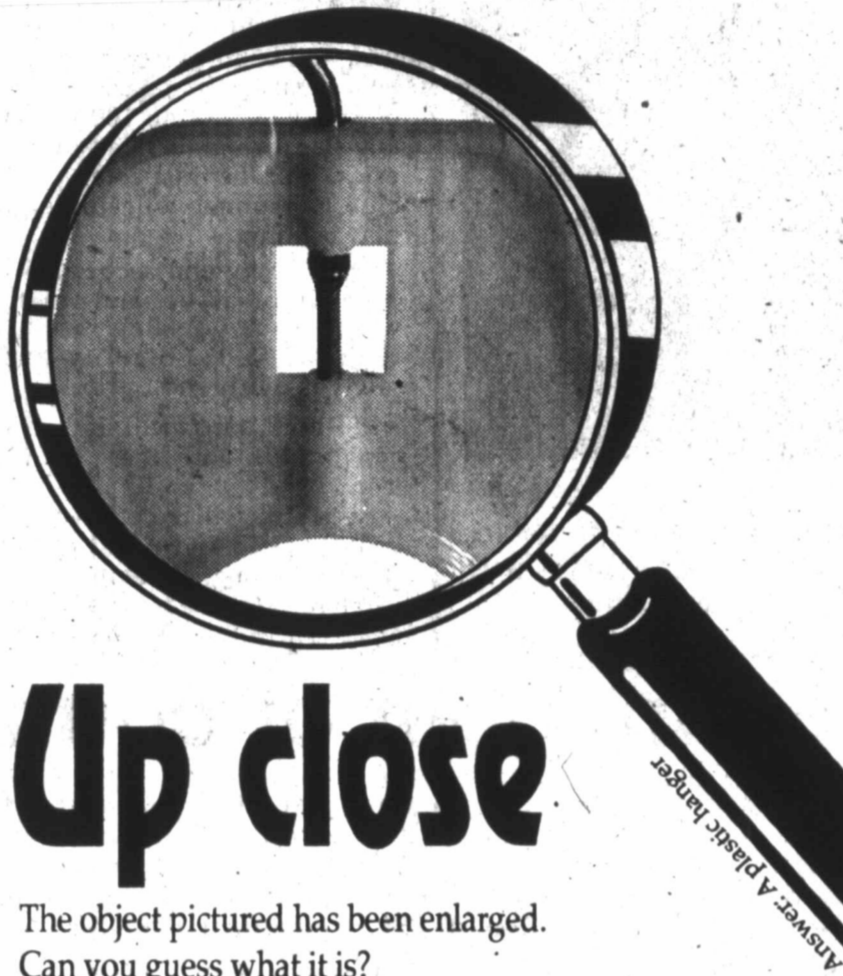


Happy Birthday,
Mr. President

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.



Up close

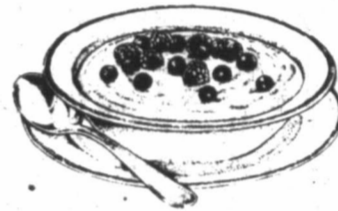
The object pictured has been enlarged.
Can you guess what it is?



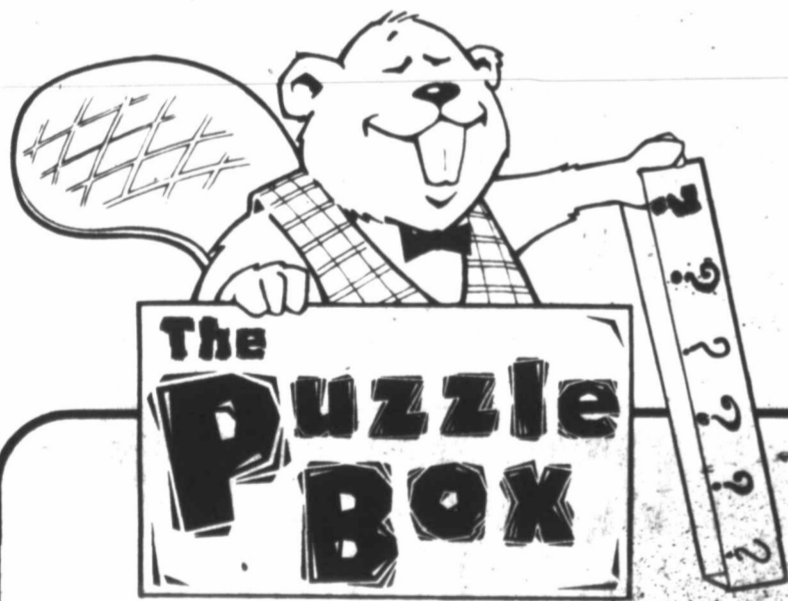
Find the words in the word list by looking across, up and down, diagonally, forward and backward.

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	CONE	PIZZA
CAKES	COOKIES	POPCORN
CANDY	EGGS	ROLLS
CEREAL	HOT DOG	SALAD
CLAMS	ICES	SUNDAE



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



The Puzzle Box

Playing Post Office

By Martha J. Morrison, Candor, NY

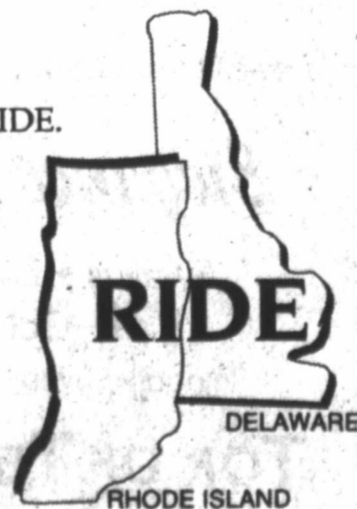
The post office uses the following abbreviations (listed in alphabetical order of the states they represent).

AL	AK	AZ	AR	CA	CO	CT	DE	FL	GA	HI	ID
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.

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



Answers: 1. COOK; 2. PAIN; 3. MANY; 4. GAME; 5. LAND; 6. MINE



- In what month do people talk the least?
- What do astronauts eat for dinner?
- Why do apples fall off trees?
- Why did the old woman tie skates on the rocking chair?
- 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 appesauce.
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 signed this very important document for our country. The Constitution 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.





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

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LIFESTYLE

America stands tall

Newsmakers



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

Kathy Davis Morris GARDEN WISE



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 Jerimey Howard, cousin of the bride of Panhandle, and Tommy Cox of Pampa.

Registering the guests were Ashlee Ferguson of Pampa and Jenna 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.

Bridal Registry...

Callie Babcock ~ Greg Winter
April Marburger ~ Brooks Gentry
Dana Wood ~ Greg Macik
Shelly Kindle ~ Scot DeMar
Angela Harvey ~ Clark Overman
Jennifer Wolfenbarger ~ Brent Skaggs

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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.

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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

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 non-duplicative, 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.

"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.

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 not 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 follow-up 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."

Distributed by The Associated Press

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.

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 Fernlie 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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Emily Monday ~ Michael Smedley
Dana Wood ~ Greg Macik
Melissa Wingert ~ Scott Houston
Erin Reeder ~ Jason Williams
Angela Harvey ~ Clark Overman
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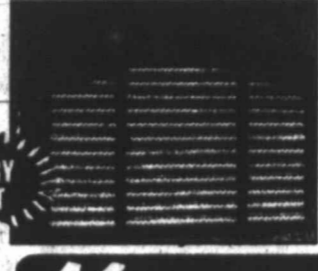
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Students' Medical History Should Be Ready At Hand

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

DEAR REGRETFUL TEEN: Thank you for a powerful letter. You will never know how many lives you may have saved today by writing it.

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

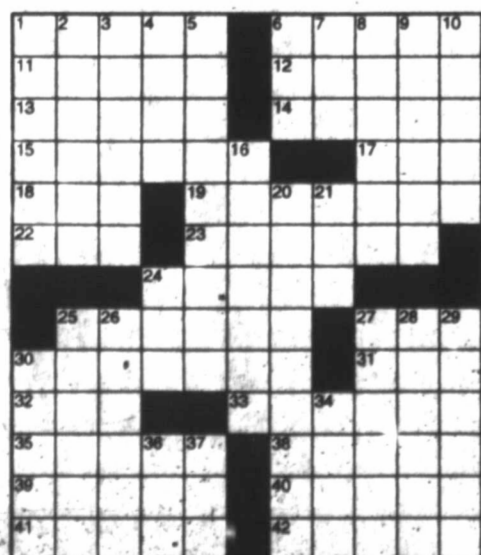
Wildwood



Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS
1 Book jacket quote
6 News filler
11 Solitary sort
12 Pound part
13 Dress type
14 Parish leader
15 Hand warmer
17 Refinery need
18 Greek letter
19 Stop listening
22 "Law & Order" grp.
23 Net receipts?
24 Emulates Blondi
25 Fuel gas
27 — de lance
30 Drunk
31 Forest feller
32 Shade source
33 Steamy
35 Flower part
38 Give an address
39 Orchestra member
40 Loss color
41 Clumsy
- DOWN
1 Pointed the finger at
2 Nabokov novel
3 Quarter-back
4 Johnny
5 Budget amount
6 Open passage
7 On the —
8 Square
9 High flier
10 Tête topper
16 Potential winner
20 Tries to impress, in a way
21 Ice, in Essen
24 Haggard actor
25 Astronaut type
26 Place of worship
27 Femme follower
28 Left
29 School break
30 "Good-fellas" actor
34 Vaccine
36 High peak
37 Fortune



STUMPED?

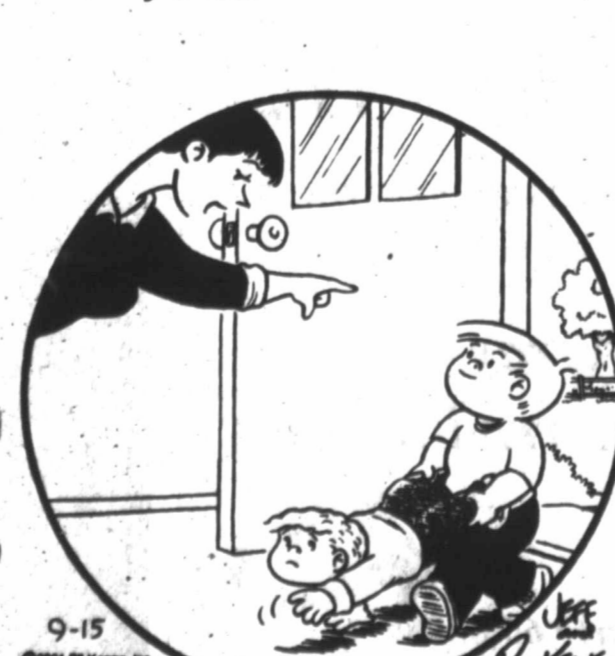
For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-454-7377! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18-only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Marmaduke



"We're not back. We haven't been anywhere yet. He found an interesting smell right outside the door."

The Family Circus



"Wheelbarrows belong in the garage."

For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Haggard The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore



MARQUEE

Sunday, September 16

through

Saturday, September 22

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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 Minor," 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 Tramaime," Tramaime Hawkins. Gospo Centric.
 7. "WoW Gospel 2001: The Year's 30 Top Gospel Artists And Songs," Various Artists. EMI/Worl. (Gold)
 8. "Mountain High... Valley Low," Yolanda Adams. Elektra.
 9. "Awesome Wonder," Kurt Carr & The Kurt Carr Singers.

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. "Crawling," Linkin Park. Warner Bros.
 7. "Down With The Sickness," Disturbed. Giant/Reprise.
 8. "I Wish You Were Here," Incubus. Immortal/Epic.
 9. "Bodies," Drowning Pool. Wind-up.
 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 Noise/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.
 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. "Angray 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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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. "Greatest Hits," Tim McGraw. Curb. (Platinum)
10. "Blake Shelton," Blake Shelton. Warner Bros./WRN. Copyright 2001, BPI Communications Inc. and SoundScan Inc.

Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles and Tracks

- (Compiled from a national sample of sales reports and radio playlists)
1. "Where the Party At," Jagged Edge with Nelly, So So Def.
 2. "I'm Real," Jennifer Lopez (feat. Ja Rule). Epic.
 3. "Differences," Ginuwine. Epic.
 4. "Family Affair," Mary J. Blige. MCA.
 5. "Fallin'," Alicia Keys. J.
 6. "Izzo (H.O.V.A.)," Jay-Z. Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG.
 7. "Contagious," The Isley Brothers (feat. Ronald Isley AKA Mr. Biggs). DreamWorks.
 8. "I'm A Thug," Trick Daddy. Slip-N-Slide/Atlantic.
 9. "One Minute Man," Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliott. The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG.
 10. "Rock The Boat," Aaliyah. Blackground.
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Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums

- (Compiled from a national sample of sales reports collected, compiled and provided by SoundScan)
1. "No More Drama," Mary J. Blige. MCA.
 2. "Aaliyah," Aaliyah. Blackground. (Platinum)
 3. "Now," Maxwell. Columbia/CRG.
 4. "Superhero," Brian McKnight. Motown.
 5. "Songs In A Minor," Alicia Keys. J. (Platinum)
 6. "Eternal," The Isley Brothers (feat. Ronald Isley AKA Mr. Biggs). DreamWorks.
 7. "Project English," Juvenile. Cash Money/Universal.
 8. "Kiss Tha Game Goodbye," Jadakiss. Ruff Ryders/Interscope.
 9. "The Good Times," Afroman. Universal.
 10. "8701," Usher. Arista.
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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 Urban Millionaires. Urban Spears/Urban Dreams.
 8. "Purple Hills," D-12. Shady.
 9. "Bounce," Survivalist. Fo' Life.
 10. "We Right Here," DMX. Ruff Ryders.
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Hot Dance Music — Club Play

- (Compiled from a national sample of dance club playlists)
1. "Absolutely Not," Deborah Cox. J.
 2. "Stand Still," Aubrey. Groovilicious/Strictly Rhythm.
 3. "Tell Me Who," Tamia. Elektra/EEG.
 4. "Keep It Coming," 7 (feat. Mona Monet). King Street.

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. "Como 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 Cady 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 Banda-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. "Despreciado," Lupillo Rivera. Sony Discos. (Gold)
 9. "Mas Con El Numero Uno," Vicente Fernandez. Sony Discos.
 10. "Historia De Un Idolo Vol. 1," Vicente Fernandez. Sony Discos.
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Billboard video charts

By The Associated Press

Weekly charts for the nation's most popular videos as they appear in next week's issue of Billboard magazine. Reprinted with permission:

Top Music Video Sales

- (Compiled from a national sample of sales reports)
1. "The Videos: 1994 - 2001," Dave Matthews Band.
 2. "London Homecoming," Bill & Gloria Gaitner And Their Homecoming Friends.
 3. "Aaron's Party... Live In Concert!," Aaron Carter. (Platinum)
 4. "The Up In Smoke Tour," Various Artists. (Platinum)
 5. "Britney In Hawaii: Live & More," Britney Spears. (Platinum)
 6. "Hell Freezes Over," Eagles. (Platinum)
 7. "HiStory On Film: Volume II," Michael Jackson.
 8. "Salival," Tool.
 9. "Listener Supported," Dave Matthews Band. (Platinum)
 10. "Live At Madison Square Garden," 'N Sync. (Platinum)

Top Video Rentals

- (Compiled from a national sample of rental reports)
1. "Hannibal," MGM Home Entertainment.
 2. "Joe Dirt," Columbia TriStar Home Video.
 3. "Exit Wounds," Warner Home Video.
 4. "The Mexican," DreamWorks Home Entertainment.
 5. "15 Minutes," New Line Home Video.
 6. "The Family Man," Universal Studios Home Video.
 7. "Enemy At The Gates," Paramount Home Video.
 8. "Chocolat," Miramax Home Entertainment.
 9. "Cast Away," FoxVideo.
 10. "Unbreakable," Touchstone Home Video.

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2216 LEA - SPACIOUS! Enjoy this four bedroom home. Great kitchen dining combination with breakfast bar. Spacious living room with a woodburning fireplace. All electric, steel siding on the eaves. Great back yard with covered patio. Nice front yard and great curb appeal. **PRICED TO SELL!!**

2520 BEECH - PRICE REDUCED. Enjoy this two story home with a spacious kitchen, dining, den area. Den has woodburning fireplace, front sitting room, and great size bedrooms. This home also has many new renovations such as: storm cellar, new interior and exterior paint, new insulated covered patio in the back, extra rv/boat parking on the side, and much more!! **MINT CONDITION!!**

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By KELLE Associated

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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 maybe I'd 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

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 a 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 it 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.

Craftsman helps upright pianos age gracefully

By ANNE WALLACE ALLEN
Associated Press Writer

FLETCHER, Vt. (AP) — Peering into the depths of the old piano before her, Clair Dunn took stock of the job ahead.

She admired the delicately stenciled cast-iron plate and some meticulous interior molding destined to be seen only by piano tuners. The dusty Waltham upright with its fine craftsmanship was in fairly good condition, considering it had been around for 100 years and during that time had traveled to Vermont from Milwaukee.

Dunn was pleased: Her work with the Waltham would have a happy outcome. For just about \$200, a lucky family would have a good quality instrument ready to play.

The future isn't always so bright for many aging uprights, which are reaching the century mark of their heyday and showing their age. There are dozens of piano restorers like Dunn in Vermont, and there are plenty of old uprights around the state to keep them busy.

They tell stories of being called to look at pianos left in leaky barns; pianos populated by bugs or rodents; pianos that were used as stands for leaky potted plants; or pianos with problems ignored for so long that they couldn't, or shouldn't, be fixed.

Williston piano restorer Allan Day recalls finding a pre-Civil War square grand piano, with mother-of-pearl keys, in an Illinois hayloft under bat excrement and hay.

"It was salted away by this woman's grandfather, who traded it for a pig," recalled Day, who rebuilt the piano. "It probably took us two and a half years to do it, because all the parts had to be handmade."

There are also happy stories. Dunn, who makes her living assessing, restoring, and tuning the old pianos in Vermont's farmhouse parlors, town hall auditoriums and church basements, walked into an old Enosburg farmhouse last year to find a century-old Williams upright in perfect condition.

"I couldn't believe it," she said. "It had

been tuned every year of its life, and it was in showroom condition."

Another one came off a porch in Colchester. The wooden case around the piano looked shabby, but the piano came from one of Dunn's three favorite piano makers, Wing & Son. And it sounded great.

"This piano on the porch would reverberate Carnegie Hall," she said. "I couldn't sell it for what it was worth because of the case. I ended up selling it for \$850."

Dunn, a lifelong musician who more recently worked as a Web site designer, lives on a former farm that has been in her family for more than a century. She started tuning pianos just a few years ago after watching a tuner work on her own Kohler & Campbell upright. She runs her business from a small building attached to her house.

One day this summer her job took her to Fairfield, where a family had asked her to look over a piano they had acquired when they bought their house.

The Waltham needed a lot of work. Its carved feet, which restorers refer to as "toes," were banged up, the result of many moves. It had some peeling veneer; several keys were badly chipped, leaving sharp edges that could cut the player's fingers; and the soft felt of the bass dampers had turned hard with age.

Dunn saw a bright future in the piano's careful craftsmanship and overall condition.

"Given its age, it hasn't been played all that much," she said, pausing in her work to play a few bars of "Sentimental Journey." She dismantled part of the piano and carried the keys and several other parts back to her studio in Fletcher to repair.

Vermont has so many of the old pianos, in part because it stood at a crossroads of the piano manufacturing world a century ago, when factories in Boston and New York turned out pianos by the thousands in the decades before the Depression.

Between 1890 and 1925, the piano was popular both as a form of home entertainment and as a status symbol. The industry

was among the first to offer customers the option of paying over time — "a dubious honor," Dunn says.

As for why so many are still around, Dunn theorizes that Yankee thrift might be at work, especially in poor, rural areas like hers: If the pianos sound OK, families simply hang on to them. A new piano can cost thousands of dollars; if you're lucky, you can get an upright that's good enough for a child's lessons for just hundreds.

Consequently, the uprights turn up everywhere.

"We have three or four of them," said Cindy Watson, assistant treasurer at the First Baptist Church in Bennington and a member of the congregation for half a century. "I'll bet some of these pianos were in that church when I was a kid."

Eric Brinkerhoff, a piano restorer in Danville, has about 45 of them in various storage properties. He called some of the uprights "treasures they've built with 19th-century craftsmanship, before we got to be so fast at everything." He wishes he had time to restore them all.

But not all old pianos are worth the effort.

"Some of them we have to burn," he said. "It's a better way to go than sitting in a barn and rotting."

Day thinks many old pianos are worthless, and if children learn to play on them, they learn on a piano that is out of tune.

"A lot of these pianos should have been condemned 30 years ago, but they still are shlepped between people, innocent people who think, 'A free piano!'" Day said. "But it's the kiss of death, because the pianos have a life expectancy, and things wear out."

Dunn's small studio is already jammed with pianos and she is reluctant to take free ones. The exception: pianos made by Wing & Son, Ivers & Pond, or Hallett Davis.

Occasionally, she said, a free piano is a good deal. After all, an in-tune piano in fair condition might be all a family needs for a child starting lessons. She sees in them a piece of musical history.

First-year rainmaking program targets dark clouds

ABILENE — If into each life a little rain must fall, Chad Hahn wants to make sure it's a downpour.

A meteorologist for the West Central Texas Weather Modification Association, Hahn had his busiest span yet — one recent week with the fledgling cloud-seeding program, overseeing about a dozen flights to inject silver iodide into lingering clouds.

Through Aug. 17, his pilots had flown seven of the previous nine days. The chronicled results are more anecdotal than scientific thus far; the association doesn't

yet have a network of rain gauges in its eight counties.

Nonetheless, association officials say the program is achieving its aim: fueling heavier and more prolonged showers from existing storm systems.

Hahn's pilots report that the clouds they are seeding yield rain immediately. From the ground, his weather radar has detected jumps in the thunderstorms' intensity.

"So far, I'm pretty satisfied," said Tom Mann, the cloud-seeding program's administrator and the economic development direc-

tor for the West Central Texas Council of Governments. "If we can get a full-fledged (storm) system in here, we can get up there and really do some good."

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 10 for seeding and three for reconnaissance and more than 31 flying hours.

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

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Cute 3 bedroom, fully carpeted, living room, fully equipped corner fireplace. Large kitchen. Central heat and air. Large storage building. This home has had tender loving care. Priced below \$40,000.00. Call Irvine. MLS 5185.

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Then, call Chris to see this 3 bedroom brick, 1 3/4 baths. Franklin fireplace. Patio, nice storm windows. Central heat and air, very nice. Lots of extras. MLS 5379.

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Says sell this nice 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 baths. Large living room, den, dining, kitchen, RV pad along side of carport. Covered patio. Solid birch paneling. Window treatments, ceiling fans, bookshelves and chandeliers will convey. Priced to sell at only \$38,900.00. OE.

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601 JUPITER
 Two bedroom brick home on a corner lot in a good location. Large living room, 1 1/2 baths, attached garage. MLS 5554

1106 N. RUSSELL
 Charming older home in a nice neighborhood. Living room, dining room, three bedrooms, 1 3/4 baths, woodburning fireplace, attached garage. MLS 5536.

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 carport, central heat and air. MLS 5433.

2133 WILLISTON

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 Jim Ward... 665-1593
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1 Public Notice

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS

Sealed proposals for Roof Replacements and Repairs will be received in the Business Office, Clarendon College, 1122 College Drive, Clarendon, Texas. Prospective Bidders shall be prepared to complete inspection of conditions and site at time of pre-bid conference. Bid bond or cashier's check in the amount of

1 Public Notice

five (5%) percent of gross bid amount is required to be submitted with each bid proposal. The work will be awarded under a lump sum contract. Successful bidders will be required to provide, Payment and Performance Bonds, Certificates of Insurance for General Liability, Automobile Liability, Worker's Compensation in accordance with Texas Rule TWCC 110.110 and Builder's Risk, and enter into contract with Clarendon College.

Clarendon College reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. Prospective bidders may obtain Bid documents by contacting: Mr. Peter Roy, Comptroller, Clarendon College, Box 968, Clarendon, Texas 79226. Phone: (806) 874-3571, Fax: (806) 874-3201. Clarendon College is an equal opportunity employer.

K-7 Sept. 16, 23, 2001

NO. 8777
 ESTATE OF TRAVIS G. CLEMENT IN THE COUNTY COURT OF GRAY COUNTY TEXAS

NOTICE TO ALL 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

CLARENDON COLLEGE

Call for Proposals for the Operation and Management of the College Bookstore
 Clarendon College will receive sealed proposals for the operation and management of the Clarendon

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1 Public Notice

SAUNDERS AUCTION

SATURDAY, SEPT. 22, 2001-9:43 A.M.
ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES
 Located: Erick Oil-Intersection of 140 & Hwy. 30 (Exit 7) Take Hwy. 30 South Passing Love's Country Store. The Sand Plum Thicket Directly South of Love's (The Sand Plum Thicket is Not Going Out of Business).
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 Lyndon Local Auctioneer, 2224 Wheeler, 806-828-5888

1 Public Notice

College Bookstore until 2:00 pm on Monday, October 8, 2001. Proposals received after this time will not be accepted. All prospective bidders are expected to attend a pre-proposal conference starting at 10:00 am on Wednesday, September 26, in the College Bookstore. Bidders are expected to complete inspection of conditions and site at the time of the pre-bid conference.

Clarendon College reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Prospective bidders may obtain Bid documents by contacting: Mr. Peter Roy, Comptroller, Clarendon College, Box 968, Clarendon, Texas 79226. Phone: (806) 874-3571, Fax: (806) 874-3201. Clarendon College is an equal opportunity employer.

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1 Public Notice

address of the Independent Executor and of the Resident Agent is: c/o Todd Clement The Clement Law Firm 17400 Dallas Pkwy., Ste. 212 Dallas, Texas 75287-7306 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present in the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 6th day of September, 2001.

THE CLEMENT LAW FIRM

17400 Dallas Parkway Suite 212 Dallas, Texas 75287-7306 972-250-6363 972-250-3599 FAX By: G. Todd Clement State Bar No. 04361525 ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE

K-13 Sept. 16, 2001

PUBLIC NOTICE The Pampa Independent School District will receive 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 specifications or additional information please call Anita Patterson, Purchasing Director at (806)669-4700 K-12 Sept. 14, 16, 2001

5 Special Notices

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

13 Bus. Opp.

RESTAURANT For Sale near Green Belt Lake. Fully equipped \$29,000. Call Dennis Britten Real Estate 874-2881 or 898-3649.

1 Public Notice

NOTICE TO BIDDERS The Pampa Independent School District will receive sealed bids in the Business Office at 321 W. Albert, Pampa, Texas 79065, until 2:00 p.m., October 2, 2001, for Athletic Supplies & Equipment. For specifications or additional information please call Anita Patterson, Purchasing Director at (806)669-4700 K-12 Sept. 14, 16, 2001

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TREE trimming, light hauling, rain gutter cleaning & repair, and lawn mowing. Call 665-3672.

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

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RESTAURANT For Sale near Green Belt Lake. Fully equipped \$29,000. Call Dennis Britten Real Estate 874-2881 or 898-3649.

10 Lost/Found

LOST brown & white dog with 1 blue & 1 brown collar. Also a yellow Chihuahua 669-0958.

LOST female Yellow Lab. Please call 665-6043, 1631 Dogwood.

MISSING since Labor Day: 3 mo. old female Basset Hound from area of Mary Ellen & Georgia st. Please... our children miss their beloved pet. Call 669-3058.

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Horoscope

MONDAY, SEPT. 17, 2001

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have:

5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Start a diet and watch it work. Decide to reorganize your files, and it is a done deal. Help others gain a similar sense of satisfaction. Schedule a brainstorming session for later in the day, when everyone can relax. In this atmosphere, great ideas can hatch. Tonight: Don't lose your temper!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Decisions revolving around loved ones, children and creative projects gain new energy. Let inspiration lead you. You could find an associate unusually temperamental. This person needs your attention. Focus on work and deal with unexpected developments. Tonight: Stay out

14s Plumbing/Heat

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

14t Radio/Tv

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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 809 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, HAZMAT 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.ownacomputer.com

CNA's, LVN's, RN's \$9-\$24/hr. Call AA Nursing Services, 866-406-8773, (866-40-NURSE).

HOMEWORKERS needed \$635 w/ky. 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 Supervisor 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 Operator. 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. 806-665-7111, Pampa, TX. RN-LVN need for 10-6 shift. Contact Ivonne at 665-5746.

POSITION avail. 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. Kentucky, EOE.

MYSTERY SHOPPERS Project assignments. Detail/accuracy critical. Call only Tu-Th 10 AM-5 PM PST 800-462-8765 X113, fax 800-210-5350 or visit website www.dsgai.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.epsmid.net

POSITION avail. immediately for janitor, full time with valid drivers license. 665-2667.

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OB-RN (1) Full time, varied hours and shifts, every other weekend, Oklahoma license required, experience preferred.

OB-RN (1) Per Requested Need (PRN), flexible hours, some weekends required, Oklahoma license required. Hospital experience preferred.

OB-Tech (1) Full time, every other weekend and varied nights, experience preferred.

OB-RN (1) Full-time, 7a-3p, experience preferred, will take call, Oklahoma license required.

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1609 N. Dwight.....\$72,000.....3/2/1 - 1550 SF/GCAD
1019 Sierra.....\$69,900.....3/2/2 - 1536 SF/GCAD
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1101 Sirocco.....\$42,500.....3/1 75/1 - 1258 SF/GCAD
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2400 Rosewood.....\$39,500.....3/1 75/none - 1487 SF/GCAD
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2119 N. Nelson.....\$34,500.....3/1/1 - 1092 SF/GCAD
2213 N. Wells.....\$29,500.....3/1/1 - 1284 SF/GCAD
1124 Sandilewood.....\$27,500.....3/1/1 cp - 943 SF/GCAD
217 N. Faulkner.....\$26,200.....3/1/1 - 1020 SF/GCAD
1117 Willow Rd.....\$25,000.....3/1,5/1 - 1112 SF/GCAD
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2613 Rosewood.....\$25,000.....4/1/1 - 1331 SF/GCAD
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736 N. Dwight.....\$16,900.....2/1/1 det. - 808 SF/GCAD
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SAT. and Sun. 8-3, 1441 Charles. Lots of antiques and primitives, odds and ends. Absolutely No Early Sales!

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

BEAUTIFULLY furnished 1 bedroom starting at \$335. We pay gas & water, you pay elec. 6 mo. leases. Pool, laundry on site. Caprock Apts. 1601 W. Somerville, 665-7149. Open Mo-Fr 8:30-5:30, Sa 10-4, Su 1-4.

3 bdr., 1 bth., 1326 N. Russell, \$400 mo. & \$200 deposit. Call 662-9520 leave message.

EXCELLENT location 3 br + office, large kitchen 2 car gar, 2 full bath, \$900 mo. 669-3938.

717 GRAY, 4 bdr., 1 ba, 2 liv. areas, \$475 mo. 669-9059.

1116 Garland, 2 br., c h&a, fireplace, storm cellar, garage, utility/office, \$250 dep. \$325 mo. 665-0524.

NEWLY remodeled, 2 br., in good location. Call 669-6323 or 669-6198.

NICE 3 bdr. house, 408 Lefors. \$375 + dep. Call 665-7331.

CUTE 2 bdr. house w/gar. 1005 S. Farley, \$300 + Dep. Call 665-7331.

99 Stor. Bldgs.
TUMBLEWEED Acres, self storage units. Various sizes. 665-0079, 665-2450.

69 Misc.

BRICK garage apt., appliances. Bills paid. \$300 mo. 810 N. Frost. 660-4842.

DOGWOOD Apts., 1 bdr. Deposit & references required. 669-9817, 669-2981.

EFFICIENCY, apt. \$225 mo., bills pd. Rooms \$20 day, \$80 wk. & up, air, tv, cable, phone. 669-3221.

FURN. Unfurn., 1-2 bdr. apts. All bills paid. Starting \$250. Courtyard Apts., 1031 N. Sumner 669-9712.

96 Unfurn. Apts.
BENT CREEK Apartments
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CAPROCK Apts., 1,2,3 bdrn starting at \$275. We pay water & gas, you pay elec. 6 mo. leases. Pool, washer / dryer hookups in 2 & 3 bdrn, fireplaces. No application fee. 1601 W. Somerville, 665-7149. Open Mon-Fri 8:30-5:30, Sat 10-4, Sun 1-4.

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PAM APARTMENTS
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97 Furn. Houses
1420 E. Browning, 1rg. 1 bdr. furnished house. Gas paid. \$250 mo. Call 665-4842.

PICK up rental list from Gray Box on front porch of Lakeview Apartments. Update each Fri.

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

STREET front office, 620 sq. ft. \$450/mo. 120 W. Kingsmill. Combs-Worley Building. 669-6841.

103 Homes For Sale
Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-3560, 663-1442 669-0007

1009 E. Kingsmill, 3 br., 1 ba, c h/a, over sz. dble. gar., circle drive. Ready to move in. 665-3132.

1509 N. Dwight New 4-2-2, WB, Appl Cent. h&a, 665-5158

2 story brick, 3 or 4 bdr., 1 3/4 ba, dbl. gar., c h/a, Travis sch. dist. 904 Terry Rd. 665-5661.

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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 Guyton, 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 sub-contractors 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 afflicted 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

Calendar of events

- 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.
- 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,
- mayor of Amarillo. For reservations or for more information, contact Edmond Esparza, (806) 372-3381.
- PACS DANCE** Pampa Area Christians Single Dance will be from 8-11 p.m., Sept. 22 at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Music will be by Indian Summer. For more information, call 665-7059. Bring snacks.
- DAYLILY SOCIETY SALE** Golden Spread Daylily Society will be selling daylilies - the official flower of Amarillo - in a special fund-raiser from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22 at Amarillo Botanical Gardens, 1400 Streit Dr., Amarillo. For more information, call (806) 352-6513.
- LOVETT INTERNET PROGRAMS** Lovett Memorial Library in Pampa will be conducting two Internet workshops. The first is scheduled from 7-9 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 27 and the second, "Internet Genealogy," from 2:30-4:30 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 30. Both sessions are limited to 11 people. For more information or to register, call the library at 669-5780.
- 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.

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