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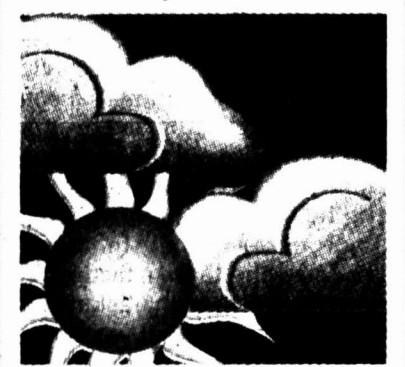
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High today 81
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 For weather details see Page 2

Wednesday jackpot about \$40 million
 No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Saturday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.
 A winning ticket would have been worth an estimated \$33 million.
 The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 54 were: 13-33-37-44-46-52.
 Wednesday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$40 million.

Abilene man dies in plane crash
 PLAINVIEW (AP) — An Abilene man has been killed while flying a plane over cotton fields in Hale County as part of the Boll Weevil Eradication program.
 It was the third crash in September.
 Tye Goddard died when his plane crashed about 4:20 p.m. Friday. Hale County Justice of the Peace Kaye Phillips said Goddard apparently hit an irrigation stand pipe five miles east of the crash site.
 Northern High Plains Boll Weevil Eradication Zone Manager Wes Jones said Goddard's ground spotter told him the pilot had radioed to say he was finished spraying his field and was heading for the airport.
 Goddard was pronounced dead at the scene.
 The crash was the second in two days and the third in September for the program. There were no injuries in crashes that occurred Sept. 3 and Sept. 27.

• **Elizabeth Stubbs Houdashell, 65.** Services pending.
 • **Robert J. "Bob" Lemke, 70.** former employee of Lee Way Motor Freight.

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 Sports5

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Board suspends McLean superintendent

Allegations include misappropriation of funds

By NANCY YOUNG
 Managing Editor

Longtime McLean Superintendent John Griffin has been suspended without pay on accusations of breach of fiduciary duty and, in particular, misappropriation of public funds.
 Griffin's attorney compares the situation at McLean ISD to "the Harper Valley PIA."
 An independent audit report performed by Lewis Meers, CPA, of Pampa spanned a six-year period and totals

\$5,941.71 in questionable expenditures. The report was given to the school trustees prior to the suspension of Griffin. Griffin has been superintendent of McLean Independent School District since 1995, and employed by the district in other capacities for 14 years.
 MISD Board of Trustees took that action following several months of controversy. Representing the MISD Board of Trustees is Pampa attorney Ken Fields. He said last week the MISD Board voted to send notice to Griffin of a proposed termination of his contract with the school

Another issue of concern in the report was the use of the district cell phones for personal use. A listing of the superintendent's use of cell phones was attached to the report, according to the audit. He said the listing "indicates considerable personal use."

district. He said Griffin will be offered an independent hearing examination if he wishes to protest his termination.
 Fields said the action was taken after Meers' report of the school finances was given to the school board.
 Meers' report to the school trustees stated his firm examined the cash disbursements of MISD from Aug. 1, 1995, through Aug. 15, 2001. Accounts examined were the district's Visa credit card,

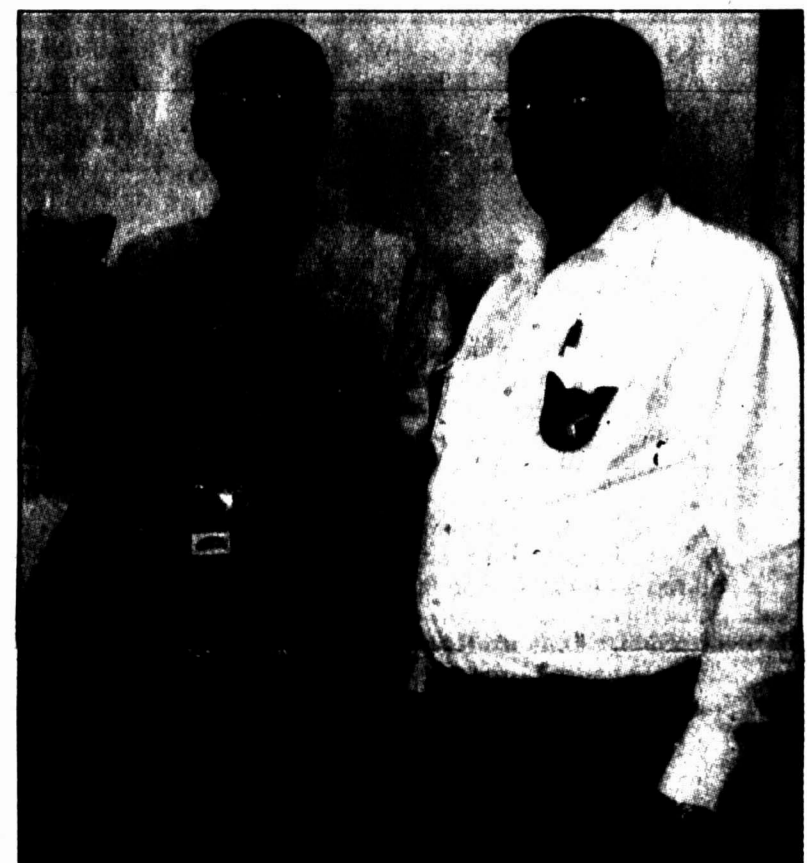
Sam's in Amarillo, Wal-Mart accounts in Amarillo and Pampa, Best Buy in Amarillo, Office Max and Office Depot. Also examined were travel expenses of the superintendent, his cell phone charges and petty cash fund of the business office.
 Meers' report said the firm compared the accounts with documentary evidence that supported the transactions.
 "The attached list of transactions represents (See McLEAN, Page 3)

JP sets \$15,000 bond in internet sting case

A Pampa man charged with criminal solicitation of a child remained in Gray County Jail today in lieu of \$15,000 bond while city police continue their investigation.
 Justice of the Peace Joe Martinez set bond at \$15,000 on a third degree felony charge for sexual assault - criminal solicitation of a child for Jerry Lee Cooper, 44, 320 S. Houston, according to David Potter, jail administrator.
 Police today continued to follow up on evidence they found in a search of Cooper's vehicle and residence after the man was arrested Friday night, said Col. Terry Young.
 The charges resulted from a Pampa Police Department investigation that lasted more than two weeks, culminating in Cooper's arrested Friday night at the Super Playground.

Pampa police began investigating the circumstances leading to the arrest about two weeks ago after a 14-year-old girl and her parents reported that a man had asked for the girl's e-mail address, saying he wanted to correspond with her.
 After a brief e-mail exchange, officers said the girl became frightened and told her parents who reported the matter to police.
 In a sting operation lasting approximately two weeks, police detectives corresponded with the man through e-mail and in chat rooms on the Internet until a meeting between the man and a police decoy was set up last Friday night.
 Armed with a warrant for his arrest and a search warrant for his residence, officers arrested Cooper at the Super Playground.

Out to pasture



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Gray County Sheriff Don Copeland, right, presents retiring deputy, Gary Noblett, with a pair of bib overalls and farming tools at a reception honoring Noblett Friday afternoon. Noblett served the Gray County Sheriff's Office since April 1998. His law enforcement career spans 30 years. Among the many friends, family, and co-workers attending the reception for Noblett was his former long-time employer, retired Potter County Sheriff T.L. Baker of Idalou. Noblett and his wife Marilyn now serve as caretakers at M.K. Brown Boy Scout Camp, east of Pampa.

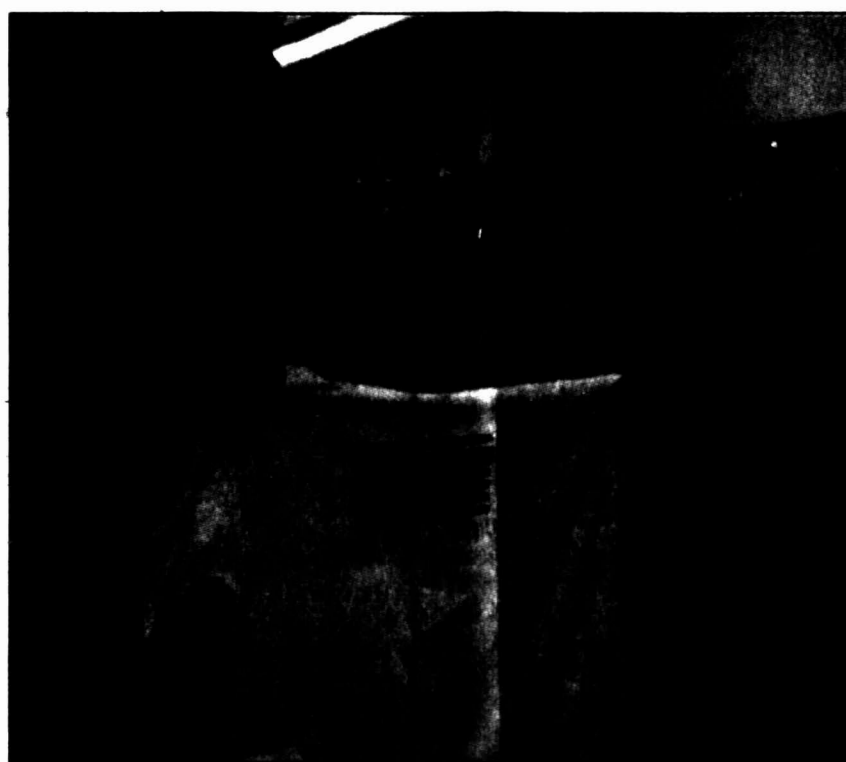
Last day to register to vote for Nov. 6 election is Oct. 9

If you're not registered to vote and want to cast a ballot in the Nov. 6 election the last day to register is Tuesday, Oct. 9.
 Also, Gray County residents who need to update their voter registration information have through Tuesday, Oct. 9 to do that to be able to vote in the Nov. 6 election.
 While no individual candidates are on the ballot, the issue of whether or not to dissolve the Pampa Economic Development Corporation will be decided by voters who live within the city limits of Pampa.
 The fate of 19 state constitutional amendments will also be decided that day. All qualified voters in Gray County will be able to cast ballots on those amendments.
 Residents who need to make changes in their registration or to register to vote need to contact

the Tax Assessor Sammye Morris' office which is temporarily located on the first floor of the Hughes Building.
 Any registered voters who have moved must update their information. Also, anyone who will be 18-years-old by Nov. 6 is eligible to vote, but must be registered 30 days in advance of the election.
 While the PEDC election has generated considerable controversy throughout the community, there has not been a lot of interest in the 19 amendments thus far.
 The 19 propositions are:
 1. providing for clearing of land titles by the release of a state claim of its interest to the owners of certain land in Bastrop County;
 2. authorizing the issuance of state general obligation.
 (See REGISTER, Page 3)

Park service continues Lake Meredith burns

Prescribed burns in the Lake Meredith area are continuing this week.
 National Park Service firefighters began a test burn within the park Friday, but discontinued the endeavor when the wind speed increased and wind direction changed to make conditions unfavorable for the planned burn.
 "Safety is our main concern. We want to take every precaution to protect personnel and structures in or near the burn areas," said Davin.
 According to a new release from the National Park Service, the reintroduction of fire will help traditional plant distribution and reduce the danger associated with wildfires. The park has been in the process of developing extensive plans that will guide which areas of the park are burned.
 During these controlled burns some of the areas will be closed to the public.



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Miles Cook of T-Shirts & More shows Justin Turner, Pampa High School wrestling coach, a "Proud To Be An American" t-shirt. Approximately \$500 has already been raised locally for the New York City chapter of the American Red Cross through the sale of these shirts, Cook said. He is donating \$3 from each shirt to the NYC Red Cross. Cook said, and the supplier is also donating \$3 for each shirt sold.

Child abandonment draws 10-year term

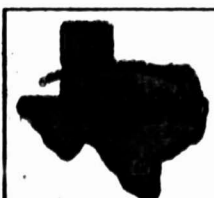
Man gets 20 years for drugs

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 Staff Writer

A Pampa man received 10 years probation for abandoning a child and an Amarillo man was sentenced to 20 years in prison for felony drug possession in district court action here.
 Frank Brackney Pechacek, 34, of Amarillo originally pled guilty in 31st District Court proceedings here Thursday to possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, a first degree felony. Pechacek testified that he had hid a bag containing methamphetamines, drug paraphernalia and written information about drug transactions under the seat of his vehicle when he was arrested in the Prairie Village on Aug. 23, 2000. However, he steadfastly denied that he intended to sell the drugs.
 "The proof tends to fail on the intent to deliver," said District Judge Steve Emmert after hearing Pechacek's testimony.
 "I feel we have more than ample proof if it were to come to trial," District Attorney Rick Roach said.
 (See CHILD, Page 3)

Notice ...

Publisher's note: The last day letters to the editor will be run that relate to items on the Nov. 6 ballot, including the Pampa Economic Development Corporation issue, will be Sunday, Oct. 7. Because the topic of a hog farm has been tied to the Pampa Economic Development Corporation no letters about hog farms will be allowed during this time. Paid advertising will be accepted.



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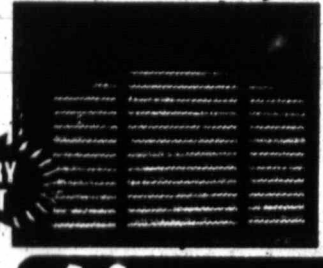
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Monday, October 1

Page 4

Daughters And Their Dad's Money Are Not Soon Parted

DEAR ABBY: In January of 1994, my loving wife and best friend of 47 years passed away. I was devastated, but I am also realistic. I was 71, healthy, virile, fun-loving and enjoyed life.

A little over a month after my wife's funeral, I was tired of being alone and went to a resort. I met a lovely woman there, and a few weeks later, I called and invited her to dinner. We spent more than six hours talking, sharing a couple of small glasses of wine, and were more interested in each other than the food.

When I got home, I received a call from my younger daughter and was given the third degree. It was only the beginning. In spite of the interference, this lady and I continued to enjoy each other's company. We lived together for a year and a half and then married.

I gave my daughters one of our family trusts to allay their fear that someone might get something they thought was all theirs. It didn't help. They continued to drive a wedge between my wife and me. I later discovered they put a tap on my phone. So, where did all this lead? You guessed it. Divorce court.

It has been a year and a half; I recently met a lady on the Internet. We have been writing and talking on the phone almost daily. Three weeks ago, we met in Paris and spent a great week together. No sex was involved — just a great time. The lady plans to come here to visit. Tonight my younger daughter informed me she intends to run her off.

As far as my daughters are concerned, I don't need a friend, a companion or wife. They are worried that someone besides them will get whatever I have left. They tell me I

Dear Abby

Is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips.

don't need anyone; just our family is enough. I love my grandchildren, but to be honest, I don't need my children running my life.

Abby, the lady in question is in her late 50s, is well-educated, entertaining, intelligent, and has a good job in her home country. I hate to put her through what they did to my previous wife. Should I sell everything I have and move to a different city or country?

DESPERATE FOR A LIFE OF MY OWN
DEAR DESPERATE: It is unlikely your daughters will ever accept any woman in your life. Achieving your independence will mean you will have to separate from your daughters — and it's likely you'll have to sacrifice your relationship with your grandchildren. I urge you to talk this entire situation over with your attorney. As your new relationship progresses, the woman will need to be protected from your daughters no matter how far from them you move.

DEAR ABBY: I just finished reading the letter from Thom Somes of Pet Tech Inc. The information he provided concerning pet first aid was invaluable. However, I would like to expand on one of his facts.

The leading cause of death in companion animals is not preventable accidents. It is euthanasia. According to the Humane Society of the United States, an estimated 4 million to 6 million companion animals are euthanized every year in America's animal shelters.

There are two simple solutions to the problem of pet overpopulation and the needless killing of adoptable animals: Have your pet spayed or neutered, and always have an up-to-date identification tag on your pet.

Thank you for getting the word out, Abby.
JACK FISHER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LEE COUNTY (ALA.) HUMANE SOCIETY

DEAR JACK: You're welcome. If my readers take your message to heart — and I'm sure many of them will — countless lives of companion animals will be saved.

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

Have A Story Idea...

Contact DeeDee or Nancy

669-2525 • 800-687-3348 • deede@pan-tex.net



Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 42 Pizza serving
 - 1 "Desert Rose" singer
 - 6 Stylish births
 - 10 Indiana basketballer
 - 11 Defiance
 - 13 Still breathing
 - 14 "— of Two Cities"
 - 15 Error
 - 16 Rank in the U.S.N.
 - 18 "— Misérables"
 - 19 Best Supporting Actress of 1979
 - 22 Battery designation
 - 23 Opposed to
 - 24 Secretary of State Powell
 - 27 Precipitous
 - 28 Track shape
 - 29 Catch sight of
 - 30 Best Supporting Actress of 1980
 - 35 Historic time
 - 36 By this time
 - 37 Dr.'s org.
 - 38 Circus employee
 - 40 Afterward
- DOWN**
- 1 Twitch
 - 2 Shire of "Rocky"
 - 3 Cake topper
 - 4 Calif. neighbor
 - 5 Like some urns
 - 6 Lack of order
 - 7 Scorching
 - 8 Queued up
 - 9 "Gigi" author
 - 12 Send anew
 - 17 Pod veggie
 - 20 In a merry manner
 - 21 Alma — order
 - 24 Astronomical sightings
 - 25 General
 - 26 Wyoming city
 - 27 Home-steader
 - 29 Compass pt.
 - 31 Harps' relatives
 - 32 Consumed
 - 33 Fix copy
 - 34 Bash
 - 39 Writer Umberto
 - 41 Actress Gardner

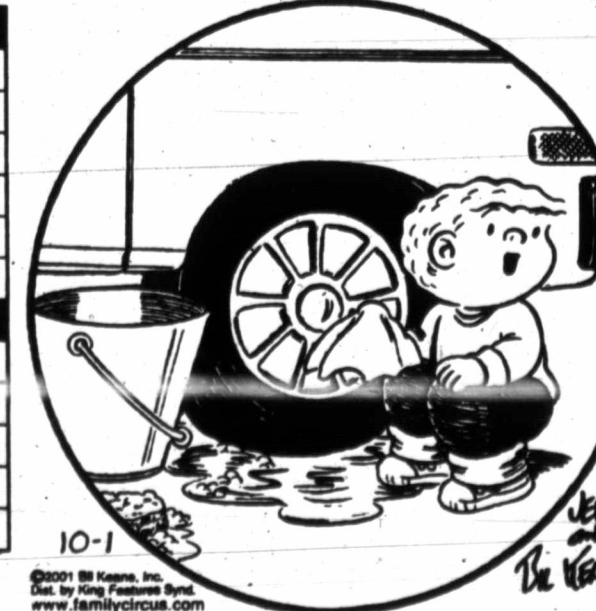
BACK BRED
BARON LEDON
ANISE AMINO
CASTERS SAT
ONE POTHOLE
NASSAU ENDS
EDGAR
CHIN HABITS
LORDJIM NOT
AGO AT ISSUE
CANON LOIRE
KNIFE NADER
SCAT EKED

Saturday's answer

- 12 Send anew
- 17 Pod veggie
- 20 In a merry manner
- 21 Alma — order
- 24 Astronomical sightings
- 25 General
- 26 Wyoming city
- 27 Home-steader
- 29 Compass pt.
- 31 Harps' relatives
- 32 Consumed
- 33 Fix copy
- 34 Bash
- 39 Writer Umberto
- 41 Actress Gardner



The Family Circus



STUMPED?

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For Better or For Worse



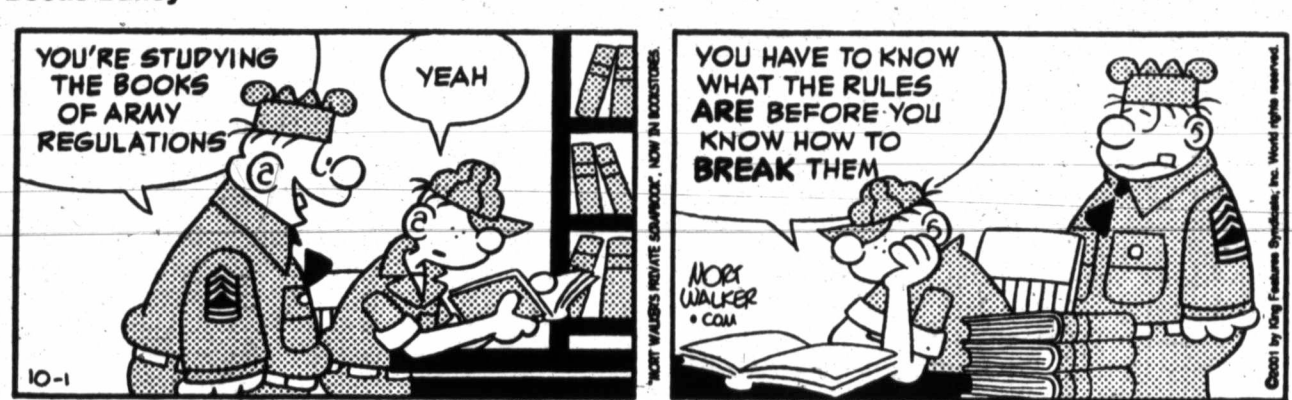
Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore

