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THE Pampa NEWS

MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2003

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WEATHER WEATHER

HIGH **81** LOW **43**

LOCAL

Police investigating report of park brawl

Pampa Police officers responded to Prairie village Park shortly before 6 p.m. Sunday in reference to an alleged aggravated assault. Officers identified Frederick Demond Gray, 24, 809 S. Gray, as a victim of an assault. He was transported by Rural Metro Ambulance to Pampa Regional Medical Center for a possible head injury as well as abrasions and cuts. PPD reported there were approximately 15 to 20 persons in the area of the alleged crime. However, the report stated that no one remembered seeing anything nor were any suspects identified.

DEATHS

- Georgia Ann Biggers, 91, clerk nursery attendant.
- Hallie Mae Bullard, 92, homemaker.
- Argues Elmo Poole, 82, Purple Heart recipient.
- Helen Frances Brown Swaney, 84, homemaker.
- Clarence C. Teague Jr., 77, engineer.

INSIDE...

- Classified7
- Comics4
- Sports5

WEST TEXAS LANDSCAPE

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U.S. troops meet setbacks

By MEG RICHARDS
 ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Coalition troops pressed toward Baghdad with new wariness on Monday, as militiamen loyal to Saddam Hussein proved they were not a beaten force and sandstorms snarled the advance. Iraq claimed to have shot down two U.S. helicopters and taken pilots prisoner, a day after more than 20 Americans were killed or captured. Facing a pattern of deadly ambushes and ruses, and with many of Saddam's supporters discarding their uniforms in favor of civilian clothes, coalition forces responded with tough new tactics in the south. U.S. officials also confirmed their forces have arrived in northern Iraq, and have been operating there for about 24 hours. Coalition warplanes bombed a military barracks near the Kurdish-

Saddam urges Iraqis to fight

held town of Chamchamal, not far from the Iraqi oil center of Kirkuk. Saddam sought to rally his people Monday with a televised speech. Speaking on Iraqi TV before a white backdrop, he appeared relaxed and healthy. He assured Iraqis "victory will be ours soon," and mentioned the defiant resistance of Iraqi forces in Umm Qasr, which U.S. and British forces have struggled to hold since Saturday. The reference seemed designed to allay any suspicion that the address had been taped earlier, or that Saddam had been wounded or killed last week. The language was general enough that U.S. and British officials were not

convinced. A senior U.S. official speaking on condition of anonymity said U.S. intelligence had determined that Saddam's speech was recorded but that it was unclear when it was taped. Iraqi TV later showed images of what appeared to be a downed U.S. Apache attack helicopter sitting largely undamaged in a grassy field. Information Minister Mohammed Saeed al-Sahhaf claimed peasants had shot down two Apaches and that pilots were in custody. U.S. Gen. Tommy Franks confirmed that one helicopter and two pilots were missing in action but he rejected the idea that farmers had brought down the copter.

Speaking at a briefing in Qatar, he said Saddam's command and control network was still working but was damaged. Franks said that U.S.-led coalition forces were making "rapid and in some cases dramatic" progress in Iraq but also have met sporadic resistance. In Baghdad, security and police officers dug more trenches around military offices in the heart of the Iraqi capital, as smoke from fires set to conceal targets from bombing hung over the city Monday. Daytime traffic was heavy in some areas, youngsters played soccer on side streets and Iraqis walked the city despite the tension from days of bombing by coalition forces. Fifty miles to the south, a brutal sandstorm with howling winds stalled U.S. troops near Karbala, a city holy to Iraq's majority Shiite Muslims. As the

(See WAR, Page 3)

HOME of the BRAVE

SPC Ira W. Potter

U.S. Army B Btry TF 3-43
 Launcher Platoon
 Patriot Missile Specialist
 Years in service: U.S. Army - 1 year; U.S. Navy - 4 years
 Stationed: Fort Bliss, Texas
 Deployed: Iraq
 Graduate: Pampa High School 1994
 Family: Parents Wayne and Joyce Potter and sister Josette Ponce, all of Pampa

Boards top topic for city meeting

By DAVID BOWSER
 Staff Writer

Boards and commissions will be the focus of the Pampa City Commission Tuesday evening. When the commission meets at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the city commission chambers at city hall, they will hear the second and final reading of an ordinance eliminating the Traffic Commission. They will also hear first reading of an ordinance eliminating the M.K. Brown Auditorium

Advisory Board. The commission is also scheduled to consider appointments to the Cable Advisory Board, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, the Hidden Hills Golf Advisory Board and the Lovett Memorial Library Board. They will go into executive session to discuss personnel issues related to appointments to the Board of Adjustment and Planning and Zoning Commission.

(See CITY, Page 3)

School board sets meeting

Pampa school board members are to meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 25, at Carver Center, 321 W. Albert. Among the agenda items slated for action are renewals and non-renewals of teacher, professional and administrator contracts. Board members also plan to receive athletic bids for Fall 2004. At Tuesday's meeting, the board plans to consider sale of delinquent tax property, revision of a local policy on student activities and graduation, the 2003-2004 school calendar, renewing an application for the "Parenting Education for School Age Parents" at Pampa Learning Center, and February financial reports. Reports scheduled to be heard include TASB Policy Update 69, quarterly financial reports, board training credit hours, special education - maintenance of effort, a legislative update, athletic report, architectural report on the proposed softball field, third grade TAKS results and Student Success Initiative.

Robinson wants to give back

Editor's Note: This is another in a series of interviews of candidates for offices to be decided in the May 3 local elections.

By DAVID BOWSER
 STAFF WRITER

Edward Robinson says he wants to give something back to Pampa. Born in Locust Grove, Okla., Robinson moved to Pampa twenty-two and a half years ago, he said. "Everything I have, I owe to Pampa," Robinson said. "I have a lot of pride in Pampa. That's the reason I'm running for commissioner. I think we need to have a little change up there so we might get some new ideas to help Pampa progress. Robinson is running for the Pampa City Commission, Ward 3 seat. Bob Dixon is the incumbent. "One thing I'm interested in is our youth, keeping them here after graduation," Robinson said. "I know it's going to take a lot of new industry to do that, and it's going to take something that is not a minimum wage job thing, I want Pampa to grow." Robinson, probably best known around town as "Hamburger Ed," owns Hamburger Station on U.S. Highway 60 on the west side of Pampa. He's had the gas station-turned-cafe for 20 years.



Ed Robinson

"I have American Indian heritage," Robinson said. "Both my grandmothers were Cherokee." Despite his Oklahoma origins, Robinson said that Pampa is home. "It's not my hometown," he said, "but it's home, my real home. I like to see where I've been and where I'm going." Robinson's father was a construction worker and traveled to where the work was. In the 1950s and 1960s, it was in California. Robinson graduated from high school

in 1960 in San Francisco. "I moved back to Oklahoma in the late sixties," Robinson said. There, he began training race horses. "I had too much Indian in me," he laughed. "I had to have horses." Horses are his passion. "I've had some minor luck," he said with a shrug. "Nothing great." Robinson is excited about a racetrack being built west of Amarillo. He left the Sooner State in 1979, to move to Pampa, although the move was quite by accident. "We stopped in Pampa to visit some friends," he said. "We're still here." In the interim, however, the city has lost population, and that worries Robinson. "The last 10 or 15 years," Robinson said, "Pampa has dwindled." He said he thinks there is still a chance that something could come to town and improve Pampa. More importantly, he said he thinks something can be done to help existing manufacturers expand. "There's lots of industry out here on Price Road," Robinson said. "That's what the EDC should have done." Robinson also wants to clean up an increasing number of old houses that dot

(See ROBINSON, Page 3)



74th Annual Pampa Chamber of Commerce Banquet and Citizen of the Year Award

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

WAR

7th Infantry Regiment pressed north, Iraqi militiamen shot mortars at a supply convoy of Humvees and cargo trucks. There were no casualties. Commanders requested air support, but the Iraqis were able to flee easily in small, civilian trucks.

Armed members of Saddam's Fedayeen, the Baath Party paramilitary organization, have increasingly been attacking coalition supply lines in this way.

Franks said U.S. forces had "intentionally bypassed enemy formations," but that the Fedayeen had been harassing the U.S. rear in southern Iraq.

With tension about such attacks mounting, Marines operating in the south took a tough approach with Iraqis they encountered Monday, forcing men from vehicles, questioning them and then slashing their tires to make sure they wouldn't harass other convoys.

A British soldier was killed in combat near Az Zubayr in southern Iraq on Monday, the first British combat death since the war began, the British Ministry of Defense said. Two other British troops were reported missing Sunday after their convoy was attacked in southern Iraq.

Iraqi television footage carried by the Arab satellite station Al-Jazeera on Sunday, five captured U.S. soldiers appeared frightened but resolute as they answered questions.

Coalition officials said their forces were exchanging fire Monday with Iraqis on the outskirts of Basra, Iraq's main southern city, where the allies earlier captured an airport and a key bridge. Commanders held off storming the city, hoping its Iraqi defenders would give up, but they have held firm.

A U.S. official noted that the British have been under some fairly heavy fire recently outside the city.

In another signal that the situation remained fluid, the coalition canceled press tours of the strategic southern port of Umm Qasr and the Rumeila oil fields, which Iraqi forces set ablaze early in the ground war. Fighting in that area was fierce enough to drive civilian firefighters away.

In his address, Saddam praised his supporters for their resistance.

In one incident Sunday near An Nasiriyah, a crossing point over the Euphrates River, a group of Iraqis waved a white flag in surrender, then opened up with artillery fire. Another group appeared to welcome coalition troops, then attacked them, U.S. officials said.

Nine Marines died and a dozen U.S. soldiers were missing and presumed captured after the surprise engagements. Two British soldiers were missing after a convoy of vehicles they were traveling in was attacked in southern Iraq. Additionally, two Marines were killed in accidents, military officials said Monday.

In Iraqi television footage carried by the Arab satellite station Al-Jazeera on Sunday, five captured U.S. soldiers appeared frightened but resolute as they answered questions. The footage also showed what it said were four American dead in an Iraqi morgue.

Iraqi officials have offered repeated assurances that the prisoners would be treated according to the Geneva Conventions.

The U.S. military says it has more than 2,000 Iraqi prisoners of war; British officials said they had processed almost 1,000 by Monday. The International Committee of the Red Cross said Monday that it had not been granted access to prisoners held by either side.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

ROBINSON

the landscape.

"It would improve the looks of the town," he said.

He also wants to pave the remaining dirt streets in town.

Robinson and his wife Christy, a Kansas native who graduated from Pampa High School, have 10 grandchildren.

"And two on the way," he added, beaming. The grandchildren, he said, are scattered between California, Colorado and Texas, but they have made him more aware of the need for a good place to raise children.

"We need to make Pampa a nice clean town where you can raise children," he said. "Not a retirement community."

For a town to grow and prosper, he said, it has to turn to a new generation.

"Progressive cities are based on youth," Robinson said.

He said he wants to see the community's youth come back to Pampa to stay and raise their own children. He said he had hoped that Clarendon College's Pampa campus would have been more successful.

"We have a lot to offer families in the community," Robinson said. "We can do good

things here. We have an adequate amount of churches."

Robinson said he became interested in local politics about five years ago, but it wasn't until last year that he ran for office. He ran for Gray County Commissioner, precinct 4, against James Hefley.

"I lost by 23 votes," he said with a shrug, "but I ran against an eight-year incumbent."

With regard to Pampa, Robinson said he sees many things that could be improved.

Among those things is being more inclusive in the community.

"One thing I think we need to do is include Hispanics in our decision-making process," Robinson said. "They're about 20 percent of our population now. There are a lot of good Hispanic businessmen here. They need to be included in everything this town does."

There are parts of Pampa that look good, Robinson said, but that needs to be extended to other parts of the city.

"If the rest of the city looked as good as Cuyler (Street), it would be a lot more attractive," Robinson said.

Robinson said Pampa needs someone to represent the city to potential businesses, something he doesn't think the Chamber of Commerce is doing.

— CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

CITY

The commission will also consider the second and final reading of an ordinance providing for a fee for the Municipal Court Building Fund and the first reading of an ordinance increasing the fee at the city landfill.

In other business, the commission will consider declar-

ing various property at the Wastewater Treatment Plant as surplus and consider acceptance of the 2002 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, an audit of the city's finances for 2001-2002.

The commission will also present a Certificate of Appreciation to Tess Kingcaid with regard to an article she

wrote in the Little Harvester, the Pampa High newspaper.

During their work session at 5 p.m. Tuesday in the main floor conference room at city hall, the commissioners will review a proposal from the PEDC to turn over the U.S. Bus Building at 822 E. Foster to the city.

POW mom begs Bush to please help her son

ALAMOGORDO, N.M. (AP) — The mother of a New Mexico soldier taken prisoner in Iraq begged President Bush: "Please do something for my son."

Anecita Hudson, 53, said she screamed and wept when she saw her son, Army Spc. Joseph Hudson, 23, interviewed on Iraqi television as a POW Sunday. She saw her son, stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas, interviewed in an Iraqi video that was carried on Filipino television.

"I saw my son and I said, 'Oh, my God.' I looked at him, and he looked so scared. I started crying," said his Filipino-born mother, clutching a red-beaded rosary at the home of a friend.

Given the chance to say something to President Bush if she met him, she said she would ask Bush to do what he can to help her son.

"I don't want him to get cold, and I don't want him to get hungry. I just want him to come home alive," she said in an interview with The Associated Press.

"It's like a bad dream, seeing your son get captured on TV," she said.

Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., said Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld told him to "assure the family, including Mrs. Hudson, that we are doing everything possible to assure his safety and speedy return. He complimented the young military people, including Joseph, as being well-trained, extremely patriotic and great volunteers."

The half brother of a Kansas soldier said 23-year-old Pfc. Patrick Miller was also one of the prisoners of war seen Sunday answering questions on Iraqi television.

The soldier's half brother, Thomas Hershberger, 27, said his mother lives in New Mexico and spoke to Miller's wife Sunday. She had received confirmation from the military that

Miller was being held by the Iraqis, he said.

"She is not doing the best right now," he said of his mother. "I haven't had a conversation with her without her crying."

Hudson's mother said her son's wife, Natalie Hudson, was briefed at Fort Bliss Army base on Sunday and was told not to say anything about her husband's situation. The couple has a 5-year-old daughter, Cameron.

"I'm just praying that the other people (in the military) will get him out of there," Mrs. Hudson said.

Back in Alamogordo, the family has received what Mrs. Hudson described as overwhelming support, people bringing her coffee or glasses of water and watching over her.

She said her son likes fishing, bowling, card games. And she said he went into the Army to secure a good future, not to fight. He is a mechanic who specializes in fixing trucks, his mother said.

His brother, Anthony Hudson, 18, said he heard about his brother as he got out of the shower Sunday.

"I'm going out of my mind. I don't care about myself. Send me over there. I'll get him back," his brother said. "I promise that."

Mrs. Hudson said her son identified himself on Iraqi television but gave no other information. She said he seemed uninjured, in contrast with some others in the video.

U.S. military officials did not immediately release identities of any of the soldiers, who Iraqi television reported were captured or killed in an ambush near Nasiriyah, a major crossing point over the Euphrates northwest of Basra.

Jean Offutt, a U.S. Army spokeswoman at Fort Bliss, confirmed that some of the prisoners had been stationed at her base.

Sergeant detained in Kuwait attack on 101st Airborne had been accused of insubordination

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. (AP) — When Sgt. Asan Akbar was taken into custody on suspicion of killing a fellow serviceman with a grenade, an Army spokesman said he may have acted out of resentment. Where such bitterness may have come from remains a mystery.

The deadly attack at a 101st Airborne Division brigade command center in Kuwait also wounded 15 other soldiers Sunday, three seriously.

Akbar had reportedly told his mother he feared persecution because he is a Muslim and had been reprimanded recently for insubordination.

The woman who said she is Akbar's mother, Quran Bilal, told The Tennessean of Nashville that she was concerned her son might have been accused because he is a Muslim. She said he was not allowed to participate in the first Gulf War because of his religion.

"He said, 'Mama, when I get over there I have the feeling they are going to arrest me just because of the name that I have carried,'" Bilal, of Baton Rouge, La., told the newspaper for a story published in Monday's editions.

Akbar, of the 101st's 326th Engineer Battalion, was in

custody, said George Heath, a civilian spokesman at Fort Campbell. Heath said Akbar had not yet been charged with a crime Monday but was the only person being questioned in the attack.

Heath said Akbar should eventually come back to Fort Campbell, though military officials could convene a court-martial in Kuwait. He said he was not sure what kind of penalty Akbar could face.

Jim Lacey, a correspondent for Time magazine, told CNN that military criminal investigators said Akbar was recently reprimanded for insubordination and was told he would not join his unit's push into Iraq.

Heath also said Akbar had been having "an attitude problem."

The motive of the attack "most likely was resentment," said Max Blumenfeld, another Army spokesman.

The Los Angeles Times reported in Monday's editions that soldiers said they overheard Akbar declare: "You guys are coming into our countries and you're going to rape our women and kill our children."

A neighbor in Akbar's

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THE Pampa NEWS COMICS

MONDAY • MARCH 24, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Gay Man Outraged By Neighbor Who Brags About Sex With Boy

DEAR ABBY: I am a 32-year-old gay man who lives with my partner in a large condominium complex. Another gay man, "Nigel," lives down the hall. We do not socialize. Nigel is in his late 40s, and I have a strong aversion to him because he informs anyone who'll listen about his sexual escapades.

I recently ran into Nigel in the elevator, and he started boasting about a fling he's having with a 16-year-old boy who lives two floors below. As we stepped into the lobby, Nigel waved to the boy's mother, then laughingly told me under his breath that she regards him as just "a neighbor friend who kindly drives her son to school."

Abby, please urge your readers to get to know who their children are spending time with. They should make it a point to meet all their children's friends in person, and never permit their kids to go out with "friends" they haven't met.

Is there anything I can do about Nigel and that boy? Should I call the authorities? I feel this monster is taking advantage of a minor and should be stopped.

NO NAME, CITY OR STATE

DEAR NO NAME, CITY OR STATE: What Nigel is doing is child abuse. Tell the boy's mother what Nigel told you. She needs to know what's going on. It's up to her to report it to the police.

DEAR ABBY: Recently, while "under the influence" at a party, "Ray," a friend of my boyfriend, "Pete," tried to kiss me. I avoided

Ray for the rest of the evening and have not told anyone about the incident. The trouble is, my boyfriend has told me more than once that if he ever found out any of his friends had made a move on me, he'd hurt him badly.

I don't know if I should tell Pete what happened and try to explain that Ray was drunk and didn't know what he was doing. I don't think Ray would ever try anything like that while sober, so I'm tempted to keep quiet — so no one gets hurt. However, I have never kept a secret from my boyfriend before, and I'm worried that if he finds out, he might think I kissed Ray back. What do you think I should do, Abby?

NOT A PARTY GIRL
IN ONTARIO, CANADA

DEAR NOT A PARTY GIRL: Don't tell him. I am concerned because it appears that your boyfriend has a violent and/or intimidating streak. You should be able to confide in him without feeling threatened.

I urge you to rethink your relationship with both of these young men, and the kind of parties you are attending.

DEAR ABBY: Just before Christmas, I found evidence on our computer that my husband was cheating. New proof continues to appear, though less frequently.

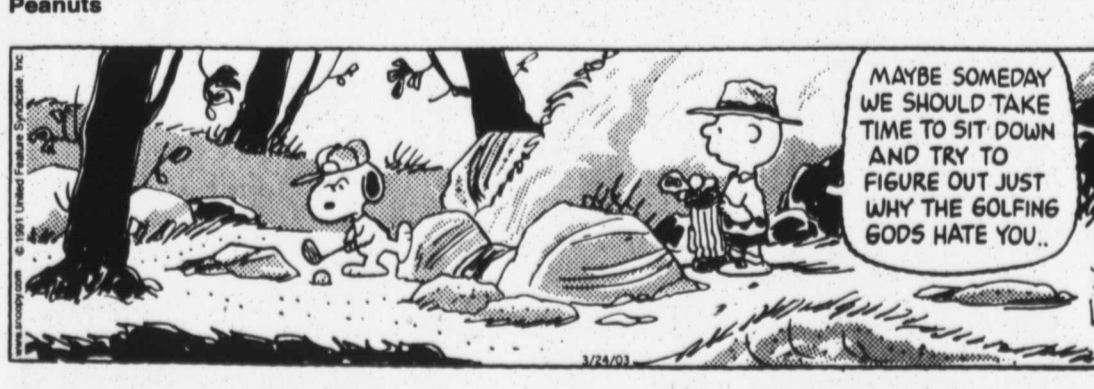
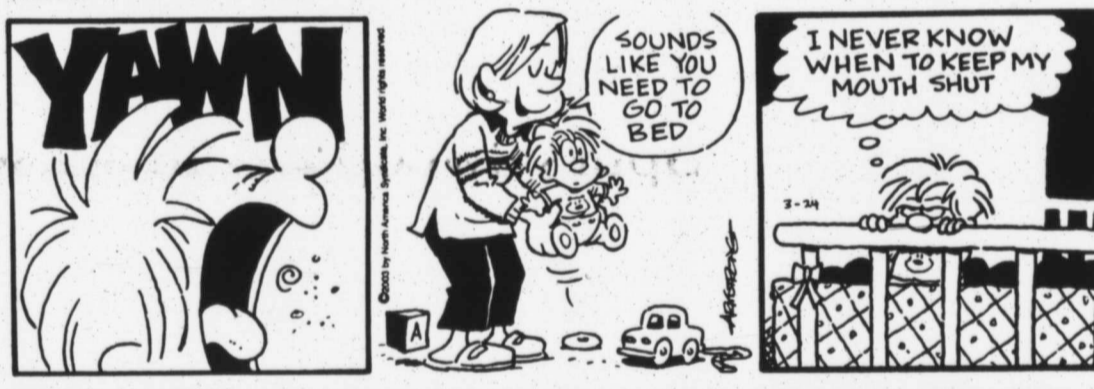
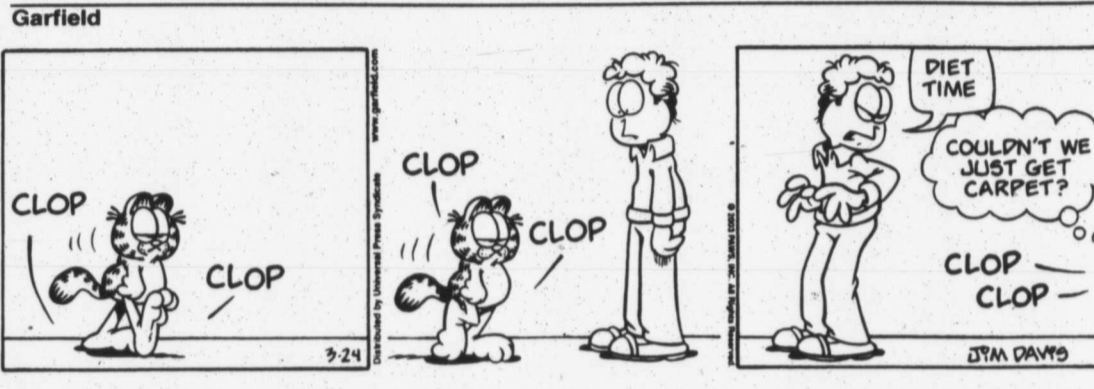
I am financially dependent on my spouse, physically unable to work, and my elderly mother lives with us. She is completely dependent on me for her care. Financially, I cannot afford to leave or ask my husband to

leave. I'm afraid to let on that I know about his infidelity, but don't know how much longer I can keep silent. The hurt and anger are eating me alive. What should I do?

HUMILIATED
IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS

DEAR HUMILIATED: The stress of caring for your mother may have affected both you and your husband. If you continue to suffer in silence, it's only a matter of time until you explode — which would be counterproductive. Tell your husband calmly that you know what's been going on. Explain that you would like the both of you to get marriage counseling to heal the breach that has developed in your relationship. Marriages can be saved after an infidelity if both parties are willing to work on it.

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



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

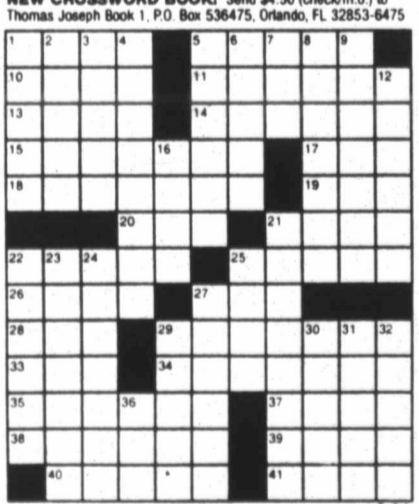
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
 1 Automotive buy
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 19 Holders of power
 20 Writer Tan
 21 "... and — bed"
 22 Indian social class
 25 Mortise partner
 26 Make printing plates
 27 Memory unit
 28 Saloon quaff
 29 Kid transports
 33 Ninny
 34 As a lark
 35 Put in a mausoleum
 37 Gobi setting
 38 Sailor's protector
 39 Looting spree
- DOWN**
 1 Leg bone
 2 Defeatist's words
 3 Comical tribute
 4 Put away, as a dagger
 5 Rigid
 6 Colors of the goal
 8 Ardent
 9 Met by chance
 12 Actor Liam
 16 "Don't Tread —"
 21 Distinquish
 22 Stops of the Braves
 24 Royal prop
 25 Nervous card info signs
 27 Sweet treat
 29 Greedy demand
 30 Patriotic riveter
 31 Singing groups
 32 Baseball
 36 Ancient



Saturday's answer

- 16 "Don't Tread —"
 21 Distinquish
 22 Stops of the Braves
 24 Royal prop
 25 Nervous card info signs
 27 Sweet treat
 29 Greedy demand
 30 Patriotic riveter
 31 Singing groups
 32 Baseball
 36 Ancient



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 Plus Bikes
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Wal-Mart donations



(Pampa News photo)

Wal-Mart Assistant Manager Tammy George, right, recently presented John W. Warner, of Pampa Optimist Club, with a donation check in the amount of \$500 from



(Pampa News photo)

Wal-Mart Assistant Manager Tammy George, right, recently presented Barbara Bode, of Alanreed Community Association, with a donation check in the amount of \$1,000 from Wal-Mart.

Iraqi television airs footage of capture American troops

DOHA, Qatar (AP) — One captured American, speaking in a shaky voice, said he had nothing against Iraqis. "They don't bother me, I don't bother them," he said.

A woman soldier with a bandaged ankle held her arms tightly in her lap, her eyes darting back and forth.

Another soldier, lying wounded on a mat, swayed slightly when Iraqis tried to prop him up for the camera.

All five U.S. captives appeared terrified as they were thrust in front of an Iraqi TV microphone Sunday and peppered with questions. The footage also showed at least four bodies.

U.S. officials confirmed that 12 soldiers were missing after Iraqi forces ambushed an army supply convoy around An Nasiriyah, a major crossing point over the Euphrates northwest of Basra. Relatives in New Mexico and Kansas identified two of the soldiers.

Scenes of interrogators questioning four men and a woman were broadcast by the Arab satellite station Al-Jazeera with footage from state-controlled Iraqi television. Each was interviewed individually.

A senior defense official said the Pentagon did not know precisely how many captives there might be and would not

identify the unit. Some of the prisoners are from Fort Bliss, Texas, said Jean Offutt, a U.S. Army spokeswoman at the base.

Several families of the soldiers gathered at the base Sunday evening. "The mood, of course, is very tragic," she said.

The 507th Maintenance, part of the 111th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, is stationed at Fort Bliss, and at least two of the interviewed prisoners said they were with the 507th.

President Bush, returning to the White House from Camp David, demanded that the POWs be treated well.

"We expect them to be

treated humanely, just like we'll treat any prisoners of theirs that we capture humanely. If not, the people who mistreat the prisoners will be treated as war criminals," he said.

International Committee of the Red Cross spokeswoman Nada Doumani said the showing of the prisoners on TV violates Article 13 of the Geneva Conventions, which says prisoners should be protected from public curiosity. But she stressed that the priority at the moment is to get access to them.

Relatives in Alamogordo, N.M., who saw footage of the prisoners on a Filipino station, identified one of the prisoners as Army Spc. Joseph Hudson, 23. Another prisoner was identified by his family as Pfc. Patrick Miller of Park City, Kan., the father of two young children.

Each prisoner shown on television spoke American-accented English. All looked terrified.

The woman's eyes darted back and forth and her voice was very shaky. She said she was 30 years old, from Texas, and part of the 507th Maintenance. She had a big white bandage around her ankle.

Another prisoner, who said he was from El Paso, Texas, stared directly at the camera and spoke in a clear voice. He often shook his head and cupped his ear slightly to indicate that he couldn't hear a question. He said: "I follow orders."

A 31-year-old sergeant from New Jersey sat bolt upright in a chair. His hands in his lap, he answered questions in a clipped fashion and said he was with the 507th.

The narrator provided an Arabic translation, but it was

possible to hear some of the comments in English.

The captive identified as Miller answered in a shaky voice, his eyes darting back and forth between the interviewer and another person who couldn't be seen on camera.

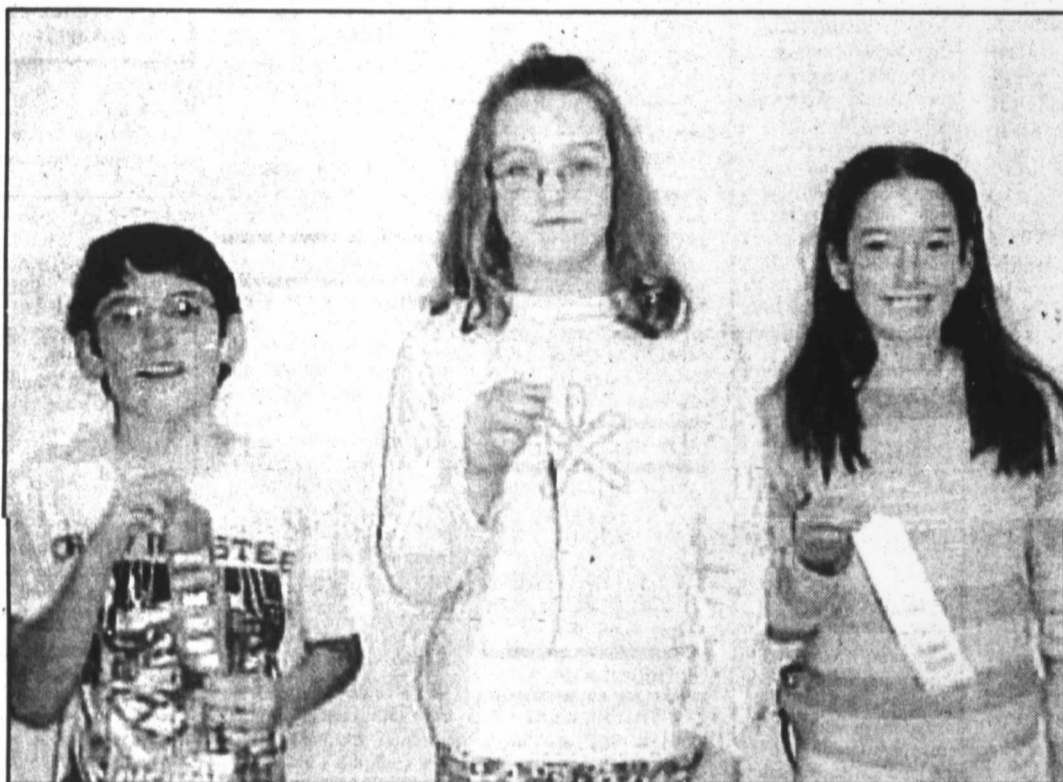
Asked why he came to Iraq, he replied, "I come to fix broke stuff."

Prodded again by the interviewer, he was asked if he came to shoot Iraqis.

"No, I come to shoot only if I am shot at," he said. "They (Iraqis) don't bother me, I don't bother them."

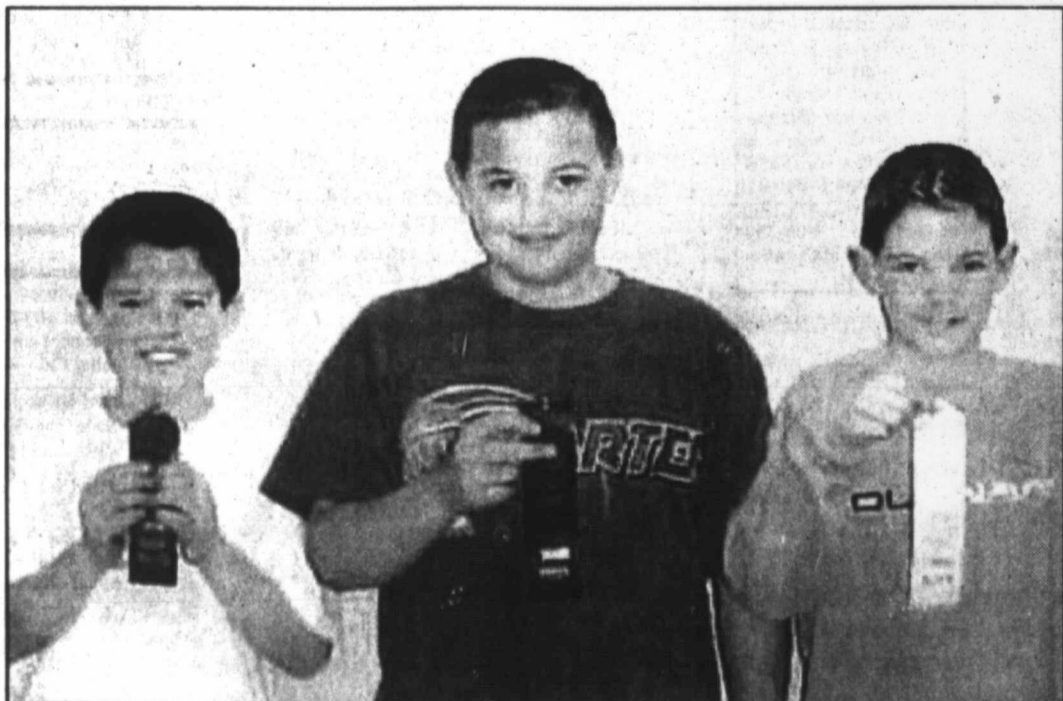
Another prisoner, who also said he was from Texas, was lying on an elaborate maroon mat. One of his arms appeared to be wounded and folded across his chest.

Travis Science Fair winners



(Courtesy photo)

Travis Elementary School recently posted its science fair winners in the various age divisions and categories. Above: Dale Montgomery was a first place winner, Kayla Hughes, a second place winner, and Taryn Eubank, a third place winner, all of Mrs. Watson's class.



(Courtesy photo)

Travis Elementary School recently posted its science fair winners in the various age divisions and categories. Above: Zach Robles was a first place winner, Bradley Miranda, a second place winner, and Landon Long, a third place winner, all of Mrs. Babcock's class.

Gunmen open fire on village

NADIMARG, India (AP) — Suspected Islamic militants dressed in Indian army uniforms shot and killed 24 Hindus in a remote village in Kashmir early Monday, police said.

A group of about eight to 10 armed men dragged villagers out of their homes in Nadimarg in the disputed Himalayan province and shot them at close range, police and witnesses said. The dead included two children.

The victims, upper-caste Hindus known as Kashmiri Pandits, were lined up and shot outside a temple. Others in the village managed to escape, said police officer M.A. Anjum.

Police said they believed the gunmen were Islamic militants, who have been fighting for Kashmir's independence from India since 1989. There was no immediate comment from rebel groups.

"Around midnight a group of men in army uniform banged on our doors and dragged us outside," said Ramesh Kumar, a village resident who escaped.

The massacre, in the village 30 miles south of the summer capital of Srinagar, could increase tensions between India and Pakistan. The nations came to the brink of war after the Indian government blamed Pakistan for similar attacks a year ago.



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