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County approves contract, employee

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

A lease-purchase contract with Pitney Bowes to replace the county's current postage machine was approved by Gray County commissioners at their 9 a.m. meeting today in the county courthouse.

Cost of the contract is \$715 per month for 60 months, at the end of which time the county will own the machine, said Gaye Whitehead,

county tax assessor-collector.

All county offices will be able to use the new machine, she said at the meeting.

The current machine is owned by the county, but \$392 is being paid monthly for a service and maintenance contract and related items, Whitehead said. The machine was first leased by the county in September 1998.

There are no parts available for the current machine, and the meter is

out of compliance concerning security features, Whitehead said.

Whitehead's office has the funds to pay the new contract through the end of this fiscal year, she said, but the contract would have to be included in the 2005-2006 fiscal year's

budget.

Commissioners also approved hiring a replacement employee for Precinct 3 Commissioner Gerald Wright. Wright's precinct currently

See MEETING, Page 2

National bench Chief Justice says he's going to stay

WASHINGTON (AP) — Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist's pledge to continue working while battling thyroid cancer leaves the White House with just one Supreme Court seat to fill, suddenly changing the dynamic of the summer confirmation battle.

The prospects of a double high court vacancy had much of Washington in a frenzy. Justice Sandra Day O'Connor announced earlier this month that she was stepping down, and the retirement of 80-year-old Rehnquist was thought to be next.

"I want to put to rest the speculation and unfounded rumors of my imminent retirement," Rehnquist said in a statement first disclosed by The Associated Press late Thursday and later confirmed by the court.

Rehnquist said he would "continue to perform my duties as chief justice as long as my health permits." He was back at work Friday morning, less than 24 hours after being released from the hospital where he was treated this week for a fever.

Rehnquist signaled that he is effectively fighting cancer and his health is strong enough to allow him to preside over the high court for the foreseeable future.

Richard Garnett, a Notre Dame law professor and former Rehnquist law clerk, said "the chief justice's decision liberates the president."

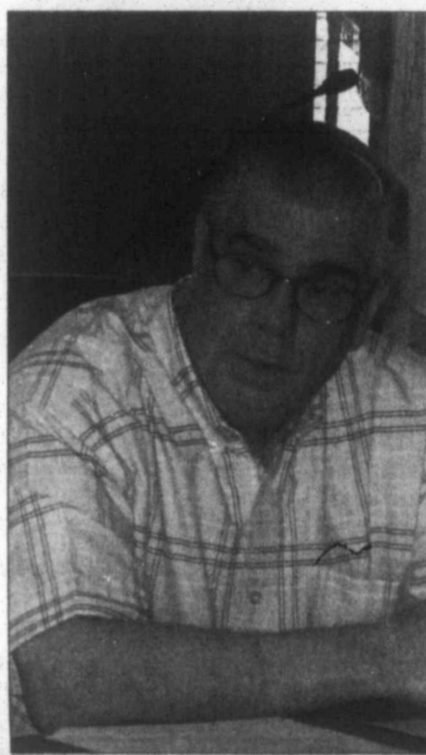
"The question mark that was hanging over the process is now gone," Garnett said. "President Bush has fewer impediments in doing what he has said all along he was going to do — nominate a conservative justice in the mold of Justice (Antonin) Scalia."

But Supreme Court historian David Garrow said Bush "has to do something other than a white male appellate judge: whether it is a woman, whether it's Hispanic, whether it's someone outside the judicial box."

Rehnquist has been battling thyroid cancer, and medical experts initially had speculated that he probably had the deadly anaplastic form of the disease, based on the chemotherapy-radiation treatment he began receiving in October. But now that seems less likely.

"The prognosis for that is so poor. Most patients succumb very quickly, within three to six months," said Dr. Mark Urken, a cancer expert at Beth Israel Hospital in New York.

Far right: Gray County Tax Assessor-Collector Gaye Whitehead addressed county commissioners this morning. Near right: Commissioner Gerald Wright received approval this morning to replace an employee who had resigned from his precinct.



Pampa News photos by MARILYN POWERS

Bush working to bolster up lagging support for CAFTA

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush's tour of a North Carolina textile mill takes him to the kind of business that critics say would be damaged by his free trade pact with Central America.

Ahead of that visit Friday, Bush met at the White House with President Antonio Saca of El Salvador, one of the countries that is a party to the trade agreement. The two leaders sat alongside each other in the Oval Office during a brief picture-taking session.

The Central American Free Trade Agreement passed the Senate on a 54-45 vote two weeks ago. It could come up as early as next week in the House, where its fate is less certain. It faces near-solid Democratic opposition and only lukewarm GOP support.

Bush was scheduled to tour the Helms plant of R.L. Stowe Mills in Belmont, in the

only one of North Carolina's 13-member House delegation to publicly endorse the measure.

The trade agreement, signed by the United States a year ago, would end or sharply lower trade barriers with the five Central American countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

The trade agreement, signed by the United States a year ago, would end or sharply lower trade barriers with the five Central American countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. It would also apply to the Dominican Republic, a Caribbean nation.

The measure "is important to supporting emerging democracies — in Central America," said White House spokesman Scott McClellan.

It would also help stabilize trade between the United States and the region, McClellan said. "Right now,

Piedmont region of central North Carolina, and then give a speech at nearby Gaston College.

See TRADE, Page 2

NASA: Engineers scrambling to understand fuel gauge failure

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Hundreds of engineers scrambled Friday to figure out why a fuel gauge on space shuttle Discovery failed just before its scheduled liftoff, as hope dimmed for a weekend launch.

At the launch pad, the propellant needed to power shuttle equip-

ment in orbit was drained from Discovery. But NASA held off on other delay-related work and kept the countdown clocks frozen just in case it decided to make a Sunday try — an increasingly unlikely option.

Deputy shuttle program manager Wayne

Hale warned Thursday that any repairs would have to be fast and simple to get Discovery ready by Sunday.

Most likely, NASA's first mission since the 2003 Columbia disaster will require more complicated repairs and be delayed into next week or even September, depending

on the work needed. Twelve teams of engineers around the country pored through data for clues as to why one of four hydrogen-fuel gauges in Discovery's external fuel tank malfunctioned during a routine pre-launch test Wednesday. Mission managers planned to

meet Friday afternoon to discuss the best course of action and where it might lead on the calendar.

"Everybody is tremendously disappointed," said Michael Wetmore, director of space shuttle processing. "But everybody was also here 2 1/2 years ago and saw that

we failed in our mission to protect the crew. So there's no one who wants to go forward with a potential risk to the crew that hasn't been appropriately analyzed and addressed."

The seven astronauts were already on board, liftoff was little more

See NASA, Page 2

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Officials take steps to open border to Canadian cattle after decision by court

By DAVID KRAVETS
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Federal officials will move to quickly to open the border to Canadian cattle after a federal appeals court overturned a ban on the animals, despite a lower court's concerns about mad cow disease.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture said late Thursday that within days it will reopen the border to Canadian cattle, which were banned in May 2003 after a cow in Alberta was found to have mad cow disease.

"Because the ruling is effective immediately, we are immediately taking steps to resume the importation of cattle under 30 months of age," said Mike Johanns, agriculture secretary. He said the government is already working with Canadian food inspectors "to certify cattle for shipment."

The unanimous decision Thursday by a three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a Montana judge who blocked the USDA from reopening the border in March because he said it "subjects the entire U.S. beef industry to potentially catastrophic damages" and "presents a genuine risk of death for U.S. consumers."

The decision came a day after the Justice Department urged the appeals court in Seattle to reopen the border to imports.

Justice Department attorney Mark Stern said lifting the ban is based on "good science" and would not result in the "infestation in American livestock."

During the hearing, the three justices suggested that U.S. District Judge Richard F. Cebull perhaps should have given deference to the USDA's decision.

Judge A. Wallace Tashima said the law "does invest the secretary of agriculture with a certain amount of discretion." Judge Connie Callahan agreed, saying the USDA is "entitled to some deference. It's their whole job to keep up with the science to make those decisions."

The dispute has pitted ranchers — whose profits have improved slightly without Canadian competition — against feedlots and packers that have fewer cows to feed and slaughter without Canadian supplies.

"This is a tremendous victory for the northwest beef industry," said Cody Easterday, who runs an 18,000-head feedlot in Pasco, Wash. "It's basically going to protect our future for many families that depend on the beef industry for their livelihood."

American Meat Institute president J. Patrick Boyle said the ruling is also a victory for American consumers who were paying \$1.85 a pound for ground beef before the border closed and are paying about \$2.55 today.

'Because the ruling is effective immediately, we are immediately taking steps to resume the importation of cattle under 30 months of age.'

— Mike Johanns
Agriculture secretary

Vermont jury sentences man to death in first capital trial in nearly 50 years

BURLINGTON, Vt. (AP) — The daughter of a supermarket employee who was kidnapped and fatally beaten says she will be sitting in the front row when her mother's assailant is executed following Vermont's first capital trial in nearly a half century.

Donald Fell, 25, was sentenced to death Thursday by a federal jury in the November 2000 slaying of Terry King.

Fell was convicted last month of kidnapping the 53-year-old King as she arrived for work in Rutland, taking her to New York state and bludgeoning her to death during an alcohol and drug-induced stupor. The abduction came as Fell and his accomplice fled after fatally stabbing King's mother and a friend of hers.

"It's justice for my sister," Barbara Tuttle said after the verdict. "What he put her through — the car ride, the beating in the woods — he is not a normal person like us, subhuman."

Added Lori Hibbard, King's daughter: "We'll be there in the front row" for the execution.

Vermont has no death penalty, but because the killers crossed state lines,

U.S. prosecutors brought charges under a federal law that allows the death penalty for a carjacking that results in a death.

'It's justice for my sister. What he put her through — the car ride, the beating in the woods — he is not a normal person like us, subhuman.'

— Barbara Tuttle
Victim's sister

The trial had prompted protests and vigils by death-penalty opponents, and about a dozen demonstrators stood outside the courthouse Thursday while the verdict was being announced.

The last execution in Vermont was in 1954.

"Certainly, our hearts go out to the grief stricken family and friends of

his victims," the Rev. Kenneth Angell, the bishop of Vermont's Roman Catholic diocese, said in a statement. "But the cycle of violence which began with these brutal, vicious murders must not be allowed to continue."

Fell had agreed in 2001 to plead guilty in exchange for a sentence of life without parole, but that deal was rejected by then-U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft.

Fell showed no emotion as the jury's recommendation was read by the clerk. Defense lawyer Gene Primomo then stood and spoke to the jury on Fell's behalf.

"He respects your decision. He appreciates your hard work and wants to tell you and the family of his sincere remorse. He did not want to do it at any other time publicly as it would be construed to be less genuine," Primomo said.

U.S. Attorney David Kirby said the jurors' decision "expressed the conscience of the community."

"As the evidence shows, these were horrific murders," he said.

N.C. girl recovering from shark bite in Texas

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — A 14-year-old North Carolina girl was collecting discarded beer bottles in the Gulf of Mexico when she was attacked this week by a 5-foot shark, her aunt says.

Relatives said Lydia Paulk, 14, of Denver, N.C., pulled herself aboard an inflatable rubber boat and stayed calm while bleeding from a jagged wound with several shark's teeth stuck in her left foot. The shark bit the girl on the top of her foot on Wednesday at Port Bolivar, Texas, near Galveston.

Lydia was recovering at the University of Texas Medical Branch in

Galveston, where she had one operation. She was scheduled to have follow-up surgery Friday to repair severed tendons.

"She's a real trooper, a tough young lady," the girl's aunt and family spokeswoman, Kit Marshall of Aledo, Texas, said Thursday from Galveston. "I know she'll go back in the water, but she'll probably be more aware of her surroundings."

The Paulk family had gone to the Texas coast for an annual reunion that brought together 18 family members from around the country. Lydia's father, Larry Paulk, is interim pastor at Blackburn Baptist Church in Newton. Her

mother, Laura, is a social worker at South Point High School in Belmont.

On Wednesday, Lydia went wading with her aunt B.J. Goins while her cousin, Audrey, 6, stayed inside the rubber boat.

Marshall said they noticed beer bottles left over from someone's all-night party on the ocean floor and began picking up the debris. They'd carried one load to shore and gotten back in the water when Goins saw the shark attacking Lydia.

As Lydia pulled herself into the boat, Marshall said, Goins and the two girls screamed and Goins started slapping the water.

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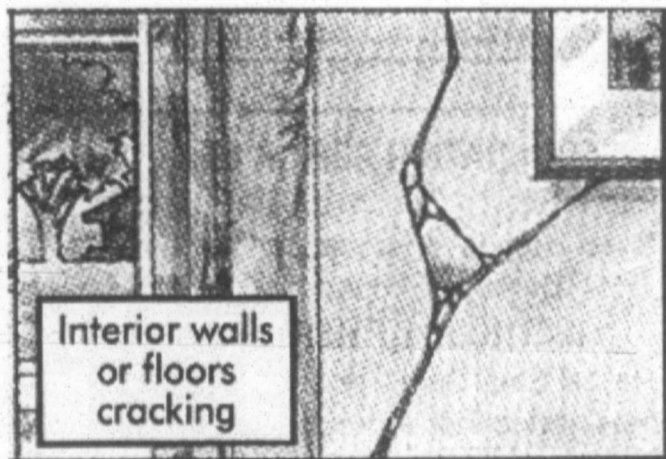


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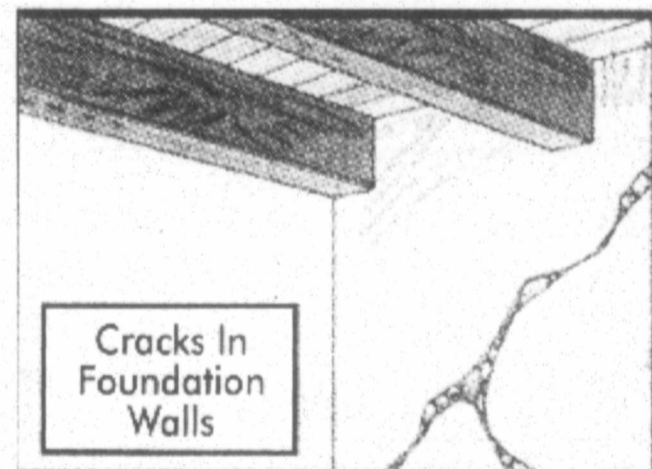


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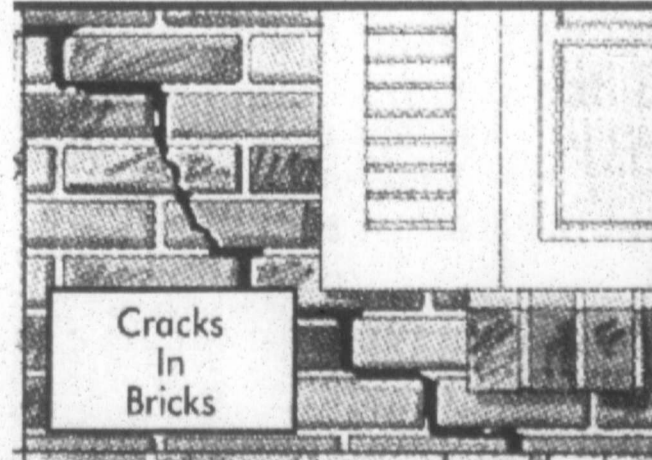
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Viewpoints

It's not about playing fair, it's about winning

The Amarillo Globe-News' headline read, "Soul-searching London Tries to Heal." The Daily Oklahoman headline read, "As Toll Mounts, Healing Begins." The two headlines were authored by the Associated Press and used by our two regional newspapers following the terrorist bombings of buses and subways in London last week.

"Soul-searching," "healing." New York City is close to finalizing the monument tower and memorial dedicated to 9/11. There are lawyers representing and defending the enemy combatants captured in Afghanistan who are

imprisoned in Guantanamo, Cuba.

Memorials, lawyers. Who, for the matter, is footing those lawyers' retainers? We Americans are forced to endure a demeaning hassle just to board and travel our friendly skies to get somewhere within our own borders. To determine the level of terroristic threat to our country, pick an alarming color.

Insulting treatment, colors. Our fighting soldiers and government are hog-tied by a meaningless document called the Geneva Convention.

I would give anything to read a newspaper headline that reads, "Terrorist

Bombers Caught and Killed, Those Captured Blown Up." Or, "Civilized Governments

React, No Trial and Instant Death for Terrorists — No Country Safe That Hides Terrorists — Geneva Convention Deemed Worthless."

We can't wait to erect a memorial for those killed on 9/11 — there are actually arguments over the design and construction of the memorials. Pathetic. The billions of dollars spent on air traffic safety and those

ridiculous colors ... We have the right and power to stop this insidious problem. Why don't we?

There are those in our government that are condemning our soldiers over the purported treatment of the enemy in combat conditions and of POWs. Kicking the Koran around? Why do we provide POWs with a Koran in the first place? I'm sure the Taliban and Al Qaida have a ready supply of Bibles for our soldiers unfortunate to

be captured. Can't read the Bible when your head is displaced from its rightful place on your body, can you? The Third Reich, Imperial Japan, and the Viet Cong-North Vietnamese should have taught the United States and our allies regarding the useless Geneva Convention. Three strikes and we're out!

I don't recall acts of kindness towards any enemy by God and the Israelites of the Old Testament — when it came to smiting. Smiting is warring for you play-fair-raised on hugs-liberals. The United States and our allies are at war with a formidable foe that knows and under-

stands nothing but brutality, hatred, and torture — even to their own kind. We had better wake up and start fighting by using the terrorists playbook — ignore the protestations of the liberal press and politicians throughout our country and the world — for they are the enemies of freedom as well. At this point in time, we're losing the war on terrorism. The only fitting memorial to those lost on 9/11, in Madrid, in Fiji, London, and our soldiers is nothing but total eradication of terrorists and the countries that harbor them.

See AFRICA, Page 5

Dennis Palmitier
Columnist



Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, July 15, the 196th day of 2005. There are 169 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 15, 1975, three American astronauts blasted off aboard an Apollo spaceship hours after two Soviet cosmonauts were launched aboard a Soyuz spacecraft for a mission that included a linkup of the two ships in orbit.

On this date:

In 1606, Dutch painter Rembrandt was born in Leiden, Netherlands.

In 1870, Georgia became the last Confederate state readmitted to the Union.

In 1916, Boeing Co., originally known as Pacific Aero Products, was founded in Seattle.

In 1948, President Truman was nominated for another term of office by the

*'Love is
indescribable and
unconditional. I
could tell you a
thousand things
that it is not, but
not one that it is.'*

— Duke Ellington
American jazz artist
(1899-1974)

Democratic national convention in Philadelphia.

In 1964, Sen. Barry M. Goldwater of Arizona was nominated for president by the Republican national convention in San Francisco.

In 1965, U.S. scientists displayed close-up photographs of the planet Mars taken by Mariner 4.

In 1971, in a surprise announcement, President Nixon said he would visit the People's Republic of China.

In 1976, a 36-hour kidnap ordeal began for 26 school-children and their bus driver as they were abducted near Chowchilla, Calif., by three gunmen and imprisoned in an underground cell. (The captives escaped unharmed.)

In 1979, President Carter delivered his "malaise" speech in which he lamented what he called a "crisis of confidence" in America.

In 1985, a gaunt-looking Rock Hudson appeared at a news conference with actress Doris Day. (It was later revealed Hudson was suffering from AIDS.)

Ten years ago: A 19-year-old sales clerk was rescued after being buried in the rubble of a collapsed shopping mall in Seoul, South Korea, for 16 days.

Five years ago: The United Nations launched a successful military operation to help 222 Indian peacekeepers and 11 military observers break out of a rebel stronghold in Sierra Leone. Lennox Lewis stopped Francois Botha at 2:39 of the second round to retain his WBC and IBF heavyweight titles in London. Former Rhode Island governor and longtime U.S. Sen. John O. Pastore died at age 93.

One year ago: President Bush signed into law a measure imposing mandatory prison terms for criminals who use identity theft in committing terrorist acts and other offenses.

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WITH HEADS.



Money can't solve all problems

President George Bush is right to balk at doubling foreign aid to Africa and to demand of the African countries that they do something about the corruption that nearly all are riddled with.

White Europeans need to get over their guilt trip and recognize that the problems facing sub-Saharan Africa are caused by the Africans themselves. In Africa you have a land rich in resources, with a surplus of labor, a largely benign climate and fertile soil. What Africa lacks are honest, competent leaders who care about their own people. If any such leaders have emerged since the colonial period, nearly all have been murdered by the thugs who ended up running most of the countries.

Nobody has shown more cruelty toward Africans than Africans. Practically every conflict they have turns into

an orgy of mutilation, rape and mass murder. I confess that I don't understand it. To an outsider, it seems like a self-evident case of uncivilized savagery. Whatever the reason, no outsider can save another person from his or her own self-destructive tendencies.

Pouring foreign aid into Africa is like trying to irrigate a desert with spit. Billions and billions of dollars have been poured into that rathole, with virtually no visible results. Africa has a problem with AIDS because it has a problem with widespread promiscuity. You aren't going to make any headway with the disease without changing the behavior that is spreading it.

African poverty is a result of overpopulation, corruption and inefficiency. If the Europeans and Americans really want to help Africa, they should ban all sales of armaments. No country that lacks a decent education system, clean water, sanitary sewers

and health care should be allowed to waste money on tanks, armored cars and other weaponry. Last year armament sales worldwide totaled \$1 trillion.

Second, the American and European governments should vigorously pursue and prosecute any and all multinational corporations that pay bribes to African leaders in lieu of a fair market price for

natural resources. Third, they should insist on total transparency and total accountability from the African governments for every penny of income and aid as the minimum price for receiving even one bag of flour. It is stupid, wasteful and immoral to feed people whose government leaders are amassing fortunes in Swiss bank accounts.

This might appear to be an overly harsh assessment of Africa, but I believe that far too many Europeans and North Americans prefer the comfort of living with delusions rather than honestly assessing problems.

Dumping money and food on the African problem has more to do with people trying to feel good about themselves than with solving the problems facing the African people.

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See DOMAIN, Page 5

Charley Reese
Columnist



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Broadening the power of eminent domain ...

Gov. Rick Perry and some members of the Texas Legislature want the current special session, called to reform public school finances, to also push for new limits on the power of eminent domain. Their concern is justified and the issue merits serious study, but the Legislature should not rush to action.

The issue has arisen because of a June 23 decision by the U.S. Supreme Court in a case from Connecticut, *Kelo v. City of New London*. In a 5-4 ruling, the court held that government, using the power of eminent domain, could force the owner of a private prop-

erty home or business to sell it in the name of economic development.

The ruling united many liberals and conservatives in horror. They fear governments will use the eminent domain power to seize homes and businesses, not to build a highway, erect a library or expand a park, but to benefit other businesses whose success would the government says enrich the community as a whole.

At issue is the Constitution's Fifth

Amendment, which says private property can be taken by the government only for "public use," and that just compensation must be paid. In Connecticut, New London officials had a redevelopment plan that required taking 115 privately owned parcels in the city's Fort Trumbull area, plus 32 acres formerly owned by the Navy. The development plans include a new waterfront hotel, 80 new residences in a "small urban village," restaurants, shopping

See DOMAIN, Page 5

Texas Thoughts

Austin American-Statesman

and offices.

But nine people refused to sell. One homeowner, Susette Kelo, bought her home in 1997 and improved it, and she prizes her view of the waterfront. Another, Wilhelmina Dery, was born in her home in 1918 and has lived there ever since; her husband has been in it for 60 years. New London is struggling economically, but these were not blighted properties.

The majority ruling, written by Justice John Paul Stevens, favored the state. Though private property can't be taken just to benefit

See DOMAIN, Page 5

First Vioxx lawsuit trial opens, testimony starts next week

By KRISTEN HAYS
AP Business Writer

ANGLETON, Texas (AP) — A plaintiff's attorney spoke of "Merck-y ethics" while a lawyer for Merck & Co. said jurors will hear about responsible corporate actions as the first Vioxx-related lawsuit to go to trial opened with contrasting legal styles.

Mark Lanier, the plaintiff's lawyer, contended in a flashy yet folksy opening statement Thursday that Merck swapped a mission of treating illness for relentless marketing and a quest for profits.

Merck lawyer David Kiernan countered with a far more subdued presentation that Lanier's accusation "could not be more false" and the company's commitment to creating drugs that treat everything from pain to osteoporosis to high cholesterol hasn't faltered since Merck was founded in 1891.

Lawyers will work through documents, e-mails and other evidence to be pre-

Lanier displayed the phrase "Merck-y ethics" on a large screen and promised to skewer the judgment of a company he said knew the popular painkiller could be dangerous years before a study showed it could double risk of heart attack or stroke.

sented while jurors take the day off. Testimony is to begin Monday.

State District Judge Ben Hardin reminded jurors at day's end that opening statements aren't evidence to consider during deliberations. The case is expected to last five weeks.

Lanier displayed the phrase "Merck-y ethics" on a large screen and promised to skewer the judgment of a company he said knew the popular painkiller could be dangerous years before a study showed it could double risk of heart attack or stroke. That study prompted Merck to voluntarily remove it from the market last September.

Kiernan, who is also a sur-

geon, urged jurors to keep an open mind as Merck seeks to show the company didn't rush a lucrative drug to market and slip shoddy science past the Food and Drug Administration to pump up profits.

Lanier represents Carol Ernst, who he introduced to jurors with his arm around her shoulders. Her husband, Robert, died in his sleep four years ago of an arrhythmia, or irregular heartbeat. Robert Ernst, a personal trainer who was a produce manager at a Wal-Mart in Cleburne, near Fort Worth, had been taking Vioxx for about eight months to ease pain in his hands.

Lawyers from throughout the country associated with

other Vioxx lawsuits packed the courtroom the opening statements in the case of high interest in light of more than 3,800 Vioxx-related state and federal lawsuits pending against Merck.

Kiernan said Vioxx has been in development since 1991 and cut in half the potentially lethal stomach bleeding that some patients got from traditional pain relievers like aspirin.

Vioxx was tested in 58 clinical trials involving 10,000 patients before it went on the market, he said, far surpassing FDA testing recommendations.

He said Merck responsibly researched Vioxx's safety before the FDA approved it, and monitored the drug

after it went on the market in 1999.

He also said no studies link Vioxx to arrhythmia, so the drug couldn't have caused Robert Ernst's death.

Lanier told jurors he aims to show a heart attack causes arrhythmia, and Ernst's sudden death left no time for any heart damage to show.

Buttressed by graphics, documents and Ernst family photos shown on a large screen behind him, Lanier targeted former Merck CEO Ray Gilmartin.

He said Gilmartin came to Merck in 1994 aiming to beef up profits with glitzy television ads for various drugs, including Vioxx.

Vioxx was critical to Merck, Lanier alleged, because patents on other lucrative drugs ran out in 2000 and 2001 and "if Vioxx doesn't fill up the ATM machine for us, we're running dry. It's Vioxx or bust."

He said the company downplayed studies that raised concerns about Vioxx's safety and pushed the painkiller to a growing

market of arthritis sufferers and their doctors.

He said Merck wined and dined Robert Ernst's doctor, Brent Wallace, and targeted him and many other doctors to push them to prescribe Vioxx.

He said the company paid doctors to let Merck sales representatives watch them write those prescriptions.

Kiernan said doctors aren't bought so easily.

"It doesn't say much about the doctors if they will choose your medicine based on whether you take them to a baseball game," he said. "They don't, and they won't."

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Domain

Continued from Page 4

another private property owner, the majority ruling said, "For more than a century, our public use jurisprudence has wisely eschewed rigid formulas and intrusive scrutiny in favor of affording legislatures broad latitude in determining what public needs justify the use of the takings power."

Put another way, the Supreme Court refused to legislate from the bench, leaving it to the people, through their elected representatives, to decide how strictly to limit

the use of eminent domain for economic development.

There's potential for serious abuse here. As Justice Sandra Day O'Connor warned in her dissent, "Any property may now be taken for the benefit of another private party, but the fallout from this decision will not be random. The beneficiaries are likely to be those citizens with disproportionate influence and power in the political process, including large corporations and development firms."

Legislation to ban the taking of private property for economic development has been introduced both in the Legislature and Congress. In Texas, there is a proposed constitutional amendment,

and only recently, Perry added the issue to the agenda of the special session. But a hastily written and adopted law or amendment limiting eminent domain could frustrate legitimate efforts by cities or the state to acquire property.

The smarter course would be for House and Senate committees to conduct hearings and studies before drafting legislation for the next regular session of the Legislature, in 2007. Meanwhile, state and local governments, as well as state courts, are on notice that seizures of private property for questionable economic development purposes will face stricter scrutiny from a concerned public.

Africa

Continued from Page 4

Real solutions to Africa's problems must come from the Africans themselves, and they are unlikely to produce any as long as their leaders can get away with begging and borrowing from the industrialized north. There is no useful point in our caring about them as long as they don't care about each other. Why should we share with them when they refuse to share with each other? What can we do about a people who seem to see every conflict as an excuse to inflict unspeakable atrocities against their fellow Africans?

People who think we can end hunger in Africa with gifts of food and money are wrong. Without systemic reform of Africa's agriculture, without honest governments willing to invest in the people, without an end to the tribal wars, no permanent good can be achieved.

Keeping people alive today so they can die in misery tomorrow is hardly a humane gesture. Several pounds of books have been written about the failures of foreign aid and foreign development in Africa. One common problem is that the provider of aid is often more interested in his own selfish objectives than in the African people. Another problem has been unforeseen consequences of poorly thought-out plans.

Community happenings

- **Pampa Community Concert Association Presents "Live on Stage"** 2005-06 concert series includes the following programs: Edgar Cruz, guitarist, Oct. 23; Susan Egan, Broadway vocalist, Feb. 18, 2006; St. Petersburg Classic Ballet, March 4, 2006; and The Coats, vocal harmonic band, April 30, 2006. Additional concerts, featuring with other performers, have been scheduled in area towns. For more information on any of these events or a complete area concert schedule, contact Ronnie Holmes, PCCA president, at 665-2631. PCCA memberships are available.

- **The Texas Department of State Health Services** will be offering immunization clinics for vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases including polio, diphtheria, lock jaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, rubella, mumps, HIB (haemophilus influenzae Type B) and chickenpox (varicella). Flu vaccines may also be offered at designated clinics. The TDH will charge money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay. The following clinics will be offered: 9:30-11:45 a.m. and 1-4 p.m., July 6 and 20, TDH, 736 S. Cuyler, Pampa.

- **The next Pampa Area Singles Dance** is scheduled between 7 and 11 p.m. Saturday, July 16, at the Sportsman's Club on South Barnes with Mike Porter. No smoking or alcohol allowed. Please bring a covered dish. Admission is \$6 per person. For more information, call 665-7059.

- **The 13th Annual Dallam 4-H Arts & Crafts Bazaar** will be held Friday and Saturday, Aug. 5 and 6 at Ranch Market Building in Dalhart during the 69th Annual XIT Rodeo and Reunion Celebration. Hours will be 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday and 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday. Forty-six booth spaces are available. Registration deadline is Monday, July 25. For more information, call (806) 244-4434.

- **The USS Long Beach CGN-9 Association, Inc.**, is organizing its 2005 reunion Sept. 11-19 at San Francisco, Calif. For more information, contact Don Shade, 299 Kiantone Rd., Jamestown, NY 14701-9370, (866) 352-2469 or LBCGN9@aol.com. Further details are also available at www.usalongbeach-assoc.org on the World Wide Web.

- **USS Maddox Destroyer Association Reunion** is planned Sept. 15-18, 2005, in Mobile, Ala. For more information, contact Cliff Gillespie, 215 Wichita Ave., #605, Huntington Beach, CA 92648, call (714) 960-5283 or e-mail cwgilles45@aol.com.

- **USS Columbus CA-74/CG-12/SSN-762 reunion** is planned Sept. 21-25 in San Antonio. For more information, contact Allen R. Hope, President, 3828 Hobson Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46815-4505; e-mail hope4391@comcast.net.

- **Alzheimer's Association** will conduct its **Memory Walk** fund-raiser Sept. 24 at Sam Houston Park in Amarillo. To register for, or donate to, the walk, log onto www.alztxas.org. For more information, call (806) 372-8693.

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JESUS CHRIST, THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND FOREVER HEBREWS 13:8

Religion

Briarwood Church renovates its Children's Church Room

Church works to reach, inspire youngest members

Briarwood Church recently renovated its Children's Church room, formerly known as Granny's House dedicated and named after Jean Smith, a local press release said.

Granny's House hosted first through fifth grade students in their worship services on Sunday mornings.

"We realized the need to update this multi-purpose room to more effectively meet the ministry changes we have made over the last couple of years," Karen

Putman, children's pastor said of the recent renovations.

Briarwood, the release said, places a high priority on its children ministry, "realizing the value and importance of receiving children in a big way." The remodeling will help keep the church ministry abreast with the kids of today.

The renovations include the following:

- a magnetic game board for scripture scrambles;
- a built-in black light

puppet stage;

— an extended two-level puppet stage;

— new computer/sound system;

— built-in large TVs;

— and "jazzed up" colors and decor.

Another fun addition is a large plane suspended from the ceiling, trailing a banner and featuring a puppet pilot in the fashion of Briarwood's Senior Pastor Lynn Hancock.

To aid in the remodeling, church members donated



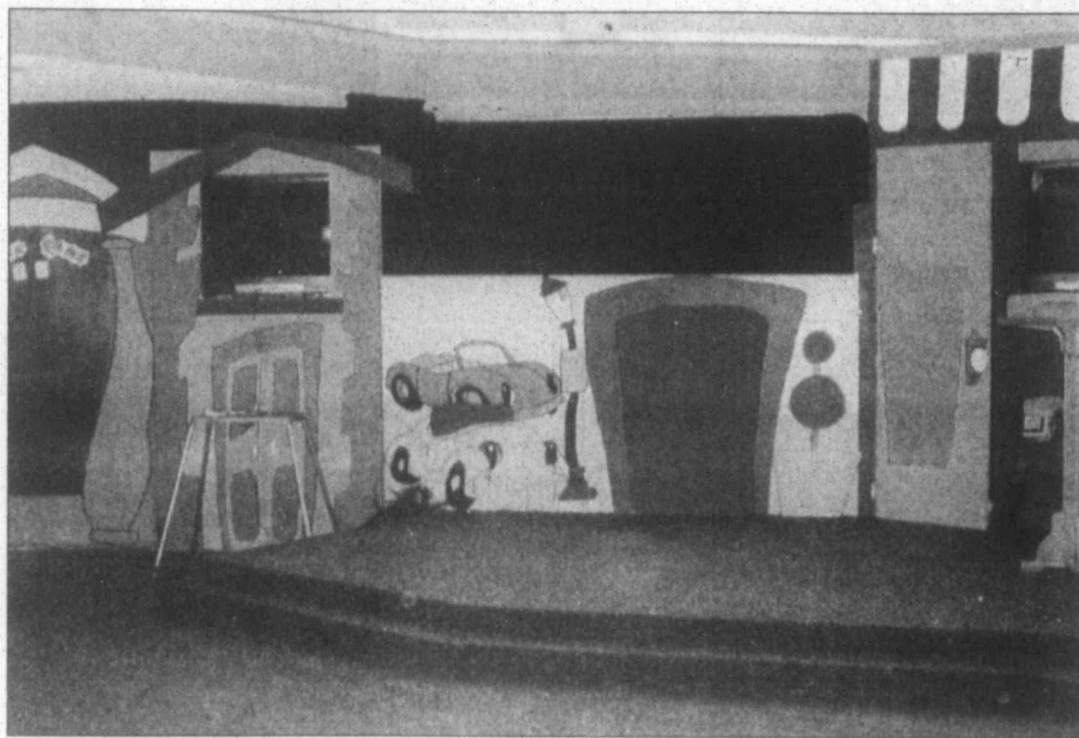
Many of the walls of the newly-remodeled children's room at Briarwood Church are done with foam board to create a 3-D effect.

people gave of their money, their time and talents and it resulted in an awesome place for our kids to worship God, study His Word, and fellowship together!"

Briarwood, the release

'It's all about serving our kids and creating a fun and safe environment ... a place they want to come and bring their friends to worship the Lord and study His Word.'

— Karen Putman
Children's pastor



Briarwood recently renovated its children's room. The renovations included a new platform equipped with two large TVs, a built-in magnetic game board, and a two-tiered puppet stage.

video games, an electronic basketball goal, and an air hockey table for the children to enjoy before and after services, and on activity nights.

"It's all about serving our kids and creating a fun and safe environment ... a place

they want to come and bring their friends to worship the Lord and study His Word," said Ms. Putman.

"There was a great support from the congregation from the beginning of the seven-week project," the press release said. "So many

said, "provide(s) age appropriate classes during Sunday School and Wednesday night service and SuperChurch during the Sunday Morning Worship Service for children ages newborn to fifth grade."

PUBLIC AUCTION OF FORFEITED PROPERTY

Pursuant to authority granted in Chapter 59 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, and in compliance therewith, the 31st Judicial District Attorney, acting as agent for the State of Texas and in accordance with local agreements between said agent and law enforcement agencies, shall offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder the following horses seized and forfeited to the State of Texas by judgment of the 223rd Judicial District Court of Gray County, Texas upon the following terms and conditions.

PLACE: 735 W. MCCOLLOUGH ST., PAMPA, TEXAS Betty Wilson's Quarter Horse Farm

DATE: SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2005

TIME: 10:00 AM

All persons are invited to attend and bid. All HORSES will be sold to the highest bidder FOR CASH. All HORSES will be sold "AS IS". The horses may be inspected at 9:30 a.m. on the day of the sale, they will not be available to ride. ALL SALES ARE FINAL. Seller reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

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- 1-HAND MADE SADDLE AND TACK

New Generation Singers to appear at local First Christian Church

The New Generation Singers of St. Joseph, Mo., are "on the road again," as they travel to the Southwestern/Western states, presenting their unique brand of Christian music.

This year's annual tour is dedicated to visiting churches that were part of their early history.

On Sunday, July 24, they will be performing at the First Christian Church, 1633 N. Nelson, in Pampa, where they first performed 34 years ago. Their performance, for which there will be admission charge, is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. in the church sanctuary.

Their program includes contemporary, traditional,

accompanied, a cappella, serious and fun pieces in their program.

New Generation Singers are a group of high school and college-age young people, who have brought their message to audiences in every state in the Continental United States

See SINGERS, Page 12

Musician, evangelist to perform at New Life

Greg Winn, singer/saxophonist/songwriter, will perform at 10 a.m. July 17 at New Life Assembly of God Church in Pampa.

Winn, a news release said, has been involved in music ministry for 16 years and has worked with such artists as the Katinas, Dottie Rambo, Reba and Dony Rambo/McGuire, Russ Taff, Mike Purkey, The Imperials, BeBe and CeCe Winans and others.

Winn, the release said, began performing Christian music in high school when he formed his own group. He traveled around much of the United States with various singing groups while in college then began his solo ministry in 1988.

Since that time, Winn has ministered in almost every setting — from churches to the corporate stage, from inner-cities and pris-

See WINN, Page 12

GreatPlains church to host Jewish rabbi Cohen

CLAUDE — Well-known Messianic Jewish Evangelist Rabbi Marty Cohen will teach a special message July 16 and 17 at GreatPlains Western Church near Claude.

Cohen will minister at 7 p.m. Saturday and again at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday at

the church.

Cohen has traveled, a press release said, throughout the world presenting his message. He has taught at a synagogue in Dallas for more than 10 years and went on a four-year sabbatical to Israel.

In 1996, he incorporated

Messianic Messages, a teaching ministry that "reaches out" through Bible studies, a visiting pulpit ministry, and a regular e-mail newsletter, the release said.

Cohen has taught in churches and addressed

See COHEN, Page 12

Skellytown First Baptist to observe 70th anniversary

SKELLYTOWN — Skellytown First Baptist Church will celebrate its 70th anniversary Aug. 6 and 7 at its location in Skellytown.

The church will present a "meet and greet fellowship" from 1-4 p.m. Aug. 6. The program will include a slide show and refreshments. A 7 p.m. worship service will

conclude the day's activities.

Following morning worship and Sunday school services, Sunday, Aug. 7, the church will sponsor a

See FBC, Page 12

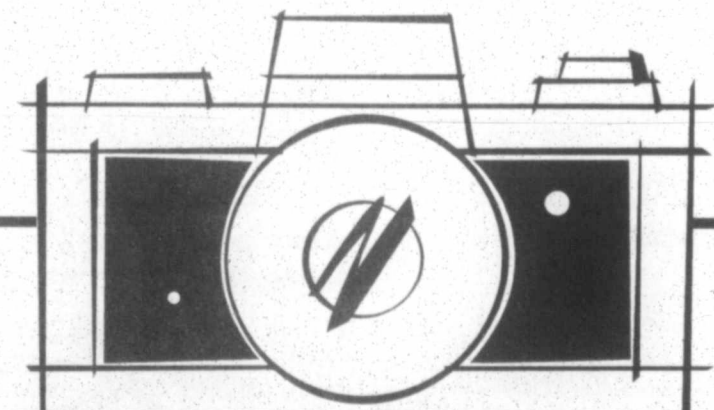
Allen Hatch to present concert, message at Fellowship Baptist

Dr. Allen Hatch will appear in concert at Fellowship Baptist Church, 622 E. Francis, at 10 a.m. Sunday, July 17. His concert will be followed by an evangelistic message at 11 a.m. and again at 6 p.m. at Fellowship Baptist.

"Allen Hatch," a press release from the church said, "will share how God delivered him from rebellion and demonic attacks in his life ... Being delivered from 'drinking, smoking, stealing cars and the wasted years' really is a testimony of the amaz-

ing grace of the Lord Jesus Christ."

Hatch, the release said, has recorded nine gospel albums, composed and written five songs, and ministered to thousands through his concert and evangelical appearances.



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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My beautiful, intelligent 18-year-old daughter, "Lara," has just completed her first year of college. She's attending school out of state in the same city where her father, "Grant" -- my ex -- is living.

Abby, Grant left when Lara was 5 months old. He left us for his sister, with whom he had been having an affair, because she told him she was pregnant with his child. The divorce was very hard on us, and my daughter has been in counseling for years -- including at the college.

Lara spends her holidays with her father, her aunt and their two children. She's aware of the incestuous relationship and vents a lot of anger at me for the rough time we've had. In the past, Lara's therapists have told me she directs her anger at me because "she can't get angry at the person she should really be angry at -- her father."

My daughter refuses to tell her current therapist about the incestuous relationship because she's afraid it will be reported to the authorities and the children will be taken away. The sister bought Lara a car and a cell phone, and pays the phone bill, car insurance and some of Lara's other expenses. I suspect the thought of losing the car and cell phone have something to do with my daughter's hesitation to level with her therapist.

How can I get Lara to stop abusing me because of her repressed anger at her father? -- **LOVING MOTHER IN ALABAMA**

DEAR LOVING MOTHER: The most effective way to stop someone from abusing you is to quit tolerating it. The next time your daughter becomes abusive, inform her that you do not deserve to be treated that way and will not listen. Tell her that unless she is willing to level with her therapist, she might as well quit because it's a waste of everyone's time. Say it in as loving a tone as you can, and do not raise your voice. Then politely end the conversa-

tion. You have suffered enough.

DEAR ABBY: Would you please suggest to teenage baby sitters or young houseguests that they ask permission from the homeowner about using their computer before just jumping on it?

We recently hired a lovely young lady to baby-sit our son. I didn't think to mention that she should stay off our computer because it contains sensitive personal and business data. Our son later informed us that she had been on the computer even while he was still awake. That's not what we pay her for. Parents should instruct their teenagers that other people's home computers are off-limits. -- **FURIOUS IN MINNESOTA**

DEAR FURIOUS: I have a better idea. Owners of home computers with "sensitive" information on them should install a password to prevent the kind of activity you have described. And if I were you, I'd find a more mature baby sitter with a more professional attitude than that "lovely young lady" -- because while she was on your computer, she was neglecting your son.

DEAR ABBY: I have never seen this addressed in your column before. When conversing with someone who has a severe stutter, is it impolite to help the person finish his or her sentence? I am in the customer service industry. If I know the word the customer is trying to say, is it OK to help -- or should I let the speaker finish on his or her own? -- **WANTS TO DO THE RIGHT THING IN LAS VEGAS**

DEAR WANTS: Although your impulse to be helpful is noble, it is impolite to interrupt others when they are talking. The polite way to handle the situation is to allow the person to finish the sentence.

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.

For Better Or Worse



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Crossword Puzzle

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By THOMAS JOSEPH

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33 Striped

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36 Indian

38 Silly one

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44 Ocean

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ROMAN	ANNIE
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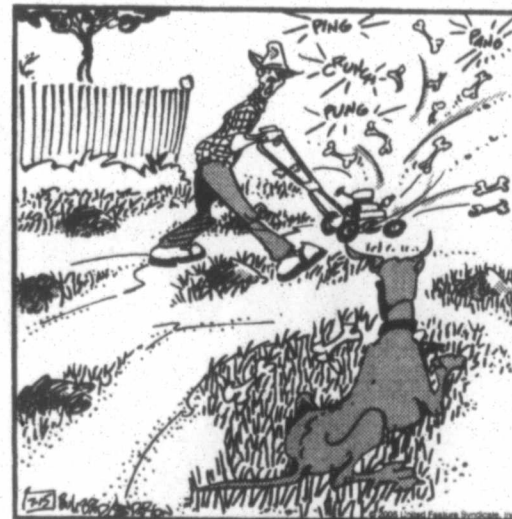
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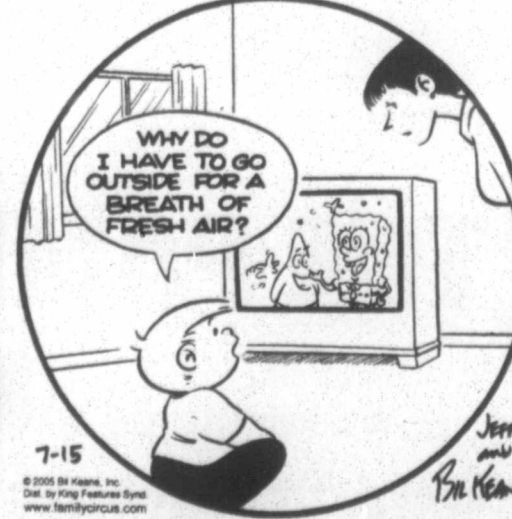
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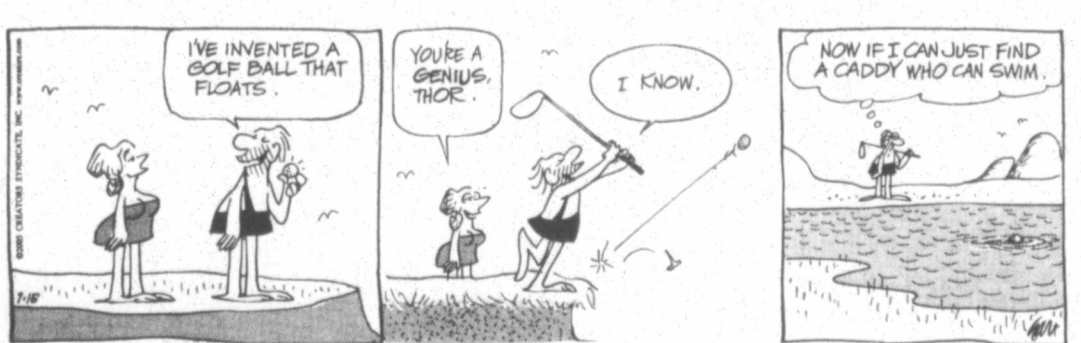


The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



B.C.



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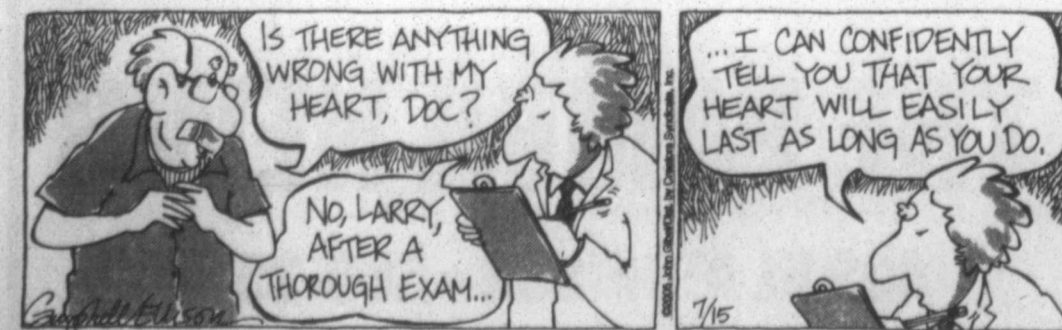
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Sports Day

Big names move up to challenge Woods

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland (AP) — The last two British Open champions were unknown Americans. This time, plenty of big names are positioned for a run at the claret jug.

Tiger Woods was at the top of the list, of course, building on his first-round lead.

But the world's top-ranked player was hardly alone. Vijay Singh pulled into a short-lived tie with Woods before the leader teed off Friday. Sergio Garcia, Ernie Els and Phil Mickelson gave themselves hope heading to the weekend. John Daly and Fred Couples were hanging around, too.

No one would mistake anyone in that group for Ben Curtis (the 2003 Open champion) or Todd Hamilton (last year's winner).

"I need to go pretty low on Saturday to get in contention," said Mickelson, who was at 3-under 141 at the midway point. "I'm not quite in contention yet."

Jack Nicklaus wasn't a contender, but he hoped to make it to the weekend in his 164th — and final — major. The Golden Bear had the gallery roaring when he birdied the 10th to reach 1 under for the day.

Nicklaus had a lot of work to do,

coming off a 75 on Thursday. But everyone seemed to be pulling for one of those trademark charges — even if it's only Friday.

"Words are not really enough for Jack," three-time Open champion Nick Faldo said. "They should make him out of gold and stick a little Jack on every tee box."

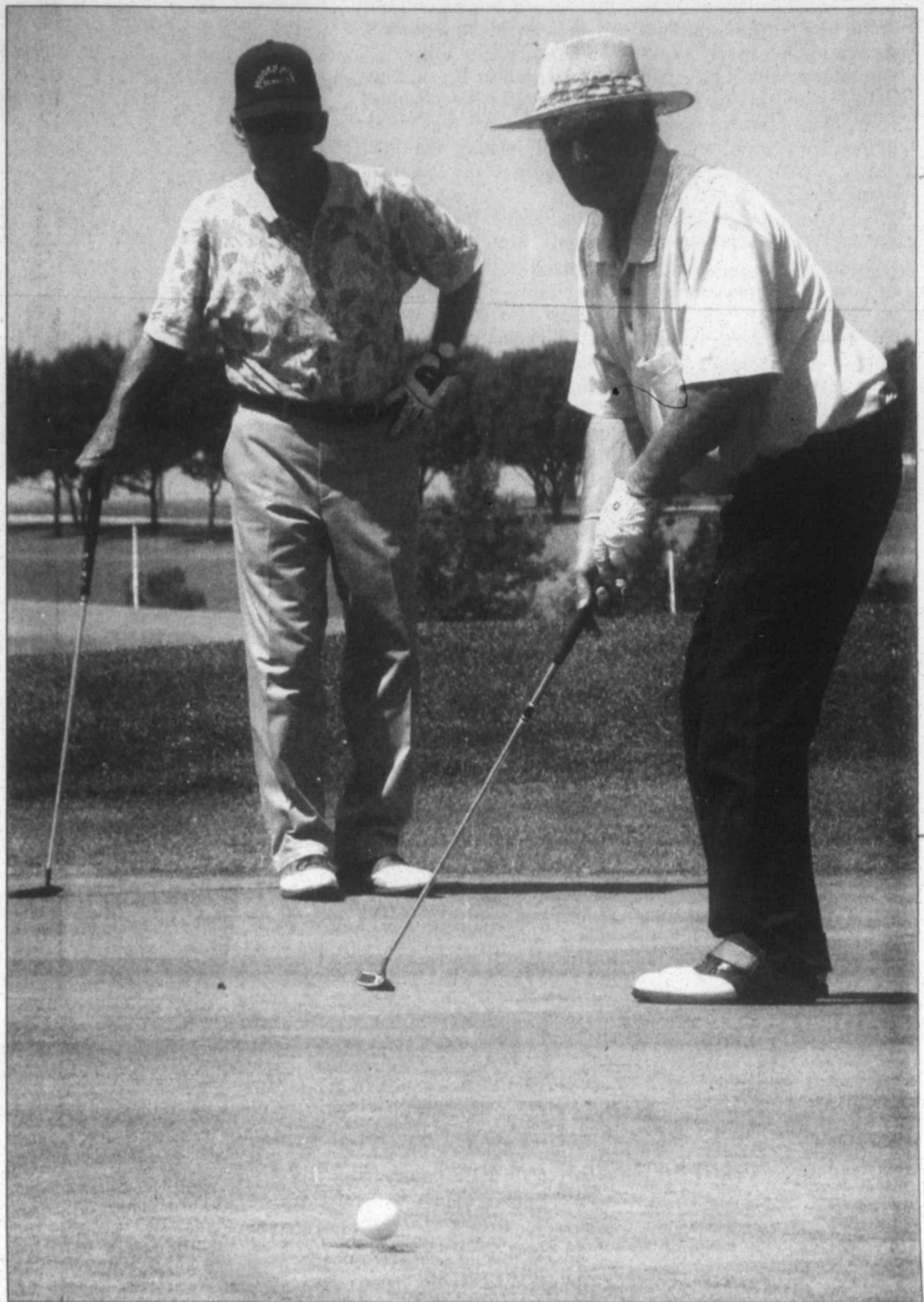
Singh shot his second-straight 69 and could have gone lower, missing several good birdie opportunities. But he managed to avoid any bogeys, walking off the course in a four-way tie for the lead.

"I'm very disappointed with the way I scored," Singh said. "I left a lot of shots out there."

Woods, who opened with a 66, teed off in the afternoon and didn't waste any time reclaiming the lead. Birdies at Nos. 3 and 5 pushed his score to 8 under.

Garcia shot 69 to take a 139 into the weekend. He was hoping the wind picked up in the afternoon, so Woods couldn't run away from the field as he did in 2000 on the way to a record-setting, eight-stroke victory at St. Andrews.

See OPEN, Page 10



With Ray Covalt looking on, Howard Wells sinks a short but tricky putt on the 13th green during the Senior Scramble at Hidden Hills yesterday. The scramble, normally played on Wednesdays, was moved due to inclement weather.

CLINICS AND EVENTS

New PHS coaches host camps; tennis open set for July 30-31

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

Football

First year Pampa High School head football coach Bryan Wood's football camp is scheduled to begin next Monday, with 3rd through 9th grade players reporting to Harvester Field. Grades 3-6 will attend from 8 a.m. to 9:45 a.m., with grades 7-9 to follow 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Students are to dress in shorts, T-shirt and football shoes.

Camp will last from Monday through Friday. Cost is \$50 per student. Registration forms are still available at the PHS Athletic Office.

Volleyball

New head volleyball coach Sonia Van Gilder will host her first camp July 25-28 at Pampa High School. Camp will begin at 8 a.m. each day and conclude at

12 p.m. Cost is \$60 per camper. Students need to bring light shoes, knee pads and a water bottle. Registration forms are available at the athletic office.

Tennis

Also in her first year at the helm of the Harvester Tennis Team, Coach Emily Laurence announces this year's Pampa Open will take place July 30-31 at the tennis courts of Pampa High School. Registration deadline is July 28. Players can register by phone, or by mail. Forms are available at the athletic office. Fees are \$10 per event entered, with proceeds benefitting the PHS tennis program. Events include Boys and Girls 12, 14, 16 and 18 Singles and Doubles, Open Singles and Doubles, and a Mixed Junior and Open.

For additional information on any of the above, stop by or call the Pampa Athletic Department, 669-4830.

Dusters start 3-game road trip to wrap 2005 regular season



QUICK FACTS:

Amarillo Dusters (8-5)
at Quad City Steamwheelers (7-6)
Date: Saturday, July 16th
Kickoff: 7:30 p.m. CST
Site: The Mark-Quad Cities
Radio: KPUR 1440 AM
Internet: dustersfootball.com

THE STAKES

The Playoff race heats up in the most competitive division in af2, as the Dusters make the long trek up to the Quad Cities to face the red-hot Steamwheelers. The Steamwheelers are on a 3-game winning streak, capped off by consecutive upsets of Memphis and Green Bay. The Dusters are looking to bounce back after a crushing defeat at the hands of the Oklahoma City Yard Dawgz. The Dusters (8-5) enter the game with a one-game lead over the Steamwheelers (7-6). Both teams are fighting for a spot in the playoffs.

COACH PERDUE'S THOUGHTS ON QUAD CITY

"This is basically a playoff game. We both need the win in terms of the playoff race. They came down here and we fought for four quarters and it was a heck of a game. I wouldn't expect anything different when we go up there. They have a great crowd. Coach Frazier has them playing better than any team in af2 right now. They aren't flashy, they

are just physical. They are playing really well defensively right now. In back-to-back games they've allowed less than 40 points. We had a perfect opportunity to put some space between us and the rest of the conference, and we didn't get the job done. Now, we've got to focus on one game at a time, and handle our business."

LIONELL GREEN LOOKS TO MAKE AN IMPACT

Although he is only 21 years old, football has already taken Lionell Green all over the country. Lionell was a star athlete at Wharton High School in Wharton, TX, and then played two seasons of junior college ball in California at Reedley College. There, he earned JUCO All-American honors. He then traveled to the east coast as he played at the University of North Carolina, where he was a two-year starter. He was just released from the NFL's Washington Redskins after rookie mini-camp, and found his way back to Texas with the Dusters. He saw his first action in last weekend's loss to Oklahoma City, and will get his first start at Defensive Specialist against Quad City Saturday night. He is blessed with 4.3 speed, which the Dusters hope will propel their secondary to another level of success.

KEY MATCHUP, LINE PLAY

The Steamwheelers and Dusters are strikingly similar in line play thus far this season, which will prove to be a key in Saturday night's ball game. The team that can put the most pressure on the opposing quarterback, while protecting their own, likely has the best chance to come away victorious. Thus far this season, the Steamwheelers have 12 sacks defensively, while allowing 15 sacks offensively. The Dusters have 14 sacks defensively, while allowing 14 sacks offensively.

Feeling the heat at Hidden Hills

The inclement weather of the day before forced the
By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

weekly 4-man scramble at Hidden Hills Golf Course to be moved to Thursday.

With temperatures still mild, the foursomes gathered in the morning to attack the 18 holes.

By the time they made the turn, they could feel the heat

as the mercury began to rise.

As the team of Harley Knutson, Bob Young, Howard Musgrave and Jim Osborne holed-out on 13, one was heard to say, "It is really hot out here."

To which another replied, "Yeah, but come January, we'll wish it was July."

Here are the results from yesterday's scramble:

1st Place (64)
Terry Cox

Travis Johnston
Nathan Lancaster
Richard Abbott

2nd Place (66)
Harley Knutson
Bob Young
Howard Musgrave
Jim Osborne

3rd Place (66)
O.K. Lee
Jerry South
Morris Driver
Callens George

Reality intrudes on the Open and Jack Nicklaus' last march

By TIM DAHLBERG
Associated Press

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland (AP) — Reality intruded briefly Thursday on the British Open. We were supposed to get teary eyed over Jack Nicklaus in what was likely his next to last round as a competitive player.

Instead, there were real tears as a hush came over the Old Course, spectator and golfers alike stood in silence, and Britain paused to remember its dead.

It didn't last long, only two minutes at high noon, with Nicklaus deep on the back nine and Tiger Woods perhaps on his way to his latest major championship win.

And, in true British fashion, it was done simply. Hats off, heads bowed, in tribute to those killed and hurt in last week's London bombings.

Near the second green, a woman laid her head on her husband's shoulders and wept. In the massive grandstands around the 18th hole, most everyone stood stoically, the only sounds coming from the wind and gulls flying overhead.

For a few moments, golf didn't seem so important anymore, even to the best player ever.

"That was very, very appropriate," Nicklaus said.

A week has passed since suicide bombers blew themselves up in subway cars and a double-decker bus, killing at least 52 people and injuring hundreds others. The bodies of some of those killed were so badly mangled that

authorities say it could take weeks to identify them.

Nicklaus thought of the families of those killed as he stood, arms behind his back, facing a throng that had come to watch him one last time. Woods was a few holes behind him, just short of the 14th green and thinking of his mother, Kultida, who was in London when the bombs went off.

"I was more thankful than anything else because my mom was in the building right across the street from where the bomb blew up," Woods said. "I was very thankful that my mom is still here."

It was all about family for Nicklaus, too. They had traveled to St. Andrews for his last major championship appearance — son Steve was on the bag, while wife Barbara, sons Gary and Jackie and daughter Nan were part of the gallery.

They also knew something about recent tragedy. Steve's 17-month-old son, Jake, drowned in a hot tub in March, and Nicklaus was still visibly distraught about the death of his grandson when he played his last Masters.

Even without Steve caddying, this week was going to be an emotional one ever since the dates of the Open were penciled in. The Royal & Ancient moved St. Andrews up a year in the rotation of Open courses so Nicklaus play his last one at his favorite place.

He was introduced on the first tee with no fanfare, simply as Jack Nicklaus from the United States.

See DAHLBERG, Page 10



New Generation Singers of St. Joseph, Mo.

Singers

Continued from Page 7

and most Canadian Provinces for 35 years.

Founded as a "youth choir" they have become a "youth group" that uses their music as a vehicle to spread God's message. They have grown into a nationally recognized group, representing many denominations and beliefs.

While the Singers have performed primarily in churches, they have also performed in non-church venues. They have appeared in schools, parks, fairs, in the base of the Statue of Liberty and Liberty Park, on the steps of the nation's Capitol, in Washington, D.C., in the Upper Room

of the United Methodist Church and in the Chapel at West Point on Parents Day, for nearly 3,000 parents and cadets in Sunday worship.

New Generation had an opportunity to meet Dr. Norman Vincent Peale while performing at the Chautauqua Institute in Lake Chautauqua, N.Y. That relationship created a continued bond and performance opportunities, through the years, at the Guideposts, his publishing firm and at local churches in that area.

The Singers have a long list of Protestant and Catholic churches that have invited them to return at their earliest opportunity.

All are invited to come have some Christian fun and find an exciting and meaningful message, presented by this inspired group of talented young people.

Winn

Continued from Page 7

ons to various missions' endeavors, both at home and abroad.

Winn has released four albums including "Project U.S.A.," "For the Young at Heart," and a Christmas album entitled "Peace on Earth."

New Life is located at 1435 N. Sumner, at the corner of Randy Matson and Sumner streets. The concert is open to the community.

Cohen

Continued from Page 7

Christian gatherings in nearly every Bible-believing congregation, the release said. In 1997, he was ordained by the

president and vice president of Southern Baptist Messianic Fellowship.

GreatPlains Western Church is located 15-miles east of Amarillo on US Highway 287 and 11-miles west of Claude. For more information about the upcoming program, which is free and open to the public, call (806) 584-5331.

FBC

Continued from Page 7

catered meal at a cost of \$6.50 per person. The meal will include roast, vegetables, dessert, and rolls.

A gospel singing featuring voices from the past and present will follow the afternoon meal.

Participants are urged to RSVP for the

meal as soon as possible by contacting the church at (806) 848-2457.

To further mark this landmark anniversary, the church is seeking 1) testimonies for a special history book, 2) pictures for the upcoming slide show, and (3) recipes for a cookbook it plans to publish.

Send all submissions to: First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 176, Skellytown, TX 79080; or e-mail fbcskellytown@nts-online.net.

Cost of the cookbook will be \$6.

Stormy weather

Hurricane Emily strengthens dangerously in Caribbean

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada (AP) — Hurricane Emily blasted out windows, flooded two hospitals and tore roofs from homes as it blew over Grenada and gathered force in the eastern Caribbean with winds of 135 mph. At least one person was killed.

Meteorologist Robert Molleda at the National Hurricane Center in Miami said it was too early to say whether the storm would hit the United States.

Emily strengthened to a dangerous Category 4 after it cleared the Windward Islands, unleashing heavy surf, gusty winds and torrential rain on islands hundreds of miles away: Trinidad in the south, nearby Venezuela to the west, and Hispaniola in the middle of the Caribbean Sea.

"That makes Emily a very rare Category 4 hurricane in the Caribbean Sea in the month of July," said Stacy Stewart, a meteorologist with the National Hurricane Center.

The storm was the second major hurricane of the Atlantic season after Dennis.

The center projected the hurricane would move just south of Jamaica late Friday or Saturday, pass the Cayman Islands late Saturday and hit Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula on Sunday night.

Molleda said residents along the U.S. Gulf Coast should closely watch the storm track but he could not predict which specific areas might be affected.

"It's still too early to say, assuming forecast track if it goes across (the Yucatan peninsula), it should emerge over the Gulf of Mexico at some point. It's too early to be precise but there's a pretty good possibility that it would be over the southern or central Gulf of Mexico next week," he said.

Emily struck hard in Grenada, especially in the northern parishes of St. Patrick's and St. Andrew's and the outlying islands of Carriacou and Petit Martinique, authorities said.

'That makes Emily a very rare Category 4 hurricane in the Caribbean Sea in the month of July.'

— Stacy Stewart
Meteorologist

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ROMA TOMATOES

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