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Discovery repair huge success

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — A spacewalking astronaut gently pulled two potentially dangerous strips of protruding filler from Discovery's tile belly with his gloved hand Wednesday, successfully completing an unprecedented emergency repair.

Astronaut Stephen Robinson said both pieces came out easily during the spacewalk, which lasted six hours. He did not have to use a makeshift hack-

saw put together in orbit that he brought along just in case.

"That came out very easily, probably even less force," Robinson said of the second piece. "I don't see any more gap filler. ... I'm doing my own inspection here. It is a very nice orbital belly."

NASA officials had determined that the exposed ceramic-fiber fillers could lead to overheating and a possible repeat of Columbia's dis-

astrous re-entry.

Robinson attached a special foot restraint to the space station's 58-foot robotic arm and fellow astronauts aboard the station maneuvered the arm so Robinson could reach the shuttle's belly. They were careful to make sure Robinson's helmet and feet did not contact the fragile ship.

It was the first time an astronaut has ventured beneath a shuttle.

Robinson took only the essential

tools for the repair — leaving a tile repair kit just outside the airlock. He also secured his safety tethers between his legs and behind him to keep from accidentally striking the vehicle.

Once under Discovery's belly, Robinson expected to spend about an hour removing or trimming the fillers from two locations near the shuttle's nose. But it took mere seconds for him to pull each strip.

Car tag registration to go online

By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer

Online vehicle registration will soon be possible for Gray County residents in addition to the more traditional methods of visiting the county tax assessor-collector's office or renewing by mail.

The county's Web site at www.co.gray.tx.us currently features links to several county offices, including that of tax assessor-collector. The tax assessor-collector's page invites visitors to renew their vehicle registration at a link which can be clicked to bring up the site for registrations. However, Gray County is currently not one of the counties listed as an option for online renewal.

That will change beginning some time in October, said County Tax Assessor-Collector Gaye Whitehead after Monday's county commissioners' meeting.

Commissioners approved Gray County's participation in the online registration service during the meeting. The county's inclusion in the service will not cost the county anything in fees, additional equipment, or employees, Whitehead said.

The link on the tax assessor-collector's page connects the viewer to www.texasonline.com, which the individual may also access directly in order to renew their vehicle registration.

Persons who renew their vehicle registration online must pay for the renewal with either a credit card or debit card, Whitehead said.

"This web site gives our customers one more way of interacting with us. Residents will be able to renew their registration when it's convenient for them, day or night," she said.

The online option may be especially useful for persons in the military, college stu-

See TAGS, Page 2

Dethroned



National Guardsman Douglas Fulton of Pampa tries out a throne in Saddam Hussein's palace at Faw, a city on the Al Faw Peninsula in Basra Province. Fulton, a staff sergeant, has been in Iraq since January and is scheduled to return to the states in January 2006, according to his wife, Becky Fulton, an employee of Pampa Police Department. Fulton is currently at Tallil in Iraq with Alpha Company, 2/142 Infantry, 56th Battle Coordination Team, 36th Infantry Division. He is employed as an inspector at Titan Specialties.

To benefit MS

'Fill the Boot' campaign to start

Pampa Firefighters Association, in conjunction with Pampa Fire Department, will kick off its annual "Fill the Boot" campaign Thursday to raise funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

The association thanks the citizens of Pampa and Gray County for their continued support of the campaign. Last year, association officials said, the fund-

raiser netted \$6,230. "Last year was a record-breaking year with only Amarillo raising more funds than Pampa in the entire Texas Panhandle to support these children," according to a press release from Craig Harkcom, president of the association.

"This year, with your help, we believe we can

See BOOT, Page 5

St. Matthew's has first headmaster

By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer

St. Matthew's Episcopal Day School has hired its first headmaster in the 51-year history of the school, according to Wendy Henderson of the school office.

C.J. (Christopher James) Frazier of Albuquerque, N.M., will begin his duties Monday at the school, he said in a recent telephone interview.

"He is the first man to have the position of head of the school," Henderson said. "Always before, we had a headmistress."

Frazier is leaving a post as director of a day care center in Albuquerque to take the reins at St. Matthew's.

"I will be in charge of staff positions, overseeing teachers and day care, and a monthly newsletter, and I guess the fun decisions and the hard decisions," Frazier said.

He and his wife Micki and their three dogs, a Dalmatian

named Petey, an Alaskan Husky named Fiona, and a teacup Chihuahua named Iris, will find at least one familiar face in Pampa. Frazier is the brother of Pampa High School journalism teacher Miranda Bailey, and he once lived in Pampa.

"We're just excited to

'He is the first man to have the position of head of the school. Always before, we had a headmistress.'

— Wendy Henderson School official

make Pampa our home and support the community," Frazier said.

He replaces Buffy Gwyn at the day school, which averages an enrollment of 80 children ages 18 months through kindergarten. The school also offers summer day care for children through second grade.



▲ Micki and C.J. Frazier

City Wide Garage Sale ... Saturday, August 27

For More Information Call

The Pampa Greater Area Chamber of Commerce At 669-3241



30-year bond set to make return

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration announced today that it is bringing back the 30-year Treasury bond next year, a move that would help finance the national debt and should hold appeal for investors look-

ing needs at the lowest cost over time," said Randal Quarles, the department's undersecretary for domestic finance.

The United States stopped selling the "long" bond in October 2001, which turned out to be the last year the government produced a budget surplus. After that, though, it has racked up record amounts of red ink, helping to push up the national debt, which now stands at \$7.8 trillion.

Timothy Bitsberger, the department's assistance secretary for financial markets, told reporters at a briefing that Treasury anticipates that around \$20 billion to \$30 billion in 30-year bonds would be sold each year.

Analysts said resurrecting the 30-year bond, which the government first began selling in 1977, makes sense from a number of perspectives. Long-term interest rates are currently low and if they stay that way, the government would have an opportunity to borrow money at a very attractive rate.

'We believe this is a prudent debt management step that will continue to allow Treasury to finance the government's borrowing needs at the lowest cost over time.'

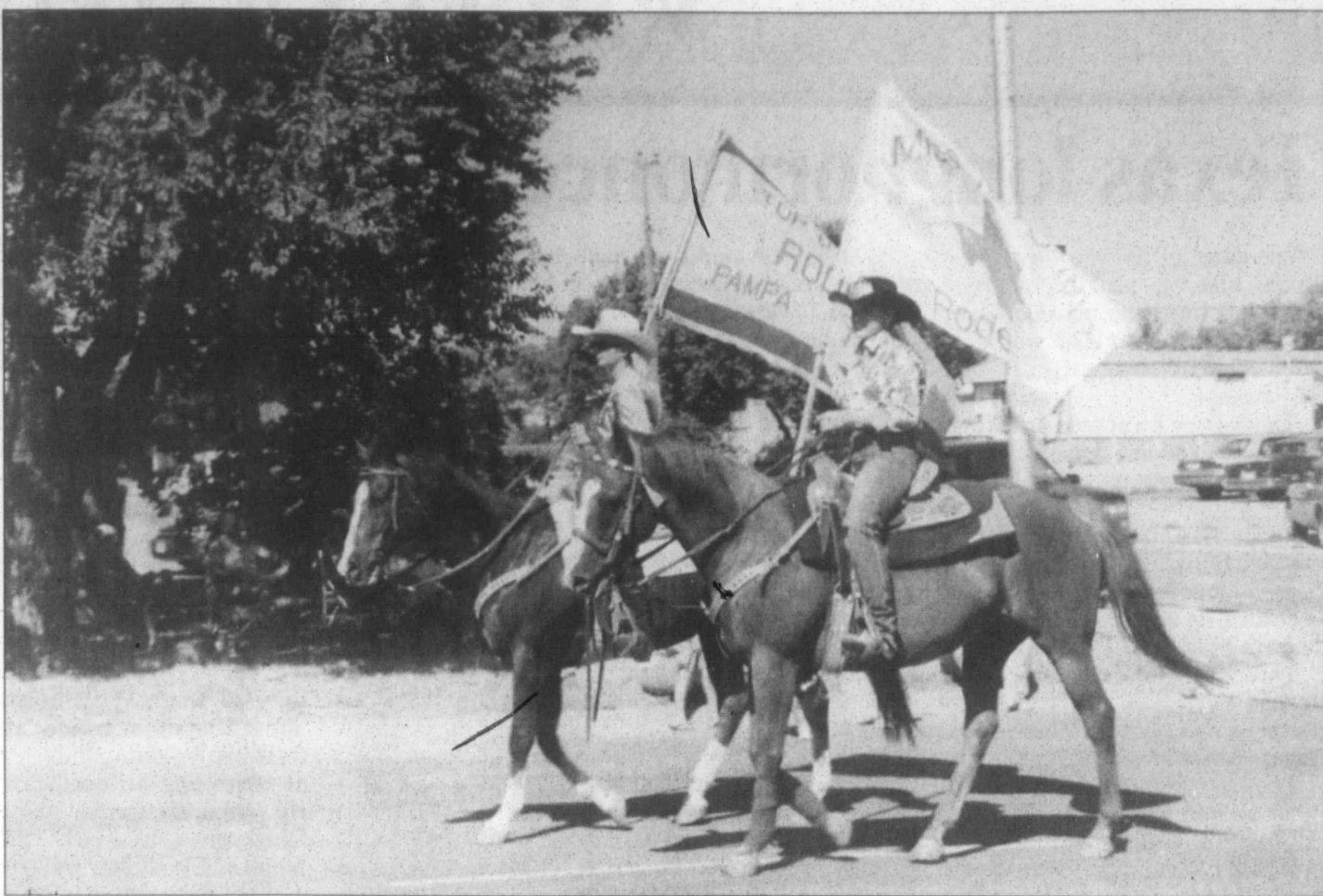
— Randal Quarles
Undersecretary for domestic finance

ing for a safe, longer-term investment option in their portfolios.

The Treasury Department said the first auction of the 30-year bond will take place in the first quarter of 2006, with auctions held twice a year.

"We believe this is a prudent debt management step that will continue to allow Treasury to finance the government's borrow-

Rodeo parade



Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas Teen 2005 Tara Schilling, left, and Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas 2005 Jamie Schroeder participated in the recent rodeo parade at White Deer.

Mexico calls for reopening of consulate

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico insisted Wednesday that the United States reopen its consulate in Nuevo Laredo, saying that a wave of killings and violence gripping the border city never got bad enough to prompt its closing in the first place.

Ruben Aguilar, a chief spokesman for President Vicente Fox, said U.S. Ambassador Tony Garza

planned to meet in Mexico City with Interior Secretary Carlos Abascal and Geronimo Gutierrez, assistant foreign secretary for North America. He said the closed-door discussions will assess the situation in Nuevo Laredo, and that Mexican authorities would urge Garza to reconsider his decision to shut down the consulate there for a week that began Monday.

"Not only do the conditions exist to reopen the (consulate), but the conditions for closing it never existed," Aguilar said at his daily briefing with reporters.

A U.S. State Department official would not comment on Aguilar's statements.

In a statement announcing the consulate would be closed last week, Garza made reference to "continued violence along the bor-

der" and an "alarming incident" recently, in which a group of men arriving in several vehicles fired machine guns, grenades and a rocket launcher at a home neighbors say was a safe house for drug smugglers in southern Nuevo Laredo.

Surprised and angered by the move, Mexico has called the ambassador's decision extreme and said it "doesn't correspond to reality."

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Viewpoints

Texas longhorn once in danger of being lost forever

For those of us who love Texas history, nothing is more sobering than pausing to consider how close we often come to losing parts of our heritage.

This is why I worked hard to secure National Historic Trail designation for El Camino Real De Los Tejas, the network of trails traversing Texas from Louisiana to Mexico. It could easily have been lost if we did not take steps to protect it.

Throughout our history, Texans have had to act to preserve our historical heritage.

The best example of this is the Alamo, which was on the verge of being sold to a group of easterners who wanted to build a hotel on the site. Clara Driscoll stepped in to help at the last minute to buy the property. She, Adina de Zavala, and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas preserved the Alamo for all of us.

Another Texas icon, the longhorn steer, also came perilously close to extinc-

tion in the early 20th century. After Columbus discovered the New World, the Spanish brought their longhorned Andalusian cattle to the West Indies, but it was not until 1521 that six or seven of them were brought ashore in Mexico. Longhorns first arrived in Texas when Coronado headed north with 500 head of cattle on his fruitless search for El Dorado. Many of his cattle scattered and formed wild herds which multiplied in Texas.

By the 1800s, Mexican cattle ranchers and the first cowboys — known as vaqueros — were herding hundreds of thousands of animals in an area north of the Rio Grande, but generally south of San Antonio and the major mission settlements.

After Moses Austin secured rights for Anglo settlers to come to Texas, the newcomers brought many Northern European breeds to Texas where they bred with the longhorns. This produced the Texas

Longhorn, larger and heavier than his Mexican cousin, but still retaining the qualities which allowed him to cover long distances, thrive on poor forage and adapt to extreme heat and cold.

Their endurance and hardiness allowed them to multiply in Texas. As many as 10 million longhorns roamed our state, and their most valuable product not beef, but hides and tallow (the rendered fat used to make candles, soap and lubricants). This changed with the advent of the Gold Rush in California. Several Texas cattlemen drove herds all the way to California to provide the prospectors with fresh beef. Others drove cattle north to Missouri, while some cattlemen near the coast took advantage of steamships to generate profits by shipping cows to New Orleans.

But the heyday of the cattle drives would wait until after the end of the Civil War when beef overtook pork as America's favorite meat. Entrepreneur Joseph



Kay Bailey Hutchison
Senator

G. McCoy almost single-handedly revolutionized the Texas cattle industry when he grasped that the railroads allow fast shipment of cattle to the booming industrial cities of the northeast. He commissioned Jesse Chisholm to mark the famous Chisholm trail to make it easier to drive cattle north to railheads he constructed to expedite transportation.

In 1867, O. W. Wheeler and his partners bought 2,400 steers in San Antonio and made the first trip up the trail. By 1871, 35,000 cattle made the long trip up the Chisholm Trail and the numbers of cattle driven on the

trail climbed each year. By the time an 1885 Kansas quarantine law banning Texas steers killed the trail drives, more than 5 million cattle and 1 million mustang horses had made the trip.

With the end of the drives, which put a premium on the longhorn's ability to walk long distances and endure hardship, other breeds which matured earlier and put on weight faster began to grow more popular. Soon the once-legendary longhorns were reduced to several small scattered herds.

Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge Forest Ranger William Drummond was inspired by the preservation of the American Bison at the national park. The buffalo, which once numbered over 60 million, had been reduced to less than 1,000 by the turn of the century.

Charles Goodnight, who had made his fortune with Texas Longhorns, was one of the key figures in introducing 15 bison to the Wichita Mountains Wildlife

Reserve in 1907. In 1927, with the support of many Texas cattlemen, 30 head of longhorns were introduced to the park as well. Today the park maintains a herd of 525 bison and 300 longhorns.

Over time, other cattlemen began raising longhorns, often using animals descended from the Wichita herd. By 1964, the Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America was founded in Fort Worth to help promote the breed.

Today, the Association reports that more than a quarter million registered Texas longhorns are being raised throughout the country.

Whenever I see a Texas Longhorn, I see a vital part of Texas' colorful history and am grateful for those forward-thinking individuals who took action in the 1920s to save this living part of Texas' proud past from extinction. Part of my goal as an elected official is to save other parts of Texas' heritage as well.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 3, the 215th day of 2005. There are 150 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 3, 1492, Christopher Columbus set sail from Palos, Spain, on a voyage that took him to the present-day Americas.

On this date:

In 1914, Germany declared war on France.

In 1923, Calvin Coolidge was sworn in as the 30th president of the United States, following the death of Warren G. Harding.

In 1936, the State Department urged Americans in Spain to leave because of that country's civil war.

'The man who has no inner life is the slave of his surroundings.'

— Henri Frederic Amiel
Swiss critic
(1821-1881)

In 1943, Gen. George S. Patton slapped a private at an army hospital in Sicily, accusing him of cowardice. (Patton was later ordered by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower to apologize for this and a second, similar episode.)

In 1949, the National Basketball Association was formed.

In 1958, the nuclear-powered submarine Nautilus became the first vessel to cross the North Pole underwater.

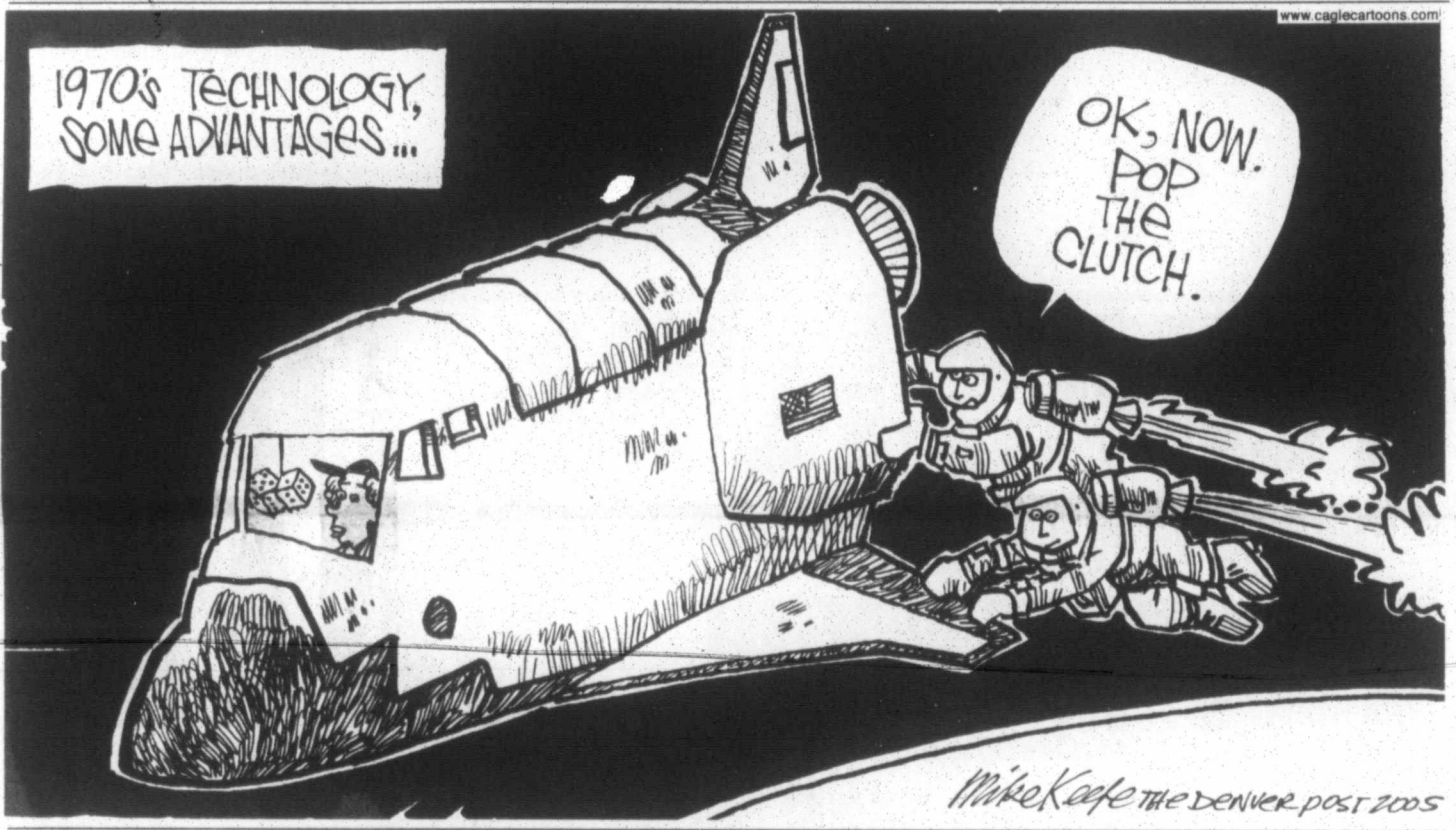
In 1980, closing ceremonies were held in Moscow for the Summer Olympic Games, which had been boycotted by dozens of countries, including the United States.

In 1981, U.S. air traffic controllers went on strike, despite a warning from President Reagan they would be fired, which they were.

In 1993, the Senate voted 96-3 to confirm Supreme Court nominee Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

In 1994, Stephen G. Breyer was sworn in as the Supreme Court's newest justice in a private ceremony at Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist's Vermont summer home.

Ten years ago: A Palestinian, Eyad Ismoil, was flown to the United States from Jordan to face charges he'd driven a bomb-laden van into New York's World Trade Center.



Violent extremism must be rooted out, not defended

Mainstream Muslims in the United States, like their counterparts in Britain, have launched a nationwide campaign to accomplish two critical goals: Root out extremists among Muslims in the United States and convince other Americans that Islam is not incompatible with the core values of this country.

The United States is home to some 2 million Muslims, numerically more than many Western European countries, but also smaller percentages of total national populations. But Islam is a rapidly growing religious faith in the United States, so that its number of adherents and its portion of the overall U.S. population — less than 1 percent — will continue to climb.

Earlier last month, the Washington, D.C.-based Council on American-Islamic Relations, or CAIR, released a 30-second public service announcement to run on television nationwide.

The PSA features American Muslims stating, "We often hear claims Muslims don't condemn terrorism and that Islam condones violence. As Muslims, we want to state clearly that those who commit acts of terror in the name of Islam are betraying the teachings of the Quran and the Prophet Muhammad. We reject anyone of any faith who commits such brutal acts and will not allow our faith to be hijacked by criminals. Islam is not about hatred and violence. It's about peace and justice."

More than a year ago, CAIR launched a "Not in the

Name of Islam" petition for American Muslims to sign. It says, "We, the undersigned, wish to state clearly that those who commit acts of terror and murder in the name of Islam are not only destroying innocent lives, but are also devastating the image of the faith they claim to represent. No injustice done to Muslims can ever justify the massacre of innocent people, and no act of terror will ever serve the cause of Islam."

"We repudiate and disassociate ourselves from any Muslim group or individual who commits such brutal and un-Islamic acts. Islam must not be held hostage by the criminal actions of a tiny minority acting outside both the boundaries of their faith and the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad."

On its Web site, the Muslim Public Affairs Council of the United States prominently quotes a Quran verse stating a core value of Islam: "Whosoever killed a human being — unless it be in punishment for murder or for spreading corruption on earth — it shall be as if he had killed all mankind; whereas, if anyone saves a life, it shall be as though he had saved the lives of all mankind" (Quran 5:33).

Following one recent London bombing attack, the council and CAIR coordinated the release of a statement from young Muslim leaders

in the United States, saying, "This afternoon, the world witnessed a second terrorist attack on London. In light of these hostile events, we Muslim American students and youth stand united in condemning all acts of terror and the burgeoning war on ideas. We refuse to remain silent while others claiming to represent Islam preach an ideology of hatred. Islam does not tolerate the use of terrorism for any purpose, regardless of who the aggressors are and what their justifications might be. This sensitive time calls for solidarity not only for the people of London but for the international community, regardless of race or faith, to oppose the evil of terrorism."

Among the signatories to that statement was the Muslim Students Association at the University of Texas at Austin. Public statements such as these are critically important. But words alone are not enough. Action also is needed to defuse the explosiveness of Islamic extremism in the United States. Although it represents only a small fraction of the nation's total Muslim community, only a few terrorists can do great harm.

However, The Associated Press reported, some mainstream Muslims are reluctant to cooperate with law enforcement and national security authorities, almost

four years after the 9/11 attacks, according to the head of the FBI's Muslim advisory committee, Timothy Herlocker, an assistant special agent in charge of the bureau's New York field office.

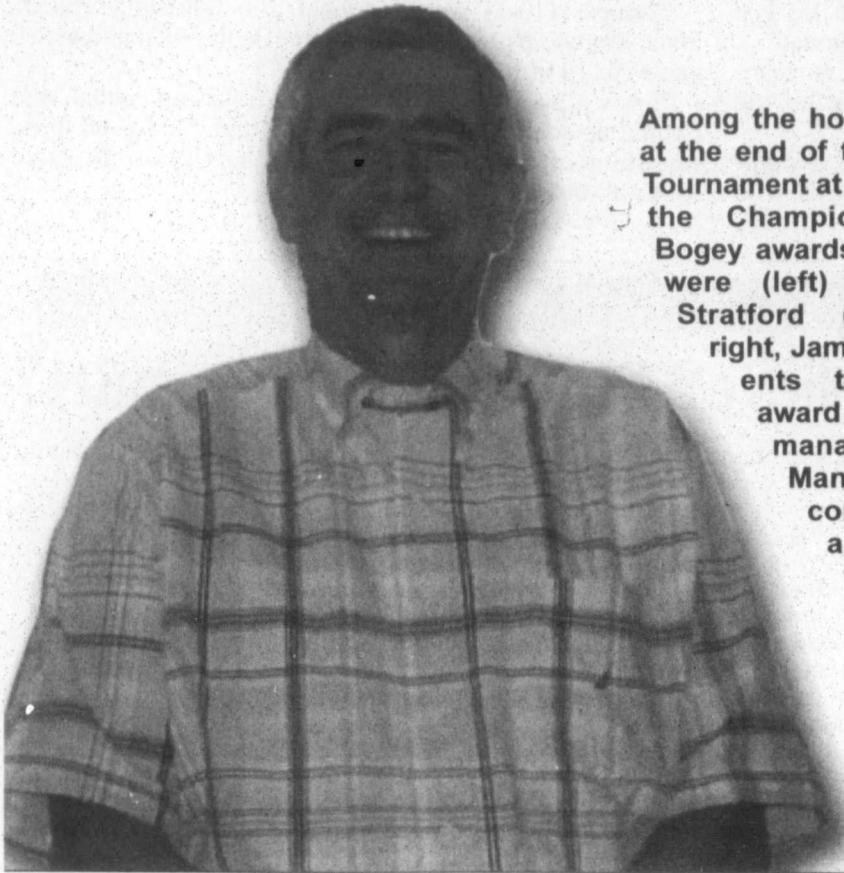
To mitigate that, "we tell all the congregations this: 'If you are afraid to come to the FBI with this information, go to your mosque leadership, go to your community leadership and have them talk to us,'" Herlocker said. CAIR tells its members the same thing, spokesman Ibrahim Hooper said. "I used to talk about internal policing two years ago after 9/11, and people used to get really upset," Muqtadar Khan, a political scientist and author of "American Muslims," told the AP. "They said, 'Are you asking us to turn in our brothers?'" Khan added, "9/11 was one event, and people hid behind all kinds of denials, and now it's impossible to do that."

Despite dissatisfaction with the Bush administration, the war in Iraq, the USA Patriot Act and not-infrequent heavy-handedness by federal and local law enforcement, mainstream American Muslims have to take more responsibility for rooting out the small number of violent extremists in their midst. Mainstream Muslims have to create a climate in their communities of faith, by both their actions and their words, in which violent extremism is not only repudiated, but is also reported to authorities for appropriate investigation.

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Sports Day

71st Annual TSSGC award winners



Among the honors bestowed each year at the end of the Tri-State Seniors Golf Tournament at Pampa Country Club are the Championship and Colonel Bogey awards. This year's winners were (left) Duane Pittman of Stratford (Championship). At right, James Cunningham presents the Colonel Bogey award to recipient and PCC manager Robin Manzanara for her continued support and dedication to the association and making sure all who compete have a great time doing so.



END OF AN ERA

Hall of Fame jockey Pat Day set to retire

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Hall of Fame jockey Pat Day is retiring, bringing to an end one of horse racing's greatest and most lucrative careers.

Day, who won the 1992 Kentucky Derby aboard Lil E. Tee, has 8,804 victories and is the career money leader with purses totaling \$297,941,912. His 32-year racing career comes to a close just months after the 51-year-old returned to racing after hip surgery.

Day's agent, Doc Danner, said the jockey will make an official announcement Thursday morning at Churchill Downs.

Track spokesman John Asher confirmed a news conference was scheduled and said Day would discuss his future.

"He's just at a plateau in his life where the Lord's calling him off to do other things," Danner told The Associated Press.

Day made the decision while convalescing alone in a cabin along the Kentucky River this week, Danner said Wednesday.

Day's decision came after he missed his first Kentucky Derby in 21 years, then cut back on his riding schedule this winter and spring.

Scheduled meetings and events

PHS Football Booster Club

The Pampa High School Football Booster Club meets every Monday night at Val Halla. Meetings get under way at 7 p.m.

PHS Volleyball Booster Club

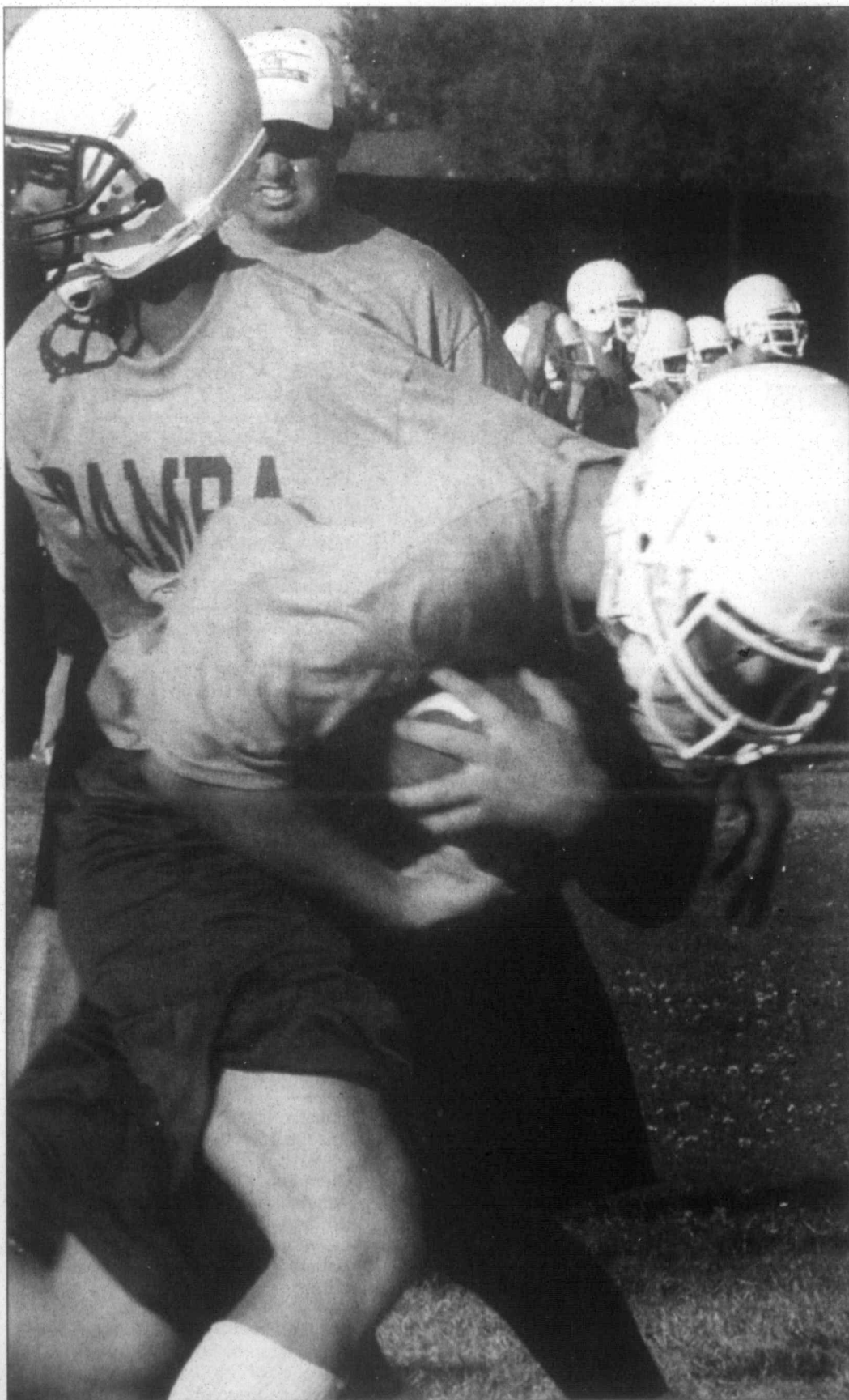
There will be a PHS Volleyball Booster Club meeting Thursday at 7 p.m. in the high school library. Among the items scheduled is the introduction of players and coaches.

Flag Football

Pampa Optimist Youth Club registrations for the upcoming flag football season contin-

ued Tuesday. To this point, both the first and second grade teams each have had approximately 25 players sign up to compete. POYC officials anticipate a strong turnout tonight, the final chance for boys and girls from these grades to register. At least one team from Miami is expected to take part as well. Registrations will be taken from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Grades 3-6 will be able to sign up Aug. 16-18. The Pampa Optimist Youth Club is a Pampa United Way agency.

Safely tucked away



Pampa News photo by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Members of the Pampa High School junior varsity football team work on handoff skills earlier this week.

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School, Ext. 225 To Register Students.

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: We have a stalker living in our apartment building. It's the residential manager, "Jerry." The owners of the building have been called several times about it, but all they say is, "He's just weird."

Several women tenants say he's harassing them. Jerry has tried to enter their apartments late at night. One lady feels her safety is being threatened because he goes through the halls announcing that she is alone now. When she informed her doctor about it, he said he was going to call the sheriff.

One of the women is thinking about asking to have deadbolt locks installed on the inside of our doors. Have you any other suggestions? -- SINGLE AND WORRIED IN MINNESOTA

DEAR WORRIED: Just this. Although a landlord may be entitled to have access to an apartment, that access has to be reasonable. Tenants have rights, and the concerned tenants in your building should consult a real estate attorney who can review your leases and explain what your rights are. Jerry appears to be more than weird; his behavior seems bizarre and I don't blame you for being concerned about it.

DEAR ABBY: My 11-year-old son, "Noah," still wets the bed. I did, too, until I was 12 -- so I know how humiliating it is. My husband, "Phil," thinks Noah is just too lazy to get up and that he's doing it on purpose.

Phil makes nasty comments to Noah that chip away at his self-esteem. No matter how many times we've talked about this, Phil just doesn't get it. He's not a verbal abuser; he is just ignorant. Maybe hearing an opinion from a professional will make my husband realize it's not just me protecting my child. -- CONCERNED MOM IN APPLE VALLEY

DEAR CONCERNED MOM: I disagree with you. Your husband may be ignorant,

but he is also a verbal abuser. The professional who needs to set your husband straight is your son's pediatrician. Your boy may be an unusually deep sleeper, or he may have some kind of physical or emotional problem. Belittling him isn't the answer. It will only create a resentment on your son's part that will last a lifetime.

DEAR ABBY: Can you clarify a question that has been brought up here at my workplace? The ladies in my office have a difference of opinion about what "spending the night" means. If you sleep at someone's house and get up the next morning to go home and get dressed, brush your teeth, etc. -- does this mean that you have spent the night? A few of the ladies say this isn't spending the night, but rather, "getting home really late."

Your opinion, please. -- ARGUING SEMANTICS, STANDARDSVILLE, VA.

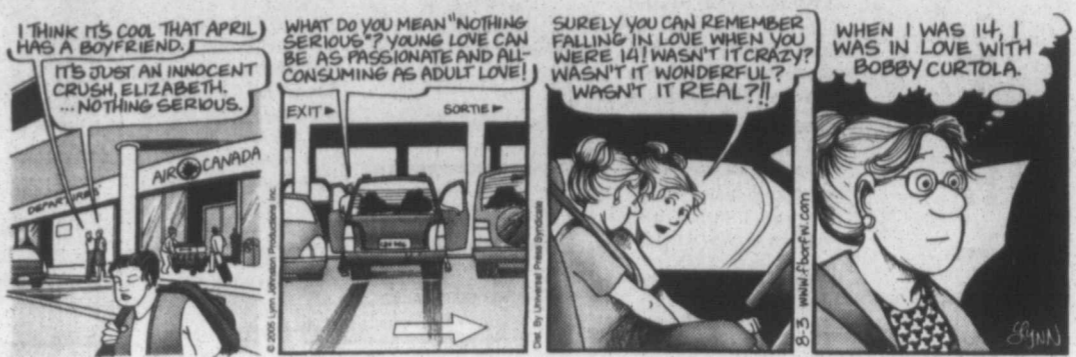
DEAR ARGUING: "Getting home really late" implies that the person has rested her head on her own pillow -- at least for a while. If she has gone home only to change clothes, let's be honest -- she has not only "spent the night," she has also spent the early hours of the morning.

DEAR ABBY: I recall your saying that if you find out your significant other or spouse has been in an affair, you should get tested for various STDs. Exactly which ones should I be tested for? -- NEVER THOUGHT I'D NEED TO KNOW IN LAS VEGAS

DEAR NEVER: Talk to your doctor and ask to be tested for all of them.

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



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 42 Warty ones

1 Merchandise

6 Swine

10 Broadway orphan

11 Book category

12 Take it easy

13 Gave stars to

14 Some stories

15 Chide

16 Bank offering

17 Anger

18 Golf goal

19 Binding agreement

22 New Jersey team

23 Poster holder

26 Room-mate

29 Upper limit

32 Farrow of film

33 At present

34 Odorless gas

36 London gallery

37 Tea of movies

38 Dispatch

39 Singer Ronstadt

40 Duo quadrupled

41 Folding money

WITTY SPORT
NONE TIMER
SANTAMONICA
EWE RAP COG
REDANTS RUE
PET POND
TAPER MINTY
HARD SET
EMU AUTHORS
DID SEE LAP
ELECTRONICA
ENNUI ROVER
PETER SWEDE

Yesterday's answer

15 Lingerie

17 String quartet

20 List-end-member

21 Writer dinner at home

24 Two-deck game

25 Like a or but's

27 Down snack

28 Canary

29 String quartet

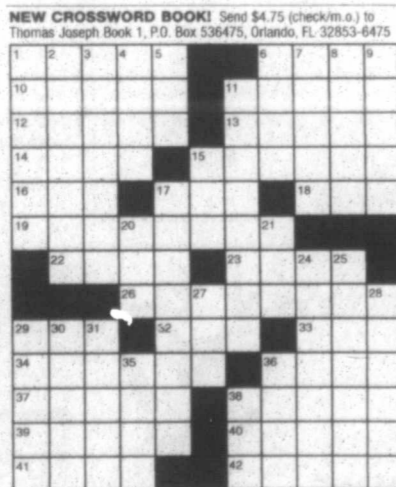
30 Had member

31 Caller's need

35 "No ifs, or buts"

36 Folded snack

38 All the rage



Marmaduke



"What? Breakfast and snack? Lunch and snack snack? Dinner and snack snack snack?"

The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"But the sun's up and WHO wants to spend their whole vacation in BED?"

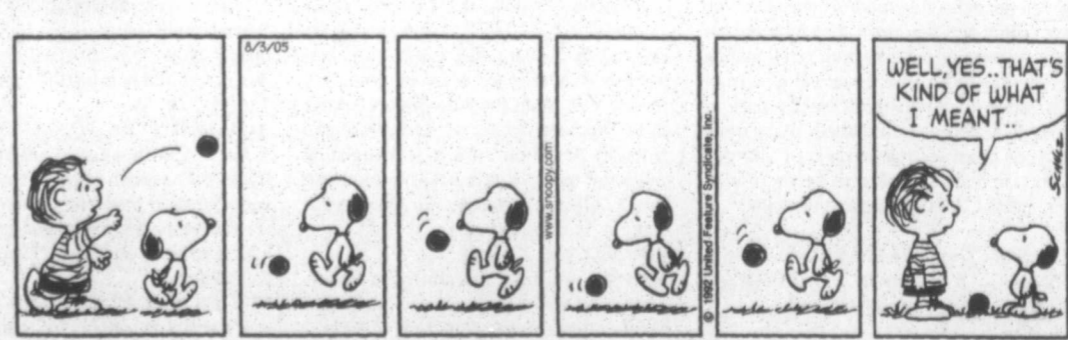
B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends

