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See expanded weather on Page 2

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THE PAMPA NEWS

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Area becoming a hotbed for wind farm companies

By MARILYN POWERS
 Staff Writer

An elemental force that can cause aggravation and destruction has long been a feature of the Texas Panhandle, but its potential as an energy resource has only recently been recognized.

Wind is joining oil and gas as a marketable power source. For almost two years, Texas has been the top wind producer in the United States, according to the Texas State Energy Conservation Office.

New and existing companies have

begun to harness the wind's power to generate electricity by signing agreements with landowners and constructing wind farms, including several in the Panhandle.

Airtricity, a company based in Ireland, is one such company. More than 100 landowners in Gray County have signed agreements with Airtricity to allow the company to install electricity-generating windmills on their land, according to records on file in the county clerk's office.

Raymond Barrett has signed a

contract with Airtricity concerning a quarter-section of land he owns in the Grandview area south of Pampa. The agreement gives Airtricity the right to do testing and to construct a wind farm on the land, and it is valid for 33 years, Barrett said.

He will receive a percentage of the value of any power generated from any Airtricity windmills on his land, beginning with four percent of gross income the first year, five percent the second year, and increasing to 10 percent, he said.

James McCracken and Joe

Wheely have signed similar agreements with Airtricity.

"They're interested in an area along Interstate 40 and north," McCracken said. "They sound promising. I signed an agreement a month ago."

Airtricity has not yet taken action concerning the contracts.

"It's going to be another year before they start developing anything, I think," McCracken said. "To me, of the companies I've talked to,

See WIND, Page 3

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Annual rabies vaccination drive begins this weekend

By KERRI SMTH
 Staff Writer

Pampa's annual rabies vaccination drive for dogs and cats is scheduled for Saturday and Monday. The vaccines will be available at a discounted rate of \$12 per animal at Gray County Veterinary Clinic at 1329 S. Hobart and Easley Animal Hospital, 8741 N. Loop 171.

Both veterinarian clinics will also give discounts for other shots as well.

"Any animal in need of puppy shots or the full series of vaccinations can get those at a reduced rate also," Veterinarian Brian Gordzelik said. "This drive is being done to encourage pet owners to update their animal's vaccinations and ensure the health of their pets and also the health of Pampa residents."

At both clinics, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, dogs can be brought in without an appointment. The shots for cats will be done on Monday, again without an appointment, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Easley Animal

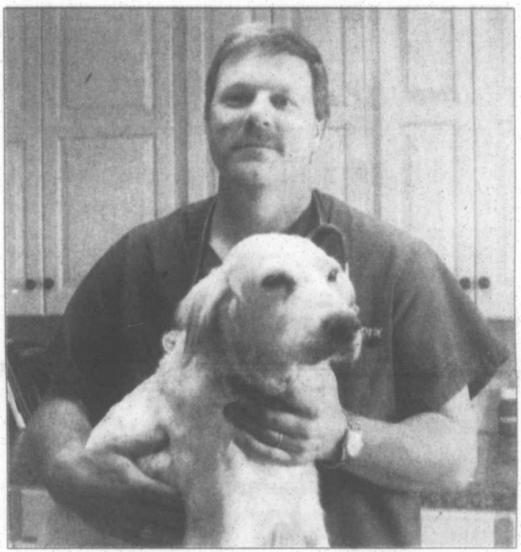
Hospital and 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Gray County Veterinary Clinic.

According to Gordzelik, the state of Texas requires that dogs and cats be vaccinated against rabies by four months of age, again at the age of one year and then either a one-year or three-year basis after that, depending on the type of vaccine used. State law requires that all animals wear the rabies tag at all times also.

If a person is bitten by an animal, the animal must be placed in quarantine for 10 days to make sure it is not sick, according to Animal Control Officer Onry Wells.

"If we catch the animal that bit and we know they are current on their shots, it is a lot easier on everyone," Wells said. "The animal can be released back to the owner after the quarantine time and the person that was bitten doesn't have to undergo the rabies shot series."

For more information, contact Gray County Veterinary Clinic at 665-7197 or Easley Animal Hospital at 665-7188.



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH

Veterinarian Brian Gordzelik is preparing for the discounted rabies vaccinations on Saturday and Monday at his clinic and at Easley Animal Hospital. Sadie, an English Setter, does not look too thrilled about getting a shot.

Planting pines



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Debbie Davis gets help from Ethan Greer, left, and Jacob Wichert in planting Scotch pines at her Christmas tree farm north of Pampa off Highway 70. Davis has planted about 100 new trees this spring. Approximately 300 evergreens will be six to seven feet tall by Christmas and ready for cutting and taking home to trim, Davis said. The trees take six to seven years to reach holiday tree-cutting size. Davis, who has about 800 trees on the farm, began selling cut-your-own Christmas trees last year.

Shooting victim says he was being robbed

By MARILYN POWERS
 Staff Writer

An Edinburg man who was shot early Monday at the El Capri Motel was in stable condition after undergoing surgery at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo, according to Pampa Police Department Assistant Chief Dennis Burton.

Adolpho Cantu, 23, was

shot once in the chest and once in the arm with his own handgun after attempting to fend off a burglary attempt by another man at the motel, Burton said.

Information on the incident was given by the victim between surgeries Monday at NWTX, he said.

See SHOOTING, Page 3

Postal worker bitten

By KERRI SMITH
 Staff Writer

A postal worker received a couple of stitches at Pampa Regional Medical Center shortly before noon Tuesday after being bitten by a dog in the 1200 block of East Kingsmill.

According to Animal Control Officer Onry Wells, a German shepherd mix that bit the postal worker was turned over by the owners shortly after the incident.

"The dog is current of all of his shots so there should-

n't be a risk of the bite victim getting rabies or any other illness from the animal," Wells said. "We have to quarantine the dog for 10 days to make sure it doesn't get sick and then after that time the dog can be released to the owner if they choose to do so. If the dog and victim are both fine, what happens to the animal after that period is purely up to the owner."

Workers at the Pampa Post Office would not comment on the incident.

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NEXT DAY FORECAST

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy

Thursday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 77. Southeast wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 59. South-southeast wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 85. South-southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 59. South wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 83. Windy, with a south wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph.

Saturday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 63. Windy, with a south wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph.

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Obituaries

H.J. "Brownie" Browning, 84

H.J. "Brownie" Browning, 84, of Pampa, died May 1, 2007, at Amarillo. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whately Funeral



Browning

Directors of Pampa.

—Sign the online register book at www.carmichael-whately.com.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of White Deer.

Wheat	4.37
Milo	5.85
Corn	6.63
Soybeans	6.25

The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.

OKY	51.14	+0.38
BP PLC ADR	67.42	+0.10
Cabot Corp	45.25	+1.25
Celanese	34.47	+0.50
Cabot Oil Gas	37.11	+0.17
Coca Cola	52.74	+0.11
VLO	71.94	+0.79
HAL	31.70	+0.30
TRI	53.18	NC

KML	106.70	-0.05
XCEL	24.31	+0.03
Anadarko	46.14	-0.13
XOM	79.95	+0.29
Nat'l Oilwell	88.40	+1.30
Limited	27.58	+0.22
Williams	29.63	+0.22
MCD	49.54	+0.40
Atmos	31.98	-0.11
Pioneer Nat	50.43	-0.01
JCP	80.63	+0.72
COP	69.46	+0.27
SLB	74.19	+0.36
Tenneco	29.52	-0.10
CVX	78.44	+0.09
Wal-Mart	48.62	+0.29
OKE	48.32	-0.37

New York Gold	677.30
Silver	13.37
West Texas Crude	64.40

Asarco moves closer to permit

EL PASO (AP) — An Arizona mining company moved closer to obtaining a permit to resume operations at an El Paso copper smelter that has been closed since 1999.

A report released Tuesday by the executive director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality recommended renewing Asarco's air quality permit only if the Tucson-based company takes a series of steps to ensure that it "maintains effective pollution con-

trol equipment and practices."

Among them, the executive director said the company would need to develop a plan for repairs to its acid plants and thoroughly inspect certain electric systems.

Doug McAllister, Asarco's attorney, said in a statement that the conditions laid out in the 30-page report are what Asarco would expect to face before restarting the plant.

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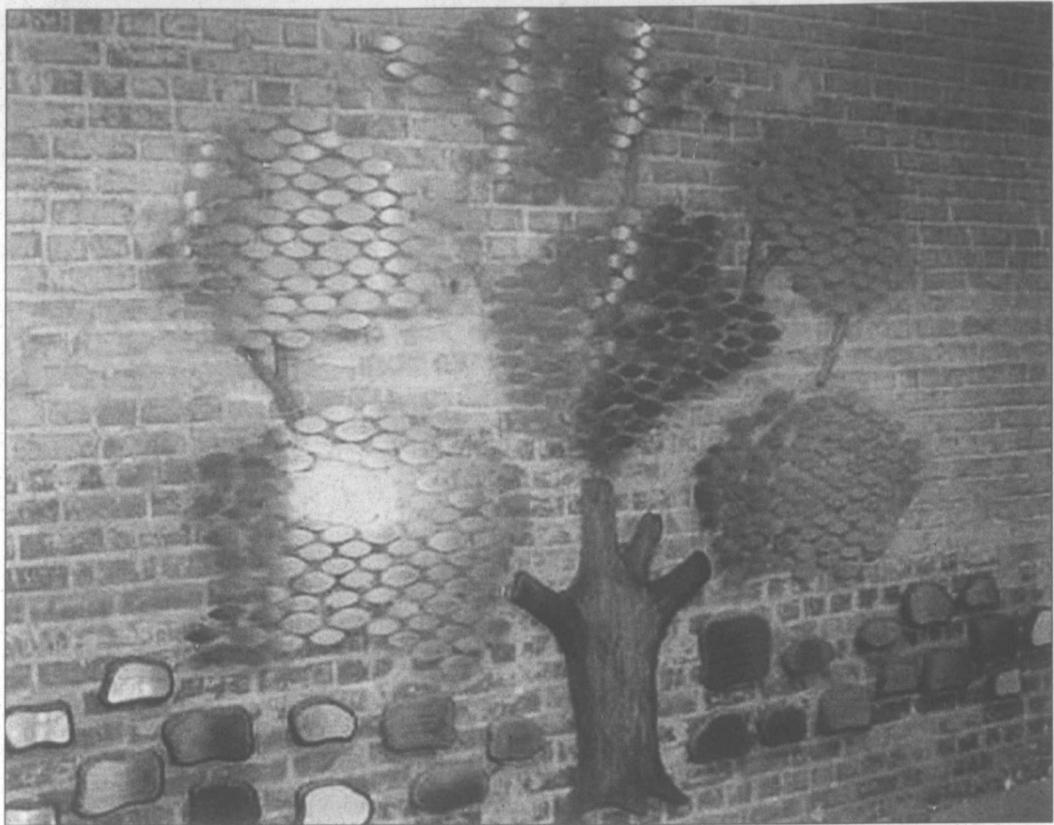
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Heritage Tree



COURTESY PHOTO

White Deer Land Museum, 112 S. Cuyler in downtown Pampa, has several leaves still available for purchase on the Heritage Tree. The Heritage Tree is a wall ornament on display at the museum with plaques in the shape of leaves. The leaves come in two sizes. Each plaque can accommodate up to four lines of engraving. "They are a wonderful way to remember a family, a parent, a spouse, a veteran, or to honor one who has passed away," Anne Davidson, curator of the museum, said. The brass leaves are placed on the tree branches at various intervals. Plaques in the shape of rocks are arranged at the base of the tree and will accommodate more lines of engraving than the leaves. "We can engrave a wedding date, a birth date, or any memory you want to preserve," Davidson said. Small leaves may be purchased for \$75 a piece and large leaves for \$150 apiece. Proceeds from the tree benefit the museum and its exhibits. "Order your remembrance now before Memorial Day," Davidson urged.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Twelve traffic stops were made. Traffic complaints were received from the intersection of Randy Matson and Hobart streets, the 300 block of West Brown and the 700 block of South Barnes.

Vehicle accidents were reported at the intersection of 28th Avenue and Perryton Parkway, the 100 block of East Harvester, the 2200 block of North Hobart, and the intersection of Dwight and Crawford streets.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 1000 block of Huff Road, Highway 60 East, the 300 block of Tignor, the 500 block of Yeager, the 1200 block of North Hobart, the 400 block of Lefors, the 1200 block of East Kingsmill, the 1100 block of East Foster, the 1100 block of South Finley and the 1300 block of East Kingsmill.

Lost property was reported in the 800 block of East Scott.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 1200 block of East Frederic and the 500 block of Hazel.

Civil matters were reported in the 400 block of West Brown and on two occasions in the police department lobby.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the 1600 block of East Highway 60.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 1000 block of Neel Road.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of Sierra, the 900 block of Varnon Drive, the 800 block of East Scott and at Pampa Junior High School, 2401 Charles.

Disorderly conduct-language was reported at the intersection of Dwight and Crawford streets. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Harassment was reported in the 100 block of North Dwight and the 700 block of East 14th.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1000 block of Neel Road.

Assault was reported in the 1800 block of North Dwight.

Public intoxication was reported in the 2000 block of North Hobart.

Two burglar alarms were reported. One open door was checked.

Burglary of a habitation was reported in the 1300 block of Coffee. Cash valued at approximately \$1,100 was taken.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1900 block of Fir. Compact discs and a wallet with contents were taken. Estimated value of loss is \$354.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 600 block of Sloan. A CD holder, 30 CDs and coins were taken. Estimated value of loss is \$260.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1700 block of Grape.

injuries were reported. Lanham was cited for disregarding a stop sign.

Sheriff

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests today.

Tuesday, May 1

Steven Ray Crawford, 28, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa Police Department for no driver's license, possession of drug paraphernalia, failure to maintain financial responsibility and expired registration.

Raquel Fierro Ramirez, 21, of Pampa was arrested in the 300 block of West Brown by PPD for possession of less than two ounces of marijuana.

Benjamin Aaron Allbee, 18, of Pampa was arrested in the 1100 block of South Dwight by PPD for disorderly conduct-language.

Wednesday, May 2

Leeann McDonald, 27, of Dolores, Colo., was arrested by GCSO for public intoxication.

Lukas Jed McDonald, 28, of Dolores was arrested by GCSO for assault causing bodily injury/family violence.

Fire

Pampa Fire Department reported the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Tuesday, May 1

9:39 a.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 300 block of Brown for a hazardous material clean up.

Wednesday, May 2

3:34 a.m. — Three units and seven personnel responded to One Medical Plaza on a fire alarm.

Clarification

Altrusa of Pampa hosted the recent state conference in Amarillo. The Borger Altrusa club members assisted with the reservations and the ASTRA club of Pampa High helped with the games on the evening entertainment.

Man dies in flooded Hill Country cavern

BOERNE, Texas (AP) — The manager of a commercial tourist cavern in the Texas Hill Country drowned when he swam into a nearby cave to try to improve its drainage, friends and co-workers said.

Thomas Summers III, 44, died Monday during an

attempt to improve the water outflow of Deadman's Cave, which is connected via tunnels to Cave Without a Name, located about 30 miles north of San Antonio.

Summers, a father of four, had moved to Kendall County in 2004 from the Longview

area to partner with his father and manage Cave Without a Name, an attraction that draws about 15,000 visitors annually.

"Obviously, it's a tragic accident," said Dayna Cartwright, a friend of Summers' family. "You have

to be extremely careful in dealing with Mother Nature."

Mike Burrell, a co-worker of Summers, said recent rains raised the water table and submerged the outer reaches of Cave Without a Name. But the water didn't affect regular tours.

Meals on Wheels sponsoring march

Meals on Wheels is sponsoring their 2nd annual "March for Meals in May" from 5 - 8 p.m. Friday at Recreation Park. The cost is \$10 per person and the first 100 to register get a T-shirt and meal of chili dogs, chips, cookies, soft drinks or water.

Those who are interested in participating can walk alone or get together with friends and family and form a team.

Fill out the registration form below, attach the entry fee and mail it or take it to Meals on Wheels at 302 E. Foster.

Name _____

Telephone No. _____

No. in Team _____ Amt. Enclosed _____

New museum display



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH

White Deer Land Museum opened a new exhibit honoring Gray County Firefighters today. The display was designed by the Exhibits Committee of the Museum Advisory Board to recognize the heroes who protect our lives and property. The museum, at 112 S. Cuyler, is currently open for visitors from 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday, but will extend the hours during the summer months.

DPS reminds bikers about safety issues

With May as Motorcycle Safety Month and the movie, "Wild Hogs," playing in theatres, DPS wants to remind motorcyclists to think safety first.

The movie accurately portrays a trend in motorcycle riding nationwide: unprepared riders are hitting the roads in increasing numbers. Returning riders are getting back on their motorcycles without brushing up on their skills.

"We've noticed an increase in wrecks involving returning riders - those who have not ridden recently but have previously," said Clifton Burdette, coordinator of the DPS Motorcycle Safety Unit. "Their skills are a little rusty, but they think they can ride now with no problems. We encourage them to take an operator training course. They can brush up on their skills and increase their safety on the road."

An advertisement for "Wild Hogs" says, "When they hit the road, they had no idea the road would hit back." Unfortunately, that is true for many motorcyclists who haven't taken the time to brush up on their riding skills. Last year, 32,267 Texans took either the basic or advanced course, setting an all-time record number of students taking advantage of the courses, but there are 803,116 licensed motorcyclists in Texas. Many of those drivers could benefit from taking a safety course. The basic course may be

used to waive the licensing road test, and both of the courses may qualify for ticket dismissal and insurance discounts.

The DPS Motorcycle Safety Unit offers basic and advanced motorcycle operator training in 69 permanent locations and nine mobile sites.

Motorcycle riders can locate the course nearest to them by visiting the DPS Web site www.txdps.state.tx.us/msb/

In 2005 (latest statistics available), 360 people in Texas died as a result of motorcycle crashes, with 59.3 percent of those not wearing a helmet. While Texas does not require all motorcycle riders to wear helmets, the DPS strongly encourages riders to wear helmets to increase safety and save lives. Texas law states that in order to be exempt from wearing a helmet, a person must be at least 21 years of age. In addition, they must successfully complete a motorcycle safety course or be covered by a health insurance plan providing at least \$10,000 in medical benefits for motorcycle-related injuries.

Motorcyclists should take responsibility for improving their own safety by following this advice from DPS:

- Wear protective equipment, including a helmet, whenever riding.
- Attend a professionally taught motorcycle safety course.
- Ride defensively.

Volunteer service award



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH

Representatives from the National Weather Service in Amarillo were in Pampa recently to present a 25-year volunteer service award to Judy Morriss of Lefors. Morriss has monitored precipitation amounts, specifically rainfall, over the years and reported the results to NWS for use in climatic atlases, drought assessment, crop yield forecasts, flood zone determination and insurance industry needs. Pictured from left are NWS Chief Meteorologist Jose Garcia, Robert Morriss, Judy Morriss, NWS Amarillo Cooperative Program Leader Tabatha Tripp and Meteorologist Intern Chris Kimble.

Wind

Continued from Page 1

this looks the most promising."

McCracken's contract, like Barrett's, is for 33 years with the same percentage of gross profits to be paid to him. His agreement with Airtricity concerns several small parcels of land, he said.

"I have not been contacted since our original meeting a year ago or more," said Wheeley. "Several of my neighbors signed with them."

Wheeley's land, which may become part of Airtricity's wind farm, is included in the area north of Interstate 40 which is the company's point of interest. "The original plan was for an area along Interstate 40. The area is along Highway 70 north to the first major drainages, Davis Road or thereabouts," he said. "Then west to the county line."

Some Gray County landowners have been contacted by more than one wind energy company.

"They're supposed to send me a contract for land I have north of Pampa and southwest of Pampa," Barrett said of PPM Energy, a ScottishPower company with offices in Canada. "T. Boone Pickens is also getting involved with his company, Mesa."

CPV Wind Ventures may be furthest along the road to developing a wind energy farm in Gray County. The Massachusetts-based company has received tax abatements from Donley and Gray counties for a wind farm it plans to build along an area near Highway 70.

Selling wind-generated electricity requires a way to transmit that power from its source to the customers. Airtricity is also involved in this stage of the process by taking part in a consortium of five companies which are planning an electricity transmission loop in the Panhandle.

The Panhandle Loop will be an 800-mile transmission line which will carry 4,200 megawatts of wind energy-generated electricity, enough to supply more than one million homes, according to Airtricity's Web site.

The Loop will cost \$1.5 billion to construct and will carry electricity from the Panhandle to cities south of

Dallas/Fort Worth, San Antonio and Austin, according to the Web site of Renewable Choice, an energy company specializing in renewable power sources.

Other companies included in the consortium are Babcock and Brown Renewable Holdings Inc., Celanese Ltd., Occidental Energy Ventures Corp. and Sharyland Utilities, L.P.

"The reason we're involved in this project is we've announced we're looking for strategic alternatives for the Pampa plant," said Jeremy Neuhart, manager of external communications in Celanese' Dallas office. "Our involvement in the Panhandle Loop is a way to get involved in one of those strategic alternatives."

Celanese's involvement in the project has so far included contact with the Public Utility Commission in Austin and "talking about the project and lending our support," Neuhart said.

The proposed Panhandle Loop has not yet earned the recommendation of T. Brian Almon, director of electric transmission oversight for the Public Utility Commission of Texas, however. In testimony filed April 24, Almon recommended that an area which includes Gray County, with the exception of the southeastern corner, use the Southwest Power Pool for transmission of electrical energy.

"This is his recommendation at this point," said Terry Hadley, a PUC spokesman. "This is a process ultimately to be decided by the commission."

Completion of the Panhandle Loop is planned for 2010. The Loop will carry not only 4,200 MW of wind-generated electricity, but an additional 2,000 MW of gas-fired power and 1,800 MW of coal fired power, according to Sharyland Utilities' Web site.

"The 4,200 MW of wind energy which Airtricity plans to build along the loop will have a major impact on reducing global warming by preventing the release of over six million tons of harmful CO2 emissions from being released into the atmosphere each year," according to Airtricity's Web site.

"The country needs another source of energy," said McCracken.

Shooting

Continued from Page 1

"He stated he went to the motel to visit with friends," Burton said of Cantu. "Apparently, the suspect was in the room next door and attempted to rob him of his billfold. The victim had a gun on him and thought he'd defend himself. The suspect wrestled the gun away from him and shot him twice at close range inside the room."

The suspect left the scene, and Cantu got up and went out to the motel's parking lot, where he was found at the time police arrived on the scene at 4:43 a.m., Burton said.

A gun was recovered Tuesday near the scene of the shooting, Burton said. The victim and suspect did not know each other, according to the victim.

"We have a suspect and are trying to locate that suspect," Burton said. "We hope to get a warrant for aggravated assault or attempted murder. First, we have to locate our suspect."

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Viewpoints

The world makes less and less sense every day

I recently turned 45, and it's official: I have turned into my father.

The world makes less sense to me every day. My fellow man puzzles me more every day.

I cite exhibit A: crappy stone walls. I know a woman who paid \$10,000 to have a small stone retaining wall built along her driveway.

Now I used to be a stonemason — I rebuilt close to 200 such walls during my high school and college years — and I was shocked to learn that hers was a new wall. It was buckling and full of gaps. Not one stone was properly cut or faced.

It's the latest craze, she told me — walls that have an old, authentic look. This is because people suddenly want the outside of their homes to look as "dis-

tressed" as the inside.

"Distressed furniture" is the latest trend in interior design. People are buying brand-new tables and dressers, bringing them into their garages, kicking and scratching them, then covering them in a lumpy, flaky paint.

I called my sister, an interior designer, to learn more about this peculiar trend. She said people want the antique look, but because real antiques are hard to come by, the next best thing is to buy something new and make it look scuffed and tired and worn.

This causes my father to rise up in me as I say, "What the ..."

But nothing is more puzzling than our next item of distress: distressed jeans. That's right, there is actually

a product the fashionistas refer to as "distressed jeans." These are jeans with tears and gaping holes that, according to The New York Times, sell for upwards of \$600 a pair.

Even in Pittsburgh, land of common-sense people, a lousy pair of trendy jeans runs upwards of \$200. I talked with the owner of an upscale jeans store and she told me the jeans with holes in them aren't as popular as the ones with paint splattered all over them.

"Jeans splattered with paint?"

"Yes, they're all the rage."

"But they have paint on

them!"

"Yes!" Just as I was ready to concede that the American experiment is spent and all will soon be lost, she told me about another jeans trend: dirt-washed jeans. That's right, the jean manufacturer



Tom Purcell
Columnist

washes them in dirt. They have pebbles and clumps of clay in the pockets. And Americans, many of them educated and from good homes, willingly exchange their hard-earned dough for them.

The dirt-washed jeans are almost as popular as the grease-smear jeans, she continued (and I'm not making this up). The jean manu-

facturers actually smear grease all over the jeans, so that people who buy them can be as fashionable as the guy in the pit at the Jiffy Lube.

I asked the jeans-shop owner to help me understand why people are buying such products. She said that manufacturers are always trying to be hip. When something hits — when the trendy crowd just has to have it — the manufacturer can charge huge markups.

Well, I understand that, I told her. But why? Why are people dumb enough to buy these things? Why are Americans spending so much money for items that sensible Americans used to donate to Goodwill or toss in the garbage?

She had no answer. Let me take a stab at it.

As we work exhausting hours in gray cubicles doing bland service work — as we move into cookie-cutter houses in the thick of suburban sprawl — and as fewer of us know any sense of craftsmanship or what it is like to sweat or work with our hands, we long for anything authentic — even if it's fake.

But what do I know. At 45, I have effectively become my father. Puzzled as I am by the latest trends, my thoughts have shifted to more practical matters.

Such as finding a couple of suckers willing to pay me 200 bucks for my greasy, paint-stained jeans.

—Tom Purcell is a humor columnist nationally syndicated exclusively by Cagle Cartoons.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, May 2, the 122nd day of 2007. There are 243 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 2, 1945, the Soviet Union announced the fall of Berlin, and the Allies announced the surrender of Nazi troops in Italy and parts of Austria.

On this date:

In 1519, artist Leonardo da Vinci died at Cloux, France.

In 1670, the Hudson Bay Co. was chartered by England's King Charles II.

In 1863, Confederate Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson was accidentally wounded by his own men at Chancellorsville, Va.; he died eight days later.

In 1890, the Oklahoma Territory was organized.

In 1936, "Peter and the Wolf," a symphonic tale for children by Sergei Prokofiev, had its world premiere in Moscow.

In 1957, Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, the controversial Republican from Wisconsin, died at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland.

In 1957, crime boss Frank Costello narrowly survived an attempt on his life in New York; the alleged gunman, Vincent "The Chin" Gigante, was acquitted at trial after Costello refused to identify him as the shooter.

In 1960, convicted sex offender and best-selling author Caryl Chessman was executed at San Quentin Prison in California.

In 1965, the Early Bird satellite was used to transmit television pictures across the Atlantic.

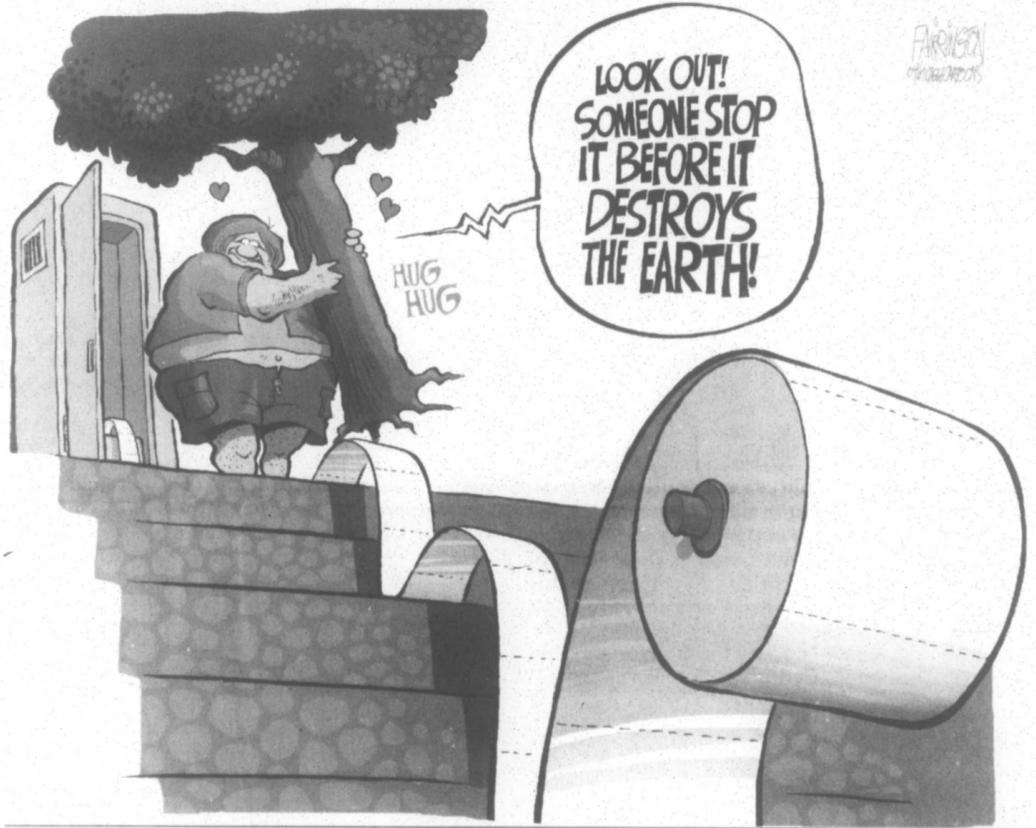
In 1972, after serving 48 years as head of the FBI, J. Edgar Hoover died in Washington at age 77.

Ten years ago: President Clinton and congressional Republicans came to terms on a plan to balance the budget over five years. A new national memorial honoring President Franklin D. Roosevelt was officially opened in Washington. Tony Blair, whose new Labour Party crushed John Major's long-reigning Conservatives in a national election, became at age 44 Britain's youngest prime minister in 185 years.

Five years ago: Yasser Arafat emerged from his West Bank headquarters, hours after Israeli troops withdrew from his compound and released the Palestinian leader from months of confinement.

'Have you ever observed that we pay much more attention to a wise passage when it is quoted than when we read it in the original author?'

— Philip G. Hamerton
English artist and essayist (1834-1894)



Hate is not the only opposite of love ...

School shootings were virtually unheard of until the 1990s. That being the fact, what do you suppose changed to make them tragically not uncommon at all?

I believe the blame lies with the entertainment industry. Violent acts — graphic, gratuitous and numerous — bombard children through movies, television and computer games. There is a lot more visible violence today than when I was a boy, even though I grew up in the middle of World War II.

The elephant in the room that everyone wishes to avoid acknowledging is that there are a ton of studies that show long-term exposure to fictional violence does, in fact, affect children. It's time

to put some limits on the First Amendment.

Years ago, the owner of a pornography shop came to see me at the newspaper where I worked. He wanted me to write a column defending his First

Amendment rights. He said that if he was censored, Shakespeare would be next. I told him that when he started selling copies of Shakespeare and someone tried to stop him to come see me, but until then, to get the hell out of my office.

The First Amendment was not written to protect pornography. It was, as any-

body can see who studies history, designed to protect intellectual and political ideas, speech and writing. It is disgusting to see purveyors of pornography wrapping themselves in the First

Amendment. It's like smearing excrement on the Constitution.

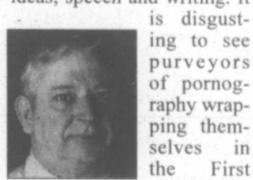
Movie directors like Quentin Tarantino and Robert Rodriguez are pornographers of violence. Their films drip with blood and mayhem, and more often than not there is not a single decent person in the cast of characters. To borrow

an old phrase, there is usually not a single socially redeeming feature in the entire production.

It's time to stop it. Labeling systems or ratings are a cop-out. There is no such thing as an adults-only world and a children's world. There is only one seamless world, and we all, regardless of our age, inhabit it.

I'm not suggesting fiction devoid of violence. My dad always refused to go see British movies because, he said, "The only thing they do is talk." He was right. At that time, usually even in a British mystery movie, the villain would be dispatched at the very end of the film

See REESE, Page 5



Walter Reese
Columnist

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Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ **April 23**
Austin American-Statesman on university admission:

"Texas' top universities need a better mechanism for selecting students than just the Top 10 percent law.

The Legislature should give them more flexibility so they can compete for the brightest and best students and continue strengthening diversity.

The admissions law, which requires the state's premier public universities to automatically admit Texas students who graduate in the top 10 percent of

their high school class, helped the state navigate through a difficult period after the courts struck down affirmative action admissions in 1996. The University of Texas and Texas A&M were able to use the rule's colorblind admissions to target students at predominantly minority high schools.

But a decade later, the Austin campus is feeling the pinch of the 1997 law that is too restrictive to meet the future needs of our top universities. And it is so sweeping in its scope that it threatens to crowd out any other method of admitting students. It is appropriate to revise it now.

Top UT officials, including UT President William Powers and UT

System regents Chairman James Huffines, are in agreement about the solution: Cap the law.

Last week, UT System regents voted to back legislation that would allow universities to cap admission under the law at 50 percent of their freshmen enrollees from Texas. We urge lawmakers to listen to the folks closest to the problem. The bill that would fix the problem, by Sen. Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, chairwoman of the Senate Education Committee, is scheduled for a hearing today.

At this point, the law forces UT to rely heavily on a sole criterion for

See TOP 10, Page 5

Events calendar

• **Registration for the first summer semester** at Clarendon College-Pampa Center is ongoing through June 4. Classes offered include English, composition, technical writing, Web site design, non-western world literature, federal and state government, U.S. history, psychology and more. For more information, call 665-8801.

• **The Ozark Trail Barbecue cook-off** will be held Friday and Saturday at Estelline. Registration will be conducted at 12 p.m. Friday. The event will include life music, giant kid's slide, face-painting, hair streaking, dummy roping and more. For more details, log on to www.ozarktrailbbq.com on the Internet.

• **Pease River Playhouse** will hold auditions for a production of "Steel Magnolias" from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday at the playhouse located in the Old Rock Gym at Goodlett. The try-outs will be for six female roles, ages 18-70. For more information or to schedule an audition, call (940) 937-6884. Performances will be Aug.

10-12.

• **Pampa Book Club** will discuss "The Last Promise" by Richard Evans, May 9. The group meets at 10 a.m. in the Texas Room at Lovett Memorial Library in Pampa.

• **The Amarillo field office of the Texas Department of Insurance**, Division of Workers (compensation division), will host a brown bag education program for health care providers, employers, human resource managers, claims adjusters, case managers and employee organizations from 12-12:45 p.m. May 10 at 7112 IH-40 West, Building D, Amarillo. The topic will be disability management. For more information, call (806) 351-1222 or e-mail Linda.Marlow@tdi.state.tx.us.

• **Amarillo College Lamplight Youth Theatre Company** will present "Alice in Wonderland" May 11-13 at Ordway Hall on campus. For more information, call (806) 371-5353.

• **The Pilot Club of Dumas** will host a "Panhandle Playday" on May 19 at Ceta Canyon for adult survivors

of traumatic brain injuries. The day will include fishing, outdoor games, indoor board games, hiking, bingo and crafts. Lunch and other refreshments will be provided. Cost of the retreat will be \$15 per person. Scholarships are available through requests. To register or for more information, call (806) 935-3080 or (806) 570-4274.

• **Carson County Square House Museum** in Panhandle will host a train display presented by Scot Free Model Railroaders through May 31. Admission to the exhibit is free.

• **The National Museum of the Pacific War** will present its Pacific Combat Show June 9-10, Sept. 22-23, and Nov. 10-11 in Fredericksburg. This newly-revised 90-minute living history program will focus on the lives and combat efforts of participants in the Pacific Theater of World War II. The program will be presented at 10:30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. each day. Cost of admission is \$3 per adult and \$2 per child. Admission to the museum covers the show. For more information, call (830) 693-9707.

• **An investigator** with the Texas Workforce Commission Civil Rights Division will be at the American Red Cross, Panhandle chapter, for scheduled appointments until June 30. If you suspect housing or employment discrimination, call (512) 632-7021 to make an appointment.

• **The postmark deadline to enter** the International Library of Poetry's free poetry contest is June 30. To enter, send one poem of 20 lines or less to the International Library of Poetry, Suite 19925, 1 Poetry Plaza, Owings Mills, MD 21117. For more information, log onto www.poetry.com on the Internet.

ASTRA



COURTESY PHOTO

ASTRA Club members from Pampa High School worked carnival games held in conjunction with Altrusa State Conference held recently in Amarillo. The conference was hosted by the Pampa and Borger Altrusa clubs. ASTRA is an Altrusa-sponsored youth organization. Above: Erin Buck, Robin Fernuik, Ashley Williams, Megan Gragg, Kaitlin Winegeart, Tonya Kiper, Bernardo Casanova, Henry Schultz (AFS student), Alyssa Hoelting, Eileen Kludt (sponsor), Myles Foreman, Michael Foreman, Landon McNeely, Jessica Baggerman, Linda Olsen (sponsor), Michelle Linder, Rachel Bartel and Nick Millikan.

Ranchers worry as lack of moisture leaves California field dry

FRESNO, Calif. (AP) — After a dry winter that left the Central Valley's sheep and cattle with parched rangeland to graze, projections for summer water supplies are running as low as this year's rainfall.

The forecasts spell trouble for California ranchers, who say they expect to lose millions of dollars in revenue this year after spending more to feed animals who may not

grow to normal size and therefore won't fetch premium prices at market.

Mike Blasingame, a fifth-generation rancher in the Fresno County foothills, said the unusually dry spring has left less natural grass for the calves he raises to eat.

"My business is all about the gain," said Blasingame. "How much (weight) can they gain if there's nothing out there for them to eat?" he

said.

With grass in short supply before the hot summer months, many ranchers supplement their livestock's diet with hay, which becomes expensive and scarce when a whole region is dry at the same time.

Forecasters don't expect the dry spell to affect beef and lamb prices, but they say milk prices could rise because of increased compe-

titition over hay, which has already gone up in price.

It is forcing some dairy farmers to cut back on the amount of hay they feed to their animals, said Mike Marsh, a spokesman for the Western United Dairymen.

"Better-fed cows provide more milk. If you can't feed the cows, then that lessened supply can drive the overall prices up," he said.

Reese

Continued from Page 4

with one effeminate punch in the jaw. In the American films, his end would usually be by gunfire.

There is nothing wrong with a moderate amount of violence in context. I used to laugh at the television show "Miami Vice," where it was common for 10 or 12 bad guys to be shot dead by the heroes. That stuff is unrealistic. Even in our day, the average police officer will graduate from

the academy and retire with his gold watch without ever having to fire his pistol, except on the practice range. Real life is simply not as grossly violent as today's sensationalistic films and shows and video games, despite aberrations like the murders at Virginia Tech.

Of course, this kind of junk will not likely harm a stable child in a stable, loving family home. But we all know that many children today don't have the benefit of a stable home environment. And what are they learning from endless shows, movies and computer games that tell them that violence is the solution to your

problems?

My libertarian friends will howl, but it's time to bite the bullet and put a stop to the pornography of violence. You can try pressure on the suits who finance it, but if that doesn't work, it's time for censorship. Neutrality in the face of evil is itself evil, and the opposite of love is not hate, but indifference.

It's time for the good people to don the armor of the culture warrior and put a stop to the sleazebags poisoning American culture.

—Write to Charley Reese at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando, FL 32802.

Top 10

Continued from Page 4

selecting students. About 71 percent of UT's freshmen from Texas are Top 10 percent graduates. It's not hard to imagine a future in which that figure rises to 100 percent because UT is the preferred school for top 10 graduates.

Without caps, there will come a day when all enrollment slots are filled by the top 10 percent of students. That kind of admissions policy leaves no room for the talented math, music or art student who might have fallen short of the top 10 percent mark. And it ultimately will limit the number of minority students who are

admitted once UT hits the 100 percent threshold.

Details of how a 50 percent cap would work still need to be decided. But the regents took a positive step last week in offering an incentive for students who might not make the cut under that mark by pledging to offer Top 10 percent students admission to a least one of the UT System's nine academic campuses.

Even now, UT officials say the 10 percent law is hindering their efforts to go after the brightest and best minority students. In 2003, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that race and ethnicity could be considered and UT is using affirmative action in its admissions. Huffines and Powers have cited diversity as a top priority and say UT could improve on that

front with more flexible admissions. We agree.

Under their leadership, enrollment of African American and Latino students has improved significantly: Spring enrollment this year is up 6.4 percent for African Americans over spring 2007, and up 5.8 percent for Hispanics. We trust their judgment that the university can and will do better. Certainly UT and Texas A&M must improve efforts to expand enrollment of minority students to ensure that the state is producing the next generation of leaders, engineers, scientists, teachers, doctors and legislators.

There is no way, however, that UT can do that in handcuffs. The Legislature must remove the restraints.

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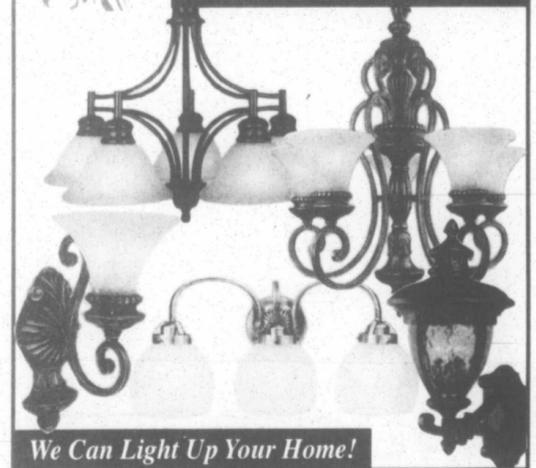
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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am a 28-year-old woman and have been dating a 26-year-old man I'll call "Chris" for four months. We have become good friends. On our last date, the topic of sex came up, and Chris told me that he was a virgin and that it was very important for him to find a girl who had "never been with anyone" either. Well, Abby, that bridge was burned when I was a teenager. I was honest with Chris about it, which was not easy because I now regret some of the poor choices I made at that time of my life. I am a completely different person now due to a religious conversion and am waiting until I am married to have sex again. I told Chris this, and asked if he wanted to continue the relationship. His answer was he'd "have to think about it." We are still friends. He says he likes me and still wants us to date. However, although I care deeply for him, I now feel devalued. I'm afraid this issue is going to cause problems in the future. I believe that purity is an issue more of the heart than the body. If I had known that virginity was so important to Chris, I would never have dated him in the first place. I can't change the past, and I have strong opinions about men who sing "Amazing Grace" in church while insisting on marrying virgins. What should I do? -- **DEFLOWERED IN PENNSYLVANIA**

DEAR "DEE": Cross Chris off your list as husband material. Your friend may be self-conscious about his lack of experience or his old-fashioned values. It's the old double standard, and even some men who have sown acres of wild oats feel this way. While most men today have more sophisticated thinking about sex, the one you are dating has his heart set on a "sweet old-fashioned girl." If that's what he wants, it's his privilege -- provided he can find one. As for you, it was your bad luck to get

involved with someone whose values are different from your own, but that's the luck of the draw. Please don't take it personally. It's time to move on.

DEAR ABBY: I had a teenage pregnancy while our family was living in a foreign country. I gave birth to a son and named him "Jacob." After a few months, my parents thought it best to send me away to live with relatives. My parents raised Jake as their own, legally adopted him and never hid the fact that I am his biological mother. Eventually everyone in my family moved to where I live, including my son, whom I treat as a younger brother. However, we have never lived under one roof. I am now the mother of 2-year-old twins. Jacob adores the girls and sees them often. I don't know how I should explain Jake to my daughters. No one outside my family knows he is my son. My husband knew about this long before we had children, but never mentioned it to any of his family. I didn't do the right thing when I was younger. I never got the chance to be a mother to Jacob, but I would like to be a good one for my girls, and I'm hoping you can help me. -- **JUST CALL ME BRIANNA**

DEAR BRIANNA: Your daughters are so little they are not likely to ask questions about Jacob for many years to come. But secrets have a way of revealing themselves, often at the most inopportune times. Because so many family members know Jacob is your son, it is likely to come out sometime. When it does, do not deny it. Simply say that when Jacob was born, you were very young and unable to provide for him financially -- which is why your parents adopted and raised him as their own. It's the truth. End of story.

For Better Or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 46 Like the night sky
 - 7 Looking down from
 - 11 Exaggerate
 - 12 Take the bus
 - 13 Pam of "Mork and Mindy"
 - 14 Region
 - 15 Eventually
 - 17 Flat floater
 - 20 Small-scale
 - 23 "Evil Woman" group
 - 24 Place to get a cup
 - 26 Dove sound
 - 27 Crane
 - 28 Honest leader
 - 29 Record ad phrase
 - 31 Charged atom
 - 32 Texan tree
 - 33 Leaf carriers
 - 34 Superior
 - 37 Noggin
 - 39 Hand-some youth
 - 43 Wicked
 - 44 Champagne/orange juice drink
 - 45 Disavow
- DOWN**
- 1 Brick bearer
 - 2 Gardner of "Mogambo"
 - 3 Writer
 - 4 Planet's path
 - 5 First place?
 - 6 Kind order
 - 7 Friend of Porthos
 - 8 Winter driving aid
 - 9 Pindar work
 - 10 Soup bit
 - 16 Pot's concern
 - 17 Sports summary
 - 18 Singly grabbers
 - 19 Natural order
 - 21 Factory worker
 - 22 Some tourneys
 - 24 Minimal swimsuit
 - 25 Musical neighbor
 - 30 In general
 - 33 Perfume
 - 35 Spotlight grabbers
 - 36 Fix a story
 - 37 Nap site
 - 38 Night before
 - 40 Negative link
 - 41 Syr. neighbor
 - 42 Pronounce

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- Yesterday's answer**
- 17 Sports summary
 - 33 Perfume
 - 35 Spotlight
 - 18 Singly grabbers
 - 19 Natural order
 - 21 Factory worker
 - 22 Some tourneys
 - 24 Minimal swimsuit
 - 25 Musical neighbor
 - 30 In general
 - 33 Perfume
 - 35 Spotlight
 - 36 Fix a story
 - 37 Nap site
 - 38 Night before
 - 40 Negative link
 - 41 Syr. neighbor
 - 42 Pronounce

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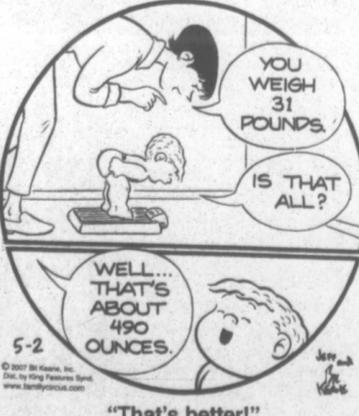
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Marmaduke



The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports Day



Courtesy photo by Lendi Jackson

Valerie Miller of Lefors High School easily clears the bar on her way to a 4th place finish in the girls' pole vault at the Region 1-A track meet held last weekend in Levelland. Miller also placed 9th in the 100 meter dash, 11th in Triple Jump, 11th in the 800 meter run and was a member of the 14th-place 800 meter relay team.

Pirates put on a show at regionals

The Lefors Pirates sent eight boys and five girls to the Region 1-A track meet last weekend in Levelland.

Results are as follows:
 Valerie Miller- Pole Vault - 4th - 8'6";
 Triple Jump - 11th - 32'3"; 100 m dash - 9th - 14.16; 800 m run - 11th - 2:39.24
 Emily Jackson- Triple Jump - 9th - 32'9"; 200 m dash - 9th-28.41; 100 m dash - 13th-14.41

Timbra Overstreet- Shot Put - 13th - 10'0" 30'8"
 Dustin Forsyth- Discus - 14th - 113'9"
 Tori Meeks- 1600 m run - 16th - 6:40.91
 Trever Czubinski- 400 m dash - 14th - 59.72
 800 meter relay (Kara Davis, Miller, Meeks, Jackson)- 14th - 1:56.65
 400 meter relay (Payton Johnson, Nick Hess, Brent Roberson, Klein)- 16th - 47.91
 Jeremy Sprouse- High Jump - 9th - 5'10"
 Gabriel Miller- 3200 m run - 16th - 12:34.80
 Cameron Klein- Pole Vault - 9th -

Pampa Country Club 2007 Kick Off Scramble Results

- 1st place - 58**
Team 7: Howard Reed, Gene James, David McGill and Elnora Haynes.
- 2nd place - 60**
Team 4: D.R. Donaldson, Joyce Swope, Billy Crain and Derek Dalton.
- 3rd place - 61**
Team 3: Chuck White, Sterling "Dee" Joiner, Randy Holt and Todd Little.
- 4th place - 62**
Team 2: Mervin Rose, Sharon Rose, Debbie Hargus and Bob Swope.
- 5th place - 62**
Team 1: Don Russell, Dan Nicolet, Josh Herr and Wyatt Robinson.
- 6th place - 64**
Team 6: Brandon Hill, Marc Reed, Kendall Cross and John Clark.
- 7th place - 65**
Team 5: Joe Cree, Sheila McFatridge, Roy Don Stephens and Sam White
- 8th place - 65**
Team 9: Brett Bromwell, Bob Marx, Jeff McLendon
- 9th place - 66**
Team 8: John Allen, Johnnie Marx, Butch Thompson and Dennis Roark.

Local Golf Tournaments

American Red Cross Eastern Texas Panhandle Chapter Annual Golf Scramble
 May 5 Hidden Hills \$40

Pampa Partnership Golf Tournament
 May 12-13 Hidden Hills/Country Club \$95
 Contact David at Hidden Hills 669-5866 or Mark at Pampa Country Club 665-8431

Yankees' Hughes has no-hit bid foiled by hamstringing injury

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Phil Hughes was cruising along in his second major league start, recording out after out and moving closer to making baseball history.

The New York Yankees right-hander threw one more pitch, reached down at his left leg and the excitement suddenly turned to disappointment.

The highly touted Hughes carried a no-hitter into the seventh inning Tuesday night before a hamstringing injury knocked him out of the game. The team's prized prospect is expected to miss four to six weeks, a sour end to an otherwise encouraging night for New York, which beat Texas 10-1.

"I'm definitely frustrat-

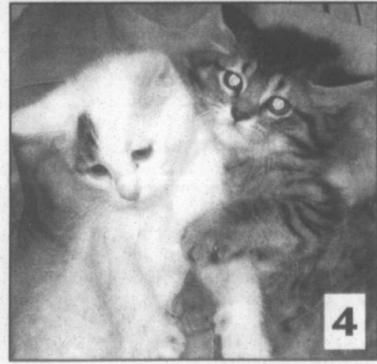
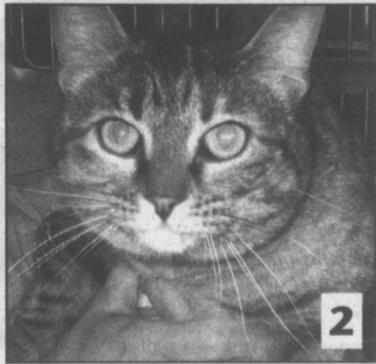
ed," the 20-year-old rookie said. "It's tough, especially when the team really needs a win. We got it tonight, but it's going to be disappointing in the next five to 10 days when I'm not going to be out there. We're at a point right now where our rotation really needs it."

Hughes (1-1) became the latest New York pitcher to go down, two starts after he was called up from Triple-A Scranton to fill a spot in the team's depleted rotation. Mike Mussina (hamstring), Carl Pavano (forearm) and Jeff Karstens (broken right leg) are on the disabled list. Chien-Ming Wang also missed the first three weeks of the season with a hamstringing injury.

Pets of the Week...

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KITTY KITTY KITTY VISIT US TODAY

1. LILLY is a 2 year old tortoiseshell colored cat. She has been spayed and declawed. Lilly is a great house pet.
2. LOLA is a 2 year old gray tabby cat. She has been spayed and declawed. Lola is a great house pet.
3. SISSY, SASSY, SOLOMON, SAWYER is a litter of siamese kittens. 7 wks old - 2 boys & 2 girls. CUTE! CUTE!
4. SPOT a male is white with a black spot. PERSONALITY! FLUFF is a female tabby that is FLUFFY! Both 12 wks old.

ANNUAL RABIES DRIVE MAY 5TH & MAY 7TH

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Courtesy photo

Senior athletes for Gymnastics of Pampa showing the medals they won at competition in Lubbock recently. Pictured here are: (L-R) Madison Fatheree, MaKayla Hampton, Megan Pirtle and McKinlee Stokes.

Local gymnasts compete in Lubbock

Gymnastics of Pampa Tumbling and Trampoline Team members recently competed in a qualifying tournament in Lubbock.

Team members fared well at the meet and came away with several individual gold medalists.

The Pampa gymnasts competed with more than 600 athletes from across the United States.

The meet also featured elite athletes from the U.S., England and Australia.

Leading the team with first place finishes was Madison Fatheree in Level 7 tumbling, McKinlee Stokes in Level 6 tumbling, Misti Bowers in Level 2

trampoline and Marlee Youree in Level 2 trampoline.

Other results are as follows:

Madison Fatheree- 2nd place - Level 6 tramp.

Misti Bowers- 2nd place - Level 3 tumbling

Taylor Giles- 3rd place - Level 4 tumbling, 4th place - Level 3 tramp.

MaKayla Hampton- 3rd place - Level 7 tumbling, 8th place - Level 6 tramp.

Megan Pirtle- 4th place - Level 6 tumbling, 5th place - Level 6 tramp.

Samantha Clancy- 4th place - Level 3 tumbling, 4th place - Level 2 tramp.

Mattie Eldridge- 5th place - Level 3 tumbling, 10th place - Level 3 tramp.

Marlee Youree- 4th place - Level 3 tumbling

Brooke Woelfle- 4th place - Level 5 tumbling, 8th place - Level 3 tramp.

McKinlee Stokes- 7th place - Level 6 tramp.

Kelsey Henry- 4th place - Level 4 tumbling, 9th place - Level 3 tramp.

Kaylee Fulton- 4th place - Level 2 tramp., 8th place - Level 3 tumbling

Danikka Resendiz- 4th place - Level 3 tumbling, 6th place - Level 2 tramp.

Mavericks make way for a great comeback

DALLAS (AP) — A terrific regular season was a little more than three minutes from a horrendous end. The largest crowd the Dallas Mavericks have ever had was witnessing one of the biggest upsets in NBA playoff history, with a blown 21-point lead to cap it.

Then Dirk Nowitzki hit a 3-pointer.

And another.

By the time Devin Harris got a layup to spin in off the backboard, those 21,041 fans realized they were starting to see something special.

Dallas pulled out the game and, temporarily, the series

and its season with a 118-112 victory over the Golden State Warriors on Tuesday night. It took a 15-0 closing kick, with 12 of the points coming from Nowitzki, and all it guarantees is that the Mavericks get another game — in Oakland on Thursday night.

"This team has a lot of heart, a lot of pride," Nowitzki said. "We hope to go down there and steal one so we can get Game 7 on our home court."

All this win did was prolong the series. But if the Mavs win two more, they'll have the ninth-ever come-

back from a 3-1 deficit.

"Now they have a lot of pressure," Dallas coach Avery Johnson said, taking his turn at the mind games Golden State coach Don Nelson has played all series. "They have 10,000 pounds on them up in Oakland. They have a lot of pressure to play well and win that game."

In the only other playoff game Tuesday, Toronto beat New Jersey 98-96.

If Nowitzki starts playing like he ended this game, the Warriors will be in trouble.

He scored 12 of Dallas' final 15 points, going 6-of-7 from the foul line in addition

to the pair of 3s. He started the run of free throws by getting clobbered on a strong move to the basket; the ensuing foul shots tied the game and put the Mavs ahead. He finished with 30 points, easily his most this series.

"We got on Dirk's back and he carried us," said Devean George, who knows the feeling after winning titles with Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant on the Los Angeles Lakers. "That's who he is for us. We're going to ride with him. ... We'll build off this. We've been fighting all year. We'll do the same in the next game."

Nowitzki doesn't need more attitude, just more help

By JIM LITKE
AP Sports Columnist

Superstars come in all shapes and sizes.

Not so their egos, which are supposed to start at XXL and only get bigger from there.

Maybe that's why Dirk Nowitzki's "I'll-try-to-do-better" plea, made on the eve of Dallas' elimination game Tuesday night against Golden State in the first round of the NBA playoffs, rubbed so many people the wrong way.

First, his coach lit into him.

"I'm tired of hearing about how they've taken him out of his game and any lack of confidence," Avery Johnson said. "You're just not supposed to have that."

Next, Nowitzki's teammates called a players-only meeting, "just to make sure," Jason Terry explained, "that everybody was on the same page."

Then, the Warriors clawed their way back from a 21-point deficit to take a 112-103 lead with just over three minutes left and dared Nowitzki to do something he hadn't done in 19 quarters of playoff basketball this season — really, ever since Game 2 of the NBA finals a year ago: Step up.

What followed were a dozen points in a 15-0 run the Mavericks strung together to close out the game, including two clutch 3-pointers, a perfectly timed block

on Matt Barnes' layup attempt and a half-dozen free throws. That moved the series to Game 6 in Oakland.

"We got on Dirk's back and he carried us," teammate Devean George said afterward. "That's who he is for us."

Not exactly. Nowitzki can be a game-changer, to be sure, and anybody who watched him carry most of the offensive load for the Mavericks throughout their 67-win regular season wouldn't quibble with him collecting the MVP next week. But those comparisons the past few days to basketball's holy trinity — as in, "Michael, Larry and Magic never would have backed down, no matter how many double-teams opponents threw their way" — were overblown.

For one thing, Nowitzki just isn't that good. He's basically a first-rate shooter who rebounds adequately and doesn't play defense even that well. Nowitzki needs his teammates at least as much as they need him, which is all he was trying to explain when he said the Warriors' constant double-teaming was forcing him to find other ways to contribute, "help out on defense more; hit the glass harder, as hard as I can, get some extra possessions; if I have a shot, try to knock it down and if I don't, move the ball and let someone else make a shot."

It didn't help that

Nowitzki's former coach, Don Nelson — working the other sideline and still nursing a grudge against Mavericks owner Mark Cuban — knew all of Nowitzki's weaknesses intimately. Or that his Warriors' team — small and fast, but rugged — presented matchup problems for Dallas at just about every spot on the floor.

That's why Golden State won six of its seven regular-season games against the Mavericks, who averaged four points less and allowed 14 more than they did against the rest of the league. Nelson knew that forcing someone — anyone — other than Nowitzki to beat him was Golden State's best chance to pull off an historic upset. After the Mavericks dropped three of the first four in the best-of-seven series, Nowitzki knew it, too.

This time, it was Josh Howard and Devin Harris who picked up the slack. And at the end, Nowitzki took advantage of all the free advice and asserted himself on the offensive end of the floor.

"He was more aggressive," Golden State's Baron Davis said. "I thought he was trying to take the ball to the basket and post up. Our guys did a great job defending him. But he was able to get to the line."

Those late-game heroics aside, Nowitzki refused to

kid himself or anyone else. He insisted there won't be any more comebacks without a collective effort.

"This team has a lot of heart, a lot of pride," he said. "We fought our way to the finals last year. We won some tough games on the road. This team will never give up."

We'll find that out soon enough. The Mavericks were up two games to none against the Heat in the finals last year and ahead by 13 points in the third quarter, then inexplicably crumbled and got swept. Miami's Dwyane Wade single-handedly took control, providing Nowitzki with an uncomfortably up-close-and-personal view of how superstars impose their will on a series. Then, Wade dropped a backhanded compliment by suggesting that had the Mavericks' leader played better, they might have won instead.

The only thing this win bought Dallas and its leader is another chance

"I've seen him fight through adversity," Howard said about Nowitzki. "This is the game he broke through."

Good luck getting Nowitzki to admit as much.

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at jlitkeap.org

Griffey returns and homers

By The Associated Press

Ken Griffey Jr. appears to be over his chest ailment, and Alfonso Soriano is out of his slump.

Griffey returned to Cincinnati's lineup after missing three of the last four games with a chest ailment and went 3-for-3 with a homer and two RBIs in the Reds' 11-2 win over the Houston Astros on Tuesday night.

It was the second homer of the season for Griffey, and 565th of his career.

Manager Jerry Narron said he thought the time off might have helped Griffey's hand, which he broke in the offseason, feel better. Griffey brushed off that theory.

"No, all that stuff hurts," he said, but added that he had recovered from his chest ailment and could finally breathe normally.

Griffey helped Bronson Arroyo earn his first victory this season after pitching well all season.

"He'd had five starts and four of them had been really good and we hadn't done

anything for him," Griffey said. "I'm just glad that we were able to score some runs and let him go out there and enjoy something instead of us sitting there battling."

In other NL games, it was: Florida 5, New York Mets 2; Philadelphia 6, Atlanta 4; Milwaukee 12, St. Louis 2; San Diego 3, Washington 0; Los Angeles 2, Arizona 1; and Colorado 9, San Francisco 7.

While Griffey's homer helped Arroyo win, Soriano's first homer of the season jump-started the Cubs' offense.

Soriano, who signed a \$136 million contract with Chicago as a free agent in the offseason, needed only one at-bat in May to equal his RBI total in April — one. He was 3-for-4.

Cliff Floyd had a go-ahead, two-run shot during a four-run rally in the seventh inning that left Chicago leading Pittsburgh when the game was suspended because of rain.

After a delay of 2 hours, 18 minutes, the game was suspended with the Pirates about to bat in the seventh.

Broncos waive RB Cobbs, sign Texas' Selvin Young

DENVER (AP) — The Denver Broncos have waived running back Cedric Cobbs and signed Texas running back Selvin Young.

Cobbs, a third-year player from the University of Arkansas, joined the Broncos in September 2005 as a member of the practice squad.

Young's agent, Major Adams, told The Denver Post for its Tuesday online edition that the 5-foot-10-inch, 207-pound Young picked the Broncos because the team showed the most interest after the Longhorn

reserve went undrafted.

"We had mixed feelings," Adams said. "In one sense you want the honor of being drafted, but at the same time you want to go to a situation that's going to be the best fit for a player."

A physical runner, Young rushed for 591 yards and seven touchdowns as a senior and had 23 catches.

The Broncos had not announced Young's signing as of late Tuesday and a Broncos' spokesman did not immediately return a message left after hours.

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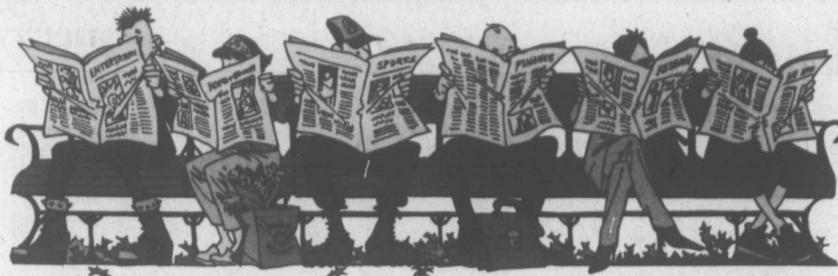
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One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

5-2 CRYPTOQUOTE

OMX DSSPECM GWJ CXXBC
M W V V E J X C C E J O M X
UECOWJYX; OMX RECX HQSRC
EO FJUXQ MEC DXXO.

— K W G X C S V V X J M X E G
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: IT IS EASY TO ASSUME A HABIT, BUT WHEN YOU TRY TO CAST IT OFF, IT WILL TAKE SKIN AND ALL.
— H.W. SHAW

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, May 3, 2007:

Your sense of direction and enthusiasm often hit a home run this year. Partners and authority figures often think on a different track, creating an interesting, dynamic triangle of opinions. Being stubborn just won't work! You also could overindulge and cause your finances to have a major headache. Assume more control. If you are single, you seem to have a revolving door of possibilities. What will work could be another story. Move slowly. If you are attached, you might want to allow your sweetie to have greater say. He or she might see how to resolve certain convoluted life situations. SAGITTARIUS gets to the bottom of a problem.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You hit frustration when trying to home in on the common good. Tension builds no matter how generous or gentle you might be. You would be well advised not to worry so much. Reach out for others. Tonight: Let your mind romp.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Others could make heavy demands. Certainly an element of confusion about which way to turn and what to do punctuates your day. Let go of judgments and just hear others out. You don't always need to agree. Tonight: A must appearance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ You might want to take the high road rather than get caught up in a nebulous and difficult situation. Know

when to call a timeout. Think positively despite confusion. Tonight: Sit back and observe. Allow others to call the shots.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Your imagination might be an inordinate source of ideas, but making them work on a practical level could take talent. Explore ways to ground some of these nuggets of ingenuity. Tonight: Exercise, which might look like housework or mowing the lawn!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Take your time. There are so many diverse winds, you might want to sit out until you know what works for you. Consider your options before you jump right in. Changes occur the longer you observe. Tonight: Let your imagination out.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Speak your mind. You also might have the best-laid plans but see them go up in smoke. This process could be a bit uncomfortable, but your best bet is to lie back and take action only when it is a must. Tonight: Head on home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Expenses could be high or difficult to handle. Knowing when to say "enough" could be important. Laughter and understanding help diffuse a difficult or confusing situation. Know that not only you but also others are not getting all the facts. Tonight: Hook up with friends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ With the whirl of energy that surrounds you, it might be upsetting to see plans fall apart. You also might need to rethink certain choices if you notice this pattern developing. Have faith in your abilities. Tonight: Buy a plant or treat yourself to a favorite dessert.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Know when to back down and make a decision more carefully. You might not have all the right answers just yet. Listen and sort through mixed messages. Late in the day or tomorrow, move on key issues. Tonight: Do your thing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Where your friends are is where you might want to be. A commitment could cause a problem. You might find out that a situation is confusing. Let your imagination run with the ball, especially on a work-related matter. Tonight: Take some downtime.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ Responsibilities pop up left and right. Take a step forward and handle a personal matter. Your creativity moves in a new direction. Look at goals and what could be very important. Aim for more of what you want. Tonight: Where the action is.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Take the high road and detach. Some of the confusion that surrounds you could be coming from you not grasping all the facts. Step back and make what you want happen. You come from a creative, dynamic mind-set. Tonight: Accept the responsibilities dropped on you.

BORN TODAY

Singer James Brown (1933), comedian, actor Ben Elton (1959), singer Bing Crosby (1903)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.
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Immigration rally numbers down

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Immigration rallies held nationwide Tuesday produced only a fraction of the million-plus protesters who turned out last year, as fear about raids and frustration that the marches haven't pushed Congress to pass reform kept many people at home.

In Los Angeles, where several hundred thousand

said Chicago protester Shaun Harkin, 34, of Northern Ireland, who has lived in the United States as a legal resident for 15 years.

Melissa Woo, a 22-year-old American citizen who immigrated from South Korea, carried a Korean flag over her shoulder in Chicago as she criticized politicians for "buckling at the knees."

"Us immigrants aren't pieces of trash, we're human beings," she said.

Protests were mostly peaceful, except for an evening rally at a park in Los Angeles, where some suspected of throwing rocks and bottles at police were arrested. Police fired rubber bullets and used batons to push the crowd out of the street and onto the sidewalk. It was not immediately known if anyone was injured.

Organizers had long predicted lower turnouts for this year's marches, saying an increase in immigration raids in recent months have left many immigrants afraid to speak out in public. That's a change since rallies in 2006, when some illegal immigrants wore T-shirts saying "I'm illegal. So what?"

Others believe that the marches have not pushed Congress to pass immigration legislation, and many groups are now focusing on citizenship and voter registration drives instead of street demonstrations.

'Us immigrants aren't pieces of trash, we're human beings.'

— Melissa Woo
American citizen

turned out last year, about 25,000 attended a downtown rally, said police Capt. Andrew Smith, an incident commander. In Chicago, where more than 400,000 swarmed the streets a year earlier, police officials put initial estimates at about 150,000.

Organizers said those who did march felt a sense of urgency to keep immigration reform from getting pushed to the back burner by the 2008 presidential elections.

"There's no reason a pro-immigration bill can't be passed. That's one of the messages being sent today,"

Aussie lawmaker apologizes for saying female leaders should have children

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — A senior Australian lawmaker apologized today for saying a female politician did not deserve a leadership role because she had decided against having children.

Bill Heffernan, a close friend of Prime Minister John Howard, had described Julia Gillard, the deputy leader of the opposition Labor Party, as "deliberately barren."

"If you're a leader, you've got to understand your community," Heffernan, a 64-year-old senator in the ruling Liberal Party, told The Bulletin magazine in its Wednesday edition.

"One of the great understandings in a community is family and the relationship between mum, dad and a bucket of nappies," he added, using the Australian term for diapers.

His comments touched off demands for an apology from Labor lawmakers, and condemnation from some government leaders.

Howard initially rejected the Labor calls for an apology, but later told reporters he would discuss the matter with Heffernan, a blunt-talking wheat farmer often seen as the prime minister's messenger.

Heffernan later issued a brief statement.

"I apologize to Julia Gillard and anyone else who was offended by my completely inappropriate and insensitive remarks," he said.

Howard said it doesn't matter whether a politician is a parent or not.

"I don't approve of those sort of remarks and I made that very clear," the conservative leader told reporters.

Gillard, who has said she might have become a mother if she had fallen in love with a man who wanted children, dismissed Heffernan as old-fashioned and has not asked for an apology.

4-H Geranium Sale



COURTESY PHOTO

Gray County 4-Hers are gearing up for their annual geranium sale to be conducted Thursday and Friday this year in the parking lot of Coronado Shopping Center in Pampa. The plants will be sold from 5-8 p.m. or until all stock is gone. Above: (From left) Blake Chisum, Jessica Baggerman and Gabriel Miller.

World bank expresses concern over Wolfowitz's conduct

WASHINGTON (AP) — The World Bank's board expressed fresh concern Tuesday over bank president Paul Wolfowitz's handling of a hefty pay package for his girlfriend and promised a decision soon in a controversy that has led to calls for his resignation.

The 24-member board met several hours with a special bank panel that over the past two days had heard from Wolfowitz, his girlfriend and bank

employee Shaha Riza and other present and former bank officials about Riza's promotion and pay raise to \$193,590.

In a statement afterward, the directors said they "remain very concerned about the impact on the work of the bank group and are committed to the earliest possible resolution of the matter."

The board said the next step is for

the special panel to "draw its conclusions from the information obtained from the documents and during the course of the interviews" and expeditiously submit a report to the directors.

Ultimately, the directors will decide what action should be taken, if any. The board could ask Wolfowitz to resign, signal it lacks confidence in his leadership, reprimand him or take no action.

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