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See expanded weather on Page 2

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ARRIVING DAILY!

Voters to vote on special water district

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

MIAMI — Boone Pickens' fresh water supply district will go to the voters on a special ballot in the November general election. There will be only five people voting, however.

Five people, who own eight acres in the middle of Pickens' Mesa Vista Ranch along the Canadian River, petitioned the Roberts County Commission last month for a fresh water supply district. After a public hearing Tuesday morning, the commission approved the petition and voted to put the question on the ballot in the November election.

Only landowners within the proposed district can vote to form the

'I think the court feels in genera that there are economic development benefits as well as other economic benefits in the formation of this district, and I think collectively we think this is in the best interest of the citizens of Roberts County.'

— Roberts County Judge
Vernon Cook

fresh water supply district, and those are the five that petitioned the court for the district. They are Robert L. Stillwell, general counsel of Mesa Water; Ronald D. Bassett, a business manager with Pickens; G. Michael Boswell, general counsel of Mesa Energy; and the manager and his wife of Pickens' ranch, Alton Keith Boone and Lu G. Boone.

Roberts County Judge Vernon Cook said he'd planned on having a week before taking any action. The commission had planned to vote on the fresh water supply district at their Sept. 10 meeting, but the decision needed to be made prior to Sept. 6 in order to meet the requirements of getting it on the November ballot.

While the fresh water supply district would help Mesa Water, created

by Pickens in order to pump and sell groundwater to thirsty cities downstate, the issue is electricity.

Last summer, Pickens created Mesa Energy with plans to build a wind farm, coal-fired power plant and natural gas-fired power plant. Electricity generated by Mesa Energy would be moved to the Dallas area via some 320 miles of transmission lines.

Pickens, meeting with landowners in Pampa last month, said transmission was the key to the project. There are at least four other projects being planned that would generate electricity in the Texas Panhandle, not including wind farms at White Deer and Wildorado.

See WATER, Page 3

EDUCATION

Local school board to convene

By KERRI SMITH
Staff Writer

Construction issues, heating, ventilating and air conditioning at the high school vocational building and security entries at three elementary schools are a few of the topics to be up for discussion at a special school board meeting to be held by the Pampa Independent School District at 5:30 p.m. Thursday at Carver Center, 321 W. Albert.

The board will consider and possibly

approve a construction method and criteria for installing heating, ventilating and air conditioning at the high school vocational building and changing the entries at Austin, Travis and Wilson elementaries.

The entrance to Lamar Elementary was changed during the last school year so any visitors had to enter directly through the office. The same type of changes will be made at the remaining elementaries in the near future.

See SCHOOL, Page 2

Budget on agenda of next county meeting

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Gray County's 2008 budget and tax rate will be the subject of a special meeting of county commissioners at 9 a.m. Thursday in the second-floor courtroom of the courthouse, 205 N. Russell.

The current budget for fiscal year 2008 is estimated at \$10,854,439, an increase over \$9,899,782 budgeted for 2007. The new fiscal year begins Oct. 1.

The tax rate to be voted on is estimated to be 0.47326 per \$100, up from the 2007 rate of 0.445623.

See COUNTY, Page 2

Chamber gearing up for annual fall fair

By KERRI SMITH
Staff Writer

Everyone needs to mark Oct. 20 on their calendar for an event that is billed to provide an evening of dining and entertainment, which is the 23rd annual Pampa Chamber of Commerce Country Fair.

The theme for this year is "Our Fall Classic" and tickets are currently being sold at the Chamber office and by all board members for \$25 per person. The price of the ticket includes a catered dinner, a silent auction, a live auction and music. There will also be bingo offered for an additional fee for those who want to try their luck at the game.

"Local businesses and individuals are donating items for the silent and live auctions," Chairman Trevlyn Pitner said. "We will also have a great band out of Oklahoma, Straight Shooter, who will play a variety of types of music for people to enjoy and dance to. The Chamber and all of the individuals on the committees hope that area residents will attend this

event, which promises to be a great time."

A "leaf" of the memorial Heritage Tree at White

Deer Land Museum in Pampa is one of the items included in the silent auction. Other donations

include a decorative lamp, handpainted china plates and wine among other items. The live auction

offers larger more unique wares. So far for the live auction, the Chamber has an autographed Lance Armstrong jersey, a guided doe hunt, a barbecue grill and radio advertising. Both of the auctions should have a large number of other items for purchase.

Besides the dinner, auctions and dancing, attendees can also purchase a ticket for a chance at winning money. A drawing ticket can be purchased for \$100 and six names will be drawn for prizes totaling \$10,000.

"The first name drawn will be for the \$5,000 prize," said Dorothy Clark, Chamber administrative assistant. "Then, we will draw five additional names and each of those people will win \$1,000. A lot of people split the cost of the drawing ticket and then if they win they just split the winnings also. It makes it a little more affordable that way, but still gives people the chance to win."

Dinner and the silent auction will begin at 5 p.m. at M.K. Brown Auditorium.

See FAIR, Page 2



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH
The Pampa Chamber of Commerce is gearing up for the 23rd annual Country Fair slated Oct. 20 at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Administrative Assistant Dorothy Clark and Interim Chamber Director Keith Pitner look over some of the items donated for the silent and live auctions.

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NEXT DAY FORECAST

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy

Thursday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 94.
Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 69.

Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 86.
Friday Night: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Saturday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 82.
Saturday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 63.

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Services tomorrow

DOMINGUEZ, Geronimo "Jerry" — Memorial mass, 2 p.m., St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Pampa.
OSBORNE, Jack — 10:30 a.m., First Christian Church, Pampa.

Fair

Continued from Page 1

The live auction will be at 8 p.m. with the dance and bingo starting at 9 p.m.
To donate items for either the silent or live auction, which offers a means for businesses to advertise, call Vonda Higgins at 440-2989. She can arrange to have items picked up if necessary.
For more information on the event or the purchase tickets, call the Chamber of Commerce at 669-3241 or go by the office at 200 N. Ballard.

School

Continued from Page 1

Board members will review and possibly approve the bid for an on-site work package for PHS additions and renovations, a resolution for disposal of district personal property, fund-raiser for PHS soccer and baseball for the 2007-2008 school year and an employee assistance program.
Also on the agenda is discussion on the State of the School Workbook and HB621 legislation regarding exempting goods in transit property taxes.

County

Continued from Page 1

The rate consists of 0.424793 for the general fund, 0.039913 for the road and bridge fund and 0.008666 for debt, according to County Judge Richard Peet.
An order creating a joint elections administrator for Gray County and other entities which hold elections and wish to participate is also on the agenda, along with the 2008 county employee retirement rate.
Salary supplements for three staff members of the 31st District Attorney's office will be discussed.

Opening statements set in 1st BP trial

GALVESTON, Texas (AP) — It was the deadliest petrochemical industry accident in more than a decade, killing 15 people and injuring more than 170 others. The force of the blast shattered windows and walls miles away.
Now nearly 2 1/2 years after an explosion ripped through BP PLC's Texas City plant, a jury was set to hear evidence in the first trial stemming from the accident.
Opening statements were set for Wednesday in the

trial of five lawsuits filed by four injured contract workers and the estate of a fifth contract worker whose suicide is being blamed by his attorneys on emotional trauma from the blast. About 1,350 of the thousands of lawsuits filed since the accident have been settled.
The 12-person panel of eight women and four men was chosen on Tuesday after three days of jury selection. Four alternates were also chosen for a trial that could last two months.

CITY BRIEFS

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GIRL SCOUT Registration, Sept. 6, PGS House, 720 E. Kingsmill 5-7pm. & Travis School Open House, 2300 Primrose, 6-7pm.

STYLE SHOW & Brunch, CattleWomen's, Sat., Sept. 8, 10:30am, Pampa Country Club. Tickets at Carousal, Gebos, Joy's & VJ's.

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Obituaries

Eleanor M. Dean, 87

Eleanor M. Dean, 87, of Pampa died Saturday, Sept. 2, 2007, at Pampa Regional Medical Center.
Graveside services were Tuesday in Elmwood Cemetery with the Rev. Eric Cox officiating. Burial was under the direction of Billings Funeral Home of Woodward, Okla.
Mrs. Dean was born April 3, 1920, at Buffalo, Okla., to Utah Daniel and Lena Mabel (Ferguson) Richardson. She grew up in the Buffalo area,

graduating from Buffalo High School. She moved to Oregon in 1945 from Enid, Okla.
Mrs. Dean married Orlin H. Dean on Feb. 14, 1953; he died March 16, 2003. The couple lived in Eugene, Ore., and she began working for the telephone company there in Jan. 2, 1948.



Dean

She retired from the telephone company in February 1982 after 31 years of service.
Mrs. Dean was preceded in death by her parents.
Survivors include five sisters and two brothers, Pauline Moore of Warner Robins, Ga., Velma Matthews and James Richardson, both of Pampa, Thelma Clark of

Shawnee, Kan., Dolores Black of Woodward, Dorothy Cotter and Dean Richardson, both of Buffalo, Okla.; and numerous nieces and nephews.
Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society with the funeral home accepting the contributions. Remembrances may be made on-line at www.billingsfuneralhome-woodward.com.

Geronimo 'Jerry' Dominguez, 81

Geronimo "Jerry" Dominguez, 81, of Pampa, died Sept. 3, 2007, at Pampa. Rosary will be at 7 p.m. today, Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2007, and Memorial Mass will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 6, 2007, at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church with the Rev. Francisco Perez, pastor, officiating.
Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.
Mr. Dominguez was born Sept. 30, 1925, in Ribera, N.M., and attended Ribera

schools. He married Mary Aragon at Clovis, N.M.; she died in August 1975.
Mr. Dominguez worked for Santa Fe Railway for many years and was a rancher. He moved to Spearman in 1981 and Pampa in 1991.
He belonged to St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church. He loved to spend time with his grandchildren, enjoyed work-



Dominguez

ing with horses and was an avid gardener.
Mr. Dominguez was preceded in death by a son, David Dominguez.
Survivors include five sons, Jerry Dominguez of Clovis, James Aragon and wife Lori of Fairfax, Va., Tommy Dominguez of Houston, Frank Dominguez of Spearman and Johnny Dominguez of Amarillo; four daughters, Charlene Martinez

and husband Joe of Pampa, and Loraine Cereceres and husband Pablo, Joan Dominguez and Nora Dominguez, all of Albuquerque, N.M.; 19 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.
MEMORIALS: Alzheimer's Association, 1400 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, TX 79106; or St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, 810 W. 23rd, Pampa, TX 79065.
—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

Jack Osborne, 81

Jack Osborne, 81, of Pampa, Texas, died Sept. 3, 2007, at Lubbock, Texas. Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 6, 2007, at the First Christian Church with the Rev. Barry A. Loving, pastor, officiating.
Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.
Mr. Osborne was born Nov. 23, 1925, in Roberts County, Texas. He was a 1943 graduate of Perryton High School. Jack married Nell Northcutt on July 18,

1947, in Perryton. She preceded him in death in 1992.
He was a farmer in Roberts County for 50 years. He was a member of the Pampa Masonic Lodge #966 AF&AM, and achieved the rank of Master Mason.
Jack was the state director of District 1 of the Texas Farm Bureau from 1974-1981, and in 1998, he received the Texas Farm



Osborne

Bureau Pioneer Award.
He was a member of the First Christian Church in Pampa.
He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving during World War II from March 1944 until May of 1946.
Survivors include one son, Scott Osborne and wife Nan of Lubbock; one daughter, Jan Bufkin and husband Wayne of Lubbock; one sister,

Dorothy Alspaugh of Lubbock; one brother, Ray Osborne of Perryton; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.
MEMORIALS: Alzheimer's Association, 1400 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, TX 79106, or a favorite charity.
SPECIAL NOTICE: The family will receive friends between 9-10 a.m. Thursday at the First Christian Parlor.
—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

Nancy Jo Tryon, 72

Nancy Jo Tryon, Age 72, of Kingsland, Texas, passed away on August 19, 2007. She was born September 27, 1934, in Amarillo, Texas, to Keith Henry Caldwell and Irene Ruth (Ogle) Caldwell.
Mrs. Tryon graduated Amarillo High School in 1952. She married Gordon Lester Tryon on August 16, 1952. She was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

Mrs. Tryon loved to garden and plant beautiful flowers. She loved to cook and sew.
Mrs. Tryon touched the lives of many and will deeply be missed, but always remembered.
Mrs. Tryon is survived by her husband, Gordon



Tryon

Tryon, of Kingsland, Texas; three daughters, Diana Morris and husband Rich Guffey, of Highland Haven, Texas, Deborah (Dee) Laramore and husband Vic, of Pampa, Texas, and Tracey Jo Wyche and husband Gerald, of

Guthrie, Okla.; her son, Keith Lester Tryon and wife Robin, of Amarillo, Texas; brother, Gene Caldwell and wife Barbara, of Washington; 12 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.
Arrangements entrusted to Putnam Funeral Home & Crematory, 145 Texas Avenue, Kingsland, TX 78639, (325) 388-0008.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.
Eleven traffic stops were made. One traffic stop in the 500 block of West Brown resulted in an arrest for driving while intoxicated.
A traffic complaint was received from the 100 block of West 30th.
Motorist assistance was rendered in the 500 block of North Frost.
A vehicle accident was reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart.
Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 200 block of West Kingsmill, the intersection of Alcock and Wells streets, the 300 block of North Wells, the 1000 block of East Kingsmill, the intersection of Denver and Talley streets, the 200 block of West Craven, the 1000 block of Neel Road, the 700 block of North Wells, the 800 block of Deane Drive, the 1000 block of East Francis, the 200 block of Tyng, the 1500 block of North Hobart, the 800 block of East Frederic and the 1700 block of Dogwood.
Agency assistance was rendered in the 700 block of West Brown.
Found property was reported in the police department lobby. A cell phone was found at an unreported location.
Welfare checks were made in the 1400 block of East Browning and the 3100 block of Perryton Parkway.
One suicide attempt was reported.
Civil matters were reported in the 1000 block of North Sumner and the 600 block of East Browning.
One attempt to serve papers was made.
A suspicious vehicle call was received from the 1000 block of South Barnes.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 500 block of North Frost, the 600 block of North Hobart and the 100 block of South Starkweather.
Sex offender registration was reported in the police department lobby.
One alarm was reported.
Theft and found property were reported in the 800 block of Barnes. A bicycle was taken, and a bicycle was found. Estimated value of loss is unknown. Theft was also reported on one other occasion at the same location.
Theft was reported in the 1800 block of North Sumner.
Forgery was reported in the police department lobby. The incident occurred at Onie's, 1222 N. Price Road. Two checks with total estimated value of \$46 were forged.
Burglary was reported at Douglas Towing, 1038 S. Barnes. A laptop computer, wireless mouse and compact disc player were taken. Estimated value of loss is \$900.
Burglary was reported in the 1900 block of Grape. It is unknown what was taken.
Burglary was reported in the 1800 block of North Russell. A back door-jamb was broken and a lock box was taken. Estimated value of loss is \$300.
Burglary was reported in the 500 block of North Dwight. Taken were an mp3 player and sunglasses. Estimated value of loss is \$270.
Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 500 block of Magnolia.

Texas Department of Public Safety on a fugitive warrant for sale of cocaine.
Oscar Javier Lopez, 28, of Phoenix, Ariz., was arrested by DPS for manufacture/delivery of more than 400 grams of a controlled substance.
Tuesday, Sept. 4
Kristi Gail Gallegos, 27, of Pampa was arrested in the 400 block of 20th by Pampa Police Department for failure to identify as a fugitive and *capias* pro fines for no seat belt for driver and failure to appear.
Clayton Hal Davis, 35, of Amarillo was arrested by GCSO on bond surrenders for possession of a controlled substance, tampering with evidence and evading arrest/detention with a vehicle.
Wednesday, Sept. 5
Jerimey Ray Howard, 29, of Wheeler was arrested in the 500 block of West Brown by PPD for driving while intoxicated, second offense.

Fire

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.
Monday, Sept. 3
4:33 p.m. — One unit and five personnel responded to the 1000 block of South Wells on a motor vehicle accident.
5:25 p.m. — One unit and five personnel responded to the 400 block of North Dwight on a call for medical assistance.
Tuesday, Sept. 4
6:45 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 800 block of West 25th on a medical assist.
2:54 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded 1/2 of a mile east of Highway 70 on Road 171 on a medical assist.

Sheriff

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests today.
Monday, Sept. 3
Martin Cerna Garcia, 44, of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., was arrested by

Congress questioning regulators amid market upheaval

WASHINGTON (AP) — The worst housing slump in 16 years and upheaval in financial markets have cast a shadow on the economy, leading lawmakers to question federal regulators about the path ahead for anxious consumers.

A House panel was expected to examine the potential impact on consumers during a hearing

Wednesday, five days after President Bush put forward a plan to help struggling borrowers keep their homes amid rising foreclosures. Regulators who oversee the markets, from the Treasury Department, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., were scheduled to appear.

An estimated 2 million

adjustable-rate mortgages are scheduled to "reset" this year and next, jumping from low "teaser" rates for the first two or three years to much steeper rates that could cost borrowers their homes. The wave of resets could crest during the presidential and congressional election campaigns next year, and the issue already has brought politically tinged debate

over possible responses by the government.

Observers say it is likely that the modest proposals Bush outlined last Friday will be expanded in coming weeks by a Democratic-controlled Congress seeking to respond to growing voter anxiety.

"I welcome the administration's recognition that a greater public response is

required and I look forward to working with them because I agree with a number of specific things that they propose," said Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass.,

chairman of the House Financial Services Committee. Changes being proposed by Frank and other Democrats in Congress go further, however.

Water

Continued from Page 1

Generating the electricity, Pickens said, is not the problem. The problem is getting the electricity to a point where there is a demand for it.

Monty Humble, a lawyer representing Mesa, told the Roberts County Commission Tuesday that because Panhandle electrical rates are still regulated by the Texas Public Utilities Commission, prices are lower than rates downstate in areas without regulation.

It is these areas where Mesa thinks it can get the best price for its electricity.

Humble indicated that there are three parts to the profitability of Mesa's plans. One is the money they can get for their electricity. Another is the size of the project.

Mesa Energy plans to generate about 5,000 megawatts of electricity and send it down their own transmission lines. The cost of the project is estimated at \$10.5 billion. Humble said it would be built in phases, but it would take about eight years to complete.

The third is the speed at which they can provide the electricity.

Other plans for wind farms in the Panhandle rely on government approval and a ratepayer company at the other end of the project to pay for the transmission lines.

Mesa officials said they can build their generating plants and transmission lines much more quickly and take advantage of being first in the market.

Bob Jones, an engineering consultant for Mesa, said the transmission lines would be built and owned by the com-

pany generating the electricity, Mesa, rather than a public utility using ratepayers to pay for the transmission of the electricity.

The fresh water supply district would allow the Mesa group to tax people within the district (which Pickens in the past has said he would not do), issue tax-exempt revenue bonds to finance the project and use the condemnation power of eminent domain to gain a right-of-way across North Texas.

Humble said that with the number of local people wanting to participate in the project, he didn't think the new district would need to use the power of eminent domain in Roberts County; however, it might be needed in one of the other 14 or 15 counties where the transmission lines and possible aqueduct might be built.

The lawyer said that even with the power of eminent domain, the land for a right-of-way would still be based on market value. He said no governmental entity can just come in and demand the land. There is a process that has to be followed to protect landowners, but it also prevents one landowner from holding up a project.

Charles W. "Bill" Philpott of Miami said he was opposed to the project.

Philpott accused Mesa of using public law for private gain.

"It's not right," Philpott said.

Kim Flowers, a Roberts County rancher, told the commission in comments during the hearing that many people in Roberts County had sold their water rights to Amarillo, the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority or Mesa and had gained by those sales.

"We've all gained," Flowers said. "It's not just Pickens."

She said that some would probably be hurt in the deal, but others would gain, including her.

"I have a dog in this hunt," Flowers said.

But she said that Mesa had always been honest in its dealing with her.

Flowers said the potential benefits outweigh the dangers. She said that Roberts County relies on oil and gas for 90 percent of its budget and this could be a way to broaden the tax base.

Kay Thompson of Miami told the commission that she objected to the coal-fired plant and the pollution it would bring.

Jones admitted that coal-fired power plants are a controversial issue, but he said that great strides have been made in cutting pollution from such plants.

Ron Harris, a former Collin County judge, told the commission that 80 percent of the pollution in the Dallas area is from cars and trucks, not coal-fired plants.

While Philpott had questioned the necessity of the project, Harris assured the commission that the need was there. It may not be in Roberts County, he said, but the need for cleaner energy sources, such as wind energy, was important in the metropolitan areas of the state. That need, he said, will grow as parts of the state are expected to double in population over the next few years.

At the same time the Roberts County Commission was meeting, the Kaufman County Commissioners were debating the same issue.

In addition to Roberts County, Mesa filed a petition

in Kaufman County, adjoining Dallas County on the east, for a fresh water supply district based on 319 acres of land owned by Mike Boswell's family.

The Kaufman County Commissioners, however, tabled the issue for future discussion.

Their attorney questioned the legality of the process. He said the petition was filed while the old law was in effect, which requires those wanting a new water district to live in the proposed district. The law was changed in the last session of the Texas Legislature, requiring that those wanting a new district simply had to own land in the proposed district.

Judge Cook said his understanding is that the important date was the date of the hearing, not the filing of the petition.

Several officials said that since the Roberts County Commission put the issue on the November ballot, thus almost assuring the creation of the new fresh water supply district, Kaufman County's action may be moot.

Judge Cook, who in the past has opposed the exportation of water by Mesa, said he sees some merit in the energy plan.

"I think the court feels in general," Judge Cook said, "that there are economic development benefits as well as other economic benefits in the formation of this district, and I think, collectively, we think this is in the best interest of the citizens of Roberts County."

Earlier in one of his landowners meetings in Pampa, Pickens estimated that his energy projects would create 1,000 new jobs for the area.

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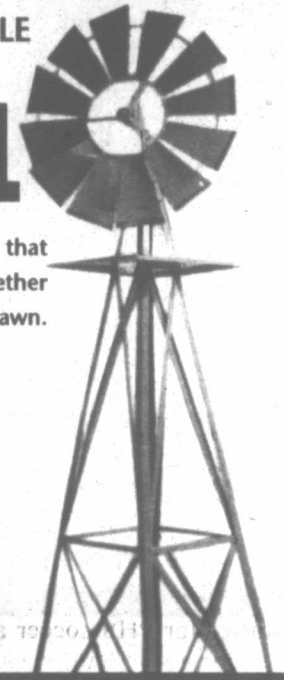
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Style show



Top O' Texas CattleWomen is currently planning its annual style show. This year's function will begin at 10:30 a.m. this coming Saturday at Pampa Country Club. Charlene Wright, left, and Lisa Clifton are seen here modeling fashions for the show from Carousel Expressions. The event will include brunch with beef crepes, egg estrada, muffins and fresh fruit. Merchants from Pampa, Amarillo, Perryton and Elk City, Okla., will be participating. Door prizes will be awarded to those present. The grand prize giveaway - a travel certificate - will require no attendance to win. For tickets or more information, call 806-898-0247 or stop by V.J.'s Fashions, Joy's, Carousel Expressions or Gebo's in Pampa.

Late registration fees have been waived!

Our doors are still open!

It's not too late to register for classes!

Late registration is open until September 10. Financial aid assistance is available Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information call the CC-Pampa Center at

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Viewpoints

Craig affair demonstrates rampant hypocrisy

Listening to Idaho Republican Sen. Larry Craig proclaim in near-thundering terms that he is not gay and never has been gay, I couldn't help but recall hearing Bill Clinton swear he "did not have sex with that woman."

All Craig lacked to enforce the comparison was a finger wiggling at the camera. In his case, there was also no trace of bodily fluids on anyone's dress to prove his guilt, but then there was that guilty plea admitting that he had engaged in disorderly conduct in a men's room at the Minneapolis-St. Paul airport, thereby avoiding admitting that he originally had been charged with soliciting a homosexual encounter with an undercov-

er police officer.

Craig now says he pled guilty simply to get the matter out of the way, but surely as a lawmaker he had to know that he could easily have pleaded nolo contendere (no contest) without owning up to having been a bad boy and having that damning guilty plea on the record.

The media has jumped on this story as if the senator were Paris Hilton in drag. Aside from the ribald comments it has provoked, such as Jay Leno's remark to Sen. John McCain — who had said that his colleagues don't socialize with one another — that his lonely fellow senators could always find companionship in airport men's rooms.

When they involve politics, scandals such as this one are certain to find partisanship rearing its head, and the Craig affair is no exception. Because Larry Craig is a staunch conservative from a staunchly conservative state, Democrats and their leftist allies are dancing in the streets over his embarrassment, busily reminding every sympathetic reporter who will listen to them that the Idaho senator not only espouses family values, but has been a staunch foe of gay marriage. Ergo, he's not only a closet men's room lothario, but a

hypocrite as well. It's a case of "don't do as I do, do as I say."

As tempting a target as Craig may be, however, it's interesting how gingerly the overwhelmingly pro-gay media have approached the subject of his alleged homosexuality.

Except for the more-militant gay activists, at least one of whom has charged in unprintable language that Craig isn't really gay, he just likes to have gay sex, most of the media have avoided any hint that in reporting on the scandal they find Craig's suspected

homosexuality objectionable.

In other words, if he really is gay, that fact itself is off limits. As Jerry Seinfeld used to say after mentioning homosexuality with something less than approval, "Not that there's anything wrong with that."

In the media's eyes, however, there is a lot wrong with a closet gay criticizing gay marriage or promoting family values which they see as code for condemning homosexuality and gays.

Democrats and the media define Craig as a hypocrite. By their twisted logic, therefore, anybody who espouses traditional Judeo-Christian values must also be a hypocrite.

As a result, the Craig

affair is providing Democrats with an opportunity to attack conservative proponents of traditional family values and conservative foes of gay marriage as a bunch of hypocrites, thereby hoping to deprive the GOP of a pair of politically potent issues.

Democrats want the public to believe that Craig is a hypocrite who speaks one way and acts in another — appearing to be a practicing heterosexual when he is in reality a closet gay — not, they'll hasten to say, that there's anything wrong with that.

—Mike Reagan, the eldest son of the late President Ronald Reagan, is heard on more than 200 talk radio stations nationally as part of the Radio America Network.

Michael Reagan
Columnist



Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Sept. 5, the 248th day of 2007. There are 117 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Fifty years ago, on Sept. 5, 1957, the novel "On the Road," by Jack Kerouac, was first published by Viking Press.

On this date:

In 1774, the First Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia.

In 1793, the Reign of Terror began during the French Revolution as the National Convention instituted harsh measures to repress counter-revolutionary activities.

In 1836, Sam Houston was elected president of the Republic of Texas.

In 1914, the first Battle of the Marne, resulting in a French-British victory over Germany, began during World War I.

In 1939, the United States proclaimed its neutrality in World War II.

In 1945, Japanese-American Iva Toguri D'Aquino, suspected of being wartime broadcaster "Tokyo Rose," was arrested in Yokohama. (D'Aquino was later convicted of treason and served six years in prison; she was pardoned in 1977 by President Gerald Ford.)

In 1972, Arab guerrillas attacked the Israeli delegation at the Munich Olympic games; 11 Israelis, five guerrillas and a police officer were killed in the siege.

In 1975, President Ford escaped an attempt on his life by Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, a disciple of Charles Manson, in Sacramento, Calif.

In 1977, West German industrialist Hanns-Martin Schleyer was kidnapped in Cologne by the Baader-Meinhof gang. (Schleyer was later killed by his captors.)

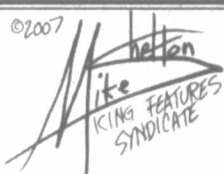
In 1977, the U.S. launched the Voyager 1 spacecraft two weeks after launching its twin, Voyager 2.

Ten years ago: Britain's Queen Elizabeth II broke the royal reticence over Princess Diana's death, delivering a televised address in which she called her former daughter-in-law "a remarkable person." Twelve Israeli soldiers were killed during a commando raid into Lebanon. Mother Teresa died in Calcutta, India, at age 87. Conductor Sir Georg Solti died in France at age 84.

Five years ago: Afghan President Hamid Karzai survived an assassination attempt in Kandahar, hours after an explosives-packed car tore through a Kabul market.

'This is the story of America. Everybody's doing what they think they're supposed to do.'

— Jack Kerouac
American novelist
(1922-1969)



War spells chaos for fledgling government

Iraq's prime minister, Nouri al-Maliki, is rising a notch in my estimation. He's begun to snap back at his American critics. Bully for him.

Arrogant American politicians, in calling for his ouster, shed all pretense of any interest in democracy. Clearly they see themselves as imperial overlords dissatisfied with someone they consider an American stooge. American generals even now are starting to talk about the need for a dictator, though they don't use that term. Maybe, they are telling journalists, democracy for Iraq wasn't such a good idea after all.

Nevertheless, al-Maliki is the legitimately chosen head of a legitimately elected government. It's not up to American senators and presidential candidates to decide who should be prime minis-

ter of Iraq. These empty-headed windbags wouldn't dream of calling for the ouster of the British prime minister. That they so readily do so in the case of Iraq

simply shows you how they disdain the democracy they claim to support.

In fairness to al-Maliki, it should be pointed out that the much-publicized hand-over of "sovereignty" to the Iraqi government was and is a sham. Iraq's army has to answer to the Americans, not to the Iraqi government. Iraq has no intelligence agency. The intelligence agency was set up and is run by the CIA. The U.S. is still the occupier of Iraq, and there is relatively little freedom of the Iraqi

government to set its own policies.

Add to that the fact that the Iraqi government, regardless of who leads it, is stuck with a country that we

"bombed back into the preindustrial age," to use the boastful phrase of Gen.

Norman Schwarzkopf during the first Gulf War. Then, with our singularly inept attempt at occupation, we fired its government and its army. If every member of the Iraqi parliament had a genius IQ, they'd have a hard time digging themselves out of the hole we dug for the country.

The Iraqi fiasco is a black comedy — black because of the tragic loss of life and suffering it has caused, but a

comedy nevertheless because of the Three Stooges-type antics of American officials, beginning with President Bush.

The president has misled and continues to mislead the American people in an attempt to rationalize his failed policy. His pathetically juvenile claim that the terrorists would follow Americans home if the U.S. withdrew from Iraq is laughable. Al-Qaida declared war on us long before we did it the enormous favor of invading Iraq, thus both reinforcing al-Qaida's propaganda and providing it with a new recruitment and training ground.

Mr. Bush's ill-fated war has not only increased the stock of the world's terrorists, but it replaced a Sunniled government with a

See REESE, Page 5

Charley Reese
Columnist



Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ **Aug. 27**
Austin American-Statesman on the first day of school for Texas schoolchildren:

School begins today across most of Central Texas. And judging from the looks on the faces of harried parents recently, it doesn't come any too soon.

This school year opens later than any in a long, long time, thanks to the Texas Legislature. Though many Texans including the writers on this page have been complaining for years about the early start of school, the transition to a later start was jarring.

With the first bell coming two weeks

later than it has in recent years, many parents seemed a bit lost as to what to do with the extra time. Those who used the weeks for vacation were fine, but many didn't plan that far ahead and had to scramble for alternatives.

Families were taking their kids to the Children's Museum for the umpteenth time, hanging out at one of the public swimming pools still open this late in the season and otherwise availing themselves of what Austin has to offer the younger set.

It was startling to see so many school-age children during the day where they haven't normally been seen in the waning days of August. Parents had to haul them to the grocery store, the outlet malls, the hardware stores, the beauty shop, the garage virtually

anywhere the grown-ups had to be.

But those strange two weeks are over now and the bustle of the school term is in full swing today. That means more traffic, more traffic hassles and earlier starts on the drive to work. The late school start lulled many commuters into a false sense of normalcy.

More school buses means more children for drivers to watch out for. Austin has had its share of tragedies from impatient drivers not waiting behind a school bus and injuring or killing a child. It's not a risk worth taking.

Now that school begins just a week before Labor Day, our tendency may be to want to go back to the way it was, back when we were complaining about

See SCHOOL, Page 5

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Red Hats



COURTESY PHOTO

The Red Hat Dollies of Pampa recently met for coffee and donuts at Sisters Spudnuts where they were greeted with a special welcome sign. Above: Shirley Nicholson, Sidney Jackson, Thula McCarroll, Helene Baumgardner, Emily Schneider, Vivian Dykes, Rita Geiger, Manager Sue Reynolds and employee Wynona Wood.

Events calendar

• **Sign-up for two new USDA disaster programs** begins Sept. 10. The Livestock Compensation Program compensates agriculture producers for feed losses between Jan. 1, 2005-Feb. 28, 2007. Producers with losses from blizzards in 2006 and 2007 may also be eligible. The Livestock Indemnity Program compensates producers for livestock losses during the same periods. To learn more, log onto www.FSA.USDA.gov on the Internet or contact your local Farm Service Agency.

• **Pampa Community Concert Association** "Presents Live on Stage"

is conducting its annual membership drive for three weeks in September starting Sept. 10. Scheduled concerts in Pampa are Edgar Cruz, guitarist, Nov. 5; Saxophobia with Rob Verdi, March 31, 2008; and "Revolution, A Tribute to the Beatles," May 6, 2008. All local concerts will kick-off at 7:30 p.m. at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Concerts scheduled in Boiger are The Juggernaut Jug Band, Sept. 20; The Celtic Tenors, Nov. 4; and Angela Jia Kim, pianist, Feb. 12, 2008. For more information, Ruth Riehart at 665-3362 or Glennette Goode at 665-9432.

• **The Amarillo Museum of Art** is offering art classes for children and adults beginning Sept. 17. The classes will last eight to 10 weeks. Classes for children include Art Adventure (ages 4-5), Drawing and Painting (ages 6-9, 9-12), Catch a Falling Star (ages 6-9), and Tropical Clay (ages 6-9, 9-12) plus a Christmas Workshop. Adult classes include Ceramics and Oil Painting. To learn more or to register, contact the museum at (806) 371-5050.

• **CASA of the High Plains** will hold an informational training meeting for potential volunteers at

6 p.m. Sept. 11 at The Brown Alliance for Children in Pampa. CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocates. Volunteers speak for children in the legal system, many of whom have been neglected and/or abused.

• **Pampa Book Club** will meet at 10 a.m. Sept. 12, Oct. 10 and Nov. 14 to discuss "The Road" by Carmac McCarthy, "A Thousand Splendid Suns" by Khaled Hosseini and "The Good Husband of Debra Drive" by Alexander McCall Smith. One book per meeting will be discussed in order listed.

Writers group to meet, conduct workshop

AMARILLO — Panhandle Professional Writers will host multi-published author, Eric J. Adams, of Penngrove, Calif., at a meeting and workshop Sept. 15. Adams will speak on "The RE-writer's Tool Kit: How to turn 'good' into 'great,'" covering a variety of topics that relate to movie producing and directing, novel writing, and commercial writing for newspapers and magazines.

Brotherhood fugitive. Eric is the author of suspense/thrillers "Plot Twist" (St. Martin's Press) and "Birdland" (Hodder & Stoughton). An award-winning investigative journalist, Adam's work has appeared in The Los Angeles Times, Salon, Wired and many other publications. His website, CREATIVE PRO.COM lists over 100 feature articles he has authored for The New York Times.

Adams is a producer, director and screenwriter. He co-wrote and produced the feature film "My Suicide" (2006), and wrote and directed the documentary "To Save A Child," a look into the world of suicidal pre-teens, hosted by Mariel Hemingway.

The program will begin at 10 a.m. at Amarillo Senior Citizen's, 1217 S. Tyler, in Amarillo. Lunch will be \$8 per person and reservations must be made by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 12, by emailing Phyliss Miranda at PRMiranda@aol.com.

He has produced a number of short films and is in development on "Supremacy," a full-length feature film based on the true story of a black family held hostage by an Aryan

Cost for the meeting will be \$5 for non-PPW members but will be waived for those who choose to join PPW. For more information telephone Phyliss Miranda at (806) 352-4559.

School

Continued from Page 4

As someone once noted, we are all for progress, it's change we don't like.

URL: <http://www.statesman.com>

Reese

Continued from Page 4

Shiite-led government that is close to Iran. You couldn't screw this situation up any worse than if you had let Osama bin Laden plan the invasion. I have never seen such a stupid administration as this one.

And make no mistake — there is no

easy solution or way out of this morass. Just as so many knowledgeable people, both here and in the Middle East, warned the president beforehand, he has set loose the wild dogs of war, chaos and havoc in a previously stable region and doesn't have any idea at all of how to round them up.

I long ago predicted the end result of this blundering around would be a new dictatorship, because a brutally strong central authority is the only

way Iraq's feuding factions can be controlled. This time, however, it likely will be someone allied to Iran.

Iraq's misery and difficulties remind me of a quotation from a Turkish officer who said, "The trouble with being an ally of the United States is that you can never tell when it's going to decide to stab itself in the back."

Amen.

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

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Sports Day

Pampa put down by Lady Bulldogs

By JORDAN REAGAN
Sports Editor

The Lady Harvesters suffered a three-game loss in a match played against the Lady Bulldogs in Borger Tuesday.

Borger held Pampa to 16 points or less each game, defeating the Lady Harvesters to improve their overall record to 13-5.

"Our girls should have competed well with Borger, we had several equally matched players going up against each other," head coach Tandi Hudson said. "It seemed like all of the girls, the whole team, had an off night that night."

The Lady Bulldogs won the first three of five games, 25-15, 25-7 and 25-16.

Libby Dyson had one serve ace on Tuesday night.

With kills, Krishna Henderson had 18 attempts with five kills, Jessica Miner had 11 attempts with four kills and Chandler Talley had seven attempts with two kills.

Kelby Doughty led in set-assists with 36 attempts and six assists, and Taryn Eubanks had 14 attempts and five assists.

Dyson, Miner and Cara Stephens each had one dig.

"These girls just didn't look like the same team that played in the tournament last weekend," coach Hudson said, "But you can't dwell on

See PAMPA, Page 8



Pampa News photo by JORDAN REAGAN
Pampa senior Krishna Henderson (3) gets some air to spike the ball past the Lady Dawgs during Tuesday evening's match at Borger.

Texas beats Kansas City

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Ian Kinsler was caught stealing two innings earlier, but that didn't change his approach on the front end of a double-steal in the seventh.

Kinsler raced home with the go-ahead run on a throwing error after stealing third, and the Texas Rangers held on for a 9-8 victory over the Kansas City Royals on Tuesday night.

Kinsler had three hits and two RBIs for Texas, which won for the eighth time in the last 10 games.

With the game tied at 6, the Rangers executed the double-steal with Kinsler on second and Michael Young on first. Kinsler scored when catcher Jason LaRue threw wildly past third baseman Alex Gordon for an error.

"You can't be scared of getting thrown out," said Kinsler, who had 17 straight successful steals before he was caught on consecutive attempts. "I felt I could make it. You're not going to steal a base if you don't try."

Royals manager Buddy Bell said his team made several mistakes on the double-steal.

"First, a good throw and (Kinsler) is out," Bell said. "Second, we can't allow the ball to go into left field. Third, we've got to pay more attention to the runner. So you can't blame just one guy."

Jason Botts, who had three hits to tie a career high, drove in Young from second with a single off Leo Nunez (2-3) later in the seventh to give Texas an 8-6 edge.

Botts started the night in a 4-for-32 slide that sent his average to .202.

Change of shedule

The Pampa Harvesters freshman and JV football teams were originally scheduled to take on Lubbock Estacado Saturday in Pampa - the JV at 4 p.m. and freshman at 6 p.m.

The schedule has been changed, and both teams will play Friday in Pampa.

The JV will go on first at 5 p.m. and the freshman team will follow at 7 p.m.

FC Dallas ends Seattle's run

SEATTLE (AP) — Carlos Ruiz scored 58 seconds into the first overtime on Tuesday night, helping send F.C. Dallas into the U.S. Open Cup finals with a 2-1 victory over the Seattle Sounders.

Abe Thompson converted a penalty kick with a minute and a half left in the second overtime period to clinch the game for Dallas after Dax McCarty was taken down in the penalty area.

This will be the third trip

to the Open Cup finals for FC Dallas (11-8-3 in Major League Soccer). Dallas will host the New England Revolution of MLS in October.

Leighton O'Brien scored during stoppage time in the second OT for the Sounders, spoiling Dallas goalkeeper Dario Sala's shutout. Sala had allowed 10 goals in his past two games.

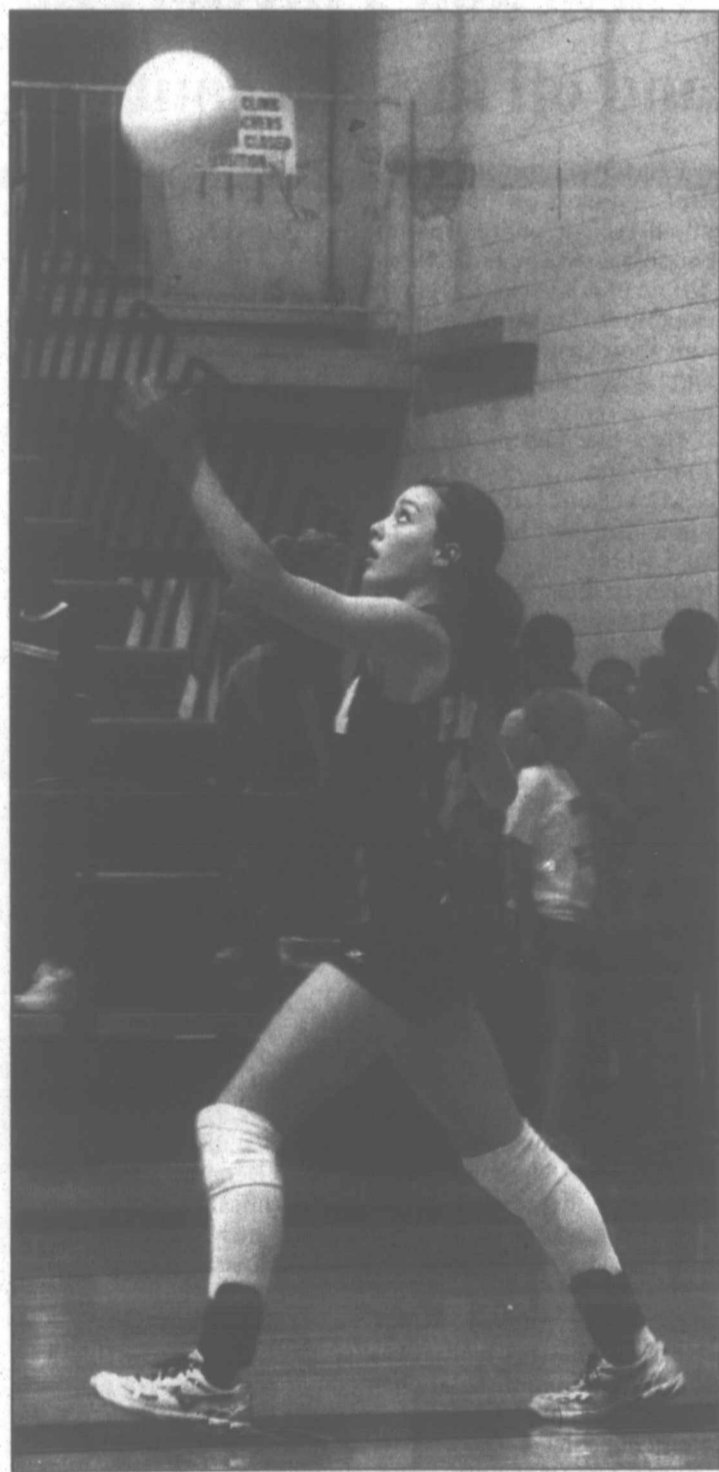
Arturo Alvarez started the play that led to FC Dallas'

first goal with a cross from the right wing side toward the top of the box. Sounders goalkeeper Chris Eylander came out to cut down the angle. But Ruiz floated the ball over a diving Eylander and watched it drop behind him and into the net.

The Sounders (14-6-6 in USL First Division play) were trying to become that league's first Open Cup finalist since Rochester in 1999.

Alvarez had a wide-open shot at the top of the box in the 61st minute that went wide of the left post for Dallas. Just two minutes later, Sounders defender Taylor Graham headed one off the crossbar in the 63rd minute that would have snapped the scoreless tie.

Dallas starting defender Clarence Goodson went out of the game early in the second half with a concussion.



Pampa News photo by JORDAN REAGAN
Cara Stephens serves one up to Borger in the first game of Tuesday evening's match.

Cordero sets team save record as Milwaukee tops Houston

MILWAUKEE (AP) — The Milwaukee Brewers have blown a lot of leads this year, and Francisco Cordero had to face two of the Houston Astros best hitters in Lance Berkman and Carlos Lee with the game on the line.

It was no problem for Cordero, who retired the Houston sluggers to set a franchise record with his 40th save, as the Brewers beat the Astros 5-3 on Tuesday night.

The victory pulled Milwaukee within one-half game of the Chicago Cubs in the NL Central.

"It's nice, but really I'm not here for a record," Cordero said. "What we're trying to do is win the division and go to the playoffs."

Houston interim manager Cecil Cooper appeared to anger Cordero at

the beginning of the ninth inning when he asked home plate umpire Fieldin Culbreth to check for "a band" on the closer's pitching arm.

Nothing was found and Cordero promptly fired the first pitch at the feet of Mike Lamb, forcing the Astros batter to quickly skip out of the way as the ball hit the backstop.

"Sometimes they do that to put something in your mind in a close game, to see whether you can handle a situation like that," Cordero said. "But I don't think about that."

Was Cordero trying to send a message to Cooper?

"Not really," he said. "If I want to hit somebody, I'm sure I can do it, and I'm going to do it real good. It was just a pitch that slipped away from me."

Houston put runners on first and sec-

ond, but Cordero struck out Berkman and got Lee to ground out as Milwaukee managed to hold on after leading 4-1, one day after blowing a three-run lead in a 9-7 loss to Houston. It was the major league-leading 15th time the Brewers blew a lead of at least three runs.

"The quicker you can put it behind you the better off you will be," said rookie Ryan Braun, who hit his 27th home run. "It's not going to do any good to dwell on it or be upset about it."

Carlos Villanueva pitched six solid innings in his first start as a member of the Brewers' rotation. His outing ruined the comeback of Houston's Brandon Backe, making his first start in more than a year after undergoing Tommy John elbow surgery.

Piniella reminds sliding team: 'Only sport where they don't boo is golf'

By JIM LITKE
AP Sports Columnist
CHICAGO (AP) — The Cubs better get used to this. Boo!

Suffering is not just a fad around here at this time of the season, it's practically a way of life. Still, somebody has to win baseball's worst division, aka the National League Central, and the thought finally seems to have taken hold of Chicago and its long-slumbering fran-

chise, "Why not us?"

Well, for one thing — boo! — as a few select Cubbies teams from the past could tell this one — boo! — there are expectations to deal with. And those expectations are why their ace pitcher, manager and general manager each took a few minutes out of their pregame routines Tuesday to hammer out an apology.

"I love the Cubs fans," Carlos Zambrano said a few

hours before the Cubs hit into five double plays and dropped their second straight to the Dodgers, 6-2. "I still think they are still the greatest fans of baseball."

Turns out that Zambrano, who only three weeks ago signed a \$91.5 million contract extension to anchor the staff through 2012, got rocked in an 11-3 loss the day before, got booed as he was departing and ripped the fans in return.

Zambrano cocked his index finger and pointed to his ear on the short walk to the dugout, then said afterward, "I will remember that. ... They showed me today they just care about them."

Less than 24 hours later, he'd already forgotten. Apparently, it's tough to stay mad at the people who help pay your wages when you're 0-3 since the extension and 0-5 since the end of July.

"They have the right to

boo people, do whatever they have to do because they have been waiting for 99 years," Zambrano said. "Sometimes we don't do a good job and they get frustrated, too. I apologize to them."

But contrition alone won't cut it. Not this year. Not with the division there for the taking.

Milwaukee, Chicago's NL Central rival to the north, is still reeling after getting off

to a surprisingly strong start. St. Louis, its nemesis to the south, has cooled off after climbing off the deck and back into the race.

What frustrates the Wrigley Field faithful is that the Cubs grabbed first place by cobbling together the second-best record in baseball since early June, but recently lapsed back into playing .500 ball, all the while failing to shake the Brewers and

See LITKE, Page 8

Lady Intrepids take talent on the road

With the help of 25 exceptional young girls, the parents of these young girls, and several local sponsors, LaDonna McAlpine has done her part to get a good thing started with this year's new softball team.

The Lady Intrepids, made up of two different teams, 12 and under and 10 and under, travel to several out of town games, practice three times a week for three hours each, and play a longer season than most summer leagues.

The team plays for the Amarillo High Plains Fast Pitch Softball league.

Unlike with the Optimist Club leagues, whose softball seasons last only through the summer, the Lady Intrepids enjoy a lengthy regular season from March to November.

Also, both teams are allowed to play fast-pitch softball, where in the Optimist Club, the 10 and under girls hit only off a pitching machine.



Photo by Jessica Whiteley

Both the 10 and younger and the 12 and younger Lady Intrepids softball teams got together recently for a photo. Bottom row from left are Raeli Walker, Lena Dyer, Brittney Green, Coach LaDonna McAlpine, Alexa O'Brien and Taylor McAlpine. Middle row from left are Kaylee Arzen, Kendra McIntyre, Caragan Niccum, Bailey Wichert, Savanna Mertz, Cameron Schaub and Tori Robles. Back row from left are Shiann Regaldo, Kylie Kreider, Bailee Budd, Khori Lott, Shelby Langley, Serena Reyes, Kylee Metts, Harli Jernigan, Shelbie Carr, Bailey McAlpine, Kindle Hunt and Kirstan Epperson. Not pictured is Quila Martinez.

Will Cowboys' optimism give way to stark reality?

IRVING, Texas (AP) — A different sense of anticipation is surrounding the Dallas Cowboys this week.

Sure, the optimism has flowed freely since Wade Phillips took over as head coach and quarterback Tony Romo got an entire offseason to prepare as the starter.

Phillips, a proven defensive coordinator and a Texas native, brought an attacking 3-4 defensive scheme to a unit already filled with talented defenders. Romo is a Pro Bowler with only 11 career starts after waiting 3 1/2 years to finally throw his first NFL pass.

Those facts alone have led to plenty of super predictions after four seasons with Bill Parcells.

But this is finally the week of the season opener — and that changes everything.

Concerns are suddenly magnified. Stark reality can quickly replace the rosy optimism that only got fueled by decisive preseason victories over Super Bowl champion Indianapolis and Denver.

(Overlooking the preseason losses at Houston and Minnesota is easy, considering how much more serious the Texans took that game, and only a handful of starters even played against the Vikings).

Heading into Phillips' real debut at home Sunday night against NFC East rival New York Giants, there are already a few potential problems:

— There are missing pieces on defense, with the status of starters cornerback Terence Newman (right heel) and linebacker Greg Ellis (Achilles' tendon) uncertain for the opener and maybe longer, especially Ellis.

For a restructured defense that puts a premium on attacking offenses, Newman and Ellis — or at least their positions — play key roles. Ellis hasn't practiced at all and Newman missed the final three preseason games with a pesky partial tear of tissue in the base of his foot.

All-Williams matchup scrapped, no Nadal-Federer rematch

NEW YORK (AP) — Scrap that Venus vs. Serena matchup at the U.S. Open. Cancel that Rafa vs. Roger rematch, too.

The tournament took a sharp twist Tuesday night — and early Wednesday — when a pair of fan favorites at Flushing Meadows got chosed.

First, it was Serena Williams. Top-seeded Justine Henin beat her for the third straight time in a

Grand Slam quarterfinal, making it look easy at the end in a 7-6 (3), 6-1 victory.

"I got to go back and study and figure out how to beat her. That's it. Bottom line," Williams said.

Next up for Henin might be Serena's sister. Venus Williams plays No. 3 Jelena Jankovic in the quarters Wednesday night, and the winner gets Henin in the semis.

Henin will have a rooting inter-

est: She's 1-7 against Venus, 7-0 against Jankovic.

"Every match is a final for me now," Henin said. "If I have to play Venus, it will be a good challenge for me to play both sisters in the same tournament."

A lot of tennis fans were looking forward to seeing Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer meet in a third straight Grand Slam final. Won't happen now — 15th-seeded David

Ferrer upset the second-seeded Nadal 6-7 (3), 6-4, 7-6 (4), 6-2 in a fourth-round match that ended at 1:50 a.m.

"Sure there is disappointment for me, but that is tennis," Nadal said.

The lower deck at Arthur Ashe Stadium was mostly filled when Nadal's shot sailed long at 1:50 a.m. It came close to the latest ending at the U.S. Open — back in 1993, Mats Wilander finished off

Mikael Pernfors at 2:26 a.m.

And it capped a full, fun day that also saw a player lose a point when a spare tennis ball fell out of his pocket, another complain about the Jumbotrons and one of the wildest outfits in Open history.

Trying for his fourth straight Open title, Federer was to play No. 5 Andy Roddick on Wednesday night.

Pampa

Continued from Page 7

the past, you have to think positive, and think about what's coming next."

The girls traveled to Plainview to compete in a tournament at Wayland Baptist this past weekend, where they claimed 7th place among the 16 teams competing.

The Lady Harvesters worked their way through

Jesus Chapel, Arbor Academy and Vernon, and lost only to Frenship, Lubbock Cooper and Sweetwater.

"They really seem to get better every time they get out there," coach Hudson said.

Pampa will get a chance to further improve their record as they travel to Amarillo this weekend.

The Lady Harvesters will face the Lady Rebels at Tascosa at 11 a.m. Saturday.

Yankees pad lead in AL wild-card race, but lose A-Rod and Wang to injuries late in game

By The Associated Press

The last few innings were just as costly to the New York Yankees as they were to the Seattle Mariners. Maybe more so.

Alex Rodriguez turned an ankle in the seventh and Chien-Ming Wang walked off the mound gingerly with a stiff lower back an inning later, in the midst of a run-

scoring barrage that sent the wild card-leading Yankees to a 12-3 victory over the Mariners on Tuesday night.

Wang smothered Seattle to get his 17th win and tie Boston's Josh Beckett for the major league lead. Jorge Posada homered twice, and A-Rod and Bobby Abreu also homered for New York — with Rodriguez hitting a rare drive into the left-field

upper deck.

Rodriguez was hurt during a seven-run seventh inning, when he slid into Adrian Beltre. The Seattle third baseman toppled backward, turning A-Rod's ankle. Rodriguez came out at the end of the inning, and postgame X-rays were negative.

"It's a little sore right now," said Rodriguez, who

was uncertain whether he'd be available to play Wednesday night. "I'll see how I feel in the morning."

The injury to Wang is particularly troublesome because fellow Yankees starter Roger Clemens was already scheduled to receive a cortisone shot Wednesday for his sore right elbow.

Doctor: Pro wrestler Benoit's concussions may have contributed to killings of wife, son

ATLANTA (AP) — Pro wrestler Chris Benoit suffered brain damage from his years in the ring that could help explain why he killed his wife, son and himself, a doctor who studied Benoit's brain said Wednesday.

The analysis by doctors affiliated with the Sports Legacy Institute suggests repeated concussions could have contributed to the killings at Benoit's suburban Atlanta home.

The wrestler's father, Michael Benoit, told reporters Wednesday that he knows his son had concussions because his son told him so. But he also said he knows of no medical records or records kept by

the wrestling league to support the diagnosis.

Steroid use also has lingered as a theory behind the killings, since anabolic steroids were found in Chris Benoit's home and tests conducted by authorities showed Benoit had roughly 10 times the normal level of testosterone in his system when he died.

The institute, which researches the long-term effects of concussions, coordinated the testing using samples of Benoit's brain tissue provided by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

The Waltham, Mass.-based institute's president is former pro

wrestler Christopher Nowinski, who has said he had to quit the ring after a kick to the head. Nowinski still has ties with World Wrestling Entertainment Inc., which runs the league he and Benoit were in.

A lawyer for Stamford, Conn.-based WWE did not immediately return a call Wednesday seeking comment. The company has maintained steroid use did not cause Benoit to snap.

Despite the results of the institute's tests, there was no way to know if Benoit's concussions contributed to the murder-suicide, said Dr. Robert Cantu, a member of the institute who also is chief of neuro-

surgery service at Emerson Hospital in Concord, Mass.

"Whether it is the sole factor I believe is speculation and I will not go there," Cantu said by phone.

The level of brain damage Benoit had can cause depression and irrational behavior, Cantu said.

Benoit's brain showed the same degenerative processes that doctors working for the institute found in the brains of three men who had played pro football and committed suicide, Cantu said. There were abnormal protein deposits caused by trauma to Benoit's brain, Cantu said.

There's no evidence that steroid

use causes such protein deposits, Cantu said, though he noted the issue has not been exhaustively studied.

Investigators allowed the institute to test Benoit's brain tissue with the permission of his father, who lives near Edmonton in Ardrossan, Alberta.

Michael Benoit said Wednesday that he agreed to the testing because murder-suicide was out of character for his son. He also disclosed that after the killings, he discovered a diary written by his son that showed his son was having problems.

Litke

Continued from Page 7

Cardinals.

The offense has stalled and worse, they're making some of the same fundamental mistakes that drove manager Lou Piniella into a dirt-kicking, cap-throwing, umpire-baiting frenzy on June 2 that got him suspended, just before the Cubs' season took off. Zambrano might have

been swamped by the first wave of that growing discontent, but if only to prove that it won't be the last, Cubs fans let the entire team have it — boo! — in the top of the eighth Wednesday as the Dodgers pushed their lead to 6-2.

By the end of the night, after both Milwaukee and St. Louis won, they led the Brewers by a half-game and the Cardinals by one. Unlike earlier this season, Piniella didn't see a need to hit the panic button. His clubhouse is still loose,

thanks largely to a mix of experienced veterans like Zambrano, Derrek Lee, Jacque Jones and Alfonso Soriano and youngsters like Ryan Theriot, Mike Fontenot and Carlos Marmol.

So when somebody asked Piniella whether "it feels like you're in first place," he calmly replied, "We are in first place."

"Look, it's been like this all year," he quickly added, "and you all asked me that question yesterday."

But Piniella is going to

hear it every day from now until the end of September, along with a growing number of boos, so long as his team is in the race. It may not be much consolation, but at least it means the town still cares.

"When I played, and I played on many successful teams in New York," Piniella said, "when the fans didn't like what was going on, they let you know it. The best way to quiet them is to go out there and do well. They'll cheer you right back. They want to see

you do well.

"So, the thing about it is you turn a deaf ear to that and you go about your business as a professional and you do good things and they'll cheer you again. I think the only sport where they don't boo is golf," he added. "That's it."

An hour before the game, Piniella sat in the Cubs dugout with GM Jim Hendry and former Dodgers manager Tommy Lasorda and swapped stories and jokes for nearly 20 minutes. "He's been through this

before. All I did was remind him of something," said Lasorda, who recently turned 80. "When I had the heart trouble, everybody just said, 'Well sure, that's because of all the stress you built up managing the Dodgers for 20 years.' "But that wasn't it. It was never the baseball. It was those damn L.A. freeways."

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

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LOST: fem mini Schnauzer, silver. "Maci" If found call 669-1232 or 440-2637

FOUND: male Siamese cat. Call to describe. 665-5523.

14s Plumbing/Heat

JACK'S Plumbing, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115. Plumbing, repairs, new constr., & septic sys.

Larry Baker Plumbing Heating/ Air Conditioning Borger Hwy. 665-4392

21 Help Wanted

NOTICE Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

MAINTENANCE Man needed. Must have own tools & transportation. Plumbing exp. a must!! Call 665-1875.

SIVALLS Inc. is looking for Welder Fabricators. Welding and drug tests req. Benefits: health ins., profit sharing, 401k, 8 paid holidays and 10 days vacation per year. 806-665-7111, Pampa.

EXPERIENCED Roustabout hands & experienced maintainer operator needed. Apply in person Electric Motor & Equipment, 725 S. Price Rd.

POST OFFICE NOW HIRING. Avg. Pay \$20 / hr. or \$576 annually including Federal benefits and OT. Paid Training. Vaccation, FT / PT. 1-866-483-6490. USWA.

MCLEAN CARE CENTER has the following openings:

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DOMINO'S PIZZA now hiring!! Delivery drivers positions avail. Apply at 1332 N. Hobart.

FULL Time RN or Week-end RN and Full-Time LVN needed at Parkview Hospital Home Health, in Wheeler. Please call 826-1370 or come by 306 E. 9th St. for an application.

14c Carpet Serv.

NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost...it pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541, or from out of town, 800-536-3341.

HOUSE Cracking? In bricks or walls? Childers Brothers, Inc. 800-299-9563, 806-352-9563

COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Sept. 6, 2007: You drive a hard bargain this year. You demand and command respect from others. Nevertheless, partners and associates could be a touch flakey. To conservative you, their reactions are somewhat off-the-wall at times. Meetings, groups, associations and networking prove to be your strengths. Don't hesitate to go for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. If you are single, you are likely to meet someone through your friends anywhere from the new year on. If you are attached, you'll find a new warmth between you and your significant other from January on. You will want to enjoy each other even more. **CANCER** helps you access what you want.

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) ★★★★★ Plug into security, investments and other factors that flavor your personal life. Creativity emerges when and where you least anticipate it. Follow through on a friend's great idea or suggestion. Tonight: Unwind slowly.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ You want to reach out for others, and honestly, there is no reason not to. Someone might have a spectacular idea in your book, though harnessing it into a practical application could be quite a trick. Tonight: Hang out.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ You might not be hearing the whole story, or some facts might be withheld from you. Try to break past limits with thought and accept a mind-bender, and you'll gain. As your imagination

flows, possibilities do as well. Tonight: Buy a plant, CD or some other treat on the way home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ Though there might be an element of uncertainty on a profound level, you need not worry or wonder. All will work itself out because of your strong stance and understanding. Listen to a family member or roommate. Tonight: Whatever makes you happy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ Listen to feedback that heads your way. Consider alternatives. If your inner voice tells you something different other than what you are hearing, do pull back. Your ability to encourage a partner or a money investor comes through. Tonight: Go for the unexpected.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ You might want to understand a lot more about a friend than in the past. Others reveal a blatant unpredictability that might toss you in the air. How you react to this situation is your decision. Tonight: Where your friends are.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Take your time managing a situation. Understand what needs to happen with an unpredictable health or work-related situation. What appears to be happening could be very different from what will evolve. Tonight: Work late if need be.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ You might want to see a situation in a different light. Understand that a friend's unpredictability is a byproduct of his or her high creativity. If you choose to toss yourself into this project, you will like the end results. Tonight: Follow your feelings.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

21 Help Wanted

SEMCRUDE, L.P. has an opening for full-time mechanic in the Pampa shop. Must have your own tools and meet DOT qualifications. Excellent benefit package. Please call 806-934-7505 for application.

EVERNING Cook's Helper needed at St. Ann's Nursing Home. May work full or part-time, must be able to work weekends, Panhandle. Apply in person or call Linda or Phyllis for more info. 537-3194.

FULL-TIME Tech needed at Gray Co. Vet. NO PHONE CALLS. Apply in person, 1329 S. Hobart

TRUCK Drivers needed. Drug test and references required. Competitive pay! Call 665-0379.

EXPERIENCED cook needed. Granny's Home Cookin' 328 E. Frederic. No phone calls!!

NOW taking applications for dishwasher & kitchen help. Apply in person, Dyer's BBQ, Pampa.

THE PLAZA III is now accepting applications for Daytime Workers with good presentation & good references. Apply in person at Coronado Center Pampa No phone calls!!

PIZZA Hut now hiring all positions at 855 W. Kingsmill. Now hiring Delivery Drivers at 1500 N. Banks. Both offer 401k & insurance. Apply in person.

49 Pools/Hot Tubs Hot Tub Fall Special! Brand New. Beautiful seats 6 w/ lounger, waterfall, 46 jets. Free cover. \$3999. 806-677-0400

50 Building Suppl. White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

60 Household September Specials Sofas, over 20 styles priced under \$400.00. All Pillowtop Mattress Sets 20% Off. Layaways w/ no interest! Bring in this ad to receive savings! Elite Furniture 806-677-0400

TELLER Position avail. for new Pampa branch location of Pantex Federal Credit Union. Very competitive salary & benefit package. Contact Gail, 807 N. Sumner to apply.

LUBE technician and counter help need. Looking for the right male or female to assist in our growing business. Must be energetic, self-motivated and courteous. Please apply in person at Express Lane Lube. Hours are Monday-Friday 8-6 and Saturdays 8-2. Experience a plus but will train.

FULL time & part time drivers (home every night). Starting pay \$10-\$12 per hour based on exp. Also grader and backhoe operator. Call 662-5005.

95 Misc. **ADVERTISING** Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

MEMORY Gardens of Pampa, Garden Devotion Section C, Lot #230, Spaces 6, 7, 8., Call 665-7489.

RED Barn buy and sell, 1420 S. Barnes. 665-2767

2005 Ford Escape, 4 cyl., low mileage, \$16,500. 2004, 16x76 Clayton mobile hm., 3 bdr., 2 1/2 ba., \$32,500. Both in exc. cond. & only 1 owner. 662-3334, 669-2911

CLOCK REPAIR. Guaranteed work. 30 yrs. exp. on all types of clocks. Call Glen Marshall, 806-665-5332.

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103 Homes For Sale Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-3560, 440-2314 669-0007

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FOR Sale: 2002 Chevy 1/2 ton, SWB, V-6, auto. 65,000 miles. Call 669-0845 after 5pm or 664-1700.

2001 1 ton Ford, single wheel, crew cab, 4 wheel drive, 112,000 miles, 7.3 diesel, turbo. \$12,500. Call 918-277-1782.

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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.

9-5 CRYPTOQUOTE

G M A D P N U R V O Z R C U
O Z Q M Z N S F A P V Z F Z V V
U M S Z Q R D D R G R U O Z Q M Z N S F A
P V Z F Z V V L U R R Z Q. A D P
I U T Z F Z U Q R Z C I D J S D
F G T Z. — F G R A P S U R K

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: AT A CERTAIN AGE, SOME PEOPLE'S MINDS CLOSE UP, THEY LIVE ON THEIR INTELLECTUAL FAT. — W.L. PHELPS

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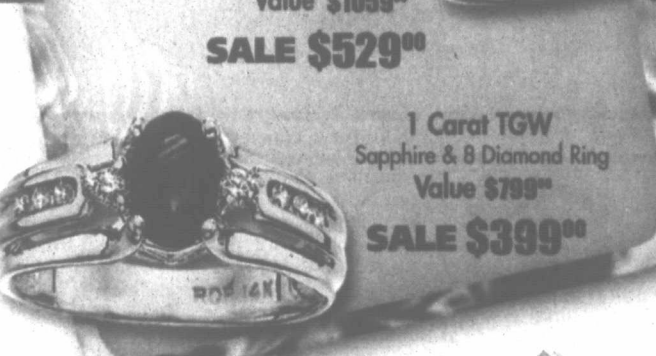
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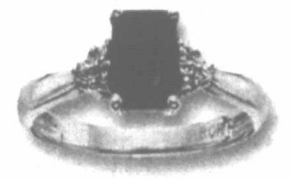
2 Diamond Earrings
Value \$299⁰⁰
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6 Diamond Heart Pendant
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Opal & 4 Diamond Ring
Value \$469⁰⁰
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Value \$239⁰⁰
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1/2 Carat Total Weight
29 Diamond Bridal Set
Value \$2099⁰⁰
SALE \$1049⁰⁰



1/4 Carat Total Weight
11 Diamond Bridal Set
Value \$1099⁰⁰
SALE \$549⁰⁰



1/3 Carat Total Weight
Baguette Diamond Wrap Ring
Value \$949⁰⁰
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Value \$1099⁰⁰
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1/4 Carat Total Weight
6 Diamond Earrings
Value \$699⁰⁰
SALE \$335⁰⁰



1/2 Carat Total Weight
18 Diamond Pendant
Value \$979⁰⁰
SALE \$489⁰⁰



6 Diamond Fashion Ring
Value \$569⁰⁰
SALE \$285⁰⁰



1/4 Carat Total Weight
7 Diamond Fashion Ring
Value \$799⁰⁰
SALE \$399⁰⁰



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