

Tomorrow's Weather

HIGH
72
LOW
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See expanded weather on Page 2

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Mesa Power buys 667 GE wind turbines

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — A renewable energy company founded by billionaire T. Boone Pickens said Thursday it's buying 667 wind turbines from General Electric Co. to start what it expects will be the world's largest wind energy project. Mesa Power says the Pampa Wind Project will be in the Texas panhandle and will use GE turbines that can

each produce 1,000 megawatts of electricity. The project's \$2 billion first phase — one of four planned — will make enough to power more than 300,000 average U.S. homes. When completed in 2014, it will become the world's largest wind energy project, with more than 4,000 megawatts of electricity, enough for 1.3 million

"We are making Pampa the wind capital of the world."
— T. Boone Pickens

homes, Mesa Power said. "We have had a great response to this project," Pickens said in a statement. "We are making Pampa the wind capital of the world. It's clear

See MESA, Page 3



Photo by Julie Ann Thompson
Kristen Dunn and Garrett Couts, the student leaders of the Pampa TDS program, stand in front of a rollover simulator. "We put dummies in the cab, as you can see, and it's designed to simulate a rollover and show how the bodies can get tossed around in an accident," Couts said.

PHS driving safety program first in the Panhandle

By JULIE ANN THOMPSON
The Pampa News

Students at Pampa High School are more likely to drive dangerously than other Texas high students, even though they are generally more aware of the risks they face behind the wheel. As a result, the school is the first in the Panhandle to launch Teens in the Driver Seat (TDS), the nation's first peer-to-peer safety program for young drivers.

More than 500 Texas teens die every year in traffic crashes. Texas Transportation Institute researchers attribute the crashes to inexperience, combined with one or more of the five main risks that plague young drivers: driving at night, distractions (primarily cell phones, texting and other teen passengers), speeding, low seat belt use, and alcohol. TTI surveyed 521 Pampa

HS students in April, and compared findings to surveys done at 34 other high schools across Texas. This statewide examination of teen driving behavior is the most extensive review of its kind ever done in Texas or in the United States.

Researchers say that in general Pampa students scored better in most awareness categories than other students in Texas, and that local students scored even higher when compared with students at other rural Texas high schools. The comparisons weren't as favorable, however, when the survey considered actual driving behavior:

•Only about one percent of Pampa students recognize that driving at night is dangerous, and nearly half of them say they frequently drive after 10 p.m.

•More than 60 percent of

See DRIVERS, Page 3

Meal prices on tonight's school board agenda

By MIRANDA G. BAILEY
Special to The Pampa News

School officials will consider how to deal locally with a nationwide concern when they discuss rising food prices at the Pampa ISD school board meeting tonight.

"The district is considering an increase in the local school meal fees for the coming school year in order to keep up with the cost of providing meals," said Pampa ISD Executive Director of Business and Finance Carol Fields.

Current prices for Pampa school lunches are: \$1.05 at the elementary schools, \$1.15 at the junior high and \$1.25 at the high school. The proposed prices would take the price up to \$2 at the elementary level, and \$2.50 at the junior high and high school campuses.

National prices for staples such as bread, milk and eggs have risen 4.5 percent overall in the last year alone, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index, causing schools across the country to reevaluate how to meet daily food require-

ments within current budgets.

Pampa ISD has not raised food prices since 1985.

"Annual rate increases need to keep with food price inflation or the school programs will go into the red," said Debbie Middleton, Pampa ISD food services director. "The local school district's general operating budget would have to bail us out."

The Texas Department of Agriculture's initiative to help fight childhood obesity is also affecting the district's food service program. A new regulation mandating that schools no longer fry foods has added the expense of new steaming cooking equipment.

"This, and the regulation that no single food item may contain more than 23 grams of fat, provides healthier foods for students but also costs more," Middleton said.

An additional requirement ensuring that Texas school districts no longer serve anything that is of "minimal nutritional value" will also eliminate most vending machines from cafeterias, removing another source of

See MEALS, Page 3

Prospective firefighters have deadline approaching

Pampa Fire Department held an informational meeting on Tuesday, May 13 for anyone who might want to begin a career as a firefighter. Training Officer Robert Griffin went over a power-point presentation showing various duties at the station.

"It went over everything from station duties, truck

cleaning, fire prevention programs that we do and working structure fires on site," Griffin said.

Following the presentation, Griffin held a question and answer session. There were eight applicants present for the meeting.

"It was very interesting, a

See DEADLINE, Page 3

School physicals set Saturday

By MARILYN POWERS
The Pampa News

Physicals for school athletics, Scouting and camp activities will be performed free of charge Saturday to Pampa and area students.

Those needing physicals are asked to be at Family Medicine Center, 3023 Perryton Parkway, Suite 101, at 9 a.m.

Pampa doctors, assisted by Clarendon College-Pampa Center nursing students, will perform the physicals. Students must bring any forms required for their activity with them to the physical.

"We are doing this as a public service," said Kathy Crawford, Family Medicine

See PHYSICALS, Page 3

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The SBDC will be holding a
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If you have any questions contact the Chamber office at 669-3241.

NEXT DAY FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Sunny	Sunny	Sunny

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 72. North-west wind between 5 and 15 mph.
Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 50. North-northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph becoming calm.
Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 80. Northwest wind around 10 mph.
Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 55. North wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest.
Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 85. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south.
Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 58. South wind around 10 mph.

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Wheat	7.16	Anadarko	77.83	+1.67
Milo	9.22	XOM	90.62	+0.71
Corn	10.38	Nat'l Oilwell	75.07	+1.09
Soybeans	11.90	Limited	18.91	-0.06
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa		Williams	37.12	+0.65
OXY	90.31	+1.51	MCD	59.79
BP PLC ADR	73.15	+1.12	Atmos	28.57
Cabot Corp	33.05	-0.07	Pioneer Nat	68.67
Celanese	47.16	+0.02	JCP	44.05
Cabot Oil Gas	62.48	+0.13	COP	88.92
Coca Cola	56.33	-0.21	SLB	103.34
VLO	47.12	-0.31	Tenneco	26.99
HAL	38.80	+0.74	CVX	98.08
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Obituaries

Brian Noack, 37

AMARILLO — Brian Noack, 37, died May 14, 2008, at Amarillo. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa. Mr. Noack was born Jan. 29, 1971, in Canadian. He attended Pampa schools and worked in the oilfield for several years prior to moving to Amarillo. Mr. Noack was preceded in death by his father, Clarence Noack in 1989. Survivors include a son,

Jordan Noack of Amarillo; his mother, Virginia Noack of Amarillo; two sisters, Debra Shepherd of Amarillo and Cindy Adair of Fort Worth; and two brothers, Steve Noack of Arizona and Glenn Noack of Amarillo.

MEMORIALS: Gideons International, 2200 SW 7th Avenue, Amarillo, TX 79106.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the period from 7 a.m. Tuesday through 7 a.m. Wednesday.

Tuesday, May 13

Twenty-one traffic stops were made. Stops in the 1800 block of North Hobart, and the intersection of Browning and Ballard streets resulted in arrests.

Traffic complaints were received from the 1200 block of South Nelson, the 2400 block of Charles, the 600 block of North Dwight, the 400 block of North Christy and the 400 block of North Nelson.

Vehicle accidents were reported at the intersection of Cuyler and Brown streets, the police department lobby and the 300 block of Jean.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 1100 block of Starkweather, the 600 block of East Foster, the intersection of Seneca and Rosewood streets, the 1100 block of Seneca, the 1000 block of Brunow, the 1300 block of North Russell and the 1500 block of Coffee.

Two attempts to serve papers were made.

Agency assistance was rendered at the Bradley Ranch.

Runaways were reported in the police department lobby and the 2300 block of North Christine.

A civil matter was reported in the 1300 block of North Hobart.

Warrant service was attempted on one occasion and resulted in at least one arrest.

Information received in the 400 block of Pitts concerned a bicycle which had been stolen and recovered.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1000 block of Huff Road.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 500 block of West Crawford.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1200 block of North Christine. Four doors, two windows and a garage door were damaged at a residence. Estimated cost of damage is \$1,175.

Assault by threat was reported in the 1100 block of Varnon Drive.

Theft was reported in the police department lobby.

Theft was reported in the 900 block of West 23rd. A video camera valued at \$130 was taken.

Burglary was reported in the 1000 block of Varnon Drive. A back door was broken. It is unknown if anything is missing.

Wednesday, May 14

Two traffic stops were made.

Criminal mischief was reported at Murphy USA, 101 W. 28th. Seven cases of water were damaged. Estimated cost of damage is unknown.

Ambulance

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Tuesday and 7 a.m. today.

Tuesday, May 13

9:57 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of West 25th and transported a patient to

Pampa Regional Medical Center.

11:52 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1800 block of Banks and transported a patient to PRMC.

12:16 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2800 block of Charles. No transport.

1:31 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to a local nursing facility.

2:35 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Highway 60 and Cuyler. No transport.

Wednesday, May 14

5:29 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a location on County Road H and transported a patient to PRMC.

6:32 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient to PRMC.

12:06 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to the 1000 block of South Hobart.

12:18 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient to PRMC.

4:17 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2200 block of North Chestnut and transported a patient to PRMC.

11:23 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 500 block of Cuyler and transported a patient to PRMC.

Thursday, May 15

3:30 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

Animal cremation
 Pet remains turned into gemstones, crystals

By **CHARLOTTE SELLMYER**
 Bryan-College Station Eagle

ANDERSON, Texas (AP) — More and more pet owners are opting to have their pets cremated. Although ashes may be scattered or kept as a memorial, technology has given pet owners new options, such as processing some of the cremains into a gemstone, crystal or, ultimately, a flower.

Live Oak Small Animal Pet Cremation in Anderson, with its old live oaks and

wildflowers, brings to mind the idea of a heaven for dogs: a country farm for roaming.

The business was started about three years ago by Kerri Smith and Scott Mason. Now Kerri Smith's father, Don, and her daughter, Nicole Vanecek, are partners. Both Mason and Vanecek are Texas A&M grads with backgrounds in animal science.

The group's aim is to offer grieving animal lovers a comfortable place to deal with their pet's passing.

"We all come from the

animal industry," Vanecek said, "and we got into this mainly for trust with our own pets. You know when you just don't want to trust anybody except yourself doing the right thing (with your pet's remains)."

Live Oak will pick up deceased pets from clinics or residences, and the "Small Animal" part of the name is a bit deceptive; Live Oak can cremate horses and goats as well as dogs of all sizes. (It cremated 1983 Kentucky Derby winner Sunny's Halo.) Live Oak Cremation (www.liveoakpetservices.com) also sells urns and other containers for ashes.

The business does about 25 cremations per week, and the majority of cremations

'We all come from the animal industry, and we got into this mainly for trust with our own pets.'

— Nicole Vanecek

are communal, meaning several animals are cremated at the same time, separated by brick walls to ensure clients receive their pets' cremains.

In 2007, Live Oak also did nearly 1,000 private cremations, a process in which a single animal is cremated. Vanecek and Mason said many owners want to be certain they're receiving their own pet's ashes, so many will witness the process.

Live Oak bases cremation costs on weight. For instance, private cremation for a pet weighing up to 25 pounds is \$115; if the pet weighs 26 to 100 pounds, the cost ranges from \$115 to \$195. Cremation of larger pets is about \$265. Communal cremations at Live Oak are typically less than \$100.

Live Oak client Helen Garcia of College Station said that having a caring cremation facility is important to her. "When you have an animal, it's like adopting a child. It's a lifetime proposition, and so that's the way I look at it: vet care, good food and end-of-life care."

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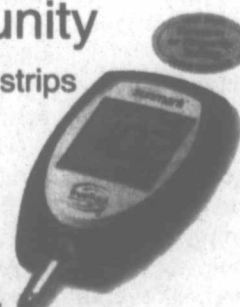
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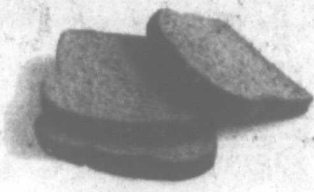
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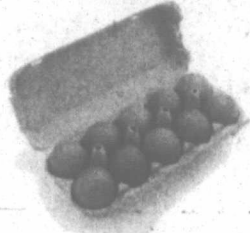
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Average US Prices in the month of January
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



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Junior High - \$1.15 to \$2.50
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PISD Cafeteria Food Tray prices have not increased since 1985.

Mesa

Continued from Front Page

that landowners and local officials understand the economic benefits that this renewable energy can bring not only to landowners who are involved with the project, but also in revitalizing an area that has struggled in recent years.

The wind farm would be five times as big as the nation's current largest wind power project, now producing 736 megawatts.

Pickens — an Oklahoma native and former wildcatter who also heads the Dallas-

based hedge fund BP Capital Management LP — has been a longtime proponent for alternative fuel. He also founded a company called Clean Energy, which went public in 2007, to advocate the use of natural gas as a transportation fuel.

The deal is a major investment for Fairfield-based GE, which in January announced it would focus more efforts on building its renewable investment business because of the high price of oil. GE has called renewable energy its fastest-growing business.

The conglomerate set a goal of investing \$6 billion in renewable energy by 2010, increasing its investment by 50 percent.

"T. Boone Pickens' commitment underscores the ability of wind technology to help meet the country's need for diverse sources of energy," GE chief executive Jeff Immelt said in a statement. "As America's demand for energy escalates, it is clear that wind can and will play a bigger part in meeting that need."

GE stock was opened Thursday morning at \$32.51.

Drivers

Continued from Front Page

local students know that it's dangerous to talk or text on a cell phone while driving, but about 40 percent of them do so anyway.

Pampa students are much more likely to drive or ride without a seat belt or drive after drinking, even though they're much more aware of those dangers than other students across the state.

More than 6,000 U.S. teens die every year in traffic crashes — the number one cause of death, by far, for this age group.

"It's like a commercial jet loaded with teenagers crashing to the ground every week for an entire year," say Kristen Dunn and Garrett Couts, the student leaders of Pampa TDS program. "But that's not how these tragedies happen; they happen one or two at a time, which is why this problem isn't getting the attention we believe it deserves. Through Teens in the Driver Seat, we intend to change that."

Unlike other safer initiatives targeting young people behind the wheel, TDS involves teens directly to help develop and deliver the right safety messages.

"Numerous studies — and our own experience — tell us that teenagers listen to each other much more than they listen to adults," said State Rep. Warren Chisum, who joined the students for their announcement. "What better way then, to make them safer on the roadways, than to have them carry the message of safety and awareness to each other?"

TTI developed TDS and provides the science, materials and support for the program, while each student group determines how the program will work their school.

"Most young drivers don't know that they're 10 times more likely to die in a crash than people in other age groups,"

says Randy Hopmann, the interim Amarillo District Engineer for the Texas Department of Transportation. "But they need to hear the message from a source they trust; they need to hear it from each other. That's what Teens in the Driver Seat is all about."

The Teens in the Driver Seat program is offered to Texas schools at no cost through funding support from TxDOT and State Farm Insurance.

"These alarming teen driver statistics are an unfortunate reality that affects us all. We, at State Farm, feel an urgency to make our young drivers aware of the many risks and responsibilities that come with driving," said State Farm representa-

tive Jamie Smith. "Driving is not a right, but rather a privilege. Being a new driver is an exciting experience for a teen; we want to make sure it is a safe one as well."

Schools interested in starting the program can learn more at www.t-driver.com.

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Meals

Cont. from Front Page

revenue for the Pampa food service program.

"The federal government's two to three percent yearly rate increase for school district lunch reimburse-

ments should also be increased in order for schools to meet daily requirements for proteins, vegetables, fruits, calories and various other food groups," Middleton said.

Continued from Front Page

very good session, and all eight looked to be of outstanding quality and character. I was very pleased with the turnout," Griffin said.

Normally this process takes two months, but Griffin said the department is on a compressed timeline due to classes starting in early June. The process is being condensed into three and a half weeks.

The entry level exam will be held at 8 a.m. Saturday morning in Lovett Memorial Library. The letter of intent inclosed in the application must be turned in by 5 p.m. on Friday while the rest of the packet is due Saturday morning. Also required is a copy of the applicant's photo ID, high school diploma or GED and a copy of

any certification the applicant has.

Applications may be picked up at Pampa Fire Department Station 1 located at 203 West Foster.

Physicals

Cont. from Front Page

Center office manager. "Last year, we did over 600 physicals."

Participants included Pampa students as well

as students from area towns.

Family Medicine Center is located inside Pampa Regional Medical Center.

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Viewpoints

I'm addicted to un-trendy Internet sites

I have a secret. ... And since I can't keep a secret, I'll confess. Okay, here goes. ... I am an Internet junky. I am hooked on sites like, um, American Family Association and Citizens Against Government Waste and the Media Research Center and Agape News Service and TownHall.com and ... Well, you get the picture.

The truth shall set me free, and the truth is ... On-line polls make me giddy and "issue updates" thrill me.

Okay, I'm really sorry if I SEEMED normal. I realize the truth can be a bit unsettling, but don't worry. I have it on good authority I'm dorky, not dangerous.

Though not "a chatter" or even a blog fan, I am thoroughly hooked on certain political/religious/conservative Internet sites. I TRY to go on-line to check out my favorite organizations and publications on a regular basis, but with so many to choose from (and only so much time) it is a challenge.

I would much rather visit these Internet sources than watch a news channel on TV. Why, just last week, the Media Research Center sent me an e-mail I found quite enlightening.

I've included a portion of that e-mail to share with you today. Enjoy!

MRC Friend, (They call

me friend!)

Remember Roseanne Barr, the foul-mouthed, shock comic of the 80s? Well, she's found work on liberal talk radio network Air America, and suggested that leftists should ignite riots at the Democratic convention in Denver to "resist a two-party system that allows imperialism and racism to continue unrestrained."

Following her April 28 rant, only Fox News Channel and the local Denver media thought it

newsworthy. None of the other major outlets gave it a glance ...

Until Rush Limbaugh humorously suggested that riots in Denver would wake up America. Suddenly, it's

news, to the point that Sen. Ken Salazar sent an angry letter to Clear Channel radio asking Rush to be "reprimanded" for talking up violence.

MSNBC's Chris Matthews and Keith Olbermann also piled on Rush suggesting he be prosecuted for incitement to riot!

Any mention of Roseanne? Of course not! ...

Moving on to the ridiculous, Al Gore is blaming the Myanmar Cyclone on Global Warming.

While it is appalling that one would use a tragedy like this to advance a radical agenda, it is standard fare for the Climate Alarmists in the media. From "elephants are falling from the sky" doomsday forecasts, to erroneous assertions of a rapid rise in sea-levels caused by the melting of icecaps in Antarctica, this is the kind of radical "scare tactic" that we've come to expect from the media.

Sadly, many are being hoodwinked.

In Christopher Horner's excellent resource, "The Politically Incorrect Guide to Global Warming and Environmentalism," he expertly and scientifically dispels this and other Climate Alarmist claims — as well as the media's key role in advancing this agenda.

For the full Business and Media Institute report: <http://www.mrcaction.org/r.asp?U=6932&RID=15898162>.

To order your copy of "The Politically Incorrect Guide to Global Warming and Environmentalism," click ... <http://www.mrcaction.org/r.asp?U=6933&CID=500&RID=15898162>.

Skyla Bryant

News Editor



Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, May 15, the 136th day of 2008. There are 230 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 15, 1918, U.S. airmail began service between Washington, Philadelphia and New York.

On this date:

In 1911, the Supreme Court ordered the dissolution of Standard Oil Co., ruling it was a monopoly in violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act.

In 1930, registered nurse Ellen Church, the first airline stewardess, went on duty aboard an Oakland, Calif.-to-Chicago flight operated by Boeing Air Transport, a forerunner of United Airlines.

'People love to talk but hate to listen.'

— Alice Duer Miller
American author
(1874-1942)

In 1958, Vice President Richard Nixon received a hero's welcome on his return from a violence-marred tour of Latin America.

In 1958, the MGM movie musical "Gigi," starring Leslie Caron as a young French courtesan-in-training, was released.

In 1963, astronaut L. Gordon Cooper blasted off aboard Faith 7 on the final mission of the Project Mercury space program.

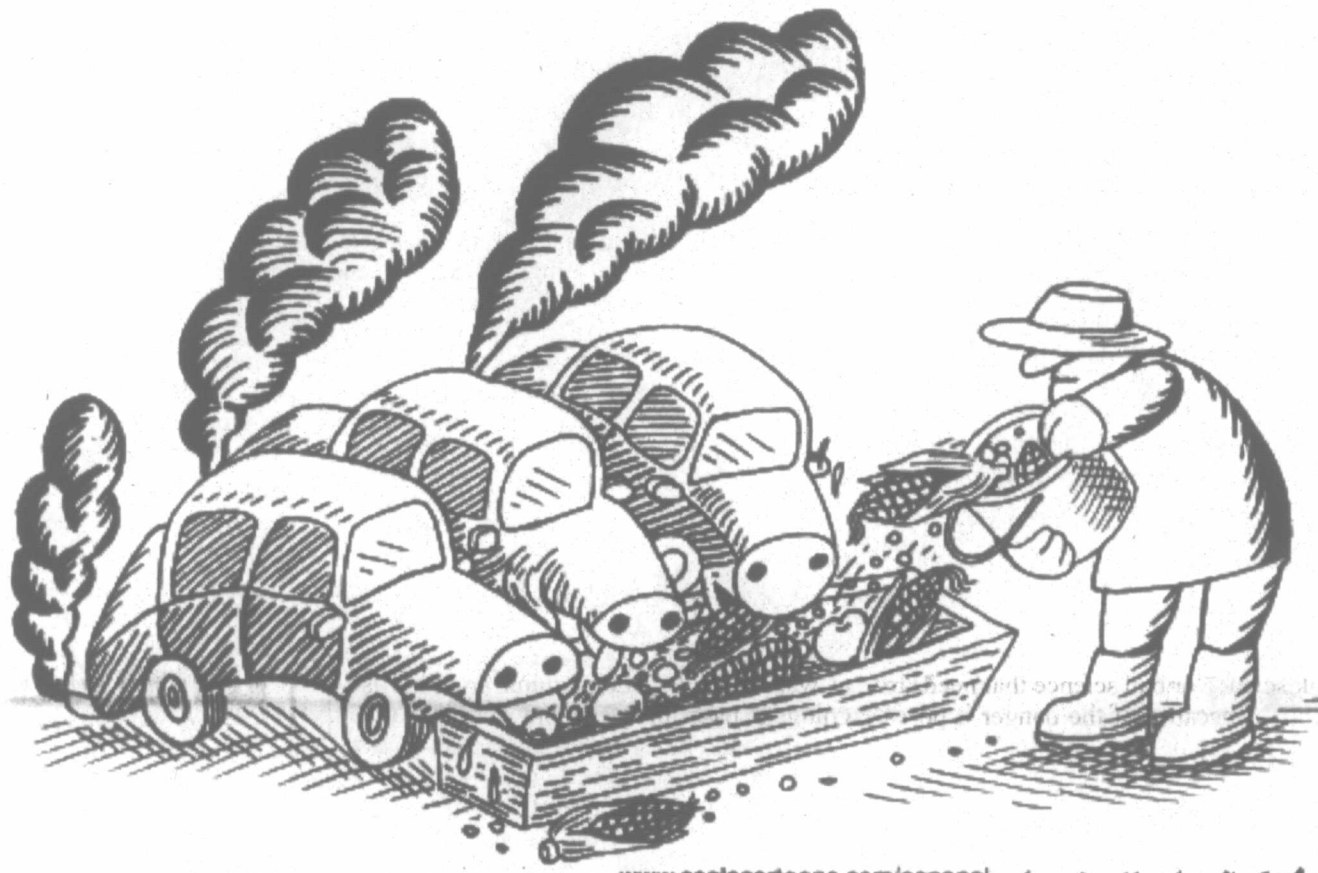
In 1972, George C. Wallace was shot by Arthur Bremer and left paralyzed while campaigning in Laurel, Md., for the Democratic presidential nomination.

In 1975, U.S. forces invaded the Cambodian island of Koh Tang and recaptured the American merchant ship Mayaguez. (All 40 crew members had already been released safely by Cambodia; some 40 U.S. servicemen were killed in the operation.)

In 1988, the Soviet Union began the process of withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan, more than eight years after Soviet forces had entered the country.

Ten years ago: Trapped in blazing shopping malls, hundreds of looters burned to death in rioting that laid smoking waste to Indonesia's capital, Jakarta. Leaders of eight countries, including the U.S., opened a three-day summit in Birmingham, England.

Five years ago: Emergency officials rushed to a series of mock catastrophes in the Chicago area on the busiest day of a national weeklong exercise. Runaway Texas Democrats boarded two buses and returned home after a self-imposed weeklong exile in Oklahoma that succeeded in killing a redistricting bill they opposed.



www.caglecartoons.com/espanol

JunkScience.com founder speaks out

When Al Gore and his global warming alarmists take over, one of the first citizens they'll slap in a prison and charge with crimes against the (green) state will be Steven J. Milloy, founder and publisher of the popular Web site JunkScience.com.

For 12 years, JunkScience.com has worked to debunk the bad science that has been used to advance the harmful or merely silly political and social agendas of environmentalists that have led to things such as bans on DDT and incandescent light bulbs.

Milloy is a self-described libertarian whose other unforgivable crimes include working for Fox News Channel and associating with think tanks that accept oil and/or tobacco money. He recently visited Pittsburgh to appear at an Alcoa stockholders meeting.

I talked to him by cell phone as he drove back to his home near Washington, D.C.

Q: Why did you drive all the way to Pittsburgh to go to an Alcoa stockholders meeting?

A: I am the portfolio manager of the Free Enterprise Action Fund. We're a lib-

ertarian/conservative activist fund and we own shares in Alcoa. We're concerned that by lobbying for global warming regulation, the Alcoa CEO (Alain Belda) will not only help drive the U.S. economy into a ditch but will help drive Alcoa into a ditch.

Q: How were you received?

A: I spoke at the meeting.

I expressed our concerns. I asked the CEO for a commitment that the board of directors would take a hard look at this through their due diligence — and I got no response.



Bill Steigerwald
Columnist

Q: What is it specifically that Alcoa is doing that you are concerned about?

A: Alcoa belongs to something called the U.S. Climate Action Partnership, which is a group of companies and environmental groups in Washington, D.C., that are lobbying for global climate regulation. All the parties that belong to the U.S. Climate Action Partnership (USCAP) have different interests, so you never know if they are going to be able to

achieve their goal. But nevertheless they are lobbying for regulation that every economist in the world says is going to harm the United States and the global economy.

Q: Is there anything wrong about a private corporation choosing to spend its money on going green — even if it's foolish?

A: Management has a fiduciary duty to shareholders. If shareholders want management to be foolish, well, then that's just the way it is. The problem here is that it is not Alcoa just being foolish on its own. Alcoa is lobbying for laws that will make everybody be foolish. If Alcoa wanted to be foolish by itself, that's fine; but they're trying to make everybody be foolish.

Q: What is

See MILLOY, Page 5

Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ May 1
San Antonio Express-News on Sen. Hillary Clinton and the fuel tax break:

During campaign season, the vehicle of choice for politicians is the bandwagon.

Name your issue; if it resonates with the voters, candidates are almost certain to champion it. Hard choices can wait until later.

In the presidential campaign, the issue du jour seems to be the federal excise tax on fuel, 18.4 cents a gallon for gasoline and 24.4 cents a gallon for diesel.

Sen. John McCain, the presumptive

Republican presidential nominee, recently proposed a plan to suspend the tax during the travel season this summer a plan that one of his Democratic counterparts, Sen. Hillary Clinton, has now endorsed.

"At the heart of my approach is a simple belief," Clinton said, according to the New York Times. "Middle class families are paying too much"

Surveys indicate that gasoline prices are among the main concerns of voters, but you do not need an opinion poll to document the pain consumers feel at the pump.

Just go to any gas station. The frustration is palpable, and no wonder when motorists fill their gas tanks, they empty their pocketbooks.

A gasoline tax holiday, however,

exploits the suffering without relieving it. Motorists would save less than \$30 during the holiday, according to congressional analysts. And that means the relief would be both paltry and temporary some holiday.

"Half a tank of gas," Sen. Barack Obama, one of the few voices of reason on this issue, said during a campaign stop in North Carolina, according to the Times. "That's a big solution."

Additionally, the summer holiday would have serious negative consequences for highway construction and maintenance, which is funded by the fuel tax and already inadequate.

The tax holiday would mean a loss of \$9.9 billion targeted for highway

See HILLARY, Page 5

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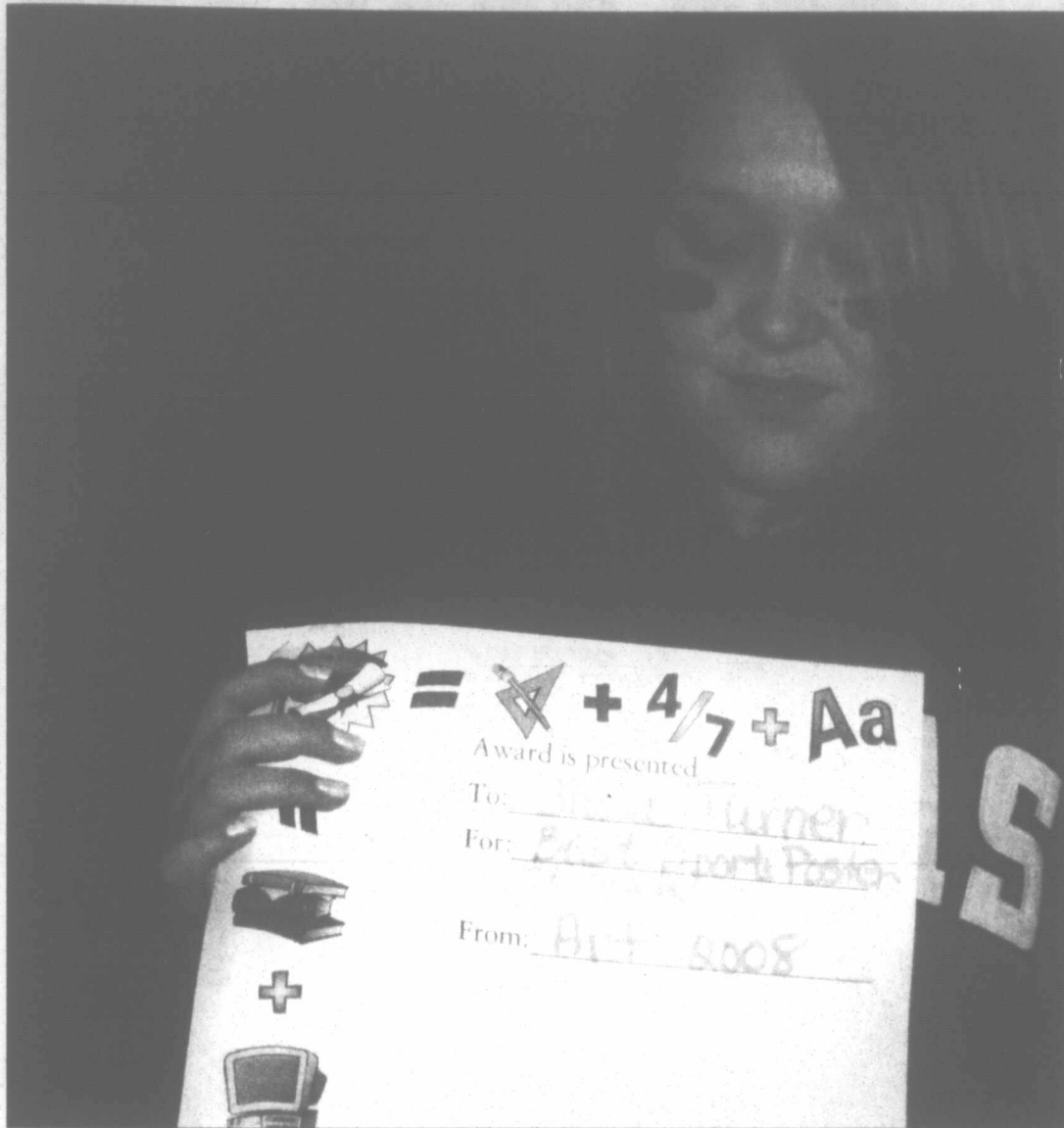
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Poster winner



Courtesy Photo

Pampa Junior High School student Shila Turner's poster recently won "Best Sports Poster" in art during the "Tackle the Taks Academic Pep-Rally" recently.

Milloy

Continued from Page 4

JunkScience.com and what's its purpose?

A: Junk Science is a Web site I started about 12 years ago and the purpose is to spotlight bad science that is being used to advance special agendas — like activist agendas, environmental agendas, regulators, politicians, trial lawyers, companies that are using bad science to sell products to consumers.

Q: What's the most important example of junk science or bad science that needs to be exposed because of the danger it poses to our economy or our freedoms?

A: Well, the most important junk science issue right now is global warming because it's going to affect our freedoms and it's going to affect our economy. It's all based on the unproven notion that human emissions of carbon dioxide are affecting global climate. ... There's much at risk. Global warming regulation means higher energy costs, and it means reduced freedom.

Q: What are your politics and how do they tie in with your junk-science debunking efforts?

A: Politically, I am a libertarian. I believe in individual freedom and limited government. I'm against junk science because junk science reduces individual freedom and increases the role of government in our lives. It's pretty straightforward.

Q: Is there a smaller example of junk science that is harmful?

A: Global warming is obviously the up-and-coming issue. The biggest and probably the most lethal form of junk science so far has been the DDT controversy. Tens of millions of people in malaria regions have died needlessly because the U.S. — based on junk science — banned DDT in 1972 and the ban was promptly exported around the world.

Q: Why should we believe anything you say, if indeed you are supported by energy and tobacco companies?

A: I'll just turn that around on you: Why should we believe anything the environmentalists say? They have been proven time and time again to be wrong. Their actions have resulted in documentable harm to people. They have political as well as financial interests. In the end, you really have to look at the arguments and look at the data. Even U.N. scientists are coming out now and saying there's going to be no

global warming happening anytime soon. Now why would we want to crush our economy for something that is not going to be happening anytime soon — if ever?

Q: Recently, it seems there is a little shift in thinking going on — even in the media — that maybe global warming isn't really coming or coming so soon. There are signs of global cooling popping up. Do you think this is just a passing fancy or have we turned a corner?

A: I'd hate to say we've turned a corner. We're kind of at a precipice right now. Congress in the first week of June is going to be debating the Lieberman-Warner global warming bill. I don't think anything is going to pass this year, but certainly the next president, whether it's McCain, Hillary or Obama, all of them have committed to fighting climate change. Most people haven't realized this yet, which is why we do what we do, but the weak spot is the corporations.

I can't make Al Gore tell the truth. I can't make Barbara Boxer tell the truth. I can't make (NASA climatologist) James Hansen tell the truth. But you know what? I can make a CEO tell the truth. I can maybe even sue a CEO. I can maybe get the Securities and Exchange Commission interested in some of the statements they've made about global warming that aren't true. That's why we have the Free Enterprise Action Fund, and that's kind of the route that we are pursuing because we think the CEOs are vulnerable on this.

Once these global warming bills come to the floor and different companies start to see who the winners and losers are, I think at that point we're going to turn a corner. All the companies want different things, and they are irreconcilable a lot of the times. For example, Alcoa wants Congress to give it free credits — which is basically like getting free money from the taxpayer — for past reductions in greenhouse gases.

Well, a company like Duke Energy, which is a big coal-burning utility in North Carolina, is going to wind up needing to buy carbon credits, which they can't afford. So Duke is not for carbon credits; they're for a carbon tax. Well, you can't do carbon credits and a carbon tax. It's going to be one way or the other. So when the winners and losers get identified, I think the USCAP will ultimately get blown up. Then we'll see where things are.

—Bill Steigerwald is a columnist at the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review.

Hillary

Continued from Page 4

projects. Clinton proposes a windfall-profits tax on oil companies to make up for the lost revenue. That sounds good, but the proposal has gone nowhere in the past.

Like that shot of whiskey Clinton downed in the Indiana bar, this issue serves to boost her populist creds. But it does nothing to help the voters. This bandwagon, it seems, is a vehicle fueled by pandering rather than for-

mulating a badly needed energy policy.

As the pandering gains momentum, lawmakers are pushing the Bush administration to stop making deposits to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve during the summer travel season.

The group includes the two Republican senators from Texas, Kay Bailey Hutchison and John Cornyn as well as House Democratic leaders, the Express-News reported.

The lawmakers should be reminded that the SPR was created to provide oil during

times of disruption, not to create political points.

Like the tax holiday, diverting oil supplies destined for the reserves into the domestic market would do nothing to curtail gasoline consumption, which is the real culprit.

And it would do nothing to encourage the development of alternative fuels or efficient vehicles.

President Bush is on target with his plan to continue putting oil into the reserve. URL: <http://www.mysa.com>

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I disagree with your reply to "Nicki in Maryland" (March 23), the retail saleswoman who is tired of being not only touched, but physically pulled about by customers. Everyone has personal space, and this includes service industry employees. A light touch on the arm is one thing; to be pulled or regularly touched on the shoulders and hands is quite another. To suggest that Nicki tolerate such behavior to keep a customer, or find another line of work, is disappointing. Frankly, some customers are not worth keeping, or should be educated that retail workers are human beings who deserve to be respected as such. Maybe Nicki likes her job. Why should she give it up because of the occasional behavior of the rude and insensitive? Perhaps the job works for her because of personal or school issues. Retail jobs often have the most flexible schedules. As a former retail employee, I have many fond memories, but I also remember people from all levels of society who believe that we are somehow less than human, temporary slaves to be treated as they see fit, and subjected to all manner of poor behavior without recourse. -- **BETH IN HAYWARD, CALIF.**

DEAR BETH: You are entitled to disagree. However, I also suggested to "Nicki" that she review the company's policy on touching with her employer, stay out of arm's reach, and look for tasks in the store that involve less contact with customers. While some readers sympathized with her, others agreed with me. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: While I agree that Nicki's situation is one about which the supervisor should be made aware, I believe a firm, straightforward "Please don't touch me" is appropriate. I am a former food server. I contended with the problem on a daily basis. I also don't care to be touched by anyone I do not know. I feel that everyone has the right NOT to be touched. We as

human beings need to respect this. Nicki should, indeed, try to remain out of arm's reach as you suggested. That tends to work, as it makes the other person look foolish if they have to lean to grab you. -- **CYNDI IN NEW JERSEY**

DEAR ABBY: Retail employees have no less right to say "No" to unwanted physical contact than any other human being. Moreover, a corporate culture of respect for employees fosters a healthy work environment, which is far more important to sales than the retention of a single pushy, touchy-feely customer who does not respect employees. Happy workers, confident in the support of their supervisor, sell with smiles on their faces, rather than selling at arm's length in fear. -- **CUSTOMER'S NOT ALWAYS RIGHT**

DEAR ABBY: Perhaps "Nicki" isn't well aware enough of her surroundings. A conscious effort to train herself to be sensitive to who is around her or approaching her could solve her problem. Simply glancing up could give her a clue as to whether the person is coming to ask a question. As a result, there would be less reason for the impolite to reach out and touch her. -- **ANDY IN LUBBOCK, TEXAS**

DEAR ABBY: Being touched by customers happens to go with the turf in any meet-the-public job. If Nicki can't accept this basic fact, she should find a job in accounting. Friendly people make more sales, receive more tips and earn more money. Face it: Friendliness involves a certain amount of physical contact, and it's human nature to reach out to people you like. That's why successful businessmen make a point of shaking hands. -- **ALLEN IN GRAND ISLAND, NEB.**

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 45 Invisits

- 1 Whodunit foundation
- 5 Cut off
- 11 Electrified
- 12 John Glenn, for one
- 13 Exploited
- 14 Folk-blues singer
- 15 Exotic dancer
- 17 Chiding sound
- 18 Kitchen output
- 22 Oil barrels
- 24 Party
- 25 Canoe need
- 26 Annex
- 27 Looks after
- 30 Best Picture of 1955
- 32 Auto flop
- 33 Leaf carrier
- 34 Infamous emperor
- 38 Mississippi discoverer
- 41 Hockey's Lindros
- 42 Wears away
- 43 Spring time
- 44 Tall boots

DOWN

- 1 Asset
- 2 Shopping aid
- 3 Capsizes
- 4 Dullsville
- 5 Barnstorming
- 6 feat
- 7 "Heavenly!"
- 8 South Dakota
- 9 capital
- 10 Poker prize
- 11 Pig out
- 12 "CSI" evidence
- 13 Party board
- 14 Annex abbr.
- 15 Musical intros
- 16 "Heavenly!"
- 17 South Dakota
- 18 capital
- 19 Invasion
- 20 Crack, in a way
- 21 Christian
- 22 "Heathers" board
- 23 Follower of avril
- 24 31 Frank McCourt's mother
- 25 35 Red-ink amount
- 26 36 Chain unit
- 27 37 Bible book
- 28 38 Lawn moisture
- 29 39 Bit of history
- 30 40 Lawn makeup

H	A	F	T	S	H	A	R	I	F
E	R	I	E	P	A	L	A	C	E
A	C	R	E	E	R	O	D	E	D
T	H	E	M	E	A	T			
B	I	R	D	S	F	A	N		
G	O	A	D	S	H	I	R	E	
A	B	L	E	I	R	I	S		
M	O	L	A	R	P	L	E	A	T
Y	E	S	A	L	L	O			
S	T	A	I	A	T	E			
M	A	R	T	I	N	P	L	A	I
A	R	O	U	N	D	E	L	S	E
P	R	I	N	G	S	A	S	K	S

Yesterday's answer

- 19 Musical
- 20 Liquefy
- 21 Crony
- 22 Igloo
- 23 Invasion
- 24 Crack, in a way
- 25 Christian
- 26 "Heathers" board
- 27 Follower of avril
- 31 Frank McCourt's mother
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Marmaduke



The Family Circus

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Sports



Courtesy Photos

The Lady Harvesters were honored at a pep rally yesterday to show support for the team's next game. Above, Ashley Facio and Jasmine Moore wait their turn to talk with News Channel 10. Below, the Travis Tigers made a banner for the team to show their support. The Lady Harvesters leave today at 2:30 p.m. for their first game in Burkburnett at 8 p.m. Friday's game will be held at 3 p.m. at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls. The team is currently ranked #9 in the state.

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Stars avoid sweep, send West finals back to Detroit

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas finally went into the locker room with a lead in the Western Conference finals. The Stars needed nearly 11 full periods, a debatable call that wiped out a Detroit goal and a favorable ruling on their score to accomplish that.

But the top-seeded Red Wings responded quickly, scoring less than a minute into the third period of Game 4 to tie it. For the desperate Stars, trying to avoid a sweep and elimination on home ice Wednesday night, it might have been easy to give in, avoid a trip back to Detroit and get the summer vacation started. Instead, Dallas came back strong and will play again after a 3-1 victory.

"When you're in the situation we are, where there's no tomorrow, you might as well keep playing," coach Dave Tippett said. "The guys talked about it, as soon as it happened on the bench, 'That's not going to deter us tonight.' ... You just love to see that, the character."

Mike Modano's one-timer from the middle of the circles on a power play with 14 1/2 minutes left put Dallas back in front, and Brenden Morrow provided some cushion when the Stars captain scored from about the same spot with 5:26 left. Marty Turco had 14 of his 33 saves in the third period.

"When you're in the situation we are, where there's no tomorrow, you might as well keep playing."

— Dave Tippett
Stars Coach

"Having the lead finally for once in the whole series was something that was, you know, exciting to see," Modano said. "It kind of changed our feelings about things." Dallas needed more than 219 minutes to finally have

an advantage. It came at 1-0 when Loui Eriksson, his skate clearly in the crease, scored with 23 seconds left in the second period. Eriksson's goal came about 12 minutes after officials waved off an apparent goal when Pavel Datsyuk put the puck past Turco on a power-play shot from the

Turco earlier this series — likely factored in. Red Wings captain Nicklas Lidstrom said he was told by two officials that Holmstrom's rear end got in the way. "It could have been a different game," Lidstrom said. "But that's not the reason we lost. They battled hard and they were the desperate team." Turco maintained he didn't have the freedom to move and stop the shot. "That's a reputation call, totally," Babcock said. "Kelly (Sutherland) is a good referee. He just blew the call." The apparent difference in Eriksson's goal — and the non-call by officials — was that the puck beat the shooter into the crease, making his presence legal. "It hit my body and then hit the stick," Eriksson said. "I was just standing there. I didn't hit it with my hand. I knew it was good." Eriksson knocked in a loose puck shot toward the net by Stephane Robidas, the defenseman whose holding penalty led to the power play on which Datsyuk thought he had scored. Detroit lost for the first time since April 16, ending a nine-game winning streak that was the franchise's longest in a single postseason. Goalie Chris Osgood, who started all of Detroit's games during the streak, gave up one goal less than he had in the previous three games combined. "We had a nice little run and we're still in a great position," Darren McCarty said. Now the Red Wings get a chance to clinch the series at home Saturday in Game 5. They are trying to advance to the Stanley Cup finals for the first time since winning it six years ago. "We believe we can beat them now," Stars center Brad Richards said, before quickly clarifying himself. "Not that we didn't believe before, but we now know we can! ... But we are going to have to push hard, even harder than tonight." Just 49 seconds into the third period, and 1:12 after Eriksson's goal, Detroit's Henrik Zetterberg zipped a shot past Turco to tie it at 1.

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**Sell Price
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**Sell Price
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**Sell Price
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stk# B00016



**NEW 2007
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MSRP \$26,830
C/S DISC. \$2,500
REBATE \$2,000

**Sell Price
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stk# P07001



2007 CULBERSON CLOSE OUT SALE

Ends 05/21/08



Kay's Kreative Kids



Courtesy Photos

Elizabeth Terry, left, displays a painting she completed as a student of "Kay's Kreative Kids." Terry is a pupil of art instructor Kay Krouch as is Hunter Hughes, right. Terry, Hughes and other "Kay's Kreative Kids" will exhibit in a show at Pampa's Lovett Memorial Library May 18. The show will last from 1-4 p.m. Refreshments will be served. The exhibit, which will be open to the public, will include watercolors, acrylic, pencil, paint pen, Prisma colors and pottery. The featured senior student will be Stephen Taylor.

Events calendar

• **The next Third Thursday** at Amarillo Museum of Art will last from 6:30-9 p.m. May 15. The event will include the film "The Ant Farm: Cadillac Ranch 1974-1994," the "Poetry Slam: Slamarillo," music by Yvonne Parea, an art activity for children and adults, and refreshments. Admission is free. For more information, call the museum at (806) 371-5050.

• **The Texas Department of State Health Services** will be offering immunization clinics for vaccines that

give protection against several childhood diseases including polio, diphtheria, lock jaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, rubella, mumps, HIB (haemophilus influenzae Type B) and chickenpox (varicella). The TDH will charge money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay. The following clinic(s) will be offered: 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-3 p.m., May 21,

TDH, 736 S. Cuyler, Pampa.

• **Copper Breaks State Park** near Quanah will present a campsite talk at 3 p.m. May 17 on mountain bike safety with Doug Holbert, a military veteran, Hotter-N-Hell Hundred survivor and park volunteer. For more information, call (940) 839-4331.

• **Cooper Breaks State Park** near Quanah will present a campsite talk on Native American arrowheads and artifacts at 7 p.m. May 31 at the park.

Program presenter Ervie McGreger of Crowell will display his collection of arrowheads, knives and other tools which date from Paleo-Indian times to historic times. For more information call (940) 839-4331.


• **Make plans now to attend the Frontiers in Writing** writer's conference, June 13-14, 2008 at the Fifth Season Inn in Amarillo. New York Times Bestselling author Bob Mayer will be the featured guest speaker and a workshop provider. Mayer

has worked with thousands of writers and taught at numerous workshops and conferences. Other presenters will include Doris Wenzel of Mayhaven Publishing, Robert Ray, multi-published author of "The Weekend Novelist," and several editors and regional authors. Private paid critiques with freelance editor Kim Campbell will also be available. For more information, visit Panhandle Professional Writers at www.panhandleprowriters.org.

enter a free religious poetry contest sponsored by New Jersey Rainbow Poets will be June 14. For more information, visit www.rainbowpoets.com on the Internet.

UNSURE WHETHER YOU CAN RETIRE? LET'S TALK.

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