

Tomorrow's Weather

HIGH
89
LOW
66

See expanded weather on Page 2

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Pampa News photos by Marilyn Powers

A friendly hare

This young rabbit has taken up residence under a firewood rack in the back yard of a home in north Pampa. The cottontail has been seen at the home regularly for the past couple of months, and makes several trips a day to and from the space under the firewood to graze on green grass and get a drink of water from a shallow dish provided by the homeowner.

Economy

Sales of existing homes fall 1 percent in April

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sales of existing homes fell for the eighth time in the past nine months, with the backlog of unsold single-family homes rising to the highest level in more than two decades.

The National Association of Realtors said that existing home sales dropped by 1 percent to 4.89 million units, matching the all-time low set in January. These records go back to 1999.

The median price for an existing home dropped 8 percent, compared with a year ago, to \$202,300. Analysts predicted further price declines given the huge backlog of unsold single-family homes, which rose in April to 10.7 months supply at the current sales pace, the highest inventory level since June 1985.

The April sales drop was slightly smaller than had been expected. The housing industry is being battered by a prolonged slump that has seen sales and prices decline and mortgage foreclosures soar, the aftermath of a five-year housing boom.

Sales were down the most in the Midwest, a drop of 6 percent, followed by a 4.4 percent decline in the Northeast. Sales were up 6.4 percent in the West, a region of the country where prices fell by the sharpest amount, and were unchanged in the South.

Even with the weak results for April, Lawrence Yun, chief economist for the Realtors, said he saw reasons for optimism for the second half of this year as more types of mortgages become available as industry and the government respond to a severe credit crunch that began last August.

"I would encourage buyers who were disappointed by poor mortgage options to take another look at the market because the lending changes are significant," he said.

However, other economists were not as optimistic about a rebound in sales, contending that the continued drop in prices was keeping potential buyers sitting on the fence, waiting for prices to fall further.

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Four sent to hospital in car vs. tree wreck

By MARILYN POWERS
The Pampa News

A one-vehicle accident resulted in four persons being transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center by ambulance early Thursday.

At 4:36 a.m. Thursday, a white 1997 Chevrolet Impala driven by Travis Wayne Hodge, 19, of 809 E. Francis, collided with a tree in the 1300 block of Garland, according to a Pampa Police Department accident report.

Passengers in Hodge's vehicle were a 15-year-old male Pampa resident; Joseph Ryan Gross, 20, of Lefors; and Jeremy Daniel Stewart, 18, of 503 N. Cuyler.

The four were taken to Pampa Regional Medical Center by White Deer EMS Ambulance Service with non-incapacitating injuries, according to the police report and a police department spokeswoman. One of the four was later transferred to an Amarillo hospital for further treatment.

No citations were listed on the police report. Factors and conditions believed to have contributed to the wreck are an animal on the road and failure to control speed, according to the accident report.

Four-leaf clover

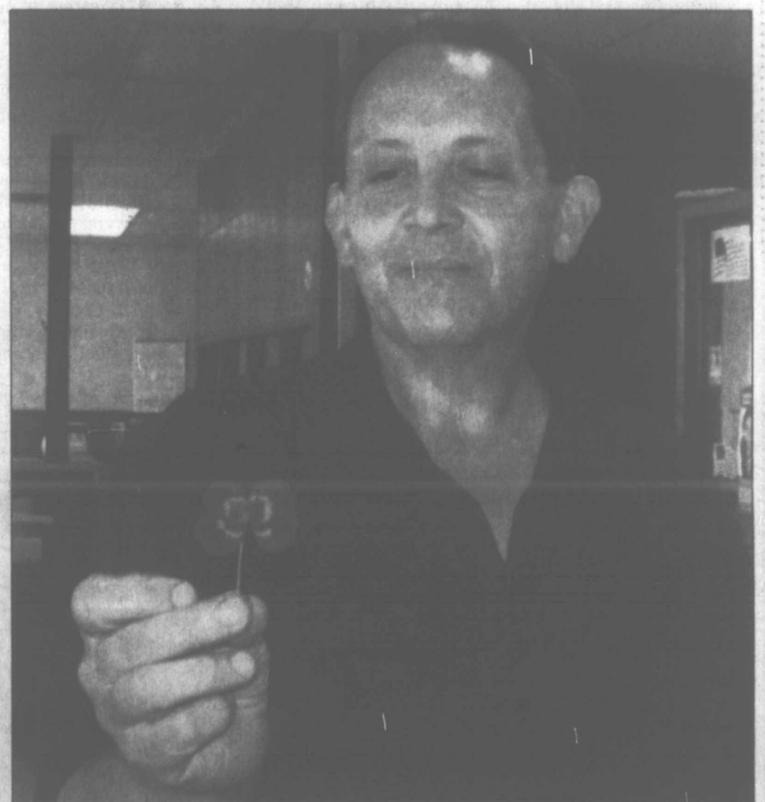


Photo by Julie Ann Thompson

Marcus Elkins shows off the bona fide four-leaf clover he found recently. He spotted it while checking on the patch of clover that he'd planted himself in his yard.

Registration Deadline for the
Cookin' on the Bricks
\$50 for individuals & non-profit organization and
\$100 for Business & professional.
If you have any questions contact the Chamber @ 669-3241

NEXT DAY FORECAST

Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Cloudy	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy

Saturday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 89. Windy, with a south wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Saturday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 66. Windy, with a south wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Sunday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 88. South wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 66. South wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Monday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 89. South wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Monday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 65. South-southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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Obituaries

Services tomorrow

HARRIS, Stanley R. — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

Stanley R. Harris, 79

Stanley R. Harris, 79, of Pampa, died May 21, 2008, at Amarillo. Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Lynn Hancock, pastor of Briarwood Church, officiating.

Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Harris was born Feb.

18, 1929 in Cushing, Oklahoma. He married Roberta Moore on July 8, 1953, at Duncan, Okla.; she died in 1992.

Mr. Harris was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean Conflict as an engineer instructor. He



Harris

had been a Pampa resident since 1972 and retired from Schlumberger in 1986 after 35 years of service.

He was preceded in death by a son, Robby Harris in 2006; a brother, Gene Harris in 2004; and his parents, Ben and Ethel Harris.

Survivors include three daughters, Terrell Peevy of Van Buren, Ark., Karen Peterson of Hurst and Karla Ledbetter of Amarillo; one sister, Jo Ann Williams of Cushing, Okla.; 12 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

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

Danny Dean Moman, 50

Danny Dean Moman, 50, passed away on Tuesday, May 20, 2008. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. today in Skyvue

Memorial Gardens.

Danny was born July 20, 1957. He is survived by his wife, Christine Moman; four children, Misty, Danny,

Dean and Kevin; five brothers, five sisters and five grandchildren.

Arrangements by Skyvue Funeral Home, Mansfield,

TX, 817-478-6955. Condolences may be made at www.star-telegram.com/obituaries.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Anebury Grain of White Deer:		Pampa		Anadarko	78.11	-0.29	SLB	101.97	-0.50	
Wheat	NA	OXY	95.01	-1.02	XOM	92.30	-0.21	Tenneco	25.28	-0.91
Milo	NA	BP PLC ADR	76.11	-0.01	Nat'l Oilwell	82.39	+0.43	CVX	101.87	-0.04
Corn	NA	Cabot Corp	31.91	-0.52	Limited	18.62	-0.23	Wal-Mart	55.67	-0.38
Soybeans	NA	Celanese	47.80	-0.91	Williams	38.59	+0.19	OKE	49.89	-0.34
		Cabot Oil Gas	61.89	+0.75	MCD	57.71	-0.82			
		Coca Cola	58.87	+0.60	Atmos	27.55	+0.02	New York Gold	918.30	
		VLO	49.33	-0.33	Pioneer Nat	71.85	+0.50	Silver	18.03	
		HAL	48.54	+0.26	JCP	39.49	-1.02	West Texas Crude	130.81	
		XCEL	21.19	-0.06	COP	92.25	+0.25			

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the period from 7 a.m. Wednesday to 7 a.m. Thursday.

Wednesday, May 21

Thirteen traffic stops were made.

Traffic complaints were received from the 1000 block of North Hobart, the 1400 block of West Somerville and the 200 block of West Craven.

Motorist assistance was rendered in the 1400 block of North Hobart.

Vehicle accidents were reported at the intersection of Hobart and Alcock streets, the intersection of Hobart and Harvester streets, and the 1400 block of North Hobart.

Reports concerning animals were received from the 600 block of North Faulkner, the 1100 block of Willow, the 2500 block of Chestnut,

the 700 block of Octavus, the 2400 block of Charles, the 700 block of West Wilks, the 1700 block of Dogwood, the 1700 block of Hamilton, the 1800 block of North Russell, the intersection of 23rd and Banks streets, the 700 block of South Cuyler and the 500 block of Magnolia.

A civil matter was reported in the police department lobby.

One attempt to serve papers was made.

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

One suicide attempt was reported.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 1600 block of North Banks and the 500 block of Naida.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 800 block of South Faulkner.

Criminal mischief was

reported in the 2100 block of North Zimmers.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 500 block of Doucette. A brick was thrown through the back window of a vehicle while a person was driving it. The incident occurred at the intersection of Lefors and Browning streets.

Telephone harassment was reported in the 600 block of East Frederic.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 500 block of Naida and the 700 block of East Craven.

Aggravated assault with a deadly weapon was reported in the 500 block of North Nelson. A 16-year-old juvenile male threatened his mother with a screwdriver. No injuries were reported.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1500 block of Hamilton. A gold pen and pencil set and a purse containing a Social Security card, numerous credit cards and a driver's license were taken. Estimated value of loss is \$100.

Thursday, May 22

A vehicle accident was reported at the intersection of Duncan and Garland streets.

One suicide attempt was reported.

A suspicious person call was received from the 1600 block of Montagu. At least one arrest was made in connection with the incident.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the intersection of Browning and Lefors streets.

At least one arrest was made as a result of a follow-up investigation in the 500 block of North Frost.

A prowler was reported in the 1000 block of North Dwight.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 500 block of North Frost.

Assault causing bodily injury to a family member was reported in the 600 block of Sloan.

Sheriff

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

Wednesday, May 21

Jose Guadalupe Larrazolo Jr., 22, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa Police Department on a Potter County warrant for a probation violation for graffiti damage under \$500.

Robert Eugene Brown, 40, of Clinton, Okla., was arrested by GCSO for public intoxication.

James Robert Ostercamp, 29, of Pampa was arrested in the 600 block of West Crawford by PPD for driving while intoxicated.

Daniel William Kohler, 49, of Pampa was arrested in the 1600 block of West Montagu by PPD for public intoxication.

Thursday, May 22

Stephen Lynn Sugar, 30, of Pampa was arrested in the 600 block of Sloan by PPD for assault causing bodily injury/family violence.

Nicholas Scott Williams, 29, of Pampa was arrested by PPD for assault causing bodily injury/family violence.

Derek Allen Pacula, 19, of Pampa was arrested in the 200 block of North Russell by PPD on capias pro fines for failure to maintain financial responsibility and displaying expired registration.

Ambulance

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Thursday, May 22

7:32 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Pampa Regional Medical Center to assist with a LifeStar Helicopter transfer.

9:06 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of East Kingsmill. No transport.

CITY BRIEFS

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MEALS ON Wheels will be closed on Mon., May 26th.

MIKE WESBROOKS is now cutting hair at Tangles. 2221 N. Hobart. 665-4422.

MON., MAY 26, Memorial Day Candlelight Service, Freedom Museum Memorial Park, 600 N. Hobart, 8:30pm. Please come and honor our service men & women.

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Sect parents cheer court ruling, await next step

SAN ANGELO, Texas (AP) — Members of a polygamist sect whose children were placed into foster care said Friday

dren will return soon. The decision in one of the biggest child-custody cases in U.S. history was a humiliating defeat for the state Child Protective Services agency. It was hailed as vindication by members of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, who claim they are being persecuted for their religious beliefs.

'We're going to take it one day at a time.'

— James Dockstader

they were thrilled by an appellate court decision that upended the custody case and eagerly waiting to find out if and when their children will return home.

"I just feel like I'm coming back to life," Nancy Dockstader, whose five children were among more than 440 seized last month during a raid on the sect's ranch, said Friday on NBC's "Today." "We can be a family again. It's just unreal."

The Third Court of Appeals in Austin said Thursday that the state failed to show the youngsters were in any immediate danger, the only grounds under Texas law for taking children from their parents without court action.

Texas District Judge Barbara Walther now has 10 days to release the youngsters from custody, but the state could appeal to the Texas Supreme Court and keep the children from immediately going back to their parents.

"We're going to take it one day at a time," said Dockstader's husband, James. "We expect that they would go ahead and appeal it, but we are in full hope that" the chil-

The Dockstaders said the parents haven't decided yet if they will pursue legal action against the state. They are waiting to talk to their lawyers and to hear what they are required to do to get back their children.

"If we need to move away from the ranch, we will," James Dockstader said. "We would like that to be our home. We feel it's the safest environment for our children."

Every child at the Yearning For Zion Ranch in Eldorado was taken into custody more than six weeks ago after someone called a hot line claiming to be a pregnant, abused teenage wife. The girl, has not been found and authorities are investigating whether the calls were a hoax.

Child-protection officials argued that five girls at the ranch had become pregnant at 15 and 16 and that the sect pushed underage girls into marriage and sex with older men and groomed boys to enter into such unions when they grew up.

But the appeals court said the state acted too hastily in sweeping up all the children and taking them away on an emergency basis without going to court first.



Courtesy Photo
Lee Gillis, one of CREATE-a-Beat's adult staff members, recently supervised the "Movie Room." Samantha Clancy, Allie Hampton and Austin Odell watched "The Water Horse."

Survey finds Texas gas prices at record high

HOUSTON (AP) — Memorial Day travelers will face another week of record-high retail gasoline prices across Texas this weekend, according to a weekly survey released Friday.

The AAA Texas gas price survey found regular self-serve averaged \$3.73 per gallon, 5 cents more than last week. Nationally, the average price rose 6 cents to \$3.83 per gallon.

"Texas travelers will encounter the highest averages ever recorded for a gallon of gasoline," said AAA Texas spokeswoman Rose Rougeau. "We estimate about 1.95 million people will be driving to their holiday destination, down slightly compared to last

Memorial Day weekend." The survey showed the most expensive gasoline in Texas was found in Amarillo, where the average price rose 5 cents this week to \$3.75. The cheapest gasoline was in El Paso, where the average price rose 4 cents to \$3.67 per gallon.

These are average per-gallon prices of regular, self-serve gasoline in Texas and nationally, as well as the change from last week, according to the AAA Texas Weekend Gas Watch released Friday:

Amarillo — \$3.752, up 4.5 cents
Austin-San Marcos — \$3.724, up

5.1 cents
Beaumont — \$3.732, up 4.1 cents
Corpus Christi — \$3.727, up 3.6 cents
Dallas — \$3.742, up 4.8 cents
El Paso — \$3.673, up 4.2 cents
Fort Worth — \$3.739, up 4.4 cent
Galveston-Texas City — \$3.693, up 4.0 cents
Houston — \$3.700, up 4.9 cents
San Antonio — \$3.696, up 4.1 cents
Texarkana (Texas only) — \$3.730, up 4.7 cents
State — \$3.730, up 4.7 cents
Nationally — \$3.831, up 5.5 cents

United Airlines raises fares up to \$60 round trip

NEW YORK (AP) — United Airlines ratcheted up the pressure on fliers ahead of the holiday weekend, raising most domestic fares by as much as \$60 roundtrip to offset the runaway cost of fuel.

A representative for the second-largest U.S. airline also said Friday the Chicago-based carrier is "seriously considering" following AMR Corp.'s American Airlines in charging passengers to check their first piece of luggage.

"It's part of all the work that we're doing to try to offset fuel costs," spokeswoman Robin Urbanski said.

The ticket price increase, which went into effect late Thursday, will leave travelers paying \$10 to \$60 more, depending on how far they fly and the competition on the route. The biggest increase affects routes of 750 miles or more — less than the distance from New York to Chicago — that low-cost carriers such as Southwest Airlines Co. do not serve.

Airlines have come under intense pressure to boost

revenue and cut costs as the price of fuel has soared. As of Monday, spot prices for jet fuel in New York were up 43 percent from the start of the year, according to the Energy Information Administration.

UAL Corp.'s United has been among the most aggressive carriers in pushing fares and fuel surcharges higher in recent months, and its increases are often rapidly matched by competitors. Airlines are prohibited from agreeing to simultaneously raise fares, but nothing prevents them from following rivals' lead.

"Will the other legacy airlines match? To that I respond: Do they really have a choice? I would be surprised if we don't see wide spread matching over the long weekend," said Rick Seaney, chief executive of airfare research site FareCompare.com, in an e-mail.

American Airlines became the first major domestic carrier on Wednesday to say it would charge passengers \$15 to check their first bag.

Saturday, May 24th thru Monday, May 26th

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Viewpoints

Best part of education: What do you think?

Best part of education: What do you think?
By Miranda Bailey
Guest Columnist

An interesting question was posed to me last week: What is the most exciting thing going on in education today?

"Saturday."
"Sunday."
"Uh ... summer."

That is what my teacher friends jokingly said their answers would have been. I wish I were so witty. As a former teacher and current education graduate student, I'm afraid my answer was too hasty.

I thought quickly and replied, "Technology. It's

changing the way we teach, and the way we will teach." Which is true.

But now that time has elapsed, and I've had the luxury to really think about it, my answer is much different.

The best thing going on in education today is the same thing that has drawn teachers to the profession since Socrates: The students.

Yes, the very most exciting thing about education yesterday, today and tomorrow are the students and the possibilities that lay waiting for them in the future if they take a hold of what is being offered to them now. The ability to help young people

learn things they can use for the rest of their lives. The power to be a positive influence in the lives of generations to come. Paying it forward.

Idealistic? No. Not really. The thing is that both as educators and as a society in general we forget it. Or we work so hard to provide this for our students day in and day out, and they choose not to take what is being offered to them — for lots of complicated reasons: family life, drug use, negative thinking, bad habits, terrible influ-

ences, the list goes on. It's definitely frustrating some days. A lot of days.



Miranda Bailey

Guest Columnist

Not only that, the profession is changing. Gone (or going) are the days of teachers coming in with well-thought out lectures, notes, hand-outs, packets, quizzes and tests prepared for eager students ready and willing to learn. That's not even the case in college anymore!

As teachers, we have to constantly reteach ourselves how students of today learn best — and it is not the same

way students used to learn 30, 20, 10 or five years ago. The research proves it. Things have, and are, drastically changing. Learning styles, teaching practices and the students in our classrooms are all morphing, for better or worse.

And as complicated, and terrifying, and annoying, and difficult as this is ... surprisingly, one thing has not changed: Our ability to make a difference. Maybe it is not the way we used to do it. Maybe we are making a difference in fewer lives than in years gone by. Maybe it is harder. But I know for a fact that my work matters. That what I teach, both in word

and deed, can and will have an impact on someone. And this is why we teach. So, yes, I change my answer — this is what is the most exciting thing going on in education today.

This. And summer.
—Miranda Bailey is a full-time mom, part-time educator and freelance journalist. So what do you think is the most exciting thing going on in education today? We want to know! Your answers could be posted in Bailey's next column or the letters to the editor section. Email your response to frazierbailey@sbcglobal.net

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, May 23, the 144th day of 2008. There are 222 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 23, 1934, bank robbers Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker were shot to death in a police ambush in Bienville Parish, La.

On this date:

In 1430, Joan of Arc was captured by the Burgundians, who sold her to the English.

In 1533, the marriage of England's King Henry VIII to Catherine of Aragon was declared null and void.

In 1701, Captain William Kidd was hanged in London after he was convicted of piracy and murder.

'When you shut one eye, you do not hear everything.'

— Swiss proverb

York for RCA.

In 1944, during World War II, Allied forces bogged down in Anzio, Italy, began a major breakout offensive.

In 1945, Nazi official Heinrich Himmler committed suicide while imprisoned in Luneburg, Germany.

In 1960, Israel announced it had captured former Nazi official Adolf Eichmann in Argentina. (Eichmann was tried in Israel, found guilty of crimes against humanity, and hanged in 1962.)

In 1977, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear the appeals of former Nixon White House aides H.R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman and former Attorney General John N. Mitchell in connection with their Watergate convictions.

In 1993, a jury in Baton Rouge, La., acquitted Rodney Peairs of manslaughter in the shooting death of Yoshi Hattori, a Japanese exchange student he'd mistaken for an intruder. (Peairs was later found liable in a civil suit brought by Hattori's parents.)

Ten years ago: Official returns showed two convincing "yes" votes for the Northern Ireland peace accord: a surprisingly strong 71.1 percent in British-linked Northern Ireland, and 94.4 percent in the Republic of Ireland.

Five years ago: By the narrowest of margins, Congress sent President Bush the third tax cut of his presidency — a \$330 billion package of rebates and lower rates for families and new breaks for businesses and investors. Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon agreed to submit the U.S.-backed "road map" for peace to the Israeli Cabinet. Annika Sorenstam ended her historic appearance on the PGA tour in the Colonial with a 15-foot par putt, missing the cut by four strokes.

One year ago: President Bush, speaking at the U.S. Coast Guard commencement, portrayed the Iraq war as a battle between the U.S. and al-Qaida and contended that Osama bin Laden was setting up a terrorist cell in Iraq to strike targets in America.



Experience lies in the province of our thought life

There is only one physical world, but unfortunately, we all live in different worlds created by our minds.

The physical world, which is separate from us, can be contacted only through our senses — sight, hearing, smell, touch and taste — but all of these are limited. There are parts of the spectrum we can't see, sounds we can't hear. We are lucky that our olfactory nerves are limited, because I suspect that the world our dogs smell is a pretty stinky place.

Furthermore, the part of the Earth we actually occupy is for most of us quite limited. We fill in the blanks with ideas and concepts and images that may or may not conform to reality. Even though we can learn from reading and hearing, the most vivid learning always comes from experience. People who have had direct contact with racism or anti-Semitism are not likely to be

convinced by arguments. Reading about, say, China is no substitute for actually being there.

Thus, the world we inhabit is shaped by our experiences. I was born in the Deep South. I would see the world differently if I had been born in New England. I've often wished we could have many lives, because I would like to experience what it's like to be a New Englander, a Midwesterner, a Westerner, a farmer, a scientist and dozens of other interesting lives.

Unfortunately, in this cosmic card game we are dealt only one hand. But since our means of learning are limited so that we can never learn everything about anything, we

should avoid being dogmatic. I don't mean living in a constant state of uncertainty, but we should at least always concede the possibility that what we think is so isn't so. I have trouble understanding

people who get emotionally upset when they bump into an opinion they disagree with.

I've always found that conversation with people with whom I disagree is more interesting than a conversation with people who agree with me.

Perfectionism is another pitfall that should be avoided. Perfectionists are apt to be chronically frustrated, since neither the world nor the people in it are perfect. It's better to expect too little and be pleasantly surprised on occasion than to expect

too much and always be disappointed.

One of the more difficult things to avoid is bitterness. In a normal life there will be disappointments, in ourselves if in nothing else. Things don't always turn out the way we want them. People don't always live up to our expectations. People we want to win sometimes lose and vice versa. The thing to remember is that from the day of our birth to the day of our death, we live only in the present. The past is only a memory. The future never exists. So the old saying that any day above ground is a good start is not a bad philosophy to follow. It's a very good idea to let go of the past and to live in the present moment. That's not easy to do, but it is a worthy goal.

There is a lot of emphasis today on cleaning up the

See REESE, Page 7

Charley Reese

Columnist

THE PAMPA NEWS

403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065

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Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around the nation:

■ May 11
Bristol (Va.) Herald Courier, on Paul Gregory House's death row case:

A federal judge ordered Paul Gregory House freed from Tennessee's death row last week.

With the most damning evidence against him refuted by modern science, there is little justification for a retrial. Yet, prosecutor William Paul Phillips won't let go; he's bound and determined to take the case before another jury.

To what end? House has already served 22 years in prison for the 1985 killing of his neighbor, Carolyn

Muncey, in rural Union County near Knoxville — a crime that he might not have committed. In fact, the U.S. Supreme Court expressed grave doubts about House's guilt two years ago but stopped just short of ruling he was actually innocent.

Union County prosecutors and the state Attorney General's office have spent the last two years trying every legal trick in the book to make the tainted conviction stick. The courts finally said enough and ordered House released pending a retrial, which must take place within 180 days. ...

Time hasn't been kind to House, now 46. He is confined to a wheelchair — his body ravaged by advanced multiple sclerosis. ...

A retrial serves no purpose except,

perhaps, to vindicate a prosecutor unwilling to admit a 22-year-old mistake. Let House go free and die at home.

On the Net:
<http://tinyurl.com/6rdtvu>

■ May 12
The Star-Ledger, Newark, N.J., on drug ads:

"Designed to deceive and mislead" is what the chairman of a congressional committee had to say last week about the ad campaigns of some major pharmaceutical companies.

Designed to be weak, unfortunately, is an equally accurate characterization

See SAMPLE, Page 7

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Courtesy Photo

The Christian alternative rock band Showbread is headlining tonight at 6:30 p.m. in the Collision Student Center at Trinity Fellowship Church. Teel, The Ember Days and DIE will also be playing. Tickets are on sale for \$10 for junior high and high school students only.

Trinity Fellowship to host Christian youth concert

By MIRANDA BAILEY
Special to The News

The Christian alternative rock band Showbread will be playing with three other bands live Friday night at 6:30 p.m. in the Collision Student Center at Trinity Fellowship Church.

Based in Savannah, Ga., the band boasts of a "raw rock" sound.

"No one ever knew what to say when people asked what style of music we were, so rather than come up with some hyphen filled moniker, we just started saying 'raw rock' and turned it into our campaign," according to lead guitarist Matt Davis.

Known for the band's matching

outfits, Showbread's lead vocals Josh Dies infuses screaming, yelling and singing to form what has been labeled as a "post-hardcore" music genre.

Performances by Teel, The Ember Days and DIE will also be playing. Tickets are \$10 at the door. The concert is for junior high and high school students only.

"We're really excited about this," Collision youth pastor C.J. Frazier said. "Having awesome, live Christian concerts for the youth of Pampa is definitely something we've wanted for a long time."

For more information, call 665-3255.



Courtesy Photo

Former Pampa residents Dana Epperly and Cindy Epperly Hassel, both natives of Pampa, recently spoke at a "Mother/Daughter/Sister/Friend" event at the local First Baptist Church. Brandy Rabel, left, and Laura Covalt were among the 15 women attending the function which included brunch.

MINISTER'S MUSINGS: Worthy of remembering ...

What does Memorial Day mean to you?

To some it is simply a holiday. It should be a day for us to pay respect to those who have influenced our lives.

There is a tendency to forget the things we should remember and to remember the things we should forget. Jesus prepared His disciples by saying,

Dr. Jimmy Flynn
Evangelist



"Do this in remembrance of me." (Luke 22:19)

They had many options for memories (miracles, opposition, deliverances and so on), but Jesus wanted them to remember Him.

Read the scripture Philippians 4:4-9.

See FLYNN, Page 7

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Courtesy Photo

Kolton Jefferis recently won a Mother's Day Gift Pack for his mother Alissha Jefferis from Ford Family Chiropractic in Pampa. Every patient visiting the office during the first part of May had a chance to win.

Events calendar

• **Cooper Breaks State Park near Quanah** will offer "StarWalk" astronomy program 8:45 p.m. May 24. For more information call (940) 839-4331.

• **The next Living Room Concert** staged by High Plains Public Radio will begin at 7:30 p.m. May 24 at the station's studio in downtown Amarillo. "Sweet Wednesday" will perform. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free, but a \$10 artist donation is suggested.

• **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.

• **The Justin McBride PBR Challenge** will kick-off May 30 at Beutler Bros. Rodeo Arena in Elk City, Okla. Events will continue May 31 at the arena. For more information, contact the Elk City Convention & Visitors Bureau at (580) 225-0207.

• **The Eighth Annual Flatlanders Car Show** will last from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. June 7 on the east side of Sunset Lake at Guymon, Okla. A cookout is scheduled at 7 p.m. June 6 at Pickle Creek Building. A Turbo 350 transmission, Flow Master Mufflers, pressure washer, GPS tracking system and more will be given-away at the show. The entry fee to register for the show is \$25. To learn more, call (806) 339-8165, (580) 338-

3837 or (580) 338-2743.

• **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.

Madonna to show film at Michael Moore's festival

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. (AP) — Madonna's new film on the impoverished nation of Malawi has wowed another maker of documentaries: Michael Moore.

Moore announced Thursday that Madonna, like himself a Michigan native, will appear for a screening of "I Am Because We Are" during the

Traverse City Film Festival on Aug. 2. "She's sort of entered my realm," Moore said. "When I saw it, I thought, 'Wow, it's like she's been making these films for years.'"

Madonna produced and narrated the documentary after traveling to Malawi, where she met the toddler David Banda. She and husband Guy

Ritchie are adopting the child.

"I Am Because We Are" illustrates the poverty that children of the southern African country face, how the AIDS crisis is claiming lives, and the conditions that cause disease and other misery there. But the film urges people to volunteer and tries to offer hope.

Sample

Continued from Page 4

of a law passed last year to give the Food and Drug Administration more power to regulate direct-to-consumer drug advertising.

The FDA will certainly have more muscle than before, but that was not

hard to achieve. The FDA has been particularly weak in the area of advertising regulation. ...

The House Energy and Commerce Committee called three major pharmaceutical firms on the carpet for their ad campaigns. ...

All of the ads have been yanked. The companies' contention that the problems were caused by misimpressions does not ring true. We doubt that any of the slick ads the industry

runs ever air without careful corporate reviews to make sure they create exactly the impression the company intends.

The new law will give the FDA authority to review ads before they air instead of after the fact, which is now the case. Unfortunately, the law does not give the agency enough power to order changes. The FDA can just make suggestions, and that is not enough. ...

Flynn

Continued from Page 6

Paul calls for a deliberate preparation of the mind. In verse 8, Paul writes, "Fix your minds."

This calls for a deliberate act of the will. Paul is placing direct responsibility upon each one of us for what we think. What we watch, read and feed into our minds will determine what we think about in our relaxed moments. A major part of what we think is a direct result of our priorities.

Still, we can apply the truth of this passage to another area of our lives — the memories that we build.

The human mind is like a computer that we program throughout our lives. The deliberate recollection of certain things determines the pattern of our lives.

We are indebted to the heroes of the faith as reiterated in Hebrews 11. This is not just a Hebrew heritage. It is ours as well. Remember the heroes of the New Testament — our Lord Himself and those who gave their lives for the faith such as Peter, Paul, John and others.

Remember our historical heritage — Martin Luther, John Hus and many more who gave their lives for their faith. Remember those of more recent history who provided so much for us — our denominational forefathers, those who founded the churches in which we worship. Fix your mind upon those people and pay tribute to them.

Remember those who have paid a huge price for this great country. We owe something to everyone who has ever died fighting for America. Remember those in your family who have passed the faith on to you. Some will have stronger feelings of grati-

tude than others. Those of us who have a godly heritage are deeply blessed.

As we pay tribute to the past, the present takes on a new sense of value. For example, a watch may be inexpensive unless it is the one my father carried. Life can seem cheap unless someone has given it special meaning.

The deliberate exercise of fixing our minds on those things that are worthy eliminates much of that which would trouble us. In verse 9 of Philippians 4, Paul gave the Philippians a formula for a mind at peace. This formula still works today if we will practice it in our lives.

Life IS what we make of it. Ninety percent of what happens in our lives is a direct result of the priorities that we set. As Paul instructed the Philippians, let us fix our minds on those things that are worthy of remembering.

Reese

Continued from Page 4

physical environment, but the environment that should receive the top priority is our mental environment. People can quite literally think themselves into madness. Some good advice came from St. Paul when he wrote, "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." That's because another biblical saying is quite true: "As a man thinketh, so is he."

Speaking of thinking, there is no good in wallowing in evil, which, by the way, Hollywood seems to desire for us to do. I'm rather tired of stories about crooks stealing from crooks and of psychopaths killing other psychopaths.

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

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Would you please invite all Americans to stand together, unified in spirit, for 60 seconds of respectful silence during the National Moment of Remembrance at 3 p.m. local time this Memorial Day? The purpose of this moment is a noble one, to honor America's fallen. The freedoms we take for granted each day are reminders of their ultimate sacrifice and our ongoing debt to them. We mourn our fallen and honor their courageous legacy and the future they bequeathed to us. The agony of a fallen soldier's mother is as old as war. One such mother is Sallie Stubenhofer. Her son, Mark, was killed by a sniper in Iraq. He left three young children, including a daughter who was born four months after his return to active duty. Mark and his wife named their baby Hope, which signified what he wanted to offer his children and all children. The Moment of Remembrance and our year-long, lifelong determination to "live honoring America's fallen" are in memory of Army Capt. Mark Stubenhofer and all those brave members of our military who have died in the service of our nation. We invite all Americans to pause in their Memorial Day activities at 3:00 local time to honor those who live in our history, reside in our hearts and rest forever in the arms of God. -- **CARMELLA LA SPADA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WHITE HOUSE COMMISSION ON REMEMBRANCE**

DEAR CARMELLA: I am pleased to convey your invitation to observe the annual Moment of Remembrance. Readers, Memorial Day is Monday. I hope you will join me and millions of other Americans at 3 p.m. local time in giving heartfelt acknowledgment of our fallen heroes for the noble sacrifice they have made in the name of freedom.

DEAR ABBY: I am 25 and have fallen in love with "Brad," a wonderful and very successful businessman. On a recent trip out of town, my co-workers were joking that we were going to elope. I told Brad about it and how ridiculous it was, since we have been dating only about six months. He replied that we couldn't elope because I haven't signed a pre-nup! I stewed over it for a couple of days and, because I couldn't get it off my mind, brought it up again and asked him if he was serious. Brad said he was. He said he has worked hard for what he has (which I understand) and mentioned the fact that I have a failed first marriage. I didn't think that was fair. My husband had cheated on me, and we were married only a few months. We talked further, and Brad said if he thought I was with him because of his money, he wouldn't be with me. I understand his reasons for wanting a pre-nup, but doesn't getting one indicate that we are preparing to fail? I am pretty sure marriage will be in our future, and I'll sign a pre-nup (after my attorney reviews it), but it seems like negative thinking. How can I get my head around this? -- **DON'T FEEL TRUSTED IN ALABAMA**

DEAR DON'T: One way to "get your head around it" would be to remember that a pre-nuptial agreement carries with it guarantees for BOTH parties. Many couples have them to protect assets accumulated before marriage. Such a document not only protects the man, it can be structured so that YOU have certain guarantees should the marriage not work out. I strongly recommend that you discuss this with your attorney before you discuss it with Brad again. As with any other legal document, I agree that it should be reviewed with your legal counsel before you sign it.

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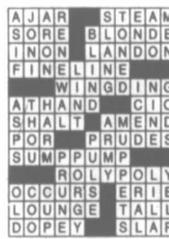


Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Circus worker
 - 6 Spats
 - 11 Unanimously
 - 12 Put on a pedestal
 - 13 Prison problems
 - 14 Enter a password, perhaps
 - 15 Leather shade
 - 16 Novel endings
 - 18 Previously
 - 19 Bar bill
 - 20 Struggle
 - 21 Stellar burst
 - 23 Gave a score to
 - 25 Toy maker
 - 27 Postal oath word
 - 28 Director De Palma
 - 30 Does in
 - 33 That fellow
 - 34 Recipe amount
 - 36 Bitterly cold
 - 37 Make trouble
 - 39 Top the cake
 - 40 Grave
 - 41 Packed in boxes
 - 43 Apple, in Artes
- DOWN**
- 44 As expected
 - 45 Some agents
 - 46 Organ parts
 - 1 Kilt
 - 2 Flaky
 - 3 1941
 - 4 Tolkien
 - 5 Bowling herder
 - 6 Afghan
 - 7 Matinee
 - 8 1934
 - 9 Cold
 - 10 Detect
 - 11 Links
 - 12 Noted
 - 13 Overly
 - 14 Fronts
 - 15 Circus
 - 16 Fanatic
 - 17 One way to deal
 - 18 Stockholm natives
 - 19 Padlock holders
 - 20 Noted pugilist
 - 21 Texas river
 - 22 Occasion
 - 23 Wee worker



Marmaduke



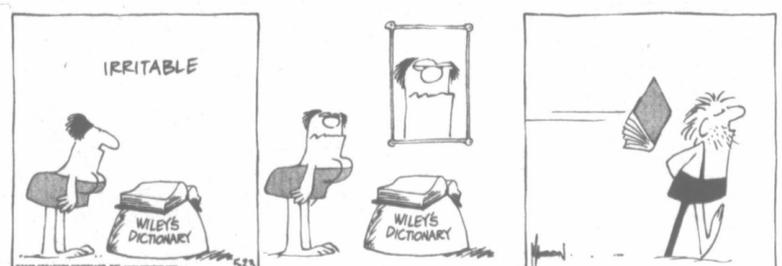
The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports

Triangle Well Service survives late rally by Shutterbug Photography

Shutterbug Photography staged a late inning rally that fell just short of the win Tuesday night in a Pampa Optimist Babe Ruth Girls 11-12 softball matchup against Triangle Well Service. The time limit stopped the game in the fifth ending, leaving Triangle with a 6-4 win.

Triangle's Tiffany Britton started the game in the circle, striking out five, walking one and allowing no hits in two innings of work. Kylie Metts then took over and pitched two innings, surrendering four runs on two hits and two

walks while striking out six. Alexa O'Brien pitched the final inning hitting one batter and striking out three while giving up no runs or hits.

Shutterbug's Savanna Mertz went the distance throwing four innings. She gave up six runs on three hits, eight walks and struck out five. Leading Shutterbug's offense was catcher Khorri Lott with a hit and two RBIs, Quila Martinez with one hit and Mertz with an RBI groundout.

Triangle jumped to an early 5-0 lead after the first,

then defense would prevail as neither team scored in the second or third. Offensive leaders for Triangle were Bailey Wichert with one hit and two RBIs, Jessica Devaney with one hit and one RBI and Amy Gonzalez with one hit.

Shutterbug went on to score four runs in the top of the fourth inning to bring the score to 5-4. Triangle then added a run in the bottom of the fourth. There were several, good defensive plays from both teams. Shutterbug turned an inning-ending dou-

ble play in the bottom of the fourth as Mertz fielded a ground ball and threw to Kindle Hunt at first. Hunt then threw to Lott at home as the runner from second made a wide turn at third. Lott ran the runner back towards third, then fired a bullet to Serena Reyes who applied the tag for the final out.

Shutterbug, however, was unable to plate any runs in the top of the fifth. With the win, Triangle Well Service improves to 6-0 while Shutterbug Photography drops to 2-3 on the season.

Celanese Corp. defeats Glo-Valve 8-3

Ben Arbuckle struck out a dozen and held Glo-Valve Service to three hits as Celanese Corporation won 8-3 and moved to a game and a half behind the league leaders Thursday in Pampa Optimist 11-12 Cal Ripken action.

Arbuckle walked four and permitted only one earned run.

Jordan Lemons, Aaron Allen and Krysten Miller pitched for Glo-Valve. Lemons allowed one hit and no earned runs. He struck out 2, walked 6 and hit a batter. Allen struck out one in pitching a perfect inning. Miller allowed no runs or hits. She struck out seven, walked one and hit a batter in 3 1/3 innings.

Celanese jumped out to a

3-0 lead in the top of the first inning. After two were away, Cuyler Clifton beat out an infield single. He stole second and took third on a wild pitch. He scored when Ethan Hunt reached base on an error. Three wild pitches plated Hunt. Blaine Troxell walked, went to second on a fielder's choice, stole third and kept coming when the catcher's throw went into left field.

Glo-Valve got one of the runs back in the bottom of the first. Lemons' high infield popup dropped untouched allowing him to reach second. He stole third and scored on a passed ball. In the third inning Lemons doubled again, stole third and made the score 3-2 when the catcher's throw got past the

third baseman.

Celanese put the game away in the fourth inning without a hit. With one out Arbuckle reached base on a throwing error and stole two bases. Clifton walked and was allowed to take second. Both runners scored on a ground out by Hunt. Walks to Troxell, Thomas Haley, Justin Velasquez, Eddie Spencer and Alex Hendricks and a hit by pitched ball by Ben Book produced three more runs. Celanese led 8-2.

Tyler Powell walked in the Glo-Valve fourth. He stole two bases and was knocked in on a ground out by Casey Martindale.

The outstanding defensive play for Celanese came in the first inning when Arbuckle picked a runner off first by

throwing to second baseman, Brandon Stokes. Stokes then completed an unusual 1-4-2 double play by throwing to Clifton at the plate to erase a runner trying to score from third.

Tyler Powell snagged a fly ball at shortstop for Glo-Valve and threw to Martindale at first for a double play in the sixth for Glo-Valve's outstanding defensive play.

Celanese improved to 12-3. Glo-Valve fell to 13-2.

Monday's games will see Rotary Club play Duncan, Fraser & Bridges Insurance Agency at 5:45 p.m. while Celanese takes on Cabaot at 7:45 p.m.

The Pampa Optimist Youth Club is a Pampa United Way agency.

Hidden Hills Results

Seniors Scramble Hidden Hills Golf Course May 21, 2008	
1st Place (61)	B. King J. Cantrell T. Johnston J. Stringer
2nd Place (61)	R. Stephens D. Dunham O. Sargent M. Allison
3rd Place (63)	T. Lindsey G. Hall M. Driver B.F. Dorman
4th Place (63)	D.D. Lofton G. McCabe
	B. Harwood B. Lyle E. Barnett
5th Place (63)	J. Dorman J. Davis N. Lancaster G. Owens
6th Place (64)	P. Montoya B. Housley J. McGuire C. Lacy
7th Place (65)	H. Knutson B. Thomas L. Moreno G. Brewer
Closest to the Pin	Calvin Lacy (#6) Gary Brewer (#12)

'My Passion Is Football' radio program to debut June 9

Amarillo, TX- mypassionisfootball.com announced today that My Passion Is Football Radio will debut on Monday June 9th.

"Sports fans in Amarillo have waited three years for a live call-in show in Amarillo, and now I'm giving that to them," said Warren McCarty. "Amarillo is currently the largest market in the U.S. without a live local call-in show, and that's just not indicative of the passion that sports fans in this area have, in particular with respect to football."

My Passion Is Football Radio (aka MPIF) will air weekdays from 10 am to 11 am Central Time on Amarillo's ESPN Radio Affiliate, ESPN Radio 1440 AM. Cumulus Media owns FM and AM radio stations in 65 markets across the U.S., including six stations in Amarillo as well.

"We've wanted to have a show based here locally for the past three years now, so we are extremely excited about having this product for our listeners," said Cumulus Media Sales Manager Shannon Urton. "It was a matter of finding the right timing and the right fit. Warren McCarty has put together an unbelievable lineup of guests and co-hosts.

This is great for sports fans in the Panhandle."

The MPIF format will consist of football discussion year-round including high school, college, and the pros, along with topics such as Mixed Martial Arts and the UFC, Boxing, the NBA, Major League Baseball, and the NHL. The show will be hosted by Warren McCarty, and produced by Kenny Nagunst. Local and national sports personalities will co-host the show on occasion as well.

"I am a member of the Pro Football Writers of America, so I've got access to some of the most influential names associated with the NFL and pro football in general," said McCarty. "Our guests will add insight and analysis, and we want to be able to shed light on hot-button topics related to football. Most importantly, I want fans here to know that they have a voice, and I want to know what they have to say. When there is a big UFC fight, or other things going on in the world of sports that are relevant on a national or even local level, we'll hit those too, but our main focus is going to be football from high school to college to the pros."

Injury might force Hamm out of nationals

HOUSTON (AP) — Paul Hamm's stay at the top of the U.S. gymnastics championships might be a short one.

Hamm said he might not compete Saturday after injuring his right hand in the last few seconds of his parallel bars routine, his final event of the night Thursday. As Hamm was flipping to do work on one bar, his right fingers caught on the rail and were jammed to the side. He fell off, and immediately grabbed his wrist as he grimaced.

"I heard a small popping sound in the joint," said Hamm, who left the arena with his right arm wrapped and will have X-rays Friday morning. "This is not something that will make me sit out of the Olympics, but it might make me sit for Saturday. If it's something very little, I'll compete Saturday. If I think it is something worse, I'll hold off until trials."

"I will not beat up my body and cause more damage just to get to the trials."

The Olympic trials are June 19-22 in Philadelphia, and Hamm is considered the only lock to make the team — even if he's not at trials.

Even with the injury, the defending Olympic champion had a commanding lead on his fellow Americans. His score of 93.450 was more than three points ahead of Joseph Hagerty, who had 89.750. Hamm had the highest score on three events, and third-best score on another.

"He was on fire today," said Jonathan Horton, who was fourth at last year's world championships. "He was killing it. It's Paul. He's a machine."

But he's not indestructible. Only a few gymnasts made

it through the night without a fall or major deduction of some sort, and Hamm was seconds away from leading that group. But his fingers got jammed in a "stupid accident."

"I missed catching with my hand — it's a skill that's a little more than I am used to," Hamm said.

Hamm gripped his right wrist as he talked with coach Miles Avery. But he got back up on the bars and finished the last few seconds of his routine. His face was grim as he walked away from the bars, and twin brother Morgan jumped up on the podium to see if he was OK.

He spent several minutes talking with U.S.A. Gymnastics medical officials before two big ice packs were put on his hand. He smiled at one point as he sat with his brother and watched the last few routines, but he was subdued when he was talking with reporters.

"It hurts. It hurts right now because we don't know what it is," Avery said. "You're always more concerned when you don't know what something is."

Before the injury, though, Avery said Hamm was as good as he's seen him.

"Amazing," Avery said. "He was amazing to watch. Everything he did, all the little things he's done to improve, he was showing."

Hamm leading nationals is never a surprise. He won three straight U.S. titles from 2002 to 2004, and is the only

American man to win the world (2003) and Olympic all-around (2004) titles. He's been in three other meets this year, and won each by two points or more.

But he took 2 1/2 years off after the Athens Olympics, a layoff almost unheard of in the sport. It takes thousands of repetitions to perfect Olympic-level skills, and a gymnast can't just work himself back into shape in a few weeks. Or even a few months.

Hamm, though, is one of a kind. His athletic ability is spectacular. He soars high above the floor on his tumbling passes and vault, and his muscles barely ripple as he pushes himself into handstands on still rings and parallel bars — gut-busting events that would make ordinary folks scream in pain.

What really sets him apart, though, is his style. He performs with a polish and presence that few others in the world have. His form and body lines are so good, even the hardest skills look simple. Take pommel horse. It's a tough event for most gymnasts, a test of strength and endurance, and even some of the best appear to labor through their routines. Not Hamm. His routine has such flow and rhythm, it seems to be over as soon as it starts.

And then there's his mental strength. He's intense from the moment he walks onto the floor for warm-ups.

Oh, he'll clap his hands after a good routine or slap hands with his brother or Avery. But he's as fierce a competitor as Michael Jordan or Tiger Woods.

Which is what made his fall on parallel bars so shocking.

"Those things happen. It's frustrating at this point. That routine was going well, the meet was great, it was going to be a perfect finish," Hamm said, shrugging.

Hamm's injury put a damper on a night of impressive comebacks. And an aborted one.

Seven months after tearing a muscle in his chest, Morgan Hamm showed he can again be a factor at the Olympics. In his first full competition since the Athens Games, Morgan Hamm was in the top 10 in all four events he did. He tied his brother for first place on floor, and also had the highest score on vault.

"People have to see my gymnastics as a work in progress," Hamm said.

Justin Spring, who blew out his knee at the national championships last August and has been nursing a sprained ankle, was third on parallel bars and fifth on high bar — and that was with a "pretty bad" routine.

Five-time U.S. champion Blaine Wilson's comeback, meanwhile, is over. Wilson, who was trying to make his fourth Olympic team at 33 and after a three-year layoff, withdrew after two events and said he is retiring.

"Hey, I tried," Wilson told The Associated Press. "You're never going to know unless you do it. I can live with it."

'It's frustrating at this point. That routine was going well, the meet was great, it was going to be a perfect finish.'

— Paul Hamm
U.S. Gymnast

World-class field fills Indy 500

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Indianapolis 500 has always had a distinct American flavor.

Winners sip the most traditional of American drinks, milk, in Victory Lane after a race defined by great rivalries and dangerously fast speeds.

But thanks to a blend of cultures, fans and languages that has turned the famed Brickyard in middle America into a veritable melting pot, the Indy 500 is the biggest race in the world.

"This is probably the only one that gets them together like this," said former series champion Tony Kanaan, a Brazilian and one of 20 foreign-born drivers competing Sunday. "You have it some in Formula One, but this race is different because when you put all the countries together, it's just unbelievable."

"The Greatest Spectacle in Racing" has been a proving ground for the world's best drivers, wherever they come from.

Whether it was former Formula One champions Nigel Mansell of England or Nelson Piquet of Brazil or

Englishman Graham Hill pulling into the winner's circle, international contingents have been as much a part of Indianapolis as Jim Nabors singing "Back Home Again in Indiana" on race day.

"The Indy 500 has always been an international race," said Ed Carpenter, one of 13 Americans in this year's field and the stepson of Indy Racing League founder and Indy boss Tony George. "It's the greatest track in the world, and the greatest race in the world, so it brings out the best (drivers) in the world."

And the numerous nationalities have given the IRL a significant advantage: It can market its product everywhere.

"I think that makes it bigger than what it could be," said Australian Ryan Briscoe, who will start third on the outside of the first row Sunday. "We're getting different personalities. I think it's good, plus you do have a lot of talented Americans in the field."

The 33 drivers in this year's race represent 10 different countries.

Chilled chickens

Best method to chill poultry depends on water ...

By SHARON DURHAM
ARS News

Chilling is an important step in processing poultry carcasses before marketing of the birds, and there are different ways to do it. Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists at the Richard B. Russell Research Center in Athens, Ga., recently compared two chilling methods to determine which better suits processors' needs.

Food technologist Julie Northcutt, formerly with the ARS Poultry Processing and Swine Physiology Research Unit at Athens, and food technologist Doug Smith, in the ARS Quality and Safety Assessment Research Unit at Athens, evaluated the two primary industry methods in terms of meat quality, food safety and water management.

Carcass temperatures must be quickly lowered after poultry slaughter to prevent growth of bacterial pathogens that may cause food-borne illness when consumed. Immersion chilling — in which chicken carcasses are submerged in tanks of cold water or an ice-and-water mix — is the predominant method now used in the United States. Dry-air chilling blasts carcasses with cold air, while evaporative-air chilling combines cold air blasts with water misting. Some poultry processors are beginning to convert to dry-air chilling.

Both immersion chilling and air chilling

met criteria for limiting bacterial pathogen growth on carcasses. But tender chicken is also very important to consumers. During commercial processing, whole carcasses are aged under refrigerated conditions to allow muscle fibers to relax and become tender. Research showed that air chilling

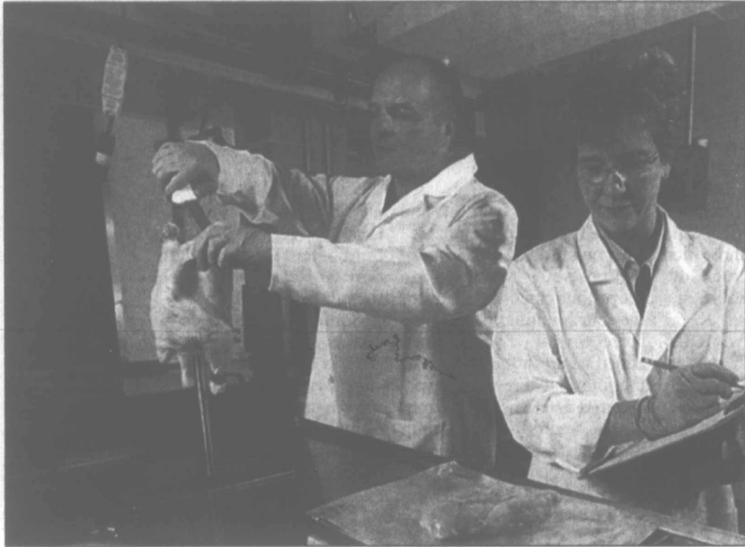
led to better quality of breast fillets and provided higher cooked-meat yields than immersion chilling.

In the end, water may be the most important factor in deciding which chilling method may be most feasible in the future. It takes an average of seven gallons of

water to process each chicken, and switching to air chilling can save a minimum of one-half gallon per bird. Processors could save about 4.5 billion gallons of water per year if all 9 billion birds processed annually in the United States were air-chilled.

Read more about the research in the April 2008 issue of Agricultural Research magazine.

ARS is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific research agency.



Courtesy Photo by Stephen Ausmus

After chicken carcasses have been immersion chilled or air chilled, food technologist Doug Smith removes broiler breast fillets while food technologist Julie Northcutt measures and weighs the fillets before they are processed with traditional marination and cooking techniques. Courtesy Photo by Stephen Ausmus

After chicken carcasses have been immersion chilled or air chilled, food technologist Doug Smith removes broiler breast fillets while food technologist Julie Northcutt measures and weighs the fillets before they are processed with traditional marination and cooking techniques.

High school in wartime sets soldiers' kids apart

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. (AP) — When Evelyn Burwell put on a cap and gown to accept her high school diploma, she knew someone wasn't in the audience — her dad.

The 18-year-old's father is serving in Iraq, like so many other parents of her classmates at Fort Campbell High School, the largest high school on an American military base. His service has meant missing two of his children's high school graduations, countless anniversaries and birthdays, and this year, his daughter being crowned prom queen.

"You don't even have to explain it most of the time; everybody feels the same way," said Burwell.

Burwell and the other students here understand their parents' sacrifice, and there is an unspoken bond that allows them to vent their frustrations about the war and deployments. They may be graduating like millions of others across the country this spring, but their memories of school life in wartime set the class of 116 teenagers apart.

Most had at least one parent gone on lengthy deployments in Iraq or Afghanistan. Former classmates have gone on to fight, some dying in service. Students have watched as uniformed soldiers came to neighbors' homes to notify families of war deaths.

Burwell's father, Lt. Col. Dave Burwell, was able to watch his

daughter graduate on a special Internet broadcast in Iraq. He hopes she and his other children understand why he couldn't be there.

"I pray that my children will understand and appreciate that the sacrifices that they made during my years of deployment and service helped secure a bright future for their generation," he said in an e-mail interview from Iraq.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan mean thousands of American teenagers have grown up without a military parent at home. Studies have shown that military family adolescents are very adaptive to deployments but are still prone to school performance problems or signs of depression.

Every student at Fort Campbell High has a parent in the military, and most of them grow up the moment a soldier mom or dad steps out the door. They take on extra chores at home, look after younger siblings, work jobs and set aside their own desires.

"Now I have to step up, be the man, take on the responsibilities," says Josh McWherter, whose dad listened to him win the AA football state championship on the radio while deployed in Iraq. "I didn't get the time I wish I could have had if he had been home for me to grow into those responsibilities, but I feel like I've done a pretty good

job."

"When you know the people, it's different than just hearing the news say another soldier died. That was your friend: you've got memories of him, you used to eat lunch with him, you used to play football with him, you were close. When they are gone, it's not just another statistic."

— Jesse Naputi, 17

Outside Fort Campbell High, the surrounding base bustles with activity as Humvees and trucks rumble past and the "Screaming Eagle" emblem of the 101st Airborne waves prominently on a flag at the school's entrance.

Administrators know that problems at school can be intensified by a parent's deployment. Teachers often act as counselors, adjusting to an individual student's individual

needs. But Fort Campbell High operates just like any other high school, and rules don't get bent just because a student has a deployed parent.

"So if they come in and act out, that's where our job really gets to be out of the cookie cutter recipe," said principal David Witte.

McWherter says he doesn't use his dad's absence as an excuse for bad grades or getting stressed out.

"If we're going to use that as an excuse, why couldn't the whole school?" he said, shrugging. "I feel like you have to be responsible."

Deployed parents make Fort Campbell students more aware of the war than their counterparts at nonmilitary high schools. Witte said the class was brought even closer together by the deaths in Iraq and Afghanistan of two former classmates, Pfc. Ron Joshua Jr. and Pfc. Timothy Vimoto, last summer.

Vimoto graduated in 2006 while Joshua spent two years at Fort Campbell High before transferring to a school in Texas. The two soldiers were honored by friends, teachers and coaches at a tearful memorial service at the school only weeks before graduation.

"When you know the people, it's different than just hearing the news say another soldier died," said Jesse Naputi, 17, a linebacker on the football team that Vimoto helped lead as a student manager.

"That was your friend: you've got memories of him, you used to eat lunch with him, you used to play football with him, you were close. When they are gone, it's not just another statistic."

Darrissa Dodson, 17, said every death on the base creates stress among soldiers' children. She recalled coming home after middle school one day and seeing two uniformed soldiers walking to a neighbor's house, thinking it was odd that recruiters were visiting a home where only women lived.

"But then I stayed outside for a minute and I saw the girls run outside," Dodson said, her eyes welling with tears as she recounted the memory. "They were crying and saying, 'No, no, not us. It's the wrong person.' I realized that their dad had died and they had just found out. So that was hard on me and I didn't even know them."

The students voice little resentment over being without a parent during a time of war.

"My father doesn't do an everyday job," Naputi said. "Coming from a military childhood, it makes you that much more stronger. And that's going to help me along in life. I wouldn't want to change it, to tell you the truth. It's something different — I'm proud of it."

Sunni preachers denounce Quran shooting by sniper

BAGHDAD (AP) — Sunni preachers on Friday denounced the shooting of a Quran, Islam's holy book, by a U.S. sniper in Iraq following a series of apologies by American commanders and President Bush.

The use of Islam's holy book for target practice has triggered an angry response

in Iraq and protests in Afghanistan as U.S.-led forces work to maintain their alliance with Sunni Arabs who have turned against al-Qaida in Iraq.

"The enemies of Islam have launched their campaign against Islam and the Prophet Muhammad and recently against the holy

Quran," said Sheik Omar Mohammed during his sermon at a Sunni mosque in Baghdad.

"A bullet that might have shot at an Iraqi believer, was directed toward the holy Quran instead," Mohammed said. "Do not think this is a defeat for us, but it will create enthusiasm to stand up more for this religion."

The U.S. military said Sunday it had disciplined the sniper and removed him from Iraq after he was found to have used the Quran for target practice May 9. Iraqi police found the bullet-riddled book two days later on the field of a firing range in a predominantly Sunni area west of Baghdad.

Bush apologized to Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki for the incident after several U.S. military officials tried to soothe anger over the shooting, particularly among Sunni Arabs who have become key allies in the fight against insurgents.

A NATO soldier and

two civilians were killed Thursday during a violent demonstration in western Afghanistan over the incident. But there has been relatively little protest in Muslim countries despite fears of a repeat of the worldwide violence sparked by similar perceived insults against Islam, including Prophet Muhammad cartoons published in Denmark.

The imam of Abu Hanifa, the main Sunni mosque in Baghdad, also condemned the shooting and criticized the leaders of fellow Muslim states for not speaking out against it.

"We Muslims condemn the act committed by this malicious person and at the same time we express our regret that Muslim leaders all over the world did not condemn this crime ... it indicates their weakness and cowardliness," Sheik Dawood al-Alusi said.

Separately, the U.S. military said more than 140 suspected insurgents surrendered to authorities after the resolution of a standoff involving three tribal leaders

in Balad, 50 miles north of Baghdad. American officials said it was a significant step toward reconciliation in the area that has been one of the hardest to control in Iraq.

The surrenders came after a series of raids that resulted in the deaths of three individuals, the military statement said. More details were not immediately available, but the area has seen significant fighting between U.S.-Iraqi forces and al-Qaida in Iraq.

Two bombings also struck the former insurgent stronghold of Fallujah, a city 40 miles west of Baghdad that has seen a sharp decline in violence since local Sunni leaders joined forces with the Americans against al-Qaida in Iraq.

A roadside bomb targeted U.S. Marines on a foot patrol at about 9:25 a.m. in the area, killing an Iraqi interpreter and wounding six Marines, the military said. An Iraqi police official said two policemen also were wounded in the attack.

A policeman also died when an explosives-laden

car blew up at a government compound in Fallujah, a city in Anbar province.

Police chief Col. Faisal Ismael Hussein said the GMC vehicle was discovered inside a garage near the city's entrance after police got a tip that two car bombs were in the city.

Officers didn't find anything in an initial search, but it exploded after being towed to the compound, killing Muqadam Abdul-Jabbar, a policeman who was trying to dismantle it for further inspection, Hussein said.

In a raid on another house in Fallujah, police arrested three suspected al-Qaida in Iraq militants after the discovery of a Volkswagen rigged as a car bomb and seven sticky bombs typically placed under cars to make them explode, Hussein said.

The violence raised concerns al-Qaida in Iraq-led insurgents are trying to regroup and chip away at security gains brought on by a Sunni revolt against the network that began in Anbar.

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

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

5-23 CRYPTOQUOTE

JG CUGCH PNI UGRFA UGDU

PNI TDF NH UGDU PNI TDF'U,

PNI'HC QHNWDWYP HRKGU.

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Yesterday's Cryptoquote: WE HAVE COMMITTED THE GOLDEN RULE TO MEMORY; NOW LET US COMMIT IT TO LIFE.

— E. MARKHAM

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SIVALLS Inc. is looking for an Industrial Maintenance Technician. Electrical & Mechanical background a must. Drug test required. Benefits & Health Ins. Profit Sharing, 401K, 8 paid holidays & 10 Vacation days per yr. Call 806-665-7111. Pampa.

DOMINO'S Pizza. Earn good money. Part Time! Need Drivers and inside help. Apply at 1332 Hobart.

SEMCRUDE has openings for a Full-Time Bobtail and Transport drivers in the Pampa and surrounding areas. Must have Class A CDL with the X endorsement and meet DOT qual. Exc. benefit pkg. incl. medical, dental, vision, life ins.; along with a 401K package and paid vacation, sick and holidays. Please call 806-934-7505, for application.

EXPERIENCE Book-keeper, over 18 with some computer skills. Call White House Lumber 665-8475 for appt.

PETCO Petroleum is hiring a Pumper and Cable Tool Operator. Must have own transportation, will be reimbursed. 401K, ins., paid holidays. 669-3947 after 8:30 ask for Dennis.

Pampa Area Driver Wanted Local Bus Transit Company has a driver position open for the Pampa area. Applicant must have good driving record, stable work history, neat and clean in appearance. Must pass D.O.T. Pre-employment drug screen and be acceptable to vehicle insurance co. Bi-lingual is a plus. General knowledge of surrounding areas is helpful. Contact Panhandle Community Services 800-676-4727 ext. 255 for additional info. and application. M-F 8am-5pm. Equal Opportunity Employer. Application can be picked up, 411 N. Cuyler, between 8am-5pm.

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FLORAL Designer needed Part-Time or Full-Time. Come by Pampa Flowers, 410 E. Foster.

NEED Construction worker. Must be able to travel. Must be 21 with good driving rec. Apply @ V.W. Sports, 94 Main, Panhandle, TX. 537-3526.

DRIVERS Needed at Pizza Hut Delivery (1500 N. Banks). Ins. avail. & 401(k). Apply in person. No Phone Calls Please!

HAVE fun at work! Great hours! **Must be dependable & have good references.** Serious applicants apply after 3pm., Heard-Jones, downtown Pampa.

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NEED Assistant Manager for Pampa locations. Will Train. Must have people skills. Call 665-4274.

FARM WORKER F Floors Contracting Clean fields, weeding, harvesting and processing crops, bagging feed; 10 mos., \$9.02 / hr. guar., housing and transportation provided; Crosbyton, Hereford and Vega. Apply with nearest Texas Workforce Commission Office Job Order # 6068570

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21 Help Wanted

EXPERIENCED Cook needed at Granny's Home Cookin. 328 E. Frederic. No phone calls.

SKELLYTOWN NEWSPAPER CARRIER NEEDED

APPLY IN PERSON The Pampa News 403 W. Atchison, Pampa, Tx.

SECRETARY position. Ins. exp. helpful, data entry & good computer skills. Apply in person at Prestige, 101 S. Hobart.

POTTER TRUCKING INC. Pampa Equal Opportunity Employer Call 806-935-6385 or 806-886-6038

***\$15 hr. or more** depending on exp. *Good Vacations *Retirement Plan *Health Ins. w/ partial paid on spouse and children *Dental *Vision *Disability Ins. *Life Ins. *Dot Medical *CDL License Paid *Uniforms

HOME EVERY NIGHT SOME 5 DAY SCHEDULES

YOU MUST HAVE: CDL with HAZMAT & TANKER GOOD DRIVING & PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT RECORDS CLEAR DRUG & ALCOHOL RECORD DOT PHYSICAL

GOLF Course Maintenance. Seeking seasonal Summer help. Apply in person Pampa Country Club, 1765 E. Harvester, ask for Trey.

Int-rim Home HealthCare is now taking applications for **HOME PROVIDER (PAMPA AREA)** CALL 1-800-892-3301 (ASK FOR MINERVA) OR Apply in person at 1201 N. Hobart Space D (Coronado Center)

NEED Construction worker. Must be able to travel. Must be 21 with good driving rec. Apply @ V.W. Sports, 94 Main, Panhandle, TX. 537-3526.

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21 Help Wanted

HEALTH and Human Services Commission, 1511 N. Banks, is hiring a Clerk Position. Access <http://accesshr.hhs.state.tx.us> for info. & application.

NEEDED: Weekend RN, Fri. & Sat., 10:30 pm-7am. St. Ann's Nursing Home, 537-3194. Would consider 2 RN's alternating weekends.

NEWSPAPER CARRIER NEEDED for PAMPA APPLY IN PERSON The Pampa News 403 W. Atchison

Petroleum Bulk Drivers Eastex Crude Co. is taking applications in Pampa, TX. Applicants must have a Class "A" CDL with Hazmat & Tanker Endorsements *Home Daily *Full Benefit Package (903)856-2401 x-137 (800)443-8580 Clint

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

JOB OPPORTUNITY: National Bank of Commerce, Pampa, Texas, is taking applications for a new accounts secretary. Apply at 1224 N. Hobart, Pampa, Texas. Prior bank experience is preferred. National Bank of Commerce is an Equal Opportunity Employer

MAKE UP TO \$900 A WEEK Work for a local Well Service Company *Must have a good driving record *Must have a good background *Must have at least a GED *Must be at least 21 yrs. of age Please contact SOS STAFFING SERVICES 806-648-2633

FARM WORKER F Floors Contracting Clean fields, weeding, harvesting and processing crops, bagging feed; 10 mos., \$9.02 / hr. guar., housing and transportation provided; Crosbyton, Hereford and Vega. Apply with nearest Texas Workforce Commission Office Job Order # 6068570

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21 Help Wanted

THE PLAZA III is now accepting applications for Day Time Servers. Must be 18 & over. Apply in person at Coronado Center Pampa No phone calls!!

IMMEDIATE OPENING FOR TUBULAR INVENTORY CONTROL. Previous experience a plus. Computer experience required. ONLY QUALIFIED APPLICANTS NEED APPLY! Exc. benefits. Applications / resumes being accepted at W-B Supply Co., 111 Naida St., P.O. Drawer 2479, Pampa, EOE.

NOW hiring 2 Part-Time Positions. Apply in person, 1106 Alcock, Pampa.

FULL Time RN needed at Parkview Home Health in Wheeler. Please call 826.1370, ask for Susan Jaffew RN, Director, or come by 306 E. 9th St., Wheeler for an appt.

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

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50 Building Suppl.

White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

69 Misc.

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

WILL haul off any old or unwanted vehicles. Towing is free. 806-665-3546 or 806-662-2706.

WANTED TO BUY JUNK CARS & USED BATTERIES!!! 236-9759

BUNK beds, garden decor, stepping stones, cement leaves & balls, planters, pots. Red Barn 1420 S. Barnes Sat 10-5.

Best Buy! Morgan 10X16 Pot. Bldg. Free Del/Terms call 806-358-9597

ONLY ONE LEFT! 12X20 Office, reduced to sell. Call 806-358-9597

EARLY Bird In-Door Sale. Present this ad for Free Cokes and Coffee. Sat. 7am-noon. Please-knock. 2208 Evergreen.

MOVING Sale, Sat. 8-noon. Big items. 1340 Terrace.

2 Family Sale, 8-7 Fri, Sat. & Sun. Baby clothes, household goods, toys, lots of misc.! Come by and check it out! 2517 Mary Ellen.

MOVING Sale, 87 years accumulation, 420 N. Frost, Fri. 4-8, Sat. 8-8, Sun. 1-4. Too much stuff to list. New items added daily.

SAT. Only 1705 Dog-wood. Clothes, toys, washing machine & more.

2625 Fir, Sat. 8am-4pm. Furniture, appliances, household, clothing women-L, men-XXL.

MOVING Sale. Shoes, clothes, appliances, etc. 417 Zimmers. Fri & Sat.

ESTATE Sale. Sat. 7-7 pm. 8646 Loop 171, just North of golf course. Furniture, household items, trailers, tools, silk plants.

Dance recital



Courtesy Photos

Beaux Arts Dance Studio will hold its 60th annual revue "Deep in The Heart of Texas" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 24, at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Claire Boyd will be the featured graduating senior. TOP: (Front row, left-right) Amy Kotata, Brooke Woelfle, Claire Boyd; (second row, l-r) Robin Fernuik, Bailey Read and Kayla Cox. BOTTOM: Ashlyn Paronto, from left, Madison Joyce and Taylor Smith.

McCain rejects pastors' endorsements

STOCKTON, Calif. (AP) — Republican John McCain on Thursday rejected endorsements from two influential but controversial televangelists, saying there is no place for their incendiary criticisms of other faiths.

McCain rejected the months-old endorsement of Texas preacher John Hagee after an audio recording surfaced in which the preacher said God sent Adolf Hitler to help Jews reach the promised land. McCain called the comment "crazy and unacceptable."

He later repudiated the support of Rod Parsley, an Ohio preacher who has sharply criticized Islam and called the religion inherently violent.

McCain issued a statement Thursday afternoon announcing his decision about Hagee.

"Obviously, I find these remarks and others deeply offensive and indefensible, and I repudiate them. I did not know of them before Reverend Hagee's endorsement, and I feel I must reject his endorsement as well," he said.

Later, in Stockton, he told reporters: "I just think that the statement is crazy and unacceptable."

Then in an interview with The Associated Press, McCain said he rejected Parsley's support, too.

"I believe there is no place for that kind of dialogue in America, and I believe that even though he endorsed me, and I didn't endorse him, the fact is that I repudiate such talk, and I reject

his endorsement," McCain told the AP. Hagee had sparked controversy since the San Antonio pastor endorsed McCain on Feb. 27 shortly before the Texas presidential primary. Parsley's views were aired Thursday in an ABC News report.

McCain actively courted Hagee, who leads a megachurch with a congregation in the tens of thousands and has an even wider television audience. Former GOP presidential rivals also sought Hagee's backing.

Hagee has referred to the Roman Catholic Church as "the great whore" and called it a "false cult system." He also has linked Hitler to the Catholic church, suggesting it helped shape his anti-Semitism. And Hagee said Hurricane Katrina was God's retribution for homosexual sin.

McCain has faced a barrage of criticism over Hagee, with some comparing the situation to the controversy Democrat Barack Obama faced over the views of his longtime and now former pastor, the Rev. Jeremiah Wright.

McCain tried Thursday to draw a distinction between the Obama-Wright connection and his own relationships with Parsley and Hagee, saying Hagee was not his pastor.

"My church I attend is North Phoenix Baptist Church; my pastor and spiritual guide is Pastor Dan Yeary," McCain said. "I've never been to Pastor Hagee's church or Pastor

Parsley's church. I didn't attend their church for 20 years. I'm not a member of their church."

Parsley did not return a message for comment left after business hours at world Harvest Church in suburban Columbus.

Obama, who was campaigning in Florida, said that in national politics it's easy to find people who have said or done offensive things.

"John McCain has to deal with Hagee, who said something that is mind-boggling. I don't attribute those statements to John McCain. Nobody thinks McCain believes that stuff," Obama said.

Until now, McCain had tried to distance himself from Hagee's views but had not rejected the endorsement.

"I'm glad to have his endorsement," he said on ABC's "This Week" in April. "I condemn remarks that are, in any way, viewed as anti-anything."

The Arizona senator has said he sought Hagee's support because the pastor, like himself, is a strong supporter of Israel.

The formation of Israel was at the heart of the remarks that prompted McCain to reject Hagee's support. The comments came in a sermon Hagee gave in the late 1990s, an audio recording of which was posted last week on the liberal blog Talk to Action and reported by The Huffington Post, another liberal blog.

World Briefly

Tornado tears through Colo. towns, killing 1, hurting 13; twisters also hit Wyo., Kan., Calif.

WINDSOR, Colo. (AP) — Residents of a devastated neighborhood grabbed what they could from their debris-strewn homes before police imposed an overnight curfew after a tornado swept through northern Colorado, killing one person and injuring 13.

The twister skipped through several towns in Weld County on Thursday, damaging or destroying dozens of homes, businesses, dairies and farms. The storm system pelted the region with golf-ball-size hail, swept vehicles off roads and tipped 15 rail cars off the tracks in Windsor, a farm town about 70 miles north of Denver.

"It sounded like all the doors were being torn off the house," said Kelly Keil, who grabbed her 5-year-old daughter and took cover in a closet in her home, which was spared major damage.

Gov. Bill Ritter toured the area and declared a local state of emergency, but an inventory of damaged homes had to wait until daylight Friday. Federal, state and local officials were assembling damage assessment teams overnight.

Severe storms, some including tornadoes, also ripped through parts of Wyoming, Kansas and California on Thursday.

UN chief says Myanmar to allow all foreign aid workers into country to help cyclone survivors

NAYPYITAW Myanmar (AP) — U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, on a mission to open Myanmar to international disaster assistance, said the ruling junta agreed Friday to allow "all aid workers" into the country to help cyclone survivors.

Ban's comments came after a crucial two-hour meeting Friday with the junta leader, Senior Gen. Than Shwe, the country's most powerful figure. Myanmar's junta has until now refused to allow an influx of foreign aid and experts to reach survivors of the May 2-3 Cyclone Nargis.

The United Nations chief did not say whether Than Shwe had acceded to the most urgent request by international aid agencies — to allow their foreign experts into the hardest-hit region, the Irrawaddy delta.

However, when asked if he thought the agreement was a breakthrough, Ban told reporters: "I think so." One foreign aid official called it a "significant step forward."

A senior U.N. official present at the meeting said Than Shwe also gave the green light for foreigners to work in the hardest-hit region, the Irrawaddy delta, which has been virtually off-limits to them.

Audit of \$8B in contractor payments finds nearly every transaction lacked proper paper trail

WASHINGTON (AP) — An internal audit of some \$8 billion paid to U.S. and Iraqi contractors found that nearly every transaction failed to comply with federal laws or regulations aimed at preventing fraud, in some cases lacking even basic invoices explaining how the money was spent.

Of the money paid during a five-year period — from 2001 through 2006 — \$7.8 billion in payments skirted billing rules with some violations egregious enough to invite potential fraud, warned the Defense Department's inspector general.

The findings provided fresh fodder for anti-war Democrats, who say the Bush administration has turned a blind eye to the problem of corruption and fraud by relying too heavily on contractors to manage the war.

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We now have
Fire Resistant Clothing
from Wrangler & Walls



Pants, Shirts, & Coveralls

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