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Firefighters extinguish a blaze Tuesday afternoon on County Road D. The fire was believed to have been started by sparks from a welding torch. Fire officials recommend that if you are welding, have someone with you to spot sparks before they create an emergency situation.

## Welder sparks hay field fire

BY Betsy Phillips  
 editor@thepampanews.com  
 Someone welding reportedly started a fire that burned 10 acres of and five large round hay bales on land owned by Jim Schroeder, three-quarters of a west of Price Road on County Road D Tuesday afternoon.  
 Firefighters were able to save nearby farm equipment.  
 Pampa and Hoover Volunteer firefighters responded just after 4:30 p.m. Pampa fire sent four units and six personnel to the blaze, Hoover VFD responded with five booster trucks and one tanker.  
 FIRE cont. on page 3

## Over the river ... to savings at Camp Grandparents

CHICAGO (AP) — Over the river and through the recession to grandmother's house they go. The lingering recession is forcing cash-strapped parents to cancel camp for the kids. Instead, they're being packed off to their grandparents'.  
 For 5-year-old Ashlyn Preston, this summer's agenda includes familiar activities such as swimming and cooking. But this time, there are no counselors, canoes or costly registration fees — just grandma and grandpa.  
 The hundreds of dollars a week that would have paid for camp are being diverted to more essential needs — groceries, electricity and house payments.  
 The arrangement shifts the child-care burden to grandparents, many of whom enjoy the extra time with their grandchildren. The kids' parents save money and get some time to themselves. And the grandkids get more love and attention, and better food.  
 "If this economic trouble is bringing people together, that's a positive," said Georgia Hope Witkin, associate professor of psychology at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York and a contributing editor of the Web site Grandparents.com.  
 The American Camp Association reports registration numbers are down at some of the nation's 12,000 camps, but it's too early to estimate overall attendance this year. Reports from around the country point to lower turnout from Maine to Florida to Texas and elsewhere.  
 Summer camp fees nationwide range from under \$100 a week to \$800 or more. Some moms and dads are opting just to keep their kids at home until school resumes, but others are taking up their parents on offers to help.  
 "Grandparents are the new summer camp," Witkin said.  
 Ashlyn's dad, Jason, said he and his wife, Roseann, could not afford to send their daughter to camp or day care. He's an experienced land surveyor in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., but the sour economy has cost him job after job. He and his wife now work at a fast-food restaurant.  
 Ashlyn is spending the entire summer with her grandparents, Anita and Neal Preston of Kennesaw, Ga. A full slate of "camp" activities is under way: swimming, campouts, museums, movies, parks, libraries, reviewing school workbooks, cooking  
 CAMP cont. on page 3

## Homeowner wants Pickens charged with theft

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — As a youngster, Texas oil tycoon T. Boone Pickens scratched his name in wet concrete in the driveway of his grandmother's Oklahoma house.  
 Now the man who owns the century-old home is pursuing theft and vandalism charges against the 81-year-old billionaire, saying workers for Pickens came to the house recently without permission and removed the concrete slab with the well-known name.  
 David McCart, who bought the two-story, 17-room home in Holdenville nearly 20 years ago — partly because of Pickens' signature — said he went to the property to mow the grass on June 22 and noticed the 3-by-5-foot slab was missing.  
 "It's really the arrogance of it that bothers me," McCart said Tuesday. "They just cut the whole section out."  
 McCart said he filed a theft and vandalism report with local police the next day and wants to pursue criminal charges against Pickens. Although the missing concrete was replaced, he said the removal left cracks and damaged his driveway.  
 Holdenville Police Chief Jerry Young, who would make a decision about recommending charges, didn't immediately return a call for comment.  
 PICKENS cont. on page 3

## PHS CHEERLEADERS HOPPING






Pampa cheerleaders will be working at Sonic as car hops from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 18 to raise money for the squad. Pictured left to right are seniors Emilie Troxell, Kayla Ware, Ashley Williams and Kimberly Curtis.

## State officials push for prison cell phone jamming

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas and Maryland officials are urging Congress to approve legislation allowing states to jam illegal cell phones used by prisoners.  
 Texas State Sen. John Whitmire, whose life was threatened by a death row inmate with a cell phone, says prisons need jamming devices to fight a growing problem.  
 Maryland's top corrections official, Gary Maynard, is also scheduled to testify at a hearing Wednesday about the legislation. A Maryland inmate was sentenced to life without parole this year for using a cell phone to order the killing of a witness.  
 PRISON cont. on page 3

# For the record

## PAMPA FORECAST

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		
20%		20%
High 95 Low 70	High 89 Low 63	High 85 Low 65

**Tonight:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 72. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Thursday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 95. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Thursday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 70. North northeast wind 15 to 20 mph becoming north 5 to 10 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

**Friday:** Partly cloudy, with a high near 89. Calm wind becoming east southeast between 10 and 15 mph. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

**Friday Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 63. East southeast wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to between 15 and 20 mph. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.

**Saturday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 85. Southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

**Saturday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 65. South wind between 5 and 15 mph.

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## Texas Highway Patrol Reports

**I-40 CURRENCY SEIZURE**  
 Carson County — 7/14/09 — A Highway Patrol Trooper seized \$27,500 in U.S. currency during a traffic stop near Groom in Carson County along I-40.  
 A Highway Patrol Trooper working on I-40 in Carson County near Groom observed a vehicle traveling west, speeding above the posted speed limit. The Trooper conducted a traffic stop at about 7:44 a.m. on the vehicle and identified the driver as Julio Sergio Mendoza 32, of Colorado Springs, Colorado. Mendoza was traveling from Salem, Arkansas to Las Angeles, California during the traffic stop the Trooper requested consent to search the vehicle and was granted consent. The Trooper then conducted a search of the vehicle and discovered \$27,500 in U.S. currency. The cash was located in a false compartment built into the vehicle. Mendoza was arrested and booked into the Carson County jail and charged with money laundering.

## Austin ER sees more snakebite cases this year

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Snake experts are at a loss to explain a sudden jump in the number of snakebite cases being treated in Austin.  
 Officials at University Medical Center Brackenridge, Austin's main general hospital, say they've treated 29 snakebite cases in the past three months. Brackenridge officials say their emergency room staff treated 26 such cases in all of last year.  
 The officials tell the Austin American-Statesman that none of the bites have proved fatal, but one patient had a finger amputated. The Texas Department of State Health Services reports an average of one to two human deaths in Texas annually from venomous snakebites.  
 Texas A&M herpetologist Lee Fitzgerald tells the American-Statesman that if snakes are active during a drought, they're seeking food or a different environment.

## Obituaries

### Kenda Maddox, 59

Pampa — Kenda Maddox, 59, July 13, 2009, Amarillo, Texas. Services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 16, 2009, at First Church of the Nazarene, with Rev. Jimmie Cole, pastor, officiating.  
 Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, July 16, 2009, at Ochiltree Cemetery in Perryton, under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Maddox was born March 22, 1950 in Liberal, Kansas. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1989. Kenda was an RN, working for Coronado Healthcare Center, retiring in 2001. She was a member of the First Church of the Nazarene.  
 Survivors include two sons; Coy Maddox of Pampa and Toby Maddox and wife Christy of Perryton, one daughter, Kristi Maddox of Pampa, two brothers; Ted

Seemann, Jr., of Perryton and James Seemann of Pampa, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Kenda was preceded in death by a sister, Kaye Anderson.  
 MEMORIALS: Don & Sybil Harrington Cancer Center, 1500 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, Texas 79106  
 Sign the on-line register at [www.carmichael-whitley.com](http://www.carmichael-whitley.com)



Maddox

## Emergency Services

### SHERIFF

The Gray County Sheriff's Department reported the following arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.  
 Tuesday  
 Matthew Tyler Trusty, 20, of Pampa, was arrested

by Pampa police officers on a warrant charging him with driving without a valid driver license.

### FIRE

The Pampa Fire Department responded to the following calls between 7 a.m. Tuesday, July 14

and 7 a.m. Wednesday, July 15.  
 2:07 p.m. — 2 units and three personnel responded to a grass fire in the 100 block of Varnon.  
 3:02 p.m. — one unit and three personnel responded to a medical assist call in the 2600 block of Hobart.  
 4:34 p.m. — four units

and six personnel responded to a grass fire three quarters of a mile west of Price Road on County Road D.  
 8:19 p.m. — one unit and three personnel responded to a fence fire in the 1000 block of S. Wells.

## Oil price rises as US supply falls

NEW YORK (AP) — Oil prices rose above \$61 a barrel Wednesday, riding gains on Wall Street and a government report that said U.S. crude supplies dropped more than expected.  
 Benchmark crude for August delivery was up \$1.59 to \$61.11 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. In London, Brent prices rose \$1.49 to \$62.35 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.  
 During the past few weeks, crude fell from its peak and has loitered near \$60 a barrel as America's expanding population of unemployed workers left doubts about a quick economic recovery. A weaker

dollar combined with a rally in equities markets has kept oil prices from falling further, however.  
 The Dow Jones Industrial Average and The Nasdaq composite index rose more than 2 percent in midday trading.  
 Crude barrels, which are traded in dollars, go up in price as the dollar falls and foreign investors find they have more buying power. Investors also see crude as a safe haven from inflation, and they've pumped money into oil futures on the expectation that oil will get more expensive as the economy improves.  
 Meanwhile, the Energy Information Administration reported

Wednesday that the country's supply of crude oil dropped more than expected last week, falling by 2.8 million barrels. However, the U.S. is still swimming in surplus oil. It's total inventory of 344.5 million barrels is 16.5 percent above last year's levels.  
 Inventories of gasoline and distillate fuels, such as diesel and heating oil, also rose last week.  
 Rising world stock markets also propped up crude prices, with major exchanges logging gains in the wake of better-than-expected earnings reports from Intel and Goldman Sachs.  
 Trader and analyst Stephen Schork said prices

could swing either way in the next few days, setting a longer-term trend.  
 In other Nymex trading, gasoline for August delivery jumped by 4.29 cents to \$1.6895 a gallon and heating oil added 5.32 cents to \$1.5651 a gallon. Natural gas for August delivery fell by 11.3 cents to \$3.316 per 1,000 cubic feet.

## Wounded vets push for better compensation

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Some wounded veterans say the way that retirement and disability pay is awarded is the top issue they want the Army to address.  
 Sixty-five wounded soldiers and their families met in San Antonio for an annual symposium to sort through some 70 concerns. They prioritized issues for commanders of the Army's Wounded Warrior Program to address.  
 Under current rules, wounded soldiers who medically retire have their retirement pay reduced by the amount of the Veterans Affairs disability pay. The wounded say they should be able to collect both payments in full, given the sacrifices they've made.  
 They also say that primary caregivers for injured service members should be eligible for some sort of stipend.

Texans face extreme danger of wildfire. When told to evacuate — leave the area immediately. Choose a route that leads away from the fire. Stay alert to changes in the speed and direction of fire and smoke.

**75<sup>TH</sup> Annual Tri State Senior (50 & up) Golf Tournament**  
**Pampa Country Club**  
 July 20th - 4 person scramble  
 July 21st - 4 person scramble/ 2 Low ball  
 July 22nd & 23rd - Individual Stroke Play  
**Registration and \$180.00 Entry Fee due by July 15th!**  
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Dr. Krogh is a native of Canadian, TX. He received a BS from WTAMU and his Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Parker College of Chiropractic in Dallas, TX.

Dr. Krogh has a special interest in laser therapy as well as chiropractic care of children and pregnant women.

Dr. Krogh is licensed by the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

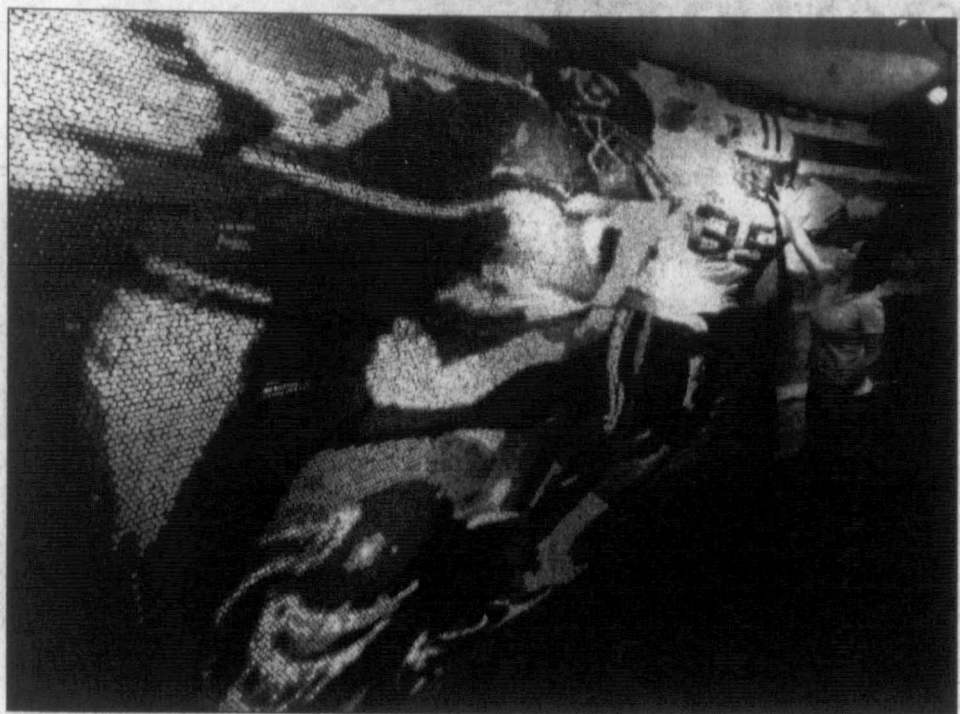
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## ART-TEE



Artist Jenna Layton looks over her work of a BYU/University of Utah football mural made of individually painted golf tees in Jeff Holt's home in Huntsville, Utah, Tuesday, July 7, 2009. The source of the mural was made from a 2006 Deseret News photo by Scott Winterton. (AP Photo/Jeffrey D. Allred, Deseret News)

## Camp

with Grandma, helping Grandpa in the yard.

"The best part? Just getting to be with her!" said Anita Preston, 52.

Of course, having an extra person in the house for the summer merely shifts the burden to the grandparents' budget. Anita said they should probably have set aside money in preparation for the visit but did not. Her husband works for a Web development company. She isn't working.

"So when Ashlyn visits," she said, "we just take things as they come along, and try to do things that won't cost us a lot."

Tamara Bolerjack of Midwest City, Okla., is

having a similar experience this summer. She recently opened what she calls Camp Granny for grandson Marlee, 4, and granddaughter Maleah, 5.

Her son-in-law, Maurice, finds it hard to get regular construction jobs because of the economy. That puts pressure on her daughter Rachel to take on extra hours in her nursing job so they can make ends meet. She's also going to school, so even though they live nearby in Oklahoma City, the kids will be with their grandparents for all but one week this summer.

"They don't have to pay day care this way," Bolerjack said. "And some of the camps around here

are a little expensive, so they just come to Camp Granny."

The 52-year-old Bolerjack has epilepsy, so she works only part-time out of her home as a landscape designer. That makes full-time grandparenting almost ideal for her and husband Ronnie, a lawn technician.

"I get tired. Some days, like with any kid, I've had enough," she said. "But being a grandparent is the greatest part of my life."

Despite the extra cost, she said, the long summer visit is well worth it because "makes you a lot closer to your grandkids."

*cont. from page 1*

## Fire

According to the Texas Department of Public Safety, Texans face severe danger of wildfire. Be extremely cautious about any outdoor activities that might cause sparks or fires.

Sparks can easily escape from burning trash. Avoid use of welding or grinding

equipment near dead weeds and grass. Avoid parking vehicles in tall, dry grass and weeds that could be ignited by hot catalytic converters. When in your vehicle, crush smoking materials in your ashtray and make sure they are really out.

*cont. from page 1*

## Pickens

Neighbors told McCart three men in a truck with Texas tags used cement saws and pry bars to remove the slab last month and loaded it into the truck bed. The house currently is vacant, but McCart said he planned to rent it out.

Pickens previously purchased his boyhood home in Holdenville, which was adjacent to McCart's property, and moved it to his Texas ranch.

Jay Rosser, a spokesman for Pickens, said the section of concrete was removed when Pickens was in town recently to inspect enhancements to a family plot at a local cemetery. Holdenville, a town of 4,700 people, is 75 miles southeast of Oklahoma City.

"He carved his name in that cement 70 years ago, in his grandmother's drive-

way," the statement said. "It means a lot to him, and is now with his childhood home which has been carefully restored and relocated to his ranch in the Texas Panhandle to help commemorate his Oklahoma roots."

Rosser declined to answer further questions about the incident and did not say who actually removed the slab.

McCart said he suspects the property belongs to the city since the section of driveway is located between the sidewalk and the street.

"I understand the city has the right to do it if they need to repair pipes or something like that," McCart said. "But it was not a city crew that was in there doing it."

Rosser did not say whether anyone received permission from the city to remove the slab.

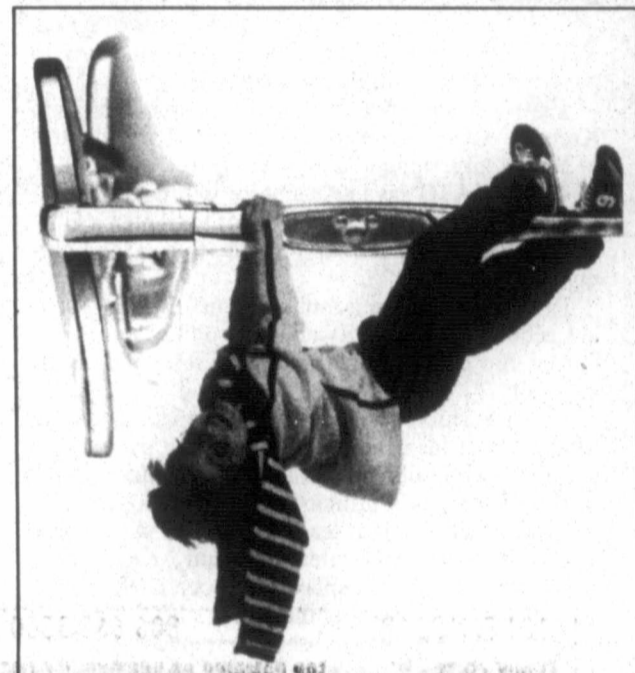
Ken Chestnut, an attorney for the city, said he's not sure if anyone sought permission to remove the slab. But it's "a private matter between the parties" and the city does not need to get involved, Chestnut said.

Rosser said Pickens is open to commemorating his history in Holdenville through some sort of historical marker or other initiative. "We are clearly open to any thoughts the McCarts might have regarding how to best commemorate his association there for their purposes," he said.

## Prison

*cont. from page 1*

But critics say jamming devices could interfere with service to law-abiding citizens and with emergency response. Federal law currently doesn't allow states to use jamming equipment.



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## Pampa 9-10 All-stars take second place

The Pampa 9-10 All-stars let one slip thru their gloves Monday night losing 5-1 to a good North Randall team.

NRC came out scoring before Pampa shut down their bats in their opening inning. Trailing 2-0 in their first at bat, Pampas Zach Wilson and Kyndan Lott failed to reach the base but Pampa quickly scored on a hit by Brandon Sieck bringing in Adam Zuniga who had walked and stole his way to 3rd base. But NRC's defense would only allow the one run and ended end the inning.

Zuniga then went back to work on the mound for Pampa not allowing any runs in the second inning. Pampa started off batting with Bryson Burrell hit-

ting a single and Brendon Woelfle being hit by a pitch, the inning soon ended though on 3 outstanding defensive plays by NRC. Pampa would then allow NRC to score in the 3rd on an error making the score 3-1. Lott would come in to pitch forcing 3 straight outs backed by good defense from Bradey Porter, Burrell, and Woelfle. Pampa came back to the plate also to be retired in three straight outs. NRC would score in the 5th and one more in the 6th to make the score 5-1. Pampa came to bat in the 6th with Sieck and Porter going down for 2 outs but only before Burrell singled to center and Woelfle hit other single putting runners on 1st and 2nd. Brant

Logan entered the game hitting a hard ground ball to the 3rd baseman who stepped on his base to end the game.

Pampa went 2-2 taking 2nd place in the West Texas District I Tournament. The

boys will be playing in Amarillo this weekend participating in the state tournament. First game starts Saturday at 3 p.m. in the North Randal Complex, 2080 West Sundown.

**Happy Birthday,**  
**Bryan!**

Love,  
Mom, Dad,  
Joshua, Jon  
& Raecanna

Jer. 29:11

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# Viewpoints

## Today in History

Today is Wednesday, July 15, the 196th day of 2009. There are 169 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1099 - Three years after the First Crusade set out, the Christian army storms Jerusalem and puts its Muslim inhabitants to the sword.

1789 - France's King Louis XVI is awakened and told that his authority has collapsed with the fall of the Bastille.

1893 - The Matabele, Bantu-speaking people of southwestern Zimbabwe, stage uprising against rule of British South Africa Company. They are defeated and administered by the company in separate districts.

1909 - Mohammed Ali, shah of Persia, is deposed in favor of 12-year-old Sultan Ahmad Shah.

1945 - Italy declares war on Japan, its former Axis partner in World War II.

1948 - U.N. Security Council orders truce in Palestine.

1965 - U.S. Mariner IV spacecraft sends to Earth first close-up photographs of planet Mars.

1975 - United States' Apollo and Soviet Union's Soyuz spacecraft blast into orbit for rendezvous in space.

It is astonishing what force, purity and wisdom it requires for a human being to keep clear of falsehoods.

— Margaret Fuller, American journalist

1987 - Taiwan ends 38 years of martial law to pave the way for multiparty elections.

1990 - Tens of thousands of people march to Kremlin walls to protest Communist Party control of Soviet government, army and KGB.

1992 - NATO says its warships will begin patrolling Yugoslavia's coast in an effort to tighten a U.N. trade embargo and step up pressure to end the fighting in Bosnia.

1994 - Tens of thousands of Hutus flee the Tutsi-led rebel advance in Rwanda, flooding across the border into Zaire in one of the greatest human flights in history.

1997 - Fashion designer Gianni Versace is shot to death outside his Miami Beach mansion by Andrew Cunanan, who kills himself a few days later.

1998 - Nigeria's military government orders the immediate release of at least 400 people imprisoned under the late military ruler Gen. Sani Abacha.

2000 - In a rare display of force, U.N. troops launch a rescue mission that frees all 222 peacekeepers and 11 military observers trapped by rebels inside a U.N. base in eastern Sierra Leone.

2002 - A Pakistani judge convicts four defendants in the kidnapping and murder of American journalist Daniel Pearl.

2005 - Investigators probing the U.N. oil-for-food program say they have found evidence of "gross mismanagement" and possible corruption by the U.N. agency that oversaw compensation for victims of Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Today's Birthdays: Rembrandt (Rembrandt Harmes van Rijn), Dutch artist (1606-1669); Marie Tempest, English actress (1864-1942); Walter Benjamin, German literary critic (1892-1940); Iris Murdoch, British writer (1919-1999); Jacques Derrida, French philosopher (1930-2004); Linda Ronstadt U.S. singer (1946--); Forest Whitaker, U.S. actor/director (1961--).



## Analysis: Inherited economy now an owned economy

WASHINGTON (AP) — With four simple words — "Give it to me!" — President Barack Obama took possession of the economy.

For months, the White House and Obama's economic team have laid the economic crisis at the feet of President George W. Bush. But there comes a point in a presidency when inheritance becomes ownership. Obama made that pivot Tuesday in Michigan, the state suffering the worst unemployment in the nation.

"I love these folks who helped get us in this mess and then suddenly say, 'Well, this is Obama's economy,'" the president said in a pointed deviation from his prepared text. "That's fine. Give it to me!"

It was a defiant moment, reminiscent of Bush's own "Bring 'em on!" taunt in 2003 to militants in Iraq.

Like Bush's brash challenge, Obama's could haunt him, too. It's a calculated risk that confronts his critics head-on and casts him as an activist, on-the-job president.

"My job is to solve problems, not to stand on the sidelines and harp and gripe," he said Tuesday, his sleeves rolled up, barely disguising his targets as congressional Republicans.

Still, most economists and Obama's own advisers foresee a slow economic recovery. The president himself conceded Tuesday that unemployment, already at a 26-year

high, will likely "tick up for several months." Republicans see the economy as Obama's Achilles' heel come next year's elections, and they have found a political vulnerability in the continued rise in unemployment despite a \$787 billion economic stimulus that Obama pushed through Congress in February.

In choosing Michigan to attach his name to the economy, Obama picked a state whose 14.1 percent unemployment rate could linger as evidence of policy failure. As home to the U.S. auto industry, it could also stand as a symbol of one of his first economic successes. Both General Motors and Chrysler have emerged in surprisingly swift fashion from bankruptcy protection proceedings that were imposed by the Obama administration.

"Remember, folks said there was no way they could do it?" Obama told his audience in hard-hit Warren, Mich. "They've gotten it done already, in record time, far faster than anybody thought possible."

After a week spent overseas, the feisty, confrontational approach aims to regain the agenda from his critics. In one bold step this week, the Obama administration singled out Sen. Jon Kyl, a member of the Senate Republican leadership, for calling for an end to economic stimulus spending. Using Obama's Cabinet members as muscle, the White House on Tuesday made public letters from four department

secretaries listing transportation, housing, Indian education and other projects in Kyl's home state that they said would be eliminated if the senator had his way. The letter was addressed to Arizona's Republican governor, Jan Brewer.

At the same time, Obama is appealing for patience. In his weekly radio and Internet address Saturday and in a newspaper opinion piece, Obama argued that the stimulus program was designed as a two-year plan and that it had already halted the economic free fall. It hasn't helped Obama, however, that the jobless rate now stands at 9.5 percent, even though his economic team initially predicted that the stimulus would prevent unemployment from going higher than 8 percent.

Obama and his advisers say the recession turned out to be worse than anticipated when they made that forecast in January. Still, 2 million jobs have been lost since Congress passed the stimulus package.

"I want the president's economic stimulus to work, but guess what? It's not happening right now," Rep. Candice Miller, R-Mich., said Tuesday, voicing a common GOP refrain. "I don't even think we have Wendy's jobs anymore. Where's the beef? Where's the jobs?"

Obama's unflinching embrace of his economic policies means he now is responsible for their consequences. If the free fall is now in check, as he claims,

then the economy can no longer be Bush's legacy alone.

What's more, even amid indicators that show the economic plunge is slowing, unemployment in recent recessions has been slow to recover as quickly as the rest of the economy. And jobs are the clearest yardstick by which the public measures success. For Obama and his fellow Democrats, the danger lies in unemployment rates that remain high in time for next year's congressional elections, or in a slow recovery that peters out and leads back into a recession.

Obama has already taken ownership of the nation's foreign policy. In March, he announced a new approach in Afghanistan that included sending an additional 17,000 combat troops. Marines have just kicked off an offensive in Taliban strongholds in the south of the country. And two weeks ago, American troops in Iraq handed over security urban areas to Iraqi security forces, the first step toward meeting Obama's pledge to end an unpopular war.

Now, just days shy of the symbolic six-month anniversary of his presidency, Obama has laid claim to the full measure of the job. When it comes to the economy, no one — certainly not his Republican critics — is going to keep him from taking it.

## Letters to the editor

To the editor,  
Will he, or won't he? That is the question in re Boone Pickens for we Pampans.

I'm willing to bet he won't - with any of the 687 turbines he says is taking up space in his garage.... I don't think Gray County or Roberts County will see any of Mesa Power's wind turbines, for when Boone's plans of a joint water/electricity right of way leading south was nixed by the state, his glorious plan for the world's largest wind farm came to an end.

The economic downturn and the lack of transmission lines tying into the grid network are what Pickens is saying to the press as to his reasoning for stopping/putting off his grandiose venture. It's no question that Mr. Pickens has taken a financial hit

with the economic downturn, having lost at last record somewhere around the \$2 billion mark, but the lack of any transmission lines to a grid network per Boone has me perplexed: The wind farm at White Deer; the wind farm being built around Panhandle; the wind farm being built around Dumas; and others being planned/developed elsewhere in the

Panhandle - How is/will the (for years already, in the case of White Deer) generated electricity be transmitted for use? And, isn't the company Cross Texas Transmission in the process of building a grid network our direction?

Evidently, to my rocket surgeon trained mind, Mr. Pickens, having faced defeat for his privately owned transmission grid,

has raised his white flag. If Mr. Pickens cannot have it his way lock, stock, and barrel; it looks likely a large garage sale will soon occur, and once again, ala Celanese, Pampa is the loser.

Dennis Palmitier  
Pampa, Texas

## We welcome your letters

To insure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
- All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.
- Defamatory comments will not be published.
- E-mail submissions are welcome.

## THE PAMPA NEWS

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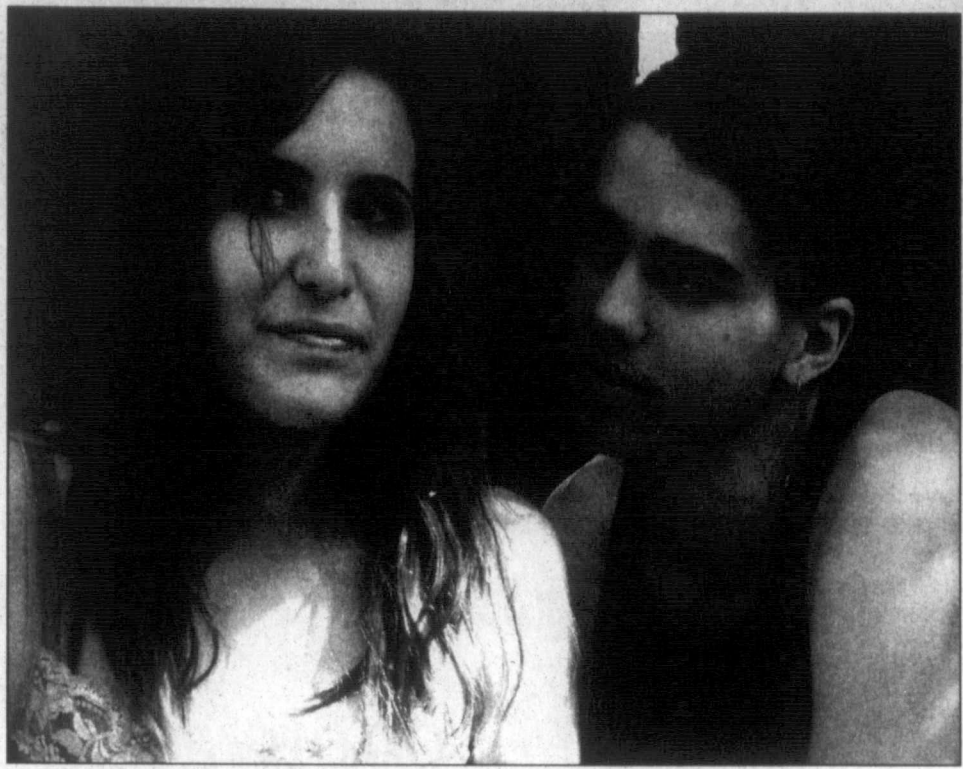
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# Around town

## Reagan, Tapp engagement announced

Ms. Louise Reagan of Pampa announces the engagement of her daughter, Morgan Rhea Reagan to Robert Ferrance Tapp, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Tapp of Pampa, and Ms. Allison Tapp of Houston, Arkansas. Miss Reagan is also the daughter of the late Phillip Ray Reagan. An August wedding is scheduled.



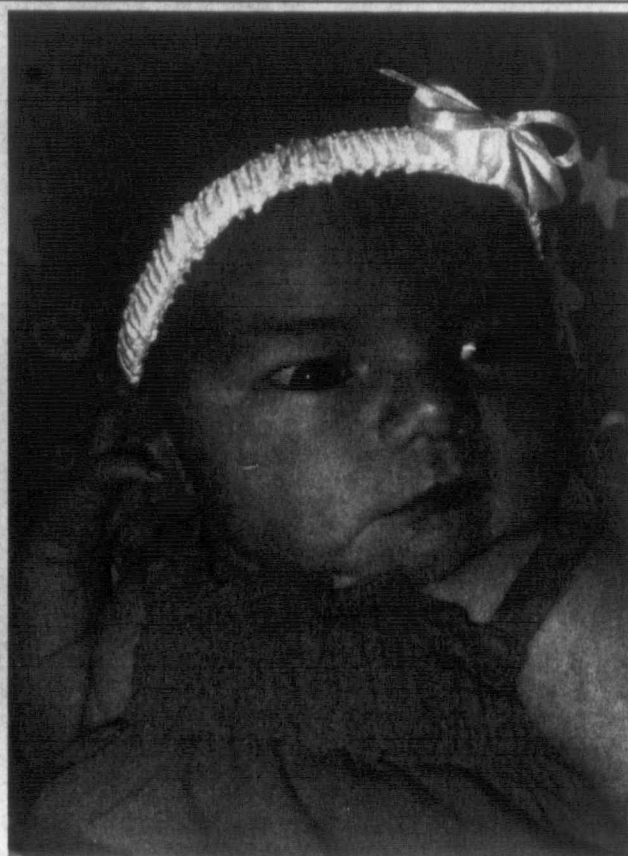
## Connie Leigh Isbell

Connie Leigh Isbell was welcomed by her parents, Jerry Isbell Jr and Leigh Anne Flores of McLean, July 7, 2009 at 11:52 p.m.

At birth, Connie weighed 6 pounds and 10 ounces and was 19 inches long.

She was born in Pampa Regional Medical Center, Pampa.

Connie was also welcomed by her grandfather, Ruben M Flores of McLean, and grandparents Jerry and Francis Isbell of Pampa, Texas and older brother PV2 Isbell of Ft Benning, GA.



## Cheyenne rodeo snaps new photo/video policy

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) — A long-running rodeo known as the “Daddy of ‘em all” thought it had found a way to deal with an animal rights group posting video onto the Web of alleged animal mistreatment at the event — ban all types of video cameras.

The move this year, however, quickly raised complaints from fans who wanted to shoot the action at the 113-year-old Cheyenne Frontier Days for their personal use.

To placate fans and make activists think twice about using pictures or footage, organizers tweaked their policy leading up to this week’s start of the rodeo, allowing people to use pictures and video for their private and noncommercial use.

Any other use, including commercial, issue advocacy or fundraising, is banned without the rodeo’s permission.

The founder of the animal rights organization seeking changes in the rodeo said the policy was aimed at stopping his group from trying to document what it considers animal abuse, but a rodeo official said it’s just trying to protect its product and financial interests.

“We want to put on a good show that people can come and take video and have pictures of them having a great time at the rodeo and the free entertainment, the night shows, the carnival and stuff like that,” CFD General Chairman Charlie West said. West said the rodeo was not targeting any specific individuals or groups.

West said if anyone violates the policy the rodeo will consult with its lawyers on what to do.

Steve Hindi, president of the animal rights group SHARK — Showing Animals Respect and Kindness — said the provision is clearly aimed at his organization, calling it “an anti-SHARK policy.”

“It’s unbelievable to me,” Hindi said. “Can you imagine how long they took worming this back

and forth before they got to where they liked it?”

Hindi said the policy appeared arbitrary and not well defined and he planned to attend this year’s rodeo with his cameras.

West said if SHARK posts images of the rodeo on its Web site, then it might violate the policy, West said. SHARK’s Web site clearly asks for contributions to its cause.

Other rodeos have instituted similar policies.

## Texas Crop Report

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Texas A&M Agrilife Extension regional crop reports for July 15:

**CENTRAL:** The region was extremely dry. Stock tanks were going dry, and producers continued providing supplemental feed to livestock. Corn yields were low, and silage yields were not expected to be as good as indicated earlier in the season. A few counties that received rain showed improved soil moisture conditions.

**COASTAL BEND:** Extreme drought conditions with record high temperatures continued to stress crops and livestock. The harvesting of corn and grain sorghum began with marginal yields. Some cotton showed open bolls. Sesame was beginning to bloom. Farmers with zeroed-out fields were baling corn and grain for hay. Range and pasture conditions were extremely poor. Ranchers were liquidating herds due to lack of forage.

**EAST:** Several counties in the southern part of the region received rain, but many remained dry. The 100-degree-plus temperatures threatened to quickly dry out what moisture was received. Nacogdoches, Cherokee, Panola and other counties received substantial rain, but parts of Angelina County have not had any rain since May, according to AgriLife Extension personnel. Hay production slowed, and yields were low. Producers continued to provide livestock with supplemental feed. The harvesting of vegetables and fruit was ongoing. Livestock were in fair to good condition. Some producers began to cull herds to lessen the load on drought-stressed pastures and hay stocks.

**FAR WEST:** Widely scattered showers brought 0.5-1.75 inches of rain to a few areas. Reeves County reported more than 5 inches. Much of the region remained hot and dry. High temperatures stressed plants and dried out soils. The third cutting of alfalfa sustained some damage because of rains. Pecans were in full nut development stage. Moth trappings for second-generation pecan nut casebearers were low, and no spraying was recommended. Yellow aphids in pecans neared the economic threshold for control, but rains washed out the pest and the levels of beneficial insects were high. Chiles were in full bloom with a measure of

heat stress. A few farmers plowed their poor stands of cotton up and have not planted anything behind it. The cotton that has survived looked good for the most part. Some cotton showed signs of Southwestern cotton rust.

**NORTH:** Soil moisture ranged from adequate to very short. Several days of 100-plus-degree heat took a toll on the grasses and crops. Scattered spotty showers helped a few locations, but for the most part, conditions remained hot and dry, which has impacted all crops, pastures and forage. Corn, soybeans and sorghum were all in fair to good condition. Cotton and rice were in fair condition. The harvesting of oats and winter wheat was completed. Livestock were in fair to good condition. Vegetable growers reported the heat was killing tomato and watermelon vines, and tomato diseases continued to be a problem. Rangeland and pasture conditions were fair.

**PANHANDLE:** The entire region was hot and windy with some area highs consistently above 100 degrees. Fields were rapidly drying out. The cotton crop progressed with only light insect problems. Corn and sorghum were doing well, but water usage was climbing because of the heat. All planted crops were reported to be in good condition. The wheat harvest was complete in most counties. Oats were completely harvested. A few feed yards reported cattle losses due to heat. Soil moisture was short, but rangeland and pastures were in fair condition. Cattle were still gaining well.

**ROLLING PLAINS:** Highs continued to be above 100 degrees. A large portion of the district received substantial rain early in the reporting period, but high temperatures and winds quickly dried soils out. Pastures and livestock showed signs of heat stress. Cotton was in good condition but needed moisture. Hailed-out cotton fields were replanted and looked good. Producers began spraying weeds and cultivating, but were limiting the passes across fields due to high fuel prices and the fear that disturbing soil would accelerate moisture loss. Armyworm populations rose in milo and haygrazer but were not at economic thresholds. The rain helped forages but did not help replenish critically low stock tanks.

**SOUTH:** Drought conditions continued with temperatures of 100-109 degrees and no rain. Any moisture provided by spotty showers in some areas evaporated. Only irrigated crops were doing well. In the northern part of the region, corn harvesting began, and sorghum harvesting was about to begin. Cotton was in the boll-setting stage, and peanuts were pegging. In the western part of the region, trees and turf grass showed signs of burning even when regularly watered. The watermelon harvest was completed, and cotton and corn producers continued to irrigate heavily. The extremely high temperatures have helped dry the sorghum crop in the western region, eliminating any additional drying in storage bins. Most producers in the southern parts of the region completed the grain harvest. Overall, rangeland and pasture forages continued to decline in quality and quantity. Although producers continued providing supplemental feed in most areas, high temperatures and a declining forage supply affected the body condition of cattle. Many stock tanks have gone dry. Livestock producers were relocating their cattle, hauling water or using poor-quality ground water. Some ranchers sold their entire herds.

**SOUTH PLAINS:** Many days, temperatures were above 100 degrees. A few widely scattered showers were received. Producers



## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** My daughter, age 15, was just diagnosed with the herpes virus, and she is devastated by the news. I had cautioned her to wait until she was older to become sexually active because I understand that decisions made in haste cannot be unmade, and some -- as in this case -- carry lifelong consequences. I also know that many, if not all, teenage girls do not cope very well with all the baggage that goes along with having sex.

At the time we had that discussion my daughter brushed me off. She said I couldn't look at the situation clearly because my feelings were influenced by my own mistakes and regrets. Now she sees that I knew what I was talking about.

Besides having to deal with a lifelong contagious disease and the possibility of infecting someone else, she has to deal with her irresponsible boyfriend who is threatening to tell people that they are infected and it's all her fault.

Please tell me what I can do to protect my daughter from further harm. And please caution other teens about the risks of unprotected sex while letting them know that moms and dads really DO know what is best for the n. -- DEVASTATED MOM IN OHIO

**DEAR MOM:** It isn't enough to tell young men and women to wait until they are older to have sex. In addition to that message they need to know how to protect themselves against an unplanned pregnancy, about the risk of contracting a sexually transmitted disease (STD) and how to prevent it if they do become sexually active, and how to recognize the symptoms if they do get one so it can be promptly treated.

The rate of STDs in

teens today is very high. It is estimated that one in four young women in the U.S. ages 14 to 19 is infected with at least one common STD including herpes, HPV, chlamydia and trich (trichomoniasis).

Most STDs often have no symptoms -- until there are more serious complications. Left untreated, some can make it difficult to conceive in adulthood.

Teens who are sexually active should have an STD checkup at least once a year. And any teen who thinks she -- or he -- might have an STD or learns that a sex partner has one should go and get tested right away.

Because there have been financial cutbacks in education, comprehensive sex education classes are being -- and have been -- eliminated. I publish a booklet, “What Every Teen Should Know,” that is frank, informative and answers many of the questions teens ask about drugs, alcohol and sex. Many parents find conversations about sex difficult to start, and my booklet has helped many parents, aunts, uncles and grandparents start the discussion.

It can be ordered by sending your name and address, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

You asked me how to protect your daughter now that her boyfriend is threatening to say this is all her fault. Much as you might wish to, you can't muzzle the young man. You can have a chat with his parents and let them impress upon their son how unwise that kind of slander would be for both of them. And that's what I'm advising you to do.

## Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

7	5	2	3	9	8	1	6	4
3	4	8	1	6	7	2	5	9
6	1	9	4	5	2	3	8	7
2	8	5	7	1	3	4	9	6
1	6	4	8	2	9	7	3	5
9	3	7	5	4	6	8	1	2
5	9	1	2	3	4	6	7	8
4	7	3	6	8	5	9	2	1
8	2	6	9	7	1	5	4	3

2			5					
5	4					3		
			3	9		8		
				4			3	
4	6		7				2	
	2	7				8		
			4		7		8	
		8						1
			6		5	3		

Level: Intermediate

# Lubbock to host BLM horse, burro adoptions

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Wild horses and burros will be available in Lubbock as part of a U.S. Bureau of Land Management adoption event. About 70 animals will be available for inspection Thursday at the Panhandle-South Plains Fairgrounds. Adoptions begin Friday, with a minimum fee of \$125 per animal. The event runs through Saturday. Bureau spokesman Paul McGuire told the Amarillo Globe-News that more than 32,000 wild horses roam agency-managed areas. Reducing the range population is meant to help support the horse population and other wildlife.

# 7.8 quake strikes off NZ; small tsunami generated

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — A 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck off New Zealand's western coast Wednesday generating a small tsunami. No injuries or major damage were reported. The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center in Hawaii warned that a tsunami was generated, but it later said the waves were less than 8 inches (20 centimeters) in height and the warning was canceled after about an hour. The Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre also issued a tsunami alert for eastern Australia that was still in effect late Wednesday. "All available New Zealand and international data about the earthquake and sea levels showed that there is no tsunami threat to New Zealand," said John Hamilton, director of the Ministry of Civil Defense and Emergency Management. The quake's epicenter was 100 miles (161 kilometers) west of Invercargill, off the west coast of New Zealand's South Island at a depth of 21 miles (33 kilometers), the U.S. Geological Survey said. It hit at 0922 GMT on Wednesday. The quake was felt widely across South Island. Police in the town of Tuatapere said they had reports of minor cracks in buildings and stock falling from supermarket shelves. However, no reports of serious damage or injuries were received, police said. Scientists with New Zealand's Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences were working with their U.S. counterparts late Wednesday to reconcile their readings with those taken overseas. The quake was reported locally at 6.6 magnitude before reports from the U.S. listed it at 7.8 magnitude and as high as 8.2. "We've had big differences in the measurements of the quake, ranging from 6.6 by GNS Science, to 8.2 by a tsunami warning center in Hawaii. We're issuing a precautionary message," Vince Cholewa, an emergency management spokesman in Wellington, told the domestic news agency NZPA. Scientists in New Zealand reported aftershocks, the first of 6.1 magnitude occurring 19 minutes after the main temblor. New Zealand sits above an area of the Earth's crust where the Pacific and Australian tectonic plates collide and records more than 14,000 earthquakes a year, though only about 150 are felt by residents.

# Body in pickup truck is missing Texas woman

SHREVEPORT, La. (AP) — A body found in a pickup truck in southern Caddo Parish has been identified as that of a Tyler, Texas, woman, according to Shreveport police. Sixty-nine-year-old Annette Newsom was reported missing Thursday. Police said residents walking in woods in southern Caddo found the Ford truck about 9 p.m. Monday. Shreveport police Cpl. Bill Goodin says foul play is not suspected in the woman's death. An investigation was under way.

# SUMMER FUN



Parker Termin bites into a water balloon at Pat Mayse Lake Tuesday, July 14, 2009 before a water balloon fight lake side while trying to beat the triple digit Texas heat. (AP Photo / Sam Craft, The Paris News)

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# Paws up: All-pet airline hits skies

NEW YORK (AP) — One trip for their Jack Russell terrier in a plane's cargo hold was enough to convince Alysa Binder and Dan Wiesel that owners needed a better option to get their pets from one city to another.

On Tuesday, the first flight for the husband-and-wife team's Pet Airways, the first-ever all-pet airline, took off from Republic Airport in Farmingdale, N.Y.

All commercial airlines allow a limited number of small pets to fly in the cabin. Others must travel as checked bags or in the cargo hold — a dark

and sometimes dangerous place where temperatures can vary wildly.

Binder and Wiesel used their consulting backgrounds and business savvy to start Pet Airways in 2005. The last four years have been spent designing their fleet of five planes according to new four-legged requirements, dealing with FAA regulations and setting up airport schedules.

The two say they're overwhelmed with the response. Flights on Pet Airways are already booked up for the next two months.

Pet Airways will fly a pet between five major cities

— New York, Washington, Chicago, Denver, and Los Angeles. The \$250 one-way fare is comparable to pet fees at the largest U.S. airlines.

For owners the big difference is service. Dogs and cats will fly in the main cabin of a Suburban Air Freight plane, retooled and lined with carriers in place of seats. Pets (about 50 on each flight) will be escorted to the plane by attendants that will check on the animals every 15 minutes during flight. The pets are also given pre-boarding walks and bathroom breaks. And at each of the five airports it

serves, the company has created a "Pet Lounge" for future fliers to wait and sniff before flights.

The company will operate out of smaller, regional airports in the five launch cities, which will mean an extra trip for most owners dropping off their pets if they are flying too. Stops in cities along the way means the pets will take longer to reach a destination than their owners.

A trip from New York to Los Angeles, for example, will take about 24 hours. On that route, pets will stop in Chicago, have a bathroom break, play time, dinner, and bunk for the

night before finishing the trip the next day.

Amanda Hickey of Portland, Ore. is one of the new airline's first customers. Her seven-year-old terrier-pinscher mix Mardi and 2-year-old puggle Penny are taking their first flight soon.

Hickey said the service was a welcome alternative to flying her dogs in cargo when she transplants them from her soon-to-be Denver home to Chicago to stay while she and her fiancé travel to Aruba to get married.

"For a little bit more money, I have peace of mind," she said.

The company, which will begin with one flight in each of its five cities, is looking to add more flights and cities soon. In the next three years, Binder hopes to fly to 25 locations.

Among the big U.S. carriers that offer pet services, AirTran, Spirit, Southwest and JetBlue only allow pets to fly in the cabin. Most U.S. airlines charge between \$100 and \$125, but Delta and Northwest charge \$150 for cabin trips. AirTran is the cheapest among big carriers at \$69.

The charge is more to fly in the cargo or check-baggage holds.

## MASONS' OFFICERS



Top of Texas Masonic Lodge held its installation of officers July 11 at Masonic Lodge #1381. Left to right, front row, Ray Free, Tiler, Larry Lambright, Chaplin, Tom Ray Worshipful Master, Allen Chronister, Jr. Warden. Back row; Ty Stubblefield, Secretary, Randy Stubblefield, Sr. Deacon, Wyeth Osborne, Treasurer, Not pictured, Keven Romines Sr. Warden.

## ALTRUSA AWARD



Annette Chase, Altrusan, presents Catherine Galvan the Geraldine Rampy Vocational Award in the amount of \$1000. Galvan is a student at Clarendon College - Pampa Center.

## Texas asks feds for rail money

(AP) — Texas wants \$1.7 billion from the federal government to help develop high-speed rail service between its major cities.

The Dallas Morning News reports state transportation officials submitted a preliminary grant application to the Federal Railway Administration. The agency is developing guidelines and awarding grants for developing high-speed rail service nationwide. Grants are to be awarded later this year.

Texas hopes to use the \$1.7 billion to eventually link Dallas, Austin, San Antonio and Houston with trains traveling at speeds exceeding 200 mph. The state also wants \$200 million for less ambitious projects.

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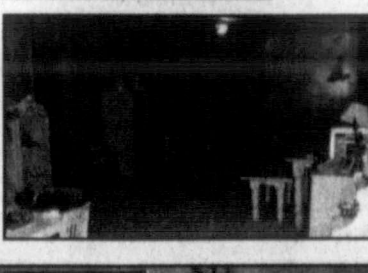
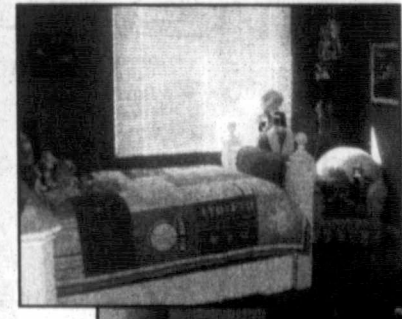
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- 2 Large Living Areas
- Dining Room
- Finished Basement with Large Storage Room
- 2 Car Garage with Large Boat Storage Area with Separate Entry
- Oversized Backyard with Storage Building
- Large Front Yard



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# Comics

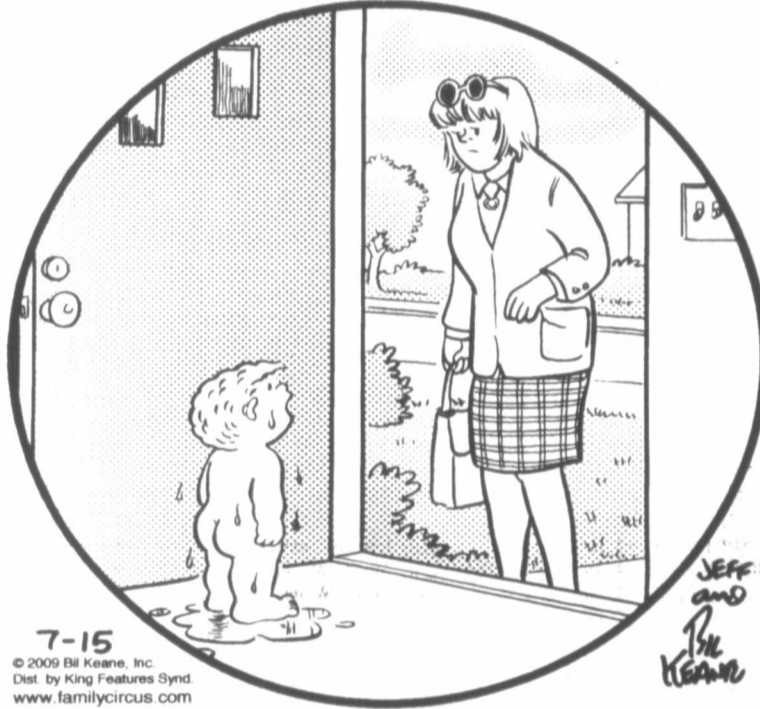
Marmaduke



"Uh-oh! Here comes another splashdown in the Hudson."

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



"My mommy's givin' me a bath, so maybe you can come back later?"

## Daily Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 41 Waiting

1 Get ready, aid

5 Deep cut

9 Slow

11 Javelin

12 Jingle

13 Fury

14 Clock

15 Trig

17 Stein's

19 Singer

20 Bounded

21 Clinic

22 Alpine

24 Prohibit

26 Spills the

29 Glimpse

30 Danced

32 Beach

34 Lennon's

35 Whale's

36 Nomad

38 Nullifies

39 Tiny dot

40 Finishes

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

### Yesterday's answer

16	C	r	a	f	t	s	m	a	n
27	S	c	r	i	n	i	z	e	
18	M	a	d	e	l	i	n	e	
28	N	e	w	Y	o	r	k		
29	K	i	t	c	h	e	n		
21	B	e	l						
30	S	a	r	d	i	n	e		
23	S	o	m	e					
31	C	l	e	u	s	s			
24	S	a	i	l	i	n	g		
33	Y	o	u	n	g				
25	V	i	r	g	i	l			
37	B	e							

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9			10		11		
12					13		
14			15	16			
17		18				19	
20							21
22				23			
24	25		26		27	28	
29			30				31
32		33				34	
35				36	37		
38					39		
40						41	

## For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



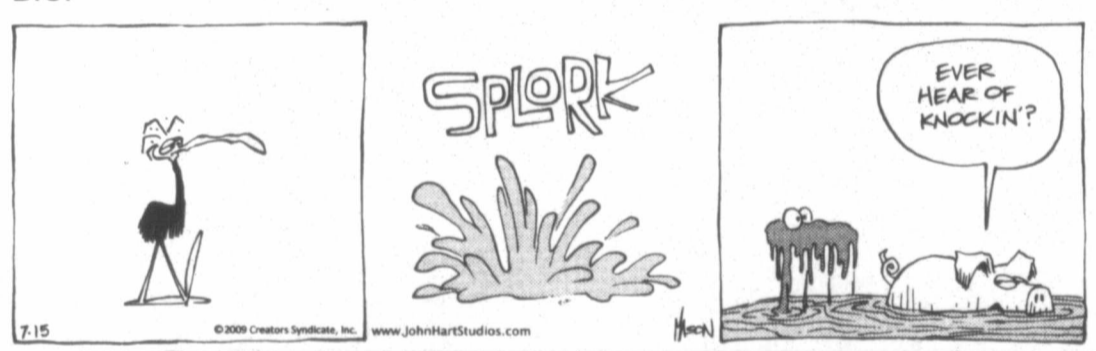
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



## Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends

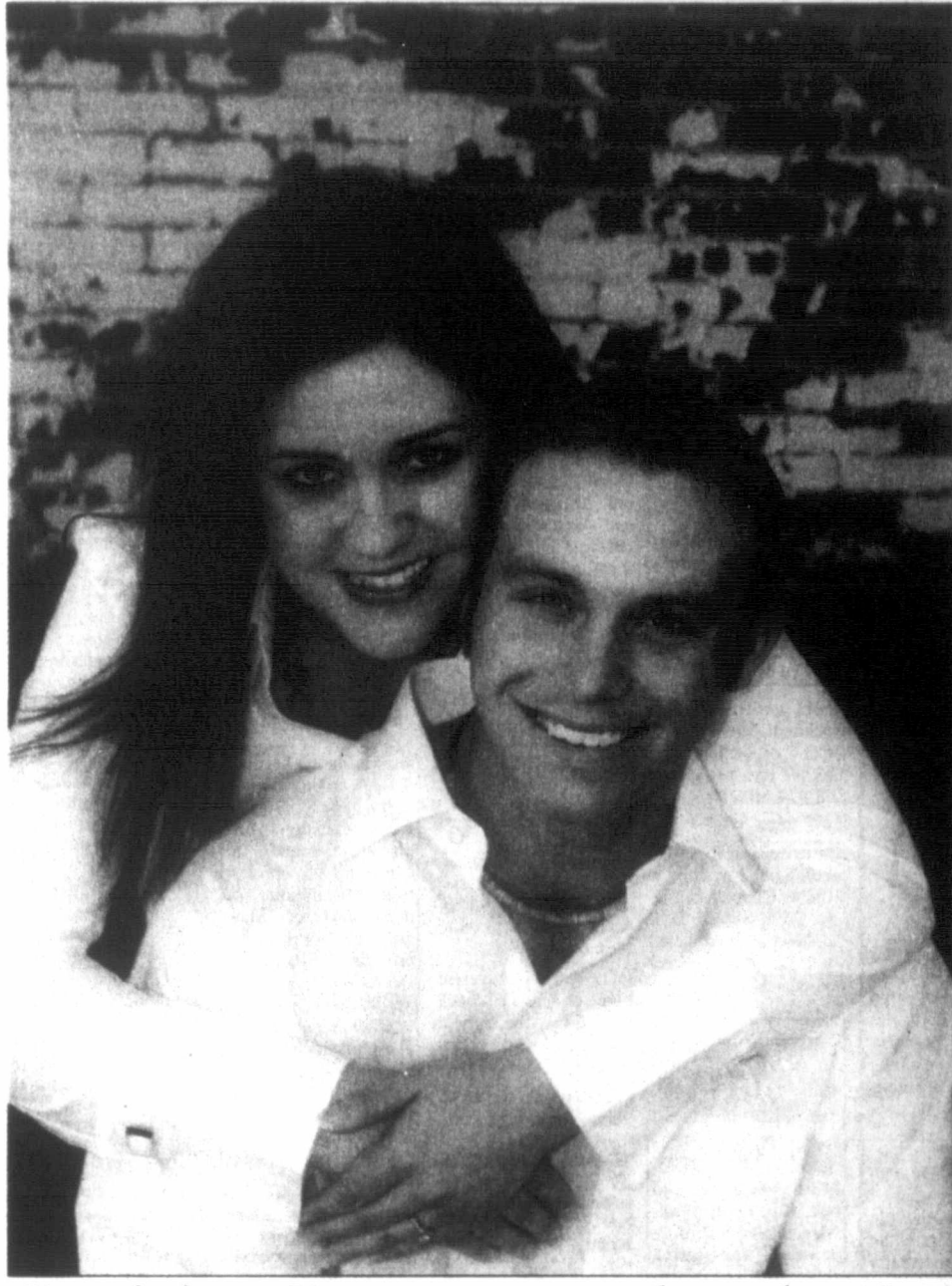


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# Around town



## Smith, Cox to wed July 25

Mike and Jenny Smith of Borger are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Becky Smith to Justin Cox of Amarillo. Justin's parents are LeRoy and Barbara Cox, of Pampa. The wedding will be held Saturday, July 25, at St. Joseph's in Amarillo.

E-mail your engagement or wedding information and photos to [editor@thepampanews.com](mailto:editor@thepampanews.com).

## Fatheree, Weathersby engagement announced

Tim and Sue Fatheree of Pampa announce the engagement of their daughter, Rebecca Ann to Scott Edwin Weathersby.

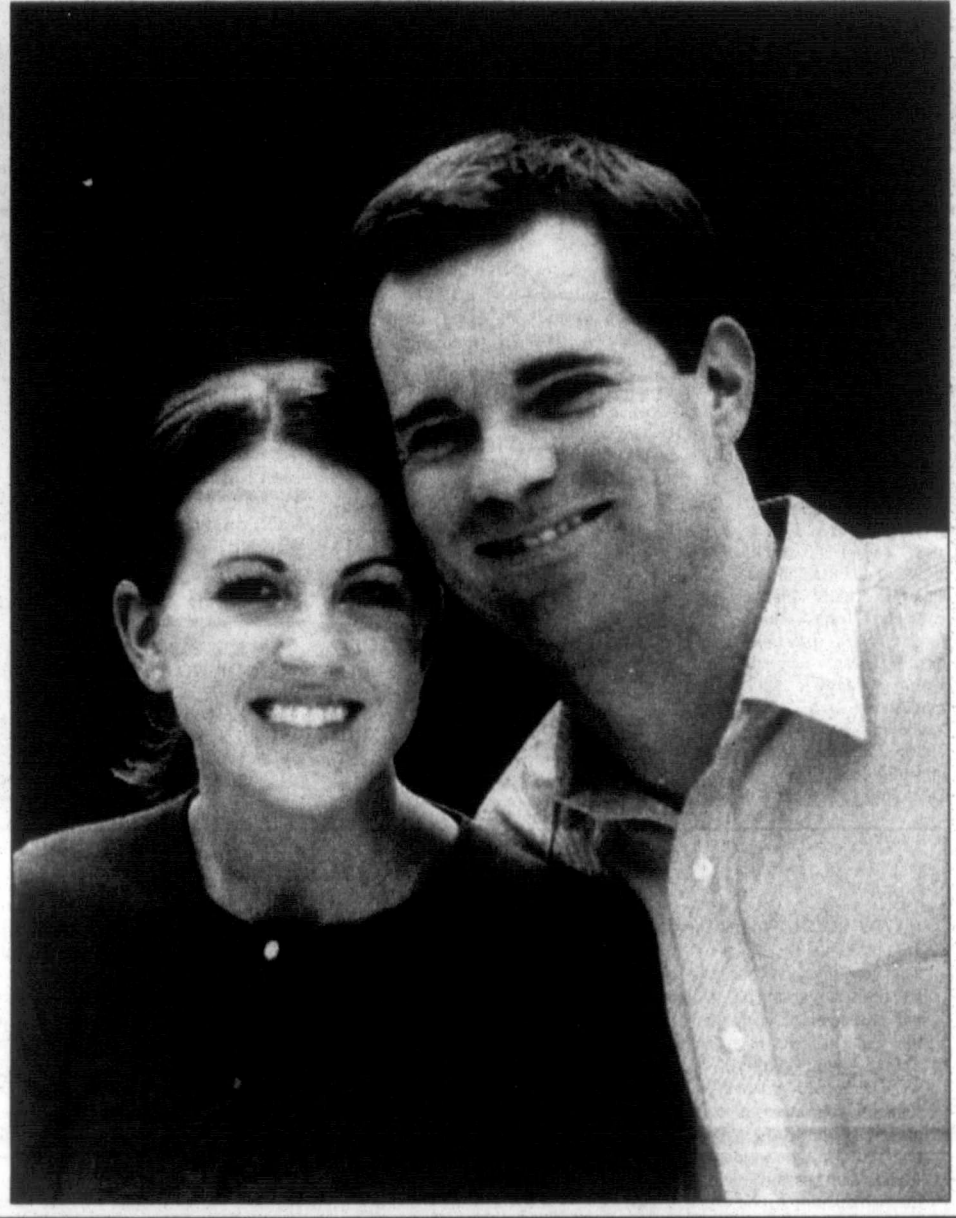
Scott is the son of Bill and Margaret Weathersby of Plano.

The couple plan to be wed August 22 at First Presbyterian Church in Canadian.

The bride-elect is a 2006 graduate from Texas A&M University in College Station with a bachelor of science in Bio-Environmental Science. She was a mem-

ber of Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority and is currently a physical therapy student at the University of Colorado Health Science Center in Denver.

The prospective groom is a 2000 graduate from Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama with a bachelor of science in Biology. He was a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity and is currently employed by Canon in Denver.



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1995 Lincoln Towncar		\$500 dwn	\$185 pm
1998 Mercury Sable		\$500 dwn	\$235 pm
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1997 Oldsmobile Royale	1 owner	\$500 dwn	\$185 pm
1998 Toyota Carolla		\$500 dwn	\$140 pm

