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The PAMPA NEWS

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TODAY IN SPORTS

Eye catcher?
PHS QB Miller hopes to impress NCAA coaches

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2011 Burnin' the Bricks set for Saturday

RANDY PRIBBLE
rpribble@thepampanews.com

Thousands of people will brave the hot weather this weekend to see some hot cars on display and in action at Pampa's Recreation Park.

Burnin' the Bricks, an annual event hosted by the High Plains Cruisers auto club, is set for Saturday. There are entry fees for those who wanted to show cars, but there is no entry fee for spectators.

"We have been doing this for

eight years now," said Randy Stubblefield, the chairman for the event and a member of the High Plains Cruisers. "The car show has from 125 to 140 entries. We have some nice cars. We have one car that came in all the way from Wisconsin. We have them from Oklahoma, New Mexico, Kansas, Colorado, and of course, Texas.

"One year, we had a 1958 Corvette that had been bought at auction for \$225,000. We have some really classic, high dollar cars that show up for this."

A concession stand with food and drinks will be provided on site by the Boy Scouts.

"There is a man from Sunray who brings out an old John Deere power engine, a little one-cylinder engine hooked up to a huge ice-cream machine," Stubblefield said. "He makes ice cream and sells it out there. That is quite a sight just to see that."

Registration for the events will be held from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. The burnout event is set for 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. From 6 p.m. to

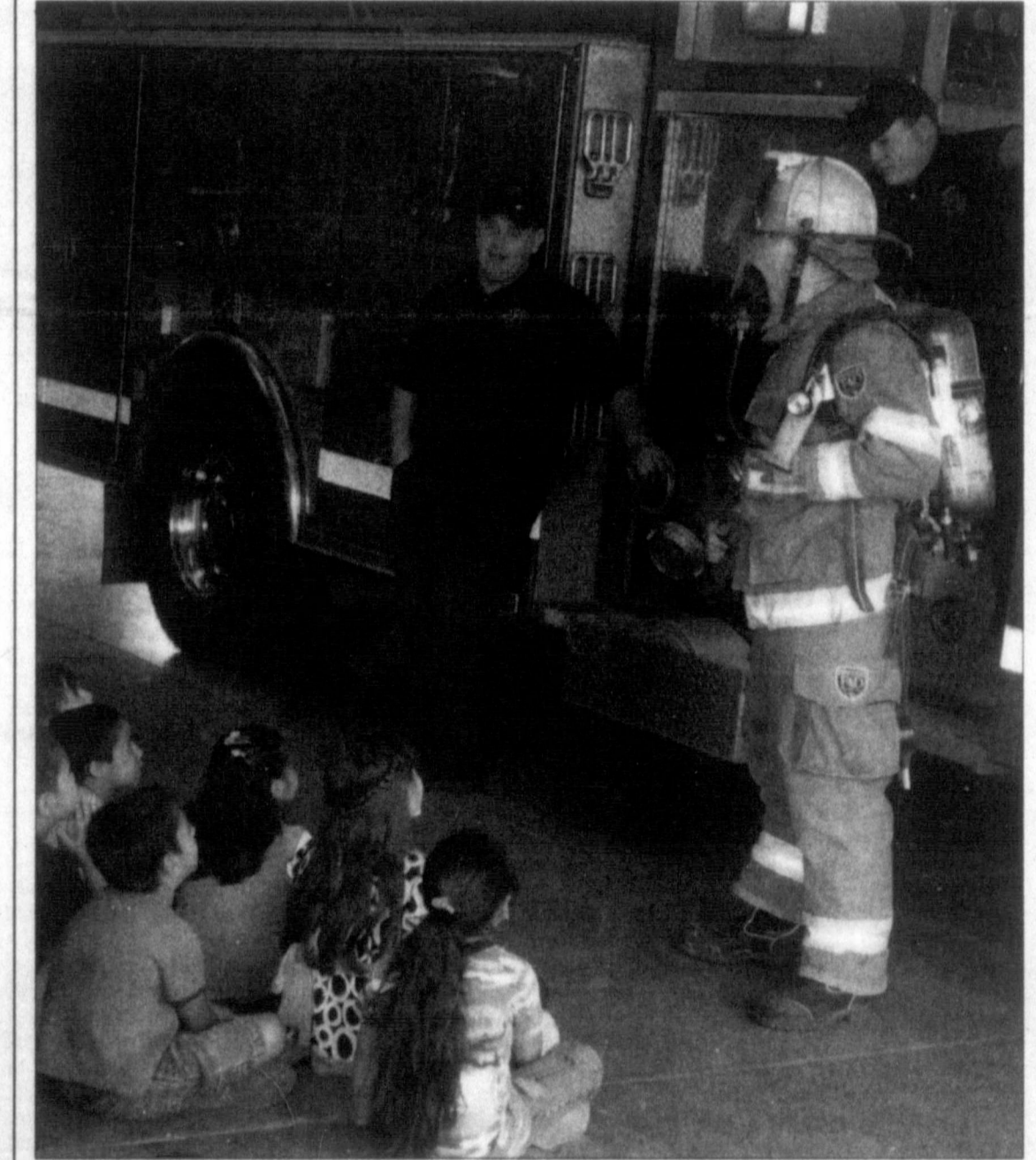
BRICKS cont. on page 7

2011 Burnin' the Bricks
hosted by the High Plains Cruisers

Schedule

8 a.m.-10 a.m. - Registration
11 a.m.-2 p.m. - Burnout
3 p.m. - Awards ceremony for the Car Show and the Burnout
6 p.m.-8:30 p.m. - Car cruise (downtown Pampa)

A LESSON IN SAFETY



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Pampa firefighters Andy Schroeder (from left), Jon Johnson and Casey Presson speak to a group of kids on a field trip from the English Language Learning bilingual class at the Pampa Fire House. Sixty-two kids attended the field trip.

Disaster declared in Gray County

ARNIE AURELLANO
editor@thepampanews.com

Judge Richard Peet on Wednesday declared a local state of disaster within Gray County based on the ongoing threat of large wildfires in the area.

The declaration includes an order prohibiting the sale or use of all fireworks within the county. The ban, according to the text of the official proclamation, is effective for 60 hours from the time of its signing (given as 11:10 a.m. on Wednesday), but according to Sandi Martin, court coordinator for Judge Peet's office, an extension until July 5 has been requested and is awaiting reply from the office of Gov. Rick Perry.

The state of disaster expires seven days after issuance, but can be renewed or continued with consent from the Commissioner's Court.

Martin said that the fireworks ban was a difficult decision given the long-standing tradition of fireworks during the upcoming Fourth of July weekend, but added that the safety of the people and property in Gray County is the first priority.

"We've had .73 inches of rain from January through the end of May," Martin said. "That's just incredibly dry. Our standard rain for that same time period would be seven inches."

"You can look at the ground out in the county and it's extremely, extremely dry. The conditions are worse this year than they were in

DISASTER cont. on page 7

Local workgroup sets priorities for EQIP program

THE PAMPA NEWS

The Gray County Local Work Group (LWG) meeting for the 2012 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) in Gray County recently met at the Gray County Annex Building and gathered feedback on the uses of 2012 EQIP funding, according to District Conservationist John Wimberley of the USDA National Resources Conservation Service.

"The purpose of the LWG meeting was to give local landowners, operators, and

other stakeholders in the county the opportunity to provide input about the priority of land uses and natural resource concerns to be addressed with 2012 EQIP funding," Wimberley said.

Those present for the meeting, sponsored by the Gray County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD), included local landowners and operators, as well as representatives from state and federal agencies including the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Gray County SWCD.

This year's meeting was held earlier than normal so that local input could be available to the State Technical Committee, which sets state ranking and policy decisions for each year's USDA conservation programs administered by NRCS in Texas. The State Technical Committee members represent over 70 state and federal concerns, including the Texas Cattle Feeders Association, Ducks Unlimited, the Texas Wheat Producers Association and the Environmental Protection Agency.

EQIP cont. on page 7

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PAMPA FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
High 86 Low 61	High 95 Low 66 20%	High 97 Low 68

Tonight: Clear, with a low around 60. Breezy, with a south southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 86. Windy, with a north northwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Increasing clouds, with a low around 61. Breezy, with a east northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 95. Breezy, with a southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 66. Windy, with a south wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Sunday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 97. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 20 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 68. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 20 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph.

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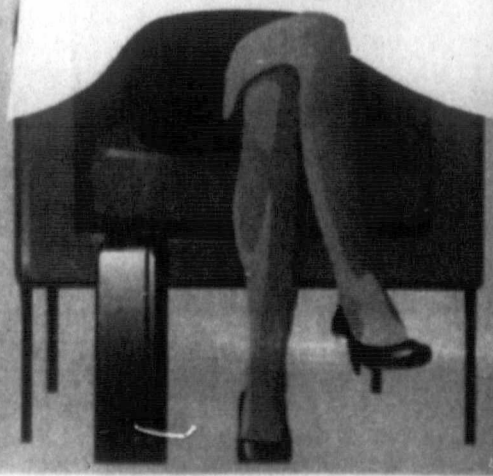
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Groups challenge Shell drilling plan

ATLANTA (AP) — Environmental groups asked a federal appeals court Thursday to throw out a U.S. government decision to approve a Shell oil exploration plan that involves five proposed wells under more than 7,000 feet of water in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Regulation and Enforcement approved the plan in May. The plan also includes three previously approved wells 72 miles off Louisiana.

Defenders of Wildlife, the Center for Biological Diversity and the Natural Resources Defense Council claim in a petition filed in the 11th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals in Atlanta that the decision violates the law and that the environment would be harmed if it stands.

New regulations for deepwater drilling were imposed following last year's deadly rig explosion and Gulf oil spill. The conservation groups argue that

there is no basis to conclude that drilling in waters substantially deeper than the BP well that blew out would have no significant impact on the environment. BP's well that blew out was in 5,000 feet of water. Engineering experts and some industry observers have argued that more than a year after the disaster oil companies are still not adequately prepared to prevent a deepwater blowout or be able to efficiently deal with one if it were to occur again. The industry says it is prepared and it is eager to get back to business in the Gulf.

A moratorium on deepwater drilling in the Gulf was imposed after the BP oil spill. It was lifted in October, though permits have only started to flow again in recent months. The industry has prodded the government to move faster, while environmental groups have encouraged the government to slow down.

Shell said in a statement that the petition "fails to take into account the comprehensive nature of the approved exploration plan." The company said the plan reflects numerous improvements to enhance safety and to protect the environment. Shell said it would assist the government in defending the approval. A spokeswoman for the offshore drilling agency declined to comment on the petition.

Approval of an exploration plan is not an approval to drill. A drilling permit must be issued for that. The government has not yet issued a permit for the project the environmental groups are objecting to.

Separately, the government approved in March a Shell exploration plan involving a project 130 miles off Louisiana, south of Lafayette. The offshore drilling agency later approved a permit to drill a new well in 2,721 feet of water.

For the record

Cont. from Weds.

Police Department

A theft was reported in the 400 block of Graham. Police officers presented a program.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 200 block of North Sumner.

City officials shut off the water at Rham and Nelson.

Officers performed a welfare check in the 900 block of South Wells.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 600 block of East Craven.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1200 block of South Nelson.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 900 block of South Wells.

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

A suspicious vehicle was reported at Hobart and Alcock.

An assault was reported in the 100 block of West 30th.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 100 block of Village Drive.

Officers assisted a motorist at U.S. Highway 60 and Texas Highway 70.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 2200 block of North Williston.

An alarm was reported in the 600 block of East Frederic.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 200 block of South Tignor.

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents over the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. Tuesday.

There were 27 traffic-related incidents and two accidents.

Animal control officers reported nine animal-related incidents.

Pampa EMS responded to five ambulance calls.

The Pampa Fire Department reported two medical-related incidents.

Lefors VFD and Lefors VEMS each reported one medical-related incident.

Monday, June 6

Abandoned vehicles were reported in the 500 block of N. Powell, the 400 block of Short, the 1000 block of W. Wells and the 1300 block of Hamilton.

A welfare check was reported in the 1900 block of N. Hamilton.

A welfare check was reported in the 1900 block of N. Christy.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1900 block of N. Sumner.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 200 block of N. Faulkner.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of Sierra Dr.

Fraud was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill.

A suspicious person was reported at 60 and Wells.

Fraud was reported in the 1100 block of N. Christine.

Theft was reported in the 400 block of S. Pitts.

A welfare check was reported in the 500 block of

N. Roberta. An attempt to serve was reported in the 900 block of S. Wells.

An assault was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill.

Water was shut off at Kentucky and Sumner.

Theft was reported in the 400 block of Graham.

Officers completed a program presentation at the annex building.

An attempt to serve was reported in the 400 block of N. Russell.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 200 block of N. Sumner.

Water was shut off at Rham and Nelson.

An attempt to serve was reported in the 400 block of N. Russell.

A welfare check was reported in the 900 block of S. Wells.

A sewer choke was reported in the 2400 block of Fir.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 600 block of E. Craven.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1200 block of S. Nelson.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 900 block of S. Wells.

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

Tuesday, June 7
 A suspicious person was reported in the 200 block of E. Kingsmill.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at Hobart and Alcock.

...

An assault was reported in the 100 block of W. 30th.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 100 block of Village Dr.

A motorist assist was reported at 60 and 70.

A follow-up investigation was reported in the 300 block of N. Christy.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 2200 block of N. Williston.

An alarm was reported in the 600 block of E. Frederic.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 800 block of N. Nelson.

...

The Pampa Police Department reported the following calls over the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. today.

There were 17 traffic-related incidents.

Animal control officers reported 13 animal-related incidents.

Pampa EMS responded to two ambulance calls.

The Pampa Fire Department reported one medical-related incident and one investigation.

The Lefors VFD reported one incident.

Wednesday, June 8
 A theft was reported in the 1500 block of W. Kentucky.

An abandoned vehicle was reported in the 1900 block of N. Hobart.

An agency assist was reported in the 1100 block of W. Sierra Dr.

Found property was reported in the 2500 block of Perryton Pkwy.

Theft was reported in the

600 block of N. Sumner. A follow-up investigation was reported in the 700 block of N. Ballard.

Theft was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill.

A welfare check was reported in the 1400 block of Russell.

Theft was reported in the 900 block of Gray.

A welfare check was reported in the 1100 block of N. Terrace.

An offense against family and children was reported in the 500 block of N. Frost.

Theft was reported in the 1800 block of N. Banks.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of N. Nelson.

Fraud was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill.

A follow-up investigation was reported in the 1100 block of S. Wells.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of W. Sierra Dr.

A welfare check was reported in the 1100 block of N. Terrace.

A motorist assist was reported at Hobart and Kentucky.

A fingerprinting was conducted in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill.

Found property was reported in the 900 block of N. Gray.

A violation of city ordinance was reported in the 2100 block of N. Williston.

A stolen vehicle was reported in the 1000 block of S. Somerville.

An offense against family and children was reported in the 200 block of W. Craven.

A follow-up investigation was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 1300 block of Garland.

A follow-up investigation was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill.

An alarm was reported in the 1200 block of N. Faulkner.

A burglary was reported in the 1000 block of N. Wells.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 2200 block of Williston.

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

Thursday, June 9
 A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 1600 block of E. Hwy. 60.

A follow-up investigation was reported in the 1100 block of S. Wells.

A follow-up investigation was reported in the 1200 block of E. Foster.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 500 block of N. Nelson.

A follow-up investigation was reported in the 600 block of N. Nelson.

A prowler was reported in the 500 block of N. Nelson.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. Tuesday.

Monday, June 6
 Tommy Lynn Ray, 57, was arrested by deputies

on a warrant charging him with harassment.

Angie Marie Galaviz, 19, was arrested by police on charges of possession of marijuana, less than two ounces, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Jana Marie Williams, 20, was arrested by deputies on capias pro fine warrants charging her with failure to appear, failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to yield right of way.

Snaron Bresee, 44, was arrested by deputies on charges of interfering with a public official.

Delbert Wayne Gifford, 42, was arrested by deputies on charges of possession of a controlled substance, less than one gram, and warrants charging him with driving without a valid driver's license and failure to appear.

Ruby Louise Martinez, 57, was arrested by police on a warrant from another county charging her with felony forgery.

Tuesday, June 7
 Misty Humphrey Lee, 35, of Amarillo, was arrested by deputies on a bond surrender on charges of theft of property and on warrants charging her with theft of property less than \$1,500.

Ryan Mychal Davis, 25, was arrested by police on charges of assault causing bodily injury and evading arrest.

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests over the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. Wednesday.

Tuesday, June 7
 William Davebrent Thomas, 38, was arrested by police on charges of public intoxication.

Tony Deleon, 43, of Lefors, was arrested by police on charges of theft of a firearm, unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, and assault causing bodily injury.

Bobby Lynn Swanson, 44, of Skellytown, was arrested by deputies on violation of parole in connection with charges of possession of a prohibited weapon.

Forrest Britt, 49, was arrested by police on charges of criminal trespass.

Michael Chance Crain, 26, was arrested by deputies in connection with possession of marijuana.

Wednesday, June 8
 Michael Eugene Horton, 50, was arrested by police on five capias pro fine warrants.

...

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. today.

Wednesday, June 8
 Jodi Lee Dunham, 36, of Clarendon, was arrested by deputies for violation of parole in connection with charges of possession of marijuana.

Jonathan David Wilson, 29, of Lefors, was arrested by the Lefors Marshall on charges of assault on a family member with a previous conviction.

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AFTERNOONRUSH Texas House approves Medicaid changes

Willie's marijuana fine: \$787

SIERRA BLANCA (AP) - Country legend and avowed marijuana aficionado Willie Nelson will be fined \$787 by a West Texas court for marijuana possession charges.

Hudspeth County Attorney Kit Bramblett told The Associated Press on Wednesday that the 78-year-old Nelson can send the \$500 fine and \$287 court costs by mail.

In March, Bramblett had suggested that County Judge Becky Dean-Walker had ordered Nelson to perform "Blue Eyes Crying in the Rain" in court. At the time, Dean-walker said Bramblett's suggestion was a "joke that got out of hand."

On Wednesday, Bramblett confirmed that "he's not coming, he's not singing."

Nelson was arrested Nov. 26 at a Border Patrol checkpoint when an agent searched his tour bus because of a suspicious aroma coming from the vehicle. He was later released on bail.

Railroads deny price-fixing

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) - Union Pacific and Burlington Northern Santa Fe are defending their pricing practices after Oxbow Mining filed a federal lawsuit against the freight railroads.

Oxbow said in the lawsuit filed Tuesday that the railroads conspired to raise prices and worked to avoid direct competition with each other to keep rates high. Oxbow Chairman Bill Koch says the western railroads have been gouging customers.

UP spokesman Tom Lange said Wednesday the Omaha-based railroad denies the allegations and says the lawsuit includes several factual errors.

Lange says Oxbow has been threatening to file a lawsuit if UP didn't agree to significant concessions.

BNSF spokesman Steve Forsberg wouldn't comment on the lawsuit itself Tuesday, but he defended the Fort Worth, Texas, railroad's business practices and said BNSF has not conspired to violate any law.

Medical contact limits upheld

AUSTIN (AP) - A federal appeals court has upheld a Texas law barring medical professionals from contacting accident victims within 30 days of an accident.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Wednesday overturned a ruling by U.S. District Judge Lee Yeakel of Austin that struck down the law as an unconstitutional infringement on free speech.

Lawmakers approved the law in the 2009 session, aiming to protect accident victims from unethical solicitations by so-called "ambulance chasers." The law prohibited telephone and in-person solicitation of victims within a month of an accident.

In its ruling, the New Orleans-based appeals court said that protecting accident victims' privacy is a legitimate state interest backed by a long line of Supreme Court precedents. It also ruled that soliciting victims immediately produces stress and "real harm."

NM counties declared disasters

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) - The U.S. Department of Agriculture has designated 15 counties in New Mexico as natural disaster areas, making them eligible for federal assistance to deal with drought, high winds and wildfires.

The counties under the declaration are Chaves, Catron, Curry, DeBaca, Doha Ana, Eddy, Grant, Hidalgo, Lea, Luna, Otero, Quay, Roosevelt, Sierra, and Socorro. The counties of Cibola, Guadalupe, Harding, Lincoln, San Miguel, Torrance, Union and Valencia are also eligible for assistance due to their proximity to the other counties.

The USDA also approved an emergency application that allows ranchers to graze their livestock on federal lands in DeBaca County. Already approved for special grazing due to drought are Harding, Lea, Quay, Roosevelt and Union, and Curry counties.

'Kill or be killed,' woman says

PONDER (AP) - She says he made her do it, threatened her if she didn't - so she killed him.

Deputies say they're investigating the fatal shooting of 28-year-old Wendell Dean McDonald by his estranged wife.

The attack happened about 10 a.m. Wednesday at the home of the 29-year-old woman's parents in Ponder. Denton County sheriff's Lt. Rick Clark says the woman told deputies she had just returned from taking her children to an activity when she found McDonald waiting for her.

He says McDonald forced the woman into her parents' house, threatened her with her parents' gun, attacked her, then told her to shoot him or he'd shoot her.

Clark says the woman's in custody on an outstanding warrant but hasn't been charged in the shooting.

Ponder's 40 miles northwest of Dallas.

Agents seize 57 bundles of pot

ABRAM (AP) - Authorities have seized more than 1,200 pounds of marijuana packed in 57 plastic bundles from a pickup truck abandoned on the Rio Grande.

U.S. Border Patrol agents spotted a black pickup near the border fence Wednesday in Abram, Texas, about 250 miles south of San Antonio. Two Texas Department of Public Safety helicopters moved in, and the driver sped back to the river marking the U.S.-Mexico border.

There, about 20 people were waiting with rubber rafts. Border Patrol agents said the group planned to take its haul back across the river before it could be seized. But the driver only had time to steer his truck partially into the river.

The driver and those on the bank then escaped back to Mexico.

CHRIS TOMLINSON
Associated Press

AUSTIN (AP) - Texas lawmakers passed major changes to Medicaid on Wednesday that would privatize the health program in South Texas and allow the formation of health care cooperatives.

The 142-page measure is part of a special legislative session to pass laws that will balance the state budget. The Legislative Budget Board says it could save the state \$467 million, almost two-thirds of that coming from Medicaid savings. Medicaid is a joint state and federal health insurance program for the poor and disabled.

"It's a big bill and it tries to do a lot of things, it really is transformative," said Rep. John Zerwas, R-Simonton, who authored the bill and is also a doctor.

The bill passed 91-47, largely along party lines with Democrats opposing it. After a final procedural vote, the measure goes back to the Senate for consideration of the small changes made by amendments added Thursday.

Representatives from South Texas expressed concern that allowing private

health care companies to manage the Medicaid program could create problems by cutting reimbursement rates to doctors. That would result in fewer doctors accepting Medicaid patients, and fewer poor people receiving adequate medical care.

Zerwas assured fellow legislators he was confident private managed care would work along the Rio Grande Valley, Texas's largest Medicaid service area. Managed care groups already administer Medicaid in the rest of the state.

"Now that we've had some experience with that, we now feel confident that we can move it out into South Texas," Zerwas said.

Lawmakers are cutting \$27 billion worth of state services in order to balance the budget. The Legislative Budget Board says the Medicaid portion of the budget that was passed during the regular session is \$4.8 billion short of expected case growth, and supporters of this bill said they hope it will save more money.

The bill establishes the Texas Institute of Health Care Quality and Efficiency, which would

seek to identify and encourage innovative health care programs that save money. The institute would supervise the implementation of the bill and report back to the Legislature.

"When has the government made anything more efficient?" asked Rep. David Simpson, R-Longview, asked about the new institute, in opposition to the bill.

The biggest change would be the establishment of state-sanctioned health care collaboratives, which allow hospitals, doctors and insurers to work together to lower costs. Critics worry that such organizations would violate anti-trust laws, but the bill requires the attorney general to first determine that the new group would not affect the health market in that community.

Simpson urged lawmakers to vote against the bill because of the immunities the bill would give health care collaboratives against anti-trust laws.

The measure also abolishes the State Kids Insurance Program and moves those children into the Child's Health Insurance Program. The state would also require Medicaid patients to make co-payments.

In order to lower costs, the bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to develop and evaluate doctor incentive programs designed to keep non-urgent cases out of the emergency room. The bill would also allow public hospitals that treat legal immigrants to demand repayment for health services from that person's sponsor, if they have one.

The state would also create the Medicaid and CHIP Quality-Based Payment Advisory Committee to develop ways to pay doctors based on the patient's outcome rather than payment per procedure. The state would develop incentive programs for doctors, hospitals and nursing homes.

The measure also prioritizes where state family planning funds would go, a subject of intense debate during the regular session as conservatives attempted to cut off all support to groups associated with Planned Parenthood. The money would first go to public entities, then private entities that offer other primary care services and finally to private entities that offer family planning services alone.

Arizona towns empty as wildfire approaches

SPRINGERVILLE, Ariz. (AP) - Fire crews worked through the night to protect several Arizona mountain communities from a growing forest fire that has forced thousands from their homes and threatens transmission lines that supply electricity as far east as Texas.

The 607-square-mile blaze, the second largest ever in Arizona, is expected to reach the power lines as early as Friday. If the lines are damaged, hundreds of thousands in parts of New Mexico and Texas could face rolling blackouts.

Meanwhile, crews were hopeful that they could slow the fire today if weather predictions hold true. After a few days of driving winds, there was no high-wind warning issued.

However, fire officials spoke guardedly late Wednesday as they faced the 12th day of the fire fight.

"Don't get complacent just because we don't have a red flag warning. Ten to 15 mph winds are good winds to drive fire, especially through grass, so we're going to have to be very careful," fire information officer Jim Whittington said at a late night briefing Wednesday at a rest stop on the edge of Springerville.

Residents remaining in Springerville and the neighboring community of Eagar were evacuated Wednesday as a spot fire popped up on the northwestern edge of the Wallow Fire.

Apache County sheriff's deputies and other law enforcement officers went house-to-house in Springerville looking for any remaining residents.

About 7,000 people live in Springerville, Eagar and surrounding areas, although many already had left before the sheriff ordered the full evacuation.

The blaze has blackened about 389,000 acres and destroyed 11 buildings, primarily in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. No serious injuries have been reported.

Whittington said the fire did grow Wednesday, but an updated acreage figure wouldn't be available until today.

Firefighters planned to assess the area at daybreak,

particularly around the mountain resort community of Greer, and would know then whether any additional structures had burned.

Firefighters had spent the past two days trying to create a line where they could defend the towns. They used bulldozers to scrape off vegetation and hand crews to remove other fuels. The line hasn't been breached, but officials were still worried about spot fires.

Crews on the ground had help from more than a dozen helicopters. More

help will be available from the air today, when a 747 super tanker is expected to arrive.

The fire prompted Texas-based El Paso Electric to issue warnings of possible power interruptions for its customers in southern New Mexico and West Texas.

The company uses two high voltage lines to bring electricity from the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station west of Phoenix to the two states. Losing the lines would cut off about 40 percent of the utility's sup-

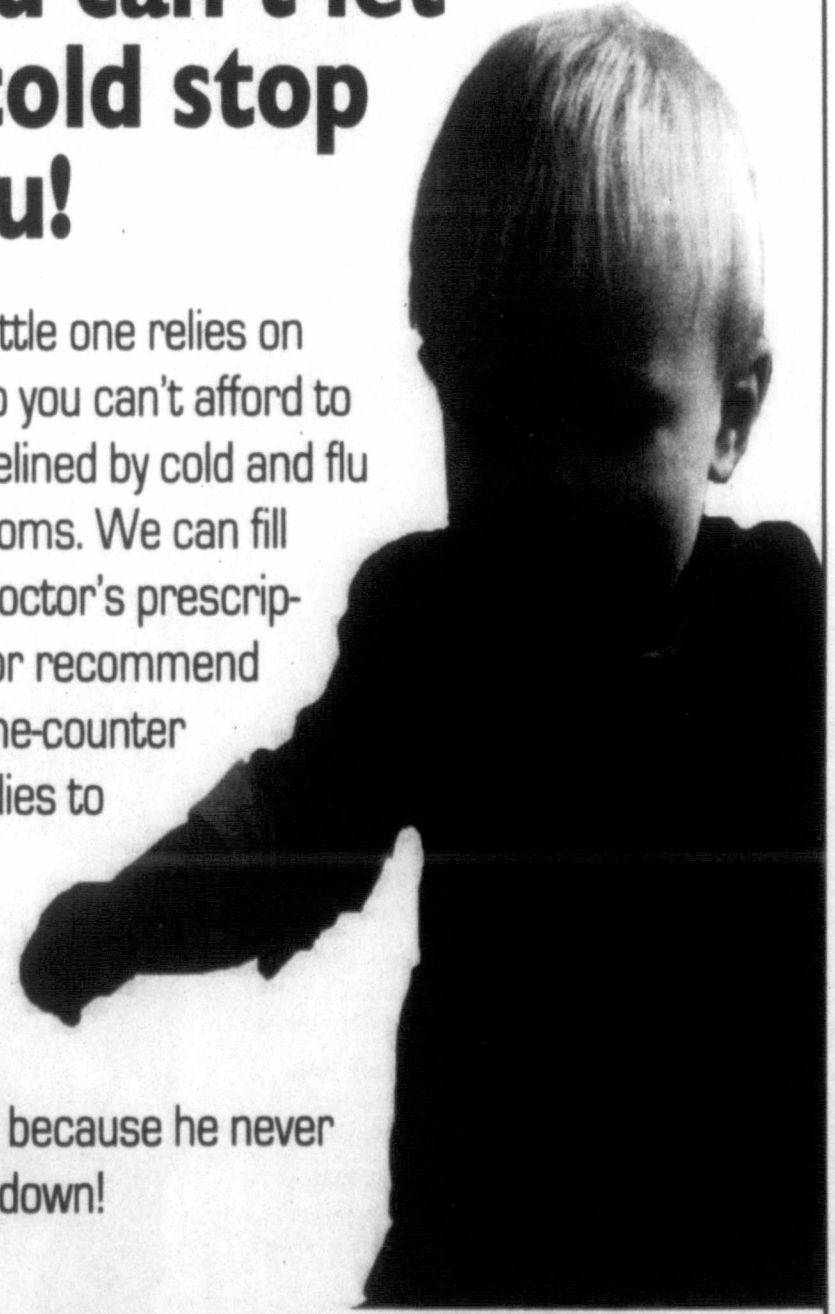
ply, possibly triggering the rolling blackouts among its 372,000 customers.

The blaze, burning in mainly ponderosa pine forest, was sparked May 29 by what authorities believe was an unattended campfire. It became the second-largest in Arizona history on Tuesday.

It has cast smoke as far east as Iowa and forced some planes to divert from Albuquerque, N.M., some 200 miles away.

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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Thursday, June 9, the 160th day of 2011. There are 205 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 9, 1909, Alice Huyler Ramsey, 22, set out from New York in a Maxwell DA on a journey to become the first woman to drive across the United States.

On this date:

In 1940, during World War II, Norway decided to surrender to the Nazis, effective at midnight.

In 1954, during the Senate-Army Hearings, Army special counsel Joseph N. Welch berated Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, asking, "Have you no sense of decency, sir? At long last, have you left no sense of decency?"

In 1969, the Senate confirmed Warren Burger to be the new chief justice of the United States, succeeding Earl Warren.

In 1973, Secretariat became horse racing's first Triple Crown winner in 25 years by winning the Belmont Stakes.

In 1978, leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints struck down a 148-year-old policy of excluding black men from the Mormon priesthood.

In 1985, American educator Thomas Sutherland was kidnapped in Lebanon; he was released in Nov. 1991 along with fellow hostage Terry Waite.

In 1986, the Rogers Commission released its report on the Challenger disaster, criticizing NASA and rocket-builder Morton Thiokol for management problems leading to the explosion that claimed the lives of seven astronauts.

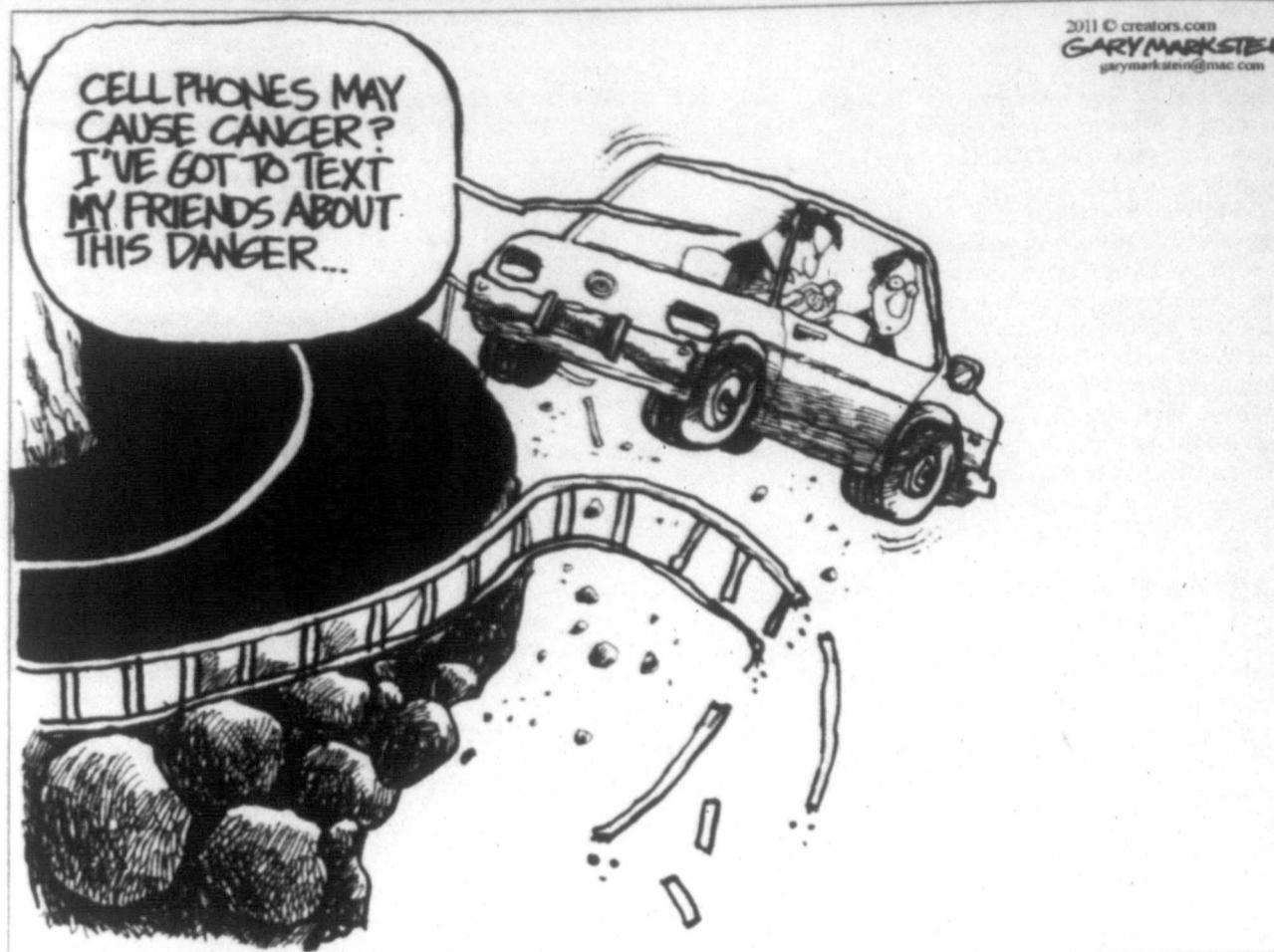
Ten years ago: China and the United States announced an agreement on farm subsidies and other remaining issues blocking Beijing's bid to join the World Trade Organization.

Five years ago: President George W. Bush said the elimination of al-Qaida in Iraq founder Abu Musab al-Zarqawi two days earlier "helps a lot" with security problems in Iraq but wouldn't bring an end to the war.

One year ago: The U.S. and its allies scored a long-sought victory by pushing through new U.N. sanctions over Iran's nuclear program, punishments Tehran dismissed as "annoying flies." The Chicago Blackhawks won their first Stanley Cup in 49 years, as Patrick Kane's overtime goal delivered a 4-3 win over Philadelphia Flyers in Game 6.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Mona Freeman is 85. Media analyst Marvin Kalb is 81. Sports commentator Dick Vitale is 72. Author Letty Cottin Pogrebin is 72. Rock musician Jon Lord is 70. Mystery author Patricia Cornwell is 55. Actor Michael J. Fox is 50. Writer-producer Aaron Sorkin is 50. Actor Johnny Depp is 48. Actress Gloria Reuben is 47. Rock musician Dean Felber (Hootie & the Blowfish) is 44. Rock musician Dean Dinning is 44. Musician Ed Simons is 41. Country musician Shade Deggs (Cole Deggs and the Lonesome) is 37. Bluegrass singer-musician Jamie Dailey (Dailey & Vincent) is 36. Actress Michaela Conlin ("Bones") is 33. Actress Natalie Portman ("Black Swan") is 30. Actress Mae Whitman is 23.

Thought for Today: "You never find yourself until you face the truth." — Pearl Bailey, American singer and actress (1918-1990).



From JFK to Obama: Presidential fashion

Politics may well be the most imitative of all human activities. To this day, there are state legislative candidates campaigning in Massachusetts and pronouncing the word "again" so that it rhymes with "plane."

Why? Because that's the way John Kennedy pronounced it, and he never lost an election. Every president since Ronald Reagan has tried -- and failed -- to be as self-deprecatingly humorous as the Gipper could be. Once, when the animosity between first lady Nancy Regan and White House chief of staff Donald Regan had become widely known, the president was able to break the tension at a press dinner with a quip: "Nancy and Don Regan at one point tried to patch things up. They met privately over lunch. Just the two of them and their food-tasters."

More than just political style, American presidents also can shape and influence popular style. Look at the pictures of U.S. chief executives before 1960, when Kennedy defeated Richard Nixon: On their heads, American presidents all wore hats. True, perhaps because so many American men had spent World War II in uniform where they had been forced to always wear a service cap or a helmet, that custom was beginning to change by the time JFK was sworn in. (You can check the photos of Inaugural Day 1961 and see that, for that formal occasion, Kennedy did in fact bow



MARK SHIELDS

to tradition and wear a silk top hat.)

But from that day forward, it was Hats Off! The young president may not have single-handedly caused the move to American males going bareheaded, but he certainly hastened that change. With the exceptions of their home-state 10-gallon models occasionally sported by Lyndon B. Johnson and George W. Bush, U.S. presidents post-Kennedy swore off homburgs, fedoras and bowlers. Baseball caps don't count. Let it be noted that as we American men paid less attention to our hats, we began to pay more attention -- almost certainly too much -- to our hair.

What John Kennedy did to the American hat industry, President Barack Obama has done to the necktie business. Yes, the casual Friday and the West Coast informality of the high-tech world predated the 2008 election of the Illinois senator. Necktie sales had been falling and presidential candidates had regularly campaigned in sport shirts and casual slacks. But candidate and now President Obama has brought a different sartorial wrinkle out of the presidential closet — the well-tailored

suit with open-collared dress shirt.

If you want to see the Obama fashion fallout, look at the most recent pictures of Republican front-runner, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney. In 1988, Romney ran as and dressed the part of the successful businessman he had been. To be honest, Romney looks both totally at home and very good in a suit and tie. Actually Romney, who seems incapable of sweating and whose shirts do not dare to be wrinkly, would probably look good in a Hefty trash bag.

But Obama in 2008 went tieless in both a sports jacket and a suit, and won big. Now three years later, Mitt Romney, while insisting he still treasures his ties for their color and individuality, dramatically defends his signature public policy achievement and greatest intra-party vulnerability, the Massachusetts health care law he sponsored and signed, while wearing a blazer, slacks and no tie.

It's a good bet that among the 2012 GOP field, neckties will become almost as rare as derbies or calls for tax increases. Because politics really is the most imitative of all human activities.

Shields is a political columnist and author. Since 1988, Shields has led weekly political analysis and commentary for PBS' award-winning PBS NewsHour.

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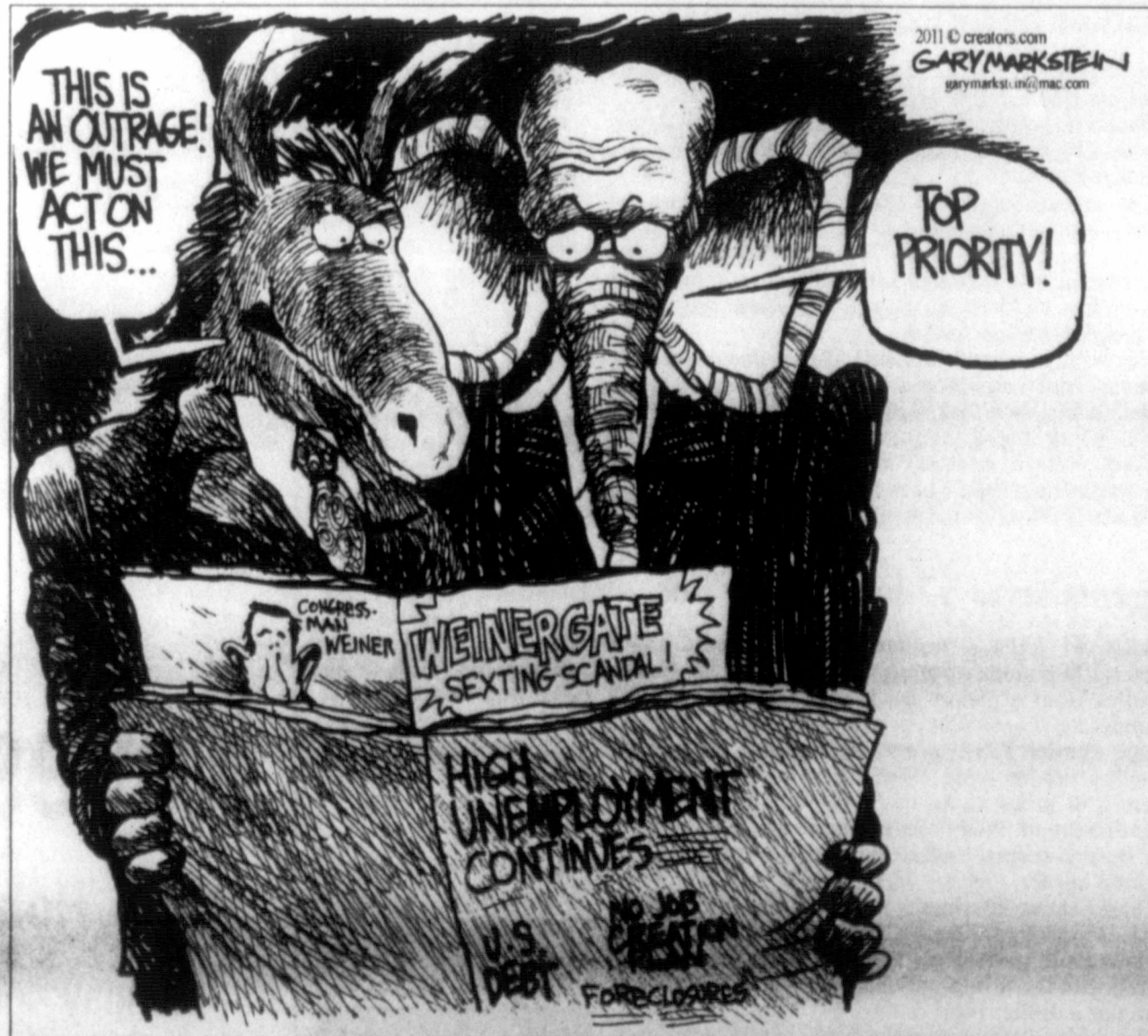
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Mexico asks Texas to tone down alerts

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Mexico says most of the country is safe, and wants Texas to stop telling tourists otherwise.

The head of Mexico's state-run tourism board met with Texas officials Wednesday to try to prevent more broad, ominous-sounding bulletins such as one released in March, when the Texas Department of Public Safety bluntly told vacationers, "Avoid traveling to Mexico during Spring Break and stay alive."

Rodolfo Lopez-Negrete, chief operating officer of the Mexico Tourism Board, concedes that there are border cities that remain dangerous and should be avoided. But he wants Texas to stop generalizing about the entire country as mired in bloodshed and fraught with danger.

"We believe that these travel alerts are too broad-based and making very blind statements about Mexico that do not reflect the reality," Lopez-Negrete said.

Lopez-Negrete was scheduled to meet in Austin with Texas Secretary of State Hope Andrade and officials from the Texas DPS, which issues the travel bulletins. Neither agency immediately commented on the meeting.

Mexico is keenly aware of its image problem. A bloody, relentless drug war between feuding cartels has claimed more than 35,000 lives in Mexico since 2006, mostly in the country's northern states. Along the Texas border, many families who used to routinely cross into Mexico have stopped out of fear.

Lopez-Negrete said vacationers should obviously not travel into violent Ciudad Juarez, located across from El Paso, a warning that Mexico also advises. He said travelers should also be prudent and use "common sense" when going into the border cities Nuevo Laredo and Reynosa, but does not suggest they stay away entirely.

It's the central and seaside vacation getaways most popular in Mexico, such as Cancun or Veracruz, that Mexico wants Texas to stop lumping together with the violence and gunfights largely taking place in the country's northern states.

"They're perfectly safe," Lopez-Negrete said.

Texas officials have disagreed. The March spring break warning from the Texas DPS, which referenced the grim accounts of a U.S. missionary shot in the head during a highway chase and a U.S. federal agent gunned down in an ambush, warned that travelers also risked danger in the busiest tourist destinations.

"Various crime problems also exist in many popular resort areas, such as Acapulco and Cancun, and crimes against U.S. citizens often go unpunished," DPS Director Steve McCraw said in the bulletin.

Toward the end of the advisory, it read: "DPS acknowledges that many travel to Mexico without incident, but the risks cannot be ignored."

Tourism in Mexico dropped 2 percent in the month after Texas issued the bulletin, Lopez-Negrete said. But he attributed that marginal decline to the U.S. economic downturn keeping more vacationers closer to home, and the country still recuperating from last year's folding of Mexicana Airlines, which one was of the nation's largest carriers.

More than half of the 22 million people who visited Mexico last year traveled to the resort destinations, Lopez-Negrete said.

The mere fact that Texas officials are willing to meet is a sign of optimism, Lopez-Negrete said. But his request is nonetheless to a state where Gov. Rick Perry and McCraw have painted the border as dangerous and threatened by encroaching violence.

Lopez-Negrete said he respects the concern among Texas leaders about the troubles in border cities.

"But what these travel warnings have illustrated is that all of Mexico is in that situation," he said. "That's what we're trying to change."

Hatpin holders vintage carnival glass

ANNE MCCOLLAM

Q: I have enclosed a photo of a pair of purple carnival glass hatpin holders. Each is decorated with the raised pattern, "Grape and Cable." They have been in my family for at least 50 years and are in perfect condition. Each stands about 7 inches tall. They are unmarked, so I do not know what company made them.

Do they have any value? And thank you for any information you can provide.

A: Located in Wheeling, W.Va., Northwood Glass Co. made purple/amethyst carnival glass hatpin holders. They were unmarked.

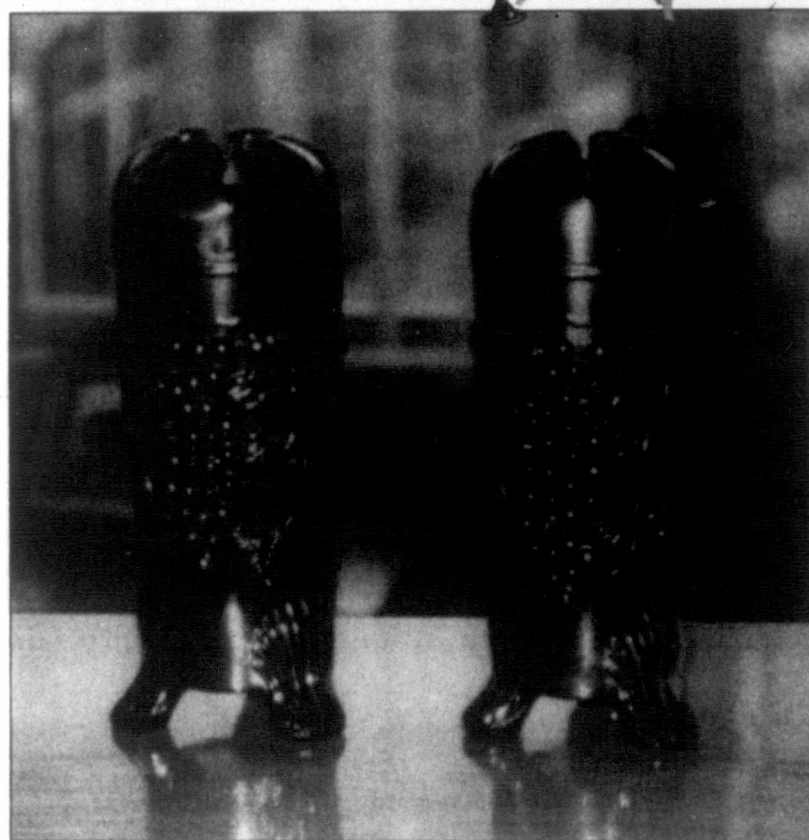
In the late 1800s and early 1900s, women usually wore hats outdoors and secured them with long decorative hatpins. A hatpin holder was often part of a dresser set, which included a powder puff box, a tray and a cologne bottle with a stopper.

Your hatpin holders were made around 1900, and each would be worth in the range of \$200 to \$400.



W.H. Grindley and Co. has been located in Staffordshire, England, since 1880.

Q: This mark is on the back of a set of six dinner plates that I inherited from my grandmother. The plates are decorated with a blue-and-white band of roses against a white background. My mother is not sure of their age, but she knows that they have been handed down in our family for several generations.



Carnival glass hatpin holders were often part of dresser sets.

I would never part with the plates and plan to pass them down to my daughter, but I would like to know more about their history.

A: W.H. Grindley and Co. made your plates. They have produced ironstone and earthenware in Staffordshire, England, since 1880. Your plates are examples of flow blue ironstone, and the pattern is "American Roses."

This mark was used from 1914 to 1925. Each plate would probably be worth \$50 to \$75.

Q: I am trying to determine the value of a 52-piece set of porcelain that I inherited from my in-laws. Marked on the bottom are a scroll with the words: "Old Abbey -- Limoges." There's also a star with the words: "Limoges -- France." It

is believed that the set was given to my relatives by German friends, who brought it with them when they immigrated to the U.S. around 1920.

I would be so grateful if you could help me.

A: The mark with the star was used by Latrille Freres Porcelain Factory in Limoges, France, from 1908 to 1913. "Old Abbey" is the mark of a decorating factory.

Your set would probably be worth \$300 to \$375.

If you have any antique inquiries, address your questions to Anne McCollam, P.O. Box 247, Notre Dame, IN 46556. Items of a general interest will be answered in this column. Due to the volume of inquiries, she cannot answer individual letters.

Teen survives being shot, dangled from bridge

MONTERREY, Mexico (AP) — A kicking, screaming teenager with a gunshot wound, was found dangling from a rope over a busy highway Wednesday in the northern Mexican city of Monterrey. Police said another man alongside him was dead by the time rescuers arrived and a third was found dead below.

Witnesses told police that a group of gunmen descended from a vehicle and hanged the men off a bridge around 10 a.m., stopping traffic along one of the busiest routes in Mexico's third-largest city, which has been plagued by drug-gang violence.

All three of the men had been shot and tortured, and their hands were bound with duct tape, according to a Nuevo Leon state police investigator who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to dis-

cuss the case.

The dead man, estimated to be in his early 20s, dangled lifelessly in a blue shirt and plaid shorts. Bound in his hands was bound a cell phone, a possible sign that he was considered an informant.

Police said none of the victims had been identified.

Two other men, one with a foot cut off, were hanged by their necks from a pedestrian bridge Sunday in Monterrey. Both died.

The city has seen a spike of violence since the Gulf and Zeta cartels began fighting for control of drug traffic there two years ago.

Also Wednesday, Mexican authorities said that two men wounded in an attack on a drug rehabilitation center in the northern city of Torreon died,

raising the number of fatalities in the incident to 13.

Coahuila state prosecutors said in a statement issued Wednesday that two assailants stormed into the center Tuesday afternoon and opened fire. It was not yet clear what the motive for the attack was or which gang was responsible.

Drug cartels are known to use rehab centers to recruit addicts and rival gangs sometimes attack. Dozens of people have died in shootings at centers across Mexico. The worst incident left 19 people dead in Chihuahua city last summer.

More than 35,000 people have been killed in drug-related violence across Mexico since President Felipe Calderon launched an offensive against drug cartels when he took office in December 2006.

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Republican hopeful Romney defends self over auto bailout

DETROIT (AP) — Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney defended himself Thursday in the heart of auto country against questions about why he opposed a federal bailout of General Motors and Chrysler two years ago.

At campaign stops in and around Detroit, Romney said the automakers should have gone through a private bankruptcy without the federal aid.

"Some people believe in bailouts. I believe in the process of the law," the businessman and former Massachusetts governor told reporters. "The idea of just writing a check, which is what the auto executives were asking for, was not the right course. ... It would have been best had the auto companies gone through the bankruptcy process without having taken \$17 billion from government."

Although Romney won his first and only 2008 presidential primary in Michigan, he has run into a more skeptical reception during his first campaign swing through the state since kicking off his 2012 campaign a week ago. Romney spoke out forcefully after the 2008 election against a federal bailout of General Motors and Chrysler, an initiative that the state Republican and Democratic parties both considered a matter of life or death for the companies.

On Thursday, dozens of autoworkers and Democrats protested outside a restaurant in a Detroit suburb as Romney spoke inside, eager to remind voters of his position.

"For a guy whose father basically ran Michigan to not know the importance of the industry, and to come here and ask for money, I just don't understand," said Larry Ring, 52, a Ford electrician from Wayne County's Canton Township. Romney's late father, George, led American Motors from 1954 to 1962 before he became governor in the 1960s.

Michigan Democratic Chairman Mark Brewer also was outside the restaurant, criticizing the presidential hopeful.

"If he had his way, the auto companies

would be out of business. And he has the audacity to come here?" he asked.

Nevertheless, Romney got a warm reception from diners inside the Senate Coney Island. He paid in cash for scrambled eggs, potatoes and toast at the counter before spending half an hour greeting voters. He signed a baseball and a copy of the Detroit Free Press with his photo on the front page for Lawrence Taylor, a 55-year-old retired state health care worker from Oakland County's Commerce Township. The longtime autograph collector also has the signature of Romney's father.

Sherwin Collins, a 77-year-old retired Wayne State University administrator, gripped Romney's hand and told him he'd attended one of his father's campaign events during the elder Romney's short-lived 1968 presidential campaign.

"He was a superstar in those days," Collins said.

Romney's roots — he grew up in Detroit — and residual warm feelings for his late father could give him an edge in Michigan. On Thursday, he spoke of those ties and his "love" for the auto industry and American cars.

"His family is steeped in the history of the auto industry. The tradition is part of his family," said Mike Bishop, a Rochester attorney and former Republican leader in the Michigan Senate who hasn't decided whom he will support for president.

The auto industry bailout may be a tough issue here for any Republican in the presidential race, since many GOP leaders have blasted it as an example of the government's fiscal irresponsibility.

Democrats, including President Barack Obama, have trumpeted the federal intervention as a triumph, stressing that the companies are now doing well after going through bankruptcy and then restructuring. Chrysler has repaid most of the \$10.5 billion in taxpayer money that it received. GM has paid back just over half of its \$50 billion in aid and is regaining mar-

ket share. Together the companies have added about 50,000 jobs nationwide. The White House says the bailout ultimately will cost taxpayers \$14 billion, far less than expected.

Industry officials and others argue that a federal rejection would have led to liquidation and the loss of more than a million jobs nationwide.

In his Michigan appearances, Romney talked up his background as a business consultant and venture capitalist, saying it gives him the skills to help reverse the job loss that has given the state a 10.2 percent unemployment rate. The message echoes one used by former computer executive Rick Snyder in his successful 2010 campaign for Michigan governor.

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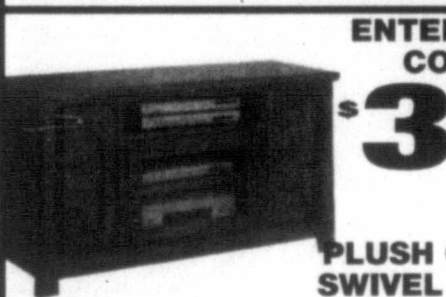


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Disaster

cont. from page 1

'06 when we had the bad wildfire. At this point, we need to think about safety first."

Martin said that prior to declaring the fireworks ban, Judge Peet consulted each of the county commissioners, as well as the county's volunteer fire chiefs, the Pampa fire chief, the sheriff and the chief of police.

"We've had 100 percent support in doing this," Martin said. "We certainly hate to interfere with the livelihood of selling

fireworks. There is just such an extreme danger this year, we felt it's more important to save lives and structures than to allow the fireworks. You can have a firecracker go off and it can set a wildfire."

There is, as of yet, no definitive word on how the fireworks ban will affect Pampa's annual Fourth of July celebration, but Mayor Brad Pingel said this morning that he has visited with Judge Peet and, if conditions stay the way they are, an official

city fireworks show is unlikely.

"We've already ordered the fireworks and... they're already being shipped," Pingel said, "but I've talked to Judge Peet and we're going to continue to monitor the situation."

"At this time, I don't see the city doing the fireworks. The conditions are just too dangerous. We respect the restrictions that are in place, and we want to make sure that Pampa stays safe."

Bricks

cont. from page 1

8:30 p.m., the traditional "Car Cruise" will take place in downtown Pampa.

"The car cruise is on the old Pampa drag (Cuyler Street, Francis Avenue, Purviance Street and Foster Avenue)," the chairman said.

He was quick to point out that the event requires a year-round effort with many volunteers, both club members and non-members. For instance, the burnout is conducted by volunteers from Pampa Crimestoppers.

"Entry fees do not cover all the costs," he explained. "All the donations we get from local people help us put this on."

Whatever we have left is given in the form of scholarships to two graduating seniors."

One big change this year is the cancellation of the drag race that is usually held on Sunday.

"We've had one the last three or four years, but we've cancelled it this year," he said. "The liability insurance is just too expensive and we had trouble containing the spectators. They kept trying to get where they didn't need to be and they wouldn't listen to us. We can't afford to have an accident out there so we just shut it off."

EQIP

cont. from page 1

EQIP funding levels for 2009-2011 based on land uses were used to determine that Grazing Lands, Dry Cropland, and then Irrigated Cropland would be given first, second and third priority, respectively for 2012 EQIP funding levels.

It was also decided that county funding allocation by land use would be 60 percent grazing lands, 30 percent dry cropland and 10 percent irrigated cropland. These funding levels pertain only to County Base funds, which exceeded \$158,900 in Gray County for 2011.

Two other fund sources, the Agricultural Water Enhancement Program, and the Ogallala Aquifer Irrigation concern of EQIP, should be available for use on irrigated cropland to address improving efficiency of water

use. These funds can be used for installing new pivots on previously row-watered land, replacing existing pivots at least 20 years old, installing drip irrigation systems, converting existing pivots to higher efficiency, and replacing leaky existing concrete pipe.

For grazing lands, it was determined that the priority resource concerns would be plant condition and health first, animal health second and soil erosion third.

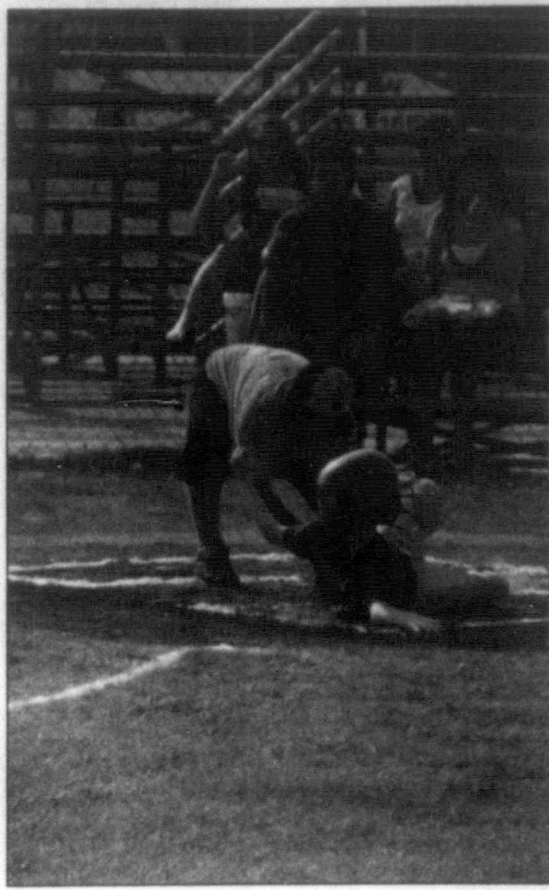
For dry cropland, it was determined that the priority resource concerns would be soil erosion first, water quality second and soil quality third.

For irrigated cropland, the priority resource concerns were deemed water quantity first, soil erosion second and water quality third.

The NRCS is currently taking applications to participate in the EQIP program for 2012. Some of the conservation practices that will be eligible for funding assistance through this program include livestock water development, brush management, fencing, grass establishment, well decommissioning, terraces, diversions, waterways, and tree and shrub planting. Also included are management incentives such as prescribed grazing on rangeland and expired CRP land, and no-till/strip-till farming.

To find out more about the EQIP program, contact the Pampa NRCS office at 806-665-1751, ext.3, or come by the NRCS office located in the Gray County Annex at 12125 E. Frederic Ave. (Highway 60 East).

Sports



staff photo by Andrew Glover

TOP LEFT: Anthony Ontiveros, 10 throws a pitch against CVS Thursday at Optimist Park. **TOP RIGHT:** Zack Robinson, 9 slides underneath Anthony Ontiveros tag in the top of the first. The Optimist are playing a double elimination tournament to determine all-stars. **BOTTOM:** Pampa head golf coach Alan Segura teaches campers how to chip Monday at Hidden Hills.

BANANAGRAMS!

Each set of letters below is arranged alphabetically, and the ? is in the correct alphabetical position. Figure out what letter the ? represents and rearrange the letters to spell a six-letter word. For example, in A?ENTV the ? could be an A, B, C, D or E. Here it represents a D, which can be combined with the other letters to spell ADVENT. The last letter is placed to get you started.

B G H ? T U E ? L O U W
 [] [] [] [] T [] [] [] [] L
B ? E M O Y E F ? L N U
 [] [] [] [] Y [] [] [] [] F
A L O ? U W B ? O P U W
 [] [] [] [] W [] [] [] [] P

Yesterday's Answer: IMBIBE/ROSARY; TOMBOY/CEMENT; MAGNET/POETIC

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Intermediate

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Candle part
 - 5 Invented
 - 11 Goofing off
 - 12 Threat phrase
 - 13 Walrus' cousin
 - 14 More promising
 - 15 Overacts
 - 17 Wager
 - 18 Great, in slang
 - 22 Emulates a raptor
 - 24 Patriot Allen
 - 25 Galley item
 - 26 Finished off
 - 27 Jacket material
 - 30 Titled women
 - 32 Town leader
 - 33 Sphere
 - 34 Moon shape
 - 38 Cheering word
 - 41 In — (lined up)
 - 42 Dahl of films
 - 43 Ashton's love
 - 44 Welcomes
 - 45 Genesis site
- DOWN**
- 1 Aspiration
 - 2 Creative germ
 - 3 Climbed awkwardly
 - 4 Grammer of "Frasier"
 - 5 Cartoonist Walker
 - 6 Incite
 - 7 Tyrant
 - 8 Yale student
 - 9 Purpose
 - 10 By the unit
 - 16 "— been real!"
 - 19 Like a nautilus
 - 20 Hudson of Hollywood
 - 21 Wallet bills
 - 22 Act the model
 - 23 Julia of films
 - 28 Fiat
 - 29 Wandering
 - 30 Uno doubled
 - 31 Gaming place
 - 35 Facial pair
 - 36 Iditarod finish site
 - 37 Pollux, for one
 - 38 Old crone
 - 39 Bruins legend
 - 40 Bulling

J	A	I	L	A	T	L	A	S	T	
U	L	N	A	C	R	I	M	E	A	
N	A	V	Y	T	A	M	P	E	R	
O	N	E	D	I	C	E				
		N	E	R	V	E	I	T	S	
P	E	T	T	Y	D	O	N	H	O	
A	L	I	T			S	T	E	W	
C	L	O	U	D	G	L	E	N	N	
T	A	N	O	R	I	O	N			
			M	O	O	N	T	W	O	
D	O	S	I	D	O		D	I	A	L
A	N	O	R	A	K		Y	O	R	E
M	O	P	E	D	S		E	N	D	S

Yesterday's answer

- 20 Hudson of Hollywood
- 21 Wallet bills
- 22 Act the model
- 23 Julia of films
- 28 Fiat
- 29 Wandering
- 30 Uno doubled
- 31 Gaming place
- 35 Facial pair
- 36 Iditarod finish site
- 37 Pollux, for one
- 38 Old crone
- 39 Bruins legend
- 40 Bulling

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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		
42									43		
44									45		

6-9

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips



DEAR ABBY: I am severely myopic and can't see without my prescription eyewear. Yet people continually ask me if they can "borrow" my glasses to read the menu. (I work as a hostess.) Abby, my glasses are not reading glasses; they are my eyes — literally. When I explain this, I get snorts, grunts and muttered comments that I am "rude."

My husband says I should let them try on my glasses and cut out the explanation, as they would immediately realize that they can't see through them. I disagree. I think it is inappropriate to even ask, let alone become offended when I politely refuse.

Abby, I would like to explain the concept of reading glasses versus prescription eyewear: Most people do not walk around with reading glasses fully on their face. Reading glasses are often halfway down the nose or hanging around a person's neck so they don't impair his or her distance vision. If someone is wearing glasses full on their face — they're usually not reading glasses. If a person is wearing glasses, do not ask to borrow them. Instead, ask if there is a pair of reading glasses at the wait station or host stand. — **THE BLIND LEADING THE BLIND**

DEAR "BLIND": I'm printing your letter, but I warn you — there are none so blind as

those who will not see. For a stranger to expect to borrow someone's glasses is presumptuous. If the bows were bent or the lenses were broken, you'd be in serious trouble.

Talk to your employer about keeping a magnifying glass or several pairs of reading glasses in various strengths available for patrons who have forgotten theirs. Many restaurants do. With our aging demographic, it's good business, because people order more when they can see the menu.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a female manager in a male-dominated field, and a high-level corporate executive. I am good at what I do, but sometimes I become impatient with subordinates who don't "get it" like I do. I admit I prefer the company of some over others.

Several years ago, a friendship with a subordinate turned into something more. I was — and still am — married with children. During this time I had to discharge another employee for substandard performance. Since he left he has sent me several unsolicited emails in which he has suggested that he knows about the affair I had with his former co-worker and feels he didn't receive fair treatment because of it.

My former lover is no longer with the company, and I have done everything I can to put this

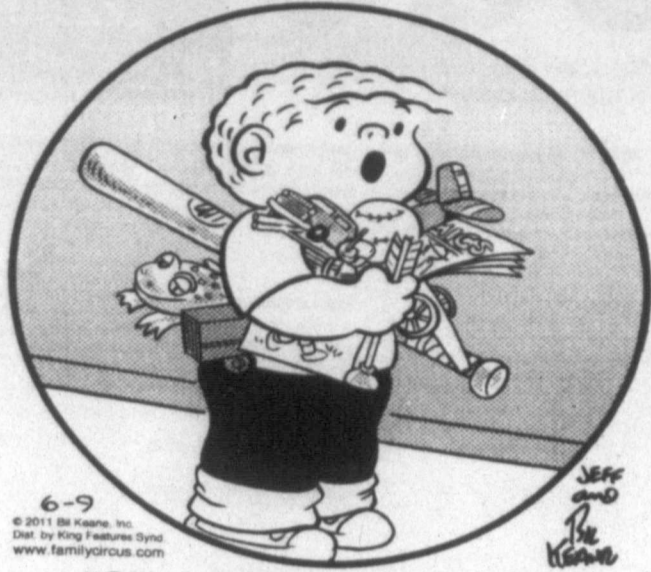
behind me. I still worry, however, that the employee I let go may someday make the company aware of my indiscretions, or worse, my family. Abby, is there anything I can do to set the whole thing right? — **THREATENED IN THE NORTHWEST**

DEAR THREATENED: Let me get this straight. You say you are good at your job as a manager, but you lose patience with subordinates who don't "get" things as quickly as you do — and play favorites among the employees in your department. If that's not a hostile work environment, it's at least one that's very unpleasant. And you had an affair with one of them? Didn't you know that you were leaving your company open to a lawsuit for sexual harassment? It appears that when you assumed the title of manager, you exceeded your level of competence.

You have gotten yourself into a jam from which I can't extricate you. Go to your superiors and tell them about the emails so the company can protect itself from a possible lawsuit for wrongful termination. Stop deluding yourself and face the consequences of any indiscretion you have made because you have placed not only yourself, but also your employer, in jeopardy.

comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



“Okay, I picked up my toys. Now what?”

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, June 10, 2011:

This year, tap into your creativity more often. You have the capacity to find solution after solution. Sometimes a partner pushes hard. Avoid being as stubborn or as controlling as he or she is. Learn not to play the game and to stay centered. If you are single, you have many very interesting choices. Date until you are really sure of yourself. Know that your charisma is high. If you are attached, the two of you start acting like young lovers again. Enjoy this period. LIBRA has a nice style when he or she tries to coax you!

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
 ★★★★★ Reach out for others and expect the unexpected. Others simply cannot help themselves. Extremes mark your actions because of an unusually intense feeling that you might be suppressing. Know what is happening with others. Tonight: A talk needs to happen. Don't fight it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ★★★★★ Your ability to understand the mechanics of what is going on around you might surprise you. You might find a situation quite distorted and difficult to handle. Tonight: Keep communication open.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ★★★★★ You have many thoughts and ideas. You might not hesitate to share them with others. You can be quite charming and still make your point. Work on delivering your message in that manner. Think "weekend" when speaking to a friend. Tonight: Paint the town red.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ★★★★★ You could be in a very unusual situation. This is the end result of pressure and a need to do projects and handle situations in a certain manner. If you are feeling too limited, say so and move forward. Tonight: In the thick of things.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ★★★★★ As usual, your style makes all the difference in how a message is received. You have a way of saying sometimes unpleasant statements that people don't really hear until later. Try not to be stern with a child or loved one. Tonight: Say "yes" to an invitation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You might want to rethink your finances before you give the go ahead. This decision could involve your friends or work. No matter what, be careful. A child or loved one could be pushing your boundaries. Please, no risks. Tonight: Moderation goes far.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ★★★★★ You have a lot going on with you. Understand your limits and don't cross them until you are sure you want to. You have a very stern or serious manner that often belies the softness within. Tonight: Support yourself and do absolutely what you want.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ★★★★★ You might not choose to discuss much that is occurring. Someone might pressure and push you beyond your limits. Don't get into a power play. Just don't play. Stay centered. If it is necessary to distance yourself, so be it. Tonight: Once more, not to be found!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ★★★★★ Zero in on what you want. Allow more give-and-take between you and others. Meetings, if you have any, could be the vehicle for change and support with some key projects. Don't fall for another person's manipulation. Tonight: Where the fun is.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ★★★★★ You could be far more pushy than you realize. Go for more of what you want and feel is necessary within your professional circle. A little diplomacy goes far — try it. You will get more cooperation in the long run. Tonight: Could be a very late night!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ★★★★★ Instead of thinking of someone at a distance or dreaming about him or her, make that special trip, or just pick up the phone. Explore the many options or paths to your desired results. Don't allow your inner negatives to color your thinking. Tonight: Follow the music.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ★★★★★ You could see a matter far differently from a partner. Rather than going to battle, see where both visions have a commonality. Together you could be a stronger force. Let go of having to have everything turn out your way. Tonight: Go until you drop.

Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



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Sports

PHS QB Miller looks to impress coaches at camps

ANDREW GLOVER
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While his teammates finished offseason, senior quarterback Reid Miller is still working on his game — but on a bigger stage.

Miller has been traveling the country going to different NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) quarterback camps.

So far, Miller has attended Southern Methodist and Wyoming's camps. The senior quarterback said he runs through drills where he is evaluated.

"They are all like the NFL combine," Miller said. "You test in a few things, then they put you through drills and see if you can make the big-time throws."

The coaches of the respective schools and other area coaches perform the evaluation. Miller said that makes the experience nerve-wracking.

"You have to come with your best or they're on to the next one," Miller said.

The senior said he gets to be around some of the best high school quarterbacks in the country, which is pretty neat.

"Some of these kids' talent and size blow me away," Miller said.

The senior quarterback said the camp is like a job interview emphasizing that he needs to have his best game.

"If the school is not very interested in you, you could wow them and really get their attention," Miller said.

The second-year starter said his evaluation at Wyoming went great, adding that it's amazing to impress a FBS coach.

"There is really very few words that can explain it," Miller said.

Miller said he learned a lot at the camps and will look to improve certain areas of his game.

"A lot of your accuracy has to do with your eyes on deep balls," Miller said. "My throwing motion and my drop-backs are about all I think needs (improvement)."

As of press time, Miller is attending a camp at Texas Tech. Later this month, Miller will be going to North Texas and Stephen F. Austin. This fall, Miller will enter his second season as the Harvesters starting quarterback.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Senior Reid Miller throws a pass in a September 10 game at Randall. Miller has gone to NCAA Division One camps this summer.

We need your scorecards!!

Optimist baseball and softball coaches, please send Andrew copies of your scorecard so your kids' names will be in weekly scoreboard in the weekend sport pages.

In close NBA Finals, Heat's James vows to be even better

DALLAS (AP) — For nearly a year, LeBron James has shaken off the criticism, laughed off the trash talk.

None of it mattered to James, not as long as the Miami Heat remained on the route to a championship.

But when that pursuit became threatened in part by his own poor play, James couldn't ignore the only critic that matters: himself.

James said Wednesday he "didn't play well" in Game 4, when the Dallas Mavericks edged the Heat 86-83 to even the series at two games apiece after the two-time MVP failed to find ways to make an impact offensively.

"I didn't do that last night," James said. "Those are the things that I pride myself on that hurt me the most. I'll just be hard on myself and figure out a way to do it better the next game."

The Heat arrived about 30 minutes late for their interview session Wednesday after watching extra film of the game, though they could have saved time by just fast-forwarding through James' no-show.

He scored only eight points, held in single digits for the first time in 90 career playoff games, and attempted only 11 shots. James said he criticized himself all night, taking solace that he had at least two more chances to turn

things around for himself and his team.

"If it was the Super Bowl, I would be kicking myself in the foot. We have one game. That's it," James said. "The great thing about this, it's a series. No matter if you can have a bad game, you can always make an imprint on the next game. Game 5 is a huge game."

And the way this series is shaping up, probably a close one.

Three straight games have been decided by three points or fewer, the first time that's happened in the championship round since 1948, according to STATS, LLC. The Baltimore Bullets and Philadelphia Warriors played Games 2-4 within a three-point margin during those Basketball Association of America finals, a year before that league merged with the National Basketball League to become the NBA.

And while James has come under increased scrutiny for his passive play, Dirk Nowitzki is cementing his reputation by overcoming injury and illness to rally the Mavs to victories in two of the last three games.

"Really, are there two guys that get more compared to Superman than Dwyane Wade and LeBron James? Think about it," Mavs president Donnie Nelson said. "Then our guy was the superstar that

never really was a superstar because he was from Europe, or he was soft, or he couldn't win the big game."

Not anymore. Not after Nowitzki made the go-ahead layup with a left hand that had a torn tendon in his middle finger with 3.6 seconds left in Game 2, and certainly not after fighting through a fever of 101 degrees to score 10 of his 21 points in the fourth quarter of Game 4.

He felt better Wednesday morning, saying the fever had broke, though precautions were being made to make sure he didn't get anyone else sick. The microphone Nowitzki used for interviews was immediately replaced — teammate Tyson Chandler followed him and joked to "burn that mic!" — but the big German was already planning a workout later in the evening and thinking ahead to Thursday night.

"I think we have to be ready for anything," he said.



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