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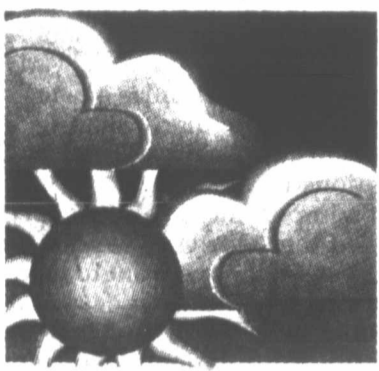
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Pampa

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High today 90.
Low tonight 62.
For weather details see
Page 2.

FORT WORTH, (AP) — Van Cliburn returned to the Bass Performance Hall Friday night looking rested and refreshed after collapsing in the middle of his performance the previous evening.

"I have to tell you that I am so grateful for the kindness of so many people. It is so heart warming," Cliburn said, referring to dozens of messages he received from around the world.

Audrey Michaels, who attended the concert, said Cliburn was starting the third movement of the Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor when he collapsed just after 9 p.m. about 1 1/2 hours into the performance.

"All of a sudden he faltered at the piano and he just fell on the floor, just as though he had been hit by a bolt of lightning," Ms. Michaels said. "The audience was just paralyzed."

Cliburn, 63, was taken by ambulance to All Saints Episcopal Hospital, where doctors determined he suffered nothing more serious than a fainting spell. He was released about two hours later.

Cliburn said he felt "very empty" because he had not finished the piece.

However, he added, "I'm taking my doctor's advice to really relax."

- Royce "Bill" Cantrell, 77, business leader.
- Stonie Dee Ferguson, 59, bail bondsman, owner of A-1 Furniture and Appliances.
- Beatrice Hunt Peek, 74, homemaker.

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New ministry will focus on food aid first

By MIRANDA G. BAILEY
Staff Writer

Food assistance will be top priority when the Harvest House opens its doors to Pampa's underprivileged next week.

Local representatives from several Pampa assistance agencies gathered for lunch Thursday morning to view the remodeled 6,000 square foot building designed to grow into something more than just a food distribution agency.

"Harvest House, an outreach ministry of Trinity Fellowship Church, is not designed to replace any existing ministry, but to be another resource to help Pampa's underprivileged," according to Carolyn Stroud. She and husband, Ed Stroud, are co-directors of program.

"We care about this community but before you can reach people in spiritual terms, you must meet their heartfelt needs," Trinity Pastor Lonny Robbins said at the luncheon.

The first "outreach ministry" to begin in the coming week will be a food assistance program, Carolyn Stroud explained. Two rooms in the southwest portion of the building are already stocked to serve as food pantries. Foods are purchased from the Amarillo High Plains Food Bank, she said.

Goals of the food assistance program are to cause individuals to become self-sufficient and to provide a place of "refuge and hope" by meeting specific personal needs in practical ways. Several policies have been set in place to achieve these goals, according to the directors.

General food distribution will take place Thursdays and prior to

See FOOD, Page 2

"We care about this community but before you can reach people in spiritual terms, you must meet their heartfelt needs."

— Trinity Pastor Lonny Robbins

Bush puts Texas under health alert

Smoke from C. American, Mexico fires are to blame

By PEGGY FIKAC
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. George W. Bush urged Texans to consider limiting their physical exercise as the entire state was put under a health alert Friday due to smoke from fires in Mexico and Central America.

"It's very important for people of the state of Texas to take precautions. Don't overexercise outside. Stay indoors and be reasonable in how you conduct your daily life," Bush told a news conference.

The governor — who opted for exercising on a treadmill Friday instead of his usual outdoor jog — was joined by Texas Health Commissioner William Archer and chairman Barry

McBee of the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission.

The officials said Texans shouldn't panic. The alert was expanded statewide because of the variable nature of smoke concentration, they said.

It will last at least until noon Monday, when officials hoped to see clearing around the state. The alert means people who are elderly, or with respiratory or heart diseases, are urged to avoid physical exertion and outdoor activity.

Everyone else — especially children — should consider avoiding prolonged physical exertion indoors and outdoors, McBee said.

Officials said people should

See SMOKE, Page 2

Sidewalk artist...



(Pampa News photo by Jeff West)

Christopher Smith, a fourth-grader from Austin Elementary recently won first place in his division for this chess board. The sidewalk artists showed off their talents downtown.

Area interest growing for cool season forage

By DAVE BOWSER
Staff Writer

AMARILLO — There is increasing interest in cool season forage in Oklahoma and the Texas Panhandle, according to Dr. Larry Redmon, an extension forage specialist at Oklahoma State University.

"This has really become an interesting topic," Redmon said during a recent beef conference. "A lot of people are looking at cool season perennial grasses."

He said the interest was spurred by the costs associated with winter pasture.

"It just costs more money to establish annuals each year than it would if we could find an adaptable cool season perennial," Redmon said. "I think the

There are a lot of producers that are interested in replacing wheat pasture, while others would like to stay in the winter stocker business and still harvest grain.

Freedom to Farm Bill is also responsible for stimulating a lot of interest in these cool season perennials."

When the farm bill came out several years ago, it allowed farmers involved in wheat pasture commodity programs on the southern plains to plant alternative forages and remain part of the programs.

"Wheat pasture is big business in Oklahoma," Redmon said. "We plant about seven million acres of wheat each year. We pas-

ture about one and a half million head of stocker cattle. It's big business."

There are a lot of producers that are interested in replacing wheat pasture, while others would like to stay in the winter stocker business and still harvest grain.

"We think we can offer either side a real opportunity with cool season perennial grasses," Redmon said.

He said there are about a mil-

See FORAGE, Page 2

Trail ride at Lake Meredith

Saddle up!

The Lake Meredith National Recreation Area will host a trail ride suitable for all experience levels on Saturday, May 30, beginning at 9 a.m. The rain date is June 6.

From Highway 136 take Cas Johnson road towards the Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument. From the Bates Canyon ranger station, signs will direct participants to the meeting point.

The free, three-hour ride along a dirt road to Dolomite point is suitable for riders of all experi-

ence levels. Riders must bring a current Coggins certificate.

Plan to pack a snack, bring drinking water and a sack lunch. Also recommended is insect repellent, a hat and sunscreen.

This will mark the second trail ride offered by the park, said Superintendent John Benjamin. "Our first ride was a rousing success. Whole families came with their horses to enjoy the beauty of Lake Meredith's canyon country."

For more information, call 806-857-0311.

Sunday snapshot



Name: Melissa Parker
Birth date and place: 3/24/49, Amarillo, TX.
Family: Ronnie, China Gayle, Kazia Nichole
If I had a different job, I'd be

a/an: archaeologist.
When I grow up I want to be: skinny and rich.
My personal hero: My mother.
The best advice I ever got was: "Put yourself in someone's shoes before you start to criticize them."
My classmates think of me as: the class clown.
The best word or words to describe me: would be friendly, kind, and funny.
People will remember me as being: a good cook.
The four guests at my fantasy dinner party would be: My mother, Ronnie Parker, Joyce Myers, and Jess Duplantis.
My favorite sports team is: U.S. Olympic Figure Skating Team.
My favorite author is: Paul of Tarsus.
The last book I read was: Bible

My favorite possession is: My Bible.
The biggest honor I've ever received is: was when Ronnie Parker asked me to marry him.
My favorite performer is: Sinbad (comedian)
I wish I knew how to: fix my VCR.
My trademark cliché or expression is: "Geeez-louise"
My worst habit is: procrastination.
I would never: eat Brussel sprouts.
The last good movie I saw was: "Dances With Wolves."
I stay home to watch: ice skating.
Nobody knows: I want to move to New Zealand.
Someday I want to drive a: stick shift.
My favorite junk food is: sour

gummy worms.
My favorite beverage: hazlenut coffee.
My favorite restaurant is: Chilis.
My favorite pet: My dog, Dagwood.
For my last meal, I would choose: a rare T-bone, baked potato, salad, and red velvet cake.
I wish I could sing like: Celine Dion.
I'm happiest when I'm: with my family.
I regret: not being able to tell my mother good-bye before she died.
I'm tired of: Monica Lewinsky.
I have a phobia about: having a phobia.
The electrical device I couldn't live without is: my Kitchenaide.

The biggest waste of time is: thinking about what might have been.
If I had three wishes they would be: first, for my girls to prosper and be in good health. Second, new knees. Third, Congress to vote out daylight savings time.
If I could change one thing about Pampa, it would be: make the economy better.

(We're looking for people to feature in Sunday Snapshot. All you have to do is answer the above questions and bring/mail us a photo. Or, pick up an easy-to-fill-out form at our office. If you don't have a photo, we can shoot you! The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79065)

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Daily Record

Services

Services today
GARMON, Wanna Sue — Memorial services, 7 p.m., Dewey Methodist Church, Dewey, Okla.
Services tomorrow
MEYERS, Helen — Graveside services, 2 p.m., Hillcrest Cemetery, McLean.

Obituaries

ROYCE 'BILL' CANTRELL
 SHAMROCK — Royce "Bill" Cantrell, 77, died May 14, 1998. Services were Saturday in First United Methodist Church with the Rev. John Dorn and the Rev. Joe G. Jernigan, pastor of Calvary Christian Fellowship Church, officiating. Burial was in Shamrock Cemetery under the direction of Wright Funeral Directors of Shamrock.
 Mr. Cantrell was born Dec. 29, 1920, at Shamrock, to Glenn and Ovilla Cantrell. He was raised in Shamrock. He married Violette Parrish on April 5, 1942, at Shamrock. He served on the Shamrock school board for many years and on the board of trustees at First Bank in Trust in Shamrock. He was a lifelong member of First United Methodist Church of Shamrock and was also a member of the Rotary Club and the Masonic Lodge, ranking as a 32nd Degree Mason. He was a strong business leader from 1947 until his death.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Travis Cantrell; and a twin brother, Billie Cantrell.

Survivors include his wife, Violette, of Shamrock; two daughters, Mollie Davis of Southlake and Kathie Rushing of Lubbock; two sons, R. Michael Cantrell of Oklahoma City, Okla., and W. Patrick Cantrell of Houston; a sister, Ruth Dugger of Elk City, Okla.; a brother, C.G. Cantrell of Palm Springs, Calif.; 12 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to First United Methodist Church.

STONIE DEE FERGUSON

BORGER — Stonie Dee Ferguson, 59, brother of Pampa residents, died Thursday, May 14, 1998, at Oklahoma City, Okla. Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in First Assembly of God Church with the Rev. Calvin Newton officiating. Burial will be in Garden of Serenity in Westlawn Memorial Park Cemetery under the direction of Minton/Chatwell Funeral Directors.

Mr. Ferguson was born at Hatfield, Ark. He married Joyce Greenwood in 1955. He was a longtime Borger resident. He was a bail bondsman and owner of A-1 Furniture and Appliances. He was a member of Assembly of God Church.

Survivors include his wife, Joyce; two daughters, Kaylene Dale of Muleshoe and Annadon Keys of Borger; two sons, Rocky Dee Ferguson of Fitch and Sandy Dale Ferguson of Borger; five sisters, JoAnn Durham of Matador, Sue Yohn, Margaret Graham, Tommie Parkhurst and Kathy Armstrong, all of Borger; three brothers, John Ferguson and Clyde Ferguson Jr., both of Pampa, and Neil Ferguson of Borger; 15 grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The family requests memorials be to Cal Farley's Boys Ranch or to the American Cancer Society.

BEATRICE HUNT PEEK

AMARILLO — Beatrice Hunt Peek, 74, sister of a Lefors resident, died Wednesday, May 13, 1998. Graveside services were Saturday in Hillcrest Cemetery at McLean with the Rev. James Martindale, of First Baptist Church of McLean, officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Blackburn-Shaw Funeral Directors of Amarillo.

Mrs. Peek was a lifelong Amarillo resident. She was a Protestant.

Survivors include two sons, Floyd "Ches" Peek, of the home, and Kenneth Stanton of Odessa; a brother, Troy Stanton of Lefors; and two grandchildren.

Police report

The Pampa Police Department made the following calls and arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. Saturday.

Friday, May 15

Indecency with a child was reported in the 700 block of N. Frost.

Theft of a windshield, plastic top and two doors with frames from a Jeep Laredo was reported at 201 W. Kingsmill. The loss is valued at \$950.

A domestic disturbance was reported at a Huff Road residence.

Saturday, May 16

Brian Wayne Anderson, 18, 811 E. Albert, bond forfeiture on charges of DWI and evading arrest.

Brandon Ray Orr, 17, 640 Roberta, arrested for minor in possession.

Tony Juan Robinson, 36, Skellytown, charged with DWI, no valid driver's license, no liability insurance and expired registration.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Department reported the following arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. Saturday.

Friday, May 15

Agapito Romero, 39, Huntsville, Texas, arrested on a bench warrant for aggravated assault.

Florancio Gomez, 42, Huntsville, Texas, arrested on a bench warrant for aggravated assault.

Guadalupe Gomez, 37, Midway, Texas, arrested on a bench warrant for aggravated assault.

Ambulance

Rural/Metro made the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. Saturday.

Friday, May 15

10:20 A.M. - A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility for a transfer to Baptist St. Anthony West.

11:37 A.M. - A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of S. Russell and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

2:57 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of W. Somerville and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

3:31 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to Columbia Medical Center for a patient transfer to Baptist St. Anthony West.

3:57 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 1700 block of N. Hobart and transported one to Baptist St. Anthony West.

5:25 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to Baptist St. Anthony West for a patient transfer to a local nursing facility.

9:13 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 500 block of N. Wells on an injury and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

9:43 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of E. 17th on a medical and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

Fires

The Pampa Fire Department made the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. Saturday.

Friday, May 15

11:38 a.m. - Two units and four personnel responded to 120 S. Russell on a medical assist.

12:29 - Two units and five personnel responded to the 1700 block of Grape on a false alarm.

6:21 p.m. - Two units and three personnel responded to a car fire at Rham and Hobart.

9:15 p.m. - Two units and four personnel responded to the 500 block of N. Wells on a medical assist.

10:04 p.m. - One unit and two personnel responded one mile east on Highway 60 on a gas odor.

options and flexibility," Redmon said.

The drawback to establishing a cool season perennial grass pasture is that it takes time, and the grass is usually not available for grazing the first fall it is planted.

For that reason, Redmon recommended establishing such forage in steps. If a producer has a section of wheat, he said, he may want to put only a quarter of it in grass initially. That way, Redmon reasoned, the producer can still graze his wheat while the grass is getting established and use the seed from the grass he is raising to expand the grass pasture.

Among the grasses Redmon said he thinks will do well in Oklahoma and the Texas Panhandle are Jose Tall Wheatgrass, Lincoln Smooth Bromegrass and pubescent wheatgrasses such as Luna and Manska.

He said Manska was particularly good in their trials.

Initially, he had planned to run about two head per acre in a rotational grazing plan with some orchard grass, he said, but he wound up putting 55 head of 500 pound steers on 14 acres to control the Manska pubescent wheatgrass.

"It was really kind of embarrassing because we were trying to demonstrate good management," he grinned. "We wound up in mid-May harvesting hay and put the cattle back on it in June."

FORAGE

lion acres in Oklahoma each year that cattlemen would like to turn to grass and get out of farming.

"They'd like to park the tractor and sell the drill," Redmon said, "and get out of that part of the business if they could find a perennial that would work for them for the winter stocker calf business."

But Redmon says many producers want to stay in the grain business.

"I think we can offer them a lot more flexibility if we can find a cool season perennial grass," he said.

Such a program could offer producers an opportunity to purchase stocker cattle sooner, allowing the cattle to gain more weight earlier in a grazing program.

"In our typical price scenario, it takes about 90 to 100 days to break even on wheat pasture," Redmon said. "If you have the higher grain yield varieties that are early maturing, it's hard to get much profit on wheat pasture cattle if you have a short grazing season. We think we can bring cattle in earlier and precondition them on pasture that's similar to wheat pasture, then whenever wheat pasture is available, we can roll the cattle into that pasture."

Such a grazing program would also allow producers to move cattle off wheat pasture to ensure maximum grain production.

"Cool season perennial grasses offer a lot of

ABC's "This Week" — Topics: Mideast peace talks and Indian nuclear testing. Guests: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-N.Y., and U.N. Ambassador Bill Richardson. Also, actor-director Warren Beatty discusses his new movie, "Bulworth."

CBS' "Face the Nation" — Topic: India's nuclear tests. Guests: Pakistani Information Minister Mushahid Hussain, Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and John Glenn, D-Ohio; and Undersecretary of State Thomas Pickering.

NBC's "Meet the Press" — Topics: India's nuclear testing and American values and character. Guests: National security adviser Sandy Berger, Sens. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., and Bob Kerrey, D-Nebr.; former presidential candidate Gary Hart and William Bennett of Empower America.

CNN's "Late Edition" — Topics: Indonesian riots and Mideast peace talks. Guests: National security adviser Sandy Berger, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former Secretary of State James Baker.

Lineup for the Sunday TV news shows

FOOD

receiving groceries, recipients will be asked to attend a short non-denominational chapel service, not promoting any church or religion, but Jesus, said Carolyn Stroud.

Food is available to any person (excluding single men) on an emergency, walk-in basis one time. Stroud explained that the program, while there to serve everyone, will place an emphasis on single women with children and the elderly. The exception to this is single men with custody of their children.

After a person has walked in one time, needed foods will only be distributed following individual counseling. A food ministry card will be issued to enforce limited assistance and encourage the client toward church involvement and self-sufficiency. A record will be kept each time a client receives food or other assistance.

The food ministry card, good for six food services, will be punched each time a recipient comes in. When the initial card is expired, a second will be issued if the person submits a pastoral letter indicating church involvement or if the individual is involved with Harvest House's discipleship classes.

"We're going to take a little different approach," said Trinity's Pastor Lonny Robbins. "It's hard to change someone externally unless we change them from the inside."

Any food assistance beyond the third card would be given only by personal appointment with a food

counselor, not more often than monthly. A pastoral letter is required each time to verify that the client's need has been made known to his/her home church and to verify their continued church involvement.

"Our purpose is to encourage and equip people as an evangelistic thrust, not to be a permanent assistance," according to the program's leadership. "We're not here just for food," said Trinity's Administrative Pastor, Don Case, who will serve as the liaison between Harvest House and Trinity Fellowship.

Financial assistance, and life skills classes to aid clients in finding jobs, filling out applications, etc. will begin in the fall in addition to the food assistance programs. Child care will also be available for clients who take part in these services.

Nine to 10-week workshops will be taught by volunteers to teach clients skills ranging from job applications to things as simple as setting the table. "There just is not end to what can be done," said Case.

Cooperation between the assistance agencies was discussed. A possibility of regularly sharing "lists" to indicate what clients are being assisted by what agencies was mentioned.

"The thing that's important is to work together. People have worked the system — we don't want them to work the system, but we want to help with the problem," Robbins said.

The Harvest House is at 736 S. Cuyler (formerly the Sidwell building). For questions concerning the program, call 665-4042.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

SMOKE

use common sense.

"If the air looks clear, then your children are probably not at risk," Archer said.

The health warning had been issued earlier this week for more than 50 counties. Most of the rest of Texas had been under a health "watch" in which people were urged to use caution while outdoors.

Particulate matter reached its highest measured level Friday in Austin, but then began receding, officials said. It was still below the level considered dangerous, McBee said.

The state has limited sites in which continuous sampling is done — Austin, Houston, Corpus Christi and Brownsville.

Archer said the smoke includes tiny particulates that can accumulate over time in the lungs. He added, however, "We do not believe that this has any longterm serious consequences for health of the citizens of Texas."

He said the state was asking the Texas Medical Association and medical societies to survey physicians to see whether they are finding conditions associated with the smoke.

"We have not had any evidence that anyone has died or become sick as a result of this," he said. The state would have been aware if there had been a large number of cases in emergency rooms, but the additional surveying will identify individual cases.

Farmers clearing land for planting in January started some of the more than 11,000 fires that have burned along the border between Mexico and Central America. Other blazes have been blamed on arsonists.

Bush suggested it would make sense for the U.S. Forestry Service to assist in battling the blaze. He

Texas will send a representative with a team of technical experts headed to Mexico to assess the situation, Bush said.

said Texas has offered to do its best to help, but the state now has firefighters and equipment battling a Presidio County forest fire.

Texas will send a representative with a team of technical experts headed to Mexico to assess the situation, Bush said.

Asked whether Mexico should have asked for help sooner, Bush said, "That's a hard question. Obviously, I guess the answer is in retrospect, yes."

But he added, "I feel certain the Mexican government is doing everything they can within their power to fight the fire. This is nature at its roughest. Nature oftentimes can overpower man."

Bush and the TNRCC came under fire from Garry Mauro, the state's land commissioner and Democratic gubernatorial nominee.

Mauro said Bush should move quickly to reduce the output of polluting industries in the state while the smoke emergency continues.

"When you can see, smell and taste the air, you don't have to be a scientist to know it's not healthy," he said. "I am discouraged and appalled at the TNRCC and governor's unwillingness to deal with what is obviously a public health emergency."

Bush said he had spoken with McBee about the matter. "We don't think that would do much good," he said.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Partly cloudy and breezy today with a high of 90 and winds from the south at 15-25 mph and gusting. A slight chance of showers tonight with a low of 62. Tomorrow, partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. The high should be in the low 90s.

REGIONAL FORECAST

WEST TEXAS — Sunday, partly cloudy and breezy. High 85 to 90. South wind 15-25 mph with higher gusts. Tonight, mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of evening thunderstorms. Low around 60.

Low Rolling Plains — Today...Partly cloudy. High lower to mid 90s. Tonight...Fair. Low lower to mid 60s. Permian Basin/Upper Trans Pecos — Today...Partly cloudy. High mid 90s. Tonight...Fair. Low in the 60s.

Concho Valley/Edwards Plateau — Today...Partly cloudy. High mid 90s. Far West Texas — Today...Partly cloudy.

Slight chance of afternoon thunderstorms hudsouth county. High 85-95. Tonight...Slight chance of evening thunderstorms hudsouth county. Low upper 50s to lower 60s. Guadalupe Mountains/Big Bend Area — Today...Partly cloudy. Slight chance of afternoon thunderstorms. Highs mid 80s to around 103. Tonight...Slight chance of evening thunderstorms. Otherwise fair. Lows mid 50s to mid 70s.

NORTH TEXAS — Today...Partly cloudy and hazy west...Partly cloudy and becoming hazy central...Mostly cloudy and hazy east. Highs 89 to 96. Tonight through wednesday...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 60s to lower 70s. Highs in the upper 80s to mid 90s.

SOUTH TEXAS — Hill Country and South Central Texas — Today...Mostly cloudy this morning to partly cloudy this afternoon. Hazy and smokey. High near 90 east to the mid and upper 90s west. Tonight...Partly cloudy turning

mostly cloudy after midnight. Hazy and smokey. Low in the 60s hill country to lower 70s south central. Southeast Texas and Upper Texas Coast — Today...Partly cloudy with haze and smoke. High in the 80s coast to near 90 inland. Tonight...Partly cloudy with smoke and haze. Low in the 70s. Coastal Bend and the Rio Grande Plains — Today...Partly cloudy with haze and smoke. High in the 80s coast to 90s inland. Tonight...Partly cloudy with smoke and haze. Low in the 70s.

BORDER STATES

NEW MEXICO — Today and tonight...Warm with fair to partly cloudy skies. A slight chance for afternoon and evening thunderstorms all but southwest. Breezy Sunday afternoon. Highs in the mid 60s and 70s mountains and northwest with 80s to mid 90s at lower elevations.

OKLAHOMA

Today...Mostly sunny. Highs around 90. Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows 60 to 65.

City briefs

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

EMERGENCY JAIL Release. 24 hrs. Jack Ward, 669-9911. Adv.

MARSHAL ART Classes starting now at Clarendon College. 665-8554. Adv.

CONCEALED HANDGUN Licenses and Renewals. Donna Nunamaker, 665-9394. Adv.

LAWN CARE - Call Family Lawn Care, 665-3257. Adv.

MUST SELL 24 ft. 1982 travel trailer. Bunk-beds, hitches include, a/c. 883-2038. Adv.

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CONCEALED HANDGUN - License and renewal classes. B. Bowman 669-3871, 665-9358. Adv.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING - \$25. Tickets dismissal/ins. discount. Bowman Driving School, 669-3871. (USA) - CO697. Adv.

FOR SALE - Full blood Pitt Bull, ready now. 665-4531 leave message. Adv.

ALL SCHOOL Reunion for Lefors has been cancelled. Adv.

OPEN HOUSE May 17th from 2-4 p.m. 1923 Grape. Storm cellar, 5 bdr., 2-3/4 ba., large recreation room, quiet neighborhood. Adv.

JUST MOVED to Tammy's Cut-Ups. Movers Special! Enjoy a full set of nails for only \$25. Don't miss this great deal. Limited time only. Call or come by Tammy's ask for Laurie 665-6658. Adv.

CALL 1-800-359-3131 for Weight Watchers information. Adv.

ROLANDA'S SILK Flowers & Gifts, has just received new rose bushes & more for Memorial Day. New location 301 W. Foster. Adv.

WATCH 20/20 on Mon. 5-18 or Fri. 5-22 for a special report on Kava Kava. For stress & anxiety by Dr. Bloomfeld. Kava is available at Sara's Health Foods, 527 N. Main St., Borger, Tx. 1-800-870-5122. Adv.

KIWI GREEN Stones are here! Silver Creek Collection, 121 S. Houston, 665-5000. Adv.

GOOD USED Furniture. 669-6418 after 6 p.m. Adv.

GRADUATION/FATHER'S Day Special - One Troy oz. .999 silver coin "The State of Texas" seal, \$6.50 ea. lim supply. Hi-Plains Inv. Co. 105 W. Foster, Mon-Fri. 2-6 p.m. Sat. 10-2 p.m. Adv.

GRADUATION/FATHER'S Day Special - Zach Thomas cards & most singles 1/2 price. The Card Corner, 105 W. Foster, Mon-Fri. 2-6 p.m. Sat. 10-2 p.m. Adv.

CARPET SALE

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 Reg. \$29.95 **SALE \$17.95**

Saxoneys
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Charlie's CARPET CONNECTION 1533 N. Hobart 665-0995

Private funeral, public tributes for Old Blue Eyes

By LYNN ELBER
 Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The world is humming Frank Sinatra's tunes and singing his praises.

A day after Old Blue Eyes died, tributes to the entertainer and the magical way he wrapped himself around a song were everywhere: flooding television, radio and the Internet.

"He was simply the best. No one else came close," singer Elton John said.

Sinatra died late Thursday of a heart attack at age 82, his wife Barbara at his side. He had been ill in recent years and hadn't been seen in public since before a January 1997 heart attack.

"The world has lost a treasure, and I've lost my dear friend," actor-comedian Jerry Lewis said from his home in Las Vegas.

Fans old and young alike, eager to capture that smoky voice once more, snatched up thousands of copies of Sinatra recordings Friday.

At a Virgin record store in London, Tom Hancock was putting out extra stock of Sinatra records by the armful Friday.

"He's the last of an era," Hancock said. "Frank was bigger, he was greater than Elvis Presley."

In Los Angeles, Virgin customers were buying a half-dozen Sinatra recordings at a time, store employee Mike Metcalf said. A \$500 special edition compact disc set and another for \$300 were flying off shelves.

"Isn't that a sad thing?" Metcalf said. "People should have bought them before he died."

With his trademark wink, strut and that oh-so-confident air, Sinatra's appeal crossed the generations. Jeff Kocan, 22, a disc jockey for West Virginia University, planned to play Sinatra throughout his weekend shows.

The loss was marked over and over across the United States. At New York's Yankee Stadium, there was a moment of silence for Sinatra before Friday's game, and the organist played a mournful rendition of "My Way."

Baseball fans in Detroit heard Sinatra crooning his favorite ballads between innings at a game between the Detroit Tigers and the Oakland Athletics.

In Sinatra's birthplace of Hoboken, N.J., mourners dropped flowers, cards and mementos at the bronze plaque set at the site of his home, which burned in 1967.

Las Vegas, the town that Sinatra helped build as a member of the Rat Pack, remembered the Chairman of the Board by dimming the sparkling lights of the Strip for a minute.

On the marquee outside Caesars Palace, a huge picture of Sinatra towered over the Strip on Friday. It read: "Frank Sinatra, 1915-1998."

His three Hollywood stars — for radio, TV and movies — on Los Angeles' Walk of Fame proved magnets for fans, who left offerings of flowers and other mementos.

At Capitol Records, where Sinatra recorded many of his trademark

albums, black bunting covered its tower to honor the label's most famous artist.

Sinatra was heard across the radio dial, dominated network television and drew scores of visitors to a Web site established by his family.

"Maestro, we know that you will read this wherever you are. Thanks for the endless hours of delight," was the posting from a Nashua, N.H., couple.

"The heart and song of our century is gone," read a Dallas woman's message.

Sinatra was to be buried in a private service. No details were announced Friday, but the family has a plot at Desert Memorial Park in Cathedral City, Calif., near Palm Springs.

Francis Albert Sinatra was born Dec. 12, 1915, in a working-class neighborhood of Hoboken and rose to become perhaps show business' most versatile and mesmerizing star.

His career, launched in the 1930s, was carried by his talent and tenacity into the '90s. From his nightclub days to his years as a Vegas headliner and movie star, Sinatra's companions were whiskey, women and wild times.

With his trademark wink, strut and that oh-so-confident air, Sinatra's appeal crossed the generations. Jeff Kocan, 22, a disc jockey for West Virginia University, planned to play Sinatra throughout his weekend shows.

"The last time we were at the bar they played 'The Way You Look Tonight' and the crowd went nuts. They were dancing, snapping, singing along. Just last week, there were 30 twentysomethings dancing in between tables," Kocan said.

"Tonight I suspect there will be one last dance for Frank."

Names in the news...

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (AP) — Christopher Reeve says spinal cord research deserves some serious spending, like the billions spent on the military.

"The scientists know the path to success, and they are hampered by money," Reeve said Friday at a medical conference on spinal cord injury at the University of Virginia.

The star of "Superman," paralyzed from the neck down since a riding accident in 1995, suggested as much as half of the Defense Department's \$39 billion annual budget should be spent on researching spinal injuries.

The title of the program was "A Look into the Future: Prospects for Treatment in the Year 2005."

"I'm glad you picked the year 2005, because I won't be here then. I'll be out sailing in Maine someplace," Reeve said.

"People say to me, 'Aren't you naive to say that you can walk in seven years?' Borrowing a page from President Kennedy, he didn't get up and say, 'We're going to go three-quarters of the way to the moon,'" he said.

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP) — A strong prairie wind and about 300 friends welcomed Bob Dole back to Kansas for the dedication of a federal courthouse named in his honor.

The Russell native, who represented his home state in Congress for 35 years, smiled and waved as he received a standing ovation when he emerged from the newly built Robert J. Dole U.S.

Courthouse. "I've had a sandwich named after me, but this is my first building. I guess it's mine now," said Dole, the 1996 Republican presidential nominee.

"You know, the one thing about buildings. They don't recognize political lines. It's just blind justice."

Dole, a World War II veteran, was a state legislator and county attorney before he was elected to the House of Representatives in 1961. In 1969 he was elected to the Senate, resigning in 1996 to run for president.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Sonny and Cher's hit "I Got You Babe" made them stars more than 30 years ago. They finally have concrete proof.

"I couldn't be happier today if I were twins. It's so cool," Cher said Friday as she unveiled the couple's star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. "I too think it's long overdue, but it's perfect timing."

It was a posthumous honor for Bono, the entertainer-turned-politician who died Jan. 5 when he skied into a tree at a South Lake Tahoe resort. His widow also attended the ceremony.

"He always believed in dreams and he always believed in himself even when the chips were down," said Rep. Mary Bono, who succeeded her husband in a special election.

Sonny and Cher also scored

hits with "Baby Don't Go" and "The Beat Goes On."

CANNES, France (AP) — Johnny Depp as a nerdy bookworm? Tell that to the teen-age girls who screamed for him on the beach at the Cannes Film Festival.

As a crowd of fans waved pens and shrieked "Johnneeee!" Depp and Roman Polanski stepped onto a Cannes beach Thursday to announce plans to make "The Ninth Gate," an occult thriller.

Depp will play an expert hired to authenticate an antique book.

Depp said he and Polanski decided to work together when they got together at Cannes last year.

"Obviously he's a master," said Depp, who stars in "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas" that was showing in competition at Cannes on Friday.

"He's one of the guys I've wanted to work with for a long time, so I'm very honored," he said.

CANNES, France (AP) — As if music weren't enough to keep him rolling, Mick Jagger is staying busy in the film business.

Jagger, with his film company, Jagged Films, is working with Tom Stoppard on a \$12 million movie based on "Enigma," Robert Harris' World War II novel about cracking Nazi codes.

Bones dealer sentenced to 90 days in jail, fined \$10,000

NEW YORK (AP) — The owner of a shop that sold skulls of endangered wildlife and bones of American Indians was sentenced to 90 days in jail for illegally trafficking in animal parts.

William Stevens, 49, is to begin serving his three-month term June 18.

Stevens, owner of the store "Evolution: Natural History," pleaded guilty in March to two felony counts of illegal commercialization of wildlife, as well as two misdemeanor charges of illegally selling wildlife remains and illegally transporting human fetuses. He also was fined \$10,000.

Among the illegal items at his store were bald eagle skulls, a stool made from an elephant's foot and a chimpanzee's hand.

Stevens also has pleaded to trafficking in skulls stolen from American Indian graveyards.

Federal prosecutors said Stevens sold remains of Seminole and Peoria Indians. Federal law bars the sale of all American Indian remains.

Stevens, who was sentenced Thursday in state court, faces up to 11 years in prison and fines of \$600,000 at sentencing next week on the federal charges.

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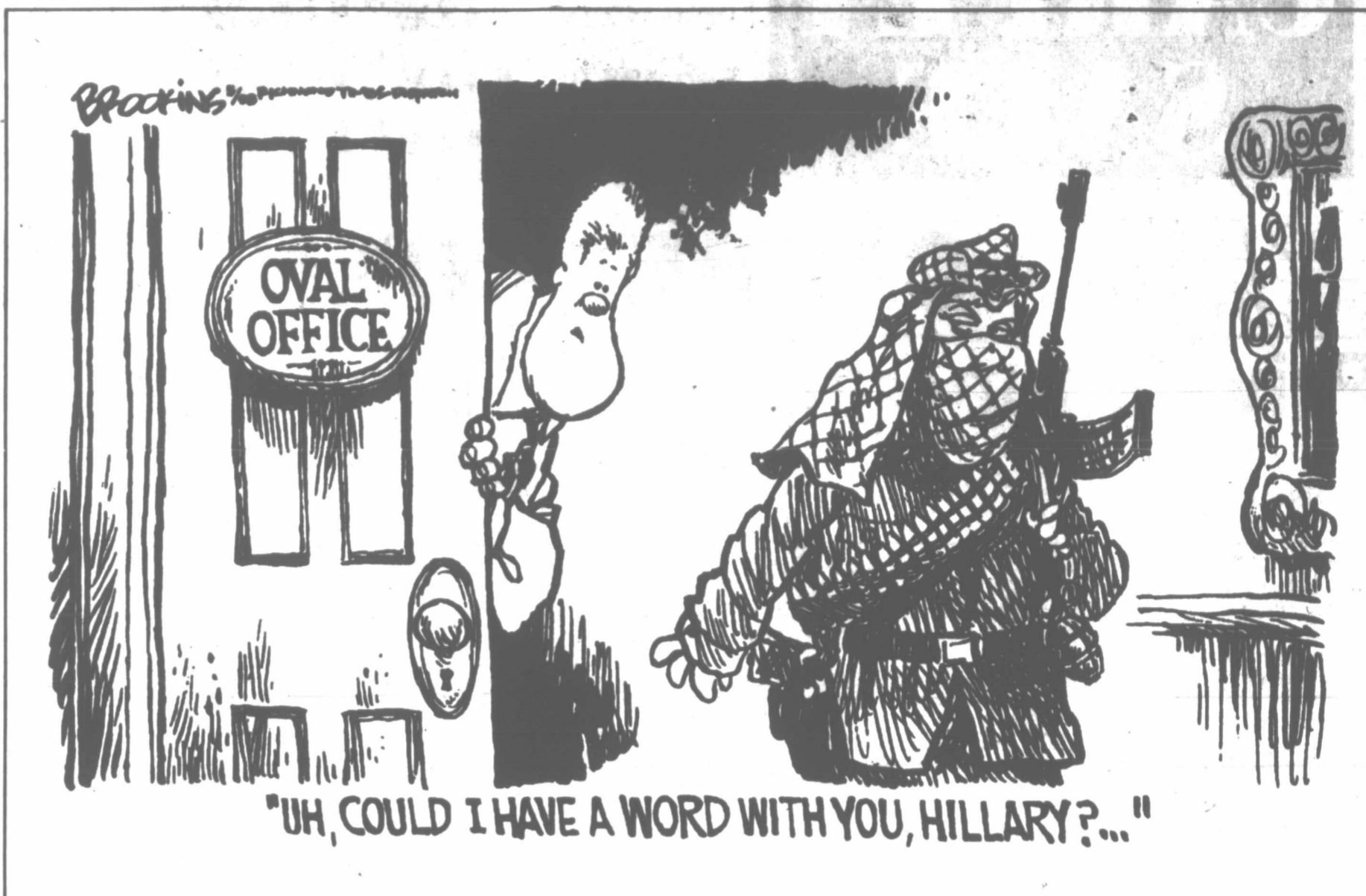
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Opinion

Hubbell tapes show Clinton defenders' stonewalling tactics

Even if the release of the Hubbell conversations had a partisan slant, what about the bias being shown by Clinton defenders?

Democrats and even a few Republicans are in a tizzy about the way Rep. Dan Burton, the Indiana Republican who is chairman of the House Oversight Committee, is handling his investigation into possible Clinton administration wrongdoing.

In particular, they are angry about his release of the taped prison conversations between Clinton crony Webster Hubbell and his wife, Suzy, and say Burton's committee unfairly edited the tapes.

Here is the latest instance of the Clinton administration and its congressional toadies launching a full-scale attack on someone probing the president and first lady. It's a tired routine, but once again it succeeded at shifting attention from Clinton's lying, stonewalling and power abuses to the alleged improprieties of the investigators.

Now attention is focused on whether Burton has "doctored" the taped conversations, not on Hubbell's willingness to "roll over" once again for the administration. It's enough to keep Democrat Henry Waxman and other shameless administration defenders busy screaming about a so-called House inquisition.

What is more partisan? A Republican who is serious about removing the stonewall the administration has erected, or Democrats who will do anything to protect "their" president? Burton may have edited some of the Hubbell tapes to his advantage, but that doesn't discount what some of them may reveal, or excuse the way administration allies may have skirted the law to protect the Clintons.

The lengths to which partisan Democrats go to debunk the partisanship of Republicans has reached ludicrous proportions. Special prosecutor Kenneth Starr, we're told repeatedly, is launching a "witch hunt" and a "never ending" and costly investigation of the Clintons. Never mind the main reasons the probe costs so much and is taking so long are the administration claims executive privilege at every turn, key witnesses take the Fifth, and that the White House is engaged in a pattern of obfuscation and delay.

Now, Burton is being smeared with the McCarthyite brush. The Philadelphia Daily News' Sandy Grady, a notorious Clinton defender, wrote in a column recently that the release of the Hubbell tapes is something Tailgunner Joe would have done.

But, as the Wall Street Journal argued in an editorial, "How else to break a stonewall built with the power of the executive branch and the complicity of Democrats in Congress?"

Writing in Human Events, Burton explains why he released tapes he believes show that hush money was paid to Hubbell by an Indonesian family intimately linked to illegal Clinton-Gore campaign contributions:

"Virtually everything we have tried to do in this investigation the Democrats have tried to obstruct. No previous congressional investigation has faced the systematic stonewalling of more than 90 witnesses... When more than 50 people have taken the Fifth and more than 30 people have fled the country, there is good reason to believe that there was a high level of criminal activity swirling around President Clinton and his campaign."

In addition to disappearing and silent witnesses, Burton points to White House withholding of subpoenaed fund-raising videotapes, administration brinkmanship with regard to providing requested documents, abuses of executive privilege claims and legal maneuvering designed to delay the investigation.

Burton may indeed be partisan. But why isn't Democratic partisanship being discussed? Why aren't the national media demanding that House committee Democrats stop trying to scuttle a legitimate investigation?

—Odessa American

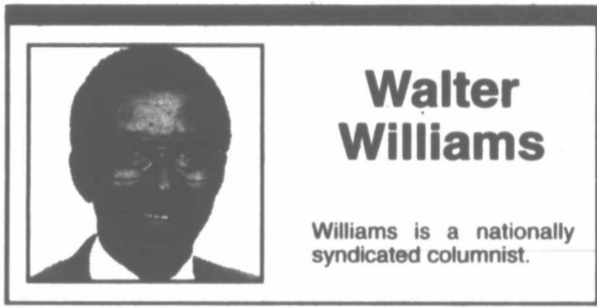
No longer a third rail

Barry Goldwaters 1964 landslide presidential defeat can, in part, be attributed to his warnings about the pending collapse of Social Security and the need for reform. Ronald Reagan touched that "third rail" of politics when he spoke of the need for Social Security reform.

For decades, older Americans made it clear that political suicide was synonymous with warnings of Social Security disaster and talk of change. The only "reform" they'd accept was higher FICA taxes levied on workers and bigger benefit checks to them.

From a self-interested point, this is rational. After all, why should Social Security recipients or politicians be concerned about the system's total collapse in 2030? Neither will be around to share the blame or feel the pain. Also, older Americans vote in much greater numbers than younger Americans. In the world of politics, you dump on people who can't dump back on you. Because of young people's low voting turnout, politicians have incentives to rip them off in favor of older people, or more politely said, engage in inter-generational wealth transfers.

The good news is that more politicians are now being candid about Social Security. Much of that is due to the fact that Social Security collapse is becoming apparent and undeniable, and there are a greater number of Americans who'll be around for it. Indeed, more than one-half of today's population will



be around for the beginning of the end that actually starts in 2010 and explodes around 2030.

Sen. Patrick Moynihan, D-N.Y., has offered a plan that features a payroll tax cut from 12.4 to 10.4 percent. Workers could take that 2 percent and invest it in a tax-deferred retirement account. With a modest inflation-adjusted return of 4 percent, such an account would yield \$350,000 at retirement for the \$30,000-a-year worker.

Sen. Phil Gramm's, R-Texas, plan features a literal one-up on Moynihan's. Gramm proposes to cut the payroll tax from 12.4 to 9.4 percent. Workers would be allowed to put that 3 percent into private retirement accounts. When that worker retired, having put his money in a low-risk investment portfolio, he would have enough money to purchase an annuity that would pay him more than what he'd get from Social Security.

Both plans have other features, but in each

plan retirement accounts would become the property of the worker. That's not true about Social Security. In Nestor vs. Fleming (1960), the U.S. Supreme court ruled that individuals have no right to Social Security benefits based upon the taxes they paid. Workers have rights to only what Congress chooses to give them.

Moynihan and Gramm are to be applauded for their political courage, but we must send them a message: If our putting 2 percent or 3 percent of payroll taxes into a private investment portfolio equals or beats what we'd get from Social Security, why not scrap Social Security altogether and allow us to invest the whole 12.4 percent? If Moynihan and Gramm are honest, they'd say, "We need us in the system for the transition period to pay off today's Social Security commitments, plus we prefer money coming to Washington rather than Wall Street."

There's actually a plan superior to Moynihan's or Gramm's. In Chile, they've completely and successfully privatized Social Security. Jose Pinera, of the Washington-based Cato Institute, has made a persuasive argument for U.S. adoption of the Chilean plan. Let's hope that the timid steps taken by Moynihan and Gramm ultimately lead to privatization. Complete privatization would bring the greatest benefits to Americans, but it would be a disaster to the Washington elite who want to control our lives.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, May 17, the 137th day of 1998. There are 228 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 17, 1954, the Supreme Court issued its landmark *Brown v. Topeka Board of Education* ruling, which held that racially segregated public schools were inherently unequal.

On this date:
 In 1792, the New York Stock Exchange was founded by brokers meeting under a tree located on what is now Wall Street.

In 1814, Norway's constitution was signed, providing for a limited monarchy.

In 1875, the first Kentucky Derby was run; the winner was Aristides.

In 1938, the radio quiz show "Information, Please!" made its debut on the NBC Blue Network.

In 1938, Congress passed the Vinson Naval Act, providing for a two-ocean navy.

In 1940, the Nazis occupied Brussels, Belgium, during World War II.

In 1946, President Truman seized control of the nation's railroads, delaying a threatened strike by engineers and trainmen.

In 1948, the Soviet Union recognized the new state of Israel.

In 1973, the Senate opened its hearings into the Watergate scandal.

In 1987, 37 American sailors were killed when an Iraqi warplane attacked the U.S. Navy frigate *Stark* in the Persian Gulf. (Iraq and the U.S. called the attack a mistake.)

Ten years ago: The Commerce Department reported that a record level of export sales gave the United States its lowest monthly trade deficit in three years in March 1988, totaling \$9.7 billion.

Five years ago: President Clinton visited the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, the birthplace of the atomic bomb to promote a five-year, \$20 billion defense-conversion plan.

One year ago: Rebel leader

Laurent Kabila declared himself president of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, formerly Zaire. Russia's Mir space station received a new oxygen generator and a fresh American astronaut, courtesy of space shuttle *Atlantis*. Silver Charm won the Preakness, two weeks after winning the Kentucky Derby. (However, he failed to win the Belmont Stakes.)

Today's Birthdays: Actress Maureen O'Sullivan is '87. Former Watergate special prosecutor Archibald Cox is 86. Opera singer Birgit Nilsson is 80. Actor-director Dennis Hopper is 62. Nebraska Gov. Ben Nelson is 57. Singer Taj Mahal is 56.

Squirrels better than prozac

Next time you're feeling low, instead of popping a Prozac, go find a squirrel.

The squirrel people are sort of the children of the animal world. I find it impossible to watch a squirrel and not feel cheerful. Their bright eyes, their bubbling energy and their curiosity make me smile.

And unlike squirrely people, an epithet I think insults real squirrels, these little critters are very competent. When it comes to squirrel business, which is mainly finding something to eat, they are tireless, daring and ingenious. If we pursued our own goals with the same cheerful determination, we'd all be so successful we probably wouldn't recognize ourselves.

When I was boy, I made the mistake of catching a squirrel with my bare hands. If you wish to know why squirrels can navigate trees so easily, I can tell you. It's because their claws are needle-sharp. They can also move those claws faster than a blender blade.

It had taken me a long time to catch that squirrel, but I couldn't uncatch it quick enough. Catching that squirrel proved to me that success isn't always what it's touted to be. Failure would have hurt a whole lot less.

There was a time when I used to shoot squirrels with my .22 and eat them. They are tasty. Some people think they are too much like rats to eat, but having never eaten a rat (at least not



knowingly, but if you eat out you never know), I can't say if the flavor resembles roasted rat or not. You'll have to find an ex-Green Beret who was with the Montagnards and ask him. The Montagnards often ate roasted rats as appetizers.

I can say that squirrel meat tastes somewhat like rattlesnake, which tastes somewhat like alligator tail, which tastes somewhat like chicken, which tastes somewhat like catfish.

Today, I'd have to be mighty hungry before I would shoot a squirrel. They are at the bottom of the list of things I would shoot, way below certain humans and other cutters. Guess you could say that I have mellowed out and made my peace with the squirrel folks.

The main reason I keep a bird feeder is to watch the squirrels steal the birdseed. I suppose I ought to call it a squirrel feeder, and then the birds would be guilty of stealing the squirrel seed. That's a good example of how you can perceive the same thing differently.

When I was a reporter years ago in a coastal city, a man called and said he had trained a

wild dolphin and wanted me to come out and take his picture. I asked him what he had trained the dolphin to do.

"Well, every day at 4 o'clock I go down to the end of my pier, hold a fish up in the air and the dolphin leaps out of the water and takes the fish," he said with a sort of smug pride.

"How do I know," I replied, "that the dolphin didn't train you to walk out onto the end of your pier every day at 4 o'clock and stand there, holding a fish over the water?"

The guy was perplexed. While he thought about it, I said, "I'm sorry, we don't take pictures of people who have been trained by dolphins," and hung up.

It seemed not to have occurred to him that the dolphin was training him to feed it, but I think that was the case. It's been my experience that dolphins are lot smarter than people who want to have their pictures in the newspaper.

Looking at things from multiple perspectives is a useful habit. There is a human tendency to take much of the world for granted. It is never true, for example, that if you've seen one of something, you've seen all of them because all of them are different.

In the meantime, be kind to squirrels. Think of them as little Prozac substitutes hopping about. They are one of God's nicer gifts.

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Letters to the editor

Optimist Club in business of making memories

To the editor:
I have read with interest the past few months the letters concerning the Optimist Club and the troubles there. Some are true and some are not. I would like to take this time to tell Mr. Haskins why I am a member of this organization, and why I think he should be also.

Memories. My oldest boy played on the same Babe Ruth team as Zach Thomas. Another time when I was coaching, my son hit his very first over the fence home run. What a memory. A kid on my basketball team made a shot with one second left on the clock to send the championship game into overtime. What a memory. Or how about the time we walked an opposing batter, got the next kid out and won the game 3-2? What a memory.

You're right Mr. Haskins. There are problems in the club. However, I believe the solution lies within the membership. Truman Lowrance, Calvin Lacy, Bill Simon, John Warner, Tracy Wright, Jim Davis, Sam Coffee, K.T. York and many more work hard for the club and the kids of Pampa. Plus you can put your money on the honesty of these men. So come join Mr. Haskins and remember the price of a shirt may be \$10, a pair of pants \$15 and a bag of sunflower seeds a dollar, but all these memories are priceless.

Buddy Allen
Pampa

Thanks for saving my home from burning!

To the editor:
One of the phrases going around these days is "don't go postal" or words to that effect. It is meant negatively in the extreme. As with many phrases, it has given a "bum rap" to millions of hard-working, honest employees. One of these guys, Kirk Rice, through his quick action to call the fire department on April 23, possibly saved my home from burning.

I would like to commend him and thank him from my heart. I appreciate the call. I would also like to thank Gay Dismuke and Judy Haynes, two very beautiful ladies, for their respective calls to alert me to what was happening. I was able to go home, give the information to the firemen.

By the way, only a portion of my fence burned. My trailer house still stands! Lastly, a HUGE thanks to the fire department. I really appreciate you guys and all you did. Because of your quick response, I still have a home to return to. It's a good feeling to realize the caring part of human nature is alive and in use. Thank you all!

Jeannie Conner
Pampa

Remember: We were all teenagers once ...

To the editor:
Almost 3,000 young people, moms and dads invaded McNeely Field House, not for a sports event, but for a youth rally recently with Josh McDowell, his staff and Bethel of praise. It's a night I shall always remember. The youth of Pampa and the surrounding area should be commended.

However, from the time of Socrates to the present, adults have declared that the youth are going to the dogs. Well, if that's the case, all I can say to that is "bow-wow."

Recently, I read a letter to the editor regarding the actions of young people at the local theater. The older couple was complaining about moving around too much and using language that pertained to relationships with the opposite sex. Such innuendos cannot be tolerated. I agree that we adults usually go to the theaters to watch, and hopefully enjoy, the movie and the night out. Unlike you young people who use the theater as a social gathering place. I believe the phrase was used "parents, do you know where your children are and what they're doing?"

Believe it or not, most parents do know where their children are, and they are behaving in a manner that is pleasing in the public eye. However, parents can not watch their children all the time. But if I remember correctly, when I was young I was not always the angel I am today. Usually if young people are acting in a displeasing manner it is because they want attention. They're saying, "someone please look at me, I'm a person, someone please be attentive to my needs. I just want someone to love and care for me."

If I may paraphrase from the movie "My Cousin Vinny", the "utes" of America will make it. They will be the scientists, teachers, policemen, technicians, doctors, lawyers and leaders of tomorrow. But, we as adults need to give attention to their needs and wants. We are responsible to our children.

I was fortunate to serve on the promotion committee for the Josh McDowell "Right from Wrong" campaign. His concept of talking to youth as a father would to a son or daughter creates an atmosphere that shows he cares. Josh gave us insight and tools to teach our children right from wrong. Though the seminar for parents and the youth rally were a huge success, don't wait to use the knowledge you obtained. Act today.

I must address one more important item. I want to praise the young people of Pampa and the surrounding area. Pampa, you can be proud of your children. They were distinguished by their actions at the youth rally.

So next time you see a young person throw a smile their way, even if you don't like the way they dress. Just stop a minute and think about what you used to wear when you were young. It should scare you. And if it is feasible, give them a hug because they need to know you care. Just be together and if you go for a walk, you can leave the leash at home.

Danny Cowan
Pampa

Pampa High School has fine cheerleading program

To the editor:
I am not sure what the boy's name was, but I wanted to publicly commend the young man who went out kudos to Pampa. Nice try to the young man. I am proud of the cheerleading program at Pampa High School.

Matthew Gantz
Theatre instructor/soccer coach
Pampa

Confessions of an longtime Optimist Club member

To the editor:
Something must be done to protect our youth at the Optimist Club. I moved to Pampa in 1972 and was recruited into the Optimist Club. When I went out to watch my nephew play in a Little League ball game, I was very vocal about the umpire who after the game assured me that he was doing the best he could. The nerve of the that guy telling me there were plenty of opportunities for new umpires if I would be interested, no extra charge for ear plugs. Basketball was not much better as the referees obviously missed a lot of fouls which everyone in the stands could see. When I questioned one of the officials, he assured me that he was doing the best he could and, you guessed it, there were plenty of openings for referees if I was interested. When football season rolled around, it was the same old story. These guys must have all gone to the "Optimist School for Blind Officials" and graduated with honors.

My next real shock came when I noticed that most of these officials were actually coaches in disguise. They would slip out after a game and reappear as a coach. It was very obvious to me what they were doing. I guess that they thought they were fooling everyone else, but I caught on real quick. When I approached one of these fellows about this strange behavior, he informed me that if I would keep it quiet he could arrange a secret meeting for me on Monday night with some of the Optimist board members. There would be steak to eat and all the trimmings. What a bribe. I could not believe my eyes when I showed up. Not only was one of these impostors a coach and a referee, but also pretended to be a chef in the kitchen. To add insult to injury, after telling me that for my silence they would arrange for me to be a coach, referee, umpire, cook and bottle washer, and even throw in helping to build fields and keep the toilets clean, and I would have to pay \$5 for my meal on top of the annual dues. Boy, what nerve, I thought. Just think of all the people in Pampa who were trying to get in on this, and I was offered a deal to keep it quiet. This was a real test of character if there ever was one.

In the following years, two events changed my direction forever. A daughter in 1975 and a son in 1976. They both were subjected to the programs offered by the Optimist, never knowing the deal I had

secretly made so many years ago. J.B. played in T-Ball, 9-12's and Babe Ruth along with basketball. Meredith played softball and basketball. I coached baseball and softball and secretly officiated in all sports at one time or another. I became aware of that early statement about ear plugs at no extra charge. In a real moment of weakness, I ran the concession stand for two years. I do not think anyone recognized me because when I looked for help most people did not seem to respond. It occurred to me that most of the help I got was within the members of the club. I could only assume it was because these people secretly knew I was a member and the others did not. Why else would they seem to disappear when it was time to coach, officiate or work on the many fields and buildings and work the concession stand?

During my years as coach and official, I had many interesting phone calls questioning my heritage. I never did figure out why people were so interested in my family tree. With 16 girls on one of my teams, I got everyone in the game in 3 and 1/2 innings before the 15 run rule ended the game. One parent of two daughters on the team read me the riot act because one daughter did not start the game and the other had a problem in the dugout during the game which I was not aware of. When the father of the two girls got through with the threats and whatever he was going to do to me, all in front of the little girls, he and his support group left. I was never too concerned as he was a lot bigger than me and I can run very fast if the situation calls for it. The next day the mother of the girls drove up and dropped off the girls for practice and drove off. I wondered if they knew I was secretly an Optimist member to be so trusted with their kids.

My real test came when I slipped into the stands as a parent while others coached my kids. I must have been very successful because both kids did their share of sitting on the bench and were not automatic selections on the All-Star teams. I really should have let some of these coaches know I was really an Optimist member as kids of members are always selected as All-Stars and get to play all the time. I was just too well disguised I guess. I hope my kids will forgive me.

I now must come clean as my conscience is weighing heavily after all of these years. I freely admit that "Yes, I have been a member of the Optimist Club for 26 years." During some of those years, I have been very active. During most of them, I have not been very active. I was nominated for Optimist of the Year once and ran for the board of directors once. I did not win and was not elected. As an umpire or referee, I never made a bad call while I was in the stands watching. I may have made one during a game but I can't remember it. As a coach, I was loved and adored by players and parents, and I do have some land for sale in Florida which I would like to show you at low tide if you believe that. I freely admit that I pay dues every year, and on the rare occasion that I get to a Monday night meeting I have always been billed for my meal. I wonder if they know I am a member? Members eat free don't they? My last activity at the Optimist Club was as umpire at the Lady Harvesters final home game of the season on the girls field. I bet the Pampa ISD will receive a really big

See LETTERS, Page 8

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SPORTS

Notebook

TRACK

AUSTIN — Pampa senior Barbara Wine had her best throw ever in the shot put, but it wasn't quite good enough for the gold medal.

Wine threw the shot 45-7 1/4 on her final attempt at the Class 4A girls' state track meet Friday to take second place.

Ibie Benibo of Corpus Christi Calallen won the shot with a throw of 46-9 1/2.

Wine, who placed third in last year's state meet, was in first place after the preliminaries with a 44-6 throw.

In other results, Pampa's Jenny Fatheree was sixth in the 800 with a time of 2:22.83. Katy Cavalier was seventh in the long jump at 17-1 1/2.

BASKETBALL

PAMPA — The Robert Hale Boys' Basketball Camp will hold its first session May 27-29 at McNeely Fieldhouse.

This first session, which includes an overnight camp, is for boys who will be in the 7th, 8th and 9th grades for the coming school year (1998-99). This year's camp will include 7th graders. Last year's camp was for 8th and 9th graders only.

Recently-printed camp brochures incorrectly listed 8th and 9th grades only.

Registration will be held from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at McNeely Fieldhouse.

The second session, on June 22-25, is for boys who will be in the 4th, 5th and 6th grades for the coming school year (1998-99). Registration will also be Monday and Tuesday at McNeely from 4 to 6.

Call 669-4832 during the day or 669-6447 at night if more information is needed.

Pampa golfers honored at awards banquet

PAMPA — It was a season like none other for the Pampa High girls golf program.

The 1998 Lady Harvesters became the first girls' team in school history to qualify for the state tournament after finishing second at regionals. They brought home the bronze medals for their third-place finish at the state meet.

"This is something these girls are always going to cherish. When you think of all the girls who tee off every year and never get to state, it's really a great accomplishment," said Pampa head coach Frank McCullough.

Both the Pampa girls and boys golf teams were honored with an awards banquet Friday night at the Pampa Country Club. The Pampa boys advanced to the regional tournament after finishing as District 1-4A runnersup. Making up the regional team were senior Jordan Fruge, juniors Nathan Banner, Jody Richardson, Barry Brauchi and Grady Locknane, sophomore Matt Heasley and freshman Clay Banner.

The Lady Harvesters were district champions for the second year in a row, beating second-place Hereford by 35 strokes. After finishing third at regionals the year before, Pampa slipped into second place behind Andrews to ensure a state trip.

According to the Texas Sports Guide, McCullough said there were 216 Class 4A schools in the state which played girls golf.

"I may have missed a few because of the fine print, but that's as best as I could count. That numbers cut to 16 teams for regionals and then just 8 end up going to state," McCullough said.

Junior Alison Piersall and senior Shelbie Allison were named to the honorable mention



(Pampa News photo)

Pampa High School girls' golf team members wear the state tournament medals they received at the Pampa golf awards banquet Friday night. From left to right are Melissa Gindorf, Maggie Cowan, Shelbie Allison, Stefanie Harwood, Cortnie Allison and Alison Piersall.

all-state team.

Melissa Gindorf, the team's only other senior, was the district medalist and was second-team, all-region along with Piersall. Allison was first-team all-region.

Sophomores Cortnie Allison, Maggie Cowan and Stefanie Harwood made up the rest of the Pampa team.

The Lady Harvesters shot a 676 at the state meet to finish three strokes ahead of fourth-place El Campo.

"I felt like we could have had better scores, but I'm still real proud of these young ladies," McCullough said. "It's some-

thing for them to be proud of."

All the team members received UIL (University Scholastic League) state medals and certificates.

The second annual J. David Fatheree Double Eagle Awards went to Alison Piersall and Grady Locknane. Fatheree, a strong supporter of Pampa High School activities and PHS golf, presented the awards.

1997-98 Pampa Golf Awards Girls

District Co-MVP: Melissa Gindorf and Shelbie Allison.

District Medalist: Melissa Gindorf.

First Team All-District: Shelbie Allison and Melissa Gindorf.

Second Team All-District: Cortnie Allison and Maggie Cowan.

Regional Qualifier: Shelbie Allison, Melissa Gindorf, Alison Piersall, Cortnie Allison, Maggie Cowan and Stefanie Harwood.

First Team All-Region: Shelbie Allison.

Second Team All-Region: Alison Piersall and Melissa Gindorf.

State Bronze Medalist: Shelbie Allison, Melissa Gindorf, Alison Piersall, Cortnie Allison, Maggie Cowan and Stefanie Harwood.

Honorable Mention All-State: Shelbie Allison and Alison Piersall.

J. David Fatheree Double Eagle Award: Alison Piersall.

Boys First Team All-District: Nathan Banner.

Second Team All-District: Grady Locknane, Barry Brauchi and Matt Heasley.

Regional Qualifier: Jordan Fruge, Nathan Banner, Jody Richardson, Barry Brauchi, Grady Locknane and Matt Heasley.

J. David Fatheree Double Eagle Award: Grady Locknane.

Sooners down A&M in Big 12 tourney

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Brian Shackelford's three-run homer keyed a five-run sixth inning Friday that carried

Oklahoma to a 10-4 victory over top-seeded Texas A&M and kept the Sooners alive in the Big 12 tournament.

Geoff Geary (12-1) pitched the second complete game of his career to get the victory.

Defending champion Oklahoma (39-17) plays Saturday afternoon in an elimination game with Oklahoma State, while Texas A&M (41-17) played Saturday morning against either Baylor or Texas Tech.

Indians squeeze by Texas in 13 innings

CLEVELAND (AP) — The parade of sluggers lasted well into the night, a tense crescendo of hope that kept ending in silence.

Brian Giles finally interrupted all the whiffs with a game-winning homer in the bottom of the 14th inning that gave the Cleveland Indians a 3-2 victory over the Texas Rangers on Friday night.

Thwarting two of baseball's most feared lineups, the bullpen combined for 13 scoreless innings with 14 strikeouts before Giles ended a 1-for-26 slump with his ninth homer.

"I just went up there looking for a fastball and tried to put a good whack on it," Giles said.

The 422-foot shot into the center field picnic area off Alan Levine (0-1), was a much-needed boost for the slumping Indians, who came in batting a tepid .268. The defending AL champions batted .199 during a six-game losing streak that ended Thursday night at Baltimore.

"Brian is in one of those spells," Indians manager Mike Hargrove said. "Hopefully, that last at-bat got him out of it."

Giles' homer on a 1-0 count provided the first run since the Rangers' Will Clark tied it at 2 with an RBI single in the sixth.

"You wouldn't expect it to go 14 innings with two teams like this," Texas manager Johnny Oates said.

Rick Krivda (2-0) worked one scoreless inning for the victory, the Indians' second straight after the six-game losing streak. It was Cleveland's sixth win in its last at-bat at home.

The AL West-leading Rangers, coming off a 7-5, 13-inning victory

at New York that lasted four hours, 53 minutes, lost for the second time in eight games and missed a chance to tie the best start through 40 games in franchise history. Texas is 25-15.

Juan Gonzalez got his major league-leading 50th RBI with a groundout in the first that scored Tom Goodwin, who walked. He is the fastest to reach 50 RBIs since Joe Carter, who also did it in 40 games with Toronto in 1994.

At the season's quarter-pole, Gonzalez is on pace to drive in 202 runs and break Hack Wilson's record of 190.

"Everything in this life is possible," Gonzalez said. "Nothing seems impossible if you play hard and stay positive."

Starters John Burkett and Jaret Wright engaged in a splendid duel on the 17th anniversary of Len Barker's perfect game at Cleveland's Municipal Stadium. The bullpens were even more dominant.

Cleveland relievers Paul Assenmacher, Jose Mesa, Mike Jackson, Ron Villone, Eric Plunk and Krivda allowed five hits in seven shutout innings and struck out seven.

Before Giles' homer, Texas relievers Eric Gunderson, Tim Crabtree, Scott Bailes, John Wetteland and Levine had pitched six shutout innings with three hits and seven strikeouts — including the side in the 11th by Bailes.

"We're not just offensive teams," the Rangers' Mark McLemore said. "Our team's got good, solid pitching, the starters and relievers. Their relievers came in and did a solid job, too."

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| TUESDAY, MAY 26..... | FRIDAY 4 P.M. |

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| WEDNESDAY, MAY 27..... | FRIDAY 2 P.M. |

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San Antonio Churchill sweeps Class 5A golf

AUSTIN (AP) — San Antonio Churchill has pulled off a rare repeat as boys' and girls' state golf champions in Class 5A.

Churchill last year became the first school since Booker in Class 1A in 1993 to sweep both the girls' and boys' state titles in the same year.

Now, the Churchill teams have become the first to sweep both the boys' and girls' titles for two straight years since Class 4A Stafford Dulles did it in 1980 and 1981.

The Churchill boys fired an even-par team total of 568, winning the state title on Friday against Humble Kingwood's No. 1 team. Kingwood had two teams entered at state.

"We made some big shots coming home, and it's great to win another title," said Churchill junior J.J. Wall, who finished at 3-under par. "There was a lot of great tees out here, but we came out ahead for the second year in a row."

No shot was bigger than Mark Hull's chip-in birdie from about 40 yards on the first hole of the team sudden death playoff, giving Churchill the team title.

"I used a sand wedge. It was the most important shot I could have hit," Hull said. "It's the greatest feeling in the world."

Pflugerville was third after shooting 570.

Martin Flores of San Antonio Clark finished at 5-under par after a round of 68 on Friday and a 69 on Thursday, taking medalist honors by one stroke over Adam Robinson of Fort Worth Paschal, who finished at 4-under (138).

"In the final round, I had five one-putts and five birdies," Flores said. "I made a 35-foot putt off the green on seven, and I was pumped when I made it."

Robinson, who fired a 73 on Thursday and was five shots behind heading into the final round, nearly erased the deficit by firing a 65 — the low round of

the day — on Friday. Jamie Kellam of Pflugerville and Churchill's Wall finished in a tie for third at 3-under (139).

First-round leader David Schultz of Richardson Berkner struggled with a 2-over par 73 on Friday after shooting a 67 on Thursday. He was among three players who finished at 2-under par (140).

Churchill was led by Wall, Jerry Carnahan, who finished at 2-under par (140); Hull, who was 1-over-par (143); and Trey Pyka, who finished at 4-over-par (146).

Humble Kingwood's No. 1 team, the runner-up, was led by Ian Davis (142), Alex Fulton (142), Josh Rosinski (143) and Gobe Reynolds (143).

The Churchill girls had an easier time of it, firing a team total 574 (6 over par) to beat Conroe The Woodlands No. 1 team by nine strokes (583). Mansfield (621) finished third.

Christi Cano of San Antonio Edison, however, stole the show in winning medalist honors, firing a final round 64 after a 70 in the first round to finish at 8-under par (134).

Kim Rowton of Churchill's No. 1 team defeated teammate Randi Meadows in a playoff for second place after both finished at 3-under par (139).

"This year we thought we were in danger of losing because (Conroe) The Woodlands were so strong," said Rowton, who had five birdies on Friday. "We hadn't lost a tournament in three years, but this year they beat us once and we knew it would be a challenge."

Churchill, which entered two teams at state, was led to victory on its No.1 team by Rowton, Meadows, Jackie Ey, who finished at 3-over par (145) and Jean Hunnfeld, who was 9-over par (151).

First-round leader Erin Simmons of Conroe The Woodlands fired a 74 on Friday after a 69 on Thursday, finishing nine shots off the lead at 1-over-par (143).

Braves slip by Astros, 3-2

HOUSTON (AP) — No one was as shocked that Eddie Perez was the home run hero than Eddie Perez.

Perez was inserted in the starting lineup of Atlanta's 3-2 victory over Houston on Friday night at the last minute when regular catcher Javy Lopez was scratched because of a sore shin after being hit by a foul ball the previous night against St. Louis.

Perez felt ready to play, but he didn't like his chances when he saw the Astros were starting right-hander Jose Lima.

"I faced him in the minors when he was at Toledo and I never got a hit off him," Perez recalled. "But I got back at him tonight. Javy told me this morning he didn't think he could make it so I was ready."

Even Perez's teammates were amazed when he hit his first and second home runs of the season, extremely paltry numbers on a team that two nights before had tied the major league record by homering in 25 consecutive games.

"If you were to say before the game who would be the last guy in the lineup to hit two home runs and beat the Astros," Braves starter Denny Neagle (5-1) said, "it would probably be Eddie."

The NL Central-leading Astros, who are still on pace for one of the best starts in club history (their 25-15 record ties the mark set by the 1973 team), were as stunned as anyone by Perez's power.

"The ironic thing is that Lopez was in the lineup originally," Houston manager Larry Dierker said. "They put Perez in at the last minute and he beat us."

"I thought we were having a good season. But that's when you really are going good, when you scratch a guy from the lineup and his replacement comes in and hits two home runs."

Atlanta manager Bobby Cox, however, wasn't surprised.

"He's been hot before," Cox said of Perez. "This isn't the first time he's done something dramatic. He's a great backup catcher."

Perez got his first home run leading off the third inning. His second came after Ryan Klesko had walked in the fifth.

"On the first one, I was swinging hard because I knew he didn't want to walk me," Perez said. "I thought he would throw a strike. It was a fastball low in the zone."

"The second home run was a changeup and it was a good pitch. I just hit it good. I thought it was foul at first."

For Lima (6-2), the surprise of the Houston staff who had won four straight, it was an otherwise good night.

"I thought it was the best he's pitched this year," catcher Brad Ausmus said. "His intensity and focus were better than at any other time. He made the two mistakes to Perez, but other than that, I couldn't have been happier with the way he pitched."

Scoreboard

BASEBALL National League At A Glance

| By The Associated Press | All Times EDT | East Division | West Division | |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------|
| Atlanta | 31 | 11 | .738 | — |
| New York | 19 | 18 | .514 | 9 1/2 |
| Philadelphia | 20 | 19 | .513 | 9 1/2 |
| Montreal | 15 | 25 | .375 | 15 |
| Florida | 14 | 28 | .333 | 17 |
| Central Division | W | L | Pct. | GB |
| Houston | 25 | 15 | .625 | — |
| Chicago | 23 | 18 | .561 | 2 1/2 |
| Milwaukee | 21 | 18 | .538 | 3 1/2 |
| Cincinnati | 21 | 20 | .512 | 4 1/2 |
| St. Louis | 19 | 20 | .487 | 5 1/2 |
| Pittsburgh | 19 | 22 | .463 | 6 1/2 |
| West Division | W | L | Pct. | GB |
| San Diego | 27 | 14 | .659 | — |
| San Francisco | 24 | 18 | .571 | 3 1/2 |
| Los Angeles | 19 | 22 | .463 | 6 |
| Colorado | 17 | 25 | .405 | 10 1/2 |
| Arizona | 10 | 31 | .244 | 17 |

Thursday's Games

San Francisco 6, Montreal 1, 1st game
 San Francisco 2, Montreal 0, 2nd game
 Chicago Cubs 9, Colorado 7
 San Diego 3, N.Y. Mets 1, 1st game
 San Diego 6, N.Y. Mets 2, 2nd game
 Cincinnati 11, Florida 6
 Pittsburgh 7, Houston 2
 Atlanta 7, St. Louis 3
 Philadelphia 4, Los Angeles 0
 Arizona 4, Milwaukee 1
 Friday's Games
 Cincinnati 11, Chicago Cubs 3
 Atlanta 3, Houston 2
 Florida 8, St. Louis 7
 Milwaukee 8, Colorado 5
 Arizona 6, Pittsburgh 1
 Montreal 4, Los Angeles 2
 San Diego 7, Philadelphia 6
 San Francisco 3, N.Y. Mets 2
 Saturday's Games
 Milwaukee (Karl 4-1) at Colorado (Ritz 0-1), 3:05 p.m.
 N.Y. Mets (Reed 3-2) at San Francisco (Ruster 4-2), 4:05 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs (Clark 2-5) at Cincinnati (Remlinger 3-4), 7:05 p.m.
 Atlanta (Maddux 5-2) at Houston (Reynolds 3-2), 8:05 p.m.
 Florida (Hernandez 2-3) at St. Louis (Stottlemyre 4-3), 8:10 p.m.
 Pittsburgh (Schmidt 5-1) at Arizona (Anderson 1-4), 10:05 p.m.
 Montreal (Vazquez 1-4) at Los Angeles (Drellort 0-4), 10:05 p.m.
 Philadelphia (Beech 1-2) at San Diego (Brown 3-2), 10:05 p.m.
 Sunday's Games
 Chicago Cubs (Wood 4-2) at Cincinnati (Weathers 2-2), 1:15 p.m.
 Florida (Hammond 0-1) at St. Louis (Mercker 2-2), 2:10 p.m.
 Atlanta (Smoltz 4-0) at Houston (Bergman 3-2), 2:35 p.m.
 Milwaukee (Wagner 1-3) at Colorado (Wright 2-4), 3:05 p.m.
 Montreal (Perez 2-2) at Los Angeles (R.Martinez 4-2), 4:05 p.m.
 Philadelphia (Schilling 5-3) at San Diego (Wall 0-1), 4:05 p.m.
 N.Y. Mets (Litaler 3-2) at San Francisco (Gardner 2-2), 4:05 p.m.
 Pittsburgh (Loaiza 2-1) at Arizona (Benes 2-3), 9:05 p.m.

American League At A Glance

| By The Associated Press | All Times EDT | East Division | West Division | |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------|
| New York | 26 | 9 | .743 | — |
| Boston | 25 | 15 | .625 | 3 1/2 |
| Baltimore | 20 | 20 | .500 | 8 1/2 |
| Toronto | 19 | 21 | .475 | 9 1/2 |
| Tampa Bay | 17 | 22 | .438 | 11 |
| Central Division | W | L | Pct. | GB |
| Cleveland | 22 | 18 | .550 | — |
| Minnesota | 18 | 22 | .450 | 4 |
| Chicago | 17 | 21 | .447 | 4 |
| Kansas City | 16 | 24 | .400 | 6 |
| Detroit | 13 | 23 | .361 | 7 |
| West Division | W | L | Pct. | GB |
| Texas | 25 | 15 | .625 | — |
| Anaheim | 20 | 19 | .513 | 4 1/2 |
| Seattle | 19 | 21 | .475 | 6 |
| Oakland | 16 | 23 | .410 | 8 1/2 |

Thursday's Games

Minnesota 2, Boston 1, 12 innings
 Kansas City 10, Tampa Bay 2
 Detroit 8, Oakland 3
 Toronto 5, Anaheim 4
 Cleveland 5, Baltimore 4
 Chicago White Sox 5, Seattle 3
 Texas 7, N.Y. Yankees 5, 13 innings
 Friday's Games
 Detroit 8, Oakland 3
 Cleveland 3, Texas 2, 14 innings
 Toronto 9, Anaheim 1
 Tampa Bay 4, Baltimore 1

BOYS

Discus — 1, Jerry McCordell, New Caney, 172-8.2, Darryl Sells, Raymondville, 170-2.3, Terry Pierce, FW Western Hills, 168-8.4, Reginald Reddick, Dallas Lincoln, 166-5.6, Jared Morris, Brownwood, 164-7.6, Jason Garcia, Pleasanton, 163-5.7, David Markham, Hallsboro, 158-6.8, Jeff Baker, Bay City, 157-6.8
 3200 meters — 1, Tommy Bonn, Lockhart, 9:22.51, 2, David Scott, El Paso, 9:27.86, 3, Brandon Beasley, Houston King, 9:33.59, 4, Pete Beiman, Uvalde, 9:37.99, 5, Bryan Martin, Friendswood Clear Brook, 9:49.58, 6, Kyle King, Sulphur Springs, 9:55.13, 7, Ramon Perez, El Paso, 9:55.71, 8, Matt Chance, Grapevine, 10:19.03
 GIRLS
 Triple jump — 1, Candl Jones, Bay City, 40-4 1/4, 2, Dionte Campbell, Everman, 39-0.8, Keeasha Lott, Big Spring, 38-10 3/4, 4, Alana Gates, Pleasanton, 38-3 1/4, 5, Tal Dillard, SA Houston, 37-9.6, Delilah Battle, Waller, 37-5.6, La Tonya Bedford, Hallsboro, 37-2.8, Brandi Taylor, Keller Fossil Ridge, scratched
 3200 meters — 1, Britney Yostan, Harford, 11:02.48, 2, Lauren Harrison, Highland Park, 11:04.55, 3, Erin Patrick, Coppell, 11:04.71, 4, Katie Hulstrom, Keller Fossil Ridge, 11:06.20, 5, Kristy Bonn, Lockhart, 11:18.88, 6, Cristy Moerbe, Uvalde, 11:30.88, 7, Ami Butler, Mabank, 12:00.04, 8, Suzie Flack, Willis, 12:21.13

TRACK

AUSTIN (AP) — Records set Friday at the University Interscholastic League track and field championship meet:
 — Friendswood Clear Brook, girls' Class 4A 4x400-meter relay team (Gladys Harvey, Brandy Walker, Natasha Davis, Alicia Emanuel), 3:47.02, replaces the previous mark of 3:47.50 set by Brenham in 1984.
 — Dallas Spruce, girls' Class 4A 4x200-meter relay team (Shorree Johnson, Shertrice Walker, Brandy Stewart, Latisha Burns), 1:38.82, replaces the previous meet record of 1:39.20 set by Jasper in 1991.
 — Keyuo Craver of Harleton, boys' 2A triple jump, 50-4 1/2, replaces the previous meet record of 49-8 1/4 set by Toya Jones of Refugio in 1993.
 — Vonchass Griggs of Van Vleet, boys' 2A high jump, 7-0, ties the meet record set by Cedric Barrer of Beckville in 1985.

CLASS 1A

BOYS
 Long jump — 1, Bill McCurdy, Nueces Canyon, 24-3 3/4, 2, Jeremy Cook, Milford, 22-8 3/4, 3, Darryl Douglas, Coimenesel, 22-7 3/4, 4, Darrow Page, Shamrock, 22-1 1/4, 5, Jonathan Bessing, Munday, 21-11 3/4, 6, Demetrius Recter, Celesta, 21-8 1/4, 7, James Groat, Miles, 21-2 3/4, 8, Shane Davenport, Baird, 21-0
 Pole vault — 1, Buster McClain, Gruver, 15-3.2, 2, Charley Caskey, New Summerfield, 14-9.3, Ben Bressler, Happy, 13-9.4, Brady Pugh, Lenora Grady, 13-0.5, Jamie Rivera, D'Hanis, 13-0.6, Adam Wilkinson, Blackwell, 12-6.7, Jacob Hare, Evadale, 12-0.7, Ricky Fianarke, Bosqueville, 12-0
 GIRLS
 Discus — 1, Stacey Miller, Grandfalls-Royalty, 127-3.2, Melissa Kinneer, Kiondike, 120-6.3, Natasha Carper, Bronte, 119-3.4, Jessica Everett, Whiteface, 117-1.5, Jamie Brice, Leakey, 115-10.6, Crystal Allen, Karnack, 115-10.7, Amanda Garriga, Yantis, 115-8.8, Kacey Meeks, Harper, 115-0
 Long jump — 1, Kami Williamson, Menard, 18-1 1/2, 2, Wanda Poteat, Paducah, 18-1.3, Amanda Eledge, Petrolia, 17-9 1/4, 4, Tiffany Morton, Wortham, 17-3 1/2, 5, Lisa Pargas, La Pryor, 16-2 1/2, 6, Lael Myers, Munday, 16-2 7/8, Sarah Dadds, Brooksmith, 15-10.8, Relana Lamb, Kennard, 15-7 1/2

BOYS

Discus — 1, Taylor Whitley, Sudan, 169-3.2, Jeremy Edging, Robert Lee, 152-8.3, Arturo Suarez, 152-3.4, Rodney Clark, Springlake Earth, 152-1.5, Brad McDaniell, Sterling City, 144-5.6, Ben Lohmer, Meridian, 142-3.7, Melvin Dews, Oakwood, 139-10.8, Nicholas Vineyard, Blue Ridge, 128-8
 3200 meters — 1, Tara Jernigan, Baird, 12:05.06, 2, Patty Hernandez, Rocksprings, 12:11.92, 3, Amanda Shores, Jayton, 12:14.70, 4, Nory Pierce, M. Irion Co., 12:21.37, 5, Jaicee Herren, Allison, 12:43.49, 6, Jessica Partin, Priddy, 12:44.23, 7, Lee Ann Shaw, High Island, 12:57.48, 8, Tracie Akerheim, North Hopkins, 14:08.21

BASKETBALL

NBA Day-By-Day Playoff Glance
 By The Associated Press
 All Times EDT
 CONFERENCE FINALS
 (Best-of-7)
 Saturday, May 16
 L.A. Lakers at Utah, 3:30 p.m. (NBC)
 Sunday, May 17
 Indiana at Chicago, 8:30 p.m. (NBC)
 Monday, May 18
 L.A. Lakers at Utah, 8:30 p.m. (TNT)
 Tuesday, May 19
 Indiana at Chicago, 8:30 p.m. (TNT)
 Wednesday, May 20
 Utah at L.A. Lakers, 10 p.m. (TNT)
 Saturday, May 23
 Chicago at Indiana, 3:30 p.m. (NBC)
 Sunday, May 24
 Utah at L.A. Lakers, 3:30 p.m. (NBC)
 Monday, May 25
 Chicago at Indiana, 3:30 p.m. (NBC)
 Tuesday, May 26
 L.A. Lakers at Utah, 9 p.m. (NBC), if necessary
 Wednesday, May 27
 Indiana at Chicago, 9 p.m. (NBC), if necessary
 Friday, May 29
 Chicago at Indiana, TBA (NBC), if necessary
 Utah at L.A. Lakers, TBA (NBC), if necessary
 Sunday, May 31

NHL Playoff Glance

Day-By-Day
 By The Associated Press
 All Times EDT
 FIRST ROUND
 (Best-of-7)
 Wednesday, April 22
 Washington 3, Boston 1
 Detroit 6, Phoenix 3
 Ottawa 2, New Jersey 1, OT
 Buffalo 3, Philadelphia 2
 Dallas 4, San Jose 1
 Edmonton 3, Colorado 2
 Wednesday, April 23
 Montreal 3, Pittsburgh 2, OT
 St. Louis 6, Los Angeles 3
 Friday, April 24
 New Jersey 3, Ottawa 1
 Phoenix 7, Detroit 4
 Philadelphia 3, Buffalo 2
 Boston 4, Washington 3, 2OT
 Dallas 5, San Jose 2
 Colorado 5, Edmonton 2
 Saturday, April 25
 Pittsburgh 4, Montreal 1
 St. Louis 2, Los Angeles 1
 Sunday, April 26
 Ottawa 2, New Jersey 1, OT
 Washington 3, Boston 2, 2OT
 Phoenix 3, Detroit 2
 San Jose 4, Dallas 1
 Colorado 5, Edmonton 4, OT
 Monday, April 27
 Buffalo 6, Philadelphia 1, OT
 Montreal 3, Pittsburgh 3
 St. Louis 4, Los Angeles 3
 Tuesday, April 28
 Washington 3, Boston 0
 Ottawa 4, New Jersey 3
 Colorado 3, Edmonton 1
 Detroit 4, Phoenix 2
 San Jose 1, Dallas 0, OT
 Wednesday, April 29
 Pittsburgh 6, Montreal 3
 Buffalo 4, Philadelphia 1
 St. Louis 2, Los Angeles 1, St. Louis wins series 4-2
 Dallas 3, San Jose 2, OT, Dallas wins series 4-2
 Edmonton 2, Colorado 0
 Sunday, May 3
 Washington 3, Boston 2, OT, Washington wins series 4-2
 Detroit 5, Phoenix 2, Detroit wins series 4-2
 Montreal 3, Pittsburgh 0, Montreal wins series 4-2
 Monday, May 4
 Edmonton 4, Colorado 0, Edmonton wins series 4-3
 SECOND ROUND
 (Best-of-7)
 Thursday, May 7
 Washington 4, Ottawa 2
 Dallas 3, Edmonton 1
 Friday, May 8
 Buffalo 3, Montreal 2, OT
 St. Louis 4, Detroit 2
 Saturday, May 9
 Washington 6, Ottawa 1
 Edmonton 2, Dallas 0
 Sunday, May 10
 Buffalo 6, Montreal 3
 Detroit 6, St. Louis 1
 Monday, May 11
 Ottawa 4, Washington 3
 Dallas 1, Edmonton 0, OT
 Tuesday, May 12
 Buffalo 5, Montreal 4, 2OT
 Detroit 3, St. Louis 2, 2OT
 Wednesday, May 13
 Washington 2, Ottawa 0
 Dallas 3, Edmonton 1, Dallas leads series 3-1
 Thursday, May 14
 Buffalo 3, Montreal 1, Buffalo wins series 4-0
 Detroit 5, St. Louis 2, Detroit leads series 3-1
 Friday, May 15
 Washington 3, Ottawa 0, Washington wins series 4-1
 Saturday, May 16
 Edmonton at Dallas, 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)
 Sunday, May 17
 St. Louis at Detroit, 2 p.m. (FOX) Monday, May 18
 Dallas at Edmonton, 8:30 p.m. (ESPN), if necessary
 Tuesday, May 19
 Detroit at St. Louis, 7:30 p.m. (ESPN), if necessary
 Wednesday, May 20
 Dallas at Dallas, 8:30 p.m. (ESPN2), if necessary
 Thursday, May 21
 St. Louis at Detroit, 7:30 p.m. (ESPN), if necessary



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LETTERS

for playing on the Optimist Girls field, don't you think? Come to think if it, they have used the Optimist facilities many times over the years. That bill could be huge.

Well, here I am. A confessed member of the Optimist Club. I hope the good Lord will forgive my straying from the path when judgment day comes. As for now, I must live with reality. While attending an honors banquet at West Texas A&M University recently, my son J.B. really put things in perspective for me when he simply reminded me that, "Those who know the least know it the loudest." How true that seems to be lately.

Want to make a difference in your commitment to the youth of Pampa? You do not have to look very far. Although not perfect, there are a lot of good things going on at the Optimist Club. You too can be a part of it if you play your cards right or just be a member of the Four C's Club. Conplain, condemn, criticize and continue to drop your kids off at someone else's practice and do your officiating from the safety of the stands.

Confessions of an Optimist member who does not do as much as he should.

Benny Horton
Pampa

We need to fight tobacco companies

To the editor:
Knowing what we now know about the tobacco industry, it is time to put an end to their continual pursuit of death for profit. It is time for us to realize that real Christians do not support an industry that murders 400,000 Americans a year.

Knowing what we now know, we can not continue to support congressmen and women such as Joe Barton, Kay Bailey Hutchison and Kay Granger that continually block anti-tobacco legislation.

The only reason that the tobacco cartel has been allowed to continue to profit from these deaths is because they have this type of lawmaker on their side. It is, clearly, time to remove the stench of tobacco and these congressional representatives from our lives and from our government.

Leonard Jensen

Best of luck to baseball players

To the editor:
I am addressing this to the boys who played baseball for JCO Pipe and Supply.

We had a fine team and J.C. Daniels was an excellent sponsor. Incidentally, we beat Malcolm Hinkle, J.C.

I have heard a lot of you made All-Stars in high school. Would love to hear from all of you.

I was a three-year letterman in P.E. in high school myself. Never missed a game.

Still live at 608 N. Wells; you can phone me at 669-1842.

Best of luck in your lives.
Ila Ketchum
Pampa

Pampa is lucky to have such a fine hospital

To the editor:
Back in November, I was involved in a terrible car accident outside of Pampa. I was ejected from my vehicle and had numerous injuries, including a broken

right arm and leg. The Pampa ambulance was called by the wonderful people that found me. The ambulance personnel apparently did an excellent job, although I don't remember much about it.

After I arrived at Columbia Medical Center, the staff there were excellent. Everyone was very concerned about my condition and kept a close check on me throughout my stay. The high-way patrol officers were concerned about how I was, and they were very helpful to my parents at explaining how my accident happened. After seeing my car the officers and my family were very amazed that I lived through the accident.

The only way I did live through it is because God was my passenger. The doctor who was called out to help me and put all my broken pieces back together (and there were many) was Dr. Olivia Morris. Dr. Morris was like an angel sent to help me. She has encouraged me to keep my head up even when I thought I would never heal. She explained everything to me and my parents; this was very comforting.

I would also like to thank all of the other doctors, nurses, student nurses from FPC, and all the other many staff members that helped to take care of me during the week I was in the hospital. Also a big thank you Physical and Occupational Therapy for helping me with my recovery. To all the people who were there for me and my family while we went through this trauma, we thank you!

For all the prayers that were said on my behalf, they made the difference! I am still in the recovery process, but I will make it! And to all the people of Pampa: You should have pride in your hospital and its staff - they are all excellent!

Laurie D. Lane

Rent a truck program is wonderful

To the editor:
Many thanks to the City of Pampa for their "rent a truck" program. In case you don't know about it, the city will park one of their large dump trucks in your driveway late in the day; you load it with any lawn cuttings and tree branches you have and then it's gone the next morning. Hopefully not everyone has to trim 100 feet of pyracantha hedges like we did. Thanks guys!

Dan and Grace McGrath
Pampa

Pampa is a great place, a caring town

To the editor:
I would like to give my thanks to the town of Pampa, Texas. Most people seem to worry about all the negative things about Pampa. From now on, I can tell people something positive. I

have qualified to go to the State Championship Barrel Race with the National Barrel Horse Association.

I went around town gathering donations, and thanks to the great people of Pampa I get to go to Abilene. The people of Pampa put their hands together and helped me.

I would just like to thank everyone. I would especially like to thank my sponsor, CTW Brake Rims and the Hide-A-Way Lounge and Bob Lowrance for holding a dance for my benefit.

Thanks to all of the people of Pampa and all my friends and family for your support and donations.

Jamie Mears
Pampa

Cemetery grounds need extra care

To the editor:
I am writing this letter on behalf of my family and our concerns of the Pampa Fairview Cemetery. On my last visit home, I was appalled by the appearance of my father's grave, which shows signs of neglect and abuse.

I would hope the perpetual care would mean that the grounds and cemetery would be cared for so that we might have fond memories of our loved one's final resting place.

I am sure I speak for others in the Pampa community that are also concerned about this matter.

Perhaps there is much for the caretaker to take care of, for it seems that some of the damage to headstones are due to work being done in haste.

In closing, hopefully this letter will bring it to more people's attention so that the quality of the care of the cemetery might be improved. Thank you for your considerations.

Jan Oneal,
daughter of G.W. James

Super Playground has merit

To the editor:
Money is being raised to be used to build a playground for children. In a letter published Sunday, April 26, the writer wants to spend this money for city park maintenance. The idea has merit, but it would be dishonest for the money to be raised for one purpose and spent for another; therefore, I am sure this will not be done.

If the writer feels strong enough about the new proposal, it could become a new project, and another \$100,000 could be raised.

I have lived in Pampa long enough to know that the citizens of Pampa are capable of building a playground using volunteer workers. By the way, have you seen the super playground built by volun-

teers in Memphis, Texas?
Wm. J. Ragsdale
Pampa

There are fine people in Pampa

To the editor:
We were involved in a small accident in your town - at McDonald's - Friday, May 1, in

the afternoon, and I just want to tell you, you can be proud of your citizens in that town! We're sure you know, but we think you have some wonderful people there!

The police, ambulance people and the firemen were there for us in just a very few minutes. People from McDonald's were concerned and helpful, too. We have no way of knowing who all of them are, but want to say a

big thank you to all of them! Cecil Cook was one of those, and we want to thank him especially.

The emergency personnel at the hospital were so nice, too, and we thank them!

You should be very proud of your citizens who helped complete strangers!

Thank you, everyone.
Lewis and Sue Waters
Brownfield



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CLASS SCHEDULE FOR SUMMER1 1998 PAMPA

Early Registration: May 4th

Registration: May 18th - 21st

Classes Begin: May 18th

Classes End: June 25th

| TIME | DAY | DPT | NBR | SEC | CLASS DESCRIPTION | HRS | INSTRUCTOR |
|---------------|------|-------|------|-----|-------------------------|-----|------------|
| 6:00-9:50 PM | T/TH | Biol. | 1322 | 01 | Nutrition | 3 | Sullivan |
| 6:00-10:00 PM | T/TH | Biol. | 2401 | 01 | Human A&P I | 4 | Lowrie |
| Lab | | | | | | | |
| 6:00-10:00 PM | M/W | Cosc | 1301 | 01 | Intro To Computers | 3 | Hughes |
| Lab | | | | | | | |
| 6:00-10:00 PM | T/TH | Engl | 0308 | 01 | Preparatory English | 3 | Liles |
| 6:00-9:00 PM | T/TH | Engl | 1301 | 01 | Eng Comp/Rhetoric I | 3 | Liles |
| 8:00-11:50 AM | M/W | Engl | 1301 | 02 | Eng Comp/Rhetoric I | 3 | Thompson |
| 8:00-11:50 AM | T/TH | Engl | 1302 | 01 | Eng Comp/Rhetoric II | 3 | Thompson |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | T/TH | Engl | 1302 | 02 | Eng Comp/Rhetoric II | 3 | Scoggin |
| 1:00-4:50 PM | T/TH | Engl | 2307 | 01 | Creative Writing | 3 | Thompson |
| 1:00-4:50 PM | M/W | Engl | 2332 | 01 | World Literature I | 3 | Scoggin |
| 8:00-11:50 AM | M/W | Engl | 2333 | 01 | World Literature II | 3 | Scoggin |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | T/TH | Govt | 2301 | 01 | U.S. & TX Constitution | 3 | Jeffrey |
| 1:00-4:50 PM | T/TH | Govt | 2301 | 02 | U.S. & TX Constitution | 3 | Jeffrey |
| 8:00-11:50 AM | M/W | Hist | 1301 | 01 | U.S. History To 1865 | 3 | Williams |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | T/TH | Hist | 1301 | 02 | U.S. History To 1865 | 3 | Rapstine |
| 8:00-11:50 AM | T/TH | Hist | 1302 | 01 | U.S. History To Present | 3 | Williams |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | M/W | Hist | 1302 | 02 | U.S. History To Present | 3 | Rapstine |
| 1:00-4:50 PM | M/W | Huma | 1315 | 01 | Intro To Humanities | 3 | Thompson |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | M/W | Math | 0308 | 01 | Intermediate Algebra | 3 | McCullough |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | T/TH | Math | 1314 | 01 | College Algebra | 3 | Baker |
| 8:00-11:50 AM | T/TH | Math | 1333 | 01 | Modern Math II | 3 | Baker |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | T/TH | Musi | 1183 | 01 | Voice Class | 1 | Juengerman |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | M/W | Musi | 1301 | 01 | Music Fundamentals | 3 | Juengerman |
| Lab | | | | | | | |
| 8:00-11:50 AM | M/W | OFAD | 2304 | 01 | Word Processing I | 3 | Haynes |
| Lab | | | | | | | |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | T/TH | Psyc | 2301 | 01 | General Psychology | 3 | Vinson |
| 8:00-11:50 AM | T/TH | Psyc | 2301 | 02 | General Psychology | 3 | Denney |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | M/W | Psyc | 2308 | 01 | Child Psychology | 3 | Vinson |
| 1:00-4:50 PM | T/TH | Psyc | 2308 | 02 | Child Psychology | 3 | Denney |
| 1:00-4:50 PM | | Read | 0308 | 01 | Effective Reading | 3 | Liles |
| 1:00-4:50 PM | M/W | Soci | 1301 | 01 | Intro To Sociology | 3 | Wilson |
| 8:00-11:50 AM | T/TH | Spch | 1315 | 01 | Public Speaking | 3 | Wilson |

CLASS SCHEDULE FOR SUMMER2 1998 PAMPA

Classes Begin: June 29th

Classes End: August 7th

| TIME | DAY | DPT | NBR | SEC | CLASS DESCRIPTION | HRS | INSTRUCTOR |
|---------------|------|-------|------|-----|-----------------------|-----|------------|
| 6:00-9:50 PM | T/TH | Biol. | 2402 | 01 | Human A&P II | 4 | Lowrie |
| Lab | | | | | | | |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | M/W | Cosc | 1301 | 01 | Computer Concepts | 3 | Hughes |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | T | Dev | M00 | 01 | Self-Paced Math | | Baker |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | M | Dev | R00 | 01 | Self-Paced Reading | | Staff |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | T | Dev | W00 | 01 | Self-Paced Writing | | Staff |
| 8:00-11:50 AM | T/TH | Engl | 1301 | 01 | Eng Comp/Rhetoric I | 3 | Liles |
| 1:00-4:50 PM | T/TH | Engl | 1302 | 02 | Eng Comp/Rhetoric II | 3 | Liles |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | T/TH | Engl | 2333 | 01 | World Literature II | 3 | Liles |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | T/TH | Govt | 2302 | 01 | U.S. & TX. Government | 3 | Jeffrey |
| 1:00-4:50 PM | T/TH | Govt | 2302 | 02 | U.S. & TX. Government | 3 | Jeffrey |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | M/W | Hist | 1301 | 01 | U.S. History To 1865 | 3 | Staff |
| 8:00-11:50 AM | M/W | Hist | 1302 | 01 | U.S. Hist To Present | 3 | Williams |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | T/TH | Math | 0308 | 01 | Intermediate Algebra | 3 | Baker |
| 8:00-11:50 AM | T/TH | Math | 1314 | 01 | College Algebra | 3 | Baker |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | T/TH | Musi | 1141 | 01 | Collegiate Choir | 1 | Juengerman |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | M/W | Musi | 1301 | 01 | Music Fundamentals | 3 | Juengerman |
| 8:00-11:50 AM | T/TH | Psyc | 2301 | 01 | General Psychology | 3 | Vinson |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | M/W | Psyc | 2301 | 02 | General Psychology | 3 | Vinson |
| 6:00-9:50 PM | T/TH | Psyc | 2308 | 01 | Child Psychology | 3 | Vinson |

Schedule Subject To Change

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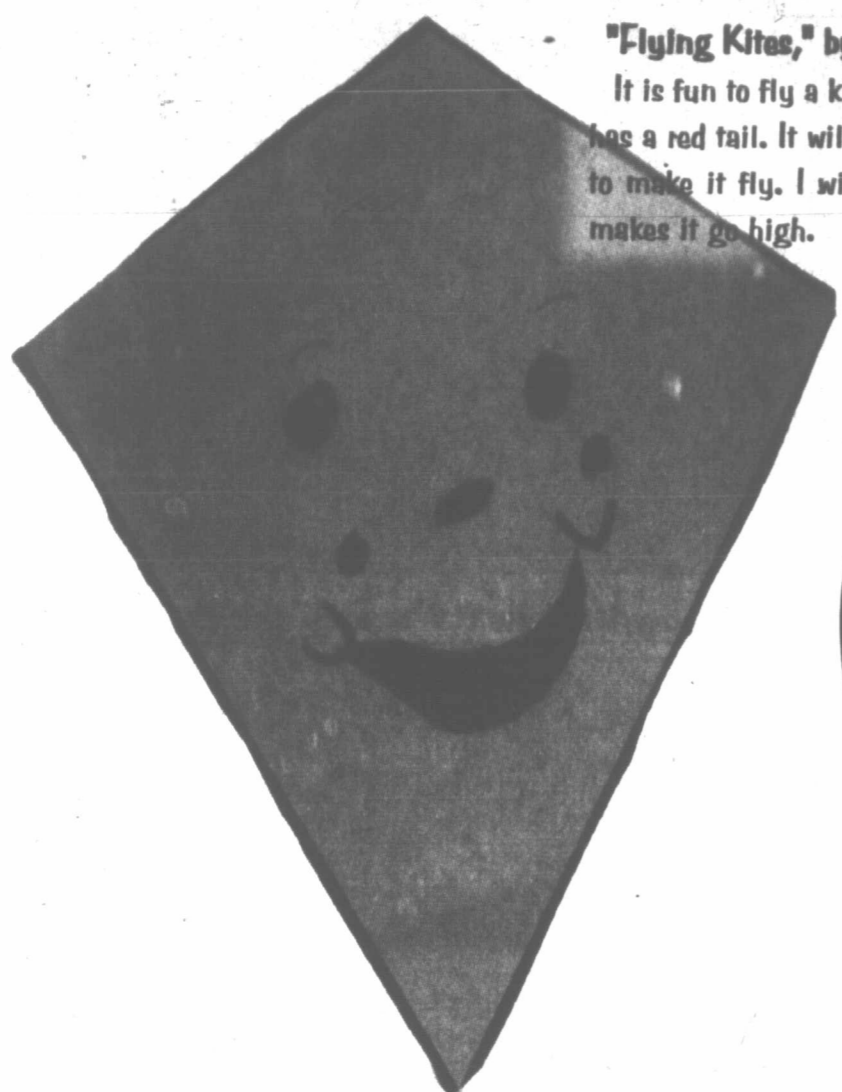
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LIFESTYLE

"Flying Kites," by Emily Wilson — First grade
 It is fun to fly a kite. It will fly way up in the sky. It has a red tail. It will fly over the trees. I will run hard to make it fly. I will pull it into the air. The breeze makes it go high.



COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



Above: Students enjoy a meal of Latin American foods prepared by the teachers for International Missions Day. Right: Tyler Hudson, Donna Salgado, Grant Biehler and Melinda Mort won the Texas Day talent show with their "Texas Short People" presentation.



Above: students proudly display their awards won at the Association of Christian Schools International Regional Spelling Bee in Amarillo. Right: CCS student Donna Salgado displays her science fair project.

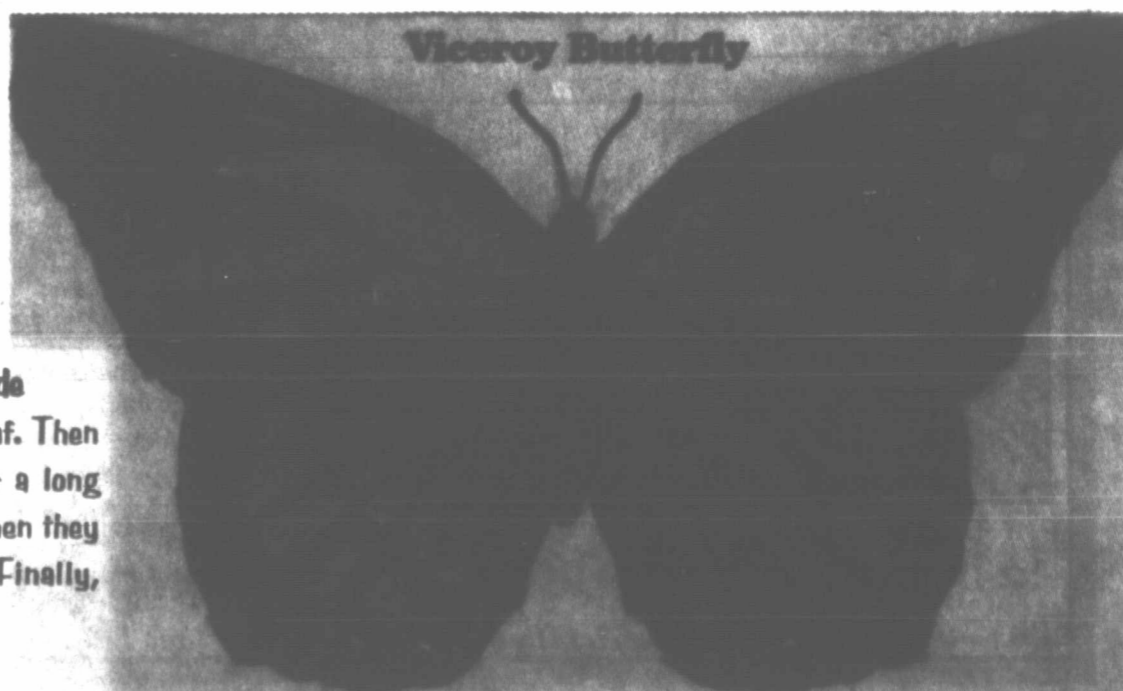


Above: CCS kindergarten students are anxious to learn! Left: CCS students enjoy festive holiday celebrations such as this Valentine's Day party.



"Butterflies" by Eden Green — First grade

Once upon a time there were some eggs on a leaf. Then there was a sound, It was a little caterpillar. For a long time, the caterpillar eats leaves until he is big. Then they spin a cocoon around themselves for eight weeks. Finally, a butterfly comes out and then flies away.



By MIRANDA G. BAILEY
 Staff Writer

Community Christian School is on the move.

"We've had a wonderful year! We have a very strong teaching team and our parents involvement and support have made for a blessed, successful year," said the school's administrator Lynn Smith.

The 1997-98 school year brought many activities and opportunities for student growth, she said. Students participated in spelling bee, math olympics and science fair competitions through the Association of Christian Schools International. A "Missions Day" and "Texas Day" were other "meaningful events," for the school's students in addition to the usual holiday festivities and parties throughout the year, said Smith.

In terms of professional growth, Community Christian teachers were involved in the Association of Christian Schools International convention in Dallas and a subsequent spiritual growth retreat for "developing a Christian world view," she said.

With a total 38 students, Community Christian School is approaching the end of its second year and, according to Smith, the application process for next year is well underway.

"We are already taking applications and visiting with families for next year. Anyone interested in entering the school can call 665-3393 to receive information packets through the mail or they can pick them up," Smith said.



Tonia Lea Webster and Miles Shannon Cook

Webster-Cook

Tonia Lea Webster of Abilene and Miles Shannon Cook of Mansfield plan to wed June 27 in First Christian Church of Pampa.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Leann Webster of McLean and Mike and Elaine Webster of Hereford. She is a graduate of McLean High School and of McMurry University, receiving an associate of science degree in nursing in 1997. She is currently employed as a registered nurse in CICU at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene.

The prospective groom is the son of Miles and Rita Cook of Pampa. He is a graduate of Pampa High School and of Hardin-Simmons University, receiving a bachelor of business administration degree in marketing in 1994. He is currently employed as branch manager of Enterprise Rent-A-Car in Arlington.



Holly Abbott and Arthur Brant

Abbott-Brant

Holly Abbott and Arthur Brant, both of Abilene, were wed April 18 at the home of Jerianne Green in Abilene with Eric Gumm, minister, of Southern Hills Church of Christ in Abilene, officiating.

The maid of honor was Sheila Sanders of Canyon. The bridesmaids were Denise Logue of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Julie Taylor of Shawnee, Kan. The flower girl was Mary Jo Collier, cousin of the bride, of Pampa.

The best man was Russell Willerton of Abilene. The groomsmen were Peter Pak of Vancouver, Canada, and Joel Brant, brother of the groom, of Abilene.

The ushers were Brian Beck, cousin of the groom, of Duncanville, and Shannon Cain of Austin.

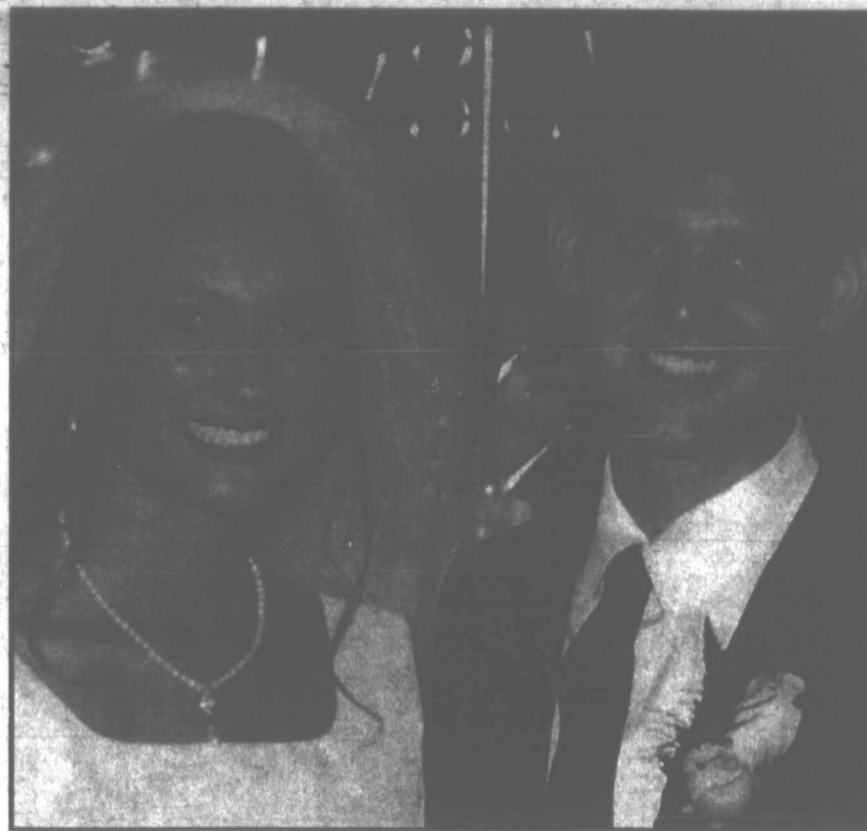
Music was provided by Brad Abbott, brother of the bride, of Arlington, and Shannon Cane.

A reception was held following the garden service with Bethany Brant, sister of the groom, of Abilene, Summer Anderson of Gainsville and Jill Brokenbec of Lubbock serving the guests.

The bride is the daughter of Glynn and Karen Abbott of Pampa. She is a graduate of Pampa High School and of Abilene Christian University. She is currently employed at J. Riggins and Paramount Theatre in Abilene.

The groom is the son of Billy and Patty Brant of Abilene. He is a graduate of Northwest High School at Wichita, Kan., and of Abilene Christian University. He is currently employed at Abilene Christian University.

The couple planned a honeymoon trip to Austin and intend to make their home in Abilene.



Amy Michelle Houseman and Eric Allan Davis

Houseman-Davis

Amy Michelle Houseman and Eric Allan Davis, both of Pampa, were wed May 9 in St. Paul United Methodist Church of Pampa with Jim Tipton, justice of the peace of Potter County and uncle of the bride, officiating.

The maid of honor was Donna Hamby of Amarillo. The best man was Keenan Davis, brother of the groom, of Evanston, Wyo.

The ushers were Chuck Houseman, father of the bride, and Rick Davis, father of the groom.

The candlelighter was Keenan Davis. Registering guests was Jenny Cherry, cousin of the groom, of Skellytown.

Music was provided by pianist Myrna Orr and vocalist Angie Beyer, cousin of the groom.

A reception was held following the service in Grace Hall of the church with Brenda Morrison, Jessica Morrison and Pam Millican, all of Pampa, Jodi Etheredge of Abilene and Stacy Sandlin, cousin of the groom, of Lubbock, serving the guests.

The bride is the daughter of Chuck and Marti Houseman of Pampa. She is a graduate of Pampa High School and of Amarillo College. She is currently employed at Family Medicine Center.

The groom is the son of Rick and Teresa Davis of Evanston. He is a graduate of Pampa High School and of Devry. He is currently employed at Celanese.

The couple planned a honeymoon cruise to the Caribbean and intend to make their home in Pampa.



Grace Sutton and Monty Nelson

Sutton-Nelson

Grace Sutton and Monty Nelson, both of Pampa, plan to wed July 18 in First Presbyterian Church of Pampa.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Ken and Judy Sutton of Pampa. She is a Pampa High School graduate and is currently pursuing a degree in dental hygiene at Amarillo College.

The prospective groom is the son of Elva Nelson of Houston. He is a Pampa High School graduate and is currently employed with Halliburton Energy Services in Pampa.

Lifestyles Policies

1. The Pampa News will not be responsible for photographs used in announcing weddings, engagements or anniversaries. We reserve the right to refuse publication of photographs of poor quality. Photographs cannot be returned unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. They may be picked up in the office after appearing in the paper.
2. All information must be submitted by 5 p.m. Wednesday (12 noon before a holiday such as Thanksgiving or Christmas) prior to Sunday insertion.
3. Engagement, wedding and anniversary news only will be printed on Sunday.
4. Engagement announcements will be published if the announcement is submitted at least one month before the wedding, but not more than three months before the wedding.
5. Bridal photos and information will not be accepted in The Pampa News office later than one month past the date of the wedding.
6. Anniversary announcements will be published for celebrations only of 25 years or more and will not be published more than four weeks after the anniversary date.
7. Information that appears on engagement, wedding and anniversary forms will be used at the discretion of the editor. Forms are available from the office 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday, or by sending a SASE to The Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.



Renae Hess and Chris Hotz

Hess-Hotz

Renae Hess and Chris Hotz, both of Denver, Colo., were wed April 11 in Evans Chapel with Dr. Bloede of Denver officiating.

The maid of honor was June Warner of Miami, Fla. The bridesmaids were Margo Cambern of Pampa and Michelle Hess of Lubbock. The flower girl was Ellen Cambern, niece of the couple, of Pampa.

The best man was Alex Holz of Boulder, Colo. The groomsmen were Scott W. Hansen of Denver and Scott R. Hansen of Boulder. The ushers were Brian Platter of San Francisco, Calif., and Steve Gecky of Panama City, Fla.

Music was provided by Sandy Hotz of Jansen Beach, Fla., and Joanne Morrow and Suzanne Trapai, both of Denver.

A reception was held following the service in Driscoll Ballroom. The bride is the daughter of Ron and Kathy Hess of Pampa. She is a graduate of the University of Texas, receiving a degree in business administration. She is currently employed as vice president of sales for W.B. Supply Company.

The prospective groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Werner Hotz of Boulder. He is a graduate of the University of Colorado, receiving a degree in communications, and of Denver University, receiving a master's degree in business. He is currently employed as district manager for AT&T.

The couple planned a honeymoon trip to Hawaii and intend to make their home in Denver.

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Retired couple serve as interns on state capitol

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — After they've traveled around the world, where's a retired Kansas couple to go next?

For Orville and LaVerne Cole, the answer was the state Capitol.

In committee rooms and marble hallways, in the Statehouse library and the cramped office of Sen. Robert Tyson, the Coles are serving as interns, wearing pink badges usually worn by college students.

Cole, 70, a retired attorney, helps Tyson translate the legalese contained in the bills that cross his desk. Mrs. Cole, 67, a former teacher, attends committee meetings, pores over newspaper clippings, proofreads and runs errands.

They help Tyson sort through issues and prepare a draft of his newsletter.

"I feel that at my age, with the legal experience I've had, if there was anything I can do up here, I have an obligation to do it," Cole said.

After Cole retired, the couple campaigned for Tyson, and then became involved in rails-to-trails and other local issues. They share Tyson's conservative philosophy.

Tyson thought he could use their help in Topeka, the state capital.

4-H Futures & Features

4-H Council Retreat

District 4-H Council Retreat is sponsored to promote unity between 4-Hers in District I. You will have the opportunity to meet with other senior 4-Hers and develop public speaking and leadership skills.

The dates are June 11-12 at Clarendon College, and cost is \$35 per 4-Her. All 4-Hers interested in running for a District Council office should plan to attend, but all senior age 4-Hers are welcome to attend. Registration is due on May 19 at the Extension office. Give us a call if you have questions.

Electric Camp

Electric Camp '98 will be June 15-19 in New Mexico. Gray County 4-H will have two boys and two girls attend, and we may send alternates if room is available. Cost for the camp is \$58.

You must be 13-years-old by the time of camp and priority will be given to those who have not already attended. If you are interested, please call the Extension office.

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Newsmakers

BARTLESVILLE, Okla. — Twelve area high school seniors were each recently awarded a college scholarship worth \$8,000 from the Educational Fund for Children of Phillips Petroleum Company Employees.

Among the winners is Andrea L. Rodriguez, Pampa High School senior and daughter of Domingo and Peggy Rodriguez.

Those selected as alternates include Amy L. Hahn, Pampa High School senior and daughter of John and Valorie Hahn.

Each year, Phillips awards 66 scholarships and names 30 alternates. A committee of independent educators selects the winners based on scholastic record, future promise and financial need. Winners may use the scholarships to attend any accredited college or university of their choice.

Each winner will receive a \$2,000 award, renewable yearly based on scholastic achievement, for a four-year scholarship of \$8,000. More than 300 students applied for scholarships this year.

The scholarship fund was established in 1939 to aid children of employees of Phillips and its subsidiaries in obtaining higher education. Since then, 3,144 young people have received a college education from scholarships totaling approximately \$9.5 million. Phillips' annual scholarship contribution totals \$528,000.



Andrea Rodriguez



Shanna Jameson



Traco Brogdin



Ryan Gibson

ARLINGTON — Traci Lee Brogdin, daughter of Monte Brogdin of Amarillo, was awarded a degree in finance from the University of Texas during commencement exercises Saturday.

Brogdin began her college education at Amarillo College, transferring to UT after two years.

She is the granddaughter of Warren and Estalee Brogdin of Pampa.

Ryan Gibson, a 1996 Pampa High School graduate and son of Mark and Jan Gibson of Pampa, recently signed a two year contract with Arlene Wilson Modeling Agency in Chicago, Ill.

At a Pro Scout Modeling Search in Amarillo, Gibson was selected to travel to Dallas for more interviews. In Dallas, he

met 35 agents representing top modeling agencies and received 14 call backs after which he chose to sign with Arlene Wilson.

His contract will include doing magazine, catalogue and runway work. His first casting call includes a seven day runway job in Minnesota, and he is expected to travel to Milan, Italy, within the year.

Gibson is currently a sophomore at West Texas A&M University.

Pampa Classroom Teachers Association recently awarded the 1998 Kenneth P. Walters Scholarship to Shanna Jameson,

daughter of Gary and Suzie Jameson of Pampa. The scholarship — in the amount of \$1,500 — is bestowed upon a prospective education major each year.

Jameson plans to pursue a degree in early childhood education at Wayland Baptist University.

NORMAN, Okla. — The University of Oklahoma at Norman recently awarded degrees during its spring commencement ceremonies at Oklahoma Memorial Stadium.

Among students receiving degrees was Joshua Merrick Seabourn of Pampa.

Spinner, weaver helps keep craft alive

PORT ARTHUR, Texas (AP) — Lisette Theriot's wooden wheel whirrs, transforming fibers that once lined a worm's cocoon into spun silk. Turning lambs' wool into sleek strands. Twisting cotton tufts into dainty threads.

With each revolution she spins a yarn from her past. Tales of her Aunt Clara from Louisiana who

spun and wove fine fabric for her uncle's suits. Of her grandmother, Edmarze Simon, who raised 13 children and fashioned blankets from native brown cotton and scraps of worn dresses.

And of a young girl who went to live in a cottage long ago to become a weaver's apprentice. According to the folk tale, the girl

was given one sacred rule: never spin out all of the yarn.

"One day, she starts to spin and gets so involved with it, she uses it all," Theriot recounts. The yarn symbolized the old weaver's life-line. When the yarn was used up, so was the weaver's life. For the remainder of her days, the young girl was stuck at the loom. She took the place of the weaver, teaching the apprentices who followed.

Theriot doesn't want the art of spinning and weaving to be lost. "I just like it. I like the feel of the fabric. I like the fact that my grandmother did it. And my old aunt did it. And now I'm doing it."

Call it genetic. Theriot sometimes does. But somehow she was drawn to weave and spin. For her, it came easy.

"It is a connection I share with the women in my family, she said. "I've been a welder. I've worked offshore. I was in the Air Force. I've been a mechanic," said Theriot, who plans to work on a master's degree in psychology this fall. "I know it's not the popular thing, but I'm happiest when I'm in my house making jelly and making fabric."



Melissia Caroline Coutts and Steven Loyd Gordon

Coutts-Gordon

Melissia Caroline Coutts and Steven Loyd Gordon, both of Pampa, were wed April 25 at Central Baptist Church of Pampa with Rick Parnell, minister, of the church, officiating.

The maid of honor was Lindsey Coutts of Pampa. The flower girl was Bryna Pool of Eunice, N.M.

The best man was Shawn Blackmon of Pampa. The ring bearer was Garrett Coutts of Pampa.

The ushers were Jacob Childress of Stinnett and Adam Snow of Skellytown.

Registering guests was Jenna Pool of Eunice. Music was provided by Amy Parnell.

A reception was held following the service at the church with Megan Coutts of Pampa, Carrie Coutts and Brenna Coutts of Perryton, Brandi Sustaire of Groom and Janneice Pool of Eunice serving the guests.

The bride is the daughter of Linda Coutts of Dayton and is the granddaughter of Caroline Coutts of Pampa. She was given away by her uncle, Clint Coutts.

The groom is the son of Kenneth and Sharon Gordon of Pampa. The couple planned a honeymoon trip to Amarillo and plan to make their home in Pampa.

THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

The New Testament, or New Covenant, is the one prophesied by Jeremiah in Jer. 31:31-34. According to the prophecy, it was to be made after the days of the Old Testament or Old Covenant which God made with Israel, called the law of Moses. The New Testament is the will or testament of Jesus Christ, rendered effective by His blood and His death (Heb. 9:15-18; Matt. 26:28.) His blood, shed in His death, makes salvation possible (Eph. 1:7).

The church of the New Testament is the one which came into existence on the first Pentecost after the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead (Acts 2.) Jesus had promised to build His church upon the truth that He is the Son of God (Matt. 16:16-18.) He is the one and only foundation of His church as it has been built upon Him (I Cor. 3:11).

Membership in the New Testament church requires that one believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God (Jn. 8:24); repent of one's sins (Acts 2:38); confess belief in Jesus as the Son of God (Acts 8:37) and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38.) Nothing short of doing these things will make one a member of the New Testament church.

From that notable day of Pentecost (Acts 2), we read of the church of the Lord Jesus Christ being in existence. Since it is the kingdom predicted by Daniel (Dan. 2:44-45), then it will exist eternally. When people today obey the same gospel as those did in Acts 2, they are added by the Lord to the same church they were added to then. The New Testament Church is the one and only true church of the Lord.

-Billy T. Jones

Address all questions or comments to:

WESTSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST
1612 W. Kentucky Pampa, Texas 79065

Club News

Club news is published strictly on a first come first serve basis due to limited space. The deadline each week for Sunday's paper is Wednesday at 5 p.m. though this deadline does not guarantee publication. Thank you.

20th Century Club
Twentieth Century Club met May 12 at the home of Mary Wilson with Wilson serving as hostess and Louise Richardson and Maxine Freeman assisting. Seventeen members were present and new member Evelyn Warner was welcomed.

Officers for the 1998-99 club year were installed as follows: Nancy Coffee, president; Grace McGrath, vice president; Phyllis White, secretary; Louise Bailey, treasurer; Freeman, parliamentarian; Pat Daugherty, reporter.

Business concluded during the meeting.
—\$500 donation to Clarendon College Pampa Center building fund.

The next meeting will be a Presidents' Coffee in September.

Quilt Guild
Panhandle Piecemakers Quilt Guild met April 23 at Pamcel Hall. Guests Laura Davis, Joyce Taylor and Tony Martinez were present.

The following announcements were made during the meeting:
—The guild quilt show is slated for Sept. 19 at M.K. Brown Auditorium in Pampa. Carol Hervey will supply entry forms during the club's next meeting.

Members with last names beginning with M-S showed quilting projects and several members brought show and tell items. Mary Seedig collected friendship blocks.

A guild garage sale was held following the meeting in which members bought books, patterns, magazines, fabric, sewing machines, notions and unfinished projects from each other. Ten percent of the proceeds went to the guild fund. Connie Parks won the guild

door prize; Suzie Edwards won the door prize provided courtesy of Sand's Fabrics.

The next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. May 28 at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center.

El Progreso
El Progreso Club met May 12 for a luncheon with Julia Dawkins and Glennette Goode serving as hostesses and social committee members Dot Allen, Maedell Lanehart and Billie Collinsworth assisting. President Madine Hawkins presided over the business meeting. Fourteen members and two visitors were present.

The following officers were installed for the 1998-99 club year: Carolyn Smith, president; Pat Youngblood, vice president; Eloise Lane, secretary/reporter; Lois Strong, treasurer; Dawkins, parliamentarian.

The next meeting will be a luncheon Sept. 8.

Altrusa
Altrusa International, Inc., of Pampa met May 12 at the Pampa Country Club with President Mayda King presiding. Thirty-three members and three guests,

Carolyn Chaney, Rhonda Gourley and Meredith Horton, were present. Becky Holmes and Pat Johnson served as greeters.

Business conducted during the meeting included:
—Dorla McAndrew presented Perfect Attendance Awards to 20 members for the past year.

—Kathy Phillips introduced Gourley as recipient of the 1997-98 Geraldine Rumpy Adult Vocational Award.

—Light Up Your Life Awards were presented to McAndrew, Julie Cook, DeLynn Gondek and Judy Warner for outstanding service.

The accent was given by Glydene Shelton who reviewed criteria for the Edith DeBusk Award which is awarded each year to a club president for excellence in service. This year's award — established in 1966 by DeBusk, international president 1963-65 — was presented to McAndrew, immediate past president, during the District Conference held recently in San Antonio. McAndrew was also presented the Literacy Award for the Baker Star Reader Project.

The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. May 19 at the Pampa Country Club.

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Parents' Little Dating Secret Should Remain Theirs Alone

DEAR ABBY: I am in a situation similar to the one described by "Can't Forget in L.A.," whose parents lied about the date of their marriage. I recently learned that my family is caught up in the same scenario.

My sister had told me she believed our family had a secret — and she suspected it was our parents' date of marriage. Until then, I'd never questioned this, so without telling anyone, I did a little detective work. When I received a certified copy of my parents' marriage license, it indicated that they were married nearly four months later than they had told us all these years. This means that my mother was pregnant when they married.

My parents have had a long and happy marriage, so I was neither horrified nor "damaged" to learn that they, too, were somewhat less than perfect in their younger years. Abby, should I tell them I know the truth?

DEAR GLAD TO KNOW: This is your parents' "secret" and one which they have chosen to keep. Respect their wishes and say nothing.

DEAR ABBY: Please permit me, a retired Canadian archbishop, to express my great satisfaction with the letters you publish. I spend several months a year in Fort Myers, Fla., and enjoy reading your articles every day.

I admire your wisdom and com-

Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

Over the years, readers have told me that they have learned from me. However, I see it the other way around. They teach me — every day — through their letters. So, I am the one who has learned from them.

DEAR ABBY: While driving through Visalia, Calif., on our way to Sequoia National Forest, I noticed that some of the farmers have signs along their fences depicting the name of the vegetable, fruit, grain, etc., which they are growing. Being a city girl, I found this to be very educational. Even the elderly ladies riding in the car with me commented that they never knew what an almond tree looked like until then.

Therefore, I am asking you to help educate America by calling on the farmers, growers and orchard owners to put up those signs letting America know just what that crop is they are growing. Young and old alike certainly will benefit from this simple gesture.

MARLENE ZENSEN, STEVENSON RANCH, CALIF.

DEAR MARLENE: I'm from Iowa, so when I see acres of something growing, I assume it's corn — and I'm usually right!

Abby shares more of her favorite, easy-to-prepare recipes. To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, More Favorite Recipes, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

passion in responding to your readers. You exercise a ministry of charity toward the most afflicted people of our society. You are often their only relief and support.

Abby, please accept my gratitude and admiration. I authorize you to publish this letter, if you wish.

With the expression of my sincere friendship...

JEAN-MARIE FORTIER, ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS OF SHERBROOKE, QUEBEC

DEAR ARCHBISHOP FORTIER: Thank you for the compliment. I have never considered what I do to be a "ministry." I have always regarded it as a privilege.

Although I'm sure that many of those who read my column do so for its entertainment value, I also know that many people read it for comfort or because they're seeking answers to their own problems. Many of them are not aware of the help that is available in their own communities.

Horoscope

MONDAY, MAY 18, 1998

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

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)
 ***** Your temper flares when dealing with a someone dear. You feel you cannot direct your energies how you want. Remain positive, put your best foot forward and discover the impact you can have. Be careful with one who might be sweet on you. Tonight: Where your friends are.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ***** You know the power of a gentle approach. Do not hesitate to use it. Being a bull in a china closet won't work. However, frustration could reach a high level. Go for a walk, meditate or do what you need to release stress at work. Tonight: Burn the midnight oil.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ***** Curb a tendency to be self-destructive. No longer should you swallow your anger; learn to discharge it in a more effective manner. Pulling back and seeing the big picture permit greater understanding. Get expert opinions, make calls, survey ideas. Tonight: Let a friend treat you!

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ***** One-to-one relating opens doors today. You can see a problem

from someone else's point of view. You might need to release a long-term desire. A boss helps you make positive choices concerning your work and finances. Listen to that person's perspective. Tonight: Talk with a key friend.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ***** Listen to a boss or someone in a position of power. Actually, you might not have a choice; he is going to carry on. Maintain your composure. Escape, take a walk and see the whole picture. A new romance could be beginning. Tonight: An erratic partner dominates again.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ***** Listen carefully to a partner, who sees life on the sunny side. A fresh slant could help you. A gift warms up a relationship. Be more nurturing with a loved one. Get into work, and hop over a difficulty. You can do it. Tonight: Work stress away through an athletic activity.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ***** A partner is difficult when it comes to money matters. You might want to give up, but handling this issue is long overdue. You escape into fantasy. Allow a flirtation to become more a part of your life; it could help you make changes. Tonight: Party the night away.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ***** Dealing with a family member might take a lot right now. Others seem difficult and ready to create an uproar. Your gentleness encourages associates to dig into tasks. Take a lengthy lunch break, and visit a dear friend. You recharge your batteries.

Tonight: Cocoon at home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ***** Talks open up, providing new insight. Work demands might have you frazzled. Listen to what a co-worker is grumbling about. Be more sensitive to a child. A flirtation could develop into more, if you are game. Tonight: Relax with a friend.

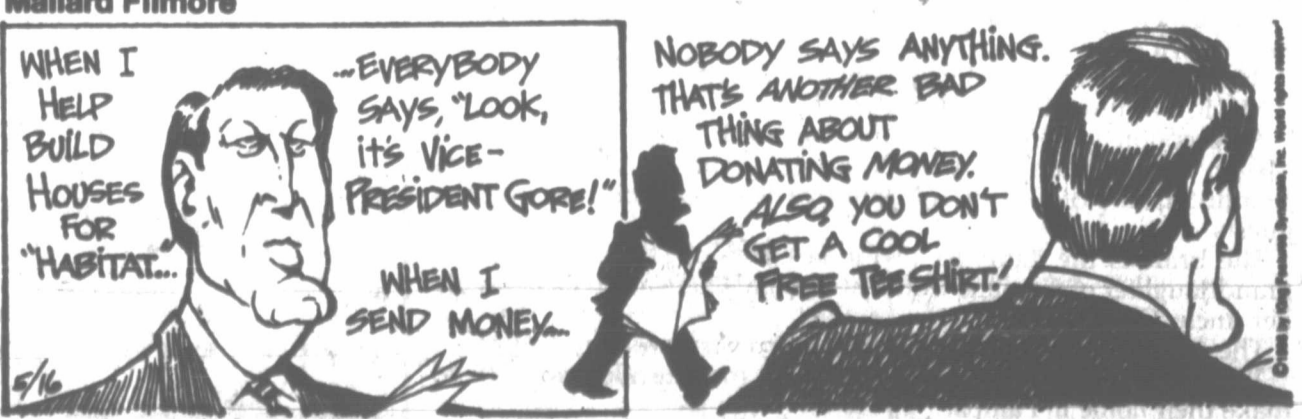
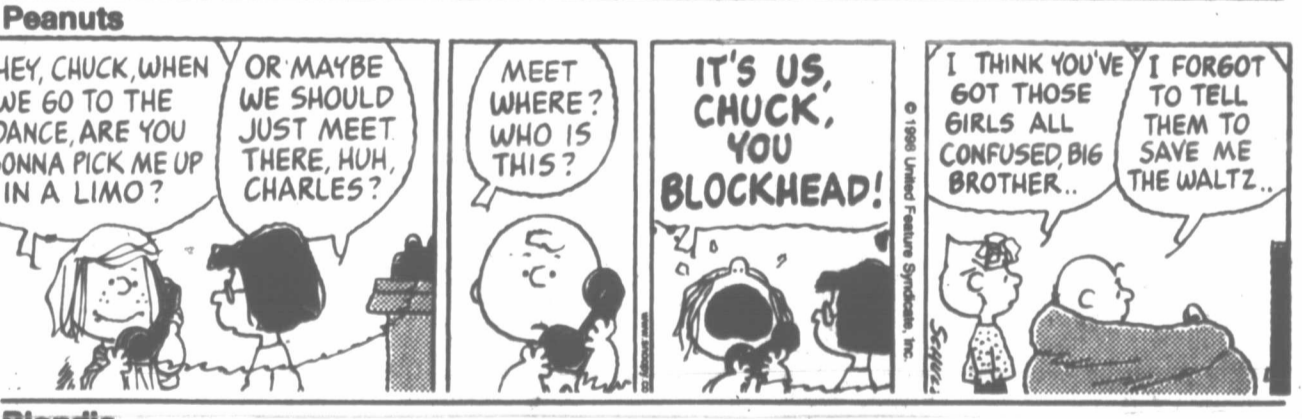
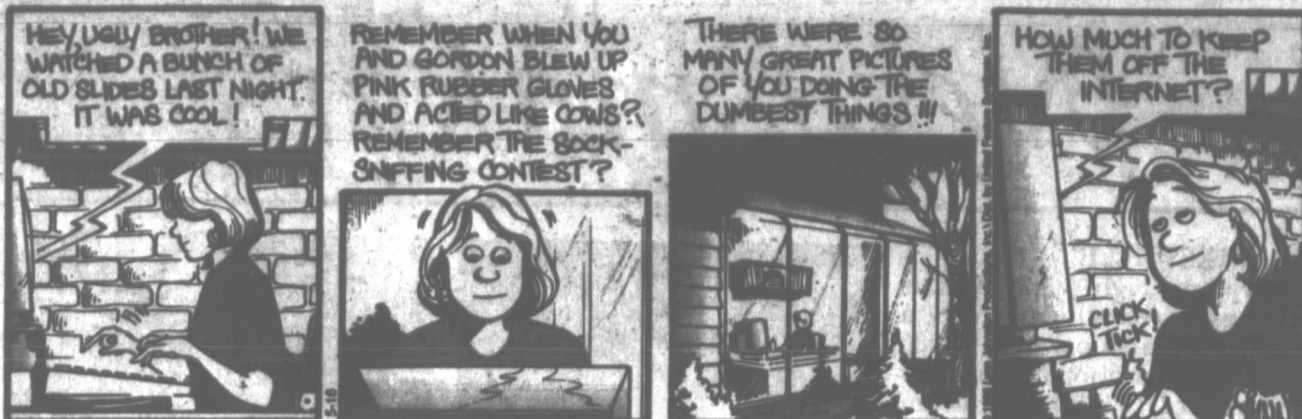
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ***** A financial risk is ill-advised, though you might be tempted. Be realistic about what you can afford, especially if you are eyeing a purchase for the home or a family member. A child throws tantrums, and a new acquaintance could be volatile. Stay focused. Tonight: Pay bills.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ***** A disagreement could have you upset with a family member. Stay grounded in a domestic matter. Be careful about rushing to judgment. A loving, gentle response helps keep others calmer. Your personality melts barriers. Tonight: Check electrical wires, smoke alarms, etc.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ***** Lie low right now. Be realistic about limits. No matter what you say or do, you find that someone is explosive. Chill out, detach and maintain a sense of humor. Take some time to plan your budget around an important purchase. Tonight: Do something nice for yourself!

BORN TODAY
 Singer Perry Como (1912), baseball Hall of Famer Reggie Jackson (1946), actor Pernell Roberts (1928)

For Better or For Worse



Crossword Puzzle

by THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Blubbers
 - 2 Chooses from the menu
 - 3 Stolc, e.g.
 - 4 Walk proudly
 - 5 "Goody!"
 - 6 Turken accessory
 - 7 Path
 - 8 Brunch items
 - 9 D.C. VIP
 - 10 Mal de —
 - 11 Counter-act
 - 12 Available
 - 13 Cinema canine
 - 14 Get smart
 - 15 Coagulate
 - 16 Afternoon break
 - 17 Peter Weller role
 - 18 Great weight
 - 19 Top card
 - 20 Penny phrase
 - 21 Polo in Asia
 - 22 Church parts
 - 23 Sailing vessel
 - 24 Each
 - 25 Some linemen
 - 26 Studies
 - 27 1 Flower part
- DOWN**
- 1 Jade
 - 2 Amend
 - 3 Piece
 - 4 Spot
 - 5 IRE
 - 6 ONER
 - 7 LAM
 - 8 MARYS
 - 9 POPSHOP
 - 10 EVE
 - 11 OHAIR
 - 12 GORES
 - 13 ETTIE
 - 14 Choir member
 - 15 Turned red,
 - 16 perhaps
 - 17 Studies intensely
 - 18 Spot
 - 19 Titania's spouse
 - 20 Director
 - 21 Soderbergh
 - 22 Copier needs
 - 23 Nervous
 - 24 Some apartments
 - 25 Grotto
 - 26 Food fish



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ENTERTAINMENT

Webb: Model, actress, author

NEW YORK (AP) - When she first started modeling more than a decade ago, Veronica Webb wasn't exactly enamored of her glamorous new profession.

"It certainly wasn't my parents' dream for me. One of my sisters is a doctor and the other is a mathematician, and I dropped out of college and became a model, which was shocking to them," Webb says. "There's no pension in that job. It doesn't give you a set of credentials that can never be taken away from you."

It's a surprising statement given what Webb has achieved in the business. The striking beauty, discovered on the streets of New York by a makeup artist in the early 1980s, was the first black model to receive an exclusive contract from a major cosmetics company.

But early on in her career, modeling didn't give her enough satisfaction. Seeking validation, she forged ahead with other interests, working as a journalist and landing small roles in movies such as "Jungle Fever."

She's enjoyed success in all her endeavors.

Webb, 33, is editor-at-large at Interview magazine, and Miramax Books has just published "Veronica Webb Sight: Adventures in the Big City," a reflection of her life and a collection of her essays. She's also written a screenplay that is being developed into a movie.

Her acting career has also continued to gather steam. She has a recurring role in the new Fox sitcom "Damon," starring Damon Wayans.

But it's her modeling career that has given Webb the most fame - and the most success. And she's not bothered by it anymore.

"I'm incredibly grateful for the career I have and what it's done for me," she says. "As you grow up, you learn that there's a difference between what you do and who you are."

1: How did the book deal come about?

Webb: I was standing in line at the White House and Harvey Weinstein (co-chairman of Miramax Films) was standing in front of me. He said to me, "You know, I'm a fan of your writing and I have been for years, and I want to take all those essays and all those great pieces you've written and put them in a book, and I'm going to publish it and it's going to be a hit."

2: In the book, you're pretty straightforward about some of the problems you've had in life. Were you hesitant to be so honest?

Webb: Yeah, some of those things were really scary to admit, like how naive I was and how arrogant I was when I was so young, thinking I was above everything and nothing could happen to me. Those are really hard things to admit. ... It's not so much about mistakes, it's about lessons learned, and if I can do it, anybody can do it.

3: You've worked as a journalist for a number of years. Has being a model helped you or hurt you in the profession?

Webb: It cuts both ways. Once something is printed, they take you seriously. But sometimes, I'd be up for a piece and people would say, "Veronica Webb, the model?" I'd never know if they were serious and excited, or skeptical and disappointed.

4: You've been modeling for years. To what do you attribute your staying power?

Webb: I love fashion, and I understand it and I get excited about it. I've done a lot of different things and I make them seem new, and I have a good relationship with people.

5: In your acting career, which do you find harder - comedy or drama?

Webb: Comedy is much, much easier than drama because - you know what? - if something is funny, it's going to be funny. I mean, if something is frightening or a person is dying of cancer in a scene ... that's much harder to make that seem real.

Chart Toppers

By The Associated Press

Weekly charts for the nation's best-selling recorded music as they appear in next week's issue of Billboard magazine. Reprinted with permission. (Platinum signifies more than 1 million copies sold; Gold signifies more than 500,000 copies sold.)

TOP SINGLES

Copyright 1998, Billboard-Soundscan Inc.-Broadcast Data Systems.

1. "My All," Mariah Carey (Columbia)
2. "Too Close," Next (Arista) (Platinum)
3. "I Get Lonely," Janet featuring Blackstreet (Virgin)
4. "You're Still the One," Shania Twain (Mercury) (Gold)
5. "Everybody (Backstreet's Back)," Backstreet Boys (Jive) (Gold)
6. "It's All About Me," Mya & Sisqo (Interscope)
7. "Truly Madly Deeply," Savage Garden (Columbia) (Gold)
8. "The Arms of the One Who Loves You," Xscape (So So Def)
9. "All My Life," K-Ci & JoJo (MCA)
10. "Body Bumpin' Yippie-Yi-Yo," Public Announcement (A&M) (Gold)

TOP ALBUMS

Copyright 1998, Billboard-Soundscan Inc.

1. "The Limited Series," Garth Brooks (Capitol Nashville)
2. "Before These Crowded Streets," Dave Matthews Band (RCA)
3. "City of Angels Soundtrack," (Warner Sunset)
4. "Sittin' on Top of the World," LeAnn Rimes (Curb)
5. "From the Choirgirl Hotel," Tori Amos (Atlantic)
6. "Titanic Soundtrack," (Sony Classical) (Platinum)
7. "Songs from Ally McBeal (TV Soundtrack)," Vonda Shepard (550 Music)
8. "There's One in Every Family," Fiend (No Limit)
9. "Let's Talk About Love," Celine Dion (550 Music) (Platinum)
10. "Backstreet Boys," Backstreet Boys (Jive) (Platinum)

COUNTRY SINGLES

Copyright 1998, Billboard-Broadcast Data Systems

1. "This Kiss," Faith Hill (Warner Bros.)
2. "Out of My Bones," Randy Travis (DreamWorks)
3. "Holes in the Floor of Heaven," Steve Wariner (Capitol Nashville)
4. "I'm From the Country," Tracy Byrd (MCA Nashville)
5. "I Just Want to Dance With You," George Strait (MCA)
6. "Two Pina Colodas," Garth Brooks (Capitol)
7. "One of These Days," Tim McGraw (Curb)
8. "Too Good to Be True," Michael Peterson (Reprise)
9. "I Do Cherish You," Mark Wills (Mercury)
10. "If You See Him-If You See Her," Reba, Brooks & Dunn (MCA Nashville-Arista Nashville)

ADULT CONTEMPORARY SINGLES

Copyright 1998, Billboard

1. "Truly Madly Deeply," Savage Garden (Columbia)
2. "My Father's Eyes," Eric Clapton (Reprise)
3. "You're Still the One," Shania Twain (Mercury)
4. "As Long As You Love Me," Backstreet Boys (Jive)
5. "Give Me Forever (I Do)," John Tesh featuring James Ingram (GTP-Mercury)
6. "Recover Your Soul," Elton John (Rocket)
7. "My Heart Will Go On," Celine Dion (Music)
8. "Frozen," Madonna (Maverick)
9. "I Don't Want to Wait," Paula Cole (Imago)
10. "A Promise I Make," Dakota Moon (Elektra)

R&B SINGLES

Copyright 1998, Billboard

1. "I Get Lonely," Janet featuring Blackstreet (Virgin)
2. "Too Close," Next (Arista) (Platinum)
3. "It's All About Me," Mya and Sisqo (Interscope)
4. "My All-Breakdown," Mariah Carey (Columbia)
5. "The Arms of the One Who Loves You," Xscape (So So Def)
6. "Let's Ride," Montell Jordan featuring Master P & Silk' the Shocker (Def Jam) (Platinum)
7. "All My Life," K-Ci & JoJo (MCA)
8. "A Rose Is Still a Rose," Aretha Franklin (Arista) (Gold)
9. "Body Bumpin' Yippie-Yi-Yo," Public Announcement (A&M) (Platinum)
10. "Money, Power & Respect," The Lox featuring DMX & Lil' Kim (Bad Boy) (Gold)

MODERN ROCK TRACKS

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(While the other charts are based on retail sales, this list is compiled from radio station airplay reports.)

1. "The Way," Fastball (Hollywood)
2. "Closing Time," Semisonic (MCA)
3. "Iris," Goo Goo Dolls (Warner Sunset)
4. "Don't Drink the Water," Dave Matthews Band (RCA)
5. "Push It," Garbage (Almo Sounds-Interscope)
6. "I Will Buy You a New Life," Everclear (Capitol)
7. "Wishlist," Pearl Jam (Epic)
8. "Shimmer," Fuel (550 Music)
9. "Ava Adore," The Smashing Pumpkins (Virgin)
10. "Heroes," The Wallflowers (Epic)

Japan: A little wary of Hollywood's on legendary lizard

TOKYO (AP) - A behemoth shift is afoot in the U.S.-Japan trade imbalance.

But the issue isn't laser-discs or cars. It's Godzilla.

The legendary lizard with radioactive breath and a wicked tail-slap will be exported back to Japan this summer, a few months after the much-hyped TriStar Pictures "Godzilla" film extravaganza premieres May 18 in New York City.

Japan, long famous for retooling and mass marketing Western technology, is generally thrilled that Godzilla has made the Hollywood A-list and will be shipped here in a repackaged version.

However, some are wary about America tampering with a national icon.

"I'm really looking forward to seeing what Hollywood does to the character," said Koichi Kawakita, special effects director of many of the original Godzilla films. "But I'm a bit worried about how viewers will react to the changes."

Still, a legion of hard-core Japanese Godzilla fans - literally - can't wait to see the film in Japan.

Belying Japan's stubborn economic slump, travel agent Nippon Ryoko will shuttle about 200 Japanese devotees on a package tour to New York to witness "G-Day," Godzilla's Hollywood rebirth at Madison Square Garden.

"Since the contents of the movie have been kept secret, the fans are really anxious to check it out first," Shinohara said.

But TriStar executives beware: Although they don't spout fire, Japanese Godzilla fans can be a sensitive lot.

"Godzilla evokes very powerful memories for many Japanese," said Takashi Shinohara, who comes up with ideas for tours for Nippon Ryoko and is himself an avid Godzilla fan. "We'll be really angry if they change it too much from the original."

Movie buffs often place the Godzilla series in the so-bad-it's-brilliant category. The Hollywood film has raised fears that too many sophisticated pyrotechnics could tarnish Godzilla's low-budget, handmade charm.

TriStar's "Godzilla" was budgeted at \$100 million. The last Japanese Godzilla film cost about \$8 million, a mere fistful by Hollywood standards.

Godzilla has such a strong following in Japan that Nippon Ryoko's Shinohara has successfully launched several Godzilla-theme package tours in the past.

When Godzilla - who is powered by nuclear energy - died of a meltdown two years ago after

overheating in a rumble with a giant oxygen-sucking scorpion in "Godzilla vs. Destroyer," Nippon Ryoko arranged a funeral tour for the bereft. Black

times since the first movie," he said. "I think Hollywood's Godzilla will inspire new directions for the character."

The extraordinary barter of cultural icons has even caught the eye of Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

Commenting in Tokyo about the recent flow of officials between Washington and Tokyo, Albright quipped: "Perhaps the most high-level exchange so far will happen in two weeks ... Godzilla will come to New York City."

Even if it isn't high level, the exchange certainly is extensive.

Japan's Sony owns Hollywood major TriStar, which approached the Tokyo-based Toho Studio for rights to home-grown hero Godzilla. On "G-Day," he may be sorely tempted to stomp all over Rockefeller Center, which was once owned by Japanese business moguls.

But the international attention Godzilla has been receiving of late hasn't affected everyone in Japan.

Another bone-crusher, American-born sumo grand champion Akebono, shrugged off questions about the fire-breathing dragon at a recent Red Cross charity event.

"Don't know much about Godzilla," Akebono told reporters.

But TriStar executives beware: Although they don't spout fire, Japanese Godzilla fans can be a sensitive lot.

mourning dress was de rigueur. Shinohara says it wasn't a joke. "The fans were seriously sad," he said. "Many people cried."

But special effects director Kawakita believes that the sheer fun of Godzilla's destructive power will make it hard for Hollywood to stray too far from the original concept.

"Godzilla's appeal is simple: He's incredible, he's strong," said Kawakita. "I don't think they'll change that."

Also, Kawakita hopes that Hollywood will be able to rejuvenate the decades-old monster and inspire new ideas for Godzilla movies in Japan.

"Godzilla has evolved many

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AGRICULTURE

The Market Forecaster

By George Kleinman

Wheat (Bull)

Outlook: Since our last update, the tone of the wheat market is different. Due to weather considerations (we always told you these markets would be very susceptible to "weather scares" this year) the bull is back! While the bulk of the U.S. winter wheat crop is still looking pretty good, there are new disease problems reported in some of the Soft Red areas. Of more significance is the condition of the spring wheat crop. While it has not even been totally planted yet, the hot, dry, windy situation in the Northern Plains and Canada is about as bad as it gets to start a young crop out. If the spring wheat continues to lead the rally, the winter wheat futures could easily join in while the funds cover their record large short position. Remember, a huge short position in the futures is like gasoline on a fire once the fire is sparked. The path of least resistance looks to be upward, at least until the weather starts to cooperate once again.

Strategy: *Hedgers:* I still suggest at these levels to assume the risk of the marketplace, looking for higher prices down the road (assuming you have not hedged previously at higher prices.) If we do not get decent prices by harvest, at that time there is an alternative. You can sell cash wheat and buy call options to maintain ownership.

Traders: Last week, you should have been stopped into a long position in the September Minneapolis futures at 369 3/4. Risk to 360 and leave upside objective open at this time.

Corn (Bull/Bear)

Outlook: You don't hear much about El Nino any more from the mass media. There was a lot of media hype surrounding this phenomena for a long time, but now that we are entering the most critical growing period for the most important world crops there is nothing. Yet, the pattern has started out ominously like 1983. Yes, there was extended wet weather in portions of the corn belt at planting time that year. The Northern Plains did experience early dryness that year, just like today. Then there was extreme heat and drought late in the summer in 1983. This is the reason I have trouble getting too bearish this early in the crop year. The potential exists for what I

will call a "weather wiggle," perhaps more this year than most. After all, it remains an El Nino year, despite the fact you don't hear that much anymore.

Strategy: *Hedgers:* We are 10 percent hedged new crop production at 275 in the December contract. Add 25 percent now using the December 260 puts, as they will protect the downside for a reasonable cost without limiting the upside potential should a weather market develop.

Traders: We bought the December futures at 269 last week. Risk to 259 for a profit objective of 284.

Soybeans (Bull/Bear)

Outlook: Last week I mentioned that, despite the bearish sentiment, the unexpected news in the soybean complex would most likely be bullish in the coming weeks. Well, the market is higher than it was last week, and higher than it's been in a month. So one can conclude the trend has turned up, at least for now. There is also news from South America. Their record large crop may not be as phenomenal as advertised. While the Argentine yields appear to be decent, we hear the Brazilian crop is disappointing in the South. Since here in the U.S. there may potentially be some corn acreage switched to soybeans, and since the prospective soybean acres are already record high, I am not yet ready to put the bull by himself in the header. He has to share his space with the bear for now. Yet, the trend is your friend, and I do not recommend you fight it.

Strategy: *Hedgers:* Look to obtain 25 percent new crop hedge coverage (using either futures or put options, whichever you are most comfortable with) above 640 in the November contract.

Traders: We just missed our 635 purchase objective last week in the July contract. This recommendation is now canceled. Remain on the sidelines for now.

Cattle (Bull)

Outlook: The cash market appears to be firming. Looking at a chart of the cash price, while you will see peaks and valleys, the market is moving in a stair-step fashion. In other words, higher highs and higher lows. The futures are better believers of the coming bull market in cattle than the day to day

cash since the deferred months continue to remain rock solid, and the June remains at a premium to cash. Some people think this is a bearish sign, but I do not. I continue to believe the futures and cash made an important price low last month which will hold for a long time to come. The total cattle inventory is estimated at only 99,501,000 head in 1998. This is the first time in five years the total inventory will be under 100 million head. Calf numbers and feeder cattle numbers are down sharply, and recently placements into feedlots are running 17 to 20 percent less than a year ago. All this is happening just as the grilling season begins. By the end of the year, I look for futures to be trading in the mid-70s or higher.

Strategy: *Feeders:* Remain unhedged in August forward at this time looking for higher prices. Sell Junes to hedge on rallies from 7000 up to 7150.

Cow/calf operators: We recommend no futures or options hedges at this time. Corn rallies may dampen feeder cattle rallies, but the fundamentals of tight supplies should result in shallow breaks in price. Remain unhedged anticipating higher prices down the road.

Traders: Last week you were able to purchase October cattle futures at our recommended level, under 6925. Be prepared to risk 200 points for an ultimate objective of 7350.

The information and recommendations presented herein are believed to be reliable; however, changing market variables can change price outlooks. Neither Pampa News nor George Kleinman assume liability for their use. Use this section as a guide only. Futures and options trading can involve risk of loss. Past performance is not indicative of future performance. Follow the recommendations if they make sense to you and for your operation. George Kleinman is president of Commodity Resource Corporation (CRC), a licensed brokerage firm which specializes in marketing strategies using agricultural futures and options. CRC welcomes questions - they can be reached at 1-800-233-4445.

Dry conditions cause concern across Lone Star state, according to Extension Service

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) - Farmers throughout Texas are praying for rain as they watch their fields turn brown and their crop yields plummet, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service reports.

In the Coastal Bend, Extension agronomist Dr. Steve Livingston says that farmers in his area are living off of the soil moisture right now.

"If it is not a drought it is the next closest thing to it," he said. Livingston said the crops that are being affected the most are corn and sorghum because they have been planted the longest. The plants are deep rooted and simply cannot get enough water, he said.

Livingston said the crops look fairly normal on cool days but on hot days, they roll up when the sun is the hottest.

"That will affect the ultimate grain production," Livingston said.

He said as long as the weather is cool and overcast those crops will continue to hang on.

"We may still have a respectable crop," Livingston said. He said there is not as much stress on the cotton crops. They are not as tall as they should be and will soon begin to need more water to continue growing.

"Little plants don't need much water, but as they start making growth strides they need as much as an inch of water per day," Livingston said.

He said the main problem is that cotton will not retain fruit if it is under water stress, but there is not a lot to do unless farmers are actively using irrigation.

"Most of us don't have irrigation and we will be in trouble," Livingston said. He said the cattle situation is looking pretty dismal for ranchers and they will be in desperate times if it does not rain. "People are watching their fields turn brown," he said. "In another couple of weeks cattle ranchers are going to be out of wheats and grass to feed and will have to resort to supplemental feeding with hay."

Livingston said ranchers are already buying last year's hay, but nobody can afford supplementing with hay all year long.

"Hay is too expensive to keep feeding. By the end of the summer the ranchers will start selling cattle," he said.

Livingston said conditions in his area are going to become very serious in a relatively short amount of time. "We're still okay for another two weeks," he said. "But there is already a decline in yields of corn and sorghum."

Joe Pena, Extension economist in Uvalde, said Southwest Texas is severely dry. Record high temperatures and windy conditions are aggravating the problem.

"It has been 70 days since our last economically significant rainfall," Pena said.

He said farmers are irrigating around the clock and this is causing increased production costs for growers. "The area is starting to look like mid-summer dormant conditions," Pena said. "Pastures and ranges are brown and the dry, dusty conditions are causing a little bit of haze."

Corn and cotton crops are weaker than last year and this is leading to financial problems for farmers.

"Prices are lower, yet it will cost the average farmer 20 to 30 percent more to produce the same crop," Pena said.

Livestock conditions in the southwest part of the state are not good, but Pena said they could be a lot worse. "Fortunately we liquidated the herds in 1996 and have not really restocked," he said. Pena said ranchers are at 40 percent to 50 percent of the normal stocking rates because of the drought in 1996. If ranchers had not liquidated at that time, they would have to now.

In the South Plains, district Extension director Jett Major reports that wheat is in fair condition, but needs moisture. "In some areas wheat is being grazed out," he said.

Major said although rainfall is needed, pastures and ranges are in fair condition and livestock is doing well. "Planting of cotton, peanuts and sorghum continues," he said.

In East Texas, Tony Douglas, district Extension director in Overton, said cattle conditions in his area are good and markets are steady. "Pastures are fair, but moisture is needed for growth and fertilization," Douglas said.

He said vegetable gardens are progressing nicely, but insect numbers are increasing.

The following specific livestock, crop and weather conditions were reported by district Extension directors:

PANHANDLE: soil moisture short to adequate. Range grass continues to green up. Cattle in good condition. Wheat needs rain; rated fair to poor. Some cotton and peanuts planted. Corn is rated fair to good; planting almost complete.

SOUTH PLAINS: soil moisture very short to short. Pastures and ranges in fair condition; rainfall needed. Livestock in good condition. Corn looking good. Planting of cotton, peanuts and sorghum continues. Wheat in fair condition; needs moisture.

ROLLING PLAINS: soil moisture very short to short. Ranges, pastures fair. Cattle conditions good; stress will appear with continued dry, hot conditions. Wheat in full head stage; signs of moisture stress. Cotton land preparation continues. Pecans good.

NORTH TEXAS: soil moisture short to adequate. Ranges, pastures fair. Cattle conditions good; stress will appear with continued dry, hot conditions. Wheat in full head stage; signs of moisture stress. Cotton land preparation continues. Pecans good.

Spraying begins in effort to kill Medflies

BRADENTON, Fla. (AP) - Workers have begun ground spraying malathion to stamp out the crop-destroying Medfly and plan to release millions of sterile male flies to keep the insect from spreading.

After a month of weekly applications of the pesticide, millions of sterile Medflies will be released to ring Manatee County as a firewall, said Florida Agriculture Commissioner Bob Crawford.

"What we have here is a new infestation," Crawford said Thursday.

Some 300 million sterile Medflies will be set loose along the perimeter of the 740-square-mile central Gulf Coast county to prevent the devastating pest from escaping to other parts of the state.

If the sterile flies try to mate with females, the females will not be able to reproduce before the end of their 30-day life cycle.

The Medfly is a tiny bug but has the potential to wipe out entire crops of 250 varieties of fruits and vegetables. It bores through the skin of fruits - especially citrus - and deposits larvae that develop into maggots, ruining the fruit.

Last year, Manatee County alone had a fruit crop worth \$200 million.

Agriculture crews found 37 Medflies in a single trap on Thursday and a lone Medfly outside the square-mile core area of the infestation.

Meantime, officials in California and Baja California kicked off a campaign urging the public to "don't pack a pest" when traveling into the United States or Mexico.

The two jurisdictions signed an agreement to cooperate in surveillance along the border and to coordinate responses to emergency outbreaks related to pest infestations. So far, California and Baja

The Medfly is a tiny bug but has the potential to wipe out entire crops of 250 varieties of fruits and vegetables. It bores through the skin of fruits - especially citrus - and deposits larvae that develop into maggots, ruining the fruit.

California are free from the Medfly.

Liz Compton of the Florida Agriculture Department said officials were not surprised to find the 37 Medflies in one trap. She said she was more concerned about finding the bug outside the target zone.

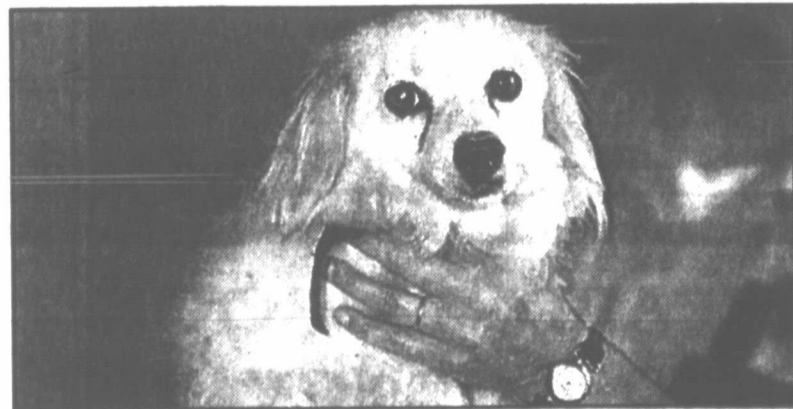
Seven Medflies were discovered Tuesday in the backyard of a vacant property. Within 24 hours, 21 more were found - all still within a square-mile area. Workers began setting 200 to 300 traps over two square miles on Wednesday. By Thursday the count had passed 60 Medflies caught in traps.

Agriculture representatives went door-to-door, asking homeowners for permission to put a glob of malathion in a syrupy mixture on infested backyard fruit trees.

Officials said they would not treat without approval, but knew of no one who denied permission.

Crawford blamed El Nino for creating major Medfly infestations in Mexico and was concerned summer travelers may bring the pest back with them.

PET of the WEEK



Pretty Lady... "Lady" is a white & tan Sheltie cross. She is 1 1/2 years old, has been spade & house broken. Lady loves children and would make a perfect family pet.

For information about these pets or any other Contact the Animal Shelter at 669-5775 or come by their location at Hobart Street Park. Office hours are Monday-Friday 5 p.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., Sun. & Holidays 11 a.m.-12 noon and 4 p.m.-5 p.m.

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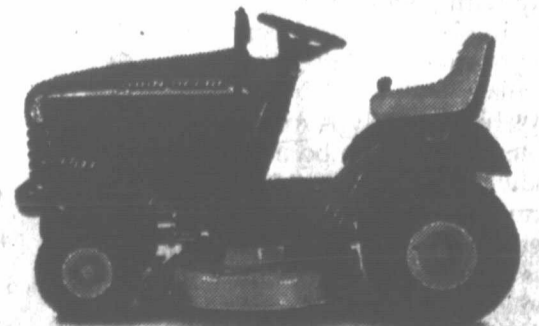
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Former addict hooked on vipers...

By PAUL BOURGEOIS
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

WHEATLAND, Texas — Rattlesnakes. Most people either love 'em or hate 'em. Jackie Bibby loves 'em. He also likes the attention that he gets for being a champion rattlesnake sacker.

He holds the world's record for sacking rattlers: 10 in 17.2 seconds. He did it in 1991 at the National Rattlesnake Sacking Championship, held each spring in Taylor.

The record still stands. He's got hundreds of trophies for sacking rattlers and other assorted snake-related feats, such as bagging one with the most rattles (18) or lying very still while his partner, Ken Garrett, places a coiled rattler on his head.

They hit all of the big roundups each spring in Taylor, Oglesby, Freer, Brownwood, Sweetwater and a few others.

Bibby also has something called a Rattlesnake Roundup Safety Award.

"That's for not getting bit," he said.

At least not too much. "It's really ugly when you get bit," he said. "You swell up and your skin turns black and you feel real sick."

Most rattlesnake bites don't kill, but he said the victim feels "so powerful sick" that for a

time he wishes he was dead. Bibby says he's been bitten about as many times as he's been married. There've been three or four bad ones — marriages and bites.

Marriage is something he's pretty much given up.

"I think going with the same woman all the time is like scratching an itch that ain't there no more," he said.

A native of Rising Star, he lives in Wheatland, a little community on U.S. 377 southwest of Benbrook, along with his two sons, ages 6 and 2, and his sons' mother. They're just best friends.

Marriage he can live without, but he's not about to give up snakes.

He's got a box of rattlesnakes in his living room. His sons don't play with them yet, but they like to look at them before he takes them to school.

Some people handle snakes as part of their religion. Bibby does it for fun. It's his hobby, and he likes the attention that it attracts.

"Do I want the attention? You bet! It's well worth it. I've been a daredevil and thrill-seeker all my life," Bibby said. "I was a skydiver, a scuba diver; I raced cars and motorcycles, rode bulls and hang gliders."

"I had a bull stomp my face. I broke a knee pole-vaulting. I think I've survived almost intact, except one thumb doesn't work

too good due to a snake bite and my index finger has some loss of mobility where I was bit.

"It's a strange hobby. Therein lies the attraction," he said. "If rattlesnakes and cobras weren't dangerous, thousands of people wouldn't come to see us handle them."

People have a fascination for things that make their skin crawl. They like to be scared, Bibby said.

A few weeks ago, he returned from England, where he was featured on a TV show called "Don't Do This At Home." He usually does things few people would want to do anywhere; things like crawling into a sleeping bag full of snakes. He's off to the Netherlands in a few weeks for another TV show.

"When I'm at a show, be it on TV or a live show, all the pretty girls want to have their picture taken with me; all the reporters want to talk to me; all the TV cameras want me.

"Part of that is I do things out of the ordinary. I stand out of a crowd. It's a personality thing and a God-given trait. I think it's charisma. I can't describe it, but I know that I have it.

"I do it for the attention and the adrenalin," he said.

And it's legal.

"I used to use drugs and sell drugs," Bibby said, "mostly speed and cocaine, a little heroin

and a lot of alcohol. I was a dope fiend for many, many years. About 15 years I guess."

"At one time I made most of the jails in Texas, but when I was on dope I was 10 feet tall. I was cool daddy supreme — a rich girl's playboy and a poor girl's dream."

"It's primarily why I lost those wives. They were good women. I had good intentions. I just couldn't make my actions and intentions match."

He was in and out of jails, prisons, state hospitals and treatment centers, but then about 11 years ago he said something

clicked and he decided to get clean. For most of the past 10 years he's been a drug intervention specialist, traveling around North Texas helping people to get off and stay off drugs and alcohol.

He said snake-handling helps in his job.

"It opens doors. Everybody I meet thinks it's interesting. They want to talk to me and be my buddy."

"Look," he said, "I've got the best job in the world and the best hobby in the world. I'm 47 years old, fat and bald, and my life is the best it's ever been. It's good."

"It's primarily why I lost those wives. They were good women. I had good intentions. I just couldn't make my actions and intentions match."

— Jackie Bibby

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| 1 Public Notice Taking Bids June 1, 1998, 10 a.m. for a Backhoe Loader with trade-in. Specs can be obtained at Judge Richard Peet's office, 227 N. Russell or Gray County Precinct II Barn, Hwy. 60 East, Jim Greene 669-8031. May 17, 24, 1998 | 14c Carpet Service RON'S Floor Service. Carpet, Tile, Vinyl, Wood. Installations & Repairs. 669-0817 | 14d Radio and Television RENT TO RENT RENT TO OWN We have TV, VCR, Camcorders to suit your needs. Rent by hour-day-week. Call for estimate. Johnson Home Furnishings 801 W. Francis | 21 Help Wanted NOTICE Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods. SUMMER Work for college students/1998 high school grads. Up to \$9.15. Flexible pt/f schedules. Scholarships avail. Conds. apply. Apply in Amarillo: work in Amarillo or in Pampa 806-353-9216 MAKE UP TO \$1500 In 11 days. Operate a fireworks stand just outside Pampa, June 24-July 4. Must be responsible adult. Phone 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 830-429-3808. Postal Jobs \$18.35/Hr. Includes benefits, no experience. For application and exam information call 1-800-813-3585 extension 7614, 8 a.m.-9 p.m. 7 days, ftd, inc. NOW hiring cooks. Weekend & evenings available. Call 665-4325. SUBWAY Sandwiches is now hiring day & evening position, 20-25 hr. per week. Apply in person, 2141 N. Hobart. BABYSITTER Needed in our home. M-F & 1/2 day on Sat. Occasionally, 665-5935 POSITION w/Texas. Dept. of Corr. Ind. Spec. IV. Posting No. 024268JN, Salary Gr. A14 \$2195/mo. Location: Jordan Unit/Pampa. Payroll JOB # (510779) EEOC employer. Paid for by TDJC-ID Contact Tx. Employment Commission. CNA's needed FT eves - FT all shifts. Benefits: car exp., insurance, retirement plan, meals furnished - apply in person - St. Ann's Nursing Home - Panhandle. FULL time teller. 2 or more years teller & computer experience. Apply at 900 N. Hobart. PAMPA NEWS CIRCULATION DEPT. Part time inserter needed. Stop by office & fill out application during reg. business hours Mon-Fri. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. NO PHONE CALLS |
| 3 Personal MARY Kay Cosmetics and Skin-care. Facials, supplies, call Deb Stapleton, 665-2095. BEAUTICONTROL Cosmetics and Skin Care sales, service, and makeovers. Lynn Allison 1304 Christine - 669-3848 MARY Kay Cosmetics, facials & supplies. Call Vijay Murgai at 669-6323. | 14e General Services COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. 669-7769. WILLOUGHBY'S Backhoe-Storm shelters, commercial/res. 669-7251, 665-1131, 669-7320. | 18 Beauty Shops CARR'S Beauty Shop The Perm Place Check Out My Prices 669-0029 | 19 Situations BABYSITTING in my home. Call 665-3654 HOUSE Cleaning. Reasonable rates. References. 669-3468 |
| 5 Special Notices ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only. PAMPA Lodge #966, we meet every Thursday 7:30 p.m., business meeting 3rd Thursday. TOP O Texas Lodge 1381-Breakfast at Chaucery's, May 23rd. Election of officers June 2, stated meeting installation June 30, Sat. 7:30 p.m. Officers practice required. | 14n Painting Painting/Decorating David Hunter 665-2903 PAINTING reasonable, interior, exterior. Minor repairs. Free estimates. Bob Gorton 665-0033. | 21 Help Wanted NOTICE: All ads that contain phone numbers or give reference to a number with an area code of 809 or a prefix of 011 are international toll numbers and you will be charged international long distance rates. For more information and assistance regarding the investigation of work at home opportunities and job lists, The Pampa News urges its readers to contact the Better Business Bureau of South Texas, 609 S. International Blvd., Weslaco, Tx. 78756, (210) 968-3678. Wildlife Jobs \$21.60/Hr. Inc. benefits. Game wardens, security, maintenance, park rangers. No exp. needed. For app./exam - 1-800-813-3585 ext. 7615, 8 a.m.-9 p.m. 7 days ftd, inc. Postal Jobs \$18.35/Hr. Includes benefits, no experience. For application and exam information call 1-800-813-3585 extension 7614, 8 a.m.-9 p.m. 7 days, ftd, inc. | |
| 10 Lost and Found LOST white kitten, marked like a Siamese, if you have seen please call 669-7387, 665-5622. Reward FOUND adult Siamese cat, describe & friendly. Call & describe 669-7387, 665-5622. | B & B Lawn Care Service. Exp. mowing, edging, weeding, hedges, will also haul off trash. 669-3198. COLLEGE student wants yard-edge, mow, trim. Dep., reas rates. 5 yrs. exp. Ref. 665-2659. LAWN Service Yard Clean-Up Landscape, Rotoill Call 665-5641 LAWN cut, reasonable rates. Also clean-up work done. Call 669-3073 TREE trimming, tree feeding, yard clean-up, lawn aeration. 665-9330. | 14s Plumbing & Heating JACK'S Plumbing/Heating. New construction, repair, remodeling, sewer & drain cleaning. Septic systems installed. 665-7115. Larry Baker Plumbing Heating Air Conditioning Borger Highway 665-4392 | |
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"Mr. Wilson says he's holding my bike as evidence!"

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 is LONG FELLOW

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

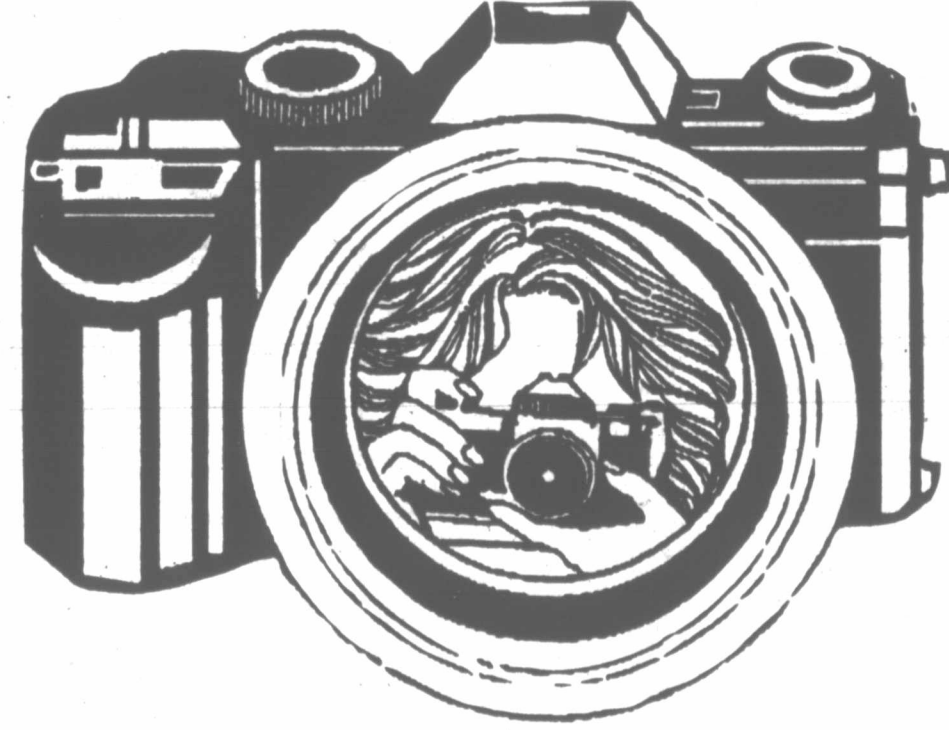
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 Z D I W R H W V W T W H
 H R S D N V W E I H D W V E B M D Q,
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21 Help Wanted

BABYSITTER needed for Summer, for 7 yr. old girl, in my home. Need reliable transportation & references. Please call 665-9250 after 6 p.m.

NEED dependable person for floor maintenance w/ experience. Call 669-9475.

WANTED Experienced Cook. Apply in person. Black Gold Restaurant, 1100 E. Frederic.

PRODUCTION Superintendent For active independent in Oklahoma & Texas panhandle, located in Perryton, Texas. Send resume to Strat Land Exploration Co., 9 East 4th St. Ste. 800, Tulsa, Ok. 74103. Fax (918) 584-3205.

MAINTENANCE position available. Minor electrical & plumbing experience required. Apply in person Best Western Northgate Inn.

FIRST LANDMARK REALTY
665-0717
2545 Perryton Pkwy in the Pampa Mall

NEW LISTING

Wonderful large two bedroom plus large den with woodburning fireplace. 29x13 living room. Master bedroom has large walk in closet. Nice carpet. Central heat. Curtains, Draperies and ceiling fans will convey. Pretty back yard with nice trees. Double car garage. Very comfortable home has had lots of TLC. Call Vert for additional information. OE.

WANTED: HAIRDRESSER

To occupy this lovely 3 bedroom home. Large living dining combo. Huge kitchen. Kitchen bar seats four. Nearby new central heat and air. New roof. Beautiful draperies, neutral carpet. Beauty shop under breezeway from house to shop. Room behind beauty shop would accommodate hot tub, or sauna room. Lots of amenities. Call for an appointment to see. MLS 4371.

OWNER SAYS SELL

REDUCED PRICE

Nice and roomy 3 bedroom, large formal living room will accommodate dining room furniture. One year old carpet. Large utility room. Total electric. Nearly new dishwasher, hot water heater and disposal. Covered back porch could easily be converted to a sun room or den. Nice trees. Oversized double garage. Call to see. MLS 4371.

REDUCED PRICE

Large two bedroom. Updated kitchen has beautiful cabinets. Large utility room. Owner occupied for many years. House has had excellent TLC. Central heat and air. Storm cellar. Don't miss seeing this one. It's a buy. MLS 4079.

LOOKING FOR A STARTER HOME

Then let us show you this adorable two bedroom brick home. Large living room and kitchen. New paint inside and outside trim. Nice and clean. Call for additional information. MLS 4276.

BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME

Foundation is in place and will accommodate an 1,872 square foot home. Circle driveway. Corner location. Evergreen and E. Havester. Owner might trade. MLS 4095L.

MOBILE HOME

Wonderful 3 bedroom. 2 full baths. Walk in closet in master bedroom. Beautiful wood cabinets in kitchen. Nice open/airy floor plan. One and One Half Lots. Large garage. 1996 Shuts Model and is in excellent condition. Call Irvine for an appointment. OE.

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Andy Hudson 669-0817
Irvine Riphahn GRI 665-4534
Martin Riphahn 665-4534
Chris Moore GRI 665-8172

21 Help Wanted

DRIVERS needed. Must be 25 yrs. old, have class A CDL, 3 yrs. exp., good dr. record, off weekends & holidays. Bonuses & major medical pd. 800-455-3836.

CASEWORKER

The Family Program is currently accepting applications for the position of Caseworker. Responsible for the provision of casework services to the residents of Cal Farley's Family Program, to include counseling, goal-setting and tracking, maintenance of files and related activities. Serves as a liaison between residents, families and outside agencies.

A Bachelor's Degree from an accredited university in a Social Work, Child Psychology, Counseling, Human Services Administration or a related field is required. Must possess or have the ability to obtain a Texas Social Work licensure and/or a Texas Child Care Administrators License. Must be at least 21 years of age. A minimum of two years experience in case management is preferred.

Interested candidates may send resume and letter of interest to: The Family Program Personnel Recruiter P.O. Box 1890 Amarillo, TX. 79174-0001 Job Line 373-6600 ext. 4 Equal Opportunity Employer

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Are you looking for a commercial building site or just need assistance with your business? Give us a call at **PAMPA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (PEDC) 665-5553**

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OILFIELD NATURAL GAS & COMPRESSOR MECHANIC MUST BE VERSATILE & EXPERIENCED. SEND RESUME TO: PO BOX 589 WOODWARD, OKLA. 73802

MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT

The Family Program, is currently accepting applications for the position of Maintenance Assistant. Assist in the overall maintenance of the campus, to include electrical, plumbing, carpentry, appliance repair, painting, vehicle maintenance, and relate activities. A High School diploma or GED equivalency is required. Must possess or have the ability to obtain a Refrigerant Technician certification and a Public Water District Systems certification. A minimum of 2 years experience in general maintenance operations.

Interested candidates may complete application at The Family Program campus or send resume and letter of interest to: The Family Program Personnel Recruiter Attn: Personnel Recruiter P.O. Box 1890 Amarillo, TX. 79174-0001 Job Line 373-6600 ext. 4 Equal Opportunity Employer

21 Help Wanted

EVENING Plumber Needed. Call 848-2517

OWNER-Operators needed. Choose your fleet. We have a short-haul dry freight for single drivers, and a short-haul dry freight fleet for team drivers. Most of our dry freight is either "no touch" or "drop and hook". We pay weekly, we can run you as hard as you want to run and we can get you home on a regular basis. This is an easy sign-on lease with no front money required. We require a 1990 model or newer conventional, 3-axle, sleeper equipped tractor. Small fleet operators welcome. For more details call Booker Transportation Service, Inc. at 1-800-369-4633, ext. 300, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

TEXAS Rose Steakhouse now taking applications for waitress/hostess positions. Apply in person only. Mon-Sat. 2537 Perryton Parkway.

TEMPORARY contract labor job w/plant operator skills, plant experience preferred. Shift work. Apply in person, Billy Scribner Welding, Price Rd. & Amarillo Hwy.

NOW Taking Applications for Equipment Installers. Call Browning Heating & Air. 665-1212

NOW Taking Applications for CFC Certified service men. Call Browning Heating & Air. 665-1212

EARN to \$2000/week. Process FHA refunds from home. Call 1-315-768-7183. 24 hrs.

21 Help Wanted

WANTED CSR or Solicitor to manage local auto ins. agency. Must be licensed or have auto experience. 1-800-327-0467.

WANTED childcare for 2 children in early afternoon. For info. call 665-8755.

30 Sewing Machines

WE service all makes and models of sewing machines and vacuum cleaners. Sanders Sewing Center. 214 N. Cuyler, 665-2383.

50 Building Supplies

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HOUSTON LUMBER 420 W. Foster 669-6881

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JOHNSON HOME FURNISHINGS Rent one piece or house full Washer-Dryer-Ranges Bedroom-Dining Room Livingroom 801 W. Francis 665-3361

SOLID Pine dining rm. set, mdf table w/ 4 chairs & 2 leaves, buffet & hutch, dry sink. 669-3156.

SALE: Washers, Dryers, Refrigerators. 125 N. Somerville. 663-0265, 669-9797

69 Miscellaneous

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

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69 Miscellaneous

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HEADLINERS On The Go is now in Pampa!! Auto headliner replacement at your location. Most cars \$115, most pickups \$75. Local call 835-9544 or pager 378-7814.

2-12x16x10 ft. tall steel bldgs. 1-wooden stor. bldg. 80-12 ft. livestock panels. 826-2027

69a Garage Sales

GARAGE Sale: Fund Raiser for surgery. Fri. 6-8 p.m. Sat. 8 a.m.-? Sun. 1 p.m.-? Books-all kinds, teacher materials, waterbed, car, clothing, 2 used wheel chairs, software, much more. 1225 Mary Ellen, Pampa.

69a Garage Sales

SALE: Corner of 3rd & Ash-Shelleytown, Sat. & Sun. 8-4:30; Mon. 9-3. Infant to adult clothes, misc.

70 Musical

PIANOS FOR RENT New and used pianos. Starting at \$40 per month. Up to 9 months of rent will apply to purchase. It's all right here in Pampa at Tarpley Music. 665-1251.

WURLITZER spinet piano for sale, \$500 or best offer. Must sell by May 23rd. Call 308-389-4521 collect or leave message.

75 Feeds and Seeds

BRITTEN FEED & SEED Hwy 60, 665-5881

CUSTOM Hay Baling, round & square. All types of hay. Call 806-248-9002.

77 Livestock & Equip.

BEAUTIFUL Palomino mare age 8 Greenbrooke blaze 15 hands (out of Tidwell's "Lucky") Wilson's Yellow Rose 665-9738

OUTSTANDING conformation beautiful Buckskin age two filly-halterbroke (out of Tidwell's "King") Wilson's Yellow Rose Wilson's Yellow Rose 665-9738

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DOG Obedience Class for beginners. Vicki Ebenkamp, 665-3917.

AKC Miniature Schnauzer female, 8 month, \$250. 665-7703.

NEED good homes for 4 kittens. Litter box trained. 883-6001 after 3 or leave message.

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TO give away to good homes. Four adorable kittens. Call 665-0775

WHITE female Persian cat, 1/2 yr. old, all shots updated, spayed, papers, free. 826-3065 Wheeler

89 Wanted To Buy

WOULD like to buy old Servel gas refrigerator, for good price. Call 665-2767 leave message.

95 Furnished Apartments

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2 br. apt., 1312 Coffee #4. \$200 dep., \$325 mo., 6 mo. lease, you pay elec. 665-0283 lv. message

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3 br., large livingroom & den, single car, 1153 Terrace. Call 669-7371.

DETAIL list of our rentals in red box on front porch of Action Realty, 707 N. Hobart.

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2 br., appliances, 1317 N. Coffee, \$275 mo., \$150 dep., service animals only. 663-7522, 883-2461

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2 br., 1 bath, cnt. h/a, sing. gar. 1917 Hamilton, \$26,500. 669-0548.

2 bedroom house, in good condition, 457 Hughes, \$13,500. Call 669-2157.

2209 N. Russell, 3 br/1 3/4 ba/2 car gar., c h/a, 1793 sq. ft. Must See! 669-0408.

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Celinese Pampa, Texas

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Requires: Extensive knowledge of Windows NT server configuration, Microsoft Exchange.

Responsibilities include: Maintenance and operation of specific plant network systems as well as a number of general departmental operation duties. This position is specifically responsible for the reliable operation of the plant E-mail system, plant Web server environment and plant EDMS environment. Account administration, network infrastructure support, general server health maintenance and other related duties. Represents the plant on an established corporate E-mail team and ensure that plant systems keep in line with corporate direction. Work done on any supported systems is documented at a level to allow other individuals with the department to carry out successful operation of those systems if this person is unavailable.

Interested applicants should apply with resume, at: Texas Workforce Commission Office Coronado Shopping Center, Pampa, Texas 8 AM - 5 PM Monday-Friday (806) 665-0938 Respond by: May 29, 1997

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| '97 BUICK LESABRE Loaded, Power Seat, 21,300 Miles \$16,900 | '97 CHEVROLET MALIBU Loaded, Pretty Color, 14,700 Miles \$13,900 |
| '98 CHEVROLET MALIBU Like New, White Car, 11,200 Miles \$15,200 | '96 CHEVY SUBURBAN 4x4, Loaded, Rear Air, & Heat, 20,600 Miles \$27,900 |

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| '94 Pontiac Grand AM Bright Red, 4 Door, Automatic, Air \$7,950 | 89 Dodge Ram 4x4 Pickup, Air, Big Wheels & Tires \$6,950 | '91 Buick Park Ave 4 Door, Extra Clean, Just 80,000 Miles \$9,800 | 97 Pontiac Grand AM 4 Door, Green, Power Windows & Locks \$12,850 |
| '96 Chevrolet Monte Carlo White, Alarm, Low Miles \$13,500 | '93 Chevrolet Mark III Conversion Van, Leather Interior, Just 31,000 Miles \$13,500 | '94 Chevrolet Z71 Extended Cab, 4x4, Clean Truck \$15,750 | '97 Buick LeSabre Custom, 4 Door, White, 18,000 Miles \$16,500 |
| '97 Toyota Camry 2 To Choose From \$17,900 | 97 Pontiac Bonneville White, Alloy Wheels, Graphite Cloth Interior \$19,500 | '96 Toyota Avalon XL, White, Chrome Wheels, New Car Trade In \$20,500 | '97 Ford Expedition Eddie Bauer, Green, Just 4,000 Miles \$32,900 |

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102 W. 19th.....119,000.....3/2/1 cp
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2616 COMANCHE.....72,000.....3/1.5/2
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1913 N. ZIMMERS.....63,500.....4/2.5/1
701 LOWRY.....69,900.....3/1.7

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2512 Bosch-Two story, 4 br., 5-1/2 ba., formal living, dining, WB. Recently redecorated throughout. Large rooms. 2 decks, hot tub, jacuzzi, sun-room. Wonderful for a large family. MLS4374.
 1818 Mary Ellen-One of a kind, owner built. Quality construction. 3/2 1/2 plus workshop with 1 1/2 baths. Beautiful cabinetry. Large family room, office or hobby room. Quiet cul-de-sac & neighborhood. MLS4365.
 1137 Sierra-Nice 2 bedroom house. Perfect for retirement or starter home. Newly remodeled kitchen, with beautiful cabinets, eating area. Carpet. MLS4131.
 1009-1011 N. Wells-Lovely 2 story 3 br. duplex.
 1013-1015 N. Wells-Convenient 1 story 3 & 2 br. duplex.

GOVERNMENT FORECLOSED

PRICED to sell-White Deer, 1800 sq. ft. nice brick home, 3 bdr., 1 3/4 ba. 665-5198.
 STORM Cellar. By Owner-1923 Grape, quiet neighborhood, 1 1/2 story, 5 bdr. 2 3/4 ba., recreation room, approx. 3600 sq. ft. Realtor 669-3248 leave message.

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 FOR Sale as is, to be moved-7 yr. old Solataire double wide, 1848 sq. ft. 4 br., 2 1/2 ba., dining room, breakfast nook, lg. living room, fireplace. 883-5054.

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 '91 CADILLAC SEDAN DEVILLE, Midnight Blue With Blue Leather, A Good Buy At.....\$7995
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104 Lots

CHOICE residential lots, northeast, Austin district. Call 665-8578, 665-2832 or 665-0079.
 1 acre lots for new construction. Paved street, utilities. E. on Hwy. 60. Claudine Balch, 665-8075.
105 Acreage
 KELLER Estates-9 Acres, corner of Berry and Pear Drive. Call 665-1934.
 10 Acres-west of Pampa. Utilities available. Will finance. Call 665-7480.
106 Coml. Property
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A stock market tip: Listen to the whispers

By JOHN CUNNIFF
AP Business Analyst

NEW YORK (AP) — As an investor in stocks you have of course heard about whispers. You haven't? Then there's a good chance you're not getting the very latest and best forecasts of corporate earnings.

The whispers referred to are not the old-fashioned kind — "Psst, have I got a stock for you" — but the new electronic sort.

As newly defined, whispers are somewhat mysterious estimates that appear on computer Web sites prior to the release of corporate earnings. They are unsourced; seldom can you find their origin. But on average, they can be more accurate than professional estimates.

If you want a short-term investing edge, therefore, listen to the whispers. It's what clever Internet-bright investors are doing, and a university study suggests that they may be profiting. The computer nerd seems to have joined the investing mania.

Like old-fashioned rumors, whispers are pass-along information newly fashioned for the Internet. They could be nothing more than the source's personal estimates; but who knows, they also could be based on what is sometimes called inside information.

Whatever, a university study indicates that whispered earnings projections are more accurate than analyst estimates offered by First Call Corp., whose reports are the most widely used in the marketplace. And that savvy traders can use them to make money.

Professors Mark Bagnoli of the University of Michigan, Messod Benish of Indiana University and Susan Watts of Purdue University began their study at the most elemental level: They simply began searching under the key word "whisper."

It seems nobody had ever gathered and analyzed whispers. In fact, the researchers could find no mention of the term before 1984, and interest

didn't seem to grow until around the time of a Wall Street Journal article in 1997.

In all, they gathered 943 whisper forecasts for 127 companies and compared them with forecasts by more than 3,500 traditional analysts as provided by First Call, a division of Thomson Financial Services. The research covered the period January 1995 to May 1997.

Traditional forecasts often were released on First Call during the first week of a new quarter, with revisions occurring infrequently. Whisper forecasts, says Watts, "appear closer to the release of the actual earnings statement."

Their study indicated that the analyses contributed to the First Call network tended to be pessimistic, those in the whisper forecasts more optimistic. So, says Watts, we suspect the whisper forecasts are "the 'street response' to undo these underestimations."

She speculates that the whisper forecasts are more accurate because they may contain information not incorporated in traditional analysts' forecasts and because they circulate closer to the time at which the actual earnings are released.

Stan Levine, who manages First Call's academic program and who contributed data to the researchers, comments that "there seems to be a subset of investors out there who have both the knowledge and the time to post these whispers on the Internet."

He expresses concern about them. "Since there are no authors listed, these are the kinds of numbers that could be fraudulently disseminated," he told the researchers. It is a comment that could also be applied to much (unsourced) Internet information.

Nevertheless, Bagnoli states that besides anecdotal indications of whispers outperforming the more formal analyst projections, there is statistical evidence that whispers right now are having an impact on trading.

Whether you buy or sell short on the basis of whispers, he says, early evidence indicates you can profit.

Back pain bothers Clinton

EISENBACH, Germany (AP) — President Clinton is suffering from a wrenched back.

Clinton was clearly uncomfortable Thursday as he shook hands with hundreds of people after a speech at an auto plant in Eisenbach, and his doctors gave him a mild analgesic, Motrin.

Later, he walked with a stiff gait as he prepared to leave Germany for Birmingham, England, where the Group of Eight economic summit convenes Friday. While boarding Air Force One, the president moved very slowly, using both hands on the rails to pull himself up the stairs.

White House press secretary Mike McCurry said Clinton left Germany about 90 minutes early because of the back pain, saying, "My back's hurting me, it's killing me. Let's go."

Arriving in Birmingham, the president was asked how his back felt and he replied "good."

McCurry said Clinton wrenched his back during stretching exercises Monday, "when he thought he was going to go play golf." The problem was aggravated because the president has been on his feet a lot since arriving in Germany early Wednesday, McCurry said.

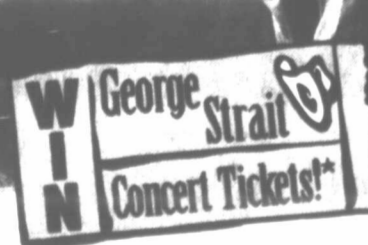

"So when he woke up this morning, he really was experiencing a lot of lower back pain," McCurry said Thursday. "But it has affected his ability to kind of like move along the ropeline. So he was a little stiff."

Clinton, who has experienced similar trouble before, uses a back support from time to time, McCurry said.

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