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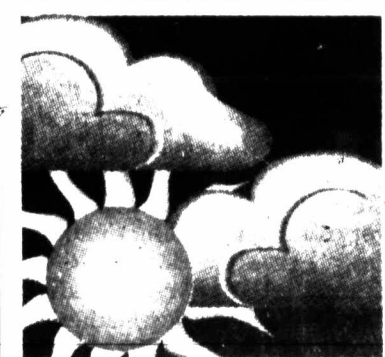
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For weather details see Page 2

Lotto winner drawn in Mission

One ticket matched all six numbers drawn Saturday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket was worth an estimated \$4 million.

The ticket was sold in Mission, Texas.

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 54 were: 13, 21, 24, 28, 40, 49.

Wednesday's drawing will be worth about \$4 million.

- Dennis Ballinger, 57, employee TDCJ Dalhart Unit.
- Nita I. Barber, 75, Shamrock resident.
- Mildred Jean Johnson, 80, mother of a Pampa resident.
- John W. Norris, 76, self-employed personnel contractor.
- Judy Stevens, 61, former Diamond Shamrock employee.
- Elmer R. Ware, 99, farmer, rancher.

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Prison chapel project clears another hurdle

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
Staff Writer

A grassroots drive to build a chapel at the Jordan Prison, Unit east of Pampa took another step forward recently with the Secretary of State's approval of the group as a corporation and the formation of a set of committees to direct the quarter-million dollar project.

Reed Kirkpatrick, who has spearheaded the efforts, said today he has received a letter from the Texas Secretary of State acknowledging the Jordan Chapel Builders' articles of incorporation.

"We're now applying to the Attorney General's office for non-profit status," he said.

A group of local volunteers, headed by Kirkpatrick and

Jordan Unit Chaplain David Schlewitz, hope to raise from \$150,000 to \$250,000 to build a chapel at the prison. Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) institutional program does not build facilities specifically for faith-based programs, officials said. The programs are non-ecumenical and geared to meet multiple faith needs of prison inmates and their families, officials say.

After a series of town hall meetings, a core group of volunteers intent on building a prison chapel established a board of directors. Kirkpatrick said the board has now divided into four subcommittees comprised of these members:

Fund raising - John Crowell, Curt Beck, Ron Goode and Schlewitz;

Construction and Design - Jack Reeve, Don Zumstein, Schlewitz, and Stan Franke;

Professional services - Harold Fournet and Don Zumstein and

Public Relations - Ken Steele, Liet Hasskarl, and Eggert.

"Each of the subcommittees works independently of the board of directors," Kirkpatrick said.

He explained that the fund raising committee seeks funding for the project through grants and donations from individuals and organizations. Once the group obtains non-profit status as a 501(c)3 organization, it will be eligible for grants from foundations. Jordan Chapel Builders is already in a position to accept donations from individuals and organizations through an

(See CHAPEL, Page 3)

Area crashes kill two

Exchange student worker, Air Force Academy cadet

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
Staff Writer

CHILDRESS - Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) troopers investigated two fatal rollovers on local highways this weekend.

A California woman died Saturday afternoon after the Toyota she was driving veered off Interstate 40 near Shamrock and rolled several times, DPS officials reported.

The accident occurred at 5:35 p.m. Saturday when Anita Scheff, 44, an exchange student coordinator from San Francisco, passed two semi-tractor trailer rigs. The driver of the semi in front told officials that the 1990 Toyota Camry made an abrupt move to the right, according to DPS reports, and traveled along the right shoulder. When she attempted to steer the car back onto the

roadway, the vehicle went into a broadside skid and overturned three and a half times.

The woman was pronounced dead at the scene by Wheeler County Justice of the Peace Art Taylor and the body was taken to Wright Funeral Home in Shamrock.

Scheff was wearing a seat belt at the time of the accident, DPS officials said. Neither truck was involved in the wreck, officials said.

Troopers Doug Ackor and Johnny Carter, both of Shamrock, and Jerome Ingle of McLean investigated the accident.

A second rollover on Texas 287 in Armstrong County near Clarendon Sunday morning claimed the life of an Air Force Academy cadet.

Robert Putney Jr., 19, of Houston, apparently went to asleep while driving a 1998 Chevrolet half-

(See CRASHES, Page 3)

City eyes new computer system

If all goes according to plan, a new, \$108,000 computer system that will network departments will be installed in Pampa City Hall replacing a 9-year-old non-networked system.

City Finance Director John Horst told the City Commission at its last meeting the hardware maintenance contract, now at \$9,000 a year, has been rising annually as the equipment ages.

Also, Horst said the software vendor won't keep servicing the programs as the machines, with the exception of some replacement computers, are too

old to run new, updated software.

"The cost of the system seems tremendous... and it is," Horst said.

With city employees doing the wiring it's expected that \$5,000 can be saved there, he said. The annual payments of \$26,000 for five years will come from money saved by not filling a vacant position in the water office.

The new system won't include the police and dispatch offices as those departments have their

(See COMPUTER, Page 3)

Beautiful sight



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Bradford Pear tree blossoms frame the United States and Texas flags flying in front of City Hall this morning, signaling the advent of warmer temperatures and stiff spring winds. Forecasters predict typical spring weather for the week including wind, 80-degree temperatures, and possible evening thunderstorms.

City's gas bills run over budget

By KATE B. DICKSON
Associate Publisher

High natural gas bills may have the city dipping into its contingency funds before the fiscal year ends because actual costs exceed the budgeted amount, said City Finance Director John Horst.

"As tight as the budget is," Horst said, "we may well have to go into the contingency fund to cover these costs."

At the last City Commission meeting Horst gave commissioners copies of a general fund gas cost analysis which compared by departments gas costs this fiscal year as compared to the same period during FY 99-00.

The gas bill totals for the first five months of the last fiscal year as compared to the current fiscal year are listed below respectively.

October - \$256 - \$2,466

(See BILLS, Page 3)

Norwegian couple pays visit to Pampa Son was exchange student here

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
Staff Writer

A relationship between an exchange student from Norway and his host family, Gloria and Steve Hawkins of Pampa, has blossomed into a long-term friendship with his entire family.

Tor and Anlaug Sletvakk of Austrheim, Norway, came to Pampa last week to meet face-to-face the couple who cared for their oldest son Rune a decade ago.

"I wanted to meet this Steve Hawkins," Tor said. "I felt like I knew him. We've talked on the phones many times, but I wanted to meet him."

"We felt we knew them a little bit," his wife Anlaug added. "Rune was always speaking warmly about the Hawkinses. He was always speaking warmly about Pampa."

The couple shared their impressions at a luncheon recently with Darlene Birkes, local American Field Service (AFS) foreign exchange coordinator.

When they arrived at Amarillo Airport, they said they recognized the Hawkinses immediately from photographs.

In addition to meeting the Pampa family in person, the Sletvaks said they also wanted to thank Gloria and Steve for sharing their home with Rune and inviting their youngest son Heming to spend his Thanksgiving holiday with them. Heming, 17, is presently completing a year-long study program at St. Paul's Lutheran High School in Concordia, Mo.

Quite the international family, the Sletvaks also have a daughter who is working in London, England.

(See COUPLE, Page 3)



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Norwegian visitor Tor Sletvakk demonstrates the size of a cowboy hat to Darlene Birkes, center, local AFS exchange student program coordinator, and his wife Anlaug, at a luncheon in Birkes' home. The Sletvaks, visiting Texas for the first time, were fascinated by the bluebonnets and typical Texas country scene painted by Birkes on the wall of her dining room.



72nd Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet And Citizen Of The Year Award April 10th 7:00 PM In The MK Brown Auditorium - Tickets \$20 Per Person - Guest Speaker: Marsha Sharp, Lady Raiders Head Coach

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Daily Record

Services tomorrow

BALLINGER, Dennis — 11 a.m., Peoples Church, Dalhart.

STEVENS, Judy — 10 a.m., God's Covenant Family Church, Amarillo. Burial, 2 p.m., Dumas Cemetery, Dumas.

TAYLOR, Marjorie Edene "Dene" — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

Obituaries

DENNIS BALLINGER

DALHART — Dennis Ballinger, 57, died Saturday, March 31, 2001. Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday in Peoples Church with Jerry Davis, pastor, and the Rev. Stephen Lowrie, pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Park Cemetery under the direction of Hass Funeral Home.

Mr. Ballinger was born Oct. 20, 1943, at Dalhart, to Calvin and Mildred "Gumper" Ballinger. He attended Dalhart schools, graduating from Dalhart High School.

He worked as an aerial applicator for many years prior to joining the Dalhart Police Department as a police officer. He was a locksmith, owning The Can Opener, and was owner/operator of the Olde Donut Shoppe. He currently worked for the TDCJ Dalhart Unit and attended Peoples Church, Lakeview United Methodist Church and First Baptist Church.

He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving during the Vietnam War.

Survivors include two sons, Tim Ballinger of Dumas and Chris Ballinger of Pampa; a daughter, Ingrid Ballinger of Dalhart; his parents, Calvin and Mildred Ballinger of Dalhart; a sister, Frances Childers of Sunray; a brother, Barry Ballinger of Lubbock; and three grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Memorial Park Cemetery Fund in care of City of Dalhart, or Dumas Memorial Hospice, 115 W. 1st St., Dumas, TX 79029.

NITA I. BARBER

McLEAN — Nita I. Barber, 75, died Friday, March 30, 2001, at Pampa. Graveside services were to be at 2 p.m. today in Shamrock Cemetery at Shamrock with the Rev. Jack Lee officiating assisted by Joe Jernigan. Burial will be under the direction of Lamb Funeral Home of McLean.

Mrs. Barber was born Oct. 16, 1925, at Winters, Texas, to Buffalo Bill Chaffin and Annie Lois Aiken. She married J.R. Barber on Dec. 25, 1946, at Wellington and the couple made their home in Shamrock for 55 years.

She was a longtime member of Shamrock First Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband, J.R., of the home; two sisters, Dorothy Wilson of Kemp and Glenna Jolly of Moore, Okla.; and a brother, Bobby Chaffin of Midland.

The family requests memorials be to First Baptist Church, Shamrock, TX 79079.

MILDRED JEAN JOHNSON

ELK CITY, Okla. — Mildred Jean Johnson, 80, died March 30, 2001, at Great Plains Regional Medical Center at Elk City. Services were to be at 2 p.m. today in Whinery-Savage Funeral Chapel with Rod Minor and Tom Harguess officiating. Burial will be in Red Hill Cemetery under the direction of Whinery-Savage Funeral Service of Elk City.

Mrs. Johnson was born June 10, 1920, in Roger Mills County, Okla., to Mildred and Joseph E. Farni. She attended Nine Mile and Hammon Schools. She moved to California during World War II and returned to Elk City in 1960 to make her home. She loved tending her flowers.

She was a member of Second and Adams Church of Christ.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two daughters, Joan Nichols and Janet Smith; and a brother, Alvin Farni.

Survivors include three sons and two daughters-in-law, Ronald and Chrys Smith of Pampa, James and Kay Johnson of Norman, Okla., and Marvin Johnson of Elk City; a son-in-law, Toby Nichols of Elk City; five sisters, Edith Wilson and Erma Sowers, both of Elk City, Ruth Spradley of Chowchilla, Calif., Velma Caudle of Strathmore, Calif., and Thelma Caudle of Denton; a brother, Kenneth Farni of Dumas; three grandchildren, Richard Smith of Casper, Wyo., Mark Nichols of Elk City and Tim Nichols of Fort Worth; five great-grandchildren, Spencer, Carter, Ashley, Erin and Kelsey; and a host of relatives and friends.

JOE C. MASON

CORPUS CHRISTI — Joe C. Mason, 65, died Wednesday, March 21, 2001. Services were Friday in the chapel at Seaside Funeral Home. Burial was at Seaside Memorial Park.

Mr. Mason was a supervisor at Sam Hausman.

Survivors include five daughters, Lorraine Mason Doty of Malvern, Ark., Diana Snow of San Diego and Janet Wooten, Karen Weir and Patty Payne, all of Amarillo; and a sister, Mildred Knight of Pampa.

JOHN W. NORRIS

John W. Norris, 76, of Pampa, died Saturday, March 31, 2001. Services were to be at 2 p.m. today in Central Baptist Church with the Rev. Rick Parnell, associate pastor, and Dr. Edwin Cooley, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Norris was born Dec. 31, 1924, at Partridge, Kan., and came to Pampa in 1965 from Liberal, Kan. He married LaVon Stoddard on May 22, 1950, at Liberal; she died Aug. 12, 1992. He married Linda Williams on Feb. 14, 1993, at Pampa.

He was employed by Northern Natural Gas for 17 years and was later self-employed as a personnel contractor in the oil and gas industry for many years.

He was instrumental in building Lone Star

Friends Church at Hugoton, Kan., and was past president of Lovett Memorial Library Board of Directors and Friends of the Library, receiving Friends of the Library "2000 Patron of the Year" award. In addition, he was a foster parent for many years, a former board member of Girlstown USA in Borger and a past director of Good Samaritan Christian Services in Pampa.

He was a member of Central Baptist Church and was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving during World War II.

Survivors include his wife, Linda, of the home; two daughters, Johnnie Aven of Carrollton and Glenna Norris Williams of Richmond; a son, Robert Dale Norris of Kansas City, Kan.; a foster daughter, Becky Vega of Plainview; five sisters, Wanda Fagan of Dumas, Crystal Chase of Memphis, Tenn., Norma Chase of Houston, Patricia Dillon of Loveland, Colo., and Elda Barker of Solana Beach, Calif.; three brothers, Roy Ralston of Pratt, Kan., Vernon Ralston of Liberal and Dean Norris of Hutchinson, Kan.; 13 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Good Samaritan Christian Services, 309 N. Ward, Pampa, TX 79065; or to BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065.

JUDY STEVENS

AMARILLO — Judy Stevens, 61, died Saturday, March 31, 2001, after a 20-year struggle with multiple sclerosis. Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday in God's Covenant Family Church with Don Morgan, pastor, officiating. Burial will be at 2 p.m. in Dumas Cemetery at Dumas under the direction of Schooler Funeral Home of Amarillo.

Born July 4, 1939, at Laguna Beach, Calif., Mrs. Stevens came to the Texas Panhandle as a youngster, attending Stratford High School and Amarillo College.

She married Charles L. Stevens in 1982 at Dumas. She was a homemaker and had worked for Diamond Shamrock and as a supervisor at a processing plant. She was a member of God's Covenant Family Church.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Kenneth Brady Jr., in 1977.

Survivors include her husband, Charles; two daughters, Alayna Mosteller of Dallas and Anna Holman of Dalhart; two sons, James Mosteller of Pampa and Marcus Mosteller of Panhandle; two sisters, Claire McCabe of Dumas and Shirley Null of Las Vegas; two brothers, Melvin Fowler of Amarillo and Wayne Fowler of Albuquerque, N.M.; and 10 grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Multiple Sclerosis Society, 6222 Canyon Dr., Amarillo, TX 79109.

ELMER R. WARE

McLEAN — Elmer R. Ware, 99, died Friday, March 30, 2001. Services were to be at 2 p.m. today in McLean Church of Christ with Pat Andrews, a Church of Christ minister of Abilene, and Bright Newhouse, minister of Hedley Church of Christ, officiating. Burial will be in Hillcrest Cemetery under the direction of Wright Funeral Home of McLean.

Mr. Ware was born March 12, 1902, in Indian Territory, Okla. He married Ruth Clark on Nov. 23, 1927, at Lefors. The couple moved to Wheeler County, near McLean, in 1965.

He was a farmer and a rancher and belonged to McLean Church of Christ.

Survivors include his wife, Ruth, of the home; three daughters, Peggy Carter of Mobeetie, Kitty Ninceheler of Fort Smith, Ark., and Ginger Holwick of McLean; a sister, Patsy Hooper of Jacksonville, Fla.; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Police report

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Friday, March 30

A runaway was reported in the 900 block of East Twiford.

An assault involving a juvenile was reported. A home in the 1700 block of North Duncan was burgled.

Saturday, March 31

Criminal trespass was reported at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School.

David Roy Cleveland, 33, of Canadian, was arrested on charges of possession of a concealed weapon and driving while intoxicated.

A gas drive-off was reported at the Texaco service station at 1524 N. Hobart.

A forgery was reported at Albertson's at 1233 N. Hobart.

A domestic quarrel was reported in the 300 block of Canadian.

Tires on a car in the 1100 block of East Francis were cut.

Sunday, April 1

A wheel chair was found in the 400 block of North Roberts.

A woman reported being hit in the face by her boyfriend in the 1400 block of North Somerville.

A wallet was found in the 2600 block of North Somerville.

A gas drive-off was reported at Gas N Stuff at 225 N. Brown.

Telephone harassment was reported in the 100 block of Sumner.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1100 block of East Francis.

A burglary was reported in the 800 block of East Kingsmill.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of North Frost.

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Emergency numbers

Ambulance.....911
Crime Stoppers.....669-2222
Energas.....1-888-Energas

Texas round up

Authorities plan to seek subpoena for videotape of alleged assault

GALVESTON, Texas (AP) — Gulf coast law officers trying to gather evidence in the reported rape of a teen-ager on Crystal Beach during spring break are seeking a videotape that was made by one witness to the attack.

Galveston County sheriff's officers planned Monday to seek a subpoena forcing a Houston television station to hand over a copy of the videotape.

Television station KHOU aired a portion of the 50-second tape during its 10 p.m. broadcast on Saturday.

Deputies planned to ask the district attorney for an order forcing the station to hand over the tape, Capt. B.J. Miller, an investigator for the Sheriff's Office, told The Galveston County Daily News in Monday's online edition.

Mike Devlin, news director of KHOU-Channel 11 in Houston, said the station would comply with any court order to hand over the tape.

Devlin told The Associated Press on Sunday that the station received the tape Friday night. He said the 18-year-old high school senior's parents confirmed Saturday that she was the victim on the 50-second tape.

Hispanic caucus' long-awaited meeting with Bush scheduled

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A meeting that the Hispanic Caucus requested with President Bush more than three months ago is again scheduled after having been postponed earlier in what some members contend is evidence of the administration's focus on other issues.

Bush is set to meet Monday with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus at the White House to discuss concerns in the minority community about education, aid to small businesses and U.S. immigration policy.

Some of the delegation's 18 members of Congress have blamed the president's lack of urgency to sit down with representatives of an ethnic group he aggressively pursued in last year's campaign.

"I wouldn't characterize it as hard feelings," Rep. Silvestre Reyes of El Paso, chairman of the caucus, told the San Antonio Express-News in Monday's online editions. "But some members are curious."

The meeting is scheduled 73 days into Bush's administration. The Hispanic Caucus requested a meeting with Bush in January. But a White House spokesman said a previously planned meeting between the president and the caucus was postponed because of a scheduling conflict.

Ambulance

Rural Metro Ambulance Service responded to the following calls during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, March 31

11:30 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to U.S. 60 and Texas 273 and transported one to Pampa Regional Medical Center (PRMC).

2:52 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the Jordan Unit and transported one to Northwest Texas Hospital, Amarillo.

3:44 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1600 block of North Faulkner and transported one to PRMC.

Sunday, April 1

8:47 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2700 block of Duncan on a request for medical assistance. No transport was listed on the ambulance report.

1:26 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Neel Road on a request for medical assistance. No transport was listed on the ambulance report.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's office reported the following arrests during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, March 31

Ronnie Jenkins, 51, 312 N. Wells, was arrested on charges of public intoxication.

James Marshall Franks, 17, Skellytown, was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated, having an open container in his vehicle and possession of a tobacco product by a minor.

Sunday, April 1

Jorge Antonio Serrato, 23, Pasadena, was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated.

Hattie Mae Atwood, 42, 700 Lefors, was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated and having an open container in her vehicle.

Jeff Wade Price, 28, 804, E. Campbell, was arrested on a warrant charging him with issuance of a bad check.

Leonard Jay Kane, 31, 513 N. Faulkner, was arrested on charges of engaging in organized criminal activity (forgery) and burglary of a building.

Barney Sawyer, 44, rural Gray County, was arrested on charges of criminal trespass and possession of a controlled substance.

Kerry Layne Zeek, 30, Lefors, was arrested on charges of criminal trespass and possession of a controlled substance.

Waynetta Britton, 422 Wynne, was arrested on a warrant out of Woodward, Okla., charging her with issuance of a bad check.

Weather focus

PAMPA — Today, morning low clouds and patchy fog. Otherwise, partly sunny. Highs in the lower 80s. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph with higher gusts. Tonight, partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows 50 to 55. South to southwest winds 10 to 20 mph. Tuesday, partly sunny. Highs in the mid 80s. Southwest to west winds 10 to 20 mph.

STATEWIDE — Fog shrouded southern and western parts of Texas early Monday, with more rainfall chances develop-

Immigrant marriages on increase as April 30 deadline nears

DALLAS (AP) — Tracking a nationwide boom, marriage licenses to undocumented immigrants are up by more than 20 percent this year in Dallas County, officials say.

Thousands of undocumented immigrants are trying to beat an April 30 deadline to apply for legal status under a provision of an immigration law that Congress passed late last year.

One way undocumented immigrants can qualify for the provision is to marry a U.S. citizen or legal immigrant.

"There really is a big increase here," said Donna Sherbet, recording manager at the county clerk's office, told The Dallas Morning News in Monday's editions.

As of Friday morning, 1,258 licenses had been issued at the downtown office during March. That compares with 860 for all of March last year and 967 for March 1999.

The Legal Immigration and Family Equity Act of 2000 temporarily revives a section of U.S. immigration law, known as 245(i), that allows certain qualified immigrants to complete the process of becoming legal without having to leave the United States.

Lawmaker's pranks liven session

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — When the secretary of state arrive at the Capitol with a trash bag hooked to the front of his Land Cruiser and a freshman legislator gets an off-the-wall note from a lobbyist, members of the Bexar County delegation to the Texas House look around for their leader.

Especially on April Fool's Day, lawmakers want to keep track of Rep. Robert Puente, D-San Antonio, who has a reputation for using pranks to break up the often-long legislative days.

"Thankfully, I have not felt the wrath of dean Puente," freshman Rep. Trey Martinez Fischer, D-San Antonio, told the San Antonio Express-News in Monday's editions. "I will tell you I am constantly looking over my shoulder."

Bexar County's senior House member, Puente has responsible positions on the budget-writing Appropriations Committee and the Natural Resources Committee, which deals with water issues.

But Puente finds time to clown around as lawmakers wait for bills to come up for vote.

Juan Solis, a former San Antonio legislator, said he was the target of one of Puente's most mentioned practical jokes: a 1999 "interview" with a purported journalist who wanted Solis' reaction to being named freshman of the year.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa.		
Wheat.....	2.51	
Milo.....	3.06	
Corn.....	3.42	
Soybeans.....	3.44	
The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation:		
Occidental.....	24.73	dn 0.02
Fidelity Magell.....	104.50	
Puritan.....	18.07	
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.		
BP Amoco.....	49.18	dn 0.44
Celanese.....	18.08	dn 0.02
Cabot.....	32.45	up 0.95
Cabot O&G.....	27.00	NC
Chevron.....	87.82	up 0.02
Coca-Cola.....	46.27	up 1.11
Columbia/HCA.....	40.35	up 0.28
Enron.....	58.73	dn 0.63
Halliburton.....	35.53	dn 1.22
KMI.....	53.75	up 0.55
Kerr McGee.....	64.75	dn 0.15
Limited.....	15.53	dn 0.19
McDonald's.....	26.94	up 0.39
Exxon Mobil.....	81.00	NC
New Atmos.....	23.00	NC
XCEL.....	30.64	up 0.53
NOI.....	34.00	dn 0.63
OKE.....	41.22	up 0.33
Pennsey's.....	16.09	up 0.10
Phillips.....	55.05	NC
Pioneer Nat.....	16.08	up 0.38
SLB.....	57.30	dn 0.31
Tenneco.....	2.80	NC
Texaco.....	66.04	dn 0.26
Ultrasun.....	36.31	up 0.13
Wal-Mart.....	50.25	dn 0.25
Williams.....	43.90	up 1.05
New York Gold..... 257.95		
Silver..... 4.30		
West Texas Crude..... 26.14		

Fires

Pampa Fire Department responded to the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, March 31

9:23 a.m. — Two units and six firefighters responded to a false alarm in the 1300 block of West Kentucky.

3:50 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 1600 block of North Faulkner.

City Briefs

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

CLOTHING ROOM Mary Ellen & Harvester Church of Christ (building across the street, south of Pampa High School) open Tues. Apr. 3rd, 9-1 p.m., or call 665-2373, lv. msg. for appt.

FIRESIDE COMFORT — We've gone to market! Closed March 27th & will reopen April 3rd. See you then.

HOUSE FOR Sale or Rent, 2107 N. Russell. Ar. 5, 886-2858

at 10 to 20 mph. The southerly flow kept temperatures on the warm side, mainly in the 60s, with high humidities. A slight chance of thunderstorms was forecast over the extreme northeast, with a slight chance over the central and east Tuesday. A slight chance of thunderstorms covered the eastern Panhandle on Monday night. Daytime highs should be unseasonably warm, reaching the 70s and 80s through Tuesday, with 90s in the Big Bend. Lows overnight were expected in the 40s to 60s.

CHAP

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BILLS

November - December - January - \$ February - That brings \$26,685 as cor

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CANYON Texas A&M dents from-nominated Employee of inees will l the winner at a receipt Friday, Apr Kelley Stuc Lounge. Vickie Fos ry major, is for WT's Registrar Center. She center for 1 Candi Ter major, is a WT's Corne Documents with the uni Windy W mass commu student as

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

CHAPEL

account at FirstBank Southwest, Kirkpatrick said. "We would like to issue an invitation to churches to establish a fund to help build the chapel," he said. The construction and design committee, led by retired engineer Jack Reeve, will work with the TDCJ and Schlewitz to meet the state prison system's requirements while also meeting the special faith-based programming needs here. "The design (of the chapel) has to meet TDCJ requirements," Kirkpatrick said. "Chaplain Schlewitz will work with us and with the TDCJ to be sure we did that. He'll be the liaison."

The public relations committee will provide information and garner public support for the project through newspaper and radio, he added. Grantham, Cory, Call & Heare accounting firm of Pampa has also provided expertise in filling out the necessary forms for incorporation and to receive 501(c)3 status, Kirkpatrick said. "Anyone who is interested in serving on any of these committees are welcome to contact me or any board member," Kirkpatrick said. "We want to involve as many people as possible to serve on this board to help provide direction." Jordan Chapel Builders' board of directors meets monthly at the Pampa Economic Development Office on the second floor of the Bank of America building, 100 N. Cuyler. Next meeting is 7 p.m., Tuesday, May 8.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

CRASHES

ton pickup on Texas 287 at 10:45 a.m. Sunday. Putney and his passenger, Daniel Edward Murphy, 20, also of Houston were returning to the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., where both are cadets, from their home in Houston, according to DPS reports. The truck was traveling north on the state highway at a high rate of speed when the driver fell asleep and the vehicle went into the center median, DPS officials said. The driver over corrected to the

right, causing the pickup to slide sideways and roll several times. Murphy, the passenger, was pronounced dead at the scene by Armstrong County Justice of the Peace Beatrice Sturkie. Putney was airlifted to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo suffering from head injuries. DPS officials said the student was later released after hospital officials determined he had a concussion. Troopers Chris Ward of Clarendon and Gavin Moore of Claude investigated the wreck, according to DPS records.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

COUPLE

"I think it is good for the children to go to other countries," Tor explained. "They get more open — they see more cultures." Tor remembers thinking as a child that the United States "was heaven." He remembers his older brother, a sailor, returning to Norway from America with jeans and a beautiful jacket and interesting stories about the rich country. In 35 years, he said he has watched Norway progress in leaps and bounds from a relatively poor farming country into one with a strong economy based on offshore drilling for oil and natural gas. A health, safety and environment engineer, Tor

works on the world's largest natural gas drilling platform located in the North Sea off the coast of Norway and producing more than 100 million cubic feet of natural gas per day. Tor said Norway exports most of the natural gas and oil produced there. With a total population of approximately 4 million, Norway's need for gas and oil is small, he explained. Anlaug works for a state agency, comparable to Child Protective Services. She is presently working with refugees — women and children — from Africa. After leaving Pampa, the proud parents say Rune returned to Norway and became a physical therapist. He plans to enter medical school in the fall.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

BILLS

November — \$2,564 - \$2,101
December — \$2,208 - \$5,337
January — \$2,204 - \$11,297
February — \$2,870 - \$5,484
That brings the five-month total this fiscal year to \$26,685 as compared to the same time period the

previous fiscal year when the gas bill totaled \$10,102 reflecting a \$16,583 increase. The slight drop in this year's November bill reflected a warmer October 2000 when compared to October 1999, Horst said. He expects to run a new cost analysis in May at which time he will present a budget amendment to the City Commission.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

COMPUTER

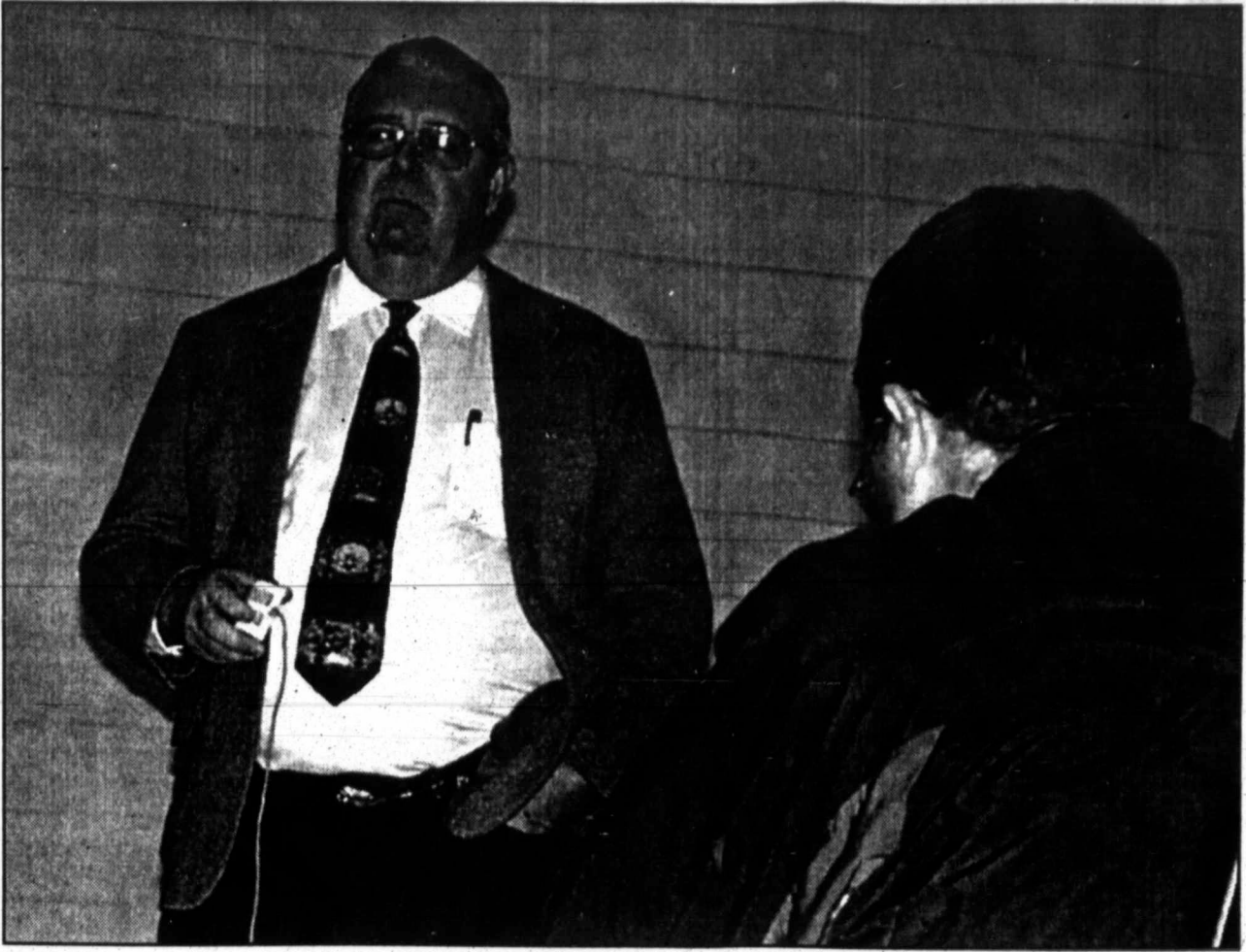
own systems, Horst said. Lovett Library, the city warehouse and M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium can access the system via modem. One of the main advantages of the new system will be that when cash collections are made, the system will automatically make the journal entries for the ledger thus creating "a real time savings," the

finance director said. Also, spreadsheets and other information can be more readily shared by departments through a networked system. It is expected the matter will be up for Commission consideration at the April 9 meeting at 6 p.m. at City Hall. That meeting is being backed up a day because the evening of April 10 is the Chamber of Commerce banquet.

Man arrested in woman's disappearance

DALLAS (AP) — A suspect was held Monday in the disappearance of a 77-year-old North Texas woman who was discovered missing along her car and other valuables. Thomas Dwayne McGough

was arrested around 6 a.m. at Alliance Airport in Tarrant County for questioning in the search for Ruby Bransom of Cleburne. Police say they found blood stains in the Bransom's house



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Special Agent Gerald Keown, Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCLEOSE), reviews changes in the state's rules and regulations with area law enforcement officials and administrative staff during a day-long seminar recently at M.K. Brown Auditorium. More than 60 representatives of law agencies throughout the area attended the seminar co-sponsored by Chief Charlie Morris and the Pampa Police Department and Gray County Sheriff Don Copeland and the Gray County Sheriff's Office.

Chinese hold Navy plane, crew

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese authorities have moved the 24 crew members of a U.S. Navy surveillance plane to a military guesthouse, a Chinese sailor said Monday, a day after an in-flight collision forced the aircraft to land on a Chinese island.

mission after the collision. However, a U.S. Embassy spokesman in Beijing insisted the pilot followed "commonly accepted principles of international law" for an emergency landing. Chinese officials say the crew is safe, according to U.S. officials. They say Washington has asked China to help with repairs and return the crew as quickly as possible.

The U.S. ambassador to China said Monday that American officials were being denied contact with the crew, and President Bush demanded their "prompt and safe return."

The incident comes at an uneasy time in relations between Washington and Beijing. China has been cool to the Bush administration's more cautious approach to relations. It warned that ties could suffer over the announcement expected this month of new arms sales to Taiwan, the island China considers its own territory.

The EP-3 plane was standing empty at the military airfield where it landed in the town of Lingshui on Hainan island, said the Chinese sailor, who refused to give his name and was contacted by telephone at an adjacent naval facility.

Washington also has protested China's recent detention of two scholars with links to the U.S.

American officials sought to keep the Chinese from boarding the aircraft, insisting they had no right to do so. There was no indication whether Chinese experts were trying to examine the EP-3's sophisticated monitoring equipment.

Ordinary Chinese expressed anger and outrage at the collision Sunday. Few doubted the official explanation blaming the U.S. pilot: "Discussion forums on Web sites were filled with demands to seize the plane and jail the crew."

Three American diplomats flew to Hainan (HEYE-nahn) island and were making their way to an air base where the EP-3 plane landed Sunday after colliding with a Chinese fighter jet in international airspace, said Ambassador Joseph Prueher. China says the fighter crashed and that a search was under way for its pilot.

Public anger may have been increased by the failure of state media to report on a U.S. offer to help look for the missing Chinese pilot. Some complained that the U.S. government was more concerned with its uninjured plane crew than a missing Chinese.

In Washington, U.S. officials said the United States is keeping three Navy destroyers in the vicinity of Hainan island instead of continuing their journey home from the Persian Gulf.

"We won this battle. Even though we lost a fighter jet and its pilot is missing, we have 24 war prisoners and a surveillance plane fully equipped with the most advanced radar and electronic equipment," said a message on the Web site Sina.com signed "East Don't."

After discussing the incident with his national security team, Bush said he was dismayed that diplomats had not been given access to the crew.

Chinese leaders appeared to be still trying to decide on a response. The government issued no new information after a statement Sunday blaming the collision on the American pilot. The U.S. ambassador complained that top officials weren't involved in diplomatic contacts. "It is inexplicable and unacceptable and of grave concern to the



Vickie Fossett



Candi Terry

WT Student of the Year nominees

CANYON — Three West Texas A&M University students from Pampa have been nominated for Student Employee of the Year. All nominees will be recognized and the winner will be announced at a reception at 1:30 p.m., Friday, April 6 in the Jack B. Kelley Student Center Quiet Lounge.



Windy Wagner

Vickie Fossett, a junior history major, is a student assistant for WT's Student Advising, Registration and Retention Center. She has been with the center for 1 1/2 years. Candi Terry, a junior theatre major, is a library assistant at WT's Corrette Library in the Documents Unit. She has been with the unit for two years. Windy Wagner, a sophomore mass communication major, is a student assistant at WT's

Alumni Association. She has been with the association for six months. The Student Employee of the Year winner will go on to the regional competition, according to Elise Copeland, coordinator of Student Employment Services.

THE Pampa NEWS

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Page 4

Kids at Petting Zoo Should Take Care What They Wear

DEAR ABBY: Last summer, my husband and I visited a zoo. In the petting area, we saw a group of young children on a field trip. The teachers had made name tags out of construction paper and hung them around the children's necks. I remarked to my husband that the identification tags were not a good idea.

As he approached the teachers to express my concerns, I heard a "gasp" noise behind me. I turned and saw a goat chewing the cord that had twisted around a small boy's neck. The name tag was already eaten, and the goat was working its way up the cotton string. I frantically pried enough of the string out of the animal's mouth to free the strangling child.

By then, another goat was jerking a little girl around by the string on her name tag. My husband rescued her.

Abby, it's unwise to hang anything around a child's neck, especially when the child will encounter animals that may be attracted to dangling objects. Also, some animals routinely eat plant products. Cotton of any kind, paper and jute — which are made from plants — are considered "food" by goats.

Those unwitting teachers were sending the children into the animal pen dressed like a salad bar! I know they didn't realize the danger, but they should consider it in the future.

Thanks for helping me caution parents and teachers who take children to petting zoos.

COUNTRY GAL FROM SACRAMENTO

DEAR COUNTRY GAL:

Wildwood



Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- Dark time
 - Lyrical
 - Ship's contents
 - Millions
 - Heap of Dickens
 - Ship's place
 - Excuses
 - Top card
 - Gym count
 - Singing group
 - Gender
 - Found with difficulty
 - Rain dance
 - Relaxed tribe
 - Smart
 - Disrobe
 - Rubber ring
 - Fork feature
 - Lowest class on the Titanic
 - Shark part
 - Actress Garr
 - Perfect
 - Was sore
 - Bread unit
 - Enjoy the rink
 - Camp structures
 - School paper
- DOWN**
- Fanatic
 - Letterman show
 - Met solo
 - Perform a solo
 - Fencing weapon
 - Cooks' needs
 - Golf peg
 - Wipe clean
 - Balled hand
 - Not busy
 - German denial
 - Play a part
 - Possesses
 - Greek vowel
 - Susan of "L.A. Law"

SMIRK SEATS
CANOE OPRAH
ANTSY BAMBI
RAREST ALE
EGO THRONES
DES REEDIT
GOMAD
STOKED RAD
BARBETS EMU
UFO SUMSIUP
MAJOR POISE
PRADO ORDER
SINIEW NEEDS

Saturday's answer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11									
13									
15									
18	19	20							
22									
27									
30									
35	36	37							
38									
41									
45									
46									
47									

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-7377! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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The Family Circus



For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



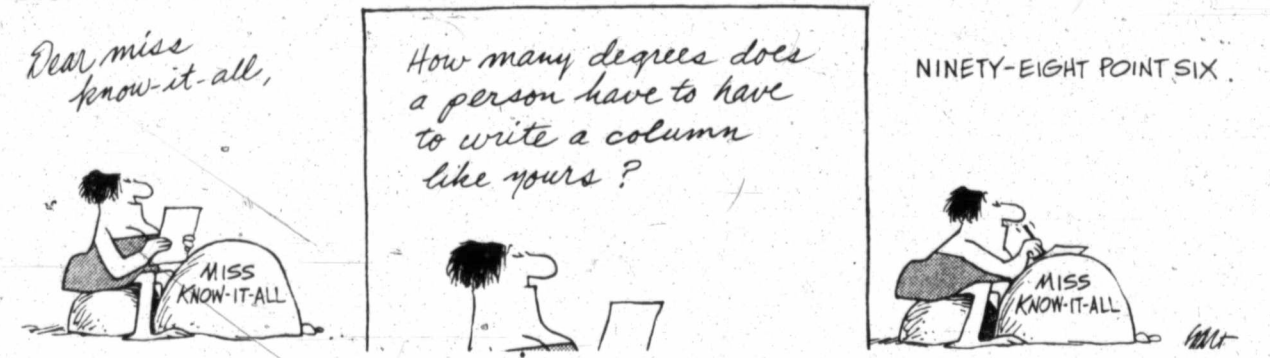
Beetle Bailey



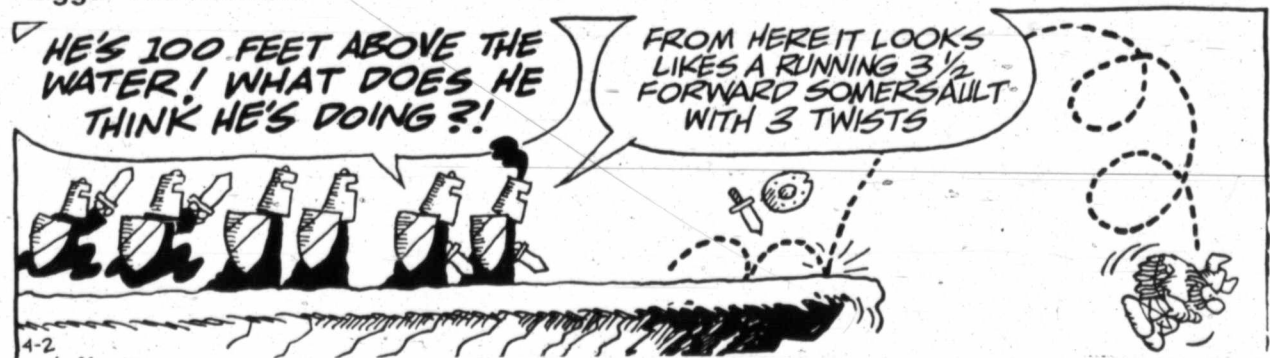
Marvin



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



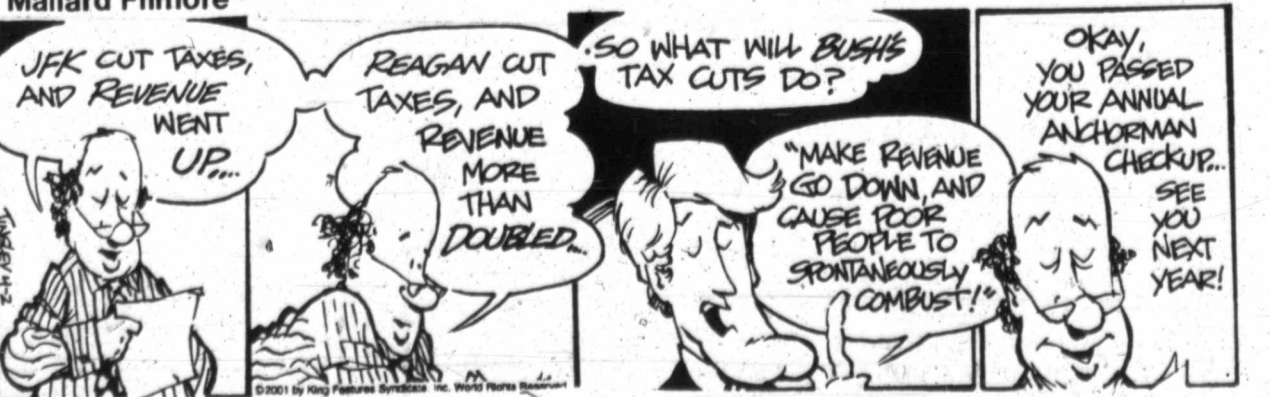
Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore



Notes GOLF

PAMPA boys' golf 12-stroke le 2A Tournan Daniel Harvester on round played at the Club cours two-round ing him the vidual star Palo Duro's seven strok The Harv round scor Randall '66 (649). Other Pa two roun Williams 15 160, Mitch Cory Fowle Three H singles Sat has a two- Stout a twi Brad Stucke

SWIMMING

AUSTIN, Michael Phe set on the cl Now tha has become American r set a world the 200-met in the U Champions! 54.92 second improve his "My goal meet was to record," said ished fifth Olympics. "I keep getting think I can c world cham Phelps, a North Towns Baltimore, b 1:55.18 set 1 medalist Tr June in Ca

SOFTBALL

PAMPA - Randall 12-4A softball Optimist Pa Pampa is play and 10 Randall im district and Dumas is with a 5-0 re The Lady Borger for a Tuesday.

BASKETBALL

ST. LOUI Indiana fina real-life "Hc Ruth Rile only India standing at line with th 5.8 seconds champions in the balan Just like i came throug Riley m throws, Pu final shot a had a 68-66 night for i champions "It's kind said. "What to win the hype at Indiana at 'Hoosiers?' "Somebod my favorit movie was, Ollie hit throws, and the same sit didn't have hand." It was moment of t mance by th from the tin Ind.

Play Better



SPORTS

Pre-season favorites are playing for title

Notebook

GOLF

PAMPA — The Pampa boys' golf team has taken a 12-stroke lead after the first two rounds of the District 3-4A Tournament.

Daniel Heuston's 73 led the Harvesters in Saturday's second round, which was played at the Pampa Country Club course. Heuston has a two-round total of 148, giving him the lead in the individual standings. He leads Palo Duro's Trey Latham by seven strokes.

The Harvesters have a two-round score of 632 to lead Randall (644) and Borger (649).

Other Pampa scores after two rounds are Daniel Williams 158, Anthony Tiedt 160, Mitch Schilling 168, and Cory Fowler 174.

Three Harvesters played singles Saturday. Will Vice has a two-round 183, Craig Stout a two-round 196, and Brad Stucker a one-round 91.

SWIMMING

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Michael Phelps' sights are still set on the clock.

Now that the 15-year-old has become the youngest American male swimmer to set a world record, winning the 200-meter butterfly Friday in the USA Swimming Championships in 1 minute, 54.92 seconds, he wants to improve his time.

"My goal coming into this meet was to break the world record," said Phelps, who finished fifth in the Sydney Olympics. "My goal now is to keep getting faster and faster. I think I can cut a second by the world championships."

Phelps, a sophomore at North Towson High School in Baltimore, broke the record of 1:55.18 set by Olympic gold medalist Tom Malchow in June in Charlotte, N.C.

SOFTBALL

PAMPA — Pampa lost to Randall 12-4 in a District 3-4A softball game Friday at Optimist Park.

Pampa is 2-3 in district play and 10-7 for the season. Randall improved to 3-2 in district and 8-7 overall.

Dumas is the district leader with a 5-0 record.

The Lady Harvesters visit Borger for a 4:30 p.m. game Tuesday.

BASKETBALL

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The all-Indiana final came down to a real-life "Hoosiers" moment.

Ruth Riley, Notre Dame's only Indiana native, was standing at the free-throw line with the score tied and 5.8 seconds left. The national championship was hanging in the balance.

Just like in the movie, she came through.

Riley made both free throws, Purdue missed a final shot and Notre Dame had a 68-66 victory Sunday night for its first national championship.

"It's kind of funny," Riley said. "What more fitting way to win the game with all of the hype about the state of Indiana and the movie 'Hoosiers'?"

"Somebody asked me what my favorite part of that movie was, and I said when Ollie hit those two free throws, and I just got put in the same situation. At least I didn't have to shoot underhand."

It was the crowning moment of a brilliant performance by the 6-foot-5 senior from the tiny town of Macy, Ind.

By **EDDIE FELLIS**
AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Somebody asked Lute Olson what Arizona's biggest challenge would be against a Duke team few opponents have stopped this season.

Five minutes later, Olson wrapped up his reply.

Duke's Mike Krzyzewski has a similar laundry list about Arizona's strong points.

Such is life when the two teams considered the best in the country in the preseason actually make it to the NCAA title game.

Sure, there have been good matchups in the past, but the Duke-Arizona final Monday night has been almost universally regarded as one of the most exquisitely balanced championship games anyone can remember.

"I'm sure it's going to be a very interesting 40 minutes for everyone," Olson said.

Arizona was ranked first and Duke second in the preseason poll. The Wildcats had some well-documented problems along the way, while Duke made it through with only four defeats despite the temporary loss of starting center Carlos Boozer to a foot injury.

In the end, however, college basketball will get a true champion — not just a good team on a hot streak — a group good enough to cope with its opponents and great expectations.

"It's fitting that the two best teams are meeting to play for the national championship," Duke All-American Shane Battier said. "That's the way it should be. The true champions should have to beat the best teams."

Speaking of that, Arizona is trying to duplicate its 1997 achieve-

ment of beating three top-seeded teams on the way to its title. Those Wildcats are the only team to do that.

The differences between 1997 and this year's team are too numerous to list. Most notable among them are the difficulties this year's team has endured, especially the death of Olson's wife, Bobbi, like a mother to many of these players.

On the court, the 1997 team was a plucky underdog; this team has had visions of a title since the first practice.

"From the start of the year, their focus has been on getting to this game and having a chance to win the national championship," Olson said. "And there may have been some difficult times along the way."

Duke has taken the identical road to this point as it did in 1992 — Greensboro, N.C., Philadelphia,

Minneapolis — when it won the second of its back-to-back titles.

Since the UCLA dynasty ended in the 1970s, Duke has established itself as one of the two or three most storied programs in the country. This is its ninth trip to the Final Four since 1986. Two years ago, the Blue Devils were 36-1 and heavy favorites to win the championship, but came up one win short.

They overcame a 22-point deficit in the semifinal against Maryland on Saturday night, and Battier felt it was more than just Xs and Os that got them through.

"It was just a matter of relaxing, looking each other in the eye and saying, 'Hey, let's do the things we've done all year long and do it because we're Duke,'" Battier said. "We expect to do it at a high level."

When it comes to stopping Duke, Olson's many concerns are justified.

The Blue Devils made the most 3-pointers (398) in NCAA history and lead the nation by making 10.6 a game. They're more relentless rebounders than most teams give them credit for, and they might have the best point guard in the country in Jason Williams.

Arizona presents its own problems.

All five starters average double-digits in points, and the Wildcats are versatile, able to run with teams who play that style and pound with Big Ten teams like Illinois and Michigan State who try to outmuscle them.

Both teams agree that beating the best would be the most satisfying way to win a championship.

"They are the best team on the East Coast and we're one of the better ones in the West," Arizona guard Richard Jefferson said. "This is basically everything it's meant to be."

Pampa beats Caprock to even district record

PAMPA — Pampa evened its record in District 3-4A baseball action with a 5-0 win over Caprock on Saturday at Harvester Field.

The Harvesters are now 2-2 in district play and tied with Borger for fourth place in the standings.

Michael Galloway and Randy Tice led Pampa's six-hit attack against Caprock with two hits each. Shawn Strate and Wes Martin added one hit each.

Junior pitcher Kyle Francis threw a two-hitter for the Harvesters after coming on in relief of starter Adam Jones in

the second inning. Francis struck out six and walked five to pick up the mound win. Jones struck out all three batters he faced; but had to leave the game due to a sore arm.

Losing pitcher Brian Bailey had the only extra base hit, a double.

Pampa, 8-13 overall, travels to Canyon for more district action at 6 p.m. Tuesday.

Caprock is 0-4 in district and 4-11 for the season. Hereford and Randall are tied for the district lead at 3-0. Canyon is next at 2-1.

Lady Harvesters take second at Brownwood

BROWNWOOD — For the fourth time in five meets this season, the Pampa girls' track team came away with the runnerup trophy.

Competing in the Bluebonnet Relays over the weekend, the Lady Harvesters collected 82 points to place second behind Hereford, which finished with 145 points.

Two Lady Harvesters, Angela Phillips and Teryn Stowers, each won an event. Phillips won the shot put (48-10) and also placed fourth in the discus (105-2 1/2).

Stowers won the long jump (17-4) and placed fifth in the triple

jump (34-10).

Three other Lady Harvesters came in second in their respective event. Kristen Stowers was second in the 400 (61.46), Ashleigh Patton was second in the triple jump (35-7 1/2) and Rebecca Fatheree was second in the 1600 (5:34.15). Fatheree was also third in the 3200 (11:52.07).

Angie Cornish was fourth in the shot (34-10 3/4) and Chelsea McCullough was fourth in the high jump (5-2) for Pampa.

Tandra Holmes was sixth in the 3200 (13:07.22) and Anna Johnson was sixth in the 100 hurdles (17.33).

Both of Pampa's 400 and 800-meter relay teams placed fourth.

Yanks begin title defense

By **BEN WALKER**
AP Baseball Writer

Joe Torre hears all the doubters, the ones who keep insisting the New York Yankees' run is coming to an end.

"Eventually, they'll be right," the manager said.

Torre does not plan for them to be correct this October, though. But David Wells believes it's time his old team took a fall.

"Everyone's picking the Yankees, but I don't think they're going to do it this year," he said. "If they win their division, someone is going to bump them off."

Wells, now pitching for the AL Central-champion Chicago White Sox, might get his chance later this year. In the meantime, there's a lot of baseball to be played.

A day after Toronto started the major league season by beating Texas 8-1 in Puerto Rico, most everyone else on the mainland was set for opening day Monday.

Well, most everyone, Derek Jeter, Nomar Garciaparra, Kevin Brown and John Smoltz were some of the stars already on the disabled list, with Ken Griffey Jr. and Greg Maddux among those

ailing. "Everybody wants to play opening day. You don't want to miss games," said Jeter, sidelined by a strained right quadriceps.

In other places, enthusiasm was building as 10 games were scheduled.

At Coors Field, the Colorado Rockies were eager for a close-up look at newcomer Mike Hampton when he pitched against Mark McGwire and St. Louis. At Camden Yards, Pedro Martinez and the Boston Red Sox were excited to welcome Manny Ramirez to their lineup.

At Jacobs Field, Wells got ready to pitch — and perhaps take advantage of those high strikes that umpires plan to call — against Cleveland's recent arrivals, Juan Gonzalez and Ellis Burks.

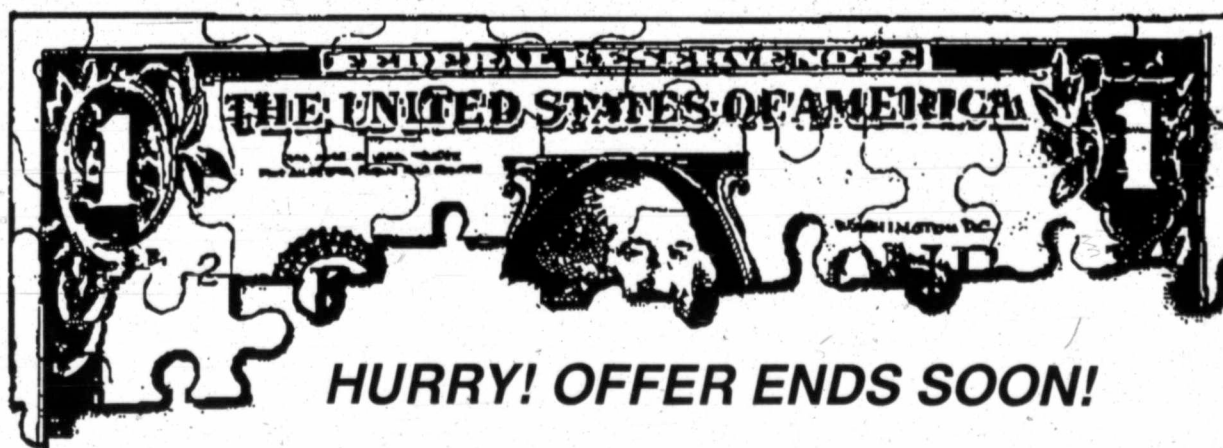
And at Yankee Stadium, New York took aim at its fourth straight World Series championship. Yet even after adding Mike Mussina, the Yankees were not about to celebrate too early, even as they prepared to raise another flag.

"When it comes down to it, there's only one day a year when we allow ourselves to get giddy — the parade," Yankees center fielder Bernie Williams said.



Gymnasts (from left) Shelby Clay, Shannon Clay and Allison Cooper of M.G. Flyers of Pampa took top honors in an eligibility meet last month held in Snyder. It was the first meet of the season for the Flyers.

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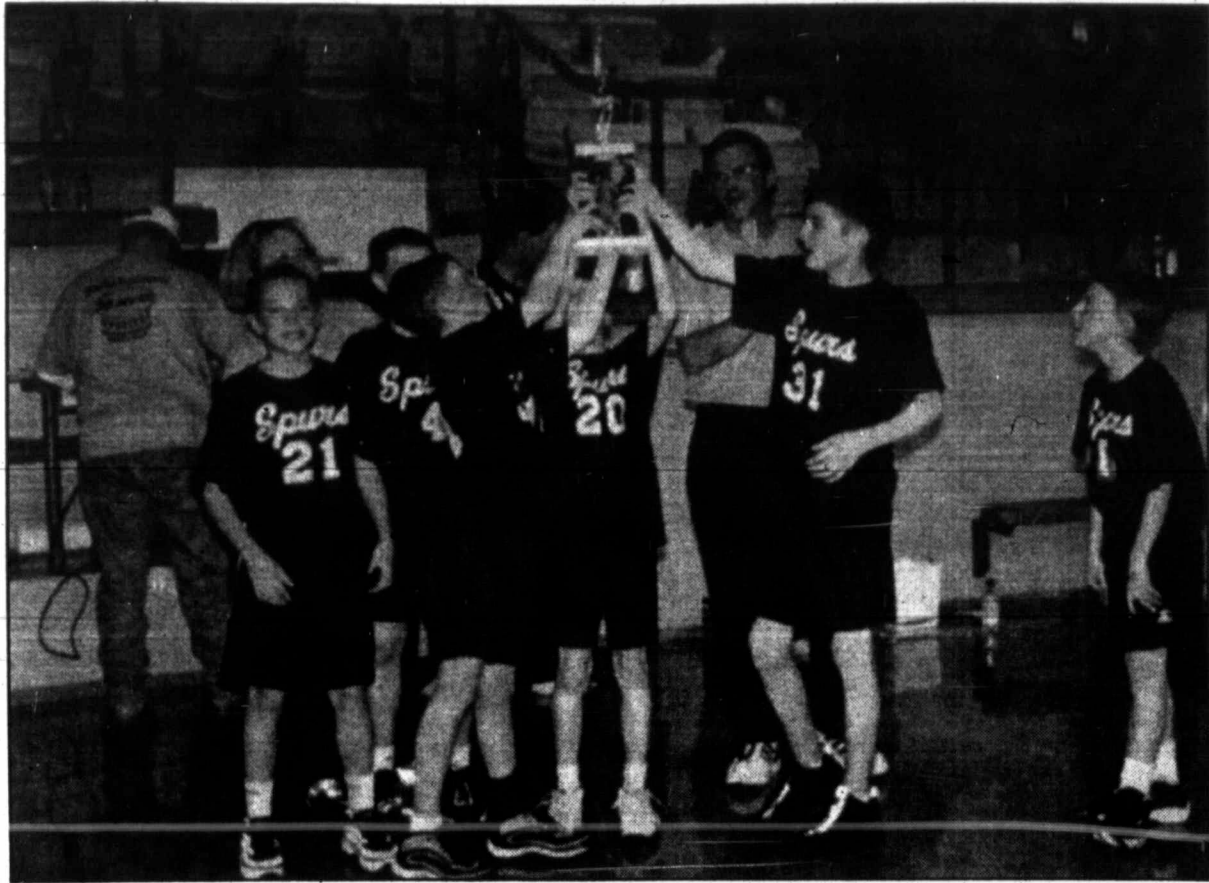
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MAYO tourney



The Miami Spurs sixth-grade team displays the second-place trophy they received at the MAYO (Miami Youth Organization) Benefit Basketball Tournament. The Spurs voted unanimously to give the trophy to tournament beneficiary Kelly Butler. Team members are (from left) Jonathan Carr, Mikel Tucker, Jake Booze, Mark Shull, coach Ron Carr, Craig Crowell and Ryan Adams.

Rangers drop season opener, 8-1

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Alex Rodriguez's debut with the Texas Rangers got off to a perfect start.

The \$252 million man had the first major league hit of 2001. Moments later, he scored the first run.

Then came trouble.

He made a throwing error. He fell while turning a double play, which prompted him to change from plastic spikes to metal ones. That didn't help any when he stepped on his loose left shoelace and went down on the turf again.

"I've never had that happen once," Rodriguez said, "and it happened twice in a matter of a few innings."

Rodriguez wasn't the only Rangers player who struggled Sunday in an 8-1 loss to the Toronto Blue Jays. But he is the

most scrutinized.

"You have to start somewhere," said Rodriguez, who went 2-for-4. "There was a little bit of everything: an error, a slip, hits. But it's only one game. There's 161 more. You just move on."

"We have to write this one off," Rangers manager Johnny Oates said.

Toronto, meanwhile, will surely savor the first game, marking the 100th anniversary of the American League.

Esteban Loaiza (1-0) rewarded rookie manager Buck Martinez for making him the opening-day starter by throwing six shutout innings after giving up Rafael Palmeiro's RBI double in the first.

Loaiza, who has a 49-52 career record and lost rotation spots in Pittsburgh and Texas, allowed

eight hits in seven innings. He struck out nine, the most ever by a Blue Jays pitcher on opening day.

"I was throwing all my pitches for strikes," he said. "I had a couple of strikeouts in big situations."

After the last out, Loaiza and Billy Koch presented Martinez with the game ball, which he in turn gave to his wife, along with the lineup card.

"I feel like I'm back where I belong, on a baseball field," said Martinez, a broadcaster since retiring from the Blue Jays in 1986.

Shannon Stewart went 3-for-5 with a solo homer and an RBI double and scored twice, and Tony Batista hit a two-run homer on a fly that took advantage of the short dimensions at Hiram Bithorn Stadium. It's 313 down the line in right and 315 in left, where Batista's ball went.

Scoreboard

FOOTBALL		XFL At A Glance	
By The Associated Press			
All Times EDT			
EAST CONFERENCE			
	W	L	Pct PF PA
y-Orlando	8	1	.889 207 162
Chicago	4	5	.444 163 178
NY/NJ	3	6	.333 110 145
Birmingham	2	7	.222 131 217
WEST CONFERENCE			
	W	L	Pct PF PA
x-Los Angeles	6	3	.667 211 166
x-San Francisco	4	5	.444 156 137
Las Vegas	4	5	.444 166 127
Memphis	4	5	.444 151 163
x-clinched playoff spot y-clinched conference			
Saturday's Games			
Orlando 29, Birmingham 24			
Chicago 23, NY/NJ 18			
Sunday's Games			
Memphis 27, Los Angeles 12			
San Francisco 34, Las Vegas 9			
Saturday, April 7			
Memphis at Las Vegas, 8 p.m.			
San Francisco at Los Angeles, 8 p.m.			
Sunday, April 8			
NY/NJ at Birmingham, 4 p.m.			
Orlando at Chicago, 7 p.m.			
AUTO RACING			
NASCAR Harrah's 500 Results			
By The Associated Press			
Sunday			
At Texas Motor Speedway			
Fort Worth, Texas			
1. (3) Dale Jarrett, Ford, 334, \$444,527.			
2. (5) Steve Park, Chevrolet, 334, \$270,443.			
3. (17) Johnny Benson, Pontiac, 334, \$193,050.			
4. (16) Kurt Busch, Ford, 334, \$162,150.			
5. (9) Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet, 334, \$165,502.			
6. (43) Dave Blaney, Dodge, 334, \$102,050.			
7. (53) Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet, 334, \$137,777.			
8. (1) Dale Earnhardt Jr., Chevrolet, 334, \$133,573.			
9. (8) Mark Martin, Ford, 334, \$127,176.			
10. (13) Ken Schrader, Pontiac, 334, \$108,685.			
11. (34) Kevin Lepage, Chevrolet, 334, \$92,645.			
12. (38) Rusty Wallace, Ford, 334, \$121,665.			
13. (42) Terry Labonte, Chevrolet, 334, \$111,355.			
14. (39) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 333, \$101,248.			
15. (26) Stacy Compton, Dodge, 333, \$84,611.			
16. (11) Elliott Sadler, Ford, 333, \$96,590.			
17. (29) Jason Leffler, Dodge, 332, \$84,375.			
18. (4) Bobby Hamilton, Chevrolet, 332, \$79,200.			
19. (31) Jeff Burton, Ford, 332, \$112,746.			
20. (27) Matt Kenseth, Ford, 332, \$80,700.			
21. (28) Ward Burton, Dodge, 331, \$102,235.			
22. (14) Jeremy Mayfield, Ford, 331, \$106,184.			
23. (41) Tony Stewart, Pontiac, 331, \$82,400.			
24. (22) Mike Wallace, Ford, 330, \$71,800.			
25. (35) Kenny Wallace, Pontiac, 330, \$62,350.			
26. (21) Hut Stricklin, Ford, 330, \$58,200.			
27. (32) Ricky Craven, Ford, 330, \$55,700.			
28. (25) Brett Bodine, Ford, 329, \$56,700.			
29. (36) Jerry Nadeau, Chevrolet, 327, \$62,700.			
30. (19) Mike Skinner, Chevrolet, 326, \$83,774.			
31. (40) John Andretti, Dodge, 322, \$84,077.			
32. (12) Andy Houston, Ford, 317, \$47,975.			
33. (24) Buckshot Jones, Dodge, 316, \$54,950.			
34. (37) Sterling Marlin, Dodge, 298, crash, \$53,925.			
35. (15) Todd Bodine, Ford, 297, engine failure, \$44,900.			
36. (10) Casey Atwood, Dodge, 269, \$43,850.			
37. (6) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 264, engine failure, \$73,097.			
38. (23) Jimmy Spencer, Ford, 257, crash, \$49,725.			
39. (7) Michael Waltrip, Chevrolet, 227, \$51,675.			
40. (20) Ron Hornaday Jr., Pontiac, 226, \$41,625.			
41. (30) Joe Nemechek, Chevrolet, 204, crash, \$69,845.			
42. (2) Bobby Labonte, Pontiac, 149, engine failure, \$94,552.			
43. (18) Robert Pressley, Ford, 33, crash, \$49,722.			
Race Statistics			
Time of Race: 3 hours, 31 minutes, 59 seconds.			
Margin of Victory: 0.703.			
Caution Flags: 10 for 44 laps.			
Lead Changes: 18 among 7 drivers.			
Lap Leaders: D.Earnhardt Jr. 1-21; D.Jarrett 22-36; J.Benson 37-39; D.Earnhardt Jr. 40-63; D.Jarrett 64-95; D.Earnhardt Jr. 96-99; B.Labonte 100-101; D.Jarrett 102-137; M.Martin 138; D.Jarrett 139-141; S.Park 142-189; D.Earnhardt Jr. 190-208; S.Martin 209-213; D.Jarrett 214-235; S.Park 236-266; D.Jarrett 267-274; D.Earnhardt Jr. 275-313; J.Benson 314-328; D.Jarrett 329-334.			
Point Standings Leaders			
1. D. Jarrett 1,056. 2. J. Gordon 981. 3. J. Benson 946. 4. S. Park 933. 5. S. Martin 889. 6. R. Wallace 879. 7. B. Hamilton 825. 8. E. Sadler 824. 9. B. Elliott 822. 10. K. Harvick 811.			
TRANSACTIONS			
BASEBALL			
American League			
BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Purchased the contracts of RHP Calvin Maduro and RHP Willie Roberts from Rochester of the International League. Optioned LHP Matt Riley, OF Eugene Kingsale and RHP John Bale to Rochester. Placed RHP Scott Erickson on the 15-day disabled list.			
BOSTON RED SOX—Placed SS Nomar Garciaparra on the 15-day disabled list, retroactive to March 22; RHP David Cone, RHP Juan Pena, RHP Hipolito Pichardo and INF John Valent, retroactive to March 22; and RHP Bret Saberhagen, retroactive to March 30. Placed RHP Bryce Florie on the 60-day disabled list, retroactive to March 31. Purchased the contracts of INF Craig Grebeck and LHP Pete Schourek from Pawtucket of the International League. Optioned INF Lou Merloni, INF Morgan Burkhardt, and RHP Sun Woo Kim to Pawtucket. Reassigned OF Mike Nall, RHP Todd Erdos and LHP Trevor Miller to their minor league camp.			
CHICAGO WHITE SOX—Purchased the contract of OF Harold Baines from Charlotte of the International League. Optioned RHP Kip Wells and 1B Jeff Liefer to Charlotte.			
CLEVELAND INDIANS—Placed RHP Jarret Wright, RHP Charles Nagy, 3B Travis Fryman and OF Dave Roberts on the 15-day disabled list. Placed LHP Cameron Cairncross on the 60-day disabled list. Released RHP Willie Blair. Optioned RHP David Riske to Buffalo of the International League. Assigned RHP Roy Smith to their minor league camp. Purchased the contract of OF Marty Cordova from Buffalo.			
DETROIT TIGERS—Agreed to terms with OF Bobby Higginson on a four-year contract extension through 2005.			
KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Traded INF Ricardo Montalvo to the Arizona Diamondbacks for C Melvin Rosario.			
MINNESOTA TWINS—Signed RHP Hector Carrasco to a minor league contract. Optioned RHP Jack Cressend to Edmonton of the PCL. Reassigned RHP Jamie Brewington, INF Edwin Diaz, C Jeff Smith and OF Bobby Koo to their minor league camp. Transferred INF Jay Canzaro from the 15 to 60-day disabled list. Designated INF Hanley Frias for assignment. Purchased the contracts of C Tom Prince, OF Chad Allen, INF Jason Maxwell and Carrasco.			
NEW YORK YANKEES—Placed SS Derek Jeter on the 15-day disabled list, retroactive to March 22. Placed OF Henry Rodriguez, OF Shane Spencer and RHP Ramiro Mendoza on the 15-day disabled list, and RHP Darrell Eitner on the 60-day disabled list.			
OAKLAND ATHLETICS —Optioned RHP Chad Bradford, RHP Cory Lidle, RHP Luis Vizcaino, IF Mark Bellhorn to Sacramento of the PCL. Assigned C Tom Wilson, RHP Eric Hiljus to Sacramento. Placed OH John Jaha on the 15-day disabled list and RHP Chad Harville on the 60-day disabled list. Purchased the contract of OF Robin Jennings from Sacramento of the PCL.			
SEATTLE MARINERS—Placed RHP Paul Abbott on the 15-day disabled list. Transferred RHP Gil Meche from the 15-day to the 60-day disabled list.			
TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—Optioned 2B Brent Abernathy, INF Aubrey Huff, RHP Travis Phelps, OF Jason Tyner and RHP Dan Wheeler to Durham of the International League.			

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2. Type or Neatly Print first and last name of EVERY person in the photo and the correct order that they appear in the photo.
3. Type or Neatly Print a brief description of the event.
4. Bring to the Pampa News or e-mail to deedee@pan-tex.net.

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<p>5 Special Notices</p> <p>ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.</p>	<p>14s Plumbing/Heat</p> <p>CHIEF Plastic Pipe & Supply-pipe, water heaters, septic tanks & plumbing supplies. 665-6716.</p>	<p>Production Operator</p> <p>Conoco's Gulf Coast Mid-Continent Business unit is seeking an experienced Production Operator to work in the Pampa and Borger area. Conoco is a fully diversified, international energy company. Qualified candidates for the above position should have the following background: * Exp. in the petroleum industry * Exp. in Production Operations i.e. well servicing, facility operations / maintenance, and natural gas compression operations / maintenance * Excellent work multiple tasks * Ability to work with little supervision * Ability to make sound business and operational decisions * Good planning and organizational skills * Basic computer skills are a plus Conoco offers an excellent benefits package and competitive salaries commensurate with work exp. and skills as well as participation in an employee bonus program. Qualified candidates should submit their resume to: Conoco Inc. Jim D. Cope Rt 1 Box 124 Pampa, Tx. 79065 Conoco Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Candidates must be legally authorized to work in the United States on a regular full-time basis.</p>	<p>HOUSTON LUMBER</p> <p>420 W. Foster 669-6881</p>	
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Horoscope
 TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2001
 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)
 ***** What lurks in your mind as a fear needs to be discarded before it ruins your day. Dig into a project that you find exciting. Brainstorm with buddies for new ideas. Take time out with a loved one. Tonight: Ever playful.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ***** You might be uncomfortable with another's ideas. You might not be sure why, but listen to yourself. Work with an associate. Together you revise an agreement to make it workable. Tonight: Head on home.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ***** Reach out for others. You might want to get more than one opinion about something you came up with overnight. Listen to someone who plays devil's advocate. Not every idea you come up with is great! Laughter helps another process a problem. Tonight: Visit with a friend.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ***** Be careful with spending, especially if you're not exactly sure when you will receive extra money. Stick to your budget, and ultimately you will be a lot happier. Reorganize your work. You

could accept more overtime or take a class to enhance your status. Tonight: Listen to a new CD.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ***** Another strikes you as confused at best. The problem lies in how he is vested in confusion. Let go and reach out for someone you can really talk to. Your dynamic personality draws others. Let your sense of humor light up another's day. Tonight: It is your call.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ***** Take your time making a decision. Listen carefully to another. Your sixth sense directs you with a close associate or partner. Forget the word "no."
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ***** You might not have the whole story straight. It is possible that someone would like feedback about a friendship. Consider where you are coming from in not revealing more. Are you being considerate? Give up controlling ways. Tonight: In the limelight.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ***** Deal with family as clearly as you can. Take charge at work. Others count on your abilities. Focus on getting the job done. Think in terms of giving another the benefit of the doubt. Use kid gloves with finances. Remember, your money is your responsibility. Tonight: Burn the midnight oil.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ***** Many different feelings hit you quickly. Sort through what you need

to deal with. Listen to your instincts with someone at a distance. Grab a special opportunity to travel or to grow mentally. Be willing to transform your outlook.
 Tonight: Refresh your mind and perspective.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ***** Deal with others one-on-one. You might not be sure about the best way to deal with a loved one. You could change your mind quite a bit. Listen to your inner voice about a personal or domestic matter. Others work with you. Tonight: Go with the flow.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ***** Where there is clarity, you might substantially confuse the issue. Think about what another is saying, and trust this person's judgment. Popularity soars as others seek you out. You feel good, no matter where you are or what you are doing. Tonight: Accept an invitation.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ***** Use your lively personality to infuse more happiness into your immediate surroundings. A more positive attitude does wonders for others. You work well with a testy boss or associate. Discussions illuminate both of you. Grow from your differences and gain. Tonight: Work as late as you need to.

BORN TODAY
 Actress Doris Day (1924), actor David Hyde Pierce (1959), actor Eddie Murphy (1961)

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MEDICAL

Blind physician sees pain in a different way

By HELEN O'NEILL
AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Stooped in her wheelchair, the patient grumbles about the pain, the cold, her age, her world.

"Some nights I'm screaming in agony," she says. "You gotta help me, doc."

Dr. Stanley Wainapel sizes up the problem immediately. Arthritis has eaten away one 71-year-old knee and is gnawing at the other. The prospect of surgery terrifies her.

Wainapel checks the movement in the patient's arms and legs, prods the left knee until it hurts. "You're made of pretty sturdy stuff," he tells Myra Edelstein, walking back to his desk. "You should come through the surgery fine."

His voice is reassuring, but he's looking in the wrong direction.

"Hey, doc!," Edelstein yells. "I'm over here, doc."

Wainapel straightens his gaze with a slightly embarrassed smile. As Edelstein is leaving she notices a thin white cane, propped beside a bookcase in the corner.

"He's blind!" she exclaims. "My doctor is blind."

With his thick silver hair and silver-rimmed glasses, his staff jokes that Wainapel looks like Andy Warhol. He cuts a striking figure as he strides through the hospital, white coat flapping, white cane tapping out a path in front: past cabinets and counters and bewildered onlookers who quickly step out of his way.

Sometimes he bumps into patients. Sometimes he bumps into walls. And some days Wainapel, the 54-year-old clinical director of rehabilitation at Montefiore Medical Center, has to reassure himself as much as his patients that he was right to choose medicine as his career.

"You need a lot more than eyes," he says, "to be a good physician."

Montefiore is an overwhelming place, even for those who can see. Cabs and buses loaded with patients stream up Gun Hill Road, disgorging a swirling human mass that can make it seem as if all the broken bones and sick hearts of the Bronx have landed at the hospital doors.

Inside, skillfully negotiating his way through the chaos, is the doctor many have come to see, the blind piano-playing doctor who introduces patients to Mozart and Chopin even as he prods joints and listens to hearts and diagnoses disease.

Some patients swear the blind doctor sees their pain better than anyone.

"He doesn't judge you from the outside, because he can't see the outside," says Maria Asuncion Diaz, a 42-year-old nurse who is being treated for complications related to Lyme disease. "Because of his blindness, I think he really hears what you have to say."

Diaz is wearing a spotted hospital gown and sitting on a bed. In a few moments, Dr. Wainapel, who studied acupuncture in China, will stick 14 needles into her hands, feet and neck. Diaz doesn't worry about him finding the right pressure points: It's the spots of blood she must wipe away on her own that bother her.

Wainapel knew from childhood that he would eventually go blind. He has choroideremia, a rare inherited disorder that causes progressive degeneration of the retina and of cells in the back of the eye.

He knew he had to fill his "memory library" before his eyes stopped working. So he did.

He traveled. He read. He took photographs: His favorite, taken 25 years ago in the Swiss Alps, is blurry and impressionistic and it is proudly hung above his desk. He played chamber music: Other musicians marveled at his ability to sight read.

And, although his parents tried to persuade him that life as a blind piano player might be easier than life as a blind physician, he went to Boston University School of Medicine. It seemed an obvious choice for the son of a doctor and nurse, even though Wainapel knew he could never hop in a car and make house calls, as his father had done.

"I couldn't be a surgeon," Wainapel says. "But no physician is master of everything." While in medical school he could still read large print, but by the time he started practicing, his peripheral vision was fading.

So Wainapel specialized in psychiatry, in the healing and rehabilitation of patients with all sorts of ailments: lower back pain, hip replacements, carpal tunnel syndrome, chronic fatigue. He sees up to 200 patients a month. Not once, Wainapel says, has a patient been unnerved enough at his blindness to request another physician.

In fact, he says, patients can often be more accepting than peers, who sometimes see only the cane.

For years he fought using the cane, and the talking books, and the voice-activated computer that he now relies on to scan reports and write memos and read medical literature. He avoided anything that marked him as a doctor with a disability. After all, doctors aren't supposed to be defective. Patients are.

And then he reminds himself, as he reminds anyone who asks, that you don't need sight to feel the curve of a spine. "And what is the first thing you do when listening for a very soft heart murmur?" he says. "You close your eyes."

But, like any doctor, Wainapel has had emergencies when, despite all his confidence and training, he wondered if he was up to the job.

A couple of years ago, when the Heimlich maneuver didn't work on a relative who was choking, Wainapel was sure he would have to perform the first tracheotomy of his life. "It's just a question

of knowing where to cut," he said. "It wouldn't have been pretty, but I could have done it."

Fortunately, the operation was not necessary.

In the past decade, Wainapel's central vision has deteriorated to the point that he can no longer read, and patients seem no more than shadows when they sit across his desk. For all his assurance and acceptance, there are days when the loss has seemed unbearably cruel. Wainapel has raged at the fact he can no longer sight-read music. And he knows that if he and his wife, Wendy, are successful in their quest to adopt a Chinese baby, he will never see the child's face.

Still, these days Wainapel is more at ease talking about his blindness. He doesn't care when patients gasp at the huge black sprawl on their prescriptions: most doctors' prescriptions are illegible anyway, he jokes. And he proudly shows them his Typoscope, a thin plastic wedge that he uses to mark the spot for his signature.

But he doesn't do injections anymore. His secretary speed-reads his mail aloud. And he can't read X-rays.

Minor inconveniences, says his longtime friend, Dr. Avital Fast, chairman of the department. "In our society there is a huge stigma to being disabled," Fast says. "And by voluntarily taking on that stigma every time he uses his cane, Stanley becomes an inspiration to others with disabilities."

Inam Rihan, a 38-year-old mother of six, suffers from lower back pain and a thyroid disorder. After Wainapel has diagnosed a slipped disc, Rihan complains that cataracts are making it difficult for

her to read.

"You don't have to see in order to read," Wainapel said excitedly, pulling out his latest book-on-tape: "The Shipping News" by E. Annie Proulx. "I read all the time."

By the time she leaves, Rihan is armed with all sorts of information for the visually impaired, including numbers for Wainapel's own ophthalmologist and the National Library Service for the Blind. She's also been introduced to violinist Oskar Shumsky, whose music plays softly throughout her visit.

Other patients are introduced to Dickens: Wainapel has written about the English author's penchant for disabled heroes in his novels. Or to Beethoven: Wainapel has written about the effect of the musician's deafness on his talent.

Wainapel rarely gives piano recitals anymore, but that has more to do with a tight schedule than with blindness.

And then some days, when there is a lull between patients, he tap-taps his way upstairs to the hospital community room. The piano is as old and tired as the plastic flowers on the tables. Most in the audience, a dozen or so elderly patients in wheelchairs, are dozing.

Suddenly, a Chopin polonaise fills the room, soft and enchanting and so otherworldly that nurses pause on their rounds to listen and patients take a break from their pain. For fifteen minutes on a busy morning, the blind piano-playing doctor creates a little piece of wonder in Montefiore.

Researchers believe they have found drug to combat deadly blood infection

By JEFF DONN
Associated Press Writer

An international research team says it has discovered the first drug that successfully combats sepsis, a blood infection that kills about 225,000 Americans each year.

Researchers have spent about 15 years looking for a drug to fight the disease.

"From what we saw, this is a tremendous breakthrough," said Dr. Michael Matthay of the University of California, San Francisco. "This is truly a landmark trial."

Matthay reviewed the test results with other scientists for The New England Journal of Medicine.

The findings recently published in the journal.

The research was carried out on 1,690 patients with severe sepsis at 164 locations in 11 countries. It was coordinated at Vanderbilt University, in Nashville, Tenn., and funded by Eli Lilly and Co.

Much of the public has never heard of sepsis, even though about 750,000 cases are diagnosed in the U.S. each year, researchers say. Many medical problems give rise to sepsis, including pneumonia, trauma, surgical complications and cancer.

Sepsis, a bacterial infection of the bloodstream, sets off a chain of chemical reactions that lead to excessive inflammation and clotting. It often causes death by

destroying a patient's internal organs.

The new drug is derived from a natural blood product known as activated protein C. In the blood, activated protein C curbs inflammation and clotting.

Sepsis patients are currently treated with antibiotics, fluids and ventilators for lung failure. No existing treatment directly attacks the blood infection.

Dr. Richard Goodman, a University of Washington researcher who has studied sepsis, said the new drug "gives us a new bullet to shoot at this disease."

In the study, half of the patients took the drug intravenously for four days, and the rest took a placebo. The patients were monitored for 28 days.

While only 25 percent of the patients given the drug died, 31 percent died in the comparison group. Patients who took the drug had a 19 percent lesser chance of dying than the others.

"It's been a terrible frustration as an intensive care doctor to watch huge numbers of patients who develop sepsis," said lead researcher Gordon Bernard of Vanderbilt. "This drug will be used widely for these patients."

Eli Lilly has applied for approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and plans to market the drug under the name Zovant. Bernard, who has acted as a consultant for Lilly, said approval could come within six months.

Researchers in the study acknowledged that the drug may yield some negative side effects. Of the patients who took the drug, 3.5 percent developed serious bleeding, compared with 2 percent of placebo-takers. Doctors said even a 3.5 percent risk is fairly small.

They said the drug should not be given to patients who are susceptible to bleeding. They also said the drug has not yet been tested on children.

CDC: Flu season lightest in years

ATLANTA (AP) — This flu season was the lightest in four years, despite a shortage of vaccine in the fall, the government recently reported.

The bug peaked in late January, when flu symptoms accounted for 4.1 percent of visits to a nationwide sample of doctors, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

That rate is down from 4.9 percent to 5.6 percent over the three previous years. Flu season runs roughly from October to March.

The CDC's other gauge of a flu season's severity was also down. At peak, 24 percent of specimens tested at flu-reporting labs came back positive — down from 28 to 32 percent over the previous three years.

The mild flu season comes despite an early delay in shipments of flu vaccine because

manufacturers had trouble growing a particular virus strain included in this season's vaccine.

CDC analysts said the vaccine aligned well with predominant strains of the bug. A flu season's severity and peak time are notoriously difficult to predict, with different strains trading places from year to year.

"Flu seasons are incredibly variable," said Alicia Postema, an epidemiologist with the National Center for Infectious Diseases. "It really doesn't tell you anything about next year. There's no prognosticating."

Flu typically kills about 20,000 Americans annually, mostly the elderly and chronically ill.

On the Net:
CDC flu vaccine information:
<http://www.cdc.gov/nip/flu-vac-supply>

Study finds no link between measles shot, bowel disease

CHICAGO (AP) — A U.S. study found no link between the measles vaccine and inflammatory bowel disease, contrary to British research that raised fears about the vaccine's safety.

Immunization rates dropped in Britain following studies published in 1995 and 1998 that implicated measles vaccines.

Dr. Robert L. Davis of the University of Washington, who led the new study, said he hopes the research will boost public confidence and help prevent measles outbreaks.

"Measles is a life-threatening disease that still endangers children here and around the world," he said. "We don't want parents failing to vaccinate their kids based on concerns that are unfounded."

His study appears in the a recent issue of Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine.

It is based on data on 574 people, born between 1958 and 1989, who belonged to four large health maintenance organizations. A total of 142 of those studied had inflammatory bowel disease,

which includes ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease.

Ulcerative colitis causes inflammation in the large intestine. Crohn's is a chronic disease that usually causes inflammation in the small intestine.

Childhood immunization with the measles-mumps-rubella vaccine and other measles vaccines did not raise the risk of developing inflammatory bowel disease later in life.

The study was funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

We want you out of here.

We're serious about recovery. We offer an intense approach of rehabilitation for patients recovering from a major illness or injury. Under the medical direction of Dr. David Hampton, our specialized team of nurses and therapists have one goal: getting you back to normal in a short time so that you can go home.

- 8-bed inpatient rehab center
- Private rooms
- No-cost pre-admission screenings
- Individualized Treatment Plans
- Family & Patient Education & Training

- Medical Director - Dr. David Hampton Orthopedic surgeon
- Speech-Language Pathologist
- Physical Therapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Recreational Therapist
- Dietician

- Coordination of Outpatient Services
- Primary Diagnoses include: Hip fracture or replacement
- Orthopedic conditions
- Multiple Arthritis
- Amputations
- Stroke
- Neurological disorders

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Acute Rehab Center

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The Key To Better Health!

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