

OBITUARIES

SERVICES TOMORROW

LUNSFORD, Helen Anderson — Interment, 11 a.m., Fairview Cemetery, Pampa.

O.M. (MICK) PRIGMORE
1911-2002

O.M. (Mick) Prigmore, 90, of Pampa, Texas, died April 9, 2002, at Oklahoma City, Okla. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m., Friday at Fairview Cemetery, and memorial services will be at 2 p.m., Friday at the First Presbyterian Church, with the Rev. Robin Gantz, associate pastor, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Prigmore was born July 4, 1911, in Burbank, Okla., the fourth of seven children born to Bert C. and Pearl Borden Prigmore. He graduated from Burbank High School, and moved to Pampa on Feb. 1, 1929. He was employed by Cabot Corporation when Cabot was constructing four carbon black plants in the Texas panhandle.

When construction was completed in December of 1929, he went to work for Perkins Drug Store, working there until mid-1931. In April of 1932, he returned to work for Cabot in their Pampa office in a clerical capacity.

He married Myrtle Templeton on April 30, 1933, in Pawhuska, Okla. Their five sons were born in Pampa and attended Pampa schools. She preceded him in death in June of 1993.

In January of 1935, he was promoted to Director of Centralized Services, consisting of purchasing, accounting, data processing and communications for Cabot's four operating divisions, with headquarters in Pampa. He held that position until Oct. 1, 1967, when he was promoted to manager of Cabot's six U.S. carbon black plants.

In 1974, he was transferred to Boston, Mass., as manager of Cabot's North American carbon black plants. He retired from Cabot Corporation on April 1, 1977, and returned to Pampa.

In the spring of 1958, Mr. Prigmore attended the 33rd session of the Advanced Management Program at Harvard University's Graduate School of Business Administration.

He was a longtime member of the Pampa Country Club and was elected to their board of directors for several terms. He served the club as president in 1967. He was a charter member and served one year as president of the Panhandle Region of the National Purchasing Agents Association.

He was elected to the Pampa City Commission and served from December of

1977 until April of 1983. In 1979, Texas Gov. William J. Clements adopted programs aimed at making State government more effective and to stop its rapid growth. One facet of these programs was to conduct operational audits of the large State agencies, using personnel furnished by companies operating in Texas.

Mr. Prigmore represented Cabot Corporation in this program from January to October of 1980. From January to mid-April of 1980, he served on a team that audited the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Agency and the Texas Health Department.

In April of 1980, he coordinated and helped recruit industry personnel to audit the State Purchasing and General Services Commission. This agency is responsible for, and actually does, a vast majority of State purchasing. This audit was completed in October of 1980 and presented to the three-man commission.

In April-1981, he was appointed by Gov. Clements to serve as chairman of the State Purchasing and General Services Commission, and served in that capacity through 1985.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Pampa.

He was preceded in death by a son, Richard Prigmore in January of 1975, and a brother, Bert Prigmore.

Survivors include four sons and five daughters-in-law, Robert and Betty Prigmore of Bullard, Donald and Judy Prigmore of Grapevine, Brian and Carol Prigmore of Oklahoma City, Okla., Michael and Patty Prigmore of Sanford, Fla., and Margery Prigmore of Dallas; two sisters, Mrs. B.N. (June) Elliott of Stephenville and Mrs. Charles (Lee) Glanville of Holyoke, Colo.; 11 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials to BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065.

The family will receive friends from 5-7 p.m., on Thursday at the funeral home.



ON RECORD

SHERIFF

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

Monday, April 8

Bobby Gene Polson, 26, no address given, was arrested by the Pampa Police Department on municipal warrants.

Tuesday, April 9

Bruce Sturgill, 38, Roanale, Tex., was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of delivery of a controlled substance.

Perry Donald, 27, 1121 Neel Road, was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of assault causing bodily injury.

Barbara Della Keys, 29, White Deer, was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of possession of a controlled substance.

James Daniel Ketchum, 43, Shamrock, was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of possession of a controlled substance.

Terry Eugene Timmons, 41, rural Gray County, was arrested by Department of Public Safety troopers on charges of driving while intoxicated.

Kelly Jo Percy, 43, 636 N. Dwight, was arrested by Adult Probation officers on a motion to modify probation.

AMBULANCE

Rural/Metro Ambulance Service reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m., today.

Tuesday, April 9

10:45 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 400 block of North Christy and transported one to Pampa Regional Medical Center (PRMC).

1:35 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of Williston and transported one to PRMC.

3:57 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to intersection of Hobart and McCullough. No one was transported.

Wednesday, April 10

3:04 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of West 25th St. No patient was transported.

POLICE

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m., today.

Monday, April 8

Roofing nails were reported spread on a driveway in the 1900 block of North Wells, causing damage to tires.

Tuesday, April 9

A possible narcotics law violation was reported in the 500 block of Doucette.

A gas drive off was reported at the Taylor Mart at 1524 N. Hobart.

Burlington Northern Santa Fe officials reported vandalism damage to the arm of a crossing signal at Starkweather and Atchison.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 900 block of South Hobart.

A mountain bicycle was reported stolen in the 1100 block of South Sumner.

A 59-year-old woman suffered minor injuries in an assault reported in the 300 block of Sunset.

Indecency with a child was reported in the 800 block of West Foster.

A purse was found in the 1200 block of Coronado Drive.

A vehicle was reported missing in the 1200 block of Garland.

Wednesday, April 10

A fugitive who gave police a false name when he was stopped on April 3, was identified.

STOCKS

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa.

Wheat	2.39	NOI	23.51	+0.15
Milo	3.15	KMI	49.59	+0.83
Corn	3.50	XCEL	25.33	+0.34
Soybeans	3.71	Kerr McGee	61.46	+1.02
		Limited	18.91	+0.06
		Williams	22.05	+0.15
		McDonald's	28.07	-0.08
		Exxon Mobil	43.09	+0.35
		Atmos	24.19	-0.09
		Pioneer Nat.	22.53	+0.94
		Penney's	21.59	+0.48
		Phillips	60.43	+0.38
		SLB	54.53	+0.47
		Tenneco	4.70	+0.20
		CVX	87.86	+0.57
		Wal-Mart	60.59	+0.49
		OKE	21.07	+0.25

The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.

BP	51.73	+0.05
Celanese	20.43	-0.19
Cabot Corp.	34.70	+0.37
Cabot Oil Gas	23.98	+0.53
Coca Cola	53.49	+0.14
New York Gold	298.60	
Silver	4.56	
West Texas Crude	25.82	

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

Today's forecast is partly cloudy and breezy with highs in the upper 70s and south winds 15 to 25 mph with gusts near 35 mph. Caution advised on area lakes through tonight. Tonight, partly cloudy and breezy with lows near 55. South winds 15 to 25 mph with gusts to 35 mph, diminishing to 10 to 20 mph late. Thursday, partly cloudy with highs around 80. South winds 10 to 20 mph. Thursday night, mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms. Some storms possibly severe. Lows in the upper 40s. Chance of rain 30 percent. Friday, mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs 70 to 75. Friday evening, mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms. Saturday, a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms early. Otherwise partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s. Highs near 80. Sunday through Monday, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s and highs in the upper 70s to lower 80s. Tuesday, partly cloudy with a chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the mid-40s and highs in the upper 70s.

STATEWIDE

Light rain fell early Wednesday in South Texas while fog shrouded some northern parts of the state. Patchy fog extended from the Tyler area southwest to near Waco.

In Central and East Texas, low clouds moved in under the influence of warm Gulf moisture.

Skies were generally clear in the west. Early-morning temperatures ranged from the upper 40s and 50s to 70s.

Extremes were 45 degrees at Marfa and 71 at Brownsville.

Other readings included 61 at Fort Stockton, 49 at Abilene, 54 at Hondo and 59 at Tyler.

Winds were generally southerly to southeasterly at 5 to 15 mph. Some light and variable conditions governed in the west, but low pressure in the Rocky Mountains was forcing a resumption of southerly winds at 5 to 15 mph.

Light rain fell near Brownsville. The National Weather Service forecast called for early-morning fog and low clouds to give way to partly cloudy skies by early Thursday.

A return of southerly winds will herald a slow warming trend over the next several days.

Isolated thunderstorms were expected by Wednesday afternoon and evening in the Big Bend.

A slight chance of thunderstorms was forecast Thursday afternoon in the eastern South Plains and Permian Basin.

Highs through Thursday should be in the upper 70s and 80s except for upper 60s in the mountains and 90s at Big Bend.

Lows overnight were expected to be mostly in the 50s, except for 40s in the mountains.

Atlantis preps for space station docking

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Crew members of space shuttle Atlantis anxiously awaited their arrival at the international space station to install one of the orbiting outpost's most complex pieces. "We're just raring to go," astronaut Ellen Ochoa said.

The shuttle was scheduled to dock with space station Alpha on Wednesday. A day later, Ochoa will use Atlantis' robot arm to physically place a 44-foot-long, 14 1/2-foot-wide aluminum girder that is full of plumbing and wiring onto the space station. Then two teams of spacewalkers will take turns over several days latching the truss segment and making power and data connections.

Ochoa said she wasn't too nervous about handling the \$600 million girder, the first piece of a framework that ultimately will be bigger than a football field. "The training I think has prepared us very well for it," she said.

The girder will serve as the foundation for a framework that will extend 356 feet and support a collection of giant solar wings and radiators. A \$190 million railcar and track already are attached to the girder and will be used to transport the space station's robot arm and cargo from one end of the complex to

the other. Astronaut Jerry Ross will be performing two of the four spacewalks "needed to fully install the girder. He already holds the U.S. spacewalking record, with seven outings. With Monday's launch, he claimed another record: the first person to fly in space seven times.

City Briefs

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

FENCE REPAIR or Build New. 665-5839, Joe Johnson.

ATTENTION BRENDAS Alterations new # is 665-4075.

FOR SALE by owner. 1500 N. Sumner. 3 bdrm., 2.5 bath, oversized garage. 1954 sq. ft. living area, completely refurbished inside. \$81,000. 669-1366. Leave message.

MEALS ON WHEELS Gar. Sale-Collections & Sale, every Mon. afternoon from 2-5 p.m. Corner of Frost & Cook st.

TOMMY HILL Fundraiser Bake Sale Walmart, April 13.

Farm bill bogs down in House

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congressional negotiators say they want to finish work quickly on an overhaul of agriculture and nutrition programs, but first they must resolve a dispute over how to subsidize grain and cotton farmers.

A House-Senate conference committee resumed negotiations Tuesday for the first time in nearly a month, but the talks immediately bogged down.

Senate Democrats believe the bulk of farm payments should be tied to swings in crop prices and production. The House negotiators, both Democrats and Republicans, and the Bush administration say more money should go toward fixed annual payments.

There were small signs of progress Wednesday, when House negotiators offered to change their subsidy plan slightly to bring it closer to the Senate's. Senate Democrats rejected the proposal, but Sen. Kent Conrad, D-N.D., said the two sides were "baby-stepping toward each other."

"Eventually, we'll get to the dance," responded the lead House negotiator, Rep. Larry Combest, R-Texas.

The lawmakers also were trying to work out disagreements over a Senate-passed plan to create a \$2 billion subsidy program for dairy farmers. Much of the money would go to farmers in the Northeast as compensation for the end of a regional price-setting system.

The administration has been critical of both a bill passed by the Republican-controlled House last fall and a rival version that

Democrats pushed through the Senate in February.

Chuck Conner, the White House's farm policy specialist, told negotiators Tuesday the Senate Democrats' subsidy plan would stimulate excess crop production and could leave farmers with too little money if widespread crop failures should occur.

The negotiators agreed in March on overall spending levels for a compromise bill, but talks have been stalled on a long list of disagreements involving rules for everything from farm subsidies to food stamps.

The centerpiece of the Senate subsidy plan is an increase in subsidy rates, known as "loan rates," for corn, wheat, cotton, rice and soybeans. The House bill would keep the subsidy rates roughly the same and instead put more money into payment programs that are not tied to annual changes in farm production.

Democrats say that too much of the fixed payments favored by Republicans go to landowners, rather than farmers. Republicans say the higher crop subsidies favored by Democrats would stimulate excess crop production.

The new bill would replace a law enacted in early April 1996, scheduled to expire this fall.

On the Net: Information on the bills: <http://thomas.loc.gov/> House Agriculture Committee: <http://www.agriculture.house.gov/> Senate Agriculture Committee: <http://agriculture.senate.gov/>

Child pornography probe reaches other states

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — The investigation of an alleged child-pornography operation has extended to Texas, Florida and Nevada as officers try to locate girls who were photographed and equipment that was used.

James Steven Grady, 42, was arrested on suspicion of sexual exploitation of a minor. He is accused of taking explicit pictures of underage girls and posting them on a Web site.

The Web site was closed down Tuesday after Arapahoe County deputies traced its host computer to Dallas.

Officers from the Seminole County, Fla., Sheriff's

Department and the Las Vegas Metro Police Department are investigating whether some of the girls who were photographed are from their areas, Arapahoe County Undersheriff Grayson Robinson said.

Grady, who was arrested Friday, operated a photo studio in Sheridan, a Denver suburb in Arapahoe County. Deputies were trying to determine whether a Las Vegas photo studio mentioned on the Web actually exists.

The Web site also mentioned a German glamor photographer named Jimmy Stephens, but investigators believe Stephens and Grady are

the same person, Robinson said.

Investigators have said as many as 60 girls between the ages of 13 and 17 might have posed for Grady. Some did straight modeling work, but many eventually posed nude or seminude, investigators have said.

A 15-year-old who posed for Grady has defended him, saying he never forced the models to undress. She said she was paid \$20 an hour to pose in bikinis, shorts and lingerie of her choosing. Anyone who struck seductive poses did it voluntarily, said the girl, who did not identify herself.

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MEETING

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STRUGGLE

fire department, but it is on property owned by the city.

Among the estimated crowd of 70 people attending the council meeting in this town of less than 300 were representatives of several large ranches surrounding Skellytown, who voiced support for the volunteer fire department.

By a 3-to-2 vote, the council decided to table a decision on extending their agreement with the fire department until they could get a legal opinion. Mayor Lawrence set April 16, as a tentative meeting date to discuss the agreement. If the legal opinion is not ready by then, she said, the meeting would be postponed another week.

"All the fire department equipment up here has been put together by volunteers," said Vance Griffith, speaking for the fire department. "Their blood and sweat put it together to protect the town's people, the citizens."

The volunteers, Griffith told the council, are the fire department, not the equipment.

By the same narrow margin as the vote on the fire department agreement, the city council voted 3-to-2 to keep Grogan as city secretary.

Initially, when Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to terminate Grogan's employment, Councilmen Claude Hooks Jr. and Charles Harper voted for Grogan's dismissal. Councilmen Jim Davis and Jerry Tice voted against dismissal.

"I think she's done a good job in book-keeping," said Councilwoman Margie Dennis.

After some hesitation, and with assurances from Grogan that she could work with the mayor, Dennis cast the deciding vote against dismissal.

When the mayor called for a motion to suspend Grogan instead of terminating her, the council sat quietly. As the mayor's request died for the lack of a motion, the audience applauded loudly.

Problems arose two weeks ago between Grogan and the mayor over an employee question during an executive session. Grogan admitted she said some things she probably shouldn't have and stormed out of the meeting. She said she later tried to apologize to the mayor.

Lawrence said Grogan used profanity and accused Grogan of drinking before coming to the meeting two weeks ago.

Before the council approved the minutes of their March 19 meeting, Lawrence amended

the minutes to indicate that the city secretary had been disorderly.

In other business, city employee Sam Bell asked for approval to have the city's ground storage tank painted as required by the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission.

"We were supposed to complete it a year and a half ago," Bell said.

Citing problems with the city's finances, the council tabled the issue until they could get a budget to find out where they stand financially.

Bell also asked for clarification on the city's policy concerning the utility bills of city employees. He said that in 1996, the city council had decided city employees would be charged only minimum utility rates in lieu of raises. The council apparently also assigned themselves minimum water rates at that time. The council's decision to charge themselves only minimum water rates, however, was later rescinded. More recently, Bell said the utility bills for city employees had gone up, but there did not appear to be any action by the council to account for the rise in the utility billing to city employees.

"We were given this," Bell said, "then it was taken away."

The council tabled the request until it could be investigated.

Skellytown's council also approved the sale of a lot in the city to Betty Cosper for \$100.

They also passed a new ordinance setting fees for water services.

The question from the audience, however, was asked concerning who was going to enforce the new ordinance since Skellytown has no city marshal or police force, another contentious issue which came to the fore when Municipal Judge Fred Cullon was called upon to report to the council.

Cull said there was little he could do with no one in law enforcement in the city.

"I can't do my job if I don't have law enforcement behind me," Cullon said.

The council had earlier this year asked for Cullon's resignation, but he refused.

In a confrontation with Dennis concerning what she said was Cullon's lack of attendance at council meetings, Cullon said that he was not listed on the agenda at the last two meetings of the council he attended, and he was not allowed to speak.

"I don't want to hear that I've got to be here for every meeting," Cullon said. "I'll give reports when I've got somebody to back me up so I can do my job."

Kirk defeats Morales, to face Cornyn in fall

AUSTIN (AP) — Former Dallas mayor Ron Kirk has claimed his coveted seat on the diverse "Dream Team," a ticket touted by officials of the Texas Democratic Party.

His defeat of schoolteacher Victor Morales in a Democratic U.S. Senate runoff Tuesday headlined an election in which Texas voters also decided congressional, legislative and statewide court nominations.

Though a poll over the weekend showed Morales slightly ahead, Kirk — the Democratic Party's unofficial favorite — won decisively, becoming the first black nominated from Texas for the U.S. Senate.

Waiting to block his path in November is Republican opponent John Cornyn, the state attorney general who has a deep war chest and President Bush's backing.

"I feel great, absolutely relieved and exhausted," Kirk said after defeating Morales. "This has been one of the most challenging but rewarding experiences of my life."

With 99.9 percent of precincts reporting, Kirk got 370,063 votes, or 60 percent, to Morales' 250,034 votes, or 40 percent.

Refusing to concede, Morales suggested that the Democratic Party establishment aided Kirk. He said he would not endorse Kirk in the general election.

"There is no ill feeling. I'm a very happy man," Morales added. "I have no regrets."

Cornyn, preparing to kick his campaign into full gear, congratulated Kirk and said Morales raised important issues.

"I look forward to a vigorous and civil debate on the issues that matter to Texans with Mr. Kirk in the fall," Cornyn said.

Overall, the runoff races of both parties drew about 7 percent of registered voters to the polls, about the turnout of comparable primary runoffs in the recent past.

Republicans, in the District 26 congressional race, selected Dr. Michael Burgess as their nominee over Scott Army, son of retiring House Majority leader Dick Armey. In another GOP contest, John Carter defeated Peter Wareing in District 31.

In the only Democratic congressional runoff, Chris Bell defeated Carroll Robinson to advance to the fall general election.

One of the most bitter and expensive of the 17 state leg-

islative runoff battles was between Democrats Barbara Canales-Black of Corpus Christi and state Rep. Juan Hinojosa of McAllen for the Texas Senate seat in District 20.

Canales-Black's campaign shelled out at least \$1.6 million, outspending Hinojosa by about a 2-1 margin.

But Hinojosa rode the power of incumbency to victory.

The only incumbent legislator to lose was Democratic Rep. Tracy King, who was defeated by Eagle Pass computer consultant Timoteo Garza in a newly created Southwest Texas district along the Mexican border.

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TURNOUT

Dale Wainwright won over Elizabeth Ray in the Justice, Supreme Court, Place 2, 132-80. Wainwright also was the top vote-getter across the state in the race.

Tom Price received 130 votes to Tim Taft's 72 votes in the Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 1. Price also won the state race.

Cathy Cochran received

113 votes for Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 3. Her opponent, Guy Williams, garnered 91 votes locally.

In the fourth race, Gray County voters gave the nod to David Richards, 124, to Paul Womack's 75, in the Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 2 position.

However, Womack defeated Richards statewide.

Voters will go to the polls Nov. 5 in the general election.

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VOTE

complete," she said.

Wheeler County Clerk Margaret Dorman said if a candidate in a primary election desires a recount they must file a petition for recount with the chairman of the political party in which the election was held.

Runoffs were held in several other area counties from the primary elections.

Randy Elliott received 99 votes over John

Ray Corley's 53 for the Republican nominee in the November general election in Carson County for the Justice of Peace, Precinct Four position.

In Hemphill County Republican primary, Larry Dunnam had 420 votes over Jackie McPhearson, 320.

Roberts County Commissioner Precinct 2 was also decided in the runoff. Incumbent Ken Gill received 49 votes while his challenger, Royce Bailey, received 39 votes.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

MEETING

in getting Texas to change its textbooks because of omissions and false statements in them," Hughes said.

Allen Gilmer, president and CEO of Drillinginfo.com, a web site concerning information on drilling prospects, will complete Wednesday morning's session with a talk about the internet and information age.

Luncheon speaker, Perry Pendley, chief legal officer at the Mountain States Legal Foundation, will talk about legal battles in which the foundation is involved concerning land owners and producers against govern-

ment agencies and radical environmentalists.

The technical sessions on Tuesday, May 7, begin at 8 a.m. with a wellbore management workshop and a site remediation workshop. The afternoon sessions on Tuesday include an update on PPROA insurance benefits packages, a review of state and federal laws involving royalty owners and new regulatory initiatives by the Texas Railroad Commission.

The PPROA business meeting is scheduled for 4 p.m., Tuesday.

Discounted registration fees are available until April 19, Hughes said. The deadline for the golf tournament

is April 19. The four-man scramble, flighted by blind draw, will start at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, May 9, at La Paloma Golf Club, just north of Tascosa County Club.

The deadline to register for sporting clay shooting is April 26.

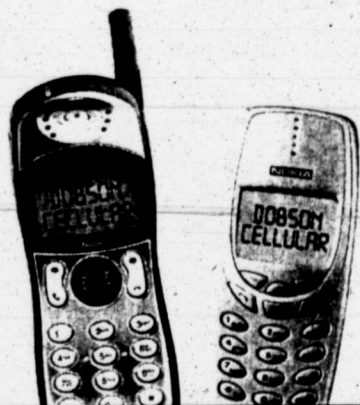
Hughes said a block of rooms at the hotel has been set aside for the PPROA, but reservations have to be made by April 22 in order to take advantage of the special rate.

April 10-14
at Calvary Baptist Church

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Cellular Communications
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WELLINGTON
Langford Communications
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ACT I (Area Community Theatre, I)

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A Reader's Theatre Production of the T

Dust storms of the 1930's Music of the Era
and Hymns of the Era with a photo
sunrises & sunsets

This

Premiere Event
for Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center

830 South Cuyler • Pampa Texas

THREE PERFORMANCES ONLY

Friday & Saturday, April 12-13, 2002 • 7:30 p.m. • Sunday, April 14, 2002 • 2:30 p.m.

Also on Sunday: 2:00 p.m. Texas Historical Marker Dedication

of the Harris Drug Store [Woody Guthrie Center]

Followed by Frank Stallone's BLACK SUNDAY book signing before, during intermission
& after THIS LAND production

Admission
\$8 Adults
\$3 Students

Reservations
808-669-3241 (Pampa Chamber of Commerce)
806-665-3266 (Computech)

PAID RESERVATIONS SUGGESTED—SPACE IS LIMITED TO NO MORE THAN 100 PER PERFORMANCE

Altrusa Style Show



(Community Camera photo)

(Left-right) Cameron McDonald, Janet Sanders and Logan McDonald modeled fashions recently from Bealls Department Store to be shown in the upcoming Altrusa Style Show and Brunch scheduled to begin at 10 a.m., Saturday, April 13 at M.K. Brown Auditorium. The annual fund-raiser is open to the public and tickets may be purchased in advance from any Altrusa member or at the door on the day of the event.

President Bush presses for U.S. prohibition on human cloning, stressing ethical issue

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush is pressing the Senate to approve a total ban on human cloning that would outlaw the duplication of human beings and of cells that could be used for research and treatment of diseases.

Bush long has opposed human cloning. When he announced his decision in August to restrict but not forbid federal financing of so-called embryonic stem cell research, he said: "We recoil at the idea of growing human beings for spare body parts or creating life for our convenience."

On Wednesday, Bush was speaking to 175 doctors, scientists, lawmakers, religious activists and disabled people to mobilize bipartisan support behind a complete ban on cloning. Aides said Bush's speech would be "reflective" on the ethical issues that cloning poses.

The cloning legislation joins a growing pile of bills that Bush favors and that have passed the Republican-controlled House but stalled in the Democratic-controlled Senate.

In recent days Bush has stepped up his calls for action on an array of bills pending in the Senate, including measures that would increase energy conservation and exploration, grant him expanded powers in negotiating trade pacts and help businesses get terrorism insurance.

Last July, the House passed a ban on all human cloning — the production of embryos that are the genetic twin of a donor. Many in the Senate oppose using cloning to create human beings, but support using the process to create embryonic stem cells that may be used for research and the potential treatment of many diseases.

The use of embryonic stem cells is controversial because

extracting the cells kills a living human embryo. Bush decided in August that federal funding would be permitted only for stem cell cultures that then existed and which were made from embryos that were to be discarded by fertility clinics.

The movement for a ban got a significant boost Tuesday when Sen. Bill Frist, R-Tenn., said he would support the cloning ban legislation, which the Senate is expected to debate in the weeks ahead. Though not a surprise, the announcement from Frist, a heart-transplant surgeon, is important because his views on medical topics are respected by many in Congress.

Creating a human embryo "for reason of experimentation leads to destruction of that embryo and to me that is morally unacceptable," Frist told reporters.

"I'm an advocate for embryonic stem cell research and stem cell research — tremendous promise for Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, for the various diseases," he said Wednesday on CBS' "The Early Show." "But that is not the cloning of human embryos. I'm for cellular cloning, RNA cloning, DNA

cloning, but not for cloning of embryos that have to be destroyed"

The cloning debate gained impetus in November when a Massachusetts company, Advanced Cell Technology, said it had cloned a human embryo for the first time. The company wants to extract stem cells from cloned embryos that could be used to grow healthy organs for patients.

Scientists also are trying to see whether adult stem cells can serve as all-around repairmen in the body, thus avoiding killing embryos.

The public overwhelmingly opposes scientific experimentation on the cloning of human beings, according to a new poll that also suggests public opinion is mixed on stem cell research.

Nearly four out of five people opposed cloning, while one-third of those polled were against federal funding of stem cell research, according to the poll by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press.

The poll of 2,002 adults was taken Feb. 25-March 10 and had an error margin of plus or minus 2.5 percentage points.

Also Wednesday, Bush was mending fences with Bill

Simon, the California Republican gubernatorial candidate whom the White House quietly opposed last fall. Simon was getting the royal treatment from the Bush administration, also meeting with Vice President Dick Cheney and a battery of Cabinet officials.

Simon was a reminder of how the unusual White House strategy of injecting itself into primaries can backfire: Bush associates urged Simon to step aside in favor of the White House's favored candidate, former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan.

Riordan lost the primary to Simon last month, leaving the White House in the awkward position of embracing a candidate it opposed.

Bush immediately called Simon after the primary, and has pledged to help him raise money for the campaign against the incumbent governor, Democrat Gray Davis. The White House is "totally committed" to getting Simon elected, Gray said.

Simon was using a political appeal to renew his plea for presidential help — that if he can oust Davis, it will greatly help Bush's own re-election prospects in 2004.

WT to host Educator's Expo

CANYON — Education majors and prospective teachers will have the opportunity to meet with representatives from more than 100 different school districts at West Texas A&M University's annual Educator's EXPO. The event is set for 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday, April 15 at the Virgil Henson Activities Center Ballroom on the WTAMU campus.

The event, sponsored by WTAMU Career and Counseling Services, is open to all WTAMU students and any educator who is certified to teach as of fall 2002. Prospective teachers will get the chance to visit with school district representatives hoping to fill positions for the 2002-2003 school year. School districts in Texas, New Mexico, Kansas, Colorado and California will be represented.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our students, as well as members of the community, who are looking for teaching positions for Fall 2002, to connect with more than 100 prospective employers in one location," Kim

Storey, assistant director in career and counseling services, said. "We encourage our undergraduate education majors to attend the EXPO in order to network, find out more about the world of education and to help them make occupational choices."

The EXPO offers those attending a chance to learn more about the school system, its personnel needs and the career paths offered. Vacancies available range from bilingual, mathematics and art to science, special ed and music. Positions for speech pathologists, diagnosticians and counselors are also available.

"We feel that this is a mutually beneficial contact for both the school district and the student, and we are pleased to offer this opportunity," Storey said.

Educator's EXPO is free and open to the public. Those attending are encouraged to bring multiple copies of their resumes. For more information, call (806) 651-2345 or visit Career and Counseling Services Web site at <http://wtcareer.wtamu.edu>.

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Intentions to Drill

CARSON (WEST PANHANDLE) Conoco, Inc., #485R Burnett, 660' from North & 2200' from West line, Sec. 21,5,1&GN, PD 3000'.

HEMPHILL (GEM-HEMPHILL Morrow) BP America Production Co., #1 Big Lake '103', 1490' from South & 2630' from East line, Sec. 103,41,H&TC, PD 15400'.

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & S.E. CANADIAN Douglas) Apache Corp., #1 L.L. Humphreys, 1300' from South & 660' from East line, Carl G. Schultz Survey, PD 7500'.

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & S.E. CANADIAN Douglas) Apache Corp., #1 Lewis Humphreys, 2100' from South & West line, Adam Wilhelm Survey, PD 7500'.

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & S.E. CANADIAN Douglas) Apache Corp., #5 Isaacs, 1220' from South & 1550' from West line, Sec. 208,C,G&MMB&A, PD 7200'.

Oil Well Completions

GRAY (PANHANDLE) The Operating Co., #10 Patton-Purviance, Sec. 61,B-2,H&GN, spud 1-9-01, drlg. compl 1-13-01, tested 3-19-02, pumped 8 bbl. of 43 grav. oil + 23 bbls. water, GOR 375, TD 3150' —

GRAY (PANHANDLE) The Operating Co., #11 Patton-Purviance, Sec. 61,B-2,H&GN, spud 1-15-01, drlg. compl 1-19-01, tested 3-20-

02, pumped 14 bbl. of 43 grav. oil + 4 bbls. water, GOR 814, TD 3166' —

HEMPHILL (SPARKS Tonkawa) EOG Resources, Inc., #5602 Lockhart, Sec. 56,42,H&TC, spud 1-29-02, drlg. compl 2-10-02, tested 3-8-02, flowed 190 bbl. of 46 grav. oil + 3 bbls. water thru 18/64" choke on 24 hour test, GOR 13384, TD 7825', PBDT 7733' —

Plugged Wells

GRAY (PANHANDLE) Bradley Operating Co., Inc., #7 West Morse 'WF', Sec. 15,A-9,H&GN, spud unknown, plugged 2-27-02, TD 2665' (oil) —

GRAY (PANHANDLE) Dyne Oil & Gas, Inc., #6 Gray, Sec. 58,3,1&GN, spud unknown, plugged 3-14-02, TD 3097' (oil) —

HEMPHILL (N.W. GLAZIER Cleveland) Malson Oil Co., #4 Kelly 'B', Sec. 19,43,H&TC, spud unknown, plugged 8-10-01, TD 10643' (oil) —

HEMPHILL (N.W. GLAZIER Upper Morrow) Malson Oil Co., #3 Kelly 'B', Sec. 19,43,H&TC, spud unknown, plugged 8-31-01, TD 12532' (gas) —

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) Cody Co., #28-G T.D. Lewis NCT-4, Sec. 17,L,EL&RR, spud 5-25-40, plugged 2-28-02, TD 2990' (oil) — Form 1 in, The Texas Co.

ROBERTS (WILDCAT) Mewbourne Oil Co., #1 Parsell Ranch '153', Sec. 153,42,H&TC, spud 10-18-01, plugged 11-5-01, TD 10100' —

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W to

ACT Communi stage its Land," Ap Woody G ject of Guthrie ly and (ap Loralee of Pampa selecting "This L numbers Your Lan Pneumon gospel tu Fly Away Sing."

A short whom th (named) w Carruth is his fir Black Du struck the Author will be pr performance ing copie dust stor

Additio will be p Elementa teacher F and singi Baptist C talists J. M. Stinnett Among

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CANYO O'Hanlon tion-orient West Universit Ken Wa Conferenc 26 in th Activities on the W

The on begin with 8-8:30 a.r will conc O'Hanlon tured gue day. He is health pro profession licensed r ly therapi O'Hanl co-author including Me!" an Co m p e Counseli Psychoth Manual Interventi He has ap and "The has taught around th He wil oriented t focuses

Woody Guthrie Center to house new ACT I play

ACT I Community Theater (Area Community Theater, Inc.) of Pampa will stage its 2002 spring production, "This Land," April 12-14 at the newly established Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center, a project of "Pampa's Tribute to Woody Guthrie." Show times are 7:30 p.m., nightly and (approximately) 2:30 p.m., Sunday.

Loralee Cooley, a professional storyteller of Pampa, is the director of the production, selecting and compiling the script.

"This Land" will feature several musical numbers including Guthrie's "This Land is Your Land," "Jig Along Home" and "Dust Pneumonia Blues" as well as such old-time gospel tunes as "Sweet By and By," "I'll Fly Away" and "Lift Every Voice and Sing."

A short video-clip of Clyde Carruth (of whom the rodeo pavilion in Pampa was named) will also be shown.

Carruth recorded the video in February. It is his first-hand account of Palm Sunday Black Duster, a legendary dirt storm which struck the panhandle on April 14, 1935.

Author and Pampa native Frank Stallings will be present at the Sunday afternoon performance of "This Land." He will be signing copies of a book about the Palm Sunday dust storm he entitled "Black Sunday."

Additional "This Land" performances will be provided by students from Austin Elementary, under the direction of music teacher Rebecca Lewis, pianist Pat Murry and singer Wayne Williams of Macedonia Baptist Church accompanied by instrumentalists J.W. Williams and Greg Downey of Stinnett and Mike Ruff of Pampa.

Among the varied cast members will be

Author and Pampa native Frank Stallings will be present at the Sunday afternoon performance of "This Land." He will be signing copies of a book about the Palm Sunday dust storm he entitled "Black Sunday."

12-year-old Jonathan Roberson of Miami, his 13-year-old sister Rebeca, Pampa high schoolers Jay and Russell Kelley and Chris Smith, a young actor currently appearing in a production of Amarillo Little Theater.

Joining the youth, will be adults Carolyn Smith, Tracie Shollenberger, Shelly and Scott Demar, Terri Witt, Monty Montgomery, Aubrey Hill and more.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$3 for students (high school and under.) Seating is limited, so theater-goers are encouraged to buy their tickets now and RSVP. Concessions will be available.

For more information or to make reservations, contact Pampa Chamber of Commerce at 669-3241; P.O. Box 1942, Pampa, TX 79066; or Computech at 665-3266.

NPS firefighters planning prescribed burns at lake

FRITCH — Officials at Lake Meredith National Recreation Area (NRA) are planning three prescribed burns during April and May at Harbor Bay, Short Creek and Bates Canyon, according to Karren Brown, park superintendent.

National Park Service (NPS) firefighters will schedule the burns as weather permits.

The prescribed fires will reduce the buildup of grassy fuels that typically feed a wildfire, return the mesquite grasslands to their natural-growth cycle and provide protection to structures located along the park boundary in case of wildfire, park officials say.

The reintroduction of fire will also help traditional plant distribution.

Fire crews have spent several months removing brush and other fuels from the perimeter of the burn units.

The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission required the park to contact all landowners within 300-feet of the burn units and obtain a waiver before any burns could take place.

A few sections within the burn units will not be burned due to unsigned waivers.

Rock Island and Palo Duro ranches are each playing a major role in the prescribed burns by allowing ranch lands to be burned and by providing firefighters access to ranch roads.

The burns will be a cooperative effort, sponsored by the NPS with assistance from local, state and federal fire departments. Extensive plans have been created to guide the strategic placement of fire crews and engines based on weather and expected fire behavior.

During the controlled burns,

some areas in and around the park will be closed to the public. People traveling in the area should use caution by reducing vehicle speed and turning on headlights when smoke is present.

The burns are designed in

such a way as to direct much of the smoke toward the waters of Lake Meredith so boating activities may be briefly affected.

For more information, contact park headquarters at (806) 857-3151.

Service to honor Korean vets

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — The Korean War — long called the "the forgotten war" by its veterans — will take center stage here this week as an expected 10,000 people gather for speeches, flyovers and other remembrances of the conflict.

The observance Thursday will be the largest event so far in the military's three-year commemoration of the 1950-53 war. The events, authorized by Congress, end next year.

Despite the ceremonies and the 1995 dedication of a Korea memorial in Washington, some veterans of the war still feel it doesn't get the attention it deserves.

"Even today, when people talk about wars they talk about World War II and Vietnam and then the Gulf War. A lot of us call it the forgotten victory," said Thomas Hudner, a retired Navy captain and Medal of Honor winner from

Concord, Mass.

If American and U.N. forces hadn't prevailed in Korea, he said, Chinese and Russian communists would have "been emboldened to push communism around the world and much of Asia would be communist."

More than 36,000 Americans were killed in the conflict, which began when communist North Korea invaded the South. The United States still keeps 37,000 troops stationed in South Korea.

Hudner was a member of a fighter squadron aboard the USS Leyte when the war began in 1950. The carrier was in the Mediterranean and was sent to Korea by President Truman.

"We weren't ready for that war," he said. "Yet had we not acted as quickly as we did, the North Koreans would have been able to maintain their momentum."

Counseling conference slated at WT

CANYON — Bill O'Hanlon will explore solution-oriented therapy at West Texas A&M University's 17th Annual Ken Waugh Counseling Conference on Friday, April 26 in the Virgil Henson Activities Center Ballroom on the WTAMU campus.

The one-day event will begin with registration from 8-8:30 a.m. The conference will conclude at 4:30 p.m. O'Hanlon will be the featured guest speaker for the day. He is a licensed mental health professional, certified professional counselor and a licensed marriage and family therapist.

O'Hanlon has authored or co-authored 19 books including "Try and Make Me!" and "Collaborative, Competency-Based Counseling and Psychotherapy: A Basic Manual for Interviewing, Intervention and Change." He has appeared on "Oprah" and "The Today Show," and has taught therapy sessions around the world.

He will discuss solution-oriented therapy and how it focuses on the strengths and

solutions of those seeking help. This therapy looks at the problems and the influence of the past to create an environment for change. The conference will offer participants methods for working with trauma and for treating depression and anxiety. Lecture, demonstrations and video examples will enhance the learning techniques.

The Ken Waugh Counseling

Conference is presented each year to honor Dr. Ken Waugh who served more than 28 years at WTAMU as a counselor education professor as well as director of the Testing, Counseling and Career Center.

Preregistration deadline for the conference is April 19. For more information, contact the WTAMU Division of Education at (806) 651-2626.

Talk shows compete for teen critic

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — A teen-age movie reviewer sparked something of a booking brouhaha between late night rivals Jay Leno and David Letterman.

Producers of "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" were thinking of inviting eighth-grader Billy Norris on their show when he was quickly snapped up by Letterman, who planned to put the teen on his CBS telecast Wednesday night.

"I was completely blown away by it all," Billy told the St. Petersburg Times on Tuesday. "I don't think it will all sink in until after I go on."

Billy, 14, a movie review-

er for the Times' youth-oriented features section Xpress, had first attracted the attention of producers at Leno's NBC show.

Leno's team had seen Norris' work on the newspaper's Web site and last week asked for a videotape of the reviews he, occasionally makes on a local TV station.

Gretchen Letterman, the Times' Lifestyles editor and sister of Leno's chief rival, was soon chatting with her brother when she mentioned Billy might be appearing on the Leno show.

So while the "Tonight Show" waited for videotapes, "The Late Show With David Letterman" pounced.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Fallen Firefighter's Pocket Penny Comforts His Family

DEAR ABBY: My brother was one of the New York City firefighters who were missing in the World Trade Center disaster. For two months my family agonized about his whereabouts and what happened to him. One night my mom told me about the "pennies from heaven" letters in your column, and I began wishing that Mom could find a penny with my brother's birth year on it — or some other sign that he was at peace.

In late November, I got a phone call from my sister-in-law that my brother's body was found. When she was given his belongings, she was surprised to see his Saint Florian necklace, which we had never seen him wear. (He must have put it on only when going to a fire.) He had a couple of dollars in his pocket — and one penny.

When I relayed this news to my mother, she jumped up and said, "That's my sign! He's at peace." I sometimes wonder if we are just looking for signs, but as time goes on and I speak to other families in our situation, nothing feels coincidental.

SUZANNE AULETTA,
HOWELL, N.J.

DEAR ABBY: I am 25 and am engaged to a man I have been with since I was 16. We have lived together for more than six years and have accumulated lots of furniture and household items. I'm beginning to think he is not the right man for me, but fear it will be difficult to leave him. His parents gave us most of our stuff, and I'm afraid if I leave him he will feel he has the right to keep everything they gave us.

I am also having an affair with a married man I work with. He says he loves me but won't leave his wife.

In the meantime, I don't want to hurt my fiancé, but don't know what to do. Should I tell him the truth about my relationship with the married man? What about the furniture? Does he get to keep it?

CONFUSED
IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

DEAR CONFUSED: Don't waste any more time obsessing about the furniture. Tell your fiancé the truth — and the furniture distribution problem will become a lesser priority.

suggestively to a woman late at night. It's obvious it's not Mary he is talking to.

Mary just told me they are selling their home and Pete has asked her for a divorce. He said he "just doesn't want to be married anymore." I feel tremendously guilty over this and am dying to tell Mary that Pete is not as innocent as he's making himself out to be. I want to expose him for who he really is.

Two problems: I don't want to cause Mary any more heartache, and the way we found out is sort of sleazy. I know their divorce is none of my business, but I feel that Mary should know the truth. Should I tell her what I know?

HEARING "BABY" TALK
IN THE BABY'S ROOM

DEAR HEARING "BABY" TALK: The marriage is over. Why protect the guilty? I see no reason to conceal the truth from your neighbor. Tell her that you've been hearing more than baby-talk over the baby monitor — and that her husband has been having one heck of a party on the party line.

DEAR SUZANNE: Please accept my deepest sympathy for the tragic loss of your beloved brother. He was not only a hero, but also an innocent victim in a war we are committed to win. If the penny brings comfort to your mother, then it has more than served its purpose.

DEAR ABBY: My son's baby monitor is picking up conversations from my neighbor's cordless phone. On more than one occasion, my husband and I have heard my friend "Mary's" husband, "Pete," talking

Pauline Phillips and her daughter Jeanne Phillips share the pseudonym Abigail Van Buren. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

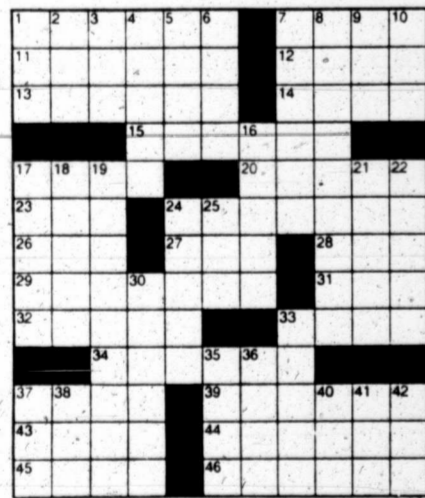
- 1 Tyrant
- 7 Castor, to
- 11 Change over time
- 12 "... and bears, —"
- 13 Bridge do-over
- 14 Ready for eating
- 15 Wrong
- 17 Spielberg thriller
- 20 Scopes
- 23 "That's gross!"
- 24 New Jersey city
- 26 Island souvenir
- 27 Tavern
- 28 One-million link
- 29 Understanding
- 31 Ignited
- 32 Actor
- 33 Lawyer's income
- 34 Deadly setting
- 37 Thrills
- 43 Polly or Em
- 44 Rita of "Oz"
- 45 Hive group
- 46 Unwavering

DOWN

- 1 German article
- 2 Time for planning
- 3 Turf
- 4 Entreaties
- 5 Track shape
- 6 Be a squealer
- 7 Bullfight star
- 8 River to Khartoum
- 9 Rascal
- 10 Comic Louis
- 16 "Hondo" star
- 17 Writer Verne
- 18 Bond, for one
- 19 Road marking
- 21 "Tomorrow" singer
- 22 Theater parts
- 24 Psychologist Alfred
- 25 Kitchen pest
- 30 Club calendar
- 33 Emergency signal
- 35 Skirt parts
- 36 Scads
- 37 Truck part
- 38 Shade
- 40 Oolong, e.g.
- 41 Terminus
- 42 Tofu source

Yesterday's answer

19 Road marking
21 "Tomorrow" singer
22 Theater parts
24 Psychologist Alfred
25 Kitchen pest
30 Club calendar
33 Emergency signal
35 Skirt parts
36 Scads
37 Truck part
38 Shade
40 Oolong, e.g.
41 Terminus
42 Tofu source



Marmaduke

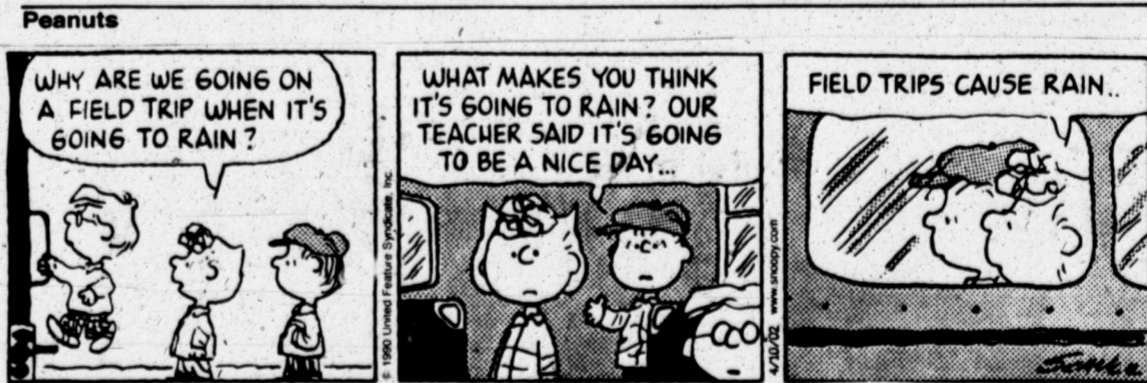


"He's on a diet where he eats what he licks!"

The Family Circus



Our substitute cartoonist sneaks out to mail today's artwork before Daddy sees it.



RODEO
VERNON Atwood of P... on in the Tri-State rodeo in Ver... end. Atwood h...

BASEBALL
ARLINGTON (AP) — Juan Texas' game against Oakland gravated his hand. Gonzalez, MVP who re... this season, le... two innings at Arlington Me... for X-rays. Th... Gonzalez has... and is day to d... It still wa... Gonzalez ap... injury. He hac... his only at-bat... a ball come h... field before he... game. Gonzalez... Thursday's ga... in the ninth in... ing the hand... missed a game... all seven ga... Tuesday night... Gonzalez is... for-24) with no... RBIs. Gonzalez p... for the first 11... career before... Detroit after th... He spent one... Tigers and wa... last year before... million, two-y... come back to...

BASKETBALL
MIAMI (AP) — Jones scored drained a 3-... second overti... the Miami H... 117 victory... Houston F... Tuesday night... The Heat... the third time... with two c... against team... records, and... their playoff... The only wa... salvage the p... win its rema... and for Milw... the rest of the... Houston... fourth straight... has lost 11 o... The Rockets h... for the first... dropping 53... 84. The game... 100 at the end... and at 109 a... overtime. Francis' 15... put the Rocke... 98 with 28 se... the fourth... Eddie House... Miami with a... the corner wit... to go. Francis... open 3-point... the buzzer, fr... time. Jones tied... 109 with 29 s... the first overti... had a chance... Rod Strickl... jumper rim... Vladimir Ste... back came aft... Jones' 3-... Miami up 118... seconds left i... OT. House mi... in the lane... scored on the... 20 seconds le... Houston's Norris misse... attempt just be... buzzer.

SPORTS

Narron has huge weekend in two sports

PAMPA — Playing two different sports, Lindsey Narron had the kind of weekend she won't soon forget.

The Pampa High senior sparked her East team at the Golden Spread All-Star Basketball Games at Cal Farley Coliseum, and was named to the all-tournament team.

Narron also found time to play for the Lady Harvesters softball team on Saturday. In Pampa's 20-3 win over Hereford, Narron cleared the fence for a home run in addition to having a double and single in the District 3-4A contest.

The 5-10 Narron, who was close in the balloting for most valuable player honors at the Golden Spread Games, scored 10 points and pulled down 10 rebounds as the East best the South 58-54 in the girls opener.

She made consecutive baskets midway through the second half that gave the East a 41-36 advantage. Her two free throws put the East

up by 11 points with 4:04 to go in the game.

Narron was the game's top rebounder and the team's second leading scorer behind Sara Clay of Randall, who had 19 points.

East played the North in the finals and lost by one point, 58-57. Narron led her team in both scoring (14 points) and rebounding (10 rebounds).

In the boys division, Pampa's Adam Rodgers made some noise for the East team.

Rodgers led the East in scoring with 18 points in a 98-85 loss to the South in the boys opener.

He also pulled down 11 rebounds. Rogers had 10 points in the consolation game, which was a 98-87 loss to the West.

The all-star games are the final opportunity for area high school seniors to showcase their talents in hopes of landing a basketball scholarship.

Many college coaches attend the games.



(Pampa News photo)

Lindsey Narron works out with the Lady Harvester softball team during a recent practice.

NOTEBOOK

RODEO

VERNON — Cody Atwood of Pampa took second in the bullriding in a Tri-State High School rodeo in Vernon last weekend.

Atwood had 70 points.

BASEBALL

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Juan Gonzalez left Texas' game Tuesday night against Oakland after he re-aggravated his bruised right hand.

Gonzalez, the two-time AL MVP who returned to Texas this season, left the game after two innings and was taken to Arlington Memorial Hospital for X-rays. The Rangers said Gonzalez has a bruised hand and is day to day.

It still wasn't clear how Gonzalez aggravated the injury. He had popped out in his only at-bat and didn't have a ball come his way in right field before he came out of the game.

Gonzalez left last Thursday's game at Oakland in the ninth inning after bruising the hand. But he hadn't missed a game, having started all seven games through Tuesday night.

Gonzalez is hitting .292 (7-for-24) with no homers and no RBIs.

Gonzalez played in Texas for the first 11 seasons of his career before being traded to Detroit after the 1999 season. He spent one season with the Tigers and was in Cleveland last year before signing a \$24 million, two-year contract to come back to Texas.

BASKETBALL

MIAMI (AP) — Eddie Jones scored 26 points and drained a 3-pointer in the second overtime to help lift the Miami Heat to a 120-117 victory against the Houston Rockets on Tuesday night.

The Heat won for only the third time in 11 games, with two of the wins against teams with losing records, and barely kept their playoff hopes alive. The only way Miami can salvage the playoffs is to win its remaining games and for Milwaukee to lose the rest of the way.

Houston dropped its fourth straight game and has lost 11 of its last 13. The Rockets have 50 losses for the first time since dropping 53 during 1983-84.

The game was tied at 100 at the end of regulation and at 109 after the first overtime.

Francis' 15-foot jumper put the Rockets ahead 100-98 with 28 seconds left in the fourth quarter, but Eddie House tied it for Miami with a jumper from the corner with 8.6 seconds to go. Francis missed an open 3-pointer just before the buzzer, forcing overtime.

Jones tied the game at 109 with 29 seconds left in the first overtime. The Heat had a chance to win, but Rod Strickland's open jumper rimmed out and Vladimir Stepania's put-back came after the buzzer.

Jones' 3-pointer put Miami up 118-117 with 55 seconds left in the second OT. House missed a runner in the lane, but Stepania scored on the follow with 20 seconds left.

Houston's Moochie Norris missed a 3-point attempt just before the final buzzer.

PD run-ruled by Harvesters

PAMPA — Pampa produced an 8-run fourth inning to run-rule Palo Duro 14-2 in a District 3-4A game Tuesday at Harvester Field.

The win evened the Harvesters' district record at 4-4. The Dons fell to 2-6.

Pampa's fourth-inning scoring spree was highlighted by a bases-loaded home run by third baseman Ryan Zemanek, his second grand slam of the season.

First baseman Adam Jones contributed a two-run homer in the third inning that gave Pampa a 5-1 lead. Jones also added a run-scoring triple in the second inning.

Kyle Francis, Evan Miller and Zemanek had run-scoring singles. Jered Snelgrooves had a base hit.

Junior pitcher Max Simon (3-3) gave up five hits while striking out seven and walking four in picking up the win.

Pampa travels to Hereford for a 1 p.m. game Saturday.

Norman surprised to be back at Augusta National

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Greg Norman could have sent his regrets to Augusta National Golf Club. No one would have blamed him.

Or, if the Shark didn't want to seem ungracious, there were more creative ways to avoid the course that has haunted him throughout his career.

Uhh, I'm building a new golf course that week ... My private jet is in the shop ... The dog ate my special invitation.

"I never expected to be here," Norman said Tuesday. "So I feel very fortunate. I'm enjoying every step. I kind of feel like I'm going back 20 years ago."

Norman wouldn't have been playing the Masters this year under any of the regular criteria. A week before Christmas, however, the Aussie received an unexpected gift: a special invitation reserved for foreign-born players.

So, at 47, Norman has another chance to win a tournament that seemingly takes warped pleasure out of antagonizing him.

Three times, he's been the runner-up. Only a victory would soften the memory of his 1996 collapse, when he squandered a six-stroke lead to Nick Faldo with a final-round 78.

Then again, Norman never considered turning down the invitation.

"This event is the most unique in the world," he said. "It's the nectar of the game of golf, quite honestly. Everything is organized and respected around here."

Norman altered his schedule to get ready. No longer a regular member of the PGA Tour, he had planned to play most of his 12 allotted tournaments during the summer. Once Augusta called, he signed up for four tournaments leading up to the Masters.

Norman's best showing was a tie for 23rd in Houston, and he also tied for 33rd at Doral. He withdrew at Bay Hill after one round because of a twinge in his back, and failed to make the cut at The Players Championship.

Then there are the little things. Not expecting to play the first major of the year, Norman didn't even bother to rent the house where he usually stays in Augusta.

When the Masters begins Thursday, Tiger Woods will be favored to join Jack Nicklaus and Nick Faldo as the only repeat winners.

In the right conditions, Norman feels as though he can be a contender, too.

So, what else is new?

During an amazing four-year span in the late '80s, Norman never finished lower than fifth — including a couple of runner-up showings.

Four more times in the '90s, Norman was sixth or better. Three years ago, he was coming off shoulder surgery and had barely played in the preceding months, yet still gave it a run Sunday before losing by three strokes to Jose Maria Olazabal.

For good measure, Norman shares the course record (63) with Nick Price.

"My chances personally?" Norman said. "I like it if the golf course stays the way it is. If we get a deluge and the ball plugs and doesn't roll, different story. I don't carry the ball as long as some of these young kids do."

Dumas ends Lady Harvesters' five-game winning streak

DUMAS — Dumas ended Pampa's five-game winning streak, defeating the Lady Harvesters 9-5 in District 3-4A softball action Tuesday.

"We played well, but we had one bad inning where we gave up four runs. We had six hits, but we had six errors and that really killed us," said Pampa head coach Rod Porter.

One of those hits was a double by Lindsey Narron.

Pampa holds down fourth place in the district standings with a 4-4 record. For the season, the Lady Harvesters are 11-11. They could qualify for the playoffs by winning three of their last four games.

Dumas is in first place with a 9-1 record. The Demonettes are 15-6 overall.

Pampa hosts Amarillo Caprock at 4:30 Friday at Optimist Park.

Pampa lost to Dumas 14-9

in yesterday's junior varsity game.

Texas slips by Rice

AUSTIN (AP) — Eric Sultemeier singled in the game winning run in the top of the 10th inning Tuesday night to give Texas a 3-2 victory over Rice.

Each team was scoreless through the first three innings.

In the top of the fourth, the Owls took a 1-0 lead when Vincent Sinisi, who led off with a double, scored on an infield single and a throwing error.

Texas (29-9) came back to lead 2-1 in the fifth on an RBI single by Tim Moss and a bases-loaded walk to Omar Quintanilla.

Rice (28-8) tied the game in the top of the seventh as leadoff hitter Chris Kolkhorst laid down a safety squeeze bunt with runners on second and third and one out.

THE Pampa NEWS

403 W. ATCHISON • PAMPA, TEXAS
TELEPHONES: (806) 669-2525
1-800-687-3348 • FAX: 669-2520

EMAIL: kbd@pan-tex.net • pamnews1@pan-tex.net
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Finley comes back for Indians; Tigers still struggling

By **JOSH DUBOW**
AP Sports Writer

Taking the mound for the first time this season helped Chuck Finley put aside his problems at home. The Detroit Tigers can't go anywhere to avoid their difficulties.

Finley, who skipped his first start last week after a domestic dispute with his wife, pitched six shutout innings Tuesday night as Cleveland won its sixth straight game, 5-4 over Minnesota.

Finley missed his start on April 3 in Anaheim after his wife, actress Tawny Kitaen, was arrested for allegedly assaulting him while the couple was driving home. Kitaen was charged with spousal abuse and battery.

"I went out there and let it all go," Finley said. "I enjoy

being with my teammates. I had people come up to me and say, 'Tough week, buddy.' We have a lot of great guys on this team."

In Detroit, Frank Thomas hit his 350th career homer to spoil Luis Pujols' debut as Tigers manager and the Chicago White Sox won 8-2.

The Tigers (0-7) are off to their worst start since losing their first eight games in 1952. There were just 11,833 tickets sold for the game — and even fewer fans showed up — making it the smallest crowd in the two-plus seasons of Comerica Park.

"Welcome to the big leagues," Pujols said. "That was tough."

In other AL games, it was Oakland 5, Texas 4; the Yankees 5, Toronto 2; Boston 8, Kansas City 4; and Seattle 5, Anaheim 1. The Tampa Bay-Baltimore game was

AL Roundup

Milton Bradley hit a two-run homer. Ricky Gutierrez had two RBIs and Matt Lawton hit a solo shot off Joe Mays (0-2) as the Indians, who were expected to struggle during a transition season, improved to 7-1 in front of the smallest crowd ever at Jacobs Field.

Indians manager Charlie Manuel had been more concerned about how Finley would pitch following a 10-day layoff than the 39-year-old's emotional state.

But once Finley started throwing, Manuel relaxed. Finley allowed four hits and four walks, striking out seven. "He handles things good," Manuel said. "He keeps his composure. He pitched a Finley game. We needed him out there."

Carlos Lee and Royce Clayton drove in two runs each, and Magglio Ordonez hit three doubles and scored twice for Chicago, which had lost four of five since winning the season opener.

"We don't even have the machine rolling yet," Clayton said. "But when we do get rolling, we're going to be tough to beat."

Dan Wright (1-0) gave up two runs, five hits, and struck out four in 7 1-3 innings to get the win.

Steve Sparks (0-1) allowed four runs — three earned — on eight hits and two walks.

"I tried to make sure that I didn't try to do things that were beyond my capabilities," Sparks said. "We keep telling each other that, 'Don't try to do too much,' but it is human nature. Everyone wants to be the guy that helps this team get out of this

slump." **Athletics 5, Rangers 4, 11 innings**

John Rocker blew his first save chance for Texas, and visiting Oakland beat the Rangers on Greg Myers' RBI single in the 11th.

Eric Chavez homered twice for Oakland, including a solo shot in the 10th off Rudy Seanez (0-1). Texas rallied for one run off Billy Koch (2-0) in the bottom half, but the Rangers couldn't score the winning run despite having the bases loaded and nobody out.

Yankees 5, Blue Jays 2

At Toronto, Mike Mussina allowed two hits in eight innings, and Rondell White hit a tiebreaking two-run homer in the eighth New York won its seventh straight.

Raul Mondesi and Felipe Lopez hit solo homers off Mussina (2-0) for Toronto's

only hits. Mariano Rivera pitched the ninth for his fourth save.

Toronto has dropped five straight.

Red Sox 8, Royals 4

Nomar Garciaparra and Manny Ramirez homered for Boston off Dan Reichert (0-2) to back an encouraging outing from Tim Wakefield (1-0) at Fenway Park.

The Red Sox also got home runs from Jason Varitek and Brian Daubach, who had three of Boston's 15 hits.

Mariners 5, Angels 1

Mark McLemore hit a two-run homer and John Halama (1-0) pitched six strong innings as Seattle won its 10th straight game in Anaheim.

Kevin Appier (0-1) gave up two runs and five hits in seven innings. He walked two and struck out six, including Carlos Guillen all three times he faced him.

Diamondbacks are encouraged by Stottlemire's return

By **MIKE FITZPATRICK**
AP Sports Writer

Todd Stottlemire showed his stuff is still good enough to win. That's good news for the Arizona Diamondbacks, who need someone other than Randy Johnson or Curt Schilling that can.

The San Diego Padres spoiled Stottlemire's first start in nearly 19 months, beating the Diamondbacks 5-2 Tuesday night.

Pitching for the first time since Sept. 21, 2000, Stottlemire gave up a three-run homer to Ryan Klesko and a two-run shot to Phil Nevin during a five-inning stint.

Still, after missing all of last season with a nerve problem in his right shoulder, the 36-year-old Stottlemire looked sharp at times.

"It was tough because I really had a tough time getting any rhythm out there,"

he said. "It was a battle. Every pitch was a battle. Of course, I knew it was going to be like that. I knew it wasn't going to be easy. It is a great feeling being back out there, going through that grind, though."

The Diamondbacks sure could use another reliable starter. The defending World Series champions dropped to 0-4 without Johnson or Schilling on the mound.

With two on and two outs in the fifth, Arizona manager Bob Brenly had reliever Eddie Oropesa warmed up in time to face Klesko. But Brenly left Stottlemire in the game, and Klesko connected for a 5-1 lead.

"He threw extremely well," Brenly said. "He threw so well that I let my heart get in the way of my head. I wanted to get him a win in his first game back."

In other games, it was Los Angeles 3, San

NL Roundup

Francisco 0; Philadelphia 7, Atlanta 4; Chicago 2, New York 0; St. Louis 6, Milwaukee 5; and Colorado 10, Houston 5.

Klesko, who hit 30 homers last year, had been 0-for-12 this season. He missed the last two weeks of spring training, then served a four-game suspension for his role in a spring training brawl with Anaheim.

Coming off 1 1/2 years of surgeries and rehabilitation, Stottlemire (0-1) threw 98 pitches, allowing five runs and five hits. The right-hander struck out three and walked three.

"He pitched good. The guy's made a tremendous comeback," said Klesko, adding that Stottlemire threw some "nasty" split-fingered fastballs.

"I know he's as big of a gamer as there is," Nevin said. "I'm sure he was

pumped to get back out on the mound. He hasn't been out there in a long time."

Bobby Jones (1-0), also suspended for his role in the spring training brawl with the Angels, won his first start of the season after a miserable 2001. Jones was 8-19 last year, barely avoiding becoming baseball's first 20-game loser in 21 years.

Trevor Hoffman got three outs for his second save.

Dodgers 3, Giants 0

Hideo Nomo (1-1) pitched four-hit ball into the eighth inning at Pacific Bell Park, holding Barry Bonds in check, and Los Angeles snapped San Francisco's six-game winning streak.

Shawn Green homered for the Dodgers, who have won four straight after dropping their first three games of the season to the Giants at Dodger Stadium.

The Giants (6-1) had been the last unbeaten team

in the majors. Their 6-0 start was their best since opening 7-0 in 1930. Bonds went 1-for-4 with a single.

Phillies 7, Braves 4

Scott Rolen homered and drove in the go-ahead run with a double in the seventh for host Philadelphia.

Mike Lieberthal had two hits and two RBIs, and the Phillies' offense finally got going with season highs in runs and hits (11).

Cubs 2, Mets 0

Jon Lieber (1-0) allowed two hits in eight innings on a cold day at Wrigley Field, and Chicago scored more than one run for the first time in four games.

Corey Patterson and Augie Ojeda had RBIs for the Cubs, who stranded 15 runners. Antonio Alfonseca pitched the ninth for his first save.

Steve Trachsel (0-2) again pitched well but lost.

Cardinals 6, Brewers 5

Eli Marrero extended his sizzling start with three hits, raising his average to

.733, and scored the go-ahead run as St. Louis beat Milwaukee at Busch Stadium.

Marrero, who entered the season as a .229 hitter and the No. 3 catcher, has been playing the outfield and is 11-for-15 with a home run and five RBIs.

Dave Veres (1-0) pitched two innings for the win. Jason Istringhausen struck out three for his first save.

Rockies 10, Astros 5

Gary Bennett hit a three-run homer, John Thomson (2-0) won his second straight start and Colorado snapped a four-game losing streak.

Todd Zeile and Jose Ortiz added two-run homers for the Rockies, who entered as the worst-hitting team in the National League (.225). Todd Helton broke out of an early season slump with three hits and two RBIs at Coors Field.

Shane Reynolds (1-1) gave up six runs and eight hits in 5 2-3 innings.

Pampa's Coffee wins 300, 110 hurdles at Hereford Middle School track meet

HEREFORD— Pampa 7th grader James Coffee won both the 300 and 110 hurdles at a middle school track meet in Hereford.

Coffee was also on the 400-meter relay team with Chris Stabel, Marcos Campos and Chase Harris which came in first.

Middle School Boys Track Meet at Hereford

Pampa results 8th Grade Division

Team standings: Pampa, 7th place, 8 points. 400 relay: 5. (Cooper Brazile, Colby Scott, Tyson Williams and John Johnson), 50.63. 100 hurdles: 4. Taylor Fatheree, 19.03.

7th Grade Division

Team standings: Pampa, 4th place, 89 points

out of 9 teams. 400 relay: 1. (Chris Stabel, Marcos Campos, James Coffee and Chase Harris), 50.00. 800: 3. Brett Ferrell, 2:36.84; 5. Jesse Chavez, 2:40.37. 110 hurdles: 1. James Coffee, 18.69; 2. Kyle Irvin, 19.72. 100: 5. Chase Harris, 12.53. 400: 2. Devon Shults, 60.61. 300 hurdles: 1. James Coffee, 48.90; 3. Kyle Irvin, 52.60. 200: 6. Marcos Campos, 27.08. High jump: 3. Marcos Campos; 4. James Coffee. 1600 run: 5. Matt Trusty, 5:50.43. Triple jump: 5. Tyler Hall, 29-08. Shot put: 2. James Coffee, 39-02.

Trotter says Texans on top of his list

HOUSTON (AP) — Linebacker Jeremiah Trotter, freed by the Philadelphia Eagles to negotiate with other clubs, said Tuesday night he will meet with the Houston Texans in hopes of coming to terms on a contract.

"I was born and raised a Texan, so to have an opportunity to play in my home state would be like a dream come true," Trotter told the Houston Chronicle in Wednesday's editions.

He was expected to visit Texans officials Wednesday and tour the team's facilities.

Trotter played high school football in Hooks, about 20 miles west of Texarkana, and played his college ball at Stephen F. Austin in Nacogdoches.

The Texans will utilize four linebackers in their 3-4 defense, meaning Trotter would provide another body for a defense that needs lots of depth at his position.

"I've never played in a 3-4 defense, but from what I've been told, it's a line-

backer's dream," Trotter said. "I know Dom Capers is a defensive-minded coach, so to get a chance to play for him would be exciting."

Charley Casserly, Texans general manager, said Trotter is good enough to start for any team in the league.

Trotter made the Pro Bowl last season for the second time.

"He's an excellent inside linebacker. The timing of it is difficult for everybody in the league because most people including us have spent our money and our cap room, and now a player like this comes available," Casserly told Houston television station KRIV.

After a bitter dispute, Trotter became an unrestricted free agent last week when the Eagles lifted the franchise tag. Under the franchise tag, if Trotter stayed with the Eagles, he would have been forced to accept a one-year contract worth about \$5.5 million, based on an average of the league's five highest-paid lineback-

ers. Then the Eagles withdrew the one-year offer. Eagles coach Andy Reid said it was in everyone's best interest to let Trotter "explore other options."

Trotter said he had planned to accept the Eagles' one-year offer, until the team withdrew it. Trotter's agent, Jimmy Sexton, called the move "underhanded," saying the Eagles hurt his client's chances of finding another team by waiting until other teams filled their needs at linebacker before making their decision.

Both Cleveland and Pittsburgh signed linebackers on Friday.

Trotter signed a one-year deal last April, but wanted a long-term deal in the range of Baltimore Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis.

Trotter had 164 tackles last season to lead the Eagles for the third straight year.

He added 3 1/2 sacks and two interceptions, including one returned for a touchdown.

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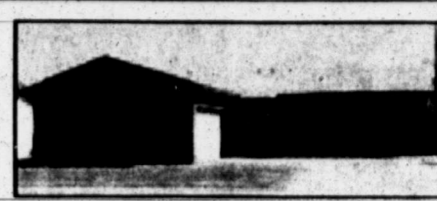


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Horoscope

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2002
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 playfulness takes you in a new direction. Review a matter that's close to your heart with that special person. Good feelings flow between you and another. Go with the moment. Carefully trust your intuition, especially regarding a friend. Tonight: Be a free spirit.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
**** Say little to another's vague requests. Finances might not be as clear as you would like. A discussion might be long overdo between you and another. A must appearance in the near future will prove to be a happy and positive event. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
**** Reach out for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Though you might not be too sure about the method of getting there, trust that you'll find the path. Your unusually sober perspective might need some lightening up. Return a long-distance call. Tonight: Get into weekend mode.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
**** Everyone turns to you to find answers. Your vision could change substantially as to what might work concerning feedback from a partner. Don't take this person's word as the final say.

so. Rather, keep exploring different avenues. Tonight: Work late.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
**** Right now your imagination knows no limits. Work with a changeable situation. Don't nix another's contributions. Recognize that this person could feel quite limited. Don't add to his or her pressure. Brainstorm and support others' additions. Tonight: Hop on the Net.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
**** Let someone make a greater contribution to your work and personal lives. Gather his or her input about how to deal with a significant other. Your imagination takes no inroads and leads you down another path. Consider someone's priorities, please. Tonight: Say "yes" to a close friend or loved one.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
**** Allow another to take charge, even if you often don't agree with this person. An opportunity comes your way that might be too good to be true. Detach and check out this offer on your own. You also might want to hop on the Net. Tonight: Continue riding in another's wake.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
**** Pace yourself. A family member, perhaps, wants to play a greater role in your day-to-day life. Discuss what this might look like. Some of you might be considering a home office. Know that anything is possible. Look at new opportunities. Tonight: Clear off your desk.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
**** Your naturally warm ways

draw someone closer. Attached Archers could find themselves between a flirtation and a secure partnership. Express your thoughts to a loved one or friend who means a lot to you. Walk a conservative path. Tonight: Romp on.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
**** When you take an action to enhance your security, someone close responds far more positively than you ever anticipated. Still, be careful of any time, physical or financial commitments you make. You might be closer to burning out than you think. Tonight: Happy at home.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
**** Express your dreams and ideas to others. Let another put concrete form to your self-expression. If someone demands more-solid plans, let this person know that in several days you'll come up with them. Give yourself space to create. Tonight: Brainstorm with buddies.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
**** You see ways to make money that others don't. On the other hand, you could head down a path that could be more problematic than you realize. Listen to an adviser, even if you think this person might be raining on your parade. Tonight: At home.
BORN TODAY
Socialite Ethel Kennedy (1928), designer Oleg Cassini (1913), actor Meshach Taylor (1960)

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is L O N G F E L L O W
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.
4-10 CRYPTOQUOTE
F D F S R H G U X G L U B Q
V B S U X W Q I G L W O D F S
L M B B U W U I W L H B C Q I
— P F S D G U Q F L
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: I DO NOT LOVE HIM BECAUSE HE IS GOOD, BUT BECAUSE HE IS MY CHILD. — TAGORE

Chavez accuses workers of plotting against him

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — President Hugo Chavez lashed out at striking oil workers in a nationally televised speech, accusing them of trying to overthrow him and cripple Venezuela, one of the world's biggest oil exporters.

"No one stops Venezuela, especially a diminished number of oligarchs, of corrupt ones," Chavez said in the speech late Tuesday. "They're still trying to defend their privileges."

Chavez said labor, business and political leaders were trying to trigger a military coup by fomenting unrest with a general strike on Tuesday. He accused journalists of exaggerating the size of the strike and urged his supporters to be alert for conspiracies against his 3-year-old government.

"One day, I want to sheathe my sword," Chavez said. "But today I draw my sword again" to defeat the conspiracy, he proclaimed to cheers from a crowd of thousands.

Labor strife at Petroleos de Venezuela has cut oil production and exports, rattled oil markets and raised fears about the political instability of this South American nation.

The country is among the top four oil exporters worldwide, sending nearly 1 million barrels of crude daily to the United States alone. That makes it the No. 3 U.S. supplier.

A workers' slowdown all but shut down one of the world's biggest refineries Tuesday, closed another, and

brought ship deliveries to a near-standstill. Chavez defiantly insisted that production was normal.

Venezuela usually sends 400,000 barrels of refined products such as gasoline daily to the United States, as well as 1.3 million barrels of crude. Its troubles follow Iraq's suspension of exports to demand that Israel abandon Palestinian territories.

"I have a dozen vessels lined up, waiting for loading," said one shipping agent at the port of Puerto La Cruz. More than 20 tankers were waiting at the nation's main terminals, industry sources said.

On Tuesday, Fedecamaras, Venezuela's biggest business group, and the 1 million-member Venezuelan Workers Confederation launched a 24-hour general strike and later extended it by another 24 hours, or until Thursday, to support dissident workers at Petroleos de Venezuela. They warned they may continue indefinitely to weaken Chavez's government.

Confederation chief Carlos Ortega demanded that Chavez rescind his Feb. 25 appointment of a company board that is opposed by Petroleos de Venezuela executives. The managers fear the board will work to assert Chavez's control over a traditionally independent corporation.

Chavez insists the board is qualified and his appointments are based on the law.

During Tuesday's general strike, the government used a law that forced all broadcast media to repeat government announcements that the strike

was a failure.

Labor and business leaders declared the strike a success, though Fedecamaras director Gregorio Rojas acknowledged it wasn't as inclusive as a Dec. 10 strike that virtually paralyzed the country. Tuesday's strike, he noted, was called only on Sunday.

Bands of Chavez supporters known as "Bolivarian Circles" clashed with strikers outside the oil company's headquarters. At least 18 people were injured, many of them Chavez supporters, police at the scene said.

A Caracas city official, Nestor Henriquez, was dragged from a car by strikers and beaten before he fled under a hail of rocks. Richard Blanco, an official with the opposition Democratic Action party, accused Henriquez of belonging to "the armed gangs which (Chavez) incites with his aggressive rhetoric."

CCS fund-raiser banquet



(Courtesy photo)

Angela Bachler prepares the centerpiece for the upcoming Community Christian School fund-raiser banquet with help from daughter Amelia and Blake Chisum. The banquet is scheduled at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 11 in M.K. Brown Heritage Room. Tickets are available at the school office.

Columbian capitol edgy after string of bombings

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Colombia's capital was on edge after a string of bombings — including one that killed two police officers — and the launching of two homemade mortars near the presidential palace.

A parked car with a body inside blew up Tuesday, killing two members of a bomb squad south of Bogota. Two small bombs also exploded in a downtown commercial district of the capital, injuring four people, including a 6-year-old girl who was reported in critical condition.

As news of the explosions spread through Bogota, police spent much of the day rushing around the city, responding to bomb scares. Police blamed the bombings on the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, who have been fighting a guerrilla war against the government for 38 years.

"The thing that is so unfair is that all of us innocent people have to pay for the war that is happening here, especially the children," said Nelson Cuervo, 35, who rushed to get his child out of a school near the presidential palace after police found a vehicle used to launch mortars nearby. Two unexploded mortar shells were found in nearby parks and deactivated.

The attacks began before dawn Tuesday, when police found a car abandoned on a rural road 25 miles south of Bogota with a corpse and bags inside. Fearing the bags contained explosives, the police didn't touch the car or try to remove the unidentified body, and called the bomb squad.

When two bomb squad officers tried to open a car door, the car exploded. Both policemen were killed.

Four hours later, two small bombs exploded in manholes in downtown Bogota within minutes of each other, injuring the four people. The explosions flung up the manhole covers and broke up sections of concrete.

Police also found another small bomb in a manhole, evacuated shops and businesses in the area, and safely detonated it.

Police searching nearby homes and businesses for the bombers captured an accused drug trafficker wanted for extradition by the United States, Victor Patino Fomeque, a convicted member of the now-defunct Cali drug trafficking cartel, was found in a hotel police were searching, prosecutors told The Associated Press.

The administrative police said they captured four suspected rebels in Bogota on Tuesday afternoon.

Russia says it foiled CIA activity

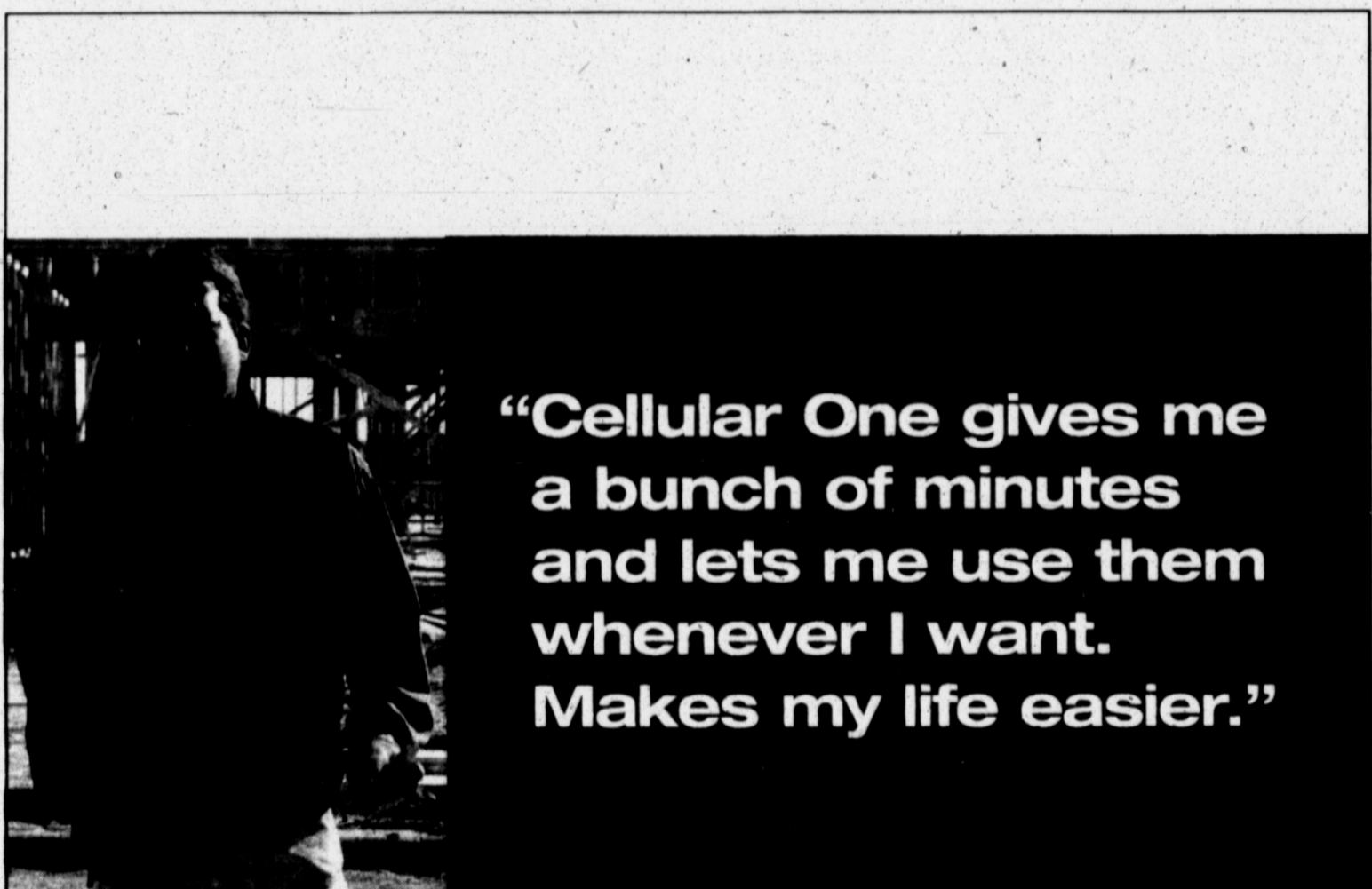
MOSCOW (AP) — Russia's main security service said Wednesday it had thwarted efforts by the CIA to obtain classified information about new Russian weaponry and about Russian military cooperation with ex-Soviet republics.

A spokesman for the Federal Security Service, the Soviet-era KGB's chief successor, said CIA officers posing as embassy officials in Russia and another, unidentified ex-Soviet republic had tried to recruit an employee at a secret Russian Defense Ministry installation.

The security service interfered at an early stage and was able to monitor the CIA officers' activities and prevent serious damage to Russia's security, the spokesman said on condition of anonymity.

The service named two alleged participants in the operation, including a third secretary in the U.S. Embassy's consular department.

The U.S. Embassy in Moscow would not comment on the accusation, which comes after a string of Russian-U.S. spy scandals over the past couple of years.



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