

OBITUARIES

CLARENCE 'WES' GRIFFIN
1946-2003

Clarence "Wes" Griffin, 56, of Pampa, died Thursday, Feb. 13, 2003, at Amarillo. The body was cremated and will not be available for viewing. Memorial services will be at 3 p.m., today in Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ with Rodney Tedford, minister of the church, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Griffin was born Sept. 22, 1946, at Oklahoma City, Okla. He moved to Pampa six years ago. He married Judith Purcell on Sept. 13, 1992, at Colorado Springs, Colo.

He worked as a certified chef, was a cross country truck driver and owned a security and a janitorial company. He was a NASCAR enthusiast and built his own "street rods."

He was a POW and a decorated veteran of the U.S. Air Force, serving during the Vietnam War.

He was a member of Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence M. Griffin and Eulala Wright Griffin.

Survivors include his wife, Judith, of the home; a son, John Griffin of Pampa; three stepsons, Randy Wehrman, both of Arizona, and Charles Wehrman of Kentucky; four stepdaughters, Jenny Wehrman of Kentucky, Judy Weese of Indiana, Katherine Lipps of Iowa and Beth Skoczek of South Carolina; a sister, Lorrie Robledo of Brownwood; a brother, Charles Griffin of Borger; and 15 grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to American Lung Association or to Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.



LEE CROW
1921-2002

Lee Crow, 81, of Pampa, died Thursday, Feb. 13, 2003, at Pampa, Texas. Services will be at 10:30 a.m., Monday, Feb. 17, 2003, at the First Baptist Church with Dr. Randy White, pastor of the First Baptist Church, and the Rev. Richard Bartel, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Crow was born Oct. 17, 1921, in Twitty and graduated from Shamrock High School. She came to Pampa in 1941 from Shamrock. She married Floyd Crow on June 2, 1940, at Twitty. He preceded her in death in 1993. She had been a member of the First Baptist Church since 1941.

She was a member of the Business & Professional Women's Sunday School Class and was active in prayer ministry.

She worked at the Pampa Army Air Base, Central Baptist Church office, Crow's Humble Service Station and Dunlaps.

In 1966, she went to work for Zales Jewelers, retiring as store manager in 1983. She was assistant manager at Pampa Mall in the mid 1980s. She lectured for three years with Weight Watchers of Texas all around the

Panhandle and worked at Jackie's Furniture for two years.

Since 1997, she has served as secretary of the Pampa Fine Arts Association.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Rod and Ann Crow of Pampa; a daughter and son-in-law, Vickie and Gary Epperson of Pampa; a sister, Lanell Trostle of Lela; seven grandchildren, Melody Feil, Greg Epperson and Chad Epperson, all of Pampa, Aprille Epperson of Jacksboro, Brandie Watson of Petrolia, Cliff Dyer of Geeson, Germany, and Christopher Crow of Amarillo; and 10 great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to First Baptist Church, 203 N. West, Pampa, TX, 79065; or Pampa Fine Arts Association, P.O. Box 818, Pampa, TX 79066-0818.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.



LORA STAIGER
1946-2003

AMARILLO — Lora Staiger, 56, died Thursday, Feb. 6, 2003, at Gallup, N.M. Services will be at 2 p.m., Monday, Feb. 17, 2003, at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel in Pampa with Dr. Delbert White, pastor of the Central Park Baptist Church in Carrollton, and the Rev. Charles Lowry, pastor of the Fellowship Baptist Church in Pampa, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Staiger was born Sept. 3, 1946, at Memphis, Texas. She married Bob Staiger on Jan. 1, 1979, at Pampa. She had been an Amarillo resident for 24 years.

She was a Baptist and a homemaker. She was preceded in death by her parents,

Leo and Virginia Davis, and two sisters.

Survivors include her husband, Bob, of the home; a son, David Lewis of San Francisco, Calif.; a daughter and son-in-law, Michelle and John Forguson of Amarillo; two stepsons and wives, Dennis and Jan Staiger of Terrell and David and Sun So Staiger of Corpus Christi; a brother, Gene Davis of Anchorage, Alaska; 11 grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.



SERVICES TOMORROW

CROW, Lee — 10:30 a.m., First Baptist Church, Pampa.

GRIFFIN, Clarence "Wes" — Memorial services, 3 p.m., Sunday, Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ, Pampa.

STAIGER, Lora — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

ON RECORD

POLICE

Pampa Police Department made the following arrest during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m., Saturday, according to Gray County Jail records.

Saturday, Feb. 15

Sammy Devron Laury, 29, of Amarillo, was arrested on a warrant for contempt of court out of Bexar County.

AMBULANCE

Rural/ Metro Ambulance Service responded to the following call during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m., Saturday.

Saturday, Feb. 15

4:11 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to 700 block of Lowry and transported one to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

SHERIFF

Gray County Sheriff's Department reported no arrests or incidents during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m., Saturday.

FIRE

Pampa Fire Department received no emergency calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m., Saturday.

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

Today's forecast is calling for partly cloudy skies, highs in the upper 40s and northeast winds 5 to 15 mph. Tonight should be partly cloudy with lows in the upper 20s. Washington's Birthday should be partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s. Monday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s. Tuesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the lower

60s. Tuesday night, mostly cloudy. Slight chance of rain. Lows in the lower 40s. Chance of rain 20 percent. Wednesday, partly cloudy. Slight chance of rain. Highs in the lower 60s. Chance of rain 20 percent. Wednesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Thursday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s.

Sacrificial animals seized from Houston home

HOUSTON (AP) — Authorities seized 12 goats, 11 chickens and two pigeons about to be sacrificed from a north Houston home, and the family that practices Santeria rituals said it is considering filing a religious freedom lawsuit.

The five residents of the home, ages 19 to 76, said they had purchased the animals earlier in the day at a slaughterhouse and were praying for a relative in a coma.

No charges were immediately filed against the participants in the religious ritual, but the Houston SPCA seized all of the animals in the family's backyard Wednesday.

Constables responding to a report of cruelty to animals found the goats in a six by eight

pen with no food or water. The animals appeared thin, were bound by their feet, and some seemed lethargic, said Deputy Chief J.C. Mosier of the Harris County Precinct 1 Constable's office.

Bowls of animal parts and blood were found, and three pits had been dug in the yard, Mosier said.

One goat was found alive in one of the pits, with its feet bound. Three chickens were found in the enclosed area with the goats, and one of the birds had been trampled and was barely alive, he said.

Neighbors said they heard animal screams at the residence, but were afraid to call police.

Residents of the home denied that any animals were malnour-

ished or abused, and said their rights were violated by authorities who don't understand their religion.

"This is a country where there's supposed to be freedom, and without warning, they invaded the privacy of the residence," said ritual participant Rafael Zamora, 44, through a translator.

No charges were filed because a criminal offense has occurred only if someone has killed, seriously injured or poisoned an animal that does not belong to them, said Di Glaeser, chief of the district attorney's central intake division.

Health privacy rules prompt hospitals to overhaul patient information policies

By LAURA MECKLER
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — Family, friends and clergy will soon find it more difficult to get information about hospital patients under health privacy rules that give patients new power to keep their conditions secret.

Years in the making, the rules represent the first comprehensive federal protections for health privacy. They will prohibit disclosure, without patient permission, of information for reasons unrelated to health care, and there will be new civil and criminal penalties for violators.

For most organizations, they take effect April 14.

In response, hospitals across the country are revising a spectrum of policies, including those governing patient directories that have long provided basic information about conditions to anyone who asks for it.

In some hospitals, the change will mean a delay in releasing information; in others, information once readily available will be shut down.

"If you call about Aunt Sally, they're not going to be able to

tell you anything. It will be a big change," said Wilda Stanfield, spokeswoman for Centre Community Hospital in State College, Pa.

The rules will include news organizations that routinely call hospitals to learn the condition of people injured in crimes, car accidents and other noteworthy events. Information will be available only if a patient agrees. If the patient is not available to say yes or no — say, in emergency surgery — most hospitals plan to keep information confidential.

The rules also will affect members of the clergy, who often check hospital directories for members of their congregations. A delay, some warn, could make it more difficult for patients who receive daily communion and may depend on a visit from a priest or pastor.

"It will certainly reduce the amount of visitation that's done in the hospital," said Lerrill White, the chaplain at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital in Houston and liaison to the Department of Health and Human Services for the Association of Professional Chaplains. In most hospitals the rules should be workable, he

said, but patients may need to adjust their expectations.

"Patients basically expect their minister, priest or rabbi is going to show up to pay their respects, offer help and prayers," he said.

Under the new rules, hospitals must inform patients if they have directories and give them the opportunity to opt out. No information — including even that a patient is in the hospital — may be released if a patient objects.

Even if a patient should agree to a general listing, hospitals may release only limited information without specific authorization. They may disclose only where the patient is in the hospital and give a one-word condition such as good, fair, serious or critical. Hospitals may tell callers that a patient has died, but they cannot give the time or cause of death without permission from next-of-kin.

"The rules are clearly going to mean less information, not more information, is available," said Alicia Mitchell of the American Hospital Association, which last week sent guidelines for interpreting the rules to its 5,000 members.

The federal rules give hospitals flexibility for patients who have not yet had an opportunity to express a preference. HHS guidelines say the hospital may disclose information about a patient's condition if "the disclosure is in the individual's best interest as determined in the professional judgment of the provider."

Given that, most hospitals plan to withhold the information if they don't have a clear go-ahead.

"Hospitals would rather err on the side of being conservative," said Mary Becker, senior vice president for the Missouri Hospital Association.

That will sting many reporters who are trying to gather quick information about patients injured in newsworthy events, where the hospital has not had a chance to seek consent.

City Briefs

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CABOT & NOI Employees Credit Union Annual Meeting, will be held Tues., Feb. 18th, 6:30 p.m. MK Brown. All members welcome.

CHANEY'S, 716 W. Foster, Sun. 11-2 p.m. Ch. spaghetti, country style ribs, fried Polish. All You Can Eat \$7 (incl. salad bar, tea, dessert).

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HIGH & Middle School Wrestling Booster Club Meeting, Mon. 7 p.m. High School Cafeteria to discuss banquet.

KNIGHTS OF Columbus Polish Sausage Dinner March 2, 11-3, 318 N. Cuyler. \$6 in advance and \$7 at the door. For tickets contact Jack Al-bracht @ 665-7161, 665-5745.

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Day

By ROBE ASSOCIATED

LONDON (C) protests Saturdays of thousands of cities around the world in their opposition to the U.S.-led Iraq.

The British of the largest march on a day of global protests, at least a million protesters claimed, police estimates that. They hope sure on Prime Blair, who has biggest support U.S. policy.

"I feel they spend time and find a not see the only problem in the country," said 58, a child psychologist said she hadn't the protests against War in 1991.

There was turnout in Rotterdam

COUNTY

the commission allotting his departmental office space the remainder of since he had a victim assistant after the court were made.

Current plan that office on. He said to place another floor was inconvenient.

Roach asked

PROGRESS

first lien on for \$625,000 at \$437,500.

Sutherland said there will be The PEDD \$500,000 grant Texas Dairy in \$250,000 loan to Pampa area.

Moody Dairy Moody Dairy dairy in the Pampa

CONT. FROM

FAMILY

the man's slumped in a do and the girlfriend in the doorway bedroom.

Billingsley said daughters were or younger.

Authorities believe victims had been No identities were Saturday morning

"The house much a mess," said. "There's stain evidence."

He said recovered two shell casings throughout the home

Billingsley said talked to his mother Friday afternoon

"She said there were marriage but had no idea wrong."

Neighbor said he didn't know the

"The only time seen them was my daughter went scout cookies. The whole bunch."

He said he was the killings in class suburban neighborhood

"I couldn't Kuhl said. "You kids, man."

Another neighbor family lived there years and the child a nearby element

Day of global war protest draws mass marches, clashes

By ROBERT BARR
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

LONDON (AP) — Anti-war protests Saturday drew hundreds of thousands of people in cities around the world — from London to Canberra — united in their opposition to a threatened U.S.-led strike against Iraq.

The British capital had one of the largest marches for peace on a day of global protest — at least a million people, organizers claimed, although initial police estimates were about half that. They hoped to heap pressure on Prime Minister Tony Blair, who has been Europe's biggest supporter of the tough U.S. policy.

"I feel they should take more time and find an alternative, and not see the only solution to the problem in bombarding the country," said Maria Harvey, 58, a child psychologist, who said she hadn't marched since the protests against the Gulf War in 1991.

There was another huge turnout in Rome, where many

in the crowd displayed rainbow "peace" flags. Organizers claimed three million people participated, while a police official put the crowd at around 1 million.

Hundreds of thousands marched through Berlin, backing a strong anti-war stance spearheaded by Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder. Police estimated the crowd at between 300,000 and 500,000.

"We're not taking to the streets to demonstrate against the United States, or for Iraq. We're taking to the streets because we want a peaceful resolution of the Iraq conflict," said Michael Sommer, head of the German Federation of Unions.

Initial estimates in Paris said tens of thousands joined protests. Prominent in the crowd in the Place Denfert-Rochereau was a large American flag on which was scribbled in black: "Leave us alone."

Police estimated that 60,000 turned out in Oslo, Norway, 50,000 in bitter cold in

Brussels, while about 35,000 gathered peacefully in frigid Stockholm.

Crowds were estimated at 25,000 in Copenhagen, 10,000 in Amsterdam, 5,000 in Capetown and 4,000 in Johannesburg in South Africa, 5,000 in Tokyo, 3,000 in Vienna and 2,000 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

"War is not a solution, war is a problem," Czech philosopher Erazim Kohak told a crowd of about 500 in Prague.

Anti-war activists hoped to draw 100,000 people to the streets in New York City later for a protest near the United Nations. Police were planning extensive security that included sharpshooters and radiation detectors.

In Baghdad, tens of thousands of Iraqis, many carrying Kalashnikovs, demonstrated across their country to support Saddam Hussein and denounce the United States.

"Our swords are out of their sheaths, ready for battle," read one of hundreds of banners carried by marchers along

Palestine Street, a broad Baghdad avenue.

Many Iraqis hoisted giant pictures of Saddam and some burned American and Israeli flags, while in neighboring Damascus, protesters chanted anti-U.S. and anti-Israeli slogans as they marched to the People's Assembly.

Najjah Attar, a former Syrian cabinet minister, accused Washington of attempting to change the region's map. "The U.S. wants to encroach upon our own norms, concepts and principles," she said in Damascus. "They are reminding us of the Nazi and fascist times."

Braving biting cold and snow flurries in Ukraine, some 2,000 people rallied in Kiev's central square. Anti-globalists led a peaceful "Rock Against War" protest joined by communists, socialists, Kurds and pacifists.

Natalya Mostenko, 45, was one of several people in Kiev carrying a portrait of Saddam. "He opposes American dictatorship and so do I," she said.

In the Bosnian city of Mostar, about a hundred Muslims and Croats united for an anti-war protest — the first such cross-community action in seven years in a place where

ethnic divisions here remain tense despite the 1995 Bosnian peace agreement.

"We want to say that war is evil and that we who survived one know that better than anyone," said Majda Hadzic, 54.

In divided Cyprus, about 500 Greeks and Turks braved heavy rain for a march which briefly blocked the end of a runway at a British air base.

Several thousand protesters in Athens, Greece, unfurled a giant banner across the wall of the ancient Acropolis — "NATO, U.S. and EU equals War" — before heading toward the U.S. Embassy.

Four former '70s radicals sentenced to 6-8 years for deadly bank robbery

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Four graying former members of the Symbionese Liberation Army — the '70s radical group that kidnapped newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst — were sentenced to prison terms ranging from six to eight years Friday for a deadly 1975 bank robbery.

The sentences were largely spelled out in a plea bargain reached by the former radicals in November.

Before they were sentenced, three of the four apologized to the family of Myrna Opsahl, the bank customer who was killed by a shotgun blast during the holdup 27 years ago while depositing her church collection.

"I will be sorry for the rest of my life," said Emily Montague, 55, who was formerly known as Emily Harris. It was her gun that fired the deadly blast; she has said it went off accidentally.

Montague's ex-husband, William Harris, 58, addressed Opsahl's son, saying: "I've thought about your mother a lot. Your mother was never an abstraction to me. It's absolutely unacceptable that this happened."

Montague was sentenced to eight years in prison, Harris to seven years, and Michael Bortin, 54, and Sarah Jane Olson, 55, to six years each. Olson — who was known as Kathleen Soliah during her SLA days — was the only one, who did not address the court.

The four bank robbery was intended to fund the activities of the revolutionary group.

Superior Court Judge Thomas Cecil acknowledged that the Board of Prison Terms could still extend the sentences agreed to by all sides, but he discouraged such an action, saying he and everyone involved had carefully considered the long history of the case in making their recommendations.

"We recognize the seriousness of the crimes that occurred in 1975," he said. But he said the prospects of the defendants are clear: "We need not guess whether these defendants will function in society. We have seen it."

He referred to their upstanding lives since the

crime and said, "In my view and in the view of the district attorney, none of these defendants poses a danger to society."

A fifth defendant, James Kilgore, 55, is also charged in the case. After decades underground, he was captured last year in South Africa, where he had assumed a new identity and was working as a professor.

Opsahl's son, Dr. Jon Opsahl, read a statement in which he told of the anguish his family has endured and how he had come to believe in "monsters" after his mother was killed. He said that "a group of pathetic, deranged revolutionaries decided to make my mother instantly expendable."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

COUNTY

the commission to consider allotting his department additional office space adjacent to the remainder of the DA staff since he had added a crime victim assistance coordinator after the courthouse plans were made.

Current plans are to put that office on another floor. He said to place the office on another floor would be quite inconvenient.

Roach asked that she be

allowed to utilize a room planned to be a conference room for juvenile probation prior to the decision to allow them to remain at their current location on North Hobart when the restored courthouse re-opens.

Judge Phil Vanderpool sent a letter to the court requesting the commission's consideration that he be given the courthouse office space previously allotted juvenile probation along with the conference. Vanderpool is judge for

Child Protective Services for this area. Gray County, as host county, provides him office space.

Roach told the commission if the DA's office doesn't get office space that places the staff together, he will seek another location for the department's offices outside the courthouse.

Commissioner Court took no action, but Peet said the item will be on the agenda for a decision at the Feb. 28 meeting.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

PROGRESS

first lien on the dairy was for \$625,000 and second is \$437,500.

Sutherland said it is possible there will be a foreclosure.

The PEDC gave a \$500,000 grant to Top O' Texas Dairy in addition to the \$250,000 loan to locate in the Pampa area.

Moody Dairy
Moody Dairy was the first dairy in the Pampa area, but

CONT. FROM PG. 1

FAMILY

the man's wife was slumped in a downstairs chair and the girlfriend's body was in the doorway of an upstairs bedroom.

Billingsley said the man's daughters were 10-years-old or younger.

Authorities believe all the victims had been shot once. No identities were available Saturday morning.

"The house was pretty much a mess," Billingsley said. "There's lot of blood stain evidence."

He said investigators recovered two handguns and shell casings from each throughout the house.

Billingsley said the man talked to his mother by phone Friday afternoon.

"She said that she knew there were marital problems, but had no idea anything was wrong."

Neighbor Paul Kuhl said he didn't know the family.

"The only time I've ever seen them was when me and my daughter were selling girl scout cookies. They bought a whole bunch."

He said he was shocked by the killings in the middle-class suburban neighborhood. "I couldn't understand," Kuhl said. "You don't hurt kids, man."

Another neighbor said the family lived there about three years and the children went to a nearby elementary school.

it, too, has closed its doors. The dairy combined with Top O' Texas several months ago.

PEDC gave \$1 million to Moody Dairy to locate in the area. The business began March 17, 1998.

Lewis said the only contractual requirement was that Moody Dairy must be in business a full five years or return all unexpended money to PEDC.

Sutherland said the dairy still has 2,000 acres, but are closed.

"What do we stand to recover besides spending

attorney fees if we take action?" he asked.

"These weren't the best written contracts," Phillips said. "I think it was a good faith effort on both sides."

He said he couldn't see spending a lot of money on legal fees because the matter "could be kicked around" for years.

"I think we're going to have to write-off the dairies," he said.

Next installment on the remaining PEDC projects will appear in Monday's edition.

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VIEWPOINTS

Texas' school funding crisis

With the school funding crisis being one of the hot topics this Legislative session, there are some interesting facts the people of Texas should know. Once a person focuses on the facts and history of school funding in Texas over the past 20 years, it becomes apparent how we ended up with the current funding crisis.

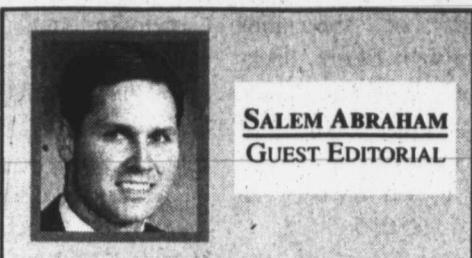
On the campaign trail, we hear politicians talk of their support for our children's education. However, the money trail tells a different story. The money trail tells how the Legislature has raised standards and given mandates, while putting most of the funding burden onto local school districts.

Over the past two decades, the Legislature has forced school boards to do the dirty work of raising taxes. Of course Austin likes to take credit for the educational accomplishments of our children and educators, but rarely mentions that they left school boards across the state in a financial bind. Only now, when school boards are at the breaking point and it is apparent the Legislature must pick up their share of the cost, has Austin declared a crisis?

In order to understand what has happened, let's look at some interesting facts, most of which can be found at the state comptroller's website, www.window.state.tx.us:

In 1980, school districts imposed total school property taxes of \$2.09 billion while the state contributed \$2.49 billion towards education. In 2001, school property taxes had risen to \$15.11 billion, while the state's education spending grew to \$11.22 billion.

School districts have paid almost two-



SALEM ABRAHAM
GUEST EDITORIAL

thirds of all new spending on education in the past 20 years. Meanwhile, from 1980 to 2001 the overall state budget has grown from \$10.21 billion to \$52.67 billion.

In 1980, the state paid 54.4% of the total cost of educating children while local ISDs paid 45.6%.

Currently the state pays only 42% of the total cost and local ISDs pay 58%. The state has shifted almost 13% of the funding burden to school districts, making their 42% share the lowest level since World War II.

The average school district property tax rate in 1985 was \$0.81. This rate has gone up each and every year since, with the 2001 average tax rate \$1.486.

The current legal cap is a property tax rate of \$1.50. Some members of the Legislature have proposed raising this cap, thereby providing the Legislature the opportunity to once again avoid their financial responsibilities.

Since the Legislature rewrote the Education Code in 1995, they have placed more than 60 unfunded or partially funded mandates on school districts.

This does not include the Legislature's largest unfunded mandate that all schools must meet much higher education standards.

In order to avoid paying approx-

imately \$750 million annually to property poor school districts out of its own pocket, the Legislature adopted Robin Hood which required other school districts to send property tax money to these districts.

Forcing school districts to raise taxes so the Legislature does not have to has resulted in animosity between school districts. Not only is Robin Hood a financial cop-out, but dividing the troops shows poor leadership.

Article 1, Section 7 of the Texas Constitution states: "A general diffusion of knowledge being essential to the preservation of the liberties and rights of the people, it shall be the duty of the Legislature of the State to establish and make suitable provision for the support and maintenance of an efficient system of public free schools."

On the bright side, there are members of the Legislature, such as Sen. Teel Bivins, who have worked very hard on behalf of education. We appreciate their efforts. However, a minority cannot get the job done, and we, the people, need to encourage more members to support measures to rectify this problem.

In order to accomplish this goal, many school board members, administrators, and concerned parents are holding a rally on the south steps of the State Capitol at 1 p.m. on Feb. 17. I encourage everyone to attend and show your support.

The children of Texas deserve more than just lip-service and expensive mandates from Austin. We need money to get the job done. See you on the 17th!

Salem Abraham is a school trustee for Canadian ISD in Canadian, Texas.

THE Pampa NEWS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

VFW Post to scale down U.S. flag flying program

Dear Editor:

As the current commander of Pampa Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1657, it is with regret that I am writing this letter. For many years, it has been our tradition to fly the casket flags of our deceased comrades at the local cemeteries. These flags were entrusted to our post under the provision they would be mounted on poles and flown each Veterans Day and Memorial Day. As you can imagine, the panhandle winds and ice have damaged many of the flags to varying degrees and some are no longer in a condition to be flown. We are currently composing a list of all flags we presently have mounted. We want to let the community know that, if anyone wishes to retrieve their loved one's flag, it will be available for pick up at our post. They may call the VFW Post at 669-1264 or John Chaney at 848-2475.

When this project began back in the late '40s, there was a substantial pool of veterans who took pride in seeing that the flags were flown with honor and dignity. Even with the faithful help of local Boy Scouts and 4-Hers, putting out over 200 flags has become a task beyond our capabilities.

Regrettably, the VFW has determined that it is now necessary to substantially reduce the scope of this project. Effective June 1, we will be flying only 50 flags at Memory Garden and 38 at Fairview cemeteries. This is not a decision made lightly, and it is something we do with very heavy hearts. However, circumstances have dictated this course of action.

John F. Chaney
Commander, VFW Post 1657

Reader questions purpose, timing of sports column

Dear Editor:

I am writing regarding the recent article in the paper by Jerry Heasley. As a long-time resident of Pampa and an educator here for many years, I find it necessary to question Mr. Heasley's opinion and his purpose.

First of all, I question some of the validity of his argument. Did he interview any of the coaches or students involved? How can a statement from an uninvolved Amarillo man prove a point about Pampa? The one statistic he does have, about 30 students being the average class size, is erroneous. One only has to check to find the school board's charge to the PHS principal John Kendall to find a way to raise the room count to a 14.4 average for next year. With such lack of logic or proof, a reader might even question Mr. Heasley's motive in so criticizing the athletic program.

Second, I question his timing and his sense of right and wrong. Why does he choose this particular time to send out such a critical message? Considering the many changes our district and PHS are going through plus the challenges approaching the students with the TAKS test, isn't this a better time to be encouraging our students, rather than discouraging them? This is also the time that new sports, such as baseball and track, are beginning, and the time that winter sports like basketball are finishing up, with the Harvesters on the way to the playoffs for the first time in seven years. Shouldn't we be cheering them on instead of tearing them down?

It is true that no system is perfect, so I'm sure that there are some things in athletics, as in all things, that could be improved. However, one must give credit when credit is due. We must start with praising PHS coaches for the good jobs that they do. Thanks Coach Doughty, thanks Coach Cavalier (and the other football coaches), and thanks Coach Schaeffer for helping the boys' baseball, football and basketball teams make it to the playoffs. Thanks for teaching these young men how to be the best that they can be and thanks for helping them to excel in athletics. Thanks, too, to the other coaches and their teams that consistently make it to the playoffs, such as tennis and swimming. I dare say that the majority of fans in Pampa join with me and encourage you to keep up the good work!

Mary Sturgeon
Pampa



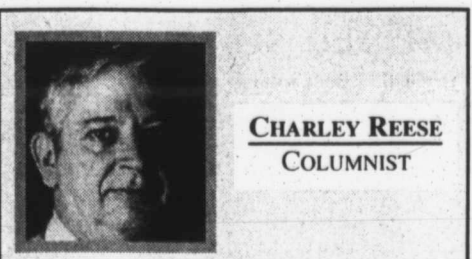
NASA must 'keep 'em flying'

The overly cautious are already calling for the grounding of the space shuttles. Their motives are pure, but risk should not be allowed to ground the space-shuttle fleet. No perfect, risk-free method or vehicle will ever be devised for space travel. It is inherently dangerous. It is only the extraordinary success of our space program that has lulled us into thinking of it as routine.

Part of the great tragedy involved in losing the Columbia and its seven astronauts is that most of us did not even know their names until the disaster occurred. Now we know what wonderful people they were. Indeed, astronauts are all exceptional people - physically fit, brave, bright, disciplined and well-educated.

Nobody keeps this secret, but unfortunately the trend in news lately has been event-oriented, with only passing mention of the human beings involved. If we concentrated more on the humans, we could probably stir more interest in the space program. I'm not technically or scientifically oriented. The machines involved look as mysterious to me as if Martians had made them. But I can identify with the human beings who ride in them and operate them.

Often, in recent years, the budget of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration has been smaller than the foreign-aid budget, something we should view with shame. One thing we could all do in addition to mourning these deaths is



CHARLEY REESE
COLUMNIST

to vow to lobby Congress for an adequate space budget. One easy way to do this is to join the National Space Society, a private organization of citizens and astronauts interested in space. Visit its Web site (www.nss.org) and join up. Check out NASA's Web site (www.nasa.gov), too, and you will see that the space program is wide-ranging and extends far beyond the international space station and the shuttle program.

I'm lucky to live only 50 miles from Cape Canaveral, Fla., and often can see the shuttles take off from my back yard once they have reached a certain altitude. It is certainly easy to forget how dangerous these flights are, especially liftoff and re-entry. These shuttles are extremely complex machines, and only one tiny thing going wrong can have catastrophic results. The astronauts know this, but being the brave souls they are, they overcome their fears. As you have heard NASA officials say, NASA is a family, and everybody there not only has faith in each other but also feels personally responsible. That's the best "quality control" program possible. The space pro-

gram is somewhat like the Marines. Once a Marine, always a Marine, and I've not yet met anyone who, having been associated with the space program, doesn't still feel a part of it.

Just as with the Challenger explosion, it is painful to see people die before our eyes. The only consolation is that at 12,000 miles per hour, whatever happened occurred in an instant. Their souls were set free at 200,000 feet. What took so long to fall to earth were only the remains of bodies they had formerly inhabited. It's comforting to think that they are still up there and will be forever.

And it is comforting to know that the whole astronaut corps stands ready to fly again into space, as they surely will once the answer to what went wrong is found. It reminds me of a true story about an American prisoner of war, held by the Japanese in a camp in Manchuria. Toward the end of the war, American planes accidentally bombed the camp, and this POW lost a leg.

The Japanese tried to get a propaganda statement from him, thinking he would be bitter to have suffered so much from friendly fire. What would you like to tell your American comrades now? they asked.

The indomitable POW said only, "Keep 'em flying." That's exactly what we have to do with our manned space program, grief and regret notwithstanding.

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West Texas oil worker believes in putting safety first

By **BOB CAMPBELL**
ODESSA AMERICAN

ODESSA, Texas — When John Roghair holds up his big hands and laughs, it has a special meaning. It means he has been working in the oilfield for 43 years and still has all his fingers.

The 63-year-old Bellflower, Calif., native worked his way up from roughneck to driller and toolpusher and seven years ago to safety officer for Capstar Drilling Inc. of Odessa, Houston and Wooster, Ohio.

He got the job for two reasons he had just had open heart surgery and he's unafraid to enforce the rules.

"I expect everybody to do their job," he said. "I always did my job or I wouldn't have had a job."

"Just stop and think for a minute what you're going to do. Stop and discuss it."

"Anymore, if you don't have a safety program, you don't work."

Roghair (pronounced Rog-GARE) said an Oct. 29, 2002, explosion west of Crane that killed a man and hurt eight others was not the result of an error by the victims. It was a high-pressure hot oil line to a well that plugged for an unknown reason, blew up and burned.

Five or six years ago, the industry made an overdue change, making safety equal to profit and eliminating companies and employees who didn't comply. Some old fashioned rigs with dangerous cathead lines and spinning chains are still in use, but they're being

replaced by two-man hydraulic rigs with air hoists and pipe spinners.

Instead of grabbing things with their hands and risking the loss of a finger or worse, roughnecks now use tag lines.

Roghair has seen his share of accidents, though he was spared from seeing anyone die.

Capstar's last fatality was in 1991, when an employee rolling an eight-inch drilling collar off a rack tripped and fell and the collar hit the back of his head.

After three years in the Navy as ship's barber on the USS McKing, a radar picket destroyer, Roghair worked 1960-68 in the Ventura, Calif., oilfield and landed in Odessa after visiting a relative here.

Becoming a driller in 73 and a toolpusher, or rig supervisor,

in 1977, he worked in the Permian Basin, Wyoming, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Florida. His deepest well went to 24,876 feet south of Fort Stockton in 1976.

Several of Roghair's children are in the oil business, including his son Mike, Capstar's general manager. His wife, Raynae, was a geologist and mud logger whom he met at a drilling site.

Far from the mythical prototype of a rough and rowdy oilfield man, Roghair is an articulate, friendly fellow who works hard to stay current in his highly changeable profession.

Six-foot-3 and 250 pounds with a deep voice, he said, "I still don't understand everything that goes on. You learn something nearly every day. We call it the school of hard knocks."

He and a partner had their own company, TOT for "Trail of Tears," during the 1980-82 boom. He disliked the New York owners they sold to and

solved two problems on one day.

"I quit drinking and resigned my job on the same day, May 16, 1982," he says, laughing.

Most guys from the good-old, bad-old "boom-bust, boom-bust" days found work in other fields after the last bust, and Roghair regrets their departure.

One of his concerns now is performing random and inves-

tigatory drug tests on employees, and its not uncommon for one to fail and be discharged.

Capstar has 126 employees and 11 rigs based here and 42 workers in Ohio. Its corporate office is in Houston, where Jay Trahan is the CEO for its parent SCF Inc., which is owned by Oil States International Inc., or OIS.

(See SAFETY, Page 6)

WT gets \$90,000 data-collection grant

CANYON —The Alternative Energy Institute (AEI) at West Texas A&M University has been awarded a \$90,000 grant, with \$50,000 coming from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Boulder, Colo., to study and document wind data over the next two years at two tall-tower meteorological sites in Texas — Ochiltree County, east of Spearman, and Taylor County, southeast of Sweetwater.

The grant is through the State Energy Conservation Office and data will be collected at each of the existing radio towers at typical turbine hub height and hub height plus blade radius.

Now, multi-megawatt wind turbines are in use and reach 100 meters at hub height and as much as 150 meters at top blade radius.

"Megawatt scale and wind turbines are being used more because the price per kilowatt has been decreasing with

increased turbine size; they're becoming more economical," Dr. Vaughn Nelson, director of the Alternative Energy Institute, said. "However, little meteorological data has been collected at these operating heights."

Under terms of the grant, AEI will disseminate results to wind developers, state and federal agencies and landowners through monthly and annual reports.

AEI was formed at WTAMU in 1977 as an outgrowth of wind energy research begun in 1970. AEI's mission is to conduct research and development in the use of alternative sources of energy including wind, solar and biomass. AEI's program includes data collection, research and feasibility studies, developing and testing prototype systems, establishing a center for collection and distribution of information and education of students and others through research, seminars and courses.

RRC sets monthly gas production allowables

AUSTIN — The Texas Railroad Commission recently set February 2003 natural gas production allowables for prorated fields in the state to meet market demand of 28,847,755 Mcf (thousand cubic feet).

For these fields, the February 2003 allowable represents a decrease of 1,681,457 Mcf when compared to actual production of 30,529,212 Mcf in February 2002. In setting the February 2003 allowable, the Commission used historical production figures from February 2002 and producer forecasts for the February 2003 demand, and then adjusted the figures to account for such factors as well capability, new wells in a field, etc.

Texas natural gas storage reported by the Commission for December 2002 is 265,671,129 Mcf compared to 322,705,952 Mcf in December 2001. The January 2003 gas storage estimate is 242,732,608 Mcf.

Gas well gas from prorated fields accounts for 9 percent of total gas well production in Texas.

Preliminary statewide production reported for November 2002 is 29,102,582

barrels of crude oil and 344,805,426 Mcf of gas well gas.

The Commission's estimated final production for this month can be obtained by multiplying these preliminary

production totals by a production adjustment factor of 1.0357 for crude oil and 1.1126 for gas well gas. (These production totals do not include casinghead gas or condensate.)

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Volunteer firefighters juggle time to serve community

By JACQUE HILBURN
TYLER MORNING TELEGRAPH

ARP, Texas — Penny Wilson is a hurried woman. Each day, the 34-year-old Arp mother of three juggles the responsibilities of family and community, caring kids, dishes, laundry, chores and fire hoses.

Yes, fire hoses. "I've been with the fire department about 10 years," she said, preparing a peanut butter sandwich for her fidgety 2-year-old. "We're on call 24-7. If we don't do it, who will?"

Wilson is among a handful of volunteer firefighters who serve the citizens of Arp. It's a dedication she shares with husband, Randal, 34, who serves as Arp's assistant chief.

They are among the dozens of firefighters in 13 Smith County volunteer departments who possess similar loyalties.

Wilson is one of probably about three women tackling the job.

"It was weird at first, but we

came to an agreement," Randal Wilson said of fighting fires alongside his wife. "At fires, she does support from the outside if I go inside. We don't want to put all our eggs in the same basket. For us, the hardest part is deciding which one of us will go if the call comes in at night."

If neighbors can't watch the kids, one parent stays behind, he said. She usually makes the medical calls; he races to wrecks. Both respond to fires.

For this couple, balancing the responsibilities of home and volunteer firefighting is a continual tug-of-war of time. However, neither "job" pays the bills.

So why do it? "You go out and do what you have to do," Randal Wilson said. "That was part of our upbringing I was taught that you help other people. We just try to go out and make a difference."

Penny Wilson, a homemaker, her day begins as any other,

dropping off the kids, ages 12 and 10, at school, then returning home to chores, errands and caring for the toddler.

Mid-morning, a tearful neighbor phones seeking help for a terminally ill family member, who fell in the bathtub. The couple, accompanied also by AFD chief Kyle Waldron, rushed to the scene, but the man was already deceased. They await the arrival of authorities and funeral home personnel.

"There was nothing we could do but comfort," Penny Wilson said. "Sometimes you go out not as the fire department, but as friends, too."

It's a continual grind. The trio is typically the only ones available in town during the day to respond to emergencies because most of the other department members work out of town. Penny Wilson abandoned a load of laundry to make the medical call.

The men took time off from their jobs with the Arp Independent School District's

maintenance department to respond. A policy approved by the Arp school board allows employees, who serve on the fire department to respond to critical incidents, the men said.

"We couldn't do it without the school," Randal Wilson said. "Anytime we need to respond, they allow us to go."

Neighbors watch the children when Penny Wilson, also a certified Emergency Medical Technician, leaves for a call.

Some days, the tiny department is peppered with calls for all types of emergencies. One recent week was a prime example.

Arp firefighters were summoned to the scene of a blown gas well to help with evacuation and traffic control. At the same time, however, Arp FD was also summoned to an 18-wheeler head-on collision, a diabetic emergency and a house fire.

"It was wild," Penny Wilson said. "Very frustrating."

Arp FD was just one of four volunteer departments, including Troup, New Chapel Hill and Whitehouse, and Smith County Fire Marshal's Office which provided 24-hour emergency support for workers and residents during the two-day well leak, officials said.

"We're one of a little piece of a large group of firefighters in the county that do this same thing and we're proud to be a part of them," Randal Wilson said. "It's like a big family."

One of the hardest aspects of volunteering is dealing with the

misconceptions, firefighters said. "It's hard when you get somewhere and someone says, 'Well, it took you long enough to get here,'" Penny Wilson said. "People don't understand that we were home like them when the call came out. We left our homes, drove to the station, got on the truck and came as quickly as we could."

Other people assume that volunteer departments work the scene until a larger city arrives. That's not the case.

"We're all there is in this area," she said. "And it's that way for every volunteer department around here."

Tyler is the largest paid department in the county.

"Volunteer departments run mainly off donations," Penny Wilson said. "Arp pays for our gas and electricity for the station and that's it. We're lucky to get that all these fire departments run basically off pure donations. We're always begging for money."

The departments receive some money from the county, but it does not cover the costs of equipment, bunker gear, vehicle maintenance and related expenses. All face a similar dilemma: a shrinking labor pool.

"It's getting harder to find volunteers to do it," Randal Wilson said. "During the daytime, there's no help because everybody is at work. It's so bad now, it sometimes takes three departments to fight a house fire."

(See VOLUNTEERS, Page 9)

ACU professor initiates WWII history project

ABILENE — Dr. Vernon Williams, professor of history at Abilene Christian University, recently announced plans for a new oral history project focusing on B-17 crews flying from bases in England during World War II.

Williams said he hopes to hear from anyone who served with a B-17 bomb group in England during the last world war and is currently seeking interviews with air crewmen, ground personnel and medical staff for the project.

"This will be an important study because we know little about the life they lived in these small English farming communities or the relationships that developed between the British farm families and their new American neighbors," Williams said.

Williams plans to spend the next several years interviewing these men and examining the World War II experiences of the air crews, their British hosts and the sense of community that held them together from 1942-45.

During World War II, the United States established air bases in East Anglia in England's agricultural region. Throughout the area, small communities made way for the construction of the air bases.

"Farm land turned into concrete, Nissan huts and the implements of war as American bomber and fighter groups prepared for operations against Nazi-held targets deep inside Europe," Williams said. "The sudden appearance of the Eighth Air Force in rural England, the rapid growth of the number of bases over a short time frame, and the daily struggle for life and death over the skies of Europe made for a unique sense of community in these British villages and towns."

"This will be a monumental project but one that must be done now," Williams said. "We are losing over a thousand World War II veterans per day now, and there is a sense of urgency about this work to save the history of these men and women of World War II."

Veterans interested in participating in the project are urged to contact Williams at (915) 674-2150, via e-mail at vwilliams@acu.edu or by writing: Dr. Vernon L. Williams, ACU Box 28130, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, TX 77969.

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Sue Garner

Preceptor Chi Sweetheart

Sue Garner is Beta Sigma Phi's Preceptor Chi Chapter's Valentine Sweetheart for 2003.

Garner, a 15-year "Order of the Rose" honoree, has been a member of Beta Sigma Phi for 22 years and is currently serving as vice president of Preceptor Chi. She has been elected to every office within the service organization and has sat on all its committees.

She is currently employed as branch office administrator at Edward Jones in Pampa and belongs to First Presbyterian Church where she is a member of the Christian Education Committee and is a Logos volunteer.

She is an avid golfer and dancer.

Her daughter, Ally, is a seventh grader at Pampa Middle School.

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VISITORS to RED DEER PARK in MIAMI, TEXAS

Thank you to all the fisherman and campers that have been a very special part of my life.

As of September 25, 2002, I am no longer associated with Red Deer Park, the fishing ponds and camping area in Miami, Texas. I have had the greatest privilege of meeting the nicest people.

Most of you were like a part of my extended family and I will miss the teasing and especially the hugs.

Thank you very much for being there for 32 wonderful years.

Please go fishing and camping at Red Deer Park at least one more time to give the "new" owners a welcome, and a chance to enjoy your company as much as I did.

And remember... if you are too busy to go fishing... you are TOO darn busy!!!

Penny Guerrero...daughter of the original owners, Vic and Verda Burnett
www.nvo.com/fishredderpark

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE

SAFETY

The Odessa branch drilled 347 mostly infield wells in 2001 and 1,621,247 feet — and from January through July this year had picked up the pace with 205 wells and 942,775 feet for companies including OXY, GRUY, CHI, Triumph and Apache.

Asked what he likes about the business, Roghair said it's a combination of working outdoors and the challenge. "There're no two wells that are drilled the same," he said. "You can drill one and move over 50 feet, and it'll be completely different."

Two variables are the amount of hard rock and the thickness of the "redbed" or red clay. Drillers dislike redbed more than rock because moisture makes clay swell and they have a maximum of nine days to get casing pipe through it and keep it from closing the shaft. That is, unless you hit granite the one thing no bit can cut.

"When you get to the granite, you're done," Roghair said.

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CALENDAR ITEMS

COMMUNITY CHURCHES

ACCORD. Gray County Chapter of Active Citizens Concerned Over Resource Development in Agriculture, Inc. (ACCORD INC.), meet the first and third Thursday of each month, 7 p.m., at the Lovett Memorial Library. For information, call 665-8516 or 665-7659.

Boy Scouts. Boy Scout leaders meet at 6:30 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at First Presbyterian Church of Pampa. The Golden Spread Council of Boy Scouts of America is open to boys between the ages of 6 and 18 and includes a 27-county area in the Texas Panhandle. The BSA program includes Club Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturing, a new program for 14- to 20-year-old boys and girls. For more information, call (806) 358-6500.

Celebration of Lights. The Celebration of Lights project will hold regular workshop meetings at 6:30 p.m. on Monday nights at 822 E. Foster. Anyone wishing to help with the project is invited to attend any work session.

Clean Pampa, Inc. Clean Pampa, Inc., holds its monthly membership meeting at 12 noon on the second Tuesday of each month at Clint and Sons, 1421 N. Hobart. The public is welcome. No fee to join. For more information, call 665-2514. Office hours are 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Eastern Star. Pampa Chapter No. 65, Order of the Eastern Star meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. at 420 West Kingsmill.

Fellowship of Christian Cowboys. The Fellowship of Christian Cowboys potluck will meet on the fourth Saturday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Clyde Carruth Pavilion. For more information, contact Jim Greene at 665-8067 and Bill Kidwell at 669-6347. For memorials or donations write Fellowship of Christian Cowboys, P.O. Box 91, Pampa, TX 79065.

Girl Scouts. Pampa Girl Scouts meets at 7 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at Pampa Girl Scout House on Kingsmill.

Gospel Singing. First Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock, hosts a Gospel Singing from 2-4 p.m. every second Sunday of the month. Pastor Albert Maggard and the congregation of First Pentecostal cordially invites the public to attend. Singers and musicians from area churches participate in this informal congregational singing and enjoy various special vocal and instrumental presentations.

Highland Baptist. Highland Baptist Church, 1301 N. Banks, will host prayer time from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., each Thursday with a special time of prayer from 12:15-12:30 p.m. For more information, contact the church office at 669-6509.

Macedonia Baptist Church. Macedonia Baptist Church, 441 Elm, will hold daily prayer services at 7:30 a.m., 12 noon and 6 p.m. for the citizens of Pampa — churches, schools, etc. The prayer services are open to everyone. For more information, call 665-4926.

Pampa Area Literacy Council. Pampa Area Literacy Council office is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, call 665-2331.

Pampa Masonic Lodge #966. Pampa Masonic Lodge #966 meets Thursdays at 7 p.m. at 420 W. Kingsmill.

Pampa Ministerial Alliance. Pampa Area Ministerial Alliance meets the first Monday of every month. Location changes monthly.

Pampa Prison Ministry. The Pampa Prison Ministry meets the first Tuesday of every month at Central Baptist Church located at Francis and Starkweather at 7 p.m. sharp. For further information call or J.B. Walker at 669-2266.

RCIA. St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church hosts Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) beginning at 7:15 p.m., Wednesdays at 2004 Williston. For more information, call Aloise Martin at 883-4901 or Peggy Rodriguez at 669-2683.

Red Cross. Gray County Chapter of the American Red Cross is seeking volunteers from the community to respond during times of crisis in Pampa and other parts of the county. As well as personal satisfaction, volunteers learn how to protect themselves and cope with disaster by planning ahead, particularly essential during tornado season. In addition, ARC is willing to deliver informational discussions on disaster preparedness to area church or community organizations. For more information, call (806) 669-7121.

St. Mark CME Church. St. Mark will host a monthly breakfast the first Saturday of every month from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Donations will be accepted.

Story Hour. Lovett Memorial Library will offer a story hour at 10 a.m., every Tuesday. The free program is open to children 18 months to 6 years of age and will include stories, crafts and other activities. No registration is required. For more information, call the library at 669-5780.

Texas Department of Human Services. Texas Department of Human Services is seeking volunteers for its Texas Works Services Program. Tasks are varied and placement is based upon the volunteer's interest, capability and availability of openings. Hours are flexible. For more information, contact Beth Miller at 665-1863.

Veterans. To recognize the contributions Texas veterans have made to the liberty we enjoy, Memory Gardens Cemetery is assigning grave spaces to honorably discharged veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. If you are a veteran, you may be qualified for free burial space. However, you must register to obtain the free plot and you must show proof of honorable discharge. A number of veterans' spaces are available. Certificates will be issued on a first come, first serve basis. For more information, call (806) 665-8921.

VFW Bingo. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1657, 105 S. Cuyler, Charity Bingo every Wednesday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 1:30 p.m. Doors open one hour early. No one under 18 allowed. Public is

welcome. License No. 1-75-6037422-9. For more information contact Edgar D. Carson, 669-0853 or 669-1264.

ASSOCIATIONS, CLUBS ETC.

American Legion. American Legion Post 334 meets at 7 p.m., the third Thursday of each month at Freedom Museum, 600 N. Hobart.

Butterfly Garden Club. The Butterfly Garden Club of America offers free butterfly garden seeds (with growing instructions). To receive a packet, send a long SASE with two stamps to: The Butterfly Garden Club of America, P.O. Box 629, Burgin, KY 40310. Limit one free packet per household. Additional packets are available for \$1 each.

Golden Spread Coin Club. Golden Spread Coin Club, originally Amarillo Coin Club, meets at 7 p.m. the first Monday of each month. GSCC is a member of American Numismatic Association. For more information, call (806) 352-8281 or (806) 342-9536.

Gray Co. Ass'n for Retarded Citizens. Gray County Association for Retarded Citizens meets at 7 p.m. the first Monday of every month at Pampa Sheltered Workshop.

Gray Co. Extension Education. Gray County Extension Education meets at 1:30 p.m. the first Monday of each month at Gray County Courthouse Annex.

Gray Co. Genealogical Society. Gray County Genealogical Society meets at 7:30 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month in the Gray County Sheriff's Department classroom. (Enter through the north door of the jail building.) For membership inquiries, contact Harley Madison at 669-6294.

Las Pampas Water Garden and Koi Society. Las Pampas Water Garden and Koi Society meets at 7 p.m. the second Monday of each month at First Landmark Building in the Pampa Mall. For more information, contact Sharron Andrew at 665-6138 or Loyd Waters 665-6466.

Magic Plains ABWA. Magic Plains Chapter of the American Business Women's Association will meet at 7 p.m. the second Monday of each month at The Coffee Shop, 220 N. Cuyler. Working business women are invited to attend.

For more information, call Pat Winkleblack at 669-7828 or Estelle Malone at 669-9614.

Pampa Citizens on Patrol Ass'n. Pampa Citizens on Patrol Association meets at 8 p.m. the second Saturday of each month at 824 S. Cuyler.

Pampa Duplicate Bridge Club. The Pampa Duplicate Bridge Club plays Monday at 1 p.m. and Thursdays at 10 a.m. at The Senior Citizens. For a partner, or more information, please call Carol Carpenter at 669-7940.

Pampa Fine Arts Ass'n. Pampa Fine Arts Association Board of Directors will meet at 7 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at Pampa Community Building (Chamber building).

Pampa Garden Club. Pampa Garden Club meets at 2 p.m. the second Monday of each month from September through May. Meeting location changes monthly.

Pampa Pilots Ass'n. Pampa Pilots Association meets at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Airport Lounge.

Pampa Rotary Club. Pampa Rotary Club meets at 12 noon every Wednesday at Pampa Country Club.

Pampa Takedown Club. Pampa Takedown Club Wrestling for youth 5-15 years of age. Practice is at 900 N. Frost. Season starts Sept. 25 through February. For more information, call Rick Urganhart at 665-8321.

Pampa Woodcarving Club. Pampa Woodcarving Club meets at 7 p.m., the second and fourth Thursday of each month at First Christian Church, 1633 N. Nelson. Meetings are open to any individuals interested in woodcarving from beginners to all experience. Projects and instructors are available. For more information, call 669-3008.

Panhandle Piecemakers Quilt Guild. Panhandle Piecemakers Quilt Guild meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Thursday of each month at Pampa Senior Citizens Center.

Shrine Club. Pampa Shrine Club holds a covered dish meeting at 7 p.m. every third Friday of each month at the Sportsman's Club on South Barnes.

Top O' Texas Rodeo Ass'n. Top O' Texas Rodeo Association meets at 7:30 p.m. the first Monday of every month in the Nona S. Payne

Room of Pampa Community Building.

MEDICAL SUPPORT GROUPS, ETC.

Al-Anon. Al-Anon will hold weekly meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at 910 W. Kentucky. For more information, call 665-6898.

Alzheimer's Support Group. The Alzheimer's Support Group meets the first Thursday of each month at Shepard's Crook Nursing. For more information, call Dauna Wilkinson at 6650 0356.

American Heart Ass'n. American Heart Association meets at 12 noon the second Thursday of each month at Chaney's Restaurant in Pampa.

ARC. Gray County chapter of the American Red Cross is in need of wheelchairs, walkers, shower chairs, potty chairs (with pot) and hospital beds for its Loan Closet. For more information or to make a donation, contact the local Red Cross office at 669-7121.

Area Agency on Aging. Area Agency on Aging of the Panhandle needs volunteers to serve as advocates for nursing home residents as part of its Ombudsmen program. The Ombudsmen will visit residents of long-term care facilities and help resolve complaints involving residents rights, quality of life and quality of care. Once accepted into the program, volunteers complete a three month internship including intensive training and supervision in preparation. Ideal candidates will have strong sense of fair play, excellent problem-solving skills, good relationships with older people and the ability to devote two hours a week to the residents served by the Ombudsman program. For more information, contact Jeff Price, regional Ombudsman, or Tanya Mock, Ombudsman Program Aide, at 1-800-642-6008; or write P.O. Box 9257, Amarillo, TX, 79105.

Beginnings. "Beginnings," a Harrington Cancer Center program for newly diagnosed breast cancer patients, will meet weekly in Harrington Cancer Center Quiet Room, 1500 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo. For more information, call (806) 359-4673, ext. 173, or 1-800-274-4673, ext. 173.

Breast Cancer 101. The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center offers "Breast Cancer 101," an intensive education and supportive introduction to breast cancer, from 4:30-6 p.m., the second Monday of each month in the Quiet Room of Harrington Cancer Center in Amarillo. For more information call (806) 359-4673, ext. 173 or 1-800-274-4673, ext. 173.

Clean Air Al-Anon. Clean Air Al-Anon will hold weekly meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon at 2004 Williston. For more information, call 665-6898.

COAF Web Site. The Children of Alcoholics Foundation, an education-prevention arm of Phoenix House, recently launched a website (www.coaf.org) for children of substance abusers of all ages. The website is designed to help educators, physicians, social workers and other professionals. The site includes sections for teens and adults who have grown up with an alcoholic or drug addicted parent as well as information for teachers, social workers and others.

Coffee Memorial Blood Center. Coffee Memorial Blood Center in Amarillo is now open on Saturdays and will take appointments for blood donations. The new donation hours are: 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Friday; and 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday. The center is also promoting The Birthday Club. If a donor donates blood on their birthday, they will receive a Blood Drop Beanie. For more information, call (806) 358-4563 or 1-800-658-6178.

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This new feature is extremely comforting when friends or family cannot attend services. What's more, it's quick and easy. First, log onto the funeral home web site, go to the "Services" button and click on it. Second, at the bottom of the obituary, there are links for "Sending Flowers", "Sign Guest Book" and "Service Schedule". If you would like more information about this option, please feel free to contact us.

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SUNDAY • FEBRUARY 16, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Wife Objects When Copied Key Unlocks Door Once Too Often

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married for six months. A few weeks ago, we gave his parents our house key so they could let a plumber in to fix a water leak. Without asking, they copied our house key for themselves. Although we didn't like it, my husband did not make a big thing out of it.

Yesterday, when we returned home from work, it was apparent that someone had been in our bedroom. The computer was left on. We have learned my husband's parents gave our key to my husband's brother, "Joe," who used our computer to go online to access pornographic sites. My husband has expressed his "disappointment" to all of them — but I am livid. I feel violated, Abby. What should I do?

OUTRAGED IN OHIO

DEAR OUTRAGED: Change the locks on your doors and change the password on your computer. And next time your faucet leaks, ask someone else to let the plumber in.

DEAR ABBY: While driving home from school with my 13-year-old daughter and her best friend, "Cammy," in the car, Cammy suddenly burst into tears and said, "I feel like killing myself."

The minute we got home I held separate, private conversations with my daughter and her friend. It seems Cammy feels neglected by her parents (they are divorced with shared custody), and she's upset because they both abuse alcohol. Cammy said she has tried to talk to

her mom and dad about her feelings, but they "just yell at her."

Abby, I know this family very well. I find it hard to believe that things are as bad as Cammy says. However, a child crying out — either for help or attention — deserves both. How should I handle this?

CONCERNED
IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

DEAR CONCERNED: Let Cammy know she is always welcome to come to you at any time. Then, in a nonaccusatory way, let

her parents know that Cammy is seriously depressed, and needs them now more than ever. The face that a family presents publicly can be very different from the dynamics going on in private. Whether or not they drink too much, Cammy is feeling emotionally isolated, and that can be considered a form of child abuse.

Alateen might be helpful for her. It's a 12-step fellowship of young people whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking. It can be contacted by writing: Al-Anon Family Groups, 1000 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617. The toll-free number is (888) 425-2666. The Web site is www.al-anon.alateen.org.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are separated. During the holidays, he had our 17-year-old son with him, and they went out of town for the weekend with a 15-year-old girl.

Abby, the girl's mother had never met either of us until my husband picked up her daughter and chatted with the woman for a few minutes.

I am appalled! What kind of mother would allow her teenage daughter to go away for the weekend with a boy and his father for three nights?

READER IN PORTLAND, ORE.

DEAR READER: A mother who needs her head examined. You have described a recipe for disaster.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

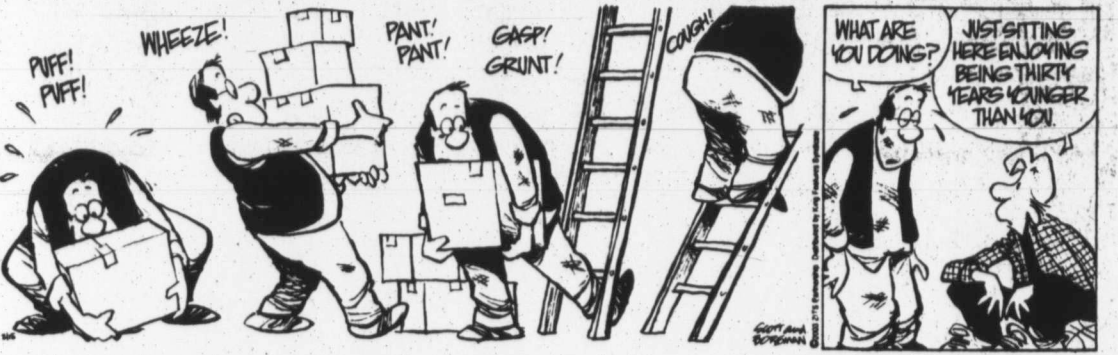
What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

For Better or For Worse



Zita



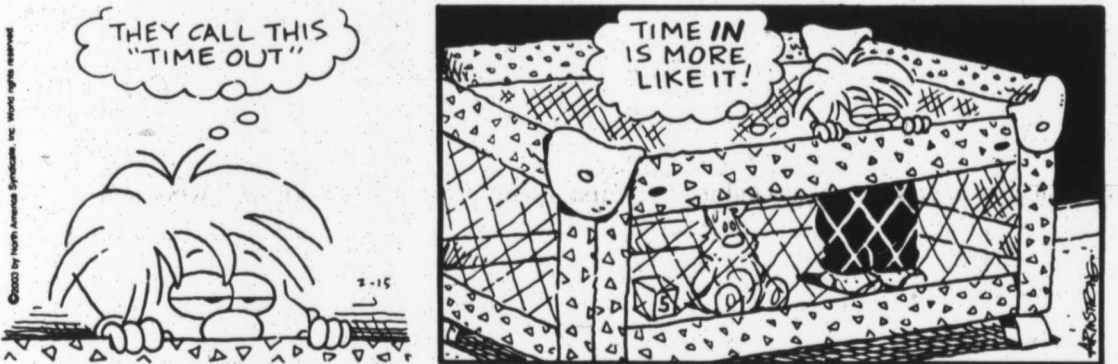
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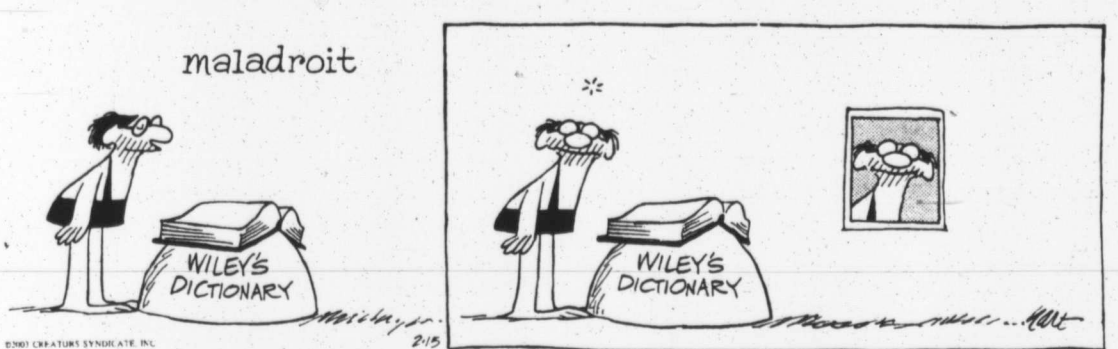
Beetle Bailey



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Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

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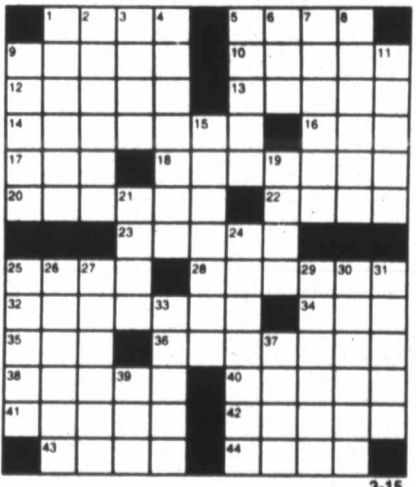
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- 20 Stop
- 22 Takes in
- 23 Harp's brother
- 25 Casino game
- 28 Tropical fruits
- 32 Redress seeker
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- 36 Picabo Street, e.g.
- 38 Dixie dish
- 40 Flat finish
- 41 Walk with pride
- 42 Computer key
- 43 Goes down
- 44 Vietnam neighbor

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- 4 ingredient
- 5 Vampire feature
- 6 Like some
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- 8 Money study, for short
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- 11 Losing plans
- 12 Like some
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- 14 Money study, for short
- 15 Computer symbol
- 16 More rational
- 17 Main ingredient
- 18 Vampire ideas
- 19 feature
- 20 Deflects
- 21 Call it
- 22 Mandikova
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Minister, wife restore mansion, make upscale event center

By NORMA ADAMS WADE
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DALLAS — Thick trees and brush line the borders of the luxurious property at the northwest corner of Hampton and Camp Wisdom roads in Oak Cliff. From outside the ornate gates, passers-by could only glimpse the graceful mansion hidden on a distant hill.

Some longtime neighbors remember when the colonial home was the showplace of the prominent community leader who built it about 70 years ago. When it changed hands in the 1970s, the public was no longer welcome.

Until last year, the historic property remained a mystery to a new generation as progress surged around it.

Now, the 5,400-square-foot mansion is getting a new lease on life. A prominent Oak Cliff minister and his wife bought the home and more than 20 acres surrounding it. They spent nearly \$1 million on the purchase and restoration and recently opened Hampton Estate as a public center for upscale social events.

But uncovering the home's history was only half the challenge.

When the mansion first went on the market, neighbors feared someone would bulldoze it for development. Their fears lessened with the sale to Anthony "Tony" Evans, 53, and his wife, Lois, 52. The couple has lived in the neighborhood for 27 years but didn't plan to move into their new home.

"First, people wanted to know what we were going to do with it," said Evans, senior pastor of the nearby 6,000-member Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship. "Our motivation is to preserve it."

"Everyone would say they wanted to come see what was back there behind those trees."

So the couple decided to open it for social events such as weddings and club receptions, and as a setting for bridal portraits.

"God provided this opportunity," said Lois Evans, who is researching the prop-

erty's past and plans to seek a historical designation.

But neighbors balked when the couple asked the city for a special-use permit. The Evans met with them and held an open house, stressing that the rejuvenated property would provide a needed public service.

Retired longtime neighbor Bill Betzen, who lives behind the mansion, said he now welcomes the Evanses and their efforts to preserve Hampton Estate.

"It's like a snapshot out of history," he said. "I'm so glad it's going to be maintained."

"It will be an asset to the community," added Thelmer Norman, a neighborhood association leader who said she was hesitant at first. "They have turned it totally around."

Dr. Evans is a well-known radio and television evangelist, an author and the first black person to earn a doctorate in theology from Dallas Theological Seminary. The couple also founded and operates the non-profit Urban Alternative, a national ministry that provides spiritually based support programs.

Tony Evans said he saw the property as complementing his church's vision as a community anchor. He founded his congregation with 10 members in his home in 1976. It now occupies 136 acres along West Camp Wisdom Road between Hampton Road and Polk Street. It recently started a \$100 million community development master plan.

The Evanses are believed to be the mansion's third owners, accord-

ing to real estate agents and Dallas County records. The mansion was built in the 1930s for banker and civic leader Robert Donnell Suddarth and his Kentucky-born wife, Mary Laura Mohon Suddarth.

Dallas power broker
Suddarth rose from humble beginnings to become one of Dallas' first power brokers to be called "Mr. Oak Cliff."

The Tennessee native moved to Dallas in 1909, opening a grocery store on Jefferson Boulevard near Beckley Avenue. Within two years he began acquiring land.

In 1920, he helped organize the business association that later became the Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce, for which he was president twice.

He later opened Midway Theater movie house on Jefferson Boulevard. He was president of Jefferson Bank & Trust Co. and board chairman when it later became Oak Cliff Bank & Trust Co.

He also helped steer businesses to southern Dallas and held many leadership roles, including one term on the Dallas City Council and a stint on the State Fair of Texas board.

His wife was a golf champion and horse enthusiast who kept peacocks that roamed freely on the Hampton Estate. She was devoted to maintaining the mansion, where she and her husband frequently entertained.

Robert Suddarth died in 1954. After his widow died in the late 1970s, banker and insurance businessman Harold Altshuler acquired the property.

for thinning the trees too much.

Mansion in movie

His claim to fame was opening the mansion for the 1983 movie "Tender Mercies" starring Robert Duvall, who won an Oscar for best actor in the film. Altshuler died in the late 1990s.

The dwelling had been vacant for about four years when the Evanses bought it. They had much work to do, replacing corroded walls, rotting carpet and broken windows, fixing up the pool area and removing piles of debris left by vagrants. But the roof and structure were sound, and contractors had the place ready within three months.

Lois Evans had them uncover the original hardwood floors, polish the entry's marble tile, brighten the dark walls and repair doors and shutters. Landscapers manicured the grounds, and the Evanses had a 60-car parking area installed near a grove of trees.

A bridge crosses part of Five Mile Creek's Woody Branch that runs through the property. An old cabin is on the other side. People in the area say Mary Laura Suddarth stayed there while the mansion was being built. An old water-pump system is still near the creek, predating city water lines.

Input from neighbors

Betzen, the next-door neighbor, said he has photographed bobcats and gray foxes on the property. He has also admired a distant barn and stable and some turn-of-the-century farm equipment in an overgrown field.

Input from neighbors has helped the Evanses with restoration. And it's a give and take that the couple wants to enhance.

"This reflects our continuing desire for investing in the community," Tony Evans said.

Distributed by The Associated Press

Tony Evans said he saw the property as complementing his church's vision as a community anchor. He founded his congregation with 10 members in his home in 1976. It now occupies 136 acres along West Camp Wisdom Road between Hampton Road and Polk Street. It recently started a \$100 million community development master plan.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE SIX

VOLUNTEERS

Chief Waldron, 42, has been with the department since he was a freshman in high school. His father was also a volunteer. He has served as chief for two years. Waldron attributes the shortfall of volunteers to hectic lifestyles and perhaps, the fear of litigation.

"People don't understand what we do," he said. "For example, we have a new addi-

tion out here and I've been receiving calls from irate people complaining that their insurance company is dropping them because they don't have fire protection."

It takes money to run a fire department, he said. Some of the larger donors have passed away, leaving the department to scramble for new funding options. He acknowledges there are easier ways to

spend free time than begging for help and money.

"You have to keep thinking about the people," he said. "When that pager goes off, somebody out there needs help. Sometimes the only thing standing in the way of them and death is us."

Distributed by The Associated Press

During more than 15 years that he lived there, the businessman added a pool and pool house and upgraded the master bath. Neighbors say he guarded his privacy — there is talk that he once fired a groundskeeper

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MEDICAL

More dialysis may not aid some cases, UT researchers say

DALLAS — Longer dialysis treatment and use of a highly permeable artificial kidney may not improve survival rates or reduce hospitalization of patients with end-stage kidney disease, a researcher at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas has discovered.

Subgroup analyses suggest a higher dose of hemodialysis (blood passed through an artificial kidney to remove waste products and toxins) may improve survival in women, however, and a more permeable membrane may reduce the risk for cardiovascular complications in patients on hemodialysis.

The findings appear in a recent issue of *The New England Journal of Medicine*.

"The importance of this study is that it is the first prospectively designed study to evaluate what happens when you apply higher doses of dialysis and highly permeable artificial kidneys in a clinical trial," said Dr. Robert Toto, professor of internal medicine and senior author of the study. "We learned a higher dose of dialysis and a higher permeable membrane is not enough. We've got to do better. We've got to do more to help improve the quality and duration of life of patients on hemodialysis."

UT Southwestern was among 15 U.S. clinical centers participating in a randomized trial of about 1,850 patients with severe kidney failure who required hemodialysis. The objectives of the Hemodialysis Study, designed in 1994, were to determine if a high dose of dialysis is better than a standard dose and whether dialysis with a highly permeable artificial kidney benefits patients on hemodialysis for end-stage kidney disease (ESKD), both in improving survival and reducing hospitalization.

ESKD, Toto said, is a condition in which kidney failure is so severe that death occurs unless kidney function is replaced by either dialysis or transplantation. It is increasing in the United States, and morbidity and mortality of ESKD patients is high, even for those on dialysis.

"If you take all patients in the United States on dialysis, about 60 percent die from either heart disease or stroke," said Toto, director of clinical nephrology and patient-oriented research in nephrology. "Cardiovascular disease is what causes many of these patients to die."

People requiring dialysis usually undergo hemodialysis three times a week, Toto said, and each session lasts approximately three hours. Through the Hemodialysis Study, patients

In America, about 45 percent of new patients going on dialysis are diabetic, about a third of existing cases involve diabetics, and diabetics have more severe diseases in general than non-diabetics. Almost 90 percent of new ESKD patients also have high blood pressure.

were provided a higher dose of dialysis by adjusting the overall treatment time, the type of artificial kidney, or the blood flow rate through the artificial kidney. Any or all three variables were modified. Patients treated at the greater dose of hemodialysis averaged 32 percent more dialysis than the standard dose.

Afterward, the researchers found no improvement in survival or hospitalization in

patients treated with a higher dose of dialysis or a more permeable membrane. Previous observational studies have reported continuing improvement in morbidity and mortality at dialysis doses well above those recommended in the current national guidelines, but other studies have not supported these findings.

Although the study found no improvement in mortality for

dialysis patients overall, selected subgroups of patients may derive benefits from a higher dose of dialysis or a more permeable membrane. Deaths and hospitalization from heart disease were significantly lower in those treated with the more permeable membrane, and the mortality rate for women receiving higher doses was 19 percent lower than the women receiving the standard dose.

"The Hemodialysis Study completed by Dr. Toto and his colleagues and published in *The New England Journal of Medicine* represents a landmark study," said Dr. Peter Igarashi, chief of nephrology and professor of internal medicine at UT Southwestern.

"More than 250,000 Americans are receiving hemodialysis for treatment of end-stage kidney disease, and this study is the first major clinical study of dialysis patients in more than 20 years," said Igarashi. "The study indicates that for the total population the current practice of thrice-weekly treatment is not improved with a higher dose of dialysis or more porous artificial kidney. Other modifications, such as

more frequent treatments or overnight dialysis, may be needed."

Overall, the five-year survival rate on hemodialysis in the U.S. dialysis population is about 45 percent, Toto said. The reasons for this high mortality rate are not fully known, but the increase in type 2 diabetes is believed to be a significant factor.

In America, about 45 percent of new patients going on dialysis are diabetic, about a third of existing cases involve diabetics, and diabetics have more severe diseases in general than non-diabetics. Almost 90 percent of new ESKD patients also have high blood pressure.

"The dose of dialysis is only one variable of the many that can affect the outcome of patients with kidney failure," Toto said.

Study: Patients hurt by medical errors even after discharged from hospital

By MICHAEL RUBINKAM
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Patients are often harmed by inadequate care and outright medical mistakes in the days after they are sent home from the hospital, according to new research.

The study, conducted at one large hospital, found that nearly one in five patients had "adverse events" after they go home — new or worsening symptoms resulting from the treatment they received, not from their underlying disease. Most problems could have been prevented or eased with better care.

The researchers said the problems often occur because hospitals fail to communicate effectively with patients and their primary care physicians after discharge, and neglect to follow up to identify symptoms and complications before they become more serious.

Many studies have looked at patient safety inside hospitals, including a review by the Institute of

Medicine that blamed medical mistakes for the deaths of 44,000 to 98,000 hospitalized Americans each year. The latest report, in Tuesday's *Annals of Internal Medicine*, is the first to assess how often discharged patients become sick as a result of their treatment.

Researchers at the University of Ottawa and Harvard Medical School contacted 400 patients who were hospitalized at an unidentified urban teaching hospital.

They found 76 patients had adverse events after they were sent home. Of those, 23 were deemed preventable and 24 would have been less severe with better care.

Two-thirds of the problems resulted from drug side effects. In one case, an asthmatic patient who had a heart attack was prescribed a beta blocker, a drug that slows the heart rate but can cause asthma attacks. The patient developed wheezing and a cough.

In another case, a patient with an inflamed pancreas was sent home after his X-ray was misread. He was

readmitted four days later with worsening symptoms.

Study co-author Dr. David Bates said the results demonstrate a need for better follow up.

"The current reimbursement structure does not reward providers for giving post-discharge care," but "hospitals ought to support having someone get in touch with (discharged patients)," said Bates, of Harvard's Brigham and Women's Hospital.

The study's results are not surprising because patients are discharged from the hospital more quickly than in the past — and in worse shape, said Dr. Kenneth Kizer, president of the National Quality Forum, which is working to develop better ways of measuring medical care.

"They are still vulnerable, their needs still have to be tended after and they need to be tended to."

On the Net:
Annals of Internal Medicine:
<http://www.annals.org>
National Quality Forum:
<http://www.qualityforum.org>

CDC: Bats, not dogs, responsible for most rabies deaths in United States

ATLANTA (AP) — Bats — not dogs — cause most of the few rabies deaths in the United States, and the species of bats that are usually to blame are rare, federal officials said recently.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said that most of the 35 U.S. rabies deaths since 1990 can be traced to two species: the reclusive silver-haired bat and the eastern pipistrelle bat. Both are found in wooded areas of the Southeast and Northwest.

"Most bats that we live with

and are exposed to don't seem to be the ones implicated in rabies deaths," said Dr. Charles Rupprecht, chief of the CDC rabies section. "It really leaves us in the dark."

Because of vaccinations, rabies in dogs has dropped dramatically in the last century in the United States, but rabid dogs kill as many as 50,000 people around the world each year, the CDC said.

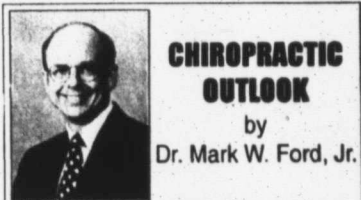
Bat rabies caused three

U.S. deaths last year. A 20-year-old in Iowa and a 13-year-old in Tennessee caught rabies from either the silver-haired or eastern pipistrelle bats; the same strain of rabies appears in both. A 28-year-old from California got rabies from a Mexican free-tailed bat.

Barbara French, conservation officer for Bat Conservation International in Austin, Texas, also found the

bat-rabies connection surprising.

"These two (species) are not bats that you'd generally find roosting in attics," she said. "It really is just a mystery how people would get rabies from a particular kind of bat they are not likely to see."



CHIROPRACTIC OUTLOOK
by
Dr. Mark W. Ford, Jr.

CHIROPRACTIC HELPS PREGNANT WOMEN

A large number of women experience back pain during their pregnancy because of the structural and hormonal changes that impact the spine and pelvic area, as well as the related nerves and joints. One of the most common complaints among pregnant women is low back pain. In fact, one study showed that fifty-six percent of these females suffer from serious backaches, especially between the fifth and seventh months.

Chiropractors list pregnancy as one of the most critical times to be under their care. Chiropractic can not only help relieve back pain, but also keep the nervous system functioning effectively and maintain spinal alignment.

Patients notice the benefits of chiropractic during delivery as well. Women who regularly have adjustments while carrying have an easier pregnancy, significantly decreased labor time, and an easier time resuming their previous activities.

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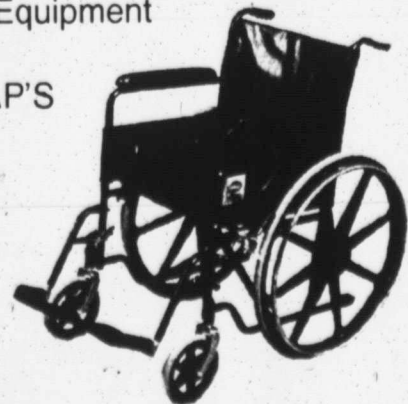
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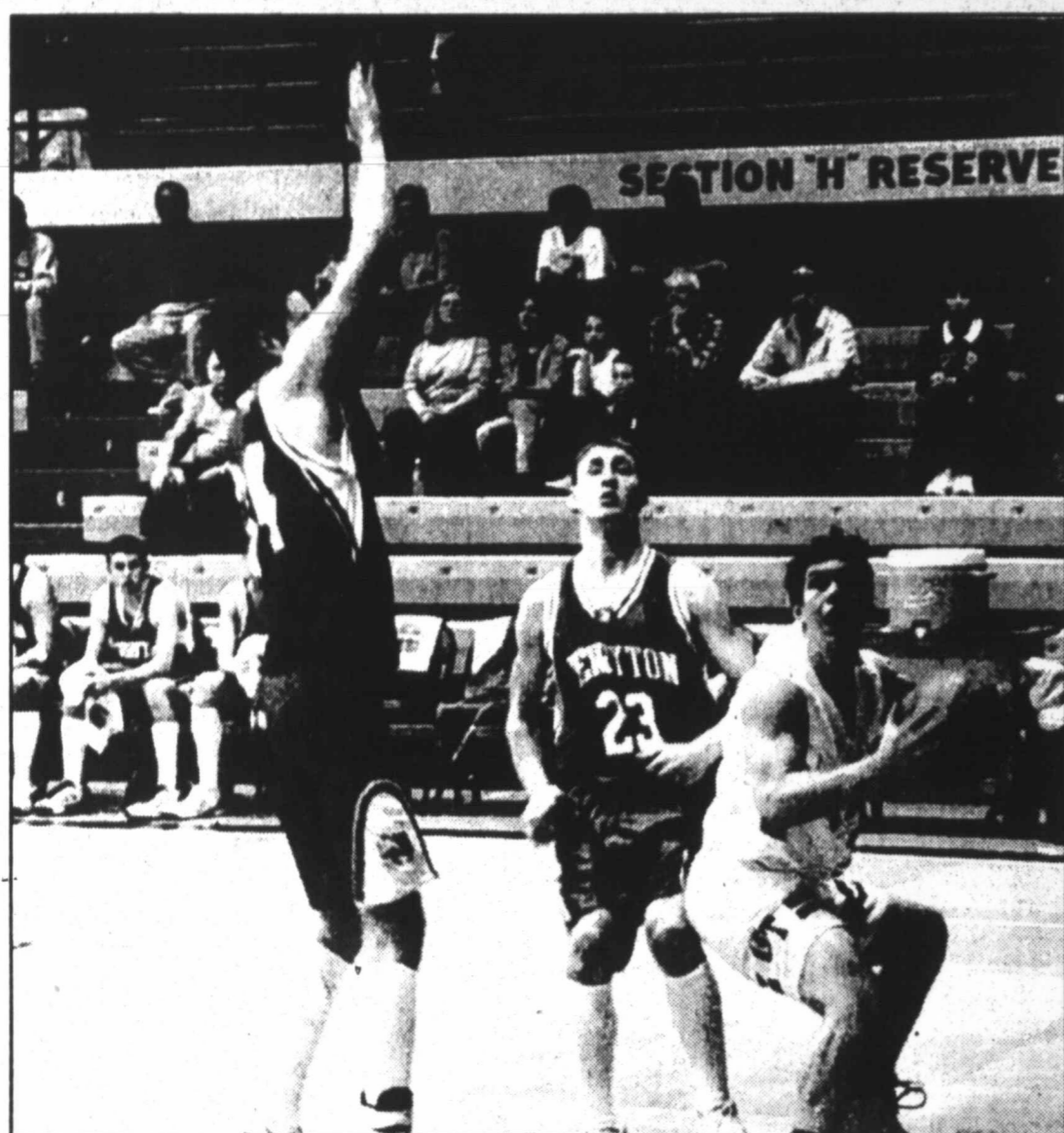
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SPORTS



(Pampa News photo)

Pampa downs Perryton 47-38 in practice game

PAMPA — Pampa warmed up for Levelland with a 47-38 win over Perryton in a practice game Friday night in McNeely Fieldhouse.

The Harvesters jumped out to a 7-0 lead and never trailed against the Class 3A Rangers.

Ryan Zemanek had 14 points and Chance Bowers 11 to lead the Pampa scoring attack.

Pampa led at the half, 27-23. The Harvesters were in front by six (39-33) going into the final quarter.

Luke Ogden led Perryton with 21 points. Beto Mendez followed with 12.

Both coaches (Pampa's Jerry Schaeffer, Perryton's Tim Garland) cleared their benches to get a look at all the players before the playoffs start.

Pampa won out big on the boards, outrebounding the Rangers 33-19. Max Simon had 10 rebounds to lead the Harvesters. Ogden had eight for the Rangers.

Pampa was 8 of 12 from the foul line. Perryton was 16 of 25.

Pampa is now 16-14 for the season while Perryton is 20-9.

Friday night's practice outing sets up Pampa's bi-district meeting with

Levelland at 6 Tuesday night in Plainview. That game will be played at the Hutcherson Center on the Wayland Baptist University campus.

Pampa	13	27	39	47
Perryton	9	23	33	38

Pampa - Ryan Zemanek 14, Chance Bowers 11, Max Simon 7, Jed Martin 6, Collin Bowers 4, James Silva 2, Clayton Hall 2, Brittin East 1; **Three-point goals:** Zemanek 2, Martin 2, Collin Bowers 1.

Perryton - Luke Ogden 21; Beto Mendez 9, Bo Merrell 3, Landry Ogden 2, Brett Watson 2, Brendan Baker 1; **Three-point goals:** Mendez 1.

Tech's Dale is calling it quits

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — The audience for Jack Dale's first play-by-play broadcasts were the crops on his family's Kansas farm.

Having learned the names of Army and Navy football players by listening to their games on radio, young Dale would climb atop a tractor and narrate imaginary games. He knew then that he wanted to make a living in broadcasting, not farming.

For the past 50 years, Dale has done so as the voice of Texas Tech men's basketball games. His run of more than 1,500

games will soon come to an end, as he's retiring after this season.

Dale, 70, stopped calling football games after the 1999 season, having done it for 47 years. He missed it for a while, but that feeling went away.

"And I think that's probably the way it's going to be with basketball," he said. "Since I've made the decision, I can't hardly wait until the end of the season to sort of put it behind me."

Dale's retirement doesn't mean his rich baritone voice is leaving radio.

Together with his son, Steve,

Dale will continue doing a morning sports-talk radio show that began in August 1992. Dale also will help on pre-game coverage of Tech football.

School officials also are establishing endowed communications and athletic scholarships in his honor, ensuring that his name and ambition will be passed on to future would-be broadcasters and athletes.

"I want to see it happen," Dale said. "I don't have money to do it myself, but I'm going to do everything I can do to help."

Pampa junior Jed Martin looks for a shot along the baseline as two Perryton defenders move in.

Royals win arbitration case with Beltran

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Kansas City Royals won their arbitration case with Carlos Beltran on Friday, and the center fielder will make \$6 million this season instead of the \$6.95 million he sought.

Beltran made \$3.45 million last year when he hit .273 with 44 doubles, 29 home runs and 105 RBIs, along with 35 stolen bases.

The switch-hitting outfielder has refused to sign a contract beyond the two years he is obligated to remain with the Royals,

and could be traded before the season begins.

"We would talk about him in a deal that was right for the ball club, to address short- and long-term needs," general manager Allard Baird said recently.

Astros' spring spotlight will be on Biggio, Kent

HOUSTON (AP) — The spotlight will be on Craig Biggio and Jeff Kent. The pressure will be on the pitchers.

The Houston Astros in December moved former All-Star second baseman Biggio to center field to make room for free agent Kent, who signed a two-year \$18.2 million contract to help bolster the offense.

The Astros appeased Biggio by giving him a one-year, \$4 million contract extension guarantee.

With rightfielder Richard Hidalgo recovered from a gunshot wound and Lance Berkman moving to left field, general manager Gerry Hunsicker has typical spring training confidence.

Pitchers and catchers arrived Saturday at Osceola County Stadium in Kissimmee, Fla. The first workout is Sunday. Position players report Tuesday and work out Wednesday.

"This is going to be one of our better offensive clubs, and that's been a big problem we've had the past two years,

because our offense has been on a decline," Hunsicker said. "With Kent in the middle of the lineup, we have three legitimate MVP candidates (including Bagwell and Berkman).

"I'm not sure anybody else can make that same statement."

The Astros ranked second in the NL with a .271 team average in 2001 but dropped to sixth last season at .262. The Astros drove in 805 runs in 2001 and 719 last season. Their homers also dropped from 208 two seasons ago to 167 last year, despite playing at hitter-friendly Minute Maid Park.

After a big push to improve their offense, the Astros were left with hoping for career years from some pitchers. Going for a big free-agent pitcher wasn't in the plans.

"That wasn't very practical given our budget situation," Hunsicker said. "Pitching is the riskiest to spend a lot of money on and there weren't that many (free agents) out there anyway."

Second-year manager Jimmy Williams has a rotation that starts strong with Roy Oswalt and Wade Miller and finishes strong with setup man Octavio Dotel and closer Billy Wagner. The rest of the pitching pieces could determine how far the Astros go in the NL Central.

Veteran Shane Reynolds will give the Astros a steady No. 3 starter if he's fully recovered from back surgery. Free agent signee Brian Moehler will get a long look as the No. 4 starter. The No. 5 starter and several bullpen spots are up for grabs.

"We're very encouraged that Reynolds will be healthy," Hunsicker said. "Moehler gives us a solid fourth or fifth starter that has experience and will be a good role model for the younger pitchers to follow."

Tim Redding, who struggled last season and was returned to Triple A New Orleans, and left-hander Jeremie Robertson are among the candidates for the fifth spot.

Carlos Hernandez, project-

ed as a strong starting nominee, is out for the season after shoulder surgery last month.

The new outfield alignment looks good to Hunsicker.

"We'll see how that unfolds, but we feel confident that Craig (Biggio) will be able to make that adjustment," Hunsicker said. "It puts speed in the outfield and allows Berkman to move back to a more natural position with less wear and tear on him."

Hidalgo struggled last season after a career year in 2001. He suffered a gunshot wound to his left arm when robbers tried to steal his car in his hometown of Valencia, Venezuela, last November. Hidalgo bats and throws righthanded.

"He's a man on a mission," Hunsicker said. "He's determined to come back and have a solid year after the carjacking. He's bounced back miraculously from that. He's down to 215, which is as light as he's been in three years. I think he's going to surprise a lot of people this year."

Bowling tourney collects \$1,200 for Special Olympics

PAMPA — "We're Wieser Budweiser" was the winning team at the annual Pampa Mixed Team Tournament to benefit Special Olympics.

The first-place team, consisting of Eric Nord, Jo Hicks, Kristi Lee and Gary Winton, had a three-game handicap series of 2,708.

Raffle proceeds benefiting Special Olympics totaled \$1,200.

The tournament was held at

Harvester Lanes.

Team Standings

1. We're Wieser Budweiser, 2,708;
2. State Farm, 2,678; 3. Team 30, 2,642; 4. Team 45, 2,638; 5. Studs & Muffins, 2,627; 6. BBSR, 2,621; 7. Team 21, 2,609; 8. Clemens Home Repair, 2,595; 9. I Don't Care, 2,589; 10. Don't Look At Us, 2,588.

Top Individual Scores

Men
High scratch game: Tony Chavarria 290; High scratch series: Tony Chavarria 774; High handicap game: Tony Chavarria 296; High handicap series: Tony Chavarria 792.

Women
High scratch game: Carla Schiffman 256; High scratch series: Carla Schiffman 666; High handicap game: Tonya Winborne 277; High handicap series: Tonya Winborne 737.

Sports Calendar
February 16

Basketball
Tuesday
Pampa vs. Levelland boys' bi-district, 6 Hutcherson Center, Plainview

Soccer
Tuesday
Pampa vs. Randall B-G, 5pm away

Baseball
Saturday
Pampa vs. Canyon B-G, 12 noon here

Baseball
Thursday
Pampa varsity, Borger Tournament

Softball
Thursday
Pampa varsity, Frenship Tournament

Golf
Friday
Pampa girls, Borger Invitational
Pampa boys, Midland Invitational

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DAR to recognize 2003 Good Citizens honorees

Six area students will be honored as Good Citizens by Las Pampas Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution in a special ceremony at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 16, at First United Methodist Church Education Building in Pampa. The six were chosen by their respective schools for exemplifying the DAR Good Citizen Award requirements (dependability, leadership, service and patriotism.)

American Field Service exchange students Claudio Benassi of Italy and Linda Aas of Norway will present the program.

Also honored during the ceremony will be DAR essay winners, Cody Snow of Pampa Middle School, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donny Snow, and Evan Gary Aderholt of Austin Elementary School, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Aderholt.

The topic of the essay contest was "A Letter From Valley Forge: Winter 1777-78."

The competition saw a total of 152 entries from Pampa Middle School, Pampa elementary schools and Community Christian School, according to DAR Essay Chair Willie Mae Mangold.

The honorees will be awarded \$20 and a certificate by the local chapter during the ceremony.

The 2003 Good Citizen honorees are Sarah Porter of Pampa, Lacey Aderberg of Clarendon, Cassi Shea Brown of Wheeler, Amanda Daugherty of Lefors, Brendan Haiduk of White Deer and Laurissa Noack of Groom.

Sarah Porter is the daughter of Rod and Kelly Porter. Her honors, activities and accomplishments include: PHS musicals; PHS concert and Show choirs; PHS Choir

Advisory Board; superior rating-solo and ensemble contests; church youth leader and worship band leader; National Honor Society; Who's Who Among American High School Students; freshman volleyball team captain; economic academic award-winner; varsity soccer (three years); sophomore varsity soccer team captain; cross-country; Adopt-a-Park Program volunteer; D-FY-IT member; DARE mentor; soccer coach; Salvation Army volunteer; beginner guitar instructor; and ASTRA vice president.

Sarah plans to pursue a degree in music composition at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn.

Lacey is the daughter of Jeff and Sandy Aderberg. Her honors, activities and accomplishments include: National Honor Society member/officer; senior class officer; student council officer; band; school newspaper staff member; UIL editorial writing and persuasive speaking; state editorial writing award; Who's Who among American High School Students; academic all-district award; cross-country track; and softball.

She volunteers at the nursing home through her church program and helps with junior church. In the summer, she operates a snow cone stand and works in her father's saddle shop.

Cassi is the daughter of Ronald and Cindy Brown. Her honors, activities and accomplishments include: Academic all-district; Who's Who Among American High School Students; various subject awards; National Honor Society; FCA member/officer; FFA member/officer; FCCLA member/officer; junior class officer; student council presi-



Sarah Porter



Lacey Aderberg



Cassi Shea Brown



Amanda Daugherty

dent; UIL competitor; cross-country and regional track qualifier; basketball all-district honorable mention; basketball team captain; homecoming queen candidate; varsity cheerleader; Wheeler High Patriot Day MC; and Meals on Wheels and Tralee Crisis Center fund-raising volunteer.

Cassi also volunteers at the food bank, Ronald McDonald House and during the Christmas holidays helps out with many projects such as wrapping packages at a nursing homes and caroling.

She plans to pursue a degree in public relations after high school and perhaps working in the mission field.

Amanda is the daughter of Marvin and Laurie Daugherty. Her honors, activities and accomplishments include: National Honor Society; school yearbook staff member; UIL One Act Play honor mention, all-star cast; All-American Cheerleading qualifier (three years); tennis; cross-country regional qualifier; track regional qualifier; Fighting Lady Pirate Basketball award; Most Valuable Player award (two years); second team all-district; LOGOS and Vacation Bible School volunteer; teacher's aide; and school beautification project volunteer.

During past summers, she has worked for her school and as a baby-sitter. Her future plans are to pursue a degree in education and become a middle school teacher and athletic coach.

Brendan Haiduk is the son of Eric and Kay Haiduk of White Deer. His honors, activities and accomplishments include: FFA awards; station champion-crop judging team and \$200 scholarship recipient to Texas Tech University; state qualifier-entomology team (two years); area qualifier-conducting team; area qualifier-farm skills; livestock show entrant (four years); Greenhand and Lonestar awards; FFA officer; National Honor Society; Who's Who Among American High School Students; President's Education Award (two years); BWXT Pantex-Ascension Academy awards of excellence in math and science; USAA All-American Scholar, leadership merit award-winner; subject award-winner; math and chemistry tutor; class president/student council representative (two years); student pilot; and officer-Buck Pride.

He has served as time keeper and video recorder for many school football and basketball



Brendan Haiduk



Laurissa Noack

games and worked two summers at Perry Lefors Air Field servicing and assisting in repairs on small aircraft.

This coming summer he plans to work in the missionary field in Central America and to attend Kansas State at Salina College of Technology and Aviation in the fall and earn his commercial airline pilot's license.

Laurissa is the daughter of Kevin and Susan Noack. Her honors, activities and accomplishments include: Regional qualifier-UIL science, headline writing and number sense; National Honor Society member/officer; first place state yearbook award-winner in 'clubs and organizations feature story' and 'theme copy'; school yearbook editor; senior

class president; regional track qualifier-shot put and discus; district track champion-shot-put and discus; junior varsity cross-country team (three years); junior varsity and varsity basketball teams; all-state academic award-winner-basketball; and varsity band.

Laurissa has participated in Vacation Bible School and in various community service projects, helping out with a soup kitchen and volunteering with Goodwill, and has served as a leader, counselor and game director at church camp.

She has worked in a grocery store to earn money for college and plans to pursue a degree in marine biology and bio-medicine at Texas A&M University in Galveston.



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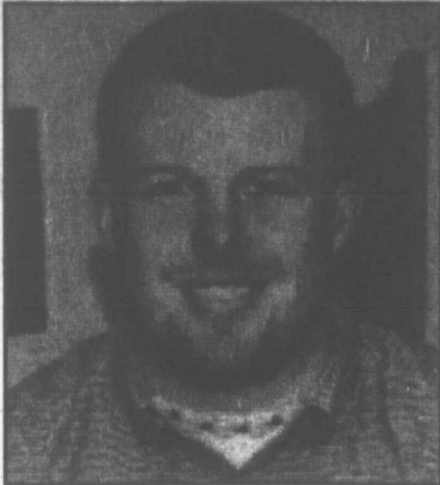
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COMMUNITY

NEWSMAKERS



Josh Blackmon

WEATHERFORD, Okla. — Josh Blackmon of Pampa is among 89 students at Southwestern Oklahoma State University currently fulfilling their practice teaching assignments during a 12-week period this semester.

Their assignments, which began Feb. 10 and will continue through May 3, are a joint effort between SWOSU School of Education and participating schools.

Blackmon is student teaching in Pampa.

KINGSVILLE — Texas A&M University at Kingsville recently announced students named to its Honor Roll for the 2002 fall semester.

To be eligible for the Honor Roll, a student must maintain a 3.5 grade point average while enrolled in 12 or more semester hours at the university. Students named to the list include: Casey Joe Owens of Pampa.

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. — Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Josh B. Acuna, son of Debbie Ann and Antonio Acuna of McLean, is currently on his fifth month of deployment while assigned to the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit based at Camp Lejeune.

Acuna is one of more than 4,000 Atlantic Fleet Sailors and Marines deployed aboard the ships of the USS Nassau Amphibious Ready Group. Part of his unit is currently providing security for the Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa.

During his deployment, Acuna's unit has participated in training, humanitarian assistance and peace support operations in Spain, Italy, Kosovo, Kenya and Djibouti, Africa, before patrolling the seas and skies in the U.S. Forces Central Command area of responsibility.

Acuna is a 1995 graduate of McLean High School and joined the Marine Corps in 1999.

PLAINVIEW — Wayland Baptist University recently announced students named to its President's and Dean's lists for the 2002 fall semester.

To be eligible for the President's List, a student must maintain a 4.0 grade point average while enrolled in 12 or more semester hours at the university. Students named to the list include: Shanna Buck, Maegan Dyer, Jennifer Mackie, Janelle Powers and Kevin Schaub, all of Pampa.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must maintain a 3.5 or higher GPA while enrolled in 12 or more semester hours at the university. Students named to the list include: Jessica Blandford and Doug Warren, both of Pampa.

UPCOMING EVENTS

'LEGACY'

The M.K. Brown "Legacy" book is currently on sale at White Deer Land Museum, Hastings and the Chamber of Commerce.

PCCA

Pampa Community Concert Association's 2002-03 season will kick-off with "Swingerhead" scheduled to perform at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 8, at Borger High School Auditorium. Borger's CCA will co-sponsor. Other upcoming PCCA presentations include: "Quintet of the Americas," Nov. 19; "The Ennis

(More EVENTS on page 26)



Paula relaxes at her desk during a momentary lull in her busy schedule.



The couple above is from Act I of "LA BOHEME" by Puccini. Paula directed this scene.

In operatic scene, a stage director controls the visuals

By SKYLA BRYANT
COMMUNITY EDITOR

DENTON — What do you do if you hold an undergraduate degree in vocal performance and a master's degree in choral conducting coupled with intensive post-graduate studies in symphonic and operatic conducting?

Become a conductor, right? Not if you're Pampa High alumni Paula Homer who instead one day found herself directing operas.

What, you ask, does conducting and stage directing have in common?

Not much Paula initially stated in a recent phone interview, but later modestly conceded that it certainly doesn't hurt to have an extensive knowledge of music and opera when directing key players in a production that evolves around song and symphony.

"There are directors of operas who are not musicians, and they sometimes do great jobs and sometimes they don't do great jobs. Sometimes that's because they don't understand

the music," Paula observed. "There are times I don't do a great job either, and I understand the music. Maybe I don't do a great job for another reason!" Paula added, laughing.

Paula began her professional career at Angelo State University in San Angelo where she took a post fresh from graduate school as conductor of the ASU orchestra, signing on to teach voice and piano for the institution as well.

Paula said she donned "many hats" while at Angelo University, even serving as director of choral activities at one point.

"While I was there, I decided in the first year that we should maybe try to do some opera," Paula said, remembering. "There was some really fine singing going on there, and a really marvelous voice teacher who could really do great, wondrous things with voices. And I thought, well, we'll just do some opera."

Paula conducted the opera's orchestra and hired someone else to handle the monumental — and scary — task of stage directing. The first season saw such

success Paula was primed for a second season, signing on the same stage director and laying in advance advertising. She never dreamed the director's position would be vacated at the last minute, and she would be forced to fill the position herself, but that's exactly what happened.

Thus necessity was the birth of her true calling.

"It was probably awful," Paula said. "I mean I would hate to see a video of it, but I loved doing it."

She loved it so much she gradually found a niche in the field, going so far as to create her own opera company, OperaWorks, Inc., in 1982 and to form an affiliation with Des Moines Metro Opera, a major regional opera company with an opera house in Des Moines, Iowa, heading up Des Moines Metro's Apprentice Artists Program for 10 years.

The demands on her time eventually became so overwhelming she had to quit OperaWorks, but still continues to work with the Des Moines Metro Opera during the summertime.

She is currently director of Opera at the University of North Texas at Denton, a position she assumed in 1992. She also teaches classes in the art of singing-acting.

UNT generally stages four operas a year.

"I jokingly tell people being a stage director means you get to tell people where to go — and they pay you to do that."

Paula oversees the visual mechanics of an opera, everything the audience sees.

Paula made the comparison between her job and that of, say, a movie director.

(See HOMER, Page 26)

FEB

16

2003

LIFESTYLES

ANNIVERSARIES

Bohannan anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Bohannan of Pampa will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary from 2-4 p.m., today in fellowship hall of Calvary Baptist Church. Children of the couple and Ruth and Elmo Thompson will host the reception.

Loyd Bohannan and LaDonna Thompson were married Feb. 18, 1978, at Clayton, N.M. Mrs. Bohannan is a life-long Pampa resident. Mr. Bohannan has lived here for 28 years. Both are members of Calvary Baptist Church.

Mr. Bohannan has worked for Cabot Carbon Black Plant for 18 years, and Mrs. Bohannan has worked for



Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Bohannan

Brown, Graham and Company for 16 years.

Children of the couple are Ashlee and Raymond

Trolinger of Borger and Breanna Bohannan of Tulsa, Okla. They have two grandchildren.

Brookshire anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Terry Brookshire of Pampa will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary at 2 p.m., today in Pamcel Hall at Celanese near Pampa. Children of the couple will host the reception. The couple are planning an anniversary cruise this summer.

Terry Brookshire and Llane Sparks were married Feb. 14, 1978. They have been Pampa residents for 25 years.

Mr. Brookshire owns- operates Terry's Custom Shop, a cabinet-making business he established 21 years ago.

Mrs. Brookshire is current-



Mr. and Mrs. Terry Brookshire

ly employed at the post office, where she has worked for the last eight years. Children of the couple are

Josh and Amber Brookshire of Denton and Casey and Vicki Brookshire of Canyon. They have one grandchild.

CLUB NEWS

Club news is published strictly on a first come, first serve basis due to space limitations. The deadline each week for Sunday's paper is Wednesday at 5 p.m., (Tuesday at 12 noon on holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas.) The deadline does not guarantee publication that week. Thank you.

20th Century Club

Twentieth Century Club met Feb. 11 at the home of hostess Pat Terry in Pampa with President Louise Bailey presiding. Eleven members

were present.

Dot Stowers presented the program on Brazil at the last meeting instead of Dot Allen.

The following business was conducted and announcements made:

—Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as read by Secretary Billie Dixon.

—Vonna Wolf delivered the treasurer's report.

—Myrna Orr gave the program on Holland.

—Cleo Worley reported on Odessa Learning Center.

The next meeting will be at 1:30 p.m., Feb. 25 at the home of Nancy Coffee.

Altrusa

Altrusa International, Inc., of Pampa, met Feb. 11 at Pampa Country Club with Vice President Billie Sue Evans presiding. Kelli Jo Eakin attended as a guest. Chleo Worley served as a greeter.

The following business was conducted and announcements made:

—Mary McDaniel delivered the Accent on "Election of Officers."

—Officers will be elected at the next meeting. The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers: Evans, president; Billie Dixon, vice president; Maxine Watson, recording secretary; Terri Williams, corresponding secretary; Terri Gamblin, treasurer; and Sue Baker, Darlene Birkes, Worley and Joan Gray, all directors.

—Style Show tickets were distributed and members were asked to sell 10 tickets each. Price of tickets is \$10.

—Plans were finalized for the ASTRA Charter Ceremony. Organizers issued a

call for volunteers to help with the ceremony which is set to begin at 2 p.m., Feb. 23 at M.K. Brown Room of Pampa Community Building.

—District Conference will be April 4-6 in Dallas.

Members were encouraged to attend. Delegates will be elected at the next meeting.

—A club-wide orientation and leadership meeting is scheduled at 7 p.m., Feb. 18 at Lovett Memorial Library.

—Birthday greetings went to Glyndene Seitz, Baker, Georgia Johnson and Janet Bilyeu.

The next meeting will be at 7 p.m., Feb. 25 at Pampa Country Club.

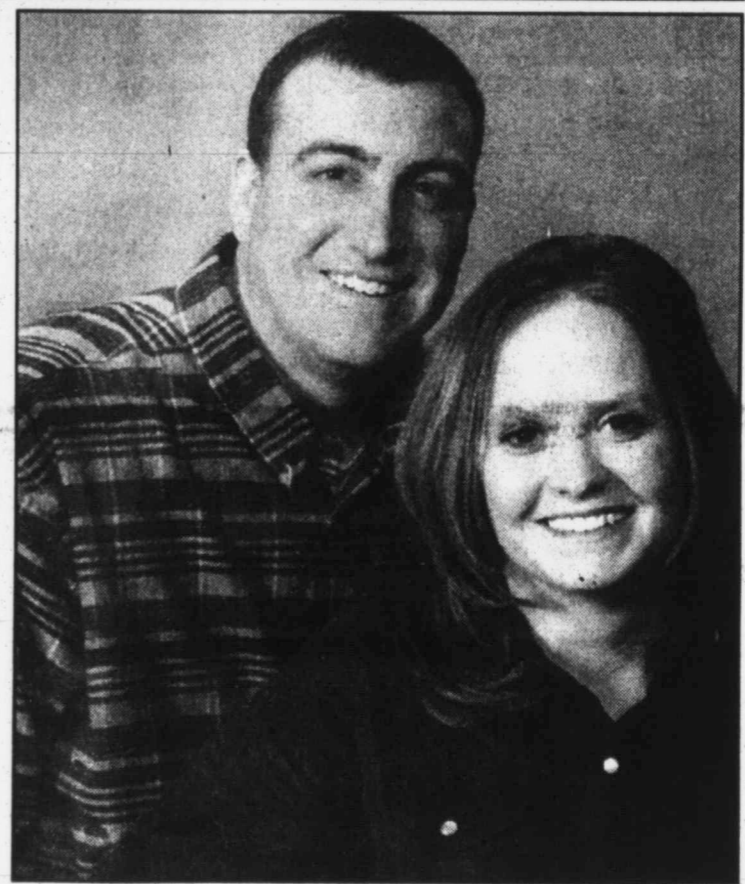
ENGAGEMENTS

Footepowers

Ronni Nicole Foote of Dalhart and Zane Michael Powers of Pampa plan to wed May 24 in First Baptist Church of Plainview.

The bride-elect is the daughter of David and Joni Foote of Dalhart. She graduated from Whiteface High School in 1999 and is scheduled to graduate with a bachelor's of science degree in elementary education with an emphasis on mathematics from Wayland Baptist University in May.

The prospective groom is the son of Tim and Janice Powers of Pampa. He graduated from Pampa High School in 1999 and earned a bachelor's



Zane Michael Powers and Ronni Nicole Foote

of arts degree in religion with an emphasis in youth ministry from Wayland Baptist University in December 2002.

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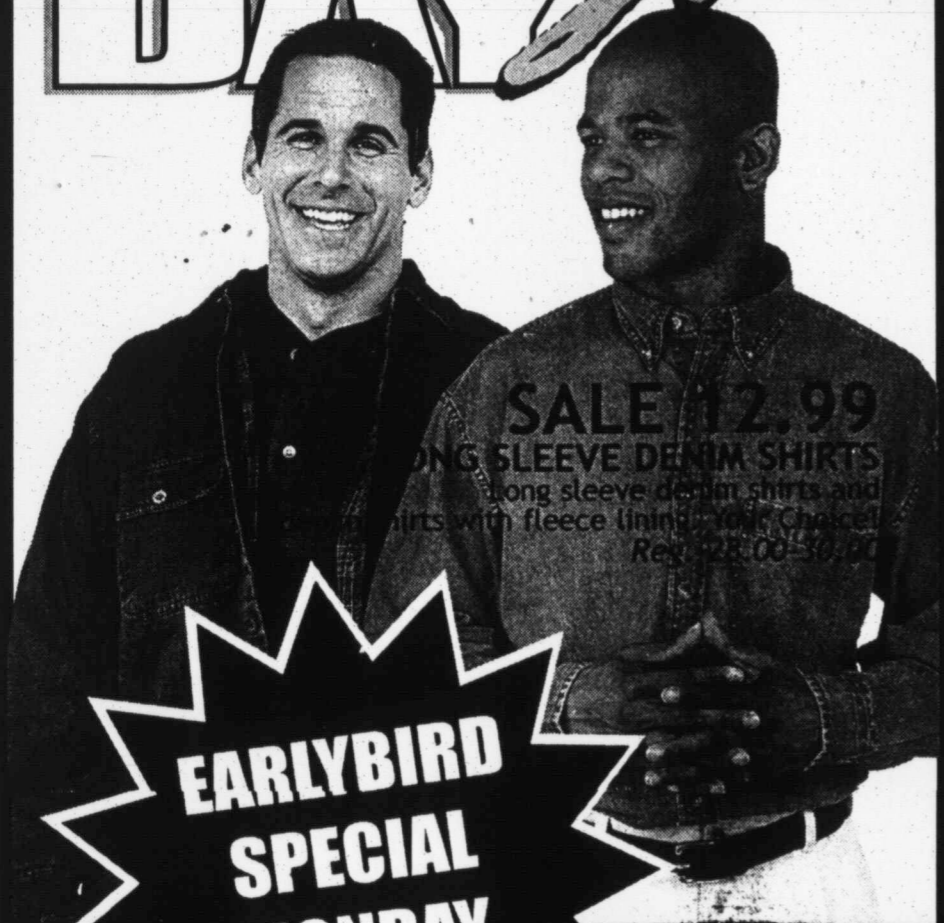
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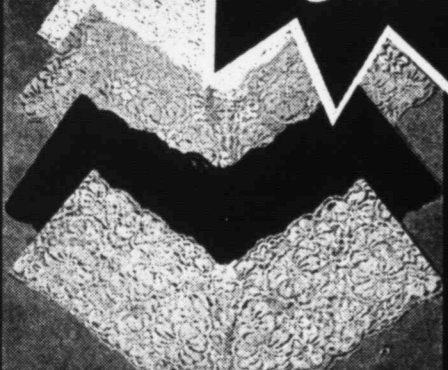
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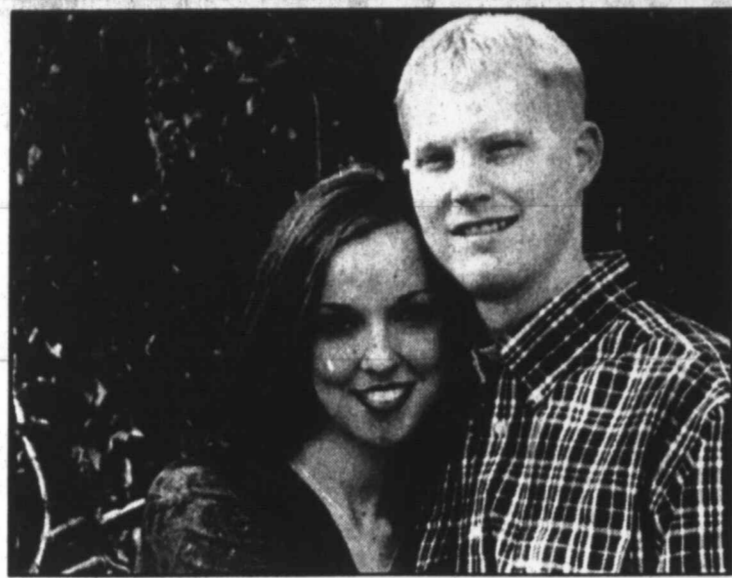
ENGAGEMENTS

Baker-Stone

Shanna Lea Baker and Jereme Shane Stone, both of Fort Worth, plan to wed May 24 in First Christian Church of Pampa.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Kelley and Melody Baker of Pampa. She graduated from Pampa High School in 2001 and is currently pursuing a degree in elementary education at Tarrant County College in Fort Worth. She plans to transfer to the University of Texas at Arlington in the fall.

The prospective groom is the son of Norman and Robbie Stone of Pampa. He graduated from Pampa High School in 1996 and



Shanna Lea Baker and Jereme Shane Stone

holds a bachelor's of business administration degree and a master's of professional accounting degree from West Texas A&M

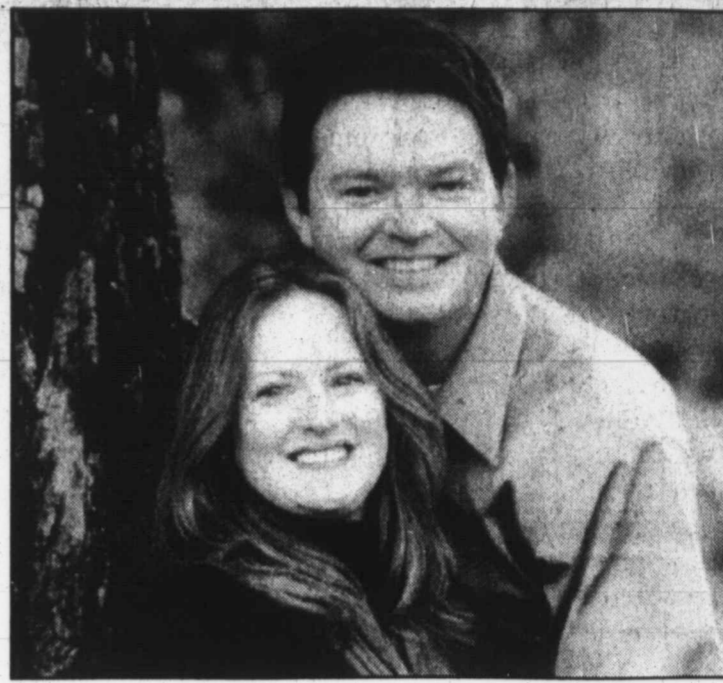
University. He is currently employed as an accountant for Barg and Henson, P.C., in Fort Worth.

Nichols-Sumpter

Tricia Lynn Nichols and Chris Sumpter, both of Dallas, plan to wed April 26 at Central Christian Church in Dallas.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Harlan Nichols of Zolfo Springs, Fla., and Sherry Rhodes of Dallas. She holds a degree from Texas Tech University and worked in advertising for nine years. She is currently an associate media director at Temerlin McClain in Dallas and teaches part-time as an adjunct professor at Southern Methodist University.

The prospective groom is the son of Darell and Donna Sumpter of Pampa. He also



Tricia Lynn Nichols and Chris Sumpter

holds a degree from Texas Tech University and is currently employed as a sales manager and web designer at Sage/Quick Technologies, a Dallas software company serving the promotional products industry.

MENUS

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 17-21

Pampa Schools

MONDAY
Breakfast: French toast sticks.

Lunch: Fish strips or chicken nuggets, potatoes, green beans, pears.

TUESDAY
Breakfast: Toast.

Lunch: Cheeseburger pockets or burritos, corn salad, fresh fruit.

WEDNESDAY
Breakfast: Cinnamon rolls.

Lunch: Polish sausage-on-a-

bun or cheese nachos, French fries, salad, pineapple.

THURSDAY
Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, biscuits.

Lunch: Popcorn chicken or hamburgers, whipped potatoes, salad, pears, rolls.

FRIDAY
Breakfast: Cereal, toast, sausage.

Lunch: Mini burritos/cheese sauce or pizza, western beans, peaches.

Lefors Schools

MONDAY
Breakfast: Pancakes, cold cereal, toast, juice, milk.

Lunch: Chicken teriyaki, egg rolls, rice, mixed vegetables, fruit, milk.

TUESDAY
Breakfast: Breakfast pockets, gravy, cold cereal, toast, juice, milk.

Lunch: Fish, macaroni/cheese, slaw, peas, fruit, milk.

WEDNESDAY
Breakfast: French toast sticks, cold cereal, toast, juice, milk.

Lunch: Sausage wraps, chicken nuggets, potatoes, hominy, fruit, milk.

THURSDAY
Breakfast: Hot or cold cereal, toast, juice, milk.

Lunch: Rotel chicken or mini corn-dogs, beans, rice, fruit, milk.

FRIDAY
Breakfast: Eggs, sausage, cold cereal, toast, juice, milk.

Lunch: Turkey or ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, fruit, milk.

Senior Citizens

MONDAY
Chicken fried steak or chicken pot pie, mashed potatoes, winter blend, beets, beans, carrot cake or chocolate icebox pie, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.

TUESDAY
Turnkey/dressing or ham/fruit sauce, yams, green bean casserole, cream corn, beans, Boston cream pie or cherry cream pie, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.

WEDNESDAY
Roast beef brisket/brown gravy or cook's choice, mashed potatoes, broccoli/cheese, carrots, beans, black forest cake or custard pie slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.

THURSDAY
Chicken strips or sauer-

kraut/sausages, cheese potatoes, turnip greens, macaroni/tomatoes, beans, pineapple upsidedown cake or lemon icebox pie, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.

FRIDAY
Catfish/hushpuppies or fiesta bake, potato wedges, cheese grits, beans, brownies or tapioca cups, slaw, tossed or jello salad, garlic toast, hot rolls or cornbread.

Meals On Wheels

MONDAY
Spaghetti/meat sauce, green beans, bread sticks, blueberries.

TUESDAY
Polish sausage, cheese grits, mixed greens, cake.

WEDNESDAY
Tater tot casserole, cabbage, blackeyed peas, pumpkin bars.

THURSDAY
Ham, okra/tomatoes, pinto beans, pudding.

FRIDAY
Barbecue meatballs, baked beans, potato salad, pears.

Utzman-Hunter

Sherri Kathlena Utzman of Denton and Roy Todd Hunter of Addison plan to wed April 19 at Athens.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Wayne and Sherrill Utzman of The Colony. She attended Horace Mann Elementary School in Pampa and Pampa Middle School before graduating from The Colony High School in 1994. She holds a bachelor's of science degree in economics from the University of Texas at Arlington (2000) and is currently employed as a police officer for the City of Denton.

The prospective groom is the son of Neil and Carole



Roy Todd Hunter and Sherri Kathlena Utzman

Hunter of Athens. He graduated from Athens High School in 1986 and attended Tyler Junior College and Sam Houston State University. He is currently employed as a sergeant for the Addison Police Department.

WEDDINGS

Rodriguez-Albus

Maria Guadalupe Rodriguez of Waco and Anthony Ray Albus of McLean were wed Feb. 14 in First Baptist Church of Pampa with Paul Nachtigall, of Highland Baptist Church of Pampa, officiating.

The matron of honor was Mireya Hooten of Waco. The maid of honor was Genia Lopez of Waco. The bridesmaids were Stacy McFall of Brownwood and Mandy Reed of Whitney. The flower girls were Cheyenne McFall of Brownwood, Paige Richards of Pampa and Stephanie Krout of Waco.

The best man was Chad Clardy of Pampa. The groomsmen were Marty McFall of Brownwood and Chad McFall and Jake Griffith, both of Whitney. The ring bearer was Garyn McFall of Brownwood.

The ushers were Jacob Albus of Pampa and Tanner Moulton of Grand Prairie. The candlelighters were Jenifer Richards and Mary Lee Clardy, both of Pampa.

Registering the guests were Casey Fisher of Pampa.

A reception was held following the service in the parlor of the church with Jenifer Richards, Casey Fisher, Mary Lee Clardy and Diane Lumley, all of Pampa, and Katherine Helms, sister of the groom of White Deer, serving the guests.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Jesus Rodriguez of San Luis, Mexico. She graduated from high school at San Luis and formerly worked as assistant cash manager at Super K-Mart in Waco.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gary L. McFall of McLean and Mr. and Mrs. Michael R. Albus of Pampa. He graduated from McLean High School and from Law Enforcement Academy at McClendon County College in



Maria Guadalupe Rodriguez

Waco. He is currently a Hemphill County deputy sheriff. The couple planned a honeymoon trip to Waco and intend to make their home in Canadian.

OB/GYN Update
by Otoniel Huertas, M.D.
Obstetrics & Gynecology

A NEW DIMENSION IN ULTRASOUND

Ultrasound has been an important tool in assessing fetal health for many years. While nearly all pregnant women undergo at least one ultrasound, the distorted image presents a vague impression to the untrained eye. To say the least, in recent years, however, software has been added to traditional ultrasound, which enhances the image as well as produces a three-dimensional one. 3-D ultrasound has opened the door to possibilities of pinpointing problems that traditional ultrasounds cannot. The images are most valuable when a problem with the fetus is detected with two-dimensional ultrasound and the obstetrician needs to pinpoint a diagnosis. The images can help expectant families understand the abnormality and the available options for treating it.

As to whether or not this procedure or any other is needed, your doctor is the best one to judge. Good care means not being subjected to unnecessary tests or going without any advisable ones. For your obstetrical and gynecological care, phone my office at 806-273-7771. We are located at 106 S. Bryan. Borger. New patients are welcome.

P.S. Ultrasound makes use of high-frequency sound waves to bounce off the surfaces and structures of the fetus, producing echoes that can be seen on a video monitor

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TSCRA opposing mandatory country-of-origin labeling

FORT WORTH — Leaders of Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association have joined with other U.S. cattle producers in opposing mandatory country-of-origin labeling for beef products and supporting a program that is voluntary and industry driven.

The action was taken during the National Cattlemen's Beef Association's annual conference held recently in Nashville, Tenn.

"There are many adverse aspects of COOL including costs and impact relative to tracking, auditing, verification and compliance," explained TSCRA President John E. Dudley. "Some

estimates of the cost of implementing such a program run in the billions of dollars. If we cattle producers have learned anything, we know that each time a new regulation comes along, processors simply pass that cost along to the producer. Nothing leads us to believe that this situation will be any different.

"Placing a label on beef products informing the consumer where their beef products are born, raised and slaughtered is a great concept; but will the consumer pay premiums for country-of-origin labeled beef?" questioned Dudley.

On two animal health issues important to Texas producers,

In other action, TSCRA joined NCBA in opposing any bilateral trade agreement between the United States and Australia, citing Australia's proposal to remove import quotas on Australian beef under such an agreement.

TSCRA led the effort to update NCBA's position on fever ticks and Mexican heifer imports. NCBA called for increased federal support for the Texas Cattle Fever Tick Control Program, continued research to control resistant strains of cattle ticks and construction of new laboratory facilities to replace

the out-dated ones currently used.

NCBA asked that Mexican heifers entering U.S. feedyards for finish feeding continue to be "M" branded, "S" branded, properly tested for tuberculosis and have a negative brucellosis test conducted at the border.

In other action, TSCRA joined

NCBA in opposing any bilateral trade agreement between the United States and Australia, citing Australia's proposal to remove import quotas on Australian beef under such an agreement. The cattle raisers expressed reservations about entering into a Free Trade Agreement that provides more access to American markets than the United States gets in return.

Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association is a 125-year-old trade organization whose 13,200 members manage approximately 5.4 million cattle on 70.3 million acres of range and pasture land, primarily in Texas and Oklahoma.

WT alumni establishes scholarship in honor of Walter L. Shelly

CANYON — Suzanne E. Pointer, a 1994 graduate of West Texas A&M University, has established the Walter L. Shelly Political Science Scholarship in honor of the longtime educator who will retire this summer after 40 years of service to the University.

The initial gift will provide one exceptional student with a full four-year scholarship, including tuition, fees, books and room and board. After

that, the remaining scholarship funds will be endowed with income and capital gains to be awarded annually to a WTAMU student from the Texas or Oklahoma panhandle who maintains a 3.5 grade point average and pursues a career in government, law or the teaching of government.

Pointer, a native of Perryton who practices law in Oklahoma City, studied under Shelly while attending

WTAMU. Shelly had a tremendous academic influence on her, Pointer said, something that did not go unnoticed by her late grandfather, O.C. Rogers of Perryton.

"While a student at West Texas, I returned to Perryton on weekends to spend time with Grandfather," Pointer said. "Invariably, he would begin our conversations by asking, 'How is our Dr. Shelly?' During the last few days of his life, during our

review of his philanthropic wishes and my charge thereto, he reverently reminded me, 'Don't forget about Dr. Shelly.'"

Pointer established the scholarship with an initial gift from the Geneva Rogers Foundation, which was founded by O.C. Rogers in memory of his wife, Geneva Rogers. Pointer, president of the Geneva Rogers Foundation, has pledged to provide the full, four-year scholarship as well

as additional funds for an endowment that will assist students in subsequent years, according to Lance Ortiz, WTAMU development officer.

Shelly, an associate professor of political science, joined the WTAMU faculty in 1963. He plans to retire in July.

"I know that it is rare that a teacher concludes his or her career in higher education with this type of recognition. I am tremendously honored," Shelly said. "I have enjoyed

looking forward to the daily dialogue and intellectual exchange with my students and, hopefully, what I have done over the years has enriched or impacted their lives, for they have enriched mine."

To qualify for the scholarship, a student must be enrolled in at least 15 hours per semester; must participate in at least 40 hours per semester of volunteer activities with an accredited non-profit organization focusing on children's issues; and must demonstrate good character, leadership qualities and enthusiasm for his or her major. Financial need also will be considered in the selection process, which shall be overseen by a scholarship committee within the Department of History and Political Science.

For more information about the Walter L. Shelly Political Science Scholarship or other scholarship opportunities at West Texas A&M, contact the Office of Development at 806-651-2070.

Producers reminded to participate in census of Agriculture

AUSTIN — Your agriculture census report form wouldn't be hiding, would it? If so, Robin Roark, State Director, urges farmers and ranchers to complete and return their forms today to make it known - agriculture counts!

"The Nation's agricultural sector has a critical stake in this Census of Agriculture," said Robin Roark. "Whether a large feedlot or a very small fruit and vegetable farm, every response is important because it helps in the development of future farm programs. We encourage participants to return completed forms as soon as possible to ensure that agriculture counts."

State Director Robin Roark points out that an accurate report of the farm operations in every state and county will help put together a complete, detailed picture of the Nation's agriculture. Everyone receiving a report form across the Nation's 3,000 plus counties must report by law (Title 7, U.S. Code). Snapshots of U.S. agriculture dating back to 1840 are a valuable resource to farmers, farm organizations, agribusiness, farm media, and county, state and federal governments.

Census data are used to:

- Examine long-term trends and anticipate the future direction of agriculture.
- Allocate local and national funds for farm programs.
- Help agribusiness develop sales territories and marketing plans for fertilizer, seed, processing, storage, transportation, and equipment.
- Help State and Federal government agencies evaluate effects of changes in farm legislation.
- Assess patterns in water use and irrigation to determine resource and management needs.
- Allocate cooperative extension funding, services, and research at the local level.

Anyone needing help completing their report form may call 1-888-4AG-STAT. Results from the 2002 Census of Agriculture will be published on February 3, 2004. They will be available on www.usda.gov/nass/, through your local NASS State office, as well as from many libraries and land grant universities. Individual reports are held strictly confidential by law (Title 7, U.S. Code).

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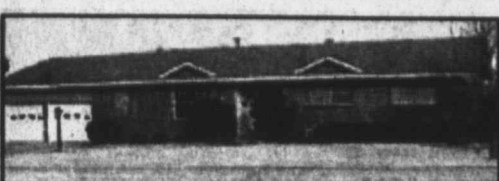
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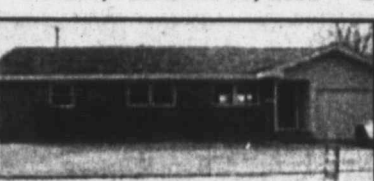
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