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**THE Pampa NEWS**  
 TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2003 Vol. 98 No. 567 • Pampa, Texas  
 50 cents Daily • Sunday \$1



**WEATHER WEATHER**

**HIGH**      **LOW**  
**61**        **32**

**LOCAL**

**Pampan, 36, charged with resisting arrest**

John Paul Parks, 36, 400 Roberta, remained in jail this morning on several charges and bonds totaling \$10,000 after a Pampa police officer initially stopped him on a traffic violation.

Parks was stopped by an officer shortly after midnight in the 800 block of Octavius. He resisted arrest and was subsequently charged with three offenses relating to the arrest and a municipal warrant.

Justice of the Peace Kurt Curfman set bond on Parks this morning at the Gray County Jail.

Charges and the amount of bond are as follows: assault on a public servant, \$5,000; resisting arrest, \$2,500; and driving while intoxicated, \$2,500. He was also arrested on a municipal warrant for possession of drug paraphernalia.

**DEATHS**

Alva J. Tucker, 97, Sunday school teacher.

**INSIDE...**

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**WEST TEXAS LANDSCAPE**

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**Skellytown seeks AG's opinion**

By DAVID BOWSER  
 STAFF WRITER

**SKELLYTOWN** -- The Skellytown City Council is awaiting a Texas Attorney General's opinion to see whether this Carson County community can continue to include a \$1.50 fee on their water bill to support their volunteer fire department.

On Jan. 30, Carson County Attorney Scott Sherwood forwarded an Attorney General's opinion request from James T. Shelton, Skellytown's city attorney, to Greg Abbott of the Texas Attorney General's office.

The city attorney couldn't make the request, Sherwood said, so it was done through the county attorney's office.

The letter to the Attorney General actually requests an opinion on three issues involving the City of Skellytown and the Skellytown Area Volunteer Firefighters -EMS Association, Inc.

The first issue is the legal consequences of an individual serving simultaneously on the city council and the board of directors of the firefighters association and voting during a city council meeting on a resolution transferring fire department budget, funds

and bank accounts from the city to the association and approving a lease between the city and firefighters association.

According to the request filed with the Attorney General's office, D.C. Woods was a member of the city council in May 2000, serving as mayor pro-tem, and was also one of the original members of the firefighters association when it was formed and served at the time on the association's board of directors.

Woods seconded both motions and voted for them.

Under previous Attorney General

opinions, one person may not hold two incompatible offices. The opinion cited in the request states that an individual may not serve as both fire chief and city council member by virtue of the common law practice of incompatibility.

The request, formulated by Shelton, asks that if such is the case, what is the legal consequence of Woods' votes on the council's actions.

A second issue brought up by the request for an Attorney General's opinion is whether the City of Skellytown

(See OPINION, Page 3)

**Industrial Park to be appraised before it is sold**

*Editor's Note: This is the third in a series of articles on the progress of the dissolution of the Pampa Economic Development Corporation and status of the PEDC's projects.*

By NANCY YOUNG  
 MANAGING EDITOR

The five men appointed by the Pampa City Commission to dissolve the Pampa Economic Development Corporation recently discussed each of the remaining EDC projects.

In the first installment of the series the two defunct dairies assisted by the PEDC were reviewed and American Energy and the US Bus building were reviewed in the second in the series.

Board Member Steve Phillips told The Pampa News this morning that while American Energy is leaving Pampa that the business has been extremely cooperative with the PEDC.

Phillips said the company is returning the sand bin as they were not aware that it belonged to the PEDC and they are meeting all requirements of the EDC, including an environmental audit on the property.

He said he hated to lose a business of American Energy's caliber.

"They have really been great," he said.

Phillips told board members at the last meeting that the company had been bought by another company, and operations in Pampa were being transferred to an Oklahoma location and another one at Cisco.

"We lost out for no other reason than it was a buy-out," he said. Phillips said he was sure American Energy would fulfill their obligations. "They've been a very good corporate partner," he said.

In yesterday's edition of American Energy, discussion of a crane was referenced in connection with that company.

The crane which was recently sold was located in the US Bus building, and the buyer of the crane has indicated he would like to purchase the remaining crane at that building.

**Industrial Park Property**

The 213 acres of Industrial Park property owned by the PEDC is being appraised.

Board president Doug Locke said one appraisal has been received while the second one has not yet come in to the board.

Board Member Gary Sutherland said he anticipated having all appraisal information ready at the March PEDC meeting.

(See PEDC, Page 3)

**Grand jury indicts former Pampan on indecency charge**

By NANCY YOUNG  
 MANAGING EDITOR

A former Pampa man has been indicted by a Potter County Grand Jury for indecency with a child-sexual contact in connection with an alleged incident at St. Mary's Catholic School in Amarillo.

Gregory Robert Bullard, 34, was a second grade teacher at the school at the time of the incident was reported to have occurred in early December 2002.

Bullard, a Pampa High graduate, began teaching at

the parochial school at the beginning of the 2002-2003 school years. His contract was terminated by the school.

A spokeswoman with the 47th District Attorney's Office in Amarillo said the case has been assigned to the 108th District Court.

Bullard remains free on a \$10,000 personal recognizance bond.

He was arrested on the charge in Pampa on Jan. 25 by Gray County deputies. He was released from custody on Jan. 26.

**Waiting for Spring**



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

The sun rising behind the softball pavilion at Recreation Park east of Pampa creates a geometric statement. Wintry weather has kept the stadium waiting silently for several months now, but it won't belong before spring softball action begins.

**Bush to war protestors: 'I respectfully disagree'**

By RON FOURNIER  
 AP WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush declared on Tuesday that he wouldn't be deterred by global protests against war with Iraq, saying "I respectfully disagree" with those who doubt that Saddam Hussein is a threat to peace.

He said such a war remains a final resort, but "the risk of doing nothing is even a worse option as far as I'm concerned."

Amid heavy opposition at the United Nations and protests around the world, the Bush administration faced a decision whether to push ahead with Britain for a new Security Council resolution to support war to disarm Iraq.

Senior Bush advisers are considering whether it was worth risking defeat in the council and how to phrase a new resolution in a bid for support, a U.S. official told The Associated Press.

Bush said that the size of the protests against a possible U.S.-led war against Iraq was irrelevant.

"Size of protest, it's like deciding, 'Well I'm going to decide policy based up on a focus group.' The role of a leader is to decide policy based

upon the security — in this case — security of the people."

Millions of people around the world took to the streets over the weekend to protest such a war.

"Democracy is a beautiful thing, and that people are allowed to express their opinion," Bush said.

"Some in the world don't view Saddam Hussein as a risk to peace," he added. "I respectfully disagree."

Bush said that Saddam Hussein continued to pose a very real threat to Americans and to the world.

The president expressed confidence that the United States would come up with an acceptable aid package for Turkey, a close U.S. ally in the region who will play a vital role if there is military action against Baghdad.

Bush said Turkey has "no better friend than the American government" and that Washington and Ankara were still working out details of an aid package.

The U.S. military plans to use bases in Turkey both for aircraft and for ground forces in the event of an attack on Turkey's neighbor to the south.

Bush indicated that he was running out of patience. Asked

if he planned to set an ultimatum for Saddam's compliance, Bush suggested that would be pointless, like extending "another, another, another last chance."

"He knows my feelings, and that is, he needs to disarm — completely and totally disarm. He's a fellow that likes to buy time and buy it through deception and delay."

The global anti-war protests have put the White House on the defensive. Presidential spokesman Ari Fleischer began his daily briefing by reading newspaper clips about demonstrations against the staging of missiles in Germany in the early 1980s, and said, "This is not the first time there have been mass protests and in a previous instance America stood on principle ... and as a result the Berlin Wall came down."

He also told reporters that former President Franklin Roosevelt overcame protests from isolationists to lead American into World War II.

"Often the message of protesters is contradicted by history," he said.

Next weekend, Bush will meet with a European supporter, Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar of Spain, at the president's ranch in Texas.

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ON RECORD

**POLICE**

Pampa Police Department today reported the following arrests and incidents.

**Monday, Feb. 17**

Lindsey Terrell, 18, 600 W. Plains, was arrested on a capias pro fine warrant for no drivers license and parking with wheels more than 18 inches from the curb.

Domestic assault was made to the police department. There were no injuries, according to the police report.

An assault involving juveniles was reported in the 2100 block of North Hobart. According to the police report, there were no injuries.

Forgery was reported in the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway.

Police investigated a report of an unknown entry into a vehicle in which a payroll check was reported taken. The incident occurred in the 1000 block of Neel Road.

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported in the 800 block of East Brunow.

**Tuesday, Feb. 18**

John Paul Parks, 36, 400 Roberta, was arrested for assault on a public servant, resisting arrest, driving while intoxicated-second offense and a municipal warrant for possession of drug paraphernalia.

**AMBULANCE**

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

**Monday, Feb. 17**

11:20 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 700 block of East Brunow on a welfare check; no patient was transported.

11:34 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Pampa Regional Medical Center; one patient was transported to a local nursing home.

2:16 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 400 block of West Foster; one patient was transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center (PRMC).

3:09 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of North Wells; one patient was transported to PRMC.

3:58 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC; one patient was transported to Baptist-St. Anthony's Hospital West in Amarillo.

9:48 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of North Wells; one patient was transported to PRMC.

**Tuesday, Feb. 18**

2:24 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Farm-to-Market 749; one patient was transported to PRMC.

**FIRE**

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

**SHERIFF**

Gray County Sheriff's Department today reported the following arrest.

**Monday, Feb. 17**

Jennifer W. Winegeart, 24, of Amarillo, was arrested by Department of Public Safety troopers for violation of probation with original charge being possession of controlled substance, open container of alcoholic beverage, no seat belt, expired drivers license and violation of drivers license restriction A.

**STOCKS**

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa.		
Wheat	3.37	
Milo	3.93	
Corn	4.47	
Soybeans	4.93	
Halliburton	19.05	-0.14
Triad Hospitals	24.33	+0.03
NOI	20.63	+0.49
KMI	45.81	+0.09
XCEL	10.83	+0.24
Kerr McGee	39.25	+0.81
Limited	11.76	+0.20
Williams	2.77	+0.17
McDonalds	13.43	-0.19
Exxon Mobil	33.99	+0.55
Atmos	22.03	+0.08
Pioneer Nat	24.43	+0.18
Penney's	19.04	+0.30
COP	49.29	+0.97
Schlumberger	39.27	+0.58
Tenneco	2.35	+0.10
CVX	64.60	+0.87
Wal-Mart	49.30	+0.15
OKE	16.72	+0.06
NS Group	7.55	+0.05
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.		
BP	38.93	+0.38
Celanese	20.30	+0.15
Cabot Corp	23.10	+0.42
Cabot Oil Gas	22.95	-0.07
Coca Cola	41.40	+0.60
VLO	36.64	-0.08
New York Gold	351.55	
Silver	4.54	
West Texas Crude	36.80	

**WEATHER FOCUS**

**PAMPA**

Today's forecast is calling for mostly cloudy skies with a 20 percent chance of light rain showers, highs in the lower 60s and south winds 5 to 15 mph with higher gusts shifting to the west 10 to 20 mph in the afternoon. Tonight should be partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain and snow, lows in the lower 30s and north winds 15 to 25 mph. Wednesday should be cloudy in the morning then becoming partly cloudy. Patchy fog in the morning. Highs in the mid 50s. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph. Wednesday night, mostly cloudy. Chance of rain. Lows in the mid 30s. Southeast winds 10 to 20 mph. Chance of rain 40 percent. Thursday, cloudy and breezy.

Chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 50s. Southeast winds 15 to 25 mph. Chance of precipitation 40 percent. Thursday night, mostly cloudy. Slight chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 30s. Chance of precipitation 30 percent. Friday, mostly cloudy. Slight chance of rain showers and snow showers. Highs in the mid 50s. Chance of rain and snow 20 percent. Friday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. Saturday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s. Saturday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. Sunday, partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s. Sunday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. Monday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s.

**STATEWIDE**

Warm temperatures and partly cloudy skies are in store for most of the state today. A strong weather system will make its presence felt beginning Wednesday with rain possible in central Texas and the far west. Thursday and Friday will be rainy, with possible severe storms in North Texas, before skies clear over the state late Friday and Saturday.

Temperature extremes Monday ranged from a high of 80 at Wink to an overnight low of 36 at Childress and Longview.

West Texas will be mostly cloudy today with a slight chance of rain in the Panhandle, and highs mostly in the 70s except cooler in the Panhandle. It will be windy in the far west and Permian Basin this afternoon, with possible blowing dust in the west.

Wednesday over West Texas will be mostly cloudy, dry and cooler with highs from the mid 50s to mid 60s. Wednesday night will be rainy south and far west, with snow possible in the mountains. Thursday and Friday will continue to be cloudy and cool, with rain likely in the south and far west both days, and a chance of rain or snow in the Panhandle. Saturday should be clear to partly cloudy and warmer.

South Texas will be warm and mostly cloudy today and Wednesday before clouds and rain move in Thursday and Friday. High temperatures should be around 70 all week, warmer in the south. On Thursday and Friday, rain will be likely in Southeast Texas and western South Texas, and possible elsewhere. The deep

south may see a few strong storms Thursday night. Small craft advisories are likely later this week on the southern coast. The region should begin to clear by late Friday. Saturday should be fair.

North Texas will see increasing clouds and winds today and highs around 70. Tonight, rain is possible over the region. Wednesday will be cloudy with possible rain central and east. Wednesday's highs will be around 60 and these temperatures will continue the rest of the week.

Thursday, showers and thunderstorms will be likely over North Texas. The rain will continue Friday with possible severe storms in the east, before skies start to clear in the afternoon as the front moves east. Saturday should be dry with decreasing clouds.

**OBITUARIES**

**ALVA J. TUCKER**  
1905-2003

Alva J. Tucker, 97, of Pampa, died Friday, Feb. 14, 2003, at Littleton, Colo. Services were to be at 2 p.m., today, Feb. 18, 2003, at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. John Glover, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Gober, Texas, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Tucker was born July 27, 1905, in Allen, Okla. She married James Howard "Bud" Tucker on July 28, 1923, in Wichita Falls, Texas. He preceded her in death on July 25, 1954.

She had been a resident of Pampa from 1934 until moving to Littleton, Colo., in 1993. She joined Calvary Baptist Church in 1935 where she taught Sunday School and was an active member of the Women's Society. She later joined the First Baptist Church where she remained an active member until moving to Littleton. She was a Bible scholar, held various positions in the church and was a faithful member.

She was preceded in death by her parents

James T. and Lillie Bell Huey; three sons-in-law, John R. Miller, Leroy Thomas and Carlos Grissom; and a granddaughter, Jamie Kathleen Tucker.



Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Janice Tucker of Pampa; five daughters and two sons-in-law, Hetty Jo and Richard Bynum of Amarillo, Bonnie Dell Grissom of Bailey, Colo., Patsy Ruth Thomas of Joliet, Ill., Doloris J. Miller of Littleton, Colo., and Marilyn M. and Bob Huluska of Clyde, N.Y.; a special friend, Hattie Hindman of Pampa; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

—Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whitley.com](http://www.carmichael-whitley.com).

**Perry against sales tax expansion**

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry says it is too early to talk about expanding the sales tax to fund education, an idea that has been pushed

recently by fellow Republicans.

"As I have said on numerous occasions, this is not the time to be talking about raising revenues. I'm focused on the spending side first and foremost," Perry said Monday after speaking to the Combined Law Enforcement Association of Texas.

He has asked lawmakers facing a \$10 billion budget shortfall to build a state budget from zero and set priorities without exceeding the \$54.1 billion in state money available for the next two years.

That means cuts of about 12.5 percent over the current budget, which totals \$114 billion when you add in federal and other funds.

"I think we've got to stay focused on the spending side. Once you take your eye off of the focus of spending and start talking about revenues there seems to be a historical pattern of people losing their resolve to pare the budget down to where it needs to be," Perry said.

Sen. Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, on Monday became the latest lawmaker to propose the idea of expanding state sales taxes.

House Appropriations Chairman Talmadge Heflin, R-

Houston, has been pushing the idea for some time. He wants to eliminate local property taxes and the state's main business tax, called the franchise tax, and make up the \$17 billion by expanding the sales tax to cover services, food and medicine.

Rep. Senfronia Thompson, D-Houston, filed a bill Monday to eliminate all state tax laws in 2005, which would force lawmakers to examine a tax system many say is antiquated and unable to adequately support a state of 21 million people.

Texas, which does not have an income tax or a state property tax, gets most of its revenue from sales and automobile taxes.

The last person who seriously tried to overhaul Texas' tax system was then-Gov. George W. Bush in 1997. He wanted to increase the sales tax rate, expand the business tax and lower property taxes \$3 billion.

Shapiro, chairwoman of the Senate Education Committee, made her remarks at a rally attended by hundreds of parents, educators and others demanding the state increase its share of public education funding.

Texas spends about 40 percent of its two-year budget on public education. Public schools are financed primarily by local property taxes.

**City Briefs**

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Friday 7:00, 9:30  
Saturday 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30  
Sunday 2:00, 4:30, 7:00

**HOW TO LOSE A GUY IN 10 DAYS** PG-13  
Monday, Thursday 7:00  
Friday 7:00, 9:30  
Saturday 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30  
Sunday 2:00, 4:30, 7:00

**KANGAROO JACK** PG  
Monday, Thursday 7:15  
Friday 7:15, 9:45  
Saturday 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45  
Sunday 2:15, 4:45, 7:15

**DARKNESS FALLS** PG-13  
Monday, Thursday 7:15  
Friday 7:15, 9:45  
Saturday 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45  
Sunday 2:15, 4:45, 7:15

Dark Blue & The General Starts Friday 2-21-03

**Hotel official fired day after testifying at high-profile dentist Clara Harris trial**

HOUSTON (AP) — A man who witnessed dentist Clara Harris running over her husband in a hotel parking lot was fired the day after he testified in her murder trial, his attorney says.

Evangelos Smiros was food and beverage director at the Nassau Bay Hilton, where he had worked since May 2000, said Smiros' attorney, Chip Lewis.

The lawyer told the Houston Chronicle in Tuesday's editions that the hotel fired Smiros, 43, on Jan. 24 because it fears possible legal action from the Harris family.

Debra Thomas, corporate lawyer for the hotel, told the newspaper the termination "has nothing to do with his testimony" but said she was not at liberty to say why he was fired or to discuss other details.

Smiros was one of the first witnesses in the trial of Harris, who was sentenced Friday to 20 years in prison for killing her husband, David.

Smiros testified about escorting Clara Harris out of the hotel and to her car on the night of July 24, shortly before she got into her silver Mercedes-Benz and repeatedly ran over her orthodontist husband in the parking lot. Minutes earlier, she had confronted her husband and his mistress in the hotel lobby.

He told jurors that David Harris yelled, "It's over! It's over!" at his wife before she got into her car and "peeled rubber."

Smiros said he chased the car, calling for Clara Harris to stop, but he heard a "thump" and saw her run over her husband three times.

Lewis said his client complied with the hotel's request to have a hotel lawyer accompany him when he gave his statement. He later talked with reporters, however, calling the fatality one of the "most horrific" events he had ever seen, Lewis said.

"He (Smiros) just told the truth and he was fired. This is an abridgment of his First Amendment rights and offensive to be punished for doing his duty," Lewis said.

Smiros said hotel officials indicated he was fired because they believed his moonlighting with an independent catering company was a conflict of interest.

"Other employees before and since then have done the same and they have not been fired," Lewis said.

**Archdiocese: Priest responsible for own actions**

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The archdiocese of San Antonio says any damages assessed because of a priest's sexual involvement with several women should be the responsibility of the cleric, not the church.

In a lawsuit that was scheduled to begin Tuesday, Julia Phelps alleges the archdiocese didn't monitor the Rev. Michael Kenny, who admitted to long-term sexual relationships with her and several other women and to fathering two children.

Last week, lawyers for the archdiocese filed

court documents saying Kenny is responsible for his own actions.

"Basically, if the jury finds guilt, we're saying that (Kenny) ought to pay the damages, not the archdiocese," deacon Pat Rodgers, archdiocesan communications director, told the San Antonio Express-News in Tuesday's editions.

Testimony isn't expected to start until late Wednesday before 73rd state District Judge Andy Mireles, said Phelps' Houston attorney, Doug Sutter.

**EU**

By CONSTITUTIONAL ASSOCIATED

**BRUSSELS**

Future EU members endorsing Tuesday Hussein he has to disarm, an Europe's bitter U.S.-led war. Thirteen co-EU members backed the statement through a compromise Washington

**PEDC**

Locke said and land will said there had about holding sell this PEDC. Board of Lewis proposed decision on the until the received.

**OPINION**

could legally property to the Skellytown of equipment the firefighters May 2000.

The request Constitution the transfer of erty from a cit it corporation transfer serves pose and the t ject to control the public pur plished.

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The third is the request is w can include a in the water b volunteer firef es?

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ACCEPTING

**DR. FAMILY DR.**



# VIEWPOINTS

## THE Pampa NEWS

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# Water remains state priority

There is an old saying about being a Texan: You know you're from Texas when you stop expecting the sight of a bridge to mean water is near. There was a time we could laugh at that one, but the reality facing Texas and its water needs make that line seem like a solemn prediction instead of a trite expression.



SEN. ROBERT DUNCAN  
GUEST COLUMNIST

After a dry spell hit the Texas economy for \$4 billion in 1996, we found several deficiencies in our state's water planning. There was no drought plan, we practiced little conservation, and no viable statewide water plan existed. During that fateful year, 80 percent of the recommended water resources had already been developed, and yet our state's population was predicted to double by the year 2030.

Unless changes were made, Texas' major urban areas would be 15 percent short of daily water needs and a loss of \$40 billion could be expected in the state economy. Most new water sources take up to 25 years to develop, and Texas had little time to waste.

In 1997 and 2001, we passed Senate Bills 1 and 2 - the most comprehensive reforms to water management and planning in Texas history. The measures shifted water planning from the state level to the local level. This was designed to drive local participation, control, and buy-in to the regional water planning process. The impact has been clear: People now talk about natural resources and communities understand water is a priority.

Securing Texas' water supply, improving its infrastructure, and promoting its conservation are among the issues

demanding the most strict attention from lawmakers. A heightened emphasis on water issues - increased public participation, education, and awareness - now flows throughout the state.

Within the next 50 years, almost 900 Texas cities will have to either reduce their demand for water or develop new sources of it. We must balance the water needs of rural and urban areas and follow the planning process we created. Rural and urban Texas have a reciprocal relationship in which the success of one benefits the other.

Rural Texas will be forced to reckon with depleted groundwater resources and an increase of those resources by urban areas. At the current rate of usage, parts of West Texas could fall short of irrigation needs by an estimated 856,000 acre-feet per year. That would reverberate across the state's economy, through the loss of thousands of jobs and millions of dollars.

If the water needs of our urban neighbors are met through investment in strategies such as conservation, reuse, desalination, and brush control, the pressure on groundwater in aquifers could be relieved.

It is vital that groundwater conservation districts continue to provide local control of groundwater, and it is of equal

importance that these districts be supported and funded locally.

Texans have to stick together and think both progressively and pragmatically about water issues. To provide more public input and attention to water issues, we created the Texas Water Advisory Council, a 13-member group of legislators, elected officials, agency leaders, and public members. This council, which I am honored to chair, guides state water policy initiatives and is developing recommendations for the Legislature.

Water is a multifaceted issue, and several of its levels will arise during this session, including conservation, desalination, reuse, infrastructure improvement, marketing, environmental and instream flows, condemnation of surface water rights, border water disputes, long-term financing strategies to help communities pay for water projects, and protection of our state's rivers.

Water will be a salient concern for this and every future Legislature. Texas regulations, laws, and institutions must evolve to keep pace with - and, at times, even encourage - new developments in technology. Texans must increase their understanding of the complex issues involved in maintaining our natural resources so they may continue to sustain the state and its economies.

Among the most precious of our resources, water is critical to all of Texas. Our state has policy challenges ahead, and overcoming them will require diplomatic resolve, judicious policies, and responsive institutions. Water is like blood, not oil. This resource sustains more than livelihoods - it maintains life.

Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Pampa News*.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## On March 3, pray for peace

Dear Editor:

Regarding prayer for world peace. Our daughter-in-law forwarded the attached e-mail to us. We thought what a wonderful idea this is. We cannot have enough prayers for world peace. We hope members of our community will take some time at 3 p.m. on March the 3rd to have a 3-minute prayer for our nation and that we can achieve peace worldwide without having to go to war.

(E-mail Text): "As many of you know there is a chance our country may be going to war soon. My son and I were talking about numbers the other night. Many of you may or may not know that in Scripture, the number 3 represents the Holy Trinity. Well, I was thinking of calling for a day of prayer and fasting for our country (maybe for the world).

"When, you may ask ... March 3. In simple terms it would be 03-03-03. Wouldn't it be great for all the Christians in the world to stop what they are doing and pray on the same day? We could make 03-03-03 God's Day. I mean He was there for all of us, that day on the cross.

"Faith is the way that all miracles come through, but prayer is the key that unlocks the door. I hope you will pass this request on to all your friends, family and churches. Maybe we could all pray at 3 p.m. (your local time) on that day for 3 minutes for world peace."

Ramee and Betty Jordan  
Fritch

### TODAY IN HISTORY

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 18, the 49th day of 2003. There are 316 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 18, 1885, Mark Twain's "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" was published in the United States for the first time.

On this date:

In 1546, Martin Luther, leader of the Protestant Reformation in Germany, died.

In 1564, artist Michelangelo died in Rome.

In 1861, Jefferson Davis was sworn in as president of the Confederate States of America in Montgomery, Ala.

In 1930, the ninth planet of our solar system, Pluto, was discovered.

In 1960, the Eighth Winter Olympic Games were formally opened in Squaw Valley, Calif., by Vice President Nixon.

In 1970, the "Chicago Seven" defendants were found innocent of conspiring to incite riots at the 1968 Democratic national convention.

In 1972, the California Supreme Court struck down the state's death penalty.

In 1977, the space shuttle "Enterprise," sitting atop a Boeing 747, went on its maiden "flight" above the Mojave Desert.

In 1988, Anthony M. Kennedy was sworn in as the 104th justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 2001, auto racing star Dale Earnhardt Sr. died from injuries suffered in a crash at the Daytona 500; he was 49.

Ten years ago: President Clinton hosted a campaign-style rally at St. Louis' Union Station to enlist citizen support for his economic plan.

Five years ago: President Clinton's foreign policy team encountered jeers during a town meeting at Ohio State University while trying to defend the administration's threat to bomb Iraq into compliance with U.N. weapons edicts: Sportscaster Harry Caray died in Rancho Mirage, Calif., at age 83.

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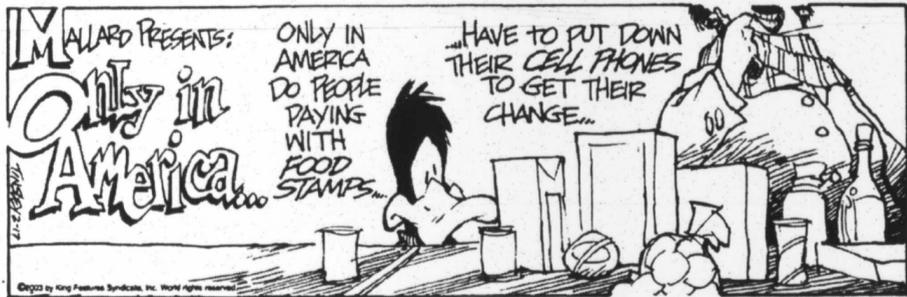
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 robertduncan@senate.state.tx.us

Mallard Fillmore by Bruce Tinsley



# Story of sacrifice raises questions

Now that American reporters increasingly are covering Islam, will most be able to get beyond press releases and provide context for what they are told? A little test I've just done raises questions.

The test concerned an incident first reported over 3,000 years ago. The book of Genesis in the Bible tells of Abraham almost sacrificing his son Isaac. Muslims, though, believe that the Bible is wrong, and when they celebrated last week the Eid al-Adha holiday that commemorates the event, they told reporters that Abraham nearly killed his oldest son, Ishmael.

That created an interesting test of journalistic evenhandedness. Newspapers had the choice of A) reporting the Muslim version of the sacrifice and pointing out that the Jewish and Christian version long preceded it; B) reporting the Muslim version and also noting the Jewish and Christian version; C) reporting the Muslim version as a version, but not necessarily as fact, and not mentioning the alternative; or D) reporting the Muslim version of the event as objective fact.

My Lexis-Nexis search found 25 stories from Feb. 8 through Feb. 13 that included the words "Abraham" and "sacrifice" in relation to Eid al-Adha. Journalists who chose A would be providing the fullest account. Reporters could also be fair by selecting B. Even C, although incomplete, is not inaccurate. But D - stating emphatically that Ishmael was the intended victim and not even mentioning the Jewish or Christian



MARVIN OLASKY  
COLUMNIST

understanding -- seems an unlikely choice for a well-informed, evenhanded reporter.

First set of results: None of the stories fell into category A. Five were in category B. The Tulsa World on Feb. 8 noted the key difference: "The Quran, the holy book of Islam, relates that God commanded Abraham to sacrifice his first born, Ishmael, then stayed his hand before the sacrifice was made and provided a lamb for the sacrifice. The Bible of the Christians and Jews tells a similar story, but it records that it was Abraham's younger son, Isaac, not Ishmael, who was about to be sacrificed."

The Associated Press on Feb. 12 was more succinct: "The Quran, the Islamic scripture, says it was Abraham's son Ishmael who was spared by God's order, while the Bible says it was Isaac."

Four stories were in category C, at least noting that the Ishmael-sacrifice story had a Muslim source. For example, the (Salt Lake City) Deseret News on Feb. 11 noted, "According to Islamic scripture, Abraham loved God so much that he would have sacrificed his son Ishmael; God revealed his love for Abraham by giving him a ram to sacrifice instead."

The New York Times on Feb. 12 reported on "God's last-minute command to Abraham to slaughter a sheep instead of his son Ishmael. The Muslim holy book, the Koran, says God wanted to test Abraham's faith by ordering him to sacrifice his son." Nothing about the biblical account in "the newspaper of record."

Fifteen stories were in category D, with newspapers such as the Dallas Morning News (on Feb. 8) stating, as if fact, "the Prophet Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son Ishmael at God's command." The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle mixed scriptures on Feb. 12 by noting that "The feast commemorates the willingness of the biblical patriarch Abraham to sacrifice his son Ishmael to Allah before an angel intervenes."

Newspapers from all over the United States -- the Arizona Republic, the Tucson Citizen, the (Lafayette, Ind.) Journal and Courier, the (Riverside, Calif.) Press-Enterprise, Fort Collins Coloradoan and the (Monroe, La.) News-Star all reported without sourcing what the Austin American-Statesman on Feb. 12 called "Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son Ishmael at God's command."

So here's the bottom line: 60 percent of the newspapers offered the Muslim version as if it were objective fact. Only one in five newspapers noted the existence of a biblical story that is older than and different from the Islamic story. This doesn't create a lot of confidence in journalistic knowledge and balance.

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## Business leaders present TSP program

Eighteen members from the local business community recently gave of their time to educate Pampa Middle School students about the Texas Scholars Program.

Each team of community volunteers stressed the importance of taking a course of study to help prepare for a solid academic foundation to help ensure a more successful future.

Each presentation covered the importance of taking a challenging course load in high school. The Texas Scholar Program encourages students to sign-up for and to complete, the Recommended High School Curriculum.

The first half of the presentation covered issues related to the "global economy" and the second half "paycheck" and "living expenses."

Members of the presentation teams included: Shannon Buck; Mindee Stowers of Duncan, Fraser & Bridges Insurance; Josh Masterson of First United Methodist Church; Sterling Edwards of First Baptist Church; David Robertson of Robertson Benefits and Insurance; Lee



(Courtesy photo)

A number of business leaders delivered presentations at Pampa Middle School recently on the Texas Scholars Program. Above: Mitch Grant, Pampa city manager, Connie Torres, Brittany Reagan, Holly Owens, Mindee Stowers of Duncan, Fraser & Bridges Insurance, Kevon Horst and Garrett Jonas.

Porter of LeJan, Inc.; Terry Barnes of Pampa Regional Medical Center; Clay Rice of Pampa Chamber of Commerce; Joe Martinez of

Enron; Reagan Herman of Bourland & Leverich Supply Co.; Mitch Grant of the City of Pampa; J.J. Slatten, R.N., of Pampa High School; and

Shelly Wright, Jennifer Bailey, Stephanie Keener, Patricia Trujillo, David Fritz and Debra Hartman, all of Celanese.

## Chicago lawyers threatens criminal charges in club deaths

CHICAGO (AP) — City officials threatened to seek criminal charges against the Chicago nightclub where 21 people were killed in a stampede, saying the owners violated a court order by keeping the club open.

Authorities say the club had been ordered to shut down because of safety violations, including failure to provide enough exits.

"The management of this business is well aware of this court order," Chicago fire Commissioner James Joyce said at a news conference Monday afternoon.

An attorney for the club quickly responded to the city's allegations, telling a news conference that his client had a deal to stay open.

The club was the site of one of the deadliest stampedes in recent memory.

Hundreds of people packed into the second-floor E2 club on the city's South Side stampeded down a stairwell after security guards broke up a fight and someone sprayed pepper gas or Mace. A lawyer for the club operators suggested someone might have shouted a warning about a terrorist attack.

In the resulting panic, club-goers found themselves squashed in the stairway, and bodies were flattened against the glass doors. Twenty-one people died and 57 were injured.

"We were literally piled from the top to the bottom of those steps, on top of people,

not able to move with people constantly pushing," said witness Lemont James Jr., who suffered a dislocated jaw.

Police Superintendent Terry Hillard said the club owned an elaborate videotaping setup and said police were trying to monitor tapes to determine exactly what had happened.

The club was operated by Le Mirage All-Night Studio Inc., which also owned the Epitome restaurant downstairs. E2 has featured such performers as R. Kelly and the rapper 50 Cent.

City officials pointed to a court order signed in July by Cook County Circuit Judge Daniel J. Lynch telling owners to shut down second-floor operations. Three months earlier a city complaint against the

nightclub listed 11 alleged building-code violations, ranging from failure to submit architectural plans and engineering reports to failure to provide enough exits.

Officials said criminal contempt charges could be filed as early as Tuesday.

"The owner knows damn well he is not to operate that second-floor facility," Joyce said.

But an attorney for Le Mirage, Andre Grant, said lawyers for both sides had reached a deal in October under which the second-floor nightclub would remain in operation. Another court hearing was scheduled for next month, he said.

Under the deal, Grant said, an upper level section of VIP seating, known as the skyboxes, was to be closed. The skyboxes were closed Monday, he said.

City officials made no mention of any deal to keep the club open in their public statements Monday but Grant said the city knew the club was operating.

"This is open use and the city is 100 percent aware of it, and in fact management has asked consistently and repeatedly the city to assist with crowd control," he said.

Grant said his clients had rented the club to private promoters, a firm called Envy Entertainment, for Sunday night and those promoters brought in 18 security guards besides 10 supplied by Le Mirage. He said it was the Envy security guards who sprayed pepper gas or Mace.

No telephone number for Envy Entertainment was listed.

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# THE Pampa NEWS COMICS

TUESDAY • FEBRUARY 18, 2003

## DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

### Quiz On Alcoholism Reveals Sobering Reasons For Concern

**DEAR ABBY:** Yesterday my column was composed of letters I received in just one day about alcoholism. Today, for readers who may be concerned about their drinking, I am printing a wake-up call:

**ARE YOU AN ALCOHOLIC?**

1. Have you ever decided to stop drinking for a week or so, but lasted only a couple of days?
2. Do you wish people would stop nagging you about your drinking?
3. Have you ever switched from one kind of drink to another hoping that would keep you from getting drunk?
4. Have you had a drink in the morning during the past year?
5. Do you envy people who can drink without getting into trouble?
6. Have you had problems connected with drinking during the past year?
7. Has your drinking caused you trouble at home?
8. Do you ever try to get extra drinks at a party because you did not get enough to drink?
9. Do you tell yourself you can stop drinking any time you want, even though you keep getting drunk?
10. Have you missed days at work because of the drinking?
11. Do you have blackouts?
12. Have you ever felt that your life would be better if you did not drink?

13. When you take one or two drinks, can you stop and walk away?

14. Have you ever embarrassed yourself or someone else when drinking?

15. Do you drink every day?

16. How many times in the last month have you awakened with a hangover?

17. Do you spend money you don't have on alcohol?

18. Has this affected your sleeping habits? (Do you pass out, get a drink in the middle of the night, or wet the bed

when you sleep because of alcohol?)

If you have answered yes to four or more of these questions, you are either an alcoholic or on your way to becoming one.

So, now what do you do? For openers, go to your telephone directory and look up the listing for Alcoholics Anonymous. It is listed under "A." They charge no dues and you need not identify yourself unless you want to.

Another excellent group, Women for Sobriety Inc., was mentioned in my column yesterday. If a 12-step program is not for you, talk to your doctor about a referral for other treatment options.

**DEAR ABBY:** I work in an office with 10 people. One of my co-workers is being married next month. He invited the president of our small company and the vice president, but excluded everyone else, even though we all work shoulder-to-shoulder and have been exposed to every nauseating detail about the wedding. Should the rest of us feel obligated to buy a gift for him?

UNINVITED COLLEAGUE IN CHICAGO

**DEAR UNINVITED:** Certainly not. Shower him with good wishes, but a wedding gift is required only if one is attending the wedding, so you're all off the hook.

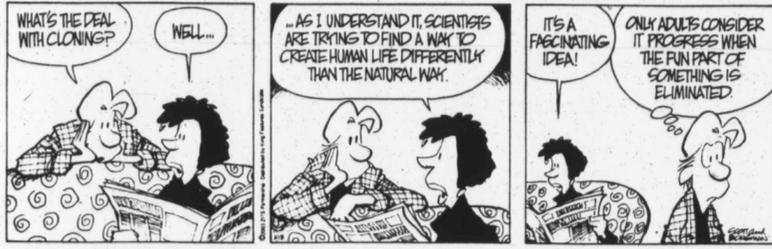
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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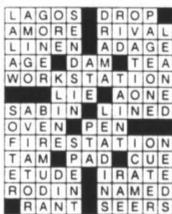
#### Crossword Puzzle

#### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

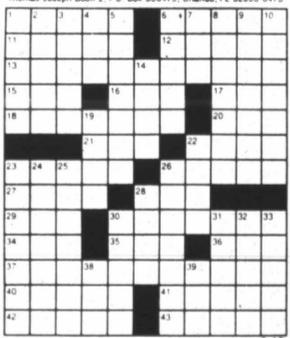
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Yesterday's answer

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#### Flo & Friends



NOTICE

#### SOCCER

PAMPA — District 3-4A games with Randall.

Last week Porter scored Pampa posted Borger.

The Lady 1 to Randall 5-1 Pampa's loss from Stefani with assists from and Porter.

The Lady 1 3-2 in district Canyon at 12

#### CORRECT

PAMPA — scored both Pa 3-2 loss to Bor end in a Distr soccer match.

#### BASEBALL

FORT LA Fla. (AP) — examiner will circumstances the death of St newlywed, ex and pitching p Baltimore Ori

Bechler d stroke Monday hours after a s workout that s ature to 108 de

He was a athlete pushir warm, humid different from his native On may have b dietary supple been linked to heart attacks.

Broward C examiner Dr. acknowledged report that a b plement ephedrine w Bechler's lock

Regarding Perper said: standing is it don't have it.

#### BASKETB

NEW YO Arizona was N men's college for the fourth weeks, while moved in at the Top 25, two fo this season.

The Wildca the top spot straight week this season.

Kentucky (2 the nation's long ning streak at 14 up one spot to s est ranking sin in the final poi 96 season.



# SPORTS

## Levelland coach has worries about Pampa

PAMPA — Even after dealing with the likes of Lubbock Estacado and Frenship this season, coach Gary Bridges isn't sure his Levelland Lobos are getting a bargain against the Pampa Harvesters tonight.

"We've taken a look or two at Pampa and it looks they're going to throw more size at us than we might be able to handle," coach Bridges said. "They've got some scrappy, hard-working kids who play well together."

that was pretty taxing. We played them pretty close, but we never could quite get over the hump with them. Estacado beat us five points the first time we played them, but they pretty much blew us away the second game. We lost to Frenship by 10 and 11 points," Bridges said.

Tonight's Pampa-Levelland bi-district matchup tips off at 6 in Plainview at Hutcherson Center on the Wayland Baptist University campus.

Estacado and Frenship ended up tied for the district championship and had to have a playoff to determine the No. 1 seed. Frenship came away with a 57-49 victory.

"Levelland played Estacado and Frenship pretty close and that concerns me," said Pampa coach Jerry Schaeffer. "But we're going to play them. We're not going to mail it in."

Levelland, a member of District 4-4A, finished behind Estacado and Frenship, two teams ranked in the top 20 throughout most of the season.

Pampa played both Estacado and Frenship early in the season. The Harvesters lost to Estacado 74-35 and Frenship 80-58.

"We had to play Estacado and Frenship back to back and

Pampa will be the home team in tonight's bi-district game.

## Texas A&M athlete pleads no contest to drug possession

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Texas A&M basketball player Andy Slocum has pleaded no contest to two misdemeanor drug possession charges.

month, but has not been allowed to play or suit up for a game.

Slocum, 23, of West Monroe, La., was originally charged with third-degree felony steroid possession, punishable by two to 10 years in prison and a fine up to \$10,000. The 7-foot, 265-pound junior entered the plea on Monday after charges were reduced from felonies to misdemeanors.

"He's chomping at the bit to get back out on the playing floor, but he hasn't missed a beat in practice," Watkins told the Bryan-College Station Eagle in Tuesday's editions. "He's taking care of all his business, and that's what I expected and thought he would do."

The new counts — possession of a dangerous drug and possession of a controlled substance — are punishable by up to a year in prison and a fine of up to \$4,000.

College Station police arrested Slocum on Jan. 18 after finding a large Ziplock bag in his truck that contained multiple syringes and vials. At least one of the vials contained the words "Anabolic St."

"The amount was enough in this case that we thought a misdemeanor would take care of the situation," District Attorney Bill Turner said of the reduced charges.

According to court documents, at least part of the bag's contents included the drug stanozolol, as well as anabolic steroids amounting to less than 28 grams.

"I think both sides thought this was an appropriate resolution," Slocum's attorney, Jim James, said of the plea. "Andy Slocum is a great kid. He's never been in trouble a day in his life."

Although stanozolol is an anabolic steroid, it is not categorized as such under the Controlled Substance Act. It is the same drug that was found in Canadian track star Ben Johnson's system during the 1988 Seoul Olympics, causing him to be stripped of his gold medal.

District Judge Rick Davis accepted the plea, but has not yet set a sentencing date.

Stanozolol and other anabolic steroids also can have legal medical uses, such as building muscle in bed-ridden and immobile patients.

After Slocum's arrest last month, head coach Melvin Watkins suspended him indefinitely from the team. Slocum returned to practice earlier this

Slocum broke his right hand during a pickup game last summer.



**Bundled up against the cold, PHS team members display their trophies from the Burselson Invitational. Pictured are (front) Adam Etchison; (second row l-r) Tyler Howard, Lacie Long, Helen Brooks and Abby Bradley; (third row, l-r) coach Carolyn Quarles, Payton Baird, Tara Jordan, Lauren Denny, Myca Vinson and coach Donna Turner; (back row, l-r) Jay Gerber, Britton White, David Thacker, Zach Hucks and Kevin Turner.**

## PHS tennis team wins another tourney title

PAMPA — The Pampa Harvester tennis team won its second consecutive tournament this spring, scoring 221 points to claim the Burselson Invitational title last weekend.

singles with a 3-2 record for the weekend.

3, 6-3; def. Brittany Billings, Burselson, 6-1, 6-1, lost to Marti Eidson, Weatherford, 6-1, 6-4.

### Burselson Invitational (32 draw in each division)

#### Pampa Results

##### Boys Singles

Britton White: (7th place) def.

Placing second in the 16-team field was Weatherford (161 points), followed by Mansfield Summitt, third (157) and Burselson, fourth, (143).

Pampa dominated in boys doubles with seniors Jay Gerber and David Thacker winning all five of their matches. The only set they dropped was to teammates Zach Hucks and Tyler Howard in the finals.

"This was a good tournament for all four players," said Pampa head coach Carolyn Quarles. "They were determined to meet in the finals, but soon discovered it's tough to play your teammates."

Senior Helen Brooks also advanced to the finals after four victories. She met Marti Eidson of Weatherford in the finals and fell 6-1, 6-4.

"Helen is playing impressive tennis this spring. She has really improved in her ability to exploit her opponent's weakness," said coach Quarles.

Tara Jordan and Vanessa Orr took third in girls doubles after a tough loss in the semis to Duncanville 6-4, 4-6, 7-5. Senior Abby Bradley and sophomore Payton Baird went 4-1 on the weekend, losing only in the second round to finish ninth. Adam Etchison also took ninth in boys singles (4-1). Britton White was seventh in boys

Brian Kissinger, Mansfield, by default; def. Travis Dixon, Burselson, 6-7, 7-6, 6-4; lost to Jordan Mangano, Boswell, 6-1, 6-1; lost to Preston Harvell, Martin, 6-4, 6-4; def. John Weidman Boswell, 6-1, 6-1.

Adam Etchison: (9th place): def. Ryan Dwiggins, Burselson, 6-2, 6-3; lost to Joel Bailey, Cleburne, 7-5, 6-1; def. Nick Carter, Summitt, 6-2, 6-3; def. Corey Stevenson, Mansfield, 6-1, 6-2; def. Abhishek Chamarti, Colleyville, 3-6, 6-1, 6-4.

##### Boys Doubles

Jay Gerber-David Thacker (1st place): def. Romack-Sardos, Colleyville, 6-2, 6-1; def. Moore-Hudson, Boswell, 6-1, 6-0; def. Stevenson-Ludwick, Mansfield, 6-1, 6-1; def. Ashlock-Nguyen, Summitt, 6-1, 6-1; def. Hucks-Howard, Pampa, 3-6, 6-2, 6-1.

Zach Hucks-Tyler Howard (2nd place): def. Pham-Fuegmann, Summitt, 6-1, 3-6, 6-2; def. Rutherford-Sharp, Alvarado, 6-2, 7-5; def. Heil-Loh, Richland, 6-3, 6-1; def. Adams-Lavis, Martin, 6-1, 4-6, 6-2; lost to Gerber-Thacker, Pampa, 3-6, 6-2, 6-1.

##### Girls Singles

Helen Brooks: (2nd place): def. Lindsey Cook, Weatherford, 6-0, 6-2; def. Leigha Morgan, Crowley, 6-0, 6-0; def. Emily Wade, Boswell, 6-

## Bearkats outlast Texas-Arlington

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — Eddy Fobbs scored on a dunk with 37 seconds left and Sam Houston State hit three free throws the rest of the way as the Bearkats defeated Texas-Arlington 56-52 on Monday night.

Fobbs's basket, one of his only two of the night, followed a missed shot by Mairo Kinsey.

After Fobbs' field goal, Robert Shannon stole the ball and was fouled. He hit both free throws to give Sam

Houston (18-5, 14-2 Southland) a three-point lead with 0:20 left.

Donald Cole hit one of two free throws with four seconds left to seal the game.

Eddy Barlow led Sam Houston with 13 points.



### SOCCER

PAMPA — Pampa split District 3-4A girls' soccer games with Borger and Randall.

Last weekend, Sarah Porter scored both goals as Pampa posted a 2-1 win over Borger.

The Lady Harvesters fell to Randall 5-1 Monday.

Pampa's lone goal came from Stefani Goldsmith, with assists from Kori Dunn and Porter.

The Lady Harvesters are 3-2 in district play. They host Canyon at 12 noon Saturday.

### CORRECTION

PAMPA — Chance Crain scored both Pampa goals in a 3-2 loss to Borger last weekend in a District 3-4A boys soccer match.

### BASEBALL

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — A medical examiner will sort out the circumstances that caused the death of Steve Bechler, a newlywed, expectant father and pitching prospect for the Baltimore Orioles.

Bechler died of heatstroke Monday, less than 24 hours after a spring training workout that sent his temperature to 108 degrees.

He was an overweight athlete pushing himself in warm, humid weather much different from the climate in his native Oregon. And he may have been taking a dietary supplement that has been linked to heatstroke and heart attacks.

Broward County medical examiner Dr. Joshua Perper acknowledged a published report that a bottle of a supplement containing ephedrine was found in Bechler's locker.

Regarding the bottle, Perper said: "My understanding is it exists, but we don't have it."

### BASKETBALL

NEW YORK (AP) — Arizona was No. 1 in the AP men's college basketball poll for the fourth time in five weeks, while three teams moved in at the bottom of the Top 25, two for the first time this season.

The Wildcats (20-2) hold the top spot for a second straight week and 10th time this season.

Kentucky (20-3), which has the nation's longest current winning streak at 14 games, moved up one spot to second, its highest ranking since it was No. 2 in the final poll of the 1995-96 season.

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# Third-ranked Texas stays unbeaten on homecourt

By JIM VERTUNO  
AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — At the rate Brandon Mouton was hitting 3-pointers, T.J. Ford wasn't looking to get anyone else the ball.

Mouton made six 3-pointers — five in the first half — as No. 3 Texas stayed undefeated at home with a 77-65 victory over Texas Tech on Monday night.

Mouton missed his first and last attempts but made six in row in between to spark the Longhorns (18-4, 9-2 Big 12).

Ford, who had seven assists and 15 points, said he wanted

to get the ball to Mouton "every time."

"Until he misses a couple," Ford said, "you've got to keep finding them."

Mouton, who finished with 21 points, said he simply found his rhythm.

"Once I made my first shot, it felt real good," he said.

Tech (14-8, 4-7) had little to feel good about.

The Red Raiders played without junior guard Andre Emmett, the Big 12's leading scorer, and senior forward Nick Valdez, who were benched before the game by coach Bob Knight.

The official announcement before tipoff was that Emmett,

who averages 21.5 points, and Valdez were benched because they missed the team's morning walkthrough.

After the game, however, Tech players said they voted to sit them after a poor effort in a 63-58 loss to Oklahoma two days earlier. Emmett and Valdez combined for 16 points in that game.

"We voted they didn't deserve to play," said Tech senior forward Kasib Powell, who scored 12 points against Texas.

Knight was in no mood to discuss the situation with reporters.

"I've said all that's gonna be said about it, it's none of your ... business," Knight said.

"Let's not worry about somebody who didn't deserve to play."

It remains to be seen just when Emmett and Valdez will return to the lineup.

"I don't know whether they are or not," Knight said.

Mouton's big game, however, left few question marks.

His consecutive 3s in a 14-2 Texas run turned an 18-18 game into a 32-20 Longhorns lead.

Robert Tomaszek scored 14 to lead Texas Tech, which has lost three of its last four.

The Longhorns started just 4-of-16 from the floor during the first 10 minutes before Mouton found his shooting groove. His fifth 3-pointer made it 42-26 before Texas went into halftime leading 44-31.

Tech, which got outscored 41-34, still outscored Texas in the paint 42-24. But it wasn't enough as the Red Raiders struggled to keep up with Texas' sharpshooters.

The Longhorns went 10-of-20 from behind the 3-point line.

Tech, meanwhile, was just 3-of-12 on 3-pointers and Powell, who averages 15.7 points, picked up his fourth

foul early in the second half and was largely ineffective.

Will Chavis gave Tech a spark with a 3-pointer that closed the gap to 49-38 with 17 minutes to play.

That's when Texas sealed the win.

Ford hit consecutive baskets in transition, Sydmill Harris hit a 3-pointer and Brian Boddicker finished a fastbreak with a two-handed dunk in a 11-0 run in the next three minutes that made it 60-38.

"When we run, we're very, very hard to guard," Texas coach Rick Barnes said.

A late Tech run after Texas rested its starters cut the final margin to 12.

## Mets refuse to offer Alomar extension

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. (AP) — All-Star second baseman Roberto Alomar wasn't offered a contract extension by the New York Mets, causing him to wonder what his future with the team will be beyond this season.

Alomar, in the final year of his contract, arrived at camp Monday and said he was informed last week that he will not receive the extension that he and his agent, Jaime Torres, asked for, according to several newspaper reports Tuesday.

"Maybe I felt upset about it, because I wanted to be a New York Met," Alomar said. "I'm not offended that they didn't offer me a contract. Maybe I'm a little sad that I might not be here after next year."

Alomar also told The New

York Times, Daily News, New York Post and Newsday that his desire is to finish his playing career in New York.

"I want to be a Met until I retire," Alomar said. "But at the same time, you don't know what's going to happen. I have one more year to go, and I feel comfortable on the team."

In fact, general manager Steve Phillips said that the Mets won't talk extensions with any of the players in the final year of their contracts.

"We haven't had a lot of

flexibility headed into the last couple of offseasons," Phillips said. "I think our preference is to evaluate how everything goes and be able to make choices."

Besides Alomar, Jeromy Burnitz, Pedro Astacio, Armando Benitez, Rey Sanchez and Tsuyoshi Shinjo

are in the final year of their contracts.

Alomar, who will make \$8 million this year, struggled last season, hitting only .266 for a team that finished last in the NL East and he wanted to go into camp without any issues.

"I just don't like to go through the year with distractions," Alomar said. "It's not a good feeling sometimes. You don't want to get other players involved with that. It's about respect for the players."

Phillips understands the risk of waiting until the end of the season to make decisions about re-signing the players.

"I think we feel like it's worth those risks right now to have that flexibility headed into next year, in what could be a pretty interesting free-agent year," Phillips said.

## Maryland hands Wake Forest its most lopsided loss of season

COLLEGE PARK, Md. (AP) — Maryland jumped at the chance to gain a measure of revenge and first place in the Atlantic Coast Conference — even though athletic director Debbie Yow had other ideas.

Steve Blake had 21 points and nine assists, and Drew Nicholas scored 19 as the 13th-ranked Terrapins handed No. 10 Wake Forest its most lopsided loss of the season, 90-67 on Monday, in a game delayed by a day because of a blizzard.

Although the game was hastily rescheduled, the Comcast Center was nearly filled. The starting time of 5 p.m. was not announced until well after noon Monday.

That was just fine with the Terrapins, who were eager to get on the court after being confined on campus following a snow storm that dumped more than 2 feet of snow in the area.

"I woke up this morning and I wanted to play," said Maryland guard Calvin McCall, who contributed nine points and three steals. "When coach called and said the game was on, I was excited."

Yow wasn't nearly as enthusiastic. Fearful that fans would not be able to dig themselves out of the snow to attend the game, she sought to get the game pushed back.

But conference policy dic-

tates that a game must be played if both teams and the game officials can make it to the arena.

"The bottom line is that we are following the ACC policy set down in 1996. We have two teams. We have enough officials. There is no reason not to play the game," said ACC associate commissioner Fred Barakat.

Ryan Randle had 13 points and 13 rebounds for Maryland (16-6, 8-3), which took away the top spot in the ACC from Wake Forest (17-4, 7-3) in convincing fashion.

"They played hard," said Josh Howard, who led the Demon Deacons with 20 points. "They got the loose balls, the rebounds and finished on their baskets."

In other games involving Top 25 teams, it was No. 3 Texas 77, Texas Tech 65; No. 7 Florida 77, New Orleans 48; and No. 23 Utah 86, UNLV 80 in OT.

The game between No. 9 Pittsburgh and Georgetown at Washington was postponed because of the snowstorm, and rescheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday at the MCI Center.

Wake Forest, which led the nation in rebounding differential (plus-12.5), was outscored for the first time this season, 44-24.

"When we don't rebound, we don't have much of a chance," Wake Forest coach Skip Prosser said.

The Demon Deacons beat the snow by arriving in town early Saturday, but their trip turned out to be a lost three-day weekend. It was their fifth straight loss at Maryland and seventh in eight games overall against the Terrapins — the exception an 81-72 victory at home last month.

This time, the defending NCAA champs took the lead for good with a 16-4 run that made it 22-16 midway through the first half. It was the Terrapins' most lopsided victory in the series over the past 30 years.

"I'm really proud of the team, the way the players prepared," Maryland coach Gary Williams said. "There was a lot of back-and-forth as to whether this game was going to be played or not. I thought we kept our focus and carried out the game plan, especially in the rebounding department. We held our own on the boards."

It was an impressive performance, given that the Terrapins had no idea early in the day if the game would be played.

"In my mind, we were playing," Williams said. "But I was worried about the players, because they are 18-22 years old. There is always that tendency to think that you're not going to play."

The Demon Deacons were hoping to build on Thursday's double-overtime victory over

Duke. But after cutting a 17-point deficit to six in the second half, Wake Forest made only one basket in the final 10 minutes.

After Wake Forest closed to 50-43, Blake made two free throws and Nicholas added a 3-pointer to build the lead to 12. Wake battled back again, closing to 65-59 on two free throws by Trent Strickland.

Blake then hit a 3-pointer to spark a 13-2 run that enabled Maryland to pull away for good. Until Strickland's 3-pointer with 51 seconds left, the Demon Deacons' last field goal was Howard's three-point play with 10:08 to go.

### No. 7 Florida 77, New Orleans 48

At Gainesville, Fla., Florida's Matt Bonner matched the entire New Orleans team score for score over the first 30 minutes, finishing with 24 points to lift the Gators to victory.

Bonner, a senior, fell seven points shy of his career high, but Florida (21-4) matched a program record with its 18th straight home win in this, a rare midseason nonconference matchup.

Coached by longtime former Gators assistant Monte Towe, the Privateers (13-11) were outmatched from the start.

### No. 23 Utah 86, UNLV 80, OT

## SCOREBOARD

BOWLING			SOUTHERN CONFERENCE		
Harvester Lanes League Results Caprock League (Week 16)			Southeast Division		
Team	Won	Lost	W	LOTL	Pts GF GA
LERA Plugging Co.	23	18	Austin	39	8 3 81 165 99
Red's Pro Shop	18	15	Laredo	32	12 6 70 206 145
Westair	17	20	Cor. Christi	23	24 2 48 151 165
MAJ-IC	16	16 1/2	San Angelo	15	31 5 35 152 212
Byrum Farms	15	15	Southwest Division		
Schiffman Machine	15	13 1/2	W <td>L <td>OT L Pts GF GA</td> </td>	L <td>OT L Pts GF GA</td>	OT L Pts GF GA
Culligan	13	18	Odessa	28	16 6 62 147 141
Harvester Lanes	11	12	Lubbock	21	22 6 48 148 161
Week's Top Scores			New Mexico	21	24 5 47 137 165
High scratch game: Red Mills 269;			El Paso	16	27 6 38 152 188
High scratch series: Jeff Clark 679;			Note: One point for loss in overtime or		
High handicap game: Red Mills 289;			shootout. Overtime or shootout losses		
High handicap series: Ashleigh Burns 739.			are only denoted in the OTL column,		
			not the loss column.		
			Monday's Games		
			No games scheduled		
			Tuesday's Game		
			Wichita at Odessa		
			Wednesday's Games		
			Fort Worth at Lubbock		
			Austin at Corpus Christi		
			Tulsa at Laredo		
			TRANSACTIONS		
			Monday's Sports Transactions		
			By The Associated Press		
			BASEBALL		
			National League		
			ATLANTA BRAVES—Agreed to terms with RHP Greg Maddux on a one-year contract.		
			COLORADO ROCKIES—Announced the retirement of RHP Rich Garces.		
			FOOTBALL		
			National Football League		
			DETROIT LIONS—Named Tom Rathman running backs coach.		
			MIAMI DOLPHINS—Signed DT Johnny Thomas.		
			HOCKEY		
			National Hockey League		
			BUFFALO SABRES—Recalled D Radoslav Heel from Rochester of the AHL.		
			DALLAS STARS—Acquired D Andy Berenzweig and a conditional draft pick from Nashville for RW Jon Sim. Assigned Berenzweig to Utah of the AHL.		
			FLORIDA PANTHERS—Recalled RW Pierre Dagenais and C-F Jeff Toms from San Antonio of the AHL.		
			MINNESOTA WILD—Assigned G Frederic Cloutier to Houston of the AHL.		
			NEW YORK RANGERS—Activated RW Pavel Bure from injured reserve. Assigned D Mike Wilson to Hartford of the AHL.		
			OTTAWA SENATORS—Recalled D Brian Pothier from Binghamton of the AHL.		

## Tyson heavyweight fight officially called off

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Mike Tyson's fight with Clifford Etienne was called off Monday, following a week of erratic behavior that once again raised questions about the boxing future of the 36-year-old former heavyweight champion.

After waiting for days for Tyson to give them some sort of signal on his willingness to fight, Tyson's handlers finally pulled the plug on the scheduled Saturday fight after the fighter missed a flight to Memphis for the second day in

a row.

The official word was that Tyson was too sick to fight. But even before he became ill on Friday, Tyson had left his trainer waiting for him at the gym for three straight days and had gotten a large tattoo on the left side of his face.

Tyson's manager, Shelly Finkel, still held out hope earlier Monday that Tyson would get on a plane to Memphis, but after Tyson missed the plane for a second day in a row he and the Showtime cable net-

work had little choice but to cancel the fight.

There were no immediate plans to reschedule the bout.

Trainer Freddie Roach said he talked briefly to Tyson on the phone Monday, who told him a doctor was at his house examining him. Roach has not seen Tyson since he began skipping workouts last Wednesday, the day after he got his new tattoo.

Once the most fearsome heavyweight around, Tyson has shown little indication to fight

in recent years and has lost three of his last nine fights, two by knockout.

Tyson has fought an average of only five rounds a year in the last 5 1/2 years — and eight of those came while he was taking a beating in his fight last June against heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis.

"Everybody should just throw up their hands and let this guy live whatever life he has. Forget about putting him in the ring," rival promoter Bob Arum said.



### 3 Personnel

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### 5 Special Notices

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### Horosc

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The Stars Show th Have: 5-Dyna 3-Average: 2-So-se

### ARIES (March 21-31)

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### TAURUS (April 20-30)

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### GEMINI (May 21-31)

\*\*\*\*\* Call or a friend. Opport

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES — Here's how to work it: AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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

### 2-18 CRYPTOQUOTE

U X A L M Q V T L D G R

M L R B N G R X A X U X Q V Q S D Q

X R O S V T N R Q T L G K M L D K

X Q — FLNMF L ALMGDMK RSDO Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THE ESSENCE OF LIFE CONSISTS IN LONGING FOR MORE LIFE. — GEORGE BERNARD SHAW



**Linda C. Daniels**  
KELLER WILLIAMS  
REALTY  
110 W. Kingsmill  
669-2799  
Accredited Buyers Rep



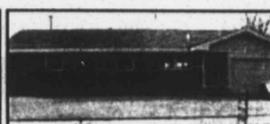
1132 Sirroco \*19,500



445 Jupiter \*72,500



1942 Grape \*100,000



2325 Navajo \*42,000

**3 Personnel**  
BEAUTICONTROL Cosmetics sales, service, makeovers. Lynn Allison 1304 Christine, 669-3848

**10 Lost/Found**  
FOUND PUG. Call Cheryl at 669-1509 or 665-6532.

**14b Appl. Repair**  
APPLIANCES BROKE? Call 665-8894 William's Appliance

**14d Carpentry**  
CUSTOM homes, additions, remodeling, residential / comm. Deaver Construction, 665-0447.

**14d Carpentry**  
ADDITIONS, remodeling, home repairs. Over 30 years local exp. Jeffery Reagan, 669-3943

**14h Gen. Serv.**  
COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

**21 Help Wanted**  
NOTICE  
Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

**21 Help Wanted**  
\$500 SIGN-ON BONUS FOR CERTIFIED NURSES AIDES  
Pampa Nursing Center is currently hiring Certified Nurses Aides. Qualified applicants apply in person to Mitzi Devoll, R.N., Director of Nursing, at 1321 W. Kentucky, Pampa, Tx. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

**96 Unfurn. Apts.**  
CLEAN 1 bedroom, stove, refrig., all bills paid. 669-3672, 665-5900  
FREE RENT!  
Pampa Lakeview Apts. 1, 2 & 3 bdr. apts. 2600 N. Hobart 669-7682

**5 Special Notices**  
ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

**13 Bus. Opp.**  
AAA VENDING ROUTE 76 Selling Units. Prime locs. \$8930 Invest. 20% down wac. 800-396-9311

**14d Carpentry**  
OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

**14d Carpentry**  
ADDITIONS, remodeling, roofing, cabinets, painting, all types repairs. Mike Albus, 665-4774.

**14e Carpet Serv.**  
NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost...it pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541, or from out of town, 800-536-5341.

**14h Gen. Serv.**  
Ceramic Tile Works\* Handicap Conversions Shower Installation Floor Tile & Regrouting Keith 665-0328 or Iv. msg

**21 Help Wanted**  
EXPERIENCED Cook, Black Gold Restaurant, 1100 E. Frederic. No Phone Calls!  
TEXAS Rose is accepting applications for Full time Wait Staff. Please No phone calls.

**50 Building Suppl.**  
White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291  
HOUSTON LUMBER 420 W. Foster 669-6881

**98 Unfurn. Houses**  
PICK UP rental list from Gray Box on front porch of Lakeview Apartments. Update each Fri.  
2-3 bedroom houses for rent. Call 669-2080.

**Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2003:  
Not everyone can understand what you feel or think. Learning to verbalize your thoughts more clearly could make all the difference in the reception you get. You might choose to go back to school or to learn more in your chosen field. Travel could play a significant role. Consider being more vulnerable and open to a close loved one if you want the relationship to flourish. You accomplish a lot by working with one person rather than groups. If you are single, you will enter an important relationship this September. This person could be "it." If you're attached, your relationship will develop because of your nurturing ways. Share more of yourself. Reveal your thoughts. LIBRA cares a lot about you.

that prove delightful and fun. Allow more lightness in your life. Playfulness flourishes throughout your day. Toss away worries for a while. Tonight: Live it up.  
**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
\*\*\* If you can work from home, do so. You've pushed way too hard to have things fall apart now. Excessiveness and imagination merge. This combo could spell trouble or wonderful times. Use discretion, please. Tonight: Put your feet up.  
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
\*\*\*\*\* Make calls. Schedule meetings. Catch up on others' news. You might feel that someone close to you is totally unrealistic, but, actually, he or she is an idea person. Brainstorm, and you might be amazed at the possibilities that reveal themselves. Tonight: At a favorite spot.  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
\*\*\*\*\* Indulge yourself. Don't always play Spartan. You need a break and a change of pace. You will like what comes up for you when you loosen up and enjoy. Your instincts serve you in many different ways. Follow your intuition, and you'll land on your feet. Tonight: Pay bills.  
**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
\*\*\*\*\* You feel better and better as the days go by. You're encircled by supporters and friends, no matter which direction you turn. With this type of support, how can you go wrong? Your imagination could be distorting certain facts in your life. Tonight: With your admirers.  
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
\*\*\* Step back and take your time making a decision that will dictate your direction. You might not be sure of yourself with a boss or someone you put on a pedestal. Be more realistic about what you offer. Sometimes you don't see yourself clearly. Tonight: Do something for

yourself.  
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
\*\*\*\*\* Once more, you flourish with your friends. Don't push too hard to make a decision. Information might not be complete or could take you in a new direction given time. Play the waiting game, if possible. You will understand more later. Tonight: Follow the gang.  
**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
\*\*\* Reach out for those in your immediate circle. Communication flourishes. Relate on a one-on-one level. You get just what you want. Money could drip right out of your account if you're not careful. Take charge, if you can. Tonight: You're a force out on the town.  
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
\*\*\*\*\* Read between the lines. You could be confused by another's news. Consider what might be happening. Allow someone to understand you by explaining more of what is on your mind. Talk through a problem. Don't take a back seat any longer. Tonight: Try something totally new.  
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
\*\*\*\*\* Deal with others more directly. You might be having a problem expressing your thoughts in a way that someone else can understand. Be more open to possibilities. Laughter surrounds those who can relax. Work needs to take the highest priority. Tonight: Dinner for two.

**14n Painting**  
50 yr. exp. We paint, dry-wall, texture, comm / residential. Free Estimates. Happy Painters 665-3214  
INT/EXT painting, mud tape, blow acoustic. 35 yr. exp. References. Gene Calder 665-4840.  
DIAMOND Tile Works. Floor tile, shower repair and remodeling, and kitchen tile. 665-0157  
**14s Plumbing/Heat**  
FULL line of Premier Faucets. Traditional, Designer and Euro Series faucets carry a lifetime warranty at great prices! We also stock DELTA & MOEN faucets! Chief Plastics, 1237 S. Barnes, 665-6716. V / Mc / Disc / AmEx  
JACK'S Plumbing & Faucet Shop, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115. faucets, plumbing supplies, new constr., repair, remodeling, sewer / drain cleaning, septic systems installed. Visa/MC  
Larry Baker Plumbing Heating/Air Conditioning Borger Hwy. 665-4392

**21 Help Wanted**  
PART-TIME Janitorial evening work available, 20hrs a week Mon-Fri. Call 806-848-2517.  
**FUN Valley Family Resort, South Fork Colo.** needs retirees & others with own RV for Summer employment. Office, housekeeping, cooks, sales, maintenance & rv parks. Write: Personnel 9010 Ravenswood, Granbury, Tx 76049.  
**FUN Valley Family Resort, South Fork Colo.** needs students for Summer jobs. Office, sales, housekeeping, dining room, horse wrangler, kitchen & other. Salary, room, board, bonus. Write: Personnel 9010 Ravenswood, Granbury, Tx 76049.

**69 Misc.**  
ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.  
QUEEN Chimney Sweep. Free inspection. Call for appointment 665-9452, if no answer leave message.  
MESQUITE Firewood \$145 Cord Before 9 am or After 7 pm 664-7157  
OAK firewood Late season special, delivered & stacked, \$165 cord. 779-3284  
Memory Gardens of Pampa is assigning FREE Cemetery Spaces to local VETERANS that qualify and do not own cemetery property SPACES are limited Call today to receive yours 665-8921

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

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)  
\*\*\*\*\* Keep conversations rolling by asking questions. Optimism surrounds a child or creative project. You feel like a new beginning is coming your way. Reach out for a loved one. Allow love to blossom in your back yard. Tonight: Go along with a partner's request.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
\*\*\*\*\* Reach out to associates and co-workers. You finally get a good response. Bosses offer many suggestions. You could be overwhelmed by all that is on your plate. Ask for help from a family member. Others willingly help. See how many supporters you have? Tonight: Off to the gym.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
\*\*\*\*\* Call or visit with a loved one or a friend. Opportunities come forward

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.  
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**FULL-TIME CASHIER**  
Position Available Great Work Environment! Great Hours! Apply 1020 E. Frederic

**21 Help Wanted**  
Financial Planner Help people make the most of their financial future. People skills a plus. Intensive 3 year training program. Attractive start-up package. For more information call (806) 355-8746

**75 Feeds/Seeds**  
ROUND bales of Cane & CRP Hay, \$25. I load you haul. 669-7143  
**77 Livest/Equip.**  
THORNE Cattle Co. Show Steers & Heifers Maine Anjou Bulls & Replacement Heifers Days 806-333-3234 Nights 806-244-5234  
**80 Pets & Suppl.**  
CANINE and Feline grooming. Boarding. Science diets. Roysse Animal Hospital, 665-2223.  
FREE, cute, adorable puppies. Call 665-1716

**95 Furn. Apts.**  
OWC 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1000 E. Foster 669-9059, 662-0135  
SEVERAL 2 & 3 bd houses for sale by owner. Use your tax refund for down pymnts. 665-4842.

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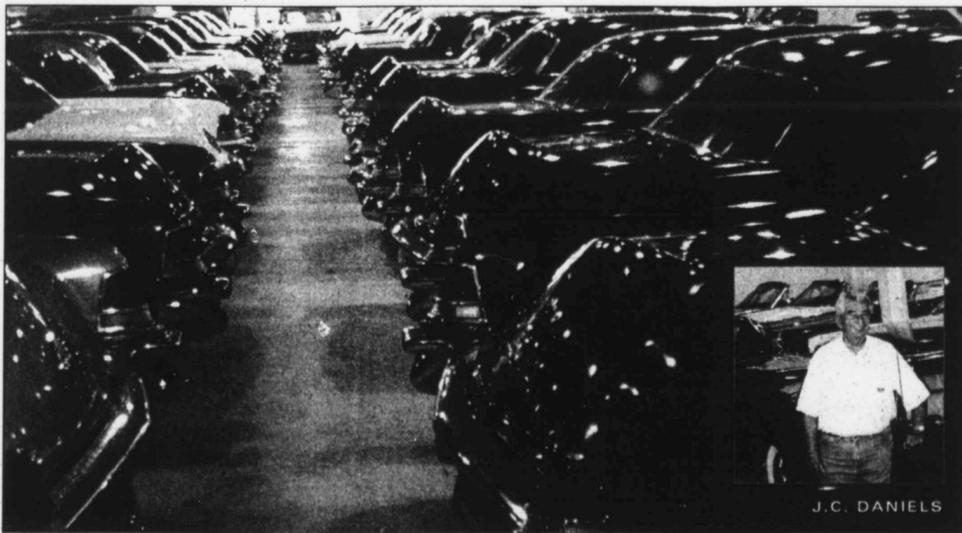
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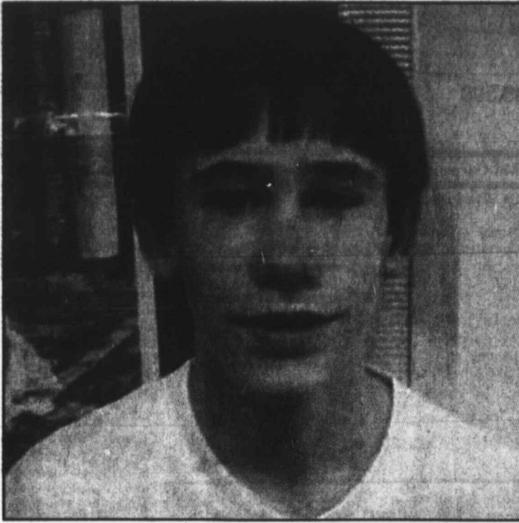
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## Middle school spelling champs



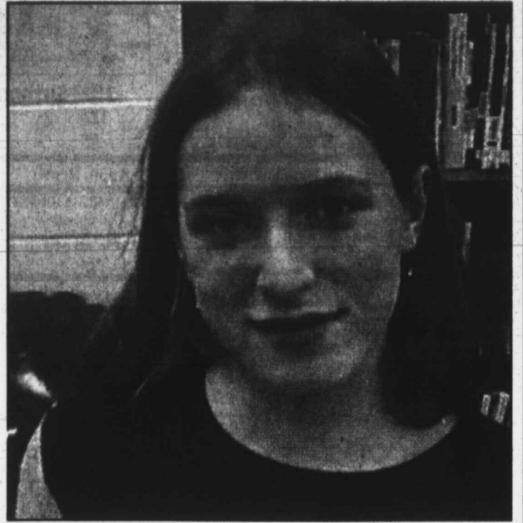
(Courtesy photo)

Adam Gonzales of Pampa Middle School won the eighth grade spelling bee. He will be eligible to compete in the county bee March 7 at the Middle School Auditorium. The Gray County Winner will advance to the Regional Spelling Bee April 5 at West Texas A&M University in Canyon.



(Courtesy photo)

Joseph Johnson of Pampa Middle School won the seventh grade spelling bee. He will be eligible to compete in the county bee March 7 at the Middle School Auditorium. The Gray County Winner will advance to the Regional Spelling Bee April 5 at West Texas A&M University in Canyon.



(Courtesy photo)

Courtney Linn of Pampa Middle School won the sixth grade spelling bee. He will be eligible to compete in the county bee March 7 at the Middle School Auditorium. The Gray County Winner will advance to the Regional Spelling Bee April 5 at West Texas A&M University in Canyon.

## Liberal radio network planned as alternative to Rush

By WILL LESTER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — A group planning a liberal-leaning radio network says the idea hasn't caught on in previous attempts because it wasn't marketed properly and wasn't entertaining enough.

Now venture capitalists from Chicago and an Atlanta radio executive are behind an effort to start just such a radio network that would offer an alternative to conservative talk show hosts like Rush Limbaugh.

"We believe this is a tremendous business opportunity," Atlanta radio executive Jon Sinton said Monday. Sinton, who would be the network's chief executive, added, "There are so many right-wing talk shows, we think it's created a hole in the market you could drive a truck through."

The group, led by Anita Drobny, consists of investors who have financially supported Democratic candidates. Hoping to start the network by this fall, they are talking with comedian and author Al Franken about working with the network and hope to attract other entertainers and political guests.

Their group will be called AnShell Media L.L.C. and they

are initially investing \$10 million while hoping for assistance from like-minded entrepreneurs.

Sinton said those who lean to the right are great at haranguing Bill and Hillary Clinton, but those who lean left have better connections to the entertainment world in Hollywood and New York.

"We want to take an issue and make it funny and engaging," he said. "Our intent is to engage and entertain as a way to enlighten, engage in skit comedy, parody, political satire."

Sinton said earlier programs have failed because they were placed in time slots between more conservative programming and weren't entertaining enough. Former New York Gov. Mario Cuomo also tried his hand at a liberal-oriented talk show.

Sinton said he's confident he can come up with solid content for his network.

"My business strategy is that there are underperforming radio stations in all the markets. These underperforming stations are looking for a compelling broadcast day," he said.

While questions have been raised about who could be host on a liberal talk show, the bigger question may be the difficulty of mobilizing an audience for such a show.

A sign of the liberal dilemma is the code word that they

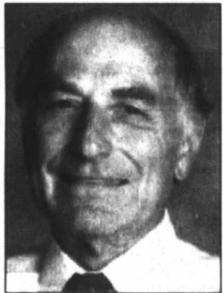
like to use to describe themselves these days — "progressive" — which allows them to avoid the word "liberal," which has become almost an epithet when used by conservative politicians and pundits.

"Part of the impetus for this angry conservative bent of talk radio is the notion that the press is unfair, that it's part of a liberal establishment conspiracy," said Tom Rosenstiel, director for the Project for Excellence in Journalism.

"Progressives historically don't run in a pack," Rosenstiel added. "There's a kind of independent streak to the left wing in America that there isn't in the right wing."

Communications specialist Kathleen Hall Jamieson, who was involved in a study of talk radio in the mid 1990s, said the conservative radio audience is easier to mobilize because it is more likely to see liberals as very distant from their own views. And there are more people in polls who identify themselves as conservative than identify themselves as liberal.

"The search for the liberal equivalent of Rush Limbaugh may be misunderstanding how Limbaugh starts from a natural advantage," said Jamieson, director of the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania. "His audience is already polarized. The liberals don't need a host, they need a different audience."



## "I've Got Good News!" — Len Slesick Hearing Computer Unnoticed in Ears

FREE Demonstrations—February 19th Only!

Imagine a hearing aid that automatically adapts to your surroundings and reflects your specific lifestyle. Imagine a hearing aid that is so pleasant to wear that

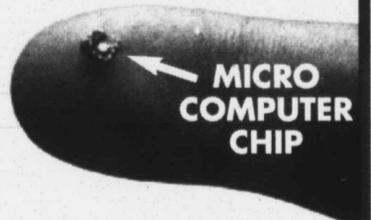
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it gives a new meaning to the phrase "customer satisfaction." Well, imagine no more — With this breakthrough technology from **SIEMENS**, the world's largest hearing aid manufac-

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The Hearing Computer is fully automatic.



Just slip it in.



It is hidden inside and hearing is easy.



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Call today for your appointment: 665-3451

### Low Price Guarantee

If you find a lower advertised price on an identical hearing aid at any local retail competitor, we will beat their price by 10% when you buy from us. Just bring us the competitor's current ad, or we'll call to verify the item's price that you have found. Competitor's remanufactured, discontinued, and used hearing aids are excluded from this offer.



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