

Cellular Connections Same Great Service At Our New Location 2145-B N. Hobart • 669-1551
COME BY FOR GREAT SPECIALS!

THE Pampa
 MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2003

***** ALL FOR ADC 780
 *01 BV04227 12/31/14
 SOUTHWEST MICROUBLISHING
 2627 E YANDELL DR
 EL PASO TX 79903-3743

50 cents Daily • Sunday \$1



WEATHER

HIGH **LOW**
63 **42**

STATE

Police seeking woman who ran over husband

WEBSTER (AP) — A woman accused of slashing her husband with a knife and then hitting him with her car over the weekend remained on the lam Monday.

Webster Police Department Capt. Ray Smiley said Miacona Dickerson's car was found abandoned in Texas City Sunday night.

Her husband, Clifton Leroy Dickerson, 29, was listed in good condition at Memorial Hermann Hospital, the Houston Chronicle reported in Monday's editions.

Smiley said police believed Miacona Dickerson was likely holed up somewhere in Texas City, which is about 15 miles away from the Webster apartment complex where police say she found her husband early Sunday morning.

When Dickerson tried to talk with his estranged wife, the pair began arguing. Police say Miacona Dickerson pulled out a knife and slashed her husband's lower arm. When he tried to run, she hit him with her car, police said.

Miacona Dickerson, 29, has been charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

DEATHS

No obituaries were reported to The Pampa News by press time today.

INSIDE...
 Classified7
 Comics4
 Sports5

WEST TEXAS LANDSCAPE

It's Tree Planting Season ...
 120 S. HOBART
 689-0158

CHILDERS BROTHERS HOUSE LEVELING
 Uneven Floors
 Floor Bracing
 Cracks In Bricks
 Sticking Doors & Windows
 Interior Wall Cracking
 FREE ESTIMATES
 1-800-299-9563
 WWW.CHILDERSLEVELING.COM

Grant ups PFD's response-ability

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 EDITOR

A \$46,000-plus Homeland Security grant brings Pampa Fire Department's emergency response capability to state of the art, officials say.

"Response capability just went up a notch," said Ken Hall, Pampa emergency management coordinator, who wrote the grant request. "Pampa Fire Department's response capability increased a great deal."

Pampa received a \$46,149.97

weapons of mass destruction grant. The money, intended to assist local agencies with handling emergencies created by terrorist attacks, chemical or biological warfare.

Homeland Security funneled the funds through the Department of Emergency Management to Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) for distribution throughout the state, Hall explained.

"Our decontamination capability went to state of the art," said Pampa Fire Chief Kim Powell said. "I'm very

proud. We would never have been able to afford this without the grant."

Powell commended Pampa firefighters, Jerry Tomaschik and Tim Roberts, who helped with the intensive research needed for the grant application.

PFD purchased numerous items with the grant funds including three portable decontamination shelters, 10 Level A and 14 Level B hazardous material suits with boots and gloves, nine negative pressure respirators, radio equipment including eight long-range in-suit radios, a multi-gas meter, and absorp-

tion pillows to absorb hazardous materials.

The two blue and white decontamination shelters, 10-foot by 14-foot, are made of rigid plastic and fold up into a triangle. These shelters can be erected on site in approximately two minutes. Each shelter is divided into four areas: a disrobing room, a decontamination area with shower spray, a second decontamination area with shower spray, then a four area to put on clean decontamination suits. A third mobile shelter is 10-foot by 18-foot.



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Assistant Fire Chief Randy Dunham wears a Level B hazardous material protective suit, one of 14 purchased for Pampa Fire Department through a \$46,149.97 Homeland Security-generated grant.



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Firefighters Jerry Tomaschik, left, and Tim Roberts, right, display the shower spray area of a rigid plastic decontamination shelter.

Water district on tap in Roberts County

By DAVID BOWSER
 STAFF WRITER

MIAMI —The Roberts County Commission was expected to meet this afternoon concerning petitions here to form a fresh water district.

Mesa Water, Inc., initially filed a petition with the commissioners court asking for approval to form a 46,000-acre fresh water district in the northern part of Roberts County. The move was widely seen as an effort to export

water from the county by using the bond issuing authority of a water district to finance a pipeline to urban areas downstate.

T. Boone Pickens, a Dallas businessman, Roberts County rancher and head of Mesa Water, announced a plan more than two years ago to pump water from beneath Roberts County and pipe it to either the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, El Paso or San Antonio.

In late January, a group of Roberts County landowners

petitioned the county commissioners to form a fresh water supply district that would include the entire county. Their petition is widely seen as a move to block Mesa.

A fresh water supply district would give Mesa bond issue authority, taxing authority and the power of eminent domain.

While Mesa includes Roberts County landowners controlling more than 150,000 acres, only 46,000 acres would initially be in their proposed water district. They could

either buy water from other members of Mesa, or neighboring landowners, or expand the district to include more property.

Pickens said Mesa would not annex land without landowners' willingness nor would Mesa levy any taxes.

Pickens said that the group proposing a countywide water district have neither the financing nor the expertise to build a 300-plus mile pipeline capable of delivering water to metropolitan

areas downstate.

He indicated that he thinks the proposed countywide water district is a sham to block Mesa's plans.

The Roberts County Commissioners have had takings impact assessment studies done on both petitions and are expected to discuss the petitions today.

Pickens, in a letter to Mesa landowners, said if the Roberts County Commission delays a decision, then Mesa would consider litigation.

Security Council's Iraq vote follows frenzied diplomacy

By BEN FOX
 ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

The United States lobbied Security Council members to get the nine votes it needs for U.N. approval of an ultimatum giving Saddam Hussein until March 17 to prove Iraq has disarmed, but the threat of a French veto loomed and anti-war protests erupted around the world.

U.S. diplomacy appeared to be paying off, with Secretary of State Colin Powell saying the Bush administration was within "striking distance" of persuading at least nine Security Council members to support the ultimatum in a vote as early as Tuesday at the United Nations.

On Monday, Iraq urged U.N. Security Council members to stand up to Washington's "bloodthirsty whims" and block the ultimatum.

The influential daily Babil, owned

by Saddam's son Odai, also warned that the Bush administration was pushing the world toward "stupidity with grave consequences."

"The logic of justice and law should rule the Security Council, not bloodthirsty whims for a group of adventurers in Washington," Babil said.

France worked to undermine the effort to secure a deadline. It dispatched Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin to lobby Security Council members Angola, Cameroon and Guinea to grant Iraq more time to comply with U.N. disarmament demands.

To be adopted by the 15-nation Security Council, the resolution needs nine votes in favor and no veto by a permanent member — the United States, Russia, China, France and Britain.

Lobbying efforts are focused on the

(See VOTE, Page 3)

North Korea test-fires missile

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea test-fired a missile into the sea Monday in what was seen as an attempt to raise tension further in the standoff over its nuclear programs and pressure the United States into negotiations.

The widely anticipated launch from a base on North Korea's east coast fit a pattern of unusual military maneuvers in recent weeks, including the North's interception a week ago of a U.S. reconnaissance plane.

"This is another show of North Korean brinkmanship," said Yoon Dong-min, an expert at the state-funded Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security in Seoul.

"They are trying to raise the stakes in the nuclear standoff and trying to get the upper hand ahead of possible talks with the United States," Yoon said.

North Korea wants a nonaggression treaty and economic aid from the United States, but Washington says

the U.N. Security Council should handle the nuclear problem.

In Washington, top Bush administration officials said Sunday the time still isn't ripe for one-on-one talks with North Korea and any lasting solution to the nuclear dispute will need the support of Russia, China and other nations.

"I think eventually we will be talking to North Korea, but we're not going to simply fall into what I believe is bad practice of saying the only way you can talk to us is directly, when it affects other nations in the region," Secretary of State Colin Powell said on CNN's "Late Edition."

Powell, on Fox News Sunday, said that during his visit to the United Nations last week, he worked with diplomats to develop a multinational approach to North Korea.

Democrats are pressing the Bush administration to begin direct talks immediately.

(See MISSILE, Page 3)

M
 A
 R
 1
 0
 2
 0
 0
 3

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

MISSILE

National security adviser Condoleezza Rice said on ABC's "This Week" that the United States isn't afraid to talk, "but we need to do so in a way that will bring maximum pressure on North Korea to actually this time not just freeze its weapons of mass destruction, but begin to dismantle them."

There had been indications that North Korea was planning to fire a missile. The Pentagon earlier cited a North Korean warning to ships to stay out of a sector off the east coast from Saturday to Tuesday.

Maj. Kim Ki-Beom, a spokesman at the South Korean Defense Ministry, said the missile was believed to be an anti-ship missile similar to one that North Korea test-fired on Feb. 24, the eve of the inauguration of South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun.

South Korean officials said the second missile was launched from a pad at Sinsang-ri and flew 68 miles. It had a range of 160 kilometers 99 miles.

South Korea was trying to determine whether the new test was successful. It had said the earlier one was a failure since it appeared to have exploded in midair due to defects.

The United States had sought to minimize the significance of the earlier missile test, saying it involved a small weapon and not one of North

Korea's stockpile of long-range ballistic missiles.

U.S. and South Korean officials are more concerned about a possible North Korean test of a Taepodong-2 missile, which analysts believe is capable of reaching parts of the United States, though there are widespread doubts about its reach and accuracy. In 1998, North Korea test-fired a Taepodong-1 missile over Japan and into the Pacific.

North Korea has repeatedly accused the United States of plotting an attack, and says its military maneuvers are defensive.

In its first public comment on the March 2 plane interception, a state-run North Korean newspaper criticized the South Korean military for objecting to the maneuver off the North's east coast, South Korea's Yonhap news agency said.

Yonhap cited a North Korean newspaper, Rodong Sinmun, as saying that the dispatch of fighter jets to intercept the U.S. plane was a "just act of the right to self-defense."

Citing a senior defense official, The New York Times has reported that a North Korean pilot made the internationally recognized hand signals to follow him in an apparent attempt to take the U.S. crew hostage.

North Korean fighters illuminated the U.S. plane with targeting radar, but there was

no hostile fire. The U.S. plane broke off its mission and returned to its base in Japan.

Rodong Sinmun also noted a statement by the South Korean Defense Ministry on Friday that expressed deep concern about the North Korean action and urged its neighbor's military to act with restraint.

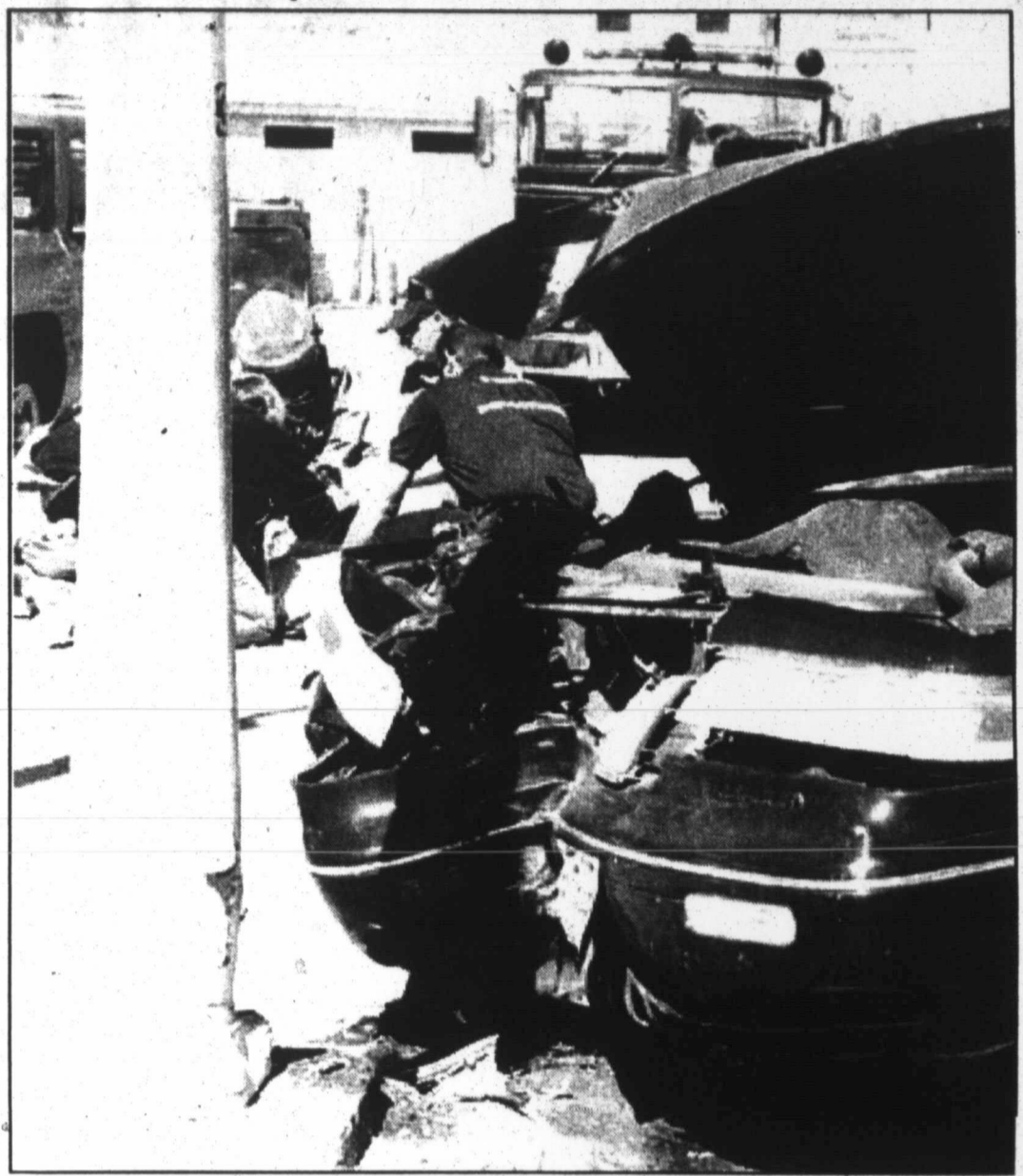
"If South Korean authorities are at all interested in peace, they should speak out to the foreign power, the United States, which is threatening peace," the newspaper said.

For decades, North Korea has tried to undermine the alliance between Washington and Seoul with appeals for Korean solidarity in the face of what it calls foreign interference. Washington keeps 37,000 troops in South Korea, a legacy of the 1950-53 Korean War.

The two Koreas embarked on a host of reconciliation projects after a summit of their leaders in 2000, but the process has been overshadowed by tension over the nuclear dispute.

In October, U.S. officials said Pyongyang admitted having a covert nuclear program in violation of a 1994 deal. Washington and its allies suspended fuel shipments; the North retaliated by expelling U.N. monitors, withdrawing from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and restarting a nuclear reactor.

Car versus pole



(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)

A Pampa man was injured Thursday when he swerved his 1995 Mercury Marquis to miss a cat on South Cuyler and struck a light pole. Martin Avila, 40, 1057 Huff, was traveling south in the 700 block of South Cuyler, said police. His car received extensive damage and the lightpole received an estimated \$1,500 in damage. He was transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center by Rural Metro Ambulance.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

VOTE

undecided nations among the 10 elected members who serve two-year terms — Mexico, Chile, Pakistan, Cameroon, Angola and Guinea.

Powell, speaking on "Fox News Sunday," said he would not be surprised if France used its veto power to thwart the ultimatum while he couldn't be certain how veto-bearing Russia and China would vote on the measure.

"We'll be in intense negotiations over the next couple of days," he said. "A lot of diplomacy will be taking place." Also over the weekend, a senior Iraqi official, Maj. Gen. Hossam Mohamed Amin, said he was convinced the United States planned to attack Iraq regardless of its efforts to rid itself of weapons of mass destruction and he dismissed the proposed March 17 deadline.

"We are working hard to meet our obligations," he said. "Whether that takes a week, 10 days, or a month, we are doing everything we can. We are not interested in dates and times."

In Turkey, governing party leader Recep Tayyip Erdogan swept elections that paved the way for him to become prime minister and said a decision on allowing in U.S. troops for a possible Iraq war could come after the Security Council has met and a new Turkish government is formed.

Erdogan has backed the deployment of troops and hinted that he would seek a fresh vote after parliament last week rejected a resolution allowing 62,000 U.S. troops that could open a northern front against Iraq.

But in an interview following his massive electoral victory in Sunday's by-elections, Erdogan appeared to be in no hurry to resubmit a motion on troop deployment.

"We have the U.N. Security Council before us, we have the process of forming a new government," Erdogan told CNN-Turk television when asked about a new resolution. "We need to assess all these very carefully, and then we will take a decision."

Meanwhile, opponents of the war staged protests around the world.

Hundreds of thousands of people in Pakistan, Indonesia and India — the nations with the three largest Muslim populations in the world — rallied Sunday against war in Iraq.

Demonstrators also called for peace at marches in Los Angeles, Oklahoma City and in Washington D.C., where police arrested 23 demonstrators outside the Capitol.

"I pray for President Bush, I pray for the U.N. Security Council, I pray for the people of Baghdad," said Sister Miriam Schnoebelen, a Benedictine nun at a silent procession for peace around the site of the bombed Murrah Building in Oklahoma City on Sunday.

In Columbia, S.C., more than 200 people rallied to show support for U.S. troops at the Statehouse, which has been a gathering ground lately for anti-war groups. Participants insisted it wasn't a pro-war rally. "We need to let our guys and girls know we're here for them," said Sheryll Lawson, who handed out more than 200 U.S. flags.

Meanwhile, the U.S. military said coalition aircraft enforcing a "no-fly zone" over southern Iraq bombed five underground military communication sites some 60 miles southeast of Baghdad.

Possible attempt to override Columbia's autopilot may have been unintentional

HOUSTON (AP) — In the moments before Columbia broke apart over Texas, an astronaut may have tried to override the shuttle's autopilot, according to officials familiar with an analysis of the final bits of data.

But one official close to the investigation stressed: "The data are really suspect. They can't ensure the integrity of any of the data, and some of the stuff that they're saying may be inaccurate or misinterpreted."

A NASA spokeswoman, Eileen Hawley, also said any attempted override could have been unintentional; in other words, one of the pilots may have bumped the control stick.

The new information was presented to the Columbia accident investigation board Sunday. ABC News reported the data showed one of the crew may have tried to take over the spaceship before its destruction during its Feb. 1 re-entry.

For weeks, in an attempt to reconstruct what went wrong, NASA and other experts have been analyzing data transmitted in the last 32 seconds of flight. The final two seconds of data, which follow 25 seconds of nothing, indicate there was an input to disengage the autopilot system, the official said.

The computer-operated autopilot never went off, the

official noted, possibly because there was not enough time for it to do so — or perhaps because there was no attempt by the crew to override it.

"Had you had more data after two seconds, you might know whether it would have gone off or not," the official said. It is difficult if not impossible to know "whether that was unintentional or whether it was intentional or whether it even occurred at all," the official said.

Hawley pointed out that even before Columbia started re-entering the atmosphere, commander Rick Husband accidentally bumped the stick but quickly corrected for it. Under normal conditions, moving the stick turns off the autopilot.

Minutes later, "there is some evidence that the stick may have been bumped" again, Hawley said. But she added that part of the problem is that the data are intermittent, with a high error rate, "and to draw any conclusions from it would be really wrong."

The data also suggest the four steering jets that automatically began firing to try to compensate for increased drag on the left side of the spacecraft were no longer able to counteract the

forces, the official said.

"It kind of indicates the orbiter was out of control, basically," the official said.

Investigators suspect a breach in the left wing allowed the searing gases of atmospheric re-entry to penetrate the shuttle and set off the cascade of catastrophic events.

The data suggest there were no readings coming from Columbia's left orbital maneuvering system in the final two seconds, which could mean it broke off or was badly damaged along with the left wing, said the official close to the investigation.

ON RECORD, CONT. FROM PAGE TWO

ACCIDENTS


Pampa Police Department today reported the following accidents.

Friday, March 7

11:32 a.m. — No citations were issued in an accident in the 1900 block of North Hobart. A 2003 Lincoln Town Car driven by Marlene Griggs Riddle, 65, 1825 Lea, was southbound and was attempting to turn into a private drive from the left hand lane. According to the report, it caused a 1999 Chevrolet 1500 pickup driven by Alberto V. Copado, 32, 436 Pitts, to strike the Town Car's front left quarter panel.

Saturday, March 8

3:01 a.m. — Jose Felix Garcia, 27, 1005 S. Faulkner, was southbound in the 200 block of South Cuyler in a 1989 Chevy Silverado pickup when he said his brakes failed. According to the report, he then swerved right and hit the concrete walkway in the 200 block of East Atchison. No citations were issued.

Happy 30th B-Day

Heather
We Love You!
Tim, Alicia, Brandon

THE Pampa NEWS

403 W. ATCHISON • PAMPA, TEXAS
 TELEPHONES: (806) 669-2525
 1-800-687-3348 • FAX: 669-2520
 EMAIL: deedee@pan-tex.net • pamnews1@pan-tex.net

This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily except Saturdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Days, by The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, Pampa, TX 79065. Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, Texas 79066-2198.

Publisher: L.W. McCall
 Editor: Dee Dee Laramore
 Managing Editor: Nancy Young
 Circulation Manager: Dean Lynch
 Advertising Manager: ReDonn Woods
 Composition Supervisor: Brenda Cook

COPYRIGHT NOTICE
 The entire contents of The Pampa News, including its logotype, are fully protected by copyright and registry and cannot be reproduced in any form for any purpose without written permission from The Pampa News.

HOME DELIVERY
 All carriers are independent contractors and The Pampa News is not responsible for advance payments of two or more months made to the carrier. Please pay directly to the News Office any payment that exceeds the current collection period.

SINGLE COPIES
 Daily 50¢/Sunday \$1.00
 Member: Associated Press

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

CARRIER HOME DELIVERY

1 yr.....\$84.00 6 mos.....\$42.00
 3 mos.....\$22.00 1 mo.....\$8.00

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Mail in Roberts, Gray, Carson, Wheeler and Hemphill Counties in Texas

1 yr.....\$102.00 6 mos.....\$51.00
 3 mos.....\$25.50

Mail All Other Areas in U.S.

1 yr.....\$114.00 6 mos.....\$57.00
 3 mos.....\$28.50

Single Copy Mail

Daily.....\$1.50 Sunday.....\$2.50

No mail subscriptions are available within the city limits of Pampa. Mail subscriptions must be paid 3 months in advance.

Tuesday Only!

Chicken Fried Steak Dinner

\$12.99 **ONE DAY ONLY!**
 (plus tax)
 No Substitutes

You get:

- Chicken Fried Steak with white gravy
- Individual mashed potatoes with gravy
- Individual cole slaw
- 1 baked biscuit

PAMPA
 2201 N. Hobart St.
 665-2766

• Dine In
 • Carry Out
 • Drive Thru

THE PUMPA NEWS COMICS

MONDAY • MARCH 10, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Poor Health Is Heavy Price Paid By Uninsured Americans

DEAR ABBY: Your readers often express concerns about America's health-care system. However, one problem doesn't get enough attention: More than 41 million Americans are without health insurance. This includes more than 8 million children. In March, hundreds of national organizations will work together to spotlight this problem.

The uninsured pay a high price for not having health coverage. They often live with prolonged illness and skip lifesaving medical screenings. Their children do not get adequate medical care.

Please urge your readers to join me during "Cover the Uninsured Week," March 10-16, 2003. During this time, a series of national and local activities to increase discussion of the issue will be featured.

To learn more about this, to find resources to help the uninsured and discover simple ways to get involved, visit www.covertheuninsured.org.

Abby, thank you for informing your readers about this unprecedented awareness campaign.

RISA LAVIZZO-MOUREY, M.D., PRESIDENT, THE ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION

DEAR DR. LAVIZZO-MOUREY: You're welcome. I am pleased to promote your awareness campaign in the hope that concerned readers will get involved. It's a disgrace that in a country as wealthy and powerful as ours, millions of people are without access to medical care.

DEAR ABBY: Please settle an ongoing debate between me and a friend: When is the appropriate time to end conversations at the movie theater? Should they end when the lights go down and the screen lights up, or is it OK to talk through the previews until the feature begins?

MOVIE-MANNERS SEEKER

DEAR MOVIE-MANNERS SEEKER: Conversation should cease when the lights go down and the previews begin. (Sometimes they are better than the

full-length movies.) Silence is considered a sign of respect for those seated around you and will be appreciated.

P.S. Cell phones and pagers should also be turned off.

DEAR ABBY: After reading the letters about doctors who dislike being asked medical questions in social settings, I had to write.

Anytime you include a job description such as doctor or lawyer with your name, you can expect questions regarding your profession. It happens to everyone.

Speaking as a real estate investment adviser, I can assure you that even doctors try to get free advice. The same thing happens to accountants, carpenters, painters, police personnel, nurses and just about everybody else.

It should come as a surprise to no one. It is called conversation.

HAPPY TALK IN WINNETKA, ILL.

DEAR HAPPY TALK: You're right. Many people ask questions as a way of showing interest and starting conversations. It happens to advice columnists, too. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: After reading about doctors getting asked for free advice, I would like to offer my father's response when asked what he did for a living.

He would say, "I follow the medical profession."

"Oh, you're a doctor?"

"No, I'm a mortician."

At that point the questioners usually changed the subject.

RUTH STRAND, RANCHO MIRAGE, CALIF.

DEAR RUTH: Too bad. Death is the one thing we will all have in common.

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.

For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 41 Potato

1 Blocks up features

5 Pronto, in

memos

9 Namely 1 Rx amount

10 Four-star 2 Come to

reviews 3 Karaoke

12 Japan's 4 Polaris,

second e.g.

largest city

13 Fabric 5 Louvre

weave contents

14 They 6 Carpentry

accept aid

bets 7 Take to

16 Saloon the skies

quaff 8 BB, e.g.

17 A long 9 Sum

time 11 Winter

18 Used glider

another's 15 Friend

words of the

21 Author Pilgrims

Deighton 26 Longing

22 Castle something

tower

23 Vision

24 Peaceful

26 Rock's -

Leppard

29 Autocrat

30 - vu

31 Shade

tree

32 "Hold

on -"

34 Madonna

movie

37 Ralph's

wife

38 Wildly

active

39 Components

40 Humming-

bird home

FACT	CODAS
IDAHO	ADOPT
LAPSEL	RESEEE
EGO DAY	AXE
TENANT	AGED
SEMITONES	
ICING	
MUSKIMELON	
STIRS	EYEFUL
ANA USE	FRO
LUNAR	ALIST
UTURN	RACES
TESTS	MESA

19 Goad	27 Throws
20 Refiner's	28 Clock
21 Stuff	29 Abound
22 Feds	30 Holdup
23 George's	33 Neck part
24 Wooded	35 Frank
25 Kingly	36 Court
26 Longing	37 Do

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.50 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

9	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	11
12								
14			15					
17								
21			22					
23	24	25				26	27	28
29								
31								
34			35	36				
38								
39								
40								

STUMPED?

For answer to today's crossword call 1-800-454-7377, 9P per min., 18 years of age or older only. A King Features Service.

Marmaduke



"Marmaduke wants to show you something he found in a hole under the garage."

The Family Circus



"Daddy, am I tall enough to watch basketball?"

Flo & Friends



BASE
PAM
a Optim
es meet
Monday
Optimis
Base
tryouts
Tuesday
5:30-7;
(March
Thursda
5:30-7 a
Durir
needing
call the
Fees
year old
olds; \$4
olds; \$4
olds.
Pract
Monday
BASK
PAM
Harvest
Basketb
will n
Monday
home o
Plans
the ann
quet. A
are urge
FOOT
WAS
T
Redskir
yet ano
player:
Laverar
Cole
deal wo
lion ovr
a \$13
bonus,
with
speakin
anonym
Cole
appoint
tial c
believe
million
He i
agent,
would
match
sheet.
89 rec
yards a
The
signed
Randy
John F
free ag
offer s
New Y
Chad M
Cole
Parker
Barnes,
reached
Jets sai
no coi
were of
an offer
In s
Redskir
to give
draft pi
the Jet
offer s
York h
under t
must n
Morton
The l
he woul
play rur
and he
million
lion sig

SPORTS

Lady Harvesters defeat visiting Plainview

NOTEBOOK

BASEBALL

PAMPA - There will be a Optimist baseball coaches meeting at 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 17, at the Optimist Club.

Baseball signups and tryouts are scheduled for: Tuesday (March 18), 5:30-7; Wednesday (March 19), 5:30-7; Thursday (March 20), 5:30-7 at Optimist Park.

During tryouts, persons needing information can call the club at 665-4361.

Fees are \$35 for 5-6 year olds; \$35 for 7-8 year olds; \$45 for 9-10 year olds; \$45 for 11-12 year olds; \$60 for 13-15 year olds.

Practice starts on Monday, March 31.

BASKETBALL

PAMPA — The Harvester Boys' Basketball Booster Club will meet at 5 p.m. Monday, March 17, at the home of Jana Martin.

Plans will be made for the annual basketball banquet. All club members are urged to attend.

FOOTBALL

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Washington Redskins made an offer to yet another New York Jets player: wide receiver Laveranues Coles.

Coles was offered a deal worth about \$35 million over seven years with a \$13 million signing bonus, a source familiar with the negotiations, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Monday.

Coles said he was disappointed by the Jets' initial contract offer — believed to include a \$6 million signing bonus.

He is a restricted free agent, meaning the Jets would have one week to match Washington's offer sheet. Last season, he had 89 receptions for 1,264 yards and five touchdowns. The Redskins already signed former Jets guard Randy Thomas and kicker John Hall as unrestricted free agents and have an offer sheet pending with New York kick returner Chad Morton.

Coles' agents, Eugene Parker and Roosevelt Barnes, could not be reached for comment. The Jets said they would have no comment until they were officially informed of an offer.

In signing Coles, the Redskins would be forced to give up their first-round draft pick, 13th overall, if the Jets don't match the offer sheet. While New York has enough money under the salary cap it also must match the offer to Morton by Thursday.

The Redskins told Morton he would get an opportunity to play running back for them, and he signed a five-year, \$8 million deal, with a \$2.5 million signing bonus.



(Pampa News photo by Tess Kingcade)

Pampa pitcher Dusti Wilson sends a fastball toward the plate in Friday's District 3-4A softball contest against Plainview.

One school year, two state titles for 3A Everman

AUSTIN (AP) — One school year, two state titles for Everman.

Bobby Joshua scored 16 points and Everman forced 33 turnovers as Everman won the Class 3A basketball championship Saturday with a 72-44 win over Tatum.

Everman won the 3A football title in December and the Bulldogs' first boys' basketball championship made it just the fourth school in Texas history to win both in the same academic year. Dumas (1961-62), Southlake Carroll ('92-93) and Duncanville ('98-99) were the others.

Everman (33-6) blazed through its final three play-

off games, winning by an average of 31 points, including an 86-58 semifinal win over Aransas Pass.

The Bulldogs' furious defensive pressure held Tatum (30-7) to just 26 percent shooting from the floor and produced 23 steals.

Everman led 31-29 at the half before the defensive pressure turned the game in the third quarter.

After pounding the ball inside to Joshua for 11 points in the first half, the Bulldogs went to a smaller, quicker lineup after he picked up his third foul.

Victor Freeman swished a 3-pointer from the left corner and Everman forced five turnovers on Tatum's next six possessions.

Stars are back in charge after victory over Sharks

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Stars had won five straight division titles, three in the Pacific, until the San Jose Sharks ended that streak last season.

That made Sunday night's 3-0 victory over the Sharks even sweeter.

The Stars remained unbeaten in four games against their division rival, which has fallen to last in the Pacific Division and was eliminated for the division championship after winning the Pacific last season. The first-place Stars, who'd won three straight Pacific titles, are back in charge with a 15-point lead over second-place Anaheim.

"It feels pretty good to knock them out," said Stars left wing Brenden Morrow. "We want to win every night, but if it happens to be us, that's even better."

The Stars got a strong effort from goaltender Ron Tugnutt, back on the rise in his inconsistent run as the replacement for injured Stars goaltender Marty Turco.

Tugnutt stopped 23 shots for his third shutout of the season, making goals by Stephane Robidas, Morrow and Jason Amott hold up.

"I haven't been around for as long as I have because I'm some stiff," said Tugnutt, who had been 4-4-3 with a 2.50 goals-against entering Sunday's game since taking over while Turco recovers from a sprained ankle.

Tugnutt, who registered his 24th career shutout, has been under scrutiny after allowing some soft goals, fueling doubts over his ability to handle the load in the playoffs if Turco can't return at full strength.

In his 12 games as the fill-in for Turco, Tugnutt has given up five goals twice, and four in two other games. He's also had two shutouts and allowed one goal in three other games during the 12-game stretch.

"He might have had some struggles, but I think we're at fault for that too," Amott said.

Robidas scored just over two minutes into the game, then Morrow connected from close range in the final minute of the second period as the Stars improved to 93 points, best in the Western Conference.

The Stars killed off seven power plays, including a double-minor for highsticking against Manny Malhotra that began at 10:12 of the final period.

PAMPA — Senior pitcher Dusti Wilson got the start Friday for Pampa when Plainview came visiting for a District 3-4A softball game. Wilson responded with seven complete innings as Pampa rolled to a 6-2 win at Recreation Park.

Wilson (1-0, 8-0) had good control of her pitches throughout the contest while the Pampa defense was solid behind her.

Wilson ran into trouble only once and that came in the third inning when Plainview cranked out three consecutive hits, including a two-run double by Jennifer Cerda that gave the Lady Bulldogs a 2-0 lead. Wilson settled down by getting the next two batters on routine flyballs. After Cerda's double, Wilson returned 14 of the next 15 batters, walking the only runner to reach base.

For the contest, Wilson allowed two runs on four hits while walking two and striking out seven. The Lady Harvesters didn't commit an

error.

Pampa (2-0, 15-5) threatened to score first in its half of the first after two were out. Abbi Covalt, Stacey Johnson and Whitney Roden each drew walks from Plainview hurler Vanessa Rodriguez, but were left stranded when Rodriguez snagged a hard liner off the bat of Wilson to retire the side.

The Lady Harvesters, held scoreless through the first three innings, started the fourth with Teryn Garner's leadoff double igniting a rally. Callie Cobb single, scoring Garner, then April Amador singled to put two on with no outs. Jennie Rogers, next up, walked to load the bases. That brought up Amy Youree, who hit a groundball that forced two Plainview errors, allowing three runs to score. Youree advanced to third as Pampa went on top 4-2. Johnson's sacrifice fly to left scored Youree to make it 5-2.

Pampa added one more run in the fifth. Garner sin-

gled and moved to second on Cobb's sacrifice. Amador drove her home with another hit and the final run of the game.

"April had an outstanding game for us," said coach Bobbi Gill.

Amador went three for three, scored a run and had one RBI.

Rogers and Roden had Pampa's other two hits. Roden moved from third to first for the game and collected 10 putouts.

Pampa travels to Hereford on Tuesday for more district action. Varsity and junior varsity contests are scheduled to start at 4:30.

Plainview 002000- 2 4 2

Pampa 000510- 6 8 0

Pln. - Vanessa Rodriguez and Valerie Garza; P - Dusti Wilson and Jennie Rogers; WP - Wilson (8-0); LP - Rodriguez (0-1); 2B - Pln. - Jennifer Cerda; P - Teryn Garner.

Records: Plainview - 0-2, overall unavailable; Pampa - 2-0, 15-5.

Jonathan Harrell and Darius Washington each scored four points in a 14-0 run that opened up a 50-35 lead.

Tatum never again cut the deficit under 13.

Marcus Hill scored 21 points and Jayme Bradley added 12, all on 3-pointers, for Tatum, which reached the final in its first state tournament appearance.

Casey Forge added 12 pints and Joshua grabbed eight rebounds for Everman.

Joshua was named the game's most valuable player.

Win over A&M ends OSU losing streak

STILLWATER, Okla. (AP) — Ivan McFarlin had 17 points and 14 rebounds as No. 20 Oklahoma State ended a three-game losing streak with a 77-52 victory over Texas A&M on Saturday.

The Cowboys (21-8, 10-6 Big 12) held on to an early lead and wore down the Aggies (14-13, 6-10) with their defense. Oklahoma State had 34 defensive rebounds to Texas A&M's 22.

Melvin Sanders also scored 17 points for the Cowboys,

while Tony Allen added 12 and Andre Williams and Victor Williams each had 10.

The victory ensured Oklahoma State the No. 4 seed and a first-round bye in next week's Big 12 tournament.

The Aggies trailed 32-17 at halftime, the fewest first-half points allowed by Oklahoma State this season.

Shut down on the inside, Texas A&M shot 31 percent from the field and was only 3-of-18 from 3-point range.

Bernard King led the Aggies with 17 points, fol-

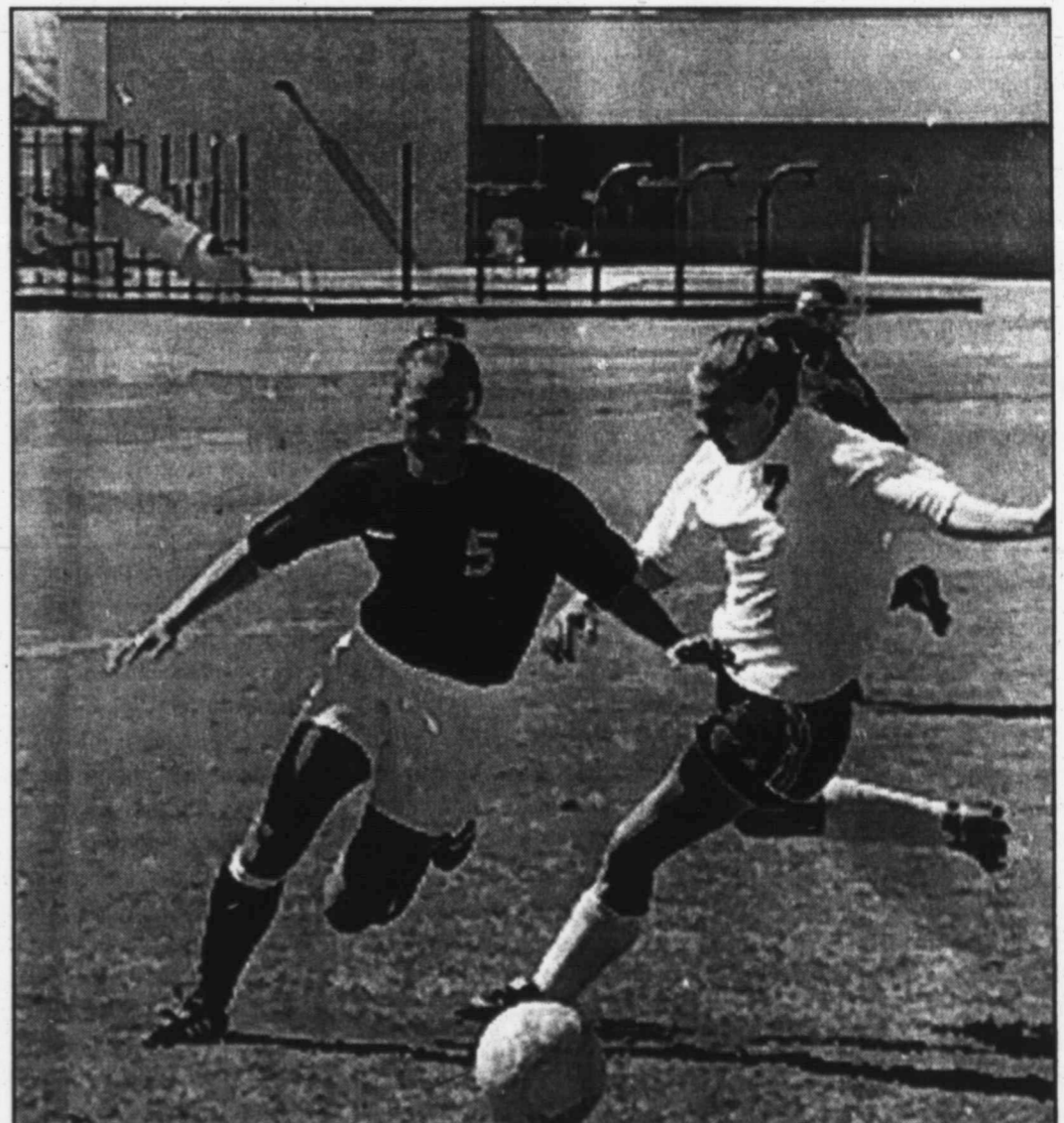
lowed by Andy Stocum with 10.

Oklahoma State took the lead for good 4 1/2 minutes into the game and used runs of 6-0, 7-0 and 8-0 to go up by as many as 17 points in the first half.

Texas A&M got within 14 points in the second half when Tomas Ressa made two free throws after officials called a technical foul on Oklahoma State coach Eddie Sutton.

But Allen scored the Cowboys' next six points and Oklahoma State pulled away.

Soccer battle



(Pampa News photo by L.D. Strate)

Pampa's Heather Balay (7) battles a Randall player for the ball in a District 3-4A soccer match Saturday. Randall won 4-0. Goalkeeper Leslie McWilliams did have 10 saves for the Lady Harvesters, who still qualified for the playoffs despite the loss.

M
A
R
1
0
2
0
0
3

OPEC unlikely to cover crude shortfalls

By **BRUCE STANLEY**
AP BUSINESS WRITER

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — If war erupts in the Persian Gulf, OPEC will be hard-pressed to boost its oil production further to cover a simultaneous shortfall in crude exports from Iraq and

northern Kuwait, an oil minister from one of the group's key members said Monday.

The United Arab Emirates is already approaching its limits, said the country's oil minister, Obaid bin Saif Al-Nasseri.

The Organization of

Petroleum Exporting Countries must somehow weigh the impact of a possible U.S.-led war on Iraq when its representatives review their output quotas Tuesday at OPEC's headquarters in Vienna. Al-Nasseri's comments suggested that the United States and other major oil-importing countries would need to rely on their own strategic petroleum reserves as a cushion against a serious disruption in supply.

OPEC raised its output target by 6.5 percent to 24.5 million barrels in January, in an effort to keep a lid on rising prices. Since then, worsening fears of a conflict have pushed prices to 12-year highs.

A war would almost certainly cut off Iraq's crude exports, currently totaling about 2 million barrels a day. With Venezuela's oil exports still recovering from a strike, OPEC would

have to stretch to cover an interruption in Iraqi shipments.

Kuwait has said that in the event of war it would shut down its northern oil fields as a precaution against a possible Iraqi counterstrike. Such a step would reduce Kuwait's output by around 700,000 barrels a day, or about a third of its current production.

"It (would be) very difficult, I think," for OPEC to make up for lost barrels from both Iraq and Kuwait, Al-Nasseri told reporters as he arrived at a hotel in the Austrian capital. The United Arab Emirates' capacity of about 2.5 million barrels a day is already "about full," he added.

Aside from Saudi Arabia and perhaps Nigeria, most other OPEC members are already believed to be producing at their limits.

OPEC heavyweight Saudi Arabia, which by some estimates is pumping

at a rate of 9 million barrels a day, could raise its output to 9.5 million barrels a day within a month and 10.5 million barrels a day within three months.

Importing countries have publicly expressed their desire for OPEC to maximize production if a war threatens supplies and causes prices to spike. U.S. Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham, due this week in Vienna on separate business, said last week that he might meet here with oil ministers from leading OPEC producers.

Some analysts have suggested that large importing countries and OPEC might be aiming to coordinate an increase in OPEC output with a release of crude from importers' strategic reserves in an effort to head off a war-induced disruption.

Iran's oil minister, Bijan Namdar Zangeneh, warned Monday that OPEC should not make any decision that

would look appear to support a U.S. invasion of Iraq. Iran's state-run IRNA news agency reported.

"OPEC must refrain from taking political measures," Zangeneh said, adding that "as far as the market fundamentals are concerned, there is no oil shortage in the market currently."

OPEC's biggest fear is that it might gear up to boost production just as seasonal demand starts to decline in the second quarter of the year. It worries that if Iraq were to resume exporting quickly after a war, the combination of surging supply and falling demand could trigger a price collapse.

April contracts of U.S. light, sweet crude were trading Monday at \$37.80 a barrel in New York, up 2 cents from Friday's close. Brent crude futures for April delivery were up 6 cents at \$34.16 in London.



(Courtesy photo)

Dr. and Mrs. Herschel Stroud

Knife & Fork Club to hold next meeting

Dr. and Mrs. Herschel Stroud, whose entertaining lectures on Civil War medicine have become popular on the American lecture circuit, will be the featured speakers at the upcoming Top O' Texas Knife and Fork Club slated at 7 p.m., Monday, March 17, at Pampa Country Club.

As part of their unique

program, the Strouds will pose as a Civil War doctor and his wife, a nurse. The Strouds will portray Captain A.G. Huffman and wife Pamela. The real Huffmans left Kentucky after the war, moved west and settled in Peabody, Kan., where they were buried.

The Strouds will appear in authentic Civil War attire as they discuss medicine as practiced during the Civil War period.

Tickets are on sale at Dunlaps through March 16 for members.

Four Algerians sentenced French for bomb plot

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) — Four Algerians accused of plotting to bomb a French Christmas market were convicted Monday of conspiring to murder and sentenced to prison terms of between 10 and 12 years.

The four were also convicted of conspiring to plant a bomb and of weapons violations, capping a trial that opened under intense scrutiny last year but failed to establish solid links to al-Qaida.

Prosecutors claimed the defendants were part of a network of predominantly North African extremists called the Nonaligned Mujahideen, with ties to al-Qaida. But the government dropped charges of belonging to a terrorist organization in January to speed the trial.

Salim Boukari received the highest sentence, 12 years, followed by Fouhad Sabour, 11 1/2 years. Both had denied intent to kill, insisting the group had planned to target an empty synagogue in Strasbourg, France.

Alleged co-organizer Aeroubi Beandalis — the only one to admit to charges that the cell intended to bomb holiday revelers outside the Strasbourg Cathedral on New Year's Eve 2000 — received 10 years.

Lamine Maroni, who remained silent throughout the trial, was sentenced to 11 years.

Prosecutors had demanded 12 1/2 years for Boukari, 11 1/2 years for Sabour and 10 years for Maroni and Beandalis. They did not explain why they sought less than the maximum sentence of 15 years for all defendants.

A fifth suspect was dropped from the trial in August due to lack of evidence.

The trial opened April 16 amid extremely tight security and hopes that the suspects' testimony would reveal the inner workings of al-Qaida's network in Europe.

Yet while three of the men admitted training in Afghan camps from 1999 to 2000 and detailed to authorities how they were recruited by other extremists while

living in Europe, their statements provided no substantially new information.

Prosecutors based their case largely on a homemade videotape of the brightly lit Christmas market and Strasbourg cathedral made by Boukari and Sabour weeks before the attack allegedly was to take place.

On the tape, Boukari's voice can be heard saying: "These are the enemies of God."

Prosecutors also cited the discovery of several pressure cookers and about 66 pounds of chemicals that could be used to make explosives, as well as a notebook full of jottings about how to mix homemade bombs, seized at one of the two Frankfurt apartments used by the group after their arrest on Christmas Day 2000.

Mohammed Bensakhria, the alleged leader of the Frankfurt-based group — known as the Meliani cell — is believed to have fled Germany but was arrested in Spain in June 2001 and extradited to France.



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

Free Demonstrations - one day only, Wednesday, March 12th

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

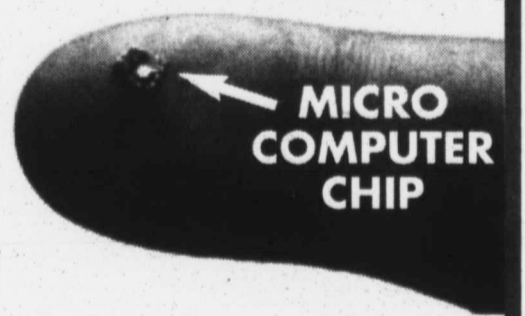
ON SPECIAL SALE NOW!

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-

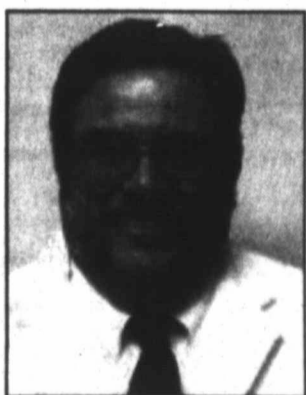
turer, comes the first hearing aid ever developed to address your most important needs. Not only does it fit your individual hearing loss, it fits the

way you live. If you hear, but are having trouble understanding conversation, you owe it to yourself to take advantage of the free

demonstrations offered this week. Call Livingston Hearing Center today for a no-obligation appointment.



Factory-trained Specialist in Pampa
One Day Only—Wednesday, March 12th



Craig Smith, licensed dispenser, specializes in helping people with nerve type hearing loss. He will be demonstrating the newest in hearing aid technology **ONE DAY ONLY—Wednesday, March 12th in Pampa.**

"Bring in the talk-- screen down the noise"

<p>1</p> <p>The Hearing Computer is fully automatic.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Just slip it in.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>It is hidden inside and hearing is easy.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>SAVE \$400 and more— this week only</p> <p>Save \$400 and more on digital systems.</p>
---	---	---	--

ONE DAY ONLY - Wednesday, March 12th
Appointments are limited! Call today!

ONE DAY ONLY!
Wednesday, March 12th
621 North Hobart
665-3451
1-800-834-0831

LIVINGSTON
Audiology and
Hearing Aid
Centers
www.lhac.com



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.