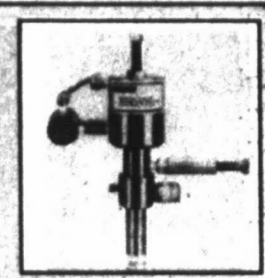


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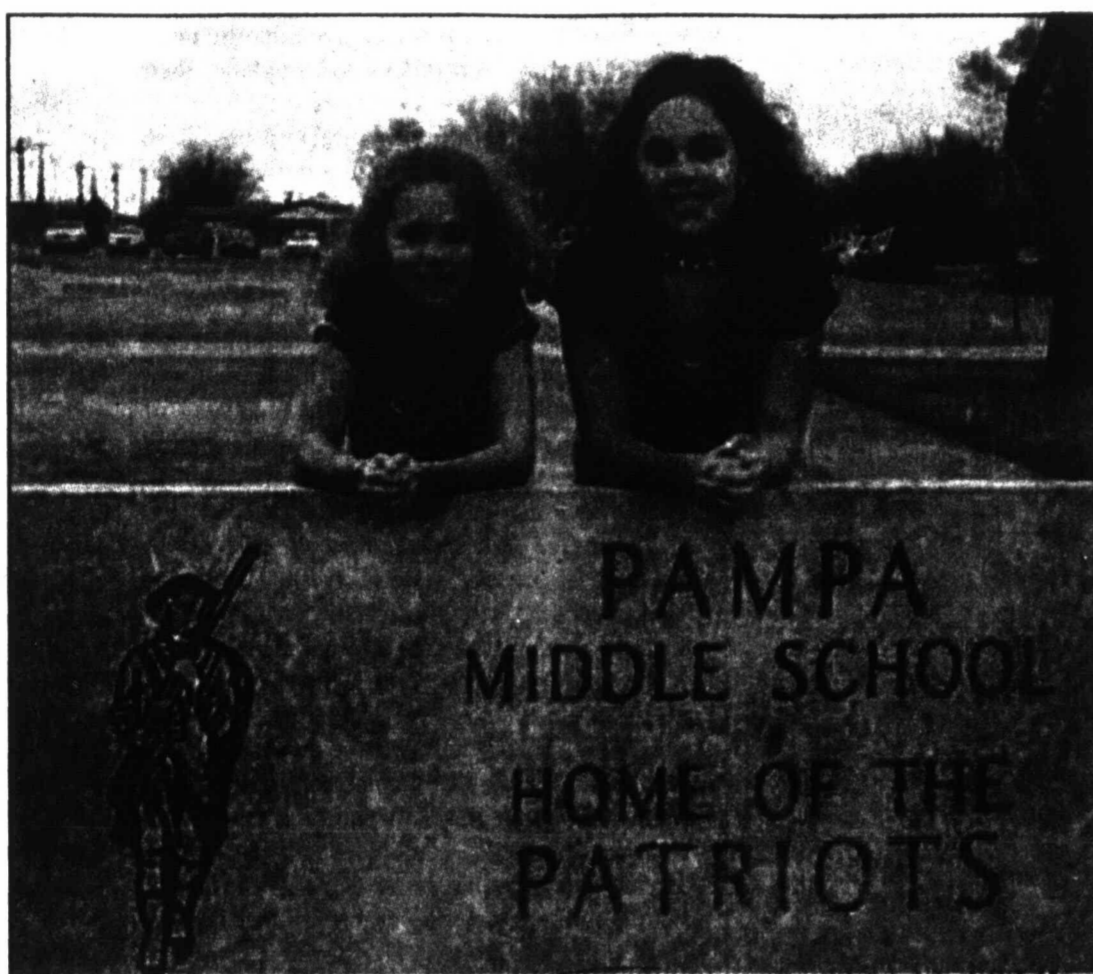
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New leadership



(Courtesy photo)
 Mayor and Vice-Mayor, elected by the students at Pampa Middle School for the spring semester, are Mayor K'Lyn Holmes, daughter of Randy and Brenda Holmes, and Vice-Mayor Kayla Mendoza, daughter of Ruben and Lena Mendoza. The two students will lead the PMS Student Council and student body for the spring semester 2004.

County officials to meet tomorrow, expected to name four to task force

By MARILYN POWERS
 STAFF WRITER

Gray County Commissioners Monday will name a four-person team to form part of a task force to seek ambulance service for county residents.

Commissioners will meet in regular session at 9 a.m. tomorrow in the second-floor courtroom at Gray County Court House, 205 N. Russell.

County Judge Richard Peet and Precinct 1 Commissioner Joe Wheeley met with city officials Friday morning to discuss future emergency medical services for Pampa and Gray County. Rural/Metro Ambulance Service had told city and county representatives earlier in the week that they would be leaving Pampa at the end of their current contract, which runs through July 14.

Pampa city commissioners will meet in a special session Monday to select a four-person team for their half of the eight-person task force whose job will be to develop a contingency plan for the immediate

future, seek other ambulance service companies, learn what is needed to provide such service by the county itself, and long-term goals concerning emergency medical services.

Other items on Monday's county commissioners' meeting include:

- Contribution to North Rolling Plains RC&D;
- Add Deputy Treasurer Karen Ellis' name to accounts;
- Remove the names of Ricky Garcia, Kelly Shaffer and Shawn Stone from the inmate fund checking account, and add the names of Jayme Rowland, Andy Schroeder and Sabrina Adams to the account;
- Consider request for road crossings on county roads Gray 6, Gray 5 and Gray 1;
- Consider landscape proposals;
- Tax bids on 606 Main, McLean, and 825 S. Talley, Pampa;
- Participation in National County Government Week, April 18-24;
- Recognize continuing education of elected officials.

Rural/Metro focus of joint round-table

By MARILYN POWERS
 STAFF WRITER

City and county officials have begun the process of finding a replacement for Rural/Metro Ambulance Service, which notified them last week that it would be leaving Pampa when its current contract is up July 14.

Attending a round-table discussion Friday morning in city commission chambers at City Hall were Precinct 1 County Commissioner Joe Wheeley, County Judge Elaine Morris, Pampa Mayor Lonny Robbins, City Secretary Phyllis Jeffers, City Attorney Don Lane, City Manager Mitch Grant, Fire Chief Kim Powell, Finance Director John Horst, and City Commissioners Jeff McCormick, Jeff Andrews, Faustina Curry and Robert Dixon.

"We're meeting to consider our options," Robbins said at the beginning of the meeting.

The pros and cons of different ways to provide ambulance service were discussed. Methods of providing the emergency service include contracting with an ambulance company, forming a hospital district and having the hospital district manage the service, having the city or county operate an ambulance service, and asking Pampa Regional Medical Center to provide ambulance service.

"I talked to Norm Stephens of PRMC, and their organization typically doesn't operate ambulance services," Peet said in the meeting.

"I talked with him late yesterday, and they historically never operate ambulance services. Norm basically said

they are not going to be involved," Robbins said.

The subject of forming a hospital district was last explored in Gray County in 2002. Andrews said. Hutchinson County formed a hospital district recently to provide medical care to its residents. Rural/Metro Ambulance Service chose to leave Borger several months ago, and the hospital was having problems.

"We've contacted six counties. All have hospital district-type service. We looked at their tax rates," Peet said. The counties included Moore, Hutchinson and Randall. Randall contracts with Baptist St. Anthony's Hospital of Amarillo for ambulance service.

Curry asked what was involved in creating and maintaining a hospital district. Peet said he did not know how geographic area was determined.

"The county holds an election to create a hospital district, which would have the same tax base as the county, and creates a whole new tax rate," Peet said.

"If we got in a position where this hospital (PRMC) closed down, to meet our needs we'd pretty much have to do that," Wheeley said.

"That's what happened to Hutchinson County," Peet said.

Gray, Carson and Roberts counties are the only three with county-run indigent health care. Other counties in the Panhandle provide indigent care through their hospital districts, Peet said.

The cost to the city or county to provide ambulance service would be a significant amount, round-table members learned.

Museum to feature cross collection for Easter

A cross collection belonging to Pampa Steve Giles, is to be exhibited at White Deer Land Museum, beginning Wednesday, March 18, and continuing through the Easter season.

The unique collection of crosses was created by Giles, who owns a cabinet shop at 113 W. Kingsmill, from all types of objects, including pottery shards dating back 3,000 years that were given by or purchased from New Mexico Indians.

Some crosses are made of glass, cut and polished rocks, tree bark, wood, tile, and abalone shell from Australia. Giles has also used clear selenite from caves in the Lake Meredith area, gypsum from caves the Shamrock area.

Some of his crosses are made from and decorated with cactus wood.

"It doesn't always take a lot of talent to make something beautiful, but it does take imagination," explained Giles. "If you walk a creek bed, go to the mountains or into the desert, nature will provide the beauty. All you have to do is use it."

Most of the crosses are available for sale with a percentage of the proceeds to be donated to the White Deer Land Museum. Information is available from Ann Davidson, director.

Another new attraction at the museum this spring, Davidson said, is a group of paintings of six historic Pampa buildings by local artist Grant

Johnson. These six buildings - White Deer Land Museum, Combs-Worley Building, Schneider Hotel, Central Fire Station, Gray County Court House and Pampa City Hall - are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The oil paintings were commissioned as a gift to Gray County by the Centennial Committee and displayed in the Gray County Courthouse in 2003. They are currently displayed in the gallery of the museum Holland Wing.

White Deer Land Museum is located at 112 S. Cuyler. Visiting hours are 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. There are no fees, but donations are welcome.



(Courtesy photo)
 One of Steve Giles' many hand-made crosses to be displayed.

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AMBULANCE

"In the last eight months, Rural/Metro has had five negative months and three positive ones, and that's with our subsidy. They were getting \$144,000 a year subsidy, equally split between the city and county. (A Rural/Metro spokesperson) said they actually made about \$6,000, but their corporate office wants a 10 percent profit. Their collectables were at 56 to 58 percent," Wheeley said.

"Cities have even less of a collection rate, because residents consider it a part of their tax rate," Curry said.

"Cities are typically collecting 35 percent, mostly from Medicare and insurance," Horst said.

"I didn't realize Rural/Metro paid Amarillo \$300 to \$400 per month to dispatch," Peet said.

"I don't know why we do call services out of Amarillo (for ambulance service)," Curry said.

"The dispatchers have to have special schooling," Peet said.

"There are probably also issues of liability," Curry said.

There are also other costs to consider, such as billing, equipment and personnel.

"Twelve percent is what Rural/Metro pays to their billing company on anything collectable," Wheeley said.

"Medical billing is different from any other type of billing," Andrews said.

"The billing service for Snyder's ambulance service is paid 10 percent of what they collect," Grant said.

Robbins said he had talked with persons knowledgeable about running an ambulance service and said the city or county would probably need three ambulances and would need to replace them periodically, maybe as much as every three years.

"I have heard of grants available for cities to buy ambulance equipment. It's a long process, but they are available," Curry said.

"I talked to the hospital administrator at Borger. They applied to the Texas Department of Health and got a \$35,000 grant. They also borrowed \$100,000 (to start their ambulance service)," Wheeley said.

"Borger has three ambulances right now," McCormick said.

"Borger bought everything from Rural/Metro when they left," Wheeley said.

"Eventually you'd have to buy ambulances," Curry said.

"You can buy the cab and chassis and keep the old box to put on it, to save on replacement costs," Peet said.

"I think we should purchase Rural/Metro's ambulances as a selling point to get someone to come in here," McCormick said. "We could give the ambulances to them."

"Peggy Coleman (of Rural/Metro) is interested in that. She is trying to work with all the entities involved to ensure a job for her employees," Wheeley said.

"In Snyder, the community provides a certain amount of money per year to buy and maintain equipment," Grant said.

"The two newest ambulances at Rural/Metro here have over 100,000 miles on them and are 2000 year models," Wheeley said.

Pampa's Rural/Metro office currently employs six full-time and 10 part-time and reserve personnel, Wheeley said. There are two on duty at all times, and one reserve, he said.

Pay structures at Rural/Metro range from \$32,000 per year including benefits for the manager, down to \$6.50 per hour for a beginning part-time basic aide. Beginning pay for those intermediate workers who can start intravenous lines is \$7.50 per hour, and paramedics start at \$9 per

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

hour. Most of the paramedics earn \$32,000 to \$34,000 per year due to overtime earned through extended shifts and call-outs.

Pampa Fire Department cannot take over as local ambulance service providers due to a state code prohibiting the firefighters from performing emergency medical services more than 20 percent of their time.

Robbins said Coleman has contacted several ambulance service companies to talk about their possibly providing service in Pampa and Gray County.

"BSA seemed very receptive, but the most interest is from Gold Star," he said.

"I at first thought it would be a feasible thing for the county to do, but I don't know about the liability aspects. I think since there are interested companies out there, we need to pursue that first," Wheeley said.

"I think if we were to take it over ourselves, the only way we'd make it work is to cut overhead at the corporate level. I don't know if we have enough information to make that decision," Robbins said.

"You're not going to make money on this. You might break even. Chances are, you're going to lose money," Curry said.

"I feel we have to look at an outside company first before even discussing doing it ourselves," Peet said.

County commissioners' next regular meeting is 9 a.m. tomorrow, and they will select four members to work on an eight-person task force to begin work on providing ambulance service after Rural/Metro is gone. City commissioners will meet in a special meeting tomorrow to choose their four members for the task force.

Library fund-raiser



(Courtesy photo)

Friends of the Pampa Library will raffle off this limited edition musical doll made by Gorham Sterling in 1981. "Rosemond" plays "Close to You." The drawing will be conducted Sunday, April 4, at Pampa's Lovett Memorial Library. Tickets, available for purchase at Lovett Library, are \$1 apiece or six for \$5. For more information, call 669-5780 or 665-6235.

ON RECORD

POLICE

Pampa Police Department burglary of a habitation.
Saturday, March 13
Misty Lang, 28, 521 Montague, was arrested for issuance of a bad check and on a capias pro fine for issuance of a bad check.
Friday, March 12
Kendra Minnett, 20, 412 Roosevelt, was arrested for

FIRE

Pampa Fire Department two firefighters responded to the 1200 block of East Francis on an arcing power line. The firefighters stood by until officials from Excel Energy arrived at the scene.
reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. Saturday.
Friday, March 12
8:08 p.m. — One unit and

WEATHER FOCUS

LOCAL FORECAST

Today's forecast is calling for partly cloudy skies, highs in the upper 50s and north-east winds 15 to 25 mph. Tonight should fall on partly cloudy skies with lows in the upper 30s and southeast winds 15 to 20 mph. Monday should see partly cloudy skies. Highs in the mid 60s. South winds 10 to 15 mph. Monday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s. Tuesday, partly cloudy. Highs around 70. Tuesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Wednesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s. Wednesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Thursday, partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s. Thursday night, partly cloudy. Lows around 40. Friday, partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s.

Former Dems can offer lessons to current pols

By NANCY BENAC
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — One by one, John Kerry's former rivals for the Democratic presidential nomination fell by the wayside, their campaigns consigned to history.

As the Bush vs. Kerry matchup begins in earnest, however, lessons remain to be learned from the likes of John Edwards, Howard Dean and Wesley Clark.

Dean, for one, showed both parties how to harness the power of the Internet. Edwards, Kerry's last major rival to fall, demonstrated that nice guys don't have to finish last, that "likeability matters," in the words of Democratic consultant Paul Begala. Clark, the retired general showed Democrats how to challenge President Bush on national security.

"There are great lessons for both sides out of the primary process," said Rich Bond, a former chairman of the Republican National Committee.

Democratic strategist Donna Brazile said Kerry and Bush can "take a little bit of this and a pinch of that," from the different campaigns. "I'm sure that over the coming weeks, they'll find some good lines and some great tactics and strategies," she said.

Bond credited Dean, whose only primary victory came in his home state of Vermont, with helping to turn the notion of "Internet citizens" into a reality. The former governor raised \$1 million via the Internet early on and tapped into the Web's networking potential to mobilize supporters and volunteers nationwide.

"It's not an accident that John Kerry now gives out his Web site every single time he's on TV and in every single address," said Harvard University professor Elaine Kamarck, who advised 2000 Democratic nominee Al Gore. "They didn't get it about the Internet until there was Dean."

The flip side of that lesson, of course, is that for all of the money that Dean raised, his campaign still famously went from boom to bust when people started voting.

"Money does not equal victory," Begala said, summing up the cautionary message for Bush, whose campaign coffers are bulging with more than \$160 million. "I think that money has lulled the Bush team into a false sense of security. Big mistake."

Additionally, the Democratic also-rans served to road-test issues and themes that could play well with voters in the fall. Edwards, for example, got good mileage out of his argument against "two Americas," one for the rich and one for the poor.

Edwards "showed it's OK to care about poor people again," Kamarck said. "He spoke about two Americas in a way that really resonated with people. That is a lesson he brought that is not likely to be forgotten."

Clark, meanwhile, showed "you can take on Bush on national security, and the sky doesn't fall and lightning doesn't strike," Begala said. "Wes went at him fearlessly, and I think it emboldened the rest of the field."

Even the campaigns of some of the earliest casualties can offer food for thought for Kerry and Bush.

Campaign rallies for Missouri Rep. Dick Gephardt, who dropped out after placing fourth in Iowa, were populated with what Begala describes as "straight, middle-aged white men," many of whom probably were Republicans willing to give a Democrat a chance.

"Kerry and my party ought to really study how Dick Gephardt reached out to those guys and got them into the fold," Begala said.

Joe Lieberman, the Connecticut senator who was another early casualty, consistently sounded the need for Democrats to take strong positions on values and cultural issues, said Chris Lehane, who worked first for Kerry and then for Clark.

"I certainly think that is a valuable lesson for Democrats," Lehane said. "That is not ground that Democrats have to cede to Bush and the Republicans."

Kerry's former rivals now are offering to help him beat Bush in November by making appearances for him, lining up campaign contributors and urging their followers to stay motivated. But the also-rans have made other contributions sure to be embraced not by Kerry but by Bush: all the harsh words they hurled against Kerry during the primaries. While the campaign was considered fairly gentlemanly by historical standards, Republicans still have plenty of negative material to exploit.

City Briefs

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Oil

By BF AP BUSI

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Oil field of the future is digital — and it's already here

By BRAD FOSS
AP BUSINESS WRITER

HOUSTON (AP) — Larry McCuan, a well analyst for Occidental Petroleum Corp., was at home in Bakersfield, Calif., Christmas Eve when a technician from the Elk Hills oilfield 22 miles away reported a pressure drop that threatened wells producing 7,500 barrels a day.

Because Elk Hills is wired with a remote monitoring system, McCuan was able to pinpoint the problem from a home computer, order a fix within a half hour and prevent any production loss. That's a big improvement from the "Dark Ages," McCuan said, referring to the late 1990s, when output might have slumped for several days.

While the petroleum business still depends heavily on burly machinery and people, the modern oil field is becoming more digital by the day. Among the gradual yet far-reaching technological advances are drill bits armed with minicomputers that can relay information from deep under the ground to scientists around the globe almost instantaneously.

By enabling rig crews and petroleum engineers to share real-time drilling and production data, oil companies hope to improve the efficiency and precision of operations, with fewer hands involved. Experts believe this high-tech evolution could reduce costs by 10 percent to 25 percent and boost production by as much as 7 percent.

This is critical both for

giants such as ChevronTexaco and Royal/Dutch Shell, which need to reduce risks when drilling deep below the Gulf of Mexico or North Sea, and for smaller independent producers such as Occidental Petroleum and Devon Energy, which need to squeeze every last drop of petroleum from aging U.S. fields.

State-of-the-art well-monitoring and petroleum-reservoir imaging technologies, when used in concert, could expand global oil reserves by 125 billion barrels by 2013, according to Cambridge Energy Research Associates. That's more oil than the current estimated reserves of Iraq or Latin America, according to CERA.

"The big picture is seen and it is what's driving the industry," said Hovey Cox, director of dynamic operations at Houston-based Schlumberger Information Solutions, whose customers include the Kuwait Oil Company and Shell.

Improved mapping software allows geoscientists to better identify the sweet spots of petroleum reservoirs thousands of feet below the earth's surface. As a result, petroleum engineers can plan superior well paths.

Once the well is drilled and production begins, subsurface sensors powered by low-voltage batteries transmit continuous streams of data about pressure, temperature and flow via high-speed satellite networks. As geoscientists and engineers at offices in, say, Houston or

Amsterdam, receive and interpret this information, they can direct oilfield technicians to adjust remote-controlled valves located in the well to maximize output.

Individually, these strategies are not entirely new. What is unique today is the ease with which companies can integrate them, as well as instantaneously update and cross-reference all the data collected at the rig and in the office.

"We're moving the data to the people, rather than the people to the data," said William Severns, a senior director at CERA in Cambridge, Mass. "This allows oil companies to bring experts (by way of the Internet) into the field faster and more cheaply than they could in the past."

One emerging practice the industry is particularly excited about involves tiny computers attached to the drill, giving companies a more accurate picture of the geology surrounding a well as it takes shape. With this information, geophysicists working offsite can improve upon earlier models drawn from seismic data and assess exactly where the unfinished well is headed. Most importantly, they can redirect the drill path midstream to the desired target area — a procedure known as "geosteering."

The digitization of the oil field has been more than a decade in the making, with some false starts and frustration. While another decade may pass before the full potential is realized industry-wide, the momentum picked up dramatically in recent years as pilot studies of new technologies gave way to limited investment and, gradually, near-mainstream acceptance.

"The industry has been challenged with this for a long time and spent tons of money," said Marise Mikulis, manager of Microsoft Corp.'s Houston-based "oilfield connectivity" unit, which helps companies integrate the technological advances that came about during the 1990s. "But I have never ever seen the stars aligned the way they are now."

Better, cheaper and more secure telecommunications networks are a major reason why. The ubiquity of the Internet (which already trans-

formed non-oilfield operations) also has given executives greater confidence to spend millions of dollars to upgrade existing infrastructure while rethinking their approach to future projects.

Equally important were practical labor considerations such as how to make better use of highly trained engineers and geoscientists, whose ranks have been thinned as a result of massive layoffs and consolidation over the past two decades.

"People are finally waking up to what this technology can do for the business," said Joseph Straccia, chief information officer at Shell's inter-

national exploration and production division.

At Occidental Petroleum, the decision to invest in more digitization was driven by the enormous expense and logistical challenge of gathering and distributing timely petroleum production statistics companywide, said Don Moore, Occidental Petroleum's vice president and chief information officer.

"What you don't need is hundreds of people driving around making sure that the wells are working right," said Moore, noting that Occidental operates more than 13,000 wells in the vast expanse of West Texas alone.

Now, rather than having oilfield technicians make routine visits to every well to collect data, office-based analysts like Larry McCuan can keep a 24-hour virtual eye on several hundred wells at once, determine which properties are in greatest need of maintenance and dispatch field crew accordingly.

The Christmas Eve incident reinforced just how important the interplay between high- and low-tech workers can be.

"What we need," Moore said, "is to be able to enable all those workers to be more efficient and to make more informed decisions."

RRC posts monthly oil, gas statistics

AUSTIN — The Texas Railroad Commission issued a total of 1,126 original drilling permits in January 2004 compared to 1,025 in January 2003. The January total included 930 permits to drill new oil and gas wells, 28 to re-enter existing well bores, and 168 for re-completions. Permits issued in January 2004 included 264 oil, 385 gas, 436 oil and gas, and 41 injection permits.

Texas preliminary December 2003 crude oil production averaged 922,026 barrels daily, down from the 967,483 barrels daily average of December 2002.

The preliminary Texas crude oil production figure for December 2003 is 28,582,817 barrels, a decrease from 29,991,961 barrels reported during December 2002.

In January 2004, operators

reported 237 oil, 517 gas, 30 injection and four other completions compared to 474 oil, 432 gas, 23 injection, and four others during January 2003.

Total well completions for 2004 year to date are 788, up from 721 recorded during the same period in 2003.

Operators reported 709 holes plugged and 115 dry holes in January 2004 compared to 711 holes plugged and 85 dry holes in January 2003.

Texas oil and gas wells produced 447,269,521 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas based upon preliminary production figures for December 2003, up from the December 2002 preliminary gas production total of 443,114,442 Mcf.

Texas production in December 2003 came from 138,115 oil and 64,896 gas wells.

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CHIROPRACTIC OUTLOOK

by Dr. Mark W. Ford, Jr.

ANXIETY AND STRESS CAUSE OTHER AILMENTS

A hectic schedule and information overload can make you become emotionally stressed. The body reacts to this stress the same way it does when it senses physical danger, by releasing hormones, mainly adrenaline, from the adrenal glands. These hormones trigger a variety of responses such as tense muscles, increased heart rate and blood pressure and higher blood sugar levels.

If stress occurs too often, the body will stop reacting to the hormones. This can cause panic attacks, with chest pains, loss of breath and high anxiety. The incidence of individuals suffering from major anxiety is growing very quickly in this country, and it affects women twice as often as men. The stress these people feel often causes them to avoid many normal activities.

One way to relieve anxiety is with professional chiropractic spinal adjustments. These reduce physical stress on the nervous system and muscles in addition to releasing positive hormones called endorphin. The manipulation also removes the metabolic waste products that come from long periods of muscular tensions.

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VIEWPOINTS

Success may be Bush's undoing

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Texas remains in forefront of nation's public education

To the editor:

From the single-room school house, with pencil and paper as tools, Texas has met the many challenges it has faced to emerge as a national leader in education, ensuring that student achievement always remains at the forefront.

This past week marked the 150th year that schools throughout the state have celebrated Texas Public Schools Week — five days to spotlight our children and caring teachers through timeless stories and in the priceless lessons learned in public schools.

Educating Pampa children brings many successes:

- With the implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act, students and the schools are receiving stricter federal guidelines. Texas has highly qualified teachers in our classrooms. These professionals are degreed and certified in their specific subject area. Texas school children have taken the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) and are now meeting the challenge of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS). The Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas holds school districts accountable for finances, leading to a healthier financial foundation for our schools.
- Schools are the safest place for our students. Pampa students feel safe at school. Both Pampa High School and Pampa Middle School have uniformed policemen on duty during school hours.
- Parent organizations and community involvement initiatives are growing stronger in Texas. More and more; parents and community members are realizing the importance of being a part of their children's education. Pampa parents support their schools.
- Whether it's sponsoring canned food drives or older students mentoring younger students, our Texas students are learning a valuable lesson about community spirit.
- Career and technology education programs are preparing students to enter the world of work, other programs are preparing students to pursue higher education, and both avenues help students to make direct contributions to society.

Not only during Texas Public Schools Week, but any week in the school year, I urge you to visit a public school. Watch students' eyes dance as they read their favorite book. Listen to them reason out an algebra equation. Or help them build a project that will win a blue ribbon. See if, in the process, you don't discover why Texas school children are the heart and future of Texas.

Barry Haensch
 Pampa ISD Superintendent

TODAY IN HISTORY

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Sunday, March 14, the 74th day of 2004. There are 292 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
 On March 14, 1743, the first recorded town meeting in America was held, at Faneuil Hall in Boston.

On this date:
 In 1794, Eli Whitney received a patent for his cotton gin, an invention that revolutionized America's cotton industry.
 In 1900, Congress ratified the Gold Standard Act.
 In 1923, Warren G. Harding became the first president to file an income tax report.

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A recent Fox News/Opinion Dynamics poll, the worst ever for George W. Bush, shows why he is in trouble and what he must do to get out of danger.

With his job-approval at an all-time low of 48 percent and the head-to-head vote against John Kerry deadlocked at 45-45, Bush appears headed for disaster. Since most undecided voters end up voting against the incumbent, he is actually far behind the Massachusetts senator right now.

Why? Not because of his failures, but because of his successes. His victories in the War on Terror have lowered the relevance of this crucial area of his competence.

Who would Americans trust as a wartime leader? Even in this dismal poll, Bush still beats Kerry by 10 points.

Which party does the best job of fighting terror? The GOP, 52-29. The best for handling the situation in Iraq? Republicans again, 48-34.

But these key areas mean increasingly less to the outcome of the election. Asked what issue is most important in their vote for president, 29 percent cite the economy, 16 percent health care or Medicare, and 10 percent education. Homeland security? Only 8 percent say it's decisive. Terrorism? Only 6 percent!

Collapsed into a two-way choice between "national security" and "the economy," voters say by 44-31 that the economy is more important to them. It



DICK MORRIS
 COLUMNIST

was not always so: In the Fox News poll of mid-January 2002 (only months after 9/11), national security won out, 52-19.

Only terror and Iraq work for the GOP's advantage; all the other issues skew the other way. Education? 49-31 for the Democrats. Health care? 52-31 for Kerry's party.

Even the economy breaks 49-38 for the Democratic Party. The core Bush agenda of cutting taxes? Voters split, with 42 percent trusting Republicans and 41 percent believing in the Democratic alternative.

So the key is for Bush to heighten the saliency of terrorism as an issue.

After all, Americans are wrong to see terrorism as a fourth-place issue. Education or the economy or health care won't knock down buildings and kill 3,000 people. Terrorism will. It is the result of Bush's vigilance that we are all fat and happy enough to see optional issues as more important than the national preservation that terrorism places at risk.

Back in early January, when we were all breathing a sigh of relief after the ter-

ror alert was lowered from "orange" and flights were no longer being turned away at American airports, Bush's job approval peaked at 58 percent. But as we've gone back to taking safety for granted, it has slipped 10 points.

Many administration advisers are, no doubt, echoing what strategist Bob Teeter told me in 1988 when I suggested that Bush Sr. focus on the need to improve the economy as he ran against Mike Dukakis. "The more we talk about the economy, the more we lower our ratings. People come to believe that the economy is bad when we say it is," he said. His words rang in my ears when I worked to switch Bill Clinton from traditional Democratic pessimism to a generic incumbent optimism about the economy in 1996.

But now Bush must do the opposite. The more Americans think he has succeeded in mitigating the terrorist threat, the more they vote for Kerry. The more they feel that terrorism is still at our doorstep — as it is — the more they back Bush as the better wartime leader.

The traditional incumbent recipe of claiming success backfires here. Bush must make clear to us all the threats that remain, not try to take credit for the end of the terror danger. He must make the most of what he has yet to achieve, rather than try to sell his successes.

Success extinguishes his mandate. Tasks that remain before us rekindle it.



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 JEFF PARKER

'Passion' uncomfortably real to see

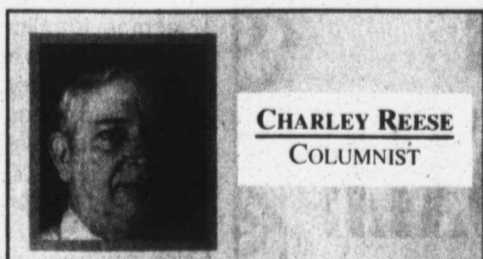
Mel Gibson, the actor and director, has done Christians a favor with his movie "The Passion of the Christ," which depicts the last 12 hours of the life of Christ.

For one, he's proved once again that the know-it-all critics don't know what they're talking about half the time. When he started this project, the jeers were loud and clear: The guy's going to lose his shirt; making a movie in Latin and Aramaic is crazy; nobody will go see it; etc. and so forth.

Well, as you probably know, Gibson's movie grossed four times its cost in the first five days of release and will certainly add greatly to Gibson's wealth. The naysayers were just flat wrong.

A more important favor he did, however, was to remind Christians of the malevolence many secularists feel toward them and their religion. I have never seen the level of personal attacks directed against Gibson launched against any other director, plenty of whom have produced bloody garbage and soft porn. Even when the Disney people hired a convicted pedophile to direct a movie that had pedophile overtones, the critics were all "ho-hum" and "so what."

What you've seen spewed out against Gibson is pure venom, a hatred that goes far beyond any critical disagreement as to the merits of the movie. The attacks have been vicious and personal. He's been called an anti-Semite, a sodomasochist, a



CHARLEY REESE
 COLUMNIST

wacko and Lord knows what else. It is far more revealing of the nature of his critics than it is of him. Gibson is a Christian and a near genius as a moviemaker. He is not an anti-Semite, unless you accept the definition that an anti-Semite is anyone Jews hate.

The movie accurately reflects the account of the Gospels. When you hear people say that the movie is inaccurate, they are really saying the Gospels are inaccurate — which, of course, is the secular position. Christ's arrest and execution were instigated and insisted upon by the Jewish religious establishment. That's in the Gospels and also in the Talmud. Christ never criticized the Roman Empire, but he did criticize the Jewish rabbis of his day.

Here, you must give credit to Christian fundamentalists. If the Gospels are not the inspired word of God and therefore not true, then the whole religion collapses. There are no secular accounts, except for a brief mention here and there.

But if you're not a Christian, then why should you care what Christians believe? What is it about Christianity that causes disbelievers to hate it so? And that's the

point of this column. All of this malevolence directed at Gibson is also directed at Bible-believing Christians. Don't kid yourself.

There is a limit to ecumenicalism. If Jesus is the son of God and the true Messiah, then Judaism is a false religion, as is Islam. If the Jews are right that Jesus was a fraud, then Christianity is a false religion. Mutually contradictory propositions cannot be compromised. That doesn't mean that people with different and contradictory beliefs cannot treat each other with courtesy and decency, but theology, by definition, is not suited to compromise.

As for the movie itself, in my opinion, it's too violent for children or even squeamish adults. Gibson has made real the suffering of Jesus and done so deliberately. It's one thing to read that he was scourged and crucified; it is another thing entirely to see it. That causes people to realize the enormity of the sacrifice. But that's why the movie is R-rated, and it is certainly less violent than much of the junk that Hollywood produces.

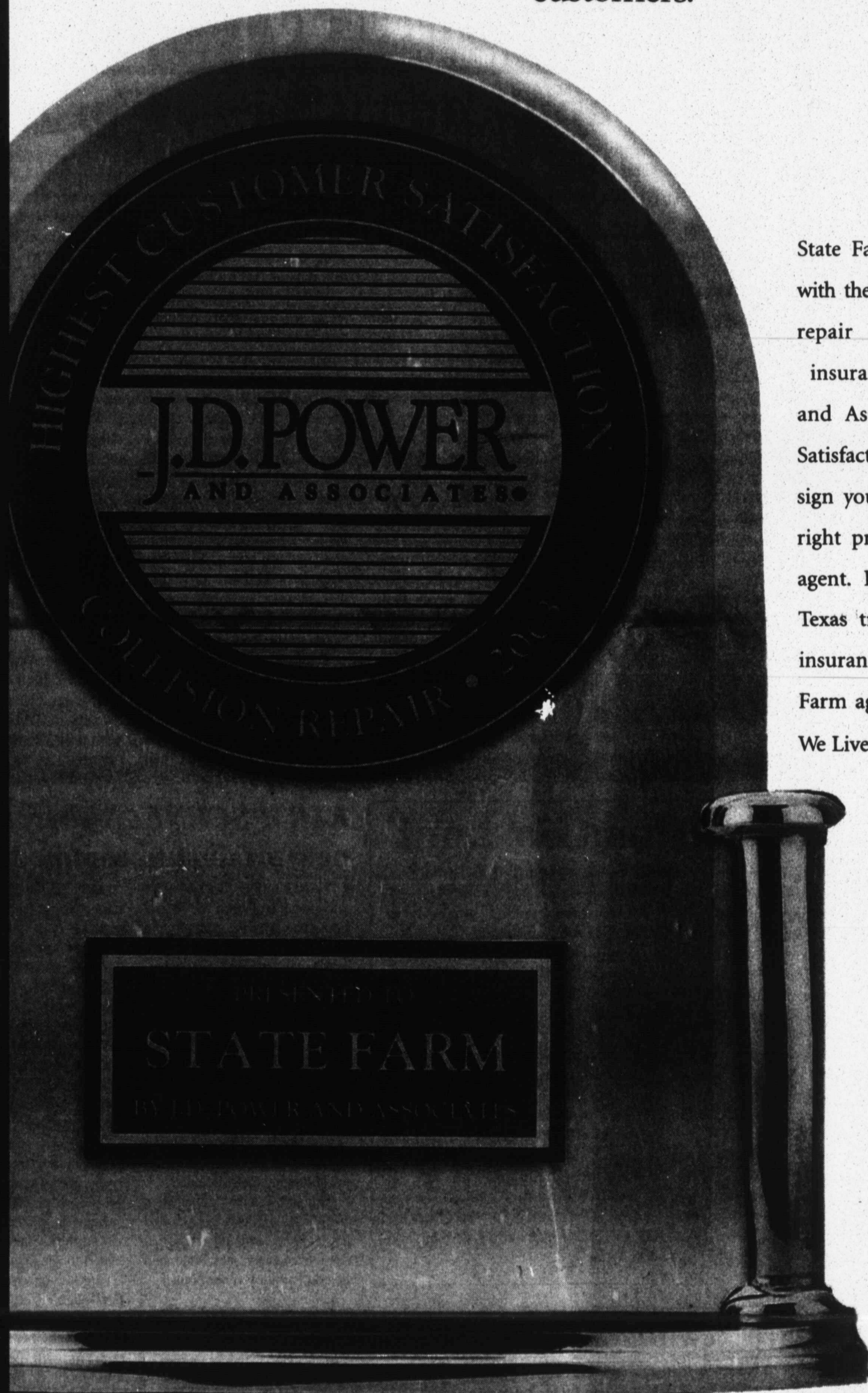
Gibson is owed an apology by his critics, but I expect to see the Second Coming before that happens. But you Christians can take comfort in the fact that your enemies are pretty much a nest of vipers — the kind of people no decent person would want for friends.

(Write to Charley Reese at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando, FL 32802)

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TDLR beginning to accept applications for new program

AUSTIN — For decades, licensing of electricians has been done at the local or regional level and each Texas community has set its own standards and requirements. Some cities instituted licensing based on experience and testing, others required only registration and payment of a fee. In rural areas, there has generally been no licensing at all.

That will change on Sept. 1, when Texas kicks off a statewide licensing program for electricians. Electricians will need to earn only one license that will be valid throughout the state, and all licensed electricians will be required to demonstrate the same minimum standard of competence. The program was created by the 78th Texas Legislature last spring. It will be administered by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).

TDLR began accepting applications for the new license this morning. The agency estimates 60,000 elec-

Electricians will need to earn only one license that will be valid throughout the state, and all licensed electricians will be required to demonstrate the same minimum standard of competence.

tricians will apply.

"Texans have the right to feel secure in their homes and businesses, and a substandard electrical system can be dangerous," said State Representative Joe Driver, who sponsored the legislation that created the new program. "Right now, the standards for electricians can vary widely from community to community, and in rural areas there may be no standards at all. We deserve better than that."

"TDLR has earned a first-rate reputation for administering consumer protection programs," he said. "I believe that under their capable steward-

ship this program will allow Texans to be confident that any licensed electrician they hire will have the training and experience needed to capably perform his or her duties. The legislature has made an important commitment to consistency and security across the state."

The licensing program was created last year by House Bill 1487. The law specifies the experience needed to qualify for each level of license, from apprentice to master electrician, from journeyman sign to master sign electrician and electrical contractor. In addition, electricians are required

to demonstrate their knowledge by passing an electrical code examination approved by TDLR.

The law, however, allows for a three-month grandfathering period, beginning today, during which electricians may qualify to receive a state license without taking an exam if they meet specific criteria including, but not limited to, prior local licensure, education and experience.

In addition to the benefit uniform standards offer consumers, the program also will make it easier for many electricians to ply their trade. Under the current balkanized system of licensing, an electrician may be required to obtain a separate license for each municipality in which they work. Obtaining these licenses might require the electrician to pass a separate exam for each municipal or regional license.

For example, Keith Bell, who chairs TDLR's Electrical Safety and Licensing Advisory Board, is an electrician in the

Dallas-Forth Worth area. He currently maintains 28 municipal licenses - all expiring at different times - and has allowed 10 others to lapse this year because there was no immediate need for them.

"It is not often you can create a new regulatory program that actually reduces the regulatory burden and red tape for license holders," said William Kuntz, TDLR's Executive Director. "But in many cases, that is what this one does. Instead of maintaining dozens of licenses and trying to keep track of all of them, electricians will need only one. Instead of having to acquire a new license every time they work in a different city, they will have a portable license that allows them to work anywhere in the state."

While the law does not prohibit cities from issuing local licenses that will permit electricians to work in those cities. Many cities have indicated they plan to discontinue their local licensing programs once

the new statewide program begins. This will allow cities the ability to free up resources now dedicated to electrician licensing to meet other critical needs. TDLR will be working closely with communities to ensure the transition to the new system is smooth and all local and state efforts are coordinated.

An "electricians" webpage set up on the TDLR website (www.license.state.tx.us) will allow applicants to check on the status of their application as it is processed.

Until June 1st, applicants can apply for a license without passing an exam if they can satisfy requirements established by HB 1487. After the grandfathering period ends, all applicants will need to present proof of having passed a TDLR-approved exam, which evaluates their occupational knowledge. Unless exempted by law, all electricians who wish to work statewide will be required to be licensed by September 1st.

Amarillo Opera to put on 'Don Giovanni'

AMARILLO — Starting at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 28, "Don Giovanni" is coming to the Amarillo Civic Center courtesy of the Amarillo Opera. This is the second time the company has staged this, one of Mozart's most powerful operas.

"Lee Kendle, who starred as 'Don Giovanni' in the 1988 production, urged me to do this great opera again because it is such a magnificent masterpiece," Mila Gibson, founder and general director of the opera said. "The music, the drama, the message are all so powerful and timeless."

"It is the story of Don Juan and of the corrupt power of a man who thinks he has to answer to no one, who learns that he has to answer to someone higher than himself," Gibson said.

Mozart's "Don Giovanni" or "Don Juan" is the story of the world's most famous lover. The eight principal roles will be performed by Christopher Holmes as Don Giovanni, Christopher Burchett as Leporello, Jayoung Yoon as Donna Anna, Steve Sanders as Don Ottavio, Elizabeth King as Zerlina, John Sauvey as Masetto and Matt Trevino as Commendatore.

A servant records the trail of broken hearts left by the legendary lover in the "Catalog Aria" which tallies a record 2,065 women. Don Giovanni eventually receives his comeuppance when the murdered father of one of his numerous conquests returns from the grave to offer him a chance at repentance.

Joan Weber is chorus director for

the opera company. This production will be her last before retiring. She will, however, continue to sing in the chorus of future productions.

Conductor Stephen Dubberly is music director; Ben Spierman, stage director; and Jim Elliott, technical/lighting design director.

Gene Murray will handle costumes with the assistance of Debbie Sparks, a costumer from West Texas A&M University in Canyon.

For ticket information, call Panhandle Ticketing, Amarillo Civic Center, (806) 378-3096 or visit www.panhandletickets.com on the Internet. For further details such as season membership or how to join BRAVO!, call Amarillo Opera at (806) 372-7464.

FARM SCENE: Agency adding new product to commodity list

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — With encouragement from the federal government, more students will have a chance to eat sunflower seed butter instead of peanut butter in their school lunches. The question is, will they want to?

The Agriculture Department has added the product to its commodity list for school food service programs, which means cafeterias will be reimbursed for buying it. While agriculture officials are touting the decision as a boost to sunflower producers, students are shrugging their shoulders.

Richard Warner, principal at Fargo South High School, polled about 40 students in a study hall session recently and none had heard of sunflower seed butter.

Calli Cebulski, a senior at Fargo North High School, had tried it.

"That stuff is really nasty," Cebulski said. "I guess I would say there's no substitute for peanut butter."

North classmate Erin Hafiger said she would be willing to give the product a shot.

"I like sunflower seeds a lot and get addicted when I eat them," she said.

Sunflower seed butter has sold well in some grocery stores, and its appeal as an alternative for people who are allergic to peanuts in peanut butter convinced the USDA to endorse it, said Bob Majkrzak, president of a Fargo company that produces SunButter.

"The USDA researchers recognize that there's a looming problem with peanut allergies throughout the country," Majkrzak said.

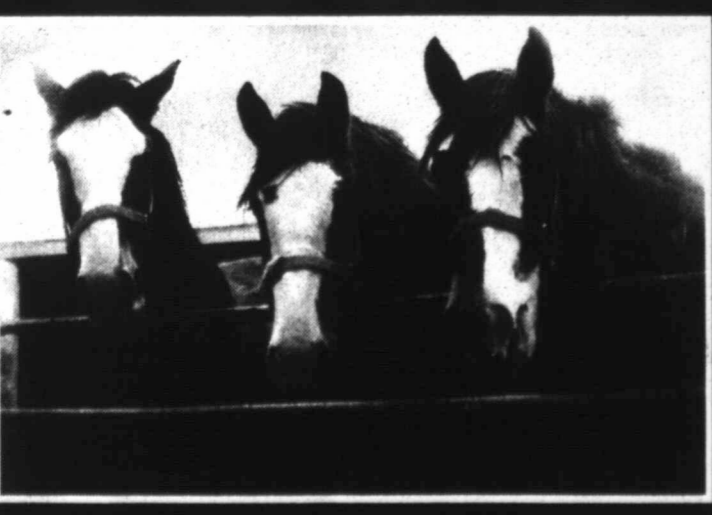
Rita Giesen, a spokeswoman for the North Dakota School Food Service Association, said sunflower seed butter is a "welcome" alternative to peanut butter, though she warns that comparing the two won't win over many converts.

"SunButter has its own distinct taste, and you can't compare it to anything," Giesen said.

Schools in New York, California and Texas have said they would buy sunflower seed butter in the next school year, Majkrzak said.

The government buys about 25 to 30 million pounds of peanut butter for schools each year, Majkrzak said. Sunflower seed butter could capture about 10 percent of that market now that it's on the USDA list of commodities, he said.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

PCCA
Pampa Community Concert Association's 2003-04 concert series includes the following programs: Lee and Suits Duo - 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 30, M.K. Brown Auditorium; "Guthrie in Dance and Music" - 3 p.m., Jan. 20, M.K. Brown Auditorium; "The Woods Tea Co." - Feb. 15, Heritage Room, M.K. Brown Auditorium; and Cantus - 7:30 p.m., April 26, Borger High School Auditorium. Memberships/tickets are available at the door. For more information on any of these events, contact Ronnie Holmes, PCCA president, at 665-2631.

BABY'S COMING SHOP
The Moins and Babies Coming Shop in Pampa is looking for volunteers to help man the shop. For more information, call 664-2459.

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

CATTLEWOMEN SCHOLARSHIPS
Several scholarship opportunities are currently available to area high school seniors through Top O' Texas CattleWomen. Applications for the \$500 Pat Grote Memorial Scholarship are being accepted by the local chapter until Feb. 20. For an application, log on to www.texascattlewomen.org on the Internet. Also awarded will be one \$500 scholarship and two \$250 scholarships. Applications for these scholarships are due April 23 and may be obtained through your high school counselor. All scholarship applications must be returned to Sandra Christner, P.O. Box 522, Wheeler, TX 79096. For more information, contact Christner at (806) 826-3572.

CAPROCK CANYONS
Caprock Canyons State Park & Trailway will host the following events in March: 9 a.m., March 6, Hike & Camp Safely with Your Children, and 9 a.m., Fern Cave Hike,

and 7 p.m., History of the Park, both on March 20; and Steel Sports Adventure Race, March 27. For more information on any of these programs, call (806) 455-1492.

P.E.O. FUND-RAISER
Chapter CS, P.E.O., will present a book review with Carol Headrick at 2 p.m. March 14 at Pampa Community Building, 200 N. Ballard, on the biography of Malika Oufkir entitled "Stolen Lives." At a cost of \$10 apiece, tickets may be purchased at the door or in advance by calling 665-7064.

CPC LUNCHEON
The Contract Procurement Center in Amarillo will sponsor a business luncheon for small, minority and women entrepreneurs from 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuesday, March 16, at Western Sizzlin Steak House, 2921 I-40 West, Amarillo. The guest speaker will be P.J. Pronger, director, West Texas A&M University Small Business Development Center. For reservations or for more information, contact Edmond Esparza, (806) 372-3381.

PACSG
Pampa Area Cancer Support Group has rescheduled its February meeting for 7 p.m., March 18, in the second floor classroom of the main building of Pampa Regional Medical Center. No advance reservations are necessary. The program will be "Cancer Incidence in the Texas Panhandle" by Joyce Ritter, director, Goldston Regional Cancer Registry. For more information, call 1-800-274-4673, ext. 235.

FRIENDS OF NRA
Friends of NRA will host a dinner and auction starting at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 20 at M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium and Civic Center in Pampa. Proceeds will benefit youth education, range development, conservation efforts and other educational programs. Tickets are \$25 apiece or \$40 per couple. Youth 16 and under get in for \$15.

AMARILLO QUILT SHOW
Amarillo Quilt Show is scheduled from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday, March 19, and from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, March

20 in the Regency Room of Amarillo Civic Center in Amarillo. The event is being sponsored by Piecemakers Quilt Club, a member of National Quilting Association. Admission will be \$3 for adults. For show information, call (806) 359-3315; for class information, call (806) 655-7401; and for quilt show entries, (806) 353-1164.

TWO-CYLINDER CLUB
The Texas Plains Two-Cylinder Club will stage its 12th annual antique tractor show March 27-28 at the Ollie Linder Center in Plainview. The event, which will include a daily parade of tractors at 2:30 p.m., will be open from 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, and from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday. The show will also feature a pedal tractor pull and various other activities. Admission is free. Concessions will be available. For more information, call (806) 744-4457.

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC
The Texas Department of Health will be offering immunization clinics for vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases including polio, diphtheria, lock jaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, rubella, mumps, HIB (haemophilus influenzae Type B) and chickenpox (varicella). Flu vaccines may also be offered at designated clinics. The TDH will charge money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay. The following clinics will be offered: 9:30-11:45 a.m. and 1-4 p.m., March 3 and 17, TDH, 736 S. Cuyler, Pampa; and from 12:30-4 p.m., March 8, at City Hall, Canadian.

CANCER CENTER
The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center has announced the following upcoming breast cancer screening clinics: March 18, First United Methodist Church, 201 E. Foster, and March 26, Shephard's Crook Nursing Agency, 916 N. Crest, both in Pampa. Participants will receive a low-cost self-exam mammogram and a breast health appraisal along with individual instruction by a reg-

istered nurse in breast self-examination. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are by appointment only. For more information, call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673.

ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION
Ten free white flowering dogwood trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation throughout this month. The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign. The 10 trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between March 1 and May 31 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge. To receive the free trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to Autumn Classic Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, by March 31. For more information, check out the foundation's web site at www.arborday.org on the Internet.

VFW ANNIVERSARY
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1657 will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the local post on April 3. The celebration will include a parade, tours of Freedom Museum USA, an open house and a banquet. Members of the 17 posts that comprise the area's District 9 as well as the state commander will be invited. Donations are welcome. Donations may be sent to Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S., Pampa Post #1657, P.O. Box 2684, Pampa, TX 79066.

DEVIL'S ROPE MUSEUM
The Devil's Rope Museum in McLean will host its annual Barb Wire Show April 1 and 2 in the Western Heritage Room of the museum, located at 100 Kingsley. The show will feature various types of barbed wire and fencing tools plus a multitude of other items. The event is free and open to the public.

CINDERELLA PAGEANT
The West Texas Cinderella Pageant initially scheduled for March 6 has been moved up to April 3 and will be staged at

the high school in Kress. The pageant is open to girls between 0 and 2 years of age and 3 and 26 years of age and boys between 0-6-years of age. For more information, call (806) 684-2389.

COLGATE YOUTH SERVICE CONTEST
Local Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs, Girls Inc., Camp Fire and 4-H organizations are invited to enter their best community service projects in the 2000 "Colgate Youth for America" campaign. Cash grants of up to \$2,000 will be awarded to the most creative and best executed projects from local clubs and troops. Local club and troop community service programs running between March 1, 2003, and March 1, 2004, are eligible for the contest. Entry forms are available through regional offices of the national organizations or by sending a SASE to: Colgate Youth for America Campaign, P.O. Box 1058, FDR Station, New York, NY 10150-1058. Deadline for entry into this year's program is April 30, 2004. Forms are also available on-line at www.youthforamerica.com.

THEATRE SCHOOL
Circle in the Square Theatre School in New York will hold auditions on May 1 in Dallas as part of its Professional Two Year Workshops (both acting and musical) and its seven-week Summer Workshops (acting and musical). For more information, call (212) 307-0388; write: Admissions,

Circle in the Square Theatre School, 1633 Broadway, New York, NY 10019-6795; or email a i 1 circleinthesquare@att.net. For a downloadable application, visit www.circlesquare.org on the World Wide Web.

WINE&CLAY FESTIVAL
Llano Estacado's Seventh Annual Wine & Clay Festival will be held Saturday and Sunday, June 12 and 13 at Llano Estacado Winery, 3.2 miles east of US87 on FM 1585. Demonstrations are planned throughout the day. Admission is free. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, and 12 noon-5 p.m., Sunday.

HOUSTON CRAFT SHOW
Houston Center for Contemporary Craft is seeking entries for "CraftHouston 2004: Texas" set for June 19 through Sept. 12 at the Craft Center. Postmark deadline for entries is April 1. Entry forms and application information for this juried event are available at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, 4848 Main St., Houston, TX 77002; or by calling (713) 529-4848, ext. 106, or e-mailing hccc@craftouston.org.

USS SPERRY
The USS Sperry Association is seeking former shipmates who served between 1942-82 for a reunion celebration. For more information, call (517) 784-7810; write George Gallas, secretary, USS SPERRY (AS-12) Association, Jackson, MI 49203-1521; or e-mail georgecarole@modempool.com.

Fluid Compressor fights good fight and wins

Fluid Compressor Corporation of Pampa recently won a battle to have its closed oil system liquid ring natural gas compression system patent renewed by the U.S. Patent Office, according to a press release from the corporation.

Shortly after submitting its patent for renewal in May 2001, competitors brought issues concerning the validity of the patent. In an involved process that ended earlier this year, Fluid Compressor sent the original ribbon copy of the patent along with letters and other correspondence back to the patent office for scrutiny.

If Fluid Compressor won its case, the federal patent office would re-issue a stronger patent. On Feb. 24, the patent office granted and re-issued the patent under number RE38,434. Another patent is held by the corporation out of Canada.

"Stockholders at Fluid Compressor Corporation are excited about putting the allegations of an invalid U.S. patent behind us and receiving our patent in Canada," said Gary Jennings, inventor, "we can now get on with business. We are ready to defend our process and look forward to doing business with manufacturers who want to license our technology."


According to a press release from Fluid Compressor, the patented process uses a recycling seal fluid in conjunction with other specifics that allow the unit to perform as a portable field compressor that is extremely low in maintenance, that handles dirty gas and entrained liquid within the gas stream, and

that does not require regular seal fluid replenishing.

The technology involved in the process enables natural gas producers to extend the life of marginal wells by extracting gas that would not otherwise be produced by natural means, a critical process when reserves are declining.

"It is extremely important producers extract every drop of oil and every breath of gas from these fields. This technology will insure these important oil and natural gas fields will produce for years to come and are not prematurely abandoned," said Shawn Clifton, president of Fluid Compressor Corp.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

COMMUNITY CHURCHES

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

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

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

Church of the Brethren. Church of the Brethren hosts a country gospel program at 7 p.m., every Monday at its location at 600 N. Frost.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Pampa Masonic Lodge #966. Pampa Masonic Lodge #966 meets every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at 420 W. Kingsmill, stated meeting is the third Thursday of each month at the same time.

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

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

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

Red Cross. Gray County Chapter of the American Red Cross is seeking volunteers from the community to respond during times of crisis in Pampa and other parts of the county. As well as personal satisfaction, volunteers learn how to protect themselves and cope with disaster by planning ahead, particularly essential

during tornado season. In addition, ARC is willing to deliver informational discussions on disaster preparedness to area church or community organizations. For more information, call (806) 669-7121.

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

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

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

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

VFW & Ladies Auxiliary. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1567 meets at 7 p.m., the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at the VFW Hall, 105 S. Cuyler. The VFW Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m., the second Tuesday of the month at the VFW Hall.

VFW Bingo. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1657, 105 S. Cuyler, Charity Bingo every Wednesday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 1:30 p.m. Doors open one hour early. No one under 18 allowed. Public is welcome. License No. 1-75-6037422-9. For more information contact Edgar D. Carson, 669-0853 or 669-1264.

CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

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

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

Downtown Business Association. Pampa Downtown Business Association meets at 8:30 a.m., the second Tuesday of the month at The Coffee Shop on Cuyler. For more information, call Chase Roach at 665-1251.

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

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

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

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

Las Pampas Water Garden and Koi Society. Las Pampas Water Garden and Koi Society meets the second Saturday of each month. Anyone interested in the hobby of water gardening and fish keeping is welcome. For more information, contact Gary Stevens at 669-7956, Jack Chisum at 665-2878 or Debbie Davis at 665-0123.

Magic Plains ABWA. Magic Plains Chapter of the American Business Women's Association will meet at 7 p.m. the second Monday of each month at Clint and Sons Smokehouse, 1421 N. Hobart. Working business women are invited to attend. For more information, call Pat Winkleblack at 669-7828 or Estelle Malone at 669-9614.

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

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

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

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

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

Pampa Retired Teachers Ass'n. Pampa Retired Teachers Association meets at 2 p.m. the third Monday of each month at Pampa Seniors Citizens Center. The association will meet until May of this year.

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

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

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

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

Shrine Club. Pampa Shrine Club holds a covered dish meeting at 6:30 p.m. every second Monday of each month at the Sportsman's Club on South Barnes.

Southwest Cowboy Poets. Southwest Cowboy Poets meets at 8 a.m., the second Saturday of each month at The Big Texan, 1-40 East, in Amarillo.

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

MUSEUMS, MILITARY

The Old Guard. Current and former members of the U.S. Army's oldest Infantry Regiment, the 3d U.S. Infantry or "The Old Guard Association" (also known as TOGA) are being sought for membership in the association. For more information, write to: Membership Committee, The Old Guard Association, 1000 Winchell Rd., Drawer 22, Aurora, OH 44202; or visit www.oldguard.org on the Internet.

Old Mobeetie Jail Museum. Old Mobeetie Jail Museum in Mobeetie offers various volunteer opportunities to interested individuals. For more information, call (806) 845-2028.

PPHM Story Time. Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon will present "Story Time" at 2:30 p.m. every second Saturday of each month except December and January on the second floor of the museum. For more information, contact PPHM at (806) 651-2244.

USS Columbus. USS Columbus Veterans Association is seeking Navy and Marine Corps shipmates who served on the USS Columbus (CA-74/CG-12) 1944-1976 and the USS Columbus (SSN-762) past and present. Contact Alvin S. Lewis, president, 726 E. Covina Blvd., Covina CA 91722-2955; (626) 339-3568; e-mail homeport@lewisengraving.com

White Deer Land Museum. White Deer Land Museum (112-116 S. Cuyler) winter visiting hours are 1-4 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. No charge for admission; elevator provided.

OTHER

Ballroom Dancers. United States Amateur Ballroom Dancers Association is seeking support for a chapter for beginner social or recreational ballroom dancers in the Amarillo area. If enough interest is expressed, a local steering committee will be formed to guide the project and enroll members. For more information, call 1-800-447-9047; e-mail USABDACCENT@aol.com; or write: USABDA, P.O. Box 128, New Freedom, PA 17349.

Clarendon VFW Bingo. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7782, Hwy 287 east, Clarendon, hosts charity bingo every Saturday. Doors open at 6 p.m. with games starting at 7 p.m. Ten games are played per session. For more information, call 874-VETS. The maximum award is \$750 per game and \$2,500 per session.

Geezer.com. Green Thumb, Inc., the nation's oldest and largest provider of training and employment for mature workers, now offers consumers Geezer.com, an on-line service featuring the handiwork of seniors from across the country. The site is a must for shoppers looking for distinctive, often one-of-a-kind gifts. Geezer.com includes scores of artisans and craftspeople with more than 2,000 hand-wrought products in more than a dozen categories — apparel, art, doll houses, home and hearth, music and videos, pet store, sports, recreation, toys and games, yard and garden and more.

Tetra's Virtual Aquarium. Tetra's Virtual Aquarium is located at www.tetra-fish.com on the World Wide Web.

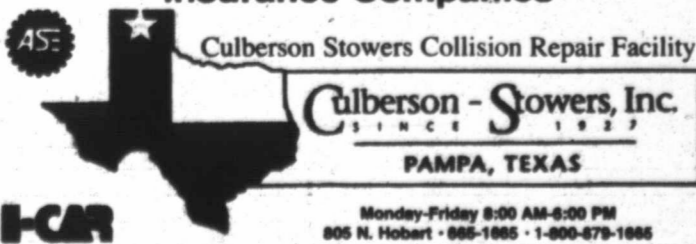
TEXAS Vacation Packages. The Musical Drama "TEXAS" is continuing its fall, winter and spring vacation packages showcasing area attractions such as Amarillo Rattlers, Amarillo Opera, Amarillo Symphony, Lone Star Ballet, American Quarter Horse Association and much more. The packages include hotel/motel accommodations, dining in the best western tradition and one-stop shopping. For more information, call 1-800-655-2181 or visit www.texasmusical-drama.com on the Internet.

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By RIC ASSOCIAT

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MEDICAL

HEALTHBEAT: Brain scans suggest some people predisposed to smoke

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP MEDICAL WRITER

WASHINGTON, (AP) — If you're easy to anger, you might have a brain especially susceptible to nicotine.

Scientists using powerful scanners have documented nicotine triggering dramatic bursts of activity in certain brain areas.

Researchers made the discovery when studying people wearing nicotine patches. Intriguingly, the nicotine jizzed up the brains of not just smokers who are aggressive, but of nonsmokers, too.

It's the first biological evidence that people with certain personality traits are more likely to get hooked on smoking if they ever experiment with cigarettes.

And it may help explain why it's

so much easier for some people to kick the addiction than others, says psychiatrist Steven Potkin of the University of California, Irvine, who led the study.

It's almost, he says, as if some people are born to smoke.

Other scientists won't make that leap, noting that it's not clear how much of a person's personality is genetic and how much stems from childhood environments. Smoking habits can depend greatly on whether people grew up surrounded by smokers and the social and cultural conditions under which they try to quit.

"We're looking for the variety of things that could make people likely to smoke, and this could be one of them," says William Corrigan of the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

It also has important implications

for teenagers. Adolescents are prone to periods of aggression before parts of the brain that control impulse and behavior finish forming.

If doctors could predict who's most at risk of getting hooked after their first few cigarettes, perhaps they could better target those people with smoking prevention programs.

Previous surveys had suggested that Type A personalities are more likely to be big smokers, especially when nervous or irritated. Also, some scientists have put smokers into brain scanners while infusing them with nicotine, to see what brain areas the drug targets.

Potkin's study took the crucial step of adding nonsmokers to the mix. And he asked 86 people to do various tests while a PET scanner monitored their brain activity before and after receiving low- or high-dose

nicotine patches or a sham patch.

"No one has looked at nicotine in this way," says Kenneth Perkins, a psychiatry professor at the University of Pittsburgh who also is studying predictive traits of smoking.

The PET scans showed no brain effects of nicotine on people whose personalities were more relaxed and cheerful.

In people rated as having more hostile tendencies nicotine triggered dramatic changes in activity in brain regions important for controlling emotion and social response.

For some people, nicotine increased energy metabolism, for others, it decreased, depending on dose.

Despite the common assumption that nicotine can be calming, actually "nicotine made them even more

aggressive," Potkin says. "They may smoke to feel better, but they don't feel better."

That's a curious finding, Perkins says, but it may be because the study used different doses. Low nicotine doses sometimes stimulate brain activity while high doses suppress other activity.

The next step: Seeing how the brain reacts when people smoke instead of having carefully controlled doses of nicotine administered via a patch. For that study, Potkin can't induce nonsmokers to start smoking, so he'll compare regular smokers to people who puff a few cigarettes every so often.

EDITOR'S NOTE — Lauran Neergaard covers health and medical issues for The Associated Press in Washington.

Discoveries in mice ovaries dispute idea female mammals born with finite egg supply

By RICK CALLAHAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Scientists say they've found stem cells in mouse ovaries that apparently generate new eggs well into adulthood, challenging nearly a century of biological dogma about fertility in mammals — including humans.

If similar ovarian stem cells are found in women, researchers say it could lead to improved infertility and menopause treatments and possibly trigger a revolution in research into reproduction and women's health.

And if the stem cells were shown to decline at a certain rate, it might help explain why women's fertility drops as they approach 40.

However, researchers cautioned the finding does not guarantee similar human results. Even if women carried the cells, called germline stem cells, new therapies would take years to develop.

"If these findings hold up in humans, all theories about female fertility and the aging of the reproductive system will have to be revisited," said reproductive biologist Jonathan Tilly of Massachusetts General Hospital, who directed the mouse experiments.

The results are reported in a recent issue of the journal *Nature*.

Other researchers who did not participate in the research said Tilly's finding was remarkable, but it only opens a promising new line of inquiry.

"The big question — and it's a big question mark — is whether this is relevant for human biology," said Roger Gosden, the scientific director of the Jones Institute for Reproductive Medicine at the Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk, Va.

The idea that women are born with a fixed number of eggs, or oocytes, was first suggested nearly a century ago, and Tilly said the subject had not been seriously broached in more than 50 years.

Among humans, mice and other mammals, females gradually lose healthy follicles — the tiny envelopes in which eggs develop and then burst. In older women, eggs often are abnormal, leading to a decline in fertility.

But oocyte research in female fruit flies showed that simpler species remained fertile throughout their adult lives and their ovaries never completely lose their germ stem cells. Despite obvious differences, fruit flies, mice and even humans share many genes and basic biological functions.

Tilly and his colleagues measured the number of healthy and dying eggs in juvenile and adult female mice. Initially, they found that the eggs died at a low but steady rate.

However, once the female mice reached early adulthood, the number of dying eggs accelerated to about one-third of the estimated 3,000 or so total follicles in each ovary, and the ovaries flushed out the dead eggs every few days.

At that pace, the researchers expected to see the animals' oocytes depleted in a matter of days or weeks. Yet past work had shown that female mice remain fertile through at least one year of age.

As older eggs die off in juvenile and adult mice, germ stem cells the researchers found in the rodent's ovaries apparently generate new eggs — a process that had been thought to occur only as female mammals developed in the womb.

"That's when it really struck us that the dogma must be wrong. That sort of set off the bells and whistles," said Tilly.

Further research revealed the presence in the mice of a specific gene involved in creating new egg cells. Evidence of new eggs forming was also found in genetically altered adult mice implanted with ovarian tissue from normal females from the same litter.

Dr. Daniel Stein, medical director of in vitro fertilization at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital in New York, called the new research compelling. But he said that if egg-producing germ cells are found in women there is no guarantee they could be harnessed to postpone menopause or restore fertility, either in older women or women who suffered infertility side-effects from cancer treatments.

Better communication needed for parents of kids in research, according to researchers

CHICAGO (AP) — Sick children who participate in medical research often do so without their parents adequately understanding that the youngsters are randomly assigned to get either the standard treatment or the experimental one being tested, a study found.

Such research generally is undertaken in hopes that experimental treatment will be more effective than standard therapy.

Parents' failure to understand the process probably reflects a lack of effective communication between doctors and parents rather than any ethical lapses, the study authors said.

The study involved 137 parents of children with leukemia treated at six chil-

dren's hospitals nationwide.

Most youngsters with leukemia become participants in so-called randomized studies, in which children are randomly assigned to receive differing types of treatment or standard care, the study authors said.

Randomization was explained to most parents studied, but half of them did not understand the concept, and those who did not understand were more likely to allow their children to participate.

The study appears in a recent issue of *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

The results raise concerns about whether parents were able to give true "informed consent" for their children to

participate, the authors said.

Some parents did not grasp that some treatment options would be unproven and that a computer rather than a doctor would decide which treatment each child would receive, said Dr. Eric Kodish, the lead author and director of the Rainbow Center for Pediatric Ethics at Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital in Cleveland.

"I don't think it's a risk of kids being harmed; it's more of a 'right to know' issue," Kodish said.

Holly Rupnow, a Madison, Ohio, mother whose 3-year-old daughter was diagnosed with leukemia in 1999, said part of the problem is parents often are still reeling from the shock of learning their child has cancer when they are

asked to participate in research.

"You're so overwhelmed, you're taking so much in," she said. "Sometimes you're just not listening, not comprehending."

The family ultimately allowed their daughter to participate in a study, and she was given an approved drug in higher-than-usual doses. Her cancer is now in remission, though she has liver damage believed to be a side effect from the drug, Rupnow said.

She said she does not regret allowing her daughter to be a study subject. Rupnow said doctors should encourage parents to ask questions and make someone "who's a good communicator" available to answer.

Woman's weight gain may predict breast cancer risk

ATLANTA (AP) — The amount of weight a woman gains after age 18 is a strong signal as to whether she will get breast cancer later in life, according to new research released recently by the American Cancer Society.

In one of the largest studies of weight and breast cancer to date, researchers said older women who gained 20 to 30 pounds after high school graduation were 40 percent more likely to get breast cancer than women who kept the weight off.

The risk doubled if a woman gained more than 70 pounds, said Heather Spencer Feigelson, senior epidemiologist with the American Cancer Society.

"Breast cancer is strongly dependent on body weight," Feigelson said. "Even modest amounts of weight gain lead to a

significantly increased risk of breast cancer."

Weight gain and body mass have long been known to be risk factors for breast cancer.

The cancer society estimates weight contributes to between one-third and one-half of all breast cancer deaths among older women.

Fat tissue makes estrogen, and estrogen can help breast cancer grow. Weight gain also is the second leading cause of all cancers, according to research the Atlanta-based society published last year in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

But the cancer society researchers wanted to examine more specifically the link between weight gain amounts and breast cancer, and this was the first in such a large group.


"The more fat you have — fat

cells are capable of synthesizing estrogen — the heavier you are, the higher your estrogen levels," said Dr. Paul Tarter, associate professor of surgery at Columbia University, who was not a researcher in the study. "There's no question that estrogen is the common denominator of most of our risk factors for breast cancer."

The cancer society study

included 1,934 breast cancer cases among 62,756 women involved in a separate long-term cancer prevention study.

Post-menopausal women ages 50 to 74 were asked their weight when the study began in 1992 and their weight when they were 18 years old. Surveys were sent to the women in 1997, 1999 and 2001 to inquire about any new cancers.




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SPORTS

Longhorns pull out victory over Oklahoma Texas advances to Big 12 semifinals

DALLAS (AP) — Brandon Mouton refused to let the Texas Longhorns skid into the NCAA tournament.

Mouton hit a layup and three free throws in the final 26.8 seconds, capping No. 11 Texas' comeback from a 12-point deficit with 7:09 left and sending the Longhorns into the semifinals of the Big 12 tournament with a 66-63 victory over Oklahoma on Friday night.

Texas (22-6) came in having lost two straight, with leading scorer Mouton putting up just 15 points in those games. Another loss would've marked the Longhorns' worst streak starting 0-4 in coach Rick Barnes' first season in November 1998 and probably would've hurt their NCAA seeding.

Instead, Texas pulled out a victory that Barnes hopes "will give us a kick." He'll find out Saturday when the Longhorns

play in a semifinal against No. 18 Kansas, a 94-69 winner over Missouri.

"We found a way to do it," Barnes said. "That's been the story of this team. You've got to embrace this and love it. It's tournament time."

Oklahoma won the last three Big 12 tournament titles, but with teams that were eyeing long NCAA runs. These Sooners came to Dallas in an 8-9 rut that included losses to Texas by 29 and five points. They knew they'd have to string together several wins for a 10th straight NCAA appearance.

"It's been a good run," coach Kelvin Sampson said. "We've never come to this tournament needing to win to get to the NCAA like this team did, and it was fun."

After beating Nebraska in the opening round, Oklahoma (19-10) got ahead of the Longhorns

early in the first half, then stretched it to 58-46 with time running out and Sooners fans fired up about a possible upset.

Texas tied it at 59 and 61, but couldn't get ahead. Oklahoma had a chance to go up by five with 44 seconds left, but De'Angelo Alexander badly missed a 3-point attempt.

The Longhorns got the ball to Mouton and he drove through the center of the lane for a layup that tied it at 63. He was fouled on the play and his free throw put Texas ahead for the first time since 17-16.

"Teammates screamed for me to take it," Mouton said. "I had a great driving lane and I took it." Then Oklahoma's 5-foot-7 point guard Drew Lavender tried backing down defenders in the lane when he lost the ball on a spin move, leaving it behind him. When he went to retrieve it, he knocked the ball to Mouton, who was quickly fouled with 5.8 seconds left. He made both shots.

"Those were some clutch free throws," teammate Jason Klotz said. "We're proud that he had the guts to step up and make

those." The Sooners gave Lavender the final shot, a running 3-pointer, but it came up short.

OU went 3-of-7 from the line during its collapse. Oklahoma's final field goal came with 3:13 left and the final points were with 1:29 to go.

"They made the plays down the stretch, we did not," said Jason Detrick, OU's only senior. "We had all the chances, but did not take advantage of them."

Still, the Sooners can be proud of how they played under difficult circumstances. After all, they have only eight players, four of them freshman. Two fouled out and three others played with four fouls.

"Our margin of error was not wide," Sampson said. "You can analyze it, dice it, chop it, splice it all you want. A play here or there and Oklahoma wins the game."

Alexander led the Sooners with 15 points, Brandon Foust had 11 and Detrick scored 10. Lavender had eight, with five turnovers.

Texas freshman PJ Tucker matched Mouton with 16 points,

his most in 15 games, but fouled out with 1:29 left. Klotz made all five of his shots and scored 13 in his first start since the opener.

The comeback was the biggest of the season for UT, topping a 10-point rally over Texas Tech. In that 62-61 victory, Mouton forced overtime with a buzzer-beating 3-pointer. He also had a streak of five straight 20-plus games in February before his recent cold stretch.

"He's a big person in terms of the way he carries himself," Barnes said. "Our players know he's going to compete, even when he struggles."

The Longhorns have now beaten their Red River rivals five straight times, extending their longest streak in the series. Oklahoma had won the previous eight. OU also had knocked UT out of the conference tournament four of the last six years.

Coming off a season-low 48 points against Kansas State, Texas made seven of its first nine shots and led 17-12. Then Oklahoma went on a 12-0 run and remained in front — until the final minute.

NOTEBOOK

SOFTBALL

PAMPA — The City of Pampa Recreation Department is offering the following leagues for Spring Softball: Men's Open, Women's Open, Mixed Open, Men's Church, Mixed Church.

The entry fees or sponsor's fees for teams are \$200 per team. The player's fee is \$15 per player with a minimum of 11 persons for Men's Open, Women's Open, and Men's Church, and 12 persons for Mixed Open and Mixed Church.

The entry deadline is March 17, 2004 at 5 p.m. There will be no teams added after this date.

Schedules will be available after 1 p.m. on March 24 at the Recreation Office, now located in City Hall, 200 West Foster, Room 204.

Play will begin the week of March 29, 2004.

BASKETBALL

PAMPA — The Lady Harvester Basketball Banquet has been postponed until Wednesday, March 24.

The banquet will be held at the Knights of Columbus hall at 7:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Janis at 665-6719 or Doretta at 669-3523.

BASKETBALL

AUSTIN (AP) — Normangee's big man was too much for the state tournament's smallest school to handle.

Joseph Jones scored 18 points and grabbed 20 rebounds Saturday to lead Normangee past Lenorah Grady 50-37 for the Class 1A Texas Cup.

Jones is a 6-foot-9 center who has signed to play in college at Texas A&M and the biggest player to hit the 1A state tournament in years.

He controlled the game from the outset, swallowing up rebounds for easy put-backs on offense. He blocked four shots and diverted countless others on defense.

His presence was especially big in the second half as Normangee pulled away over the final two quarters.

Jacob King added 13 points for Normangee (37-2), which held Lenorah Grady (35-2) to 27 percent and the fewest points scored in the four-year history of the Texas Cup.

Jason Pribyla scored 18 to lead the Wildcats, who scored just 17 in the second half.

The Texas Cup pits the Class 1A Division I and II champions against each other for a mythical small schools state title. Division II champ Lenorah Grady has just 74 students compared to Normangee's enrollment of 181.

Jones hit his first three shots but his teammates couldn't match his production, hitting just 5 of 26 in the first half. Jones went to the bench for a long stretch of the half and Lenorah Grady kept it close behind 10 first half points from Pribyla.

Milby in Class 5A finals

AUSTIN (AP) — Jawann McClellan scored 24 points, turning the game into a personal showcase of dunks, as Houston Milby rolled over Klein Collins 85-62 Friday night in the Class 5A semifinals.

McClellan, who signed to play at Arizona next season, had 20 in the first half, 10 on five high-flying dunks as Milby (38-0) cruised from the start.

Corban Bates scored 15 for Klein Collins (26-11), which advanced to the state tournament in just its second year of varsity competition.

Collins surprised everyone by making the tournament but had no way of stopping

McClellan's one-man show once the Tigers got there.

McClellan put on one of the most electrifying halves of basketball in years at the state tournament.

His first dunk came on an alley-oop on a pass from Tramaine Webster in the first quarter. He had two more in the period off fast breaks, one of which he started with a steal, that built a 20-11 lead after one.

McClellan wasn't done. In the second, he made another steal at midcourt and stopped under the basket to let the defender catch up and then jumped over him for the dunk, drawing boos from the Collins fans.

Golfers show improvement in prep tournament action

PAMPA — Three Lady Harvesters had personal best golf rounds at the recent San Angelo Tournament.

Carissa Snelgrooves and Stacy Pepper each shot 98, while Brittany Taylor had 102 for Pampa.

Snelgrooves again shot another personal best score (92) at the Snyder Tournament, then bettered that round with an 87 at the Borger Tournament. She was joined at Borger by Krissy Holman, who matched that 87.

"The girls are working extremely hard to make improvements on their games. They have reached some small goals and are striving to attain some bigger goals. I am very proud of them," said PHS coach Mona Freeman.

Snelgrooves and Holman

both medaled at Borger, placing 8th and 9th respectively. Holman was 5th place medalist at the Lubbock Meet and Snelgrooves was seventh.

In the boys division, Pampa's Taylor Fatheree shot 155 and Braydon Barker followed with a 162 to lead the Harvesters at the Borger Tournament.

Weston Teichmann tied for 15th in a 100-player field at the San Angelo Invitational.

The Harvesters had a two-round total of 726 and Teichmann's 163 led the team. Fatheree followed with a 177.

Pampa shot a two-round score of 775 at the Plainview Invitational. Fatheree had 179 to lead the Harvesters and Wesley Brogdin followed with a 182.

Old uniforms are lucky charm for PHS team

PAMPA — The Harvester fans have seen some ugly wins this season, but never quite as ugly as what they witnessed on Tuesday at the Harvester Soccer Complex.

After seeing a 7-game winning streak demolished by Palo Duro on Friday, the Harvesters (10-10-1, 8-1) came out to play Borger on Tuesday wearing kelly-green throwback uniforms from the mid-nineties.

The change in uniforms proved to be a lucky charm for Pampa, who finally got a struggling offense back on track.

Forwards Sammy Silva (44th minute) and Nick Robins (37th) each scored unassisted goals, and Austin Morgan (17th) scored the first of his varsity career to give the Green Team a 3-0 victory.

The Bulldogs (10-7-1, 5-4) retain their 3rd place position, thanks to a 3-0 Canyon High loss to Palo Duro on Monday.

Senior goalkeeper Carlos Medina

High School Soccer

logged 15 saves in the match, while Borger keeper Josh Gutierrez notched five of his own. Coach May commended juniors Mark Murray and Morgan for exceptional showings by both players.

The Harvesters finish the season undefeated at the Harvester Soccer Complex, continuing a 9-game winning streak, dating back to last season. The last time Pampa lost at home was February 3, 2003, when the long-time rival Borger High left with a 3-2 victory.

• • •

AMARILLO — Thanks to a Palo Duro loss at Borger High last night, the Harvesters (10-10-1, 8-1) have claimed a district championship trophy the afternoon before taking on a struggling Randall High team.

Stephen Estrada and Scott Milner both scored in yesterday's match to give the

third-place Bulldogs a spot in the playoffs. Luis Garcia scored the only Don goal in the 2-1 loss, which knocks Palo Duro out of contention for the district title.

Today, the Raiders (5-18-0, 2-7) are coming off a 3-2 victory over Caprock High, breaking a last-place tie between the two teams.

Underclassmen Todd Thompson (2) and Andy McGinnis both scored in the victory. Randall out-shot Caprock 21-15. Both teams play in their final game today.

The last time the Harvesters took on their arch-rivals, Sammy Silva scored twice to deliver another Harvester victory. Randall senior Clint Taylor scored the first goal of the game to give the Raiders the short-lived 1-0 lead.

The Green Team was set to finish off the regular season Friday night at Kimbrough Stadium, followed by the girls match between Pampa and Randall.



Lady Hot Shots: Front row, l-r, Caitlin Sieck, Lindsey Brown, Kaitlyn Ramirez and Autumn Chidester; Back row, l-r, Kailyn Troxell, Delaney Clendening, Alanna Stephens, Kara Stabel and coach Kevin Sieck. Not pictured is coach Mike Clendening.

Hot Shots win MAYO tourney in 9-10 year-old girls division

The Pampa Lady Hot Shots came away with the championship trophy at the recent Miami (MAYO) Tournament this season, winning all three games they played.

The Hot Shots started the tournament by beating McLean 16-2. Next came Shamrock, which had beaten the Hot Shots 10-6 in the earlier Fort Elliott Tournament. Pampa got some revenge, coming away with an 8-6 win.

Pampa beat Valley 24-11 in the finals. The Hot Shots, coached by Kevin Sieck and Mike Clendening, are made up of 9-10 year-old players. This is their first year to play together. All the players are in the fourth grade.

Team members are Lindsey Brown, Kaitlyn Ramirez, Delaney Clendening, Caitlin Sieck, Kailyn Troxell, Alanna Stephens, Autumn Chidester and Kara Stabel.

The Hot Shots played in their first tournament Feb. 11-14 at Fort Elliott. They won one game and lost one.

Playing in their second tournament Feb. 20-22 in Elk City, Okla., they had a 2-3 record.

Mayo Tournament (Hot Shots Individual Points)

Pampa 16, McLean 2
Autumn Chidester 4, Kaitlyn Ramirez 4, Delaney Clendening 2, Kailyn Troxell 2, Lindsey Brown 2, Alanna Stephens 2.

Pampa 8, Shamrock 6
Autumn Chidester 2, Kaitlyn Ramirez 2, Kara Stabel 2, Kailyn Troxell 1, Caitlin Sieck 1.

Pampa 24, Valley 11
Autumn Chidester 8, Kaitlyn Ramirez 6, Delaney Clendening 4, Kailyn Troxell 4, Lindsey Brown 2.

How top 10 fared

1. Saint Joseph's (27-1) did not play. Next: TBA.
2. Stanford (28-1) beat Oregon 70-63. Next: vs. No. 21 Arizona or Washington, Saturday.
3. Gonzaga (27-2) did not play. Next: NCAA tournament.
4. Mississippi State (25-3) lost to Vanderbilt 74-70, OT. Next: TBA.
5. Duke (26-4) beat Virginia 84-74. Next: vs. No. 14 Georgia Tech, Saturday.
6. Pittsburgh (29-3) beat Boston College 62-53. Next: vs. No. 9 Connecticut, Saturday.
7. Oklahoma State (25-3) beat Iowa State 83-75. Next: vs. Texas Tech, Saturday.
8. Kentucky (24-4) beat Georgia 69-60. Next: vs. South Carolina, Saturday.
9. Connecticut (26-6) beat Villanova 84-67. Next: vs. No. 6 Pittsburgh, Saturday.
10. Wisconsin (22-6) beat Minnesota 66-52. Next: vs. Michigan State, Saturday.

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HOUSTON — Quarterback will get his the NFL. Cowboys.

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Cowboys acquire Drew Henson for third-round draft pick

HOUSTON (AP) — Quarterback Drew Henson will get his chance to play in the NFL with the Dallas Cowboys.

Dallas acquired Henson from the Houston Texans on Friday for a third-round pick in the 2005 draft. Henson then agreed to an eight-year deal with the Cowboys, his agent, Tom Condon said.

Henson was selected in the sixth round by the Texans in last year's draft. Houston, which already has David Carr at quarterback, planned all along to deal the former Michigan starter who spent three full-time seasons playing baseball in the New York Yankees' organization.

Three other teams

expressed serious interest in Henson: Cleveland, St. Louis and Buffalo. Henson, 24, worked out for 20 teams in Houston earlier this offseason.

On Thursday, Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said he was intrigued by Henson, who worked out for Dallas on March 1. And on Friday, Jones worked out an eight-year deal, with the final four years voidable.

Henson will get a guaranteed \$3.5 million, the most ever for a sixth-round pick. He'll earn the minimum rookie salary of \$228,000 this season, but with attainable incentives he can easily increase his earnings over the length of the deal.

Neither team would comment on the deal Friday. Paperwork on the contract was expected to be complete some time next week.

"We are not in a position to confirm anything at this time," Cowboys spokesman Rich Dalrymple said. "We would only make an announcement if something was official or final, but at this time we have no comment or confirmation."

The Texans used the first of their two sixth-round picks last year on Henson, betting he would have another disappointing season in the Yankees' farm system and would decide to give up the \$12 million remaining on his baseball deal and return to

football. General manager Charley Casserly's gambit paid off in early February when Henson did just that.

The Cowboys were among 20 teams who sent representatives to Houston on Feb. 12 to watch an open workout in the Texans' practice bubble, with assistant head coach Sean Payton leading a three-man contingent.

Henson had one stellar season at Michigan in 2000 and was projected to be a top draft pick in 2002 if he had another good year with the Wolverines. Instead, he signed with the Yankees as their third baseman of the future and left school.

But his choppy fielding and free swinging never improved. The club showed its patience had worn thin when it traded for third baseman Aaron Boone last year. When Boone suffered a season-ending knee injury this winter, New York made it clear Henson would not be considered and eventually traded for Alex Rodriguez.

"Michigan, the Yankees and the Cowboys. That's a pretty talented athlete to be with those teams," Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said. "I'm happy for him. He was in a position where he had some control of his situation. He's with a good organization and good coach (Bill Parcells)."

Henson, mired in a deep slump to start the 2003 season at Triple-A Columbus, insisted he was committed to baseball when the Texans selected him. He finished the year with a .234 average and 122 strikeouts, and in a six-year minor-league career whiffed 556 times in 501 games.

The deal means Dallas has three former minor-league baseball players at the quarterback position. Starter Quincy Carter played in the Chicago Cubs' organization in 1996, '97 and '98.

Dallas signed former Stanford quarterback Chad Hutchinson before the 2002 season after he gave up on a career with the St. Louis Cardinals.

Ball Hogs



The Pampa Ball Hogs took fourth place in the recent MAYO Tournament in Miami. Team members are (front, l-r) Adam Zuniga, Cade Engle, Cason Troxell and Reatta Collins; (back, l-r) Blaine Troxell, Trey Miller, Cory Chidester and Andrew Smith. The Ball Hogs played in the K through 2 Division.

Vanderbilt tops No. 4 Mississippi State in Southeastern quarterfinals

By The Associated Press

Lawrence Roberts fell out of bounds — and the Mississippi Bulldogs tumbled mightily, too.

Vanderbilt beat No. 4 Mississippi State 74-70 in overtime Friday night in the Southeastern Conference quarterfinals to almost certainly deny the Bulldogs a top seed in the NCAA tournament.

"We had put ourselves in position for a great seed," Mississippi State coach Rick Stansbury said. "I guess we made the decision a little easier for the committee as far as who gets a 1 seed and who gets a 2 seed."

Roberts, the SEC player of the year, had a chance to win it in regulation for the regular-season champion Bulldogs (25-3) but his 3-pointer at the buzzer clanged off the rim.

That epitomized the night

for Roberts, who wasn't the same player after he tumbled out of bounds with 14 minutes left in regulation trying to catch an errant pass. He fell over a cameraman, leaving him with a sprained right ankle.

"The hardest thing was getting up and down the floor," said Roberts, who managed only 13 points on 4-of-12 shooting. "But this is the time of the season that I can't afford to sit on the bench."

Vanderbilt (21-9) rallied from 11-point deficit in the second half and sealed the victory at the free throw line.

"We just wanted to keep it close," senior Russell Lakey said, "so something special would happen at the end."

Mario Moore scored 17 points and Julian Terrell added 16 for Vanderbilt, which will face Florida in the semifinals Saturday.

No. 8 Kentucky — suddenly the heavy favorite to win another SEC tournament — will meet South Carolina in the other semifinal at the Georgia Dome.

Kentucky (24-4) beat Georgia 69-60, with Cliff Hawkins scoring 23 points. In the other quarterfinals, South Carolina beat LSU 85-64, and Florida edged Alabama 75-73 in overtime.

In the Pac-10 semifinals, No. 2 Stanford beat Oregon 70-63, and Washington edged No. 21 Arizona 90-85. The Big East final also was set, with No. 6 Pittsburgh beating Boston College 62-53, and No. 9 Connecticut topping Villanova 84-67.

No. 13 Cincinnati and DePaul advanced to the Conference USA title game. Cincinnati beat Saint Louis 66-46, and DePaul rallied to edge Alabama-Birmingham 75-74 in overtime.

Spurs win with Duncan on the bench

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — By shelving Tim Duncan for a few more games, San Antonio Spurs coach Gregg Popovich figures he's investing in his team's future.

On Friday night, the Spurs' All-Star sat out his seventh game in the last eight with a lower thigh injury, but the Spurs still routed the Golden State Warriors 99-74.

Popovich said Duncan may remain on the sideline when San Antonio travels to Sacramento for Sunday's game against the Western Conference-leading Kings.

"Our first priority is him, the second is how it affects the team," he said. "Our record or standing means nothing. (What matters) is how he feels."

Malik Rose, starting in place of Duncan, scored 17 points and Kevin Willis, the NBA's oldest player, added 16 in 19 minutes.

The Warriors, after trailing by 14 at the half, got a 3-pointer from Cliff Robinson cut the Spurs' lead to 57-51 midway through the third quarter, but Rasha Nesterovic's short jumper and a 21-footer by Rose on the next two possessions keyed a 12-3 run by San

Antonio. "He's really been under control and playing with confidence," Popovich said of Rose, who has averaged 14.9 points in the seven games Duncan has missed since hurting his left thigh in Dallas on Feb. 26.

A layup by Manu Ginobili with 5:48 left in the game gave the Spurs a 86-65 lead.

"We've had trouble finishing games all year — tonight kind of showed that," said Golden State's Troy Murphy, who scored 13 in his second game back after missing 29 games with a right ankle injury.

Five other Spurs finished in double figures. Ginobili scored 16, while Tony Parker had 13 points and 12 assists. Robert Horry added 13 and Bruce Bowen and Hedo Turkoglu each scored 10.

"When the ball moves like that, we have a lot of situations where a lot of guys can score," Bowen said. "When Tim is here, we have the luxury of throwing the ball inside."

Duncan had an MRI and a CAT scan of his inflamed patellofemoral joint, where the thigh bone meets the knee. The scans were nega-

tive, but he is still listed as day to day.

Duncan saw 15 minutes of action in Wednesday's win over the Los Angeles Clippers, scoring nine points. But the team said Friday that he had to strengthen his leg more before returning to the lineup.

Robinson paced all scorers with 19. Mike Dunleavy had 15 points and Murphy, in his second outing after missing 29 games with an injured right ankle, scored 13.

The loss was the eighth straight for the Warriors, their longest losing streak of the season.

Points were hard to come by for both teams early, with the Spurs taking a 13-5 lead on a layup by Willis with 3:15 left in the first. Golden State didn't hit double digits in points until the final minute.

San Antonio picked up the pace in the second quarter, making 12 of 19 shots. Horry and Willis combined for 17 points on 7-for-8 shooting as the Spurs built their advantage to 38-21 on a 3-pointer by Turkoglu.

San Antonio recorded 24 assists, while the Warriors had only 13.

Newman on the pole again

HAMPTON, Ga. (AP) — Ryan Newman doesn't always win the pole. It just seems that way.

Newman nipped rookie Brian Vickers — again — and won the pole Friday for the Golden Corral 500 at Atlanta Motor Speedway, his fifth in the past seven races dating back to last season.

He's also been pretty good in the races — until last week. At Las Vegas, Newman started fifth and drifted back during the race. Then he spun out, lost two laps and eventually finished 27th, only the fourth time in the past 14 races he's been out of the top 10.

"We missed the boat pretty big, and when we got two laps down that was pretty much the end of our day," Newman said. "Our car was OK for about five laps and then it seemed like someone threw it in reverse. We just missed it."

His speed Friday of 193.575 mph in a Dodge was more than 2 mph faster than his pole-winning effort a year ago at NASCAR's fastest track, thanks mostly to a softer tire brought by Goodyear.



Pampa Harvester Sports Schedule

SOFTBALL

TUESDAY • MARCH 16

Pampa vs. Hereford • 3:00 pm at Pampa

THURSDAY • MARCH 18

Pampa vs. Palo Duro • 3:00 pm at Palo Duro

BASEBALL

MONDAY • MARCH 15

Pampa vs. Canyon • 1:00 pm at Canyon

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Kansas advances to semifinals

DALLAS (AP) — Wayne Simien just keeps carrying the Kansas Jayhawks.

Simien had 31 points and 11 rebounds, and the No. 18 Jayhawks beat Missouri 94-69 in the Big 12 quarterfinals Friday night.

"Wayne's elevated his game to a high level," Kansas coach Bill Self. "Guys are feeding off him and playing better. Hopefully, we're peaking at the right time."

Simien made 12 of 14 shots while scoring the most points by a Kansas player in the Big 12 tournament.

He went over 20 points for the eighth time in 10 games.

The Jayhawks (21-7), who spent some time as the No. 1 team earlier this season, won for the sixth time in seven games. They handed Missouri (16-13) its second stinging loss in less than a week.

Simien had 17 points in the first half, when Kansas overcame a 12-point deficit and took the lead by halftime. He then scored eight points in a 15-0 second-half run that turned the game into a rout.

"The last 30 minutes were about as well as we've played all season," Self said. "We felt pretty good at the half, even though we were tired."

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Aaron B. Ledbetter, David Luedicke, Mario M. Marin, Michael Martinez, Josh Miller, Justin Myers, Emily M. Nusser, Cassi Owens, Stacy L. Pepper, Sarah Porter, Cara Pryor, Whitney L. Roden, Autumn Schaub, Sarah M. Schwab, Cameron A. Seger, Alexander Slaybaugh, Christopher H. Smith, Laura A. Solorzano, Jennifer L. Sprouse, Jacob R. Stillwagon, Weston P. Teichmann, Jennie L. Waggoner, Jessika L. White, Kevin L. Youree.

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—Members were asked to deliver door prizes for the style show to Birdsell before March 25.

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We would like to thank everyone for
their love and support to our family

Vernicer Williams, Rudy Roland
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Understanding Geriatric Needs Course II: Advanced Principles of Eldercare

6-8 p.m. • April 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27
Advanced Registration is Required

TOPICS include: those related to aging such as dementia & alzheimer's disease, advanced medication management, entitlement programs, financial issues, behavior management of dementia, ethical issues and aging, legal issues and aging, estate planning and aging.

DESIGNED for: those working with the elderly including caregivers, healthcare professionals, family members, as well as seniors or students interested in geriatric nursing.

OFFERED at: Amarillo, Panhandle locations, including Borger, Childress and Pampa via the Distance Education Network.

CEU'S: 1.6 CEUs available for nursing and social workers.

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This FREE course is sponsored by the Panhandle Geriatric Education Program, a part of the Amarillo College Division of Nursing which is a joint venture between the Harrington Regional Medical Center, the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at San Antonio, and the Bivins Foundation and Amarillo College.

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COMMUNITY

NEWSMAKERS



Daniel B. Hoggatt

SAN ANTONIO — Air Force Airman **Daniel B. Hoggatt**, son of Danny Hoggatt of Pampa, recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.

During the six weeks of training, Hoggatt studied Air Force mission, organization and military customs/courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches; received physical conditioning; and participated in rifle marksmanship and field training exercises.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Hoggatt is a 2001 graduate of Pampa High School.



Andrew Wayne Komm

WEST POINT, N.Y. — Cadet **Andrew Wayne Komm**, son of Deana Schepp of Pampa and Richard Komm of LaPorte, was recently named to the Dean's List at the U.S. Military Academy.

To qualify for the Dean's List, a cadet must maintain a 3.0 grade point average for the semester.

Komm graduated from LaPorte High School in 2002. He is concentrating on his studies in leadership and plans to graduate from West Point in 2007, a commissioned second lieutenant in the U.S. Army.



Jessica Conner

ABILENE — **Jessica Conner** was recently named to the President's List at Hardin-Simmons University for the 2003 fall semester.

To be eligible for the President's List, a student must maintain a 4.0 grade point average while enrolled in 12 or more semester hours at the university.

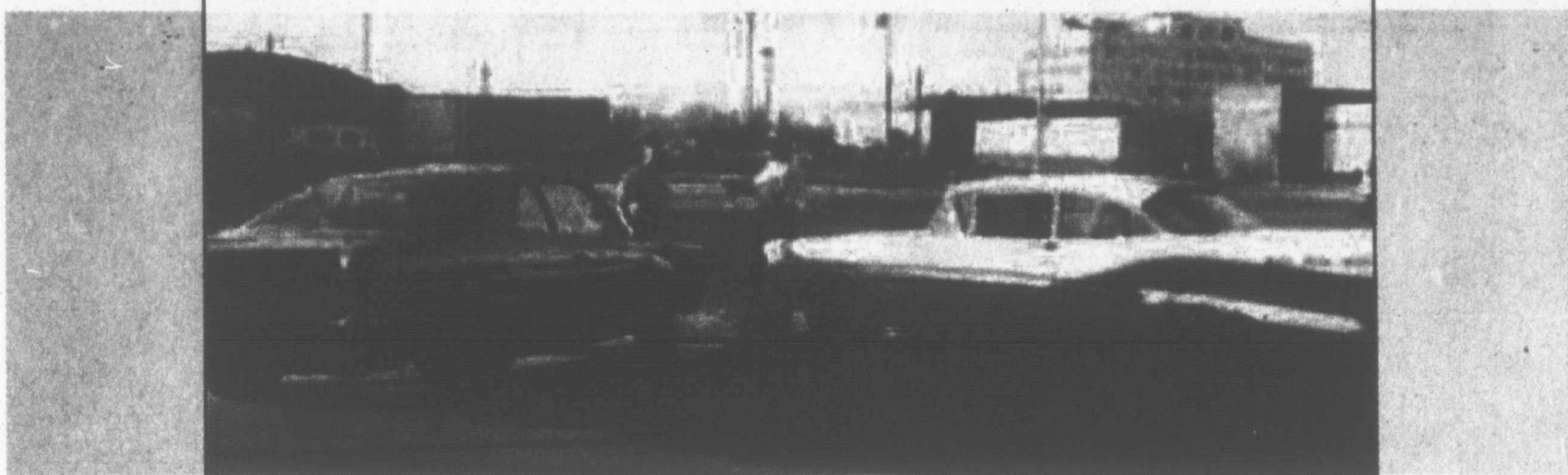
Conner, a 2000 graduate of Pampa High School, is a senior at HSU. She is majoring in church ministry, with an emphasis on education and administration, and minoring in psychology.

She is the daughter of Ron and Janis Ebel of Pampa and Tim and Sheril Conner of Cumming, Ga.

BUIES CREEK, N.C. — **Kimberly D. Grice-Hopkins** of Pampa was recently named to the President's List at Campbell University.

To be eligible for the President's List, a student must maintain a 3.5 or higher grade point average while in his or her second or later semester.

(See NEWSMAKERS, Page 15)



(Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers)

High Plains Cruisers Denver Bruner, left, and Kent Jones make plans for the upcoming three-day "Burnin' the Bricks in June" event, which will include a car show, mud bog, burn out contest, sock hop and cruise. Bruner stands in front of his wife Diana's 1967 Rambler Rebel. Jones is in front of his 1958 Ford Fairlane.

'CRUISIN' PAMPA STREETS

By MARILYN POWERS
STAFF WRITER

Wanna go cruisin'?
Join the club!

It's not really a club. There are no officers, dues to pay or membership rosters. The High Plains Cruisers are just a group of people who enjoy some of the same things, especially friendship and their "wheels."

The group, which has roughly 35 participants, gets together at the Wayne's Western Wear parking lot at 6:30 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month to visit and start the evening's entertainment, which always includes driving their vehicles. Although most of the participants drive classic cars and trucks, it isn't necessary to have a "ride" of any particular age to participate.

"It doesn't have to be an old car," said Diana Bruner, who, with her husband Denver and their friends Kent and Karen Jones, started the High Plains Cruisers. "It's family oriented. Everybody is welcome. We have teenagers to senior citizens who cruise with us," she said.

Monthly activities range from cruising the drag or going to the drive-in movie at Clarendon, to having a poker run, sock hop or scavenger hunt. The evening usually includes a meal and often ends at the Sonic Drive In.

The High Plains Cruisers began in July 2002 with four cars participating in a poker run. Since then, the idea caught on, and monthly cruise nights were scheduled, with extra nights during the summer. More people showed up, and last September, a scavenger hunt drew 63 participants, including cruisers from Amarillo.

"Everybody enjoys cruise night so much, we started doing an informal cruise night every Friday in addition to the second Saturdays of each month," Denver Bruner said.

The Joneses got the idea to have cruise nights from going to cruise nights in other towns, especially Vernon's annual cruise event known as "Summer's Last Blast," scheduled this year for Aug. 13-15.

"They started it 11 years ago with 90 participants. In 2003, there were 1,100 registered for the cruise, and over 250 entered in the car show," Denver Bruner said.

The Pampa cruisers aim to start their own area-wide annual event this June, called "Burnin' the Bricks in June." Plans are in the works for a burn out contest, car show, cruise night, mud bog and sock hop, June 11-13.

An organizational meeting was held Feb. 12 to begin groundwork for the June events. Cruisers met with representatives of the chamber of commerce, city manager and police chief.

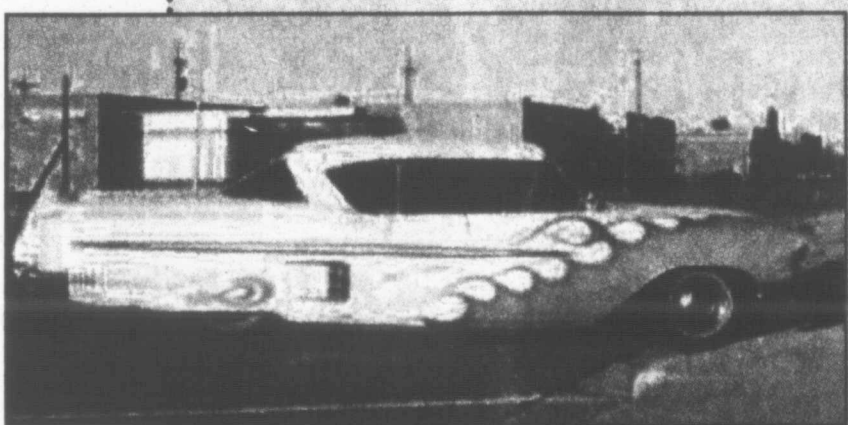
"We're pretty excited about this, and I think it's going to be a good thing for our city," said City Manager Mitch Grant in a report to city commissioners Feb. 24.

"The thing I really like about this is that it's a family event," he said.

Since planning began on Pampa's June cruise weekend, word has spread. Members of the High Plains Cruisers have received inquiries and expressions of interest concerning the event from the Amarillo Council of Car Clubs, and from groups as far away as Guymon, Okla., and Altus, Okla.

Profits from the June event will fund a scholarship for an auto tech student. Although entry fees will be charged to participants in each event, spectators will be able to enjoy watching the cruisers ride the drag and eyeing the car show entries for free.

For more information on the High Plains Cruisers or "Burnin' the Bricks in June," call Bruner at 665-8783, Jones at 665-7453 or contact the Greater Area Pampa Chamber of Commerce at 669-3241.



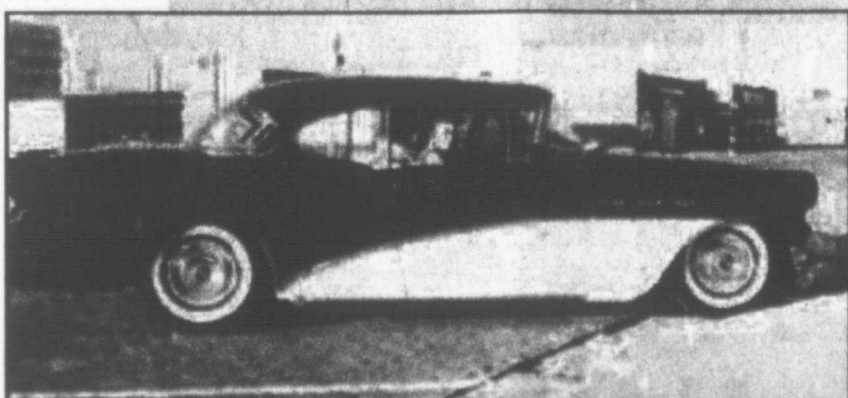
(Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers)

Mike McComas' 1958 Chevrolet Impala.



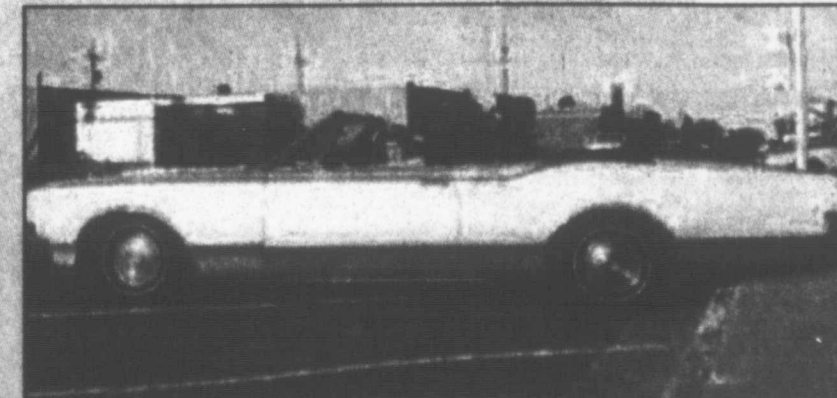
(Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers)

Diana Bruner in her 1967 Rambler Rebel.



(Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers)

Austin Bruner, passenger side, and his father Denver in Bruner's 1956 Buick Riviera.



(Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers)

Diana Bruner's 1966 Oldsmobile Dynamic 88.

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LIFESTYLES

ENGAGEMENTS

Briggs-Wheeler

Angel Briggs and Jason Wheeler plan to wed Saturday, June 12, in Central Baptist Church of Pampa.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Bob Briggs of Tahlequah, Okla., and Anne Briggs of Pampa. She graduated from Pampa High School and holds a bachelor of arts degree from West Texas A&M University. She is currently employed as a second grade teacher at Travis Elementary School.

The prospective groom is the son of Mark Smith of Sweetwater and Jolene



Angel Briggs and Jason Wheeler

Wheeler of Amarillo. He graduated from PHS and Clarendon College Ranch and Feedlot Operations program. He now owns Progressive Livestock Services.

East-Rems

Cara East and David Rems, both of Plano, plan to wed Saturday, April 10, at Wyndham Anatole Hotel in Dallas.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Edwin and Sandy East of Guymon, Okla. She attended Tarleton State University in Stephenville and is currently employed as a medical assistant at Metroplex Rehab & Pain Medicine of Carrollton.

The prospective groom is the son of Mrs. Jackie Gettys of Plano. He attended Johnson & Wales University in Providence, R.I., and is currently employed as food and beverage director at Wyndham Dallas Market Center in Dallas.



David Rems and Cara East

currently employed as food and beverage director at Wyndham Dallas Market Center in Dallas.

WEDDINGS

Ford-Porter

Kelley Ford and Gavin Porter, both of Pampa, were wed March 6 at First Baptist Church in Pampa with John Glover, of Gober, officiating.

The maid of honor was Kerrey Ford, sister of the bride of Pampa. The bridesmaids were Tiffany Lane of Pampa, D'Lee Cook of Amarillo, Rachael Paradise-DePalma of Lake Carmel, N.Y., and Jai Jai Porter of Grapevine. The flower girl was Destinee Jai Ford of Pampa.

The best man was Chris Porter, brother of the groom of Dumas. The groomsmen were Lance Ferland of Garland, Matt Garvin of Bullard, Joel Ferland of Pampa and Justin Pierce of Lewisville. The ring bearer was Bradey Porter of Dumas.

The ushers were Russ Martindale, Jerrod Imel, both



Kelley Ford

organist Jerry Whitten and vocalist Tammy Greene, both of Pampa.

A reception was held following the service at Pampa Country Club with Ashlee

Ruff and Brittany Peak, both of Amarillo, serving the guests.

The bride is the daughter of Ben and Pat Ford of Pampa. She graduated from Pampa High School in 1994 and holds a bachelor of science degree in sport and exercise science from Midwestern State University and a master of science degree in sport and exercise science from West Texas A&M University. She is currently employed as head athletic trainer at Randall High School in Amarillo.

The groom is the son of Lee and Janice Porter of Pampa. He graduated from PHS in 1994 and holds a bachelor of arts degree in finance from Midwestern State University. He is currently vice president of LeJan Inc.

The newlyweds planned a honeymoon trip to San Francisco, Calif., and Lake Tahoe and intend to make their home in Pampa.

MENUS

WEEK OF MARCH 15-19

Senior Citizens MONDAY

Chicken fried steak or chicken ala king/cornbread, mashed potatoes, chuckwagon corn, spinach, beans, banana nut bread or blueberry cream pie, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.

TUESDAY

Turkey/dressing or ham salad, mashed potatoes, yams, Italian green beans, beans, black forest cake or peach cobbler, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.

WEDNESDAY

Roast beef brisket/brown gravy or cook's choice, mashed potatoes, peas, baby carrots, butter beans, tomato spice cake or bread pudding, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.

THURSDAY

Chicken strips or liver and onions, scalloped potatoes, turnip greens, California blend, black-

eyed peas, coconut cream cake or chocolate icebox pie, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.

FRIDAY

Catfish/hushpuppies or beef stroganoff, potato wedges, brussels sprouts, beans, peaches and cream cake or tapioca cups, slaw, tossed or jello salad, garlic toast, hot rolls or cornbread.

Meals On Wheels MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

Polish sausage, cheese grits, mixed greens, cake.

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

Ham, okra, pinto beans, cornbread, pudding.

FRIDAY

Chicken alfredo, asparagus, garlic bread, pears.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

NEWSMAKERS

Grice-Hopkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kit Grice of Pampa, graduated from Pampa High School in 2001 and is a senior at Campbell University where she is studying business administration as pre-law. She plans to attend law school following graduation.

Her honors, activities and accomplishments include "Who's Who Among American College Students" and Phi Theta

Kappa International Honor Society. She is currently employed as a staff accountant for Cruise.Com/Omega World Travel Corporation.

CANYON — Andrew Swope, a sophomore mass communications major from Pampa, was among several West Texas A&M University students who competed as finalists in the 2003-04 National

Broadcasting Student Electronic Media Competition held recently in Miami Beach, Fla.

The university's broadcasting program took top regional honors at the Region 4 convention in November for the right to advance to national competition. Eight student-produced audio and video pieces advanced to the national finals.

WTAMU entries named as finalists for the NBS competition include "The Nair Witch Project" in the audio category for comedy program or segment. WT scored three national entries in the audio category for music variety special program or segment.

CANYON — Alli Moore, a senior math education major from Wheeler was among 13 West Texas A&M University students awarded \$18,000 in scholarships for the 2003-04

academic year by Texas Collaborative for Excellence in Teacher Preparation.

Moore earned \$1,000 for the spring 2004 semester at WT.

TxCETP is a five-year \$5-million grant funded by the National Science Foundation. Dr. Ken Van Doren, professor of

mathematics and head of the Department of Mathematics, Physical Sciences and Engineering, and Dr. Juli D'Ann Rathaal, assistant professor of mathematics education, are leaders for TxCETP on the WTAMU campus.

Scholarship recipients must

carry a grade point average of at least 2.75 and be full-time students preparing to teach mathematics and/or science in Texas secondary schools. Recipients also must participate in scholarly activities and agree to teach in Texas for at least two years.

AAF Nonprofit Services Center presentation to target area nonprofits

AMARILLO — Panhandle area non-profit organizations are invited to attend a special presentation by Amarillo Area Foundation's Nonprofit Services Center from 1:30-3 p.m., Thursday, March 25, at Texas Tech School of Pharmacy, Sybil B. Harrington Lecture Center Auditorium, 1300 Coulter, Amarillo.

The presentation will explore employee benefit programs with area nonprofit representatives. It is essential, officials from the

Amarillo foundation say, that nonprofits offer health, dental and supplemental insurance to obtain high quality, productive employees.

Rose Mary Fry, executive director of Texas Nonprofit Management Assistance Network, will be the guest speaker.

The Nonprofit Benefits Association of Texas was formed

to provide affordable benefit programs to Texas 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations. Based in San Antonio, the state association has developed health care benefit programs in partnership with Southwest Business Corporation.

The presentation is free to area non-profits. To register, call (806) 376-4521 or visit www.aaf-hf.org on the World Wide Web.

LIFESTYLES POLICY

1. The Pampa News will not be responsible for photographs used in announcing births, weddings, engagements or anniversaries. We also reserve the right to refuse publication of photographs of poor quality. Photographs cannot be returned unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. They may be picked up in the office after appearing in the paper.
2. All information must be submitted by 5 p.m. Wednesday (12 noon Tuesday before a holiday such as Thanksgiving or Christmas), prior to Sunday insertion.
3. Engagement, wedding and anniversary news only will be printed on Sunday.
4. Engagement announcements will be published if the announcement is submitted at least one month before the wedding, but not more than three months before the wedding.
5. Bridal photos and information will not be accepted in The Pampa News office later than one month past the date of the wedding.
6. Anniversary announcements will be published for celebrations only of 25 years or more and will not be published more than four weeks after the anniversary date.
7. Birth announcements will only be published for 0- to 3-month-olds. (See form for more details.)
8. Forms are available from the office 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday, or by sending a SASE to The Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.
9. Two anniversary pictures may be placed for a \$25 charge or four extra lines may be added to announcements for \$25 (\$50 for both).

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BILLBOARD MUSIC CHARTS

By The Associated Press
Weekly charts for the nation's best-selling recorded music as they appear in next week's issue of Billboard magazine. Reprinted with permission. (Platinum signifies more than 1 million copies sold; Gold signifies more than 500,000 copies sold.)

BILLBOARD HOT 100: TOP 10

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports collected, compiled and provided by SoundScan; radio playlists; and monitored radio by Broadcast Data Systems)

1. "Yeah!" Usher (feat. Ludacris & Lil Jon). Arista.
2. "One Call Away." Chingy (feat. J. Weav). Disturbing tha Peace.
3. "Slow Jamz." Twista (feat. Kanye West & Jamie Foxx). Atlantic.
4. "Topsy." J-Kwon. So So Def.
5. "Hotel." Cassidy (feat. R. Kelly). Nick.
6. "Splash Waterfalls." Ludacris. Disturbing tha Peace.
7. "The Way You Move." OutKast feat. Sleepy Brown. Arista. (Platinum — certified sales of 1 million units)
8. "Dirt Off Your Shoulder." Jay-Z. Roc-a-Fella.
9. "My Immortal." Evanescence. Wind-up.
10. "Toxic." Britney Spears. Jive.

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THE BILLBOARD 200 TOP ALBUMS: TOP 10

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports collected, compiled and provided by SoundScan)

1. "Feels Like Home." Norah Jones. Blue Note.
2. "In This Skin." Jessica Simpson. Columbia.
3. "Fallen." Evanescence. Wind-up. (Platinum)
4. "The College Dropout." Kanye West. Roc-a-Fella.
5. "When the Sun Goes

Down," Kenny Chesney. BNA.

6. "Speakerboxx/The Love Below." OutKast. Arista. (Platinum)
7. "Closer." Josh Groban. 143. (Platinum)
8. "The Very Best of Sheryl Crow." Sheryl Crow. A&M. (Platinum)
9. "Kamikaze." Twista. Atlantic.
10. "I Don't Want You Back." Eamon. Jive.

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HOT ADULT CONTEMPORARY
(Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Broadcast Data Systems)

1. "You Raise Me Up." Josh Groban. 143.
2. "Forever and For Always." Shania Twain. Mercury.
3. "The First Cut is the Deepest." Sheryl Crow. A&M.
4. "Calling All Angels." Train. Columbia.
5. "White Flag." Dido. Arista.
6. "Unwell." matchbox twenty. Atlantic.
7. "Drift Away." Uncle Kracker (feat. Dobie Gray). Lava.
8. "100 Years." Five for Fighting. Aware.
9. "Ain't No Mountain High Enough." Michael McDonald. Motown.
10. "You Make Me Feel Brand New." Simply Red. simplyred.com.

TOP CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN ALBUMS

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports collected, compiled and provided by SoundScan)

1. Soundtrack: "The Passion of the Christ." Integrity.
2. "The Beautiful Letdown." Switchfoot. Sparrow. (Gold)
3. "Casting Crowns." Casting Crowns. Beach Street.
4. "The Creed." Avalon. Sparrow.

5. "WOW Hits 2004." Various Artists. Provident.

6. "Carried Me: The Worship Project." Jeremy Camp. BEC.
7. "Sea of Faces." Kutless. Tooth & Nail.
8. "Passion: Hymns Ancient and Modern." Passion Worship Band. Sparrow.
9. "Throne Room." CeCe Winans. PureSprings.
10. "Worship & Faith." Randy Travis. Word-Curb.

MAINSTREAM ROCK TRACKS

(Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Broadcast Data Systems)

1. "Figured You Out." Nickelback. Roadrunner/DJMG.
2. "Megalomaniac." Incubus. Immortal.
3. "Re-Align." Godsmack. Republic.
4. "I am the Highway." Audioslave. Interscope.
5. "(I Hate) Everything About You." Three Days Grace. Jive.
6. "Numb." Linkin Park. Warner Bros.
7. "The Outsider." A Perfect Circle. Virgin.
8. "Hey Now." Tantric. Maverick.
9. "45." Shinedown. Atlantic.
10. "Are You Gonna Be My Girl." Jet. Elektra.

MODERN ROCK TRACKS

(Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Broadcast Data Systems)

1. "Megalomaniac." Incubus. Immortal.
2. "I Miss You." Blink-182. Geffen.
3. "Last Train Home." Lostprophets. Columbia.
4. "Figured You Out." Nickelback. Roadrunner.
5. "One Thing." Finger Eleven. Wind-up.
6. "Love Song." 311. Maverick.
7. "The Reason." Hoobastank. Island.
8. "Numb." Linkin Park. Warner Bros.
9. "I Believe in a Thing Called Love." The Darkness. Atlantic.
10. "I am the Highway." Audioslave. Interscope.

HOT COUNTRY SINGLES AND TRACKS

(Compiled from a national sample of monitored country radio by Broadcast Data Systems)

1. "Watch the Wind Blow By." Tim McGraw. Curb.
2. "American Soldier." Toby Keith. DreamWorks.
3. "Little Moments." Brad Paisley. Arista Nashville.
4. "In My Daughter's Eyes." Martina McBride. RCA.
5. "Hot Mama." Trace Adkins. Capitol.
6. "Perfect." Sara Evans. RCA.
7. "Remember When." Alan Jackson. Arista Nashville.
8. "I Love You This Much." Jimmy Wayne. DreamWorks.
9. "When the Sun Goes Down." Kenny Chesney & Uncle Kracker. BNA.
10. "Sweet Southern

Comfort." Buddy Jewell. Columbia.

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TOP COUNTRY ALBUMS

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports collected, compiled and provided by SoundScan)

1. "When the Sun Goes Down." Kenny Chesney. BNA.
2. "Shock'n Y'all." Toby Keith. DreamWorks. (Platinum)
3. "Spend My Time." Clint Black. Equity.
4. "Greatest Hits Volume II." Alan Jackson. Arista Nashville. (Platinum)
5. "Long Black Train." Josh Turner. MCA Nashville. (Gold)
6. "Golden Road." Keith Urban. Capitol. (Platinum)
7. "Martina." Martina McBride. RCA (Nashville). (Platinum)
8. "No Shoes, No Shirt, No Problems." Kenny Chesney. BNA (Platinum)
9. "Unleashed." Toby Keith. DreamWorks (Nashville). (Platinum)
10. "See If I Care." Gary Allan. MCA Nashville. Copyright 2004, VNU Business Media and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc.

HOT R&B/HIP-HOP SINGLES AND TRACKS

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports and radio playlists)

1. "Yeah!" Usher (feat. Lil Jon & Ludacris). Arista.
2. "Sorry 2004." Ruben Studdard. J.
3. "Splash Waterfalls." Ludacris. Disturbing tha Peace.
4. "One Call Away." Chingy (feat. R. Kelly). Full Surface.
5. "Slow Jamz." Twista (feat. Kanye West & Jamie Foxx). Atlantic.

6. "Dirt Off Your Shoulder." Jay-Z. Roc-a-Fella.

7. "Hotel." Cassidy (feat. R. Kelly) Full Surface.
8. "Topsy." J-Kwon. So So Def.
9. "Me, Myself and I." Beyonce. Columbia.
10. "If I Ain't Got You." Alicia Keys. J.

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TOP R&B/HIP-HOP ALBUMS

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports collected, compiled and provided by SoundScan)

1. "The College Dropout." Kanye West. Roc-a-Fella.
2. "Cee-Lo Green...is the Soul Machine." Cee-Lo. Arista.
3. "Tough Luv." Young Gunz. Roc-a-Fella.
4. "Kamikaze." Twista. Atlantic. (Platinum)
5. "The King of Crunk & BME Recordings Present." Trillville/Lil Scrappy. BME.
6. "I Don't Want You Back." Eamon. Jive.
7. "Speakerboxx/The Love Below." OutKast. Arista. (Platinum)
8. "Soulful." Ruben Studdard. J. (Platinum)
9. "The Black Album." Jay-Z. Roc-a-Fella. (Platinum)
10. "Chicken N Beer." Ludacris. Disturbing tha Peace. (Platinum)

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HOT RAP TRACKS

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports collected, compiled, and Provided by SoundScan)

1. "One Call Away." Chingy (feat. J. Weav). Disturbing tha Peace.
2. "Topsy." J-Kwon. So So Def.
3. "Splash Waterfalls." Ludacris. Disturbing tha Peace.

4. "Slow Jamz." Twista (feat. Kanye West & Jamie Foxx). Atlantic.

5. "Hotel." Cassidy (feat. R. Kelly). Full Surface.
6. "Dirt Off Your Shoulder." Jay-Z. Roc-a-Fella.
7. "Salt Shaker." Ying Yang Twins (feat. Lil Jon & the East Side Boyz). ColliPark.
8. "Through the Wire." Kanye West. Roc-a-Fella.
9. "Wanna Get to Know You." G-Unit (feat. Joe). G-Unit.
10. "I'm Still in Love With You." Sean Paul (feat. Sasha). VP.

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HOT DANCE MUSIC, CLUB PLAY

(Compiled from a national sample of dance club playlists)

1. "Face to Face." Daft Punk. Virgin.
2. "Toxic (Remixes)." Britney Spears. Jive.
3. "Born Too Slow (E. Morillo, Deepsky, & NuBreed Mixes)." The Crystal Method. V2.
4. "Not in Love (D. Aude, Minge Binge, & R.H. Vission Mixes)." Enrique Iglesias (feat. Kelis). Interscope.
5. "All Things (Just Keep Getting Better)." Widelife With Simone Denny. Capitol.
6. "Where Love Is." Trinity (feat. Revi). Commision.
7. "Burning." Robbie Rivera & Axwell (feat. Suzan Brittan). Benz Street.
8. "Slippin' Away." Sweet Rains. Nostalgic.
9. "Free (S.A.F. & Nemo Mixes)." Sarah Brightman Nemo Studio.
10. "Love Profusion (R. Rosario, Craig J., Passengerz & Blow-Up Mixes)." Madonna. Maverick.

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WEEKLY VIDEO CHARTS

By The Associated Press

Weekly charts for the nation's most popular videos as they appear in next week's issue of Billboard magazine. Reprinted with permission:

TOP KID VIDEO SALES

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports)

1. "The Lion King 1 1/2." Walt Disney Home Entertainment.
2. "Dora the Explorer — Dora's Pirate Adventure." Paramount Home Entertainment.
3. "Spongebob Squarepants — The Seascape Capers." Paramount Home Entertainment.
4. "Dora the Explorer — Rhymes and Riddles." Paramount Home Entertainment.
5. "City of Lost Toys." Paramount Home Entertainment.
6. "Rugrats Go Wild." Nickelodeon Video.
7. "Dora's Egg Hunt." Paramount Home Entertainment.
8. "Elmo's World — Elmo Has Two! Hands, Ears & Feet." Sony Wonder.
9. "Dora the Explorer — Wish On A Star." Paramount Home Entertainment.
10. "Dora the Explorer — Meet Diego." Paramount Home Entertainment.

TOP VHS RENTALS

(Based on data provided by the Video Software Dealers Assn.)

1. "Runaway Jury." FoxVideo.
2. "Missing." Columbia TriStar Home Entertainment.
3. "Matchstick Men." Warner Home Video.
4. "Radio." Columbia TriStar Home Entertainment.

5. "Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star." Paramount Home Entertainment.

6. "Secondhand Lions." New Line Home Entertainment.
7. "Intolerable Cruelty." Universal Studios Home Video.
8. "Spy Kids 3: Game Over." Walt Disney Home Entertainment.
9. "Under the Tuscan Sun." Walt Disney Home Entertainment.
10. "Lost in Translation." Universal Studios Home Video.

TOP VHS SALES

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports)

1. "The Lion King 1 1/2." Walt Disney Home Entertainment.
2. "Spy Kids 3: Game Over." Walt Disney Home Entertainment.
3. "Dora the Explorer — Dora's Pirate Adventure." Paramount Home Entertainment.
4. "Under the Tuscan Sun." Walt Disney Home Entertainment.
5. "Finding Nemo." Walt Disney Home Entertainment.
6. "Secondhand Lions." New Line Home Entertainment.
7. "Open Range." Walt Disney Home Entertainment.
8. "Spongebob Squarepants — The Seascape Capers." Paramount Home Entertainment.
9. "Shrek." DreamWorks Home Entertainment.
10. "Ever After: A Cinderella Story (Repackaged Edition)." FoxVideo.

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Texas Department of Transportation will host an Informational Meeting on March 23, 2004 concerning the planning of future projects.

This informational meeting is held to explain how the department plans transportation projects. We would like to receive the public's input regarding the current Transportation Improvement Plan for the district.

The meeting will be Tuesday, March 23, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. It will be located at the Borger Chamber of Commerce, 613 Main Street, Borger Texas.

The meeting will cover transportation plans for all areas of the Panhandle and the city of Amarillo. An overall view of the planning process will be presented, as well as the criteria used for selecting individual projects. Draft versions of current transportation plans will be presented at the meeting for public comment.

The public is invited to speak regarding projects currently planned for any additional projects that might be proposed. Speakers will be limited to five minutes. Verbal and written comments from the public regarding any project may be submitted at the meeting. Written statements and other exhibits may be submitted to the District Office at 5715 Canyon Drive (P.O. Box 7368) Amarillo, Texas 79114-7368. Comments must be received no later than April 6, 2004.

All interested citizens are invited to attend this public meeting. Persons interested in attending the meeting whom have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact Cheryl Luther at 806.356.3249. Requests should be made no later than two days prior to the public meeting. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.

In Appreciation

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Dr. Giang Nguyen and all the nurses in E.C.U. for the loving and compassionate care they gave to our beloved husband and father, Jesse Wright, during his last days, as well as the love they gave to each of us. They cared for each of us just as tenderly as they did him. We will be eternally grateful that they made our last days with our loved one so much easier to bear for him and for us. Pampa should be proud to have such caring, compassionate people as these on the staff of PRMC.

In Loving Gratitude...
Joyce Wright, Richard & Judie Wright,
Jana & Terry Sanders and Debbie & Syd Kraaier

Notice of Nondiscriminatory Policy As To Students

The Community Christian School of Pampa, Inc. admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in administration of its education policies, admissions, policies, scholarship, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

E-15 March 14, 2004

MARKET

SUNDAY, March 14, 2004

to

SATURDAY, March 20, 2004

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 OPEN **24** HOURS
Self Service 1811 N. Hobart
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 March 24 & March 25
 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

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**Pampa Regional Medical Center
 North Medical Office Building
 Second Floor Conference Room**

\$10.00 Per Person ... Includes Both Days

Class Is Limited To 25 People

To Enroll Call The Senior Friends Office 663-5504

SUNDAY • March 14, 2004

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Daughter Refuses to Play Part in Mom's Reconciliation Drama

DEAR ABBY: My mother was unloving and downright cruel to all of her children, but now that we're all over 18, she has suddenly decided she wants to have relationships with us. (I haven't even told her that I've been engaged for two months.) She has caused so much suffering and heartache, but I don't know how to tell her to leave me alone.

She recently showed up at my house. I don't know how she got my address, because I didn't give it to her and I never return her calls. I don't understand how she can act like everything is fine between us and get angry with me for not calling her back.

Mother has never in her life said the word "sorry." I am at a loss as to how to deal with her. -- ANGRY AND CONFUSED IN PHOENIX

DEAR ANGRY: I have heard from readers who cut themselves off from their parents after abusive childhoods and later regretted that there was no closure. I have also heard from people who did it and have no regrets about it at all.

If you feel that any aspect of your relationship with her is salvageable, consider trying to heal the relationship. However, if that is not possible, tell her plainly that you want to be left alone, and if she doesn't cooperate, you will be forced to get a restraining order. Then do it.

DEAR ABBY: My niece, "Debra," had her breasts enlarged before she was even 20, and she dresses to draw attention to them. She's so proud that she pushes them out even further, which makes her posture appear abnormal.

We are modest people, and we felt especially uncomfortable last summer at a family beach party where she pranced around in a thong!

Now we have a messy situation. Debra has accused a male family member of behaving inappropriately toward

her. He denies ever thinking "that way" about her, but admits he couldn't help looking at her breasts "because they were on display all the time."

My sister, Debra's mother, refuses to accept that her daughter is in any way responsible for this mess, and says the man involved is completely at fault. I blame Debra.

Is it fair for a girl to dress seductively and then accuse a male family member of behaving inappropriately? -- MODEST IN COLORADO

DEAR MODEST: Let's stop assigning blame and assess what's really happening. For years, Debra probably felt something was lacking. Since she has had her enhancement surgery, it appears she has been overcompensating. The episode with the thong bikini at the family beach party is an example of a girl who once felt invisible and is now flaunting her assets.

However, when someone prominently puts something on display, it's unrealistic to expect viewers to wear blinders or look away. Debra can't have it both ways.

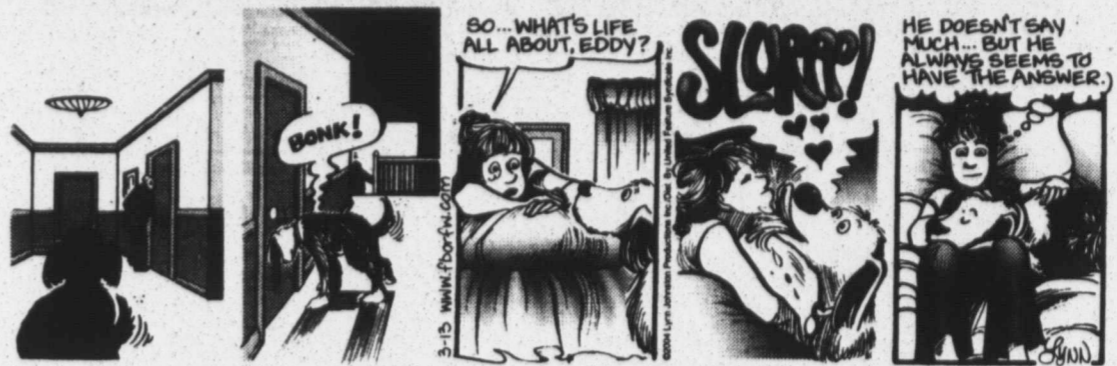
DEAR ABBY: My neighbor runs a licensed day-care center in her home. She does a good job and has lots of children in her care. Some of the children are the same ages as my kids, and they often spend an afternoon or a whole day playing at my house. Should I be concerned about being responsible for her "clients" when she is paid to take care of them? Is there a liability issue that I need to confront? It's an awkward situation for me, and I'd like to hear your thoughts. -- LIABLE IN SYRACUSE

DEAR LIABLE: To heck with my "thoughts." Contact your insurance agent TODAY. If a child is injured on your property, there is definitely a liability issue!

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The Pampa News comics

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

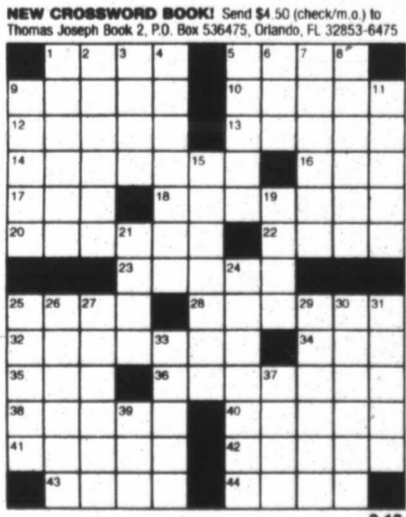
CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Carpet
 - 5 Weeps
 - 9 Emergency signal
 - 10 Louvre setting
 - 12 Snake, for one
 - 13 Kitchen come-on
 - 14 Company thinker
 - 16 Jazz composer
 - 17 Animal abode
 - 18 Battery's cousin
 - 20 Agree
 - 22 Course requirements
 - 23 "Swell!"
 - 25 Member of the opposition
 - 28 New Testament book
 - 32 Entertains before bedtime
 - 34 Ray gun sound
 - 35 Total
 - 36 Greet with open arms
 - 38 Speak
 - 40 Black of films
- DOWN**
- 1 Play-ground sights
 - 2 Refuges
 - 3 Vicinity
 - 4 Fitting
 - 5 Bridges
 - 6 Crew need
 - 7 Irish sound
 - 8 Comparative phrase
 - 9 Salma Hayek
 - 11 Bath additives
 - 15 Fertility goddess
 - 19 Cyclotron bit
 - 21 Writer Bagnold
 - 24 Handy-man's tote
 - 25 Hot crime aid
 - 26 Impulse carrier
 - 27 Tex-Mex snack
 - 29 Islands off Portugal
 - 30 New parents, e.g.
 - 31 Used up
 - 33 Dear
 - 37 Walking aid
 - 39 Passes, in Variety



Yesterday's answer



NEW CROSSWORD BOOKS: Send \$4.50 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

Marmaduke



"I can never talk politics with you in front of Marmaduke. He always has to get in his two cents' worth."

The Family Circus



"Daddy set his drink on one of our coasters."

B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



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A year after war, life in Iraq improves slowly

By NIKO PRICE
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — In Iraq, glimmers of hope can be found in the unlikely of places.

Few suffered as much in the war as Mohammed Abed, the tailor who found the bodies of his wife, his mother, his sister and his cousin in the rubble of a Baghdad slum after a missile struck the marketplace outside his shop last March.

For Abed, as for the rest of Iraq's 25 million people, it has been a tumultuous year in which their country was invaded and Saddam Hussein, once their all-powerful leader, was pulled from a hole in the ground and arrested. A land held together for decades by force and dictatorship has shattered into fragments. Insurgency and terrorism continue to take American, European, Asian and Iraqi lives.

For all the hardships that have compounded Abed's grief, Abed, 31, exhibits little of the anger he sometimes betrayed in previous conversations with The Associated Press.

Having never known anything but Saddam's suffocating rule, he sees the beginnings of democracy and economic revival, and with U.S. soldiers on patrol he feels protected. "Their presence lets us sleep at night," he says.

The construction of a new nation has been much slower and more painful than most anticipated. While there are those like Abed who feel protected, many others have seen their homes raided by U.S. soldiers searching for insurgents, or have been caught in the gunfire and bombings mounted against Americans and Iraqis alike.

Iraq's U.S. occupiers speak excitedly about new infrastructure, new institutions, new possibilities. Many Iraqis describe themselves as a defeated people.

"At first we felt the situation would get better, because we were liberated from Saddam Hussein. For six or seven months, there was a general feeling that everything was going well," said Ahmed Ridha, a 24-year-old pharmacist. "But now that dream is destroyed."

Much of the insurgency is concentrated in central Iraq.

U.S. officials hope Iraq will become a model for democracy in the Middle East. Some Iraqis hope it will become a religious state more along the lines of Iran. And with new attacks that appear designed to sow hatred, many believe its patchwork of ethnic and religious groups could fracture into civil war.

They worry about whether the Americans can win the guerrilla war, and whether they will be forgotten after the U.S. presidential election that many suspect is driving the timetable of their recovery.

For now, Iraqis live in fear. All this keeps factories and businesses shuttered, while the dissolution of the Iraqi army has fueled widespread unemployment that in turn worsens the security situation.

Basic services like electricity, water and sewage were devastated, and only now are reaching pre-war levels. Daily oil production is 2.2 million barrels, well below the pre-war production of 2.8 million barrels a day, the Oil Ministry's Assam Jihad said.

While coalition officials speak with enthusiasm about a bill of rights and neighborhood-level democracy, they have had to cancel their plans for selecting a sovereign government and have appealed to the United Nations to help find a new formula. The occupation will be longer and more expensive than the U.S. government initially envisioned.

Mahmoud Othman, a member of the council appointed by the United States to run Iraq, said Iraqi and U.S. leaders have all failed the Iraqi people.

"We promised people democracy and they don't even have security. We promised people better services but they don't have better services. We promised people that the whole economy would be better, but they have more unemployment now. We promised people they would have more say in where their country was going and ... they don't have a say in anything," he said.

"The Americans, when they came here, said 'We won the war, and we want to win the peace,'" he said. "They didn't win the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people. People were much better off a year ago."

Not so, says Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, the commander of coalition forces. He believes the Iraq operation will one day be seen as "a remarkable case study in what a powerful, benevolent army can do."

Coalition spokesman Dan Senor said in an interview that while many Iraqis express frustration at their lives, they are generally pleased with the path their nation is taking.

"If you say, 'Look past the central services, look past the economic frustrations of daily life, would you rewind to one year ago?' I believe most Iraqis would say, 'No way,'" he said.

Few Iraqis want a return to Saddam's era when hundreds of thousands died at the hands of their government.

"We were so glad when they got rid of Saddam, but we're still waiting for changes," said Kahla Rahim, a 30-year-old telephone operator. "Our hopes were tied to the promises they made before the war: reconstruction, electricity, security. I'm not hopeful any more."

Senor says the job is complicated by terrorist attacks that have killed scores of U.S. troops since combat ended and by the dismal state in which Saddam left his economy.

Children have returned to school. Some phone lines are working again, and Iraq's first cellular network has just been launched. Satellite television beams news from around the world into Iraqi homes. And 200 new newspapers compete for readers.

"If you had told anybody in March 2003 that 12 months from that point all this activity would be going on in Iraq ... people wouldn't have believed it," Senor said.

"You don't transform an economy that was devastated for 35 years in six months or nine months or 12 months. It's going to take time."

Othman said Iraqis' perceptions of their lot, and their visions of the future, depend much on where they come from.

"For people who were politicians or writers or journalists, it was hell under Saddam. Now it's much better, they are free at least," he said. "But for a simple citizen, they haven't seen much change. Security isn't guaranteed. Maybe he is unemployed. And the services, some are running and some aren't."

The war and occupation have reshaped the balance of power and the winners and losers see things in vastly different ways.

Kurds in northern Iraq are by and large delighted. Shiite Muslims also hope for an end to their oppression.

Sunnis now find themselves on the outside, tarnished by their association with the former regime and fearful that they will be targeted for crimes of the past. Some have taken up arms against the Americans and against Shiites out of frustration and fear.

Shiites say their U.S. occupiers have done little to right the poverty they suffered under Saddam. Some dream of a clergy-ruled state modeled on neighboring Iran, while others dread it. All three major groups have seen leaders murdered and the killings feed distrust.

As the June 30 deadline for sovereignty approaches and the different groups jockey for influence, ethnic tensions cultivated under Saddam could easily boil over into widespread violence. Many see this month's bombing onslaught against Shiite pilgrims, in which more than 181 people died, as an attempt to fuel ethnic conflict.

"People were not divided like now. Now everybody hates each other," said Sajad Hussein, 22, selling Shiite cassettes and posters in a Baghdad marketplace. "I think civil war is coming."

U.N. envoy Lakhdar Brahimi warned Iraqi leaders last month that civil war was a real possibility if they didn't put the national interest ahead of their own.

It was the Americans who insisted that Iraq's future government represent all ethnic and religious groups.

Many accuse the Americans of failing to prevent the ethnically motivated attacks.

"Saddam created this division between the Sunnis and the Shiites, and the Americans deepened it," said Diar Mustafa Mohammed, a 39-year-old Kurd.

Coalition officials deny those charges, saying they are forging a historic new government based on representation for all. And they point out that the assassinations and attacks have not so far led to widespread ethnic violence.

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Two mothers deal with sons' deaths in two different ways

By DON BABWIN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MALDEN, Ill. (AP) — Nancy Hollinsaid points to her favorite photograph of her son. Lincoln Hollinsaid is wearing his Army uniform somewhere in Iraq. Even his teeth are covered in sand.

Rosemarie Dietz Slavenas pulls out a photograph of her son. When people think of him, this is the one she wants them to remember. Brian Slavenas is in uniform, too. That of a Little Leaguer.

The two mothers share an obvious pride in their sons. They also share the pain of losing them in Iraq — Army Staff Sgt. Hollinsaid in a battle at Saddam Hussein Airport in Baghdad, Army 1st Lt. Slavenas when his helicopter was shot down near Fallujah.

In a war that has claimed the lives of more than 550 soldiers, the choice of photographs suggest the two mothers are also different sides of the same coin: Hollinsaid keeping alive the memory of a soldier's life, and Slavenas the memory of a life before soldiering.

"I turned my grief into glory," Hollinsaid says. "It was the only thing I could do. I wasn't going to get through it any other way."

Says Slavenas: "I'm not going to let it die. Because letting it die means letting him die."

Save her mother, Hollinsaid had never lost anyone before. She didn't know what to do, how to react. She didn't want anyone to come to her house. She didn't want to talk to anyone, particularly the small army of reporters and cameras outside her door in the 380-resident Illinoistown of Malden.

"I just wanted it all to go away," she says.

Ultimately, she decided she didn't want it to go away. Maybe it was the man who showed up and placed in her front yard a cross with her

son's photograph on it. Or maybe it was her approaching birthday in early May. Hollinsaid isn't sure why she and her husband got the idea to turn their home into a shrine to their son.

"It was almost like a birthday present from Linc," she says.

Outside, the Hollinsaid transformed their yard into what Hollinsaid calls "Linc's Glory Garden." Next to the cross they put a flag pole that had been donated to them. This spring a plaque with a poem called "Soldier" will be added and they will plant an oak tree in the yard on April 7, the anniversary of their son's death. They will place a stone with the words of a poem by Robert Frost, her son's favorite poet, near the tree.

Inside, they've turned their house into a sea of red, white and blue, with everything from patriotic-themed ribbons and place mats to the "United We Stand, Together We Remember" pin that Hollinsaid wears.

A spare bedroom now looks like a small museum, with her son's Purple Heart and Bronze Star, an urn containing his ashes, two letters of condolence from President Bush, and Lincoln's watch, still ticking, still on Iraq time.

"I come in here every day," she says. And when she does, she touches a tile imprinted with a photograph of her son.

As always she has embraced the military that her son loved. Last Christmas, she and her husband traveled to Lincoln's base in Georgia to have dinner with his captain.

Hollinsaid says she is comforted by knowing her son believed in what he was doing.

"He was over there to free the oppressed people, to give them the same rights we've got," she says. "He said that. He wanted them to have the right to have to stand in line at a movie theater and complain about the line, that's what he said."

Hollinsaid couldn't imagine enduring her son's death if she didn't believe in the war. "I don't see how you can live through that," she says.

Rosemarie Dietz Slavenas, 80 miles away in Rockford, has done it by remaining who she was before her son's death.

That was clear from the beginning. A peace activist since the early 1990s who protested the war in Iraq before her son was deployed, the 60-year-old Slavenas wasn't about to let his military service overwhelm his funeral.

Against the wishes of her ex-husband, a veteran, Slavenas refused to allow an honor guard, 21-gun salute, flag-draped casket or any other military traditions. In their place were friends with stories about the kid on the bike, the musician and the athlete.

She heard the criticism, but the way she sees it, her son chose her as his primary next of kin who would have the last say about his funeral because of her beliefs, not despite them.

"He would know what I would do," she says.

Slavenas has paid for her stance. In December, a group of civic organizations and area businesses held a tribute to her son and other local heroes. She says she wasn't invited and learned about the event after it happened.

"All I could do was write the person who coordinated this event and say thank you for honoring my son," she said of what she sees as a snub because of her political beliefs.

Slavenas feels others' disapproval even in condolence letters, which sometimes include the advice that she should "just" be proud of her son. What's not said but what Slavenas sees is the suggestion that maybe she should not voice her thoughts about the war, including the day of her son's funeral when she blamed Bush for her son's death.

"The key word is 'just,'" she says.

Slavenas doesn't care. She is determined to remind people that her son was killed. When she opens her wallet, there looking out is Brian.

"I say 'This is my son, he was killed Nov. 2 in Iraq.' Why should I suffer alone... Why should I not tell people," she says.

Slavenas knows that kind of thing makes others uncomfortable, but she refuses to stop.

"People say life goes on. It doesn't for me. I can't live with this. This was a homicide."

The way Slavenas sees it, she's no different than the mother whose son was shot dead on the street. "Nobody would expect somebody whose child is a victim of homicide to say, oh well, life goes on," she says.

As the anniversary of the war approaches, what is clear are not just the differences but the similarities between the mothers.

Both try to fill their days. "You kind of fall back and let your obligations kind of move you along," says Slavenas, who has continued her anti-war activities, including a peace protest in nearby DeKalb she plans to attend to mark the first anniversary of the war.

"It's better than sitting around moping," Hollinsaid says of her own activities.

They come at it from different directions, but the two also share something else: a lack of anger. Hollinsaid says she has never been angry at her son's willingness to lay down his life, and Slavenas says she is letting go of her own anger for her own survival.

While Hollinsaid has so many of her son's things on display, Slavenas keeps her son's last message to her on her answering machine.

And both consider their sons heroes.

"This is my way of honoring Brian, instead of letting it die," Slavenas says.

"It's to honor Linc," Hollinsaid says in the room that house her son's mementos. "It's all about that."

ALL BUSINESS: The dilemma of ditching executive contracts

NEW YORK (AP) — On the surface, it appears to be great corporate reform at work: An executive gives up his employment contract and instead chooses to base his pay solely on his company's performance.

That means his company won't be locked into giving him all sorts of pay and perks should business go bad, and the executive should be motivated to work even harder since that's the only way he will make big money.

But going the no-contract route has its pitfalls. It can muddy corporate disclosure and

thus make it more difficult for investors to figure out what a business leader is going to be paid.

This issue has been thrust into the headlines recently by Bank of America's disclosure that chairman and CEO Ken Lewis had dropped his contract and would now be paid based on performance.

Under his contract, which was to expire in September, he was guaranteed a salary of no less than \$1.5 million a year and was eligible for a bonus. He gave up those financial guarantees — as well as right to sever-

ance pay — for a new arrangement that allows the board of director's compensation committee to determine his pay based on customer, employee and shareholder satisfaction.

Lewis isn't the first top executive to work without a contract. In fact, two-thirds of executives in the Standard & Poor's 500 stock index currently don't have one, according to The Corporate Library, a private research group.

But his decision to dump his contract comes at a time when CEO pay is intense scrutiny because of all the recent busi-

ness scandals, which revealed that many top managers got paid handsomely even while their companies were collapsing.

There are good reasons why ditching a contract structure is the smart way for a company to go. It creates a corporate compensation system that isn't about entitlement but about performance. Executives lose out on pay protections that give them money no matter what they do or how their companies fare.

In addition, corporate boards gain more freedom and flexibil-

ity to terminate executives they feel are underperforming without having to pay over-the-top severance, which can total tens of millions of dollars — versus the one to two weeks of pay that most employees get.

"I think this ushers in better accountability, which is a very welcome step," said Charles Elson, director of the Center for Corporate Governance at the University of Delaware. "It reminds executives that they aren't here for a term. They are here at the will of the board."

Still, it is important to note that this switch could create

other governance problems. In the wake of all the scandals, there has been a call on companies to improve transparency so that shareholders can better decipher corporate finances.

A pay contract allows investors to more easily gauge, at the least, the minimum compensation an executive will get, as well as what severance would be. If there is no contract, investors have to wait until the following year, when the proxy statement is issued, to find out what top management earned.

The Pampa News Classified

It's Easy ... Place Your Ad By Telephone

669-2525 or 800-687-3348

Visa and MasterCard Accepted

Realtors

First Landmark Realty

665-0717
2546 Perryton Pkwy.
in the Pampa Mall

GREAT LOCATION

Lovely 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 baths, huge living room with an unusually beautiful woodburning fireplace. Hobby room could be 4th bedroom. Tile and cabinet area. Kitchen and breakfast area. Has been updated throughout. Oversized double car garage. Beautiful pond and waterfall in backyard. Don't miss seeing this one. MLS 6296.

NOTHING TO DO
Except move in. 3 bedroom brick, one bath. Owner has updated the entire home. Nearly new central heat and air. This is a perfect home for first time buyers, retirees or if buyers would like to downsize. Must see at this price. Call Irvine for an appointment. MLS 5509.

APARTMENTS
Looking for a good investment, call Irvine for details. OE.
OWNER SAYS SELL
2 bedroom plus apartment. Needs some TLC in kitchen and utility area. Bathroom has been updated. Reduced price. Call for information. OE.

CALL FIRST LANDMARK FIRST
To show any property listed in MLS.
CALL FIRST LANDMARK FIRST FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS.
WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS.

Irvine Riphahn GRI - 665-4534
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Norma Ward REALTY
669-3346
Jim Ward... 665-1593
Norma Ward, GRI, Broker

Public Notice

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
The City of Pampa, Texas will receive sealed bids for the following until 11:00 A.M., March 23, 2004 at which time they will be opened and read publicly in the City Finance Conference Room, third floor, City Hall.
VEHICLES
Bid Packets will be obtained from the office of the City Purchasing Agent, City Hall, Pampa, Texas. 806/669-5736. Sales Tax Certificates will be furnished upon request.
Bids may be delivered to the City Secretary's Office, City Hall, Pampa, Texas or mailed to P.O. Box 2499, Pampa, Texas 79066-2499. Sealed envelope should be plainly marked "TRAFFIC MARKERS BID ENCLOSED, BID NO. 04.03.G" and show date and time of Bid Opening. Bids received after the specified bid opening time and date shall be rejected and returned to the sender, unopened. Facsimile bids will not be accepted.
The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids submitted and to waive any formalities or technicalities.
The City Commission will consider bids for award at the April 13, 2004 Commission Meeting.

/s/ Phyllis Jeffers
City Secretary
E-10 Mar. 7, 14, 2004

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
The City of Pampa, Texas will receive sealed bids for the following until 11:00 A.M., March 30, 2004 at which time they will be opened and read publicly in the City Finance Conference Room, Third Floor, City Hall, Pampa, Texas.
TRAFFIC MARKERS
Specifications may be obtained from the office of the City Purchasing Agent, City Hall, Pampa, Texas, 806/669-5736. Sales Tax Certificates will be furnished upon request.
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/s/ Phyllis Jeffers
City Secretary
E-18 Mar. 14, 21, 2004

Personal

ARBONNE botanically based swiss skin care. Call Dr. Ann Daniel, 806-435-1286.

Special Notices

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

10 Lost/Found

FOUND brown and white basket bound on the corner of Hobart and Kentucky. Call 664-0875.

FOUND 2 Dachshund puppies, male and female. Foster st. area. 231-7593 or 662-4974.

12 Loans

You're Cashworthy with us!
At THE CASH STORE, we make cash advances from \$50 to \$1,000 in minutes, with no credit required. JUST BRING IN: Your most recent pay stub, Checking account statement, Personal checkbook, State-issued ID.
PAMPA
1064 N. Hobart St. At Hobart & Somerville
669-1508
www.thecashstore.com
Loans provided by Bryant State Bank, Bryant, SD. Actual terms and loan amounts may vary. See store for details.

13 Bus. Opp.

ABSOLUTE GOLDMINE!
60 vending machines / exc. locations. All for \$10,995. 800-234-6982.

14b Appl. Repair

APPLIANCES Broke? Call Williams Appliance Service, 665-8894.

14d Carpentry

CUSTOM homes, additions, remodeling, residential / comm. Deaver Construction, 665-0447.

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

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.

COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

IS your House or Foundation Settling? Cracks in bricks or walls? Door won't close? Call Childers Brothers, Inc. Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling. 1-800-299-9563 or 806-352-9563 Amarillo.

Tejas REAL ESTATE

1910 GRAPE Wonderful home, 3/1.75/2 lg. den w/rock fp. Dbl. closets in bdms., big kitchen & dining, 13x20 storage. MLS 6358.

2532 DOGWOOD 1 1/2/2 dining, corner fp, sprinkler sys., storage bldg. MLS 6358.

ASSUMABLE! 3/2 Mobile Home, corner fp, country kitchen. Low equity and take over payments. MLS 6343.

2227 CHESTNUT Almost 2000 sf., 3/2.75/2, 2 living areas, formal dining, WBFF, bonus room off garage. MLS 6309.

1700 GRAPE 3/1.75/2 lg rm., & den, fp, ample storage, extra garage in back, covered patio. MLS 6335.

1717 RUSSELL Over 5000 sf plus finished bmt. 4/2.5/2, open kitchen, den, formal living & dining, 18k allowance for updating. MLS 6308.

100 E. 26TH Comfortable and roomy 3 bdrm on corner lot. Big den w/wbfp, new linoleum, storage bldgs., close to schools. MLS 6112.

Sue Baker, Agent... 669-0409

14h Gen. Serv.

SUPERIOR Quality Kensington replacement windows and doors. Guaranteed 30% fuel savings! Shawn Deaver Const. 662-2977 or 665-0354.

THE Floor Store, 2100A Perryton Parkway, Pampa. All types flooring avail. & Jerry's Installation, all types flooring installed. Restretching & repairs. 665-4455, 664-7959

HUSBAND for Hire. Will do most household repairs. References. Milton Brown, 664-0171 (cell#).

14n Painting

INT./EXT. painting, mud tape, 35 yr. exp. References. Call Gene Calder 665-4840.

14s Plumbing/Heat

DRAIN Troubles?? **THRIFT** drain cleaner is the best on the market! Chief Plastics, 1237 S. Barnes, Pampa, 665-6716 or toll free 800-649-6716 VMC/Disc/AmEx/Debit

JACK'S Plumbing & Faucet Shop, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115. faucets, plumbing supplies, new const., repair, remodeling, sewer / drain cleaning, septic systems installed. Visa/MC

Larry Baker Plumbing
Heating/ Air Conditioning
Borger Hwy. 665-4392

19 Situations

The Alteration Shop
Clothes alterations, pick up, delivery, laundry service. 8-3 p.m. 662-0932

21 Help Wanted

NOTICE: All ads that contain phone numbers or give reference to a number with an area code of 809 or a prefix of 011 are international toll numbers and you will be charged international long distance rates. For more information regarding the investigation of work at home opportunities and job lists, The Pampa News urges its readers to contact the Better Business Bureau of South Texas, 609 S. International Blvd., Weslaco, Tx. 78596, (210) 968-3678.

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

FULL Staff needed. Apply in person 2-5 p.m. Texas Rose Steakhouse. No Phone Calls.

FAMILY SERVICE DIRECTOR
IMMEDIATE OPENING
Memory Gardens Cemetery of Pampa will hire a family man or woman to assist families in making pre-arrangements in the Pampa area. This position requires an independent, competitive, and service oriented person. Full fringe benefits are available. On a national basis, persons working in this position have established an annual income of \$40,000 per year. If you have a sales personality and desire an above average income, call 806-669-7605.

FUN Valley Family Restor. South Fork, Colo. needs retirees & others with own RV for Summer employment. Office, housekeeping, cooks, maintenance & rv parks. Write Personnel, 9010 Ravenswood, Granbury, Tx. 76049.

NURSES By Prescription is needing a RN or LVN for home care patient, 40 hrs. a week Mon-Thurs., competitive salary. Call 355-1899 or apply at 3242 Hobbs in Amarillo.

TAYLOR Food Mart seeking highly motivated hardworking friendly individual for management position in Panhandle area. Send resume to FFP, 4407 VanWinkle, Amarillo, Tx. 79121 or fax to 806-468-8714.

EXP. Waitress / Dish-washer needed. Black Gold Rest. No Phone Calls. 1100 E. Frederic.

HIRING Sports Industry Const. Super. Up to \$50k, track tech, no exp. nec. Benefits & Bonuses. Apply 94 Main St., Panhandle, Tx. 537-3526.

21 Help Wanted

WHEELER EMS is needing full and part time help at all skill levels. Please call 806-826-5581.

D&C GREENHOUSE is seeking a temporary full/part time dependable salesperson to operate the store in Pampa. Duties: assisting customers, maintaining plants, operating cash register. Starting pay \$5.50 hr. with 40 hr. work week, 2 day on, 1 day off schedule. We will start hiring Apr. 1st. Send resume to D&C Greenhouse, 36 Nelson Dr., Spearman, Tx. 79081. Call 806-659-5171 for more info.

HOSTESSES & Waitresses needed. **Waitresses** must be 18. Apply in person, Dyer's BBQ.

Now Hiring These Positions
Experienced Compressor Mechanic
Out of town work required. Transportation and meals provided.
*Drug screens required
*Innovative Staffing Solutions, LLC.
1224 N. Hobart St.
NBC Plaza II, Ste. 11
Pampa, TX 79065
Phone (806) 665-2991

IMMEDIATE OPENING For Truck Drivers. CDL required. Must pass drug test. Benefits. D.E. Chase Inc., 1445 S. Barnes. No phone calls.

Now Hiring For These Positions
Front Desk
Do you have 6 arms and legs? Can you leap tall buildings in a single bound? Could you quarterback the Dallas Cowboys to victory? If this is you and you love people WE WANT YOU!
Physiotherapy Assistant
Do you have the stamina to run a marathon? Do you have the compassion of Mother Teresa? Do you enjoy shaking the hands of 80 strangers in one day? If this is you and you love people, WE WANT YOU!
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Cross Guards
Auditorium Workers
Animal Control
Shelter Worker
&
Life Guards
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21 Help Wanted

RAINS & SONS EXPRESS (A Navajo Agent)
We offer:
Hoods-No Touch
Vac./Ins./401K/
Direct Dep.
\$300 Sign on Bonus on 8th day
We require:
Hazmat, Good MVR, no D&A Chgs.
1 year verifiable OTR within last 3 Yr.
Call Janda x15
800-547-5074

WHEELER EMS is needing full and part time help at all skill levels. Please call 806-826-5581.

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Innovative Staffing Solutions

Unique range management event set for April 1-2

FORT WORTH — Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association and Texas Wildlife Association are partnering up to offer an unprecedented learning event on Rangeland Management for Cattle, Wildlife and Recreation.

The two-day program is set for April 1-2 in Graham and Throckmorton and includes classroom instruction, field tours, sponsor booths and displays, a social event and visits to Hawkins, Spade and R.A. Brown Ranches. CEUs are pending for pesticide application, range management and beef quality assurance.

Beginning at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 1, participants can visit and learn from the experts about Important Plants for Cattle and Wildlife and Test Your Plant IQ. These activities will be facilitated by personnel from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Texas Cooperative Extension.

Dr. Dale Rollins, Extension wildlife specialist, will officially introduce the program with his presentation, In Search of Camouflage Cowboy Hats. This introduction will set the stage for two days of activities that focus on the benefits and management trade-offs associated with managing land for both cattle and wildlife.

At 1:30, participants will begin their visit to Hawkins Ranch. The subject for stop 1 is, Know the Animal... Know Its Needs. An Exploration from the Inside Out. Here a team of veterinarians and wildlife specialists, led by Drs. Bill Eikenhorst, Dan McBride and Bob Dittmar, will provide a close-up look at the anatomy of cattle and various wildlife species to demonstrate what these animals eat, why and the role they play on the landscape.

Stop 2 will feature Important Plants for Food and Cover, essentially a plant ID short course for land man-

agers. Participants will engage in hands-on discussion with specialists from private industry, NRCS, TPWD and TCE to identify vital plant species that are often overlooked.

At stop 3 — Managing for Natives — NRCS Specialist John Paclik and ranch owner Rod Hawkins will explain how to "go with the flow" of the native system. Participants will learn to recognize, manipulate and utilize native plants to their advantage — both economically and ecologically.

During the evening, participants can view sponsor booths and displays and enjoy an authentic chuckwagon dinner cooked over an open fire by two of the best camp cooks in Texas. Cowboy humorist Bary Clower will entertain the group with wit and wisdom straight from the ranch.

A landowner panel on Enhancing Compatibility between Wildlife and Cattle will feature landowner hosts, Rod Hawkins, Dub Waldrip, Rob Brown, and others.

They'll discuss what works and what doesn't, based on their experiences in managing for multiple enterprises.

On Friday, the group moves to Throckmorton and a morning visit to Spade Ranch.

The subject at stop 1 will be Brush Sculpting. J.F. Cadenhead, Extension range specialist, and Jerry Gleason, NRCS, will detail brush control methods that enhance management for both wildlife and cattle.

At stop 2 participants will learn about Reading the Land — the Key to Better Management. TPWD's Jim Dillard and Raymond Simms, Steve Neele with NRCS and Dub Waldrip of the Spade Ranch will discuss the important skill of habitat evaluation in a management regime.

From there, the group will move to the R. A. Brown Ranch for lunch and two meal-time presentations.

Cactus, A Prickly "Pear-adigm"? will feature a lively debate over the cactus issue

between J.F. Cadenhead, Extension range specialist, and Dr. Dale Rollins, Extension wildlife specialist.

Run For Your Life! is an entertaining, yet informative, demonstration by the Texas Brigade Cadets that emphasizes the importance of cover and interspersing of habitat for quail survival.

Stop 2 will cover Prescribed Burning for Cattle and Wildlife. Controlled burning experts John Tate, NRCS; Rocky Vinson, Texas Cooperative Extension and rancher Rob Brown will discuss the many considerations of this brush management tool.

At stop 3, Grass Sculpting for Better Results, Ricky Linnox, rangeland management specialist with NRCS, will present a unique and beneficial approach to traditional grazing practices.

Following will be a discussion on The Economics of Rangeland Harmony by Dr. Jason Johnson, Extension economist. He uses economics to further demonstrate the advantages of a successful wildlife and cattle rangeland partnership.

Tamara Trail, TWA, and Todd McCartney, TSCRA, will wrap up the event with

closing comments in Putting It All Together.

Cost for the two-day event, including meals, social events and refreshments, is \$40. Registrations are due by March 23.

For more information, contact one of the following: TWA, (972) 681-1701, e-mail t_trail@texas-wildlife.org; TSCRA, (800) 242-7820, ext. 118; or Young County Extension at (940) 549-0737.

Sponsors and partners for the event include the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Young County Range and Wildlife Management Association, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Throckmorton County Range and Wildlife Management Association, Texas Cooperative Extension, Shackelford County Range and Wildlife Management Association, Lower Clear Fork of the Brazos Soil and Water Conservation District, Caddo Wildlife Management Association, Throckmorton Soil and Water Conservation District, Tarleton State University Student Wildlife Society, Young Soil and Water Conservation District, Hawkins, Spade, and R.A. Brown Ranches.

Visitors can see several new faces at Lake Meredith NRA

FRITCH — During your next visit to Lake Meredith National Recreation Area and Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument, you may notice some new faces in the parks. During the past six months, four employees have transferred to new parks and four new employees have replaced them.

"Moving around the system is part of the park service life, some people equate it to being in the military, with many employees changing duty stations every three to five years in order to advance

in their career," said Park Superintendent Karren Brown.

Park Rangers Loyd and Pam Griswold have transferred to national park sites in South Dakota after being at Lake Meredith for over eight years. Ranger Curtis Oman transferred to a job with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Washington, and Ranger Tyler Stevenson transferred to Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee.

Park Ranger Bill Fields transferred to Lake Meredith from Independence National

Historical Park in Pennsylvania. Ranger Beth Kolb was stationed at Badlands National Park in South Dakota. Ranger Scott Hall comes to Lake Meredith NRA from Joshua Tree National Park in California, and Ranger Matt Senulis transferred from Curecanti National Recreation Area in Colorado.

Since their arrival, these new employees have been busy settling into the community and learning about the 46,000-plus acres that comprise the two parks. Lake

Meredith NRA is pleased to welcome these new park service professionals to its staff and wish the best for those employees who have moved on to new positions.

The park currently has 46 employees, of which 38 are permanent and 19 are temporary.

"Twenty-nine of the park's employees were born and raised in this area, and all employees contribute to local economies by purchasing homes, paying taxes and shopping in the area," Brown said.

Final count reveals increase in spring enrollment at WTAMU

CANYON — The student population continues to grow at West Texas A&M University. Final enrollment figures for the spring semester show WTAMU with 307 students more than at the same time a year ago, a 4.8-percent increase.

WTAMU's final spring 2004 enrollment is 6,726. Last year's spring enrollment was 6,419.

"People are recognizing West Texas A&M for the true educational value that it is," Dr. Troy Johnson, dean of enrollment management, said. "What we find most exciting about this increase is that we see gains in every classification and across gender and ethnicity lines."

Of the additional 307 stu-

dents this spring, 146 are undergraduates and 161 are graduate students. WTAMU showed spring-enrollment gains in every classification — freshmen, +49; sophomores, +29; juniors, +55; and seniors, +13.

Johnson also notes increases in the number of men and women, black, white and

Hispanic students, international students and part-time and full-time students.

"We've recruited new students, but the retention of our existing students is up," Johnson said. "Student success helps make that happen. I also think it is important that we've been able to hold the line on costs and tuition."

Students elect 2004-2005 student body officers at WT

CANYON — Annessa Stagner, a senior history major from Lamar, Colo., was named student body president at West Texas A&M University following Student Government officer elections March 2-3.

She will succeed Ryan Franklin for the 2004-2005 school year. As student body president, Stagner will serve as the official representative and chief executive officer of the University's Student Government.

Leslie Phinny, a senior general business major from Coahoma, was elected WTAMU student body vice president. She succeeds Ashley Irwin. In her post, Phinny will preside as president of the legislative branch of the Student Senate and will work with Stagner to help coordinate Student Government activities. Both Stagner and Phinny ran unopposed for their respective positions.

Students elected to posi-

tions on the WTAMU Student Senate are:

College of Business. Martha Lujan-Ripoll, freshman economics major from Canyon, and Sammie Parsley, junior accounting major from Pampa;

College of Education and Social Science. Matt Bednorz, junior political science major from Panhandle; Jay Ferrell, sophomore political science major from Borger; Carson Gerber, freshman criminal justice major from Nazareth; David Holt, senior history major from Spearman; and Jessica Noland, sophomore English major from Amarillo;

College of Fine Arts and Humanities. Ashley Kiper, junior music therapy major from Pampa; Noel Pridgen, junior dance major from Canyon; Zech Pridgen, sophomore mass communications major from Midland; and Kala Weller, sophomore political science major from Amarillo.

LEFORS ISD HONOR ROLL

Lefors Independent School District recently announced its honor roll for the fourth six-weeks grading period of the 2003-04 school year.

A Honor Roll. William Blake Fields, Alana Len Shephard, Cheyenne Bryant, Dylan Ward Connell, Khorri Lott, Brian Tyler McBee. Tycee Overstreet, Colten J. Helfer, Spencer Hagen Nicholson, Jeffrey Kyle Smith, Seth Edward Scully, Meira Rhiannon Vaid, Joseph Cameron Barnes, Taylor Overstreet, Ashley Primeaux, Keenan J. Santacruz.

Haley Jeannette Smith, James Arun Vaid, Emily Joann Jackson, Gabriel Heath Miller, Eleesha Simpson, Amanda Rena Lawrence, Jacob Rudy Garcia, Tanner Michael Ray, Matthew Taylor Daugherty, Alicia Whitehead, Trenton Keith Roberson, Gareth Akash Vaid, Katherine Jeanette Barnes, Dennis

Joseph Boyd, Andrew Wiley Klein, Savannah Jeanine Smith, Erasmo Jesus Soto.

AB Honor Roll. Edward Boaz, Katrina Pearl Webb, Dillon Wayne Helfer, Bryan Gene Tollison, Ryan Chase Holt, Caleb Jinks, Koltan Spur Morris, Andrew Hayden Morriss, Zeke Michael Meddock, Kaitlynnne Michelle Porter, Taylor Wayne Ray, Amber Lee Shephard, Dennis W. Sprouse, Austin Hardy Brooks, Sharon Brooke Franks, Arthur Allan Gifford, Casey Pine' Graham, Stormy Howard, Cameron Alexander Meddock, Shayley Renee Morriss, Mercedes O'Brien, Shayna Lee Purvis, Sarah Hannah Simpson, Roger Lee Smith, Keely Shaye Callaway.

Krystal Marie Campbell, Trever Nicholas Czubinski, Seth Zachary Fry, Lacie Brianna Johnston, Abigail P.

Maness, Dakota Wakely Pairsh, Janie Leigh Ponce, Jamie Lynn Purvis, Ashley Nicole Shephard, Ashley Nichole Woodard, Dalton Nowel Burrows, Dustin Ray Forsyth, Devin Nichole Jones, Rebecca Joyce Lawrence, Brandon Kyle McBee, Aaron Keith Spotts, Valerie Brooke Willis, Carrie Louise Angel, Tory Dale Coombes, Hannah Dawn Maness, Victoria Michelle Meeks, Timbra Bethanne Overstreet, Amanda Marie Ponce, Jeremy Lucas Sprouse, Robert Lynn Wallen, Jerad Marshall Andis, Amanda Beth Hicks, Dustin Michael Johnson, Kody Allen Bowman, Lindsay Gail Duckworth, Drake Evan Jackson, Brandon Parsley, Rachael May Stubbs, William Ryan Lewis, Nicholas Andrew Miller, Christopher Warren Czubinski, Mark Edward Murray, John David Stamper.

Texas Gun & Knife Show coming to Amarillo Civic Center

AMARILLO — Amarillo Texas Gun & Knife Show is coming to Amarillo Civic Center March 20-21.

API announces March meeting

The March regular meeting of the Panhandle Chapter of the American Petroleum Institute will be Thursday, March 18, at Pampa Country Club with guest speaker Bobby Joe Cudd of Bobcat Pressure Control Inc.

The meeting will kick-off

Collectors and exhibitors from throughout the area will be on hand to buy, sell and trade guns, knives and accessories.

with social hour at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7. The Mexican buffet will be \$15 per person.

Door prizes are being donated by The Hanover Company of Pampa. API memberships will be available at the door.

"These items you simply can't find every day," says Don Hill, president of the association. "And even if you could, you certainly couldn't find them all together in one place at one time like this."

As in every gun and knife show, guns and knives will be just part of the picture. The Amarillo show will include a selection of wildlife art, his-

torical artifacts, "Texana" items, memorabilia, both Native American and military, and gold and silver jewelry.

The show will open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, March 20, and from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, March 21. Two will get in for the price of one in the first hour both days. Children under 12 get in free.

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The law firm of Waters, Holt & Fields, Pampa, Texas, is pleased to announce the association of Pampa native, Jeffrey T. Jones. The firm's Wheeler County office has been relocated to 315 N. Main, Shamrock, Texas. The new telephone number for the Wheeler County office is 806-256-1474.

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