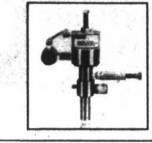
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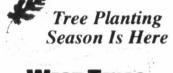
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Paily • Sunday \$1 306 • Pampa, Texas

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2004

DEATHS

Joy Click Graham, 70 Patricia Ward Hill, 63 Mary F. Musgrave, 88

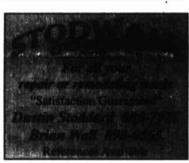


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Water district OKs rule changes BY DAVID BOWSER STAFF WRITER John T. Winters Sr., 82

a spectacular visual presentation by an Austin Consultant and eloquent comments by rules. Amarillo and Dallas attorneys, but in the end, the board of reservation," Williams said. directors passed new rules for with some changes.

Since their last meeting in groups involved with water the future." issues in the seven county dis-

Roach: Dog

attack case

is still open

By MARILYN POWERS

STAFF WRITER

A case involving two

adults who were on the prop-

erty at the time of a Pampa

girl's mauling by Rottweilers

is still open, according to

District Attorney Rick Roach,

even though no indictments

were handed up when it was

presented to a Gray County

"They reviewed the evi-

dence and said they didn't

think they could indict based

on the information present-

ed," Roach said in a telephone

"It's still pending, it's just a

matter of whether we can

come up with something

that's a little bit more con-

crete. We feel there was noth-

ing deliberately done and no

intent for the little girl to be

hurt. That leaves recklessness

and criminal negligence," he

(See ATTACK, Page 5)

Two adults were on the

grand jury March 17.

interview Wednesday.

possible to meet our goal."

Despite that, he predicted WHITE DEER -- There was that there wasn't a person at Wednesday's hearing that liked 100 percent of the proposed

"I can say that without

the Panhandle Ground Water he said he thinks the ones that Conservation District, albeit will like the rules the best are aquifer in 1998 must remain at now in kindergarten.

"If these rules are imple-February at which the mented correctly," Williams PGWCD introduced a draft of said, "those people will not their proposed rules, district only benefit from what goes on officials have met with various today, but they will benefit in

While the rules cover everything from permits to "It's really gone very well," well spacing to salt water pits said C.E. Williams, general to drilling to transporting manager of the district. "In my water out of the district, the opinion, we've taken every- major concern voiced at the body's input and tried to make district's public hearing here

corrections where we though Wednesday revolved around Rule 15, which deals with depletion.

A 1.25 percent allowable decline will serve as a trigger mechanism for the district's 50-50 rule. Under the 50-50 goal, established by the Panhandle Regional Water In the long-term, however, Planning Group, 50 percent of the water in storage in the the end of 50 years. The allowable annual decline will be recalculated every five years under the new rules.

Amarillo attorney Ron Nickum told the district board that he didn't think their regulations based on the 50-50 rule would stand up in court.

While Bob Harden, a ground water consultant from Austin attending the meeting for the City of Amarillo and

(See RULES, Page 5)



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Charles Bowers, president of the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District board, reviews water use rule changes.

Of flags and flowers



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Spring has sprung, blossoms are filling out the trees across Pampa and sinuses are filling up. The Bradford pear trees on the north side of Pampa City Hall were in full blossom today, framing the U.S. and Texas flags, as spring temperatures reached into the 80s.

Republicans plan county convention

By MARILYN POWERS STAFF WRITER

Gray County Republican Party's county convention will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 318 N. Cuyler.

Delegates elected by their precincts will vote on election of delegates and alternates to the state convention June 3-5 in San Antonio. They will also consider resolutions, and rules for the Republican Party of Texas, both of which will be forwarded to the state convention.

Doug Ware, county party chairman, expects between 30 and 40 precinct delegates to attend Saturday's convention. The number of delegates each precinct can elect is based on the number of Republicans in the precinct who voted in the last gubernatorial election.

The convention is open to the public; however, only precinct delegates can vote on the agenda items.

Tralee Crisis Center to celebrate 20th year

surrounding seven-county area.

To celebrate the occasion, the 669-1131 agency staff invites the public to a dinentertainment by Ronnie and Jordan able to these victims. Holmes. The dance, with RT the DJ, begins at 9 p.m. until 11:30 p.m.

For 20 years, Tralee Crisis Center Shop or at the Tralee Crisis Center across her back. has provided shelter and aid to victims. Office. Reservations must be made by of abuse in Pampa and throughout the Wednesday, April 7. For more informa- woman, she had no place to go. The future. He lobbied the hospital to purtion, contact Angie at the Tralee Office, law enforcement officer said he would

Tralee Crisis Center is named after ner and dance at the Knights of Travis Plumlee, a social worker at what now? He's the one who did this to her.' Columbus Hall, 318 N. Cuyler, on was then called Coronado Community Friday, April 16. Dinner, catered by the Hospital. In the course of his work, he Knights of Columbus, begins at 7 p.m., often saw battered women and children followed by a special program at 8 and sexual assault victims. He was p.m., featuring Tralee staff and comedy frustrated by the lack of services avail-

One night Plumlee was called to counsel with a woman who had been would do something to make sure that Tickets, \$15 per person and \$25 per severely injured when her husband anyone who suffered from domestic couple, are available at The Coffee beat her with a guitar, breaking it violence or rape would have a safe

When it came time to dismiss the call her husband to pick her up.

"Why are we going to call him complied. Plumlee said. "I don't think it's in her best interest to be with him right now." "She has nowhere else to go," the

officer said. So the abusive husband came to

pick up his wife.

Plumlee vowed that night that he

refuge to temporarily get help until decisions could be made about the chase a beeper for him, an unusual request back in 1979. But the hospital

The emergency room staff was instructed to call Plumlee if there were any rape victims or family violence patients admitted to the hospital. In two weeks, he realized this was a bigger than a one-man job.

He searched for volunteers to help, approaching local churches and civic

(See TRALEE, Page 5)



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OBITUARIES

JOY CLICK GRAHAM 1933-2004

Joy Click Graham, 70, of Pampa, died Thursday, March 25, 2004. The body was cremated and consequently not available for viewing. Memorial services will be held at a later date. Cremation arrangements were under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Graham was born Dec. 12, 1933, at Waples. She came to Pampa from Canadian in 2003 and was a member of Grace Baptist

She married E.E. "Slim" Graham on Aug. 18, 1950, at Meredian.

home; a son, Bill Mike Graham of Pampa; a daughter, Kandy Kay Nelson of Stephenville; her mother, Dixie Click of Stephenville; two brothers, Kendall Click of Stephenville and Lew Click of Bluff Dale; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065.

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

PATRICIA JOANN WARD HILL

1940-2004

Patricia Joann Ward Hill, 63, of Fritch, of Pampa; one Texas, died Tuesday, March 23, 2004, at son, Travis Hill Houston, Texas. Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 27, 2004, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. J.C. Burt, associate pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Hill was born July 20, 1940, in Copan, Okla., to George E. and Gladys Opal McMaster Ward. She attended schools in Antioch and Wann and graduated from Copan High School in Copan, Okla., in 1958. She married DeWayne Hill on July 28, 1958, in Wildorado, Kan.

She had been a resident of Fritch since 1999, moving from Pampa. She attended Barrett Baptist Church in Pampa. She was a member of the Alibates Good Sam's R.V. Club.

She worked for Southwestern Public Georgia Ruth Holland. Service for 20 years, retiring in 1996.

Survivors include her husband, DeWayne Hill, of the home; one daughter, Janet Bridwell Survivors include her husband, Slim, of the

The family requests memorials be to Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center, 1500 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, TX 79106; or to BSA

and wife Shonda Corpus Christi; one

granddaughter, Tasha Hill of Corpus Christi; sisters. four Mary Lou Dean of Dewey, Okla., Thelma Faye **Thomas**



Margaret Ann Ward, both of Copan, Okla., and Sharon Kay Hayden of South Coffeyville. Okla.; three brothers, George E. Ward, Jr., of Sedan, Kan., Glenn E. Ward of Kingfisher, Okla., and Jerry Ward of Wann, Okla.; and 31 nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and by two sisters, Congetta Jean Klause and

The family will be at 1208 Christine.

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

MARY FRANCIS MUSGRAVE 1915-1915

Mary Francis Musgrave, 88, of Pampa, Texas, died Thursday, March 25, 2004, at Pampa, Texas. Services are pending with

Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors. Mrs. Musgrave was born July 29, 1915, in Farmersville, Texas. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1938. She married Leander Musgrave on Nov. 16, 1930, in Sayre, Okla. He preceded her in death in 1960.

She was a member of the Pampa Chapter #65 Order of the Eastern Star, and she helped found the Top O' Texas Chapter #1064 Order of the Eastern Star, and she served four times as worthy matron for both chapters.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church. Survivors include two sons, Paul A. Musgrave and wife Bernice, and Howard E. Musgrave, both of Pampa; one daughter, Jean I. Sperry of Pampa; one brother, James Jett of Grand Rapids, Mich.; two daughters-in-law,

Karen Musgrave of Lewisville Melba Musgrave Pampa; 12 grandchildren; and many greatgrandchildren and great-great-

grandchildren. She preceded

death by two sons, Earl Musgrave and Dewey Musgrave; and two brothers, Waldo Jett and Raymond Jett.

The family requests memorials be to Odyssey Healthcare, 1000 S. Jefferson, Amarillo, TX 79101; or to a favorite charity.

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

JOHN T. WINTERS SR.

1921-2004

MOORELAND — John T. Winters Sr., 82, died March 14, 2004, at Irving. Services were March 18 in Mooreland First Baptist Church with the Rev. Mike Smith officiating. Burial was in Union Cemetery east of Mooreland under the direction of Zwanziger Funeral Home of Woodward,

Mr. Winters was born Oct. 18, 1921, at Springfield, Colo., to Joel Grant and Ona Thelma Gibson Winters. He graduated from high school at Quinlan in 1940.

He married Fayanna M. Garvie on July 10, 1946, at Santa Fe, N.M.

Mr. Winters, a long-time farmer and rancher in the Quinlan area, worked for Santa Fe Railroad for more than 42 years. While with the railroad, he was stationed at Kingsmill for a number of years. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving aboard the USS Ingersol Destroyer during World War II.

Mr. Winters belonged to United Methodist Church in Mooreland and American Legion Post 19 in Woodward.

He was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers and a sister.

Survivors include his wife, Fayanna, of the home; a son, J.T. Winters Jr. of Mooreland; a daughter, Brenda Brown of Irving; a sister, Winnie Arbogast of Mooreland; and four grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to United Methodist Church of Mooreland building fund in care of Zwanziger Funeral Home of Woodward, Okla.

ON RECORD

POLICE

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents and arrests. Sunday, March 21

Assault with minor injuries was reported in the 1400 block of Somerville. Monday, March 22

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1100 block of Seneca. A window was broken, for an estimated loss of \$25

Possible child abuse was reported in the 1400 block of Hobart.

Wednesday, March 24

A telephone scam was reported in the 2500 block of Charles. Domestic assault with no injuries was

reported in the 1100 block of Crane Road. Salomon Cordova Morales, 39, 328 S. Miami, was arrested at the intersection of Tyng Avenue and Finley Street on two war-

Shelley Graham, 36, 2430 Navajo, was arrested at the intersection of 23rd Avenue and Duncan Street for two capias pro fines. She was released to municipal court.

Kimberly Huot, 38, 1815 Chestnut, was arrested at 18th Avenue and Russell Street for two Texas Department of Public Safety warrants.

AMBULANCE

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

Wednesday, March 24

11:38 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of West 2nd in Lefors and transported a patient(s) to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

10:27 p.m. – A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

ACCIDENTS

Pampa Police Department today reported the following motor vehicle accidents.

Wednesday, March 24

9:45 p.m. - A 2001 Mitsubishi Eclipse, driven by Cristino Higo Pena, 25, 1004 Huff, and a 1997 Pontiac Grand Am, driven by Brandy Rose Reynolds, 19, 1236 S. Farley, collided at Hobart and Somerville streets. Pena was cited for disregarding a red light and failure to change driver's license.

SHERIFF

Gray County Sheriff's Office today reported the following arrests.

Wednesday, March 24

Francisco Cruz, 26, 1035 E. Fisher, was arrested for speeding and a motion to revoke probation concerning a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Cynthia Ann Vargas, 44, 1033 S. Faulkner, was arrested for Pampa Police Department on eight capias pro fines.

Robert Lee Meeks, 36, 1033 S. Faulkner, was arrested on a blue warrant to revoke parole.

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of Pampa

.63.46 .18.09

.66.28 .61.02 .11.28 .85.34 .59.58

+0.08 +0.36

+0.0

-0.06

+0.10 -0.54 +1.00

FIRE

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

CRIME STOPPERS

Caller #4545. Please contact Crime Stoppers at 662-1022.

Woman found competent to be tried for son's death

SEYMOUR, Texas (AP) — A woman charged with killing her 10-year-old autistic son and staging his death to look like a car accident has been found competent to stand trial.

Melanie Rochelle Dickson, 33, has pleaded innocent by reason of insanity. She is accused of slashing her son's wrists, his Achilles tendons and his throat in

a Seymour motel room in 2002. The next morning, Dickson was found sitting next to her vehicle in a 15-foot ravine. The body of her son, Mitchell, was pinned beneath the wreckage in what authorities

believe was a faked accident. Dickson had identical slash wounds to her son's, including an almost fatal cut on her neck, authorities said. Bloody razor blades lay near the vehicle, and she had one in her purse, authorities said

Dr. Richard E. Coons, an Austin psychiatrist, testified at a competency hearing Wednesday that Dickson was rational, able to discuss her case with her attorney and understand the charge against her. He said her suicide attempts were triggered by substance abuse and bipolar disorder but that medications stabilize her.

Charges brought in officer death

HOUSTON (AP) Prosecutors charged a motorist with drunken driving Thursday morning after a Houston police officer was killed in a high-speed collision.

Frank Cantu, a 19-year veteran of the force, was driving in the River Oaks area of Houston about 2:20 a.m. when his patrol car was struck by a car speeding through a nearby intersection.

Cantu's patrol car was spun into a tree in a nearby flower bed. The other car was traveling so fast it didn't come to rest for half a block, police spokesman Alvin Wright said.

Rescuers extracted Cantu from his wrecked cruiser and rushed him to Memorial Hermann Hospital, where he was pronounced dead with head trauma. He was 43.

Police said the driver of the other car, Johnston Beacom, 29, refused a breath test and was charged with drunken driving, with intoxication manslaughter charges pending. He remained in custody Thursday morning after getting treated for minor injuries and having blood drawn.

City Briefs

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

1ST YEAR Anniversary! \$5 off tanning pkgs. & 25% off lotions. All About Beauty, SR22 665-2788 1405 N. Banks, 665-1101.

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ALTRUSA STYLE Show, Sat., Mar. 27th, 10:30 a.m., MK Brown Auditorium, tickets \$10. (\$8 is tax deductible).

ATTENTION ALL Sub-COMMUNITY CHRISlard, Pampa, 806-665-3393.

W. Brown, Hwy. 60.

COMMUNITY CHRIS-TIAN School Hamburger Lunch Fund Raiser. Fri., Mar. 26, 11:30-1. Advance tickets or at the door.

TIAN School is now enrolling for Fall 2004. Info. avail. in school office, 220 N. Bal-

HEADQUARTERS FOR parts, Fireside Comfort, 530

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WEATHER FOCUS

LOCAL FORECAST

Today's forecast is calling for partly cloudy skies, a slight chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon, highs in the mid 80s and south winds 5 to 15 mph. Tonight should fall on mostly cloudy skies with a slight chance of thunderstorms, lows in the upper 50s and south winds 10 to 20 mph. Friday should see mostly cloudy skies. Highs in the lower 80s. South winds 10 to 20 mph. Friday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 50s. South winds 15 to 20 mph. Saturday, partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Breezy. Highs around 80. Saturday night, most-

ly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms in the evening. Windy. Lows in the lower 50s. Sunday, partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Breezy. Highs around 70. Sunday night, partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms in the evening. Lows in the upper 40s. Monday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. Monday night, partly cloudy. Lows to become Office Pay 3, 6 or around 50. Tuesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the 12 months only! For more inmid 70s. Tuesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in formation call The Pampa the lower 50s. Wednesday, partly cloudy. Highs News, 669-2525. in the lower 70s

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

TEXAS EDITORIAL

Training, staffing crucial to nuclear facility safety

From the Fort Worth Star-Telegram:

Serious questions are being raised as to whether America's nuclear facilities have adequate security programs in place to thwart terrorist attacks.

Security operations are being weakened by deteriorating training programs, personnel shortages and employee fatigue resulting from excessive overtime work, according to federal inspectors and a public watchdog group.

Ten nuclear weapons facilities, including the Pantex site near Amarillo, have reduced or eliminated key elements of a training curriculum designed in part to fend off terrorists, the Department of Energy's inspector general reported Tuesday. Pantex, the nation's only facility where nuclear weapons are assembled, drew dubious attention in January after disclosures that workers taped together broken pieces of a high explosive being removed from the plutonium trigger of an old warhead. A federal oversight agency said the incident risked a "violent reaction."

The Washington-based Project On Government Oversight, or POGO, charged last week that the nation's 65 nuclear power plants are "not even close" to being prepared against terrorist threats. Most plants would have to quadruple their security to adequately deal with a terrorist strike, said POGO Executive Director Danielle Brian.

The admonitions should cause operators of nuclear facilities to at least re-examine their training programs and staffing levels to ensure that safeguards are adequate. The closest nuclear facility to Tarrant County is the Comanche Peak power plant at Glen Rose, 45 miles southwest of Fort Worth. Officials of Dallas-based TXU, owner and operator of Comanche Peak, previously have stressed that they significantly enhanced security after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and have taken "appropriate measures" to guard against hostile actions.

Strong training programs and adequately staffed security teams are crucial to ensuring that terrorists will fail if they attack a nuclear facility. Everyone must remember that complacency is among America's deadliest enemies in its effort to foil future terrorist acts on American soil.

Today in History

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Thursday, March 25, the 85th day of 2004. There are 281 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 25, 1965, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. led 25,000 marchers to the state capitol in Montgomery, Ala., to protest the denial of voting rights to blacks.

On this date:

In 1634, Maryland was founded by English colonists sent by the second Lord Baltimore.

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Pampa News welcomes and encourages readers to express their opinions on issues of public interest and concern. However, we also reserve the right to accept or reject any letter for publication.

Letters must be 300 words or less. Letters submitted for publication must be neat and legible, typed if possible, or at least handwritten in a clear manner. All letters will be edited for length, clarity, spelling, grammar, and taste. We will not publish anonymous letters, letters that are potentially libelous, or personal attacks. Submission of a letter does not guarantee its publication nor can we guarantee a date of publication.

Letters submitted must include name, address, phone number and signature for verification. Addresses and telephone numbers will not be printed, unless requested for a specific rea-

Due to volume and repetition, we will limit submissionsfrom the same person to two letters per month.

Poetry, candidate or political endorsements, letters to third parties and "thank you" letters will not be published except at the discretion of the editor, depending on general interest.

Letters may be dropped off at the office, 403 W. Atchison, or mailed to The Pampa News, Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066.

VIEWPOINTS

The Virginia Senate just passed the Virginia Post-Disaster Anti-Price Gouging Act of 2004, which now awaits Gov. Mark Warner's signature. In part, the act says, "During any time of disaster, it shall be unlawful for any supplier to sell, lease, or license, or to offer to sell, lease, or license, any necessary goods and services at an unconscionable price within the area for which the state

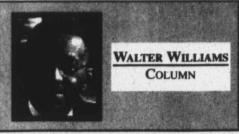
of emergency is declared. Actual sales at

the increased price shall not be required

for the increase to be considered unconscionable."

Background for the law was last year's devastating impact of Isabel, a category-five hurricane that caused widespread property damage and destruction in parts of Virginia that included losses associated with power outages, flooding and wind damage. In Virginia alone, Isabel's death toll was about 36, with many more injured. The hurricane's effects were felt for months and in many cases still linger.

Whenever a major disaster strikes, the public is confronted with all sorts of unpleasantness. The source of the unpleasantness is a sudden change in scarcity conditions: The immediate demand for many goods and services exceeds their immediate supply. What to do? The typical response is for prices to rise dramatically. While buyers are not thrilled by rising prices, rising prices are one of the ameliorative responses to changes in scarcity conditions. They get



Let supply and demand work

people to voluntarily do what's in the social interest. Let's look at it using a couple of goods and services important to disaster recovery and ask a question

In Isabel's wake, private contractors from nearby states brought their heavy equipment to Virginia to clear fallen trees from people's houses. Producers and shippers of generators, plywood and other vital supplies worked overtime to increase the flow of these goods to Virginians. What was it that got these people and millions of others to help their fellow man in time of need? Was it admonitions from George Bush? Was it conscience or love for one's fellow man?

I'll tell you what it was. It was rising prices and the opportunity for people to cash in on windfall profits. Windfall profits are one of the vital signals of the marketplace. It's a signal saying that there are unmet human wants, leading people to strive to meet those wants. It stimulates the supply response to a dis-

Imagine for a moment that prices aren't allowed to rise. Would it be reasonable for anyone to expect workmen

to give up their nights and weekends and drive hundreds of miles to Virginia to remove trees from people's houses? Yes, there would be some motivated by charitable instincts, but I'd hate to count on charitable instincts as the major source of help. If, as the Virginia Senate has decreed, prices are not allowed to rise in the wake of a disaster, lest they risk being deemed unconscionable, pray tell me what will produce the incentive for people to travel long distances, work overtime and make other personal sacrifices to provide goods and services to Virginians?

The Virginia Senate has provided a defense for sellers against charges of selling goods at an "unconscionable" price, saying, "Proof that the supplier incurred such additional costs during the time of disaster shall be prima facie evidence that the price increase was not unconscionable." That vision reflects gross economic ignorance on the part of the Senate. Costs alone do not determine price; demand plays a role as well. When there's a disaster, demand is likely to be the major element driving prices

Here's my recommendation to the governor and Virginia legislature if they're really interested in doing something about price gouging. Their energies would be better focused on their ever-increasing charges for government services and their subsequent tax gouging of Virginia taxpayers.



Running mate selection matters

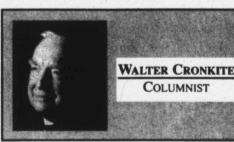
Sometime in the near future, John Kerry will select his vice-presidential running mate. He should be graded on that choice, for, since 9/11, the vice presidency has taken on an importance it simply never had before.

"Choose a running mate." We should look closely at that particular phrase, for it has been something more than just a choice of words. A running mate, historically, has been someone who was brought on board primarily to help the presidential candidate get elected - usuwhere the head of the ticket was weak.

This consideration was more important than the qualifications of the vicepresidential candidate or even whether the presidential and vice-presidential candidates were compatible. John F. Kennedy actually disliked Lyndon Johnson, and Franklin D. Roosevelt let his party leaders pick his running mate for his fourth term. Rather than Harry Truman, Roosevelt would have preferred others closer ideologically to his New Deal. Johnson, during his own presidential run, was jealous of Hubert Humphrey's popularity among liberal Democrats but badly needed their votes.

Truman, incidentally, was kept out of the loop by FDR and was totally unprepared when Roosevelt died of a cerebral hemorrhage. The senator from Missouri had to learn on the job - and quickly in a time of war and the tricky negotiations of an impending peace. That he went on to become one of our greatest presidents was more the nation's luck than FDR's

Indicating a new realization of the burden on the presidency and the increasing importance of the vice presi-



dency, Presidents Clinton and Bush, both outsiders, picked, respectively, Al Gore and Dick Cheney for their Washington experience.

On the chance that the old tradition ally by delivering a part of the country of ticket-balancing for geographical reasons is not dead, it is possible that Kerry might choose one of his recent primary rivals as his running mate. In other words, South Carolina's John Edwards or Gen. Wesley Clark should not be written off.

If that is Kerry's choice, any lingering enmity can be overcome once they are in office. In the short time Kennedy and Johnson were in office, no friendship developed between them, but when he suddenly assumed the presidency, Johnson, despite the Southern background that got him on the ticket, pushed through and strengthened Kennedy's nascent civil-rights agenda. And despite Johnson's bristly treatment of his vice president, Hubert Humphrey overrode his own feelings and remained loyal to his president's failed Vietnam policy so long that it cost him the election against Richard Nixon.

For most of our history, the possibility that the man chosen as the running mate would, with victory, become the vice president seemed actually to be secondary. The vice presidency was the most deprecated and ridiculed office in the federal government. The only con-

stitutional duty given the VP was to preside over the Senate - but without a vote, except in the case of a tie. Of course, with Congress, like the nation, so closely divided these days, that tiebreaking vote can be critical.

Our first vice president, John Adams, called the vice presidency "the most insignificant office that ever the invention of man contrived or his imagination conceived."

· In recent times, the vice president's duties have been expanded. The National Security Act of 1947 made the vice president a member of the National Security Council, and increasingly he has been asked to share the president's heavy load, partly to keep himself as fully prepared as possible to take the

Surely in the forefront of Kerry's thinking must be the new importance of the vice presidency. America is a very different country from that led by presidents prior to World War II - a different country in a vastly different world. We can no longer afford to elect mere running mates to the second-highest office. In this increasingly dangerous post-9/11 world we live in, we had better be comfortable with the idea of him or her at the helm. These considerations are of such importance that a candidate's wish to "balance the ticket" must take a back seat. And in today's safety-conscious America, that might well win more votes than geography.

The Democrats and the nation await

Kerry's decision.

(Write to Walter Cronkite c/o King Features Syndicate, 888 Seventh Ave., New York, NY 10019, or e-mail him at mail(at)cronkitecolumn.com.)

Tralee Cri Member N plans for t

Pac

Altrusa agreed to he ect, origina teers to staff

In 1984 Center was non-profit a of directors October 198 need for Rosamond teered to ser obtained dor hired a partbegan worki an individua training mor

At the b were shelte small apartn 1985 with r when the apa As awarenes

for Mesa mended the directors an er for worki ing the way regulation i that because trol some a water, port rules woul landowners

He said t way water saturated sa the undergr because of posed rule depletion v rules wor landowner resources v landowner resources. A prop

> poor water point more under prop district wo action to sl would a la abundance

Harden should be amount of **Mainstreet Cigarettes Marlboro Cigarettes**

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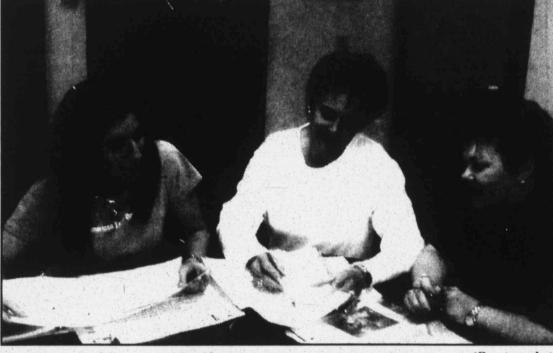
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(Courtesy photo)

Tralee Crisis Center staff, from left, Office Assistant Angie Edmondson, Board Member Martha Porter, and Administrative Assistant Karen McGahen make plans for the agency's upcoming 20-year anniversary celebration.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

TRALEE

Altrusa Club of Pampa agreed to help with the projhotline and recruiting volunteers to staff it.

In 1984, Tralee Crisis Center was incorporated as a non-profit agency and a board of directors was formed. By October 1984, the board saw a need for more structure. Rosamond Reeves volunteered to serve as director. She obtained donated office space, hired a part-time secretary and began working with clients on an individual basis as well as training more volunteers.

At the beginning, victims were sheltered in motels. A small apartment was rented in 1985 with motels being used when the apartments were full. As awareness of the crisis cenvictims needing help.

A part-time case worker and night and weekend staff ect, originating the 24-hour were hired to help with a shelter overflowing with women and children.

At that time, Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ rented the use of a property they owned which had 10 bedrooms, three baths, a common living area, dining area and kitchen. Today, the building serves as the Tralee Crisis Center Shelter.

Because many victims are reluctant to travel to Pampa, an outreach program was implemented in 1989 in Gray, Carson, Donley, Hemphill, Roberts, Collingsworth and Wheeler counties.

In 1990, a duplex - delinquent tax property - was purchased from the City of

ter grew, so did the number of Pampa. Using funds from the Emergency Shelter Grants Program, the duplex was renovated for use as transitional housing for single families ready to leave the shleter, but still needing assistance to live independently.

> Today Tralee operates as a full-service, 24-hour shelter with the capacity to house 30 women and children. The agency offers a comprehensive program to serve victims of family violence, sexual assault and other violent crimes. Tralee staff maintain open communication with hospitals and law enforcement agencies in the seven-county service area about its services. The 24-hour hotline is manned by volunteers and staff. An 800 number is advertised in local and area newspapers as well as telephone books.

Rural districts, lawmakers discuss funding impact on smaller schools

the salaries Superintendent ted to maintaining equity. Mary Ann Whiteker has to

time teachers in Hudson.

On Tuesday, lawmakers lis-Caucus with concerns about number one." how an expected education affect their districts.

"I'm here to tell you that quality staff will fund quality saying that salaries are the one maintaining equity. part of the budget that should not be cut back.

of about 2,300 K-12 students, coming Robin Hood school finance should be done.

system. eliminate Robin Hood, but that take a hard look at "wants verprospect strikes fear in the sus needs." hundreds of districts that benefit from the system.

them equity, or the resources to how we were able to fit our operate at the same level as budget into our revenues that wealthier districts. Losing that, we had available," Perry said. they worry, could be a death sentence.

Sen. Florence Shapiro, a

no easy task, particularly with legislators that she is commit-

"Equity is going to stay in the system," Shapiro said. for consolidation or changes in For now, while qualified "I've said it a thousand times law where they won't be able teachers head to the cities, and I'll say it another thousand three substitutes suffice as full- times. That is not going to change. I promise you. We are smaller, rural schools would going to keep an equitable systened as Whiteker and others tem just like we've always had Chisum said. He pointed to a addressed the House Rural and continue to do. That's 90-mile bus route and mostly

finance overhaul could affect Shapiro's committee, the Joint rural schools. The caucus, Select Committee on Public which does not typically make School Finance, did not sign said. policy, informs rural legisla- off on the panel's final report tors about issues that may last week. They were con-schools is not on the table so cerned that the report, which offers the Legislature a list of financing alternatives, did not always a concern. education," Whiteker said, adequately address the issue of

Hudson, with an enrollment widely expected within the from the aspect of unintended weeks. is one of many poor districts in Republican Gov. Rick Perry Texas that receive money from says he won't announce a sesthe property wealth of other sion until legislative leaders proposed plan by Perry that districts under the so-called reach a consensus on what

Perry said Tuesday he Most lawmakers want to expected the Legislature to

Legislature, we separated Robin Hood, they say, gives those wants from needs. That's

That philosophy, he said, has not changed.

Rural schools are "extreme-

AUSTIN (AP) — Luring chaired a committee charged on here in Austin," said Rep. teachers to work in the small with finding viable alternatives Warren Chisum, a Pampa East Texas town of Hudson is to Robin Hood, told the rural Republican who represents dozens of small districts in the Panhandle.

"They're afraid of a push to stay in business."

The idea of consolidating not be feasible physically, gravel roads, where students Democratic members of are picked up at 7 a.m. to be at school on time.

"It's tough on little kids," he

Consolidation of small far, but Rep. Rick Hardcastle, a Vernon Republican, said it's

"I've had assurances from the leadership that nobody's A special legislative session out to do away with the little to address school finance is schools, but we worry about it But consequences," Hardcastle

For those smaller schools, a would reward teachers and campuses based on student performance "doesn't help them at all," Chisum said.

"They didn't see much in the bonus program that would "At this last session of the be of value to them," he said. "If they have to have matching dollars, they don't have the dollars to match with to get bonuses. It's not going to hap-

Whiteker urged the lawmakers to keep their focus on educating children and "keep ano Republican who co- ly nervous about what's going the main thing the main thing."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

RULES

for Mesa Water, Inc., commended the district's board of directors and general manager for working hard and leading the way in ground water regulation in the state, he said that because man cannot control some aspects of ground water, portions of the new rules would penalize some landowners.

He said that because of the way water flows through the saturated sands and gravel in the underground aquifer and because of the way the proposed rules dealing with depletion were written, the rules would penalize a landowner with poor water resources while rewarding a landowner with good water resources.

A property owner with poor water would reach a point more quickly where, under proposed Rule 15, the district would have to take action to slow pumping, than would a landowner with an abundance of water.

Harden said the rule should be based on the amount of water pumped, not

a rate at which it is pumped.

Harden and Mike Powell, a Dallas attorney also representing Mesa, said the depletion determination needs to be made at the surface, not below ground.

Williams agreed that their suggestions were fine for people mining the aquifer for municipalities, but the district, Williams said, has other concerns, including agricultural use, conservation and the impact on neighboring property.

"I don't want the driving force of this to be only producing water," Williams said.

In the end, the board voted to adopt the draft rules with two.changes. The permitting rule that said the permits were good for only 30 years was changed to allow the board to work with individual projects as they have done in the past. Rule 15 was deleted and the previous depletion rule will remain in effect until the district's rules committee can meet with those opposing the proposed changes and come up with a

workable consensus. "What we tried to do is

balance the needs for the future, and the needs for today," Williams said. "We looked at it from every angle possible. There are a lot of different methods that ground water districts can use. There is no doubt that this is not the only way to approach ground water management, but it is the approach that we have chosen. We think it's reason-

ATTACK

property at the time of the mauling Feb. 16. A four-yearold Pampa girl was attacked by one or more of five Rottweiler dogs in the back yard of 1117 Darby Street. At the time of the attack, she was playing unsupervised outside while her father, Steve Organ,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE owner of the house and dogs, Janene Lucas, according to a Pampa Police Department press release dated Feb. 18.

> Lucas discovered the attack, intervened, and took the girl to Pampa Regional Medical Center, where the child was treated and transferred to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo, according to the release.

The Rottweilers were all surrendered to Pampa Animal Control officers, who euthanized them and had the remains tested for rabies. The rabies tests were negative, according to Sandy Burns, animal control officer.

"She is recovering from her injuries and is with her grandmother," Roach said of the attack victim.





THURSDAY • March 25, 2004

EAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Destroying Family Diaries Closes Window to the Past

DEAR ABBY: I am writing in teenage diaries after her death (and response to the letter about the man who read his deceased wife's diaries, written prior to their marriage, when she was a teenager. He had been unaware that she had dated many men, including one of his best friends, and that she had hoped to marry another

The man's daughter urged diarists to destroy writings not meant to be read by survivors.

As an archivist, whose job it is to preserve history for generations to come, I would strongly caution against destroying material. Diaries are few and far between today, and offer glimpses into the past. While that family may have had a bad experience, most people treasure diaries as an intimate connection with someone no longer present.

That man -- angry at what he didn't know -- sounds like a grieving widower who would rather be angry with his deceased wife than face his sadness at losing her. We all cope with death differently, and this might be the most comforting way for him to deal with his loss. If he is truly holding her teenage years against her, then whether it lasted 62 years or not, it couldn't have been much of a marriage. I don't think that is the case, however. His daughter should be ready to help him through his grief. He will come around when he's ready. --STACEY C. PEEPLES, RIVERSIDE,

DEAR STACEY: It did not occur to me that diaries could be of historical significance. However, if someone is writing sensitive information in a diary or a journal, instructions should be left that those documents remain sealed until anyone who could be hurt by the contents has also passed on. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: To "Sad in Pennsylvania," whose 85-year-old father was distressed to find his wife's others who might be in a similar situation), I want to say, "Please don't destroy these diaries -- or other writings -- after the person dies." I am the deeply grateful owner of my greatgrandmother's diary, begun in 1855. It has given me profound insight into American history, human psychology and my own ancestry. A vital part of my life would be missing if someone had destroyed that book. -- SABRA IN

DEAR SABRA: You inherited a treasure. I can only imagine the changes that occurred during your great-grandmother's lifetime. When my own dear grandmother, Rose Phillips, died at the age of 103 in October 2002, our family realized that over the span of her lifetime she had seen the rise of the automobile, the birth of commercial air travel, Prohibition, women's suffrage, the Roaring '20s, the Great Depression, two World Wars, the discovery of penicillin, man on the moon, the invention of the microwave oven, the fax machine, the computer, the Internet, the cell phone and the birth control pill.

Oh, if only she had kept a diary! DEAR ABBY: That daughter said her dad is upset after 62 years of a "full and happy marriage." That man should be feeling on top of the world. He was the one her mother selected to be her soul mate -- and nothing that happened before matters. -- HAPPY HUS-BAND, ORLANDO, FLA.

DEAR H.H.: I agree.

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

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> > K-9

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin







THE "BARNEY SONG"

AS A RING TONE IS A DEAD GIVEAWAY

Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH **ACROSS** 45 - conse-1 Singer quence Tori 5 Was **DOWN**

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18 Circus 9 Timetable sight 22 Was sore 10 Dapper 24 Skater Sohja 16 Olympus

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Aramis 32 Yard tools 33 "Gosh!" 34 Train, to

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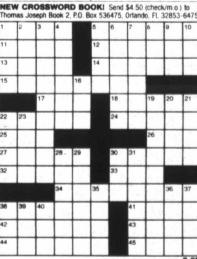
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20 Skid Row 30 In the **21** New 31 Rave Jersey music 35 Folding cagers

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The Family Circus

Marmaduke



"Being banned for life is nothing to be proud of."

B.C.



Haggar The Horrible.

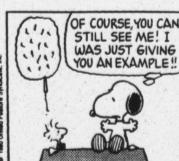






Peanuts







Flo & Friends





Blondie





GOLF

SHE SAID HER LIPGLOSS WAS STARTING TO

TASTE LIKE SWEAT SOCKS.

PAMI Hills is 3-person 3, staring shotgun Entry

includes Only an 8 ha allowed tain perc fees will trail fund The flighted Call

BASKE

or come

INDIA - Dallas Don Ne played zo fourth q Indiana that Reg lurking o "We d when he

but we re he got o of Miller Miller from the minutes, cial 3-pe stretch to 103-99 Mavericl night. "He

said. "V track of l clever." Miller er gave t lead wit play, he come J

absence. As the the Pace rior dep of their lineup. O'Ne ing scor

> Monday Chicago miss at l hopes Sunday Miami. Ron points, eight

bruised

Harring and eigh Crosher Jeff Fos and 12 Pacers. "The deepest league,'

> Michae secondwas or right ca Dirk points, five Maveri compos while

Dall

The percent jump to "We halftim put for coach "It was halftim

official

The motiva Dallas fluster

SPORTS

GOLF

PAMPA - Hidden Hills is hosting a Famous 3-person Scramble April 3, staring at 9 a.m. with a shotgun start.

Entry fee is \$40, which includes a cart.

Only one player with an 8 handicap or less is allowed per team. A certain percent of the entry fees will go into the cart trail fund.

The scramble will be flighted by total handicap. Call 669-5866 to enter or come by the golf shop.

BASKETBALL

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)

 Dallas Mavericks coach Don Nelson reluctantly played zone defense in the fourth quarter against the Indiana Pacers, knowing that Reggie Miller was lurking on the other side.

"We didn't want to zone when he was in the game, but we really needed to and he got open," Nelson said of Miller.

Miller was just 1-for-6 from the field in the first 43 minutes, but made two crucial 3-pointers down the stretch to lift the Pacers to a 103-99 win over the Mavericks on Wednesday night.

"He lost us," Nelson said. "We tried to keep track of him, but he's pretty clever."

Miller's second 3-pointer gave the Pacers a 100-95 lead with 23.7 seconds to play, helping them overcome Jermaine O'Neal's absence.

As they've done all year, the Pacers used their superior depth to win with one of their starters out of the

O'Neal, the team's leading scorer and rebounder, bruised his left knee in Monday's win over Chicago. He expected to miss at least two games, but hopes to be back for Sunday's game against Miami.

Ron Artest had 20 points, eight steals and eight rebounds; Harrington had 17 points and eight rebounds; Austin Croshere scored 16; and Jeff Foster added 12 points and 12 rebounds for the Pacers.

"They're one of the deepest teams in the league," Nelson said.

Dallas played without Michael Finley, the team's second-leading scorer, who was out with a strained right calf.

Dirk Nowitzki had 22 points, seven rebounds and five blocks for the Mavericks, who lost their composure, and the lead, while bickering with the officials in the third quarter.

The Mavericks shot 54 percent in the first half to jump to a 55-48 lead.

"We weren't happy at halftime with the effort we put forth out there," Pacers coach Rick Carlisle said. "It was a gut check for us at

halftime." The Pacers came out motivated and calm, while Dallas was distracted and flustered.

Slammers go unbeaten to win Perryton tourney

Slammers picked a good time to play their best basketball of the year, winning all five games in convincing fashion at last weekend's Perryton Tournament.

The Slammers brought home the championship in the 12-team field. They defeated Panhandle 37-2, Gruver 48-17 and Spearman 49-6 in pool play.

The Slammers then met the home team Perryton Rangerettes in the semi-finals of bracket play.

The Slammers held a narrow two-point lead at halftime, but were able to build a 10-point advantage in the third quarter on the way to a 29-19 victory.

The Slammers met Dalhart in the finals. Dalhart defeated Guymon, Woodward and Perryton in pool play. In the finals, the Slammers played some their best defense of the year in building a 12-1 firstquarter lead. They led 29-8 at

PERRYTON — The Pampa the end of the third quarter. The final score was 34-22.

> "The girls really came together this weekend and played some outstanding team basketball," said coach Jimmy Barker. "As you can tell by the statistics (below), all nine girls contributed in all three categories with points, rebounds and assists. The coaches were really proud of the outstanding defense played, and allowing an average of only 11 points per game."

> The Slammers are entered in the 17th annual Jim Brinkley Memorial Tournament April 2-4. They were runners-up in last year's tournament with the loss coming against Dumas in over-

Slammers' Individual Statistics					
Name	Pts.	Rebs.	As		
Ashley Facio	42	37	10		
Serina Wagner	32	16	6		
Kara Stephens	31	12	4		
Emilie Troxell	26	24	5		
Carlyn Teichmann	25	23	.18		
Brooklyn Barker	15	29	4		
Shelbie Watson	14	7	5		
Andi Hutto	6	16	1		
Kelsey Watson	4	4	2		



Pampa Slammers: Front row, I-r, Shelbie Watson, Carlyn Teichmann, Serina Wagner and Kelsey Watson; Middle row, Il-r, Ashley Facio, Andi Hutto, Emilie Troxell, Brooklyn Barker and Kara Stephens: Back row, I-r, Bino Facio, Jimmy Barker and David Teichmann.

The Harvesters' Jason Brown scored the game-winning goal against El Paso Riverside in the Area round.

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — cess. While Texas has yet to

There was a time when just win a national title, Barnes

ment meant a good season for tournament in each of his six

seasons.

teams.

getting to the NCAA tourna-

Texas. Winning a game or

Those days are long gone.

With three straight trips to

the round of 16 and a chance

for a second straight Final

Four, coach Rick Barnes

believes his program has

arrived as a basketball power

worthy of consideration

among the nation's elite every

"I think we've definitely

moved into the neighbor-

hood," he said. "I want to be

one of the top 10 programs in

the country. I hope people

The No. 3 seed in the

Atlanta Regional, Texas (25-

7) faces seventh-seeded

Xavier (25-10) on Friday

look at us that way."

two in March was a bonus.

NCAA run has Texas among elite

has led Texas to the NCAA

Before his arrival, the

Longhorns had been to the

tournament just 16 times in

the program's history. The

school's Final Four appear-

ance in 1947 came when the

tournament had just eight

moderate NCAA success in

the 1990s with eight trips

under "Tournament" Tom

Penders. He took the

Longhorns as far as the

regional final in 1990, with

only one other trip to the

Austin produced more of the

After getting to the second

round in 2000, the program

Barnes' first three years in er.'

round of 16 in 1997.

same early exits.

ured by their postseason suc- 2001 with a first-round loss to in the semifinals.

Elite programs are meas- seemed to take a step back in

The program enjoyed

It's Pampa vs. **El Paso Bowie** at 4 Saturday

PAMPA — Pampa is set to meet El Paso Bowie in the regional soccer quarterfinals Saturday in Odessa. That match is scheduled to start at 4 p.m.

The Harvesters have an 11-10 record for the season while Bowie is 17-5.

Jason Brown scored a first-half goal and Pampa held off El Paso Riverside the rest of the way for a 1-0 victory in Tuesday's Area round.

The Harvesters dropped only one match in winning the District 3-4A title this year.

A year ago, Pampa reached the playoffs as the No. 3 seed behind Randall and Borger.

The winner is tentatively scheduled to play either Aledo or Lewisville Hebron in the semi-finals.

A bitterly disappointed

group of freshman — James

Thomas, Royal Ivey, Brian

Boddicker and Brandon

Mouton — left that game

determined never to exit so

Temple loss I was heartbro-

ken," Mouton said. "There

were a lot of guys in the lock-

er room crying, and I was one

Boddicker said. "In that game

we got a taste of what we

wanted to accomplish. We

weren't satisfied. We've got-

ten a little bit more each year.

And that just made us hungri-

it to the round of 16 and last

season it was in the Final

Four, losing to eventual

national champion Syracuse

The next year, Texas made

"Our goal was to build a

program,"

"I remember after the

Temple.

early again.

of them."

powerhouse

A-Rod hurt against Boston

By The Associated Press

Alex Rodriguez left the New York Yankees' exhibition game against Boston on Wednesday night after being hit in the face by a deflected ball at third base.

The team said Rodriguez has a bruised left cheekbone, and that a CT scan was neg-

It all happened against the Red Sox, the team that tried and failed to land the reigning AL MVP him this winter before the Yankees managed to work out a deal to acquire him from Texas and move him to third base from shortstop, his natural position.

first base when Kevin Millar doubled to left field. Hideki Matsui fielded the ball and threw to third, but it hit Daubach on the leg as he slid and ricocheted into Rodriguez's face below his left eye.

Also in Tampa, Fla., Yankees center fielder Bernie Williams went 1-for-5 in his spring debut and opening day starter Mike Mussina allowed one run in 5 1-3 innings in a minor league game.

Williams, who had his appendix removed Feb. 26, was the designated hitter in the Triple-A game against Toronto minor leaguers.

"I've got to get out there playing," Williams said. "I'm going crazy. But at the same time I know I have to keep it under control." Mussina gave up four

hits, one walk and struck out

five in his final outing before

the regular-season opener March 30 in Tokyo against Tampa Bay. "It's going to be hard physically and mentally,"

Mussina said. "It's a long way to go. Day and night are opposite. It's hard to adjust." In Viera, Fla., Rob Ramsay made his first exhibition appearance for the

Baltimore Orioles, two years after having a cancerous tumor removed from the front of his brain.

Ramsay, pitching against major league hitters for the first time since last spring with San Diego, allowed one run on two hits in one inning in Baltimore's 3-2 loss to Montreal.

"I feel good. I'm pleased to be out there. I feel like I did a pretty good job," said Ramsay, who wore a helmet for extra protection. "They got hits on pitches I could have thrown a little bit better, but that's how it is on this level."

Also, Fred McGriff, nine homers shy of 500, was reassigned to Tampa Bay's minor league camp. The 40year-old McGriff hit .250 Brian Daubach was on with two RBIs this spring.

In spring training games:

Yankees 8, Red Sox 6

At Tampa, Fla., Yankees starter Donovan Osborne, competing for the final spot in the rotation, gave up four runs and five hits in five innings in the victory. David McCarty hit a three-run homer for Boston in the fourth.

Expos 3, Orioles 2

At Viera, Fla., Montreal starter Tomo Ohka allowed one run on four hits in six innings, and Luis Lopez singled in the winning run in

White Sox 8, Mariners 2

At Tucson, Ariz., Frank Thomas hit a solo homer and added two doubles in three at-bats for the White Sox, a day after volunteering to move from third to fourth in the batting order.

With Thomas hitting fourth, Magglio Ordonez moved into the third spot. He hit a solo homer and added a double.

White Sox starter Jon Garland improved to 4-0, pitching six shutout innings and allowing just four hits.

Mets 4, Astros 1

At Port St. Lucie, Fla. New York starter Tyler Yates improved to 3-0, shutting out Houston for five innings.

Yates threw only 48 pitches, didn't walk a batter and struck out three.

Registration reaches 553 mark for Optimist baseball-softball signups

Registration Optimist Baseball/Softball 2004 reached 553 Wednesday with another five or six teams expected to register from Miami and Clarendon, according to

Pitching Machine League team and one or two T-ball teams," Haynes said.

"Monday will probably Ronnie Haynes, who has be the last day we can been in charge of registra- take any more sign-ups," said Optimist President "Clarendon is supposed Sheri Tice. "We are going

going to bring a 7-9 Girls' to add players and keep Softball team, a 7-8 the teams balanced once the teams have drafted."

Wednesday saw 66 more players register. Coaches are needed in nearly all the leagues.

"We plan to wait to draft in some leagues until we have enough coaches to bring two Babe Ruth to be having our drafts for the league," said Kevin

tryouts."

for teams while Miami is next week. It is difficult Davis, the Optimist Monday night in the 11-12 President of the Babe Ruth Cal Ripken Baseball League. "Some of the League," said Haynes, leagues have a blind draft. who is the commissioner Other leagues will have of the league. "We are the coaches rate all of the adding two teams. We new players so that a have been fortunate to coach coming in late will have several men volunnot be at a disadvantage teer to coach, and we have because he did not attend 75 boys ready to play ball. Right now we have room "We plan to draft for three more boys."

Oklahoma State's John Lucas well prepared for fight with Pitt

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — His body is wiry and his face has a _youthful quality and smile. Oklahoma State point guard John Lucas doesn't look very tough.

Don't be fooled.

Lucas has a certain toughness that developed while growing up as the son of an

NBA star with a substance- up," Lucas said Wednesday. abuse problem, and was further tempered while dealing with the recent tragedy at Baylor that left a teammate dead.

made me mentally tough tough knowing that if I get beat down, I know I am always going to get back

"I know how it feels to be on the bottom. I know how it feels to be put down."

Lucas transferred to Oklahoma State in the wake "Me going through that of the Baylor scandal that followed the murder of Patrick Dennehy and the firing of coach Dave Bliss. Lucas averaged 15.3 points

The Cowboys (29-3) will try to ride Lucas' resolve tonight when it faces third-seeded Pittsburgh (31-4) in the tipoff of the East Rutherford the nightcap. Regional semifinal at the Continental Airlines Arena.

the country.

lems.

hard.

almost a blood bath."

spare his feelings.

kids saying to him.

St. Joseph's (29-1) will of the hype because of points a game.

Eddie Sutton's Cowboys also can

play defense, but are just as good on

offense. Their 78.3 average is 19th in

"It's going to be a brawl," Pittsburgh

Lucas is ready for the fight. He had

senior guard Julius Page said. "We're

used to that, practicing everyday is

plenty in high school when his father,

former Maryland and NBA player and

coach John Lucas, was having prob-

into school, his fellow students didn't

Everyday the younger Lucas walked

"You're dad's a crack head!" and

Lucas occasionally still hears the

"I realized a lot of people who were

taunts. He shuts them up by playing

picking on me, their parents also go

through the same problems as my par-

ent, but my dad was an NBA player out

The older Lucas now helps people

"My dad didn't hide anything from

us," Lucas said. "When I was young, I

knew what was going on, but I didn't

know what was going on. I always told

him: 'Don't worry dad, I am always

Lucas also has been the player who

in the public," Lucas said.

with substance abuse problems.

recalled. "I was like 3 or 4."

"You're a drug baby!" Lucas recalled

and 4.6 assists this past sea- get a chance to stick it to Packer's questioning of the CBS analyst Billy Packer for Hawks' No. 1 seed and second-seeded a third time in the tourna- coach Phil Martelli's biting ment when the top-seeded response, the Pitt-Oklahoma State game is just as good.

The Panthers of the Big Packer's alma mater — in East are a street-tough group that prides itself on defense. While the St. Joseph's- Pittsburgh finished second in

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, March 26, 2004:

For the most part, you are on cruise control this year. You know what to do and what to say, with perhaps the exception of one person in your life, and that could be a roommate or family member. This year is not a good year to buy real estate, as it will take longer than you think to make your investment pay off. You might consider a home office, where you'll seem to be able to focus better than at work. You gain professionally this year with a strong probability of a raise or promotion. If you're not working, you could get a bit pudgy because of a sweet tooth. If you are single, fall will present options. You might play the field for a while. If you are attached, your sweetie seems more easygoing than before. Schedule a trip for fall 2004. GEMINI will chat about nearly anything.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

*** What seems like a piece of cake becomes a lot more difficult as the day progresses. You might feel like someone is putting an obstacle in your path. Benefit from this slowdown, and rethink your plans. Use negatives to your benefit. Tonight: Christen the weekend with your pals TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Expenses soar, but you might have difficulty knowing which way to go. You want to indulge a loved one. You want to take a risk. Slow down for your own sake and do some thinking. Nothing needs to be done immediately. Tonight: Discuss this idea with a trustGEMINI (May 21-June 20)

**** With the Moon gracing your energy and giving you that extra magnetism, you might have a difficult time saying no to something you want. Eye long-term considerations, and you'll feel much better as a result. Tonight: You call the shots

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

** Do nothing, especially if you feel like an idea could be compromised. Realize that sometimes you need to let situations play themselves out. Now is just that type of occasion. Don't hold grudges; make a call. Both of you will feel better. Tonight: Do your thing. **LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)

**** Friends surround you, as usual. Meetings prove to be profitable. Don't be surprised if a loved one reacts strongly. In fact, you might be taken aback by the strength of his or her words or actions. Make special plans with this person. Tonight: TGIF. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Don't count on anyone but yourself right now. You find that friends and associates are a bit wild. What seemed like a good idea might not be when you experience the other person's mood. Stick to the tried and true. Tonight: Off to the gym

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** You bounce with ideas. Remember, just because something feels good to you, doesn't mean it does to another person. A boss or older relative is being demanding. You aren't going to change him or her. Find someone more playful. Tonight: Act like a kid again

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

*** You have a very strong manner, which sometimes elicits strong reactions from others. A partner is there for you, even if you have a disagree-

ment. Let it go and avoid power plays of any kind. Remember, love the one you're with. Tonight: Spice up your

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

*** Kick back again and see what others have up their sleeves. A partner could be quite frustrated with the present state of finances. Talks must happen if you value this person. Your instincts will tell you what to do. Tonight: Among the crowds

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

*** Make up for another person's slowness. He or she just might not be up to snuff. Know that what you are doing is appreciated. You might not hear the words, but you will see the reaction. Right now, don't worry about picking up the tab. Tonight: Don't push yourself or anyone else

AOUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

**** You are very playful, innovative and in the spirit for the weekend. The problem might be an associate who has a bad case of the blahs. Use your imagination, but don't push others. Be a role model. Teach others how to have fun. Tonight: Let your imagination

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

*** Your laughter might be misunderstood by a loved one or child who is a bit oversensitive. Walk in this person's shoes. Perhaps indulging this person could help. Give yourself permission to break the bank once in a while. Tonight. Head home.,

BORN TODAY

Actor Leonard Nimoy (1931), singer Diana Ross (1944), journalist Bob Woodward (1943)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.

Hawks take on fourth-seeded Wake Forest (21-9) -

Wake Forest game has much the country, yielding 56.2

court, something Pittsburgh will try to stop with its defense.

"We both play physical," said Lucas, who didn't have to sit out a year because of the circumstances surrounding the scandal. "You never know how the game will turn out. It may be a war. People may have busted lips. Anything is possible."

The game between St. Joseph's of the Atlantic 10 and the Demon Deacons of the ACC features of matchup of two outstanding point guards — the Hawks' Jameer Nelson (20.6) and Wake Forest freshman Chris Paul (14.9).

"When I watch him I think, 'That was what it was like when we had Jameer as a freshman," Martelli said. "I don't know all of the freshmen in the country, but if there's anybody who's had more of an impact on their team than he has had on this team, God bless him."

Martelli and Packer chatted briefly and shook hands Wednesday as the Hawks held the last of the four open practices at the arena.

Packer is working the regional for CBS

It will be the third meeting between the two teams in the tournament, and the first since 1962, when Packer was a star guard for the Demon Deacons.

"This game and this tournament has nothing to do with Billy Packer," Packer going to take care of you," Lucas said. "I did not interject myself into this tournament and never have. I prepare to gets the Cowboys up and down the do the games and say what I see.'

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League Standings Wednesday Night Mixed League

	(Week 21)		
Feam	Won	Lost	
Lefors Federal Credit Union	12	4	
Chez Tanz	11	5	
Reed's Welding	w 11	5	
Bob's Bandits	9	7	
Gutter Busters	9	7	
Beta Tex	8	8	
The Woodpecker Shop	7	9	
Team Three	7	9	
Harvester Lanes	4	12	
	Week's High Scores		

Week's High Scores Men

High scratch game: Mike Lane 267; High scratch series: Mike Lane 740; High handicap game: Mike Lane 270; High handicap series: Mike Lane 749.

Women

High scratch game: Billie Gowdy 211; High scratch series: Billie Gowdy 577; High handicap game: Billie Gowdy 255; High handicap series: Billie Gowdy 709.

> Harvester Women's League (Week 24)

Team	Won	Lost		
Davis Minit Mart	65 1/2	30 1/2		
O'Brien Enterprises	59 1/2	36 1/2		
Rug Express	55	41		
Schiffman Machine	53 1/2	42 1/2		
Big Uns!	51 1/2	44 1/2		
Coney Island	48	48		
Gymnastics of Pampa	46	. 50		
Peacevale Land & Cattle Co.	45	51		
Harvester Lanes	34	58		

Week's High Scores

High scratch game: Sheryl Hoch 256; High scratch series: Sheryl Hoch 614; High handicap game: Sheryl Hoch 296; High handicap series: Sheryl Hoch 734.

Kwan stumbles, Plushenko ready to soar

DORTMUND, Germany (AP) - Michelle Kwan looked nothing like a perennial champion. She'll need to do a whole lot better the rest of the way in the World Figure In her qualifying perform-

Skating Championships. Kwan got off to a wobbly start Wednesday in her bid to become the first American skater to win six world titles.

ance, Kwan turned a triple loop jump into a single and fell on her usually reliable triple lutz. She finished third in her group behind two Japanese skaters.

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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

CRYPTOQUOTE

ILTTQZQE, SIQMQ PC LDULBC

LNSQM SIQ XZQVTQRSQE ILC

CAGQAZQ UIA FZQU

UAXDE. - CAXMRQ XZFZAUZ Yesterday's Cryptoquote: A HIGHBROW IS A PERSON WHO CAN USE THE WORD "WHOM" WITHOUT FEELING SELF-CONSCIOUS. — **ANONYMOUS**

Sports E-Mail

The Pampa News sports department has a new e-mail address.

Articles and photographs from coaches or volunteer reporters should be e-mailed sports@thepampanews.com

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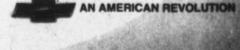
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High court set to hear pledge case

By GINA HOLLAND ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) -The case before the Supreme Court drew a varied crowd: Christians, atheists, politicians, educators and a bitterly divided mother and father.

What was missing? The California third-grader at the center of a dispute over the Pledge of Allegiance.

A state judge had barred the girl from watching her father ask the Supreme Court on Wednesday to strike down the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools because it contains the words "under God."

Some justices, however, seemed worried about the eventual impact on her.

Justice Anthony Kennedy told Michael Newdow that he was asking the court to "exercise the extraordinary, the breathtaking power to declare federal law unconstitutional."

"It seems to me, that your daughter is the one that bears the blame for this. She's going to face the public outcry, the public outrage," Kennedy said.

Newdow said he was not worried about adverse consequences for the girl, who has not been named in court records.

"My daughter's going to be able to walk around and say that 'my father helped uphold the Constitution of the United States," he responded as a rapt, packed courtroom watched an unusually passionate argument in a case that will decide whether millions of public schoolchildren may continue pledging allegiance to one nation "under God."

On the other side, Bush administration lawyer Theodore Olson said the pledge reflects America's religious heritage.

"It is an acknowledgment of the religious basis of the framers of the Constitution, who believed not only that the right to revolt, but that the right to vest power in the people to create a government ... came as a result of religious principles," Olson said.

That view was loudly represented outside the court, with scores of demonstrators reciting the pledge and carrying signs that read, "In God We Trust."

Sandra Banning, the mother of the girl, also was in the courtroom. She opposes Newdow's complaint.

"I hope and pray that they will support our history, the traditions of our nations and the values that we hold dear," said Banning, who never married Newdow and has primary custody of the girl. "We should be proud of our heritage and proud of our history and not succumb to popular culture."

Terence Cassidy, the attorney for the Sacramento-area school district in the case, asked the court to consider "what is in the best interest of the child."

Newdow had prevailed in respect before one Wednesday's argument began. He had asked Justice Antonin Scalia to step aside because of remarks that seemed to prejudge the case. Scalia complied.

If the rest of the court agrees with Newdow now, it could declare that the phrase "under God" breaches the figurative wall separating church and state. That would mean an end to the Pledge of Allegiance as generations of American schoolchildren have known it.

Or, as several justices indicated during arguments, the court could rule that the words are a benign and ceremonial part of a traditional, patriotic exercise.

Radical Islam filling vacuum caused by ban

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Soldiers, religious leaders, businessmen and heirs to political dynasties are among major candidates running in Indonesian elections, but one key democratic element is missing: the left.

As the world's biggest Muslim country gears up for April 5 parliamentary elections — its second free ballot since the fall of exdictator Suharto in 1998 the political elite is refusing to abandon the strongman's ban on the communist party and other left-wing groups.

The nearly four decade old ban illustrates how Indonesia's bloody past has hampered the development of democracy. It also has had the unintended effect of strengthening Muslim radicalism among impoverished Indonesians unable to vent their frustrations through left-wing alternatives.

"There is no place for ideological conflict in Indonesia," declared Justice Minister Yusril Mahendra, who heads the Islam-based Crescent Star Party. "Communism is not relevant to our situation here."

The prohibition was introduced by Gen. Suharto in 1966 when he seized power from independent Indonesia's first president Sukarno after accusing him of involvement in an alleged communist coup attempt. At the time, the military was engaged in a wholesale slaughter of leftists, trade unionists and other political opponents of the dictatorship. At least 500,000 people died and the party was annihilated.

The continuing prohibition, which in practice extends to all left-wing parties and trade unions, highlights the lingering influence of groups that formed the dictatorship's main pillars - like the Golkar Party and the military.

"It shows entrenched their power and interests still are," said Dede Oetomo, a professor at Airlangga University in Surabaya.

The lack of left-wing parties also has caused many Indonesians frustrated by endemic corruption and dramatic contrasts in living standards to flock to religious extremists including militant groups like the al-Qaida-linked Jemaah Islamiyah network.

In fact, the main hotspots of religious radicalism on the sprawling archipelago of 210 million people, including the city of Solo in central Java, were Communist Party strongholds before the massacres of the mid-60s.

The killing of up to 40,000 of Indonesia's 90,000 schoolteachers as part of those purges left an education vacuum that was quickly filled by radicalized Islamic schools and preachers.

At the time, anti-communist fervor in the United States was at its height, and Washington supplied Indonesian generals with thousands of names of known leftists and trade unionists. Most were arrested and executed by troops, historians say.

Ivory Coast protest begins with a clash

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) Security forces killed at least 16 demonstrators in Abidjan on Thursday as a massive march to demand implementation of a peace deal got under way in Ivory Coast, witnesses and opposition officials said.

Government officials denied soldiers or police had caused any fatalities.

The protesters were killed in different parts of the West African city as security forces tried to disperse crowds, said Bacongo Cisse, a spokesman for the main opposition Rally of the Republicans party. similar Witnesses gave accounts.

Diedie Mady, a spokesman

for the Democratic Party of Ivory Coast, raised the death toll to 16 saying "very many people were wounded by bullets" and a number of others were arrested.

Despite the violence and a government ban on public demonstrations, opposition leaders vowed to press on.

"The demonstration will continue. We will do everything to arrive in Plateau," Cisse said. The march was called to

press President Laurent Gbagbo to fully implement a 2003 peace deal.

Gbagbo's government accuses rebels who control the north of plotting a coup d'etat together with opposition parties.

Jeannot Koudou, an adviser to the security minister, said "security forces intervened to maintain order," firing tear gas and injuring several people. Asked whether any of them had fired into crowds, he said: "It's false. It's not true."

Integration Minister Mel Theodore blamed the opposition for the violence.

"In insisting on their wish to demonstrate, they are trying to create troubles for the government, which is at the stage where it wants reconciliation," he said.

The United Nations is preparing to deploy 6,240 U.N. peacekeepers in early April to back around 4,000 French and 1,400 West African troops already in the country.

In the northern suburb of Abobo, the bloodied corpse of one policeman lay in a courtyard where security forces were trying to break up gathering crowds.

The policeman was among a group of officers who fired at stone-hurling demonstrators, but retreated as protesters gave chase, said Mady Traore, a resident of the area.

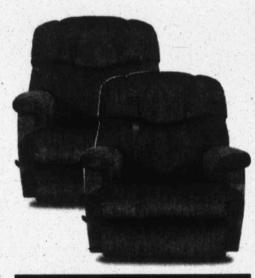
"We followed him and he entered a courtyard. We broke down the door and came up behind him, and knocked him down with a brick," Traore said. "When he fell down, one of our friends shot him."

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