THE PAMPA

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Today's weather



arrested Tuesday, after leading law enforcement officers on a car and foot chase through miles of Pampa streets, are still in Gray County Jail as of press time today in lieu of the jail official. bond, according to a jail official.

By MARILYN POWERS

Staff Writer

William Walling,

in licu of bonds totaling \$7,000 for of a motor vehicle, evading arrest of a motor vehicle. unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, with a vehicle, evading arrest, and All three suspects who were burglary of a motor vehicle, and evading arrest. Walling is also wanted by Kentucky law enforcement on a warrant for violating probation on a charge of felony theft, according to

Local officers waiting to see if Kentucky authorities want to extradict

Sean Withers, 30, of New Albany, 30, of Ind., remains in jail in lieu of bonds lieu of bonds totaling \$3,000 for

Shepherdsville, Ky., remains in jail totaling \$9,250 for unauthorized use evading arrest and unauthorized use burglary of a vehicle.

> outstanding Kentucky warrant for Joe B. Hoard of Gray County violation of probation on a charge of Sheriff's Office. felony theft.

City, Okla., remains in jail today in

VS

All Gray County charges except the evading arrest charge against Withers is also the subject of an Withers are felony charges, said Lt.

"If they make bond, we'll hold Gary Davis, 40, of Oklahoma them here for Kentucky, and if

See SUSPECTS, Page 3



Eva Jane Green, 86, homemaker. Mattie Ella Morgan, 105, nurse.

Odds & Ends

GROVE, Okla. (AP) ---Usually, parishioners offer money to their churches. This time, the church handed out money.

Pastor Steve Dyer of the Newsong Church gave \$14,000 to congregation



Won't be long now! Organizers make plans for 'Burnin' the Bricks' 2005 **By DAVID BOWSER** Staff Writer

Trophies were the topic of conversation among car enthusiasts meeting Tuesday night at the Pampa Community Building, 200 N. Ballard.

Some 29 people showed up Tuesday night for a meeting of the High Plains Cruisers, an informal group of local vehicle enthusiasts, to discuss plans for next summer's "Burnin' the Bricks" weekend, set for Saturday and Sunday, June 11 and 12 Vic Laramore said Clay Rice, executive director of the Pampa Chamber, and Chamber staff, as well as city officials and the Pampa Police Department had been very supportive of the group's Burnin' the Bricks events. A Burn-Out competition will begin at 10 a.m., June 11, between Pampa High School and Harvester Stadium under the direction of the Pampa Police Department.

members to invest for seven weeks, after which they are to bring the money and profits back to the church to be used in missionary work.

"The idea has always been in the back of my mind," said Dyer.

Loud gasps were heard throughout the 125-member, interdenominational church as the envelopes containing \$100 and \$50 bills were ripped opened after the Sunday sermon.

Dyer had placed crisp \$100 bills in red envelopes for adults and \$50 bills in green envelopes for schoolage children.

Dyer said the church isn't keeping track of who has the money. He only gave one stipulation: It was not to be used to buy lottery tickets or to gamble.

Teacia Williams, 14, of Grove said she is going to use her \$50 to buy newspaper ads advertising her availability to baby-sit.

"I plan on doubling the money," she said.

MISHAWAKA, Ind. (AP) — A Valentine's Day gift sure created some sparks here — when it plunged 2,100 homes and businesses into the dark.

The heart-shaped metallic Mylar balloon caused an electrical outage when it drifted into an electrical substation, said Phil Miller, the general manager of Mishawaka Utilities.

"It said 'I Love You' on it," he said. "It looks like someone didn't hold onto their Valentine's gift tightly enough."

Miller said the balloon, trailing a wet string, drifted into the substation near the University Park mall in the city just east of South Bend.

The string caused a short circuit in a bank of capacitors, which are components that store electrical charges within the city's power transmission network.

Larry and Kay Stephens review the 2005 calendar featuring High Plains Cruisers vehicles at a meeting Tuesday night to plan this year's Burning the Bricks in June weekend events.

MDA plans luau theme for lockup hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.,

PISD board agenda

lengthy for Tuesday

By DEE DEE LARAMORE

Editor

A lengthy agenda awaits the Pampa Independent School

A community hearing on the 2005-2006 School Calendar

State law requires that public schools begin the school

To begin on a date other than the one set by the state, he

year the week of Aug. 21, explained PISD Superintendent

said, requires a 60-day public notice and a public hearing.

See AGENDA, Page 3

will be conducted at the meeting. The proposed calendar

lists a school start date on Aug. 15, 2005, which requires a

District's Board of Education when they meet at 6 p.m.,

Thursday, Feb. 17, at Carver Center, 321 W. Albert.

By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer

Local business and civic leaders and other Pampans may want to start collecting donations in advance so that they can make "bail" if they are "arrested" in this Thursday's annual Muscular Dystrophy Association lock-

Fenton Motors of Pampa is the site of this year's "jail" and will be decorated to resemble a Hawaiian luau, this year's theme. Lockup

waiver according to state law.

Barry Haenisch.

"The main reason we are doing it is because of our passion for the cause. We want to do our part," said Harry Fisher Sr., general

Thursday, Feb. 17.

manager of Fenton Motors of Pampa. "We're not trying to sell any cars. We're just wanting to do our part for the community." collected Donations

through "bail" money will help provide services to

See MDA, Page 3

Amateur photographers, here's your chance to win! Enter The Pampa News' "Pampa the jpeg (.jpg) format. Photos submitted

\$50 in Pampa Bucks and have your photo published as a special section cover on March 31.

One section of the annual "Pride" Progress special edition will be dedicated to photographs of Pampa people in

Pampa. best photos submitted for the "Pampa Portraits" contest will be included in one section of this special edition and the winning photograph will be published in color on the cover.

The

Eligible entries will be

photographs of Pampa people in Pampa taken by amateur photographers. Photo subjects can be at work, at play, relaxing at home or celebrating special occasions. Photos of scenery or animals only will not be considered.

Newspaper staff members will determine the winner by judging on content, quality and originality. The decision of the judges will be final.

Photographs can be prints or digitals copied to a CD and submitted by mail or by bringing them to the newspaper office. Digital photos can be emailed in

Portraits" contest for a chance to win on a CD must be of the contest entry only.

> A brief explanation of what is happening in the photograph, names of the persons, date and place must be included with each entry. If a person other than the entrant is in the photograph, a

signed release to his/her have likeness published is also required.

The Pampa News will not be responsible for any lost or damaged photos. Entrants are asked not to submit photos that are irreplaceable.

Each entry

must be accompanied by the entrant's name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number. Entries that do not have all the required information will not be

Entry deadline is 5 p.m., Wednesday, March 16. The winner will be notified by Friday, March 25

To submit an entry, mail to "Pampa Portraits" Contest, The Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198; or bring to 403 W. Atchison. To submit by e-mail, send the entry to editor@thepampanews.com.

considered.

Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

See BRICKS, Page 3

2 — Wednesday, February 16, 2005 — The Pampa News

Obituaries

Eva Jane Green, 86

ODESSA — Eva Jane Green, 86, died Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2005, at Parks Methodist Nursing Center in Odessa

Graveside services are set at 11 a.m. Friday in Fairview Cemetery in Pampa. Arrangements are under the direction of Odessa Funeral Home.

Born Sept. 30, 1918, Mrs. Green relocated to Odessa from Pampa in 1961. She married Kendell Green in 1940 and was a homemaker.

JOPLIN, Mo. – Mattie Ella Morgan, 105, a former Pampa resident, died Sunday, Feb. 13, 2005, in Freeman East Health System in Joplin. No services are planned.

At her request, Mrs. Morgan's body was donated to the University of Missouri in Columbia. Arrangements were under the direction of Crafton-Cantrell Funeral Home of Aurora, Mo.

Mrs. Morgan was born Sept. 8, 1899, at Big Flat, Ark., to Taylor and Elizabeth home, 2731 Highland, in Joplin from 2-7 Guynn Cook. She married Austin Morgan in p.m., Saturday, Feb. 19. 1970; he died July 5, 1990.

Mrs. Green was preceded in death by a son, Harold Ray Green.

Survivors include her husband, Kendell of Odessa; a son, Gary of Odessa; a brother, Gerald Stark of Amarillo; two sisters, Elda Duckworth of San Angelo and Arlene Lax of Amarillo; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Visitation is scheduled until 9 p.m. today at the funeral home in Odessa.

Mattie Ella Morgan, 105

Mrs. Morgan, a licensed practical nurse, belonged to Mount Vernon First Baptist Church. She previously lived in Shamrock, Borger and Ranger, Texas.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Helen McCann; and a son, Jack Barnhill. Survivors include six grandchildren and

numerous great-grandchildren and greatgreat-grandchildren. Visitors will be received at Mrs. Morgan's

Services tomorrow

GREEN, Eva Jane — Graveside services, 11 a.m., Fairview Cemetery, Pampa.

Teacher accused of giving alcohol to minors

PEARSALL, Texas (AP) — A junior high school teacher has been arrested on charges of providing beer and liquor to students.

The arrest of Valerie Banda, a 24-yearold Spanish teacher and a junior high coach, comes in the same week that the local school district planned an alcohol awareness program for students and faculty.

In August, another teacher was arrested after police reported finding more than 40 underage students drinking alcohol at her house. Pearsall High School teacher Sonia Ornelas has said she was sleeping in her bedroom and didn't know her son was throwing a party.

Ornelas is on administrative leave with

pay and hasn't been allowed back into the classroom since her arrest. Her case has not yet come before a judge.

In the latest incident, Banda was driving on one of the city's main streets early Sunday with three high school girls in her vehicle when she was stopped for speeding, Police Chief Roland Hernandez said.

Hernandez said when the officer attempted to perform a field sobriety test on Banda, the teacher refused.

"She became uncooperative and started using profane language," Hernandez said. "Of course, she didn't realize everything is under videotape surveillance from the patrol car."

Gray County Weather

Today: A chance of snow before 10 a.m., then a chance of rain and snow between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., then a chance of rain after 11 a.m.

Cloudy, with a high near 42. Wind chill values between 25 and 31. East wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent. New snow accumulation of less than 1 inch possible.

Tonight: A slight chance

CITY **BRIEFS**

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

of rain and snow before 9 p.m., then a slight chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 28. Wind chill values between 21 and 26. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Thursday: A slight chance of snow before 10 a.m., then a slight chance of rain. Cloudy, with a high around 44. Wind chill values between 21 and 31. West wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Thursday Night: A slight chance of rain, mixing with snow after 2 a.m. Cloudy, with a low near 31. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Friday: A slight chance of snow before 9 a.m., then a slight chance of rain. Cloudy, with a high near 48.

Friday Night: A slight chance of rain, mixing with snow after 4 a.m. Cloudy, with a low around 32. South wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Saturday: A slight chance of rain and snow before 9 a.m., then a slight chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 57. South wind around 15 mph becoming west. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 33. North northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Sunday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 61. North northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low near 33. Monday: Partly cloudy,

with a high near 57. Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents and arrest.

Tuesday, Feb. 15 Eighteen traffic stops were made. A vehicle accident was reported to be in the intersection of Highways 60 and 70.

A hit and run accident was reported in the 1000 block of Prairie Drive. A traffic complaint was received concerning the intersection of Somerville and Hobart streets, and from the 2200 block of Perryton Parkway. Motorist assistance was rendered in the 1000 block of Prairie Drive.

A prowler was called in from the 600 block of North Christy.

Law enforcement assistance was rendered in the 2000 block of Coffee Street.

Barnes. A call concerning an assault was received from the 500 block of North Dwight.

ducted in the 600 block of

Telephone harassment was called in from the 2100 block of Hamilton.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the intersection of Ripley and Faulkner streets.

Disorderly conduct/noise was called in from the 1300 block of Coffee and the 2200 block of Beech Lane.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the 1800 block of Williston.

Criminal mischief was called in from the 700 block of North Hobart.

A missing person was police department.

call was received from the School.

Susan Wilson, 54, 1812 N. Banks, and a 1999 Chevrolet Suburban, driven by Patricia Gonzales, 26, Route 1, Pampa, collided in the 1200 block of North Hobart. No

injuries were reported. Wilson was cited for following too closely and no proof of insurance.

Fire

Pampa Fire Department responded to the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Tuesday, Feb. 15 9:23 a.m. - One unit and three firefighters responded to a motor vehicle collision in the 900 block of South Hobart.

2:58 p.m. – Three units reported in the lobby of the and eight firefighters provided an escort for the Pampa A domestic disturbance Harvester bus at Pampa High

'These **Diana Brun** put a dent a comedy i Mall. "The what they

Sus Cont

Lindsay ar

tion call 66

Kentucky we'll cut th Walling and Davis, Wa cers from fi cies on a cha p.m. Monda Center, 120 resulted from a vehicle.

Officers



DUCKS UNLIMITED Banquet, Fri., Feb. 18th, 6:30 p.m. Knights of Columbus, 318 N. Cuyler. Donny Snow 669-6771 or Jeff Kirkland 669-0433. \$45 couple, \$35 single.

"BKS BUZZ" New Scripture Tableware. Gather your family and set your table everyday with this new casual china edged with Scripture in classic black lettering. Best Kept Secrets, 1925 N. Hobart.

ONION SETS, Seed potatoes, Canna bulbs are in at West Texas Landscape, 120 S. Hobart, 669-0158

Along Came Polly" on HBO

PROFESSIONAL INSTALLATION

FREE First 2

Months

Our Professional Installation

Simple & Easy

southwest wind 30. South around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

the third city official to depart

Falls city manager since 1983,

said Tuesday that he planned

to leave a year from now but

hopes his departure will help

mend the divided community.

April 15 will be his last day.

There is a feeling I might

Jim Berzina, the Wichita

in less than a year.

Tuesday: Mostly cloudy, with a high around 47.

Wichita Falls city manager retires after mayor ousted from office

WICHITA FALLS (AP) be in the way of the progress Ten days after the mayor of the community," Berzina, 61, said after the City was ousted in a recall election, Council meeting. the city manager announced his retirement - becoming

Mayor Bill Altman "was ousted Feb. 5 in a recall election. He had been under fire from many residents since a September budget hearing, when he said the Police Department was "playing games" with hiring. prompting Police Chief Ken Coughlin to suddenly quit.

Coughlin and his supporters had criticized Berzina for not disciplining his controversial director of administrative services, Jan Stricklin, who also was supported by Altman.

Critics say Stricklin bungled police hiring practices and civil service procedures designed to keep politics out of police and fire department personnel matters.

An animal complaint was received from the 2300 block of Primrose Lane, and from One Medical Plaza.

Theft was called in from Pampa Junior High School, 2401 Charles, and from the 300 block of North Hobart, which involved missing cash.

Warrant service was conducted at City Hall.

Disorderly conduct/other was reported at Pampa Junior High School.

Found property was reported in the 700 block of Deane Drive. A metal crack pipe was found during renovation of a residence. The pipe was booked in at the police department.

A call concerning found * property was received from the 1000 block of Prairie Drive.

A suspicious person call was received from the 100 block of North Gray

Criminal mischief was reported in the 300 block of South Cuyler. One residential alarm was

reported.

PAMPA CHAPTER

DUCKS UNLIMITED DINNER

400 block of Oklahoma. Edwin Brian Thornton,

43, 114 Warren, was arrested in the 100 block of North Warren for assault causing bodily injury to a family

Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents today.

member.

Monday, Feb. 14

4:38 p.m. – A 1999 Pontiac, driven by Shaunna Lynne Gray, 16, 1001 E. Browning, and a 1993 Toyota Corolla, driven by Lacy Rhae McCarty, 20, 1329 N. Starkweather, collided in the intersection of Somerville and Hobart. No injuries were reported. Gray was cited for failure to yield right of way - left turn and no valid driver's license. Kenneth Kristopher Smith, 17, 1912 Chestnut, a passenger in Gray's vehicle, was cited for allowing an unlicensed driver to drive.

4:50 p.m. - A 1998 Buick A welfare check was con- LeSabre, driven by Laura

3:21 p.m. - Two units and six firefighters responded to a false alarm in the 2500 block of Chestnut.

Ambulance

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Tuesday, Feb. 15 9:22 a.m. – A mobile ICU unit responded to Highways 60 and 70. No transport.

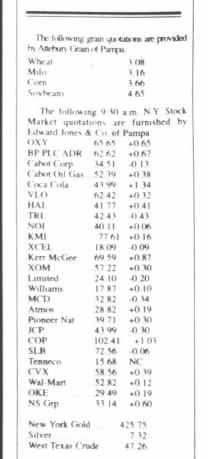
10:43 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to Pampa Regional Medical Center and transported a patient to Perry LeFors Field.

4:27 p.m. – A mobile ICU unit responded to the 600 block of Barnes. No transport.

9:13 p.m. – A mobile ICU unit responded to the 800 block of West 25th and transported a patient to PRMC. Wednesday, Feb. 16

2:57 a.m. – A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1800 block of Alcock and transported a patient to PRMC.

Stocks



offe

AMARII will present the Amarill at 8:30 a.m Red Cross, free of cha staff, leade be held at Center, Ro A&M Univ The wor

Group's fur based on " of ForImpa by Suddes who has wo 30 years, th is a learnin organizatio the way th their vision

Fund-rais duced at th



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Then the can request the state, he Action it board Thurs following:

Innovative Pampa Lear · Authoriz

refunding. V First Southv scheduled advantages bonds sold tary addition ing. School refunding b



Continue

local N according to release. Ser include free medical car port group camp, whee and repair.

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CABLEONE Watch us make you smile.

318 N. CUYLER 6:30 PM RUFFLING OF FEATHERS 7:30 PM DINNER 35°° SINGLE \$45° COUPLE \$270° SPONSOR COUPLE PRICE INCLUDES MEMBERSHIR & DINNER For more information, please contact: Donnie Snow - 669-6771 or Jeff Kirkland - 669-0433.

FEBRUARY 18, 2005 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Your membership contribution may be tax deductible except for a \$3 value for each Ducks Unlimited magazine subscription and \$3 value of other membership fulfillment items for each membership to the amount allowed by law. See your tax advisor for actual deductibility.

The Pampa News — Wednesday, February 16, 2005 — 3



'These ladies are no ladies'

Diana Bruner holds tight to Dawn Clendening's hammer arm as she tries to put a dent in Berinda Turcotte's head. ACT I presents "Ladies at the Alamo," a comedy in two acts, Feb. 25, 26 and March 3-4 at the theater behind Pampa Mall. "These 'ladies' are no ladies," says director, Kayla Pursley. "They get what they want by whatever means necessary." Also in the cast are Sheila Lindsay and Gayla Rigdon. Curtain goes up at 7:30 p.m. For more information call 665-3820.

Suspects

Continued from Page 1

Kentucky refuses to extradite them, we'll cut them loose," Hoard said of Walling and Withers.

Davis, Walling and Withers led officers from five law enforcement agencies on a chase that began at about 2:30 p.m. Monday at Coronado Shopping Center, 1200 N. Hobart. The chase resulted from a call alleging burglary of a vehicle.

Department, Gray County Sheriff's Office, Roberts County Sheriff's Office, Texas Department of Public Safety and the Texas Rangers were involved in the chas<None>e by the time all three suspects were taken into custody.

Walling was arrested near the 2000 block of North Hobart after the men parked their vehicle in that vicinity and attempted to escape on foot. Davis was apprehended at the intersection of Hobart, 21st Avenue and Perryton Parkway.

Officers from Pampa Police was the last to be arrested. He went into Department.

a business in the 2100 block of North Hobart and was seen leaving the business and going west across Perryton Parkway, then north down an alley.

Recreation Park.

Recreation Park.

the car show.

After moving through a yard, then west across Banks Street and another yard on the west side of Banks, officers lost visual contact with Withers, but set up a perimeter and found him in a garage that opened onto an alley in the area.

The red car the three had been traveling in was reported stolen on Feb. 9 from Tennessee, according to Lt. Fred Withers, the driver of the trio's car, Courtney of Pampa Police

Citizens on Patrol

training set Feb. 17

for the Mud Bog.

The local VFW post will

Registration for the cruise

The cruisers will follow

"Our old drag included

The car show, swap meet

There will be 20 classes in

The Mud Bog, which

proved so popular last year,

drawing approximately

5,000 spectators, will also

begin at 10 a.m. at

There will be nine classes

Several non-profits will be on hand selling food.

Bruner said that the Boy Scouts made enough last year to buy a new trailer for their concession stand this year.

Caps and tee shirts will be on sale throughout the weekend.

The money raised from the car show will go for the club's auto vocational tech scholarships.

There is no entry fee for spectators, Bruner said.

"Spectators are free for all events," Laramore said.

Next meeting for Burnin' of the Bricks in June weekend plans is set for Tuesday, March 15, at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Pampa Building.

Anyone interested in help-But since Hobart is Texas ing with the event is welcome to attend.





1538 N. Hobart Street (1 block North of United) Pampa, Texas '806-665-1900

Monday-Friday 8am-6pm Saturday 9am-5pm

TAKE CONTROL OF



offered for nonprofit groups

Free fund-raising workshop

AMARILLO - The Suddes Group building, the relationship-based at 8:30 a.m. Sponsored by the American process. Red Cross, the three-hour workshop is be held at the Virgil Henson Activities Center, Room 211, on the West Texas A&M University campus in Canyon.

The workshop teaches the Suddes Group's fund-raising approach, which is based on "The Nine Guiding Principles of ForImpact Organizations." Authored by Suddes Group founder Tom Suddes, who has worked with nonprofits for over 30 years, the "Nine Guiding Principles" is a learning framework that challenges organizations to make radical changes in the way they think, operate and fund their vision.

duced at the workshop include message to www.forimpact.org/workshops.

will present the ForImpact Workshop in ForImpact development office, the leadthe Amarillo area on Tuesday, March 8, ership society, and the major gift

Attendance as a team is encouraged, free of charge and open to nonprofit including representation from the develstaff, leadership and volunteers. It will opment staff, senior staff and board members. The workshop is one of many being offered across the country through The Suddes Group's ForImpact open source initiative, and through the sponsorship of local ForImpact leaders.

The ForImpact open source initiative shares The Suddes Group's fundraising and development processes at its website, www.forimpact.org. ForImpact invites dialogue, innovation and ideasharing from anyone involved in the nonprofit arena.

To register for the ForImpact Workshop, or for more information, con-Fund-raising frameworks to be intro- tact Tom Pierce at 800-786-1113, or go

A training class for Pampa Police Department's Citizens On Patrol program will be at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 17, at the police department in City Hall.

Citizens On Patrol 1s a program that "takes Neighborhood Watch one step further," said Pampa Police Officer Donny Brown, who will be the instructor for Thursday's class.

Participants act as "extra eyes and ears" for law enforcement officers by patrolling their neighborhoods and reporting any suspicious or illegal activity they witness, Brown said.

Thursday's class will be approximately three hours long.

A second three-hour session will be scheduled during Thursday's session for further instruction to complete the course, Brown said.

For more information, call Brown at 669-5700.

Agenda

Continued from Page 1

Then the school district can request a waiver from the state, he said.

Action items before the board Thursday include the revised policies on relations following:

Implementing Innovative Courses at Pampa Learning Center.

• Authorization for bond refunding. Vince Viaille of First Southwest company is scheduled to discuss the advantages of refunding bonds sold for the elementary additions and remodeling. School officials defined refunding bonds as being

Continued from Page 1

according to an MDA news

release. Services provided

include free comprehensive

medical care, monthly sup-

port groups, a summer

camp, wheelchair purchase

and repair, and ongoing

local MDA patients,

Mda

similar to refinancing a mortgage to lower a house payment.

Travel Card. • Bids for property and casualty insurance cover-

age. • Second reading of

with parent organizations, leaves and absences, and TASB Policy Update 74. • New term contracts for

classroom teachers and dual contracts

• Nomination of a Pampa ISD trustee to Texas Association of School Boards Board of Directors. • Personnel: Renewal of administrators' contracts and offer of employment for

teachers for 2005-2006. Discussion items listed on the agenda include first · Approval of Bank One reads of revised policies for nonschool use of school facilities and distribution of nonschool literature.

Reports scheduled for the meeting include the Drug and Alcohol Survey results, survey results on workplace incentives inventory from the Salary and Benefits Committee, Campus Arrest Report for the first semester from Pampa Chief of Police, and credit hours earned by board of trustee members.

A Spotlight on Excellence is planned at the beginning of the meeting and a public comments period is scheduled for 7 p.m.

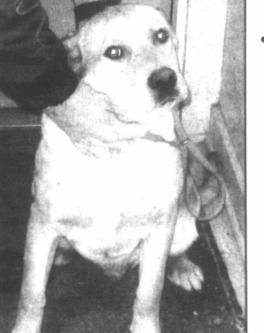
medical research to find a cure for the 43 diseases that are associated with muscular dystrophy.

Employees of Fenton Motors will act as "peace officers" and will use cars provided by the dealership to make their "arrests."

"The 'jailbirds' will be handcuffed, sentenced to one hour of lockup fun, and have their mug shots taken

behind bars," according to the release. They will also be allowed to make phone calls to raise their "bail" money.

The traditional bread and water provided to prisoners will be supplemented by brisket, provided and cooked by the dealership, said Teresa Isham, program coordinator for MDA in the Pampa area.



... Dax

This is a year old male yellow lab. Dax loves playing ball and will make a wonderful addition to your family. Come by today!

If You Would Like To Help The Animals Donations Can Be Sent To ... City Of Pampa Fund 12 PO Box 2499 • Pampa, Texas 79066

sponsored by ... The Pampa News

For information about these pets or any other contact the Animal Shelter at 669-5775 or come by their location at Hobart Street Park.

NEW HOURS Monday-Saturday 9-6, Office Open To The Public 5-6pm, Closed Sundays & Holidays.

LOST YOUR PET? Call the Animal Shelter first! Leave a detailed message with your phone number. We hold stray animals for 72 hours only. So PLEASE call us as soon as your pet is missing!

- Wednesday, February 16, 2005 — The Pampa News



Turning 18 holds privilege and responsibility

remember the passing of of being an adult. It means Valentine's Day has held a special meaning for me. It has always signified that my birthday was just 10 short days away. This year that has extra importance and significance to me because I will be turning 18 years old. This is, from everything I have heard and often read, one of the most important birthday milestones.

The traditional view on this particular birthday proclaims that turning 18 means that you cease to be a child

For as long as I can and take on the requirements that you amass a larger amount of responsibility and respect. It means that you are considered independent.

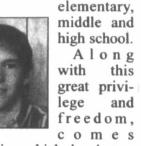
However, my personal view is taking on something very different. To me, it seems to mean hardly anything different than what my take 17th birthday meant. Turning 18 is nothing more than just signifying that another year has passed by. The only real freedoms given to someone who turns 18 are the right to smoke and

buy lottery tickets, two tion night results pour in and to. I had to register for the things which I will rarely if wishing I had been able to ever be doing.

Although the two practically useless privileges of age Ben are some-**Briscoe** thing I will **News Intern** never parin, there is one thing about

turning 18 that thrills me. I something which deeply terwill finally have the right to vote. For years I have looked forward to this ability. I remember watching the elec-

cast my ballot, make my opinion heard, throughout



rifies me - the possibility of being drafted. As I filled out financial aid applications for the colleges I have applied

Selective Service. Each male must register when they turn 18. If a draft were to ever be started, a pool of men would be drawn from the Selective Service. While President Bush has said he will not reinstate the draft, with war recently threatening with Iran from the warning of of State Secretary Condileeza Rice, the possibility is looming. Turning 18 could very well mean that I could be sent off to die in a war I do not particular believe is worth fighting.

It is this that scares me about turning 18. It is this that makes me wonder about how much the birthday's benefits actually outweigh its negatives. But each time I start to ask myself this question, I just sit back and remember that this year will be one of change, one of happiness and one of good experiences, and that makes the birthday a joyous one.

Ben Briscoe is a senior at Pampa High School working as a journalism intern at The News.



Houston Chronicle

The unmasking of an alleged journalist who used a pseudonym to gain access to White House briefings and news conferences raises more questions about the Bush administration's tactics for securing favorable news. James Guckert, who used the Talon News byline "Jeff Gannon," managed to get access to the White House on a daily basis for two years.

Guckert questioned President Bush at a January news conference last month, tossing a softball query that ridiculed Democrats for "being divorced from reality." The organization Guckert worked for turned out to be an arm of a partisan group, GOPUSA, a conservative Web site based in Houston and dedicated to "spreading the conservative message throughout America." It turns out Talon News was created only a few days before Guckert first applied for a White House daily pass.

Guckert was denied similar credentials to cover Capitol Hill because of questions about his legitimacy as a reporter. His identity was exposed by bloggers, and he turned out to be associated with a number of sexually oriented Web sites. Guckert resigned, claiming harassment by liberals.

Guckert's only credential as a journalist appears to be attendance at a two-day seminar by the conservative Leadership Oriented Broadcast Journalism School. He apparently gained access to the White House using little more than a fake name, a Social Security number, and date of birth. In an age of height-

At least there's no indication the White House was involved in directly paying Guckert ...

- ened security, it's hard to believe this lapse could occur without someone inside the White House youching for Guckert. The alternative would be little meaningful security at the executive mansion.



White House press secretary Scott McClellan said President Bush did not know who Guckert was. A journalist familiar with the process says

it's likely Bush was tipped by his press staff that "the bald guy would lob him an easy one." If so, setting up ringers to toss fawning questions to the president is another indication, if any were needed, that the administration prefers the media to be propagandists rather than independent inquisitors.

At least there's no indication the White House was involved in directly paying Guckert for his services, as the administration did in three other recent incidents. Last month, conservative commentator Armstrong Williams apologized for not disclosing that his company had received \$240,000 from a public relations agency hired by the Department of Education to promote Bush's No Child Left Behind Act.

Syndicated columnist Maggie Gallagher also apologized to her readers for not disclosing a \$21,500 contract with the Department of Health and Human Services to help create materials used to promote Bush's \$300 million initiative encouraging marriage to strengthen families.

HHS later disclosed that a third conservative columnist, Mike McManus, had received \$10,000 to promote Bush's marriage initiative, according to an Associated Press report. His weekly column appears in about 50 newspapers.

The practice of buying ostensibly independent reporters and writers to shill for politicians deceives the public and corrupts the free media. Allowing fake reporters to compete with credentialed journalists for sparse press conference time with the leader of the free world demeans the whole process.



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"WHO SAYS THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AREN'T SAVING ENOUGH?"

Brutality, violence part of war

The recent flap about ter drop. No doubt he warned today are addicted to lies and lateral damage." remarks by a Marine Corps general reminds me of a line from the great Michael Mann film "Last of the Mohicans."

There is a scene during which the wilderness fighter Hawkeye tells the daughter of an English colonel: "My father warned me about people like you. He said do not try to understand them, and do not expect them to understand you."

Many Americans stick fast to the myth of the clean-cut Christian knight who goes forth to battle evil but is a reluctant killer. Lt. Gen. James Mattis, speaking at a public forum, told the truth from the warrior's point of view: "It's a hell of a lot of fun to shoot them. ... Actually, it's a lot of fun to Lee, who really was a fight. It's a hell of a hoot. ... I like brawling.

a Marine. Had he been a fond of it." I know several naval officer, the more polit- men, combat veterans, who ports terrorism - which it ically correct Navy might well have ended his career, as it has ended the careers of a number of good fighting officers. The Marine Corps . ment. A man is never more women and children that the commandant did the right thing. He spoke to the general in private and let the mat-

him to be more careful about where he speaks the truth.

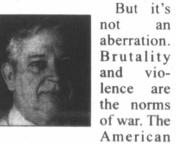
The warrior's job is to kill people and destroy property. That's what he trains to do, exists to do and, when let loose by the politicians, that's what he does. That requires a certain amount of emotional callousness, or else the stress will cause a mental breakdown.

Furthermore, war is the ately declared an aberration. ultimate

sport. It is a Charley contest in which the Reese stakes are Columnist life or death. It is the ultimate high

for adrenaline junkies. Even Robert E. news media, for the most Christian knight, remarked, "It is well that war is so terri-The general is lucky to be ble else we would grow too do love war. They miss it. They love to reminisce about shows the true face of war. It it. Nothing that peace has to shows the burned and manoffer can match war's excitealive than when he is face-toface with death.

myths. You can see that from Everybody in uniform is a hero. They are the finest people in the world. They are fighting for freedom. war slips through the media shield, such as the torture of prisoners or the shooting of unarmed men, it's immedi-



part, try to shield the public from the truth. The Bush administration hates Al-Jazeera, the Arab television station, not because it supdoesn't - but because it gled bodies of civilian Bush administration prefers But many Americans After all, they are only "col-

Americans have always

all the euphemisms that suffered from a split personshroud the war in Iraq. ality when it comes to war and the military. Once we are in war, no nation is more savage or brutal than we are. But at the same time, we always Anytime the ugly truth about want to think of our soldiers as the ultimate do-gooders. This was typified to me when I was in basic training. We would go from bayonet practice, where we were instructed to shout "kill" as we thrust the blade into imaginary flesh, to a mandatory lecture by the chaplain, who would

urge us to not curse or drink. We need fighting warriors like Gen. Mattis, but they should not expect civilians, especially in the liberal media, to understand them. Like a good pit bull, they should be kept away from the press.

God knows there are enough political generals/ who aren't worth spit on the battlefield to hand out all the propaganda and heifer dust the administration wants civilians to hear.

Charley Reese is a retired that Americans not see. journalist and syndicated columnist.

Today in History_

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 16, the 47th day of 2005. There are 318 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 16, 1945, American troops landed on the island of Corregidor in the Philippines during World War II. On this date:

In 1862, during the Civil War, some 14,000 Confederate soldiers surrendered at Fort Donelson, Tenn. (Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's victory earned him the nickname "Unconditional Surrender Grant.")

In 1868, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was organized in New York City.

In 1918, Lithuania proclaimed its

independence.

an

In 1923, the burial chamber of King Tutankhamen's recently unearthed tomb was unsealed in Egypt.

In 1959, Fidel Castro became premier of Cuba after the overthrow of Fulgencio Batista.

In 1968, the nation's first 911 emergency telephone system was inaugurated, in Haleyville, Ala.

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Flo & I







DEAR ABBY: I have a friend I'll call "Tara." A few months ago, Tara gave me a puppy. She said it was for no reason other than "because we're such good friends," and she knew I had been thinking about getting one.

I told Tara that I wanted to get her a present, but she refused, saying she would not accept any of my charity. I let it go.

My birthday and Tara's are on the same day. That's how we became friends. I bought Tara a present. She did not give me one, although we usually exchange gifts. Instead, she demanded that I give her a laptop computer and several DVDs or give her back the dog!

Abby, I was astounded. I was even more astounded when Tara claimed she "knew" I had been into drugs and was a department store thief. She said if I didn't give her what she asked, she would tell my mother and the police.

I have never been into drugs. I don't steal. Should I give her what she wants? I don't want to go to jail. -- ASTOUNDED IN LOS ANGELES

DEAR ASTOUNDED: Do not return the puppy, and do not give in to her demands. However, DO cross Tara off your list of friends. Once a gift is given, it ~ recently fired. We had worked belongs to the recipient. There are names for what this manipulative "friend" is attempting to do; the terms extortion and blackmail would apply. It's important you tell your mother what's going on immediately. Then inform Tara that the friendship is over and there are severe penalties for filing a false police report.

DEAR ABBY: My brother com-

died. I'm afraid someone will slip up and say something in front of them. I think it would be better if they heard it from their mother sooner rather than from a stranger years from now. What do you think? -- CONCERNED AUNT

DEAR CONCERNED: What makes you think the children have no idea of the circumstances surrounding their father's death? Little pitchers have big ears, and there was bound to be conversation about it when it happened. Even if an effort was made to protect the little ones, children are not stupid, nor do they operate in a vacuum. If conversation comes to a screeching halt when they enter a room, they know something is wrong.

They may not have talked to their mother about it because they're afraid they'll make her sad if they do. By all means, the mother should bring up the subject with them -- if only to ask them what they know about their father's death.

DEAR ABBY: I feel guilty about something and don't know if it is justified. A co-worker was together on a daily basis, but were not especially close. I knew about the firing two weeks before it happened.

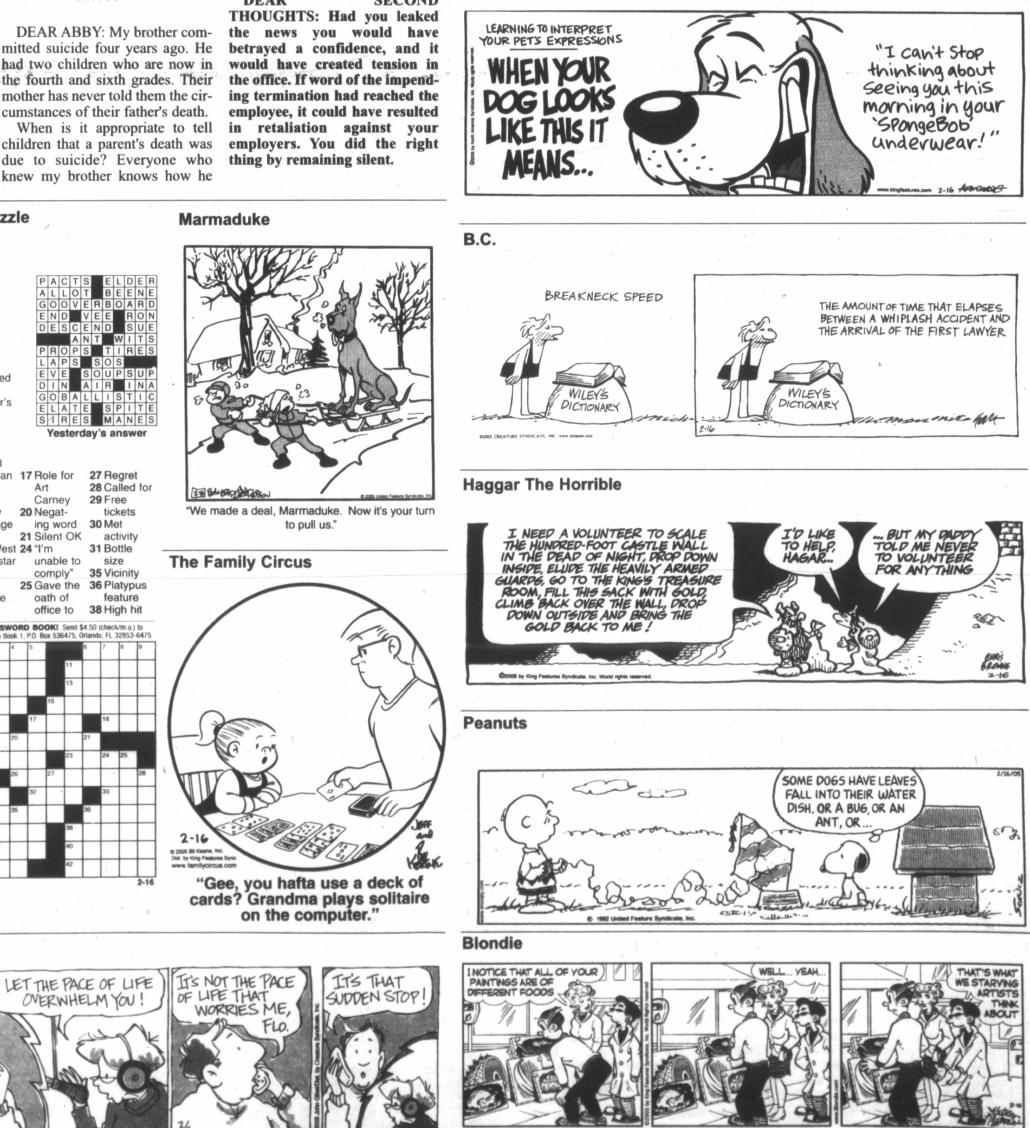
Another co-worker told me I should have warned him to help "soften the blow." I was afraid to say anything because I am in a senior management position. What's your opinion? -- SECOND THOUGHTS IN KENTUCKY

SECOND DEAR

For Better Or Worse







mother has never told them the circumstances of their father's death. When is it appropriate to tell children that a parent's death was due to suicide? Everyone who knew my brother knows how he

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Yesterday's answer

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6 — Wednesday, February 16, 2005 — The Pampa News

Sports Day

Lady Harvesters refused to give up in hard fought 55-51 loss to Frenship

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS Sports Editor

In the world of sport, it is rare that a loss can provide cause for celebration, especially when such a - Harvester team beat loud enough for everyone to loss was suffered in a playoff game. Coach Troy hear. The Lady Tigers took advantage of Pampa

Fry, his assistants, Valeree Valdez and Troy Owens, and the entire Lady Harvester basketball team would be right to celebrate not only what they accomplished throughout the season, but what they did against Frenship in Canyon Tuesday night as well. Though they lost to the Lady Tigers 55-51, Pampa put on an impressive display of never-say-die attitude, heart and determination. And the crowd of Pampa fans on hand in the old Canyon High School gym appreci- After calling for a timeout Jackie Gerber and Britteni Rice ated it.

first quarter of the bidistrict playoff meeting. Frenship would mount a trict comeback however, and tie the game at 6-6 after one period.

The Lady Harvester shooting

went cold in the second quarter, while Frenship managed to pick up the pace a bit. The referees showed early signs they would allow the game to get physical, but kept close watch on extra steps and other obvious mistakes.

The Lady Harvesters were only able to add seven points in the second period, while Frenship posted 13. At the break, Pampa was down, 19-13. The second half is where the heart of the Lady

> mistakes and misses. At one point, Frenship had Pampa down, 28-14. That's when something clicked in the Lady Harvesters, who methodically chipped away at the 14-point lead. With little more than 1:30 left in the third, Pampa had closed the

gap to 30-26. The two teams traded buckets much of the fourth period. Pampa would close to within a single point no less than three time in the final quarter. Jacklyn Spearman, in the fourth quarter, would each sink baskets to put Pampa raced off to a 6-2 lead Coach Fry goes over the Pampa just one point behind the over the Lady Tigers early in the game plan with his team Lady Tigers. But as time ticked during last night's bidis- away, Pampa was forced to foul. against And Frenship was up to the challenge, making 11 of 13 free throws in the fourth quarter, which helped seal Pampa's fate.

Britteni Rice ended the night with 19 points. Jaclyn Spearman had 8. Also scoring were Callie Cobb, Jackie Gerber, Lindsey Ammons, McKensie East and Nicole Clark.

Pampa ends the season 15-16, 7-3.



Pampa News photos by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Fighting for position, junior Krissie Alexander #33 tries to post up against Frenship's Simone Jackson during last night's bidistrict game. The Lady Harvesters fell to the Lady Tigers, 55-51.

PAMPA SWIM RESULTS

Penrod advances to State

This past Friday and Saturday, great job, bettering their times. the Pampa High School swimmers They were the best times of the year ended their season in style at a pre- but not good enough to move on."

game

Frenship.

Pampa splits with PD

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS Sports Editor

The Pampa Harvester soccer teams were on the road vesterday to face Palo Duro in District 3-4A meetings. Both games were played at Dick Bivins Stadium in Amarillo.

Palo Duro 4, Pampa 1

Hereford ends Pampa's playoff hopes, 60-59

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS Sports Editor

The end to a rocky season came at the hands of the Hereford Whitefaces for Pampa last night. The Harvesters were eliminated from the post-season, 60-59.

liminary/finals meet in Lubbock.

The preliminary swims saw each of the swimmers clock their best times of the year in one or more of their events. The girl's team placed 10th out of 28 teams in the region. Pampa had seven swimmers advance into the finals, including Monica Shepp, Maike Knutz, Whitney Penrod, and Kandice Maddox in the 200 Medley Relay, Lydia West in the 500 Freestyle. Thomas Wilson in the 100 Breaststroke and Tyler Wishon in the 50 Freestyle and 100 Freestyle.

Coach Miller said, "The team did great." adding, "but when you place ninth you do not get to go on to finals. We had seventh, ninth and 10th place finishes. The kids did a

The girl's 1 Meter Diving was another story. Whitney Penrod took the lead after her first dive and never looked back. She recaptured her Regional Champion title and led her nearest competitor by 77 points. She set a new school and regional record of 326.55 points and was named the Regional Diver of the Year for the second year in a row. Whitney will be representing Pampa at the State Meet in Austin, Feb. 25-26, and is presently ranked 7th in the state.

"Whitney has worked very hard this year," said Miller. "She has increased her degree of difficulty and put herself in position to finish very high at state.'

Though held scoreless themselves, Pampa held Palo Duro (3-5-2, 1-2-1) to just one goal in the first half. However, the Dons would manage to net three goals in the second half, while Pampa managed just one. The lone Harvester goal came courtesy of Drew Morrison in the 70th minute.

The Harvesters are still seeking their first district win of the season. They will get their next chance this Saturday when they visit the Canyon Eagles at Kimbrough Stadium. Game time is 2 p.m.

Lady Harvesters 1, Lady Dons 0

Pampa needed just a lone goal from Vanessa Resendiz to claim its first district 3-4A win of the season. J'Nee Norris assisted on the goal. Lady Harvester goalie Chera Chavedo was strong in the net with nine saves.

The win improves Pampa's district mark to 1-2-0, while the Lady Dons fall to 0-4-0.

The Lady Harvesters travel to Canyon Saturday to face the Lady Eagles at Kimbrough Stadium.

Both teams came out firing in the first quarter. The Whitefaces would pull ahead by a bucket, only to have Pampa catch and pass them. A trend that would continue the entire period. After one, the two teams were tied, 14-14.

The second quarter wasn't as kind to the Harvesters. Though they scored another 11 points, Hereford posted 17 in the period. At the break, Pampa was down to Hereford, 31-25. That six point deficit would turn out to be big for both teams.

Pampa outscored the Whitefaces in the third, 19-14. And the two teams added 15 points each in the final period.

Leading scorers for the Harvesters were Jarett Kotara with 17. Clayton Hall added 15 points. And Braydon Barker ended the night with 10.

Pampa ends the season 16-13, 4-6.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, life finally becomes copacetic and Feb. 17, 2005:

This year you are a powerhouse that cannot and will not be stopped. Let perhaps a weekend getaway. Laugh your creativity nail what you want. Others respond to your imagination smiles. and musings. With others pitching in and experts making suggestions, how can you be destined for anything but success? Schedule a workshop or some other type of intellectual or spiritual pursuit to contribute to your life. The quality of your life needs to be your major concern. If you are single, someone with amazing emotional and intellectual perspective will sweep you off your feet. Enjoy! If you are attached, your relationship will flourish naturally. You will have a lot to smile about. GEMINI always makes you laugh.

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)

★★★★★ Times change. Moods change. You can be very happy with others' attitudes. At this point, you'll easily clear obstacles that you have previously hit. Others you run into seem unusually cheery and happy. The world is your oyster if you just ask. Tonight: Hook up with a friend. TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You're on top of your game You might find it hard to stop what is going on in your daily life. A project or plan seems to take on a life of its own. Your actions flow like music. You accomplish more than a lion's share. Tonight: Figure out how much discretionary income you have. GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

easy. Isn't this more like it? Make calls and schedule a trip in the near future, and enjoy yourself. Tonight: All

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★ Take your time, especially when dealing with a very special person in your life. You particularly enjoy your home and family. Why not do something special for someone incredible who helps paint your life rosy? Tonight: Keep plans private. **LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)

********* Friends and associates prove to be a delightful distraction, one that helps you realize more of what you want from your daily life. Your style and way of communicating separates you from others. Tonight: Follow your friends

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

 $\star \star \star$ What others cannot do has a way of dropping on you. If you're involved with a community project, you might feel as if you are the CEO, with so much to do. Deflate any tension by focusing on a possible purchase. Tonight: Reward yourself. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Reach out for more information. For some, your quest might be signing up for a seminar and/or talking to an expert. Whatever you choose will expand your life and opportunities. Just don't lie back. Tonight: Buy tickets to a concert or play

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)

★★★★ Your intuition guides you with a special partnership. Treat this person as you would like to be treated. Working as a team, you gain and allow the bond to grow even closer. Share $\star \star \star \star \star$ With the Moon in your sign, your feelings more frequently with

those in your life. Your ability to read between the lines helps. Tonight: Be a duo

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ Opportunities tumble into your lap. You might wonder what to do with your good fortune. Visualize more of what you want. Through this process you will come up with a strong set of directives. Tonight: Go along with someone else's plans.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

*** You could easily feel overwhelmed with all the work you have. The good news is, your efficiency will boost your image. Be careful when someone zeros in on your finances or paycheck, especially if there is vagueness. Tonight: Take a walk after dinner. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ Mou have a special way that helps others open up to you. Where many might be a bit hesitant to reveal themselves, you make it downright easy. Your intellectual capabilities mixed with your innate empathetic qualities make you very popular. Tonight: Dance away.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

★★★ If you can, work from home. You will get a lot more accomplished than you thought possible. Others want to pitch in. A partner or associate paves the way to greater success and strength. Seriously consider a change on the home front. Tonight: Anchor in.

BORN TODAY

Basketball player Michael Jordan (1963), actor Hal Holbrook (1925), gymnast Lisa Skinner (1981) ***

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

Optimist baseball, softball registrations drawing near

for Optimist Registration Baseball/Softball 2005 for boys and girls between the ages of five and 15 will be March 7-10, according to Kevin Davis, Optimist Baseball Commissioner.

This information was announced in a meeting Sunday at the Optimist Club when Davis met with the commissioners of the different leagues. All players will need to register.

"The national baseball associations keep moving up their post season tournaments which requires local clubs in Cal Ripken, Little league, Pony League and others to start earlier in order to get in a complete season before the all start tournaments begin," Davis said.

"We will have tryouts on March 22, 23 and 24," Davis continued. "Players in out T-Ball league and pitching machine leagues will not have to try out. Players in other leagues who are remaining on the same team will not need to try out. However, players moving to a new league or players who did not play Optimist ball in Pampa last year need to attend two of three tryout sessions."

Practice is expected to start for some leagues as early as March 28, with games following as early as April 11.

The Pampa Optimist Youth Club is a Pampa United Way agency.

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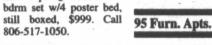
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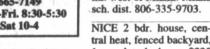
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Kyoto pact to stem 'greenhouse gases' takes effect

'Today is a day of

celebration and also

a day to renew our

resolve ... to combat

global warming."

— Hiroshi Ohki

Japanese official

KYOTO, Japan (AP) — The Kyoto global warming pact went into force Wednesday, seven years after it was negotiated, imposing limits on emissions of carbon dioxide and other gases scientists blame for increasing world temperatures, melting glaciers and rising oceans.

The landmark agreement, negotiated in Japan's ancient capital of Kyoto in 1997 and ratified by 140 nations, targets carbon dioxide and five other gases that can trap heat in the atmosphere, and are believed to be behind rising global temperatures that many scientists say are disrupting weather patterns.

The United States, the world's largest emitter of such gases, has refused to ratify the agreement, saying it would harm the economy and is flawed by the lack of restrictions on emissions by emerging economies China and India.

"We have been calling on the United States to join. But the country that is the world's biggest emitter has not joined yet, and that is regrettable," Japan's top government spokesman, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda, told reporters.

Environmental officials, gathered in the convention hall where the accord was adopted, hailed the protocol as a his-

toric first step in the battle against global warming and urged the world to further strengthen safeguards against greenhouse gases. "Today is a day of celebra-

tion and also a day to renew our resolve ... to combat global warming," said Hiroshi Ohki, former Japanese environment minister and president of the conference that negotiated the protocol. Australia, the only other

developed nation besides the United States not to join, defended that decision, with Environment Minister Ian Campbell saying the country was nonetheles; on track to cut emissions by 30 percent.

"Until such time as the major polluters of the world, including the United States and China, are made part of the Kyoto regime, it is next to useless and indeed harmful for a

country such as Australia to sign up," Australian Prime Minister John Howard said in Canberra.

The Kyoto agreement was delayed by the requirement that countries accounting for 55 percent of the world's emissions must ratify it. That goal was reached last year with Russia's approval.

In Japan, the enactment was being met with a mixture of pride and worry that the world's second-largest econo-

my is unprepared to meet its emissions reduction targets. Japan planned to celebrate the enactment Wednesday at the convention hall where the accord was negotiated in December 1997. Joke Waller-Hunter, the Dutch chief of the treaty secretariat, said that while the Kyoto agreement already was having an impact on greenhouse gas levels, it was only a first step that must be followed up with stronger agreements once it expires in 2012.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said climate change was one of the biggest challenges facing mankind and there was "no time to lose" in formulating strategies that would follow the term of the Kyoto pact.

"If this challenge is not addressed, sustainable development will be out of reach," he said in a video message broadcast from U.N. headquarters in New York.

In London, about 35 Greenpeace protesters armed with foghorns, attack alarms and whistles stormed the International Petroleum Exchange in a bid to paralyze oil trading.

"We believe we are stopping trading in oil on the global market," Greenpeace spokesman Ben Stewart said. "We're asking the world to take a deep breath on this and consider where our oil addiction is taking us."





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