

THE PAMP

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Today's weather



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Deaths

Chow Chu 'May' Ma, 71, restaurant owner.
Bonnie B. Palmer, 92, teacher.

Odds & Ends

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)— An environmental protester facing indecent exposure charges came to court exposing the naked truth.

Simon Oosterman, 24, arrived at Auckland's District Court naked—but he got dressed before he entered the courtroom Thursday.

The computer technician was charged during the Auckland Naked Bike Ride last Sunday, an event he organized to protest society's dependence on cars.

When Oosterman was stopped by police during the naked bike ride, other riders covered the lower parts of their bodies to avoid arrest.

Oosterman and three supporters — two men and a woman — stood naked outside the courthouse Thursday holding a banner reading: "Stop indecent exposure to vehicle emissions."

He then went inside and headed up the escalator, still naked, toward the courtroom.

But he donned his clothes before entering court, where he pleaded not guilty and was released to reappear on March 21.

Outside court Oosterman said he would fight the charge as public nudity was "different from indecent exposure."

"The purpose of the protest was to draw attention to the issue of transport emissions," he said. "There has to be a distinction between people flashing (nude bodies at) young girls and public nudity, which is benign."

SHELBYVILLE, Ind. (AP) — Karrie Jeremiah pulled a discarded lottery ticket from a restaurant trash can and hit the jackpot.

Two other people had purchased the \$5 Hoosier Lottery scratch-off ticket last week at the Chaparral Cafe. When a clerk at the downtown cafe told them it wasn't the \$40 winner they were hoping for, they threw it away, lottery officials said.

Two more file for May 7 elections

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Two more incumbents have filed as candidates for re-election to their respective posts on the Pampa City Commission and Pampa Independent School District Board of Education.

The latest additions to school and city races filed yesterday, according to officials for each race.

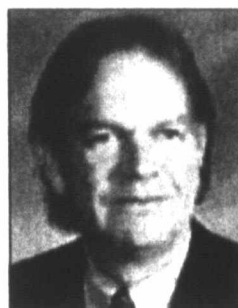
Ward 3 Commissioner Robert Dixon filed for re-election to the city commission. John Curry, Place 1 trustee, filed for re-election to the school board.

Candidate applications will be received through March 7. March 14 is the final day for a write-in candidate to declare candidate in the city election.

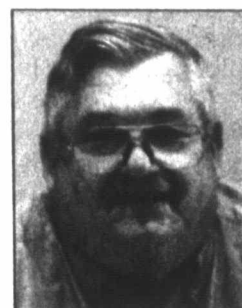
City commission and school board positions up for election this

year, in addition to those held by Curry and Dixon, are mayor and Ward 1 commissioner in the city race, and Place 3 and Place 2 on the school board.

Lance DeFever, the incumbent for the Place 2 school board election, is the only candidate who has filed for that position as of today. No candi-



Curry



Dixon

See ELECTIONS, Page 3



Pampa News photo by DEE DEE LARAMORE

Fred Storm of Underwood Law Firm in Amarillo, standing, describes the role of a bond counselor to Pampa Independent School District Board of Education members at their meeting Thursday night. Board member Charles Smith is in the foreground.

Pampa ISD board OKs \$6.5 million bond refund

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
Editor

Pampa school board members Thursday authorized First Southwest Company to seek refunding approximately \$6.5 million in bonds issued in 1997 to fund a major restructuring of the district's elementary schools.

Pampa Independent School District's Board of Education met in regular session at 6 p.m., Thursday, at Carver Center, 321 W. Albert.

Call date for the 10-year bonds, totaling almost \$10 million, is Jan. 15, 2007, said Nick Bulaich, an associate of First Southwest.

With interest rates much lower than when the bonds were issued, the school district could receive significant savings by refunding the bonds, Bulaich explained. At the time of issuance, interest rates were slightly more than 5 percent. Interest rates now are below 4 percent.

The exact amount of saving will be determined by the interest rate at the time the bonds are refunded, he said. A breakdown of estimated savings First Southwest provided to the board indicates the school district could save approximately \$250,000 in inter-

est payments by refunding the bonds now. Officials said the advance refunding would lower the school's indebtedness rate included in the tax rate. There would be no cash transaction involved and costs associated with the refunding would be included.

This year, the school district's bonded indebtedness rate was six cents per \$100 valuation. The total tax rate was \$1.56.

The board also heard a proposal from Fred Storm of Underwood Law Firm in Amarillo to serve as bond counsel for the refunding process.

Storm said a bond counselor's role in the refunding would be to issue an opinion about the bond's validity, negotiate forms and paper work, send for approval to the Attorney General's office, as required by the state, and then see that the issuance of the bonds is correctly registered with the State's Comptroller's office. He said the bond counselor would also issue a tax opinion that goes to the prospective buyers "so they know what they are getting."

The standard fee for bond counselors is \$1.60 for every \$1,000 issued, Storm said.

No action was taken on hiring a bond counselor at Thursday's meeting.

See SCHOOL, Page 3

Alanreed man charged in assault of child, mom

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

An Alanreed man is free on \$30,000 bond after being arrested by Gray County deputies yesterday on charges of assault causing bodily injury and injury to a child.

Joe Bob Davis, 42, Darsey Ranch, Alanreed, was arrested and booked into Gray County Jail at 11:15 a.m. Thursday by Deputy Bruce Burrell after deputies responded to a call concerning an injured child.

Deputies went to McLean on Wednesday and met three juvenile girls who were sisters.

"One girl reported... that J.B. Davis, her mother's friend, had hit her mother and her," said Lt. Joe B.

Hoard of the sheriff's office. The child who said she had been hit is 10 years old, he said.

'... one of the girls said her mom's friend had struck her mom and 10-year-old sister during a fight.'

— Lt. Joe B. Hoard
Gray Co. Sheriff's Office

A student at school told Deputy Derek Peters that "one of the girls said her mom's friend had struck her mom and 10-year-old sister during a fight," Hoard said.

The 10-year-old appeared to have marks on her right ear at the time deputies spoke to her, Hoard said.

The victim's mother, who was also a victim in the incident, told deputies that "the suspect had showed up at her house and demanded she take him home. Apparently, she didn't move fast enough and he started hitting her with his fists. He also hit her on the arm. The 10-year-old intervened and said, 'Stop hitting my mom,' and he backhanded her on the forehead," Hoard said.

David was arrested on warrants issued by Precinct 4 Justice of the Peace Mary Ann Carpenter.

The charge of assault causing bodily injury is a

See ASSAULT, Page 3

Pepe LePew is on the prowl and ...

Love is in the air

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Pepe LePew is on the prowl. It seems that Valentine's Day is being taken seriously by local skunks, according to Sandy Burns, Pampa Animal Control officer.

Reports of dead skunks on Hobart and Somerville streets this morning prompted a call to the Animal Control office to ask if there was any reason for concern over the apparent increased skunk activity.

"Skunks are active this time of year. It's just that they're in heat. It's not anything wrong or bad, like rabies," Burns said.

In recent years, Pampa and the surrounding area was plagued by rabid skunks which threatened people and pets and had to be caught and destroyed.

Male skunks start looking for mates now, she said, and the search for a mate is not confined to skunks, either.

Dogs and cats may also feel the effects of Cupid's arrows at this time. An increase in strays right now is at least partly due to mating behavior, Burns said.

The Looney Tunes skunk was smitten by a cat which he pursued with single-minded determination, even though the female cat was not of his own kind and was not interested in him.

Cat owners, beware.

Explosions rip through Baghdad, 28 Iraqis dead

Attacks on eve of Shiite Islam's holiday mark deadliest day since election

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Four explosions ripped through Baghdad on Friday, killing at least 28 people and injuring dozens on the eve of Shiite Islam's most important holiday, officials said. It was the deadliest day since Iraq's landmark elections last month.

Suicide bombers attacked two Shiite mosques as

Friday prayers were ending, another explosion occurred near a Shiite religious procession and a third suicide bomber blew himself up at an Iraqi police and National Guard checkpoint in a Sunni neighborhood.

The attacks recalled bombings on the Ashoura holiday a year ago that killed at least 181 during the reli-

gious festival.

In northern Iraq, meanwhile, three American soldiers were killed in separate attacks Wednesday and Thursday, the U.S. military said.

The bloodshed began when a bomber entered the vestibule of al-Khadimain mosque in the Iraqi capital's Doura neighborhood and

detonated his explosives as worshippers prayed, witness Hussein Rahim Qassim said.

Shortly afterward, a bomb exploded outside the al-Bayaa mosque in a predominantly Shiite neighborhood in western Baghdad.

The first explosion killed 15 and the second killed 10, an official at Baghdad's al-Yarmouk Hospital said on

condition of anonymity. About 30 were wounded.

Less than an hour later, an explosion near a procession of Shiites marking Ashoura northwest of the city center killed two and injured five, according to Iraqi police Lt. Waed Hussein.

The fourth attack was at

See IRAQ, Page 3

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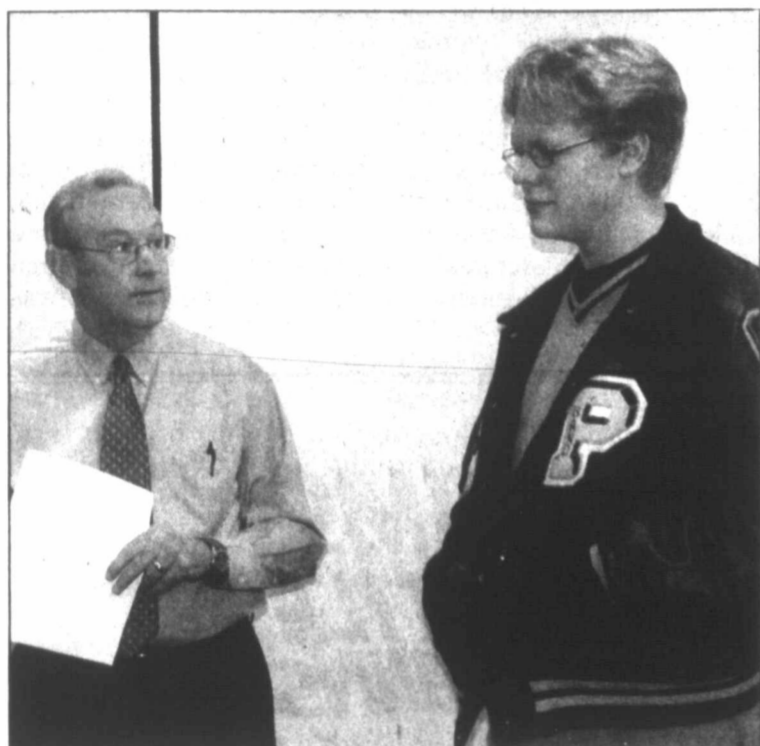
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Honoring All-State musicians



Pampa News photos by DEE DEE LARAMORE

Pampa High School Choir Director Fred Mays, above left, introduces All-State Choir students, above, from left, Stacy Pepper, Carissa Snelgrooes, and Nicole Fernuik. Also pictured is Wanetta Hill, assistant director. At right, Pampa ISD Superintendent Barry Haenisch gives Adam Hagerman a certificate in recognition for being named to the All-State Band and Orchestra. The presentations were made at the Thursday night meeting of the Pampa ISD Board of Education.



Election

Continued from Page 1

date has filed to enter the race for Place 3, currently held by Jay Johnson. Curry is the only candidate as of today for Place 1.

Mayor Lonny Robbins has filed for re-election and is currently unopposed.

Jeff McCormick, incumbent Ward 1 commissioner,

is being challenged by Brad Pingel.

Dixon is the only candidate as of today for his seat as Ward 3 commissioner.

Early voting by personal appearance for each election will be April 20 through May 3. Early voting in the city election will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays in Room 205 of Pampa City Hall.

Early voters in the school board election may cast bal-

lots at Carver Center, 321 W. Albert.

Applications for mail-in ballots for the city election may be sent to Phyllis Jeffers at P.O. Box 2499, Pampa, TX 79065. Applications for mail-in ballots must be received by 5 p.m. April 29.

Election Day for both elections will be Saturday, May 7 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at M.K. Brown Auditorium.

School

Continued from Page 1

No one from the public appeared before the board at a community hearing on the 2005-2006 school calendar. Pampa ISD must conduct the hearing because the proposed calendar shows a start date of Aug. 16. State law requires that public schools start the week of Aug. 21 or else seek a waiver from the Texas Education Agency. Public notice and a public hearing are conditions to be met before seeking the waiver, school officials said.

The board approved recommendations of the textbook selection committee. Dick Dunham presented the recommendations, cautioning the board that some of

the books are "non-conforming" according to state requirements. However, he said, no "conforming" books were available on those subjects. He also told the board that the cost of all selected books were at or below the state's maximum price.

In other action Thursday, the board approved the following:

- Three innovative courses as electives at Pampa Learning Center;
- Negotiations for a Bank One Travel Card;
- A bid from Texas Association of School Boards for \$120,753 for property and casualty insurance coverage;
- Final readings on policies regarding relations with parent organizations, leaves and absences and TASB Policy Update 74; and

• New term contracts for classroom teachers and dual contracts.

The board heard reports on the annual Drug and Alcohol Survey by Lesley Gershmel, school counselor, and on a survey on workplace incentives from the Salary and Benefits Committee. They also received a campus arrest report for the first semester which indicated a major decrease in campus arrests from 59 last year to 9 this year.

First readings were heard on local policies regarding non-school use of school facilities and distribution of non-school literature.

May 7 was set for the school board election and the board set May 17 as the day to canvass election results.

Assault

Continued from Page 1

Class A misdemeanor, and bond was set at \$5,000, according to jail records.

The charge of injury to a child is a state jail felony, with bond set at \$25,000, according to jail records.

None of the victims or their family members was identified in the sheriff's office report.

Iraq

Continued from Page 1

the checkpoint in northern Baghdad neighborhood of al-Adamiyah. An Associated Press reporter saw one dead police officer and two wounded civilians.

Shiites had packed into mosques Friday to mark the eve of Ashoura, the 10th day of the Islamic holy month of Muharram and the holiest day of the year for them.

The bombings were a bloody reminder of last year's Ashoura commemorations, when twin blasts ripped through crowds of worshippers at Shiite Muslim shrines in Baghdad and Karbala and killed at least 181 people.

Ashoura marks the death of Imam Hussein, the grandson

of the prophet Muhammad, in a seventh century battle for leadership of the Islamic world.

The imam at the al-Khadimain mosque used the minaret's loudspeakers to appeal for blood donations, said 1st Lt. Ahmad Ali, who added that a suicide bomber was behind the blast.

Quick action from a security guard at the al-Bayaa mosque may have prevented more bloodshed. Amer Mayah said he opened fire on a man who was trying to get two grenades from his pocket, "and immediately he exploded."

There were no immediate claims of responsibility, but Iraqis blamed radical Sunni Muslim insurgents, who have staged car bombs, shootings and kidnappings to try to destabilize Iraq's reconstruc-

tion and provoke a sectarian civil war between Shiites and Sunnis.

"Those infidel Wahhabis, those Osama bin Laden followers, they did this because they hate Shiites," said Sari Abdullah, a worshipper at the al-Khadimain mosque who was injured by shrapnel from the explosion. "They are afraid of us. They are not Muslims. They are infidels."

Walid Al-Hilly, a leading figure of the Shiite-led Dawaa Party, told Al-Jazeera television the attacks were designed to provoke civil war.

"They kill unarmed men, women and children who want to glorify the ceremonies of Ashoura. These terrorist actions will not intimidate us nor make us change the way that we choose freedom from tyranny and oppression," he said.

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Viewpoints

Never too late to be a good dad, granddad

"I love you, Pa." Heather screamed her last sentence to me over the phone.

"I love you too and I miss you. Tell that mean old father of yours to let you fly up to Amarillo so we can have some fun," I said in my good-bye.

Heather's dad, my son Daniel, is reluctant to put her to the mercy of Southwest Airlines kid shuttle program, though Daniel and his little brother Jeremy logged many miles between Houston and San Antonio with Southwest. I don't know the reason for Daniel's reluctance in letting Heather fly alone. The ingrate, he's just putting off the inevitable — the inevitable being I'll spoil

her that much more when I do get to see her. Yeah, like his grandparents did him. I fully understand grandparents rights with grandchildren. Spoil them rotten and let their parents deal with the aftermath. I do enjoy being "Pa."

Heather, I call her "Squirt", is the apple of my eye. Why isn't it apple of my eyes? When she is in my grasp I cannot get enough of her. You see, on mater and pater Palmitier's side of the tree, Heather represents the only granddaughter and great-granddaughter. Ditto for her dad's mother's side as well. After two snotty-nosed boys from my ex-wife and two snotty-nosed boys

each from ex-sisters-in-law, and two snotty-nosed boys from my younger brother and his wife, my snotty-nosed boy — now a man — gives me a granddaughter. Ahem.

I'll never forget the call that summer of 1997. "Dennis, this is Monte (my ex-wife). I've something we need to visit about concerning a situation with Daniel and I don't think the phone is the right avenue to discuss what's going to happen. Can you come to San Antonio this weekend?"

Dennis Palmitier
Columnist



After saying that I would be there, I was wrought with one dreaded thought after another with what Daniel had gotten himself into. In his high school years, Daniel had become quite the challenge for his mother, and I found myself constantly on the other

end of angry phone calls from her. Let me add that I moved to Houston after my divorce from his mother in San Antonio. Rather, I tucked my tail between my legs and high-stepped it away from my ex-inlaws —

109 of them to be exact — in one city — San Antonio.

In fleeing from the tribe (figure that out), I was also checking out from the responsibility of raising two sons. I'll flat out come clean, I was not a good father to Daniel and Jeremy after the divorce and I've paid dearly for my checkout. It's taken me much work over the years to become a father again. There's still work in progress. But Daniel, Jeremy, and their father are now tight as bark on a tree.

I entered Monte's house a tad on the anxious side. Thank God for Zolof and later, I would be thanking Him for His insight through prayer. Monte's news was

Christy, Daniel's 16-year-old girlfriend (Daniel was eighteen at the time) was pregnant and that the three of us were going to Christy's home for a group discussion with Christy and her parents.

Where's that shot of Jack Daniel's when you really, really need one? Why did I have my wisdom teeth taken out when I was 18 for I would have been much happier sitting in my dentist's office than where I found myself sitting that afternoon? Do you get the picture? I wanted to be a thousand miles away from San Antonio.

As the meeting pro-

See DAD, Page 5

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Feb. 18, the 49th day of 2005. There are 316 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

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

On this date:

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

In 1564, artist Michelangelo died in Rome.

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

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

In 1960, the 8th Winter Olympic Games were formally opened in Squaw Valley, Calif., by Vice President Nixon.

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

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

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

Our readers write

Armed Guard vets' reunion

Although not well known, the Navy's Armed Guard came about in 1941 when Congress voted to arm merchant ships with Navy personnel and armament.

An armed guard crew usually consisted of one Navy officer, two Navy radiomen and one signalman and 15 to 25 Navy gunners. The armament usually consisted of a 5"-38 or 4"-50 on the ship's stern, a 3"-50 gun on the bow and four to eight 20mm or 40mm guns at various locations on the ship. Crews and armaments were somewhat fewer during the early part of the war.

As a member of the Armed Guard, I started shipping out on merchant ships in June of 1942. Some of the East Coast harbors looked like graveyards with the mast of torpedoed ships sticking out of the water.

The Armed Guard was deactivated at the end of the war. Approximately 144,000 Navy personnel served on 6,230 merchant ships during the war. Of these ships, 710 were sunk by enemy action and many more were severely damaged.

The State Association of Armed Guard veterans will meet on March 3-5 in Fredericksburg. The Armed Guard has no annual dues and all armed guard and

Continued on Page 5



Making same mistake with Iran

The Bush administration is making the same mistakes with Iran that it made with Iraq. It makes allegations unsupported by facts, refuses to negotiate and threatens sanctions or military action, neither of which is feasible.

In short, it has no rational Iran policy.

The Bush administration seems to be under the impression that the Iranians are pursuing the development of a nuclear weapon. Sound familiar? The Iranians deny it. The administration says, in effect, that they are lying. If the administration has any proof, let's see it. It was so all-fired certain that Iraq was not only pursuing nuclear weapons but had stockpiles of other

weapons, all of which has been proven untrue. That was a mistake that has cost us 1,400 lives and 10,000 wounded. Make that mistake with Iran, and you'll see a heck of a lot more body bags coming back to the United States.

Our silly secretary of state, Condoleezza Rice, says that the Iranians must live up to their international obligations. Again, a familiar propaganda note. The Bush people claimed Iraq was not complying with U.N. resolutions, but in fact it had. The trouble is that, so

far as we can tell, the Iranians are also complying. They signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which the Bush administration's pet country, Israel, has refused to sign. The Iranians are cooperating with the



Charley Reese
Columnist

International Atomic Energy Agency and are allowing inspections, which Israel does not. They have a right under the treaty to enrich uranium, but are negotiating with the European Union to forgo that right.

The United States refuses to participate in those nego-

tiations and several times has tried to get the IAEA to refer Iran to the U.N. Security Council, where it hopes sanctions will be applied. The IAEA has rightfully refused to do so. Even if it did so, China or Russia would certainly veto any resolution mandating sanctions.

Ms. Rice coyly said recently that a military attack against Iran is not on the Bush agenda "at this point." That's a nothing statement, because it does not rule out a military attack.

Are the Iranians pursuing a nuclear weapon? I don't know. They say they are not. But they are more or less surrounded by nuclear pow-

See IRAN, Page 5

Security with efficiency and respect

Proposing a law to help ensure border security is a far cry from enacting one that is fair.

The House voted last week to tighten rules for driver's licenses. It's aimed at stopping non-citizens from using that license as an ID card, i.e., a means to board aircraft and a means of entry into other channels of society.

It's meant to stop terrorists from moving about the country. Advocates say it will also help slow down illegal immigration.

It will be enacted into law if passed by the Senate. President Bush has said he'll

sign the bill.

At issue here are rights of immigrants, rights of U.S. citizens and the compounding of red-tape at the motor-vehicle departments. Do we want that?

Only if there is efficiency and people are treated with respect.

Opponents of the bill say the law would do little to stop a terrorist bent on a mission. Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., said, "At some point, we have to treat terrorism as a problem that requires an intelligence response as

opposed to an excuse to scapegoat immigrants."

It's not too much to ask a person to prove citizenship. Any citizen should have the needed paperwork.

A birth certificate can be proof of citizenship. I f

you're born here, you're a citizen. Others are a U.S. passport or a certificate of citizenship or naturalization.

It's just that there's the so-called spine-tingling chill when someone says, "Let

me see your papers." That has not been the American way.

Rep. Silvestre Reyes, D-El Paso, voted against the bill. He calls for "a real and earnest debate on what needs to be done to protect this country." His stance is based on his 27 years working in top positions for the U.S. Border Patrol.

We see the fear of those who believe human rights may get knocked down a rung when it comes to the overall basics of our Constitution.

The law would be a good

See RESPECT, Page 5

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Travel

Pampa Anir car manager Fena, the ci Brenda Fraz

Perry

AUSTIN — Rick Perry's rating has reached its highest level according to a poll. Perry is doing governor, but disapproved

Dad

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Calendar items

• **Texas CattleWomen are currently sponsoring a statewide scholarship for high school students called the Pat Grote Memorial Scholarship.** Applicants must be a 2005 graduating senior at a Texas high school or equivalent institution and must be accepted into an agricultural-related field at a Texas college or university for the 2005 fall semester. The deadline for applications to be returned to Amy Brainard, P.O. Box 570, Canadian, TX 79014, is Feb. 18. For more information, visit www.texasattlewomen.org on the Internet or call Brainard at (806) 323-6397.

For senior students enrolled at state certified schools in Gray, Carson, Collingsworth, Hemphill, Hutchison, Lipscomb, Ochiltree, Roberts and Wheeler counties, additional scholarship opportunities are available. Applications will be made available through area counselors' offices. The deadline to return applications for judging is April 22. One \$500 scholarship and two \$250 scholarships will be awarded. These scholarship applications should be mailed to Glenda Adcock, 920 Turkey Track Rd., Miami, TX 79059. For more information, contact Adcock at (806) 868-6828.

• **The next Pampa Area Singles dance, featuring Mike Porter, is scheduled from 8-11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19 at the Sportsman Club on South Barnes Street.** Admission is \$6 per person. No smoking or alcohol allowed. Snacks welcome. For more information, call 665-7059.

• **Palo Duro Handweaver's Guild will meet at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 24 in Amarillo.** The meeting is open to individuals interested in weaving, spinning, dyeing or fiber arts. For more information, call (806) 358-2765.

• **Christian Fine Arts Society is conducting a free religious poetry contest with a \$1,000 grand prize.** To enter, send one poem of 21 lines or less to Free Poetry Contest, 9588 Thornbush Lane Fishers, IN 46038 or go to www.freecontest.com. The deadline to enter is Feb. 26. Be sure your name and address appears on the page with your poem.

• **Ten free Colorado blue spruce trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation throughout this month.** The free trees are part of the non-

profit Foundation's Trees for America campaign. The 10 trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting in March and May with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge. To receive the free trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to Ten Free Colorado Blue Spruce Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, by Feb. 28. For more information, check out the foundation's web site at www.arborday.org on the Internet.

• **The Second Annual Playwrights Showcase of the Western Region is Aug. 12-14, 2005, at Red Rocks Community College in Lakewood, Colo.** The deadline for submissions is March 1, 2005. Registration forms and more information are available at www.rccc.edu/playwright-showcase on the Internet.

• **The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center has announced the following upcoming breast cancer screening clinics:** March 24, First United Methodist Church, 201 E. Foster, and March 29, Shephard's Crook Nursing Agency, 916 N. Crest, both in Pampa; and March 1, Lefors Civic Center, 103 N. Court, Lefors. For more information, call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673.

• **Residents have until March 9 to order seedlings from Gray County Soil and Water Conservation District for windbreak and wildlife tree seedlings and shrubs.** The seedlings will be offered at a nominal cost.



Pampa News photo by ReDonn Woods

Traveling in style

Pampa Animal Control Officer Sandy Burns, center right, accepts the keys to an SUV from Don Potts, new car manager for Culberson Stowers Inc. Culberson Stowers loaned the vehicle to Burns to transport Fena, the city's new search and rescue dog to a two-week training course. With Burns and Potts are Brenda Frazier, sales person, far left, and Pampa Police Chief Trevlyn Pitner.

Perry approval at highest level in three years

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry's job-approval rating has rebounded to its highest level in three years, according to a new poll, leaving him well-positioned to face a potential re-election challenge from either U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison or Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn.

Fifty-one percent of the 1,000 Texans surveyed said Perry is doing a good job as governor, while 33 percent disapproved of his job performance. That's a marked improvement from a year ago, when half the Texans surveyed disapproved of Perry's performance as governor.

But Hutchison remained the most popular elected official in Texas, with 72 percent of those polled saying she is doing a good job in the Senate. Her job approval among Republicans was 85 percent, compared to Perry's 73 percent approval rating among party members.

"The poll shows she could win any political contest she entered," Hutchison spokesman David Beckwith said in Friday's edition of the Houston Chronicle. Hutchison and Strayhorn are widely believed to be considering challenging Perry in the 2006 Republican primary. Fifty-three percent of those surveyed said Strayhorn is doing a good job, with 16 percent disapproving. Texans' opinion of the

Dad

Continued from Page 4

gressed, I was amazed to find the two respective grandmothers-to-be were all agog over a grandchild coming. I could not believe what I was hearing. Didn't they know the statistics about teenage parenting? Didn't they understand the seriousness of the situation? And, Daniel and Christy wanted the baby. I could not believe what was transpiring and wanted out of there. I had two words on my mind and spoke my thought — two words that I later called the "A words"— abortion or adoption. There was no way possible that Daniel and Christy would remain together to raise a child. Odds would be against them

from the get-go. I was tarred and feathered and run out of San Antonio on a thorny mesquite log. And, rightfully so, for God has given this old goat a wonderful little granddaughter. I thank Him every day in forgiving me for saying the two "A words". Heather was seven this past Wednesday. Much that I foresaw in that meeting seven years and nine months ago has rung true. Christy and Daniel did not last one year together after Heather's birth. Heather was tossed between three sets of grand-

parents her first two years. Christy disappeared from Heather's life for two more, but Daniel's mother and I helped him lawfully get full custody of Heather. Stability finally came to Heather between ages four and five as her father settled into parenting, college, and work full time. Daniel graduated from college in May of 2004 with dual degrees and onward to law school. Truly amazing — thank you, God. Yes, Monte and I have helped when necessary, but for the most part, Daniel has proven to be a wonderful

and caring father. I do understand Daniel's reluctance to see Heather fly away on a big jet, for Daniel has many fears about losing his daughter. Daniel has such an epoxy hold on Heather, and it gives me tremendous confidence in his abilities as a father. I wish I had those abilities when I was his age before I did my great checkout. Perhaps I would have been a better father to Daniel and Jeremy. But I have learned much in my self work and through prayer — its never to late to be a good father — and even better — its never to late to be a good grandfather. *** Dennis Palmitier is a Pampa native, a Pampa High School graduate and a pharmaceutical sales representative.

Yes, Monte and I have helped when necessary, but for the most part, Daniel has proven to be a wonderful and caring father.

Iran

Continued from Page 4

ers — the United States, Israel, India and Pakistan. Their reasoning for pursuing nuclear plants is feasible. They know their main export, oil, will run out one day, so by using nuclear to produce internal power, they can extend the life of their most profitable export. They are certainly wise to disperse their facilities, given the fact that the Israelis bombed Iraq's only nuclear reactor in the 1980s.

my life 30 minutes from total destruction by tens of thousands of the Soviet Union's nuclear warheads. The Bush administration's claim that nuclear deterrence, which worked against a superpower, will not work against a smaller and poorer country is bunk. Israel alone has enough nuclear warheads to pulverize Iran.

over a nuclear weapon to a terrorist organization. Well, where is any evidence of that? The evidence does show that once countries develop nuclear weapons, they keep pretty tight control over them. But more to the point, if we don't want Iran to develop a nuclear weapon, why not negotiate? Why keep threatening the Iranians? It doesn't make any sense. If I were an Iranian, I would assume that President Bush

intends eventually to attack the country. That would be stupid, but if you look at the stupidity of the Iraqi mess, you can't rule it out. Never believe that Bush won't do something just because it's dumb. Iraq, with just over 20 million people, a flat terrain and a dilapidated military, has given us quite a bit of trouble. Try Iran, which has nearly 70 million people, a mountainous terrain and a much more effective military. You Bush lovers should write your man and advise him to let that sleeping dog lie. *** Charley Reese is a retired journalist and syndicated columnist.

The evidence does show that once countries develop nuclear weapons, they keep pretty tight control over them.

Respect

Continued from Page 4

one if it will be a major curb to illegal entry into the country. Possibly statistics to show a reduction of illegal immigration would, as time passes, show that it was a

wise enactment. But if it only shows that getting a driver's license is now a hassle, then it will have been a mistake. Senators should ask some questions about the best way to stop illegal immigration, and if tightening driver's-license requirements is really the best way.

Letter

Continued from Page 4

Merchant Marine veterans are urged to attend. The state association is trying to locate all of the Armed Guard veterans in Texas. For additional informa-

tion, contact John Shirley, Chairman and Host; 4128 N. Summercrest Loop, Round Rock, Texas 78681; (512) 671-3464. Van C. Mills San Angelo, Texas P.S. I worked for the Soil and Conservation Service in Gray County from 1962 to 1967.

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**JESUS CHRIST, THE SAME
YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND FOREVER
HEBREWS 13:8**

Religion



Pampa News photo by DEE DEE LARAMORE

Gettin' ready for stew and chili

Members of First Christian Church of Pampa's Disciples Women's Ministry wash and chop vegetables for the Stew and Chili Luncheon and Bazaar Saturday, Feb. 19, at the church, 1633 N. Nelson. Pictured, from left, are Betty Anderson, Margaret Washington, Dorothy Walls, and Peggy Cloyd. The event, also featuring a Country Kitchen, Silent Auction, and Country Store, is open to the public. Doors open at 10 a.m. A lunch of homemade stew or chili, cornbread, and fresh pie will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Take-outs are available at 12:30 p.m. Proceeds from the event will go to the church's outreach program and special projects within the church.

Great treasures can be found within a person's heart

A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good. An evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil. For of abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

— Luke 6:45

A treasure is money, jewels or the like, hoarded up, a store of money in reserve. The text is speaking of the treasure of a man's heart, referring to either good or bad, that might be stored therein.

The evil man has evil stored. The good man has good stored.

The physical heart is a muscular organ of the human body that lies in the cavity of the thorax between two lungs. It maintains the circulation of the blood through the blood vessels. The heart referred to in the text might be called the spiritual heart and is the seat of spiritual life and strength. It means mind, soul, spirit or one's entire emotional nature and understanding.

If the physical heart is affected, beats too fast or too slow, it causes

Jimmy Flynn

Church of the Brethren



serious physical complications. If it fails to function, the entire physical system collapses and the body dies, life departs.

Likewise, if the spiritual heart is affected, it causes an upset in our spiritual system. If it ceases to

function, we die spiritually.

The physical heart has many parts that are known by name but does not have a storage capacity. Its task is to pump the blood to every part of the body to sustain life. The heart that Christ referred to has a storage capacity that may be filled with either good or bad. The quality of this storage determines the quality of manhood.

The treasure of an evil heart is found in Matthew 15:18-20. The Lord names the things that fill the treasure of an evil man's heart —

murder, adultery, fornication, thefts, false witness, and blasphemies. If these things fill a man's heart, there is no good that can come out. Everything in that man's heart is defiled.

Envy, hatred and malice can be stored. Envy your neighbor because he has a better job than you. Hate your brother because he has a better understanding of the church than you. Malice for all, charity for none. It is easy for an

See HEART, Page 12

Church to celebrate mortgage pay-off with special services

Feb. 20 is Celebration Sunday at New Life Assembly of God, at the corner of Randy Matson and Sumner streets, because the mortgage has been paid off, announced Harold Eggert, senior pastor.

In honor of the occasion, Rev. John Farina, the first pastor, will preach the morning service at 10 a.m. Rev. Mark Stripling, the third pastor, will preach the evening service at 6:30 p.m. Faye Wilkerson, wife of the late Rev. Allen Poldson who was the second pastor, will be ministering in song and testimony. The public is invited to come and help celebrate.

"We are thanking God for his divine intervention in helping us raise the money to accomplish this project," Eggert said in a press release.

Five and a half years ago, the church owed more than \$100,000 on the church building, he said.

"Because of extra payments during this time, the church balance was reduced at an accelerated rate, leaving us with only \$19,000 by October 2004," Eggert said.

"Through a two-month campaign presented at a church banquet, the remainder of the moneys were brought in from both internal and external sources," the pastor said. "This celebration day is a time where we assemble to glorify God for this wonderful miracle and blessing."

'We are thanking God for his divine intervention in helping us raise the money to accomplish this project.'

— Rev. Harold Eggert
New Life Assembly pastor

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THE PAMPA NEWS COMICS

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: In a recent column, writers expressed concerns about early hearing screening for newborns and young children. Your readers should know that Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (known as the EHDI program) is a nationwide priority supported by several federal agencies, state governments, and most hospitals that offer obstetrics/delivery services.

We at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are proud to be a part of this effort. We have long advocated screening to detect hearing loss. Early intervention gives children the best possible start in life.

Most states and territories have EHDI programs that support efforts to detect hearing loss in babies early. The foundation of the EHDI program is the 1-3-6 Plan, whose goals ensure that:

-- Babies are screened for hearing loss before 1 month of age (ideally before the baby leaves the hospital).

-- Babies are referred for diagnostic hearing and medical evaluation before 3 months of age (if they do not pass the first screening or a re-screening).

-- Babies are enrolled in intervention services before 6 months of age if a hearing loss is identified.

The importance of early intervention cannot be overstated. Early detection and intervention help very young children develop vital communication skills that will last a lifetime, and maximize their potential for positive growth. -- JOSE F. CORDERO, M.D., DIRECTOR, NATIONAL CENTER ON BIRTH DEFECTS AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

DEAR DR. CORDERO: Your letter will be of interest to parents-to-be, so thank you for taking the time to write. Readers, for more information on EHDI or how to con-

tact your state or territorial EHDI program, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site: www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/ehdi.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to "Jeremy" for four years. I thought we had a wonderful marriage. A few months ago, I had his cell phone records pulled because I suspected Jeremy was being deceitful about the people who were paging him. I was shocked to discover that he had been in constant contact with the girl he had dated before me, and also another woman who is also married. Then I found out he had been out to dinner with both of them without my knowledge.

Jeremy swore to me that he would no longer have contact with either of them and said our marriage was more important than his "friendships." Because I no longer trusted him, I had his phone records pulled again; nothing has changed. He says he remains in contact with them just to be nice.

Abby, I am not a jealous spouse. Jeremy has many female friends who call the house, and it doesn't upset me because they speak to me as well. I feel so betrayed. Why would my husband destroy our marriage and constantly lie if he has no feelings for these other women? -- HURTING IN NEW ORLEANS

DEAR HURTING: You're asking the wrong person. Only your husband can answer that question. A marriage without trust is no marriage at all, and it's important that you find out why he would jeopardize his relationship with you in order to maintain those friendships. Counseling for the two of you might be helpful -- but only if he's willing to work on this issue. You have my sympathy.

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

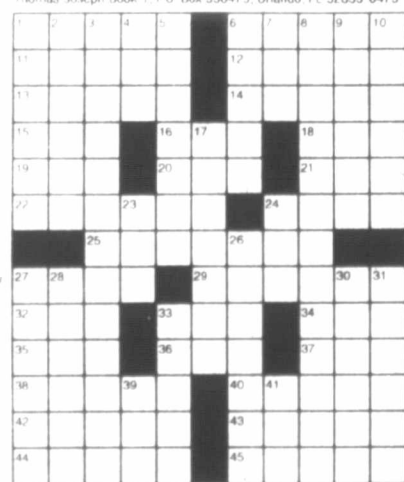
- 1 Stadium
- 37 Adjective ending
- 38 Toast
- 6 White-barked tree
- 40 Check
- 11 Completely
- 12 As (usually)
- 13 Singer
- 14 Haggard
- 15 Barnster's topper
- 16 Self-esteem
- 18 End of some Web addresses
- 19 Court-room oath
- 20 Mover's need
- 21 Canard
- 22 Shred
- 24 Some NCOs
- 25 Decorate
- 27 Elvis middle name
- 29 Survive
- 32 Light metal
- 33 The A-Team actor
- 34 Curly-haired feline
- 35 Feline
- 36 GI entertainers



Yesterday's answer

- DOWN
- 1 Pinhead
- 2 Iroquois tribe
- 3 Frequent dance partner of 8-Down
- 4 Wing
- 5 Jacket parts
- 6 Burger topper
- 7 Wrath
- 8 Frequent dance partner of 3-Down
- 9 Man of the cloth
- 10 Yard rounders
- 17 Wedding props
- 23 Decimal base
- 24 Cacao container
- 26 Over markup
- 27 With no partner of 9-Down
- 28 Theater district
- 30 Go back on a promise
- 31 Added charges
- 33 Ponders
- 39 Bullfight call
- 41 Dijon pal

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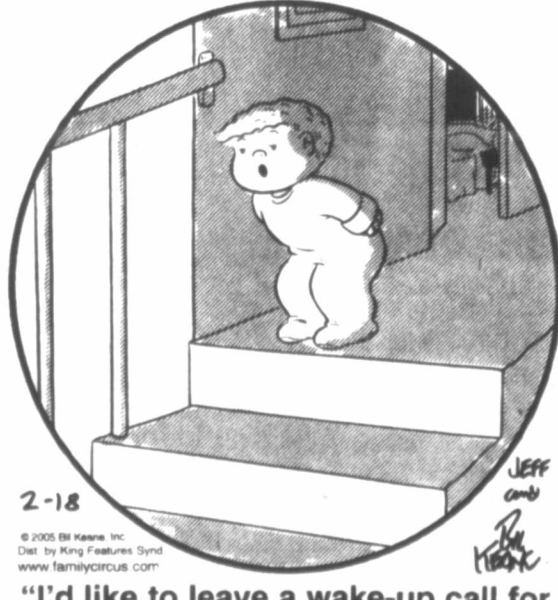


Marmaduke



"Marmaduke's idea of a reality show is a dog food commercial."

The Family Circus



"I'd like to leave a wake-up call for whenever it is I wake up."

Flo & Friends



Blondie



Form he tr

WASHINGTON — Hakeem Olajuwon Tuesday he legitimate projects when of thousands charities which ment later acc ing links to other terror gr But Olajuw say whether he militant versi espoused by s groups he through hi mosque. The former held a confere reporters "I respond to a Associated Pr revealing his more than \$80 ties the U.S. later shut dow alleged terrori He said the age unfairly supports terror "I have diff ing when my linked to any rorism or su Olajuwon Jordan..

AWARD

Ama hono

By MI Pampa's W area athletes Chamber of during the or yesterday. Pe 4A, Area Fen the Year. Penrod's p Penrod of Pa Miller, were receive her h luncheon at k "We were She is a very Zenor serves

Waltr up fro alrea

DAYTON Fla. (AP) Waltrip and Jr. are runni Daytona. Ke stirring up tr Sound farr Yep, the r season has same ol' th we're still a away from 500. Start with Earnhardt, w nated Dayt Earnhardt Jr terrible ir (Waltrip Earnhardt 3' luster in pra DEI got into was business! Waltrip Daytona 500 out his team the race las first of two flying races "I swear c we haven't ging," Earnl ing to conv drivers who 1-2 finish. Tony Ste second 150- after he dod took out m contenders. ly, Harvick middle of th

Sports Day

Former star says he trusted charities

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hakeem Olajuwon said Tuesday he was funding legitimate humanitarian projects when he gave tens of thousands of dollars to charities which the government later accused of having links to al-Qaida and other terror groups.

But Olajuwon refused to say whether he supports the militant version of Islam espoused by several of the groups he supported through his Houston mosque.

The former NBA MVP held a conference call with reporters Tuesday to respond to a report by The Associated Press last week revealing his mosque gave more than \$80,000 to charities the U.S. government later shut down because of alleged terrorism ties.

He said the news coverage unfairly suggested he supports terrorism.

"I have difficulty accepting when my name can be linked to anything like terrorism or supporting it," Olajuwon said from Jordan.

Olajuwon said he was careful to make sure his mosque's donations went to the humanitarian projects promised by the groups getting the money. He said he was comfortable making the donations because the groups had not yet been shut down by U.S. authorities.

"We are always conscious, to make sure that ... the money goes to the work," Olajuwon said. "What we don't have control over, now, is to say, 'OK, are you suspected of linking to terrorists?' How would we know that?"

Tax returns from Olajuwon's Islamic Da'Wah Center mosque show it gave more than \$80,000 to the Islamic African Relief Agency and more than \$2,000 to the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development. Federal authorities shut down IARA last year and HLF in 2001, saying they were fronts for al-Qaida and the Palestinian terrorist group Hamas.

Kickin' it up



Junior Adeena Dallas gets ready to put some leg into the soccer ball during the Lady Harvester's recent meeting with Borger. The Lady Harvesters will take on Canyon this Saturday at Kimbrough Stadium.

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

Amarillo Chamber of Commerce honors Pampa's Whitney Penrod

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

Pampa's Whitney Penrod was among 17 area athletes honored by the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce Sports Committee during the organization's monthly meeting yesterday. Penrod was named the District 4A, Area Female High School Swimmer of the Year.

Penrod's parents, Rev. Scott and Vikki Penrod of Pampa, along with Coach Greg Miller, were on hand to see Whitney receive her honors yesterday during a noon luncheon at Kids Inc.

"We were glad to recognize Whitney. She is a very nice girl," said Becky Zenor. Zenor serves as vice president of the cham-

ber's Quality of Life Council, which includes the sports committee.

Penrod, a senior at Pampa High School, was recently named Regional Diver of the Year and set a new 4A record of 326.55 while defending her Regional title.

She is currently preparing to compete for a State title in Austin, Feb. 25-26. This will be Penrod's second trip to State in as many years.

When Whitney isn't diving she is a member and captain of a very good cheer leading squad in Pampa. She is also a member of the Pampa Choir and works with her church youth group. Maintaining a 3.3 (93%) grade average, Penrod plans to attend college next year at New Mexico State or Eastern New Mexico.

McHale gets first coaching win

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kevin McHale already has had an impact on the Minnesota Timberwolves: They're listening to their coach for once.

The Timberwolves went from an NBA power to an also-ran this year under Flip Saunders, who was fired on Saturday. McHale, the team's vice president of basketball operations and a Hall of Fame player when he was with the Boston Celtics, took over.

In his second game as coach Tuesday night, McHale led the Wolves to an 82-71 victory over the New Jersey Nets.

"If you can keep banging the boards, hitting, fighting and scratching, stuff will fall your way eventually," said McHale, whose style as a power forward was to do exactly that.

Michael Olowokandi had 17 points and 12 rebounds in one of his better games since joining Minnesota before last season. Kevin Garnett, who shot 0-for-5 from the

floor in the first half, scored 17 points and raved about McHal.

"He's like a breath of fresh air right now," Garnett said. "He's given everybody from A to Z confidence."

Added Olowokandi: "Now, if you don't score or if you don't play that much, everybody's still upbeat," Olowokandi said. "McHale does a very, very good job of that."

Wally Szczerbiak added 14 points and eight rebounds for the Wolves, winning for just the second time in 10 games while setting season bests in points allowed and opponents' field-goal percentage (31.0).

Vince Carter had 25 of his 32 points in the first half for the Nets, who got a season-high 18 points from Ron Mercer — but little else from anyone else after halftime.

The Timberwolves' various problems have included rebounding, effort and shot selection, but they boxed out consistently, played hard and moved the ball well against the Nets.

Waltrip and Earnhardt up front, Kevin Harvick already in trouble again

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Michael Waltrip and Dale Earnhardt Jr. are running up front at Daytona. Kevin Harvick is stirring up trouble.

Sound familiar?

Yep, the new NASCAR season has many of the same ol' themes — and we're still a couple of days away from the Daytona 500.

Start with Waltrip and Earnhardt, who have dominated Daytona for Dale Earnhardt Inc. They were terrible in qualifying (Waltrip was 33rd, Earnhardt 39th) and lackluster in practice. But once DEI got into racing mode, it was business as usual.

Waltrip (a two-time Daytona 500 winner) edged out his teammate (who won the race last year) in the first of two 150-mile qualifying races Thursday.

"I swear on the bible that we haven't been sandbagging," Earnhardt said, failing to convince all those drivers who watched DEI's 1-2 finish.

Tony Stewart won the second 150-miler, but only after he dodged a crash that took out many of the top contenders. Not surprisingly, Harvick was right in the middle of things.

The volatile driver, who served a one-race suspension for his antics in 2002, bumped race leader Jimmie Johnson from behind coming through the second turn.

The resulting melee knocked out Johnson, left Harvick's car in a heap and also took out Mark Martin, Joe Nemechek and Rusty Wallace.

Afterward, Nemechek threw a water bottle at Harvick as he emerged from the infield care center. Johnson called on Harvick to be fired by his team or at least fined by NASCAR.

"He just drives stupid," Nemechek said. "He'll get it back. It was totally uncalled for what happened out there."

NASCAR officials moved quickly to diffuse the situation. They summoned Harvick and Johnson, along with their owners and crew chiefs, to an infield summit meeting. Harvick admitted he was at fault and shook hands with Johnson. The two drivers agreed to meet Thursday night at a secret location with no one else around — to smooth out a feud that dates to last season.

See DAYTONA, Page 10.

Bruschi in good condition after suffering mild stroke

BOSTON (AP) — Details in an emergency call to police by his wife were an early indication that New England Patriots linebacker Tedy Bruschi suffered a mild stroke.

Bruschi, 31, a mainstay for three Super Bowl championships and one of the most popular Patriots, has been hospitalized since Wednesday after experiencing temporary numbness, blurred vision and headaches. The team said Thursday he was doing well after the stroke.

"It has been determined that these

symptoms were the results of a mild stroke," team spokesman Stacey James said. "Tedy is in good condition and, as always, his spirits are high. He is walking and talking normally and stressed that he would like to thank everyone for keeping him and his family in their thoughts and prayers."

In a phone call by Bruschi's wife, Heidi, to 911 on Wednesday, she said: "He's having blurred vision, numbness on the right side of his body." He then was admitted to Massachusetts General Hospital.

The Patriots said Bruschi could be released from the hospital as early Friday.

"The outpouring of support has been overwhelming and the Bruschi family is very appreciative," James said.

An estimated 700,000 people per year in the United States suffer strokes. While broken blood vessels can cause them, a vast majority result from clots that block the brain's arteries.

Coach chat



Photo by STEPHEN ROGERS

Lady Harvester coach Bobbi Gill offers some pointers during a recent practice. Pampa will be in Borger today and tomorrow to take part in the Borger Winter Classic softball tournament.

King's Mobley fined \$10,000

NEW YORK (AP) — Sacramento guard Cuttino Mobley was fined \$10,000 by the NBA on Tuesday for his protest after referees did not call goaltending on his last-minute shot during a loss to Dallas.

Mobley had to be restrained from going after the officials by teammate Brad Miller on Friday night.

Stu Jackson, the league's senior vice president for basketball operations, said the fine was for abuse of the officials and failure to promptly leave the court.

The shot, which would have given Sacramento a 3-point lead, was blocked by

Dallas' Erick Dampier and was followed by Jason Terry's three-point play that gave the Mavericks the 115-113 victory at Sacramento. Replays showed Mobley's shot clearly hit the backboard, which under NBA rules is goaltending.

During the ensuing time-out, the Kings played the replay of Dampier's block seven times, and owners Gavin and Joe Maloof pointed pleadingly at the video board. Mavericks owner Mark Cuban, who has had his share of fines for replaying controversial calls too many times in Dallas, merely smirked.

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NASA under O'Keefe may be under scrutiny

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Outgoing NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe is being investigated for potential misuse of government airplanes and taking too many expensive getaways with subordinates while heading the space agency, former and current senior NASA officials say.

The focus of the Government Accountability Office investigation is not fraud, but waste, one of the four NASA officials told The Associated Press. The four — two still with NASA, two recently departed — asked not to be identified for fear of reprisals.

Two said they had been questioned by the GAO, Congress' investigative arm.

A top GAO investigator, George Ogilvie, declined to comment.

O'Keefe said Thursday night that he was unaware of any such investigation, and that he had checked with NASA's inspector general, who also knew of no such probe.

He defended his use of government airplanes as a normal, necessary part of his job and said there were no abuses.

"To the extent there is such a thing under way, it will validate and confirm that the course of my entire career as a public servant and financial manager has been responsible, in this circumstance as well as every other previously," O'Keefe said.

A GAO probe was requested last June by Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, following testimony at spring hearings about "serious financial management problems" at NASA.

Red Hat Dollies



Photo by SHIRLEY NICHOLSON

The local Red Hat Dollies greeted diners at Pampa Senior Citizens Center recently with a Valentine and a smile. Above: Vivian Dykes, Peggy Cloyd, Betty Anderson, Margaret Washington, Helene Baumgardner, Eulah Thomas, Betty Buckingham and Charlotte Hogan.

VASE

Pampa High art students compete in regional contest

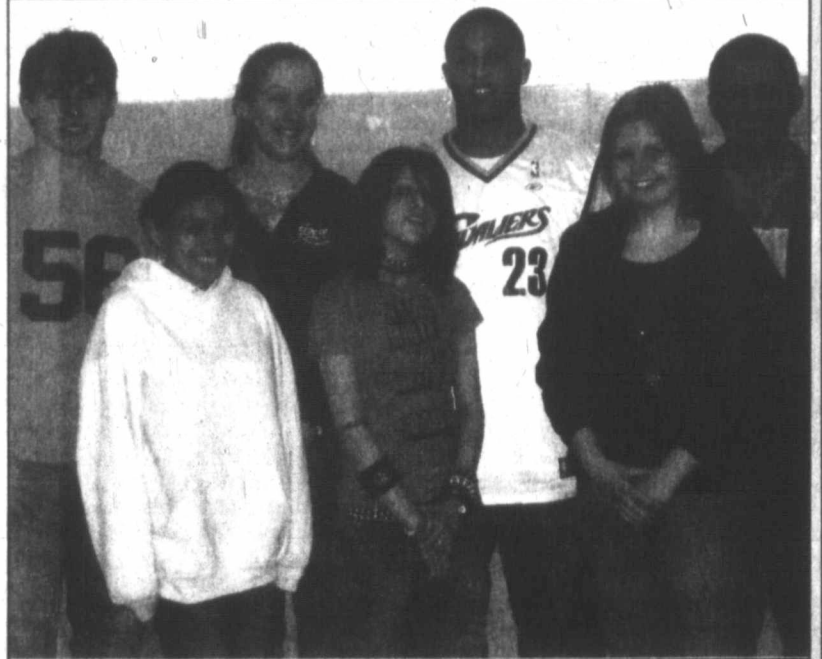
Some Pampa High School art students recently traveled to Amarillo for a Regional Visual Arts Scholastics Event (VASE). Christine Krobol qualified for state and Maiké Knutz earned alternate status.

Medals are awarded for superior ratings. Approximately 1,000 entries, from out of the more than 10,000 entries statewide, qualify for state competition slated April 14-16 at the University of Houston-Clear Lake.

Here are the results of the recent VASE competition:

Art 1. Krobol, pencil drawing/self-portrait; Jared Winegeart, superior rating, photography.

Art 2. Jimmy Alonzo, superior rating, pencil drawing; Christina Deleon, superior rating, pencil drawing; Gina Guerra, superior rating, pencil drawings; Maiké Knutz,



Pampa High art students recently participated in regional competition in Amarillo. Above: (front row, left-right) Christina Deleon, Gina Guerra, Christine Krobol; (back row, l-r) Jared Winegeart, Maiké Knutz, Cameron Seger and Jimmy Alonzo. Not pictured: Mateo Campos.

state alternate, pencil drawing/still life.

Art 3. Mateo Campos, superior rating, pencil drawings; Cameron Seger, two superior rating, colored pencil drawing and pencil drawing, respectively.

Heart

Continued from Page 7

evil heart to become filled. Its capacity is also very large it's surprising how much sin can be stored in one heart.

The tongue is poisoned from issues of the heart. (James 3:8-10) Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh. Whatever is in the heart comes out by the way of the tongue. The tongue is full of deadly poison. This poison came from the heart. If blessings and glory are in the heart, it is easy for the tongue to bless God.

If the heart is filled with cursing, bitterness, and wickedness such things will flow from the heart through the mouth, cut into language by the tongue. (James 3: 11-12) Sweet and bitter water do not flow from the same fountain. The sweet would be made bitter by the bitter. Salt water and fresh do not come from the same spring. The fresh would not make the salt fresh, but the salt would make the fresh salty.

The most important thing in life is to have a clean heart. We go to school and study books to learn but often neglect the important lesson of life. (Washed by the blood, Revelation 1:5) There is but one flow that will wash the heart. It will wash away every sin, remove every stain, make the heart whiter than snow. The heart that is cleansed by the blood is pure. Nothing can come from it that defiles. Let not evil lodge in your heart. There is much evil afloat in the world. Dirty drifts will seek to lodge in your heart. Every kind of hateful spirit will be asking for entrance; we must keep on guard. Protect the heart by getting under the blood.

Operations might be necessary. An ounce of prevention is worth more than a

pound of cure. Operations are painful, either physically or spiritually, but sometimes important. Confessions and repentance might be termed operations. They hurt but are a wonderful cure for an ailing heart.

How would you like to have the picture of your heart made? This has never been done. The contents of a man's heart do not show up in an x-ray. God is the only one who really understands and is able to read the heart of man. If it were possible that an x-ray could be made, if every spot were made visible and the language of the heart made readable, you might be surprised at how many would need a major operation of the heart. Will you now submit to an operation of your wicked and sinful heart?

Would you be willing for the public to have a copy of the thoughts and intents of your heart? These things are hid from man; God alone reads them.

There are few people who would be willing for their neighbors to read their heart. Let each of us search our heart and ask the Lord to try our heart and cleanse it until we would be glad for our friends to really know our inside life. (Proverbs 23:26)

The heart is the seat of affections, passions, and emotions. It is the innermost soul and conscience of man.

If God gets your heart, he has you with your love and devotion. God has asked for your heart.

If you give him your heart, he has all of you.

Your soul will be in his hands. Will you submit your heart, your soul, your body to him?

Investigators say plane's approach looked normal before it crashed

DENVER (AP) — The pilot of a Circuit City jet did not indicate any trouble and its approach to the Pueblo airport appeared normal just before the plane crashed, killing eight, investigators said.

"The descent profile of the plane looked OK," National Transportation Safety Board chief investigator Frank Hildrup said late Thursday. The last radar reading indicated the plane was about 300 feet above ground, but he said it was too early to say if the jet engines were operating normally.

NTSB chairwoman Ellen Engleman Connors said the investigation will include the weather and potential mechanical problems. Freezing drizzle and fog were reported at the time of the crash Wednesday morning.

Aviation officials had warned about icing conditions and the pilot of another plane reported light to moderate icing, Hildrup said. The pilot of that plane activated an in-flight deicing system.

The twin-jet Cessna Citation C-560, owned by electronics retailer Circuit City, was stopping to refuel when it crashed. Four employees, two outside business partners and two pilots were killed, the company said.

Neither Circuit City nor the Pueblo County coroner has released their names.

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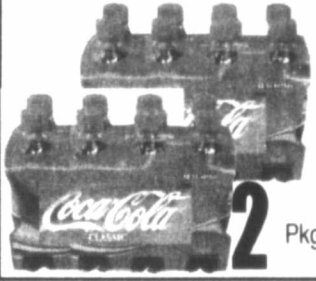
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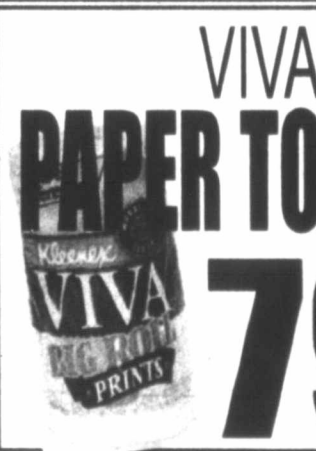
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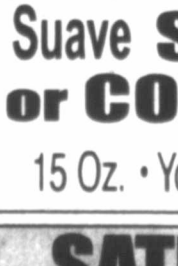
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