Today's weather

Twenty Five Plus Years Experience

Deputies arrest man in oilfield thefts

By DAVID BOWSER Staff Writer

A 26-year-old Pampa man was in Gray County jail today in lieu of \$5,000 bond

today after being charged up. with theft of items greater in then \$20,000.

in connection with some oil- Gray County deputies shortly meter house near Gray David Allen Bolch, 26, the deputies found gas meters Highway 70, Sheriff Don about a mile north of the

117 N. Sumner, was in jail in the back of Bolch's pick- Copeland said this morning.

Deputies Scott LaRue and they followed the pickup, saw three meter boxes in the value than \$1,500 and less Jarrett Parsons were on patrol they passed the meter house, back of Bolch's pickup and Sunday night when they saw and he noticed the door was arrested him for theft. Bolch was arrested by a pickup driving off from a open. after 11 p.m. Sunday when County Road K and Texas pickup over on Texas 70

Deputy LaRue said that as

The deputies pulled the dispatched back to the meter

meter house, Copeland said. LaRue said the deputies

Deputy Dennis Elliott was

See THEFTS, Page 3



65 36

Deaths

Harrison Barbara Gunter, 66, homemaker. Viva Jane Kelley, 64,

homemaker. Waters Mildred Greenhouse Mantooth, 92, homemaker.

Odds & Ends

STAPLETON, Neb. (AP) - Rain, sleet and snow have not kept Kermit Paxton from making his six-day-a-week journey to deliver mail. His recent 90th birthday didn't stop him eithe

Monday through Saturday, Paxton rises early, gets in his truck and transports mail on the 70plus mile round trip between Stapleton, Arnold and North Platte. He's been doing this for the past 27

The retired rancher said there are some drawbacks to the job he otherwise enjoys. Sometimes the mail is very heavy.

He also has had a few frightening experiences. Paxton said he turned his van upside down once on icy road conditions, and he did the same thing on ice two or three years ago in his pickup.

When he is not delivering mail, Paxton spends some time delivering Bibles as a member of Gideons International for more than 30 years.

Paxton lives a healthy and active life, and said his job has helped him live a lot longer than he expected. He apparently does not figure to retire any time soon. His mail delivery contract runs another two years.

FLINT, Mich. (AP) -Jack Cramer was rummaging through piles of old stuff recently when he ran across a \$1 parking ticket he received while he was a college student.

Its date: July 26, 1954. "I got a good laugh when I saw it, but then I thought, 'What if they're still trying to collect this?" Cramer

Cramer said he called the Flint Police Department's traffic division to inform it of his find. He pledged to cover his outstanding debt.

"The lady I talked to thought it was very funny and joked that she wanted to transfer my call to the court," he said. "I said, 'No, someone over there might not have a sense of

Car hits boy, 7; injuries minor

By DAVID BOWSER Staff Writer

A 7-year-old Pampa boy suffered minor injuries him to the curb. Sunday when he as hit by a four door sedan.

Nathan Cain Martinez, 7, 1301 N. Garland, was struck fered by a 2004 white Oldsmobile injuries. Alero, driven by Melissa Ann Dabbs, 22, 1400 W. p.m. Sunday, in the 1300 block of North Garland.

Officers said Dabbs was northbound on Garland at street while chasing a ball. slow speed when Martinez front of a parked truck.

Dabbs told officers she did in front of her car and she this report.

By DAVID BOWSER

Staff Writer

Pampa city commission-

ers will select a financial

advisor, declare a number of

dumpster as surplus and

appoint another member to

the golf course advisory

In their regular meeting at

4 p.m., Tuesday, at city hall,

the Pampa City Commission

is expected to renew a finan-

cial advisory contract with

Southwest Securities. The

company has been the city's

financial advisor for more

than 20 years, said City

could not stop before hitting

The right front of the car struck Martinez, knocking

Martinez was rushed to the Pampa Regional Medical Pampa police officers said Center by Guardian EMS.

Officers said the boy sufnon-incapacitating

Pampa Fire Department also responded to the scene Somerville, shortly after 2 and assisted EMS with preparing the child for transport. Fire officials said the child reportedly ran into the

Dabbs was cited for drivran out into the street from in ing without liability insurance.

 Editor Dee Dee not see Martinez until he was Laramore contributed to

Manager John Horst.

Commissioners are also

Pampa Public Works

expected to declare 275

dumpsters as surplus proper-

Director Richard Morris said

that the city would keep the

best dumpsters for future

repair. The dumpsters being

designated surplus will not

consider appointing Brenda

Kelly to replace Rodnie

Winbourne, whose term has

See CITY, Page 3

The commission will also

be rebuilt, Morris said.

expired.

ty and authorize their sale.

City commission

to select financial

advisor Tuesday



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Holding a copy of this month's "Rough Notes" insurance industry trade journal, which features their agency on its cover, are, from left, Bill Bridges, Brian Duncan, Gail Woodington and Mike Fraser, partners.

Trade journal features local insurance agency

By MARILYN POWERS

An insurance agency with its roots in Pampa has been named marketing agency of the month in the February issue of "Rough Notes," an industry trade journal distributed to every insurance agency in the country, as well as Canada, Mexico and Europe.

Duncan, Fraser & Bridges Insurance Agency, Inc., of Pampa is featured on the magazine's cover, along with a five-page article detailing its growth and activities.

The agency was created in 1995 through the merger of three agencies which dated to the 1920s. A fourth agency, Fatheree Insurance Agency, was

acquired by DF&B in 2000.

Revenue for DF&B has more than doubled since 1995, and today tops \$2.3 million annually, making the agency one of the largest independent agencies in the Texas Panhandle and the largest in its primary marketing area.

Bill Bridges, a partner in the agency, attributes the growth to new marketing plans and value-added services. He defines value-added services as "things you do after the sale to provide a little more worth."

Those value-added services include training in OSHA compliance, the Family and Medical Leave Act,

See AGENCY, Page 3

Fifth grader wins county spelling contest



Shannon Leigh, Austin Elementary 5th grader, will represent Gray County at the Regional Spelling Bee on March 5.

Shannon Leigh, a fifth-grader from Austin Elementary School, earned top honors Friday, Feb. 18 as champion speller in the 2005 Gray County spelling bee, held in Pampa Junior High School's auditorium.

Runner-up is Jacob Frost, fifth grade, of Travis Elementary School. Senior champion is Kara Lane, PJHS eighth-grader.

Leigh, Frost and Lane were among 14 spellers competing for the opportunity to represent Gray County at the regional spelling bee, March 5 in Canyon, with the chance to advance to the national spelling bee in Washington, D.C.

Gray County spellers were Molly Andorfer, Brandon Cox, Aribel Martinez, Jacob Boyd, Ranney, Brennan Taylor Dickinson, Stephanie Ronquillo, Scott Kelly, Kayla Cox, Jessica Kenney, Ryan Smith, Frost, Lane and Leigh.

"There were 15 rounds and many words used before the



Jacob Frost. grader, Elementary 5th **Gray County Runner Up.**

championship was decided," said Herman Vinson, Gray County spelling bee director.

Judges for this year's spelling



Kara Lane, Pampa Junior High 8th grader, Gray County senior champion.

bee were Tommy Lindsey, Tori Kelley and Susan Burgin.

The official pronouncer was Wanetta Hill.

Obituaries

Barbara Harrison Gunter, 66

MIAMI – Barbara Harrison Gunter, 66, of Miami died Saturday, Feb. 19, 2005, in Pampa. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2005, at Lane Memorial Cemetery in Sunray, with the Rev. David Purl, pastor of First United Methodist of Sunray, officiating. Arrangements are by Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Gunter was born on May 18, 1938, in Brady. She married John Harrison on July 18, 1954, in Clayton, N.M. He preceded her in death on Aug. 3, 1979. She later married Dick Gunter on Sept. 10, 1988 in Miami. She was a mother and a homemaker. She was preceded in death by two sons, Gene Harrison in 2005, Carroll Harrison in 1986,

and by a daughter, Paula Harrison, in 1975. She is survived by her husband Dick Gunter of the home; four daughters, Jodie Finch of Dewey, Okla., D'Ann Srader of Shattuck, Okla., Susie Barton of Cleburne and Brenda Holmes of Pampa; a son, Kerry Harrison of Wynnewood, Okla., and a stepson, Rodney Gunter of Higgins; her mother, Bill Cates of Abilene; a brother, Houston Cates of Tishomingo, Okla.; a sister, Lisa Welzel of Memphis, Tenn.; 14 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065.

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

Viva Jane Kelley, 64

MIAMI - Viva Jane Kelley, 64, died Friday, Feb. 18, 2005, in Panhandle. Miami Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of

Mrs. Kelley was born Oct. 13, 1940, in Jack County, Texas. She married Jerry Kelley on Sept. 9, 1960, in Buffalo Springs. She had been a resident of Miami since 1995, moving from Paradise, Texas. She was a member of the First Methodist Church of Miami and the United Methodist Women. She was a member of the Meet Your Neighbor Club. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include her husband Jerry Kelley of the home; one son, Damon Kelley Services are pending. Burial will be in of Plainview; two daughters, Pamela Green of Lexington, Ky., and Kimberly Cumpton of Stafford, Va.; and six grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, J.C. and Norma Cox.

> Memorials may be made to Methodist Children's Home, 111 Herring Ave., Waco, Texas 76708, Odyssey Hospice, 1000 S. Jefferson, Amarillo, Texas, 79101, or a favorite charity.

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

Mildred Waters Greenhouse Mantooth, 92

Mildred Waters Greenhouse Mantooth, 92, died Saturday, Feb. 19, 2005, in Pampa. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m.,

Cemetery in Miami with Rev. Lance Wood, pastor of First Baptist Church of Miami, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Mantooth was born Jan. 27, 1913, in Anson, Texas. She was a lifelong resident of the Texas Panhandle, except for a the few years that she lived at the Red River Ranch near Springer, N.M.

She lived in Briscoe, Miami, and had been a resident of McLean since 1961 before moving to Pampa in 2000. She mar-Zybach. He preceded her in death on Oct. 1. 1961. She later married Odell F. Mantooth on April 15, 1965, in Pampa. He preceded www.carmichael-whatley.com.

her in death on Sept. 18, 1981. She was a Baptist and a homemaker.

Survivors include three sons, Dale Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2005, at the Miami Greenhouse and wife Rebecca of Pampa,

Harold Greenhouse and wife Belva of Amarillo, and Wayne Greenhouse and wife Sylvia of Abilene; one brother, Cecil Waters of Amarillo; one sister, Bessie Walker of Pine Grove, Calif.; eight grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by four brothers, two sisters, and a grandson.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, 114 E. Wichita,

Miami, Texas, 79059. The family will greet friends immediately

ried And Greenhouse on Dec. 24, 1929, in the service at the First Baptist Church in Miami.

- Sign the on-line register at

Services tomorrow-

GUNTER, Barbara Harrison – Graveside services, 2 p.m., Lane Memorial Cemetery,

HOUSTON, Elbert T. "Jack" – Graveside services, 2 p.m., Miami Cemetery, Miami.

Mantooth

Gray County Weather

high near 65. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph. Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 36. Southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers after noon. Partly cloudy, with a high near 57. Calm wind becoming east between 10 and 15 mph. Tuesday night: A chance of rain before 3 a.m., then a chance of rain and snow between 3 a.m. and 4 a.m., then a chance of snow after 4 a.m.. Mostly cloudy, with a low near 33. Wind chill values between 24 and 29. East northeast wind around 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Wednesday: Rain and snow likely, becoming all rain after 2 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high around 38. East northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent. Wednesday night: Snow likely. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 27. East northeast wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.

Thursday: A chance of rain and snow before noon, then a chance of rain. Mostly

Presidents' Day: Mostly sunny, with a cloudy, with a high around 41. East wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent. Thursday night: A 30 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a low around 28. South southeast wind between 5

and 15 mph. Friday: A chance of snow before 11 a.m., then a chance of rain and snow between 11 a.m. and noon, then a chance of rain after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high around 43. East southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent. Friday night: A slight chance of rain before 11 p.m, then a slight chance of rain and snow between 11 p.m and 1 a.m., then a slight chance of snow after 1 a.m.. Cloudy, with a low near 28. Chance of precipitation is 20

Saturday: A slight chance of snow before 10 a.m., then a slight chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 48. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent. Saturday night: A slight chance of rain before 2 a.m., then a slight chance of rain and snow between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m.



The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement **CLOTHING ROOM Mary** Ellen & Harvester Church of Christ (bldg. across the street, disaster after surveying the south of Pampa High School) massive physical destruction Tues., Feb. 22nd, 9-1 p.m.

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665-2373, lv. msg.

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

(AP) — Former Presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton spent time with child survivors of Asia's tsunami on Monday, getting clues to the emotional impact of the

it caused. In the fishing town of Weligama on Sri Lanka's battered southern coast, Clinton and Bush visited temporary houses built of cinderblocks and iron sheeting and sat with children who danced, sang and drew pictures of their experiences.

"Some of them are still drawing about the tsunami, and some of them are drawing life as they remember it and as they want it to be

again," Clinton said. The two ex-leaders toured facilities built with U.S. government aid to house people whose homes were washed away in the Dec. 26 tsunami, which killed more than 30,000 people in Sri Lanka. Earlier, they inspected water purification equipment in Koggala, another hard-hit southern town. The American delegation flew by helicopter from the capital, Colombo, to the south, traveling over coastlines still strewn with rubble and debris.

Bush seeks trans-Atlantic unity; tough talk for Russia, Iran, Syria

'We must always

remind Russia that

our alliance stands

for a free press, a

vital opposition, the

sharing of power

and the rule of law."

- President Bush

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — President Bush appealed to Europe on Monday to move beyond animosities over Iraq and join forces in encouraging democratic reforms across the Middle East. He also prodded Russia to reverse a crackdown on political dissent, demanded that Iran end its nuclear ambitions and told Syria to get out of Lebanon.

Bush did not rule out using military force in Iran, saying all options remain on the table. Addressing widespread concerns in Europe that Iran is the next U.S. target after Iraq, Bush said: "Iran is ... different from Iraq. We're in the early stages of diplomacy."

Bush's speech on a five-day fence-mending trip to Europe was aimed at both U.S. and European audiences. "In a new century, the alliance of America and Europe is the main pillar of our security," he said.

He used the word "alliance" 12 times in his speech to underscore his aim to repair relations frayed by the war in Iraq. But not all his speech was conciliatory.

Bush had pointed criticism for Russia three days ahead of a meeting with President Vladimir Putin in Slovakia. Referring to Putin's recent steps to consolidate power, rollback democratic reforms and curb press and political freedoms, Bush

"We must always remind Russia that our alliance stands for a free press, a vital opposition, the sharing of power and the rule of law. The United States should place democratic reform at the heart of their dialogue with Russia."

Bush's speech was delivered in an ornate ballroom of Brussels' Concert Noble hall

before an audience of business leaders, academics and diplomats. It was greeted mostly by subdued applause.

He was having a private dinner later Monday with French President Jacques Chirac, one of his harshest critics on Iraq. His trip also included stops in Germany and Slovakia.

Bush urged greater "tangible political, economic and security assistance to the world's newest democracy," Iraq. And he called for European allies to stand by fledgling democracy movements throughout the world, and especially in the Middle East.

On the same day that he spoke, European Union foreign ministers decided to open a Baghdad office to coordinate the training of more than 700 Iraqi judges and prosecutors. The office will be the first EU representation in Iraq since the war, and European officials said it reflects their willingness to take on a more active rebuilding role and help smooth relations with

Bush said he recognized that full democracy could take awhile to root. Even in the United States, democracy came slowly, Bush said, pointing out that women and minorities were not treated equally "and that struggle hasn't ended."

Bush had sharp words for Syria, calling on leaders in Damascus to withdraw its forces from Lebanon. As Bush spoke, thousands of opposition supporters in Beirut shouted insults at Syria and demanded the resignation of Lebanon's pro-Syrian government, marking a week since the assassination of Rafik Hariri, Lebanon's most prominent politician.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m.

Friday, Feb. 18 A Pampa woman was arrested in the 500 block of North Yeager for possession

of drug paraphernalia.

A violation of a court order was reported in the 2300 block of Aspen.

The theft of \$89 in cash was reported in the 400 block of Rose.

A window was broken out and a television and towels valued at more than \$900 was stolen from 800 S. Sumner.

Saturday, Feb. 19 An unattended death was reported in the 1000 block of South Faulkner.

A house in the 400 block of North Nelson was egged. A lawnmower valued at \$300 was reported stolen from a home in the 400 block of North Nelson.

A domestic quarrel was reported in the 1900 block of North Coffee.

Harassment was reported in the 2200 block of Lea.

A purse was reported lost in the 1000 block of South

A bicycle, valued at \$140, was reported missing in the 1400 block of North Hobart. It was later recovered by Gray County deputies.

Trespass was reported in the 200 block of West

Sunday, Feb. 20

A simple assault was reported in the 2800 block of Rosewood.

About \$243 in movies and a wallet were reported stolen from a vehicle in the 1200 block of North Hobart. Aggravated assault was

reported in the 800 block of West McCullough. A truck window are shot

out by a BB gun in the 600 block of North Duncan. A domestic quarrel was

reported in the 700 block of North Dwight.

Accidents

Pampa The Department reported the following accidents during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, Feb. 19

A 1979 blue Datsun 280ZX, driven by Katina Anne Atchley, 26, 1141 N. Juniper, struck a tree at the intersection of Harvester and Magnolia. Atchley was cited for failure to control speed and not having insurance.

Sunday, Feb. 20 A 2004 white Oldsmobile, Dabbs, 22, 1400

driven by Melissa Ann Somerville, Apt. 4, struck Nathan Cain Martinez, 7, 1301 N. Garland, in the 1300 block of Garland. Dabbs was cited for not having insur-

Sheriff

Gray County Sheriff's office reported the following arrests during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today

Friday, Feb. 18

Tamara Price, 17, 344 Miami, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of assault and possession of drug parapherna-

Misti Gale Pierce, 29, 1214 Market, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of hindering the apprehension of a felon.

Saturday, Feb. 19 Cedric Deshun Parker, 18, 116 Vernon, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of driving without a license, having an expired motor vehicle registration

insurance. Sunday, Feb. 20

and not having liability

Guadelupe Natacha Renteria, 32, 717 N. West, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of driving without a seat belt, not having a valid driver's license, having an expired registration sticker, failure to control speed and failure to appear.

Jamil Darrell Ledgerwood, 29, 612 Reid, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of failure to identify himself as a fugitive and disorderly conduct.

Michael Shawn Jones, 39, 1323 Charles, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of driving without a valid license, driving with an expired registration sticker and not having insurance.

David Allen Bolch, 26, 114 N. Sumner, was arrested by Gray County deputies on

charges of theft.

Fire

Pampa Fire Department responded to the following calls during the 48-hour period ending at 7 mm. today

Saturday, Feb. 19

11:32 a.m. - One unit and three firefighters responded to a LifeStar medical helicopter standby at One Medical Plaza.

12:57 p.m. – One unit and three firefighters provided a medical standby at the Special Olympics basketball tournament at 111 E. Harvester.

3:01 p.m. – One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 1000 block of South Faulkner.

5:13 p.m. – One unit and three firefighters responded to a carbon monoxide check in the 300 block of Canadian. None was found.

Sunday, Feb. 20 2:15 p.m. – One unit and three firefighters responded to a vehicle/pedestrian collision in the 1300 block of Garland. A child was struck by a car reportedly after chasing a ball into the street. Firefighters helped prepare the patient for ambulance transport.

9:11 p.m. - One unit and three firefighters responded to a leaking gas meter in the 900 block of East Browning

Ambulance

Guardian EMS responded to the following calls. Saturday, Feb. 19

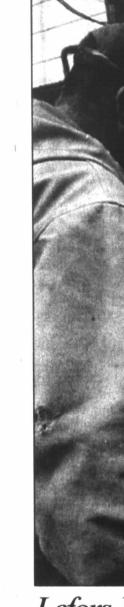
8:18 a.m. – A mobile intensive care unit responded to the Jordan Prison Unit and transported one to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

2:57 p.m. – A MICU responded to the 1000 block of South Faulkner and transported on to PRMC.

5:04 p.m. – A MICU responded to the 200 block of Canadian and transported one to PRMC.

7:23 p.m. – A MICU responded to the 1900 block of Fir and transported one to

10:06 p.m. - A MICU responded to the 2200 block of Christine and transported one to PRMC.



Lefors V On Saturday, badly-needed

Rodriquez, A

Continued fr COBRA, and

ty, as well a employee manu "We address pliance issues tl customers und the federal go putting them

Bridges said. DF&B's cus be divided int gories.

Continu house and there was leak Oneok Gas and an One Franklin, iden in Bolch's pi

from the mete

The Lipizzaner Sta in Amarillo o for a one-nigh as part of their sary present "Dancing Whi

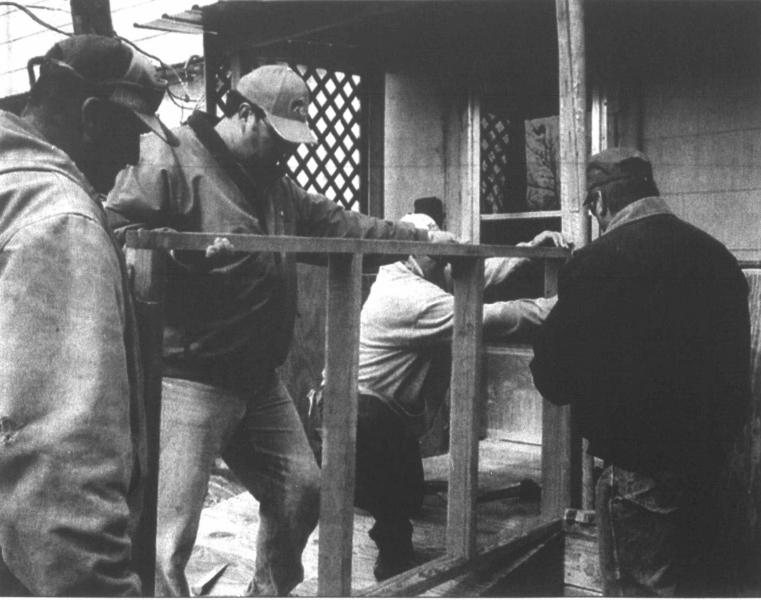
The horses 7:30 in the A Center. Tickets adults, and \$ dren ages 2 to iors ages 60 a ited number of seats are avail each.

Tickets w Thursday, Fe are ava **PANHANDL** Civic Center Randy's Mu Amarillo, th Center in United Sup Amarillo, Dur

Mari

BAGHDAI U.S. Marine doors and Monday on th an offensive ing down on ty in several west of Bagh The foray

Shiites of the Iraqi Allia Baghdad to l prime minist for the new member Nati Debate h



Lefors VFD lends a helping hand

On Saturday, Feb. 19, 10 members of the Lefors Volunteer Fire Department, plus three neighbors, built a badly-needed wheelchair ramp for a Lefors citizen. Lefors VFD firefighters, from left, Michael Ray, Rubin Rodriquez, Archie Summers, and Kenny Forsyth, place a hand rail on the porch.

Continued from Page 1

COBRA, and general safety, as well as help with employee manuals.

"We address a lot of compliance issues that try to help customers understand what the federal government is putting them through," Bridges said.

DF&B's customers may be divided into four cate-

"We do a lot of oil and gas interests, from top to bottom, from pumpers all the way up to drillers," Bridges said.

Artisan contractors, such as plumbers and electricians, are another customer catego-

"Main Street businesses," or independent retail stores, and personal insurance for individuals round out the agency's clientele.

Two of the most significant developments impacting the insurance industry in recent years are the issue of black mold and the continued advancement of computers, Bridges said.

"The mold situation brought about changes in all the homeowners' forms.

"Computer technology has greatly increased the amount of information accessible to insurance industry. Insurance agencies can also store a wealth of information they couldn't before, due to computers," Bridges said.

DF&B has offices in Borger, Amarillo and Dallas, in addition to their home office in Pampa. The Borger office "is growing along with the rebuilding of the Phillips plant," said Bridges, and DF&B helped start the Dallas affiliate six years ago.

They also have their own website, dfbinsurance.com. Regardless of its growth,

DF&B plans to stay in Pampa. "We'll bring some young

people into the organization. I think Pampa has stabilized in its population," Bridges said.

ervice at the First bannist

"We'll be here."

Thefts

Continued from Page 1

house and reported that a meter

there was leaking natural gas. Oneok Gas Company was notified and an Oneok employee, Jerry Franklin, identified one of the meters in Bolch's pickup as having come from the meter house at Texas 70 and

County Road K.

LaRue said that Bolch then took the deputies to a location about a mile and a half south of the Bowers City Bridge where he said he had gotten the other two meters.

Sheriff Copeland said each meter is worth about \$1,400.

Grav County Justice of the Peace Kurt Curfman set bond for Bolch this morning at \$5,000.

Continued from Page 1

Police Chief Trevlyn Pitner will give his annual racial profiling report and Horst will go over budget comparisons during the commission meeting.

The commission will also hear reports on long term debt, a warehouse lease and a new accounting system.

'Dancing White Stallions' coming

ipizzaner

stallions were

trained for battle,

while mares

horses for

became carriage

the nobility.

By MARILYN POWERS Borger. For general informa- reins or other means. Staff Writer

world famous for a one-night performance II by General as part of their 35th anniver- George sary presentation of the Patton and the

The horses will perform at Squadron of 7:30 in the Amarillo Civic the Center. Tickets are \$19.50 for States Army's adults, and \$17.50 for chil- 2nd Cavalry dren ages 2 to 12 and for sen- unit. iors ages 60 and over. A lim- horses were ited number of Gold Circle being seats are available for \$22.50 hostage by each.

Tickets went on sale during Thursday, Feb. 17. Tickets war. available

tion or to charge tickets by phone, call 806-378-3096.

in Amarillo on March 18th the Lipizzaners in World War rider.

"Dancing White Stallions." 4 2 n d United The held Axis powers

PANHANDLEtickets, the been made famous by its stal- horses bred in Carthage more and Hawaii have seen the Civic Center box office, lions, which are trained in than 2,000 years ago. Randy's Music Mart in dressage and airs above the Amarillo, the WT Event ground. Dressage is the guid- later was bred to the Vilano, a as "an equestrian work of art, Center in Canyon, and ance of a horse through a set sturdy Pyrenees horse, and to performing an equine ballet United Supermarkets in of maneuvers without per- Arab and Barbary horses to not to be rivaled," according

Airs above the ground are a series of maneuvers where created from Spanish horses This year marks the 60th the horse leaps above the in the 1500s by Austrian Lipizzaner Stallions will be anniversary of the rescue of ground, with or without a rulers. The breed name

> or black coats, change their relatively long company. life span of 30

= to 35 years.

The Carthagenian horse Amarillo, Dumas, Pampa and ceptible use of hands, feet, create the Andalusian horse to the release.

of ancient Spain.

The Lipizzaner breed was comes from Lipizza, a place Lipizzaners in the hills of Karst, near = are usually Trieste, which was part of born with dark Austria at that time.

Stallions were trained for which slowly battle, while mares became to carriage horses of the nobilifinal ty. The airs above the ground white were part of the stallions' batcolor over a tle maneuvers. They have period of six been part of history for over to 10 years. 425 years, according to a They have a news release from the show's

Over 25 million people throughout North and South The Lipizzaner breed has They are descendants of America, Europe, Australia Lipizzaners perform.

They have been described

Lefors plans tornado anniversary events

LEFORS - March 27 marks the 30th anniversary of the Lefors tornado.

Several Lefors citizens are preparing a historical booklet to commemorate the event.

The booklet will contain news articles about the tornado, pictures of the damage and stories or memories of the event by Lefors citizens who were here, or in the area, at the time.

The town will also hold a special program on March 25 at the Lefors Post Office. (Times to be announced later.) A tornado cancellation stamp will be introduced and guest speakers will tell their tales of the tornado.

Anyone interested in contributing their experience or tale, is asked to call Susan Oldham at 835-2438 or Nancy Swaney at 835-2726 for more information.

Ouestionnaires are also

available upon request at: oldhammer 13@centramedia.net.

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Marines, Iraqi security forces carry out offensive

ing down on insurgent activi- on a candidate. ty in several troubled cities west of Baghdad.

Baghdad to hash out a final prime ministerial candidate for the newly elected 275- complicated

The two main candidates The forays occurred as Pentagon favorite Ahmad Iraqi television presenter, an negative effects of insurgent Shiites of the winning United Chalabi, a secular Shiite, and official from her network activity. Iraqi Alliance met in Ibrahim al-Jaafari, the inter- said Monday. im vice president.

member National Assembly. reports that the Shiite's initial Sunday night while she was to be targeted." Debate has intensified pick for prime minister, returning home, said the offi-

U.S. Marines broke down alliance, who formed a 21- Abdul-Mahdi, could return anonymity. doors and raided houses member committee to decide as a compromise candidate. Monday on the second day of on two nominees for the job Abdul-Mahdi, who has close insurgents targeted the local an offensive aimed at crack- because they could not agree ties to Iran, dropped out Feb.

so far had been the former city of Mosul abducted an grams that highlighted the

Raiedah The race may get more Wageh Wazan was abducted from Iraqi citizens and therefollowing by several masked gunmen fore have caused the station

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — among the members of the Finance Minister Adel cial, speaking on condition of The U.S. military said

TV station "several times in the past week because they Gunmen in the northern have been broadcasting pro-

Those programs have had Mohammed rapidly growing support

Viewpoints

Marriage no guarantee we know each other

Sometimes I wonder how two people can live together for more than two decades and still not know anything about each other.

Valentines Day is intended to be a time to celebrate loving relationships - at least that's what one would think.

This year, the High Plains Cruisers Car Club met at John and Kathleen Chaney's house in Skellytown for an informal February meeting/Valentine party.

Everything about the High Plains Cruisers is informal. I like that. Somehow, they manage to get more done with less folderol than any group I've

After eating an Italian buffet that was to die for - I think I hurt something, I ate so much – the men were sent into one room and the women stayed in the living

We were told we would be playing "The Newlywed Game." Only about two of the couples were newlyweds. The rest of us had been married for a long time.

Oh, yes, this would be easy. There's nothing about our partners that we didn't know and nothing about us that they didn't know.

You're beginning to get the picture, right?

First question. What would be the first thing your husband would buy if you

won the lottery?

Vic and I had discussed this a lot. I knew his dream is to buy a big building to restore old cars in. This was in the bag! I knew we were going to win.

Dee Dee Okay, write the Laramore answer on Editor the back of a big white piece of

paper with a big #1 on the front.

Question #2 – What habit does your wife have that you really wish she didn't?

I thought and thought. I couldn't think of a thing. I knew there was probably something, but I just could-

n't think of it. Now if they had asked about a habit my husband had ... I left the page blank.

Question #3 - What "honey-dos" does your husband put off

doing? Oh, that's easy. I scribble furiously on the back of the paper. Question

#4 - If your husband could have any occupation, what would it

This one goes with the first one. He'd restore cars. While we women are

busily answering our set of questions, the men were in

the other room answering a second set of queries about their mates.

What was the color of your wife's first car? What does your wife cook that you wish she didn't? Who was the last one to empty the dishwasher? What was the last thing you bought your wife? And the piece de resistance - what time were you married?

After completing the questionnaires, the men and women were reunited and the game began.

I wish I had a nickel for every time one half of a couple looked at the other half like a cow staring at a new gate.

For Vic and I, it started

with the first question. Do you know what he said he'd buy if we won the lottery? A new house! He never told me that he'd do that. All we talked about was this car restoration thing. I looked at him like he'd just stepped out of a UFO.

Since I have no bad habits, I knew he wouldn't have an answer to the second question. We might have missed the first, but we'd get the second.

WRONG! For some reason, he thinks that my putting my ice cold feet on his warm legs is a bad habit. I thought that that was what husbands are supposed to do.

See MARRIAGE, Page 5

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Feb. 21, the 52nd day of 2005. There are 313 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Forty years ago, on Feb. 21, 1965, former Black Muslim leader Malcolm X, 39, was shot to death in New York by assassins identified as Black Muslims.

On this date:

In 1878, the first telephone directory was issued, by the District Telephone Company of New Haven, Conn.

In 1885, the Washington Monument was dedicated. In 1916, the World War I Battle of Verdun began in France.

In 1925, The New Yorker magazine made its debut.

In 1947, Edwin H. Land publicly demonstrated his Polaroid Land camera, which could produce a black-andwhite photograph in 60 seconds.

In 1972, President Nixon began his historic visit to China as he and his wife, Pat, arrived in Shanghai.

In 1973, Israeli fighter planes shot down a Libyan Airlines

jet over the Sinai Desert, killing more than 100 people.

'Just as a tree without roots is dead, a people without history or culture also becomes a dead people.'

> — Malcolm X 1925-1965

In 1975, former Attorney General John N. Mitchell and former White House aides H.R. Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman were sentenced to 2 1/2 to 8 years in prison for their roles in the Watergate cover-up.

In 1986, Larry Wu-tai Chin, the first American found guilty of spying for China, killed himself in his Virginia jail cell.

In 1988, TV evangelist Jimmy Swaggart tearfully confessed to his congrega-

tion in Baton Rouge, La., that he was guilty of an unspecified sin, and said he was leaving the pulpit temporarily. (Reports linked Swaggart to an admitted prostitute, Debra

Ten years ago: The United States and Mexico signed an agreement to unlock \$20 billion in U.S. support to stabilize the peso, but under tough conditions. Chicago stockbroker Steve Fossett became the first person to fly solo across the Pacific Ocean in a balloon, landing in Leader, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Five years ago: Consumer advocate Ralph Nader announced his entry into the presidential race, bidding for the nomination of the Green Party.

One year ago: The International Red Cross visited former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, who was in U.S. custody. Today's Birthdays: Fashion designer Hubert de Givenchy is 78. Movie director Bob Rafelson is 72.



Hope lives because of free will

It's easy to get discouraged when you look at the cultural decay, the political and corporate corruption, the usurers, the warmongers and the empire-lovers. The trick to optimism is to always remember that today's problems are not much different from those of the past.

The golden age is just the plain old past censored in memory by nostalgia and/or ignorance. Poverty, political and corporate corruption, prostitution, gambling, pornography, homosexuality, murder, robbery, usury, unjust wars and whatever other "sin" you can think of have always existed. The human race is incorrigible. But at the same time, there have always been good people trying to make things

I listened to a speech by

Ward Churchill, the professor at the University of Colorado whom a lot of people want to fire because of an essay he wrote about the terrorist attacks. I could see immediately what his problem is. He is angry about every bad thing that has ever happened in the world.

Charley

Reese

Columnist

That's a form of irrational thinking, and he is the not only person afflicted with this

fallacious way of thinking.

Yes, the massacre of Indians at Wounded Knee was a bad thing, but it was a bad thing done by a few soldiers, not the entire American people. And more importantly, everybody

involved is long dead. Yes, slavery was a bad thing, but even at the time it was not universal and not every American approved of it, and, again, all involved are long dead. Yes, the Holocaust was horrible, but it was the product of a few people, not the entire world,

and it, too, is in the past. People who spend their present stewing about

past will be

angry and generally useless citizens. The past is unchangeable. There can be a marginal utility in studying it, if you approach it as a record of mistakes to be avoided, but if you try to live in it or let it control your present thinking

and emotions, you will ruin the only life you have, which exists only in the present

Churchill believes in karma, which is an Asian version of original sin - the idea that the sins of the fathers will eventually be visited on the heads of the sons. I don't believe that. I believe every child is born with a clean slate, and that the world is given yet another chance with every new generation. The only problems we need to be concerned with are those that exist at the present time. Victims of the past and the people who made them victims all share the same graveyards. We should not concern ourselves with

See HOPE, Page 5

THE PAMPA NEWS

403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065

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Publisher: Sean Smith

Editor: Dee Dee Laramore Advertising Director: ReDonn Woods Composing Supervisor: Brenda Cook

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

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Use of child soldiers must be stopped

meaningful action to end the use of child soldiers what U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan last week accurately called "atrocities against chil-

The United Nations has been working on this issue for years, and it has gotten to the point where the secretary-general issues an annu-

The international com- has adopted rules to prohibmunity has yet to take it the use of child soldiers, it has yet to impose effective sanctions against nations or warring forces that recruit and money are long over-

> younger children to fight.

draft

or

Annan called on the United continuing their conflicts, Nations to penalize violators with travel bans on Although the world body leaders, arms embargoes

and a "restriction on the flow of financial resources to the parties concerned." Embargoes on weaponry

due. teenagers Texas Thoughts resources,

> warring The Victoria Advocate parties have difficulty

reducing their need for any soldiers. Olara Otunna, the U.N.

special representative for children in armed conflict, reported that 54 groups some of them national armed forces, others rebels employ about 300,000 Without child soldiers in conflicts around the world.

That is an improvement over the 350,000-380,000 child soldiers Otunna reported on two years ago.

But meaningful, effectively harsh sanctions are needed to bring this shameful tally down much lower.

Gray C

Fourteen loc 18, at Pampa **Brandon Cox** from left, Br and Kayla Co Lane and Ry

Fren

WASHINGT People on both Atlantic called storm in Fren tions. Now the calm.

A relation Powell likened of marriage appears fina toward a de prochement af

Some people

as an excuse behavior. Oh, daddy was abi me some slack Bull. If yo everybody's were either a happened in t what we choo

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meet at 7:30 The meeting ested in we fiber arts. I (806) 358-27 • Christia

ducting a fr with a \$1,00 one poem of Poetry Conf Fishers, IN 4 test.com. Th 26. Be sure appears on · Ten fre



Gray County spellers.

Fourteen local spellers competed in the Gray County Spelling Bee Friday, Feb. 18, at Pampa Junior High School. Pictured, front row, from left, Molly Ndorfer, Brandon Cox, Aribel Martinez, Jacob Boyd, and Taylor Ranney; middle row, from left, Brennan Dickinson, Stephanie Ronquillo, Jacob Frost, Scott Kelly and Kayla Cox, and back row, from left, Shannon Leigh, Jessica Kenney, Kara Lane and Ryan Smith. (See Page 1 today for related story and photos.)

French, U.S. relations begin to thaw

People on both sides of the much else. Atlantic called it the perfect storm in French-U.S. relations. Now there is hope of

A relationship Colin Powell likened to 200 years of marriage counseling appears finally headed toward a degree of rap-

President Bush's dinner with French President Jacques Chirac in Belgium Monday approaches with the expectation that bygones will be set aside, despite enduring points of disagreement.

"I think there'll be a new politeness in the relation-

on Foreign Council Relations. "But I don't think the substance is going to change very much.

It is a far cry from Gen. John J. Pershing's troops coming to the aid of the French in World War I shouting "LaFayette Nous Voici" — "Lafayette, We are here" prochement after a fracture ship," said Walter Russell — in remembrance of the

WASHINGTON (AP) — over Iraq and snippiness over Mead, senior fellow at the French hero of the American Revolution.

> It is a progression, at least in tone, from when Condoleezza Rice, now secretary of state and formerly the president's national security adviser, voiced the wish to punish France, ignore Germany and forgive Russia for their resistance to the Iraq

film "Groundhog Day," we wake up every morning in the present. Whatever we wish to do or to be, we must do and

Human beings have free will. Within the parameters of our present circumstances, we can choose to make our own lives and our own community better or worse.

Nobody and no thing can force us to be either good or bad. The choice is ours alone. That's why hope never dies.

Charley Reese is a retired journalist

After a decade, military bases in U.S. to be closed

WASHINGTON (AP) — Safe for a decade, military bases in the United States face an uncertain future.

The Pentagon plans to shut down or scale back some of the 425 facilities, the first such effort to save money in 10 years. The downsizing is part of Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld's long-term transformation of the Cold Warera military.

The Pentagon chief argues that closing or consolidating stateside facilities could save \$7 billion annually and that the money would be better spent improving fighting capabilities amid threats from terrorists.

"The department continues to maintain more military bases and facilities than final list. are needed, consuming and diverting valuable personnel

recently told lawmakers. Shrinking the domestic network of Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps bases is a certain source of savings. It also is a highstakes political fight because it affects local economies in congressional districts.

and resources," Rumsfeld

Lawmakers have resisted efforts to shutter their bases, challenging past base closing rounds and lobbying hard to keep their installation off the

"It's the perfect example of good policy and good politics not fitting in the same together," Christopher Hellman, an analyst with the Center for Arms Control and Nonproliferation Washington.

"Conceptually, lawmakers buy the argument that base closures are important to make sure they are spending resources wisely. But they are reticent of closing bases in their cities because of job losses," Hellman said.



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Hope

Continued from Page 4

Some people, of course, use the past as an excuse for their sorry present behavior. Oh, my great-great-granddaddy was abused, so you have to cut me some slack.

Bull. If you go back far enough, everybody's great-great-whatevers were either abused or abusers. What happened in the past has no effect on in the imagination. what we choose to do with our own

lives. People who try to lay their own failures on their ancestors are pathetic.

Others try to use the past as a form of blackmail. Because of what happened to "my people," they claim, you owe me. Again, bull. Those who have done you no harm do not owe you a bent penny. All scores are settled with the death of each generation, and no liabilities should be carried forward to be levied on the innocent.

Zen Buddhists have it right: The past exists only in memory; the future, only

Like the character in that wonderful

and syndicated columnist.

what time the wedding occurred. That's one question we got right - 2 p.m., Oct. 2, 1982, Central Park. Vic wouldn't ever forget that. A confirmed bachelor before we met, people would ask him when he was going to get married.

The true newlywed, who had been mar-

His stock answer was, "The 2nd. The second I have to."

So naturally, we got married on the 2nd. But in case you're wondering, we didn't

trees will be given to each person who

joins The National Arbor Day Foundation

Marriage Continued from Page 4

I'm positive it's in the marriage contract somewhere. We did get a few answers right, but cer-

tainly not enough to win. We were better than some, worse than others.

One husband had to find a ride home with someone else after numerous "pull my finger" jokes. (Not really, but almost.)

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.texascattlewomen.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.

 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

throughout this month. The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign. The 10 trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting 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 www.arborday.org on the Internet.
• The Second Annual Playwrights Showcase of the Western Region is

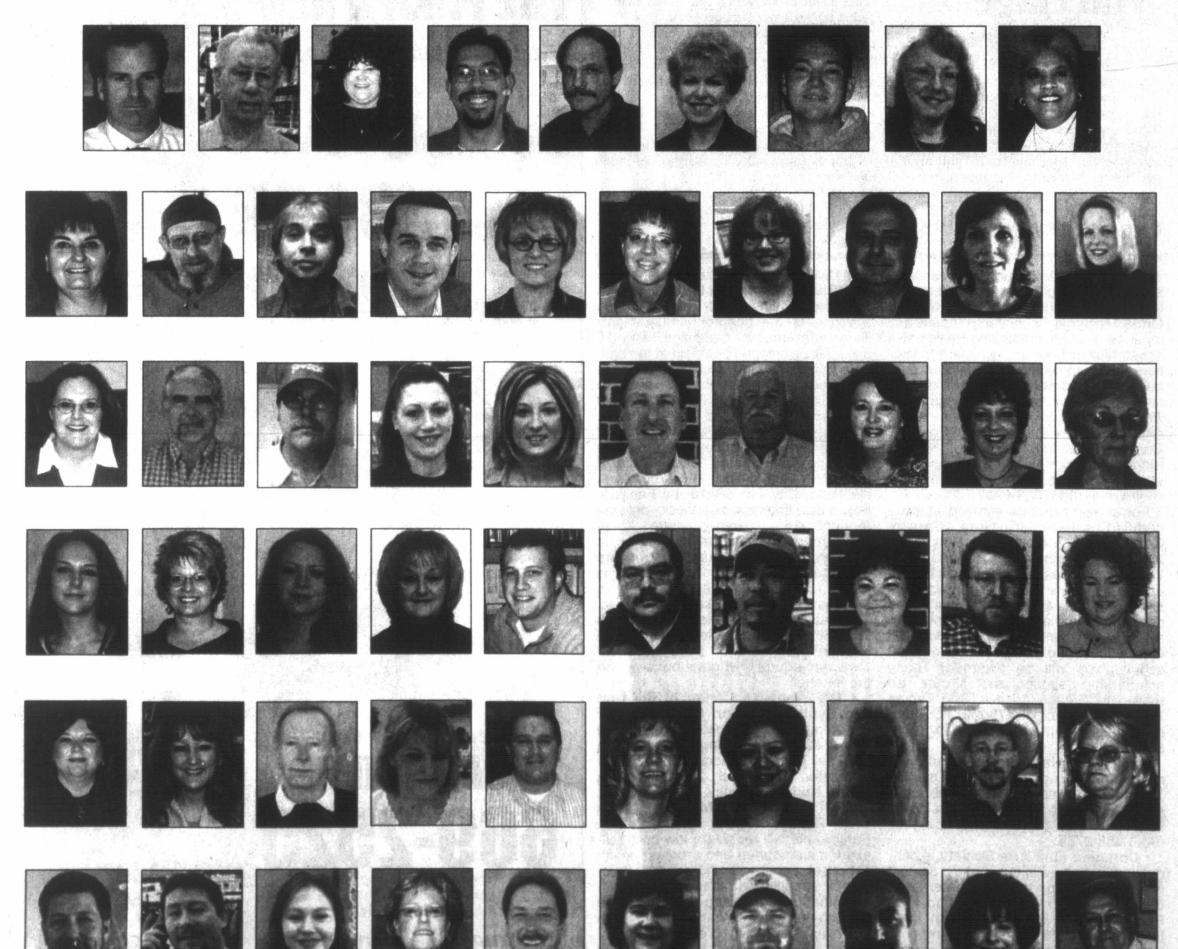
Aug. 12-14, 2005, at Red Rocks Community College in Lakewood, Colo. The deadline for submissions is March 1, 2005. Registration forms and more information are available www.rrcc.edu/playwrightshowcase on the Internet.

 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. Participants will receive a low-cost selfexam mammogram and a breast health appraisal along with individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast selfexamination. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are by appointment only. For more information, call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673.



PLAY WHO'S WHO AND WIN \$100 PAMPA BUCKS HERE'S HOW

- 1. Match each face with the corresponding name and rectangle in the advertisements found on the following pages in today's edition of THE PAMPA NEWS.
- 2. Cut out each face and tape it in the corresponding blank rectangle in each ad. All entries must be original newspaper no photo copies accepted. THE BEST WAY TO SOLVE THE PUZZLE IS TO GO TO THE BUSINESS AND LOOK FOR YOUR-SELF! BUT... Some of these businesses might be inaccessible to the public, so rely on friends and family to solve this puzzle.
- 3. The Who's Who contest will appear in the January 31, February 7 and February 14 issues of The Pampa News. A drawing will be held from all the correct entries the morning of February 21 to determine the winner. Bring entries to The Pampa New office at 403 W. Atchison or mail to P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, Texas 79066. Entries must be received by 5:00pm on February 17. Label your entry with your name, address and phone number so the winner may be notified.
- 4. Employees of The Pampa News and their immediate families are not eligible to win.
- 5. The Who's Who contest will be solved in the February 21 edition of The Pampa News.



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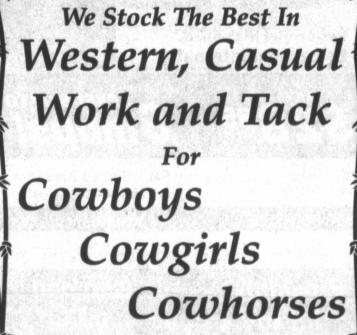
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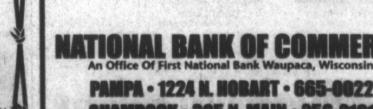




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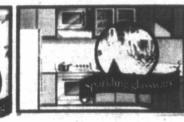
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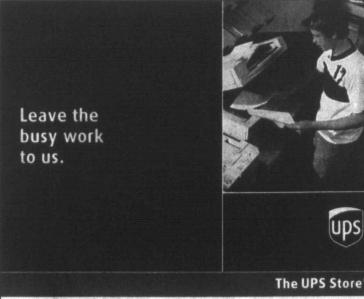
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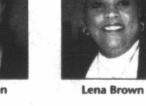
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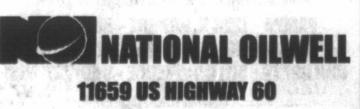
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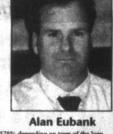






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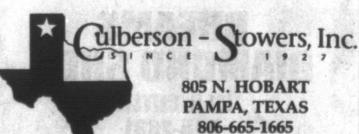












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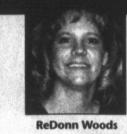
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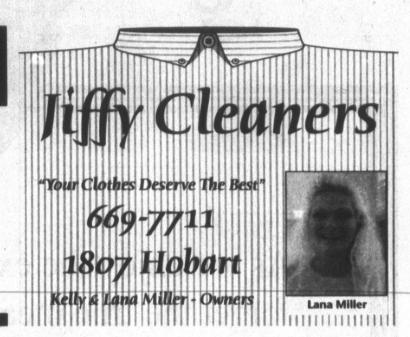
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As we enjoy the extended Presidents' Day weekend, let's not forget the true meaning of the holiday. Take a moment to pay tribute to George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and the other great men who followed in their footsteps to lead our country where it is today. Their courage, patriotism and hard work serve as an example to all of us. Our gratitude, prayers, and remembrances go out to them on President's Day.





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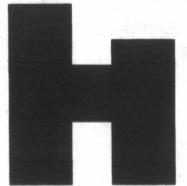
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Crossword CROSSWO By THOMAS JOS **ACROSS** icecaps 10 Massage target 11 Lets up 13 Compared to 15 Time to

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Fitzgerald

35 Prelude

37 Singer

Dear Abby By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Sam," and I have been together for 12 years, happily married for seven. We get along great, with only one area of major conflict.

I am a dog lover. Before we married, I owned three beautiful springer spaniels. Sam knew that dogs were one of my greatest joys in life. He also knew that living with indoor dogs was important to me, and that I'd like to have between three and eight of them.

We now have four indoor dogs. One of the dogs I had when I was single died two years ago, and my husband and I have adopted two. I'd love to get another one, but Sam says we have enough. He says the dogs cause wear and tear on our home, and are expensive to maintain, especially since one of them requires medication for a heart problem.

I have a home-based business and enjoy the companion-ship of our "babies" enormously. I am their sole caregiver, and although I may not be the greatest housekeeper, our home is presentable. All of our pets are obedience school graduates.

I have offered to compromise. I even suggested that we keep any new dogs outside, although that would break my heart. My offers have fallen on deaf ears.

Please don't think that Sam is jealous of the dogs. That's not the case. He simply doesn't love animals like I do. I'm starting to resent that I can't have another dog because animals mean so much to me. Please tell me what you think. -- JUST ONE MORE IN MARYLAND

DEAR JUST MORE: Unless you want your marriage to end up in the doghouse, please reorganize your priorities. Since you feel the need to care for other dogs, consider donating some of your free time to an animal shelter. They would welcome you with open arms, and there would be peace in your household.

***** DEAR ABBY: I am 13 and in the seventh grade. I am labeled as "shy" and "quiet" by my teachers and a lot of the kids at school. But when I'm at home or with close friends,

they know differently. What can I say when teachers say, "Oh, you're so quiet. Why don't you say anything?"

Abby, please let teachers know that these remarks only make matters worse. My mom and some of my friends have had the same experience.

Is there a polite response when people ask me why I'm quiet? -- ON THE SPOT IN ALABAMA

DEAR ON THE SPOT: Try this: "I never learned anything while talking, but I have learned a lot while listening."

DEAR ABBY: When a ceremonial toast is proposed, what is the rule of etiquette for someone who does not drink alcoholic beverages and nothing else is available? --SOBER ROSE IN NEW **HAMPSHIRE**

DEAR SOBER ROSE: There is no rule of etiquette that says you must drink. If no other beverage has been provided for you, raise the glass you have been given, say, "Hear, hear!" and put the glass down again.

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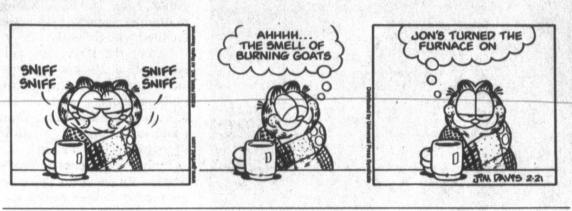
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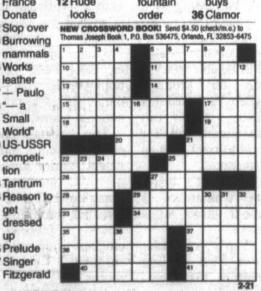
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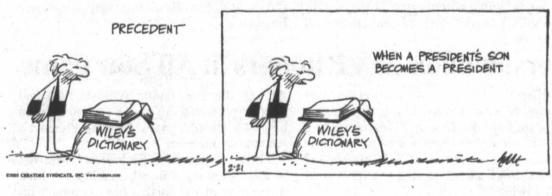


"That... HIC ... isn't curing ... HIC ... my HICcup."

"I'm tired of Old Maid, Daddy. Will you teach us how to play poker?"

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B.C.



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Peanuts







Blondie









Flo & Friends





Chase Phillips (above right) and his Eagle counterpart look for the ball to land. Austin Morgan (below) heads a ball to a Harvester teammate.



Smith, Harvesters blank Eagles 2-0

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS Sports Editor

Pampa 2, Canyon 0

The Pampa boys' soccer team snapped a six game losing skid Saturday against Canyon High in sun-drenched Kimbrough Memorial Stadium.

The Harvesters (4-11-1, 1-3) out-shot the Eagles 9-4 going against the wind in the first half, and struck at the 21 minute-mark with a goal from iunior Nick Robbins. Senior midfielder Andrew Fraser was credited with the assist.

Before the Harvesters polished off a 20-shot performance, junior forward Chase Phillips added a score in the 45th minute off an assist from center-midfielder Morrison for the 2-1 final.

Junior goalkeeper Brody Smith only needed 4 saves for his second shutout of the sea-

Coach May complimented defenders Mark Murray, Adam Brown, and Andrew Van Houten in the Harvesters' first

win in district competition. "We switched up our offense about two days before our meeting with Canyon Saturday," May stated. "We had to take one of their guys away in order to get more of an offensive push, so it was pretty impressive defensive effort."

Pampa hosts Caprock tomorrow afternoon at 4:15

Lady Harvesters Canyon 1

Prior to the boys taking the field, the Lady Harvesters hooked up with the Lady Eagles. Pampa gave up a the game's only score eight minutes in. But then held Canyon scoreless the rest of the game.

Though unable to break a tough Canyon defense, the Lady Harvesters made it very exciting with time running out when the Lady Eagle's goalie left her post to pursue the ball in the field of play. Pampa tried to take advantage of the situation, but was unable to do so.

The Lady Harvesters host Caprock tomorrow afternoon at 4:15 p.m.



Pampa News photos by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Pampa's Drew Morrison (left) works the ball down the sideline prior to kicking it toward the Eagle's goal during Saturday's 2-0 win over Canyon at Kimbrough Stadium.

March 16th deadline for softball leagues

The City of Pampa Recreation Mixed Leagues. Department will be offering the following leagues for Spring Softball: There will be no teams added after this date.

Men's Open

Mixed Open - Men's Church

- Mixed Church

In addition, two new leagues will be offered this spring:

- Men's Corporate League. Company teams (players must work for the company

that they play for). Mixed Youth League. Teams will be made up of male and female players age 16

to 18 years.

The entry fees or sponsor's fees for teams are \$200 per team. The player's fee is \$15 per player with a minimum of 11 players for all Men's Leagues, and 12 players for all

The entry deadline is 5 p.m., March 16.

Schedules will be available after 1 p.m. March 23, at the Recreation Office now located in City Hall, 200 west Foster, room

Play will begin the week of March 28.

Roster forms, fact sheets and bylaws are available at the Recreation Office at City Hall, room 204, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. You can also download this information from

the city's web site at www.cityofpampa.org. If you have any questions or would like more information on the Spring Softball Leagues, please contact the Recreation Office at 669-5740 during regular business

Lady Harvesters go 4-1 at Borger Winter classic

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS Sports Editor

how good they are following this past to see what they have and where they need weekend's performance at the Borger to go from there." Winter Classic softball tournament.

Pampa went 4-1, bringing home third place in the Gold Division. The Lady Harvester's only loss came courtesy of host Borger, 1-0 in the Gold Division semifinal game.

The Lady Harvesters outscored their opponents, 27-3, and were as tough in the field as they were from the plate.

"I am very pleased with the performance. We have so much talent this year that I am extremely excited about our season,"

Sophomore pitcher Cassy Tice recorded three wins with no defeats for the Lady Harvesters at the 2005 Borger Winter Softball Classic over the weekend. Pampa went 4-1 en route to a third place Gold Division finish in the tournament. The Lady Harvesters are in Wichita Falls this

Photo by STEPHEN ROGERS

said Coach Bobbi Gill.

Despite the impressive performance, Gill and her staff, like many others, are still The Lady Harvesters left little doubt evaluating talent. "Everybody is just trying

Gill is careful to point out the success at the Winter Classic does not mean her team can simply expect to relax from here on out. "I am happy to have done as well as we did, but it is absolutely no reason to think we can just coast the rest of the way. We have a tremendous amount of improving to do. I am glad the girls left a good impression over the weekend."

The Lady Harvesters take to the diamond next this Friday and Saturday in Wichita Falls.



Iverson takes MVP honors at All Star game DENVER (AP) — Allen Iverson was Atlanta star Dominique Wilkins, then had

selected MVP of the All-Star game Sunday night, helping the Eastern Conference to a 125-115 victory. Iverson had 15 points, nine assists, and five steals. It was his second All-Star MVP award, having won previously in 2001.

Josh Smith won Saturday's NBA dunk contest. He scored a 50 on his first dunk of the finals wearing the jersey of former

another perfect score on his second dunk in his own Hawks jersey to beat Phoenix's Amare Stoudemire.

Phoenix's Quentin Richardson won the 3-point shooting contest, making his final nine shots of the finals after opening with an airball to edge Philadelphia's Kyle Korver by one point.

ALL STAR GAME VS. DAYTONA 500

Action-packed excitement outweighs entertainment

So which is bigger, the NBA All Star game or the Daytona 500? Some sports analysts and other fanatics have suggested the All Star game and the hoopla leading up to it is bigger than what has been dubbed the Super Bowl of NASCAR. I do not agree.

I am not a fan of All Star games any way. Especially those involving profes- Michael J. Stevens sional sports. These games are watered down and Sports played using NERF rules. That is to say, every pre-Editor caution is taken to insure the stars are not hurt, if

they decide to play at all. Granted, the NBA All Star game comes closer than most to the real thing. Still, it is more of a show than it is a game. Sort of like taking the family to see the Harlem Globetrotters and Washington Generals, only not nearly as expensive.

The Daytona 500 on the other hand, is full-speed from the start of Speed Week to the drop of yesterday's checkered flag. No one is laying back. Ask Kevin Harvick, Joe Nemechek or Jimmie Johnson if they were only putting on a show when their cars were all but destroyed. Cars that can cost anywhere from \$100,000 to \$250,000 to build. Tempers flare. Emotions run high. This happens because there is something real at steak. Money, yes. But there is tradition, history and prestige that comes with winning the 500.



What does the winner of an All Star Game receive? Some marquee players will get a bucket of money for taking part. Others will get pocket change. And there are a few trophies. The big story after the game yesterday was not the game

itself, it was how much Kobe and Shaq really hate each other.

Fans and reporters came from nearly every country in the world to watch and/or report on yesterday's race. In fact, there were more than 200,000 people in the stands and infield. That is equal to everyone living in Amarillo attending the race. And this is common at those tracks that will accommodate such numbers.

So which is bigger, the NBA All Star Game or the Daytona 500? It depends on who you ask. But I think you can guess where my vote would be cast.

Gordon wins Daytona 500

Friday and Saturday.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) - Jeff Gordon grabbed the lead from Dale Earnhardt Jr., then held off Kurt Busch and Earnhardt in extra laps to win his third Daytona 500 Sunday.

Earnhardt, the defending champion, came from as far back as 30th to grab a late lead, only to watch Gordon pass him seconds before a caution flag waved with three laps to go.

The race went three laps beyond the scheduled 200-lap distance, with Gordon hanging on over two final laps of greenflag racing to beat Busch by two car-

Ming's parents open Houston restaurant

HOUSTON (AP) bines Chinese food — Yao Ming is a big fan of his mother's cooking.

Everyone will be able to try it out on Monday when Yao's parents open the Yao Restaurant and Bar on the west side of Houston.

Houston's thriving Chinatown is about three miles away.

Yao's restaurant is a \$1.5 million venture that comwith a sports bar. It is owned by Yao's father, Zhiyuan, and mother, Fang Feng Di, both former members of China's

national teams.

The restaurant employs a chef, but it will feature some of his mother's home-cooked specialties, including Yao's favorite, chicken soup with shiitake mush-

B&H, P.H.S. remain undefeated

City of Pampa Winter 4 on 4 **Volleyball League Standings** as of Feb. 18, 2005 Mixed B & H Carmichael-Whatley 4

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AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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

LHFFJ

XCHIDRXD NHIITS

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Feb. 21, 1143 E. Harvest-

CRYPTOQUOTE

ZTUDWLORV

HUDIQXH,

XTRZQNDIDN LD

Saturday's Cryptoquote: LAZINESS IS A GOOD DEAL LIKE MONEY — THE MORE A MAN HAS OF IT. THE MORE HE SEEMS TO WANT. — H.W. SHAW

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102 Bus. Rent. Prop.

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1525 N. Christy 665-9220 3 bdr., carpeted, garage, fenced. Very clean. 321 Jean. Call 665-5276. BY Owner, 3 bdr., 1 ba., c

h&a. Need work. \$18,000 cash or best offer. 665-2228 or 898-4227. FOR Sale By Owner- 4

bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, Austin school district. Call 665-5110. NICE HOME. By Owner,

2547 Duncan. 2 lvg. areas, 3/2/2. Nice kitchen. \$76,000 firm. 665-0008. PRICED to sell. 117 Walnut Dr., 5 yr. old 5-6 bdr., 2 1/2 ba., dbl gar. Master ba. w/jacuzzi, storm cellar, c h/a, \$150,000, 1012 E. Gordon, 2 bdr., lrg. livrm., din. rm., oak kit. cab. \$12,000, 595-0900

104 Lots CITY Lot For Sale.

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seats. Excellent Condition. \$3500. 533 Powell. call 669-2418

122 Motorcycles

1999 Suzuki 1400 Intrud \$4,000. 665-7481

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll **VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-*** You might have a lot on your Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult mind. Be careful operating machinery anger. Don't get ulcers; give them -- at least for a little while. Tonight: You or just running through your day. If you ARIES (March 21-April 19) are lost in thought too much, you could have more options than you acknowl-*** ★ Even if you think you've lost be accident-prone. Be aware that you some of your sparkle and appeal, today might not fully understand a project. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) lets you know otherwise. Still, be smart Tonight: Schedule time alone. and give up being a pioneer for a little LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) longer. Sometimes others need to be top **** You continue to hit home dog, too. Tonight: Chat with someone runs, even today. Think about involving you respect and want feedback from. others in your plans and ideas more fre-

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ** As much as you can be lazy, sometimes staying close to home could pose a problem. In fact, you might want Celebrate each moment. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) to bring the day's activities to you. Cocoon, knowing that by late tomorrow you can no longer take a back seat.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) **** You say what you think. Some information you receive could come from a strange source. Verify these facts before giving out wrong information. A partner takes an active

role in your public or professional life.

Tonight: OK -- couch-potato night.

Catch up on news CANCER (June 21-July 22)

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Tonight: What would you really like?

Wind down slowly.

Be sensitive to this person. Tonight:

HHHH A dream involving an investment needs to be checked out thoroughly. A partner you trust would love to assume this responsibility. He or she will go overboard. You'll also gain a new perspective as a result. Tonight: Just don't hassle over dinner. Order in or

★★★★ The Moon in your sign signals possibilities. Someone you care about might be confusing. Look at the positive. You spread your happiness. Conversations could be lengthy. Screen your calls if you have to accomplish certain goals in the next 24 hours.

quently. Teamwork will breed success. Others will be more open if they feel involved or connected to you. Tonight:

*** Whether you want to or not, you must assume command of the ship. Someone wants you to, possibly because this person is insecure. Don't jump to any conclusions. Research and discuss the possibility of working from or staying at home more often. Tonight:

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**** What you see and think might actually prove to be very different. Think before convincing a family member of the "rightness" of your ways. New perspectives can add to your depth and understanding. Tonight: Plan a trip or schedule a workshop. Feed

your inquiring mind.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) *** A gesture warms up a distressed partner. You will be relieved to see this person more at ease. Communication excels because you say exactly what you want but in a very diplomatic way. Others appreciate your new approach. Tonight: Let someone

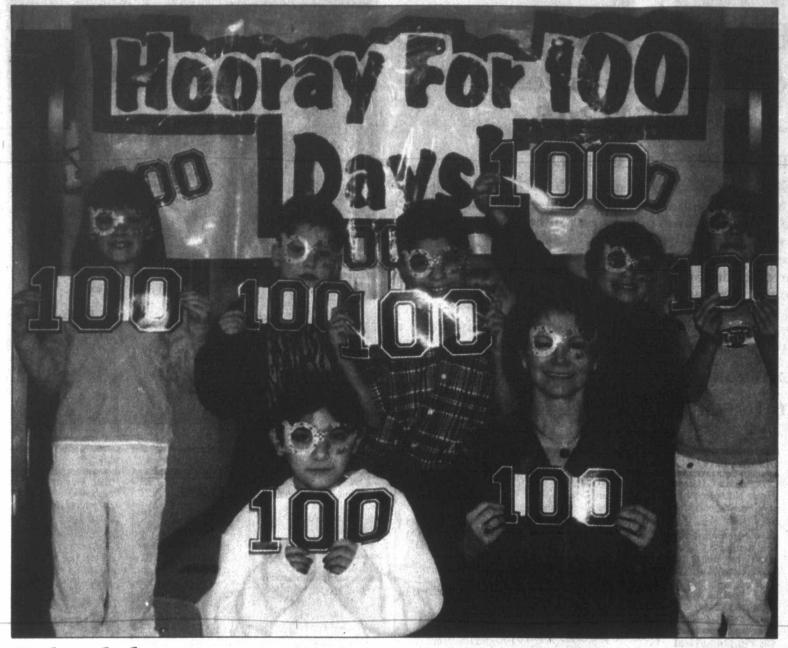
else choose. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) *** If you are spending too much, stop quickly. Ask yourself why you are indulging in this behavior. You might discover that the root of the problem is

★★★ Your clarity when dealing with someone strategic or with a group brings a fast reaction. Emphasize the quality of your life by focusing on the daily humdrum. Revitalize what has become dull rather than discard it. Tonight: Walk the dog or run some

Actress Drew Barrymore (1975), first U.S. President George Washington (1732), King of France Charles VII

BORN TODAY

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com. (c) 2005 by King Peatures Syndicate



School days

Staff and students are Woodrow Wilson Elementary School recently celebrated "100 exhilarating school days." "Hooray For 100 Days!" at Wilson. Above: (back row, left-right) Sydney Taylor, Robert Norris, Miguel Salazar, Valeria Rodriguez, Jade Smiles; (front row, I-r) Marisa Fuentes and Mrs. Debbie Moore.

Veterans reunite for Iwo Jima anniversary

LAFAYETTE, La. (AP) - Norman Baker arrived at Iwo Jima on Feb. 19, 1945, the first day of the invasion. It was clear and sunny.

"It was a beautiful day," he said, recalling his time as an 18-year-old Seabee. "Then the mortars started in, and the artillery."

That day turned into World War II's bloodiest battle in the Pacific. The dwindling group of American survivors gathered this weekend — 60 years later — in this Louisiana city and at

reunions around the country.

Most are now in their 80s; some lean on canes or their wives for support. They reunite every year to remember friends they lost, to share recollections of battle and to connect with the few who can comprehend what Iwo Jima felt like.

"It was only after the battle was over that we realized now 79. "The casualties were terrible casualties. Men died horribly."

He and thousands more Americans were unloaded on Iwo Jima's black-sand beach, then faced a blistering assault the from entrenched Japanese. It took the Americans 36 days to take the island. The dead: 6,821 Americans and 20,000

Japanese. The battle has become an iconic one in the Pacific. The Baker, of Delaplane, Va., Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal, in a shot of Marines raising the U.S. flag — an image later turned

into the National Iwo Jima Memorial in Newington, Conn.

But veterans don't have starry-eyed memories.

"It was an unpleasant place, I can assure you. After that, I decided not to make my career in the Marine Corps," Melvin said DeFleur, 82, of Baton Rouge.

The first Americans to how horrible it was," said heroism was captured by arrive at Iwo Jima were unpleasantly surprised. The tiny island had been bombed for three days before the invasion.

Storms pummel south California; at least two dead

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Mudslides forced some people to flee their homes Monday as Southern California was soaked by the latest in a series of storms that were blamed for three deaths, stalled commuter rail service and power outages.

As much as 3 inches of rain was expected along the Southern California coast with 5 inches in the foothills, said Andrew Rorke, meteorologist for Weather the National Service. The mountains could see up to 2 feet of snow. Lesser amounts of precipitation were expected farther north, with up to 18 inches of snow possible in the Sierra Nevada.

About 30 people were evacuated from 11 homes in Glendale, north of downtown Los Angeles, because of mudslides and flooding, officials said. Three homes on an unstable hill were evacuated in nearby Pasadena.

In the coastal community of La Conchita, where a landslide killed 10 people last month, six families elected to leave during the night because of the heavy rain and a steady flow of mud on the bluffs behind the town, said Capt. Bill Flanagan of the Ventura Sheriff's County Department. Warnings had been issued earlier and the community about 70 miles north of Los Angeles was described as a ghost town Saturday after other resi-

dents moved out. The latest batch of rain, snow and hail started battering the region Sunday, part of a series of storms that arrived Friday and was expected to continue into Tuesday.

Since Thursday, downtown Los Angeles had gotten 6.13 inches of rain. The city's total since July 1, the start of the region's "water year," has reached nearly 30 inches, making it already the seventh wettest on record, said weather service forecaster Curt Kaplan. The record, 38.18 inches, was set in 1883-1884.

Metrolink canceled some commuter train service Monday along the Ventura County line north of Moorpark because of the heavy rain. Amtrak had canceled Los Angeles-to-Santa Barbara commuter rail service Friday night because of mudslides in Moorpark. By Monday, southbound Amtrak service had resumed but northbound service was still out.

Early Monday, the rain triggered a mudslide that struck a home in the city's Woodland Hills area in the San Fernando Valley, killing one man, coroner officials said.

In the city's Sun Valley area, a repair worker was killed late Sunday falling into a 30-foot-deep sinkhole created by the storm, said Fire Department spokesman Melissa Kelley. The body wasn't recovered until Monday morning because of downed power lines near the chasm, she said.

And in Orange County, a 16-year-old girl was killed by boulders that crashed into her family's apartment in a rural area east of Irvine, said Joseph Luckey, supervising deputy coroner. Her mother and stepfather were unhurt.

Submarine surgery

Navy honors WWII sailor for emergency surgery on sub

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) - More than 60 years ago, Wheeler Lipes performed a successful emergency appendectomy in a submarine 120 feet below the Pacific Ocean.

Lipes, then 22, relied on makeshift instruments. He and an assistant wore pajamas rather than operating room gowns.

Though a news report on Wheeler Lipes' feat aboard the USS Seadragon amid World War II won a Pulitzer Prize and prompted the Navy to make a movie about his actions, Lipes was never honored. Until Sunday.

"Personally, I'm not overwhelmed with awards, but I think it was important they present the medal because it helps to bring about some closure of things that fall through the cracks," he said.

Lipes, now 84, was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal. He said past efforts to award him the medal failed because officials believed a statute of limitations had passed.

Lipes said his patient was the courageous

"I always thought he was the guy who had the courage," Lipes said. "I've asked myself, 'Would I have gotten up on that table and let someone do the same thing to me?' He was one of the most courageous people I've ever met."

The surgical environment was less than ideal: The patient, Darrel Dean Rector, was too tall to lay on the makeshift operating

ASPEN, Colo. (AP) —

Hunter S. Thompson, the

hard-living writer who

inserted himself into his

accounts of America's

underbelly and popularized a

first-person form of journal-

ism in books such as "Fear

and Loathing in Las Vegas,"

dead Sunday in his Aspen-

area home of an apparent

wound, sheriff's officials

was

Thompson was found

gunshot

67.

has committed suicide.

table, so a nearby cabinet was opened and Lipes put the patient's feet in the drawer.

The table was bolted to the floor, so Lipes had to stand with his knees bent throughout the operation. After nearly two hours, Lipes removed a swollen 5-inch appendix that had several inches of black-

ened tissue. Arthur Killam, 84, who served aboard the Seadragon with Lipes, said the young pharmacist's mate never wavered during the emergency surgery in 1942.

"He told the skipper that he could do it. He went right after it," recalled Killam, who attended the medal ceremony. Killam and Lipes reconnected a few weeks ago for the first time since the war.

Lipes said he'd seen several appendectomies during his time as a pharmacist's

Rector was back on duty in 13 days. He died two years later aboard a different submarine, the USS Tang, when the Tang fired a torpedo that circled back and struck the

Reporter George Weller of the nowdefunct Chicago Daily News wrote about Lipes' undersea surgery and won a Pulitzer Prize. Several motion pictures also portrayed the feat, including one titled "The Pharmacist's Mate," produced by the Navy. Lipes said about 100 people attended

Gay Talese with helping pio-

neer New Journalism - or,

as he dubbed it, "gonzo jour-

nalism" - in which the

writer made himself an

essential component of the

Thompson, whose early

writings mostly appeared in

Rolling Stone magazine,

often portrayed himself as

wildly intoxicated as he

Sunday's medal ceremony.

Gonzo journalist Thompson commits suicide

Thompson's wife, Anita, had

gone out before the shooting

and was not home at the

about Thompson's visit to

Las Vegas, he also wrote

"Fear and Loathing: On the

Campaign Trail '72." The

central character in those

wild, sprawling satires was

"Dr. Thompson," a snarling,

Besides the 1972 classic

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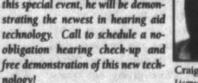








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self-inflicted

drug- and alcohol-crazed reported on such historic figobserver and participant. ures as Jimmy Carter, Richard Nixon and Bill Thompson is credited alongside Tom Wolfe and Clinton.