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MPA NEWS

February 23, 2005

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Today's weather



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Deaths

Martha Lee Cox, 76,
homemaker.

Odds & Ends

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. (AP) — The folks who play bingo at the Klamath Basin Senior Citizen Center are no longer outlaws.

Five months ago, the Department of Justice contacted officials at the senior center after getting a complaint that bingo games were being played for cash.

Nickels, to be exact.

The senior center has a gambling license for the higher-stakes bingo program. But the Golden Age Club, which has about 200 members, is separate from the senior center and has never had a gaming license for its nickel-bingo operation.

The Klamath County Board of Commissioners last week amended the county's social gaming ordinance to include bingo, to the relief of the seniors who learned they've been playing an illegal game for the last two decades.

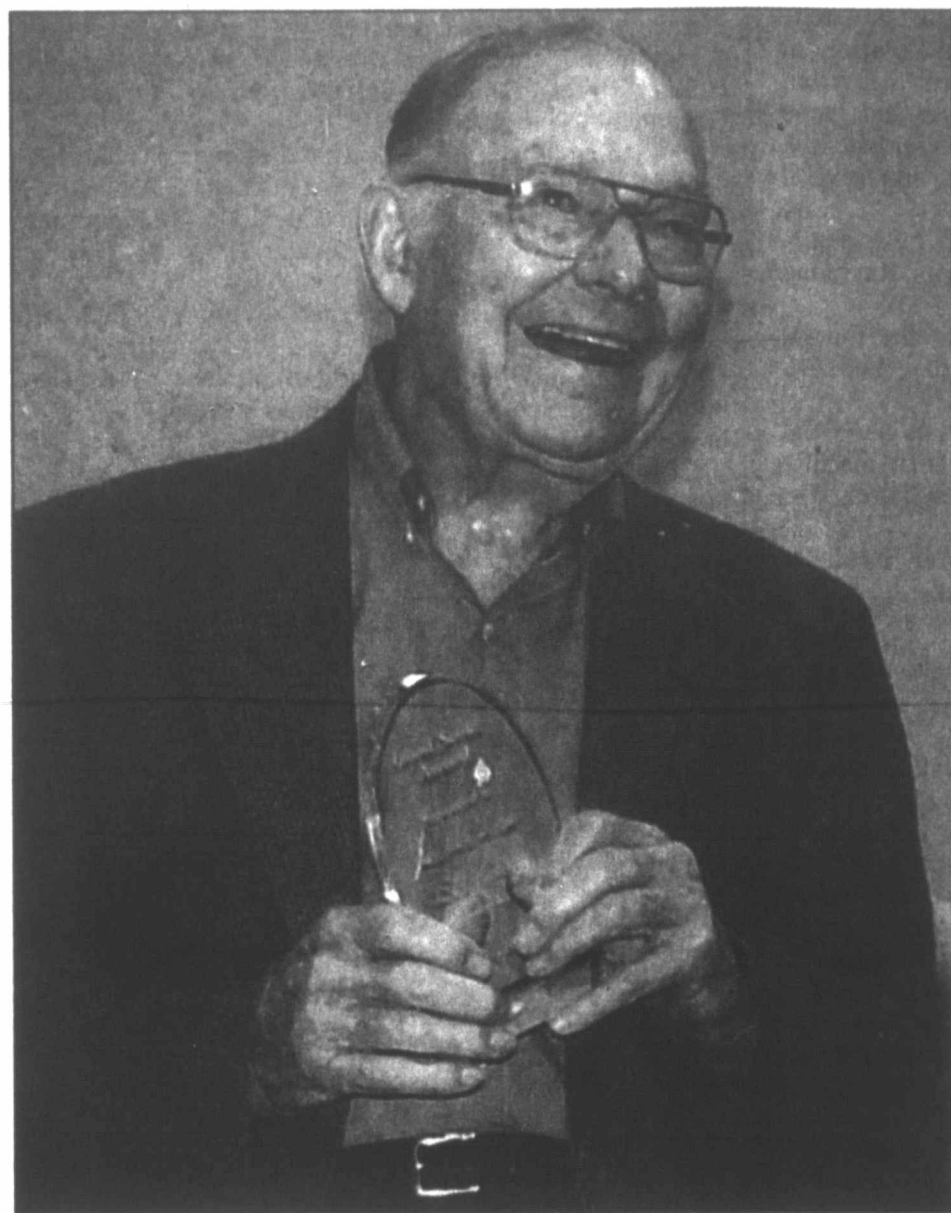
"Have fun with your bingo without the bureaucracy," Commissioner Bill Brown told an audience of about 20 seniors who came to support changing the rule.

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — Some University of Michigan students are cleaning up — in more ways than one.

They're getting cash payments for keeping their dormitory rooms presentable and available for tours by prospective students and their parents.

Eighteen students in nine residence halls are participating in the Michigan Campus Day tour program, according to Randi Johnson, the university's housing outreach coordinator.

The rules for Campus Day participants technically don't require a clean room. Participants do, however, have to be dressed and out of bed if they are home, and must let tour groups see their room from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. Displays of anything illegal, offensive or banned — like hot plates — are forbidden.



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Bob Curry holds the 2005 Good Scout Award presented by Duane Harp at yesterday's Pampa Good Scout Lunch at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Curry has a history of 80 years of involvement with the Boy Scouts of America.

Pampan receives Good Scout Award

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Bob Curry of Pampa received the Good Scout Award for 2005 at the Pampa Good Scout Lunch yesterday in the Knights of Columbus Hall.

"The span of my Scouting is 80 years, so I'm over 80," Curry said after receiving the award.

"I don't think there's a finer organization in our country for young people than the Boy Scouts of America," he said.

Curry holds Life Scout and Silver Beaver ranks and is a former Cubmaster. He was Scoutmaster for the 1960 Jamboree and former president of the now-defunct Adobe Walls Council.

He was a member of the committee which bought and built Camp M.K. Brown. He is a former district chairman and advisory board member. He is the father of two Eagle Scouts and the grandfather of one Eagle Scout, said Duane Harp, chairman of the local Friends of Scouting and host of the luncheon.

"I joined the Scouts in 1925 in the South Plains area. I didn't have the opportunity to go ahead and get my Eagle Scout rank" due to too few leaders available in that area, Curry told the audience of about 50.

Harp asked that all former Boy Scouts in the audience stand up. Included were several civic and business leaders.

"That's what Scouting is about — providing leaders for America," Harp said.

Logan Hudson, game warden for the Northeast Texas Panhandle, including Gray and Roberts Counties, was featured speaker at the luncheon.

"There's probably not any other organization that so aligns itself with the profession of game warden as the Boy Scouts. Scouting is about to celebrate its 100th anniversary," Hudson said.

Hudson, who enforces hunting, fishing and water safety laws, told stories of his first experiences as a game warden in Sabine County.



Hudson

Harp announced that the Friends of Scouting will send a child to this year's Scout Camp in Hudson's name.

Barry Oxley, head of the Golden Spread Council, gave a report on Scouting activities in 2004. Last year, 87 reached the rank of Eagle Scout. In 2003, 91 earned Eagle Scout rank. For many years before 2003, the average annual number was around 60, Oxley said.

There were more than 4,000 rank advancements, 6,000 merit badges and 8,000 Cub Scout Achievements in 2004 in the local area, Oxley said. Scouting has grown by over 20 percent over the last four years locally, he said.

See SCOUT, Page 3

The trout are coming! The trout are coming!

One thousand rainbow trout averaging 12" in length are scheduled to arrive in Pampa on Thursday, Feb. 24, city officials announced today.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Inland Fisheries Division will transport the fish from the Dundee Fish Hatchery near Wichita Falls to the Recreation Park Lake on East Highway 60 some time on Thursday, said Shane Stokes,

Community Services Coordinator, in a press release.

The City of Pampa has participated in this Rainbow Trout stocking program since 1993, Stokes said. This year the City purchased 1,000 trout and the State matched that with 1,000 trout supplied at their expense. This is the second of two shipments. The first shipment was delivered in early December of last

City considers debt refinance

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

The municipal golf course has a new member on its advisory board, the City of Pampa is keeping its old financial advisor, and the city has 275 used dumpsters it wants to sell.

At their regularly scheduled meeting Tuesday afternoon, the Pampa City Commission named Brenda Kelly to the Hidden Hills Golf Course advisory committee. She'll replace Rodney Winborne, whose term has expired. City Secretary Phyllis Jeffers explained to commissioners that the board had a term limit and that Winborne had served two terms.

The commission also declared 275 used dumpsters as surplus property.

Richard Morris, Pampa's director of public works, said the city tries to repair the better dumpsters, but plans to sell these for from \$4 to \$7 to companies who manufacture or refurbish dumpsters. He says the city sells them en masse to companies that need parts for other dumpsters, but rarely sells individual used dumpsters. Sometimes the used dumpsters are simply sold to people who deal in scrap metal.

"We generate more used dumpsters than we try to repair," Morris said. "We're going to keep the best ones."

City Manager John Horst said that the price of dumpsters has risen dramatically in the last few years.

"It hasn't been long ago," Horst said, "we paid \$200 for each dumpster."

That price has gone up to about \$420 now, city officials said.

Commissioners also renewed a five-year contract with Southwest Securities, which has served as financial advisor to the City of Pampa for more than 20 years.

This was done in preparation for a proposed bond issue that would refinance previous bond issues and add another \$1.5 million in bond money.

The contract included a fee schedule ranging from a minimum of \$4,950 to \$38,500 for a \$10 million bond issue.

In response to a query from Commissioner Robert Dixon, Horst said that the city owed them nothing unless or until a bond issue was completed.

"We don't pay them unless we use them," Dixon said.

In other business, Horst compared expenditures to budgeted items. With the fiscal year 25 percent complete, Horst noted that the library fund, water and wastewater fund and golf course had higher expenditures than revenues.

The general fund showed revenues of \$3.6 million and expenditures of \$2.6 million.

City officials are preparing for a proposed bond issue that would refinance previous bond issues and add another \$1.5 million in bond money.

The M.K. Brown Auditorium fund showed revenues of \$92,000 and expenditures of \$44,000. Horst said the revenues were up because of the quarterly hotel-motel taxes coming in.

"It was a good quarter," Horst said.

The library fund, with revenues of \$104,000 and expenditures of \$152,000, did not reflect a transfer from the general fund that will be made.

The water and wastewater fund showed \$1.4 million in revenue and \$1.5 million in expenses.

Horst said that water and wastewater revenues had exceeded expenses only one month in this first fiscal year quarter.

"Overall, we're still over budget due to that one good month," Horst said. "They're doing real good keeping their expenditures down."

Expenses, however, are going to go up, he said, because of water well repair at the prison.

"We're looking at about \$20,000 on it," Horst said.

See CITY, Page 3



Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER
City Commissioner Faustina Curry ponders information before her during Tuesday's meeting.

year, he said.

Recreation Park Lake is a public waterway, officials said, so State fishing regulations are in effect. These are enforced by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department game wardens and not by the City, according to the press release.

Generally, a fishing license is not required for persons under 17 years of age or persons born before Sept.

1, 1930. Otherwise, a State fishing license and a Freshwater Trout Stamp Endorsement are required, according to the release.

According to the 2004-2005 Texas Parks and Wildlife Outdoor Annual Hunting & Fishing Regulations, the daily catch limit on trout is five (5) per day, with no set minimum length requirement, the release states.

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WTAMU offers agriculture water management course

CANYON — Maximizing the use of precipitation and limited irrigation water is a necessary part of farming.

An agricultural water management one-day course will be offered by the Division of Agriculture and

the Continuing Education Center on Friday, Feb. 25, at the West Texas A&M University's Virgil Henson Activities Center, Ballroom 202.

Starting at 8 a.m., the course is intended for farm-

ers, county agents, resource conservationists, crop consultants and other professionals interested in maximizing the use of precipitation and limited irrigation water resources.

"It is critically important

to use our water efficiently," said Dr. B.A. Stewart, director of the Dryland Agriculture Institute. "As our water table declines, the irrigation portion of our agriculture is going to continue to decline.

"We've got to better manage what we've got left and utilize our rainfall," Stewart said. "Rainfall is the only source of water for dryland

farmers. If you are an irrigated farmer, rainfall is still your most important source of water."

Stewart, WT distinguished professor of agriculture, and Dr. Clay Robinson, WT associate professor of plant sciences, will discuss relationships between soil and water, crop water use and the Potential Evapotranspiration (PET)

Network, irrigation and cropping systems, fertility, manure and compost and cropping systems.

Six continuing education units will be offered for soil and water and two for soil fertility.

Cost of the course is \$50 and participants can register by calling the Continuing Education Center at 651-2037.



Gayla Rigdon, Sheila Lindsay, Dawn Clendening, Diana Bruner and Berinda Turcotte are the "Ladies at the Alamo," Act I's second show of the season opening Feb. 25-26 and March 4-5 at the ACT I theater on the west side of Pampa Mall beginning at 7:30 p.m.

'Ladies at the Alamo' centers on strong-willed Texas women

"Ladies at the Alamo" by Paul Zindel opens Friday, Feb. 25, at the ACT I Theater behind Pampa Mall.

An outstanding cast of five women are in rehearsal now for this play about very strong-willed Texas women. The "Alamo" is a multi-million dollar regional theater complex in Texas City, Texas. "...the bitchiest, most hilarious female free-for-all since The Women" and "alley cat savagery" read the reviews.

Veteran actresses Diana Bruner, Sheila Lindsay, Gayla Rigdon and Berinda Turcotte headline the cast along with newcomer, Dawn Clendening. Ken Wilson is

the assistant director.

The setting is the lavish reception room of the Alamo regional theater complex. It's grown from a small operation in a converted church to one of the glories of Texas culture. As the action begins we learn the leadership of Dede Cooper (Clendening), founder and artistic director, is being challenged. The Chairman of the Board (Turcotte), a lady of great wealth and lust for power, is scheming to replace Dede with a fading Hollywood star (Lindsay). Bruner plays the Chairman's personal assistant.

As the hour of the decisive board meeting nears,

Dede and her supporter (Rigdon) maneuver to outflank the opposition, and before the crisis point is reached the verbal battles and shocking revelations build to a fever pitch. In the end no one is left unscathed; and while the insurrection is put down, the scars of battle will, it is clear be long in healing.

"There's some very rough language in the show and some pushing and shoving," says Kayla Pursley, director. "The 'ladies' at this Alamo are no 'ladies'."

The play opens Feb. 25-26 and March 4-5. Curtain goes up at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the door.

City

Continued from Page 1

Not reflected in the water-wastewater budget is the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority aqueduct pipe that needs to be replaced by next year.

"That will be about \$30,000," Horst said.

There may be additional costs associated with CRMWA, but Horst said the city pays a set monthly amount, then at the end of the year there is an adjustment.

Last year, he said, the city got a refund of \$22,000.

The landfill fund showed \$370,000 in revenues and \$228,000 in expenses.

"They're doing real good

with their expenses," Horst said.

Those expenses, he said, will jump back up because of maintenance being done this month at the landfill.

The golf course showed revenues of \$54,000 and expenses of \$161,467.

"The weather just hasn't cooperated," Horst said. "We went down on the revenues and higher on expenses."

Part of the expenses, however, were due the purchase of fertilizer and herbicides for the year," he said.

Horst also suggested to the commission that McCarty Hull, an Amarillo company that had leased the old U.S. Bus Building, 822 E. Foster, be allowed to terminate their lease at the end of March.

Scout

Continued from Page 1


"Over 20,000 pounds of food was collected in our annual 'Scouting for Food' drive last year," Oxley said.

Scouts began a Good Turn for America project in 2004 with the goal of collecting 2.5 million aluminum cans, Oxley said. Proceeds from sale of the cans will go to build a Habitat for Humanity home.

"We have a semi-size trailer that gets filled up with cans every eight to 10 days," he said.

Doug Cooper, field director, and Kelly Zuber, district

executive of the Santa Fe North district, were among other area Scouting officers to attend the luncheon.

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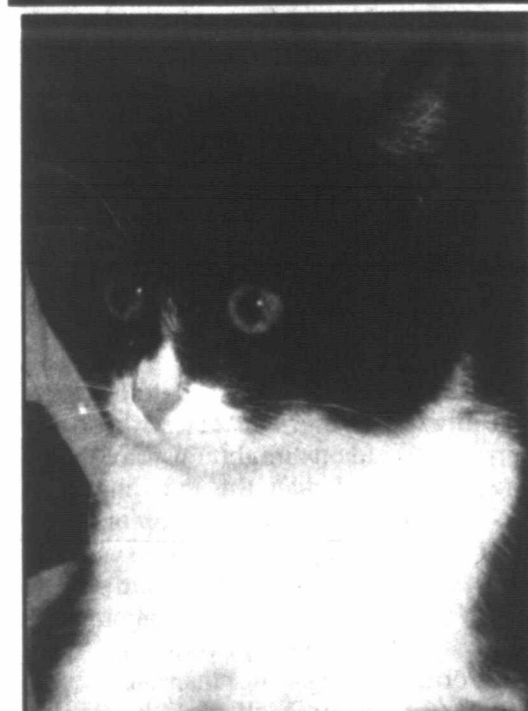
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Viewpoints

Flood damage worse than threat of disease

It all started as a normal rehearsal for our upcoming play, "Antigone."

We were working on our lighting when an extension cord was needed. Our director asked the person who plays the title character to go to the auditorium's storage area, which was under the stage and is called the pit, to see if she could find one for us to use.

"Oh my gosh, the pit is underwater," she exclaimed as she ran back upstairs moments after being given the task.

All of us present at the

rehearsal immediately ran downstairs to check out what exactly was happening.

It seems that one of the pipes leading from an upstairs bathroom had burst. Because of this ruptured water pathway, the fluid from the toilet a floor above was gushing into the pit. There was not that much water that came in, but the flood definitely did its damage.

Because the water was leaking from a restroom area, it was reported to me, although I thankfully did not

see it, that there was actually fecal matter floating in the storage area.

After frantically searching for and finding one of the members of the school's maintenance department, I thought that would be the end of the situation. I thought we could return to rehearsal and continue with the play practice; however, I was wrong.

As the bad timing would

have it, earlier that week our school had received notice that one of its students suffered from Hepatitis A.

Since one of the ways that Hepatitis A is spread is through fecal matter, we all had to go home. Rehearsal was canceled because there was suddenly a fear of a massive outbreak of Hepatitis A among theater students.

After being truly creeped

out and taking a total of five — yes, five showers — I thought for a moment about the night's events. I realize now that there was perhaps a bit of mass hysteria in the air. If not to this extreme, it was safe to say that we overreacted.

While it is better to be safe than sorry, as the trite cliché goes, I have never seen so many people rush for the hand sanitizer at one time in my life. It was chaos, and I still feel eerily clean from taking so many showers.

I am glad we all took the proper precautions; however,

there was no need for the fear of an outbreak.

What turned out to be far worse than the Hepatitis A threat was the fact that the majority of our department's scenery pieces, costumes and even some tools were destroyed in the flood.

We are left with our basic set, because it was on stage being used at the time, but we have not much else.

In a sense, our department is starting a new slate.

It is this that we should have been in hysterics about, not the slim chance of a Hepatitis A outbreak.



Ben Briscoe
News Intern

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 23, the 54th day of 2005. There are 311 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

One hundred years ago, on Feb. 23, 1905, the first Rotary Club service organization was founded in Chicago by Paul Harris.

On this date:

In 1822, Boston was granted a charter to incorporate as a city.

In 1836, the siege of the Alamo began in San Antonio.

In 1847, U.S. troops under Gen. Zachary Taylor defeated Mexican General Santa Anna at the Battle of Buena Vista in Mexico.

In 1848, the sixth president of the United States, John Quincy Adams, died of a stroke at age 80.

In 1861, President-elect Lincoln arrived secretly in Washington to take office, an assassination plot having been foiled in Baltimore.

In 1870, Mississippi was readmitted to the Union.

In 1945, during World War II, U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima captured Mount Suribachi, where they raised the American flag.

In 1965, Stan Laurel — the "skinny" half of the Laurel and Hardy comedy team — died in Santa Monica, Calif.

In 1981, an attempted coup began in Spain as 200 members of the Civil Guard invaded the Parliament, taking lawmakers hostage. (However, the attempt collapsed 18 hours later.)

In 1997, scientists in Scotland announced they had succeeded in cloning an adult mammal, producing a lamb named "Dolly." (Dolly, however, was later put down after a short life marred by premature aging and disease.)

Ten years ago: The Dow Jones industrial average closed above the 4,000 mark for the first time. Administration officials said President Clinton would review dozens of affirmative action programs. Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter arrived in Haiti to help prepare for peaceful elections.

Five years ago: Carlos Santana won eight Grammy awards, including album of the year for "Supernatural," tying the record set by Michael Jackson in 1983 for most trophies in one night.

One year ago: The Army canceled its Comanche helicopter program after sinking \$6.9 billion into it over 21 years. Education Secretary Rod Paige likened the National Education Association, the nation's largest teachers union, to a "terrorist organization" during a private White House meeting with governors.

'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.'

— Margaret Mead
American anthropologist



Eastern Europe's orange dawn

To paraphrase Marx and Engels, a specter is haunting the tyrannical former communist regimes of Eastern Europe — the specter of the Orange Revolution.

Once safe ruling their impoverished enclaves of repression and corruption, the ex-communists, who go by such euphemisms as "moderate centrists," are now facing massive popular revolt and a spreading demand for freedom and real democracy.

Beginning in the former Soviet Republic of Georgia, the orange tide spread to Ukraine, where it engulfed the former nomenclatura and apparatchiks of the Soviet era and forced them from power. Now the revolution

spreads, on its own as they all do, to tiny, oppressed Moldova.

Born in infamy by a provision in the Hitler-Stalin pact of 1939, Moldova was split off from Romania and

given to the Soviet Union, where it languished as a "people's republic" until 1991. But this battered and oppressed

land of 4 million mistook the democratic promises of former communists who turned out to be controlled by the Russian mafia. Their leader became the richest person in the nation through unfa-

thomable corruption.

The stench became so pervasive that, in 2001, a desperate electorate turned the mobsters out and put the unreconstructed communists back in charge. The repression that followed was predictable. Free media was snuffed out, opposition politicians were

"investigated" and, in local elections, opposition parties had no access to the media and were denied permits for their meetings and rallies.

But the birth of freedom in Ukraine has inspired the tiny Christian Democratic

Party, under the charismatic and tireless Iurie Rosca, to aspire to create a genuinely free Moldova. Symbolically backed by the Ukrainian democrat Viktor Yushchenko, Rosca is battling to make the voice of democracy heard despite the state-controlled media that won't cover his party except to defame it.

Unfortunately, he gets no support or even sympathy from the diplomatic underheads in our own State Department who profess, and unfortunately practice, a neutrality that removes the United States from the side of those fighting for freedom. They pretend any elec-

See DAWN, Page 5

Dick Morris
Columnist



Proposed bill limits states' powers

The nation's first president, George Washington, led the Federalist Party, which favored a central government strong enough to wring national unity from the postrevolution chaos and stabilize the new nation's finances.

Today, the term federalism implies limited federal government, with most matters outside defense, foreign policy and interstate commerce reserved to the states.

On this Presidents Day, President Bush is savoring the passage of a bill that takes most multimillion-dollar class-action suits away from state courts and gives

them to the federal judiciary. Bush said the bill was needed to protect businesses from frivolous suits and keep lawyers from cashing in while their clients get next to nothing.

The bill also takes long-held powers from states and gives them to federal judges with little federal consumer protection law to rule by. The suits that aren't thrown out will still be decided by state law, but by overworked judges unfamiliar with it.

Bush's federal power grab

doesn't stop there. He wants to federalize asbestos litigation and medical malpractice suits. Two years ago, the Texas Legislature sharply limited malpractice damages for pain, suffering and loss of life's ordinary pleasures, and voters ratified it by approving a constitutional amendment.

This year the Legislature will consider a bill to reform asbestos litigation. If Bush prevails, federal law will not only pre-empt the reforms

Texans adopt, but also force changes on states whose residents might not want them.

Under the federalist concept, long championed by many conservatives and libertarians, the states are meant to be 50 laboratories for good government, some being better than others, preventing all from being uniformly bad.

President Bush's push to make the entire nation protective of deep-pocketed big business goes against the principles of limited federal government that Ronald Reagan embraced.

Times, parties and presidents change.

Texas Thoughts

Houston Chronicle

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Allaw to ch

BAGHDAD Interim Prime Allawi said V was forming a tion to fight f prime ministe dominant Sh party nominat ive candidate. The hagglin government backdrop lence. A car bc people and w the northern c and a U.S. sol in a separate north of Bagl said. Allawi, a s skirted criticis al-Jaafari, wh ed Tuesday t Iraqi Alliance date for prime

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Amateur photographers, here's your chance to win!

Enter The Pampa News' "Pampa Portraits" contest for a chance to win \$50 in Pampa Bucks and have your photo published as a special section cover on March 31.

One section of the annual "Pride" Progress special edition will be dedicated to photographs of Pampa people in Pampa. The best photos submitted for the "Pampa Portraits" contest will be included in one section of this special edition and the winning photograph will be published in color on the cover.

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

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

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

the jpeg (.jpg) format. Photos submitted on a CD must be of the contest entry only.

A brief explanation of what is happening in the photograph, names of the persons, date and place must be included with each entry. If a person other than the entrant is in the photograph, a signed release to have his/her likeness published is also required.

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

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

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

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



FBC Women's Fellowship brunch set for Saturday; special guest to speak

First Baptist Church of Pampa will host the 2005 first quarterly Women's Fellowship of the new year.

A brunch is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. until noon on Saturday, Feb. 26, in the Fellowship Hall.

Guest speaker LaTrelle Fox of Vernon, a pastor's wife and lay speaker, will discuss each person's unique gifts incorporating the theme "You'nique in Ministry" and snowflakes.

Women's Fellowship promotes Christian fellowship within the community while also meeting needs.

The Fellowships are open to the public.

All women are encouraged to participate.

Participants can call the church office at 669-1155 for reservations and child care, if needed.

Women are asked to bring small toiletries, stationery, pens, wash cloths, and small personal useful items for seniors.

These items will be assembled in small bags and presented to the Meredith House for residents' bingo prizes.

First Baptist Church's Women's Missions and the Fellowship Ministry have been a part of the church's mission efforts almost since the church began in 1907, according to a press release from the church.

Dawn

Continued from Page 4

tion in which opposition parties are denied access to the media is somehow fair and free.

There seems to be a disjunction between the Bush Freedom Doctrine and the policies and activities of his own State Department. There, officials seem not to have read the second Bush inaugural address or internalized its commitment to freedom.

In Moldova, the communists, for once refreshingly candid, still go by the name of "communist." But they find themselves locked in a close three-way battle against the Russian mafia party — the so-called

Moldova Democratic Alliance — and Rosca's Christian Democrats (with the small but growing Social Democratic Party, a pro-democracy leftist party, as a potential surprise). With the election scheduled for March 6, the possibility that the orange momentum will sweep all before it has the power structure terrified.

Only our own State Department seems to be, at best, ignoring the developments and, at worst, rooting

for the wrong side.

The Moldovan communists, now cut off from Russia by a democratic Ukraine, say they have broken with Putin, but their Titoesque independent communism may be falling in the face of the orange tide.

Meanwhile, Putin backs the party controlled by the Russian mafia, which ruled the country in the '90s. His troops occupy Transnistria, the easternmost part of Moldova, which they "encouraged" to break away from Moldova, and have set up a mafia-dominated regime.

Moldova bleeds under its repression. One-third of the population has left. Human trafficking in body parts and in prostitutes of both sexes is ubiquitous, and university professors earn \$30 per month.

But this tiny nation has assumed a geo-strategic importance that only our State Department seems to ignore. If the Orange Revolution can capture a third former communist

state, the wave will be strengthened, perhaps enough to topple repressive regimes in Belarus and even to kindle the fires of freedom in Russia.

The regime will undoubtedly try to steal the election, but Western exit polls — more accurate than here — may make their chicanery obvious. In the meantime, Rosca will flood the streets with thousands of young people waving orange

banners imported from Ukraine and demanding freedom. Then it will be up to the United States and Europe to help the people achieve the democracy they covet.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice faces her first test. Will she go with the cautious, Moscow sympathizers of her bureaucracy or with the forces of freedom fanned so eloquently by her president? The world waits.

Dick Morris is a political analyst and an adviser to the democratic forces of Moldova.

This tiny nation has assumed a geo-strategic importance that only our State Department seems to ignore.

Allawi announces new coalition to challenge al-Jaafari for PM

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi said Wednesday he was forming a broad coalition to fight for the post of prime minister after Iraq's dominant Shiite political party nominated a conservative candidate.

The haggling over the new government came against the backdrop of more violence. A car bomb killed two people and wounded 14 in the northern city of Mosul, and a U.S. soldier was killed in a separate bomb attack north of Baghdad, officials said.

Allawi, a secular Shiite, skirted criticism of Ibrahim al-Jaafari, who was nominated Tuesday by the United Iraqi Alliance as its candidate for prime minister. The

decision made al-Jaafari the overwhelming favorite for the post.

When asked if he feared that al-Jaafari's alliance could impose Islamic rule, Allawi responded that he opposed the creation of any form of Islamic government.

"We are liberal powers and we believe in a liberal Iraq and not an Iraq governed by political Islamists. But as a person, he is an honorable man, fighter and a good brother," Allawi said.

Allawi would not provide details of his proposed coalition.

"There are other lists and other brothers in smaller lists which won the elections, and we are working with some of those lists to form a national Iraqi democratic coalition

which believes in Iraq and its principles," Allawi said at a news conference, flanked by two interim ministers who are members of his secular party, The Iraqi List.

Kurdish parties have also weighed in with their own demands for top jobs, including the post of president.

Al-Jaafari is one of two interim vice presidents and leader of a religious party that fought Saddam Hussein.

In order to take the premiership, al-Jaafari must build a coalition to gain agreement from Kurds and others on the presidency and candidates for Cabinet posts before seeking the support of a majority of the National Assembly elected Jan. 30.

Community Happenings

• **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**

trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation throughout this month. The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign. The 10 trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting 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/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, Shepherd'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 self-exam mammogram and a breast health appraisal along with individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are by appointment only. For more information, call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673.

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2005

THE PAMPA NEWS COMICS

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I'm so confused. I was seeing this guy, "Stan," for almost three years. Then he joined the Navy. Before he left, he told me not to wait for him, so we broke up.

Several months later, I began dating "Ollie." Things were getting serious, and I discovered I was pregnant. When I told Ollie about the baby, he dumped me.

Meanwhile, Stan came home on leave. He told me he loved me, and asked me to wait for him to finish his training, and then we would be together again. About a month later I suffered a miscarriage.

Not long after that, Ollie came to see me and I told him I had lost the baby. He told me he knew he had been wrong to leave me when he found out I was pregnant, and said he wanted us to get back together.

I am deeply in love with Stan, however, he's not here and Ollie is and frankly, I care for him, too. -- NEEDS AN ANSWER IN VIRGINIA

DEAR NEEDS: Ollie has demonstrated that when the chips are down and you needed him, he wasn't man enough to accept responsibility and support you. That is an example of his character. Do you want to face life's problems alone, or have a partner who will be there for you? Answer that question and you'll know which man to choose.

DEAR ABBY: My in-laws are giving me a hard time, and I need a second opinion. For the past four years, I have lived with a bad gall bladder. I finally had it removed last January.

I am now on a fairly strict diet of "do's and don'ts." Although we have explained this to my in-laws many times, they don't seem to get the mes-

sage that I cannot eat "normal" food.

Would it be rude for me to bring my own food to family dinners, or should I just grin and bear it and sit there and not eat on these occasions? -- WANTS TO BE PROPER IN MISSISSIPPI

DEAR WANTS TO BE PROPER: Your health must come first. Since you are on a restricted diet, and your in-laws seem unwilling or unable to accommodate you, by all means bring your own food.

DEAR ABBY: Does anyone know, or even care, how it feels to be a widow? With the exception of her children or other widows, I doubt it matters to very many others.

I have tried to be outgoing, staying attractive and accepting invitations. I really looked forward to the recent wedding of one of my relatives. However, at the reception it did not take long for the loneliness to set in as I watched the couples dance with each other and with guests at other tables. Throughout the entire evening, I hoped someone would ask me to dance. It never happened.

There's a song, "Put on a Happy Face." I'm very good at it when people hurt me. I wore mine all evening.

I have a message for those people having a good time dancing at wedding receptions: Please dance with widowed relatives and friends. It will save them trips to the ladies room to cry. -- HAPPY FACE IN S. DAKOTA

DEAR HAPPY FACE: My heart ached a little when I read your poignant letter. Thank you for reminding people to pay attention to the wallflowers.

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
 44 Napa Valley business
 5 Brahms 45 Acceptable
 11 Wheel connector

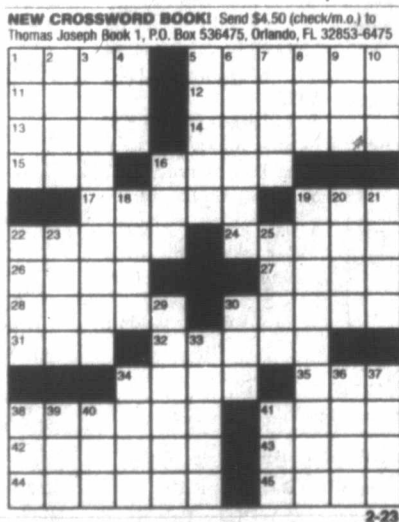
DOWN
 12 Trill
 13 Vegan's no-no
 14 Not transmitted
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 16 German composer
 17 Jane Fonda film
 19 Lingerie buy
 22 Metal man
 24 Place for a do
 26 Eager
 27 Tire-changing need

ACROSS
 28 Disgusting
 30 Sri
 31 Mouse-spotting cry
 32 Arkansas' Mountains
 34 Bend
 35 Track trip
 38 Rafting worry
 41 Survey
 42 Charm
 43 Capital of Italia

DOWN
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 2 Yoked beasts
 3 Potential journal
 4 Fixed
 5 Low
 6 Pound parts
 7 "Candy is dandy" poet
 8 Blvd.
 9 Cousin
 9 Sawbuck
 10 Skill

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ODORS TITLE
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EBB RUN LES
DEEPEN SINE
STUNS PATS
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BARK RANTS
UTES ENTREE
OHS MES INN
YOU RENOGOOD
EMMAS MADRE
DEEMS BEAD

Yesterday's answer
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 18 Cabin together
 material 30 Slack
 19 Sign of 33 Piquant
 confusion 34 Dossier
 20 It beats 36 — mater
 scissors 37 Stage
 21 "My Way" 38 Unrefined
 writer 39 Paris
 22 Wrath 39 Paris
 23 Shrek, pal
 for one 40 Groan
 25 Not quite 41 cause
 closed 41 Expert

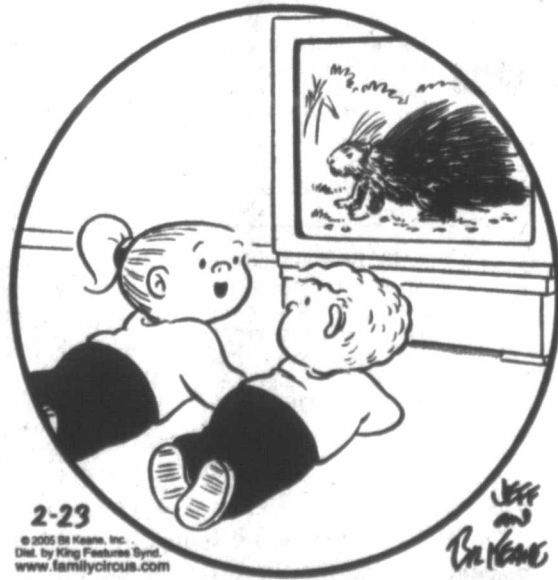


Marmaduke



"It might be a trick."

The Family Circus



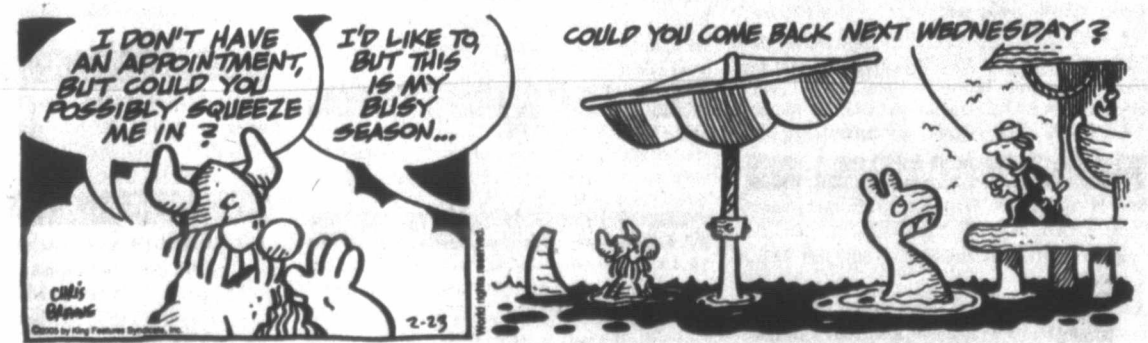
2-23

"Porcupines don't bite, they stab you."

B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



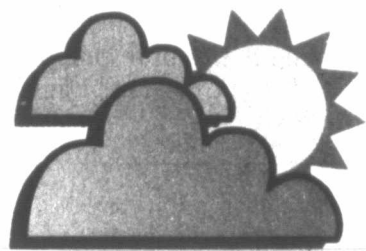
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Today's weather



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Deaths

Alan Lee Dooley, 50, U.S. Army veteran.

Odds & Ends

CHACO CULTURE NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK, N.M. (AP) — This natural wonderland made it onto a list of 10 favorite hidden parks — but the list hid it even more, by locating it in Arizona.

The Coalition of National Park Service Retirees this week released a list of members' favorite parks, but accidentally listed the archaeological site in Arizona instead of Chaco Canyon.

The 400-member group discovered the mistake and fixed it, said coalition coordinator Bill Wade.

"That mistake slipped through several reviewers, but really, we know it's in New Mexico," Wade said. "Having been there myself, I know how beautiful it is."

Chaco Canyon is home to massive ancestral Pueblo Indian ruins that date from A.D. 850 to A.D. 1250. Archaeologists consider it one of the most important sites in the Southwest.

"Sometimes people actually think we're in another country," said G.B. Cornucopia, a guide at Chaco for 19 years. "We also sometimes get confused with Canyon de Chelly, which really is in Arizona."

MILFORD, Neb. (AP) — It took nearly four months, but to the relief of neighbors for miles around, a burning manure pile has been extinguished.

David Dickinson, owner and manager of Midwest Feeding Co., said Wednesday that several weeks of pulling the 2,000-ton pile apart proved effective by late last week.

"We got far enough through it, that it quit," Dickinson said.

Dickinson's feedlot, about 20 miles west of Lincoln, takes in as many as 12,000 cows at a time from farmers and ranchers and fattens them for market.

Byproducts from the massive operation resulted in a dung pile measuring 100 feet long, 30 feet high and 50 feet wide.

Heat from the decomposing manure deep inside the pile is believed to have eventually ignited the manure.

City eyes \$1.5 million bond issue

By DAVID BOWSER
 Staff Writer

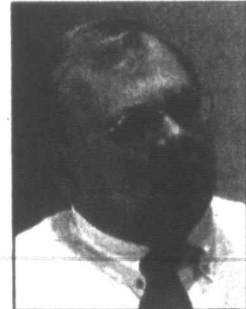
The City of Pampa needs \$800,000.

Before long, it will need another \$500,000 for expected growth.

The \$800,000 is for a new water well at the prison complex east of town and for painting the tanks there and at the city's water and wastewater plant. The \$500,000 is for a proposed water lift station on the north side of Pampa in anticipation of community growth.

Richard Morris, the city's director of public works, told the Pampa City Commission during their regu-

larly scheduled meeting Tuesday night that the two wells at the prison have not produced the water that was initially expected. When they were first drilled, officials expected the wells to produce about 750 gallons a minute. They produce about half that amount, Morris said.



Horst

Without the new well, the prison could be rationing water this summer, officials said.

There is also the prospect of new growth in the city's north side. One company is planning a motel near Pampa Regional Medical Center and several developers have indicated an interest in building new homes in the area.

A lift station will be needed to

serve the proposed residential and commercial facilities, said Pampa City Manager John Horst.

"A million and a half dollars doesn't go very far when you're dealing with public works," Horst said.

It has also been a while since Pampa has had any projected growth that would demand expanded infrastructure.

One of the proposals the city commission is considering to raise the money to pay for these projects is a new \$1.5 million bond issue.

Pampa has about \$13.49 million in long-term debt, Horst said. That

debt is in the form of previous revenue bonds and certificates of obligation.

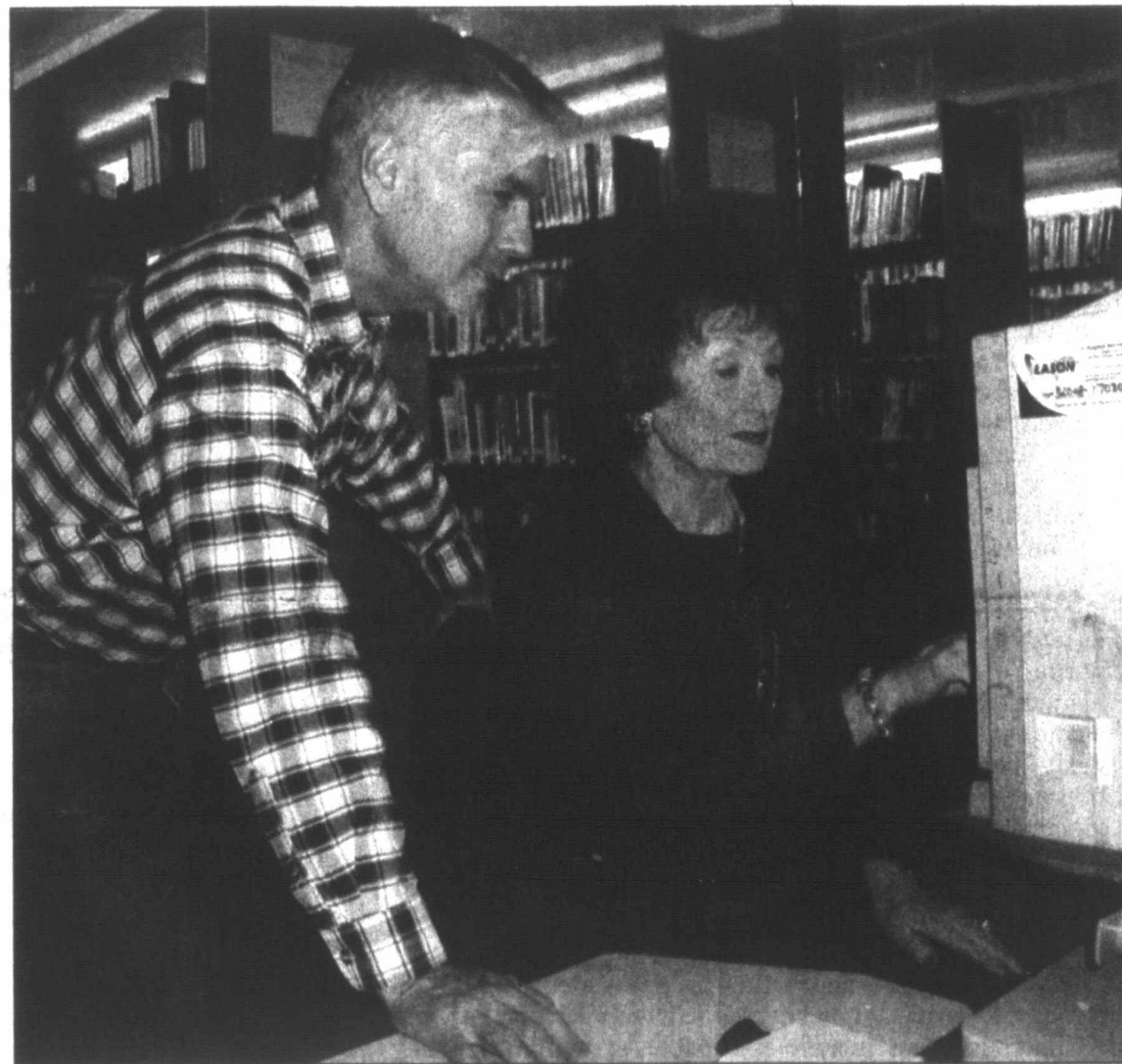
If the existing debt is refinanced and \$1.5 million added, it would bring the city's long-term debt to \$15.67 million, but it would also extend the payment period.

Refunding the present long-term debt would give the city a savings of over \$108,000 because of changes in interest rates, according to Ken Smith, senior vice president of Southwest

'A million and a half dollars doesn't go very far when you're dealing with public works.'

— John Horst
 City Manager

See BONDS, Page 3



Library gets new microfilm reader

Joe Martinez and Louise Bailey, both members of the Friends of the Pampa Library board check out Lovett Memorial Library's new microfilm reader. The Lovett Memorial Library has received a new reader printer from the Friends of the Pampa Library, said Anne Stobbe, library director. The new reader prints using a separate laser printer. The information can be digitally transferred to a computer to be edited or saved. The Friends originally purchased a reader printer and started the library's newspaper collection on microfilm collection more than 10 years ago. Because of the continuing support of Friends and The Pampa News, the library collection of area newspapers includes Pampa newspapers from 1925; McLean News, 1909 to 2002; Miami Chief, 1903 to 1978; Wheeler Times, 1933 to 1975; and the Canadian newspapers, 1895 to 1996. The library has the Gray County census from 1900 to 1930, Pampa Sanbor Fire Insurance Maps for 1919 and 1939, and information about the Pampa Army Air Base. The collection can be viewed at the library at 111 N. Houston.

Perry names Switzer as DA

By MARILYN POWERS
 Staff Writer

Lynn Switzer has been appointed 31st District Attorney by Governor Rick Perry to fill the position until the next general election, officials confirmed today.

The appointment is subject to Senate confirmation, according to a release from the Governor's office.

"I'm truly honored and humbled by the fact that the governor of the State of Texas has expressed enough confidence in me to do the job, to appoint me to this position," Switzer said in a telephone interview this morning.

She also expressed her appreciation for the support she has received from State Rep. Warren Chisum, State Sens. Kel Seliger and Robert Duncan, law enforcement officers, and friends and family.

Switzer became acting district attorney upon the resignation of Rick Roach on Feb. 8. She has been fulfilling the duties of the district attorney's office since Roach's arrest.

Roach, who began his

second four-year term as district attorney on Jan. 1, was arrested Jan. 11 in the district courtroom of Gray County Courthouse by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

He was indicted on federal charges involving methamphetamine, cocaine and firearms, and pled guilty to the firearms charge on Feb. 8. He is currently awaiting sentencing in federal court in Amarillo.

A civil suit was filed against Roach on Jan. 12. The original petition for removal listed Rebecca Bailey, an employee of the 31st District Attorney's office in Pampa, as the plaintiff and sought Roach's removal from office.

Switzer, 47, is a Wichita Falls native and was hired by Roach in May 2002 as assistant district attorney for the 31st Judicial District, which includes Gray, Hemphill, Lipscomb, Roberts and Wheeler counties.

She holds an undergraduate degree from the College of the Southwest in Hobbs, N.M. and her law degree from Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

The next general election is in November 2006.



Switzer

No complaints

Pitner presents racial profiling report

Pampa Police Department made 3,480 traffic or pedestrian stops in 2004.

Of those, 2,447 of the drivers stopped were Caucasian, 150 were African, 179 were Hispanic, five were Asian and two were Native American. Forty-one fell into that ubiquitous category of "other."

In making his annual report on racial profiling to the Pampa City Commission this week, Police Chief Trevlyn Pitner said there have not been any allegations of racial profiling or complaints about such a practice against the Pampa Police Department during 2004.

"That's good," Pitner said. The Texas Racial Profiling Law, passed in 2001, requires the annual report to be completed before March 1 for the prior year.

In reviewing the Pampa Police Department's policy concerning racial profiling, Pitner said that local officers are prohibited from stopping people, detaining them, arresting them or citing them for offenses based solely on race, ethnicity or

national origin.

The policy, however, does not preclude stopping or detaining a person when ethnicity is part of the description of a suspect being sought.

The police chief said that each officer in the department is required to go through a racial profile-training course established by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Education.

Traffic and pedestrian stops, Pitner said, are videotaped.

"We collect the data," Pitner said. "We look at it, and we have a policy for maintaining our videotapes."

Pitner said 2004 was the first full year for the department to have the videotapes. That has made data collection and reporting much easier, he said.

"We're exempt from a lot of the data because we have videos in a lot of the cars," Pitner said. "Prior to that there was a lot more collection of data and a lot more

See REPORT, Page 3

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Amateur photographers, here's your chance to win!

Enter The Pampa News' "Pampa Portraits" contest for a chance to win \$50 in Pampa Bucks and have your photo published as a special section cover on March 31.

One section of the annual "Pride" Progress special edition will be dedicated to photographs of Pampa people in Pampa. The best photos submitted for the "P a m p a Portraits" contest will be included in one section of this special edition and the winning photograph will be published in color on the cover.

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

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

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

the jpeg (.jpg) format. Photos submitted on a CD must be of the contest entry only.

A brief explanation of what is happening in the photograph, names of the persons, date and place must be included with each entry. If a person other than the entrant is in the photograph, a signed release to have his/her likeness published is also required.

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

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

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

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



Pope hospitalized again after suffering relapse of flu, fever

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II was rushed to the hospital in an ambulance for the second time in a month Thursday after suffering fever and congestion from a recurrence of the flu, the Vatican said.

The 84-year-old pontiff had the same symptoms of the breathing crisis that sent him to Gemelli Polyclinic on Feb. 1, a Vatican official said on condition of anonymity. On Wednesday, the pope made his longest public appearance since being discharged from the clinic two weeks ago.

Papal spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said the pope was taken to the Rome hospital for "necessary specialized assistance and further tests." He was taken by ambulance at 10:45 a.m., officials said.

Vatican officials played down the seriousness of the hospitalization, saying a patient of the pope's age is always at risk from the flu. The pope also has Parkinson's disease and crippling knee and hip ailments.

Aides said the pope had a fever, congestion and had suffered a recurrence of breathing problems.

Medical experts who have not examined the pope but are familiar with elderly

Parkinson's patients say his symptoms appeared to be consistent with pneumonia. "It appears the pope is suffering from pneumonia, like-

ly a bacterial pneumonia, a serious problem for a man of his age with Parkinson's," said Dr. Barbara Paris, chairwoman of geriatrics.

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Bonds

Continued from Page 1

Securities, Inc., Pampa's financial advisor.

Horst presented figures on the proposed new bond issue to the commission this week. According to Smith's figures, the city's payments for the next three years would be less than the city would otherwise pay on existing debt. There would be a \$55,735 saving on the 2006 payment, an \$86,315 savings in 2007 and \$4,440 in 2008.

In the fourth year, 2009, the payment would jump \$244,110 as a zero coupon

bond the city issued in 2001 comes due, but then the payments would drop again for another three years below what it would pay without the new issue.

Horst is proposing that the savings for the six years when the payments would be lower be banked and used to defray the costs of the payments in the outer years through 2020.

"We would put that money in a sinking fund," Horst said.

Southwest Securities, which this week was awarded a new five-year contract for the city's financial services, is studying the city's debt structure, but the city

will not have to pay them until any bonds are issued.

The Dallas-based company has been the city's financial advisor for more than 20 years, Horst said.

They would handle the issuance and sale of the bonds.

Their fee would depend upon the amount of the bonds issued, he said.

Report

Continued from Page 1

work to keep up with."

Pitner said the department normally keeps the videos of each stop for about 120 days. They are required by law to keep them only 90 days. Eventually, Pitner said the system will go digital, and they will be able to store them much longer in much less space.

Pitner said he would like to keep the videos up to two years because of statute of limitation issues. Beyond two years, the liability question dissolves in most cases.

"We maintain about 5,000 video tapes," Pitner said.

Of the traffic and pedestri-

an stops made by Pampa police officers in 2004, 79 percent of Caucasian drivers received citations. About 85 percent of African and 60 percent of Hispanic drivers received citations.

About 29 percent of Caucasian drivers received warnings, while 33 percent of African drivers and 32 percent of Hispanic drivers received warnings.

There were eight arrests of Caucasian drivers stemming from the stops, while 15 percent of African drivers and six percent of Hispanic drivers stopped were arrested.

Pitner said that the number of arrests in the report covers only traffic stops, not all arrests made by the department.

Bush

Continued from Page 1

town square hailing the spread of democracy to former Soviet satellite like Slovakia.

High on the meeting agenda are U.S. concerns over Putin's moves to solidify his power and clamp down on civil and press liberties. Also drawing U.S. alarm are Putin's attempts to influence elections in Ukraine, Russian arms sales to Syria and the Kremlin's close ties to Iran.

Bush seeks to balance those concerns with a desire for continued cooperation on security issues such as terrorism, weapons proliferation and energy.

Russian officials dislike what they see as U.S. meddling in their internal affairs and in former Soviet republics where Moscow's influence is waning as some new leaders look westward.

Putin argues that the Russian people are accustomed to strong rule by czars and a large government role in everyday life.

Putin has sent mixed signals.

The two leaders arrived to a red carpet ceremony in the courtyard of the red-roofed Bratislava Castle, exchanging handshakes and smiles. About a dozen troops, clad in fur-trimmed red and blue uniforms, stood at attention. Elsewhere in the capital, security was tight. Hundreds of heavily armed police officers and sharpshooters kept watch and helicopters flew overhead.

Under the new agreement, signed by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Russian Defense Minister Sergey Ivanov, both nations would share information, take inventories of such weapons, destroy "excess and obsolete" ones, and coordinate efforts to keep them out of the hands of terrorists.

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Viewpoints

Wise water, land conservation benefits us all

"The agricultural future of the Texas High Plains depends on development and adoption of alternative strategies that can protect natural resources and reduce demands for water and that can provide economic returns to sustain producers and rural communities."

This quote comes from a press release submitted recently to The News from Texas Tech University Department of Agricultural Education and Communications.

The press release notes the importance of wiser, more advanced conservation practices here in the Texas Panhandle and the High Plains as pivotal in maintain-

ing the Ogallala Aquifer, our primary source for that valuable, life-sustaining commodity H₂O.

According to the press release, "Texas High Plains agriculture, including crops and livestock, contributes over \$5.5 billion annually in revenues but is highly dependent on water pumped from the Ogallala Aquifer. More than 95 percent of water withdrawn from the Ogallala in the Southern High Plains is used for irrigation but today that water source is declining at an alarming rate with some wells already dry. Withdrawal rates exceed 1 foot per year while the potential for recharge is gen-

erally less than 1 inch. As depth-to-water increases, more energy is required to pump water to the surface, thus, increasing costs and lowering profitability for producers."

The folks at Tech's ag department, along with several other private and governmental entities, initiated a study in 1997 to research monoculture crop systems versus multi crop systems to conserve water and other resources, using cotton as their primary product.

"(T)exas Tech in partner-

ship with other universities, government agencies, producers, and area industries worked together to design and implement a long-term systems oriented field study that has compared the cotton monoculture typical of the region to an integrated cotton, forage, and livestock system for grazing by stocker steers," the press release states.

Merriam-Webster OnLine defines monoculture as, 1., "the cultivation or growth of a single crop or organism especially on agricultural or

forest land" and, 2., as "a crop or a population of a single kind of organism grown on land in monoculture."

By this definition, I take it that a monoculture crop system is implied when a specific area of land is given over to the production and growth of a single crop to the exclusion of all else.

The results of the study were to me rather heartening, bolstering my belief that man's ingenuity is God-given and infinitely resourceful.

Here's what the press release reports the researchers found:

"The integrated crop and livestock system has used 23 percent less water for irriga-

tion, 40 percent less nitrogen fertilizer, fewer inputs of other chemicals, and has improved profitability by about 90 percent, compared with the cotton monoculture.

"Cotton grown in rotation with small grains reduced soil erosion potential to below critical levels while soil erosion potential for the cotton monoculture exceeded maximum levels recommended for a sustainable system. Inclusion of forages in the system improved soil microbial activity and increased carbon sequestration compared with the cotton monoculture.

"Integrating cotton and

See WATER, Page 5

Skyla Bryant

News Editor



Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Feb. 24, the 55th day of 2005. There are 310 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 24, 1868, the House of Representatives impeached President Andrew Johnson following his attempted dismissal of Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton; Johnson was later acquitted by the Senate.

On this date:

- In 1821, Mexico declared its independence from Spain.
- In 1863, Arizona was organized as a territory.
- In 1903, the United States signed an agreement acquiring a naval station at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.
- In 1920, a fledgling German political party held its first meeting of importance in Munich; it became known as the Nazi Party, and its chief spokesman was Adolf Hitler.
- In 1942, the Voice of America went on the air for the first time.

In 1945, American soldiers liberated the Philippine capital of Manila from Japanese control during World War II.

In 1955, 50 years ago, the Cole Porter musical "Silk Stockings" opened at the Imperial Theater on Broadway.

'It's a complex fate, being an American.'

— Henry James
American author

In 1980, the U.S. hockey team defeated Finland, four goals to two, to clinch the gold medal at the Winter Olympic Games in Lake Placid, N.Y.

In 1983, a congressional commission released a report condemning the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II as a "grave injustice."

In 1989, a state funeral was held in Japan for Emperor Hirohito, who had died the month before at age 87.

Ten years ago: Under pressure from farm-state Republicans, House leaders abandoned a campaign promise to disband the food stamp program.

Five years ago: The state of Texas executed Betty Lou Beets, 62, by injection for murdering her fifth husband after Gov. George W. Bush refused to intervene. The U.N. Security Council approved a U.S.-drafted plan to send an observer force into Congo to monitor a fragile cease-fire. Pope John Paul II arrived in Egypt on a pilgrimage to retrace some of the most epic passages from the Bible.

One year ago: Democrat John Kerry defeated John Edwards by large margins in Utah and Florida, and also won in Hawaii, where Edwards ran third behind Dennis Kucinich. President Bush urged approval of a constitutional amendment banning gay marriages. A 6.5-magnitude earthquake devastated an isolated region of northern Morocco, killing more than 600 people. Character actor John Randolph died in Hollywood at age 88.



Social Security based on deceit

President Bush's call to allow Americans to take a portion of the money they pay as Social Security taxes to set up private retirement accounts has to be a good idea. Why? The more of what a person earns that's in his pocket and under his control, the better off he will be. At a later date, when the details of the president's plans are known, I'll address the various reform plans under debate. For now, let's look at some of the gross political deceit, lies and unkept promises that have become a part of Social Security.

Here's what a 1936 government Social Security pamphlet said: "After the first 3 years -- that is to say, beginning in 1940 -- you will pay, and your employer will pay, 1.5 cents for each dollar you earn, up to \$3,000 a year. ... Beginning in 1943, you will pay 2 cents, and so will your employer, for every dollar you earn for the next 3 years. ... And finally, beginning in 1949, twelve

Walter Williams
Columnist



years from now, you and your employer will each pay 3 cents on each dollar you earn, up to \$3,000 a year. ... That is the most you will ever pay." Had Congress lived up to those promises, where \$3,000 was the maximum earnings subject to Social Security tax, controlling for inflation, today's \$50,000-a-year wage earner would pay about \$700 in Social Security taxes, as opposed to

the more than \$3,000 that he pays today.

The next big lie is from the same Social Security pamphlet: "Beginning November 24, 1936, the United States government will set up a Social Security account for you. ... The checks will come to you as a right." First, there's no Social Security account containing your money, but more importantly, the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled on two occasions that Americans have no legal right to Social Security pay-

See DECEIT, Page 5

Life without parole a viable option

Life without parole could balance the finality of capital punishment.

We see no reason why Texas lawmakers should oppose giving juries the option of sentencing criminals to life without the possibility of parole. A bill that would give juries that option, however, is not a sure bet in this legislative session.

Sen. Eddie Lucio Jr., D-Brownsville, has pushed such a bill for the past three sessions, with no success. He has reintroduced the bill in this session.

Senate Bill 60 seems logical, and doesn't weaken existing laws or jury options. Rather, it would merely offer

another option for juries to consider when determining the proper punishment for someone convicted of a capital crime, such as premeditated murder or killing a peace officer or a child.

Currently, juries in capital cases have two options: they can sentence a person to death or life. The life sentence, however, allows a convict to appeal for parole. Any juror who doesn't like the prospect of a criminal ending up out of prison at some future date is now compelled to recommend execution.

Some jurors, and state residents responding to various polls, have expressed support for putting someone away for life, but not killing him. SB 60 is the only way to provide that option.

Opponents of the bill suggest that refraining from killing those convicted of capital crimes would add more violent inmates to the population. History, however, doesn't support that argument. Texas is one of only three states that don't offer life without the possibility of parole, and

the other states have not reported that their capital criminals are any more violent or harder to control than the rest of the prison population.

The biggest argument for such an option is what we call the "oops factor." More than 100 people on death row across the country have later been released after their innocence was proven. Sometimes that process has taken more than a decade. The fact that so much time can pass before a persons errant conviction is discovered raises the likelihood that innocent people have been wrongly executed.

See LIFE, Page 5

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Deceit

Continued from

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In Helverin (1937), the Social Security insurance program. "The proceeds (employee and taxes are to be Treasury like enue taxes gen not earmarked. In a la Fleming v.

Water

Continued from

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At its cor press release opined that m these practic needed to test of integrated in other areas besides cotto the quicker how well t apply across t board, the m enriched by stays in the a

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Deceit

Continued from Page 4

In *Helvering v. Davis* (1937), the court held that Social Security was not an insurance program, saying, "The proceeds of both (employee and employer) taxes are to be paid into the Treasury like internal-revenue taxes generally, and are not earmarked in any way."

In a later decision, *Flemming v. Nestor* (1960),

the court said, "To engraft upon Social Security system a concept of 'accrued property rights' would deprive it of the flexibility and boldness in adjustment to ever-changing conditions which it demands..." "That flexibility and boldness mean Congress can constitutionally cut benefits, raise retirement age, raise Social Security taxes and do anything it wishes, including eliminating payments."

If a private retirement company reneged on its promises, we could take it to

court. If Congress reneges on its promises, there's no judicial course of action whatsoever.

Vital to any P o n z i scheme, like Social Security, is the ability to recruit as many suckers as possible. In 1999, a little-noticed part of President Clinton's plan to "save" Social Security was to force

5 million previously exempted employees into Social Security. If they were forced into Social Security, it would have created billions in additional revenue. Guess what. Twelve senators, including f i v e Democrats — Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), Barbara Boxer

Christopher Dodd (D-Conn.), Richard Durbin (D-Ill.) and Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) — descended on the White House to demand that President Clinton not support forcing 5 million of their constituents into Social Security. They warned of the adverse impact on employees in terms of lower rates of return and lost flexibility.

Isn't that great? These are the same politicians who are now resisting President Bush's call to allow Americans to take a part of their Social Security taxes to put into private retirement accounts. If they'd go to bat for those 5 million workers to remain out of Social Security, to avoid the adverse impact of lower rates of return and lost flexibility, why would they fight to deny tens of millions of workers a right to use a portion of their taxes to do the same?

Walter Williams, Ph.D., is a John M. Olin Distinguished Professor of Economics at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

Water

Continued from Page 4

livestock production reduced economic risk through diversification of income with multiple marketable products compared with the cotton monoculture."

At its conclusion, the press release from Tech opined that more study into these practices is badly needed to test the outcome of integrated crop systems in other areas of production besides cotton. After all, the quicker we find out how well these practices apply across the agriculture board, the more we may be enriched by water that stays in the aquifer.

Life

Continued from Page 4

A person sentenced to life can pursue appeals that can acquit him, while some prosecutors and advocates suggest that many convicts who know they're guilty will choose not to appeal their convictions if they aren't sentenced to death.

Currently the legal costs of such appeals makes the drain on taxpayers greater for every death row inmate than for someone who spends the rest of his life behind bars even though the time spent caring for the death row inmate is shorter.

One high profile case that illustrates the benefits of a life-without-parole option is that of Karla Fay Tucker, who

was executed in 1998 for the gruesome pickax murder of Jerry Dean and Deborah Thornton. Tucker, a drug addict and prostitute at the time of the crimes, was rehabilitated in prison and became a Christian advocate. Her case brought calls for clemency from around the world, including the pope and ministers in the religious right who ordinarily support capital punishment. But with no option for commutation, then-Gov. George Bush approved her execution.

Clearly, another sentencing option could give juries and officials more freedom to ensure that true justice is done. At the same time, juries who are convinced that a person should die for his crimes still have the same ability to recommend capital punishment.

Texas by far conducts more government-sanctioned executions than any global political entity this side of communist China. That's a dubious honor.

Providing life without parole could bring more humanity to Texas justice without lessening this states reputation for being tough on crime. SB 60 should be a no-brainer.

Lawmakers use campaign-style events to push Social Security overhaul

WASHINGTON (AP) — Following President Bush's lead, congressional Republicans are taking their campaign to overhaul Social Security back home.

With Congress on a week-long break, backers and doubters alike are listening to constituents at town hall

meetings that interest groups have tried to pack with people who support Bush's plans.

"Most people get it that there is a serious problem with Social Security as we know it," said Rep. Jeb Hensarling, R-Texas, who conducted five town hall meetings on the issue in one

day this week. But he said Congress is still a ways from settling on and approving a plan.


"Let's face it, this is politically heavy lifting," he said in an interview Wednesday.

Treasury Secretary John Snow acknowledged as much, agreeing that many in

Congress are still leery of Bush's plan to create personal investment accounts as part of Social Security.

"We still have some work to do," Snow told reporters Wednesday.

But he predicted support will grow as the campaign intensifies.

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My son, "Adam," is 9. He's very bright and earns straight A's in school. Adam gets in trouble now and then for goofing off, but nothing serious.

Adam has become friends with a boy in his class named "Sean," who has been in trouble quite often and has even been suspended from school. I happen to know that Sean's parents have drugs in their home and have been in trouble with the law.

Although allowing my son to go to Sean's house is out of the question, I have considered permitting Sean to come here and play where I can keep a close eye on him. I can't help but see that Sean is an innocent child who needs a positive influence. Would I be wrong to allow Adam to invite him over? Or should I discourage this friendship altogether? I'm unsure how to handle this. — PROTECTIVE MOM IN ILLINOIS

DEAR MOM: You are in a position to make an important difference in that child's life. You could be the influence that turns his life around. The more time Sean spends in your home, the more he will be able to experience what a healthy family is like. As long as your son's friend follows the rules at your house, I see no reason why he should not be invited over. So be an angel and throw the boy a lifeline.

DEAR ABBY: I moved in with my gentleman friend "Victor" eight months ago. I have insisted on paying for my room and board even though I was between jobs and money is tight.

Recently, over my objections, Victor emptied a room of my personal effects to make room for his guests. He has put me in a smaller room, which he also wants to make available to his guest's guests. Mind you, by "personal effects" I mean my

underwear, jewelry, bills and personal papers, etc. There is only one full bathroom in his house, so this room is also where I dress and take care of private matters.

The "guests" are usually Victor's grown sons and their girlfriends. I no longer have warm, fuzzy feelings for this man. Am I being unreasonable or unforgiving? Victor says I don't need to go, but I think it's time I move on. What do you think? — UNFAIR IN FLORIDA

DEAR UNFAIR: By moving your belongings over your objection, Victor has sent you an important message. He may think you don't need to go, but since you no longer have "warm, fuzzy feelings" for him, I agree that you must. It's not unreasonable or unforgiving, it is rational.

DEAR ABBY: This is my seventh year of marriage to a wonderful, loving and caring man. We were both widowed when we met. He has four sons and one daughter. The daughter does not approve of me, which is fine since she lives out of town.

My problem is none of his children know how to introduce me. They always proudly introduce their father, and then they say, "... and this is 'Doris.'" It makes me feel like I am a live-in instead of his wife.

Could you please tell me what the correct introduction should be so he can pass it on to his children? They are all grown and married, so they don't want to say, "This is my stepmother," and that's OK, too, I guess. My children say, "This is my mother and her husband, 'John,' or my stepdad, 'John.'" Please help. — STEPMOM IN CHARLESTON, S.C.

DEAR STEPMOM: The correct introduction should be, "This is my father and his wife, Doris."

For Better Or Worse



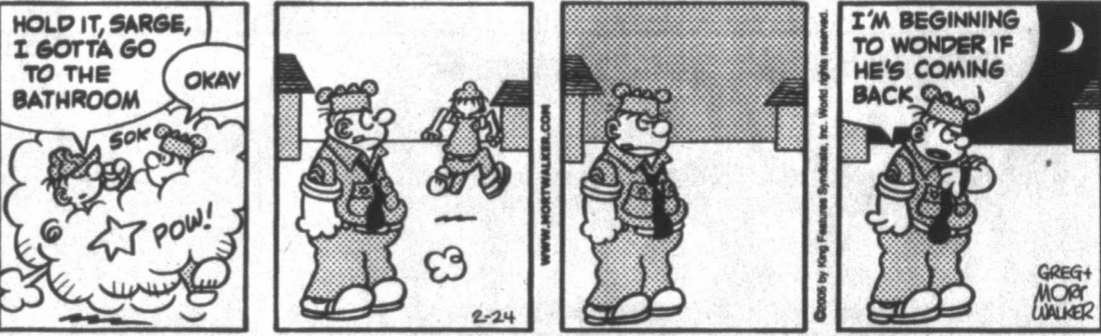
Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- Went out of a hand
 - Quite fond of
 - Dropped of
 - Burdens
 - Tolstoy heroine
 - Maryland bird
 - Speaker
 - Longing
 - Accumulate
 - Perfect partner
 - Hamm of soccer
 - Film trophy
 - Cornered
 - Wake up
 - Honey maker
 - Heel
 - Poets
 - Meal starters
 - Good ability
 - Prepare for battle
 - Premium channels
 - Bible dancer
 - Call for
 - Out of bed
 - Alum
 - Uses a mirror
 - Spot
- DOWN**
- Speaker's place
 - Quite
 - Of
 - Ornamental
 - song
 - In this way
 - Buck's mate
 - Yale student
 - Cub's home
 - Has permission to
 - Potential pickles
 - Soon, in memos
 - New crossword book!
 - Beatty movie
 - "Fernando" group
 - Afternoon events
 - Take testimony
 - Possible
 - Soon, in memos
 - Pouchlike part
 - Grove item
 - Longings
 - Bound
 - Whirl of water
 - Tree flow
 - Sched. abbr.
 - Flower part
 - Tall tale

LOBS	SONATA
AXLE	QUAVER
MEAT	UNSENT
ANN	BACH
KLUTE	BRA
ROBOT	SALON
AGOG	JACK
GROSS	LANKA
EEK	OZARK
FLEX	LAP
RAPIDS	POLL
AMULET	ROMA
WINERY	OKAY

Yesterday's answer

Marmaduke



The Family Circus



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



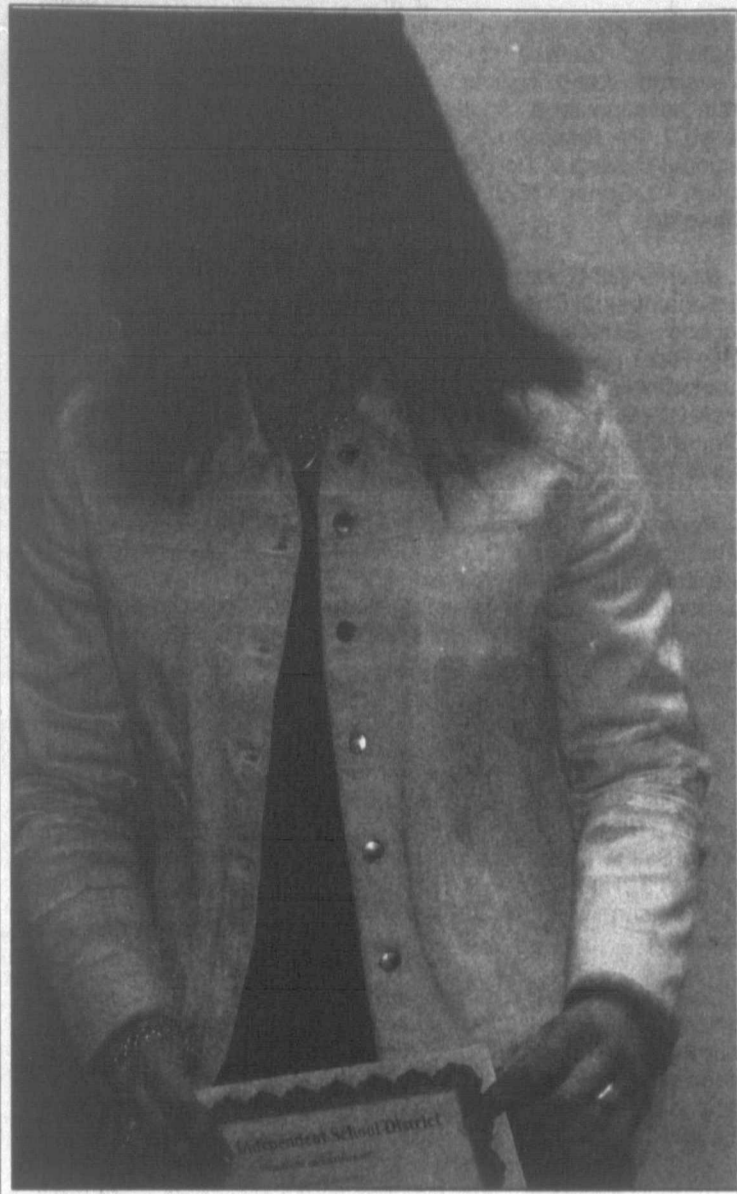
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Sports Day

A senior moment



Pampa News photos by DEE DEE LARAMORE

Pampa senior Jaclyn Spearman (left) was among the PHS students honored during the School Board of Trustees monthly meeting Feb. 17. Spearman, along with seniors Tyler Doughty (above left to right), Q.B. Cobb, Tyrel Bolin and Seth Foster were honored with Spotlight on Excellence certificates by the board for the district and sports publication recognition each received last year. Spearman for volleyball; Doughty, Cobb, Bolin and Foster for football. Pampa High School band and choir members were honored as well. Also pictured is Pampa High School Athletic Director Dick Dunham (above right).

Cowboys reunite Parcels with Bledsoe

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Bill Parcels has returned to his first Drew in hopes of getting the Dallas Cowboys back into the playoffs.

Drew Bledsoe reunited Wednesday with the coach that made him the first overall pick 12 years ago, signing a three-year contract that will further push back the ascension of Drew Henson as the Cowboys starting quarterback.

"I'm convinced that we were writing things off to have not had a veteran quarterback," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said. "I'm not

into, for our fans, almost by design having a season that's not competitive."

When Henson gave up professional baseball to return to football last year, Dallas signed him to an eight-year contract. Jones declared him the quarterback of the future and there were expectations of him growing in the job.

The Cowboys aren't ready to go through the growing pains yet. So Parcels turned to another of his former quarterbacks after 41-year-old Vinny Testaverde started 15 games

while Dallas went 6-10 last season.

"We all have to recognize just how important not only skill level is, but the asset that Drew Bledsoe brings to the table, his vast experience and durability," Jones said. "What we really want to do is win the next time we go on the field. At the same time, we'd like to be doing some things that help us win two years from now, three years from now, four years from now."

Bledsoe said Parcels, who didn't participate in Wednesday's announce-

ment, has already told him that he will be the starter. He had no interest in being a backup quarterback, one of the reasons he was released this week by the Buffalo Bills.

Bledsoe and Parcels were together four seasons and their last game was in the Super Bowl. But that was seven years ago.

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WILL THE JURY PLEASE RISE

Did Bonds really answer any questions? You be the judge

This past Tuesday, San Francisco Giants slugger Barry Bonds strode into a conference room at the team's training facility in Scottsdale, Arizona, took a seat and then began to take questions from the press. Naturally, most of the questions referenced accusations and his place in the BALCO steroid scandal.

Bonds spoke for 37 minutes. He was very emotional and at times, angry. His responses were more like disconnected ramblings that often made little, if any, sense. Bonds didn't really answer any of the questions put to him. If anything, he raised even more questions.

Michael J. Stevens
Sports Editor



At least he did for me. Bonds used odd metaphors in an attempt to describe what he believes to be a press corps made up of nothing but "liars". I especially liked the Sanford and Son comparison. "You guys are like rerun after rerun after rerun. This is old stuff," said Bonds. In an interesting shift of gears, he would later commend the same group of reporters, expressing his respect for what they do. He complimented the members of the press for doing their jobs while their bosses are off on some beach somewhere counting their change.

He then went into some diatribe about his father and how he watched as the press picked him apart as Bonds was coming up. This triggered some sort of an 'oh yeah, I forgot I hate you guys' mechanism in Bonds' brain. He promptly went back to hating the lying press.

As this conference droned on, Bonds noted how alcohol is the number one killer in America. "We legalized alcohol so you can buy it in the store," he said. He then blurted, "The number two killer is tobacco and we legalized that. There are other issues." What do you suppose Bonds was trying to say here?

His quote offerings just kept coming.

They were hard to keep up with. It was like being at a comedy club, watching a really funny comedian toss out a barrage of hilarious one-liners, only to wake up the next morning unable to remember what they were.

Barry asked the press at one point, "Are you guys jealous, upset, disappointed or what?" I could only imagine a room full of press people looking at one another while scratching their noggins with their No. 2 pencils.

It seems Bonds wasn't satisfied with the taste of his toes because the more he spoke, the further his foot went into his mouth. I almost expected his agent to run in flailing his arms while proclaiming the conference to be over.

There were two more great quotes from Bonds before the show did finally wrap. They were, "You gotta have a lot of talent to get 53,000 fans to yell 'you suck'," he said while explaining how he loves playing at Dodger Stadium. Apparently the fans there don't like Mr. Bonds.

And then there was, "I do not know what cheating is," he said in response to a question seeking his thoughts on steroid use. "I do not think, I do not know that cheating is going to — that steroids are going to help you in baseball. I do not believe steroids can help you, eye-hand coordination, technically hit a baseball. I just do not believe it. And that is just my opinion."

Bonds will face many of the same questions again soon when his is called upon to give sworn testimony in court.

However, some one might want to tell Barry this court will not be made up of Mr. Owl, King Friday, Lady Elaine and a trolley.

For now, he must contend with an even greater court — the court of public opinion. And you, the fan, must take the bench as judge.

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Good luck



Pampa High's Whitney Penrod holds the certificate she received from the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce earlier this month after she was honored as the area District 4A swimmer of the year. Penrod will be competing at the UIL State Diving Meet which gets under way tomorrow in Austin. Also pictured are Coach Greg Miller (left) and parents Vikki and Rev. Scott Penrod.

Raiders gather Moss

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Randy Moss has become known as much for his distracting antics as he has for his electrifying touchdown catches during his seven-year career. Sounds like Al Davis' kind of player. Dante DiTrapano, Moss' agent, told The Associated Press on Wednesday that the Minnesota Vikings and Oakland Raiders had "come to an agreement on Randy playing for Oakland next year." Davis, the longtime renegade owner of the Raiders, has always taken a certain pride in acquiring talented players with troubled backgrounds. And Moss is just the latest to join the Silver and Black. DiTrapano said Moss was "very pleased to be going to Oakland and looking forward to playing with a team that's promised to

throw the ball deep a whole lot to him and have a chance at winning the Super Bowl." Neither the Vikings nor the Raiders would confirm the deal, which reportedly involves the Raiders sending linebacker Napoleon Harris, the seventh pick in this year's draft and another late-round pick to Minnesota for Moss. Without commenting specifically on the trade, Raiders senior administrator Artie Gigantino said, "the Raiders have always been very aggressive in the pursuit of free agents. Randy Moss is certainly one of the great receivers of all time. Many players have ended their careers as Oakland Raiders." The deal cannot become official until March 2, the start of the NFL's fiscal year.

Villanova beats another ranked team

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Villanova should start scheduling more ranked teams. The 23rd-ranked Wildcats added a fourth Top 25 victim to their list of victories Wednesday night with a 76-70 win over No. 3 Boston College. "We're learning how to win," Villanova coach Jay Wright said. "It gives them confidence and experience that's invaluable." The latest win may be the one that all but seals the first NCAA tournament bid since 1999 for the Wildcats (18-6, 8-5 Big East). "We were confident we could come in and play well, but we're still not thinking about the NAAs," said Curtis Sumpter, who played with a sore knee and scored 20 points. Randy Foye scored 23 points for the Wildcats, who survived a nine-minute stretch without a field goal by going 36-of-41 from the free-throw line. Boston College (22-2, 11-2) closed within one point before Foye banked a 6-footer for a 67-64 lead to end the long stretch without a basket. "It's very difficult to win a game when the opposing team shoots 41 free throws," Boston College coach Al Skinner said. "We just didn't make the plays that were going to tie it and make them feel uncomfortable. We never got over the hump." In other games involving ranked teams Wednesday, it was: No. 1 Illinois 84, Northwestern 48; No. 5 Kentucky 81, Auburn 73; No. 6 Wake Forest 88, Longwood 47; No. 7 Duke 60, Georgia Tech 56; No. 15 Syracuse 83, St. John's 69; West Virginia 70, No. 18 Pittsburgh 66; and No. 21 Charlotte 80, Memphis 77. Craig Smith had 18 points for Boston College, while Jared Dudley added 15. Villanova played without starting point guard Mike Nardi, who sprained his right ankle in practice Monday. They got another scare midway through the first half when

Sumpter, who already plays with a brace on his left knee and tape on his right one, came up limping when he was fouled and momentarily left for the locker room. "I wasn't able to run or jump or explode like I did in the first half," Sumpter said. "It's not serious, just a little twinge." No. 1 Illinois 84, Northwestern 48 Dee Brown scored 18 of his 20 points on 3-pointers to lead the Illini (28-0, 14-0), who clinched at least a share of the Big Ten title for the second straight season. Brown had five 3s in the first half as Illinois took a 45-22 lead. It was Illinois' 24th straight Big Ten win, and 20th in a row at Assembly Hall. No. 5 Kentucky 81, Auburn 73 Kelenna Azubuike had career highs of 30 points and 11 rebounds for the Wildcats (21-3, 12-1 Southeastern Conference), who clinched at least a share of the East Division title for the sixth straight season. No. 6 Wake Forest 88, Longwood 47 Taron Downey scored 13 points as the Demon Deacons (23-4) cruised to the non-conference home win. Michael Jefferson scored 14 points for the Lancers (1-29), who extended their school-record losing streak to 18 games in their first full season of Division I competition. No. 7 Duke 60, Georgia Tech 56 J.J. Redick had 21 points for the Blue Devils (20-4, 10-4 Atlantic Coast Conference), who have won 18 of the last 19 games in the series, including nine straight at Alexander Memorial Coliseum. They reached the 20-win mark for the 21st time under coach Mike Krzyzewski. No. 15 Syracuse 83, St. John's 69 Hakim Warrick had a career-high 35 points and grabbed 10 rebounds — his 12th double-double of the season — and the Orange (23-5, 10-4 Big East) broke a two-game losing streak. The win was No. 699 for coach Jim Boeheim.

PHS baseball, Lady Harvesters each taking part in tournaments

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS Sports Editor

Boys The Pampa Harvesters baseball team is in Borger today to kick off the 2005 baseball season by taking part in the third annual Borger Bulldog Invitational. Games are scheduled to be played at Frank Phillips College. The Harvesters were to meet Perryton at 10 a.m. this morning, and Lubbock Estacado at 3:45 p.m. this afternoon. Coach Dennis Doughty is looking for some active batting as well as effective pitching from Tyler Doughty and Dusty Lenderman today. Catcher James Coffee is out with a broken bone in his left hand. Girls Coach Bobbi Gill and her Lady Harvester softball team will be heading for Wichita Falls to compete in this weekend's Sunrise Optimist

Tournament which gets under way tomorrow. The Lady Harvesters have a 10 a.m. meeting with Borger tomorrow, the only team to beat them (1-0) last weekend at the Borger Winter Classic. "Our overall game needs fine-tuning. We just need to play to work the kinks out of our game." — Bobbi Gill Coach, Pampa Lady Harvester Softball Pampa went 4-1 in that tournament, good for third place in the Gold Division.

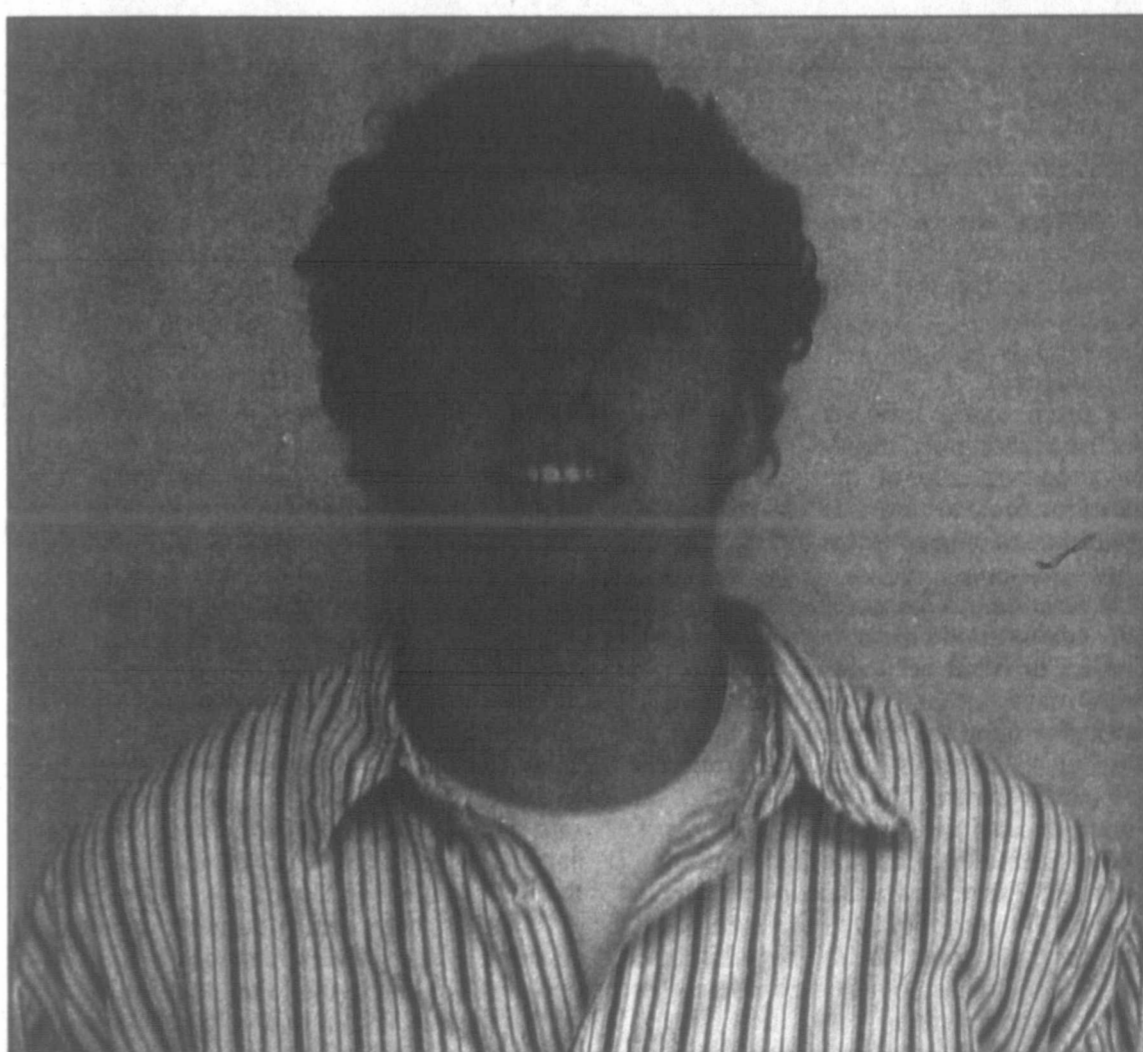
Other Lady Harvesters games tomorrow include a 12 p.m. meeting with Wichita Falls Hirschi, and a 4:30 p.m. outing against Petrolia. Saturday games will depend on Pampa's pool performance tomorrow. Gill says she is looking forward to facing the different teams this weekend, many of them from our area. And though she liked what she saw in her team last weekend, Coach Gill notes, "Our overall game needs fine-tuning. We just need to play to work the kinks out of our game." The Pampa bats were busy in Borger last weekend, outscoring opponents 27-3. "We played fairly solid last weekend, which is usually odd for this time of the year," said Gill. "Our hitting has looked better than in past years this early in the year." The Lady Harvesters (4-1) are healthy and injury-free heading into Wichita.

Preseason THSBC poll

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The 2005 Pre-season Top Ten rankings as compiled by the Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association and Texas High School Baseball Magazine. The 2004 records and where each team ended the season are listed in parentheses.

- Class 5A**
 1. Moody (42-1; state champs) 2. Flower Mound (37-8; state finalist) 3. Tomball (31-3; regional quarterfinalist) 4. The Woodlands (32-6; regional quarterfinalist) 5. Kingwood (32-11; state semifinalist) 6. Southlake Carroll (27-8; regional quarterfinalist) 7. SA Reagan (29-8; regional finalist) 8. Rockwall (32-9; regional finalist) 9. Fort Bend Clements (30-10; regional semifinalist) 10. Spring (36-9; state semifinalist)
- Class 4A**
 1. Boerne (32-5; state champions) 2. Waco Midway (25-8; district champs) 3. Channelview (25-11; regional quarterfinalists) 4. Lubbock Estacado (23-12; regional semifinalists) 5. Wichita Falls Rider (29-7; regional finalists) 6. Texas City (23-9; regional quarterfinalist) 7. Nederland (NA) 8. Calallen (36-4; regional finalists) 9. Highland Park (25-12; regional semifinalist) 10. Kilgore (25-10; regional finalists)
- Class 3A**
 1. Perryton (31-9; state semifinalist) 2. Lorena (26-6; regional semifinalist) 3. Sinton (22-17; regional finalist) 4. Carthage (24-7; bi-district champs) 5. Yoakum (22-12; regional semifinalist) 6. Jasper (32-8; regional finalist) 7. Lubbock Cooper (28-5; regional quarterfinalist) 8. Falfurrias (22-10; regional semifinalist) 9. Bridge City (25-4; district champs) 10. Llano (29-10; state semifinalist)
- Class 2A**
 1. Franklin (27-5; regional quarterfinals) 2. Gunter (31-6; regional finalists) 3. Jarrell (28-7; state semifinalists) 4. Nacogdoches Central Heights (37-2; state champions) 5. Celina (15-7) 6. Grand Saline (28-5; regional quarterfinals) 7. Maypearl (29-5; 6 starters) 8. Trinity (20-7) 9. East Bernard (26-6; regional finalists) 10. Corsicana Mildred (26-7; district champions)
- Class 1A**
 1. Colmesneil (18-7; regional finalist) 2. Thorndale (26-6; regional finalist) 3. Follett (22-3; state finalist) 4. Shiner (23-9; state champs) 5. Bremond (16-6; regional quarterfinalist) 6. Gilmer Union Hill (regional finalist) 7. Plains (14-5; district champs) 8. Axtel (12-8) 9. Falls (15-7; bi-district champs) 10. Hamlin (15-9; regional finalists)



East wins essay contest

Brittin East has been named the winner of the annual Optimist Essay Contest, according to Pampa Optimist President Ronnie Haynes. He was chosen by a committee appointed by Cassie Schultz, the Governor of the Optimist North Texas District. The judging occurred over the weekend in Weatherford, Texas, in connection with the Second Quarter District meeting. In writing about "The Power of One," East discussed Lance Armstrong and his team of bicyclists who

helped Armstrong win the Tour deFrance an unprecedented six consecutive times. East will receive a \$500 college scholarship from the local club and the opportunity to compete in the North Texas District Contest for an additional \$650. The District winner will compete in the national contest where the first prize is \$5,000, second prize \$3,000 and third prize \$2,000. The Pampa High School senior is the son of John and Sabrina East.

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Schiavo parents receive reprieve

CLEARWATER, Fla. (AP) — The parents of Terri Schiavo won another reprieve in their fight to keep the brain-damaged woman alive after a judge extended an emergency stay keeping her feeding tube in place.

The stay had been set to expire Wednesday afternoon, but Pinellas Circuit Judge George Greer extended it until 5 p.m. Friday.

A lawyer for the parents, Robert and Mary Schindler, had asked the judge to block the removal of Schiavo's feeding tube so the family can have more time to determine if she has greater mental capabilities than previously believed.

The Schindlers also want more time to try to remove Schiavo's husband as legal guardian.

'I can assure you, I will do whatever I can within the means, within the laws, of our state to protect this woman's life.'

— Jeb Bush
Governor of Florida

They have been in a long, bitter struggle with Michael Schiavo, who said his wife never wanted to be kept alive artificially. She left no written directive.

Also Wednesday, the Florida Department of Children & Families moved to intervene in the case hours after Gov. Jeb Bush told reporters he was seeking a way to keep Terri Schiavo alive.

"I can assure you, I will do whatever I can within the means, within the laws, of our state to protect this woman's life," Bush said, adding that he has received thousands of e-mails and telephone calls from the Schindlers' supporters.

Details of DCF's involvement in the case were not immediately available and both the governor's office and the agency declined to comment. Greer denied a DCF attorney an opportunity to speak at the afternoon hearing.

A court filing by the agency remained sealed, but attorneys for Schiavo's husband and her parents said it was related to allegations Michael Schiavo abused his wife.

Those allegations, which have been raised before, are based partly on bone scans showing Terri Schiavo suffered fractures and statements she made to family and friends that she was unhappy in her marriage. Michael Schiavo has denied harming his wife.

George Felos, who represents Michael Schiavo, said DCF already has investigated the allegations and ruled them unfounded. He criticized the DCF move, saying it "reeks of the intervention of politics into the case."

Terri Schiavo collapsed 15 years ago Friday, when a chemical imbalance caused her heart to stop beating and cut off oxygen to her brain.

In October 2003, Schiavo went without food or water for six days before Bush pushed through a law letting him order reinsertion of the tube. The Florida Supreme Court later struck down his action as unconstitutional.

Fame

Jury selected for Michael Jackson trial

By **TIM MOLLOY**
Associated Press Writer

SANTA MARIA, Calif. (AP) — The jury in Michael Jackson's child molestation trial includes several fans of his music, four parents of young children, a woman whose grandson was convicted of a sexual offense, and a man who visited Jackson's Neverland ranch as a child.

Drawn from the region where Jackson lives, they include four men and eight women and range in age from 20 to 79.

The jury seated Wednesday was primarily white and Hispanic and did

not appear to include any of the half-dozen blacks who were in the pool of more than 240 prospects.

The court hasn't disclosed the races of jurors, and lawyers and jurors are under a gag order not to discuss the case. Race could be a factor because public opinion polls show blacks are less inclined to believe the charges against Jackson, who is black.

Two black women who had been questioned as potential jurors were rejected by prosecutors, who were allowed to dismiss them without stating a reason. The defense objected on both occasions — one Tuesday,

the other Wednesday — and Jackson appeared upset when each woman was removed.

The second woman said her husband had suffered discrimination while working for the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department and criticized the makeup of the jury pool.

"Just look around us. A jury of his peers would be people of his age and people of color, mixed diversity," she said. "How diverse is this jury looking to you right now?"

Jackson nodded along as the woman described her husband's experiences and turned to watch as she left the

courtroom.

One black man remained in the pool from which the alternate panel was being selected. Attorneys will resume choosing eight alternates on Thursday.

One of the jurors selected is a 79-year-old retired widow with two adult children and a grandson on probation for a sex crime. She said he was forced to register as a "sexual deviant."

A 21-year-old selected once went to Jackson's Neverland ranch with a cerebral palsy group. The man said Jackson was not home at the time.

Another juror was asked if

he recognized the names of celebrity witnesses who may testify in the case, including self-help guru Deepak Chopra. "I think he's a rapper," the juror said.

Jury selection had been expected to last several weeks, but took only five court days, which were interrupted by a one-week break due to the death of an attorney's sister and another one-week break because Jackson was hospitalized with flu-like symptoms.

Jackson, 46, is accused of molesting a 13-year-old boy, plying him with alcohol, and conspiring to hold him and his family captive.

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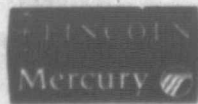
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