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Spring elections off and running



Today's weather





Deaths

Enzena 'Ann' Saville Lytton, 82, artist. John C. Schwind, 82.

Odds & Ends

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Motorists in the Thai capital are having the last laugh: More than 600 policemen have temporarily lost the right to issue tickets after failing a test on traffic law. The police department st month tested 4,475 officers on their knowlge of traffic law, and almost one in seven failed to show adequate knowledge, said Maj. Gen. Montree Jamroon, a deputy commander of the Metropolitan Police Bureau. "A total of 665, accounting for about 14 per cent of the traffic policemen in Bangkok, failed the test on traffic law and they will not be allowed to issue tickets until they pass," he said. Those who failed the test would have to take it again within six months, said Montree. Bangkok drivers have long complained about the seemingly arbitrary enforcement of traffic laws.

By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer

Last-minute filings make races

for all but one city, school spots

Only one candidate remains unchallenged in the city and school board races, with three positions up for election for each governing body.

Deadline for filing as a candidate was 5 p.m. Monday for each of the six offices. Lance DeFever, incumbent Place 2 trustee on the Pampa Independent School District Board of Education, is the only candidate for his slot on the board, and the only candidate running unopposed.

Dana Terry has filed as a candidate for Place 3 on the school board, challenging Kenneth Cargill for the seat currently held by Jay Johnson, who did not file for re-election.

Derrel DeLoach is running against incumbent John Curry for Place 1 on the school board.

A three-way contest is shaping up among incumbent Pampa Mayor Lonny **Robbins and challengers** Paulette Hinkle and Monty Danner.

Incumbent Ward 3 **Commissioner Robert Dixon** gained an opponent when Lana Miller filed for his position on the Pampa City Commission yesterday.

Jeff McCormick, incumbent Ward 1 city commissioner, is facing Brad Pingel. Early voting in the city

and school board elections will be April 20 through May 3.

Early voting in the city election will be 8 a.m. to 5

See ELECTION, Page 5



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

R

Pampa City Secretary Phyllis Jeffers checks the candidate filing form submitted by Mayor Lonny Robbins in his bid for re-election. Deadline for filing as a candidate in the city and school board elections was 5 p.m. yesterday.



Education bill may be paid with vice taxes

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — In the eyes of one Missouri legislator, the show-me state needs to tone down its image ---as far as the adult entertainment industry is concerned.

"Travelers in our state are being sent a signal that Missouri is a porn-friend-ly state," said State Sen. Matt Bartle. To combat that, Bartle has sponsored a measure for a sin tax. The proposal cleared the state Senate with little debate on Monday. The legislation needs another vote to move to the House.

Under the bill, tipping strippers would be illegal, as would any physical contact between exotic dancers and their customers. Total nudity would be banned, and no one under 21 could work in such businesses. The legislation also would impose a \$5 per customer charge for sexu-ally oriented businesses, from strip clubs to adult bookstores, and a 20 perent tax on revenues.

Jeanna Miller, Texas Classroom Teachers Association president-elect and an educator with Pampa Independent School District, right, meets with Texas **Governor Rick Perry.**

Pampa teachers meet with top state officials

AUSTIN - Texas Classroom Teachers Association Board of Directors, including two Pampa educators, met with Texas Gov. Rick Perry and Commissioner of Education board pay raises for teachers, but I do think Shirley Neeley last week.

Jeanna Miller, TCTA == president-elect, and Carrie Johnson, a District 16 director, along with Connie White of Amarillo, also a District 16 director, were among 58 members of the board that met privately with Gov. Perry and Neeley for a briefing on what some lawmakers think about education issues. The group also asked questions.

Perry spoke on the current debate over ered for the Association's 50th annual conpublic school funding, telling teachers the vention. She assured the group that giving Texas Legislature is committed to action, according to a TCTA news release.

"The debate always needs to be about how to improve public schools," Perry told the teachers. "I have not ruled out across-theincentives work," he added.

The debate always needs to be about how to *improve public* schools." -Gov. Perry

Perry later stressed that "classroom teachers need to be at the table helping to craft a performance pay package."

After a 30-minute address, Perry responded to questions and discussed such issues as testing, helping disadvantaged children and reducing paperwork demands on teachers.

Neeley joined Perry in welcoming the TCTA board members to Austin where they gath-

See TEACHERS, Page 5

Rep. Chisum pushes for bus transportation to be funded

AUSTIN (AP)-

like soft drinks and doughnuts was added Monday to the \$10 billion tax bill levied on foods such as bakintended to reduce school ery items, cookies, cakes, property taxes by a third. pies, pastries, tortes, chips, The bill also contains a \$1per-pack increase in the cigarette tax.

of Monday fine-tuning two percent, would be expanded bills intended to reduce to include other products property taxes while over- and services such as bottled hauling public education in water, billboard advertising, Texas.

added as part of an effort to vehicle and boat sales tax plug a \$1.2 billion hole that would be increased to 7.35 lawmakers were left with percent. when the comptroller's analysis came up short of House legislators said more necessary money to buy money for the costs of busdown the promised property tax reduction.

'Running school

business in

rural Texas."

State Representative - Pampa

- Warren Chisum

buses is a major

To raise more money, the Lawmakers are relying on new version also would some of Texans' biggest increase the sales tax to 7.25 vices to try to fund a reduc- percent, impose a sales tax tion in school property taxes. on newspapers and bump a A 3 percent tax on snacks proposed payroll tax on businesses to 1.15 percent.

The snack tax would be nuts and soft drinks not bought in restaurants.

Under the proposal, the House leaders spent much state sales tax, now at 6.25 car washes and vehicle The snack measure was repair services. The motor

> Meanwhile[•] Monday,

> > See TAXES, Page 5



Rep. Chisum



AMARILLO Amarillo National Weather Service, Amarillo Department of Emergency Management and Pantex will host a Severe Weather Workshop on Saturday, March 12.

Local television stations

The KVII-TV. KFDA-TV. Ka.m.R-TV, ClearChannel radio, KGNC radio and Wal-Mart will co-sponsor the event.

The workshop will be held at the Civic Center Heritage in downtown Room Amarillo and is open to the

public, free of charge. nificant tornado outbreaks will be held in the Heritage Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., presentations begin at 10 a.m., and the workshop ends at 5 p.m.

This year's general session theme, "Tornadoes in Your Backyard: A 50-Year History" will focus on sig-

across the Texas and Oklahoma panhandles, the forecasting of tornadoes, and how tornado safety has evolved in the past 50 years.

The day will begin with concurrent sessions from 10 a.m. to noon. Both sessions

Room at the Amarillo Civic Center and those in attendance can choose which session to attend.

• The main session will be Severe Storm Spotter

See WORKSHOP, Page 5

2 — Tuesday, March 8, 2005 — The Pampa News

Obituaries

Enzena 'Ann' Saville Lytton, 82

MOUNTAIN PARK, Okla. — Enzena "Ann" Saville Lytton, 82, died Sunday, March 6, 2005, at Elkview General Hospital in Hobart, Okla.

Services are scheduled at 1:30 p.m. Thursday in Mountain Park United Methodist Church with Dr. W. Jene Miller, pastor of First United Methodist Church of Arnett, Okla., officiating.

Burial will be in Mountain Park Cemetery under the direction of Becker Funeral Home of Snyder, Okla.

Mrs. Lytton was born March 25, 1922, at Mountain Park, to John Roy and Leah Bea Saville. She grew up in Snyder and married William Thomas "Bill" Lytton on March 11, 1939, at El Reno, Okla.; he died June 24, 1994.

The couple lived in Pampa for many years before returning to Oklahoma and settling in Mountain Park upon Mr. Lytton's retirement

from Halliburton.

Mrs. Lytton was an artist and a homemaker who was active in her church and in the community.

She belonged to Mountain Park United Methodist Church and enjoyed hosting meetings of United Methodist Women and the local garden club.

Mrs. Lytton was preceded in death by her parents; a son, Jerry Thomas Lytton; and a brother, Leroy Saville.

Survivors include two brothers, Joe Saville of Tulsa, Okla., and Ford Saville of Yucca Valley, Calif.; three sisters, Edna Puckett of Garden Grove, Calif., and Edith Haven and Freddie Farris, both of Long Beach, Calif.; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

The family requests memorials be to Mountain Park United Methodist Church Ann Lytton Memorial, P.O. Box 121. Mountain Park, OK 73559.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents and arrest.

Monday, March 7

Thirteen traffic stops were made. Vehicle accidents were reported at One Medical Plaza and the 800 block of North Hobart. A hit and run accident was reported in the 1000 block of Charles.

Suspicious person calls were received from the intersection of Kentucky and Garland streets, and the 600 block of Doucette.

Theft was reported in the 400 block of West Brown, the 1100 block of West Alcock, the 900 block of South Faulkner, and the 200 block of Tignor.

Theft was reported in the 1500 block of West Kentucky, where jewelry and sunglasses valued at \$310 were taken.

Identity theft was reported in the lobby of the police department.

Burglary of a building was reported in the 100 block of Randy Matson Avenue,

aged, and cash was taken, for total estimated loss of \$970.

Silent/abusive 911 calls were received from the 2100 block of North Nelson and the 100 block of North Nelson.

Assault was reported in the 300 block of South Cuyler and in the 500 block of Perry, where minor injuries were reported.

A welfare check was made in the 400 block of Carr.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the 800 block of North Somerville. Found property was reported in the 400

block of East Kingsmill. A civil matter was called in from the

1100 block of Prairie Drive. Disorderly conduct/noise was called in

from the 1300 block of Coffee. Law enforcement assistance was ren-

dered in the 1000 block of Neel Road. One business alarm was reported.

Shawn Lee Weatherford, 34, 1101 S. Christy, was arrested at the intersection of Russell and Brown streets on capias pro

at Pampa High School. A safe was dam- fines for an unregistered vehicle and no inspection sticker.

Pampa Police Department today reported the following motor vehicle accident. Monday, March 7

11:36 p.m. - In the 200 block of West Louisiana Avenue, an unknown vehicle collided with a legally parked 1998 Mitsubishi Montero, owned by Jermey S. Farmer of Dallas.

Sheriff

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

Monday, March 7

Juan Altamirano, 36, Mobeetie, was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety on a Potter County warrant for possession of a controlled substance.

Michelle Lynn Roberts, 35, homeless, was arrested for evading arrest with a motor vehicle.

John C. Schwind, 82

FORT WORTH — John C. Schwind, 82, passed away Sunday, March 6, 2005.

Funeral services are scheduled at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Andrew's St. Church. Catholic Burial will be in Greenwood Memorial Rosary will be at

6:30 p.m. Tuesday in Greenwood Chapel. John was born Feb. 19, 1923, in Breckenridge.

Schwind; sons, Kenneth Schwind and wife, Susan and Mickey Schwind and wife, Doris; special daughter, Julie Beat and husband, Mark and their children; grandchildren, Jennifer Brown and husband, Jack, Stephanie Boutwell and husband, Shawn, Kensie Schwind and Tanner Park. Schwind; and great-grandchildren, Rylan and Jaden.

SCHWIND, John C. - 1 p.m., St. Andrew's Catholic Church, Fort Worth. WILLIAMS, James E. "Chuck" — Graveside services, 10 a.m., Fairview Cemetery, Pampa.

Ambulance

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

Monday, March 7

9:30 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to Highway 152 and transported a patient(s) to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

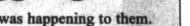
5:19 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 400 block of Faulkner and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

6:30 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 700 block of Lowry. No transport.

Correction

Incorrect times for auditions for ACT I's upcoming musical comedy "Coping" were given in a news release to The Pampa News. Auditions will be Thursday, March 10, from 5 to 7 p.m.; Saturday, March 12, from 2 to 4 p.m.; Tuesday, March 15, from 5 to 7 p.m.; and Thursday, March 17 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the ACT I theatre on the west side of Pampa Mall.





Accidents

Schwind

Services tomorrow_

Survivors: Wife of 56 years, Marjorie

The Bush administration is asking Texas to conduct new hearings for 51 Mexicans on death row who say they were denied legal help from their consulates in violation of international law.

The International Court of Justice in The Hague last year ruled that the convictions violated the 1963 Vienna Convention by not providing the Mexicans with consular access. In 1969, the



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which requires such access for Americans detained abroad and foreigners arrested in the United States.

The Supreme Court filing is an attempt by the administration to quell international criticism and comes a month before justices were to hear arguments in the case of Texas death row inmate Jose Medellin, who is challenging his conviction and sentence as a due process violation.

stemming from the nation's deadliest smuggling effort, said Williams was not responsible for the 19 deaths in 2003 even though he did transport the illegal immigrants.

carrying more than 70

immigrants was the most

"heartless and evil" mem-

ber of a smuggling ring

because he didn't help

people as they slowly died,

a prosecutor said Tuesday.

But Tyrone Williams'

attorney, in opening state-

ments of the first trial

Defense attorney Craig Washington said Williams would have helped the immigrants who screamed for help and tried to claw

HOUSTON (AP) - The their way out of the hot, driver of a tractor-trailer airless trailer, but he didn't speak Spanish and didn't

understand their cries. When the truck was discovered abandoned at a truck stop in Victoria, 17 people inside had died from dehydration, hyperthermia and suffocation, including a 5-year-old boy. Two others died later. Victoria is about 100 miles southwest of Houston.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel Rodriguez told jurors that Williams deliberately avoided learning the number of people the smugglers put in his truck as part of his efforts to not get caught by authorities.

Williams had smuggled immigrants for the same

ring before, Kodriguez said.

Rather than help the immigrants as they kicked out a signal light and cried for help, Rodriguez said Williams demanded more money from the other operators of the smuggling ring because he feared the immigrants would damage his truck.

"At no time during that entire trip did he ever open the doors to see what was going on," Rodriguez said. 'He was the most heartless, evil and cruel member of the organization."

Washington said his client did try to help the immigrants by offering them water, but that he couldn't understand what

"They will not prove that these poor, helpless, defenseless people died at his hands," Washington said of prosecutors.

Washington, a former congressman from Houston, also asked jurors why Williams is the only person among the 14 defendants who could receive the death penalty. Washington, who took that question to the U.S. Supreme Court, said other members of the same smuggling ring had more knowledge about the possible dangers involved in the smuggling attempt.

The Supreme Court refused Monday to hear Williams' appeal.

Gray County Weather

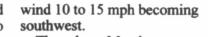
Today: A 20 percent with a north northwest wind chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly cloudy, with a high near 69. Wind chill values between 23 and 28 early. Windy, with a north northwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 32. Wind chill values between 25 and 30. Windy,

20 to 25 mph decreasing to between 10 and 15 mph. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high around 61. Wind chill values between 24 and 29 early. North northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low near 36. Wind chill values between 29 and 34. North northwest



Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high around 67. North northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 32. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north northwest.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high around 66. North northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 37. West southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high around 78. West wind between 15 and 20 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low near 37. Sunday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 64.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 41.

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CONGRATULATIONS FABY Soria. 1st Place 2400 m. run & 1600 m. run at Bulldog Relay, Fri., Mar. 4th.

BASEBALL /SOFTBALL COODER GRAW and Signups for Pampa Optimist Denim & Lance, live, Sat., Registration March 7-10 Mar. 12th, Fri. 11th-Blaine 5:30pm to 7:30pm Everyone Younger at the Lonestar. Must Register, Ronnie Hay- Tickets at Onies & Jiffy nes 665-6859, Kevin Davis Cleaners. \$2 longnecks til 10.

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The Pampa News — Tuesday, March 8, 2005

Business Review



Kitchen



Bedroom

Schneider House, a senior citizens community that feels like home ...

Semior Living at Its Best?

The Schneider House Apartments offers senior adults and disabled individuals a charming place to call home.

Located at 120 S. Russell, Schneider House Apartments in Pampa offers its residents all the comforts of home with a wide-variety of services and conveniences to make life easier and better.

"We want potential residents to see how comfortable and roomy our apartments actually are," said Debbie Sigala, apartment manager. Sigala said each apartment comes furnished with a stove, refrigerator and central heating and air conditioning.

In addition, an alert system is provided to each resident should they get into difficulty and need to signal for help.

"We have a laundry room downstairs, and an elevator to take you there," Sigala said, adding that in addition to the laundry facilities Schneider House runs an indoor mail service and has a modern grande lobby on its ground floor as well. Many Schneider House residents gather in the mornings for breakfast and fel-

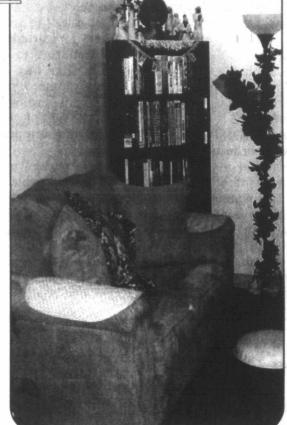
lowship. Besides a weekly movie night, residents may enjoy a multitude of fun and engaging activities such as the weekly country and gospel music night, craft days, parties, church services, cook-outs and much, much more.

Another advantage of living at Schneider House is that residents are within easy walking distance of downtown and have use of an attractive park directly across the street from the great, old-fashioned apartment building, the front of which has a long, sheltering overhang to shade residents who want to take to the air. A comfortable row of benches lines the shaded porch.

Rental rates are based upon income with medical deductions for disabled or senior citizens.

The Schneider House is a surprisingly affordable, independent living facility with utilities included and no maintenance required, Sigala said.

Schneider House is "Senior Living at Its Best!" For more information, contact Schneider House at 665-0415.



Living area



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hushusnner ylan - Tuesday, March 8, 2005 — The Pampa News



Books: Wonderful world of wit and wisdom

If brevity is the soul of wit, then I must be witless.

I enjoy language. English is a language with lots and lots of words, and I try to use as many of them as I can.

Ask me to give a oneword answer to a question? Impossible.

Tell me to keep my questions brief?

How? Why?

I can be brief if sufficiently tortured or bribed, but it's so much fun to spout off. Just ask any of the editors for whom I've worked.

Language is a wonderful, magical thing. The written word can transport us anywhere on or off the globe, and even to places that don't exist except in the writer's

imagination. In order to "studying" at that table was read what others had written, another whole library to learn anything, one must a blue dictionary. Somehow, first understand language, the means of conveying that learning.

I learned to read well before I started school, thanks in part to an older brother who was desperate for study time. I suffered a little from hero worship, I think, because I wanted to emulate him as much as possible.

Whenever he would study at the kitchen table, I'd take up my post at the opposite end of the table, wishing I had some studying to do, too, to keep him company and learn what he was learning.

The first book I remember

with family help (parents as well as big brother), one day I started to make sense of the words on the pages.

From that day on, Marilyn there was no stopping **Powers** me. **Staff Writer** think I the

first book I read cover to

and Jane." You know, the one that includes such wellremembered lines as "See Spot run? Run, Spot, run." Next, I learned to write.

Now the flow of information could go both ways. I could and I could write things that others could read.

I discovered that libraries would loan books that could be taken home, devoured,

> and returned in exchange for other books. I was in heaven. Before I graduated the from eighth grade

cover was "Fun With Dick at Skellytown, where I grew up. I must have gone through every book in the school library, as well as in the branch library on Main Street.

> When I attended White Deer High School, I had

plow through in my four years there. Next came West Texas State University, with the biggest library yet.

Owning books, as well as borrowing them, is also a glorious thing, I discovered. If I owned a book, I could reread it any time I wanted, without having to return it within a given time to its rightful home at a library. Whatever adventure was inside that book was at my command.

One of my favorite yearly events is the annual book sale at Lovett Memorial Library. I can spend hours pawing through the stacks of books available at bargain basement prices, searching

for ones that I don't already have or haven't already read. The book sale is usually held in the spring. Last year, the Friends of the Library had another one in the

autumn. As a result, I had two Thanksgiving weekends to celebrate last fall.

I cannot imagine what it would be like to be unable to read and write. The closest I can come to an idea of that situation would be to be lost in a foreign land, where I didn't understand the language and couldn't make myself understood. It might even come close to having partial loss of sight, sound or speech.

See BOOKS, Page 5

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, March 8, the 67th day of 2005. There are 298 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 8, 1782, the Gnadenhutten massacre took place as some 90 Indians were slain by militiamen in Ohio in retaliation for raids carried out by other Indians.

On this date:

In 1702, England's Queen Anne ascended the throne upon the death of King William III.

In 1841, Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr., the "Great Dissenter," was born in Boston.

In 1854, U.S. Commodore Matthew C. Perry made his second landing in Japan; within a month, he concluded a treaty with the Japanese.

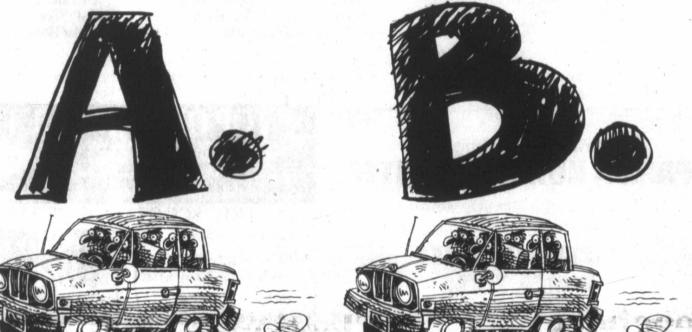
In 1874, the 13th president of the United States, Millard Fillmore, died in Buffalo, N.Y.

In 1917, Russia's "February Revolution" (so called because of the Old Style calendar being used by Russians at the time) began with rioting and strikes in St. Petersburg.

In 1917, the U.S. Senate voted to limit filibusters by adopting the cloture tile and and the rail of and

In 1930, the 27th president of the United States, William







Continued from

ing 'students would be added t tion overhaul legi

House debate begin Tuesday or finance overhaul week.

The transporta wasn't in the orig tion, but was pro effort to garner lawmakers from who said they



Pampa High S March 10, at 7 food and grea ers are our ve for the meal a at 665-0572.

eac

Howard laft, died in Washington.

In 1942, Japanese forces captured Rangoon, Burma, during World War II.

Letters Policy

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

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

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

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

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

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



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VIEW ROUGH AND BICKED THE WRONG CAR! HOW COULD YOU MAKE SUCH

A theologian's political legacy

behind the election and reelection of George W. Bush? On one level, the visionary Karl Rove. At a deeper level, a theologian most Americans have never heard of: Francis Schaeffer, who 50 years ago this month founded an evangelistic haven in Switzerland, L'Abri.

Over the next quarter-century, Schaeffer changed the lives of many disaffected young people who stopped at L'Abri and found an intellectual pastor who dealt with their hardest questions. He summarized his answers in notable books like "The God Who is There" and "Escape his book "How Should We Then Live."

Published in 1976 and Marvin then turned into a film Olasky series, that Columnist book – along the impetus of

the Supreme Court's 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision - pushed many evangelicals into political and cultural involvement. Schaeffer brilliantly summarized the history of Western civilization and explained problems in philosophy, sci-

with

Who's the major figure from Reason," and then ence and culture. He conturned to political matters in cluded that if Christians stayed aloof from political and cultural debates,

go

In a fol-

Manifesto" (1981), Schaeffer argued that:

"The people in the United States have lived under the Judeo-Christian consensus for so long that now we take it for granted. ... We have forgotten why we have a

positive balance between form and freedom in government, and the fact that we have such tremendous free-Western doms without these freecivilizadoms leading to chaos. Most tion would of all, we have forgotten that down none of these is natural in the world." the drain.

DARYL CAGLE HATE CON

Schaeffer went on to low-up describe two tracks, and did book, "A not predict which would be Christian dominant down the road. He wrote:

> "The first track is the fact of the conservative swing in the United States in the 1980 election. With this there is at this moment a unique win-

> > See LEGACY, Page 5



States ... and v advantage of it we can as Christian citi democracy in w have freedom."

He made it cl are in no way any kind of the the Old Testa was a theocrac ed by God," I must not c Kingdom of C country." He that "the Unite founded upon consensus," today should Christian pri play in regard ment. But that

Lebanon ernment in resigned under pressure from street protesters demanding that Syria withdraw its troops. In a rare show of post-Iraq war unity, the United States, France, Germany and Russia have all called on Syria to quit Lebanon and let that vassal state be free.

A Lebanese protester in Beirut Cornered, Mr. Assad shuttled to Riyadh late last week, hoping to secure the backing of his old friends the Saudis, in advance of an Arab summit at which the

U.S. responsible for Syria pull-out

Assad is having a very bad was up, and Saudi govern-

ment, which deserves our thanks and gratitude, Syria is now checkmated. There is nowhere for Syrian soldiers to go but home.

Syrian leader Bashar al- Syrians were expected to in securing peace and take it hard on the chin for Abdullah informed the

> to get out of Lebanon now. Thanks to the extraordinarily helpful role of the

democracy in Lebanon. It year. The Syrian puppet gov- their role in Lebanon. should be remembered that Shockingly, Crown Prince the reason the Syrians invaded in 1976 was to stop the Syrian leader that the game brutal civil war between Christians

> Texas Thoughts Muslims. Yet observers

Dallas Morning-News

scholar Fouad Ajami, himself a native Lebanese of Shiite background, believe that the country's religious factions have suffered so greatly in A Syrian withdrawal the past generation of war would be only the first step and occupation that they are

a n d

prepared to share their coun-

try with each other. The presence in recent weeks of Muslim and Christian Lebanese united in Beirut's streets, marching arm in arm for independence, has been a remarkable and uplifting

sight. No doubt, the Middle East can always break your heart, but this Beirut spring is startlike ing to look like an Arabic Mideast replay of 1989. "I was cynical about Iraq," said the Lebanese Druze warlord Walid Jumblatt. "But when I saw the Iraqi people voting three weeks ago, 8 million of

See SYRIA. Page 5

teaching pro health insurance be discussed as t tinues.

TCTA is an ir for 50.000 teach Based in Aus

ers association t to those directly allied work with

Training. Thi tunity for peopl learn more abou and dangers a storms. Those w will be certifie Weather Servic will receive a Co and a NWS Spo the individual if ily relay severe Amarillo NWS the NWS will e by meeting wit ested in being **NWS Cellular** S

• In the co

Taxes

Continued from Page 1

ing students to school would be added to the education overhaul legislation.

House debate expected to begin Tuesday on the school finance overhaul could last all week.

The transportation funding wasn't in the original legislation, but was promised in an effort to garner favor with lawmakers from rural areas who said they probably

wouldn't have voted for the measure otherwise.

"Running school buses is a major business in rural Texas," said Rep. Warren Chisum, R-Pampa. His Panhandle district has one 92mile daily bus route. The amendment would give schools money based on the number of miles buses must travel

Texas' formula for funding school transportation hasn't been updated since gasoline was under a dollar per gallon in 1983. Superintendents in many sparse but expansive

rural school districts say that the money allocated for transportation costs can be a fraction of the actual costs of hauling students to and from school every day.

Chisum and a handful of other rural lawmakers said they probably would not have supported the measure without the transportation fund-

But, the promise of additional transportation funding was not enough to sway all

rural representatives. "I think it's particularly harsh on rural districts," said

Rep. Tommy Merritt, R-Longview. "I believe that we have to use an across-theboard pay raise to recruit rural teachers. "We're going to lose our base and once we lose that important base for education, we're going to really have a hard time.'

Rep. Harvey Hilderbran, R-Kerrville, said he still has concerns about the impact of the legislation on his rural district.

"This will change on the floor of the House, it will change again in the Senate and it will change again in the conference committee," Hilderbran said. "We'll try to improve it on the floor with amendments, but I'll probably vote for it just to keep it alive. There'll be plenty of opportunities to improve it."

Replacing the funding system for public schools is a top priority in the session. Lawmakers are under a court order to funnel more money into public schools, which are now largely dependent on local property taxes. A group of property wealthy and poor school districts sued the state, saying they don't get enough

Books

Continued from Page 4

those who taught me how to

I am forever grateful to

Most everything I have

Express thanks to family

members and teachers who

gave you the skills to enable

learned began with those

The Pampa News — Tuesday, March 8, 2005 — 5

money to provide an adequate education to Texas children.

In addition, many lawmakers want to give homeowners relief from escalating property taxes.

The House plan would give schools an additional \$3 billion in funding over the next biennium and institutes teacher incentive pay programs based on student achievement. Critics say the new money would quickly be eaten up by inflation and other mandates in the bill, like the incentive pay program.

you to read this column. Tell adult literacy volunteers how important and needed their work is.

Better yet, look into volunteering a little time with the adult literacy council or your favorite library.

Then, reward yourself with a good book.

Write to Staff Writer Powers Marilyn at reporter1@thepampanews.com.

Syria

read and write.

two skills.

Continued from Page 4

them, it was the start of a new Arab world. The Berlin Wall has fallen."

Commander in Chief George W. Bush and the men and women of the U.S. armed forces were the ones started pushing. who Remember that.

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Evening of Jazz

Teachers

Pampa High School's Jazz Band, pictured here, will perform in the annual "Evening of Jazz" Thursday, March 10, at 7 p.m. in the Heritage Room of M.K. Brown Auditorium. "Evening of Jazz" is a night of fine food and great jazz music," said Greg Haddock, PHS Band Booster Club president. "Featured performers are our very own Pampa High School Jazz Band and other guest performers." Tickets are \$25 each for the meal and show. Tickets are available from any PHS band student or call Greg or Jacque Haddock at 665-0572.

Election



Continued from Page 1

teaching professionals salary increases and health insurance were important issues that would be discussed as the current legislative session continues.

TCTA is an independent, non-profit association for 50,000 teaching professionals across the state.

Based in Austin, it is the only statewide teachers association that limits active-level membership to those directly involved in classroom teaching or allied work with students.

Workshop

Continued from Page 1

Training. This is an excellent oppor-, tunity for people of the community to learn more about the types, structures, and dangers associated with severe storms. Those who attend this program will be certified as official National Weather Service Storm Spotters and will receive a Certificate of Completion and a NWS Spotter ID Card. It is up to the individual if they chose to voluntarily relay severe weather reports to the Amarillo NWS. For those interested, the NWS will end the morning session by meeting with anyone who is interested in being part of a newly formed NWS Cellular Skywarn Network.

• In the concurrent session, Dr.

p.m. weekdays in Room 205 of City Hall. Early voters in the school board election may cast their votes between 8 a.m. and 4:30

p.m. weekdays at Carver Center, 321 W. Albert. Applications for mail-in bal-

Climatological Survey, will speak on

"Basic Radar Interpretations for Decision Makers." While this session is

open to anyone, it will be geared to

those involved in emergency manage-

ment. This session will be followed by

an coordination meeting to area

Amateur Radio Operators and the

Amarillo Emergency Services. Anyone

interested in being a part of the Ha.m.S

Skywarn network are encouraged to

begin at 1 p.m. Topics and speakers for

The afternoon general session will

• "A Look Back at the Historic June

21st, 2004 Amarillo Hailstorm" - Jason

"Looking Back & Looking

Forward – Panhandle Tornadoes 1950-

2004" -Mark Fox, Lubbock NWS Sr.

Jordan, Amarillo NWS Forecaster

attend this meeting.

this session include:

mailed to Phyllis Jeffers, P.O. Box 2499, Pampa, 79065. Applications must be received by 5 p.m. April 29.

Election Day is Saturday, May 7. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. that day at M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium, for lots for the city election may be both elections.

Kevin Kloesel, of the Oklahoma Forecaster

Continued from Page 1

• "Detecting Tornadoes by Radar: The Past, Present, and Future" - Dr. Kevin Kloesel Oklahoma **Climatological Survey**

· "Tornado Safety: How Things Have Changed Since 1950" - Texas Tech Wind Engineering Dept.

· Presentations will also be made by TV Meteorologists Dave Oliver (KFDA) and Matt Hines (Ka.m.R).

Numerous booths will also be on hand. As many as 25 organizations are expected to staff booths, including the Amarillo NWS, Amarillo Emergency Mgt., Radio Shack, Amateur Radio Operators, Pantex, local TV stations, weather vendors, and more.

For additional information, please call the Amarillo NWS at (806) 335-1121 or visit our website at www.srh.noaa.gov/ama.

Continued from Page 4

dow open in the United States ... and we must take advantage of it in every way we can as citizens, as Christian citizens of the democracy in which we still have freedom."

He made it clear that: "We are in no way talking about any kind of theocracy. ... In the Old Testament, there was a theocracy commanded by God," but now "we must not confuse the Kingdom of God with our country." He emphasized that "the United States was founded upon a Christian consensus," and that "we today should bring Judeo-Christian principles into play in regard to govern-

ent from a theocracy in name or in fact." emphasized the He

movement=

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authoritarian

government

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importance of working politically to maintain first track opportunities, because otherwise we'd be on a sec- a time when some hard-line ond track -

tend to do the very opposite from considering the appropriate means at the appropriate time and place." Schaeffer died in 1984, at Christian sep-

aratists still looked down 'We are in no on political way talking involvement as cavorting about any kind with Satan, of theocracy." and a few romantics vearned for

the second Francis Schaeffer track. Many Theologian evangelical

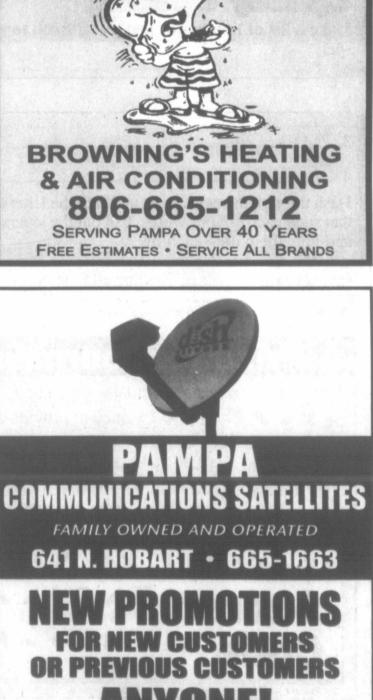
thought leaders, though, and that would contain its had absorbed Schaeffer's teaching, which then trick-"Speaking of civil disobe- led down to millions more.

dience is frightening because The result was political there are so many kooky organization and pulpit ment. But that is very differ- people around. ... Such peo- exhortation that propelled

ple will in their unbalance evangelicals to the polls, where they overwhelmingly voted for conservative candidates, including George W. Bush. Karl Rove is one among many who said the evangelical vote made the difference.

> Since Schaeffer welcomed the election of Ronald Reagan, he would have applauded the 2004 results. He would see great dangers in genetic manipulation and would mourn the continuation of the abortion holocaust. But I believe he would advise us to work hard for first track political success, because neglecting politics and law is 'absolutely utopian in a fallen world.' ***

Marvin Olasky, Ph.D., is a professor of journalism at the University of Texas at Austin.



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Tuesday, March 8, 2005 — The Pampa News



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FWG ting tested? AMP cer.



DEAR ABBY: Imagine if, by applying what we already know, we could save the majority of lives that are lost to the third-leading cause of cancer in men and women. That's no pie-in-the-sky dream. I'm talking about colon cancer. Regular testing can help prevent this disease or detect it at its earliest, most treatable stage.

This year, colon cancer will claim the lives of more than 56,000 Americans. That's more than 150 deaths a day, many of them preventable. The tests allow doctors to remove polyps before they can become cancerous, and prevent colon cancer from happening. These same tests can also detect early signs of the disease as effectively as mammography detects breast cancer. So why aren't Americans over the age of 50 get-

Many people simply do not realize they're at risk beginning at age 50. Some people think they don't need to be tested because they have no family history of the disease or symptoms. The truth is, symptoms often don't appear until colon cancer has progressed, and no matter what a person's family history or how someone feels, if you're 50 or older you're at risk for colon can-

There is also the perception that the test will be embarrassing or painful. While some of the tests may be uncomfortable, colon cancer is far worse.

older, now is the time to get tested for colon cancer. People with a family history of the disease or other risk factors should discuss with their doctors getting tested even earlier.

Abby, March marks the sixth annual National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. It's a perfect time to start raising this important FORNIA subject and making sure that Americans get the test that could save their lives. Do it NOW. Don't will spare yourself a lot of heartput it off. It's one of the few cancer burn if you realize that you can-

pleased to help publicize this important message. Readers, if there is a history of colon cancer in your family, please discuss it with your doctors, regardless of your age. If you're lucky and there isn't one, but you're 50 or nearly there, recognize that adulthood brings with it certain responsibilities. So don't be childish, don't be embarrassed and don't be afraid. The exam isn't painful. The biggest "inconvenience" is the preparation for it. Consider it an initiation into a special club -- the long-life club.

The American Cancer Society offers a free information kit to help you discuss colon cancer testing with your physician. To get one, call toll-free: (800) 227-2345 and stop colon cancer before it starts. *****

DEAR ABBY: I am a 28-yearold, American-born Asian woman, whose tradition-bound, first-generation mother insists that I, or another person in our family, share a portion of our meal with her even though she has already eaten and we have not. This is acceptable behavior in her home, but is it appropriate for her to continue this behavior in public?

For example, my mother, my aunt, my cousin's three children and husband and I went out to dinner at a steakhouse, and my mother insisted that I slice a portion of Bottom line: If you're 50 or my steak and share it with my cousin, who had already started to eat her entree of pasta. Not wanting to create a scene, I obliged. Mother becomes angry with me when I try to explain that this is not proper etiquette. She calls me selfish for not wanting to share. What do you suggest I do? -- FRUS-TRATED DAUGHTER IN CALI-

DEAR FRUSTRATED: You

For Better Or Worse









Beetle Bailey



tests that can actually prevent the disease. -- STEPHEN F. SENER, M.D., PRESIDENT, AMERICAN **CANCER SOCIETY**

Yesterday's answe

22 Afternoon 36 Zeus' wife

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46 Trades 47 Building wing

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DEAR DR. SENER: I am share.

Marmaduke

2

not change your mother. So, when you are at a restaurant with her, order a larger portion than you normally would, beat her to the punch and offer to

"Planning a lengthy stay?"

"We'll be the good guys and you're the insurgents!"

The Family Circus

3-8









Flo & Friends



Blondie

- Tuesday, March 8, 2005 - The Pampa News

Sports Day

PHS soccer and softball fields come to life tonight **By MICHAEL J. STEVENS Sports Editor**

The Pampa High School soccer fields – as well as the Lady Harvester softball field - will be busy this afternoon. -The Pampa soccer team, still with a chance at the play-

offs, will host Canyon at 4:15 p.m.

-The Lady Harvester soccer team will host the Lady Eagles of Canyon. That game will also begin at 4:15 p.m.

-The Lady Harvester softball teams will take the diamond starting with the JV game at 3 p.m., followed by the varsity squad.

-The Pampa baseball team will be in Snyder starting Thursday. The JV team hosted Amarillo High yesterday.

Pampa, Follett honored at MAYO tournament

The 5-6 grade Follett girls and Pampa boys took top honors at the MAYO tournament in Miami over the weekend.

The tournament began last Tuesday and wrapped up this past Saturday.

The Follett and Pampa were awarded the Katie Underwood (girls) and Bill Seuhs (boys) Memorial Sportsmanship trophies. These awards represent the highest honor at the tournament.

The tournament raised funds for the families of Tim Parsley and Andy Hogg. It also contributed funds for the Find Monica Foundation.

Final figures are not in yet, but early estimates predict this year's MAYO Tournament was another great success.

K-2 Girls 1st- Miami Enbridge

2nd- Valley

K-2 Boys 1st- Valley 2nd-Pampa 3rd-Miami 1

3-4 Girls

1st- First State Bank of Miami 2nd-Follett 3rd- Hedley 3-4 Boys 1st- Valley 2nd- Wheeler (4) 3rd-Pampa 4th-Miami Consolation-Wheeler (3)

5-6 Girls 1st- Cheyenne, Okla. 2nd-Pampa **3rd-Shamrock** 4th- Valley **Consolation-Miami** 5-6 Boys

1st-Pampa **2nd- Pringle Morse** 3rd- Valley what shall of 4th-Wheeler (5) stat: Consolation- Wheeler (6)

JV squad goes 4-1 at Dumas **By MICHAEL J. STEVENS** Sports Editor

The Lady Harvester junior varsity softball team finished third in last week's Dumas Tournament, going 4-1 along the way.

Pampa took care of Tascosa, 14-0, Caprock 11-2, Dalhart, 5-2 and Tascosa (second meeting), 18-2.

The Lady Harvesters fell to WT High varsity for their only loss

Said Owens, "It was the first time these girls have ever played four games in one day and I'm so proud of them. They did a great job." He added, "Over all we had a great tournament, going 4-1. We learned a lot and we got better. I'm very proud of the team."

Pampa is currently 5-1 on the season.

BORGER TRACK MEET

Smith, Haggerman nab first place

Here are the Pampa Junior High boys results from the Borger Track Meet held March 4. Pampa will next compete at Plainview Thursday.

8th Grade 2400 Run: 2nd place, Paul Soria 9:18.00; 5th place, Jesus Quesada 9:57.04 400m Relay: 3rd place, Pampa 50:58 (John Luke Covalt, Chase Herriman, Casey Trimble, Sergio Salazar) 110m Hurdles: 1st place,

Matt Smith 16:47 800m Relay: 3rd place, Pampa 1:50.28 (John Luke Covalt, Chase Herriman, Zack Doan, Casey Trimble) 200m Dash: 1st place, Matt Smith 24:69; 4th place, John Luke Covalt 27:83

1600m Run: 3rd place, Paul Soria 6:02.23, 5th place, Zack Doan 6:13.76 1600m Relay: 1st place, Pampa 4:00.45 (Casey Trimble, Chase Herriman, Sergio Salazar, Matt Smith) Millikan 97' High Jump: 5th place, John Luke Covalt 4'8" Long Jump: 3rd place,

Casey Trimble 16'10"; 4th place, Sergio Salazar 16' 5" Pole Vault: 2nd place, Nick Riley 8'; 3rd place,

Chase Herriman 7"6" **7th Grade**

400m Relay: 2nd place, Pampa 53.25 (Leonel Madrid, Zack Organ, A.J. Rodriquez, Travis Hagerman)

100m Dash: 2nd place, A.J. Rodriquez 13:16; 5th place, Landon Long 15:30

400m Dash: 5th place. Zack Organ 72:60

200m Dash: 1st place, Travis Hagerman 26:72 1600m Relay: 2nd place,

Pampa 4:38 (Leonel Madrid, Anthony Allen, A.J. Rodriguez, Travis Hagerman)

Shot Put: 1st place, Travis Hagerman 36' 5"

Discus: 1st place, Travis Hagerman 90'3" . Long Jump: 6th place, Leonel Madrid 13'4"



Court papers

This group of young future Lady Harvesters recently competed in the Lefors Youth Club Tournament, going 4-0 en route to winning the 3-4 grade division. They also took part in the Panhandle Youth Basketball League where they won the 3-4 grade division, going 10-0 along the way. Pictured are (from left to right), front row-Jessie Dixon, Savanna Mertz, Alexa O'brien and Bailey Dixon. Back row- Taylor Morgan, Bailey Wichert, Arin Rice and Bailey Beck.

Softball leagues forming

The City of Pampa for all Mixed Leagues. **Recreation Department will** be offering the following leagues for spring softball:

-Men's Open -Mixed Open

-Men's Church -Mixed Church

In addition, two new leagues will be offered this spring, Men's Corporate League and company teams (players must work for the company that they play for).

There will also be a Mixed Vouth League (teams made of male and

The entry deadline is March 16 at 5 p.m. There will be no teams added after this date.

Schedules will be available after 1 p.m. March 23, at the recreation office, now located in City Hall, 200 West Foster, room 204.

Play will begin the week of March 28.

Roster forms, fact sheets and bylaws are available at the recreation office, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. They can also be downfemale players age 16 to 18 loaded from the city's web site, www.cityofpampa.org. If you have any questions or would like more information on the spring softball leagues, please contact the recreation office at 669-5740 during regular business hours.

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The entry fees or sponsor's fees for teams are \$200.00 per team. The player's fee is \$15.00 per player with a minimum of 11 persons for all Men's Leagues, and 12 persons

POYC baseball, softball registrations under way

Monday was the first day to register for Pampa Optimist Baseball/Softball 2005, and 124 players took advantage, according to Haynes,

Registration continues today through Thursday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at

*** Your family and domestic life give you a morning jolt. Though you might not be 100 percent content, on the positive side, you are wide awake and ready to go. Flow, and you'll discover that everything works out. Tonight: Buy flowers or a plant on your

you shaking your head this morning. You could choose to be upset, or let it go. Give others the benefit of the doubt. Make an important call you have been putting off. Tonight: Catch up on anoth-

*** You pull the wild card financialservatively and don't take a risk that you cannot afford. Do buy a card or token of affection for a loved one. Of course, you might indulge yourself, too. Tonight: Treat someone as you

**** You continue to surprise others with your actions. You could be changing rapidly -- mentally and emotionally. Be generous with those around you. Make an extra effort toward a loved one or a friend you have ignored.

"We had 31 sign-up for softball, 27 in the T-Ball League, 28 in the Pitching Machine League, 14 in the 9-10 Cal Ripken League, 18 in the 11-12 Cal Ripken League and six in the Babe Ruth League," Haynes said.

"Last year players from Miami, Lefors, Claude, Panhandle, Clarendon, White Deer and Skellytown played in our program," Haynes continued. "Miami is having their sign-ups Wednesday. McLean, Fort Elliott and Wheeler have requested the opportunity to play with us this year. We think the competition from the surrounding towns makes it more fun for everybody."

Haynes also requested that any player still having Optimist football equipment bring it with them when they register. "We need to get our football equipment inventoried and get our orders in for the equipment we need to replace," Haynes said.

Optimist baseball and softball is for boys and girls from five to 15 years of age. In addition to the five baseball leagues, the club offers softball for girls seven to nine, 10 to 12 and 13 to 15.

Registration fees are \$35 for T-Ball and Pitching Machine baseball and softball leagues, \$60 for Babe Ruth and \$45 for all other leagues.

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

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Cafe. No phone calls. JOHNSON Home Furnishings Is Now Taking Applications. Apply At 801 W. Francis St. YARD / Sales Person,

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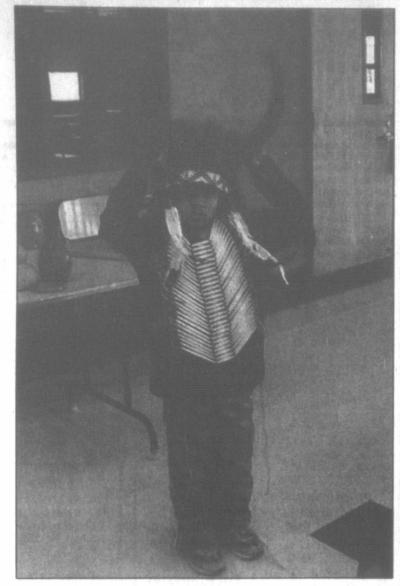
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\$128 QN mattress set, brand new never used with warranty, QN Pillow top double sided mattress set new, still pkgd, warr, , sell \$199, Full Pillow top	EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY All real estate advertised herein is subject to the	3 bedroom, 2 car gar., basement, new carpet & paint. Call 665-4842.	Super Duty, pwr stroke diesel, 4x4, loaded, 114,000 mi., \$18,900 2001 Chevy Ext.
Double sided mattress set new, still pkgd, warr, sell \$169, Full size mat- tress set new, never used \$89, \$170 King mattress set, brand new, still pkgd,	Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it ille- gal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion,	3/1/1 New Carpet, Fenced. 321 Jean. Owner Will Carry. Call 665- 5276.	Cab Shortbed LS, loaded, \$8950 2001 Saturn 4 dr. SLR2, 67,000 mi., \$5950
warranty, \$218 King Pil- low top mattress set, brand new, still pkgd, warranty, Queen Cherry sleigh bed, new, still boxed, List \$750 sell	sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limita- tion, or discrimination." State law also forbids	4 bdr., 1 3/4 ba., 1 car gar., sunroom, new car- pet, paint, etc. Good loca- tion! 665-4842.	urban, 4 wh. dr., \$8950 2001 Dodge Quad
\$350, new 7 pc QN cherry wood bdrm set w/sleigh bed, still boxed, sell \$999, new 7 pc QN Pinewood bdrm set w/4 poster bed, still boxed, \$999. Call	discrimination based on these factors. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in viola- tion of the law. All per-	BY Owner 2547 Duncan. Below appr. \$76K. 3/2/2. Great deal on nice home! 665-0008, 282-5205.	Cab Laramie SLT, 79,000 mi., \$10,500 2002 Ford Tau- rus, 110,000 mi., \$5950
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is One letter stan for the three L's, apostrophes, the l	A X Y D L B A A X H L O N G F E L L O ds for another. In this X for the two O's, o ength and formation o the code letters are diff CRYPTOQUOTE	W sample, A is used etc. Single letters, of the words are all	1997 Chevy Ext. Cab Z-71, \$7950 D&:M Auto Sales 820 W. Foster 662-6873 665-5374 662-9586
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10 - Tuesday, March 8, 2005 - The Pampa News



Trunk show

Chase Brown, kindergartner at Lamar Elementary School, models some Native American artifacts provided by Ray Thornton of Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon. Thornton recently presented a trunk show to Lamar kindergarten students on the American Indian.

China stepping up pressure in Taiwan

BEIJING (AP) — China deputy chairman of the conunveiled a law Tuesday authorizing an attack if Taiwan moves toward formal independence, increasing pressure on the selfruled island while warning other countries not to interfere. Taiwan denounced the legislation as a "blank check to invade" and announced

gress' Standing Committee, told the nearly 3,000 members gathered in the Great Hall of the People.

Beijing claims Taiwan, which split from China since 1949, as part of its territory. The communist mainland repeatedly has threatened to invade if Taiwan tries to make its independ-

Foreign affairs **Protesters** making impression BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP)

- Nearly 200,000 pro-Syrian protesters waved flags, chanted and whistled in a central Beirut square Tuesday, answering a nationwide call by the militant Shiite Muslim Hezbollah group for a demonstration to counter weeks of massive rallies demanding Syrian forces leave Lebanon.

Loudspeakers blared songs of resistance and organizers handed out Lebanese flags and directed the men and women to separate sections of the square. Demonstrators held up pictures of Syrian President Bashar Assad and signs saying, "Syria & Lebanon brothers forever." Black-clad Hezbollah guards handled security, lining the perimeter of the square and taking position on rooftops. Trained dogs sniffed for bombs.

Large cranes hoisted two giant red-and-white flags bearing Lebanon's cedar tree. On one, the words, "Thank you Syria," were written in English; on the other, "No to foreign interference."

The demonstration was in front of U.N. offices. Hezbollah opposes the U.N. resolution drafted by the United States and France last year calling for Syria's withdrawal from Lebanon.

The square was just a few blocks from another downtown square where opposition protesters have been demonstrating for days, demanding that Syria withdraw the 14,000 troops it maintains in Lebanon, Nations, including the United States, also demand that Syria withdraw its intelligence agents. A day after the Syrian and Lebanese leaders announced that Syrian forces would redeploy to eastern Lebanon before the nations discuss a full withdrawal, most of the troops were still in position, with Associated Press reporters in the mountains overlooking Beirut seeing only scattered movement of military trucks heading toward the Bekaa Valley. A truck carrying 11 soldiers and supplies headed east at midmorning but most of the military traffic was moving in the other direction. Scores of cars also headed toward western Lebanon and the capital, Beirut, bearing passengers waving Lebanese flags on their way to a Beirut protest. Hezbollah, a Shiite Muslim group, has been mobilizing its followers from across the country for the protest, also meant to denounce the U.N. resolution that also called for dismantling militias.

Witness testifies of molestation by pop star

SANTA MARIA, Calif. (AP) — The 14-year-old brother of Michael Jackson's described the accuser allegations molestation against the singer for the first time, saying he saw Jackson touching his brother as the boy slept on the singer's bed. He said that he twice saw

Jackson masturbating with one hand while the other was in his brother's underwear. He did not state the dates of the incidents, which the prosecution says followed a February 2003 TV documentary in which Jackson appeared with the boy at his Neverland ranch.

"I didn't know what to do." the witness said, adding that he watched both incidents for a few seconds before going to a guest room. Speaking calmly, directly and unemotionally, the boy said the alleged molestations occurred two days apart.

The defense says the allegations are a fiction created by the children's mother in an attempt to extort money from the pop star. The accuser's brother faced more questioning Tuesday.

The boy said the molestations occurred sometime after Jackson had shown him and his brother sexually explicit magazines kept in a suitcase in his bedroom. "We all looked at them one at a time," he said.

The defense has said Jackson had "girlie" magazines in his house but never showed them to children.

District Attorney Tom Sneddon projected on a courtroom screen the covers of magazines, including one called Barely Legal that depicted a young woman with her breasts exposed.

Jackson, 46, is accused of molesting a 13-year-old cancer survivor at Neverland, giving him alcohol and conspiring to hold the family captive to get them to rebut a damaging documentary in which Jackson said he allowed children to sleep in his bedroom.

'I didn't know what to do." -Trial witness

The accuser's brother also described an incident in which Jackson grabbed a mannequin that he kept in his bedroom and "he pretended like he was having intercourse with it" on a bed while fully clothed and laughing.

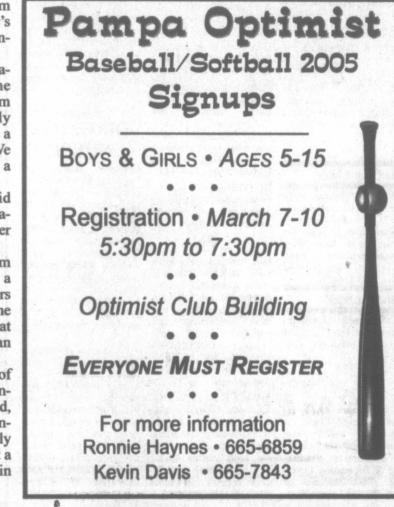
Jurors were shown a photo of a mannequin depicting a girl with braids.

The brother said Jackson had once asked him if he ever masturbated. The boy said he answered no. "Then he said to me, 'Everyone does it. You should try it. It's OK," the witness said of Jackson.

He also told of Jackson conducting drinking parties with his young boy guests in which he served them wine and called it "Jesus juice."

The witness said that on the night he discovered Jackson with his brother, he pushed open the door to Jackson's room and, "I saw directly onto the bed. I saw my brother was outside the covers. I saw Michael's left hand in my brother's underwears and I saw his right hand in his underwears," he said.





'If possibilities for a peaceful reunification should be completely exhausted, the state shall employ nonpeaceful means and other necessary measures to protect China's sovereignty and territorial integrity."

— Wang Zhaoguo Deputy chairman of the congress 'Standing Committee

repelling an attack.

The proposed anti-secession law, read out for the first time before the ceremonial National People's Congress, doesn't specify resolving disputes, as what actions might invite a Taipei prepared for an inva-Chinese attack.

"If possibilities for a peaceful reunification should be completely exhausted, the state shall employ nonpeaceful means and other necessary measures to protect China's sovereignty and territorial Defense Ministry integrity," Wang Zhaoguo, spokesman Liu Chih-chien.

ence permanent, and the new law doesn't impose any new conditions or make new threats. It lays out for the first time legal requirements for military action. Taiwan's Mainland Affairs Council, which handles the island's China policy, said the law gives China's military "a blank check to invade Taiwan" and "exposed the

nists' attempt to war games aimed at use force to annex Taiwan and to be a regional power."

Chinese commu-

The island's vice president, Annette Lu, accused Beijing of violating international norms for peacefully sion.

Large-scale military exercises would be held from mid-April to August, with troops practicing knocking down Chinese missiles and fighting communist commandos, said Taiwan's Ministry

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g her message

NEW YORK (AP) — A beaming Martha Stewart told several hundred employees that the lessons she learned from a cross-section of people she met during five months in federal prison will be reflected in her company.

Stewart said on her first day back at work Monday that Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Inc. has focused too much in the past on technical aspects of entertaining and cooking, and not enough on why people need to take care of each other.

"We're going to deepen our bond with the millions who read our publications and watch our television programs," Stewart said. "We're going to engage and inspire new readers and new viewers for whom these topics may have seemed alien, unfamiliar or even - believe it or not - superficial."

As if to confirm her new down-to-earth image, Stewart pulled out a much-photographed poncho she wore when released from prison on Friday, saying it did not come from a fancy store, but was crocheted by a

fellow inmate.

"The night before I left she handed me this... and said, 'Wear it in good health," Stewart said. "I hope she is reading the news and looking at television because I'm so proud of her."

Whether or not Stewart has emerged from prison a changed woman may not matter as far as her company goes, observers said. They said the new strategy is brilliant for turning around Stewart's multimedia empire, which has struggled with a string of losses and sales declines since news surfaced in June 2002 about her questionable stock sale.

"Her prison experience can be used as a new and powerful brand asset," said John Barker, president of DZP Marketing Communications, based in New York. "What prison has done is to make her more fallible. There is this opportunity to make Martha more approachable, more empathetic." Company officials declined to comment

on the details of the new approach.