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MICHIGANTOWN, Ind. (AP) — A turtle that was the only survivor of a pet shop fire may have emerged with a hellish memento.

The palm-sized redeared slider turtle, named Lucky, was the only animal to survive a fire last October at Dora's A-Dorable Pet Shop in nearby Frankfort, about 40 miles northwest of Indianapolis.

Owner Bryan Dora now says he sees an image of Satan's face on the critter's shell. He can spot lips, eyes, a goatee, shoul-ders and a pair of pointy horns on Lucky's back. "The marking on the

shell was like the devil wanted us to know he was down there," Bryan Dora

# **Finance** director on agenda

By DAVID BOWSER Staff Writer

Pampa City Commissioners will consider appointment of a new financial director when they meet Tuesday afternoon.

City Manager John Horst, the city's former financial director, has continued to function as financial director since his appointment to city manager last year.

The city commission will also consider authorizing bids for the 2005 seal coat proj-

Commissioners will consider the purchase of a scraper for the city landfill form Buy Board Purchasing Cooperative. The city will trade in one scraper on a new \$235,000 scraper. With the \$37,000 trade in value on the used scraper, the city will pay \$198,000.

The price for the new scraper, Public Works Director Richard Morris said, will increase 4.5 percent, or about \$10,575, if the purchase approval is delayed.

The commission will also hear the city's 2004 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, and they are expected to adopt the National Incident Management Systems as the city's standard command and control system during emergency operations.

They will also discuss the city's 2005-2006 proposed compensation plan.

Commissioners will hear reports from Chuck White concerning the Coronado Inn property, Darville Orr of the Gray County Appraisal District, Animal Control Supervisor concerning the city's new forensic search and rescue dog, Fire Chief Kim Powell concerning a federal grant for a fire truck and PEDC President Doug Locke concerning the dissolution of the economic development corporation.

Horst will report on the city budget and

See CITY, Page 3



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

#### Fire investigation

Pampa Fire Marshal Gary Stevens looks into a bedroom room of a house at 533 S. Barnes as he works to determine the cause of the fire that destroyed the home Sunday evening. After investigating, Stevens concluded that an electric cord in this bedroom set the fire. The home's occupant, Lazaro Rosalez Jr., was not at home when the fire broke out, fire officials said. Six fire trucks and 11 firefighters were called to extinguish the blaze at 7:48 p.m. Sunday. Stevens said this is the ninth structure fire he has investigated in the past 11

# Both sides in Schiavo dispute await hearing

PINELLAS PARK, Fla. (AP) — The parents of Terri Schiavo asked a judge to reinsert the brain-damaged woman's feeding tube Monday, following an extraordinary political fight that consumed both chambers of Congress and prompted the president to rush back to the White House.

An attorney for Schiavo's parents, Bob and Mary Schindler, arrived at federal district court in Tampa and filed a request for an emergency injunction to keep their daughter fed.

It was assigned to U.S. District Judge James Whittemore, who was nominated to the court in 1999 by President Clinton. He set a hearing

for Monday afternoon, according to a court Web site.

David Gibbs II, attorney for the parents, said the judge had sent a message saying he was reviewing the filings in the case.

During the hours leading up to the hearing, a few demonstrators appeared outside the federal courthouse, saying they were praying for Whittemore. Only a few people stayed outside the hospice where Terri Schiavo has been a resident, while others said they planned to return during the afternoon.

Earlier Monday, the House, fol-

See **DISPUTE**, Page 3



## Celebrating St. Patrick's Day in Shamrock

Cade Woods, 6, of Pampa, left, wears green and gold bead necklaces that were thrown to people watching Shamrock's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. A number of local residents and organizations participated in the parade, including Lefors Volunteer Fire Department and E.M.S., right.

#### **Congress votes** to give woman's parents access to federal court

WASHINGTON (AP) -The White House said Monday that an extraordinary law allowing a federal court to intervene in the Terri Shaivo case was narrowly tailored and not intended as a precedent for Congress to step into battles over the fate of seriously disabled or terminally ill patients.

President Bush, who rushed back to the White House from Texas, was awakened to sign the bill shortly after it was approved by the House at 12:42 a.m. Monday and then rushed to him by staff secretary Brett Kavanaugh. Bush stepped

See ACCESS, Page 3

#### **Mella Laura Mitchell Hill, 102**

SHAMROCK — Mella Laura Mitchell Hill, 102, died Friday, March 18, 2005. Services were scheduled at 2:30 p.m. today in Shamrock Church of Christ with Pastors Cottie Tarbet and Bob Thomas officiating.

A member of the Church of Christ, Mrs. Hill loved her children and enjoyed doing arts and crafts.

She was one of the oldest registered citizens in Shamrock and was recognized four different times during the city's annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

Mrs. Hill married Ranous Hill on Nov. 26, 1924. He preceded her in death.

Mrs. Hill was also preceded in death by a

daughter, Patricia Joyce Hill; seven brothers; and a sister.

Survivors include her children, Dorthy Glazner and husband Doyle of Dosier, Melvin Hill and wife Barbara and Lena Cook and husband, the late W.D. Cook, all of Shamrock, Kay Huckabee and husband Don of Friona and June Dressler and husband Robert of Dallas; 14 grandchildren including Regina Woods of Pampa; 17 greatgrandchildren including Kevin and Jeree Woods and Keith and ReDonn Woods, all of Pampa; and seven great-great-grandchildren including Kade, Taylor and Autumn Woods, all of Pampa.

#### **Emergency Services**

#### Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents and arrest. Saturday, March 19

Ten traffic stops were made. A vehicle accident was reported at 23rd and Hobart streets. Traffic complaints were received from the 2700 block of Seminole and the 1000 block of North Sumner.

Disorderly conduct/noise was reported in the 1000 block of East Francis, the 700 block of North Lefors, and the 1100 block of South Nelson.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported at the intersection of 23rd and Rosewood streets.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 400 block of North Nelson. A vehicle window was shot out, for estimated damage of \$250.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 500 block of North Dwight. A vehicle window was shot out, for estimated damage of **\$300**.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 500 block of North Nelson. A window was shot out, for estimated damage of \$250.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 400 block of North Wells. Vehicle windows were shot out front to back, for estimated damage of \$1,000.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 400 block of North Nelson. A vehicle window was broken out, for estimated damage of \$200.

A call concerning criminal mischief was cial responsibility. received from the 900 block of South Nelson.

Law enforcement assistance was rendered in the 2200 block of North Nelson and the 1300 block of South Hobart.

One business and one residential alarm were reported.

Welfare checks were made in the 1000

block of North Wells and the 800 block of East Browning. Theft was reported at McDonald's

Restaurant, 1201 N. Hobart. Money was taken from a wallet. Estimated loss is \$80. Two instances of theft were reported in

the 1400 block of Williston. In each instance, a bicycle valued at \$100 was taken.

Found property was reported in the 1400 block of Williston. A bicycle was

300 block of North Sumner.

Medical Plaza and in the 100 block of South Starkweather. An offense against family was reported

from the 400 block of Magnolia. Disorderly conduct/other was reported

in the 500 block of North Hobart.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 300 block of North Hobart and the 200 block of South Nelson.

Sunday, March 20

complaints were made from the 300 block of North Hobart and the 1300 block of Charles Street. A hit and run accident was reported in the 2200 block of North Sumner.

A missing person call was received form the 500 block of North Starkweather. A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 900 block of North Hobart.

Driving while intoxicated was reported in the intersection of Wilks and Hobart

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 700 block of North Lefors.

Law enforcement assistance was rendered in the 900 block of Duncan and the

intersection of Baer and Alcock streets. An offense against family was reported

in the lobby of the police department. Three business alarms were reported.

Disorderly conduct/noise was reported in the 300 block of Roberta and the 300 block of North Christy.

Burglary was reported at Thai Delight Restaurant, 1201 N. Hobart. Food, sodas and cash were taken, for an estimated loss of \$225.

Possible burglary was reported in the 900 block of South Wells.

Three instances of theft were reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart. Two of the instances involved a bicycle.

Theft was reported in the 2200 block of Williston. A bicycle valued at \$100 was

Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of North Somerville. Graffiti was found on a fence.

Criminal mischief was reported in the police department lobby. The passengerside door of a vehicle was scratched.

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1000 block of Crane Road. The report concerns a silver Mustang

Disorderly conduct/other was reported in the police department lobby.

An animal complaint was received in the 600 block of East Craven.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 600 block of North Wells.

A domestic disturbance call was received from the 1300 block of Coffee. Fire department assistance was rendered

in the 500 block of Barnes.

Zachary Wade Skinner, 19, 2136 Coffee, was arrested at the intersection of Kentucky and Wells streets for no valid driver's license, failure to maintain financial responsibility, and failure to appear.

#### Sheriff

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

Sunday, March 20

Amanda Baldridge, 26, 1000 Huff Road, was arrested for Pampa Police Department for failure to maintain finanecc after Gov. Jeb Bush

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

Fire

Saturday, March 19

11:35 p.m. - Five units and nine firefighters responded to a structure fire in the 700 block of North Banks. The vacant house was fully involved when firefighters arrived. Firefighters contained the fire and kept it from spreading to other structures. The house was destroyed. Cause of the fire has not been determined.

Sunday, March 20

11:40 a.m. - One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 1900 block of North Christy.

7:48 p.m. - Six units and 11 firefighters Criminal trespass was reported in the responded to a structure fire in the 500 block of South Barnes. The fire marshal Harassment was reported at One was investigating the cause of the fire at press time today.

#### **Ambulance**

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, March 19

12:44 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit Fifteen traffic stops were made. Traffic responded to the 1200 block of Hamilton and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

> 2:59 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1300 block of Charles and transported a patient to PRMC.

> 3:34 p.m. – A mobile ICU unit responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient to PRMC.

5:37 p.m. – A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient to a

local nursing facility. 9:39 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1100 block of Alcock. No trans-

11:46 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit

responded to the 700 block of Banks on a fire standby Sunday, March 20

12:48 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient to PRMC.

3:56 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient to a local nursing facility. 11:39 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit

responded to the 1900 block of Christine and transported a patient to PRMC. 7:55 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit respond-

ed to the 500 block of South Barnes for a fire standby. No transport.

10:37 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1900 block of Hilton Road and transported a patient to PRMC.

#### David E. Holt, 65

David E. Holt, 65, of Pampa, Texas, died served as treasurer for many years. Sunday, March 20, 2005, at Pampa Services are pending with Carmichael-

Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Holt was born Oct. 24, 1939, in Pampa, to Margaret and Damaris Holt. He attended Pampa schools, graduating from Pampa High School in 1958. He was a graduate of the Oklahoma State University, and graduated from the University of Houston School of Law.

He was sworn in the spring of 1966 to practice law in Texas. He was admitted to practice before the Supreme Courts of Texas and the United States of America. He worked for J.E. Thompson until 1969 when he joined the law firm of Smith, Teed, Wade and Waters, where he was mentored by William Jarrel Smith. He practiced law with Bill Waters and later Kenneth W. Fields, Leland W. Waters and Holt Jeff Jones when they came into the firm Over the years, the name evolved to Waters, Holt and Fields and is presently Holt and

He married Linda Skewes, his high school

sweetheart, on June 3, 1961. His professional associations included the Gray County Bar Association and the State Bar of Texas where he served on the Ethics Committee and the Board of Directors from 1996-1999.

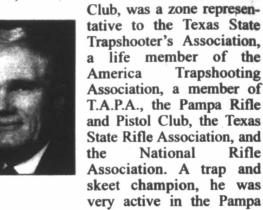
He was a Fellow of the State Bar of Texas. He was a member of the Boy Scouts of America where he received the Silver Beaver, scouting's highest award. He served as director of the Adobe Walls and Golden Spread Boy Scouts Councils.

He served on the board of directors of St. Matthew's Episcopal Day School, the Pampa Community Concert Association, and Pampa Meals on Wheels, where he

He was a member, deacon and elder of the

First Christian Church.

He was past treasurer and current president of the M.K. Brown Foundation, having accepted the Golden Nail Award on behalf of the foundation for its philanthropic work. He was a member of the Pampa Trap & Skeet Club, a life member of the Amarillo Gun



chapter of Ducks Unlimited. He was preceded in death by his father, Damaris Holt, and mother, Margaret Holt

McClelland. Survivors include his wife, Linda Holt, of the home; his children, Parker Holt and Susanna Holt, both of Austin; three sisters, Barbara Lallement of Amarillo, Linda Reed and husband Howard of Pampa, and Frances Shryock and husband Kenneth of Reno, Nev.; father-in-law, A.W. Skewes of Pampa; stepfather, Henry McClelland of Amarillo; one sister-in-law, Ardyth Atkins and husband Jim of Tyler; one brother-in-law, Blaine Skewes and wife Susan of El Dorado, Kan.; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

The family requests memorials be to a favorite charity.

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

#### Harry Clifton Skaggs, 91

Harry Clifton Skaggs, 91, of Pampa, Texas, died Sunday, March 20, 2005, at Amarillo, Texas.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Skaggs was born Nov. 11, 1913, at Chicago, Mo. He had been a resident of Pampa most of his life. He married Alta May McCoun on July 21, 1941, in Cheyenne, Okla. They were married for 61 years and seven months, the happiest years of his life. She preceded him in death on

March 12, 2003. He worked in pipeline construction, operating all types of heavy machinery. He also did welding and mechanic work on numerous kinds of machinery. Some of the companies he worked for were Brodie Construction of Amarillo, Gorman-Phillips of Perryton, Frenchie LeBlanc of Carlson Shamrock,

Cradduck Construction of Pampa, and O.R. Smith of Wichita, Kan.

Skaggs

His work did require him to reside in many places through the years, such as Shamrock, Amarillo, Perryton, Borger, Dallas, and Bridgeport, Texas; Guymon, Pauls Valley and Edmond, Oklahoma; Aurora and Sterling, Colorado; Elkhart, Liberal and Medicine Lodge, Kansas; Cherokee and Emmetsburg, Iowa; and Nebraska.

He retired after 43 years of service.

He had been a member of the First Baptist Church since 1978. Although totally deaf since he was 21 years of age, he was faithful to his church and attended regularly.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four sisters; and one brother.

He would like to say a very special "thank you" to Harry's BSA Hospice RN, Ken Carpenter, and the whole "Circle of Friends" home crew who were so compassionate, loving and kind during his last days of lym-

phoma. You went out of your way to make him as comfortable as he could possibly be, and we appreciate that so very much. He really thought a lot of all of you.

Survivors include two stepsons, Roger McCoun and wife Velma of Amarillo and Rodney Skaggs and wife Artalee of Yucaipa, Calif.; five grandchildren, Kelly McCoun of Abilene, Chris McCoun and wife Dawn of Carrollton, Rhonda Cavalletto of Paso Robles, Calif., Jay

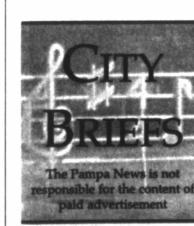
Skaggs and Robin Carlton, both of Yucaipa, Calif.; and 10 great-grandchildren, Carl, Craig, Andy, Cerra and Cayla Cavalletto, Jed Skaggs, Jake and Janie Carlton, and David and Haley McCoun.

The family requests memorials be to BSA Hospice, P.O. Box 950, Amarillo, TX 79176, or First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 621, Pampa, TX 79066-0621.

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

#### - Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa.  Wheat	Cabot Corp 34.41 Cabot Oil Gas 54.76 Coca Cola 41.56 VLO 69.07 HAL 43.80 TRI 45.40 KMI 77.33 XCEL 17.15 Kerr McGee 81.84	-0.08 +0.06 +0.10 -0.43 -0.12 +0.01 +0.08 -0.04 -0.46	Pioneer Nat
Stock Market quotations are fur-	XOM62.82	+0.17	115 OIP
nished by Edward Jones & Co.	Limited 24.11	-0.25	
of Pampa.	Williams 18.86	-0.02	New York Gold439
OXY	MCD 31.72	-0.18	Silver
BP PLC ADR64.84 -0.53	Atmos	-0.22	West Texas Crude56



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**VFW POST** 1657 is looking for pictures taken at Service Men's Club, when it was located on Foster St. during World War II. Copies will be made, the original returned promptly. 669-1264, 663-2277.

# Gray County Weather-

and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 57. Windy, with a west north-

west wind between 25 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 45 mph. Chance of precipitation is

40 percent. Tonight: A 30 percent chance of showers.

Mostly cloudy, with a low around 37. Wind chill values between

27 and 32. Windy, with a north northwest wind between 25 and 30 mph, with gusts as high

as 40 mph. Tuesday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 54. Wind chill values between 25 and 30 early. Windy, with a north

Today: Scattered showers northwest wind between 25 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 45 mph.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low near 32. North northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Wednesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon.

Partly cloudy, with a high near 65. Northwest wind 10 to 20 mph becoming south. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Wednesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low

around 45. South wind 15 to 20 mph becoming west. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

**OVERTON** fueled electric plant may be in In fact, the f in some Scand tries, said Dr. 1

**Texas Coopera** forestry progra "In Swed already bund we're leaving after a timber using it as bid said.

"Bio-fuel" i term that i renewable res generate ener ethanol distille grains bypi methane from wood refuse renewable ene

able," Foster s pared to foss take hundreds create and a able," he said. Using fore limbs, bark, ti bio-fuel is not the United product manu

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electric power But curre examples, the created at th the manufact not recycled f site as many l tries do, Foste "In one of

# Continued

lowing a Senate, passe the parents judge to pro life by reinse ing tube. P signed the me an hour later. Schiavo's Michael Sch was outraged

and the president

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wife's parent

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Department "technical s gressional dential spo McClellan s to Tucson, speech Bush, in ment, promi the side of

> life for all A ing those wit "In cases where there tions and su our society. courts should tion in favor

The law parents the r federal cour drawal of 1

# 'Tree-Power' could be future energy

**By Robert Burns** Texas A&M News/Public **Affairs** 

OVERTON - A woodfueled electricity generating plant may be in your future.

In fact, the future is 'now' in some Scandinavian countries, said Dr. Darwin Foster, Texas Cooperative Extension forestry program leader.

"In Sweden, they're already bundling up what we're leaving in the forest after a timber harvest and using it as bio-fuel," Foster said.

"Bio-fuel" is all-inclusive term that includes any renewable resource used to generate energy. As with ethanol distilled from small grains byproducts and methane from animal-waste, wood refuse is another renewable energy source.

The key word is "renewable," Foster said. "As compared to fossil fuels which take hundreds of millennia to create and are not renewable," he said.

Using forest bio-mass limbs, bark, tree tops – as a bio-fuel is not unheard of in the United States. Forest product manufacturing concerns already burn wood residue in steam boilers. The steam is used to drive electrical generators and supply part of the energy needed to run the plant.

Other mills use "black liquor" – the lignin-rich residue of the pulp and paper industry – for heat, steam and electric power generation.

But currently, in both examples, the residue used is created at the plant during the manufacturing process, not recycled from the harvest site as many European countries do, Foster said.

"In one of our meetings, a



(Texas Cooperative Extension photo by Dr. C.T. SMITH)

An industrial-strength Scandinavian chipper blows forest residue into a transport container. Many European countries are far ahead of the United States in utilizing forest residue for producing electricity.

forest product manufacturer indicated that about 12 percent of the volume delivered to their plant wound up as residue," he said. "It's mostly bark, but there's some fines (sawdust), too. But it's just a drop in the bucket as far as

their energy needs go." But the use of forest biofuel is not limited to energy production of forest industry plants. With prices of natural gas, crude oil and other nonrenewable sources rising, scientists are looking at using bio-fuels for residential consumption, Foster said.

At least one company in Texas, Green Mountain Energy in Austin, has turned this from science fiction into science fact. Green Mountain uses wood residue to generate a part of the electricity it produces and sells to Austin area clients.

"The potential is huge," Foster said.

In the United States and many other countries, tree tops are left at the harvested

'In Sweden, they're already bundling up what we're leaving in the forest after a timber harvest and using it as bio-fuel."

— Dr. Darwin Foster State forestry program leader

sites. Though the tonnage is huge, these tops are considered "unmerchantable" and are left where they fall to biodegrade or are burned or chipped to speed up the process. The tops are left in

the field because they are considered too bulky and too small in diameter to be worth the cost of hauling to a processing plant.

But the Scandinavians have shown harvesting this potentially huge energy source is economically feasible - at least in Europe. But can it be so in the United States?

Science and preliminary economic studies say forest residue can be an economically viable energy source. What's required is for everyone involved in the forestry industry – foresters, plant operators, forest landowners, energy producers and educators - to rethink how they do things, Foster said.

Armed with a \$500,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Foster and his colleagues in

Extension Forestry and the Texas A&M University department of forest science plan to develop education modules on forest bio-fuel production, harvest and utilization. Foster expects the modules will be comprised of not only printed material, such as brochures and handbooks, but also Web pages and multi-media CD-ROMs and DVDs.

Specifically, the training modules will address:

- An overview of how forest residue is already used in Southern forests;

 How to manage forests, old and new, for enhanced bio-fuel production;

- How to harvest and process forest residue for bio-fuel and other products;

- How to utilize biomass for bio-energy, bio-fuels and bio-based products;

- The socio-economic impacts and community development issues; and

- How to develop environmentally sustainable biomass production systems for bioenergy and bio-based prod-

The last subject - environmental sustainability - may be expanded to educate the public, Foster said. Some people might not understand the environmental benefits of burning forest residue to pro-

duce fuel. But the economic benefits are two-fold, he said. First it is a truly renewable resource. Trees are efficient at turning sunlight, moisture and a few basic nutrients into bio-mass. Using forest residue as biofuel also will utilize a resource that is being left to rot in the field.

But another important issue is carbon sequestration. Trees "breathe" in carbon dioxide, one of the major

greenhouse gases. The trees "breathe out" oxygen and sequester the carbon as part of the biomass.

"Carbon is the 'C' in CO<sub>2</sub>," Foster said.

True, burning the residue emits carbon dioxide, but as most of the harvested forest mass would be used for lumber, furniture and paper, there would still be a net sequestration of carbon.

Another common concern, Foster said, was that harvesting forest residues could cause nutrient deficiencies and retard future re-forestation efforts.

But studies have shown, residues can be harvested without loss of regrowth productivity as long as a few simple precautions are taken, he said. These precautions include not taking 100 percent of the residues, avoiding harvesting on sensitive sites, and not removing residues after every harvest. In some

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# **Dispute**

Continued from Page 1

lowing a move by the Senate, passed a bill to let the parents ask a federal judge to prolong Schiavo's life by reinserting her feeding tube. President Bush signed the measure less than an hour later.

Schiavo's husband, Michael Schiavo, said he was outraged that lawmakers and the president were intervening in the contentious right-to-die battle. He has fought for years with his wife's parents over whether she should be permitted to die or kept alive through the feeding tube.

"This is a sad day for Terri. But I'll tell you what: It's also is a sad day for everyone in this country because the United States government is going to come in and trample all over your personal, family matters," he

told ABC's "Good Morning believe it."

America" on Monday. responded to repeated inter-Associated Press.

including that Schiavo's

religious beliefs were being infringed upon, that the removal of the feeding tube violated her rights and that she was not provided

an independ-

interests. Outside the hospice where

A shout of joy was heard Michael Schiavo has not from the crowd outside the hospice when news of the view requests from The House bill's passage came. Among those cheering was The lawsuit alleges a David Bayly, 45, of Toledo, series of rights violations, Ohio: "I'm overjoyed to see

> 'I'm numb, I'm just totally numb. This whole thing, it's hard to believe it."

his daughter entered her fourth day without food or water, Bob Schindler told reporters "I'm numb, I'm just totally numb. This whole thing, it's hard to

Terri the vote and see Terri's life extended by

When dawn

hospice, but the

area bustled

with television

whatever amount God gives her." broke Monday, fewer than a dozen demonstrators remained at the

— Bob Schindler Terri Schiavo's father

lights, cameras ent attorney to represent her and reporters covering the The 41-year-old woman's

feeding tube was removed Friday on a Florida judge's order. Schiavo could linger for one or two weeks if the tube is not reinserted — as has happened twice before,

was later declared unconstitutional. George Felos, a lawyer for Michael Schiavo, did not return repeated phone mes-

sages seeking comment Monday. The voicemail box of George Greer, the Florida circuit judge who presides over the case, was full and didn't accept messages.

Terri Schiavo suffered brain damage in 1990 when her heart stopped briefly because of a possible potassium imbalance brought on by an eating disorder. She can breathe on her own, but has relied on the feeding tube to keep her alive.

Court-appointed doctors say she is in a persistent vegetative state with no hope of recovery. Her husband says she would not want to be kept alive in that condition. but her parents insist she could recover with treat-

once on a judge's order and Pampa Optimist once after Gov. Jeb Bush signed "Terri's Law," which LATE Baseball/Softball Signups & Tryouts

Boys & GIRLS • AGES 5-15

March 22-24 5:30pm to 7:30pm

**Optimist Park** 

For more information Ronnie Haynes • 665-6859 Kevin Davis • 665-7843

# Access

Continued from Page 1

outside his bedroom and signed it at 1:11 a.m., standing in the hall of his private residence.

Senior White House aides had been consulting with Attorney General Alberto Gonzales about the case for several days, and the Justice Department had provided "technical support" to congressional lawyers, presidential spokesman Scott McClellan said as Bush flew to Tucson, Ariz., for a

speech Bush, in a written statement, promised to "stand on the side of those defending life for all Americans, including those with disabilities."

"In cases like this one, where there are serious questions and substantial doubts. our society, our laws and our courts should have a presumption in favor of life," he said.

The law gave Schiavo's parents the right to file suit in federal court over the withdrawal of nourishment and

medical treatment needed to sustain their daughter, who suffered severe brain damage 15 years ago.

"Tonight we have given Terri Schiavo all we could a chance to live," said House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas. "After four days of words, the best of them uttered

prayer, Congress has acted and a life may have been saved." The bill

passed the House after an often wrenching debate. It won the backing of virtual-

all the Republicans and almost half is, indeed, very much alive," the Democrats who sprinted back to the Capitol for the debate, while 174 of the House's 435 elected members

did not vote. House Republicans scrambled to yank lawmakers back from a two-week Easter recess and amass the 218 votes necessary to bring the bill to a vote. The Senate

approved the measure on Sunday by voice vote in a

nearly empty chamber. Several lawmakers recounted their families' struggles with decisions about caring for incapacitated relatives in an often emotional debate over who should decide life and death.

Many Republicans Terri said Tonight we have Schiavo isn't in given Terri Schiavo the hopeless all we could – a state that her chance to live."

— Tom Delay House Majority Leader

husband portrays. "We have heard very moving accounts of

people close to

Terri that she

said House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill. "She laughs, she cries and she smiles with those around her."

Some Democrats countered elected lawmakers weren't qualified to make a medical diagnosis or secondguess the decisions made by Florida courts.

"I don't know who's right

and who's wrong, but that's the point. Neither do my colleagues," said Rep. Jim Moran, D-Va.

A few Republicans questioned the motives of Terri Schiavo's husband, Michael, suggesting he doesn't have his wife's best interest at heart.

"Now, he has had her feeding tube removed and sentenced her to a most excruciating death, citing Terri's own wishes as the rationale ..." said Rep. Jim Ryun, R-Kan. "Michael did not remember this supposed request until years after Terri's initial injuries when a cash settlement was awarded to her, a settlement he would stand to inherit."

Continued from Page 1 Guardian Ambulance.

The Pampa City Commission will meet at 4 p.m., Tuesday, in the city commission chambers on the third floor of city hall.



# Viewpoints

# Time for a meeting on South Padre Island

I never thought I would escape a snowstorm by going to Nebraska.

Last Monday morning as I looked up Somerville at big snowflakes coming down, I debated about a planned trip to North Platte, Neb.

There were blossoms on trees, daffodils were bright yellow in Pampa yards and the snow was white as it came down. Mike Ehrle was on the speaker in the newsroom talking about how bad the roads were.

I was supposed to be at a meeting in western Nebraska Tuesday night. I had continually checked the weather over the weekend. The national weather map showed snow accumulations

along the front range of the Rocky Mountains and out onto the plains to the east of New Mexico, Colorado and portions of Wyoming. That band of snow, however, extended east only about as far as a line that ran through Amarillo.

I figured I'd be on edge of it. The high temperatures from the Texas Panhandle up through the Oklahoma Panhandle, Western Kansas and Western Nebraska were supposed to be in the 40 to 50 degree range. That meant it would be messy but not slick, at least not during the daylight hours. The nighttime temperatures in Kansas and Nebraska were supposed to be in the 20s.

The snow in Pampa surprised me. It wasn't supposed to be this far east.

Fearing I'd get snowed in along the way, or worse yet, the roadway would freeze over and

the highw a y s would be slick and treacherous, I opted for leaving Monday

Kansas

afternoon and hoping that I could make the trip safely. After a quick noon stop at the Lovett Memorial Library for a couple of books on tape

(a necessity on a long drive, particularly through Western and Western

David

**Bowser** 

Staff Writer

Nebraska), I headed north to Perryton where I caught U.S. Highway 83.

Some 500 miles later, up the long straight highway through four states under heavy gray

> clouds, pulled up at a Holiday Inn Express where U.S. 83 crosses Interstate

As I got out of the car and stretched, I looked up. The sky was clear. The stars were sparkling brightly. The temperature was about 50 degrees.

The next day as I waited for my meeting to start, I

called friends in Amarillo and Pampa. Dee Dee, our bright and charming editor at The Pampa News, quietly informed me that there were three or four inches of snow on the ground. My friends in Amarillo said they had 10

My dilemma now was not getting to my meeting, the weather in North Platte was bright and sunny with temperatures in the 50s, but getting home.

I found a coffee shop, a good steak house (Whiskey Creek if you're ever there) and pondered my problem while I waited for the meet-

North Platte is the only place I've found so far that I couldn't connect to the internet. Fortunately, the motel's television system carried the Weather Channel. They weren't very encouraging. Even CNN was carrying stories about how Interstate 40 was closed around Amarillo.

I went to my meeting, made my notes and returned to the motel about 10 p.m.

Since there was no snow and ice in Nebraska, I figured I'd get an early start. I figured if I hit the Oklahoma and Texas Panhandles in the late afternoon before the sun went down, the wet pavement wouldn't have had time to freeze.

Now coming down U.S.

See SNOW, Page 5

# Today in History

By the Associated Press

Today is Monday, March 21, the 80th day of 2005, There

are 285 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On March 21, 1965, more than 3,000 civil rights demonstrators led by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. began their march from Selma to Montgomery, Ala.

On this date:

In 1685, composer Johann Sebastian Bach was born in Eisenach, Germany.

In 1790, Thomas Jefferson reported to President Washington in New York as the new secretary of state.

In 1804, the French civil code, or the "Code Napoleon" as it was later called, was adopted.

In 1806, Mexican statesman Benito Juarez was born in

In 1871, journalist Henry M. Stanley began his famous expedition to Africa to locate the missing Scottish missionary David Livingstone.

In 1945, during World War II, Allied bombers began four days of raids over Germany.

In 1960, some 70 people were killed in Sharpeville, South

One friend in a

lifetime is much; two are many; three are hardly possible."

— Henry Brooks Adams American historian, author Africa, where police fired on demonstra-

1963, In Alcatraz federal prison island in Francisco Bay emptied of its last inmates at the order of General Attorney Robert F. Kennedy.

1979, In Egyptian Parliament unanimously approved

a peace treaty with Israel.

In 1985, police in Langa, South Africa, opened fire on blacks marching to mark the 25th anniversary of the Sharpeville shootings, killing at least 21 demonstrators.

Ten years ago: Thousands of Japanese police raided the offices of a secretive religious group, Aum Shinri Kyo, in connection with nerve-gas attacks on Tokyo subways that killed 12 people and sickened thousands.

Five years ago: Pope John Paul II began the first official visit by a Roman Catholic pontiff to Israel. A divided Supreme Court ruled the government lacked authority to regulate tobacco as an addictive drug, throwing out the Clinton administration's main anti-smoking initiative.

One year ago: The White House disputed assertions by President Bush's former counterterrorism coordinator, Richard A. Clarke, that the administration had failed to recognize the risk of an attack by al-Qaida in the months leading up to Sept. 11. (Clarke's assertions were contained in a new book, "Against All Enemies," that went on sale the next



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# Arnold's conducting a revolution

Constitution to let him become president, but Arnold Schwarzenegger is conducting a one-man revolution aimed at providing presidential leadership.

The East Coast media has missed the full dimensions of the California governor's accomplishments and bold proposals. Together, they constitute one of the most astounding, imaginative and forward-thinking agendas in our recent history.

Start with the War on Terror. While President Bush hunts the terrorists down and pressures nation-states to give up their sponsorship of

We'll never change the Schwarzenegger is working to solve the problem of Islamic terrorism once and for all - by ending our dependence on foreign oil fuel as well as gasoline.

and stopthe ping worldwide economic and climatic distortions that global oil usage

causes. He's doing it by providing aggressive state leadership to open the way for hydrogen fuel cell cars. While President Bush speaks of the advent of these vehicles in the indefinite future, Gov.

Schwarzenegger is bringing

them to the here and now by converting gas stations along California's interstate highways to provide hydrogen

Dick **Morris** Columnist

private sources, California will offer hydrogen fuel every few miles in urban areas and at least every 20 miles along the highway system by 2010. Eventually, he and the leaders of Washington, Oregon,

Baja California and British

to create a "hydrogen highway" that will run from B.C. (British Columbia) to B.C. (Baja California). The Schwarzenegger plan financing calls for state-subsidized projected to production of hydrogen and

come one-

third each

from feder-

al, state and

who purchase hydrogen Replacing gasoline engines with hydrogen-fuel cells would eliminate twothirds of America's need for oil – a demand that we could meet entirely with domesti-

for tax incentives for those

Columbia will work together

cally produced oil. Since California accounts for 20 percent of U.S. new-

See ARNOLD, Page 5

# Either charge or release suspects

The only question for an advocate of traditional American liberties should be "Why did it take so long?" when it comes to the case of Jose Padilla.

Padilla, a U.S. citizen, was arrested as a terrorism suspect at Chicago's O'Hare Airport on a flight from Pakistan two and a half years ago. A federal judge in South Carolina last week told the government either to charge him with a crime or release

That should have been a no-brainer. A key aspect of a free society is that the government can't simply put people in prison without at

least charging them with a crime. But Robert Levy, a consti-

tutional scholar at the Cato Institute, predicted that the government will appeal again just to keep Padilla imprisoned for as long as

Perhaps more troubling is that Attorney General

possible.

gressional hearing after the court decision, continued to defend the government's decision to jail Padilla and argued that the government

has the right to detain alleged enemy combatants "for the duration of the hostilities." That might just be defen-

sible if the government had declared war, but it hasn't. When

**Texas Thoughts** 

Odessa American

ernment said it had evidence

Alberto Gonzales, in a con- he was part of a plot to set off a radiological "dirty bomb" in the United States and had trained with al-Qaida in Afghanistan. But instead of charging

him with a crime and trying him, it declared Padilla an "unlawful combatant," sent him to a military prison and denied him access to an attorney.

He eventually got an attorney to represent him and his case went to the Supreme Court. The high court punted, saying he should have brought his suit in South Carolina rather than New York.

When it decided the similar case of Yaser Hamdi, who was actually apprehended on a battlefield, however, the Supreme Court

See JUSTICE, Page 5

a 9-year-old l Mexico for a v ing to officials

State game Michael Fleto Saturday afte **Palacios Point** where the boa capsized Marc

"It's a toug has some c Harmon, who Guard turned Wildlife last v Although F

Continued for 83 throu Nebraska a

Kansas is prol scenic drive in thanks be to Memorial L Grisham's' 7 and Douglas the Univ Everything, it Even with

however, I w

the threat of s the further sou I expected to crossed th Oklahoma line or none. I ex snowplows i Panhandle, bu see any snow Cottonwood just south of

River. Thursday, v to the newspa about was how was. The par

Continued car purchas wag the dog hydrogen gri almost inevita But Arnol also aims to

racy at nome Disgusted mandering th election of a of members 2000 and 200 54 Californi in 2002 and Gary Cond Schwarzeneg end the dis democracy. I voter initiati Iowa Plan tive and con tricts drawn jurists who to take accou cy or party

The cynica that underso 2000 Censu ment made

districts.

**Just** 

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planned Sa Gardens C Price Road start at 10 pictures wi parents, a chance at a

· Don Ha and Spa "Discovery 2005" from its facility touts the e in the Panh is \$8 per c per child 1 the egg hu eral admis admission must be p Streit Dr., The egg hi lows: 10 a.m., 4&5year-olds: 11 a.m.,

11:15 a.m.

## Body of missing boy found in Gulf

PORT O'CONNOR (AP) — The body of ing a life jacket when he entered the water, a 9-year-old boy missing in the Gulf of Mexico for a week has been found, according to officials.

State game wardens found the body of Michael Fletcher of San Antonio early Saturday afternoon on the shoreline at Palacios Point, about six miles northeast of where the boat he and 11 others were on capsized March 12 near Port O'Connor.

'It's a tough thing, but the family now has some closure," said Capt. Nick Harmon, who led the search after the Coast Guard turned it over to Texas Parks and Wildlife last week.

it is believed he slipped out of it as he drifted in and out of consciousness, the Coast Guard reported.

A 5-year-old boy also died in the acci-

The massive weeklong air and sea search involved Coast Guard helicopters and rescue vessels, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Texas Parks and Wildlife and private citi-

The cause of the accident is under investigation.

Information from: Victoria Advocate, Although Fletcher was reportedly wear- http://www.thevictoriaadvocate.com

#### Continued from Page 4

83 through Western Nebraska and Western Kansas is probably the least scenic drive in the world, but thanks be to the Lovett Memorial Library, John Grisham's' The Chamber and Douglas Adams' Life, Universe Everything, it is survivable.

Even with a good book, however, I was tense over the threat of slick highways the further south I got.

I expected to see snow as I the Kansascrossed Oklahoma line, but saw little or none. I expected to see snowplows in the Texas Panhandle, but didn't even see any snow until I reached Cottonwood Springs Ranch just south of the Canadian

Thursday, when I returned to the newspaper, all I heard about was how bad the snow was. The paper had photos

on the front page. I'd missed the entire thing.

I am not a big fan of snow. I know the farmers need it for subsoil moisture in preparation to planting. I know the ranchers want the moisture for their pastures. But for me, snowfall marks a day off, a fire in the fireplace and a hot toddy.

I've spent many years trying to get out of taking weather pictures when it is snowing. When you do that you get ... well ...cold and wet.

That's one of the drawbacks about working for a newspaper in the Texas Panhandle. You get to go out in the snow and take pic-

I've spent many years trying to get out of taking weather pictures when it is snowing. When you do that, you get...well...cold and wet.

At the Amarillo Globe-News years ago, before they put a window in the newsroom, the city editor would send a photographer out.

If he came back wet, the editor would know that it was raining.

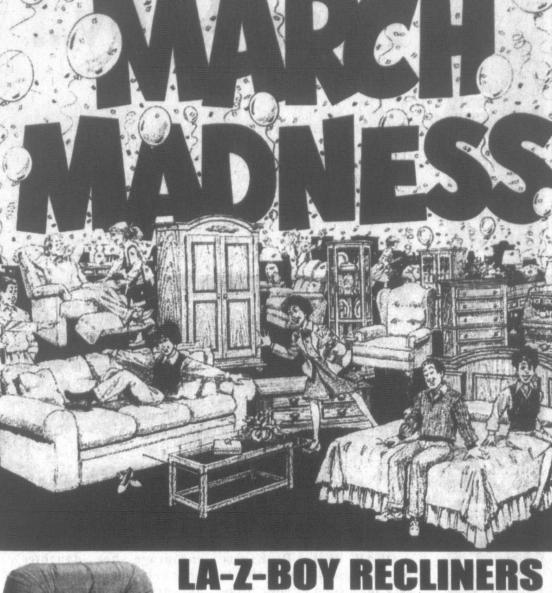
If the photographer came back wet and cold, the editor knew that it was snowing. It's kind of like having a pet

This year I managed to miss the great snowstorm, I'm just not sure going to Nebraska was the way to do

I really needed to be on South Padre Island. Why can't anybody have a meeting there when I need it?

Write to Staff Writer David Bowser at reporter2@thepampanews.com.

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#### **Continued from Page 4**

car purchases, the tail will wag the dog and a national hydrogen grid will become almost inevitable.

also aims to restore democ- back their democracy. racy at home.

Disgusted by the gerrymandering that led to the reelection of all but a handful of members of Congress in 2000 and 2002 (including all 54 California congressmen in 2002 and everyone but Gary Condit in 2000), Schwarzenegger is acting to end the disgrace on our democracy. He is pushing a voter initiative to adopt the Iowa Plan - to have legislative and congressional districts drawn by independent jurists who aren't permitted to take account of incumbency or party in creating the districts.

that underscored the post-2000 Census reapportionment made the incumbents

of both parties invulnerable and limited the number of swing seats to a mere 5 percent of the House of Representatives. Gov. Arnold will change all that in California. And, as with hydrogen cars, his action will likely awaken voters But Arnold's revolution across the nation to take education reformers like

> If the legislature does not pass the "governator's" tenure-reform and redistricting programs, he'll put these issues on the ballot where they will most likely pass.

Finally, Schwarzenegger The cynical political deals is striking at the root of the problem with public education by seeking to smash teacher tenure and pay and

merit, just like other employees in America. The privileged classroom enclave where incompetence is not punished and excellence is not rewarded will be ended in California. Too bad that so-called

Hillary Clinton dropped

(which she once supported

promotion

merit-based

in Arkansas but dropped when she came to New York, with its virulent teachers union). If the legislature does not pass the "governator's" tenure-reform and redistricting programs, he'll put these

issues on the ballot where

they will most likely pass. In energy, the environment, anti-terrorism, democratic reform and education, Arnold Schwarzenegger is showing us what a governor can do. Are there other governors willing to follow his bold example?

Dick Morris is a political analyst and was an adviser to Bill Clinton for 20 years.

# **Justice**

#### Continued from Page 4

made it clear that even in wartime, so long as courts

branch can't detain U.S. citizens indefinitely without any semblance of due process. That should mean Padilla will be released unless charges are brought.

The government should are operating, the executive either file charges or let him

go. It has already spent too much of the taxpayers' money trying to defend a breathtaking assertion of absolute power that has no place in our constitutional

# Community Happenings

 A Family Easter Egg Hunt is planned Saturday, March 26 at Memory Gardens Cemetery, located at 23rd and Price Road in Pampa. The egg hunt will start at 10 a.m. The event will include pictures with the Easter Bunny, and, for parents, a special egg hunt and a chance at a vacation give-away.

 Don Harrington Discovery Center and Space Theater will present "Discovery Center's Eggstravaganza 2005" from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. March 26 at its facility in Amarillo. A press release touts the event as "the largest egg hunt in the Panhandle with 10,000 eggs. Cost is \$8 per child for non-members and \$5 per child for members. Tickets include the egg hunt, special activities and general admission to the center. General admission for adults is \$5.50. All tickets must be purchased at the center, 1200 Streit Dr., or by calling (806) 355-9547. The egg hunt will be broken down as follows: 10 a.m., 2&3-year-olds; 10:15 a.m., 4&5-year-olds; 10:30 a.m., 6&7year-olds; 10:45 a.m., 8,9&10-year-olds; 11 a.m., special needs children; and 11:15 a.m., general egg hunt for children

missing earlier hunts. Children must be escorted by an adult to participate.

Panhandle Heritage Texas Foundation, Inc., will hold an "April Fool's Spring Fling" between 6:30 and 10:30 p.m. Friday, April 1 at the Civic Center North Exhibit Hall in Amarillo. Coors Cowboy Club will provide dinner and drinks. The event will include casino games, armadillo races and live musical performances with Texas Express and the Prairie Dogs. Gambling chips will be available for \$10 a bag. Every bag purchased will offer a chance to win one of several prices to be raffled off throughout the evening. Tickets are available at www.epictexas.com or by calling (806) 655-2181. Group tables and sponsorship opportunities are available for a limited time.

 Friends of National Rifle Association Dinner and Auction is planned for 6 p.m., Saturday, April 2, at M.K. Brown Auditorium and Civic Center in Pampa. Tickets are \$25 apiece, \$40 for couples and \$10 for youth 16 and under. For tickets, call ReDonn at 669-

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# EWS COME PAMI **Crossword Puzzle**

"Pamela," constantly steals things that belong to me. It can be anything from underwear to jewelry. When I catch her wearing whatever she "borrowed," the belongings go missing. Pamela then claims that she returned them. I have to beg, cry, and finally search her room mother won't let the subject and car to find them. Most of drop. the time they'll be ruined.

on my life and our relationship. It has reached the point that I have told my sister I no longer want anything to do with her because she's deceitful, hurtful and selfish. I honestly think she has some sort of OCD or does it for the thrill.

Oh, we are not teenagers. I am 26 and Pamela is 24. We are both adults with master's degrees and full-time jobs. --FED UP IN QUEBEC

DEAR FED UP: Excuse me, but how is Pamela able to take possession of your property? If you're living under the same roof, have a deadbolt lock installed on your bedroom door and use it while you're out. If not, have your dwelling re-keyed. Your sister cannot steal and destroy that to which she doesn't have access.

\*\*\*\*\*

DEAR ABBY: I grew up with a friend I'll call "Muffy." Muffy was raised in a rich, sheltered environment. Her mother did everything for her. She never taught her daughter how to wash dishes, do laundry, clean house, etc. I, too, waited on Muffy. As a child, I thought I was supposed to take care of

Muffy is now an adult, a recluse with few friends. She still lives with her mother, even though she has a job and could move out on her own. Muffy is a nice woman. My problem is that her mother expected us to be best friends throughout our

25 Farm

grazers

for a blow

27 Prepares

DEAR ABBY: My sister, lives. She and Muffy can't seem to understand that I have a husband, a son, and other responsibilities that include work.

My mother and Muffy's mother are best friends, and Mom often comments to me that I should remain friends with Muffy. It seems Muffy's

I think they both need to get This is causing a great strain on with their lives and Muffy should be free to make new friends. In the end, she is the one who has been hurt by not learning how to live independently and take care of herself. She should not be a prisoner of her childhood. -- INDEPEN-**DENT IN KANSAS** 

> **DEAR INDEPENDENT: I** get the feeling that you somehow resent your childhood friend, and that's sad. Not only did Muffy's mother encourage her daughter's physical dependence, it appears she nurtured her daughter's emotional dependence as well.

> I agree that Muffy "should" learn to live independently, and "should" be free to make new friends. However, at this point in her life she may not have the tools to do either. It would be a kindness to encourage her to get professional help so she can figure out where her mother ends and she begins. Only then will your childhood friend be able to truly get on with her life.

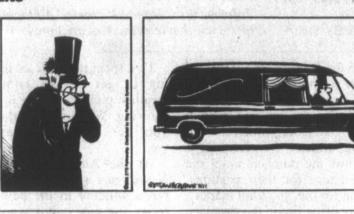
**DEAR ABBY: What do** you think of men in kilts? I want to buy and try one. My wife is undecided, but trusts your judgment. Your thoughts, please? -- GRANDSON OF SCOTLAND

DEAR GRANDSON: As a person of proud Scottish descent, you are entitled to wear a kilt if you wish, but please refrain from doing high kicks on the dance floor.

#### For Better Or Worse



**Zits** 





Garfield







#### **Beetle Bailey**





#### Marvin



THERE'S A NEW GIRL AT MY DAYCARE WHO KINDA LIKE, BUT HE SAYS I'M A SPOLED,



#### CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 39 Losing 1 Skirt type 5 Generate 40 Young 10 Wrinkle remover 41 George of 11 Chatty bird 13 Highway **DOWN** 1 Italian city division 14 Eventually 2 Furning 15 Draw in 3 Prohibited

17 Light 12 Beliefs 4 Neon, for meta 16 Country 18 Gets one 5 Kitchencomfy 19 Compass rack items 20 Balloon fill 6 Suit part

29 Brother's 21 Bogart 22 Coffee 30 Craze 21 Winter 7 Museum 31 Played treat for contents 8 Report for 23 Shoulder birds 32 Bird 22 Mullally of a violation decoration abodes "Will & 9 Party's 24 Western 36 Printer's Grace"

Jackson

25 Superhero outerwear 26 Musical work 27 Huck's pal 28 Soda serving 29 Jennings, 33 Drill sergeant's word 34 Where Will Robinson was lost 35 Axis foes 37 Tiny 38 Spirit

#### Marmaduke



"He not only knows when we use ours, but he can also hear the neighbors use their can opener, too."

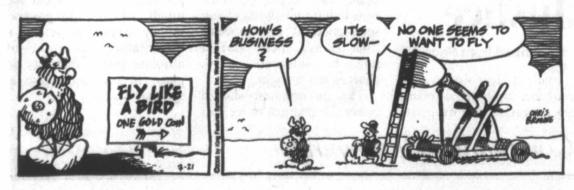


"The snow melted before I was done playing with it."

#### B.C.



#### **Haggar The Horrible**



#### **Peanuts**



#### **Blondie**



#### Flo & Friends



Kambra Jin Jimenez and

in a District

The Lady will get the when they Game time "I've not play yet," sa have good at Pampa has so far, postin

# Pamp

By MIC

The Pampa ball team wil noon to take o scheduled to The Harve played Amari Said Coach us the first tir ly see them Amarillo JV Taking the

be Colden Fo Allen says team's play t very proud o

# CLEVELA

Paul Silas coach of t Cavaliers on his team figh off spot after place earlier Silas told Press he v Monday mor meeting with ager Jim Pa owner Dan ( "They rele said. "They

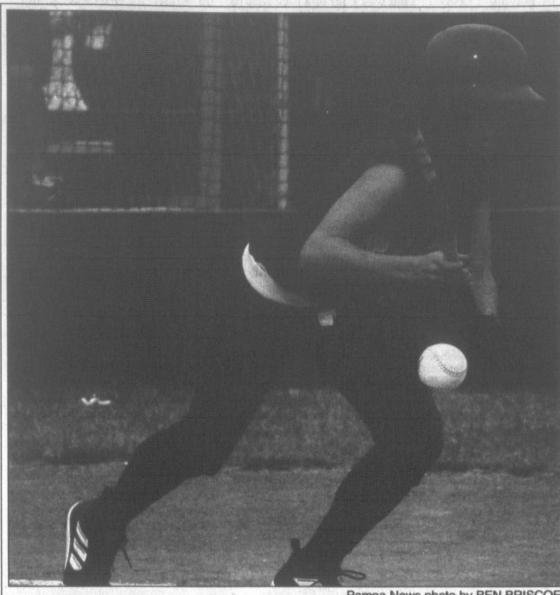
wanted to m Despite superstar Le Cavaliers h since the All ing nine of straight road ing Sunday's Toronto whe a franchise-r Silas said

team was

well as it sho

given a detai of why he there have b the last few

# Sports Day



Pampa News photo by BEN BRISCOE

Kambra Jimenez lays down a bunt during a game earlier in the season. Jimenez and her Lady Harvester JV team will take on Randall this afternoon in a District 3-4A opener. First pitch at 4:30 p.m.

# Lady Harvester JV girls open district play today

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS Sports Editor

The Lady Harvester JV softball team will get the District 3-4A season started when they host Randall this afternoon.

have good athletes."

Pampa has enjoyed a productive season so far, posting a non-district record of 7-11. Said Owens, "We are playing pretty good ball. We are hitting the ball well but we can always improve.'

Jasmaine Moore will start in the pitcher's circle this afternoon.

Owens says if there is one area he thinks Game time is set for 4:30 p.m. his teams may need to work on, it is "I've not had a chance to see Randall knowledge. "We need to gain a lot more play yet," said Owens. "But they always knowledge of the game and how to handle certain situations," he said. "That's my job to teach them."

## Edwards is right for NASCAR

Stevens

Sports

Editor

been around it most of my life. Daddy painted cars for a couple of drivers when I was a young'un. He took us to the home town Saturday night roundy-rounder a time a two. I raced myself for a few years. Did fairly well, too. My son is getting ready to graduate from

NASCAR Technical Michael J. Institute in North Carolina. He aspires to get back behind the wheel someday, but will probably become a pit crew member for a lucky team for a while first

(lucky to have him that is). Yep, I'm a race fan. And this past weekend, I became one of the hoards that cheered on a young man named Carl Edwards. And though I think the 'young gun' drivers like Tony Stewart, Kurt Busch - maybe even Kevin Harvick - that pack both skill and attitude are good for the sport, it is young drivers like Edwards that are right for the sport.

He, along with Jamie McMurray know they are talented. This is why they were hired to do what they do. But they are also humble enough to realize how lucky they are to be doing what they do.

Have you seen McMurray in a post-race interview? The kid is always smiling and talks like he was just picked by the captain of the better team to play a game of neighfront stretch in front of thousands of A talented kid having lots of fun.

Okay...I am something of a race fan. I've screaming fans? I have heard some of the old, retired veterans of the sport say they really don't like it. Who cares? They are old and retired. There was a time when some thought victory burnouts were a bit much. Some questioned the late Alan Kulwicki's 'Polish Victory Lap' the first few times he

did it. Until these celebrations, the driver was simply tossed the checkered flag, made a lap, and drove off to the pits. Looking back...how boring was that?

After the weekend Edwards had, winning both the Busch and the NEXTEL Cup events in Atlanta - and the style in which he did so - I say let this kid flip-out all he wants. I hope you also got the chance to see his post-race interview, it was great. Most drivers show off their prerehearsed sponsor and bonus money men-

They sound more like corporate robots and verbal gigalos than they do drivers that just won a big race.

Edwards, on the other hand, was almost speechless yesterday. When he was finally able to sting a few words together to form a sentence, he said, "I am the luckiest guy in the world."

So let the kid flip. It is great to see a young man with such skill and talent, hang it all out like he did in the final lap of yesborhood baseball. And what about this terday's race, win, and in a matter of min-Edwards kid? Back flips off his car on the utes, show the world he is still a kid at heart.

#### Optimist baseball/softball try-outs this week

Thursday from 5:30 to 7:30 out for a place on a team this season. Each player will demonstrate ability to catch, throw and hit the baseball or softball under the watchful eyes of the various coaches in each league.

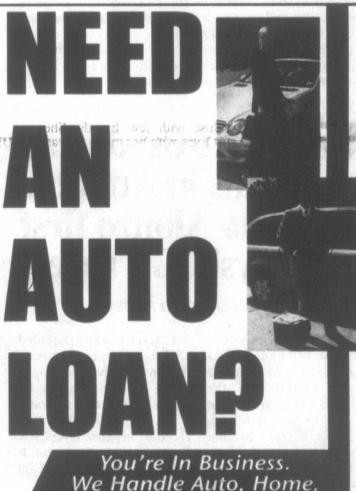
"Players who remain in the same league this season do not have to try out," said Kevin Davis, Optimist Baseball Commissioner. "They still must register. Players who did not play last year and players who are moving up to the 9-10 Cal Ripken League, the 11-12 Cal Ripken League, the Babe Ruth League, the 10-12 Girls' Major Softball League and the 13-15 Girls' Senior Softball League will need to attend at least two of the three tryout sessions."

Later this week all players will be assigned to a team. "We don't turn anybody away who registers by Thursday," said Optimist President Ronnie N. Hayes. "However, teams are limited to a maximum of 15 per team. Once we hit 15, we are not allowed by Babe Ruth rules to go over that number. We prefer to have 12 or 13 on each team. That makes it easier for everybody to get more playing time."

The Pampa United Way agency recommends that players attending tryouts wear a long-sleeved shirt, a

Tuesday, Wednesday and ball cap, baseball or tennis explained Haynes. shoes and bring a glove and

Optimist p.m. Optimist Park will be a light jacket. "Sometimes Baseball/Softball 2005 is teeming with players trying it gets really cold toward the for boys and girls from five end of a tryout session," to 15 years of age.



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# Pampa, AHS hook up this afternoon

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Sports Editor

The Pampa High School JV boys baseball team will travel to Amarillo this afternoon to take on the JV Sandies. The game is scheduled to begin at 4:30 p.m.

The Harvesters, 3-5 for the season, have played Amarillo once before.

Said Coach Clint Allen, "They run-ruled us the first time we played. We could easily see them again this weekend in the Amarillo JV tournament." Taking the mound for Allen's squad will

be Colden Fortenberry (0-1).

Allen says he has been pleased with his team's play thus far. "Overall, I have been very proud of the way we have played to

in the season. We have played some very talented teams and all have been close games except the Amarillo High game."

Pampa is a young team still gaining game experience. Said Allen, "We have six players with JV

experience, the rest are all freshmen." And, as young teams are prone to do,

Allen's squad has made its share of errors. But he is quick to mention, "We have several players that have been hitting the ball real well

and are keeping us in games."

Pampa will return to Amarillo to take part in a JV tournament that gets under way Thursday.

# Cavaliers fire head coach

CLEVELAND (AP) -Paul Silas was fired as coach of the Cleveland Cavaliers on Monday with his team fighting for a playoff spot after being in first place earlier in the year.

Silas told The Associated Press he was called in Monday morning for a brief meeting with general manager Jim Paxson and new owner Dan Gilbert.

"They released me," Silas said. "They didn't think the team was performing as well as it should be and they wanted to make a change."

Despite having league superstar LeBron James, the Cavaliers have struggled since the All-Star break, losing nine of 12 and nine straight road games, including Sunday's 105-98 loss to Toronto when James scored a franchise-record 56.

Silas said he was not given a detailed explanation of why he was fired, but there have been issues over the last few weeks that have slide after they went into the All-Star break 30-21.

It all may have culminated Sunday when Silas benched starting guard Jeff McInnis and replaced him with Eric Snow. Snow did not score in Cleveland's loss at Toronto and McInnis. despite dressed and available, didn't play.

Earlier this season, Silas threw Snow off the bench after the two exchanged words during the first quarter of a game at Detroit, a move that stunned the team because of Snow's reputation as a leader.

Last week, Silas was fined \$10,000 by the team for a derogatory comment he made about Utah forward Carlos Boozer.

Silas made the remark to reporters a day before Boozer was to return to Cleveland after leaving the Cavaliers as a free agent last summer. Boozer didn't travel with the Jazz because of a

resulted in the Cavaliers' foot injury. Silas later apologized for the remark.

Silas joined Cleveland in June 2003 after being fired by the New Orleans Hornets, who he led to the playoffs four straight times.

The Cavaliers have called an afternoon news conference at Gund Arena.

Silas and James made for a formidable duo last season, leading the Cavaliers to a 35-47 record last season an 18-game turnaround. He seemed to have the respect of his players, who played hard for him and were improving.

However, in the offseason, the club lost Boozer after allowing him to become a free agent. It was the first sign of real trouble.

The Cavaliers started this season strong, staying in first place for most of the first two months of the season — they were 30-21 at the break. But injuries and inconsistency led to their

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Pampa News photo by BEN BRISCOE

## Making contact

An unidentified Lady Harvester connects with the ball during a recent game. The Lady Harvester JV team will open District 3-4A play today when they host the Lady Raiders of Randall at 4:30 p.m.

# Singh gets the No. 1 ranking, Perry gets trophy

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) -Vijay Singh didn't get to No. 1 in the world by playing it safe.

Having made up a three-shot deficit in three holes, he stood in the middle of the 18th fairway at the Bay Hill Invitational tied for the lead with Kenny Perry, with 174 yards and a big pond separating him from the

"I was trying to win the golf

He had to settle for a return

tournament," Singh said.

to No. 1.

The trophy went to Perry, who survived a stunning charge Sunday and watched in disbelief as Singh's 7-iron that looked perfect all the way landed in a cluster of rocks and bounced into the water.

"I was shocked," Perry said. "Thank goodness I had to hit last. He was going at the stick ... and it looked like it was just going to fly right next to the hole. That was a huge break for

Perry played it safe, hitting to the middle of the green and lagging his 70-foot putt down to tap-in range for a 2-under 70 that gave him a two-shot victory over Singh and Graeme McDowell.

that tournament," Perry said. "That was kind of a nice way to win one, knowing I could play left (of the water) and threeputt to win the golf tourna-

He wasn't a complete charity case. Perry was accurate off the tee, and occasionally longer than Singh. Most players would have caved in at the thought of losing three shots over three holes so late in the tournament, especially when the guy applying the pressure had won 14 times in the last three seasons.

"I never got nervous. I was never stressing," Perry said.

He finished at 12-under 276 and won for the eighth time in his career, this one worth \$900,000.

Singh replaced Tiger Woods at No. 1, which was not nearly as dramatic as the conclusion of the tournament. All the 42year-old Fijian had to do was finish fourth because Woods was chopping his way around Bay Hill and finished out of the top 20 for the second straight

But while Singh once obsessed about being No. 1, he

"I thank Vijay for giving me now cares only about winning. And after his second runnerup finish in two weeks, the news that he was back on top in the world ranking was small consolation.

"Big deal," Singh said after closing with a 69. "I lost the

tournament." It was the second week in a row that a PGA Tour event came down to the last hole and Singh blinked first. At the Honda Classic, he lost a playoff against Padraig Harrington by missing a 30-inch putt on the second extra hole.

This time, he dumped one in the water when there was no margin for error. Singh offered no excuses.

"It was a good shot," he said. "I just hit the wrong club. If I had to do it again, I probably would have hit a different club, played safer a little bit and hopefully see if Kenny made a mistake. But that's not the way I play. I play aggressive, and I went for the flat. I just came up a little short."

Perry was hardly surprised. "That's just the way he plays golf," Perry said. "He has no

fear. He attacks the pin on just about every hole."

## Players, owners agree to drop threat of fines

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball players and owners agreed Sunday to drop the possibility of fines for steroid use, leaving suspensions as the only discipline.

Rob Manfred, baseball's executive vice president for labor relations, said Sunday that his side had reached an agreement with union head Donald Fehr that would eliminate the fine provisions from the language of the agreement. Players and owners announced the agreement Jan. 13 but it has not been finalized.

Congressmen repeatedly criticized baseball for the fine possibility during Thursday's hearing before the House Government Reform Committee.

## Carl Edwards' daring move wins in Atlanta; Fernando Alonzo first in Malaysia GP race

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HAMPTON, Ga. (AP) — Carl Edwards pulled off a daring move on Jimmie Johnson coming off the final turn and won his first Nextel Cup race at Atlanta Motor Speedway, beating Johnson by about a half-car length Sunday.

Johnson, trying to win for the second week in a row, grabbed the lead from Edwards with 25 laps to go in the Golden Corral 500. But, on the final lap, Edwards got a great run coming out of turn two, pulled up on Johnson's back bumper, and when

Johnson's car bobbled slightly just a few feet from the finish, Edwards slipped by on the outside to win by a minuscule 0.028 seconds.

On Saturday, Edwards raced to his first NASCAR Busch Series victory, holding off several Nextel Cup stars in the Aaron's 312.

SEPANG, Malaysia (AP) - Fernando Alonso won the Malaysian Grand Prix on Sunday to give Renault victories in the first two races of the Formula One season. Jarno Trulli was the runner-up for Toyota's first top-three finish.

#### **BOB KNIGHT IS BACK**

# The old lion learns a few new tricks

By JIM LITKE

**Associated Press** There's no mistaking the new Bob

Looking an awful lot like the old one, there he was after Texas Tech upset Gonzaga in the Albuquerque regional, headed to the Sweet 16 for the first time in 11 years, commanding the spotlight again because of his basketball smarts.

But instead of reminding everybody else how much he still knows, the first thing out of Knight's mouth was how much he's learned from this group of kids and how his wife Karen is a better

"She doesn't always agree with the way I coach. She thinks," he said, citing just one example, "that I do a lousy job with our post players."

Given the way the Red Raiders played in the opening half against Gonzaga's zone, there was very little wiggle room in that assessment. With hodies stacked up in the lane Knight's bodies stacked up in the lane, Knight's intricate motion offense wasn't creating enough space to score and for a while you wondered whether, like a man who's played chess the same way his whole life, he would stubbornly try to win it his way or not at all.

"He won't say it, but he's a little more laid back," his son, Pat Knight, who doubles as Tech's assistant coach, said afterward. "Back then, he treated all the players pretty much the same. Now, with all the AAU ball and just the upbringing of kids, some kids you can't yell at and some kids you can.

He's been really good handling that."
The way Knight handled it Saturday was to calmly pass along to the big men the advice that Karen Knight, a pretty fair high school coach back in Oklahoma, had given her husband, and to let his guards play one-on-one in hopes of luring the Zags out of their zone. The changes cut into Gonzaga's big rebounding edge and with back-court mates Ronald Ross and Jarius

Jackson combing for 42 points, Tech squeezed out a 71-69 win.

It couldn't have been easy for Knight, the ultimate control freak, to let go with so much on the line. After all, he spent much of the week being reminded of his spotty record in the NCAA tournament (3-8) since leaving Indiana, cutting off reporters, railing Indiana, cutting off reporters, about his practice time and even complaining at one point that he was forced to drink out of a paper cup provided by NCAA officials instead of the cup bearing the logo of a Lubbock sponsor that he prefers.

"I've never had a player that I would have had more admiration for than Ronald Ross," Knight said in a rare moment of candor, then added for laughs, "particularly when he hit that

think back over this season and I'd think about what a wonderful experience it was for me to be with these kids, this team.'

> - Bob Knight Head Coach, Texas Tech

Yet when it mattered most, Knight did the least coaching. He watched Ross drill the game-deciding 3-pointer with just over a minute left — the kind of shot a kid learns even before he starts playing organized ball — and said, "If we had lost today and I was fishing next week, I'd think back over this season and I'd think about what a wonderful experience it was for me to be with these kids, this team.

"It's as enjoyable a team to watch and to be around," Knight said, "as any I've ever had.

Few people would have believed that when Knight skulked off to Lubbock, which may not be the end of the basketball map, but it was close. In

hindsight, it's clear how ready Knight was for a change in both his personal and professional lives. Pat Knight said the townspeople aren't "really Basketball Bennys. They're just happy when you compete," and that his father, in turn, is "more mellow, in a

That basket was good enough to send everybody back to the record books for research, and without having to remind us himself, revealed exactly how much Knight still really knows. His 45th tourney win means Knight trails only Mike Krzyzewski (66), Dean Smith (65) and John Wooden (47) in career victories and only the

first two in Sweet 16 appearances.

Texas Tech faces West Virginia next with a chance to add a few more lines to Knight's legacy. Either way, the per-ception has already shifted, no matter how subtly. Someone asked Ross in the postgame news conference what he thought about Knight. The one-time walk-on was going on about hard work and his attention to detail, when the coach leaned over and whispered in

Ross looked back at his whitehaired coach, then proceeded to describe him in terms you never thought you'd hear from one of Knight's players: "He," Ross said, "is a latter-day Santa Claus."

And his holidays are just beginning.

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at jlitkeap.org

# LeBron scores 56 in losing effort; Duncan goes down

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The best performance of LeBron James' already remarkable career left the youngest man to score 50 points in an NBA game feeling unsatisfied. James scored a Cleveland franchise-

record 56 points, but the Cavaliers came up short and lost 105-98 to the Toronto Raptors on Sunday. "I don't care about individual stats, espe-

cially when you lose. I was disappointed to have as good a game as I had and still come out with a loss," James said. At 20 years, 80 days old, James eclipsed Rick Barry as the youngest player to score

Barry was 21 years, 261 days old when he scored 57 for San Francisco against the New York Knicks, according to the Elias Sports

"It's a good achievement, but I'd rather set it with a win," James said.

In the marquee game of the day, the Detroit Pistons beat the San Antonio Spurs 110-101 in a matchup of the last two NBA champions. More importantly, though, Spurs All-Star Tim Duncan sprained his ankle early in the game and didn't return.

Duncan is day to day. Before he left the arena, Duncan said he didn't know how serious the injury was.

"It's the same ankle that he sprained a couple weeks ago, but this was much worse," San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich said. "It's going to be a while."

In other games it was, Phoenix 97, Memphis 91; New Jersey 94, Indiana 85; Minnesota 94, Houston 86; Denver 114, Milwaukee 103; Golden State 104, Sacramento 94 and Seattle 102, L.A. Lakers

At Toronto, James easily surpassed his previous career best of 43 points, set Nov. 24 against Detroit. However, he committed a key turnover with 16 seconds left and missed a pair of 3-point attempts in the final 14 seconds.

James finished 18-for-36 from the field and 14-for-15 from the line. He also had six 3s. 10 rebounds and five assists. But Toronto's bench did in the Cavaliers. outscoring Cleveland's reserves 34-1.

James bested the previous Cavaliers mark of 50 set by Walt Wesley against Cincinnati on Feb. 19, 1971.

"He's going to set a lot more records, you know, if he develops," Cleveland coach Paul The Spurs said X-rays were negative and Silas said. "He was just on fire tonight, he straight losses.

was just amazing and it was great to see." The Cavaliers have lost nine straight road games, and nine of 12 overall.

Pistons 110, Spurs 101

At Auburn Hills, Mich., Chauncey Billups scored 25 points, including five straight late after the Spurs pulled within two, to lead Detroit to its 12th straight home

Tayshaun Price scored 22, Rasheed Wallace had 15 and Richard Hamilton, limited by a sprained left ankle, added 11 points.

Suns 97, Grizzlies 91 At Memphis, Tenn., Joe Johnson scored 28 points, including a 3-pointer with half a minute to play, to lead Phoenix.

Steve Nash had 13 points and 13 assists for the Suns, while Shawn Marion had 14 points and 16 rebounds.

SuperSonics 102, Lakers 100 At Los Angeles, Rashard Lewis had 27

points and 11 rebounds, Ronald Murray filled in for the injured Ray Allen with a season-high 25 points, and Seattle held off the slumping Lakers.

The loss was the fifth straight for the Lakers — their longest losing streak since they finished the 1993-94 season with 10

Nuggets 114, Bucks 103

At Denver, Andre Miller had 22 points and eight assists and the Nuggets made more than half their shots for the third straight game and won for the 11th time in 12 games.

Kenyon Martin finished with 19 points for Denver, Earl Boykins finished with 10 points and eight assists and Carmelo Anthony had 15 points.

Warriors 104, Kings 94

At Sacramento, Calif., Troy Murphy scored 29 points and had 14 rebounds and Golden State won its third straight.

After losing 11 in a row at Arco Arena entering this season, Golden State has won two straight and took the season series from the Kings 3-1.

**Timberwolves 94, Rockets 86** At Minneapolis, Kevin Garnett had 30

fourth straight win.

points, 17 rebounds and six assists to lead Minnesota over Houston. Yao Ming had 21 points and five

rebounds for Houston, but did most of his damage in the first quarter. Nets 94, Pacers 85

At Indianapolis, Vince Carter scored 39 points, including 14 in the third quarter when the Nets pulled away for a season-best

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You possess an unusual ability to sway people to your point of view. Your focus mixed with a strong sense of direction only adds to your success. Many people want to be your friend or acquaintance; pick and choose with care. Your creativity helps eliminate any obstacle that appears on your path. Find joy in daily occurrences; be more childlike. Luxuriate in a hot bath. Relish a brisk walk. A strong drive to achieve and make a difference earmarks your accomplishments. Do your best to avoid controversy with those who have an influence on your life. If you are single, you can kiss that status goodbye. If you want to stay footloose and fancy-free, enjoy all the dating and romance. If you are attached, your relationship will heat up. You might feel like newfound lovers again. LEO always adds humor.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

#### ARIES (March 21-April 19)

\*\*\* Venus moves into your sign, adding to your charm and interpersonal skills. You are a strong force that's not easily denied. Zoom in on what you want. Networking, brainstorming and just being yourself work no matter what you are up to. Tonight: Think "practi-

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

\*\* You could be overly sensitive and take comments personally. Watch this trend for the next few weeks. A partner is willing to pitch in. You gain a great sense of peace from your home and domestic life. Tonight: What starts out as sedate might become crazy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

\*\*\* Mercury retrograde could be affecting your communication and domestic life. You can rise above any problem by putting yourself out there. Don't hold back. Share your ultimate goals. A friendship might become more. Tonight: Curl up with a good book or movie.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

\*\* Work on your public image. As a result, you could easily spend some extra money to improve your presentation. Someone sees you in a very positive light. You draw key acknowledgments in the next few weeks. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's weekend.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

\*\*\*\* Distant drummers call. You could be thinking of a vacation or someone far away. In the next few weeks, why not solidify plans revolving around this person and/or trip? A short break will refresh and energize you. Tonight: Treat someone to dinner. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

\*\* Someone is more than ready to help, be it financially or emotionally. Let this person express his or her feelings. You both feel supported and nurtured. Funds from a different source head your way in the near future. Tonight: Come out of your cocoon.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

\*\*\* Meetings and get-togethers draw the responses you desire. A partner or loved one might be much more affectionate in the next few weeks. You clearly are cared for. Comments and conversations help establish better bonds. Take a criticism in stride. Tonight: Slow down. Schedule some private time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

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ing associate or friend to pitch in. Curb

a tendency to overeat or go overboard. Try moderation in your health and diet. Revamp your finances. One of your talents enhances your moneymaking capabilities. Tonight: Go to a basketball game, or get into some other sport. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

\*\*\*\* You innately do the right thing at the right time. You might reverse gears, change plans or even surprise others with unexpected behavior. A creative or artistic project takes off. For others, romance builds. Tonight: A late dinner.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

\*\*\* Your innate sense of what is right helps move a touchy situation. Count on a close friend or associate to pitch in and help. You rarely need financial advice, but you just might decide to get others' opinions. Tonight: Rent a movie or listen to music. Let your mind wander.

AQUARIUS (Jap. 20-Feb. 18)

\*\*\*\* Others dominate, and you couldn't care less. Follow someone else's lead. Be graceful and receptive to different ideas. The way you receive suggestions could enhance your relationships. People will share with you more often. Tonight: Certainly not

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

\*\*\* Dive into a project. You might want and need to spend some money. Why not? Add to your wardrobe, or decide to buy a new "toy." You only live once. Use care with a boss or key person in your life. This person can be very changeable. Tonight: Chill out first, then decide. **BORN TODAY** 

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#### 21 Help Wanted

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CNA-Full time w/ benefits; PRN CNA positions are also avail. St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle, Tx. (806)537-3194.

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#### Missing children feared dead after lodge explosion

PAONIA, Colo. (AP) -Authorities are fearing the worst after a search came up empty for three missing children believed to be among the victims of a powerful blast that leveled a secluded mountain lodge and injured dozens.

Fire investigators were expected to return to the Electric Mountain Lodge on Monday. Officials had not determined what triggered the explosion, but said it may have been caused by propane gas used to heat the site.

Authorities said 16 people were taken to the hospital with injuries ranging from burns and smoke inhalation to "serious compound fractures."

The Delta County coroner had not received word of any deaths, but Sheriff Fred McKee said the missing children — ages 3, 12 and 15 were last seen at the lodge and that an active search had been called off Sunday.

"It's going to be a very difficult task," McKee told the Rocky Mountain News in Monday's editions. "The urgency is different than it was last night. In this situation, they are presumed dead."

The urgency is different than it was last night. In this situation, they are presumed dead."

- Fred McKee Delta Co., Colo., Sheriff

The youngsters were from the same extended family that owned the lodge, McKee said. The family was "doing as well as could be expecthe said. The victims' names were not released.

Saturday's fiery explosion quickly destroyed the lodge, leaving only two chimneys and smoldering rubble, witnesses said.

Steve Douglas, one of the lodge's co-owners, said a family reunion was scheduled for the building.

#### **College Chorale** launching 2005 **Spring Tour**

Clarendon College Chorale is currently staging its 2005 Spring Tour.

Under the direction of Brian Kuhnert, the chorale recently traveled to Palo Duro, Caprock and River Road high schools in Amarillo. An appearance at Pampa High School is scheduled for April.

The chorale performs 10 musical selections as diverse as "Nocturne, Op. 72, No.1" by Frédéric Chopin, "Der Tanz" by Franz Shubert, "On My Own" from the musical "Les Miserables" and the contemporary hit song "I Can Only Imagine."

Traveling to and performing for area high schools is an annual springtime tradition for the chorale.

"It is an opportunity for the students to showcase their musical talents and recruit future choir members who, regardless of their college major, have an enjoyment of music and singing," said Kuhnert.

Members of the chorale include Michelle Cox, Julian George, Josh Gibson, Shelby McGahen, Atlanta Son and Jenny Tollison, all

of Pampa. "Scholarship money is available for anyone interested in joining," Kuhnert

For more information about Clarendon College and the Clarendon College Music Department, call 806-874-4836.

# New details emerge in Florida girl's death

'He needs to

stand up and be a

man now and take

his death penalty."

— Mark Lunsford

Father of murder vicitm

Jessica Lunsford's church, the Rev. William LaVerle Coats asked his congregation to do the nearly impossible: Forgive the convicted sex offender accused of sexually assaulting and then killing the 9year-old girl.

As more details emerged about the child's abduction and death, her father said he wanted nothing more than to personally mete out justice to the man suspected in the crimes.

"I won't get the wish, but I wish I could see him, just one time," Mark Lunsford said Sunday.

His daughter, Jessica Marie Lunsford, was snatched from her home last month by a registered sex offender who entered through an unlocked door and later sexually assaulted her, officials said after examining her body.

Because the suspect, John Evander Couey, was under the influence of drugs, detectives might

HOMOSASSA, Fla. (AP) — At never know how long she was held found early Saturday, more than be a man now and take his death before she was slain, Citrus County Sheriff Jeff Dawsy said.

Couey, 46, has not yet been charged with any crimes related to Jessica's disappear-

ance; Dawsy has repeatedly said he wants prosecutors to seek the death penal-Couey was booked early Sunday on a probation violation and failure to register his change of address as required as a sex offender.

"I don't believe you have two chances when you get involved with a young child," Dawsy told ABC's "Good Morning America" early Monday.

According to authorities, Couey confessed to kidnapping and killing Jessica after taking a lie-detector test in Georgia. The girl's body was

three weeks after she vanished from her bedroom.

Now, Mark Lunsford and his relatives said they would soon begin

planning Jessica's funeral.

At Jessica's church on Sunday, the pastor asked for prayers for the family.

"Lord, we don't always understand your ways," Coats told 175 mourners during services at Faith Baptist Church, where many people

saw the girl for the last time on the night she disappeared. "We accept what has taken place here, and ask that you would give us some peace."

Coats also asked churchgoers to forgive Couey; Jessica's father said he may have a hard time with that request. "He needs to stand up and

penalty," Mark Lunsford said.

Earlier Sunday, Couey appeared before a judge at the Citrus County jail. He was declared indigent, held without bail and was told a public defender would be assigned to his

Couey returned to Florida in an unmarked sheriff's vehicle, wearing a bulletproof vest. As a precaution, the timing of his arrival from Georgia was kept secret. Although the sheriff's office was not aware of any threats against Couey, the suspect was being held in isolation for his safety, authorities said.

Down the street from the Lunsford home, well-wishers piled dozens of stuffed animals, flowers and candles high on a makeshift memorial. "God's newest little angel," one sign read.

Jessica, a third-grader, was last seen the night of Feb. 23 when she went to bed after attending church.



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