

Volume 100 • No. 1226

THE PAMPA

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Aonday, April 4, 2005







Money coming in won't equal what's

exceed the amount paid in as early as 2017 or 2018, according to U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry in a town hall meeting Saturday in Pampa.

"The money coming in will not be enough to pay benefits going out in 2017 to 2018," he told an audience of about 20 in the Community Building, where the town hall meeting began at 11:30 a.m.

funds would be extended to 2042 if the federal government repays what it has borrowed from the account, Thornberry said.

"In 1982 or '83, Congress passed a law which increased the retirement age and Social Security taxes. We've gotten a little bit of extra money, but the federal government has spent that on other things and put an IOU in the Social Security account, promising to pay it back.

citizens," he said.

Thornberry discusses Social Security

going out, he says **By MARILYN POWERS** Staff Writer

Social Security payouts could

The solvency of Social Security

"To turn that IOU back into real money would mean higher taxes or lower spending. The government only gets money from one place - its "One way to get Social Security funds out of the general fund where the government can't keep dipping into it is to get it out of Washington



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

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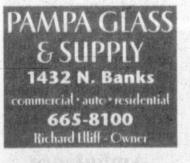
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Meeting Notice

Official to visit Top O' Texas Lodge #1381 Top O' Texas Lodge 1381 AF&AM invites all master masons to the regular stated meeting on Tuesday, April 5. Right Worshipful Grett Betts, DDGM Masonic District #98, Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, will be making his official visit. Meeting time is 7:30 p.m., preceded by meal at 6:30 p.m.

See THORNBERRY, Page 3

U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry explains a chart showing the narrowing ratio of workers paying into Social Security to those drawing benefits from the program. Thornberry was in Pampa Saturday for a town hall meeting in the Community Building, where he discussed Social Security, an energy bill, national defense, and U.S. border control.

RMWA submits shiner management plan

By DAVID BOWSER Staff Writer

Canadian River Municipal Water Authority has submitted a management plan for a small minnow to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Arkansas River shiner, a two-inch long minnow found in the Arkansas River including the Basin, Canadian River, was designated a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act in 1998.

In response to a lawsuit filed by a Tucson, Ariz., based environmental group, the Fish and Wildlife Service designated portions of the

Canadian River as critical habitat for the fish in 2001. An opposing lawsuit,

however, filed by a coalition of water groups, states and agricultural associations vacated the ini-

tat. The Fish and Wildlife Service has now proposed new critical habitat boundaries, but has left open the option of omit-

tial critical habi-

oped and submitted prior to May 1.

John Williams, retired general manager of the

'These actions should result in substantial saving of water in the basin ...'

> - John Williams Water authority consultant

plan calls for a salt cedar and ting part of the habitat if a Water Authority and now a suitable management plan consultant to the water brush control program along for specific areas are devel- authority, said the manage- the water ways above Lake

Pope's body moved from Apostolic **Palace through St. Peter's Square**

VATICAN CITY (AP) — The body of Pope John Paul II was borne into St. Peter's Basilica for public viewing Monday, four days before being entombed in the grotto below, where pontiffs throughout the ages have been laid to rest.

Applause rose from the tens of thousands of mourners in St. Peter's Square as 12 pallbearers, flanked by Swiss Guards in red-plumed helmets, carried the body on a crimson platform through the Bronze Door into the piazza.

The procession, to the backdrop of priests chanting the Litany of the Saints, began at the Sala Clementina in the Apostolic Palace, where John Paul had lain in state since Sunday.

The applause along the route was a customary Italian gesture of respect. Before the procession, the camer-

lengo responsible for running church affairs following the pope's death, Cardinal Eduardo Martinez Somalo, said prayers and blessed the body with holy water, as chanting echoed off the walls of the ornate Vatican hall

Video images of the procession were shown on giant screens in the square and on the main avenue leading to the basilica, where more than 100,000 pilgrims, mourners and tourists solemnly watched.

At least 60 members of the College of Cardinals, the red-capped princes of the church, accompanied the procession, along with bishops and other prelates.

Emerging through the Bronze Door, the procession moved across St. Peter's Square toward the basilica's central doors.

ment plan being proposed by CRMWA is intended to aid in conservation and recovery Canadian River Municipal

of the minnow while avoiding restrictive regulations in the proposed

areas of critical habitat upstream from Lake Meredith, the reservoir which is the primary source of water for

water

draft

the

authority.

The

Meredith in the Texas Panhandle and New Mexico. Such programs are already underway, Williams said,

using federal and state funds. The National Park Service and U.S. Bureau of

Reclamation also have brush control activities around the lake.

"These actions should result in substantial saving of water in the basin," Williams said, "benefiting the shiner and other species as well as water users.

Williams said that no new programs by landowners are envisioned by the draft plan other than the brush control project.

12 well permits before PGWCD

WHITE DEER - Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District board of directors will consider 12 well permits, bids on two parcels of land in Donley County, an exception to well spacing policy and implementing a procedures document.

They will also hear a legislative update and a report from their drip irrigation committee.

The district staff is recommending that single well permits be approved for three wells for the Mays Trust in Potter County; Campbell Estates, Carson County; Gene Scivally, Armstrong County; two wells for Ray Cogburn, Wheeler County; Willis Watson, Gray County; Mike Oldham, Wheeler County; Stegall Farms, Donley County; Mark Cadra, Wheeler County, and Patrick H. Weinheimer, Carson County.

The PGWCD board meets at 9 a.m. Wednesday, at their offices in White Deer.

Financial woes Lefors ISD board to consider cutting district work force

" Independent Lefors School District's school board will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 5 in the high school library, 209 E. 5th, to conduct an executive session concerning personnel.

A proposed program change on reduction in force declaring financial exigency is on the agenda. Board members will go into executive session to consider recommendations on stipends and on nonrenewal under reduction in force conditions.

2 — Monday, April 4, 2005 — The Pampa News

Obituaries

Mark A. Johnson, 51

Mark A. Johnson, 51, died Saturday, April 2, 2005, in Pampa. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral directors.

Mr. Johnson was born on April 14, 1953, in Pampa and was a 1972 graduate of Pampa High School. He received a B.A. degree in art from Texas Tech University. He was an artist and a member of the Catholic Church.

Survivors include two brothers, Tommy Johnson of Billings, Mont., and Chris Johnson and wife Nita of Childress; a sister,

Lea Laycock and husband Randy of Lubbock; seven nephews, Aric Johnson, Matt Laycock, Ben Laycock, Joshua Johnson, Tim Johnson, Kevin Johnson and Kyle Johnson; and one great-nephew, Aiden Johnson.

Memorial may be made to a favorite char-

The family will be at 201 S. Nelson in Pampa.

Gray County Weather

This Afternoon: Partly cloudy, with a high around 86. West wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1am. Partly cloudy, with a low around 46. West southwest wind around 20 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thun-Increasing derstorms. clouds, with a high near 65. Windy, with a northwest wind between 25 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph.

Tuesday night: Partly and 15 mph.

cloudy, with a low near 34. Wind chill values between 23 and 28. Windy, with a north northwest wind between 25 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 63. Windy, with a north northwest wind around 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Wednesday night: Mostly clear, with a low around 39. North wind between 10 and 20 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 70. North northeast wind between 10

Thursday night: Mostly clear, with a low around 41. Northeast wind around 10 mph becoming south southeast.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 74. South wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Friday night: Mostly clear, with a low near 48.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high around 70.

Saturday night: Partly cloudy and windy, with a low around 45.

Sunday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 67.

Rural/Metro fined nearly \$1 million

know of any harm to

patients, they are considering

ice for up to a million peo-

McMahan, board chairman

of the ambulance authority,

which issued the fines. "You

don't change contractors

automatically. It has not been

Howard

said

be replaced.

ple,"

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — An ambulance company serving Fort Worth and 13 other cities has been fined nearly \$1 million for slow response times.

Rural/Metro has been hit with \$987,620 in penalties for the 12 months ending in February, according to records from the Area Metropolitan Ambulance Authority, also known as MedStar. ruled out, but it is a step we

Although ambulance authority officials don't would hate to take."

Michael Collins, Rural/Metro division manager in Fort Worth, said the service in 2004, up from 71,545 in 2001.

And the October closing of Fort Worth's Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas has caused ambulance crews to wait longer at other facilities to drop patients off.

Hamilton.

A suspicious person call was received concerning intersection the of Kentucky and Garland streets.

under 28 grams, and possession of dangerous drugs. Arley French, 50, 1805 N. Beech, was arrested in the 100 block of East to a medical assist in the Atchison for possession of

in the 1000 block of South Hobart.

2:57 p.m. - One unit and three firefighters responded 900 block of Beryl.

Meeting the first President Bush



Tiffani Neef, right, daughter of Dusty and Bonnie Neef of Pampa, recently met former U.S. President George Bush Sr., left. Neef, a 2003 graduate of Pampa High School, is a junior at Texas A&M University in College Station, TX, majoring in special education and deaf education. She works at the International Center which is connected to the George Bush Library. She has also met Barbara Bush and Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Pampa PD

Emergency Services

Police Pampa Department reported the following incidents and arrests today.

into the street. A call concerning violation of a city ordinance was

of Twiford. A man reportedly was throwing shingles

Johnny D. Bridges, 22,

streets. Public intoxication was

reported in the 400 block of North Duncan.

received from the 300 block 109 N. Dwight, was arrested in the 800 block of South Hobart for possession of drug paraphernalia. Gregory Edmondson, 25, 729 Dean, was arrested in the 600 block of North Hobart on a capias pro fine for speeding.

how to improve services and whether the company should company has staffing shortages at a time of increased calls - 80,986 requests for "This is ambulance serv-

Saturday, April 2 Sixteen traffic stops were

made. Traffic complaints were received from the intersection of Sunset and Ballard streets, and the 900 block of North Frost. Motorist assistance was rendered in the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway, and the intersection of Brown and Cuyler streets.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 2200 block of North Hobart. A hit and run accident was reported in the 1300 block of North Hobart.

Suspicious person calls were received from the intersection of Francis and Ballard streets, the 1300 block of North Russell, and the 1800 block of West Alcock.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 300 block of North Wells, the 700 block of North Russell, and the 600 block of North Hobart.

A call concerning driving while intoxicated was received from the 1000 block of North Hobart.

A call concerning violation of a city ordinance was received from the 900 block



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of Canadian. Juveniles were reportedly shooting off fireworks

One business check was conducted. One residential and one business alarm were reported.

Theft was reported in the 1200 block of East Kingsmill. A Nintendo was reported stolen.

Theft was reported in the block of North 500 Starkweather, where an article of clothing was reported taken.

An unattended death was reported in the 900 block of Beryl.

Law enforcement assistance was rendered in the 600 block of North Hobart and the 200 block of North Russell. Fire departmentassistance was rendered in the 600 block of East Browning.

Warrant service was attempted at two locations. Criminal trespass was called in from the 600 block

of South Russell. Criminal mischief was

reported in the 1500 block of North Sumner. A car was dented, causing \$800 in damage.

Criminal mischief was reported at Lamar Elementary School, 1234 S. Windows were Nelson. broken out. Estimated cost of damage is unknown.

A call concerning a domestic disturbance was received from the 300 block of Tignor.

Disorderly conduct/noise was reported from the 1300 block of Garland.

Possible attempted burglary was called in from the 1100 block of Seneca Lane. Aggravated assault with

a deadly weapon was reported in the 500 block of South Russell. No injuries were reported.

A foot pursuit was reported at the intersection of and Cuyler Montague

Sunday, April 3

Four traffic stops were made. Vehicle accidents were reported in the 100 block of South Hobart and the 200 block of South Nelson.

Disorderly conduct/fighting was reported in the 700 block of North Nelson and the 300 block of North Cuyler.

Disorderly conduct/noise was reported in the 1000 block of South Dwight and the 1300 block of Coffee.

Disorderly conduct/other was reported in the police department lobby and the 2100 block of North Faulkner.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 900 block of Mary Ellen. The back window was broken out of a vehicle.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of North Frost. A window was shot out.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1000 block of North Wells. A vehicle window was shattered.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of East Foster. Windows were broken out of a van.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1100 block of East Francis. A window was shot out of a Suburban.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1000-block of Mary Ellen. The back window of a vehicle was broken.

A criminal mischief call was received from the 1200 block of North Russell.

Prowlers were reported in the 200 block of Tignor and the 1300 block of

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the 100 block of East Foster.

Driving while intoxicated was called in from the 400 block of South Russell.

Law enforcement assistance was rendered in the 1100 block of Duncan.

Assault was reported from the intersection of Harvester and Hamilton streets.

Assault was reported in police department the incident lobby. The occurred on April 2.

Assault with bodily injury reportedly occurred in the 2200 block of North Hobart. The victim sustained lacerations from being pushed off a bicycle. Silent/abusive 911 calls

were received from the 2100 block of Coffee and the 300 block of North Hobart.

Found property was reported in the 2300 block of Navajo. A bicycle was found.

Burglary was reported in the 1900 block of Charles.

Theft was reported in the 1100 block of Crane Road and the 2300 block of Navajo Road. In each incident, a bicycle was stolen.

Theft was reported in the 1300 block of Coffee, where a bedspread and sheets were stolen.

Theft was reported at One Medical Plaza.

A criminal trespass call was received from the 500 block of North Faulkner.

Narcotic drug law violations were reported at One Medical Plaza, the 1200 block of Christine, and the intersection of Kentucky and Garland streets.

Billy Ray Brown, 33, 745 W. Williston, was arrested at Pampa Regional Medical Center for possession of drug paraphernalia, theft under \$1,500, possession of controlled substance a

less than one gram of a controlled substance, and possession of dangerous drugs.

Juan Jose Torres, 37, Shamrock, was arrested in the 100 block of East Foster for public intoxication.

Monday, April 4

Anthony Paul Gamble, 34, 1400 W. Somerville, was arrested at the intersection of Kingsmill and Lefors streets on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated.

Justin Dale Smith, 19, 812 Brunow, was arrested in the intersection of Kentucky and Garland streets for possession of less than two ounces of marijuana.

Sheriff

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

Saturday, April 2 Jeramie Don White, 29, 8120 County Road 17, was arrested by the Lefors City Marshall for fictitious vehicle registration.

Clinton M. Oldham, 27, 1312 Coffee #4, was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia, theft of property by check, and theft.

Sunday, April 3

David Allen Bolch, 26, 618 W. Francis, was arrested for unlawful carrying of a weapon, and a warrant for criminal non-support.

Monday, April 4

Brian Lee Williams, 37, Perryton, was arrested on a warrant for issuing a bad check.

Fire

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

Saturday, April 2

12:45 p.m. - One unit three firefighters and responded to a lifting assist

7:41 p.m. – Two units and six firefighters responded to a reported structure fire in the 600 block of East Browning. On arrival, firefighters found trash smoldering in a bucket on the front porch.

8:27 p.m. - One unit and three firefighters responded to the 900 block of Fischer where a homeowner was having problems shutting off a barbecue grill.

10:17 p.m. - Two units firefighters and six responded to a reported structure fire in the 500 block of East Kingsmill. Smoke was coming from a barbecue grill in the backyard.

Sunday, April 2

7:38 a.m. - One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 1000 block of North Wells.

5:58 p.m. - Two units six firefighters and responded to a motor vehicle collision in the 100 block of South Hobart. A vehicle had struck a light pole, trapping one person inside. Firefighters used an extrication tool to remove the person. Three people were transported to the hospital.

Ambulance

Guardian EMS responded to the following calls.

Sunday, April 3

7:37 a.m. - A mobile intensive care unit responded to the 1000 block of North Wells and transported on patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

5:55 p.m. - A MICU responded to the 800 block of South Hobart and transported three to PRMC.

8:27 p.m. - A MICU responded to the 400 block of Oklahoma and transported one to PRMC.



Pampa News photo by REDONN WOODS

Sculpture gifts

Lana and Kelly Miller, seated, and Bob Dixon, standing, admire the sculpture given to table sponsors at the National Rifle Association annual banquet at M.K. Brown Auditorium Saturday evening.

Suicide bomber blows himself up in second attack in three days near Abu Ghraib prison

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A suicide bomber driving a tractor blew himself up Monday in the second attack in three days near the infamous Abu Ghraib prison.

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An attack on the prison Saturday killed one militant and wounded 44 American troops, 13 prisoners and about 50 insurgents, the U.S. military said.

In a separate attack also on Saturday, an American

soldier was killed and another was injured after coming under fire in the northern city of Tal Afar, the U.S. military said Monday. The injured soldier was taken to a combat hospital for treatment.

As of Saturday, at least 1,533 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

When Social

Security started,

most people did not

live long enough to

receive it.'

- Mac Thornberry

U.S. Representative

heard, but he had no details Monday's bombing killed on the incident. the attacker and injured four civilians, police said. It was

Abu Ghraib was at the center of a prison abuse scandal last year after photographs became public that showed U.S. soldiers humiliating Iraqi inmates sexually, including having them pile naked in a human pyramid. The United States is holding 10,500 prisoners in Iraq, nearly 3,500 of them at Abu Ghraib.

The Pampa News — Monday, April 4, 2005 — 3

Kyrgyz president signs resignation

MOSCOW (AP) Kyrgyzstan President Askar Akayev, who fled the country last month after demonstrators stormed his offices, signed a resignation agreement Monday, a key step toward restoring stability in the Central Asian nation. Kyrgyz lawmakers said.

The ex-Soviet state has been in turmoil since an anti-Akayev demonstration on March 24 grew into a clash outside the presidential administration building. Riot police guarding the building fled and protesters rushed inside. Akayev surfaced in Russia several days later.

Akayev signed the agreement at the Kyrgyz Embassy in Moscow and made a recording, apologizing to the people, that will be read to the parliament and be broadcast on television in Kyrgyzstan, said lawmaker Tashkul Kereksizov, who helped arrange the deal.

The resignation will-be effective Tuesday, lawmakers said.





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Thornberry

Continued from Page 1

by privatizing it," Thornberry said. The government IOU is not the only source of strain on Social Security funds. In 1945, when the program began, there were 41.9 workers paying into it for every person who drew benefits. In 2005, there are 3.3 workers per payee; by 2040, there will be two workers per retiree. Thornberry said.

Increased life expectancy and decreased

retirement age is also straining the program. "When Social Security

started, most people did not live long enough to receive it. Now, people are retired longer, partly because we're living longer and partly because we're retiring younger," Thornberry said.

Social Security reform will be one of the major issues Congress will debate during its current session, =

which resumed today after an Easter break. "An energy bill is high on the agenda. We are importing about 63 percent of the oil we use. That is not the way it ought to be.

"The energy bill we're going to work on in the next few weeks will try to help that," Thornberry said. Congress will discuss various forms of energy in addition to oil, such as natural gas, wind energy and ethanol.

1975. And we may look again at nuclear energy," he said.

Members of the audience voiced their Thornberry said.

concerns about illegal immigrants, who Thornberry said have an economic and security impact on the U.S.

Baghdad.

not immediately clear

whether the suicide bomber

was targeting the prison on

the western outskirts of

1st Lt. Akram al-Zubaeyee,

said vehicle exploded near

the prison's gate. U.S. mili-

tary spokesman Lt. Col. Guy

Rudisill said a blast was

An Iraqi police official,

"It's a basic job of any country to control its borders, and obviously we're not. I'm not sure everybody fully appreciates the security standpoint, and how vulnerable we really are from someone who can come across the border with a suitcase," Thornberry said.

"In a bill we passed last fall, we included a bunch more border patrol agents. The administration said no, we're not going to fund that many new agents. So we stuck it on a bill this year," he said.

A fence being built between the U.S. and Mexico has been put on hold due to a lawsuit concerning an endangered species which is said to be impacted by the fence.

"We stuck on a bill a provision to finish the fence at all costs with federal funding," Thornberry said.

President Bush has suggested a guest worker agreement with Mexico so that Mexican citizens can cross the border into the = U.S. to work here legally and then go back to Mexico.

"The only way that's going to work is if you can control your border," Thornberry said. "And, we do not enforce the law against employers hiring people who are in this country illegally."

A third topic on the agenda for the current Congressional session is national defense.

"The federal government is looking at "We haven't built a new oil refinery since decreasing the size of our European troops, but at the same time spreading out into countries formerly behind the Iron Curtain,"

Prince Charles' wedding moved to Saturday due to pope's funeral

LONDON (AP) - Prince Charles will delay his wedding by a day to attend the funeral of Pope John Paul II on Friday, his office announced Monday.

The heir to the British throne was to have wed Camilla Parker Bowles in a civil ceremony on Friday but instead will represent Queen Elizabeth II at the funeral.

The funeral "must take a memorial service for the priority," a Buckingham Palace spokeswoman said.

Charles and Parker Bowles made the decision to move the wedding to Saturday after he cut short his Swiss skiing vacation Monday, a spokesman for his Clarence House office said.

Charles returned to attend London.

at London's pope Westminster Cathedral, which Parker Bowles also planned to attend, the spokesman said. She will not be going to the funeral, the spokesman added.

The couple plan to marry in a civil ceremony in the town hall at Windsor, west of

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Tuesday

at 10am

Viewpoints

Son shows expertise in setting up schedules

covered a school system.

I had to smile to myself as listened to Deputy Superintendent Jane Steele and the elementary school principals report on their efforts to juggle student mumbers with regard to new boundaries and PISD's transfer policy.

I thought about offering the services of my son. He had no problem with schedules

Of course, that was when he was in middle school and the only change he made was to one schedule – his.

My ex-wife was a middle school principal, his middle school principal. Being a very organized and dedicated person, she would begin grade year began, his mother

It's been a while since I've working on next year's schedule soon after the fall semester began each year. She would spend hours diligently working on her schedules, surrounded by

stacks of papers, yellow note pads, forms and diagrams. It was soon after our divorce that my son started middle school.

My ex-wife would get him up early in the morning and take him to school with her. He would sit in the back of the school office complex, in the counselors' suite of offices, supposedly studying until classes began. In point of fact, he spent a lot more time visiting with the counselors than studying.

By the time his eighth

was still picking his teachers principal, approved it. and classes and setting up his schedule with little input from my young scion.

That didn't stop my son, though. His mother that year had set up his schedule with he was only an eighth grade

the best teachers in David the school, Bowser his but friends Staff Writer were in other class-

es

That didn't stop my son, either. He sat down, refigured his schedule and took it to his counselor.

She looked at it and, after checking the classes, admitted that it would work and said that he could change his schedule if his mother, the

With a broad grin and convincing voice, my son assured the counselor that his mother was the one that had figured it out. After all,

> student. What did he know of such things? The schedule change a S approved,

and my son was in his new classes with his friends for almost a week before Momma found out.

That's when I got one of those calls. The call that begins, "Do you know where YOUR son is right now? YOUR son is in the assistant

principal's office."

For the uninitiated, the assistant principal is the disciplinarian, and I got several of those calls from the principal. She saw no humor when I asked, "Isn't that a difficult thing to do? Didn't you used to spend hours, days, weeks figuring out schedules? MY son must be pretty smart to do that all by himself."

No sense of humor at all. But if the Pampa Independent School District needs my son to help them with their scheduling, I'm sure he'd be happy to help.

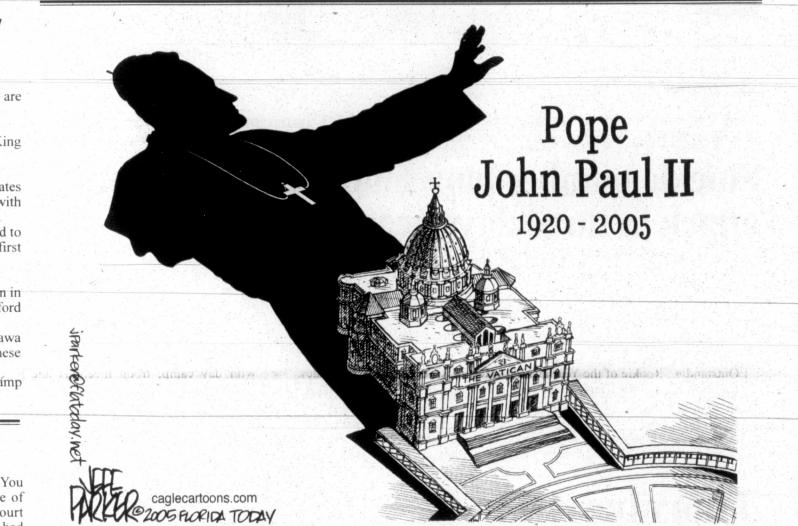
My only worry concerns the lottery that Ms. Steele and the principals are proposing with regard to transfers.

I don't know how, but I'm sure that my son would find a profit in that somewhere and that reminds me of the Jolly Rancher story or the baseball card trading story when my son was in middle school.

I first became aware of those stories when the phone rang and the harsh female voice on the other end of the line said, "Do you know where YOUR son is right now?"

Come to think of it, Ms. Steele and the elementary principals would probably do a lot better without the help of my son.

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



Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, April 4, the 94th day of 2005. There are 271 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 4, 1968, civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., 39, was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn.

On this date:

In 1818, Congress decided the flag of the United States would consist of 13 red and white stripes and 20 stars, with a new star to be added for every new state of the Union.

In 1841, President William Henry Harrison succumbed to pneumonia one month after his inaugural, becoming the first U.S. chief executive to die in office.

In 1850, the city of Los Angeles was incorporated.

In 1902, British financier Cecil Rhodes left \$10 million in his will to provide scholarships for Americans at Oxford University

In 1945, during World War II, U.S. troops on Okinawa encountered the first significant resistance from Japanese forces

In 1945, U.S. forces liberated the Nazi prison camp Ohrdruf in Germany.

Our readers write

Fine seemed too excessive

In November of 2004, I failed to stop at a stop sign. I was cited by an officer of the Pampa Police Department. The officer was very professional and courteous, and I was guilty.

I appeared in the City of Pampa Municipal court, and asked to attend a driver safety course. At that time I paid a non-refundable fee of \$10 and I also paid \$85 in court costs. I also paid \$10 for my driving record.

In the 90 days I had to complete the driving safety course, I was hospitalized twice. I failed to complete the driving safety course.

I then appeared before (the municipal judge) Kurt Curfman and was advised, "I could not extend the time

to complete the course. You will have to pay the fine of \$100 plus \$85 for court costs." I then asked if I had not already paid the court costs. Curfman then advised that the \$85 I had already paid was "lost;" it had been sent to Austin. I then asked where the second court costs of \$85 went. I was advised by Curfman, "To the City of Pampa." I then asked where the \$100 fine went, he replied, "To the City of

Pampa.' In the end, the court costs were collected twice, making the total for not obeying the stop sign \$290.

The Eighth Amendment of the Bill of Rights is supposed to protect us, the people, from excessive fines, but it seems in this case, that didn't apply.

Ed Brown Pampa

Govern by law or good ideas?

Here's my question to you: Should we be governed by good ideas?

You say, "Williams, what do you mean?"

Here's an example: I regularly bike for fun, cardiovascular fitness and, hopefully, for a longer, healthier life. In my opinion, that's a good idea. That being the case, would you deem it proper for Congress to enact legislation requiring Americans to bike regularly or perform some other cardiovascular fitness exercise?

What if Congress-didn't act on this good idea? Would you deem it proper and acceptable if five out of nine U.S. Supreme Court justices, in the name of "evolving

standards" and promoting the general welfare, decreed that we all participate in some fitness exercise?

Let's look at it. It's easy to dismiss my questions and example by saying they're stupid and

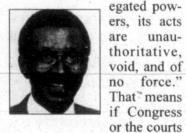
far-fetched. Walter A more Williams enlightened response Columnist would be to quote from Thomas Jefferson:

"Congress has not unlimited

holds only those powers del-

egated or enumerated in the Constitution.

Your follow-up response might be another Thomas Jefferson quotation: "[T]hat whensoever the General Government assumes undel-



were to mandate biking, we could ignore it.

Suppose biking advocates saw no hope in getting Congress to enact legislation mandating regular biking and saw the U.S. Supreme

Court as a means to accomplish their ends. Tell me your preference. Would you prefer the justices to rule along the lines they did in the recent Roper v. Simmons case, finding the execution of teenagers unconstitutional because, as Justice Anthony Kennedy speaking for the 5-4 majority said, "It is proper that we acknowledge the overwhelming weight of international opinion against the juvenile death penalty"? Modified to fit my biking example, Justice Kennedy might say, "We acknowledge the overwhelming weight of international opinion that regular biking is a good

See LAW, Page 5

powers to provide for the general welfare, but only those specifically enumerated." In other words, Congress

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email: editor@thepampanews.com

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Lack of preparation makes crisis

The peak production of oil and its inevitable decline is now within sight.

The United States has only two choices. It can begin now to deal with the shortage and consequent high prices, or it can do nothing and suffer the dire consequences of what some shortsighted person in the future is sure to label "the oil crisis."

Only a lack of preparation will make it a crisis.

I noticed that some writers are still yodeling the old tune "Don't worry. There's plenty of oil out there." Well, in the first place, on the subject of

oil it is best to consult geologists, preferably those who have retired from oil compaspeak to preserve their paychecks.

Writers Charley are just Reese word people, Columnist a n d these days you have to

wonder whose payroll they

amount of oil in a finite

world and belief that tech-

Belief in an infinite

are on.

problems are just two of the postmodern world's superstitions. They are, as the thenies and no longer have to ologians say, a matter of faith, because no proof is available.

Technology moves at a much slower rate than most people imagine. The way it works is that some genius

makes a breakthrough, and for the next 100 years or so lesser people gradually add modifications and improvements. It's taken more than nology can solve all of our 100 years to get to the car

that I just filled up with gas for \$30. Yet it remains a box on wheels driven by a fossilfuel-powered engine connected to mechanical gears.

You would do better to believe in the Easter Bunny than to believe that the Gods of Technology are going to wave their magic wand and solve our energy problems. That's especially true because nobody is paying them to search for solutions. It still takes about 10 years to go from oil exploration and discovery to the refineries. How fast do you think

See OIL, Page 5

The Pampa News – Monday, April 4, 2005 – 5

Bush presenting Medal of Honor for Iraq war valor

WASHINGTON (AP) Outnumbered and exposed, Army Sgt. 1st Class Paul Ray Smith stayed at his gun, beating back an advancing Iraqi force until a bullet took his life.

The El Paso, Texas, native is credited with protecting the lives of scores of lightly armed American soldiers who were beyond his position in the battle, on April 4, 2003, near the gates of Baghdad International Airport.

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On Monday, exactly two years after Smith's death, President Bush is awarding Smith the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest award for valor. His widow, Birgit, decided that the couple's 11-year-old son, David,

will accept the medal on his father's behalf.

It is only the third Medal of Honor given for actions since the Vietnam War, and the first from the Iraq war. Smith, 33, was the senior sergeant in a platoon of engineers during the

3rd Infantry Division's northward sprint toward Baghdad. By the morning of April 4, elements of the division had reached Baghdad and captured Baghdad

International Airport, a key objective. Encircled Iraqi militiamen and Special Republican Guard forces inside launched counterattacks. Near the eastern edge of the air-

port, Smith, a veteran of the first Gulf War, had been put in charge of

t is only the third Medal of Honor given for actions since the Vietnam War, and the first from the

Iraq war.

his unit — 2nd Platoon, Bravo Company, 11th Engineer Battalion - while his lieutenant went on a scouting mission.

Smith's mission was mundane

enough - turn a courtyard into a holding pen for Iraqi prisoners of war. The courtyard, just north of the main road between Baghdad and the airport, was near an Iraqi military compound.

Soon after Smith and some of his platoon began work, records show, one trooper spotted dozens of armed Iraqis approaching from beyond the gated walls of the courtyard. Another group of Iraqis occupied a nearby tower.

Smith summoned a Bradley Fighting Vehicle, and he and his troops gathered near the courtyard gate to fight the counteráttack. An M113 armored personnel carrier joined the fray.

The Iraqis, perhaps as many as 100, attacked with rifles, mortars and rocket-propelled grenades, or RPGs. Smith threw a grenade over a wall to drive back some of the Iraqis, then fired a rocket.

Incoming RPGs battered the Bradley, which retreated. Then a mortar struck the M113, wounding the three soldiers inside and leaving its heavy machine gun unmanned. After directing another soldier to pull the wounded M113 crewmen to safety, Smith climbed into the machine gun position and began firing at the tower and at the Iraqis trying to rush the compound. His upper torso and head were exposed as he manned the gun.

Leaders in Scouting

Girl Scouts host annual banquet

Girl Scout troops from Gray County gathered at M.K. Brown Auditorium in Pampa recently to celebrate their annual banquet.

Each of the troops chose a talent for entertainment. Brownie Troop 514 performed the Girl Scout Promise in sign language. Daisy and Brownie Troops 221/222 showed off dolls they had designed.

Brownie Troop 232 performed a modern "Brownie tale," while Junior Troop 245 showed how Girl Scouts rock and roll. Daisy troop 210 sang the Daisy song, and Brownie Troop 22 sang and marched to "The Ants Go Marching In."

"This Land is your Land."

Area leaders recognized during the banquet for years of service were Lynn DiTirro, LeAnn Griffin, Jodi Smith, five years; Linda Bodie, 10 years; Pam Daugherty, 20 years; and Margaret Smith, 40 years.

LaGayla Wheat received the Outstanding Volunteer award for her work with Brownie Troop 514 and Cadet Troop 55. She has also been very active with day camps and training.

Cathy Crocket received the Outstanding Rookie of the Year award for her work with the Daisy troop 210. Linda Bodie received the Leader of the Year award, a press release said, "even though she has only been with this council since the September 2004 she has done a remarkable job with Daisy Troop 221 and Brownie troop 222."



Recognized at the recent Girl Scout banquet were award recipients Linda Bodie (Leader of the Year), Jodie Smith, Cathy Crocket (Rookie of the Year), Carol Carter, and LaGayla Wheat (Volunteer of the Year).

troops. The Girl Scouts also honored area merchants and people, The Unsung Hero award was given to: Franks Hardware, Coyote Trucking, and Merlin Rose of Keys Pharmacy, for their generosity to the Scouts of the Pampa Area.

Dr. Nguyen and Carol Carter of Wal-Mart received a plaque for their support. Dr. Nguyen has sponsored a local troop each year for the past several years, seeing that the new troop exchange students from Germany, Bodie has granddaughters in both gets uniforms, books and registration Christine Kroebel and Maikie Knutz.

fees paid for the girls where there are no funds from the previous year to work with.

Wal-Mart has given grants and merchandise to the Girl Scouts to help with day camp, troop meetings and Girls Scout House repairs.

Honored guests at this years banquet were Mr. and Mrs. Dan Carter, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Stowers, Janice Bellah, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Reed, Kelsey Bratcher, Darlene Birkes and foreign

Law

Continued from Page 4 idea."

Or, would you prefer the justices to say, "We're guided by the U.S. Constitution, and we find no constitutional authority to rule that Americans must regularly bike, despite your nonsense argument.

about the 'promoting the general welfare' clause; get out of our court"? Whether "evolving standards,' the "weight of international opinion" and good ideas should deter-

mine court decisions underlies much of the ongoing conflict over President Bush's federal court appointees. A federal court appointee who'd say his decisions are guided by the letter and spirit of our Constitution would be tagged by Democrat senators and a few Republican senators, such as Arlen Specter, as an extremist. They'd prefer justices who share former Chief Justice Charles E. Hughes' vision that, "We live under a Constitution, but the Constitution is what the judges say it is." Translated, that means we don't live under the Constitution; we live under

our Constitution, preach that the Constitution is a living document. Saying that the Constitution is a living document is the same as saying we don't have a Constitution. For rules to mean anything, they must be fixed. How many people would like to play me poker and have the rules be "living"? Depending on "evolving standards," maybe my two pair could beat your flush.

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the

The framers The framers recognized there recognized that come a time to there might come a amend Constitution, time to amend the and they gave Constitution, and us Article V as they gave us Article a means for doing so. Early V as a means for in the last cendoing so. tury, Americans thought it was

a good idea to ban the manufacture and sale of alcohol. They didn't go to court asking the justices to twist the Constitution to accomplish their goal. They respected the Constitution and sought passage of the 18th Amendment.

The founders were right about a lot of things, but they were dead wrong when they bought into Alexander Hamilton's Federalist Paper No. 78 prediction that the judiciary was the "least dangerous" branch of government.

Walter Williams, Ph.D., is a

Brownie and Junior Troop 10 sang

tyrannical judges. Many law professors, and

John M. Olin Professor of Economics at George Mason others who hold contempt for University in Fairfax, Va.

)il

Continued from Page 4

the economies of India and China are going to grow during that decade? How much more oil are they going to need? Which do you think can be done quicker - finding and producing oil or increasing the demand for it? Which do you think will do the most damage to the American economy blowing up another office building or a \$100 barrel of oil?

By the way, one thing the Technology Gods do accomplish very well is eliminating no profits on the short-term

jobs. I would think that any fool could see that the steady elimination of jobs in the face of the steady increase in the population is a train wreck not too far down the The Industrial Revolution,

based on fossil fuels, is about to start winding down, and it cannot be replaced by the Information Age. Industry produces things people can use. Information just clutters their brains, mostly with data that is of no use to them.

Capitalism and market forces cannot solve the energy problem. Capitalism is driven by profits. If there are

horizon, capitalism won't go the '60s. I would only add there. Capitalism didn't cure polio; the money was in crutches, wheelchairs and iron lungs. Big oil has been buying up coal fields for years. When the price of oil goes sky-high, big oil will up the price of coal. Coal, competing against cheap oil, can't be priced too high; as an alternative to very expensive oil, coal can be priced

much higher. No, the transition will have to be made by government. The quality of government, however, depends on the quality of people in it. Seymour Hersh said recently that Congress has lost 20 points of average IQ since

that it wasn't very high back then. Better start taking your

politics seriously, folks. If we keep sending the same kind of opportunists, nitwits, special pleaders and party hacks we have up there now, then bad times are surely coming. You can't expect a bunch of shade-tree mechanics to service a space shuttle, and you can't expect a bunch of knuckleheaded officeseekers to solve the complex problems we are facing today.

Charley Reese is a retired journalist and syndicated columnist.

Pentecostal Holiness Church 1700 Alcock April 3 ~ 6

REVIVAL!

Catch the Spirit!

Monday ~ Wednesday

7:00 pm

Evangelist ~ Kenneth McGee

You are invited!

Community Happenings

 Harrington House of Amarillo will begin its 2005 tour season Tuesday, April 5. Tours will be conducted between 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, April through mid-December. Tours are approximately 60 minutes long and include three floors of the historic home. Admission is free. Each tour is limited to four persons, 14-years of age and above, and must pre-arranged by calling (806) 374-5490.

tracks.

 The Texas Department of State Health Services will be offering immunization clinics for vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases including polio, diphtheria, lock jaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, rubella, mumps, HIB (haemophilus influenzae Type B) and chickenpox (varicella). Flu vaccines may also be offered at designated clinics. The TDH will charge money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay. The following clinics will be offered: 9:30-11:45 a.m. and 1-4 p.m., April 6, 20 and 25, TDH, 736 S. Cuyler, Pampa; and 12:30-4 p.m., April 11, City Hall, Canadian. For more information, call (806) 874-3211.

· Devil's Rope Museum in McLean will once again host its annual "Barbed Wire Show" between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., April 8 and 9 at the museum, 100 Kingsley St. Wire collectors from all over the nation will be present at the upcoming yearly event. According to organizers, there will be collections other than wire and some items for sale as well. Admission is free.

 Wildcat Bluff Nature Center in Amarillo is gearing up for its "Incredible Edible Insect" event to be staged between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Saturday, April 9 at the Center in Amarillo. The event will include a "Cricket Spitting Contest"; A "Creepy Crawly Petting Zoo"; "Insect Safari Hikes"; "Chocolate Chirp Cookies, "Yummy Hushbuggies" and other insect treats; and temporary insect tattoos. A general admission fee will be charged. Cost is \$3 for adults; \$2 per child; and \$2 for seniors. The center is located three miles north of I-40 on Soncy Road (Loop 335). For more information, call (806) 352-6007 or log onto www.wildcatbluff.org.

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

 A FreshStart Facilitator Training is set between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. April 23 in the Medical Office Building Conference Room at Pampa Regional Medical Center. The training will focus on the development of a tobacco cessation program and will be worth some free continuing education credits from Amarillo College. Organizers ask participants RSVP by April 20 by phone, (806) 354-0950; by e-mail, cstockstill@harringtoncc.org; or by fax, (806) 353-1282.

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teacher's aide at a private religious elementary school. You would think the children here would be better mannered than. most; however, I haven't found that to be true.

"please" or "thank you." The other teachers and I politely remind the students to say both "please" and "thank you," but the lesson never seems to sink in. The children tell us their parents don't require such things at home, so they shouldn't have to say "please" and "thank you" or even "excuse me" at school. We have talked to these parents, and they side with their children. What else can we do? -- STUNNED IN SACRAMENTO

DEAR STUNNED: What else can you do? Talk to the children in terms of their own self-interest. Tell them that ues. In short, he is absolutely words like "please," "thank everything I have ever dreamed you" and "excuse me" are magic words with great power. People who hear them are far more inclined to accommodate the person who uses these words than someone who doesn't.

Parents who fail to teach their children basic good manners do their children a grave disservice, because good manners and respect for others are essential for success.

DEAR ABBY: My sister and her family live in the Southwest. I live in North Carolina. Ever since their children were born, I have sent them money for birthdays and for the holidays. My husband and I were not blessed with children of our own. The adults in the family exchange cards, but not gifts. Sin

We have decided that when the nieces and nephews reach the age of 18, we would like to stop sending them money. We are not terribly close, but I don't want to hurt anyone's feelings. My nephew

Saturday's answer

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28 Man of

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29 Identical

30 One with

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33 Speech

35 Take to

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Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

15 Nation on 27 Under-

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19 Silent

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25 Formal

26 Abutting

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.50 (check/m.o.) 1

tions? -- AUNT MOLLY

DEAR AUNT MOLLY: It is not uncommon to stop sending gifts when younger relatives reach adulthood. Look at it this way: Gift-giving puts a burden Rarely do I ever hear a on young people, too, because they often can't afford to reciprocate, or they aren't particularly close to the sender.

Send your nephew a nice card for his birthday. And at holiday time, send one gift -such as fruit or flowers -- for the entire family to enjoy. *****

DEAR ABBY: I am a 29-yearold woman who wants very much to get married. I have been dating a wonderful man who wants to marry me. I'll call him "Byron." Byron is intelligent, kind, generous, comes from the same background I do, and shares my valof in a husband. He's not badlooking, either.

The only problem is I feel very little physical attraction to him. It is not Byron's fault; the chemistry just isn't really there.

I am very confused. Part of me reasons that physical passion tends to fade over the years anyway, and I would be crazy to pass up a man who has so much else to offer. Another part of me feels that I'm not really in love with Byron, so it would be a mistake to marry him.

What should I do? Please hurry your reply -- he is waiting for an answer. -- CONFUSED IN CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

DEAR CONFUSED: Before you discard a man who has all of the attributes you describe, I suggest you ask him to wait just a little longer. You could benefit it be greatly by talking this out with a counselor who, in a nonjudgmental and unbiased way, can help you to organize your priorities.

For Better Or Worse



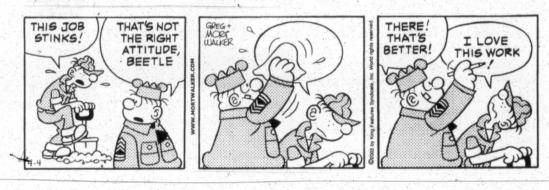
Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



4



Crossword Puzzle

39 Begin

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3 Jargon

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7 Musical

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8 Christian

9 Fishing

spots

11 Shade

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6 Start of a

5 Lazy

40 Peepers 41 Experts

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Prison

5 Sounds from

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10 Cousin's

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12 Sports

13 Iron or

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14 Karate's

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22 Produce

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jack 29 Movietheater fixture

30 Butte's kir

dinner

32 Cure-all 34 Like forest

rocks 37 Lead-in

38 Follow

31 Had

call letters

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Marmaduke

4.4 324

The Family Circus

"Thanks for the suggestion, but I'm still getting

the vacuum cleaner out."

"Mrs. Clarke wants us to sit up straight - like an 'L.' How's this?"







Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts







4-4

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Blondie

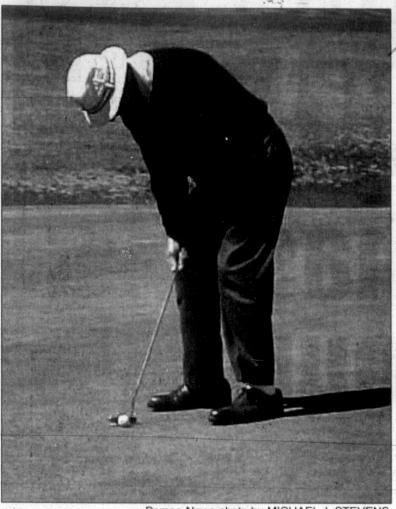


Marvin

The Pampa News — Monday, April 4, 2005 — 7

Sports Day

Focused



Pampa News photo by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Pampa's Jim Maher lines up a short putt on the 18th green at Hidden Hills golf course Friday afternoon.

Harvesters handle Hereford

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS Sports Editor

The first district road test for the Pampa Harvester varsity baseball team proved to just that. At least until the seventh inning.

Pampa rolled into Hereford Saturday morning for a 1 p.m. meeting with the Whitefaces. The Harvesters were looking for their second District 3-4A win in as many games. Hereford was after its first.

Both teams would play well through much of the game. But then came the Harvester half of the seventh inning.

Ahead 10-7, Pampa pounded out seven runs in the top for the seventh to claim district win No. 2, 17-7.

"It may not have been our best game," said Pampa head coach, Dennis Doughty. "But we played hard and stayed competitive, even when things just weren't going our way.

Every player in the Pampa line-up had at lest one hit. A number of Harvesters had multiple hits on the afternoon. Dusty Lenderman was 3-4 with a double and two **RBIs**.

Tyler Doughty went 3-5 with a triple and one RBI. Shea Brown was 2-3 from the plate with two RBIs and two stolen bases.

Tyson Hickman batted .500 (2-4) with a big home run and four RBIs.

Jake Craig had a 2-4 afternoon with one RBI.

Shavious Kelly went 2-4 with one RBI. He also added another stolen base to his total.

Seth Foster was 2-4 for the day with a double and two RBIs.

Brett Ferrell had a 2-5 performance on the afternoon. Lenderman started the day on the hill for Pampa. He was later spelled by Hickman who tossed four innings of shutout ball. Hickman struck out seven and offered up just one hit en route to his fourth win of the year (4-0).

Catcher James Coffee had an outstanding game from behind the plate.

Pampa (14-5, 2-0) plays host to Palo Duro tomorrow afternoon at Harvester Field. First pitch at 4:30 p.m.

Junior varsity teams in action today

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS Sports Editor

The Lady Harvester junior varsity softball team will be at home this afternoon to host the Caprock. Game time is set for 4:30 p.m.

The two teams have met once before this season, with the Green and Gold taking a 11-2 win over the Lady Horns.

Coach Troy Owens and his team can use a win after falling to Dumas Friday, 13-6. "They (Caprock) hit the ball well the last time we played," said Owens. "Today's game should be a good one.'

The Lady Harvester JV squad enters this afternoon's meeting with a record of 12-4-1.

The Pampa junior varsity baseball team hosts Borger today at 5 p.m.

Parry never takes Augusta National for granted

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Masters six times since. There's nothing better than the weekend at Augusta National for like my last year, so that makes it Craig Parry - not just during the Masters, but even before it gets started.

Parry played with an Augusta National member on Sunday, a day like no other at major championships. It was hard to tell the course was getting ready to stage one of the most famous tournaments in golf. Augusta looked more like a member-guest outing at a regular tournament.

Mark O'Meara played with a good friend from Utah. Nick Faldo and Bernhard Langer played with their sons. "This is special," Parry said. "It's quiet. I think it's the best time to come, because there are no spectators. You just go out there and enjoy it for what it is."

"Every year I come here feels special," Parry said.

He had no reason to believe he would be back this year. Parry wasn't even among the top 75 in the world ranking to start the season, but picked up top 10s in the Mercedes Championships and the Ford Championship at Doral, and(in between won the Heineken Classic in Australia.

That allowed him to get into the top 50 after The Players Championship - the final cutoff for the Masters — but he had to wait to get his invitation from Augusta National. Those who qualified last year got their invitations the week after Christmas. But he couldn't wait to arrive. There weren't many other places he would rather be. Ditto for Steve Flesch, especially considering his alternative would have been the BellSouth Classic in Atlanta. Flesch was among five players eligible for the Masters who withdrew when the tournament started two days late because of rain, and now will finish Monday. "It's been so bad lately, you can't get into any kind of rhythm

playing," Flesch said, noting that weather has interrupted play at eight of the 14 tournaments this year.

He played the back nine at Augusta on Saturday afternoon. As some players were just starting the second round Sunday afternoon in Atlanta, Flesch was headed to the first tee at Augusta to join Jonathan Kaye for a relaxing ound with no spectators, no distractions, no worries.

Nothing captured the spirit of the afternoon quite like Faldo, a three-time Masters champion who was fidgeting with a camera on the putting green as he waited for the 10th tee to clear so he could play with his son, 16-year-old Matthew.

PLAYOFF SYSTEM NEEDED

Stevens

Sports

Editor

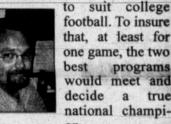
I hope the NCAA was watching

Well, if the NCAA needed any further proof that a football playoff system is needed, it need look no further than this year's basketball playoffs. It has been fun, exciting

and well worth one's time to Michael J. watch. Frankly, the only real disappointing game came in the Final Four. I was somewhat surprised

Louisville could not manage a better effort than it team will tell you it was worth the thrill to be at the dance, win or lose

There is no reason this format, or one similar, cannot be adapted



one game, the two programs would meet and decide a true national champion.

There would be no questions

Another reason Parry enjoys it so much is that he never knows when his next Masters will be his last.

The 39-year-old Australian nearly won the green jacket in 1992, leading the tournament with 15 holes to play until he fell apart and shot 78.

He tied for 13th that year, which remains his best finish. Worst yet, he has only played the

It was the lad's first time playing Augusta National.

"He was born three weeks before I won my first Masters," Faldo said, recalling his first green jacket in 1989, when he holed a 25-foot birdie on the second extra hole to beat Scott Hoch. Matthew rapped a few putts, amazed at the speed of the green. Did his dad mention that the greens are probably faster than anything he has seen?

"He'll figure it out soon enough," Faldo said.

did against Illinois.

Nonetheless, the game tonight between the Fighting Illini (32-1) and North Carolina (32-4) is proofpositive that the playoff system works. Each of the original 64 teams had an equal opportunity to be where these two teams are tonight. In the 64-team format the NCAA uses for basketball, there are rarely, if ever, any pretenders in the end.

Sure, there is a Cinderella story or two in the mix. However, time and the talent of the opposition usually hales Cinderella's pumpkin in timely fashion. Still, any such raised by any of the other participating teams. They each would have had their chance. The winner will have earned the national championship title and all would be right in the world for at least a year.

This is how it should be.

The two teams enter tonight's game with a combined record of 64-5 for the season. In a playoff system that every year allows 64 teams equal opportunity to be where Illinois and North Carolina are tonight, only the strong survived. College football should be so lucky.

Pampa Junior High's Stephens hurdles to first place in Plainview

Results from the Pampa Junior High School seventh grade girls track meet at Plainview, Friday, April 1.

Team Scores Westover 143.3 Plainview 117 Dumas 116 Canyon 103.3 Pampa 87.33 Hereford 30 Borger 23

Pampa Results

2400 M Run: 1st place, Faby Soria 8:56.2

400 M Relay: 6th place, Keonti NIckelberry, Emilie Troxell, Whitney Wade, Kara Stephens

400 M Dash: 3rd place, Faby Soria

1600 M Run: 1st place, Faby Soria 5:58

100 M Dash: 3rd place, Gabby Savoir

100 M Hurdles: 1st place, Kara Stephens 18.27; 5th place, Emilie Troxell

300 M Hurdles: 1st place, Kara Stephens 55.22

800 M Relay: 6th place, Keonti NIckelberry, Carlynn Teichmann, Whitney Wade, Kayla Ware 200 M Dash: 5th place, Gabby

Savoir 1600 M Relay: 5th place,

Carlyn Cheyanne Collins, Teichmann, Kayla Ware, Kimberly

Curtis HIgh Jump: 3rd place, Kimberly Curtis Discus: 2nd place, Matricia

Davis Shot put: 3rd place, Sammie

Pearson Long Jump: 6th place, Kara Stephens

Triple Jump: 4th place, Kara Stephens; 5th place-Emilie Troxell

Results from eighth grade at **Amarillo Relays** Prelims, Tuesday, March 29.

Finals, Saturday, April 2

Qualifiers

Destiny Fitzer: 800 M Run Kelby Doughty: 100 M Dash Keisha Crowell, Kelby Doughty, Kamie Doughty, Kylee Wariner: 800M Relay Kamie Doughty, Diana

Mechelay, Destiny Fitzer, Kylee Wariner: 1600 M Relay

Finals

Kelby Doughty, 3rd place, 13.60 800 M Relay, 3rd place, 1:58.06 1600 M Relay, 6th place, 4:51.80 Destiny Fitzer, 8th place, 2:49.18

Field Events

Triple Jump: Kelby Doughty, 3rd place, 31'1'

Long Jump: Kelby Doughty, 3rd place, 15'1/2" Pole Vault: Kristin Smitka, 6'

April 5, 2005: Your ways get a strong reception.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday,

Others cannot be impassive about you. Your immediate circle of friends could be changing rapidly. More artistic and/or creative companions could be entering your life. On the other hand, some of your associates could become undependable. Emphasize your independence. Use your insights, which hit like bolts of lightning. Often, you might be more comfortable maintaining a low profile. If you are single, as alluring as a new person might be, you need to check him or her out. This person might not be all he or she seems to be. If you are attached, private time together could be very important. You'll gain understanding by just being yourself and accepting your sweetie. PISCES can stir up the pot.

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)

★★★ You still have a magical touch, but be smart -- keep information to yourself. You know how someone feels. Give this person space to come forth on his or her own. Given time, everything will be revealed. Revel in the mystery. Tonight: Rest while you can

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

**** You have a lot going on. Others will pitch in and let you know how very much they admire your actions and ideas. Listen to a friend. His or her reaction could surprise you to no end. Understand why you are so startled. Did you make a faulty assumption? Tonight: Hoot it up. GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ While facts and people direct you toward a long-term desire, unexpected developments might cause you to regroup. Do you really understand what you want out of a public or professional commitment? Tonight: Out

CANCER (June 21-July 22) $\star \star \star \star \star$ You have the foresight, vision and support to realize a longtime desire. What you do will be noticed by many. Be ready for public commentary. Surprising news comes your way. Prepare to take off at the drop of a hat.

Tonight: Work with the moment. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) *** Work with others, understanding that it is better to have them take action believing what has happened is the result of their own ideas. You might

have planted the suggestions, but you don't need to make a general announcement about it. Tonight: A fun idea heads your way.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Others are full of surprises. Your nerves could be fried if you don't handle tension well. Join forces with someone you care about. Listen to the other side of a story -- OK? Teamwork creates success. Tonight: Go with spontaneous.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You have pushed and prodded others in a certain direction. Knowing when to put a stop to activities around you will make a difference. Loosen up and enjoy the positives of a creative friendship. Do you want more with this person? Tonight: Try a new hobby. Schedule a class if you want to. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

**** What spins into your life -- be it a flirtation or a wild idea -- adds a lot of excitement. You are coming from a

very centered spot. Realize more of what you want through sharing your feelings and long-term desires. Tonight: Follow the action.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

HHHH Sometimes you might not know what you are dealing with and might be very testy. You can get upset, or you can deal with it coming from a very centered spot. Realize more of what you want through sharing your feelings and long-term desires. Tonight: Follow the action.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

 $\star \star \star \star \star$ Touch base with a loved one. Don't be startled by news that heads your way. You are learning to deal with the unpredictable. A hunch could prove to be lucrative. Follow through rather than dismiss the feeling. Tonight: Out and about.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

*** Express what is on your mind. Others prove to be most receptive to your ideas. Explore ideas rather than act on them, especially concerning money. You find that the unexpected runs rampant. Avoid risks. Tonight: Gather your bills.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

*** Your unpredictability punctuates your personality and actions right now. Don't cause yourself aggravation because of a hunch. Check out a purchase very carefully. You could be paying way too much. Tonight: As you like

BORN TODAY

Actor Spencer Tracy (1900), actress Bette Davis (1908), actor Gregory Peck (1916)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.

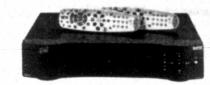
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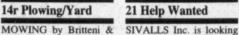
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10 — Monday, April 4, 2005 — The Pampa News

A&M posts Texas crop, weather report

By MEGAN KNIGHT Texas A&M News/Public Affairs

COLLEGE STATION - Now is the time for homeowners to start testing their soil, according to Texas Cooperative Extension experts.

"We recommend (testing) prior to spring fertilization, or at least six weeks since last fertilization," said Dr. Tony Provin, Extension soil specialist in College Station.

He added that timing is dependent on the area.

"Typically, I recommend soil sampling in fall for areas with acid soils. Fall sampling allows planning and application of limestone will prior to

the spring growing season," Provin said. "In most of Texas, two to three months prior to crop green up or planting is best; however, all sampling should take place at least one month before any fertilization. This allows for sampling, transport of samples, analysis and planning with fertilizers retailers for the application of the needed nutrients."

Before applying nutrients such as compost and organic and inorganic fertilizer to the soil, Provin advised, have a soil test performed, at least every two or three years.

He said some of the benefits of regular soil tests include:

· Eliminated misapplication of nutrients;

and growth;

ance; and

• Increased water quality.

Testing is relatively inexpensive, Extension districts. Provin said. Most tests will cost \$10 to \$50 per sample. Urban clientele usually only need the routine \$10 test. However, agricultural producers will occasionally need the more expensive tests to evaluate soil and crop specific issues and determine if boron or micro-nutrient analysis is needed.

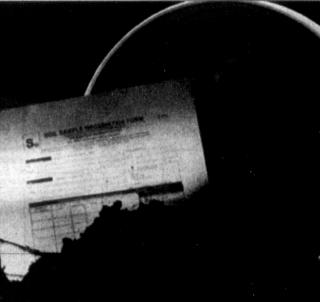
For more information on soil testing, contact Extension agents. They will provide soil sample bags, sampling instructions and information sheets for mailing samples to Extension's Soil, Water, and Forage Testing Laboratory in College Station. Agricultural producers in the South

Plains are busy preparing fields for spring planting, and herbicide and fertilizer are being applied as weather allows, said Jett Major, district Extension administrator.

"Wheat is in the joint stage and continues to grow rapidly," Major said. In West Central Texas, producers are cultivating crop areas and seeding for spring crops, said Scott Durham. district Extension administrator.

"Some producers are bedding cotton ground," he said. "Field preparation for hay is under way. Small grain fields are being top dressed with fertilizer."

The following livestock, crop and weather conditions were reported by



(Texas Cooperative Extension photo by MEGAN KNIGHT) Now is the time for spring gardeners to test their · Enhanced plant health soil for fertilization. This photo shows the soil sam- acreage may have to be ple information sheet used by Extension's Soil, planted with grain sorghum · Increased drought toler- Water, and Forage Testing Laboratory in College or soybeans. Sorghum was Station.

PANHANDLE: Soil moisture is adequate to surplus. Temperatures were slightly below average. Several days of light rain were reported. High winds aided drying of fields but hampered herbicide applications. Wheat was rated fair to excellent. Disease appeared in many fields. No diagnosis was available. Greenbug reports increased. Rangelands varied in poor to excellent condition. Grass continued to make good growth. Cattle were rated fair to good. Supplemental feeding continued.

SOUTH PLAINS: Soil moisture is adequate. Mostly cool nights with

warm days are reported. Field preparation has been hampered by high winds. Herbicide and fertilizer are being applied as weather allows. Wheat is in the joint stage and continues to grow rapidly. Rust is a concern in the southern part of the district. Cotton ginning continues. Pastures and ranges are in good condition. Cattle are in good condition; supplemental feeding continues

ROLLING PLAINS: Soil moisture is adequate. Temperatures ranged from 30 F to 70 F. Cotton is still being ginned. Fields are being prepped for cotton and peanuts. Some warm season grasses emerged in native pastures. Weed control was applied to

wheat and improved pastures. Little insect pressure was reported. Red lead rust was reported. Wildlife food sources look good for summer months. Livestock were rated fair. Some supplemental feeding occurred. Bloat reports decreased. Fruit trees bloomed. Plants put on new leaf growth. Some tomatoes were planted.

NORTH: Soil moisture is adequate to surplus. Weather was mild to cool with light showers reported. Wheat condition was varied. Pastures and rangelands were rated fair to excellent. Winter pastures made some growth. Top soil dried out from wind. Corn was 40 percent emerged. If substantial

rain is received, remaining 25 percent planted. Soybean planting was almost finished. Wheat was 5 percent headed. Stripe rust made an early appearance. Sweet potato growers prepared land and beds for slip production. EAST TEXAS: Soil moisture is adequate. Sunshine and spring condi-

tions were reported. Producers sprigged coast and Tifton 85. Vegetables were planted where soil temperature allowed. Landscaping was in full swing. Fruit trees bloomed. Cattle remained in good condition.

FAR WEST: Soil moisture is short to adequate. Warm, windy conditions were reported. Field preparation continued. Most fields were tilled and listed.

TFU members protest cuts

WACO — Texas Farmers Union members, a press release from the union said, recently returned from Washington, D.C., after voicing their concerns regarding President Bush's budget cuts, the Central American Trade Agreement (CAFTA) and the administration's rush to reopen the border to Canadian cattle and beef.

TFU members were joined by farmers and ranchers from around the nation at the grassroots legislation fly-in to urge their congressional leaders to oppose these important pieces of legislation.

Attending the fly-in with TFU President Wes Sims were his wife Latria, of Sweetwater, Mike and Pam Oldham of Howardwick, and Billy, Shorty and Adam Miller of Crawford.

"TFU members believe the agriculture budget cuts that President Bush propos-

es for the fiscal year 2006 budget will be much larger than the budget numbers the because show Congressional Budget Office (C.B.O.) estimates the actual number at \$18 billion," stated Sims.

"Farmers Union members requested that House members join with the Senate and pass a joint resolution to stop the U.S. Agriculture Department from reopening the border to Canadian cattle and beef," said Sims.

Farmers Union members will not support imports from any nation, the release said, with confirmed cases of mad cow disease until international export markets are reopened to our producer's products, mandatory country-of-origin labeling is implemented and the country can prove their cattle and beef are B.S.E. free and that it has complied with the ruminant feed ban.



AARP, move over: MTV generation takes on future issue - Social Security

KANSAS CITY. Mo. (AP) — Twenty-two-yearold Mike Payne inserts the topic into conversations with his famil with colleagues at the sandwich shop, classmates, even his skateboarder friends: Social Security.

"Anyone that's willing to listen to me," he said, "and even if they're not."

Nationwide, discussion of an issue that once seemed confined to bingo halls and AARP offices is now coming from the lips of people a half-century away from retirement.

Teenagers gather at a local coffee shop to discuss the administration's Bush reform plan. College students surround a congressman to discuss possible benefits changes. Some young people are even sporting Tshirts and caps professing their love for Social Security.

"There are some possible outcomes that are so dramatic," said Hans Reimer, political director of Rock the Vote, which has joined forces with AARP to oppose the Bush administration's Social Security plan. "We're talking about a very substantial impact on the standard of living for young people."

As Bush travels the country trying to sell voters on his proposal to allow younger workers to invest some of their Social Security payroll taxes in the stock market, Rock the Vote is trying to make its opposition heard by dispatching its representatives to events, launching an Internet campaign and advertising.

The de facto political voice of the MTV generation tries to project a nonpartisan voice in its voter registration

campaigns, though conservatives argue it doesn't. But Reimer, who formerly led the 2030 Center, which criticized Social Security privatization efforts, said Rock the Vote felt it had to take a stance on the administration plan.

"To us, it's totally black and white," he said. "This is the first generation ever that would be asked to pay for their own retirement and Social Security at the same time. This is what private accounts do. They saddle young people with an unfair burden."

'If we don't reform Social Security, young people are going to end up paying more and getting less."

> Mike Tanner Cato Institute

Others vehemently disagree.

Nicholas Tyszka, a Chicago-based Republican strategist, said despite the difference in their demographics, it's not surprising AARP and Rock the Vote are on the same side.

"Both are extremely liberal organizations that use scare tactics to affect public policy," he said.

At a Social Security rally this week in Liberty, Mo., the reasons that attracted young people to attend were varied.

Nineteen-year-old Monica Henderson thinks there's no reason to change the current

system. Twenty-two-yearold Sarah Swartz has a disabled brother. And 27-yearold Mike Sandbothe said he simply opposes the idea of privatization.

They stood alongside people of all ages who oppose the Bush plan, but the under-30 crowd did not represent a majority.

At the large-scale meeting in Kansas City a week earlier, young people represented an even smaller share of the crowd. Payne stood among several hundred people, most whose faces long had given way to wrinkles and whose heads already became home to white and gray.

Payne, a senior at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, admitted it was disappointing that more young people didn't show, but he said that won't stop him from discussing the issue from his peers.

Mike Tanner, director of the Campaign for Social Security Choice at the Cato Institute, a leading proponent of private accounts, said Rock the Vote is arguing against something that would help the young.

"If we don't reform Social Security, young people are going to end up paying more and getting less," he said.

Young adults have been among the strongest backers of Bush's proposal for months, but a poll released last week by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press shows that support slipping.

Support among those 18-29 dipped from about seven in 10 to just under half; a quarter of young adults now say they're unsure how they feel about such personal accounts.



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SPECIAL EVENT EXTENDED

