

Obituaries

Madaline Gantz Garrett, 92

Madaline Gantz Garrett, 92, died Saturday, March 4, 2006, in Pampa.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, 2006, in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Barry Loving officiating.

Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Garrett was born Oct. 9, 1913, in Durham, Okla. She married James F. Garrett on Nov. 28, 1935, in Clovis, N.M. He died in 1994.

She graduated from Pampa High School in 1932. She was owner/operator of the Unique Beauty Shop for 50 years. She was a member of First Christian Church for more than 80 years.

She was a devoted mother and grandmoth-



Garrett

er. She was preceded in death by her parents, Fred and Letitia Gantz; three brothers, Herman Gantz, Shelby Gantz and Hallie Gantz; and one foster sister, Bessie Buckles Jones.

Survivors include one daughter, Jimma Crossman and husband Gabe of Pampa; one son, Robert Garrett and wife Dianne of Midland; one sister, Josephine Stueben of Farmington, N.M.; four grandchildren, Ken Crossman of Oklahoma City, Okla., Shelly Crossman Kelley and husband Tim of Blaine, Minn., Jessica Garrett Martin of Huntsville, Texas, and Greg Garrett and wife Candy of Midland; six great-grandchildren, Maddison Kelley, Tyler Kelley, Nolan Kelley, Justin Garrett, Jacob Garrett, and Meredith Martin; and special friends, Jim Gardner and wife Karen of Pampa.

The family requests memorials by to First Christian Church, 1633 N. Nelson, Pampa, TX 79065, or BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065.

Sign the online register book at [carmichael-whitley.com](http://www.carmichael-whitley.com).

Lillian Lavois 'Moose' Anderson, 81

MIAMI — Lillian Lavois "Moose" Anderson, 81, died Saturday, March 4, 2006, at Wheeler.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 7, 2006, in First Baptist Church of Miami with the Rev. Lance Wood, pastor, officiating.

Burial will be in Miami Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Anderson was born June 14, 1924, in Wilson, Okla. She was raised in Wheeler County and attended school in Briscoe. She married L.E. "Gene" Anderson on Dec. 24, 1940, in Sayre, Okla.. He passed away on Oct. 3, 1996.



Anderson

She enjoyed her many family camping trips and spending time with her grandchildren. She attended First Baptist Church in Miami for many years. She was preceded in death by one brother, Gerald Aderholt and one sister, Avis Allen.

Survivors include two daughters, Judy McReynolds and husband Larry, and Karen Hale and husband Steve, all of Miami, Texas; three sons, Larry Anderson and wife Becky and Jim Anderson all of Amarillo, and Gerald Anderson and wife Betty of Miami; six sisters, Doris Hayes and Lois Johnston, both of Amarillo, Estelle Topper of Borger, Rita Grayson of Allison, Jonell Grayson of Sayre, Okla., and Amanda Jones of Tulsa; one brother, Ray Aderholt of Fritch; 11 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to First Baptist Church of Miami, 114 E. Wichita, Miami, TX 79059.

Sign the online register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

Cloyd Hon, 72

Cloyd Hon, 72, died Saturday, March 4, 2006, in Amarillo.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Hon was born Sept. 21, 1933, in Mount Vernon, Texas. He graduated from Aspermont High School in Aspermont, Texas. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean Conflict.



Hon

He married Reba F. Bible on July 13, 1957, in Lamesa. He retired from National Oilwell in 1995 after 35 years of service.

He was a deacon at Hobart Baptist Church and at Cornerstone Baptist Church. He taught Sunday School at Hobart Baptist Church for 15 years. He was preceded in death by his father, Franklin Hon, and his mother, Mattie Patterson.

The family would like to give special thanks to Dr. George Smith, Dr. Giang

Nguyen, John Hartin and all the ICU nurses and surgical staff. Also, special thanks to Jim and Nancy Fox, their former pastor and wife, the Vista Care Hospice, and the Cornerstone Baptist Church family.

Survivors include his wife, Reba F. Hon of the home; two daughters, Cynthia Diane Weeaks and husband Chris of San Angelo and Theresa Lynn Bruce and husband Tommy of Midland; one son, Shaun Kevin Hon and wife Jenni of Pampa; one sister, Martha Lou Roberts of Abilene; his step-mother, Merleta Hon of Aspermont; five grandchildren, Misty Fritz and husband Michael of Las Cruces, N.M., Amber Smith and husband Chad and Tiffany Bruce, all of San Angelo, and Kera Bruce and Try Hon, both of Pampa; and one great-grandson, Tyeson Smith of San Angelo.

The family requests memorials be to Cornerstone Baptist Church Building Fund, 1304 N. Banks, Pampa, TX 79065.

The family will be at 8476 Rabbit Lane east of Pampa from 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7, 2006, for visitation.

Sign the online register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com

Champ Owner Hughes, 78, died Saturday, March 4, 2006, in Amarillo.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Hughes was born July 6, 1927, in Fairfax, Okla. He had been a resident of Pampa most of his life. He married Rosa Lee Shackelfoot on May 21, 1946, in Oklahoma. She preceded him in death on June 14, 2000.

He retired from Cabot Corp. as a maintenance supervisor after many years of service. He was a member of Progressive Baptist Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Linda K. Ford of Pampa and Fannie R. Smith of Glenn Heights; three sons, Terry Hughes and Don Hughes, both of Pampa, and Champ Hughes Jr. of Borger; one sister, Earnestine Duncan of Amarillo; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a sister, Janetta Bowers.

The family requests memorials be to Progressive Baptist Church, 836 S. Gray, Pampa, TX 79065.

Sign the online register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

Champ Owner Hughes, 78

Services tomorrow

GARRETT, Madaline Gantz — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel.
ANDERSON, Lillian Lavois "Moose" — 10 a.m. First Baptist Church of Miami.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 72-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Eighty-four traffic stops were made, resulting in at least three arrests.

Traffic complaints were received from the 300 block of North Hobart, the 800 block of East Craven, the 2800 block of Perryton Parkway, the 200 block of South Tignor, the 3100 block of North Crest and on three occasions from an unreported location.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 2800 block of Charles.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 200 block of North Russell, the 1600

block of Hamilton, the 100 block of North Price Road and the intersection of Ballard and Browning streets.

Welfare checks were made in the 1200 block of West Kentucky and the 1600 block of North Christine.

A runaway was reported in the 2300 block of Mary Ellen.

One open door was checked.

Possession of more than four ounces but less than five pounds of marijuana in a drug-free zone was reported in the 500 block of North West.

A narcotics violation was reported in the 300 block of North Nelson.

Failure to identify as a fugitive was reported in the 600 block of South Reid.

A fictitious vehicle inspection sticker was reported in the 800 block of South Hobart.

Civil matters were reported in the 1100 block of Neel Road, the 400 block of Pitts, the 1600 block of North Nelson, the 300 block of North Frost and twice in the 100 block of North Wynne.

One burglar alarm was reported.

Warrant service was attempted on eight occasions, resulting in at least three arrests.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 1100 block of East Browning, the 100 block of West Foster, the 1000 block of Huff Road, the 500 block of North Dwight, the 700 block of

West Foster, the 1200 block of North Hobart and the intersection of Browning and Cuyler streets.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 800 block of West Brown, North Highway 70 and the intersection of 18th and Evergreen streets.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of Lefors, the 1300 block of Mary Ellen, the 1800 block of Alcock, the 2800 block of Rosewood, the 2200 block of North Christy, twice in the 1100 block of Sierra, the 1400 block of North Hobart and the 800 block of East Craven.

Telephone harassment was reported in the 1500 block of North Sumner.

Harassment was reported in the 100 block of North Cuyler.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 600 block of North Christy. The incident was verbal only.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1000 block of North Sumner. No injuries were reported.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 900 block of South Faulkner. The incident was verbal only.

Assault was reported in the 2600 block of Cherokee. Minor injuries were reported.

See SERVICES, Page 3

Joane (Bullard) Leathers, 78

McLEAN — Joane (Bullard) Leathers, 78, died Saturday, March 4, 2006, in McLean.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 11, 2006, in First Baptist Church in McLean with the Rev. Kelly Raymond, pastor, officiating.

Burial will be in Citizens Cemetery in Clarendon by Bailey-Ware Funeral Home of McLean.

Mrs. Leathers was born Jan. 21, 1928, at Lelia Lake to Jay and Vera Bullard. She married Joe Roberts Leathers on Dec. 25, 1943, at Lelia Lake. They were married 56 years until he passed away in 2000.

Mrs. Leathers farmed with her husband

for many years at Lelia Lake. She was the church secretary at First Baptist Church in Clarendon. She also owned a flower shop for a few years.

Survivors include a daughter, Beverly Hood of Savoy; two sons, Wayne Leathers and wife Amanda of McLean and Joe Lynn Leathers and wife Louise of Panhandle; eight grandchildren, Kelly Warlick, Wes Hood, Brandon Leathers, Jennifer Hardman, David Leathers, Jonathan Leathers, Sarah Leathers, and Anna Leathers; and nine great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065.

Gray County Weather

Today: Partly cloudy, with a high around 78. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 52. South wind around 15 mph.

Tuesday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 77. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low near 51. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Wednesday: Partly

cloudy, with a high around 66. Southwest wind 15 to 20 mph becoming northwest.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 33. North northwest wind around 15 mph.

Thursday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 64. North northwest wind around 15 mph becoming south southwest.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 41. West wind around 15 mph.

MISSING - DANDY

A small white male poodle was lost Saturday, March 4th in the vicinity of North Dogwood. He weighs 7 lbs., is 11 years old and needs medicine for a heart condition. If you have found him or have any information, please call

898-4809 or 662-7707

There is a reward of \$150.00 for his return.



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PAMPA GLASS & Supply will be closed Mar. 6 thru Mar. 12, for vacation. Open Mar. 13th as usual.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Atebury Grain of White Deer:

Wheat	4.01
Milo	3.29
Corn	4.19
Soybeans	4.98

The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa:

OXY	93.89	-1.11
BP PLC ADR	67.19	+0.04
Cabot Corp	37.51	-0.29
Celanese	21.49	-0.24
Cabot Oil Gas	48.73	-0.93
Coca Cola	41.86	+0.06
VLO	56.07	-0.45
HAL	70.40	-0.76
TRI	42.30	-0.34
KML	92.16	-0.77
XCEL	18.20	-0.03
Kerr McGee	97.59	-1.94
XOM	60.93	-0.05
Nat'l Oilwell	61.71	-1.03
Limited	23.19	-0.04
Williams	20.77	-0.90
MCD	34.74	-0.11
Atmos	26.20	-0.07
Pioneer Nat	43.43	-0.59
JCP	59.94	-0.37
COP	61.54	-0.94
SLB	120.82	-1.40
Tennessee	21.99	NC
CVX	56.64	-0.33
Wal-Mart	45.36	+0.03
OKE	29.65	+0.32
NS Grp	45.15	-0.42

New York Gold\$65.00
Silver10.20
West Texas Crude63.67

Services

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Assault was reported in the 400 block of Lefors, the police department lobby and the 1300 block of Coffee.

Assault with a deadly weapon was reported in the 700 block of North Frost. No injuries were reported.

Violation of a protective order was reported in the police department lobby.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of East Harvester.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1200 block of North Wells. Tires were slashed, for estimated damage of \$150.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of East Frederic. The driver's window of a vehicle was broken, resulting in estimated damage of \$140.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1100 block of Huff Road. Rocks were thrown at a house, causing an estimated \$100 damage to the home's siding.

Criminal trespass was reported in the police department lobby.

Fraud was reported in the police department lobby.

Burglary was reported in the 1200 block of East Foster and the 1200 block of South Finley.

Theft was reported in the 1100 block of Williston and the intersection of Cuyler and Atchison streets.

Robbery was reported in the 1000 block of North Hobart.

Sheriff

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

Sunday, March 5

Lance Allan Herr, 43, of Pampa was arrested in the 500 block of North Dwight by Pampa Police Department for no seat belt and failure to appear.

Johnny Dewayne Bridges, 23, of Pampa was arrested in the 800 block of South Hobart by PPD for no insurance and expired vehicle registration.

Sergio Adrian Silva, 20, of Pampa was arrested in the 600 block of South Reid by PPD for failure to identify, theft over \$20 and under \$500 by check, a Wichita County charge of theft by check, three counts of issuing a bad check, two counts of non-payment on fines for no insurance and non-payment of fines for failure to appear.

Kimberlie Dawn Mouser, 22, of Pampa was arrested in the 200 block of North Dwight by PPD for theft by check, 11 counts of issuing a bad check and three capias pro fines for issuing a bad check.

Monday, March 6

Brent Crossman, 47, of Pampa was arrested by PPD for no driver's license and no insurance.

Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents today.

Friday, Feb. 24

11:48 a.m. — A 2005 Ford Taurus, driven by Barbara Lynn Hampton, 57, 2139 Dogwood, and a 1994 Chevrolet Suburban, driven by Christina Renee Vaughn, 18, 1132 Terrace, collided at the intersection of Harvester and Duncan streets. No injuries were reported. Vaughn was cited for disregarding a stop light — failure to yield.

Monday, Feb. 27

12:06 p.m. — A 2001 Chevrolet Lumina, driven by Virginia Wiens Dewey, 57, 1048 Cinderella, and a 1998 Plymouth Breeze, driven by Sergio Rene Ledezma-Flores, 31, 938 E. Frederic, collided at the intersection of 18th and Duncan streets. No injuries were reported. Ledezma-Flores was cited

for failure to yield right of way to oncoming traffic and no proof of liability insurance.

Tuesday, Feb. 28

5:28 p.m. — A 2001 Chevrolet Suburban, driven by Willie D. Mills, 44, 1400 W. Somerville, and a 2002 Ford Escort, driven by Kimberly Louise Organ, 23, 1601 W. Somerville, collided in the 1400 block of West Somerville. No injuries were reported. Mills was cited for no liability insurance and unsafe backing.

Fire

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls during the weekend period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Sunday, March 5

3:29 a.m. — Three units and five personnel responded to a compressor fire at Cabot Corp.

12:17 p.m. — Three units and six personnel responded to the 200 block of Tignor on a grass fire.

Abramoff lengthy sentence delay nixed

MIAMI (AP) — A federal judge today refused to allow a lengthy delay in the sentencing of lobbyist Jack Abramoff, even though lawyers for both sides said the move could jeopardize a federal corruption investigation involving Congress and the Bush administration.

Abramoff attorney Abbe Lowell warned that the defense would disclose information about the ongoing corruption investigation to demonstrate the level of Abramoff's cooperation, something that could affect Abramoff's sentence in the fraud case.

"We will name names," Lowell said by telephone at a hearing before U.S. District Judge Paul C. Huck. "That is not a good thing for law enforcement."

The judge agreed to delay sentencing from March 16 to March 29, but he rejected a joint motion by federal prosecutors and attorneys for Abramoff and co-defendant Adam Kidan to hold off for

at least 90 days.

"I just don't want to get involved in a situation where it just goes on and on and on," Huck said. "I don't see any reason for postponing the sentencing."

Huck said the government can always request a reduction in Abramoff's sentence later and that he would like to allow both Abramoff and Kidan to remain free for a reasonable amount of time after they are sentenced.

Abramoff pleaded guilty Jan. 4 to charges that he and Kidan fabricated a fake wire transfer to make it appear they were putting a sizable chunk of their own money into the \$147.5 million purchase of the SunCruz Casinos gambling fleet in 2000. Kidan pleaded guilty late last year.

Abramoff also pleaded guilty in January to charges stemming from an investigation into his ties to members of Congress and the Bush administration.

All legal action taken to avoid debt limit

WASHINGTON (AP) — Treasury Secretary John Snow notified Congress today that the administration has now taken "all prudent and legal actions," including tapping certain government retirement funds, to keep from hitting the \$8.2 trillion national debt limit.

In a letter to Congress, Snow urged lawmakers to pass a new debt ceiling immediately to avoid the nation's first-ever default on its obligations.

"I know that you share the president's and my commitment to maintaining the full faith and credit of the U.S. government," Snow said in his letter to leaders in the House and Senate.

Treasury officials, briefing congressional aides last week, said that the government will run out of maneuvering room to keep from exceeding the current limit sometime during the week of March 20.

Snow in his letter notified lawmakers that Treasury would begin tapping the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, which Treasury officials said would provide a "few billion" dollars in extra borrowing ability.

Treasury officials also announced that on Friday they had used the \$15 billion in the Exchange Stabilization Fund, a reserve that the Treasury secretary has that is normally used to smooth out volatile movements in the value of the dollar in currency markets.

Treasury has also been taking investments out of a \$65.3 billion government pension fund known as the G-fund.

Officials have said that once the debt limit is raised, the investments taken out of the

pension funds would be replaced and any lost interest payments would be made up. The formal title for the G-fund is the Government Securities Investment Fund of the Federal Employees Retirement System.

Democrats hope to use the upcoming congressional debate over raising the debt limit to highlight what they see as the failings of the administration's economic program with its emphasis on sweeping tax cuts.

An actual default on the debt, a situation when the government misses making payments to current bondholders, is a doomsday scenario considered highly unlikely given what it would do to the government's credit rating.

It is expected that after intense debate, Congress will approve an increase in the current \$8.18 trillion debt limit by perhaps \$781 billion.

Rep. Charles Rangel, the top Democrat on the House Ways and Means Committee, said Monday that any further increase in the debt limit should be tied to legislation that would get future deficits under control.

"Simply raising the limit on George W. Bush's credit card and crossing our fingers won't solve anything," Rangel, D-N.Y., said in a statement. "Any long-term debt limit increase must be accompanied by a serious effort to bring our budget back to the balance we achieved under the Clinton administration."

Treasury Department spokesman Tony Fratto said it was critical for Congress to act before leaving for a spring recess on March 17.

Voting

Continued from Page 1

mals; Joe Patrick Martinez, Precincts 1 and 3 justice of the peace; Kurt R. Curfman, Precinct 2 justice of the peace; Mary Ann Carpenter, Precinct 4 justice of the peace; James L. Hefley, Precinct 4 county commissioner; and Doug Ware, Republican county chairman. All races have an unopposed incumbent candidate running for office.

The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday for those who did not vote early. Polling places are Precinct 1, Lefors community building; Precinct 2, Lovett Memorial Library in Pampa; Precinct 3, Grandview-Hopkins School; Precinct 4, Lovett Memorial Library in McLean; Precinct 5, Travis Elementary School; Precinct 6, Austin Elementary School; and Precinct 7, M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium.


Ballot

Continued from Page 1

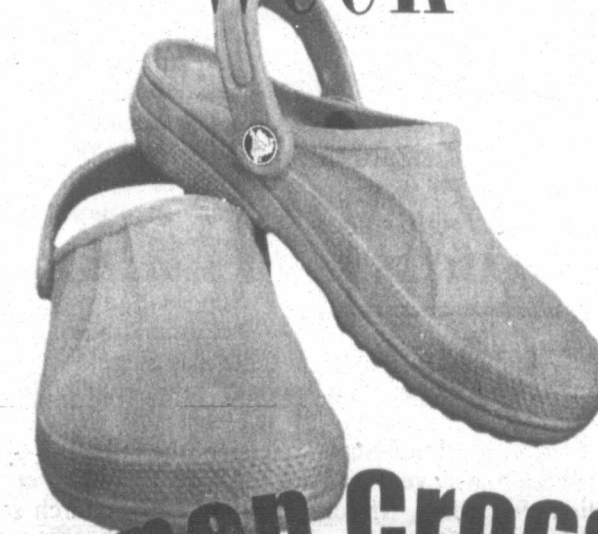
Agriculture commissioner candidates on the Democratic ticket include Hank Gilbert and Kocadee Melton Jr.

All other candidates on the Democratic ballot are running unopposed.

Two referendums Democrats must decide on include support for raising the minimum wage and support for restoring Texans' right to a jury trial in civil cases.



Last week



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Cabot

Continued from Page 1

timely," Cain said. He commended the fire department for their quick action. Cain reported that a com-

pressor was damaged and the building housing it was scorched. He said the damage was minor and no one was injured.

The 25-year-old compressor, he said, was replaced and everything was running normally today.

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Viewpoints

Military intelligence an oxymoron, but good enough to win wars

The U.S. military has endured its share of sarcasm over the years for not always having the brightest ideas, hence the classic oxymoron of "military intelligence."

But in fairness to the various services, despite occasional setbacks, their ideas have always been good enough to win wars.

When revolution raged in Mexico and occasionally spilled over into Texas in the years just before and during World War I, the U.S. Army flooded the border with troops.

The Army, though the transition to motor vehicles had begun, still depended on soldiers on horseback, supplied by pack mules or mule-pulled wagons.

Because of the long dis-

tances involved, and the fact that cavalry could only move 30 to 40 miles a day, the military established a series of outposts up and down the border. Many of the small installations stood in the vastness of the Big Bend, where bandit raids had been a serious problem.

For nearly 20 years, soldiers stationed in those remote points made do, as a quasi-official organ called the Quartermaster Review reported in 1925, "with only tents and shacks for shelter, hauling their own water from the Rio Grande and enduring intense heat and bitter cold."

Finally, in the spring of 1919, someone in the War Department had an idea that the troops in the field must

have applauded. The military decided to spend \$8.5 million for labor and material to build modern facilities at 49 stations along the Rio Grande.

Eleven of those outposts would be along the Rio Grande south of Marfa, the military headquarters for the Big Bend,

"radiating like the spokes of a wheel, with Marfa as a center, averaging some 170 miles across high mountains and over trails that were hard on pack trains."

Because of the difficulty of transporting building material over such rough ter-

rain and over such long distances, the Army had an even better idea: Use adobe made from straw and clay from the banks of the Rio Grande.

"These adobe buildings have the characteristic of being far cooler in summer and very much warmer in winter than wooden buildings," the article said. In addition, adobe structures could not burn and tended to last a long time.

The idea must have originated in Texas, where savvy officers understood the local culture. As the article in the Review put it: "A proposal

was made to the War Department to build adobe barracks of a special design, utilizing the old ideas which had been in use in Mexico since the time of the Aztec Indians and some modern ideas to meet the old defects."

The modern idea was to reinforce the foot-thick adobe with heavy wire mesh covered with hard finish plaster to protect the water-soluble brick from weather.

In addition to the adobe barracks, officer's quarters, mess halls and lavatories, all the outposts had water, sewage and electricity furnished by World War I-surplus generators.

Though the use of adobe proved effective and doubtless saved some tax dollars,

the construction project proved to be too much, too late. No sooner had all the improvements been made than the turmoil in Mexico quieted and peacefulness descended on the border.

The Army abandoned most of the outposts not long after all the new construction had been completed. Even so, the installations served as periodic bivouacs during training maneuvers and routine patrols for as long as the military guarded the border with horse soldiers, an effort that continued through the beginning of World War II.

Mike Cox, a member of the Texas Institute of Letters, is the author of a dozen Texas-Related Books.

By Mike Cox

Texas Tales



Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, March 6, the 65th day of 2006. There are 300 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Two hundred years ago, on March 6, 1806, poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning was born near Durham, England.

On this date:

In 1834, the city of York in Upper Canada was incorporated as Toronto.

In 1836, the Alamo in San Antonio fell to Mexican forces after a 13-day siege.

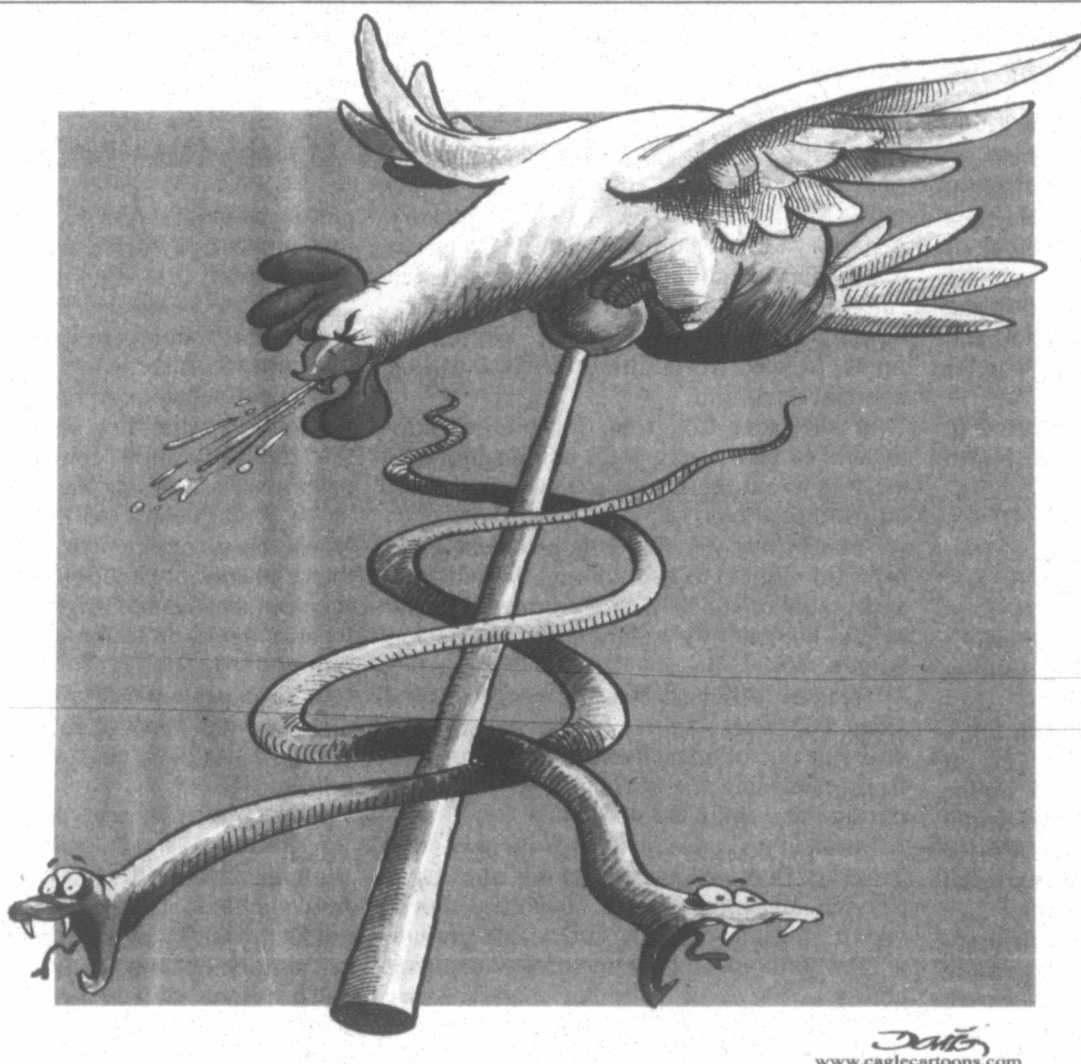
In 1853, Verdi's opera "La Traviata" premiered in Venice, Italy.

In 1857, in its "Dred Scott" decision, the Supreme Court held that Scott, a slave, could not sue for his freedom in federal court.

In 1906, 100 years ago, comedian Lou Costello was born in Paterson, N.J.

'Whoso loves believes the impossible.'

— Elizabeth Barrett Browning
English poet (1806-1861)



Our readers write

People not caring enough for town ...

Why are there people in Pampa not caring for their town? The reason I'm writing is because I have a cousin who is on drugs. I feel Pampa is falling off the Panhandle area, and the people of Pampa want our town to fail.

There is nothing in Pampa for kids or adults to do. We have to drive an hour to do something. Fathers of Pampa kids can't drive out of town all the time.

Kids are bored so they do stupid things to keep them going. Sex, drugs, you name it, they are doing it.

You need to get up and start doing something. Bring back a movie theater, skating rink, or an indoor/outdoor

activity building. Please quit sitting on your hands.

Also bring good businesses in town, not stupid cow or pig farms. People of Pampa, please think of your kids.

I have a 20-month-old son and I would love for him to grow up in Pampa. But the drugs are taking over the town. Please stop and think about what you are doing to Pampa.

Also, please be the eyes and ears for the police. They need your help to get drugs off the streets. I hope I'm right. Please build Pampa. Don't turn your back on it.

Devlin Howe
Pampa

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The elite right has lost its marbles ...

Michelle Malkin was right on when she wrote that the elite right "has simply lost its marbles."

Like her, I am infuriated by that small coterie of Washington conservatives who have somehow got it into their heads that they are the sole arbiters of what is the proper position those of us on the right must adopt to be able to call ourselves conservatives. They promulgate the party line and we are all expected to fall in behind them.

This has been bothering me for some time, but lately they have really gotten under my skin with their suggestion that those conservatives who have serious doubts about the wisdom of the Dubai ports deal are motivated by bigotry. As far as they are concerned, we're all

a bunch of anti-Arab xenophobes whose questions about the deal are really our way of expressing our anti-Semitism because Arabs, after all, are Semites.

As Michelle Malkin noted in her column, Grover Norquist, one of the high priests of the Washington conservative elite, had the gall to tell the liberal Los Angeles Times that the "only whiners left by next week will be the registered bigots."

Not to be outdone, Larry Kudlow observed, "This whole brouhaha surrounding the Bush administration's green-light to a United Arab Emirates company slated to

manage six major U.S. ports has nothing to do with protecting homeland security. Allow me to give it its proper name: 'Islamophobia.'"

Even President Bush has weighed in on the xenophobic angle, suggesting "those who are questioning" the deal need to "step up and explain why all of a sudden a Middle Eastern company is held to a different standard than a great British company."

All of this begs the only legitimate question that can be posed by this deal: is it in the interests of the security of the American people? If it is, the deal is acceptable. If it's not, we ought to run

away from it as if it were a case of bird flu.

Conservatives outside the beltway have yet to get a clear answer to that question, and we deserve more than the kind of scorn the inside-the-beltway elitists have used to describe us. We are not bigots, we are not ignorant clods, we are simply concerned citizens who seek assurances we have yet to get.

It seems to be an article of faith among the Washington conservative establishment that they possess superior wisdom that somehow elevates them above all others when it comes to deciding what constitutes conservatism. They see themselves set apart from those in red-state America who exist only

See REAGAN, Page 5

Mike Reagan

Columnist



Federal, trade deficits do mean something

Conflicts are often about money. One factor that might account for the Bush administration's hostility toward Iran is Iran's plan to open a bourse — an oil exchange — in which Iranian oil will be sold for euros, not dollars.

Now, a short, oversimplified history of money is in order. At the end of World War II, the Bretton Woods Agreement stipulated that the U.S. dollar would be redeemable in gold — for foreigners. In other words, any foreign government or business that got antsy about the value of the dollar and held a bunch of them could redeem

them for gold at a predetermined rate.

Thanks to the spendthrift ways of our federal government, by the Nixon administration Europeans had such large claims against American gold that President Nixon unilaterally abrogated the agreement. No, he said, you can't redeem your dollars in gold, and the value of the dollar will simply float on the open market.

Shortly thereafter, another

agreement was made with the oil-producing countries in the Persian Gulf that in exchange for protection, they would always sell their oil for dollars. Thus was born the petrodollar.

This allowed the U.S. to continue its spendthrift ways and, in effect, pass on its inflation to the rest of the world. The dollar was and remains the world's reserve currency.

Now, if the Iranian market in euros is successful, then

more and more people might decide that they don't need to hang on to their dollars and might start dumping them for euros or some other currency or commodity. That could, in effect, toss inflation back to the U.S. — and not just creep-along inflation, but sudden and painful inflation.

Unlike foreigners, Americans are captive of legal-tender laws. These laws say you have to accept the Federal Reserve note as payment for all debts and goods and services, no matter how worthless it

See REESE, Page 5

Charley Reese

Columnist



THE PAMPA NEWS

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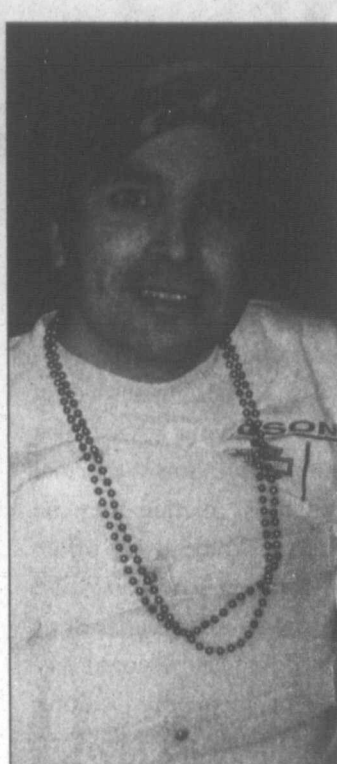
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Mardi Gras benefit



Enjoying the festivities at Saturday's Mardi Gras benefit for Chris Martinez are, from left, Valisa Kalka, Debbie Wildcat, Jimmie Poole, Delta Wells and Leslie Ramming. Martinez, right photo, was injured in a vehicle accident in November 2004 in Utah and is recovering.

Pampa News photos by VALERIE O'BRIEN

Reagan

Continued from Page 4

to be led around by their betters.

They don't grasp the inescapable fact that they are imitating the liberal blue-state elite who think that nobody outside of New York, Los Angeles or Boston has an opinion worth listening to. Only for them Washington is the seat of all conservative wisdom.

Every single one of this bunch is quick to claim the legacy of Ronald Reagan and to identify themselves with his beliefs, yet nobody had more contempt for the kind of elitist attitudes the inside-the-beltway crowd have adopted.

Ronald Reagan's great article of faith was in the inherent goodness and wisdom of the American people. My father was a red-state conservative through and through who couldn't wait to get out of Washington every chance he

got and go do hard physical work on his ranch. He felt smothered by the intellectual fog that hangs over the nation's capital, which is perfume to the elite.

All we are asking for is a full and complete explanation of the pros and cons about the port deal. After all, Homeland Security and the Coast Guard initially rebuffed the deal until they were brought in and made to understand it.

To be surprised that we have the same questions all these top people had ignores the fact that we are entitled to get the same information they got. How else can we make up our minds?

To be called Islamaphobes and xenophobes just because we ask for that information is outrageous. It's just plain bigotry.

Mike Reagan, the eldest son of the late President Ronald Reagan, is heard on more than 200 talk radio stations nationally as part of the Radio America Network.

Court upholds college military recruiting law

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court ruled unanimously Monday that colleges that accept federal money must allow military recruiters on campus, despite university objections to the Pentagon's "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays.

Justices rejected a free-speech challenge from law schools and their professors who claimed they should not be forced to associate with military recruiters or promote their campus appearances.

Chief Justice John Roberts, writing for the court, said that the campus visits are an effective military recruiting tool.

"A military recruiter's mere presence on campus does not violate a law school's right to associate, regardless of how repugnant the law school considers the recruiter's message," he wrote.

Law schools had become the latest battleground over the "don't ask, don't tell" policy allowing gay men and women to serve in the military only if they keep their sexual orientation to

themselves.

Many universities forbid the participation of recruiters from public agencies and private companies that have discriminatory policies.

The ruling was announced on a day that the court was jammed with visitors from the military, all dressed in uniform. Justices heard arguments in the case in December, and signaled then that they were concerned about hindering a Defense Department need to fill its ranks when the nation is at war.

"This is an important victory for the military and ultimately for our national security," said Jay Sekulow, chief counsel for the American Center for Law and Justice.

The court's decision upholds a law that requires colleges that take federal money to accommodate recruiters.

College leaders have said they could not afford to lose federal help, some \$35 billion a year.

Roberts, writing his third decision since joining the court last fall, said there are other less drastic options for

protesting the policy. "Students and faculty are free to associate to voice their disapproval of the military's message," he wrote.

"Recruiters are, by definition, outsiders who come onto campus for the limited purpose of trying to hire students — not to become members of the school's expressive association," he wrote.

The federal law, known as the Solomon Amendment after its first congressional sponsor, mandates that universities give the military the same access as other recruiters or forfeit federal money.

Roberts filed the only opinion, which was joined by every justice but Samuel Alito. Alito did not participate because he was not on the bench when the case was argued.

"The Solomon Amendment neither limits what law schools may say nor requires them to say anything," Roberts wrote.

The case is *Rumsfeld v. Forum for Academic and Institutional Rights*, 04-1152.

Reese

Continued from Page 4

becomes. Remember, a fiat currency like ours, backed up by nothing, has no inherent value. Its value is determined only by its purchasing power. If the U.S. currency is greatly devalued, Americans might find themselves in the same position as the German people in the old Weimar Republic.

If you get a Social Security check for \$400 and all of a sudden it will only buy you \$50 worth of goods and services, the U.S. government can say to you, "Tough beans, peasant." Remember, the more devalued a currency becomes, the higher the prices people will demand. The poor Germans in the 1920s got to the point where they needed a wheelbarrow to carry enough inflated currency to the market to buy a loaf of bread.

Now, a respected Arab journalist does not believe that America's hostility to Iran has anything to do with the bourse, scheduled to open in March. Her reason for that statement is that she is sure Bush has no understanding whatsoever of

world financial affairs. I tend to agree with her. I think our hostility toward Iran is made in the same place our hostility toward Iraq was made — in Israel.

Nevertheless, we as Americans should be more concerned about the fate of the dollar than the fate of Iran or Israel. The present monetary system, based on a fiat dollar and a privately owned central bank misnamed the Federal Reserve System, is a handy way to rob the American people of the fruit of their labor.

Even creeping inflation that we have suffered since World War II in effect steals money from our paychecks, our pension checks, our savings accounts and our insurance policies. Many years ago, when I bought a \$10,000 life-insurance policy, \$10,000 was a good sum of money. Today it will buy about \$2,000 worth of goods and services. The federal process of deficit spending and monetizing the debt has stolen the remaining \$8,000.

The federal deficit and the huge trade deficits do mean something. They mean we are heading for big trouble that we won't be able to bomb our way out of.

Write to Charley Reese at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando, FL 32802.

Letters

Cont. from Page 4

Exercise your right to vote

If our nation ceases goodness, she will cease to be a nation. I pray you have endeavored to be informed, but not from television ads. After all, they are "paid" for.

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Jequita Risley
Pampa

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BACKGROUND: By choice, resident and tax payer in Pampa and Gray County for more than 35 years. Established, owned and operated Dunlap Industrial Engines for 25 years. Provided an annual payroll of more than 3.2 million dollars to the local economy. Supervised and trained about 75 employees in my two stores at Pampa and Liberal. When I sold out to the Hanover Companies, I was retained as a consultant for 3 years. I now operate over 3,000 acres of farm and ranch land, located mostly in precinct 2.

FAMILY BACKGROUND: Raised 3 children in Pampa; Tammie Allen and Manda Rossier of Pampa, and Dustin Dunlap of Amarillo. Seven grandchildren including a grandson and granddaughter who play varsity basketball in Pampa, making me a huge Harvester Fan.

QUALIFICATIONS: Good supervisory and training skills. a hard worker and a good listener. Successful business owner and frugal money manager. A supporter of the community.

GOALS: "I want to put my skills and abilities to work for the people of Gray County and precinct 2; to better the business climate so that we can grow. To effectively manage Your Tax Dollars so that the county services and infrastructure will be the most effective. I want to serve as Your Commissioner of precinct 2, therefore I need and would appreciate your vote on March 7, 2006 in the Republican Primary."

Thank You

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Sports Day

LADY HARVESTER SOCCER

There seems to be something afoot

There has been a lot of talk since Friday about the Pampa High School girls' soccer team. A lot of talk.

The Lady Harvesters have had a tough season to this point. The girls would be the first to tell you it hasn't been a winning season, but they give all they have each time they take the field. However, as the season has progressed, Pampa has fallen victim to injury after injury, making it hard to field a team at times. But field a team they have. Except for Friday afternoon, when the injuries finally caught up with the team, forcing Pampa to forfeit the match with Palo Duro. OK, they did not forfeit the game, PHS officials did.

It was a decision that did not sit well with the girls or a number of parents. But before you judge Coach Jeff Quisenberry, athletic director Dick Dunham or PISD superintendent Barry Haenisch, make sure you have taken the time to gather all the facts.

The Lady Harvesters have been riding the razor's edge for a while when it comes to numbers. It takes 11 players for a soccer team to be at full strength on the field, not to mention subs on the sideline. My understanding is the team traveled to Borger Tuesday with a total of 10 players. This meant no subs. This meant the girls on the field would play two 40-minute halves with only the short halftime break. To make things worse, another player went down with a serious injury. Now the team was down to only nine available players. This is what would have taken the field Friday against Palo Duro. Not a risk school officials were willing to take.

In speaking with Mr. Dunham earlier today, I asked why he and the others opted to forfeit Friday. "We did not want to put those nine girls up against another team that was at full strength," said Dunham. "We felt it was in their best interest to forfeit the game. Not just because of the health issue, they (Pampa) just would not have gotten a fair shake."

One parent told me earlier in the day that "these girls have practiced all season and deserve to play. A few are hoping to play for a college." So far as being undermanned and prone to injury, the parent said, "They may be girls, but these are tough girls. If they have to crawl, they will be at the game tomorrow night." Pampa is scheduled to play Canyon at Kimbrough Memorial Stadium Tuesday.

My understanding is they need not worry about crawling. Dunham says the Lady Harvesters will play.

But here's the problem with that decision as I see it. If the team really only has nine players total, you are already placing them in harm's way. Canyon is a very solid team and I doubt there is any rule in the UIL charter that states one team must restrain itself when the opponent is not at full strength. They too have practiced and want to play. Sometimes the student athlete is just too close to their sport to know what's right and what's wrong. All they know is they want to play. Forfeit must ring like a cannon shot in their ears. It's like waving a white flag.

But what happens when you grant the student athlete his or her wish? When you give in to the "Come on coach, we may not have a full team but we have spirit" battle

and someone else is seriously injured? This places the school, the school district and those charged with preventing this in the first place in an awkward position. One that could lead to greater issues brought about by now angry parents. The same parents who were angry because you wouldn't let the kids play in the first place.

You may recall Claude High School was forced to cancel its football season last year due to circumstances not unlike the Lady Harvesters' soccer program. The Mustangs were already low on numbers going into the season. Injuries simply made things worse. So much so that CISD superintendent Bill Wood had to make the unpopular decision to scratch the season. He did

so out of concern for his kids. I recall thinking as I spoke with Mr. Wood at the time how he was seeing the big picture and not focused on the much smaller one.

I hear there is a chance the Lady Harvesters can end the season with at least 11 players as there are a few girls willing to fill the void if Coach Quisenberry will let them. Girls who, according to one parent, "Quit the team earlier in the season." Girls who were probably chastised then, but are now being heralded for wanting to help. True or not, I don't envy Coach Quisenberry. Nor do I envy Mr. Dunham or Mr. Haenisch.

My hope for all concerned in this matter is that they will do like Mr. Wood did. Look at the big picture clearly and objectively. Base all decisions on what is right for the kids in the long run. I would never encourage a team or student athlete not to compete. However, I would never encourage a team or student athlete to compete at anything less than 100 percent.

I understand the Lady Harvesters' frustration. It has not been the season they hoped for. Far from it. I can understand and sympathize with feeling as though you have something to prove. Wanting to show you can. The hurt the seniors must feel.

But that is the X-factor in sports. The unknown. It can strike at any time.

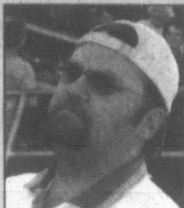
While there are a few Pampa student athletes that hope to ply their trade at the next level, not all will. How sad it would be for a child to be injured or impacted competing in a sport he or she really has no interest in pursuing, yet unable to pursue anything at all simply because he or she didn't want to let their undermanned team down. Better to forfeit a game and pursue a dream sometimes than to compete short handed and risk the dream all together.

Win at all costs? Depends on who you ask. Compete at all costs? Not at all. And you only need to look at almost any professional sport to substantiate the latter. And we are talking about high school kids.

My best to those who must make the decisions concerning this issue, and those affected by it.

To the Lady Harvester soccer team, I hope you are able to play and finish the season. You deserve that chance. But you deserve that chance as a team, not as individuals. Win, lose, draw or even forfeit, make sure you do it as a team. A team willing and able to perform at 100 percent. Don't concern yourself with the outcome or what others will think or say. Believe, no one has or will ever doubt your spirit.

Michael J. Stevens
Sports Editor



Lady Harvesters go 3-3 at Burkburnett tourney

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

The Lady Harvesters softball team went 3-for-3 at the annual Burkburnett Tournament over the weekend, taking first place in the tournament's White Division. Said coach Bobbi Gill, "I was fairly pleased with the weekend overall. I think we are making good progress and we are so close in all those games. We just need to finish." She added, "I think we will get there soon. I am really looking forward to this weekend and the tournament over Spring Break in Arlington."

Results

Pampa 5, Notre Dame 4
Nicole Clark (P)- 5 K's (6), 4 hits, 2 earned runs
Stephanie McVay- 1 hit, 1 run
Cassy Tice- 1 double, 1 RBI, 1 run
Nicole Clark- 1 hit, 1 RBI, 2 runs
Logan Winkelman- 1 hit, 1 RBI, 1 run
Kelby Doughty- 1 hit, 2 RBI's

Pampa 0, Azle 1
Cassy Tice (p)- 3 k's (4), 1 hit, 0 earned runs
Stephanie McVay- 1 hit
Logan Winkelman- 1 double

Pampa 5, Windthorst 6
Cassy Tice (P)- 7 K's (6), 4 hits, 2 earned

runs
Cassy Tice 1 double, 2 runs
Nicole Clark 1 run
Logan Winkelman- 1 double, 2 RBI's, 1 run
Kelby Doughty- 1 Homerun

Pampa 1, Iowa Park 3
Nicole Clark (P)- 5 K's (3), 2 hits, 0 earned runs
Callie Cobb- 1 double, 1 run
Kelby Doughty- 1 hit, 1 RBI
Logan Winkelman- 1 hit
Whitney Wichert- 1 Hit

Pampa 2, Archer City 1
Nicole Clark (P)- 7 K's (6), 0 hits, 0 earned runs
Callie Cobb- 1 hit, 1 run
Kelby Doughty- 1 hit, 1 RBI, 1 run
Nicole Clark- 1 triple, 1 RBI
Whitney Wichert- 1 hit

Pampa 5, Abilene Cooper 1
Cassy Tice (P)- 1 K, 5 hits, 1 earned run
Callie Cobb- 1 run, 1 RBI
Stephanie McVay- 1 run
Kelby Doughty 1 triple, 1 single, 2 RBI, 1 run
Cassy Tice- 1 RBI
Nicole Clark- 2 hits
Logan Winkelman- 1 hit, 1 run
Whitney Wichert- 1 double, 1 RBI
Kambra Jimenez- 1 hit, 1 run

Houston franchise renamed

HOUSTON (AP) - After dropping the nickname Houston 1836 because it was deemed offensive by many Hispanics, the Major League Soccer franchise announced today it will become the Houston Dynamo.

The franchise, which moved from San Jose in December, was named the 1836 to honor the city's founding. But critics felt the name was anti-Mexican because that was also the year Texas defeated Mexico for its independence.

"After it was clear we'd hit a raw nerve in the community, we didn't want to offend anybody," team president Oliver Luck said. "We had a short list of about 15 names to choose from and we came up with this. It's full of vitality, energy and action."

Luck said the name emphasizes the city's links to the energy industry.

He acknowledged the name partially was bor-

rowed from the Houston Dynamos, a pro soccer team that played in 1984 in the United Soccer League. The league folded but the team played exhibitions for two years after that.

"We're delighted to go back to the Houston Dynamos," Luck said. "They were short-lived but a very successful team that played in their championship game in their one season."

The team failed in San Jose because owners were disappointed with low turnouts at home games. The Earthquakes drew an average crowd of 13,037 in 2005, eighth in the 12-team league.

Another topsy-turvy day for NFL labor negotiations

NEW YORK (AP) - For at least a few more days, dozens of high-priced NFL players still have jobs.

NFL labor talks took a new twist Sunday night when the league and its players' union agreed to postpone free agency another 72 hours, giving the sides more time to work out a deal on a contract extension.

The decision came just four hours after negotiations had broken off, leaving many veterans in danger of becoming salary-cap casualties. Owners will meet Tuesday in Dallas to decide whether they want to take the union's latest offer.

Free agency originally was supposed to start Friday, but was pushed back to 12:01 a.m. Monday. Now, it's set to begin at 12:01 a.m. Thursday.

In the meantime, the deadline for teams to get under the salary cap also was delayed.

That gave the Oakland Raiders a reprieve - they thought they'd be forced to release quarterback Kerry Collins, saving \$9.2 million in cap space. The New York Jets cut center Kevin

Mawae, who is 35 and missed the final 10 games last season with a triceps injury.

And according to an official with knowledge of the deal, linebacker LaVar Arrington agreed to a buy-out of his contract with the Washington Redskins, the team believed to be in the most cap trouble.

The team said the departure of the three-time Pro Bowler would provide "much needed salary cap relief."

Other big names also could go if teams try to squeeze under a salary cap

of \$94.5 million. If a deal is reached, the cap could go as much as \$10 million higher - in other words, allowing teams to keep some of the players.

Amid all the labor back-and-forth came news that running back Shaun Alexander was staying put: The league's MVP agreed to return to the NFC champion Seattle Seahawks for \$62 million over eight years, with \$15.1 guaranteed, according to his agent, Jim Steiner.

The union broke off Sunday's bargaining ses-

sion. "The talks ended after the NFL gave us a proposal which provided a percentage of revenues for the players which would be less than they received over the last 12 years," said Gene Upshaw, executive director of the NFL Players Association. "After suggesting we extend the waiver deadline from six o'clock to 10 this evening, they gave us a new proposal which was worse than their prior offer. Quite naturally, we rejected that proposal and saw no need to continue meeting."

Will Rogers Never Met Donna Goodman

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Atlantic Division

New Jersey	W L Pct GB	32 26 .552 —
Philadelphia		30 29 .508 2 1/2
Boston		24 35 .407 8 1/2
Toronto		21 38 .356 11 1/2
New York		16 43 .271 16 1/2

Southeast Division

Miami	W L Pct GB	38 20 .655 —
Washington		30 28 .517 8
Orlando		20 39 .339 18 1/2
Atlanta		19 39 .328 19
Charlotte		16 44 .267 23

Central Division

Detroit	W L Pct GB	48 11 .814 —
Cleveland		34 26 .567 14 1/2
Indiana		30 26 .536 16 1/2
Milwaukee		29 30 .492 19
Chicago		26 33 .441 22

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	W L Pct GB	46 12 .793 —
Dallas		46 13 .780 1/2
Memphis		33 26 .559 13 1/2
New Orleans		31 27 .534 15
Houston		27 33 .450 20

Northwest Division

Denver	W L Pct GB	32 28 .533 —
Utah		28 31 .475 3 1/2
Minnesota		26 32 .448 5
Seattle		23 37 .383 9
Portland		19 40 .322 12 1/2

Pacific Division

Phoenix	W L Pct GB	41 17 .707 —
L.A. Clippers		33 25 .569 8
L.A. Lakers		31 29 .517 11
Sacramento		28 31 .475 13 1/2
Golden State		25 34 .424 16 1/2

Saturday's Games

New Jersey 105, Toronto 100, OT
Miami 95, Atlanta 93
New York 103, Milwaukee 98
San Antonio 101, Portland 81
Denver 110, Orlando 94
L.A. Lakers 105, Detroit 94

Sunday's Games

Washington 117, Sacramento 107
Indiana 94, Philadelphia 93
Phoenix 115, Dallas 107
Minnesota 103, Golden State 90
Toronto 111, Boston 105
Cleveland 91, Chicago 72
Houston 102, Portland 84
Seattle 113, Utah 81
Memphis 102, L.A. Clippers 86

FEATURE STORY BOX

Hall of Famer Kirby Puckett in critical condition after stroke

PHOENIX (AP) — Kirby Puckett remained hospitalized in critical condition early Monday after having surgery for a stroke.

The Hall of Fame outfielder, who led the Minnesota Twins to two championships before his career was cut short by glaucoma, was stricken Sunday at his Arizona home.

A nursing supervisor at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix, who declined to give her full name, said early Monday the 44-year-old Puckett was in critical condition. She did not provide additional details. Puckett had surgery at Scottsdale

Healthcare Osborn on Sunday, the Twins said from their spring training camp in Fort Myers, Fla., and was later moved to St. Joseph's.

"The Minnesota Twins and major league baseball ask fans to keep Kirby and his family in their thoughts and prayers," the team said earlier in a statement.

Ron Shapiro, who was Puckett's agent, said he had been in contact with Puckett's family Sunday.

"We're all praying for his recovery," Shapiro said.

"The doctors said that if he has good luck, he'll be all right. You have to

keep the faith," former manager Tom Kelly said.

Twins center fielder Torii Hunter sat out Minnesota's exhibition game against the Red Sox after learning of Puckett's stroke.

Said manager Ron Gardenhire: "Our hearts and our prayers are all with Puck. We know it's a tough situation out there."

Puckett, who broke in with Minnesota in 1984, had a career batting average of .318 and carried the Twins to World Series titles in 1987 and 1991.

Arrington buys his freedom from Washington Redskins

WASHINGTON (AP) — LaVar Arrington was so disenchanted with the Washington Redskins that he gave up money rather than stay with the team.

The three-time Pro Bowl linebacker and the Redskins parted ways late Sunday night in a deal that allowed Arrington to become a free agent while giving the team a needed break in its effort to get under the salary cap.

An official with knowledge of the transaction, speaking to the Associated Press on condition of anonymity, said Arrington agreed to a buyout that relinquished more than \$4 million rather than restructure his contract in a way that would allow him to remain in Washington.

During the past week, the Redskins have asked several veterans to restructure their contracts so the team could get under the NFL's salary cap. The team will need to slash some \$20 million of cap money if there is

no new collective bargaining agreement before the start of free agency.

The free agent market was originally scheduled to open last Friday, but it has been postponed twice while negotiations continue between the NFL and the players' union. It's now scheduled to start Thursday at 12:01 a.m.

The official told the AP that Arrington was the only Redskins player who refused to rework his deal. Arrington was disgruntled over playing time last season and wanted a chance to pursue free agency.

Yet the Redskins couldn't cut Arrington outright because it would have cost the team under the league's complex salary cap rules. He was due to count some \$12 million against the cap in 2006, including a \$6.5 million roster bonus.

So Arrington essentially agreed to give money back — and forfeit the upcoming roster bonus — to buy his freedom.

In a brief statement, the Redskins confirmed Arrington was to become a free agent but gave no details other than that his departure will provide 'much-needed salary cap relief.' The team said coach Joe Gibbs would address the matter at a noon news conference today.

Arrington's departure marks a sour end in Washington for the franchise's most popular player of recent years. Arrington was the No. 2 overall draft pick in 2000 and played in three straight Pro Bowls from 2001-03.

Arena Football League standings

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Eastern Division

Dallas	W L T Pct PF PA	5 1 0 .833 329 281
Columbus		3 3 0 .500 249 260
New York		3 3 0 .500 331 360
Philadelphia		3 3 0 .500 294 288

Southern Division

Austin	W L T Pct PF PA	5 1 0 .833 311 272
Orlando		4 2 0 .667 284 273
Tampa Bay		4 2 0 .667 335 326
Georgia		3 3 0 .500 324 259
Kansas City		1 5 0 .167 241 287

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

Central Division

Colorado	W L T Pct PF PA	5 1 0 .833 341 320
Nashville		4 2 0 .667 319 229
Chicago		3 3 0 .500 320 324
Grand Rapids		2 4 0 .333 290 310

Western Division

Arizona	W L T Pct PF PA	2 4 0 .333 237 280
Las Vegas		2 4 0 .333 301 335
San Jose		2 4 0 .333 306 319
Utah		2 4 0 .333 338 351
Los Angeles		1 5 0 .167 260 336

Friday's Game

Columbus 65, New York 54

Saturday's Games

Austin 53, Georgia 52
Arizona 51, Nashville 49
San Jose 65, Utah 50

Sunday's Games

Dallas 59, Chicago 42
Orlando 59, Los Angeles 34
Colorado 66, Grand Rapids 54
Tampa Bay 69, Kansas City 59
Las Vegas 67, Philadelphia 49

Friday, March 10

Georgia at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Nashville at Utah, 9 p.m.

Orlando at Arizona, 9 p.m.

Grand Rapids at Las Vegas, 10:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 12

Dallas at Tampa Bay, Noon
New York at Austin 3 p.m.

Los Angeles at San Jose, 6 p.m.

Monday, March 13

Philadelphia at Kansas City 8 p.m.

THE PAMPA NEWS PHOTO CONTEST



The Pampa News will sponsor the Pampa Portraits Photo Contest again this year in conjunction with the publication of the annual Pride Progress edition, scheduled to be delivered on March 31.

One section of the edition will be dedicated to photographs only. The winner of the Pampa Portraits Contest will have their photo published on the cover of the section, and will win \$50 in Pampa Bucks. The best photos will be published in the section.

Eligible entries should be photographs of Pampa people in Pampa, taken by amateur photographers. Subjects will be of Pampans working, playing, relaxing or celebrating a special occasion. Photos of animals or scenery will not be considered.

Entries can be prints or digital images burned on a CD. They may be mailed or brought to the newspaper office. Photos submitted on a CD should be of the contest entry only.

Accompanying the photos should be identification of the people appearing, and what they are doing. Also include the date and place with each entry. If a person other than the entrant is in the photo, a signed release to have their likeness published is also required. Photos that do not include identification of subjects and an explanation of the event will not be considered.

Entries must include the entrant's name, address, e-mail address and telephone number. Photos that do not include this contact information will not be considered.

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

Deadline for entries is 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 16. Entries received after that time will not be considered. The winner will be notified by Friday, March 25.

Entries may be submitted by mail to "Pampa Portraits" Contest, The Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198 or brought to 403 W. Atchison.

Good luck ... and start shooting.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, March 7, 2006.

Think through decisions, but expect to have problems making them happen sometimes. You often get trapped in black-and-white thinking. With this knowledge, you might consider breaking into a new and different way of thinking. Listen to feedback from others, and be willing to back off your position. Don't allow unnecessary confusion or problems to earmark your year or life. If you are single, you might often want to question others' motives. If this is the case, you will want to back off and rethink your relationships. If you are attached, your relationship will need to emphasize mutual respect and trust if it is going to flourish this year. **CANCER** stimulates your imagination.

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) ***** It is clear that you will not be changing anyone or transforming any idea right now. No one seems to get it. Don't go blindly into a conversation or meeting. Be willing to not have a resolution today. Tonight: Play it cool and relaxed.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ***** Be careful in your dealings with others. Expenses might be a bit askew or might be costing you more than they should. Investigate what might be going on. Relax while others become controlling. Sometimes you think that someone doesn't get it. Tonight: It's your treat.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ***** You have energy and enthusi-

asm, but others find you a bit irritating. Instead of illuminating a major difference of opinion, work with reality. You seem much lighter and more easygoing than many. In some way, this could evoke others' ire. Tonight: Easy does it.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ** You cannot win for losing during the daylight hours. Crankiness and difficulty with situations merge. Know when to retreat. This act could easily define your mood. Why interfere with the obvious? Tonight: Come out of your shell.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ***** Aim for more of what you want, though others might test your limits. You might be confused, as someone is giving you a lot of mixed messages and reverses gears. Curb your risk-taking. Tonight: Chill out.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) *** You might try very hard to keep things together but can't because others create an uproar. You might want to head in a different direction. But no matter which way you turn, there is uproar. Tonight: Join your friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ***** You might need to distance yourself from others, or simply head out the door. Taking a drive or doing something totally different will help you gain a perspective. As a result, you will be able to take a strong stand. Tonight: A must appearance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) *** Work with others, as you have little choice; though on some level, you could find those around you difficult. Think positively, if you can. Laugh and enjoy yourself to the maximum. You might need to be less vested in what goes on. Tonight: Rent a movie.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** Others challenge you, or at least this is how you see it. You might want to think before you say anything that could impact you. Home and family matters could pressure you into being irrational. Tonight: Try to make an impact on one person, not the world.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) *** A nice and easy pace could cause you to regroup and try a different approach. You can make inroads where you least expect it. Evaluate with an eye to an attitude change on your part. Tonight: Allow someone to reveal his or her true colors.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***** Your creativity can take you in a new direction if you relax and handle each piece of a rapidly changing and possibly difficult situation. No matter what, wonderful solutions come up — others just might not agree. Tonight: Easy does it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ***** Pressure remains high within your immediate circle of friends and associates. Work through your problems with an eye to solutions. Take charge of a personal matter, though you might have to wade through considerable flak. Tonight: Don't toss obstacles in your own path.

BORN TODAY Singer Peter Wolf (1946), tennis player Ivan Lendl (1960), former Disney CEO Michael Eisner (1942)

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

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PAMPA NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

1 Public Notice

THE STATE OF TEXAS County of Gray TO: PAMELA RENEE MOLER, Respondent(s). GREETINGS: YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable District Court, 223rd Judicial District, Gray County, Texas at the Courthouse thereof, in Pampa, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation then and there to answer the Petition of KENNETH WAYNE MOLER filed in said Court on the 23rd day of February, 2006, against PAMELA RENEE MOLER Respondent(s) and said suit being numbered 34232 on the docket of said Court, and entitled: IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF KENNETH WAYNE MOLER AND PAMELA RENEE MOLER The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree providing for the division of property which will be binding on you. ISSUED AND GIVEN under my hand and seal of said Court at Pampa, Texas, this the 2nd day of March 2006.

GAYE HONDERICH, Clerk 223rd District Court Gray County, Texas P.O. Box 1139 Pampa, Tx. 79066-1139 By: TERESA DAVIS, Deputy

1 Public Notice

IMPORTANT NOTICE YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. YOU MAY EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY. IF YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY DO NOT FILE A WRITTEN ANSWER WITH THE CLERK WHO ISSUED THIS CITATION BY 10:00 A.M. ON THE MONDAY NEXT FOLLOWING THE EXPIRATION OF TWENTY DAYS AFTER YOU WERE SERVED THIS CITATION AND PETITION, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU.

E-3 Mar. 6, 2006

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Grandview-Hopkins Independent School District will hold a public hearing to apply for a waiver from the Texas Education Agency to move the first day of school from August 21 to August 14. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the administration office the evening of March 21, 2006.

E-2 Mar. 6, 2006

5 Special Notices

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

14d Carpentry

Carpentry, Roofing, Replacement windows, steel siding & trim Jerry Nicholas 669-9991, 662-8169

14d Carpentry

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

OWENS CARPENTRY Additions, remodeling, patios & decks. Work guar. 665-0619, 662-3380

14e Carpet Serv.

NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost...it pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541, or from out of town, 800-536-5341.

14h Gen. Serv.

COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

IS your House or Foundation Settling? Cracks in bricks or walls? Door won't close? Call Childers Brothers, Inc. Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling. 1-800-299-9563 or 806-352-9563 Amarillo.

CERAMIC tile work. Remodeling floor, bath, kitchen. Texture, painting, dry wall. Free esti. Call 665-3453 or leave message, Jesus Barraza.

HANDYMAN Landscaping, Carpentry, Painting, Tree Trimming, Clean Up, Fencing, Most Odd Jobs. Call for Free Estimates. (806)662-7692

14r Plowing/Yard

ALL types of yard, plowing, haul off and landscaping. Free estimates. Call 806-665-5529.

14s Plumbing/Heat

JACK'S Plumbing & Faucet Shop, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115. faucets, plumbing supplies, new constr., repair, remodeling, sewer / drain cleaning, septic systems installed. Visa/MC

Larry Baker Plumbing Heating/ Air Conditioning Borger Hwy. 665-4392

14t Radio/Tv

QUALITY TV Service, 827 W. Francis, Pampa. Specializing in large screen and projection TV repair. Prof. service. Call 665-0010, 662-0652.

19 Situations

DOMESTIC, 25 yrs exp. Yes I do windows! Excellent ref. Work guaranteed. Carey, 806-733-2492

21 Help Wanted

Immediate Openings LVNS & CNAs Needed For All Shifts. McLean Care Center. Call 806-779-2469. Ask for Administrator Billy Ray Johnston

Front Office / Insurance Team Members needed in a busy chiropractic office. Put your "people skills" to work. Fax resume to (806)665-0537

CRALL PRODUCTS Immediate Openings Welders Painter/Sandblaster 40hrs + wk. Salary based on exp. Apply in Person: W. Hwy 152, Pampa

CRALL PRODUCTS ASME Code Welder-Fabricators for Pressure Vessels Needed. Apply in person or Fax resume to: 665-9736

Summer Employment Fun Valley Family Resort. South Fork Colo. Needs students to work all types of jobs, kitchen, dining room, house keeping, stores, maintenance, horse wrangler & office salary, Room, Board, Bonus. For info. & appl. Write to Personnel Director. 6315 Westover Dr., Granbury Tx. 76049

Local Restaurant Group now taking applications for the following positions:

General Manager Assistant Manager Kitchen Manager Catering Manager Wait Staff Supervisor Line Cooks Prep Cooks

\$7 per hr. to \$15 per hr., paid vacation & bonuses!

Send resume or apply in person 2219 Perrinton Pkwy., Pampa (next to Dean's Pharmacy)

21 Help Wanted

NOTICE Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT Fun Valley Family Resort. South Fork Colo. Needs retirees w/ own RV for all types of jobs, Office, house keeping, cooks, maintenance & RV parks. For info & application. Write to Personnel Director. 6315 Westover Dr., Granbury Tx. 76049

EXP. Pumper in Lefors / Pampa area. Resumes to Box 52040, Amarillo, Tx. 79159-2040.

KITCHEN help needed. Apply in person at Dyer's Barbeque, Pampa.

JANITORIAL Service taking appl., drivers license required, will train. 669-9186, 665-2667.

PART Time Home Provider needed M-F. Must be dependable. 1-800-892-3301, call M-F, 8-5.

WAIT Staff needed. Must be 18 yrs. old and DEPENDABLE. Apply in person before 11 am, or after 2 pm., Texas Rose. No phone calls!

DENTAL Assistant. Part Time (2 or 3 days per week) Experience desired, but not necessary. Send resume to Box 12 c/o The Pampa News P.O. Box 2198, Pampa Tx. 79066

NOW HIRING FOR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES POSITIONS NOW AVAILABLE!

- * Roustabout
- * Utility Maintenance
- * Warehousemen/Delivery
- * Pen Rider
- * Mechanic Trainee
- * Inside Sales
- * Warehousing
- * Staffing Coordinator
- * Licensed Professional Counselor
- * Part-time Clerical

Part-time and Full-time. Temp and Temp to Perm. Drug Screens Required. Never a Fee to Applicants. Apply Now!

INNOVATIVE STAFFING SOLUTIONS, LLC

1224 N. Hobart St., NBC Plaza II, Ste. 11 Pampa, TX 79065 Phone (806) 665-2991

Full-Time Employment! Must be 18 Insurance Vacation Sick Leave Retirement Offered Bartlett Lumber 500 W. Brown Pampa

OPENING for Heating & Air Tech, and 2 helpers. Drug test req'd. No Phone Calls Please. Come by Larry Baker Plumbing Heating & Air at 11780 Hwy 152

FT Pharmacy Technician needed Send Resume to Box 13 C/o of The Pampa News, PO Box 2198, Pampa TX 79066

CDL position open. Dump truck experience preferred. Day hauls only. Pre-employment drug test is required. Apply in person. West Texas Landscape, 120 S. Hobart.

OUTREACH Health Services hiring home health providers in Pampa area. Must be 18 yrs. of age. No exp. necessary. Please contact Regina or Dee 800-800-0697. EOE.

FT Pharmacy Technician needed Send Resume to Box 13 C/o of The Pampa News, PO Box 2198, Pampa TX 79066

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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

3-6 CRYPTOQUOTE

N P Z X ' V W H Q U L Z Q U A .

N L Y A V O H V E D V D U

F Z R U J X W U X V H X P J U C Z J V

V D U S H E V A . — O N I I J Z F U J A

Saturday's Cryptoquote: MONEY

DISHONESTLY ACQUIRED IS NEVER WORTH ITS COST, WHILE A GOOD CONSCIENCE NEVER COSTS AS MUCH AS IT IS WORTH. — J.P. SENN

21 Help Wanted

EXCEL Production is accepting resumes and/or application for an Exp. Field Pumper. Individual must have knowledge and exp. in the operations of oil & gas wells, compressors & tank batteries. No Phone Calls will be accepted. Please bring resume or pick up application at 1050 N. Price Rd. or mail resume to: Attn: Personal Excel Production P.O. Box 1800 Pampa, TX 79066-1800

Experienced Railroad Switchman for industrial Switching in Pampa, Tx. Benefits include insurance, vacation, 401K. Call 361-403-4010 for info. or interview. Must pass drug screen & background check.

Local Drivers and Mechanic Needed. Drivers must have 2yrs. driving experience w/ X endorsement, benefit package, vacation pay, 401K, insurance, uniforms. Call 806-662-1208.

Part Time Home Provider needed M-F. Must be dependable. 1-800-892-3301, call M-F, 8-5.

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N L Y A V O H V E D V D U

F Z R U J X W U X V H X P J U C Z J V

V D U S H E V A . — O N I I J Z F U J A

Saturday's Cryptoquote: MONEY

DISHONESTLY ACQUIRED IS NEVER WORTH ITS COST, WHILE A GOOD CONSCIENCE NEVER COSTS AS MUCH AS IT IS WORTH. — J.P. SENN

21 Help Wanted

COOKS NEEDED!! Apply in person. No Phone Calls. Texas Rose, Pampa.

UTILITY Contractor looking for year round High-Voltage Lineman & Line Operators with Class A CDL Licenses and Apprentice Lineman. Work located out of State. Traveling a must. Needs Ambition. 1-800-669-5496.

50 Building Suppl.

White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

60 Household

Mattress Sets IN STOCK Extra Thick Pillow Top, T. \$190.00 F. \$230.00 Q. \$360.00 K. \$450.00 5 yr. Warr. Elite Furniture 806-677-0400

HOT TUB Beautiful 2006 w/Lounger Never used. Waterfall 6.5 hp, 43 jets, Aroma therapy, cover, startup kit \$4,000 806-670-9337

Distributor Overstock Brand name mattress sets, orthopedic & chiropractic endorsed. All brand new w/ factory warr. 40-80% off retail. Can deliver. Pillow tops: Tw. \$176, Full \$227, Qu. \$241, Kg \$371. Plush tops: Tw. \$87, Full \$115, Qu. \$151, Kg \$243. 806-517-1050.

69 Misc.

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

1970 series Coca Cola box. Early 60's cigarette machine. Roll top desk. Slot machine. Call 669-0343, leave message.

69a Garage Sales DEBBIE'S Used Furniture. We buy & sell 1 piece or complete house. 903 S. Main, Borger, 273-2905, 886-0268 Tues-Sat.

75 Feeds/Seeds FERTILIZED Grass Hay for sale. Gary Hall, 806-663-0740.

77 Livest./Equip. REGISTERED Angus 12-15 Months: 32 Bulls @ \$1,150, 37 Heifers @ \$1,050. Bill Helton. Residence: (806)355-0509. Ranch: (806)248-7552

Coffee Red Angus Well bred, registered Red Angus Bulls. 806-323-8629 or 806-217-1233.

80 Pets & Suppl. FREE to good home small female blue heeler mix, 6 mo. old, is current on shots. Call 669-2634.

95 Furn. Apts. 2 bedroom house, central heat, \$350 month. Call 662-7557.

2 bedroom, 1 bath house, large livingroom, with large fenced backyard. Call 665-4455.

CONDO 2 br., 1 3/4 ba., washer/dryer hook-ups, fpl. 1133 E. Harvester. 665-6936 or 665-3788.

1 bedroom, 1 bath Washer/dryer hookups 808 Beryl 665-5473

99 Stor. Bldgs. TUMBLEWEED Acres, self storage units. Various sizes. 665-0079, 665-2450.

100 Rooms For Rent HOTEL DAVIS 116 1/2 W. Foster 440-1066 Rooms \$70 wk., bills paid

102 Bus. Rent. Prop. OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent 669-6841.

LOWEST Rents in City! Downtown locations-stores, warehouses, rec. facilities. Call 665-4274.

103 Homes For Sale Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-3560, 440-2314 669-0007

1900 N. Russell Corner Lot \$195,000 3177 sq. ft. 4 bdr., liv. rm., den, din. rm., large kitchen, 3 full ba. Cedar Closets, Lots of storage, Extra wide Dbl Garage, Big Back yard with lots of trees, Sprinkler System 663-2284 By appt. Only

2 bdr., dbl. gar. For sale by owner. No financing. Call 440-2892 or 688-0072, 662-8570.

2323 Evergreen. 1821 Sq. Ft., Lrg. Shop In Back. Daytime Phone 669-4258, Evening 669-1603

Extraordinary 5-bdr., 4ba, 2 story w/ refinished basement, approx. 5000 sqft. located on lrg. lot w/ auto. sprinkler system, circle drive & 2 car det. gar. By appt. only. Serious inq. only. 665-4804, 595-0689

Caprock Apts. 1601 W. Somerville 665-7149 Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5:30 Sat 10-4

LAKEVIEW Apt. 1 & 2 bdr. unfurn. apt. avail. Ref. dep. req. 669-2981 or 669-4386

MOVE-IN Special \$275 + dep. Fresh paint, appliances inc. Come check out the New Coffee St. Duplexes \$300 1st mo. ("Going Fast") Candy or Tim 433-6939 or 665-4274.

97 Furn. Houses 414 W. Browning \$300 month + \$300 deposit Call 665-2218

98 Unfurn. Houses PICK up rental list from Gray Box on front porch of 125 S. Houston, Pampa. Update each Fri.

2 bedroom house, central heat, \$350 month. Call 662-7557.

2 bedroom, 1 bath house, large livingroom, with large fenced backyard. Call 665-4455.

CONDO 2 br., 1 3/4 ba., washer/dryer hook-ups, fpl. 1133 E. Harvester. 665-6936 or 665-3788.

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2 bdr., dbl. gar. For sale by owner. No financing. Call 440-2892 or 688-0072, 662-8570.

'Boa Babes'



The "Boa Babes" performed recently at a TAKS Assembly at Woodrow Wilson Elementary. The purpose of their concert was to promote good morale and boost the confidence of the students taking the TAKS tests. Above, from left: Cindy Loughmiller, special ed assistant, Angie Hoover, fourth grade teacher, Lisa Gibson, third grade teacher, and Becky Poland, third grade teacher. Not pictured: Angela Hicks, fourth grade teacher, Mary Sturgeon, counselor, and Francene Owens, music instructor.



Heart Gala

This painting, held by Suzanne Courtney, American Heart Association volunteer, was auctioned off at the American Heart Association annual fund-raiser recently. The painting was purchased by Lillith Brainard and was donated by Dr. Vijay Mohan. Dr. Mohan painted this picture, titled "I'll be home soon baby," based on current world events and inspired by his own experience as a surgeon in a M*A*S*H unit in Cashmir. Pictured is a soldier saying good-bye to his daughter. Courtney is an employee of Shepard's Nursing Home Health Agency.

Job cuts feared as AT&T bids on BellSouth

ATLANTA (AP) — While AT&T Inc.'s \$67 billion bid for BellSouth Corp. would expand the number of voices using the country's largest telecommunications company, it may end up sounding more like a hang up for some employees.

San Antonio-based AT&T expects the acquisition announced Sunday to save it \$2 billion annually, partially from job cuts and combining the two work forces.

Officials would not say how many jobs might be cut if the deal is approved by shareholders and regulators over the next year, but staff reductions are common in such mergers. Cingular Wireless LLC, a joint venture of AT&T and BellSouth, cut about 7,000 jobs after its \$41 billion acquisition of AT&T Wireless in October 2004.

More savings from the proposed acquisition would come from reduced advertising expenses and combining the backbone network and information-technology operations of the companies.

The purchase of Atlanta-based BellSouth would give AT&T total control of Cingular, the nation's largest cell phone provider, and BellSouth's nine-state network. Together, the three companies employ more than 316,000 people.

The deal appears to be the largest yet among U.S. telecom players and goes a long way toward resurrecting the old Ma Bell telephone system, which was broken apart in 1984.

The merged company would have 70 million local-line phone customers, 54.1 million wireless subscribers

and nearly 10 million broadband subscribers in the 22 states where they now operate.

The deal would substantially expand the reach of AT&T, already the country's largest telecommunications company by the number of customers served. BellSouth is the dominant local telephone provider in the Southeast.

The Cingular brand would likely be phased out in favor of the AT&T brand. The name will be familiar to wireless customers: AT&T Wireless Inc., a spin-off of AT&T, was acquired by Cingular in October 2004. The BellSouth name also would be absorbed in the deal.

"It's going to be confusing," said industry analyst Jeff Kagan. "This is the reinvention of the telecommunications industry."

Cingular spokesman Mark Siegel dismissed the notion there would be public perception issues with the switch back to the AT&T name for the wireless company.

"We built a business," Siegel said. "Is the brand an important part of that business? Yes. But it is a business that is made primarily up of people. None of that changes."

The shift in the U.S. telecom landscape — moving from four to three regional Bell operators — also is sure to garner close review from Washington.

The deal furthers the reunification of the Baby Bells, the eight regional telephone operators that were spun off from the old AT&T in 1984 under a federal court

order. At that time, and in a different regulatory climate, AT&T was largely a long-distance company.

"Twenty years after the government broke up Ma Bell, this deal represents a mother and child reunion," said Rep. Ed Markey, the ranking Democrat on the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet.

"Our nation's telecommunications markets must be vigorously competitive and open to innovation in order to promote job creation and economic growth," Markey said. "This merger proposal is one that unquestionably merits the utmost scrutiny by government antitrust officials."

The combined AT&T and BellSouth would be the country's largest supplier of broadband Internet access. Their combined 9.8 million DSL lines (at the end of last year) would vault them past the current leader, cable company Comcast Corp., with 8.5 million broadband subscribers.

With cable companies

increasingly vying for traditional phone companies' share of local telephone service, such mergers in the industry have been commonplace of late. Kagan, the industry analyst, said more could be on the horizon.

"We're not over it yet," Kagan said.

CITIZENS CONCERNS IN PRECINCT 2...

"Gary is working on fifty years or more of county road neglect such as pulling ditches and removing plugged and collapsed culverts. We don't need to go thru another few years of learning when Gary and his people are doing such a fine job." -Richard Smith

"Keep Gary Willoughby. He has spent the tax payer's money wisely." -JoAnne Willoughby

"He personally patrols the precinct roads for hazards and needs. We are looking forward to working with Gary the next four years with your vote." -Jimmy & Glennete Goode

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"We fought to put these hydrants in place, insurance saving as well as saving life and property is good for all citizens. Gary Willoughby, he will fight for us." -Gale Thompson

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**Exercise your right to vote on March 7th, 7:00 am-7:00pm
Lovett Memorial Library at 111 N. Houston for all precinct 2 voters!**

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AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-3628

Carole Keeton Strayhorn Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

February 7, 2006

The Honorable F. Lee Cornelison
Gray County Treasurer
Post Office Box 976
Pampa, Texas 79066-0976

Dear Treasurer Cornelison:

I appreciated receiving your letter requesting a Financial Management Review, which we now call a Local Government Management Review (LGMR), of the Gray County Treasurer's Office. There is no level of government closer to the people and more in tune with their daily needs and concerns than you who are at the local level. I am honored that you believe a review by my office can benefit your county.

At this time, my staff is fully engaged in reviews of Tom Green County, Hill County, and the City of Socorro, and will soon begin a review of Trinity County. I have, however, forwarded a copy of your request to Twanna Buford, manager of my Local Government Assistance Division, and will give your request careful consideration later this year when local governmental units are selected for future review.

More than two decades ago, as Mayor of Austin and President of the Texas Municipal League, I came to respect the rights as well as the burden of responsibilities placed on our cities and counties. One of the points I have underscored as a statewide elected official is the need for state and local governments to work hand in hand to improve the state to better meet the needs of Texans. My LGMRs are designed to ensure that local governments, and the taxpayers they serve, benefit from an impartial third-party review that comprehensively examines the processes, practices, and procedures of a local government and offers recommendations to enhance operational effectiveness and efficiency. In addition to making suggestions for improvement, my reviews also identify best practices that can then be shared with other governments that may be facing similar challenges.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Twanna directly by e-mail at twanna.buford@cpa.state.tx.us or by phone at 1-800-531-5441, extension 5-0436. For more information about my LGMRs, please visit my Web site at www.window.state.tx.us/lga/.

Please know that I welcome your good advice at any time. Thanks for all that you do for Texas.

Sincerely,

Carole Keeton Strayhorn

Carole Keeton Strayhorn
Texas Comptroller

Pol. Ad. Paid For By Campaign Treasurer Gene Rains, 1337 Williston, Pampa, Texas 79065, 806-665-7341

*All the Best Wishes
Cornelison!*

Do you have questions
about Medicare?



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can help you.

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OUTSIDE PAMPA **800.842.3866**
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