

# THE PAMPA NEWS

**Government agencies to look** 



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The POWER OF STEAM

# at range relief after wildfires

By DAVID BOWSER Staff Writer

Ranchers who have suffered blackened pasture and the loss of cattle are meeting with government agencies this week and next to learn what help is available, but government officials say they need more information before many of the programs can be implemented.

Clint Rollins, a rangeland management specialist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office in Amarillo, said ranchers need to get together with their county agent or county NRCS officials to let them know the extent of their damages.

Lewis Britt from U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry's office said the damages must be determined before anyone knows how much money to request to fund potential emergency aid programs.

The economic damage caused by last week's range fires may last well into the future.

Dr. Ted McCollum, a Texas A&M University livestock specialist, told ranchers meeting in Pampa today that it may be more than a year before pastures have recovered enough to graze again.

"The key factor is that we don't have any soil mois-

ture," McCollum said.

The question as light rains and snow moved across the area was whether any of that would soak into the ground and would it be enough.

"I'd say even under normal rainfall," McCollum said, "right now that there's not a chance for these areas to return to normal productivity this growing season. That's going to be my conservative estimate."

Depending upon the weather over the next few months, there may be some grazing next winter.

"If we do have normal rainfall this summer and accumulate some forage," McCollum said, "folks may be able to turn cattle back on those burned areas this winter, but I'd say it's going to be probably the end of summer of 2007 before I would set my expectations of having those areas back to their productive levels they might've had before the fire."

McCollum warned that keeping and feeding the animals will be expensive in the long term.

"That feeding program may be something they're looking at for five or six months," he said. "It's not six weeks."

#### See RELIEF, Page 2

"We are currently negotiating for

The M.K. Brown Foundation has

presented The Bridge with \$125,000

"We still have money to raise. The

gift is for half of the project cost. We

will purchase and begin renovations

See BRIDGE, Page 3

a facility in Pampa," Carter said.

to apply to the facility.



# FEMA takes tour of county

#### By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer

Representatives from federal and state agencies were in Gray County Tuesday to view the damage caused by wildfires which burned for most of last week.

A representative each from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Small Business Administration and the governor's division of emergency management toured sites of residences in the county which were damaged by the wildfires, said Pampa/Gray County Emergency Management Coordinator Ken Hall.

The state emergency management official was an individual assistance officer, representing one of two divisions, Hall said. The other section of the state emergency management services deals with assistance concerning public property such as courthouses and highways, he said.

"We had looked at individual residences damaged by the fires and made a list," Hall said. He then completed a disaster summary outline and submitted the information to the governor's division of emergency management to begin the process of seeking assistance for the fire victims.

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#### By DAVID BOWSER Staff Writer

Pampa State Rep. Warren Chisum was in Austin today trying to convince his colleagues to take part of the state's surplus this year to buy down property taxes and get the Texas Supreme Court off the Legislature's back.

Before he left town Wednesday, Chisum said he had e-mailed his plan to fellow legislators, and he thinks he has the votes to pass it.

Texas Gov. Rick Perry has called the Legislature into a 30-day special session beginning in mid-April to deal with the school finance problem. The Texas Supreme Court has declared the way the state is now funding public schools unconstitutional and has given the state until June 1 to correct the problem.

Perry's tax reform commission is expected to propose shifting taxes from homeowners to businesses. "We're going to meet, and we're going to have a very short time to work school finance out and pass a new tax bill," Chisum said of the Legislature's special session. "I have a fear that we're not going to get any-See CHISUM, Page 3 A facility to provide services to abused and neglected children may be in operation in Pampa by August, according to Roxanne Carter, executive director of The Bridge Child Advocacy Center of Amarillo.

"At the very latest, we hope to be open by August," Carter said Wednesday of The Children's Alliance, which will house a Pampa

### Winter hangs on

Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Ice coats the creek in West Central Park this morning as a blanket of snow which fell last night belies the fact that the first day of spring was Monday. "I went with these people throughout the county to look at residences and get these people to determine the severity of loss," Hall said.

A sliding scale is used to rate the severity of loss. The scale ranges from affected, the least amount of

See FEMA, Page 3

### Ex-Pampa Teachers Credit Union manager pleads guilty to charge

#### By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer

A Pampa woman has pleaded guilty to a federal charge of false entries by a credit union employee in a plea agreement in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas in Amarillo, according to court documents.

Shirley Waller, who was indicted Jan. 18 in Amarillo federal court on one count of embezzlement and two counts of making false entries by a federal credit union employee, appeared in Amarillo federal court March 15 to enter the plea. The agreement was filed in the U.S. District Court clerk's office that day, and had been signed on Feb. 28.

Maximum penalty for the charge to which Waller pled guilty is imprisonment for a period not more than 30 years, a fine not to exceed \$1,000,000 or twice any pecuniary gain to the defen-

See WALLER, Page 2



FRIENDS OF THE PAMPA LIBRARY ANNUAL BOOK SALE MARCH 30th - April 2nd Pampa Lovett Memorial Library 111 N. Houston

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#### \_2 — Thursday, March 23, 2006 — The Pampa News

### **Obituaries**

#### **Bradley Coye Coffey, 50**

Mr. Coffey was preceded in death by his SAYRE, Okla. — Bradley Coye Coffey, 50, died March 19, 2006, at Rowlett. paternal grandparents, Roy and Georgia Coffey; and his maternal grand-

Graveside services are scheduled at 2 p.m. Friday at Buffalo Cemetery with Andy Taylor officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Rose Chapel Funeral Service of Sayre.

Mr. Coffey was born July 15, 1955, at Sayre, to Jean Wester and Ross Coffey. He graduated from Hartley High School in Hartley in 1974 and married Susan Mason on Oct. 10, 1974, at Dumas.

In 1980, he earned his bachelor's degree in education from Southwestern or American Cancer Society. Oklahoma State University.



Coffee

### **Emergency** Services

#### Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Thirteen traffic stops were made.

Traffic complaints were received from the 1900 block of Duncan, the 2400 block of Charles and the intersection of Kentucky and Duncan streets.

Four burglar alarms were reported.

Civil matters were reported in the police department lobby.

Welfare checks were made in the 1200 block of North Wells and the intersection of Highway 60 and Loop 171.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 1100 block of Neel Road.

Violation of Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission laws was reported in the 100 block of East Harvester.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 600 block of West Brown, the 300 block of North Hobart and the 1200 block of North Hobart.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 2400 block of gation. Nothing was found. Charles.

Criminal trespass

Assault was reported in the police department lobby.

#### Sheriff

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

Wednesday, March 22 Lauren Heath Holtman, 26, of Pampa was arrested in the 200 block of West Kingsmill by Pampa Police Department for burglary of a habitation.

#### Fire

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

Wednesday, March 22 7:37 a.m. - Three units and nine personnel responded to the 1000 block of Prairie Drive on an electrical short.

9:43 a.m. - One unit and three personnel responded to the 2200 block of Dogwood on a call for medical assistance.

6:34 p.m. - One unit and three personnel responded to the 100 block of North Houston on an odor investi-

Wednesday, March 22 9:42 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 2200 block of Dogwood and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

parents, Kay Dickerson and Coy

Survivors include his wife of 31

1/2 years, Susan, of Rowlett; a

son, Duane Coffey of Lewisville; a

daughter, Erin Coffey of Dallas;

his mother, Jean Brown of Pampa;

his father, Ross Coffey of Pampa;

and a brother, Gordon Brown of

be to American Hospice of Dallas

The family requests memorials

Wester.

California.

7:26 p.m. – A mobile ICU unit responded to the 300 block of Brown and transported a patient to PRMC.

9:07 p.m. – A mobile ICU unit responded to Highway 152 and the Skellytown turnoff. No transport.

#### Thursday, March 23

1:15 a.m. – A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient to PRMC.

2:40 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient to the 1500 block of West Kentucky.

4:31 a.m. – A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1200 block of North Wells and transported a patient to PRMC.

#### Clarification

A report in the March 15 edition of The Pampa News reported that city commissioners had awarded a contract to Larry Baker Plumbing to replace the heating, air conditioning and

throughout the Panhandle

Wednesday in Borger and

came to Pampa this morn-

meeting at First Baptist

Church in Mobeetie. At 7

p.m. today, there will be

another meeting at the

Family Life Center in

9 a.m. Tuesday at the Miami

Community Center; one at 8

Childress City Auditorium,

and the final meeting at 11

a.m. Wednesday at the Bura

Building in Wellington.

There will be a meeting at

Wednesday at the

Community

The meetings started

At 2 p.m. there will be a

for the rest of March.

#### **Robert 'Tex' Hendrix, 85**

WEST COVINA, Calif. - Robert "Tex" Hendrix, 85, of West Covina, died Feb. 11, 2006, at Citrus Valley Hospice in West Covina.

Mr. Hendrix was born May 3, 1920, at Pampa, to the late Constable Otis and Florence Hendrix. Constable Otis Hendrix was killed in the line of duty Jan. 30, 1939, at the Southern Club in Pampa.

Mr. Hendrix attended Pampa High School and later graduated from Glendale High School in Glendale, Calif. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy Air Force, serving during World War II. He served the air force in Pearl Harbor.

He retired from McDonnell Douglas in four great-grandchildren.

Harriette Rose Hawkins McBride, 86, of to garden and travel all over the United Amarillo, Texas. Vigil services

will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 23, 2006, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel.

Funeral Mass will be at 2 p.m. Friday, March 24, 2006, at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church with the Rev. Mieczyslaw Przepiora, pastor of Sacred Heart Catholic Church of White Deer, officiating.

Burial will be in Memory McBride Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. McBride was born Aug. 22, 1919, in Palestine, Ill. She married Jasper McBride on June 6, 1938. He preceded her in death on March 12, 2005. She had been a resident of Pampa for over 50 years.

She helped operate McBride Plumbing for over 50 years, and she was a hospital volunteer for many years. She was a member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church. She loved

Services are scheduled at 11 a.m. Saturday

at Wheeler First Baptist Church with the

Rev. Dennis Williams, pastor of the church,

officiating. Burial will be in Wheeler

Cemetery under the direction of Wright

Gilland, to Zeb and Ora Baird. She lived

most of her life in Wheeler. She was a dieti-

tian at Parkview Hospital for 17 years, retir-

ing in 1985, and belonged to First Baptist

Mrs. Wagner moved to Plainview nine

Mrs. Wagner was born Jan. 20, 1918, at

1988, capping a life involved with aircraft beginning as a boy of 14 in Texas. He barnstormed, selling air plane rides during the Great Depression.

Mr. Hendrix was associated with the Hollywood Hawks air shows, training veterans to get their pilot's licenses under the GI Bill.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Frison Hendrix and Howard Hendrix.

Survivors include his wife, Jeanne Rouse Hendrix; two sons, Bradley and James Hendrix, both of Claremont, Calif.; two sisters, Allene Horton and Irene Brophy, both of Medford, Ore.; five grandchildren; and

Harriette Rose Hawkins McBride, 86

Pampa, Texas, died March 21, 2006, at States, and her favorite companion was her dog, "Toby."

Survivors include three daughters, Mary Mayhew of Wichita, Kan., Patricia Ann Manning of Keller, and Jean Kathleen Browning of New Braunfels; two sons, Michael Joseph McBride of Amarillo, and John Stephen McBride of Granbury; 17 grandchildren, Justin, Julie, Steve, Aaron, Ben, Caitlin, Mikey, Mitch, Erick, Molly, Amanda, Abbey, Lindsey, Lauren, Logan, Rylan,

and Maycie; and 11 great-grandchildren, Josh, Sara, Dylan, Cody, Callie Sue, Zach, Alex, Cole, Jake, Heath, and Kyler Reed.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Carolyn Sue McBride.

The family requests memorials be to the American Cancer Society in care of Gerry Caylor, 2130 Charles, Pampa, TX 79065.

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

#### Loraine Wagner, 88

WHEELER - Loraine Wagner, 88, of years ago. Wheeler, died March 20, 2006, at Plainview.

She was preceded in death by her parents: three brothers; three sisters; and a daughter, Betty Sternkopf.

Survivors include two daughters, Sharon Watson and Karen Watson, both of Plainview; four sons, Jimmy Wagner and Joe Wagner, both of Fritch, and Glen Wagner and Ronnie Wagner, both of Amarillo; 16 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandchild.

The family requests memorials be to Alzheimer's Association, 1400 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, TX 79106.



reported in the 800 block of North Somerville.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 500 block of South Tignor.

Guardian EMS ambulance Ambulance

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

Recovery" meetings will be

hosted by Extension, in part-

nership with the U.S.

Department of Agriculture-

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Natural

ventilating system at M.K. Brown Auditorium. The award of \$584,564 included engineering costs of \$32,772 that do not go to Baker.

# Waller

Church in Wheeler.

Funeral Home of Wheeler.

#### Continued from Page 1

dant or loss to the victim(s), and supervised release of not less than three years but not more than five years following any term of imprisonment.

A defendant who violates the conditions of supervised release could be imprisoned for the entire term of supervised release.

Waller will be required to pay a mandatory assessment of \$100. The offense to which she pleaded guilty can be found in Title 18, United States Code, Section 1006.

Sentencing usually occurs about two months after a plea agreement is entered, said Christy Drake, assistant U.S. District attorney in Amarillo. A pre-sentence report will be compiled and

any objections in the case will be raised prior to sentencing, she said.

In a court document titled "Factual Resume" which was filed with the plea agreement, Waller made a false entry in a book, record or statement of the credit union, did so while knowing it was false, and did so intending to injure or defraud the credit union.

Waller began working at Pampa Teachers Federal Credit Union in 1978, and held the position of manager until December 2002, according to the resume.

"During Waller's employment as manager of the credit union, numerous loans were made to Waller's son Jim Sealy to fund his computer business, Computer Sales Technology," the resume states. Sealy is currently manager of Online Centramedia Service, according to the January 2005 edition of the Polk City directory.

"The business struggled and Jim Sealy was unable to repay the loans at the credit union.

"Over the course of the lifetime of the loans, the defendant performed at least 44 extensions on the loans of her son Jim Sealy.

"On Oct. 9, 2002, the defendant accessed the account information of the Jim Sealy loans and extended the loans without approval of the credit union board by changing and advancing due dates on the notes to make it appear that the notes were not delinquent or nonperforming.

"The Jim Sealy loans were later defaulted and after recovery of any collateral left a loss to the credit union of approximately \$191,169.97," the resume states.

Waller will be required to

pay back the \$191,169.97 to the credit union according to the terms of the plea agreement.

Waller appeared in Amarillo federal court Jan. 26 after a summons was issued for her to appear concerning the Jan. 18 indictments. She was released on a personal recognizance bond.

Count One of the indictments, which charge Waller with credit union theft, embezzlement or misapplication, states that on or about Sept. 24, 2002, Waller deleted approximately \$10,398.56 of accrued interest owed to the credit union by Sealy.

Count Two alleges the same offenses to which Waller pled guilty.

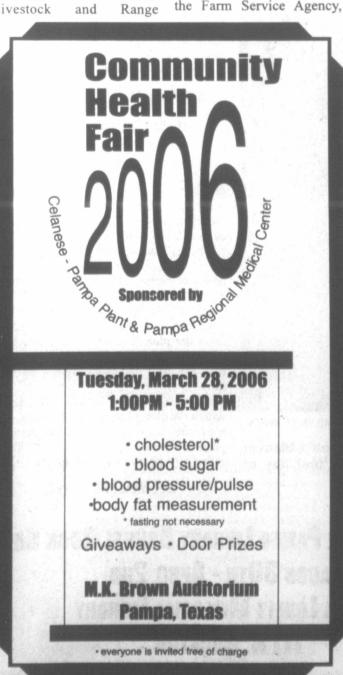
Count Three, a second charge of false entries by a federal credit union employee, alleges that on June 29, 2001, Waller granted a \$12,000 loan to Cindy Pohnert, "who in turn endorsed the loan proceeds back to the defendant who then deposited the proceeds of the loan into the defendant's Pampa Bank of America account."

Counts One and Three against Waller have been dismissed by the government, according to the plea agreement. The government also agreed to not bring charges against Sealy for any alleged involvement in the false entries or credit union fraud on the loans of which the government currently has knowledge.

Agent Dan Richard of the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been involved in the case against Waller, who is represented by Amarillo attorney Warren Clark. A telephone call to Clark's office had not been returned as of press time today.

Relief Continued from Page 1

"After the Wildfires: Livestock



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The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

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# **Top O' Texas CattleWomen select Shamrock** couple for this year's Ag Family of the Year

Top O' Texas CattleWomen selected moving all operations to the Panhandle. Harry and Christine Marett as Ag Family of the Year. The Maretts are newcomers to the Texas Panhandle but not to agriculture and the beef industry. Though transplanted Georgians, they have been involved in agriculture and various other enterprises. Top O' Texas CattleWomen recruited Harry to judge the scholarship essays for high school seniors in 2003.

Harry graciously agreed to be a judge and gave his time to help judge over 20 essays for the contest.' Top O' Texas CattleWomen soon recruited Christine as a member and now she serves as the chair of the Scholarship Committee.

In 2001, the Maretts bought a ranch northwest of Shamrock and in March 2004 began living there full-time. The drier Texas climate is easier on Christine, who suffers from lung and respiratory conditions. Caney Creek Cattle Company, a name also brought from Georgia, has been synonymous with Santa Gertrudis cattle for many years.

Over the last several years, the operation has primarily been purebreed Santa Gertrudis cattle, stocker cattle, and a cutting horse training operation. The operation is called Caney Creek Cattle Co. after a stream on the Georgia property. Harry and Christine are in the process of liquidating their Georgia properties and

Their family businesses also includes plumbing and electrical contracting; refurbishing of apartments, motels and office buildings; rental property ownership and management; and operation of an assisted living home.

Harry served six years as a Butts County commissioner immediately before the move to Texas. He was president of the Georgia Santa Gertrudis Association and served on the Board of Directors of Santa Gertrudis Breeders International for six years. He was a member of the Towaliga Soil and Water Conservation District board for many years and of the local hospital authority and industrial development authority.

Harry is a member of the local Shamrock Boosters. He has been instrumental in funding a college scholarship through the SGBI Youth Foundation for several years. Although Caney Creek Cattle Co. is not in the show business, they have furnished show heifers for many junior exhibitors to show in the livestock show circuits.

At present, there are Caney Creek heifers in Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Kentucky and Texas with junior exhibitors holding the lead line. Caney Creek Cattle Co. even has a show heifer

See MARETTS, Page 5



Liz Austin, past-president of Top O' Texas CattleWomen, recently presented Harry and Christine Marett, Ag Family of the Year, with a "grilling basket" in appreciation of Mr. Marett's acting as a judge for the chapter's recent essay contest.

#### thing hisun Continued from Page 1

done because doing a complete workover of the business tax could meet with some unintended consequences."

Chisum said he would rather use some \$4.3 billion already in the state coffers than pass a new tax bill to deal with school funding.

"I propose that we go in and take part of this \$4.3 billion surplus, not all of it," Chisum said, "but somewhere between \$2.0 and \$2.5 billion and buy down the property tax rate 20 pennies. That would get us out of the court system."

That would fund schools while the Legislature continued work on the business tax.

"That's my plan," Chisum said, "and I've got several people supporting me on that."

Perry said he wants new state income from a

taxes "Obviously, the governor wants to redo the whole

# Bridge

#### Continued from Page 1

on the facility as we raise the remaining funds," Carter said.

The Bridge, which opened in 1989, is Texas' first children's advocacy center. It provides a facility for law enforcement, child protective services, prosecutors and medical personnel to work together in one location to best serve victims of child abuse and sex-

ual assault. Services at The Bridge include forensic interviews and sexual exams.

CASA, Courtor Appointed Special Advocates, is a group of trained volunteers who act as advocates for children in child abuse and neglect cases in which a child is removed from his or her home.

A CASA volunteer reviews all material in child protective services case files on the child, monitors the family's compliance with a CPS service plan,

visits with anyone who can give them information about the child, visits with the child if the child is old enough to respond, and prepares reports for each court hearing involving the child

The CASA volunteer is also required to see the child monthly if the child lives within a 150-mile radius. The volunteer's court reports include recommendations on what they feel is in the best interest of the child.

Over 5,800 investiga- 669-7638.

tions of child abuse and neglect were conducted in the Texas Panhandle in 2005, according to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Service's annual report.

The Bridge is also planning facilities in Hereford and Dumas within a few years, according to a news release.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the planned Pampa Children's Alliance may call The Bridge at (806) 372-2873 or CASA at

revised business tax to replace local school property

tax system," Chisum said. "The lieutenant governor wants to reform the whole school system." Chisum said no one has a workable plan that a majority can agree upon. "In our system, you can have all the ideas that you want," Chisum said, "but if you don't have the votes, it's not going anywhere." Chisum said that the governor could always veto his plan. "Under any circumstances," Chisum said, "they intend to use part of that surplus. My idea is let's just go ahead and use that surplus to ensure that we don't have failure.' Pampa's representative said there may be even more money available. The \$4.3 billion is the amount, however, that Texas Comptroller Carole Strayhorn has certified and is available. Chisum said the surplus money could be used to sidestep the court and then the Legislature could deal with a more permanent solution when they meet in regular session beginning next January. "Or, if we got it passed in 10 to 12 days that it would take to get it done, then we could start working on this business tax," Chisum said. In fact, he said, the Legislature could work on both of them at the same time.

PAMPA OPTIMIST

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FEMA

#### **Continued from Page 1**

damage, through minor and major to destroyed.

Tuesday's visitors determined that nine Gray County residences were rated as affected, 11 received minor damage, one had major damage and 10 were destroyed, Hall said.

"The residences were spread pret-

ty well all over the county," he said. The group planned to visit other

counties after they surveyed Gray County, Hall said. "I got no indication of when we'll

hear back from them. They have to compile reports from all the areas, turn the reports in to the governor, and then the reports will go from there to FEMA," Hall said.

"We're trying to get a declaration from the President for assistance. This is a different category of relief we're seeking from other relief, such

as for firefighting and farmers and ranchers," he said.

Although no public buildings or other publicly-owned facilities were damaged or lost in the wildfires, local governments face costs associated with the event.

"The biggest governmental loss we have to our budgets right now is things related to overtime. We'll see if we can recoup those amounts in any way," Hall said.



Thursday, March 23, 2006 — The Pampa News

# Viewpoints

# Americans living through dangerous times

News recently did me the you love. In this dangerous great kindness of forwarding a special e-mail to my "inbox." The e-mail's purpose was to promote safety among women.

The electronic message started out by citing two recent cases of abduction involving a 77-year-old university professor from Fort Worth and an 11-year-old Fla. from Sarasota, However, you don't really need to hear about those.

All you have to do is turn on the TV or radio or pick up a magazine or newspaper. The headlines are saturated with unspeakable crimes carried out by despicable, heartless humans.

these safety tips for yourself interested in your wallet

A co-worker here at The and send them to someone and/or purse than you, and watching you, and this is the It is better than having them get a guard/policeman to world, it might just save a life.

> The following is copied and pasted from the main body of the e-mail my friend so graciously sent me.

1. Tip from Tae Kwon Do: tail The elbow is the strongest and point on your body. If you your are close enough to use it, do! Also can use the heel of and your hand to shove their nose as far up and in and hard as you can possibly hit them!

2. Learned this from a tourist guide in New Orleans. If a robber asks for your wallet and/or purse, DO NOT HAND IT TO HIM. Toss it away from you ... Please, copy or tear out chances are that he is more

he will go for the wallet/purse. RUN LIKE MAD IN THE OTHER **DIRECTION!** 

3. If you are ever thrown into the trunk of a car, kick out the back

lights Skyla stick Bryant arm out the hole News Editor start

waving like crazy. The

driver won't see you, but head DO NOT DRIVE OFF, everybody else will. This has saved lives.

4. Women have a tendency to get into their cars after shopping, eating, working, etc., and just sit (doing their checkbook, or making a list, etc. DON'T DO THIS!)

The predator will be

perfect opportunity for him to get in on the passenger side, put a gun to your head, and tell you where to go. AS SOON AS YOU GET INTO YOUR CAR, LOCK THE

DOORS A N D LEAVE. If 5. someone is

in the car with a gun your to

repeat: DO NOT DRIVE OFF! Instead gun the engine and speed into anything sta-

tionary, wrecking the car. Your Air Bag will save you. If the other person is in the back seat, they will get the worst of it. As soon as the car crashes, bail out and run.

find your body in a remote location.

6. A few notes about getting into your car in a parking lot or parking garage:

A.) Be aware: look around you, look into your car, at the passenger side floor, and in the back seat.

B.) If you are parked next to a big van, enter your car from the passenger door. Most serial killers attack their victims by pulling them into their vans while the women are attempting to get into their cars.

C.) Look at the car parked on the driver's side of your vehicle and the passenger side. If a male is sitting alone in the seat nearest your car, you may want to walk back into the mall, or work, and

walk you back out. IT IS ALWAYS BETTER TO BE SAFE THAN SORRY. (And better paranoid than dead.)

7. ALWAYS take the elevator instead of the stairs, but never get in the elevator with an unknown male alone. (Stairwells are horrible places to be alone and the perfect crime spot. This is especially true at NIGHT!)

8. If the predator has a gun and you are not under his control, ALWAYS RUN! The predator will only hit you (a running target) 4 in 100 times; And even then, it most likely WILL NOT be a vital organ. RUN, preferably in a zig-zag pattern!

9. As women, we are always trying to be sympa-See E-MAIL, Page 5

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## Today in History

#### By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, March 23, the 82nd day of 2006. There are 283 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

'I speak the truth,

not so much as I

would, but as much

as I dare; and I

dare a little more,

as I grow older."

On March 23, 1775, Patrick Henry made his famous call for American independence from Britain, telling the Virginia Provincial Convention, "Give me liberty, or give me death!" On this date:

In 1792, Joseph Haydn's Symphony No. 94 in G Major (the "Surprise" symphony) was performed publicly for the first time, in London.

In 1806, 200 years ago, explorers Lewis and Clark, having reached the Pacific coast, began their journey back east.

In 1919, Benito Mussolini founded his Fascist political movement in Milan, Italy.

In 1933, the German Reichstag adopted the Enabling Act, which effectively granted Adolf Hitler dictatorial legislative powers.

In 1942, during World War II, the U.S. government began evacuating Japanese-Americans from their



French essayist (1533-1592)

— Michel de

Montaigne

West Coast homes to detention centers. In 1956, 50 years

ago, Pakistan became an independent republic within the British Commonwealth.

In 1965, America's first two-person space flight began as Gemini 3 blasted off from Cape Kennedy with astronauts Virgil I. Grissom and John W. Young aboard.

In 1983, President Reagan first proposed developing technology to intercept enemy missiles - a proposal that came to be known as the Strategic Defense Initiative, as well as "Star Wars."

In 1983, Dr. Barney Clark, recipient of a permanent artificial heart, died at the University of Utah Medical Center after 112 days with the device.

In 2003, a U.S. Army maintenance convoy was ambushed in Iraq; 11 soldiers were killed, seven were captured, including Pvt. 1st Class Jessica Lynch, who was rescued on April

Ten years ago: Taiwan held its first direct presidential elections; incumbent Lee Teng-hui was the victor.

Five years ago: Russia's orbiting Mir space station ended its 15-year odyssey with a fiery plunge into the South Pacific. Russia said it was expelling 50 U.S. diplomats in retaliation for the expulsion of 50 Russians by the U.S. Newspaper columnist Rowland Evans died in Washington at age 79. Greenpeace International co-founder David McTaggart died in Umbria, Italy, at age 68.

# THE PAMPA NEWS

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# Mail-merge for beginners, part three

Last week, I finished my ment and for the merging Excel, Row I would contain simple tutorial on basic Microsoft Word mail-merge projects. This week, I'll show you some tips and tricks that will make mailmerging much more useful. Use Another Data Source

In my simple example, we used Microsoft Word to create a form letter. The data, a mere four records, was also saved as a Word document. When Microsoft Word is chosen for the data source, a document with a single table is created. This simplistic structure will work fine for most small merging projects. However, when faced with larger, say 100-plus records, Microsoft Word's speed and reliability begin to wane.

In the past, I've had to do rather large mail-merges, some in the 8,000 record range. I chose to use Excel as my data source. Word was still used for the main docu-

### Texas Thoughts

#### **By The Associated Press**

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas

#### March 12

Austin American-Statesman on good government and scrutiny:

Information can enlighten, reassure, teach and help. It can also embarrass, contradict, undermine, mock and even prove one a liar and that's why politicians of all parties and ideologies, whether president or county commissioner, are always tempted to limit or simply deny public access to some government information. The urge to keep a tight grip on information is especially strong when politicians feel under siege, and when the demands of war, which create a genuine need for the

much more

efficient at Eric handling large data Spellmann Columnist this

lists.

At

point, some

of you may

be wondering why I don't use Microsoft Access (an actual database application) for my data source. In my opinion, it is overkill for most mailmerge projects. Access should only be used when linking multiple tables for merge operation. one Otherwise, Excel will do fine.

To use an Excel spreadsheet as your data source, make sure you use rows for the records and columns for the fields. For instance, in

Sept. 11, 2001.

government to keep some secrets, also

offer an opportunity to sweep every-

thing under the rug, including contro-

versial programs and outright mistakes.

President Bush has proved all too will-

ing to do since the terrorist attacks of

al pages will take a look at the state of

freedom of information in the United

States and locally. Many other publica-

tions, broadcast stations and Internet

sites will do the same, for March 16 is

the birthday of James Madison, princi-

pal author of the U.S. Constitution and

an advocate of the people's right to

The United States remains one of the

know what their government is doing.

most open societies of all nations, but

And that's what the administration of

This week, this newspaper's editori-

process, but the data source the field names and Row 2 changed. I've discovered, would contain record 1. the hard way, that Excel is Column A might be "first name," col-

umn B might be "last name," and so on. Try it; I think you will find Excel much

better at handling large mailing lists.

Understand Your Options Once you have your main document and data source all lined out, all that is left is to push the merge button, right? Wait just a minute. Open your original "Donor Main" letter and pull down the "Tools" menu. Choose "Letters and Mailings" and then "Mail Merge Wizard." The Mail Merge Task Pane will open on the left. Skip to "Step 3 of 6" and choose

"Edit Recipient List." Filtering Records

What if you don't want all of the records to print? For instance, you may want to create letters only for a particular zip code. Notice the little drop-down button next to the "zip code" field heading? Click it and choose one of the displayed entries. The list immediately shortens to only the zip code you chose! Of course, you can manually filter records by unchecking them in the list, but the dropdown method is much faster. For more advanced filtering, hit the drop-down button on any of the fields and choose "Advanced." The "Filter Records" tab on this window allows you to choose which records will "make the cut" based on their values. In the previous columns' example, we might choose to send out

See MERGE, Page 5

the Bush administration appears to have launched a new effort to stifle the flow of information from the government, particularly information classified as confidential.

Most Americans instinctively, and understandably, would say that classified information ought to be protected. But just because information is classified doesn't mean that its public disclosure would harm the interests of the American people. In fact, there's good reason to think that, most of the time, disclosure causes no harm to American security. However, disclosure sometimes can harm an officeholder's reputation by contrasting his words with his deeds, or undermine a policy position

See TRUTH, Page 5

"THE PHONE COMPANY JUST ATE BELL SOUTH!"





# Tennessee minister found dead; search on for wife and daughters

SELMER, Tenn. (AP) - Achurch minister was found shot to death in his parsonage, and authorities were searching for his missing wife and three young daughters today. Church members went

searching for Matthew Winkler late Wednesday when he didn't show up for an evening service at Fourth Street Church of Christ, police said. They used a

His family was gone. Selmer Police Chief Neal Burks said today that Winkler, 31, had been shot.

"We're just really puzzled," key to enter the parsonage and Burks said. He said investigafound him dead in a bedroom. tors weren't sure if Winkler's wife had the children or if any outsiders were involved in the family's disappearance.

According to Tennessee Bureau of Investigation spokeswoman Jennifer

forced entry at the parsonage. The bureau issued an Amber

Alert early today for the couple's daughters, Breanna, 1, Mary Alice, 6, and Patricia, 8. The alert said the girls may be Johnson, there were no signs of with their mother, Mary

Winkler.

Mary Winkler was last seen late Tuesday afternoon picking up the children from school, said Ed Jones, TBI assistant director.

# **E-mail**

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

thetic: STOP. It may get you raped or killed. Ted Bundy, the serial killer, was a good-looking, well educated man, who ALWAYS played on the sympathies of unsuspecting women. He walked with a cane, or a limp, and often asked "for help"

into his vehicle or with his vehicle, which is when he abducted his next victim.

-Another Safety Point: If you hear a "crying baby" on the porch, call the police! Please pass this on and DO NOT open the door for a crying baby sound! "The Crying Baby theory" was mentioned on America's Most Wanted when they profiled a serial killer in Louisiana, trying to lure women out of their homes.

God bless and stay safe.

# Merge

ond option is usually what people choose. However, with large main documents or large data sources, this option can add hours to the actual merging process. Remember, choosing "Edit individual letters" actually has Word create a brand new document full of your finished letters. If you have a one-page letter going to 500 people, Word will create a 500 page document! Ouch!

### Events calendar

 Lefors Action Group will host a chili cookoff and a Baked Potato Luncheon Saturday at the Lefors Civic Center and Baseball Park. This year's cookoff will include a crockpot division. Judging will be at 12 p.m. followed by the Baked Potato Luncheon at 1 p.m. Admission is \$5. Proceeds will fund city improvements. For more information or to enter the cookoff, call (806) 835-2757 or (806) 835-2915.

 Miami Volunteer EMS will stage its annual Country Dance with Sheila Helton from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday at the Miami/Roberts County Fire Barn. Tickets are \$6 in advance or \$7.50 at the door. For more information, call (806)

during April 2006 to commemorate the 62nd anniversary of the D-Day landings, the Battle of Normandy and the drive through France to Bastogne. The itinerary will include London, Portsmouth, Cherbourg, Omaha and Utah beaches, Caen, St. Mere Eglise, Caretan, Argentan, Falaise and Paris. For more information, call (561) 865-8495 or write Sy Canton 5121 B Nesting Way, Delray Beach, FL 33484.

Saint Francis Knights of Columbus, 10 miles east of Amarillo, will host two all-you-can-eat fish frys from 6-8 p.m. April 7 in observance of Lent. For questions, contact Advertising Chair Steve Drillette at (806) 335-1121. The Third Bi-Annual Old Town Museum Quilt Show will be staged April 7-8 at the Opera House located in the Old Town Museum complex in Elk City, Okla. To obtain an entry form for the quilt show, call (580) 225-2508 or (580) 225-1122. "Fang-Tastic" Rattlesnake Hunt will be staged April 8 and 9 at Waurika, Okla. The two-day event will feature James White and the Outlaw Handlers of Granbury, Texas. Events will include the "longest snake auction," a rattlesnake sale, a 5K run/walk, and prizes for longest snake, for snake with most rattlers, for marked snake and for shortest snake. For more information, call (580) 228-2553 or visit www.rattlesnakehunt.com on the Internet. The Amarillo Music Teachers Association will present the inaugural "Music on High Plains" Workshop Day and Concert April 8 in the Fine Arts Complex at West Texas A&M University in Canyon. For more information or to register, call (806) 670-7635 or log onto www.amarillomusicteachers.org.

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#### Continued from Page 4

letters only to donors who gave over 10 thousand dollars. I would simply choose the amount field, then click on "Greater then" under Comparison, and then enter "10,000" in the "Compare to" field.

Sorting Records

The other tab on this window is labeled, "Sort Records." You could use this area to sort your list by zip code (giving you some significant postage discounts). Or, you could sort a nametag mail merge by last name. You get the point.

Where to Merge to?

Once you're done playing with filtering, close those windows and skip to "Step 6 of 6" in the Mail Merge Task Pane. Here, you have a choice on where to "merge to." Your choices are "Print ...' and "Edit individual letters ..." The sec-

# Truth

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

with facts or make the nation look bad when the truth is disclosed.

Though Bush strongly denounced the disclosure of the secret and possibly illegal warrantless wiretapping program of the National Security Agency, it is not at all clear that disclosure harmed this country. It seems highly unlikely that terrorists anywhere are unaware that the U.S. government has enormous capability to intercept e-mails and telephone calls. But disclosure did arouse national controversy over possible violations of the Constitution and federal law, and many congressional Republicans, not just Democrats, criticized the administration.

Furthermore, "leaks" of classified information are just as likely to come from those in charge seeking to bolster a position as from those seeking to challenge one. Lewis Libby, the former top aide to Vice President Dick Cheney, is accused of disclosing the name of a Central Intelligence Agency operative in the controversy over pre-Iraq war intelligence. But Libby has said he was authorized by superiors to disclose the information.

Efforts to restrict information involve the general welfare as well the common defense.

The Environmental Protection Agency is

For mailings over 100 records, I recommend choosing the "Print" option. Word will merge the first record, send it to the printer, merge the second record, send it to the printer, etc. Your computer will finish the merge much quicker, allowing you to work on other things while your printer handles the job.

As you've probably seen, Microsoft Word has some incredibly powerful merge capabilities. The key, of course, is to practice these steps. In no time, you'll be a mail-merge pro!

I'll see you in Cyberspace!

proposing to reduce the amount of information that corporations must report to the government about toxic releases from their factories, as well as the frequency of their reporting. As a result, business and residential neighbors of such facilities would know less about what kind of chemicals might be in the air they breathe or reaching the ground and water beneath them.

Freedom of information is not entirely on the defensive, thanks in no small smart to U.S. Sen. John Cornyn. Cornyn, a conservative Texas Republican, has joined with Sen. Patrick Leahy, a liberal Vermont Democrat, to push through the Senate legislation to strengthen the nation's Freedom of Information Act. The bill is now in the House, where it is sponsored by U.S. Rep. Lamar Smith, a San Antonio Republican whose district reaches as far north as Austin.

In December, Cornyn was present when Bush signed an executive order that is supposed to speed up the process of releasing government information deemed to be open and to make it easier, and quicker, to resolve disputes.

Like all freedoms, assuring access to information in government hands is never a mission finally accomplished, but one always needing support and renewal. Americans who value their freedom should guard their access jealously, always aware that those who have it are not inclined to share, too easily confusing their own interests with the national interest.

662-9532

 Clarendon College-Pampa Center will offer advanced Excel from 6:30-9 p.m. every Monday between Monday and May 22. The instructor will be Connie Mondragon. Students will learn how to integrate Excel files with other applications and the Internet; how to use advanced mathematical functions; how to create and modify charts; how to analyze data; and how to create macros and hyperlinks. The class is limited to 40 students. A fee of \$60 and a textbook are required. To register or for more information, call CCPC at 665-8801

 Texas Panhandle Mental Health Mental Retardation will hold a public forum during the noon hour on March 31 at the local commissioner's court. A light lunch will be provided. For more information, contact Tim Bowles at (806) 351-3326 or visit the agency's Web site www.tpmhmr.org. The agency at receives funding from United Way.

 The Association of Sons and Daughters of World War II Veterans will lead a group to England and France

# Maretts

#### **Continued from Page 3**

right in Wheeler County. Three years ago Payton Austin of Wheeler began showing Caney Creek Santa Gertrudis heifers throughout the Texas Panhandle and major livestock venues. Harry started this young first-time exhibitor with his very own Gert heifer and has been helping him out each and every year since.

Christine is not only a member of Top O' Texas CattleWomen but belongs to the Thursday Literary Club and Emerald Study Club in Shamrock. Christine and Harry are recent additions to the board of Shamrock Meals on Wheels also.

The Maretts have one daughter, Rena Underwood, and two grandchildren, Kisha, 21, and Brannon, 16. Rena lives in Jackson, Ga., and helps keep the family business operating while Harry and Christine are in Texas. Rena's family lives across the county road from her mom and dad's Georgia home.

Caney Creek Cattle Co. believes in maintaining a cow herd of about 300 heifers, some for raising purebred ani-

mals and some for crossbreeding. The cattle operation has included gathering ultrasound carcass data since 1994, and at present all cattle are scanned as yearlings in an effort to provide the best animals possible for cattlemen interested in crossbreeding.

The Maretts believe the only reason for any purebred operation to exist is to provide breeding animals to commercial cattlemen and women. Birth weights, weaning weights, and yearling weights are recorded on every animal. For several years, all bulls used and some females have been DNA tested for the presence of tenderness and marbling genes.

Bulls that have gain tested, have competed well and where feed conversion tests were conducted, they have excelled, with gains consistently of a ratio less than 6 to 1. A good many have fed at a rate of less than 5 to 1. Harry likes to brag that "Caney Creek cattle feed cheap."

Harry and Christine are still relatively. new to the area and are still meeting people and making new friends. They love visitors and welcome anyone to visit them and/or their cattle operation, located about two miles northeast of the city of Shamrock.

6 — Thursday, March 23, 2006 — The Pampa News



**By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips** 

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a deputy sheriff. Last week, I was in a department store outside my jurisdiction and overheard a conversation between two of the clerks. One of PETER N. SPAGNOLO, PAYETTE, them had her car broken into the night before, and several valuable items and her house key had been stolen. This woman said she didn't call the police because there was nothing they could do. I identified myself as a deputy and told her she should contact her police department immediately for the following reasons:

(1) She was a victim of a crime. Her house key was taken by someone who had already demonstrated that he or she was a criminal. If the perpetrator came back and robbed her house, or worse yet, harmed her, the police would have more to go on to solve that crime. (I also advised her to have her locks changed immediately.)

(2) Her car may not have been the only one broken into. If a pattern was developing, the police could increase patrols in her area. But they couldn't know to do it if the incident went unreported.

(3) In the course of serving search warrants or making other arrests, we often find property that obviously doesn't belong to the suspect. (After all, who owns multiple TV sets, stereos, DVD players, digital cameras, etc.?) But if nobody reports a theft, we have no way of knowing whose property it is. Without that knowledge, we can't return property to its rightful owner, nor can we charge the suspect with additional crimes.

(4) Suspects often pawn what they steal. Our detectives regularly check pawn shops for items that have been reported stolen and can recover them for the owner as well as pay a visit to whoever sold them. Many crimes have been solved in this manner.

report all crimes of which they are victims.

Even if it appears the police are taking little action, they are, in fact, doing far more than is readily apparent. -- DEPUTY **IDAHO** 

**DEAR DEPUTY SPAGNOLO: Your** message is important, and I'm printing your letter as written with no editing. Although there is no guarantee that anyone won't become a crime victim, we do not have to take it in silence. As my third-grade teacher used to say, "The policeman is your friend." If we do not report a crime when one has been committed, then the bad guys have already won.

DEAR ABBY: I am 22 and the mother of four beautiful children, ages 3 and under. Recently, my husband confessed that he's had several affairs while I was pregnant with our last daughter. I thought I could get over it, but it's difficult because he gave me an STD. He thinks I should forgive him and forget it. We are separated now because of this, and he wants to come home. I keep saying no because he hurt me so badly. I have started divorce proceedings, but some of my family think it's a mistake. They think because we have four kids that I need to try to work things out with him. I know I'll never be able to trust him again or forgive him. Every flare-up is a reminder. What would you do if you were me? -- STAY OR LEAVE IN MISSOURI

DEAR STAY OR LEAVE: I'd shelve the divorce for a while and see if intensive marriage counseling could help to overcome your anger and disappointment. Please understand that other couples have made it past a crisis like the one you are experiencing. Your husband made a huge mistake, but he obviously wants to make Please, Abby, urge your readers to amends. Only if counseling didn't work would I end the marriage.

#### For Better Or For Worse





#### Garfield

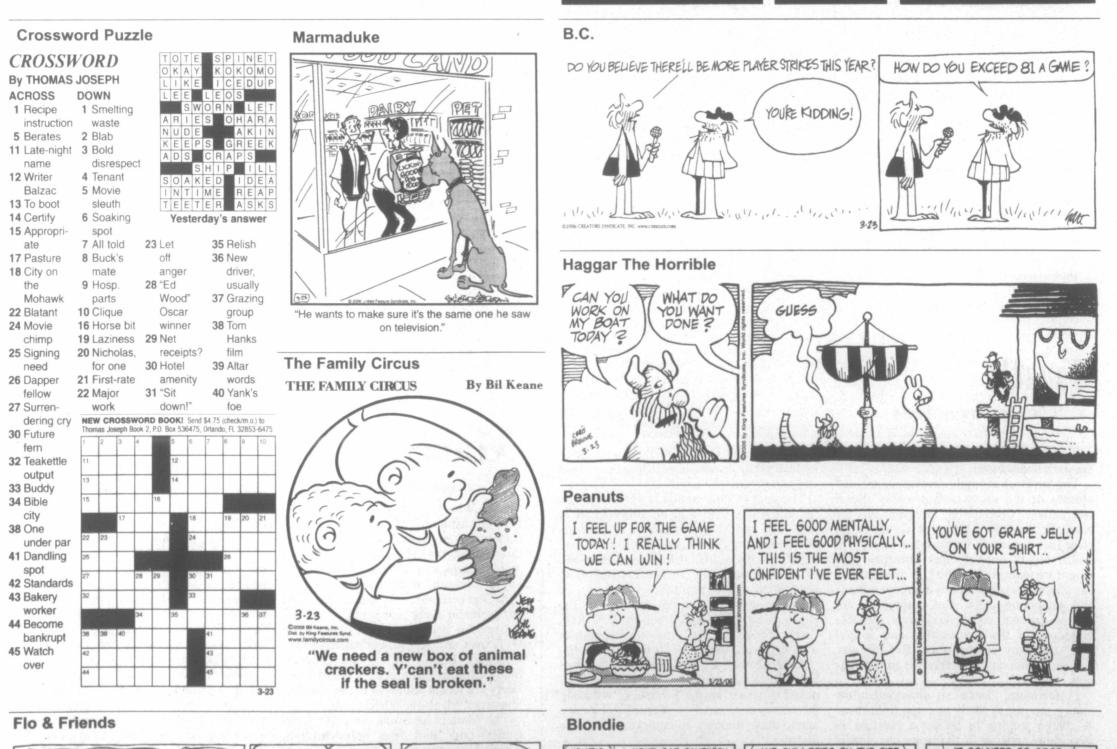


#### **Beetle Bailey**



#### Marvin









# **Sports Day**

## MONITORING MY TOLERENCE LEVEL It would be easier if I knew what it was

So what is tolerance? What does it work? How do I know if I am being tolerant? The only way I know to monitor my level of tolerance is to wait for someone to point it out to me. Licensed 'Tolerance Practitioners' are always quick to poke their fingers in the leaky hole of the dam that controls the flow of intolerance, so I take some comfort in knowing one will make me aware of any slip in my 'tolerantitude' (don't bother with the dictionary, it's not in there).

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However, I am beginning to think tolerance really doesn't exist. Tolerance now strikes me as more of a verbal placebo than a measure of etiquette and understanding. How can I be tolerant when what I am supposed to be tolerant of is constantly changing?

Tolerance today is little more than a hunting permit without expiration. The season never ends and the list of game one can harvest is practically infinite. There is one possible - perhaps even clear exception.

Tolerance can still be measured using a monochromatic scale. It is either black or white and void of any gray.

An example of this would be now former KTRS-St. Louis radio talk show host Dave Lenihan. Wednesday, while discussing the topic of Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice - who has made it known she might like to run the National Football League someday

- Lenihan said, "She's been chancellor do nothing to promote tolerance. I do? How in the heck does tolerance of Stanford. She's got the patent resumé of somebody that has serious skill. She loves football. She's African-American, which would kind of be a big coon. A big coon. Oh my God. I am totally, totally, totally, totally, totally sorry for that." Lenihan was fired literally minutes afterward. He had been at KTRS all of two weeks.

> Michael J. Stevens Sports Editor

He later said what he meant to say was "coup"

NAACP chapter president Harold Crumpton quickly commended the station for its swift action. Meanwhile, Lenihan is still trying to figure out what happened. He says he never uses that sort of language. Know something? I believe the man.

So where is the tolerance for his mistake? KTRS station manager Tim Dorsey went on the air after firing Lenihan and said, "There can be no excuse for what was said. Dave Lenihan has been let go. There is enough hate. We certainly are not going to fan those flames." This was not tolerance. It was a knee-jerk reaction to an honest mistake brought on by fear.

think it sets back any such effort myself.

It is also hard for me to understand how this poor radio talk show host can get sacked for an honest slip of the tongue while recording artists and other radio personalities rake in millions for tossing the 'N' word around like candy, degrading women and skillfully disguising sex acts in the guise of candy and cereal references. But I have learned to be tolerant of it. At least, I think I have.

If tolerance really is a spoke in the wheel of free speech, why was Lenihan fired so quickly?

Sounding off

I have to get this one off my chest. I saw a new Truth.com commercial on television not long ago. They had a hopped-up, snarling German shepherd in a cage on a sidewalk. The purpose of the spot was to demonstrate how changing the name of something doesn't make it any less lethal. You know, Super Awesome Smokes' vs. 'Death Sticks'

So they changed the caged dog's name to things like Fluffy, Kibbles and other cute monikers, yet he kept barking like he wanted to eat all who walked by the cage he was being held captive in. Meanwhile, the Truth.com chap kept giving the dog in the cage cute names. Kept changing the name plates on the dog's cage as he did. Man, that dog looked mean in that Actions like this and its aftermath cage. Are you feeling me PETA?

# **THSCA honors Pampa** players with All-State academic awards

#### **By MICHAEL J. STEVENS** Sports Editor

The following Pampa High School senior football players recently received 2005 Academic All-State football awards from the Texas High School Coaches Association. Said coach Bryan Wood, "This award says a lot about each one of these kids. It's hard enough to be successful in the classroom, but it makes it even harder when you have to balance a number of activities. I am very proud for each one of these young men."

The THSCA recognized each of the following boys for their outstanding performance in the classroom as well as on the football field.

> Elite Chris Smith **1st Team** Chadd Malone **Taylor Fatheree Clay Jones** 2nd Team Brody Smith **Honorable Mention** Eric Kingcade Nick Robbins

Soriano takes field

JUPITER, Fla. (AP) -Alfonso Soriano took his spot in left field for an exhibition game, agreeing to play the new position for the Washington Nationals two days after refusing to move from second base.

Soriano led off the game and flied out. He was the last player out of the dugout for the bottom of the first inning, loping to his new post, and did not get any plays in the field.

Soriano had been scheduled to make his first spring appearance on Monday night against the Dodgers. But after being listed on the lineup card in left field, he refused to play.

General manager Jim Bowden had threatened to put Soriano on the disqualified list, which would prevent him from playing, accruing service time and receiving his \$10 million salary.

# Huggins to KSU

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) - Bob Huggins, who turned Cincinnati into a national basketball power during 16 sometimes-stormy years, has accepted an offer to coach Kansas State, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press today.

Huggins was to be introduced at a news conference later in the day, said the person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because Huggins had not

### Weather forces Optimist leagues to extend tryouts and registrations

causing an extension of the time to sign-up and tryout for Pampa

Snow and cold weather are sign-ups with 52. The 9-10 Cal Ripken League is holding down second place with 35. Optimist Optimist Girls, Softball Commissioner Baseball/Softball 2006, accord- Dru Chidester reports that 58 ing to Optimist Baseball girls have signed up for softball with more than half registering in the 10-12 Girls, Softball League. "My son just could not wait for baseball to start this year," said Michelle Dyson. "He is looking forward to having kids pitch in the 9-10 Cal Ripken League. He insisted that we be one of the first ones to sign up on Tuesday.'



yet signed a contract.

Huggins, who was ousted from Cincinnati in 2005 and did not coach this season, will replace Jim Wooldridge, who was 15-13 this year.

The Wildcats have not been to the NCAA tournament since 1996, but Huggins will be stepping into a promising situation with most of the team's top scorers returning next season.

Huggins was 399-127 in 16 seasons with Cincinnati, leading the Bearcats to 14 consecutive NCAA tournament appearances, including the 1992 Final Four. He won 10 regular-season Conference USA titles and was honored as the league's coach of the decade. He also coached at Walsh and Akron and has a record of 567-199 during a 24-year career.

He agreed to leave Cincinnati last August when university president Nancy Zimpher refused to extend his four-year contract rollover following his arrest and conviction for drunken driving in 2004. Huggins received a \$3 million buyout, and Zimpher's decision proved unpopular with many fans. Cincinnati cited the arrest as the cul-

mination of many problems. He also had been criticized for a low graduation rate and for several off-court incidents involving players.

Commissioner Kevin Davis.

"We will continuing registering players from five to 15 years of age for baseball and softball today through Saturday from 5:30 to 7 p.m.," Davis said. "We are going to hold tryouts from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Friday and from 10 a.m. until noon on Saturday. This will give the coaches more than one look at the new prospects in their leagues."

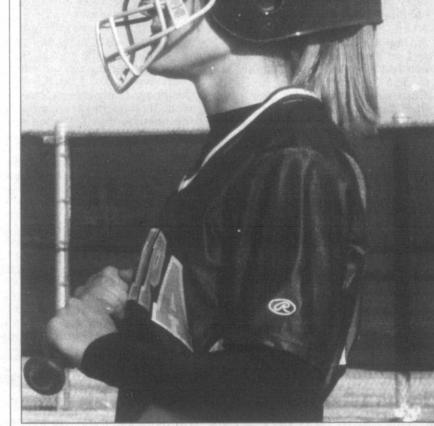
Davis further explained, "We almost have to start games in most leagues during the week of April 17 in order to finish our regular season play about the middle of June. Our goal is to conduct drafts in all leagues this weekend so that we can start practicing next week.

"We are very pleased with the 231 players who have signed up despite poor weather conditions," Davis said. "We have not been able to have tryouts in the leagues which require them because of the weather."

The 5-6 T-ball League continues to lead all leagues in

"I will never forget my son's first T-ball game," remarked another mother. "I have never laughed so hard in my life. It is really fun for the kids and the adults as well."

The Pampa Optimist Youth Club is a Pampa United Way agency. It offers T-ball for boys and girls ages five and six and a pitching machine league for boys ages seven and eight and for girls ages seven through nine. The older boys play in the 9-10 Cal Ripken League, the 11-12 Cal Ripken League and the 13-15 Babe Ruth League. Older girls play softball in the Major League for girls 10-12 and in the Senior League for girls 13-15.



Pampa News photos by MARILYN POWERS

Lady Harvester Jackie Gerber looks for a call from Coach Bobbi Gill Tuesday afternoon during her at-bat against Randall.



# Iverson, Jermaine O'Neal have winning returns; Heat lose Mourning

#### THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Welcome back, Allen Iverson and Jermaine O'Neal. Bye for now, Alonzo Mourning.

Iverson and O'Neal returned from injuries to give their struggling teams a

boost Wednesday night. But Mourning's injury forces the Miami Heat to use Michael Doleac to back up Shaq.

Mourning left Miami's 82-73 loss at Detroit with what the Heat believe is a torn calf muscle. He is perhaps the Heat's most important reserve, providing tough defense and rebounding when Shaquille O'Neal is out of the game.

"I don't know the exact prognosis, but it's not very good," Miami coach Pat Riley said. "There's a reason we didn't trade Michael Doleac, and that's because of

step up.

Miami has already clinched a playoff spot, but the 76ers and Pacers couldn't wait much longer for their All-Stars to get back. Philadelphia lost all four games while Iverson was out with a sprained foot and fell into eighth place in the Eastern Conference, but he scored 29 points in his return as the Sixers beat Atlanta 115-106.

"I hope they were glad I was back and I hope that I did give them some type of confidence," Iverson said. "It's important for my confidence for me to feel wanted and be able to go out there and make something happen.'

O'Neal wasn't as sharp — but the Pacers didn't expect him to be after he was out nearly two months with a torn left groin. Just having him on the floor was good enough for Indiana in its 95-85 victory over Chicago.

"The motivation of having J.O. back with us was a lift," Indiana's Stephen Jackson said. "Even if J.O. didn't come out and get 30 tonight, just his presence was big. He's our leader, he's an All-Star."

In other games, it was: Orlando 111, New York 87; Cleveland 120, Charlotte 118 in overtime; Boston 110, Toronto 96; Seattle 114,

this exact possibility. He's going to have to Milwaukee 105; Denver 104, San Antonio 92; and the Los Angeles Lakers 87, Sacramento 80.

At Indianapolis, O'Neal scored 16 points on 5-for-13 shooting and missed half of his 12 free-throw attempts in 25 minutes. After missing 24 games, he entered the game to a loud ovation with 6:21 left in the first quarter. He scored on his first shot with 5:58 left in the period.

"I was nervous walking up to the scorer's table, but as soon as I checked into the game and the fans started chanting, I was all right," he said.

Shaquille O'Neal also was returning to the lineup after sitting out Miami's loss in Minnesota on Tuesday with a thumb injury. Mourning's loss forced him to play a season-high 43 minutes, and he scored 27 points.

But he didn't get his usual help from Dwyane Wade, who was just 3-of-15 from the floor and scored a season-low 13 points. Still, the far bigger concern was Mourning's injury.

"It's going to be very tough without him," O'Neal said. "But Dolie will step up and 'Zo can get some rest and come back strong."

Cavaliers 120, Bobcats 118, OT

At Cleveland, LeBron James made a winning shot in the final seconds for the first time in his career, hitting a jumper with 0.9 seconds left in overtime. He finished with 37 points, 12 assists and 11 rebounds for his ninth career triple-double.

Nuggets 104, Spurs 92

At Denver, Carmelo Anthony scored 12 of his 32 points in the fourth quarter, and the Nuggets ended San Antonio's five-game winning streak.

Ruben Patterson added 17 points and Marcus Camby had 21 rebounds for Denver, which has won eight of 10 and moved six games ahead of Utah in the Northwest Division.

Lakers 87, Kings 80

At Los Angeles, Kobe Bryant scored six of his 28 points in the last three minutes, Kwame Brown had a season-high 21 points and 12 rebounds, and the Lakers moved into seventh place in the Western Conference.

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The Lakers lead Sacramento by one game, with New Orleans a half-game behind the Kings in the battle for the final playoff spot in the West. Utah is another 1 1/2 games back.

#### SuperSonics 114, Bucks 105

At Seattle, Chris Wilcox scored a careerhigh 30 points, and Rashard Lewis added 22 of his 27 in the second half.

Michael Redd led the Bucks with 26 points, but shot just 8-of-22 before fouling out. Milwaukee, seventh in the Eastern Conference playoff race, had won four of five.

#### Magic 111, Knicks 87

Dwight Howard had 23 points and seven rebounds while coming off the bench for the first time in his career, and the Magic rolled in Steve Francis' return to Orlando.

In his first game at Orlando since being traded last month, Francis had just two points in 11 minutes, all in the first quarter. Celtics 110, Raptors 96

Paul Pierce scored 32 points in Boston's eighth straight home victory over Toronto.

Mike James led the Raptors with 31 points, but was held to two free throws in the fourth quarter. Chris Bosh had 24 points, 11 rebounds and eight assists for the Raptors, who lost for the second time in six games.

## NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE System works as long as money rolls in

'There's a reason

we didn't trade

Michael Doleac,

and that's because

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going to have to

step up."

— Pat Riley

Coach, Miami Heat

possibility. He's

#### By TIM DAHLBERG **Associated Press**

The Dallas Cowboys got the receiver their fans loved to hate. The New England Patriots gave away the kicker their fans hated to lose.

Both moves were baffling, at best. And not just because it matters what fans think, because in the end it really doesn't.

Coaches and general managers can huddle in darkened rooms for weeks, emerge blinded by the light and still do something stupid. Owners can fall in love with players and hand out millions no matter what the potential for disaster may be.

The greatest thing about free agency in the NFL, though, may be that teams can recover from their mistakes quickly.

So what if Terrell Owens goes berserk and tackles Bill Parcells for taking him out of a game. All it costs the Cowboys is \$10 million, money Jerry Jones can quickly make up by charging more for nachos and beer when the new stadium opens in Arlington. That's because Owens' \$25 million contract with the Cowboys really isn't a \$25 million contract. If the Cowboys don't want TO after a year, they simply let him go and are out nothing but a \$5 million signing bonus and a \$5 million first-year salary Which is what happened Monday to Larry Allen, the guard who was the last link to the Cowboys' glory days. He became disposable because of his age and the fact he was due \$2 million next week and was going to count \$7.5 million toward next season's salary cap. All Dallas had to do was show Allen the way to the door and wish him good luck. And, hey, if you want to come back at a cheaper price let us know

Steinbrenner ate Kevin Brown's \$16

million salary the last couple years, and has to pay Randy Johnson even more until he collects Social Security. Almost left out in the tributes to the departing Paul Tagliabue last week was the fact that he has - with help from the players' association - kept in place a system that rewards performance and comes close to forcing players to actually play for pay.

Signing bonuses may be huge, but with no guaranteed contracts there's rarely any complacency among players. The system, tied together with a salary cap, works, unlike baseball's dysfunctional labor division.

Tagliabue said at the Super Bowl this year that the philosophy on guaranteed contracts goes back to the founders of the league, who believed that a significant portion of pay should be for performance.

"Guaranteed contracts, within the context of a salary cap, takes it away from a player who is playing and gives it to a player who is not playing," Tagliabue said. Players have generally gone along with that, often at a high price to those unfortunate enough to suffer career-ending injuries or whose performances, like Allen's, were just declining. Many others, though, have made it up on the other end with signing bonuses that Tagliabue estimates make up half the league's \$3.4 billion in annual player costs. And it's hard to argue when the amount of money each team can spend on players has gone up \$35 million in the last five years. Those payrolls will skyrocket even more now because the NFL blinked earlier this month and agreed to a contract that will add nearly a billion dollars in player costs in exchange for

money

Owens got his, and so did Edgerrin James, who is guaranteed at least \$14.75 million of a four-year \$30 million pact he signed with the beleaguered Arizona Cardinals. And Steve Hutchinson got the richest deal ever for a guard, \$16 million guaranteed and a possible \$49 million over seven years from the Minnesota Vikings.

Adam Vinatieri won't get nearly that much because, well, he's a kicker. But his signing by the Indianapolis Colts was a good example of why fans should never get too attached to players, no matter what they've done for a team.

Vinatieri won two Super Bowls for the Patriots on last-second kicks, and helped win the 2001 AFC semifinal a memorable kick through on swirling snow with 32 seconds left against the Raiders.

He's probably the best clutch kicker in the history of the game. And, by all accounts, he probably would have stayed with the Patriots if they had shown him a little love.

### Thursday's sports briefs

#### **PRO FOOTBALL**

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) -A judge agreed that Daunte Culpepper and a former Minnesota Vikings teammate had made a case that they were treated differently than two white men who were not charged as part of a boat party sex scandal.

Culpepper and running back Moe Williams are seeking dismissal of misdemeanor charges of lewd conduct. The players, both black, argue that prosecutor Steve Tallen passed up a chance to charge two white men, including the captain of one of two boats on the cruise.

At a hearing in Hennepin County District Court, Tallen said he declined to charge the men because the case against them was shaky.

GOLF

3-23

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Tiger Woods missed the final practice round at The Players Championship because he wanted to check on his father in California, a tour official said.

Earl Woods, who lives in Cypress, Calif., has been battling cancer the last two years.

#### **PRO BASKETBALL**

PHOENIX (AP) Phoenix Suns forward Amare Stoudemire is close to returning from a knee injury that has sidelined him all season.

After participating in drills with teammates for the third time in four days, Stoudemire said there's an 80 percent chance he'll play Thursday night against Portland. He said he would decide whether to play in the morning.

This isn't baseball, where George

six years of labor peace. The agreement increases the salary cap from \$85.5 million to \$102 million for next year, and teams didn't wait long before starting to spend the

Yet New England let him go, declining to pay him a paltry \$3 million or so despite reportedly having some \$20 million in unused cap money. Maybe an alarm went off when they realized they could buy 10 kickers at Vinatieri's price.

Indianapolis, meanwhile, didn't mind shelling out a few million to get him, not with memories still fresh of the kick Mike Vanderjagt missed in the playoffs that would have gotten the Colts into overtime against Pittsburgh.

The Cowboys took a gamble on TO. The Patriots took a gamble of their own.

In the NFL, though, rolling the dice isn't so hard. More money will be pouring in next year, and there will be plenty of time for those smart enough to correct any mistakes.

And that, really, is the beauty of the system.

#### 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.

**CRYPTOQUOTE** 

JESYYSQ MY ALS GPW HLZ. PVAST LPCMWI WZALMWI AZ YPR, PJYAPMWY VTZG IMCMWI HZTQR SCMQSWXS ZV ALS VPXA. — ISZTIS SEMZA Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THERE IS NO HUMAN PROBLEM WHICH COULD NOT BE SOLVED IF PEOPLE WOULD SIMPLY DO AS I ADVISE. - GORE VIDAL

#### Book suggests Sheffield knew he was doping, Jason Giambi wanted to please his father

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Gary Sheffield knew full well he was doping, and Jason Giambi was turned on to a cocktail of performance-enhancing drugs similar to what Barry Bonds was taking, according to a new book.

"Game of Shadows," set for release Thursday, says BALCO's performance-enhancing drugs were used by several athletes, including track stars Marion Jones and Tim Montgomery, NFL players such as Bill Romanowski, and sluggers including Bonds, Sheffield and Giambi.

It centers on Bonds' allegedly extensive drug regimen - steroids, human growth hormone, insulin and more — but also undercuts Sheffield's claims that he took designer steroids unwittingly.

Sheffield has admitted that he used a cream two years ago, but said he did not know it contained illegal steroids. The authors, however, say Bonds' trainer, Greg Anderson, put Sheffield on injectable testosterone and a human growth hormone in 2002, and later sold him designer steroids known as the "cream" and the "clear."

Sheffield adopted Bonds" heavy training program when he visited the San Francisco star after the 2001 season and lived in his home in

Hillsborough, Calif., for two months, according to the book.

Though the two had a personal falling out, Sheffield wanted to maintain a relationship with Anderson so he could keep getting the drugs, the authors wrote.

On Wednesday in Tampa, Sheffield denied using any drugs mentioned in the book.

"What can I do? I'm not going to defend myself my whole life," he said. "It doesn't matter to me. I don't have anything to say. No need to. It is what it is."

The book describes how Bonds started using steroids because he was jealous of the attention paid to Mark McGwire's home run race with Sammy Sosa in 1998, and felt he needed to bulk up significantly to compete with the St. Louis Cardinals' slugger. Bonds broke McGwire's single-season record with 73 home runs in 2001.

Bonds used a vast array of performance-enhancing drugs for at least' five seasons beginning in 1998, according to the book, written by two San Francisco Chronicle reporters. Excerpts from the book, scheduled for release Thursday, were released earlier this month.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, March 24, 2006:

You get a lot done quickly this year. You will naturally mix stability, creativity and energy. Broaden your horizons, creating much more of what you would like from life. New friends punctuate your life. Be open to different lifestyles and ways of thinking, and you will achieve much of what you want. You are luckier this fall than you have been in a while. If you are single, if you want, you can kiss that status goodbye. If you are attached, your relationship will benefit from the generally happy events of this year. LEO reads you cold.

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) \*\*\*\* Where your friends are is where you would like to be. Make plans accordingly, knocking out your to-do list this morning. You might want to call it an early day. Why not? Everyone needs to recharge his or her batteries sometime. Tonight: Where you are, the action is. TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

\*\*\* Use the morning to finish up research or handle plans involving an inlaw or trip. Know how much ground you need to cover, and go off and do just that. By the afternoon, others rally around you. They want to make plans with you. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) \*\*\*\* Realize what you need to do in order to make a long-term plan possible. Discussions with a key person enlighten you and point the way. You might want to rethink a decision that revolves around a friendship. Tonight: Flex. Plans will change CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You might want another person to take the lead in order to see his or her true colors. Once you gain this information, you are free once more to make solid decisions. Listen to a loved one about a money matter. Tonight: In the mood for togetherness? LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You might be more focused than many of your cohorts. What you want to do is enter this weekend with a clean slate and plenty of time to play and enjoy. You might want to rethink a personal matter more carefully. Tonight: If you want, say "no" to an invitation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ Toss around an issue and look at it in as many ways as possible. Your creativity spins out, making nearly anything possible. Loosen up and make what you need happen. Schedule time to wind down this afternoon. Tonight: Find something relaxing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) \*\*\*\* You come from a basic point of view. As a result, you will come out on top. Your decisions mark the next few days. Listen well to someone you care about. He or she will make a difference.

You might as well plunge into your weekend early. Tonight: The fun-loving you makes great choices. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

\*\*\* Your words could move mountains right now, and why not? You laugh, and others relax. You will get much more accomplished as well as have good feelings flourish between you and another person. Tonight: Stay home SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You can twist and turn a money matter without coming to a conclusion. Listen to someone close who has strong opinions. Listening doesn't mean you have to accept this person's ideas. Respect grows through being open. Tonight: Say "yes" to a last-minute invitation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You are in fifth gear as the day begins. Just be sure you don't charge through your checking account with the same high velocity. You might want to rethink a question more carefully before making a decision. Time is your ally. Tonight: Pay bills first. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

\*\*\* You might be slow to get started, but you could win the Tour de France by the end of the day. The Moon drops into your sign, adding to your charisma and desirability. Realize that what needs to happen is possible with a push from you. Tonight: As you like it. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

\*\*\* Use the daylight hours to accomplish what you need to. Somehow, you might not be able to accomplish all you want anyway. It appears you have run yourself into the ground. Take off for the weekend, determined to get some R and R. Tonight: Huddle in.

BORN TODAY

Musician Dave Appell (1922), actor Steve McQueen (1930), magician Harry Houdini (1874)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com. © 2006 by King Features Syndicate Inc

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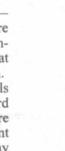
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#### The Pampa News — Thursday March 23, 2006 —9

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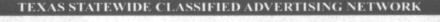
2 bdr., dbl. gar. For sale

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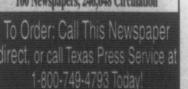
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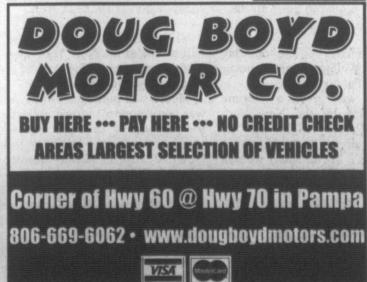
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10 — Thursday, March 23, 2006 — The Pampa News

### Pinewood Derby



Cub Scout Pack 414 of Austin Elementary School, Pack 423 of Wilson and Lamar elementary schools, and Pack 401 of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, recently held a joint Pinewood Derby. The winners of the derby pictured above were Christian Free, first place-Webelos Den, Evan Free, first place-Wolf Den, Brayden Dyson, first place-Tiger Den, Kolton Dyson, first place overall, and Chris Smith, first place-Bear Den. Also shown are Abram Garcia, Cubmaster of Pack 414, Paul Smith, Cubmaster of Pack 401, and Darian Reeves, Cubmaster of Pack 423.

#### ENTERTAINMENT

# **People in the news**

NEW YORK (AP) — Amare Stoudemire's trip to hurricane-ravaged New Orleans will be featured in an upcoming NBA TV show.

The series, "Toyota's Moving Forward Moments," features an NBA player returning to his hometown to surprise his mentor and to reminisce about the powerful influence that person had on his life.

But in this special edition, the Phoenix teer leaders, but lost almost everything as

Wallace, who said last week he was retiring from CBS News' "60 Minutes" this spring, also said he turned down an offer to become Nixon's press secretary at the White House.

Asked who was the best president he had seen in his years as a reporter, Wallace - who considers Nancy Reagan a close friend --- said it was her husband.

"Ronald Reagan knew who the hell he Suns All-Star visited 10 women who men- was," he said. "He had his convictions. He tored in their communities as 4-H volun- was comfortable in his skin. I thought he was a superb president."



a result of Hurricane Katrina.

He visited parts of Louisiana and some leagues were on hand to watch the 87-

of the victims' homes on his way to meet the women, surprising them with Toyota Prius hybrid cars to help get their lives back on track.

"It leaves you speechless, Stoudemire said as he drove past the homes and cars destroyed by the August storm. "Once you see it up close and personal, it is pretty rough to take. It just isn't a certain area. The whole city and just about the whole state have been wiped out." The women were

originally told that only

EST).

head.

Zeifman said.

times portrayed.

ful kids."

one person would be presented with the

The show will air March 28 (6 p.m.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Star Jones Reynolds is recovering from a breast-lift

"Star is recovering wonderfully," publi-

cist Brad Zeifman said Wednesday in a

The co-host of ABC's daytime talk show "The View" underwent surgery

Friday. That day, husband Al Reynolds

slipped at a gym and was taken to the

emergency room with two cuts to the

"He is recovering and in good spirits,"

NEW YORK (AP) - The one big

Wallace, who was given a lifetime

interview Mike Wallace regrets never

achievement award by the New York

Press Club on Tuesday night, said he

learned while traveling with the Nixons in

1968 that she was a brave, smart woman

"She was a genuine, lovely, fine woman who was bruised by what hap-

pened to her husband," he said. "(She

was) intelligent, loyal and raised wonder-

- not the "plastic Pat" as she was some-

landing was with Pat Nixon.

procedure performed last week at a Santa

car, but all 10 received one instead.

Monica hospital, her publicist said.

statement to The Associated Press.

'Ronald Reagan knew who the hell he was. He had his convictions. He was comfortable in his skin. I thought he

#### was a superb president."

 Mike Wallace Journalist

Some of Wallace's "60 Minutes" colvear-old newsman receive the award. Lesley Stahl even tried to put him on the spot,

asking whether there was any question he was embarrassed to have asked. He said no. "There is no such thing as an indiscreet question," he said.

Leave it to Andy Rooney to get - as he does on "60 Minutes" - the last word.

"Do you think there's any possibility you could get CBS management to split your salary up amongst the rest of us?" Rooney said.

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Fred Savage, perhaps best known for his role on ABC's The Wonder Years," is going to be a father.

Jennifer Stone Savage is expecting the couple's first child in August, his agent, Swardstrom, confirmed Brian Wednesday.

Savage, 29, portrayed wide-eyed Kevin Arnold on "The Wonder Years" from 1988-1993. He starred in the 2004 film "Welcome to Mooseport" and the ABC sitcom "Crumbs."

In recent years, he has also worked behind the camera, including producing and directing "Phil of the Future" on the Disney Channel and directing Nickelodeon's "Drake & Josh."

NEW YORK (AP) - Julianne Moore will return to the New York stage in the world premiere of "The Vertical Hour" by British playwright David Hare.

Moore will portray a former American war correspondent turned college professor who meets an older man while on vacation in Wales. The play will open Nov. 30 at a Broadway theater to be announced.

It will be directed by Sam Mendes, whose stage work includes the long-running Broadway revival of "Cabaret," "The Blue Room" starring Nicole Kidman, and the Bernadette Peters revival of "Gypsy."

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