






**NEXT DAY FORECAST**

Saturday	Sunday	Monday
		
Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy
Saturday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 43 between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 32.	Sunday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 56. Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of rain. Partly cloudy, with a low around 33.	Monday: A 20 percent chance of rain. Partly cloudy, with a high near 45. Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 24.

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**CITY BRIEFS**

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- 2003 TOYOTA Highlander Limited 4x4, white 39K miles \$22,000 662-5837 or 665-3379.**
- MARILEE OSBORN** celebrates her 75th Birthday, Feb. 11th. Please send her cards to 1504 W. Kentucky, Pampa.
- FURNISHED OFFICE** for rent good location on N. Hobart. All Bills Paid. 662-3173
- MASSAGE THERAPY** Special- Valentine Gift Certificates! Call Cathy Potter or Holly Coutts, 669-0013.
- GOSPEL SINGING,** Sunday afternoon, 2-4, Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock. Everyone welcome.
- PROM TIME!** Rent or Buy your prom dress from D&B Neighborhood Shop, 315 S. Main, White Deer, 883-2059.
- LIVE MUSIC** by Vince Hopkins & The Texas Brigade, Fri. Feb. 9 & Sat. Feb. 10 at The Old Derrick. \$5 cover
- VALENTINE BALLOON** Bouquets! Order early for bonuses!! 304 W. Foster, 662-1801.



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We take referrals on line at [www.accoladehomecare.com](http://www.accoladehomecare.com)

**"The Lighthouse On 23rd"**

**Calvary Baptist Church**  
 Pastor - Richard Bartel  
 Sunday Worship Services  
 8:30am - On Cable Ch. 5  
 10:45am - At The Church  
 6:00pm - At The Church

**A FRIENDLY CHURCH FULL OF PEOPLE JUST LIKE YOU!**



**Obituaries**

**Services tomorrow**

**HILLMAN, Elizabeth Mae Kohl** — Funeral mass, 2 p.m., St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Pampa.  
**MARLAR, Viola 'Vi'** — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.  
**SPOONEMORE, Susie Huff** — 4:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, Pampa.

**Tom Abraham, 96**



Abraham

**CANADIAN** — Services for Tom Abraham, 96, of Canadian, Texas, will be at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11, 2007, at the First Christian Church with Matt Cook, the Rev. Ashley Abraham Hood and Kari Stainback, officiating. Burial will be in Edith Ford Memorial Cemetery under the direction of Hughs Funeral Home of Canadian, Texas. Mr. Abraham passed away on Thursday, Feb. 8, 2007, in Canadian, Texas. Tom Abraham was born in Kafracab, Lebanon, in 1910, sometime around Dec. 8. His parents were Nahim and Alia Malouf (their surname was changed to Abraham when they came to America through Ellis Island). Tom grew up in Canadian, Texas, and graduated from Canadian High School in 1928. In 1932, he graduated from Texas Tech, where he played on the football team, was the business manager of the Toreador (the school newspaper), and later helped start the Red Raider Club. He was also a member of the Commission that created the Texas Tech Dad's

Association (now known as Texas Tech Association of Parents) and served as its first Vice-President. Upon his death, Tom was thought to be the oldest living Texas Tech Letterman. Tom liked to say that he received the first BBA degree from Tech (chuckling about the fact that it wasn't for his academic prowess, but because his last name began with "A"). After graduation, he married Helen Ferguson of Paducah and returned to Canadian. He went to work at The Fair Department Store, which was started by his father, and he eventually became the owner. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Helen; his children, Donna Abraham Stainback of Greenville, Ken Abraham and his wife Renee of Lubbock, and Kay Abraham Brown and her husband Terry of Canadian; his grandchildren, Kent Stainback, Kari Stainback, Timothy Stainback, Lacy Stainback Feezel, Kyle

Abraham, the Rev. Ashley Hood, Alex Abraham, Wendi Brown Stephens, Hilary Brown Beedy; and 17 great-grandchildren. Tom was preceded in death by his parents, and his three brothers, Naceeb, Malouf Sr. and Eddie, and his son-in-law, Raiford Stainback, Jr. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Canadian where he was instrumental in building the original church. Along with his brothers, he helped found the Edward Abraham Memorial Home. He was active in the Rotary Club, was very proud of being a Mason, and served in numerous community leadership positions. In his later life, Tom was also the recipient of many honors. Among them were: Man of the Year by the Canadian-Hemphill County Chamber of Commerce, the Americanism Award presented by Daughters of the American Revolution (given

only to immigrants who helped other immigrants obtain citizenship), Hemphill County Bicentennial Chairman, Seven Who Care from KVII-TV in Amarillo. Mr. Abraham was proud of his coveted Freedom's Foundation Award presented at Valley Forge, Pa., in 1980. However, Tom was known mostly for his many kindnesses to others, which were described in the 1992 Amarillo Globe News column, "Santa Claus is alive and giving in Canadian." Pallbearers will be Kent Stainback, Timothy Stainback, Kyle Abraham, Blake Beedy, Kelly Feezel, Doug Hood and Kirk Stephens. Condolences may be sent online to Hughs Funeral Home at [www.hughsfuneralhome.com](http://www.hughsfuneralhome.com) or P.O. Box 105, Canadian, TX 79014. "Because he loves me," says the Lord...I will deliver him and honor him. With a long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation." Psalm 91

**Elizabeth Mae Kohl Hillman, 75**



Hillman

Elizabeth Mae Kohl Hillman, 75, died Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2007, in Panhandle, Texas. Vigil will be at 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9, 2007, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel, and mass will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, 2007, at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church with the Rev. Francisco Perez, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-

Whatley Funeral Directors. Mrs. Hillman was born January 7, 1932, in Ellis, Kansas. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1953. She was a member of St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church and the Women's Council for 53 years. Her life was dedicated to caring for her family. Survivors include four daughters, Marian Dawes & husband Henry of Pampa, Marcia Coker & husband Doyle of Sweetwater, Oklahoma, Donna Craig of Amarillo, and Beth Johnston & husband Joe of Roswell, New Mexico; three sons, Lester Hillman & wife Teresa and Martin Hillman & wife Marianne, all of Pampa, and Vincent Hillman & wife Melinda of Greenville; one sister, Agnes Karlin of Hays, Kansas; one brother, Alvin Kohl of Ellis, Kansas; 15 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends. Memorials may be to St. Ann's Nursing Home, P.O. Box 1479, Panhandle, Texas 79068. The family will be at 2200 Chestnut in Pampa. —Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com).

Whatley Funeral Directors. Mrs. Hillman was born January 7, 1932, in Ellis, Kansas. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1953. She was a member of St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church and the Women's Council for 53 years. Her life was dedicated to caring for her family. Survivors include four daughters, Marian Dawes & husband Henry of Pampa, Marcia Coker & husband Doyle of Sweetwater, Oklahoma, Donna Craig of Amarillo, and Beth Johnston & husband Joe of Roswell, New Mexico; three sons, Lester Hillman & wife Teresa and Martin Hillman & wife Marianne, all of Pampa, and Vincent Hillman & wife Melinda of Greenville; one sister, Agnes Karlin of Hays, Kansas; one brother, Alvin Kohl of Ellis, Kansas; 15 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends. Memorials may be to St. Ann's Nursing Home, P.O. Box 1479, Panhandle, Texas 79068. The family will be at 2200 Chestnut in Pampa. —Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com).

**Viola 'Vi' Marlar, 97**



Marlar

**BELLEVILLE** — Viola "Vi" Marlar, 97, died Sunday, Feb. 4, 2007, in Belleville. Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, 2007, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel in Pampa, Texas, with the Rev. Jim Powell, pastor of Hobart Baptist Church of Pampa, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery in Pampa under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors. Mrs. Marlar was born March 23, 1909, in Tonkawa, Oklahoma. She married R. F. "Frank" Marlar on August 10, 1929, in Wewoka, Oklahoma. He preceded her in death in 1984. She was a Baptist. She was a homemaker. She loved music and played numerous instru-

ments. She will be missed by her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. Survivors include one daughter, Geraldine Shirley & husband Gene of Belleville; three sons, Donald Marlar of Abilene, Gerald Marlar & wife Jackie of Duncan, Oklahoma, and Bobby Marlar & wife Gloria of Pampa; 13 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by four brothers and one sister. Memorials may be to Hobart Baptist Church, 1100 W. Crawford, Pampa, Texas 79065. —Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com).

ments. She will be missed by her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. Survivors include one daughter, Geraldine Shirley & husband Gene of Belleville; three sons, Donald Marlar of Abilene, Gerald Marlar & wife Jackie of Duncan, Oklahoma, and Bobby Marlar & wife Gloria of Pampa; 13 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by four brothers and one sister. Memorials may be to Hobart Baptist Church, 1100 W. Crawford, Pampa, Texas 79065. —Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com).

**Susie Huff Spoonemore, 76**



Spoonemore

Susie Huff Spoonemore, 76, of Pampa, Texas, died Thursday, Feb. 8, 2007 in Amarillo, Texas. Services will be at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, 2007, at the First United Methodist Church with her brother-in-law, the Rev. Hugh B. Daniel, of Breckenridge, Texas, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors. Mrs. Spoonemore was born Sept. 28, 1930, on the Army Base at El Reno, Okla., where her father was training horses for the U.S. Government. She was the fourth child of Coleman and Sally Huff. She moved to Panhandle, Texas in 1932 where she lived until 1948. She was a 1948 graduate of Panhandle High School and received her B.S. degree from McMurry University in 1952. She coached girls athletics in Ballinger where she had a championship volleyball team. In 1953, she moved to Pampa to teach and, in 1954, she went to work for Cabot

Corporation. She later returned to the classroom, teaching at Pampa Junior High and Pampa High School for many years before retiring to be a fulltime homemaker. She married Dean Spoonemore on Nov. 30, 1957, in Lefors. He preceded her in death in 1989. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church where she sang in the choir. She served on several committees of the church, and taught Sunday School at one time. She was a past member of the Business and Professional Women's Association and Beta Sigma Phi. She was a member of the Pampa Retired Teachers Association and Texas Retired Teachers Association. Susie was well known for her generosity, kindness and love. Her ability to love was unmatched. She was a talented artist, teacher, friend and cook. In 1986, she competed in The State Fair of Texas bi-

centennial birthday cake contest. She was chosen grand prize winner, beating out thousands of other entries. Above all, she was an exceptional wife and devoted mother. She lived for her family and friends. She loved the thousands of students she taught, treating each of them with fairness and respect. She enjoyed traveling in her later years, and with her son, was especially proud that she had toured all seven world continents. Susie will be greatly missed by all whom she touched, loved and knew. She was a beacon of love, joy, light and warmth. Survivors include one son, Dr. Randel D. Spoonemore of Rockwall; one sister, Billie Bruner of Pampa; two nieces, Jan Janes of Maysville, Ark., and Dawn Riley of Amarillo; two nephews, Denver Bruner of Pampa and Dane Daniel of Prairie Grove, Ark; three

great-nieces, Connie Threlkeld, Leeza Henderson and Valerie Bruner; five great-nephews, Zane Henderson, Matthew Daniel, Robert Bruner, Coleman Bruner and Austin Bruner; several great-great-nieces and great-great-nephews; and lifelong friends, Joe and Belva Hayes of Graford, their children and their families. Susie leaves into her sister's care her most recent love, her precious dog "Spooz," who gave her unconditional love and companionship during the last two years. She was preceded in death by her parents, Coleman and Sally Huff; her brother, William Huff; and her sisters, Lee (Bib) Langley and Joy Daniel. Memorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 1981, Pampa, TX 79066-1981. SPECIAL NOTICE: The family will be at 2235 Charles in Pampa. —Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com).

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### Samuel Moot, 84

Samuel Moot, 84, of Pampa, died Feb. 7, 2007, at Pampa.

Mr. Moot will lie in state from Saturday, Feb. 10, until 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12 at Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Home in Pampa. Private burial will follow.

Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Moot was born Jan. 18, 1923. He moved to Pampa in 1944.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Carl Moot Jr.

Survivors include a son, Paul Moot of Cheyenne, Wyo.; and a sister, Mary Ann Dickens of Texas.

The family requests memorials be to the American Cancer Society, c/o Gerry Caylor, 2130 Charles, Pampa, TX 79065.

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

## Emergency Services

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

### Thursday, Feb. 8

Eleven traffic stops were made.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 900 block of South Faulkner, the 1000 block of East Darby, the 2600 block of Navajo Road, the 800 block of East Campbell, the 500 block of North Wells, the 600 block of West Foster, the 300 block of South Miami, the 700 block of Locust, the 400 block of North Wells, the 1200 block of East Francis and the intersection of Kingsmill and Lefors.

Aggravated assault with minor injuries was reported in the 300 block of South Anne.

A verbal domestic disturbance was reported in the 800 block of North Dwight.

A runaway juvenile report was received in the 1200 block of East Browning. The juvenile was located and taken to the police department.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 800 block of North Dwight and the 700 block of North Magnolia.

Escort service was provided in the 800 block of South Barnes.

Agency assistance was provided in the 800 block of North Wells.

Criminal mischief was reported in the police department lobby and the 100 block of West 30th, where three tires valued at \$130 were damaged.

Motorist assistance was provided at the intersection of Alcock and Hobart.

Lost property was reported from the 1300 block of North Hobart.

Welfare checks were made in the 400 block of North Rose and the 100 block of North Sumner.

Found property, a bicycle of unknown value, was

reported in the 1900 block of North Duncan.

Forgery was reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart.

A public intoxication report was received from the 100 block of East Harvester.

Burglaries were reported in the 900 block of East Scott and the 500 block of North Nelson.

A stolen vehicle was reported in the 800 block of East Browning.

A theft of consumable goods and movies valued at \$142 was reported in the 2800 block of North Charles.

Alarms were reported in the 600 block of North Hobart and the 1800 block of North Hobart.

Suspicious persons were reported in the 700 block of Malone and the intersection of Alcock and Wells.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway.

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

### Wednesday, Feb. 7

Juan Reynaldo Flores, 50, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa Police Department on warrants for four capias pro fines including no valid drivers license and failure to appear.

William Isidro Rivera, 17, of Pampa was arrested by PPD for reckless driving.

Roger Juan Pineda, 25, of Pampa was arrested by the Constable for theft of more than \$500 and less than \$1,500.

Forrest Gilchrist King, 24, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO on warrants for capias pro fines for assault and failure to appear.

### Thursday, Feb. 8

Steve Corey Gardner, 21, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for motion to revoke - DWI.

Tami Michelle Craig, 38, of Pampa was arrested by

PPD for possession of marijuana.

William Cecil McPherson, 32, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for violation of probation - assault family violence.

Paula Marie Nash, 41, of Amarillo, was arrested by PPD for bond forfeiture possession of a controlled substance from Potter County.

Joshua Levi Brack, 19, of Pampa as arrested by PPD for theft of property more than \$50 and less than \$500.

Cortney Breckell Johnson, 18, of Pampa was arrested by PPD for theft of property more than \$50 and less than \$500.

Gary Glen Cady, 24, of Lefors, was arrested by Lefors Marshal for no valid driver's license/revoked.

Tammie Kay Knight, 42, of Lefors was arrested by Lefors Marshal for disorderly conduct - language.

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

### Thursday, Feb. 8

11:30 a.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 1300 block of West Kentucky on a Dumpster fire.

11:07 p.m. — One unit and four personnel responded to the 1000 block of North Hobart on an odor investigation.

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

### Wednesday, Feb. 7

7:58 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the intersection of Price and Kentucky and transported two patients to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

7:58 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the intersection of Price and Kentucky and transported a patient to PRMC.

11:24 a.m. — A mobile

ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

11:42 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of Christy and transported a patient to PRMC.

12:27 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to University Medical Center in Lubbock.

3:29 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 700 block of Lowry and transported a patient to PRMC.

6:13 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to the

700 block of Lowry.

7:07 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2500 block of Charles and transported a patient to PRMC.

11:18 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 300 block of Anne. No transport.

Thursday, Feb. 8

2:02 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of West 30th. No transport.

5:40 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of West 30th. No transport.

Friday, Feb. 9

6:59 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of Nelson and transported a patient.

## Wheat

Continued from Page 1

Board of Directors. "I believe U.S. farmers are the backbone of America -- if we don't keep farmers in business, the U.S. will be devastated by the results," Kuehler said. "I look forward to helping the board fight for the future of the Texas farmer."

Kuehler and his wife, Laura, have four children, Lauren 6, Alex 5, Damon 3 and Stephen, 2.

## PISD

Continued from Page 2

chase of 150 graphing calculators for the high school from D & H Distributing for \$13,965. These calculators should be the last purchase necessary to allow all students access to calculators for the TAKS test.

## 1957

Continued from Page 1

Kids had to be home by midnight on weeknights and 1 a.m. on weekends. The basketball team went to the state competition and placed second.

A blizzard on March 24 stranded three trains going through town. The tourists on the train were stuck for 20 hours. Tornadoes hit the town of Old Mobeetie on May 15. Heavy rain on May 17 caused McClellan Creek to rise and knock out bridges.

The town decided to purchase a civil defense storm siren so residents could be warned of tornadoes. It was erected on top of the Hughes Building downtown in July, but when tested the sound failed to carry more than 10 to 15 blocks.

A crime spree in January and February was a problem. Money was stolen when five safes were cracked at different locations around town. On Jan. 1, the safe at Jack B. Perry and Co. was cracked and \$1,800 in cash and \$711 in checks were stolen. Wards Supermarket was hit on Jan. 6 and \$468 was taken. Only \$200 was stolen from the safe at Panhandle Lumber Co. when it was cracked at the end of January.

Two safes were cracked in February. One was at Reeves Olds Inc. where \$399 was stolen. The last robbery yielded more money when \$1,200 was stolen from a safe at the Coca Cola Bottling Co.

## Lawmakers lash out at Bush

By BEVERLEY LUMPKIN  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A House committee chairman accused the Bush administration Friday of protecting the country from terrorism "on the cheap" as lawmakers complained to Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff about proposed cuts in emergency communications and other programs.

Visiting Congress for the second time in two days, Chertoff was criticized anew by lawmakers upset with the government's security efforts, including at the borders and at airports.

"Millions of lives are at stake and we cannot continue to protect the homeland on the cheap," Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, told Chertoff.

At a hearing held by the panel, Thompson and Rep. Peter King of New York, top Republican on the committee, told Chertoff they were unhappy with how the administration is planning to use a \$1 billion fund for

upgrading communications systems for emergency workers.


"I am deeply concerned by the delay in getting this program up and running," King said. He said equipment that would let different emergency agencies communicate with each other during disasters — which many are currently unable to do — is "critically important to the nation's first responders."

King said the fund is supposed to supplement other aid programs, not be used in lieu of them. Chertoff acknowledged cuts in grant programs, but argued they would be more than offset by the \$1 billion.

Chertoff, at the hearing to defend the budget plan, maintained that the department has made progress in building systems to protect the nation.

"We must focus on the greatest risks and be flexible to changing threats, disciplined in our use of resources, and fully committed to building a department that will meet future challenges," he said in his prepared statement.

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# Viewpoints

## Where did all the romance go?

Hey, pallie, what the heck happened to romance?

I use the word "pallie" in deference to the great Dean Martin. Last summer, just before the annual Dean Martin Festival in Dino's hometown of Steubenville, Ohio, I decided to compare today's hits with his.

I started with the No. 1 song on Billboard Magazine's Hot 100 list, "Hips Don't Lie" by Shakira. This song was a hit, no doubt, because of its eloquent lyrics:

Nobody can ignore the way you move your body, girl

And everything so unexpected — the way you right and left it

So you can keep on shak-

ing it  
No. 2 on the list was "Ridin'" by Chamillionaire, a rap performer. Here's a little taste of that song's poetry:

Tippin' down, sittin' crooked on my chrome  
Bookin' my phone, tryin' to find a chick I wanna (slang expletive)

No. 3 on the list was "Promiscuous" by Nelly Furtado, a song brimming with love and affection:

You expect me to let you just hit it

But will you still respect me if you get it

Ah, modern romance.

Things sure have changed since Dino dropped off the charts. Now I know why: Romance is dead.

Whereas the top three hits above celebrate human nature at its most base — wiggling one's hips to stoke male arousal, looking for "chicks" to satisfy your urge, or wondering if a fellow will

**Tom Purcell**  
stick around after he samples the goods — Dino's simple music spoke to the heart.

Consider the lyrics to "Amore":

When the moon hits your eye like a big pizza pie

That's amore

When the world seems to shine like you've had too much wine

That's amore

Amore means "love" in Italian, a mysterious and magical energy that every human longs for. Love is the basis of many of Dino's songs. It's nowhere to be found in the three hit songs I just referenced.

In 1964, when The Beatles' new sound was making

them the most popular band on Earth, Dino knocked "Hard Day's Night" out of the top spot. He did so with "Everybody Loves Somebody," an old-fashioned song that resonated with all age groups:

Everybody loves somebody sometime  
Everybody falls in love somehow  
Something in your kiss just told me  
That sometime is now  
Whereas many of today's hit songs celebrate fear, anger and cynicism, Dino's songs celebrate sweetness and innocence. His songs are idealistic and uplifting. They are ROMANTIC.

Everybody loves somebody sometime

Everybody falls in love somehow

Something in your kiss just told me

That sometime is now

Whereas many of today's hit songs celebrate fear, anger and cynicism, Dino's songs celebrate sweetness and innocence. His songs are idealistic and uplifting. They are ROMANTIC.

Dino's songs celebrate the subtle dance of the spirit between a man and a woman — the magic that occurs when two complementary natures collide.

They celebrate mystery — the deep interest and curiosity a man holds for a woman and a woman for a man.

They celebrate hopefulness — they focus on the future, on the hopes that one day a special person will enter your life and sweep you off your feet, a person you will love forever.

The simple, intense lyrics of his song "Sway" sum up this longing well:

Other dancers may be on the floor

Dear, but my eyes will see only you

Only you have the magic technique

When we sway I go weak

I know Dino had his peccadilloes in his personal life, but his music remains untainted. With every passing year, as coarseness seeps

See PURCELL, Page 5

## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Feb. 9, the 40th day of 2007. There are 325 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 9, 1943, the World War II battle of Guadalcanal in the southwest Pacific ended with an Allied victory over Japanese forces.

On this date:

In 1773, the ninth president of the United States, William Henry Harrison, was born in Charles City County, Va.

In 1825, the House of Representatives elected John Quincy Adams president after no candidate received a majority of electoral votes.

In 1861, Jefferson Davis was elected the provisional president of the Confederate States of America.

In 1870, the U.S. Weather Bureau was established.

In 1942, daylight-saving "War Time" went into effect in the United States, with clocks turned one

*'If your neighbor is an early riser, you will become one.'*

— Albanian proverb

hour forward.

In 1950, in a speech in Wheeling, W. Va., Sen. Joseph McCarthy, R-Wis., charged that the State Department was riddled with Communists.

In 1964, The Beatles made their first live American television appearance on "The Ed Sullivan Show" on CBS.

In 1971, the crew of Apollo 14 returned to Earth after man's third landing on the moon.

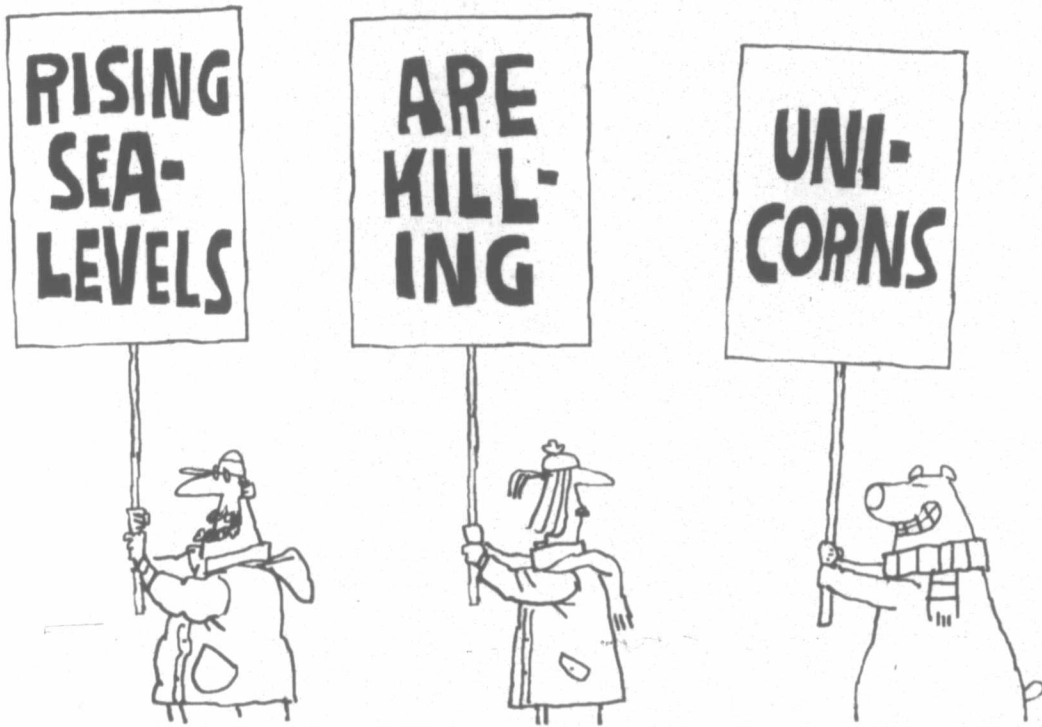
In 1984, Soviet leader Yuri V. Andropov died at age 69, less than 15 months after succeeding Leonid Brezhnev; he was succeeded by Konstantin U. Chernenko.

In 2001, a U.S. Navy submarine collided with a Japanese fishing boat off the Hawaiian coast, killing nine men and boys aboard the boat.

Ten years ago: Best Products closed the last of its stores, a victim of the diminishing allure of the catalog showroom concept of retailing. The East beat the West in the NBA All-Star game, 132-120.

Five years ago: Britain's Princess Margaret, the high-spirited and unconventional sister of Queen Elizabeth II, died in London at age 71. At the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Jochem Uytendaele of the Netherlands won the gold medal in the men's 5,000-meter speedskating race in world record time of 6:14.66. Oakland's Rich Gannon led the AFC to a 38-30 victory over the NFC in the Pro Bowl.

One year ago: President Bush defended U.S. surveillance efforts, saying spy work helped thwart terrorists plotting to use shoe bombs to hijack an airliner and crash it into the tallest skyscraper on the West Coast.



## No policy can be reduced to three words

It was funny watching the TV chatter-people waste three days speculating about what the president would say in his State of the Union speech. Speculation is always pointless, but in this instance what the president said was predictable.

No president in my lifetime has been more of an unoriginal thinker than George W. Bush. He latches on to miscellaneous thoughts and phrases supplied by his speechwriters and repeats them at every opportunity.

His "new" policy or approach to Iraq is the same old "stay the course." As the Republican snipers say, "cut and run" may not be a policy, but neither is "stay the course." No policy can be reduced to three words.

The original intent of the Constitution was for the president to present a report on the actual situation in the various states. It has become, since the advent of television, just another cam-

paign show, much like the political conventions. It's just as well. George Bush has no idea what's going on in the various states of the union. I suspect he has not had a serious conversation with an ordinary American during his entire time in office.

The point in mentioning the chatter-people is that they are obsessed with words. Words, especially out of the mouths of politicians and most TV personalities, are worthless. (The exception, and the only place you will hear intelligent conversation, is on Charlie Rose Show.) What moves the world are deeds, not words. And journalists in particular should be primarily concerned with deeds. Alas, most of them prefer words, as they are easier to report

and comment on than deeds.

I can almost guarantee that no Washington journalist will bother to follow up and see if the federal government does, in fact, trade in its gas guzzlers for energy-

efficient cars. The journalists prefer to glean a few sound bites rather than report the substance of legislation. The only way you can tell what a legislature is really doing is to read the text of the bills it passes. Often the text bears no relationship to the title of the bill.

Journalism has become an inseparable part of the political process, and our political process is, frankly, broken. The only hope for a country like ours is for the political process to produce leaders who can solve problems. Our's has lately pro-

duced leaders who create problems.

Robert Rubin, the secretary of the Treasury during the Clinton administration, is a pretty smart guy. He's quite worried that the serious problems facing us — a flawed foreign policy, record trade deficits, the federal deficit, the weakening dollar, the growing gap between the wealthy and the ordinary folks, and the coming avalanche of entitlements resulting from baby boomers becoming senior citizens — all require such tough decisions that today's political system just can't handle them.

Politicians are so conditioned to wanting to please everybody, it will be difficult to find one willing to face the American people and say, "Look, we're in a dangerous situation, and the way out is going to be painful for all of us." I'm not sure the American people, See REESE, Page 5



**Charley Reese**  
Columnist

## Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ Jan. 25

The Odessa American on the State of the Union:

You could tell that this was a president for the first time facing a Congress controlled by the opposition party, and not coming from a position of strength.

President Bush was sober, almost somber at times, and his proposals at least gave the appearance of being calculated to appeal to more than a few Democrats.

He was gracious to the new speaker, Nancy Pelosi. It was a speech for the realities of the day.

Social conservatives weren't even thrown any bones, let alone red meat. There was no talk of a culture of life, of the need for a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage, of faith-

based armies of compassion. This president was out to convince Democrats and moderates that he is still relevant, that he's willing to work together, that governance is for both parties.

It probably won't make much difference. As outwardly polite as the Democrats were on this largely ceremonial occasion, they are unlikely to give this president anything he would be able to define as a victory during the coming legislative session.

One exception might be energy, the topic on which the president has most conspicuously fallen in step with Democrats. He plans to quintuple current mandates for "alternative fuel" over 10 years, and that means fat subsidies for heartland farmers and ethanol manufacturers. The fact that it takes more energy to produce ethanol than the ethanol can subsequently generate that subsidizing ethanol is subsidizing a net loss of energy at higher prices

seems lost on the political class. It makes corn farmers happy, it gives greens the illusion of doing something, and oil companies are starting to see it as a gravy train and jump on board.

Its potential for success, as oil analyst Daniel Yergin wrote this week, has boundaries, including the slow rate at which gasoline-fueled cars leave the nations fleet, as well as the impending tension between corn for fuel and corn for food.

Unfortunately, the taxpayers lose.

When we saw the summaries of his other proposals early in the day, we thought perhaps President Bush, aware he was unlikely to get much done legislatively, was aiming for a legacy with bold domestic proposals with the capacity to change the terms of debate, if not during his term then soon afterward. Except for a passing mention of the need to fix Medicare, Medicaid and See UNION, Page 5

## THE PAMPA NEWS

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Fax: 806-669-2520

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## Patron of the Year



COURTESY PHOTO  
Janice Sackett, president of Pampa Fine Arts Association, presented Ruth Barrett with the 2007 "Patron of the Year Award" during the association's annual meeting recently.

## Travis celebration



COURTESY PHOTO  
Travis Elementary School recently held its "weekly celebration" to honor outstanding students. Above: (back row, from left) Keegan Bright, Brandon Stokes, Tyler Hamel, Anna Rossiter, Jose Rossiter, Anthony Basden, Tristen Miller Watson, Michaela Blalock; (front row, from left) Reese Parker, Kyle Patrick, Brent Salazar, Jordan Archibald, Tara Goldsmith, Skyler Anderson and Savannah Davis.

## Purcell

Continued from Page 4

into our culture a little more, his songs hold more power over me.

We need to get back to the spirit of his music — the spirit of romance. I can't think of a better day to do so than Valentine's Day.

All we have to do is observe older couples who fell in love years ago, when Dino was still king of the charts. I marveled at the elo-

quence of such couples at the Dean Martin Festival last summer.

As the Dean Martin impersonator began to sing — a fellow so convincing you'd think the old crooner was there in the flesh — they sauntered to the front of the stage, holding hands. They began to sway with a sweetness and easiness that couples knew long ago.

When there was romance.

—Tom Purcell is a humor columnist nationally syndicated exclusively by Cagle Cartoons.

## Reese

Continued from Page 4

conditioned to being catered to, would accept such a leader.

Certainly they will never be attracted to such a leader as long as the Washington press corps acts like Hollywood reporters

and treats politicians as if they were celebrities. Nor will they realize the seriousness of the problems as long as journalists mistake the stock market for the national economy and pass on government handouts as news.

In the meantime, pay no attention to what politicians say; watch what they do.

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

## Union

Continued from Page 4

Social Security before they implode, however, he proposed mostly modest ideas of limited scope.

Changing the tax treatment of health insurance is the most interesting. The idea of offering an individual tax exemption for the purchase of health insurance rather than a tax benefit only to employers is intriguing. It offers the possibility of making people act more like consumers in an increasingly competitive marketplace rather than like dependents who expect somebody else to handle their problems.

The idea brings the free market into the debate, but it seems unlikely to pass in the face of Democratic opposition.

The president's budget reforms are worthy but minor and unremarkable. Spinning the disastrous No Child Left Behind act as a success worthy of reauthorization shows a remarkably insular view.

It will be fascinating to see whether the Democrats will cooperate with President Bush to pass a "comprehensive" immigra-

tion reform they are more likely to support than are most Republicans.

His remarks on Iraq restated much of his Jan. 10 address, but we noted that he raised the concept of a "civilian corps" to support the military a notion that sounds troubling, but needs

more explanation.

State of the Union messages are often exercises in make-believe, pretending there are political solutions that can emanate from Washington to solve all ills and make us happy. The president's message was firmly in that tradition.

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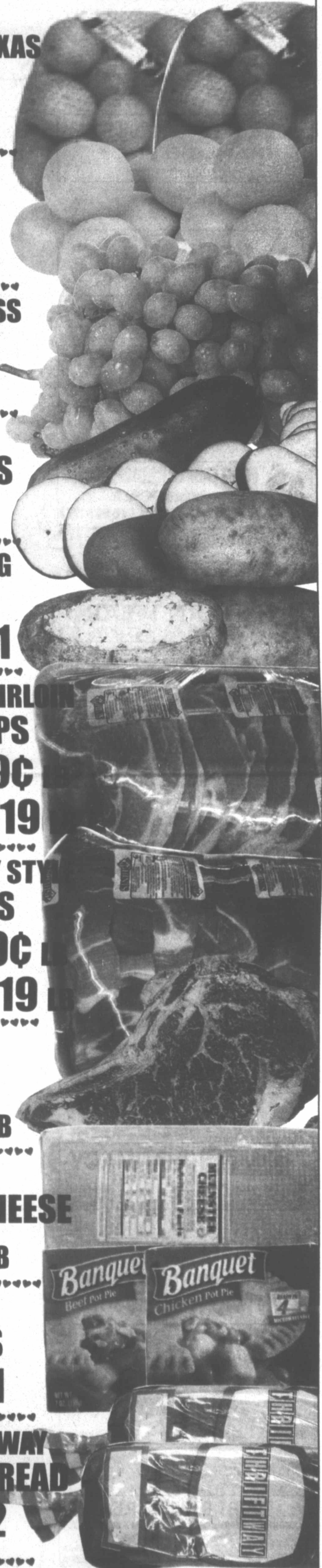
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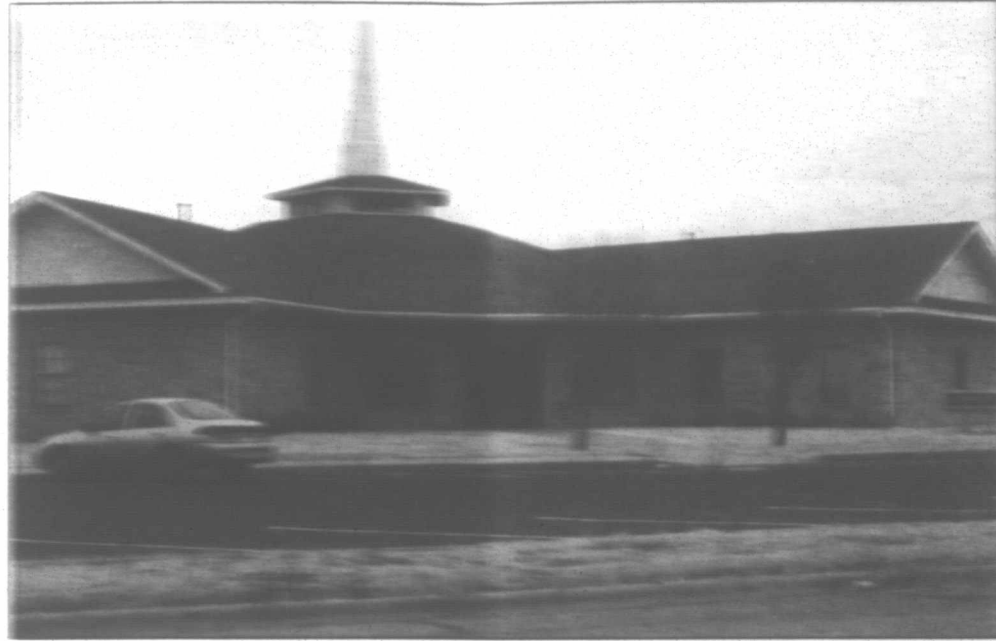
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## New Life Assembly of God

**Church name:** New Life Assembly of God, 1435 N. Sumner, P.O. Box 2555, 665-0804.

**Minister:** Senior Pastor Ben Ceyanes.

**Services:** Sunday — 10 a.m. Morning Worship, 6:30 p.m. Sunday School and Youth Group, Wednesday — 7 p.m. Bible Study.

**Activities:** Men's Ministries Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. the second Saturday of each month.

**Members:** 35.

**Denomination:** Assemblies of God.

**How long here:** Since 1987.

**Goals:** Building a prayer walk.

**Other activities:** Helping Harvest House during Thanksgiving.

**Main goal:** Accepting people into the family of God.

**Church message:** Taking ordinary people, just as they are and accepting them into our family. Letting them meet, touch and know Jesus Christ (the Head of our family) as they learn and fulfill His plan for their lives.

**Responsible parties:** Pastor Ben Ceyanes.

**Information:** Jesus loves you, we love you, and God has a special plan for your life.

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# Religion

## Kirkin' of the Tartan in offing Sunday at First Presbyterian

This coming Sunday First Presbyterian Church of Pampa will continue the "Kirkin' of the Tartan" celebration first observed in 2000.

According to a press release from First Presbyterian, Kirkin' of the Tartan was begun in the United States in 1941 with the Scottish minister Peter Marshall, then pastor at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C. He later became the chaplain of the United States Senate, and his story was told in the book "A Man Called Peter," written after his death by his wife Catherine Marshall.

The beginnings of this celebration may have been after 1745, when the last attempt



Photo by DORIS GOAD

Scottish tartan banners hang from the beams in the sanctuary of Pampa's First Presbyterian Church.

of the Scots to rid themselves of English rule met a crushing defeat. The English then banned the wearing of the tartan, that colorful woolen design (mis-named plaid in the United States), which was distinctive to each clan.

Also banned was the playing of the bagpipes. To defy this ban, the canny Scots carried scraps of their clan tartans in their pockets to church (kirk), where, during the benediction, they would clasp their hands around those scraps to receive the blessing.

First Presbyterian, 525 N. Gray, will honor its Scottish heritage this Sunday at the 10:45 a.m. worship service. Banners of clan tartans of members will hang above the congregation, and more banners will be processed in and placed in front of the people.

Scottish hymns by the congregation and Scottish anthems by the choir will be included in worship, and bagpiper John Brewer of Amarillo will play during the service.

The Rev. Mrs. Robin Gantz will be guest preacher.

A luncheon will be served following the worship service. Everyone is welcome to attend. Brewer has offered to

play quiet music on his small bagpipe to entertain diners.

### "God Be With You Till We Meet Again"

The writer of this hymn, Jeremiah Rankin, pastored several prominent Congregational churches throughout the eastern United States until 1889, when he became president of Howard University, the great African-American college in Washington, DC. No other hymn except perhaps "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" has been as widely used as this one as a closing benediction in church services. Rankin wrote it, he said, when he discovered that the term "good-bye" meant "God be with you."

Ref: Kenneth Osbeck

This hymn history brought to you by



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## River of Life readying for festival

SKELLYTOWN — River of Life Assembly of God church in Skellytown is preparing for a "Winter World Festival" Feb. 11-16 with the Revs. Joseph Castillo and Nancy James.



Castillo



James

A press release from the church describes Castillo as: "An orphan delivered from drugs, street violence, and one of America's most notorious street gangs, the City of Chicago sent him from institutions to jails, until he ended up in a drug rehabilitation ... Twenty-seven-year-old Joseph now tells about the power of Jesus Christ to transform lives to millions in worldwide ministry through radio, conferences, crusades, and television

including Fox News."

James is the survivor of a disaster at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Kansas City, Mo., that occurred on July 17, 1981. The release said James was working a "tea dance" at the hotel when a portion of the building collapsed.

James said she heard from God during the ordeal, telling her she still had work to do. James will be at the festival to tell her tale of survival and redemption.

Services are scheduled from 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Feb. 11 and 7 p.m. Feb. 12-16. A children's ministry will be provided each service. For more information, call (806) 848-2939.

## University yanks prof's Web page

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Brigham Young University officials have yanked an assistant dean's addition to the official school Web site that sought to explain polygamy in the Mormon church.

Jim Engebretsen's Web page — polygamy.byu.edu — came down Monday shortly after it was posted when officials said it violated university policy.

Engebretsen did not have approval to post the "personal project" on the school site, said BYU spokeswoman Carrie Jenkins.

Engebretsen directs the master's degree of business administration program and serves as an assistant dean for corporate relations and career placement at BYU's Marriott School of Management.

BYU is owned by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which denounced the practice of polygamy in 1890. The church provides historical information about polygamy, or plural marriage, on its Web site.

Engebretsen's site was considered more candid about polygamy than the church's site, according to The Salt Lake Tribune.

Engebretsen's site posed questions including "Did Joseph Smith marry young girls?" and "Did Joseph Smith lie about practicing polygamy?" with answers drawn from or linked to scholarly works at other Web sites.

### Brief

Rushing Wind Emmaus will meet Saturday at Waka Christian Center. A potluck meal will be served at 6 p.m. followed by a training for sponsors and a praise and worship service. A nursery will be provided. Everyone is invited to attend. Additional information may be found at the website rushingwindemmaus.org.

### SWEET SOUNDS

## Calvary Baptist to host 'Singing Men Choir'

Calvary Baptist Church of Pampa will be the site of a gospel music concert featuring "The Panhandle Singing Men Choir." The event is set for 7 p.m. Feb. 22 at the church.

The program will include the following selections "I'm Feeling Fine," "I Have Seen the Light," "Rejoice and Sing Out His Praises," "Just a Little Talk with Jesus," "Days of Elijah," "Jesus is Coming Soon," "Blessed be Your Name," "I Must Tell Jesus," "Midnight Cry," "Jesus Paid it All," "Ride the Chariot," "Worthy is the Lamb," "Wherever He Leads I'll Go" and more.

The Panhandle Singing Men Choir primarily consists of ministers of music and music directors from churches throughout the Panhandle. Other church staffers and retired ministers round out its membership.

The choir usually performs one concert a month at a church in the region or at area prisons, retirement centers and Baptist events.

The choir was formed 12 years ago and is the newest of six satellite choirs of The Singing Men of Texas. Sponsored by Baptist General Convention of Texas, the Singing Men of Texas started in 1975 and recently observed its 25th anniversary.

The concert is free and open to the public. Each member pays his own expenses to and from each concert, so a goodwill offering will be collected.

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# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** My nephew, "Vincent," is 16 and has had problems with obsessive handwashing for years. I have enough professional experience to strongly suspect that he suffers from obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). My brother and his wife refuse to believe their child has a problem and will not take him to get help. My nephew's hands are chafed and raw, and his parents reprimand him for this behavior when he really needs professional help. His mother is the biggest problem. She nixes all issues that suggest a problem, and my brother will not stand up to her. What can I do? — **WORRIED AUNT IN FLORIDA**

**DEAR WORRIED AUNT:** Your sister-in-law may not want her son "labeled," but ignoring the problem will not resolve it. And reprimanding the young man for something he can't help is cruel. Your nephew is old enough to discuss the problem with intelligently. Start out by asking him if he thinks he has a problem, and whether he would like to get help for it. After all, at his age he must be self-conscious about his chafed skin. If he's agreeable, suggest he talk to someone at school about it -- preferably the student health officer or a trusted teacher. If that's not possible, and there is a free clinic in your area, offer to take him there.

**DEAR ABBY:** I am engaged to a man I love deeply. I met "Eric" when I was 14 and he was 42. When I turned 18, we got together. I have never been happier, except for one thing. He has had other sexual relationships in the past, while I haven't. Once we became engaged, he offered to let me go out and have a one-night stand. He said he suggested it because he loves me, and he wants me to have a shot at the experi-

ence I am missing out on. Abby, I love Eric and only want to be with him! His suggesting it has made me wonder if he's looking for a way out by getting me to find someone new. Any suggestions on how to handle this? — **INEXPERIENCED AND LOVING IT IN SEATTLE**

**DEAR INEXPERIENCED AND LOVING IT:** You may be young, but you are perceptive. Men who love women usually want an exclusive relationship. Unless you are contemplating an "open" marriage to this man, my advice is to dump him. You and he have very different values.

**DEAR ABBY:** I don't have a question, but perhaps you'd like to give your readers a smile. My late Aunt Isabel's wit was legendary in our family. We come from a small town in Connecticut where many roads are so narrow that if a car should stall, the car behind it would be unable to pass. This is what happened to my aunt one day. While she was trying to restart the engine, the driver in the car behind her began blowing his horn repeatedly. Aunt Isabel set the parking brake, got out of her car and walked over to the driver's window. When he rolled it down, she smiled warmly and said, "I can't seem to get my car started. Would you be kind enough to start it for me? And I'll stay here and blow your horn for you." — **JOE P., MIAMI**

**DEAR JOE P.:** Thank you for the smile, but when I read what your Aunt Isabel did, my smile turned wistful. Gone are the days. Someone who tried that today would risk a physical altercation or worse.

## For Better Or For Worse



## Zits



## Garfield



## Beetle Bailey



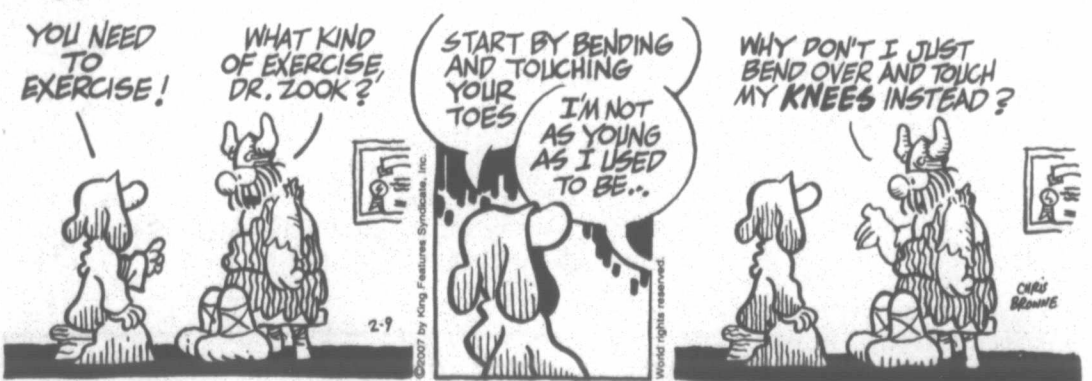
## Marvin



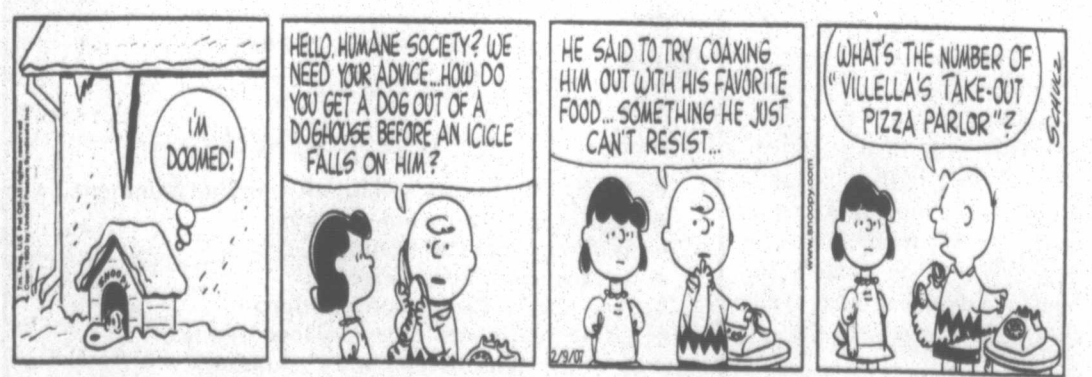
## B.C.



## Haggar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie



## Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

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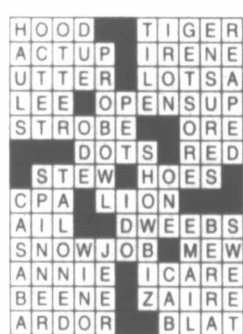
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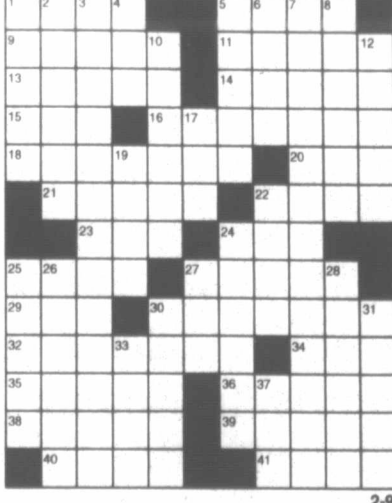
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### Yesterday's answer

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- 26 Best
- 27 man's
- 28 wear
- 29 Pinochle
- 30 scores
- 31 Fix
- 32 seam
- 33 Beef cut
- 34 Driving
- 35 bird

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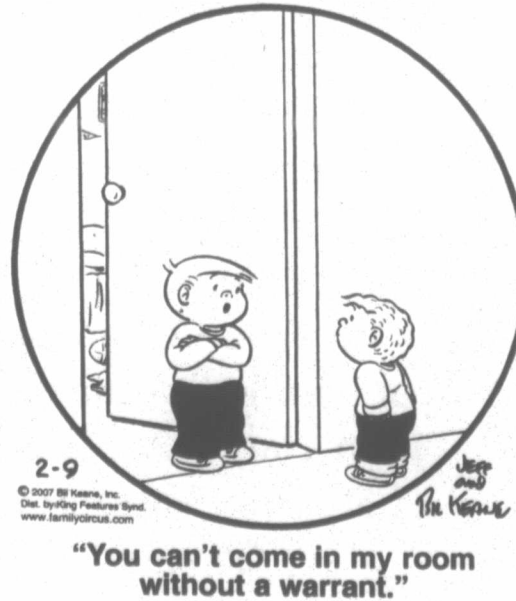


## Marmaduke



## The Family Circus

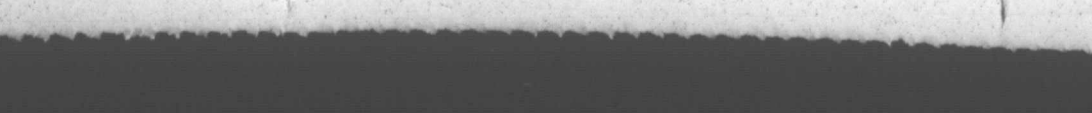
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



## Flo & Friends



## Blondie



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# Sports Day

## Lady Harvesters seek playoff berth



Britteni Rice sinks the free throws that won the game for Pampa 2 weeks ago against Caprock.

By JORDAN REAGAN  
Sports Editor

The Pampa Harvesters will play here at 7:30 tonight against the Dumas Demons.

Last time they played Dumas, the Harvesters walked away with a 68-54 victory, and they hope to do the same tonight.

The Lady Harvesters will face Caprock tonight in a high-stakes playoff for the third seed in the district 3-4A playoff race.

Both teams, tied at 5-5 for district, will meet at Clarendon High tonight at 6 to decide who will go to the playoffs.

The first time they played this season, Caprock had a home victory over the Lady Harvesters that was later reciprocated with a Pampa victory 2 weeks ago.

Caprock's motivation in this game will be to receive their first playoff berth since 1989, but the Lady Harvesters plan to keep them from it for at least one more year.

The question is whether or not the Lady Harvesters can keep the momentum needed in order to defeat them again.

"[During the] last game I felt we lost the edge we had coming out after halftime," Coach Troy Fry said. "We will need to get the momentum early in the game and sustain it throughout."

## A return of the notorious weather, and Mickelson

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Traditional headgear gave way to wool caps pulled over their ears. The cold wind was so fierce that it toppled a tree on the 17th hole at Spyglass Hill and bent flags sideways at Pebble Beach.

The opening round brought back memories of the notorious weather at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

It also might have marked the return of Phil Mickelson.

Lefty has been nowhere near the top of a leaderboard since he was one shot ahead with one hole to play at the U.S. Open last summer. He bungled his way to a double bogey at Winged Foot, finished his season in September by going 0-4-1 at the Ryder Cup, and didn't exactly set golf afire in his first three tournaments of 2007.

But he always saw progress. And on Thursday, he finally saw some results.

Mickelson ran off five birdies in six-hole stretch at Poppy Hills, then finished his round of 7-under 65 with a 4-iron from 230 yards into 18 feet for eagle on the ninth hole to tie for the lead with

Nick Watney and 27-year-old rookie John Mallinger.

"I'm off to a good start," he said.

Mallinger had the best start of all, and not only because of three birdies measuring a combined 100 feet to start his round. When the wind is blowing this hard, Pebble Beach is the worst place to be. With half of the holes exposed to the Pacific Ocean, nothing in the way to stop the wind, it produced the highest scoring average of the three courses at nearly 75.

Mallinger, however, started in the cool calm of the morning, and on the 10th hole. He didn't feel much wind until he had only five holes remaining in his round, and he made it through the tough eighth and ninth holes with pars for his 65.

"I got 14 holes with good weather," Mallinger said. "Those are where you make your birdies, so when you've got good weather, you've got an advantage."

He should clarify "good" in this case, because sunshine has graced this picturesque peninsula the last six years. It was good for 14 holes because the flags

weren't bending sideways, the clouds had not released the rain and it didn't feel like winter.

"It was beneficial," he said.

Watney was over at Poppy Hills, the course with five par 5s and the only course Thursday that played under par (71.73). His only challenge was living up to the expectations of his amateur partner, Jerry Chang, who hasn't been to this tournament since 2002 when he played with his best friend from Stanford — a guy named Tiger Woods.

"My friends told me I had no chance to make an impression," Watney said. "But Jerry told me he upgraded his pro."

Watney played the part, his only blemish a 2 1/2-foot par putt that took a hop and stayed out of the hole.

Over at Spyglass, Jim Furyk played his best golf in the worst conditions. His 2-under start was wiped out by a double bogey from two bunkers on the sixth hole, and he was even when the trees began to shake. Then he made five birdies on the back nine.

## Floyd Landis agrees not to ride again in France this year

PARIS (AP) — Floyd Landis will skip the Tour de France — and all races in France this year — as part of an agreement with French doping authorities in a case that could strip him of cycling's most prestigious title.

Last year's Tour champion had hip-replacement surgery 4 1/2 months ago and was unlikely to have competed in this year's Tour. He agreed Thursday not to race again in France until 2008, and in return the French anti-doping agency postponed its decision on whether to suspend him from competing in France for a maximum of two years because of a positive doping test.

"Floyd is pleased that the AFLD has agreed with his counsel's request that they suspend this proceeding," spokesman Michael Henson said.

Earlier, AFLD president Pierre Bordry said Landis "understood perfectly that if he didn't act today, we

would start the procedure immediately."

Landis will go before the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency on May 14 and, following that, the AFLD will deliver its verdict in June.

"We will let Landis defend

*"We are absolutely not tied to the USADA's decision as France has ratified the world code, not the United States."*

— Pierre Bordry  
AFLD president

himself as he wishes," Bordry said.

The American, who has denied wrongdoing, did not appear at Thursday's meeting of the AFLD's nine-member panel, but sent a lawyer who read his request for a delay.

In the letter, a copy of

which was obtained by The Associated Press, Landis said the parallel cases in France and the United States were complicating matters. He asked the French agency to hold off until after the U.S. agency rules. The USADA will hold its hearings May 14.

"In this case, and in order to avoid any misunderstanding, I agree to voluntarily not participate in any professional or amateur cycling event in France until December 31, 2007, and in particular the Tour de France 2007," Landis said in the letter.

Bordry said Landis deserves to be heard by the USADA. However, Bordry echoed Tour de France president Christian Prudhomme's sentiment that the American agency was dragging out its process.

Landis spokesman Michael Henson said Landis was happy with the AFLD's decision.

"Floyd is pleased that the AFLD has agreed with his

counsel's request that they suspend this proceeding until the (USADA) hearing is held in May," Henson said by telephone.

Landis' urine sample after a 17th-stage win in last year's Tour de France was found to contain elevated testosterone to epitestosterone levels. He risks being the first rider in the 104-year history of the race to be stripped of his title. Prudhomme has said the Tour no longer considers him the winner.

Landis argues that the Chatenay-Malabry laboratory which carried out the tests is unreliable, a view shared by seven-time Tour champion Lance Armstrong.

Landis insisted again on his innocence at a fundraising rally in New York on Wednesday night. He vowed to fight the "lack of leadership at the top of cycling and at the top of the anti-doping agencies."

Bordry said Landis has the right to contest the French

lab, but maintains the "A" and "B" samples both showed positive readings.

"The 'A' sample tested positive for testosterone. So we asked Mr. Landis, at the time, if he wanted to do a 'B' sample test," Bordry said. "A 'B'-sample test was done at Chatenay-Malabry in the presence of an expert nominated by Mr. Landis, (and) paid by him."

Also present, Bordry said, were "an expert nominated by the USADA, and an expert nominated by the International Cycling Union."

He said all "these experts signed the report" agreeing that the tests showed a positive reading.

Had disciplinary procedures started Thursday, Landis strongly risked a two-year suspension in accordance with French law applying WADA's maximum penalty for a first-time failed doping test.

France is one of 47 countries which has ratified the

WADA code, which effectively gives the anti-doping agency government backing to apply its code sanctions.

The United States has yet to ratify WADA's code.

This could lead to a peculiar situation whereby, even if the USADA rules in Landis's favor, the AFLD can still prevent him from racing in France.

"We are absolutely not tied to the USADA's decision as France has ratified the world code, not the United States," Bordry said.

However, the AFLD does not have any power over any other governments and, should Landis be cleared, the UCI would then review the case and may allow him to compete in major races outside of France such as the Giro d'Italia and the Spanish Vuelta.

Associated Press writer Jean-Luc Courthial and AP Sports writer Barry Wilner in New York contributed to this report.

## New coach Phillips quickly sets himself apart from Parcels

IRVING, Texas (AP) — With two words, Wade Phillips showed how different he is from predecessor Bill Parcels.

"Terrell Owens," Phillips said, smiling wide. "I did say his name. Terrell Owens."

Parcels nearly always referred to Owens as "the player" this past season, their first and last together with the Dallas Cowboys. Whether Phillips noted his full use of T.O.'s name to make a point or just to be funny doesn't really matter — either way, the line symbolized the new tone surrounding this club.

Phillips became the seventh coach in franchise history Thursday, 17 days after Parcels called it a career.

In many ways, the two coaches are alike. Both have gray hair, could stand to lose a few pounds and are among the foremost authorities on NFL defenses, especially the

3-4. And both can crack up a room — though not in the same way.

Parcels amused with biting wit and sarcasm. Phillips is more self-deprecating and folksy. At his introductory news conference, he managed to do both.

Phillips, 59, spent the last three years as the defensive coordinator of the San Diego Chargers, the latest stop in an NFL journey that began in 1976 as the linebackers coach for his dad, coach Bum Phillips.

Since 1981, Wade Phillips has been a head coach or a coordinator for all but one year. He's been a head coach four times, although twice on an interim basis.

Phillips is 45-35 over his five full seasons — three in Buffalo and two in Denver — and made the playoffs three times. However, he's yet to win a playoff game, with his last loss coming in

the "Music City Miracle," when Tennessee used a trick kick return for the winning touchdown in the closing seconds against the Bills in January 2000.

Dallas is headed into the 11th season since its last playoff win, the longest gap in the team's proud history.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said he expects Phillips to bring immediate improvement, noting that the last six times Phillips changed jobs, his new team always made the playoffs in his first year.

Phillips, who was born in Orange, Texas, and played college ball at Houston, added that all six had losing records the previous year. At his last stop, San Diego immediately went from 4-12 to 12-4, leading to another bit of Phillips humor.

"Drew Brees made the statement I was the big difference," Phillips said. "I called him back this year

and told him, 'I think you're the big difference in New Orleans.' But it takes everybody, the coaches and the players."

Phillips doesn't have a rebuilding job this time. He inherits a team that went 9-7 and made the playoffs. The Cowboys' problem was an 8-3 start was followed by a 1-4 finish, with three straight losses at the end. Dallas had a similar collapse the previous December that prevented it from making the playoffs.

"According to Jerry, we're not very far" from being a Super Bowl contender, Phillips said, smiling at his new boss. "Somebody told me once to under-promise and over-achieve. ... I know they have some outstanding people."

Phillips was no easy pick for Jones, who was able to take his time because no other teams were looking for coaches. (Of course, because

Parcels waited until Jan. 22 to retire, five other teams already had hired new coaches.)

Jones talked to three people inside the organization and seven outsiders. Phillips was the first one, then became the only guy called back for a second interview. That call came Wednesday night, with Jones insisting he didn't actually decide to strike a deal until Thursday afternoon.

A few hours later, Jones became emotional twice during the news conference introducing Phillips, who received a three-year contract with an option for a fourth.

"We needed to get it right," Jones said, pausing as tears welled up in his eyes. "In my mind, we got it right."

There was no immediate announcement of the rest of his staff, but Phillips and Jones both said that their

top priority.

Jones made it clear that Jason Garrett, who was hired away from Miami during the interview process, will have a strong role on offense, as will Tony Sparano, the assistant head coach under Parcels. Jones acknowledged that Todd Bowles is being considered to make the leap from secondary coach to defensive coordinator.

While Phillips joins Parcels as the only coaches to take over the Cowboys with NFL head coaching experience, he also has a strong kinship with the first two coaches in team history, Tom Landry and Jimmy Johnson — fellow Texans with a strong defensive background.

"It's great to have these cowboy boots back in Texas," said Phillips, showing off his footwear. "It's a big job, but I'm ready for it."

# Cowboys' Ware excited to have Phillips as new head coach

KAPOLEI, Hawaii (AP) — DeMarcus Ware had an extra spring in his step during the NFL's Pro Bowl practice on Thursday.

He had just found out Wade Phillips will be his next coach with the Dallas Cowboys — which might mean Ware will be the NFL's next Shawne Merriman.

Meanwhile, Frank Gore was just as excited to hear Norv Turner won't be leaving him for Dallas after all.

The Dallas linebacker and the San Francisco running

back both got what they wanted out of the Cowboys' coaching search, which ended with Phillips' hiring back in Texas.

Ware already is well on his way to stardom, making his first Pro Bowl appearance in just his second NFL season — but Phillips has a knack for making good linebackers better.

"He can utilize me any way he wants," said Ware, who had 11 1/2 sacks last season. "I'm ready to learn and to expand my horizons,

do different things. I'm ready for anything he wants. ... I've already talked to Merriman about him, and he got me all excited about playing for him."

While Ware gets the chance to play for the defensive guru who helped turn Merriman into perhaps the NFL's most feared linebacker in his sophisticated scheme, Gore will get a second chance to learn under Turner, the veteran coordinator who brought respectability to the 49ers' once-awful

offense last season.

Turner, who has two Super Bowl rings from his time as the Cowboys' offensive coordinator, was thought to be the front-runner for the Dallas job for most of the past 10 days. The former Washington and Oakland coach was beaten out by Phillips — and Gore will welcome him back to Santa Clara for another year.

"I'm happy, real happy, especially with the young team we have," Gore said. "All that progress we made

toward the end of the year, that's just going to continue. We can just keep playing off of it. We can keep growing, working hard in the offseason, and next year is going to be crazy, just crazy."

Gore set a franchise record while leading the NFC with 1,695 yards rushing. He also set the club record with 2,180 total yards from scrimmage and broke the single-game rushing record with 212 yards against Seattle.

The 49ers had the NFL's

worst offense in 2005 under offensive coordinator Mike McCarthy, who left to become the Green Bay Packers' head coach. Turner's departure would have been yet another hurdle for Gore, quarterback Alex Smith and an offensive line that includes former Cowboy Larry Allen, an 11-time Pro Bowl pick.

"If (Turner) had left, this was going to be our third coordinator, and that's tough," Gore said. "That's tough on a young team."

# Beckham is ready to take on America, but can he win over the Texas Panhandle?

While baseball is still referred to as "America's Favorite Pastime," football has been giving it a run for its money over the past few decades.

The NFL not only has the death grip on the highest rated television event every year, but seems to grow in popularity every year, whether it's from the dominating reign of Tom Brady and the Patriots or the triumphant rise of the underdog bench warmers into Pro Bowl fame.

Not even the shame of a wardrobe malfunction during the Super Bowl half-time show can compare to the shame that MLB has brought upon itself in recent years.

It was sports icons like Babe Ruth and Mickey Mantle that made baseball the great sport that it is today, but modern stars have made not only their own teams, but the league in its entirety look more like a den of snakes than the U.S. Senate itself.

I'm not saying that MLB has gone down the tubes, but the reputations of the ath-

letes that serve as role models for children across the country have.

As a kid almost 9 years ago, I looked up to Mark McGwire during his season of breaking the home run record, and now he's turned out to be nothing but a suspected steroid abuser.

**Jordan Reagan**  
Sports Editor

Futbol, or soccer as we call it here in the states, has taken the world by storm - except of course, America.

Soccer is familiar game to most mini-van driving, middle aged women and many high schools across the country, but the sport still has a poor



following in America, especially compared to that of the rest of the world.

Major League Soccer is hoping to change that in the near future, starting with a nearly unfathomable \$250 million five-year contract with legend David Beckham, a move comparable to drafting Pele to the Cosmos back in 1975.

Beckham will be joining the Los Angeles Galaxy in August under a 'strategic investment' in order to get the sport some much-needed recognition in the states.

On The Tonight Show last month, Jay Leno, talking about Beckham's contract

with the Galaxy, said, "The most shocking thing about David Beckham signing a contract with the L.A. Galaxy is that L.A. has a soccer team. Did anybody else not know that we had a soccer team here?"

The Los Angeles Galaxy is one of 13 American league teams, the closest of which is located in Dallas and Colorado.

MLS is anticipating that Beckham's good name and celebrity status will help to create a following in America of the world's favorite sport.

Currently a member of the team in Real Madrid, Beckham, with his wife Victoria, also known as "Posh" of the Spice Girls who dominated the pop music charts in the late '90s, was an easy choice in this 'strategic investment,' as he has led a successful career in Europe and has become indisputably the most recognized name in soccer today.

MLS commissioner Don Garber has stated, "David Beckham is a global sports icon who will transcend the

sport of soccer in America." Beckham is one of many recruits from around the world being brought in to build up the MLS in America, but will it be enough?

Are we ready to embrace another new 'favorite pastime,' or is American football enough for us to concentrate on for now?

Let's pretend for a moment that the MLS's plan actually works, and America picks up on the world-wide soccer craze.

What will that do for the Texas Panhandle?

In this part of the country, sports fans live, eat and breathe high school football, as they have for decades.

I have a slight feeling that even if David Beckham wins the hearts of American sports fanatics, that the Texas Panhandle will still be football country.

While there are very few things more exciting in this community than watching the Harvester Soccer team do what they do best, I think it will take more than an act of a soccer god to convert

die-hard football fans into futbol fans.

Of course, at the high school level, there are no schedule conflicts between football games, which take place in the fall, and soccer games, which take place in the spring, unlike at the professional level where the two sports' seasons overlap.

Although I'm hoping for the best with the MLS's gamble with Beckham, I expect that the game will reach a 'trend' status with the American population at best.

If and when Americans do get more into soccer and David Beckham, I have a feeling that when Beckham's time is up, so will be the MLS's time in the spotlight.

In the meantime, be sure and check out the Harvester soccer team, if you haven't already gotten the chance to do so.

Their next couple of games will be at Kimbrough Stadium, but both the boys and girls will play at home against Palo Duro on Feb. 17.

# Former Texas A&M coach Metcalf dies at 76

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Shelby Metcalf, who set a record for Southwest Conference victories in his 27 seasons as head coach at Texas A&M, died Thursday at age 76.

Metcalf, who became head coach in 1963 and left midway through the 1990 season, finished his career with an overall record of 438-306 and a 239-158 mark in Southwest Conference play.

In his inaugural season, at age 33, he led the Aggies to the first of six conference championships during his tenure.

"He was A&M basketball," said Texas A&M Associate Athletic Director John Thornton, who played and coached under Metcalf. "He was a very intelligent guy. It was beautiful to watch him disarm people and recruit people with his wit and humor. There was nobody like him."

Metcalf's teams achieved five NCAA tournament appearances, including a trip to the Sweet 16 in 1980 with a team that went 26-8.

"You knew it was always going to be a tough, physical game against the

Aggies," said Gerald Myers, Texas Tech athletic director and former coach. "I thought Shelby's teams were as tough to play as anybody, and we had some pretty good coaches in that league back then."

Metcalf's homespun humor was as well known as his competitiveness. His most popular quote was one that he claimed to have said to a player whose grade report showed four F's and a D.

"Son, it looks to me like you're spending too much time on one subject," Metcalf told the student.

"The sports writers loved Shelby because he always had a good line or something humorous to say about a game," Myers said.

Metcalf was an All-American guard at East Texas State, now Texas A&M-Commerce, where he helped lead the team to an NAIA national championship his senior year.

After graduating, Metcalf coached one year of high school basketball in Texas before joining the Air Force. He played and coached for service teams as an officer stationed in Germany.

# Sports still waiting for active gay player

By JIM LITKE  
AP Sports Columnist

A pro athlete who waits until his career is over to declare he's gay, the way John Amaechi just did in a new book, is yesterday's news.

He has something to sell, little to lose and does less to advance the cause he's fighting for — helping sports get over its homophobia — than he might have. There's no dishonor in that. It's what happens when you work within the system: you spark debate, maybe change some minds over the long haul and pick up a few bucks for baring your pain.

So no disrespect to John Amaechi.

But it's been done before. Homosexuality has been one of sports' little morality plays since the ancient Greeks made contests of running, jumping and boxing, then gossiped about them afterward. Long and loud as the discussion has been at times, nobody from any of the big team sports has gone on the record while still playing the game. Not much will change until he does.

But you better find a seat. Something tells me the final act of "Waiting for Gaydot," could start any minute.

"It's a shame all gay people can't turn green for just

one day, so everybody's jaw would drop, and then maybe we could move past a lot of this stuff," said Jim Buzinski, co-founder of Outsports.com. "Until then, we'll take another small step forward. It's always a positive, and I applaud John for what he did. In terms of encouraging others, everybody knows their own circumstances and deals with it."

"I think the fears are overblown," he added, "but until the first person comes out, we won't really know."

Even so, it's getting easier to make an educated guess. It's difficult to imagine too many owners balking at the idea of an openly gay athlete on their team, unlike Jackie Robinson breaking baseball's color barrier, back in the day. Most, in fact, would line up with their wallets out for the opportunity to market him.

Though his players weren't uniformly enthusiastic, commissioner David Stern said about Amaechi's book: "We have a very diverse league. The question at the NBA is always 'Have you got game?' That's it, end of inquiry."

A call to NFL headquarters produced a similar response. "Society is more

open and tolerant than it's ever been. I don't think anybody would care," spokesman Greg Aiello said, "other than how he was performing."

Last June, the NFL flew in former defensive lineman Esera Tuaolo — who like Amaechi came out after retiring — to speak to the incoming rookie class about sexual orientation. That was after Tuaolo talked to the league staff about the same topic in New York a few months earlier.

Considering how little the NFL likes being surprised, Aiello was asked whether he could imagine a football player coming out any time soon. "I'm sure it will happen someday," he said. "I don't see why not."

You could have come up with a thousand reasons why as recently as four years ago, when an online and print rumor campaign prompted Mike Piazza, who was playing for the Mets at the time, to deny he was gay.

Almost everybody still was fleeing the stigma attached, convinced it could spell the end of a career. Even former major leaguer Billy Bean — who, like Amaechi, waited until he retired to come out — was convinced it would take a player as special as Jackie

Robinson in every way to publicly acknowledge his homosexuality.

The bar is considerably lower now. There are more teammates, coaches, sponsors, lawyers, security guards and even fans willing to stand alongside him than Robinson dared dream of.

To be sure, as Amaechi's book will make clear, there's still some resistance at every level. A player as special as LeBron James said there's issues of trust to be resolved, and he still doubted an openly gay person could survive in the league.

"I don't think so," James said.

But he's in the minority. Thousands of ball players have worked, traveled, showered and dressed in the same locker room together for more than a century. Most understand now it's a numbers game, although something then-Phillies manager Larry Bowa said about numbers during the Piazza episode still applies.

"All I know," Bowa said, "is that if he hits .340, it probably would be easier than if he hits .220."

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at [jlitkeap.org](mailto:jlitkeap.org)

# Durant making case as best player in college hoops

By JIM VERTUNO  
AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Of all the crazy numbers surrounding Kevin Durant, here's the one that might be the most impressive: 18.

The 6-foot-9 Texas forward who plays like a man among boys is, well, still just a kid. Durant just turned 18 years old in September.

Durant is averaging 33 points and 14 rebounds in Big 12 play and has turned this season — which many expect to be his only one in college — into a playful tour de force of 3-pointers, rebounds, dunks and baby-

faceted smiles as he ribs through defenses.

He's been so good the argument isn't whether he's the best freshman in the country but the best player, period.

"Transcendent," ESPN college basketball analyst Fran Fraschilla says. "He's a once-every-decade type of talent. I would not have thought six weeks ago we'd be looking at a freshman as the national player of the year, but if he keeps up this pace, he'll be a near lock."

Yet as good as he is, from the bank shots launched along perfect angles to his

skills as a defensive rebounder, Durant is still learning how to play the game.

When he scored 28 points against Oklahoma, he drew a technical foul for some playful jawing with the Sooners' Bobby Maze, an old friend and summer basketball teammate back in Maryland.

"I said, 'Do you know that's a personal foul?'" Texas coach Rick Barnes said. "He said, 'No.' I said, 'Well, you learned something today.'"

Most expect Durant's time in burnt orange to be short. He likely would have gone

straight from high school to the NBA if the league hadn't enforced an age limit.

He'll still be 18 when the summer draft rolls around, but he'll be eligible after waiting a year after his high school class graduated. He won't say if he'll leave school for the NBA after this season, but neither does he promise to return.

"I don't have a timetable," Durant said. "That's all I tell anybody. After the season, we'll see how it goes."

Fraschilla said Durant's season in college should do him a lot of good financially. Instead of scoring 10 to 12

points a game on a bad NBA team, Durant has become one of the best-known names in the college game, which should translate into big money endorsements when he's ready to turn pro.

"This reminds me of Grant Hill. He became a brand name at Duke," Fraschilla said. "College basketball has marketed Kevin Durant much more than a rookie season with the Charlotte Bobcats ever would have. He's going to turn this into sneaker deals and the like and you can just see it happening right before our eyes."

Durant is an oddity in that he's an East Coaster who landed in Texas, a state known as a football hotbed but also fertile ground for top basketball players who often go elsewhere.

Being from Maryland, he shunned a chance to play for one of the powerhouse programs closer to home in the Big East or Atlantic Coast Conference. At Texas, football is king and basketball is something of a serf.

Durant said he had never watched a Texas game on television until the Longhorns started recruiting him.

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for Saturday, Feb. 10, 2007. This year you often might feel as if you are between a rock and hard place. Note that you might feel more negative or tested than in past years. Be aware of what isn't working; you might want to consider changing your course. Make adjustments if you want the next seven years to flow well. Your friends are in your camp and support you in fulfilling your desires. Once you let go or move away from what doesn't work, better things will come toward you. If you are single, though you meet

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