



Tomorrow's Weather

HIGH 70
LOW 41

See expanded weather on Page 2

BUY HERE • PAY HERE • NO CREDIT CHECK

Open 9 am - 6 pm Monday - Saturday • Hwy 60 • Hwy 70 • Pampa TX • 669-6062 • www.DougBoydMotors.com

DOUG BOYD MOTOR CO.

Pampa Boxing Club

Local tourney brings several wins. SEE PAGE 6

THE PAMP

S

*****ORIGIN MIXED ADC 798
0000471 12/31/2008
HERITAGE MICROFILM
4049 21ST AVE SW
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52404-6309

Grand jury hands up 14 indictments Friday

By KERRI SMITH
Staff Writer

A Gray County grand jury handed up 14 indictments Friday in 31st Judicial District Court, consisting of five third-degree felonies and nine second-degree felonies.

Randall Wayne Cox, 37, was indicted for possession of marijuana. Bond on the third-degree felony was set at \$20,000. On Jan. 11, 2006, Cox allegedly possessed 50 pounds or less but more than five pounds of marijuana.

Michael Lee McCoy, II, 33, was indicted for possession of marijuana. Bond on the third-degree felony was set at \$10,000. On May 15, 2006, McCoy allegedly possessed 50 pounds or less but more than five

pounds of marijuana. Jeffrey Darnell Norton, 35, was indicted for possession of marijuana. Bond on the third-degree felony was set at \$10,000. On May 15, 2006, Norton allegedly possessed 50 pounds or less but more than five pounds of marijuana.

Marcos Rufino Chavez, 41, was indicted for possession of marijuana. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$50,000. On May 16, 2006, Chavez allegedly possessed 2,000 pounds or less but more than 50 pounds of marijuana.

John Lewis Miller, 26, was indicted for possession of controlled substance, enhanced. Bond on the third-degree felony was set at \$10,000. On May 24, 2005, Miller allegedly pos-

sessed a controlled substance, methamphetamine, less than one gram. On March 19, 2002, Miller was convicted of credit card abuse in 251st District Court in Randall County.

Tamara Michelle Paredes, 42, was indicted for possession of controlled substance. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$25,000. On Nov. 21, 2004, Paredes allegedly possessed a controlled substance, cocaine, four grams or more but less than 200 grams.

Paredes was also indicted for possession of marijuana. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$25,000. On Nov. 21, 2004, Paredes allegedly possessed 2,000 pounds or less but more than 50 pounds of mar-

ijuana. Laurie Jean Taylor, 41, was indicted for possession of marijuana. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$25,000. On Nov. 21, 2004, Taylor allegedly possessed marijuana 2,000 pounds or less but more than 50 pounds of marijuana.

Taylor was also indicted for possession of controlled substance. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$25,000. On Nov. 21, 2004, Taylor allegedly possessed a controlled substance, cocaine, four grams or more but less than 200 grams.

Shambrica Jeanie Allen, 25, was indicted for possession of controlled substance. See **JURY**, Page 3

Coffee with grandpa



Weston Hendrick, 8, enjoys getting together with his grandfather, Don Hendrick, and other retired Pampa firefighters for coffee, or soda in Weston's case, at Peggy's Place. Weston and other Pampa schoolchildren were out of school today for inservice.

Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH

Trooper wounds 2 after chase

DIMITT — A Department of Public Safety trooper fired on a vehicle that he had stopped after a high-speed chase late Saturday and wounded two teenagers, according to a press release from DPS.

The teens were wounded by gunfire when the trooper fired 10 rounds into the passenger side of the vehicle after the vehicle became high-centered in a ditch and tried to back into the trooper who was out of his patrol car.

At 11:48 p.m. Saturday, trooper Chris Ecker of Hereford was patrolling just south of Hereford on Highway 385 when he checked a southbound vehicle for speed. When he activated his emergency lights, the vehicle picked up speed and refused to stop.

A short time later, the 2002 Ford Sport Trac left the highway and went down several dirt county roads trying to loose the trooper. The vehicle attempted to make a right turn onto County Road 606 when it slid into a ditch and became high-centered.

Trooper Ecker exited his patrol car. See **DPS**, Page 3

School board to consider textbook recommendations

By KERRI SMITH
Staff Writer

Pampa Independent School District will hold a regular board meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday at Austin Elementary, 1900 Duncan.

A few of the items to be considered and possibly approved are the textbook selection committee's recommendations for 2007-2008, revisions to the employee standards of conduct policy and the adjustment of attendance boundaries for Travis and Lamar elementary schools.

The board will also consider

approving an application for participation in the Texas Short Term Asset Reserve Program and consider action to approve TexSTAR Investment Pool as an authorized investment.

Property and casualty insurance will be considered, as well as an order authorizing issuance of bonds and a resolution to reimburse construction costs.

Consideration and action on an order calling for a regular trustee election, approving a time and place to canvass election results and a joint

election administration agreement with Gray and Roberts Counties will be discussed.

Also on the agenda is the consideration of revisions to local purchasing and acquisitions policies and the possible approval of the Texas Education Agency's Texas High School Redesign and Restructuring Grant.

The first reading of revised local policies will be heard on educator term contracts, class rankings and admissions.

The board will discuss the addi-

tion of the Pampa High School extracurricular contract as an addendum to the student code of conduct.

Student transportation liability will be discussed along with the possible approval of additional members to the grade level study committee.

On the consent agenda are possible approvals for January financial reports, purchases of more than \$10,000, a fund-raising project for PHS SADD, a Texas Public Schools

See **PSID**, Page 3

THE FLOOR STORE
Now Available
Performance Coated & Durable
Ceramic Tiles
2100A Perryton Pkwy • 665-4455
Ceramics • Laminate • Hardwood • Vinyl-Carpet

CHILDERS BROTHERS INC. HOUSE LEVELING
Uneven Floors
Floor Bracing
Cracks In Bricks
Sticking Doors & Windows
Interior Wall Cracking
FREE ESTIMATES
1-800-299-9563
WWW.CHILDERSLEVELING.COM

THOMAS AUTOMOTIVE INC.
665-4851
217 E. ATCHISON

One STOP Flooring
On Select Purchases We Offer
90 DAYS SAME AS CASH
6 MONTHS SAME AS CASH
We Accept Visa • MasterCard • Discover
1533 N. HOBART
Mon-Fri 9-5 • Sat 10-1

The POWER Of STEAM RUG RATS
Professional Carpet & Air Duct Cleaning
FREE ESTIMATES
Ronnie Harvill Owner
665-1976 or 662-9219

CINEMA 4
SHOWING THURSDAY FEB 23 - THURSDAY MAR 1
GHOST RIDER
BECAUSE I SAID SO
THE MESSENGERS
NORBIT
FOR SHOWTIMES & RATINGS PLEASE CALL
665-9229 • 665-9192
WWW.MYMOVIEGUIDE.COM

Authorized Representative Of
clearwire
wireless broadband internet service
CALL US TODAY
PAMPA COMMUNICATION INC
641 N. HOBART • 665-1663




Stoble CONSTRUCTION
Our professional service will leave you smiling!
Remodeling • Custom Woodworking
Flooring • Etcetera
Call us today for a FREE Estimate
Dustin 665-8872 Terry 665-290-0576

A.G. EDWARDS
100 N. CUYLER SUITE 206
PAMPA TX 79065
806-665-5707
Clay Rice
Financial Consultant
Member SPC
2006 A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.
IS IT TIME TO ROLL OVER YOUR NEXT EGG?

Come See Us For All Your Planting & Upcoming Spring Needs!
West Texas Landscape
120 S. Hobart St • 665-3158
TAVESTONE

Please Join Us For The
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 55TH ANNUAL POLISH SAUSAGE DINNER
SUNDAY, MARCH 4 • 11:00AM UNTIL 3:00PM • KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL AT 318 N. CUYLER
All You Can Eat ... Adults \$8.00 • Children 6-11 \$5.00 • Children Under 6 Free

NEXT DAY FORECAST

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
		
Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Partly cloudy

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 70. Wind chill values between 26 and 31 early. South southeast wind 10 to 15 mph becoming west southwest. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 41. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 68. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to between 15 and 20 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 33. North northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 50. North northwest wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to between 15 and 20 mph. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 29. Northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.

© This information brought to you by...

PRESTIGE
AUTOBODY & ACCESSORIES
 101 S. HOBART 806-665-3500
 VORTEX BEDLINERS • RANCH HAND • TOOL BOXES

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Atebury Grain of White Deer.	
Wheat	4.42
Milo	6.92
Corn	7.70
Soybeans	6.59
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.	
OXY	48.31 +0.06
BP PLCADR	64.28 +1.12
Cabot Corp	47.31 NC
Celanese	29.92 +0.29
Cabot Oil Gas	70.91 +0.34
Coca Cola	47.71 +0.45
VLO	59.55 +0.78
HAL	32.21 +0.66
TRI	49.46 -0.14
KMI	105.97 +0.12
XCEL	24.58 +0.40
Anadarko	41.22 +0.38
XOM	75.75 +0.53
Nat'l Oilwell	70.94 +1.09
Limited	29.28 -0.23
Williams	28.46 +0.55
MCD	45.95 -0.06
Atmos	32.46 +0.10
Pioneer Nat	40.10 +0.18
JCP	83.80 -0.25
COP	67.96 +0.76
SLB	65.19 +0.61
Tenneco	25.14 +0.01
CVX	71.71 +0.64
Wal-Mart	49.61 +0.04
OKE	42.85 +0.13
New York Gold	686.70
Silver	14.60
West Texas Crude	61.14

Woman on death row loses top court appeal

HOUSTON (AP) — The U.S. Supreme Court today rejected an appeal from a condemned Texas woman scheduled to die soon for the slaying of a 3-month-old child she was baby-sitting in her home.

Cathy Lynn Henderson, 50, faces execution April 18 for the 1994 death of Brandon Baugh, whose body was found stuffed in a wine cooler carton and buried in a field in Bell County, about 50 miles north of Henderson's Austin-area home. The discovery came nearly three weeks after the child was first reported missing.

Henderson's attorneys had asked the justices to review her case, arguing authorities

improperly forced Henderson's lawyer to turn over a map the woman drew pointing to the area where the child was buried.

She was convicted in 1995 when a Travis County jury agreed with prosecutors who argued she smashed the child's head with a blunt object while she was baby-sitting him and his older sister.

Henderson fled to her native Missouri. According to testimony at her trial, when arrested in Independence, Mo., she told a childhood friend she had killed someone she described as a male and wanted to change her identity.

FBI agents said Henderson gave several stories about the baby's disappearance before finally saying he fell from her arms while she was answering the phone and hit his head on the floor. A medical examiner, however, said that was impossible because of the severity of the injuries.

The map, which had been the subject of previous appeals in lower courts, never was used in court and did not play a role in her conviction, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals ruled in 1997.

Henderson would be the fourth woman executed in Texas since the state resumed the death penalty.

CITY BRIEFS

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

2004 CHEVROLET Avalanche with conversion package for sale. Nice Truck! Call 806-835-2773 for more info.

HEARTS DESIRE Antiques & Collectibles, 6th Year Anniversary Sale. Refreshments, door prizes. NE corner Main St. & Hwy. 60, White Deer, 11-5p, 2/24-3/3

LOST FEMALE sm. Yorkie 1100 block Sierra, 440-4386

LOST LRG. male black Doberman, vicinity of 2200 Chestnut. 440-1619, 669-2782

MONDAYS AT Pak-A-Burger: Jr. Burger & Fries \$1.99. 669-2865.

Obituaries

Mary Jane Adams Dallas, 67

Mary Jane Adams Dallas, 67, died Saturday, Feb. 24, 2007, in Pampa.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2007, at the First Baptist Church with Rev. Hayden Smith, her nephew and pastor of First Baptist Church of Carrizozo, New Mexico, officiating.

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

Mrs. Dallas was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend to many. She was born on Aug. 30, 1939, in New Boston, Texas, to Arthur Buford Adams and Mary Elba Newsom Adams. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1965. She married Kevo Earl Dallas on

Dec. 28, 1957, in Olton, Texas. She was a secretary for The Electric Supply for 10 years, a bookkeeper for Earl's Engraving for 25 years, and a homemaker. She was a member of First Baptist Church. She enjoyed fishing at Rainbow Lake, square dancing, and spending time with her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and many friends. Mary Jane was preceded in death by her father, three brothers, and one sister.

Survivors include her husband, Earl Dallas of the home; a daughter, Pamela Phelps and husband Paul of Pampa; three sons, Butch



Dallas

Dallas and wife Sheila and Alan Dallas and wife Tami, all of Pampa; and Charles Dallas and wife Sherry of Lynn Haven, Fla.; her mother, Mary Adams of Amarillo; two sisters, Burlene Applewhite and husband Bill and Emma Lee Nowell, all of Amarillo; eight grandchildren, Christopher Johnson, Cory Dallas, Alisha Dallas, Adeena Dallas, and Arin Dallas, all of Pampa, Keva Dallas, Alex Dallas, and Lexi Dallas, all of Lynn Haven, Fla.; four stepgrandchildren, Robert Munson and wife Amy of Somersworth, New

Hampshire, Barry Newton and wife Lyndsey of Henrietta, and Jason Phelps, Jonathan Phelps and wife Starla, all of Pampa; six stepgreat-grandchildren, Isaac Munson and Whitney Munson, both of Somersworth, New Hampshire, Jake Phelps and Jon Paul Phelps, both of Amarillo, and Jacob Honeycutt and Hannah Phelps, both of Pampa; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be to American Cancer Society, c/o Gerry Caylor, 2130 Charles, Pampa, TX 79065 or Alzheimer's Association, 1400 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, TX 79106.

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

Mildred Pauline Walker Cunningham, 96

MIAMI — Mildred Pauline Walker Cunningham, 96, died Sunday,

February 25, 2007, in Amarillo, Texas. Services are pending with

Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

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

Friday, Feb. 23

Five traffic stops were made, resulting in at least one arrest.

An abandoned vehicle was reported in the 1000 block of Varnon Drive.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals at the intersection of 23rd and Chestnut streets, the 300 block of North Warren, the 2000 block of Duncan, an unreported location, 1900 block of North Banks, and the 1100 block of South Sumner.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 800 block of East Browning.

Lost property was reported in the police department lobby.

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

A civil matter was reported in the 1100 block of Sierra.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 300 block of West Crawford and the 1100 block of Varnon Drive.

A suspicious person call was received from the 700 block of North Zimmers.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from an unreported location.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 190 block of North Hobart.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2300 block of Beech and the 700 block of North Frost, where a vehicle was egged, resulting in estimated cleanup cost of \$5.

Harassment was reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart and the 2200 block of North Sumner.

Sex offender registration was reported in the police department lobby.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 700 block of North Frost. The incident was verbal only.

Theft was reported in the 1800 block of North Christy. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Saturday, Feb. 24

Six traffic stops were made.

A traffic complaint was received from the intersection of Harvester and Duncan streets.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the 700 block of North Banks, the 1200 block of North Hobart, and the 2300 block of Evergreen.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 1100 block of North Hobart, the 700 block of North Christy, the 1000 block of South Faulkner, and an unreported location.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 1000 block of West McCullough and the intersection of Price Road and Alcock Street.

Found property was reported in the police department lobby.

A civil matter was reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart.

Suspicious person calls were received from the intersection of Browning and Sloan streets and the 100 block of South Starkweather.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the 300 block of North Ballard.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 2400 block of Dogwood.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of South Schneider.

Harassment was reported from an unreported location.

Retaliation was reported in the 1000 block of Duncan.

A domestic disturbance and information were reported in the 1500 block of Coffee. The incident was verbal only, and no injuries were reported.

Three burglar alarms were reported.

Burglary was reported in the 1500 block of Williston. Entry was made through a back door. Nothing was reported taken in connection with the incident.

Sunday, Feb. 25

Thirteen traffic stops were made, resulting in at least one arrest.

Motorist assistance was rendered at an unreported location.

Traffic complaints were received from an unreported location and the 100 block of South Ward, where a vehicle parked in the middle of the road was impounded.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 1800 block of North Sumner, the 1800 block of North Wells, the 900 block of East Brunow, the 300 block of Anne, the 1200 block of Garland, the 1000 block of Duncan, the 1300 block of Garland, the 1800 block of North Wells, the 900 block of South Banks, and the 500 block of South Ballard.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 300 block of South Dwight.

A civil matter was reported in the 1800 block of North Dwight.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 400 block of Rose, the 500 block of Perry, and the intersection of Highway 60 and Cuyler Street.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 600 block of North Naida and the 1000 block of Clark.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1000 block of North Hobart.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1200 block of North Russell. A vehicle window valued at \$500 was broken.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2600 block of Fir. Two vehicles and a house were egged. Estimated cost of cleanup is \$80.

Harassment was reported in the 700 block of North West.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1400 block of Hamilton. The incident was verbal only, and no injuries were reported.

Assault was reported in the 900 block of East Scott and the 2400 block of Dogwood, where minor injuries

which did not require medical attention were reported.

Theft was reported in the 500 block of Lefors. Gasoline valued at \$40 was taken out of a vehicle.

Monday, Feb. 26

Five traffic stops were made, resulting in at least one arrest.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 100 block of West Tuke and the 500 block of Lowry.

Possession of drug paraphernalia was reported in the 300 block of North Roberta. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Sheriff

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

Sunday, Feb. 25

Weylan Dee Whately, 41, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for driving while license is invalid with previous conviction and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Monday, Feb. 26

Adrian Joseph Cordova, 21, of Pampa was arrested in the 300 block of Roberta by Pampa Police Department for possession of drug paraphernalia and a warrant for minor in possession of alcohol.

Fire

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

Saturday, Feb. 24

2:11 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 900 block of Barnard on a good intent.

11:45 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 2300 block of Evergreen on a Dumpster fire.

Sunday, Feb. 25

6:04 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 1100 block of Sierra on a Dumpster fire.

Ambulance

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls for the weekend period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Sunday, Feb. 25

11:34 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Pampa Regional Medical Center and transported a patient to Northwest Texas Hospital.

1:44 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient to PRMC.

3:05 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1800 block of Alcock and transported a patient to PRMC.

4:09 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to the 1500 block of West Kentucky.

Monday, Feb. 26

12:39 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of Sumner and transported a patient to PRMC.

'Grease' performance goes awry, 2 are injured

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands (AP) — Whoah, Greased Lightning! Dutch theater-goers were shocked Sunday night when a would-be John Travolta and his Olivia Newton-John lookalike counterpart were injured as their car plunged into the orchestra pit during a performance of the musical "Grease."

Jim Bakkum got a concussion and Bettina Holwerda may have broken her arm, the director of the Almere City Theater, Peter Swinkels, told Dutch television.

"Jim was driving. ... She (Bettina) was able to jump off before it went over the edge, and Jim went down with the car," Swinkels told

RTL Nieuws. No musicians were injured, as the car happened to land in an empty part of the pit.

Both were immediately taken to hospital for treatment in the town of Almere, nine miles east of Amsterdam.

The car, dubbed "Greased Lightning" during a song in the play,

was made up of the chassis of a classic red-and-white convertible and the engine of a golf cart.

The incident took place during a scene where the characters made famous by Travolta and Newton-John in the movie version — Danny Zuko and Sandy Olsson — go to a drive-in movie in the car.

Postal Commission recommends 'forever' stamp, 2-cent hike

WASHINGTON (AP) — A postal regulatory commission recommended a 2-cent increase in the cost of mailing a letter today and urged the Post Office to introduce a "forever" stamp valid for first-class postage even when rates rise.

The recommendation to increase postage to 41 cents was a penny less than the postal service had requested.

The commission recommended a 26-cent rate for post cards, also a penny less than the Post Office had sought.

The first ounce of a first-class mail would rise to 41 cents, but each additional ounce would cost 17 cents

under the proposal. Currently, each additional ounce of first-class mail costs 24 cents.

The matter now goes back to the Board of Governors of the Postal Service for a decision on whether to accept the recommendation or ask the commission to reconsider. If the governors accept the recommendations the new rates could be implemented in 60 days.

A key part of the plan is the so-called forever stamp, which would allow consumers to hedge against future rate increases.

The stamp, which would not show a denomination, would sell for the first-class rate at the time of purchase and would remain valid for mailing permanently, even if rates increase.

That means folks who stocked up on forever stamps could say goodbye to those annoying 2-cent or 3-cent stamps that have to be added to letters every time rates go up.

For the average consumer, the most visible change would be the proposed increase to 41 cents for mailing letters, although the broad-ranging rate proposal covers a multitude of types of mail.

Letters, cards, bill payments and other first-class mail items have been declining in recent years as people turn to the Internet. At the same time,

there has been an increase in advertising mail.

For example, each penny increase in the price of a gallon of gasoline costs the post office \$8 million, and the post office cannot simply add a fuel surcharge to its rates.

Proposed rate changes included: —Express Mail, flat rate up from \$14.40 to \$16.25.

—Three-ounce barcoded bank statement, down from 73.9 cents to 58.4 cents

—Bulk-mailed weekly news-magazine, up from 18.5 cents to 20.6 cents.

—Household magazine, up from 28.9 cents to 33.6 cents.

—Postcard, up from 24 cents to 26 cents.

The cost of a first-class stamp went from 37 cents to 39 cents in January 2006.

Have IRA Questions? Let's Talk.



Duane Harp
Investment Representative
1921 N. Hobart
665-6753
www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Smith's mother wants burial decision overturned

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Anna Nicole Smith's estranged mother asked an appeals court today to overturn a judge's decision over who controls where the starlet should be buried.

A few hours later, the judge declined to reconsider his ruling.

Lawyers for Smith's mother, Virgie Arthur, want the 4th District Court of Appeal to reconsider Circuit Judge Larry Seidlin's tearful ruling that gave the attorney for the centerfold's infant daughter the right to decide the burial plans. That attorney said Smith should be laid to rest next to her son in the Bahamas.

Arthur wants Smith buried in her native Texas. She filed an emergency motion Friday asking Seidlin to reconsider his decision, but he declined this morning, saying he wanted to preserve Smith's dignity by having the funeral occur as quickly as possible.

In the court filing, Arthur's lawyer, Roberta G. Mandel, said the ruling was an inconvenience because the mother

"will have to have a passport and roundtrip airplane tickets and several thousand dollars to even visit or put flowers on (Smith's) grave."

Outside court, Mandel said Arthur was willing to take the fight to the state Supreme Court, if necessary.

"This mother is a mother who deserves the right to bury her child," Mandel said. "The trial court treated her as though she was nothing."

Smith's boyfriend, Howard K. Stern, testified last week that Smith wanted to be buried in the Bahamas. Stern attorney Ron Rale said that Smith's mother should let her daughter's wish be granted.

"We were hoping that she would do the right thing," Rale said. "I believe the testimony was clear where Anna Nicole wanted to be buried, and anything that obstructs that, to complete her wishes as soon as possible, is sad."

Smith died in a Florida hotel Feb. 8, sparking legal disputes in Florida, California and the Bahamas.

Her funeral will not take place before Tuesday, said the court-appointed attorney for Smith's 5-month-old daughter, Dannielynn. In a news release Saturday, Richard C. Milstein said he was working as quickly as possible to complete the details.

Neither Milstein nor the public relations firm representing him returned calls seeking comment today.

Seidlin, who gained national attention with his one-liners and weeping decision on the burial, said through his assistant today that he would not comment.

A private hearing in the Bahamas to determine Dannielynn's guardianship was expected to resume today between Arthur and Stern, who is listed as the father on the birth certificate. The judge has barred Stern from taking the girl out of the Bahamas until a custody ruling.

Stern and two other men claim they are Dannielynn's father.

PAMPA NURSING CENTER



Where Caring And Living Meet

From rehabilitation to long-term care, our compassionate, competent staff is here to help our residents live each day to the fullest.

**1321 W. KENTUCKY AVENUE
PAMPA, TEXAS
PHONE: 806-669-2551
FAX: 806-665-1722**

Jury

Continued from Page 1

substance. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$25,000. On Jan. 31, 2005, Allen allegedly possessed a controlled substance, methamphetamine, four grams or more but less than 200 grams.

Autara Tyrone Grant, 29, was indicted for possession of controlled substance. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$25,000. On Jan. 31, 2005, Grant allegedly possessed a controlled substance, methamphetamine, four grams or more but less than 200 grams.

Taurus Harris, 31, was indicted for possession of controlled substance. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$25,000.

On Jan. 31, 2005, Harris allegedly possessed a controlled substance, methamphetamine, four grams or more but less than 200 grams.

Daniel Aguilar Lopez, 33, was indicted for possession of tampering with a governmental record. Bond on the third-degree felony was set at \$5,000. On June 11, 2006, Lopez allegedly sold or offered to sell a governmental record, a Social Security card, with knowledge that it was obtained unlawfully.

Skylar Lee Stewart, 25, was indicted for possession of controlled substance. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$25,000. On Jan. 31, 2005, Stewart allegedly possessed a controlled substance, methamphetamine, four grams or more but less than 200 grams.

Libby juror dismissed; deliberations continue

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal judge avoided a potential mistrial in the CIA leak case today by dismissing a juror and sending the other 11 back to continue deliberating the fate of former White House aide I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby.

U.S. District Judge Reggie B. Walton said the juror had seen or read something over the weekend about Libby's trial.

"What she had exposure to obviously disqualifies her," the judge said.

He did not say what the juror had seen but characterized it as a misunderstanding. He has ordered jurors to avoid media coverage of the case.

Walton originally feared several jurors were tainted, raising the specter of a mistrial in the politically charged case. Libby is accused of lying and obstructing the investigation into the 2003 leak of CIA operative Valerie Plame's identity.

After questioning jurors behind closed doors, however, Walton said the remaining seven women and four

men were not affected. Special Prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald Walton asked the judge to call on one of two alternates, both women, who sat through the trial and are on standby.

But Walton said that would require deliberations to begin fresh and said he didn't want to "throw away two and a half days" of discussions. Instead, he sided with Libby's lawyers and allowed deliberations to continue with 11 jurors — something allowed under federal law in such situations.

"They should continue with their deliberations and I will emphasize again the importance of not having contact with any outside information," Walton said.

The woman who was dismissed from the jury is an art history expert and scholar who formerly served as a curator of prints at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She was also the only juror who did not wear a red T-shirt as part of the jury's Valentine's Day greeting to the court.

DPS

Continued from Page 1

patrol unit and approached the occupants, giving verbal commands in an attempt to apprehend the subjects.

The occupants ignored the commands and the driver attempted to back into Ecker, who retreated to avoid being pinned between his patrol car and the suspects' vehicle. Ecker lost his footing and feared he might fall between the vehicles.

In an attempt to stop the vehicle, trooper Ecker fired 10 rounds into the passenger side of the heavily tinted windows of the vehicle. The driver then terminated his attempt to escape.

Raul Guerra, 17, of Amarillo, was in the front passenger seat and was hit by two rounds in the right forearm and right triceps

area with non-life threatening wounds. He was initially taken to Plains Hospital in Dimmitt where he was treated before being transported by ambulance to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo. He is listed in stable condition.

Kevin Jackson, 18, of Dimmitt was driving the vehicle and was wounded on his back by a bullet fragment. A juvenile female passenger in the back seat was not injured, nor was Ecker.

Jackson will be charged with evading arrest and driving under the influence. He did have a misdemeanor warrant out of Potter County for his arrest, but it is unknown if this was the reason for fleeing.

The Texas Rangers continue to investigate this incident. The pursuit lasted seven minutes and covered approximately 10 to 12 miles, ending up in Castro County.

PISD

Continued from Page 1

Week Resolution, the sale of delinquent tax prop-

erty and professional development absences for some professional staff.

Reports will be heard on board of trustee credit hours and the 2007-2008 budget report and class schedules.

TRIANGLE WELL SERVICING CO.
PAMPA, TEXAS

Transport and Vacuum Tank Truck Service
Serving Pampa Since 1948

24 HOUR SERVICE
JERRY CARRILLO - Dispatcher
FULLY INSURED
TERRY ELLIS - Field Supervisor 663-0757
806-665-8459

DEBBIE HOOVER
President
806-665-8459
Mobile: 595-0664

VICKIE HOOVER
Vice President
806-665-8593

CHIEF PLASTIC PIPE & SUPPLY INC.
1237 SOUTH BARNES
806-665-6716 OR 800-649-6716

QUALITY THAT LASTS
WE HAVE A LARGE SELECTION OF KNIVES TO CHOOSE FROM

UTILITY SERIES 	BLACK SERIES 	METAL SERIES 
WOLF PUP 	FLAMING LEGEND II 	HARLEY DAVIDSON BLACK THUNDER 
HARLEY DAVIDSON 100" ANN. FOLDER 	HARLEY DAVIDSON "FREEDOM" KNIFE 	HARLEY DAVIDSON MOTORCYCLE SERIES 

NBC has the loan you need



- Vacation/Travel
- Recreational Vehicles
- New Vehicles
- Used Vehicles
- New Home Purchase
- Home Improvement

Call or come in today for details and to apply.

NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE
An Office Of First National Bank Waupaca, Wisconsin
PAMPA • 1224 N. HOBART • 665-0022
SHAMROCK • 305 N. MAIN • 256-2101
CHILDRESS • 501 COMMERCE • 940-937-2514 Member FDIC

Viewpoints

Last stagecoach helped Lake Jackson residents during war

In 1944, as Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower wrestled with the myriad details connected to the planned Allied invasion of Nazi-occupied France, on the other side of the Atlantic the people of Lake Jackson, Texas, pondered their own logistical problem.

What with gas rationing and other shortages due to the war effort, coming up with reliable public transportation presented a considerable challenge. People who lived in Lake Jackson, almost all of them connected to the newly opened Dow Chemical plant at nearby Freeport, needed a convenient way to get from their homes to downtown businesses and to get their children to the day school operating in the Community Center.

Named for a nearby oxbow-shaped lake in Brazoria County, Lake Jackson sprouted as a company town built by the Dow

Chemical Co. in the early 1940s. It incorporated as a city on March 14, 1944.

"We were building a new town and needed to interest people to live in Lake Jackson," A.C. Ray later told longtime Dow employee Bill Colegrove, author of "Episodes: Texas Dow 1940-76." (Published in 1983, the now out-of-print book is a compendium of 48 feature stories about Dow and Lake Jackson originally published in the Brazosport Facts.)

Given that "it took just about every gas stamp to drive back and forth to work at the Dow Plant," Ray continued, the business community "needed a new idea to sell Lake Jackson, and also to be useful to the residents there."

Noting that Dow still used horses and mules to pull graders, someone among the business leaders suggested that the nascent town should provide its residents trans-

portation with a modern day stagecoach.

Committee members secured a used lumber dolly and added two automobile axles with balloon tires. To accommodate a team of horses, a wooden wagon tongue went on the front of the vehicle. A

Mike Cox

Texas Tales



row of wooden seats anchored each side of the coach, with an aisle down the middle. Passengers boarded by walking up a two-step platform on the rear of the coach. Finally, a rounded canvas top provided protection from the blistering coastal sun. The conveyance, which could carry a couple of dozen people, looked more like a

long covered wagon than an Old West stagecoach, but they called it their stagecoach.

Following the acquisition of two black draft horses, the Lake Jackson stagecoach began serving the community. "Pop" Crumrine, a farmer who knew how to handle a horse-drawn wagon, operated the one-vehicle, and privately funded "transit system." Starting at 8:30 a.m. and continuing every 45 minutes until 4:15 p.m., the coach left downtown for the residential area and then returned to the local drug store.

Youngsters took particular delight in riding the stagecoach, though they preferred to hop on it from a running start rather than step up on it like the adults did.

Quite popular with all concerned, the stagecoach saved passengers precious motor fuel and reduced mileage on already well-worn tires with free trips from their

houses to the businesses downtown. In turn, the merchants and service providers saw a much-appreciated upswing in their receipts.

But eventually a problem developed. Traditional iron horseshoes did not last long on concrete pavement. And soft horseshoes could not be had because of war-time demands for rubber. Also, with Lake Jackson having no blacksmith, Ray and fellow businessman J.T. Dunbar shod the stagecoach horses every Sunday whether they wanted to or not.

Finally, the two men had enough of their extracurricular civic duty and the Lake Jackson stagecoach rolled into history.

All but forgotten today, the horse drawn vehicle has the distinction of having been the last regularly scheduled stagecoach in Texas history even if it didn't look like one.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Feb. 26, the 57th day of 2007. There are 308 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

One hundred years ago, on Feb. 26, 1907, concerns about a growing influx of foreigners, mostly Europeans, prompted Congress to create what became known as the Dillingham Commission, which examined the impact of immigrants on America. (The panel later recommended curtailing immigration from southern and eastern Europe through use of quotas, higher entry fees, literacy tests and other restrictions.)

On this date:

In 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte escaped from exile on the Island of Elba to begin his second conquest of France.

In 1870, an experimental air-driven subway, the Beach Pneumatic Transit, opened in New York City. (The tunnel was only a block long, and the line had only one car.)

In 1919, Congress established Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona.

In 1929, President Coolidge signed a measure establishing Grand Teton National Park.

In 1940, the United States Air Defense Command was created.

In 1945, a midnight curfew on nightclubs, bars and other places of entertainment was set to go into

effect across the nation.

In 1952, Prime Minister Winston Churchill announced that Britain had developed its own atomic bomb.

In 1979, a total solar eclipse cast a moving shadow 175 miles wide from Oregon to North Dakota before moving into Canada.

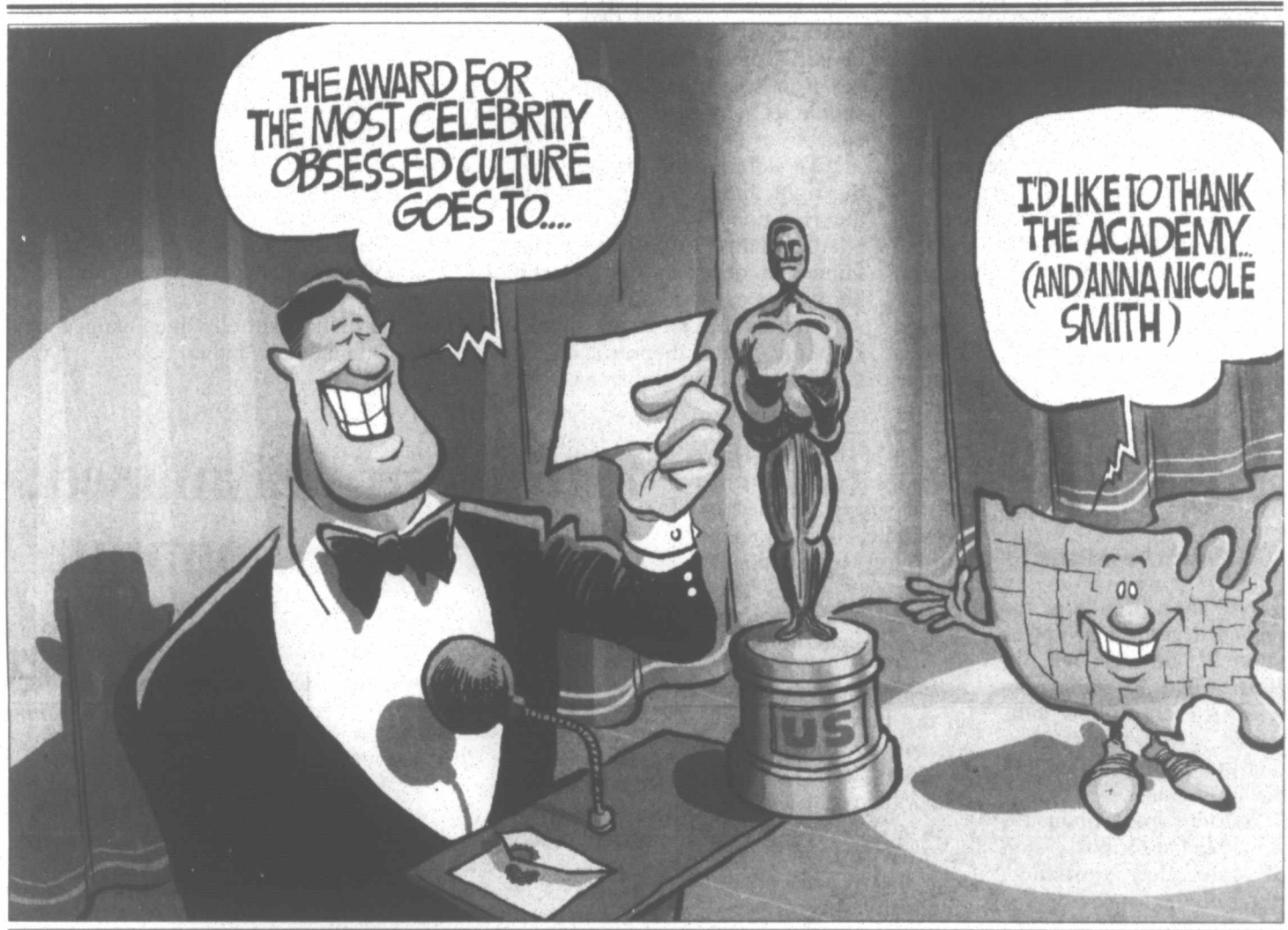
In 1987, the Tower Commission, which probed the Iran-Contra affair, issued its report, which rebuked President Reagan for failing to control his national security staff.

In 1993, a bomb built by Islamic extremists exploded in the parking garage of New York's World Trade Center, killing six people and injuring more than 1,000 others.

Ten years ago: President Clinton defended White House fund-raising tactics as "entirely appropriate," a day after the disclosure of documents putting Clinton at the center of all-out fund-raising efforts. Israel's Cabinet voted to build a new Jewish neighborhood in disputed east Jerusalem. "Change the World" won four Grammy awards, including record of the year; Celine Dion's "Falling Into You" won album of the year and best pop album.

'Only the mediocrities of life hide behind the alibi in conference. The great of this earth are not only simple but accessible.'

— Isaac Frederick Marcossion
American journalist
(1876-1961)



Once lost, credibility difficult to restore

Credibility is a precious trait, but once it is lost, it's darned difficult to restore. That's the main problem of the Bush administration. After the outrageously false claims about Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, it has no credibility. Hence, its new claims that the Iranian government is supplying weapons to the insurgents in Iraq are rightly met with great skepticism.

I notice that some of the television news outlets have already fallen into the administration's trap. In this case, the administration wants us to accept as fact that the weapons are from Iran but argue about whether they were sent with the complicity of the government. This is an easy argument for the administration to win, since the Iranian government is tightly controlled.

But the claim that the

weapons came from Iran is not an established fact. Look at the peculiar circumstances of the briefing in Baghdad on the subject. Cameras and recorders were barred. Officials conducting the briefing are to remain anonymous. No direct evidence that the weapons came from Iran was presented. Instead, reporters were told that this was "inferred from other intelligence."

One question I have that hasn't been answered is why a mortar shell allegedly from Iran would have markings written in English. The English writing is plain to see in the photographs.

As for the claim that the U.S. has traced the serial

numbers back to Iran, how does the United States have access to Iranian serial numbers? And why, presumably, were the numbers written in the system used by the West, instead of in Farsi? Part

of the great fun of traveling in the Middle East on an expense account is to come home and

dump a large package of receipts — all written in Arabic — on the company accountant's desk. The glyphs used in Iran are known as East Arabic-Indic.

The administration also made much of the fact that some of these munitions were what is known as shaped charges, which are designed to penetrate heavy armor. It was implied that

this was new on the battlefield. In fact, shaped charges have been around for decades. Since Saddam Hussein had the fourth-largest army in the world before our wars and sanctions, it's dead certain that there were tens of thousands of shaped charges in the form of tank and artillery rounds in his arsenals.

Here we come back to another strategic blunder. There were so few U.S. soldiers in Iraq that we lacked the manpower to guard and dispose of all of the arsenals we found. Many of these were looted. There are two things Iraq has never been short of — weapons and people who know how to use them.

Another reason for suspicion is the timing. Claims that Iran was sending

See REESE, Page 8

Charley Reese
Columnist



Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ Feb. 19
Fort Worth Star-Telegram on Texas' alcoholic beverage industry:

It takes guts — or maybe just a lack of caution — to challenge the rich and powerful.

Howard Wolf fits at least one of those categories. He's challenging the entire Texas alcoholic beverage industry at the Capitol in Austin, where that industry and its lobbyists long have been among the most powerful because they spread their wealth through political contributions.

Wolf says that the state's 71-year-old system of alcohol regulations is anti-

quoted and corrupt. He makes good points. That doesn't mean that he's right in everything he says, but his allegations are worth thoughtful examination.

"A statute that was designed to promote public health, safety and welfare has, over time, been subverted by the economic interests of the entities it was intended to regulate," Wolf wrote last month in a position paper submitted to the state's Sunset Advisory Commission. "Now, the legalized system operates primarily to prevent competition, protect anti-competitive conduct and otherwise thwart the functioning of a free market in the manufacture, distribution and sale of alcoholic beverages."

Wolf, 72, is not just any man on the

street. He's a retired attorney and partner with the prestigious Fulbright & Jaworski law firm. He has served as a director for several large corporations, even (in 1972) as president of the company that became Continental Airlines. He has been appointed by Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst to two terms as a citizen member of the Sunset Advisory Commission, which examines the operations of all state agencies.

In his role on that panel, as part of its review of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, he has pushed for a special committee of House and Senate members to completely remake the laws and regulatory structure for beer, wine and liquor sales in the state.

See BEVERAGES, Page 8

THE PAMPA NEWS
403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065
806-669-2525 • 800-687-3348
Fax: 806-669-2520
email: editor@thepampanews.com

Publisher: Sean Smith
Editor: Dennis Spies
Advertising Director: ReDonn Woods
Composing Supervisor: Brenda Cook

This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily, except Saturdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day, by The Pampa News. Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.

All carriers are independent contractors and The Pampa News is not responsible for advance payments of two or more months made to the carrier. Please pay directly to the Pampa News any payment that exceeds the current collection period. There are no mail subscriptions available within the city limits of Pampa. Mail subscriptions must be paid three months in advance.

© 2005 The Pampa News

Sports Day

Boxing Club hosts local tournament, pulls out several wins

By **JORDAN REAGAN**
Sports Editor

The Pampa Texas Boxing Club hosted the West Texas Senior Open Championships last weekend.

The tournament included teams from Kansas, Oklahoma, and most of the West Texas region.

The two-day event was held at the MPAC gym at Pampa High School.

On the first day, boxers from Pampa who were matched included Jose Larrazolo, Cris Larrazolo and Emmanuel Barrajas.

The first to fight from the Pampa team was Barrajas, matched up against Logan Burns from the Amarillo Mavericks.

Barrajas, who was less experienced than his fighter wasn't scared to get into the fight, but couldn't pull out the win as Burns was award-

ed the victory.

The next to box was Cris Larrazolo, who competed with Edgar Portillo of Los Portillos Boxing Club.

Because there was nobody in Larrazolo's weight class, he was matched up with Portillo, who was a above him at 132 lbs.

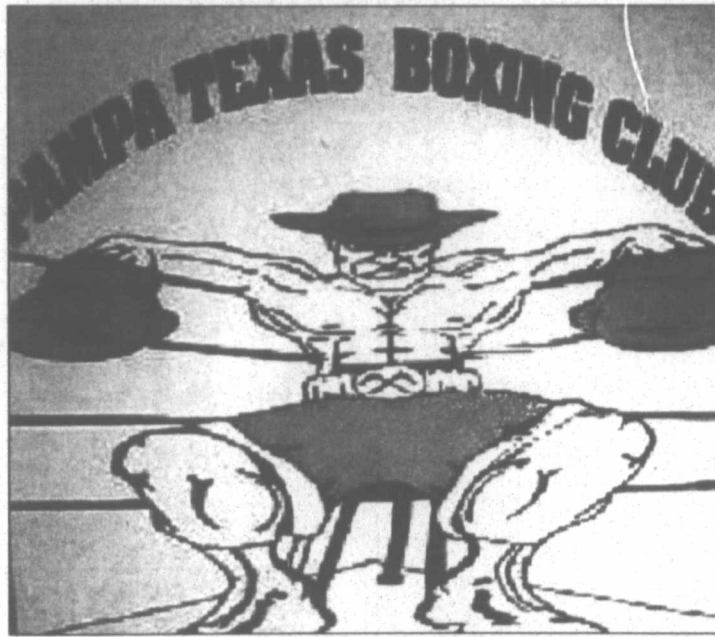
Larrazolo was ready for the match, despite the obvious difference in size, and put together some good combinations and a good fight.

In what ended as a close match, Portillo emerged the victor.

The fight of the night pitted Pampa's Jose Larrazolo against Midland Midtown Soldiers' Frank Lujan.

Larrazolo came in fighting and controlled most of the fight with his own speed and power.

After the bell, Larrazolo was declared the winner.



The Pampa Texas Boxing Club's new logo.

When the first night came to a close, two Pampa boxers advanced to the state tournament, Cris and Jose Larrazolo.

The second night included

more fights than the previous night, and more Pampa boxers as well.

The first to go was Barrajas, who was seeking to avenge his previous loss the

night before.

Barrajas was matched with Jesus Claro of Garden City, Kan.

The fight was more evenly matched, as Claro had been in the same amount of fights as Barrajas, and was the same size.

Both boxers fought hard and kept going until the final bell, and Barrajas was declared the victor after the final bell.

The next Pampa fighter was Russell Kelly, who has trained as hard as he can while also attending college in Amarillo.

Kelly was matched against Anthony Delgado, an experienced fighter out of Midland, Texas.

Kelly fought through the tough match, but fell short as Delgado was declared the winner.

The third fighter was

Cecelia Garcia, who was matched up against Marisa Correa from Garden City, Kan.

Garcia took control of the fight from the beginning, fought hard, and was rewarded for her efforts.

The final fight was a last minute match up between Cris Larrazolo and Ernesto Marquez from Salina, Kan.

Larrazolo faced another opponent from a higher weight class, but fought hard and did not falter.

In the end, Larrazolo was declared the winner, making up for his loss the night before.

The Pampa Texas Boxing Club hosted this tournament, which was dedicated to Russell Kelly's mother, Ramona Portillo, who passed away just months ago.

Former Tour de France champion Ullrich retires

HAMBURG, Germany (AP) — Former Tour de France champion Jan Ullrich retired from cycling Monday amid continuing investigations of his alleged role in a Spanish doping scandal.

The 33-year-old German, who won the Tour in 1997 and was runner-up five times to Texan Lance Armstrong, said he will stay in the sport as a consultant for the Austrian-based Volksbank team.

"I am ending my active career," Ullrich said.

He criticized the way he had been treated by cycling

officials in Germany and Switzerland and by the German media.

"I feel like a serious criminal although I have nothing to reproach myself," he said.

Ullrich said he was still fit and had received offers from seven teams to race this season, but had decided to move on.

Ullrich has been under investigation for several months in Spain's "Operation Puerto" scandal, but has not been charged. He has been without a team since being fired by the T-Mobile team last summer.

"I could have had a team immediately," Ullrich told a news conference, accompanied by his wife and mother. "I had offers, also from Pro Tour teams."

The Spanish probe followed a raid by Spanish authorities last April on a Madrid clinic which allegedly provided performance enhancing drugs to 57 top riders.

The investigation led to Ullrich, a pre-race favorite, and being expelled from last year's Tour de France — a day he called the "hardest in his career."

On July 20, he was dismissed by T-Mobile and hasn't raced since.

Ullrich said he would work as a media consultant with Volksbank and will also be active in the team's young riders' program. He said Volksbank offered a large budget for other riders that he would bring with him.

"That really impressed me," he said.

Ullrich trained in the former East Germany and emerged as a top rider in 1996 by finishing second at the Tour de France.

Conley's shot gives Buckeyes win over Badgers

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The ball and the ballgame were supposed to end up in Greg Oden's massive hands. Instead, his often-overlooked teammate since the sixth grade came through when Ohio State needed it most.

Mike Conley Jr. made a runner in the lane with 4 seconds left Sunday to give No. 2 Ohio State a 49-48 victory over top-ranked Wisconsin on Sunday and a second consecutive Big Ten title.

The Buckeyes are also in line to be ranked No. 1 in the new Associated Press Top 25 for the first time since 1962.

"We drew up a play that they ended up defending pretty well," said Conley, a freshman who also played alongside the 7-foot Oden throughout middle school and high school. "I was trying to make a play. I was just looking to make somebody crash in so I could give

somebody an open look or (else) take it all the way. I chose to take it. So it was a good shot."

Conley said the ball was supposed to go to Oden. Coach Thad Matta played it coy.

"We may have to use it again," he said, smiling.

Alando Tucker, Wisconsin's national player of the year candidate, had given the Badgers the lead with just under a minute left when he scored inside off Jason Chappell's dump pass.

Chappell then blocked a shot by Ron Lewis before Wisconsin's Kamron Taylor was sent to the line for a one-and-one with 20.3 seconds left.

Taylor's first attempt spun off the rim.

After a timeout, the Buckeyes (26-3, 14-1) passed around the perimeter before Conley cut through the lane and tossed up a soft

shot that balanced on the rim before falling.

"If you've got a point guard like Conley, he's going to try to penetrate," Wisconsin coach Bo Ryan said. "We were trying to make him take a tough shot."

The Badgers (26-4, 12-3), who lost both games this week after becoming No. 1 in the AP Top 25 for the first time, rebounded to Taylor who drove the length of the floor and tried an off-balance 15-footer at the buzzer.

Oden got a piece of it before Lewis, a senior playing his final home game, swatted it away.

"I didn't know I was going to block it until he put it right in my face," Lewis said with a wide grin while wearing a Big Ten championship hat and T-shirt.

Taylor looked to the officials, hoping to hear a whistle. But there was no call and within seconds a capacity

crowd flooded the court in celebration.

"I was just trying to get to the basket and draw some contact but it didn't work out," a disconsolate Taylor said. "It feels bad. We worked so hard, and then to have it go through your hands like that — it hurts."

Ivan Harris led the Buckeyes with 13 points, with Oden and Conley each scoring 11.

Amid speculation he might turn pro after his freshman year, the crowd serenaded Oden with a chant of "One More Year!" as the Buckeyes assembled on the floor to accept the conference championship trophy.

"I thought they were talking about Ivan!" Oden cracked.

Pressed for an answer, he said, "That's a decision that's going to be made later on in the year."

Roberts hoping to take some pressure off Bonds

By **The Associated Press**

The way Dave Roberts sees it, the San Francisco Giants have to do more than just watch Barry Bonds.

"I think this team has obviously always been centered around Barry and waiting for him to do something really special, but I think guys up and down the lineup still need to do their jobs," Roberts said. "For me, it's needing to get on base and provide energy and stealing bases. That's my job, my role this year and I'm excited about my role."

For the first time in years, the Giants have a prototypical leadoff man in Roberts. He is energetic, gets on base and regularly steals bags. He's also a welcoming, friendly face to his teammates in the clubhouse who has been a fan favorite at every stop.

Roberts will bat in front of Omar Vizquel, giving San Francisco two base-stealing threats at the top of the lineup the Giants hope will be key in making the club a contender again. He also will start in center field, with Randy Winn moving to right and Bonds playing left.

"With Dave Roberts out there getting on base, he's going to create a lot of problems out there," Bonds said in Scottsdale, Ariz. "I've had the opportunity to play against him for so many years and he's

done it. This time it's having him on our side. We had a good talk earlier. I told him, 'Don't change your game — run. The more runs you score, the more runs we have.' I just hope he runs and doesn't do anything different than he's done in the past."

The White Sox are counting on a big year from slugger Jim Thome, who was limited by back, hamstring and wrist problems during the second half of last season but still finished with 42 homers and 109 RBIs in his first year with Chicago.

He could reach 500 career homers this year but he's focused on winning the World Series in his 17th season in the big leagues.

"I certainly feel very, very strongly about winning," he said in Tucson, Ariz. "Winning a championship should be in everybody's plan. I certainly would like to accomplish that."

Thome's productive season with the White Sox came after he was limited to 59 games in the previous year with Philadelphia because of injuries. His one concern heading into last season was whether he would hold up physically.

"After you have surgery, you don't know," said Thome, who has 472 homers.

The New York Yankees are counting on Carl Pavano to start for them this season.

Kenseth bounces back with California win Get set for Year 2 of mid-major revolution

FONTANA, Calif. (AP) — With crew chief Robbie Reiser back home in North Carolina on a NASCAR-enforced absence from the racetrack, Matt Kenseth and the rest of the No. 17 team just tried to remember the lessons he has taught them over the years.

Kenseth drove the Roush Fenway Racing Ford to the front and his veteran crew gave him a series of sparkling pit stops, including a very fast one Sunday near the end of the Auto Club 500 that put the 2003 NASCAR champion into the lead for good.

"It's a special win," an emotional Kenseth said after bouncing back from a disappointing Daytona 500 with his second victory of the weekend and second Nextel Cup win at California Speedway. "It's not without Robbie though. He spent the

week at home while we were at Daytona building this car. Robbie built this team."

Kenseth, who got caught up in the last-lap melee the previous week at the Daytona 500 and wound up 27th after starting that lap in third, stayed away from trouble this time and took the lead with the fast stop during a caution 23 laps from the finish.

The victory, his 15th in Cup, came with engineer Chip Bolin sitting in for Reiser, sent home for four races after the team was caught cheating at the beginning of Daytona's Speedweeks. And it came less than 24 hours after Kenseth won the Busch Series race on the same 2-mile oval.

A year ago, it was Jimmie Johnson whose team overcame the loss of crew chief Chad Knaus to get off to a

strong start on the way to a championship.

"Those guys didn't let some bad luck stop them or slow them down," Kenseth said. "Everybody on this team knows what Robbie would expect them to do, whether he is here or not."

Kevin Harvick, who swept the Busch and Cup races at Daytona, came out of the final pit stop in second and was making up ground up Kenseth until rookie David Reutimann and former series champion Bobby Labonte crashed on lap 243 of the 250-lap event.

NASCAR red-flagged the race to give safety officials time to clean up the debris from the wreck.

Once the cars were restarted, Harvick found he had a deflating left front tire and had to pit.

He wound up 17th, the last car on the lead lap.

By **JIM LITKE**
AP Sports Writer
Anybody who enjoyed watching the big boys squirm during the first year of college basketball's mid-major revolution is going to love the second.

No longer content with just stealing spots in the NCAA field from their big-conference brethren, this season's versions of George Mason, Bradley and Northern Iowa could pick off a few choice seedings, too. We won't know for sure until Selection Sunday rolls around March 11.

But considering the tournament committee's success in playing hunches a year ago, expect more of the same.

That explained, in part, Ohio State coach Thad Matta's jubilation after beating Wisconsin. There was plenty for Matta to get emo-

tional about — the Buckeyes locked up the nation's No. 1 ranking and a Big Ten regular-season title with a 49-48 win over the Badgers — but the biggest prize may be the one he talks about the least.

Though the conference tournament still looms, the win put the Buckeyes in the driver's seat for a No. 1 seed when the NCAA brackets come out. And for all the changes the college game has undergone in recent years, there are few better predictors of success. The one-and-done tournament format means there are no guarantees, but since the field was expanded to 64 teams in 1985, top seeds have made it to the regional semifinals 84 percent of the time.

A week ago, after beating Minnesota, someone asked Matta how important it would be to get a No. 1 seed

and play their games in the Midwest all the way through the regional final in St. Louis. He demurred looking that far ahead, replying, "you just listed sites where I didn't know there were sites."

Seeding is on everyone's mind — his disclaimer aside, Matta included — and with good reason. Like the Buckeyes, UCLA is likely a lock for a No. 1, but losses by Florida and North Carolina over the weekend and a recent surge by Kansas means there is plenty of heavy lifting to be done. The Badgers aren't out of the picture, either.

What's made those numbers more important than ever is the unprecedented depth in the college game.

A top seed can count on an easy first-round game, and with luck, a big edge in the second.

But that's about it.

THE PAMPA NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

www.thepampanews.com

403 W. Atchison • PO Box 2198 • 806.669.2525 • 800.687.3348

5 Special Notices

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

13 Bus. Opp.

Absolute Goldmine! Snack and Soda Route \$10,995 Must Sell! 800-229-9261

14d Carpentry

Carpentry, Roofing, Replacement Windows, steel siding & trim. Continuous gutters. Jerry Nicholas 669-9991, 662-8169

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

14e Carpet Serv.

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

14h Gen. Serv.

HOUSE Cracking? In bricks or walls? Childers Brothers, Inc. 800-299-9563, 806-352-9563

COX Fence Company.

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

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

14h Gen. Serv.

JH Concrete Work. Slabs, sidewalks, driveways, additions, roofing, fences. Free Est., 806-382-5408

14s Plumbing/Heat

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

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

21 Help Wanted

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

NOW hiring all positions. Full-Time. Apply in person before 11am. & aft. 2pm, Dixie Cafe. No phone calls please.

BRITKARE Home Medical is now accepting applications for a part-time Customer Service position in Pampa office. Must be friendly, polite and work well with the public. Spanish speaking a plus. Please come by our office at 912 W. Kentucky to pick up application. No phone calls please!! EOE.

PART-TIME bookkeeper with computer ability. White House Lumber Company, 665-8475.

OUTREACH Health Services is hiring providers in Pampa/ Please call Mary 1-800-800-0697 or 806-373-0986. EOE.

PARKVIEW HOSPITAL is now accepting applications for a Full-Time & Part-Time LVN, 11p-7a shift. Competitive salary. Full benefits. Mileage paid. Call Sue Stiles DON Wheeler, 826-5581

21 Help Wanted

POST OFFICE NOW HIRING. Avg. Pay \$20 / hr. or \$57K annually including Federal benefits and OT. Paid Training, Vacation, FT / PT. 1-800-584-1775 ext. 5928 USWA.

PARKVIEW HOSPITAL

is now accepting applications for a Full-Time & Part-Time Registered Nurse. 7a-7p. Competitive salary. Full benefits. Mileage paid. Call Sue Stiles DON 826-5581 Apply in person 901 Sweetwater St. Wheeler, TX or email resume to: cpeffley@centramedia.net

NOW hiring Code & Structural Welders. Must be able to pass weld test. Apply in person at Conner Industries, 118 Bunton, in Borger. 806-274-2281.

SALES & SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

Major manufacturer of oil & gas process equipment is seeking sales & service representatives for the Permian Basin and Oklahoma City areas. A minimum of 2 years experience and working knowledge of oil & gas production equipment is required. Excellent benefit package 401(k) & Profit Sharing Automobile Salary commensurate with experience Send resume to: Sivalis, Inc. Attn. D. Brister P.O. Box 2792 Odessa, TX 79760 Inquiries and obtain an application from: 8am-5pm M-F 2200 E. 22nd Street Odessa, TX 79761 432-337-3571 Fax: 432-337-2624 dbrister@sivalis.com

West Texas Landscape 120 S. Hobart

Now Hiring: Qualified Landscape Irrigation Installer for Professional Landscape Company. Apply in person! No Phone Calls!!!

MAJOR greeting card co. needs retail merch. to service card dept. in Pampa. Weekday & weekend shifts avail. Please apply at: http://jobsearch.hallmarkcareers.monster.com

21 Help Wanted

Fastest Growing Gigal Music and Entertainment Company. Go to www.yourburnteam.com Burn lounge, Tom George 806-670-7064.

MCLEAN CARE CENTER

Accepting applications for CNA's & NA's Immediate Openings especially for 10-6 shift! Apply in person or call Kim Wheeler D.O.N. 806-779-2469

FINANCE Co. looking to expand in the Pampa area.

Need motivated individual for Assistant Manager position. No exp. necessary; willing to train. Interested applicants can mail resumes to: 307 E. Broadway, Sweetwater, TX 79556 or fax to 325-235-3814, attn: Johnny.

TRINITY Fellowship Church

is seeking a part-time nursery worker. NO CALLS. Please pick up applications at 1200 S. Sumner.

West Texas Landscape 120 S. Hobart

Now Hiring: Qualified Landscape Irrigation Installer for Professional Landscape Company. Apply in person! No Phone Calls!!!

CERTIFIED Nurse Aides needed at St. Ann's Nursing Home, full-time. Complete benefits package plus shift differential 3-11 & 11-7. Panhandle, Spur 293 off Hwy. 60. 537-3194.

21 Help Wanted

SECRETARY / Bookkeeper, Inventory & Sales person needed. Drug testing required. 806-669-9661.

SIVALLS Inc. is looking for Lay-Out Fabricators and Welder Fabricators.

Welding and drug tests req. Benefits: health ins., profit sharing, 401K, 8 paid holidays and 10 days vacation per year. 806-665-7111, Pampa.

TOP O' Texas Oilfield Service needs Class A CDL Drivers. Benefits. Apply 408 S. Price Rd.

SECRETARY needed at Top O' Texas Oilfield Service. (Accts. payable, accts. receivable & knowledge of Quick Books helpful). Apply in person 8am-3pm., ask for Jerod. 408 S. Price Rd.

DOMINO'S Pizza is now hiring. Apply in person at 1332 N. Hobart, Pampa.

Lifetime Opportunity!! Mature person or couple to manage small motel. Please call 806-665-1875 or 806-383-1985.

CORONADO Health Care Center has the following employment opportunities: PRN-CNA's: \$9.00 per hour Full-Time CNA's, Weekend LVN's. Sign on bonus \$250 for Full-Time LVN's & Full-Time CNA's. Interested applicants can submit applications during normal business hours. For more information please call (806) 665-5746. Equal Opportunity Employer.

BEST WESTERN NORTHGATE INN

Night Audit Position available, 11pm-7am. Apply in person, 2831 Perryton Pkwy., Pampa.

HOUSEKEEPING / LAUNDRY: Immediate FULL TIME openings for reliable, dependable individuals. General housekeeping duties. EOE. Please apply in person, BORGER HEALTH CARE CENTER, 1316 South Florida, Borger.

JOB OPPORTUNITY:

National Bank of Commerce, Pampa, Texas, is taking applications for a proof operator/customer service employee. Computer and ten key skills necessary. Apply at 1224 N. Hobart, Pampa, Texas. National Bank of Commerce is an Equal Opportunity Employer

FULL-TIME Housekeeper / Janitor is needed at St. Ann's Nursing Home in Panhandle. Paid vacations & holidays, health, dental & life ins. plan, 401K. 537-3194.

21 Help Wanted

NEED drivers, can earn up to \$8-\$12 hr. Also need Prep. person. Apply in person, Pizza Hut Delivery, 1500 N. Banks.

COOKS & Wait Staff

needed. Apply in person Pizza Hut, 855 W. Kingsmill, Pampa.

49 Pools/Hot Tubs

DEMO SPA's - Full Warranty. FREE Cover, Steps, & Chemical Kit. (806) 358-9597.

50 Building Suppl.

White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

60 Household

THICK Pillow Top Mattress Sets New, No-Flip, 15 yr. war. T-\$189, F-\$219 Q-\$269, K-\$379 Many other LOW PRICED sets in stock Elite Furniture 806-677-0400

69 Misc.

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

WANTED: Responsible party to take on small mo. payments on High Definition Big Screen Tv. 1-800-398-3970

QUEEN mattress set, chests, bookcases, VHS movies, etc. Red Barn, 1424 S. Barnes, Sat. 10-5pm, 665-2767

SEASONED Oak Firewood. Delivered and stacked. 779-3284

KING size waterbed motionless, with mirror, headboard, and 6 draws under bed, \$200, 665-2831, 665-5190.

1 round & 1 rectangle display case, bathtub (3 yrs. old) & sm. vanity for sale. 806-323-6000, 217-0351.

69a Garage Sales

TAYLOR'S Boutique & Gifts, 212 E. Broadway, Fritch. Consignments & New. 806-857-0048

75 Feeds/Seeds

BLUE stem grass hay for sale. \$45 per bale. 883-2152.

77 Livest./Equip.

Serviceable BLACK ANGUS BULLS FOR SALE Bred for low to mod. birth & quick growth

More info. contact THOMAS ANGUS 580-655-4318 or 589-497-7217 Reydon, Okla

89 Wanted To Buy

WANTED to buy antique collectibles from Pampa Ice Company. Call 806-236-4162.

95 Furn. Apts.

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." State law also forbids discrimination based on these factors. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

96 Unfurn. Apts.

APTS., Duplexes & Houses for rent. Mon.-Fri. 8-6pm, Sat. 10-4pm., call 665-4274 or 433-6939

GWENDOLENApts. Newly Remodeled. Largest 1&2 bdr. apts in Pampa. 800 N. Nelson, 665-1875.

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

THE Schneider House, now leasing apts. Seniors or disabled, utilities included. Stop by 120 S. Russell or call 665-0415.

98 Unfurn. Houses

PICK up rental list from Gray Box on front porch of 125 S. Houston, Pampa.

3 bdr., 2 ba., firepl., dbl. gar., ref. air. 2 bdr., dbl. gar., E. Kingsmill. 440-3044, 665-4180.

99 Stor. Bldgs.

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

102 Bus. Rent. Prop.

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

OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

DOWNTOWN office space for rent.

Utilities & cleaning service provided. Ample parking. 669-6823.

WAREHOUSE for rent/lease.

6500 sq ft. 806-886-5754

103 Homes For Sale

Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-3560, 440-2314 669-0007

BY Owner, house, furniture & furnishings, 2/3 bdr., cellar, workshop w/ elec. Reas. 665-4801

I WILL FINANCE!

4 bdr., 2 ba. 606 Chamberlain Very nice house!

Lease 2 bdr., 1 ba. 103 Burdett Skellytown Call 669-6995, 440-1698

JUST remodeled, 2 bd. 1 bath home. Will Not Carry Note! Call 669-1506. On Sunday call after 1pm.

104 Lots

2 Mausoleum Crypts Side by Side \$3995.00 Call 440-2449

113 RV Parks

RED DEER VILLA RV RANCH & STORAGE 2100 Montagu W. 669-1122. Big Rigs Welcome!

114 Recre. Veh.

NICE 1994 35 ft. Terry 5th wheel w/ slide out, \$7000. Aft. 5pm. call 665-2658, 806-333-4182

115 Trailer Parks

TUMBLEWEED Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

120 Autos

2003 Toyota Highlander Limited 4x4, white, 39K mi. \$22,000. 662-5837 or 665-3379 Leave Message.

2004 Chevrolet Avalan- che with conversion pack- age for sale. Nice Truck! Call 806-835-2773 for more info.

PHONE IN - MOVE IN

It's not just getting a mortgage it's building your future.

1-888-883-2086 call today for your Free Pre-approval! Financial provided by Centaur Mortgage, 3000 Leadshill Road, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054 *Subject to applicable secondary market credit and property approval guidelines.

¡Llámenos y Múdense Pronto!® El camino a casa más rápido, más simple, y más conveniente.™

1-888-891-8764 Toll Free El camino a casa más rápido, más simple, y más conveniente.™

AUSTIN SCHOOL DISTRICT		North and North East	
30th & Charles	\$2,500,000	50.9 Acres N of Walmart	
1701 N. Hobart	\$640,000	1.556 Acres Commercial	
210 W. Harvester	\$326,400	5/3.75/2 - 4828 SF/GCAD	
2700 Duncan	\$275,000	4/2.5/2 - 3830 SF/GCAD	
2370 Beech	\$217,000	4/1, .75, 5/2 - 2424 SF/GCAD	
1 Cypress Point Rd.	\$215,000	3/2/2 - 2000 SF/Approx.	
1615 N. Russell	\$184,900	3/2.5/2 - 3311 SF/GCAD	
2715 Aspen	\$174,500	4/2/2 - 2780 SF/GCAD	
1900 Grape	\$140,000	5/2.75/2 - 3256 SF/GCAD	
2300 Navajo	\$134,500	4/2/2 - 2110 SF/GCAD	
1827 Fir	\$120,000	3/1.75/2 - 1962 SF/GCAD	
2410 Cherokee	\$115,000	3/1.75/2 - 1988 SF/GCAD	
2424 Cherokee	\$105,000	3/2/2 - 1893 SF/GCAD	
2328 Comanche	\$99,500	3/1.75/2 - 1512 GCAD	
1816 Beech	\$89,900	3/1.75/0 - 1752 SF/GCAD	
1708 Dogwood	\$78,000	3/1.50/1 - 1405 SF/GCAD	
1711 Aspen	\$75,000	3/1/1 - 1200 SF/GCAD	
1211 N. Russell	\$61,500	3/1/1 - 1498 SF/GCAD	
2221 Hamilton	\$37,500	2/1/1 - 968 SF/GCAD	
LAMAR SCHOOL DISTRICT		South West	
1045 S. Christy	\$62,500	3/2/2 - 1940 SF/GCAD	
316 N. Nelson	\$48,700	3/1/1 - 1295 SF/GCAD	
TRAVIS SCHOOL DISTRICT		West and North West	
1514 N. Nelson	\$112,000	3/2/2 - 1830 SF/GCAD	
1002 N. Somerville	\$79,000	3/2/2 - 1807 SF/GCAD	
2218 N. Nelson	\$74,500	3/1/None - 1634 SF/GCAD	
931 Cinderella	\$74,500	3/1.75/2 - 1198 SF/GCAD	
1008 Sirocco	\$69,900	3/2/2 - 1266 SF/GCAD	
813 N. Wells	\$62,500	4/1.5/0 - 1352 SF/GCAD	
1908 Christy	\$61,500	3/1.75/1 - 1229 SF/GCAD	
809 N. Dwight	\$59,500	3/2/1 - 1269 SF/GCAD	
WILSON SCHOOL DISTRICT		South East	
106 S. Cuyler	\$97,500	3/2/2 - 3560 SF/GCAD	
1352 Garland St.	\$42,500	3/1/1 - 1454 SF/GCAD	
427 E. Browning	\$29,900	2/1.75/1 - 1137 SF/GCAD	
505 N. Lowry	\$29,900	3/2/2 Carport - SF/GCAD	
932 E. Francis	\$27,950	3/1/1 - 1468 SF/GCAD	
OTHER AREAS		Outside Pampa City Limits	
0000 Main St., White Deer	\$150,000	Lots W of RR & N of Main	
6232 FM 291, Altonred	\$125,000	4/2/1 - 2,000 + SF	
11647 FM 293, Groom	\$120,000	4/2.75/2 - 3084 SF/GCAD	
518 Warren, White Deer	\$85,000	3/1/2 - 1864 SF	
801 Gimes, White Deer	\$55,000	3/2/1 CP - 1400 SF/GCAD	
207, 206, 201 Swift, White Deer	\$50,000	Church w/2 Small Houses	
906 Dickerson, Mobeetie	\$49,000	4/2/None - 2016 SF/GCAD	

Pampa Realty Inc. 669-0007

Jim Davidson (BKR) 662-9021
 Robert Anderwald 665-3357
 Katrina Bigham 898-8510
 Donna Courter 595-0779
 Twila Fisher (BKR) 440-2314
 Melba Musgrave 440-3130
 Zeb Sailors 664-0312
 Christa Sutherland 664-0463

Real Estate For The Real World Pampa-MLS Amarillo-MLS

Visit CENTURY 21 COMMUNITIES™ on AOL@Keyword:CENTURY 21

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.

2-26 CRYPTOQUOTE
 RIQZURK UW UBFIWWUTSC
 VIP QZC BNR EZI GICWR'Q
 ZNLC QI GI UQ ZUBWCSV.
 — N. Z. ECUSCP

Saturday's Cryptoquote: CLEANING ANYTHING INVOLVES MAKING SOMETHING ELSE DIRTY, BUT ANYTHING CAN GET DIRTY WITHOUT SOMETHING ELSE GETTING CLEAN. — LAURENCE PETER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2007:

Tap into your creativity this year, and you'll open many doors, not only for yourself but for others. Your imagination becomes a hallmark that others associate with you. Let your mind roam and create more fun and luck. Sometimes others aren't comfortable with the changing you. Give them and yourself time. If you are an artist or writer, you could be unusually productive. Could this be the year you write your great masterpiece? If you are single, the likelihood of your remaining footloose and fancy-free is small. Quite a few suitors surround you. Which one will you choose? If you are attached, your relationship will benefit from sharing more of your dreams and fantasies. CANCER becomes playful when you are around.

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

Electricity producer TXU going private in \$32 billion deal

By DAVID KOENIG
AP Business Writer

DALLAS (AP) — TXU Corp., Texas' largest electricity producer, said today it has agreed to be sold to a group of private-equity firms for about \$32 billion in what would be the largest private buyout in U.S. corporate history if shareholders go along.

Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. and Texas Pacific Group led a

group that included Goldman Sachs & Co. and three other Wall Street firms that will pay \$69.25 per share for TXU. They will also assume about \$13 billion in debt.

The firms won support for the buyout from some environmentalists who have criticized TXU by agreeing to sharply scale back TXU's controversial \$10 billion plan to build 11 new coal-fired power plants that would produce

tons of new greenhouse gas emissions.

They also agreed to cut electricity prices 10 percent, which they said would save TXU residential customers more than \$300 million per year, and limit prices until September 2008.

TXU directors voted Sunday night to recommend that shareholders approve the sale. The price represents a 15 percent premium to

TXU's closing stock price on Friday. TXU shares rose \$7.56, or 12.6 percent, to \$67.58 in morning trading on the New York Stock Exchange after reaching a 52-week high of \$68.

The deal would top the previous biggest private buyout ever of \$25.1 billion set in 1988 when RJR Nabisco was acquired by Kohlberg Kravis.

Private-equity firms have often

steered clear of utilities, viewing them as highly regulated businesses with relatively low return on investment. But Texas deregulated its electricity market in 2002, and TXU is generating tremendous amounts of cash and profit — Wall Street expects the company to report Tuesday that it earned about \$2.5 billion in 2006.

Evening of Jazz



COURTESY PHOTO

The Pampa High School Jazz Band will stage an "Evening of Jazz" from 7-9 p.m. March 1 at M.K. Brown Auditorium. The fund-raiser will include lots of jazz and a catered dinner. Tickets are available at Holmes Sporting Goods in downtown Pampa or from any of the band's members. For more information call, 665-8126 or 664-3327. Above: Joseph Johnson, Kris Boyd, Michael May, Kayla Mendoza, Scott Langford, Alyssa Seitz, Andrea Burkhalter, Shealyn McGahen, Samantha Sutterfield, Kayleen Stallings, Trevor Collins, Brenden Carpenter, Landon McNeely, Craig Conner, Geoff Bowley, Ryan Olson, Michael Loughmiller, Brandon Crook, Greg Wariner, Mitch Bromlow, Brodie Peters and Band Director Jordan Holmes.

Beverages

Continued from Page 4

His summary of those efforts in the Jan. 29 position paper is making the industry and some lawmakers nervous.

Texas alcohol regulations date back to 1935 and the repeal of Prohibition. They were aimed partly at preventing the spread of organized crime and blocking business practices that might encourage intemperate behavior. The regulatory structure separated the industry into three tiers (production, distribution and retail) and included some requirements that by today's standards seem strange.

For example, Wolf points out that retailers are required to pay cash for beer deliveries.

The industry itself is seeking some changes. Under current law, restaurants and bars can buy beer and wine from wholesale distributors, but they must buy distilled spirits — bottled liquor — only from specially licensed retail stores. Liquor distributors say that they will ask the Legislature this year for a law that would allow them to sell directly to restaurants and bars.

They may wish they had never brought it up. It will mean a fight between alcohol retailers and the distributors — what Wolf calls "a war

over which participant will succeed in manipulating a corrupt system for economic gain."

In a Jan. 24 story, the Austin American-Statesman said that since November, the distributors have given \$1.38 million in political donations to top legislators Dewhurst, Gov. Rick Perry and House Speaker Tom Craddick in preparation for this battle.

Wolf says it is the wrong battle. What the alcoholic beverage industry in Texas needs, he says, is a free market in which only producers and the entities that sell directly to the public are licensed. That could mean some large retailers — Wal-Mart, Costco, large grocery chains — would purchase products directly from manufacturers, cutting out the distributor middleman and possibly passing the savings on to consumers.

What are the objections likely to be? Aside from the fact that the way the beverage industry operates today is the way it has operated for a long time, the principal point from Wolf's opponents is that the current structure provides a lot of jobs. Beverage distributors are a big part of communities statewide, and they help with all kinds of civic causes. Deregulation would bring economic change.

Wolf's appeal for a review of the regulatory structure was adopted by the Sunset

Advisory Commission and submitted to the Legislature two years ago. A bill including the request passed the House but didn't get a committee hearing in the Senate.

This year, the commission adopted a new report without Wolf's recommendation for regulatory reform. He has asked that his position paper be attached as an addendum to that report, but Sen. Kim Brimer of Fort Worth, the commission's chairman, said that a request for new laws is outside the scope of the commission's responsibilities. Brimer said that the Legislature can take up Wolf's suggestions whenever one of its 181 members wishes to submit a bill supporting them.

Brimer is right about that.

The Legislature should shine a bright light on the Texas alcoholic beverage industry and the aged laws that regulate it. If those regulations are not in the best interest of consumers today, they should be changed. If testimony in legislative hearings shows that current laws should be maintained, so be it.

Privately, some legislators agree that such an examination is needed. The problem weighing heavily on them is that the industry's most recent largess sends a clear message: Anyone who risks breaking the protective bubble provided by some of those laws could face a well-funded opponent in the next

election.

Surely there is at least one brave (or at least not excessively cautious) lawmaker in Austin who will reject that intimidating message and challenge the status quo. Surely, if this industry and its regulatory structure are strong, they could withstand the test.

GRAY COUNTY TITLE CO. INC

A Full Service Title And Abstract Company
Licensed Title Insurance Agent In
Gray And Roberts Counties

EDITH HILL MANAGER

408 W. KINGSMILL SUITE 171-A
PAMPA TEXAS

OFFICE 806-665-8241 FAX 806-665-7209

E-MAIL gct@graycountytitle.com

TILE & LAMINATE

Discontinued Stock Starting At

75¢ SQ FT

Lots To Choose From

IN STOCK CARPET

\$2.00 OFF SQ YD

Our Already Low Prices

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM TODAY!

One STOP Flooring

1533 N. HOBART • 665-0995
MON-FRI 9:00-5:00 • SAT 10:00-1:00



Remembrance...

This March marks the one year anniversary of the largest wildfires in Texas History.

The 2006 Commemorative Magazine contains information and full color photos that captures a historical moment in the Texas Panhandle History.

Copies of this collectible magazine are available for purchase at The Pampa News • 403 W. Atchison

Honoring The Volunteers Who Rose To The Occasion

Reese

Continued from Page 4

weapons to Iraq surfaced 16 months ago. The British stopped making the claims for lack of evidence. So why did the Bush administration choose this particular time

to make the charge, and why did it do so in such a way as to ensure skepticism? The way to restore credibility is to lay all the evidence out in a transparent manner and to say truthfully what is known and what is not known.

The American people must be careful not to let this administration lead them into yet another war,

this time with Iran, with the same kinds of deception it used to justify the Iraq War.

Perhaps the Iranians are supplying some weapons to Shiite militias, but the Bush administration has yet to prove it.

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