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See expanded weather on Page 2

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IT'S TIME TO ROLL OVER YOUR NEXT EGG

Today marks first anniversary of wildfires

By KERRI SMITH
Staff Writer

Today marks the one-year anniversary of wildfires that burned nearly one million acres in the Texas Panhandle and killed 12 people.

It is a day that most in this area will not soon forget because of the tragedies and also the heroism of those who fought the fires to save lives, homes and livestock.

March 12, 2006, started out like most days in the Panhandle - hot, dry and windy. The first fire started near Borger, with others following near Pampa and McLean. It was estimated that at least 22 fire departments, full-time and volunteer, fought the

fires and put out hotspots that spawned throughout the week.

A seven car pile-up on Interstate 40 near Groom was caused by heavy smoke blowing across the highway and four people died in that accident. Three people died near Borger when they were overcome by smoke and flames.

Four oilfield workers died on their way to work when they veered off the road due to smoke. When they attempted to escape on foot they were trapped by the flames and were pitched just feet away from their vehicle.

The last death occurred on April 9, when a volunteer firefighter died. He

was injured when his firetruck rolled over while fighting the flames near Alanreed.

Numerous homes and outbuildings were destroyed, but many more were saved by the efforts of the firefighters who worked for days to put out the flames and hotspots.

Farmers and ranchers were hit on two different levels. They lost thousands of horses and cattle as well as hundreds of miles of fence and feed for their animals. After the fires were put out, numerous communities pitched in to help by sending hay to this area.

People were evacuated from Lefors, McLean, Skellytown and the

Walnut Creek area just north of Pampa. The Lake McClellan recreation area was shut down and remains closed one year later due to damages sustained by the fire.

Workers from the Texas Department of Transportation were called out to operate heavy equipment to help fight the fires. The Texas Forest Service sent personnel and air tankers with retardant to this area. Some credit that fire retardant as one of the main causes that Skellytown was saved.

The Red Cross set up facilities at First Baptist Church to house evacuees. See FIRES, Page 3

Progress in Pampa



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH
Witt Masonry from Amarillo is the company setting the blocks and bricks on the new office building for Quality Sales on North Hobart. T.J. Cobos is shown smoothing out the mortar between blocks.

Fund set up for victim of beating

To help cover medical expenses for Pampa resident Cody Jones, candles are being sold and a special fund has been set up at FirstBank Southwest for donations.

On Feb. 23, Jones was beaten up by multiple individuals while leaving the Derrick Club on Alcock Street.

Jones works at Pampa Machine, but has no medical insurance and he has not been able to return to work since getting out of the hospital.

Jones, 23, suffered a broken nose and the bones around his eyes were severely crushed. Jones underwent surgery in Amarillo to repair his face with metal plates and he is now out of the hospital. He will have to return for more surgery. See FUND, Page 3

Agricultural waste, pesticides to be collected on March 25

By KERRI SMITH
Staff Writer

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is going to collect agricultural waste and pesticides in Pampa free of charge on March 26.

Some items that will be accepted are banned or unwanted pesticides, used motor oil, oil filters, lead-acid batteries, agricultural wastes and properly rinsed plastic pesticide containers.

Agricultural wastes and supplies that will be collected include tractor waste products such as brake and transmission fluids, insecticides, harvest chemicals, pesticides used on livestock, weed killers and rat poison.

Any agricultural chemicals containing Silvex, more than five gallons of pentachlorophenol and non-hazardous fertilizers or nutrient materials will not be accepted at the collection site.

Tires, explosives, compressed gas cylinders and waste from chemical dealers are other items that cannot be dropped off.

Empty plastic pesticide containers must be clean and high-pressure rinsed to be accepted. For large quantities of these containers, contact USAg Recycling at 1-800-654-3145 to arrange pickup at no cost.

There is a limit of two 55-gallon drums per participant of oil filters. Businesses that change oil for a fee are not allowed to dispose of their oil filters.

These free collections, conducted rain or shine, give agricultural producers who use pesticides in Texas an opportunity to dispose of unwanted products safely and properly. These collections are co-sponsored by the TCEQ's Small Business and Environmental Assistance Division, Texas Cooperative Extension Service, Texas Department of Agriculture and USAg Recycling.

The collection will take place from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on March 26 at the Texas Cooperative Extension Gray County Show Barn at 12125 E. Frederic.

See WASTE, Page 3

Adult Business Study on agenda for city

By KERRI SMITH
Staff Writer

The Pampa City Commission will meet in a regular meeting at 4 p.m. Tuesday to discuss and possibly approve participation in the Adult Business Study, which will study the effects on property values and crime rates in regard to retail-only sexually oriented businesses with no on-premises entertainment.

Also on the agenda is an amendment for police department staffing limits and consideration of an agreement between the PEDC and MXT, L.L.C. for funds.

City Attorney Don Lane received a letter from Lane Houston, general counsel

for the Texas City Attorneys Association, requesting that Pampa participate in a study of the harmful secondary effects of sexually oriented businesses by contributing funds.

A decision in 2003 by the Court of Appeals leaves retail-only businesses with no on-premises entertainment immune from regulations that cities and counties enact.




TCAA Board of Directors is planning a study by three nationally recognized experts who are prepared to conduct research, but the cost for the study is approximately

See CITY, Page 3

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NEXT DAY FORECAST

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
		
Patchy fog	Mostly sunny	Partly cloudy

Tuesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly cloudy, with a high near 72. South southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 48. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming northwest.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 48. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph becoming calm.

Thursday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 61. North northwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 36. East wind between 5 and 15 mph.

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Emergency Services

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

Friday, March 9
Nine traffic stops were made.

A traffic complaint was received from the 1100 block of South Christy.

Vehicle accidents were reported at the intersection of West and Kingsmill Streets, the 1300 block of North Hobart and the 100 block of West 30th.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 900 block of Cinderella, the 2200 block of North Wells, an unreported location and the 1900 block of North Faulkner.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 2100 block of North Russell, the 200 block of East Brown, the 400 block of North Perry, the 700 block of Denver and in Wheeler.

Warrant service was attempted on three occasions, resulting in at least one arrest.

An attempt to serve papers was made in the 1200 block of East Kingsmill.

A civil matter was reported in the 1000 block of Varnon Drive.

A welfare check was made in the 100 block of East Craven.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 700 block of Lefors and the 600 block of East 17th.

A prowler was reported in the 400 block of Graham.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of North Nelson.

Disorderly conduct/fighting was reported in the 100 block of East Randy Matson. The fight was between two juvenile students. No injuries were reported in connection with the incident.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 700 block of North Wells and the 2700 block of Rosewood, where at least one arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Evading arrest was reported in the 1000 block of Varnon Drive.

Obituaries

Services tomorrow

SISSEL, Paul Trueman — 10:30 a.m. Central Assembly of God Church, Enid, Okla.

Ola Mitchell, 85

Ola Mitchell, 85, died Friday, March 9, 2007, in Oklahoma City, Okla.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Mitchell was born July 3, 1921, in Glenmore, Louisiana. She married Wayne Mitchell on November 8, 1939, in Wellington. He preceded her in death in 2004. She moved to Pampa in 1966. She was a longtime member of Central Baptist Church.

She enjoyed knitting, sewing and especially enjoyed cooking.

Survivors include one son, Troy Mitchell & wife Jewell of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; one daughter, Joyce Fogle & husband Rick of Fredericksburg; one brother, Gene Winegeart & wife Ann of Pampa; two sisters, Opal



Mitchell

Cochran of Pampa and Evelyn Parker of Dalhart; three grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; four step-great-grandchildren; and three step-great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers and one sister.

Memorials may be made to the Central Baptist Church, 513 E. Francis, Pampa, Texas 79065 or Highland Baptist Church, 1301 N. Banks, Pampa, Texas 79065.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

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

Paul T. Sissel, 88

ENID, Okla. — A funeral service for Paul Trueman Sissel, 88, will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 13, 2007, at Central Assembly of God Church, with Pastor Kevin Ward and Rev. Steve Lance officiating. Burial will be at 3:30 p.m. in Fairfax Cemetery, with arrangements by Anderson-Burris Funeral Home. Visitation with the family will be from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

He was born to Franklin Trueman and Dorothy Annie (McMahan) Sissel on Sept. 29, 1918, in Magdalena, N.M., and died Thursday, March 8, 2007, at his home in Enid.

He grew up in Fairfax,

and graduated from Fairfax High School. On Oct. 1, 1939, he married Sarah W. Rollins in Fairfax.

Paul served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was the recipient of the Silver Star for bravery on April 16, 1945. Paul and Sarah moved to Enid in 1971, where he worked for Champlin Oil Co. for 38 years, retiring on March 2, 1981. He was a member of Central Assembly of God Church, where he was Royal Ranger Commander for 37 years, Assistant Sunday



Sissel

School Superintendent, and a Sunday School teacher. He also served on the Board of Deacons and as Secretary of the Men's Fellowship.

He is survived by his wife, Sarah of the home; five children, Dallas Paul Sissel of Shawnee, Kan., James Franklin Sissel of Victoria, Kan., Howard Eugene Sissel of Ponca City, Raymond Dale Sissel of Lefors, Texas, and Sharon Scruggs of Drummond; two brothers, Roy Sissel of Maize, Kan. and Arthur Sissel of Fritch, Texas; and many grandchildren and

great-grandchildren.

Paul was preceded in death by his father Frank Sissel in 1972, his mother, Dorothy Sissel in 1986, a daughter, Cheryl Renae Sissel in 1952, and four brothers, David, F.T., Alvin and John Sissel.

Memorials may be made through the funeral home to Central Assembly of God Church Royal Rangers Program or Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation — Alzheimers Division.

Condolences may be made online at www.andersonburris.com.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Aletbury Grain of White Deer.

Wheat	4.42
Milo	6.62
Corn	7.46
Soybeans	6.30

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

OXY	45.86	-0.47
BP PLC ADR	60.65	-0.54
Cabot Corp	46.15	+0.90
Celanese	30.14	-0.05
Cabot Oil Gas	67.25	-0.79
Coca Cola	47.62	+0.05
VLO	59.77	-0.46
HAL	31.93	-0.09
TRI	48.97	-0.02

KML	105.69	-0.07
XCEL	23.33	-0.10
Anadarko	40.04	-0.62
XOM	70.76	-0.36
Nat'l Oilwell	71.52	-1.08
Limited	26.33	+0.25
Williams	27.15	-0.28
MCD	44.31	+0.16
Atmos	31.17	-0.01
Pioneer Nat	38.01	-0.20
JCP	81.77	+1.46
COP	67.15	-0.65
SLB	64.34	-0.76
Tenneco	24.65	+0.18
CVX	68.18	-0.29
Wal-Mart	47.38	-0.04
OKE	43.22	+0.15

New York Gold	652.00
Silver	12.97
West Texas Crude	60.05

CITY BRIEFS

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MEMORY GARDENS will be picking up all seasonal decorations beginning March 12th.

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PAMPA PORTRAITS Photo Contest in the Pledge Edition of the Pampa News: Deadline Mar. 15th, 5pm.

Public intoxication was reported at the intersection of Gwendolyn and Hobart streets. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

A narcotics violation was reported in the 600 block of North Wells.

Assault was reported in the police department lobby.

Saturday, March 10
Six traffic stops were made.

Traffic complaints were received from the 2100 block of North Wells, the 1600 block of East Highway 60 and the 1900 block of North Wells.

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

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 1200 block of East Foster, the 800 block of East Brunow, the 800 block of East Albert, the 2800 block of Charles, the 200 block of Tignor, the 1600 block of East Highway 60 and on two occasions from an unreported location.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 300 block of North Christy, the 1100 block of West Coronado Drive, the 300 block of North Ballard, the 200 block of East Foster and the intersection of Campbell and Talley streets.

Welfare checks were made in the 400 block of Tignor and the 100 block of North Hobart.

A runaway was reported in the police department lobby. The incident occurred in the 2400 block of Comanche. The missing person returned while the police report was being written.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 2400 block of Comanche and the 2800 block of Charles.

Suspicious person calls were received from the intersection of Campbell and Reid streets, the 300 block of east Brown and the 500 block of North Christy.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 900 block of West 23rd and the 400 block of South Cuyler.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1600 block of North Christine.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of Willow Road, the 1000 block of North Sumner, the

1200 block of East Kingsmill and the 1100 block of Sierra.

Harassment was reported in the 200 block of North Wells.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 2600 block of Comanche Trail and the 400 block of Graham, where the incident was verbal only and no injuries were reported.

Assault was reported in the 800 block of South Sumner.

Possession of drug paraphernalia and service of two warrants were reported in the 2600 block of Comanche. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Three burglar alarms were reported.

One open door was checked.

Theft was reported at Hasting's Books, Music and Video, 1205 N. Hobart. Thirteen iPods were taken. Estimated value of loss is \$2,420.

Burglary was reported in the 800 block of West Brown.

Burglary of a habitation was reported in the 400 block of Graham. A door frame was damaged. Estimated value of damage is unknown.

Sunday, March 11
Nine traffic stops were made.

A traffic complaint was received from the 100 block of North Sumner.

Motorist assistance was rendered in the 500 block of West Crawford.

A vehicle accident was reported on Highway 70 South.

A vehicle pursuit was reported in the 500 block of Harlem.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 1900 block of North Faulkner and on two occasions in the 600 block of North Dwight.

Runaways were reported in the 1200 block of East Browning, the police department lobby, and the 1000 block of South Nelson, where the runaway later arrived back home.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 200 block of North Russell and the intersection of Price Road and Highway 152.

Civil matters were reported in the 1100 block of East

Kingsmill, the 2600 block of Comanche and the 1900 block of North Christy.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 1400 block of West Somerville.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 500 block of Lowry, the 100 block of North Cuyler and the 100 block of South Starkweather.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 1800 block of Hamilton.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1000 block of Huff Road and the 1600 block of West Somerville.

Criminal trespass was reported in the police department lobby.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1200 block of McCullough, the 2400 block of Comanche, the 900 block of Love and the 800 block of North Wells.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 500 block of North Faulkner and the 1400 block of West Somerville, where an arrest was made in connection with the incident.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1500 block of North Christy. Damage to a door, clothes hamper, entertainment center, dresser, storage building and wall were done in connection with the incident. Estimated cost of damage is \$255.

Assault was reported in the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway.

Assault and domestic violence were reported in the 1000 block of Farley. Minor injuries which did not require medical attention were reported.

Furnishing alcohol to a minor was reported in the 600 block of North Wynne.

Public intoxication was reported in the 2600 block of Cherokee. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Theft of services was reported in the 1200 block of East Foster. Electricity was taken. Estimated value of loss is unknown.

Theft was reported in the 1800 block of Lea. A cord of firewood valued at \$100 was taken.

Theft was reported in the 100 block of South Dwight. Prescription medication valued at \$100 was taken.

Burglary was reported in

the 2400 block of Comanche. Glass on a door was broken. Estimated value of damage is unknown. It is not known whether any items were taken in connection with the incident.

Monday, March 12
A vehicle accident, driving while intoxicated and warrant service were reported in the 900 block of West Wilks. Two arrests were made in connection with the incident.

Suspicious person calls were received from the intersection of Alcock and Wells streets and the 400 block of East Foster.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway and the 500 block of North Ward.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1900 block of Beech, the 500 block of Powell and the 600 block of North West.

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

Saturday, March 10
Edwin Brian Thornton, 45, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Charles Clifton Butterfield, 35, of Pampa was arrested in the 2600 block of Fir by Pampa Police Department for public intoxication.

Carl Wayne Dunn Jr., 25, of Tyler was arrested in the 2600 block of Cherokee by PPD for two counts of disorderly conduct and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Sunday, March 11
Adrian Omar Alva, 22, of Amarillo was arrested by GCSO for no liability insurance and failure to appear.

Mario Lee Alva, 19, of Perryton was arrested by GCSO for disorderly conduct/offensive gesture, two counts of disorderly conduct/language, no seat belt, no valid driver's license, expired motor vehicle inspection, failure to maintain financial responsibility, four counts of failure to appear and minor in possession.

Sergio Maurice Alva, 21, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for public intoxication, no seat belt, disorderly conduct/fighting, failure to

See RECORD, Page 3

California wildfire nips at homes near L.A.

By ANA BEATRIZ CHOLO
Associated Press Writer

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Cool morning temperatures helped firefighters trying to corral a wind-swept wildfire that was burning behind hillside houses southeast of Los Angeles and had already damaged two.

Early today, firefighters had the 3-square-mile, day-old blaze 30 percent contained, but Orange County Battalion Chief Ed Fleming said it would likely take a second night of cooler temperature and increased humidity to get it fully contained.

A red flag alert, indicating high fire danger, was in effect in much of Southern California, where a prolonged drought has made the chaparral-covered hills highly combustible.

At daybreak today, the temperature was still in the upper 50s, compared to Sunday's highs near 100.

"The weather is cooperating at this point," Orange Fire Capt. Ian MacDonald said. "We're hoping that

continues throughout the day and we can get this out as soon as possible."

The National Weather Service forecast temperatures in the 80s and 90s again today.

"In Southern California, we're always 24 hours away from having a wind-driven, low humidity fire," MacDonald said.

The wildfire was reported Sunday morning, and hot, dry wind quickly spread it through an unincorporated part of Orange County, threatening multimillion-dollar homes here and in Anaheim Hills, about 35 miles southeast of Los Angeles.

Residents of about 500 homes were evacuated but most were able to return Sunday night. Two homes and another structure were damaged, and a fourth structure was destroyed, said Capt. Steve Miller of the Orange County Fire Authority.

Authorities said the blaze may have been started by a vehicle fire. They were investigating if the car was stolen

and set on fire to destroy evidence.

Temperatures hit record highs for March 11 in many spots, including 97 in nearby Fullerton. The city's previous record high for the day was 84 degrees in 1959. The wind gusted to 49 mph and humidity hovered around 5 percent.

Richard Steffy said he saw the fire out his window when he awoke Sunday morning. "Boom, billows of smoke," he said. "It looked so close."

The dry weather comes two years after the region was awash with a near-record 37 inches of rain. Only about 2.4 inches of rain has fallen on downtown Los Angeles since July 1. Normal annual rainfall in Los Angeles is 11.43 inches.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's weather models suggest that an emerging La Nina pattern of cold water in the tropical Pacific will keep the area dry.

Fires

Continued from Page 1

tees and gave sandwiches and drinks to those weary volunteers fighting the fires.

The firefighters and volunteers are still heroes in many people's eyes because they are the reason their homes are still standing and more lives were not lost during these wide spread fires.

City

Continued from Page 1

\$100,000.

TCAA has contributed \$10,000 and is asking different Texas communities to contribute as well. The commission will consider a recommendation to contribute \$540 to \$2,500 to the study.

A request has been submitted asking to increase the number of appointed police officers in the Pampa Police Department from 25 to 26 for the current fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30. This is based on

knowledge of an upcoming resignation in May or June.

There would be no additional cost for this extra officer since the police department has remained understaffed and under budget since the beginning of this current fiscal year. The commission will consider approving this request.

The commission will also consider approving an agreement between the PEDC and MXT, L.L.C. for \$75,000 to facilitate final building restoration.

This commission meeting will take place on the third floor of City Hall.

Political pardons: Relief and grief

By MICHAEL J. SNIFFEN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Richard Nixon. Mark Felt. Caspar Weinberger. Marc Rich.

Is President Bush willing to risk — on behalf of ex-White House aide I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby — the kind of political grief that pardons for those four men brought the presidents who granted them?

Nixon resigned the presidency over the Watergate scandal. Felt was the FBI man convicted of ordering illegal break-ins. Weinberger was the defense secretary charged in the Iran-Contra scandal. Rich was a fugitive financier.

All received presidential pardons processed outside normal channels.

As in those cases, Bush would have to bypass the regular clemency process to pardon Libby for the four felonies he was convicted of on Tuesday.

Such pardons historically have gotten presidents into political trouble.

A number of conservative politicians, bloggers and commentators, including National Review and Wall Street Journal editorial writers, want Libby pardoned — preferably now. Top Democrats have demanded that Bush pledge not to pardon Vice President Dick Cheney's former chief of staff.

William Jeffress, one of Libby's lawyers, said, "I believed a pardon for Scooter was appropriate last summer" when it came out that a State

Department official, not Libby, was the initial source for a newspaper column disclosing the classified CIA job of Valerie Plame, wife of Iraq war critic Joseph Wilson.

Bush's spokesman Tony Snow has tried to dampen speculation. Snow said Bush is "careful" about pardons and takes the process very seriously. "He wants to make sure that anybody who receives one — that it's warranted," Snow said.

The Constitution grants the president absolute power to grant pardons, without approval by Congress or second-guessing by the courts.

The only check on abuse is the risk of "the damnation of his fame to all future ages," as James Iredell, one of the original Supreme Court justices, once put it. Some have run that risk.

—President Ford pardoned Nixon for Watergate before Nixon had even been charged. The resulting rage is thought by many political observers to have cost Ford his bid to be elected president in 1976.

—President Reagan pardoned Felt and another FBI executive in 1981 while they were appealing convictions for ordering secret and illegal searches of the homes of relatives and friends of violent opponents of the Vietnam War. The New York Times called Reagan's clemency "a gratuitous revision of the record." Prosecutor John W. Nields Jr., who was not consulted, complained Reagan surely did not know what the

trial brought out about Felt — who years later was unmasked as the mysterious "Deep Throat" source that helped expose Watergate.

—On Christmas eve in 1992, just before he left office, the first President Bush pardoned Weinberger and a CIA official as they awaited trial on Iran-Contra charges, as well as four other administration officials who had pleaded or been found guilty in the scandal. Prosecutor Lawrence Walsh complained "the Iran-Contra cover-up ... has now been completed," thus blocking him from fully examining Bush's own role.

—On his last day in office in 2001, President Clinton pardoned 140 people. One was Rich, who had lived abroad for 17 years to avoid trial on charges of evading \$48 million in taxes. Congress held hearings on the Rich pardon. A federal investigation looked into whether the pardon was a reward for contributions by Rich's ex-wife to Clinton's presidential library and his wife's Senate campaign; no charges were brought.

None of these pardons went through the vetting process set up at the Justice Department by President McKinley in 1898.

Department rules require that pardon-seekers wait five years after conviction or release from prison, whichever is later, before applying. Bush has less than two years left in office, but presidents are not bound by department regulations.

Record

Continued from Page 2

maintain financial responsibility and driving while license is invalid.

San Juanita Jennings, 55, of Pampa was arrested in the 900 block of West Wilks by PPD for public intoxication, assault causing bodily injury and allowing an unlicensed driver to operate a vehicle.

Jessie Richard Salley, 21, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for driving while license is invalid.

Kevin Ray Kirkham Jr., 17, of Pampa was arrested in the 1500 block of North Christy by PPD for criminal mischief.

Heather Elsass, 22, of Pampa was arrested in the 1400 block of West Somerville by PPD for theft and no seat belt.

Francisco Hinojosa Silva, 31, of Pampa was arrested in the 900 block of West Wilks by PPD for driving while intoxicated, no valid driver's license and no insurance.

Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents today.

Thursday, March 8
3:35 p.m. — A 1988 Chevrolet Silverado, driven by Amanda Diana Thompson, 29, of 935 S. Sumner, and a 1998 Chevrolet Monte Carlo, driven by Jamee Kaye McCarty, 46, of 417 Red Deer, collided at the inter-

section of Browning and Lefors streets. Thompson and a passenger in her vehicle, Dorinda Sue Hayes, 49, of 728 1/2 Mary Ellen, were taken by Guardian EMS Ambulance to Pampa Regional Medical Center with possible injuries. Thompson was cited for disregarding a stop sign and having an expired driver's license.

Sunday, March 11
11:30 p.m. — A 1997 Jeep Cherokee, driven by Francisco Javier Silva, 31, of 712 N. Gray, and a 2007 Chevrolet Silverado, driven by Daniel Jad McGuire, 16, of 2133 Lea, collided in the 900 block of West Wilks. No injuries were reported. Silva was cited for driving while intoxicated and no driver's license.

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

Saturday, March 10
5:56 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 2600 block of Cherokee on a medical assist.

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

Saturday, March 10
7:04 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of Plains. No transport.

5:32 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of Harvester. No transport.

Fund

Continued from Page 1

surgery on his face in about six months.

Gray County Sheriff's Office said they are investigating the beating and would like anyone who has information about the incident to call them.

Candles are being sold by Tiffeni Martinez, Jones'

sister, and Tonya Jewett for \$9, and \$5 of each sale is going toward medical expenses. To purchase a candle, contact Martinez at 662-4682 or Jewett at 664-2879.

Donations can be made to a special fund set up at FirstBank Southwest. To contribute, send checks to FirstBank Southwest, c/o Marcy Francis for Cody Jones Fund, P.O. Box 1181, Pampa, Texas 79066-1181.

Waste

Continued from Page 1

For more information,

contact County Extension Agent Brandon McGinty at 669-8033 or visit TCEQ's Web Site at www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/AgWaste/agwaste.html.

Juvenile inmates missing

AUSTIN (AP) — Officials were searching today for two inmates discovered missing from a West Texas youth prison overnight.

Two other inmates at the Texas Youth Commission's Coke County Juvenile Justice Center were found hiding in the attic after staff were told that a vent had fallen out of the ceiling, said TYC spokesman Jim Hurley. Another inmate said insulation had fallen on his face.

"The sheriff was notified and brought dogs in," Hurley said. Investigators were searching both inside and outside the facility. No breach had been found in the perimeter fence, he said.


The 17- and-18-year-old

missing inmates, both Hispanic males, were not imprisoned for violent crimes, Hurley said.

The facility in Bronte drew attention last week after a convicted sex offender was fired from his post as a correctional officer. David Andrew Lewis, 23, said he told his employer of his background when he applied for the job. He was hired in August 2006 by a private contractor.

State officials have said the case demonstrated that private prison operators don't always check employees' juvenile records.

The all-male facility in Bronte is about 30 miles northeast of San Angelo.



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Viewpoints

This Bagdad called 'a whirlpool of buisness, pleasure and sin'

Bagdad. An international river city with little appreciation for the rule of law, a place where life is cheap.

Far from the Middle East, another Bagdad lay on the south side of the Rio Grande at the river's mouth, just across from a Texas town called Clarksville. (Not to be confused with the Clarksville in Red River County.)

"It was a small village consisting of a few thatched-roof and mud-plastered jacales which served as the homes of ranchmen, fishermen and pilots for the few merchant ships that came to the port," Teresa H. Clark Clearwater, daughter of the founder of Bagdad's sister city, recalled years later.

Prior to the Mexican War, the nearest port to Matamoras, Mexico, was Brazos Santiago, a small spit of sand just south of Padre Island. But when the Rio Grande became the undisputed U.S.-Mexico boundary in 1848,

Mexico established a port on its side of the river's mouth.

The last outpost of what could be called civilization on the 1,200 mile-long Rio Grande, Bagdad — located 50 miles downstream from Matamoras, Mexico, — slumbered on what seemed like a never-ending siesta until the outbreak of the Civil War and the federal blockade of Southern ports.

Cotton, the economic life blood of Texas and the Confederacy, soon made its way to Bagdad by riverboat, ship or ox-drawn wagons. From the Mexican port, it could be shipped to Britain and other European markets.

As Clearwater put it, with cotton bringing a dollar a pound, Bagdad "grew to be a village of more than 20,000 souls," many of them "refugees from the invaded Southern cities."

Though technically in Mexico, Bagdad may as well have been in Texas. It had more southerners liv-

ing in it than Mexicans. To add more spice to the mix, the town teemed with French sailors and soldiers (with the U.S. preoccupied, the Emperor Maximilian had occupied Mexico) as well as men of other European nations.

Mike Cox

Texas Tales



Isolated and awash in money, Bagdad with its bars and brothels soon drew comparisons to the Biblical cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and other famously sinful venues.

"The cosmopolitan city of Bagdad," wrote Father P.F. Parisot in his "Reminiscences of a Texas Missionary," amounted to "a veritable Babel, a Babylon, a whirlpool of business, pleasure and sin."

With stevedores and other working men bringing in \$5 or more a day, and owners of skiffs and other vessels capable of hauling people or freight from the riverside docks to the ships lying at anchor fetching up to \$40 a day, money flowed through Bagdad with far greater volume than the Rio Grande.

Indeed, as Father Parisot continued, "The saloon and hotel keepers were reaping an abundant harvest. The Gulf, for three or four miles out, was literally a forest of masts. Ten stages were running daily from Matamoras to Bagdad."

Melinda Rankin, a Presbyterian missionary who had been operating a school for girls in Matamoras, arrived in Bagdad in March 1863.

"It was not unfrequently the case that a hundred vessels were lying off the bar," Rankin later wrote in her memoir, "Twenty Years Among the Mexicans." "Not only were they discharging goods, but were receiving large quantities of cotton

for foreign ports."

An 1865 map of Bagdad shows roughly 200 structures inside a northward bend of the river.

But on Oct. 6, 1867, a powerful hurricane took dead aim at Bagdad and Clarksville. The storm literally erased both towns, essentially leaving nothing but scoured sand.

For years, one of the more common reminders of Bagdad and Clarksville's maritime heyday came whenever a shrimp boat trolling off the mouth of the Rio Grande hauled in an old anchor in its nets. Some of those anchors ended up in museums and private ownership, though many got sold to scrap metal dealers.

Today, only local history buffs even know where the twin cities once stood. On the Texas side, the location is distinguishable only by a few scattered chunks of brick and small pieces of broken glass catching light from the harsh sub-tropical sun.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, March 12, the 71st day of 2007. There are 294 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 12, 1933, President Roosevelt delivered the first of his radio "fireside chats," telling Americans what was being done to deal with the nation's economic crisis.

On this date:

In 1664, England's King Charles II granted land in the New World known as New Netherland to his brother James, the Duke of York.

In 1857, the opera "Simon Boccanegra," by Giuseppe Verdi, premiered in Venice, Italy.

In 1864, Ulysses S. Grant became commander in chief of the Union armies in the Civil War.

In 1912, Juliette Gordon Low founded the Girl Guides, which later became the Girl Scouts of America.

In 1930, Indian political and spiritual leader Mohandas K. Gandhi began a 200-mile march to protest a British tax on salt.

In 1938, the Anschluss took place as German troops entered Austria.

In 1947, President Truman established what became known as the "Truman Doctrine" to help Greece and Turkey resist Communism.

In 1951, "Dennis the Menace," created by cartoonist Hank Ketcham, made its syndicated debut in 16 newspapers.

In 1980, a Chicago jury found John Wayne Gacy Jr. guilty of the murders of 33 men and boys. (The next day, Gacy was sentenced to death; after years on death row, he was executed in May 1994.)

In 1987, the musical play "Les Miserables" opened on Broadway.

Ten years ago: Authorities in Los Angeles arrested Mikhail Markhasev as a suspect in the shooting death of Bill Cosby's son, Ennis. (Markhasev, who later admitted his guilt, is serving a life sentence without possibility of parole.)

Five years ago: Houston homemaker Andrea Yates was convicted of murder in the drowning deaths of her five children in the family bathtub. (Yates was later retried and found not guilty by reason of insanity.) Homeland security chief Tom Ridge announced that America was at yellow alert as he unveiled a color-coded system for terror warnings. The U.N. Security Council approved a U.S.-sponsored resolution endorsing a Palestinian state for the first time. The space shuttle Columbia returned to Earth, ending the Hubble Space Telescope repair mission.

THE PAMPA NEWS

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People losing interest with Oscar night

About 260 million Americans decided that they had better things to do than to watch the recent Academy Awards show. That's a good sign. It doesn't matter if what they had better to do actually wasn't any better than watching the Oscars show. It's the lack of interest that counts.

The Academy Awards is actually a trade show, and it used to be held in a nightclub. Newspapers used to ignore it or bury it on an inside page. After all, it makes no difference whatsoever in our lives who gets a trade-show award. It makes no difference what they wear. Come to think of it, it makes no difference what they say.

Another good sign is a poll conducted by CNN that asked the question "Are you interested in the Anna Nicole Smith story?" Much to the

embarrassment of Larry King, who had planned yet another entire hour devoted to the tramp's death, 80 percent of the poll respondents said, "No."

"I don't believe it," King huffed and went right on with his show.

Television, which is in large part owned by entertainment conglomerates, has long blamed its own fascination with celebrity trivia on the public. It's the old "We are only giving the stupid public what they demand." The truth is that the public has no say in the matter and, I suspect, a great deal better taste.

Could it be that this hysterical fascination with celebrities is finally begin-

ning to fade? Well, not if the entertainment conglomerates can help it, but I suspect more and more Americans are losing interest in the self-destructive and vulgar behavior of talentless airheads — if people ever had any interest in it in the first place.

America naturally has always had silly people with vulgar interests. When Stonewall Jackson's chaplain, R.L. Dabney, observed that the only likely outcome of universal education was to create a mass market for trash literature, he wasn't far off the mark.

It's interesting to note that the Federalist Papers, a collection of articles arguing in favor of ratification of the

U.S. Constitution, were written for local newspapers at the time. In other words, the authors saw no difficulty in the then-literate public understanding them. Some schools today defend the practice of *not* requiring high-school students to read them on the grounds that they are "too difficult."

Having once helped my wife grade the essays of a group of college freshmen, I don't doubt that they are too difficult for the modern mind. These college freshmen had somehow survived Head Start, kindergarten and 12 years of public education without learning how to spell, punctuate or write an intelligible sentence. Thank God I never had to meet any of them, but I suspect their conversation was equally illiterate.

Many Americans seem to See REESE, Page 8

Charley Reese

Columnist



Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ **March 4**

Fort Worth Star-Telegram on state property appraisal:

Many Texans gripe about their property taxes and complain, sometimes justifiably, that the appraised values put on their houses and businesses are too high. Not surprisingly, they rarely complain if the values are set too low.

The Texas Legislature has balked for years at making a basic change in state law that would help ensure more accurate appraisals for both commercial and residential properties: mandatory disclosure of sales prices.

The Legislature, in this session, has

another chance to get it right. Lawmakers should approve legislation that would require sales prices to be disclosed to county appraisal districts shortly after a property is sold.

It's a simple matter of fairness. It's only fair that every property be appraised at the most accurate value that can feasibly be determined, so that taxpayers are treated equitably.

But appraisal authorities, including Tarrant Appraisal District Executive Director John Marshall, say they often find it especially difficult to appraise many commercial properties and high-dollar homes because the sales prices aren't available.

"We especially need sales disclosure in the commercial area to do a better job," Marshall told the Star-Telegram

for an article published in Tuesday's business section.

"Commercial sales are well-guarded secrets," Marshall said. "It really gets down to people don't want their values correct" on the appraisal district rolls.

High-priced houses often are removed from the Multiple Listing Service database prior to the closing, Marshall said. That prevents the appraisal district from learning what was paid. The end result often is that the home is underappraised and the owner pays considerably less property tax than merited.

Clay Brants, president of Brants Realtors in Fort Worth, estimated that fewer than 50 percent of the homes

See TAX, Page 8

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am 22 years old and have been married 17 months. "Derek" and I have a 23-month-old son. Derek hasn't worked for about a year and refuses to help support our family. He also belittles me whenever he talks to me. I am not happy in this marriage, but I am not sure what to do about it. On our honeymoon, Derek told me if I ever divorced him that he'd make sure he would get custody of our son. And his mom already said that she would tell the judge that I was an unfit mother. My son is my world, Abby. He doesn't even let his daddy hold him, so I know he wouldn't be better off with Derek. But because I am on disability, I don't know if I have a good chance of getting custody if I leave. I don't feel Derek loves me or my son. What should I do? Stick it out with my husband or take the chance of losing my son? — **TRAPPED IN NEW HAMPSHIRE**

DEAR TRAPPED: It must have been some honeymoon if that was when Derek began threatening retribution if you ever divorced him. It appears you married a bully. The answer to your questions will become clearer if you discuss this matter with a lawyer who, I am sure, can explain what your rights are as a mother. If, after that, you can find the strength to assert yourself, perhaps Derek will consider an attitude adjustment and stop blowing hot air. P.S. If your baby is thriving, then your mother-in-law's trumped-up allegations would prove groundless.

DEAR ABBY: I suffered a miscarriage six weeks ago. Since then, it feels like I have suffered one disappointment after another. My sister-in-law -- who was supposed to be infertile -- is now expecting. The doctors thought she'd had an ectopic pregnan-

cy, so they performed surgery on her only to find that the baby was fine and right where it should be. I feel so bitter that I am normal and healthy, and my baby died because of random bad luck, whereas her baby is fine after all the trauma she has been through. I have become increasingly angry and unhappy and can no longer see the positive aspects of my life because I spend so much time focusing on the bad. I want to be happy for her and my brother because, surely, this is a miracle baby -- but I just can't. I think I need a dose of good common sense and a swift kick in the rear to get me out of this depression. Would you do the honors? — **ANONYMOUS IN THE NORTH**

DEAR ANONYMOUS: You're half-right. You need a good dose of good common sense. You do NOT need a swift kick in the rear, because the feelings you are experiencing are understandable in someone who has lost a baby -- with all the hopes, dreams and plans that went along with confirmation of the pregnancy. It would be helpful for you to discuss your feelings with your ob/gyn because I am sure he or she will explain to you that a larger number of pregnancies than you might imagine do not make it to term. You have my deepest sympathy for your loss. Because you so badly want a child, I hope you will continue trying for one. However, if your anger and resentment continue to fester, the surest way I know to resolve these feelings is to discuss them with a mental health professional. It is normal to grieve, but you must not allow that grief to rule your life.

For Better Or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Personnel reward

6 Small 44 Simple

45 Outpouring

10 One who accepts a bet

11 Software buyers

13 Spanish resort isle

14 Arrested dog

15 Negating word

16 Engine part

18 Commotion

19 Banquet president

22 Siesta neighbor

23 Road crew marker

24 Military award

27 Cavalry stations

28 "In your dreams!"

29 Louvre contents

30 Troop leader

35 Compact, for example

36 Goal

37 Cut drastically

38 Milky stones

40 New York's Island

42 Entice

HAMS	LADE
REBUT	AKING
ERASE	BANTU
ABSENCE	DIE
LIE	CELTICS
MERLIN	ONES
ULTRA	
SLAT	REDCAP
TOTEBAG	ODE
ROE	ALAMODE
ATALL	TAKEN
PESOS	TIERS
REBA	ADDS

Saturday's answer

12 Night sounds	29 Friend, to François
4 Shriner's topper	31 Scrumptious
5 Repeated geometric shape	32 Shred of "Rocky"
21 Edinburgh natives	33 Have life
24 School symbol	34 View anew
7 Mex. neighbor	25 Fugitive
8 Capitol display	26 Museum workers
9 Poseidon prop	27 Museum workers
41 Napkin spot	

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Marmaduke



The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Flo & Friends



Blondie



Sports Day

First place winners



The Buckeyes display the first place trophies they won after taking first place in the regular season of the Optimist 3rd and 4th grade division with a 7-1 record. They also won in double overtime to take 1st place at the end of season city tournament.

Pictured here are: (Back Row, L-R) Coach Guy Green, John Allen, Austin Madrid and Cade Engle. (Front Row, L-R) Solon Wilson, Landon Taylor, Derrick Maxwell and Jordan Green

JV baseball stomps Perryton before break

By JORDAN REAGAN
Sports Editor

The Pampa Harvester JV baseball team defeated Perryton this weekend, to further improve their overall record to 4-1.

With the help of two doubles by Braden Hunt and a home run by Heath Skinner, the Harvesters took an outstanding 15-4 victory over Perryton.

Johnny Anguiano and

Jeremy Maxwell each hit one double, John Luke Covalt hit two singles, and Josh Mulkey helped out with one single.

Braden Hunt pitched the game for five innings, and threw 11 strikeouts.

The boys will have plenty of time to get ready for their next game against Plainview, which will take place at 4:30 in Pampa on March 19.

Lions Club to host dodgeball tournament

The Pampa Lions Club will host a dodgeball tournament on Thursday, April 12, but only 8 teams are needed to sign up.

Rules and regulations concerning players and teams are as follows:

- Players must be at least 15 years of age.
- There will be 8 players per team.
- The cost will be \$80 per team, including t-shirts.

The tournament itself will be double elimination, and will be held at the PHS gymnasium.

Fan admission will be \$3 for children and \$5 for adults.

To sign up, please call Rusty Tapp at 665-2323 or 595-0513.

Kansas survives Texas' Durant

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — "There's some opponents we could play in the early rounds that have guys that can go for big numbers," Kansas coach Bill Self said. "But we are not going to see another one like this."

Kevin Durant, the Big 12 player of the year, matched his career high with 37 points but didn't score in overtime as Kansas escaped with an 88-84 win and its second straight Big 12 tournament championship on Sunday.

Sherron Collins scored 20 points, and Brandon Rush and Julian Wright each added 19 points to help Kansas rally from a 22-point, first half deficit built mostly by Durant, the Longhorns' national player of the year contender.

"I don't want to play him again," Self said.

The only chance for another rematch would be in the NCAA championship game, with Kansas a No. 1 seed on one half of the bracket and Texas a No. 4 seed on the opposite side. The Jayhawks have lost in the tournament's first round each of the past two seasons, but head in on a season-best 11-game winning streak.

"Our confidence level is pretty high right now," Kansas guard Brandon Rush said. "Just making big plays at the right time."

Russell Robinson hit a jumper from the left wing to

put Kansas (30-4) on top 83-81 with 2:19 left in the extra period, and Wright added a free throw to push the lead to three. D.J. Augustin had a 3-point attempt and a runner in the lane blocked on consecutive Texas possessions, and Darnell Jackson's two free throws extended Kansas' lead to 86-81 with 13.2 seconds left.

A.J. Abrams hit a 3-pointer from the right wing to give No. 15 Texas (24-9) one last chance, but Robinson hit two foul shots with 5.3 seconds left to seal the win. Durant's final shot — a 3-pointer from the right wing — caromed away with 2 seconds left.

"That's one of the best games I've ever been a part of. That comeback in Lawrence paled in comparison," said Self, whose team erased a 16-point deficit to beat Texas a week earlier.

Mario Chalmers — who hit the tying 3-pointer with 15 seconds left to force overtime — contributed 17 points for Kansas, which has won five Big 12 tournament titles.

Abrams added 19 points for Texas. Two days after rallying from 20 points down against Baylor in the biggest comeback in Big 12 tournament history, the Longhorns gave up an even bigger lead.

"I thought a lot of good things happened here this week," Texas coach Rick Barnes said.

NCAA committee flosses with spread sheets

By JIM LITKE
AP Sports Columnist

All these years, the NCAA selection committee has been making it up as they go along.

No sooner had the committee handed in its bracket on Selection Sunday than somebody asked chairman Gary Walters what message members were sending this year. He decided to let everybody else in on the joke.

"Gee," Walters replied, "I don't know that we're trying to send any messages."

"Our job isn't to send messages," he added a moment later. "Our job is to try to select what we think are the 34 most worthy (at-large) teams."

Leave it to a Princeton guy — Walters is the athletic director there — to rub your nose in something that's been in plain sight forever.

Every year, committee

members throw themselves a slumber party in a fancy hotel and pretend to spend so much time crunching numbers you'd think they're flossing with spread sheets. Instead, they're doing what almost everybody else in college basketball does all weekend: watch TV, look at the same information, apply their biases and experience, then haggle over who goes where.

The difference is when the committee finishes, somebody dials the CBS trailer and a producer pulls "One Shining Moment" out of the mothballs.

But just before they go, because committee members have to justify the huge room-service tab and placate the half-dozen uninvited schools and hundreds of pundits howling for their heads, they come up with a message to cover their hand-

work.

Last year was supposed to herald a mid-major revolution because schools like George Mason, Air Force and Northern Iowa got in at the expense of power-conference members such as Maryland, Florida State and Cincinnati. Then-chairman Craig Littlepage said the message was that "larger schools, the larger conferences ... around the country really do have a choice of who they play non-conference."

Nothing really had changed in the criteria or the data the selection committee looked at, but the people who were looking at it did. Representatives from small schools, who spent years begging and even threatening to sue their big-time brethren to play some games, finally constituted a majority on the committee.

They gave short shrift to pedigree and rewarded schools that played ambitious non-conference schedules and tough games on the road — namely themselves — and promised to keep doing so.

So what happened this year?

Despite again controlling a majority of the seats, mid-majors actually got two fewer spots, just six of the 34 at-large bids, compared to eight a year ago. Not that it made everybody happy.

"I'm in total shock," said Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim, speaking for the power-conference schools left home.

"Your body of work is not as important as they say it is, to be honest with you," Drexel coach Bruiser Flint said, speaking for the disappointed mid-majors.

Brackets beat bullets: Soldiers in Afghanistan focus on NCAA over NATO

FORWARD OPERATING BASE DIABLO, Afghanistan (AP) — U.S. paratroopers taking part in NATO's latest Afghanistan offensive wound up hours of digging foxholes on a sandy hilltop here Monday with a special treat — news about the NCAA tournament.

The 82nd Airborne soldiers are the first Western troops to move into this remote and mountainous terrain on the border between Kandahar and Helmand provinces as part of Operation Achilles, a new NATO offensive launched just last week. They're far from any U.S. or NATO base, and still settling in by digging holes in the ground to sleep in.

But thanks to Army technology, they knew where their favorite NCAA basketball teams were playing only hours after the seedings were announced back home.

"Hey, they're playing in Buffalo? Gosh darn it, I would've liked to have been there," said Lt. Col. Brian Mennes, 40, of Buffalo, N.Y., the commander of the 1st Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment based at Fort Bragg, N.C., referring to one of the Midwest Regional sites.

Pfc. Matt Ward, a 21-year-old on the artillery team, also keyed in on his hometown — Memphis, Tenn., whose

30-3 Tigers were seeded No. 2 in the South Regional behind Ohio State.

"Memphis is going to win it all. Who's going to beat them?" said Ward. "The only competition Memphis is going to have is from Ohio State."

Talk of mid-majors replaced Army majors — whether in the commander's tent or around the soldiers' Humvees.

"Gonzaga, that's all I got to say. I always go with Gonzaga," Spc. James Tolson, 22, of Germantown, Md., announced to half a dozen soldiers eating their MREs.

Matsuzaka roughed up in second start against big leaguers

By The Associated Press

Daisuke Matsuzaka learned a harsh lesson in his latest outing.

"Judging from what I experienced, throwing high fastballs and high sliders can tend to be a little bit dangerous," he said with a grin.

Boston's \$103 million pitcher allowed homers to two non-roster players, struggled with his control and even threw away a potential double-play

grounder Sunday in his home debut against a major league team.

Matsuzaka's splendid spring training hit its first bump, and Baltimore beat the Red Sox 5-3 in Fort Myers, Fla. The Japanese star gave up four runs — three earned — and six hits in four innings, but shrugged off the results with his usual poise.

"It's not something that I'm terribly worked up about," Matsuzaka said

through a translator. "There's going to be times where I get hit."

The right-hander gave up homers to Jon Knott and Jason DuBois. After each batter swung, Matsuzaka turned around and remained expressionless as he watched the ball sail over the fence.

Still, the Orioles were impressed. Melvin Mora, who struck out twice, said Matsuzaka "is not from this planet. He's coming from somewhere else. He's awe-

some."

But while Matsuzaka labored, Chris Carpenter and Roy Halladay were in top form.

Carpenter, the St. Louis Cardinals' ace, allowed two hits in 4 2-3 scoreless innings during a 6-3 loss to the Atlanta Braves in Jupiter, Fla.

Using his complete repertoire for the first time in three spring training starts, Carpenter got 14 groundball outs and did not walk a bat-

ter. He threw 36 of his 54 pitches for strikes.

"As the game went along I got more comfortable, more in rhythm," he said. "My timing was better and I definitely felt good. So it was nice."

At Dunedin, Fla., Halladay pitched four perfect innings for the Toronto Blue Jays in an 8-5 loss to the Minnesota Twins. The right-hander struck out two and threw only 36 pitches. He allowed just one ball to

be hit out of the infield.

"My location was better with my fastball and change-up," Halladay said. "Then getting my curveball going, maybe four or so. I feel like it's another step at getting everything back."

The Cleveland Indians won't get Cliff Lee back until after opening day. The left-hander will start the season on the disabled list with an abdominal strain and is expected to be out until mid- or late April.

5 Special Not...
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10 Lost/Found

LOST-prescription glasses with magnetic sunglasses attachment. If found please call 662-5837 or 669-2525

FOUND: prescription glasses at the Pampa Post Office. 665-5779.

13 Bus. Opp.

SMALL motel for sale. Good occupancy. Owner will finance. 665-1875 or 806-383-1985.

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...It pays! 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.

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

HANDYMAN: Painting, carpentry, fencing, welding, hauling, cleanup. Remodeling. 662-2566.

14s Plumbing/Heat

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

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

19 Situations

CHRISTIAN childcare in my home. CPR certified. Meals & snacks provided. 669-3187.

21 Help Wanted

MULTI level marketers direct sales expert, Fastest Growing Digital Music and Entertainment Company. Serious about making secondary income. www.yourburnteam.com 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.

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.

ST. Ann's Nursing Home has openings for full-time LVN's, 3-11 & 11-7 shift. Paid vac., health, life & dental ins., holiday pay, 401K, and shift differential. Panhandle 537-3194.

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

FULL time & part time catering help. Monday-Friday. Apply in person at Dixie Cafe.

21 Help Wanted

WEST TEXAS Landscape 120 S. Hobart Now Hiring: CDL Drivers Pre-Employment Drug testing/ DOT physical Home Daily Apply in person! No Phone Calls!

NEEDED: General laborers! Drug testing Required! Apply in person. West Texas Landscape, 120 S. Hobart. No Phone Calls!!

NOW HIRING: Crew Leaders with landscaping experience. Drug testing required. Apply in person to Brian West Texas Landscape 120 S. Hobart. Please No Phone Calls!!!

CRALL PRODUCTS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS Sandblaster/Painter Shop Welders-wirestick 40+ hours / week Salary based on exp. Apply in person 2930 W. Hwy. 152 Pampa

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

ENGINE Parts is now looking for a full-time counter person. Experience is preferred & Spanish speaking is a plus. Apply in person at 416 W. Foster. No Phone Calls!!!

BRITKARE Home Medical is now accepting applications for a Delivery Driver in Pampa area. Must be able to lift 150 lbs., have a clean driving record, and pass a physical & drug screening. Needs to be willing to be on call, flexible and work well with the public. No exp. necessary. Company will train. Spanish speaking a plus. Please come by our office at 912 W. Kentucky to pick up application. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE!! EOE.

INNOVATIVE STAFFING SOLUTIONS, LLC WE HAVE THE RIGHT JOB FOR YOU!! Mechanics/Assemblers Fabricators Machinists Excellent career opportunity! Become part of this dynamic team today!

Floorhand Small derrick, pay DOE, no experience required!

Clerical Several Positions Available located in Borger and Canadian

Industrial Field Service Mechanic Saw Operator Painter/Sandblaster Shop Hand Pay is DOE

1224 N Hobart NBC Plaza II Ste 11 Pampa, TX 806.665.2991 www.isslc.com EEO Employer

Never a fee to the applicant!

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

21 Help Wanted

SEMCRUDE has openings for full time Bobtail & Transport Drivers in the Pampa and surrounding areas, must have Class A CDL with X endorsement and meet DOT qualifications. Excellent benefit package incl. medical, dental, vision & life ins.; along with a 401K package, paid vacation, sick and holidays. Please apply at www.semgroup.com/careers or call 806-934-7505 for application.

W&W FIBERGLASS TANK CO. Immediate Openings Fiberglass Manufacturing General Labor Field Labor 40+ hours / week Salary based on exp. Apply in person 100 N. Price Rd. Pampa

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69 Misc.

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EMPTY the driveway and backyard. Place your RV's & boat trailers in our fenced, keyed area. Crossways RV Storage, 12072 E. Frederic Ave., 662-6089.

WILL buy mattresses, beds etc. Red Barn, 1420 S. Barnes, Sat. 10-5. Call anytime 665-2767.

SEASONED Oak Firewood. Delivered and stacked. 3 dr. store cooler. 779-3284, 580-564-2575.

69a Garage Sales

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

77 Livest/Equip.

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

FOR Sale: 92 Angus young 3 & 4 yr. old cows. All to calve by May 20, 2007. Gardiner & Express Ranches Genetics. \$1200 per pair. If interested call 806-669-3324.

16 ft. 1/2 top stock trailer. New re-inforced floor. \$2500 Will take 2 horse trailer as partial trade 665-0263

HORSE STALLS FOR RENT. Call 665-2972 or 665-0382.

80 Pets & Suppl. 2 male Pit Bull puppies for sale. 7 weeks old. Rare color. 664-8141.

FREE American Pit Bull, white with brown patch on ear. Good with kids, house broken. 440-2923.

C.N.A.'s needed, recent base pay raises-Full-time, Complete Benefits Package, all shifts,(shift differential on 3-11 or 11-7). St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle, 537-3194.

NEED energetic, outgoing person, in a fast pace Doctors office. Must be able to work with people, have telephone skills, computer skills and be able to learn and sale. Please send resume to P.O. Box 953, Pampa, Texas 79066.

PT helper needed cleaning carpet. Must have valid DL, pass background check and drug test. Call 665-1976, ask for Ronnie. 1208 Bond, Pampa.

CORONADO Health Care Center has an employment opportunity for a Texas Licensed Van Driver, dishwasher, beautician, & housekeeping. Interested applicants can submit applications during normal business hours. For more information please call (806) 665-5746. Equal Opportunity Employer.

DENTAL ASSISTANT, primarily chairside. Part-time. Experience desirable, but not necessary. Send resume to Box 37, c/o Pampa News, Po Box 2198, Pampa, TX. 79066

TEXAS Rose Steakhouse is now hiring servers, hostesses, dishwashers. Please apply in person.

50 Building Suppl. White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

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GWENDOLENApts New ly 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

Owner Will Finance EZ Terms 1333 Garland 2 bedroom, 1 bath New carpet & paint! 416 Lefors 2 bedroom, 1 bath Call Joe 806-336-1740 or Milton 806-790-0827

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

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

116 Mobile Homes 3 bdr., 2 ba., c h&a. Stove, refrig., dishw., microwave. New floors & roof. Must be moved. 669-1465

MOBILE home for sale. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, central heat & air. After 4pm, call 669-1970 or 440-4942.

14X76 mh, 2 br., 1 1/2 ba., lots of extras! \$6500 OBO Call 669-3380 or 664-4141.

TRAILER house for sale. 664-0205.

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122 Motorcycles 2001 Kawasaki KSF 250 Mojave 4 wheeler, 2 wh. drive ATV, \$1500. Call 669-3290.

2003 Yamaha Royal Star Midnight Venture 1300cc. Touring bike, loaded, warranty. 669-0433.

96 Unfurn. Apts.

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.

2 bdr., 1 ba., fenced backyard. 725 Deane Dr. \$450 rent, \$350 dep. Call 665-5473.

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.

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

3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car finished garage. Complete renovation. Large corner lot. Excellent condition. New roof, fence, French doors, ceramic tile, laminate wood floors, carpet, storm windows, outside deck, paint inside & out, central h&a. Cedar closet & many other extras. Like new home. \$119,000. 2400 Christine Cell 806-584-1266. No owner finance!

BY Owner. 2100 sq. ft., 3 bdr., 2 ba., lrg. liv. area, util. rm., org. sunrm., 2 stor. bldgs., concrete storm shelter. 2228 N. Sumner. 806-674-7513.

I WILL FINANCE! 1100 Terrace 2 bdr. 1 ba.

317 Miami 2 bdr., 1 ba.

1333 Garland 2 bdr. 1 ba. 669-6995, 440-1698

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

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

LRG. 3 bdr., 2 ba., hardwood floors, cedar closets. Also separate vacant lot. OWC. 665-1193, 662-8324.

OWNER Finance, Pampa, Tx. 453 Pitts. 3 bdr., 1 ba., 1 gar. Low down payments. Low monthly payments. Bad credit ok! Call Chris! 806-206-0107, Espanola 806-223-6341.

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2003 Yamaha Royal Star Midnight Venture 1300cc. Touring bike, loaded, warranty. 669-0433.

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30th & Charles	\$3 of \$1 of 50.9 Acres N of Walmart
1701 N. Hobart	\$640,000 1.566 Acres Commercial
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2700 Duncan	\$275,000 4/2.5/2 - 3830 SF/GCAD
2701 Beech	\$245,000 4/3.5/2 - 3710 SF/GCAD
1 Cypress Point Rd	\$225,000 3/2/2 - 2000 SF/Approx.
2370 Beech	\$217,000 4/1, 75/2 - 2424 SF/GCAD
1615 N. Russell	\$184,900 3/2.5/2 - 3311SF/GCAD
2715 Aspen	\$174,500 4/2/2 - 2780 SF/GCAD
1900 Grape	\$140,000 3/2.75/2 - 3256 SF/GCAD
2300 Navajo	\$129,900 4/2/2 - 2110 SF/GCAD
1827 Fir	\$120,000 3/1.75/2 - 1962 SF/GCAD
1521 N Dwight	\$109,900 3/2/2 - 1440 SF/GCAD
24	

Math competition



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH

Community Christian School students participated in "Math Olympics" held at Plainview Christian Academy recently. Standing left to right is third-grader Jordan Green, who received a superior rating and 3rd place in computation and six-grader Scott Kelly, who received an excellent rating in computation. Sitting left to right is seventh-grader Ashley Taylor, who received a superior rating and 4th place in computation and third-grader Matthew Ellis, who received a good rating in reasoning.

Baby kidnap suspect faces extradition

By **BETSY BLANEY**
Associated Press Writer
LUBBOCK, Texas (AP)

A newborn abducted from a hospital was back in her mother's arms, and the woman who police said disguised herself in scrubs to spirit the baby to New Mexico was in custody.

Police found 4-day-old Mychael Darthard-Dawodu on Sunday in Clovis, N.M., a day after she was taken from Lubbock's Covenant Lakeside Hospital, about 100 miles to the southeast.

"We're ecstatic to be able to locate the child still in good health and to be able to reunite her with her mother," Lubbock police Lt. Scott Hudgens said.

An extradition hearing was scheduled for Monday in Clovis for Rayshaun Parson, 21, who was arrested on suspicion of kidnapping. Federal charges also could be pursued, Hudgens said.

Mychael was flown back to Texas and her parents, Caisha Darthard and Michael A. Dawodu, after she was evaluated at a New Mexico hospital, Clovis



Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

Gwen Stafford, left, with Covenant Hospital looks on as Lt. Scott Hudgens with the Lubbock Police Department announces the recovery of a 3-day old baby kidnapped from the Lubbock Hospital early Saturday morning.

police Lt. James Schoeffel said.

The 5-pound baby had earlier been reported to be

es a yellowing of the skin.

The infant was kidnapped early Saturday by a woman posing as a medical worker who walked out of Covenant Lakeside with the baby hidden in her purse, police said.

Hospital surveillance footage showed a woman wearing blue and flower-print hospital scrubs and a gray, puffy jacket with a hood walking out of the hospital around 1:20 a.m. Saturday. She fled in a red pickup truck, possibly with a male accomplice, police said.

The abductor had gone into Mychael's mother's room several times before the baby was taken, telling her the baby needed tests, said Gwen Stafford, senior vice president of Covenant Health System.

Law enforcement officials had received information from more than one source that the baby was in Clovis, said FBI spokeswoman Lori Bailey in Dallas. Bailey declined to elaborate because the investigation was continuing.

Man arrested, jailed on drug charge

A California man was arrested Thursday following a traffic stop on Interstate 40 near Groom after troopers found methamphetamine hidden inside his vehicle.

Shortly after 6 p.m. Thursday, troopers stopped a 2000 Ford Explorer on a

traffic violation and found 3,777 grams of meth hidden in the vehicle. The drugs are valued at \$305,370.

Garcia Jeronimo Bernal, 20, of Los Angeles, California, was arrested and booked into Carson County Jail in Panhandle.

Reese

Continued from Page 4

have lost sight of the purpose of education. It is not to get a diploma or a piece of sheepskin. The purpose is to educate citizens so that they can contribute to running our complex society. I don't know if teachers still say this, but my first-grade teacher often reminded us that while she taught, we had to learn. And learning is hard work. Since kids have the same 24-hour day as adults, the hours devoted to learning have to be subtracted from hours spent on other activities — and vice versa.

If I had my way, I'd seg-

regate students by sex, make them all wear uniforms and shave the heads of the boys. Sex and competition in appearance are distractions. I'd put them in a monastic, drab setting so that the only forms of entertainment were their textbooks and their lectures.

Obviously, I wouldn't last a day in public education, so we might as well realize that one day we will wake up and find that our high-tech society is being run by Chinese, Muslims, Arabs and others who still value education. We will still have our Anna Nicole Smith and Britney Spears types.

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

Twins, 8, find 2.5 carat diamond in Arkansas

MURFREESBORO, Ark. (AP) — Eight-year-old twins Grace and Garrett Duncan of Houston can look forward to years of rekindling their recollections of a memorable day, whenever they want to take out a 2.5-carat diamond and look at it again.

The youngsters found the diamond Saturday at Crater of Diamonds State Park.

Grace said that, when the family returns to Houston, she and her brother plan to show the diamond off to their third-grade classmates. Then, she said, it will go into a safe, "and we'll take it out and look at it."

After six hours of digging by the twins at the park, a sharp-eyed parks worker was hovering when they brought their haul to a counter.

"We had a bag (provided by the park)," Garrett said Sunday. "We brought it up to the counter, and she just grabs the diamond and ran off. Halfway, she turned around and said, 'I'll be right back.'"

Park interpreter Rachel Engebrecht was going to the park office to confirm what she thought she had spotted.

"The family didn't realize they had a diamond. They thought it was a piece of mica," Engebrecht said. "When they learned it was a diamond, there were many 'woo hoo's' and high-fives exchanged between the six family members."

The twins don't plan to have the diamond cut, but

will leave it in its natural form, a triangular, almost heart shape, Engebrecht said. They named it the Duncan Twins Diamond.

"It's a brown diamond, but one very light in color ... a light golden color," Engebrecht said. "Some call this color champagne."

Park officials said they didn't know what part of the diamond-hunting field was the source of the stone found by the two young Texans, because the pair ranged across the entire field.

Garrett disputes one point with parks officials, however.

"I thought it was a diamond, I didn't think it was mica," he said. "It didn't look like the mica on the board" showing samples of different kinds of rock.

Grace and Garrett are the children of Jeffrey and Jana Duncan. They visited the park — the world's only diamond-producing site open to the public — on a spring-break vacation from school to visit their maternal grandparents in Arkansas.

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Tax

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sold in high-end neighborhoods in Tarrant County are reported to the MLS. In some instances, the appraised value "is 20, 30, even 40 percent lower than the actual sales price," he said.

Most states require sales price disclosure. A few — about 15 — don't, and many of those are less reliant than Texas on property taxes to pay for government operations.

State Rep. Mike Villarreal, D-San Antonio, and state Sen. Jeff Wentworth, R-San Antonio, have filed bills to mandate disclosure. Wentworth's version is particularly potent: A purchaser who doesn't disclose the sales price is liable to the state for a civil penalty in an amount equal to 5 percent of the purchase price.

The Texas Association of Realtors and the Texas Apartment Association oppose price disclosure.

The latter contends that it "will lead to inequities in the appraisal process and increased taxes for both businesses and homeowners."

But a primary reason to require disclosure is to reduce inequities in the appraisal process.

If all properties were appraised at full value, rather than some being substantially undervalued, that would increase the chances that local units of government could lower property tax rates as a result of realizing increased tax revenues from the previously undervalued properties. Those whose properties were being appraised at their full value would actually find their share of the overall tax burden reduced.

The more reliable information that appraisal district officials have on sales prices, the more fair and accurate property appraisals will be.

Isn't a more fair and equitable appraisal system what Texas should be striving for? Mandatory sales price disclosure would help ensure precisely that.