

Tomorrow's Weather

HIGH
45
LOW
27

See expanded weather on Page 2

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Happy State Bank acquires Citibank in Pampa

By **KERRI SMITH**
 Managing Editor

Happy State Bank made the announcement Wednesday that they are expanding to 12 Panhandle communities. J. Pat Hickman, Chairman and CEO of Happy State Bank and Trust Co. announced that on March 5, a definitive agreement was signed wherein Happy State Bank will acquire eight Citibank Financial Centers in the Texas Panhandle area. The purchase includes five branches in Amarillo, two in Pampa and one in Hereford. Happy State will now have 22 offices in 12 area communities (11 of which are county seats). The transaction is expected to close in the second quarter, following bank regulatory approval.

With this acquisition, Happy State Bank will be the second largest bank in the Panhandle; and will also have the second largest deposit market share in Potter and Randall Counties. Total assets of the combined organization will be just under \$900 million. The Happy bank is purchasing approximately \$75 million in loans and assuming about \$240 million in deposits represented by approximately 20,000 bank accounts.

Hickman stated that Happy State Bank hopes to retain all employees. "There are a bunch of great bankers in these Citibank offices and we have competed against them for a long time," said Hickman. "We are so excited to get them over onto our

team." While Happy State Bank already has a significant presence in Amarillo, this transaction moves the bank into Hereford and Pampa for the first time.

"These eight offices are the perfect fit for our bank," Hickman said. "Not only does it allow us to increase our market share in Amarillo, but more importantly, it allows us to move into two thriving communities in Pampa and Hereford. The folks in Pampa and Hereford are going to love our kind of down home, personal and friendly banking service."

Hickman stated that he was beyond happy and was elated with this purchase.

"This bank that we are acquiring has a long and storied history here in our area," Hickman said. "Going back to the old First Federal Savings and Loan, through First American Bank and most recently, Citibank, thousands of people have been helped through this financial institution. It is very rewarding to see this grand, old bank's base and roots come back to local Panhandle ownership."

It's kind of neat because our bank first opened its doors in Happy on June 1, 1908. And we think we will close this deal, and open the doors of these new offices on June 2, 2008, which is exactly 100 years and one See **BANK**, Page 3

Veterans tribute



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Andy Anderson, left, and Danny Martin, both of Pampa Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1657, were among those who saw the American Veterans Traveling Tribute arrive in Pampa at about 1 p.m. Wednesday at Freedom Museum, 600 N. Hobart. The traveling exhibit stopped briefly in Pampa on its way to Perryton, where it will be displayed at Whigham Park, SE 9th and Main Streets, until March 10. The exhibit includes a replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall and other displays concerning conflicts in which the U.S. has participated.

Hemphill County hands up indictments involving felonies

By **MARILYN POWERS**
 Staff Writer

Seven indictments were handed up Friday by a Hemphill County grand jury in 31st District Court. The indictments involved two second-degree felonies, two third-degree felonies and three state jail felonies.

Guy Wesley Byrd, 37, was indicted for two counts of theft of property equal to or greater than \$1,500 but less than \$20,000. Bond on each of the second-degree felonies, enhanced, was set at \$25,000, for total bond of \$50,000.

On Sept. 25 and 27, 2007, Byrd allegedly unlawfully appropriated U.S. currency of the value of \$1,500 or more but less

than \$20,000 from the owner with intent to deprive the owner of the property. The incident on Sept. 27 involved issuing or passing a check without sufficient funds on deposit to cover it.

On May 8, 1997, Byrd was convicted in District Court of Pontotoc County, Okla., of the felony offense of attempting to obtain cash or merchandise by bogus check. On June 12, 2006, he was convicted in District Court of Alamosa County, Colo. of the felony offense of theft from the person.

Rodney Gene Easley, 34, was indicted for driving while intoxicated, third or more offense. Bond on the third-degree felony was set at \$10,000.

On Feb. 8, Easley allegedly operated a motor vehicle in a public place while intoxicated on alcohol.

On Dec. 6, 2000, in Hemphill County Court, and on Aug. 12, 2003, in District Court of Washington County, Ark., Easley was convicted of an offense relating to the operating of a motor vehicle while intoxicated.

Bobby Ray Helm, 19, was indicted for terroristic threat impairing public/government service. Bond on the third-degree felony was set at \$10,000.

On June 28, 2007, Helm allegedly threatened to blow up a person or property with intent to place the See **JURY**, Page 3

Library to host free seminar on parenting

By **KERRI SMITH**
 Managing Editor

Misty Guy, director of Lovett Memorial Library, would like to inform Pampa and surrounding areas of what is going on at the library in the near future.

"Come take part in 'Parenting with a Purpose,' which will be here at the library this Friday," Guy said. "This program is at Parent University and is presented by Pampa ISD parent involvement coordinators. Late registration will be from 8:30 to 9 a.m. Friday at the library. There is no cost for attendance to these classes. This event is for adults only and no child care will be provided."

Session one will be from 9 to 9:55 a.m. and offers three choices: Attachment and Bonding - Connecting to the Future; Ready, Set, Read; and Dying to be Thin.

Session two will be from 10 to 10:55 a.m. and four choices are offered for this time slot: How would I know if my child is

depressed; Primary prevention - sexual assault and domestic violence; Parenting with a purpose; and Beginning computer skills.

Session three is from 11 to 11:55 a.m. with three classes to choose from: Child abuse and sex offenders - what you should know; Caryn Brown Russell Life's Journey - Meth Addictions; and Tools for helping grieving children.

The lunch break will be from 12 to 1:30 p.m. in the large meeting room with the speaker Skip Forsyth. His topic will be "The three R's: reportin', rewardin', and reginatin." Lunch will be provided.

The fourth and final session will be held from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. and four choices will be offered: The importance of reading with your child, which will be provided in Spanish; Teen truth; Family communication; and Beginning computer skills.

See **LIBRARY**, Page 3

School friends



Courtesy Photo




Austin first grade students Kinley Beyer, left, and McKenna Etheredge participated in activities "Under the Big Top" at school Wednesday. They were writing letters to the troops overseas.

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Community Christian School Fajita Lunch March 7th from 11:00 to 2:00 in the Wayne's Western Wear parking lot. Present your ticket to get your meal. Tickets are \$10, available at the school or any student. Delivery available for business ordering 4 or more lunches. For more information call 665-3393.

Let's Do School Lunch!

NEXT DAY FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
Sunny	Sunny	Sunny

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 45. Wind chill values between 12 and 22 early.
Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 27.
Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 64.
Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 34.
Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 59.
Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 33.

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Betty Marie (Carpenter) McCarthy, 67

Betty Marie (Carpenter) McCarthy, 67, passed away March 2, 2008, at Hospice House.
 She was born Dec. 4, 1940, to John and Wilma Carpenter in Pampa, Texas.
 She is preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Jerry Leo Carpenter.
 Betty is survived by her husband, Charles Lee Roy McCarthy of Odessa; two daughters, Elizabeth Marie McCarthy of Denver City, Texas, Crystal Lee Ward and husband Marshall of Sherman, Texas; two grandchildren, Katherine Elizabeth Ward and John Charles Ward, both of Sherman; sister, Patricia Ann Kindle and husband Bill of Pampa, Texas; and numerous nieces and nephews.
 She also has a number of people that she loved as family: Jackie, Alan and Grant Lehr; and Gloria, Silverio, Connie, Christina and Naomi Garcia.
 The family would like to

express their special thanks and appreciation to all the wonderful people at the West Texas Cancer Center and Hospice House. The folks at the Cancer Center have been so kind, helpful and supportive through Betty's fight against cancer.
 They visited her numerous times when she was in the hospital and the Hospice House. Also, everyone at the Hospice House was a so kind and helpful and this made Betty's passing so much easier for her and her family.
 A memorial service will be held 1 p.m., Saturday, March 8, 2008, at the 6th & Jackson Church of Christ in Odessa, Texas.
 Betty would appreciate donations to the Breast Cancer Foundation, the American Cancer Society or the Hospice House, 903 N. Sam Houston Ave., Odessa, Texas.
 Services are entrusted to Frank W. Wilson Funeral Directors in Odessa.

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Obituaries

Charles E. Godsey, 70



Godsey

Charles E. Godsey, 70, died Wednesday, March 5, 2008, in Pampa. There will be no services. Cremation and arrangements are by Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.
 Mr. Godsey was born Dec. 17, 1937 in Eugene, Ore. He married Lois Harrison on July 8, 1968, in Lewiston, Idaho. He had been a resident of Pampa since 2004.
 He worked as a cook for a

professional barbecue competition team that traveled across the country. He was always proud of his family, and he will be greatly missed by them.
 "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will

never leave you nor forsake you." Deuteronomy 31:6.
 Survivors include his wife, Lois Godsey, of the home; two sons, Robbie Godsey of Washington and Ron Godsey of Pampa; two daughters, Debbie Buse of Springfield, Ore., and Stacey

Salinas of Pampa; two brothers, Lloyd Godsey and Butch Godsey; two sisters, Wilma Yantz and Eula Marshall; 17 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.
MEMORIALS: Odyssey Healthcare, 6900 I-40 West, Suite 150, Amarillo, TX 79106.
 —Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Curtis Morris, 78

Curtis Morris, 78, of Pampa, formerly of McLean, died March 5, 2008, at Amarillo.
 Services are scheduled at 2 p.m. Saturday in Bailey-Ware Funeral Home Chapel in McLean with Pastor Errol Mercer, of CornerStone Church in Wheeler, officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Bailey-Ware Funeral Home in McLean.
 Mr. Morris was born Feb. 25, 1930, at Katemcy, Texas, to Sollie and Gladys Morris. He farmed, ranched and worked in the oil field prior to retiring in the early 1990s. Mr. Morris was an avid

hunter and fisherman.
 He was preceded in death by two sisters, Doris Morris and Lois Melton; and six brothers, Craig Morris, Carl Morris, Gerald Morris, J.B. Morris, Conard Morris and Sollie Morris, Jr.
 Survivors include five daughters, Barbara Geneva,

Dorothea Cooper, Kim Morris, Melissa Peterman and Tonya Martinez; four sons, Chuck Morris, Bobby Morris, Floyd Morris and Loyd Morris; two sisters, Mildred Plemmons and Joyce Carr; 26 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Betty Joyce Rice, 84

Memory Gardens Mausoleum under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.
 Mrs. Rice was born Jan. 26, 1924, in Woodward, Okla. She had been a resident of Pampa most of her life. Betty was a surgical nurse at Highland General Hospital for over 25 years.

She was a member of Briarwood Church.
 Survivors include one son, Loren Rice and wife Debbie of Vidor; three grandsons, Alan Kyle Bryant of Sulphur, La., Kerry Michael Rice of Lumberton and Kevin Matthew Rice of Beaumont; and one sister, Bonnie Everhart of

Albuquerque, N.M.
MEMORIALS: Briarwood Church, 1800 W. Harvester, Pampa, TX 79065.
 —Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Twaunah 'Tia' Rowsey, 60



Rowsey

Magdalena, N.M., Mrs. Rowsey had been a Pampa resident most of her life.
 Mrs. Rowsey was preceded in death by her parents, Wesley and Dorothy Keelin; a brother, Richard

Keelin; and a sister, Beth Turner.
 Survivors include three sons, Nick Newman and Jacob Rowsey, both of Pampa, and Randy Newman of Ashburn, Ga.; a daughter, Robin

Douglas of Pampa; and four grandchildren.
MEMORIALS: Hospice of the Southwest, 1301 S. Coulter, Suite 404, Amarillo, TX 79106.
 —Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

CITY BRIEFS

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- BARTLETT'S HARDWARE**, Full-Time Employment. Excellent benefits! 500 W. Brown, Pampa.
- FOR SALE** restaurant equipment, solid oak cabinets & large smoker on trailer 669-2921 or 440-3577.
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- HOLMES SPORTS Center** will be closing early Fri. Mar. 7th. We will close at 5pm. Please shop with us early!
- SUBWAY SANDWICHES** now hiring Lunch Help. Apply in person, 2141 N. Hobart or inside Wal-Mart.

Services tomorrow

- RICE, Betty Joyce** — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.
- WILLIAMS, Tyree** — 3 p.m., Kerrville Church of Christ, Kerrville.

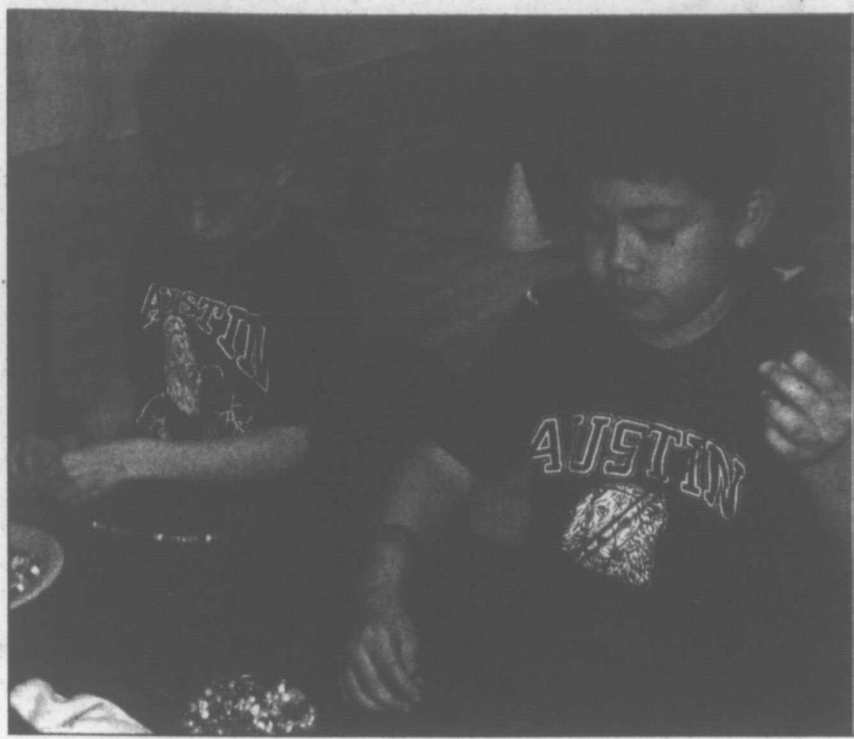
Emergency Services

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests today.
Wednesday, March 5
 Timothy Michael Knoop, 21, of Pampa was arrested in the 1500 block of North Hobart by Pampa Police Department for public intoxication.
 Joshua Lee Knoop, 18, of Pampa was arrested in the 100 block of North Russell by PPD for minor in consumption of alcohol.
 Stephen Scott Reynolds, 39, of Pampa was arrested in the 600 block of East Frederic by PPD for possession of drug paraphernalia.
 Terry Lee Well, 47, of McLean was arrested by GCSO for no insurance, expired motor vehicle inspection and expired registration.
 Erik Daniel Davis, 18, of Pampa was arrested in the 600 block of East Frederic by PPD on a capias pro fine for no valid driver's license.
Thursday, March 6
 Rafael Vasquez Felix, 39, of Pampa was arrested in the 100 block of South Starkweather by PPD for theft of property, animal at large and a bond forfeiture for possession of a controlled substance.
 See SERVICES, Page 9

1st Annual
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Parent University
March 7, 2008
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Beading



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH

Alex Smith, left, and Mateo Mosqueda, second grade students at Austin Elementary work on beading necklaces. Students kindergarten through second grade spent the morning "Under the Big Top" in the gym while older students took TAKS tests Wednesday. Students rotated to different stations that involved reading, writing letters to soldiers, making lava lamps, beading, face painting, hopscotch, playing board games, talking to Pampa firefighters and jumping in a bounce house.

Small bomb damages Times Square

NEW YORK (AP) — A small bomb caused minor damage to an empty military recruiting station in Times Square early Thursday, shaking guests in hotel rooms high above "the crossroads of the world."

The blast, which happened around 3:45 a.m., left a gaping hole in the front window and shattered a glass door, twisting and blackening its metal frame. No one was hurt. But Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said the device, though unsophisticated, could have caused "injury and even death."

A witness saw a person on a bicycle wearing a backpack and a hood and acting suspiciously, but no one saw the device being placed in front of the recruiting center, authorities said at a news conference.

"If it is something that's directed toward American troops then it's something that's taken very seriously and is pretty unfortunate," said Army Capt. Charlie Jaquillard, who is the commander of Army recruiting in Manhattan.

He said no one was inside the station, where the Marines, Air Force and Navy also recruit.

Witnesses staying at a Marriott hotel four blocks away said they could feel the building shake with the blast.

"It shook the building. I thought it could have been thunder, but I looked down and there was a massive plume of smoke so I knew it was an explosion," said Terry Leighton, 48, of London, who was staying on the 21st floor of the Marriott.

David Hassan, who operates a breakfast cart across the street, said he was in the area when the explosion happened.

"I saw smoke and there was a loud boom," he said. "I was scared. I'm still shaky."

The military's 1,600 recruiting stations nationwide were alerted and advised to use extra caution, said Douglas Smith, spokesman for the Army recruiting command.

Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said no official higher state of alert had been issued. "We do get occasional vandals at our recruiting stations," Whitman said. "It's unfortunate but it happens from time to time."

New York recruiters will work out of their Union Square office for

now, he said.

Members of the police department's bomb squad and fire officials gathered outside the station in the early morning darkness, and police cars and yellow tape blocked drivers — most of them behind the wheels of taxicabs — from entering one of the world's busiest crossroads. Police began allowing some traffic through around the start of rush hour.

Authorities were still trying to determine exactly what kind of device was used. When investigators went through the evidence, they found a metal ammunition box that is believed to have contained the explosive. It was being sent for testing. Kelly said the box was readily available in Army-Navy surplus stores.

"Whoever the coward was that committed this disgraceful act on our city will be found and prosecuted to the full extent of the law," Mayor Michael Bloomberg said.

The recruiting station, located near the theater district on a traffic island, is surrounded by chain stores and restaurants and several TV studios, has occasionally been the site of anti-war demonstrations.

RULES

Town goes 'cuss-free'

SOUTH PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — What the %? This community on the edge of Los Angeles has become a cuss-free zone.

So if you're headed to South Pasadena this week, be sure to turn down the volume on that Snoop Dogg CD, and, if the little old lady from Pasadena cuts you off in traffic, don't even think about flipping her the bird.

Not that police will slap cuffs on you and haul your sorry, er, butt off to jail in light of the proclamation passed Wednesday by the City Council. But you could be shamed into better behavior by the unsettling glares of residents who take their reputation for civility seriously.

"That's one of the purposes of this," Mayor Michael Cacciotti said of his city's proclamation designating the first week of March as No Cussing Week. "It provides us a reminder to be more civil, to elevate the level of discourse."

The proclamation will be in effect until Friday, and then the first week of every March hereafter.

South Pasadena, a tranquil city of tree-shad-

ed cottages at the base of a mountain range eight miles north of downtown Los Angeles, isn't the first to try to rein in potty mouths. Earlier this year, the St. Louis suburb of St. Charles, Mo., proposed banning swearing in bars. Last year, hip-hop mogul Russell Simmons called for an industrywide ban on racially and sexually charged epithets.

But what's different about the latest push to stop saying in public the words that Jane Fonda and Diane Keaton recently discovered we still can't say on television is that it was proposed by a 14-year-old boy.

"My mom and dad always taught me good morals, good values, and not cussing was one of them," said McKay Hatch, the founder of South Pasadena High School's No Cussing Club, during a recent break between study hall and tennis practice.

"I've cussed before, I'm not gonna lie to you," Hatch quickly added. "But I try not to cuss any more."

He was in junior high school when he became fed up with all the blue language around him.

Tony Blair honored for furthering freedom

DALLAS (AP) — While in Dallas to accept an award from Southern Methodist University, former British Prime Minister Tony Blair talked about the need to bring peace and freedom to the Middle East and to continue fighting terrorism.

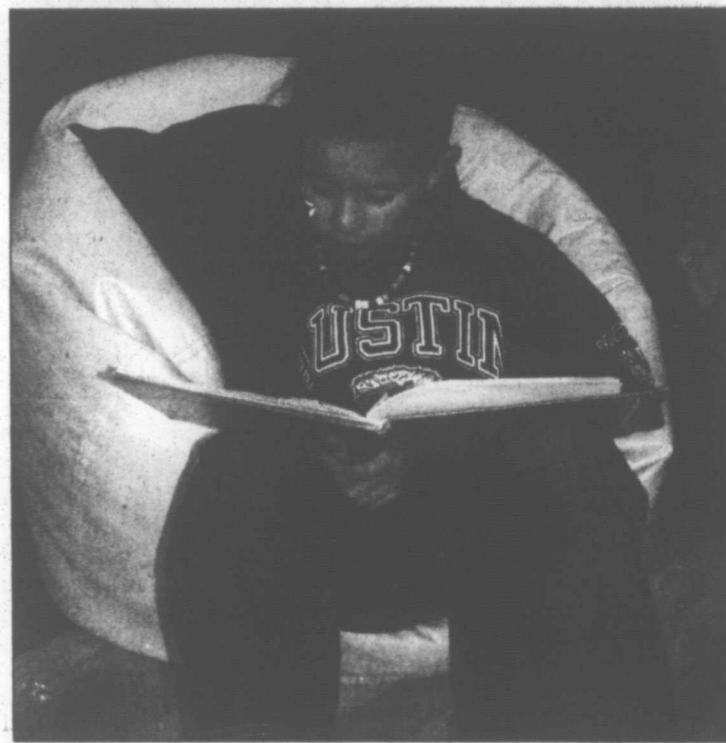
Blair was honored Wednesday at SMU with the Tower Center's Medal of Freedom, which the university says is given every two years to someone "who has furthered the cause of freedom throughout the world."

Blair, who resigned last year after a decade as prime minister, is now the Mideast peace envoy for the so-called Quartet of

Mideast negotiators: the U.S., European Union, United Nations and Russia. He's taken on the responsibility of helping Palestinians strengthen their economy and institutions in preparation for a Palestinian state.

"The reason the battle is hard is because the enemy is fighting us," he told the packed auditorium. "We have to be prepared to not give up, and not to lose heart, and not to walk away. ... Freedom is good, terror is evil. One is worth fighting for, and one is worth fighting. When we're engaged in fighting militarily, we have to stand our ground."

Reading



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH

Nahum Nunez, a first grade student at Austin, reads a book while lounging in a beanbag chair.

Bank

Continued from Page 1

day after the banks founding."

Happy State Bank currently has offices in Happy, Amarillo, Canyon, Dalhart, Dumas, Panhandle, Plainview, Sunray, Stratford and Borger, which is sched-

uled to open in early April. Happy State Bank was chartered in 1908 in Happy, Texas. In 1990, the \$10 million bank headquartered in Happy, Texas was acquired by a group of Panhandle area investors and it will soon be the second largest bank in the region. The bank has approximately 400 stockholders and 95 percent of them live in the Panhandle area.

You're Invited to a Conversation with

Congressman Mac Thornberry



Tuesday

March 18, 2008

8:30am - 9:30am

Chamber of Commerce

M.K. Brown Room

200 North Ballard

Pampa, Texas

For more information, please call 806-371-8844
<http://www.house.gov/thornberry/>

Library

Continued from Page 1

For any information about these classes through Parent University, contact Sabrina East at 669-4700 and for Spanish contact Debbie Doss at 669-4990 ext. 29.

Also upcoming at Lovett Library, The Friends of the

Library book sale will be April 4-6. Friends of the Library will raffle Wizard of Oz nutcrackers at their book sale on Sunday, April 6. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5. You need not be present to win. For more information call 665-6235 or 665-4387.

"Parents, just a reminder that children 12 years or younger must be accompanied by a parent or a sibling 16 years or older at all times while they are in the library," Guy said. "We have this rule

for the safety of your children."

The library staff will ask to see your library card or a picture ID prior to computer usage to verify that your library card is in good standing with all libraries in the Harrington Library Consortium. This is an agreement between the libraries as an incentive for patrons owing fines to clear their records.

For more information on Lovett library or any of their programs, call 669-5780.

Jury

Continued from Page 1

victim, a juvenile probation officer, in fear of imminent serious bodily injury.

Steven Edward Brinkley, 36, was indicted for theft of property equal to or greater than \$1,500 but less than \$20,000. Bond on the state jail felony was set at \$10,000.

On Sept. 14, 2007, Brinkley allegedly unlawfully appropriated U.S. currency of the value of \$500 or

more but less than \$1,500 in three separate incidents, with total currency involved valued at \$1,500 or more but less than \$20,000. Brinkley allegedly issued or passed checks when he did not have sufficient funds in or on deposit to pay the checks in full.

Marshall Wade Flowers, 28, was indicted for possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance. Bond on the state jail felony was set at \$10,000.

On March 6, 2006, Flowers allegedly possessed less than one gram of methamphetamine.

Randall Wade Gilley II,

18, was indicted for forgery of a financial instrument. Bond on the state jail felony was set at \$5,000.

On Dec. 2, 2007, Gilley allegedly wrote a check for \$30 on the victim's account with intent to defraud or harm the victim.

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First \$1.00 4 Minutes • Additional \$1.00'S 5 Minutes

NEXT DAY FORECAST

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The family would like to

express their special thanks and appreciation to all the wonderful people at the West Texas Cancer Center and Hospice House. The folks at the Cancer Center have been so kind, helpful and supportive through Betty's fight against cancer.

They visited her numerous times when she was in the hospital and the Hospice House. Also, everyone at the Hospice House was a so kind and helpful and this made Betty's passing so much easier for her and her family.

A memorial service will be held 1 p.m., Saturday, March 8, 2008, at the 6th & Jackson Church of Christ in Odessa, Texas.

Betty would appreciate donations to the Breast Cancer Foundation, the American Cancer Society or the Hospice House, 903 N. Sam Houston Ave., Odessa, Texas.

Services are entrusted to Frank W. Wilson Funeral Directors in Odessa.

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Charles E. Godsey, 70, died Wednesday, March 5, 2008, in Pampa. There will be no services. Cremation and arrangements are by Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Godsey was born Dec. 17, 1937 in Eugene, Ore. He married Lois Harrison on July 8, 1968, in Lewiston, Idaho. He had been a resident of Pampa since 2004.

He worked as a cook for a

professional barbecue competition team that traveled across the country. He was always proud of his family, and he will be greatly missed by them.

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will



Godsey

never leave you nor forsake you." Deuteronomy 31:6.

Survivors include his wife, Lois Godsey, of the home; two sons, Robbie Godsey of Washington and Ron Godsey of Pampa; two daughters, Debbie Buse of Springfield, Ore., and Stacy

Salinas of Pampa; two brothers, Lloyd Godsey and Butch Godsey; two sisters, Wilma Yantz and Eula Marshall; 17 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

MEMORIALS: Odyssey Healthcare, 6900 I-40 West, Suite 150, Amarillo, TX 79106.

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

Charles E. Godsey, 70

Curtis Morris, 78

Curtis Morris, 78, of Pampa, formerly of McLean, died March 5, 2008, at Amarillo.

Services are scheduled at 2 p.m. Saturday in Bailey-Ware Funeral Home Chapel in McLean with Pastor Erron Mercer, of CornerStone Church in Wheeler, officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Bailey-Ware Funeral Home in McLean.

Mr. Morris was born Feb. 25, 1930, at Katemcy, Texas, to Sollie and Gladys Morris. He farmed, ranched and worked in the oil field prior to retiring in the early 1990s. Mr. Morris was an avid

hunter and fisherman.

He was preceded in death by two sisters, Doris Morris and Lois Melton; and six brothers, Craig Morris, Carl Morris, Gerald Morris, J.B. Morris, Conard Morris and Sollie Morris, Jr.

Survivors include five daughters, Barbara Geneva,

Dorothea Cooper, Kim Morris, Melissa Peterman and Tonya Martinez; four sons, Chuck Morris, Bobby Morris, Floyd Morris and Loyd Morris; two sisters, Mildred Plemons and Joyce Carr; 26 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Betty Joyce Rice, 84

Betty Joyce Rice, 84, of Pampa, Texas, died March 1, 2008, at Pampa. Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday, March 7, 2008, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Lynn Hancock, pastor of Briarwood Church, officiating.

Entombment will be in

Memory Gardens Mausoleum under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Rice was born Jan. 26, 1924, in Woodward, Okla. She had been a resident of Pampa most of her life. Betty was a surgical nurse at Highland General Hospital for over 25 years.

She was a member of Briarwood Church.

Survivors include one son, Loren Rice and wife Debbie of Vidor; three grandsons, Alan Kyle Bryant of Sulphur, La., Kerry Michael Rice of Lumberton and Kevin Matthew Rice of Beaumont; and one sister, Bonnie Everhart of

Albuquerque, N.M. MEMORIALS: Briarwood Church, 1800 W. Harvester, Pampa, TX 79065.

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

Twaunah 'Tia' Rowsey, 60

Twaunah "Tia" Rowsey, 60, of Pampa, died March 4, 2008, at Pampa.

Memorial services will be scheduled at a later date. Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Born July 16, 1947, at

Magdalena, N.M., Mrs. Rowsey had been a Pampa resident most of her life.

Mrs. Rowsey was preceded in death by her parents, Wesley and Dorothy Keelin; a brother, Richard



Rowsey

Keelin; and a sister, Beth Turner.

Survivors include three sons, Nick Newman and Jacob Rowsey, both of Pampa, and Randy Newman of Ashburn, Ga., a daughter, Robin

Douglas of Pampa; and four grandchildren.

MEMORIALS: Hospice of the Southwest, 1301 S. Coulter, Suite 404, Amarillo, TX 79106.

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

CITY BRIEFS

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

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COMM. CHRISTIAN Sch. "Fajita Lunch" & "Bake Sale", Fri. Mar. 7, 11am-2pm, incl. 2 fajitas, rice, beans, chips, salsa, dessert & drink, \$10 per person. Pick up at Wayne's Western Wear, 1504 N. Hobart, or delivery avail. to Businesses with 4 or more orders. Tickets, 665-3393.

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SUBWAY SANDWICHES now hiring Lunch Help. Apply in person, 2141 N. Hobart or inside Wal-Mart.

Services tomorrow

RICE, Betty Joyce — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.
WILLIAMS, Tyree — 3 p.m., Kerrville Church of Christ, Kerrville.

Emergency Services

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

Wednesday, March 5
 Timothy Michael Knoop, 21, of Pampa was arrested in the 1500 block of North Hobart by Pampa Police Department for public intoxication.

Joshua Lee Knoop, 18, of Pampa was arrested in the 100 block of North Russell by PPD for minor in consumption of alcohol.

Stephen Scott Reynolds, 39, of Pampa was arrested in the 600 block of East Frederic by PPD for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Terry Lee Well, 47, of McLean was arrested by GCSO for no insurance, expired motor vehicle inspection and expired registration.

Erik Daniel Davis, 18, of Pampa was arrested in the 600 block of East Frederic by PPD on a capias pro fine for no valid driver's license.

Thursday, March 6
 Rafael Vasquez Felix, 39, of Pampa was arrested in the 100 block of South Starkweather by PPD for theft of property, animal at large and a bond forfeiture for possession of a controlled substance.

See SERVICES, Page 9

1st Annual

Parenting

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Parent University


March 7, 2008

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Beading



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH

Alex Smith, left, and Mateo Mosqueda, second grade students at Austin Elementary work on beading necklaces. Students kindergarten through second grade spent the morning "Under the Big Top" in the gym while older students took TAKS tests Wednesday. Students rotated to different stations that involved reading, writing letters to soldiers, making lava lamps, beading, face painting, hopscotch, playing board games, talking to Pampa firefighters and jumping in a bounce house.

Small bomb damages Times Square

NEW YORK (AP) — A small bomb caused minor damage to an empty military recruiting station in Times Square early Thursday, shaking guests in hotel rooms high above "the crossroads of the world."

The blast, which happened around 3:45 a.m., left a gaping hole in the front window and shattered a glass door, twisting and blackening its metal frame. No one was hurt. But Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said the device, though unsophisticated, could have caused "injury and even death."

A witness saw a person on a bicycle wearing a backpack and a hood and acting suspiciously, but no one saw the device being placed in front of the recruiting center, authorities said at a news conference.

"If it is something that's directed toward American troops then it's something that's taken very seriously and is pretty unfortunate," said Army Capt. Charlie Jaquillard, who is the commander of Army recruiting in Manhattan.

He said no one was inside the station, where the Marines, Air Force and Navy also recruit.

Witnesses staying at a Marriott hotel four blocks away said they could feel the building shake with the blast.

"It shook the building. I thought it could have been thunder, but I looked down and there was a massive plume of smoke so I knew it was an explosion," said Terry Leighton, 48, of London, who was staying on the 21st floor of the Marriott.

David Hassan, who operates a breakfast cart across the street, said he was in the area when the explosion happened.

"I saw smoke and there was a loud boom," he said. "I was scared. I'm still shaky."

The military's 1,600 recruiting stations nationwide were alerted and advised to use extra caution, said Douglas Smith, spokesman for the Army recruiting command.

Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said no official higher state of alert had been issued. "We do get occasional vandals at our recruiting stations," Whitman said. "It's unfortunate but it happens from time to time."

New York recruiters will work out of their Union Square office for

now, he said.

Members of the police department's bomb squad and fire officials gathered outside the station in the early morning darkness, and police cars and yellow tape blocked drivers — most of them behind the wheels of taxicabs — from entering one of the world's busiest crossroads. Police began allowing some traffic through around the start of rush hour.

Authorities were still trying to determine exactly what kind of device was used. When investigators went through the evidence, they found a metal ammunition box that is believed to have contained the explosive. It was being sent for testing. Kelly said the box was readily available in Army-Navy surplus stores.

"Whoever the coward was that committed this disgraceful act on our city will be found and prosecuted to the full extent of the law," Mayor Michael Bloomberg said.

The recruiting station, located near the theater district on a traffic island, is surrounded by chain stores and restaurants and several TV studios, has occasionally been the site of anti-war demonstrations.

RULES

Town goes 'cuss-free'

SOUTH PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — What the \$%? This community on the edge of Los Angeles has become a cuss-free zone.

So if you're headed to South Pasadena this week, be sure to turn down the volume on that Snoop Dogg CD, and, if the little old lady from Pasadena cuts you off in traffic, don't even think about flipping her the bird.

Not that police will slap cuffs on you and haul your sorry, er, butt to jail in light of the proclamation passed Wednesday by the City Council. But you could be shamed into better behavior by the unsettling glares of residents who take their reputation for civility seriously.

"That's one of the purposes of this," Mayor Michael Cacciotti said of his city's proclamation designating the first week of March as No Cussing Week. "It provides us a reminder to be more civil, to elevate the level of discourse."

The proclamation will be in effect until Friday, and then the first week of every March hereafter.

South Pasadena, a tranquil city of tree-shad-

ed cottages at the base of a mountain range eight miles north of downtown Los Angeles, isn't the first to try to rein in potty mouths. Earlier this year, the St. Louis suburb of St. Charles, Mo., proposed banning swearing in bars. Last year, hip-hop mogul Russell Simmons called for an industrywide ban on racially and sexually charged epithets.

But what's different about the latest push to stop saying in public the words that Jane Fonda and Diane Keaton recently discovered we still can't say on television is that it was proposed by a 14-year-old boy.

"My mom and dad always taught me good morals, good values, and not cussing was one of them," said McKay Hatch, the founder of South Pasadena High School's No Cussing Club, during a recent break between study hall and tennis practice.

"I've cussed before, I'm not gonna lie to you," Hatch quickly added. "But I try not to cuss any more."

He was in junior high school when he became fed up with all the blue language around him.

Tony Blair honored for furthering freedom

DALLAS (AP) — While in Dallas to accept an award from Southern Methodist University, former British Prime Minister Tony Blair talked about the need to bring peace and freedom to the Middle East and to continue fighting terrorism.

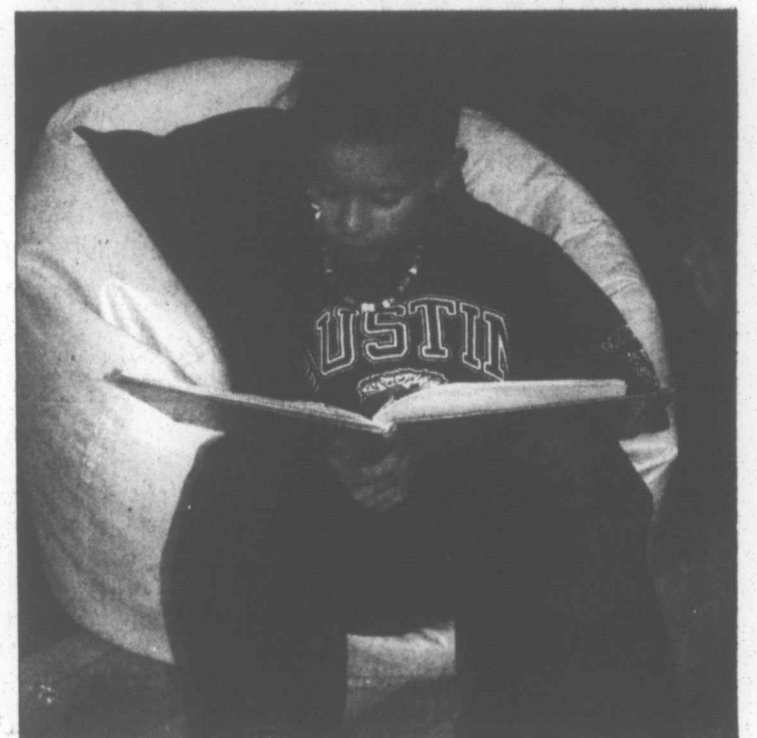
Blair was honored Wednesday at SMU with the Tower Center's Medal of Freedom, which the university says is given every two years to someone "who has furthered the cause of freedom throughout the world."

Blair, who resigned last year after a decade as prime minister, is now the Mideast peace envoy for the so-called Quartet of

Mideast negotiators: the U.S., European Union, United Nations and Russia. He's taken on the responsibility of helping Palestinians strengthen their economy and institutions in preparation for a Palestinian state.

"The reason the battle is hard is because the enemy is fighting us," he told the packed auditorium. "We have to be prepared to not give up, and not to lose heart, and not to walk away. ... Freedom is good, terror is evil. One is worth fighting for, and one is worth fighting. When we're engaged in fighting militarily, we have to stand our ground."

Reading



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH
Nahum Nunez, a first grade student at Austin, reads a book while lounging in a beanbag chair.

Bank

Continued from Page 1

day after the banks founding.

Happy State Bank currently has offices in Happy, Amarillo, Canyon, Dalhart, Dumas, Panhandle, Plainview, Sunray, Stratford and Borger, which is sched-

uled to open in early April. Happy State Bank was chartered in 1908 in Happy, Texas. In 1990, the \$10 million bank headquartered in Happy, Texas was acquired by a group of Panhandle area investors and it will soon be the second largest bank in the region. The bank has approximately 400 stockholders and 95 percent of them live in the Panhandle area.

Library

Continued from Page 1

For any information about these classes through Parent University, contact Sabrina East at 669-4700 and for Spanish contact Debbie Doss at 669-4990 ext. 29.

Also upcoming at Lovett Library, The Friends of the

Library book sale will be April 4-6. Friends of the Library will raffle Wizard of Oz nutcrackers at their book sale on Sunday, April 6. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5. You need not be present to win. For more information call 665-6235 or 665-4387.

"Parents, just a reminder that children 12 years or younger must be accompanied by a parent or a sibling 16 years or older at all times while they are in the library," Guy said. "We have this rule

for the safety of your children."

The library staff will ask to see your library card or a picture ID prior to computer usage to verify that your library card is in good standing with all libraries in the Harrington Library Consortium. This is an agreement between the libraries as an incentive for patrons owing fines to clear their records.

For more information on Lovett library or any of their programs, call 669-5780.

more but less than \$1,500 in three separate incidents, with total currency involved valued at \$1,500 or more but less than \$20,000. Brinkley allegedly issued or passed checks when he did not have sufficient funds in or on deposit to pay the checks in full.

Marshall Wade Flowers, 28, was indicted for possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance. Bond on the state jail felony was set at \$10,000.

On March 6, 2006, Flowers allegedly possessed less than one gram of methamphetamine. Randall Wade Gilley II,

18, was indicted for forgery of a financial instrument. Bond on the state jail felony was set at \$5,000.

On Dec. 2, 2007, Gilley allegedly wrote a check for \$30 on the victim's account with intent to defraud or harm the victim.

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Jury

Continued from Page 1

victim, a juvenile probation officer, in fear of imminent serious bodily injury.

Steven Edward Brinkley, 36, was indicted for theft of property equal to or greater than \$1,500 but less than \$20,000. Bond on the state jail felony was set at \$10,000.

On Sept. 14, 2007, Brinkley allegedly unlawfully appropriated U.S. currency of the value of \$500 or

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Viewpoints

Weather too finicky for climate alarmists

You've no doubt seen the stories about strange snowfalls in Saudi Arabia. A brutal winter in China. The heaviest snow cover in North America, Siberia and elsewhere since 1966. And if you are a vigilant observer of the global warming debate, you know how inconveniently cold it is in the Arctic this winter for Al Gore and his army of climate alarmists. But how cold is it, Johnny? Well, NASA says recent satellite images show that the allegedly endangered polar ice cap — which will melt completely one of these summers and kill off all the polar bears if we don't slash our greedy carbon footprints and revert to the lifestyles of

medieval peasants — has recovered to near normal coverage levels. That's what Josefino Comiso, a senior research scientist with the Cryospheric Sciences Branch of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland, told Canada's CBC News — the Canadian government's version of NPR/PBS in February. As far as Google's search engine knows, Comiso's comforting report has appeared nowhere but in Canada. There's even better news for polar ice-pack lovers from ice expert Gilles Langis, who says Arctic ice is now even thicker than usual in spots. A senior ice forecaster with the Canadian

Ice Service in Ottawa, he's another scientist you shouldn't expect to see talking to Anderson Cooper on the next episode of CNN's "Galaxy in Peril." Meanwhile, in other news too climatically incorrect for U.S. mainstream media to touch, California meteorologist Anthony Watts says January 2008 was the planet's second-coldest January in 15 years. Even more shocking, the average temperature of Earth dropped significantly from January 2007 to January 2008. As Watts explains on

his Web site wattsupwiththat.wordpress.com, he determined the lower figure by crunching data from four major public and private global tracking sources. You may remember Watts from last summer. He popped up on Fox News because of his self-funded project to qualify-ty-check 1,221 ground weather stations around the country that are used by NASA to measure the "official" average annual temperature of the United States. So far, Watts and his volunteers have checked out more than 500 weather sta-

tions (none in Western Pennsylvania) to see if their temperature data can be considered credible. As he details on his other Web site, surfacestations.org, nearly 70 percent of the sites fail to meet the government's own standards because they are not 100 feet from a building, are on blazing rooftops, sit next to air-conditioner exhaust fans, etc. Watts was shocked and surprised to find such unequivocal proof that Earth's temperature has cooled in the last year, he said to me recently. But he's very cautious about what it means in either the short or long run. Calling it a "fluctuation" and "a large anomaly" compared to the 30-year running

temperature average that climatologists use, he emphasized that the cold spell is "no indication that global warming is over" but does "illustrate that the driving mechanisms behind our planet's climate are still very much in control of changing the climate and that the planet's not in the death grip of CO2 just yet." A careful, honest man of science, all Watts would say for sure was that his findings and all the strange cold-weather events of this winter prove only one thing so far — that "Mother Nature is still in control of things, not us." —Bill Steigerwald is a columnist at the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review.

Bill Steigerwald
Columnist



Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, March 6, the 66th day of 2008. There are 300 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On March 6, 1857, the United States Supreme Court ruled in *Dred Scott v. Sandford* that Scott, a slave, was not a U.S. citizen and could not sue for his freedom in federal court. On this date: In 1834, the city of York in Upper Canada was incorporated as Toronto. In 1836, the Alamo in San Antonio, Texas, fell to Mexican forces after a 13-day siege. In 1853, Verdi's opera "La Traviata" premiered in Venice, Italy.

'To have doubted one's own first principles, is the mark of a civilized man.'

— Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. U.S. Supreme Court justice (1841-1935)

In 1933, a nationwide bank holiday declared by President Franklin D. Roosevelt went into effect. In 1935, retired Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. died in Washington. In 1944, U.S. heavy bombers staged the first full-scale American raid on Berlin during World War II. In 1957, the former British African colonies of the Gold Coast and

Togoland became the independent state of Ghana. In 1967, the daughter of Josef Stalin, Svetlana Alliluyeva, appeared at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, India, and declared her intention to defect to the West. In 1983, in a case that drew much notoriety, a young woman was gang-raped atop a pool table in a tavern in New Bedford, Mass., called Big Dan's; four men were later convicted of the attack. In 1988, the board of trustees at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., a liberal arts college for the deaf, selected Elisabeth Zinser, a hearing woman, to be school president. (Outraged students shut down the campus, forcing selection of a deaf president, I. King Jordan, instead.) Ten years ago: The Army honored three Americans who'd risked their lives and turned their weapons on fellow soldiers to stop the slaughter of Vietnamese villagers at My Lai in 1968. A Connecticut state lottery accountant shot to death three supervisors and the lottery chief before killing himself. Five years ago: A somber President Bush readied the nation for war against Saddam Hussein, hurling some of his harshest invectives yet at the Iraqi leader during a prime-time news conference. The United States ratified a treaty on cutting active U.S. and Russian long-range nuclear warheads by two-thirds.

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The one clipboard you'd don't have to carry

Ever wanted to move or copy information from one application to another? How about copying a document's contents into an e-mail message? Sure beats typing it all over again. Well, you can do that, and much more using one of the most powerful and least used features of the Windows Operating System — the clipboard. Think of the clipboard as a temporary storage place for information. It can only hold one thing at a time, but it will hold it until it is replaced by something else. Any type of information can be stored there, from a single book title to an entire sonnet from Shakespeare. Pictures and other multimedia bits of data can also be stored. Once you learn a few Clipboard tricks, you'll wonder how you survived without it. The clipboard is available to every program in

Windows. Word Processors, Spreadsheets, Databases and even Web Browsers all benefit from its many features. Here's how. First, decide whether you will be moving or copying the information. Then, decide which method of moving or copying you will employ. Four basic methods exist. I'll go over all four, but you will probably only use two or three on a day-to-day basis. To move information, highlight it first. In other words, if it is text, position the cursor before the first letter of the word or phrase you want to select, hold down your mouse button and, while continuing to hold it

Eric Spellmann
Columnist



down, drag the mouse until all of the text you want to move is highlighted. For graphics, just click once anywhere on it. Then, take your mouse pointer up to the menu bar and choose "edit." You'll see quite a few options. To move the information, choose "cut." The text will disappear, but don't worry, you didn't delete it. It is on the clipboard. Next, position your cursor wherever you want the text to be moved (either in the same document or in another program), pull down the edit menu, and choose "paste." The text will magically appear. Congratulations, you have just performed a "cut & paste!"

To copy the information, simply choose "copy" instead of "cut" from the edit menu. The second technique involves the toolbar (you know, that row of buttons under the Menu bar.) You'll notice one of them looks like a pair of scissors. That's means to cut. The other resembles two sheets of paper stacked on top of each other. That means to copy. The button with a clipboard picture on it is paste. Using the toolbar rather than the edit menu will save you a couple of mouse clicks. The third method uses your right mouse button. Select the text or graphic you want to cut or paste. Position your pointer over the selected data and hit your right mouse button. A context sensitive menu will

See SPELL, Page 5

Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

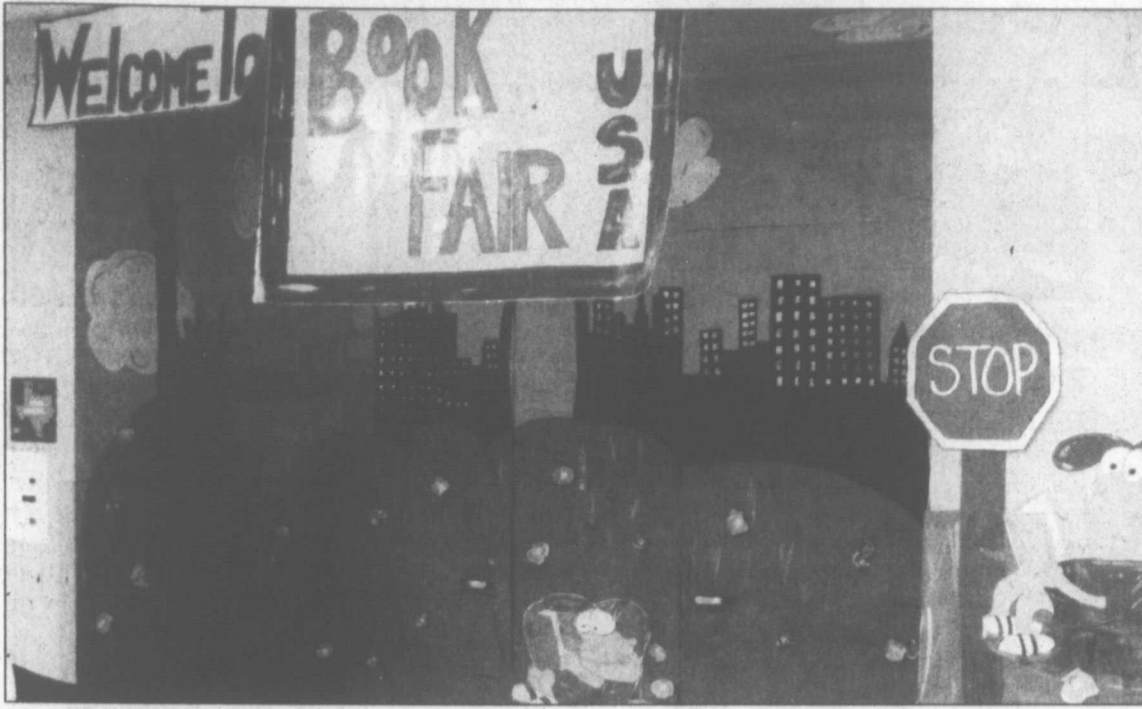
A sample of editorial opinion around Texas: In Feb. 25 El Paso Times on identity theft: You probably remember, especially if you're a veteran, the flap a couple of years ago over lax protection of personal information by government agencies. Specifically, a Veterans Affairs employee had taken home a hard drive containing millions of names and personal information — including Social Security numbers. That hard drive was stolen from the employee's home, but was later recovered intact. This started a scramble among federal agencies to promise to upgrade the

security of personal information. But an Associated Press story reveals that, according to a Government Accountability Office report, there's been more promise than productivity when it comes to implementation of protections. The GAO checked up on 24 government agencies, with results that aren't exactly encouraging. After the VA debacle, five federal recommendations were issued designed to protect personal information. According to the GAO, only the Treasury and Transportation departments have implemented the recommendations. Two agencies, the Small Business Administration and National Science Foundation, haven't used any of the recommendations. The other 18

agencies fall somewhere in between. That's ridiculous and a blatant betrayal of the trust the Americans should be able to place in their government when it comes to the protection of personal information. Karen Evans is administrator for e-government and information technology at the Office of Management and Budget. She said in a statement, "OMB continues to work with the agencies and monitor their progress in addressing the recommendations of the president's Identity Theft Task Force. We are working to ensure that agencies have the proper security controls in place to minimize and prevent risks to the public's information." See IDENTITY, Page 5

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Book fair



Courtesy Photo
Woodrow Wilson Elementary School is organizing a book fair for March 10-14. This display was created by Donna Whitson. "Take a Reading Road Trip" is the theme this year in the school's library.

AIRLINES

Regulators seeking penalties for Southwest

DALLAS (AP) — Federal regulators will seek a penalty of at least \$3 million against Southwest Airlines Co. for failing to inspect older planes for cracks.

The airline said Thursday it had complied with regulators' requests and would contest any fine.

The Federal Aviation Administration could officially notify Southwest of actions against it as early as Thursday, said a person

familiar with the situation who spoke on condition of anonymity because the FAA has not announced any action.

The FAA is looking into Southwest's failure to do required inspections on some of its older Boeing 737s.

The planes are covered by an FAA safety directive for inspecting older aircraft for structural soundness. The aim of the program is to find and repair small cracks

before they become a safety hazard.

A spokeswoman for Southwest, Beth Harbin, said the airline brought the issue to the FAA's attention and believed it had handled the matter to the agency's satisfaction. Harbin said the airline believed the case was closed last year.

"We brought in 46 airplanes to take another look at them," Harbin said. "These are preventive inspections. On six of the 46

we found the start of some very small cracking. That's the intent of the inspection schedule — to find something before it becomes a problem. These are safe planes."

The FAA action was first reported by The Wall Street Journal in Thursday editions.

The person close to the case said Southwest self-reported that it had accidentally missed some inspections.

NYC pub owner banning 'Danny Boy' for entire month of March

NEW YORK (AP) — It's depressing, it's not usually sung in Ireland for St. Patrick's Day, and its lyrics were written by an Englishman who never set foot on Irish soil.

Those are only some of the reasons why a Manhattan pub owner is banning the song "Danny Boy" for the entire month of March.

"It's overplayed, it's been ranked among the 25 most depressing songs of all time and it's more appropriate for a funeral than for a St.

Patrick's Day celebration," said Shaun Clancy, who owns Foley's Pub and Restaurant, across the street from the Empire State Building.

The 38-year-old Clancy, who started bartending when he was 12 at his father's pub in County Cavan, Ireland, promised a free Guinness to patrons who sing any other traditional Irish song at the pub's pre-St. Patrick's Day karaoke party on Tuesday.

The lyrics for "Danny Boy," published in 1913,

were written by English lawyer Frederick Edward Weatherly, who never even visited Ireland, according to Malachy McCourt, author of the book "Danny Boy: The Legend of the Beloved Irish Ballad."

He said Weatherly's sister-in-law had sent him the music to an old Irish song called "The Derry Air," and the new version became a hit when opera singer Ernestine Schumann-Heink recorded it in 1915.

Some say the song is sym-

bolic of the great Irish diaspora, with generations of Irish fleeing the famine and poor economic conditions starting around 1850. Others speculate it's sung by a mother grieving for her son or by a desolate lover. Lyrics include: "The summer's gone, and all the flowers are dying/ 'Tis you, 'tis you must go and I must bide."

Extension Service gearing up for child safety seat classes

Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Gray County will be conducting a free "SafeRider Child Safety Seat Distribution and Education Classes" on March 11 and 18 at the Gray County Annex. The SafeRider program is for low-income families who travel on Texas highways.

One free child car seat is available to participants.

Extension Agent Joan Gray-Soria reports that motor vehicle crashes are the leading killer of children from age birth and up, and more than 50 percent of children killed in crashes are unrestrained. Parents, the local Extension agent said, can take steps to help prevent such tragedies by using age-appropriate child safety seats and by keeping children 12 and under properly restrained in the back

seat of the vehicle.

To qualify for the program, families self-certify financial need and must have a vehicle with working safety belts (lap and shoulder belts are required for booster seats). One member of the family MUST attend a one-hour class in order to learn how to use the safety seat correctly. One free child car seat will be awarded per family.

Preregistration is required to attend the class. For more information or to register, call 669-8033. Classes are limited.

Parents must be vigilant, Gray-Soria said. Children need to be properly restrained on every trip — not just the long highway trip to grandmother's house.



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Spell

Cont. from Page 4

appear, giving you the option of cutting, copying or pasting.

Finally, the fourth method, at least in my opinion, is the easiest of all. It involves keyboard shortcuts. Select the data. To "cut" the data, hit CTRL-X. In other words, while holding down the CTRL key on your keyboard, tap the X key. To copy, hit CTRL-C. To paste, use CTRL-V. I use this method more than all the others because it doesn't require my hands to leave the keyboard to use the mouse. I can more quickly move data around using that technique.

The Windows clipboard is incredibly useful. Practice what you've read here, and before long, you'll wonder how you lived without it.

On another note, every day I receive e-mail messages from readers asking for copies of previous columns. While I'm happy to oblige, I remind them of my free e-mail newsletter. Twice a month, I send out the previous week's columns and the complete transcripts of my television segments (in case you missed one). Included are links to my "sites of the week," and some computer shortcuts that will shave hours off of your next project. To sign up (all I need is your e-mail address), go to <http://www.EricSpellmann.com>

Identity

Continued from Page 4

Apparently, these efforts haven't been as successful as millions of Americans would like. In this cyber-age, few people labor under the illusion that there is any significant amount of personal privacy left. People's personal information is everywhere, from a lost wallet to personal documents tossed in the trash. And cyber-wise, information is relatively easy to get for even modestly talented hackers and ID thieves.

Government agencies have an obligation to protect to the greatest extent possible any personal information it gleans and stores from Americans.

Sen. Norm Coleman, R-Minn., is one of the lawmakers who asked for the GAO report. He said, "The clock is ticking and we need to know when the agencies are going to have the protections in place to stop the numerous data breaches we have seen over the past few years."

The government agencies in question should be closely monitored until they adequately secure Americans' personal information. URL: <http://www.elpasotimes.com>

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I felt vindicated after reading your response to "Clothes-Minded in Wisconsin" (Dec. 31), who complained that her neighbors' 16-year-old son walks around his house nude. You advised her to put curtains on her window and call before dropping over for a visit. My neighbor complained that when my 15-year-old son (now 17) changed clothes in his room, she could see through her kitchen window into his bedroom. She told me to tell him not to walk naked in front of his window. I wanted to tell her she should look away if she was offended, but everyone I asked seemed to side with her. My son's solution? He drew a fig leaf and taped it to his window so her view of his "offensive nudity" would be blocked. I thought it was very creative -- and my neighbor never mentioned it again. -- **STILL A GOOD NEIGHBOR**

DEAR NEIGHBOR: Thanks for sharing your son's "fruitful" solution. In my reply to "Clothes-Minded," I stated that standards about nudity vary from family to family. And the responses I have received have reflected that. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Americans tend to view nudity as an invitation to sex. It need not be. I lived in Germany for five years. The apartment complex I lived in had a large outdoor pool for use in the summer. People of all ages and backgrounds used it regularly. Few, if any, ever wore a swimsuit. Nobody seemed to care, and there was never any evidence of problem behavior. I'm not advocating public nudity. However, in certain settings, it is what it is -- natural. -- **FRANK IN NAPLES, FLA.**

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I are practicing naturists, and I agree with your response to "Clothes-Minded." You advised her to keep the curtains closed to avoid seeing the boy. Naturists know that

we live in a "textile" world, and we respect the rights of those who do not wish to view our nudity and restrict our activity to clothing-optional beaches and resorts. I would advise the woman who wrote you to make her objection known -- anonymously, if speaking up would make her uncomfortable. It is the family's responsibility not to cause offense. -- **AU NATUREL IN LOMBARD, ILL.**

DEAR ABBY: What made my jaw drop was the neighbor's ability to describe exactly what time of day the young man appears in his kitchen every morning to eat breakfast (naked), and even what programs he watches on TV! Granted, this guy should put on a robe, but, Abby -- that woman needs to get a life. -- **CANDY IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR ABBY: As a parent, it bothered me that you didn't contemplate the "other side of the fence." That neighbor should be considered a "peeping mom"! If she knows the young man's routine as well as she seems to, she's been peeping for a while. Just because they have been neighbors for years and watched their children grow, does not mean she's not guilty of watching a little too closely. My advice to her: Keep your eyes to yourself. -- **KIM IN HELENA, ALA.**

DEAR ABBY: The circumstances differ, but that letter brought to mind the old story about the woman who called the police because she could see her neighbors in the next apartment building making love. The policeman looked through her window and said, "I can't see a thing." Her reply: "You can if you stand on the bed!" -- **MARTIN IN PORT CHARLOTTE, FLA.**

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

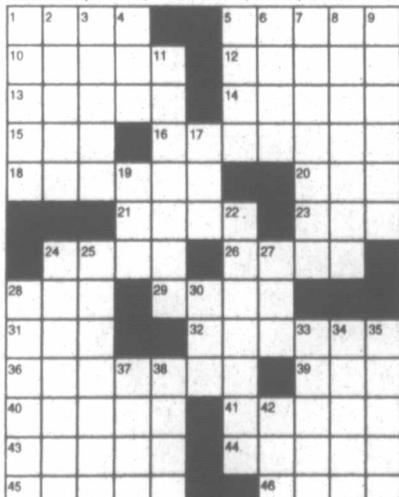
- ACROSS**
- 45 Organ parts
 - 1 Farm chunk
 - 46 Lab event
 - 5 Top Hollywood stars
 - 10 Peru neighbor
 - 12 Tennis great
 - 13 Court score
 - 14 Donald's ex
 - 15 Big bird
 - 16 Enormous
 - 18 Head out
 - 20 Weed whacker
 - 21 Altman film
 - 23 Bruins great
 - 24 Forecast word
 - 26 Farm females
 - 28 Writer
 - 29 Curbside call
 - 31 Eccentric
 - 32 Asian temple
 - 36 Lettuce variety
 - 39 Dogpatch adjective
 - 40 Passover meal
 - 41 In reserve
 - 43 Door sign
 - 44 When pigs fly
- DOWN**
- 1 Took a part
 - 2 Door sound
 - 3 Shred
 - 4 New Haven student
 - 5 Dis-mounted
 - 6 Kilauea flow
 - 7 Scott work
 - 8 PGA division
 - 9 Shipping inquiry
 - 11 Contest hopeful
 - 17 "— a deal!"
 - 19 Friend to François
 - 22 Pencil shade
 - 24 Insignif-icant amount
 - 25 Aug-mented
 - 27 Barrister's wear
 - 28 Din
 - 30 Busy mo.
 - 31 For CPAs
 - 33 Green
 - 34 Cuts into cubes
 - 35 Vigilant
 - 37 Horn sound
 - 38 Goofs
 - 42 Catch



Yesterday's answer

11 Contest hopeful
17 "— a deal!"
19 Friend to François
22 Pencil shade
24 Insignif-icant amount
25 Aug-mented
27 Barrister's wear
28 Din
30 Busy mo.
31 For CPAs
33 Green
34 Cuts into cubes
35 Vigilant
37 Horn sound
38 Goofs
42 Catch

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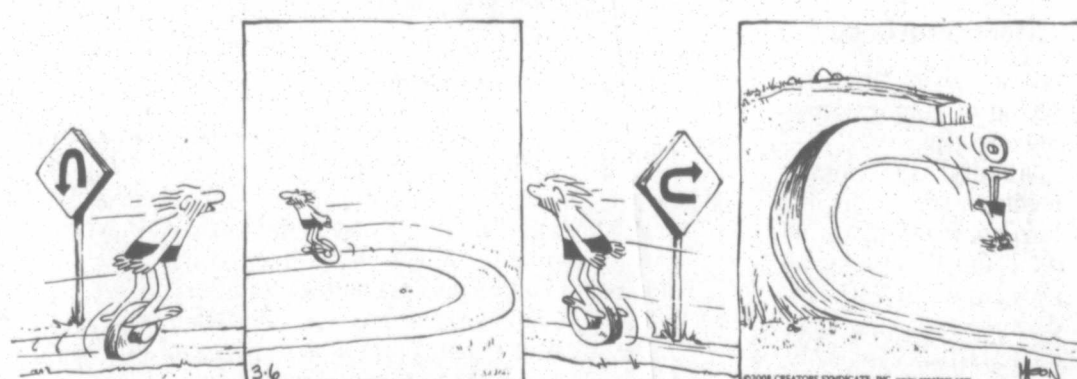


The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Flo & Friends



Blondie



BUSINESS REVIEW

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Renewable Energy... When fossil fuels like heating oil are burned, carbon dioxide - the gas responsible for the greenhouse effect - is released into the atmosphere. But when wood is burned, it's part of a natural cycle: A tree absorbs carbon dioxide as it grows. When a tree falls into decay or is burned as firewood, the carbon dioxide is released and gets absorbed again by other young trees. By practicing sustainable wood energy use and keeping our forests healthy, this cycle can be maintained virtually forever!

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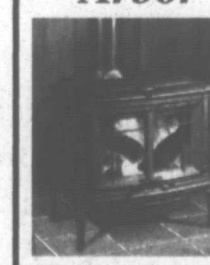
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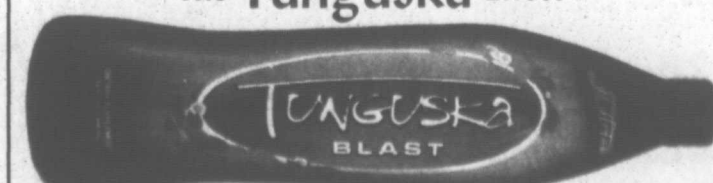
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Sports

7-H Cattle Basketball



Courtesy Photo
Front row l-r: Travis Zeek, Adam Zuniga, Bryson Burrell, Rhett Harden. Back row l-r: Coach Roy Lott, Colton Thompson, Kyndan Lott, Jacob Gething, Jared Lake

7-H CATTLE BASKETBALL

The 7-H Cattle Raiders traveling basketball team recently competed in the Blake Hathaway Memorial Tournament in Miami. Losing their first game to Wheeler, the boys battled

back, defeating Darrouzett and Valley, only to meet Wheeler once again. They defeated Wheeler to advance to the championship game to face the hometown team, the Miami

Warriors. The Raiders went on to defeat the Warriors and won their third championship in tournament play. The Raiders improved to 11-2 and will travel to Memphis this weekend.



Courtesy Photo
Sammi Finney greets her opponent from Borger after a hard fought match. Finney won the tie-breaker 23-21.

Bufs LSC championship run comes to disappointing end

BARTLESVILLE, Okla. — After winning 13 of its last 14 games to close the regular season as Lone Star Conference South Division Champions and one of the hottest teams in the country, the West Texas A&M men's basketball team dropped a hard-fought contest to Texas A&M-Commerce, 69-63, during the quarterfinal round of the LSC Championships at Bruin Field House.

The Bufs (21-7), who entered the field as the No. 1 seed in the LSC South, are eliminated from the tournament field, while Texas A&M-Commerce (13-15), the fourth seed from the LSC North, advances to face Abilene Christian, who won in double overtime on Wednesday in Friday's tournament opener.

A day after being named Lone Star Conference South Division Player of the Year, senior guard Robert Lee notched the first points of the ball game, making a mid-range jumper at the 18:57 mark. Lee, who finished the contest with a game-high 24 points, was 8-of-16 shooting from the floor and a perfect 7-of-7 from the free throw line.

WT as a team was impressive from the charity stripe as they made 16-of-17 chances, but struggled behind the three-point arc,

where they made just 3-of-20 opportunities.

The Lions scored five straight points after the initial basket to take a 5-2 lead, but the Bufs' Keon Grant put WT back on top as he stole a Commerce inbound pass and made the ensuring lay-up to put the Bufs up 7-5 with 17:38 to play. The basket was a part of a 7-0 WT run that left them with a 9-5 lead heading into the first media timeout at the 15:56 mark of the first half.

Texas A&M-Commerce recovered to cut the lead to a single basket at 11-9, but the Bufs responded with a 10-2 run that forced a timeout by Commerce head coach Sam Walker at the 9:27 mark after his team fell behind 21-11. The run started with good ball movement from the Bufs as Tyler Cooper found fellow senior Chris Hinz on the low block for a lay-up. Pierre Barlow stretched the lead to seven, 16-9, with an old-fashion three-point play at the 12:22 point of the period as he penetrated and made a lay-up while also drawing a foul.

An acrobatic reverse lay-up by Lee, who contributed 12 points during the opening period, stretched the lead to 25-13 with 8:25 to play.

Keon Grant made the score 34-19 with 3:17 remaining in the half by

draining the Bufs' lone three-point field goal of the half. The score gave the Bufs their biggest lead of game at 15 points, but the sizable advantage would not last long as the Lions countered in a big way.

Texas A&M-Commerce took advantage of some sloppy Buff ball handling and ended the half on a 15-2 run that was punctuated by a three-pointer from Scooby Johnson with eight seconds to play. The spurt sent the Lions to the locker room with the momentum but not the lead as they still trailed at intermission, 36-34.

The Lions tied the game at 36-36 on their second possession of the second half and took their first lead since 18:14 mark of the opening half on their next trip down the court as Derrick Darkis converted a short jumper.

After TAMU-Commerce had taken a 40-38 lead, it was Cooper who put the Bufs back on top as he drained a three-pointer with 16:10 on the clock to put the Bufs up 41-40.

Johnson put the Lions back ahead, 44-43, as he got loose beneath the WT basket and converted a lay-up at the 14:21 mark of the second half. The basket came in the mist of an 8-0 run by the Lions which left them in front, 48-43, with 11:50 to

Tennis finished fifth overall

by KATHERINE FLANARY Sports Editor

The two-day tournament held this past weekend was played with a different format each day.

Friday was all singles play, based on ladder position. Saturday was a combination of doubles and mixed doubles.

The Harvesters finished fifth as a team overall.

#1 Girls Singles
Katie O'Neal - fourth place

Defeated Roberts (Canyon II)
Lost to Lucero (Dumas)
Lost to Sweetgall (Canyon)

#1 Boys singles
Kefin Frels - eighth place

Lost to Montgomery (Caprock)
Lost to Grisham (Dumas)
Lost to Newton (Hereford)

#2 Girls Singles
Rachel Lee - fourth place

Defeated Moore (Dumas)
Lost to Pausell (Borger)
Lost to Hicks (Canyon)

#2 Boys Singles
Jack Ware - seventh place

Lost to Almond (Canyon)
Lost to Maldonado (Hereford)
Defeated Killerman (Canyon II)

#3 Girls Singles
Ashely Hernandez - sixth place

Lost to Layman (Hereford)
Defeated Grider (Borger)
Lost to Espinoza (Caprock)

#3 Boys Singles
Myles Foreman - fifth place

Lost to Albrecht (Canyon)
Defeated Saldivar (Caprock)
Defeated DeRouen (Borger)

#4 Girls Singles
Sammi Finney - fourth place

Defeated Stark (Borger)
Lost to Lint (Dumas)
Lost to Kjerstad (Randall)

#4 Boys Singles
James Vaid - eighth place

Lost to Lopez (Randall)
Lost to Tidmore (Canyon II)
Lost to Fuller (Caprock)

#5 Girls Singles
Megan Barnett - fourth place

Defeated Veigel (Canyon II)

Lost to Crunelle (Dumas)
Lost to Keomoungkhoun (Randall)

#5 Boys Singles
Garrett Coutts - sixth place

Lost to Warren (Canyon II)
Defeated Townsend

Lost to Hinders (Canyon)
#6 Girls Singles

Alyssa Hoelting - third place

Defeated Brown (Hereford)
Lost to Seibert (Randall)

Defeated Miller (Canyon II)
#6 Boys Singles

Matt Kelley - seventh place

Lost to McAfee (Canyon)
Lost to Martinez (Hereford)

Defeated Townsend (Randall)
#7 Girls Singles

Holly Gage - fourth place

Defeated Limon (Caprock)
Lost to Houlette (Canyon)

Lost to Coon (Randall)
#7 Boys Singles

Aaron Silva - fourth place

Defeated Holmes (Borger)
Lost to Walsh (Canyon)

Lost to Medina (Dumas)
#8 Girls Singles

Lauren Coutts - fourth place

Defeated Slaton (Canyon II)
Lost to Lamberth (Randall)

Lost to Cervantez (Hereford)
#8 Boys Singles

Alex Clendenning - fourth place

Defeated Goodman (Canyon II)
Lost to Meyer (Canyon)

Lost to Barnes (Hereford)
#1 Girls Doubles

O'Neal-Hernandez - eighth place

Lost to Belveal-Pausell (Borger)
Lost to Haney-Godfrey (Canyon II)

Lost to Espinoza-Wainright (Caprock)
#1 Boys Doubles

Frels-Foreman - fourth place

Defeated McAfee-Huseman (Canyon II)
Lost to McKenzie-Davis (Randall)

Lost to DeShazo-Jurado (Dumas)
#2 Girls Doubles

Couts-Gage - fourth place

Defeated Veigel-Melugin (Canyon II)

Lost to Seibert-Lamberth (Randall)
Lost to Lucero-Flores (Dumas)

#2 Boys Doubles
Kelley-Couts

Lost to Dees-Hinders (Canyon)
Defeated Billeter-Townsend (Randall)

Unknown
#3 Girls Doubles

Barnett-Finney - fifth place

Lost to Hicks-Friemel (Canyon)
Defeated Medrano-Cross (Caprock)

Defeated Cooke-Watts (Borger)
#3 Boys Doubles

Vaid-Clendenning - fifth place

Lost to Rivas-Mayhew (Canyon II)
Defeated Salvidar-Smith (Caprock)

Defeated Holmes-DeRouen (Borger)
#1 Mixed Doubles

Ware-Lee - seventh place

Lost to Sweetgall-Russell (Canyon)
Lost to Yarbrough-Montgomery (Caprock)

Defeated Sturgess-Wurtz (Canyon II)
#2 Mixed Doubles

Silva-Hoelting - fifth place

Lost to Lopez-Coon (Randall)
Defeated Miller-Walsh (Canyon II)

Defeated Limon-Montano (Caprock)
JV Tennis attended a tournament in Amarillo on Feb. 26, 2008.

Girls 'A' Singles
Nikki - second place

Mickala Furgason - third place
Girls 'B' Singles

Nichole Cox - second place
Boys Doubles

Alex Clendenning-Landon Long - third place

Michael Fernuik-Jad McGuire - fourth place
Girls Doubles

PaytonAlvey-Samantha Kelly - second place



Courtesy Photo
Mitch Kelley kicks a ball at Saturday's game vs. Borger. Kelley scored one goal for the Harvesters. The Harvesters won, 6-1. The Harvesters play again t h i s Saturday.

Hidden Hills results

Seniors Scramble
Hidden Hills
Golf Course
March 4, 2008

1st Place (62)
J. Brashears
J. Gilbert
B. Henderson
B. Millican

2nd Place (62)
H. Knutson
A. Bolton
B. Lyle
C. Lacy

3rd Place (63)
P. Montoya
R. Covalt
C. Byrum
N. Lancaster

4th Place (63)
O.K. Lee
J. Bridges
J. South
M. Driver

5th Place (63)
R.D. Stephens
H. Wells
O. Sargent
J. Richardson

6th Place (64)
J. Davis
T. Holt
H. Musgrave
M. Allison

Cloest to the Pin
R. Wood (#6)
T. Holt (#15)

Services

Continued from Page 2

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

Wednesday, March 5

7:53 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of Plains and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

9:24 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

11:06 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of North Wells and transported a patient to PRMC.

Thursday, March 6

6:20 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of Hilton Road and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

6:30 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

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

Twelve traffic stops were made. Stops at the intersection of Frederic and Barnes streets, the 1000 block of Huff Road, and the intersection of Craven and Starkweather streets resulted in arrests.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the 1000 block of Mary Ellen, the 2300 block of Perryton Parkway, and the

intersection of Harvester and Doucette streets.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 300 block of Tignor, the 400 block of North Crest, the 1100 block of Willow, the 900 block of South Wells, the 100 block of North Houston and the 400 block of Red Deer.

A missing person was reported in the 500 block of Hazel.

One suicide attempt was reported.

A welfare check was made in the 100 block of South Starkweather. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 1900 block of North Hobart, the 100 block of North Cuyler, the 2300 block of Rosewood, the 1100 block of Gwendolen, the 1000 block of Barrett and the 700 block of North Zimmers.

A prowler was reported in the 200 block of North Faulkner.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 1600 block of Holly.

Public intoxication was reported in the police department lobby. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Public intoxication was reported in the 1000 block of West Ripley and at Hastings Books, Music and Videos, 1205 N. Hobart.

Possession of drug paraphernalia was reported at the intersection of Frederic and Barnes streets, and the intersection of Craven and Starkweather streets.

Disorderly conduct was reported in

the 700 block of East Frederic, the 200 block of Tignor and the police department lobby.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 400 block of Graham. The passenger side tires on a vehicle were slashed. Estimated cost of damage is \$200.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of North Wells. Three tires on a vehicle were slashed. Estimated cost of damage is \$120.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 200 block of Tignor. Four tires on a vehicle were slashed. Estimated cost of damage is \$250.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1800 block of West Harvester. The hood and headlights of a vehicle were shoe polished and a front tire was slashed. Estimated cost of damage is \$400.

Retaliation was reported in the 1300 block of North Starkweather. The incident involved assault by threat.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 900 block of Denver.

Assault was reported at Pampa Junior High School, 2401 Charles, and in the 100 block of West 30th.

Sexual assault was reported in the police department lobby.

One alarm was reported.

Theft was reported in the 900 block of Barnes. A purse with contents was taken. Estimated value of loss is \$28.

Theft was reported in the police department lobby.

Burglary was reported in the 2000 block of Coffee and the 1800 block of Lynn.

Lava lamp



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH
Bethany Jo Roden looks excited to see what happens with her homemade Lava Lamp at Austin Elementary Wednesday.

Xxxxxx



WTC staircase cherished as 9/11 escape route to be moved
Eds: UPDATES to CLARIFY movement of stairs, ADDS

Relaxing



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH
Alle O'Brien, a first grader at Austin Elementary, seems relaxed while reading a book Wednesday morning. The school had special activities for the kindergarten, first and second grade students while older students took TAKS tests.

Homeowner equity lowest on record

NEW YORK (AP) — Americans' percentage of equity in their homes fell below 50 percent for the first time on record since 1945, the Federal Reserve said Thursday.

Homeowners' portion of equity slipped to downwardly revised 49.6 percent in the second quarter of 2007, the central bank reported in its quarterly U.S. Flow of Funds Accounts, and declined further to 47.9 percent in the fourth quarter — the third straight quarter it was under 50 percent.

That marks the first time homeowners' debt on their houses exceeds their equity since the Fed started tracking the data in 1945.

The total value of equity also fell for the third straight quarter to \$9.65 trillion from a downwardly revised \$9.93 trillion in the third quarter.

Home equity, which is equal to the percentage of a home's market value minus mortgage-related debt, has steadily decreased even as home prices jumped earlier this decade due to a surge in

cash-out refinances, home equity loans and lines of credit and an increase in 100 percent or more home financing.

Economists expect this figure to drop even further as declining home prices eat into the value of most Americans' single largest asset.

Moody's Economy.com estimates that 8.8 million homeowners, or about 10.3 percent of homes, will have zero or negative equity by the end of the month. Even more disturbing, about 13.8 million households, or 15.9 percent, will be "upside down" if prices fall 20 percent from their peak.

The latest Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller index showed U.S. home prices plunging 8.9 percent in the final quarter of 2007 compared with a year ago, the steepest decline in the 20-year history of the index.

The news follows a report from the Mortgage Bankers Association on Thursday that home foreclosures skyrocketed to an all-time high in the final quarter of last year. The propor-

tion of all mortgages nationwide that fell into foreclosure surged to a record of 0.83 percent, while the percentage of adjustable-rate mortgages with risky credit that entered the foreclosure process soared to a record of 5.29 percent.

Experts expect foreclosures to rise as more homeowners struggle with adjusting rates on their mortgages, making their monthly payments unaffordable. Problems in the credit markets and eroding home values are making it harder to refinance out of unmanageable loans.

The threat of so-called "mortgage walkers," or homeowners who can afford their payments but decide not to pay, also increases as home values depreciate and equity diminishes. Banks and credit-rating agencies already are seeing early evidence of this.

On Tuesday, Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke suggested lenders reduce loan amounts to provide relief to beleaguered homeowners.

WORLD TRADE CENTER

WTC staircase, cherished as 9/11 escape route, scheduled to be moved

NEW YORK (AP) — Tom Canavan saw the stairs through the smoke after tunneling out of debris that buried him when the World Trade Center's south tower collapsed. The sun fell on a section of gold awning that led him down the stairs to safety on a nearby street.

The north tower collapsed a few minutes later. "Without that staircase, I don't see myself getting out of that plaza before the north tower comes down and kills me," said Canavan, one of countless Sept. 11 survivors who escaped the burning ruins by the same route.

That staircase — 37 stairs that once connected the outdoor plaza outside the twin towers to the street below — survived Sept. 11 and remains the only above-ground remnant of the trade center complex.

After years of debate over whether and how to preserve the structure, though, the staircase will be moved this weekend for the first time. The stairs are moving about 200 feet west on the site, to be stored until they can be installed at the Sept. 11 memorial.

"I would have liked it if they could have left it where it was," said Canavan, 48. "I realize they couldn't do that."

Preservationists and survivors of the 2001 terrorist attack began campaigning years ago to leave the staircase as it stood, while developers refined plans for office towers, a transit hub and Sept. 11 memorial on the 16-acre site. The staircase, which had weighed 175 tons and stood 22 feet, sits in the middle of the footprint of a 1,278-foot skyscraper, one of five being built to replace the destroyed towers.

In 2006, state officials announced they would demolish all but one or two slabs of the staircase to make way for the new tower, undeterred by a preservation group that named the steps one of the nation's most endangered historic places.

The site's owner, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, said the piece could not be taken off the site because it is too tall for traffic lights and overhead poles and possibly too heavy for bridges.

"You would have to have started moving light poles" to move the staircase intact, said Steve Plate, the agency's director of World Trade Center construction.

Leaders in Gov. Eliot Spitzer's administration worked out a compromise last year to separate the stairs from their concrete base and install them at the Sept. 11 memorial.

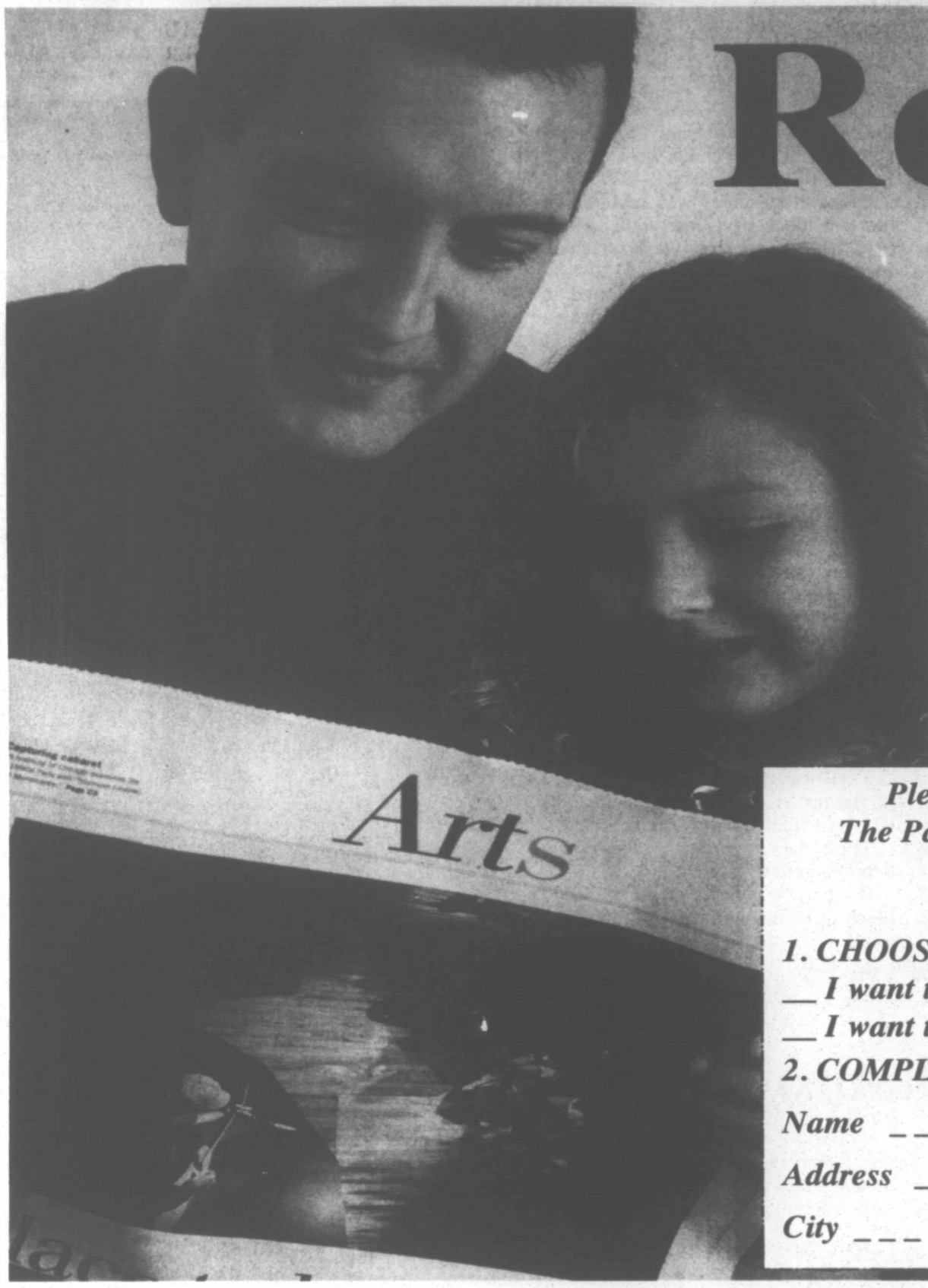
"The goal was always to preserve enough of this staircase to really communicate its power," said Joe Daniels, president of the foundation building the memorial. "We can reduce the whole size of this thing but still capture the essence of the stairs."

Avi Schick, chairman of the Lower Manhattan Development Corp. rebuilding agency that brokered the compromise, said that debate over the staircase became a symbolic struggle between the site's history and the long-delayed progress rebuilding it.

"You were pitting memory and preservation and loss and family against redevelopment and construction, as if you could have one or the other but you couldn't coexist," he said. "What we proved is in fact they could coexist."

To prepare it to move, the staircase was whittled down to 65 tons, which includes the weight of an elaborate steel bracing system that took three months to build.

This weekend, a 500-ton crane will lift the piece onto a flatbed and move it next to some construction trailers on the west side of the site, its stairs covered with plywood and Styrofoam for protection, Plate said. The Port Authority is spending \$2 million on the move.



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1 Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Angelita Ortiz Moreno, Deceased, were issued on March 3, 2008, in Cause No. 9,497, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas to: J.R. Moreno.

1 Public Notice

mation concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6815)

5 Special Notices

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

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13 Bus. Opp.

GREAT investment opp. Pampa motel. Retired couple or individual. 665-1875, 806-383-1985.

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

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DOMESTIC- Lifetime of exp. Feeling overwhelmed? Can't get ahead? I can help. Detailing a specialty and yes I do windows. Exc. ref. locally & surrounding area. Call Carey 806-733-2492

HOME Assistance, house cleaning, yard work, personal care, companionship, meal cooking. Let our team assist you. Very competitive prices from 1hr-24hr services. 669-1661, 663-3299.

21 Help Wanted

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

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GREAT opp. for single or retired couple, for 12 unit motel in Pampa. Lrg. apt. incl. 665-4274, 665-4274.

POST OFFICE NOW HIRING. Avg. Pay \$20 / hr. or \$57K yr. incl. Federal benefits and OT. Offered by Exam Services, not aff. w/ USPS who hires. 1-866-483-6490.

REAL Estate Co. needs maintenance man w/ own tools. Apply at 1347 Coffee, Mon-Fri., 8am-6pm, 665-4274, 665-1875.

COODER'S Dixie Cafe now hiring for Hostesses, part-time, 16 yrs. or older. Wait Staff, full-time, 18 yrs. or older. Apply in person, 2219 Perryton Pkwy. No phone calls.

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JANITOR Full & Part-Time job. No experience needed, will train! To apply call 665-2667

NEEDED: C.N.A.'s, Full-Time. Excellent benefits package. St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle, 537-3194.

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NEEDED: R.N.- 16 hrs. on weekends, Fri. & Sat., 10:30am-7am. 537-3194, St. Ann's Nursing Home. Would consider 2 R.N.'s alternating weekends.

PAMPA NURSING CENTER has an opening for a Cook. Please apply in person to: Sharon Brown at 1321 W. Kentucky 806-669-2551

CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

Mar. 08, 2008 Saturday 10:00am 1/4 mile North of Kentucky St. on Price Rd.

3 New 9:00x20 Tires, 2 Old Pianos (Parts?), Casio Keyboard, Hammond Organ, Computer System, Dog Box, Electric Dog Fence, Desk, Exam Tables, Safe, Old X-Ray Machine, 3-1974 Beer & 1 Coke Posters, Coke & Pepsi Machines, Toys, Home School Items, Household Items, Pallet Masonry Concrete, Old Cream Separator, Kid's Electric Chopper, 12 in. Bike, Lots of Unboxed Items, Glassware.

HIGH PLAINS AUCTIONEERS Box 1039, Pampa, TX 79066 806-662-2779 (Larry Hadley #9204)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, March 7, 2008:

Life will present many options this year. Also, friends will present many strong arguments and opinions. If you're questioning what is important for you, pull back if you're unsure of yourself. Refuse to allow group decisions to affect your life. As you strengthen your will and determination, you will tend to create much more of what you want. If you are single, your life will take many interesting twists and turns. Take your time getting to know someone in order to determine if he or she is really "the one." If you are attached, loosen up and allow different ideas into your life. Avoid power plays. Be open. No one can ever recount the exact details of a car accident. How can you agree on everything? Why not enjoy your differences? PISCES reads you cold.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Take a stab at the unknown. Those who follow you have great confidence in your abilities. Remember that as you make choices or feel unsure. Others trust your judgment; you need to as well.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

priority, like it or not. Open up to talks and fun. Tonight: Come on — do what you really want.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
BORN TODAY
Comedian Wanda Sykes (1964), actress Rachel Weisz (1971), artist Piet Mondrian (1872)
Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.
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By: LANDON P. LAMBERT State Bar No. 24035773 LAW OFFICES OF LANDON P. LAMBERT P.O. Box 645 Pampa, Texas 79066-0645 Tel: (806) 669-3997 Fax: (806) 669-1753 LAW OFFICES OF JOHN W. WARNER, P.C. P.O. Box 645 Pampa, Texas 79066-0645 Tel: (806) 669-3397 Fax: (806) 669-1753 Attorneys for J.R. Moreno Mar. 6, 2008

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT IN A PRODUCTIVE FORMATION
Travelers Oil Company, 1616 S. Kentucky #B-124, Amarillo, Tx 79102 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT to dispose of produced salt water or other oil and gas waste by well injection into a porous formation productive of oil or gas.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the State-wide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who are adversely affected or requests for further information...

WTL SAND AND GRAVEL NOW HIRING: Experienced Loader Operator Bull Dozer Operator CDL a Plus
Must be at least 18 years of age and submit to a drug test.

Apply in person at: West Texas Landscape 120 S. Hobart Please No Phone Calls!!!

NOW HIRING: Full-Time Gift Shop & Greenhouse Sales. CDL Driver General Laborers, Diesel Mechanic/Assistant.
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14s Plumbing/Heat JACK'S Plumbing, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115. Plumbing, repairs, new constr., & septic sys. Larry Baker Plumbing Heating/Air Conditioning Borger Hwy. 665-4392

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CCPC



COURTESY PHOTO

Administrative Assistant Shelby Huff, of Clarendon College-Pampa Center, and David Kerns recently entertained at CCPC. Ken Wilson, Kerns and others are organizing Karaoke sessions at the college. Sessions are scheduled from 6 to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday in the atrium of the school with informal sessions from 11 to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. "The oldest performer who has been at a Karaoke session is about 70 and the youngest 6," Wilson said. Wilson has been instrumental in promoting all the arts at the college. "We have an excellent jazz guitarist, David Kerns, who is a song music writer, performer and singer," Wilson added. Kerns has played guitar since 1968, studying with classical jazz guitarist Ralph Russo, who himself studied with such professionals as Joe Walsh, Neal Giraldo, Pat Benitar and Talfarlow. Kerns taught at Willoughby School of Fine Arts in Cleveland, Ohio. An instructor for 25 years, he will be offering beginning and intermediate level guitar classes at CCPC beginning March 10. A licensed nurse, he and his wife have three children. For more information, call the college at 665-8801.

Parent University



COURTESY PHOTO

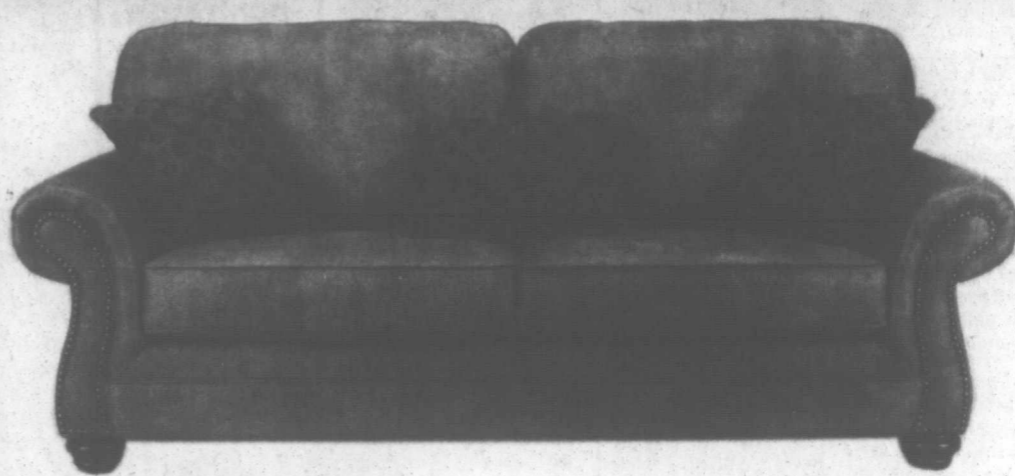
Organizers are currently working to finalize plans for the upcoming "Parent University" scheduled from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. March 7 at Lovett Memorial Library in Pampa. The event is being offered to all local parents of school age students. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. prior to the conference. Above: Tammy Rodriguez, from left, Palma Dorn, Charlene Gee, all parent involvement coordinators with the local public school system, Debbie Doss, Pampa ISD translator, and Carlos Regalado, district translator.

Events calendar

- **The Amarillo Art Institute** is offering a variety of classes for children and adults this spring. Classes include Clay for Kids, Basics of Drawing and Painting, Silvery Jewelry Design and Fabrication, and more. For further details or to register, call (806) 354-8802.
- **Rushing Wind Emmaus** will meet at 6 p.m. March 8 at Waka Christian Center in Waka for a potluck supper, sponsor training, and praise and worship service. A nursery will be provided. Log onto www.rushing-windemmaus.com on the Internet for more information.
- **March 10 is the deadline** to enter Sacramento Rainbow Poets free religious poetry contest. To enter, send one poem of 21 lines or less to Free Poetry Contest, 2935 Clay St., Sacramento, CA 95815.
- **Pampa Book Club** will review the following books in the coming months: "Night" by Elie Wiesel, March 12; "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" by Betty Smith, April 9; and "Walking Drum" by Louis L'Amour, May 14. The club meets at 10 a.m. the second Wednesday of each month in the Texas

- Room at Lovett Memorial Library in Pampa.
- **Memory Gardens Cemetery** in Pampa will host a family Easter egg hunt starting at 11 a.m. March 15. Activities include egg hunt, bounce for kids 10 and under, prizes and more. In case of inclement weather, the hunt will be postponed until 2 p.m. March 16. For more information, call Memory Gardens.
- **Tickets are currently available** now through March 14 for the Area Friends of the NRA banquet set to kick-off at 5:30 p.m. March 15 in the Heritage Room of the Amarillo Civic Center in Amarillo. Prime rib with all the trimmings will be served at 7 p.m. Dinner tickets are \$30 for adults, \$15 for participants 18 and under or \$50 per couple if purchased in advance. The deadline for advance ticket sales is the day prior to the banquet. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door. Tickets are available in Amarillo at Pro Shooters, Panhandle Gunslingers and A&K Shooters Supply. For more information, contact Connie at (806) 683-9079 or Bill at (806) 231-0771.

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For the experience: Varsity basketball finishes the season with knowledge and a look towards the future. Pg. 4

Chicken dance: The Costume Ball in January and the Valentine's dance had a lower turnout than expected. Pg. 4

Singing praises: Tyler Hudson at Trinity Fellowship's first night open. Pg. 4

The Little Harvester

Issue Three • March 3, 2008

Pampa High School • 111 E. Harvester Pampa, TX 79065

Vol. 59

Scholarly Competition: Academic teams provide further study in variety of subjects

Kayleen Stallings
Staff Writer

Every year academically advanced students around Texas compete in a further study of common subjects that are taught in school. Pampa High also participates in the U. I. L. program and is directed by the English IV teacher Tonya Lewis.

Some students know about U. I. L. but many may not know exactly what U. I. L. academic teams do.

"Basically it's a group of teams that compete against other schools in our district in events," Lewis said. "Such as Speech and Debate and One-Act Play."

Captain of the Spelling and Vocabulary team believes that U. I. L. is a good way to stand above the standard.

"It gives me a chance to show my skills in something other than regular subjects, so it's cool," senior Jesse Finney said.

Some members are even in two or more teams.

"This is my second year on the science team," senior Kayla Mendoza said. "I'm also

on the math team this year."

U. I. L. isn't always about more school work, members agree that it can be fun as well.

"I think it's fun," Mendoza said. "I have a great time competing and hanging out with friends between events."

Lewis is encouraging people to join U. I. L.

"People can still join if they are interested just come and seem me," Lewis said.

The teams aren't quit competing yet but they are getting ready.

"We have a few little meets," Finney said. "But the first meet is at the beginning of the year."

Members seem to have good faith in the teams.

"I think everyone is going to do a really good job," Mendoza said. "Since teams have been preparing and taking shoot-outs."

The U. I. L. director has great expectations for up-coming events and competition.

"I always expect teams to do very well," Lewis said. **lh**

Hitting the books:

U.I.L. members junior Lorraine Garcia and sophomore Bryce Hendricks prepare for various academic competition. "Boy, this was a neat experience," Garcia said.



Waiting for results: Juniors Brenna Albracht and Colby Dennis wait to find out their scores at the U.I.L. West Texas High School invitational. "I was really happy with the way things turned out and really proud of our team for the results we got," Albracht said.

Available U.I.L. events include:

- Accounting
- Calculator Applications
- Computer Applications
- Computer Science
- Current Issues & Events
- Feature Writing
- Headline Writing
- Literary Criticism
- Mathematics
- News Writing
- Number Sense
- Ready Writing
- Science
- Social Studies
- Spelling & Vocabulary
- CX Debate
- Lincoln-Douglas Debate
- Informative Speaking
- Persuasive Speaking
- Poetry Interpretation
- Prose Interpretation
- One-Act Play

Going Green

While interest in environmental conservation grows, students become aware of 'weakening planet' and take action

Courtesy Lindy
Co-editor in Chief

While global warming is more alarming than ever and plastic half-lives becoming more known, many Americans have taken the initiative of recycling and using plastic alternatives.

"Everyone should recycle," junior Brenna Albracht said. "It wouldn't take much effort on our part. It doesn't make sense that recycling isn't the norm where we live."

Senior Claire Boyd and her brother, freshman Olin Boyd started a recycling project in Feb. 2007 to promote recycling in Pampa.

"Basically we contact about 35 families every six weeks and collect their newspapers and aluminum cans," C. Boyd said. "We've gotten a really positive response from all of our neighbors and strangers have even called us to get involved."

All of the profit from the recycling project goes to the Heifer Project, a program

where people in America have an opportunity to purchase food for a family in a third world country.

"In 2007, we had over 200 pounds of aluminum cans and made \$200 in profit," C. Boyd said. "We chose to donate to this program because it promotes self-reliance and helps the needy. We were able to purchase a sheep, a goat, a flock of rabbits, and a honeybee hive for a needy family."

However, some students do not see the benefits of recycling and do not participate in it.

"My grandma recycles cans, but I don't know why," junior Lauren Coulter said. "I think it's a waste of time."

Other students believe everyone should be involved in the recycling process.

"I don't recycle, but it's almost impossible to recycle in this town," Albracht said. "I

blame this city for not providing its citizens with the means to recycle. It sets a bad example and helps destroy our already weakening planet." **lh**

blame this city for not providing its citizens with the means to recycle. It sets a bad example and helps destroy our already weakening planet. **lh**

Albracht elaborates upon the touchy issue of recycling and explains in depth the benefits of recycling

Recycling Facts

- 360 million plastic bottles were recycled in 2007
 - 3% of household plastic bottles are currently recycled
 - 9.1 billion plastic bottles were disposed of in 2002
 - 1 ton = 20,000 plastic bottles
 - recycling a single plastic bottle can conserve enough energy to light a 60W lightbulb for up to 6 hours
 - 11% of household waste is plastic, 40% of which is plastic bottles
- Information courtesy www.recycle-more.co.uk

Healing Words

Students seek grief counseling, one-on-one recuperation provided by counselors

Greg Wariner
Staff Writer

While everyone mourns in their own way, a new option is available for those who feel like they need to talk to someone. Grief counseling, brainchild of Suzanne Pingel, district social worker, has helped many students express how they feel about the loss of a family member or close friend.

"The program was actually started last year, after the death of one student," Pingel said.

The death of Garrett Kennedy, a pampa high school graduate, caused many of his closest friends to grieve very deeply, resulting in a meeting once a week about their loss. From then on, Pingel has opened up the program to anyone who is suffering a loss in their life.

"With Kennedy's case," Pingel said, "We actually had a specialist from BSA come in and help with the group. Now though, we have had far fewer people coming in, so we no longer have a group setting. Everything is one on one."

The idea is actually not a new one, as there was a similar program in years past. But, many problems plagued this version of the program.

"The program that was around before wasn't as easily accessible to students," Pingel said. "It was after school, and many students actually couldn't make it."

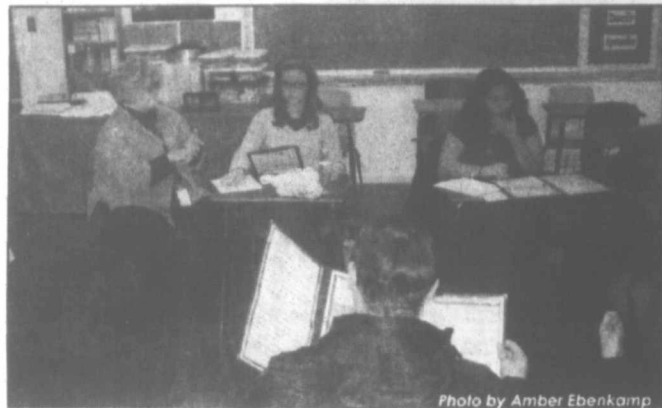
The new program is revised, and is completely confidential. Therefore, actual testimonies of the program's effectiveness are not available. But, seeing as students keep on returning for sessions, obviously something is being done correctly.

"I don't think as many people are informed that need to be," Pingel said. "If anyone is suffering the absence of a friend or a family member, you are more than welcome to come and talk to me." **lh**

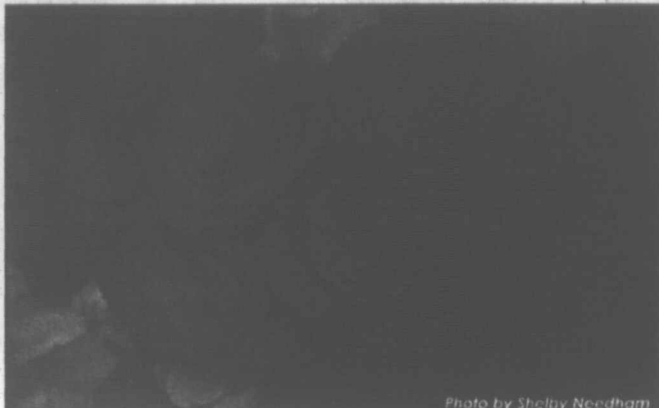
Briefs

The Little Harvester

4 Moment's Notice



Ordering in Spanish: Members of the club practice to order their food in Spanish at The Plaza. See bottom of page



Buying roses for someone special: Student Council sold over \$900 worth of roses for Valentine's day.



Volunteering to give blood: Senior Whitney Jenkins donates blood at the Coffee Memorial blood drive on Feb 1.

Campus News

New changes to school handbook

If a student is written a referral by a substitute teacher, consequences will be doubled. When a student is assigned to lunch d-hall, he must serve it the very next day. If not the student will be placed in ISS.

Local News

POD exercise proves successful

The first exercise performed by the new Gray County Office of Emergency Management was held Feb. 5. The 'point of dispensing' was Rec. Park, where community members acting as "patients" were vaccinated against hepatitis. PODs are set up in the event of a disease outbreak, and allow the hospital to manage those ailing while others yet affected receive vaccination for the disease.

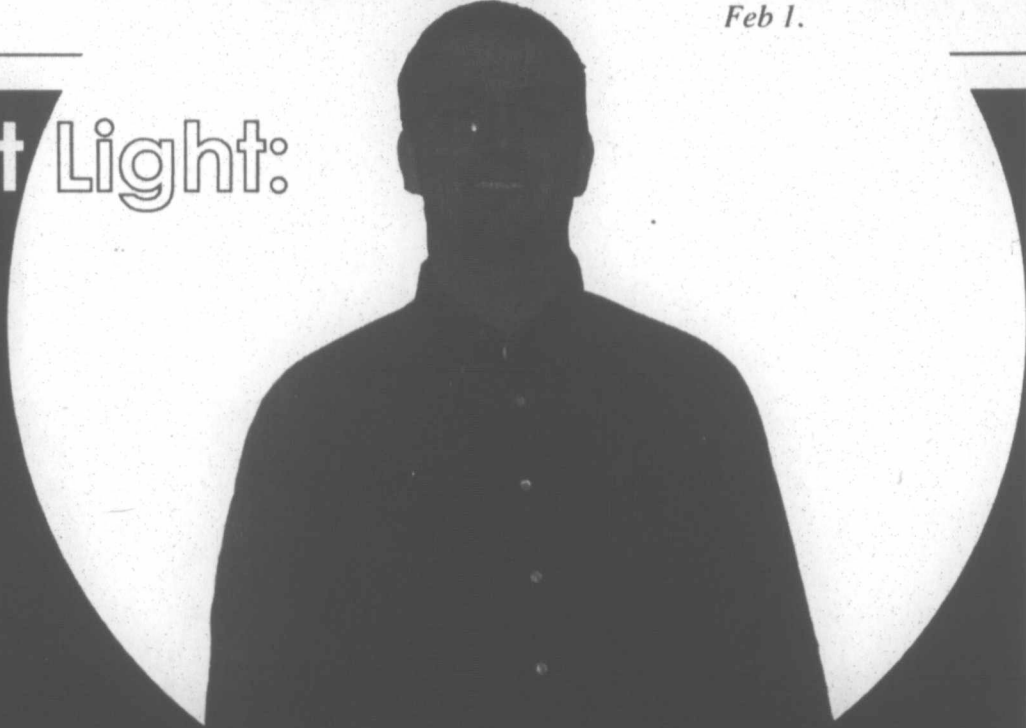
National News

Houskeeper finds actor Heath Ledger dead in Manhattan

The Academy Award nominated actor was found dead Tuesday, Jan. 22 of accidental drug overdose. He had insomnia due to his chilling role as the Joker in the next Batman film. Ledger was only 28.

Ledger was only 28. www.cnn.com

Spot Light:



New assistant band director

Kayleen Stallings
Staff Writer

Every year, there are changes to school and even new teachers. One new teacher this year is the assistant band director Michael Cason.

Cason is from Texas and has lived here all his life.

"I was born in Morton, Texas," Cason said. "I grew up in Lubbock where I went to Coronado High School."

Cason has had only one other job prior to being hired on at Pampa High.

"Before teaching I was a college student," Cason said. "I have worked at United since

I was sixteen as the assistant service manager at Market Street."

He has responsibility for band at the junior and senior high level.

"I teach beginning flutes and trombones at the middle school," Cason said. "I conduct the concert band, jazz band, and basketball band at the high school."

Concert band student voices her opinion on assistant director Cason.

"He cares a lot about band," sophomore Laura Mejia said. "He's working really hard to make us sound good, and he's a good teacher."

Other band students agree that Cason is having a positive affect on the band.

"I think it's good we have him here," sophomore Margarita Gervantes said. "He pushes us, and he has high expectations. I think he's pretty cool."

Cason has hopes for the band and may be teaching here for awhile.

"I like the music program. It's a very solid program," Cason said. "It has a lot of potential for growth, and I have no time limit as long as I keep learning something."

4 Verbatim

"We're going to own it up"

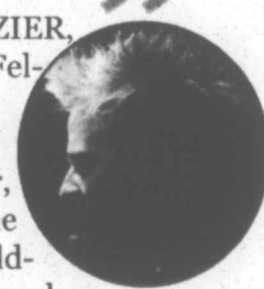
DUSTIN NEEF, junior, before the swim team's district meet on Jan. 25 and 26



See page 7

"It is not our intent to steal students from other churches. We just want to be apart of changing young people in this community. We want to help serve young people, parents, the schools and the community"

CJ FRAZIER, Trinity Fellowship youth minister, about the new building (formerly Walmart)



See page 5

Group expresses customs

Bart Bullard
Staff Writer

The German Club has started and many students are participating in this foreign language organization. The German culture as a whole is rather alien compared to that of the Spanish or the hearing impaired of our community.

"The main purpose of the German Club is to express and expand the German culture in a groovy or fun man-

ner," senior and German Club president Dafydd Vaid said. "However, we also are striving to maintain a major study session and tutoring program through the club, so we will have a balance between work and play."

The German club is planning big things for the coming months. Including possible acting out a play in the German language.

"We plan on having set meetings, where we shall watch German cinema and read German literature,"

club facilitator Tom Lapacka said. "Its been great so far and we plan on having a good time."

Although the club has obtained massive support from the student body, there is not a set list or roster of members, only a rag-tag number.

"We don't have a set roster at this time," vice president Tyler Alexander said. "We have had at times in previous meetings [with] 12-20 lining up to participate in the German Club." 4

Learning Latino culture

Kaci Reyes
Staff Writer

Sharron Hurst, faculty sponsor of the Spanish club, invites newcomers to join the Spanish club for fun and festivities.

The Spanish club has been having a blast every month they meet.

"The students are in charge," sponsor Sharron Hurst said.

The Spanish club members are the ones to

plan everything, Hurst is only the sponsor.

"We learn about the Latin culture in Spanish club," treasurer Celeste Gonzalez said.

They play games, watch movies, listen to Latin music and make crafts. Club visited a Mexican restaurant on January 28 and ordered their meals in Spanish. Also a Spanish visitor might be coming to speak to the club. In the past the Spanish club has celebrated

Latin holidays, including Dia De Los Muertos. They have been to a concert in Amarillo, learned children games, and learned the Latin dances of La Cumbia and Nortena. About 8 people are involved, and they invite everyone to come. Meeting times are every 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month, 6th period, in Mrs. Hurst's room.

"We welcome everybody to come," Hurst said. 4

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Staff Editorial

Recycling viewed prolific in society

During the making of this issue, the issue of recycling came up among staff members and caused controversy. After debating and discussing we decided that recycling is a positive, important activity for citizens to do.

Recycling is important because of the current deterioration of the earth. To ensure well being for future generations that will inhabit the earth, recycling is a necessary act to preserve the earth. Without recycling, the effects of the loss of fossil fuels will be tremendous.

Currently, landfills are filling up. If we do not pursue the processes of recycling, we will seriously endanger the earth and ourselves.

The staff believes that society should make a true effort to recycle and that companies should make it a mandatory policy to recycle and reduce carbon emissions as much as possible.

On the other hand, recycling is often viewed as a major hassle and many people think that the time that it takes to recycle outweighs the environmental benefits of recycling.

Recycling is even more of a hassle if people don't cooperate. Most people don't recycle and the facilities in Pampa for recycling are not optimum. Recycling is not convenient and offers no material reward, save a few dollars.

We believe that more people would recycle if Pampa had more facilities and more of an incentive was offered.

Recycling is important to the benefit of the environment and humanity; we encourage everyone to participate in this beneficial activity.



Co-Editor Andrew Hatcher Co-Editor Courtney Linn



Staff Writer Kayleen Stallings



Staff Writer Kaci Reyes



Staff Artist Tyler Rhoades



Staff Photographer Shelby Needham



Staff Writer Greg Wariner



Staff Writer Bart Bullard



Business Manager Tyler Smith



Staff Writer Hanna Baumgartner

Do you have an opinion, complaint or just something you want to get off your chest? If so, tell the world, or at least your classmates. Do it with a letter to the editor, which can be dropped off in a special LH box on the door of room 201. The staff reserves the right to edit any letter submitted and all letters must be signed. Opinions expressed in columns and letters do not reflect the opinions of the LH staff, Pampa High School or Pampa ISD.

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Featured Opinion

Ridiculous news smothers reader worthy headlines

Greg Wariner Staff Writer

As I was browsing the Internet one day, I came along CNN.com, just to check out the latest news. Some of the headlines were not only ludicrous, but actually mildly funny as well.

Chinese man becomes blogger's hero

To sum this story up, a man in China was killed for taking pictures of what he believed to be an injustice. As he was taking said pictures, some city inspectors came upon him and bludgeoned him to death. Now, I don't know about you, but

that sounds like a pretty bad day at work. Getting killed will just ruin your plans for the weekend. Now, don't get me wrong, I do feel bad that this man was killed for almost no reason, but how often does someone get killed for taking a picture?

Zac Efron makes very smooth recovery

Now, apparently, CNN had a very slow news day. Zac Efron, star of the movie High School Musical, recently had an appendectomy, and CNN gave the reader a full play by play of his procedure. Everything from pre-op to recovery was mentioned. I don't see why we have to waste perfectly good blank space to write a sto-

ry about something that isn't even relatively that important. Why couldn't that story space have been used for something that actually affects people in the world? The worst part about this story is that it was the number one most viewed story on CNN.com for quite a while. People were actually more interested in how Zac Efron was

doing after a standard surgery than the Chinese man being killed for almost no reason. That doesn't say much for the awareness level of the people who read this garbage. Now, if Mr. Efron had a very serious, rare disease that no one else had, that might be a little more interesting.

Muslim athlete disqualified over uniform

This one is completely ridiculous. A Muslim athlete, in order to conform to the standards of her religion, created a custom made uniform that covers every part of her except for her face and hands, as is customary. She is one of the fastest runners in the high school that she attends, and she has worn the outfit for the last three years, including at a very

big state run invitational. No one had ever complained about the uniform in years past, and now all of a sudden they are saying that it violates rules about colors and logos on the uniforms. Why are they complaining about this now? If the officials didn't catch it before, now is not the time to try to bust her for this. What's funny is that the people

who are complaining about this said that the rules concerning uniforms have always been like this. Maybe it's jealousy on part of some coaches that this girl is kicking the crud out of all their best runners. I personally don't see any problem with the uniform that she wears. It was totally standard with only a few modifications, including

a hood to cover her neck and back of her head. And she has said so herself, it doesn't help her perform any better. Certainly people should understand that she just wants to be faithful to her religion. Besides, others have done crazier things for their religion. Like that Buddhist monk who set himself on fire. But where is he to back up his reasoning?

Eleven-month old baby found drunk

This one just takes the cake. Apparently, a 19-year-old girl and her boyfriend let their 11-month-old infant have access to alcohol, and the baby's blood alcohol content (BAC) level was 0.118, almost twice the legal limit in their state of Indiana. The parents claim

that it was an accident, but the BAC proves differently. Now, I have always heard from teenagers that they don't want to be as strict on their kids as their parents were on them, but this is absolutely insane. Infants should never be allowed near alcohol, especially not at that level. This is prob-

ably the best example of the worst parenting in our country. I mean, once infants start drinking, then they'll start growing up faster and faster. Children grow up fast enough as it is, so don't make the mistake of speeding them along.

Maybe these stories have affected someone in a positive way, but not this reader. More important topics have been popping up, but they continue to be smothered by this menagerie of obscure stories. So, please, read the news to be informed about world matters, not to be slightly entertained and annoyed. Next thing you know Britney Spears will lose her kids, shave her head, and go into rehab. Wait... Nevermind.

Editor's Desk Fighting misconception

Andrew Hatcher Co-Editor in Chief

Misconception is common among many people. When we decided to do a story about how Trinity has finally moved into the old Walmart, I was shocked by how many on the staff started bashing the church for how it handles its youth ministry.

The consensus seemed to be that Trinity's goal was to take all the teens away from other churches to come to Collison. Later, someone on staff told me it only made sense for them to move into the old Walmart, after all 'Godmart' does try to sell you on God with their games, coffee shops and rock-concert like worship times. They

made Trinity sound like a corporation bent on controlling the teenage population, and made me feel like I had to defend my own reasons for going.

When they asked why Trinity spends so much on games and acoustics rather than feeding the needy of our community, the defensive me would answer that they're not doing this instead of, but along with giving aid where needed in the town and that the money used was raised specifically for the church's youth.

When they asked why the church has services with others to take the youth away from them and up Trinity's own attendance, I'd mention how students are allowed to make their own decisions

how they'll go where they feel more comfortable and how in the end all the churches have the same goals for their youth anyway.

When they asked what Trinity's goal was with something like 1000 by '10, I would say that they just want the youth of the community to have a relationship with God, that one day they hope for youth services all over town to meet together for worship and that overall, this is a completely reasonable request from a church.

Now I realize, it was all just an issue of how you choose to see things. It doesn't matter what convincing I try to do, no matter how persuasive I am. If someone whole-heartedly believes something, no matter what it

Student thinks PCs will become 'obsolete'

Bart Bullard Staff Writer

As I was watching the news the other morning and an Italian business owner dumped over 4 million bouncy balls down the steps of the Spanish Steps. The tide of tiny colored rubber balls was a children's paradise. However, the owner stated that this stunt was an analogy to how many lies people make in one day. In comparison, one could say that this analogy could refer to the many lies Microsoft has said about its golden child, Windows Vista and other PC creations.

Vista is only good for eye-candy and to suck dry the pocket book of the American public. Vista proves that Windows lacks security and stability to handle day to day activities such as surfing the internet or checking a message on Myspace. However, Apple is roaring with all processors at full throttle into the head of the computer world showing that simple and clean computing can surpass the money giant of Microsoft. Sure one could argue that a Mac has no compatibility with anything now days and lacks anything fancy enough to attract buyers -- that is a lie. An Apple iMac, the Mac version of the desktop, can use a program called Parallellism and can run all forms of Windows inside the iMac, enabling the Macintosh computer to every software product under the motherboard. Apple's operating systems of Tiger and Leopard OSX enable someone to create movies, record and manage music, photo sideshows, and play games faster and more reliably than Vista could ever dream of accomplishing.

Apple's creativity as a company is what really makes it the biggest threat to Microsoft in the ring. The new Apple Air is a new laptop computer that is not even an inch thick and its basic guts include 2 gigabytes of flash-memory and 160 gigabyte hardrive. Awesome thing is it starts at \$1,800, which is extremely cheap for something that has 2 GB of flash memory and a PC laptop would cost near \$2,200 for the same basic qualities. The interface of Mac's is simple and everything is right there in front of you ready to use, instead of hunting it down just to run a program. Security is a fantastic feature in a Mac; virus protection is non-existent in a Mac because of the way the operating system is configured, unlike a PC which can get infected by just connecting to the world wide web.

In a nut shell, sooner or later the Mac will be the basic computer people will use in the future and PCs will be obsolete unless it can fix the security and stability problems soon. However, Windows has had 10 years to fix its problems and sadly enough they shame the computing community with its pathetic excuse for a revolution. Windows is beating the CPU to death while Mac is laughing its way to the bank.

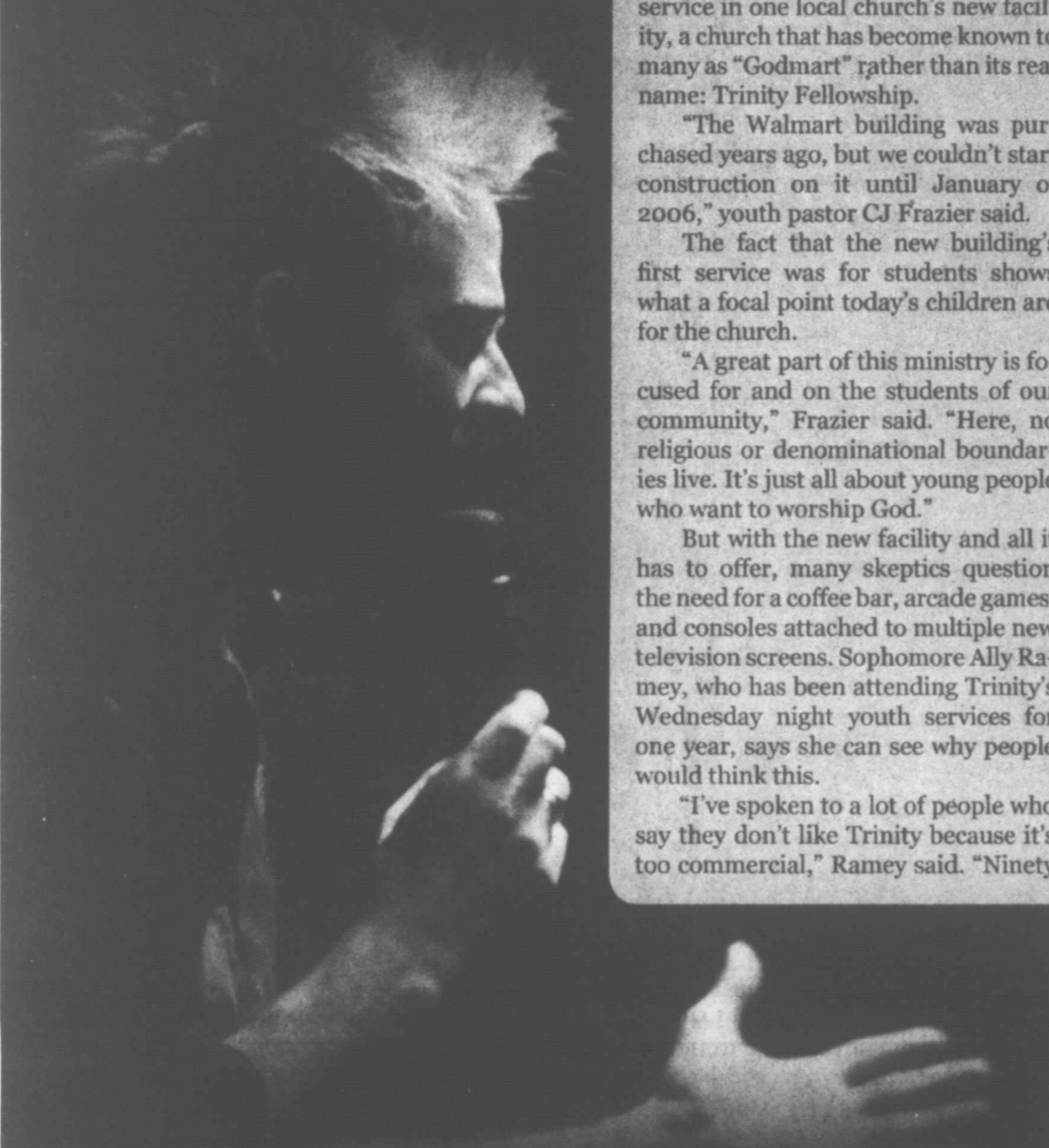
Lexicon Shoot-out:

(n.) not a gun fight at high noon, but a practice exam for U.I.L. events that consist of being tested on a certain subject, such as science or current events

IN CONTEXT: "I think everyone is going to do a really good job," Kayla Mendoza said. "Since teams have been preparing and taking shoot-outs."

Welcome to Godmart New building for community church attracts youth

Youth Focus



Opening excites teens, draws critics from students

Andrew Hatcher
Co-Editor in Chief

Wednesday, Jan. 9 was the first service in one local church's new facility, a church that has become known to many as "Godmart" rather than its real name: Trinity Fellowship.

"The Walmart building was purchased years ago, but we couldn't start construction on it until January of 2006," youth pastor CJ Frazier said.

The fact that the new building's first service was for students shows what a focal point today's children are for the church.

"A great part of this ministry is focused for and on the students of our community," Frazier said. "Here, no religious or denominational boundaries live. It's just all about young people who want to worship God."

But with the new facility and all it has to offer, many skeptics question the need for a coffee bar, arcade games, and consoles attached to multiple new television screens. Sophomore Ally Ramey, who has been attending Trinity's Wednesday night youth services for one year, says she can see why people would think this.

"I've spoken to a lot of people who say they don't like Trinity because it's too commercial," Ramey said. "Ninety

percent of people seem to go for the wrong reasons."

Some teens seem uncertain about the practices of the church, questioning what all the luxury is for. Frazier said he could see why they wonder but explains the real reason it was all purchased.

"The purpose of all the lights, sounds, games, and coffee is simply to create an atmosphere for young people to feel comfortable in a different church environment," Frazier said. "If we get one chance or opportunity to share Jesus with someone who wouldn't normally step into a church, than it's worth while."

Still others would believe that Trinity's goal is to take students away from other churches, but according to Frazier, that isn't the case at all.

"It is not our intent to steal students from other churches. There is a whole demographic of students who go to a different church, will never be at Trinity on Sunday, and still attend Collision," Frazier said. "We just want to be apart of changing young people in this community. We want to help serve young people, parents, the schools and the community."

One of Trinity's student leaders Elizabeth McGrath says she feels the same way, and that while it may just seem like a lure, it all comes down to one thing.

"The games do get some people, but once they come, they see what Collision is really all about," senior Elizabeth McGrath said.

And Collision isn't the only thing happening for teens at Trinity. Frazier says this is just a start of several new

things they will be trying out at the new building.

"We also want to create a venue for concerts and bands of music the kids are into," Frazier said. "These won't all be Christian bands, but we do try to find ones that have an understanding of who Jesus is. The concerts will certainly not geared just toward worship."

Friday, March 28, three bands will be at Trinity, putting on a concert for the youth, a concept that looks to be enjoyed students.

"That would be really good," McGrath said. "Even kids who don't come on Wednesday and just come for the bands could still have a chance to meet other people and create relationships."

Also in the future is reaching a goal familiar to some, '1000 X '10.'

"One reason for the accommodations is that we believe that this is the vision for 1000 by ten, or the belief that 1000 students by 2010 will be ministered to on a weekly basis through Collision meets," Frazier said. "Ideally, all student ministries could come and work together as one."

Since they've moved almost two months ago, change for the better can already be seen by Frazier.

"I've seen a new passion for worship, and a walking away from the boundaries of religious mentalities, but instead focusing on what their relationship with Jesus is," Frazier said. "There has been a positive response from parents embracing our atmosphere of Collision for students." LH

Photos courtesy Colleen Hill



Gathering together: High school and Junior High students come to 'hang out' before worship starts. "The doors open at 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday for students in sixth through twelfth grade," Frazier said.



Dance, dance: Junior Jessica Tabar plays a popular game in the lobby of the youth section at Trinity's new location.



Center stage: Youth pastor CJ Frazier speaks to Pampa's teens on a Wednesday night Collision meet.

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Costume ball lacks attendance

Andrew Hatcher
Co-Editor In-Chief

The second annual Costume Ball Jan. 19 had an unexpectedly low turn-out, but changes are being planned to make next year better, not only dance-wise but with student council as well.

"The dances didn't go as well as we hoped, partially because there wasn't much involvement from the senior class," advisor Tanya Quisenberry said. "The Valentine's dance went better, but about four or five sports were gone."

Some ideas to up attendance were implemented with the last dance on Feb. 9, such as giving away prizes.

"It was a lot of fun," Quisenberry said. "We gave away \$25 Visa card; gift certificates to the Coffee Shop, the Plaza and Taylor Tans; and 20 other prizes." LH

*Look for an in-depth view of the changes to student council next issue.

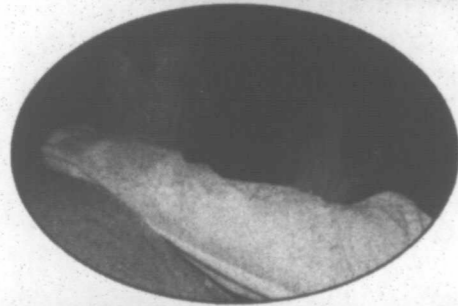


In It for the Money: Seniors Chad Griffith and Amy Silva won best couple at the dance. Silva also won best girl.

Sweatin' to the golden oldies: (Right) Sophomore Student council members dance and try to excite the sparse crowd.



Photos by Shelby Needham



Young love: (Left) Teacher Jeff and student council adviser Tanya Quisenberry dance together at the costume ball.



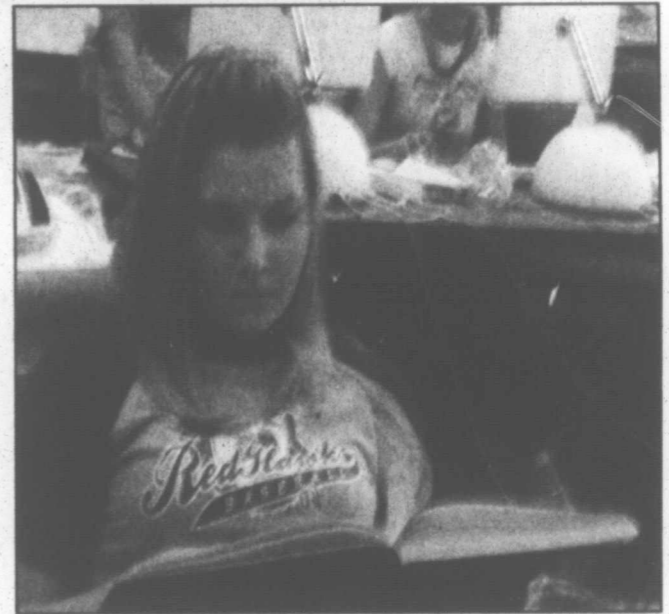
Dance down: (Left) Student council members and Costume Ball attendees dance at the Costume Ball.



Show 'em how it's done: Yearbook co-editor Erin Hall shows senior David Soto his senior personality picture. "We are basically responsible for the memories for the year," Hall said.



The right frame of mind: Yearbook co-editor Jesse Finney demonstrates how to take pictures with a camera.



Hitting the books: Yearbook staff member Amber Ebenkamp studies contemporary layouts in a page design book.

How it's made: Yearbook staff members share what it takes to make their annual publication

Kayleen Stallings
Staff Writer

Every year a group of students capture the memories of the faculty, students, groups, arts, and sports. These students use their personal time to give attention to each group. Thousands of dollars are spent to make a yearbook. Each book, without advertising, would be around ninety dollars according to Jostens representative Jim Hill. Because of the cost, yearbooks will not be sold in May. So many people say they will buy one at the end of the year, but they don't and the school gets stuck with the cost of unpaid-for yearbooks.

Staff members have several time consuming projects but their main goal is to find the important moments of the year.

"We are basically responsible for the memories for the year," senior co-editor Erin Hall said.

Both editors agree one of the hardest parts to yearbook is working with other staff members and timing.

"We have to coordinate who does what and when, and it can become difficult," Hall said.

So many people don't really have an idea of what really takes place to make a yearbook.

"You have to have an idea for what you want to end with. We have to set time aside to take any pictures you can," senior co-editor Jesse Finney said. "You have to be willing to talk to people about their experiences. We need the ability to bring everything together for the finishing product."

One of the most important parts that funds the

yearbook are ads from companies in Pampa.

"We have to get people to buy ads for yearbook," senior ads manager LaTeasa Wheat said.

Staff members have problems finding businesses that are willing to pay so much for ads.

"We get turned down," Wheat said. "We have accomplished fears with talking to people."

Many people try to get into yearbook with the unclear knowledge about how it's an easy class.

"It's much harder than people think it is," Finney said. "We have skills we have to employ."

Due dates are important to completing the yearbook.

"We have to submit certain pages together that aren't consecutive at all," yearbook adviser Chelsea Goodwin said. "It's like a giant puzzle."

Although the staff members spend their time and skills on yearbook, they seem to enjoy the time spent and the finishing prize.

"We work hard and spend a lot of time on the yearbook, but we all enjoy the final outcome," Wheat said.

In May yearbook staff does plan on having another yearbook signing party when the books get delivered even though extras will not be sold that day.

"At this point any orders that did not have payment arrangements entered by Feb. 15 have been cancelled," Goodwin said. "but Jim Hill and I decided to have a few available in case anyone missed the announcements. Jostens can even still take credit card payments, but new orders will have to be entered online and will have a \$10 late fee. It will be first come first served until April 30." LH

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Movie Review: Sweeney Todd Barber proves too close for comfort

Depp, Burton masterpiece sheds new light on musical-to-movie production

Greg Wariner
Staff Writer

With the release of *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, Tim Burton proves that he can still direct great movies with gothic undertones. *Sweeney Todd* is proving to be quite a powerhouse in the realm of musicals made into movies.

The movie is centered around Sweeney Todd (Johnny Depp), a barber formerly known as Benjamin Barker. After getting expelled from his homeland, he returns under a new alias to seek revenge on the enemies who tore his family apart. Along the way,

he encounters Pirelli, an Italian barber whom he actually taught long ago; Mrs. Lovett, a baker specializing in meat pies, and Judge

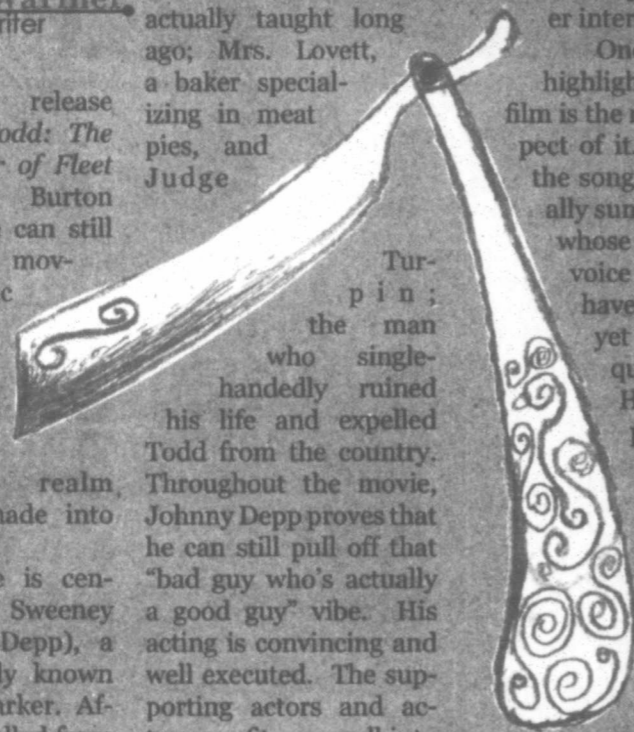
Turpin; the man who single-handedly ruined his life and expelled Todd from the country. Throughout the movie, Johnny Depp proves that he can still pull off that "bad guy who's actually a good guy" vibe. His acting is convincing and well executed. The supporting actors and actresses fit very well into their niches in the plot, and the viewer is sure to be kept on the edge of their seat throughout. A couple of plot twists are

sure to spice things up and keep the viewer interested.

One of the highlights of this film is the musical aspect of it. Many of the songs are actually sung by Depp, whose singing voice proves to have a thin, yet harsh quality to it. His timbre proves to be exactly what his character calls for. The harmonies and blend of the other character's voices creates several different moods that perfectly encompass the plot of the film. Stephen

Sondheim, the composer of the musical score, definitely embraces the influence of Bach and Johannes Brahms in what is his most complex and involved musical effort yet. Sondheim is also the lyricist of the film, showing that great composers can also write great lyrics to accompany it. Overall, the soundtrack is great and is sure to have a special place in your mind where it will echo forever.

Sweeney Todd is definitely a breath of fresh air for those who haven't watched a Burton film in a while. This cinematic effort proves to be simply brilliant, and is certainly what the film world needed. The only downside of this movie is that there is no chance of a sequel. **H**



New game brings innovations to music gaming experience, fans not included

Bart Bullard
Staff Writer

Look out microphone hogs and guitar metal heads, the newest addition to the world of electronic musical gaming has arrived, Rockband is here. Harmonix Music has developed a new music game that uses the basic conditions and concepts of the Guitar Hero franchise, but with its own unique features. Rockband concept is simple: make a character from scratch (an awesome feature) and choose a guitarist, vocalist or drummer; and rock out to the top of the charts from Chicago to Moscow.

The guitar controller looks similar to a real Fender Stratocaster. The controller has "non-strumming solo" buttons near the neck of the guitar for epic rock solos free of strumming. The trap set acts similar to the guitar in keeping the five basic colors of red, yellow, blue, green and orange (the kick pedal drum). The drums are just as fun as the guitar controller and prove more of a challenge. The microphone is the simplest of the three new controllers: it has no buttons and you simply chant away into the receiver and sing karaoke style.

52 songs (not including downloadable content on the PS3 and Xbox 360 versions) make up the playlist, and the majority of the songs are master tracks by the original artists. What is really amazing about the selections of songs is that they span over almost the last 5 decades of rock. For instance "Gimme Shelter" by the Rolling Stones was recorded in 1960 and is one of the earliest on the game. "Blitzkrieg Bop" by the Ramones was recorded in the 1970s and this era represents most of the songs recording dates. "Wanted Dead or Alive" by Bon Jovi, 1980, and "Enter Sandman" by Metallica add variety and style to the game by the haunting vocals of a cowboy on a stale horse or a ballad of boy's nightmare. The Red Hot Chili Peppers finally have a song on a "Guitar" game that does not fall short: "Dani California" is a true

rock anthem that rap-pop lyrics mixed with heavy guitar and drums fuse to create one of the best songs to play on the game.

Overall it's a fantastic original game. The new features are complemented by the completely customizable character and sound track that makes this an awesome game. Graphics and sound are second to none as they make Guitar Hero 3 look like a low bit arcade game in a bowling alley. The new controllers add to the advancements of rockology gaming as well as the true concert experience as the screen explodes when you rock out with your fancy trap set, shred on an amazing axe or bellow at the top of your lungs on a microphone. Rock band is the next thing in the music gaming genre. **H**

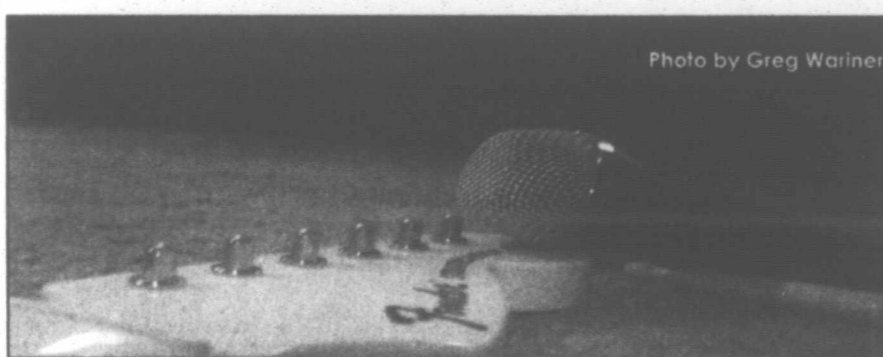
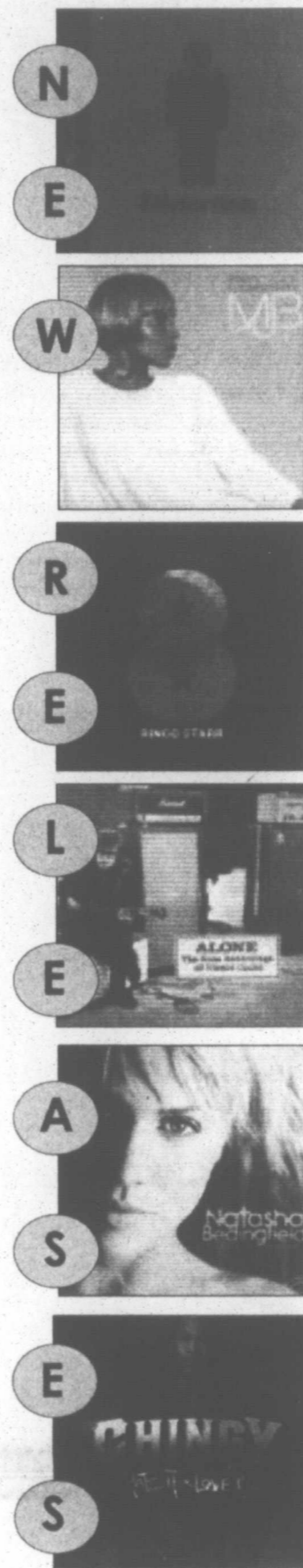


Photo by Greg Wariner



Magnetic Fields
Distortion
There are definitely some entertaining songs on this record. But when a song takes a turn for the worse, it really dive bombs.

Mary J. Blige
Growing Pains
Even after 7 studio albums, Mary J. Blige continues to pour out emotion in every song she writes. Her energy might actually rival that of 7 albums ago.

Ringo Starr
Liverpool 8
This former Beatles drummer has come a long way in the past 5 years. The songs on this album show great liberty on his part, and they aren't half bad.

Rivers Cuomo
Alone: The home recordings of Rivers Cuomo
This album is top notch. It truly showcases Weezer's frontman at his songwriting peak, including some more recent jams from 2007.

Natasha Bedingfield
Pockeetful of sunshine
This album doesn't really live up to its name. The harmonies are unusual, but the songs are still somewhat catchy anyways.

Chingy
Hate if Or Love It
As far as rap albums go, this one is ok. It features a more mature lyrical standpoint, with a little more musicality than his last release.

Teen pregnancy flick sure to surprise

Tyler Rhoades
Staff Artist

In most cases, teenage pregnancy isn't funny. *Juno* is the exception. The movie is about a girl named Juno MacGuff (Ellen Paige) who decides to have sex with her friend, Paulie Bleeker (Michael Cera). She winds up pregnant, and ultimately decides to give it up for adoption to a yuppie couple, Vanessa and Mark Loring (Jennifer Garner and Jason Bateman).

The wordplay in *Juno* amazes me. As Diablo Cody's first screenplay, the script is an absolute gem. Constant one-liners will make you laugh throughout, while some lines may stir emotions. The choice

of music throughout the film fits perfectly with the mood. Even some of the objects are comical, due to the circumstances.

Every actor puts on an amazing performance. At the first of the movie, the people around me seemed shocked at such lines as "Hello, I'd like to procure a hasty abortion." But after the movie, those same people were all saying "I loved it", or "I really related to that".

Juno isn't just a story of a pregnant girl. It's a story of growing up and growing close to those who care for you. So if you're not into movies that could make you tear up, go see *Rambo*. **H**



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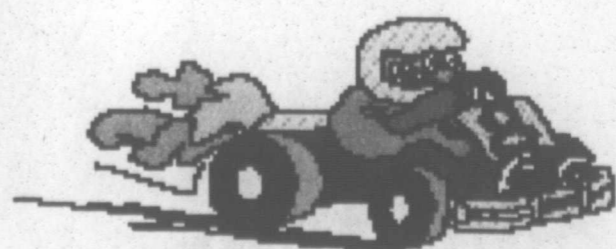
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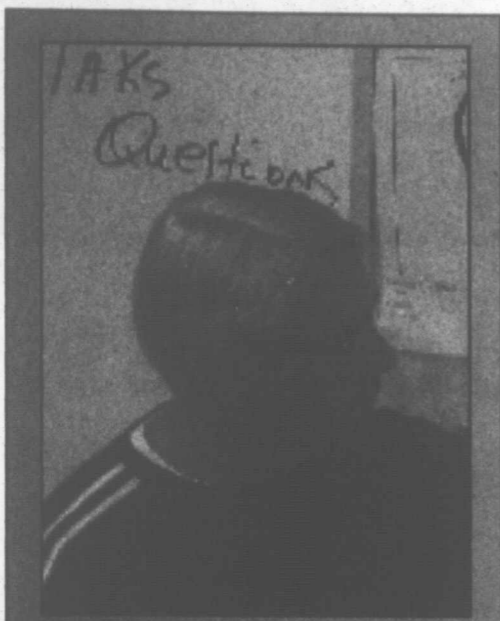
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Coach Gene Valentine's hair was dyed blonde after the team won 18-4 finishing their season.

Bleach blonde

Girls beat old record, cost coach his hair

Cassie Doyle
Guest Writer

The Freshmen Lady Harvester's performed well at the Canadian tournament Sat Jan. 24.

The Ladies were matched up with Berger to finish off the tournament, and the delivered a "jaw-dropping" performance.

"We played very well," coach Gene Valentine said. "We really came ready to play, and wanted to be the only undefeated team in the tournament."

The quick transitions down the court after steals were a major asset to the Ladies and for the points that were put on the score board in their favor.

The Harvesters held their ground and played strong defense on Berger, only allowing a total of three points in the first half while scoring 43 for themselves.

The ladies continued to play tight defense and stayed away from fouls in order to keep Berger from scoring from the foul-line.

Freshmen Shaylie Thompson scored a total of 18 points for the Harvesters, pattering her as the lead scorer and Kay Kirkham followed with 14 points scored.

"My main objective season was to try to average 20 points a game," Thompson said. "I worked really hard to consistent with my shots and my defense."

The Lady Harvesters won with the final score set at 59-8, and were 16-2 as of that Saturday.

"My team last year was 17-3," Valentine said. "I told our team this year if they could end at 18 or more I would bleach my hair."

Chances at play-offs gone

Players and Coaches satisfied with improvement, loss against Dumas 59-62 finishes off season

Greg Wariner
Staff Writer

Since the beginning of the season, the boys basketball team has had a very rocky journey. Several wins had the teams confidence at a very high level, but recently has turned to a different card.

"We are on a significant game losing streak," senior Shavious Kelley said.

Significant indeed. The team is actually still feeling the effects of a game against Hereford. The game ended in very close loss for Pampa, which did not do much for player morale.

"It was a little disappointing," senior Wayne Parker said. "We should've won that game. It really didn't feel too good."

Many feel that perhaps the

team is not as focused as they were earlier in the season.

"I think we'll get back into the groove of things soon," Parker said.

And they did. With a solid win against Dumas under their belts, the team is feeling good about their chances for play-offs.

"I think it was a good win," senior Joshua Humphrey said. "It certainly gave us a lot of confidence."

This kind of attitude has the team ready to face their next opponent, Caprock, with the same energy that they showed at the Dumas game.

"[The game] was great," senior Adam Anguiano said. "We gained some real momentum. I think we'll keep the momentum rolling through the Caprock

game, and hopefully through the whole district race."

The momentum was definitely rolling on that Friday night, as the Harvesters easily overtook the Longhorns by a good eleven points. With another legitimate win under their belts, the team prepared to take on their toughest opponent yet: Palo Duro, the team ranked at No. 2 in the state.

After a long, hard struggle, Palo Duro came out on top by a wide margin. The game was quite the endeavor, and the team hopes to overcome that for their deciding game against Hereford.

"We have to win this [Hereford] game to go to playoffs," Anguiano said. "I think we'll do good."

The team has since posted

dissappointing losses to Hereford and Randall, but has a win over Caprock as well. The last home game against Dumas will prove to be the Harvesters last shot at playoffs this season, but only by a slim margin.

Alas, the cards were not in their favor. Dumas overtook the team by only a few points. A last minute attempt at a buzzer beater shot proved to be in vain, thus ending the Harvesters last shot for playoffs.

"[This game] was disappointing", Anguiano said. "But we tried our hardest and didn't give up." LH



Stop that man: (Above) Senior Mark Stone chases down a Dumas Demon running down the court.

Shoot for victory: (Left) Senior Jad McGulie shoots with 2 seconds left for a final two point shot from the free throw line with Senior Adam Anguiano.



Victory: Swimming dominates competition among fellow schools at District

Tyler Smith
Staff Writer

With there season over the swim team can now relax and wait for next season.

"We did fantastic, girls and boys both," swim coach Samantha Agnew said. "Almost the entire team advanced to region. We set four new district records and had 13 first place finishes."

The swim team was very excited about going to district.

"We're going to own it up." Junior Dustin Neef said.

Well they did own it up, on Jan. 25 and 26 the swim team participated in their district meet and won their ninth consecutive win.

"We did really well," Agnew said, "over all girls got sixth and boys got eighth. Nine swimmers went to finals, and Rebecca Taylor won diving and the 50 free and is went to state. The 400 relay team [Cole Guyer, Colby

Dennis, Kelly Stoffle, and Dustin Neef] got third and broke a school record."

At state Rebecca Taylor received fifth in the 50 free and seventh in diving.

"I felt a little nervous, but felt really blessed to go again," said Sophomore Rebecca Taylor.

But the swim team has had some set backs because they were unable to practice at Pampa Youth and Community Center.

"There was a problem with the insurance policy that the school has with the youth center," Agnew said. "We've been given an extension and during the extension we is suppose to have the problem solved."

The swim team was displeased with being unable to practice.

"Some were pretty upset at the you center for not helping more," freshmen Brittany Covil said. "We got an extension but don't know what will happen after."

The extension lasts for 60 days and dur-

ing those 60 days the school will be working on finding a new insurance carrier.

"Mrs. Fields, the director of finance for Pampa ISD, has secured a policy," athletic director Stuart Smith said. LH



Just Keep Swimming: (Right) sophomore Ethan Addy and (left) Christian Hinkle participating in leg warm-ups.



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Achieving Success Pampa Learning Center rises above student misconception



Self-paced Society: PLC students Derek Kindle and Cody Newton study at the PLC building located on Frost Street across from the Super Playground.

Shelby Needham
Staff Photographer

Many people have a misconception of what the students at Pampa Learning Center (PLC) are like. They might associate kids that go there to be pregnant, students that cannot pass or all around trouble-makers.

"I believed in the cliché that people who go to PLC do drugs and are not good students," junior Chelsea Wallin said. "They are nice and normal though. Nobody fights there."

Going to PLC is entirely up to the student. The teachers that are there also request to teach at PLC.

"Every teacher that is here has requested to be here, and every student that's here has also requested to be here," Teen-Parent Coordinator Sara Wheeley said. "Everyone is happy."

PLC is an alternative school of choice, so students have to go to the school counselor and ask for an application. The staff at PLC looks over the papers from the student to see if they are a good applicant.

"It's not exactly easy to get into PLC," senior Joseph Page said. "You can't just say I want to get in. You have to have problems."

Some reasons that students go to PLC is because they are being harassed at school, they need only a little bit to graduate, they are pregnant, or they have a job and need most of the day off.

"I don't think everyone would like PLC," Director Richard Steele said. "A lot of students have heard that it is easy here, but you have to be dedicated."

Students have to pace themselves in order to do well. If they do not pace themselves it could take them a while to get their work done.

"Students need to have good organizational skills," Wheeley said. "When they work fast they have a good opportunity."

53 students are currently enrolled in PLC. The small student-teacher ratio allows teachers to spend more time with a particular student.

"Teachers spend a lot more one-on-one attention," sophomore Michael Armstrong said.

All of the teachers at PLC are highly qualified and many of them teach more than one subject.

"The teachers use some computer support,

but mainly with the same text books as the high school," Steele said. "The classroom is not a group lecture. Teachers move from table to table as students need help. It's a little bit like the old days with the one-room school house."

Every Monday the entire staff has a meeting to discuss everything that is going on at the school.

"We talk about the individual needs of students," Wheeley said. "If we think something seems to be wrong with student we discuss it."

There is also a GED preparation program offered to students at PLC.

"The program prepares students who just want to take the test to get their GED," Wheeley said.

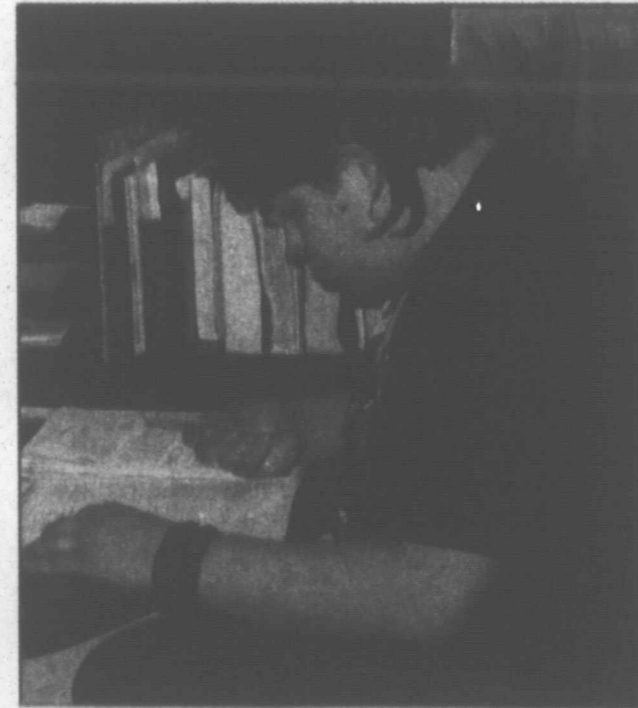
When students receive their diploma, it says Pampa High School, and they also have the opportunity to walk across the stage.

"I started going to PLC to graduated earlier," Wallin said.

Since the students want to be at PLC they try to stay out of trouble so they will not be kicked out. Whereas some students in a public school will get into more trouble because they are forced to be there.

"I would recommend PLC for everyone, but everyone can't come," Wheeley said. "We are very proud of our school." **H**

"I would recommend PLC for everyone, but everyone can't come,"
Teen-Parent Coordinator Sara Wheeley



Preparing for the future: A.D. Wiles getting ready for a major exam key to his earning a G.E.D. "They give you all kinds of resources to prepare for the test and lots of individual help so that when it comes time to take it, you're really prepared," Wiles said.