

Tomorrow's Weather

HIGH
71
LOW
46

See expanded weather on Page 2

BUY HERE PAY HERE NO CREDIT CHECK

Open 9 am - 6 pm Monday Saturday Hwy 50 & Hwy 70 Pampa TX 669-6067 www.DougBoydMotors.com

DOUG BOYD MOTOR CO.

WFL

POWER EQUIPMENT

SALES & RENTAL

103 S. HOBART
665-2366

THE PAMPA NEWS

Wednesday, March 12, 2008

Volume 103 • No. 292

50¢ Daily • Sunday \$1.50

We're Small But Good!
Friendly Faces and Competitive Prices
36+ Years Experience
Ceramics • Laminate
Hard Wood • Carpet

The Floor Store
2100 Perryton Parkway
665-4455

Floor Care Essentials by Mohawk
Professional Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning System
FREE PROFESSIONAL ESTIMATES

CHILDERS BROTHERS INC.
HOUSE LEVELING

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

WE CARRY THE LARGEST SELECTION AND THE LATEST STYLES OF FLOORING IN STOCK WITH THE BEST PRICES!
One STOP Flooring
1533 N. HOBART
MONDAY-FRIDAY 9-5
SATURDAY 10-1

24HR WATER EXTRACTION
RUG RATS
Professional Carpet & Air Duct Cleaning
FREE ESTIMATES
Ronnie Harvill Owner
665-1976 or 662-9219

Texas FURNITURE
PROUDLY SERVING PAMPA SINCE 1932
1415 N. HOBART • 806-665-1623
MONDAY-SATURDAY 9:00-5:30

Asmore & Associates
INSURANCE AGENCY, LLC
1224 North Hobart
NBC Plaza 2, Suite 11
Pampa, TX • 806-688-7081
www.asmoreassociates.com
"For your Business & Personal Needs"
JIM BRUTON

Rebecca McCall
Sales Associate
PAMPA REALTY INC.
312 N. Quay
Pampa TX 79065
669-8007
Fax 669-0008
cell 662-2190

Thomas
Automotive Inc.
Premier Auto Service and Repair
665-4851
217 E. ATCHISON
Monday - Friday • 8am - 6pm

TOP OF TEXAS
Were Going Green!
1st Sat. of Month
9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.
665-2061
Bring your old refrigerators & freezers for proper disposal!

City hears complaint about pit bull problem

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

Pampa firefighters are a step nearer in their collective bargaining efforts with the City of Pampa.

The Pampa City Commission approved on first reading an ordinance that would allow firefighters to bargain with the city. The ordinance follows a vote last year on the issue. The ordinance still has to pass one more reading. It prohibits firefighters from striking.

The commission also appointed Wesley Green to the Lovett Memorial Library Advisory Board.

They also approved the sale of tax delinquent at 843 S. Faulkner to Brian Darnell for \$1,001.50.

They took no action on a proposal on a \$35,000 cash grant to

United Medicare (see United Medicare story).

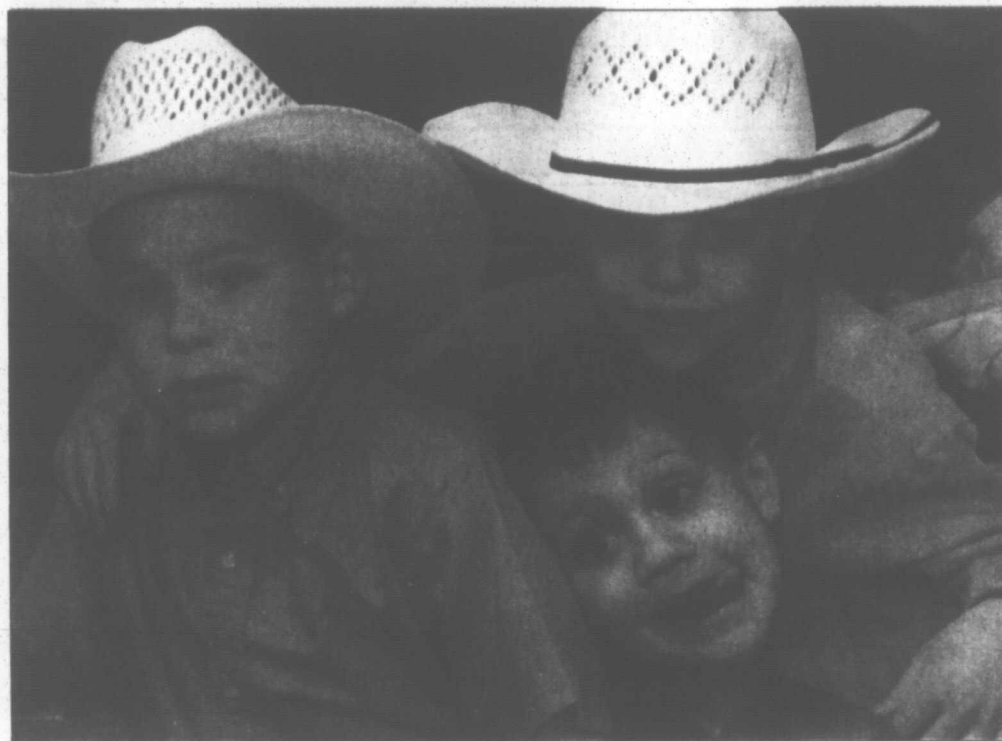
The commission also heard from Roxanne Funderburk and LaDiana Hyatt Mills concerning pit bulls running loose in her neighborhood.

Funderburk told the mayor and commissioners that her 73-year-old mother lives across the street from her and had encountered two pit bulls while crossing the street. Funderburk said the dogs would have attacked her mother if someone hadn't chased the dogs away.

Funderburk said that the owner of the dogs had already been cited over the dogs and had some \$3,000 to \$4,000 in fines. She wanted to know why the owner hasn't been arrested and

See CITY, Page 3

Rodeo pals



Courtesy Photo

St. Matthew's Day School recently had a rodeo for the students. Clowning around in their cowboy attire, from left, are Britt Summers, Kyler Cook and Austen Irlbeck, who are all Pre-K students.

UNITED MEDICORE

UMC asks city for grant

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

The old PEDC came back to haunt the city commission this week.

Before it was dissolved, Pampa's former economic development corporation brought in United Medicare from Dallas about eight years ago and worked out financial incentives for jobs that were to be created.

When the old PEDC was dissolved by Pampa voters, the Pampa City Commission inherited the contract with United Medicare. Unfortunately, the company almost went bankrupt last year under the previous management.

Daniel Stevens, a Chicago financier, took over the trouble company and is trying to turn it around. Stevens, Medicare CEO, is also the largest investor in the company.

Earlier this year, he bared the company's problems to the city commission and asked if they would work with him on

reestablishing the company in Pampa at its Cuyler Street offices.

As part of this effort, Stevens has asked officials to forgive \$24,000 that the company owes the city. He also asked for a \$35,000 cash grant to help with expenses.

Darla Sander with United Medicare told the commission Tuesday that there have been a lot of changes at United Medicare.

"The prior management left out of there in March of last year," she said. "That's when Daniel Stevens took over."

Sander, a seven-year veteran with the company, said there have been a lot of obstacles since then. She said Stevens had not been told of all the problems when he took over.

Sander accused the previous management of contacting clients and running them off.

See UMC, Page 3

Pickens pulls out of race for position on PGWCD board

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

WHITE DEER -- Boone Pickens has pulled out of the race for a position on the Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District and endorsed his opponent.

On Monday, the last day to file for a place on the water district's board of directors, the water district received a letter from the Dallas businessman and Roberts County rancher withdrawing his name from the race to represent Roberts County on the board.

In the letter, Pickens said he had filed for the position in an effort to ensure that his

and his neighbors' water rights would be protected.

"My stated objective," Pickens wrote, "was to work hard to ensure that all those with water rights are treated fairly and uniformly."

He said that even though he was withdrawing from the race, that remained a priority for him.

"When I filed for the PGCD board position," he wrote, "I was unaware that Steve Hale had an interest in serving and had, in fact already filed. I have known Steve for years, and I am sure he will do a good job

See PICKENS, Page 3



Courtesy Photo

St. Matthew's Pre-K student Ruth Andrews gets a kiss from her colorful stick horse at the school's rodeo recently.

State enrollment in CHIP surges

AUSTIN (AP) — Enrollment in the state's low-cost health insurance program for children of the working poor spiked to the highest level in three years this month, but fewer children were covered by Medicaid.

About 24,000 children were added to the Children's Health Insurance Program — an increase of about 7 percent over last month, the state said Tuesday. Statewide, about 382,000 are enrolled in CHIP, which is available to families who can't afford private insurance coverage but earn too much to qualify for Medicaid, the federal health insurance program for the poor.

Stephanie Goodman, spokeswoman for the Health and Human Services Commission, said the state expected enrollment to rise after the Legislature extended CHIP coverage from six months to a year. The enrollment period was cut in half five years ago in a bud-

et-cutting move.

The first children to benefit from the restored yearlong coverage had policies renewed last September. Their parents didn't have to submit pay stubs and other data this month, as previously required.

But while CHIP rolls expanded, enrollment of Texas children in Medicaid declined this month to 1.8 million, a decrease of nearly 13,000 from February.

Anne Dunkelberg of the Center for Public Policy Priorities, which advocates for low-income Texans, said the number of youngsters on Medicaid probably decreased because of continuing problems with a revamped, partially privatized eligibility system. Many families' applications go unprocessed for months, and the state isn't meeting federal rules for timely handling, she said.

Still Time To Plant Trees!
Come by for a great selection!
West Texas Landscape
120 S Hobart St • 669-0158 • Mon-Sat • 9am - 6pm

Memory Gardens
4th Annual
Easter Egg Hunt
March 15th at 11:00 A.M.
at 23rd St. & Price Rd.,
North empty lot.
Fun for the whole family!
Bouncer, egg hunt,
parent egg hunt and prizes.
If inclement weather will be Sunday 16th at 2:00 P.M.

NEXT DAY FORECAST

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



Mostly sunny Mostly sunny Mostly sunny

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 71.
Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 46.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 64.
Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 39.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 57.
Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 34.

Ⓢ This information brought to you by...

PRESTIGE
AUTOBODY & ACCESSORIES
101 S. HOBART 806-665-3500
B & W HITCH PRODUCTS • WE INSTALL!

CITY BRIEFS

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

BARTLETT'S HARDWARE, Full-Time Employment. Excellent benefits! 500 W. Brown, Pampa.

BASEBALL / SOFTBALL Tryouts will be March 11th, 12th & 13th at the Optimist Park. Ages 9-15 boys & girls. For more information contact Kevin Davis at 664-2542

FOR SALE restaurant equipment, solid oak cabinets & large smoker on trailer. 669-2921 or 440-3577.

HAVE OPENING for a Caregiver. Must be dependable, able to work mornings, evenings & weekends. Random drug testing. Call between 9am-11am Only, 669-2271, lv. name & number.

HOME INTERIOR Open House, March 13th & 14th, 9-5. 800 B West Foster, behind Sisters Spudnuts @ Stables.

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

crop revenue coverage to **PROTECT** your crops

Let us tell you how multi peril crop insurance can be a lifesaver for your farming operation.

Jim D. Hubbard, CIC
114 S. Trice
Claude, TX 79019
cell 806.679.9457
office 800.658.2122
jhubbard@neely.com

NEELY, CRAIG & WALTON L.L.P.
INSURANCE SINCE 1926

Preneed Arrangements Available including Caskets
Special Veterans Garden

Memory Gardens
Cemetery & Mausoleum of Pampa
665-8921
23rd St and Price Rd
www.memory-gardens.tripod.com

Obituaries

Services tomorrow

VICK, Charles Ray — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

Harold 'Pug' Baston, 74

Harold "Pug" Baston, 74, of Pampa, Texas, died March 12, 2008, at Amarillo, Texas. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Baston was born Jan. 17, 1934, in Adair, Okla., and he attended schools in Nowata, Okla. He married Earline Dick on Oct. 5, 1953, in Nowata, Okla., at the First Baptist Church.

Harold worked as a heavy equipment operator and

foreman on the pipeline for Carlson & Craddock for 16 years. He later owned and operated Harold Baston Construction for 20 years, retiring in 2003.

When his sons were home, they liked to ride motorcycles.

Survivors include his



Baston

wife, Earline Baston, of the home; one son, Darrell Baston of Pampa; 2 sisters, Georgia Kasler of Inola, Okla., and Sherry Sharp of Pryor, Okla.; one grandson, Anthony Baston of Pampa; two granddaughters, Miranda Baston of Austin

and Sarah Baston of

Lubbock; and special friends, Richard and Mabel Tunnell of Pampa.

He was preceded in death by a son, Harold Gene Baston, Jr.; four brothers; and three sisters.

MEMORIALS: American Heart Association, 2514 82nd Street, Suite B, Lubbock, TX 79423.

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

In Memorium

HENRY LEE PARKS

Henry Lee Parks was born February 15, 1923, near Eldorado, Okla., to Phillip Henry (P.H.) and Pearl Lee Crabtree Parks. He passed from this life on February 10, 2008. He was known by his family as "Lee," known by his Celanese co-workers as "Pete" and known by his military buddies as "Hank."

Lee moved with his family to Reydon, Okla., in 1929, graduated from Reydon High School in 1941, and was employed for two years at consolidated Aircraft, San Diego, Calif., before entering the U.S. Air Corp.

During World War II, Lee (S/Sgt.) served in the 347th Squadron, 99th Bomb Group, 5th Wing of 15th Air Force. While stationed at Tortorello Air Field, Foggia, Italy, he completed 35 missions as a left wing gunner on a B-17G and also served as assistant crew chief and photographer. In 1946, fol-

lowing his discharge, he studied mechanical engineering at Oklahoma A&M University (now OSU). Lee was an organizing charter member and director of The 99th Bomb Group Historical Society.

In 1952, Lee was employed by Celanese Chemical Co. and worked there for 30 years. He was an engineering specialist, process control and instrument development. He served as president of Celanese Employees Club, Pamcel Credit Union, Celanese Gun Club and Celanese Bowling League. Following his retirement from Celanese, he purchased the family farm and moved to Reydon, Okla.

He retired from farming in 1995 and moved to



Parks

Canadian, Texas. Lee was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Canadian, Texas. Lee loved music from early childhood, played the violin, viola and cello. He enjoyed attending country and western

dances, musical events and the Amarillo Symphony.

Lee was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Dillion, Elzy, Bill and Jim; and sisters, Velva and Johnnie Bell.

He is survived by three sons, Gary Lee and Cyndi, Pampa, Texas, Gregg Keith, Cortez, Colo., and Dale Kent and Margaret, Mount Pleasant, Texas; granddaughters, Claudia and Mark Cruz (special grandson), Amarillo, Texas, Mandy and Brian Waldrip, Pampa,

Texas, Brooke and Brian Kincannon, Amarillo, Texas, Tiffany Parks, Mount Pleasant, Texas, Jessica and Charles Overstreet, Kennedale, Texas, Courtney and Ricardo Cruz, Kennedale, Texas; step-granddaughters, Megan, Cari, Claire and Tori Renfro, Mount Pleasant, Texas; 11 great-grandchildren; sister, Nadia and Gerald Martin, Reydon, Okla.; brothers, Byron Parks, Montrose, Colo., and Ethyn Parks, Reydon, Okla.; sister-in-law, Goldie Parks, Guthrie, Okla.; special nephew, Dillion Leon Parks, Reydon, Okla.; nieces and nephews; and former wives, Marie Parks, Pampa, Texas, and Mary Ann Ashley, Canadian, Texas.

Our thanks to the caretakers of the Pampa Nursing Home for their kind and tender care of our loved one.

Charles Ray Vick, 76

Charles Ray Vick, 76, of Pampa, died March 11, 2008, at Amarillo.

Services are scheduled at 2 p.m. Thursday in Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Jeff Taylor, pastor of First United Methodist Church, officiating.

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

Mr. Vick was born March 11, 1932, in Hopkins

County. He married Paula Jean Bodine on Dec. 15, 1949, at Shamrock. He moved to Pampa in 1959 and was a pipefitter for Bechtel, retiring in 1990.

Mr. Vick was a Methodist. He was a 32nd degree Mason and belonged to Pampa Masonic Lodge #966 AF&AM where he was a



Vick

member of the Blue Lodge. He was a member of El Paso Scottish Rite Consistory as well.

He was preceded in death by four brothers and seven sisters.

Survivors include his wife, Paula Jean Vick, of the home; a son, Stanley Ray Vick of Bells; a daughter, Brenda Jean Tennant of

Houston; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The family will receive visitors from 7-8 p.m. today at the funeral home and requests memorials be to American Heart Association, 2514 82nd Street, Suite B, Lubbock, TX 79423, or to American Cancer Society, c/o Gerry Caylor, 2130 Charles, Pampa, TX 79065.

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

Pets of the Week... sponsored by The Pampa News

Pictures Of All The Animals Can Be Viewed In The Window Of The Shelter Office 24 Hours A Day



ROSE....

Rose is a female Terrier Cross. She is a very friendly and loving dog that will make a wonderful companion. Visit us today and give her a loving home.

For information about these pets or any other contact the Animal Shelter at 669-5775 or come by their location at Hobart Street Park

VISIT OUR WEB SITE: thecityofpampa.org • click on Animal Control for most up to date information

FOUND A PET? Let us know ... we might be able to help them find their home.

LOST YOUR PET? Come by the shelter every 2-3 days to check for your animal.

We hold stray animals for 72 hours only.

So PLEASE call us as soon as your pet is missing!

If You Would Like To Help The Animals, Donations Can Be Sent To...

City Of Pampa Fund 12 • PO Box 2499
Pampa, Texas 79066

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

MONDAY - SUNDAY

3 PM - 5 PM

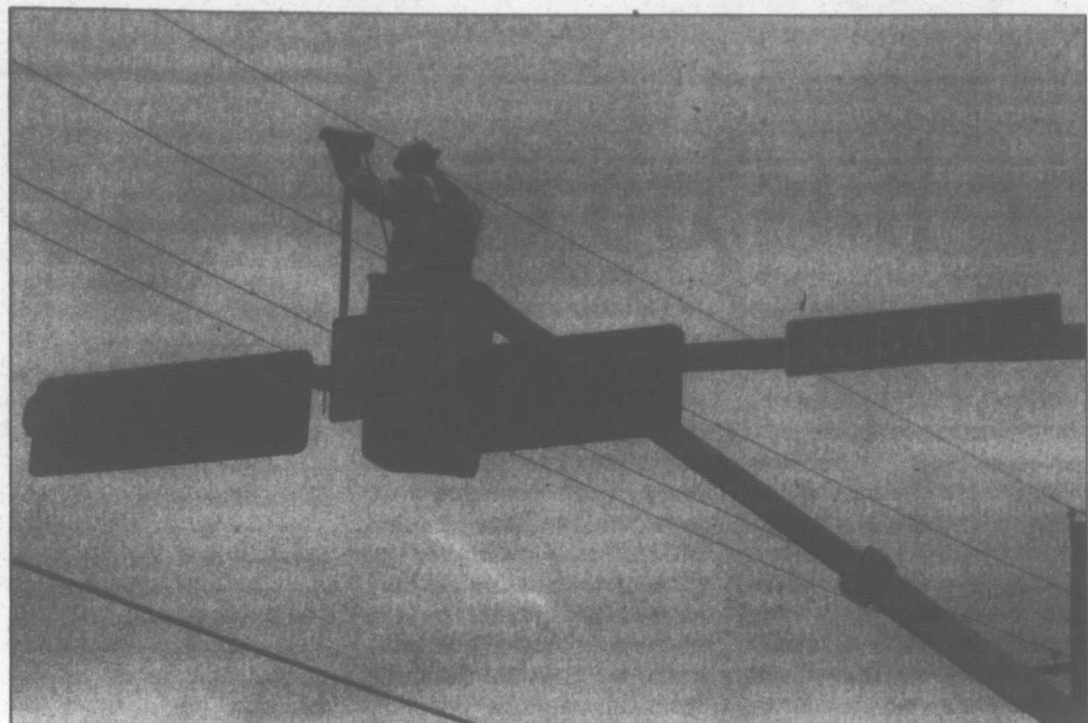


....ROWDY

Rowdy is a male Schnauzer. He is a beautiful boy, who just needs to be groomed. Come by the shelter today and visit him!

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THESE PETS OR ANY OTHER CONTACT THE ANIMAL SHELTER AT 669-5775 OR COME BY THE SHELTER AT HOBART STREET PARK

Installing cameras



A worker puts up a "red light camera" on the stoplight at the intersection of Hobart and Kentucky.

Courtesy Photo

Pickens

Continued from Page 1

for the county. My time can be better spent on other projects."

Hale is the only person who has filed for the seat on the board to represent Roberts County.

Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District officials said Monday was the last day to file for the May election, although write-in

candidates have another five days.

With Pickens withdrawing from the race and no other board member facing a challenge, water district officials said there would be no need for the election in May.

UMC

Continued from Page 1

"He contacted them and told them that we were going to drop their business," Sander said, "which we were not and had no intentions of."

The company was able to keep only three of their old clients. They have increased that, she indicated to nine clients today.

Sander said that the operation of the company is changing from contingency collections based on personal relationships to debt purchase which is much more stable. It also has the potential of raising cash more quickly.

Singing Stevens' praises, she said that he had replaced the servers and computers along with new computer systems and software.

"We're told we have the best collection system in the industry," Sander said, "so we have a lot working for us. We have a lot of good people there."

She said that the 22 people at their Cuyler Street office are all from Pampa.

"We are all doing everything we can to make it succeed," Sander said.

When Stevens took over, Sander said he implemented a drug testing program and background checks.

"UMC had developed a very bad name in the community," she said. "That name is getting a lot better."

Stevens raised the base

pay to \$8.25 an hour.

"Which for Pampa is good for no experience," she said.

He reinstated employee benefits, including insurance, and he wants to remodel the building, which Sander said has been neglected.

Sander said that Stevens has been footing the bill for the changes.

"He's got about \$850,000 of his money in the company," she said.

She said the \$35,000 would help get the company over the hurdle that it is presently facing.

Several of the city commissioners indicated that while they were willing to forgive the \$24,000, they were against direct cash payments to a business. Commissioner Bob Dixon said he thought it set a dangerous precedent.

"I cannot see granting money to existing businesses," Dixon said.

He said he could something being worked out with the new economic development corporation, but the city should not be giving out money to businesses.

"I think that's a dangerous thing to start doing," Dixon said.

Mayor Lonny Robbins said, however, that in this case, the city would be acting as the old economic development corporation.

"As far as saying we'd hand out money to anyone," Robbins said, "I think we need to look at this particular situation completely independent from anything other thing we do."

He said the city has never

closed the books on this particular project.

Horst noted that the contract doesn't expire until Dec. 31 this year.

Franklin McDonough, the city attorney, said that the city commission is sitting in place of the original PEDC, but he questioned the legality of forgiving the \$24,000 under the current contract. He said, however, he thought the commission acting at the PEDC could legally issue the \$35,000.

Commissioner Brad Pingel noted that the \$35,000 was with no collateral or guarantee. Stevens' only promise was that it would keep United Medicare in Pampa for a year.

Sander said that the only guarantee was Steven's word.

Dwight Fiveash, executive director of the new Pampa Economic Development Corporation, suggested that the building might serve as collateral to which Commissioner Bob Dixon replied that the city doesn't need another building. The city ended up with buildings from other projects concerning the previous PEDC.

Fiveash said that Stevens and the new economic development corporation had talked, but he indicated that the process of providing any money to the company would take time.

"We can't help this situation immediately," Fiveash said. "We require things like a financial plan, which I understand is not available. We require a business plan

City

Continued from Page 1

the dogs euthanized.

"Pampa has a bad wild dog, loose dog control," Funderburk said. "I'm afraid to go out of my house after seeing what happened to my mother the other day."

Pampa Police Chief Trevlyn Pitner said he had started the process to designate those dogs as dangerous.

"There are two dogs," he said. "They belong to two different owners."

He said the owners should be served notices by the end of the week.

The dog owners have several options, he said, such as turning the dogs over to animal control or posting liability insurance.

Pitner said he would check on the citations and see if there were any outstanding warrants on either owner.

While Funderburk said she thought there should

be stricter guidelines, Pampa City Manager John Horst said the city couldn't do more than state law allows. Under the law, specific breeds cannot be discriminated against.

"We've had discussions on this before," Horst said. "We cannot put restrictions on a pit bull that we would not put on a Chihuahua."

Horst said the dog has to be aggressive before the city can do anything about it.

Pitner said he had gotten several complaints about these dogs and that the police department was taking steps to deal with the problem.

Mills echoed Funderburk's complaint about the dogs but also complained about a neighbor that worked on his car late into the night and early in the morning. She said she had taken him to municipal court last year for disturbing the peace, but he had gotten deferred adjudication.

Again, Chief Pitner promised to look into the matter. He said they would increase patrols in the area.

The commission also heard from H.W. "Bo"

Terrell who said that young drivers were sliding around the gravel corner at Rider and Montague.

"I liked to have got run over Sunday," Terrell said.

He said a neighbor who put in a trailer park there has already complained to the city commission about the situation.

"That's been going on for 18 years," Terrell said. "Somebody's going to get killed."

While Terrell said he would like to see speed bumps installed, Richard Morris, director of public works, proposed installing two to four valley gutters that would both slow traffic and improve the drainage at the intersection.

"We've had trouble there in the past," Morris acknowledged.

The city also heard from Pat Rendon with Xcel Energy concerning a change in electric tariffs (see SPS) and from Community Relations Director Shane Stokes concerning a community fund in partnership with the Amarillo Area Foundation.

the city should help any business as much as it can, but it has to be done within the framework of spending tax dollars.

The city commission ultimately took no action at their Tuesday afternoon meeting this week on Stevens' request.

Looking for a homelike environment? Come to McLean Care Center!

We have 24 hour licensed care 7 days a week. Our goal is to ensure safety and happiness for our residents. We have open beds at this time. Interested in joining our family here at McLean Care Center or have a loved one who needs assistance - call Nita Massey, Administrator at 806-779-2469 or come by 605 W 7th St. in McLean. We are always here to serve to the best of our ability.

Life doesn't always happen during business hours....

for that reason we offer
Night Emergency Service

669-3559

KEYES PHARMACY

928 NORTH HOBART • 806-669-1202 • 800-842-3866

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30-6:00 • SATURDAY 8:30-1:00

**OPTIMIST
BASEBALL & SOFTBALL
TRYOUTS**

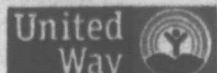
MARCH 11TH • 12TH • 13TH

at the OPTIMIST PARK

Ages 9 - 15 boys and girls



For more info call Kevin Davis at 664-2542



A Pampa United Way Agency

Viewpoints

Obama: The emperor has no clothes ...

It's inevitable that a lot of people are taking credit for the outcome of the Texas and Ohio primaries. In reality, the outcome was more or less the result of "Saturday Night Live."

Think about it. They were the ones who sicced the media on Barack Obama by spoofing them for treating him with soft kid gloves.

The skit was so effective that Mrs. Clinton was able to use it during the debate the following week, where she suggested that perhaps Obama needed a pillow.

The effect of Hillary's sarcasm and the earlier SNL skit was to spur the media to take a closer look at Obama, whom they had all but ele-

vated to sainthood over the past year.

So they began to look below the surface. Lo and behold, out popped Tony Rezco and what has become known as "Naftagate," the word coined by delighted Clinton campaign staffers to describe secret talks between an Obama campaign official and Canadian bureaucrats.

On the very eve of the crucial primaries, the media had created serious doubts about Obama's credibility by exposing the falsity of his denials that any such negotiations had taken place.

The effect of that revelation in Ohio, where NAFTA is a dirty word, was devastating. Here was Obama attack-

ing the Clinton's backing of the North American Free Trade Agreement and promising to junk the treaty until it was renegotiated while at the same time a top official of his campaign was telling the Canadians sotto voce that he really didn't mean it — it was all just campaign rhetoric.

It got even worse when Obama held a press conference and answered a mere eight questions, and when the pressure got too strong he turned his back on the media and walked away. If

you want to provoke the media to get hot on your heels and dig deeper into your clouded background, that's the way to do it.



Michael Reagan
Columnist

Barack Obama loves the playing field. As soon as the game moves out of his sandbox, it seems to unnerve him.

When you are president of the United States of America you are constantly playing in other people's sandboxes, and if you don't know how

to play the game outside of your own sandbox you don't belong in the White House sandbox.

In the space of a couple of days, Barack Obama showed that he is not equipped to be president of the United States. He showed that he folds under pressure. As long as he was treated by the media as being above criticism, he seemed immune from the attacks ordinary mortals endure when running for office.

Once the media stopped worshipping at the Obama altar and was forced to take a close look at him, however, he lost his immunity and was shown to be a mere human like the rest of us.

Whatever new disclosures about Obama emerge in the coming months — and you can be sure there will be some because the Clinton attack machine never runs on idle — he can be expected to react the same way — angry and resentful that his treatment at the media's hands was a case of lèse-majesté.

As recent events proved, he was not garbed in regal splendor but instead was stark naked.

The would-be emperor had no clothes.

—Mike Reagan, the elder son of the late President Ronald Reagan, is heard on more than 200 talk radio stations nationally as part of the Radio America Network.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, March 12, the 72nd day of 2008. There are 294 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

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

On this date:

In 1664, England's King Charles II granted an area of land in present-day North America known as New Netherland to his brother James, the Duke of York.

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

'Ill luck, you know, seldom comes alone.'

— Miguel de Cervantes
Spanish novelist, dramatist and poet (1547-1616)

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

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

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

In 1938, German troops entered Austria in what came to be known as the Anschluss.

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

In 1968, President Lyndon Johnson won the New Hampshire Democratic primary, but a strong second-place showing by anti-war Senator Eugene McCarthy of Minnesota played a role in Johnson's decision not to seek re-election.

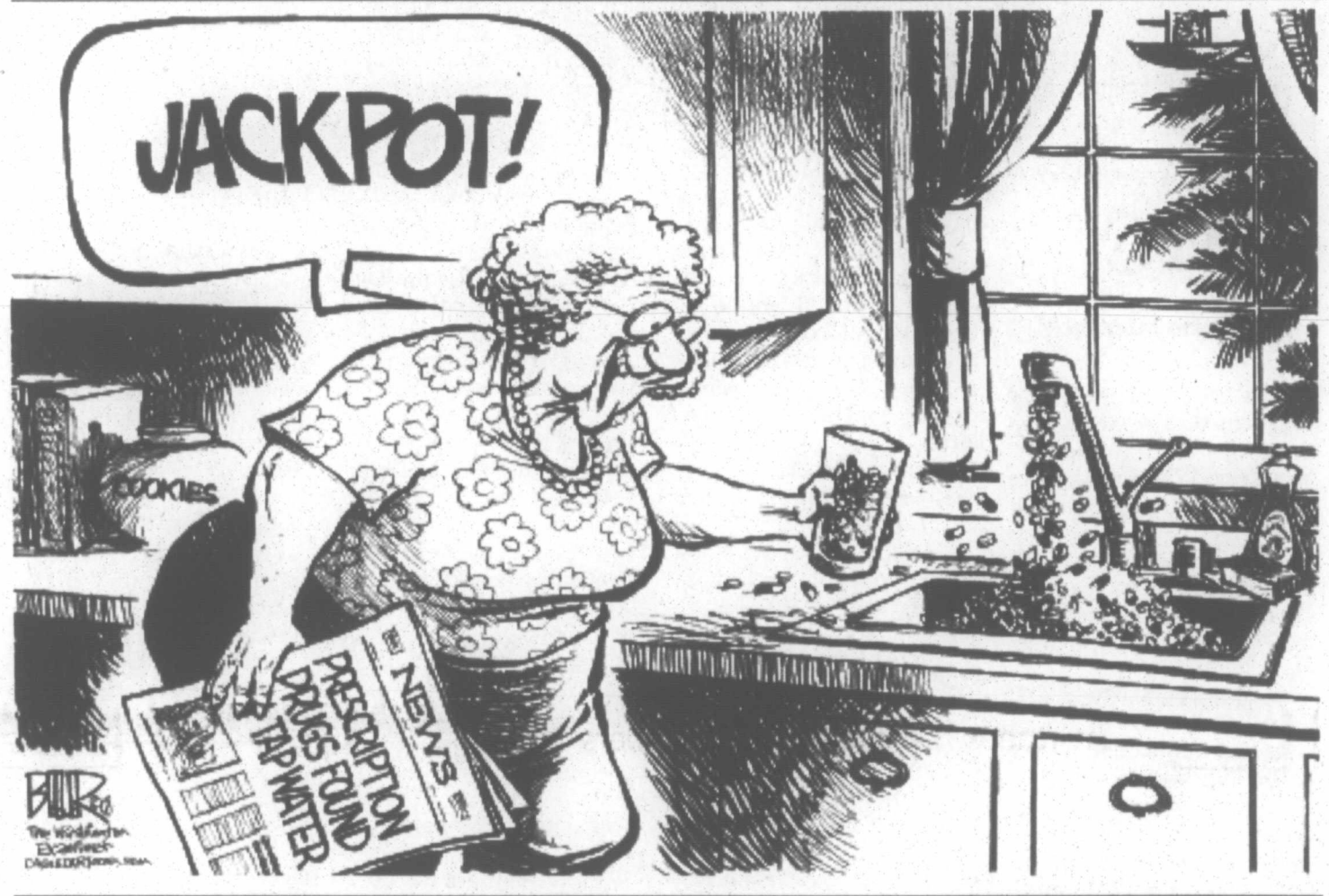
In 1968, the British-ruled African island of Mauritius became an independent country within the Commonwealth of Nations.

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

Ten years ago: The government reported the rate of new cancer cases among Americans had inched down for the first time, meaning about 70,000 fewer people than expected were diagnosed between 1992 and 1995.

Five years ago: Elizabeth Smart, the 15-year-old girl who'd vanished from her bedroom nine months earlier, was found alive in a Salt Lake City suburb with two drifters. Serbian Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic was assassinated. Author Howard Fast died in Greenwich, Conn., at age 88. Actress Lynne Thigpen died in Los Angeles at age 54.

One year ago: President Bush promoted free trade as a salve to Latin America's woes as he spoke out against poverty during a visit to Guatemala; the president then traveled to Mexico.



Isolationism is actually a good policy ...

I am an isolationist and proud of it. Of course, I've used the word that internationalists invented in order to distort the position of those of us who believe that George Washington was right when he advised us to stay out of foreign quarrels, feuds and alliances.

To refrain from sticking your nose into affairs that don't concern you is not being an isolationist. It is being sensible and a good neighbor. What would happen if we went up and down the streets of our neighborhood, intruding ourselves into every family's affairs and telling them what to do? We soon would be isolated and the object of extreme dislike. Well, what applies to individuals applies to nations.

The jurisdiction of the United States ends at our borders. I'm sorry there is a

tribal conflict in the Darfur region of Sudan, tribal conflict in Kenya, ethnic conflict in Iraq and Serbia, and political conflict in dozens of countries, but we have no jurisdiction, no authority and no right to intervene in any of them. The fact that we do is the reason we've become one of the most hated nations on Earth.

Modern imperialism, which is the present policy of the United States, differs from old-fashioned colonialism. We no longer send colonists to occupy other people's lands. We simply attempt to bribe or intimidate other countries' governments into doing what we want them to do. When some

foreign leader resists, our government begins a campaign to discredit the foreign leader. Sometimes we try to overthrow him or punish him with economic sanctions. More recently, we've adopted a policy of pre-emptive war and actually invaded two countries, neither of which had attacked us.

Hugo Chavez, to cite another example, is the elected leader of Venezuela. He is a socialist. I personally don't think socialism works very well, but being an American, I'm not concerned with what kind of government the people of Venezuela prefer. I've invested several hours of my life listening to translations

of Chavez's speeches and heard nothing that would indicate he feels any enmity toward the American people. He has a quarrel with the Bush administration, which has tried to unseat him and insults him at every opportunity. Justice is on his side.

Our only interest in Venezuela is to buy oil. Venezuela continues to be one of our most valuable suppliers of oil. That should be the end of the story. If Venezuela has quarrels with some of the transnational corporations that for years have exploited the country and its people, that is not our problem. Unfortunately, the core of our imperialism is exactly the profits of the transnational corporations, which have never shown a bit of patriotism.

The American people are

See REESE, Page 10

Charley Reese
Columnist



THE PAMPA NEWS
403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065
806-669-2525 • 800-687-3348
Fax: 806-669-2520
email: editor1@thepampanews.com

Publisher: Randy Pribble
Managing Editor: Kerri Smith
Advertising Director: ReDonn Woods

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

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

© 2008 The Pampa News

Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

On March 2, San Antonio Express-News on problems delaying the border fence:

A project that was flawed in concept now appears to be flawed in execution. Along both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border, merchants and mayors condemned the plan to build a border fence, saying it would disrupt the flow of commerce between sister cities such as Laredo and Nuevo Laredo.

A plan to buttress the physical barrier with a virtual fence, including a network of sensors and surveillance equipment mounted on towers, was less controversial.

Ironically, however, the project gen-

erating the least opposition is now encountering logistical problems, according to federal officials.

Homeland Security officials have discovered technical problems along a stretch between Tucson and El Paso, an area where the first phase of the virtual fence was to be built.

The problems, most of them involving the use of "inappropriate" software, surfaced when legislators questioned security officials during a recent House subcommittee hearing, the Washington Post reported.

"While there is clear urgency of the mission, we want to make sure we do this right," Gregory Giddens, a Homeland Security official, told the Post.

Border security must be a key component of any comprehensive immigra-

tion reform package, but officials should have been more careful about proceeding with a solid, reasonable plan.

The virtual fence, originally scheduled for completion by the end of this year, has been pushed back to the end of 2011.

The government has already spent approximately \$80 million on the shaky project, with the prospect of millions more to solve the technical glitches.

Immigration reform is a hot-button issue, but there are no quick fixes, and officials do themselves no favors if they rush through projects that require due diligence. URL: <http://www.mysa.com>



THRIFTWAY
FORMERLY FRANKS THRIFTWAY

WATCH FOR OUR GRAND OPENING!

300 E. BROWN
665-5451
7 DAYS A WEEK
8AM-8PM

PRICES EFFECTIVE
MARCH 12-18, 2008

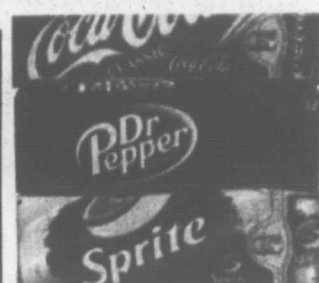
WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES NOT LIABLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL OR PICTORIAL ERRORS. WE ACCEPT LONE STAR CARDS, FOOD STAMPS AND MANUFACTURERS COUPONS. WE ALSO ACCEPT UTILITY PAYMENTS



Tortilla Chips
REGULAR \$3.49
3 for \$5



Kraft Velveeta
32 OZ. BOX
\$3.99



Coke, Sprite, Dr Pepper
12 PACK CANS
3 for \$10

REMODELING SALE

ALL FROZEN FOODS

50% OFF

No rainchecks. Excludes meat department.

GARDEN FRESH PRODUCE

FRESH Green Cabbage 5\$1 LBS.	CELLO PACK Tomatoes 4 CT. PKG. 2 FOR \$3
NEW CROP TEXAS 1015 SWEET Yellow Onions 2 LBS. \$1	FRESH BUNCH Green Onions 2 FOR \$1
SALAD SIZE Avocados 3 FOR \$1	SUPER SELECT Cucumbers 2 FOR \$1
RED RIPE Strawberries 1 LB. \$2.99	CELLO PACK Radishes 6 OZ. 2 FOR \$1
PREMIUM CELLO WRAPPED Iceberg Lettuce EACH 79¢	SNAPPING FRESH Green Beans 2 LBS. \$3
FRESH "A" SIZE New Red Potatoes LB. 69¢	YELLOW, ZUCCHINI, OR MEXICAN GREY Squash LB. 99¢
BAGGED Navel Oranges 4 LB. 2 FOR \$4	CELLO PACK PEELD Baby Carrots 1 LB. 99¢

QUALITY FRESH MEATS

FAMILY PACK BONE IN Sirloin Cut **99¢** LB.
Pork Chops

SMALL PACK BONE IN Sirloin Cut Pork Chops \$1.29 LB.	BAR 5 MEAT OR CHICKEN Jumbo Franks 99¢ 1 LB.
FRESH Pork Spareribs \$1.99 LB.	REGULAR, THICK SLICED, OR GARLIC BAR 5 Bologna 99¢ 1 LB.
FRESH Sirloin End Pork Roast 99¢ LB.	BAR 5 Chub Bologna \$4.99 5 LB.
PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS BEEF Arm Roast \$1.99 LB.	WRIGHT BRAND Sliced Ham \$2.39 1 LB.
PREFERRED TRIM T-Bone Steak \$5.99 LB.	WRIGHT BRAND HICKORY, MAPLE, OR PEPPER Stack Pack Bacon \$4.99 1.5 LB.
PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS BEEF Arm Charcoal Steak \$2.49 LB.	FAMILY PACK BURRITOS OR CHIMICHANGAS El Monterey 2 FOR \$6 40 OZ. 2 FOR
PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS BEEF Top Blade Steak \$2.79 LB.	FARMLAND REGULAR OR POLISH Smoked Sausage 2 FOR \$4 1 LB. 2 FOR
PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS BEEF Short Ribs \$2.79 LB.	FARMLAND Sliced Bacon \$2.39 12 OZ.
PILGRIM'S PRIDE JUMBO PACK Drumsticks or Thighs 89¢ LB.	WISCONSIN MARKET CUT Colby Cheese \$3.79 LB.
PILGRIM'S PRIDE SMALL PACK Drumsticks or Thighs 99¢ LB.	FARM RAISED - PRODUCT OF CHINA Tilapia Fillets \$2.79 LB.
SHURFINE POINT CUT Corned Beef Brisket \$1.69 LB.	WHITMILL SHREDED IMITATION CHEESE Cheddar or Colby-Jack \$4.59 3 LB.
FARM RAISED - PRODUCT OF U.S.A. Catfish Fillets \$2.99 LB.	FOR TAMALES Fiesta Foods Masa \$1.99 5 LB.

LONESTAR CARDS
ARE NOW AVAILABLE
& WIC WILL BE
HERE SOON!

DAIRY

WHOLE, SKIM, 1% OR 2% LOWFAT Plains Milk GALLON \$2.99
PLAIN Buttermilk HALF GAL. 2 FOR \$6
ASSORTED FLAVORS Kraft Dip 8 OZ. 5 FOR \$5
KRAFT ASSORTED FLAVORS Chunk Cheese 8 OZ. 2 FOR \$5
ASSORTED FLAVORS SunnyD Drinks 64 OZ. 2 FOR \$3
LAND O'LAKE ORIGINAL OR UNSALTED Butter Quarters 16 OZ. 2 FOR \$5

GROCERIES

CHICKEN OF THE SEA SELECT GROUP Chunk Light Tuna 6 OZ. 2 FOR \$1	ASSORTED POTATO CRISPS Pringles 5.13-6 OZ. 5 FOR \$5	MILD, MEDIUM, OR HOT Pace Picante Sauce 24 OZ. \$2.79
CHARMIN WHITE OR WHITE ULTRA Bathroom Tissue 24 ROLL 2 FOR \$10	SELECT VARIETIES Gatorade 32 OZ. 5 FOR \$5	DOÑA MARIA Nopalitos 15 OZ. 5 FOR \$5
ASSTD. 20-25 LOAD 2X LIQUID, OR 30 LOAD POWDER Cheer Detergent YOUR CHOICE \$3.99	WHITE OR SELECT-A-SIZE WHITE Bounty Paper Towels 8 ROLL \$5.99	ORIGINAL OR MESQUITE Kingsford Charcoal 8.5-9 LB. \$4.99
APRIL FRESH OR CLEAN BREEZE Downy Fabric Softener 64 OZ. \$2.99	VISTA ASSORTED Sugar Wafers 11 OZ. 2 FOR \$3	WESTERN FAMILY BASKET Coffee Filters 100 CT. 69¢
TENDER CRUST STONE GROUND Wheat Bread 24 OZ. \$1.19	ASSORTED FLAVORS ORIENTAL NOODLES Top Ramen 3 OZ. 7 FOR \$1	GRANULATED C&H Sugar 4 LB. 2 FOR \$4
SHURFINE ASSORTED POURABLE Salad Dressing 16 OZ. 4 FOR \$5	LONG SPAGHETTI OR ELBOW MACARONI Shurfine Pasta 24 OZ. 2 FOR \$3	ASSORTED MICROWAVE POPCORN Jolly Time 3-4 CT. 2 FOR \$3
RAISIN BRAN, BRAN FLAKES OR ASSORTED SHREDED WHEAT Post Cereals 16-28 OZ. 2 FOR \$5	DEL MONTE ASSORTED Spaghetti Sauce 26-26.5 OZ. 89¢	SELECT GROUP MIXED NUTS OR CASHEWS Planters Nuts 9.25-11.5 OZ. 2 FOR \$7
NABISCO ORIGINAL OR SIMPLY SOCIALS Ritz Crackers 15-16 OZ. 2 FOR \$5	30 GALLON, TALL KITCHEN, OR ULTRA FLEX Hefty Trash Bags 16-45 CT. \$6.99	GEBHARDT ORIGINAL OR JALAPEÑO Refried Beans 15.5-16 OZ. 69¢
NABISCO SELECT GROUP Chips Ahoy! Cookies 14-16 OZ. 2 FOR \$5	SELECT GROUP DICED, STEWED, OR WEDGES Del Monte Tomatoes 14.5 OZ. 5 FOR \$5	EMBASA Whole Jalapeños 26 OZ. 5 FOR \$5
	Q AND Q Long Grain Rice 32 OZ. 5 FOR \$5	MEXICAN INSTANT COFFEE Nescafé Clasico 7 OZ. \$4.99

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend, "Richie," and I have been together three years. Richie watches his pennies, so I was very surprised two days before Valentine's Day to return from a family trip and find a gorgeous vase of professionally arranged flowers and a small heart-shaped box of chocolates on my coffee table. I was very impressed, surprised and excited. I asked Richie where he got them, and he told me the name of a high-priced florist. I was off work the day before Valentine's Day, so I went out, bought expensive wine and filet mignon and made a fantastic home-cooked meal for him. When Richie got home from work, I asked him again where he got the flowers, and he again named the florist. I asked if he really went and got them, and if they were really intended for me. (It was just so out of character for him to splurge like that. The arrangement must have cost at least \$100.) When he didn't respond, I probed some more. He finally confessed they were from a funeral his parents had attended the day before I got home. Can you believe Richie was trying to pass off flowers from a complete stranger's funeral as nice flowers he got me for Valentine's Day? He lied to me. Now he says I'm ungrateful and that there's nothing wrong with what he did! I told him he is greedy and cheap, and the thoughtful thing to do with leftover funeral flowers would have been to take them to a cancer ward at a hospital or to a local nursing home. What do you think? Am I overreacting? I'm afraid this may be a deal-breaker. -- ANN IN GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

DEAR ANN: You're not overreacting. Your feelings are justified. You now know exactly what kind of things Richie is capable of -- and being generous to make you

happy is not on his agenda. Wake up and smell the flowers. You have glimpsed what your future will be like if you marry him. When it comes to making you happy, Richie will always be playing the angles, and you will be shortchanged because he is cheap.

DEAR ABBY: Will you please suggest a response that will end the conversation when someone comments in a negative way on how young I look, and asks what I have done? I'm 69, but look a decade younger. I grew up plain and poor, but became a successful professional and changed my appearance. I have had hair and makeup lessons, advice on clothing and cosmetic surgery. I often receive rude comments from both strangers and acquaintances who have chosen to age "naturally." I'm not interested in answering their sly questions about cosmetic surgery, but because I'm usually accosted in social settings, I don't want to be rude. I just want to make them realize that I consider their questions impolite and want them to shut up. Any ideas? -- PRETTY CAN BE BOUGHT, WACO, TEXAS

DEAR PRETTY (Regardless of how you got that way): Has it not occurred to you to be proud of what you have accomplished? You are a successful professional, and you should enjoy it and all of the "perks" that go with it. You may have grown up plain and poor, but you have turned yourself into a "swan." Why are you defensive about it? If you can help another woman by sharing information, it would be the generous thing to do.

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



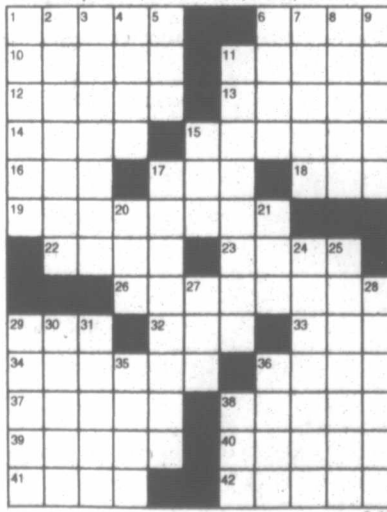
Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Horn
 - 6 Burr-
 - 10 Diary
 - 11 "My Name Is Earl"
 - 12 Pal of Aramis
 - 13 Make law
 - 14 Victim
 - 15 "Broke-back Mountain"
 - 16 Squeak stopper
 - 17 Plop down
 - 18 Application line
 - 19 Praised
 - 22 Meat cut
 - 23 Perp
 - 26 Got drunk
 - 29 Coffee holder
 - 32 Trifle
 - 33 Mayo buy
 - 34 Lined up
 - 36 Kilauea flow
 - 37 Trout's place
 - 38 Telescope sight
 - 39 Some college students
- DOWN**
- 1 Oolong brewer
 - 2 Before the bench
 - 3 Desdemona's husband
 - 4 Paris' home
 - 5 Method-Abbr.
 - 6 "Phooey!"
 - 7 Russian range
 - 8 Game leader
 - 9 Paint base
 - 11 Fort Knox
 - 15 Lend a hand
 - 17 Capitol group
 - 20 Young fox
 - 21 "The Gold Bug"
 - 24 "A Mind to Murder"
 - 25 Most charming
 - 27 Without delay
 - 28 Babbles
 - 29 Greek sorceress
 - 30 Merger
 - 31 Like main roads
 - 35 Cincinnati team
 - 36 Ear part
 - 38 Swindle

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

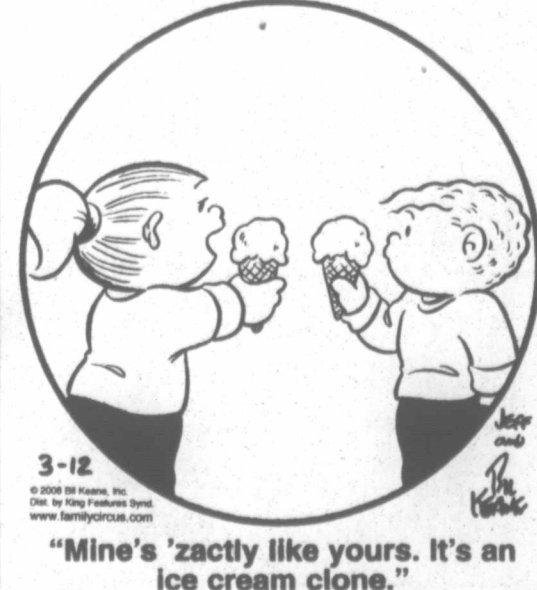


Marmaduke

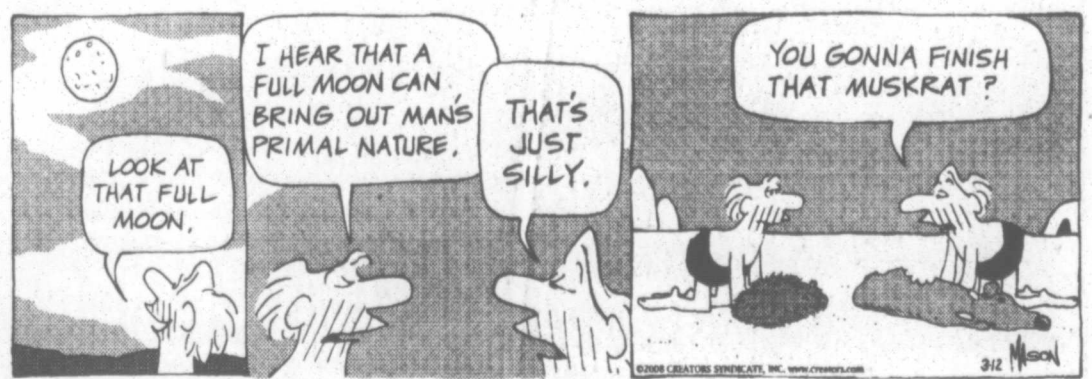


The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports

OPTIMIST 9-10 CAL RIPKEN LEAGUE

Harley Knutson announced as commissioner

Harley Knutson is the new Commissioner of the Optimist 9-10 Cal Ripken Baseball League, Optimist President John Warner announced Tuesday.

Knutson has been an Optimist member for 39 years. He coached his sons, Mike, Brad and Brandon in Optimist baseball for 10 years. His daughter, Scherri Wilson, also played in the Optimist program. Knutson served as Babe Ruth Commissioner for three years and was President of the American League when the Optimist Club was a part of the Little League program.

A past President of the

Optimist Club, Knutson is currently serving on the Board of Directors and is the Chair of the Nominating Committee.

He and his wife, Joy, are members of the Bible Church of Pampa, where Knutson served on the Board of Elders for 24 years. He has been a Gideon member for the past 14 years and has brought the Gideon message to many churches in this area.

"All of our boys developed their talents through playing ball in the Optimist program," Knutson said. "They also learned how to deal with the problems of every day life through base-

ball. They came to realize how important it is for adults to work with young kids and set an example for them.

"The kids experience winning and losing," Knutson continued. "And they learn about right and wrong through baseball. The lessons they learn on the baseball field carry over into their everyday lives."

Registration and tryouts for baseball and softball for boys and girls five to 15 years of age continue today and tomorrow from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Optimist Park.

The Pampa Optimist Youth Club is a Pampa United Way agency.

Optimist Club registration continues

On the first day of tryouts registration for Pampa Optimist Baseball/Softball 2008 soared past the 400 mark as 56 more players signed up making the total 452, according to Jody Clendennen, one of the registrars.

Registration will continue as tryouts are conducted from 5:30 to 7 p.m. today and tomorrow. All players are required to register in order to be eligible to play this season.

"We have 113 players in T-ball," Clendennen said, "77 in pitching machine, 66 in the 9-10 Cal Ripken League, 51 in the 11-12 Cal Ripken League and 50 in the Babe Ruth League."

Clendennen continued,

"We had a large group of girls sign up Tuesday bringing the total for girls' softball to 95."

"We are expecting a team from Perryton, one from Clarendon and one from Claude to compete in our Babe Ruth League this year," said Optimist Baseball Commissioner Kevin Davis.

Miami and Lefors are attempting to combine their players to form teams in the T-ball league, the 9-10 Cal Ripken League and the 11-12 Girls' Softball League. Players from Skellytown, Lefors and Miami have already registered for other leagues.

Darrin Clendennen, the Commissioner for the 11-12 Cal Ripken League said,

"We are looking at the possibility of playing teams from Claude, Clarendon, Panhandle, White Deer and McLean either as part of our league play or as optional games on weekends. Our teams are excited about the possibility. We are trying to get it worked out."

Players nine through 15 years of age who did not play in Pampa last year or who are moving up to a new league are required to attend two of the three tryouts sessions. The coaches conducting the tryouts recommend that players bring a glove, tennis or baseball shoes and a light jacket.

The Pampa Optimist Youth Club is a Pampa United Way agency.

Girls' soccer played Randall

by KATHERINE FLANARY Sports Editor

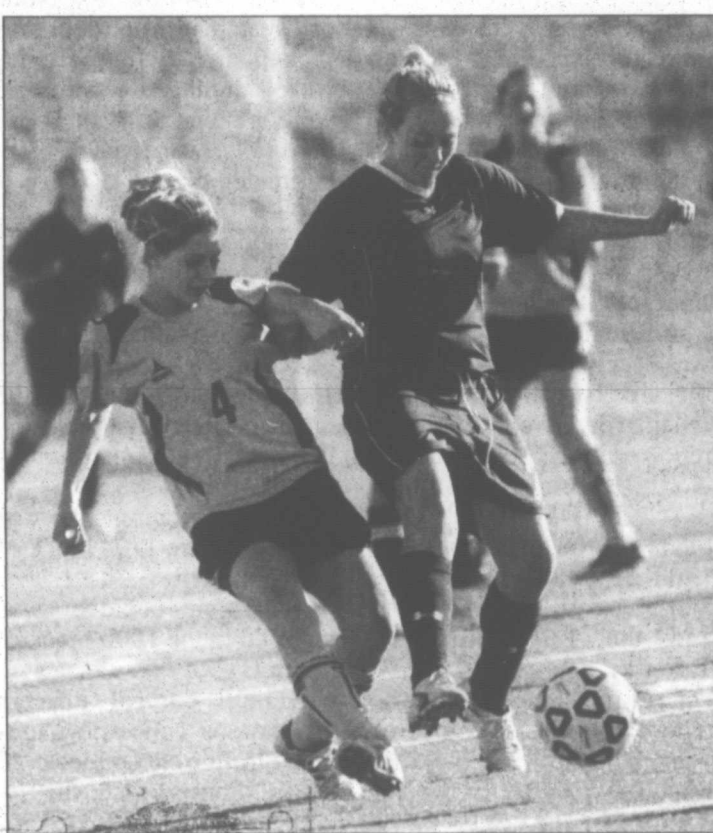
In Thursday's game against the Randall Raiders, the Lady Harvesters lost 3-0.

In the first half, the Lady Harvesters' defense was strong, only allowing one goal to be made by the Lady Raiders.

The Lady Harvesters defense stayed strong during the second half as well.

The Lady Harvesters will be playing in their last district game on Saturday at noon. They will face Palo Duro.

The Harvesters will follow, also playing Palo Duro, at 2 p.m.



Pampa News photo by KATHERINE FLANARY

A Lady Harvester defends the ball against the Randall Raiders in Thursday's game. The Lady Harvesters lost their game, 3-0. The Lady Harvesters will be playing in their last district game versus Palo Duro Saturday in Pampa at noon.

Aggies, Hogs renewing football rivalry

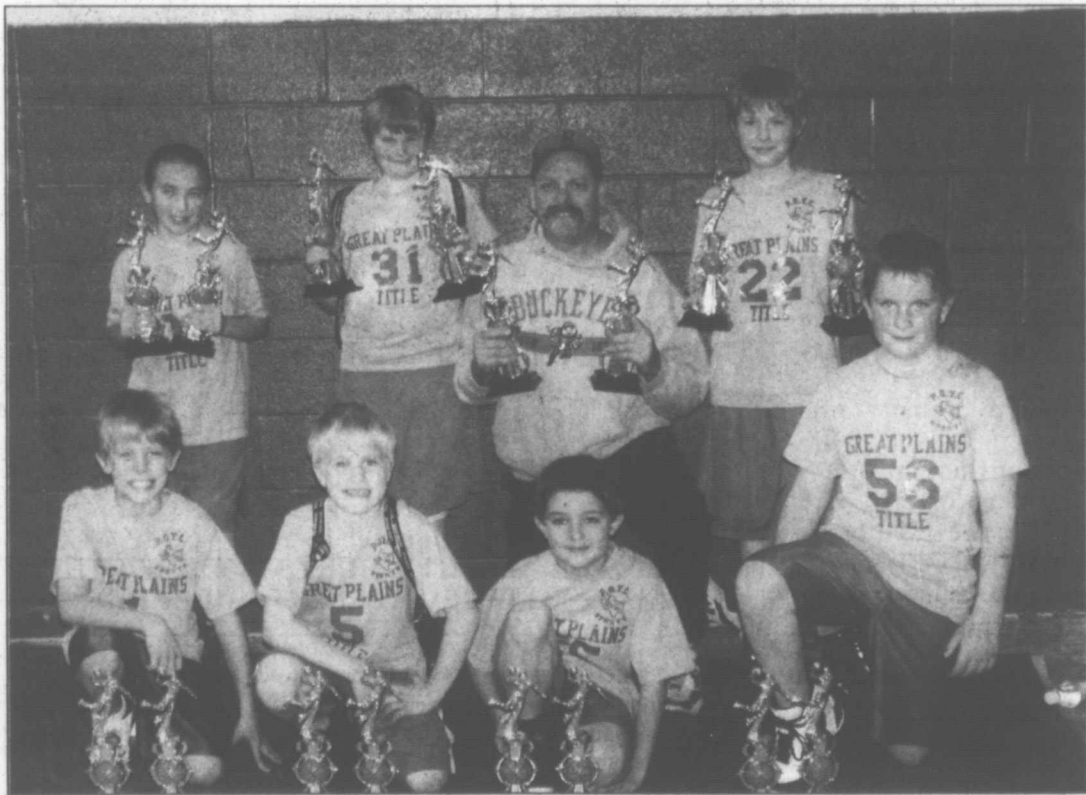
ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Former Southwest Conference foes Texas A&M and Arkansas are revising their football rivalry, beginning in 2009 in the NFL's newest stadium.

The schools announced Monday, at the site of the new Dallas Cowboys' stadium,

um, that they have a "long-term agreement" to play games at the stadium that will open in 2009. The first game will be Oct. 3, 2009.

"We're excited about it," said Cowboys owner Jerry Jones, who was a co-captain on Arkansas' 1964 national championship team.

Buckeyes



Courtesy Photo


The Great Plains Abstract and Title Buckeyes are the League Champs for the second year in a row. They are also the Optimist Tournament Champs for the second year.

Irish



Courtesy Photo

The K.C. Enterprise Irish came in second in the Optimist Tournament.



Pampa Flowers & Greenhouse



March 17th
Send some
GREEN for
St. Patrick's Day!


410 E Foster Ave • 669-3334
www.pampaflowers.com
member of the Flower Shop Network

CHIEF PLASTIC

PIPE & SUPPLY INC.

1237 SOUTH BARNES
806-665-6716 OR 800-849-6716

"Your Total Plumbing Store"



DWR FITTINGS


&

SDR 35

SEWER FITTINGS & PIPE

NORWESCO SEPTIC TANK

Available In 1000, 500 or 300



BIO Diffusion Panels,
SDR35 Pipe
In Perforated Or Solid

RETIREMENT MAY BE FAR OFF, BUT THE APRIL 15 DEADLINE FOR IRA CONTRIBUTIONS ISN'T.

You only have so many years to prepare for retirement. That's why contributing to your IRA is so important. Fortunately, you still have time to maximize your 2007 IRA contribution before the April 15 deadline.

By contributing now, your retirement savings will have more opportunity to grow. Even if you already have an IRA elsewhere, it's easy to transfer to an Edward Jones IRA and begin receiving the face-to-face advice you deserve.

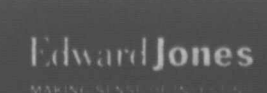
To learn more about the advantages of an Edward Jones IRA, call or visit today.

Ben Watson
408 W Kingsmill Suite 197A
Pampa, TX 79065
806-665-3359

Duane Harp
1921 N Hobart
Pampa, TX 79065
806-665-6753

www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC

Tom Reynolds
1540 North Hobart
Pampa, TX 79065
806-665-7137



Lance Mackey wins second straight Iditarod

NOME, Alaska (AP) — Lance Mackey won his second consecutive Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race on Wednesday morning, completing the 1,100-mile journey in just under 9 1/2 days.

The 37-year-old throat cancer survivor and 11 dogs crossed the finish line under Nome's buried arch at 2:46 a.m. ADT Wednesday.

He yelled "Yeah, baby!" as he drove his team down Nome's Front Street. Fans mobbed him along the final 10 blocks, whooping and cheering and slapping his hand while chanting his name.

"I'm not much to brag very often, but damn, I'm going to this time," said Mackey, from Fairbanks, whose father and brother are past Iditarod winners. "I don't know exactly how to explain it. I'm just blessed with an incredible dog team."

In its 36th running, the Iditarod commemorates a run by sled dogs in 1925 to deliver lifesaving diphtheria serum to Nome.

Mackey's win was a repeat of his 2007 feat, when he became the first musher to win back-to-back runs in the 1,000-mile Yukon Quest International Sled Dog Race and the Iditarod. Last month, he won his fourth straight Yukon Quest and headed into the Iditarod, aiming for another double win.



Good Sam donation

Courtesy Photo
Carl Williamson recently presented a \$5,000 check to Joy Bivens, volunteer executive director of Good Samaritan. Pictured from left are Williamson, Bivens, and Good Sam Board members Karen Lang, vice president; James Richardson, president; Bina Shaw; Rev. Linda Kelly and Rev. Jimmie Cole.

Emergency Services

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

Tuesday, March 11

9:41 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a location west on Highway 60 and transported a patient(s) to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

10:51 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient(s) to BSA Hospital in Amarillo.

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests.

Monday, March 10

Jose Alonzo Layve, 19, of Pampa was arrested in the 800 block of Gordon by Pampa Police Department for failure to identify as a fugitive with intent to give false information and minor in possession.

David Rolf Robertson, 61, of Pampa was arrested in the 1000 block of North Hobart by PPD for driving while intoxicated.

Tuesday, March 11

Donald George Mitchell, 40, of Lake St. Louis, Mo., was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety for possession of marijuana.

Gaspar Antonio Olivias, 19, of Pampa was arrested in the 300 block of West Brown by Pampa Police Department for no driver's license, no insurance and defective equipment (brake lights).

Steven Craig Angel, 41, of Pampa was arrested in the 1300 block of North Christine by PPD for three counts of failure to appear and bond surrenders for unrestrained child under 4 years of age in vehicle, expired motor vehicle inspection, no valid driver's license, failure to maintain financial responsibility, expired registration and failure to yield right-of-way while making a left turn.

Nicholas Craig Littlefield, 23, of Pampa was arrested in the 700 block of East Crawford by PPD for theft of property over \$50 and under \$500.

Wednesday, March 12

Casey Shaneil Richardson, 32, of Pampa was arrested in the 1400 block of West Buckler by PPD for possession of a controlled substance and a probation violation for driving while intoxicated with child passenger.

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents from 12 a.m. Sunday through 7 a.m. today.

Sunday, March 9

Twelve traffic stops were made. One stop in the 800 block of West Wilks resulted in citations being issued to two subjects for possession of drug paraphernalia and an open container.

An arrest was made in the 1200 block of South Hobart for failure to identify and two warrants.

Driving while intoxicated was reported in the 100 block of West 23rd Avenue. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the 800 block of North Nelson, the intersection of Murphy and Henry streets, and the intersection of Foster and West streets.

Agency assistance was rendered at the intersection of 23rd and Mary Ellen streets. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Animal control officers

made stops concerning animals in the 800 block of South Faulkner, the 400 block of Magnolia and at Recreation Park, 1600 E. Highway 60.

Welfare checks were made in the 1000 block of Brunow and the 1100 block of Varnon Drive.

A civil matter was reported in the 1500 block of Williston.

One warrant service was attempted and resulted in at least one arrest.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 1100 block of South Hobart and the 600 block of East Frederic.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from Recreation Park and the 1000 block of Crane Road.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 300 block of North Hobart.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 600 block of South Gray, the intersection of Duncan and Worrell streets, and the 1300 block of Barrett.

Telephone harassment was reported in the 500 block of Doucette.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 600 block of Doucette. The rear window of a vehicle was broken and upholstery inside the vehicle was torn. Estimated cost of damage is \$1,300.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 600 block of North Starkweather. The right side of a vehicle was keyed. Estimated cost of damage is \$1,000.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 300 block of North Perry. The right front tire of a vehicle was punctured. Estimated cost of damage is \$100.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of North Nelson.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 2300 block of Mary Ellen. The incident involved a verbal argument only.

Assault was reported in the 1000 block of North Sumner.

Aggravated assault with a deadly weapon was reported in the 100 block of East Worrell. The victims were shot at by a person who was arrested in connection with the incident. No injuries were reported.

One alarm was reported. Two building checks were conducted.

Burglary was reported in the 1500 block of Hamilton.

Monday, March 10

Eight traffic stops were made.

Traffic complaints were received from the 900 block of Denver and the 100 block of North Warren.

Driving while intoxicated was reported in the 1000 block of North Hobart. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 1200 block of North Russell, the 400 block of North Doyle, the 800 block of South Faulkner, the 700 block of West Wilks, the 1200 block of North Russell, the 1100 block of Hamilton, the 1100 block of Sirroco, twice in the 700 block of North Gray, once in the 400 block of Hughes, the 400 block of Jean, the 1200 block of East Foster, the 1200 block of East Kingsmill and the 1200 block of North Wells.

Agency assistance was rendered at the intersection

of Barnes and Craven streets, the 1600 block of Williston and in McLean.

Welfare checks were made at the intersection of Harvester and Hamilton streets, the intersection of Kentucky and Hobart streets, and the 500 block of Hazel.

A runaway was reported in the 2100 block of North Banks.

One warrant service was attempted and resulted in at least one arrest.

A suspicious person call was received from the 1200 block of North Hobart.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 700 block of East Albert, the 400 block of Lowry and the 1900 block of Dogwood.

Failure to identify as a fugitive was reported in the 800 block of Gordon. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 1000 block of Huff Road.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1000 block of North Hobart, the 700 block of North Davis, the 2200 block of North Sumner, the 1500 block of Coffee, the 800 block of East Browning and the 1300 block of Terrace.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of West Kingsmill. A building was spray painted. Estimated cost of damage is \$150.

Criminal mischief was reported in the police department lobby. The front of Julie's Hallmark, 125 W. Kingsmill, was spray painted. Estimated cost of damage is \$1,000.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 900 block of Llano and at Pampa High School, 111 E. Harvester.

Harassment was reported in the 1100 block of North Russell.

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

Assault was reported twice in the 400 block of North Doyle. Minor injuries which did not require medical attention were reported in connection with the inci-

dent. Assault was reported in the 2200 block of North Sumner. Minor injuries to an arm and face were reported in connection with the incident.

One alarm was reported. Theft was reported in the 900 block of Llano. A light cover over the front of a motorcycle was taken. Estimated value of loss is \$100.

Burglary was reported in the 1100 block of Darby. The address at which the incident occurred is in the 400 block of Crest. The front door was kicked in, picture frames were broken on the floor and pictures were torn up. Estimated cost of damage is \$100.

Fraud was reported in the police department lobby.

Tuesday, March 11

Twenty-seven traffic stops were made. Stops in the 1000 block of Finley and the intersection of Cuyler and Brown streets resulted in arrests.

A traffic complaint was reported in the 1300 block of North Russell.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 1000 block of South Banks.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 900 block of North Somerville, the intersection of 18th and Banks streets, the 1100 block of Cinderella, the 1200 block of East Foster, the intersection of Farley and McCullough streets, the 700 block of North Zimmers, the 1200 block of South Nelson, the 1500 block of North Hobart, the 1100 block of East Browning, twice in the 1000 block of Varnon Drive and once in the 1000 block of South Banks.

Found property was reported in the 3100 block of Duncan.

Welfare checks were made in the 1100 block of Darby, the 700 block of North Naida and the

1900 block of North Banks. An arrest was made in connection with the incident in the 1900 block of North Banks.

Civil matters were reported in the 400 block of Doyle, the 900 block of South Wells and the 700 block of North Christy.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 600 block of East Frederic and the 100 block of South Cuyler.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 100 block of East Craven, the 900 block of East Frederic and Recreation Park, 1600 E. Highway 60.

A prowler was reported in the 1900 block of North Christy.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 200 block of North Cuyler.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 1200 block of North Russell.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 2400 block of Charles, the 700 block of North Davis and twice in the 700 block of Bradley Drive.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of Locust, the 900 block of East Frederic and the 600 block of South Russell.

Harassment was reported in the police department lobby.

A domestic disturbance was reported at the intersection of Somerville and Montagu streets.

Assault on a family member was reported in the 800 block of North Christy. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Forgery was reported at Allsup's, 140 S. Starkweather. The incident involved counterfeit money representing a value of \$20.

Two gas drive-offs were reported at Allsup's, 1025 W. Wilks.

Theft was reported in the 300 block of Anne and the 1800 block of North Banks.

Wednesday, March 12

Three traffic stops were made.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 1800 block of Alcock and the 300 block of South Starkweather.

A suspicious person call was received from the intersection of Buckler and Wells streets. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the intersection of Cuyler and Francis streets.

A prowler was reported in the 700 block of East 14th.

Harassment was reported in the 1100 block of South Dwight.

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

3-12 CRYPTOQUOTE
BJP FDOP LPULSP AJU NDT
HPTC UBJPQF PKPQCBJYTM
DQP EDOUGF EUQ QPEGFYTM
BJPOFPSKPF TUBJYTM

— SPYMJ JGTB
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: IF YOU WANT WORK DONE WELL, SELECT A BUSY MAN. THE OTHER KIND HAS NO TIME. — ELBERT HUBBARD

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, March 13, 2008:

The intensity of your focus defines your success this year. Prioritize knowing what is important and what is frivolous. You often reverse directions out of the blue. It cannot be said that you don't know what you want, but the course you choose could change without notice. Let yourself be spontaneous. If you are single, you might have many choices, so much so that you might become overwhelmed. Just don't move into a relationship too quickly. If you are attached, the two of you will be updating your digs, creating much more of what you both desire. By working together on heartfelt projects, your bond strengthens. GEMINI understands far more than you think.

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) ★★★★★ You see situations transform right in front of you. A partner or loved one seems to be full of energy and quite challenging. Keep communication flowing, as you have a lot to learn and gain. Think about what is not being said. Tonight: Return calls.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ Curb a tendency to go overboard. A little restraint could make you a lot happier in the long run. Know what you want and expect. You will find zeroing in on it could be a lot easier. A friend might surprise you with his or her actions. Tonight: Your treat.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Others respond to your inquiries. A partnership is unusually sup-

portive and interesting. A boss could act in a most unanticipated manner. A positive attitude will draw the same end results. Tonight: A must appearance.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ Listen to your instincts with a friend. Messages could appear odd, especially those coming from someone who is distant or quite different.

Understanding colors your actions and attitudes. Try not to be reactive. Tonight: Some personal time.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ You might want to aim for more of what you want. If you find that a partner is touchy or difficult, try to have a conversation to root out the real issue.

Your creativity will flourish if you are open and direct. Give a key loved one some space. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ Take a stand and remain sensitive to what is happening around you. You might need to take a stand, even if you would prefer not to. You could be cornered or feel as if you are in a pressure cooker. Tonight: A must appearance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Allow your mind to wander.

As you drift, unexpected ideas punctuate your thoughts. You might be surprised by an event in your daily life or by a co-worker. Flow with unpredictability. Go with the moment. Tonight: Put on a favorite song and let your mind drift.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ Work as a duo and get to the bottom of a problem that might be intimidating. Your honesty and willingness to correct your errors separate you from the majority. A child or loved one might be testy. Tonight: Focus on a special person.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ How you see a conflict could be much different from the way someone else sees it. Listen to a partner, and you might be amazed at how many perspectives are available. Unexpected insights might have you heading in a new direction. Tonight: Say yes to an offer.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ Emphasize the quality of your daily life, and make choices accordingly. Listen to what is being shared by your immediate friends and co-workers. You discover that what you depended on might not come through for you. Tonight: Start making an evening walk an institution.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ Your sense of amusement comes through even in the worst of crunches. Clearly you need not understand every detail of a touchy money situation; although, give up risking. Be playful and enjoy. Tonight: If you hit a barricade, start brainstorming.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ Maintain a low profile, and understand what you want. Sometimes you become overwhelmed by what is going on in your immediate circle. Family can be disruptive, encouraging you to approach a situation differently. Tonight: Home is where the heart is.

BORN TODAY
Baseball player Will Clark (1964), singer Neil Sedaka (1939), actress Rachael Bella (1984) ***

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.

© 2008 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Antiqu Sa H
Americ Cabin
"Symp
Antiqu Work
Parlor
Chairs
Stacki
Authe
Action
"Colt"
1894
Guns
Antiqu Collec
Cut (Cast
Wind
Bring must
ments
adver
Mak
Au
BU
ALL
\$800
30 ma
625-5
AME
tribut
\$5 it
Free
Conti
TIMI
ways
conn
1-864
BUY
tang
95 M
avail
544-
DRIV
charg
minit
www
DRI
team
lent
1-80
DRU
Earn
Need
Truc
NOT
cont

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!



Family Easter Egg Hunt
at MEMORY GARDENS CEMETERY
23rd St and Price Road, North Empty Lot
Saturday March 15th - Starting at 11a.m.



HUNT FOR EGGS
 WITH KIDS NEAR YOUR
 OWN AGE

SPECIAL EGG
 HUNT FOR
 PARENTS

In case of inclement weather will be Sun. March 16th at 2:00p.m.

CREATIVE APPLICATIONS

Cotton: Body armor for physical wounds?

By **DON COMIS**
 ARS News

Cotton fabrics that might save lives on the battlefield — and make people more comfortable in hospital beds — are being developed by Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists.

ARS chemist J. Vincent Edwards at the ARS Southern Regional Research Center in New Orleans, La., is testing specially-treated cotton fabrics that might someday be made into military uniforms and gauze pads that can stanch bleeding, prevent infections and promote healing. His fabrics can also be made into hospital sheets that are highly absorbent, smooth, soft and antibacterial, to treat or even prevent bed sores.

To impart antibacterial and blood-clotting properties, Edwards uses chitosan, a carbohydrate in shrimp shells. He has developed a technique to more uniformly distribute the chitosan in cotton fabric, compared with the chitosan-treated cotton gauze pads currently on the market. This innovation should lead to more effective cotton wound dressings and improved high-tech military clothing.

The work builds on Edwards' previous invention of a treated cotton gauze pad that also promotes healing — even of deep and painful bed sores. Paradoxically, although the body rushes protease enzymes to such wound sites to promote healing, sending too many of them can create excess inflammation and actually prevent healing.

Edwards achieved the healing effect by treating gauze pads with negatively charged phosphoric acid, which pulls positively charged excess proteases out of a wound. His research has shown that the improved gauze dressings may also attract protein-building macrophages necessary for skin to heal.

Tissue Technologies of Richmond, Va., has the licensing rights to the ARS-patented, protease-absorbing technology and

has sublicensed it to a manufacturer and marketer. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved the gauze bandage in 2006.

Read more about the research in the February 2008 issue of Agricultural Research magazine.

ARS is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific research agency.

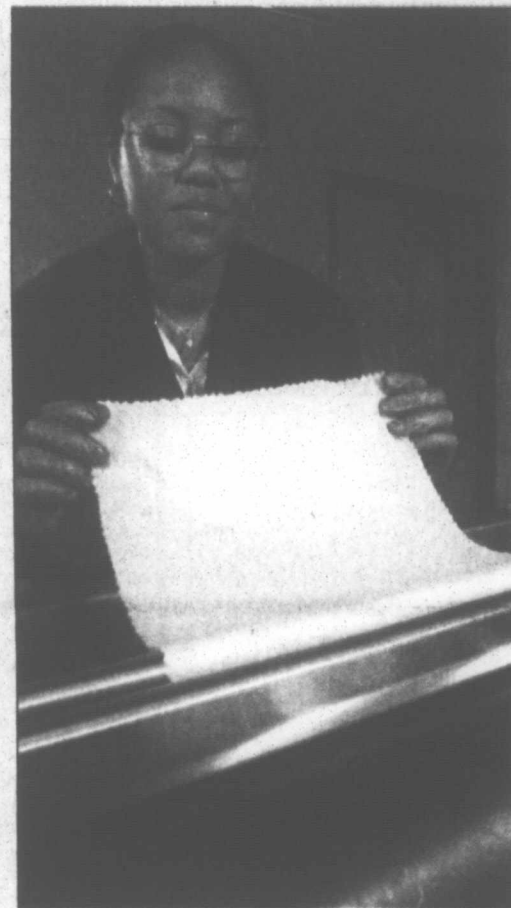


Photo by PEGGY GREB

Chemist Nicolette Prevost treats cotton fabrics with a chitosan formulation, which is designed to confer blood-clotting and antibacterial properties on wound dressings and specialty garments.

Events calendar

• **AARP will offer tax preparation** for seniors and taxpayers with limited income between now April 15 at three locations in Amarillo — at Amarillo Senior Citizens Center, 1220 Polk, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; at Amarillo Northeast Library, 1504 NE 24th, 12:30-4:30 p.m., Mondays and Tuesdays; and at Amarillo Southwest Library, 6801 W. 45th, from 12-4 p.m., Wednesdays. Participants must bring their W-2s or 1099s, Social Security cards, picture ID and copy of last year's tax return.

• **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.

• **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.

• **Memory Gardens Cemetery** in Pampa will host a family Easter egg

hunt starting at 11 a.m. March 15. Activities include egg hunt, bouncer 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.

• **The next "Living Room Concert,"** produced by High Plains Public Radio, is scheduled March 17 at the Amarillo HPPR studio and will feature singer/songwriter Cosy Sheridan. Doors will open at 7 p.m. followed by the concert at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Admission is free, but donations are encouraged.

• **The Red Hat Dollies Society** of Pampa will meet at 11:30 a.m. March 20 at Pampa Senior Citizens Center.

• **Scholarships are currently available for grant-writing workshops** March 25-26 in Dallas and March 27-28 in Houston. The partial scholarships are available to nonprofit and faith-based organizations, government agencies, schools and students. For more information, call 1-800-371-5703 or visit www.zockgrant.com on the internet.

• **The deadline to register for a free Watershed Workshop** is March 28. The workshop will be from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. April 2 in the Pilot's Lounge at Curtis Field in Brady. Continuing education units will be awarded in soil and water management to certified crop advisors, to certified science teachers and to general Texas Department of Agriculture pesticide license holders. A meal will be provided. To register or for more information, call (979) 862-8072 or e-mail jjpeteron@ag.tamu.edu.

Reese

Continued from Page 4

right to believe that their own government no longer represents their interests. It, in fact, does not. It represents the interests of the moneylenders and the transnational corporations. It's not Chavez's fault that we are paying so much for gasoline. It's the fault of the transnational companies and the speculators on Wall Street, all of whom are making obscene profits.

Unfortunately, the American oligarchs seem to have a tight grip on both major parties. They also own the major media. That's why Americans are always denied a true choice and even an opportunity to have an honest debate on the issue of foreign policy. Instead, the oligarchs make sure there is always an enemy at the gates to scare the American people into blindly following the path of imperialism.

The kinds of public officials the oligarchs prefer are, first of all, crooks who will take their bribes. If not that, then someone who is easily manipulated. If not that, then someone who is stupid. As for the voters, the oligarchs

prefer ignorance and selfishness, which is why they have removed every single requirement to be a voter. What this country needs are

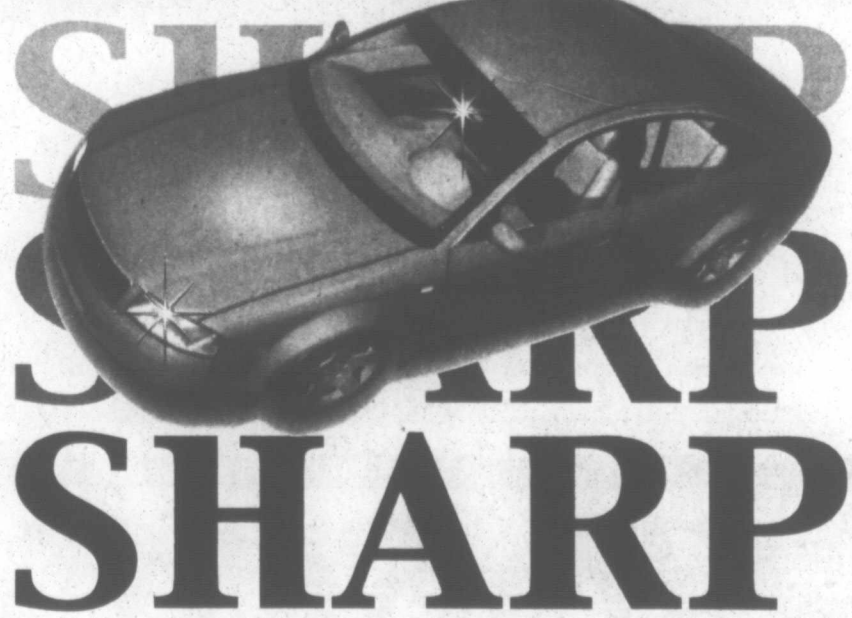
more isolationists.
 —Write to Charley Reese
 at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando,
 FL 32802.

limited time only

SWEET CINNAMON PASTRY BITES
 SERVED WARM WITH A SIDE OF
 VANILLA CREME ICING

SONIC 1404 N. Hobart • 669-3171
 PAMPA

KEEP YOUR VEHICLE SHOWROOM



"Minor" problems like door dings, hail damage or paint scratches are a big deal when you care about your car. That's why we're

here to help. We offer paintless dent repair service, with no filling, grinding or repainting, so your car won't lose its lustrous factory finish! We also do collision



work and insurance repairs, and estimates are always free. If you take pride in your vehicle's appearance you'll want to bring it to Culberson Stowers Collision Repair Shop, where we're just as obsessed with appearance as you are!

Culberson - Stowers, Inc.
 SINCE 1927
Collision Repair Facility