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HIGH 66

See expanded weather on Page 2

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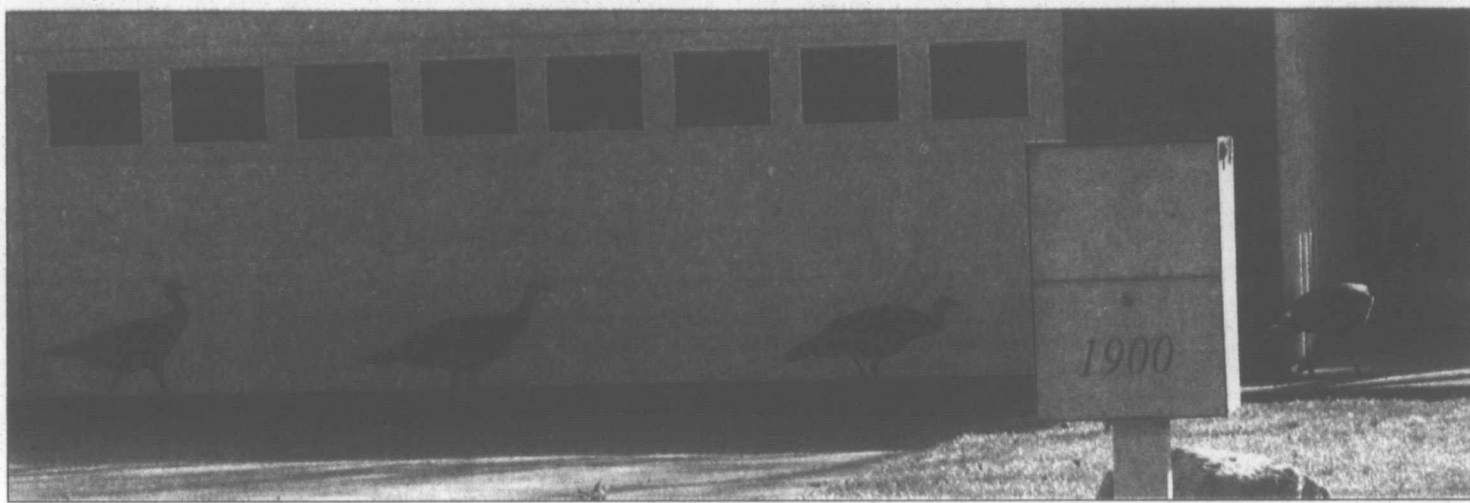
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Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
Wild turkeys are a familiar sight in and near Pampa. Some people enjoy the feathered visitors, while others, including some at Pampa Country Club, have issues with the mess the birds leave behind.

Wild turkeys Enjoyment for some, nuisance for others

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Wild turkeys have become a familiar sight in Pampa and the immediate area, and their presence has caused both delight and dismay.

"They tear the greens up," said Janet Stone, manager of Pampa Country Club. "Our board has called the wildlife office to see if they can be trapped and moved out. There are usually about 100 turkeys here every morning.

It started out being 10 turkeys or so."

One problem caused by the turkeys' presence at the country club is a result of what they leave behind.

"Turkey poop is black," Stone said. "It's on the greens and sidewalks."

It doesn't sound very pleasant to walk in such ordure or have one's golf ball land in it.

"We need to get them out of here before our tourna-

ments start," Stone said.

"They leave their droppings all over the place," said Trey Adams, country club groundskeeper. "One day, I counted 152 in one group here."

"I talked to the Texas Parks and Wildlife representative here, and he said we could try to scare them from their roost, but that's the only option we've been given," Adams said.

The turkeys' winter habi-

tat, ranging from the country club to parts of Pampa, is within city limits and other limits, as well.

"One thing we will not do See Turkeys, Page 3

Tariff increase sought

No higher rates, says Xcel official

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

Xcel Energy has filed for a new tariff rate, but company officials said it wouldn't raise rates.

The tariff request was filed Feb. 27, he said.

"As a result of this proposed revision," said Pat Rendon, community service manager for Xcel Energy/SPS, "no customer rate will increase."

He said the proposed revision would produce lower bills for certain electric customers.

Rendon said the electric company is asking that cities take no action to approve, See Tariff, Page 3

Local match would establish \$100,000 community fund

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

The Amarillo Area Foundation is offering to help Pampa establish a \$100,000 community fund.

Shane Stokes, community relations director for the city, told the Pampa City Commission Tuesday afternoon, that the Amarillo Area Foundation is offering \$50,000 in matching funds to help Pampa start a community fund to help with local projects.

"Amarillo Area Foundation has about \$180 million in assets," Stokes

said, "and they give away between eight and ten million dollars a year. About 50 percent of that is given outside of Amarillo, but within the top 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle."

He said they are trying to encourage communities around Amarillo to establish their own community funds.

"They've offered to help communities raise \$50,000," Stokes said, "and then the Amarillo Area Foundation and Don and Sybil Harrington Foundation will match that \$50,000 with another \$50,000."

Among of the stipulations is that a 501c3 corporation must be formed and a committee of at least five people from the community must direct the fund.

The foundation suggests that the city commission, school district, county, hospital and economic development corporation or chamber of commerce be represented on the committee.

The community fund would be held by the Amarillo Area Foundation and the local committee could make recommendations how the money could be spent in the community.

"What the Amarillo Area Foundation is doing is offering to match \$50,000 for every community in the panhandle," Stokes said. "They did this last year. They had a good response -- half the communities. The other half is what they're targeting this year."

The money would be invested. Stokes said they have two different options. The first is in bank certificates of deposit, which is now returning about 3.5 percent interest. The second option is mutual funds,



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
Members and sponsors of Pampa High School's Student Crime Stoppers include, front row from left Pampa Police Officer Michael Ryan, Tyler Morris Colby Copeland, David Soto and Carlos Regalado Middle row from left are Stephanie Elaine Jasso Kiersten Taylor and Sarah Catherine Smith. Top row from left are J.J. Slatten and Melody Youree. Not shown are Ed Copeland, Krissy Ryan and PPC Officer Neal Gardner.

Crime Stoppers plan lock-in for teen-agers

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

An all-night lock-in for junior high and high school students will be from 9:30 p.m. Sunday to 6 a.m. Monday at Cinema 4 movie theater in Coronado Center.

The lock-in will feature movies and dancing, and refreshments will be available. A halo tournament will be held, with \$75 going to the winner, said Pampa Police Department Officer Michael Ryan.

The event is sponsored by Pampa High School's Student Crime Stoppers, of See Lock-in, Page 3

City Commissioner only contested race

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

There will be only one contested race for city commission this spring.

Incumbent City Commissioner Bill Allison is being challenged by Pampa businessman Shawn Clifton for Ward 2.

City Commissioner Neil Fulton of Ward 4, the only other commissioner up for election this spring, is unopposed.

Monday was the final day for filing for the election, according to city officials.

The May 10 election ballot will also include a proposition to freeze ad valorem taxes for the disabled and residents 65 or older.

Pampa Chamber of Commerce Luncheon

March 18th at 11:45 a.m. in the M.K. Brown room, 200 N. Ballard.

Speaker will be John Horst with the City of Pampa.




Meal provided by R&R Catering will include CFS, Mashed Potato w/Gravy, Beans & Salad. Public is welcome, Please RSVP at 669-3241 by March 14th.

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NEXT DAY FORECAST

Saturday	Sunday	Monday
		
Sunny	Partly sunny	Cloudy

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 60. Wind chill values between 27 and 37 early. North wind 5 to 15 mph becoming east-southeast. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 39. Wind chill values between 31 and 36. Southeast wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 61. Windy, with a south-southeast wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Sunday Night: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Monday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 39.

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Wheat	11.97	Anadarko	64.50	-1.49
Milo	8.87	XOM	85.86	-1.19
Corn	9.76	Nat'l Oilwell	59.76	-1.81
Soybeans	12.13	Limited	15.81	-0.20
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa		Williams	33.70	-0.74
OXY	76.20	MCD	54.25	-0.64
BP PLC ADR	64.95	Atmos	25.63	-0.22
Cabot Corp	26.15	Pioneer Nat	48.53	-1.37
Celanese	37.40	JCP	39.18	-0.50
Cabot Oil Gas	53.01	COP	77.08	-0.94
Coca Cola	58.36	SLB	82.79	-2.37
VLO	49.35	Tenneco	24.78	-1.21
HAL	37.95	CVX	85.88	-1.16
		Wal-Mart	49.58	-1.02
		OKE	47.65	-0.63
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Obituaries

Lloyd Edward Harvey, 63



Harvey

Lloyd Edward Harvey, 63, May 31, 1968, in Stanton.

Lloyd served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War from 1968-1972. He worked in Houston as a photographer and managed Globe Discount Center's photo department.

Lloyd returned to Pampa in 1974 where he farmed his family's land until his death. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church and the Weatherly Sunday School Class.

He served on the Lovett

Library Board, the Pampa Farm Bureau Board, and the Woody Guthrie Center Board.

He was a photographer and loved to play the guitar. He was a certified ski instructor and worked as a part-time ski instructor

at Ski Apache at Ruidoso, N.M.

He was a devoted husband and father.

Survivors include his wife, Kay Harvey, of the home; one son, Rankin Harvey and wife Jennifer of

Ruidoso, N.M.; one daughter, Angela Overman of Dallas; two sisters, Mary Ann McIlvain and husband E. Jay of Victoria and Jeannine Johnson and husband Bobby of Houston; one brother, Drew Harvey and wife Paula of Pittsburgh, Pa.; and four nieces and nephews.

Lloyd was preceded in death by his parents, Lloyd and Virginia Harvey.

MEMORIALS: First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 1981, Pampa, TX 79066-1981.

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

Dr. Herman Ray VanSickle, 72



VanSickle

Dr. Herman Ray VanSickle, M.D., 72, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family and close friends on March 12, 2008, at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Longview.

He was born May 28, 1935, in Longview, Texas, son of Herman Roy and Ida Sue VanSickle. He was raised in Pampa, Texas.

Herman earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Texas at Austin and went on to earn a Medical degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston on June 10, 1963.

He then established a 38-year medical practice in Longview, Texas, which included serving as Chief of Staff at Good Shepherd Medical Center, Local Delegate to Texas Medical Association, long-time Gregg County doctor and served as the Longview High School Athletic Doctor.

He served as a Lieutenant in the Medical Corps of the United States Navy and was stationed at the Naval Air Station in Kingsville, Texas, during the Vietnam War.

His passions for life included hunting, fishing, gardening and theatre which began in high school and continued throughout his life. He was actively involved in Boy Scouts of America, achieving an Eagle Scout award and as an adult Scout Master.

He was an active member of the Jaycees, Master Mason, NRA, Ducks Unlimited, where he was the founding chairman of Ducks Unlimited of Gregg County, and was a lifetime sponsor, active member of the University of Texas Alumni and Acacia Fraternity.

He participated in the Longview Community Theater. Herman enjoyed annual fishing trips to Lake City, Colo., with family and friends throughout his entire life. Spending time at the deer lease with the "Bagley Hunt Group" brought him lots of joy.

He spent his last years spending time with his family, tending to his vegetable garden and catching up with

his old friends through the RODEO Club (Retired Old Doctors Eating Out). Herman loved his family. He was a beloved husband, brother, father, grandfather, and friend.

He is preceded in death by his son Lance VanSickle; his brother, Keith; and his parents.

He is survived by his wife, Sue; his brother, Kenneth and wife Carol; nieces, Laura and Diana of Basye, Va.; his sons, Matt and Doug VanSickle of Longview, and Jeremy Moore of Houston; his daughters, Debbie VanSickle of Austin, Beth Ingram and Son-in-law Joel McGuire of Longview, Amy and Randy Nichols of Gilmer, Meridith and Jeb Brown of Frisco and Heather Moore of Dallas; his first wife and friend, Ann Belt; his grandchildren, including Leslie and Brian Henderson, Aaron and Jacob VanSickle, Adam and Heather Ingram, Haley and Brian Reitingier, and Leslye VanSickle, Andrew VanSickle,

Madeline Moore, and Austin and Nolan Brown; and his great-grandchildren, Chloey, Michelle and Alaina.

He is survived by his best-friends, Dr. Jimmie Bagley, Dr. Ted Rankin, Terry Forrester and Marvin Bear.

Herman will be remembered as a compassionate physician, full of life, courage, strength and especially his love of family. He was an asset to our community and will be forever missed. Hook 'em Horns!

Donations may be made in his name to the Good Shepherd Medical Foundation, Attention: Paula Poole, 700 E. Marshall Ave., Longview, TX 75601.

A memorial service will be held 10 a.m. Saturday, March 15, 2008, in the chapel of Rader Funeral Home, 1617 Judson Rd., with Mr. Ken VanSickle officiating.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home Friday evening from 6-8 p.m.

A memorial guestbook may be signed at www.raderfh.com.

Emergency Services

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

Eighteen traffic stops were made. Driving while intoxicated, no driver's license and expired registration were reported during a stop in the 800 block of East Frederic, and an arrest was made. Possession of a controlled substance was reported during a stop in the 900 block of South Banks, where an arrest was made. A stop in the 600 block of East Francis also resulted in an arrest.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 1200 block of East

Foster, the 400 block of Hughes, the intersection of Starkweather and Kingsmill streets, the 900 block of Twiford, the 1200 block of South Hobart, the 900 block of Denver, the 1200 block of South Barnes, the intersection of McCullough and Dwight streets, the 300 block of Canadian, the 1300 block of West 22nd, the 100 block of East 25th and the 1900 block of Beech.

Found property was reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart and the police department lobby.

Welfare checks were made in the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway and the 800 block of East Browning.

Seven attempts to serve papers were made.

Warrant service was attempted on one occasion and resulted in at least one arrest.

A missing person was reported in the 900 block of South Wells.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 200 block of East Louisiana, the intersection of Frederic and Reid streets, the 400 block of South Cuyler, and the intersection of Oklahoma and Nelson streets.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from Recreation Park, 1600 E. Highway 60.

Disorderly conduct was reported at the intersection of Crawford and Wells streets

and the 900 block of North Frost.

Two alarms were reported. Theft was reported in the 1300 block of Coffee.

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported at Top Of Texas New and Used Cars, 503 E. Atchison. A burgundy 1992 Lincoln Town Car valued at \$6,000 was taken.

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

Thursday, March 13
 6:49 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2200 block of Duncan and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

10:25 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 3000 block of Perryton Parkway and transported a patient to BSA Hospital in Amarillo.

11:04 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to the 1500 block of West Kentucky.

12:49 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of Hilton Road and transported a patient to PRMC.

3:03 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to the 1300 block of West Kentucky.

6:21 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

9:22 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Jordan prison unit and transported a patient to PRMC.

Friday, March 14
 12:34 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of Russell and transported a patient to PRMC.

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Turkeys

Continued from Page 1

is approve relocating all of them," said Jeff Bonner, Texas Parks and Wildlife representative in Pampa.

Bonner visited the country club recently and counted just over 100 turkeys there that day, he said. The country club's legal options are to try to humanely scare the turkeys away or relocate some of them.

"They can throw fire-crackers at them when they're roosting in the trees," Bonner said. "They can also trap and transplant them to other suitable habitats in the Panhandle area."

Anyone wishing to do such a transplant must apply to TP&W for a "triple T" permit, or a trap, transport and transplant permit, Bonner said. Applications for the permits ask for information such as the source location of the animals and their destination.

"They would have to have a specific place pinpointed and have a biologist see if it's a suitable place for turkeys," Bonner said. "Whoever wants them gone must pay for the permit through TP&W and then pay a trapper to trap and remove them."

The owner of the land where the turkeys are to be relocated must also be agreeable to the plan, Bonner said.

The change of seasons may offer some relief to the country club, he said.

"In the spring, the hens go out to find nesting places," Bonner said. "Some go toward Canadian, some toward Hoover. They follow

along the river beds."

Some Pampa residents enjoy the turkeys' visits when they come to town, and even put out feed for them.

"I feed them every day," said Clara Achord. "I've been doing that since we moved over here about 12 years ago."

The turkeys were a source of entertainment and company for her husband.

"Whenever my husband was real sick, after he'd had heart surgery and bypasses and then came up with cancer, they were a lot of company to him when he would sit out on the patio," she said.

"Everybody here puts feed out, even on their driveway," Achord said. "If I don't feed them for a day or two, they come out front and get in the trees. We enjoy them. Everybody over here does."

"We feed them every day," said Laurann Gilbert. "We put corn out every day. Back about two months ago, I think I put out corn four times in one day."

"We enjoy them. We have lots of doves here, and they eat the corn, too," she said.

Gilbert and others have noticed the turkeys getting the attention of passers-by.

"We see people driving by real slow, some with cameras," she said. "Then they turn around and go back. We know they're looking at the turkeys."

"I can see the golf course's point of view, but I hope they don't do anything so that the turkeys aren't around anymore," Gilbert

said. "We enjoy watching them. I hope they don't get rid of our turkeys."

Hidden Hills Public Golf Course, north of Pampa off Highway 70, doesn't have a problem with turkeys, but with other critters.

"We don't have as many trees, and we're further out," said David Teichmann, golf pro at Hidden Hills, concerning turkeys, or the lack thereof, at the course.

Turkeys do occasionally make an appearance at Hidden Hills, along with a host of other creatures which cause problems by digging.

"In the summer and early fall, badgers, skunks, armadillos, raccoons and opossums dig for grub worms in the grass," Teichmann said. "Skunks and badgers are our biggest nemeses. Skunks are most of the populace."

"We put down grub worm control. We've been doing that for six or seven years now, and that controls the animals for the most part," he said.

White-tailed deer, mule deer and antelope forage for grass at Hidden Hills and step on the greens, Teichmann said. Rabbits forage for grass at the golf course also, and bobcats hunt the rabbits.

The question of what, if anything, to do about the turkeys points up the advantages and disadvantages of living in a relatively rural area. No matter what answer is reached, not everyone is likely to be completely happy.

Tariff

Continued from Page 1

deny or suspend the proposed tariffs, but allow the provisions to take effect automatically within 35 days.

"The effective date will be April 2," Rendon said.

He said the lower bills would result because the revised tariff would place caps on demand charges for certain customers. Those customers, he said, are very low load customers.

"These low load factor accounts are facilities where the customer turns on a consuming device, establishes a demand, but then only uses the device for a few hours or

a limited time," Rendon said.

Examples of such customers, he said, would be a church that uses a large load only a few hours a week, a baseball park that would use a lot of electricity only a few hours each evening or a seasonal business such as an irrigated farm or a cotton gin.

Rendon said he had one customer that was billed \$2,257.47. Under the new tariff, he said that customer would have been charged \$731.59.

"That's a substantial savings," Rendon said.

He said another customer, a municipality, was charged

\$498.19 for their ballpark lights. Under the new tariff, Rendon said the charge would have been \$116.46.

Pampa City Manager John Horst said the city stands to benefit from the revised tariff at facilities like the city's fourplex ball field at Recreation Park.

"The way I see it, this would benefit the City of Pampa as well as small companies," Horst said.

Rendon said that school systems in particular had concerns about the high cost of using stadium lights or lights on practice fields at night.

"It's a good reduction," Rendon said.

Lock-in

Continued from Page 1

which Ryan is a sponsor. He and fellow PPD Officer Neal Gardner, also a sponsor, will provide supervision during the lock-in. Parents of Student Crime Stoppers members will also supervise, Ryan said.

The \$12 per person

admission will go toward funding payment of Crime Stoppers rewards and events.

Student Crime Stoppers is also raising funds by selling Pampa-themed T shirts at United Supermarket, Ryan said.

"We get 30 percent of each sale," he said.

PHS staff J.J. Slatten and Carlos Regalado are also sponsors of the student organization.

Library News

In the upcoming week, March 17-21 (Spring Break), the front doors to the library will be replaced with ADA accessible doors. Patrons will be able to enter the library through the auditorium doors on the north side of the building.

Friends of the Library will raffle Wizard of Oz nutcrackers at their book sale on Sunday, April 6. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 tickets for \$5.00. The nutcrackers are on display at the library at this time. 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 sibling 16

years or older at all times while they are in the library. This is for your child's safety.

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.

If you see news, call us at 669-2525



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Lupe Martinez of Brandon's Flowers presents a check to Ofelia Marszal, volunteer coordinator for CASA, as a donation to CASA of the High Plains. CASA, or Court Appointed Special Advocates, is a non-profit organization whose volunteers act as advocates for children who have been removed from abusive and/or neglectful homes. Brandon's donated the delivery fees they would have collected on Valentine's Day in exchange for CASA volunteers making their deliveries that day, Marszal said. The deliveries also gave volunteers a chance to hand out flyers seeking volunteers and donations. Brandon's also donates Mother's Day delivery fees in exchange for deliveries by CASA volunteers.

Fund

Continued from Page 1

which is returning about 10.5 percent.

"That's like a four year average," Stokes said.

He said the Amarillo Area Foundation is not currently charging any fees to manage the accounts.

"They basically would maintain the fund," Stokes said, "and then it would grow."

The fund is also open to donations, he said.

"There are several communities that are using their funds for specific projects," Stokes said. "Texline and Wheeler and Fritch are all using it to build community recreation centers. Other communities are just building their funds as an endowment fund. Some others are using it for scholarships."

Stokes said that Pampa has several projects that have been under discussion, including a water park and playgrounds. He said he's gotten several suggestions of a recreation center.

"This fund could be started for a specific project or it could be started and see what requests come in," Stokes said.

Pampa Economic Development Corporation executive director Dwight Fiveash told the city commission that EDCs across the panhandle are very involved in these funds.

Fiveash said that his understanding is the foundation recommends letting the funds grow and using the interest rather than the principle to finance programs.

"We did miss one last year that was a \$100,000 match-

ing funding," Fiveash said. "This year, it's only \$50,000."

He said the Pampa EDC got notification on Dec. 14, and there wasn't enough time to put together the needed corporation by the first of the year.

"That one we just had to pass on," Fiveash said.

He said that the EDC is willing to take on the community fund as a project and set it up for the city.

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Viewpoints

How NOT to honor St. Patrick on St' Patrick's Day

Ah, St. Patrick's Day is upon us.

That means but one thing: Time for Americans to over-celebrate the Irish tradition.

I speak of the goofy Leprechaun hats, the gaudy green buttons and scarves and the propensity to drink excessive amounts of alcohol at fake Irish pubs while trying to be authentically Irish.

Though I'm not entirely without guilt.

Eight years ago in a gentrified section of Washington, D.C., I visited a fake Irish pub a few weeks before St. Patrick's Day. My group included my cousin, my friends Bergen, Bell and Reid, and a woman we'd just met who bore a striking resemblance to Paula Jones (of the Clinton-era scandals).

Our efforts at pretending to be authentically Irish were going well until Bergen ordered up a fresh round of Guinness. That's when the disaster occurred.

"Paula Jones" was wearing a white sweater — her favorite white sweater, which she'd paid \$80 for at bebe's in Chicago. Bergen, in his eagerness to get at his Guinness, knocked a full pint of the oil-black brew onto what quickly became a chocolate-white sweater from bebe's in Chicago.

Having five sisters, I knew we had to get that sweater soaking in something or it would never see whiteness again. Bell ran off to get a bucket. I got the manager to supply a free Leprechaun T-shirt so our guest could change. My

cousin trembled visibly, while Bergen was clearly saddened by the loss of his full pint.

Just as we managed to get our female guest dry, get her chocolate-white sweater soaking in soda water — we set it on a table behind us — and continued to pretend we were authentically Irish, all heck broke loose again.

Drug dealers, who had been openly plying their trade across the street — we watched them through the window — were suddenly the target of police, whose cars came roaring down the street from every direction.

So curious were we about this scene, we forgot about the sweater. Thus, we failed to notice



Tom Purcell
Columnist

that the bus-boy had picked up the bucket in which the sweater was soaking and proceeded to fill it with dirty glasses, silverware, greasy napkins, etc.

Thankfully, my cousin saw him and began shouting. This headed off the busboy's subsequent actions, which would have involved the swabbing of dirty tables with an \$80 chocolate-white sweater from bebe's in Chicago.

There was no time to savor our success, however,

as another crisis was under way. Our female guest was suddenly overcome by itchininess, an affliction, apparently, that results when Guinness dries on the skin. (Sunburn she'd received during a recent vacation had also contributed to her malady.)

So loudly did she complain — she had passed through "denial" and was well on her way to "anger" — that our efforts at pretending we were authentically Irish were in jeopardy yet again.

I quickly began searching the pub for mayonnaise, which, I'd thought, would remedy her itching. I didn't realize until afterward that my reasoning had been muddled by an abundance of Guinness and my hopes of rubbing mayonnaise all over

her skin had more to do with my needs than hers.

It was about then that the cook came running out of the kitchen, shouting about shots being fired in the alley. Our group had had enough. We rose in unison, grabbed our sweater bucket, hailed a cab and got the heck out of there.

The Irish celebrate St. Patrick's Day in a more dignified manner than Americans do. Most people go to Mass, take in a parade, then enjoy the rest of the day with family — they don't get out of hand the way we do.

It is true that one out of four Americans can trace his heritage back to the rolling green hills of Ireland, but do we have to mock our fine heritage by wearing gaudy

See **PURCELL**, Page 10

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, March 14, the 74th day of 2008. There are 292 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 14, 1794, Eli Whitney received a patent for his cotton gin, an invention that revolutionized America's cotton industry.

On this date:

In 1883, German political philosopher Karl Marx died in London.

In 1900, Congress ratified the Gold Standard Act.

In 1907, President Theodore Roosevelt signed an executive order designed to prevent Japanese laborers from immigrating to the United States as part of a "gentlemen's agreement" with Japan.

In 1923, President Harding became the first chief executive to file an income tax return.

In 1939, the republic of Czechoslovakia was dissolved, opening the way for Nazi occupation of Czech areas and the separation of Slovakia.

In 1951, during the Korean War, United Nations forces recaptured Seoul.

In 1964, a jury in Dallas found Jack Ruby guilty of murdering Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President Kennedy.

In 1967, the body of President Kennedy was moved from a temporary grave to a permanent memorial site at Arlington National Cemetery.

In 1980, a Polish airliner crashed while making an emergency landing near Warsaw, killing all 87 people aboard, including 22 members of a U.S. amateur boxing team.

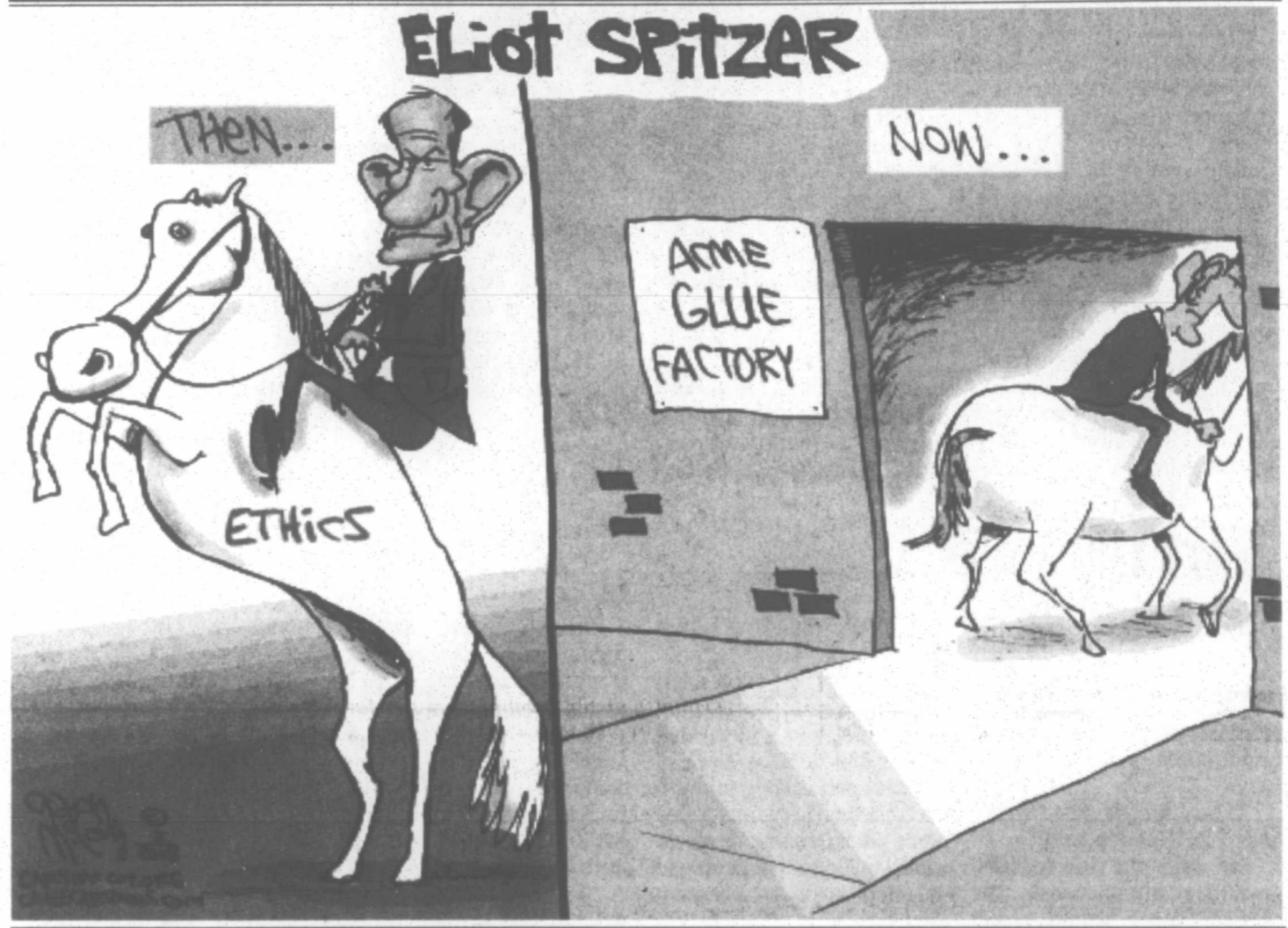
In 1991, a British court overturned the convictions of the "Birmingham Six," who had spent 16 years in prison for an Irish Republican Army bombing, and ordered them released.

Ten years ago: India's Congress party picked Sonia Gandhi, the Italian-born widow of assassinated prime minister Rajiv Gandhi, as its new president. An earthquake killed at least five people and left some 10,000 homeless in southeastern Iran.

Five years ago: Actor Robert Blake was released from jail on \$1.5 million bail, 11 months after he was arrested on charges of murdering his wife, Bonny Lee Bakley. (Blake was later acquitted at trial.) Christopher Boyce, whose Cold War spying was immortalized on film in "The Falcon and the Snowman," was released from a halfway house in San Francisco after a quarter-century in prison.

'The worst sin toward our fellow creatures is not to hate them, but to be indifferent to them; that's the essence of inhumanity.'

— George Bernard Shaw
Irish playwright
(1856-1950)



America needs shrink-control not gun-control

In view of the rash of shootings recently, may I suggest that what the United States needs is not gun control, but shrink control. When you trace the cause of most of these shootings, it is inevitably mental-health problems in the shooter, and all too often the shooter is receiving or has received treatment.

There are almost as many theories of psychiatry and psychology as there are practitioners. Which theories work? Which ones don't? Nobody seems interested in finding out, lest someone's lucrative income be cut off.

Some years ago, when we suffered another of those acute reforming impulses, the powers that be decided that too many mental patients were locked up. Why, now with our new miracle drugs, they can all be let go and receive outpatient

treatment in their hometowns, said the powers that be.

That was one of those reforms that sounded good, but it had two flaws. In most towns there were no outpatient treatment facilities, and there still aren't. The second flaw was to expect that people who are mentally ill will nevertheless show the discipline to take their medications without any supervision. I should add that a third flaw in the reformist scheme was the usual blind faith in pills. The main result of this reform was to greatly increase the number of homeless people living on the streets.

Psychiatry remains the

most primitive of the medical arts. Most of the medical arts concern themselves with mechanics of the body. There is an infection. One of the organs in the body goes awry. These, at least, are tangible things that doctors can see, locate and sometimes repair.

The psychiatrist, alas, has to deal with the mind, which is not, as some insist, the same thing as the brain. The brain is the machine. The mind is the product of that machine, and it is an intangible product. We might liken the brain to a movie projector and the mind to the flickering images that are projected.

But where exactly are these images? Where are the voices no one else can hear?

Where are those things no one else can see? Another problem psychiatry faces is that most mental patients do not realize they are ill. If you've ever talked with a delusional person, you will know that he or she has no doubt whatsoever that the delusion is real. Such people, first of all, are difficult to persuade to seek treatment, and if they do, the treatment is often difficult or ineffective.

The medical profession, like the legal profession, is supposedly self-regulating and self-policing, but frankly neither one does a decent job at either task. Perhaps one day a creative prosecutor will charge with manslaughter members of a medical board that refuses to lift the license of an incompetent physician. That might

See **REESE**, Page 10

Charley Reese
Columnist



Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion from around the nation:

■ March 2
Rochester (N.Y.) Democrat and Chronicle, on William F. Buckley Jr.:

William Buckley, the seminal conservative with the loosened tie and the crooked smile who died last week at 82, stood, or more often slouched, in witty, thoughtful contrast to the hyperbolic radio and TV talk show grandees who followed him. ...

His were clever rapier thrusts at the hearts of liberals, and occasionally his own side. What we have today are blunt instruments of invective delivered at high decibels.

Why the braying types never learned

from Buckley isn't clear. He was their intellectual touchstone — before him and the conservative magazine National Review, the right was a direction, not a viewpoint. ...

Buckley's classic TV show, Firing Line, was the longest-running program with the same host in television history. People of all political stripes were anxious to appear, and Buckley did his skewering as all civilized debaters do: carefully, thoroughly but quietly.

Perhaps some enterprising network will rerun some of Buckley's old shows just to show today's young people how political debate in the media used to be conducted.

If they saw that, they might demand better from the current crop.

On the Net:
<http://www.democratandchronicle.com>

■ March 3
Durango (Colo.) Herald, on incarceration rates in the U.S.:

The Pew Center on the States released a report Feb. 28 that found more than one in 100 American adults are serving some form of jail or prison sentence. The figure is record-breaking, and should be attention-getting for its stark numbers alone. The associated costs, though, require a review of who we are incarcerating and why — and for how much.

Since tougher federal sentencing

See **SAMPLE**, Page 10

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Praise & Worship

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MINISTER'S MUSINGS

It's time for America to believe in God

While many people may not believe in God, Daniel the prophet trusted Him to the limit. Daniel lived during the reign of King Nebuchadnezzar who carried the Jews captive to Babylon. Daniel and three of his friends, all very young men, were tested with the young Babylonians.

Archie Cooper
 Pentecostal Holiness



The King ordered the best diet for the youngsters, but it was a defilement to the Hebrew people. By Daniel's persuasion, he and his friends were given pulse to eat and water to drink. Part of their education included instruction in the language of the Chaldeans. The King found these young men did 10-times better than all the magicians in his realm. (Daniel 1:20)

In everything that Daniel was brought to make great decisions about, he believed in his God. When the King had a troubling dream, none of the wise men in Babylon could tell him what he had dreamed. Daniel was called for as a last resort, to save the wise men from the wrath of the King, to save their lives.

Daniel and his brethren prayed for guidance. Daniel persuaded the King for more time. That night, God gave Daniel the meaning of the dream. Daniel praised God, for God's answer was going to save the lives of Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azaria and all the wise men of Babylon. (Daniel 2:19-23)

Daniel believed in his God. He now had the victory.

Now the King in his dream had seen a big tree. Daniel told the King that the tree represented the King and his kingdom. He said as the tree in the dream was cut down, the King would be cut

down. Daniel pleads with the King to turn from sin, so that perhaps God would spare him.

This was not an easy message for Daniel to give, but he believed in God. Before the King died, he confessed in writing he was chased from his kingdom and lived with the beasts of the field for seven years. (Daniel 4:37) The king who reigned after him, King Belshazzar, had to know what Nebuchadnezzar had written, of his turning to God. Nevertheless, Belshazzar was wicked to the core.

Like some parts of our nation, Belshazzar did not believe there was a God to fear. God made handwriting appear on a wall before Belshazzar, but nobody could read the writing except for a man of God. The King could not control his quaking knees when the writing appeared. He gave all his wise men a chance to read that which God had written. His knees were still shaking. (Hebrews 10:31)

God was going to see that Belshazzar got this message. It was not Daniel's pleasure to deliver another message of doom to the leader of Babylon, but Daniel believed in his God. This message was not a message to repent, only a message of the King's doom that night. It was too late for Belshazzar. He had waited too long.

On the occasion of Daniel being thrown into the den of lions for not worshipping the King of Babylon, the Bible states that the Lions did not harm Daniel because he believed in his God. In our nation, we need to believe in the God of heaven with a positive experience.

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Local briefs

Pianist Juanita Parker Ward will appear in free concert at 6 p.m. this coming Sunday at Calvary Assembly of God, 1030 Love. Ward will be appearing with Melody and Liza Blake. For more information, call 669-7207.

Zion Lutheran Church of Pampa is preparing to celebrate Holy Week. The church has released the following service schedule:

- March 16. Palm Sunday Holy Communion, 10:30 a.m.
- March 17. Holy Monday, Matins 7:15 a.m.
- March 18. Holy Tuesday, Matins 7:15 a.m.
- March 19. Holy

Wednesday, Matins, 7:15 a.m.

• March 20. Holy Thursday Holy Communion, 7:30 p.m.

• March 21. Good Friday Tenebrae Vespers, 8 p.m.

• March 22. Easter Vigil, 8 p.m.

• March 23. The Resurrection of Our Lord Divine Service, 7:30 a.m. Breakfast will follow.

For more information, contact Zion Lutheran at 669-2774.

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church has announced its Holy Week schedule of services and events.

The schedule is as follows:

- March 16. Palm Sunday, 9:30 a.m. and 12 p.m.
- March 20. Liturgy of the Hour, 7 a.m.; bilingual Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:30 p.m.
- March 21. Liturgy of the Hour, 7 a.m.; Celebration of the Lord's Passion, 6:30 p.m. (English) and 8 p.m. (Spanish).
- March 22. Easter vigil, 9 p.m. (Alleluia Party to follow Easter vigil mass).
- March 23. Mass 10 a.m., 12 p.m. (Spanish); Easter egg hunt following 10 a.m. mass; Easter Parish Family Celebration, 1 p.m. The Xapoxil ballet will also be performing on Sunday.

For more information, contact the church at 665-8933.

This weekly series brought to you by these area businesses.

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I'm 26 and concerned about my parents' future. They are in their late 40s and have absolutely nothing saved for retirement. Dad has a physically demanding job and won't be able to do it forever, and they are currently in debt up to their ears. There are six kids in our family. I appreciate the fact that my parents are blowing off some steam when it comes to spending money, since they were unable to do it while we were all younger. However, I feel it's time they look at the big picture. If something was to happen to Dad or he was unable to work, they'd lose everything. At this point, they will be unable to pay for any of their own expenses when they're older, and my siblings and I don't have money to support them. Our youngest brother still lives at home and is adopting the same spending habits as Mom and Dad. How would you recommend we speak to our parents? They tend to be sensitive about these matters. Do you know of any articles or books we could reference when speaking to them? -- **PENNYWISE IN ST. PETE, FLA.**

DEAR PENNYWISE: Assuming that you and your four adult siblings are equally concerned about your parents' welfare, you should approach them as a group. It's still not too late for them to start saving and investing for their retirement years. And you and the others could help them by offering to match what they save each month. Even a small amount adds up. If the five of you each put in \$20 a month (\$100), and your parents put in \$100, at the end of a year they would have \$2,400. By the time your father was ready to retire in 20 years, they'd have some serious money put away -- not counting any increase in the value of their investments. The U.S.

General Services Administration Federal Citizen Information Center offers free information that could help you. Log on to www.pueblo.gsa.gov and look under the heading "Retirement Planning" in the "Money" section. You'll find lots of good advice, and you can even order free and low-cost booklets on saving and investing and much more. Or call (888) 8-Pueblo ((888) 878-3256) for a free Consumer Information Catalog. Also check your local library. Your parents may or may not be receptive to this idea. However, if you turn the matching money into a "game," they'll be more likely to go for it. Good luck.

DEAR ABBY: Last year, against the advice of my friends and family, I forgave my ex-boyfriend. He swore he loved me and wanted to spend the rest of his life with me. I let him back into my life and let him talk to me about marriage and the future. Within a few months he was up to his old tricks again, chasing other women, so I had to send him packing. How do I forgive myself for being so stupid? I believed he loved me, and I am furious with myself for falling for his charm and his lies. My family isn't being very supportive because they didn't want me to reconcile. Please help me. -- **FOOLED ME TWICE IN COLUMBUS, OHIO**

DEAR FOOLED: Please stop beating yourself up. You're an optimistic person who believed in second chances, and your ex-boyfriend abused your trust. Now that you understand he is incapable of change, it's time to learn from this experience and go on with your life. We learn more from our mistakes than our successes -- and the lesson you will take from this is to draw the line sooner if you notice a person's words don't match his deeds.

For Better Or Worse



Zits



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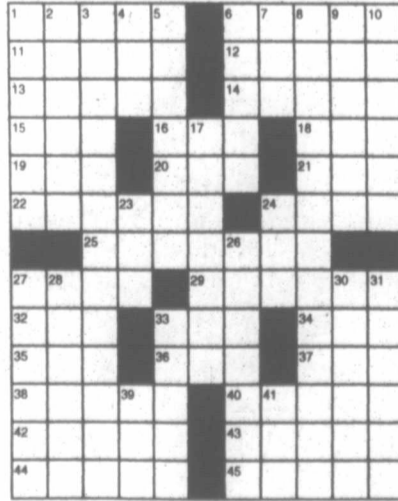
Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Apples and pears
 - 6 Bar supply
 - 11 Not even a little
 - 12 Goofy
 - 13 Bellini opera
 - 14 Sousa work
 - 15 Clinic VIP
 - 16 Easy mark
 - 18 Dove sound
 - 19 Pub pints
 - 20 Towel word
 - 21 Bungle nutshell
 - 22 Merchant
 - 24 Secluded spot
 - 25 Disney's Ariel, for one
 - 27 Louver piece
 - 29 Makes void
 - 32 Road sealer
 - 33 Drill need
 - 34 Crow sound
 - 35 List shortener
 - 36 Sprite
 - 37 Shade
 - 38 Michelangelo work
 - 40 Without — in the world
- DOWN**
- 1 Bamboo eaters
 - 2 "Becket" actor
 - 3 Silent star
 - 4 Shade source
 - 5 Horror film villain
 - 6 Walks unevenly
 - 7 —
 - 8 French avant-garde artist
 - 9 Cry from the crowd
 - 10 Football's Jason "House" postage
 - 17 Some Charter mixer
 - 19 Footb's resident
 - 20 Jason "House" postage
 - 23 Charter mixer
 - 24 Tonic and-glass contrap-tion
 - 26 Sand- and-glass contrap-tion
 - 27 Trample the crowd
 - 28 Barrio resident
 - 30 Hugh of "House" postage
 - 31 Candy Super Bowl XX champs
 - 33 Super Bowl XX champs
 - 39 Breath-mints buy
 - 41 Corp. VIP

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



Marmaduke



The Family Circus

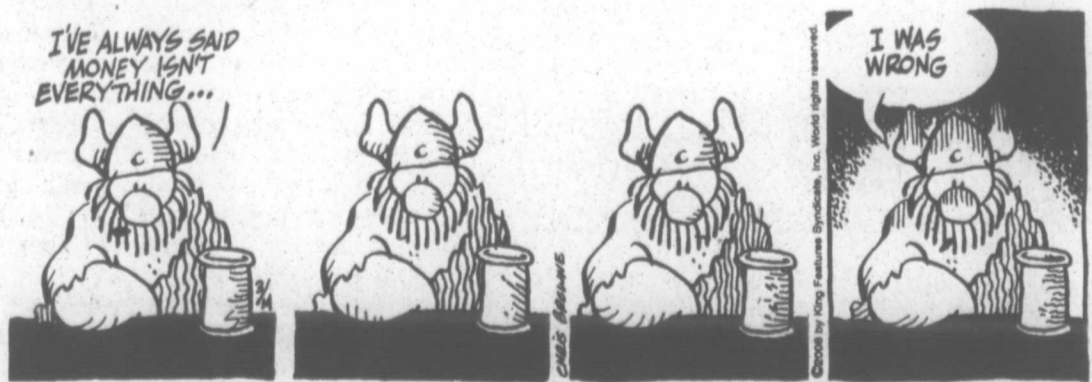
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports

OPTIMIST CLUB

Optimist Club registration complete

Registration is completed, and tryouts are over. Now 513 youngsters from the Pampa area will begin the season for Pampa Optimist Baseball/Softball 2008.

"We have 125 signed up for T-ball," said Misty Baten, one of the registrars. "There are 86 for the pitching machine league, 73 for the 9-10 Cal Ripken League, 60 for the 11-12 Cal Ripken League and 58 for the Babe Ruth League."

Baten continued, "We have 30 girls in the 7-8 softball league, 43 in the 9-10 league and 27 in the 11-

12 league." She added, "We had 11 girls register for the 13 to 15 softball league."

"These are not the final figures," said Optimist Baseball Commissioner Kevin Davis. "We are expecting several teams from out of town to send in registrations. We would also like to get a few more signups for the 9-10 Cal Ripken League because we can add a team in that league with four more players."

Players who attended the tryouts but forgot to sign up need to contact Davis at

664-2542 and provide information so that they can be placed on a team.

The draft for the 11-12 Cal Ripken League will be held today, according to Darrin Clendennen, the commissioner of the league. Drafts for other leagues will be scheduled in the next few days.

Practices will start on March 24. Games in some leagues will begin the week of April 14. The season in most leagues will conclude on June 13.

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

Lindsey Vonn wins World Cup overall title

BORMIO, Italy (AP) — Lindsey Vonn won the World Cup overall title Friday, completing the first U.S. men's and women's sweep in 25 years a day after Bode Miller won the same crown.

The last Americans to hold both titles were Phil Mahre and Tamara McKinney in 1983.

Vonn secured the title when she finished in the top 15 and Maria Riesch of Germany failed to finish.

"It was amazing today," Vonn said. "I'm just really happy that it's over."

Miller secured his second

overall title Thursday when Didier Cuche of Switzerland announced Thursday he would not enter Saturday's season-ending slalom.

Vonn became the second American woman to win the overall. She already captured the season's downhill title.

She lagged behind in 25th place after the first run, but fought back with the fastest second run to finish 11th on the day, more than enough for the overall title.

"I was bummed out after the first run but I knew I had a good opportunity to charge in the second run and I kept

charging," she said. "It's amazing. It was a tough day today with tough conditions but I just kept fighting and I took it."

Marlis Schild of Austria repeated as World Cup slalom champion by winning the season's final race Friday.

Schild completed the two runs in a combined time of 1 minute, 52.78 seconds, while her nearest rival for the slalom title, teammate Nicole Hosp, finished fourth.

T. Boone Pickens honored with Lifetime Sportsman Award

Dallas - The Park Cities Quail Unlimited honored legendary oil entrepreneur, conservationist and avid sportsman T. Boone Pickens on March 6 as its 2008 Lifetime Sportsman Award winner before 900 guests in the Frontiers of Flight Museum near Dallas Love Field Airport.

The local chapter, founded in 2005 to develop, preserve, restore and maintain upland game habitat through this region and to improve hunting opportunities for area sportsman, lauds Mr. Pickens' lifelong love of the outdoors, respect for natural resources and his extraordinary contributions to restoring quail habitat in Roberts County.

"I can't think of anyone more deserving of this honor than T. Boone Pickens," Joe Crafton said, Chairman of the Park Cities Quail Unlimited. "He has an enduring passion for the outdoors, and has made considerable contributions to the restoration of quail habitat in West Texas."

Pickens is an excellent environmental steward, Crafton said, noting that his 68,000-acre Mesa Vista Ranch is a model for wildlife resource management. His

business ventures include an alternative energy provider, the largest supplier of vehicular natural gas in North America and plans for the world's largest wind farm.

Pickens has also stepped to the forefront of national water resource development issues with a proposal to market surplus and stranded groundwater in the Texas Panhandle to urban areas in the state facing severe water supply shortages.

Prior to Pickens' first Roberts County land purchase in 1971, the county's rolling hills, bluffs and creek beds suffered from

consistent overgrazing. The legendary entrepreneur immediately began a multi-step program to help the land recover, over time investing about \$25 million in overall wildlife management strategies and facilities, installing substantial water sources, food plots and native grass replanting, and power infrastructure. Those initiatives, along with efforts to market

stranded and surplus water in the region elsewhere in the state, have led to a tremendous increase in local land values.

In the process, Pickens has increased the size and breadth of Mesa Vista. Dallas Morning News outdoors writer Ray Sasser calls Mesa Vista "the Wild West equivalent of a southern gentleman's hunting plantation, arguably the finest quail-hunting spot in the known universe."

Mesa Vista is the manifestation of one of Pickens' first, and longest-held, loves.

"Quail hunting is a life-long passion tracking back to my father, who always kept two bird dogs."

— T. Boone Pickens
Lifetime Sportsman Award
Recipient

"Today, I am driven by a desire to conserve and

Former NFL great and Notre Dame legend announced as keynote speaker

Amarillo - mypassionisfootball.com announced today that former NFL Great and Notre Dame Legend Aaron Taylor will assist with Offensive Linemen at the 2008 High School Combine Presented by Cutters, and will also serve as the Keynote Speaker at the seminar and banquet.

"I'm excited about working with Warren McCarty and his staff at mypassionisfootball.com," said Aaron Taylor. "I've heard a lot of positive things about the talent level of football players in the Texas Panhandle, and the quality of the coaching culture there as well. Most importantly, I'm looking forward to having another opportunity to make a positive impact on young people. Students face numerous challenges and complex situations in college, and to hear a message from someone 'who's been there and done that' is important; I know it was for me."

At the conclusion of his All-American career at Notre Dame, Taylor won the 1993 Lombardi Award, which goes to the nation's top lineman. He was the Green Bay Packers' 1st round draft pick in 1994, and spent the next four seasons there, and was a starter during the Packers' Super Bowl XXXI victory

over the New England Patriots in 1997. He spent the last two seasons of his career with the San Diego Chargers, before retiring following the 1999 season. Upon retiring from the NFL, Taylor spent three seasons as the Studio Analyst for ABC's College Game Day.

Outside of football, Taylor is involved in philanthropic service. He established the Aaron Taylor Impact Fund, a



Aaron Taylor will be in Amarillo April 13.

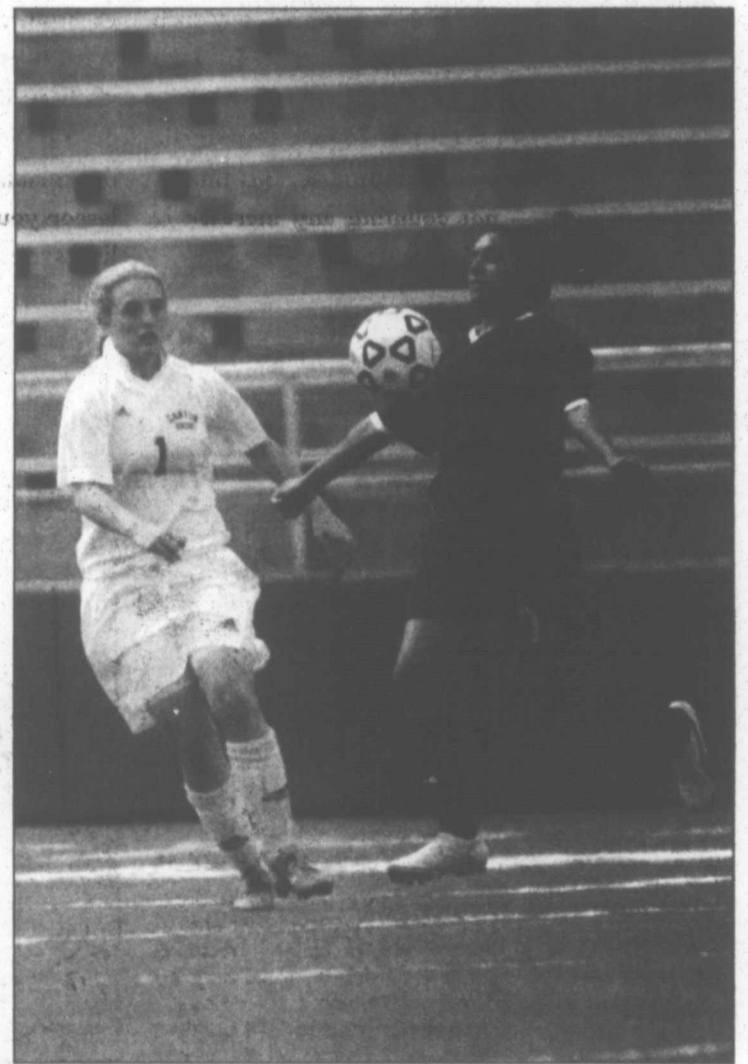
non-profit entity that benefits those in need. He established Legends of South Bend, LLC, which is a "social-profit" company that distributes a portion of its proceeds to a scholarship fund established through the University of Notre Dame. Additionally, Taylor is the CEO of AllStar-Axess, which is a company that offers fans a unique

opportunity to interact with their favorite sports stars and celebrities.

To learn more about these organizations, please visit their websites: www.atim-pactfund.org, www.legendsofsouthbend.com, www.all-star-axess.com.

The combine will be held at Bushland High School Stadium on Saturday, April 12th. The deadline for registration is Saturday, April 5th, and the cost is \$150.00 per athlete. Registration information can be found online, at www.mypassionisfootball.com. Click "Next Level" for further details. The seminar will be held on April 13th in Amarillo. Details will soon be announced.

This combine is a one-of-a-kind event for high school football players, as there is not another combine in the country that offers this array of exposure and unbiased evaluation. The camp staff consists exclusively of former NFL, AFL, and CFL players for each position group. All testing results, coach/parent/player contact information, and a written evaluation on each player will be sent to all 848 schools in the United States that play college football. Each player will also receive a written evaluation from his position coach.



Soccer

Pampa News photo by KATHERINE FLANARY

A Lady Harvester at work against Canyon Saturday. The Lady Harvesters, as well as the Harvesters, will be playing this Saturday at home against Palo Duro. The Lady Harvesters will play at noon, followed by the Harvesters, who will play at 2 p.m.



Courtesy Photo

T. Boone Pickens (left) received the Lifetime Sportsman Award from Bubba Wood, Honorary Chairman PCQU. Pickens suffered a broken wrist two days before the banquet but postponed his surgery in order to attend the ceremonies.

Selling baseball in China could be expensive but rewarding

BEIJING (AP) — Selling baseball in China won't be easy or cheap. Of course, the rewards in a country with 1.3 billion people could be enormous.

Enter Major League Baseball, which worked for years to put together this weekend's two exhibition games in Beijing between the San Diego Padres and Los Angeles Dodgers, the first MLB games in China.

There's a lot riding on it. It's the first test of the Olympic baseball venue, and MLB's boldest attempt to attract Chinese fans, most of whom follow only basketball or soccer and know little of the game of "bangqiu."

And it underscores MLB's search for mainland Chinese talent, hoping to come up with the kind of stars who have moved to the U.S. from

Asian neighbors Japan, South Korea and Taiwan. One big name like basketball's Yao Ming could bring local TV coverage, merchandising and billions in revenue — the kind of money the NBA already earns in the country.

"Baseball is really going to take off right after the Olympics," said Jim Lefebvre, the former major leaguer who has coached China's national team for five years. "Someday in the future, we will say these games jump-started baseball in China."

"This is a big moment. How long have we tried to get this?"

MLB officials are optimistic — and up against history.

Baseball traces its pitch in China back to 1863 when,

according to MLB research, an American named Henry William Boone formed the Shanghai Baseball Club. Babe Ruth and Casey Stengel have played in China and MLB claims baseball was the "unofficial sport" of the People's Liberation Army during the civil war 60 years ago.

Like other Western influences, it disappeared during the Cultural Revolution of 1966-76.

"This isn't about money," Dodgers chairman Frank McCourt said. "It is expensive to make these steps, and it's going to take resources to sustain it. It's not about two exhibition games, it's about bringing the game in a full-fledged way to this great country."

Commissioner Bud Selig is attending the games, along

with dozens of MLB executives. The Dodgers and Padres have brought over a half-dozen players likely to be on their 25-man opening day rosters, and the games will be shown live in San Diego and Los Angeles despite the 15-hour time difference.

"Baseball is kind of a natural in China," said Ed Burns, an MLB vice president who works with Lefebvre and the Chinese Baseball Association. The CBA's national team has a few players who might make a top American university team, but it's mostly second-line talent. That may change in the next few years if Chinese sports authorities decide baseball's a priority and top athletes are moved from other sports.

Baseball boom leads to tough tickets even with colossal costs

NEW YORK (AP) — Even Keith Olbermann had sticker shock when he saw the Ruthian prices for Yankee Stadium's final year. His family first purchased four season tickets for seats behind the Yankees dugout in 1972 at \$4 per seat for each game. This year, the price jumped to \$250 from \$150 — more than double the \$112 average for equivalent seats near the Mets' dugout across town.

"The thought did cross my mind, my investment in this might be better spent at Shea Stadium and Citi Field," the MSNBC broadcaster said.

Still, he kept the seats. All the offseason talk of the Mitchell Report and steroids hasn't dented baseball's boom.

The Chicago Cubs have sold more than 2,775,000 tickets and had just 500,000 remaining at the start of the week. The Red Sox capped full season equivalents at just under 22,000 at Fenway Park, where capacity is 37,400 at night and 36,984 during the day. And Major League Baseball says the sale of season-ticket equivalents is up 4 percent.

"I think we'll draw between 80 and 81 million this year, which is an amazing number," baseball commissioner Bud Selig said. "We're having explosive growth right now. This sport has never been more popular, and the interest is just unbelievable."

Baseball is coming off a milestone year. The 30 teams drew 79.5 million fans in 2007, a record average of 32,785.

This year, fans who want smokin' seats for the Bronx Bombers have to be nearly as wealthy as the star players they watch. And still, the Yankees might sell out the season or come close before opening day.

Scrambling for tickets is at its most frenzied in New York, where both teams are entering the final seasons of their ballparks. The Yankees have sold

3.75 million of about 4.4 million available tickets, and the Mets are on track to draw 4 million at home for the first time.

"I think we'll draw between 80 and 81 million this year, which is an amazing number. We're having explosive growth right now. This sport has never been more popular, and the interest is just unbelievable."

— Bud Selig
Baseball commissioner

Tickets for the Yankees' final regular-season game, against Baltimore on Sept. 21, were listed this week at up to \$16,199 apiece on StubHub.com. Of the 3,000 seats originally priced by the team at \$250, only 111 weren't renewed as season tickets, and the Yankees said they were resold within 24 hours.

Olbermann remembered back to 1972, when four seats for the season wound up costing \$1,056 (there were 15 doubleheaders). Now the seats — so close to the field that his mother got hit by a ball when Chuck Knoblauch overthrew first base eight years ago — cost him \$81,000.

"From \$1,000 a season, it's \$1,000 a game," he said. "So literally they've now crossed that mark where it's 81 times more expensive to see the season as it was in 1972."

According to the Consumer Price Index, \$4 in 1972 is about \$20 now — meaning even when adjusted for inflation, there's been a 12-fold increase for the best box seats.

Twenty years ago, many teams had just two prices — box and reserved.

Now, most clubs have dozens of ticket levels, sometimes different ones for season tickets, advance sales and day-of-game purchases. Some teams also charge differing amounts depending on the opponent and the day of the week.

This season, clubs also must contend with StubHub. Twenty-nine clubs — all but the Red Sox — have agreed to make the Web site their official resale outlet. As of Tuesday, 434,000 Yankees home tickets were available on the Web site, including more than 6,000 for some games.

Bob Bowman, chief executive officer of Major League Baseball Advanced Media, said 400,000 tickets already have changed hands on StubHub, where buyers pay a 10 percent fee and sellers are charged a 15 percent commission.

The Washington Nationals, who move into a new ballpark, had 2.7 percent of their seats available on StubHub this week. For the Chicago Cubs, 6.8 percent of Wrigley Field's tickets are on the Web site. For Dodger Stadium, it's 3 percent.

Bowman said he thinks StubHub makes fans less reticent to purchase seats from teams because they know there's an easy resale market: "If the average fan see there's a vibrant, legal, robust secondary market, the more likely they are to buy tickets."

Even for the Florida Marlins.

Last in the major leagues with 1.37 million fans at home last year, the Marlins command \$179 for tickets in the first row of seats behind home plate and \$153 for rows two through four. But their Fish Tank section of bleachers in right goes from \$9-15, depending on the opponent and when the tickets are bought.



Pampa News photo by KATHERINE FLANARY
A Lady Harvester goes after a Lady Eagle in Saturday's game against Canyon. The Lady Harvesters, as well as the Harvesters, will play again this Saturday. The Lady Harvesters will start the day off with their game at noon followed by the Harvesters at 2 p.m.

Alaskan shooter picked for Olympics

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Corey Cogdell is headed to the Olympics in Beijing with an invitation that cements the 21-year-old woman's reputation as the best female trapshooter in the United States.

Cogdell, who moved to Texas from Eagle River two years ago to pursue her dream, is the first Alaskan shooter to make the Olympics.

She first showed talent with a shotgun when she was a toddler growing up in Chickaloon and could shoot a spruce tree at 75 yards. Now, she's been chosen a spot on the U.S. Olympic Team.

On Wednesday, Cogdell won the U.S. Olympic Team Trials in Kerrville, Texas, to earn a trip to Beijing. She turned in a dazzling display Sunday, hitting 72-of-75 targets, including a perfect 25-

for-25 in the third round. No other competitor hit more than 63 targets.

"Wow. I don't think it's really hit me yet," Cogdell said via cell phone from Texas. "I'm extremely thankful and proud to be able to represent my country. I never would have thought that in two years I would have been able to make an Olympic team."

"So many people helped me along the way. Every step of the way, God has been leading me and helping me. I know I wouldn't have been able to do what I did this week without having a strong faith."

Cogdell began the four-day event to determine the lone U.S. women's trapshooting Olympian with a seven-target deficit after competition last fall.

But by the end of the first day, she had a lead she

would never surrender.

"We had some really difficult conditions the first two days," Cogdell said. "It was extremely windy the first day, we had a thunder and rainstorm the second day. I just thought to myself this is perfect ... to make up some targets on my competition."

Cogdell has built an impressive resume in her young career. Bronze medals in the 2007 Pan American Games, World Cup Korea and U.S. championships.

Now, it's the Olympics in August.

After the shooting was over on Wednesday, Cogdell placed a call to her dad, Dick, who still lives in Eagle River.

"Honestly, and I'm not saying this just because (I'm her dad), I just knew she was going to win. She has been shooting so good," he said.

Oklahoma State ousts Texas Tech, 76-72

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — James Anderson scored 18 points and hit the game-clinching free throws with 4 seconds to go, lifting Oklahoma State past Texas Tech 76-72 in a seesaw first-round match in the Big 12 tournament.

Texas Tech led by as many as five points in the second half, but missed three of four foul shots with about 3 minutes to go and could not stop Oklahoma State point guard Byron Eaton down the stretch.

Eaton popped in a 12-foot

jumper for a 73-71 lead with 45 seconds left, then hit a free throw to make it 74-70. After Charlie Burgess sliced the lead to 74-70, Anderson connected twice from the foul line for the Cowboys (17-15), who have won six of their last eight following a six-game losing streak and will face top-seeded Texas in the second round on Friday.

Alan Voskuil had 19 points for Texas Tech (16-15).

Pat Knight, after taking over for his hall-of-fame

father, Bob, on Feb. 4, was 4-7 as the Red Raiders' head coach. His losses included 98-54 to Texas A&M and 109-51 to Kansas in less than a week, with both breaking the school record for most lopsided defeat. In between those epic defeats was a shocking 83-80 upset of eventual co-champion Texas.

Eaton, the first guard in Oklahoma State history to have 100 or more assists in each of his first three seasons, missed the front end of a one-and-one free throw

with 20 seconds left. The Red Raiders grabbed the rebound, but Burgess was trapped near the foul line on the opposite end of the court and the Cowboys got the ball.

Eaton had 12 points and four assists and Terrel Harris had 12 points for Oklahoma State.

Voskuil and Trevor Cook each hit two straight 3-pointers opening the second half and the Red Raiders quickly erased a 36-32 half-time deficit to take a 44-42 lead.

Fred Couples takes a share of the lead

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Fred Couples doesn't walk, he glides.

There is more salt than pepper in the color of his hair, perhaps the only evidence that Couples is 48 and started his rookie season on the PGA Tour two weeks after Ronald Reagan became president in 1981. He blends style with power, and appears to be so unflappable that even when he was confronted with a tough shot Thursday, he studied his options as if gazing at a priceless piece of art.

"He just makes it look so easy," J.J. Henry said after a 5-under 65, tying Couples for the lead in the Arnold Palmer Invitational.

Tiger Woods knows better.

Woods finished a pedestrian round of even-par 70, hardly what anyone expected of a guy who has not lost since September, when he saw Couples' name atop the

leaderboard. They have played three times together in the Presidents Cup, and they have competed against each other in the final pairing of other tournaments.

"He's a lot more tense than people think," Woods said. "You see how he walks, his mannerisms. But below the surface, it's raging pretty good."

In an opening round all about resurgence, no one stood out quite like Couples.

He played only two tournaments last year because of back problems, which were serious enough that he contemplated life without golf. He was appointed U.S. captain of the Presidents Cup earlier this month, a subtle reminder that his time has passed. Yet he looked better than ever under warm sunshine, with four birdies on his opening six holes and hanging on for a share of the lead.

"This doesn't make me the guy to beat," Couples said. "If I can play like that, it makes it a lot easier. When you birdie four out of the first six holes, there's not much that can bother you."

It was his best score at Bay Hill since a 63 in 1992, the year he won this tournament and was No. 1 in the world.

Woods is the world's No. 1 player now, having won his last five official events, four on the PGA Tour. It sure didn't look that way after a birdie on the opening hole. Woods missed one green with a pitching wedge, another green with a sand wedge, and 70 was his worst start at a tournament since the Deutsche Bank Championship in September, which also was the last time he lost.

He didn't make a lot of putts, and Woods attributed that to the each green having a different speed.

A XYDLBAAXR
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.

3-14 CRYPTOQUOTE

VI VL VDRJJR ICYJ IXHI MJ
AVEJ VD ICHTVB IVUJL SYI
IWW UHDK GJWGAI BWDZYLJ
ICHTJRK MVIX RJLGHVC.

— HASJCI BHUYL

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: NO MAN THAT DOES NOT SEE VISIONS WILL EVER REALIZE ANY HIGH HOPE OR UNDERTAKE ANY HIGH MISSION. — WOODROW WILSON

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, March 15, 2008:

You have a unique style that others like and respond to. Be careful: At times others could see you as flippant and become hard. If you meet an obstacle, look within, and you'll find answers. Sometimes a little diplomacy goes a long way. Open up to possibilities rather than problems. Network and broaden your circle of friends. If you are attached, add to your friendship, and the romance could become steamier. If you are single, don't separate love and friendship; they need to go together. CANCER provokes a lot of imaginative ideas.

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)
★★★★ Your perceptions change radically with new information. Process what a respected boss or authority figure presents. Agreement, yes or no is not the objective. Gain understanding and open new doors. Tonight: Say yes to an offer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Emphasize what is positive in your life as opposed to what you need to do. Lightness and fun blend together. A child or romantic attachment becomes testy. Jealousy rears its ugly head! Be smart and play it by ear. Tonight: You don't have to go far!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Investigate opportunities with an open mind. Financial matters need your attention. If you don't have enough funds, just say so. You might be quite surprised at another's suggestions.

Loosen up and relax. Tonight: Say yes to sharing.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ The words you choose are important, and so are your expressions and delivery. If someone reacts negatively to what you consider a positive, step back and think. Understanding comes forward. Tonight: Easy does it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ What you see and what you think might be best kept to yourself. Remember, your mood and your perspective could be coloring issues. Your finances need a stronger hand, especially if you are feeling insecure. Tonight: Your treat.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Examine what is going on with your immediate friends. You could feel that too much is happening too quickly. Don't shut down because you feel overwhelmed. Listen to your inner voice with care. Tonight: Aim high.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Take a stand, yet accept what is going on. Your ability to understand someone well makes many people want to draw in closer to you. If you are having a negative reaction, it might not be the person but how you are feeling. You could be tired. Tonight: Go with the flow.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Someone could be quite difficult or insistent that he or she needs to have his or her way. If you can, loosen up and relax in the company of a friend or two.

MUSIC, movies and other forms of escape help too. In time, you might see a situation through this person's eyes. Tonight: Reach out for a friend or loved one.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ A partner or close friend might need to know that he or she is right, which could look like you agreeing with this person. You might need to jump through your share of hoops to make a point, as others don't hear you at the moment. Know when energy spent is energy wasted. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Defer to others, especially as it appears you have no other choice. Maintaining a sense of humor could help your mood. Recognize the freedom you gain when others want to run the show. How nice is that? Tonight: Say yes to living.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You might be weighed down by obligations and what others see as a must. Lighten up and make the most out of an opportunity that heads in your direction. Listen to news with an eye to what is not being said. Tonight: Incorporate exercise into your plan.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You are unusually upbeat. In a sense, your great mood points to how out of kilter others are. Humor helps you open up and share with others. Be empathetic to another's plight. Think back to when you last felt like that. Tonight: Your mission is to have a great time.

BORN TODAY
Model Fabio (1961), actor Judd Hirsch (1935), actor Sean Biggerstaff (1983)

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



1 Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **NELLIE RUTH WRAY**, Deceased, were issued on March 7, 2008, in Docket No. 9495, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: **BILLY GENE WRAY**
 BILLY GENE WRAY is a resident of Tarrant County, Texas. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:
 Billy Gene Wray
 Independent Executor
 Estate of
 Nellie Ruth Wray,
 Deceased
 c/o Don R. Lane
 P.O. Box 1781
 Pampa, TX 79066-1781
 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 DATED the 7th day of March, 2008
 Billy Gene Wray
 Mar. 14, 2008
 A-44

5 Special Notices

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

10 Lost/Found

LOST male Poodle / Maltese mix dog, Sm. black dog. Missing since eve of Mar. 7. Vicinity of Pampa Jr. High Sch. 662-2121.

FOUND male part Border Collie / Australian Shep., blue collar, no tags. Call 665-7004 iv. msg.

FOUND in Kentucky Acres, female, white pit type dog. Call 662-1801.

FOUND at 1835 N. Hobart, female light yellow lab mix with pink & black collar. Call 669-9660.

13 Bus. Opp.

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

14d Carpentry

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

14d Carpentry

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

RICHARD'S General Carpentry. Roofs & Painting. Building & Remodeling. 886-0267, 275-9038

14e Carpet Serv.

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

14h Gen. Serv.

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

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

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

JH Concrete Work. Stamps, driveways, addition, fences, patios. Free Est. 806-382-5408.

JAMES Landscaping. Fencing, Painting & Remodeling. 669-1029.

LAWN Scaping, Fertilizing and General Lawn Cleanups. Call 662-6622

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

19 Situations

WILL provide daycare in my home. Mon-Fri. Please Call 806-662-4807.

21 Help Wanted

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

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

MAINTENANCE Man needed, remodeling exp. for various properties. Painting, drywall & plumbing a must!! Must have own tools & trans. 665-1875, 665-4274.

McLEAN CARE CENTER has openings for the following positions:
 *Full-Time Housekeeper
 *Full-Time Dishwasher
 *Nurse Aides
 Come by 605 W. 7th or call 806-779-2469 to apply or for more info.

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.

21 Help Wanted

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

TEXAS Rose Steakhouse is now hiring Servers. Apply in person! No Phone Calls.

Petroleum Bulk Drivers Eastex Crude Co. is taking applications in Pampa, TX. Applicants must have a Class "A" CDL with Hazmat & Tanker Endorsements *Home Daily *Full Benefit Package (903)856-2401 x-137 (800)443-8580 Clint

CDL Drivers Needed!! Night & Day shifts available in Miami, TX. Must pass drug test. Competitive wages, paid weekly, 401K & insurance, 2 weeks vacation after 1 year. Please call Turner Energy at (806) 898-0414

TRUCK Drivers needed. Drug test and references required. Competitive pay! Call 665-0379.

FLOOR TECH / HOUSEKEEPER PAMPA NURSING CENTER is currently hiring an individual to do housekeeping and floor care. Experience in floor care is a plus! Please apply at 1321 W. Kentucky or call Daniel Alley at 806-669-2551

REGISTERED NURSES \$2000 SIGN-ON BONUS PAMPA NURSING CENTER is currently hiring an RN to work the Baylor Plan on weekends. Duties will consist of being the Charge Nurse on the 6 to 12 and 2 to 10 shift, passing meds and supervising the care of our residents. Interested Applicants Please Contact Mandi Martin at 1321 W. Kentucky or call 806-669-2551

\$2000.00 Sign-On Bonus Licensed Vocational Nurses PAMPA NURSING CENTER has openings for LVN's on all shifts. Apply in person to: Mandi Martin R.N., DON at 1321 W. Kentucky Pampa

\$1500.00 Sign-On Bonus Certified Nurses Aide PAMPA NURSING CENTER has openings for Certified Nurses Aides on all shifts. Apply in person to: Mandi Martin R.N., DON at 1321 W. Kentucky Pampa

HELP Wanted B&C Portable Must have good driving record. 806-595-0012.

CANADIAN Family Physicians is now taking applications for the position of LVN. Benefits package offered. Apply in person 1025 S. 3rd St., Canadian

PART-time help needed cleaning carpet. Must have valid dr. lic. and pass backgr. check. 665-1976

NEED Carpenter or Carpenter's helper for all phases of home construction. Must have transportation. Lots of work avail. Call Richard @ 886-0267.

SALES / CASHIER Must Be Honest & Dependable. Apply in Person Heard-Jones, Pampa.

PART TIME INSERTER Needed immediately! About 20 hrs. per week. Must work every Sat. & be 18 yrs. old. Apply in Person The Pampa News 403 W. Atchison Pampa No phone calls please

CDL Driver needed, pulling Belly Dumps! Drug test required. Call 662-5005 or 663-0528.

SEMCROUTE, L.P. has an opening for a Full-Time Mechanic in the Pampa shop. Must have your own tools and meet DOT qualifications. Exc. benefit pkg. Please call 806-934-7505 for application.

21 Help Wanted

FULL Time employment. Must be 18 yrs., insurance, vacation, sick leave & retirement plan. Bartlett's Hardware, 500 W. Brown, Pampa.

THE PAMPA NEWS needs a well-rounded REPORTER with some photography skills. We would like the person to have some experience, but entry-level reporters are encouraged to apply. A reporter who shows some initiative and ability will be able to move up to Editor in a short time. The Pampa News is located in a growing community of 18,000 people on the high plains of Texas. We are an hour from Amarillo, 6 hours from Dallas and Colorado Springs, 5 hours from Albuquerque and 3 1/2 hours from Oklahoma City. Our local economy is booming with the rise in oil prices, but is also rooted in agriculture and a number of other major industries. The community is friendly and welcoming to newcomers. Join our team and help us produce a great community newspaper! The benefit package incl. a competitive salary, two-weeks paid vacation, a 401K plan and health / dental insurance. Please email resume and samples of your writing to: Publisher Randall Pribble rpribble@thepampanews.com

OUTREACH Health Services is hiring attendants in the Pampa area to care for the elderly and disabled. Must be 18+; will train. Flexible hours and 401K Plan avail. Please call 800-800-0697 or 806-373-0986 or apply at: www.outreachhealth.com EOE.

2 Full-Time RN's & 1 Full-Time CNA needed in Pampa, TX. Call 806-372-7696 or email resume to abosley@odysseyhealth.com

LOOKING for a Rig Operator w/ CDL and a Pumper. Wages based on exp. Benefits after 90 days-401k, health, dental, AD&D, life ins., uniforms, paid holidays, yearly bonus & paid vacation aft. 1 yr. Apply at 1211 N. Price Rd., Pampa

COUNTRY CHEVROLET Looking for highly motivated and personable person to join our team. Excellent benefits package including insurance, 401K and paid vacation, bilingual a plus. Apply in person at 1400 W. Wilson, Borger TX.

BABYSITTER Needed. Mon.-Fri. 8-4pm. References Required. Call 806-220-6620

DINING/RESTAURANT

SWEET CAREER! Store Managers \$30,000 base + Bonus (Not in all Markets) (Average potential pay w/bonus \$48K-Plus) (Bonuses paid every 2 weeks)

Assistant Manager \$27,000 + Bonuses (Not in all Markets) We pay our Managers bonuses every 2 weeks

Shift Supervisors \$9.25/hour

Full & Part-time Positions \$6.50-\$8.25/hour Advancement opportunities based on your performance Day & Evening Shifts Available we will work with your schedule

BRAUM'S ICE CREAM AND DAIRY STORES

Now hiring mail resumé to: 3000 Ne 63rd, Okc, Ok 73121 Fax To Recruiter: 405-475-2411 Email: Rpatton@braums.com Or Apply At Your Neighborhood Braum's Store EOE

Or Apply At Your Neighborhood Braum's Store EOE

21 Help Wanted

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

CITY of Skellytown is accepting applications for trash truck driver. Must have current CDL & good driving record. Send resume to P.O. Box 129, Skellytown, 79080, come by 204 4th St. or email: skelly@amaonline.com Deadline is Mar. 20, 4pm.

IMMEDIATE Openings! Roustabout Company now hiring for valid CDL Drivers, Backhoe Operators and Experienced Roustabouts in the East Texas area. We offer competitive pay and a monthly performance bonus. Please call 580-819-1073 for more info.

Local Transport Drivers Needed *1 yr. driving exp. pref. *Class A CDL w/ HazMat & Tanker *DOT Drug Screen & Physical Possible Sign-On Bonus *Benefits: Vacation, Insurance and 401K Call TOM SMITH 888-339-0599

49 Pools/Hot Tubs HOT TUB / SPA 2007 CLEARANCE 40% to 60% off MSRP First Come, First Serve If you are serious about Saving THOUSANDS, call 806-677-0400

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

60 Household SALE! Mattress Sets Closeout 07 Models Q- \$229, \$289 or \$329 All Sizes avail. 806-677-0400

DRESSER with mirror \$75 and Zenith TV \$200. Call 665-8678 between 6pm-8pm., or see Alicia at Wayne's Western Wear.

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

VHS movies \$2, books, furniture. Red Barn, 1420 S. Barnes, Sat. 10 to 5.

I Jazzy electric wheel chair unused, I Jazzy 1113 electric wheel chair used, I fold up walker, I bedside potty. 669-4150.

DEBBIE'S Used Furniture, 903 S. Main, Borger, TX. Lrg. Inventory! Specials. 273-2905, 886-0268

FOR Sale. New Clark Walking Shoes. Black, Size 8. \$40. 662-9921.

FOR Sale. Compac Computer with Desk & Chair. \$250 or best offer. 806-883-2105.

FOR Sale. Elec. Fireplace. \$100. 669-5999.

69a Garage Sales GARAGE Sale. Sat. only 8-5. Furniture & misc. 345 Canadian.

1121 Charles. Like new waterbed mattress, toys, girls clothes, Easter dresses sz 8-12, & aquarium. Sat. only.

96 Unfurn. Apts. LAKEVIEW Apt. 1 & 2 bdr. unfurn. apt. Call for availability. References & deposit req. 669-4386

NUMEROUS Houses, Apts., Dupl. & Comm. properties thru-out Pampa. 665-1875, 665-4274.

69a Garage Sales

ESTATE Sale Sat. March 15th 2221 N. Russell 8:30 A.M.

MISSION PETROLEUM CARRIERS is looking for a Great Mechanic. If you have heavy truck exp., a CDL (w/Hazmat a plus), have your own tools and want Great Benefits incl. Medical / 401K / Uniforms and a great shop to work in, You Need To Call Us! 806-922-3047.

INSIDE GARAGE SALE 1220 WILLISTON SAT. & SUN. 8AM-3PM.

LARGE Moving Sale. Everything Must go. Saturday. 9-3. 908 N. Somerville.

YARD Sale. 1116 Terry Rd. Bunkbeds, Home Interiors, boys clothes, name brand women's clothes. Sat. 9:30-7

GARAGE Sale 1136 Crane Rd Sat. 8-3

77 Livest./Equip. SERVICEABLE black Angus bulls for sale. Volume discounts. Contact Thomas Angus. 580-655-4318, 580-497-7217.

AQHA 4 yr. Blue Gray Gelding. Exp. rider. A real pet, \$2300.

AQHA 8 yr. Sarrow Gelding. Ready to go! \$1400.

AQHA 6 yr. Paint Mare. Flashy. Gentle and ready! \$1850 Pampa 806-220-6404

80 Pets & Suppl. FREE 2 month old Male, part Great Pyrenees/Golden Retriever. Will be large dog. Call 665-0826 or 440-5746.

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

OWNER FINANCE 1018 Duncan 1100 Terrace 313 Miami All 2 bdr. 105 Wilkerson-Groom 2 bdr. 2 story Easy to Qualify 665-4595 EZhomes@wintompanies.com

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

116 Mobile Homes SALE OR LEASE MOBILE HOMES 665-8317

121 Trucks 2003 Chevy Z71Ext Cab 74k miles, \$14,500 Call 898-2323.

93 Dodge Dakota. \$1500, 1936 N. Dwight. Runs Good.

122 Motorcycles 1998 Soft Tail Harley. Custom paint job. \$13k. Call 806-220-6620.

NOW HIRING: Full-Time Gift Shop & Greenhouse Sales, CDL Driver General Laborers, Diesel Mechanic/Assistant. 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!!!

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!!!

****LARGE ESTATES AUCTION**** Antiques-Furniture-Antique Firearms-Coins Saturday March 15th ~ 10 A.M. Sharp! BORGER, TEXAS Hutchinson County Aluminum Dome 1113 Bulldog Blvd. American Antique Oak Curved Glass China Cabinet with Beveled Mirror Top! Rare Antique "Symphonion" Metal Disc Music Box! Rare Antique "Mills - High Top" Slot Machine - Works! Fantastic Antique 3 Piece Victorian Parlor Set with Beautiful Settee and Matching Chairs! Antique "Globe Wernicke" Lawyer's Stacking Bookcase. Antique Guns -Very Rare Authentic Antique 1886 Winchester! Lever Action Oct. Barrel Rifle. Rare Authentic Antique "Colt" 1860 Army SAA. Rare Authentic Antique 1894 "Winchester" Lever Action Saddle Gun. All Guns in Great Working Condition and Other Antique Guns. Fantastic Gold & Silver Coin Collection. Outstanding Large Diamond Rings. Cut Crystal, Dresden, Leaded Glass Lamps, Cast Iron Banks, Cookie Jars, Leaded Glass Windows and many more items! Make This Auction A Priority! - 405-381-3402 No Buyer's Premium! Auctioneer - Michael Mearns Tx. Lic. # 12703

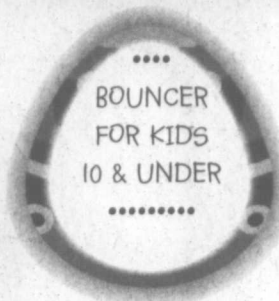
Int-rim Home HealthCare Weekend LVN PRN/Partime People Person with Good Communication Skills a must! Apply online at interimhealthcare.com Or come by 1201 N. Hobart Space D (Coronado Center) CDL Driver needed, pulling Belly Dumps! Drug test required. Call 662-5005 or 663-0528. SEMCRUDE, L.P. has an opening for a Full-Time Mechanic in the Pampa shop. Must have your own tools and meet DOT qualifications. Exc. benefit pkg. Please call 806-934-7505 for application.

SWEET CAREER! Store Managers \$30,000 base + Bonus (Not in all Markets) (Average potential pay w/bonus \$48K-Plus) (Bonuses paid every 2 weeks) Assistant Manager \$27,000 + Bonuses (Not in all Markets) We pay our Managers bonuses every 2 weeks Shift Supervisors \$9.25/hour Full & Part-time Positions \$6.50-\$8.25/hour Advancement opportunities based on your performance Day & Evening Shifts Available we will work with your schedule **BRAUM'S** ICE CREAM AND DAIRY STORES Now hiring mail resumé to: 3000 Ne 63rd, Okc, Ok 73121 Fax To Recruiter: 405-475-2411 Email: Rpatton@braums.com Or Apply At Your Neighborhood Braum's Store EOE

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 WITH KIDS NEAR YOUR
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SPECIAL EGG
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 PARENTS

Saturday March 15th Starting at 11a.m.

Pennsylvania political bigwigs courted by both Obama, Hillary camps

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bill George can't believe his luck. Suddenly, the head of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO labor union federation finds himself courted by both Democratic presidential candidates' campaigns.

Ultimately, he says, the winner is working class Americans, and he's in no hurry to endorse either Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton or Sen. Barack Obama, as long as they are both talking about health care, trade policy and other issues of his members' concern.

"I'm holding them to the fire trying to get them to have more discussions about the resolve of those issues," said George, a Democratic Party

superdelegate whose organization has 900,000 members in the state.

Pennsylvania's political power players, who watched in many past presidential elections as early voting states like Iowa and New Hampshire typically got much of the attention from candidates and the media, are suddenly in the spotlight — at least on the Democratic side.

The state is the next big battleground because on April 22 it will apportion 158 delegates, the biggest remaining prize, among candidates based on their relative support.

As the two candidates criss-cross the state for the next six weeks, there are a number of players to watch who could

make a difference behind the scenes and in front of the camera leading up to election. They include:

— Gov. Ed Rendell, the outspoken former Philadelphia mayor who later served as DNC chairman, is aggressively campaigning for Clinton. Popular in Philadelphia, where he was credited with the city's renaissance in the '90s, he could help Clinton snag votes in the state's populated southeast and with fundraising.

— Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter, elected on a promise to reform city hall, has endorsed Clinton as a pledged delegate to the national nominating convention this summer. Elected last year, he isn't as established as Rendell.

Yet Nutter, who is black, could help Clinton among black voters in the city of about 1.5 million people.

— U.S. Rep. Chaka Fattah, also from Philadelphia, is the only black member of Pennsylvania's congressional delegation. He's backing Obama and could help solidify his support among black voters.

— One key Philadelphia endorsement up for grabs is that of Rep. Robert Brady, chairman of Philadelphia's Democratic committee. The once powerful machine is not what it used to be, but still has some influence. On Friday, after hearing arguments from former President Clinton on behalf of his wife and from

Rep. Patrick Murphy, an Iraq war veteran, on Obama's behalf, ward leaders on the committee said they wanted to

hear directly from each candidate before making a decision. Brady said he'll back the candidate the committee endorses.

Events calendar

• **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 jlpeterson@ag.tamu.edu.

• **Pampa Community Concert** Association Presents "Live on Stage"

will present "Saxophobia" March 31 and "Tribute to the Beatles" May 6 at M.K. Brown Auditorium in Pampa. Saxophobia will feature Rob Verdi of the Side Street Strutters and his unusual collection of saxophones. Tribute to the Beatles will feature a four-man group of Beatles impersonators. For ticket information, show times and additional details, call 665-3362.

diabetes in the senior population

Statistics

- While an estimated 20.8 million have been diagnosed with diabetes, 6.2 million people are unaware they have the disease.
- Every day, 2,200 new cases of diabetes are diagnosed, or 780,000 a year.
- Diabetes is the 6th leading cause of death by disease in the United States.
- About 86,000 lower limbs are amputated annually due to complications from diabetes.
- Diabetes is the leading cause of end-stage kidney disease, accounting for about 40% of new cases; it is the leading cause of new cases of blindness among adults, age 20 to 74.
- 10.3 million or 20.9% of all people, in the age group 65 and older have diabetes.
- People over the age of 65 with diabetes are three times more likely to be hospitalized for falls than people with out the disease.
- One in five people with diabetes who seek hospital care do so for foot problems.
- The feet often provide the first sign of more serious health issues, such as diabetes.
- Eighty five percent of all diabetes-related lower extremity amputations are preceded by a foot ulcer.

Accolade

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Reese

Continued from Page 4

get their attention by reminding them that they are responsible for the consequences of their decisions.

Since physicians claim to be scientists rather than artists, it's past time to subject the various theories of psychology and psychiatry to scientific testing and then reject the theories that fail the test. As for the law, perhaps the liability laws should be revised to make the psychiatrist or psychologist who says a person represents no

threat to himself or others subject to suit when the opinion turns out to be wrong.

It is as plain as an elephant at a tea party that when someone turns a dangerous person loose on society, he or she shares responsibility for whatever harm that dangerous person causes. We hold dog owners liable if their dog attacks someone, yet we let psychiatrists get away with unleashing people who are far more dangerous than a pit bull.

Crimes are never caused by inanimate objects. They are always caused by human beings.

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

Sample

Continued from Page 4

requirements took hold in the late 1980s, prison populations have swollen rapidly. For criminals who have committed violent crimes, or who are inveterate repeat offenders, prison is an appropriate place. ... It is those convicted of lesser — or victimless — crimes who could benefit from alternatives to prison. At the same time, taxpayers could see a better return on their money.

... The Pew report shows that now is the time to find more cost-effective ways of handling those convicted of crimes. Investing in drug and alcohol treatment, counseling, drug courts and other innovative, non-incarceration approaches will likely

do more to turn around the lives of some of those who choose to behave badly than traditional jails and prisons.

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<http://tinyurl.com/2gwwb>

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Purcell

Cont. from Page 4

hats and scarves, getting rip-roaring drunk and singing supposed Irish tunes, such as "The Unicorn Song"?

"The Unicorn Song" illustrates my point perfectly. It was written by Shel Silverstein. He was Jewish.

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



Are you looking for something a little more substantial?

Just because you've outgrown Easter eggs, doesn't mean you've outgrown Easter. Let us share the story of Christ's resurrection with you. And you'll discover a miracle even greater than the Easter Bunny. Be a part of our Easter celebration.

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
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Holy Week and Easter Services
 Maundy Thursday • 6:00 Meal In Parish Hall

7:00 Holy Eucharist in Church
 Good Friday • Noon • Good Friday Liturgy

Easter Sunday
 8:00 Holy Eucharist

9:15 Easter Bunch Children's Egg Hunt
 10:30 Holy Eucharist