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See expanded weather on Page 2

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THE PAMPA NEWS

Tuesday, March 18, 2008

Volume 103 • No. 297

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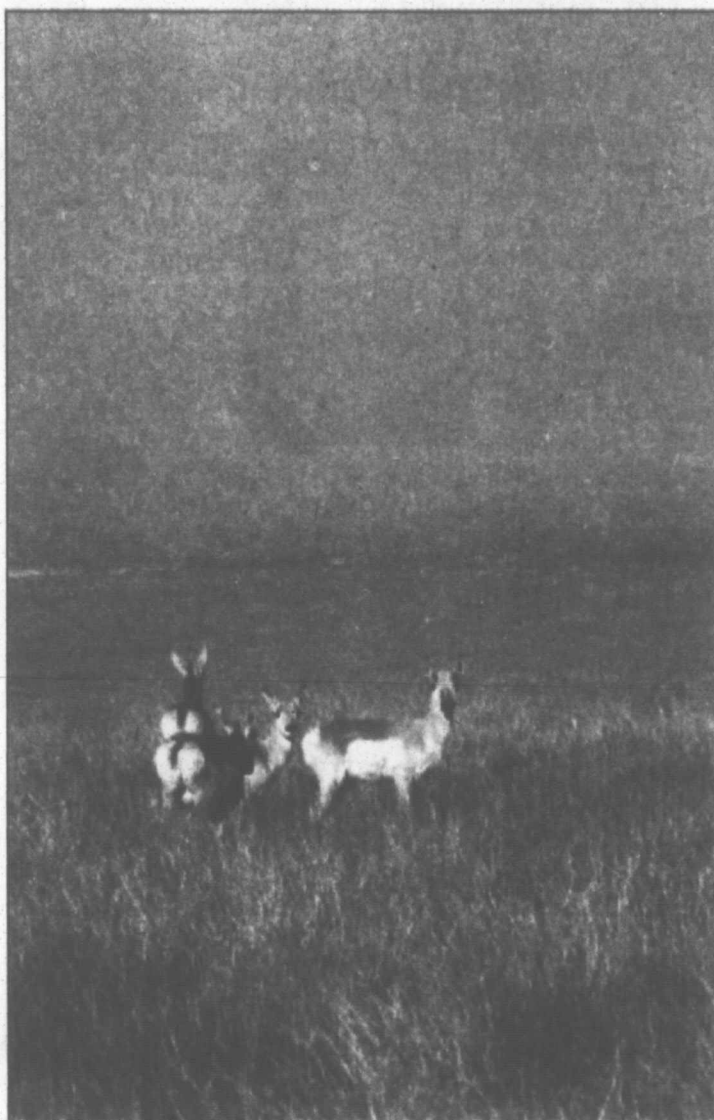
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Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

Antelope peer across the prairie north of Pampa at an approaching grass fire.

March 2006 wildfires remembered by area

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

The largest grass fire in Texas history occurred two years ago this month in the Texas Panhandle when wildfires blazed across nine counties, destroying property and claiming lives.

The fire began March 12, 2006, and involved approximately 907,000 acres in Carson, Collingsworth, Donley, Gray, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Ochiltree, Roberts and Wheeler counties, according to the Texas Forest Service. The fire was actually two fires, one named the Borger fire and the other the I-40 fire. Gray County was included in both fires, with the majority of the county's damage caused by the I-40 fire.

Eleven deaths were caused by the fires, including four in a traffic accident on

Interstate 40 in Carson County, three in Hutchinson County, and four in Roberts County, when four oil field workers were killed after leaving their vehicle and attempting to walk out of the fire zone.

A number of Gray County residents were evacuated from their homes while the fires burned. Walnut Creek Estates, about two miles north of Pampa on Highway 70, was evacuated the evening of March 12. Lefors had been evacuated that afternoon, and McLean residents were also told to leave their homes. Keller Estates was evacuated that evening.

Pampa's First Baptist Church, Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ, First Presbyterian Church, First Christian Church and National Guard armory were all opened

See FIRE, Page 3

Energy hot topic at town hall event

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

Congressman Mac Thornberry voiced frustration today at a town hall meeting in Pampa.

He said that since the beginning of this session in January 2007, Congress has passed and the President has signed into law 197 bills. Forty-seven percent of them, he said, dealt with naming federal buildings. Eighty

percent were so uncontroversial that 10 percent or fewer Congressmen voted against them.

"Congress is not doing much serious work about the problems facing us," Thornberry said. "It's incredibly frustrating."

Thornberry accused the House leadership of not bringing important issues,



Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

Framed by Roy Sparkman and Mike Ruff, Congressman Mac Thornberry visited Pampa today during a Congressional recess.

such as energy, immigration and national security, up for votes.

The veteran Congressman said the country is in good shape, but the country is not

the government. He said a
See MEETING, Page 3

Commissioners approve fee for crossing roads

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Gray County's burn ban was continued and its road crossing policy changed when county commissioners met at 9 a.m. Monday in the second-floor courtroom of the courthouse, 205 N. Russell.

The burn ban, which has been in effect since Jan. 15, will be reconsidered at commissioners' court in two weeks. The ban applies to all outdoor burning in the county with the exception of barbecue grills and some occupational practices such as welding, said County Judge Richard Peet.

An extended period of little to no rainfall with dry vegetation and frequent periods of high winds prompted establishment and continuation of the ban.

Additions to the policy concern-

ing county road crossings were adopted by commissioners. Those who wish to cross a Gray County road with, for example, a pipeline or utility are now required to apply for a permit to do so and pay a fee of \$500, in addition to other requirements already in effect.

The fees will be used to help pay for cost of maintenance of the road. No fee will be charged for road crossings which are made for agricultural use.

A draft of proposed county policies concerning rural dumping and junk yards was presented to commissioners for discussion by Precinct 2 Commissioner Gary Willoughby, who, along with County Attorney Josh Seabourn, wrote the draft.

Action on the proposed policies was deferred until commissioners'

See COUNTY, Page 3






Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

County employees picked up the items on this trailer from County Road D after they were dumped on a bridge of that road, according to Precinct 2 County Commissioner Gary Willoughby. Commissioners are considering adopting policies regulating rural dumping and junk yards.

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Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 68. Wind chill values between 31 and 41 early. West wind around 10 mph.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 41. South-southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 72. Windy, with a south-southwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 43. South wind 15 to 20 mph becoming west-northwest. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 65. North-northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 39. East-southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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Milo	8.38	XOM	87.70	+1.91
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Soybeans	11.13	Limited	16.31	+0.54
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa:		Williams	32.96	+0.69
OXY	73.64	MCD	54.60	+0.32
BP PLC ADR	63.11	Atmos	25.74	+0.13
Cabot Corp	26.12	Pioneer Nat	47.35	+0.92
Celanese	37.78	JCP	39.37	+1.81
Cabot Oil Gas	50.58	COP	77.74	+1.86
Coca Cola	58.64	SLB	83.76	+2.53
VEO	48.42	Tenneco	24.89	+0.53
HAL	37.42	CVX	85.30	+1.11
		Wal-Mart	50.55	+0.60
		OKE	46.14	+0.52
		West Texas Crude	105.88	
		New York Gold	1,002.60	
		Silver	20.30	

Ringleader of body parts scheme pleads guilty

NEW YORK (AP) — The mastermind of a scheme to plunder corpses from funeral homes and sell them for millions of dollars pleaded guilty Tuesday in a deal that could send him to prison for the next five decades. Michael Mastromarino, a 44-year-old former oral surgeon, confessed to the judge that he carried out the scheme from 2001 to 2005. He will face between 18 years and 54 years, and will have to forfeit \$4.68 million. He faced a long list of charges, including enterprise corruption, body stealing, grand larceny, and forgery. The plea comes more than two years after the gruesome scandal broke, with evidence that corpses were being hacked up without permission or proper screening for diseases and sold for dental implants, knee and hip replacements and other procedures around the country.

The looted bodies included that of "Masterpiece Theatre" host Alistair Cooke. Authorities released photos of exhumed corpses that were boned below the waist. Prosecutors said the defendants had made a crude attempt to cover their tracks by sewing PVC pipe back into the bodies in time for open-casket wakes. Dressed in a button-down Ralph Lauren shirt and blue jeans, Mastromarino methodically outlined the gruesome scheme in a nearly hourlong confession. He talked about how he forged records, including the times of death and the ages of the dead, while also telling the judge that he switched blood and tissue samples. "What he did was wrong," said his defense lawyer, Mario Galluci. "I feel horrible for the victims in this case. There is no excuse for what he did."

The prosecutor said Mastromarino "mutilated the bodies for greed." Mastromarino was the owner of Biomedical Tissue Services, a New Jersey company that shipped bones, skin and tendons to tissue processors such as Regeneration Technologies Inc., LifeCell Corp. and Tutogen Medical Inc. About 10,000 people received tissue supplied by BTS.

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Obituaries

Services tomorrow

BAKER, Cory Andre — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

Cory Andre Baker, 38

Cory Andre Baker, 38, of Pampa, Texas, died Saturday, March 15, 2008, at Pampa. Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 19, 2008, at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with Frankie Lemons, minister of Southside Church of Christ,

officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors. Mr. Baker was born April 23, 1969, in Pampa where he had been a lifelong resident. He attended Pampa High School and was a Baptist. Cory was shift manager at

McDonalds. Survivors include his parents, Herbert and Alva Wilbon of Pampa; one brother, Gabriel Wilbon and wife Lupe of Amarillo; two step-brothers, Jason Levi and Coy Lawry, both of Amarillo; and many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles,

cousins and friends. MEMORIALS: BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065. Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

Selma Northcott, 96



Northcott

DUMAS — Selma Northcott, 96, died Monday, March 17, 2008, in Dumas. Services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, March 20, 2008, at First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Dr. Mark Scott, pastor of the church, officiating, assisted by the Rev. John Wagoner, retired minister.

Graveside services will be at 4 p.m. in Fairview Cemetery in Pampa with the Rev. Steve Cox, pastor of St. Paul United Methodist Church, officiating.

Family visitation will be at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Pampa following the graveside services.

Arrangements are under the direction of Morrison Funeral Directors.

Selma Northcott was born March 1, 1912, in Coryell City, Texas, to Gus and Alvina Symank. She graduated from Megargel High School with the class of 1930. On Dec. 2, 1933, she married Thomas Vernon Northcott who preceded her in death on May 19, 1986.

They lived in Gray County for 53 years where she continued to live until moving to Dumas in 2005. She worked in food service in Lefors and Pampa until age 83 and jokingly said, "the only reason she quit working at that time, was

because the store closed."

She loved the friends she made during her employment and was affectionately known by many as "Granny."

Mrs. Northcott was a member of First United Methodist Church of Lefors and was recognized by the church with a special recognition pin. She was a former Sunday school teacher and a member of the women's organization at the church. Since moving to Dumas, she attended First United Methodist Church where she was a member of the Fidelis Sunday School

Class and United Methodist Women and Young in Spirit.

Her parents, two brothers and four sisters preceded her in death.

Survivors include sons, Tommy Northcott and wife, Janet of Dumas, and Richard "Butch" Northcott and wife, Barbara of Canadian; daughter, Glynda Pflug and husband, Jerry of Dumas; sister-in-law, Iva Symank of Megargel; 14 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; three nieces; and four nephews.

Memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 363, Lefors, TX 79054.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

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

Nineteen traffic stops were made. Stops in the 900 block of Varnon Drive and the 900 block of West Oklahoma resulted in arrests.

Traffic complaints were received from the 900 block of West Kentucky, the 100 block of West Kingsmill, and the intersection of Gwendolyn and Wells streets.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the police department lobby and the 2800 block of Charles.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 2700 block of Comanche, the 2100 block of North Wells, the 100 block of West Albert, the 400 block of Yeager, the intersection of Browning and Carr streets, the 1300 block of North Hobart, the 900 block of East Browning, the 1000 block of Mary Ellen, the 700 block of North Nelson and the 500 block of North Somerville.

Lost property was reported in the police department lobby.

Welfare checks were made in the 300 block of South Houston, the 500 block of Magnolia and the 2100 block of Christy.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 2100 block of North Hobart, the 100 block of West Foster, the 100 block of South Faulkner, the 600 block of Plains, and the intersection of 22nd and Hobart streets. At least one arrest was made in connection with the incident in the 600 block of Plains.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 1600 block of West Somerville, the 1200 block of North Hobart and the 500 block of North Davis.

Silent/abusive 911 calls were received from the 2200 block of Chestnut and the 300 block of North

Frost. Disorderly conduct was reported at the intersection of Alcock and Hobart streets, and the 1000 block of South Wells.

Criminal trespass was reported in the police department lobby.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1000 block of North Frost by the City of Pampa. Equipment was damaged at the Super Playground. Estimated cost of damage is \$350.

Criminal mischief was reported in the police department lobby.

Terroristic threats were reported in the 1900 block of North Dwight.

Possession of less than two ounces of marijuana was reported in the 900 block of West Oklahoma.

Assault/family violence was reported in the 2100 block of Lynn. Medical attention was sought for a bruise.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 900 block of East Kingsmill.

One alarm was reported.

Forgery was reported in the police department lobby. A check for \$40 was forged.

Theft was reported in the 300 block of South Houston and at Allsup's, 1025 W. Wilks.

Sheriff

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

Monday, March 17

Garnet John Terelle Walkup, 23, of Pampa was arrested in the 900 block of West Oklahoma by Pampa Police Department for possession of less than two ounces of marijuana.

Josh Glenn Stover, 27, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for no seat belt - driver and failure to appear/bail jumping.

Jane Derie Dedrick, 35, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Tuesday, March 18

Marvin Monrow Finney III, 32, of Pampa was arrested in the 1100 block of Varnon Drive by PPD on capias pro fines for no valid driver's license, possession of drug paraphernalia and failure to appear/bail jumping.

Stephen Orin Stokes, 44, of Pampa was arrested in the 900 block of Varnon Drive by PPD for no insurance and expired registration.

Fire

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Monday, March 17

3:08 p.m. — Three units and eight personnel responded to the 900 block of Campbell on a smoke investigation. Nothing was found.

10:37 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to 1 Medical Plaza on a hazardous materials spill.

Ambulance

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Sunday and 7 a.m. today.

Sunday, March 16

1:47 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Neel Road and transported a patient(s) to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

2:59 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 12000 block of Highway 60 East and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

5:21 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient(s) to BSA Hospital in Amarillo.

Monday, March 17

5:47 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to an undisclosed location east on Highway 60 and transported a patient to PRMC.

Two men accused of holding country artist at gunpoint indicted

DALLAS (AP) — Two fired Dallas police officers accused of holding country music singer Steve Holy and a friend at gunpoint during a game of foosball have been indicted by a grand jury. Randy Anderson and Paul Loughridge, who face up to 20 years in prison if convicted,

were allegedly drinking at the Holy's home in December when the singer said an argument began about his identity. Known for his 2006 hit "Brand New Girlfriend," Holy told police the officers eventually pointed their guns at he and a friend and

ordered them on the ground. The four men had gone to the house after meeting at a bar.

Anderson, 26, and Loughridge, 48, were both indicted on one count of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. Anderson was also indicted on one

count of kidnapping.

Although he declined to discuss specifics, Loughridge said he believed he would be exonerated. Anderson could not be reached for comment.

"I've had faith all along in the criminal justice system, and that faith continues,"

Loughridge said.

Anderson and Loughridge, who both joined the department in 2005, were fired in January.

Information from: The Dallas Morning News, <http://www.dallasnews.com>



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Running wild

These turkeys may be considering their best route out of an area in north Pampa because of the "No Trespassing" sign behind them. Wild turkeys are frequent visitors inside the Pampa city limits.

Meeting

Continued from Page 3

lot of the problem has to do with the election year.

In response to questioning, Thornberry said that the Clinton and Bush Administrations had not done a good job concerning immigration.

Border issues have become more important recently, he said, because of growing drug problems and the increasing power of drug gangs.

He said it is now not just a problem of immigration, it is a safety issue as well.

Thornberry said the Mexican President is trying to deal with the problem and the debate in Washington is what weapons and help to send to the Mexican government, but corruption south of the border complicates the issue.

"The federal government has not done a good job of protecting our borders, north or south," Thornberry said.

He said that border security is one area where Congress could be working together, but it's not.

One area Thornberry said he has tried to modernize government was a bill he introduced concerning hiring, firing and management

of the federal workforce.

"Most federal employees get promoted on how long they've been on the job," Thornberry said, "not on how well they do the job."

He said federal hiring, firing and management protocols were set up in the 1800s.

Thornberry said his top concern at the moment is being able to listen in on terrorists' conversations.

As a member of the House Intelligence Committee, he said this is a prime source of information.

His second concern is energy.

"We tie our hands so many ways at home and we

depend more and more on energy from overseas," Thornberry said.

He said there are two views of energy in Washington. One is that fossil fuels are bad. The other is that the country needs to tap more of the fossil fuels available in the U.S. He said he falls into the latter group.

Concerning the wind energy tax credits that expired last year, Thornberry said he thinks they'll be renewed, but he said they should be renewed for 10 years at a time, not just three. The longer horizon, he said, would offer more stability to the renewable energy industry.

County

Continued from Page 3

next meeting April 1, when a final draft of the policies is expected to be prepared and ready for commissioners' consideration.

An interlocal agreement between the county and Lefors Independent School District was approved by commissioners. The agreement was sought as a result of the school district's construction of a new track with grant funds. The county will repair road drainage at 3rd, 4th and Shaw streets which surround the school district's football field by cleaning out existing ditches and creating ditches.

A bid of \$2,019 by Butch Turpen was accepted for a 1992 Chevrolet Blazer which had been used in Precinct 4. Two other bids, for \$1,500 and \$1,525, were also received for the vehicle.

Commissioners approved financing for a motor grader for Precinct 4 through the Buy Board with Welch State Bank. They also approved the county clerk's request to purchase a scanner with funds from the county's records management budget. The scanner, which is capable of scanning large-size real estate documents into a computer, will cost \$4,831, said County Clerk Susan Winborne.

Bids on delinquent tax property which were accepted at Monday's meeting were \$200 for two lots and a portion of another in Lefors by Dana Davis; \$200, for one lot and a portion of another in Lefors, Kenneth Purvis; and \$501, for two lots in Lefors, Shane Johnson.

Action was again deferred on whether to purchase an identity card system.

A resolution supporting the crime victims coordinator, along with the coordinator's education and equipment, was passed for the purpose of allowing the 31st District Attorney's office to pursue two grants to help fund the position. The grant funds would enable the coordinator to expand her hours from part- to full-time, said DA Lynn Switzer at Monday's meeting. The funds would also provide training for law enforcement.

Commissioners also approved payment of bills and salaries, budget amendments concerning a replacement vehicle for the county sheriff's office, a law enforcement exhibit at White Deer Land Museum, and a line item transfer concerning 223rd District Court.

Personnel items acted upon at Monday's meeting included coverage by the county's health insurance for employees placed in medical isolation in a hospital, paying all part-time employees through the county's payroll account and stipulations concerning benefits for full-time employees.

Fire

Continued from Page 1

for evacuees from neighboring areas.

Highway closures contributed to a 700-vehicle backup March 12 at Clarendon as I-40 was closed for a time due to low visibility. At various times, Highway 70, Highway 152, Loop 171 and Farm to Market Roads 767, 283, 354 and 722 were also closed due to the fires.

Ten Gray County homes were destroyed in the fire and another 21 were damaged, according to Federal Emergency Management Agency inspectors who toured the county on March 22, 2006.

Other structures including fences, power poles and lines, vehicles, and barns and other buildings were also lost in the fire. More than 1,000 cattle that died as a result of the fires had been buried by April 1, 2006, according to County Judge Richard Peet.

Property losses prompted financial and other types of donations to help affected county residents. Country singer Michael Martin Murphey performed a benefit concert at the Clyde Carruth Pavilion in Recreation Park to raise funds for fire victims, and a committee chosen by county commissioners distributed more than \$100,000 in donations received mainly from the Amarillo Area Foundation. Other donations

of money and materials such as hay and fence components were also distributed to affected rural residents.

The wildfires also led to a lawsuit filed April 10, 2006 by the Burnett Trust, owners of the Four Sixes Ranch, against Cano Petroleum. The suit claimed that a wildfire on the ranch on March 12, 2006 that destroyed 13,000 of the ranch's acres was caused by equipment for which Cano was responsible.

Other wildfires also burned portions of Gray County in 2006. Blazes battled during the year included more than a dozen, occurring on Feb. 1, March 8, March 17, April 6, and Aug. 2.

The toll might have been even higher had not county commissioners enacted a burn ban on Jan. 3 and kept it in effect until July 14 that year. A second ban was approved on Dec. 15. In both instances, sales of aerial fireworks were also banned, although the City of Pampa's annual fireworks display July 4 at Recreation Park was allowed to be held.

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Viewpoints

Foreign aid doesn't always make sense

Have you ever wondered where your money goes, especially when it seems you aren't making any headway financially?

During a roundup of documents for our income tax return, I began wondering where our tax dollars went, since it always seems impossible to pinpoint exactly what the federal government chooses to do with that hard-earned money.

I decided to investigate. My first discovery was the overwhelming size and complexity of the U.S. budget. I quickly narrowed my focus to one topic to see just how well we were doing unto others.

I found that it was easier to locate information on U.S.

foreign aid by category rather than country. In other words, it seems that funds are allocated for programs which may be underway in more than one country, and some countries may get funds for more than one program.

See what I mean? Our government will never be accused of employing the "k.i.s.s." method, also known as "keep it simple, stupid."

It seems that the two top winners in the annual dollar giveaway have traditionally been Israel and Egypt, in that order. For example, in 2005, Israel received \$2.58 billion and Egypt got \$1.84 billion, according to online data.

That sounds like a lot, and

it is, but keep in mind that the total U.S. budget is a couple of trillion dollars.

The current big winners? Iraq and Afghanistan.

The breakdown of giveaways by country wasn't so easy from there on, however.

It was quicker to find out what foreign programs were getting, and where those programs were operating, thus arriving at a fair idea of how much aid is going where.

One budget winner for 2008 is the GWOT, or the Global War On Terrorism. About \$1.3 billion is going

to Iraq and Afghanistan for attempts to counteract elements of terrorism.

Iraq and Afghanistan get even more than that, however, because they each get roughly double that amount under other sections of the foreign aid budget.

Sort of reminds me of Germany and Japan. First we go to war with them, then we throw money at them to help them get over it.

Another program funneling funds out of the country is the one to fight HIV/AIDS abroad. This program got a hefty raise, from \$1.8 billion

in 2007 to \$4.2 billion for 2008. It is aimed primarily at 15 countries, 12 of which are in sub-Saharan Africa (no surprise there). The other three countries are Haiti, Vietnam and Guyana.

Next up is the Millennium Challenge Corporation. This nifty group is a new aid agency that bases its funding on whether a particular country "governs justly, invests in its people and encourages economic freedom."

Under those criteria, I wonder what they would decide the U.S. deserved.

MCC's annual budget was to rise from \$1.1 billion in 2007 to \$3 billion for 2008. However, MCC so far hasn't let go of more than a few

percent of its budget, so either no one is applying for the money or few can make the grade.

The Economic Support Fund is allocated mainly by the Department of State and is influenced by U.S. security and political interests. The 2008 total for this fund is \$3.3 billion, and countries benefiting by it have included Israel, Egypt, Iraq and Afghanistan.

The World Bank gets \$1 billion U.S. dollars for 2008. This organization offers loans, grants, advice and customized resources to over 100 developing countries and countries in transition.

Rough estimates of who

See POWERS, Page 5

Marilyn Powers

Staff Writer



Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, March 18, the 78th day of 2008. There are 288 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 18, 1858, German mechanical engineer Rudolf Diesel, the inventor of the diesel engine, was born in Paris.

On this date:

In 1766, Britain repealed the Stamp Act of 1765.

In 1837, Grover Cleveland, the 22nd and 24th president of the United States, was born in Caldwell, N.J.

In 1922, Mohandas K. Gandhi was sentenced in India to six years' imprisonment for civil disobedience. (He was released after serving two years.)

In 1937, some 300 people, mostly children, were killed in a gas explosion at a school in New London, Texas.

In 1938, Mexican President Lázaro Cárdenas nationalized his country's petroleum reserves and took control of foreign-owned oil facilities.

In 1940, Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini met at the Brenner Pass, where the Italian dictator agreed to join Germany's war against France and Britain.

'No man has a right in America to treat any other man tolerantly, for tolerance is the assumption of superiority.'

— Wendell Willkie
American politician
(1892-1944)

In 1959, President Eisenhower signed the Hawaii statehood bill. (Hawaii became a state on Aug. 21, 1959.)

In 1962, France and Algerian rebels signed a cease-fire agreement, which took effect the next day.

In 1965, the first spacewalk took place as Soviet cosmonaut Aleksei Leonov went outside his Voskhod 2 capsule, secured by a tether.

In 1974, most of the Arab oil-producing nations ended their embargo against the United States.

Ten years ago: Julie Hiatt Steele, a former friend of Kathleen Willey's, released a sworn affidavit undercutting Willey's claim that President Clinton had made an unwanted sexual advance toward her in 1993. (According to Steele, Willey instructed her to tell Newsweek that Willey had confided the alleged episode to her immediately after it supposedly happened; Steele said she first heard about the accusation in 1997.)

Five years ago: A jury in Corpus Christi, Texas, cleared Bayer Corp. of liability in a \$560 million lawsuit that accused the pharmaceutical giant of ignoring research linking the cholesterol-lowering drug Baycol to dozens of deaths.



Big corn and ethanol hoax continues ...

One of the many mandates of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 calls for oil companies to increase the amount of ethanol mixed with gasoline. President Bush said during his 2006 State of the Union address, "America is addicted to oil, which is often imported from unstable parts of the world."

Let's look at some of the "wonders" of ethanol as a replacement for gasoline.

Ethanol contains water that distillation cannot remove. As such, it can cause major damage to automobile engines not specifically designed to burn ethanol. The water content of ethanol also risks pipeline corrosion and thus must be shipped by truck, rail car or barge. These shipping methods are far more expensive than pipelines.

Ethanol is 20 to 30 per-

cent less efficient than gasoline, making it more expensive per highway mile. It takes 450 pounds of corn to produce the ethanol to fill one SUV tank. That's enough corn to feed one person for a year. Plus, it takes more than one gallon of fossil fuel — oil and natural gas — to produce one gallon of ethanol. After all, corn must be grown, fertilized, harvested and trucked to ethanol producers — all of which are fuel-using activities. And, it takes 1,700 gallons of water to produce one gallon of ethanol. On top of all this, if our total annual corn output were put to ethanol production, it would reduce gasoline consumption by 10 or 12 percent.

Walter Williams
Columnist



the form of handouts to corn farmers to the tune of \$9.5 billion in 2005 alone.

There's something else wrong with this picture. If Congress and President Bush say we need less reliance on oil and greater use of renewable fuels, then why would Congress impose a stiff tariff, 54-cents a gallon, on ethanol from Brazil? Brazilian ethanol, by the

way, is produced from sugar cane and is far more energy efficient, cleaner and cheaper to produce.

Ethanol production has driven up the prices of corn, other grain prices, such as soybean and wheat, have risen dramatically. The fact that the U.S. is the world's largest grain producer and exporter means that the ethanol-induced higher grain prices will have a worldwide impact on food prices.

It's easy to understand how the public, looking for cheaper gasoline, can be taken in by the call for increased ethanol usage. But politicians, corn farmers and ethanol producers know they

See WILLIAMS, Page 5.

Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ March 5

San Antonio Express-News on negative campaigns and their effect on "historic" election:

The 2008 primary elections will long be remembered in Texas for the salutary effects they've had on the political process.

Record numbers of both Democrats and Republicans went to the polls. Hundreds of thousands of new voters the young and the not so young participated for the first time in democracy. People became engaged in lively discussions about issues affecting their communities, the state and the nation.

Despite all these positives, three GOP primary races also provided a vivid demonstration of why so many people are turned off by politics. And they illustrate why it's sometimes difficult to get qualified individuals to put their names on the ballot, whether for local school board or for president of the United States.

In the primary contest for Texas House District 122, Tony Kosub challenged incumbent Frank Corte by attacking his conservative credentials.

To assail the former president of the Texas Conservative Coalition and the current chairman of the House GOP caucus as not conservative enough is about as unserious as an opponent can get.

There was a similar script in the race

for District 73. An independent group distributed a silly, disparaging mailout attacking one-term incumbent Nathan Macias, who last year earned Texas Monthly's designation as "furniture" for his inconsequential presence in Austin.

Meanwhile, Macias attacked former New Braunfels Mayor Doug Miller as a closet liberal who failed to vote in Republican primaries for a decade prior to 2006.

The claim was false. Guadalupe County election records show Miller voted in every GOP primary during that period.

The worst example came from the GOP contest to select a candidate for

See ADS, Page 5

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Rain falls across Lone Star State

By The Associated Press

The first wave of thunderstorms moved through portions of Texas Monday evening, knocking down power poles in Abilene and starting fires in Hopkins County. The National Weather Service said more rain was expected to sweep across much of the state on Tuesday.

Jim Bryan, emergency management coordinator for the city of Abilene, said a downburst downed the power poles. He said there were some power outages.

In Hopkins County, lightning was being blamed for several fires, including a 40-50 acre blaze near the Hopkins-Hunt county line.

Storms moved through a wide section of West Texas and another band moved through East Texas.

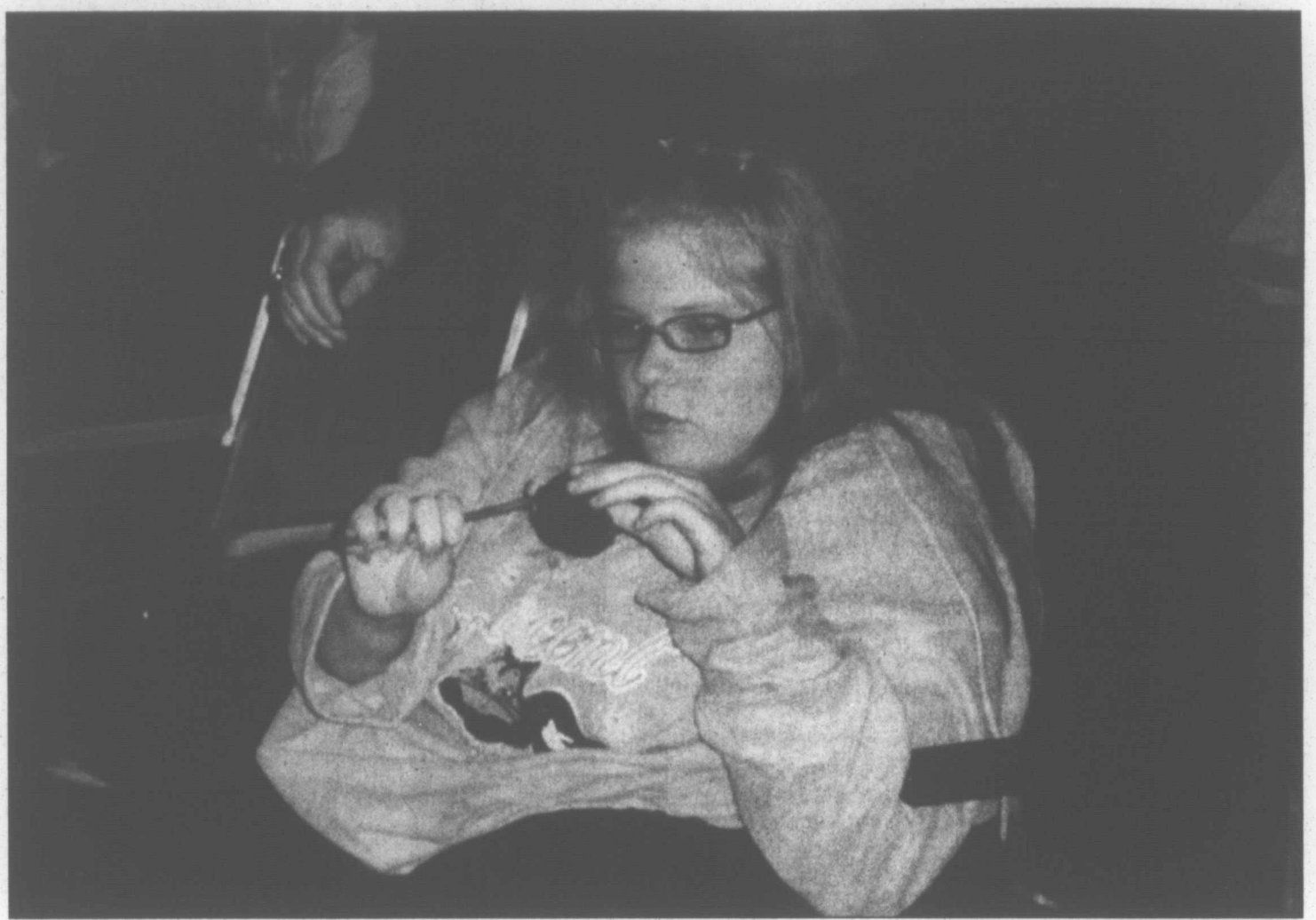
In the Austin area, there was a 100 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms Tuesday and temperatures in the lower 60s. Wind gusts up to 25 mph were possible in the afternoon. By evening, there was a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms with lows in the upper 40s.

In the Dallas area, there was a 100 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms with highs in the mid-60s. By evening, there was a 90 percent chance of rain with lows in the mid-40s.

An 80 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms in the Houston area was expected to increase to 90 percent in the afternoon, with highs in the lower 70s and winds up to 25 mph. There was a 50 percent chance of rain by evening with lows in the lower 50s and winds up to 25 mph.

In the Midland area, there was an 80 percent chance of showers with highs in the upper 50s. By evening, partly cloudy skies were expected with lows in the mid-30s.

Partly cloudy skies were expected in the morning in the El Paso area, skies were then expected to clear with highs from 60 to 65 and winds up to 25 mph. Clear skies were expected in the evening with lows in the upper 30s.



COURTESY PHOTO

PJH assembly

Cyndal Boyd and many fellow students attended a Worth the Wait assembly staged recently at Pampa Junior High. Worth the Wait is an areawide teen abstinence program.

Fed poised to cut rates to bolster economy

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve is expected to aggressively lower interest rates in its intensified battle against the credit crisis and spreading economic weakness. The question is whether all of the effort will turn the tide.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues have already been working overtime, employing a variety of novel approaches to keep the economy out of a recession or at least moderate the impact of any downturn.

And financial markets are hoping for another big boost today with an aggressive cut in the Fed's key interest rate, the federal funds rate. Expectations are for a reduction of between one-half point and a full point. If the Fed cuts the funds rate by a full point, it would be the biggest single rate cut in more than two decades.

Markets were up strongly before the Fed announcement after Lehman Brothers and Goldman Sachs reported better-than-expected results for the first quarter. The Dow Jones industrial aver-

age jumped more than 200 points in early trading.

Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson made the rounds of the morning TV shows Tuesday to underscore the administration's commitment to keeping turmoil in the financial markets from worsening a struggling economy.

"The priority we have is a stable, orderly financial" market, he said on CBS' "The Early Show."

He said the focus of policymakers "is reducing the spillover into the real economy from the turbulence and disruptions in our financial markets."

To those who would complain that the administration is more interested in bailing out Wall Street than struggling homeowners, Paulson said the thousands of Bear Stearns employees likely to lose their jobs and life savings, and thousands of shareholders who have lost billions because of the company's collapse, probably do not feel like they have been bailed out.

A cut in the funds rate will translate immediately into lower rates for consumers and businesses as banks cut their

prime lending rate by a similar amount.

"There is no reason for the Fed not to be aggressive," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com. "The economy is in a recession, the financial system is in disarray and inflation is low."

However, a report Tuesday showed that wholesale prices rose by 0.3 percent in February, driven higher by rising energy costs.

Outside of food and energy, core inflation jumped by 0.5 percent, the biggest increase in 15 months and a possible sign that the relentless increase over the past two years in energy costs is making its presence felt in other sectors of the economy.

At the moment, Fed officials have said they are more concerned about weak growth than inflation. Another report Tuesday showed that problems in the housing industry continue, with construction of new homes falling by a bigger-than-expected 0.6 percent and applications for new building permits dropping to the lowest level in 16 years.

Powers

Continued from Page 4

and Kenya, with between \$500 million and \$600 million each, mostly in HIV/AIDS funding.

They're followed by Egypt, with \$415 million; Pakistan, nearly \$415 million; and Jordan, just over \$280 million.

One interesting tidbit is that four oil-producing countries were on the list for lesser amounts of U.S. foreign assistance. They are Algeria, Bahrain, Kuwait and Libya. Even Iran was scheduled to get \$75 million, but that deal likely won't materialize, according to budget watchdogs.

I learned at least one thing by looking up our country's foreign aid budget. My idea of rational, effective spending doesn't always mesh with that of my country.

gets what offer some clues as to the pecking order of the great dollar drain. After Iraq and Afghanistan, next in line are South Africa, Nigeria

Williams

Continued from Page 4

Midland (ADM), the country's largest producer of ethanol. Ethanol producers and the farm lobby have pressured farm state congressmen into believing that it would be political suicide if they didn't support subsidized ethanol production. That's the stick. Campaign contributions play the role of the carrot.

The ethanol hoax is a good example of a problem economists refer to as narrow, well-defined benefits versus widely dispersed costs. It pays the ethanol lobby to organize and collect money to grease the palms of politicians willing to do their bidding because there's a large benefit for them - higher wages and profits. The millions of gasoline consumers, who fund the benefits through higher fuel and food prices, as well as taxes, are relatively uninformed and have little clout. After all, who do you think a politician will invite into his congressional or White House office to have a heart-to-heart - you or an Archer Daniels Midlands executive?

-Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University.

are running a cruel hoax on the American consumer. They are in it for the money. The top leader in the ethanol

Judge rejects settlement in TYC civil rights case

McALLEN, Texas (AP)

The Texas Youth Commission must again try to settle a Justice Department lawsuit over inmate safety in one its juvenile prisons after a judge rejected a proposed agreement reached last month.

U.S. District Judge Ricardo Hinojosa said Monday the tentative settlement lacked a specific timeline for suggested reforms at the Evins Regional Juvenile Center, which federal prosecutors began probing in 2006 after numerous reports of abuse.

Hinojosa also urged both sides to come up with criteria for evaluating progress at the Evins facility, where problems have also generated several lawsuits filed by former inmates and staff members.

prosecutors had agreed to give a federal judge oversight over reform efforts for three years. But Hinojosa said the proposal failed to adequately address what would happen if the Justice Department's demands went unmet.

The settlement stipulated that staff members could only use restraint to maintain security, and not as means to punish inmates. It also required the facility to provide adequate staffing

levels to protect youth from harm and to develop procedures to allow staff and inmates to report abuse and sexual misconduct without fear of retaliation.

Revelations of inmate abuse and possible cover-ups shook Texas' juvenile corrections system last year and prompted state leaders to order a massive overhaul of the agency. Several top administrators were either fired or resigned.

Under the rejected proposal, the TYC and federal

Ads

Continued from Page 4

and pay raises. In the final days of the campaign, he dug up a two-decade-old \$950 property tax lien against the estate of Larson's deceased father.

Larson has been an exemplary public servant on San Antonio City Council and Bexar County Commissioners Court. For Canseco to attempt to smear him in this way was outrageous.

The negative campaigns of Kosub and Canseco overwhelmingly failed Tuesday. Macias, despite the advantages of incumbency, lost by a thin margin. The political lesson in these outcomes is that the win-at-all-costs style of politics isn't only bad for the political process, it's also bad for the political prospects of candidates who employ it. URL: <http://www.mysa.com>

Congressional District 23. Francisco "Quico" Canseco ran a despicable campaign that misrepresented Lyle Larson's positions on property taxes

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Russian exchange students at home at WT

CANYON — They came expecting to see horses and cowboys, but the four Russian exchange students are far from disappointed at what they have found at West Texas A&M University.

Elena Doronina, Dmitry Panov, Alena Sizemova and Anton Vinokurov are spending the spring semester at WTAMU as part of a student exchange program with Nizhny Novgorod Commercial Institute in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia. This marks the University's first exchange students and represents more than a year of work getting the program off the ground.

"Reciprocal agreements such as this take a lot of time and planning to make work," Desirae Norton, study abroad coordinator, said. "There are many ways to design an agreement between universities. In this instance, we are exchanging equal credit hours between the two universities."

The four exchange students arrived in Canyon in mid-January for their semester-long stay. They are finance majors, each taking 12 hours — three business courses and one speech class. In exchange, Dr. Barry Duman, professor of economics and head of the Department of Management, Marketing and General Business, will take 16 WTAMU

students to Russia in June to earn credits from Nizhny Novgorod Commercial Institute.

And even though the four students haven't seen many horses or cowboys, they are more than impressed with the University. They love the weather, the residence halls and especially the WTAMU campus.

"It's amazing," Panov said. "It's a big area with so many buildings. It's like a little city."

Even though their hometown boasts a population of 1.3 million, Nizhny Novgorod Commercial Institute has an enrollment of only 5,000 with a campus comprised of just two buildings.

"Our university is a place to study only," Sizemova said. "Here it is like a town where you can go to the gym or to the library."

"It is a beautiful place," Vinokurov agreed.

"And everyone is so friendly," Doronina said.

They are enjoying classes at WTAMU, too, and they appreciate how friendly and helpful their University professors are. They also like how easy it is to connect with the professors through email, especially when questions arise.

"We can ask any questions," Vinokurov said. "Sometimes they speak too fast and it is difficult to understand because we think in Russian, not



COURTESY PHOTO
Four Russian exchange students from Nizhny Novgorod Commercial Institute in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia, are spending the spring semester at West Texas A&M University. The students stand with Maxim Tsvetkov, center, a faculty member from the Commercial Institute, who spent a few days at WTAMU before returning to Russia. The students are, from left to right, Dmitry Panov, Alena Sizemova, Elena Doronina and Anton Vinokurov.

English."

Faculty members are enjoying the four students as well, especially the added perspective they bring to the classroom.

"I enjoy them tremendously," Paula Schlegel, instructor of speech communication, said. "They

perform well on all assignments which is great considering the language and cultural changes they are going through.

"But I have to admit that my favorite thing about them is their obvious interest in our 'normal' things like campus

events or even our area landscape. Their enthusiasm to experience things I take for granted reawakens excitement and makes me interested in these things as well."

That enthusiasm is obvious as Doronina, Panov, Sizemova and Vinokurov take in as

much of the University life as they can while enjoying local sites and events. It may not match the horse and cowboy image they had envisioned, but it's an exchange program and an environment they all are enjoying.

Kid Scoop THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

This Week: Bunny Buddies

Puzzle answers, games, opinion polls and much more at: www.kidscoop.com

WARNING! DON'T DO THIS PAGE ALONE!
Find a buddy and do this page together! If the page looks easy, find somebunny younger to be your buddy. If the page looks hard, find somebunny older to help you.

Buzz and Beeper's Egg Piñata
Read the instructions. Then, number the pictures in the correct order.

1. Make a thick mixture of white glue and water.
2. Tear a newspaper into strips.
3. Blow up a balloon and tie a string to it.
4. Slide strips of newspaper through the glue mixture and place on the balloon. Overlap the strips so that you cover the entire balloon except for the area where the string is tied. Leave an empty space there about the size of a hamburger.
5. Suspend and let dry overnight.
6. Paint and decorate with bright spring colors.
7. When dry, punch three holes around the top. Thread strings through the holes and tie together so your egg can be hung.
8. Pop the balloon. Fill the egg piñata with small toys and treats. Get your blindfold out and have a great time!

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow multiple-step written directions.

Find the two identical bunnies.

Buzz's Newspaper Egg Coloring

1. Tear off a quarter of a page of the newspaper and wad it up loosely.
2. Lightly dip your newspaper wad into egg dye and dab your egg with the wad. Dab your eggs with different colors to get a tie-dyed look.

Beeper's Easter Grass
Make egg grass for your basket by cutting newspaper into long, thin strips!

How many jellybeans can you find on this page in 60 seconds? Race your buddy!

Take a picture of you and a buddy working on this Kid Scoop and e-mail it to: feedback@kidscoop.com!

Crack Up!
The secret code to crack the answer to this riddle is hidden in this egg border.

is the letter A.

To find out what letter each egg stands for, find

The alphabet follows in order by going clockwise around the border. Each egg stands for one letter of the alphabet.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

The Kid Scoop Puzzler

Circle the egg that comes next in each row of eggs.

Standards Link: Geometry: Recognize and extend simple and complex patterns.

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

SCAVENGER
NEWSPAPER
COLORING
BUNNIES
CRACK
SPRING
GLUE
GRASS
BLOW
HUNT
SPACE
CODE
SHAPE
PUNCH
LETTER

R B U K C A R C H S
N E P A H S O C C P
B H P N Y L N A B R
S U U A O U V D D I
S N N R P E U L G N
A T I N N S D I E G
R N S G I E W O L B
G L E T T E R E C X
T R E C A P S R N A

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Silly Spring Scavenger Hunt

Find these things in the newspaper: a number greater than one million, a face with glasses, something to play with, a happy word, a symbol of spring.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Write On!

Easter Bunny Spotted

The Easter Bunny has been spotted and you're the reporter covering the story. Be sure to tell *who, what, when, where, why* and *how*.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use context clues to understand the meaning of words.

Kid Scoop Together: Proof It!

Are you an eagle-eyed reader? Read the article below and correct the ten errors you find. The first one is done for you.

History of the White House Egg Roll

<http://www.femles.com/easter/eastriv.htm>

The original site of the Easter Egg Roll was the lawn of the United States Capitol. The event began during the presidency of James Madison (1809-1817) at the suggestion of his wife, Dolley Madison. Mrs. Madison was fascinated to learn that Egyptian children rolled colored eggs on the site of the Pyramids. She thought the children of the Washington area would enjoy this enchanting activity.

In 1877, members of Congress stopped the egg roll. Some were tired of slipping and sliding on the remains of boiled eggs and felt the grounds should no longer be used in such a weigh.

In 1878, President Hayes and his wife Lucy, officially opened the White House grounds to the children of the area for egg rolling on the Munday after Easter. The events has been held on the South Lawn ever since, except during World War I and World War II. During the the war years, the Easter Egg Roll was held at the National Zoo and other Washington locations.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use context clues to understand the meaning of words.

BUSINESS REVIEW

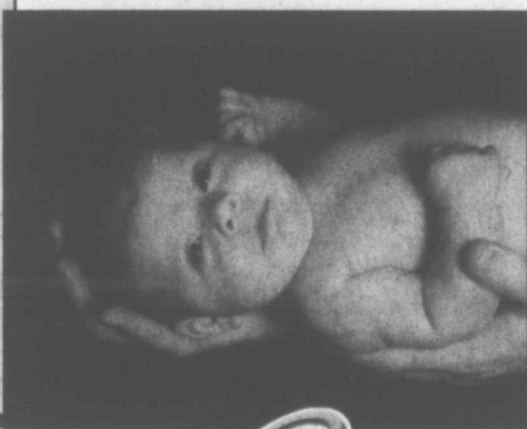
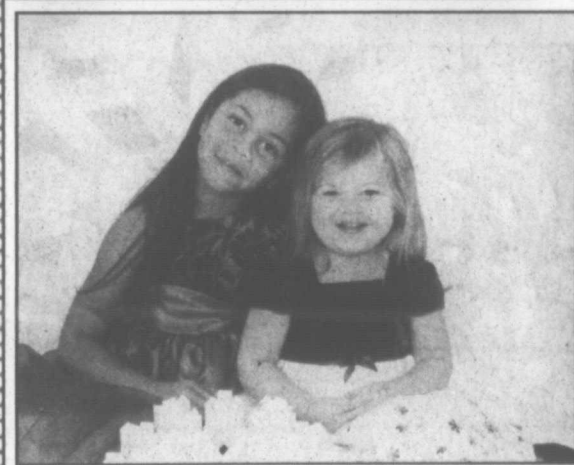
Nikki Shelton, Owner and Photographer at Shutterbug Photography has served Pampa and surrounding areas for over 12 years. She received her degree in photography from Amarillo College. Nikki began taking photos for prom and sports and had gradually expanded into weddings, senior photos, family portraits and more. She has enjoyed living in Pampa with her family Clint Shelton, who works for Carmichael-Whatley and her two daughters Summer and Aly. So, if your looking for a great portrait studio with all the latest trends but still has home town customer service then no need to travel an hour away. She's just moved to 207 N. Cuyler Street in Downtown Pampa.

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Your reply to the letter from "Troubled in Colorado" (Jan. 10), regarding "Meg," a compulsive hoarder, missed one important point. Hoarding is treatable. I am a code compliance officer and encounter these situations frequently. Hoarding is known by several other names -- Pack Rat Syndrome, collecting, etc. -- but it is considered to be a form of OCD, which is highly treatable once you convince the person to get treatment. Sufferers are usually aware they have a problem, but ashamed to let anyone know. This problem crosses all social and economic boundaries. People with it are often highly intelligent, otherwise normal people. They just need help, and it is available. Many areas have support groups to help. -- **JUDY JONES, MURIETTA, CALIF.**

DEAR JUDY: Thank you for writing. Yes, as with many other problems, help is available -- if those who need it will only reach out. People with OCD can be helped through therapy, drugs, experts and organizations. One such organization is the Obsessive Compulsive Foundation. It is best accessed through its Web site, www.ocfoundation.org. Its phone number is (617) 973-5801. It offers referrals to local groups across the United States. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: "Troubled in Colorado" should call her county social services office. Most states have a senior adult services office that could help the woman in that letter take care of her needs. Hoarding is often a sign of self-neglect, and that's something these officers often deal with. They can refer her to providers who can help her clean her place. If she has a mental health issue, the senior services worker would also help her find counseling or a doctor to deal with her challenge in discarding things. -- **C.R. MAHONEY, AGENCY ON AGING, CLEVELAND**

DEAR READERS: FYI, your local Area Agency on Aging can be reached at (800) 677-1116 or at www.eldercare.gov, and has expertise in handling such matters.

DEAR ABBY: I'm responding to "Troubled in Colorado," who was trying to decide what to do about the poor living conditions she found in her sick co-worker's house. I work in a hospital, and what I have seen under similar circumstances is that EMS will report living conditions like the one she described to the receiving ER, which will likely get a case manager involved, along with treating the patient's medical problems. The woman sounds like she has significant OCD that needs to be addressed. -- **R.G. IN CRANSTON, R.I.**

DEAR ABBY: As a professional organizer for more than 10 years, I have seen it all. "Meg," the woman in that letter, is a hoarder, which can be caused by depression. Any professional organizer should be able to help her get organized. But she also needs professional help to get to the bottom of her depression. The condition of her house is a symptom of her problem, and any professional organizer who deals with hoarders can help her. -- **LESLIE J., NEW BRITAIN, CONN.**

DEAR ABBY: My sisters found me in similar circumstances. The dirty living quarters, not reaching out for help -- these are all too common among people with major depressive disorder. The past year has been difficult, but with the help of my family, my therapist and the right medication, I'm doing well. You were right, Abby, when you said "Troubled" needs to let the hospital know, so "Meg" can get the help she needs. -- **DOING BETTER IN MILWAUKEE**

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

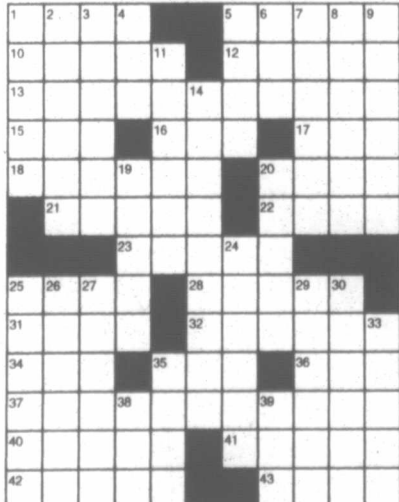
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 - 9 Snappy wins
 - 11 Kansas city
 - 14 Safe from blazes
 - 19 Professional parker
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 - 26 Biggest state
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 - 29 Drink city
 - 30 Blackened
 - 33 Cheese choice
 - 35 Office seekers
 - 38 Moose's cousin
 - 39 Ventilate

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- 33 Cheese choice
- 35 Office seekers
- 38 Moose's cousin
- 39 Ventilate

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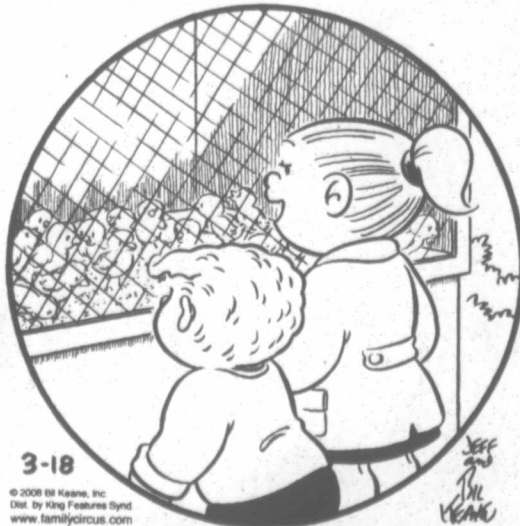


Marmaduke



The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



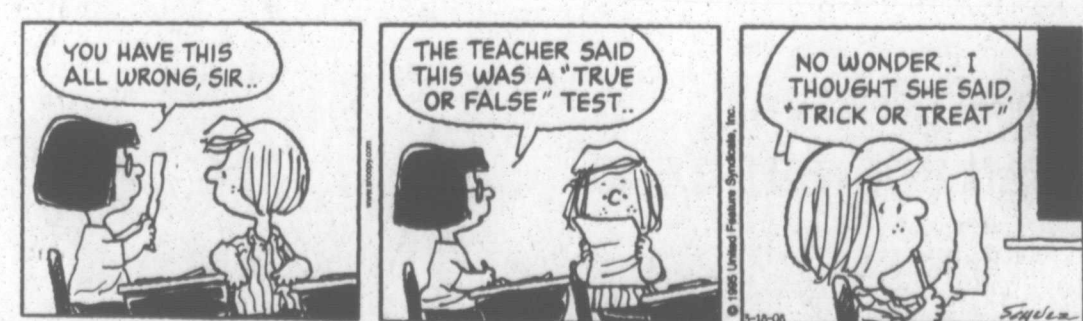
B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports

BASEBALL/SOFTBALL ADVANCE

Baseball, softball play away today

The Harvesters baseball team and the Lady Harvesters softball team will be playing today.

The Harvesters will be playing against Plainview in Plainview at 4 p.m.

The Lady Harvesters will be playing against the Demonettes in Dumas. The Lady Harvesters will play at 4:30 p.m., with the JV Lady Harvesters following at 6 p.m.

French foreign minister open to boycott

PARIS (AP) — France's Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner says the European Union should consider boycotting the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics if violence continues in Tibet.

The head of the European parliament and media watchdog Reporters Without Borders called Tuesday for an opening ceremony boy-

cott. Kouchner said the proposal is "interesting."

Kouchner told reporters in Paris on Tuesday that the idea should be considered by EU foreign ministers at a meeting this month.

He insisted that France had no plans to boycott the entire Olympic Games, saying that would not be "just."



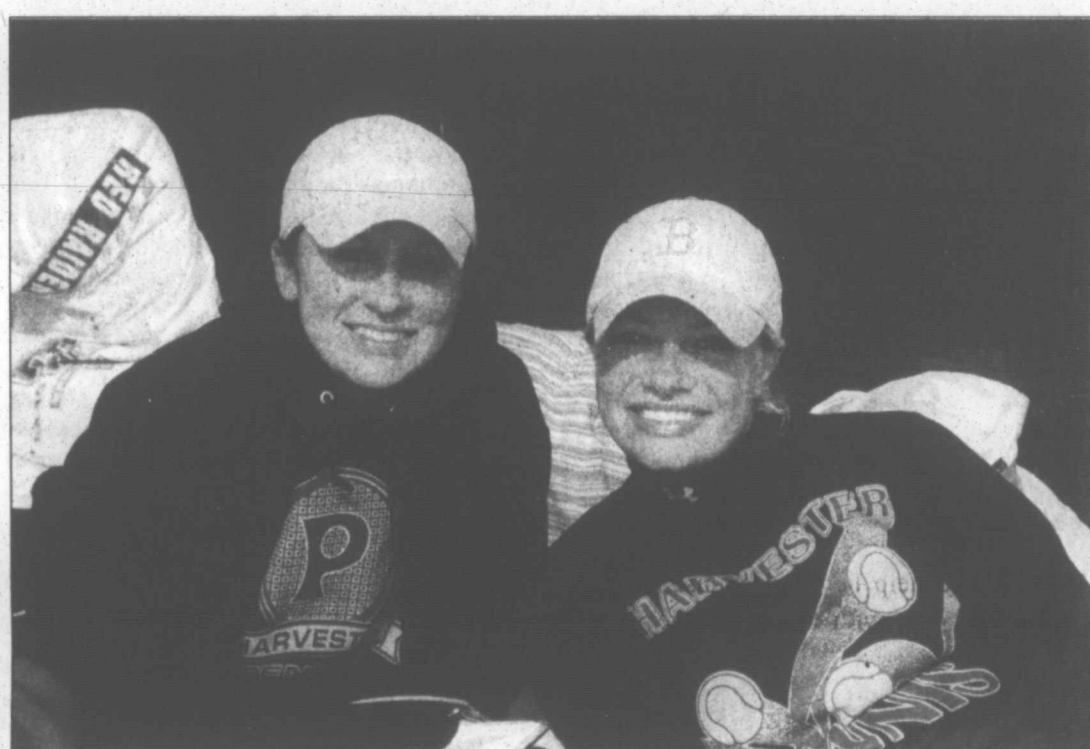
Tanner Dyson rushes to get by players from Palo Duro during Saturday's game at Travis Elementary. The Harvesters lost, 3-1.

Pampa News photo by KATHERINE FLANARY



Myles Foreman and Kevin Frels (left photo) and Ashley Hernandez and Katie O'Neal (right) pose for photos after the Amarillo Sandie Cup Tennis Tournament, held March 7 and 8. Foreman and Frels came in first in boys doubles, while Hernandez and O'Neal came in second in the girls doubles.

Courtesy Photos by Synda Foreman



Emotional day at Dodgertown

Tommy Lasorda said goodbye to Dodgertown in style, walking out of Holman Stadium under an archway of bats.

His eyes red, his steps slow, Lasorda waved to the fans for the final time at Dodgertown. Down in the right-field corner, his players and coaches silently gathered and formed two lines.

Crossing bats overhead in a sacred baseball tradition, they formed an arch to let Lasorda close the special place the Dodgers called their spring home for 60 years.

"These guys want me to

cry," the Hall of Fame manager said.

He didn't, but chances are a few people in the overflow crowd did. Some of them stood in the bottom of the ninth, bidding farewell to their team — and a piece of paradise lost — as Los Angeles fell to the Houston Astros 12-10.

"We're going to leave, but we're not leaving our memories," Lasorda told them in a pregame address, pausing between sentences. Later, he reflected: "In all probability, I'll never be here again."

Set to move next year into an \$80 million complex that

they'll share with the Chicago White Sox in Glendale, Ariz., the Dodgers will take away more than a team from Vero Beach, a town of 30,000 on Florida's east coast.

In an era when spring training has become big business, Dodgertown was more like baseball's petting zoo, where players were encouraged to chat with fans and sign their balls. To many visitors, Vero Beach was a true field of dreams.

"It is a special place," former Dodgers ace Carl Erskine said.

Arkansas fans could be tough on Texas

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Listen up Arkansas: Texas coach Rick Barnes says you'd better be nice to his Longhorns or he won't bring his team back to play the Razorbacks next season.

Texas (28-6), the No. 2 seed in the South Region, plays No. 15 Austin Peay (24-10) on Friday in North Little Rock, Ark., in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

And while the game is close enough for Texas fans to travel, the Longhorns should expect to be greeted by a hostile crowd fueled by

the old Southwest Conference Arkansas-Texas border rivalry that burns generations deep.

Barnes suggested on a Monday conference call that if his team gets the same rowdy treatment Arkansas received in Austin in tournaments past, he won't come back to play anytime soon. Texas is supposed to travel to Arkansas for a game in Fayetteville next season.

"If the fans don't treat us well, we're not going to come. You can put that out there," Barnes said. "I'm serious. We've got enough

money here, we can buy our way out of it. They'd better be good to us."

A funny line, but Arkansas-Texas is serious business to fans in those two states.

Just ask former Arkansas coach Nolan Richardson what it can be like to play on a supposedly neutral floor. His teams barely survived games in Austin in 1990 and 1995 in front of crowds that lustily booed the Razorbacks.

"Everybody was against us," Richardson said. "It was fun for me."

Tigers tune out family, friends for unselfish play

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Try splitting one basketball among five players. Now imagine finding enough playing time to keep 12 happy.

Welcome to No. 2 Memphis, where it's share and share alike.

"We have guys coming off the bench that would start around the country in bigger leagues than ours," coach John Calipari said. "They've accepted their roles on this team, and it's unique and special. That's why we're ... 33-1. You've got that many guys and they're capable of doing what they're doing."

Don't believe it's possible? Well, No. 1 seed Memphis heads into Friday night's first-round game with Texas-Arlington (21-11) in the South Regional of the NCAA tournament stocked with talent.

Ten Tigers average at least 9.7 points. The balance is why only junior Chris Douglas-Roberts ranks

among the top 100 scorers in the country, averaging 17.3. Yet six different Tigers have led Memphis in scoring in games this season.

Sophomore guard Doneal Mack said these Tigers truly are friends first, which keeps any problems from becoming so bad that they spill onto the court.

"Last year, I'm not going to say we had a lot of personal problems, but we weren't combined like we are this year. We weren't friends before team. This year, we're really friends before team," he said. "We really look out for each other, and it shows on the court."

That unselfishness was on full display in the Conference USA tournament championship.

Freshman point guard Derrick Rose had the ball in his hands with his choice of driving to the basket or putting up a jumper. Instead, he passed to Antonio Anderson

so the junior could try and hit a third consecutive 3-pointer.

Calipari had all five starters ready to go back into that game, but the reserves were playing so well the starters encouraged the coach not to pull them.

Usually, Calipari subs in two or three players at a time. But Douglas-Roberts said it's easier when they go in and out five at a time.

"That's how we practice, and they're much more comfortable with each other as opposed to playing with us," he said. "Both teams are real unselfish, so whoever has it going, no matter whether it's starters or subs, that's the person who's getting the ball."

Really? "It's a better way to play," Anderson said of the wholesale substitutions. "You get a lot more rest, and it gives the other guys opportunities to go out as well."

Pierce has 22 points as Celtics beat Spurs 93-91

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Paul Pierce scored 22 points, Kevin Garnett added 21 and the Boston Celtics rallied to beat the San Antonio Spurs 93-91 on Monday night.

Rajon Rondo added 20 points for the Celtics, who were still without Ray Allen, who missed his second straight game with a jammed left ankle. Sam Cassell had 17 points. He gave Boston its first lead of the fourth quarter with 46 seconds left when he hit a 3-pointer to make it 89-87.

Manu Ginobili had 32 points to lead the Spurs, who lost their season-high fourth straight. Tony Parker added 17 points and Tim Duncan scored 10.

San Antonio trailed 93-89 after Eddie House hit two foul shots for Boston to make it a two-possession game with 9.6 seconds left. Parker then got an easy basket for San Antonio but it appeared too late for the Spurs. But with two seconds left Bruce Bowen stole the

ball from Garnett on the inbounds play and passed to Robert Horry, whose 3-point attempt missed. Horry sank to the ground, his head in his hands.

The Spurs have now lost six games at home this season. Their last home loss was Jan. 26 against the New Orleans Hornets.

The Spurs led 70-68 after three quarters and extended the lead to 79-72 on Horry's 3-pointer with 8:04 to play. Duncan soon followed with a pair of highlight blocks against Pierce and House before Pierce led a 9-2 run by the Celtics to bring Boston to 83-81 with 3:11 left.

House's first points of the game — a 3 from the corner — made it 85-84 Spurs with less than two minutes to go.

Cassell then hit another 3 — this time from the top of the arc — to give Boston the lead. Rondo grabbed a key offensive rebound for the Celtics and hit two from the line with 16.6 seconds left to

make it a two possession game.

The Spurs missed a chance at a 3-point play when Ginobili was fouled by Pierce but his layup rolled all the way around the rim before going out. Ginobili hit both from the line to bring the Spurs within two with 11 seconds to go.

After being dominated by the Spurs for the opening two quarters and trailing by 10 at the half, 53-43, the Celtics opened the third with a 17-4 run to take their first lead of the game, 56-55, off Pierce's easy fast break dunk with 8:24 on the clock.

Rondo had 12 points in the period — including eight straight — for Boston, but the Celtics couldn't build more than a three-point lead and were down two points with a quarter to play.

Ginobili, the Spurs' leading scorer, returned to the reserve role he's had most of the season after starting all but two games since Jan. 29.

Undefeated in 6 months, Woods setting new standard

DORAL, Fla. (AP) — The outcome has never been more inevitable. Tiger Woods has never looked so invincible.

The world's No. 1 golfer faced a 25-foot birdie putt on the final hole at Bay Hill, and the moment he settled over the ball and the crowd grew quiet, it no longer mattered that Woods had not made a putt this long all week.

This one was for the win. For most players, making such a clutch putt would be a career highlight. For Woods, it's more like a summer rerun.

"You know what he's going to do, right?" Arnold Palmer whispered to those around him right before Woods rapped his putt down the slope and watched it turn sharply to the right and tumble into the cup for a one-shot victory.

For Woods, it is the ultimate thrill.

"It's knowing that you have an opportunity to end the tournament, and it's in your hands," he said. "Whether you do it or not remains to be seen. It's like having the ball with a few seconds to go. Do you want it or not want it? I would much rather have it in my hands."

Lately, it has been nothing but net.

The Florida Swing long has been known as the road to the Masters, which is three weeks away. Woods already has his game at warp speed, and he's lapping the field. His victory Sunday in the Arnold Palmer Invitational was his fifth in a row on the PGA Tour and his sixth straight worldwide, a streak that spans six months and is the longest overall of his incomparable career. When he won seven straight tour events in 2006-2007, second

only to Byron Nelson's 11 in 1945, Woods lost three times overseas.

Now, even the purists must wonder if Woods can go an entire season without losing.

"It's unbelievable; isn't it?" Steve Stricker said Monday. "You think that one of these times, he's not going to get it done. But he continues to do it. And now you expect it. You just learn with him that nothing is unexpected."

Woods' latest victim was Bart Bryant, who did everything right and never felt so helpless.

Bryant twice made birdie to tie Woods for the lead, shot a 67 in stifling heat and waited in the scoring trailer to see if Woods could beat him. There was no television in the trailer, and Bryant didn't need one.

He heard a roar that rattled the trailer, and Bryant forced a smile and slowly shook his head.

"That's why he's Tiger Woods," he said.

Stricker felt that way outside Chicago the second week in September, when this winning streak started. He had a one-shot lead in the final round when he got to the 12th hole, looked down toward the green and saw Woods make a 50-foot birdie putt to catch him. Woods went on to a two-shot victory.

He can sympathize with Bryant.

"That's all you can do sometimes is shake your head and laugh," Stricker said. "That's what it's getting

to be — laughable."

Golf is more global than it was a half-century ago, so Woods' winning streak is complicated. This is the third time he has won at least five in a row, and he also won on the European Tour last month, shooting a 31 on the back nine to rally from a four-shot deficit.

And he won the Target World Challenge in December, although that doesn't count because it was a charity event that Woods hosts for 16 top players from the world ranking. For what it's worth, Woods won by seven shots.

Woods is so dominant that he has won seven of his last eight times on the PGA Tour, the exception being a runner-up finish to Phil Mickelson at the Deutsche Bank Championship on Labor Day. He's an incredible 16 for 25 since the 2006 British Open.

"What he's doing now, you can't even fathom it," Bryant said. "You just can't explain it. Even as well as he is playing, the odds are against it. Woods hinted as much when someone asked what could stop this winning streak."

"All of the players in the event," he said.

Even so, consider what lies ahead. He is playing this week at Doral, where he has won the last three years. Next up is the Masters, where Woods is a four-time champion. He is the defending champion at the Wachovia Championship in North Carolina. In fact, he has won every event on his schedule.

"He's got a lot of memories, and they're all positive," Stricker said.

"I think he's a legend in the making. You guys have helped, but he's backed it up with his golf game."

— Ernie Els



Courtesy Photo

Tiger Woods in a 2006 tournament. Woods has been undefeated for the past six months.

TIGER WOODS FACTS

Woods was the highest paid professional athlete in 2006, earning an estimated \$100 million from winnings and endorsements.

Woods has won 13 professional major golf championships, the second-most of any male player.

Woods has won 64 PGA Tour events, which has tied him in third for all-time.

Woods has been playing professional golf since 1996.

Woods got his nickname, Tiger, from a Vietnamese soldier friend of his father, Vuong Dang Phong, whom his father had also given the

Tiger nickname.

A child prodigy, Woods began playing golf at the age of two.

Woods has been the PGA Player of the Year a record nine times.

The Tiger Woods Foundation was founded in 1996 by Woods and his father. The Foundation's main focus is to help disadvantaged children become better people.

All Tiger Woods facts has been gathered from www.wikipedia.org.

OLYMPICS

China says Dalai Lama trying to ruin Olympics

BEIJING (AP) — Premier Wen Jiabao accused the Dalai Lama of orchestrating violent clashes to taint the Beijing Olympics, saying Tuesday that the Nobel Peace laureate was provoking violence to promote Tibetan independence.

The Dalai Lama urged his followers to remain peaceful, saying he would resign as head of Tibet's government-in-exile if the situation spun out of control. But he also suggested the Chinese may have fomented the protests in Tibet and neighboring provinces in order to discredit him.

In China's highest-level response to the unrest, Wen underscored the Communist leadership's determination to regain control of Tibet and nearby parts of China and reassure the world it is fit to host the Games.

"There is ample fact — and we also have plenty of evidence — proving that this incident was organized, premeditated, masterminded and incited by the Dalai clique," Wen told reporters at his annual news conference at the end of China's national legislative session.

"This has all the more revealed that the consistent claims made by the Dalai clique that they pursue not independence but peaceful dialogue are nothing but lies," Wen said.

"By staging that incident they want to undermine the Beijing Olympics Games, and they also try to serve their hidden agenda by inciting such incidents," said Wen, who is portrayed as a mild-mannered conciliator by state media.

The Lhasa protests, led by monks, began peacefully

March 10 on the anniversary of a failed uprising in 1959 against Chinese rule. Tibet had been effectively independent for decades before Chinese Communist troops entered in 1950.

The increasingly violent demonstrations in Lhasa, led by Tibetan Buddhist monks, left 16 people dead and injured dozens, according to the government. The unrest spread into neighboring provinces with large Tibetan populations. China has denied a claim by the Dalai Lama's government-in-exile in India that 80 Tibetans died.

The protests have focused world attention on China's human rights record ahead of the Beijing Olympics. The Communist government wants to ensure that the Aug. 8-24 games boost its international image.

Sports officials from the European Union, Russia, the United States and Australia, have ruled out an Olympic boycott. French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner said Tuesday, however, that the EU should consider boycotting the opening ceremony if violence continues in Tibet.

The Dalai Lama, speaking in Dharamsala, India, the seat of his government-in-exile, urged nonviolence on both sides.

"I say to China and the Tibetans — don't commit violence," he told reporters. He suggested the Chinese themselves may have had a hand in it to discredit him.

"It's possible some Chinese agents are involved there," he said. "Sometimes totalitarian regimes are very clever, so it is important to investigate."

Rockets put 22-game win streak against NBA's best team

HOUSTON (AP) — Tracy McGrady bent over exhausted at midcourt after the Houston Rockets extended their winning streak to 22 games by beating the Los Angeles Lakers on Sunday.

There's no time to rest, however. The Rockets host Boston, the NBA's best team, on Tuesday.

"It's going to be a challenge, it's going to be a tough game for us," McGrady said. "But we're capable of winning it."

The Rockets' streak was already the second-longest in NBA history and they took over the top spot in the Western Conference with Sunday's 104-92 victory. McGrady scored only 11 points on 4-for-16 shooting and the win showed again that the Rockets have become more than a one-man show since Yao Ming went down with a foot injury 10 games ago.

"That's the makeup of our team," McGrady said. "You just can't rely on one guy. There are going to be some nights where I'm going to be off. We have multiple guys who can pick up the slack. That's a good thing to have."

Point guard Rafer Alston hit eight 3-pointers and scored 31 points on Sunday, and has averaged 16 points and 6.6 assists during the

streak.

Shane Battier has shot 39 percent from 3-point range and embraced the role of defensive stopper, handling the opponents' most dynamic scorer. He harassed Kobe Bryant into an 11-for-33 performance on Sunday.

Luis Scola is making a case for rookie of the year, averaging 12 points and eight rebounds since Yao was injured.

Alston credits Coach Rick Adelman for implementing a system that keeps every player in the mix. The Rockets run set plays, but the offense mostly relies on cuts and motion, giving anyone who gets open a chance to score.

"We're getting it every night from different guys," said Alston, who had five assists on Sunday. "We can call a play for Tracy, but everyone is still involved in that play. We're all moving, the ball's hopping."

Even when Adelman has turned to his bench during the streak, his unsung reserves have produced.

Bobby Jackson scored 19 points on Sunday, his best game since the Rockets acquired him on Feb. 21.

Chuck Hayes had 12 rebounds in Houston's 83-75 win in Atlanta last Wednesday and 10 boards in the win before that. Steve

Novak sank a game-winning 3-pointer against Sacramento on Feb. 13, the eighth victory in the streak. Luther Head scored 20 points in the 111-107 win over Golden State that launched the streak on Jan. 29.

"What's good is we're getting four or five people in double figures every night, so we're not relying on just Tracy trying to get 41 points," Alston said. "That says a lot about us and our team and how everyone has turned their games up."

The unlikely new hero is Mike Harris, a 6-foot-6 forward who was playing in China in February. The Rockets reluctantly cut the rookie from Rice in the pre-season, but never forgot him.

Harris averaged 24 points and 12 rebounds in 25 games with DongGuan in the Chinese Basketball Association. That season ended last month and when rookie Carl Landry went down with a bruised knee, Harris was back in Houston working out. The Rockets offered him a 10-day contract and he was playing two days later.

Harris had six points and seven rebounds in his NBA debut, Houston's 91-73 win over New Jersey on March 10. He had six points and five rebounds in the second quar-

ter Sunday as the Rockets opened a 15-point lead.

"It gave me a lot of confidence to get thrown out there so early," Harris said. "It kind of caught me off guard. Coach was walking down to the end of the bench and I thought he was looking at the game. He gave my name a call and I was kind of shocked for a second. It was great and I'm very grateful that they gave me the opportunity."

The Rockets rewarded Harris with another 10-day contract on Monday. Landry said he may return Tuesday and the Rockets were also planning to work out 38-year-old Dale Davis to possibly join them for the stretch run.

As remarkable as their season has become, the Rockets say there's nothing to celebrate yet. After all, they're only six games ahead of ninth-place Denver in the tightly bunched West.

"Even though we've won so many games in a row, we have to keep winning," Alston said. "We're only like 1 1/2 games ahead of a couple of teams. If we keep winning and if other teams continue to lose, we widen the gap. So, every game is important until we have a three- or four-game cushion on these guys."

Ponson shakes off poor outing in Rangers' 9-7 loss to Athletics

PHOENIX (AP) — Despite a messy outing, Sidney Ponson figured he accomplished something Sunday.

"The numbers are no good but I got my work in game situation-wise," said Ponson, who is trying to win a job with the Texas Rangers. "I couldn't throw strikes with anything. I'm not happy, but I am happy, too."

Ponson gave up four runs in the first inning, but was glad he got to pitch with runners on and even worked himself out of a jam or two. He was in line for a win until the Oakland Athletics scored

three runs in the eighth to beat Texas 9-7 on a cold afternoon for their sixth consecutive victory.

"When I throw my bullpen I'll work on staying consistent with my mechanics," he said. "The last couple of pitches were hit hard but I kept my poise pretty good. I've given up four runs in the first and the team has come back to win

before. My next outing will be much better."

Ponson gave up six hits, walked two and struck out two in 2 1-3 innings.

Todd Linden, hoping to catch on as an extra outfielder with the A's, tripled home the go-ahead run and then scored on an error.

Donnie Murphy singled home two runs against

"I couldn't throw strikes with anything. I'm not happy, but I am happy, too."

— Sidney Ponson
Texas Ranger

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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 1321 W. Kentucky

21 Help Wanted

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

DRIVERS / CDL Career Training w/ Central Refrigerated. We Train, Employ w/ \$0 down financing. Avg. \$40,000 1st year! 800-567-3867.

Interim Home HealthCare Weekend LVN PRN/Parttime People Person with Good Communication Skills a must! Apply online at interimhealthcare.com Or come by 1201 N. Hobart Space D (Coronado Center)

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.

THE PLAZA III is now accepting applications for Full-Time Servers with good presentation & good references. Apply in person at Coronado Center Pampa No phone calls!!

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

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

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.

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.

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.

RECEPTIONIST Position (Part-time) Must have computer skills and be proficient in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel, Outlook.

Financial Manager Must have 3 years experience in a financial and accounting background, proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel. Send resume with references to Job Opportunity, P.O. Box 2929, Pampa, TX 79065.

OPPORTUNITIES Receptionist Position (Part-time) Must have computer skills and be proficient in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel, Outlook.

Financial Manager Must have 3 years experience in a financial and accounting background, proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel. Send resume with references to Job Opportunity, P.O. Box 2929, Pampa, TX 79065.

LONG John Silvers, Pampa, is now hiring for all position, including management.

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POSTAL JOBS \$17.89-\$28.27/hr. now hiring. For application & free government job info, call American Assoc. of Labor, 1-913-599-8226 24 hrs. emp.serv.

21 Help Wanted

TAKING applications for all positions. Johnson Home Furnishings. 801 W. Francis.

NEED PART-TIME TEMPORARY PERSON TO BE A PROOF RUNNER & DO GENERAL OFFICE SKILLS

Apply in person at THE PAMPA NEWS or send resume to PO BOX 2198 PAMPA, TX. 79066 ATTN: REDONN

THE PLAZA III is now accepting applications for Full-Time Servers with good presentation & good references. Apply in person at Coronado Center Pampa No phone calls!!

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

CRALL SHOP WELDERS WANTED Weld test required with stick & wire. 45-50 hrs. per week, most week-ends off. Apply in person at: 2930 Hwy. 152 West Pampa, TX 806-665-8446

W&W FIBERGLASS TANK CO. Looking for Shop & Production Labor Immediate Openings w/ 48+ hours / week Wages based on exp. Apply in person: W&W Fiberglass Tank Co. 100 N. Price Rd. Pampa

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

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

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

PART-TIME Hostess needed. Prefer High School student. Apply at Dyer's BBQ.

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.

We are growing- Come grow with us! We need a Truck Driver who has a current CDL, good driving record & can pass drug test. If you have these qualifications come apply! We offer competitive wages, 401K, 2 weeks paid vacation after 1 year.

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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

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

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, 1 Jazzy 1113 electric wheel chair used, 1 fold up walker, 1 bedside potty. 669-4150.

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

WE Pick Up Unwanted Cars & we will gladly tow it away "FREE" of charge! Please call 806-662-2706 or 665-3546.

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

4 HORSES "CITY SAYS GET THEM OUT OF CITY LIMITS!!" MUST SELL 806-220-6404

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Can be seen at 1200 & 1201 Wilcox Pampa, Tx.

80 Pets & Suppl. DOG Grooming. 412 N. Nelson, 669-3079. Specialty bows & bandanas for holidays!

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

104 Lots 2 lots for sale. 1/2 mile West of Price Rd. & Gray Co. Rd. 5 1/2. 2.25 acres. 1002 & 1004 Dwight St. 180 X 160. 236-7731 or 662-0043.

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

121 Trucks 2005 Dodge pickup, blue, 56,000 mi., ac, cruise, AM/FM CD. \$12,500. 669-9424 or 665-2844.

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

80 Pets & Suppl.

FREE to a good home. Female Lab mix. Friendly & fixed with shots. 806-835-2808.

89 Wanted To Buy WANT to buy good used deep freeze and a treadmill. 669-1859, ask for Vicki or Heather.

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

96 Unfurn. Apts. 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.

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

98 Unfurn. Houses 2 bdr, 1 ba \$450 mo, \$450 dep, washer/dryer hook-ups, fenced yard. 725 Deane Dr. 665-5473.

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

102 Bus. Rent. Prop. OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

DOWNTOWN office space for rent. Utilities & cleaning service provided. Ample parking. 669-6823.

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

3/2/1, 2 liv. areas, 1350 s.f., c. h/a. 1308 E. Foster. 669-6872, 440-6655.

4/2/2 2216 sq. ft. New driveway, granite countertops, hardwood floors. Lg. storage building. 2600 Evergreen. 662-7370.

FSBO 2124 Lynn St., \$129,500. Call 688-1976 or 664-4306. www.owners.com/WP9503

FSBO 3/2/1, 1459 sq. ft. New carpet & paint. Built-ins, c h/a. 84K. 2229 Zimmer. 669-6467.

HIGHEST CASH PAID FOR HOUSES! CALL 665-1875

HOME For Sale. 2118 Mary Ellen. 2/2.5. 662-2263.

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

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

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COME GROW WITH US!
Wal-Mart is looking to hire 20 Cashiers
Full & Part-Time
Day Shift, Mid Shift & Evenings
Great Benefits
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Please apply at the hiring kiosk located at Wal-Mart, 2801 Charles, Pampa, TX.

NOW HIRING:
Full-Time Gift Shop & Greenhouse Sales, CDL Driver General Laborers, Diesel Mechanic/Assistant.
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WTL SAND AND GRAVEL
NOW HIRING:
Experienced Loader Operator
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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!!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, March 19, 2008:
-Much goes down this year, pointing you in a new direction. News and gossip seem to surround you. Separate fact from fiction, and you will be much happier. If you are looking at a situation, be sure to scrutinize it from every possible angle. Be careful if you are feeling negative, especially as you might be dealing with your fair share of difficult people and situations this year. If you are single, finding a person you want to be warm and fuzzy with could be difficult. But you could have a grand old time with the process. Just don't push a relationship too hard. Time is your ally. If you are attached, let your partner be if he or she is difficult. He or she might need that space. VIRGO reads you cold.
-The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult
ARIES (March 21-April 19) ***** Think in terms of what you want to accomplish, and make decisions accordingly. If you really want to make a difference, you can. Take a stand; be willing to investigate alternatives. New offers come your way. Tonight: Give your best effort.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ***** Let your creativity bubble forth. Listen to different ideas. A brainstorming session will turn into an argument if you don't respect the other person. If that is the case, don't play devil's advocate with this person. Tonight: Run or walk off some steam.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ***** You are far more anchored than you realize. Don't let others be the recip-

ients of your upset or anger. Sometimes enough is enough. Confusion surrounds a decision and plans. Confirm meetings. Tonight: Easy does it.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) ***** Reach out for others. If someone is a touch grumpy or difficult, let it go. Have you ever known anyone who is steady and even all the time? At least this person adds dimension and perhaps excitement to your life. Tonight: Visit with pals.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ***** Listen to what has been said and consider if you want to add on or contradict. The issue is to think rather than spout words left and right. Others will open up if you express yourself clearly and with care. Tonight: Your treat.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ***** High energy propels you in a new direction. Think positively, and you'll find a strong return. You might want to approach a situation differently. If you're slowing down or tired, take a break. You will recharge. Tonight: Go for what you want.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ***** Investigate what is going on, though you might want to share more. It would be best to keep your own counsel. There is much more coming, and your opinion could change radically. Spout ideas later. Center on what you want to do. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ***** You might want to consider your options more carefully. You hit a problem when you least expect it. Gather the troops. Your supporters stand behind you. Understand your options before acting. Tonight: In the game of life.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** Take the lead in a project. If you

want a job done a certain way, then you need to do just that. Pressure often builds when you shoulder too many responsibilities. Strong leadership easily clears out many obstacles. Tonight: Could be late.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ***** Dealing on an individual, one-on-one level might be more important than you realize. Also, detach if you are triggering. You'll want to see the complete picture. Others prove to be highly responsive. Listen to what is being said. Tonight: Ask, and you shall receive.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***** Sometimes it might be difficult to make changes that are long overdue. You have the strength and support to turn a corner or do something in a different manner. Misunderstandings are likely. Verify that you heard what you thought you heard. Tonight: Dinner for two.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ***** You might want to try another approach. Consider doing something quite differently. Honesty is the only way to go. How you express your concerns might be more important than you realize. The impact of your words is high. Tonight: In the whirlwind of life!
BORN TODAY
Actress Glenn Close (1947), actor Bruce Willis (1955), novelist Philip Roth (1933)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.
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Wal-Mart
COME GROW WITH US!
Wal-Mart is looking to hire 20 Cashiers
Full & Part-Time
Day Shift, Mid Shift & Evenings
Great Benefits
Competitive Wages
401K
Please apply at the hiring kiosk located at Wal-Mart, 2801 Charles, Pampa, TX.

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW
One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.
3-18 CRYPTOQUOTE
VOKR YU CYMPE FW MY
YNWSOKVP. VOKR YU OM FLPO
FW OM YNWSOKVP. — RPM
JORTSO
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: ST. PATRICK'S DAY IS AN ENCHANTED TIME — A DAY TO BEGIN TRANSFORMING WINTER'S DREAMS INTO SUMMER'S MAGIC. — ADRIENNE COOK

POLITICS

Obama condemns pastor's divisive comments, says cannot disown him

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Democratic Sen. Barack Obama on Tuesday tried to stem damage from divisive comments delivered by his pastor, while bluntly addressing anger between blacks and whites in the most racially pointed speech yet of his presidential campaign.

'This union may never be perfect, but generation after generation has shown that it can always be perfected.'

— Obama

Obama confronted America's legacy of racial division head on in a speech that tackled black grievance, white resentment and the uproar over his former pastor's incendiary statements. Drawing on his half-black, half-white roots as no other presidential hopeful could, Obama asserted: "This union may never be perfect, but generation after generation has shown that it can always be perfected."

Obama expressed understanding of the passions on both sides in what he called "a racial stalemate we've been stuck in for years."

"But the anger is real; it is powerful; and to simply wish it away, to condemn it without understanding its roots, only serves to widen the chasm of misunderstanding that exists between the races," he said in a speech at the National Constitution Center, not far from where the Declaration of

Independence was adopted.

Obama rarely talks so openly about his race in such a prominent way, but his speech covered divisions from slavery to the O.J. Simpson trial to the recovery efforts after Hurricane Katrina. He also recognized his race has been a major issue in the campaign that has taken a "particularly divisive turn" in the last few weeks as video of his longtime pastor spread around the Internet and on television.

Obama said the sermons delivered by the Rev. Jeremiah Wright now circulating on the Internet and television "rightly offend white and black alike." Those sermons from years ago suggest the United States brought the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on themselves and say blacks continue to be mistreated by whites.

While Obama rejected what Wright said, he also embraced the man who inspired his Christian faith, officiated at his wedding, baptized his daughters and has been his spiritual guide for nearly 20 years.

"I can no more disown him than I can disown the black community," Obama said, speaking in front of eight American flags. "I can no more disown him than I can my white grandmother — a woman who helped raise me, a woman who sacrificed again and again for me, a woman who loves me as much as she loves anything in this world, but a woman who once confessed her fear of black men who passed by her on the street, and who on more than one occasion has uttered racial or ethnic stereotypes that made me cringe."

Busy apologizes for embracing Garner on Oscar red carpet

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Gary Busey has apologized for embracing Jennifer Garner on the red carpet at the Oscars last month.

During a live E! pre-show broadcast, Busey repeatedly interrupted while Ryan Seacrest was interviewing Garner and Laura Linney. At one point, Busey embraced Garner, who looked annoyed.

"I meant no disrespect to Ms. Jennifer Garner when I met her at the Oscars and apologize if I made her uncomfortable," the 63-year-old actor said in a statement e-mailed Monday by a publicist for his attorney, Vicki Roberts.

By the time he realized Garner and Linney were

being interviewed, Busey said he tried to step back but "suddenly Ryan introduced her to me."

Calls to Garner's publicist, Leslie Sloane-Zelnik, weren't immediately returned.

"I simply greeted both actresses with joy and open arms, which is the way I would greet anyone I'm happy to meet," Busey said. "Everyone has experienced a handshake or hug which has turned awkward, and this was no different."

Busey, an Oscar nominee for his role in 1978's "The Buddy Holly Story," has parodied his eccentric reputation on the HBO comedy "Entourage."

Supreme court hears major Second Amendment case

By MARK SHERMAN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court has heard arguments about the meaning of the Second Amendment and the Districts of Columbia's ban on handguns.

A majority appears to support the view that the amendment protects an individual's right to own guns, rather than somehow linking right to service in a state militia.

But it is less clear what that means for the District's 32-year-old ban on handguns, perhaps the strictest gun control law in the nation.

"Does that make it unreasonable for a city with a very high crime rate...to say no handguns here?" Justice Stephen Breyer said.

On the other side, Chief Justice John Roberts asked at one point: "What is reasonable about a ban on possession" of handguns?

Art club



COURTESY PHOTO

Pampa Art Club met recently at the Pampa Chamber of Commerce building. Some members worked on their individual art. Others participated in a project led by Madeline Gawthrop. Pictured are members of the club's host committee currently preparing for this year's 60th anniversary Tea and Art Exhibit. The anniversary event is slated from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. May 6 and from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. May 7 at Lovett Memorial Library. Above: Sarah Crim, Norma Hinkle, Chairman, Gawthrop, Marilyn Lee and Karen Sutherland. Not pictured: Linda Johnson.

AP Impact: Stress adversely affects motivation of college students

WASHINGTON (AP) — College kids are so frazzled they can't sleep or eat. Or study. Good grief, they're even anxious about spring break.

Most students in U.S. colleges are just plain stressed out, from everyday worries about grades and relationships to darker thoughts of suicide, according to a poll of undergraduates from coast to coast. The survey was conducted for The Associated Press and mtvU, a television network available at many colleges and universities.

Four in 10 students say they endure stress often. Nearly one if five say they feel it all or most of the time.

But most are bearing it. Nearly two-thirds in the survey say they enjoy life.

Majorities cite classic stress symptoms including trouble concentrating, sleeping and finding motivation. Most say they have also been agitated, worried, too tired to work.

"Everything is being piled on at once," said Chris Curran, a junior at the Albany College of Pharmacy in Albany, N.Y. He said he has learned to cope better since starting school. "You just get really agitated and anxious. Then you start procrastinating, and it all piles up."

Many cite eating problems and say

'You just get really agitated and anxious. Then you start procrastinating, and it all piles up.'

— Chris Curran
College student

they have felt lonely, depressed, like they are failures. Substantial numbers are even concerned about spring break, chiefly not having enough money or being in good physical shape.

More than a quarter of the students sometimes think they should cut down on drinking or going out. A third say they sometimes want to use drugs or alcohol to relax. About 15 percent say they're at least somewhat concerned about drinking too much on spring break.

One in five say they have felt too stressed to do schoolwork or be with friends. About the same number say things have been so bad in the past three months that they have seriously considered dropping out of school.

Darker still, about one in six say they have friends who in the past year have discussed committing suicide, and about one in 10 say they have seriously considered it themselves. Friends have actually tried to end their lives in that time, one in 10 say.

In this ocean of campus anxiety, 13 percent say they have been diagnosed with a mental health condition such as depression or an anxiety disorder.

Of that group, two-thirds say they always or usually follow their treatment, one-tenth say they have been unable to stick to it, and the rest are not on a plan. The perils of halting treatment were highlighted last month when police said the girlfriend of Steven Kazmierczak, who fatally shot five people and then himself at Northern Illinois University, told them he had stopped taking medication.

All is not doom and gloom for today's students.

Six in 10 in the survey say they are usually hopeful and enjoy life. Half even concede they feel understood by their families.

"I enjoy college, I'm enjoying my experiences," said Emily McMahan, a University of Cincinnati junior.

Dr. Brent Michener General Surgeon

Residency- St. John Detroit Riverview Hospital

Internship- St. John Detroit Riverview Hospital

Medical School- University of North Texas Health Science Center, Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, Fort Worth, TX

Undergraduate- Bachelor of Science, Biomedical Science, Cum Laude Graduate, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX



3023 North Perryton Parkway
Suite 101
Pampa, Texas
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