

Tomorrow's Weather

HIGH
62
LOW
34

See expanded weather on Page 2

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THE PAMPA NEWS

Friday, March 22, 2008

Volume 103 • No. 300

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Pete Rodriguez with Crawford Roofing puts a coat of polyurethane atop the Perry Lefors terminal. Bob Crawford, owner of the roofing company, said the new coating, when it's finished, should provide insulation, water proofing and wind resistance for the terminal and main hangar.

Pampa News photo by David Bowser

TxDOT to close Miami facility

The Amarillo District of Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will close its Miami sub-section effective May 31, 2008 in an effort to save money and improve the efficiency of the district's operations. No TxDOT jobs will be lost, however, as the five employees assigned to the sub-section will be relocated by April 1 to the Pampa and Canadian sections.

The move has been under consideration for over a year, but recent budget concerns and the need to improve efficiency and save on utility bills necessitated the action. By having the few employees at the Miami

See TxDOT, Page 3

Group seeks improved area EMS services

By MARILYN POWERS
The Pampa News

A group of area medical professionals and others has formed a non-profit agency with the goal of seeing that everyone in the 24 rural counties of the Texas Panhandle receives the same level of care in an emergency.

A person who has a medical emergency such as a heart attack is not likely to receive the same level of initial care provided by emergency management services personnel in the smaller communities as they would receive in areas with more population, said Dr. Jim Hall of Pampa, a hospitalist at Pampa Regional Medical Center and president of the

Emergency Services Foundation of Texas. The foundation is the non-profit agency whose members are addressing the problem of emergency care in the Panhandle's rural counties, not including Potter and Randall counties.

"I don't want to panic the public, but there's a lot of room for improvement," Hall said. "Some towns have virtually shut down their EMS services. There is a critical shortage of paramedics and a critical shortage of funding."

This means that larger towns such as Pampa may offer a higher level of care because of the availability of paramedics, while smaller towns may have an insufficient number of paramedics or none at all.

"Often, an ambulance with two basics (attendants) answers an emergency call in many areas of the Panhandle," Hall said. "All they can do is package up the patient and transport them. They can't even take vital signs."

Part of the problem is the amount of time and money needed to become a paramedic.

"The minimum time it takes to get licensed is two years," said Ann Thompson, a social worker at PRMC and foundation treasurer. "It costs \$5,000 to \$7,000 to become a

See EMS, Page 3



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
Ann Thompson and Dr. Jim Hall are some of the board members of the Emergency Services Foundation of Texas, which was formed with the goal of providing equipment and training for rural emergency medical services personnel in the rural areas of the Panhandle.

First Baptist offers contemporary Easter service Sunday

The First Baptist Church is taking a new approach to its ministry starting on Easter Sunday by holding a contemporary service at 11 a.m. The contemporary service will consist of praise and worship choruses and modern songs.

"Statistics tell us that the younger generations enjoy this kind of music more than contemporary hymns," Pastor Dr. Johnny Funderberg said.

The traditional service at 8:30 a.m. will contain hymns only with more traditional instruments such as the piano and the organ along with a small orchestra. The 11 a.m.

service will consist of contemporary praise and worship music and modern songs complete with a praise band of drums, guitars and an electric keyboard.

"We'll also have quite a bit of multimedia help. There will be background video with images that go along with the songs," music minister Barry Owens said.

"We're very excited about this new service. It will hopefully reach out to more people," Funderberg said. "The message will be the same in both services, just the style of worship is changing."



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
A trimmed hedge in front of a north Pampa home looks like an Easter basket, complete with three decorated Easter egg lawn ornaments beside it. Today is Good Friday, and Easter is Sunday.

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Cloudy



Sunny

Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 62.
 Saturday Night: A 50 percent chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 34.

Sunday: A chance of rain and snow before 9 a.m., then a chance of rain between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with high near 49. North wind 10 to 20 mph becoming east. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 32. South wind around 10 mph.

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 70. South-southwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 45. South-southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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Eric LeeRoy Smith, 41

Eric LeeRoy Smith, 41, died March 19, 2008. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Man with \$1.3 million at airport sentenced

GAINESVILLE, Ga. (AP) — A man who was arrested at a northeast Georgia local air-

port with \$1.3 million in cash has been sentenced to 17 1/2 years in prison for money laundering.

U.S. District Judge William C. O'Kelley sentenced 60-year-old Kevin Felts on Thursday.

A federal jury convicted Felts of money laundering and weapon charges after a weeklong trial in December.

Prosecutors say the man from Brazoria, Texas, personally handled close to \$7 million in drug money that was linked to Mexican drug trafficking.

He was caught with the money in March 2005 after federal drug agents received a tip that a plane would fly to the Gainesville airport to pick up over a million dollars in cash.

Last year, 34-year-old Nora Aguilar pleaded guilty to drug conspiracy charges and was sentenced to 21 years in prison.

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Services tomorrow

BLONKVIST, Dr. Brent — Memorial services, 3 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, Midland.

Dr. Brent Blonkvist

Blonkvist

Dr. Brent Garland Blonkvist died peacefully Tuesday, March 18, 2008.

The beloved husband, father, grandfather, and pediatrician was born in Panhandle, Texas, on March 1, 1927. He earned the rank of Eagle Scout and graduated from Pampa High School before serving in the U.S. Navy from 1944-45. He attended Texas Tech University and Southwestern Medical School prior to an internship at the Veterans' Hospital in McKinney and pediatrics residency at Hermann and Texas Children's Hospitals in Houston. He married Mary Patricia Crow in 1953 while attending medical school and moved to Midland, where he practiced pediatrics from 1957 until 1980. Subsequently, he founded Blonkvist Investment Co. where he worked until shortly before his death.

Dr. Blonkvist was a tireless healer and community volunteer. Professionally, he served as president of the Midland County Medical

Society, chief of staff at Midland Memorial Hospital, president of Midland Pediatric Society, member of the American Academy of Pediatrics and emeritus member of the Texas Pediatric Society.

He was a founding director of the Midland Council for Mental Retardation, the Midland Cystic Fibrosis Association, and served on the board of Prevent Blindness. His contributions to Midland's civic development included serving as a director of the United Way, Arts Assembly, and the Ballet association; trustee of the Petroleum Museum; trustee and governor of the Museum of the Southwest; and past president of the Midland Optimist Club. He also served on the grants committee of the Permian Basin Area Foundation. Dr. Blonkvist was named Midland's Volunteer of the

Year by the Arts Association in 1990.

Survivors include his wife, Pat; daughter, Jennifer O'Connor and son-in-law John of Dallas; sons, Tim and daughter-in-law Lisa of San Antonio; Kevin and daughter-in-law Emily of Midland; sisters-in-law, Kay Blonkvist and Jean Crow of Dallas; and eight grandchildren, Ashley and husband Justin Bowersock, Whitney and husband James Gripp, Mary Lauren O'Connor, Michael, Christopher, Brent, Brittany, and Brady Blonkvist, as well as nieces and nephews.

Dr. Blonkvist was especially interested in art, architecture, music, traveling, his patients, his lake house and driving his boat. First and foremost, he loved and was immensely proud of his family, who was devoted to him and will cherish his memory. He will be remembered by

all who knew him as possessing the highest standards of honor and conduct, his remarkable sense of humor, moral integrity, and sound judgment. His smile could light up a room and warm hearts.

Dr. Blonkvist was a member of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity in Midland, where his memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 22, 2008, at 3 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be directed to the Brent G. Blonkvist, M.D. Pediatric Endowment Fund of Midland Memorial Foundation, 2200 W. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701 or the Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri, Midland, TX 79701 (432)683-5555. To place online condolences please visit www.mem.com.

Loretta Louise Crow Medley, 50

Medley

Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Home.

Cremation will follow under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors with a memorial service to be announced at a later date.

Mrs. Medley was born Nov. 10, 1957, in Skellytown; two brothers,

Nowata, Okla. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1969. She worked as a waitress in Pampa for many years.

Survivors include one son, Jimmie Medley, III of Pampa; one daughter, Loreenna Reeves of

Robert Crow of Shreveport, La., and Floyd Crow of Pampa; one sister, Evelyn Ford of Bartlesville, Okla.; and four grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

MEMORIALS: Alzheimer's Association, 1400 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, TX 79106.

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

Emergency Services**Sheriff**

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

Thursday, March 20

Natalia Alvarez, 35, of Pampa was arrested in the 2200 block of North Nelson by Pampa Police Department for 13 capias pro fines.

William Bradford Houck, 49, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for a 60-day sentence for driving while intoxicated.

Erasmo Jesus Soto, 22, of Pampa was arrested in the 100 block of West Harvester by PPD for seat belt violations concerning two adults.

David Lee Ellison, 41, of Pampa was arrested in the 1000 block of Varnon Drive by PPD for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Friday, March 21

Anthony Lewis Isbell, 31, of Pampa was arrested in the 100 block of South Nelson by PPD for assault causing bodily injury/family violence.

Fire

Pampa Fire Department reported

the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Thursday, March 20

9:18 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to a medical call in the 2200 block of Nelson.

12:24 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to a medical call in the 1500 block of West Kentucky.

12:58 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 700 block of South Cuylar on a fire safety program.

2:25 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to 1 Medical Plaza on a LifeStar standby.

Friday, March 21

1:13 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to a medical call in the 2100 block of Banks.

Ambulance

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

Thursday, March 20

9:03 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of South

Wells and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

10:43 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of East Francis and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

12:28 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

5:30 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of North Zimmers and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

6:01 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

Friday, March 21

12:32 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2100 block of North Hobart and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

1:08 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2100 block of Banks and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

4:30 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

Two pros suspended over student research

SAN ANTONIO (AP) —

A pair of tenured engineering professors have been suspended and could be fired from the University of Texas at San Antonio for allegedly violating the school's ethics policy by buying property researched by their students as part of a class project.

University officials have suspended without pay Chia Shun "Rocky" Shih and Alberto Arroyo and are pursuing termination proceedings against the professors.

Shih has been at the university since 1974; Arroyo has been there since 1982.

UTSA spokesman David Gabler said the termination process could take months or years and may or not result in the professors permanently losing their jobs.

The university did an ethics investigation focused on a land deal in which several people, including Shih and Arroyo, bought 33 acres near Helotes. The land, proposed as a park by the city of

Helotes, had been the topic of a semester-long student project in Shih's class.

The 2007 project included some engineering studies and was presented in May. Soon after, the professors and others placed a contract on the property. One of the other buyers was also a professor, but the ethics investigation found he didn't know about the student project at the time of the purchase and was therefore cleared.

UTSA's ethics policy prohibits faculty or staff from making personal investments which could reasonably create a substantial conflict between the employee's private interests and the public interests."

Shih has denied his students did a project involving the property but rather just proposed it. Arroyo has said he found out about the property by looking at parcels in the area.

Word on the street —

What are your special plans for Easter ... ?



"We go to church in the morning and then we go to my grandmother's and hunt Easter eggs."

- Aaron Ledbetter



"I'm just gonna hang out with my family. Nothing special. The usual."

- Con Elledge



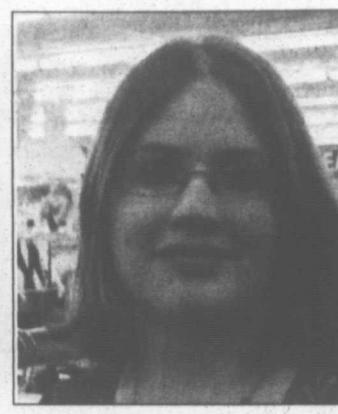
"Every year our church goes to Groom on our motorcycles."

- Stephanie Watson



"We planned to have a cookout but since it's supposed to snow we'll do it inside this year."

- Wynona "Punkin" Gilleland



"My sister, brother and I get together with our kids and do an Easter egg hunt."

- Valerie Bradley



"I color Easter eggs the night before with my daughter."

- Britany Kemph

EMS

Continued from Front Page

paramedic. They often don't want to do this just to be a volunteer. In the two years it takes to be trained as a paramedic, you can become a registered nurse, which earns higher pay."

Hall used cardiac emergencies as an example of an area where emergency care could be improved and updated.

"None of the ambulances in the 24 rural counties of the Panhandle are equipped to transmit EKG readings. None of the emergency rooms can receive them," he said.

"BSA, Northwest Texas Hospital and PRMC are the only three Panhandle hospitals with cardiac catheterization labs," Hall said. "None are equipped to receive EKG readings from ambulances."

"Every ambulance crew should be trained to do the same thing for chest pain," he said. He added that each service should have up-to-date equipment with which to do their job.

Medical care in an emer-

gency should be a concern for everyone, because each person averages two ambulance rides over the course of their lifetime, Thompson said.

"We'd like to have all rural EMS services in this area under the umbrella of our foundation," she said. "The system isn't working anymore."

The foundation's first focus is to improve and update cardiac care provided by EMS personnel, Hall said.

"We're working to get a cardiac protocol, a telemetry system in ambulances and a telemetry receiver in hospitals," he said. "The goal is to get the patient to the appropriate hospital quickly."

Emergency transportation is also an area which could be improved, Hall said.

"Right now, we have one helicopter in the Panhandle, at Northwest Texas Hospital," he said. "And there is no helipad at PRMC." NWTH is the only trauma center in the Panhandle, he said.

"We hope to keep the

emergency personnel who are currently working, still working," Hall said. "We hope to pay them for their work. There's a lot of good people out there who want to do this, they just can't afford to be volunteers."

"Volunteers are not going to be the wave of the future anymore," Thompson said. "It's going to have to change."

"We want to see that when you call 911, you do get a response and you get a qualified paramedic no matter where you live," Hall said. "Our goal is to make sure rural communities are covered, with qualified paramedics, short response times, and proper treatment and transport to the proper hospital."

"I believe people have a right to good health care in emergencies," he said.

The foundation, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, was formed in the autumn of 2007 and has a board of directors which includes Hall and Thompson. The board is seeking donations and state

funding to finance training and equipment for emergency medical personnel. They have already begun meeting with interested parties in various counties.

Anyone wishing more information may call Hall at 664-0532 or Thompson at 662-2121.

"We're not trying to come in and replace anybody or take over," Hall said. "We just want to give volunteers the tools to do their work and do it better."

TxDOT

Continued from Front Page

sub-section join larger work crews, TxDOT's maintenance efforts will be more proficient.

TxDOT will maintain a presence at the sub-section by storing equipment materials there. Plans are in place to continue snow removal efforts and to respond to emergency situations when necessary.



COURTESY PHOTO

Jennifer Huffines, from left, Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas Teen Queen, and Markie Oden, Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas, recently participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Shamrock. Entries for the 2008 Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas Pageant are currently being accepted through May 1 at Top O' Texas Rodeo office in Pampa. Information and entry packets are available at the rodeo office. For more information, call Gina Greenhouse, pageant director, at 665-6093 or via e-mail at trotrodeo@gmail.com.

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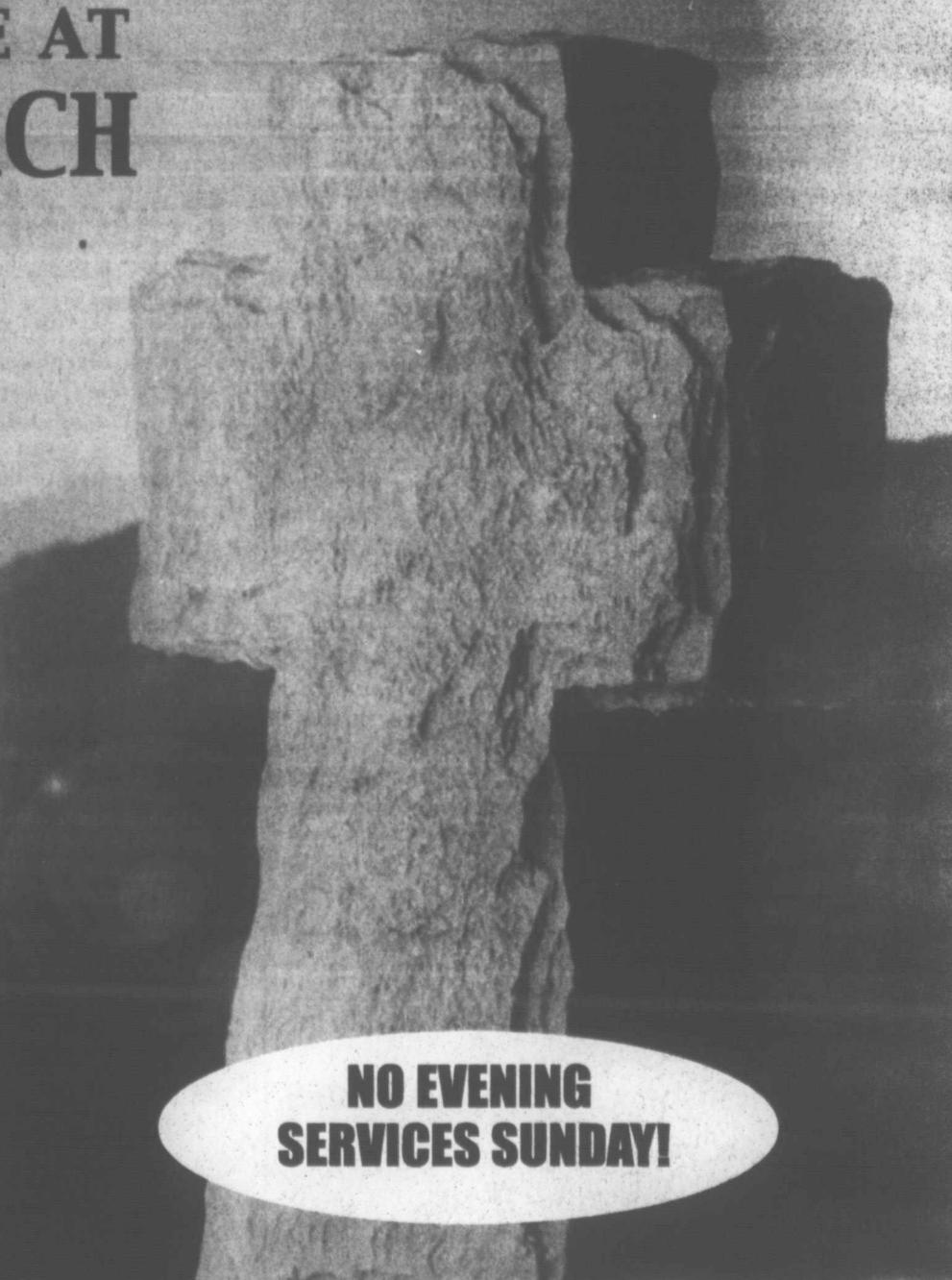
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Viewpoints

May the Easter Bunny live on in America

Another tradition is making some people uneasy: The Easter Bunny.

Some folks, worried that the Easter Bunny correlates too closely with Christian traditions and is therefore offensive to non-Christians, are abandoning the little fella.

According to the San Francisco Chronicle, the town of Walnut Creek renamed its Easter Bunny the "Spring Bunny." The Spring Bunny participates in the town's storied annual tradition, the Spring Egg Hunt.

Some malls across America are changing the Easter Bunny's name, too. According to WorldNetDaily.com, some

store managers are calling their bunny "Baxter the Bunny," "Garden Bunny" or "Peter Rabbit."

Peter Rabbit was the name of choice for a Rhode Island school superintendent who, according to ABCnews.com, decided the Easter Bunny ought not visit his school district.

His decision made the ACLU happy. After all, as one ACLU fellow said, schools shouldn't be in the business of promoting Easter celebrations.

Which leads to some interesting questions: What is the Easter celebration, anyhow? What is the origin of the Easter Bunny?

Lawrence Cunningham, a

University of Notre Dame theology professor, said in the San Francisco Chronicle that the Easter Bunny has little to do with religion.

"The bunny is a fertility symbol with no religious connection to Easter," he said. "The egg, which was popularized

in Greece, Russia and Eastern Europe in connection with Easter, does not have a religious connection to Easter. By taking away the term 'Easter,' these symbols to some extent return to their pre-Christian roots as sym-

bols of spring fertility."

In other words, somewhere along the line, the furry fellow got twisted up with the resurrection of Jesus. Somewhere along the line,

he started wearing a vest and handing out eggs and candy. It took a bit of time — hundreds of years or more — for the Easter tradition I knew as a kid to evolve.

Forty days before Easter Sunday, on Ash Wednesday, we'd attend Mass. Lent was on, which meant we had to make a sacrifice of some

kind. That meant one thing in our home: No Snyder's of Berlin potato chips until after Easter.

We'd take in the Stations of the Cross on Friday nights. We'd go to Confession before Easter Sunday ("Forgive me, Father, but I stopped at the convenience store three times for Snyder's of Berlin potato chips ..."). The night before Easter, my whole family would sit around the kitchen table dying hard-boiled eggs. Why hard-boiled eggs? Why dye them?

Finally, Easter Sunday arrived. I was usually the first to rise. I'd rouse my sis-

ters, so we could rush downstairs and search for our baskets. The Easter Bunny was big on hiding things. Eggs are still turning up on the White House's South Lawn from Easter Egg Rolls that date back to the Truman administration.

I'd spend the next hour devouring hollow chocolate bunnies. Then we'd eat a big breakfast, go to Mass and stand in the aisles because the stragglers who never went to Mass were always sitting in our regular seat. I'd spend the rest of the day trying to find where my sisters hid their hollow chocolate bunnies.

See PURCELL, Page 6

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Good Friday, March 21, the 81st day of 2008. There are 285 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 21, 1685, composer Johann Sebastian Bach was born in Eisenach, Germany.

On this date:

In 1804, the French civil code, or the "Code Napoleon" as it was later called, was adopted.

In 1806, Mexican statesman Benito Juarez was born in Oaxaca.

In 1907, U.S. Marines arrived in Honduras to protect American lives and interests in the wake of political violence.

In 1946, the United Nations set up temporary headquarters at Hunter College in New York.

In 1957, President Eisenhower and British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan began a four-day conference in Bermuda.

In 1960, some 70 people were killed in Sharpeville, South Africa, when police fired on demonstrators.

In 1963, the Alcatraz federal prison island in San Francisco Bay was emptied of its last inmates at the order of Attorney General Robert Kennedy.

In 1965, more than 3,000 civil rights demonstrators led by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. began their march from Selma to Montgomery, Ala.

In 1972, the Supreme Court, in Dunn v. Blumstein, ruled that states may not require at least a year's residency for voting eligibility.

In 1985, police in Langa, South Africa, opened fire on blacks marching to mark the 25th anniversary of the Sharpeville shootings; the reported death toll varies between 29 and 43.

Ten years ago: Pope John Paul II began a visit to Nigeria with the Vatican pressing the African nation's military regime to release dozens of prisoners, including prominent opposition figures and journalists.

Five years ago: The United States launched a ferocious, around-the-clock aerial assault on military targets in Baghdad and other cities. The House approved a \$2.2 trillion budget embracing President Bush's tax-cutting plan.

One year ago: Former Vice President Al Gore made an emotional return to Congress as he pleaded with House and Senate committees to fight global warming; skeptical Republicans questioned the science behind his climate-change documentary, "An Inconvenient Truth."

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Peace in Mid-East not likely anytime soon

Sometimes President Bush sounds like an idiot. The most recent example is his statement that he still believes the Palestinians and Israelis can reach a peace agreement before the end of his term.

This comes on the heels of an Israeli attack against Gaza that killed more than 100 people, most of them innocent civilians. It was a reprisal attack for a few rockets fired into Israel by some Hamas hotheads. In World War II, when the Germans killed civilians as a reprisal for an attack on their forces, it was called a war crime.

Yet President Bush and the world's most ineffective secretary of state, Condoleezza Rice, can barely force themselves to say, in effect, "Tut, tut, tut. Can't you folks get along?" If the Palestinian rockets

were slaughtering Israelis, no one could complain. Even an occupying power has a right to defend itself. But these

rockets, unguided, more often than not land where people aren't.

According to a recent story in the Los Angeles Times, only 13 Israelis have been killed by these rockets in the past seven years. Hamas says the rockets are in response to Israeli attacks; the Israelis say the reprisal raid is in response to the rocket attacks.

Such circular action-reactions remind one of the wise-crack that if the world practices the old Hebrew "eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth" philosophy, the world

would soon be blind and toothless. Unless the Israelis are willing to do as the Romans did and exterminate every Palestinian man, woman and child, they can't kill their way to peace. And neither can the Palestinians.

The guilty party in this dance of death is the Bush administration, which absolutely refuses to put even the least pressure on the Israelis. Israel has all the power. The Israelis are to the Palestinians like a 250-pound wrestler assaulting a 4-year-old child. Without pressure from the U.S., the Israeli government will go right on killing Palestinians, taking their land and expanding Israeli settle-

ments. And Palestinians, weak as they are (they have no army, no air force, no navy, no country and no international help because the U.S. blocks all such attempts), will go right on resisting as best they can.

The Israelis are rearing a whole new generation of terrorists. When these Palestinian kids grow to manhood amid the chaos, humiliation, death and poverty the Israelis forced on them, they're going to be some mean, tough individuals unlikely to be particular about on whom or how they wreak their vengeance. We're growing our own crop of terrorists in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Israelis are short-term pragmatists. Their philosophy is that if someone is too weak to take something,

See REESE, Page 6

Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sampling of editorial opinion around the nation:

■ March 16

Naples (Fla.) Daily News, on a recent poll and open government:

There is a good reason the federal government should try to be open and transparent. The public wants it that way. But fewer and fewer only 20 percent, according to a new poll believe it is. That's down from 33 percent just two years ago.

Openness and transparency is essential to public trust in government, but more and more Americans believe the federal government is closed and secretive; thus, it is reasonable to assume that the level of mistrust is rising as

well.

A poll by Scripps Howard News Service and Ohio University found that almost three-quarters of Americans found the federal government closed and secretive and that the percentage that consider it "very secretive" has doubled to 44 percent from 22 percent in 2006. The next president should make it a goal to reverse that trend.

The poll was commissioned by the American Society of Newspaper Editors in observance of National Sunshine Week, which started Sunday.

... Candidates for public office should take note. The poll found that for offices for president, through Congress, governors' mansions and state legislatures right down to the city councils

and school boards, Americans, by around 90 percent, rated a candidate's position on open government as somewhat important or very important.

Open and transparent government, then, is not only good public policy, it's good politics too.

On the Net:
<http://tinyurl.com/2lavhu>

■ March 13
 Chicago Tribune, on the Federal Reserve's response to the credit crisis:

It may not be as sexy as \$300 in your pocket, but the Federal Reserve Board's decision to pump \$200 billion worth of Grade A liquidity into finan-

See SAMPLE, Page 6



Praise & Worship

Religion Page

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Church of the Nazarene

Church scheduling special renewal services

Church of the Nazarene, 500 N. West, a will hold special Easter services with the Rev. Larry and Tamla Leckrone, Saturday, March 22 through Wednesday, March 26 at the church.

Larry is an ordained elder, a commissioned song-evangelist, and one of about 20 tenured evangelists in the Church of the Nazarene. He hails from Kurtz, Ind., and holds a degree from Olivet Nazarene University. He has traveled full-time, conducting revivals, camp meetings, concerts, family life festivals and "kids' crusades." He specializes in the field of evangelism.

Tamla is also a musician and ministers in song and on keyboards. "Her passion," a

news release from the local church reads, "is to see people saved and sanctified and grow in grace."

The Leckrones have a number of musical projects and are in demand in a variety of settings. Their involvement with all ages "emphasizes the great need for renewal in everyone," the news release states.

Services will kick-off at 7 p.m. Saturday with praise, prayer and pie. Sunday services are scheduled at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Services are set at 7 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. All are encouraged to attend. A nursery will be provided. For more information, call 669-3144.

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MINISTER'S MUSINGS

When is the word of God effective?

Dr. Jimmy Flynn
Evangelist



Preaching is an important factor in the light of spreading the gospel and teaching the scriptures. We must preach the "Word." We need to preach and preach "effectively," as you see it recorded in Acts, chapter 2.

The Word becomes effective when...

• When the scriptures are properly interpreted to the people. The Word is not effective unless this is done. The preacher must do it. Paul told Timothy to do this (II Timothy 2:15). Philip did this with the Eunuch (Acts 8:30-31). Jesus did this with the disciples (Luke 24:45).

• When the servant of the Lord is under the control of the Spirit. This was the secret of Christ's ministry (Luke 4:16). This was the secret of Peter's ministry (Acts 4:8). This was the secret of Paul's ministry (I Corinthians 2:4). This is the secret of effective ministry (I Peter 1:12).

• When the saints of the Lord are united in the work to be done. This is clearly set forth in Acts 2. Acts chapter two opens with the disciples in one accord. They were united in one place (Acts 2:1), in prayer (Acts 1:13-14), and in purpose (Acts 2:14a). All to glorify God, to do God's will and to advance God's work.

• When sinners recognize the unworthiness of their own works. This is really set forth in Acts, chapter two. There are at least three things to be noted about sinners. (There was a time in my life when this happened.) When the Word of God is effective, there is always an inward disturbance by the truth (Acts 2:37); always an inward deplored of self; always an inward determination to turn to Christ; and always an inward desire to publicly confess Christ.

Church briefs

Hobart Baptist Church, 1100 Crawford, will host Blake Bolerjack in a free gospel concert at 11 a.m. and at 6 p.m. Sunday, March 30. The music will include southern gospel favorites as well as inspirational and contemporary styles. To learn more about the Bolerjack, log onto www.blakebolerjack.com on the Internet.

Pampa's St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church will host the folkloric ballet

"XAPOXIL" this Friday and Sunday at the church. The group will perform Stations of the Cross in Spanish at 1 p.m. Friday at the church and will perform during an Easter family celebration, potluck dinner and open house set for 1:30 p.m. Sunday. This group of young dancers comes from Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Zapotlanejo, Jalisco, Mexico. Their dances are taken from the natives of the Aztec's empire, the regional music

and dances from Jalisco, Nayarit, Veracruz and northern states of Mexico. They will share their faith and culture. For more information, contact the church at 665-8933.

BORGER — Jerry Smith will present "The Triumphant Quartet" in free concert at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 17, at the high school auditorium in Borger.

Scholars: Resurrection misunderstood

By RACHEL ZOLL
AP Religion Writer

On Easter Sunday, Christians will proclaim the message at the heart of their faith — "He is risen" — and will affirm the hope that God will raise all the dead at the end of time.

But this belief is deeply misunderstood, say scholars from varied faith traditions who have been trying to

clear up the confusion in several recent books.

"We are troubled by the gap between the views on these things of the general public and the findings of contemporary scholarship," said Kevin Madigan and Jon Levenson, authors of the upcoming book, "Resurrection, The Power of God for Christians and Jews."

The book traces the over-

looked Jewish roots of the Christian belief in resurrection, and builds on that history to challenge the idea that resurrection simply means life after death. To the authors, being raised up has a physical element, not just a spiritual one.

Levenson last year wrote a related book, "Resurrection and the

See CHRIST, Page 6

This weekly series brought to you by these area businesses.

Christ

Continued from Page 5

Restoration of Israel: The Ultimate Victory of the God of Life. Meanwhile, N.T. Wright, a prominent New Testament scholar and author of the 2003 book "The Resurrection of the Son of God," has just published, "Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection and the Mission of the Church."

Debate about Christ's Resurrection has focused on whether Jesus rose bodily from the dead after the Romans crucified him on Good Friday, or whether Resurrection was something abstract.

Wright's 2003 book was considered one of the most important recent arguments that Jesus was physically resurrected.

The three scholars also have been challenging the idea, part of Greek philosophy and popular now, that resurrection for Jews and the followers of Jesus is simply the survival of an individual's soul in the hereafter. The scholars say resurrection occurs for the whole person — body and soul. For early Christians and some Jews, resurrection meant being given back one's body or possibly God creating a new similar body after death, Wright has said.

Madigan and Levenson, among other scholars, also emphasize that resurrection for humankind is a belief that

Christians and Jews share. Christians generally find it difficult to imagine that a faith that doesn't believe in Christ's Resurrection can believe in resurrection at all.

But "as the early church was developing, rabbis were making resurrection an article of normative belief," Madigan and Levenson said in e-mailed answers to questions from The Associated Press. "That is something many Jews do not know. Like many Christians, they are under the misimpression that resurrection is a uniquely Christian hope."

Jews in the time of Jesus believed that resurrection was bodily and communal — in that it brought justice to the oppressed and renewed creation, wrote Madigan, who teaches Christian history at Harvard Divinity School, and Levenson, who teaches Jewish studies there.

That Jewish belief was absorbed and reshaped by the earliest Christians to form part of their religion.

Most modern-day Jews don't know this. Except for the Orthodox branch of Judaism, Jewish groups deleted belief in resurrection from the traditional prayer book during revisions that began during the 19th century in response to rationalistic, Enlightenment thought.

Public understanding of resurrection has been influenced not only by modern rejection of the idea of miracles, but also by popular culture.

Alan F. Segal, a Barnard College professor and author

of "Life After Death: A History of the Afterlife in Western Religion," notes that most Americans expect the afterlife will be a continuation of life on earth — "like a really good assisted-living facility."

He also said that belief in an existence beyond death

persists among Americans no matter how little they observe their religion. In the 2005 Baylor Religion Survey, 82 percent of respondents said they "absolutely" or "probably" believed in heaven. Nearly 71 percent said they "absolutely" or "probably" believed in hell.

Yet Wright and others say the church should teach what the first Christians believed. Wright also has argued that the physical reality of a future world after death shows "the created order matters to God, and Jesus' Resurrection is the pilot project for that renewal."

Sample

Continued from Page 4

cial markets will do more to help the economy than the politically popular "stimulus" plan. The Fed is showing some welcome creativity as it tries to ease a credit crisis triggered by rising mortgage defaults and falling home values ...

The new Fed effort will allow banks to temporarily swap their trou-

bled mortgage-related assets with Fed-owned safe assets — cash and Treasury securities. In 28 days, the banks have to return the safe assets and take back their troubled mortgage-related assets. The Fed hopes the gears will have been greased by them and that normal market activity in mortgage securities can resume.

There's no guarantee this will solve the problem. Fed efforts to stabilize financial markets by injecting liquidity in other ways haven't worked. But this one was greeted with hosannas Tuesday on Wall

Street, where the stock market posted its biggest one-day gain in five years. The market gave up some of those gains on Wednesday, but economists still give the plan a good chance of succeeding.

Unlike rate cuts, this doesn't create an inflation risk. Unlike the stimulus checks, this doesn't add to federal debt. It's a safe gamble, and it shows that Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke can respond to a crisis in creative fashion.

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

Purcell

Continued from Page 4

Who knows how or why the Easter tradition evolved this way. It's the blending of the customs of so many different people who made their way to America. Over time, the different customs melted together to form the American Easter tradition.

In fact, our current customs will

continue to evolve to reflect the different influences that continue to blend within our energetic country. That's what customs and traditions do.

But wouldn't it be best that they evolve naturally and slowly and honestly, as they always have, rather than at the behest of a lawyer who threatens to sue because somebody may be offended by an Easter Bunny handing out candy on public property?

It's a sign of a great civilization that we worry so about offending

anyone for any reason, but isn't it a sign of a weakening civilization when people are afraid to call things what they really are?

The bunny who hands out candy and eggs is the Easter Bunny, not the Spring Bunny. He's harmless, too, so long as you don't mind him hiding toxic, fatty chocolate things all over your house.

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

Reese

Continued from Page 4

why give it to him? They believe that as long as they can control the U.S. government, tap into its wealth and technology and hide behind its veto at the United Nations, there is no need for them to make any concessions at all. This has certainly worked for them in the short term.

In the long term, however, the Israelis are committing national suicide, just as one of their military intelligence people said. Sooner or later, General Birthrate and his armies will overwhelm them. The only way a small Jewish state can survive in the long run among a sea of Arabs is to get along with its neighbors. Other than the neighbors we bribe — Jordan and Egypt — all of the neighbors hate Israel.

The United States should stop the

\$3 billion annual gift to the Israelis and tell them that as of now, the U.S. will no longer protect them from United Nations sanctions or criticism with our veto. Israel is quick to say it is a sovereign and independent country; well, it's time the U.S. put that to the test.

If there is any part of the world where our policy should be trade and nothing else, it is the Middle East.

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

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Wildfires!

March 2006

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My problem is, I have lost the art of listening. When someone takes too long to get to the point, or includes irrelevant details, I completely lose patience. I work in a medical office with the same small group of women every day, and I like my job. However, I find myself trying to keep "extra busy" to avoid the boring, mundane chatter about things I don't care about. Am I becoming an anti-social snob, or is there a way to participate in a conversation while resisting the temptation to roll my eyes and hurry someone along with my hands? I am not particularly chatty, and I don't divulge many details of my personal life -- so is it wrong to no longer care about the details of everyone else's? -- VERBALLY OVERLOADED

DEAR VERBALLY OVERLOADED: We usually get what we give in life. If you would like to receive empathy from those around you (should the need arise), then my advice is to be prepared to show some. Because you don't have time to listen to long stories, it's acceptable in an office setting to say that you are busy and have a limited amount of time to chat. In other words, if you're "verbally overloaded" -- verbalize.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I had our first child, a beautiful baby girl, nine months ago. We chose a name for our daughter while I was pregnant, but my in-laws refuse to use her first name. They insist on calling her a diminutive of her middle name. Now the whole family is doing it.

At first they claimed that some distant cousin (whom we have never met) had the same name. Now they say, "We don't like her first name, so we're going to call her ()." How can we convince them to call her by her given name? -- NEW MOM IN AUSTIN

DEAR NEW MOM: Your in-laws' behavior is rude and disrespectful. Tell them that unless they're prepared for their grandchild to call them "UNCLE Charles and AUNT Martha," they should get used to calling your daughter by the name you chose for her. If they refuse, limit their time with her until she's old enough to understand who she is so they won't confuse her.

DEAR ABBY: I'm "Troubled in North Carolina," whose letter you published on Feb. 23. Thank you for printing it. You will be happy to know that after the length of time you suggested, I did contact "Bethany." You nailed it. She did, in fact, go back to her ex-boyfriend. I'm OK with it, but what is disappointing is, she broke up with me by e-mail. I guess she didn't have the courage to face me. After I wrote to you, I decided I wouldn't sit around and wait like a "sad puppy." I've been on a few dates and have met a lot of great women, but haven't settled yet. That's the thing: I'm not going to "settle." There are so many times when "we men" can't open up and share how we feel. Thank you for being someone that "we" can talk to (even if it isn't really a conversation.) -- NO LONGER TROUBLED IN JACKSONVILLE, N.C.

DEAR NO LONGER TROUBLED: You're welcome. I'm pleased I could be a sounding board for you. I'm also pleased you jumped right back into the dating pool. Although Bethany may have had many admirable qualities, the fact that she took the easy way out and ended the relationship by e-mail rather than facing you is a clue to her character. You deserve better, and you shouldn't settle for less.

Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

DOWN

1 Expansive

6 "Likewise"

11 Free of suds

12 Different

13 Past

plump

14 Gives a hoot

15 Tarragon or thyme

17 Late-night name

18 Paisley person

20 Andy's son

22 Bruins legend

23 Self-contradiction

26 Salad type

28 Battery end

29 2007 film role for Johnny

31 Collins base

32 Corner

33 Tolstoy heroine

34 Revolver, perhaps

36 Asian desert

38 Fighting

40 Molten rock

43 Chop up

44 Pallid

45 Newark's county

46 Subject to double jeopardy

M	I	S	T	C	L	I	M	B
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Y	O	N	C	I	C	S	C	O
T	O	N	T	O	S	C	O	P
H	A	G	T	H	A	R	T	
U	H	R	A	F	A	K	E	S
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S	T	A	T	U	E	G	A	D
O	M	S	O	N	D	U	N	D
B	E	A	N	E	D	B	A	S
S	P	A	N	D	S	P	A	S

Yesterday's answer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

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Sports



Courtesy Photo
Catcher Kenzi Carter for the JV softball team suffered a broken hand while tagging a girl out during Thursday's game.

OPTIMIST CLUB

Late registration for Optimist baseball/softball

The Pampa Optimist Youth Club will conduct late registration for Pampa Optimist Baseball/Softball 2008 for boys and girls from five to 15 Monday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Optimist building, according to Optimist Baseball Commissioner Kevin Davis.

"We had 513 sign up during regular registration," Davis said, "but I have had many people call to say that they were out of town or were not able to get by to sign up."

Registration has been so heavy in the 9-10 Cal Ripken League that we are going to add a team in that league," Davis said. "We need two players to even out the teams in the 11-12 Cal Ripken League."

Not yet included in the totals will be teams from Perryton, Claude and Clarendon which will compete in the Babe Ruth League and/or girls' softball.

"We are also hoping to be able to have teams from McLean, Clarendon, Claude

and Panhandle play teams in our two Cal Ripken Leagues," Davis continued.

"For example, on Opening Day, our plan is to have the Pampa teams play teams from those towns as far as possible instead of playing each other."

Practices start Monday in most leagues with games beginning the week of April 14.

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

Tech-OS annual game moved to Dallas

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Texas Tech and Oklahoma State are finalizing plans to move their annual Big 12 game to Dallas.

The first game probably will be in 2009, but the site remains undetermined. The schools are looking at the

Cotton Bowl or the Dallas Cowboys' new stadium in Arlington.

The Cowboys' new stadium is scheduled to open in 2009, but Tech athletic director Gerald Myers said no commitment had been made either to Cowboys owner Jerry Jones or to the

Cotton Bowl Athletic Association.

"We've got to decide which one we can sell the most tickets to," Myers said. "That's a big part of it."

The 2008 game between the Red Raiders and the Cowboys will be played in Lubbock.

Photos of 21 men wanted in connection with the



Pampa News Photo by KATHERINE FLANARY
A Lady Harvester runs with the ball in Saturday's game against Palo Duro. The Lady Harvesters won the game, 5-0.

Lady Harvesters down Lady Donns

By KATHERINE FLANARY
Sports Editor

In Thursday's softball game against Caprock, the Lady Harvesters won, 5-4.

In a close game, Callie Preston had a double, Libby Dyson had a single and Kambra Jimenez had a single.

Ashley Facio was at the mound as pitcher.

"She did really good at pitching, having six strikeouts," said Coach Bobbi Gill in a telephone interview.

"It was a good win," Gill continued. "We need to pick up a win at home."

The Lady Harvesters are now 2-0 in district.

"We had a lot of character

shown by the girls," said Gill.

The Lady Harvesters will be playing in their third district game against Palo Duro at Palo Duro Tuesday. The game will start at 4:30 p.m.

The next game will be Saturday, March 29 against Hereford at home. The game will start at 1 p.m.

Lady Donns defeat Lady Harvesters, 16-8

The JV softball team was defeated by Caprock, 16-8.

Caprock scored three runs in the top of the first inning. Pampa answered with three runs on three doubles by Katelin Wall, Rachel Heuston and Emilie Troxell.

Pampa trailed 10-8 after four innings.

In the top of the fifth inning, Pampa turned their second triple play of the season.

The first two batters of the inning reached on walks when the third batter hit a foul fly ball to the first baseman, Brooklyn Barker.

Barker caught the foul ball and fired home to catcher Kenzi Carter, who blocked the plate and mad the tag as

the girl was coming home.

Carter then made a throw back to the pitcher but the second baseman Rachel Heuston was backing up the throw. She then picked the ball up and threw home to Carter, who again made the tag out at home for the triple play.

On one of the plays at home, Carter was injured and looks to be out for the rest of the season with a broken hand.

Left fielder Devin Valentine replaced Carter as catcher to finish the game.

Both teams went scoreless in the fifth and sixth innings.

Caprock scored six runs in the seventh inning to take a 16-8 lead.

Jordan Mayew pitched the first and second innings, while Katelin Wall pitched the rest of the game.

Mayew took the loss and falls to 7-5 on the season.

Leading hitters for Pampa were Rachel Heuston with one double and two singles, Emilie Troxell with one double and two singles, Katelin Wall with one double.

Devin Valentine, Madi Shults, Candia Jimenez and Kenzie Carter all had singles.

The JV's record is now 13-7 and 1-1 in District. Pampa travels to Palo Duro on Tuesday with the Varsity team, following the Varsity game at 4:30 p.m.

OLYMPICS

Chinese troops converge in Tibetan areas

ZHONGDIAN, China (AP) — The government stepped up its manhunt

for protesters in last week's riots in the capital of Tibet, as thousands of troops converged on foot, trucks and helicopters to Tibetan areas of western China.

The violence in Lhasa was a stunning show of defiance against 57 years of Chinese rule — has sparked sympathy demonstrations in neighboring provinces, prompting Beijing to blanket a huge area with troops and warn tourists and foreign journalists to stay away.

China's communist leadership, embarrassed by the chaos and international criticism of its response, has blamed the unrest on the Dalai Lama and his supporters and vigorously defended its reputation as a suitable host for the Beijing Olympics.

On Friday, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi met with the Dalai Lama in India and called on the world to denounce China's crackdown in Tibet.

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

Lhasa riots were posted on major Chinese Internet sites.

A resident in Qinghai province said about 300 troops were in the town of Zeku after monks protested Thursday outside the county government office. The woman, who did not want to give her name for fear

authorities would harass her, said she did not dare leave her home and could not provide details of the demonstration.

Telephones at Zeku's government and public security bureau rang unanswered.

In the largely Tibetan town of Zhongdian, in the far north of Yunnan province, some 30 armed police with batons marched in the main square as residents went about their daily life. Overnight, another two dozen trucks of riot police had arrived, adding to a presence of about 400 troops.

Patrols had also been set up in other nearby towns, including the tourist attraction of Tiger Leaping Gorge.

In Xiahe, a city in Gansu province where there were

two days of protests last

week, the 50-room Xilin Hotel was "completely occupied by police with guns and batons," said a man who answered the telephone and did not want to give his name.

"No tourists are allowed here and we do not feel safe going outside," the man said. He said things had calmed down but vehicles had been patrolling the streets asking Tibetans who had participated in last week's demonstrations to turn themselves in.

Residents in Ganzi county in Sichuan province said they saw troops, trucks and helicopters on patrol.

The massive mobilization of riot police was helping authorities reassert control after the broadest, most sustained protests by Tibetans against Chinese rule in decades. Demonstrations had flared across Sichuan, Gansu and Qinghai provinces in support of protests that were started in Lhasa.

Led by Buddhist monks, protests began peacefully early last week but erupted into rioting on March 14, drawing a harsh response from Chinese authorities.

Sports briefs

PRO FOOTBALL

ALAMEDA, Calif. (AP) — The Raiders and DeAngelo Hall agreed to terms on a \$70 million, seven-year contract that cleared the way for the former Pro Bowl cornerback to be dealt from Atlanta to Oakland.

Hall arrived in the Bay Area to meet with Raiders owner Al Davis, coach Lane Kiffin and other team officials Wednesday and the deal was completed the following day. Hall will be guaranteed a little more than \$24 million in the new deal, a person familiar with the contract said on condition of anonymity because terms were not released.

The Raiders wanted to sign Hall to a new contract before completing the deal with the Falcons in order to make sure they would have Hall for more than one year. Oakland sent a second-round pick, the 34th overall, in next month's draft, and a fifth-round pick in 2009 to Atlanta in the deal.

The Raiders wanted to sign Hall to a new contract before completing the deal with the Falcons in order to make sure they would have Hall for more than one year. Oakland sent a second-round pick, the 34th overall, in next month's draft, and a fifth-round pick in 2009 to Atlanta in the deal.

Patterson was Washington's opening-day starter in 2007. But he missed much of the last two seasons because of right forearm problems, limiting him to 15 starts in 2006 and 2007 combined. He had surgery in September to repair a nerve problem.

in the first four rounds of the draft, the fourth overall selection in the opening round. The Raiders previously traded their third-round pick to New England for the pick used to select offensive lineman Mario Henderson in last year's draft, and its fifth-round pick to Denver for defensive tackle Gerard Warren.

The Raiders could try to recoup some of those lost picks by trading either cornerback Fabian Washington or Stanford Routt.

BASEBALL

WASHINGTON (AP) — John Patterson was cut by the Washington Nationals in a surprise move, a little more than a week before the season begins.

Patterson was Washington's opening-day starter in 2007. But he missed much of the last two seasons because of right forearm problems, limiting him to 15 starts in 2006 and 2007 combined. He had surgery in September to repair a nerve problem.

1 Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF THE ESTATE OF DAN KEITH PUCKETT DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original letters testamentary upon the Estate of Dan Keith Pucket, also known as Deceased, were granted to me, the undersigned, on March 17, 2008, in Cause Number 9501, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas. All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered are required to present them to me within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated: March 18, 2008

1 Public Notice

DORIS JEAN PUCKETT,
Independent Executrix of
the Estate of
Dan Keith Pucket,
Deceased

c/o Vanessa G. Buzzard
Peterson Faris Pruitt
& Parker, P.C.
208 N. Russell
Pampa, TX 79065
806/665-9764
806/665-9756 FAX
Attorneys for Applicant
A-47 Mar. 21, 2008

10 Lost/Found

LOST Chihuahua. Tan & White. Blue collar with bones. 665-0509. 946 E. Malone. Reward.

FOUND: Black & white cat, pink flea collar, on Scotti st. Indoor cat. 669-6142 or 662-7969

FOUND set of Chevrolet keys with remote in 2200 block of Hamilton. Call 669-3026.

13 Bus. Opp.

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

5 Special Notices

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A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

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.

3-21

CRYPTOQUOTE

C N B W K K L B M N I I F K P Y L , I J U N

E X C J I L W K S C K O C J B Y P G B N

J B W N I I J Y D C J O B K O N

S K Y L N G V P I B W K G Q . — F E I A E X
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THE RECKLESS
DRIVER IS A PERSON WHO PASSES YOU WHEN
YOU ARE EXCEEDING THE SPEED LIMIT.
— SELF-NAMED EXPERT

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Mechanic- Successful candidate will perform activities related to mechanical work on equipment at compressor, pipeline, storage, gathering and / or gas processing facilities. Responsibilities include servicing, troubleshooting, maintaining, installing and repairing structural, mechanical, electrical and / or well equipment; conducting performance analyses, including emission testing.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, March 22, 2008:

You have what it takes to make waves this year. Just where you want ripples and in what ocean of your life is your call. Trust that you will be heard! Partnership matters gain in importance this year. You could gain from property, or more likely you could experience a move. Even if you stay where you are, your dugs will feel and look very different. Let others dominate, whether you are single or attached. If you are single, you might experience the revolving door of suitors. If you are attached, you might enjoy the multifaceted personality of your partner. LIBRA's easy yet indirect approach challenges you, as it is so very different.

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)

★★★★★ Defeat to others, understanding that your ire might rise, as matter might not be done 100 percent your way. You don't need to do anything. Just let go and relax. A whirlwind of activity surrounds you. Pick and choose. Tonight: Socialize to your heart's content.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ You might need to pull back and regroup. If you are at the end of your rope dealing with others, head out for a walk or a breather. Recharge. Don't take people so seriously just breathe. You will relax. Tonight: Accept and nurture.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Though others might be feisty, you will handle situations easily — but at what cost? Could you be overspending?

Listen well to news that heads in your direction. A flirtation might cause a lot of trouble. Are you ready for the ramifications? Tonight: Let your hair down.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Pressure builds, especially on the home front. You might feel as if you need to be everywhere all at once. This situation could be exhausting at best. Know when to pull back and try something differently. Tonight: Cocoon.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Recognize how much you enjoy people, then kiss your to-do list goodbye. Remember, you do have to enjoy your life. Make calls and reach out to a loved one and/or friend. Make plans for a movie or dinner, or whatever suits you. Tonight: Hang out.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ A friend could drive a hard bargain. Still, feel free to say no, especially if your budget will get stomachache.

Take care of yourself first, then others. Get bills together or handle taxes. Use your accounting abilities. Tonight: Enjoy life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Let others seek you out. All you have to do is be available. Your natural kindness and glow encourage more opportunities and a lot of possibilities.

How you view a situation could change dramatically with feedback. Tonight: Act like a king or queen.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Stand back. Take time to evaluate.

You might be well advised to play the observer, as wild information comes forward. You don't have to, and perhaps should not, reveal all that you think.

Tonight: How about a hideaway with that one special person?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Work with a friend rather than fight city hall. Gather others together for a spontaneous get-together. Make celebration your theme. Incorporate physical activity into your plans. Clear out some overly zealous energy. Tonight: Zero in on what you want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ You could be throwing flames on a situation and causing more heat than necessary. Try a more quiet and withdrawn approach. Let someone display his or her true colors without reacting. Tonight: A must show.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Walk away if you are triggering. Follow a more quiet and centered path. An offer or a new option will appear, which might involve travel or school. Why not? Don't let a negative thought ruin a great day. Tonight: Let your imagination race, then choose.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ You discover very quickly that a lot is going on. A child or loved one keeps coming up with somewhat dicey or risky ideas. Work with this person. He or she obviously wants to have a good time.

Hop into the fun. Tonight: Togetherness proves to be wonderful!

BORN TODAY

Mme Marcel Marceau (1923), composer Andrew Lloyd Webber (1948), composer Stephen Sondheim (1930)

*** *

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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Events calendar

• **Pampa's Tribute to Woody Guthrie Center** is currently seeking memorabilia from the Dust Bowl Days for a special commemoration of this particular period in history April 10-13 at the center. For more information, e-mail lmmb777@hotmail.com.

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

• **The Amarillo Art Institute** is offering a variety of classes for children and adults this spring. Classes include Clay for Kids, Basics of Drawing and Painting, Silvery Jewelry Design and Fabrication, and more. For further details or to register, call (806) 354-8802.

• **The local Red Cross chapter** will benefit from a shoot out sponsored by Bonaparts Retreat in Pampa from 2-7 p.m. March 22. Shoot until you miss and win an Outlaw Pool Cue and participate in a raffle for a McFarland pool cue. The drawing will be at 8 p.m.

• **Scholarships are currently available** for grant-writing workshops March 25-26 in Dallas and March 27-28 in Houston. The partial scholarships are available to nonprofit and faith-

based organizations, government agencies, schools and students. For more information, call 1-800-371-5703 or visit www.zock-grant.com on the Internet.

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

• **Pampa Community Concert Association**

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

• **April 1 is the deadline** for the Youth Writing Contest sponsored by Panhandle Professional Writers. The competition is open to all students between third grade and high school. Contest rules are available through the organization's Web site, www.panhandleprowriters.org. For more information, e-mail bcollins16@suddenlink.net.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Community service

Volunteers from Halliburton in Pampa recently undertook a community service project. The volunteers picked up trash along a section of Loop 171 and Highway 60. Above: Joe Brock, from left, Kristal Lee, Stephanie Smith, Kevin Anderson, Helen Smith, Will Wynn, Patricia Squires, Eric Grotts, Jimmie Taylor, Bob Pendergraft

RICE APPEALS TO FOREIGN MINISTER

White House says games about athletes

WASHINGTON (AP) — China's crackdown in Tibet will not cause President Bush to cancel his planned trip to the Beijing Olympics, the White House said Thursday.

At the same time, the administration interceded on behalf of Tibetan protesters and requested a firsthand look at how Chinese police were dealing with them.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice spoke to Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi Wednesday night for about 20 minutes, urging restraint and also Chinese talks with the Dalai Lama, the Tibetans' spiritual leader.

To underscore U.S. disapproval of the crackdown, Rice then told reporters on Thursday that "We are certainly concerned about the situation in Tibet" and that she hoped China would exercise restraint.

The Dalai Lama, she said, is "an authoritative figure" who stands not for independence but for Tibetan cultural autonomy.

Presidential spokeswoman Dana Perino said Bush's position is that the Olympics "should be about the athletes and not necessarily about politics."

She said that Bush, in accepting the invitation last year from Chinese President Hu Jintao to attend the Olympics,

The Dalai Lama, she said, is "an authoritative figure" who stands not for independence but for Tibetan cultural autonomy.

told him the games would "shine a spotlight on all things Chinese."

"That's not necessarily a bad thing," Perino added.

Bush agreed to go to the Olympics during a meeting with Hu in Australia last September during the Asia Pacific Economic Council meeting. A White House spokesman said at the time that Bush was going to the games for the sports and not for any political statement.

Protests against Chinese rule in Tibet have drawn a harsh response from Beijing. Authorities say 325 people have been injured and 16 people died.

Rice called Foreign Minister Yang as China sent additional troops into restive areas and made more arrests in the Tibetan capital Lhasa.

State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said the administration was not "calling into question" reports of tough action against Tibetan protesters. But he said, "We don't have a clear understanding of exactly what has happened and what is going on in those areas."

"We have requested access to those areas, including Lhasa, so that we can have our own on-the-ground assessment of what has happened and what is ongoing," McCormack added.

Science, Bible agree: It's better to give than receive

By RANDOLPH E. SCHMID
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bible counsels misers that it's better to give than to receive.

Science agrees.

People who made gifts to others or to charities reported they were happier than folks who didn't share, according to a report in Friday's issue of the journal Science.

While previous studies have shown that having more money can increase happiness, the researchers at the University of British Columbia and Harvard University wondered if the way people spent their money made any difference.

Turns out, it does.

Lead researcher Elizabeth W. Dunn, an assistant professor of psychology at the University of British Columbia, said she wasn't surprised that doing something for others made people happy.

But she was struck by how big the effect was and that how people spent money was more important than how much money they had.

"This work suggests that even making small alterations in how we spend money on a daily basis can make a difference in happiness," Dunn said in a telephone interview.

"That doesn't mean go get a high paying job so you can spend tons of money on others. The message is, given

what you have, how can you make little alterations to do something for others," she said.

And, she added, "there's nothing special about money," giving can involve time or special skills to help other people.

The report didn't surprise Sue Citro, senior digital membership manager for the Nature Conservancy:

"We do hear from our members and our supporters that the do get a real feeling of satisfaction from knowing their giving is doing good," she said.

Andrea Koslow, director of advertising at the American Red Cross, said: "The act of helping has its own profound effect."

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diabetes in the senior population

Statistics

- While an estimated 20.8 million have been diagnosed with diabetes, 6.7 million people are unaware they have the disease.
- Every day, 2,200 new cases of diabetes are diagnosed, or 780,000 a year.
- Diabetes is the 6th leading cause of death by disease in the United States.
- About 86,000 lower limbs are amputated annually due to complications from diabetes.
- Diabetes is the leading cause of end-stage kidney disease, accounting for about 40% of new cases; it is the leading cause of new cases of blindness among adults, age 20 to 74.
- 10.3 million or 20.2% of all people, in the age group 65 and older have diabetes.
- People over the age of 65 with diabetes are three times more likely to be hospitalized for falls than people without the disease.
- One in five people with diabetes who seek hospital care do so for foot problems.
- The few often provide the first sign of more serious health issues, such as diabetes.
- Eighty-five percent of all diabetes-related lower extremity amputations are preceded by a foot ulcer.

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