



Tomorrow's Weather

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LOW 44

See expanded weather on Page 2

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THE PAMPA NEWS

Monday, March 24, 2008

Volume 103 • No. 302

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Company uses cryogenics to strengthen metal parts

By David Bowser
The Pampa News

A Pampa businessman has put the alchemy of modern technology to work in his shop off Price Road.

Shawn Clifton went into the cryogenics business several years ago in an effort to strengthen metal tools and items and make them last longer.

"We started this company back in 2003," Clifton said of Cryo-Temp, which is housed in the back of the family business, Clifton Supply, on Price Road.

He takes metal items that normally undergo a lot of stress, such as brake rotors, and

freezes them with nitrogen gas in a computer controlled vat that resembles a deep freeze chest, then brings them back to the ambient temperature of the air.

"We take them from ambient temperature down to 320 degrees below zero," Clifton

said. "It's actually a dry controlled process," said Jim Williams, Clifton's shop manager and cryogenic technician. "The item never comes in contact with liquid nitrogen."

The freezing process is done with nitrogen in a gaseous state.

"It's a cold dry process," Williams said.

"The timing depends upon the diameter of the metal," Clifton said. "It can take up to 48 hours."

Technically, what that does is convert austenite, carbon iron, through a molecular change to a harder grade of metal called martensite, Clifton said.

"We will take typically metal products and you will have metal



Pampa News Photos by David Bowser

Top photo - Jim Williams, cryogenic technician, places a ban saw blade in a vat of nitrogen gas. The freezing process, according to business owner Shawn Clifton, strengthens the metal in the blade. Above - Shawn Clifton examines the furnace that brings metal frozen in his cryogenic vat back to ambient temperature.

products that have a short life such as brake rotors or pump castings, housings," Clifton said. "Things that wear out and you have to replace."

This is not new technology, Clifton said.

"The Swiss came up with it back in the 1700s," he said.

The Swiss would freeze watch parts to strengthen the metal so the watches wouldn't wear out as fast.

"That's where it came from," Clifton said.

Clifton said he first got See CRYOGENICS, Page 3

\$50,000 grant on city agenda

The Pampa City Commission is expected to take up a \$50,000 cash grant to United Medicare, Inc., in addition to forgiving \$24,000 due the city at their regular commission meeting Tuesday afternoon.

United Medicare had requested that the city forgive \$24,000 the company owes the city from a contract with the previous Pampa Economic Development Corporation. When the first PEDC was dissolved by voters, the city commission

received all the assets of the corporation.

Tuesday, the commission acting as an economic development corporation may grant \$50,000 to United Medicare in return for a one-year commitment to stay in Pampa.

In other business, the commission will hear on second and final reading a city ordinance giving firefighters collective bargaining rights.

See CITY, Page 3

Garage burns

Three units and seven personnel of the Pampa Fire Department responded to a structure fire in the 600 block of Wells at 7:46 p.m. on Friday, March 21. There were no occupants.

"The fire was fully involved upon the first unit's arrival," Fire Chief Kim Powell said. "The building was a total loss."

The structure in question was a detached garage at a vacant residence. There was minor heat damage to the adjacent building. The fire is still under investigation.

Burglary, drug cases reported

By MARILYN POWERS
The Pampa News

them consent, said GCSO Lt. Joe B. Hoard.

Gray County Sheriff's Office deputies worked a smorgasbord of cases over the Easter weekend, including a burglary, a gas drive-off, controlled substances and misidentification.

At about midnight Friday, deputies conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of Hobart and Alcock streets. When they asked the driver for consent to search the vehicle, the driver denied

Pampa Police Department was contacted, and their K-9 unit arrived. The dog alerted on the vehicle," Hoard said. "Deputies did a probable cause search and found several things consistent with the manufacture of methamphetamine."

Searchers also found a small quantity of a white powdered substance believed to be methamphetamine, he

See BURGLARY, Page 3

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NEXT DAY FORECAST

Tuesday



Sunny

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 79. West wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 44. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Wednesday



Sunny

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. West wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 47. Southwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Thursday



Sunny

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 74. West wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 39. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

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Eula Fay Wheeler, 91

PAMPA, Texas (Special) — Graveside services for Eula Fay Wheeler, 91, of Pampa, Texas, will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 25, 2008, at Edith Ford Memorial Cemetery with Pastor Mike Sublet, officiating and C.W. Parker, chaplain with Odyssey HealthCare, assisting.



Wheeler

Burial will follow under the direction of Hughs Funeral Home of Canadian, Texas. Mrs. Wheeler passed away Saturday, March 22, 2008, in Pampa, Texas. Mrs. Wheeler was born on Dec. 6, 1916, at Little Robe Ranch in Hemphill County to the late Mr. Ole M. Larson and Mrs. Addie Laura (Hardage) Larson. She attended schools in Blue Ridge, Glazier and Canadian. She married Tony Wheeler on March 10, 1938, in Arnett, Okla. He passed away in December 1995. She was a homemaker in

her early years and later became owner and operator of the Major Court Kitchennettes for 15 years in Canadian. She moved to Pampa in 1990. She also attended Highland Christian Church in Pampa. She was preceded in death by five brothers, three sisters and two great-grandsons.

She is survived by one son, Joe C. Wheeler and wife Janell of Skellytown, Texas; three daughters, Margaret Jean Scissons of Pampa, Texas, Laura Shields and husband Loyd of Claremore, Okla., and Linda Kveton of Corsicana, Texas; 14 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren. The family suggests memorials be to Odyssey HealthCare, 6900 I-40 West, Suite 150, Amarillo, TX 79106. You may send condolences online at www.hughsfuneralhome.com.

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Obituaries

Eulon 'Judy' Bliss, 74

Eulon "Judy" Bliss, 74, of Pampa, Texas, died March 24, 2008, at Amarillo, Texas. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors. Mrs. Bliss was born May 2, 1933, in Hamilton, Ala. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1952.

Judy married Jessie Bliss on Dec. 5, 1953, in Clovis, N.M. He preceded her in death on Nov. 15, 2002. Survivors include two sons, Frank Bliss and



Bliss

Dean Bliss, both of Pampa; two sisters, Donnie Osborn of Hamilton, Ala., and Regena Garrison of Bartlesville, Okla.; one brother, Leonard Palmer of

Hamilton, Ala.; and two grandchildren, Jason Bliss and Jennifer Bliss, both of Austin. MEMORIALS: A favorite charity. —Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whately.com.

Laura Bentley Smith, 95

Laura Bentley Smith, 95, of Pampa, Texas, died March 22, 2008, at Wheeler, Texas. Services will be Tuesday, March 25, 2008, at 2 p.m. in First Baptist Church with Darrell Burton, Chaplain of Odyssey Healthcare of Clarendon, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Smith was born to Henry Lee Bentley and Alice Lucretia Downing Bentley on Feb. 14, 1913, in Rockwood, Coleman County, Texas. She was the 11th of 12th children. Mrs. Smith attended Rockwood School for some years and finished high school in 1930 in Doole, Texas.

Of her Christian testimony, Mrs. Smith stated, "The greatest thing I had ever experienced was when I made a public profession of my faith in Jesus Christ there at Doole. As a result of my

decision, there were others at home who became Christians. ... Six of us were baptized in the Colorado River and became members of that small Baptist church."

Mrs. Smith attended Howard Payne College and earned a teaching certificate. She taught school at Starkweather and Mozelle in Coleman County for a few years before returning to Howard Payne where she met Marion Burleson Smith. They married on Nov. 27, 1936.

The Smith family moved to the Texas Panhandle in 1948. Brother M.B. Smith had been pastoring Baptist churches for several years by then. He pastored First Baptist in Wheeler, and then on to Pampa where he pastored Highland Baptist for a time and served as supply



Smith

and interim in many area churches, as well as teaching sciences at Pampa High School and Clarendon College.

Mrs. Smith served beside her husband and touched the lives of many women who were members of her Sunday School classes. She had been a resident of Pampa for 53 years and a member of First Baptist Church in Pampa for many years. Mrs. Smith was preceded in death by her husband, the Rev. M.B. Smith; 11 brothers and sisters; a granddaughter, Joanie Lee Brogdon; and a son-in-law, Harold Lloyd Lee.

Survivors include all five of her children, Mrs. Sylvia Shuler and husband Leo, of Wheeler, Mrs. Marilyn Whitaker and husband Rex, of Waco, Philip N. Smith

and wife Jane of Sulphur Springs, David L. Smith and Connie Jones of Austin, and Herbert L. Smith and wife Lynn of Pampa; 15 grandchildren, Lucretian Davis and Mike Lee of Wheeler, Melanie Gates of Weatherford, Okla., Lori Barnes of Stephenville and Brent Lee of Killen, Lisa Osborne of Round Rock, Mark Whitaker of Temple and Kristi Mouse of Rockwall, Jennifer Scogin of Rogers, Ark., Emily Stephen of Dayton, Ohio, Nathan Smith of Irving, Courtney Marrs of Borger, YuMei Jones of Austin, Jonathan H. Smith and Jared L. Smith of Pampa; 29 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

MEMORIALS: The Sunshine Club c/o First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 621, Pampa, TX 79066. —Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whately.com.

Emergency Services

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the period from 7 a.m. Thursday, March 20 through midnight Friday, March 21.

Thursday, March 20

Fifteen traffic stops were made. Stops in the 100 block of West Harvester and the 1000 block of Vamon Drive resulted in arrests.

Traffic complaints were received from the intersection of Kingsmill and Cuyler streets, and the 400 block of South Starkweather.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 600 block of North Zimmers.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 700 block of Hazel, the 2500 block of Beech, the 1300 block of Garland, the intersection of Price Road and Highway 60, the 600 block of North Wells, the 700 block of North Hobart, twice in the 1300 block of North Starkweather, once in the 2500 block of Beech, the 1100 block of Sierra, the 1100 block of

Sandlewood and the 1200 block of East Foster.

Found property was reported in the 1400 block of North Russell. A bicycle was found.

A runaway and harboring a runaway were reported in the 1200 block of North Russell. The runaway later returned home.

A runaway was reported in the 600 block of North Zimmers. Agency assistance was reported at the intersection of Highway 70 and Loop 171.

A suspicious person report was received from the 400 block of North Rider.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 600 block of North Sumner.

Resisting arrest and possession of drug paraphernalia were reported in the 1000 block of Vamon Drive.

Theft was reported in the 300 block of Miami. An electrical meter box was damaged and a battery was taken. Estimated value of damage and loss is \$700.

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Theft was reported in the 2100 block of Beech. A dog valued at \$1,000 was taken.

Burglary was reported in the 2100 block of Beech. A welder valued at \$450 was taken.

Friday, March 21

Eleven traffic stops were made. A stop in the 900 block of East Francis resulted in at least one arrest.

Traffic complaints were received from the 100 block of North Hobart and twice from the 2800 block of Charles.

An abandoned vehicle was reported in the police department lobby.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 1300 block of North Hobart.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 900 block of East Browning, the 1000 block of East Kingsmill, the 800 block of East Craven, the 400 block of Red Deer, the 1100 block of Sierra, the 800 block of Beryl, the 1300 block of East Foster, the 1400 block of Charles and the 1200 block of East Foster.

A runaway was reported in the 1500 block of North Banks. Welfare checks were made in the 1000 block of East Frederic, the 2300 block of Rosewood and the 400 block of North Starkweather.

Civil matters were reported in the 2200 block of Alcock and the police department lobby.

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

A follow-up investigation in the 1000 block of North Frost resulted in at least one arrest.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 200 block of Tyng, the 300 block of Anne, and the intersection of Louisiana and Mary Ellen streets.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the intersection of Browning and Starkweather streets.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 2400 block of Comanche, the 1300 block of East Foster, the 2100 block of Williston and the 1200 block of South Faulkner. At least one arrest was made in connection with the incident in the 2100 block of Williston.

Possession of drug paraphernalia and a violation of a city ordinance concerning curfew

were reported in the 900 block of East Francis. Citations were issued.

Possession of drug paraphernalia was reported in the 2100 block of Williston.

Criminal mischief was reported at Chez Tanz, 2137 N. Hobart. Two windows were broken. Estimated cost of damage is \$600.

Criminal mischief was reported at the Army recruiting office at 2143 N. Hobart. A passenger-side door of a vehicle was damaged by a rock being thrown.

Criminal mischief was reported at Kentucky Fried Chicken, 2201 N. Hobart. Two windows were broken. Estimated cost of damage is \$500.

Criminal mischief and harassment were reported in the 100 block of Purviance. A glass window at the front of a residence was broken out with a rock. Estimated cost of damage is \$25.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 700 block of East Frederic. A hole was punched through a bathroom door. Estimated cost of damage is \$75.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 700 block of East Frederic. A television was damaged. Estimated cost of damage is \$75.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 600 block of North Zimmers. An estimated \$1,000 damage was done to a vehicle. A domestic disturbance was reported in the 900 block of Vamon Drive.

A domestic disturbance and assault by contact were reported in the 1300 block of Garland. No injuries were reported in connection with the incident.

Assault causing bodily injury and family violence were reported in the 1000 block of South Nelson. Minor injuries which did not require medical attention were reported.

Theft was twice reported in the 500 block of North Doyle. Cash valued at \$100 was taken.

Theft was reported at Allsup's, 1900 N. Hobart. A 30-pack of beer valued at \$17 was taken.

Theft was reported at Rent-A-Center, 1700 N. Hobart. Two televisions of unknown value were taken.

Theft was reported in the 400 block of Rose.

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Cryogenics

Continued from Front Page

into this when Williams was performing maintenance on their field trucks. Williams was changing brake rotors on their trucks every 18,000 miles.

"He keeps meticulous notes," Clifton said.

Williams came across the cryogenics process and suggested they try it on the trucks' brake rotors.

"We replaced the rotors on one of the field trucks," Clifton said, "but we didn't tell the guy that was driving it."

At that time, the truck had 60,000 miles on it.

"That truck ended up with over 200,000 miles on it, and we'd still not replaced those rotors," Clifton said. "We knew there was something to it."

They joined with a company in the Northeastern United States that had done a lot of testing of the process. Today, they are the only company between Dallas and Denver that offers this cryogenic process.

"It's a proven technology," Clifton said. "It definitely works."

The drawback is shipping items in to have them treated, he said.

"We put items through a process controlled by the computer, then we bring it back up to ambient temperature," Clifton said. "It literally changes the structure of the metals."

He said oft times items will be made with cheaper metals to save cost.

"For just a few dollars, we can take those cheap metals and convert them in to what

would be a very expensive metal that would be made naturally," Clifton said.

Williams said the freezing process finishes the tempering process usually started by heat. Heat treating only goes so far, he said.

"Eight to 15 percent of retained austenite is still in the metal," Clifton said.

"Cryogenics will go ahead and finish the heat treating process by doing a 100 percent conversion of austenite to martensite. That's where we pick up our gain in wear properties is through that."

Williams said that problems like stress fractures are eliminated.

"If you have two pieces of pipe and you weld them together," Clifton said, "you automatically have stress there where that weld has occurred. You can put that

piece in the vat, cryogenically freeze it and it literally removes all the stress and makes that just as strong as one piece."

He said newer technology is responding to the process such as personal computer boards where there are a lot of spot welds.

"You freeze these boards and it removes all of your stress," Clifton said. "Data will actually move through that board as if it were one continual piece."

He said it works well with audio cables where the ends are soldered.

"We actually have customers in the Metroplex install high end audio systems in churches or auditoriums or homes even," Clifton said. "They send their cables to us and let us treat them. They say there is an audible

difference."

"There's more natural sound to the music," Williams said.

Clifton said other items that have shown good response are brass musical instruments.

"Brass and copper respond very well because they are softer metals," Clifton said.

He said it results in higher and lower registers on the instrument.

"It will give you a more natural sound," he said.

Clifton said he intends to talk to the band directors in town.

"It's pretty phenomenal," Clifton said.

He said the company that he deals with on the cryogenics is in the Northeastern U.S. and they say that a lot of symphonies there have their instruments treated.

The difficult part, Clifton said, is that to look at a piece of metal that has been treated, there is no discernable difference. It doesn't appear different. It doesn't change color. Treated and untreated items look the same.

"It's a full time job trying to explain this to people," Clifton said. "People being the skeptics that the are, they look at it like a smoke and mirrors type deal. Physically, you can't see a difference."

But Clifton is sold on the technology.

"Anything that's put under stress and typically breaks, it's going to increase the longevity of that," he said.

Burglary

Continued from Front Page

said. "Apparently, Kenneth Dale Putman claimed the substance," Hoard said.

Arrested were Putman, 25, of Amarillo; Mark William Holmes Jr., 34, of Pampa; and Bradley Dewayne Sellers, 36, of Pampa. Putman was charged with

possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance. Sellers and Holmes were charged with possession of drug paraphernalia.

Putman was later released on \$4,000 bond. Holmes was released on \$750 bond, and Sellers was released after paying a \$300 fine, according to jail records.

A case which remains

open and under investigation is a burglary at the Taylor Mart, 210 E. 2nd in Lefors. Deputies were dispatched there at 3:54 a.m. Sunday, according to sheriff's office reports.

Entry into the building was gained by kicking open a plate glass door on the south side of the store, Hoard said. Taken were two

cartons of cigarettes, two cases of cigars and \$120 in coins.

The Allsup's convenience store at the intersection of Price Road and Highway 152 reported a gas drive-off at 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Fuel valued at \$30 was taken. A vehicle description given in connection with the incident is that of a red Dodge pick-

up, Hoard said.

A Pampa man's being recognized by a deputy led to his arrest at 3:16 p.m. Sunday.

Deputies stopped a vehicle for a traffic stop on Plains Street when they recognized a passenger in the vehicle, Hoard said.

"Reggie Eugene Williams said he was someone else,

but they knew who he was," Hoard said. "They asked him his name, and he gave a name that was not his. One of the deputies knew him."

Williams was arrested and booked into Gray County Jail on charges of failure to identify as a fugitive from justice, open container and failure to appear/bail jumping.

Existing home sales unexpectedly rise, but prices keep tumbling

WASHINGTON (AP) — After falling for six straight months, sales of existing homes posted an unexpected increase in February which may have reflected more aggressive price cutting by sellers in some parts of the country, a real estate trade group reported.

The National Association of Realtors said that sales of existing homes rose by 2.9 percent in February to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.03 million units. It was the biggest increase in a year and caught economists by surprise. They had been expecting a small decline.

The trade group reported that the median existing sales price in February fell to

\$195,900. That was the largest year-over-year drop on records that go back to 1999.

Lawrence Yun, chief economist for the Realtors, said that prices in some formerly hot markets in California and Florida were seeing significant price declines now as sellers try to attract buyers.

Analysts cautioned against reading too much into the one-month rise in sales. Many economists are predicting that the steep slump in housing will not bottom-out until later this year after prices fall further and allow huge levels of unsold inventories to be reduced.

"We're not expecting a notable gain in existing-

home sales until the second half of this year, but the (February) improvement is nother sign that the market is stabilizing," Yun said.

By region of the country, sales surged by 11.3 percent in the Northeast and were up 2.5 percent in the Midwest and 2.1 percent in the South. The only region of the country to see a decline in the sales was the West, where they dropped by 1.1 percent.

Sales of existing homes fell by 12.7 percent in 2007, the biggest decline in 25 years. Over the past two years, housing has been in a steep downturn made worse by a severe credit crunch as financial institutions tightened their lending standards

in reaction to their multibillion-dollar losses on mortgages that have gone into default.

The steep slump in housing has raised concerns about a possible recession. Democrats are pushing the Bush administration to do more to stem a tidal wave of mortgage foreclosures to keep more unsold homes from being dumped on an already glutted market.

Sen. Hillary Clinton, campaigning for the Democratic presidential nomination, on Monday called on President Bush to appoint an emergency working group on foreclosures to recommend new ways to confront the housing crisis.

Man, declared dead, says he feels 'pretty good'

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Four months after he was declared brain dead and doctors were about to remove his organs for transplant, Zach Dunlap says he feels "pretty good."

Dunlap was pronounced dead Nov. 19 at United Regional Healthcare System in Wichita Falls, Texas, after he was injured in an all-terrain vehicle accident. His family approved having his organs harvested.

As family members were paying their last respects, he moved his foot and hand. He reacted to a pocketknife scraped across his foot and to pressure applied under a fingernail. After 48 days in the hospital, he was allowed to return home, where he continues to work on his recovery.

On Monday, he and his family were in New York, appearing on NBC's "Today."

"I feel pretty good. but it's just hard ... just ain't got the patience," Dunlap told NBC.

Dunlap, 21, of Frederick, said he has no recollection of the crash.

"I remember a little bit that was about an hour before the accident happened. But then about six hours before that, I remember," he said.

Dunlap said one thing he does remember is hearing the doctors pronounce him dead. "I'm glad I couldn't get up and do what I wanted to do," he said.

Asked if he would have wanted to get up and shake them and say he's alive, Dunlap responded: "Probably would have been a broken window that went out."

His father, Doug, said he saw the results of the brain scan.

"There was no activity at all, no blood flow at all," Zach's mother, Pam, said

that when she discovered he was still alive, "That was the most miraculous feeling."

"We had gone, like I said, from the lowest possible emotion that a parent could feel to the top of the mountains again," she said.

She said her son is doing "amazingly well," but still has problems with his memory as his brain heals from the traumatic injury.

"It may take a year or more ... before he completely

recovers," she said. "But that's OK. It doesn't matter how long it takes. We're just all so thankful and blessed that we have him here."

Dunlap now has the pocketknife that was scraped across his foot, causing the first reaction.

"Just makes me thankful, makes me thankful that they didn't give up," he said. "Only the good die young, so I didn't go."

Bluebonnets show may be average this year

AUSTIN (AP) — They're bright, blue and beloved. And they're barely starting to show themselves in small patches along highways.

Bluebonnets are beginning to blossom, signaling spring is arriving and ushering in Texans' annual love affair with the famous wildflower.

Relatively dry weather the past few months should make for only an average Texas bluebonnet season, but moist conditions in the weeks to come could strengthen the display, said Andrea DeLong-Amaya, horticulture director at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin.

City

Continued from Front Page

The commission will also consider a resolution approving a proposed Southwestern Public Service Company's amendment to certain tariff fees. The amendment, according to SPS officials, will not increase rate. It will, however, cut costs to entities such as churches and parks that use a lot of electricity, but not on a daily basis.

The commission will also hear a report from John

Curry concerning the tourism budget.

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Viewpoints

Texas tales: The chaparral grew tall and thick ...

If you're tired and ready to hit the beach at South Padre, the 120-mile drive from Corpus Christi can seem like it's going to take forever. But imagine walking that distance, and in a time before convenience stores, Dairy Queens or any other places to get water or something to eat.

That is what it was like in the late winter of 1846 when Gen. Zachary Taylor started his Army on its march from Corpus Christi to Point Isabel (now Port Isabel) and the nearby Rio Grande.

Fearing trouble with Mexico following Texas' admission into the Union as the 28th state, President James K. Polk had ordered troops to Texas in the largest American military mobiliza-

tion since the War of 1812. Half of the entire American army gathered at Corpus Christi.

They had been in place six months when the directive came from the president on Feb. 3 to leave Corpus Christi and head for the Rio Grande. After that, getting ready — the chief difficulty being the acquisition of enough wagons and livestock to move all his equipment — took Taylor another month. The general also dispatched a reconnoitering party to determine the best route to take.

Regiment-by-regiment, companies of cavalry, artillery and infantry finally began leaving their camp on the middle Texas coast on March 8. With staggered

departure dates, they would follow the old Mexican cart road to Matamoras, Taylor's engineers having decided that moving troops down the shifting sands of Padre Island would be even more difficult than traversing the no man's land between the Nueces and Rio Grande.

Horsemen moving faster than foot soldiers or cannon and caissons, all the elements had instructions to rendezvous and hold near what is now Sarita in Kenedy County for the last leg of the troop movement. Taylor had sent an advance

party to set up a supply depot there.

Though spring would not officially arrive for nearly two weeks, for all practical purposes summer had already begun in South Texas. It was hot. The humidity was high, and gnats swarmed around the sweaty faces of the infantrymen.

Still, this land claimed by both Mexico and the United States could be beautiful if it got enough rain. And it had been a wet winter. One soldier who made the trip wrote that the land the army traveled through was "prairie

covered with flowers, scattered wood and chaparral [brush]."

That chaparral grew tall and thick. The needle-studded cactus and thick mesquite hid rattlesnakes, scorpions and other critters. At night, mountain lions prowled the brush. Too, Mexican scouts taking care not to be seen shadowed the American troops to report on their progress.

Two days out of Corpus Christi, as the soldiers moved down the two-rut wagon road, a soldier on the right flank heard something moving near him in the brush. Gripping his rifle tightly, he peered into the dense foliage.

Suddenly he saw something that stopped him in his

tracks. Acting on instinct, he raised his weapon and pulled the trigger. Though fired at close range, the rifle ball only slid off the thick skull of the soldier's target.

Bellowing in pain, the enraged recipient of the bullet lowered his bleeding head and charged the hapless infantryman. Not having time to reload, the soldier fell into unorganized retreat, rushing back to his comrades in arms.

Unimpressed at being outnumbered, the attacker ran at full-speed toward the column, which broke and took flight like so many flushed quail. Officers drew their sabers and enlisted men brandished bayoneted rifles,

See COX, Page 8



Michael Cox
Columnist

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, March 24, the 84th day of 2008. There are 282 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 24, 1958, rock-and-roll singer Elvis Presley was inducted into the Army in Memphis, Tenn. (After nearly six months of basic training at Fort Hood, Texas, Presley was posted to Friedberg, West Germany; he was honorably discharged in 1960.)

On this date:

In 1765, Britain enacted the Quartering Act, requiring American colonists to provide temporary housing to British soldiers.

In 1882, German scientist Robert Koch announced in Berlin that he had discovered the bacillus responsible for tuberculosis.

In 1934, President Roosevelt signed a bill granting future independence to the Philippines.

In 1944, in occupied Rome, the Nazis executed more than 300 civilians in reprisal for an attack by Italian partisans the day before that had killed 32

'Not to be able to grow old is just as ridiculous as to be unable to outgrow childhood.'

— Carl G. Jung
Psychiatrist
(1875-1961)

German soldiers.

In 1955, the Tennessee Williams play "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" opened on Broadway.

In 1976, the president of Argentina, Isabel Peron, was deposed by her country's military.

In 1980, one of El Salvador's most respected Roman Catholic Church leaders, Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero, was shot to death by gunmen as he celebrated Mass in San Salvador.

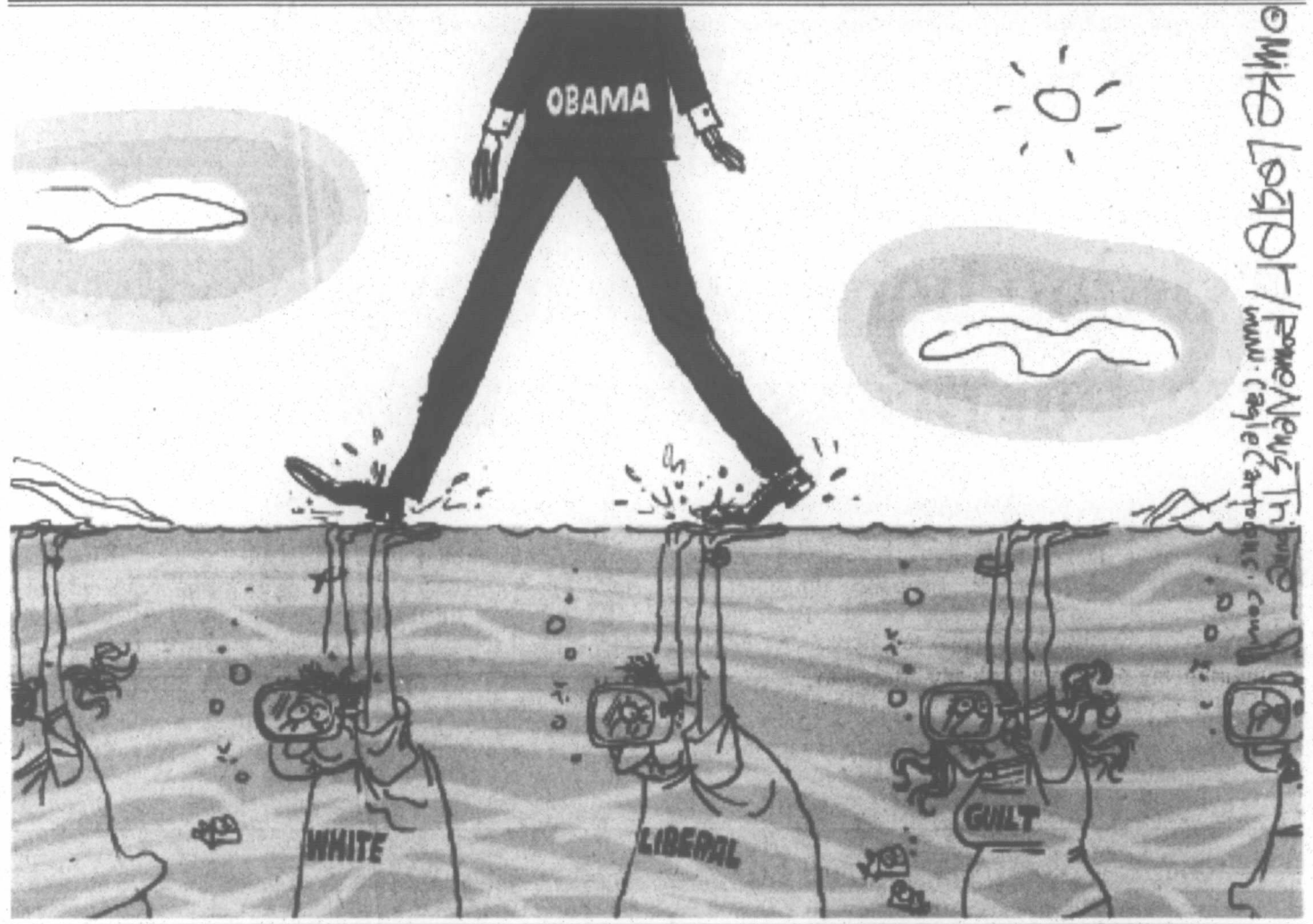
In 1989, the nation's worst oil spill occurred as the supertanker Exxon Valdez ran aground on a reef in Alaska's Prince William Sound and began leaking 11 million gallons of crude.

In 1995, after 20 years, British soldiers stopped routine patrols in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

In 1999, NATO launched airstrikes against Yugoslavia, marking the first time in its 50-year existence that the alliance had ever attacked a sovereign country.

Ten years ago: Two students, ages 13 and 11, opened fire outside their school in Jonesboro, Ark., killing four classmates and a teacher. (Mitchell Johnson and Andrew Golden were imprisoned by Arkansas until age 18, then by federal authorities until age 21. Johnson has since been released, Golden presumably so.)

Five years ago: Iraqi state television showed two men said to have been the U.S. crew of an Apache helicopter forced down during heavy fighting in central Iraq. (Chief Warrant Officer David Williams and Chief Warrant Officer Ronald D. Young Jr. spent three weeks in captivity before they were released with five other POWs.)



Good riddance to an arrogant bully...

Eliot Spitzer, an arrogant bully who was never the good guy he painted himself to be, got caught wiggling his bean with a poor working girl and was forced to resign as governor of New York.

Good riddance. All the talk on television about what a tragedy it is, is pure bunkum, the kind political hacks and hack journalists spew on a moment's notice. Since when is it a tragedy for a bad guy to get caught doing bad things? What is tragic about the king of hypocrites being exposed? Spitzer didn't care about anybody or anything except his own ambition. Why should anyone care about him? As for his wife and three kids, they didn't do anything except get embarrassed by this egomaniac.

Let's hope the U.S. attorney busts this bum's chops, prosecutes him, sends him to

jail and disbars him. If they can send Martha Stewart, who sweated to earn every dime she has, to prison, then they certainly can send this prince of a multimillionaire family to the big house.

I didn't know Spitzer was Jewish, but Haaretz, an Israeli newspaper I read regularly, seemed to see a great deal of irony in the fact that a man the paper said many hoped would become America's first Jewish president was brought down by a pimp with an Israeli passport.

In fact, though, Spitzer had already shown that he was an incompetent politician. After only 14 months in office, his popularity was in the low 20s. Spitzer found

out that his bullying tactics didn't work as well on experienced politicians who know how to fight back. Spitzer won office claiming he would clean up Albany. Well, the only thing he's

done to clean it up is resign.

It's interesting to watch the people who are defending Spitzer.

Their attitude is clearly that the elite have a double standard, that there is one set of rules for us peasants, but another one for the princes. They think we peasants just don't understand that and are overly excited by something they see as trivial. Since when is violating the Mann Act (transporting someone across state lines for immoral purposes) and aid-

ing and abetting a prostitution ring trivial?

They may also snag Spitzer for money laundering, since reports indicated he was sending money to a shell corporation offshore to pay for his illicit sex. Spitzer, as attorney general, prosecuted prostitution rings and demanded a heavier penalty for the customers, commonly called "johns." Well, he's a john now, and a prostitution ring is a criminal enterprise.

Spitzer is typical of the high and mighty who get corrupted by power. They think they are above the law, that the rules don't apply to them, and that they can get away with anything. It's always fun to see them fall. Spitzer joins the long, long line of sleazy politicians who got caught with their

See REESE, Page 8

Charley Reese
Columnist



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Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ March 15
Fort Worth Star-Telegram on private school vouchers:

An appointed state panel headed by Texas Education Commissioner Robert Scott has adopted a plan to give public school dropouts "multiple pathways" for earning a diploma, some of which could look an awful lot like private school vouchers.

If that happens, it would mean that the state through the actions of a non-elected body will have put into effect a policy that the Legislature has rejected repeatedly.

Some members of the High School

Completion and Success Initiative Council, appointed by the governor, lieutenant governor and House speaker under a bill approved last year, argued strongly Tuesday in Austin that the programs they are calling for are not vouchers.

But the proof of that will not be known until Scott's Texas Education Agency writes regulations for those programs — a task that is expected to complete by summer.

The strategic plan adopted by the council calls for using state money "through traditional and alternative education settings, including a dropout recovery program for which a variety of service providers are eligible such as school districts, open-enrollment charter schools, regional education service

centers, institutions of higher education, or non-profit organizations."

Does that last phrase include private and/or parochial schools?

Board member Don McAdams of Houston draws a fine line between what the council wants to do and what are traditionally considered vouchers.

A voucher, McAdams says, is a grant of public money to individuals — typically parents — who can take that money and spend it on the educational services of their choosing.

The council wants to grant money to service providers who would run dropout recovery programs.

Let's not get too tied up in semantics. If private or parochial schools end up

See SCHOOL, Page 8

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My husband gets aggravated with romantic commercials on television -- the ones where men do sweet things for their wives, like putting jewelry on them while they sleep, or pulling out that special gift at the dinner table. He says the commercials try to make men feel guilty because they aren't like the ones portrayed. I have tried telling him that men are, indeed, this way, but I couldn't think of any examples other than my brother and my father, who are very romantic. There are more than two men who excel at romance, aren't there? Don't most men know how to sweep a woman off her feet? -- **KELLY IN AUSTIN**

DEAR KELLY: Although I haven't taken a poll, I'm guessing that a majority of men know how to sweep a woman off her feet -- which is why the species has survived. However, your husband has a point. Gifts are not the only way to make someone special feel loved. Commercials are created in order to manipulate the public into buying, and if the amount of consumer debt being carried by U.S. households is any indication, that strategy has been extremely successful. While diamonds may be "a girl's best friend," most women know that a life partner who gives them attention, affection, praise and assistance when they need it is a jewel more precious than any stone could ever be.

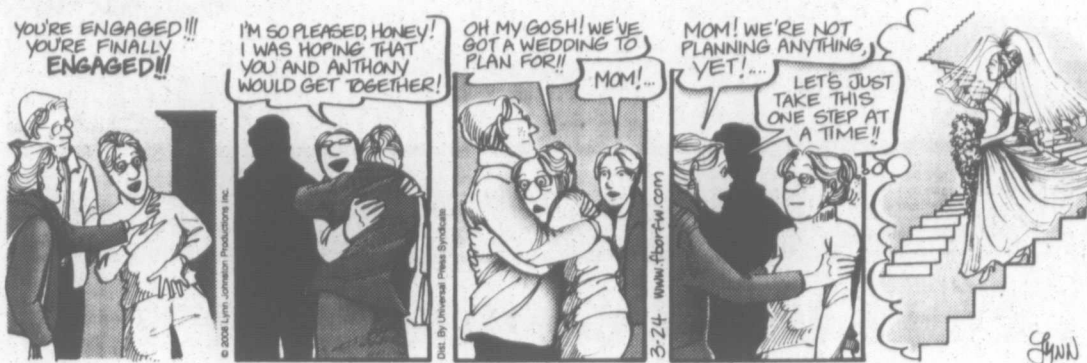
DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend, "Russell," and I have been together almost five years. He recently started school to become a plumber. The problem is, Russell has dyslexia and is struggling in school. When I try to help him with his homework, he becomes defensive. He knows he needs tutoring, but hasn't put forth any effort into seeking help. There's a test he needs to pass before his next class starts in May. He has already failed it once. How can I help him? -- **DESPERATE GIRLFRIEND**

DEAR DESPERATE: Different people have different learning styles. Some people learn from books while others learn more easily by watching how things are done. Encourage Russell to check at his school to see if anyone there could refer him to a tutor specializing in learning disorders. He could also check to see if any of the local plumbing companies offer an apprenticeship program that will provide him with on-the-job training rather than classwork.

DEAR ABBY: Will you please advise me on how to tell our computer friends not to send "junk" e-mail? My husband and I are annoyed with all the chain letters, jokes, cartoons, opinion letters, cutesy pictures, etc. we are receiving. I don't bother to read them, but deleting them is time-consuming. Why do people assume we're interested when we never asked for this kind of stuff? All it does is fill up our mailboxes. I stopped passing along this form of entertainment years ago, but people still keep sending the rubbish, even when I politely ask them to stop. Changing my e-mail address won't help. I want to correspond with friends, and do not want to hurt their feelings. I just want to eliminate the trash. Any suggestions on what we can say or do to stop the junk? -- **OVERFLOWING IN TRAVERSE CITY, MICH.**

DEAR OVERFLOWING: Maybe you're being too polite. You need to be firm and specific. Reply to an unwanted e-mail by telling the sender that you aren't interested in this kind of "entertainment." Eventually, your friends will get the message.

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

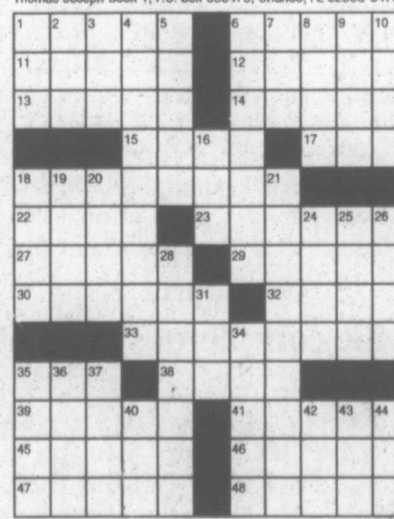
CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Circus performer
- 6 In the neighborhood
- 11 "Tiny Bubbles" singer
- 12 Solitary
- 13 Poet Gertrude
- 14 Basil-based sauce
- 15 Frog's cousin
- 17 Finger count
- 18 Letter-man's gig
- 22 Manipulative sort
- 23 Horrified
- 27 Bra part
- 29 Indian lute
- 30 Pinnacle
- 32 Fast-food request
- 33 Astronauts
- 35 Rocker Vicious
- 38 Ogden's state
- 39 Ordeal
- 41 Strike and rebound
- 45 Last Greek letter
- 46 Be penitent
- 47 Well fill
- 48 Film statue

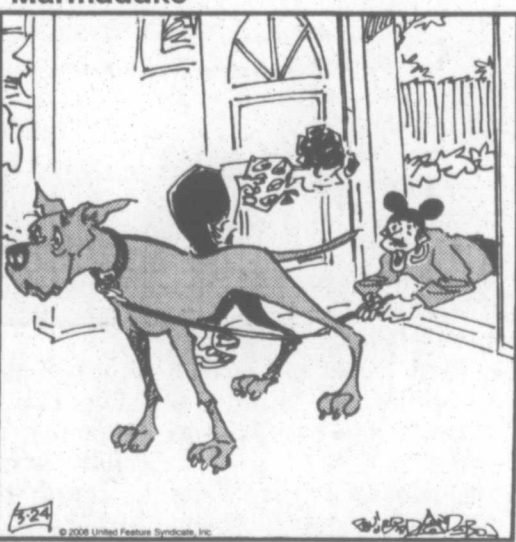
NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



DOWN

- 1 Music buys

Marmaduke

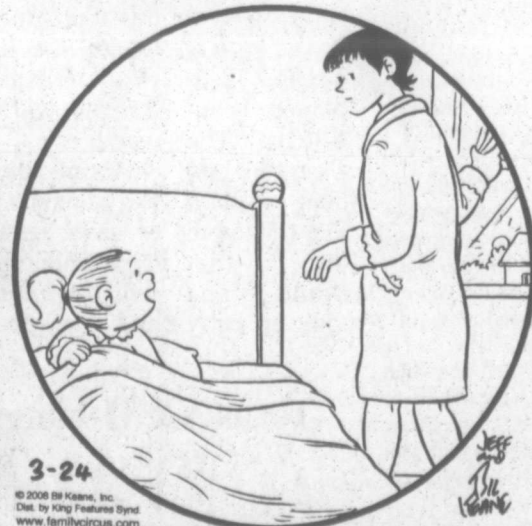


"Disneyland? What makes you think he dragged me through Disneyland?"

The Family Circus

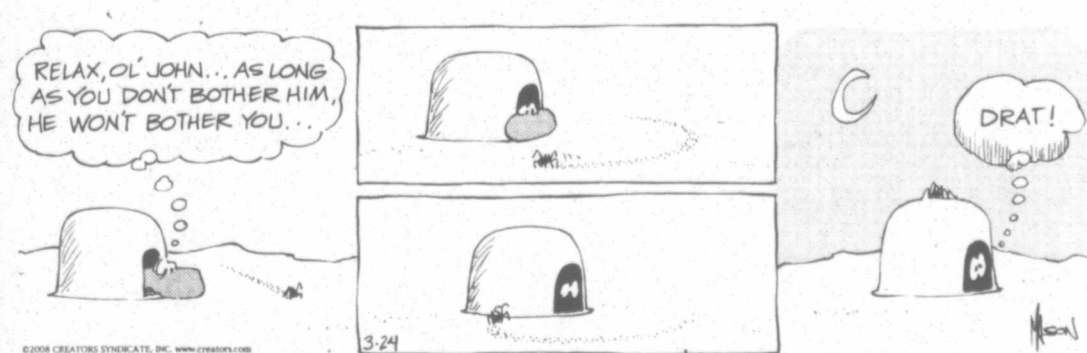
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"I had the greatest dream, Mommy. I wish I hadn't slept through it."

B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



"MAYBE HE DOESN'T REALIZE THIS IS A SMOKE-FREE ZONE!"

Peanuts

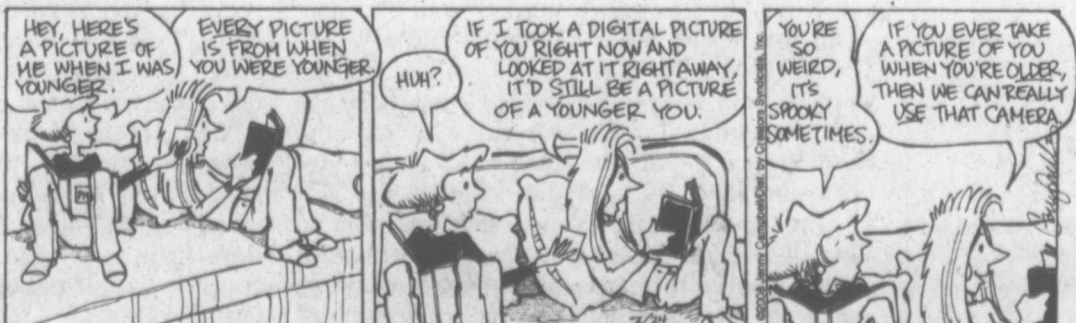


"EIGHT ROCK IN THE CORNER!"

Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports

LEFORS TRACK

Lefors track competed in meet

The Lefors track team competed in the Kiowa Invitational, held in Booker, on Friday. The results are as follows:

Girls	Boys	
100 meter: Valerie Miller, 1st (13.40); Emily Jackson, 5th (13.69)	110 meter hurdles: Jeremy Sprouse, 5th (18.53)	1600 meter: Gabriel Miller, 7th (5:40.38)
200 meter: Valerie Miller, 2nd (28.08); Emily Jackson, 3rd (28.19)	400 meter: Trever Czubinski, 6th (58.85)	Pole Vault: Nick Hess, 2nd (9'6")
Pole Vault: Valerie Miller, 1st (8'0")	300 meter hurdles: Jeremy Sprouse, 5th	Triple Jump: Jeremy Sprouse, 2nd (37'11"); Trever Czubinski, 6th (35'9 1/2")
		Long Jump: Trever Czubinski, 5th (17'2 1/2")
		High Jump: Jeremy Sprouse, 3rd (5'10")

Texas beats Minnesota 72-55

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. (AP) — Texas made an emphatic statement in its first game back in the NCAA tournament since 2005.

Brittany Raven scored 19 points and the eighth-seeded Longhorns (22-12) routed No. 9 seed Minnesota 72-55 on Sunday.

"I just get into a rhythm and it's easy for me to hit shots," Raven said. "I get a feel out there on the court, and my teammates do a good job of getting me the ball."

Erneisha Bailey added 16 for Texas, which will play top-ranked Connecticut in the second round Tuesday. The Huskies beat Cornell 87-41 earlier Sunday.

Emily Fox led Minnesota with 23 points, six above her season average. Leslie Knight added 12 for the Gophers, who finished the season 20-12.

The Golden Gophers trailed 49-37 with 10:32 remaining after a 12-5 run, but that was as close as they would get.

Raven hit a 3-pointer on the other end and Texas stretched the lead to 58-41 on a pair of free throws from

Earnesia Williams with 8 minutes left. It was a 25-point lead with just over 5 minutes left, and Texas cruised from there.

The Longhorns ran out early to a 17-5 lead, forcing eight Minnesota turnovers and turning several into transition buckets. Bailey hit her first three shots, while the entire Gopher team was shooting 2-for-11 from the field.

"By us starting out the way we started, it was just contagious," Bailey said. "Everyone kind of just locked down, really."

Minnesota went almost 4 minutes without a field goal, but used foul shooting to stay in the game, and trailed just 21-18 after Ashley Ellis-Milan hit two free throws with 5:03 left in the first half. But the Longhorns closed the half on an 11-0 run and went into intermission leading 32-18.

"We dug ourselves a little bit of a hole in the first half," Fox said. "We got a little momentum, we just couldn't pull it together."

The Gophers shot 31 percent from the field, but just

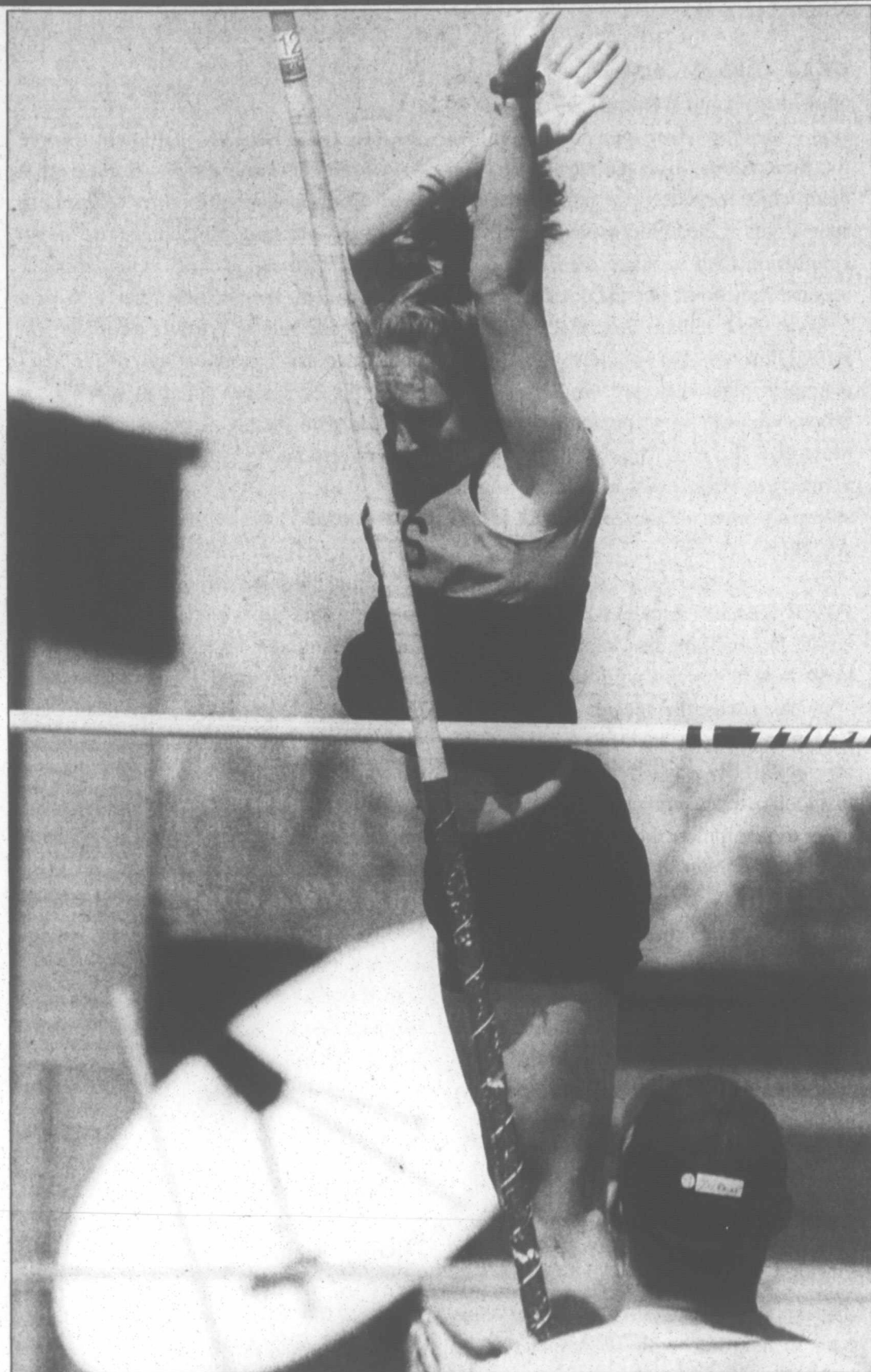
18 percent before halftime. Texas, however, committed 10 first-half fouls, and Minnesota converted 8-of-12 free throws.

The loss was Minnesota's fourth in six games, and follows its 56-51 defeat by Michigan State in the first round of the Big Ten tournament. The Gophers, who lost 11 players after the 2006 season, just six by graduation, made it to the tournament after a one-year absence.

Texas has won six of its last seven, the lone loss coming to Oklahoma State in the semifinals of the Big 12 Tournament. The Big 12 is 8-0 so far in the NCAA tournament.

"I think top to bottom, it's the strongest conference in the country," said Texas coach Gail Goetseniors.

Tuesday's game will be a rematch between Goetseniors and UConn's Geno Auriemma. Goetseniors led Duke to an overtime victory over Connecticut on the same court in 2006 to earn the Blue Devils a trip to the Final Four.



Courtesy Photo Valerie Miller of Lefors clears the pole vault bar at the Kiowa Invitational held Friday in Booker. She won the event with a height of 8'0". Miller also won the Long Jump and 100 meter dash, and placed 2nd in the 200 meter dash.

A.J. Abrams shoots Texas to 75-72 win

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — D.J. Augustin stood at the free throw line, his team up by two in the final seconds. He steadied himself, shot ... and missed everything.

"We won," the Texas guard said curtly afterward. "That's all that matters."

Augustin's untimely air ball didn't cost the second-seeded Longhorns, but it provided a snapshot of what they went through toward the end of a 75-72 win over seventh-seeded Miami on Sunday. Texas led by as many as 17 and was ahead 66-50 with 4:15 remaining — before the entire season nearly slipped away.

Raymond Hicks sank a 3-pointer with 11.9 seconds remaining, bringing Miami within three at 72-69. A.J. Abrams made two free throws, but Hicks answered with another 3, and Augustin was fouled with 1.8 seconds to play.

After coming up short on the first attempt, Augustin made the second. Out of timeouts, Miami (23-11) tried a long pass that was broken up.

"Obviously I thought our kids didn't quit," Miami coach Frank Haith said. "We just ran out of time."

For most of its first two games at the South Regional, Texas (30-6) played beautifully. The Longhorns beat Austin Peay 74-54 in the first round and took an early

double-digit lead against Miami. Abrams scored 26 points on six 3-pointers in each game.

Texas will play third-seeded Stanford on Friday in a regional semifinal. That game will be in Houston in what will surely be a more friendly environment than North Little Rock's Alltel Arena. Arkansas fans, putting it mildly, do not care for Texas.

Throw in the fact that Miami was clearly the underdog, and the arena was pretty noisy as the Longhorns struggled to protect their lead.

"I don't care where we are playing. This time of year, this tournament, people love to see the darker uniforms of Texas," Texas coach Rick Barnes said. "It's just the way it is." Abrams quieted the crowd early on. His second 3-pointer gave Texas a 19-8 lead. Less than nine minutes in, five different Texas players had made 3s, every

Longhorn that had played except 6-foot-10, 299-pound Dexter Pittman.

Texas led 43-32 at halftime.

"All five guys can shoot 3s," Haith said. "That's hard to guard when they're making them."

The Longhorns went 13-of-26 from 3-point range, including 9-of-16 in the first half. They nearly made up for that by going 12-of-21 on free throws.

Damion James had 16 points and 16 rebounds for the Longhorns, and Augustin contributed 12 points and eight assists.

Haith was an assistant at Texas for three years under Barnes before taking over the Hurricanes in 2004. He and Barnes shared a hug and chatted briefly near the Miami bench about 15 minutes before the opening tip.

Haith recruited Abrams while at Texas. "He's got a tremendous motor," Haith said. "He keeps working, and he's got a great release."

Jack McClinton scored 18 points for Miami in a 38-point effort in the first round against Saint Mary's.

Texas A&M-Kingsville completes sweep of Buffs

KINGSVILLE, Texas — Texas A&M-Kingsville completed a series sweep of the West Texas A&M baseball team on Saturday by handing the Buffs a 13-3 defeat at Nolan Ryan Field. The loss drops WT's overall record this season to 7-23 and 4-19 in Lone Star Conference South Division play.

The Javelinas (19-14; 14-10 LSC South) jumped out of the gate early in the contest,

plating three runs in the bottom of the first inning off WT starter Chris Cutierrez (0-3). Texas A&M-Kingsville's lead stretched to 8-0 as the Javelinas scored four more runs in the home half of the fifth.

WT rallied in the top of the sixth as Kevin Els led the inning off with a single through the left side and was able to score along with Erin Metts on a two-out, two-run single by third

baseman Ben Edge. Second baseman Eric Lensing drove in a third Buff run with a single in the next at bat, but the rally ended with WT still trailing 8-3.

A five-run seventh inning by the Javelinas ended the game with no outs in the frame. West Texas A&M baseball is back in action on Tuesday when it hosts Wayland Baptist in a 3 p.m. contest at Conner Park.

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.

3-24 CRYPTOQUOTE

EXA STCUA, QXZG AT RYLD
L X R P Q G Y L U Y X C D
A G C B X N T C A, N C X F Y P T W N
E X R Y N V T R R Y L U

— K T E L R X Q N T L
Saturday's Cryptquote: CONVERSATION SHOULD BE LIKE A SALAD, COMPOSED OF VARIOUS INGREDIENTS AND WELL-STIRRED WITH SALT, OIL AND VINEGAR. — SETANTI

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, March 25, 2008:

Partners play an unusually strong role in your year. Evaluate before solidifying these ties — be it business or personal. Should your partner not be in sync with you, more problems could arise. The individuality of each partner defines the possibilities. If you feel limited working with someone, consider adjusting the bond. Remember, not every agreement is forever! Brainy ideas come in from out of left field. Trust your insights, without giving long explanations. If you are single, you will learn to work with others much better. A relationship becomes likely through someone you meet at work. If you are attached, really be a team. Your life will show the difference. SCORPIO understands you too well!

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)

★★★ How you handle a partner could transform quickly. Interesting ideas come through a discussion. Trust what you are hearing and act on an insight! Know that you are on a roll, especially if you're teamed up with a key person. Tonight: Hot talks over dinner.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Visualize much more, and create some of those flights of fancy. Creativity has a definite role in your life. Respond accordingly. A friend might surprise you. Learn to work with this energy. Tonight: Where people are.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Pull back and relax. Use your ingenuity to bypass a problem and make

getting what you need done easier. Consider delegating much more. You might not have the whole story. If you sense that fact, act on it. Tonight: Plug in a little physical exercise.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Your creativity delights many, especially a child and other loved ones. If you are single, the emphasis is on flirtation and relationships. You could be bummed should you take a financial risk. Don't even buy a lottery ticket! Tonight: Act like there is no tomorrow. Let the kid in you out.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Someone might be playing with your head. You could be enjoying all the flights of fancy and just not care. It might be wise to let this person know that you know what is happening. Mutual respect is important here. Tonight: Order in. Find your favorite chair.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Don't hold back so much. Your feedback is important, even if someone else might not be happy. The unexpected occurs with others. Remember, instead of beating yourself up, you can only control yourself and no one else. Tonight: Return calls.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Expenses mount, and you could be exhausted by more requests heading in. Clearly something needs to give, and it isn't you. Establish boundaries and let others know what you can and cannot do. Tonight: Indulge someone without spending.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You add that intensity and insight that others enjoy and respect. Be aware of your limits, but don't use them as an excuse. Let others see how much

you embody energy and creativity. Solution-finding is easy like that! Tonight: What would make you happy?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Much goes on behind the scenes, which the wise Sag will not share. You also gain information through your power of observation. Confusion surrounds communication. Clarify and surmount. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Zero in on your priorities, and only ones that please you. Create more of what makes you happy. Use an unexpected development or insight for your well-being and happiness. Think as if you are lucky. Tonight: Where the action is.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Others often seek you out when they need advice, support or someone to help take on a burden. You, on the other hand, don't always accept more than you have to. Remember that you too have a life. Tonight: A must appearance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ If you tune in to your reactions, you will be forced to take another look at what you are hearing and perhaps seeing. Detach and gain a better perspective. Don't hesitate to find an expert or two. Tonight: Allow your imagination to decide.

BORN TODAY

Conductor Arturo Toscanini (1867), composer Bela Bartok (1881), sports newscaster Howard Cosell (1918)

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

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3 Perso

*ADOPT cure hon beaches, tended f precious Mike 1-3 ***Ex

5 Spect

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LAND 4th, 103 Farm. 3 Ele sub energy. Spearm Am. Sol 12 lots 1 Landan 679-678

13 Bus

GREAT Pampa couple 1875, 80

14d Ca

Carpent placem siding & gutters. 669-9995

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PAMPA NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

3 Personal

ADOPT A happy secure home, hugs & kisses, beaches, travel, loving extended family awaits your precious baby. Polly & Mike 1-800-816-8424
Expenses Paid

5 Special Notices

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

7 Auction

LAND AUCTION. Apr. 4th, 10:00 Am. 419 Ac Farm. 3 yr Mineral Lease. Ele substitution for wind energy. 7 miles sw of Spearman. Apr 5th 10:00 Am. Solar Earth Home. 1-12 lots Bushland. Brokers LandandCattleLLC.com 679-6787.

13 Bus. Opp.

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

14d Carpentry

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

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR

Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.
RICHARD'S General Carpentry, Roofs & Painting, Building & Remodeling. 886-0267, 275-9038

14e Carpet Serv.

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

14h Gen. Serv.

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

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

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

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

JACK'S Plumbing, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115. Plumbing, repairs, new constr., & septic sys.

Larry Baker Plumbing Heating/ Air Conditioning Borger Hwy. 665-4392

19 Situations
BABYSITTING, in my home, Mon. thru Fri. Call 665-0113.

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

21 Help Wanted

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

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

21 Help Wanted

Inf-rim Home HealthCare
Weekend LVN PRN/Parttime
People Person with Good Communication Skills a must!
Apply online at interimhealthcare.com Or come by 2217 Perryton Prkwy (old Deans Pharmacy)

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.

SEMRUDE, 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.

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

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

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Apply in person at Coronado Center Pampa
No phone calls!!

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

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.

Bourland & Leverich Supply Co.
Borger Highway (11707 Hwy. 152 W.)
No phone calls please

MAKE UP TO \$900 A WEEK
Work for a local Well Service Company
*Must have a good driving record
*Must have a good background
*Must have at least a GED
*Must be at least 21 yrs. of age
Please contact **SOS STAFFING SERVICES** 806-648-2633

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Experienced Loader Operator
Bull Dozer Operator
CDL a Plus
Must be at least 18 years of age and submit to a drug test.
Apply in person at:
West Texas Landscape
120 S. Hobart
Please No Phone Calls!!!

REAL ESTATE AUCTION
SAT. APRIL 5, 11:00 A.M.
Loc. PAMPA, TX. RR 749 & Co. Rd. J. Take Cuyler /TX 273 south 2 mi. to Loop 171 (stop sign), then south on RR 749, 2 mi. to Co. Rd. J
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Full Listing On Web Site
Larry Hadley Real Estate Salesman (9204)
806-662-2779
LYNDON LOYD AUCTIONEERS (7119)
806-826-5850 or 334-0407 WHEELER, TX.

NOW HIRING:

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

Must be at least 18 years of age and submit to a drug test.

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Wal-Mart

COME GROW WITH US!
Wal-Mart is looking to hire 20 Cashiers

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21 Help Wanted

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

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

NOW taking applications for Kitchen Help. Apply in person, Dyer's BBQ, Pampa.

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

NOW HIRING BORGER COUNTRY CLUB
Full & Part-Time Cooks. Exp. preferred. \$8-\$12 / hr. d.o.e. Apply 599 Broadway or call 273-5603

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Total of 78.9

LOCAL

What's new in town?

CCPC offering community classes ...

"There's nothing to do in Pampa!" is not a good excuse anymore.

Clarendon College-Pampa Center is now offering new community classes as part of a continuing education program.

"We're doing this for a couple of reasons," said CCPC Dean Raymond Jaramillo. "I want Gray County people to know that this is their school, and I want them to know that it's here for them."

The program is designed to offer non-credit classes for personal enrichment and enjoyment at a low cost to the community. With only a \$20 fee, those who enroll in the courses will be given instruction for one hour a week during an eight-week period.

The first three classes to be offered will begin the week of March 31. These include a beginning guitar class on Monday nights from 7 to 8 p.m. instructed by David Kearns. A digital photography basics course covering everything from how to take better pictures, to how to upload and manage digital images, will be taught on Tuesday nights from 7 to 8 p.m. by Miranda Bailey beginning April 1. On Thursday nights, Linda Louis will teach a beginning computer class from 6-7 p.m. starting on April 3.

If these classes do well, Jaramillo says there will be more in the near future.

"We are looking at offering a personal finance class, an investment course and some computer program-specific classes, like Excel and PowerPoint."



Miranda Bailey will be teaching a new "Digital Photography for Dummies" class starting April 1 at Clarendon College-Pampa Center as part of a new community, CC-Pampa Continuing Education Program. A beginning guitar and a beginning computer class will also be offered that week. The enrollment fee is \$20 for each class. Ten students must register for each class to make. Call Clarendon College at 665-8801 for any questions, or email Bailey at frazierbailey@sbcglobal.net.

Jaramillo is also looking for input from the community on what kinds of courses to offer through the summer.

"This is a great opportunity for everyone in Pampa," said instructor Miranda Bailey.

Bailey, a former reporter and journalism teacher at Pampa High School, said she got involved with the program not only because she loves to teach, but because she feels this is exactly what Pampa needs.

"Most major universities and college campuses offer this kind of community program so this is really exciting for our town," she said. "Plus, it's a great stepping stone for those who are thinking about going back to school one day without all the pressure of credit courses — not to mention it's providing something for people to do."

Bailey said she is also planning on possibly offering graphic design, public relations and creative writing classes in the summer.

"What's great is that these classes are for anyone ... whether you're in junior high or high school, or sitting at home with a toddler, or retired — these classes are meant to fit everyone," she said.

Jaramillo and Bailey both said they are eager to see the program take off, and have high hopes for its success.

"But we need at least 10 students in each class for the class to make," Bailey said. "I hope I can get at least 10 people to come take my class."

Students can enroll and pay the course fee the first night of class. For class suggestions, or any questions or concerns about the program, call Clarendon College at 665-8801, or e-mail Bailey at frazierbailey@sbcglobal.net.

Authorities discover bodies of woman, children in Iowa City shooting

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) — Police found the bodies of a woman and four children Monday morning in a house on Iowa City's east side, authorities said.

Dispatchers got a call at 6:31 a.m. saying officers needed to get to the address immediately. The caller then hung up, a police department statement said.

Officers found the house unlocked and discovered

the bodies inside. "Lots of family needs to be contacted," Iowa City Police Sgt. Troy Kelsay told The Gazette of Cedar Rapids.

Officers said they were not able to find the home's adult male resident, Steven Sueppel. Court records show that a Steven Sueppel who lives at the address where the bodies were found was indicted last

month on federal charges of stealing about \$560,000 from the bank where he worked.

Police also said the family's van was missing. They said a single-vehicle, fatal crash on Interstate 80 about nine miles from the house may have involved the van. However, the vehicle was on fire so officers were having a difficult time identifying it and the occu-

pant, according to the department news release.

Students and faculty at the University of Iowa received text and telephone messages warning that there was an active shooter in the Iowa City area. That message said police were looking for a white man in his 40s, driving a minivan. KCRG-TV in Cedar Rapids said public schools were locked down as a precaution.

Police didn't specify how the five people were killed, but media reports stated that they had been shot.

Sueppel was charged last month with one count of embezzlement of bank funds and six counts of money laundering while serving as the vice president and controller of Hills Bank and Trust. Authorities said the alleged thefts occurred between July 26,

2000, and Sept. 12, 2007. Sueppel, 42, pleaded not guilty and was released on \$250,000 bail. His trial was scheduled for April 21.

Sueppel's attorney in that case, Leon Spies, said he had heard about the deaths.

"I had great affection for Steve and his family. This is an unimaginable professional and personal tragedy for a lot of people," he said.

Cox

Continued from Page 4

but no one could shoot for fear of killing one of their own.

Finally, the wounded aggressor withdrew from the field. Adrenaline still surging through their bodies, the soldiers reformed their column and resumed their trek southward.

The first elements of the U.S. force

reached the area that would become Brownsville on March 28, nearly three weeks after leaving Corpus Christi. Later that spring, Taylor's soldiers fought two battles in the Lower Rio Grande Valley — Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma — before crossing the river and proceeding on to the next big fight at Monterrey.

Only later did it begin to seem funny that the first shot fired in anger by a U.S. soldier in what would be a two-year campaign had been aimed at a cantankerous longhorn bull, not a Mexican soldier.

Reese

Continued from Page 4

fingers in the cookie jar, or with another part where it didn't belong.

I would hope that Americans would come to be extremely intolerant of these hypocrites who abuse their positions. Public office, after all, doesn't belong to the officeholder. It belongs to the people. It is for their benefit, not the politician's.

Politicians like Spitzer are dangerous. They are driven by ambition unrestricted by any scruples or sense of fair play. They

are driven to seek power like a moth attracted to a lantern. The bunk they spew along the way is just to dupe the public into giving them what they really want — power and position.

I've always said that a politician who just wants to steal a little money is far less dangerous than those who sweat and lust for power. Money can be replaced, but a dangerous man with the power of government behind him can unleash rivers of blood. It's the difference between an American crook and an Adolf Hitler. That difference is important.

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

School

Continued from Page 4

with public money, that's a voucher program.

A couple of caution flags for TEA as it writes these regulations:

McAdams' description of the council's plan might rule out parochial schools. In a 2002 decision on a voucher program in Cleveland, the U.S. Supreme Court said that public money can go to religious schools without violating the Constitution's mandatory separation between church and state — but only if it gets there through the private choice of individuals. If it doesn't go to parents first, that's a problem. If it does go to parents first, that's a voucher.

Dropouts who enter one of these programs and get a diploma should be required to meet the same standards as students in the public schools. For instance, they must pass the same state exams. If not, the state would simply be creating a secondary, substandard pathway to graduation — one that would encourage more students to drop out and take the easy path.

The goal of keeping more kids in school and bringing more dropouts back to school to get a diploma is a laudable and necessary one. Designing ways to do that clearly is not easy. Still, there are right ways and wrong ways to go about it. A voucher plan would be one of the wrong ways.

We anxiously await TEA's specifics of how the council's plans will be carried out. URL: <http://www.star-telegram.com>



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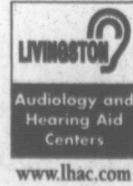
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