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Jim Bruton

The PAMPA NEWS

Thursday, April 23, 2009 Volume 105 • No. 13 50¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

School board candidates debate

BY DAVID BOWSER
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

Two of three candidates for school board showed up Tuesday night for a Pampa Classroom Teachers Association candidates' forum.

The third person was announcing his daughter's softball game on the radio.

PISD President Charles Smith and Board Member Lee Porter were at the Pampa Junior High School Library for the forum, but David Teichmann, who is challenging Smith for a place on the board, wrote that he couldn't be at the forum because of his prior commitment.

"Yet, not being present, does not lessen my commitment or enthusiasm for running for the school board," Teichmann said in a written statement.

Smith is a self-employed environmental, health and safety consultant and trainer with one son in college and two teenagers in high school.

A 1974 graduate of Pampa High, Smith was born in Lubbock and went to college for three years, attending LSU and Texas Tech. He is a Texas A&M-OSHA outreach trainer, certified environmental manager and indoor air quality specialist.

Porter is an independent oil and gas operator, president of LeJan Inc. and McClelland Creek Properties Inc.

PISD cont. on page 3



Incumbents running for reelection to the Pampa Independent School District board of trustees, Charles Smith, left, and Lee Porter talk during a break at the Pampa Classroom Teachers Association candidate forum. David Teichmann, who is challenging Smith in the race, was unable to attend the forum because of a prior commitment.
 staff photo by David Bowser

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Drama staged for safety

BY RACHEL STENNETT
 rstennett@thepampanews.com

Every third year, a car wreck of horrendous proportions is staged at Pampa High School, where students learn how real the effects of drinking and driving can be on their lives.

This May, Shattered Dreams will once again use drama to promote responsible decision making among high school students regarding underage drinking and impaired driving.

Although the wreck is staged, Pampa High School social worker and Safe and Drug Free schools coordinator Suzanne Pingel has worked for the past six months on making sure the program feels real to the students, and has a real effect of their lives.

SHATTERED cont. on page 7

Gov stands firm on stimulus

KELLEY SHANNON
 Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry stood firm Wednesday in his position that Texas shouldn't accept \$555 million in federal economic stimulus money for expanded unemployment benefits, even though some fellow Republicans are pushing to take the cash.

The Senate voted this week to accept the federal money and expand state unemployment coverage to include people seeking part-time work and those who leave their jobs for compelling reasons, such as a child's illness or family violence. The proposal by Sen. Kevin Eltife, a Tyler Republican, now goes to the House.

Perry, an outspoken critic of the federal stimulus package, contends that once

STIMULUS cont. on page 7

IMPRESSED WITH PRESS



Stacy Cox and Brett Woelfle, Cub Scouts from Tiger Cub Den 423 toured The Pampa News Wednesday afternoon and seemed most impressed by the giant rolls of paper that feed into the press. The scouts are both in the first grade and den members toured the paper for a badge requirement.
 staff photo by Betsy Phillips

Hard Hat Harry teaches safety

BY RACHEL STENNETT
 rstennett@thepampanews.com

Hard Hat Harry will be visiting elementary schools in Pampa today, educating fifth grade students on oil field safety.

Harry is the mascot for "Play It Safe," a program designed to educate elementary level children about dangers on oil well locations.

The Desk and Derrick club of Pampa brought the presentation to Pampa. According to Nancy Hollingwood, Desk and Derrick member, safety and informational programs like these are important.

"This program was started because a child in Farmington, NM was killed playing on an oil jack. Kids need to have an understanding of how dangerous this equipment can be," Hollingwood

explained.

Energy Activity Books and Hard Hat Harry Activity Books were purchased through donations from the Pampa Community, including Lee Porter and Charles and Karen Smith and family.

The presentation includes a short video and dialog, encouraging students to stay away from oil well locations. During the presentation, students are asked to yell, "just

stay away," as loud as they can each time Hard Hat Harry signals during the video.

"We are hoping this will be an annual event and we can keep putting these books in schools," Hollingwood said. "There are children with parents in the oil field here, and we thought this would be beneficial for kids to learn."

HARRY cont. on page 3

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For the record

PAMPA FORECAST

Friday



High 88
Low 59

Saturday



High 82
Low 60

Sunday



High 73
Low 47

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 88. Windy, with a south wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.
Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 59. Windy, with a south wind around 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.
Saturday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Partly cloudy, with a high near 82. Windy, with a south wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.
Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 60. Windy, with a south wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.
Sunday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 73. South wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 47. East wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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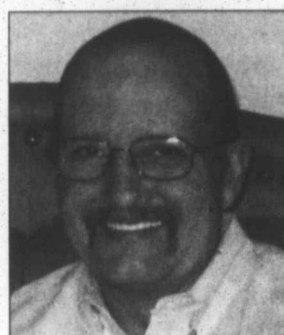
Obituaries

Harley Douglas Woods

Harley Douglas Woods Services will be at 3:30 PM Friday, April 24, 2009 at Cook-Walden Capital Parks Funeral Home in the Memorial Chapel, with Reverend Terry Tope officiating.
 Mr. Woods was born May 11, 1955 in Amarillo, Texas, to Harley O and Juanita Woods. He passed away on April 20, 2009 due to a motorcycle accident. He was a veteran of the U. S. Army, serving from 1973 until 1976. He married D'Anne Davis on April 13, 1978 in Pampa, Texas. Harley (Doug) had been a resident of Pflugerville since 1987. His passion was being able

to play with his grandchildren, work in his garden and ride his Victory Motorcycle. He was an amazing father with the biggest heart. Harley was employed by Dresser Wayne for 14 years.
 Harley was preceded in death by Mother, Juanita Woods, Brother, Houston Woods, Granddaughter, Brook D'Anne Baldwin, Sister-in-Law, Darlene Usleton,
 Survivors include his wife, D'Anne Woods of the home, sns, Chris Gilley and wife Stacy of Stephenville, TX, Stephen Woods and fiancée Kaitlyn Fuller of Kingsland, TX. Daughter, Tiffany Baldwin

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Woods
 Funeral Home. 512-251-4118, 14501 N. IH35 in Pflugerville, TX.

Lacy Monroe Noble, 95

CLARENDON — Lacy Monroe Noble, 95, died on Tuesday, April 21, 2009 in Clarendon, Texas. Services will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, April 24, 2009 in the First United Methodist Church in Clarendon with Rev. Terry Lowe, Pastor, and Rev. Dr. Janie Sue Noble, officiating. Interment by Citizens Cemetery in Clarendon. Arrangements are being

made by Robertson Funeral Directors of Clarendon. Mr. Noble was born March 9, 1914 in San Augustine to Isaac Monroe & Susan Frances Noble. He married Mary Lee Buchanan on August 3, 1935 in Clarendon. He had been a resident of Lelia Lake and Clarendon most of his life where he was very active in the community schools, and churches. He was a past member

of the Lelia Lake Lions Club and a member of the First United Methodist Church in Clarendon. He was preceded in death his wife on November 2, 2007; a child, Billie Jean Noble; his parents; four brothers and a sister.
 Survivors include a daughter, Rev. Dr. Janie Sue Noble and husband Frank Amon of Rio Rancho, New Mexico; two sons, Lacy

Lee Noble and wife Jan of Pampa, and Isaac Noble of Arlington; five grandchildren; 10 great grandchildren.
MEMORIALS - The family requests that memorials be to the First United Methodist Church in Clarendon. SIGN OUR ONLINE GUESTBOOK AT www.RobertsonFuneral.com

Walter Lee Williams, Sr., 78

Pampa, Texas — Walter Lee Williams, Sr., 78 died on April 20, 2009 in Pampa, Texas.
 Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.
 Mr. Williams was born December 3, 1930 in Jacksonville, Texas. He had been a resident of Pampa since 1953. He married Hattie Mae Griggs

on February 19, 1951 in Kaufman. She preceded him in death on January 22, 2008. Walter retired from Texaco in 1992 and was a member of the Southside Church of Christ.
 Survivors include four daughters, Idray Fay Jones of Pampa and husband Robert of Midland, and Angela Brunley of Pampa and hus-

band Michael of Dallas, Sandra Span and husband John of Tucumcari, New Mexico, and Michelle Ray and husband John of Altus, Oklahoma; two sons, Walter Williams, Jr., and wife Dorothy of Liberal, Kansas, and Henry Williams of Pampa; one brother Thom Williams of Wichita, Kansas; three sister, Lois Manzey of Dallas,

Earlene Chapman of Brownwood, and Everlene Jackson of Midland; 22 grandchildren, 55 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren.
MEMORIALS : Southside Church of Christ, 11923 W. McCullough St., Pampa, Texas -79065
Sign the on-line register at
www.carmichael-whitley.com

Cash Five Texas results

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:
 Winning numbers drawn: 2 - 6 - 14 - 18 - 20.
 Matching four of five: 100. Prize: \$345.
 Matching three of five: 2,584. Prize: \$9.
 Matching two of five: 25,256. Prize: \$2
 Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

Winning Lotto Texas num-

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:
 Winning numbers drawn: 5 - 25 - 32 - 40 - 51 - 53.
 Number matching six of six: 0. Prize: \$7 Million
 Number matching five of six: 13. Prize: \$2,800.
 Number matching four of six: 874. Prize: \$61.
 Number matching three of six: 18,596. Prize: \$3.
 Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$8 million.

Daily 4 results: evening drawing

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0 - 1 - 3 - 2. Sum It Up: 6 (zero, one, three, two. Sum It Up: six)

Grain prices

The following grain quotations are provided by Atterbury Grain of White Deer. Pries quoted are for the close of the last market day.
 Wheat.....\$4.70
 Milo.....\$4.88
 Corn.....\$6.67

Emergency Services

PAMPA PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Wednesday and 7 a.m. Today.
Wednesday
 Officers conducted a total of 14 traffic stops.
 A total of 12 calls and/or stops concerning animals were made.
 A traffic complaint was reported in the 700 block of Deane.
 Theft was reported in the 400 block of North Wells, where a barrel containing coins was stolen, value \$4,000 to \$5,000; and the 800 block of North Gray, where a lawnmower was stolen, value \$200.
 Civil matters were reported in the lobby of the PD.
 A welfare check was made in the 1400 block of North Russell.
 A threat was made in the 2400 block of North Charles.

Three alarms were investigated.
 Disorderly conduct was reported in the 800 block of North Duncan, the 1000 block of South Huff, and Pampa High School, 111 East Harvester.
 Theft was reported in the 2200 block of North Nelson.
 Motor vehicle accidents were reported in the 700 block of South Cuyler, 100 block of West 30th.
 Criminal mischief was reported in the 500 block of East Francis, where a vehicle was scratched, damage \$1,000.
 A burglary was reported in the 1100 block of East Francis.
Thursday
 Officers conducted two traffic stops.
 Disorderly conduct was reported in the intersection of Beryle and Lanne streets

Joshua Kade Seymour, 22, of Pampa was arrested by the GCSO for civil warrants.
 Angie Marie Chochran, 26, of Pampa was arrested by the GCSO for possession of marijuana, failure to appear, and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
 Curtis Wayne Matlock, 50, of Pampa was arrested by the Pampa Police Department for bond surrender on possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver.
 Charles Bradley Johnson, 23, of Pampa was arrested by the PPD for driving while intoxicated.

Center.
 8:31 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to Baptist St. Anthony's hospital in Amarillo.
 3:08 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to BSA.
 6:50 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of Love and transported a patient to PRMC.

AMBULANCE

Guardian EMS ambulance service reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Wednesday and 7 a.m. Today.
Wednesday
 7:07 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 8300 block of Highway 70 and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical

SHERIFF

Gray County Sheriff's Office Reported the following arrests.

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 Saturday April 25, 2009
 8:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.
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PISD candidates debate

cont. from page 1

His three children are all graduates of Pampa High School. He has two grandchildren in Austin Elementary School.

Porter graduated from Odessa High School in 1964, earned an associate degree in science with honors from Odessa Junior College, a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry and a Bachelor of Arts in mathematics from the University of Texas at Austin.

Teichmann is a PGA golf pro with an associate's degree from Midland College and a Bachelor of Business Administration from Sul Ross University.

He has a son in college and a daughter in Pampa High School. Porter said he is running for the school board because he still has a strong desire to see the Pampa Independent School District be recognized as an exemplary district by the state.

"I believe education is the key for our youth to advance to participate in the American dream," Porter said.

He said he is upset that the upper management of a lot of multi-national corporations is not American. He said that he believes a basic foundation in education is critical to the nation's future.

The other thing Porter said he would like to see is the completion of the bond project to renovate the high school and build a new junior high.

Smith said he was running for the same reasons he did six years ago.

"I feel I have experience with the existing board and working with the administration to allow our board to continue to make progress," Smith said. He said that he also has a passion for student achievement, for communication and for the community. "I would like to continue to work in those areas as well as others," Smith said. He said he, too, would like to see the completion of the bond issue construction and renovation. Smith said he had not done a very good job of following through on issues that he brought to the administration to see that they were resolved.

Teichmann, in a written statement, said he was running for the school board to offer a positive outlook for Pampa's education future and to find positive solutions to make the school system better.

None of the candidates said they saw any fat in the school district's budget.

Porter said that if the district gets less money to operate on, then some hard decisions will have to be made. "That's what the board is for," Porter said.

His criteria he said any cuts would be made with the best interests of the students in mind.

Smith said he thinks the school board has done a

good job in seeing that money has not been wasted. He said it is difficult to draw up a budget on projected income and then face rising fuel and power costs or emergency repairs.

"I still think the students have to come first," Smith said.

Teichmann said he would suggest every department evaluate what they could live without that would not affect the educational success of the students.

All the candidates indicated they thought teacher morale is important in the educational process.

"I think teacher morale is essential," Porter said.

Whether its education or industry, Porter said that if people working in a particular endeavor aren't happy, the quality of the results will be lacking.

Porter said the major complaint he hears from teachers is the amount of work they have to do beyond classroom instruction, and while he empathizes with them, he said the state demands more and more in the way of reports from the teachers.

Smith said teaching morale is vital to the education process.

He said teachers teach because they love it.

"It's definitely not the money," Smith said.

"Teacher morale," Teichmann said, "as well as all employee morale, is the key to success in any education system."

He said he thinks the school board should visit schools regularly and there should be open forums between the school board, administration and employees at least twice annually.

All three candidates said they think the chain of command should be followed when teachers raise particular concerns. Both Porter and Smith said it is not their job to solve the problems.

"That's the administration's job," Smith said.

But both Smith and Porter said that it's been their experience that most problems are caused by poor communications.

Porter said he doesn't see anything in the district as a weakness, but there are some things he'd like to change. He said grades need to reflect a student's knowledge of a subject and there needs to be consequences for actions by students.

"The strength of our district is our personnel," he said.

Smith said he sees the school district falling behind in technology, and the school board needs to address that issue.

Teichmann the district has more positives than negatives. He said he would like to see the district compared to other districts to see where improvements could be made.

When it comes to pay, all three ultimately said they

would support across the board increases.

"I think everyone would like to see some form of merit pay," Porter said.

The problem is, he said, how to equate the performance of different teachers in different teaching situations.

That may be a moot point, however. Porter said that if the district receives extra money from the state for salary increases, there are usually strings attached and the school board usually has little say in how it is distributed.

Smith said that from personal experience, he doesn't think incentive pay programs ever work.

"If the state gives us money," Teichmann said, "I think in that situation, the money should be provided across the board for all teachers."

The school board election is May 7 at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Early voting begins April 27 and runs through May 5 at the Gray County Courthouse.

Ex-soldier arraigned on murder charge

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — A former Fort Bliss soldier charged with capital murder in the beating death of her 22-month-old son has pleaded not guilty.

Monea Boyd, 25, was arraigned Wednesday in the December death of her

son, Jayceon Astro Tyson. She was being held in the El Paso County Jail without bond.

The medical examiner found Jayceon had brain swelling and retinal hemorrhages associated with shaking or impact trauma.

An autopsy revealed Jayceon had healed fractures on his collar bones and a healing fracture in his right arm. The toddler also had several cuts and bruises on his head, face, torso and limbs.

Boyd denied hurting her son. She said he became ill, choked on his own vomit and then injured himself, the El Paso Times reported.

"My son didn't die the way they're saying he did," Boyd said. "Three different doctors saw my son and nothing was ever mentioned about trauma."

Hard Hat Harry

cont. from page 1

Hollingwood said this is the first presentation of this kind to be made in the schools. Two separate presentations will be held Thursday at different locations. The first will be at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday. A bus of fifth grade students from Austin Elementary will be bussed to Wilson Elementary for the presentation. The next program will be at 10 a.m. and fifth graders from Travis Elementary will be bussed to Lamar Elementary.

The Desk and Derrick club is trying to act preventively against accidents, Hollingwood said.

"The boy that died was old enough to know what

the pump was, but kids are curious and they need to know that these oil pumps are not cool or fun to play on."

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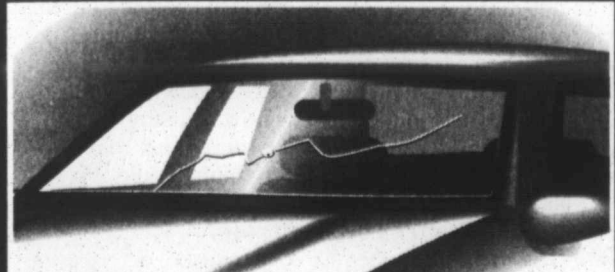
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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Thursday, April 23, the 113th day of 2009. There are 252 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:
1533 - Catholic Church inquiry declares marriage of Catherine of Aragon to England's King Henry VIII void.

1621 - Protestant Union in Germany is dissolved.

1633 - South German Protestants sign League of Heilbronn with Sweden and France for mutual support against imperialists and Catholic League.

1635 - A boundary dispute between Maryland and Virginia erupts into a naval skirmish off the coast of Virginia.

1728 - A huge fire destroys a large part of Copenhagen.

1795 - Warren Hastings, former British governor general of India, is acquitted of high treason.

1935 - Poland's Constitution is adopted after nine years of discussions.

1938 - Sudeten Germans in Czechoslovakia demand full autonomy.

1964 - Copenhagen's trademark Little Mermaid statue gets her head sawn off by unknown men. The head is never found and a new one is molded and welded on her.

1969 - Sirhan Sirhan is sentenced to death for assassinating New York Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. The sentence is later reduced to life imprisonment.

1972 - Two U.S. Apollo 16 astronauts blast off from the moon and rejoin command ship for journey back to Earth.

1975 - South Vietnam's cabinet resigns as panic grips Saigon and U.S. President Gerald Ford declares that the Vietnam War is over.

1985 - The Coca-Cola Co. announces it is changing the secret formula for Coke. Negative public reaction forces the company to resume selling the original version.

1986 - White-led South African government commits itself to scrapping dozens of laws restricting movements of blacks.

1996 - Fire rages through deserted villages around the Chernobyl nuclear plant in Ukraine, sending wind-whipped radioactive particles skyward 10 years after the world's worst nuclear accident.

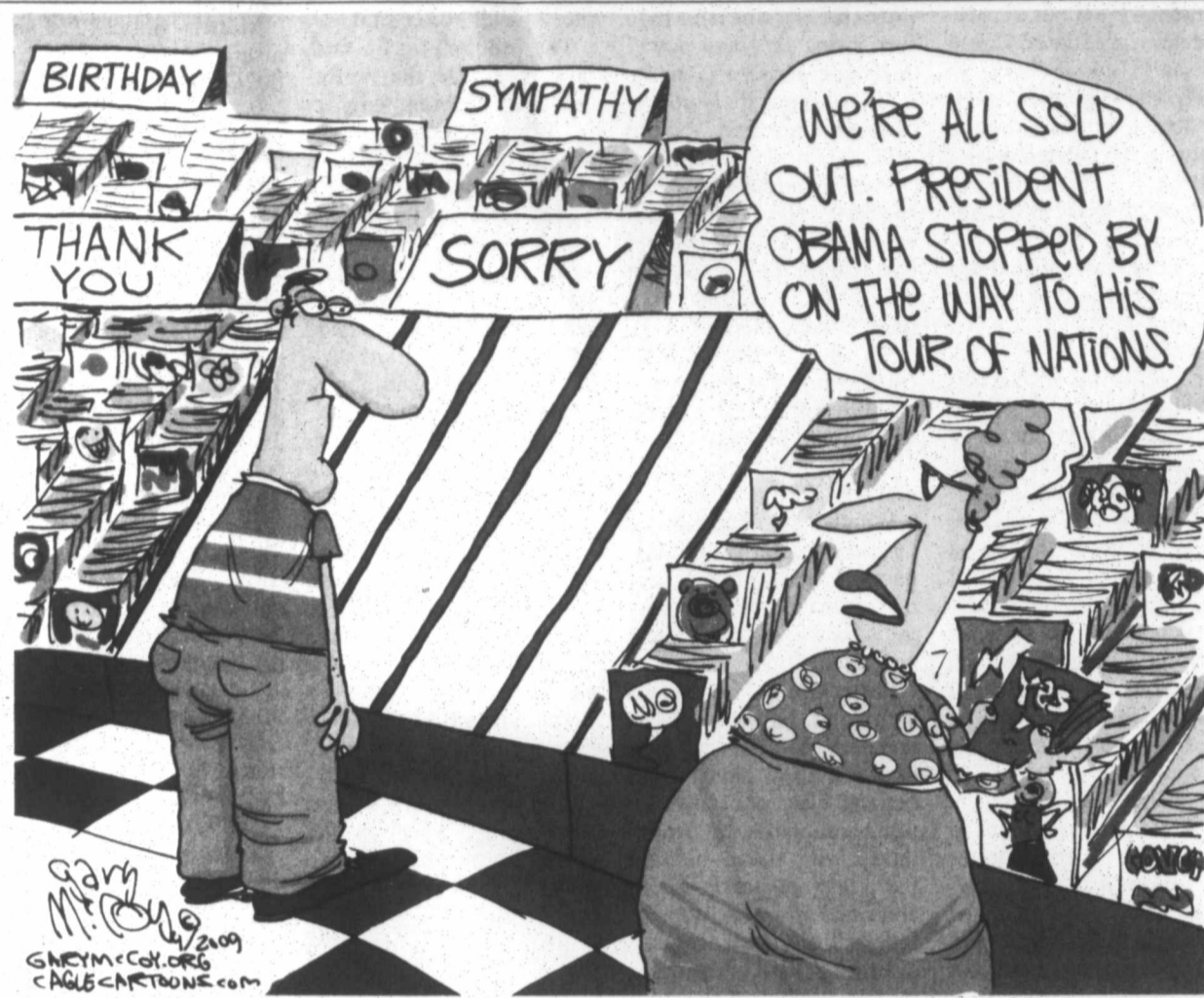
1998 - James Earl Ray, who confessed to assassinating the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968 and later insisted he was framed, dies at a Nashville hospital at age 70.

2007 - Former Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who pushed Russia to embrace democracy and a market economy, dies at 76.

Today's Birthdays:

William Shakespeare, English poet-playwright (1564-1616); William Turner, English painter (1775-1851); Max Planck, German physicist (1858-1947); Sergei Prokofiev, Soviet composer (1891-1953); Haldor Laxness, Icelandic writer and Nobel laureate (1902-1998); Sandra Dee, U.S. actress (1942-2005); Shirley Temple Black, U.S. diplomat and movie star (1928--); Michael Moore, director (1954--); Dev Patel, British actor (1990--).

Be not afraid of greatness: some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them — From "Twelfth Night," by William Shakespeare



Perry's comments embarrassing

by Richard Stone

For nearly six years, my friends and I were routinely denounced as unpatriotic because we disagreed with Pres. Bush over the conduct of war in Iraq.

We believed it was a mistake, that the idea of a pre-emptive invasion ran counter to the fundamental respect of national sovereignty and that no country can export democracy at the point of a gun.

We believed that the erosion of our civil liberties under the guise of fighting some never ending War on Terror made us neither safe nor free.

For expressing these beliefs, we were branded as unpatriotic and accused of hating our country.

So, why isn't the super-patriotic, Republican, America-love-it-or-leave-it crowd up in arms over Texas Governor Rick Perry's threat last week to have this state secede from the Union "... if Washington continues to thumb their nose at the American people ..."

I beg your pardon?

How patriotic is that? Isn't this traitorous talk, especially from a man who represents the political party that led us down the primrose path of unfettered free market capitalism then ginned up a foreign war so fat cats could pig out on no-bid contracts and the military industrial complex could sell us more expensive weapon systems?

If not traitorous, it's at the very

least seditious, right? Right?

There was this fella from West Texas who lived in a compound with a handful of fellow travelers and who, back in 1997, stood off the Texas Rangers for several weeks. He claimed that Texas had the right — and duty — to secede from the Union because of high taxes. Then Gov. Bush sent in the Rangers and had him quashed but what Perry said last week sounds an awful lot like the bile separatist Richard L. McLaren spouted. (Lest we forget, McLaren is now serving a life sentence in a Texas prison.)

Wasn't Perry the same man who let Tom DeLay (a Washington politician) dictate a purely partisan, controversial, incredibly divisive mid-decade redistricting policy designed to further his goals in Washington?

(Just in case you've forgotten, Mr. DeLay had to resign in disgrace from Congress for things related to that little stunt and four of the five Texas Democratic representatives to Congress who were targeted in those efforts are still in office. Oh, and prison isn't completely out of the question for him, either.)

Perry doesn't speak for me, in this. He has violated one of the prime tenants Texans hold for our Governor: "Please Don't Embarrass Us!" Come on ... this guy was re-elected with 39 percent of the vote and, quite likely, would have lost had there not been four people on the ballot.

Perry doesn't speak for the thousands of Texans whose unemployment will run out — or the small businesses in Texas who will soon have to pay higher unemployment taxes because the state is running out of money — because he thinks it is somehow un-Texan to have an effective, compassionate social safety net.

Perry — and the rest of the Republican right — is completely out of step. Neoconservative thought has been thoroughly discredited. Most Americans believe it was that unfettered, free market capitalism that got us into this economic mess. And, most Americans think maybe we ought to try some of that "European Socialism," especially if it comes with health care, a decent social safety net, good public transportation and a shot at a college education for our kids.

Perry is appealing to the worst of the Texas Republican Party ... and, it's scary how many people actually seem to approve of what he's said. Fortunately, that may be the only group paying attention to him.

If recent opinion polls are any gage, most Texans — Republicans, Independents and Democrats — are tired of him, too.

Richard Stone is a former weekly newspaper publisher and winner of a double-handful of moderately coveted awards for opinion writing and commentary. His blog is ragged-right.blogspot.com.

Letters to the editor

Letter to Editor

I am recently retired and now on fixed income. I have been listening to all of the hoop-la about the rising cost of health care. Careful consideration was given to health care insurance prior to retirement and my choices were made accordingly. It has now struck home. Prescription maintenance medications. Enclosed is a letter to Congressman Mac Thornberry, describing some thoughts. These concern both health care costs, and the rights of a small business. I would appreciate a publication of this letter, hoping that others will contact their representatives regarding the above mentioned items.

Honorable Congressman Mac Thornberry
2209 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
I am a retired letter carrier and have maintenance medications I am required to take. My doctor has been changing my medications to try and control my blood pressure, but now my Insurance, National Association of Letter Carriers, has restricted my medications to be purchased from CVC Caremark mail order, or from my local CVS Pharmacy. I have been using a local pharmacy, of whom the

pharmacist is a long time and trusted friend, and the Insurance has declined any payment of my last prescription refill. My medication went from \$10.65 per month to \$56.54 per month, unless I go to the CVC chain. My question is: Is this not an attempt by a large nationwide chain to put the "small business man" out of business? Our great country was born out of unfair practices and no representation, in my opinion, such as this. Our government claims to be about an equal opportunity for all, regardless of sex, gender, race etc, etc. ... How about the small business man, who is only trying to support his family and furnish income to his employees, but is restricted by dollars, or possibly the lack of desire to be a national chain? His basic concerns seemingly are more centered for the

local people. Can you consider the Insured, who wishes to support a local business, which has gone to the trouble of taking time to register with the Insurance Company and follow their procedures to serve his local customers? The Insured pays the bill for coverage but is not allowed to support a local business instead of a national chain. In the past, my insurance has mandated a co-pay for registered participating pharmacies, of which the one I use was in the network. This was an understandable expense. The national chain could understandably offer a better price, due to volume purchase of the medication. But to decline any payment to the same participating pharmacy obviously becomes an attempt to eliminate the small business man, and obtain a monopoly, in a field of

necessary medications for the American people. This rings especially true when the Insured chooses the local business, without being given any option of a higher co-pay or other compensation. The CVS chain came to my hometown and purchased all local pharmacies except the one referred to in the above. The owner chose not to sell. This seems to indicate an attempt at a monopoly to me. When this did not work, the (insurance) is now refusing to pay anything other than from the chain. Could this be another attempt at a monopoly? Competition drives prices down. Yes, I know health care is a hot topic today. But... would not competition and lower prices help alleviate an already ailing situation? Ronny Brownlow Pampa

We welcome your letters

- To insure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:
- Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
 - All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.
 - Defamatory comments will not be published.
 - E-mail submissions are welcome.

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Presbyterian Church to celebrate "Kirkin' o' the Tartans"

A special service highlighted by the "Kirkin' o' the Tartans" will be held Sunday, April 26 at the Pampa First Presbyterian Church. The "kirkin'" is an annual event honoring the Scottish roots of the denomination.

The colorful service begins at 10:45 a.m. With tartan (plaid) banners carried by members of the congregation of Scottish ancestry. They will enter the sanctuary to the skirl of the bagpipes played by John Brewer of Amarillo. The music will feature Scottish hymns and folk tunes.

Ted Wardlaw, President of Austin (Texas) Presbyterian Theological Seminary, will be the special guest minister for the special service. Rev. Wardlaw has served as seminary president since 2002. During his tenure, the seminary completed a \$25 million Centennial Campaign. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Presbyterian College in Clinton SC, an Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond VA, a Master of Sacred Theology degree from Yale University Divinity School, and an Honorary Doctorate from Presbyterian College, his alma mater. Before coming to Austin, he held pastorates in Atlanta GA, Germantown TN, Long Island NY, and Sherman TX. He and his wife, Dr. Kay Bryant, a clinical psychologist, have two daughters.

The custom of "kirkin'" is an American one, and is not practiced in Scotland. It does represent, however, the custom of carrying the tartan—or a scrap of one—



Tartans (plaid cloth designating clans) decorate the church.



John Brewer of Amarillo.

hidden in a pocket, when a person came to worship in the church (kirk), in defiance of English rule. The custom came into being when the public display of the clan tartans was sub-

ject to severe punishment.

The public is invited to attend the worship service. The church is located at 525 North Gray Street.

A pot-luck luncheon will follow the service. For

more information, contact the church office at 669-2121.

On Sunday, April 27, however, there will be no punishment except the possibility of eating too much at the luncheon following the worship service. Everyone attending is welcome to stay for the meal, which will be "pot-luck," and provided by members of the church (Scottish dishes optional).

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 806-669-3353

Sports

Ware/Lee headed for tennis regionals

The Pampa High School Varsity tennis was in action district Thursday team and Friday.

Jack Ware and Rachel Lee qualified for the regional playoffs by placing 2nd in mixed doubles at district.

Regional action for the local team will by Monday and Tuesday in San Angelo. After last's year's 3rd place in mixed doubles, Ware and Lee worked hard to win a spot this year in the playoffs.

In other district action, winning their first match, but falling in the quarterfinals were: Myles Foreman/Alyssa Hoelting mixed doubles, Lauren Coutts/Mikala Ferguson girls doubles, Matt Kelley/Garrett Coutts boys doubles, and Alex Clendening boys singles.

JV District play results included: 3rd Place - Kayla Ware/Brenna Albracht, girls doubles; 4th place - Collin McClendon/Kallie Marak, mixed doubles.

Winning first round place, but falling in the quarterfinals were: Landon Karbo boys singles, Michael Alexander/Sergio Salazar, boys doubles; Erin Buck/Kaitlyn Winegeart, girls doubles; and Brandon Russell/Elizabeth Terry, mixed Doubles.

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DAILY HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, April 24, 2009:

This year, know when to back off. You often find others to be controlling. Revise your perspective, vis-à-vis a like situation or like people. Certainly learn not to tumble into power plays. Open up to others. Meetings and groups prove to be exciting and open more doors than you realize. Discuss a limitation rather than defend it. Open doors rather than close them. Let your creativity flourish. If you are single, you could meet someone quite interesting through friends. Take a full year to get to know this person, as he or she could be emotionally unavailable. If you are attached, schedule several weekend retreats together. You will start acting like newlyweds before you know it. Another TAURUS echoes your thoughts.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ***** Clear out as much as you can in the morning. A meeting or another group of people's concerns dominate the afternoon. You could be weighing the pros and cons of a personal situation. Stay open until you are absolutely sure. Tonight: Be where people are.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ***** Stretch mentally. Make calls to experts. Brainstorm. Take off your blinders. Open up to dynamic, exciting thinking. This afternoon, claim your natural position in a situation. Others respect you because of how you come to conclusions. Tonight: In the limelight.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ***** Deal directly with a partner, associate or key person. You cannot back away from the situation. You can, however, take a new look or detach in order to gain a broader perspective. Seek out experts. Tonight: Escape the here and now, at least mentally.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ***** Others continue to dominate. You know what is workable. Communicating this information effectively to an unresponsive audience proves to be impossible. Remember, experience is the best teacher. Find like minds. Tonight: A cozy dinner for two.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ***** You might wake up tired. If you can, take off. Recharge, knowing you will only be able to accomplish more later. Show your breadth of wisdom, and don't be shortsighted. For the next few

days, defer to others, even concerning plans. Tonight: Sort through your options, but go for what works.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ***** Some people's energy cannot be suppressed, namely yours. Self-discipline could help you resolve some of your work, errands and to-dos. Start the weekend clear. Tonight: Join a friend and relax.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ***** Handle a personal matter this morning. (You can also take a lazy morning if you so choose.) In the afternoon, you re-energize. You are more playful and creative than usual. Don't hold back. Start the weekend early. Tonight: Let it all hang out!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ***** Speak your mind. Get past an immediate problem through brainstorming. Others might wonder how you conjure up such wild ideas. You cannot explain it, as it is "just you." Play it low-key this afternoon. Tonight: Mosey on home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ***** Your expenses could be way out of control, and you are the only person who can tame them! Allow greater communication this afternoon, not necessarily about finances, but anything else. You will be surprised by everything that is going on around you. Tonight: Hang out.

BORN TODAY
 Actress Shirley MacLaine (1934), singer, actress Barbra Streisand (1942), author Sue Grafton (1940)

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

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Do you see news?
 Call Editor Betsy Phillips at 669-2525 or email her at editor@thepampanews.com

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811 Know what's below. Call before you dig.

Comics

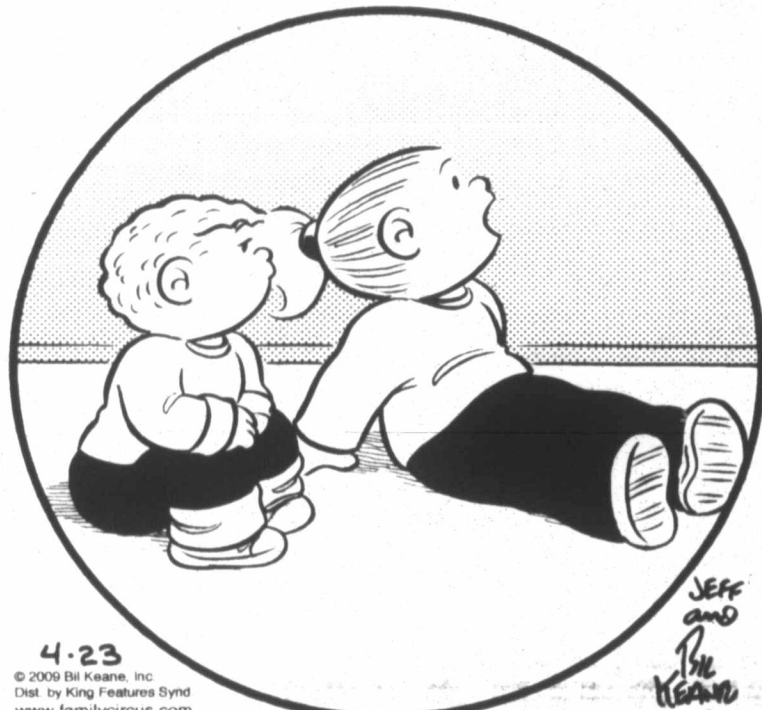
Marmaduke



"Hey, Mom! Guess what I traded my Xbox for?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"Mommy! Is it lunch time? Jeffy's tummy keeps gargling."

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



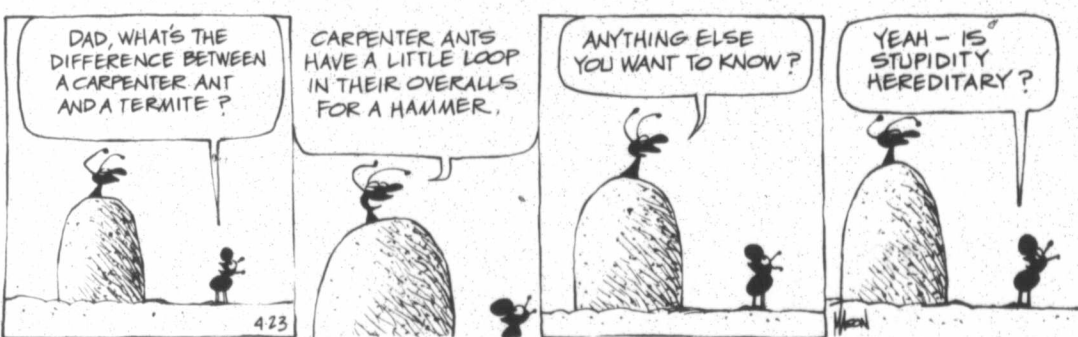
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



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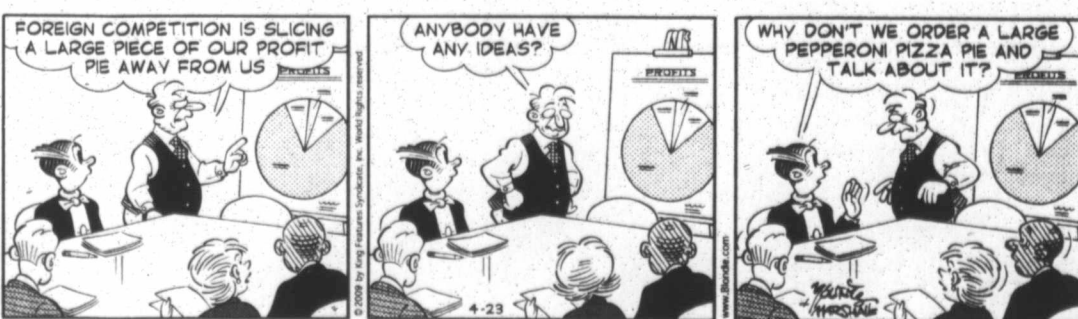
Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Seize
- 5 Excited state
- 10 Audition goal
- 11 Polished
- 12 Church reply
- 13 Put off
- 14 One-on-one meeting
- 16 Usual way to deal
- 20 Folder type
- 23 Homer's bartending pal
- 24 Hopping mad
- 25 Chain makeup
- 27 Fragrant tree
- 28 You can bet on them
- 29 Goalie's protector
- 32 Mug makeover
- 36 Coin-flipping command
- 39 Goofing off
- 40 Map areas
- 41 Lunch hour
- 42 Barbara's "Beaches" co-star
- 43 Secluded spot

DOWN

- 1 Seven-time Wimbledon champ
- 2 Italia's capital
- 3 Baldwin of "30 Rock"
- 4 Aid
- 5 Border
- 6 Diminished
- 7 Kilmer of "The Doors"
- 8 Hydrocarbon suffix
- 9 Spectrum end
- 11 City on the Mohawk
- 15 Yarn

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Yesterday's answer

- 17 One-time Concerto No. 1 in Atlanta arena
- 18 Came to Portland setting
- 19 Lawman Eliot
- 20 Tick off
- 21 Opera piece
- 22 DEA worker
- 25 Finish last
- 26 Notion
- 28 Accords
- 30 Liszt's
- 31 Portland setting
- 33 Fan's favorite
- 34 Ice chunk
- 35 Ala. neighbor
- 36 Pipe material
- 37 Trick taker, often
- 38 Charter

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Shattered Dreams Stimulus

cont. from page 1

"This is educational to say the least," Pingel said explaining Shattered Dreams. "It's an emotional process, but everyone involved agrees that if this can help one person, it's worth it."

Shattered Dreams includes many interactive components, including a mock alcohol-related crash, which includes medical and law enforcement response, mock death notifications, student and parent retreats, and a mock memorial/assembly.

The wreck is elaborate. The morning of the wreck, which is a surprise but is scheduled close to prom, streets around the high school are closed down by the city. Two cars donated by wreckers are involved in a head on collision. PHS students are injured and transported by ambulance. Arrests are made for driving while intoxicated by the Gray County Sheriffs Office. A Justice of the Peace pronounces a time of death for a victim involved in the accident.

"This is real life stuff," Pingel said. Many law enforcement agencies work together to make the program possible. DPS troopers have helped plan the event, Pampa Regional Medical Center allows for students to be transported by ambulance and LifeStar, Pampa Fire Department has also helped with planning and will react on the scene.

"Many people have come together and joined our planning committee to make this possible," Pingel said. Other community involvement includes Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Home participates in the mock memorial service, and even local florists donate arrangements for the service.

About 40 students participate in Shattered Dreams in multiple facilities. Many students create "The Living Dead" which are a group of pre-selected students who are contacted in class and pulled out by a student dressed as the Grim Reaper. The student returns to class with white-face paint, and a Shattered

Dreams t-shirt and is not allowed to speak the rest of the day. The 15 minutes signifies the number of alcohol-related fatalities in the United States every 15 minutes.

"The purpose is for the students to get a personal look at what it would be like to be without that friend," Pingel said.

Videos are made of what life was like for the students before the crash, including footage of students partying which lead to the intoxication, and later being booked in jail for manslaughter. The videos are put together by Harvester Production and Dustin Miller and showed to all of the high school students.

Part of the program includes a retreat for parents and students who were involved in the program. Students write letters about their experiences and involvement in Shattered Dreams, some of which are read the next day at the assembly.

The program emphasizes the results of alcohol-related crashes in the United States and ultimately, what life can be like for those who drive after drinking, whose actions effect innocent victims, their friends, and families.

The program was developed by Bexar County DWI Task Force Advisory Board on Underage Drinking in 1998. The program involves the school administration and faculty, students, parent, community organizations, law enforcement, emergency medical services, and hospitals, working together for planning and implementing the program.

In order to make the program possible, Pingel asked for donations from people who participated in Shattered Dreams before. She was able to raise \$3,000 for the program. Pingel said that she is still looking for help with donations and other help. If interested, Pingel can be contacted at 661-3425 (direct office number) or at Pampa High School 669-4800.

Woman jailed in SFA massacre threat

NACOGDOCHES, Texas (AP) — A 20-year-old Stephen F. Austin State University student was in jail Thursday, a day after her arrest on allegations that she posted signs on and near campus last week that threatened a deadly mass shooting.

Jennifer Grant, a sophomore from Palestine, is a tenant of The Grove, the off-campus apartment complex where several signs appeared April 16. They warned that "10 people will be killed and shot at The Grove."

A notice on the university Web site said campus police arrested Grant and booked her into the Nacogdoches County Jail. The District Attorney's Office had no record of an attorney for Grant. A jail official said she was being arraigned Thursday

morning.

The signs were found on the second anniversary of the Virginia Tech massacre that left 32 people dead.

SFA Police Chief Marc Cossich said in Thursday's Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel the investigation remained active but that no more arrests were expected. Cossich said information leading to the arrest came from a variety of sources.

Officials said it was too early to comment on a possible motive.

A student who said he knew Grant said he was surprised by the arrest.

"She has always been nice to me whenever I have talked to her," said 19-year-old David Bruce Smith, also of Palestine. "For her to make those drastic threats like that, all of a sudden, is highly doubtful for me."

the federal money runs out Texas would be left paying the cost of the expansion to the tune of \$75 million a year through taxes on employers. He wasn't specific on when he believes that cost would kick in, but said it would be "in those out years."

"I disagree with the premise of the (Senate) legislation, and I think as we go over to the House I hope we have the opportunity to explain to Texans that this piece of legislation, although it may look kindly on the front end, that long term it costs Texas businesses \$75 million every year for perpetuity, best I can tell," Perry told reporters after speaking to a Texas Workforce Commission community college conference.

Once government entitlement programs are put in place, it's difficult to cut them, he said.

Perry has accepted most of the \$17 billion in economic stimulus money slated for Texas, but he said the \$555 million in unemployment money comes with strings attached. He's made his rejection of that money a linchpin in his loud criticism of Washington.

Perry said he doesn't want to hurt the job creation climate in Texas, which he says includes low taxes, limits on civil lawsuits and a skilled workforce.

"This isn't rocket science. You raise taxes on businesses, they will go

find a more comfortable place, a place with lower taxes. I just don't want to put Texas in a high tax situation," he said.

Taxes on employers are expected to go up even if the unemployment stimulus money isn't tapped. The state's unemployment insurance trust fund is rapidly being drained. It has been projected to have only \$48 million, or \$812 million less than it should, by October, triggering a higher tax on employers.

As is his custom, the governor wouldn't say he would veto the Eltife unemployment legislation if it reaches his desk.

"I don't make too many comments about a piece of legislation that's going to be changed as much as this one's going to change," Perry said. The 140-day legislative session ends June 1.

In his speech at the community college conference, Perry noted he is proposing increasing the state allocation to the Skills Development Fund, a worker training account, from \$50 million in the current two-year budget cycle to \$60 million in the coming one.

Some unemployment stimulus money is making it to Texas — \$150 million given to workforce boards for job training around the state.

Oil limps below \$49 as recovery hopes wane

SINGAPORE (AP) — Oil prices stumbled below \$49 a barrel Thursday in Asia as rising U.S. crude inventories and a stark demand forecast by the IMF doused investor optimism for a near-term recovery from the global recession.

Benchmark crude for May delivery fell 37 cents to \$48.48 a barrel by midday in Singapore in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose 30 cents Wednesday to settle at \$48.85.

Oil prices shot above \$54 a barrel last month from below \$35 in February on expectations that the worst of recession may be over. But rising unemployment, falling consumer spending and poor corporate earnings have undermined investor confidence that an economic rebound is imminent.

"There hasn't been enough evidence of an improvement in fundamentals," said Toby Hassall, an analyst with investment firm Commodity Warrants Australia in Sydney. "That's why we've come back off the mid-\$50s."

The Energy Information Administration said Wednesday that U.S. crude inventories for the week ended April 17 rose by 3.9 million barrels to the highest level since 1990.



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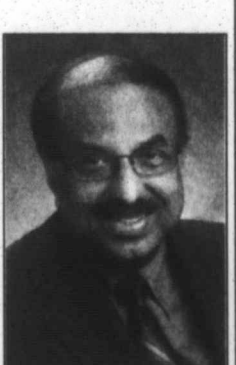
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Please contact 806-669-3303 for appointments and leave a message.



ConocoPhillips says profit down

HOUSTON (AP) — ConocoPhillips said Thursday its first-quarter profit tumbled 80 percent from a year ago as sharply lower crude and natural-gas prices walloped results at the nation's third-largest oil company.

But the results easily beat Wall Street expectations and Conoco shares rose 3.6 percent, or \$1.36, to \$39.75.

The Houston-based company said net income for the January-March period amounted to \$840 million, or 56 cents per share, versus \$4.14 billion, or \$2.62 per share, a year earlier.

Analysts surveyed by Thomson Reuters had expected earnings of 42 cents a share, on average.

Revenue fell 44 percent to \$30.7 billion from \$54.9 billion a year ago.

ConocoPhillips was the first of the major oil companies to report first-quarter results, which as a whole are expected to be the worst in years as the global economic downturn saps demand for energy. After peaking around \$150

in July, the price of crude tumbled hard and fast and today costs less than \$50 a barrel.

Year-over-year comparisons aside, ConocoPhillips' January-March results were greatly improved from the fourth quarter, when it was stung by \$34 billion in asset writedowns linked in part to lower commodity prices.

In January, Conoco announced 1,300 job cuts and, anticipating a difficult 2009, has reduced its capital spending budget by 37 percent this year. Across the oil sector, producers large and small are scaling back spending on oil and gas projects as the global recession crushes energy consumption.

On the operations side, ConocoPhillips said earnings at its exploration and production, or upstream, arm were reduced by more than three quarters in the first quarter. Net income amounted to \$700 million in the most-recent quarter, compared with \$2.9 billion a year ago.

On a positive note,

upstream production for the quarter averaged 1.93 million barrels of oil equivalent per day, up from 1.79 million barrels in the year-ago period. The company attributed the increase to new production in the United Kingdom, Russia, Norway, Vietnam, China and Canada.

ConocoPhillips said it expects second-quarter upstream production to be lower than the first quarter, primarily because of maintenance and seasonal factors. But the company said it still expects full-year output to top 2008 levels.

Net income at Conoco's refining and marketing, or downstream, segment fell 61 percent to \$205 million from a year ago because of lower volumes the company pegged in part to increased maintenance in the United States.

The company said the utilization rate at its U.S. refineries was about 80 percent in the first quarter, down from a 90 percent rate a year ago. Besides maintenance, many refin-

ers have slowed production in recent months. People are driving less because of the bad economy. At a time of year when people traditionally begin hitting the road and buying more gas, stockpiles of gasoline rose by 800,000 barrels last week, the government reported.

ConocoPhillips is the third-biggest U.S. oil company behind No. 1 Exxon Mobil Corp. and No. 2 Chevron Corp. To date, neither Exxon nor Chevron has announced layoffs, but their profits are expected to decline as well.

Exxon and Chevron are set to report first-quarter results next week, along with European giants Royal Dutch Shell PLC and BP PLC.

Also Thursday, Occidental Petroleum said its first-quarter earnings fell 80 percent from a year ago, but like Conoco the results easily beat Wall Street expectations.

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

9	7	1	8	5	2	6	4	3
3	2	6	9	1	4	8	5	7
4	5	8	3	6	7	1	9	2
5	3	7	4	9	1	2	6	8
8	4	9	2	3	6	7	1	5
1	6	2	7	8	5	4	3	9
7	1	3	6	2	9	5	8	4
6	8	4	5	7	3	9	2	1
2	9	5	1	4	8	3	7	6

			5					2
				2		7	9	
4						6		
		7	8	5	2			
	3		7					
5		8						
7		6				4		9
8			4					
	1	9			7	2		

Level: Intermediate

Local judges attend certification seminar

Judge Kurt R. Curfman and Judge Mary Ann Carpenter were both certified at the recent Twenty Hour Justice of the Peace Seminar, held April 7-10, 2009, in Amarillo, Texas.

The seminar was sponsored by the Texas Justice Court Training Center, a division of Texas State University-San Marcos, with offices in Austin, Texas.

The seminar is one of six held for elected Justices of the Peace so they can fulfill their Continuing Judicial Education Requirements as set forth in Article 27.005 of the Texas Government Code.

The seminar addressed topics such as Judicial Ethics, Evictions, DWI Magistration, Traffic Law, Failure To Attend School, Death reporting Requirements, Rights of the Accused, Basic Contracts, Electronic Case Filing, Clerkless Courts, Technology Fund, Age Related Alcohol Issues, Credit Card Cases, Criminal and Civil Round Table Discussions.



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Believe me, I sympathize with "Duped in California" (Feb. 2). After my wedding in 1979 I sent my gown to a recommended dry cleaner and got the precious box back after waiting more than a month. It was sealed, with instructions to keep it sealed to preserve it.

A couple of months later I had a nagging feeling that something might be wrong and decided to look inside. Although I did get my dress back, it was far more soiled than when I took it to the cleaners. There were stains down the front and dirt along the hemline. I don't think the dress was ever cleaned, and even worse, I suspect it was worn by someone else.

My advice to brides: Send your gown to be cleaned, but check it before leaving the dry cleaners. -- DUPED IN CHIPPEWA FALLS, WIS.

DEAR DUPED: Thank you for your input, which was echoed by many other former brides. Wedding season is coming, and that's why I am urging brides-to-be to take your suggestion to heart. What happened to you appears to be a dirty little secret in the dry-cleaning industry.

To avoid being victimized, ask someone in the salon where your wedding gown is purchased to recommend a preservation specialist in your area. Then contact the Better Business Bureau to ensure that no complaints have been filed. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: After my wedding, my mother had the good sense to suggest we inspect my dress after it was cleaned, but before it was boxed. To our horror, the dress appeared to have been run through a washing machine. Also, there were spots all over the dress. We were informed that the spots were alcohol stains, which wouldn't show up

until after the dress was cleaned. But, Abby, no alcohol had been served at my reception. -- BRIDE IN CHAPEL HILL, N.C.

DEAR ABBY: The letter from "Duped in California" wasn't the first time I have heard of a dress going missing after it was supposedly returned from the cleaners. A TV personality was doing her talk show on weddings and presented her dress on the air to her audience only to discover -- to her shock and horror -- that her veil was the only thing in the box.

Because the dress is returned in a sealed box, most people don't think to check it, and this scam is commonplace and very lucrative for the thieves. Reputable cleaners should request that their customers inspect their gowns before the box is sealed so the disreputable ones can be weeded out from the ones who are honest. -- WENDY H., ANTIOCH, TENN.


DEAR ABBY: "Duped" is not alone. There have been many incidents of empty preservation boxes and stories of stolen or missing gowns, bridal veils and other family treasures.

Your readers can protect themselves by choosing a specialist who processes the gown LOCALLY, and by asking to inspect it personally before it is put into the container -- which should be completely acid-free and lined with fabric or acid-free tissue.

For more tips on gown care and information about safe storage, your readers should visit our Web site, www.WeddingGownSpecialists.com. -- SALLY LORENSEN CONANT, Ph.D., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ASSOCIATION OF WEDDING GOWN SPECIALISTS

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Offer Ends 04/30/09

PAMPA NEWS CLASSIFIEDS



21 Help Wanted

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

NEED Weekend RN, Fri. & Sat., 10:30pm-7am. St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle, 537-3194.

3 Personal

ADOPT A Christian couple, stayhome Mom, your baby will grow with laughter, learning & fun vacations! Expenses pd. Matt & Francesca 1-800-562-7393

5 Special Notices

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

10 Lost/Found

LOST Dog!! Boston Terrier. Answers to Jazmin. Has a single black dot on top of her head. 806-273-3667 or 806-275-0856. Reward.

13 Bus. Opp.

GREAT Investment opps. Pampa motel. Convenience store. 665-1875, 806-383-1985.

14a Air Cond.

BROWNING Heating & Air Cond., 665-1212. Free est. on new equip. We service all brands!

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.

QUALITY and Custom Building and Remodeling. New Homes & Additions. 662-2977

14e Carpet Serv.

NU-WAY CLEANING SERVICE Bob Marx Owner-Operator. Call 665-3541.

14h Gen. Serv.

JH Concrete. Driveways, additions, stamp, patios, tile, fences. Free Est. 806-382-5408.

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

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.

NEW Fence / Fence Repairs. Free estimates. Call 806-486-1368, 806-665-2859.

CONCRETE Work Ceramic tile, Painting, Outside trimming, Clean yards, Carpentry, Roofing. 806-662-3712 Juan Rodriguez.

14r Plowing/Yard

COLLEGE Bound H.S. Student needs to make money for college. Will mow yards, car detailing or other jobs. Alex Clending, 665-2189.

RICO'S Lawn Care & Handyman Service Repair, Improve, Assemble & Build Just about anything. Tree & Shrub Trim. 806-662-1016.

14s Plumbing/Heat

JACK'S Plumbing, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115.

19 Situations

I clean houses! Available for Spring Cleaning Have References 806-395-9012

READY to sell, but your house isn't? Call Christy White for all your painting & cleaning needs, 664-4428. Also office cleaning.

PRIVATE Elderly Care. Lots of TLC, private telephone & cable in room. 24 hour care. Can provide ref. Call 664-4161 to make appt.

69 Misc.

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

ENGAGEMENT Ring for sale. \$750 Call 832-444-0907 for details

69a Garage Sales

BIG Backyard Sale. Fishing & lawn equip., tools, clothes. Fri., Sat. 9-7 1434 N. Zimmers

ATTENTION!! DEADLINE CHANGE
for Classified Line Ads for Fri. & Weekend Edition (Sat.-Sun.) this also includes Last Minute Ads (City Briefs)!!

Fri. Deadline is Thurs. before noon.
Weekend Edition (Sat.-Sun.) deadline is Thurs. before 4pm.

SPRING Cleaning-Large Sale. Loveseat, knick knacks, good clean clothes. 2200 N. Dwight, Thurs. & Fri.

GARAGE SALE
408 LEFORS
FRI & SAT
8AM-NOON

BACK Yard Sale. Evap. air cond., tools, much more! Thurs. & Fri. 9-5. 734 Malone.

409 S. Price Rd. Fri. 9-5. Sat. 9-1. Infant car seat / stroller, exercisers, crib bedding, toddler, youth & plus size clothes, light fixtures, recliner, washer / dryer, 125 cc 4 wheeler.

ESTATE / Garage Sale. 619 E. Kingsmill (Fellowship Baptist Family Center) Fri. 24th & Sat. 25th. 8 am till 5 pm.

YARD Sale: Fri. 8am-1pm., corner of Somerville & Buckler. Lots of kid's clothes.

CONTINUE to downsize. New items, mark downs, state plates, dishes, nice clothes, material, antiques. Fri-Sat. 10-4, 320 S. Gray

THE PHS Swim Team is having their annual garage sale fundraiser Sat. 4/25 from 8 - 2 at Hall Auto Sound 700 W. Foster. Please help support our team.

1427 N. Dwight. Bunk beds, refig. air conditioners, black gas cookstove. Fri. 8am-1pm.

4 Family Sale, Fri & Sat, 10-? Lots of stuff! 2101 N. Sumner.

TODDLER clothes sz. 2-7, Razor motorcycle, nice furni., misc. Fri & Sat. 8-2, 2105 Lynn

ESTATE Sale. 1901 Fir. April 24th & 25th. 10 am - 5 pm. 214-641-0661.

YARD Sale Fri. 8-5. Spring Cleaning. Something for everyone! 2204 N. Wells.

MOVING Sale 1004 Huff Rd. Friday 3 pm-? Saturday 10-?

77 Livest./Equip.

25 Angus Bulls for Sale. 16 mo. to 3 yrs. old. \$1500 each. 806-664-3417.

69 Misc.

GOLF Cart w/charger. 3 wheels. Great running. Needs tires. \$800. 665-6295

BEDROOM suite, chests, tables & much more. Red Barn, 1420 S. Barnes, Sat. 10-5. 665-2767.

FURNITURE CLINIC Repair & Refinishing of All Furniture 662-9700

BASIC LAWN CARE SERVICE CALL 662-5714 after 5pm

80 Pets & Suppl.

RETIRED show male Yorkie. 4 lbs., 2 1/2 yrs. Very sweet. \$375. 665-6295.

YORKIE tiny purse sz. male. 10 mo., 2 lbs. ba-by doll face. Full coat. \$1000. 665-6295.

FREE 5-7 mo. old lrg. male dog, mix breed, in good health. 664-1161, lv. msg if no answer.

FREE Pit Bull to good home. Call 664-3280.

95 Furn. Apts.

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

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SENIORS OR DISABLED ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE W/D CONNECTIONS
2700 N. HOBART
Call 665-2828

103 Homes For Sale

1616 N. Dwight. Newly constructed 3/2 & office. Trustar Realty & Tinney Built Homes, Gary Winton. 665-4595

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.

4-23 CRYPTOQUOTE

PW SXI ONQJ Y WPNQC ZPYD
QJYDIMPOMF. YDQJ SXI ZPAA
LQ WPNQC ZPYD QJYDIMPOMF.

— EPJGQ AXFLONCP
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: INVENTING IS A COMBINATION OF BRAINS AND MATERIALS. THE MORE BRAINS YOU USE, THE LESS MATERIALS YOU NEED. — CHARLES F. KETTERING

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5 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 car, 2 fireplaces, c/h/a, executive home in exclusive subdivision, \$1,500 mo, \$1,500 dep. 662-7557.

2325 Beech, 3,000 sq. ft. 3/3/2 \$1495 mo. Must have good references, 1 yr. lease. 595-0234.

3 bdr., 1 ba. house with carport. Call 665-4455.

NICE large 2 & 3 bd. houses, w/d hookups, larger than what they appear on the outside, 405 E. Browning, 125 S. Sumner, 669-2139, 663-6121.

PICK up rental list, in Gray Box, at 125 S. Houston, Pampa.

NUMEROUS houses in Pampa area. 2 & 3 bdr. houses, 2 bdr. duplexes, 1 bdr. apts. All reasonably priced. 665-4274

3 bdr., 1 ba., washer/dry hookups, det. gar., 500 Doucette. \$600 mo. \$500 dep. 665-5473

3 bdrm., 1 ba., car garage. \$700 a month. 1117 E. Foster. HUD ok. 228-313-6047.

325 Henry. 3 bdr., 1 bath. \$550 a month. \$200 deposit. 664-0814 or 664-8551.

99 Stor. Bldgs.

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

102 Bus. Rental

LARGE Shop Bldg. for lease. Great Downtown Location! Won't last. 665-1875.

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

OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

103 Homes For Sale

1616 N. Dwight. Newly constructed 3/2 & office. Trustar Realty & Tinney Built Homes, Gary Winton. 665-4595

103 Homes For Sale

HIGHEST CASH PAID FOR HOUSES! CALL 665-1875

NICE 2 bdr. home, 103 Burdett, Skellytown. Owner fin. avail. Gary, Trustar RE, 665-4595.

OWNER Finance. 1131 S. Wells, 3 bdr., 1 ba. \$19,900. Gary, Trustar RE, 806-665-4595.

SKELLYTOWN. 4/1. Needs work. \$12,000 as is or OWC \$1000 down, \$220 mo. Also 12 lots of land, has been a trailer park, \$7500. 662-8566, 848-2517

UPDATED brick split-level, tons of room! 3 bdr., 2.5 ba., 2753 sq. ft., sunroom, deck. 1930 Dogwood. Call 665-2130, 806-206-7666

106 Coml. Property

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114 Recre. Veh.

LEFORS FCU is accepting Sealed Bids on a 1999 Dutchman 30 ft. gooseneck travel trailer with slide out. Lefors FCU reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Call 835-2773 for more info.

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LEFORS FCU is accepting sealed bids on a 1994 Dodge Cummins Turbo Diesel, 1 ton dually. Lefors FCU reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Call 835-2773 for more info.

121 Trucks

1997 Dodge Ram. Red. Short bed. Runs great! \$4000. Call 665-6295.

122 Motorcycles

2004 Harley Davidson 1200 Sportster Custom. Lots of extras, Low miles. \$8500. 669-3026.

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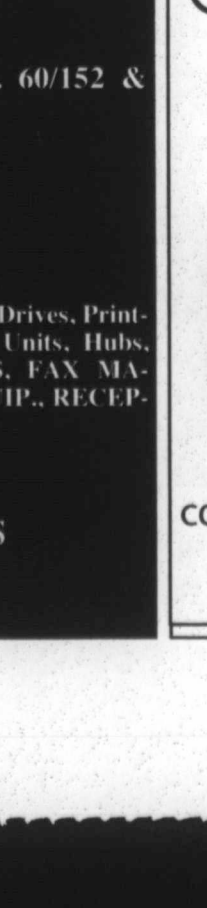
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Marc



Steve

Some doubt about end of drought

COLLEGE STATION — According to the experts, when it comes to determining if a drought has ended, one of the most important questions to ask is: Which one?

"Trying to determine when a drought has ended is done the same way a fishhook is removed... very carefully," said Dr. Klaus Wolter, a researcher at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Earth System Research Laboratory in Colorado.

Many factors, he said, including rain, runoff, inflows and social impacts must be considered before determining a drought has indeed ended.

"There isn't just one specific definition or category of drought," said Dr. Travis Miller, Texas AgriLife Extension Service statewide agronomist in College Station.

Miller said there are four generally acknowledged types of drought — meteorological, hydrological, socioeconomic and agricultural — each as varied as the Texas weather.

Meteorological drought refers to a deficit in precipitation in a given region over a specific period of time when compared to that same time interval over a historical average for that period. Hydrological drought refers to the effect of reduced precipitation on surface and subsurface water supplies. Socioeconomic drought occurs when reduced precipitation causes an adverse affect on the economy of a region.

And agricultural drought, currently widespread through Central and South Texas, is evidenced by dry stock ponds, bare fields and little or no green-up in pastures which should normally be lush this time of year, Miller said.

"The agricultural economy in drought-stricken areas of the state is impacted because it's either too dry to plant crops or the crops are withering, and ranchers are feeding livestock hay or other supplementation when they would normally have green

grass and full water tanks," he said.

However, while current agricultural drought has had a significant economic impact on the state with almost \$1 billion in losses so far, Miller said meteorological drought is the type most people know about through news and weather reports.

Meteorological drought is usually categorized using the Palmer Drought Severity Index, which reflects both precipitation and other hydrological conditions, or the newer Standardized Precipitation Index, which reflects differences in precipitation only over various time scales.

The standardized index is used by the National Drought Mitigation Center because it makes it possible to identify emerging droughts months sooner than with the Palmer index, said Mark Lenz, a meteorologist with the Austin/San Antonio National Weather Service office in New Braunfels.

"Meteorological drought compares long-term average precipitation — an average of which is determined over 30 years — to precipitation over a specific, shorter period of time," Lenz said. "These levels can vary widely across Texas and other parts of the country, depending on past precipitation and other weather-related factors."

Lenz said drought as identified by the U.S. Drought Monitor, which uses data from various national and regional weather reporting and predicting agencies, is expressed as either agricultural or hydrological and is assigned one of five levels or stages — abnormally dry, moderate, severe, extreme or exceptional.

"Even after the rains in late March, each of the 33 Texas counties which this office serves are still either in extreme or exceptional drought," he said. "People are often under the impression that after a couple of days of good rains a drought has broken, but that only happens if precipitation over a period of months puts us near the

long-term average."

Lenz said about 10-15 inches of rain over the next several months would put most of South Central Texas back on track and make it reasonable to proclaim the drought has ended.

"That's only true if those rains are longer, soaking rains as opposed to hard rains where there are flash floods and a lot of runoff," he said. "While a hard rain might help replace some surface water, it won't penetrate the subsoil enough to be helpful to farmers and ranchers."

The lingering drought in extreme South Texas was recently changed from "moderate" to "severe," according to Nezzette Rydell, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Brownsville, who also said she does not expect improvement anytime soon.

"The weather patterns are not giving us great hope," she said. "In general, it's not looking favorable for the chances of rain."

Since Jan. 1, the four-county Rio Grande Valley area has received only 1.1 inches of rain, a deficit of about three inches. Ironically though, the area's reservoirs are filled to the brim, according to Erasmo Yarrito Jr., the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's deputy Rio Grande watermaster.

"We received abundant inflows from Mexico, thanks to a rainy cyclone that hit the state of Chihuahua last summer," he said. "Water levels at the reservoirs behind Falcon and Amistad dams are so high that farmers were able to irrigate between October and March at no charge, meaning that the water they used was not charged against their yearly allocations."

But despite abundant supplies of water for municipalities, industry and agriculture, growers still require rainfall to leach plant-choking salts from soils that accumulate salinity from irrigation water, said Dr. Juan Enciso, an AgriLife Extension irriga-

tion engineer in Weslaco.

"In addition to leaching salts from soils, rainfall is also needed for dryland growers whose properties don't have the infrastructure to irrigate," Enciso said.

"Parts of the central and far western Texas Panhandle as well as parts of extreme West Texas have received sufficient rainfall to say they are now in the process of recovering from drought," said Dr. John Nielsen-Gammon, Texas' state climatologist, College Station.

Forecast information from Nielsen-Gammon's office indicates La Nina will weaken significantly in May and June, and that in the fall El Nino will "take over the Pacific Ocean," creating conditions which should "produce a wetter, cooler Texas climate and give Texas the rain it has been looking for."

While it's difficult to determine exactly when a drought is over, there are still points of general agreement, Miller noted.

"I think most experts would concur that a drought is over when rainfall is close to the long-term average, ground moisture is adequate for normal dryland crop growth and to provide sufficient livestock forage, and lakes, reservoirs, ponds and stock tanks are full or nearly full," Miller said. "However, while a drought may be over, the impact of drought to local economies and to agricultural production can be longer lasting."

The state's Drought Joint Information Center has a new multi-agency, comprehensive drought information Web site, <http://agrilife.tamu.edu/drought>.

The center is comprised of state and federal agency public information officers, activated by the Governor's Division of Emergency Management and led by Texas AgriLife Communications.



Seitz, Wheat to wed April 25

Donna and Duncan Seitz and the late Sue Seitz of Amarillo announce the engagement of their daughter, Shannon, to Jamie Robert Wheat.

Grandparents of the bride-elect are Annas and the late Loy Seitz and Mable and the late Andrew Sartor and Estelle Caywood.

Wheat is the son of Linda and Herbert Wheat of Amarillo. Grandparents of the prospective groom are Effie and William Hess and Dolores and Earl Wright.

The couple plan to wed April 25 at Hillside Christian Church in Amarillo.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Texas Tech University with a degree in Marketing/Management.

She is currently employed by the City of Amarillo. The prospective groom is a graduate of Caprock High School. He is currently employed by the Amarillo Independent School District.



Pampa agriculture student awarded scholarship

STILLWATER, Okla. — A Pampa student was honored by Oklahoma State University at the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) Scholarships and Awards Banquet on April 3.

Jessica Baggerman accepts a \$1,000 Joseph Fleming Memorial Freshman Scholarship. She is a graduate of Pampa High School and plans to major in animal science at OSU. Baggerman is the son of John and Lora Baggerman.

In all, approximately \$449,750 was awarded at the banquet, part of \$974,250 in scholarships and awards presented this spring to deserving OSU agriculture students for the 2009-2010 school year.

"This is yet another record level of scholarships for the College, despite the economic downturn. Our donors are to be commended for their generosity and wise investment in CASNR students and the OSU Foundation is to be commended for good stewardship of our scholarship endowments," said Ed Miller, CASNR associate dean. "Scholarships are increasingly important to our students and their families and the college is committed to help students reach their educational goals."


"It is exciting to celebrate the accomplishments of incoming students as well as those who will be graduating soon," Miller said. "Our students

have demonstrated outstanding leadership and service while achieving the highest level of academic performance again this year and our awards banquet provides an opportunity to recognize their accomplishments. Awards for leadership and academic performance and the presentation of scholarships build pride in our students and their families, the faculty, donors and other supporters of both the college

and division as a whole."

The college is part of the OSU Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, along with two statewide agencies: the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station and Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service.

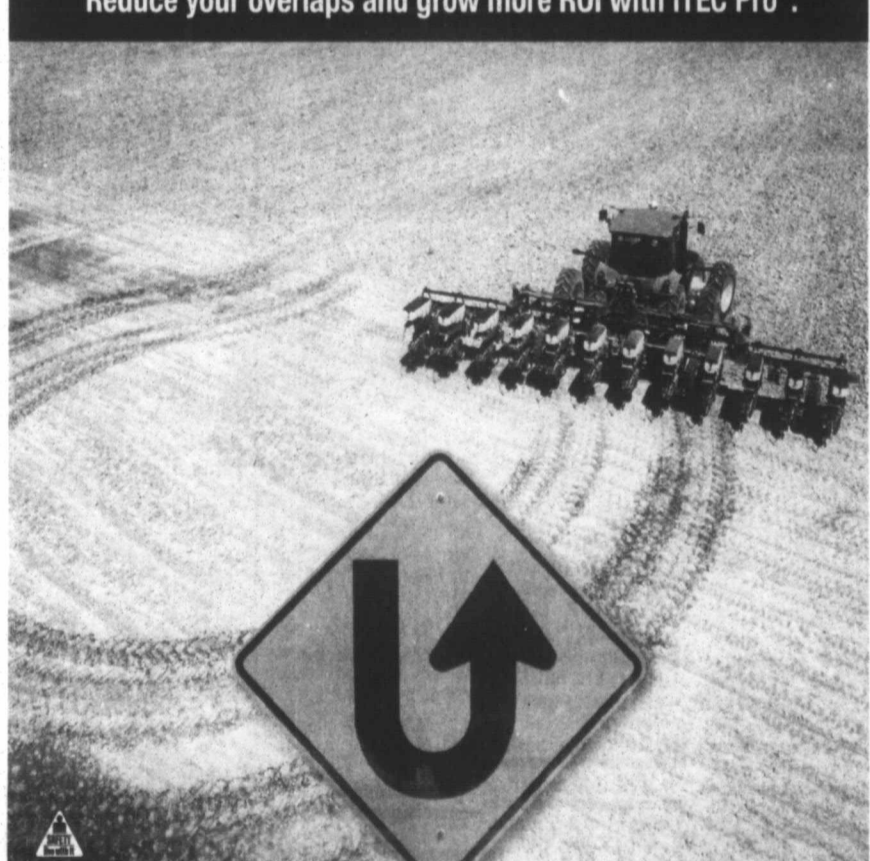
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