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The PAMPA NEWS

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SURVIVAL AND HOPE



staff photos by David Bowser

Buster and Paula Foster (left) talk with Pat Montoya, president of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce, at the organization's luncheon meeting this week. Foster, an organ transplant recipient, was the guest speaker at the luncheon.

Foster shares story at Chamber luncheon

BY DAVID BOWSER
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

Buster Foster is grateful to be alive. He and his wife had lunch with the Pampa Chamber of Commerce Tuesday, and the Amarillo man told them his story of organ transplants and blood transfusions. As a spokesman for Coffee Memorial Blood Bank, which serves Pampa and the Texas Panhandle along with parts of Oklahoma, Foster encouraged each member of the chamber and their family and friends to give blood. He said it saved his life.

Foster, now 58, was in the wholesale furniture business in Amarillo for 40 years, but in 2006 he was forced to close his business due to liver disease. Since then, he's had two liver transplants and used over 50 pints of blood. Today, he and his wife Paula are serving as the Coffee Memorial Blood Bank 2010 Honorary Ambassadors. "The Lord was most gracious to us," Foster said.

In 2004, Foster found he had cancer of the liver. "After going through eight months of treatment and physically and mentally breaking down," Foster said, "they pulled me off the medicine."

In 2006, things didn't look good, he said. Foster, facing a liver transplant, closed his store. He started treatment for his liver problems in January, 2007, with more tests at hospitals in Dallas and Fort Worth.

It was during this testing that doctors discovered three cancer tumors next to his liver. Then kidney failure started setting in, Foster said. There were a series of setbacks. He credited his family, friends and community for getting him through it. "My wife Paula has been by my side," Foster



staff photo by David Bowser

E.E. "Shelly" Shelhamer, left, was recognized at the Pampa Chamber of Commerce luncheon Tuesday for his long years of service to the organization. Shelhamer was president of the chamber in 1967. Making the announcement was Joe Weaver, executive director of the chamber.

said. In 13 months, he said he went through 50 units of blood and two liver transplants. "The first liver transplant was in 2007," Foster said. "A 78-year-old man had given us his liver."

It didn't work. Foster spent the next 67 days on a respiratory in the hospital's intensive care unit waiting for another liver. Blood transfusions, he said, were constant. "Blood is a lifesaving entity," Foster said. "It's a substance that we all have to have."
 FOSTER cont. on page 3

Habitat for Humanity ready to get started

BY ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

After three years of laying the groundwork, Habitat for Humanity is ready to make an impact in the Pampa community. With much of the last three years spent dealing with preparatory paperwork, the local Habitat chapter is now up and running, said Jason Bagwell, member of Pampa Habitat's Board of Directors. Habitat for Humanity, an international Christian non-profit devoted to building "simple, decent and affordable" housing for needy families, officially welcomed the local chapter under its umbrella in August of last year.



"It's been a long wait," said Jason Bagwell, a member of the local chapter's board of directors. "It was a long process and we're glad to have all the paperwork out of the way. We're at the point now where we're reaching out to the community and letting them now that we're here."

The idea to bring Habitat to the area was the brainchild of Joe Donaldson, a retired Pampa doctor who visited Hot Springs, Ark., in 2006 and saw the positive impact the program had there.

"(Donaldson) had gone out to Arkansas and saw what a good thing it was for that community," said Bagwell. "He saw what a blessing it was for them and thought it would be good to bring that here."

The local chapter is now focusing on what Habitat does best: helping people in need. Bagwell said that they are currently looking into purchasing the right property on which to build their first house, as well as scheduling fundraisers for the spring season. They recently got a major boost with their first big donation, a \$5,000 contribution three weeks ago from NBC Bank.

"It's been great," said Bagwell. "That was a big help to us, and we're just now starting to make rounds with the civic clubs around town. That's how we got the donation from NBC — we spoke at one of the Rotary Wednesday luncheons, and the vice president of NBC happened to be there and asked us about it and decided to get involved, which we're very thankful for."

Bagwell added that the chapter is also searching for families who qualify for receiving a newly-built home. To be eligible, a family has to meet a number of requirements set forth by Habitat for Humanity International, including income and employment standards and the willingness to devote a number of "sweat-equity hours" towards either the building
 HABITAT cont. on page 3

City monitors new lift station

BY DAVID BOWSER
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

Casey Upton was peering down a manhole on the north side of town today waiting for the water to flow.

Upton, part of the city's wastewater department, was monitoring the flow from the new lift station installed between Pampa Regional Medical Center and the new Pampa Junior High School to connect the new school to the city's water system.

A lift station had to be installed so that water could reach the existing water lines. Once the

water reaches Perryton Parkway, gravity will take over and the water will flow downhill.

"The pressure relief valve for the sanitary sewer lift station is located on the south premises of the school," said Jildardo Arias, an engineer with the City of Pampa. "From there, the sewer is lifted and forced down to a manhole near the hospital. From there, gravity does the rest of the work."

Arias said the reason for the lift station is that on the outskirts of town the gravity sewer system is too shallow.

STATION cont. on page 3



staff photo by David Bowser

Casey Upton with the City of Pampa monitors the flow of water as the city checks a lift station connecting the new junior high school to the Pampa's water system.

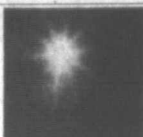
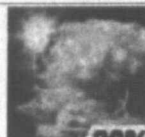

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For the record

PAMPA FORECAST

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		
High 68 Low 42	High 61 Low 26 20%	High 36 Low 25 20%

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 34. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 68. Wind chill values between 26 and 36 early. Windy, with a south southwest wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 42. South wind around 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Friday: A slight chance of showers, with thunderstorms also possible after 1pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 61. South wind 15 to 20 mph becoming west northwest. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Friday Night: A chance of rain before midnight, then a chance of snow. Some thunder is also possible. Cloudy, with a low around 26. Windy, with a north northeast wind between 25 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 36. Windy, with a north northwest wind between 25 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 25. North northwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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SHERIFF'S REPORT

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. today.

Tuesday, March 16.
Nicholas Craig Littlefield, 25, was arrested by police on charges of

criminal trespass of a habitat and bond surrender on charges of having a wrongful or fictitious or altered vehicle registration.

Martha Towles, 48, was arrested by deputies on enhanced charges of forgery of a financial instrument.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Pampa Emergency Medical Services responded to the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Tuesday, March 16.
At 13:28 a MICU Unit responded to a patient transport to PRMC from the 2400 block of Dogwood.
At 17:14 a MICU Unit responded to a patient transport to PRMC from

the 1900 block of Helton.
At 18:41 a MICU Unit responded to a patient transport from PRMC Emergency Room to BSA.

At 00:14 a MICU Unit responded to a patient transport from PRMC Emergency Room to NWTB.

At 05:57 a MICU Unit responded to a patient transport to PRMC from the 1500 block of W. Kentucky.

LAST MINUTE ADS

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

API MEETING, Thurs. Mar. 18, Pampa Country Club. Speaker Derek Patton with Bionet. Social hr. 6:30pm. Chicken Fried Steak Dinner-(\$15 ea.) 7pm. Significant others welcome! Door prizes donated by WB Supply

BIG TOOL / Equip. Sale. 941 Sierra. March 18 - 20th. 8 am - 7 Lg. Asst. Welding Equip., New Wire Feed Welder, Sandblaster. Huge Asst. of Grinders & Other Asst. Tools, some household items & men's clothing.

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Obituaries

Pauline "Polly" Vanderburg Arnold, 90

Pampa—Pauline "Polly" Vanderburg Arnold died March 13, 2010.

She was born November 25, 1919 in Pampa to J.B. 'Ben' and Allie Barrett. She was married to W.F. "Van" Vanderburg from 1936 until his death in 1969. She married Grover Arnold in 1983.

Polly was a member of First Baptist Church, Dallas since 1963 and was devoted to her love for God, family, and friends.

You could not know her without being touched by the passion she had for these commitments in her life.

She is survived by her husband Grover Arnold, daughters Paula Jo Johnson, Debbie Dufford, Denese Johnson; siblings Floyd Barrett, Doris Bateman, and Raymond Barrett. Seven grandchildren, nineteen great-grandchildren, six great-great-grandchildren, and countless other family members

provide a long legacy of her life.

Visitation will be at the Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Home in Pampa, March 17, from 2-3 p.m. A graveside service and burial will be at Fairview Cemetery in Pampa at 4 p.m. on March 17.

Notes of encouragement are welcomed, but the family has requested, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Annie Armstrong (home) or Lottie Moon (foreign) missions of First



Arnold

Baptist Church Dallas in memory of Polly Vanderburg Arnold.

Louise Bowers Slentz, 97

Pampa—Louise Bowers Slentz died March 15, 2010 in Amarillo.

Mrs. Slentz was born June 8, 1912 in McLean. She had been a lifelong resident of the Pampa area. Louise married Aubra L. Bowers on March 7, 1934 in Pampa. He preceded her in death on January 27, 1967. She later married George G. Slentz on January 10, 1970 in Pampa.

He preceded her in death on May 11, 1975. She was a homemaker, manager and investor.

She is survived by her son, Guy Bowers of Texas; granddaughter, Lisa Kirk of Fritch; 3 great-granddaughters, Raetanna and Pepper, both of Amarillo, and Rachelle of Fritch, 1 great-great-granddaughters, London of Amarillo; 2 brothers, Cal Pearce

and Charles Pearce, both of Dallas; devoted sitters, Bea, Cindy, Sam and B. J. Louise was preceded in death by a sister: Polly Pearce.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Home in Pampa.

Memorial may be made to St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Day School, 727 W. Browning, Pampa, Texas 79065.



Slentz

Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whitley.com

Roy Dale Dominey, 47

Pampa—Roy Dale Dominey died March 15, 2010 in Pampa.

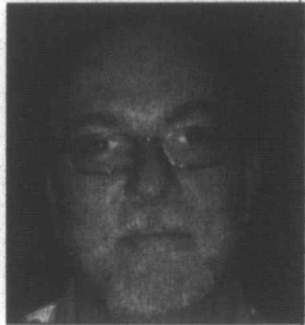
Mr. Dominey was born July 1, 1962 in Stamford to Frank and Viola Dominey. He had been a resident of Pampa since 1971, and worked as a mechanic for Parsley Sheet Metal and Roofing up until the time of his death. He married Carolyn Gilmer on April 27, 1997. He was a member of Grace Baptist Church. Roy loved fishing and camping, but he loved his children and grandchildren more than anything else.

Survivors include his wife, Carolyn Dominey of the home; a son, Dustin Douglas and wife Ann-E of Pampa; 3 daughters, Amanda Douglas and Shasta Moore, both of Pampa, and Ginny Nosek of Portales, N.M.; father, Franklin Junior Dominey and wife Phyllis of Pampa; mother, Viola Griffin of Coushatta, La.; 3 sisters, Belinda Wimberly of Shreveport, La., Sherry Ward of Coushatta, La., and Brandy Hood of Pampa; 4 brothers, Shane Lawhon of La., Jerry Ledford of Amarillo, Greg

Poole of Pampa, and Billy Griffin of Coushatta, La.; 7 grandchildren, Savanna McPherson, Donovan Sexton, Liana Larson, Neveah Thrasher, David Loyd, Matthew Loyd, and Jacob Loyd, all of Pampa; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. Roy was preceded in death by a brother: Shane "Catfish" Kennedy.

Services will be at 2:00 p.m. Friday, March 19, 2010 at Grace Baptist Church, with Pastor Kyle Ohsfeldt, officiating.

Burial will be at Fairview Cemetery under the



Dominey

direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Sign the on-line register at HYPERLINK "http://www.carmichael-whitley.com" www.carmichael-whitley.com

Betty "Bet" Sloan, 83

Pampa—Betty "Bet" Sloan died March 16, 2010 in Pampa.

Mrs. Sloan was born March 29, 1926 in Miami to Leo and Thelma Paris, and was a 1943 graduate of Miami High School. She lived on her family farm in Roberts County until 2006 when she moved into Pampa. She married Jack Sloan on May 23, 1947 in Miami. Betty was a great cook and a very loving mother and wife. She always helped family

members who needed care, and she cooked for all family members and friends. Betty loved the Coronado Healthcare Center and helped with Sunday church services there for 27 years. She was a member of First Christian Church and a member of the Wayside Club, which takes care of the "Little Red School House." She was preceded in death by her parents, and by a very, very special son, John Paris Sloan, in 2006.

Survivors include her

husband: Jack Sloan of the home; a brother, J. D. Paris and wife Lorene of Miami; a sister, Billy Jo Ratliff of Miami; and several nieces and nephews.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials to Little Red School House Roof Replacement Fund, c/o Debbie Davis, 641 County Line Road, Pampa, Texas 79065.



Sloan

Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whitley.com

PAMPA POLICE REPORT

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents during the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. today.

Police reported five traffic-related incidents and one accident.

Animal control officers reported 16 calls.

Pampa EMS reported four ambulance calls. Pampa police reported one medical call.

Tuesday, March 16. An alarm was reported in the 400 block of East Frederic.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 700 block of North Deane.

Harassment was reported to police.

Officers investigated an open door in the 500 block of West Wilks.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 500 block of North Nelson.

A domestic disturbance was reported at Randy Matson and Hamilton.

Officers performed a welfare check in the 400 block of South Hughes.

A burglary was reported in the 1000 block of Huff.

A burglary was reported in the 300 block of East Tuke.

A suspicious person was reported in the 700 block of North Hobart.

City officials reported an ordinance violation in

the 900 block of South Schneider.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1000 block of North Duncan.

A 911 hangup call was reported in the 2700 block of North Beech.

Officers performed a welfare check in the 1700 block of North Aspen.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1000 block of North Wells.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of North Christine.

Pampa firefighters responded to a hazardous material report in the 300 block of South Hobart.

Wednesday, March 17. Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of North Somerville.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 3100 block of North Perryton Parkway.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1900 block of North Evergreen.

A prowler was reported in the 300 block of North West.

Officers assisted another agency at the intersection of Price Road and U.S. Highway 60.

A suspicious person was reported in the 300 block of Jean.

A suspicious person was reported in the 300 block of West.

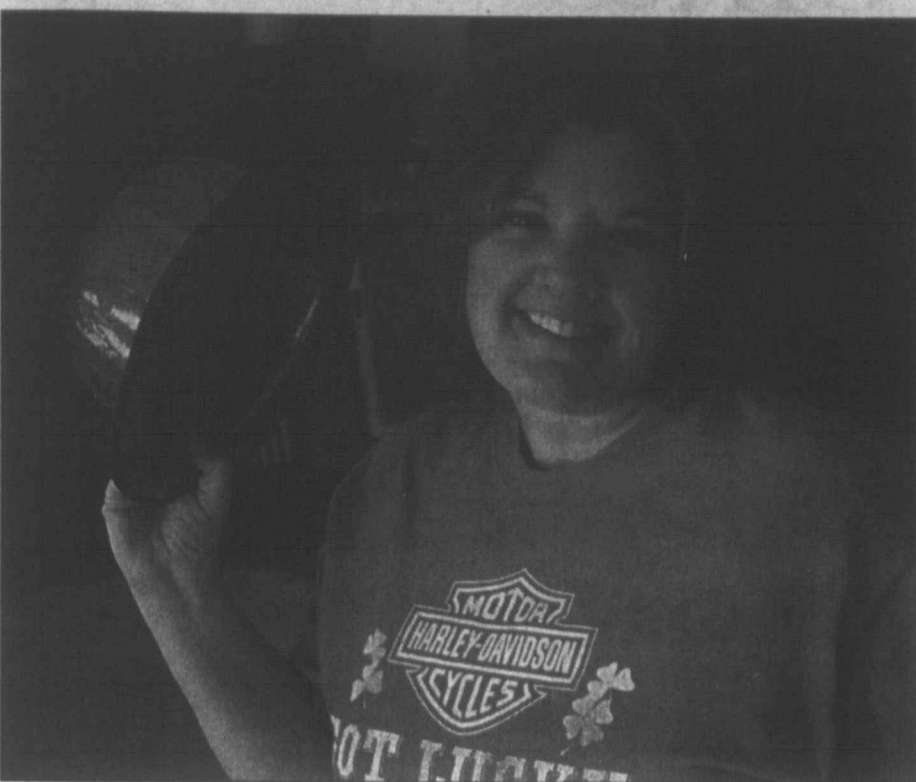
Criminal trespass was reported in the 800 block of North Nelson.

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Luck of the Irish



staff photo by David Bowser

Jody Clendennen at One Stop Flooring donned her green today in honor of St. Patrick's Day. One Stop Flooring is on Hobart just south of O'Reilly's Auto Parts. That's O'Reilly's with a shamrock in the 'O.'

Amarillo police investigate two failed motel robberies

AMARILLO, Texas (AP) — Amarillo police want to know if two failed motel robberies are because of one masked gunman who remains at large.

Police on Wednesday investigated attempts to rob the Sleep Inn Airport and the Travelodge Amarillo West.

Police say a desk clerk at the Sleep Inn was on the phone around 2 a.m. Wednesday when a man wearing a black mask and toting a pistol tried to enter.

Police say the inner lobby doors, which are locked at night, kept the gunman out and he left.

The Amarillo Globe-News reports the second attempted robbery, at the Travelodge, failed when the clerk saw a man wearing a black mask and carrying a pistol entering the motel.

The clerk ran to the back of the motel and locked himself in an office as the gunman fled.

Former Texas Senator Sibley wants his seat back

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Former state Sen. David Sibley wants to retake the Texas Senate seat he held for 11 years.

The Waco Republican said Wednesday he will run in a special election for the seat now held by Sen. Kip Averitt, who is

resigning. Averitt won re-election earlier this month, even after the Republican's January announcement that he was dropping out of the race. It was too late to get his name off the ballot.

Averitt is expected to formally resign Wednesday,

which would trigger a May special election.

The central Texas seat includes 10 counties stretching from Waco to the outskirts of Fort Worth. Sibley held the seat from 1991 to 2002, when he didn't seek re-election and became a lobbyist.

Broken drive shaft likely cause of Texas bus crash

CAMPBELLTON, Texas (AP) — A broken drive shaft likely caused a Mexico-bound bus to veer wildly on a Texas highway before flipping over, killing two passengers and injuring 40 others on board, investigators said Wednesday.

The drive shaft, which transfers power from the engine to the wheels, apparently fell off before the Americanos USA bus carrying 42 people careened from the right lane toward the median and spun wildly, Department of Public Safety spokeswoman Tela Mange said. She said the findings were preliminary, and that the investigation was ongoing.

The crash occurred along Interstate 37 about 45 miles from San Antonio, from where the bus had departed. It was carrying spring breakers and other travelers to the Mexican border

city of Matamoros, with planned stops in Falfurrias and McAllen, Texas.

Two passengers were killed — Christina Lozano Campos, 62, of Lewisville and Efrain Dominguez-Valenzuela, 27, of Brownsville — and at least two others remained hospitalized in critical condition Wednesday. The other 38 people on board were either hospitalized in stable condition or had been treated and released.

The driver, 47-year-old Irma Morado, was not cited.

The bus underwent its regularly scheduled maintenance the day before the crash, said Bonnie Bastian, a spokeswoman for FirstGroup America, the parent company of Dallas-based Greyhound Lines Inc. Americanos USA is operated by Greyhound.

She said Wednesday that she was not aware

of the crash investigation findings, but the regular inspection covered the engine, tires, brakes and wheels. She didn't know the age of the bus.

Bus drive shafts rarely break and completely fall off, said Joe Pemberton, whose Glendale, Ariz.-based company, Motorcoach Training & Development Inc., trains and certifies bus mechanics. Newer buses are equipped with a safety strap designed to catch a broken shaft so that it doesn't completely destabilize the bus. But such devices can fail, and if one does, the shaft can snag on the pavement and turn the bus over, Pemberton said.

"It would act like a pole vaulter," Pemberton said. Most bus companies inspect the drive shaft about every 10,000 miles as part of maintenance, Pemberton said.

Morado and several passengers described hearing a loud noise before the bus lost control. After it flipped, those who could climbed to safety through shattered windows and an emergency exit.

"I think we did a 180. We flipped and I was out the window," said Daryl Champagne, a 17-year-old San Antonio high school senior who was on his way to South Padre Island with two classmates on spring break.

He crawled free and helped another man pull people through the emergency exit. Someone inside handed him an infant. Many passengers were bloody or appeared to have broken bones, he said.

Karlo Castilleja, 18, said, he was pinned in the bus with three people on top of him and his face in the dirt.

"I was scared when I was pinned down. I couldn't

breathe," said Castilleja, who worked himself free when the other passengers got their bearings and could move.

The National Transportation Safety Board is not planning to investigate because its initial assessment turned up no new potential safety issues involving the company or

crash, agency spokesman Keith Holloway said.

The NTSB has long advocated that motor coaches include seat belts and other occupational safety devices, but the recommendations have yet to be turned into law, in part because of strong lobbying by bus companies.

Station

cont. from page 1

"You get to a point where you have to lift that sewage," he said.

That's the case at the new junior high, Arias said. The new lift station will handle only the water from the school. A larger lift station will be built as the area around the new junior high is developed.

Habitat

of the home or to a local charity.

The list of requirements, as well as a link to the application process, can be found at www.pamahabitat.org.

Bagwell said that, while much of the paperwork stage is over, there is still much for the chapter to do, but added that he and Habitat are looking forward to making an impact in the Pampa area.

"This is really something that's going to be good for Pampa," Bagwell said. "There are people out there who need help, and we're here to show them that people care

for their needs and that we can help give them an opportunity to break out of the poverty cycle. We're a Christian based organization that wants to show people the love of God.

"I knew once we got through all the paperwork that this is something that will bless families here for generations to come. I think that if you give (the people of Pampa) a cause like this, they'll really get behind it. I've been blessed to see it firsthand how much people here are willing to help each other. I think Pampa will support this wholeheartedly."

Foster

A second liver became available, but the liver was not in any condition to be transplanted.

Months passed and Foster's health kept deteriorating. He was on his deathbed when another liver became available. It saved his life.

The doctors had given Foster only another 48 hours to live.

"When mortality becomes an issue," Foster said looking at his wife, "that's when you realize what matters."

He said he is grateful for each new day now.

"The second liver I got was from an 18-year-old boy in California," Foster said.

The boy had spinal meningitis.

"The day after he died," Foster said, "he saved five people's lives with his organs. I happened to be one of those people."

After the surgery, Foster said he had to learn how to walk again.

"I went from 215 down to 138 pounds," he said.

Again, he emphasized the importance of family and friends.

"They are your caregivers," Foster said. "They are the ones that are there for you."

He said it was that support, that support of church and prayer, that gave him the strength to survive.

"I didn't appreciate that until after the fact," Foster said.

He flat-lined twice in the hospital. Foster's family was called to his bedside two times to pay their final respects.

"My wife and my family members wouldn't give up," he said. "Our Lord was a little more powerful than the devil was."

Death was his constant companion.

"We saw people every day in the hall way being carted down with sheets over their heads," Foster said. "I've got an 18-year-old's liver in my body right now. I'm here because his family had the foresight to see that it was done."

He said that he still wonders why he's been blessed, but he wants to give back the hope that has been given him.

"I've come to talk to people to encourage them to keep up the fight of giving blood because it is a fight," Foster

cont. from page 1

cont. from page 1

said. "We're talking about mortality, saving people's lives."

Coffee Memorial Blood Bank serves the Texas Panhandle and parts of Oklahoma.

Foster commended the people of Pampa for their support of Coffee Memorial Blood Bank and the blood drives they have had in the community for the blood bank.

"Pampa's one of our greatest community's," said Suzanne Talley with Coffee Memorial Blood Bank.

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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, March 17, the 76th day of 2010. There are 289 days left in the year. This is St. Patrick's Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 17, A.D. 461 (or A.D. 493, depending on sources), St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, died in Saul.

On this date:

In 1776, British forces evacuated Boston during the Revolutionary War.

In 1860, the Kanrin Maru became the first official Japanese ship to reach U.S. soil as it arrived in San Francisco. (The ship arrived 12 days ahead of the USS Powhatan, which was carrying a Japanese embassy delegation.)

In 1906, President Theodore Roosevelt first likened crusading journalists to a man with "the muck-rake in his hand" in a speech to the Gridiron Club in Washington.

In 1910, the Camp Fire Girls organization was formed. (It was formally presented to the public on this date two years later.) The U.S. National Museum, a precursor to the National Museum of Natural History, opened in Washington, D.C.

In 1941, the National Gallery of Art opened in Washington, D.C.

In 1966, a U.S. midget submarine located a missing hydrogen bomb which had fallen from an American bomber into the Mediterranean off Spain.

In 1970, the United States cast its first veto in the U.N. Security Council. (The U.S. killed a resolution that would have condemned Britain for failure to use force to overthrow the white-ruled government of Rhodesia.)

In 1992, 29 people were killed in the truck bombing of the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Ten years ago: In a decision that outraged many gun rights supporters, Smith & Wesson signed an unprecedented agreement with the Clinton administration to, among other things, include safety locks with all of its handguns to make them more child-proof; in return, the agreement called for federal, state and city lawsuits against the gun maker to be dropped. The United States lifted a ban on imports of Iranian luxury goods. More than 500 members of a doomsday cult were burned to death in a makeshift church in southwestern Uganda.

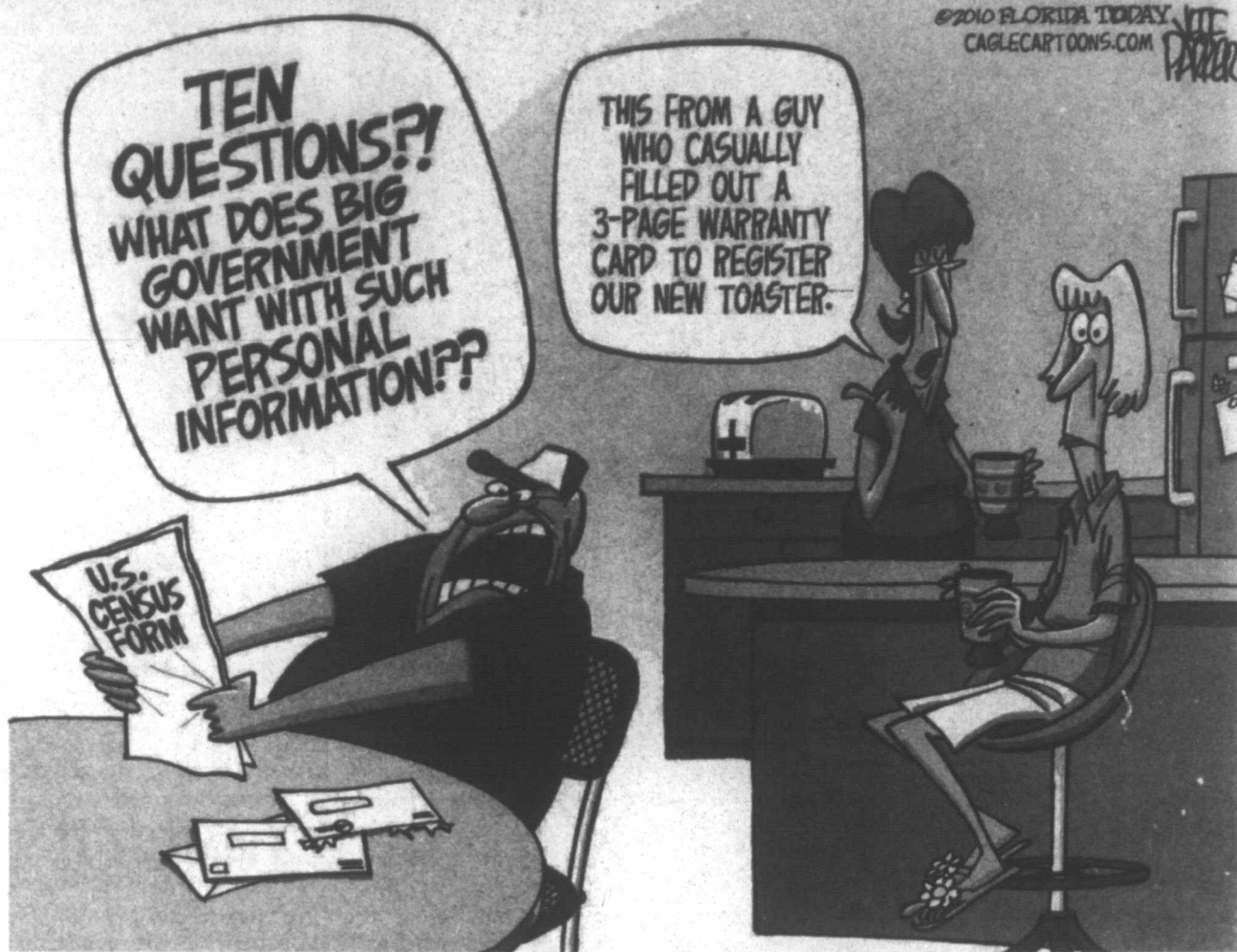
Five years ago: Baseball players told Congress that steroids were a problem in the sport; stars Rafael Palmeiro and Sammy Sosa testified they hadn't used them while Mark McGwire refused to say whether he had. (McGwire owned up to steroid use in January 2010.) Stephane Lambiel of Switzerland won the men's title at the World Figure Skating Championships in Moscow.

One year ago: U.S. journalists Laura Ling and Euna Lee were detained by North Korea while reporting on North Korean refugees living across the border in China. (Both were convicted of entering North Korea illegally and were sentenced to 12 years of hard labor; both were freed in Aug. 2009 after former President Bill Clinton met with North Korean leader Kim Jong Il.) The Seattle Post-Intelligencer published its final print edition.

Today's Birthdays: Rock musician Paul Kantner is 69. Singer-songwriter Jim Weatherly is 67. Singer-songwriter John Sebastian (The Lovin' Spoonful) is 66. Rock musician Harold Brown (War; Lowrider Band) is 64. Actor Patrick Duffy is 61. Actor Kurt Russell is 59. Country singer Susie Allanson is 58. Actress Lesley-Anne Down is 56. Country singer Paul Overstreet is 55. Actor Gary Sinise is 55. Former basketball and baseball player Danny Ainge is 51. Actress Vicki Lewis is 50. Writer-director Rob Sitch is 48. Actor Rob Lowe is 46. Rock singer Billy Corgan is 43. Actress Marisa Coughlan is 36. Rapper Swifty (D12) is 35. Actress Natalie Zea (zee) is 35. Actress Brittany Daniel is 34. Actress Eliza Hope Bennett is 18.

Thought for Today:

"Television is a device that permits people who haven't anything to do to watch people who can't do anything." - Fred Allen, American comedian (1894-1956).



Women Air Force Service Pilots receive Congressional Gold Medal

BY KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON
U.S. Senator

This March, as our nation celebrates Women's History Month, a special group of women gathered in Washington, filling the massive Emancipation Hall of the new Capitol Visitors Center to receive long overdue recognition for their pioneering service to our nation during World War II. These inspiring heroines were the first women to fly military aircraft and blazed a trail in the sky that opened the door for today's women military pilots. In a moving ceremony, the 300 surviving members of the WASP received the highest civilian honor Congress can give — the Congressional Gold Medal — in front of the largest crowd to ever attend an event inside the Capitol.

These exceptional women did not receive the recognition they deserved during World War II and not even for decades later. But on this beautiful day in our nation's capital, in front of their families, members of Congress and the servicemen and women who have followed in their patriotic footsteps, they finally heard the words they have waited so long to hear: "On behalf of a grateful nation, thank you for your service."

All these women volunteered to serve their country in wartime. They paid their own way to Texas, where they trained at Avenger Field in Sweetwater. When the war ended and the WASP program was unceremoniously ended, they had to pay their own way back home. Of the more than 1000 WASP, 38 were killed in the line of duty. They were not allowed to have the American flag draped on their coffins. Their families had to pay for all their burial expenses and the WASP would often have to take up collections from among their own ranks to help the families of their fallen comrades pay for transporting them home.

The women were recruited to fly non-combat missions to free male pilots for combat. Throughout World War II, these courageous women flew more than 60 million miles around the world, in every type of aircraft and on every type of mission flown by male pilots, except direct combat missions. The WASP flight-tested bombers and fighters; ferried equipment and personnel; flew radar tracking missions; trained male cadets; and towed targets — freeing male pilots for combat deployment overseas.

The WASP pilots were never commissioned; they

were never afforded active duty status; and they were not granted veteran status until 1977—more than 30 years after they had served this nation. Despite their patriotic impact, the WASP were never formally recognized by Congress for their wartime military service—until now.

To right this wrong and to acknowledge our nation's debt to these great women patriots, I introduced legislation to honor the WASP with the Congressional Gold Medal and the bill passed Congress in record time.

I wrote about the WASP in my book, American Heroines: The Spirited Women Who Shaped Our Country. Thanks to the

fearlessness of the WASP, women today serve as pilots in every branch of the military and fly every type of aircraft, from combat fighter aircraft to the space shuttle.

The Congressional Gold Medal was our nation's "Thank You" to these members of the "Greatest Generation" who answered the call of duty when their country needed them. Just as the Tuskegee Airmen and the Navajo Code Talkers had to wait years to receive the recognition of their service to our nation, the WASP will now be remembered by generations to come for the tremendous contribution they made to America's victory in World War II.

Happy St. Patrick's Day

BY MARTHA CARR

Last St. Patrick's Day I was living in New York City, which you'd think would carry the day for celebrating the Emerald Isle. But, this year I'm perched in Chicago where there are signs everywhere that say, "Kiss me, I'm Chi-Irish", and the Chicago River has been running green since Saturday.

The trains were already packed early Saturday morning with crowds of people dressed in green beads and funny green hats. It was a Mardi Gras mood but without the liquor or parade. That comes later.

This is a town that celebrates the Irish, who lead the pack in a city packed with ethnic flavor, according to the last census, with over 200,000 citizens who identify themselves as Gaelic every day of the year. This year's census will have to include me as well.

The truth is I'm more of a Gaelic mutt with just as much Welsh and Scot

ancestry but it was the Irish traditions we always celebrated. It was only recently that I realized not everyone throws a large party after a funeral where you tell outlandish stories about the dearly departed with a whiskey toast.

We also tend to worship the old furniture passed down to us from someone who's been gone for a hundred years even if the contraption is so uncomfortable to use rendering it practically useless.

I also come from a long line of wonderful storytellers who've been known to conveniently change a couple of facts in order to tell a better tale. I suppose it's very Irish of me to want to rebel against that and become a journalist who fact checks everything and looks for the holes in stories.

I also can't let the holiday go by without mentioning that this would have also been my late father, Dabney's 86th birthday. He was an Irishman born on St. Patrick's Day who

was particularly good at getting a laugh and then a few tears out of crowd in under twenty minutes even if they'd heard the story a few times already.

On my father's side we come from a long line that loves to gather in large groups, eat, drink and shout over each other with stories.

In his last years my Dad spent a lot of time in and out of hospitals. No matter how often he went in, his five grown children and assorted others would gather with food and decorations as if we were taking over the place. Someone always made sure the nurses also got a plate.

I came to see him in the hospital and on one occasion heard him first. He was in the elevator, in his bed, being wheeled to another floor for tests and was loudly singing a hymn with the nurse. I'm sure it was his idea. He saw me, smiled and kept right on singing as the doors closed.

My mother, Tina, who is more Welsh than Irish,

was a good sport and knit each of us an Irish cable sweater that was similar to the Scot's plaid kilts. The type of cable pattern was used a long time ago to identify at a glance the family line. We each have a sweater carefully tucked away somewhere.

Dad even had a potted shamrock plant that he would only water in the warmer months. Every winter it would wither down to nothing and look like it needed to be thrown out. However, every spring right about now he'd start to water it again and the plant would burst back into life and bloom with little white flowers. Dad said that's really why the plant was so linked to the Irish people. You can try and do us in but we'll just wait for better times and then spring back and bloom even more magnificently than ever. Maybe that's why all of America wants to be Irish, even if it's just for one day out of the year. Erin Go Bragh, everyone.

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Happy St. Patrick's Day!

St. Patrick was born in Britain to a wealthy family. At the tender age of 16, Patrick was taken prisoner by Irish Raiders attacking his family's estate.

They transported him to Ireland, where he was imprisoned. During his sentence, he worked as a shepherd, away from most people. It was in these lonely days he turned to religion, and became a

devout Christian. After six years, Patrick escaped

from prison and fled to Britain. Later he

returned to Ireland as a missionary. There

he became an ordained priest. It is

fabled that Patrick banished all snakes

from Ireland.

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The **PAMPA NEWS**

Sports

Roberson scores 22 to lead Tech past Seton Hall

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — John Roberson scored 22 points and Darko Cohadarevic recovered from a first-half low blow to score 12 points, leading Texas Tech to an easy 87-69 victory over Seton Hall in the first round of the National Invitation Tournament Tuesday night.

Texas Tech (18-15) advances to face the winner Arizona State-Jacksonville.

It was the 10th straight loss in the NIT for the Pirates (19-13), who have

not won a game in the tournament since 1956.

Texas Tech took control of the game right after Seton Hall forward Herb Pope was ejected for delivering a blow to the groin of Cohadarevic, who remained on the floor for several minutes.

After Pope's ejection with 14:17 left in the first half, the Red Raiders scored 13 straight points to take a 23-10 lead. D'wain Roberts (12 points, 11 rebounds) and Robert Lewandowski had four points each during that

stretch. Cohadarevic returned and scored six points in the first half, leading Texas Tech to a 45-32 lead at halftime.

"My kids wanted this bad," Texas Tech coach Pat Knight said. "We had a tough stretch at the end of the season, but we kept on talking about the NIT. It's an honor for us to be here. I'm happy our kids got a taste of the postseason."

The Red Raiders gradually increased the lead in the second half, leading 72-49 with seven minutes

left. Roberson admitted that Texas Tech changed its approach after Pope's departure.

"We had to change our game plan because Pope was one of their focal points," Roberson said.

Texas Tech also received 13 points from Mike Singletary.

"We wanted to attack the rim and not settle for jump shots," Singletary said. "Once he (Pope) was gone, it was our turn to get to the paint, get easy shots and second-chance shots."

Seton Hall head coach Bobby Gonzalez said that it was tough to overcome the loss of Pope.

"We really didn't have any way to win without Herb Pope," Gonzalez said. "He's an irreplaceable guy, the heart and soul of this team. When he got thrown out of the game, we lost a lot of fire, juice and energy."

Neither Knight nor Gonzalez said they saw the play, but Gonzalez said that he spoke with the officials who told him Pope delivered the low blow

intentionally.

"He must have deserved to go out, because you can't do what they said he did," Gonzalez said. "It took a lot of wind out of our sails."

Jeff Robinson paced the Pirates with 23 points while Jordan Theodore added 13 for Seton Hall. Eugene Harvey added 12 points in his final game for Seton Hall.

Cougars rising as they return to the Big Dance

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Cougars are suddenly front-page news again.

The team followed another mediocre regular season by winning last week's Conference USA tournament to earn the program's first NCAA tournament berth since 1992. The Cougars (19-15) got the No. 13 seed in the Midwest Region and will face fourth-seeded Maryland (23-8) on Friday in Spokane, Wash.

Houston averaged 20 victories in the first five seasons under coach Tom Penders, but that wasn't good enough for fans who remember the dazzling days of Phi Slama Jama, the dominant teams from the early 1980s featuring Hakeem Olajuwon and Clyde Drexler.

Attendance dropped, high school stars in this talent-rich city signed elsewhere and the program that was once the pride of Houston struggled to find its niche in a crowded local sports landscape. There was speculation that Penders might be fired with two years left on his contract as the Cougars limped into last week's C-USA tournament as the No. 7 seed.

Houston surprised virtually everyone by winning four games in four days to capture its first conference tournament title, and the outlook for the program turned brighter in an instant.

"It's not just exciting that we're here, but what it means for our future," Penders said. "I've had at least 11 calls from guys we were recruiting, telling me they loved the game and they want to be Cougars. Unless you get to the tournament, those things don't happen."

Drexler, who helped the Cougars to the 1982 and '83 Final Fours, said the program took a giant and much-needed leap in credibility just by making the NCAA field.

"It gives you hope," said Drexler, who went 19-39 as Houston's coach from 1998-2000. "If you don't make the tournament, you're a work in progress. But this gives you validity. It can be a springboard and give the city hope that, hey, that program is coming back a little bit."

Athletics director Mack Rhoades, hired last June, would not speculate on how the Cougars' run might change his opinion of the program's direction under Penders. But he acknowledged that making the NCAA tournament will have a far-reaching impact beyond basketball.

"It's big, if you think about what sports does for a university in terms of uniting alumni, uniting a community," Rhoades said. "It feels great to just feel and hear the excitement. In terms of building a top 25 athletics program, this is certainly part of it. Part of the process is getting there, taking this step. Now, it's our job to maximize it."

Penders is a veteran, with 36 years in coaching, including stints at Texas, George Washington and Rhode Island. He is Houston's fifth coach since Phi Slama Jama architect Guy Lewis retired in 1986 after 30 seasons.

The three coaches preceding Penders all left with losing records, and the renowned rebuild inherited a program with run-down facilities and only two winning records in the previous 11 years.

The Cougars reached the NIT in Penders' first two seasons, then topped 20 victories in 2007-08 and 08-09. But they were crippled by easy early schedules and settled for bids to the CBI, a postseason event considered a step down from the NIT.

"Here, everybody is telling me, 'We need to win.

Get to the (NCAA) tournament. That's the first step,'" Penders said. "That's the first time I'd ever heard that in my career but, OK. That's added a little bit of angst to working your butt off trying to get it done, and not getting it quite where people would like it to be."

Now, Penders is one of nine coaches to lead four schools to the NCAA tournament, and this journey may be the most satisfying of his long career.

"Proving people wrong is the most enjoyable part of being a coach, other than your interaction with your players and the things you share and watching them grow," he said.

Rhoades said that when he meets with Penders after the season, he'll view it as a whole, not just for the miraculous run through the

C-USA tournament. For now, though, it's time to celebrate.

School president Renu Khator ran up to hug Penders after the team watched the pairings announcement on Sunday.

"It was beautiful," she said. "I'm so proud of you. I'm so proud of the team!"

Guard Aubrey Coleman, the nation's leading scorer, was all smiles as he cradled the C-USA championship trophy, and Rhoades mingled with players and got congratulatory handshakes from friends and boosters.

"It can certainly energize the program, it can certainly be a foundation to build on," Rhoades said. "What's also great is that it gives a sense of accomplishment to our seniors, but also a building block for our younger kids. They now understand what it takes to get there. They also understand how hard it is, so they now understand what the future looks like."

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

Level: Intermediate

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips



DEAR ABBY: I am newly single after a 30-year marriage. Would you please explain to me the protocol regarding intimacy? After how many dates is it appropriate to engage in intimacy? And afterward, should the man call the woman or the woman call the man? How long should one wait before calling? I'm afraid if I call too soon I'll appear needy, and if I wait too long to call I'll appear to be a player. -- TENTATIVE TOM IN TAMPA

DEAR TENTATIVE TOM: When an individual has reached middle age, that person is considered mature enough to know when he (or she) is comfortable enough with another person to engage in "intimacy." No time limit is engraved in stone. As to who should call whom first to offer congratulations on a fine performance, there is no reason to stand on ceremony. Everyone likes a compliment, and a prompt, "Thank you for a wonderful time; it was great," is not considered needy -- it's good manners.

DEAR ABBY: I recently experienced an awkward situation. I reconnected with an old friend I hadn't seen in about four years. The last time I saw her she was pregnant. I asked about her baby, and she informed me that he had died a few months after his birth.

She clearly found the memory sad, but at the same time had moved on. I didn't want to force her to re-experience the event by asking her what happened, but it seemed rude to abruptly change the subject to some minor matter after such sobering news.

What is the polite thing to say when someone tells you about a tragedy, but long after it happened? -- WORDS FAIL ME, PEKIN, ILL.

DEAR WORDS: The

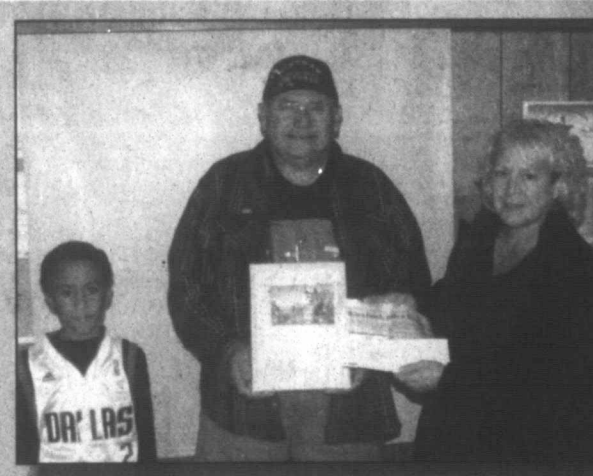
correct way to handle it would have been to say, "I'm so sorry for your loss," and let your friend decide whether to discuss it further or change the subject. In other words, let her take the lead.

DEAR ABBY: When I was married I had an affair with a married man. We had a child together, and I divorced my husband. When the affair ended, child support was never mentioned, and for the last nine years I have raised my daughter by myself.

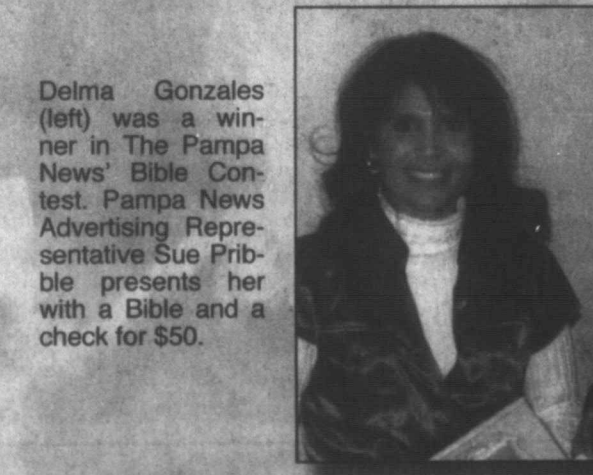
I am recently married to a wonderful man who takes care of both of us very well. My daughter has never asked anything about her father, but I know down the road she'll want to know what happened. I don't know when I should talk to her about this, and if I should take any legal steps to claim child support. Part of me feels that I should go for it; part of me is saying I should just let it go. Your thoughts, please? -- AMBIVALENT IN PLANO, TEXAS

DEAR AMBIVALENT: The time to tell your daughter the details is when she starts asking you questions. Whether you should seek retroactive child support is something you should discuss with an attorney. While it might result in a nice chunk of change that could be put toward your daughter's college education, it could also result in the biological father's having access to the girl. And frankly, a man who not only cheats on his wife but shirks his financial responsibility to his daughter strikes me as less than a positive role model.

TO MY IRISH READERS: Have a joyous St. Patrick's Day, but if you're drinking, don't drive. And if you're driving, don't drink.



Domingo Velasquez (center) and his grandson Isiah Velasquez (left) were winners in The Pampa News' Bible Contest. Pampa News Advertising Representative Sue Pribble presents them with a Bible and a check for \$50.



Delma Gonzales (left) was a winner in The Pampa News' Bible Contest. Pampa News Advertising Representative Sue Pribble presents her with a Bible and a check for \$50.



Jana Vinson (left) was a winner in The Pampa News' Bible Contest. Pampa News Advertising Representative Don Wood presents her with a Bible and a check for \$50.

The fourth winner of a Bible and \$50 in The Pampa News' Bible Contest was Pete Zamora (no photo available).

Congratulations

Comics

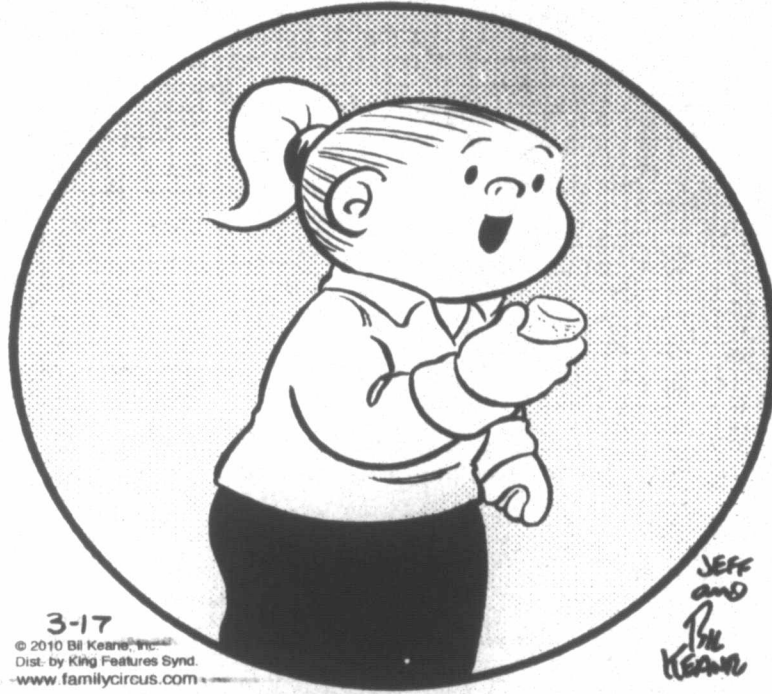
Marmaduke



"Uh-oh... a hole in the yard he didn't dig."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"My marshmallow feels a little dry. Do we happen to have any warm chocolate milk?"

Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 The Emerald Isle | 1 Jane Austen book |
| 5 City of 1-Across | 2 Map line |
| 11 Additional | 3 Mutton dish |
| 12 Each | 4 "Waking — Devine" |
| 13 Hotel worker | 5 Library stamp |
| 14 Serving need | 6 Tips |
| 15 TV spots | 7 Slant |
| 16 Bears' lairs | 8 Guitarist Paul |
| 17 Store up | 9 Bar need |
| 19 Hot blood | 10 Court divider |
| 22 Fog enshrouded | 16 Calendar box |
| 24 Aerosol output | 18 Singer Redding |
| 26 Opposed | 19 Incongruous statement |
| 27 Green shade | |
| 28 Printer's need | |
| 30 Graph points | |
| 31 Make clothes | |
| 32 Rein for Rover | |
| 34 Broker's advice | |
| 35 Do a checkout job | |
| 38 Broke | |
| 41 Jupiter's wife | |
| 42 Niche | |
| 43 Singing voice | |
| 44 Province of 1-Across | |
| 45 Secluded valley | |

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Yesterday's answer

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 20 Freeway exit | 33 Church official |
| 21 Potato parts | 34 Location |
| 22 Atlas pages | 36 Pay to play |
| 23 Concerning | 37 Ruffian |
| 25 Asset | 38 Letter after sigma |
| 29 Jacket part | 39 Maximum amount |
| 30 "East of Eden" brother | 40 Machines with RAM |
| | 41 Bender |

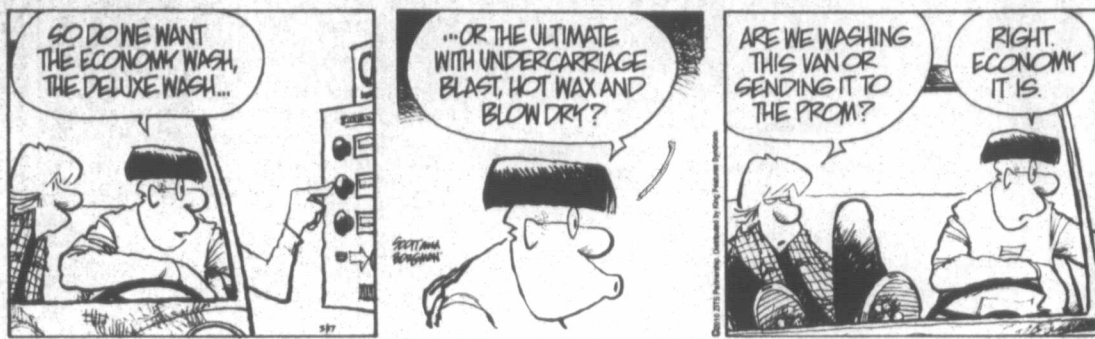
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42							43		
44							45		

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Sports

Harvesters slammed by Raiders, run-rule invoked

By BRAD RABURN
Canyon News staff

The Pampa High Harvesters opened district play against the Randall Raiders and suffered an early out in the fifth inning, 10-0.

The run-rule win came after the Harvesters struggled at the plate and rotated in three pitchers, attempting to throw Randall off their game.

"We have been coming from tournaments and tournaments are always tough on your pitching staff," said Pampa head coach Kaleb Snelgroves. "We had one last weekend, so anytime you come from a four game stint on the weekend to a game on Tuesday; it's kind of a jonnie-whole staff. You have to have everybody on deck. Randall's good and I wanted to try to keep them off-balance."

They might have been off-balance with the change up of Braden Hunt pitching through the third, Collin Killgo taking over through the middle of the fifth and Tyler Malone finishing off the short game, but the Raiders still performed on

offense.

The Harvesters (5-10, 0-1) remained quiet at the plate with single hits coming in the second, fourth and fifth innings. However, the non-consecutive hits prevented Pampa from reaching home plate.

The Raiders were held dry in the first inning, but found scores in the next four. Their most productive innings were the third and fifth inning with four RBIs in each inning. Single scores in the other two innings amounted to the final score.

"We are extremely young," Snelgroves said. "Each day, we want to win of course, but more importantly we want to find something we've improved upon and I think that we did that today. We hit the ball early and had a couple of hits, but couldn't string them together."

"Defensively, we have been struggling. Today we made plays and I felt pretty good about that. We didn't quit, we competed the whole time, so I feel pretty good about that."



Braden Hunt throws a pitch early in the game against the Randall Raiders Tuesday. The Harvesters lost 10-0 with the ten-rule being invoked in the fifth inning. Photo by Brad Raburn The Canyon News.



Garrett Ericson hits a fly ball to right field against Randall Tuesday in Canyon for the district opener. Pampa lost 10-0, Photo by Brad Raburn The Canyon News.

Deadline extended to join spring city leagues

By ANDREW GLOVER
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The deadline to sign up for the spring city kickball and slow pitch softball leagues has been extended until March 31.

Enrique Cabrales, superintendent of the Recreation Department, said he is extending the deadline because he wants more teams.

"I already have enough teams but I'm looking to

get more," Cabrales said. "Some people think I'm canceling the league but I'm not."

Cabrales said the turnout was as good as he expected and thinks more people will come out when the weather is nicer.

"We still have some cold weather so people aren't in that mood yet," Cabrales said.

The fee for kickball is \$275 per team and \$375

per team for slow pitch softball.

Rosters, fact sheets and waiver forms are available for download in documents section at the city web site www.cityofpampa.org. Schedules will be available in the Recreation Office at the M.K. Brown Auditorium and Civic Center soon after the deadline.

Pine-Bluff wins opening round game vs. Winthrop

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — When it mattered most, Arkansas-Pine Bluff turned into kings of the road.

Liners of their first 11 games all on the road the Golden Lions turned their first trip to the NCAA tournament into one worth the extra packing. Allen Smith made clutch 3-pointers on a night when shots wouldn't go down easily, setting up a 61-44 victory over Winthrop in the opening game on Tuesday night.

The Golden Lions (18-15) will play Duke, the

No. 1 seed in the South Regional, on Friday in Jacksonville, Fla.

"It seems like we play better on the road than we do at home because we're so used to being on the road," said center Lebaron Weathers said.

He wouldn't have said that a few months ago.

The Golden Lions spent the first two months playing some of the country's best teams on the road, going everywhere and getting nowhere. They lost at Colorado, Denver, Texas-

El Paso, Akron, Arizona State, Michigan, Oklahoma State, Georgia Tech, Missouri, Kansas State and Oregon, leaving them 0-11 heading into 2010.

Players cranked up their iPods and let their music soothe them during 13-hour bus rides across the heartland in November and December, ones that bonded them for much better things in March.

"We think it brought them together," coach George Ivory said. "You've got to stay together on the road."

Jacksonville Angler lands Toyota Sharelunker 485

ATHENS — Michael Banks of Jacksonville had a day off and decided to go fishing March 9. "I was just looking for a day out," he said. "It would have been a great day if I had not caught a fish."

Fishing from his kayak, he only got one bite, but it turned out to be a 13.6-pound largemouth bass that is the fourth ShareLunker from the lake and is only a few hundredths of a pound under the lake record. The lake record, caught in 1995, weighed 13.73 pounds.

"When it hit, it was just like it was dead weight, but I knew it was a fish, because it was moving," Banks said.

The bass came from about 12 feet of water in a cove. Banks then had to paddle nearly half an hour into the wind to get the fish to the state park weigh station.

"I've never caught a fish that big," he said. "It was just one of those days-lucky fisherman."

Banks, who is co-chairperson of the Friends of the Neches River, describes himself as an outdoorsman and a conservationist. "I'm a conservationist, but I also love to hunt and fish," he said.

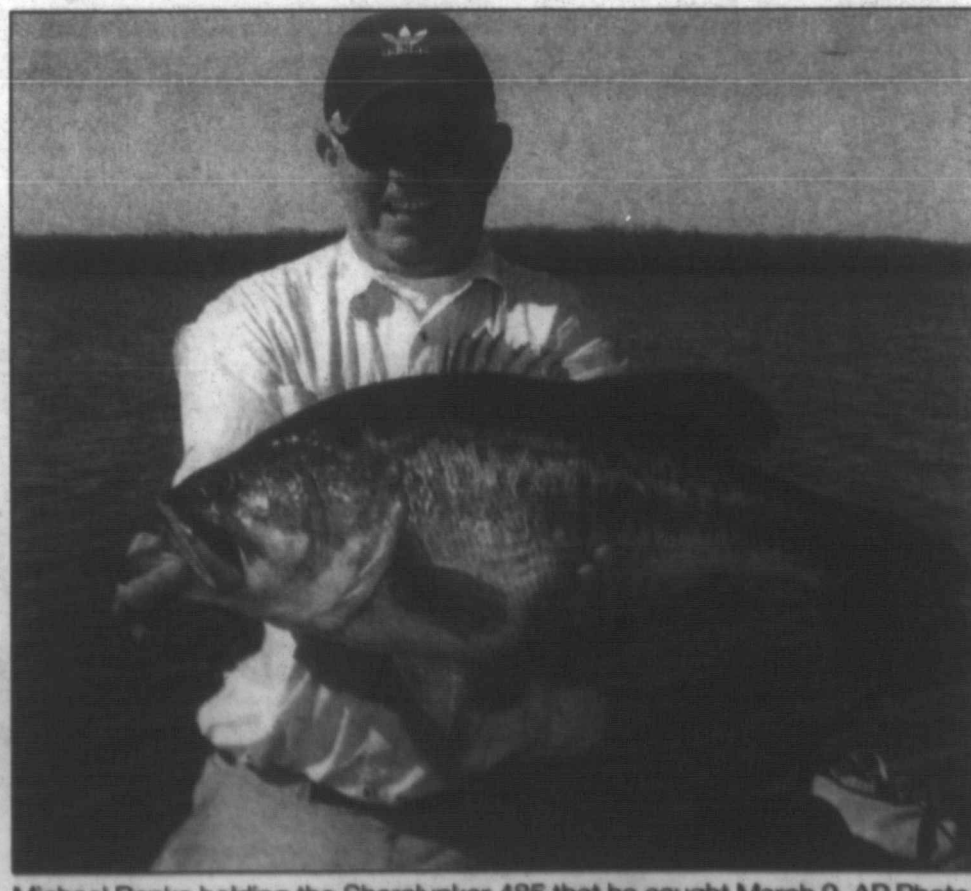
By entering his catch into the Toyota ShareLunker program, which aims to increase the size and number of trophy fish caught in Texas through selective breeding, Banks had the opportunity to do both at the same time.

Anyone legally catching a 13-pound or bigger largemouth bass from Texas waters, public or private, between October 1 and April 30 may submit the fish to the Toyota ShareLunker program by calling program manager

David Campbell at (903) 681-0550 or paging him at (888) 784-0600 and leaving a phone number including area code. Fish will be picked up by TPWD personnel within 12 hours.

Anglers entering fish into the Toyota ShareLunker program receive a free replica of their fish, a certificate and ShareLunker clothing and are recognized at a banquet at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens. In addition, if a Texas angler catches the largest entry of the year, that person receives a lifetime fishing license.

For complete information and rules of the ShareLunker program, tips on caring for big bass and a recap of last year's season, see <http://tamus.pr-optout.com/Url>.



Michael Banks holding the Sharelunker 485 that he caught March 9. AP Photo.