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## PAMPA'AEWS

## Supreme Court halts Skinner execution

Michael Graczik could clear him in a triple slaying
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { could clear him in a triple slaying. } & \text { The court order came as relatives of Busby } \\ \text { The brief order grants him the delay but does } & \text { were climbind the steps of the Hunsvill pris }\end{array}$ not ensure he will get such testing. Perry had
not decided on the delay. HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) - The U.S. not decided on the delay. In the order, the justices said they would put Supreme Court on Wednesday stopped the exe-
cution of condemned prisoner Hank Skinner $\begin{aligned} & \text { Skinner, 47, faced lethal injection for the } \\ & \text { bludging and strangling of his girlfriend, execution until they decide whether to } \\ & \text { review his case. If the court refuses the review }\end{aligned}$ about an hour before he could have been taken 40 -year-old Twila Jean Busby, and the stab- the reprieve is lifted, according to the order, to the Texas death chamber.
Skinner asked the court and Gov. Rick Perry
bings of her two adult sons. The slayings and that would make Skinner eligible for Skinner asked the court and Gov. Rick Perry
for the delay for DNA testing that he insisted $\begin{aligned} & \text { occurred at their home in the Texas Panhandle } \\ & \text { town of Pampa on New Year's Eve in 1993. }\end{aligned}$

staff photo by David Bowser
Winter may be "officially" over, but no one told Mother Nature - a wet overnight snow was still evident around Pampa at dawn this morning. It shouldn't last long, though; with temperatures forecast to rise into the 50 -degree range, the ground may de wet, but the snow will soon disappear.

PGWCD cancels spring elections

Davo Bowser
dbowser@thepampanews.com
WHITE DEER - The Panhandle Groundwater Conservation Distric cancelled this spring's election
because candidates are unopposed. because candidates are unopposed.
At their meeting Wednesday, Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District's Board of Directors also approved a plan to bring the La Paloma
Golf Course in Amarillo into compli Golf Course in Amarillo into compli-
ance with district rules and approved the sale of tax delinquent properties in Potter County.
The board
The board reappointed PGWCD
General Manager C.E. Williams district's investment officer. They also approved loans to Chris Rapstine and Roy Imley for agricu
tural water conservation equipment tural water conservation equipment. The board held a public hearing
on changes to the district rules and on changes to the by-laws.
They also approved a drilling permit for a replacement well. for domestic
use belonging to Angela Perez south use beionging to Angela Perez soun
of Pampa.
They approved a conversion of an They approved a conversion of an
oil well to a five-inch water well seven miles east of Wheeler by C\&W

Hathcoat jury still deliberating | DAvio Bowsen |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| dbowserathepampenews.com |  | $\begin{array}{l}\text { over-the-counter cold med- } \\ \text { icine. When she told him } \\ \text { that she'd lost her driver's }\end{array}$ |
| ticense and refused to drive |  |  | Hathcoat had insisted that she take him to buy TRIAL cont. on page 5

Mental anguish claimed in Hathcoat suit $\begin{array}{llll}\text { Davno Bowser } & \begin{array}{l}\text { Hathcoat, 44, went on } \\ \text { trial yesterday on charges of }\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { Parmen, saying that they } \\ \text { ordered all jailers and civil- }\end{array} \\ \text { dowserothepampenews.com }\end{array} \begin{array}{ll}\text { tassuutting an elderly person. } \\ \text { ian kitchen workers to foed } \\ \text { Darren Hathcoat was seg. }\end{array}$
 Pampa Chamber - Serving the Business Community


For the record

PaMPA FORECAST


Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 39 . Wind chill values between 31 and 36 . South
wind between 10 and 15 mph , with gusts as Wing between $\begin{aligned} & \text { high as } 25 \mathrm{mph} \text {. }\end{aligned}$
Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 70. Wind chill values between 30 and 40 early. Windy,
with a south southwest wind between 20 and with a south southwest wind between 20 and
30 mph , with gusts as high as 45 mph .

Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers
atter lam. Partly cloudy, with a low around 43 . after 1am. Partly cloudy, with a low around 43 . mph , with gusts as high as 45 mph .
Saturday: A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 47. Windy, with a northest wind
between 35 and 40 mph. Winds could gust as high as 50 mph .
Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 36
Windy, with a north northwest wind 25 to 30 mph decreasing to between 15 and 20 mph . Winds could gust as high as 45 mph .
Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 58. North Sunday Night: Clear, with a low around 38 North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph .

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## Obituaries

Wilma Poole, 79
Wilma Poole, 79, of and a brother Otis Lavoy Phoenix, AZ and numer-
Borger, passed away "Sonny" McCollom in ous nieces and nephews. Borger, passed away "Sonny" McCollom in ous nieces and nephews.
Monday, March 22, 2010.
Pallbearers will Wilma (MCCollom)
She is survived by Red Ralle Poore, Todd Poole, Poole wasbornW Wednesday, her four sons, Maxie David Sly, Terry Ensey,
April 16,1930 in Amherst, April 16, 1930 in Amherst, Poole and wife Barbara
to Tom and Lydia Laverne of to Tom and Lydia Laverne married Max Poole on Oct. 9, 1952 in Borger. $\begin{array}{lll}\text { She was preceded } & \text { Poole and wife Debby of } \\ \text { Fritch, and Tracy Pool of }\end{array}$ Fritch, and Tracy Poole of death by her parents; hus-
band, Max in 2010; two sons, Paux Poole in 2008
and Mark Poole in sons, Paul Poole in 2008
and Mark Poole in 2010 a grandson, Matthew
Poole Poole in 1997; a grand-
daughter, Wendy Poole in 1973; a sister, Celesta
Tubbs Sandoval in 1993 children, two great-great
grandchildren;
ers, Tommy McCoe broth-
wife Janice of Living and wife Janice of Livingston,
Elvin Guilliams and wife Susan of Dumas, Edward Guilliams of Oklahoma; a buneral services will
bearch 27 p.m. 2010 , St Cendaral
Maral March 27, 2010 at Central
Baptist Church in Borger, Baptist Church in Borger,
with burial to follow at
Westlaw with burial to follow at
Westlawn Memorial
Cemetery in Borger. Cemetery in Borger.
Mrs. Poole will
lie in state at Brown Chapel Of The Fountains in Borger,

## Poole lences to

 lences to www.brownfu-neraldirector

## Emergency Services

SHERIFF PAMPA PD

The Gray County
Sheriff's Office reported Pampa Police of N. Red Deer. $\quad$ A threat was reported the following arrests dur- Department reported the An escort was provid- in the 200 block of W . ing the 24 -hour period end ing at 8 a.m. today. Wednesday, March 24 Anthony Lee Williams, 33, of Jerico, Tex., was
arrested by deputies arrested by deputies on
charges of aggravated rob bery.
Robert Lee Leger, 27, of Wester, Tex., was
arrested by deputies arrested by deputies o
bond surrender on charge on surrender on charges motor vehicle and theft of property.
Donald Floyd Willis 58, was arrested by police on charges of failure to appear, expired driver's 16 th. $\begin{array}{ll}\text { appear, expired driver's } & \text { Lost property was } \\ \text { license and not having lia- } & \text { reported in the } 400 \text { block } \\ \text { bility insurance. }\end{array}$ following incidents during the 24-hour period ending Foster Foster. 100 block of E . Kingsmill. At gas drive off was An attempt to serve a
and and today.
Animal control officers reported in the Aeported 11 animal-related reported in the 300 block 400 block of Lowry St. calls. Pampa EMS report of N. Hobart. An attempt to serve a ed 3 calls. Lefors EMS reported 1 call. 24. Wednesday, March A vehicle accident was reported at Cuyler was Foster.
Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1200 block f N . Wells.
An alarm was reported
in the 1100 block of E ${ }_{\text {Lost }}^{16 \text { th. }}$

## Skinner

cont. from page 1
Skinner, in a small holding cell a few feet from the
death chamber, expressed surprise when was informed of the reprieve in a phone call from his lawyer. "I had made up my mind I was going to die," he said. 'I'm eager to get the DNA testing so I can prove my "I'm greatly relieved. I feel like I really won oday."
Rob Owen, Skinner's lead attorney and a University of Texas law professor, said the court action suggested
the justices believed "there are important issues that require closer examination.". "We remain hopeful that the court will agree to
hear Mr. Skinner's case and ultimately allow him the hear Mr. Skinner's case and ultimately allow him the
chance to prove his innocence through DNA testing," chance to prove his innocence through DNA testing,"
he said.
If the Supreme Court refuses to review Skinner's case, a judge can set a new execution date no sooner han 30 days after the justices' decision. Skinner, splattered with the blood of at least two of the victims, was arrested about three hours after the
bodies were found. Police found him in a closet at the Irailer home of a woman he knew.
The former oil field and construction worker said he was present when the three were killed but couldn't tion of vodka and codeine left him passed out on a couch and physically incapable of clubbing Busby 14 times with an ax handle and stabbing her sons, Elwin Scooter" Caler, 22, and Randy Busby, 20.
"T've been framed ever since," he said last week. They're fixing to kill me for something I didn't do."
Prosecutors argued Skinner wasn't entitled to testing of evidence that wasn't analyzed before his 1995 trial.


Courts over the years since his conviction have agreed rejecting his appeals.
Skinner's lawyers want to pursue in federal district court a civil case against the Gray County District
Attorney, whose office prosecuted Skinner initially Attorney, whose office prosecuted Skinner initially.
That suit seeks to make evidence available for testing. They'd made a similar appeal to Perry.
Tkinner's attorneys want DNA testing on vaginal
Stabs taken from Busby swabs taken from Busby at the time of her autopsy,
fingernail clippings, a knife found on the porch fingernail clippings, a knife found on the porch of
Busby's house and a second knife found in a plastic Busby's house and a second knife found in a plastic
bag in the house, a towel with the second knife, a jacket next to Busby's body and any hairs found in her hands that were not destroyed in previous test-
ing. Only the hairs were tested previously and those ing. Only the hairs were tested previously and those
results were inconclusive, according to court documents.
Skinner's trial lawyer, Harold Comer, chose not to Skinner's trial lawyer, Harold Comer, chose not to would be more damaging to his client. his trial strategy.
"I would make
cumstances again," he said.
Trial prosecutor John Mann, who has also did not have all the evidence tested Current District Attorney Lynn Switzer, now the defendant in as Skinner's her office challenged the suit as improper
Skinner would have been the fifth person executed this year in Texas, the nation's most active capital peath in Tite state. Twenty-four people were put to




Dear Abby...
By Pauline \& Jeanne Phillips

Health bill hits snag WASHINGTON (AP) - It's not quite over yet. through a package of fixes to the big health care law signed by President Barack Obama, but they still hoped
for final passage in yet another late-night session. for final passage in yet another late-night session.
House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer said that if the Senate finished its work by afternoon, as expected, the House would immediately take up the bill. Democrats are saying they do not expect any major problems - but
they're also keeping their fingers crossed . Senate leaders had planned to complete work on the fix-it bill by midday Thursday and get it quickly to Obama. But Republicans established that they would be able to kill some language in the bill that relates to grants for low-income college students. That meant the altered
bill would have to be returned to the House - four days after House members thought they'd seen the last of it Jate Sunday night.
Senators who had been in session past 2 a.m. Thursday returned to work on a long list of proposed Republican
$\vdots$ The president, who signed the separate landmark legislation into law on Tuesday, was flying to Iowa for an afternoon speech, the first of many appearances around
the country to sell his health care revamp before the fall congressional elections.
Obama was appearing in Iowa City, where as a presidential candidate in 2007 he touted his ideas for health coverage for all. His trip comes as polls show people are
divided over the new law, and Democratic lawmakers divided over the new law, and Democratic lawmakers
hope he can convince more voters by November that their support was the right move. Meanwhile, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., voiced concern over warnings of violetht reprisals against members of Congress who voted for the overhaul.
She said the response has "no place in a civil debate in She said the response has "no place in a civil debate in
our country." Republicans, too, went to the House floor to plead with opponents of the health care law to refrain from violence and threats.
acine obsscenity-laced phone messages. In some instancacing obscenity-laceed phone messages. In some instanc-
es, bricks were hurled at congressional offices, including Rep. Louise Slaughter's district headquarters in Niagara
Falls, N.Y. As an exhausted Senate labored into the wee hours
As and As an exhausted Senate labored en the follow-
up bill on a stack of GOP amendments to the up bill, Jim Manley, spokesman for Senate Majority
Leader Harry Reid, told reporters that Republicans consulting with the chamber's parliamentarian had found "two minor provisions" that violate Congress budget
rules.
Republicans have been hunting for such violations Republicans have been hunting for such violations
in hopes of bringing down the legislation. Democrats had also been consulting with the parliamentarian, Alan not be vulnerable to such problems.
The two provisions were expected to be formally
removed from the bill removed from the bill on Thursday. Manley said he expected the Senate to approve the measure without after conversations with top House Democrats, expect the House to approve the revised measure.
Both chambers are hoping to begin a spring recess by Both chambers are hoping to begin a spring recess by
this weekend.

DEAR ABBY:
can't stand my can't stand my 10 -year
old daughter. I was old daughter. 1 was a

- year-old single moth er when she was born.
fing find her ugly and annoy ing. Everyone tells me
how "sweet" and "pretty" how "sweet" and "pretty"
she is, but I can't see it. I dread when she comes home from school. I am not physically abusive to
her -- I would never do that. But I can be verbally abusive, and I kriow I neee
to stop. She just makes to stop. She just makes m
so mad.
I am now married with
two more kids (boys), and I adore them. What's
wrong with me? How can wrong with me? How can
I fix this? I'm afraid it's too late. I have no spiricual adviser to talk to, and professional counselor - ANONYMOUS IN WASHINGTON STATE ANONYM A R circumstances of your very different from those of your sons. When you
look at her, you may be reminded of a chapter in
your life you would pre-
fer to forget. How sad for
both of you. The way you treat
her, particularly in rela-
tion to her hals her, particularly in rela-
tion to her half-brothers
- will affect the way she rest of her life. People whose parents treat them themselves as not "measuring up," and it can
cause self-esteem cause self-esteem prob-
lems that last a lifetime. ems that last a lifetime.
Ordinarily, I would encourage you to seek
low-cost therapy through your county department
of mental health for the of mental health for the
sake of both you and your daughter. If that isn't pos-
sible, then I the sible, then I advise you
to hold your tongue o hold your tongue,
control your temper and
compel yourself to show your daughter approval and affection every day until it becomes a habit or
she's old enough to tea she's old enough to leave

-- whichever comes first.
in theory, I often find that I
to tell me what 1 should
DEAR ABBY: My
workplace has instituted
"casual dress Friday," "asual dress Friday," where everyone is sup-
posed to make a donation oo a charity selected by different employee each in theory, I often find that chosen charity because
don't agree with its ethics don't agree with is
or its methods. I give regularly to chari-
ies of my choice, which lies of my choice, which have researched before hand, but have never been
one to donate automatically one every passing collection. How do I bow out racefully when the col
lection tin comes around lave have tried to explain to my co-workers why 1 don't support a particula charity and simply say 1 ticipate. I am met with
tor blank stares and demands that I explain myself, and lecuures about why I must
"support the team.".
I don't. feel my col-



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## Viewpoints

## Today in History

Today is Thursday, March 25, the 84th day of
2010. There are 281 days left in the year. 2010. There are 281 days left in the year.
Today's Highlight in History: Today's Highight in History:
On March 25,1965 , the Rev. Martin Luther
King J工. led 25,000 marchers to the state capitol in King Jr. led 25,000 marchers to the state capitol in
Montgomery, Ala., to protest the denial of voting rights to blacks.
On this date:
On this date:
In 1634, English colonists sent by Lord Baltimore arrived in present-day Maryland.
arrived in present-day Maryland. Confederate forces
In 1865, during the Civil War, Con
attacked Fort Stedman in Virginia but were forced to attacked Fort Stedman in Virginia but were forced to
withdraw by counterattacking Union troops. withdraw by counterattacking Union troops. In 1911, 146 people, mostly female immigrants,
were killed when fire broke out at the Triangle Sere
Intwaist Company in New York. In 1918, French Compo
yoo-SEE)
In 1947, a coal mine explosion in Centralia, Ill. claimed 111 lives.
In 1957, the Treaty of Rome established the European Economic Community. In 1960, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, "in New York, ruled that the D.H. Lawrence
novel "Lady Chatterley's Lover" was not obscene nove could be sent through the mails. Ray Charles
and
recorded "Georgia on My Mind" as part of his "The recorded "Georgia on My Mind" as part of his "The Genius Hits the Road" album in New York.
Ten years ago: A weary Pope John Paul
Ten years ago: A weary Pope John Paul II trav-
eled the ancient streets of Nazareth, Jesus' boyhood town, and celebrated Mass in the soaring Basilica of the Annunciation.
Five years ago: Losing still more legal appeals, Terri Schiavo's father, Bob Schindler, said his
severely brain-damaged daughter was "down to her last hours" as she entered her second week without the feeding tube that had sustained her life for 15 years. An ailing, silent Pope John Paul II appeared
to the faithful via video for Good Friday services at to the faithful via video for Good Friday services at
the Yatican
One year ago: Pirates seized the Panama-
registered, Greek-owned Nipayia with 18 Filipino registered, Greek-owned Nipayia with 18 Filipino crew members and a Russian captain off the Somali
coastline. (The ship and crew were released in May
2009.).
Today's Birthdays: Movie reviewer Gene Shalit is 84 . Former astronaut James Lovell is 82 . Feminist activist and author Gloria Steinem is 76. Singer
Anita Bryant is 70 . Singer Aretha Franklin is 68 Anita Bryant is 70. Singer Aretha Franklin is 68 .
Actor Paul Michael Glaser is 67 . Singer Elton John is 63. Actress Bonnie Bedelia is 62. Sen. John Ensign (R-Nev.) is 52. Actress Marcia Cross is 48. Author Kate DiCamillo ("Because of Winn-Dixie")
is 46 Actress Sarah Jessica Parker is 45 Former MLB All-Star pitcher Tom Glavine is 44. Singer
Melanie Blatt (All Saints) is 35. Auto racer Danica Melanie Blatt (All Saints) is 35. Auto racer Danica
Patrick is 28 . Singer Katharine McPhee ("American Patrick is 28 .
Idol") is 26 .

Thought for Today:
"It is better to be hated for what you are than to be loved for something you are not. - Andre Gide
(zheed), French author and critic (1869-1951).

## The Pafana News

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Dems take first win in healthcare war, but long-term future on life support

Donalo Lambro
CaglePost.com
The long legislative war ove larger and more contento larger and more conten-
tious political battlegrounds in the House and Senate mid
term elections and term elections and the federal
courts. courts.
Obamacare
squeaked
through Obamacare squeaked
through the Democratic
House House on bare-knuckled
power power politics - despite
recent polls showing 54 recent polls showing 54
percent of Americans are percent of Americans are
opposed to it - and justified
fears fears that its true costs will
send federal send federal spending, bor-
rowing and taxes to unprec rowing and taxe
edented levels. But the war against the most sweeping government power grab in U.S. history
isn't over, it's just becom isn't over, it's just become
wider and, politically, more
lethal wider and, politically, more
lethal - for Democrats. Let's take these one at a time. Heading into the final stag-
es of the heath es of the health care battle, Democrats were facing losses
in November of 20 to 30 seats in the House, and perhaps four to five seats in the
Senate, Senate, according to most
election forecasters. Their potential losses
mushroomed after the House vote when nearly a dozen
Democrats Democrats who had voted
against Obamacare against Obamacare last year
switched to the yes column Sunday under intense pressure from the White House
and their party's leadership and their party's leadership.
Many of the switchers are Many of the switchers are larly tough reelection prospects in conservative-leaning
districts, and at least districts, and at least 20 who voted for it are from dis Switchers like Reps. Betsy
Farmers Branch anti-immigrant law invalidated
three dozen states that argu
$\qquad$
the government has illegally
Obamacare is paid for and,
indeed will cut the deficit. indeed, will cut the deficit. $\underset{\text { Mastes ore based on specious }}{\text { Most }}$ political expectations tha Congress will, as its bill
promises, slash $\$ 500$ bilpromises, Slash $\$ 500$ bil-
lion in Medicare costs ove 10 years, which will never happen. Lawmakers passed
legislation to slash Medicare legislation to slash Medicare
payments to doctors and postpayments to doctors and post-
pone, each year, their action pone, each year, their action
for another year in the so-
called "doc fix" called "doc fix." Their real plan will even-
tually call for a nationwide tually call for a nationwide
sales tax to keep the health care plan alive and, by then,
there will be another power there will be another power-
ful special interest group lobful special interest group lob
bying for its immortality. bying for its immortality.
Meanwhile, if you want to see the future of Obamacare,
look at what's happened look at what's happened
under the very similar health under the very similar health
care plan in Massachusetts care plan in Massachusetts er oppressive entitlement
funded by taxpayers. funded by taxpayers.
"More than half of the
"ho 408,000 newly insured residents pay nothing," says health care analyst Grace-
Marie Turner. Another Marie Turner. Another
140,000 people were unin140,000 people were unin-
sured, assessed a penalty or exempted. Because of the shortage of doctors, more
than half the state's internal than half the state's internalmedicine doctors no longer
accept new patients; emergency rooms are packed insurance mandates have
driven up health care cost driven up health care costs,
waiting periods to see waiting periods to see a doc-
tor are much longer, and three tor are much longer, and three
of four major insurers had operating losses last year a
medical expenses soar medical expenses soar. That's what awaits all of
us in the age of Obamacare us in the age of O
unless it is stopped.

## Bin Laden threatens U.S. over alleged 9/II plotter

CAIRO (AP) - Osama bin Laden threatened in a new nessage released Thursday to kill any Americans al-Qaida captures if the U.S. executes the self-professed masIn the 74-second audiotape aired on Al-Jazeera tele. vision, the al-Qaida leader explicitly mentions Khalid Sheik Mohammed, who was captured in Pakistan in
2003. He is the most senio 2003. He is the most senior al-Qaida operative in U.S. at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
In 2008, the U.S. charged Mohammed with murder and war crimes in connection with the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on the U.S. Pentagon officials have said they will seek also in custody.
"The White House has expressed its desire to execute them. The day America makes that decision will be the day it has issued a death sentence for any one of you that
is taken captive," Bin Laden said, addressing

Pentagon changes discharge rules WASHINGTON (AP) - Defense Secretary Robert Gates Thursday approved
new rules that will make it harder to discharge gays from the military, calling the new rules that will make it harder to discharge gays from the military, calling the
changes a matter of "common sense and common decency." Gates announced new guidelines for how the Pentagon carries out the 1993 law banning gays from serving openly in the military - rules which essentially put
higher-ranking officers in charge of discharge proceedings and impose toughe higher-ranking officers in charge of dischas.
requirements for evidence used against gays.
The new guidelines go into effect immediately and will apply to cases already open. They are considered a stopgap measure until Congress decides whether to go
along with President Barak Obama's call for a repeal of the "don't ask, don't tell" law. "I believe these changes represent an important improvement in the way the cur rent law is put into practice, above all by providing a greater measure of commo
sense and common decency for handling what are complex and difficult issues all involved," Gates told a Pentagon news conference. The changes raise the level of officer authorized to initiate a fact-finding inquiry into a case, the level of officer who can conduct an inquiry and of the one that ca
authorize a dismissal. authorize a dismissal. badly. decision soon. A U.S. counterterrorism official said it is absurd for
al-Qaida to suggest it is going to start treating captives "They may have forgotten Danny Pearl and all the
others theyवve slaughtered, but we haven official, who spoke on condition of anonymity in order to discuss classified information. After his March 2003 capture in Pakistan, Mohammed described himself as the architect of numerous terrorism
plots and even claimed that "with my blessed right hand," he had decapitated Wall Street Journal reporter Danie Pearl. Pearl was found beheaded in Pakistan in 2002 . Pearr. Pearl was ound beheaded in Pakistan in 2002.
The U.S. is still considering whether to put Mohamme and the four fellow plotters on military tribunal. The Obama administration is also looking into recommenda
tions for civilian trials, and is expected to announce
Al-Qaida is $\quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Bin Laden is believed to be hiding somewhere in the }\end{aligned}$ decision soon.
Al-Qaida is not known to be holding any Americans $\begin{aligned} & \text { Bin Laden is believed to be hiding somewhere in the } \\ & \text { captive now. But the Haqqani group - the Pakistan- Pakistan. }\end{aligned}$ Porder region between Afghanistan and MEXICO CITY (AP) Mexican authorities say they
have arrested a major drug trafficker known as the "King of Heroin" for the massive
amounts of drues he amounts of drugs he move
into the U.S. each year. Police say that Jose
Antonio Medina, nicknamed Antonio Medina, nicknamed
"Don Pepe," was arrested in

Texan jobless rate holds steady at 8.2 percent AUSTIN (AP) - The Texas Workforce
Commission says the state's unemployment rate held steady at 8.2 percent in February despite the loss of 13,000 jobs.
The job losses announced Thursday offset a revised January gain of 12,600 jobs. The Texas work force
grew by 40,200 and now stands at 12.1 million grew by 40,200 and now stands at 12.1 million work-
ers.

The state's jobless rat
al figure of 9.7 percent.
Commission Chairman Tom Pauken says the job less rate appears to have stabilized but that the reces sion is still negative affecting the Texas economy.
Amarillo has the lowest local unemployment rate Amarillo has the lowest local unemployment rate at 5.7 percent. The
the highest at 11.8 .

Mexico's King of Heroin' nabbed
based Taliban faction closest to al-Qaida - is holding American soldier Pfc. Bowe Bergdahl who was captured in eastern Afghanistan in June 2009. It released a video f him in December. Bin Laden also said President Barack Obama is follow-
ing in the footsteps of his predecessor George W Bus ing in the footsteps of his predecessor George W. Bush by escalating the war in Afghanistan, being "unjust" to of Palestinian land.

"The politicians of the White House were and still ate wronging us, especially by supporting Israel and occupying our land in Palestine. They think that America, behind oceans, is safe from the wrath of the oppressed, until the reaction was loud and strong in your homeland," he said f the Sept. 11 attacks. "Equal treatment is only fair. War hauled 440 pounds ( 200 kilo- border city of 1.3 million | grams) of heroin each month |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| across the border. | $\begin{array}{l}\text { just south of EI Paso, Texas, } \\ \text { on Thursday found a decapi }\end{array}$ |

 continued Thursday in the ping center parking lot, his
Mexican border city of head inside a black plastic Mexican border city of head inside a black plastic

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## Suit

million dollars for the demoralization and mental Whiush he has suffered competency hearing to ompetency hearing to
tart Tuesday in Pampa, Hathcoat repeated his charge that for 11 months, ever since he's been in
Gray County jail, he's had o eat off Styrofoam trays with his bare hands. He also charged that he 0 July last year opportunities that other county jail inmates have enjoyed, suu
as using the telephone.

Hathcoat accused county authorities of withholding
his medications. He suffers Hepatitis C and sclerosis of On liver.
On Feb. 26, Hathcoat filed a grievance with the county jail.
"Can I please "Can I please have a tray and spoon like everybody
else," he wrote. "Please. This, he wrote. "Please.
This have been going on sense (sic) May 2009." "You may have your
meals on a regular tray meals on a regular tray
with a spork (a combination eating utensil shaped
like a spoon with tines like
the western Mexican state of
Michoacan on Wednesday Michoacan on Wednesday.
Ramon Pequeno, head the anti-narcotics division for Mexico's federal police,
said Thursday that Medina said Thursday that Medin cartel running a comple cartel running a complex
smuggling operation that
cont. from page
Sheriff Copeland had no comments about the fed

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## Sports

New NFL playoffs' OT rule still has same concept
BY ANDREW GLover
agloverQthepampanews.com
Last Tuesday, 28 of 32
NFL owners approved the
new overtime format for
the playoffs. In the new
format, if the team that
receives the ball first only
scores a field goal, then
the other team will also get
the ball. If the second team
only kicks a field goal,
then the rest of overtime
would be the original sud-
den death format.
Howerer the question is
did it really change any-
thing?
The reason this debate
came about was because so
many teams that won the
coin toss in overtime won
the game on their first pos-
session. According to an
article on the NFL's Web
 ing defense couldn't stop
them. For example, last year if the Minnesota Vikings would have stopped the
New Orleans Saints on New Orleans Saints on
their first overtime possession and then won the
game, this debate may game, this debate
have never surfaced.
 Under the new overtime the fairest result. Not true; kickoff return, do nothing
rule for the playoff, the the tefense had the same on first and second down,
concept is still the same. concept is still the same. opportunity to stop the get defensive pass interferYou have to play defense. offense and get the ball ence on third down and
The team that loses the back as the offense did to win the game with a field coin toss under the new rules would still have to
stop the opponents at some stop the opponents at some
point on the fied. If the
per other team scores a touch-
down the game is over just like it would be under the old rules.
So all
So all the new rules
allow is the chance for allow is the chance for
both teams to stop the other from scoring. If both teams only make field goals, they are still going to have to
make one more defensive stop.
$\qquad$ President Rich McKay, told NFL.com the old
rules weren't producing

## producing have to do is have a long in the playoffs next season.

## Slot car racing results

Slot car racing at the Johnson Pampa Second place Ken Curtis Coronado Center January Third place Mitzi Reed White Deer
30,2010 results $\begin{aligned} & \text { First place } \\ & \text { Stuebgen Borger }\end{aligned}$ Eddie $\begin{aligned} & \text { Borger } \\ & \begin{array}{l}\text { March 20 results } \\ \text { First place Jordi Gonzalez }\end{array}\end{aligned} \begin{aligned} & \text { Stuebgen Borger }\end{aligned}$ Stuebgen Borger
Second place Nick Fairst P
Tracy, Marshall lead Cubs past Rangers 12-1
SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) his rotation on Friday. comes down to outs an -Chad Tracy hit a three- Marshall, who has allowed keeping runs off the board
run double and Sean three runs two earned on and in that area I was lackMarshall threw four strong seven hits over 11 innings innings to lead the Chicago
Cubs to a $12-1$ Cubs to a $12-1$ win over
the Texas Rangers the Texas Rangers on
Wednesday. Marlon Byrd added an
RBI single and Kosuke RBI single and Kosuke
Fukudome was 3 for 3 Fukudome was 3 for 3
with an RBI double, a walk and two runs scored for the
Cubs. Marshall battling for a spot in the rotation, scat-
tered three hits and tered three hits and gave
up an unearned run with up an unearned run with a
walk and five strikeouts. "I'm not saying I'm the I love to start. I want to
start," said Marshall. start," said Marshall.
Cubs
manager Cubs manager Lou
Piniella said earlier this
week seven hits over 11 innings
his spring, remains in the mix along, with fellow lefty
Tom Gorzellany. Tom Gorzellany.
"My attitude. is always "My attitude is always
to keep a positive attitude whatever role I'm in and help the team win some "Wames," Marshall said. "We'll see what happens."
Texas starter Brandon Texas starter Brandon
McCarthy allowed four uns on four hits in a 45-pitch first inning. The
right-hander lasted 3 right-hander lasted 3
innings, giving up eight innings, giving up eight Chic
hits with four walks and a hits.
strikeout. strikeout. definitely not "'m definitely not said McCarthy, who also opened with a 40-pitch first
inning in his last start. "It

Rangers manager Ron
Washing Rangers manager Ron
Washington said it was unlikely McCarthy, whos
ERA ballooned to 8.03 ERA ballooned to 8.03, "He's a guy who's go routines," he said. "I'm not going to say absolutely
no but it's not something we've talked about." The Cubs added six runs in the sixth off Ranger two more in the seventh. two more in the seventh
Chicago finished with 17 hits. "We had 12 ground balls body there to catch them," week he'll announce inning in his last start. "It
Harden spurs Thunder past Houston Rockets

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - James Harden let
loose his first 3-pointer loose his first 3-pointer
after two weeks away, then after two weeks away, then
bounced a couple times as
the ball sailed toward the bounced a couple times as
the ball sailed toward the
basket.
When the ball splashed When the ball splashed
down, the Oklahoma City
Thunder's missing piece Thunder's missing piece
had returned with a flourish to lead the way in a dominating win with impli-
cations on the Western cations on the Western
Conference playoff race.
Harden returned from an Harden returned from an
injury to supplement Kevin i futility against the Houston Rockets with a 122-104
victory on Wednesday victory
night.
M ju 1I just wanted to come
out and get my swag back
like it was before I left," like it was before I left,"
said Harden,
 fourth
season an
Dec. 7.

> The Thunder got out to
a sizzling start

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26, 2010: This year, you express a clarity and sen-
sitivity that raws many people. Whith
yourb buidding popularity you have many

 ting involved with someone who is
unavailable or maried If you are
attached as a couple you Il gain through
 The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll
Have
5-Dynamic;
4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-SO-so; 1-Difficu
ARIES (March 21-April 19) $\star \star \star \star \star$ Recognizng everything that
must be accomplished could be over
 es and ideas emerge in a brainstorming
session. Tonight: Go of and enjoy yoursession. Tonight: Go off and enjo,
Self.
TARUUS (April 20 May 20 ,
$\star \star \star \star$ If you can work from home $\star \star \star$ If you can work from home, do. In
any case, you are fisiding off at of
projects and meetings. Take needed time Po put atogether ors complete a project
toun refection about a situatere are
tighton. Tonight: Home is where the
thert Then-on. Tonight: Home is where the
heartisinl May 2 I-June 20)
G**** Keep conversations moving $\star \star \star \star \star$ Keep conversations moving.
knowin you are finaly clacing the air
At work, a meeting could be more imporAt work, a meeting could be more impor-
tant than you raizz. Converratios open
up better understanding, frall, includ up better understanding, finally, includ
ing in your personal iffe Tonight ceave
before you get caught up in one more
lig in
before you get cet caught up in one more


lines, 5 da
$\$ \mathbf{2 0 . 5 0}$
6 lines, 6 days
$\$ 23.50$

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Chevy HHR
MSRP $\$ \mathbf{2 3 , 2 7 0}$
Rebate Total $\quad 3,000$ Discount
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