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PENNY PINCHERS





submitted photos

CASA's Penny Campaign at Austin Elementary School was a rousing success, with the school collecting a record \$954.84 during the program. Coming out on top was Mr. McClendon's third grade class, with \$180.27. The class consists of Joshua Garvin, James Davila, Reagan Stroud, Allie O'Brien, Ashley Cerda, Hayden Reagan, Jace Gant, Brenden Courtney, Dalton Riggs, Erica Moreno, Raymond Mendoza, Brody Larkin, Braden Albers, Avery Hoganson, Jacey Baten, Natalie Winborne, Garrison Stevens, Andrew McIntosh and Jazmin Guzman. In second place with \$86.39 was Mrs. Nicholas' first grade class of Emma Parham, Casey Upton, Abigail Ramirez, Justin Titus, Ruth Andrews, Andrews, Abby Gammage, Brooklyn Hood, Mayce Ogle, Thomas Reagan, Jackson Bagwell, Caden Ensey, Jake Thomas, Mia McCracken, Tessa Potter, Jackson Hendricks and Emiley Porter.

Pampa man arrested after police chase

DAVID BOWSER dbowser@thepampanews.com

A Pampa man was in jail today after trying to outrun police in his vehicle and then on foot.

Jonathan Lee White, 25, was in Gray County jail today in lieu of \$7,500 on charges of evading arrest with a vehicle.

Lt. Joe B. Hoard with the Gray County Sheriff's Office said today that the charges stem from a high speed chase on Friday.

He said officers tried to stop White's northbound Ford pickup late Friday afternoon in the 100 block of North Hobart when officers said he fled.

Law enforcement officers said White turned east on Foster and then north on Ward.

Officers said they pursued White with their lights and sirens on. "They were doing 80 to 90 miles

an hour up Hobart," Hoard said. Officers said White turned west on Kingsmill and then back on to

They said they pursued White north on Hobart at high speed to Kentucky where they said White went through residential areas

Landfill to be open longer on Saturday

CHASE cont. on page 5

DAVID BOWSER dbowser@thepampanews.com

The Pampa landfill will be open

longer hours Saturday, April 10. Donny Hooper, Pampa's public works director, said that the landfill is normally open the full day on the first Saturday of the month, but since the first Saturday of April

fell on Easter Weekend, the landfill

was closed so city employees could

be with their families. To make up the date, the landfill will be open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. this coming Saturday, Hooper

Normally, the landfill is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. It is usually open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month, Hooper

Prairie chicken task force to meet at Chamber tomorrow

DAVID BOWSER dbowser@thepampanews.com

Panhandle oil producers are expected to be out in force Tuesday for a meeting in Pampa concerning

the lesser prairie chicken. The prairie chicken was proposed for listing as an endangered species a decade ago, but with other species facing more imminent threat of extinction in other parts of the nation, the U.S. Fish. and Wildlife Service elected to leaved the small bird as a candi-

tection. With continuing declines in the numbers of lesser pratrie chicken, Texas State Comptroller Susan Combs created a task force to

date species without further pro-

study the situation. Members of that task force will meet at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Pampa Chamber of Commerce offices at 200 North

"It's our intent to represent our members, our and gas producers in the Eastern Panhandle, Western Oklahoma and Southwestern Kansas, as the conversation continues on whether or not the lesser prairie chicken will be changed from a candidate species a listed endangered species," said H. Wayne Hughes, executive vice president of the Panhandle Producers and Royalty Owners Association. "We're not interested in it being protected in such a way that we're not able to do business CHICKEN cont. on page 5



photo courtesy Texas Parks and Wildlife

The lesser prairie chicken will be the subject of a special meeting tomorrow at the Pampa Chamber of Commerce.

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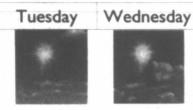
Larry Hadley (806) 662-2779





For the record

PAMPA FORECAST



Low 35

Low 40

Thursday

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 51. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Low 35

Tuesday: Mostly, sunny, with a high near 69. Windy, with a west southwest wind 15 to 20 mph increasing to between 25 and 30 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 35. Windy, with a northwest wind 20 to 25 mph decreasing to between 10 and 15 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 54. Windy, with a north northwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 35. Windy, with a north northwest wind 20 to 25 mph decreasing to between 5 and 10 mph. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 61. Northwest wind around 5 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 40. South southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

() This information brought to you by...



Obituaries

Rex Johnson, 66

Rexy" Johnson, 66, died Saturday, April 3, 2010 in

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of

Rex was born May 24, 1943 in Dawson, Minn. and was raised in Lindsborg, Kan. where he attended school. After graduation, he entered the U.S. Army and served as a ranger in the 101st Airborne Division during the Vietnam War. Rex married Susie Billingsley on Dec. 24, 1997 in St. Lucia, West Indies. He worked for Michigan-Wisconsin Pipeline, which later

became ANR Pipeline for many years before retiring as superintendent in 2000. After retirement, Rex was a maintenance supervisor for Roberts County. He was a member of the United Methodist Church and the Miami American Legion Post. Rex's many hobbies included building and showing street rods for which he received numerous awards and made many close friends. He was a pilot and held a private pilot's license. His shop was known as the "Dew Drop Inn" where all his friends were welcome and had many get-togethers including shuffle board tournaments and Super

Bowl parties.

Survivors include his wife, Susie of the home; a daughter, Kim Henry and husband Mike of Longview; a stepson, Brad Billingsley and wife Janice of Amarillo; two stepdaughters, Shann Clark of Irving and Jennifer Eggers of Dodge City, Kan.; two sisters, Jean Opat, and Karen Leaf and husband Alan, all of Lindsborg, Kan.; eight grandchildren and one great grandchild. Rex was preceded in death by his parents, Milo and Dorothy Johnson. In lieu of flowers,

memorials may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, One St.



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Johnson

Jude Place Bldg., P. O. Box 1000, Dept. 300, Memphis, TN 38148-0552, United Methodist Church, 201 S. Main, Miami, TX 79059, or a favorite charity.

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-what-

Ronnie T. Stapleton, 67

Pampa—Ronnie Stapleton, 67, died Sunday, April 4, 2010 in Pampa.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Stapleton was born Feb. 12, 1943 in Pampa and was a 1961 graduate of Pampa High School. He enlisted in the U.S. Army shortly after graduation and later served in the Army Reserves. Ronnie married Deborah Hardy on June 19, 1981 in Pampa. He worked for Celanese Corp. as a crane operator for over 35 years, retiring in 2001.

After retirement, he and his wife traveled much of the U. S. in their RV. He had a generous heart and would befriend any children in need. Ronnie will be remembered as an exceptional man who was good to everyone. He was preceded in death by his parents, Thurman and Nellie Mae Stapleton, a brother, Curtis Stapleton, and a sister, Stella Elizabeth Stapleton.

Survivors include his wife, Deborah Stapleton of the home; a god-daughter, Amanda Starnes of Pampa;

a sister, Kay Whilden and husband Bill of Plano; two brothers-in-law, Steven Hardy and wife Susan of Odessa and Robert Hardy of Chickasha, Okla.; a sister-in-law, Mayanna Frizzell and husband Greg of Mustang, Okla.; four nieces, three nephews, 18 great nieces and nephews, and one great great niece. Memorials may be made

to the American Cancer Society, c/o Gerry Caylor, 2130 Charles, Pampa, TX 79065 or BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065.



Stapleton

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatlev.com

Lois Foster Watkins, 89

Foster Watkins, 89, died Saturday, April 3, 2010 in Butler, Okla.

be at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 6, 2010, at Fairview Cemetery in Pampa with Dr. Edwin Cooley, pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Cordell, Okla., officiating. Arrangements Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa

Mrs. Watkins was born Jan. 18, 1921 in Drumright, Okla. to Frank and Gertie Perswell Foster. As a young girl, Lois and her family moved to

in 1928. She graduated from Pampa High School and attended Texas Tech Graveside services will University where she majored in home econom-Pampa from 1928 until moving to Butler, Okla. in 2006 to live next to their son, Jay, and daughter-inlaw, Carol. Lois married Melvin "Red" Watkins on June 27, 1941 in Sayre, Okla., and they established a life together in Pampa. Their marriage of 69 wonderful years was blessed with three sons, Tod Foster, Jay Lynn, and Bryan Kip. Lois enjoyed

Okla.—Lois Pampa with her parents a full life raising her sons and loving all her many grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was an active member of the Pampa community. She ics. She was a resident of was a homemaker and an Avon representative for 15 years. Lois was a member of First Presbyterian Church and was active in PTA, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, and many bridge clubs. She was a member of the Pampa Country Club where she was an avid golfer who took her games seriously. Lois was water aerobics instructor at the Pampa Youth and

loving husband, Melvin "Red" Watkins of the home; two sons, Tod Watkins and wife Vickye of Deer Park, and Jay Watkins and wife Carol of Butler, Okla.; a sister, Frankie "Pink" Keogh of Littleton, Colo,; eight grandchildren, Mechelle Hardin of Pasadena; Kelly Watkins of Georgia; Jeff Watkins of Buffalo, Okla.; Skyler Watkins of Deer Park, Amy Blessington of Oklahoma City; Jodi Smith of Amorita, Okla.; Bryan Maley and Melissa Maley, both of Baytown; and 15 great grandchildren; brother-in-law, Burt Watkins

Survivors include her of Safford, Ariz.; several nieces and nephews and special friends. Lois was preceded in death by a son, Bryan Kip Watkins, her parents, Frank and Gertie Foster, and by two broth-Foster.

Honorary pallbearers will be grandsons Kelly Watkins, Jeff Watkins, Skyler Watkins, Alan Hardin, Bryan Maley, Chris Blessington, and Ty Smith.

Memorials may be made to First Presbyterian Church Book of Remembrance, 525 N. Gray, Pampa, TX 79065.



Watkins

Sign the online register book at www.carmichaelwhatley.com.

Arthur W. "Art" Skewes, 99

Pampa—Arthur "Art" Skewes, 99 died April 1, 2010 in Pampa.

Services were held at 10:30 a.m. Monday, April 5, 2010, at First Christian Church, with Rev. Roy King, interim pastor, officiating.

Graveside services will be at 3:00 p.m. Monday, April 5, 2010, at Fairmont Cemetery in Follett, under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Skewes was born September 26, 1910 in Moab, Utah, the second of five children of John Billings and Lydia Taylor Skewes. He graduated from high school in Moab and attended the University of Utah for one year. He returned to Moab where he met and married Lorene Parker, a young

school teacher from Texas, on November 26, 1930 in Moab. She preceded him in death in 1992.

They moved to Pampa in 1933. He went to work for Cabot, living in several camps. He was involved in the construction of Pantex. During World War II, he was a civilian electrician at the Army Air Force base near Dalhart. He returned to work for Cabot until returning to Pampa in 1951 to go to work for Celanese

Corporation. After retiring, Art and Lorene toured the United States on bus trips. A highlight was attending a performance of Lawrence Welk and dancing to his music. Art loved music of all kinds. He was an avid fisherman and gardener, and got pleasure from watching his purple mar-

tins each spring.

Art was an active member of First Christian Church in Guymon, Okla., and Pampa. He served as a deacon and attended the Builders Sunday School class. He was on the property department and sang in the choir for years. He was active in the Biscuit Ministry.

He volunteered for the Good Samaritan Christian Services, Meals on Wheels, and drove the van for Genesis House. He was on the board of directors of Pampa Senior Citizens Center. He was a supporter of Pampa Community Concert Association. Art was a member of the Top O' Texas Masonic Lodge #1381 AF & AM for over 50 years.

Art was preceded in death by a brother, Jack

Skewes; his sisters, Elaine Peterson, Madge Duncan and Deone Skewes; a great-grandson, Ryan Avalos; and son-in-law, David Holt.

Survivors include two daughters, Ardyth Atkins and husband Jim, and Linda Holt, all of Pampa; a son, Blaine Skewes and wife Susan of El Dorado, Kan.; four granddaughters, Mary Ann Mayer and husband Joe of Guymon, Okla., Ellen Skewes and Carol Skewes, both of Baytown, and Susanna Cutrone and husband Chris of Austin; two grandsons, John Atkins of Hardesty, Okla., and David Parker Holt and wife Jennifer of Austin; ten great-grandchildren, and seven greatgreat-grandchildren.

The family received visitors Sunday evening from



Skewes

3:00-4:30 p.m. at 2345 Aspen.

Memorials may be made to Pampa Senior Citizens Center, P.O. Box 475, Pampa, TX 79066-0475, Pampa Meals on Wheels, P.O. Box 939, Pampa, TX 79066-0939, or a charity of your choice.

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Victor "Nino Brown" Wallace, 47

Brown" Wallace, 47, died April 2, 2010 in Pampa.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Wallace born March 31, 1963 in Odessa. As a young boy, he moved to Pampa where he graduated from Pampa High School. He attended college at Texas State

Pampa—Victor "Nino University in Houston, and worked for 12 years for U.P.S. He moved to Lubbock and worked as a substitute teacher, and then moved to Pampa. He enjoyed fishing golfing and working on cars. Victor will be remembered as a generous man who would help anyone in their time of need.

Survivors include

Wallace-Sims of Pampa; a god-child, Jamar Ballard of Dallas; two brothers, Ricky Smith and wife Felicia of Baytown, and Curtis M. Lee of Houston; three sisters, Virginia Lee of Phoenix, Ariz., Mae Phillips and husband Lonnie of Odessa, and Bridgett Barnaba and husband Jimmy of Crosby; a

his mother, ImoGene

host of nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles and good friends. Victor was preceded in death by his father, Earl Lee Jordan; his stepfather, Willie Sims; and a brother, Kenneth

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley.com.



Economy growing

TALI ARBEL AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) - The U.S. service sector grew in March at its fastest pace in more than two years, suggesting the economic recovery is expanding from the nation's factories to its shops, restaurants, hospitals and other big sources of

The Institute for Supply Management, a trade group, said Monday its service index rose to 55.4 in March from 53 in February.

-Economists surveyed by Thomson Reuters had expected a reading of 54. Any reading above 50 signals expansion.

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It is the strongest pace of growth since ISM revised how it measured the service sector in January 2008.

The service sector is important as it accounts for about 80 percent of U.S. jobs excluding farmworkers. It includes jobs in areas like health care, retail and financial services. The sector is highly dependent on consumer spending, which powers about 70 percent of the economy.

The recovery in services has been bumpy, lagging a resurgence in manufacturing amid high unemployment, slow wage growth and a rocky real estate market.

But in March, growth in business activity soared to its strongest level since April 2006 and new orders are surging at their fastest pace since August 2005.

The report suggested the broader economy is recovering, said Jennifer Lee, economist at BMO Capital Markets. "It's much better news than we would have thought a few months ago," she said. BMO recently bumped up its prediction for first-quarter growth to 3.6 percent from 3.5 percent. During the fourth quarter, the economy grew at a 5.6 percent pace.

ISM said employment contracted for the 27th straight month in March, but the 49.8 reading was the closest to growth in jobs growth since the recession began. A level above 50 indicates jobs growth.

The government said last week that the economy added 162,000 jobs, the biggest gain since the recession began.

Of the 18 industries surveyed, 14 reported growth, two shrank and two held steady at February's level.

Feds pay to fix Galveston streetlamps after Ike

GALVESTON, Texas Galveston streetlamps battered by Hurricane Ike are being fixed with the help of federal funds.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency will reimburse Galveston for 90 percent of the nearly \$39,000 cost to repair and replace the lamps. The city will pay the rest.

Galveston suffered major damage when Ike stormed ashore on Sept. 13, 2008.

The devastation included iconic gas lamps that are part of the city's famed Strand historic district. The storm surge damaged the lamp bases and the gasflow regulators.

Crews from Farmer's Marine Copper Works have begun removing the lamps from the sidewalks and covering the exposed com-

ponents. City spokeswoman Alicia says crews also will repaint all the lamp poles and shine the glass in a project expected to take about three

HUNTING PARTY



submitted photo

The four-year-old class at the First Christian Church gets ready for an Easter Egg hunt on Thursday. The class is under the direction of Amy McDowell. From left are Piper LaBombard, Yena Christensen, Brookelyn Sirmans, Olivia Reagan, Valeri Anguiano, Vivian Weng, Kevin Kennedy, Gabby Taylor, Lance Dyer, and Joelee Brogdin.

Interest rates rise on further signs of growth

NEW YORK (AP) -Interest rates are rising in the bond market on fresh signs the economy is continuing

measures

out of control.

GM to install

new brake safety

DETROIT (AP) - General Motors says it will install

a new brake safety measure that can prevent unin-

tended acceleration on all its new vehicles worldwide

The step comes as federal regulators consider mak-

ing the system mandatory on cars and trucks after

Toyota's big problems with vehicles that can speed

A brake override reduces power to the engine when

GM has not had major problems with unintended acceleation, but says the safety measure is meant to

the driver steps on both the brake and accelerator. It

should also slow a vehicle if the gas pedal is stuck.

its slow, steady recovery.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to its highest level since before

late 2008. The yield is often used as a benchmark for consumer loans.

The 10-year note yield is up to 3.98 percent, compared with 3.94 percent during Friday's holiday-abbre-

the credit crisis erupted in

Last Monday's yield was the highest since October

viated trading session.

2008 when it eclipsed 4 percent. That came just before the credit crisis peaked and investors bought up Treasurys, sending yields plummeting. A new report showing the

service sector is continuing to expand and a surprising jump in February pending home sales were the latest reports to bolster hopes for the recovery.

Mormon church has 13.8 million members

A statistical report of the (congregations): 28,424 growth and status of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, as of Dec. 31, 2009, released Saturday during the faith's annual spring conference:

Church Units

Number of stakes (simi- 2008: 280,106 lar to dioceses): 2,865

Missions: 344 Districts: 616 Wards and branches

Church Membership Total membership:

13,824,854 Increase in children of record during 2008: 119,722 Converts baptized during

Missionaries

Number of full-time missionaries: 51,736

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Edward Jones



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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Monday, April 5, the 95th day of 2010. There are 270 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 5, 1792, George Washington cast the first presidential veto, rejecting a congressional measure for apportioning representatives among the states.

On this date:

In 1614, Pocahontas, daughter of the leader of the Powhatan tribe, married English colonist John Rolfe in Virginia.

In 1621, the Mayflower sailed from Plymouth Colony in present-day Massachusetts on a monthlong return trip to England.

In 1887, in Tuscumbia, Ala., teacher Anne Sullivan achieved a breakthrough as her blind and deaf pupil, Helen Keller, learned the meaning of the word "water" as spelled out in the Manual Alphabet.

In 1895, Oscar Wilde lost his criminal libel case against the Marquess of Queensberry, who'd accused the writer of homosexual practices.

In 1951, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were sentenced to death following their conviction in New York on charges of conspiring to commit espionage for the Soviet Union; co-defendant Morton Sobell was sentenced to 30 years in prison (he was released

In 1964, Army General Douglas MacArthur died in Washington at age 84. In 1975, nationalist Chinese leader Chiang Kai-

shek died at age 87. In 1976, reclusive billionaire Howard Hughes died

in Houston at age 70.

In 1986, two American servicemen and a Turkish woman were killed in the bombing of a West Berlin discotheque, an incident which prompted a U.S. air raid on Libya more than a week later.

Ten years ago: Yoshiro Mori took over as Japan's new prime minister, succeeding Keizo Obuchi, who'd been felled by a stroke.

Five years ago: ABC News anchorman Peter Jennings revealed he had lung cancer (he died in Aug. 2005 at age 67). Nobel Prize-winning author Saul Bellow died in Brookline, Mass., at age 89. One year ago: North Korea fired a rocket over

Japan, defying Washington, Tokyo and others who suspected the launch was a cover for a test of its long-range missile technology. President Barack Obama, visiting Prague, launched an effort to rid the world of nuclear weapons, calling them "the most dangerous legacy of the Cold War." The Pentagon quietly lifted an 18-year ban on media coverage of fallen U.S. service members.

Today's Birthdays: Movie producer Roger Corman is 84. Former Secretary of State Colin Powell is 73. Actor Michael Moriarty is 69. Writerdirector Peter Greenaway is 68. Actress Jane Asher is 64. Rock musician Mike McCready (Pearl Jam) is 44. Singer Paula Cole is 42. Actress Krista Allen is 39. Country singer Pat Green is 38. Rapper-producer Pharrell Williams is 37.

Thought for Today: "A man is only as good as what he loves." — Saul Bellow, Canadian-born American author (1915-2005).



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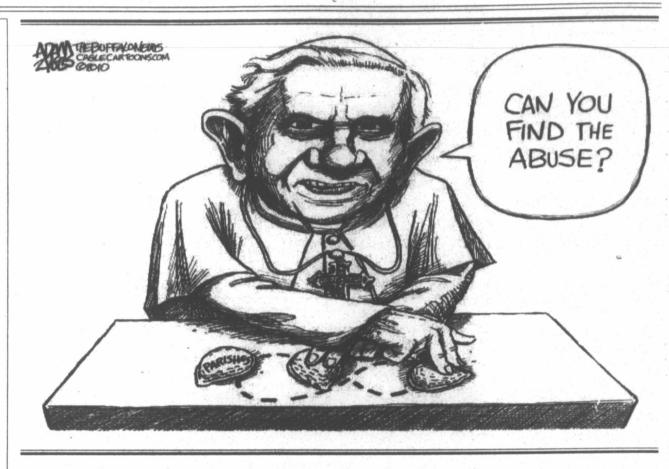
Chico Ramirez Circulation Supervisor

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Geographic database helps track colonias

The term "colonia" generally applies to residential subdivisions near the U.S.-Mexico border that lack legally mandated water or wastewater services.

Most colonias lie outside city limits or in isolated areas of a county. Residents of these substandard housing developments lack access to basic necessities such as drinking water, sewage treatment and paved roads.

Over the past 15 years, the Texas Legislature has worked to prevent unlawful colonia developments by reforming state laws and placing new requirements on border-area developers. The colonia prevention laws have four major thrusts:

· Requiring subdividers to provide basic infrastructure (water, sewer, roads and drainage) when they create or "plat" new residential developments;

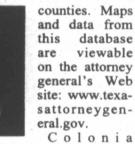
· Restricting the advertising and selling of lots that are not platted or that lack water and sewer;

 Establishing standards governing connections to utilities in substandard areas;

 Mandating certain disclosures and protections when lots are sold through contracts for deeds.

The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) has enforcement responsibilities under several of these laws and has taken legal action to stop violations and remedy unlawful colonia developments. In addition, the OAG created and maintains an extensive Colonia Geographic Database for the border region.

The recently updated database stores accurate geographic and descriptive data on over 2,000 colonia areas in 31 border area



geographic

GREG ABBOTT

features displayed include location, the boundary and area of each colonia; roads serving the community; the internal road network; and water features and community resources, such as schools and parks. Satellite views of the colonia areas and adjoining terrain are also available. The database stores additional, non-geographic information collected by various state and local entities such as the Texas Water Development Board

Colonia Program. The database was created to:

 Help the OAG undertake its colonia prevention effort.

and the Texas Secretary of State's

· Further authorities' understanding of the extent of colonias within Texas.

Stimulate scrutiny of social and economic conditions within colonias. • Provide data for colonia project

funding proposals.

· Provide the basis for developing a registry of colonias suitable for listing as Census Designated Places (CDPs) so that better, more specific Census statistics are available for local government and colonia project planners.

Before purchasing residential

property outside the city limits, counties. Maps border area purchasers should and data from database check with county officials to conviewable firm that the property was legally subdivided and that the developon the attorney general's Web er has made necessary arrangements to supply required water and site: www.texasattorneygenwastewater facilities.

Texans along the Texas-Mexico border can file complaints with the OAG against developers or sellers who fail to provide water or wastewater services or who subdivide land without first obtaining necessary county approval. Complaints can be filed on the attorney general's Web site or by calling (800) 252-8011.

Points To Remember Colonia Geographic Database

The Colonia Geographic

Database contains:11 · Location, boundary and description of over 2,000 colonia areas in 31 border area counties

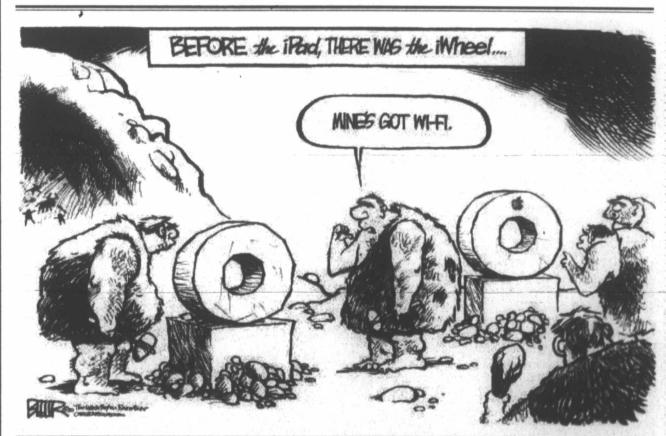
Internal road network

· Water features and community resources

Access the database at the Border Colonias tab on the attorney general's Web site, www. texasattorneygeneral.gov.

Residents along the Texas-México border can file complaints with the Office of the Attorney General online or by calling (800) 252-8011.

Greg Abbott is the Texas Attorney General. His columns appear every Monday in The





We welcome your letters

To ensure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

· Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.

· All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number

with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.

 Defamatory comments will not be published. · E-mail submissions are welcome.

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Texas gun case could play role in health care suit

DAN FREEDMAN Houston Chrocnicle

HOUSTON (AP) - A
Texas high school student's
decision to bring a .38-caliber handgun to school in
1992 could end up at the
center of the legal fight over
President Barack Obama's
health care reform plan.

Alfonso Lopez Jr.'s arrest at Edison High School in San Antonio set in motion a legal battle that may prove crucial to 13 state attorneys general fighting the new law. Lopez, a senior when he was arrested for handgun possession in March 1992, ended up facing federal charges of violating the Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990. But the Supreme Court, on a 5-4 vote, threw out his conviction five years later on the grounds that Congress exceeded its regulatory authority under the Constitution when it approved the 1990 law, which makes it a violation of federal law to possess a firearm in a school zone.

In filing a lawsuit last week challenging the new health care law's mandate that everyone must have health insurance, the 13 state attorneys general ,Âî including Greg Abbott of Texas ,Âî cited the same legal reasoning that went into the Lopez ruling.

At issue in both cases is the Constitution's commerce clause, which limits the regulatory powers of Congress to matters involving interstate commerce. In the Lopez decision, conservatives on the court led by then-Chief Justice William Rehnquist ruled that the 1990 gun law was unconstitutional because it had nothing to do with commerce between states.

Upholding the federal

government's right to control guns in school zones would give Congress "a general police power of the sort retained by the states," Rehnquist wrote for the majority.

That's almost exactly the argument the states are making now in a lawsuit filed March 23.

Abbott and the other 12 state attorneys general say that health care does not meet the legal definition of interstate commerce, rendering illegal the congressional mandate that all Americans must purchase health insurance.

"In the past 15 years the Supreme Court has scaled back Congress when they've tried to inject themselves into purely state matters," said one of the 13, Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox, in an interview on MSNBC.

The Lopez ruling was one of two Cox cited, saying it was a case where the federal government "tried to criminalize purely state behavior within a state."

Prior to the Lopez ruling, the Supreme Court had for 60 years mostly followed the lead of Congress, ruling that congressio-

nal claims of regulatory power were valid under the Constitution. With the Lopez ruling, court watchers predicted a wholesale scaling back of such claims, clipping the wings of Congress to legislate in any area it wanted.

In the 2000 case of U.S. v. Morrison, the justices knocked down a provision of the Violence Against Women Act that gave victims of rape, domestic violence and other gendermotivated crimes the right to sue attackers in federal court. Rehnquist also authored the opinion.

Official: Mexican gang raid freed 13 prisoners

NUEVO LAREDO, Mexico (AP) — Thirteen inmates escaped when armed men stormed a prison in the northern Mexican border city of Reynosa, an official with the federal Attorney General's Office said Sunday.

It was the second mass jailbreak in less than two weeks in Tamaulipas state, which has been wracked by a new wave of battles between feuding drug gangs.

Thirty-one guards have been detained for questioning in the Friday prison break in Reynosa, across the border from McAllen, Texas, according to the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity under the agency's policy.

Three prisoners were shot to death in the raid, but it was unclear who killed them.

The Tamaulipas government had reported the raid and the death of the three prisoners late Friday, but did not mention the escapes. Its three-sentence statement said the armed men arrived in 10 cars and exchanged gunfire with guards.

Nobody could be reached for comment Sunday at the offices of the Tamaulipas governor, the state prosecutors' office or public safety department.

Eleven of the inmates who escaped were in prison on federal crime charges, even though they were being held at the state institution, according to the official at the Attorney General's Office.

The official had no other information on the offenses, the slain inmates or the armed men.

Last week, 40 inmates escaped from a prison in Matamoros, a Tamaulipas city across the border from Brownsville, Texas. The prison director was under investigation, and 50 employees were held for questioning.

Chicken

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on leases in the Eastern Panhandle."

The fear is that if the bird is listed as an endangered species, it will halt or at least cut back oil and gas production and livestock grazing and crop production in the Pampa area.

The historic range of the lesser prairie chicken includes Lipscomb County, Hemphill County, the northern portion of Wheeler County and the eastern and southern portion of Gray County into Donley County.

"Under the worst case scenario," Hughes said, "we would be prohibited from conducting business, even visiting a lease, much less drilling, between about the 15th of March and about the first of May during daylight hours."

That's the mating season for the prairie chicken.

"It would be totally impractical for us to attempt to do business in that way," Hughes said. "It just couldn't happen."

He said it would certainly shut in all the drilling activity.

"We would seriously be handicapped on whether or not we could even visit an active production location where there are either pumpjacks or Christmas trees," Hughes said.

He said that under a worst case scenario, if the courts find that the lesser prairie chicken cannot survive in the presence of vertical structures, there would be the potential of removing any vertical structure taken down.

"That can't happen," Hughes said. He complained that the situation appears to be a one-sided trade-off between a small bird and an industry that pumps millions of dollars a year into the Texas Panhandle economy.

cont. from page 1

"We employ hundreds of people in the Eastern Panhandle," Hughes said. "We pump a lot of money in the economy over there. This would seriously interfere with our capability of doing that."

He said that a lot of the exotic technologies in the drilling industry that have been developed over the years have been proven in the area.

"Had we not had that capability, I don't think we would be as far along as we are now with horizontal drilling," Hughes said.

He claims that horizontal drilling was pioneered in the Texas Panhandle. Listing the lesser prairie chicken could economically harm the panhandle, Hughes said.

Sudoku

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am at my wits' end and feel my life is over. I just want to get my life back the way it was 10 years ago. In the past eight years I have lost two jobs. I am currently unemployed and in financial ruin. I see Every job no way out. I apply for wants to do a credit check, so there goes any good job I might have. I have no resources for a counselor since I have no health insurance and nobody for a sounding board. Please help me see the light at the end of the tunnel. I feel virtually alone. -- TROUBLED IN

VIRGINIA
DEAR TROUBLED:
First of all, you are not alone. At last count, millions of fellow Americans were in the same boat.
When people are out of work for an extended period, debts do tend to pile up. But if you are upfront about it during a job interview, I am sure that fact will be taken into consideration.

The job market is beginning to thaw, so please keep trying and do not give up hope. There are support groups for people who are out of work -- and a place to start looking for one would be a bulletin board at the unemployment office in your area. Use your local library as a resource to find support groups on the Web. Network with other people you know who are unemployed. Inquire at churches and synagogues because some of them offer these services. Also, ask at the mayor's office or city hall, and at community centers. Help is everywhere; you need to get out and look for

DEAR ABBY: My father has been short-tempered for as long as I can remember. He never beat us, but he spanked us plenty as a means of discipline when we were grow-

ing up. Now this anger is random; he makes every family event a nightmare for anyone involved. He insists on planning events at their home, and screams and degrades any of us "kids" (and Mom) if we do something other than his

Shortly after my sister's divorce a few years ago, my father met with our priest to discuss his anger issues, but it didn't change anything. We've suggested anger management or counseling, but he tells us we're "overreacting" and blames my sister's drama as an excuse for his behav-

I am expecting my first child, and my husband and I are afraid of the effect Dad's behavior will have on our little one. My sister's children are all afraid of my father. While they respect him, they constantly worry about when the next blowup will happen. I don't want to cut anyone out of my life, but how can I deal with this? -- EMOTIONALLY EXHAUSTED IN OHIO

DEAR EXHAUSTED: You and your siblings are no longer children who have to obey your volatile father. If he uses the excuse that you (all) are in his home to imply that his behavior is acceptable, then you and the sibs should host family gatherings in your own homes, where your rules take precedence.

It's sad that your father didn't take his anger issues to a licensed psychotherapist, who could have helped him understand what causes them and given him tools to manage them. But since he didn't, you must accept that your first responsibility will be to your child -- specifically to protect him or her from your father's explosive outbursts.

Chase

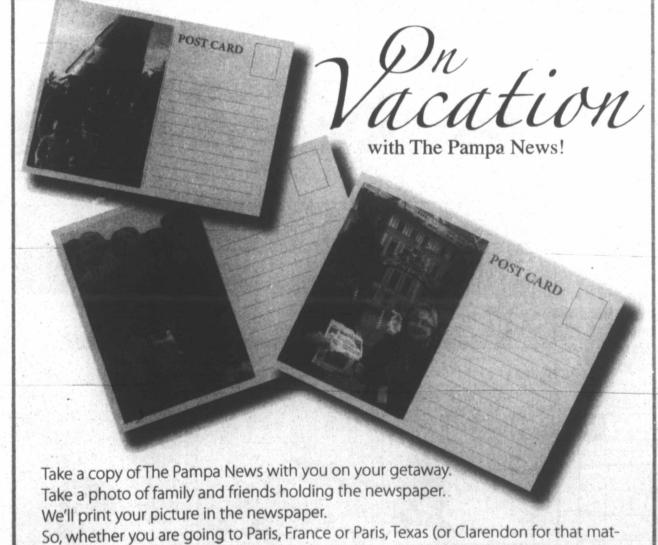
before turning east on to Randy Matson.

Chasing the vehicle on Randy Matson between Pampa High School and Harvester Stadium, offices said White failed to negotiated a right turn on to Duncan and struck the fence at Fairview Cemetery.

cont. from page 1

Officers said White left the car and ran on foot through the cemetery where he was captured by Pampa police officers and Gray County deputies.

Gray County Justice of the Peace Kurt Curfman set bond this morning.



Remember to:

ter)... take us along for the ride!

1. Identify every person in the photograph from left to right, front row first.

2. Give us some information about the trip and the landmark in the photo.

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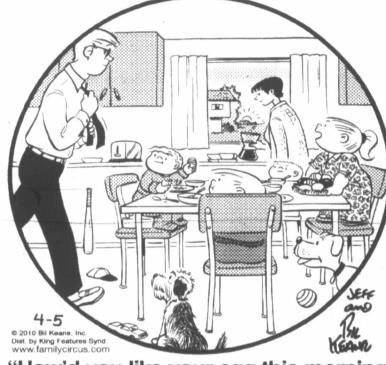
Marmaduke



"Have you been spying on the cat across the street?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"How'd you like your egg this morning, Daddy? Purple? Yellow? Green?..."

Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

43 Under

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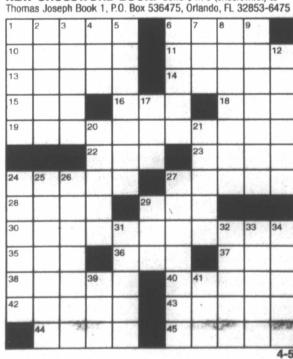
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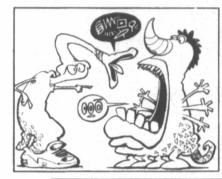
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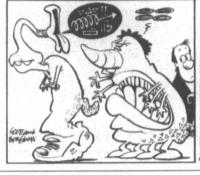






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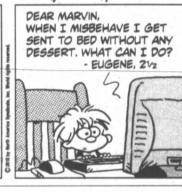
Beetle Bailey

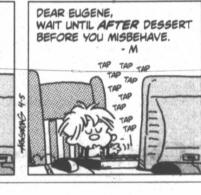




Marvin







B.C.







Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts







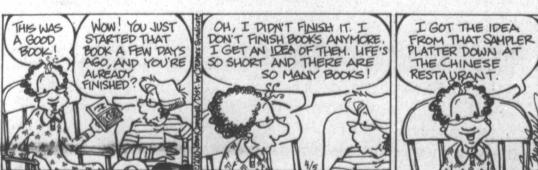
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Saturday's Cryptoquote: YOU DON'T GET PAID FOR THE HOUR. YOU GET PAID FOR THE VALUE

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69 Misc.

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50 Building Suppl.

White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

69 Misc.

BATHROOM heaters, used, good condition. \$15 a piece or make offer for whole lot. 665-0415.

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3 BR for only \$649/mo. 1/2 off 1st mo. rent. W/d hookups & on-site laundry. Caprock Apts., 665-7149

APRIL Fool Special 1/2 price on first months rent. Largest apartments. Central heat & air. 665-1875.

APTS. Houses Duplexes. K&B Properties. Ref. & dep. req. Lake-view Apts. 669-4386

REMODELED New floors, appliances, bathroo

& more! 1 & 2 bdrs. ALL BILLS PAID (817) 909-4766

96 Unfurn. Apts.

NO transportation, not a 1008 Darby. OWC 4 problem. These large 1 bedroom, carport. Quiet bdr. apts. w/ appliances, location. Pay placed are in walking distance then monthly. 662-7557 Pampa to everything you need. 665-4274

> **SCHNEIDER** Apartments. Call for special rates. Short term lease Business people come. 665-0415

98 Unfurn. Houses

Objec-

PICK up rental list, in the Black Box, at 125 S. IN Lefors, 3 bdr., 1 ba.

cent. h/a. Washer/ dryer hookups, fenced yard. \$100 off move in. 1011

Duncan, 2 bdrm, \$400. 508 Frost, 2 bdrm, \$300,665-1875. CONDO 2 bdr 1 3/4

ba., some appl., w/d hookups; fpl.; pool; single gar.; Austin Sch. dist. Gas/water pd. 6 month lease, \$500 dep.; \$650 mo. 669-6841 Mon.-Fri. 8-5.

2 bdr., 1 ba., gar., h&a, w/d hookups.\$600 mo., \$500 dep. 609 Red Deer. 665-5473

NEWLY remodeled, 3 bdr., 1 ba., Travis Sch. \$700 mo., 1st & last mo. rent for dep. 440-1535 lv. msg. 2 bdr. brick duplex, 1

ba., I car gar. Hardwood floors. Fenced. 665-4180, 440-3044. HOUSE for sale or rent. Can be 2 or 3 bedroom 665-3361

99 Stor. Bldgs.

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

102 Bus. Rental

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

1/2 Off 1st Mo. Rent, ask about 3 months free 1&2 BR starting at rent. 669-6841.



232 SUNFISH Howardwick, TX Corner lot, 3 bdr master has 2 lrg closets & vanity), 2 full ba. Stove, refrig., dishw., garbage disposal. Lrg patio-off kitchen Stor. bldg. New:

Puron central h/a Pella windows w 30 yr. life, metal roof & exterior paint.

Move In Ready! \$54,900 806-670-4520

103 Homes For Sale



2401 CHEROKEE 1929 Sq. Ft.

3 Bdr 2 Full Baths Office Fireplace 12x24 Workshop / Stor. Bldg. Energy efficient &

\$129,000 806-662-5498 806-662-5385

large rooms. Up-

dated interior.

2611 Evergreen. Brick ranch, 2/2/bsmt. Many updates. New roof, water htr., appli. Spr. sys. C Lrg. bdrms. & closets A must see! 664-0500



2617 DOGWOOD \$158,500 *4 Bedrooms *2 Baths

*2 CarGar. *Fireplace *2467 Sq. Ft. Call 663-0714

3 bdr., 2 ba., 2 car gar 1800 sq. ft. New: windows, hardwood floors OFFICE Space for rent, & appli 10x14 worksh \$85,000.806-278-0166 3 br, 2 b, lg. carport, lg lot. As is \$7,000 FIRM needs TLC, great potential, 806-223-7272

3/1.75/1. C h&a, fpl in gar., ceramic in kitchen & dining. OWC down pymt. 662-7557.

3/1/1 carport. 2 huge shade trees on west side No owner carry. Carpeted wood floors. Moivated Seller! Farley. 663-6800.

4 bdr., 1 3/4 ba., 2300 sq. ft. Remodeled & ready to move in to! \$114,800.663-0514

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03 Hitchhiker II 34 ft. 5th wh. All season, 3 slide-outs, full ba., open kitchen. Very clean. Great shape! \$23,000 obo. 806-231-2597. 2010 39' Puma-new 2 bdr., 2 slides, sleeps 6.

Every option. \$27,500 obo. 817-705-1022 115 Trailer Parks

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122 Motorcycles

2000 Harley RoadKing **Excellent Cond.!** 24K miles, \$9300 See at **FINISH LINE** 408 S. Cuyler Pampa, TX or call 806-874-1779

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forming in front of your very eyes. Tonight: Go along with a suggestion. CANCER (June 21-July 22)

> at the moment, behind the scenes. If you listen to news that is forthcoming and tion. Tonight: Say "yes." LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

sibilities. Be willing to make a major adjustment to your work and/or daily life. Tonight: Make it easy VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

change radically, as you are dealing with someone different. Tonight: Do only what you love. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

*** You see inevitable changes on the home front. You, too, might be transforming and not even realize it. Adopting a stick-in-the-mud stance simply won't work. Let go and understand what is happening behind the scenes. Accept what you cannot change. Tonight: Order in. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Someone easily could misread you. If you feel that you cannot get through to this person, try another approach. Use care with purchases involving communi-cation in the next few months. Tonight: Visit with a pal.

*** What might feel like a setback

could toss you into limbo at first. Settle and center. You'll find answers before you know it. Feedback from someone you admire reinforces your spirit, if not your self-image. Tonight: Stop and get out of the rat race. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

**** How others see you and the way you present yourself could be very different from in the past. Also, if you stop and notice, you will see that others responses are far more positive. Tonight: Choose something new AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

*** Much might be going on in your mind or behind closed doors. Maintain a low profile, and you will see the end results. Communication could be stilted. as someone could be pushing very hard. Tonight: Take some much-needed per-

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) **** Others relax and think when they notice how optimistic and positive you are. As you melt down barriers, note how someone is under extreme tension. Go forward. Tonight: On the phone with

a friend.

Poet Jean-Baptiste Rousseau (1671), composer Andre Previn (1929), actress Candace Cameron (1976)

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SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, April 6, 2010:

This year, assess what is happening in your professional environment and your feelings about these issues. In some manner, your community and work ties are changing. They may not work anymore Be willing to support yourself in a needed change. No matter what happens in your life this year, you'll land on your feet like a cat. If you are single, you could meet someone extremely caring, though you might not really know this person for a long time. Give yourself a year before you make any commitments. If you are attached, the two of you benefit from some romantic getaways ... why not? CAPRICORN can be pushy.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll 4-Positive; 5-Dynamic; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19) *** You might see another side of a

key person or situation that sets you back. Do think about what you are observing. Communication could be intense and incisive. Use your instincts. Tonight: A force to be dealt with. TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

**** Your perception could change radically. Necessary adjustments need to be made, and you have insight into which direction to head. An opportunity to travel or learn more opens up. Tonight: Let

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) *** You innately choose the right words to approach a partner with. A talk needs to be private in order to help both parties open up. You see someone trans-

**** Investigate what is occurring

DAILY HOROSCOPE

understand what is happening, you might want to make an adjustment. A meeting provides even more insight as to direc-*** Your impressions help. A boss also can add a lot of insight. A change in the lay of the land promises a lot of pos-

**** Your ability to intuit some one's transformation or changing needs adds to the promise of continuity in the relationship. How you deal with some-one and the choices you make also could

*** Choose your words with care

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Sports

Boys track seventh, girls fourth in Dalhart Classic

ANDREW GLOVER

aglover@thepampanews.com The Pampa Harvesters boys track team finished seventh and the girls finished fourth in the Dalhart Classic Thursday.

The boys finished the meet with 46 points, which was four behind Borger and 14 behind Stratford. Travis Hagerman finished third in the shot put with a distance of 42 feet and eight inches. Joseph Vizciano finished sixth in the long jump with a distance of 18 feet and six inches. Flavio Gonzales

finished fifth in the 3200 meter run with a time of 12:43.75. Josh Davis finished sixth with a time of 13:09. Nicholas Johnson finished fourth in the 100 meter dash with a time of 11.30. Olin Boyd finished fifth with a time of 11.33.

Vizciano finished fifth in the 300 meter hurdles with a time of 46.33. Johnson finished fifth in the 200 meter dash with a time of 24.27 seconds.

Pampa finished fourth in the 400 relay with a time of 46.46 seconds. The us an indication of were

Harvesters finished second in the 800 relay with a time of 1:37.24. In the 1600 meter relay Pampa finished sixth with a time of 3:49.90.

The girls track team competed as two teams. One of their teams finished fourth with 88 points and was one point out of third place. The B team finished seventh with 19 points. Gene Valentine, head girls track coach said he thought the team did rather well.

"The times we ran gave

we stand as far as district is concerned," Valentine said. "The majority of the times we ran put us in the top three of the standings."

For the B team, Kailyn Troxell finished sixth in the triple jump with a distance of 30 feet and two and a half inches. Joleen Pittman finished third in the 800 meter run with a time of 2:41.60. Pampa finished fifth in the 800 meter relay with a time of 1:59.76. The Lady Harvesters finished fourth in the 1600 meter relay with a time of 4:35.90

For the A team, J'Cee Holmes finished third in the 3200 meter run with a time of 13:36. Destaney Vasquez finished fifth with a time of 14:45. Pampa finished first in the 400 meter relay with a time of 51.61. Natalie Parker finished first in the 100 meter dash with a time of 12.02. Karen Jimenez finished second with a time of 12.68 seconds. Claire Hopkins finished fourth with a time of 12.99 seconds. Pampa finished first

in the 800 meter relay with

Stephens finished second in the 200 meter dash with a time of 27.96 seconds. Holmes finished first in the 1600 meter run with a time of 6:01.99.

Pampa's next meet is Thursday at Dumas. Valentine said it will be a big meet because they will face all of their district opponents.

"We have not ran against everyone in our district all year so it should be exciting," Valentine said.

MOORE TAKES SIXTH IN SINGLES

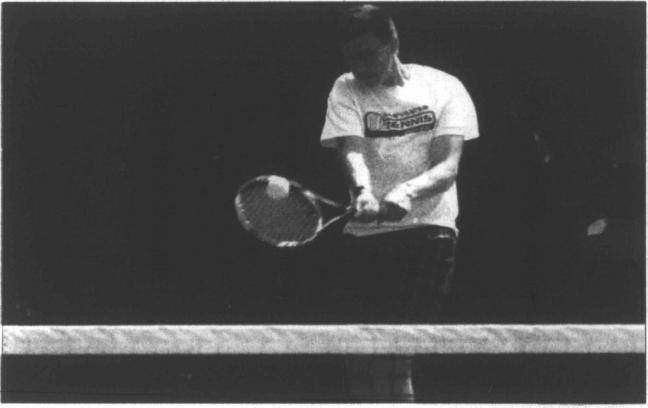


photo by Synda Foreman

David Moore returns a serve from a Flower Mound opponent in Flower Mound. This match was to determine 5th place in the "A" draw. David lost this match to take sixth place. The tennis team will compete in district at Amarillo April 12-13.

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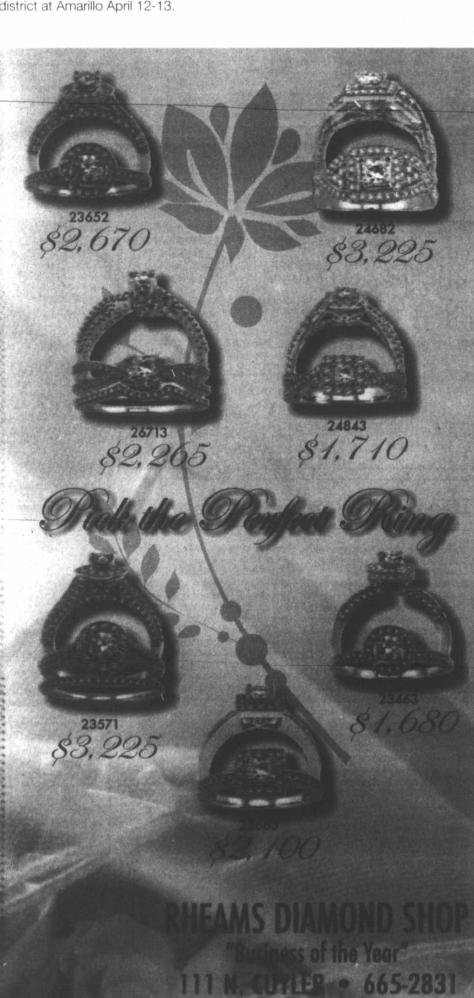
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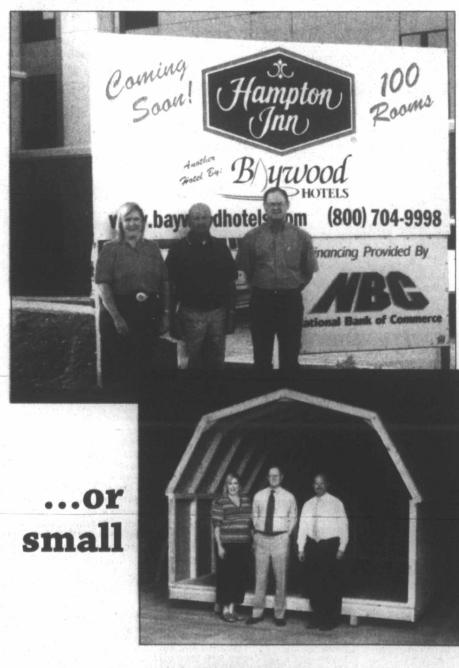
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