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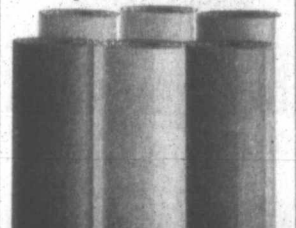
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EMS ON DISPLAY



staff photos by David Bowser

TOP: Dakota David, 6, admires Steve Marshall's helmet Saturday afternoon at a display of LifeStar medical helicopters, and other emergency vehicles at Perry Lefors Airport. Marshall (right) is a flight nurse on the medical helicopter stationed in Pampa. **BOTTOM: Crowds** gathered around the Lifestar medical helicopter stationed in Pampa during a display at Perry Lefors Field Saturday. The display included two LifeStar helicopters, a King Air plane from Lubbock's AeroCare and a Pampa EMS ambulance.



Pampa's Watson embraces duties of potentate post

ARNIE AURELLANO
editor@thepampanews.com

When Pampa's Ben Watson was named potentate of the Khiva Shrine Center in Amarillo in January, he knew that it was going to be more than just a nice-sounding title.



Watson "It's a great honor to be named the potentate," said Watson. "I'm honored to be appointed to the position, but at the same time, I have a job to do, and it's one that I take very seriously."

It's no small job, either. As part of the larger Shrine organization, the Amarillo Khiva Shrine Center helps support 22 children's hospitals nationwide, including facilities in Galveston and Houston. Watson is one of 13 Texas potentates in the Shrine Club, an organization which counts 20,000 Texan members.

Between raising funds for the Shrine's various hospitals and keeping the Amarillo chapter up and running on its \$200,000-a-year day-to-day budget, Watson's duties as potentate can sometimes amount to a veritable balancing act.

"It can be, yes," said Watson with a laugh. "There can be a lot of difficult decisions that we have to make to keep things going."

"For example," Watson continued, "at one of our last conventions, (the Shrine) was looking at possibly closing eight different hospitals because of the difficult economic conditions. Galveston was one of those hospitals."

"We eventually decided to keep the hospitals open. We're looking at maybe changing the daily operations on some of them, maybe switching from operating as a hospital to a day clinic because it might be better financially."

"But the last I heard, Galveston has been re-opened. The big concern down there was storm water damage from when they were hit a few years ago, but last news we got, (the hospital) is fully functional, which we're very happy about."

As part of his potentate duties, Watson will be making a return of sorts to the Pampa chapter when the Amarillo Khiva Shrine board **WATSON** cont. on page 3

GOP elite oppose ex-legislator in Texas court runoff

JIM VERTUNO
Associated Press

AUSTIN (AP) — Former state Rep. Rick Green once slugged a political rival outside a polling place at a Baptist church.

While in office, he hawked a nutritional supplement that promised to "supercharge your brain." And as an attorney, he's spent more time speaking to church groups and Tea Party rallies than arguing cases in court.

But Green has a shot at a seat on the Texas Supreme Court after getting the most votes — 18.9 percent — among six candidates in the March 2 primary. He faces longtime family law judge Debra Lehrmann in the April 13 runoff for the Republican nomi-



Green

who promises to bring what he considers a badly needed dose of normalcy to the court.

The tradition-bound legal establishment has not been amused. High-powered Republicans, including former Chief Justice Tom Phillips and former U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, have

endorsed Lehrmann. They say Green, now an activist and public speaker for the evangelical Christian group Wallbuilders, is unqualified.

"Our state's highest court is neither the place for on-the-job training for the job seeker nor the place for the electorate to find out for the first time whether the job seeker is competent at the job sought," former Justice Craig Enoch said in a statement.

A self-styled "constitutional scholar," Green is a gregarious personality who works church crowds, Tea Party rallies and small political gatherings with his four young, home-schooled children by his side.

"If Moses will stump for me, folks, truly that means some-

thing," Green says in a campaign video posted on his Web site that includes an old endorsement from the late actor Charlton Heston, who played the prophet in "The Ten Commandments," and a more recent pitch from actor Chuck Norris.

Green declined a telephone interview with The Associated Press but answered questions by e-mail. His 13 years as a licensed attorney, four years as a state lawmaker and public speaking are experience enough, he said, dismissing his critics as "elitist."

"I've spent the last 10 years teaching on the Constitution and the original intent of our Founding Fathers," he said. **GREEN** cont. on page 3

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For the record

PAMPA FORECAST

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
 20%	 30%	 20%
High 66 Low 56	High 73 Low 52	High 72 Low 54

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1am. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 51. Windy, with a south wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 66. Windy, with a south wind 15 to 20 mph increasing to between 25 and 30 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.

Tuesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 54. South wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Wednesday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 73. South wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Wednesday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52. South wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Thursday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 72. South wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Thursday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 54. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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EMERGENCY SERVICES

SHERIFF

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests over the weekend.

Friday, April 9.

Jack Clayton Peercy, 20, was arrested by police on charges of theft of property greater than \$50 but less than \$500.

Melody Ann Feil, 44, was arrested by deputies on violation of probation in connection with charges of forgery and a bond surrender on charges of theft by check.

Bartholomew Martinez, 31, was arrested by deputies on violation of violation of probation in connection with possession of marijuana charges.

Jovany Valdez Cabrales, 21, was arrested by police on a warrant charging him with furnishing alcohol to a minor.

Saturday, April 10.

Patricia Vargas Perez Ramirez, 31, was arrested by deputies on charges of

possession of a controlled substance in a drug free zone.

Jason David Sprowls, 23, was arrested by deputies on charges of possession of a controlled substance in a drug free zone and not having a driver's license.

Sunday, April 11.

Randall Harce Young, 25, was arrested by police on charges of assault causing bodily injury to a family member.

Kayla Danyell Debose, 21, was arrested by deputies on charges of possession of a controlled substance less than one ounce and fabricating physical evidence with intent to impair.

Delnita Ann Ray, 44, of McLean, was arrested by deputies on charges out of another county for theft by check.

Brian Lane Sealman, 27, was arrested by deputies on charges of possession of a controlled substance greater than four gram by less than 200 grams.

Obituaries

J. Boyd Smith, 91

McLEAN—J. Boyd Smith, 91, died Thursday, April 8, 2010 in McLean, Texas

Memorial services will be held Monday, April 12, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in McLean, with Rev. Thacker Haynes officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Robertson Funeral Directors of McLean.

Interment will be at a later date in Happy, Texas

Mr. Smith was born August 14, 1918 in Ponder, in Denton County, to James Harve and Sarah Miranda Boyd Smith. He joined the US Army in November 1942 after residing in McLean. He was awarded three Bronze Stars, an American Theater Campaign Medal and a

WWII Victory Medal. He was always a true soldier. He was honorably discharged in January 1946 with the rank of Sgt. He returned to McLean and worked with his uncles in the car business and the livestock business. He was a tool pusher on drilling rigs before going to work for Kewanee Oil Company as a pumper. He later worked for Chevron as Kewanee was sold out to other companies. He retired from Chevron at the age of 70 years plus. He always had a love for horses, roping, and raising cattle as a side business. He was a member of the Grand Lodge of Texas, a Master Mason, a 32nd Degree Mason, and a member of the El Paso Scottish Rite and a Shriner.

He met and married Hazel Stout in El Paso and from that union was born one daughter, Linda.

Mr. Smith was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include his daughter, Linda Meador and husband Dennis of Hobbs, N.M.; three grandchildren, Roxie McMordie and husband John of McLean, Russell Littlefield and wife Marie of Newcastle, Okla., Chris Littlefield and wife Deeann of Henrietta, one step-granddaughter, Denice Simmons and husband Rodney of Brady; and nine great grandchildren, Evan, Miranda, and Ian McMordie, Destiny Littlefield, Faith Jenkins, Kalico and Skee Burkes, and Linden and Molly Lansford.



Smith

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorials be to the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, PO Box 199300, Dallas, TX 75219-9842.

Sign our online guest book at www.RobertsonFuneral.com

Norma Gene Purcell, 80

Pampa—Norma Gene Purcell, 80, died April 10, 2010 in Pampa.

Graveside services will be at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 13, 2010, at Fairview Cemetery, with Mike Darsey, her nephew, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Purcell was born December 28, 1929 in Wichita Falls, where she graduated from Wichita

Falls High School. She attended Oklahoma A&M University. She married David Purcell on August 21, 1979 in Dallas. Norma moved to Pampa in 1983 to take over the family ranch after the death of her father. She was a member of the First Christian Church in Wichita Falls. She enjoyed playing bridge, crafts and especially trout fishing.

Survivors include her husband, David Purcell

of the home; a son, Don Taylor and wife Debbie of Pampa; her brother, Les Darsey of Alanreed; and a nephew, Mike Darsey of Alanreed. Norma was preceded in death by her parents; and a daughter, Terry Pitts.

Memorials may be made to a favorite charity.

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



Purcell

James Kirk Dougless, 58

James Kirk Dougless, age 58, died April 8, 2010 in Amarillo.

Funeral Services were held on Monday, April 12th at 11:00 a.m. at Schooler Funeral Home, Brentwood Chapel. Burial will be at Memorial Park Cemetery. Chaplain Ken Hanev will officiate. Arrangements are by Schooler Funeral Home, 4100 S. Georgia.

James was born on January 11, 1952 in Graham to James and Tampa Kenner Dougless. He attended Pampa Public School before enlisting in the United States Navy

during Vietnam. He was honorably discharged after his tour of duty. He married Bobbi Murrah on October 13, 1983 in Pampa. Throughout his working career he worked as a pipe fitter and was associated in all facets of the drilling of oil and gas wells in Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico. He was a member of Top of Texas AA and attended Bell Street Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife Bobbi in 2008. The family receiver visitors at the funeral home

April 10th from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m.

James is survived by his five daughters, Jennifer Diane Wilkerson of Amarillo, Tampa Jill Wardlow of Evergreen, Colo., Kristi Summers Murrah of Amarillo, Nicole Summers Ray and husband Jeremy of Denver, Colo., and Amanda Lynn Summers of Amarillo; his three sons, James Charles Dougless, Robert Kirk Dougless and Russell Lyn Dougless all of Amarillo; his brother, Robert S. Dougless and wife Polly of Midland; eleven grandchild-



Dougless

dren, one great-grandchild and two nephews.

Please sign our online guest book at schoolerfuneralhome.com

Onita Chennault Floyd, 89

Pampa—Onita Chennault Floyd, 89, died April 12, 2010 in Pampa.

Graveside services will be at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, April 14, 2010, at Fairview Cemetery, with Philip Elsheimer, Full Gospel minister, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Floyd was born December 23, 1920 in Blossom. She married

Alfred Whitney in 1946 in Hobbs, N.M. He preceded her in death in 1948. She later married William Floyd, Jr., on August 17, 1957 in Pampa. He preceded her in death in 1987. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1957. Onita was a Baptist and a homemaker.

Survivors include seven nieces, Phyllis Elsheimer and husband Philip, Sheelah Wilson and husband Russell, Pam Lorensen,

Kim Johnson and husband Don, Angie Degner and husband Danny, Jean Dona and husband Ken, all of Pampa, and Ruby Stover of Paris; eight nephews, Troy Garmon, David Garmon and wife Sherry, and Gaines Chennault, all of Pampa, Larry Garmon and wife Connie of Amarillo, Jerry Garmon of Fritch, Tim Garmon of Guymon, Okla., Joe Chennault of Borger, and Terry Chennault of Tahlequah,

Okla.; sister-in-law, Irene Black of Pampa. Onita was preceded in death by her parents; a daughter, Sandra Gail Melear, in 1969; a son, William Darrell Floyd, in 1996; four brothers, J. C., Desso Lee, Erbie and William Chennault; and three sisters, Frances Hood, Avis Fields and Nan Garmon.

Please sign our online guest book at schoolerfuneralhome.com

Suit claims San Antonio Archdiocese had knowledge of parish priest's sexual abuse

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A West Texas teen filed a lawsuit Thursday against the Archdiocese of San Antonio and Archbishop Jose Gomez alleging repeated sexual assaults by a parish priest, who he says the church's leadership should have known was abusive.

The allegations came just days after Gomez was named to a high-profile post leading the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, where he is scheduled to be formally introduced to parishioners in May.

The lawsuit accuses the Rev. John M. Fiala of repeatedly sexually

assaulting the teen, including twice forcing him to have sex at gunpoint when Fiala was the pastor at Sacred Heart of Mary Parish in the remote community of Rocksprings. The lawsuit alleges the incidents occurred in 2007 and 2008, during Gomez's tenure overseeing a swath of south and west Texas.

"We believe that they knew there were serious issues with Father Fiala," the teen's attorney, Tom Rhodes, said of church leadership. "When you look at his assignment history, there were gaps. He was moved around quite a bit. We believe the church

knew he was a serious problem."

Archdiocese spokesman Pat Rodgers said he could not comment directly on the litigation, but said in a prepared statement that when Edwards County authorities told the archdiocese in 2008 that they were investigating accusations of custodial interference — not sexual abuse — by Fiala, the priest was removed from ministry and the parish was told about the investigation.

Fiala has not been charged. A listed phone number for him was disconnected Thursday.

Gomez, who has been

the archbishop in San Antonio since 2004, also told Fiala's religious order about the investigation and Fiala's suspension, Rodgers said. Fiala is no longer in priestly ministry, according to the order, The Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity.

The lawsuit alleges Fiala had sexual contact with the teen, now 18, once or twice a month under the pretext of giving him private catechism lessons.

Rhodes said Fiala sexually assaulted the boy and threatened to hurt him and his family. Following two alleged rapes on out-of-town trips, the priest gave

the teen a car, Rhodes said. The teen later gave the car back and ran away.

The attorney said that while the boy's mother complained about Fiala taking the teen out of town without her permission, the family was not aware of the alleged abuse until the teen tried to commit suicide. A counselor reported the allegations to the authorities.

The Edwards County Sheriff's Office confirmed it has conducted a criminal investigation of Fiala, but a message left for the sheriff seeking details about the investigation was not returned Thursday.

LAST MINUTE ADS

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WEATHER WHIZ



staff photo by **Arnie Aurellano**

Meteorologist Steve Drillette of the National Weather Service in Amarillo made a presentation to the Pampa Kiwanis Club last week detailing the (literal) highs and lows of weather during the Dust Bowl. When asked about the climate outlook this spring, Drillette said that the Panhandle could be in line for cooler temperatures but generally milder weather.

Pre-reg for classes begins at Clarendon

Pre-registration for the Summer and Fall 2010 semesters at Clarendon College begins Tuesday, April 13. Anyone interested in taking classes this summer or fall can register at any campus. For more information, call Jamie Ward in Clarendon at 806-874-4837, David Hall in Pampa at 806-665-8801, or Wendy Altman in Childress at 940-937-2001. Summer I classes start Monday, May 17. Summer II classes start Monday, June 28. Fall classes start Wednesday, August 25. A complete schedule of classes is available online at www.clarendoncollege.edu. For information concerning financial aid, call 806-874-4858.

Texas zoos could use stimulus funds

FORT WORTH (AP) — Zoo directors across Texas who say they cannot understand why their popular facilities are not eligible for federal stimulus money have refused to give up trying to secure funds. "We are a recreation destination, but we stand heavily on our education and conservation cornerstones too," Fort Worth Zoo director Michael Fouraker told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. About 70 years ago, construction crews used Depression-era stimulus money to build monkey and alligator exhibits, a concession stand and a rock picnic shelter at the Fort Worth Zoo. In the latest stimulus bill, zoos and aquariums, the vast majority municipally owned or run, have been singled out as ineligible, along with casinos, golf courses and swimming pools. "We just can't figure out why," said Fouraker. Nevertheless, Texas zoos are not giving up. "I don't want to be excluded," said Jim Fleshman, director of the Cameron Park Zoo in Waco. "I would like the opportunity to compete. We want on a level playing field with everybody else. Based on the amount of community projects that zoos do, it would seem like a perfect place to invest funds." The National Taxpayers Union and some members of Congress have criticized the worthiness of skateboard parks, zoo renovations, horse paths and aquatic centers for federal funds. Since then, zoo directors and some lobbyists have been circulating among members of Congress to try to convince them that zoos are vital and not politically risky. The Fort Worth Zoo had initially hoped to use stimulus money to build additional restrooms, repave sidewalks and improve picnic areas, according to Fouraker. The money also could fund conservation-focused internships from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Green

"This variety of legal experience brings value and perspective to the court." Green and his wife, Kara, live in Dripping Springs, about 25 miles southwest of Austin. A graduate of Angelo State University and the University of Texas law school, Green said his practice focused on "contract law with an emphasis on helping entrepreneurs start their own businesses." Elected to the state House in 1998, he passed a bill limiting cities' ability to sue gunmakers and gun sellers. He also wrote a bill creating "Celebrate Freedom Week," when Texas schoolchildren study the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. Green's legislative career, though, has been tainted by ethical ques-

tions, although he was never charged or sanctioned. Many of the questions related to his support for the nutritional supplement Focus Factor. The company used a testimonial filmed in Green's office in 2001, along with footage of him walking the Capitol halls, in a late-night infomercial. When critics complained about improper use of his state office, Green said he got no money from Focus Factor and asked it to remove his segments from the ad and a companion radio piece. In 2002, Travis County prosecutors looked into whether Green pressured the state health department of behalf of dietary supplement maker Metabolife, which was represented by his law firm. Green also came under scrutiny for lobbying the

state parole board for the early release of an elderly man sent to prison for defrauding investors. The man had loaned one of Green's startup companies \$400,000. Green denies wrongdoing in each of those cases. He blamed "liberal prosecutors from Austin" for the criminal investigation just before the 2002 election and said they ignored similar work done by Democratic lawmakers. The \$400,000 loan from the man before the parole board was repaid in full with cash and stock, Green said. His last political maneuver was the 2006 punch to Democrat Patrick Rose, who won Green's House seat following a bitter 2002 campaign. Green, who was charged with a misdemeanor and paid a fine, now says it

was "wrong, foolish and simple." In an online book, Green wrote he was angry about a campaign mailer linking him to Rose's opponent when he struck his one-time rival outside the church on Election Day. A witness told the Austin American-Statesman that Green swung at Rose, calling him "a big baby." "It was the first real punch I had thrown since I was a kid, but it sent him to the ground," Green wrote. "I guess if I do ever run for office again, we will have a great slogan for the next campaign: 'He'll fight for Texas!'"

cont. from page 1

Watson

comes to town for a scheduled visit. Watson's position within the organization has brought some higher visibility to its Pampa branch, which Watson said one of his goals coming into the potentate's seat. "It's a big deal for Pampa," he said. "You've got representation where Pampa's voice is heard. "Our big fundraiser last year involved (auctioning) a Cadillac, and I was fortunate enough to buy from a local dealership. I try to be able to give back to our community whenever I have the chance." Watson praised the Pampa Shrine Club for its yearly effort in the drive to support the Shrine Children's Hospitals. "Last year, the Pampa club was able to raise \$1,000 for each hospital (Houston

and Galveston)," he said. "Now, that may not sound like much, but for the size that we are in Pampa, that's a lot of money. That's something to be proud of." Watson said that it means a lot to him to be a part of an organization that does so much to benefit the people around it, especially children. "The fact that I work for a charity where I can walk into the hospital and see what I was helping to do, that's important to me," said Watson. "When I first became a member, what I was doing didn't really hit me until I walked into that hospital in Houston and more so in Galveston. "Up there on that mantle, when I see what those kids are fighting through, I tear up a little bit. It's quite an honor to be able to do what we do for them."

cont. from page 1

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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Monday, April 12, the 102nd day of 2010. There are 263 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 12, 1945, President Franklin D. Roosevelt died of a cerebral hemorrhage in Warm Springs, Ga., at age 63; he was succeeded by Vice President Harry S. Truman.

On this date:

In 1606, England's King James I decreed the design of the original Union Flag, which combined the flags of England and Scotland.

In 1861, the American Civil War began as Confederate forces bombarded Fort Sumter in South Carolina.

In 1877, the catcher's mask was first used in a baseball game, by James Tyng of Harvard in a game against the Lynn Live Oaks.

In 1910, American educator and social critic William Graham Sumner died at age 69 in Englewood, N.J.

In 1934, "Tender Is the Night," by F. Scott Fitzgerald, was first published in book form after being serialized in Scribner's Magazine.

In 1955, the Salk vaccine against polio was declared safe and effective.

In 1960, Candlestick Park in San Francisco first opened, with Vice President Richard Nixon throwing the ceremonial first pitch before a game between the San Francisco Giants and St. Louis Cardinals, which the Giants won, 3-1.

In 1961, Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first man to fly in space, orbiting the earth once before making a safe landing.

In 1981, the space shuttle Columbia blasted off from Cape Canaveral on its first test flight.

In 1985, Sen. Jake Garn, R-Utah, became the first sitting member of Congress to fly in space as the shuttle Discovery lifted off.

Ten years ago: Attorney General Janet Reno met in Miami with the U.S. relatives of Elian Gonzalez, after which she ordered them to bring the 6-year-old boy to an airport the next day so he could be taken to a reunion with his father in Washington. Elian was seized by federal agents ten days after Reno's order to turn him over.

Five years ago: Three men with suspected al-Qaida ties, already in British custody, were charged with a yearslong plot to attack the New York Stock Exchange and other East Coast financial institutions. Seven men were eventually convicted in British court and received sentences ranging up to 26 years; the leader of the group, Dhiren Barot, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit murder and received life in prison. President George W. Bush visited soldiers at Fort Hood, Texas, marking the two-year anniversary of the end of Saddam Hussein's regime.

One year ago: American cargo ship captain Richard Phillips was rescued from Somali pirates by U.S. Navy snipers who shot and killed three of the hostage-takers. Angel Cabrera became the first Argentine to win the Masters. In Hameenlinna, Finland, the United States won its second straight women's World Hockey Championship title, beating Canada 4-1. Actress Marilyn Chambers, 56, who'd starred in the explicit 1972 movie "Behind the Green Door," was found dead at her home in Canyon Country, Calif.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Ned Miller is 85. Actress Jane Withers is 84. Opera singer Montserrat Caballe is 77. Actor Charles Napier is 74. Playwright Alan Ayckbourn (AYK'-bohrn) is 71. Jazz musician Herbie Hancock is 70. Actor Frank Bank ("Leave It to Beaver") is 68. Rock singer John Kay (Steppenwolf) is 66. Actor Ed O'Neill is 64. Author Tom Clancy is 63. Actor Dan Lauria is 63. Talk show host David Letterman is 63. Author Scott Turow is 61. Singer David Cassidy is 60. Actor-playwright Tom Noonan is 59. Rhythm-and-blues singer JD Nicholas (The Commodores) is 58. Singer Pat Travers is 56. Actor Andy Garcia is 54. Movie director Walter Salles (SAL'-ih-s) is 54. Country singer Vince Gill is 53. Actress Suzanne (cq) Douglas is 53. Rock musician Will Sergeant (Echo & the Bunnymen) is 52. Rock singer Art Alexakis (al-ex-AH'-kis) (Everclear) is 48. Country singer Deryl Dodd is 46. Folk-pop singer Amy Ray (Indigo Girls) is 46. Actress Alicia Coppola is 42. Rock singer Nicholas Hexum (311) is 40. Actor Nicholas Brendon is 39. Actress Shannen Doherty is 39. Actress Marley Shelton is 36. Actress Jordana Spiro is 33. Rock musician Guy Berryman (Coldplay) is 32. Actress Claire Danes is 31. Actress Jennifer Morrison is 31. Contemporary Christian musician Joe Rickard (Red) is 23. Rock singer-musician Brendon Urie (Panic at the Disco) is 23. Actress Saoirse (SUR'-shuh) Ronan ("Atonement") is 16.

Thought for Today:

"All history is only one long story to this effect: Men have struggled for power over their fellow men in order that they might win the joys of earth at the expense of others, and might shift the burdens of life from their own shoulders upon those of others."
- William Graham Sumner (1840-1910).



Victims' rights: 'Fairness, dignity, respect'

All crime victims deserve to be treated fairly, respectfully — and in a way that preserves their dignity. Fortunately, victims' rights laws and the State of Texas' extensive network of victim support services embody these ideals.

This year's National Crime Victims' Rights Week (April 18-24) theme, "Crime Victims' Rights: Fairness. Dignity. Respect." encourages us all to raise awareness about these foundational principles — and to continue striving to ensure that all crime victims are still treated with fairness, dignity and respect.

Many Texans know someone who has been a victim of crime. Yet, too few know that the law protects and serves victims by giving them rights — rights that we highlight during National Crime Victims' Rights Week, but that may apply throughout the year.

Crime victim advocates work tirelessly to give Texas crime victims a voice and to help crime victims and their families understand the rights they are guaranteed under the Texas criminal justice system. One of the fundamental rights afforded to Texas crime victims is the right to compensation.

Every law enforcement agency in the state is required to provide crime victims with information about the Texas Crime Victims' Compensation (CVC) Program and an application for financial assistance. Applications also may be found at local hospitals and medical centers. Victims and survivors can also contact the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) directly for an application.

The Texas Legislature established the Compensation to Victims of Crime Fund to help victims and their families when they cannot afford the financial cost of crime. Funded



GREG ABBOTT

set victims' out-of-pocket expenses that stem from violent crime.

Last year, the OAG, which administers the CVC Program, received more than 38,000 applications for assistance and awarded more than \$76 million in benefits to victims and their families. We also distributed more than \$40 million in grants to nonprofit organizations and public entities that provide emergency shelter, crisis counseling, court accompaniment and other victim assistance.

Violent crime is often accompanied by extraordinary physical, emotional and financial suffering. Despite the enormous difficulties they face, countless crime victims successfully work to overcome these senseless acts of violence. It is a testimony to the human spirit's resilience and the strength of individuals that so many crime victims manage to rebuild their lives.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week gives all Texans the opportunity to participate in community events that honor victims and survivors of

by convicted criminals' fees, court costs and restitution, the CVC Program is available to help eligible victims and their families that have no other means of financial support. The CVC Program is intended to offset victims' out-of-pocket expenses that stem from violent crime.

Points To Remember

"Crime Victims' Rights"

The Crime Victims' Compensation Program reimburses out-of-pocket expenses to victims of violent crime and their families. Expenses covered by the CVC Program may include:

- Funeral costs
- Medical and counseling costs
- Child care
- Relocation expenses for sexual assault victims attacked in their homes and for family violence victims

For more information on the Office of the Attorney General's Crime Victims' Compensation Program, contact:

Crime Victim Services Division
Office of the Attorney General
Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Toll Free: (800) 983-9933
crimevictims@oag.state.tx.us

crime. By observing this important week, Texans have the opportunity to join the fight for fairness, dignity and respect for all.

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

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor

I would be interested to know the cost of "saving the chicken". I would like to know the potential loss of revenue should the chicken be saved. I have lived in the Gray County area all of my life, some of it rural, and I can honestly say that I don't remember having seen a Prairie Chicken, and certainly not a Lesser Prairie Chicken.

I think perhaps that the "little rascal" doesn't want to be found. I think that perhaps a lot of money and time is being wasted to prolong something that wasn't meant to be prolonged. I think that if God had wanted the Prairie Chicken to be around forever he would have certainly made that happen. Come on, let nature take its course.

I know - how about the money used on this be used for emergency man-

agement programs. For instance, better equipped volunteer fire departments.

Loss of wildlife as well as domestic livestock has been significant in the last few years due to raging grass fires. And I'm told that local volunteer firefighters not only volunteer their time and expertise but a good portion of the expense to keep the volunteer organizations going. I think that everyone knows that there are many things both locally and statewide where this money would be better used. People are jobless, homeless, kids are hungry, senior citizens can't heat their home in the dead of winter, any number of things that we see or hear about every day. Give it a rest. Do something worthwhile.

Berinda Turcotte
Pampa

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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AP survey: Recovery to remain sluggish into 2011

BY JEANNINE AVERSA
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - The pillars of Americans' financial security - jobs and home values - will stay shaky well into 2011, according to an Associated Press survey of leading economists.

The findings of the new AP Economy Survey, released Monday, point to an economic recovery that will move slowly and fitfully this year and next. As a result, the Federal Reserve will be forced to keep interest rates near zero until at least the final quarter of this year, three-fourths of the economists said.

The new AP survey, which will be conducted quarterly, compiles forecasts of leading private, corporate and academic economists on a range of indicators, including employment, home prices and inflation. Among the first survey's key findings:

- The unemployment rate will stay stubbornly high the next two years. It will inch down to 9.3 percent by the end of this year and to 8.4 percent by the end of 2011. The rate has been 9.7 percent since January.

When the recession started in December 2007, unemployment was 5 percent.

- Home prices will remain almost flat for the next two years, even after plunging an average 30 percent nationally since their peak in 2006. The economists forecast no rise this year and a 2.3 percent gain next year.

- The economy will grow 3 percent this year, which is less than usual during the early phase of a recovery and the reason unemployment will stay high. It takes growth of 5 percent for a year to lower the jobless rate by 1 percentage point, economists say.

The economy began growing again last summer, 18 months after the recession started. To keep the recovery on track, the soonest the Federal Reserve will begin raising short-term interest rates is the fourth quarter, 34 of the 44 economists surveyed told the AP.

Those continued low rates will help stimulate home sales.

Economists think sales of previously occupied homes, the biggest chunk of the market, will tick

up to 5.4 million this year and to 5.9 million in 2011. That would mark continued improvement from the low of 4.9 million in 2008 and be in line with sales in a healthy economy.

But there's a catch. Sales are forecast to rise in part because of another anticipated wave of foreclosures. That will keep prices from rising - and consumers from spending freely. Surging home equity spurred spending during the housing boom of the last decade.

"Our houses are no longer cash machines," says Allen Sinai, chief economist at Decision Economics, who took part in the AP survey.

By keeping interest rates at record lows, the Fed intends to encourage people and companies to spend more and invigorate the recovery. But anxiety over unemployment, and a reluctance or inability to borrow, will also restrain consumer spending, economists say.

"We're not going to see any irrational exuberance from consumers this year," says Joel Naroff, president of Naroff Economic Advisors, another survey participant.

Like many Americans, Michaela O'Brien of Northampton, Mass., is trying to cope with personal damage from the worst recession since the 1930s. O'Brien's husband, Nathaniel Reade, 51, lost his job two years ago as a magazine editor. Since then, they've seen the value of their home slip. So they're spending less.

Gone are the health club memberships, ski passes and camp for their two children. "We mostly cut back on what people would consider frivolous things," O'Brien says.

She gets around in a 2000 Toyota Corolla, her husband in a 13-year old Subaru.

"We hope we don't have to buy a car anytime soon," says O'Brien, 49, a self-employed publicist. Still, she says they are fortunate because they're able to pay their mortgage.

Economists say it may take until at least the middle of the decade for home values to begin rising normally again. The biggest asset for many Americans, homes have appreciated an average 4 percent a year since World War II, economists say.

National house prices have never remained flat while the economy was growing, says Mark Zandi, chief economist of Moody's Analytics, which reviewed data going back to 1969. Adjusted for inflation, however, home prices were essentially flat throughout the 1980s and the first half of the 1990s, says Zandi, who also took part in the survey.

The recession wiped out 8.2 million jobs. Zandi and other economists had previously forecast that unemployment, which reached 10.1 percent in October, would peak at 11 percent this year. Zandi now expects joblessness to climb again from the current 9.7 percent and reach 10.2 percent by December. That's because many people who have quit looking for work and aren't counted as unemployed will start looking again and because job creation will remain weak.

Employers have begun to add jobs recently, including 162,000 in March. Economists surveyed foresee additional job creation over the next three months, but not enough to reduce the unemployment rate sig-

nificantly. They predict job gains of roughly 200,000 in April, 250,000 in May and 125,000 in June.

About 125,000 new jobs are needed each month just to keep up with population growth and prevent the unemployment rate from rising. To reduce the jobless rate significantly, employers would need to consistently add 200,000 to 300,000 a month.

"The labor market is the scar left over from the economic trauma that we've been through," says Sean Snaith, economics professor at the University of Central Florida, who took part in the survey. "It will be slow to fade."

Ann DeRoo, 40, of Fairfield, Ohio, began digging into savings to pay home and car loans after her husband was laid off from a trucking job earlier this year. DeRoo, who has three children, has also put off buying new clothes or shoes. Her son, who graduates from college in June, may have to move back home if he can't find a job.

"We just have to really watch what we're doing and worry about getting through today," DeRoo says.

States woo California dairymen with less regulation

BY MICHAEL J. CRUMB
Associated Press Writer

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) - The number of dairies in California has plummeted by more than 500 in the past decade, with many moving to other states enticed by promises of lower costs and simpler regulations.

Eight states, ranging from Idaho to Iowa, have been courting dairies from California, the nation's largest milk producer. The reason is clear: Cows mean cash for local economies.

Mike Meissen, vice president for value added agriculture for the Iowa Area Development Group, estimated each dairy cow has an economic impact of \$15,000 a year.

"So if a thousand cows go into a county, that's \$15 million," said Meissen, whose group is made up of rural electric cooperatives that work to bring new business to Iowa.

While officials in other states offer California farmers a number of reasons to consider moving, one of the biggest incentives seems to be the promise of fewer regulations.

It's a message that Michael Marsh, chief executive of the Modesto, Calif.-based Western Union Dairymen, said res-

onates in a state he calls a "regulatory nightmare for farmers." From air and water quality rules to reporting odometer readings on farm vehicles, regulations make it difficult for farmers to do business in California, he said.

"There are regulations you have here that you don't have in any other state or around the world," said Marsh, whose organization represents 60 percent of California's dairy producers.

Darin Dykstra left California in 2002 to start a dairy in northwest Iowa. Several factors drew him and his wife to Iowa, he said, including ties to Dorset College, the Sioux Center school they graduated from, and Wells Dairy, which buys milk from the Dykstras' 3,000 cows and is known for its Blue Bunny ice cream.

Dykstra also likes the slower pace, access to Christian schools for his children and distance from urban sprawl.

"Living in Southern California, there used to be grape vineyards next to our dairy. Now there are houses there," he said. "It's not ideal to have your farm in the middle of all that and slowly we were getting pushed out - all the dairies

were getting pushed out - so you have to move to the Central Valley or move out of state, and I chose to move out of state."

Because land is cheaper in Iowa, he also could afford to grow feed corn on about 1,750 acres, rather than buying it as he did in California.

Dykstra still owns part of his family's farm in California. But he said he was glad to be away from the state's regulations, such as the required installation of expensive methane digesters over manure lagoons accompanied by a ban on emissions from the engines the digesters power.

"Dairymen are trying to do the right thing, but the state is putting up road blocks," he said.

Marsh said stories like Dykstra's are all too familiar. At least eight other states are trying to attract California dairies: Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nevada, Texas and Wyoming.

"Other states come to farm shows and say 'Come to our state where this is little regulation, low taxes, jobs, state grants.' So for a lot of farmers, they look at that and the grass may be greener," Marsh said.

Iowa, which is known mostly for hogs and corn,

has been able to attract enough dairies from California and elsewhere to become the nation's 12th largest dairy producer.

Texas also has lured dairies with what it claims are less onerous regulations, an attractive climate and large feed supplies. Its dairy cow population has grown from about 17,000 in 2000 to more than 200,000 this year, said Ellen Jordan, a dairy specialist with the Texas A&M extension. Overall, Texas ranks No. 8 among dairy states, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"Producers who come here know what the regulations are," she said. "They can get a permit to operate and they know the area they are choosing is very ag friendly."

Meanwhile, the number of California dairies dropped from more than 2,200 dairies in 1999 to 1,700 in 2009.

Still, what that means isn't entirely clear. Jay Van Rein, a spokesman for the California Department of Food and Agriculture, said the decrease happened as the industry shrunk and some dairies bought others out.

"It isn't just farms or herds disappearing," he said. "In many cases, they

were absorbed into other herds."

The state had about 1.8 million dairy cows last year, down some from the year before, but still more than 300,000 more than it had in 1999, according to the USDA.

Van Rein declined to "wade into" issues of California's regulatory climate, saying the Legislature makes the rules

and agencies enforce them. But he acknowledged some communities didn't plan their growth well, leading to homes bumping up against farms.

"In our Central Valley, where most of our farms are, they have learned that lesson and are taking steps to improve their planning before they build subdivisions that are bordering farms," Van Rein said.

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips



DEAR ABBY: It has been eight years since my boyfriend, "Grant," filed taxes. His refusal to file a tax return has caused many arguments between us.

Grant's parents got wind of it one year and gave him money to pay them off, but he spent the money to pay other bills. Grant is an only child. His parents often bail him out financially. This has begun to gnaw at me because I'm at the point where I'm thinking about marriage and children. I know we can't be married until he takes care of his tax problem.

How serious is it not paying your taxes? Is this something I should just ignore? I couldn't pay the bills if he was put in jail. Will this 30-something only child ever grow up?

— APRIL 15-PHOBIC
DEAR PHOBIC: According to the National Association of Enrolled Agents (NAEA), a professional society of federally licensed tax practitioners, failing to file your taxes is worse than failing to pay. By not filing, your boyfriend runs the risk of paying not only the taxes he owes, but penalties and interest as well.

You need to tell Grant he can get help from an enrolled agent to guide him through the process of filing back returns and, if necessary, setting up a payment schedule with the IRS. He can locate one in his area by accessing the NAEA Web site, www.naea.org. If he doesn't have access to a computer, his local library can help him.

More than 10,000 enrolled agents are listed. Because they are the only tax specialists licensed to practice before the IRS, Grant can be assured the matter will be handled confidentially in the most competent way.

You should not ignore

Grant's behavior. Protect yourself tax-wise by filing your return separately from his until the matter is settled. Should you decide to marry him, file as "married, filing separately" so your incomes (at least in the eyes of the IRS) won't be viewed as one entity. Use the same enrolled agent or find one for yourself.

Do check out this reputable organization. Don't wait for your boyfriend to grow up to do it because at the rate he's maturing, that may never happen.

DEAR ABBY: My son "Matt" is a junior in high school. He says he's not attending the junior/senior prom this year because he doesn't have anyone special to go with.

I tried to explain that his date doesn't have to be a "girlfriend," that she can just be a friend. I told him he could also go with a bunch of guys who don't have dates.

I know later on in life Matt will regret not having gone to the prom, and I'm sad about his decision. Should I make him go even though he doesn't want to, hoping he has a good time when he gets there? Or should I drop the issue and respect his wishes even if he's making a mistake? Matt is 17 and not particularly social, and I think that's why he doesn't want to go. — ENCOURAGING MOM

DEAR MOM: There is a fine line that separates an encouraging mom from a mom who is overbearing. Your son is only a junior, and will have a chance next year to change his mind and attend the prom as a senior. Frankly, I have never had a man write me or tell me that looking back on his high school years he regretted missing a dance. A game, perhaps — but never a dance.

Mirant, RRI Energy combining in \$1.61B deal

ATLANTA (AP) - Energy providers Mirant Corp. and RRI Energy Inc. said Sunday they are combining in a \$1.61-billion stock-swap deal, renaming the company and creating a utility powerhouse that will become one of the nation's largest independent power producers.

The combined company, which will have a market capitalization of about \$3.1 billion, will be called GenOn Energy. It will bring together roughly 24,650 megawatts of electric generating capacity, operations from coast to coast and have total revenue of \$4.13 billion, based on full-year 2009 figures.

GenOn will be led by Mirant Chairman and CEO Edward R. Muller until 2013, when he will retire and the top post will be taken by Mark M. Jacobs, RRI Energy's current president and CEO. Jacobs will serve as GenOn's president, chief operating officer and a director until that time.

There likely will be job cuts among the two companies' 3,600 employees, but how many has not been decided, Jacobs told The

Associated Press. Muller, who has been Mirant CEO since 2005, said that once he retires he has no plans to head another major company.

Mirant stockholders will receive 2.835 RRI common shares for each Mirant share they own. Based on RRI's Friday closing price of \$3.95, that values Mirant at \$11.20 per share - a 4 percent premium. Based on Mirant's 143.9 million shares outstanding at March 8, the deal values Atlanta-based Mirant at \$1.61 billion.

Mirant stockholders will own roughly 54 percent of the combined company, while shareholders of RRI Energy will own roughly 46 percent.

The two companies said they expect \$150 million in annual cost savings starting in January 2012 from reductions in corporate overhead. The transaction, expected to close by the end of the year, is subject to regulatory and stockholder approvals and the refinancing of a portion of each company's existing debt.

GenOn will be based in Houston, where RRI

Energy is headquartered, and the Mirant and RRI Energy corporate names will be phased out, according to the companies. The GenOn board will include

10 members - five from each of the two companies' existing boards. Mirant Chief Financial Officer J. William Holden III will serve as GenOn CFO.

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

6	2	3	1	7	4	9	8	5
4	7	5	6	8	9	2	3	1
8	1	9	3	5	2	6	7	4
9	4	7	8	6	5	1	2	3
3	6	1	9	2	7	4	5	8
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7	5	8	2	9	1	3	4	6
2	9	4	5	3	6	8	1	7
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Level: Beginner

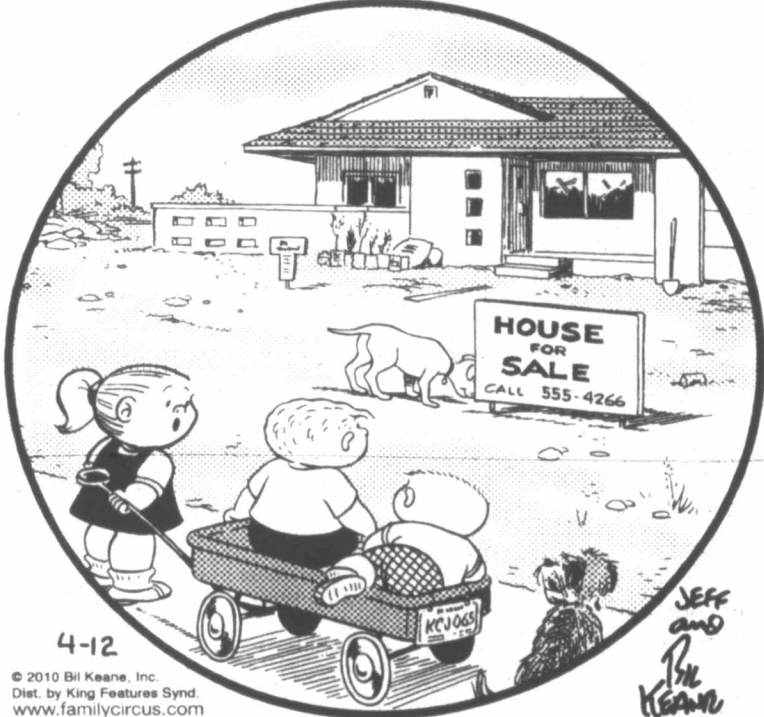
Comics

Marmaduke



"This is getting pretty exciting. He thinks he's treed a bird."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"It's a HOUSE right now. When people move in it'll be a HOME."

Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 39 Difficult
 - 1 Mama's mate
 - 5 Velocity
 - 10 Baldwin of "30 Rock"
 - 11 Stretched one's neck
 - 13 Stadium sound
 - 14 Eye part
 - 15 Salaries
 - 17 Collins base
 - 18 Play-ground sights
 - 19 Periodical, for short
 - 20 Attempt
 - 21 Beckon
 - 22 Oscar's roommate
 - 25 Marshal's group
 - 26 Business biggie
 - 27 Desk-set item
 - 28 Suitable
 - 29 Twisted snack
 - 33 Use the couch
 - 34 Ancestry
 - 35 Eisenhower's predecessor
 - 37 Royal address
 - 38 Trig function
- DOWN**
- 1 Louvre locale
 - 2 Singly
 - 3 United Nations goal
 - 4 Puzzle magazine offering
 - 5 Odd
 - 6 Printer's need
 - 7 Put away
 - 8 Puzzles
 - 9 Contradictions
 - 12 Hang loosely
 - 16 "Das Kapital" author
 - 21 Matches
 - 22 Big dinners
 - 23 No longer good
 - 24 Club sandwich layer
 - 25 Hammer part
 - 27 Photographs
 - 29 Garden item
 - 30 Congo's former name
 - 31 Wading bird
 - 32 Onions' kin
 - 36 Fellow

C	A	P	O	T	E	G	L	E	E
U	T	O	P	I	A	R	O	L	L
R	E	S	T	E	R	U	S	E	D
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S	A	N	E	S	T	O	R	E	S

Saturday's answer

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

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For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



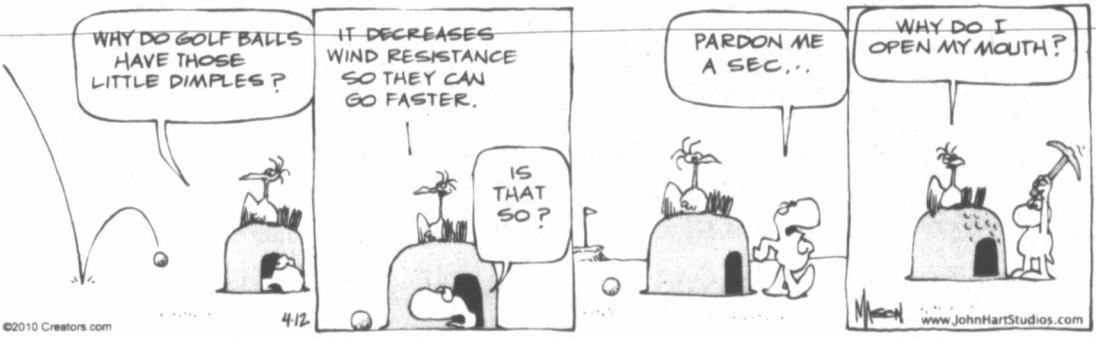
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



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1715 W
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1129 St
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1048 N
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Sports

Pampa softball seeking title in season's final weeks

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

After coming from behind against Randall last Tuesday, the Pampa Lady Harvesters softball team is in contention for the district title entering the final two weeks of the season.

Pampa is 17-9-1 overall and 7-1 in district play, currently tied for first with the Randall Lady Raiders (15-10, 7-1). The Canyon Lady Eagles (21-8-1, 7-2) are only a half game behind them. These next two weeks will be challenging for all three teams as they try and win the district title.

To begin, no matter how these three teams finish, all of them have qualified for

the playoffs. This Tuesday, the Lady Harvesters host Dumas, who they beat 20-0 in Dumas March 29. Pampa will have to hit the ball well at home to come out on top. Randall hosts Hereford and based on their records should win to keep a tie for the district lead. Canyon is open on Tuesday.

Randall makes up a game with Dumas on Friday, which they should win and, for less than 24 hours, hold a half-game lead in district. Saturday will be a big day for all three teams. The Lady Harvesters visit Caprock, who they beat 1-0 with just three runners reaching base. Pampa is hitting the ball better than



Andrew Glover

they were the first time and should have more offense. Randall and Canyon play each other in Canyon. The result of this game could swing the district in favor of Pampa or essentially make it a two-team race between Pampa and

Randall.

On April 20, Pampa hosts Hereford for their home regular season finale. If the Lady Harvesters produce offensively it should be a similar result that they had in Hereford (10-1). Canyon plays at Palo Duro and should have no problem with the struggling Lady Dons. Randall plays their final non-district game against Lubbock Estacado.

April 23 has another potential swing game, as the Lady Harvesters visit the Eagles. A Pampa victory could clinch the district depending on the results prior to this game, or guarantee at least a tie with Randall. A Canyon victory also depending on

prior results could create a three-way tie for first with all three teams at 10-2. Randall hosts Palo Duro so should close the regular season with a win.

The Lady Harvesters have a strong chance for the title. Since district play as started, Pampa is hitting the ball better. In their last five games, the Lady Harvesters have scored 73 runs on 84 hits, while their opponents have only scored 10 runs. Leading hitters for the Lady Harvesters include Shelbie Watson and Brooklyn Barker. Watson has been putting the ball in play and hard, driving in several runs for Pampa. Barker has been a clutch player in district,

getting one of the only hits against Caprock and scored the winning run. Against Randall, she had the game-tying and game-winning hits.

On the mound, Ashley Facio and Carlyn Teichmann aren't allowing opposing hitters much. Facio is 3-0 and has only allowed seven runs in four starts. Teichmann is 4-1 and has only allowed four runs in four starts and one relief appearance.

These next two weeks will be very exciting as the Lady Harvesters battle for District 3-4A supremacy.

Tracking the softball District 3-4A title race

Team	W	L	W%	W	L	T	W%
y-Pampa	7	1	.875	17	9	1	.648
y-Randall	7	1	.875	15	10	0	.600
y-Canyon	7	2	.778	21	8	1	.717

y=clinched playoff spot

Tuesday's matchups
Pampa vs. Dumas 5 p.m.
Randall vs. Hereford 5 p.m.
Canyon-open

Girls track reaps seventh, boys fail to place in Dumas

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The Pampa High School girls track placed seventh, while the boys did not place in the North Plains Relays at Dumas Friday.

Head Girls Track Coach Gene Valentine said he thought the Dumas meet went well and is looking forward to Thursday and Friday's district meet.

"Everyone that participated ran their personal best," Valentine said. I really like the chances we have for people to qualify for regional."

The girls finished the North Plains Relays with 52 points which was seven

behind sixth place Palo Duro. All of Pampa's district opponents were at the meet, and Pampa finished fourth. Randall won the meet with 128 points, Dumas was fifth with 79 and Palo Duro was sixth.

J'Cee Holmes finished third in the 3200 meter run with a time of 12:45.58. Natalie Parker won first in the 100 meter run with a time of 12.14 seconds. Karen Jimenez finished fourth with a time of 12.71 seconds. Parker finished first in the 200 with a time of 25.75. Kara Stephens finished second with a time of 26.74. Jimenez finished fourth with a time of 27.29.

The boys didn't have anyone who placed in their events. The top six in each event place. Amarillo Tascosa won the meet with a score of 169. Just like the girls, the boys faced all of their district opponents. Palo Duro finished second in the meet with 128. Canyon finished third with 88.50, Randall finished fourth with 80, Dumas finished fifth with 49, Caprock finished sixth with 29.50, and Hereford finished ninth with 17.

Both the boys and girls track teams will compete in the district meet 9 a.m. Thursday through Friday at Harvester Field.



photo by Jim Merriot Moore County News-Press
Joseph Vizcaino leaps over a hurdle in the North Plains Relay Friday in Dumas. The boys track team failed to place. The district meet is Thursday and Friday.



photo by Jim Merriot Moore County News-Press
Ryan Smith jumps over a hurdle in the North Plains Relays Friday at Dumas. Smith didn't place in the event. The district track meet is Thursday and Friday at Harvester Field.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Pirates place third, Lady Pirates tenth in district

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The Lefors Pirates finished third and the Lady Pirates tenth in the District 8-1A track meet Thursday at Panhandle.

The Pirates earned 103 points and was 24 points behind second place Vega. Follett won the meet with 132 points. The top four athletes in each event qualified for area.

Keenan Lott finished fifth in the 100 with a time of 12.45 seconds. Wakely Pairsh finished sixth in the 200 with a time of 26.13 seconds. Trever Czubinski qualified for area with a third place finish in the 400 with a time of 57.23. Cody Hess finished sixth with a time of 1:02.72. Reice Warner qualified for area

in the 3200 meter run with a time of 13:51 for fourth.

Lefors finished second in the 400 relay with a time of 48.58, second in the 800 relay with a time of 1:42.17 and second in the 1600 relay with a time of 3:57.93. Qualifying for area in all three relays.

Czubinski finished fifth in the long jump with a distance of 18 feet and three and one fourth of an inch. Czubinski qualified for area in the triple jump with a distance of 39 feet and six and one half inches. Lott qualified for area with a second place finish in the high jump with a distance of five feet and eight inches. The Pirates qualified three for area in the pole vault. Lott won first with a distance of nine feet, Colten

Helfer was second with a distance of eight feet and Dennis Sprouse was fourth with a distance of eight feet.

The Lady Pirates scored 22 points and was only 15 points from seventh place Darrouzett, who had 37. Vega won the title with 122 points.

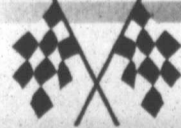
Taylor Overstreet qualified for area with a fourth place finish in the 400 meter run (1:11.22). The Lady Pirates finished fifth in the 400 relay with a time of 1:02.26 and fifth in the 1600 relay with a time of 5:10.54. Overstreet finished fifth in the long jump with a distance of 13 feet and 11 inches. With a distance of 30 feet and six inches, Overstreet qualified for area with a second place finish.

Celebrate Teichmann's signing with Howard College

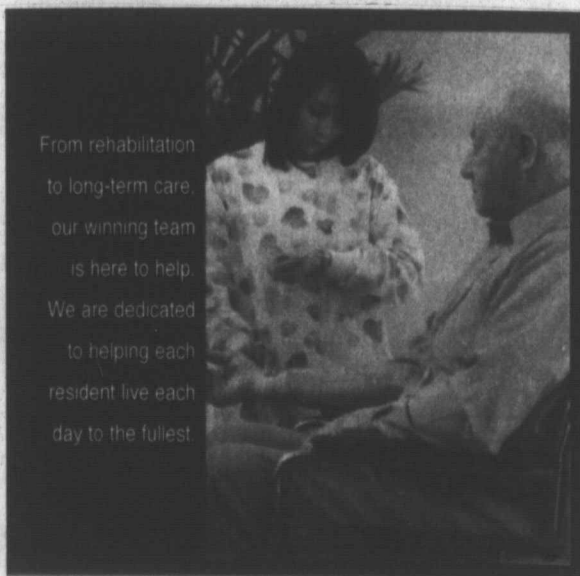
You are invited to help Carlyn celebrate her signing to play softball with the Howard Junior College Lady Hawks. Come watch the Lady Harvesters play Dumas at Lady Harvester Field on Tuesday, April 13, at 5 p.m.

Directly following the game, we will wish Carlyn good luck at Lady Harvester Field. There will be plenty of cake!! Come join the fun!!

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