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Floor
 We meet again
 Harvesters set for match with Bulldogs
 Page 8

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The PAMPA NEWS

TODAY IN SPORTS
 We meet again
 Harvesters set for match with Bulldogs
 Page 8

inside:
 Antique or Junque?
 Page 3

Thursday, April 28, 2011 Volume 107 • No. 20 75¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

City officials: Water park not causing tax rise

DAVID BOWSER
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

City officials said there has been an apparent misunderstanding concerning the money being used to fund the construction of Pampa's new water park.

Charges were made at a candidate forum Monday night that taxes were going up because of the city commission's decision to build the aquatic park.

City officials said today that the city commission has not raised taxes.

The money being used for the park is part of a \$9.1 million issuance of Certificates of Obligation by the City of Pampa. About \$3 million of the money will be used for the water park. The rest will go for projects at the landfill and new water wells.

The three million dollars will be added to a million dollar grant from the Pampa Economic Development Corporation to build the water aquatic park, said Assistant City Manager Shane Stokes.

With the exception of a few thousand dollars for parks and playground equipment, city administrators said the Certificates of Obligation would be paid off by money generated by the projects they are funding.

"The revenue from the (aquatic) park will pay toward the debt on the construction," Stokes said.

"The landfill supports itself," said Donny Hooper, director of TAXES cont. on page 5

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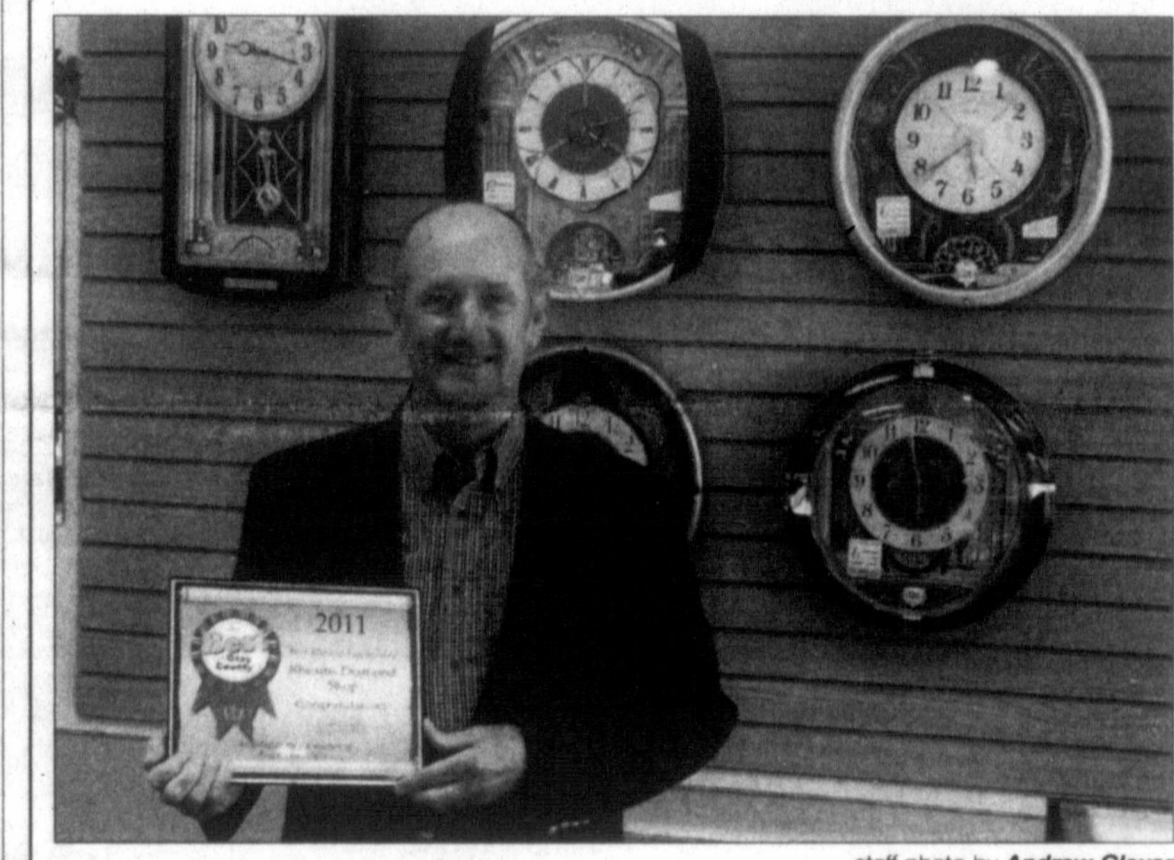
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2011 Best of Gray County A GEM OF A STORE



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Time to celebrate: Surrounded by a field of ticking clocks in his store, Ken Rheams holds up his plaque for the best place to buy jewelry in Gray County. Rheams won the honor through a vote of *The Pampa News* readers.

Rheams voted best place for jewelry

ANDREW GLOVER
 aglover@thepampanews.com

Rheams said, "When they come in here, they buy the bridal sets, gifts for anniversaries, birthdays or just because. When they walk out of here, you know that somebody is happy, and that makes me happy."

Love, in fact, was what led Rheams to open Rheams Diamond Shop with his wife, Stephanie, after they were married in Amarillo 35 years ago.

This month, the store was recognized as the "Best Place to Buy Jewelry," according to readers of *The Pampa News*.

RHEAMS cont. on page 7

Trespassing on local ag land rising

DAVID BOWSER
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

The Gray County Sheriff's Office is reporting that, with spring weather, trespassing on farm and ranch land across the county is on the rise.



Lt. Joe B. Hoard with the sheriff's office said this week that there have been increased reports by Gray County ranchers and farmers of trespassing incidents.

He said that trespassing on agricultural land is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500.

Hoard said the sheriff's office has received several complaints of trespassing, particularly from the area south of Pampa and near Lefors.

The complaints have ranged from fences being cut and the landscape being littered with trash to land being torn up by all-terrain vehicles and four-wheel-drive vehicles, according to Hoard.

"We just want to remind you that when you cross a cattle guard," Hoard said, "that's when you're crossing on to someone else's land."

He said a county road is a public right-of-way, but the land next to the road is private property and that should be respected.

4-H fishing tourney registration starts on Sunday

DAVID BOWSER
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

T. Boone Pickens will host an overnight camp-out and fishing tournament this summer for 4-H students.

The camping and fishing trip will be at Pickens' Mesa Vista north of Pampa in June.

Gray County Extension Agent Brandon McGinty said this week that the 4-H Fishing and Fun Overnight Camp and Fishing Tournament will be at Cottonwood Lake at Pickens' Mesa Vista Ranch on June 6 and 7.

Check-in starts at 1 p.m., he said.

"The goal of the program is to introduce kids to the lifelong sport of fishing,"



McGinty
 McGinty said, "Participants must bring their own tents and equipment. Swimmers will be required to wear life jackets, McGinty said. Meals, snacks and program supplies will

be provided, but participants will have to furnish their own bait.

McGinty said participants might be able to catch grasshoppers at the lake.

In order to participate in the camp, youth must be enrolled in 4-H.

"You can pick up an enrollment form at the Gray County Extension Office, 12125 East Frederic," McGinty said.

Pre-registration is due online via 4-H Connect no later than June 2.

Medical releases and code of conduct forms are due at check-in on June 4.

More information can be found at the website <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu> or by calling the Gray County Agent's office at 806-669-8033.

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PAMPA FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
High 88 Low 49	High 65 Low 38	High 57 Low 36

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 47. Windy, with a south wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 88. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 25 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 45 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 49. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 20 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 65. Breezy, with a north northwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 38. Windy, with a northeast wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Sunday: A slight chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 57. Breezy, with a northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 36. Breezy, with a east wind between 5 and 15 mph.

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- DRAG RACE,** Sat. Apr. 30, start time 7pm, get car ready at 6pm. Pampa Slot Car Speedway. Visit our Hobby Center!
- NATIONAL DAY** of Prayer May 5th at MK Brown in the Heritage Room 12:00-12:50.
- JOIN US** for hotdogs, Czech sausage & door prizes. Fri., Apr. 29, from 11am to 2pm, for RVOS Grand Opening at Robertson Benefits Ins., 1224 N. Hobart, behind NBC Bank.

BANANAGRAMS!

For each phrase below, rearrange the letters to spell two new words that are opposites in meaning. For example, WEAR CAPE becomes WAR and PEACE.

A P E A K W E A S E L

T H E F T G I R L

S T R A N G E W O K

N O M E A N Y

Yesterday's Answer: ADIOS, MACHO, RUMBA

Texas House passes redistricting plan

AUSTIN (AP) — The GOP-led Texas House approved a redistricting plan early Thursday that would all but guarantee a continued Republican majority — albeit a smaller one than the party has now.

The map was approved on a 92-52 vote after a marathon debate that dragged into the wee morning hours Thursday. It would pit several Republicans against each other, the natural result of an unsustainably large supermajority.

Some Republican members and activists wanted to make the map a much bolder grab for conservative seats and limit the number of losses. But House leaders easily beat back those attempts. Either way, there is only so much they can do given the constraints of federal anti-discrimination laws and shifts in population away from conservative rural areas and toward the suburbs that have seen explosive and diverse population growth.

The emotional and heated debate ended up dragging on for some 16 hours, the longest single session in the House so far this year and testament to the importance lawmakers place on their own futures. The map faces a final procedural hurdle before it can move to the Senate.

"I recognize that some members are not going to be pleased with the results of the map," said Rep. Burt Solomons, the north Texas Republican who is leading the redistricting effort. "It's very personal ... to everyone here."

Republicans rode a conservative wave in the 2010 elections and now have a lopsided 101-49 majority in the 150-member House, a supermajority so big that they can conduct business even if Democrats don't show up for work. That didn't stop Democratic lawmakers from trying to derail the map Wednesday on procedural grounds, to no avail.

As the clock inched toward midnight, back-door negotiations among members from the Houston

area idled the floor debate for over two hours, with more than a dozen redistricting amendments still on the plate. It took that long for them to agree on relatively minor precinct changes.

With so many seats to protect, GOP leaders can't draw enough safe districts to protect all their incumbents in the next election, in 2012. Seats go where the population is, and initial proposals would draw several Republicans into the same districts, particularly in slower-growing East and West Texas and in Dallas County. Several freshman members who were elected with strong tea-party backing would be pitted against fellow GOP members under the proposal, assuming they choose to run again.

But two of them got a reprieve in an amendment that got unanimous approval.

Republican Reps. Jim Landtroop and Charles Perry, both from West Texas, would get separate districts under the proposal that would take a single seat out of the region for redistribution elsewhere. Perry and Landtroop called the new proposal a victory for the rural region. West Texas Democratic Rep. Pete Gallego scored a victory, too, by getting Loving County — the state's smallest — back into his district. It grew by 22 percent over the last decade — from 67 to 82 people.

Statewide, 12 Republicans still face "pairings," meaning they would be drawn into the same districts.

Two Democrats would also be paired in the Houston area. One of them is Rep. Scott Hochberg, who said map drawers creatively split the 5401 Chimney Rock apartment complex, hoping for his demise. If the map became law, inhabitants of the complex could be in different state House districts depending on which unit they live in, Hochberg said.

Hispanics, who have accounted

for two-thirds of Texas' population growth since 2000, are demanding more Latino-dominated seats in the redraw. The House map Solomons proposed would add one seat in which 50 percent of more of the district's registered voters would have Spanish surnames. The Voting Rights Act requires that the interests of minority voters be protected and potentially expanded during the redistricting process.

Beyond partisanship and racial issues, the debate got highly personal as members — who seem to have perfect knowledge of their precincts and neighborhoods — talked about where their own homes would be located and what cities they would represent.

"They're all political animals and this is the ultimate political board game," said veteran political observer Russ Tidwell of the Texas Trial Lawyers Association.

Endangered members were trying to save themselves — generally by throwing other people overboard. GOP Rep. Linda Harper-Brown of Irving, first elected in 2002, sparred with freshman Rep. Rodney Anderson, R-Grand Prairie, over a proposal that combines their districts into one. But changes to Dallas County, from both of them, were soundly rejected.

Republican Rep. Jim Jackson said Anderson's proposal "messed with a lot of people" in his district.

"I thought I was an innocent bystander until I saw the last map and I found out I was a victim," he said.

Lawmakers are trying to draw new districts for themselves, Texas members of Congress and the State Board of Education — but all of the modifications are sure to land in a courtroom with multiple legal challenges. Redistricting is required to account for population adjustments after the Census, and Texas is the fastest-growing large state, having added 4.3 million people since 2000.

New national security team put in place

WASHINGTON (AP) — Reshuffling his national security team at a crucial time, President Barack Obama is aiming for maximum continuity, installing road-tested players steeped in his policies on diplomacy and war.

Obama was to announce Thursday that CIA Director Leon Panetta will replace Defense Secretary Robert Gates when Gates makes his long-planned exit this summer, a senior administration official said. Gen. David Petraeus, the high-profile commander of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, will replace Panetta at the CIA in the fall, after helping to manage the first steps of a drawdown of U.S. troops in Afghanistan.

Petraeus' job will be filled by Marine Corps Lt. Gen. John Allen, the deputy commander of U.S. Central Command, which oversees U.S. military operations across the Middle East, including Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq and Iran.

Seasoned diplomat Ryan Crocker is being installed as U.S. ambassador in Afghanistan.

The long-pending reorganization is less a shake-up than a rearrangement of a team that the White House believes already has worked well man-

aging the winding down of the Iraq war and the troop buildup in Afghanistan, and which now is preparing to begin withdrawing troops from there. Team members also have handled the sometimes contentious relations with Pakistan and other countries.

The administration official emphasized that the aim was to preserve Obama's policies in Afghanistan and elsewhere, not alter them. The official spoke on condition of anonymity ahead of Obama's announcement.

"The White House is maintaining broad continuity," said John Nagl, president of the Center for a New American Security, a Washington research organization. "Everyone who is coming in are all current in the game. They've been working these issues."

The proposed changes, which require Senate approval, drew mostly rave reviews from Democrats and Republicans in Congress.

"President Obama's choice of Director Panetta to follow Secretary Gates and General Petraeus to take the reins at the CIA will provide important continuity of leadership, policy, and philosophy and keeps a strong national security team in place," said Senate Foreign Relations Chairman

John Kerry, D-Mass. "I expect broad approval and swift confirmations."

House Armed Services Committee Chairman Buck McKeon, R-Calif., praised Petraeus and Panetta and promised to work closely with them as well as Crocker and Allen. "I pledge my full support to their efforts to secure victory for the United States and lasting peace for the Afghan people," McKeon said.

The reorganization was set in motion largely by Gates' plans to leave his job midyear. A Republican appointed by then-President George W. Bush, the widely respected defense secretary had wanted to leave when Obama took office, but the president persuaded him to stay on. He's now set to depart June 30, at which point Panetta would replace him.

Panetta, too, had to be talked into taking over at the Pentagon, according to the senior administration official. The official said Panetta, a former Democratic congressman from California who also worked as White House chief of staff and budget director, was reluctant to leave a job he relishes but answered Obama's call.

Gates told senior staff that he had recommended Panetta to the president six months ago.

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips



DEAR ABBY: My wife and I shop in an upscale shoe store. On the past two visits there, a middle-aged salesman kissed my wife's hand when we left. I was surprised but not offended, considering it to be nothing more than an old-fashioned expression of courtesy. The man is knowledgeable, helpful and honest. My wife, however, disagrees. She says his gesture is forward and inappropriate and that I should resent it. Who's right? — T.R. IN HOUSTON

DEAR T.R.: You are. The kiss-on-the-hand routine may be part of the man's sales technique. If he has done it before and your wife had no objection, then it's not surprising he did it a second time. What would she like you to do -- challenge him to a duel? If she felt the gesture was inappropriate, then she shouldn't have offered her hand to him a second time.

DEAR ABBY: I hope you will share the following tips for dealing with orphaned or injured wildlife. Once people understand how to handle an encounter with an injured animal they will make safe decisions and possibly have a positive impact

on nature:

1. The animal may NOT be orphaned! Deer leave their babies hidden in clumps of bushes or tall grass while they search for food. A baby bird that has fallen from the nest can be gently picked up and returned.

2. If you find an orphaned or injured animal, be very cautious. Frightened animals and animals in pain will bite. Opossums, raccoons and other mammals can carry rabies.

3. Do not bring the animal inside to nurse it back to health and keep as a pet. It will probably need the care of a veterinarian, and it's illegal in most states to keep a native species without a license. Contact a wildlife rehabilitation center. Your local park service can point you to the nearest rehab center.

4. After any contact with an injured/orphaned animal, wash your hands and change your clothing as soon as possible. You don't know what germs the animal may be carrying.

5. Teach children about local wildlife. If they find an animal that is sick or injured, make sure they know they should tell an adult right away

6. You CAN make a difference.

Severely injured animals may not be able to return to the wild, but many rehab centers keep them as display animals and use them to teach the public more about them. Unless you are a veterinarian, you cannot accurately determine if an animal will survive or not. Animals that really have no chance will be humanely euthanized instead of left to suffer, which in a case like that, is the kindest thing that can be done. — CARLY IN RICHMOND HEIGHTS, OHIO

DEAR CARLY: I hope my animal-loving readers will give your letter the consideration it deserves, because it highlights the fact that sometimes people -- with the best of intentions -- can cause more harm than good. If you encounter an injured animal, the wisest thing to do is contact animal control or a local shelter.

DEAR ABBY: My friend says if it weren't for sex, you wouldn't have enough material to write your column. I disagree, and have told him that you could still do your columns. What say you? — TOM AND JERRY IN CINCINNATI

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Intermediate

AFTERNOON RUSH More people applied for unemployment benefits

Pipeline explosion case settled

AMARILLO (AP) — The attorney for a family whose members suffered burns from a 2009 natural gas pipeline explosion in the Texas Panhandle says a lawsuit against the companies that owned it has been settled.

Kevin Glasheen said terms of the settlement reached Wednesday owner are sealed, but the family will have "security and comfort for the rest of their lives." Three members of the Torres family were injured in the explosion. Their home was about 100 yards from the explosion.

When the 24-inch pipeline exploded on Nov. 5, 2009, near Bushland, 15 miles west of Amarillo. Flames shot hundreds of feet into the air, homes shook and window blinds melted.

Smithfield sells Dalhart site

SMITHFIELD, Va. (AP) — Smithfield Foods Inc. has sold a Texas hog production facility to Wayzata-Minn.-based Cargill Inc. for about \$33 million.

Smithfield Foods President and CEO C. Larry Pope says the transaction announced Wednesday is part of the international food company's strategy to shed non-core assets.

The Virginian-Pilot reports Smithfield had reduced the number of sows at the Dalhart, Texas, facility in August 2009.

Drone for border 'insufficient'

CORPUS CHRISTI, (AP) — Three congressmen say one unmanned aircraft based in Corpus Christi is insufficient to patrol the 1,200-mile border between Texas and Mexico.

U.S. Reps. Michael McCaul and Blake Farenthold, R-Texas, and Henry Cuellar, D-Texas, made the comments after meeting with state and federal officials at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

According to the Corpus Christi Caller-Times, Farenthold, of Corpus Christi, said Texas leads the list of possible recipients of more aerial drones by the end of the year.

Small lizard sparks debate

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — U.S. Rep. Steve Pearce says residents in oil and gas country in southeastern New Mexico and West Texas are ready to start marching in the streets. He says they're ready to say enough is enough.

The New Mexico Republican is talking about the sentiment shared by the hundreds of people who have turned out to town hall gatherings, rallies and public meetings in recent weeks to protest a proposal by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to give endangered species protections to the dunes sagebrush lizard.

The agency held a public meeting Wednesday night in Midland and another is planned Thursday in Roswell. Environmentalists say the lizard's situation is dire, but Pearce and others say they're concerned the listing would kill jobs and devastate the oil and gas industry.

WASHINGTON (AP) — More people sought unemployment benefits last week, the second rise in three weeks, a sign of the slow and uneven jobs recovery.

Applications for unemployment benefits jumped 25,000 to a seasonally adjusted 429,000 for the week ending April 23, the Labor Department said today. That's the highest total since late January.

The four-week average of applications, a less volatile measure, rose to 408,500, its third straight rise and the first time it has topped 400,000 in two months. Applications near 375,000 are consistent with sustained job creation. Applications peaked during the recession at 659,000.

Several economists attributed the increase to difficulties in seasonally adjusting the data around the Easter holidays. Since the timing of Easter changes each year, the data around the holiday week can be volatile.

"Given these technical factors, we are inclined to dismiss the recent backup," said Carl Riccadonna, an economist at Deutsche Bank Securities. "We will be looking for claims to move back below 400,000 in early May."

Other analysts were more slightly more concerned. Ryan Wang, an economist at HSBC Securities, noted that the four-week average has increased by 20,000 in the past month.

"Minor seasonal distortions are not a good reason to dismiss the underlying increase in jobless claims," Wang wrote in a note to clients. "This is a big enough increase to merit some concern about the direction of employment growth going forward."

Some analysts have predicted that auto factory shutdowns, stemming from supply disruptions in Japan, would cause applications to rise. But a Labor Department analyst said only one state reported auto-related layoffs and the increase was modest.

Economic growth slowed sharply in the first three months of the year, according to a separate report Thursday from the Commerce Department. Rising gas prices cut into consumer spending, bad weather delayed construction projects and the federal government cut defense spending by the most in six years.

The economy grew at a 1.8 percent annual rate in the January-March quarter, a much weaker pace than the 3.1 percent growth in the previous quarter. But

economists say the slowdown is mostly the result of high gas prices and other temporary factors. They

expect gas prices will stabilize and growth will exceed 3 percent pace for the rest of this year.

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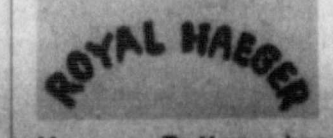
ANNE MCCOLLAM
 Q: The pictured oak roll-top desk has been in my family for years. It was refinished approximately 20 to 30 years ago, and I hope some of its value has not been lost. There are four drawers on the left side and three drawers on the right side. The bottom one is a double drawer, which is deep enough for holding files. There are pull-out writing panels above the drawers, and the handles are hand-carved. The overall measurements are 50 inches high, 50 inches wide and 34 inches deep. Could you please tell the insurance value?



A: You have a fine example of a Golden Oak S-curve roll-top desk that was made around 1900. The design lines are similar to desks made by Hersee and Co. in Buffalo, N.Y. Take another look at your desk for a metal plate or mark that would identify the maker. The value of your desk was not appreciably diminished when it was refinished. Insure your desk for \$5,000 to \$6,000.

A Golden Oak roll-top desk was made around 1900.

Q: This mark is on the bottom of a vase that I bought at a yard sale. Standing about 7 inches high, the vase is decorated with a dark green glaze.



Haeger Pottery has been located in Illinois since 1871. What can you tell me

about my vase?
 A: Starting operations in Dundee, Ill., Haeger Pottery has been in business since 1871. In 1938, they opened a second factory in Macomb, Ill., and introduced the Royal Haeger line. Haeger Pottery has produced a plethora of decorative pieces including lamps, vases, planters, ashtrays, pitchers and florist containers. Your vase was made in mid-20th century and would probably be worth \$10 to \$30.
 Q: About 45 years ago, my grandfather gave me an old violin. I cannot find any information and am hoping you can tell me a little about its history and value.
 It contains the following information and these features. Inside the violin, there's a label with the

words: "Nicolaus Amatus Fecit In Cremona 1645." Both the bow and the chin rest are decorated with mother-of-pearl. Thank you for your help.
 A: Nicolaus Amatus was a famous violin maker who lived in Cremona, Italy, in the 1600s. Many reproductions were made in Germany in the early 1900s. "Fecit" is the Latin word for "Made." Most of these violins sell in the range of \$100 to \$500, depending on the condition, quality and sound. Some that are exceptional can sell for as high as \$1,000 to \$2,000.

If you have any antique inquiries, address your questions to Anne McCollam, P.O. Box 247, Notre Dame, IN 46556. Items of a general interest will be answered in this column. Due to the volume of inquiries, she cannot answer individual letters.

Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Thursday, April 28, the 118th day of 2011. There are 247 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 28, 1789, the mutiny on HMS Bounty took place as the crew of the British ship set Capt. William Bligh and 18 sailors adrift in a launch in the South Pacific. (Bligh and most of the men with him managed to reach Timor in 47 days.)

On this date:

In 1788, Maryland became the seventh state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1945, Italian dictator Benito Mussolini and his mistress, Clara Petacci, were executed by Italian partisans as they attempted to flee the country.

In 1967, heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali refused to be inducted into the Army, the same day General William C. Westmoreland told Congress the U.S. "would prevail in Vietnam."

In 1974, a federal jury in New York acquitted former Attorney General John Mitchell and former Commerce Secretary Maurice H. Stans of charges in connection with a secret \$200,000 contribution to President Richard Nixon's re-election campaign from financier Robert Vesco.

In 1988, a flight attendant was killed and more than 60 persons injured when part of the roof of an Aloha Airlines Boeing 737 tore off during a flight from Hilo to Honolulu.

In 1996, a man armed with a semiautomatic rifle opened fire on tourists on the Australian island of Tasmania, killing 35 people; Martin Bryant was captured by police after a 12-hour standoff at a guest cottage. (Bryant is serving a life prison sentence.)

Ten years ago: A Russian rocket lifted off from Central Asia bearing the first space tourist, California businessman Dennis Tito, and two cosmonauts on a journey to the international space station.

Five years ago: Attorneys for Rush Limbaugh, who'd been accused by Florida prosecutors of "doctor shopping" for painkillers, announced a deal under which a single prescription fraud charge against the talk show host would be dismissed after 18 months provided he stayed drug-free and didn't violate any laws.

One year ago: Coast Guard Rear Adm. Mary Landry said a massive oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico was worse than officials had believed, and that the federal government was offering to help industry giant BP contain the slick threatening the U.S. shoreline.

Today's Birthdays: Author Harper Lee is 85. Former Secretary of State James A. Baker III is 81. Actress-singer Ann-Margret is 70. Actress Marcia Strassman is 63. Actor Paul Guilfoyle ("CSI") is 62. "Tonight Show" host Jay Leno is 61. Rock musician Chuck Leavell is 59. Actress Mary McDonnell is 58. Rock singer-musician Kim Gordon (Sonic Youth) is 58. Actress Simbi Khali is 40. Actress Bridget Moynahan is 40. Actor Chris Young is 40. Actor Jorge Garcia is 38. Actress Elisabeth Rohm is 38. Actress Penelope Cruz is 37. Actor Nate Richert is 33. Actress Jessica Alba is 30. Actress Aleisha Allen is 20.

Thought for Today: "It takes a long time to understand nothing." — Edward Dahlberg, *American author and critic (1900-1977)*



Has Shariah already penetrated the U.S.?

While all eyes this week are on London's royal couple Prince William and Kate Middleton, my eyes are on an opening statement from the U.K.'s Daily Mail Reporter: "Women who do not wear headscarves are being threatened with violence and even death by Islamic extremists intent on imposing (Shariah) on parts of Britain."

Of course, we're told such views represent an extreme minority. Yet just a few months ago, the *Los Angeles Times* contested that thread, in an article titled "Majority of Muslims want Islam in politics, poll says." The poll was taken in seven countries with large Muslim populations. The *Times* reported: "According to the survey, majorities in Pakistan, Egypt, Jordan and Nigeria would favor changing current laws to allow stoning as a punishment for adultery, hand amputation for theft and death for those who convert from Islam to another religion. About 85 percent of Pakistani Muslims said they would support a law segregating men and women in the workplace."

But we shouldn't believe such sentiment ever could reach the shores of America, right? Or has it already penetrated our land and even our governmental seats?

I'll say what I said at the outset of last week's column: It is no mystery that radical Islamists intend to use the freedoms in our Constitution to expand the influence of Shariah, or Islamic law. And let me categorically restate that I'm neither an Islamophobe nor a fear-monger. I welcome the plurality of religions in America and am a firm believer in the First Amendment. But just as our religious freedom is secured in the Bill of Rights, so is our freedom of speech to share even our religious concerns.

Here I'm going to give what I label as the top 10 evidences to date that support the fact that Shariah is seeping into society, from homes to halls of justice. As you read these, ask not only what they mean today but also how they might escalate and morph 10 years from now into more pro-



CHUCK NORRIS

gressive forms. 10) According to Middle East Quarterly, Muzzaamil Hassan informed New York police on Feb. 12, 2009, that he had beheaded his wife, being justified by Shariah. Hassan emigrated to the U.S. 30 years ago. In 2007, after Aqsa Parvez was murdered by her father in Toronto for not wearing hijab (the headscarf worn by Muslim women), Sheila Musaji wrote in *The American Muslim*, "Although this certainly is a case of domestic violence ... 'honor' killings are not only a Muslim problem, and there is no 'honor' involved." For those who think these heinous crimes are just random acts of domestic violence, a study published in the spring 2009 edition of Middle East Quarterly documented how 50 honor killings in the U.S. over the past 20 years prove otherwise.

9) Fox News reported that in 2010, a New Jersey family court judge refused to grant a restraining order to a woman who was sexually abused by her Moroccan husband and forced repeatedly to have sex with him, ruling that the Muslim husband did not have "criminal desire to or intent to sexually assault," because under Shariah, he had a right to rape his wife. Though the ruling was overturned by New Jersey's Appellate Court, which ruled that the husband's religious beliefs were irrelevant and that the judge in taking them into consideration "was mistaken," it still shows Shariah effects.

8) In March, a Florida judge ruled that a dispute between Muslim parties could proceed under Shariah. This was not a simple matter of arbitration, but an induction of foreign law. "This case," the judge wrote, "will proceed under Ecclesiastical Islamic Law."

7) Legislators in 15 states have put

forth bills to ban international law and Shariah from being applied in their states. Are we going to label them all as paranoid? Or are they protecting our Constitution and rule of law as they should?

6) Based upon the investigative work of P. David Gaubatz and Paul Sperry in their expose, "Muslim Mafia," the Council on American-Islamic Relations, or CAIR, the nation's largest Islamic advocacy group, "teamed up with a terror-tied Islamic investment bank to attack publicly traded American firms who refuse to comply with Shariah law by using shareholder resolutions, divestitures, and boycotts against them," a very successful strategy used already in Britain. In 2008, when the FBI severed its formal ties to CAIR because of its questionable ties to extremism, CAIR rallied other Shariah-supporting Muslim Brotherhood front groups to send the FBI a threatening letter, in which was a ban against providing the FBI with information about "acts of violence" and "threats" in the Muslim community. CAIR is riddled with pro-Shariah components and proponents seeking to permeate every aspect of our culture. For example, multiple U.S. congressmen are calling for the Department of Justice to investigate whether CAIR has been successful in a strategic mission to infiltrate congressional offices and plant Muslim interns there.

In a later column, I will conclude with my top five U.S. Shariah infiltrations, including more in Washington itself.

Until then, let me ask those who refuse to acknowledge any evidence that Shariah is seeping into the U.S. landscape to ponder one more question: Do you find it inconsistent and even hypocritical that many warn the world about the dangers of the Christian right yet defend the Islamic right?

Chuck Norris is a syndicated columnist and the former star of "Walker, Texas Ranger."

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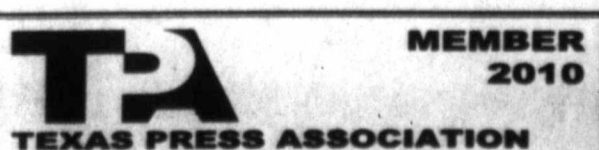
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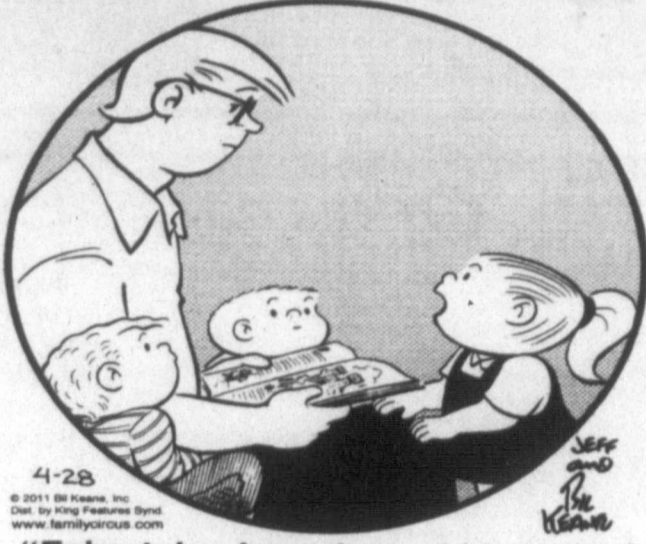
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		FILE NUMBER 2011		06 141946	
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DONALD		JOHN		TRUMP, SR.	
2. Sex	3. This Birther is	4. Birther Date			
Male	Misinformant <input type="checkbox"/> Nuts <input type="checkbox"/> Demagogue <input type="checkbox"/> All <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	June 14, 1946			
5a. Place of Birth: City, Town or Rural Location		5b. Island			
Silverspooninhismouth, NY		Manhattan			
6a. Name of Hospital or Institution		6b. Is Place of Birth Inside Twilight Zone or Outer Limits?			
Mental		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
7a. Street Address		7b. Foreign Country Birther Thinks Obama Was Born In			
1 Strange Mane St., New York, NY		Kenya, East Africa			
8. Occupation					
Businessman, TV Personality, Candidate, Carnival Barker					
9. Size of Ego		10. Is Ego Justified?			
Enormous <input type="checkbox"/> Off The Charts <input type="checkbox"/> Mt. Rushmore <input type="checkbox"/> Needs a Much Bigger Box <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
11. Race		12. Republicans Who Agree With His Birther Views		13. Serious?	
2012 Presidential		43%		Sadly, yes.	
14. Next Aspect of President Obama's Life To Be Questioned					
College Grades <input type="checkbox"/>		High School Grades <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Elementary School Grades <input type="checkbox"/>	
Kindergarten Grades <input type="checkbox"/>		Driver's License <input type="checkbox"/>			
I certify that the above stated information is correct to the best of my knowledge, or at least truer than the garbage Trump is spewing.					
15a. Signature of Cartoonist or Other Informant		15b. Date of Signature			
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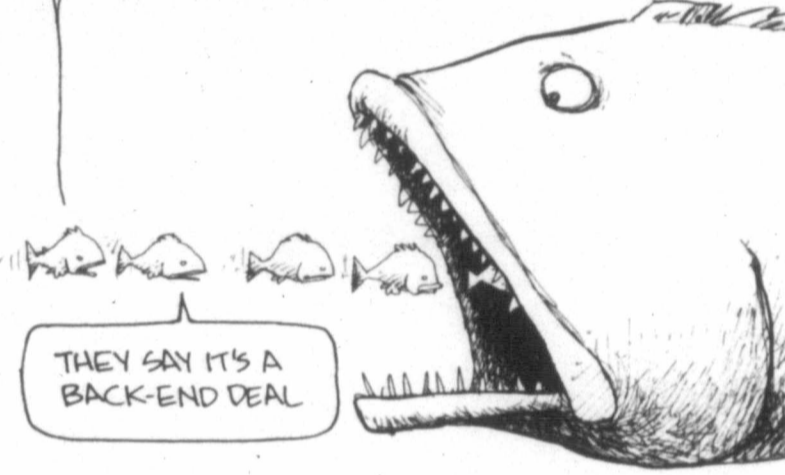
4-28

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"Fairy tales have lots of kings and queens, why don't they have any presidents?"

Non Sequitur

WAIT...SO WHAT DO WE ACTUALLY GET OUT OF THIS SYSTEM?



THEY SAY IT'S A BACK-END DEAL

Nest Heads



4/28

ALLEN

daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, April 29, 2011:

You often experience insights out of the blue. These same insights force you to stop and think. At times you will be uncomfortable with a new perspective, but know that something better lies ahead. You grow past former restrictions, allowing many more positive happenings. If you are single, check out a new friend and/or suitor carefully. Not everyone is the person he or she seems to be. If you are attached, your sweetie often surprises you. Perhaps you have put this person in a box and have not seen his or her growth. ARIES makes a good healer for you.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Give yourself time, and you will manifest that dynamic and creative energy associated with your sign. How you handle the same issue in the morning as opposed to the afternoon could be substantially different. Tonight: Don't be shy. Just ask for what you want.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Use the daylight hours to the max. You might not feel very expressive or good in the afternoon. Use that period to wind down from a relatively strong workweek. Recognize everything that you have accomplished lately. Tonight: Make plans to go home or be with a friend.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ You move from being the demanding leader of the gang to more relaxed and easygoing. Your sense of direction is pivotal to others right now. A meeting in the afternoon can solidify recent gains. Tonight: Let work become play.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Investigate in the a.m. and do additional research. In the afternoon, an important discussion happens with ease. You need to understand all the different dynamics. Note what a key party decides not to reveal. Tonight: Leader of the gang.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You seem to be able to turn a situation in your favor. How you handle an upcoming situation could be dependent on forthcoming information. Do some research in the afternoon, especially if you

feel that someone might not be coughing up all the facts. Tonight: Try a new spot.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You might want to accomplish a lot quickly. How do you say "no" to people needing feedback or simply a few words from you? You might opt to take on the pressure. A surprise statement or situation involving a partner could toss you in a new direction. Tonight: Chat and dinner.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Investigate a situation more openly. Others might be unusually challenging and act in unanticipated ways. Act on a challenge. Listen to news more openly. Try to avoid personalizing what you hear, even if it involves a dear loved one. Tonight: Just don't be alone.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Funnel your creativity and energy into a project, which might be work-related, but not necessarily. Your ideas seem to open up a new set of opportunities. Brainstorm with the people who are on the same page as you. Tonight: Do what you want.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You might be too involved to notice much. Your creativity and interest weave together. Whatever the project or interest, it can only benefit from this intensity. An element of the unexpected runs through a discussion. Tonight: Christen the weekend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Realize you can and will do whatever you need to do, especially regarding family, the workplace or a loved one. You tend to protect the people you value and won't permit any problems to emerge. Tonight: As late as you want, but your home is your castle.

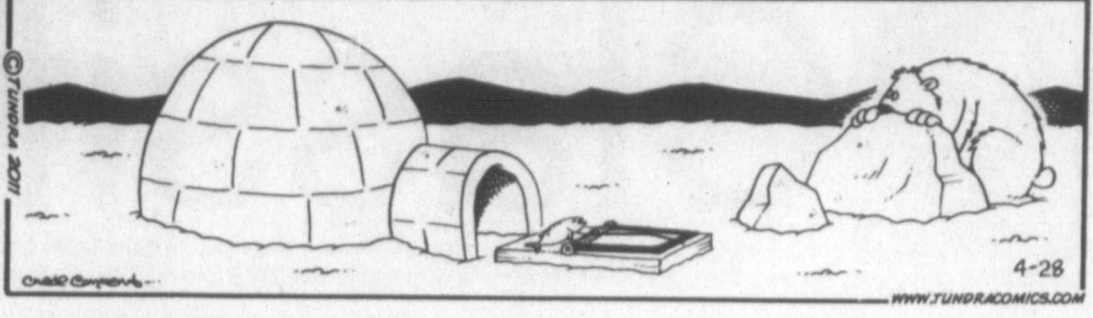
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Your determination to have a situation work out is admirable. The unexpected tosses you off track. Your laughter and sense of humor emerge when dealing with those in your day-to-day environment. Tonight: At a favorite hangout.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You cruise into the day full of energy. You have a lot to offer, which becomes quite clear. Many people value what to you seems innate, like your people skills and/or ability to communicate. Tonight: Treat a friend.

Tundra



4-28

Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie





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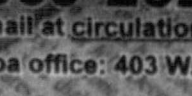
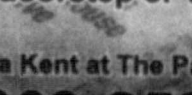
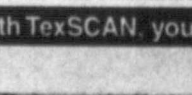
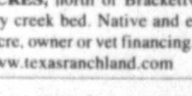
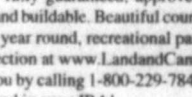
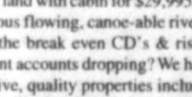
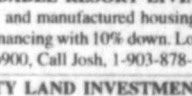
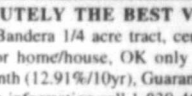
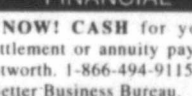
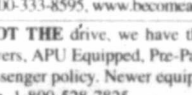
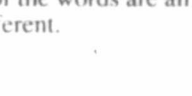
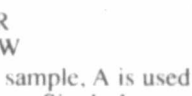
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Tornadoes devastate South; 215 dead

PLEASANT GROVE, Ala. (AP) — Dozens of tornadoes ripped through the South, flattening homes and businesses and killing at least 215 people in six states in the deadliest outbreak in nearly 40 years.

As day broke Thursday, people in hard-hit Alabama surveyed flattened, debris-strewn neighborhoods and fold of pulling bodies from rubble after the storms passed Wednesday afternoon and evening.

"It happened so fast it was unbelievable," said Jerry Stewart, a 63-year-old retired firefighter who was picking through the remains of his son's wrecked home in Pleasant Grove, a suburb of Birmingham. "They said the storm was in Tuscaloosa and it would be here in 15 minutes. And before I knew it, it was here."

He and his wife, along with their daughter and two grandchildren, survived by hiding under their front porch. Friends down the street who did the same weren't so lucky — Stewart said he pulled out the bodies of two neighbors whose home was ripped off its foundation.

Alabama's state emergency management agency said it had confirmed 131 deaths, while there were 32 in Mississippi, 30 in Tennessee, 13 in Georgia, eight in Virginia and one in Kentucky.

The National Weather Service's Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Okla., said it received 137 tornado reports into Wednesday night.

Some of the worst damage was in Tuscaloosa, a city of more than 83,000 that is home to the University of Alabama. Neighborhoods there were leveled by a massive tornado caught on video by a tower-mounted news camera that barreled through late Wednesday afternoon.

"When I looked back, I just saw trees and stuff coming by," said Mike Whitt, a resident at DCH Regional Medical Center who ran from the hospital's parking deck when the wind started swirling and he heard a roar.

On Thursday morning, he walked through the neighborhood next to the hospital, home to a mix of students and townspeople, looking at dozens of homes without roofs. Household items were scattered on the ground — a drum, running shoes, insulation, towels, and a shampoo bottle. Streets were impassable, the pavement strewn with trees, pieces of houses and cars with their windows blown out.

Dr. David Hinson was working at the hospital when the tornado hit. He and his wife had to walk several blocks to get to their house, which was destroyed. Several houses down, he helped pull three students from the rubble. One was dead and two were badly injured. He and others used pieces of debris as makeshift stretchers to carry them to an ambulance.

"We just did the best we could to get them out and get them stabilized and get them to help," he said. "I don't know what happened to them."

University officials said there didn't appear to be significant damage on campus, and dozens of students and locals were staying at a 125-bed shelter in the campus recreation center.

The storm system spread destruction from Texas to New York, where dozens of roads were flooded or washed out. The governors of Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia issued emergency declarations for parts

of their states.

Dave Imy, a meteorologist with the prediction service, said the deaths were the most since a tornado outbreak killed 315 people in 1974.

In Alabama, where as many as a million people were without power, Gov. Robert Bentley said 2,000 national guard troops had been activated and were helping to search devastated areas for people still missing. He said the National Weather Service and forecasters did a good job of alerting people, but there is only so much that can be done to deal with powerful tornadoes a mile wide.

President Barack Obama said he had spoken with Bentley and approved his request for emergency federal assistance.

"Our hearts go out to all those who have been affected by this devastation, and we commend the heroic efforts of those who have been working tirelessly to respond to this disaster," Obama said in a statement.

The storms came on the heels of another system that killed 10 people in Arkansas and one in Mississippi earlier this week. Less than two weeks earlier, a smaller batch of twisters raced through Alabama, touching off warning sirens, damaging businesses and downing power lines in Tuscaloosa, but there were no deaths there then.

In Kemper County, Miss., in the east-central part of the state, sisters Florrie Green and Maxine McDonald, and their sister-in-law Johnnie Green, all died in a mobile home that was destroyed by a storm.

"They were thrown into those pines over there," Mary Green, Johnnie Green's daughter-in-law, said, pointing to a wooded area. "They had to go look for their bodies."

In Smithville in northeastern Mississippi, the police station, post office, city hall, an industrial park with several furniture manufacturing facilities and a grocery store were among dozens of buildings ripped apart. A church was cut in half, and pieces of tin were wrapped high around the legs of a blue water tower.

Jessica Monaghan, 24, walked through the wreckage with her 9-month-old son, Slade Scott, strapped to her back, and the baby's father, 23-year-old Tyler Scott, by her side.

Their house was still standing, though the home belonging to Tyler Scott's mother was flattened. He was at work — he's a firefighter in nearby Tupelo — and Monaghan was at home watching TV when broadcasters warned the town could be hit within 10 minutes. By then, she said, the storm was there about that time.

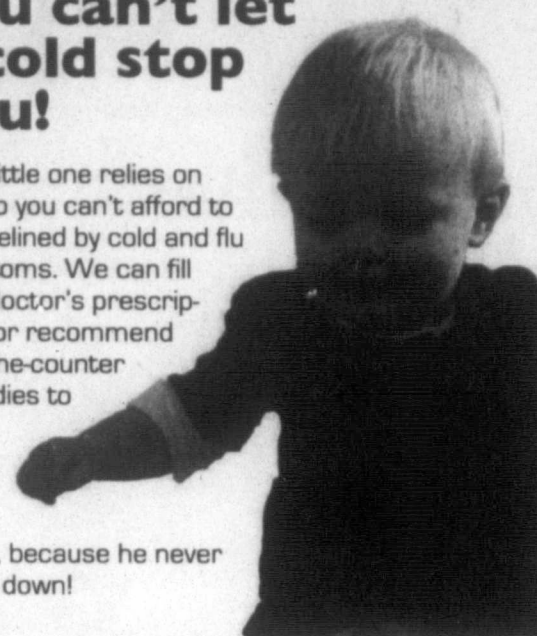
"The baby was already in the closet. I grabbed the cat and got in the closet, too," Monaghan said. "You could just feel the pressure. It really was like a freight train."

And in Pleasant Grove, Samantha Nail surveyed the damage in the blue-collar subdivision where hers was the only home still intact. The storm slammed heavy pickup trucks into ditches and obliterated tidy brick houses, leaving behind a mess of mattresses, electronics and children's toys scattered across a grassy plain where dozens used to live.

"We were in the bathroom holding on to each other and holding on to dear life," Nail said. "If it wasn't for our concrete walls, our home would be gone like the rest of them."

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Taxes

cont. from page 1

public works. "The fees that we charge are put in place in order to pay its way. The same thing with water."

City Manager Richard Morris said that Certificates of Obligations are normally used for self-liquidated projects, that is projects that generate funds to pay off their own debt.

Rheams

cont. from page 1

Rheams said he thinks people like shopping at his store because they aren't pressured to buy.

"They know we have a large selection," Rheams said. "Prices are competitive with the competition."

Rheams said he is honored to receive the award, especially with how long they have been in business.

"After 35 years, we have been here a long time," Rheams said. "We appreciate what Pampa does for us. We got great customers (in the community). Our staff is great and without them, there wouldn't be me."

Rheams said he got his start in the jewelry business when he was nine years old at his parent's store.

"My mom and dad bought a store in Mississippi, which, I grew up in Mississippi," Rheams said. "Got out of there and went to work for Zales for 10 years. I was manager here in Pampa for three years. Then went to Zales in Amarillo for three years."

Rheams said he and his staff try to take care of all their customers.

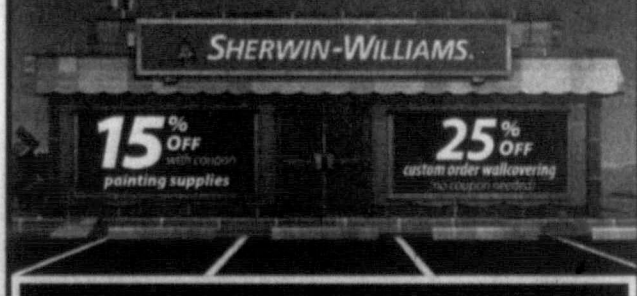
"We try to be one-on-one with them," Rheams said. "We accommodate them with what they need. We try hard and sometimes we don't do the best. But we try hard to do it the right way."

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5 Play parts 44 Ap-

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15 Storage spot

16 "Battlèstar Galactica" prequel

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23 Hosp. parts

24 Gift-wrap-

26 Writer Rice

28 Curtain holder

29 Ontario, for one

31 Greek vowel

32 Homes to urban gators

36 Goulash additive

39 Through

40 Famed fur tycoon

41 Bologna setting

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Yesterday's answer

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- 9 Boosts
- 11 Volume unit
- 17 Whiz
- 19 Snooze to fire
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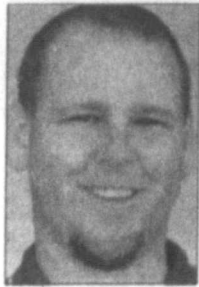
Sports

District title at stake against Borger

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

In February, the Pampa Harvesters and Borger Bulldogs met in Pampa for the Cavalier Classic Championship. Friday in Borger, though, the stakes are higher as the two rivals battle for the District 1-3A crown 4:30 p.m.

The Bulldogs (15-11-1, 6-2) beat the Harvesters (13-13, 5-3) three times (6-4, 13-5 and 13-3), including twice in district. Head coach Kaieb Snelgrooes said the first meeting was close if his team didn't allow a couple of extra base hits.



Snelgrooes

"We are going to try to keep them to singles and have damage control," Snelgrooes said. "Hit our spots and we are going to try to stay aggressive on the base paths and the plate and play our game."

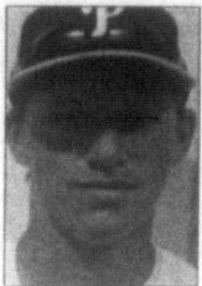
Senior catcher Brent Green said he feels good about the matchup and feels they have the momentum.

"Borger has been down the last two games," Green said. "They almost got beat by Dalhart and Perryton last time. They are going to come ready to play. We're going for the district championship, so we are going to be motivated to play."

Shock Pampa edged Perryton 4-3 in extra innings last year and beat Dalhart 15-0. Borger beat Dalhart 12-11 and lost 12-11 to Perryton Senior right fielder



Green



Murray

Zach Murray said he is excited for a chance to play for the district title.

"We know this is one of our biggest games of the season," Murray said. "If we win this there will be a three-way tie. It will be really big to win this, so we can have a first round bye."

Green said it will be key for the pitchers to hit their spots.

"We just have to throw their power hitters low and away where they can't hit it," Green said. "They are going to put the ball in play we just got to make plays behind our pitcher."

If Pampa wins, it won't clinch district outright. Assuming Perryton (11-16, 5-3) beats Dalhart (6-13, 0-8), they will have to play a seeding game against Perryton 11 a.m. Saturday in Dumas. The winner will

play Borger for the title at 2 p.m. If Borger wins Friday they clinch district, regardless of the results of Perryton and Dalhart.

Snelgrooes said his team has to take care of business Friday.

"Hopefully it comes to that," Snelgrooes said. "Nothing happens Saturday if we don't take care of business on Friday."

The Harvesters' district scenarios

Win District if...

Shock Pampa beats Borger Friday and Perryton beats Dalhart Friday; beat Perryton and Borger Saturday

Finish Second if...

Shock Pampa beats Borger Friday and Perryton loses to Dalhart Saturday; beat Perryton and lose to Borger Saturday

Shock Pampa loses to Borger Friday and Perryton loses to Dalhart Saturday

Finish Third if...

Shock Pampa loses to Borger Friday and Perryton beats Dalhart Saturday; lose to Perryton Saturday

If the Harvesters finish second or third they will play in the bidistrict round May 6 and 7 at Texas A&M. Time and opponent are TBA. If the Harvesters win district they will play in the district round May 13 and 14.

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Jordan Mayhew
Pampa High School

athletes

of the week

Zach Murray
Pampa High School

Pampa High School senior softball player **Jordan Mayhew** is the *Pampa News* Female Athlete of the Week. Mayhew hit a three-run home run and pitched four innings against Perryton April 19. Against Dalhart April 22, Mayhew hit a RBI single. Mayhew is one of three seniors and helped the Lady Harvesters to a 9-0 district record.

Pampa High School senior baseball player **Zach Murray** is *The Pampa News* Male Athlete of the Week. Murray played solid defense in right field against Perryton April 19. Against Dalhart April 23, Murray hit his first home run and reached base in all four plate appearances.

Donald Turner,
Amarillo Native

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