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The **PAMPA NEWS**

**TODAY IN SPORTS**  
  
**Easy labor**  
 PHS softball uses bye week to prepare  
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★ **MEET YOUR CANDIDATES** ★

A look at the people who are running for contested offices in May's election

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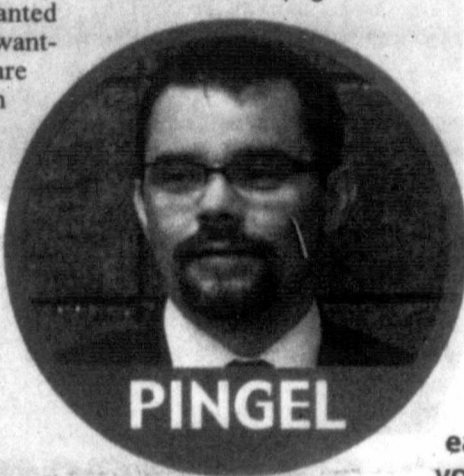
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**BRAD PINGEL** for mayor

City Commissioner Brad Pingel wants to be mayor, but not for his own gratification. "I don't have an agenda," he shrugged. He just wants a solid city government in Pampa for his family and others raising their families here, he said. Pingel said he ran in 2005, when he first ran for the City Commission, that he wanted Pampa to grow, but he wanted the businesses that are already here to grow with the city. That's still the case, he said.

"They're a vital part of Pampa," he said. Pingel said that nobody ever stands still. "We either move forward or we move back," he said. "My vision for Pampa is to see Pampa grow." Pingel said he wants Pampa to move forward. "Mediocrity is not an option," he said. "I think we have to move forward." The key, he said, is to make

**PINGEL** cont. on page 2



**PINGEL**

**JOY COMBS** for mayor

Joy Combs, 60, doesn't mince words about why she wants to be mayor. "I just think that some things need to be done," said Combs, a Pampa native who returned to her hometown five years ago after living in the Dallas-Fort Worth area for 36 years. "Since I've been back here, I've just been think-

about it. I started talking to people, we started talking about some political views around the city and some things that need to be done. I decided I wanted to make a difference. If I can make a difference, I want to do it."

Combs sees a lot of potential in her hometown. "You go over and you see Canadian, Tex., and how nice it is, how the people really pull together and make that a beautiful place to live, and I go, 'Wow, why can't Pampa be this way?' There's no reason why it can't. It just takes people to be involved. And not just me, but all of us. If we come together as a community

**COMBS** cont. on page 2

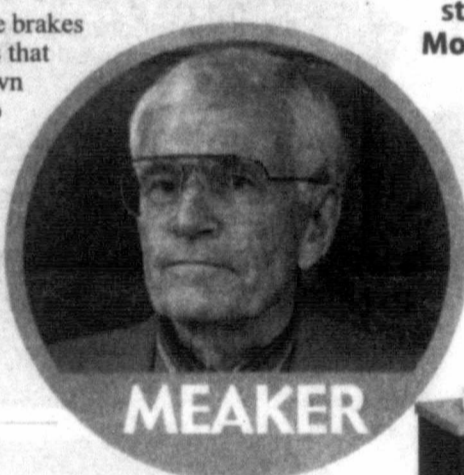


**COMBS**

**CLEO MEAKER** for ward 1 commissioner

"I think we need to put the brakes on some of the crazy things that have been going on down at City Hall," said Cleo Meaker, a candidate for Ward 1 Commissioner. "We've amassed debt that is not insurmountable, but it could be. Expenditures have gotten out of hand, that is my concern."

**MEAKER** cont. on page 6



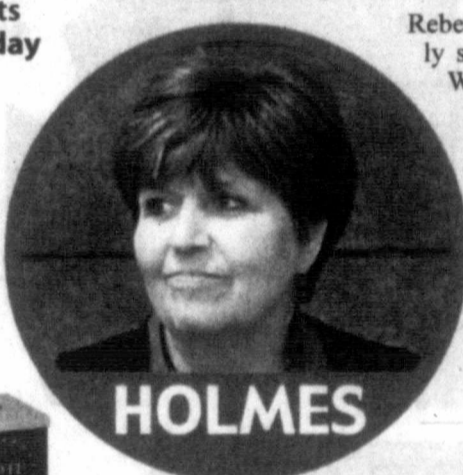
**MEAKER**

**REBECCA HOLMES** for ward 2 commissioner

Rebecca Holmes, who is currently serving out the term of late Ward 2 Commissioner Bill Allison, said that there's a big thing driving her to return to the seat after the election.

"Mainly, I would say, the Economic Development project that's before us, I was just excited about it and

**HOLMES** cont. on page 2

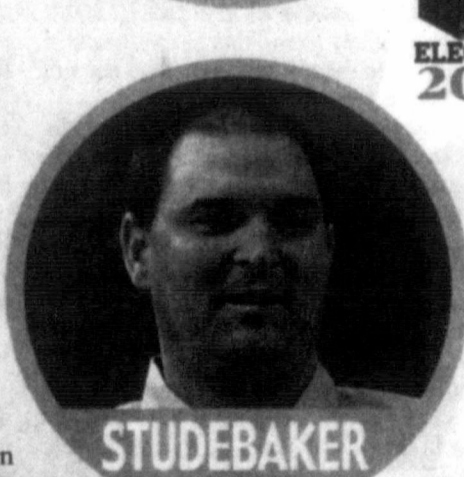


**HOLMES**

**JOHN STUDEBAKER** for ward 1 commissioner

John Studebaker feels that he owes it to his adopted hometown to help usher it into the future. "I felt a calling to try to help this community," Studebaker said. "I've been in Pampa now for 16 years. I'm raising my children here. I felt I had an opportunity to try to give

**STUDEBAKER** cont. on page 6



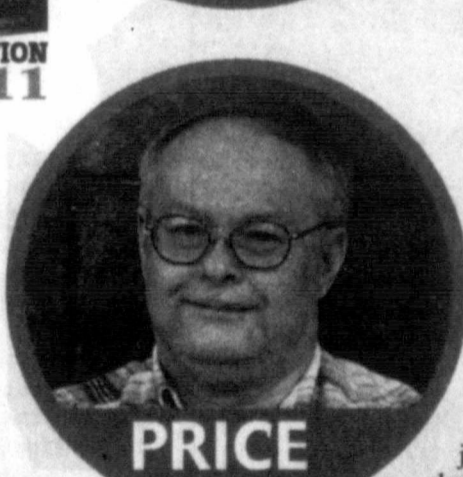
**STUDEBAKER**

**MIKE PRICE** for ward 2 commissioner

Admittedly, 57-year-old Mike Price said, he doesn't fit the mold of your average person running for city office. "I'm not a politician," he quipped. "I'm just someone who wants to help."

Price, who is married with three daughters, is a semi-retired

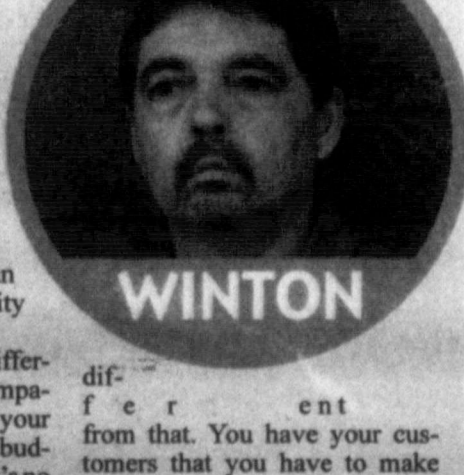
**PRICE** cont. on page 7



**PRICE**

**GARY WINTON** for ward 1 commissioner

Gary Winton, 47, has an entrepreneurial view of city government. "Running the city is no different from running a big company," he said. "You still have your overhead and you have to budget, have your accounting. It's no



**WINTON**

**ED COPELAND** for ward 2 commissioner

Ed Copeland, who is running for the commission-ership of Pampa's Ward 2, said that his work experiences within the framework of the city make him a good candidate to join its governing body.

**COPELAND** cont. on page 6



**COPELAND**

**NOTE:** Ward 3 Commissioner and incumbent Robert Dixon is running unopposed.

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## PAMPA FORECAST

Saturday



High 67  
Low 37

Sunday



High 56  
Low 34

Monday



High 48  
Low 38

**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 48. Windy, with a south wind 20 to 30 mph becoming west. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 67. Windy, with a north northwest wind 20 to 25 mph decreasing to between 10 and 15 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

**Saturday Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 37. Breezy, with a northeast wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Sunday:** A slight chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 56. Breezy, with a northeast wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Sunday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 34. East wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Monday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 48. Northeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Monday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 38. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

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## Pingel

cont. from page 1

sure it's the right direction. "I think we've done that for the last couple of years," Pingel said.

Pingel said that he looks at the big picture and that there are many needs within the city to address, rather than focusing on one pressing issue.

"I still want to focus on our businesses in town. The cleanup of Pampa is important. I can't really pinpoint just one thing. I don't want to leave anything out. To be part of the Commission, we have to look at the entire city, and to pinpoint one thing is very difficult."

He said there are some exciting positives happening in Pampa.

Pingel pointed to the motels that have been built over the last few years.

"Those motels are staying busy and full," he said.

He also pointed to the new aquatic center that will open this summer in Pampa and to the new housing development that recently opened off Alcock.

"That's a good plus for Pampa," Pingel said.

The development of an industrial park at the old Celanese plant is exciting, he said.

"Certainly there's a risk," Pingel said, "but Pampa's going to capitalize on that."

While acknowledging that a lot of these projects have come about while he's been on the City Commission, Pingel credited the city staff with the hard work that made them work and with the dedicated volunteers and citizens that made them happen.

He did say that his six years of experience within the city's government framework gives him a clear edge in the mayoral race.

"I think it's a huge advantage that I know how the city

works and runs," Pingel said.

He said that he wanted to combat assertions about the city government that may be brought upon by misinformation.

"Most people that get upset at the city is because they don't understand everything. As far as the tax rate, to have a blanket statement that the City Commission is raising taxes, well, we don't just go in and go, 'I want to raise taxes.'"

"We are in control of the tax rate for the city of Pampa. It actually has decreased since I've been in there. Not solely by me, I'm not saying that at all... But having the knowledge and the understanding of the staff and the day-to-day operation, that's important."

Born 1974 in Amarillo and graduating from Perryton High School, Brad Pingel now claims Pampa as his home. He moved here in 2000, after marrying his high school sweetheart, Suzanne.

"I've been married for 18 years," Pingel said. He and his wife have two daughters.

A funeral director at Carmichael-Whatley, Pingel is also part owner of Top of Texas Monuments and Panhandle Livestock Equipment.

Pingel is also president of Wheel Times Inc., a group he founded that organizes recreational sporting events for physically disabled children such as wheelchair soccer and wheelchair track.

"There aren't any athletic events of any type for these kids to participate in," Pingel said.

As with many of his endeavors, Pingel said it's not about him, but about his family and neighbors and making Pampa a better place for all of its citizens.

story by David Bowser

## Combs

cont. from page 1

and get involved and start cleaning up our city, start bringing in businesses and working together, we can do it.

"If you go down to the Metroplex (Dallas/Fort Worth), all those little suburb towns, all the downtown areas, they've got shops, they've got coffee shops, they've got eating places," she added. "They've got their major shopping centers, but they turn these little towns into little quaint places where people want to go and shop. This is perfect. We could do that."

While she has never before held public office of any kind, Combs said that she believes she is ready for the demands of the mayoral post.

"I'm a go-getter," she said. "I'm not afraid of a challenge and I speak my mind. I don't mind rolling up my sleeves... I'll be the first in a cleanup day with my sleeves rolled up and my gloves on and a rake in my hand. Let's get out there and do it."

She said that she disagrees with some of the city government's recent decisions, including the building of the soon-to-open Pampa H2O aquatic center.

"Three to four million dollars? Do you know what we could have done with that for the kids? I'm for the kids. I want people to realize I love children. I've got grandchildren. I'm for the kids because they need things here, but that water park, to only be able to use for two and a half months out of the year, I feel that was a waste of our money.

"An example: Albertson's store building over there. We could've got a building like that. Maybe we could've leased it, or maybe we have one in the city that we own. We could've put a three lane bowling alley in there. We

could've put a small gym in there. We could've put an arcade center in there... We could've done something like that they could have used all year round."

She also pointed out the need for better street maintenance, the PEDC's Celanese land buy and the importance of bringing the abandoned buildings in town to standards or demolish them as other significant issues. Regarding the Celanese facility specifically, she said she does view it as a good development, although she expressed unease regarding the extent of the city's liability.

"I'm not real sure about the Celanese purchase," she said. "I think it's going to be a good thing as long as we cover everything and make sure that Celanese is going to be responsible for the chemical damages out there."

"Anything that we can do to bring in good industry is great, but I also think we need to be cautious and we need to be careful and we need to cover ourselves."

In general, Combs said that she sees a lot of positives in Pampa and wants to be a person who can help move things ahead within the city's government.

"I think if we could get some people to move out here to this industrial park, if we could get that going. If we can get the city cleaned up and we can get people motivated — that's a key word, getting the citizens motivated, because right now, the people I've talked to said (they) don't care anymore because nothing ever gets done. I'd love to be mayor, because I'd love to see some things done. And I'm going to do everything I can to get some things done."

story by Arnie Aurellano

## Holmes

cont. from page 1

kind of wanted to see that through," said Holmes. "That's really my main motivation: This project and seeing it through."

"I've heard what all is left out there," she added, "and it just seems like a treasure chest to me that we've found. I think we're going to have our money back in a short amount of time. That's what I hope. I'm very excited about it."

"I feel like this is a big piece of (the future of Pampa), the Celanese property. I feel like it's a big piece of being in the right direction, because it's going to bring hopefully new business and new residents. Anything we do to grow, I think, is a positive step for us."

In addition to manning her post on the Commission, the 56-year-old mother of two has worked in oil and gas accounting for Rick Leverich for a little over four years. Prior to that, she worked for the Stowers' oil and gas production company, and she has experience in public accounting from working for Walter Caldwell and Brown Graham and Co.

It's that experience in the public books, Holmes said, that gives her an edge in the election.

"My strength is in my financial background," she said. "When I did work in public accounting, I worked on the city audits as an auditor, so I do know a little bit about all the different entities around the city. I know a little bit about how they work... Not that that's all you need on the city commission because you need a well rounded city commission that has knowledge about a lot of different things, but that's my strength."

She said that her brief time on the Commission has taught her a lot, and she is eager to continue learning and serving Pampa if elected.

"It's been very educational. I've learned a lot about the workings of the city. I've enjoyed getting to know the city staff. I've just learned a lot. I've learned a lot about our water situation. I've learned a lot about the Economic Development Corporation as well."

"I feel like I just barely got my feet wet in the four months I've served. I want to keep going forward with it."

She pointed to the PEDC Celanese facility purchase and the water park as signs that Pampa is moving forward.

The water park, in particular, is something that will be good for Pampa in the short term and long term, she said.

"I've been a supporter of (the aquatic center). I actually am a trustee for the David and Nona Payne Foundation. We gave money to it. I feel like it's something that puts a good face on Pampa and brings people to Pampa."

"I know people aren't happy about the location. I don't even want to get into that, because it's there. It's a done deal. I don't see what point there is now to have a fit about that, because it's kind of too late. It's there. It's up."

"I still think it's something that's going to draw people to Pampa, and I think it's a positive draw to Pampa. I think it's going to bring in some revenue. I feel like it's something that's bring an asset to Pampa."

She added that she wants to bring an atmosphere of positivity to the forefront of Pampa culture.

"The negativity about Pampa — not focusing on our assets and focusing on the negatives. Too many people focus on that. I would just like to focus on what's good about Pampa and how we can make it better, rather than what's negative about it... (Let's) focus on the things that we can do something about."

She said that she is confident about the city leadership currently in place, and pointed at efficient city services as proof.

"This is one thing that, after being on the Commission, I really do feel like (the city is) doing a good job. On the snow this year, for example, I feel like they did a really good job on the streets and trying to clear as much as they could. I feel like we've really got some strong leadership in the city, right now in the staff. I feel like they're doing a good job. I have not heard any complaints from our board about things. I think that we are doing better than we have in the past currently."

Holmes said that, all in all, she is here for the city and its people.

"My heart is for service," Holmes said. "I just want to serve in whatever capacity I can."

story by Arnie Aurellano

## Obituaries

### A.M. "Slim" Dennis, 93

A.M. "Slim" Dennis, 93, died April 28, 2011, in Pampa. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Dennis was born January 22, 1918, in Pauls Valley, Okla., to John Henry and Lucy Dennis. He married Lillie Mae Johnson on June 11, 1936. She preceded him in death on March 7, 1997. Slim had been a resident of Pampa since 1954. He worked hard all his life before re-

tiring from Gibson's Grocery as manager. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather. He will be truly missed.

Survivors include five daughters, Barbara Grissom and Wilma Parks and husband Buster, all of Houston, Darlene Cotten of Amarillo, Clara Dennis of Pampa, and Pat McCain and husband Danny of Burleson; two sons, Dwight Dennis and wife Kathy and Aldo Dennis, all of Pampa; 17 grandchildren, 39 great-grandchildren and 11 great-great-grandchildren. Siim was preceded in death by

a daughter, Mae Dale Conner; son-in-law, Bob Cotten; grandson, Tommy Conner; two great-grandsons, Chafen Wilson and Tyler Hucks; four brothers and four sisters.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, attn: Memorial/Honor Program FH, One St. Jude Place Bldg., P.O. Box 1000, Dept. 300, Memphis, TN 38148-0552.

Sign the online register at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com).



# AFTERNOON RUSH

## NASA delays shuttle launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — A historic next-to-last space shuttle launch was scratched Friday because of mechanical problems, spoiling a visit from the president and dashing the hopes of the biggest crowd of spectators in years, including the mission commander's wounded wife, Rep. Gabrielle Giffords.

NASA hopes to try again Monday to launch space shuttle Endeavour on its final voyage.

President Barack Obama and his family visited Kennedy Space Center anyway but it was unclear whether he would meet with the Giffords. She is recovering from a gunshot wound to the head, and it was not immediately known whether she would stay in Florida for another try or return to Houston.

Giffords hasn't been seen publicly since the Jan. 8 assassination attempt. She left her rehabilitation hospital in Houston on Wednesday for the first time to travel to Florida for her husband's launch.

The Arizona congresswoman, who has difficulty walking and talking, was expected to watch the 3:47 p.m. liftoff in private with other astronauts' families.

## Ex-lawmaker pleads guilty

BROWNSVILLE, Texas (AP) — An ex-state lawmaker pleaded guilty Friday to extortion after admitting paying a disgraced South Texas judge for favorable rulings.

Former Rep. Jose Santiago "Jim" Solis served seven terms representing the Rio Grande Valley in the Texas House before retiring in 2007. He is a longtime personal injury lawyer in Harlingen, but calls his office seeking comment were not immediately returned.

The 47-year-old pleaded guilty to a one-count criminal information which charged him with aiding and abetting extortion by former state District Judge Abel C. Limas, the U.S. attorney's office in Brownsville said in a statement.

Prosecutors say Solis was one of many attorneys who paid for favorable pretrial rulings from Limas in civil matters pending in his court, including \$8,000 Solis paid in a case involving a helicopter crash on South Padre Island. The U.S. attorney's office said the pair described that payment as eight golf balls.

## English could be official language

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — English would become the official language in Texas and all official functions would have to be in English, under a law approved by the House State Affairs Committee.

The measure passed the committee late Thursday on 7-3 vote along party lines.

State Rep. Leo Berman authored the bill, which the Legislature has repeatedly debated in the past. The bill declares that the traditional and common language of the United States and Texas is English. It goes on to say that knowledge of the common language is essential to exercising constitutional rights.

Opponents argue that the law would hurt citizens who don't speak English and ignore Texas' Spanish-language history.

The bill will now be considered by the full House.

## Bill to bar Planned Parenthood?

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A Texas Senate subcommittee has advanced legislation barring Planned Parenthood from continuing as a member of the Medicaid Women's Health Program.

The vote Thursday night would renew the program for low-income women for five years but exclude abortion providers or abortion affiliates.

Republican state Sen. Bob Deuell said he authored the bill to provide access to as many women as possible while also honoring the wishes of groups opposed to public funding of abortions.

Planned Parenthood calls the legislation the latest in a series of attacks to defund the group. The group said 40,000 women will be immediately denied access to health care.

Deuell said he has long advocated for family planning service providers to offer more comprehensive care.

## Vaccine legislation advances

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The Texas Senate has voted to require freshmen and transfer college students get vaccinated against bacterial meningitis.

Lawmakers voted two years ago to require the vaccine for freshmen and other new students who live on campus. The Senate bill expands that to cover all new students, even those living off campus.

Texas A&M University student, Nicolis Williams, who lived off campus, died of complications of bacterial meningitis in February.

Sen. Wendy Davis, a Fort Worth Democrat, authored the bill.

According to the Texas Medical Association, there are about 1,500 cases of bacterial meningitis in the U.S. every year. More than 50 were diagnosed in Texas in 2009.

## Portion of zoo evacuated

DALLAS (AP) — A portion of the Dallas Zoo has been evacuated while police chase a robbery suspect after arresting another.

Dallas police Lt. C.L. Williams says officers were serving warrants when the men fled into the zoo Friday morning. He said it wasn't known whether they were armed. Williams says one of the men was caught shortly before noon.

Sgt. Warren Mitchell says at least one of the men was wanted on an aggravated robbery charge.

Mitchell says police evacuated the zoo's Giants of the Savanna area. The zoo website says the exhibit includes habitats for elephants, giraffes, ostriches and other animals.

## Entergy gets three plants

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Power provider Entergy Corp. completed the acquisition of a Louisiana power plant on Friday as it agreed to buy two others in Mississippi and Arkansas.

For \$300 million, the Entergy Louisiana unit closed a deal to buy one of the two generators at the Acadia Energy Center from independent power producer Acadia Power Partners LLC.

# Installing foam-backed carpeting

## HOME HOW-TO

Dear Pat: The hardwood and tile floors in two of my rooms are in bad shape. I want to cover them with foam-backed carpeting myself. Do I have to make repairs to the old floors first and do you have any tips? — Pam S.

Dear Pam: Some of the new foam-backed carpeting is very beautiful and durable enough for a family with children. When it is installed properly by a do-it-yourselfer, it is difficult to distinguish from professionally installed carpeting with separate padding beneath it.

Foam-backed carpeting can be laid over most surfaces. If there are any deep gouges or cracks in the floor, they must be filled with some type of putty and sanded smooth with medium-grit sandpaper. All the wax must be cleaned from the surface so the carpeting adhesive or tape will stick well. Any loose tiles must be glued down tightly to the subflooring first.

When placing foam-backed carpeting over concrete, as in a basement or over a slab, you must first check to be sure no moisture comes through it. To test the concrete for dryness, put a ribbon of putty around the edge of a drinking glass. Place it upside down on the concrete. If, after two days, there is no condensation inside the glass, you should not have a problem.

As with most do-it-yourself projects, planning is the key to a successful and attractive conclusion. Take a piece of graph paper and lay out the room precisely to scale with all of the door openings and other obstacles that the carpeting will have to be positioned around.

Take this layout to the carpeting shop. The salesperson can determine how much carpeting you will need to buy. Make sure to indicate the primary traffic patterns in the room and where the furniture will be located.

Foam-backed carpeting is typically available in 6-foot-wide and 12-foot-wide rolls. If your room is larger than 12 feet in either direction, the carpeting will have to be seamed. This not a difficult job, but one that must be done with care so the seams are not noticeable.

Here are some tips for locating

the seams. Try to locate them in low traffic areas so they take less abuse and avoid primary visual areas in the rooms. Locating the seams underneath furniture is ideal to hide and protect them. If light comes in from a window or a bright light, run the seam parallel to the rays. If the seam is perpendicular, it is much more apparent.

Snap chalk lines on the floor at the locations of the seams, as shown on your scale layout drawing. Turn the carpeting over and mark the locations of the cut lines. You should plan to leave about 2 inches overlap at the walls and one-

quarter inch at the seams.

If the carpeting has a repeating pattern that you need to match at the seams, take this into consideration before doing any cutting. Also, the pile on carpeting naturally lays over slightly in one direction. You should also match this pile direction.

Once all the pieces are cut to size and everything seems to fit well, start to glue them down per the manufacturer's instructions.

Tools and materials required: notched adhesive trowel, binder bars, general floor preparation tools, chalk line, wide stiff scrapper, utility knife, foam-backed carpeting, adhesive or double-faced tape.

Send your questions to Here's How, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244 or visit [www.dulley.com](http://www.dulley.com).

## HOME HOW-TO

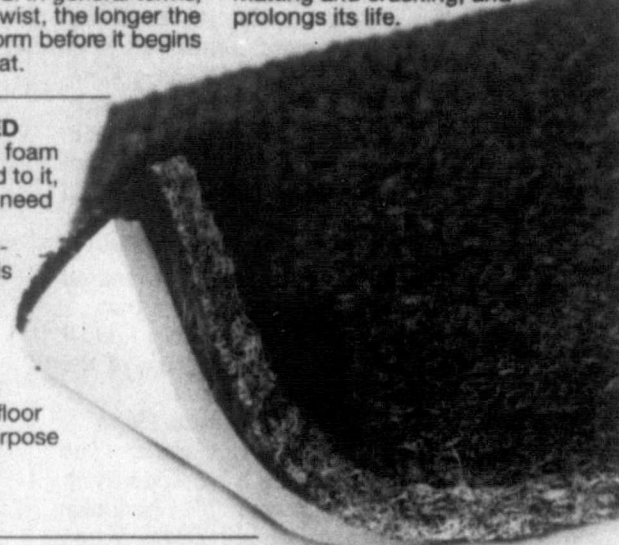
### Choosing Carpet

If you're having carpet installed or installing it yourself, don't make the mistake of choosing carpeting only for its color. Consider the carpet's fibers and construction, as well as your lifestyle.

**YARN TWIST** - Twist is the number of times fiber strands are entwined together in a one-inch length. Look for a tight twist, not loosened and frayed at the end. In general terms, the tighter the twist, the longer the carpet will perform before it begins to crush and mat.

**CUSHION/PADDING** - Density, not thickness, is the most important detail for cushion quality and performance. It helps carpet resist matting and crushing, and prolongs its life.

**FOAM-BACKED CARPET** has a foam backing bonded to it, eliminating the need for additional padding. Foam-backed carpet is easy to install because it requires no stretching or tack strips; it is secured to the floor with general-purpose adhesive.



**NAP HEIGHT** - Pile height, or nap, is the length measured from the primary backing to the yarn tips. Shorter pile heights are more crush resistant and the longer height provides the newer appearance of your carpet.

**FIBER DENSITY** - Density is how tightly carpet fiber or yarn is packed together and bound into the carpet backing. Dense carpets will resist crushing and repel stains and dirt buildup better, with an extended life.

Source: [www.classiccarpet.com](http://www.classiccarpet.com)

Creators.com/Bob Kast

# Experts predict more fires this summer

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — National wildfire experts are predicting a busy and costly fire season this summer in parched southwestern states like Texas and Colorado, where hundreds of square miles have been charred in a region struggling with the worst drought conditions in decades.

But the annual wildfire report issued by the National Interagency Fire Center on Friday forecasts lower fire potential for other regions of the West and Midwest that are benefiting from average or above-average snow and rain during the winter.

The report, compiled by wildfire managers and weather and climate specialists, forecasts a normal wildfire season for California, and a low-risk, late-starting wildfire season for states in the Pacific Northwest, northern Rocky Mountains and the Dakotas.

The report blames an intensified La Nina pattern for adding to the drought conditions that have dried out Texas, much of New Mexico and eastern Colorado and made portions of western Kansas, Oklahoma and southern Arizona high-risk candidates for a hectic, damaging and early-starting wildfire season. La Nina's effects on climate this year, cited in the report as the strongest since the mid-1970s, have also put portions of Hawaii and a swath in central Alaska in the higher risk category for early season fires.

So far this year, fires have charred more than 2 million acres in Texas, forced thousands to evacuate homes along Colorado's Front Range and scorched nearly 400 square miles in New Mexico, costing state and federal governments millions of dollars in a year of tight budgets.

"We believe we have resources for this year," said U.S. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, who toured the agency in Boise Friday. "But it is one of those issues which ... we are struggling with because it is a very tough deficit budget

time in our country."

The Obama administration sought about \$3.6 billion in fiscal 2011 to fight fires and engage in preventative efforts like three thinning, according to agency records. But some budget experts believe that figure could be cut in fiscal 2012.

The outlook, however, is much brighter for many other states in the nation's western half.

Average or above-average snowpack and ample rain and cool spring temperatures have reduced the risk or delayed the onset of the wildfire season from Washington and Idaho to North Dakota according to the report. La Nina summers also tend to decrease lightning storms blamed for triggering fires in forests and across rangelands, the report states.

For California, a state that has struggled with drought and significant wildfire damage, a summer with less risk for significant fire activity is projected. While vegetation and grass fuels across the state are still dealing with the effects of drought, even those in southern California are holding enough moisture to reduce the chances of significant fires flaring up until later in the season, according to the report.

Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, northern Colorado and most of Nebraska are projected for normal or slightly above-normal potential for significant fires.

The report also forecasts the risk will decrease in the dry, wildfire hotspots in southeastern Colorado and Kansas during the next two months as more rain and higher humidity moves into the region.

Despite the positive outlook for much of the West and high levels of confidence in the forecasts, experts caution that weather and a string of hot, dry and windy weeks can quickly raise risk.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 30 FROM 10-2  
PLEASE JOIN MIKE, SHARON PRICE, THEIR FAMILY AND FRIENDLY STAFF

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Sign up for door prizes to be given away every hour from the foods and the automotive side.  
Tasting of a variety of the different foods sold will be available. COME BE OUR GUESTS!

## BANANAGRAMS!

Use the 15 tiles in this bunch to create words that fit into the grids below. To get you started, a few tiles from the bunch have been placed, and the BANANA BITES provide hints. Reuse the 15 tiles in the bunch for each grid.

**LEVEL 1**

I C S E W E I  
O R D T E M A I

**BANANA BITE:** One word is something you can travel on.  
D S  
W  
M E

**BANANA BITE:** One word means "leave out."  
D  
T C I

Yesterday's Answer: ASLEEP, AWAKE; RIGHT, LEFT; STRONG, WEAK; ONE, MANY



# Viewpoints

## Today in History

Today is Friday, April 29, the 119th day of 2011. There are 246 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On April 29, 1861, the Maryland House of Delegates voted 53-13 against seceding from the Union. In Montgomery, Ala., during an address to a special session of the Confederate Congress, President Jefferson Davis asked for the authority to wage war.

### On this date:

In 1429, Joan of Arc entered the besieged city of Orleans to lead a French victory over the English.

In 1916, the Easter Rising in Dublin collapsed as Irish nationalists surrendered to British authorities.

In 1945, during World War II, American soldiers liberated the Dachau concentration camp.

In 1946, 28 former Japanese officials went on trial in Tokyo as war criminals; seven ended up being sentenced to death.

In 1961, "ABC's Wide World of Sports" premiered, with Jim McKay as host.

In 1974, President Richard M. Nixon announced he was releasing edited transcripts of some secretly made White House tape recordings related to Watergate.

In 1991, a cyclone struck the South Asian country of Bangladesh, claiming an estimated 138,000 lives.

In 1992, deadly rioting erupted in Los Angeles after a jury in Simi Valley, Calif. acquitted four Los Angeles police officers of almost all state charges in the videotaped beating of Rodney King.

**Ten years ago:** The International Monetary Fund endorsed a program to establish better procedures to prevent a repeat of the 1997-1998 Asian currency crisis that plunged two-fifths of the world into recession.

**Five years ago:** Tens of thousands of protesters marched through lower Manhattan to demand an immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq.

**One year ago:** Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal declared a state of emergency in the face of the worsening oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actress Celeste Holm is 94. Rhythm-and-blues singer Carl Gardner (The Coasters) is 83. Poet Rod McKuen is 78. Actor Keith Baxter is 78. Bluesman Otis Rush is 77. Conductor Zubin Mehta is 75. Country singer Duane Allen (The Oak Ridge Boys) is 68. Singer Tommy James is 64. Movie director Phillip Noyce is 61. Country musician Wayne Secrest (Confederate Railroad) is 61. Comedian Jerry Seinfeld is 57. Actor Leslie Jordan is 56. Actress Kate Mulgrew is 56. Actor Daniel Day-Lewis is 54. Actress Michelle Pfeiffer is 53. Actress Eve Plumb is 53. Rock musician Phil King is 51. Country singer Stephanie Bentley is 48. Singer Carnie Wilson (Wilson Phillips) is 43. Actor Paul Adelstein is 42. Actress Uma Thurman is 41. Tennis player Andre Agassi is 41. Rapper Master P is 41. Country singer James Bonamy is 39. Rock musician Mike Hogan (The Cranberries) is 38. Actor Tyler Labine is 33. Actress-model Taylor Cole is 27. Actor Zane Carney is 26.

**Thought for Today:** "An education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you know and what you don't."

- Anatole France, French author and critic (1844-1924)

...AND DO YOU TAKE EACH OTHER IN SICKNESS AND HEALTH, THROUGH INTENSE MEDIA SCRUTINY OVER WEIGHT GAIN AND HAIR LOSS, THROUGH MISTRESSES AND EMBARRASSING OFFSPRING...  
...FOR WORSE OR WORST...

I DO!



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## This week: arches, events and specialty foods

### It's A Rip-off...

Today (April 29) marks another trip around the sun for me and the whole world is watching Kate and William!

### A Pain in the...

After an absence of several years, my archenemy has found me and mercilessly inflicted pain. Fortunately, I have retained the tools to deal with it!

My "arch" enemy? Plantar fasciitis, an inflammation of tissue in the soles of the feet.

The tools? Orthopedic shoe inserts. (I looked it up in Wikipedia to be sure I knew what I was talking about. They report that the ailment is "associated with a high body-mass index". Now they didn't have to say that!)

### Chow Down Town

M&S Specialty Foods, on the corner of Kingsmill and Gray, will REALLY have their Open House on Saturday, April 30. (I had given an erroneous date in an earlier column.) Lunch is served from 10-2. They have lots of items. I treat myself to southern pecan coffee on the weekends (available in whole beans or ground on-site) and this week we whipped up a batch of delicious tortilla soup!

### Events Galore!

Two big events are coming up



JOE WEAVER

in July and we need your help to make them a success. The first is the Boomtown Block Party, Business Expo, and Top O' Texas BBQ Cook-Off on July 9. (Yes, I know that sound like three different things.) The Block Party—held this year at Rec Park near the Rodeo Grounds—will feature games, food, giveaways, and...well, the sky is the limit. Some of the things we are considering: talent show, live music, crafts, bounce houses, dunking booth and a dance. Contact the chamber (669-3241 or admin@pampachamber.com) to get more details or sign up to help!

And 2011 is the year KFDA Channel 10 returns to Pampa for Summer Celebration. On Monday, July 18, they will broadcast the 6:00 and 10:00 news on site at the brand new Pampa H2O Family Aquatic Center. This is a great opportunity to show off your business, organization, band or whatever.

### What's In A Name?

Terry Gamblin informed me this week that Milliron Road was named

for a local resident and business owner, Ralph Milliron. I never would have guessed that the street—in an industrial area—was named for a person!

Bob Benyshek brought in a copy of the Fraternal Herald to show me some of the peculiar names. There are enough for several columns worth of comments, but one in particular—Ronald Bible—got me to wondering how many surnames there are with religious connotations. The Catholics are pretty well covered. I have known Popes, Cardinals, Archbishops (OK, it was really Archibishop—same thing), Bishops, Priests, Fryars, Monks, and Nuns. I have known Parsons, Deacons, Elders, Profits, and maybe even a Preacher. I have encountered Bibles, Prays, Churches, Chapels, and Pughs. I even know a Lord and at least one Angel!

Captain Mark Martin of the Salvation Army stopped by to see me this week with a business name. The name? Chambers and Grubbs. The business? A funeral home. I can just hear the funeral planner tell a prospect: "Chambers and Grubbs, sir. Our name, your option—a crypt or a plot."

Next column: A Psychiatric Clinic

Joe Weaver is the Executive Director of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce.

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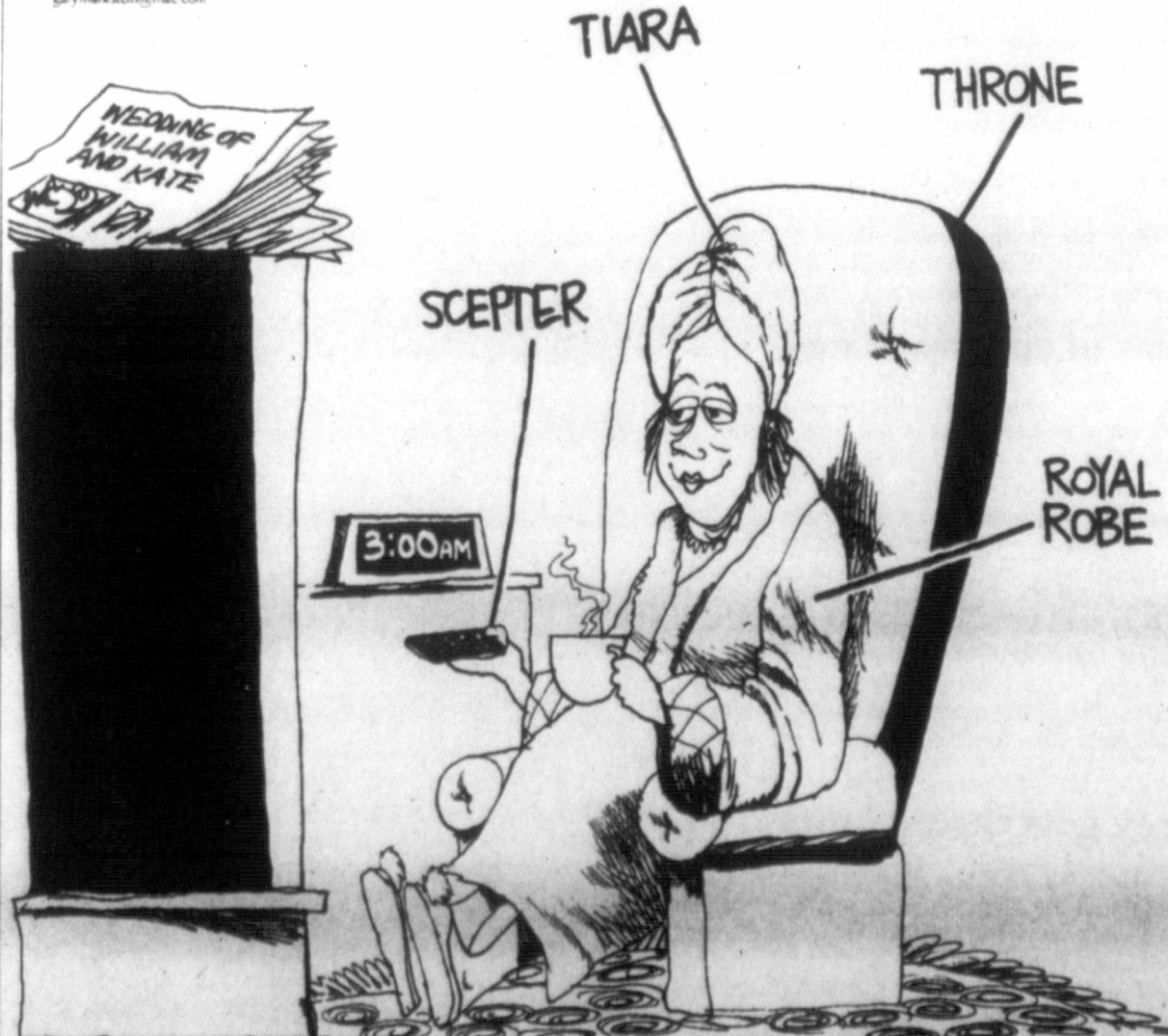
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# Worship

## Don't procrastinate, seek God now

By nature, I have a very serious problem. This problem takes a toll on my work, my family, and my friends. It's hard for me to even talk about, but here goes.

Hello, my name is Dallas, and I am a procrastinator. That's right, I struggle with putting things off that need to be done now. Do you battle with this?

I procrastinate in almost every area in my life and I believe that many in Pampa do the same thing. Being a procrastinator I can usually identify the symptoms in other people. I'm not talking about just the easy signs like when the other husbands and I are lined up at 5:00 on Valentine's day at the local Hallmark waiting to buy something for their wives (by the way guys I would ask you to reserve me a spot next year in line but you will probably put it off till the last minute). I'm talking about the deep symptoms the ones no one wants to talk about. I see it almost every Sunday when I walk into church. I hear it all the time in the counseling sessions I have with people. The deep symptom that is hard to spot is this: a lack of joy because of not putting Jesus first in their life before today.

Jesus one day was sitting on the side of a hill in the area of Galilee, talking to many people who had gathered around wondering who He really was. After speaking on many things he comes to a point that I think everyone needed to hear then and still do today. He is talking about how people are so concerned with material things, wrapped up in their own life that they were relying on themselves more than on God. In



DALLAS STRINGER

### the good word

response to that he says: Mat 6:33-34 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you. (34)

Therefore don't worry about tomorrow, because tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. (HCSB). Here is the dreaded result of what happens when we don't seek God first, we live a life of regret. When we all stand before Jesus someday it won't matter how much money we made or how popular we were. What really matters is did we seek God first?

I was talking with a man once not too long ago who told me how much he regretted not raising his children in church. He said that when temptation came his children weren't prepared and he felt like it was his fault. He is faithfully bringing them up in church now but he wishes that he would have done it just a little sooner.

Today I will make a choice to procrastinate no more and seek God now.

Hi, my name is Dallas, and I choose to live in the moment and seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness. Would you join me?

Dallas Stringer is the pastor at Calvary Baptist Church.

## CHURCH SPOTLIGHT

# National Day of Prayer Thursday at M.K. Brown

ANDREW GLOVER  
aglover@thepampanews.com

Pampans will get the opportunity to spend part of their work day in prayer as Pampa observes the National Day of Prayer 12 to 12:50 p.m. Thursday at the Heritage Room at M.K. Brown Auditorium.

This is the 60th annual observance. According to the web site, President Harry Truman started the observance on the first Thursday of May in 1952. The purpose stated on the website is to communicate with every individual the need for personal repentance and prayer, to create appropriate materials, and to mobilize the Christian community to intercede for America's leaders and its families.

The theme for this year is "A Mighty Fortress is our God." According to an event brochure, the theme is based on Psalm 91:2. "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

Highland Park Church secretary Mindy Park said it's important to pray for our country.

"A lot of people feel our country is in trouble," Park said. "We need guidance, direction and God back in our lives."

The event locally is being headed up by First Baptist worship pastor Barry Owens and Highland Baptist pastor Paul Nachtigall. M.K. Brown Auditorium is located on the 1100 block of W. Coronado Drive.

## Pampa Church Directory

### Assemblies Of God

- **Calvary Assembly of God Church**  
806-669-7207  
1030 Love Street
- **First Assembly of God**  
806-665-5941  
500 South Cuyler
- **New Life Assembly of God**  
806-665-0804  
1435 N. Sumner

### Baptist

- **Bible Baptist Church**  
806-669-7830  
500 East Kingsmill Avenue
- **Calvary Baptist Church**  
806-665-0842  
900 East 23rd
- **Central Baptist Church**  
806-665-1631  
513 East Francis Avenue
- **Cornerstone Baptist Church**  
(806) 669-6509  
2410 W. 23rd Ave.
- **Crosspointe**  
806-665-2480  
711 E. Harvester
- **Fellowship Baptist Church**  
806-665-5976  
622 East Francis Avenue
- **First Baptist Church**  
806-669-1155  
203 North West Street
- **First Free Will Baptist Church**  
806-665-2545  
731 Sloan Street
- **Grace Baptist Church**  
806-669-7967  
824 South Barnes
- **Harvest Fellowship Church**  
806-665-4922  
2100 W. Kentucky
- **Highland Baptist Church**  
806-665-3300  
1301 North Banks Street
- **Hobart Baptist Church**  
806-669-3212  
1100 Crawford Street
- **Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel**  
806-665-4330  
1021 S. Barnes
- **Lighthouse Baptist Church**  
806-665-0262  
725 West Brown
- **Macedonia Baptist Church**  
806-665-4926  
441 Elm Avenue
- **New Hope Baptist Church**  
806-665-4044  
404 Harlem Street

### Catholic

- **St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church**  
806-665-8933  
810 West 23rd Ave

### Christian

- **First Christian Church**  
806-669-3225  
1633 North Nelson Street
- **Hi-Land Christian Church**  
806-669-6700  
1615 North Banks Street

### Church of Christ

- **Church of Christ**  
806-665-0031  
1342 Mary Ellen Street
- **Church of Christ**  
806-665-0004  
500 N. Somerville
- **Southside Church of Christ**  
806-669-3912  
11927 McCullough Street
- **Kentucky Ave. Church of Christ**  
806-665-2572  
1612 W. Kentucky
- **Church of God**  
806-669-6372  
1123 Gwendolyn Avenue
- **Church of God of Prophecy**  
422 N. West St.
- **Open Door Church of God In Christ**  
806-665-6132  
402 Oklahoma Street

### Church of God

- **Church of God**  
806-669-6372  
1123 Gwendolyn Avenue
- **Church of God of Prophecy**  
422 N. West St.
- **Open Door Church of God In Christ**  
806-665-6132  
402 Oklahoma Street

### Priest Park Church of God

669-6372  
1123 Gwendolyn

### Episcopal

- **Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church**  
806-665-0701  
727 West Browning Avenue
- **Saint Mark CME Church**  
806-665-6743  
406 Elm Ave.

### Fellowship of Christian Ministries

- **Trinity Fellowship Church**  
806-665-3255  
2225 N. Hobart

### Full Gospel

- **Briarwood Full Gospel Church**  
806-665-7201  
1800 West Harvester Avenue

### Independent

- **Body of Christ Church**  
806-669-9599  
210 N. Ward St.
- **Faith Bible Church**  
806-688-9266  
110 W. Kingsmill
- **Frost Street Missions**  
806-669-9000  
600 North Frost Street
- **Harvest Bible Church**  
806-669-2923  
300 W. Browning Ave.
- **Iglesia Casa Del Alfarero**  
806-665-5898  
500 N. Duncan
- **Iglesia Cristiana Canaan**  
806-669-3330  
905 E. Beryl St.
- **New Hope Missionary Baptist Church**  
806-665-4044  
912 S. Gray St.
- **The Carpenter's Church**  
806-662-9700 • 806-662-9600  
639 South Barnes St.

### Jehovah's Witnesses

- **Jehovah's Witnesses**  
806-669-9355  
1701 Coffee

### Latter-Day Saints

- **Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints**  
806-669-2967  
411 East 29th Ave.

### Lutheran

- **Zion Lutheran Church**  
806-669-2774  
1200 Duncan Street

### Methodist

- **First United Methodist Church**  
806-669-7411  
201 East Foster Avenue
- **St. Paul United Methodist Church**  
806-665-8951  
511 N. Hobart

### Nazarene

- **Church of the Nazarene**  
806-669-3144  
500 North West Street

### Pentecostal

- **First Pentecostal Holiness Church**  
806-665-8192  
1700 Alcock
- **Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship**  
806-669-6915  
1733 N. Banks
- **United Pentecostal Church**  
806-665-3676  
610 Naida

### Presbyterian

- **First Presbyterian Church**  
806-665-1031  
525 North Gray Street

### Salvation Army

- **Salvation Army**  
806-665-7233  
701 N. Cuyler

### Seventh Day Adventist

- **Seventh Day Adventist Church**  
806-665-4492  
421 N. Ward Street

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## Meaker

cont. from page 1

The 67-year-old candidate, and his wife, Audrey, have owned Meaker Appliance for some 36 years. He has not served in an elected capacity before.

"I know all these guys," Meaker said of the present city commissioners. "I don't have a personal ax to grind with anybody. But I talk to them before this last election and told them that we don't need this water park, certainly not in this economy. I told them to at least put it on the ballot as a non-binding referendum to see how people feel about it."

"I'm not against a water park. I think they are wonderful things, but I don't think the taxpayers should have to pay for one without having a say-so about it."

The candidate said he is "not too thrilled" about local residents being "misled."

"For instance, there was a situation I was not aware of until just recently, and it had to do with our emergency management people," Meaker said. "It is in our city charter that the mayor and the county judge are supposed to make a decision about selecting someone when there is a vacancy. Our mayor took it upon himself to do unilaterally which is not right. Our city charter dictates that it should not happen."

"So that basically locked out the county and they had to do their own thing."

Meaker cites his successful business background as a valuable asset in his candidacy.

"It isn't a flash in the pan thing with me," he said. "I grew up here and I have a personal stake in the city."

"Not from a business standpoint," he said. "I'm too old for that. I'd just like to give the place in better shape than I found it."

"Pampa is as good a town as you can live in. I've always said that Pampa is America in a microcosm."

Another concern for the candidate is the aging infrastructure.

"It is going to be expensive and it won't be easy," he said. "The streets are being patched. That's about all you can say about it, but again they are deteriorating."

"Our city employees are doing all that they can do. They are good, hard-working people who are maxed out. Again, this will take money."

The same is true, he said, about abandoned buildings.

"I can remember growing up here when all these buildings were occupied," Meaker said. "And they looked good when we had businesses in them."

Meaker said he has a "guarded optimism" when it comes to local economic development efforts, specifically the purchase of the old Celanese facility.

"It is a mixed bag," he said. "There is a lot of pollution there and I understand Celanese is on the hook for that if we handled it properly. There are some areas out there that will be off-limits to us because of this."

"On the plus side, that thing is loaded with assets. We have a generating plant, we have water rights and the rail siding is so hard to get today it is unbelievable. It needs to be promoted heavily."

"We need to get (a company) in there. We are going to need cash flow to keep that thing going."

What is needed he said, is a "unified, cohesive effort" to get the community involved.

"I've seen communities where they get people involved and they get enthusiastic about something," he said. "Let's do this, create a positive atmosphere."

"I'm sincere about what I'm doing. I think I am capable. I'm as honest as it gets. I have to answer to a higher power, that's how I feel. I'll do my level best."

story by Randy Pribble

## Studebaker

cont. from page 1

back a little bit and to serve and hopefully, to help guide Pampa here into the future as we try to build a stronger community."

Studebaker, 40, is married with two children and is an IT manager at Titan Specialties. Born and raised in Norfolk, Neb., a town similar in size to Pampa, he said that Pampa is just the right fit for him and his family.

"I've lived almost as long here in Pampa as I've lived in my hometown of Norfolk. Having lived here for 16 years, I feel like Pampa's more home than anything else."

The most important local issue right now, Studebaker said, is the ongoing exodus from Pampa residences.

"I think probably the most pressing issue that the city is facing right now is probably just the loss of population we've had from business closing, Celanese and different things. The demographic has kind of changed. We're not as big as we once were. That can put a lot of stress on certain things on the community."

He said that he sees that the city is already taking steps to fight this problem.

"I think probably the most important first step is what's already taking place with the PEDC buying the old Celanese property to get an industrial park," he said. "That hopefully will be something that will be attractive for other industries or other companies to want to come to Pampa."

"I think it was a good thing. From what I understand, we needed an industrial park with railway access, and that facility out there is already there. A lot of things are already there. It probably was a wise purchase."

He said that the population loss puts undue stress on city services, although he added that the city has done a good job

with them.

"I think it is a hard thing, especially as our population decreases. Our city size as far as actual square footage or square area hasn't decreased, but the number of people living here has. I do think that does put a strain on it, but I do feel that they have been efficient in trying to address those service issues."

The overall direction of the city, Studebaker said, is good.

"I feel like the things that have been put in place like the opportunities from the PEDC, I think those will help us moving forward," he said. "I feel like the water park and the community cleanup initiatives and things are trying to help us move in the right direction and trying to help us become more attractive for people to live here. Other than that, I just like to see Pampa continue to try to improve the best it can and operate as efficiently as it can so that we spend tax dollars wisely, not just wastefully, on things that will make Pampa an attractive place to live, for people to move in or for companies to want to locate here in Pampa."

Studebaker said he sees himself as a person who can help be part of the solution, someone who can help steer Pampa into a good place going forward.

"I feel that I can make good decisions," he said. "I feel like I can have vision for the future as far as trying to help guide the city in that direction. I know that the main purpose of the City Commission is to help guide the city in its procedures and policies as they try to move forward. I think we have a good city manager. They just need some support moving forward and we need to continue to make Pampa a great place to live."

story by Arnie Aurellano

## Copeland

cont. from page 1

"I've worked with the county, city and state and I'm fairly familiar with the workings of government agencies," Copeland said. "I felt it was time for me to get a little more involved."

Copeland, 46, is a Gray County Juvenile Probation Officer who has never held an elected position. He did, however, cite his experience at various levels of government as relevant to his potential commissionership.

"I've been with Gray County Juvenile Probation for 5 years now," he said. "Currently I'm an Intensive Supervision Probation Officer, prior to that worked for Gray County Adult Probation (Community Service Coordinator)."

Before that I was employed at Department of Human Services (1993-2000), was a corrections officer with the Sheriff's Department for about two and a half years, and I was a firefighter for two and a half years.

Copeland and his wife, Amanda, have two children, Amanda and Colby.

"I'm an honest man," he said. "My father is the sheriff, my mother has worked for 27 years at the junior high, so public service is very important to our family."

"I think I was raised with the proper virtues."

Copeland said he can't see his family living anywhere else but Pampa.

"Pampa has just been a good community to my family," he said. "We've raised our children here and we have had nothing but positive experiences everywhere we've turned. I really can't imagine being anywhere else."

The candidate supports recent development, such as the city's water park.

"It will be an asset to the community," Copeland said. "It will give kids something to do."

He also lauded the Pampa Economic

Development Corporation's efforts, although he expressed misgivings about the price tag.

The recent purchase of the Celanese property "will benefit Pampa," Copeland said. "I am slightly concerned about the cost but I think it will be a positive move."

Although he described the city's streets and utilities as "getting older," he has nothing but praise for city workers.

"We see city employees out all the time and working hard," he said. "The water

lines and streets are getting old and there are always repairs to be done, but the city employees are doing a fabulous job."

Copeland also sees a bright future for the community when he looks ahead.

"If you look around, you are seeing new construction all the time," he said. "New businesses are coming in. Old businesses are renovating. I think Pampa is on the way up."

story by Randy Pribble



## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband's darling mother died of cancer last summer. During the last month of her illness she was confined to bed, so we hired a nurse, Lois, to cover the night shift.

The day after the funeral my husband's father started calling Lois "Dad" and swore they were "just friends," but continued pursuing her despite our strong disapproval. Two months later, they were dating. Last Thanksgiving our first holiday without Mom, he cancelled plans to be with us and the grandkids to spend it with "friends" — guess who? On Christmas it was the same story.

This has hit my husband hard. Dad and Mom were married for 50 years. We have always had a close family, particularly at holiday time. Are we wrong to feel that Dad and Lois are disrespecting Mom's memory and to feel hurt and angry? — GRIEVING IN MINNESOTA

**DEAR GRIEVING:** Please accept my sympathy for your family's loss. While it may appear your father-in-law jumped quickly into a relationship, it could be he grieved during the time his wife was ill and has concerns that his own time may be limited, so he wants to enjoy life while he can.

As to missing the holi-

days, being there with his wife of 50 years conspicuously missing may have been more than he could face. So please, try to be understanding because I'm sure your mother-in-law's death has been painful for all of you.

**DEAR ABBY:** After having a stroke, my mother spent the last few years of her life in a wonderful nursing facility. She was an accomplished gardener and enjoyed sharing her bounty. Instead of sending her a fresh flower bouquet for Mother's Day, I'd have some potted tomato plants delivered to her nursing home. On her death bed last year, she reminded us to water her tomato plants. Sadly, those plants outlived her.

I cannot think of a more fitting tribute to her memory than to encourage your readers to provide living vegetable plants for their senior relatives. Most nurseries or florists will accommodate your request and, perhaps, could be persuaded to donate a plant or two to a local senior care center.

The joy of nurturing a living plant will continue through the summer. — CAROLE IN SAN CLEMENTE

**DEAR CAROLE:** What a sweet idea. Your mother appears to have been a generous and caring woman, and your letter shows the apple

doesn't fall far from the tree.

**DEAR ABBY:** When I was in high school, I was very popular and part of a large social group. That was three years ago. Since graduation, I have been dealing with an anxiety disorder. It has reached the point where I can no longer work, go to school or have much of a social life. I am currently seeking treatment.

Whenever I'm in touch with someone I was close to in high school, I am always asked where I'm working now or what school I'm attending. I feel embarrassed because of my disorder and often I don't respond because I don't know what to say. Any ideas? — SPEECHLESS IN ILLINOIS

**DEAR SPEECHLESS:** You could say that you haven't been well and needed to take some time to recover — or, if you don't want to reveal that much, say, "I decided to take some time to find myself," which is common and sufficiently euphemistic. And the surest way to find treatment for your anxiety disorder would be to tell your family doctor you need to consult a mental health professional who specializes in anxiety disorders. Once you find one, you can quickly return to the mainstream of life.

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

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Yesterday's answer

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# Winton

cont. from page 1

happy. Running the city, when you're sitting up there in front of all these people, you have to listen to what the people have to say."

Winton, who is married with four children, is a long-time resident of Pampa. He went to school here before getting his Associate's degree from Frank Phillips College, and he was a city fireman for two decades before transitioning to his current career operating TruStar Real Estate.

"I think the 20 years working in the city (as a fireman), I think that's got to count for something," Winton said. "Doing budgets and that sort of stuff with the city. I've been a businessman here all my life. I actually had a business at 18. I actually started working at 12."

Winton said that his current job in real estate also gives him a unique perspective at the city's issues. Foremost, he pointed at the economy as something he wanted the city to focus on.

"I think our economy is way down," he said. If you drive through town, you see house after house is for sale. A lot of people don't know it, but Pampa leads the Texas Panhandle in number of houses for sale per thousand people. I think that's one thing we need to fix. Also, we lead in foreclosures. Being in the real estate business, I see a lot of that. We deal in foreclosures and it's really bad here.

"That is one thing I'd like to see us fix. You have to fix it by getting businesses and people coming in to Pampa, not leaving."

Winton said that he knows that there are several issues that are on Pampa people's minds, ranging from the industrial park to the water park to the water situation to the economy. Still, he said that he feels that the city's

personnel is working well within its means.

"I think the city is doing a fantastic job with what they're doing," he said. "From what I can tell, the streets, they keep up with. It just seems like every issue that we have, whether it's streets, utilities, water or whatever, they get right on it. I understand there's only so much you can do a lot of times, but I think the city employees do a fantastic job with what they're doing."

He said he sees some new developments in town that are definite positive steps.

"I think that (the water park) is a great idea," he said. "You have to spend money to make money. You have to attract business in here, and that's exactly what that should do... I really think for Pampa, that's going to work out and that's going to be tremendous for our economy. You have to do stuff to bring in businesses, and that's a start."

He also cited the PEDC's upcoming Celanese purchase as an overwhelming positive.

"Absolutely, I think (buying the old Celanese facility) could turn out to be one of the best things that they've done. Again, that's something that's going to attract industry into the city, and I think we're going to have to diversify our local economy. We're going to have to be cautious on just relying on a few industries and get some more in here so that if we do happen to lose something, it's not a big impact on the city. I think what the Economic Development is doing, they're doing a fantastic job. They haven't always, but again, you have to take risks, just like any business."

He said that he wants to be a part of the city government to help bring more positives like those to the city and to become an effective between City Hall and

Pampa residents.

"The people don't just need a voice," he said. "They have a voice. The voice is them. They need somebody — and that somebody is Gary Winton — and he will listen to what they have to say and take their concerns. It's just like running a business. If you make your customers mad, they'll go somewhere else. You have to make them happy and you have to keep them around and keep the city growing and prospering."

story by Arnie Aurellano

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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Level: Intermediate

# Price

entrepreneur who runs his own automotive service center here in town. A local boy who graduated from Pampa High School in 1972, he said he just wants to give back to the community.

"I feel like Pampa has been good to me. I have been on several committees and have been able to serve in leadership positions on those, but I didn't have time to dedicate to... politics or anything like that. Now that I'm semi-retired and have my own business, I do have the time to dedicate and would like to give back a little bit of what the city's given to me."

He said that he's content with the overall state of the city, although, like any other municipality, there are always things that can be done better.

"Overall, I'm real happy with our city," he said. "I think there have been some ordinances over the years that we might want to go back and evaluate. I would like to make our city the most friendly that we can to attract new business within our ordinances and our policies. I want to make it a little easier and make them feel welcome."

Price characterized himself as a hands-on guy who sees cleaning up Pampa as high on his priority list.

"Cleaning up the city is probably one of my strongest missions. I think it's one of the most pressing things. I think that our city is a wonderful place to live and the EDC is offered us some money to get started here, and I think our city is taking advantage of that. I would like to see more of that come along."

"As an example, that five acres that's right beside (The Pampa News office), I bought it and made a deal with the city that they will clean that up and then I will keep it clean form there on. I think we need to look at some cleaning house to make ourselves more attractive."

It's a big job, but Price said that it's a goal that can be accomplished.

"I think the first goal and the way to go about it is, every year, try to do a little bit more. Since I started attending the meetings to follow and get in the know as to what's going on, I've seen that the EDC here in Pampa has offered \$70,000 that's to be used by the city to remove."

Our city will furnish the manpower and the equipment to clean these old houses up, but then we have to pay \$100 a load to get the material hauled to the landfill. That funding to haul the load will come from the \$70,000 the EDC has given the city. In other words, it's a pretty good step. I will continue working with them and I hope that we can continue to make steps to that direction. We've got a lot to do."

The City Commission meetings, Price said, are an important tool for those looking to make an impact locally. For example, going to a recent city meeting changed his mind about the PEDC's upcoming Celanese purchase.

"I do (support it)," he said. "I did not, but I've told several other people, I would encourage you to go to the City Commission meetings. I went to the meeting and I listened to the full story. I was one of the only ones that stood up and questioned our city and our commissioners at that meeting. I was concerned about the contamination out there, and they answered my questions to where I feel comfortable. I think the future looks bright in purchasing that. There's a lot of potential involved. I'm for that strongly."

He did add that he believes the city could be more transparent in its affairs, citing the construction of the water park as an example.

"I think that it's done and it's over with. I believe that there were some mistakes made there. I believe that the public should have been more informed going into that. I think that that has caused more dissension amongst our city than any one issue that I'm aware of at this point in time."

"I'm not necessarily saying it's a bad thing or a good thing. I don't believe our city was made aware enough. I think we need to work more in informing our people and letting them have a voice in what we do. My personal thoughts on it is if it will bring people to Pampa, well, that's great. My job if I'm elected is not to tell you what I feel, it's to tell you what I hear other people feel."

Still, he sees Pampa's ship as headed in the

right bearing.

"I feel positive about the job our people are doing. I think that Pampa has a solid foundation in management... But overall, I'm a positive person and I feel that our personnel overall is doing a good job."

story by Arnie Aurellano

cont. from page 1

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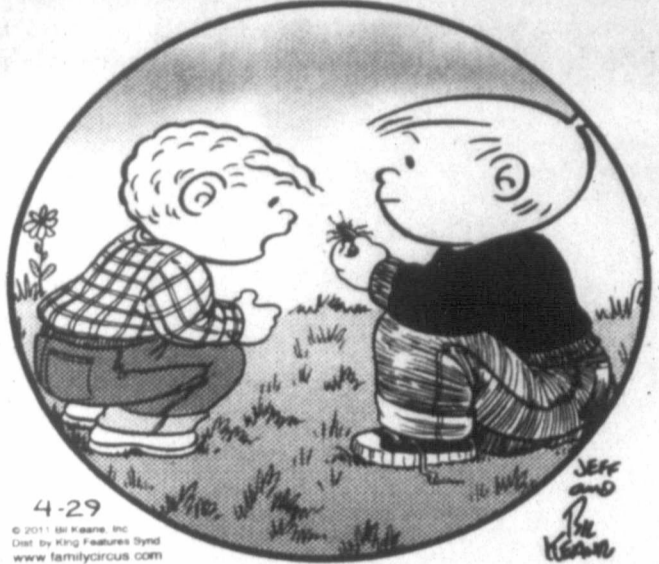
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# comics PAGE

**THE FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bil Keane



"HEY! That's MY bug! I recognize him from last year!"

**Non Sequitur**



**Nest Heads**



## daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Saturday, April 30, 2011:

This year, you greet change more openly. Try to see where you are blocking yourself. If you travel or encounter a foreigner in your life, you will witness other approaches and lifestyles. If you are involved in higher education, just taking a seminar will open you up and release a lot of stagnant, learned ways of thinking. Your sixth sense helps home in on issues. Recycle during this tense and busy year. If you are single, check out anyone who enters your life with care. Someone might have a critical flaw! If you are attached, share more of your vulnerabilities. ARIES can trigger 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)**

★★★ Don't allow a momentary bout of the blues to take over. Your issues might have more to do with others. Could someone close to you be negative or touchy? Take a walk with a friend or plan another type of activity that reduces stress levels. Tonight: Dance the night away.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**

★★ You might be repressing what is bothering you to such an extent that you cannot root it out. Do your best, because many of your actions revolve around this issue. If you are tired, take advantage of the weekend — take a nap. Tonight: Make it cozy and intimate.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**

★★★★ Your personality melts boundaries and advances a situation. Make plans to go to a baseball game or invite some friends on a picnic. You easily could be overwhelmed. Observe. Get to the bottom of a problem. Tonight: You are the party.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**

★★★★ Consider your many different options. Examine how much you are willing to tolerate, be it from an older friend or family member. You don't need to push yourself this hard. Honor fatigue. Take some time just for yourself. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**

★★★★ You might not be in the mood to deal with difficult, testy people. Take off for an adventure. See an art show or perhaps go explore an area near you. A rela-

tive or neighbor needs some time but can be a drag! Tonight: Break the mold.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**

★★★★ Deal directly with partners, and share more of what is going on with you. There could be some manipulating and power plays going on. If you feel that manipulation surrounds you, know that you are the common denominator. Perhaps you have an unresolved issue. Tonight: A quiet chat.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**

★★★★ Often you are the source of your problems. Why not adopt another philosophy, at least for a day? Your ability to shake up the status quo emerges. If you get strong reactions, ask yourself if it is you. Tonight: Accept a loved one's invitation.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**

★★★ Juggle different people and promises. Revise your plans, even if you don't want to. Toss yourself into a project or go to the gym. Flex and open up. Tonight: Just go for the moment.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**

★★★★ What you've been doing hasn't drawn the results you have dreamt of. Have a conversation with a friend who knows a lot about such matters. Tonight: Sticking to your budget and having fun can work together.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**

★★★★ You have a great deal more impact than you realize. Open up to new possibilities surrounding both home and family. Like many people, you are more comfortable with the known rather than the unknown. Note any discomfort, and let it go. Tonight: Entertain from your home.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**

★★★★ You have the right words, but you also are listening fully. You could get upset about what someone doesn't say or misinterpret his or her words. Before getting distressed, try walking in the other person's shoes, and you might understand where he or she is coming from. Tonight: Out and about — a favorite spot.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**

★★★★ You might be overly aware of the costs of a friendship and your chosen direction. You also might want to revise your thinking about this friendship or have a long-overdue talk with this person. Be open about your ideas. Tonight: Allow another person to treat.

**Tundra**



**Shoe**



**Mother Goose and Grim**



**Zits**



**Garfield**



**Beetle Bailey**



**Marvin**



**Hagar The Horrible**



**Peanuts**



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**RUSSELLCROW Electric** for your electric needs! Comm., Resi. 665-0878, 440-1171.

**14h Gen. Serv.**

**HOUSE** Cracking? In bricks or walls? Childers Brothers, Inc. 800-299-9563, 806-352-9563

**COX Fence Company.** Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

**CERAMIC** tile work. Remodeling floor, shower, kitchen. Texture, painting, dry wall, landscaping. Free est. Call 665-3453 leave message. Jesus Barraza.

**JH Concrete,** all types of concrete incl stamp, stain, deck, pools. Free est. 806-382-5408

**14n Painting**

**INTERIOR / Exterior** Painting. Call Steve Porter, 669-9347 or 662-2574.

**14r Plowing/Yard**

**RICO'S Lawn Care & Handyman Service.** Lawnmowing, tree & shrub trimming / removal. Clean up & haul off items. 662-4971

**14s Plumbing**

**JACK'S Plumbing** 715 W. Foster 665-7115

**14w Air Cond/Heat**

**BROWNING'S Refrigeration, Heating & Air Cond. Specialists** since 1964!! 665-1212.

**21 Help Wanted**

**NOTICE** Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

**Chemical Delivery Driver** Oilfield exp. helpful. Mandatory drug test and background check. CDL w/ Hazmat and air brake endorsement will be req. during employment. Good benefits, 401k after 1st yr of employment. Pampa, Perryton, Canadian area. 1-806-228-5463 806-228-3462 for application

**GREEN Country Equipment** "John Deere Dealer" in Pampa is accepting applications for parts counter person. Good wage, benefits. Apply at 12098 E. Frederic in Pampa.

**WELDERS** needed. Must be able to pass weld test. Apply in person only. Crall Products, 2930 Hwy. 152, West, Pampa.

**Outreach Health Services** has immediate openings for ATTENDANT to care for the elderly and disabled in their homes in the Lefors area. Must be 18+, will train the right candidate. Great 401K Plan available to all employees. Please call Mary at 806-373-0986 or 1-800-800-0697 EOE

**CLASS A CDL driver** needed. 1 yr exp. DOT physical drug screen required. 806-665-2451

**GROWING Insurance Agency** has position avail. No exp. necessary, will train. Must have outgoing personality, care about people & be organized w/ some computer skills. Bi-lingual a +. Send resumes to Box 97, c/o Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa.

**PARKVIEW Hospital** has immediate opening for a Radiologic Technician. Competitive salary, exc. benefits, mileage paid. Call Lucretia Davis 826-5581, apply in person 901 Sweetwater, Wheeler, TX or email [lucretiad@parkviewhosp.org](mailto:lucretiad@parkviewhosp.org)

**21 Help Wanted**

**NEED** exp. mechanic to work on chemical pumps, turbine meters, valve & controls, gas prod. units & other type oil field equip. Call Ron T & J Valve. 665-0868

**LOOKING** for reliable, honest babysitter for 16 mo. old, Mon-Fri, 8-5p. 202-5650, 440-4337

**MAINTENANCE** Man needed. Must have own transportain & own tools. Apply at Gwendolyn Plaza Apts, 800 N. N. Nelson.

**CLASS A CDL DRIVER W/HAZMAT** Must pass drug test. Apply in person! No Phone Calls Please. Triangle Well Service 129 S. Price Rd. Pampa, TX.

**MAYTAG** washer \$50, Kenmore washer \$75, Kenmore washer-newer model \$125. 672-1343

**2 Blue Recliners** for sale \$50 ea. Sofa \$150. Call 669-1971.

**M&S Automotive Service Center** for all your Auto Repair needs, big or small. Call us today at 669-6990 or stop by at 120 N. Gray St. (Corner of Gray & Kingsmill St.) and visit with Mike & Sharon Price. We are right on the corner and right on the price. Hours Mon-Fri, 8-5:30 and Sat 8-12. Join us on April 30th for our Grand Opening.

**M&S Specialty Foods,** located at 120 N. Gray. On the corner of Gray and Kingsmill St. Same kind as M&S Automotive Service Center. If you found one, you found us both! Featured Products from King Arthur Flour, Texas Plum Line & John Henry's, Wind & Willow, just to name a few. Now offering Casseroles to Go. Stop in and check out our Specialty Food Items. Hrs. Mon-Fri 9-5:30 and Sat 9-2. 669-6990

**Garage & Quitting Business Sale** 1:00 pm daily till sold out. BR + DR Sets, Misc. Furn., kids wear, logo wear, 302 W. Foster

**Garage Sale:** 416 N. Sumner, Fri-Sat, Sun. 9:30-4:30pm. A little bit of everything!!

**HUGE Yard Sale.** 2227 N. Russell. Lots of baby stuff, pool table & sticks & lots more. Fri. & Sat. 8-?

**Garage Sale:** 8am-Noon Sat 2601 Duncan

**2808 Rosewood, Sat. 9-3.** Electronics, furniture, household. Something for everyone!

**106 S. Price Rd.** Sofas, cabinets, new items. Lower prices on left-overs. Fri 3-6, Sat 9-4

**Garage Sale, Sat. 9-?** Lots of toddler clothes, shoes & toys. 942 S. Banks

**69 Misc.**

**TABLES,** sofas, freezer, chests, dressers, hutch, love seat, microwave. Call 662-7557

**ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.**

**DOUBLE Cemetery Lot.** 2 Vaults & Granite Base For Double Marker. \$3000. 662-9253.

**NEW Mattresses.** Low Prices! Red Barn, 1424 S. Barnes. Open ea. Sat. Call anytime, 665-2767.

**ESTATE Sale.** 2003 Silverado club cab pickup, fully loaded, low mi. 77,000, \$11,000. Qn sz bedrm set, leather Lazy Boy recl., over stuffed sofa & chair, washer / dryer, flat screen T.V., misc. 2700 N. Hobart, #23. Call for apt. 806-683-8500.

**Garage Sale:** 2216 Chestnut Saturday 8-noon

**Garage Sale:** 725 N. Nelson. Baby items & Misc. Saturday 8-4, Sunday 8-7

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**69a Garage Sales**

**PLUS** size clothes & much more! Sat. 9am-4pm, 305 Jean.

**Garage Sale** Saturday 8-? 2540 Chestnut Dr.

**Garage Sale** Saturday 8-noon 2216 Chestnut

**Garage Sale:** 725 N. Nelson. Baby items & Misc. Saturday 8-4, Sunday 8-7

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**95 Furn. Apts.**

**1** bdrm's avail. starting \$435/ mo. \$100 off 1st mo. rent w/ 7 mo. lease. Corp. units: utilities, linens, basic cable. Caprock Apts. 665-7149.

**96 Unfurn. Apts.** \$100 off 1st Mo. Rent 1 bdr starting \$395 / mo. On-site laundry. Caprock Apts. 665-7149

**1 and 2 bdr.** avail. now at the Gwendolen Apts. Call today, they won't last long! 665-1875

**2 & 3 bdr** starting at \$559 / mo. \$150 off 1st mo. Rent w / 7 mo. lease. W/d hookups in all units. Caprock Apts, 665-7149.

**APTS. Houses Duplexes.** K&B Properties. Ref. & dep. req. Lakeview Apts. 669-4386

**CLEAN 1 bdr., stove,** refrig. All bills paid. 886-1674.

**MINUTES** from downtown-efficiencies. Short term leases avail. 806-665-4274.

**NO transportation,** not a problem. These large 1 bdr. apts w/ appliances, are in walking distance to everything you need. 665-4274.

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

**97 Furn. Houses** RV for rent. \$325 per mo. Bills paid. Call 679-7985.

**Advertise with The Pampa News!** Redonn Woods 806-662-5837 Sue Pribble 806-662-8596 Beverly Taylor 806-669-2525

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**98 Unfurn. Houses**

**PICK** up rental list, in the Black Box, at 125 S. Houston, Pampa.

**1 and 2 bedroom** homes for rent or sale. Owner will not carry. Call 665-1122.

**LRG. 3 bdr & lrg. brick** 2 bdr avail. by May 1st. Both in good repair. Clean. Storage sheds, fence. Application req. 665-4180, 440-3044

**99 Stor. Bldgs.** TUMBLEWEED Acres, self storage units. Various sizes. 665-0079, 665-2450.

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

**OFFICE Space** for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

**LG office building** with reasonable monthly rate available soon. Also large garage building available now. Call 665-1875

**103 Homes For Sale** PRICE REDUCED TO \$129,900!! 3 Bdr., 1 3/4 Ba. 307 W. 8th White Deer

**Sits on nice large** corner lot! This home has central heat & air. Large yard with lots of trees for shade! 2 car garage. MLS 11-8899

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**Subscribe!**

806-669-2525

**115 Trailer Parks**

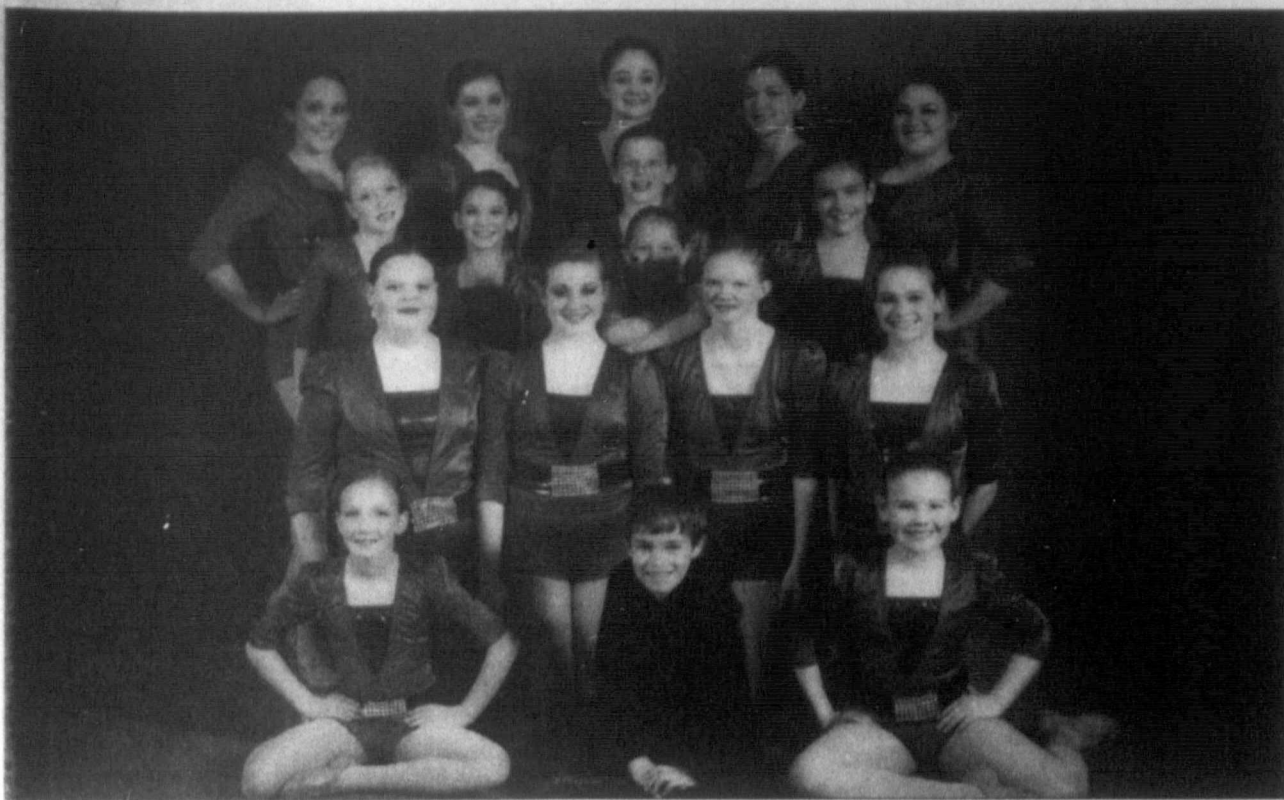
**TUMBLEWEED** Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

**120 Autos**

**OLD** buses. Good for Hunting Leases, Etc. See @ First Baptist Ch. (Pampa) Call 669-1155

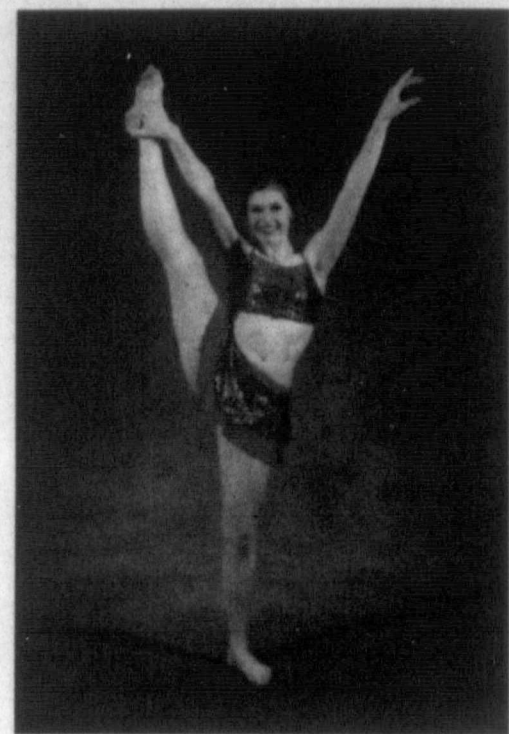
**3/1 with 13 lots** in Skeltytown. House



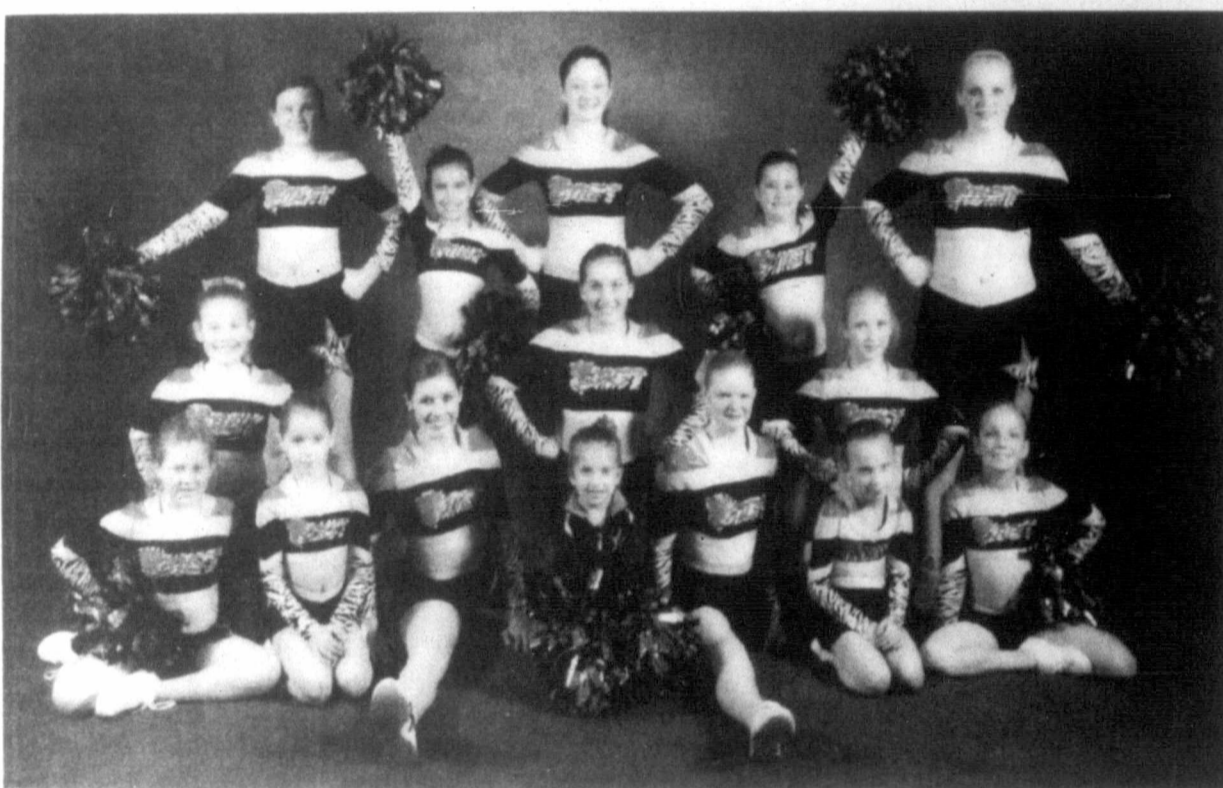


**The MG Dancers Back:** Caylee Steward, Jenna Munsell, Jenna Gee, Haley Macina, Danielle Zuniga; **Third Row:** Blayke Breeding, Gracey Durham, Jacey Baten, Avery Carreon, Audrey Cotton; **Kneeling:** Lily Brainard, Marlee Richardson, Elysa Clements, Olivia Tyler; **Front:** Halie West, Joseph Munsell, Kaitlyn Roberson.

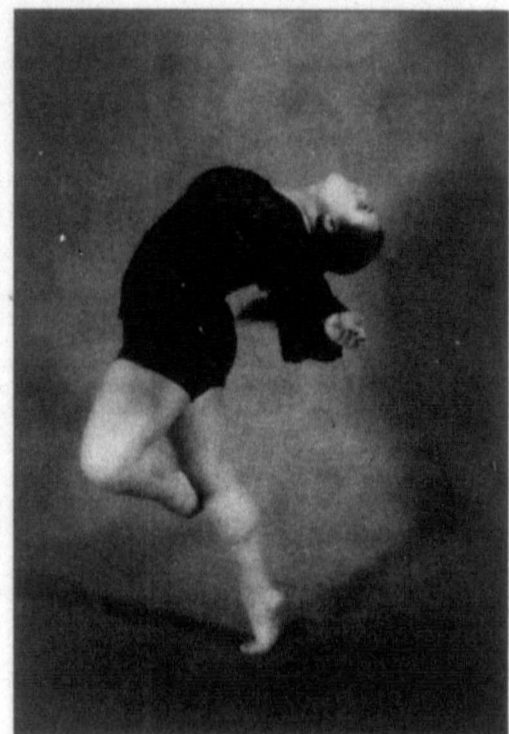
**Madeline Graves Dance and Gymnastics** will hold their 45th recital Saturday, April 30 in the M.K Brown Auditorium. The program entitled *Dance Out Loud* will begin at 7 p.m.



**Above:** Senior Grad Jenna Munsell  
**Below:** Senior Grad Danielle Zuniga



**The MG Twisters Back:** Samantha Long, Avery Carreon, Jenna Gee, Raylee Jewett, Cheyenne Williams; **Middle:** Kaitlyn Roberson, Jacey Devoll, Blayke Breeding; **Front:** Presley Alvey, Audrey Cotton, Jenna Munsell, Lizzy Devoll, Elysa Clements, Riley Devoll, Halie West.



# The Shopper's Square

Shop Right. Shop The Pampa News' Classifieds!



<p><b>Flowers</b></p> <p><b>Roberta's FLOWERS</b></p> <p>"Where your friends buy their flowers"</p> <p>217 N. Ballard 806-669-3309 www.robertasflowers.com</p>	<p><b>Auto Body</b></p> <p><b>PRESTIGE</b> Autobody &amp; Accessories</p> <p>We feature name brand car and truck accessories and a state-of-the-art collision center. Whether it's repairing your vehicle back to it's factory look or adding automotive accessories, our professionally trained staff will take care of you.</p> <p>(806) 665-3500 101 S. Hobart Pampa, TX</p>	<p><b>Roofing</b></p> <p>"Serving Satisfied Customers Since 1978."</p> <p>Construction Insurance Services Claims Available Welcome</p> <p><b>Paul Blake ROOFING</b> 806-655-3094</p> <p>FREE Estimates! 1501 4th Ave. Canyon, TX</p>	<p><b>Insurance</b></p> <p><b>Ashmore &amp; Associates</b></p> <p>INSURANCE AGENCY, LLC "Doing business with people you know &amp; trust"</p> <p>806-688-7081 1224 N. Hobart NBC Plaza 2, Suite 11 www.ashmoreassociates.com</p>	<p><b>Pumping Serv.</b></p> <p><b>REED'S PUMPING SERVICE</b></p> <p>Let Reed's Meet Your Needs!</p> <p>Septic Cleaning &amp; More!</p> <p>806-669-3682</p>
<p><b>Flowers</b></p> <p><b>Brandon's FLOWERS</b></p> <p>123 N. Cuyler • 665-5546</p> <p>Call About 1 Dozen Roses \$9.99 (Cash N' Carry)</p>	<p><b>Chiropractic</b></p> <p><b>Albracht Chiropractic</b></p> <p>We offer full service Chiropractic Care including decompression &amp; cold laser. Call or come by today!</p> <p>806-665-7161 2216 Coffee Pampa, TX</p>	<p><b>General</b></p> <p><b>Advertise Your Business Here!</b></p> <p>Call The Pampa News at 806-669-2525 to place your ad in "The Shopper's Square" today!</p>	<p><b>Fencing</b></p> <p><b>OGLE FENCE CO.</b></p> <p>All Types of Fences &amp; Fence Repair FREE ESTIMATES!</p> <p>806-665-1712 or 806-664-2669</p>	<p><b>Restaurant</b></p> <p><b>Yum Yum Thai Restaurant</b></p> <p>806-669-9502</p> <p>1201 N. Hobart Pampa, TX (Coronado Center) Mon. - Sat. • 11 am - 9 pm Closed Sunday</p> <p>Authentic Thai &amp; Chinese Food</p>
<p><b>Realtor</b></p> <p><b>Gerald Urban RE/MAX - Realtor</b></p> <p>"For all your Real Estate Needs" Whether you are buying or selling a home, commercial property, farm and ranch or land. I'm here to assist you in achieving your Real Estate needs. I am a licensed Texas Real Estate Agent. For more information, call 806-662-1561 or 806-665-7355 (office) Ask for Gerald. RE/MAX Hometown.</p> <p>Patti Hudson - Broker</p>	<p><b>Rental</b></p> <p><b>BUDGET TRUCK RENTALS PJ'S CRAFTS &amp; RENTAL</b></p> <p>900 S. Hobart • 665-2509 (806-290-4205 after hours) 9-6 M-F, 9-2 Sat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10, 16 &amp; 24 ft. trucks</li> <li>• Reliable, easy-to-drive trucks</li> <li>• Boxes and moving supplies</li> <li>• Friendly service to help you</li> </ul> <p>We offer: Furniture Pads, Hand Trucks, Car carriers, Tow Dolly</p>	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p><b>DREAMING UP THE IDEAL RETIREMENT IS YOUR JOB. HELPING YOU GET THERE IS OURS.</b></p> <p>To see why it makes sense to get ready for retirement now, call today.</p> <p><b>Ben Watson, AAMS*</b> Financial Advisor 408 W Kingsmill Suite 197A Pampa, TX 79065 806-665-3359 www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC</p> <p><b>Edward Jones</b> MEMBER SIPC</p>	<p><b>Fencing</b></p> <p><b>HIGH PLAINS FENCE/STAIN</b> Wood Defender</p> <p>Decks - Arbors - Siding Playground Equipment Various Colors Build New or Repair Old Fence FREE ESTIMATES! 806-662-5532</p>	<p><b>Masonry</b></p> <p><b>NAVARRO MASONRY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brick Work</li> <li>• Concrete</li> <li>• Stucco - Original or Synthetic</li> <li>• Carpentry</li> <li>• Fences - All Types</li> <li>• Driveway Repair</li> </ul> <p>CALL US AT 806-438-1066</p>

To place an ad in *The Pampa News'* Shopper's Square, call us at 806-669-2525! Get Noticed. Get Results.



# NASCAR THIS WEEK

## ON THE TUBE

**All times Eastern**  
**Sprint Cup**  
 Crown Royal Presents the  
 Matthew & Daniel Hansen  
 400, 7:30 p.m., Saturday

**Nationwide Series**  
 Bubba Burger 250,  
 7:30 p.m., Friday

**Truck Series**  
 Lucas Oil 200,  
 8:30 p.m.,  
 May 13

## BURNING ISSUES

► Dale Earnhardt Jr. and new crew chief Steve Letarte are obviously working very well together. Eight races do not a season make, but it's so far, so good.

► What would really put doubters to rest, of course, would be an Earnhardt Jr. victory. The winless streak stands at 101.

► Much was made of Jimmie Johnson going 35 races without a win. Now that he ended that modest streak at Talladega — and moved up to second in points — all signs of weakness in the champion's camp have subsided.

► Five Sprint Cup drivers competed in Nashville's Nationwide race. Four of them took the top four positions.

► Carl Edwards has won 31 Nationwide races. In four of them, Kyle Busch was second and Brad Keselowski was third.

► Edwards thinks the Nashville trophy, a Gibson electric guitar decorated by Sam Bass, is the "coolest in all of racing." He's won four.

► No "Nationwide-only" driver has won a Nationwide race since Justin Allgaier at Bristol on March 20, 2010.

► In each of the past two seasons, Kyle Busch won the first Richmond race and Denny Hamlin the letter.

► Yes, Virginia, Richmond represents yet another opportunity for Hamlin to start digging out of his points hole. He still languishes in 17th place.

► Did Kyle Busch win the Camping World Truck Series race? Did they have one?

## 2011 STANDINGS

Sprint Cup	Pts.
1. Carl Edwards	295
2. Jimmie Johnson	-5
3. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	-19
4. Kevin Harvick	-27
5. Kurt Busch	-28
6. Kyle Busch	-38
7. Ryan Newman	-42
8. Matt Kenseth	-43
9. Juan Montoya	-49
10. Clint Bowyer	-50
11. Paul Menard	-53
12. Tony Stewart	-55

Nationwide Series	Pts.
1. Jason Allgaier	264
Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	-
3. Jason Leffler	-2
4. Reed Sorenson	-4
Trevor Bayne	-4
6. Elliot Sadler	-5
7. Aric Almirola	-7
8. Brian Scott	-36
9. Kenny Wallace	-48
10. Michael Annett	-80

Camping World Truck Series	Pts.
1. Johnny Sauter	187
2. Timmy Petes	-3
3. Matt Crafton	-4
4. Ron Hornaday Jr.	-5
5. Cole Whit	-12
6. Austin Dillon	-24
7. Todd Bodine	-39
8. Clay Rogers	-43
9. Max Papis	-45
10. Parker Kligerman	-51



## WHO'S HOT AND WHO'S NOT

► **Who's hot:** Carl Edwards leads the Sprint Cup standings because he has more top-10 finishes (six) than anyone else. ... Dale Earnhardt Jr. has improved from 12th to third in a span of three races.

► **Who's not:** Denny Hamlin has gone five straight races since his lone top-10 finish of the season. ... Another Toyota driver, Brian Vickers, is struggling 28th in points, five finishes out-side the top 20 in eight tries.



If you have a question or comment, write: NASCAR This Week, c/o The Gaston Gazette, P.O. Box 1538, Gastonia, NC 28053 or send an e-mail to mdutton@gastongazette.com

## WHAT'S UP NEXT

### SPRINT CUP

**Race:** Crown Royal Presents the Matthew & Daniel Hansen 400  
**Where:** Richmond (Va.) International Raceway (.75 mi.), 400 laps/300 miles.  
**When:** Saturday, April 30.  
**Last year's winner:** Kyle Busch, Toyota.  
**Qualifying record:** Brian Vickers, Chevy, 129.983 mph, May 14, 2004.  
**Race record:** Dale Jarrett, Ford, 109.047 mph, Sept. 6, 1997.  
**Last week:** Jimmie Johnson defeated Clint Bowyer by .002 of a second at Talladega. Chevy drivers took the top five positions, and the top eight drivers crossed the finish line .07 of a second apart in a race that saw the lead sweep hands 88 times.

### NATIONWIDE

**Race:** Bubba Burger 250  
**Where:** Richmond (Va.) International Raceway (.75 mi.), 250 laps/187.5 miles.  
**When:** Friday, April 29.  
**Last year's winner:** Brad Keselowski, Dodge.  
**Qualifying record:** Kyle Busch, Chevy, 129.348 mph, May 14, 2004.  
**Race record:** Dale Jarrett, Ford, 104.928 mph, Sept. 8, 1995.  
**Last week:** Carl Edwards, in a Ford, picked up his second victory of the season, outdueling Kyle Busch's Toyota at Nashville Superspeedway. It was career victory No. 31 for Edwards. Cup drivers took the first four positions.

### CAMPING WORLD TRUCK

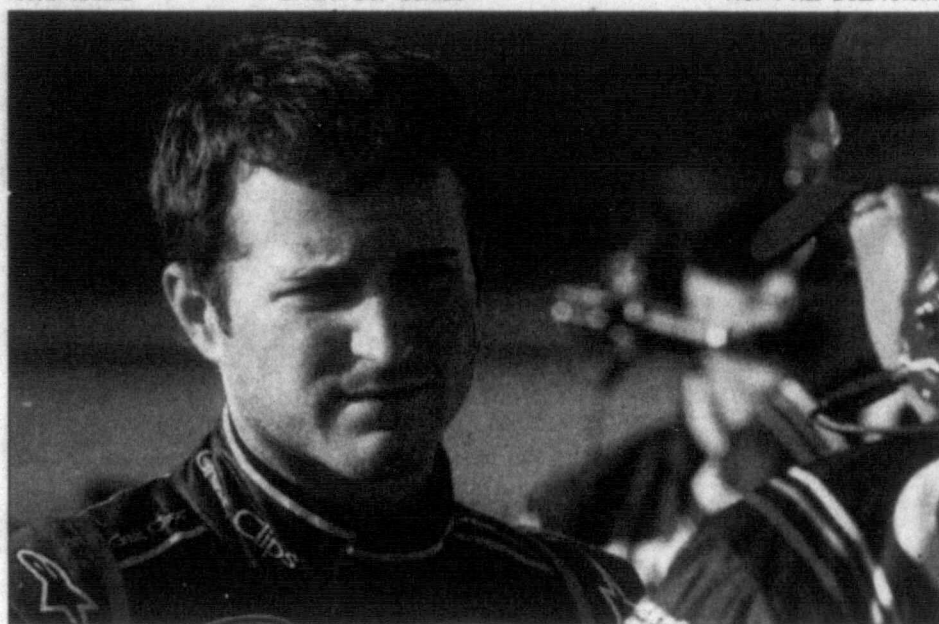
**Race:** Lucas Oil 200  
**Where:** Dover (Del.) International Speedway (1.0 mi.), 200 laps/150 miles.  
**When:** Friday, May 13.  
**Last year's winner:** Aric Almirola, Toyota.  
**Qualifying record:** David Starr, Chevy, 157.577 mph, June 2, 2005.  
**Race record:** Mark Martin, Ford, 120.200 mph, June 2, 2006.  
**Last week:** Kyle Busch, in a Toyota, claimed yet another victory at Nashville, his second of the season and 26th in the series. Busch skipped the race at Darlington, which was won by Kasey Kahne, driving Busch's No. 18.

**RICHMOND DATA**  
**FOX April 30 Sept. 10 abc**

**Distance:**.....0.750-mile oval  
**Length of frontstretch:**.....1,290 ft.  
**Length of backstretch:**.....860 ft.  
**Miles/Laps:**.....300 mi. = 400 laps

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

**KASEY KAHNE** SPRINT CUP SERIES **No. 4 RED BULL TOYOTA**



Kasey Kahne is an eight-year NASCAR veteran with an interesting career. With 11 Cup wins and a few different stops with a few of NASCAR's teams, Kahne is racing with Red Bull this season. Next year, however, he's joining Jeff Gordon and Jimmie Johnson at Hendrick Motorsports.

# What A Strange Trip It's Been

Eight seasons in, happy Kahne at Red Bull but not for long

By Monte Dutton  
 NASCAR This Week

This stage of Kasey Kahne's career is tumultuous almost by definition.

What should be the prime of the 31-year-old's career is a bit muddled, if only for now. Kahne left Richard Petty Motorsports near the end of last season. In 2012, he will join Hendrick Motorsports, replacing Mark Martin.

This year, though, Kahne is taking a one-year ride with Team Red Bull as a teammate of Brian Vickers.

What's more, Kahne underwent knee surgery last week to repair a torn meniscus. He is expected to compete this weekend at Richmond International Raceway anyway.

Thus far, in the No. 4 Toyota, Kahne has collected three top-10 finishes, though a disastrous Talladega showing relegated him to 18th in the Sprint Cup standings. He was 11th four races ago.

"We've been learning some things," said Kahne. "The cars are a lot different than what we've had in the past ... we've been off every week, but ... we have a great team with Red Bull behind it."

"It's really nice to drive awesome equipment, nice cars. TRD (Toyota Racing Development) does a good job. ... The teams came together really well, really quickly, and I think we can run pretty strong throughout this entire season."

It's hard to believe this is actually Kahne's eighth season in NASCAR's premier series. In 2006, he collected six victories and finished eighth in the final standings. The most recent of Kahne's 11 victories occurred on Sept. 6, 2009, at Atlanta Motor Speedway.

Understandably, Kahne prefers not to look ahead to next year, when he will join NASCAR's premier team, Hendrick. For now, he wants to concentrate on his present status at Team Red Bull.

"It's back to kind of how it should be, I think," he said. "I think racing should be fun. It's a job, but it should be fun, too."

"It's nice to see all the little things they do to prepare. I think my car is probably one of the nicest cars in that whole garage over there. ... I'm just happy to be where I'm at."

## Cup drivers dominate ... even at Nashville

By Monte Dutton  
 NASCAR This Week

This must be conceded about the men who win races in NASCAR's Nationwide Series: They're not in it for the points.

Carl Edwards, Kyle Busch, Brad Keselowski and Joey Logano not only weren't racing for points. They didn't even get any. This year NASCAR required that drivers pick only one series for points. Only driver points were not awarded to the teams that captured the first four positions at Nashville Superspeedway on Saturday. The season is eight races old. A winner hasn't received any points yet.

Nashville doesn't have a Sprint Cup race. No track had a Cup race last weekend. As such, this was supposed to be a track where the Nationwide-only drivers had a decent shot. They did. For fifth.

**All good** — Clint Bowyer, who was second by inches last week at Talladega, is looking forward to the contrast of next weekend's races at .75-mile Richmond International Raceway.

"I wish we had three or four more tracks just like that," he said. "That size just races well. ... It's very important because the racing this year just seems

## NUTS AND BOLTS

so competitive, so close, and so hard to just get on a roll. ... It's very important to keep that momentum going."

Eight races into the season, only one driver, Kevin Harvick, has won twice in the Sprint Cup Series. The last time seven drivers won in the first eight races was 2003.

**No excuses** — Tony Stewart has slumped recently. When asked about how long "the frustration and disappointment" would last, he replied, "Until you have something good happen. Until you get it done. Until you get it right."

Pressed on whether or not he was happy with his team's progress, Stewart said, "No. Have we won a race yet? Then we haven't got it."

**Enough is enough** — A week ago, Dale Earnhardt Jr. was asked what he planned to do on the off weekend (this one) to make his team better. "I ain't going to work on it," he said. "I'm going to chill."

**Short chutes** — Kasey Kahne underwent knee surgery after Talladega's Aaron's 499 to repair a torn meniscus. He also had knee surgery in November 2010. He intends to compete in the upcoming Cup race at Richmond. ... The



John Clark/NASCAR This Week

Reportedly, Michael Waltrip has been testing at road course in France in preparation for the 24 Hours of Le Mans in June.

Wood Brothers, unable to secure additional sponsorship, are skipping the next three races: Richmond, Darlington and Dover. Trevor Bayne will return to the No. 21 for the Sprint All-Star Race and Coca-Cola 600, both at Charlotte Motor Speedway in May.

Michael Waltrip is scheduled to compete in the 24 Hours of Le Mans on June 11-12. He has reportedly been testing at the French road course this weekend. ... The newcomers to the NASCAR Hall of Fame's nominations list are H. Clay Earles, Cotton Owens, Bobby Isaac, Les Richter and Leonard Wood.

## FEUD OF THE WEEK



### CARL EDWARDS VS. KYLE BUSCH

In the Nationwide Series, it's a glorious feud between two fine drivers. So far, Busch has won four times and Edwards twice. In their most recent get-together, at Nashville Superspeedway, Edwards withstood a furious rally by Busch and pulled away in the final laps.

**NASCAR This Week's Monte Dutton gives his take:** "The Sprint Cup Series could use a clearcut, consistent rivalry like this one. And Edwards and Busch are both available."

### YOUR TURN

#### LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

This Week welcomes letters to the editor, but please be aware that we have room for only a few each week. We'll do our best to select the best, but individual replies are impossible due to the bulk of mail received. Please do not send stamped and self-addressed envelopes with your letters, which should be addressed to: NASCAR This Week, The Gaston Gazette, P.O. Box 1538, Gastonia, N.C. 28053.

### Gas woes & Kenseth hatin'?

**Dear NASCAR This Week,**  
 ... The fans are shaking their heads in disbelief as the price of gasoline continues to skyrocket. I bet I could buy a good-sized motor home with chump change; if I or so many others could even afford that.

Lowering ticket prices and letting fans carry in their own refreshments is a start. But the track owners need to lobby both the Dems and GOP (I don't think they'll be able to reach the Press) that job growth is critical not only to them, but for the entire country. And putting more and more people back to work will translate into putting more and more people back into race track seats nationwide.

**Bernie Blernacki**  
 Aurora, Ill.

*You're right, Bernie. It's all a lot more interesting than many realize or care to consider.*

### Dear NASCAR This Week,

I opened up the paper tonight to your report on the whole back page. To my surprise, there was not a thing about Matt Kenseth's win. But, really, I should not be surprised because all you seem to write about is Hendrick drivers. Hendrick seem to own NASCAR. Paper and TV shows ... that is why I don't watch them anymore. I am getting sick of hearing about Hendrick drivers. There are other teams out there, as well.

**John Lucht**  
 Antigo, Wisc.

P.S. I do not even watch the whole race on TV. The announcers drive me nuts with their comments on Hendrick drivers.

*First of all, thanks for writing. Kenseth's victory was covered in the "What's Up Next" section of the page you mention. We can't control whether or not each publication runs the entire page, but we assume yours did. During the season, we profile most of the Cup drivers once. In this case, we held off on Kenseth because we expect he will win other races and be a title contender. We haven't profiled Jimmie Johnson yet, either.*

## FAN TIPS

### Another Petty donation way

Fans of the Kyle Petty Charity Ride Across America have a new way to participate. The public can make a \$10 donation by texting RIDE to 27722 from their mobile phones. Funds raised will support the children's charities the Ride benefits, including Victory Junction Gang Camp for chronically ill children, which was founded by Kyle and Pettie Petty in honor of their late son Adam. Fans may also follow Petty and the riders on several social media sites, including facebook.com/kpettycharityride, twitter.com/kpettycharityride, and twitter.com/kylepetty. For more information, go to www.kylepettycharityride.com.

## LEGENDS AND LORE

### Shepherd Still Running

Morgan Shepherd is still competing in the Nationwide Series at age 69. On April 26, 1981, in Martinsville, Va., Shepherd won the first of four races in what is now the Sprint Cup Series. The other three of Shepherd's Cup wins occurred at Atlanta Motor Speedway, The Convener, N.C., resident never competed full-time in the sport's top series until he was 39. He has won 15 times in what is now the Nationwide Series.

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# Sports

## Lady Harvesters use bye week to rest and prepare

ANDREW GLOVER  
aglover@thepampanews.com

In previous seasons, the Pampa Lady Harvesters would be preparing for their first playoff opponent. This season, though, the team has a bye week and is using that to prepare and rest.

Head coach Bobbi Gill said they have been having short practices.

"We're trying to keep things crisp and quick and just get what we need accomplished done," Gill said. "Get into practicing, get it done and get out."

Senior Jordan Mayhew said they still have been working hard.

"We are having fun doing it," Mayhew said.

Senior Shanna Keown said though their first opponent isn't until next week they are still preparing the same as previous seasons.

"We're still getting prepared," Keown



Gill

said. Mayhew said the team has the same mindset as they would if they were playing immediately.

"We're trying to stay focused and get the most out of practice, so we will be ready next weekend," Mayhew said.

Gill said the bye week has had its advantages and disadvantages and added they are doing what they can to stay focused.

"Anytime you can get some rest this time of year is a good thing," Gill said. "At the same time you want to be playing. That's why we are intersquading today, to keep the kids sharp and competing hard and hitting off live pitching."

Mayhew said their first opponent better be ready.



Mayhew

"They should be intimidated because we're 9-0 and we have confidence," Mayhew said. "We also know the difference between being cocky and confident. So we are going to go out hard."

Pampa had an intersquad scrimmage during Thursday's practice. This season is the first time the Lady Harvesters are competing in the 3A state playoffs. Mayhew said they have familiarity with some opponents in their bracket.

"We've played some of them at Burk Burnett the past couple of years," Mayhew said. "We know what to expect. It's still going to be hard. We just have to come out strong."

The Lady Harvesters (26-7, 9-0) faced

Iowa Park in the Burk Burnett Tournament, who is ranked 24th in the latest state poll. Pampa faced Decatur in the Pilot Point Tournament. The Lady Harvesters faced Big Spring in the Snyder Tournament. Pampa could face either of these schools in the regional semifinals. Dalhart is in Pampa's half of the bracket and the two schools could meet in the regional quarterfinals.

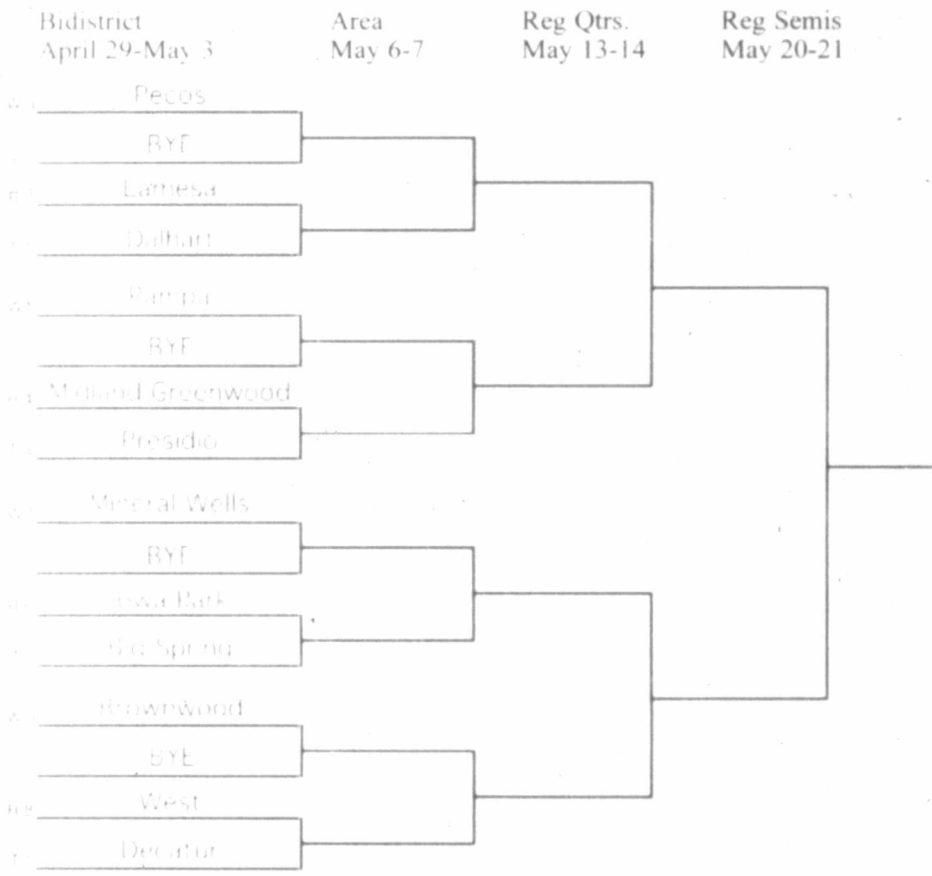
In the other half of the bracket, Pampa faced Levelland in the Snyder tournament and faced Graham and Burk Burnett last season. The Lady Harvesters could face either school in the regional finals.

Pampa faces the winner of Midland Greenwood and El Paso Presidio in the area round May 6 and 7 in a location to be determined.

Mayhew said it doesn't matter who they play.

"We're going to beat either one of them," Mayhew said.

## Pampa's 3A softball bracket



\* Note: This is only Pampa's quarter of the bracket. We will show other portions when it becomes applicable.

## NFL Commissioner Goodell understands crowd's jeers

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. (AP) — Roger Goodell heard the boos loud and clear, and couldn't blame the fans.

"It's the fans' frustration, and I understand that," the NFL commissioner said Friday, a day after he was greeted with jeers at the league's draft at Radio City Music Hall.

"They want football, you want football and I want football," he added. "I think everyone's frustrated by the circumstance, and I think that was a clear indication of it: I understand their frustration with me not being able to solve that. That's my job and that's my responsibility, and I accept that."

Goodell spoke to about 5,200 New York Jets season-ticket holders for nearly 35 minutes, the latest in a round of conference calls the commissioner has held during the labor dispute. The first day of the draft was held a day after a federal judge again ordered the NFL to lift the lockout, and hours after the league said players could report to team headquarters beginning Friday.

"The sooner we get an agreement," Goodell said, "we can remove the uncertainty."

Just three Jets players — wide receiver Jericho Cotchery, guard Brandon Moore and linebacker David Harris — were at the team's facility as of late Friday morning.

"I was just glad to be in the building again," Cotchery said. "I was able to come into the building and I'm able to rehab and everything, so I'm embracing this moment right now."

Goodell said the league would hold a conference call later Friday morning to address player transaction rules. The guidelines for free agency, trades and other roster moves have been uncertain in the absence of a collective bargaining agreement.

"What we're doing right now is having to adjust, obviously, to court decisions," he said. "We are opening our gates this morning to the facilities. ... The most important things for us is to obviously respect the decisions of the court, and

secondly, make sure we proceed in an orderly fashion and inform all 32 of our clubs, to make sure we're doing it in a responsible fashion."

Goodell also expressed some frustration at how the labor situation is being handled.

"I believe that litigation is not a good alternative for resolving this matter," he said. "It should be done in negotiations. The two parties should get back to negotiating instead of litigating and resolve these matters. This is what needs to happen, is get a comprehensive collective bargaining agreement so that we can continue to run and manage this league in a responsible fashion."

One season-ticket holder asked Goodell about the issue of watered-down competition during the preseason, and if the league intends to lower prices as a result. Goodell said that is one of the main reasons the NFL is looking at changing the schedule from 16 regular-season games and four preseason games to 18 and two.

"This is one of the big issues in the collective bargaining negotiations," he said. "We're trying to balance the 18 and two with player health and safety. I can tell you that all of clubs are sensitive to the quality of what we're doing, trying to improve the value for you as season-ticket holders. We're going to try to address this issue on the preseason in a variety of ways. Hopefully, we'll come up with a solution that you as a season-ticket holder finds attractive."

Many New York-area fans were hoping the Jets could open the season on Sept. 11 against the Giants in a symbolic matchup. Instead, the Jets open with Dallas that night, while the Giants play at Washington earlier in the day — recognizing the two cities hit hardest by the terrorist attacks.

"We did look at that alternative," Goodell said of a Jets-Giants opener. "You're not going to be able to achieve all your objectives. It just didn't work out that way."

## Newton first pick in NFL Draft marred by labor issues

NEW YORK (AP) — This draft was no party.

Between the boos raining down on Commissioner Roger Goodell and the uncertainty created by a bitter labor battle, the NFL draft opened Thursday night lacking much of its usually festive atmosphere.

What it wasn't missing was intrigue and surprises — at least after the Carolina Panthers made Cam Newton the first pick.

The Auburn quarterback and Heisman Trophy winner as expected went to the worst team in the league and vowed to fix that immediately. Newton led Auburn to an undefeated season and its first national championship since 1957.

"I'm ready to change this whole organization around, to go from worst to first," he said. "Just being a Panther is the most special part about this."

Before Newton, decked out in a Carolina cap and gray three-piece suit, took that familiar walk across the stage to shake the commissioner's hand — a draft-day staple — Goodell had been hearing the displeasure of fans worried that labor strife might interfere with the upcoming season.

Goodell was booted as he prepared to conduct a moment of silence for victims of the devastating storms that ripped through the South. He responded to their chants of "We want football!" by saying, "I hear you. So do I."

The boos continued every time he stepped on stage for the early part of the first round, though they died down as the night went along. By the end, there was hardly a smattering of jeers.

Goodell smiled his way through it all, unfazed. Not even having to welcome a player suing the league could knock the commissioner off his game.

With the second pick, Denver took Texas A&M linebacker Von Miller, a plaintiff in the antitrust lawsuit filed by the players to block the lockout imposed by the owners.

"I've never had anything against Roger Goodell," Miller said. "I just want to make sure football continues to get played. When I walked across the stage, I was meeting the commissioner. That was it."

Thanks to a judge's ruling in the lawsuit Miller is involved in, the league's first work stoppage since 1987 temporarily ends Friday. The 32 teams will resume business in compliance with U.S. District Judge Susan Richard Nelson's order to lift the lockout.

Then again, the lockout could be back in place if the NFL wins an appeal. If that happens, Newton, Miller and the rest of Thursday night's draft picks would be thrown back into labor limbo.

For now, they will be allowed to report to their teams, meet coaches and get playbooks. Contract negotiations are uncertain until the league announces its rules for the 2011 season — rules that might be in force for only a short time if an appeal is granted.

The draft was never in danger because it was protected under the old collective bargaining agreement that expired in March.

Moments before the annual spring ritual got under way, Goodell requested a moment of silence for victims of Wednesday's storms, which left at least 280 people dead in six states and hundreds more injured. He was surrounded by players from Auburn and Alabama and their coaches.

Of those stars, none shined brighter than Newton, who has shown he can handle the heat of a spotlight.

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