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The **PAMPA NEWS**

**TODAY IN SPORTS**

**Last hurrah**

Malone, Ericson play one last game together

**Page 8**

**inside:**

Social Security and you by Tom Margenau

**Page 3**

Monday, June 6, 2011 Volume 107 • No. 52 75¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

**Two hospitalized after weekend accident**

**ARNIE AURELLANO**  
editor@thepampanews.com

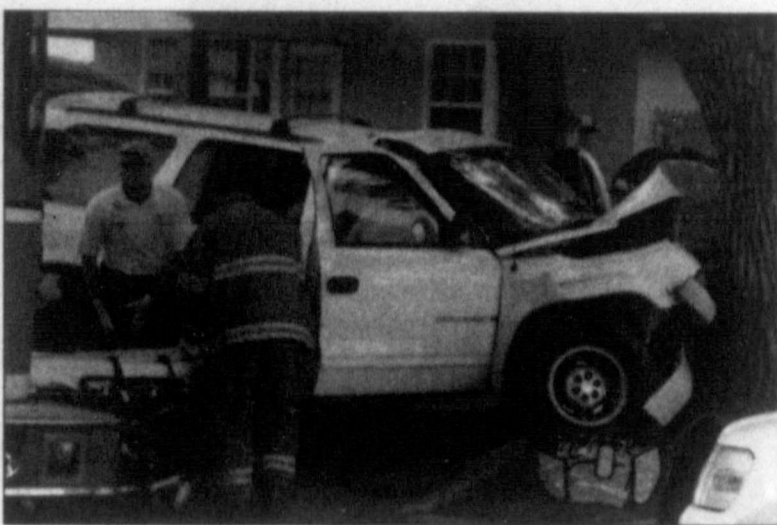
A one-vehicle weekend accident on Somerville St. sent two Pampa women to the hospital, according to a report from the Pampa Police Department.

The white Dodge Durango driver Emily Rush and passenger Emily Mauricio, both 19, was headed northbound on the 800 block of Somerville St. on Saturday evening when the truck veered off the roadway and struck a tree, smashing the front end of the vehicle. Pampa Police and Fire responded to the call at 8:08 p.m., according

to the official report.

Both driver and passenger were attended to by paramedics after the wreck, with Rush taken by Pampa EMS and Mauricio airlifted by LifeStar to North Texas Hospital in Amarillo. Rush was also issued a citation for failure to control speed.

The investigation is ongoing.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

**Pampa police, fire** and EMS crews respond to a one-vehicle accident that occurred on the 800 block of Somerville St. on Saturday evening. ➤

**PEEK-A-BOO**

staff photo by David Bowser

**City Engineer-in-Training** Jildardo Arias maps out the center line of the alley that runs from Randy Matson to Harvester between Banks and Sumner. The alley is scheduled to be paved beginning this week, Arias said, so trucks can use it to deliver supplies to Pampa's new water park.

**PAWS group to meet this Tuesday**

**ARNIE AURELLANO**  
editor@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Animal Welfare Society is hosting representatives from the Dalhart Animal Wellness Group and Sanctuary (DAWGS) at its Tuesday meeting, according to PAWS President Faustina Curry.

The DAWGS presentation, which will be at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday at the Lovett Memorial Library, is part of the PAWS group's ongoing effort to coordinate and cooperate with other area animal welfare groups in order to control the local animal population and help unadopted pets find good homes. PAWS' latest adoption day was on May 13; eight dogs and seven kittens found new families that day, which Curry described as "good results."

"We offered kittens at \$30, which would cover their rabies shot and microchip," Curry said. "PAWS will pay to have them spayed and neutered when old enough. We decided to do this in order to get them out of the shelter and not be put down. The Monday following the adoption we had another cat adopted and later another dog. So it was a good effort."

Curry also thanked Pampa Animal Welfare Supervisor Monty Montgomery for helping

**PAWS cont. on page 3**

**TEXAS LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP**

**State Senate approves bill slashing education budget**

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

AUSTIN — Pushed by Republicans, a bill to slash \$4 billion from Texas public schools was approved by the state Senate on Friday night in the first major vote of the special legislative session.

The 19-12 vote went as expected in the Republican-controlled Senate. The measure is necessary

to balance the state budget but Democrats have resisted the cuts while lawmakers sit on nearly \$10 billion in the state's reserve fund.

A similar measure is expected to get a vote early next week in the House, where Republicans also hold a commanding majority.

The bill had died on the

**EDUCATION cont. on page 2**

**Senate approves health bill, too**

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

AUSTIN — The Texas Senate unanimously passed legislation that would overhaul how Texas delivers health care to the poor disabled, while a House committee approved similar legislation. The Senate and House mea-

asures cover similar territory and are cost-saving measures that Gov. Rick Perry wants passed in order to balance the state budget.

Sen. Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound, passed a bill that combines three measures the Legislature failed to pass in the

**HEALTH cont. on page 2**

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### PAMPA FORECAST

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
High 100 Low 68	High 100 Low 67	High 97 Low 64

**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 66. Windy, with a south wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**Tuesday:** Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 100. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**Tuesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 68. Windy, with a south wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**Wednesday:** Sunny and hot, with a high near 100. Breezy, with a southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

**Wednesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 67. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**Thursday:** Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 97. Breezy, with a south southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Thursday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 64. Breezy, with a south wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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## Obituaries

### Vivian Spoonmore Bichsel, 81

WHITE DEER—Vivian Spoonmore Bichsel, 81, died Saturday, June 4, 2011, in Pampa.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Bichsel was born June 3, 1930, in Athelstan, Iowa. Vivian married Louis Leo Bichsel, Sr. on November 7, 1947, in Corning, Iowa, and he preceded her in death on June 3, 2008. Vivian has been a resident of White Deer since



Bichsel

1947 where she was a housewife. She was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Vivian was an avid bowler. She owned and operated Viv's Ceramics and formerly worked for Vantines in Pampa.

Survivors include three daughters, Diana Bichsel and Becky Baten and husband Gene all of Pampa, Debbie Alford and husband Greg of Katy; two sons, Louis "Rudy" Bichsel, Jr. of Pampa, Randy Bichsel and wife Barbara of Booker; two brothers, Claude Spoonmore of California, Eddie Merle Sparger of Kansas; two sisters, Flondene Stenstrom of Wisconsin, Janet Anderson of Louisiana; nine grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Vivian was preceded in death by a brother, Gussie Spoonmore and a sister, Ramona Jennings.

Memorials may be made to Odyssey Hospice, 6900 I-40 West, Suite 150, Amarillo, TX 79106.

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

## Health

cont. from page 1

regular session. The proposed law would expand the privatization of health care services and discourage the use of emergency rooms for non-urgent care. It would also encourage state agencies and private health care providers to focus on improving patient outcomes and allow hospitals and doctors to work together to control costs.

The measure now goes to the House for consideration. "Our Medicaid costs are unsustainable and this legislation is critically needed to make our health and human services operate more efficiently on behalf of those who depend on state services and those whose tax dollars support the services," Nelson said.

Earlier Friday, the House Appropriations committee approved a plan that could possibly save the state \$700 million in Medicaid costs.

While there is no guarantee federal authorities would approve the plan, the state's 2012-2013 budget counts on the cost saving. Rep. Lois Kolkhorst, R-Brenham,

laid out a plan to ask federal authorities for a waiver to experiment with a new payment and incentive system for Medicaid patients. The measure passed on a 17-2 vote and now goes to the full House for consideration.

Medicaid provides health insurance to people with disabilities, the poor and the elderly who need long-term care. The federal government matches state spending, if the state follows federal guidelines.

Kolkhorst's bill would require the state's Department of Health and Human Services to ask for a waiver in order to implement a new system that she says will be more efficient and will save the state money.

"It would enable us to do some different things in different parts of the state," Kolkhorst said. "What my goal was with House Bill 13 was to ask for flexibility."

That flexibility worried Democrats and some advocates for the poor, who said they worried flexibility was just another word for cutting services, or cutting the number of people currently eligible for the program.

## Education

cont. from page 1

final night of the regular session under a filibuster by Sen. Wendy Davis, D-Fort Worth, but the large Republican majorities leave Democrats almost no way

fiscal matters bill," said Republican Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, who presides over the Senate.

Gov. Rick Perry has called on lawmakers to also

consider cuts to health care spending, redraw maps for congressional seats and retool the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association, the insurer of last resort for

many property owners in 14 coastal counties prone to hurricanes.

The schools bill is essentially the same one that died in the regular session.

It changes distribution formulas for public schools to let the state give schools less money than current law. It spreads the \$4 billion cut over two years — 6 percent across-the-board cuts in 2012 and \$2 billion in targeted funding levels in 2013.

Teachers, parents and school administrators have fought the cuts. Several testified in committee hearings a day earlier, warning they could lead to thousands of teacher and staff layoffs, larger class size and hikes in local property taxes to make up the difference.

Unions and teacher groups have scheduled rallies to protest the cuts Saturday and Monday.

"The school children of Texas are feeling the burden of a tough economic time," said Sen. Wendy Davis, D-Fort Worth. "This is the time for us to end this."

Democrats kept up their pleas Friday to dip further into the state's Rainy Day Fund, a move Perry and Republican leaders in the House and Senate have rejected.

"It's not going to happen," Sen. Finance Chairman Steve Ogden, R-Bryan, said.

Several attempts by Democrats Friday to close business tax breaks failed mostly along party lines.

Schools are under the same budget pressure as the rest of the state. Lawmakers recently approve a two-year budget that slashed \$15 billion.

Republicans say the school cuts and others are necessary to avoid raising taxes. Supporters argue that school districts are bloated in administrative salaries and costs and could spend some of that money in the classroom.

But critics note the cuts and formula change won't cover the cost of projected enrollment growth of new students in one of the fastest-growing states in the country.

"We had another chance to get it right and failed," said Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston. "The Senate has voted for big oil companies and retailers and against Texas school children."

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Each of the two-letter groups below may be extended both on the right and the left to form a six-letter word. Use the tiles directly above each group to fill in the blanks.

LEVEL

A C L L O P U  
 [ ] [ ] H I [ ] [ ] [ ]

A M N P R T U  
 [ ] [ ] Y O [ ] [ ]

D E H I L N U  
 [ ] [ ] P A [ ] [ ]

B D I K L N O  
 [ ] [ ] M O [ ] [ ]

Yesterday's Answer: THE GRAPES OF WRATH, A TALE OF TWO CITIES, THE COLOR PURPLE, ROBINSON CRUSOE.

**sudoku**

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Beginner

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# AFTERNOONRUSH

## 14 oil fields bought for \$236M

NEW ORLEANS (AP) - An Australian energy producer has acquired 14 oil fields in Texas and Louisiana from Houston-based ERG Resources LLC for \$236 million.

Linc Energy Ltd. said today that it plans to double production from 3,300 barrels per day to 6,300 barrels per day over the next 12 months using additional drilling. The company also said it is studying the possibility of using carbon dioxide to further enhance production.

Linc said the fields have proven reserves of 20 million barrels. Twelve of the fields are located along the Texas Gulf Coast and Texas inland water areas. The major field acquired by Linc Energy is the Black Bayou field in Cameron Parish where the company plans an aggressive drilling project.

## DPS to check truck drivers, buses

AUSTIN (AP) - Texas is taking part in Roadcheck 2011 to make sure commercial truckers are driving safely and passenger buses are being operated properly.

The Department of Public Safety says the safety checks begin Tuesday and run through Thursday.

DPS during Roadcheck 2010 inspected 6,906 commercial vehicles, taking 25 percent out of service due to serious safety violations. Troopers placed 160 of the drivers out of service for violations such as improper log books or having suspended, expired or canceled licenses.

The Roadcheck 2011 program also involves Mexico and Canada.

## Court: Haliburton lawsuit okay

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Supreme Court says Halliburton Co. shareholders can pursue a class-action lawsuit claiming the oil services company inflated its stock price.

The high court on Monday overturned a lower court ruling against the shareholders, who want to represent all investors who bought Halliburton stock between June 1999 and December 2001.

The lawsuit argues that Halliburton deliberately understated the company's liability in asbestos litigation, inflated how much money its construction and engineering units would bring in and overstated the benefits of a merger with Dresser Industries.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans refused to let the lawsuit go forward as a class-action but the high court overturned that decision. The case is Erica P. John Fund Inc., v. Halliburton Co., 09-1403.

## Recruiters target online students

DALLAS (AP) - Some public universities in Texas have turned to private companies to help increase the number of students taking online courses.

The Dallas Morning News reported Monday that the University of Texas at Arlington has used Academic Partnerships for education and nursing programs. Academic Partnerships markets the program, recruits students, provides the online platform and takes at least 50 percent of the tuition costs. UTA provides the instructors.

Michael Moore, who's a UTA senior vice provost and political science instructor, says the experience with Academic Partnerships has been outstanding. Other Academic Partnerships clients have been Texas A&M-Commerce and Lamar University.

Critics have raised education quality concerns. Texas A&M University geography professor Peter Hugill is concerned that a massive online expansion could hurt academic quality, while sending tuition dollars to for-profit groups.

## \$3.75M settlement in coal case

PITTSBURGH (AP) - A power company will pay \$3.75 million as part of a settlement for fouling a western Pennsylvania river with metal discharges from a coal-fired plant.

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reports GenOn Northeast Management Co. will pay \$3.5 million to set up restoration and preservation projects along the Conemaugh River in Indiana County.

The settlement includes a \$250,000 civil penalty to resolve the suit brought by environmental groups who sued the subsidiary of Houston-based GenOn Energy Inc. It also sets deadlines for ending the discharges.

A federal judge in March sided with the environmental groups who sued over the discharges of mercury, iron and other metals in 2007.

## Jury selection continues in trial

MANGUM, Okla. (AP) - Jury selection has resumed in Greer County in the trial of a former warden's wife accused of aiding the escape of a convicted killer with whom prosecutors say she fell in love.

The process resumed Monday morning for the trial of Bobbi Parker. She's charged with helping Randolph Dial escape from the Oklahoma State Reformatory in 1994 and then running away with him. Defense attorneys say Dial kidnapped Parker and held her captive until she was rescued in 2005 at a Texas chicken ranch.

The panel of prospective jurors stands at 18. Defense attorney lawyer Garvin Isaacs says attorneys plan to pick 22 prospective jurors before using challenges to seat a 12-member jury.

## Teachers out again against cuts

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) - Schoolteachers will again crowd the rotunda of the Texas Capitol.

They'll demonstrate again Monday to bring pressure on the Legislature to reject proposals to slash state funding obligations to school districts.

Groups of teachers who have protested at the Capitol all spring have become mostly resigned to the Republican-controlled Legislature passing the funding cuts in the special session. Now, they're aiming their ire on GOP legislative candidates in next year's elections, when they hope to punish lawmakers who pushed the cuts.

The Senate passed the cuts Friday, and the full Texas House is expected to take them up early this week. The bill is necessary to balance the state budget, but Democrats have fought the cuts while lawmakers have nearly \$10 billion in state reserve funds available to them.

# Chances are, your benefit is accurate

**TOM MARGENAU**  
Creator's Syndicate

Q: I am 75 years old. My wife is 72. You keep telling your readers to check their "annual Social Security statements." We don't know what you are talking about. We don't get such statements. We'd like to check our statement because we are sure that Social Security is sending us the wrong amount of money. How can we fix this?

A: There is nothing to fix. For the past 40 or more years, I've either worked for the Social Security Administration or written a newspaper column about Social Security issues. And I can tell you from all that experience that a whole lot of folks getting Social Security benefits are convinced that they are being paid incorrectly. (And surprise — they always believe they are not being paid enough!)

I can also tell you from experience that 99.8 percent of all Social Security beneficiaries are being paid properly. That's not an idle guess on my part. That's based on studies that have been done by various government and congressional oversight agencies.

In other words, there are only two chances out of a thousand that you are being paid incorrectly. But if that's going to keep bugging you, then you should go to your local Social Security office and ask someone there

to go over your Social Security benefit calculation with you.

Oh, and those statements provide projected benefit estimates, and they only go to people not yet receiving Social Security benefits.

Q: In one of your prior columns, you said a wife receives half of her husband's Social Security. Well, I'm getting \$1,500 per month, but my wife gets only \$600. According to your statement, shouldn't she be getting \$750?

A: If this isn't the most common question/comment/complaint, it certainly is in the top five. I think I am always careful to state that a wife gets "up to" half of her husband's Social Security. And if I have the space, I will further clarify that a woman qualifies for 50 percent of her husband's Social Security benefit if she waits until age 66 to claim those payments. But that benefit is reduced about one-half of 1 percent for each month that she takes her husband's Social Security before age 66 — it can go as low as about 30 percent.

Q: I am about to turn 62. My husband is 67 and drawing Social Security. Can I take his Social Security now (I know it will be reduced)? Then at 66, can I switch to my own Social Security at a full

## Social Security and you

you could switch to your own retirement benefits, which would come with a "delayed retirement bonus" at that age.

Q: My husband and I were each receiving our own Social Security benefits because we both worked. In fact, my benefit was about \$20 per month more than his benefit. He recently died. I was shocked to learn that I am not due any widow's benefits on his record, even though he worked all his life.

And it's even more shocking that I can name a half dozen widows in our condo complex who are getting widow's benefits, even though they never worked a day in their lives. How is that fair?

A: It's fair because those other widows were financially dependent on their husbands — and you were not.

To qualify for Social Security widow's benefits, you must prove that you were financially dependent on your husband. And you simply were not. In fact, you made more money than he did. That's why you got a higher Social Security benefit. If you had died first, he might have qualified for widow's benefits on your Social Security record.

rate?

A: This is another one of those "top five" questions I get. I've answered it a hundred times in this column, but here comes answer No. 101! (I understand that people tend to remember a question and answer only if it applies to them at the time they are reading it.) Anyway, you can't take reduced benefits on one record and later switch to full benefits on another record. If you file for any Social Security benefits before age 66, you must file for any and all benefits that you are eligible for at the same time.

But there are two big exceptions to that rule. The first applies to widows. For example, a woman could apply for her own reduced retirement benefits at age 62, and then at age 66 switch to full widow's benefits on her husband's Social Security account. It also works the other way around — i.e., she could take reduced widow's benefits at 62 and switch to her own account when she turns 66.

The other exception applies if you wait until age 66 to start your Social Security benefits. For example, at that age, you could take a wife's benefit on your husband's record. And then at age 70,

*If you have a Social Security question, Tom Margenau has the answer. Contact him at thomas.margenau@comcast.net.*

## PAWS

cont. from page 1

microchip the animals at the adoption fair. She added that PAWS has received permission from United Supermarket to hold another adoption day there on June 18.

Curry also elaborated on an aid program PAWS offers to get Pampa's pets spayed and neutered.

"The paperwork is absolutely minimal, with easy proof, so if you know of anybody, please encourage them to come down to the shelter and fill out the paperwork. We will then make an appointment with the vets. We do require that the animal either have a rabies shot or that the client pay for one at the time of the appointment."

While PAWS adoption efforts and involvement in the shelter are going well, Curry said, there is still a need for contributions to the shelter.

"The shelter can always use cleaning supplies like bleach and paper towels, plus puppy chow, kitten chow and kitty litter," said Curry. "Kadda Schale and Empire Paper donated various special shelter cleaning materials in the last week. Their help is really appreciated."

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# Viewpoints

## Today in History

Today is Monday, June 6, the 157th day of 2011. There are 208 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On June 6, 1944, during World War II, Allied forces stormed the beaches of Normandy, France, on "D-Day," beginning the liberation of German-occupied western Europe.

### On this date:

In 1523, Sweden's parliament elected military leader Gustavus Vasa to be the next king; he became King Gustavus I.

In 1799, American politician and orator Patrick Henry died at Red Hill Plantation in Virginia.

In 1809, Sweden adopted a new constitution.

In 1844, the Young Men's Christian Association was founded in London.

In 1925, Walter Percy Chrysler founded the Chrysler Corp.

In 1934, the Securities and Exchange Commission was established.

In 1961, Swiss psychiatrist Carl Jung, 85, died in Kusnacht, near Zurich.

In 1966, black activist James Meredith was shot and wounded as he walked along a Mississippi highway to encourage black voter registration.

In 1978, California voters overwhelmingly approved Proposition 13, a primary ballot initiative calling for major cuts in property taxes.

In 1985, authorities in Brazil exhumed a body later identified as the remains of Dr. Josef Mengele, the notorious "Angel of Death" of the Nazi Holocaust.

**Ten years ago:** Democrats formally assumed control of the U.S. Senate after the decision of Vermont Republican James Jeffords to become an independent.

**Five years ago:** Veterans Affairs Secretary Jim Nicholson acknowledged a stolen computer contained personal data on about 2.2 million active-duty military, Guard and Reserve personnel - not just 50,000 as initially believed.

**One year ago:** The Vatican released a working paper which said the international community was ignoring the plight of Christians in the Middle East, and that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the war in Iraq and political instability in Lebanon had forced thousands to flee the region. Rafael Nadal won his fifth French Open title, beating Robin Soderling 6-4, 6-2, 6-4.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actress Billie Whitelaw is 79. Civil rights activist Roy Innis is 77. Singer-songwriter Gary "U.S." Bonds is 72. Country singer Joe Stampley is 68. Actor Robert Englund is 64. Folk singer Holly Near is 62. Singer Dwight Twilley is 60. Playwright-actor Harvey Fierstein is 59. Comedian Sandra Bernhard is 56. International Tennis Hall of Famer Bjorn Borg is 55. Actress Amanda Pays is 52. Comedian Colin Quinn is 52. Record producer Jimmy Jam is 52. Rock musician Steve Vai is 51. Rock singer-musician Tom Araya (Slayer) is 50. Actor Jason Isaacs is 48. Actor Max Casella is 44. Actor Paul Giamatti is 44. Rock musician Bardi Martin is 42. Rock musician James "Munky" Shaffer (Korn) is 41. Country singer Lisa Brokop is 38. Actress Sonya Walger is 37. Actress Staci Keanan is 36. Actress Amber Borycki is 28.

**Thought for Today:** "As far as we can discern, the sole purpose of human existence is to kindle a light in the darkness of mere being." - Carl Jung (1875-1961)



## Texas, Perry wrestle with higher ed unrest

PAUL WEBER  
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) - When barbecue research is second-guessed in Texas, the turmoil in higher education must be getting serious.

Responding to soaring tuitions and sagging graduation rates, a conservative policy foundation and Republican Gov. Rick Perry have stirred a tempest on Texas campuses by questioning whether college professors are making good use of their state money and suggesting an assortment of efficiencies. The foundation, for example, is asking whether there's a need for more critiques of Shakespeare and other esoteric research that doesn't generate money.

Academics and politicians don't get along in the best of times. But with tuition increasing and budgets tight, the so-called "Seven Breakthrough Solutions," created by the right-leaning Texas Public Policy Foundation, has opened a new debate over the balance between academic freedom and reasonable cost-benefit analysis.

The backlash peaked last week at Texas A&M University - Perry's alma mater - when more than 800 faculty members signed an online petition asking university regents to explain where they stand on the proposals and one professor's withering rebuke to regents made him a small YouTube star. National education institutions have begun to take notice.

"Texas has a prominent place in higher education," said John Curtis, public policy director of the American Association of University Professors. "But the question popping up is that political perspectives and ideology are encroaching on individual autonomy. Some of the proposals are pretty radical."

The "solutions" haven't been implemented on any campus, or even formally proposed. Yet professors see those proposals as undermining academic research, a perception the Texas Public Policy Foundation strenuously rejects.

But foundation spokesman David Guenther added, "You can talk about the double helix on one end of the spectrum, but on the other end of the spectrum you have the professor who does the study on Texas barbecue."

Perry, who has donated proceeds from his Washington-bashing book

"Fed Up!" to the think tank, dismissed the controversy as overblown. In an editorial last month, he called university research the "lifeblood of our state's innovation" and trumpeted the hundreds of millions of dollars the state has put toward technology and cancer research. But he said universities should be more efficient with resources, noting that fewer than three in 10 students graduate in four years. Meanwhile, the average semester cost for students has climbed 72 percent since 2003.

Perry broadly endorsed the "seven solutions" at a meeting of state university leaders in 2008, and while he has not publicly pushed for specific measures, Perry has called for more accountability.

"These efforts to protect taxpayers and get more results from our schools are not universally welcomed in academia," he said. "The attitude of some in the university world is that students and taxpayers should send more and more money, and then just butt out."

Among the foundation's "solutions" are rewarding professors with bonuses based on student feedback. Another recommends compiling data to calculate professors' efficiency. Splitting teaching and research budgets, to make clearer how money is spent, also was suggested.

Professors grumble it's the Seven Deadly Sins.

At the University of Texas at Austin, one of the nation's largest campuses with 50,000-plus students, in-state tuition averaged \$8,000 last year. The national average at four-year public universities was \$7,605, according to the nonprofit College Board. Perry has called on universities to come up with a way to offer \$10,000 bachelor's degree programs.

For anyone who thinks research on Texas barbecue isn't worth taxpayer dollars, UT professor Elizabeth Engelhardt begs to differ. She wrote "Republic of Barbecue: Stories Beyond The Brisket," a history that started as a graduate student project. She said her book, which has sold 2,100 copies, views the state's famous dish through an academic lens, weaving in histories of railroads and refrigeration.

The university said Engelhardt's research cost her department less than \$750. Engelhardt maintains Texas taxpayers benefit by better understanding their culture.

Jaime Grunlan, a mechanical engi-

neering professor at Texas A&M University, quantifies the value of his research another way: \$1.3 million, which he said is how much his work in nanotechnology has generated for the university in the past two years. Grunlan is the face of faculty opposition - and it's not one of a bookish, gray-haired professor. Square-jawed and 6-foot-8, Grunlan is a former college defensive tackle who delivered a defiant, stop-meddling demand to Texas A&M regents last week. The clip drew more than 4,300 views on YouTube in four days, which is practically a ratings grab for a low-quality feed from a dry board meeting.

"If guys like me leave Texas, it will be very bad for Texas," Grunlan said. "It's lost jobs, it's lost technology. It's companies that won't be coming to Texas."

Although no proposals were on the agenda, faculty members suspected that regents had been discussing the "solutions" behind the scenes. A&M regents chairman Richard Box tried to quell the concern, saying the proposals were simply meant to stimulate ideas. Yet A&M vice chairman Phil Adams, who's also a Texas Public Policy Foundation board member, said the university can't sit still.

"In 1975, they said Sears was the best company in America. In 1975 they probably were, but they couldn't see down the road," Adams said. "And their board of regents wasn't strong enough to put policies and management in place to take care of what was coming."

Adams then cupped his hands around his mouth, as though he was holding a megaphone.

"The best company in 1975 was what by 1990?" Adams said. "Not. Even. Relevant."

At the University of Texas at San Antonio, president Ricardo Romo knows the pressure of trying to keep college affordable and accessible. His enrollment of 30,000 students has swollen by more than 50 percent over the past decade, and his professor-to-student ratio of 25 to 1 is among the highest in the state.

He concedes that many families see the \$8,000 tuition as a burden, but he still considers it a bargain. As for \$10,000 degrees, Romo said, "I have no idea how they would do it. But if they have some ideas, we'd be certainly willing to listen."

## The PAMPA NEWS

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## Letter to the Editor

### Looking sharp, Pampa PD

To the Editor:

So many times we hear people complain about our police or sheriff's department for some real or imagined reason. I just want to make a positive observation about the men and women who represent law enforcement in our community. They really look sharp!

Recently I was in a local business establishment when Chief Kelly Rushing and several of his officers were there on a short break. They were all wearing brand new uniforms which looked great and so did the officers wearing them - clean cut, short

shaved and representing our city well. I also noticed that sheriff's deputies were recently wearing new uniforms and how clean cut and neat they looked, too.

Good job, guys and girls, keep up the good job and the sharp appearance!

Sincerely,  
Harley Knutson

## We welcome your letters

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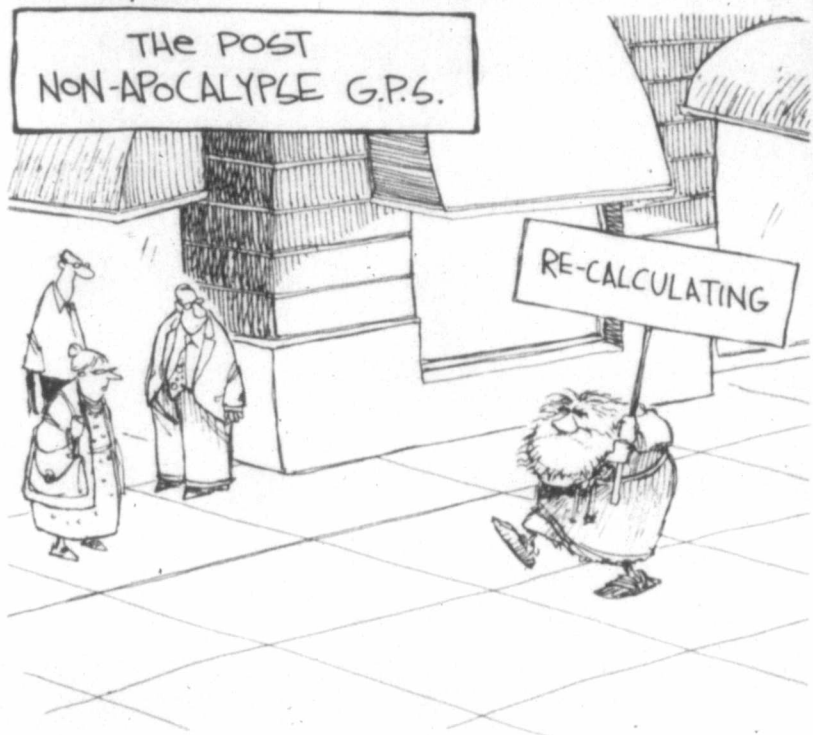
- Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
- All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.
- Defamatory comments will not be published.
- E-mail submissions are welcome.
- The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of *The Pampa News* or its staff.

# comics PAGE

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



## Non Sequiter



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## Nest Heads



## daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Tuesday, June 7, 2011:

This year, opportunities appear out of the blue. The issue might be that you need to slow down. Think about your choices. Sometimes you will see that what appears to be too good to be true vanishes. Make that OK. Meeting someone will be a snap, but creating a real relationship is another issue. If you are attached, the two of you gain through sharing more one-on-one time. You also might make a change to your immediate environment. VIRGO serves as an anchor.

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)**  
 ★★★★★ You can take in a different view and see situations more easily. You hit roadblocks, one after the other. Your serious approach kicks in, allowing a lot to be accomplished. Calm, cool logic has its place. The unexpected plays a role in your decisions. Tonight: Get some rest.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**  
 ★★★★★ You might feel jolted by everything that heads down your path. Detached, you'll also see situations in a different light. Remain sure of yourself, though test your insights. Creativity bestows many ideas on you. A surefire concept could have surprisingly dynamic results. Tonight: Have fun.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**  
 ★★★★★ Imagine that you are a film director, doing many takes over the same issue. The multiple manifestations you see could be overwhelming at first. There is logic and reason behind this activity. Tonight: Head home. Order in. You have much to consider.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**  
 ★★★★★ Stick to your budget. Stay on target with your action plan, too. Yes, you have a lot of ground to cover, but you will get it done. Excitement surrounds a situation. You also could experience some awkwardness. The unexpected pulls you in a new direction, once you stop reacting! Tonight: Make it easy.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**  
 ★★★★★ Realize what is going on in your immediate circle, and understand what might be needed. Others could be uncomfortable with your perceptions, especially about funds. The key is to honor what you know. Tonight: Visit with a friend over dinner.

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

★★★ You attempt to regain a stronger footing by gaining greater insight into a situation. Try not to live in denial. When you indulge in this behavior, you are preventing yourself from receiving the full benefits of your insight and logic. Tonight: You need some wild fun.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**  
 ★★★★★ Use the morning to push a cause and/or get to the bottom of a problem. Explain in clear terms what you feel is needed. Someone's reaction could point to a distortion in your perception. Rethink your logic here. Tonight: Take some much-needed personal time.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**  
 ★★★★★ Take a stand about what to do with a changing panorama. Others might not totally agree with you, but they support you in such a venture. Confusion might surround a meeting, your goals being somewhat different from the perceived group directive. Ask yourself what would be the best and most diplomatic way to deal with this. Tonight: Where the action is.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**  
 ★★★★★ Look to the long term. Your ability to achieve better results is highlighted. Once you are clear about your objectives involving work or a community involvement, take the lead. There is an element of chaos throughout your day. Tonight: As late as need be.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**  
 ★★★★★ If someone doesn't return your call, don't take it personally. An element of confusion and misunderstanding exists. Don't play into it. A partner is more available for a conversation than you thought. Listen to what is revealed rather than be judgmental. Tonight: Reach for the stars.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**  
 ★★★★★ Choose to deal with individuals rather than the many. One-on-one time leads to better understanding. If you're feeling unsure about a specific situation, ask a question, and another, if need be. Tonight: Digest a conversation before starting a new one.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**  
 ★★★★★ You are exhausted and probably dealing with someone far differently than usual. Slow down. Conversations carry mixed messages. Not feeling sure of yourself is normal as well. Don't push yourself, or anyone else. Tonight: Say "yes" to an invitation.

## Tundra



## Shoe



## Mother Goose and Grim



## Zits



## Garfield



## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



## Hagar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie





## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been in a seven-year relationship with "Maddy," which will probably end soon because she can't seem to stick to any kind of routine. Maddy is in her mid-30s, the youngest in a large family, and grew up without any kind of responsibilities. She's always misplacing and losing things — watches, cameras, —, etc. Her mail goes unopened and her bills get paid late even though she has plenty of money.

Maddy thinks I'm "controlling" because I get frustrated when we have to be somewhere at a specified time and she's always late. I think she's selfish to put her needs ahead of everyone else's. There's always an excuse: it's always someone's fault, never hers.

In my line of work, if I have a meeting to attend, I arrive on time. Maddy thinks that unless it's her boss telling her what time to be at a meeting, everything else is when she "gets to it." I have planned entire weekends with dinner reservations and events scheduled and let her know what time we need to leave. When the time comes, she's not even packed yet. Worse, she can't understand my irritation. Is this relationship worth saving — or my sanity? — **LOSING PATIENCE IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST**

**DEAR LOSING PATIENCE:** Maddy must have many amazingly good qualities for you to

have tolerated her lack of organization and consideration for others this long. Because you have let her know how you feel about it and nothing has changed, it's time to accept that no changes will be forthcoming. My advice is to save your sanity. You'll be happier and less frustrated if you find someone more like yourself.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have noticed over the past few decades that fewer and fewer people have heroes (I mean real heroes, not celebrities who are famous for being famous). I'd love to hear from your readers about who their heroes are and why. These heroes should not be family members, but someone outside the family — a teacher, doctor, artist, writer, mentor, statesperson, etc.

Without positive role models to emulate, it's no wonder the majority of our young people are losing their way. — **ALISON IN ASHLAND, ORE.**

**DEAR ALISON:** While I do not agree that the majority of our young people have "lost their way," I do think you have posed an interesting challenge. Readers, if you'd care to chime in, I'm sure it would make an inspiring column.

I would nominate the New York City police and firefighters who searched for survivors after 9/11, the reporters at the New Orleans Times-Picayune who stayed at their posts

to report the news after the terrible flood that decimated their city, and the men and women in our military who put themselves at risk in service to our country.

**DEAR ABBY:** I need your help with a problem I'm having with my husband, "Fred." He is very territorial over his laptop and other personal items such as his phone. It is so bad that I'm not even allowed to hold his phone — even if he is trying to show me a video on it. His laptop is password-protected.

I have asked Fred numerous times why so much privacy, and he says, "Because these things are mine." I feel as if he is hiding something. I know I shouldn't be paranoid, but since he was unfaithful in the past, I have my suspicions. Please let me know what I can do to solve this. — **LEFT OUT IN LITTLE ROCK**

**DEAR LEFT OUT:** Did you and Fred have marital counseling after his infidelity? If not, you should have. If you did, you both need more. Your husband's behavior also makes me suspect he may be trying to hide something that could embarrass him if you were to get your hands on the phone or have access to his password. Insist on marriage counseling or your suspicions will only increase — and rightly so.

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By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS** 38 Grove

1 Hive fruit

5 Smiley of

10 Bed-table

11 "Smart"

13 St. Louis

14 Ominously

15 Become

17 Gorilla, for

18 2002

19 "—

20 Ancient

21 Donut

22 Easy —

25 Some

26 Clarinet

27 Jewel

28 Baseball's

29 Spade

33 Boxing

34 1920s

35 Athlete's

37 Aware of

38 Grove

39 Smell

40 Snide

41 Collec-

tions

DOWN

1 Big party

2 Neighbor

3 Game-

4 Squashed

5 Remnant

6 Next to

7 Dog doc

8 Sleepy

Hollow

name

9 Aid on the

12 Act parts

16 Heap

21 Cigar

22 Jockey

23 Paint

basecoats

24 Louisiana

bird

25 Waiting-

room call

27 Builder's

beam

29 Beetle's

boss

30 "Walk

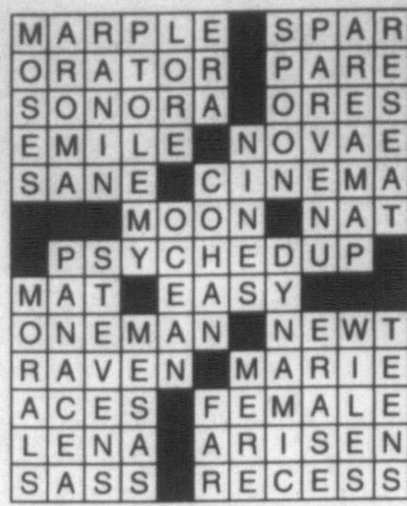
Away —"

31 Quartet

doubled

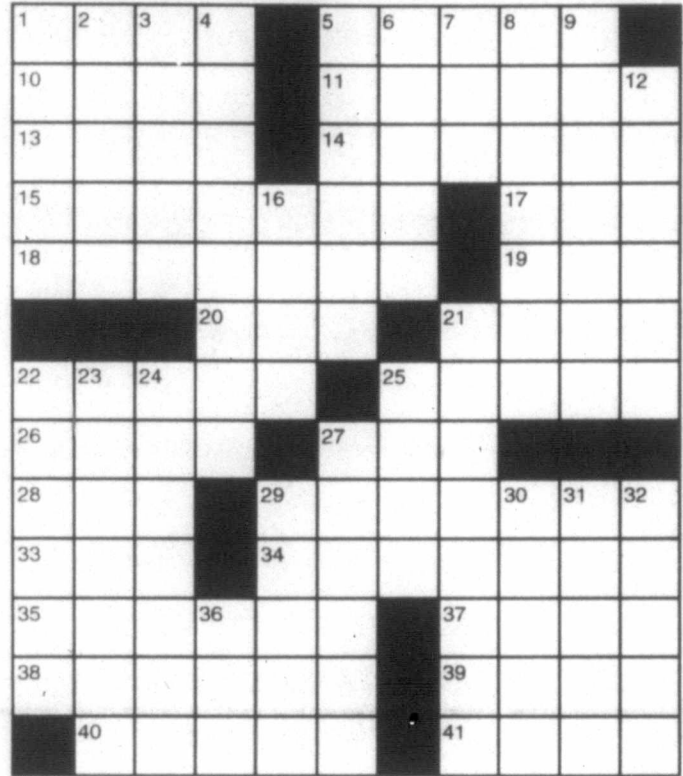
32 Recesses

36 Wallet bill



Saturday's answer

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



6-6



The Pampa News'

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LOST from 601 N. Nelson Female White / Brown Pit. Black Collar with green tag. 663-1085

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**NEED** maintenance man, must have own tools & transportation. Call 665-1875 or apply 800 N. Nelson.

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**ALL real estate** advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status of national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." State law also forbids discrimination based on these factors. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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# Sports

## Ericson, Malone play final All-Star Game together

ANDREW GLOVER  
aglover@thepampanews.com

LUBBOCK — In the top of the seventh, Pampa High School graduate Garrett Ericson was warming up in the bullpen with his teammate of the past two seasons, Tyler Malone. In the bottom half, both players were on the field together for one last time, as they played in the Greater West Texas Baseball Coaches Association All-Star Game Sunday at Pirate Field.

Ericson said it was cool to be on the field with Malone. "It was probably the last time we will be on the same field together," Ericson said. "So to have that moment with both of us out there it was nice."

Malone agreed. "It was cool getting to play with someone that I played with," Malone said. "I was glad we both made the team." Pampa head coach Kaleb Snelgrooves said it was fun watching his two seniors play.

"It was cool for them to showcase their talents and represent Pampa well," Snelgrooves said. Malone played in left field for four innings. At the

plate, Malone was 0-for-3, striking out twice. The graduated senior said it was fun going against All-Star pitching.

"It was tough," Malone said. "I didn't do as well as I wanted to, but it was still fun."

Ericson pitched the seventh and eighth innings giving up one run on two hits, walked one and struck out three. The recently graduated pitcher also fielded a groundout. Ericson said it was a blast pitching against an All-Star lineup.

"Those guys can hit the ball and hit the ball well," Ericson said. "The kid from Frenship made me learn that you make one little mistake (and) they will make you pay for it."

The only run Ericson allowed was a solo home run by Frenship's Xavier Vasquez in the bottom of the eighth.

Ericson and Malone played on the East team and were joined by some of their District 1-3A counterparts. Borger's Garrett Irwin and Brandon Garcia and Perryton's Fabian Villigran were also on the team.

Malone said it was nice that their onetime rivals were hitting on the same team and not against them.

"They hit pretty well today," Malone said.

The East lost 10-8 to the West. Levelland's Andrew Vidales gave the West the early lead with a two-RBI double in the bottom of the second. The East tied it in the top of the fourth when Snyder's Dakota Carroll hit a solo home run to left. The West regained the lead in the bottom half when Monahan's Kyndrick Anderson hit a solo home run to left. The East tied it in the top of the fifth when Randall's Joe Villareal scored on a throwing error.

Up 5-3, the West broke the game open in the bottom of the sixth. Shallowater's Justin Jones scored on a passed ball. Canyon's Gregg Veneklasen scored on a groundout. Canyon's Duffy Watson scored on a base hit. Vidales scored on Lubbock Cooper's Pate Bednariz grounded out to second.

The West rallied. Garcia reached on an error by the center fielder, Carroll and Dumas' Keagan Harmon scored. In the top of the eighth, Snyder's Anthony Taylor scored on a double by Irwin. Then Irwin scored on a single by Villareal.



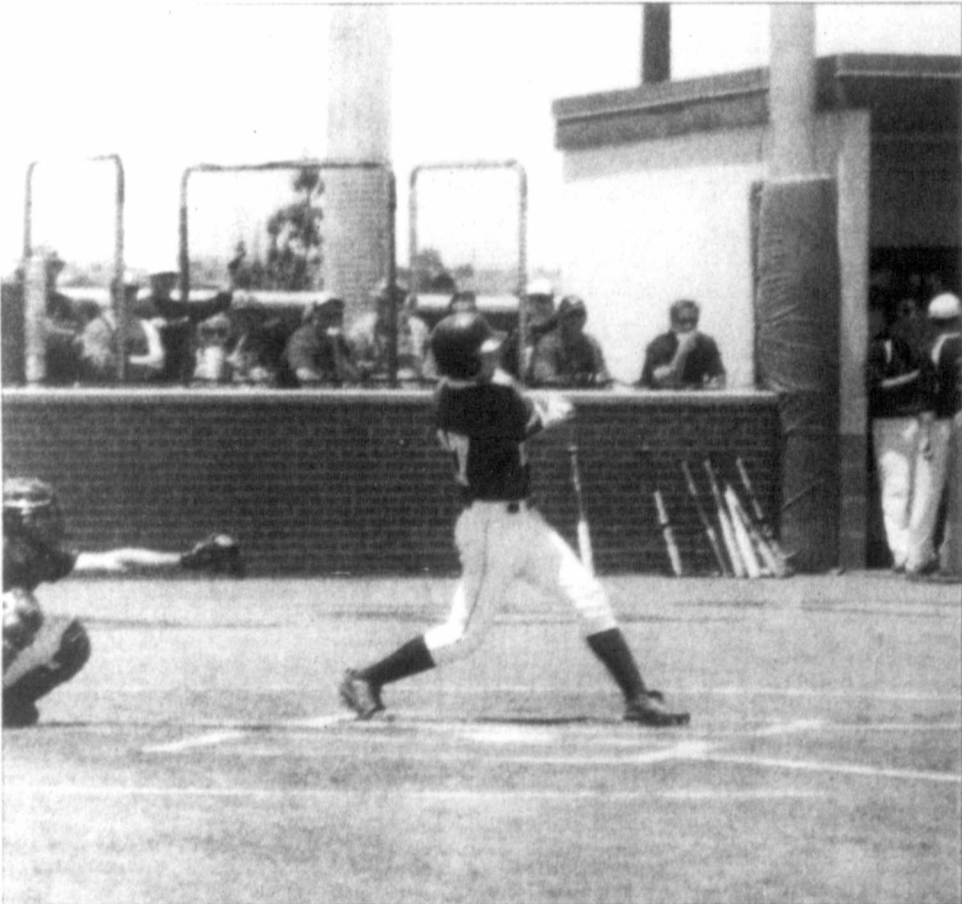
staff photo by Andrew Glover

Tyler Malone warms up in left field before the bottom of the first.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Garrett Ericson throws a pitch in the GWTBCA All-Star Game Sunday at Pirate Field on Lubbock Cooper's campus. Ericson struck out three.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Tyler Malone hits a pop fly in the top of the ninth of the GWTBCA All-Star Game.

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