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Tuesday, March 13, 2012

www.thepampanews.com

Volume 107 • No. 281

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State's voter ID law struck down Justice Dept. says no to new requirement | p4

**Could Longhorns surprise?** 

Sports reporter Andrew Glover previews the dance | p9

## New signs, plaque pay homage to Guthrie's Pampa legacy

### Plaque at Folk Music Center a gift from Grammy Museum in Los Angeles

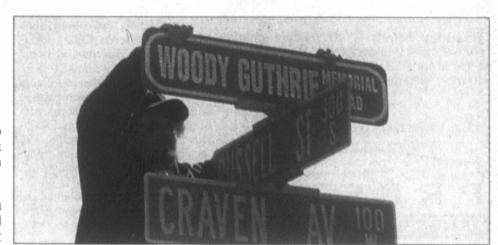
MOLLIE BRYANT mbryant@thepampanews.com

The Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center now has several new public markers to commemorate Guthrie's ties to Pampa, where the musician spent his early adulthood. Two new street signs and a flashy plaque from the Grammy Museum in Los Angeles now acknowledge the part of his

life that the folk legend spent in town.

Over 15 years since its first attempt to rename South Russell in honor of folk icon Woody Guthrie, the folk center has GUTHRIE cont. on page 10

Hunter Lewis of the City of Pampa affixes the "Woody Guthrie Memorial Road" placard to the street sign at South Russell and Craven.



staff photo by Mollie Bryant

## SCALY VISITOR



Lamar Elementary second graders in Pam Funderburg's class met a new reptilian friend recently when Linda Solano (far right) brought her snake to the school.

## Veterans Hall seeks 2012 nominations

THE PAMPA NEWS

Preparations are already in the works for this year's Panhandle Veterans Hall of Honor banquet, with John L. Tripplehorn, president of the hall, soliciting nominations for potential enshrinees.

In an open letter to Texas Panhandle residents, Tripplehorn outlined the HALL cont. on page 8

## Lawyer Hall leaves county attorney race

THE PAMPA NEWS

Local lawyer Steve Hall has withdrawn from the race for county attor-

His withdrawal was confirmed by both Doug Ware, Gray County ATTORNEY cont. on page 10

## Fire deals \$20K of damage to Pampa mobile home

MOLLIE BRYANT

mbryant@thepampanews.com

On early Sunday morning, a fire struck a trailer house on the south side of Pampa and sent five people to the hospital.

According to the Pampa Fire Department, two engines were dispatched to a home on the 600 block of East Craven at 1:03 a.m.

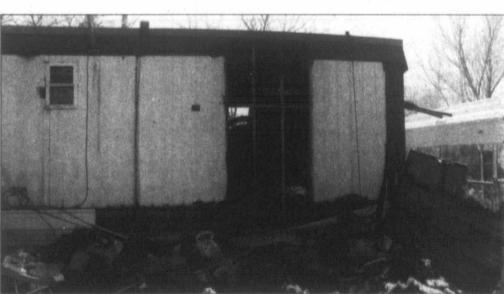
The fire was located in a bedroom and adjoining bathroom, and with additional heat and smoke damage in the rest of the house, the fire department estimates \$20,000 in damage.

Five occupants of the home were treated for smoke inhalation on the scene, and afterward were transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center. They sustained no further injuries.

The fire was under control at 1:30

"We put it out quickly, but there was a lot of smoke, so we did a thorough overhaul of the house to make sure nothing would rekindle," said Fire Marshal Michael Ryan.

According to Ryan, the fire was caused by a heater.



staff photo by Mollie Bryant

A heater was the reported cause of a Sunday morning fire that dealt \$20,000 worth of damage to this trailer home on the 600 block of East Craven. Five were sent to PRMC after the fire, but had no further injuries.

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### PAMPA FORECAST

Today Wednesday Thursday High 78 High 79 High 81 Low 54 Low 54 Low 53

Today: Sunny, with a high near 79. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 54. South southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 81. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 54. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 78. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday Night: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 53. South southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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## State's new voter ID law struck down

WASHINGTON (AP) — A photo ID requirement for letter to Texas officials that was also filed in the U.S. voters in Texas could disenfranchise hundreds of thousands of registered Hispanics, the Justice Department declared Monday in its latest move against Republican-led voting changes in many states that have drawn protests from minorities, poor people and students.

The Justice objection means that now a federal court in Washington will decide whether Texas, as well as South Carolina, will be allowed to enforce its new voter photo ID requirements. Justice's move merely blocked a Texas law until the court rules.

Other states have similar laws and more are moving toward them as advocates portray the restrictions as needed to combat voter fraud.

The Justice Department conveyed its objection in a

District Court case in Washington between Texas and the department. Justice said Hispanic voters in Texas are at least 50 percent more likely and possibly more than twice as likely as non-Hispanic voters to lack a driver's license or a personal state-issued photo ID, which the Texas law requires.

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The range was so broad because Texas provided two sets of registered voter data to the Justice Department. It relied on the two Texas-supplied lists for the estimates of 175,000 and 304,000 registered Hispanic Texas voters who do not have driver's licenses or stateissued IDs.

Voter ID bills were "the hottest topic of legislation in ID cont. on page 3

## **Obituaries**

### Natalie Reeve, 56

Natalie Reeve, 56, died Sunday, March 11, 2012, in Pampa

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors

Natalie was born June 7, 1955, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She died at home last Sunday at 1:20 p.m. after a four-week illness diagnosed as gastroparesis. Natalie lived at home with her parents, Jack and Katherine Reeve of Pampa. She

was a 1973 graduate of Pampa High School and completed two years of college at West Texas State University in Canyon.

Natalie was a talented artist by trade and her love for the mountains of southwestern Colorado was central to many of her paintings. In 1980, she was recognized as Artist of the Year by the Pampa Fine Arts Association. Natalie enjoyed a variety of art mediums, but was perhaps best known for her delicate water colors. Not only did she sell her original paintings and prints at local art shows and to friends, she enjoyed donating her art to charitable organizations whose causes she supported.

Natalie had a true heart for children. She had been involved with St. Matthew's Day School in numerous capacities. For 19 years, she worked as assistant to the administrator and served on the board of St. Matthew's Day School for several years. Until her recent illness, she continued reading to the school children every Thursday. Clearly, Natalie's priorities were in serving God and His church. She performed in numerous volunteer roles at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Pampa and at St. James Episcopal Church in Lake City, Colorado.

She was peaceful, patient, and had a great sense of humor. A small sampling of comments from her many friends and acquaintances capture Natalie's spirit:

"I treasure your friendship and you are such an inspiration. Every day, I walk by two of your pieces of art and it gives me a smile.'

"You have always been such an inspiration to me. You have such a loving, giving sweet spirit."

"My earliest memories of knowing you are when you and I were students at St. Matt's. You have always been the most caring and selfless person, always smiling and happy! I am very thankful that each of my children are blessed by knowing you."

"You have touched so many people."

**BANANAGRAMS** 

LEVEL corresponding grid.

"I always valued your opinion and admired how much you gave to St. Matt's." "You are like a gift that keeps on giving."

"May God hold you in the palm of His hands."

Natalie left us in peace. Those who knew her have described her as caring, creative, talented, funny, imagi-

For each bunch below, rearrange the letters to

form two intersecting words that fit into the



Reeve

native, thoughtful, patient, beautiful, persevering, witty, courageous, and loving. Natalie believed that love was the most important thing.

Survivors include her parents, Jack and Katherine Reeve of the home; two brothers, Rusty Reeve and wife Kim of Lucas and Randy Reeve and wife Mary of Gallup, N.M. Other family members include John and Theresa Reeve, Katie and Matt Chaney, Megan and Antonio Sibley, Stacy and Anthony Jimmerson, and several greatnieces and great-nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Matthew's Episcopal Day School Scholarship Fund, 727 W. Browning, Pampa, TX 79065 or Lake City Arts, Lake City, CO 81235.

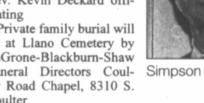
Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley.

### Wesley Simpson, 75

AMARILLO-Wesley Simpson, 75, died Friday, March 9, 2012.

Memorial service will be at Polk Street United Methodist Church on Tuesday March 13, 2012 at 2 p.m. with Dr. Burt Palmer and Rev. Kevin Deckard offi-

Private family burial will be at Llano Cemetery by LaGrone-Blackburn-Shaw Funeral Directors Coulter Road Chapel, 8310 S.





Marion "Wesley" Simpson was born September 2, 936 in Amarillo, to J.M. and Mattie Lou Simpson. He graduated from Amarillo High School in 1954. Mr. Simpson graduated as a member of the 1958 class from Texas A&M University where he was in the Quartermaster Corp. He then served in the U.S. Army as a lieutenant. He married the love of his life Sharon Horton on November 20, 1965 in Amarillo. They lived in Pampa for many years where he worked at the Cabot Company and Ingersoll Rand. Returning to Amarillo in 1986, he became an accountant at Amarillo National Bank. Wesley loved spending time with his family, especially with his boys and their sporting events. Mr. Simpson volunteered at the Amarillo Animal Rescue Shelter and also delivered for the Meals on Wheels program for over 10 years. He coached an Optimist Baseball team in Pampa for many years. Wesley also served as the Treasurer of the Amarillo High School 50th Alumni Association. Family suggests memorials to the Polk Street United Methodist Church "Snack Pack 4 Kids" Program, Polk Street United Methodist "Child Development Center" or the Amarillo Animal Rescue Shelter.

He is preceded in death by his parents

Survivors include his wife, Sharon Horton Simpson of Amarillo; two sons, Paul Wesley Simpson and wife Lanie of Amarillo, William Robert Simpson and wife Kiki of Dallas; one brother, Robert Simpson and wife Linda of Round Rock; his father-in-law, Bob Horton; three grandchildren, Katie and Paden Simpson of Amarillo and Emory Simpson of Dallas; two nephews Robert Andrick Simpson and wife Frances Simpson and J.M. Lee Simpson of Austin.

## For the record

### Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests for the 72 hour period ending Monday, March 5.

Saturday, March 3 Justin David Kalka, 28, was arrested by police for driving while intoxicated and a warrant regarding theft of property.

Zachary Lee Mears, 32, was arrested by police on charges of evading arrest, possession of a controlled substance, failure to appear in court and no driver's li-

Jamie Berry, 18, was arrested by deputies for unauthorized use of a motor

Kayla Danyell Debose, 23, was arrested by deputies for failure to signal. Sunday, March 4

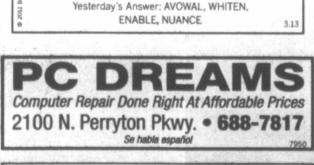
Adrian Anaya Cano, 21, was arrested by police for driving while intoxicated. Roque Francisco Maya,

26, was arrested by DPS officers for public intoxication. Billy Bob Stowers, 26,

was arrested by police for assault causing bodily in-

Monday, March 5

Andres Garcia, 29, was arrested by DPS officers on charges of driving while intoxicated and no driver's



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## MORNING*RUSH*

### Hazmat crews at Mineola firm

MINEOLA (AP) - Officials say nobody has been hurt in an explosion and fire at an East Texas petroleum company that destroyed much of the business.

Hazardous materials crews were at the scene Monday at Pearce Petroleum Products in Mineola (min-ee-OH'luh), about 75 miles east of Dallas.

Investigators are trying to determine what sparked Sunday night's fire and led to some petroleum products spilling. Fire crews extinguished the blaze after about an

Fire department spokesman Steve Finley says the business owners were on the property when the fire broke out and they called 911.

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The company did not immediately respond to a message Monday from The Associated Press.

### Audit: state should repay funds

AUSTIN (AP) - A federal audit has recommended that Texas repay \$9 million in alleged overcharges related to administration of hurricane recovery funds.

Hurricanes Dolly and Ike hit Texas in 2008. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has made \$1.4 billion in grants available.

Gary Hagood with the Texas General Land Office says the state is negotiating with federal authorities over potential repayment.

The Austin American-Statesman reported Sunday that the review determined the state improperly contracted with engineering firm HNTB to manage the grants. The newspaper reports overcharges were billed by Missouribased HNTB and paid in federal dollars.

HNTB, in a statement Friday, said the company cooperated with the audit, has complied with terms of its state contract and that concerns identified in the review have been addressed.

### TCU player charged with delivery

FORT WORTH (AP) — One of four TCU football players accused of selling marijuana as part of a sixmonth drug sting has been charged.

Cornerback Devin Johnson is charged with three cases of delivery of marijuana between one-quarter ounce and five pounds of marijuana. Johnson and three others are accused of selling marijuana to undercover officers, sometimes arranging deals around practices.

Each case carries up to two years in jail and a \$10,000

Johnson allegedly told an officer that 82 people failed a team-wide drug test ordered two weeks before his arrest Feb. 15. Others in the TCU program have disagreed with that claim.

Defensive tackle D.J. Yendrey, offensive tackle Ty Horn and linebacker Tanner Brock were also arrested. Nine people have been charged so far.

### DPS ups anti-DWI efforts

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Department of Public Safety has increased anti-DWI efforts during spring break.

DPS troopers have added patrols through Sunday to crack down on drunken driving. The extra patrols are funded through a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation.

DPS during 2011 spring break made nearly 1,300 DWI

The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission on Monday reminded students of the so-called 911 Lifeline Law, which took effect last September. The law provides limited immunity for an underage person who calls for assistance because someone might have alcohol poisoning and who stays at the scene until help arrives.

DPS last week raised safety concerns about drugrelated violence in Mexico and urged students on spring break to avoid heading south of the border.

### Mansion to be auctioned off

HICKORY CREEK (AP) - A well-known Texas mansion modeled after a French landmark is going on the auction block this month.

New York City-based Concierge Auctions announced Monday that it is putting the mansion up for bid on March 30.

The estate is located in the small town of Hickory Creek, about 40 miles north of Dallas. It cost \$46 million and a Republican Senate. to build and is called Champ d'Or, a name inspired by the Vaux-le-Vicomte outside of Paris.

The 48,000-square-foot mansion includes a two-story library, a hair salon and a two-story "her" closet. It also has a grand ballroom, a movie theater and a tea room modeled after New York's Tavern on the Green.

The owners are Shirley and Alan Goldfield, the retired Assembly and Senate founder of cell phone wholesaler CellStar.

### Texas man drunk at time of wreck Bob McDonnell is expect-

CANTON, Ga. (AP) — Authorities in north Georgia say a Texas man who caused a wreck that killed him and his baby's mother was driving drunk.

Lt. Jay Baker with the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office tells The Atlanta Journal-Constitution 48-year-old Rick Dean Headen had a blood alcohol level of .218, just under three times the legal limit. Headen and 40-year-old Charlotte Ann Sedtal died in the crash around 11 a.m. on

The couple's then-2-month-old baby, Dakota was injured in the accident but is expected to make a full

## Smart dividend strategy pays off

TERRY SAVAGE Creator's Syndicate

Why is the stock market rising? The economy is still in rough shape, unemployment remains stubbornly high, housing remains weak, and the European financial system is a mess. Still, U.S. stocks are rising, and we're seeing daily headlines about the market hitting new four-year highs.

Why? Well, two reasons. First, despite the headlines, the economy is growing again, at least a bit. And second, stocks are the "least worst" place to put your money.

With short-term CDs, Treasury bills and money funds paying practically nothing - and designed to stay at that level by promise of the Fed - the dividends paid by large companies are attractive. And stocks hold the possibility of price appreciation as well as dividend growth.

Over the past 70 years, dividends have contributed nearly half of the Dow Jones industrial average's total return. And despite the economic slowdown, dividends have been increasing in the past few years, as companies hesitate to build new factories and hire more people. Instead, they are returning profits to their shareholders.

**BUYING DIVIDEND-PAYING** STOCKS: Suddenly, all attention is focused on dividends. At the World Money Show in Orlando, Fla., a few weeks ago, nearly every speaker was focused on raising returns through finding investments with high yields. It was a message lapped up eagerly by a primarily retired audience, hoping they could find a way to increase their income without digging into their savings to fund living expenses.

But just as there was a danger in focusing on "hot" Internet stocks in 2000 or "hot" financial stocks in 2007, there are dangers in focusing solely on high yields today.

Jeffrey Rode, managing director of Segall, Bryant and Hamill in Chicago, points out the difference between attractive current high yields and future prospects for

The Savage on money

growth. He counsels: "Remember, it's growth in income, not growth and income, that's important. Dividend payers outperform non-payers. And dividend growers outperform high current yield. Dividend growers are also your hedge against inflation."

In their most recent newsletter, Ralph Segall notes that since 1972, the average annual total return of the S&P 500 was nearly 7 percent. But the companies in the S&P 500 that don't pay dividends had an average annual total return of less than 2 percent. And the stocks within the index that initiated or increased their dividends during that long period had an average annual total return of nearly 10 percent.

So that's where the research comes in. Yes, you could buy groups like real estate investment trusts, master limited partnerships and utilities, all of which pay attractive, current high yields. But the real trick, according to Rode, is to find stocks that will increase their dividends, and also provide an upside price potential, because the company itself continues to grow and generate cash earnings.

Rode notes that a modest, but growing, dividend can give you more upside in the future than stretching for the highest yields today, suggesting that you "buy 2-5 percent current yield with potential 3-8 percent annual dividend growth.

He asks: "How would you like to have owned Abbott for the last 20 years? The company has raised its dividend payout for 39 straight years! Paying a modest, not high yield, dividend has nothing to do with your ability to grow; it's simply a reflection of financial discipline and a commitment to treat shareholders as owners. And that's what investors should look for."

FINDING DIVIDEND STOCKS: To find companies that continue to increase earnings, and also dividends, requires some research — but it's not too late to find them. Many growing companies are just embarking on a plan of increasing dividends as way of distributing excess cash, instead of buying back their own

Part of the reason that dividends are coming back in vogue is the fact that most dividends are taxed at a maximum rate of only 15 percent. That tax deal is likely to be a target in Congress after the election.

But the alternative use of corporate cash — stock buybacks — has dismal track record. And even if tax laws change, dividend-payers will remain attractive because the payout can offset some of the downside risk in stocks and provide a regular income while you wait for stock prices to rise.

There's one more advantage to dividends from growing companies: Rising dividends can help you beat inflation, unlike the slightly higher, but fixed, returns of bonds.

If you want to learn more about dividend investing, I strongly suggest you read "The Little Book of Big Dividends" by Charles B. Carlson (for which I wrote the introduction). It is a blueprint for dividend investing. And visit Carlson's website: www.BigSafeDividends. com to find the stocks.

Keep in mind that dividend-paying stocks do carry market price risk and are not an alternative for "chicken money," which can't afford any risk of loss. But diversifying your investments to increase your yield can be a valuable way to increase your income and protect against inflation. That's The Savage Truth.

Terry Savage is a registered investment adviser and is on the board of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. She appears weekly on WMAQ-Channel 5's 4:30 p.m. newscast, and can be reached at www.terrysavage.com. She is the author of the new book, "The New Savage Number: How Much Money Do You Really Need to Retire?"

the field of elections in 2011," as legislation was introduced in 34 states, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Since the beginning of the 2011 legislative session, eight states have passed photo ID laws: Alabama, Kansas, South Tennessee, Carolina. Wisconsin, Texas. Mississippi and Rhode Island. All but two were enacted by Republican legislatures and Republican governors.

Mississippi's law was passed by voter referen-dum placed on the ballot by a Democratic House Rhode Island's law was enacted by a Democratic legislature and an independent governor.

This year, the Republicancontrolled Virginia General passed a voter ID measure, which Republican Gov. ed to sign. In Pennsylvania, the Republican-controlled House debated a photo ID measure on Monday; if it is approved, Republican Gov. Tom Corbett is expected to

The new photo ID requirements have become a point of contention in the 2012 elections. Liberal groups say the push for these requirements is led by Republicans aiming to disenfranchise people who

tend to vote Democratic African-Americans, Hispanics, the poor and college students.

For the past three months, Attorney General Eric Holder has been especially vocal about voting rights. "We need election systems that are free from fraud, discrimination and partisan influence — and that are more, not less, accessible to the citizens of this country," the attorney general said recently in a speech at the Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library and Museum in Austin, Texas.

Proponents of such legislation say the measures are needed to combat voter fraud. But advocacy groups for minorities and the poor argue there is no significant voter fraud.

Hans von Spakovsky, who headed Justice's civil rights division during the Republican administration of George W. Bush, has said one reason there is scant evidence of voter fraud is no one checks ID at the polls. "Nobody's saying it's large scale," but fraud could make a difference in close races, said von Spakovsky, a senior fellow at the conservative Heritage Foundation.

Of the Texas law, Assistant Attorney General Thomas E. Perez, head of Justice's civil rights division, wrote the Texas secretary of state: "I cannot conclude that the state has sustained its burden" of showing that the newly enacted law has neither a discriminatory purpose nor



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### **Routine Maintenance** cont. from page 2 is a MUST

## Main-te-nance

[meyn-tuh-nuhns]

noun; "The process of keeping something in good condition"

-Dictionary



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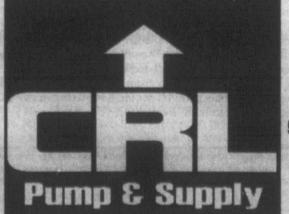


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## Today in History

Today is Tuesday, March 13, the 73rd day of 2012. There are 293 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 13, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed a measure prohibiting Union military officers from returning fugitive slaves to their owners, effectively superseding the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850.

On this date:

In 1639, New College was renamed Harvard College for clergyman John Harvard.

In 1781, the seventh planet of the solar system, Uranus, was discovered by Sir William Herschel. In 1845, Felix Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E Minor, Op. 64, had its premiere in Leipzig,

In 1901, the 23rd president of the United States, Benjamin Harrison, died in Indianapolis at age 67. In 1925, the Tennessee General Assembly approved a bill prohibiting the teaching of the theory of evolution. (Gov. Austin Peay signed the

measure on March 21.) In 1933, banks began to reopen after a "holiday" declared by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

In 1947, the Lerner and Loewe musical "Brigadoon," about a Scottish village which magically reappears once every hundred years, opened on Broadway.

In 1964, bar manager Catherine "Kitty" Genovese, 28, was stabbed to death near her Queens, N.Y. home; the case generated controversy over the supposed failure of Genovese's neighbors to respond to her cries for help.

In 1969, the Apollo 9 astronauts splashed down, ending a mission that included the successful testing of the Lunar Module.

In 1980, Ford Motor Chairman Henry Ford II announced he was stepping down, the same day a jury in Winamac, Ind., found the company not guilty of reckless homicide in the fiery deaths of three young women in a Ford Pinto.

In 1992, the U.S. House of Representatives, trying to weather a politically embarrassing firestorm, voted unanimously to publicly identify 355 current and former members who had overdrawn their accounts at the House bank.

In 1996, a gunman burst into an elementary school in Dunblane, Scotland, and opened fire, killing 16 children and one teacher before killing himself.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush declared at a news conference that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was a menace "and we're going to deal with him," and said Osama bin Laden had been reduced to a marginal figure in the war on

Five years ago: Attorney General Alberto Gonzales admitted mistakes in how the Justice Department had handled the dismissal of eight federal prosecutors but said he wouldn't resign. President George W. Bush sought to soothe strained ties with Mexico by promising to prod Congress to overhaul tough U.S. immigration policies; but his host, Mexican President Felipe Calderon, criticized U.S. plans for a 700-mile border fence. Lance Mackey won the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, in 9 days, 5 hours, 8 minutes.

One year ago: The estimated death toll from Japan's earthquake and tsunami climbed past 10,000 as authorities raced to combat the threat of multiple nuclear reactor meltdowns and hundreds of thousands of people struggled to find food and water. The NCAA men's basketball selection committee released its 68-team draw which included a record 11 teams from the Big East, the deepest conference in the nation.

Today's Birthdays: Jazz musician Roy Haynes is 87. Country singer Jan Howard is 82. Songwriter Mike Stoller is 79. Singer-songwriter Neil Sedaka is 73. Actor William H. Macy is 62. Actress Deborah Raffin is 59. Comedian Robin Duke is 58. Actress Glenne Headly is 57. Actress Dana Delany is 56. Rock musician Adam Clayton (U2) is 52. Jazz musician Terence Blanchard is 50. Actor Christopher Collet is 44. Rock musician Matt McDonough (Mudvayne) is 43. Actress Annabeth Gish is 41. Actress Tracy Wells is 41. Rapper-actor Common is 40. Rapper Khujo (Goodie Mob, The Lumberjacks) is 40. Singer Glenn Lewis is 37. Actor Danny Masterson is 36. Actor Emile Hirsch is 27. Singers Nicole and Natalie Albino (Nina Sky) are 26.

Thought for Today: "If you lose the power to laugh, you lose the power to think." - Clarence Darrow, American lawyer (born 1857, died this date in 1938).

We welcome your letters

To ensure publication, please adhere to the follow-

ing guidelines:

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



## What 'boots on the ground' really means

The officeholder in the Opposition Party who dares to break from his side's rigid orthodoxy is admired -- by those of us in Our Party -- as a courageous maverick who has the guts to take a lonely stand against party bosses. But when the rebel is in Our Party, too often we react quite differently. Then, the dissenter in our ranks is an unreliable and, probably, self-absorbed turncoat. Hypocrisy. anyone?

Let me tell you about one of my favorite mavericks, a Democrat, who served two terms in the U.S. Senate before leaving voluntarily. Facing a tough re-election race in the very Republican year of 1994, he was assailed for having voted to outlaw assault weapons. In a TV spot, he picked up an AK-47 at a target range and said: "Twenty-five years ago in the war in Vietnam, people hunted me. They needed a good weapon like this AK-47. But you don't need one of these to hunt birds." Heard anybody make that case recently?

Of course, many politicians of that generation had used money or connections to evade the Vietnam draft. This maverick got "a letter in the mail offering a free physical examination," which he passed. Combat wounds forced the amputation of his right leg just below the knee. Eight months at the Philadelphia Naval Hospital fol-

He admitted bitterness at his fate," but I had my life saved by that hos-

pital, which wasn't there because the Navy decided to put it there. It was there because of a law the Congress passed to build the hospital, to appropriate the money necessary to hire the doctors and the nurses and all the other people who gave me the opportunity to get

my life back. "When I was discharged from the Navy, my fellow citizens paid for free health care and a monthly check while put my life back together. Now I know there are a lot of people who think that getting a check in the mail makes you lazy -- it didn't do that to me. It made me grateful to live in a country as great as this one."

Back home in Nebraska and manifestly unlazy, he built a successful chain of restaurants and health clubs. Elected governor in 1982, he dated the sultry Debra Winger, who was in Lincoln to film "Terms of Endearment" and after one successful term with a 70 percent favorable job-

rating, chose not to run for re-election. Elected to the Senate in 1988, he angered many Democrats by championing entitlement reform, which included raising the Social Security retirement age to 70. He infuriated Republicans and more than a few

Democrats by opposing the bill to outlaw same-sex marriage. Armchair commandos were furious at his leadership in normalizing U.S. relations with Vietnam and his forceful opposition to a constitutional amendment to criminalize flag-burning: "Patriotism calls upon us to be brave enough to endure and withstand such an act, to tolerate the intolerant."

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Now Bob Kerrey, the only U.S.

senator in the last 147 years to earn the nation's highest military citation, the-Medal of Honor -- and after spendinghis post-Senate years as president of the New School University in New York - seeks again the Nebraska Senate seat he left in 2000. Attacked by the organized left as insufficiently liberal and unreliably independent, Kerrey is defended by two of Washington's most respected arms-control advocates, John Isaacs and David Cohen, who cite Kerrey's record of seeking to reduce nuclear arsenals, supporting Senate ratification of the Chemical eapons Convention and urging a

rldwide ban of landmines.

As this maverick once told me: "Let us cast aside the conspiracy theories and the notion that we are victims of our own government. What nonsense! .. We've got more freedom than any country on the face of the earth."

Mark Shields is a nationally syndicated



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- 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
- Defamatory comments
- will not be published. E-mail submissions are welcome.
- The views and opin-



Southwestern trivia

Dear B-Frog: What are the largest cities in Texas? - City Dweller\ According to the 2010 census, the five largest are Houston, San Antonio, Dallas,

Hey, B-Frog: What's the story about a toad named "Old Rip"? - History

This legend comes from the town of Eastland. It's said that a horned toad accidentally got sealed in the Eastland courthouse's cornerstone in 1897. In 1928 Eastland built a new courthouse, opened the old cornerstone...and found

Sadly, Rip died of pneumonia one year later. They placed him in a glass-front casket in the new courthouse.

B-Frog: I recently moved to Texas. I heard someone use the term "light a shock" the other day. Do you know what it means? - Still Learning To "light a shock" means to leave quickly.

"Shock" is referring to a corn shuck. Corn was a universal food in the old Southwest, and a cowboy would often come to another cowboy's campfire and discover that it was surrounded by empty corn shucks. If a cowboy needed to go from one campfire to another, he would light a corn

shuck to guide his path. He would have to move as quickly as possible, since corn shucks tended to burn hot and fast.

Bookish Frog – who answers mostly to B-Frog – is the mascot of TCU Press. His handsome form appears on the spine of every book the Press releases. Send your questions to tcupress@tcu.edu. Find the books discussed in this column at your local bookstore or call 1-800-826-8911



MARK SHIELDS



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"Yeah, what happened to you?"

BRAIN

JUST

CRAMPED

Non Sequitur UH-OH ... YOU'RE FUMING MY LIST OF TAHW OUTRAGE THAT'S 'CUZ I'M LIST? NOW JUST SHUT UP AND BEND AGAIN? TO MY WILL WATCH IT OR YOU'LL GET PUT ON THE LIST





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## horoseope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, March 14, 2012:

This year Lady Luck appears and could impact your life financially and/or emotionally. You will encounter trouble when you go to extremes. Self-discipline is a must, or you could overindulge and take away from your good fortune. Your immediate circle changes, as you meet people with similar goals. If you are single, you will have more than one opportunity to change your status. Take your time choosing the right person. If you are attached, you find your sweetie to be provocative and full of information. He or she also could have quite a temper. SAGITTARIUS can be a challenging boss.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

\*\*\* You will try anything once within reason. Remain sensitive to financial matters that offer provocative options. Be smart about your choices. Your drive and hard work impress someone. Tonight: Remain upbeat. Try a new place.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

\*\*\*\* Everyone, including you, likes to be indulged. At times, it might be difficult to say "thank you." Let someone express his or her ideas about an important situation before you choose how much you want to reveal. Tonight: Be a duo.

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

\*\*\* Remain responsive, but be careful when choosing your cause. You might not be able to cover all your bases; therefore, decide what is most important or instrumental to your success. A domestic issue takes the forefront because of someone's energy. Tonight: Say "yes" to the mo-

ment. CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Make and act on a long-overdue resolution. You know you need to follow that path; the time is now. Understand what is happening. You have spirit and energy behind your words and actions. Others know you are serious. You will be effective. Tonight: Flow with the moment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

\*\*\* Your enthusiasm helps you new friend. cross the thin line between impossible and possible. Often, others watch your antics in amazement. If you choose to take a risk, be aware of the potential damages. Feelings flow between you and another person. Tonight: Face the facts: You cannot do everything and be everywhere.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Stay centered and know exactly what you are doing. Listen to someone's rendition of events. Remember that whatever people inadvertently choose to see could vary, and they might not even be conscious of their mental filters. Tonight: Buy a favorite treat on the way home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

\*\*\*\* You communicate the essence of your thoughts without difficulty. Others enjoy the special touches of your style as well. A discussion involving a primary personal issue is well-timed. Check into a real estate matter with care. Tonight: Speak your mind.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

\*\*\* Remain sensitive to a change in an offer that has been presented to you in the past. This could make quite a difference in the overall experience and its results. Explore your options as you express your gratitude. A determined friend pushes very hard to get his or her way. Tonight: Indulge a little

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

\*\*\* You have the energy and wherewithal to nail down a situation to your liking. Others appreciate you including them, yet a respected individual could push too hard to have you follow his or her way of doing things. Communication soars. To-

night: Wish upon a star. It could work. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

\*\*\* Much is going on beyond the obvious. You sense this fact and pull back. Your decision shows an innate wisdom, and in the long run, it will help. Zero in on your observation skills. Detach as much as possible. Tonight: Take some much-needed personal time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

\*\*\* A meeting makes you more aware of a potential goal. Is this goal realistic? Conversations point to many different opinions. You discover that someone has a more direct path to the same end. Together, you will make quite the team. Tonight: With friends, perhaps making a

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

\*\* Someone's leadership might be OK with you but not with another person you care a lot about. You could be between a rock and a hard place. You probably need to focus on your goals and priorities. At that point, you will know what to do. Tonight: Could be late.

Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits

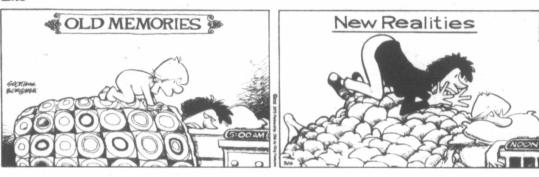
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Garfield



**Beetle Bailey** 

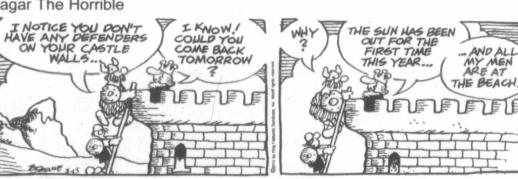


Marvin





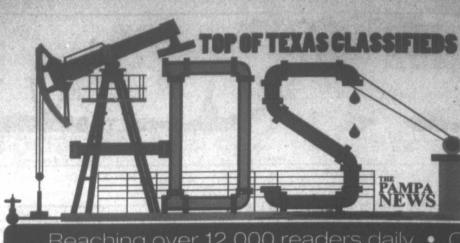
Hagar The Horrible





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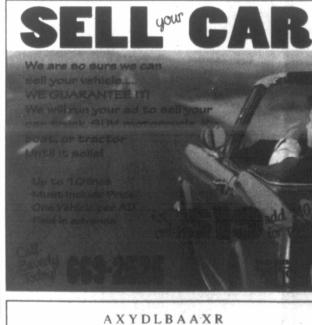
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### is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

CRYPTOQUOTE

FEL FMAL ZMVV IYAL ZELS

ZMSFLG ZMVV. UXJ BYP ZEUF

ZLGL KYMST UVV

XPAALG. ELSGB IVUB Yesterday's Cryptoquote: NO MAN IS AN ISLAND, ENTIRE OF ITSELF; EVERY MAN IS A PIECE OF THE CONTINENT. — JOHN DONNE

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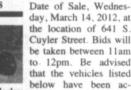
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### Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

Standing My Ground in New Jersey" (Jan. 9), I had decided at a young age I had no interest in changing my last name if I were ever to be married. For me, the decision had nothing to do with an established career or a fear of losing myself. I simply never

waw the point. Would you believe that I fell in love with and married man who asked me how I felt about him taking MY last name? When he first mentioned the idea, I told him that he should think it through because a name change shouldn't be taken lightly. Like "Standing," my husband also had no father figure. He's happy to now have a last name that finally "means something" to him. — ERIN IN EL CAJON, CALIF.

DEAR ERIN: That column produced a wide variety of responses from both men and women. However, most of my readers agree that "Standing" and her fiance have an important decision to make, and they should both step back and examine the options togeth-

er. Their comments: DEAR ABBY: Most women around the world retain their names after marriage, and children take their mother's name as their middle name and their father's name as their last. It's only in English-speaking countries that the tradition exists for women to take their husband's last name. It originated from the time when wives were considered property. - JANE IN

FRANKLIN, TENN. DEAR ABBY: The decision to keep or change one's name is a personal one. In my experience as a judge, I often see women ask for their maiden name to be restored to them upon a divorce. I also saw one dase in which the husband in the divorce requested that his former name be restored to him. That couple had used the

vife's name as their family

Like name when they married.

to postpone the decision until both of them have discussed the issue more fully. How ture. - JUDGE TONYA IN **FLORIDA** 

DEAR By MAINE ABBY: "Standing" not changing her name, which is the cultural norm in this country, she will create years of confusion, children. Her husband will SOUTHWEST

ing your ground; it's about IN GRANBURY, TEXAS meeting in the middle ground.

Not once in her letter did she I agree with your response make a reference to the fact that what she and her fiance are doing is forming a new family of their own. I kept my they handle this decision will maiden name and hyphenforetell how they will handle ated it, but was proud that my other decisions in the fu- husband, children and I ALL created the "Smith" family. SUSAN IN PORTLAND,

DEAR ABBY: I was happy to change my name when I married the first time because I had little connection to my hassle, constant explanations father's family. As the marand identity issues for her, riage progressed, I felt a loss her husband and her future of personal identity. After the divorce, I adopted my grandalso feel a sense of disconnect father's name. Abby, the that is hard for her to under- name change was also lifestand. - PATRICIA IN THE changing. I gained an identity and a legacy to continue. DEAR ABBY: "Stand- I think the name issue is as ing" seems to miss the prima- much about the insecurity of ry point about entering into a the man as the independence marriage. It's not about stand- of the woman. — DR. BETH

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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## By THOMAS JOSEPH

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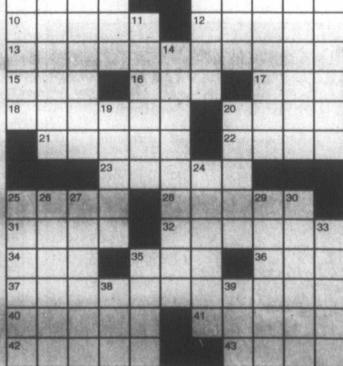
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## Health program losing funds, clinics due to new state law

FORT WORTH (AP) — Delia Henry was tired but had no idea her blood sugar was high when she went to Planned Parenthood for her annual gynecological exam. The clinic referred her to a doctor, who diagnosed her with diabetes.

The 31-year-old nursing student said she would have skipped the exam since she has no insurance, but she had just signed up for Texas' Women's Health Program, which provides cancer screenings, contraceptives and basic health care to about 130,000 low-income women through Medicaid.

But under a state law taking effect Wednesday, Henry and other eligible women won't be able to get care at Planned Parenthood clinics — which treat about 44 percent of the program's patients — or other facilities with ties to abortion providers, meaning those women will have to find new health-care providers.

The \$40 million program is at the center of a faceoff between conservative Republican lawmakers and the federal government, which provides 90 percent of the program's funding. Although Texas already forbids tax-payer money from going to organizations that provide abortions, the law will cut off clinics with any affiliation to a provider, even if it's just a shared name, employee or board member.

"The program is vital. But now when women call another clinic and are told they have to wait to get an appointment, it will deter them from going and will be detrimental to their health," said Henry, of Austin, who credits the program with saving her life. "It infuriates me what the lawmakers are doing. You have to question: Do they really care?"

The nonpartisan Center for Public Policy Priorities, which works to alleviate poverty, said poor women would have difficulty finding new doctors who participate in the program. Doctors and clinics must be qualified Medicaid providers and enrolled in organizations that manage the program.

Plus, more than a dozen facilities that provided health care to poor women recently closed because of budget cuts. Lawmakers last year slashed state funding for women's health and family planning programs by \$73.6 million, cutting services to 160,000 women. They also took \$10 million out of a another family planning budget line and shifted responsibility for providing those services onto the managed care organizations that administer Medicaid in Texas.

That means clinics run by local hospitals have already seen an increase in patients. Those health clinics, including nine run by Parkland Hospital in Dallas, expect to be even more crowded after next week.

"As more clinics close, more patients come to Parkland requesting services," said Paula Turicchi, the hospital's senior vice president for women and infants specialty health. "And we will have to weigh what services we can continue to provide."

Gov. Rick Perry pledged last week to find state money to keep the program afloat, but he hasn't offered specifics. U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius said Friday that the federal funding would be phased out this year because the Texas law violates federal Medicaid regulations requiring that women be

"In years past," he said, "to be eligible for induction into the Hall of Honor, the nominee needed to meet one of four criteria: Born here in the 26-county Texas Panhandle, raised here, went into service while iving here or served at the Pampa Army

Air Field during WWII. Because of the interest in

this program, the board of directors has elected to expand eligibility to include those individuals sta-

tioned in the 26 counties during their service; any individual who moved to the Panhandle after being

discharged and made significant contributions in or to the military services; and individuals who served

in the Merchant Marine, Coast Guard or civilians

such as those who fought beside the marines at

Nominations, Tripplehorn said, should include a

short biographical narative, including the branch of

the military in which the nominee served, the awards

the nominee received (and, if possible, a copy of the

citations that accompanied them) and any media

cont. from page 1

Hall

hall's eligibility requirements.

Wake Island in WWII.

allowed to choose a qualified health-care provider. Perry disputes that claim, saying Medicaid rules give states the right to determine which clinics are qualified.

His administration said it would go into a deeper deficit to keep the program running. But that doesn't prevent the law from creating at least a temporary shortage of health-care clinics.

"No one should think this solution is adequate," the Center for Public Policy Priorities said of the governor's plan.

Texas is among several states where Republicancontrolled legislatures have voted to cut off Planned Parenthood's funding. Wisconsin has withheld funding for family planning and breast cancer screenings. Lawmakers in Indiana and Kansas voted to bar Planned Parenthood from receiving Medicaid or other federal funding, but judges blocked the laws. North Carolina's Legislature voted to withhold state and federal money for non-abortion services, such as contraception and teen pregnancy programs, but a judge blocked that law, too.

In Texas, supporters of the law taking effect Wednesday argue that it will keep taxpayer money out of organizations that support abortion, which they believe should be banned in the state.

Planned Parenthood issued a statement saying that if Perry had found state funding to support women's health, he should "immediately restore the \$73 million for breast and cervical cancer screenings, HIV tests, birth control and health screenings that was eliminated." The organization kicked off a "Don't Mess with Texas

Women" bus tour last week to raise awareness and has not said if it is considering a lawsuit to block the Texas law.

Patients caught in the middle are clearly frustrated.
Alexis Lohse, 31, of Fort Worth, said she lost her health insurance when she quit her job to return to college and was about to enroll in the Women's Health Program before hearing about the impending loss of federal funds.

"I'm working hard every day raising two kids and taking classes at night while my husband works two parttime jobs ... and (our financial situation) is a balancing act," she said. "It's frustrating that my choices are being limited."

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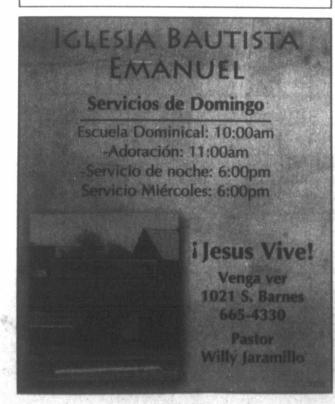
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clippings of the nominee's service. Tripplehorn also encouraged the inclusion of any of the nominee's work in his or ber community after military service. Nominations should be sent to Panhandle Veterans Hall of Honor c/o John Tripplehorn, Freedom Museum U.S.A., 600 N. Hobart, Pampa TX 79065. The 2012 banguet will be held on Saturday Aug.

The 2012 banquet will be held on Saturday, Aug. 18, at VFW Post 1657 in downtown Pampa.

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# Sports

## Texas may surprise; Tar Heels will take the trophy

Over the last two NCAA Tournaments, we have seen the bracket get turned upside down by mid-majors making runs like Butler and Virginia Commonwealth. That's what makes March Madness something to look forward to. Everyone wonders what are the big upsets and if lower seed will make a run.

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I've shared my projections the past couple years and this year is no different, so if you are sitting at your kitchen table staring at your bracket, then I have a couple of suggestions on where you should go.

To begin, I would like to talk about which number one seed I think is overrated. Now this might surprise some people but I have to take Syracuse here. Yes, they have only lost two games, but as we've seen in the tournament, regular season doesn't mean much. In the last five tour-



ANDREW

naments, the Orange haven't advanced past the Sweet 16.

Looking at their bracket, Syracuse doesn't have an easy game past the first round. Kansas State looks to be its third round opponent, and Wildcats have three victories against top ten teams, including a sweep of Missouri.

In the Sweet 16, they can face Wisconsin, which has made the Sweet 16 just about every tournament. The Orange could run the table, but it won't be easy.

Honestly this season, I don't see a lower seed advancing as far as Butler or North

Carolina. The one team I think could cause brackets to be ripped up is the Texas Longhorns, who are the 11th seed in the East Region. The Longhorns were once a basketball powerhouse but are still a good team. Texas had four games against Top Ten teams where they were within five points. Cincinnati is a good team but inconsistent at times. It opened conference with wins against Georgetown and UConn. but went on a three-game losing streak after that. If the Longhorns can control the pace, they will have a good chance. The key to Texas' success will be having consistent scorers support guards J'Covan Brown and Sheldon McClellan.

The last three national championships have had traditional powerhouses win it all. This year will be no different as the Tar Heels of North Carolina will cut the nets. The Tar Heels have been one of the most dominating teams in the past decade advancing to at least the Elite 8 in four of the last five seasons. North Carolina is led by forward Harrison Barnes, who can score both inside and outside, forward Tyler Zeller, who is the second leading rebounder, and leading rebounder John Henson. North Carolina has handled prime-time competition well as it's 3-2 against ranked opponents. The Tar Heels have a pretty good bracket as most of the teams have limited NCAA experience. I see North Carolina topping Michigan State for the title.

Andrew Glover is The Pampa News sports reporter. He can be reached online at aglover@ thepampanews.com

## More images from the boys and girls track teams' meet





staff photos by Andrew Glover

<u>LEFT:</u> Senior Reid Miller leaps over the final hurdle in the 110-meter hurdles Friday at Panther Stadium. Miller finished 14th. <u>RIGHT:</u> Senior Daniel Hulsey sprints to the finish in the 100-meter dash. Hulsey also competed in the 300-meter hurdles. The Harvesters finished in a tie for fourth with Dalhart.

## Longhorns reach NCAA tournament for 14th straight year

AUSTIN (AP) — For coach Rick Barnes and the Texas Longhorns, 20 was indeed enough to keep their NCAA tournament streak going.

The Longhorns (20-13) earned their 14th consecutive NCAA tournament berth Sunday, a school record that includes every season since Barnes became their coach.

"I don't know that it was a relief," Barnes said. "I felt like we were in, but you never know."

Texas is the No. 11 seed with an atlarge berth in the East Region and plays Cincinnati (24-10) of the Big East on Friday in Nashville, Tenn.

"I was excited when Texas got in," Kansas coach Bill Self said. "Even our players clapped when Texas got in. I thought that was great. They deserve to

Six Big 12 teams made the NCAA tournament. The Longhorns were 9-9 in Big 12 play during the regular season.

Texas reached 20 wins for the 13th consecutive season with a 71-65 win over Iowa State, another NCAA team, in the Big 12 tournament Thursday night. That likely solidified getting the Longhorns into the NCAA tournament before they lost to league tournament champ Missouri in the semifinals the

"We were on the bubble a lot this year, and just seeing all the names that went before us, we got kind of shaky until they finally called our name," said junior J'Covan Brown, the Big 12 scoring leader at 20.1 points a game. "That's when the weight came off our shoulder."

The Longhorns began this season having to replace all five starters

ing to replace all five starters.

"I just told them from where we started, they earned it," Barnes said. "They had to do it the hard way."

During halftime of the Iowa State game when his team was struggling, Barnes told the players they had to make

a choice with their play whether they wanted to go to another NCAA or the NIT instead.

The 14 consecutive NCAA tournament appearances tie for the fourth most behind Kansas (23), Duke (17) and Michigan State (15). Gonzaga and Wisconsin also have 14 in a row. But Texas has failed to advance beyond the first weekend of the tournament four of the last five years, including the last three.

In last year's NCAA tournament, Texas held on for an 85-81 opening victory over Oakland before a 70-69 loss to Arizona when the Wildcats completed a three-point play in the final 10 seconds.

## Spurs guard, former Longhorn Ford retiring due to injuries

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — San Antonio Spurs guard T.J. Ford is retiring, effective immediately, after a series of neck and spine injuries during eight years in

the NBA.

The 28-year-old Ford announced his decision Monday on Twitter.

"Basketball has been great to me & my family for 28yrs," he wrote. "It's official "I Retire from the NBA" as of today."

Ford released a statement through the team that referred to the injuries, the most

recent a "stinger" he suffered on March 7 in a game against New York.

"While this was a tough decision to make, it is what is best for me and my family at this time," Ford said. "Regardless of what the future holds, I will carry the experiences, the friendships

and the memories with me forever."

Ford joined the Spurs on Dec. 10, and appeared in 14 games, averaging 3.6 points, 3.2 assists and 1.3 rebounds in

13.6 minutes.

Coach Gregg Popovich said the team enjoyed having Ford this season.

"I congratulate him on all that he has achieved as a player and fully support the difficult decision he was forced to make,"

Ford, a college star at Texas, was the eighth overall pick by Milwaukee in 2003. Halfway through his rookie season, he suffered a spinal injury and surgery forced him to miss the entire 2004-05 season.

He played for the Bucks, Toronto and Indiana before joining the Spurs. For his career, Ford played in 429 games, averaging 11.2 points, 5.8 assists, 3.1 rebounds and 1.16 steals 27.7 minutes per game.

In two years for the Longhorns, Ford averaged 12.9 points and 8.8 assists per game and was both the Naismith and Wooden Player of the Year Award winner in his sophomore year.





staff photo by Mollie Bryant

Thelma Bray, Nora Guthrie, daughter of Woody Guthrie, and Mike Sinks on stage during the Arlo Guthrie concert, as Bob Santelli, Executive Director of the Grammy Museum in Los Angeles, (unpictured) present a Woody Guthrie plaque to Bray

### Guthrie

accomplished the next best thing. The intersection of Craven and Russell now is topped with a sign that reads "Woody Guthrie Memorial Road." Next to it is a second sign worked up by the folk center, which reads "Woody Guthrie Memorial Road" on one side and "This Land is

Your Land" on the other In 1995, a heated public hearing on renaming two blocks of South Russell caused the issue to be shelved for years. Pampans expressed concerns about Guthrie's religious and political views, while those involved with the folk center claimed that the musician is a part of American and Pampa history.

In January, Thelma Bray of the folk center spoke at a city commission meeting once again, requesting to rename the street. Rather than bring the matter to a vote of the commission, the city reached the compromise with Bray and the folk center to place a memorial road sign above the existing one.

"The city did not approve renaming the street, because there were some objections, but they approved a 'Woody Guthrie Memorial Road' sign," Bray said. "It's in a historical location where Woody Guthrie and (his wife) Mary

"It's where Woody could have walked across the street to the Harris Drug Store, she added. "To the south is Highway 60 and to the north are the rails, where he would have been tempted to head out."

The sign makes more concrete a 'Guthrie neighborhood" of sorts, starting with the Harris Drug Store on Cuyler. where Guthrie worked as a young man and where the folk center is currently located

Following the city commission meeting in January, the city said it received several calls from citizens concerned about the change

We don't have a habit of renaming streets and parks, because it creates trouble from time to time," said Richard

Morris, city manager. He added that people voiced concerns that Guthrie left his family in Pampa and

that he was a communist. There was some opposition to renaming the street, because of the kind of life cont. from page 1

Woody Guthrie led," said Morris. Mike Sinks, president of the folk center board, was happy that the group nonetheless reached a compromise with the city.

'We couldn't do what we wanted to do, but I'm happy with it," he said. "It'll be another thing to show visitors who come through, looking for the place where Woody lived.'

"In 1995, we did try to get his name on the street, and we weren't able to, because of some (opposition)," said Bray. "But at this point, we had to do something. It's a relief to work with the city and to have the sign up.

Sinks described the outcry against naming the street as a combination of misinformation and misunderstanding

The fact that (Guthrie) is still controversial shows what an important figure he really was," he said. "He was someone who wrote a song that is pretty much a national anthem, who served in the military and wrote songs for the war effort. How anybody could think he wasn't a patriot, I don't see, but everyone has a right to their opinion.

In addition to the street signs, during the Arlo Guthrie concert on Sunday, Bob Santelli, Executive Director of the Grammy Museum in Los Angeles, along with Nora Guthrie, daughter of Woody Guthrie, presented Bray with a plaque that describes Woody Guthrie's historical ties to Pampa.

'It's really nice, and I liked the way they presented it to Thelma," said Sinks. "It showed Pampa that they appreciate what we've done to keep Woody's legacy alive, and Thelma deserves credit for that. The center probably wouldn't be around without her.

Bray said that she was proud of the plaque, which will most likely later be mounted on the front of the folk center.

It's unbelievable," she said. "It's a real honor. We're proud to be part of the overall Woody Guthrie centennial celebration, and of the fact that Pampa is in the middle of it all.

This year marks 100 years since Woody Guthrie's birth, and throughout 2012, cities across the country are celebrating the musician's enduring imprint on folk music and American history.

## **MUSIC LESSON**



photo courtesy of Charla Shults

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Austin Elementary student Bailey Knutson carries a special message during the song "Generation Love" at the Pampa Independent School District's 2012 Fifth Grade Spring Concert last week.



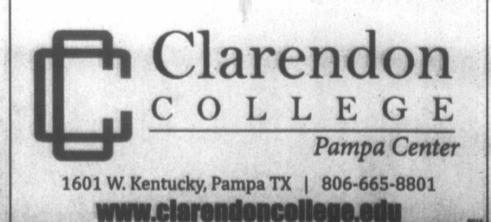
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### **Attorney**

Republican Party chair, and Josh Seabourn, current Gray County attorney and Hall's opposition had he stayed in the race.

Ware said that Hall with-

March 7, with Seabourn adding that the county judge's office called him on Monday to inform him of Hall's withdrawal. The

drew his candidacy on move leaves Seabourn unopposed for the county attorney position in the May 29 primary.

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Hall could not be reached on Monday for comment.





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