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Vol. 98 No. 576 • Pampa, Texas
 50 cents Daily • Sunday \$1



WEATHER WEATHER

HIGH 44 **LOW** 25

STATE
Search planned through weekend

BURLESON (AP) — Volunteers spread out over parts of Tarrant and Johnson counties Friday to search for a girl who disappeared nearly four years ago.

Six-year-old Opal Jennings was playing at her grandmother's home in Saginaw when she turned up missing in March 1999. But tips have prompted the nonprofit Houston-based search organization Texas EquuSearch to organize the effort with up to 1,000 volunteers.

Jennings family members have said they have little hope of finding the girl alive.

Convicted child molester Ricky Lee Franks of Fort Worth was found guilty in 2000 of aggravated kidnapping with intent to sexually abuse Jennings. He's serving a life prison term and says he doesn't know what happened to the child.

"Is it probable that we will find her? No. Is it possible? I'd say, yes, it's very possible." Dana Ames, an EquuSearch administrator, said in Friday's editions of the Fort Worth-Star Telegram.

DEATHS
 No deaths were reported to The Pampa News by press time today.

INSIDE...
 Classified9
 Comics6
 Religion5
 Sports7

WEST TEXAS LANDSCAPE
 It's Tree Planting Season ...
 120 S. Hobart
 669-0158

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City commission OKs late penalty

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 EDITOR

City Commissioner Faustina Curry's plea for compassion Thursday night didn't keep an ordinance raising utility reconnection fees and late penalties from passing, but her words apparently encouraged her fellow commissioners to take another look at the city's utility payment structure.

In a 3-2 vote, Pampa City Commission, meeting in regular session at City Hall,

approved final reading of a city ordinance that raises penalty fees for late utility payments to 10 percent, raises fees for reconnection of discontinued services and raises returned check fees.

Curry and Commissioner Jeff McCormick voted against the ordinance, while Mayor Lonny Robbins, and Commissioners Bob Dixon and Jeff Andrews voted in favor.

"I don't think people should take advantage of us, but I

don't think we should take advantage of them either," Curry said. "I think we're penalizing the wrong people."

"It's just another burden I don't think is necessary for us to do," McCormick commented.

"I'd like to see more flexibility for (utility customers)," Andrews said. "I think we should look at the overall policy."

Dixon said, "I think people should be able to set the date they pay their bill."

Shaking his head and chuckling, Robbins said to Curry, "I appreciate your tenacity."

After the ordinance passed, the mayor added, "I do think we need to get on this and build flexibility in."

Police Chief Trevlyn Pitner presented Pampa Police Department's 2002 racial profiling report at the meeting, saying he was happy with the results of the report.

"No red flags pop up," he said. "We're doing everything

right by the law."

Pitner said information from this report, required by SB 1074 passed in September 2001, provides base data - a starting point.

"It's a tool for me to watch," he said. "It doesn't really tell us anything, but in three or four years, we may be able to identify a trend."

According to the report, Pampa PD traffic stops, citations, warnings, arrests and

(See COMMISSION, Page 3)

Volunteers mentor elementary students



(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)

Cory Perkins, left, and Charles Benavidez, right, look forward to seeing their HOSTS mentor Marge Holland each week.

By NANCY YOUNG
 MANAGING EDITOR

Math can be fun. Young students in Pampa are learning from local volunteers just how much fun they can have seeking to master the subject.

Helping One Student To Succeed. That is not only the name of the program in the Woodrow Wilson Elementary School, but it is also the sentiment of the volunteers who are helping students to succeed in

math as many believe the future of Pampa and the world lies in educating all children.

HOSTS is a program in which volunteers provide individual attention to students as they help to strengthen the students' math skills.

In its eighth year at Woodrow Wilson, HOSTS has approximately 70 volunteers who mentor the students. Some of the volunteers are retired. Others work full-time

while still others are high school students who also provide positive role models for the young students to emulate.

By providing an extra 30 minutes a week to children for 30 weeks, a mentor is giving an additional 15 hours of individual attention which the student wouldn't otherwise receive.

Not only do the students receive additional training in math, but they often make life long friends.

Anxious to see their mentors each week, several fifth graders excitedly rushed into the familiar classroom recently to greet them. The youngsters are frequently eager to share happenings in their world with the people who have become their newfound friends as they work with them in math.

The students, ranging from second graders to fifth graders, look forward to the 30 minutes they spend with their mentor each week. But the adults and high schoolers also are eager to see their young friends.

"I try to make an impression upon them," said Jack Reeve, who is retired. He has been

volunteering in the program for four years.

As one young student anxiously began telling Reeve about his current activities on a recent day, the respect he had for the volunteer mentor was visible. Not only is the youngster learning math, but he was patterning his behavior after Reeve.

Texas has over 260 schools involved in the HOSTS program, with several of those participating schools in the

Texas Panhandle

Volunteers spend from 30 minutes a week to an entire day, or more, volunteering with the HOSTS program, according to Teresa Dyson, director of the program at Woodrow Wilson.

"Mentors don't necessarily have the time," said Dyson, "they just have a big heart."

Dyson said the goal of the program is acceleration of

(See HOSTS, Page 3)



(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)

Jesse Cruz looks forward to meeting with his mentor, Susan Dunigan, each week in the HOSTS program.

Proposed hunting, fishing changes to be addressed in public hearings

DUMAS - The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department announces the following dates for public hearings. Hearings will address proposed changes to the proclamation for hunting and fishing.

- March 4 - Canadian, Hemphill County, District Court Building, 400 Main.
- March 6 - Dumas, Moore County, Moore County Annex, 310 E. 1st.
- March 11 - Amarillo, Potter County, Sante Fe Building, 1st Floor, 900 S. Polk.

Following are the proposed changes for pheasants and lesser prairie chickens:

Pheasants
 Proposal: (received via petition for rulemaking) Stated purpose is to provide more hunting opportunities in the Texas Panhandle without having a negative impact on the pheasant population. Current regulations provide for a 16-day pheasant season in 37 Panhandle counties, with a daily bag limit of three cock pheasants. The proposed amendment would implement a 30-day season and reduce the bag to two cocks.

(See HUNTING, Page 3)

Grant funds community network

Pampa Independent School District and Centramedia Online Services have announced the award of a \$250,000 Community Network grant by the Texas Infrastructure Fund.

The grant will fund implementation of a wireless Internet network to provide free high-speed Internet access for members of the community who might not otherwise have such access, according to Lee Carter, PISD technical director.

Centramedia will furnish an encrypted wireless signal from its towers and install a total of 34 wireless-ready computer systems at six locations throughout the city.

Organizations slated to host

the systems are Pampa Senior Citizens Center, Southside Senior Citizens Center, City Hall, Gray County Court House, Lovett Memorial Library and Pampa Regional Medical Center.

Only nonprofit organizations affiliated with the city are eligible to receive the systems, which will be dedicated to Internet access and will not be used for city business. The systems may be used to access the Internet at no charge and without appointment on a first-come-first-serve basis by any member of the community during the normal operating hours of the hosting facility. In some cases, special kiosks will be set up in public hallways to provide ease of access.

Acceptable usage guidelines will be enforced at all locations.

Carter, who serves as the grant's project director, said another important part of the program will be a web site portal intended to publish information about the project and the community at large.

Content for the site - www.graycounty.net - will be developed by members of the Pampa High School Webmaster 11 class under faculty supervision. Various civic organizations, as well as area business, will be encouraged to participate in this aspect of the project.

Carter also plans to implement Internet training classes

(See GRANT, Page 3)

Sources: Iraq will begin destroying missiles Saturday

By BASSEM MROUE
 ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iraq will begin destroying its Al Samoud 2 missiles on Saturday, the deadline imposed by chief U.N. weapons inspector Hans Blix, Iraqi sources said Friday.

The agreement came despite Iraqi complaints about Blix's order, which says the

missiles must be blown up, crushed, cut into pieces or otherwise destroyed. He issued the directive after finding the missiles exceed the 93-mile-range limit imposed by the U.N. Security Council at the end of the 1991 Gulf War.

Iraq maintains some of the missiles overshoot the limit because they were tested without warheads or guidance systems. In a letter to Blix on

Thursday, Saddam Hussein's scientific adviser, Lt. Gen. Amer al-Saadi, said the order was unjust.

"The decision to destroy (the missiles) was unjust and did not take into consideration the scientific facts regarding the issue," he wrote. "The timing of this request seems to us to be one with political aims."

Al-Saadi said he agreed "in principle" to destroy the mis-

siles. The sources in Baghdad provided the first word that Iraq would comply by the Saturday deadline.

At U.N. headquarters in New York, Blix told reporters Friday he had asked al-Saadi to clarify Iraq's stance. Still, he said the destruction of the missiles was "a very significant piece of real disarmament."

"They say they accepted in principle, and it is to start

tomorrow, so maybe tomorrow evening or Sunday we will have more to say," he said.

U.N. inspectors now estimate Iraq has between 100 and 120 of the missiles, according to diplomatic sources.

The United States dismissed the Iraqi decision. "This is the deception the president predicted," White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said.

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ON RECORD

POLICE

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents.

Thursday, Feb. 27

Theft of two 12-packs of beer was reported at a convenience store in the 100 block of West Browning. Estimate of loss was \$17.78.

A telephone scam involving an international lottery was reported to the police department.

A forgery report was taken at the police department. The incident reportedly occurred in the 1400 block of North Hobart.

An assault with minor injuries was reported

in the 400 block of South Hughes.

Theft from a residence in the 300 block of Tignor was reported. Rolls of coins and a safe were reported taken. Estimate of loss was between \$100 and \$300, according to the police report.

Friday, Feb. 28

Harassment was reported in the 1100 block of East Francis.

An unauthorized use of a motor vehicle report was received in the 500 block of North Zimmers. A 1990 white Cutlass Supreme was reported taken.

AMBULANCE

Rural/Metro Ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Thursday, Feb. 27

7:44 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Gray 2 and Highway 60 on a motor vehicle accident; one patient was transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

8 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of South Russell; one patient was transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center (PRMC).

8:40 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Gray 2 and Highway 60 on a motor vehicle accident; two patients were transported to PRMC.

11:53 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC; one patient was transported to Veterans Administration Medical Center in Amarillo.

3:05 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the Jordan Unit; one patient was transported to PRMC.

3:59 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC; one patient was transported to Baptist-St. Anthony's West in Amarillo.

9:41 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 500 block of South Reid; one patient was transported to PRMC.

Friday, Feb. 28

5:53 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Highway 60, five miles east of town; one patient was transported to PRMC.

CORRECTION

An incorrect address on Dale Rasmussen was listed in Thursday's police report. The correct address is 1101 Garland.

STOCKS

The following grain quotations are provided by Aletary Grain of Pampa.

Wheat	3.17	Halliburton	20.05	+0.08
Milo	3.75	Triad Hospitals	26.30	+0.15
Corn	4.29	NOI	22.80	+0.18
Soybeans	5.02	KMI	45.65	-0.15
		XCEL	11.17	+0.01
		Kerr McGee	41.36	+0.55
		Limited	11.74	+0.48
		Williams	3.94	+0.09
		McDonalds	13.58	+0.33
		Exxon Mobil	34.35	+0.37
		Atmos	21.61	+0.04
		Pioneer Nat	26.31	+0.29
		Penney's	20.01	+0.28
		COP	51.16	+0.46
		Schlumberger	41.59	+0.73
		Teneco	2.18	-0.01
		CVX	64.49	+0.33
		Wal-Mart	48.53	+0.37
		OKE	16.74	-0.06
		NS Group	8.30	+0.05

The following show prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation:

Occidental	29.84	+0.46
Fidelity Magell	NA	
Puritan	NA	

The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.

BP	37.76	-0.61
Celanese	19.47	-0.38
Cabot Corp.	21.99	-0.01
Cabot Oil Gas	24.49	+0.46
Coca Cola	40.46	+0.20
VLO	38.91	-0.09
New York Gold	345.45	
Silver	4.57	
West Texas Crude	37.20	

FIRE

Pampa Fire Department responded to the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Thursday, Feb. 27

7:26 a.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a gas odor at the Allsup's at Alcock and Price Road. Firefighters found natural gas leaking from a heater on the roof.

8:44 a.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a one vehicle roll-over with two injuries five miles west of Pampa.

12:49 p.m. — Eight firefighters in three units presented a fire prevention program at a health fair at M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium.

3:22 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 1600 block of Turtle Creek.

Friday, Feb. 28

1:51 a.m. — Two units and six firefighters responded to a reported structure fire in the 1100 block of South Christy. The fire was limited to a cooking stove. No smoke or fire damage was reported.

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

Today's forecast is calling for cloudy skies, a 20 percent chance of rain and snow, highs in the mid 40s and southeast winds 5 to 15 mph. Tonight should be mostly cloudy with lows in the mid 20s and northeast winds 5 to 15 mph. Saturday should be mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s. Light winds. Saturday night, mostly cloudy. Slight chance of snow. Lows in the mid 20s. Northeast winds 5 to 15 mph. Chance of snow 20 percent. Sunday, cloudy. Chance of snow. Highs in the mid 30s.

Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph. Chance of snow 30 percent. Sunday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 20s. Monday, partly cloudy. Warmer. Highs in the mid 50s. Monday night, clear. Lows in the lower 30s. Tuesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s. Tuesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s. Wednesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s. Wednesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. Thursday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s.

STATEWIDE

Most of the state will be cloudy and warm this weekend, with a chance of rain Sunday and Monday.

The Panhandle will see a chance of rain and snow today and again Sunday before a warmup begins.

Areas of heavy fog this morning in West Texas should burn off by midmorning.

Temperature extremes Thursday in Texas cities ranged from 70 degrees at Junction to an overnight low of 27 degrees at Dalhart.

In West Texas today, it will be cloudy with highs ranging from the 30s and 40s in the Panhandle, 40s to 60s in the South Plains, and 60s elsewhere. These temperatures should be the norm until Monday when a warmup

begins and the entire region sees temperatures in the 60s and 70s.

The northern Panhandle should see areas of light snow and rain today, but any accumulations should remain below one inch. On Saturday, skies will clear somewhat, with no precipitation in the forecast.

On Sunday, a front should bring colder temperatures over the region, from the 30s north to near 60 south and west, and the Panhandle should see some areas of snow, with accumulations of two inches possible. Monday and Tuesday should be warmer and dry. By Tuesday temperatures should reach the 60s in the Panhandle, 60s to lower 70s elsewhere.

South Texas today and

Saturday should be dry, with highs in the 60s and 70s, and a slight chance of rain Saturday southeast. Saturday night through Monday morning the region will see varying chances for rain, with the best chances on Sunday in central and southeast areas. Temperatures will remain warm through early next week, but central South Texas will be cooler Monday, with highs in the 50s and 60s. North Texas will be cloudy through the weekend with highs mostly in the 50s. Saturday night through Monday a chance of rain is forecast over the region, with the best chances on Sunday. Temperatures should slowly warm up beginning Monday and skies should begin to clear.

Ex-Bosque County pastor pleads to child porn

WACO (AP) — The former pastor of a Central Texas church has pleaded guilty to federal charges of possessing and transmitting child pornography.

James Ray Jones, 56, faces up to five years in federal prison and a fine as high as \$250,000 after his guilty plea in Waco's federal court.

U.S. District Judge Walter S. Smith Jr. allowed the man to remain free or bond until his April 23 sentencing.

Jones was the pastor of the First United Methodist

Church of Clifton and an ordained minister since 1991.

His attorney, Rob Swanton, told the Waco Tribune-Herald for a story in Friday's editions that Jones has cooperated with federal investigators and acknowledged that what he did was wrong.

Jones was implicated in an FBI sting operation after he sent images of child pornography to an undercover FBI agent he met in an Internet chat room, federal officials said. FBI agents executed search warrants at the church

parsonage in Clifton and at Jones' church office in March 2002 and seized evidence of child pornography from Jones' computers.

Agents also discovered video clips of minors engaging in sexually explicit behavior in a directory titled "prayers" on Jones' church office computer, according to federal court records.

Jones told agents after they searched his office and home that he had been collecting and trading child pornography on the Internet since spring or summer 2001.

Jones also admitted that he entered Internet chat rooms and traded child pornography with "other individuals on many occasions," court records show. He told FBI agents that he committed the crime because of "curiosity without desire."

Carolyn Stephens, spokeswoman for the Central Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church, said Jones had taken a leave of absence from the ministry in April 2002, after his arrest. Stephens said he has since relinquished his ministerial credentials.

Border agent beaten to death in Mexico

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — An off-duty U.S. Border Patrol agent was beaten to death in Mexico this week after three Mexican men he befriended and drank with learned he was a federal agent, Mexican officials said.

Mexican officials told the Arizona Daily Star the body

of 23-year-old U.S. Border Patrol Agent Jorge Luis Salomon was found Wednesday near a small town about 40 miles south of the border, his head smashed repeatedly with heavy rocks.

Two men were in custody and three others were being sought Thursday by U.S. authorities, said Susan

Herskovits, an FBI spokeswoman in Phoenix. She told the Associated Press the FBI was assisting the investigation being led by Mexican state and federal police.

Mexican authorities had in their custody 18-year-old Francisco Javier Rosas Molina, and they continued to search for three others. The three men are Jose Arturo Arreola Lopez, 20, Jesus Cesar Abusto Villa Villareal and Edna Yardis Montoya Medina.

The Sonora state prosecutor in Cananea, Saul Ballesteros, said Salomon had apparently met Rosas Molina earlier this week near the border at Naco.

"He struck up a conversation and began a friendly relationship, giving him a ride and spending several hours drinking and talking with him and some of his companions," Ballesteros told the Star.

Salomon had told Rosas Molina that he was an agent, but later told the young man's companions he was a construction worker, Ballesteros said.

"That's when Rosas Molina identified him to the others as a Border Patrol agent, and that appears to be the reason that they killed him," said Ballesteros.

City Briefs

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

BACON & Pancakes, all trimmings, St. Matthew's Parish Hall, 727 W. Browning, Tues., Mar. 4th, 5-8 p.m. Tickets \$5, pre-school free.

FOR ALL your travel needs, call Complete Travel, 669-6110.

KNIGHTS OF Columbus Polish Sausage Dinner March 2, 11-3, 318 N. Cuyler. \$6 in advance and \$7 at the door. For tickets contact Jack Albracht @ 665-7161, 665-5745.

MEREDITH HOUSE has a 1 bedroom apartment avail, suitable for a couple, licensed assisted living. 665-5668.

PAMPA COUNTRY Club Buffet, open to public Sun. 11:30-1:30. Prime Rib, Deluxe Chicken. 669-3286 for reserv.

SALE WINTER Clothes Out. Great Bargains! Many items \$1 & up. Twice Is Nice

SMALL GIFT and Party Shop for sale in Pampa. For more info. call 806-662-7857.

SUNDAY EVENING, Mar. 2nd, 6 p.m., the Bible Church of Pampa, 300 W. Browning, will have a guest speaker from the "Christian Institute of the West College," in Amarillo, to share about their school.

COMM

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Pitner said the race is not spec the person who declines to make the person is in t

He said Pamp of racial profiling

City Manager discovered that city employees v mistake. After s sion agreed to pa of the benefits, \$16,830.68. The Social Security t

Commissione with the employe

Loralee Cool Brown Civic At missioners to no

She said the Inn have been years. The declin auditorium, she s down and plans i

HOSTS

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"It is very rev Betty Maxwell, volunteering fo "It's more than kids, but if we

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GRANT

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Internet connec Region 16 netw that connection Internet access fo will automaticall Centramedia's s such time as the mal connection is

The successful cation was writ Carter, former PI tentent Dr. Daw John Kiehl of the Regional Commission. The announced at a F board meeting Fet

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Counties Armstrong, Bailk Carson, Castro, Cochran, Coll Cottle, Crosby Deaf Smith, Do

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

COMMISSION

searches for 2002 fall within the racial make-up of the community. One racial category - "Other" - was listed as 1.6 percent of population, but made up 6 percent of traffic stops.

Pitner said this is a category for when the race is not specified on any identification of the person who was stopped and the officer declines to make a decision about what race the person is in the report.

He said Pampa PD received no complaints of racial profiling against officers during 2002.

City Manager Mitch Grant reported that he discovered that the retirement benefits for four city employees were not paid during 2002 by mistake. After some discussion, the commission agreed to pay the city and employees' part of the benefits, and the interest for a total of \$16,830.68. The employee will have to pay Social Security tax.

Commissioners instructed city staff to work with the employees in paying the tax.

Loralee Cooley, a member of the M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium Board, asked commissioners to not abolish the board.

She said the auditorium and the Coronado Inn have been closely related through the years. The decline of the hotel has affected the auditorium, she said. With the hotel being torn down and plans in the making for a new facil-

ity, she said she believes the board would be needed in the future.

After considering Cooley's comments, commissioners agreed to defer action on eliminating the board until they could study the matter further.

Commissioners unanimously voted to eliminate the Traffic Commission, with the provision suggested by Andrews that the Code of Ordinances be modified to specify how the traffic commission's responsibilities will be handled in the future.

Appointments to the Cable, Parks and Recreation, Hidden Hills Golf Course, and Lovett Memorial Library boards were deferred also.

The commission approved a resolution setting regulations for antenna use on city water towers and a lease form with the provision that an internal policy would be established setting aside \$1,200 of the first rent paid for necessary repairs.

A resolution authorizing the police department to seek a Criminal Justice Planning grant to fund a resource officer at the Pampa Middle School was also approved.

In other action Thursday, the commission approved first reading of an ordinance setting a \$3 fee for the Municipal Court Building Security Fund, and expenditures of \$429,335.59 for January.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

HOSTS

program is acceleration of knowledge in math. "Lessons are custom-tailored to each child," she said.

"It is very rewarding," said Betty Maxwell, who has been volunteering for six years. "It's more than just helping kids, but if we can help just

one it's worth it."

Susan Dunigan has been volunteering for seven years in the program. She said she enjoys seeing the students whom she has mentored years later. "They will just come up to you in stores and visit," she said. "Often, they keep in touch through the years."

Marge Holland has helped students in the program for

six years. "You really get attached to the kids," she said. "It is just so rewarding, and I love to keep up with the kids."

Anyone who would like to help students may contact Dyson at 669-4930 to obtain additional information about the HOSTS program. "We can always use volunteers," she said.

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

GRANT

for the general public beginning this summer.

Jim Sealy, general manager of Centramedia, said he expects to complete installation of the network next month. He pointed out that this discrete wireless network will also serve as a redundant backup for PISD's existing Internet connection to the Region 16 network. Should that connection go down, Internet access for city school will automatically switch to Centramedia's system until such time as the PISD's normal connection is restored.

The successful grant application was written by Lee Carter, former PISD superintendent Dr. Dawson Orr and John Kiehl of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission. The award was announced at a PISD school board meeting Feb. 20.

Choir musical



(Community Camera photo)

Pampa Middle School Choral Department will present the musical "Bugsy Malone" at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 28 and March 1 at the middle school auditorium. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$2 for students. Above: Maegan Patterson, Holly Owens, Brittanie Tambunga, Jade Skinner, Erika Silva, Angela Mechelay and Katie Holmes.

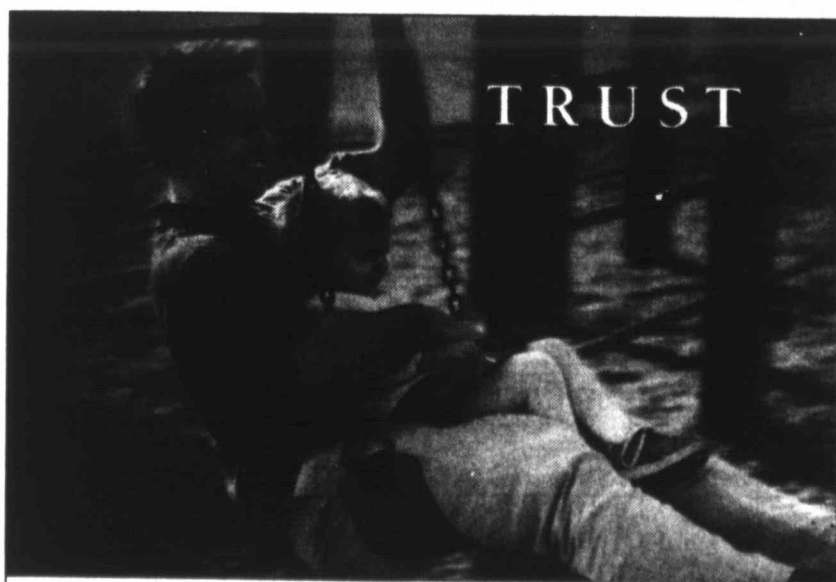
HUNTING

Counties affected: Armstrong, Bailey, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Cochran, Collingsworth, Cottle, Crosby, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Donley, Floyd,

Gray, Hale, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hockley, Hutchinson, Lamb, Lipscomb, Lubbock, Moore, Motley, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher, Wheeler, and Wilbarger

Lesser Prairie Chicken

Proposal: Current regulations provide for a lesser prairie chicken season in eight Panhandle counties. The proposed amendment closes the season in those counties.

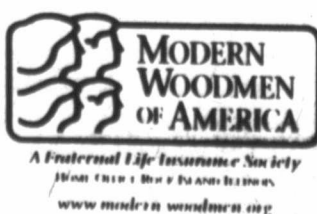


How can you protect your family and plan for the future? Many of your neighbors trust their Modern Woodmen representative for financial security with life insurance and annuities.

Shouldn't you? Let us earn your trust.



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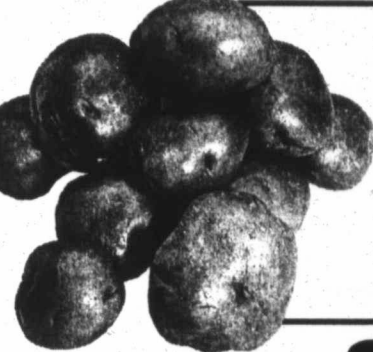
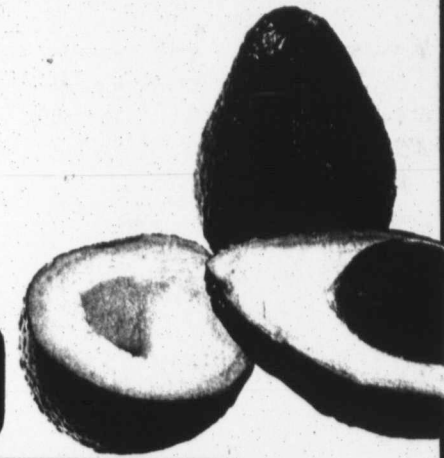


Sale Good

February 28 - March 3

AVOCADOES

4 Salad Size For \$1.00

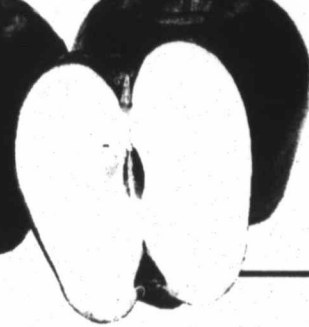
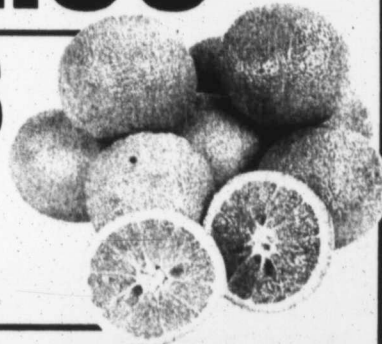


RED POTATOES

3 Lbs. \$1.00

NAVEL ORANGES

10 For \$1.00



RED DELICIOUS APPLES

Snack Size 59¢ Lb.

BUTTERBALL SLICED WHITE TURKEY

Asst. 1 Lb. Pack \$1.99



SANTITAS YELLOW TORTILLA CHIPS

2 18 Oz. Bags For \$3.00



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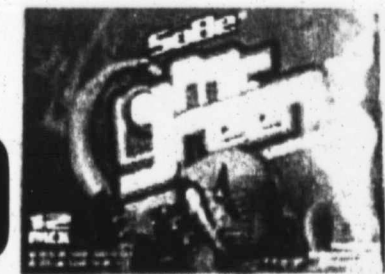


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Paul Nachtigall, Pastor.....1301 N. Banks
Hobart Baptist Church
Rev. Jim Powell.....1100 W. Crawford
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Rev. I.L. Patrick.....441 Elm. St.
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Pastor: Larry Perkins.....603 Commerce St.

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BELTON different app Whether it ing the new Hope for the ple at home a for 20 years. sharing the world," said O'Banion. "F Founded b 1982, the mi Christ's com O'Banion burdened by 40,000 child and under, di diseases. Knowing huge problen ever he coul O'Banion ca -working wit 1983. Those effo istry now do Haiti as well missionaries local childre "Our purp who Jesus is, meet physica istry and by foreign nation "The bes through their our primary
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RELIGION

Book gives light to stranded miners

"Take the book, Dad, please take the book," pleaded 11-year-old Maria. "You can read it tonight during your break."

"No, Maria, I don't have time. Where's my lunch?"

"On the kitchen table, Dad."

As he disappeared into the kitchen, Maria slipped the little book into her dad's coat pocket. Her dad, lunch in hand, picked up his coat, gave Maria a kiss, and walked out the door.

"Please, Lord Jesus," prayed Maria, "make Daddy read that book. I so want him to come to know You."

Two years earlier, Maria's mother had died. Alone, Maria took care of her dad, washing his clothes and cooking his meals. She liked school and studied hard, but her real joy was attending the little Protestant church nestled at the foot of the mountains in central Chile. There she had found real friends and comfort in her loneliness.



Minister's Musings

LELAND LEWIS
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Maria's real sorrow was her father. After her mother's death, he had turned more and more indifferent to the world around him. Nothing she could do seemed to pull him out of his stupor. And her efforts to take him to church had been futile. When a missionary came by with Christian books, Maria had a happy thought. Maybe Dad will read a book! After she explained her need, the missionary recommended one of the books, saying, "I think he might read this one."

All Maria could do now was pray and hope. Perhaps tonight her dad would find the book in his coat and read it.

The explosion at 1:10 a.m.

shook the mining town awake. Sirens started wailing. The townspeople rushed to the mine entrance, fear clutching their hearts. Of course, Maria was among them.

She watched apprehensively as a beehive of men desperately tore at the caved-in mine entrance, pulling out debris and shoveling out dirt to make a passageway for oxygen, and hopefully for any survivors. After what seemed like hours, there was a scream of joy. Some had survived! With other girls and mothers, Maria huddled at the entrance to watch the men come out. Her father was not among them!

The hours dragged by, on

and on into the next day. With each passing hour, hope faded. The missing men had been caught deep in the mine. Late in the second night they found them. One of the searchers described the scene:

"As we were digging deep in the mine well, the ground gave way suddenly. Once the dust had settled we saw the bodies. They were in a circle, all eight of them. One man had a small book in his hand and it was opened to the last page. With a piece of charcoal he had scratched out a message.

"My dearest little Maria, when you read this, I will be with your mother. Thank you for putting the little book in my coat pocket. I read it several times and all the men listened. I did what the book says and accepted Jesus as my Savior. I love you very much. One day we'll all be together in heaven. All my love, dearest Maria, and God bless you."

First Presbyterian observes 'Kirking of the Tartans'

First Presbyterian Church, 525 N. Gray, will celebrate its fourth annual "Kirking of the Tartans" at 10:45 a.m., Sunday, March 2.

This is a ceremony many say originated in the United States following the mass migration of Scots into the Appalachian Mountains.

The great majority of these immigrants worshiped in the Church of Scotland which became the

Presbyterian Church.

Clan tartans or plaids were how the families identified themselves in battle. Banners of clan tartans will be carried in procession and others will be displayed from the beams in the church sanctuary. Twenty tartans will be represented in this rededication of families to the service of the church.

Harold Taylor of Friona will be the bagpiper.

CHURCH BRIEFS

River of Life healing service set Saturday

On Saturday, March 1, there will be a special healing service at 7 p.m. at River of Life Church, 411 Chamberlain, in Skellytown. Anyone who has a need or knows someone with a need for healing are invited to attend.

Macedonia Baptist plans barbecue

Macedonia Baptist Church, 441 Elm, is sponsoring a barbecue dinner starting at 11 a.m., Saturday, March 1. Menu will be brisket or ribs or polish sausage with beans and potato salad. Pastor I.L. Patrick and church family invite the public to come to the church and dine or call an order in for delivery at 665-4926. Donations accepted.

Hobart Baptist Youth to perform Sunday

Students in the Youth Group at Hobart Baptist Church, 1100 W. Crawford, will perform "Jesus, Only Jesus" at 6 p.m., Sunday, March 2. Written by Jeff Atwood, it is monologues and a choral reading on the uniqueness of Jesus. Refreshments will be served in Fellowship Hall after the performance. The Youth Group meets on Wednesday from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and is open to the students in the 6th through 12th grade.

St. Ann's to host Czech sausage dinner

CANYON - St. Ann's Catholic Church will host a Czech Sausage Dinner from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday, March 2, at the Parish Family Center, 605 38th St. Menu includes Czech sausage, sauerkraut, bread, parsley potatoes, cobbler and all the trimmings. Take out is available. A drawing, country store, arts and crafts, games and silent auction are also planned. Tickets are \$7 each for adults, \$3.50 each for children 6 to 12 years old, and children 5 and under eat free.

Ministry group offers help to the hungry

By MELANIE THOMAS
KILLEEN DAILY HERALD

BELTON — A local ministry takes a different approach to feeding the hungry.

Whether it's by hugging a child or sharing the news of Christ with an orphan, Hope for the Hungry has been filling people at home and abroad with spiritual food for 20 years. "Hope for the hungry means sharing the Bread of Life for a starving world," said Executive Director Rebecca O'Banion. "For us, that's important."

Founded by Dan and Kandy Kirkley in 1982, the ministry was born in response to Christ's command to "Feed my sheep."

O'Banion said Dan Kirkley was also burdened by the fact that an average of 40,000 children around the world, ages 6 and under, die daily of malnutrition-related diseases.

Knowing that child malnutrition was a huge problem, Kirkley wanted to do whatever he could to help resolve it, she said. O'Banion said Kirkley began his efforts by working with an orphanage in Haiti in 1983.

Those efforts have expanded. The ministry now does work at two orphanages in Haiti as well as one in India, has at least 39 missionaries in 18 countries and conducts a local children's outreach program.

"Our purpose is to make sure they know who Jesus is," O'Banion said. "We also do meet physical needs through direct ministry and by developing partnerships with foreign nationals.

"The best way to reach people is through their own people, so we feel like our primary goal is to encourage and sup-

port foreign nationals," she said.

At a three-story restored house on Wheat Road, called the Upper Room Training and Retreat Center, preparation for the mission work is done.

O'Banion said the organization's primary purpose is to train people for the mission field and to house missionaries and orphanage workers when they go on furloughs. The center is also used by churches and other organizations for retreats.

O'Banion said a unique aspect about the ministry is that it's staffed by volunteers.

Some of the 15-member staff have other sources of income or receive support from individuals or churches, she said. Others on the staff have permanent residences on the ministry's property.

O'Banion said what's also unique is that every dollar of the ministry's \$22-a-month orphanage sponsorship goes directly to one of the three orphanages. No administrative fees are deducted, she said.

While Hope for the Hungry reaches across the globe to meet people's spiritual needs, the ministry hasn't forgotten about the homefront.

The children's outreach ministry, or the Winner Circle, is carried out every Tuesday at the Belle Oaks Apartments in Belton and at the Belton Housing Authority.

Mike Brister, director of ministries and the Winner Circle, said the children's program is in its third year.

"We go out there to share our love, hugs and smiles so that people in the community know that there are people that love them," Brister said.

"We find a lot of hurt and needs and have had the privilege of encouraging and

meeting needs along the way." Brister said the weekly ministry starts off with an ice-breaker activity to gather the group and said that usually leads into the story-time.

"The story-times are Bible-based because the Bible is truth and we want to share truth with those we work with," he said. The stories deal with life choices, how to make good decisions, how to deal with anger and how to react when someone hurts you mentally or physically.

"We're out there to help them process some of those hurts," he said. The leaders find ways to apply the Bible story through the games played afterward.

Brister said the children set the pace for the last 20 minutes of each week's program.

"That's when we find children want to share with us," he said, adding that sometimes the leaders help with homework or the children share their songs and dances.

Brister said one of the biggest transformations for the local ministry was through one of the young men who used to attend. He said the youth was very bitter, angry and very physical.

"After a year of working with him, he asked Christ to become his savior and he became meek and mild," Brister said. "He became a leader for the other children, making sure everyone had a chance to succeed."

Hope for the Hungry has a partnership with the Baptist Student Ministry of the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor and provides training and material for the students to do the ministry throughout the school year. Church youth groups assist with the program during the summer.

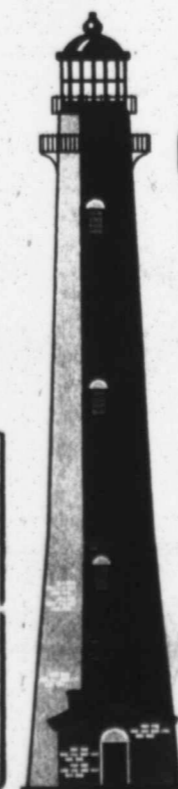
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THE PUMPER

NEWS COMICS

FRIDAY • FEBRUARY 28, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Guest At Housewarming Takes Her Own Souvenir

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I invited an acquaintance — I'll call her June — to our housewarming party. As I was showing her the bedroom, June asked to see an opal ring that she noticed me wearing on the day we met. I opened my jewelry box and watched as she tried it on.

Just then, the doorbell rang and I rushed to answer it. With all the goings-on of the party, I completely forgot about June and the opal ring until she said her goodbyes. June laughingly told me the ring had gotten stuck on her finger and she couldn't get the "darn thing" off. Then she was gone.

That was two months ago. June moved out of town and left no forwarding address. My husband and I couldn't locate her. The ring belonged to my husband's late grandmother and was a gift to me on our wedding day. My husband's mother and sister are furious with me for allowing June to walk off with an heirloom. They have been pressing me to track her down and take her to court.

I continued to search for her with no luck until last week, when June called and said she was in town and would like to drop by. She never showed up. I'm beginning to wonder if she will ever return my ring. I want to avoid conflict and am trying to think of a way to get it back without having to go to court. Can you help me, Abby?

MISSING MY OPAL IN COLORADO

DEAR MISSING: Pick up the phone, tell the police what happened, and file a theft report. It appears that June has sticky fin-

gers in more ways than one, and depending on the value of the ring, has committed grand theft. Please don't wait. Sometimes conflict is unavoidable, and in this case, you have every right to scream, "I wuz robbed." Good luck.

DEAR ABBY: I have been going with "Jeremy" for five years. He's 28, I'm 25. We love each other

dearly. We've talked seriously about getting married and having children. The problem is he's asked me twice to marry him — only to take his proposals back. The first time, we set a date and started making wedding plans. When Jeremy changed his mind, I asked if it had anything to do with me. He said no — that he loves me and can't picture a life without me — but he was scared.

Now when the subject of marriage comes up and we talk about a wedding and future together, Jeremy makes remarks like, "Yes, if we make it that long." Then he starts naming all the people we know who have gotten divorced. I blame Jeremy's mother for his attitude. She's been married and divorced five times. (Her most recent marriage lasted less than a year.)

I want to spend my life with Jeremy more than anything in the world, but his negative outlook on marriage worries me. I hate to say it, but I'm beginning to resent him for it. Should I break it off or stay?

UNSURE IN INDIANA

DEAR UNSURE: Before this mating dance goes any further, you and Jeremy should get premarital counseling. It's an understatement to say that he has poor role modeling when it comes to marriage and what it entails. Counseling will give him the chance to express all his fears in a supportive setting. Without it, I see no future in this on-again, off-again romance.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds) to Dear Abby — Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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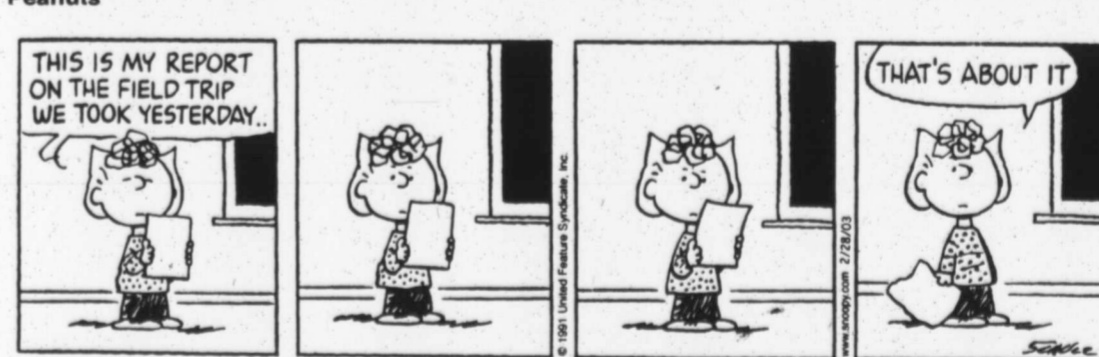
B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Crossword Puzzle

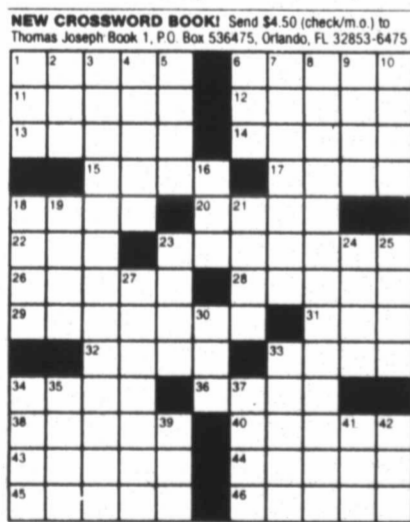
CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- Spanish port
 - Slice
 - Singly
 - So far
 - Treaties
 - Huntress of myth
 - Movie pouch
 - Army members
 - Put away
 - Does something
 - Bruins great
 - Like some rugs
 - Sleepy sort
 - Map feature
 - Olympic hopeful
 - Exploit
 - Not busy
 - Like some cheese
 - Zeus' counterpart
 - Bygone auto
 - Eye-popping prints
 - Locales
 - Old gold coin
 - Perfect
 - Bridges of Hollywood
 - River crosser
- DOWN**
- Pinnacle
 - According to
 - David
 - Lean film
 - As a follower
 - Piquant quality
 - Boulder
 - From the East
 - David
 - Lean film
 - Let off steam
 - Greek letters
 - Rowing need
 - Fizzy drink
 - Easy gait
 - Job for Poirot
 - Composer
 - Jacques
 - Different
 - Act
 - Mature
 - Decimal base
 - Digestion
 - Singer Billy
 - Milky stone
 - "In your dreams!"
 - Turner of television
 - Corn serving
 - Foxy

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ELECTRIC
ROE SLUSH
MALTA HENCE
ELI DAN
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Yesterday's answer



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SPORTS

Smith, Cowboys going in different directions

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Back when he was winning four rushing titles in five years and helping the Dallas Cowboys win Super Bowls in three of those seasons, Emmitt Smith never even considered playing anywhere else.

Even late last season, when it became apparent that his 13-year run in Dallas might be ending, he still found it hard to imagine.

He joked in December that he owned uniforms of all the other teams and had tried them all on just to see which looked best.

Now Smith has to try picturing it for real.

Smith and the Cowboys parted ways Thursday, making the leading rusher in NFL history a free agent for the first time. The signing period begins Friday, but he'll likely need much longer to decide what his new helmet looks like.

"This is a new experience," he

said. "I don't know what the future has in store for me. I need to weigh all my options. From a business standpoint and a family standpoint."

One option far from his mind is retirement.

"I still have a love and passion for the game," he said. "I think I'm a 1,300-yard back, and I will be out to prove that."

Smith knew trying to prove it in Dallas just wouldn't work. The team is in transition, and it's time for the Cowboys to go on without him.

New coach Bill Parcells is taking over and if Smith stuck around he was sure there'd be controversy about his role. Then again, the Cowboys might not have wanted him to be part of their rebuilding from three straight 5-11 seasons.

Rather than put owner Jerry Jones in the awkward position of

cutting him, Smith volunteered to be released.

"In my mind, the best thing would be for me to move myself out of the equation, to do what it takes to move this organization back in the right direction," he said.

"I could be very selfish and stubborn and play the role of a man of power and stand in the way, hinder growth. That's not me. I've always been a team player."

He came to that conclusion during a Feb. 17 meeting at Jones' house that lasted more than three hours. Smith called it a "win-win situation."

Smith's status already was in doubt because of his contract and age. He turns 34 in May and was due a base salary of \$7 million next season, with a salary-cap figure of \$9.8 million. He will still count for \$4.9

million against next season's cap.

"As an organization, we've got to start thinking of life without Emmitt," Jones said. "This is not a happy day for me personally. This is not a red-letter day for the Dallas Cowboys."

Smith hasn't cracked 1,300 in three seasons. He had 975 last season, failing to reach 1,000 for the first time since he was a rookie. He had only two 100-yard games and a paltry average of 3.8 yards per carry.

But Smith is still in great shape — he's missed only four games in his career because of injury — and is confident he can add to his NFL-record totals of 17,162 yards; 4,052 carries; and 153 rushing touchdowns.

He'd love doing it on a team that can provide a good line and a chance to earn a fourth Super

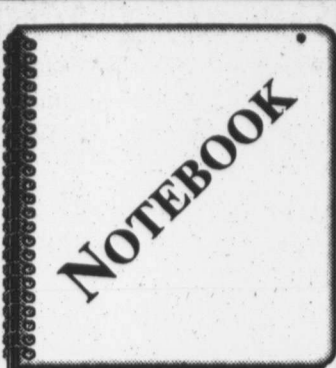
Bowl ring, such as NFL champion Tampa Bay, which happens to be in his home state, or the Oakland Raiders, a refuge of late for aging superstars. Other options could include New England and Carolina.

Smith may have to choose between a small role on a good team or a big role on a bad one. Playing time also will be a consideration.

"The star may be gone, but the football player is still here," he said. "Somebody will give me a call."

Smith was so at ease with how things worked out that the news conference announcing he was essentially fired felt more like a celebration.

He was all smiles when he walked into the team meeting room wearing a Cowboys' blue pinstriped suit and matching tie.



BASKETBALL

CLEVELAND (AP) — LeBron James, the nation's top high school player, was selected as a member of the 2003 McDonald's All-American team and has accepted an invitation to play in the March 26 game at Gund Arena.

James is the best-known name on the list of 24 high school seniors, many of whom already have accepted scholarship offers to some elite college programs.

BASEBALL

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Japanese slugger Hideki Matsui hit a two-run homer in the New York Yankees' 9-3 loss to the Cincinnati Reds in the spring training opener for both teams.

Adam Dunn hit a grand slam for the Reds. Reggie Taylor hit two solo shots.

Making his Yankees debut, Matsui lined a shot to right field on a 3-2 fastball from Jimmy Anderson in the third inning — his second at-bat of the game.

GOLF

CARLSBAD, Calif. (AP) — Tiger Woods has been so efficient in the Match Play Championship that he has yet to play the 18th hole at La Costa. He has not made a bogey over the first two rounds and he can't find any faults in his game.

Woods has been around long enough to know what that means.

Nothing. After posting five birdies in a 4-and-3 victory over K.J. Choi on Thursday, Woods recalled one of his trips to St. Andrews to put everything in perspective.

He played in the Dunhill Cup in 1998, in which three-man teams from each country compete in stroke play over 18 holes.

"I was 16 under for my three matches," Woods said. "And my last match I shot even par and lost. (John) Daly never shot a round at par or better, and he won every single match. It's just the nature of match play."

Next up for Woods is Stephen Leaney of Australia, the 48th seed.

That, too, means nothing. "I know he's got a hell of a swing," Woods said. "And he's had a lot of success in the past year. So, the way he's playing now ... it's going to be a great match."

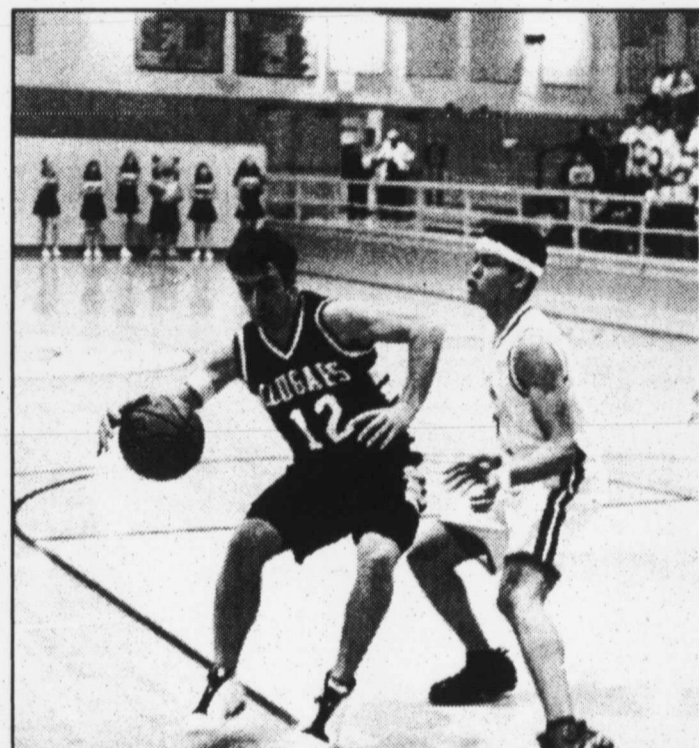
Thursday's second round was full of both — a couple of blowouts, a couple of matches that went to the 18th hole, and a couple of wild finishes.

Defending champion Kevin Sutherland made a par on the 18th hole by playing down the first fairway, but still beat Justin Rose of England.

Phil Mickelson hit a tee shot into the hazard on No. 14, but it struck a rock and came out into the rough. He wound up holing a 35-foot putt from off the green for par on his way to a 3-and-2 victory over Brad Faxon.

David Toms was on the ropes against Chris Riley until he holed a 90-foot chip for birdie on the 18th hole by using his 3-wood.

A dream pairing between Woods-Ernie Els never materialized when the Big Easy was beaten in the first round.



Junior Newman (12) was one of four Fort Elliott players named to the 2002-2003 First-Team All-District 2-A Basketball Team this season. Others were Jason Hathaway, Kade Zybach and Seath Meadows. Newman is shown in action in the area round of the playoffs being guarded by Red Ivory of Silverton.

Cougars highlight all-district team

BRISCOE — Four players from Fort Elliott were named to the 2002-2003 First-Team All-District 2-A Boys' Team.

Fort Elliott first-teamers were Jason Hathaway, Junior Newman, Seth Meadows and Kade Zybach.

Curtis Smith, who guided the Cougars to the district championship, was named Coach of the Year.

All-District 2-A Division II Team

Jason Hathaway, sr., Fort Elliott; Bryan Bell, Follett, sr.; Jeffrey Browning, jr., Miami; Josh Garcia, sr., Lefors; Jason Hathaway, sr., Fort Elliott; Russell Lohberger, soph., Allison; Seth Meadows, sr., Fort Elliott; Junior Newman, jr., Fort Elliott; Jared Robertson, jr., Follett; Ricky Vaughn, sr., Lefors; Tanner Woods, fr., Follett; Kade Zybach, sr., Fort Elliott.

Most Valuable Player: Tanner Woods, Follett.

Newcomer of the Year: Tanner Woods, Follett.

Coach of the Year: Curtis Smith, Fort Elliott.

Honorable mention: Jason Boydston, Allison; Junior Gonzalez, Larry Lee Horn, Caleb Kirkpatrick, Wes Hathaway, Fort Elliott.

All-District Academic Team

Fort Elliott: Jason Hathaway, Wesley Hathaway, Larry Lee Horn, Seth Meadows, Kade Zybach.

Lefors: Zach Kidd, Josh Garcia, John Stamper.

Miami: Jeffrey Browning, Follett: Bryan Bell, Lewis

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Caprock rallies by Pampa

AMARILLO — Caprock rallied in the second half to edge Pampa, 3-2, in a District 3-4A boys' soccer match Thursday night.

The Harvesters led 1-0 at halftime, but the Longhorns came back to

score three consecutive goals in the second half.

Chance Crain and Marc Garza scored the Pampa goals.

The loss left Pampa with a 4-3 district mark.

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Kings combine skill, luck to defeat Mavericks in overtime

By JAIME ARON
AP Sports Writer

DALLAS (AP) — A running 3-pointer that banks in. An airball that turns into the winning shot. An overtime victory in a game they hadn't led since midway through the fourth quarter.

Apparently, the Sacramento Kings have an amazing combination of luck and skill when they play the Dallas Mavericks.

Keon Clark caught an errant shot by Mike Bibby, stepped back and swished an 8-footer with 0.4 seconds left as Sacramento beat Dallas 126-124 in overtime Thursday night. The Kings are 3-0 this season against the NBA-lead-

ing Mavericks.

"What are you going to do? This was crazy," Dallas' Steve Nash said. "Our confidence is still good against this team. They were just very lucky."

Sacramento has beaten Dallas six straight times counting three in last season's playoffs.

"We always play good against them," said Peja Stojakovic, who led the Kings with 36 points. "Probably during the course of the playoffs, we will meet them. It could be a completely different story. But it's always good to beat them."

In the only other NBA games Thursday night, the Los Angeles Lakers beat Detroit 95-85, and Washington edged Houston 100-98 in overtime.

The Mavericks beat the Kings in three of four regular-season meetings last season, then lost in five games in the playoffs.

So Dallas knows what happens in February doesn't mean much in May.

Still, the ways Sacramento is winning has to be demoralizing.

The Kings won the first one by 29, with Chris Webber getting a triple-double. Webber and super sub Bobby Jackson missed the next game, in Dallas, but Clark dunked a missed 3-pointer with 16.5 seconds left to give Sacramento a one-point win.

Now this game, in which Dallas failed to make a field goal in the last 2:22 of regulation and all five minutes of overtime.

The Mavs' final 'eight points all came on free throws, six in overtime.

"We know we can beat these guys," said Michael Finley, who had 31 points, 21 in the first half. "We just have to remain confident, no matter how many times they've won."

Finley hit a pair of free throws with 1:57 left that put Dallas up 118-111. It was the game's widest margin since the Mavericks led by nine midway through the third quarter.

Sacramento rallied behind layups by Vlade Divac and Doug Christie, followed by Jackson using the glass for a tying 3-pointer in transition with 12.5 seconds to go.

"I definitely knew I was going to shoot it as soon as I

got it," Jackson said. "It was the right bank at the right time."

The Mavericks led three times in overtime, but never by more than two.

Clark blocked a shot by Dirk Nowitzki with a little over a minute left, and rebounded a miss by Nowitzki with 16 seconds left.

"We just kept being aggressive," Jackson said. "That's when we're at our best."

The Mavs missed two buzzer-beaters that could've won it:

A 12-foot turnaround by Nash in regulation and a wild 3-pointer by Finley in overtime.

"We've got to get over the hump against this team," Dallas' Raef LaFrentz said. "When it comes down to it,

they're just a little bit better."

Nowitzki had 36 points and J3 rebounds to lead the Mavs, who went to overtime for the second time in three games after none in the first 55.

The Kings won their fifth straight and seventh in eight games.

Chris Webber, who had a triple-double in Sacramento's 29-point win the first time they met this season and was hurt for the second meeting, had 16 points, 10 rebounds and six assists before fouling out with 7:17 left.

Jackson had 17 points, going 5-of-8 on 3-pointers, with seven rebounds. Bibby had 17 points and six assists, and Christie had 10 points, 10 rebounds and six assists.

Scrambling to get under cap

By BARRY WILNER
AP Football Writer

Michael Vick would have been proud of the way his Atlanta Falcons scrambled to get under the salary cap. And they weren't alone.

The Oakland Raiders made some last-minute cuts Thursday to get under the \$74.8 million cap. So did Cleveland and St. Louis.

Dallas got its salary cap in order by releasing the NFL's career rushing leader and its final link to the Cowboys' most recent championship era, Emmitt Smith.

Now the real fun starts as, beginning Friday, such coveted unrestricted free agents as Hugh Douglas, Roosevelt Colvin and David Boston are joined in the marketplace by recently cut stars Smith, Stephen Davis and Kordell Stewart.

But first came the painful moves.

"We couldn't clear the cap by just one buck and expect to be able to do anything," said Broncos general manager Ted Sundquist, whose biggest deadline move was to restructure the contract of receiver Ed McCaffrey. "Doing this really helps the team going into the 2003 season."

Starting at 12:01 a.m. Friday, teams were allowed to pursue free agents. To do so, however, they needed cap room, leading to dozens of monetary maneuvers.

In a news conference that turned into more of a tribute to Smith, the Cowboys said goodbye to one of the biggest stars of a star-filled franchise.

"I still have a love and passion for the game," he said. "I think I'm a 1,300-yard back, and I will be out to prove that."

One possible destination could be Washington, which

Starting at 12:01 a.m. Friday, teams were allowed to pursue free agents. To do so, however, they needed cap room, leading to dozens of monetary maneuvers.

cut Davis, who didn't fit coach Steve Spurrier's offense, but also was due to count \$11.4 million against the cap in 2003.

The Raiders let go of three defensive starters: tackle Sam Adams, safety Anthony Dorsett and cornerback Tory James. They probably are not through with their purge.

Cleveland released three linebackers who have started: Dwayne Rudd, Earl Holmes and Jamir Miller, who comes off a torn Achilles' tendon.

"The guys we released can still play," Browns coach Butch Davis said.

One day after paying quarterback Kurt Warner a \$6 million roster bonus, the Rams said goodbye to seven-time Pro Bowl cornerback Aeneas Williams, who missed the last half of the 2002 season with ankle and leg injuries. He was due a \$3.5 million roster bonus by Friday, and the Rams were uncertain if Williams, 35, wants to keep playing.

St. Louis also canned cornerback Dexter McCleon, fullback James Hodgins and backup quarterback Jamie Martin.

Vick's Falcons not only made for more cap room, but they kept one of his favorite receivers, Brian Finneran. As a first-year starter, Finneran led the Falcons with 56 catches for 838 yards and six touchdowns, all career highs.

Two starters, cornerback Ashley Ambrose and receiver Shawn Jefferson, and backup defensive lineman Shane

Dronett were released.

Denver also renegotiated the contract of running back Terrell Davis, who is planning a comeback if his knees hold up. Davis was scheduled to get \$4.7 million, but will now make the league-minimum of \$655,000.

Other veterans turned loose include San Diego strong safety Rodney Harrison, receiver Curtis Conway and cornerback Alex Molden; Tampa Bay center Jeff Christy; Tennessee center Gennaro DiNapoli; Seahawks safety Marcus Robertson; and Buffalo tight end Jay Riemersma.

Other high-profile free agents are: Arizona QB Jake Plummer; linebackers Chris Claiborne of Detroit, Mike Peterson of Indianapolis and Jeff Posey of Houston; DE Vonnie Holliday of Green Bay; offensive linemen Wayne Gandy of Pittsburgh, Luke Pettigout of the New York Giants, Randy Thomas of the New York Jets, Ryan Young of Houston and Flozell Adams of Dallas; and safety Dexter Jackson of Tampa Bay, the Super Bowl MVP.

Among the players who restructured deals Thursday or agreed to new contracts were Kansas City quarterback Trent Green and linebacker Mike Maslowski; Miami offensive lineman Mark Dixon; and New York Jets linebacker Sam Cowart.

The general manager of the champion Buccaneers is in no hurry.

"We have six months to find players," Rich McKay said.

Arvedson scores 200th career point as Senators edge Stars

OTTAWA (AP) — Bill Guerin thought the Dallas Stars had a good chance to steal two points from the Ottawa Senators in the race for home-ice advantage throughout the playoffs.

Magnus Arvedson had another goal in mind.

Arvedson picked up his 200th career point by scoring at 2:24 of overtime, and the Senators took over the NHL points lead with a 3-2 victory on Thursday night.

"It means a lot to beat one of the best teams," Arvedson said. "It shows we can stand

up against a bigger team like them."

Heading into the game, the teams were tied in the race for the Presidents' Trophy with 86 points.

The team with the most points at the end of the season is guaranteed home-ice advantage throughout the Stanley Cup playoffs.

"We knew it was going to be a hard-fought game and it was," Guerin said. "They got one in their building."

Arvedson netted the winner off a rebound from Mike Fisher, who picked up the puck after Stars defenseman Philippe Boucher tripped at

his own blue line. Arvedson also had two assists.

"I should have saved the puck," Arvedson said. "Getting 200 points for a guy who never really scored is pretty good."

"I was just trying to work hard. I'm pretty satisfied with 200 points in the NHL."

Radek Bonk scored the other Ottawa goals. Guerin and Jere Lehtinen countered for Dallas.

The game had all the intensity and excitement of a playoff match, but was overshadowed by Rod Bryden, the Senators' former majority owner.

He announced that his offer to repurchase the team had failed and it would now be going up for auction.

"That's unfortunate but that's not my department," Ottawa coach Jacques Martin said. "It was a great win tonight and that's my focus."

The loss ended the Stars' 10-game (7-0-3) unbeaten streak on the road and was their first against a Canadian team this season.

Dallas took a 1-0 lead, with Guerin getting a power-play goal with 5:36 remaining in the first period. Guerin picked up his 25th of the sea-

son as a weak shot bounced off Ottawa defenseman Karel Rachunek and got by goalie Patrick Lalime.

Bonk tied it with 1:39 remaining in the period. Mike Modano lost the puck up at the blue-line where Arvedson picked it up and backhanded it to Bonk, who beat Ron Tugnutt with a quick wrist shot.

Arvedson scored the winner on former teammate Ron Tugnutt, whose five-game unbeaten streak came to an end.

"It felt good to be back," Tugnutt said. "But things didn't go the way we wanted to,

but at least we got the point."

Lehtinen beat Lalime midway through the second period to give the Stars a 2-1 lead.

Bonk picked up his second goal with seven minutes remaining in the period, converting a pass from behind the net from Marian Hossa.

Notes: Ottawa was without defenseman Zdeno Chara for the sixth straight game as he recovers from a chest injury. ... RW Martin Havlat missed his fourth game with a groin injury. ... John Erskine, Manny Malhotra and Aaron Downey were healthy scratches for the Stars.

SCOREBOARD									
TENNIS					SOUTHERN CONFERENCE				
Pampa Quad Pampa Results					Southeast Division				
Girls Doubles					W L OTL Pts GF GA				
Tara Jordan-Vanessa Orr: (third place) def. Jones-Stovall, Altus, 6-3, 6-0.					x-Austin 42 10 3 87178 114				
Erin Norris-Lacie Long lost to Jones-Simpson, Frisco, 6-4, 6-4; def. Baird-Lucas, Pampa, 7-5, 6-4; def. Jones-Stovall, Altus, 6-0, 6-2.					Laredo 34 14 6 74 218 157				
Boys Singles					Corpus Christi 26 2 54 162 174				
Britton White: (first place) def. Corey Doyle, Altus, 6-0, 6-1; def. Adam Etchison, Pampa, 6-2, 6-3; def. Kevin Turner, Pampa, 6-3, 6-3.					San Angelo 16 32 5 37 158 224				
Kevin Turner: (second place) def. Neal Lundlay, Altus, 6-1, 6-1; def. Andrew Attridge, Canyon, 2-6, 7-5, 6-4; lost to Britton White, Pampa, 6-3, 6-3.					Southwest Division				
Adam Etchison: (fourth place) def. Landon Lewis, Canyon, 6-2, 6-3; lost to Britton White, Pampa, 6-4, 6-1; lost to Andrew Attridge, Canyon, 7-5, 5-7, 6-3.					W L OTL Pts GF GA				
Austin Morton: (fourth place) lost to Andrew Attridge, Canyon, 5-7, 6-3, 7-6; def. Neal Lundlay, Altus, 7-5, 6-1; lost to Landon Lewis, Canyon, 6-2, 7-5.					Odessa 30 20 6 66 161 162				
Girls Singles					New Mexico 25 24 5 55 152 170				
Helen Brooks (third place); def. Lindsey Short, Spearman, 6-1, 6-0; lost to Mandi Collier, Canyon, 7-5, 7-5; def. Myca Vinson, Pampa, 6-4, 7-6.					Lubbock 24 24 6 54 173 175				
Myca Vinson: (fourth place); def. Jessica Balderos, Altus, 6-2, 6-0; lost to Kylee Wartes, Canyon, 6-4, 6-3; lost to Helen Brooks, Pampa, 6-4, 7-6.					El Paso 16 31 6 38 159 210				
HOCKEY					x-clinched playoff spot				
Central Hockey League At A Glance					Note: One point for loss in overtime or shootout. Overtime or shootout losses are only denoted in the OTL column, not the loss column.				
By The Associated Press					Thursday's Games				
NORTHERN CONFERENCE					Lubbock 6, Odessa 3				
Northeast Division					Austin 3, Oklahoma City 2, SO				
W L OTL Pts GF GA					Friday's Games				
Indianapolis 35 12 7 77 169 134					Bossier-Shreveport at Corpus Christi				
Memphis 32 18 4 68 199 161					Oklahoma City at Fort Worth				
B-Shreveport 28 17 9 65 179 146					Indianapolis at Memphis				
Fort Worth 12 38 5 29 124 223					Odessa at New Mexico				
Northwest Division					Amarillo at San Angelo				
W L OTL Pts GF GA					Lubbock at Austin				
Tulsa 32 18 5 69 190 171					El Paso at Laredo				
Okla City 32 18 4 68 193 171					Wichita at Tulsa				
					Saturday's Games				
					Amarillo at El Paso				
					Memphis at Indianapolis				
					Tulsa at Lubbock				
					Laredo at Fort Worth				
					Odessa at New Mexico				
					Bossier-Shreveport at San Angelo				
					Corpus Christi at Austin				
					Wichita at Oklahoma City				
					Sunday's Games				
					Amarillo at El Paso				
					San Angelo at Corpus Christi				
					Bossier-Shreveport at Laredo				
					Fort Worth at Memphis				
					Indianapolis at Wichita				

Plainview, Dallas Lincoln to meet again

AUSTIN (AP) — This has a familiar look: Plainview vs. Dallas Lincoln for the Class 4A girls basketball state crown.

Two-time defending champion Plainview and two-time runner-up Dallas Lincoln earned yet another rematch with semifinal victories Thursday night in the state tournament.

And while Plainview needed every bit of its remarkable teamwork to dispatch a tough Angleton squad 61-55, Dallas Lincoln used its trademark athleticism to overcome an offense that seldom appears in sync for a 52-29 win over an San Antonio Sam Houston.

In the last two years, Lincoln's talented chaos has been no match for Plainview's vanilla offense based on screens, cuts to the basket and sharp 3-point shooting.

Throw in a talent like Alesha Robertson, a Texas Tech signee who scored 34 in last year's state final victory and had 20 against Angleton, and Plainview would have to be considered a favorite to win another championship.

Lincoln goes into this year's final without standout forward Tiffany Jackson, one of the top players in the country who transferred to 5A Duncanville before this season. Jackson has already had an impact there, leading Duncanville to the state semifinals.

Plainview (33-2) and Dallas Lincoln (27-4) play Saturday for the 4A title. A victory would make Plainview the first three-time 4A champion since Levelland won four in row from 1986-89.

Semifinals in 2A — Shallowater (31-3) vs. Buffalo

(28-8) and Schulenberg (32-4) vs. Brock 32-5) — and 5A — Georgetown (32-5) vs. Fort Bend Hightower (30-5) and Duncanville (37-1) vs. Austin Westlake (32-5) — were scheduled for Friday.

Some highlights of Thursday's action in 1A, 3A and 4A:

In 4A, Plainview bolted to a big early lead but had to hold off a tough comeback effort from Angleton, which got 23 points from Dominique Thomas.

Angleton cut a 15-point deficit to four before Robertson started the fourth quarter with five straight points to lead Plainview to the win.

Sharita Smith had nine points, five assists and four steals in leading Dallas Lincoln past San Antonio Sam Houston.

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3 Personal
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1132 Sirroca *19,500



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1027 S. Hobart *25,000



623 Roberta *28,500

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GREAT ADDRESS, Great Price! 3 or 4 bdrm, 2 baths, f/p, big kitchen, formal dining. Lots of extras. Homebuyer's Warranty. 2517 Beech. MLS 6039

RELAX around the pond. Neat and clean inside and out. 2 bdrms. One bath, h/wd. floors, encl. patio could be 3rd bdrm or office. Priced Right! 728 Bradley. MLS 6038

FREE Homebuyers Warranty in this cute 3 bdrm, 1 3/4 bath home on corner lot. Lots of improvements. \$39,000. MLS 6001.

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3 Personal

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14d Carpentry

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OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

ADDITIONS, remodeling, roofing, cabinets, painting, all types repairs. Mike Albus, 665-4774.

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A-1 Concrete Const. All types of concrete work or removal. Call day or night, 663-6414

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CONCRETE Work, new construction, remodel, repair, & removal, Ron Schwoppe, 665-2551.

14h Gen. Serv.

RICHARD'S Handyman Painting, int/ext., Roofing from a leak to a whole new roof, sheet rock, texturing, general carpentry, fully insured. 664-2025, 273-9767

14n Painting

50 yr. exp. We paint, dry-wall, texture, comm/ residential. Free Estimates. Happy Painters 665-3214

INT/EXT. painting, mud tape, blow acoustic. 35 yr. exp. References. Gene Calder 665-4840.

DIAMOND Tile Works. Floor tile, shower repair and remodeling, and kitchen tile. 665-0157

14s Plumbing/Heat

BEST prices & largest inventory of plumbing repair parts in Pampa! Chief Plastic Pipe & Supply, 1237 S. Barnes, 665-6716 V/Mc/Disc/AmEx

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21 Help Wanted

NEED a Career? Become a Licensed Vocational Nurse! Make plans to enter Frank Phillips College's Nursing Program today. 12 month, TASP waived program with financial aid available to those that qualify. Clinical training sites in Borger, Dalhart, Dumas, Guymon, Pampa & Perryton. Frank Phillips College's LVN program prepares you to function as a vital member of the health care team. Please call (806)274-5311 or 1-800-687-2056, ext. 745 for testing dates or for more information today!

21 Help Wanted

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

FULL Time CNA'S needed for 3-11 p.m. shift. Will train if not certified. Great benefits. Apply in person or call Wanda at St. Ann's in Panhandle, 537-3194.

\$500 SIGN-ON BONUS FOR CERTIFIED NURSES AIDES Pampa Nursing Center is currently hiring Certified Nurses Aides. Qualified applicants apply in person to Mitzi Devoll, R. N., Director of Nursing, at 1321 W. Kentucky, Pampa, Tx. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

TEXAS Rose is accepting applications for Full time Wait Staff. Please No phone calls.

FUN Valley Family Resort, South Fork Colo. needs retirees & others with own RV for Summer employment. Office, housekeeping, cooks, sales, maintenance & rv parks. Write: Personnel 9010 Ravenswood, Granbury, Tx 76049.

FUN Valley Family Resort, South Fork Colo. needs students for Summer jobs. Office, sales, housekeeping, dining room, horse wrangler, kitchen & other. Salary, room, board, bonus. Write: Personnel 9010 Ravenswood, Granbury, Tx 76049.

21 Help Wanted

LONG Term Front Desk Clerk needed, typing & computer skills required. Must be willing to work weekends, evenings and holidays. Apply in person only, at Best Western Northgate Inn.

21 Help Wanted

ATTN: PAMPA Postal Positions. Clerks / carriers / sorters. No exp. required. Benefits. For exam, salary and testing info, call 630-844-3493 ext. 421. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

FULL-time Teller/Office Clerk position available for highly motivated person. computer skills required. Mail resumes to Box 62, c/o Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, Tx. 79066.

THE Grandview-Hopkins Independent Sch. Distr. is accepting applications for a teacher's side position and a bus driver position. These positions will offer a health insurance package, retirement and other benefits. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. If you are interested, please call 669-3831 for an application.

CALDWELL Prod. needs Oilfield pumper, experience preferred, 6 pd holidays + 1 wk. pd vacation per yr. Hwy. 60 West, Pampa, 665-8888.

69 Misc.

QUEEN Chimney Sweep. Free inspection. Call for appointment 665-9452, if no answer leave message.

Memory Gardens of Pampa is assigning FREE Cemetery Spaces to local VETERANS that qualify and do not own cemetery property SPACES are limited. Call today to receive yours 665-8921

HEAVY Waterless Cookware - Glamorous, 17 piece set! Lifetime Guarantee! Party price \$2000, now \$495! First 7 callers buy set for \$299. 1-800-434-4628.

1995 Ford Taurus, 1983 Ford Van, and 1989 GMC Diesel crew cab all tagged and stickered. Also 2 project cars, 1 forklift, and 1 front end loader. Best reasonable offers. Call 665-1055.

6 person Balboa hot tub for sale with accessories. Must pick up, \$2000 Negotiable. 669-6158

69a Garage Sales

GARAGE Sale, Several families, Fri., Sat., Sun. 8-5, 416 N. Wells, clothes, furn., lamps, elec., supplies, door knobs, misc.

ESTATE Sale, 2310 Chestnut St. Pampa, Tx. Feb. 28th-March 1st, 9am-5pm. Some furn. including fire proof 4-dr. file cabinet & custom built desk, crystal, glassware and china, linens, jewelry galore, lamps, more linens, over 200 cat figurines, Christmas decor, men's and ladies clothing, tons of kitchenware and knic-knacs, picture frames, lots of quality household items.

SAT., Mar. 1, PHS Choir Garage Sale, MK Brown Aud., 9am-1pm.

77 Livest/Equip. 65 yearling Black Angus Bulls-Bloodlines-Basin Max 602C- Sleep Easy-GT Max-SchurrTop Supreme-Fame-Fly Traveler-1680 Precision-Battle Cry...Low to Moderate BW and High Growth, 40 Angus Heifers to be bred in May to Sleep Easy, Northern Improvement, and Fame. Preg. Checked and Delivered in Sept. More Info. Contact Thomas Angus- Gordon Thomas 580-655-4318 or 580-497-7217 Reydon Okla.

FOR sale livestock Duroc Boar hog. 806-826-3108.

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FULL CHARGE BOOKKEEPER

EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

GOOD SALARY & BENEFITS

APPLY PAMPA NEWS IN PERSON ONLY NO PHONE CALLS

SALES Cashiers needed. Full or Part time, honest, dependable & enjoys working w/people. Apply in person Heard-Jones.

IMMEDIATE opening avail for Nail Tech. Clientele in place. Call 665-2233.

COMPUTER and Management Specialist for Medical Office. We are searching for a friendly and well groomed individual to join our staff. Duties are varied with strong emphasis on technology and computer skills. Reply to Box 63, c/o Pampa News, Po Box 2198, Pampa. 79066-2198

50 Building Suppl.

White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

HOUSTON LUMBER 420 W. Foster 669-6881

69 Misc.

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DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES — Here's how to work it: AXYDLBAXR 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.

2-28 CRYPTOQUOTE

C J J S Q H K Z Z U M Q T

I C B B F K Z G G F G C N Q Q U N H K.

C N Q Q U I Q T G Z. C K U C N Q Q U

R F M Z — U C K F Z J A Q Q K Z

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: A HIGH-FIBER BREAKFAST IS VERY ESSENTIAL. ALWAYS EAT YOUR CEREAL BEFORE IT SHRINKS. — MARK RUSSELL

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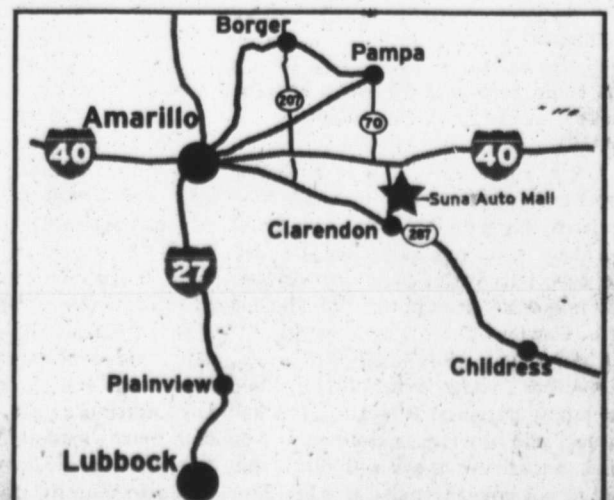
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4) 281980, MSRP \$17,366, REBATE \$3,000, SUNA DISCOUNT \$365
 5) 182316, MSRP \$20,580, REBATE \$3,000, SUNA DISCOUNT \$1,585
 6) 218660, MSRP \$35,155, REBATE \$2,500, SUNA DISCOUNT \$3,660