

**Aspire Insurance Agency**  
 ...for all your insurance needs!  
 "Doing Business with people you know and trust!"  
 1224 North Hobart  
 NRG Plaza 2, Suite 11  
 Pampa, TX  
 806-665-7081  
 www.aspireins.com

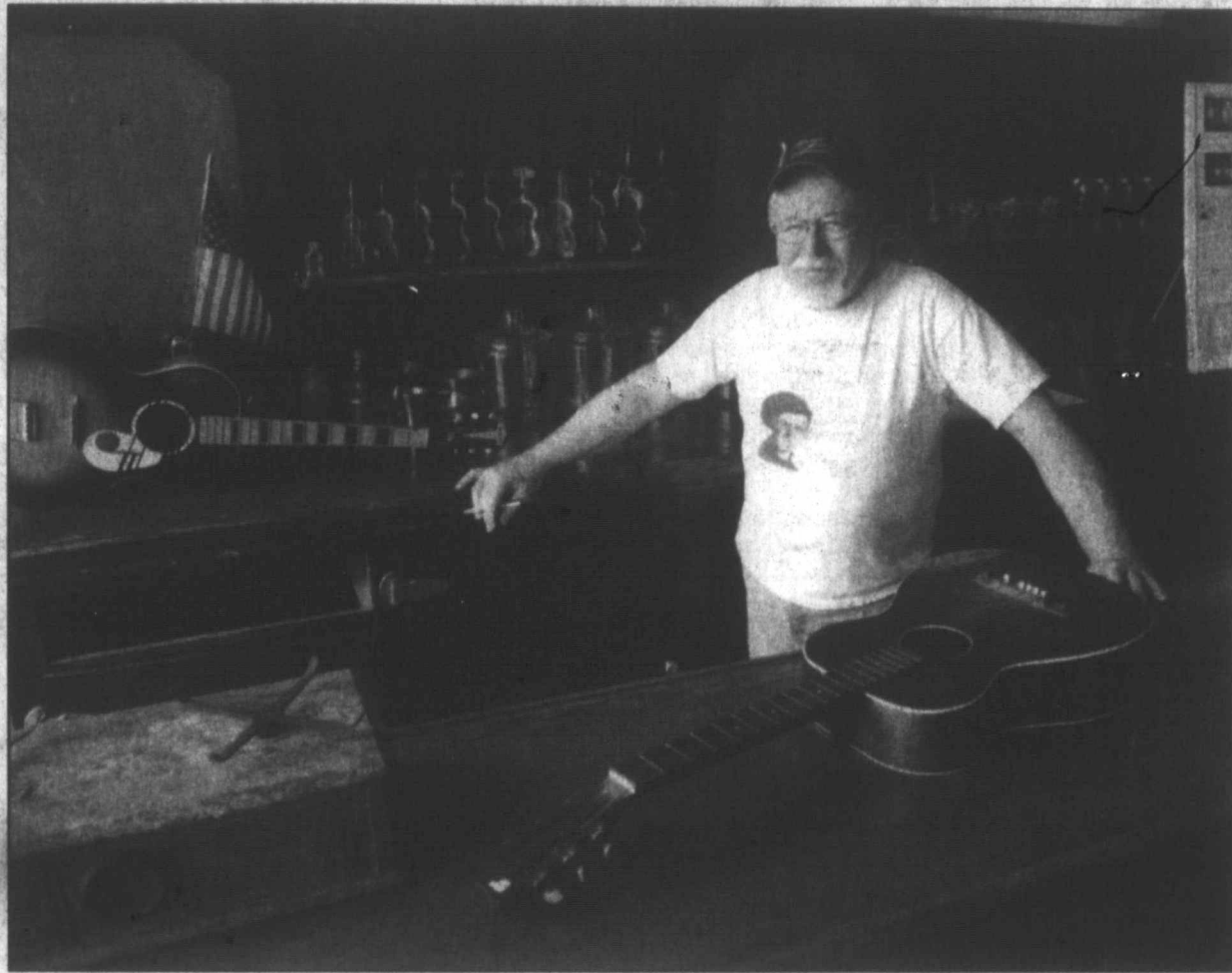
Marc  
 \*\*\*\*\*REGIM MXX:D NOC 790  
 0000471 12/31/2009  
 HERI: ERIC MICHAEL  
 4449 2157 AVE SW  
 CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52494-6399

25% - 40% Off Select Trees!  
**Wet Tree Landscape**  
 120 S. Hobart St. • 662-0158 • Mon-Sat • 9am-5pm

# The PAMPA NEWS

Tuesday, February 26, 2010 Volume 105 • No. 243

## 70th anniversary of Woody's best known song



Pat Stewart minding the store at the Woody Guthrie Center on South Cuyler. Stewart said today is the 70th anniversary of the writing of Guthrie's song "This Land is Your Land."

**BY DAVID BOWSER**  
 dbowser@thepampanews.com  
 Today is the 70th anniversary of the writing of Woody Guthrie's song "This Land is Your Land." Pat Stewart of the Woody Guthrie Center in Pampa said the original title of the song was "God Blessed America." It was written in response to Kate Smith's "God Bless America." Stewart said Guthrie wrote "This Land is Your Land" after leaving Pampa. "Woody arrived in New York City in February, 1940," Stewart said. "He lived with the actor Will Geer and his wife Herta." But the Geers had a new baby, so Guthrie moved in with Burl Ives briefly before getting a room in a boarding house called the Hanover House in New York. "It's there where he finished writing the song," Stewart said. The original song written on a loose leaf binder page is in the Woody Guthrie Archives in New York. It can be seen online at www.woodyguthrie.org.

**Welcoming 2010 With HUGE Savings!**  
 On New Products Arriving From Market  
 Get any new in-stock laminate or tile for just **10¢** per sq. foot!  
 Don't forget! Free installation purchase order!

**The Floor Store**  
 2110 Perryton Parkway  
 (806) 665-4455

**CHILDERS BROTHERS, INC. HOUSE LEVELING**  
 Uneven Floors  
 Floor Bracing  
 Cracks In Bricks  
 Sticking Doors & Windows  
 Interior Wall Cracking  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
**1-800-299-9563**  
 WWW.CHILDERSLEVELING.COM

**One STOP Flooring**  
**Specially Marked Carpets All \$19.97 per yd installed**  
 Save \$4.00 to \$12.00 per yd installed (reg. \$23.97 to \$31.97sq)  
 Store Hours:  
 Monday-Friday 9am-5pm  
 Saturday 10am-1pm  
 1833 N. Hobart ~ Pampa, TX  
 (806)665-0995

M#10341 • LICENSED • INSURED  
**BOB'S PLUMBING**  
 PAMPA, TEXAS  
**806-669-1940**  
 CELL# 806-584-0809  
 HOURS MON-FRI 8-6 • SAT 8-12  
 EMERGENCY ANYTIME  
 OWNERS: BOBBY FAIRES / DUECE FAIRES

**Thomas Automotive Inc.**  
 Premier Auto Service and Repair  
**665-4851**  
**217 E. ATCHISON**  
 Monday - Friday • 8am - 6pm

**VISION SOURCE**  
 OAKELY  
 MAUI JIM  
 RAYBAN  
 CARE CREDIT ACCEPTED  
 1324 N. BANKS  
 806.665.0771

**Vision COMPUTER SERVICES**  
 ihavecomputerproblems.com  
**806-665-HELP(4357)**  
 Combs-Worley Building  
 120 W Kingsmill Ave  
 Suite 303

**MASSAGE DISCOUNTS**  
 CALL PAMPA'S MASSAGE ADVANTAGE LOCATION TODAY  
**CALL: 806-665-7261**

CALL PAMPA'S MASSAGE ADVANTAGE LOCATION TODAY  
**CALL: 806-665-7261**

Read the News in a year  
 Number 1-19;  
 Mark 1 to Mark 6: 30-56  
**TOP OF TEXAS**

## Video, prints implicate church fire suspects

TYLER, Texas (AP)— Investigators used security videotapes and shoe prints to help them link two men to two church fires in Texas, according to arrest warrant affidavits released Monday. Jason Robert Bourque, 19, and Daniel George McAllister, 21, were arrested and charged Sunday with a single felony arson in the torching of the Dover Baptist Church near Tyler in rural Smith County. They were arraigned Monday before Judge Christi Kennedy at the state district court in Tyler, about 90 miles east of Dallas. If convicted, Bourque and McAllister could face life in prison. Bond is set at \$10 million apiece. The affidavits, prepared by Texas Rangers Sgt. Brent Davis and presented to the court

Monday, link the suspects to the Feb. 8 Dover Baptist fire and another the same day at the Clear Spring Missionary Baptist Church in nearby Lindale. The churches are among 11 that have burned in Texas this year in suspected arson attacks. It was not immediately clear why the men were charged in only one of the fires. Tom Crowley, spokesman for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, referred the question to Smith County District Attorney Matt Bingham, whose after-hours telephone number was not listed. Brent Ratekin, McAllister's court-appointed attorney, said Kennedy has issued a gag order against any public statements by attorneys

for both sides. A message left for Greg Waldron, Bourque's attorney, wasn't immediately returned. Bourque and McAllister appear on video shot by security cameras at convenience stores near the churches, according to the affidavit. Davis said investigators received a tip that Bourque had been involved in the church fires, and they visited his home where they found a pair of muddy shoes inside the garage. The shoes matched prints found at the scene of several of the church blazes, including the Dover Baptist fire, he said. Investigators also spoke to an unnamed member of McAllister's family who confirmed that the

FIRE cont. on page 3

## Snow to continue in south

Pampa dodged the bulk of the snow expected to fall further south Monday night, receiving only a couple of inches. But a winter storm is expected to dump 4 to 6 inches of snow across a wide swath of western, central and eastern Texas on Tuesday, according to the National Weather Service. A winter storm warning has been issued for that belt across the state's mid-section. Winter weather advisories have been issued

for the Panhandle, much of northern Texas, the Big Bend of West Texas and southeast Texas counties just north and northwest of Houston. High temperatures will reach only the 30s in the Panhandle, South Plains and the state's midsection from Van Horn to Lufkin and Austin to the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Highs will reach the 40s along the Red River and in deep east, southeast and south-central Texas and 50s in

south Texas, with 60s in the lower Rio Grande Valley. Winds will be northerly 10-15 mph, with gust up to 20 mph in the Permian Basin of West Texas. The snows will diminish over most of the state Tuesday night with temperatures falling into the 20s in all but southern, south central and south-east Texas. Lows will be in the 30s in those areas. Northerly winds will diminish to 5-10 mph.

**Money & Taxes**  
 Special section in Wednesday's edition

## 'Suspicious odor' turns out to be meth lab

**BY DAVID BOWSER**  
 dbowser@thepampanews.com  
 Two Pampa men were in jail Monday in lieu of bond and one was free after posting bond on charges that stemmed from officers smelling something funny. James Adrian Selvidge, 44, of Skellytown, was in Gray County jail today in lieu of \$21,500 bond on charges of possession of a controlled substance of more than four grams but less than 200 grams. He also faced charges of bond jumping and driving without a valid driver's license. Curtis Lee Broadbent, 34, was free on \$10,000 bond today after being charged with possession of more than one gram but less than four grams. Aeman Troy Layton, 26, was in jail on bonds totaling \$2,700 on outstanding warrants. Shortly before 9 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 18, the Gray County Sheriff's Department was called concerning a suspicious odor in the 300 block of Baer Street.

"When they arrived in the area," said Deputy Joe Hoard, "they were able to smell a chemical odor in the air." When three men walked out of a garage on the east side of Baer, the deputies stopped them and searched them. "One of the males had in his pocket a substance believed to be methamphetamine," Hoard said. "That would be Mr. James Adrian Selvidge." The other two men were identified as Broadbent and Layton. Broadbent, the owner of the property on Baer, was arrested on drug charges. Layton was arrested on outstanding warrants charging him with failure to appear, failure to display a driver's license, speeding, failure to report an address change and failure to appear in municipal court in Lefors. Officers detained the trio, Hoard said, and obtained a search warrant for the garage where they found what appeared to be a meth lab.

**HOUSE HUNTERS- REALTOR**  
 Linda Laycock Broker 806-662-792  
 Jordan Oneal Assoc. 806-670-6625  
 Larry Hadley Assoc. 806-662-2779

**Love your Heart Screening**  
**United Supermarket**  
 Friday, February 26 • 10am-2pm  
 BMI • Pulse Ox • Blood Pressure • Cholesterol  
 Sponsored by Accolade Home Care  
 For more information call 806-207-0071

0 20756 50990 9  
 6 06605 93102

# For the record

## PAMPA FORECAST

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
High 51 Low 31	High 38 Low 30	High 43 Low 29
<b>Tonight:</b> Mostly clear, with a low around 23. Northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.		
<b>Wednesday:</b> Mostly sunny, with a high near 51. Wind chill values between 16 and 26 early. West wind 5 to 15 mph becoming south. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.		
<b>Wednesday Night:</b> Mostly cloudy, with a low around 31. South southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.		
<b>Thursday:</b> A 20 percent chance of rain after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 38. North northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.		
<b>Thursday Night:</b> A chance of rain before 9 pm, then a chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 30. North wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%.		
<b>Friday:</b> Partly sunny, with a high near 43. North northwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.		
<b>Friday Night:</b> Mostly cloudy, with a low around 29. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.		

Ⓞ This information brought to you by...

PRESTIGE

AUTOBODY & ACCESSORIES

101 S. HOBART 806-665-3500

AFTER THE SNOW IS GONE, WE CAN DETAIL YOUR CAR!  
WE ALSO FIX ROCK CHIPS!

2065

## Possible errors cited in deaths of 2 firefighters

HOUSTON (AP) — Failure to properly assess a house fire and communication problems may have contributed to the deaths of two Houston firefighters, a state fire marshal's review found.

Capt. James A. Harlow, 50, and rookie Damion J. Hobbs, 29, died in the April blaze in which both elderly residents safely fled.

Arson investigators later determined the fire was started by a loose electrical connection in a light fixture.

The fire marshal's review noted six findings, which also included a thermal imaging camera was not used, the firefighters were upright instead of assuming a low position, Harlow and Hobbs were found away from their nozzle and hose line, and entry was made before ventilation operations were completed, the Houston Chronicle reported Tuesday.

Acting Fire Chief Rick

Flanagan says an internal review found the officers acted according to guidelines.

"Our report, basically, says that the officers, from the team perspective, did everything according to our guidelines to address this fire," Flanagan said.

No disciplinary action was contemplated against any firefighter on the call, he said.

The Houston Fire Department and the fire marshal's report both note that firefighters did not do a complete assessment of the fire or cut off utilities before entering the dwelling.

According to both reports, Harlow had left his two-way radio in the engine truck and Hobbs' radio was found turned off and tuned to a different channel.

The two reports also note that a thermal imaging camera was not taken inside the residence by Harlow's crew to help gauge the intensity of the fire.

Jeff Caynon, president of the Houston Professional Fire Fighters Association, said he had not seen either report.

"No fire is exactly the same," Caynon said. "No checklist is going to completely prepare you for the complex nature of the fire ground."

**Harrington  
Cancer  
Center's  
support group  
meeting for  
tonight, Tues.  
Feb. 23 has  
been cancelled.**

## Obituaries There are no obituaries today.

### EMERGENCY SERVICES

#### SHERIFF

According to Gray County Sheriff Officials, the following people were booked into Gray County Jail during the period between 7 a.m. Monday, February 22 and 7 a.m. Tuesday, February 23.

Rustin Lee Horton, 20 of Pampa, was arrested by Gray County Sheriff officers Monday on a charge of theft of property greater than \$50 and less than \$500.

Angela Marie Montgomery, 30, of Pampa, was arrested by DPS troopers Monday on charges of tampering with government records, defraud and harm.

#### PAMPA PD

The Pampa Police Department responded to the following calls during the period between 7 a.m. Monday, February 22 to 7 a.m. Tuesday, February 23.

Monday  
Animal Control Officers responded to five calls or

stops. Pampa Police Officers made zero traffic stops, had zero ongoing investigations, and responded to six requests for information.

An alarm was reported in the 300 block of South Starkweather Street.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1400 block of W. Somerville Street.

A 911 hangup was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill.

Assault was reported in the 2400 block of N. Charles.

A narcotics violation was reported in the 100 block of E. Harvester Avenue.

Officers responded to an accident in the 100 block of E. Harvester Avenue.

Officers responded to an accident in the 1400 block of N. Hobart Street.

Officers responded to an accident in the 2400 block of N. Charles Street.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of W. Sirroco Place.

A traffic complaint was

taken in the 2800 block of N. Charles Street.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of E. Frederic Avenue.

Officers responded to an accident in the 800 block of W. Francis Avenue.

A welfare check was made in the 400 block of S. Pitts Street.

A suspicious person was reported in the 800 block of North Duncan Street.

Pampa EMS responded to the following calls

#### AMBULANCE

between 7 a.m. Monday, February 22, 2010 and 7 a.m. Tuesday, February 23.

7:26 a.m.—An MICU unit responded to the 1200 block of Wilcox, no patient.

7:41 a.m.—An MICU unit responded to the intersection of 18th and Hobart, transported no patient.

8:04 a.m.—An MICU unit responded to the 2300 block of Beach transported one patient to Pampa

Regional Medical Center.

2:26 p.m.—An MICU unit responded to the 1200 block of S. Finley, transported one patient to PRMC.

6:11 p.m.—An MICU unit responded to the 2700 block of Navajo transported one patient to PRMC.

8:00 p.m.—An MICU unit responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky Avenue. Transported one patient to PRMC.

8:28 p.m.—An MICU unit responded to the 2100 block of Williston, transported one patient to PRMC.

8:54 p.m.—An MICU unit responded to the 800 block of Francis transported one patient to PRMC.

Tuesday  
2:37 a.m.—An MICU unit responded to the 1300 block of Duncan transported one patient to PRMC.

7:00 a.m.—An MICU unit responded to the 200 block of Roberta transported one patient to PRMC.

## Glitches to glory as Olympics hit halfway mark

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — You can see it at the water-front Olympic cauldron, transformed overnight from something more like a prison yard into a proud public square.

And at Cypress Mountain, where Shaun White introduced the world to the jaw-dropping Double McTwist.

And at Whistler, where the sun and Lindsey Vonn finally got a chance to shine.

The Vancouver Games are making a comeback.

"Every Olympics has their ups and downs," said Kelly Mullen, in town from Ontario and gazing in up-close awe at the flame from a newly opened promenade. "I feel like Vancouver's really rolling with the punches. I mean, they had to ship snow in. But somehow they're making it work."

Grief settled over these Olympics before the torch could even complete its relay.

During a training run hours before the opening ceremony, a young luger from the nation of Georgia was killed when he flew off his sled at the lightning-fast track and slammed into a steel pole.

The shock was so profound that John Furlong, head of the Vancouver Organizing Committee, said he felt like he had lost his own son — "just about the most severe human blow you could imagine."

The Georgian teammates of Nodar Kumaritashvili gamely decided to stay at the games, though the one remaining luger withdrew, and the opening ceremony was dedicated to the fallen athlete.

From there, the games were plagued by all manner of problems. And although the young luger's death put everything into a whole new perspective — which is to say insignificant — the series of mishaps was still remarkable.

Here's the muddle count:

It was too wet and too mild, messing with the skiing event at Whistler. There were so many delays and cancellations that they should have handed out a gold for rescheduling.

The timing was wrong at the biathlon. A Swedish woman was held up for 14 seconds and two of the men went off too early because of officiating errors.

The timing was actually right at the opening ceremony, but the hydraulics failed. An indoor cauldron at BC Place Stadium failed to fully rise out of the floor, marring the most anticipated moment of any games.

At Cypress Mountain, 28,000 tickets were canceled because people were slipping between the bales of hay under the snow. A man with a fake credential somehow got closer than he should have to Vice President Joe Biden.

A spigot came on at the huge track, spraying the finish area and delay-

ing a slider. The ice machine at the Richmond Oval left behind water and slush instead of a glassy surface, forcing organizers to draft a Zamboni into service. From Calgary, 600 miles and a whole province away.

"It is embarrassing," Norbert Baier, the International Biathlon Union's technical delegate, said of the biathlon mistakes. "Why do we have this incompetence?"

It got to the point when you thought of it as a kind of inverse Murphy's Law, wondering not just what else would go wrong — but what possibly could. And that's when the spotlight turned to what was going right.

Canada had one goal coming into these games: Finally strike gold at home. It hosted two previous Olympics, the 1976 Summer Games in Montreal and the 1988 Winter Games in Calgary, and never heard "O Canada" on the medal stand.

Then freestyle skier Alexandre Bilodeau blazed and bumped and twisted down the moguls course at Cypress Mountain and did what no Canadian had done in 253 other events over 34 years.

"It's too good to be true," he said later, and an entire nation seemed to believe him.

How big of a moment was it for Canada? Put it this way: Within 24 hours, the national mint and the postal service had announced plans to put Bilodeau on a commemorative coin and stamp.

It was a giant step for Canada's \$110 million initiative to dominate the medals stand, dubbed Own the Podium. Then the Americans, to borrow a line from snowboarder Nate Holland, decided to rent it for a while.

The United States is dominating the medals count, with nearly twice as much hardware as any other nation. The last time the Americans won the medals race at the Winter Games was 78 years ago, on home turf in Lake Placid, N.Y.

On Wednesday, the U.S. had its greatest day ever at the Winter Olympics. Six medals in all — a bigger haul than the U.S. had at the entire 1988 Winter Games in Calgary.

Three of them were golds, and they went to three of the biggest American stars in Vancouver.

Lindsey Vonn, skiing on a bothersome bruised shin, blistered a downhill course at Whistler that was slick enough to cause a series of scary falls, including one skier who had to be airlifted off the course.

Shani Davis became the first speedskater to win the 1,000 meters at two Olympics. The bronze went to American Chad Hedrick, and on the victory stand they held a U.S. flag together, their bitter rivalry from Turin having thawed into at least a

grudging respect.

And that night at Cypress Mountain, with a gold medal already locked in, Shaun White wowed the crowd with a halfpipe move straight out of a three-ring circus — the Double McTwist 1260, an jaw-dropping series of flips and twists.

"I wanted a victory lap that would be remembered," he said.

Together, they did something really unthinkable: They beat "American Idol" in the ratings. NBC's coverage of Vancouver is being watched by millions more people each night than the last Winter Games, in Turin, Italy.

There was more: Sidney Crosby saved the Canadian men's hockey team and prevented a nationwide heart attack by scoring the only goal in a tense shootout to beat Switzerland, 3-2. And the Canadian women put up positively grotesque scores — think 18 goals against helpless Slovakia alone — in annihilating their early opponents.

The men's downhill delivered a scintillating finish. Switzerland's Didier Defago, Aksel Lund Svindal of Norway and American Bode Miller were separated by 0.09 seconds. Gold, silver and bronze in the snap of a finger.

And in figure skating, American Evan Lysacek pulled a stunner, beating Evgeni Plushenko for gold without even attempting the supposedly important quadruple jump.

Plushenko finished his routine holding up both fingers, and later openly said he thought he deserved gold. No one was more surprised than Lysacek himself.

"I saw that American flag go up," he said, "and I couldn't believe it was for me."

As for that problematic water-front cauldron: Organizers moved a chain-link fence closer to the flame, replaced part of it with Plexiglas and opened a promenade for an elevated view. Fans had complained it was too inaccessible.

For a second act? There's hockey, lots of it. The Canadian women try for their third gold in a row, with the Americans standing in their way. Crosby tries to lead the home nation's men to gold in a sport Canada invented.

Figure skating's attention turns to women. South Korea's Kim Yu-na, such a star back home that she needs bodyguards, is a favorite, but two other world champions are in the field, too.

And on the last day of the games, a Canadian named Brian McKeever who is legally blind because of a condition that mostly wiped out his central vision but left the peripheral alone, is scheduled to compete in cross-country. He would be the first winter athlete to be both a Paralympian and an Olympian.

CERAMIC TILE. Keith Taylor, 874-1779 lv. msg.

MOVING SALE, Kenmore washer & dryer, like new, 1 yr. old, \$500. Solid wood qu. sleigh bed frame, exc. cond., \$100. Oak finish swivel-top tv stand \$20. 806-663-1203.

MUST SEE!!! Beautiful 1 1/2 CT. Diamond Wedding Ring Set. White Gold. Circle Cut. Size 6. Only worn 2 years. Purchased at Zales, Asking \$1500 OBO. Please call 662-5716 after 4 pm.

## Justices let stand establishment of Neches refuge

DALLAS (AP) — The U.S. Supreme Court has let stand a ruling that upholds creation of an east Texas national wildlife refuge along the Neches River.

The justices Monday turned aside the appeal of the Texas Water Development Board and the city of Dallas of the ruling of U.S. District Judge Jorge Solis of Dallas. The Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans previously upheld the ruling.

The river runs 416 miles through eastern Texas, from eastern Van Zandt

County southeast to its mouth on Sabine Lake near Port Arthur. Dallas wanted to dam the river's headwaters and create a lake to supplement its water supply.

However, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service established the Neches River National Wildlife Refuge along the upper reaches of the Neches in 2006. The state and city sued the federal government, alleging it established the refuge without considering environmental and economic effects on north Texas.

## Democrats cautiously embrace health plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congressional Democrats cautiously embraced President Barack Obama's new health care plan as their last hope for enacting a comprehensive overhaul. Republicans trashed it, dimming prospects for any deal at the bipartisan health care summit that Obama has scheduled for Thursday to try to jumpstart the debate.

A year after calling on Congress to act to reform the nation's costly and inefficient health care system, Obama finally produced a plan of his own Monday. It used legislation already passed by the Senate as its starting point, making changes designed to appeal to House Democrats.

Even after months in which health care gradually turned from Obama's top domestic priority into a political albatross, Obama opted for one last attempt at full-scale legislation. It costs around \$1 trillion over a decade, requires nearly everyone to be insured or pay a fine, and puts new requirements on insurance companies, including — in a new twist responding to recent rate hikes — giving the federal government authority to block big premium increases.

In the end Obama may have to settle for much less than what he proposed Monday — or nothing at all. But many Democrats said that despite all the bad-news polls and the loss of their filibuster-proof Senate supermajority in a special-election upset, it would still be better to pass a sweeping bill than make small changes or none at all.

If Obama fails on a comprehensive health care overhaul where Bill Clinton and other presidents failed before him, the chance won't come around again anytime soon.

"This is the last time out," said House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Charles Rangel, D-N.Y. "So this is it. This is it."

The whole endeavor will now rise or fall on Obama's ability to sell his plan at the summit Thursday, and the reaction from lawmakers and the public in the days ahead. Congressional Democrats got their first look at the proposal Monday morning. Reflecting the uncertain future of the health overhaul effort, many focused as much on the fact that Obama finally stepped in with a detailed plan of his own as on the policy details.

"The president needs to say 'This is what I'm for,' and it sounds like he's done that," said Sen. Tom Carper, D-Del.

Obama's plan does not include the government insurance option sought by liberals and it dramatically scales back a tax on

high-value insurance plans from the Senate bill that was opposed in the House. It eliminates a controversial Medicaid deal for Nebraska, offers all states more help with Medicaid funding, and beefs up subsidies to help lower-income people buy care, all changes that won praise from House Democrats. It also closes the so-called "doughnut hole" in Medicare's prescription drug coverage.

Individuals and small businesses would shop for insurance in regulated state-based marketplaces called exchanges.

Obama tried to avoid the mistakes Clinton made in delivering a health care proposal to Capitol Hill and telling Congress to pass it, but many now believe he erred in the opposite direction.

Republican leaders made no secret of their contempt.

"Democrats in Washington either aren't listening, or are completely ignoring what Americans across the country have been saying," said Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky. "Our constituents don't want yet another partisan, back-room bill that slashes Medicare for our seniors, raises a half-trillion dollars in new taxes, fines them if they don't buy the right insurance and further expands the role of government."

Rep. Eric Cantor, the House Republican whip, assailed the proposal Tuesday as a "repackaged" version of Senate-passed legislation that the American people already have rejected.

Cantor, R-Va., said "the American people do not like the Senate health care bill," and he suggested that Obama will be able to rely only on Democrats to push the bill through to final congressional passage. He called it a "nonstarter" and said the health care summit Obama has scheduled later this week likely won't be productive.

If Obama can't achieve agreement with Republicans, White House officials made clear Monday they're prepared to attempt to push the legislation through the Senate under controversial rules allowing a simple majority vote rather than the 60-vote supermajority Democrats no longer control.

"The president expects and believes the American people deserve an up or down vote on health reform," said White House Communications Director Dan Pfeiffer. "And our proposal is designed to give ourselves maximum flexibility to ensure that we can get an up or down vote if the opposition decides that they need the extraordinary step of filibustering health reform."

## CC to offer courses during spring mini-term

CLARENDON — Clarendon College will be offering courses during a two week Spring Mini-Semester in March.

This mini-semester is designed to help students earn college credit in just a two week time period. Classes will be offered online and will start March 8 and end March 26. A complete list of courses being offered can be found on Clarendon College's website [www.clarendoncollege.edu](http://www.clarendoncollege.edu).

For more information, call 1-800-687-9737 or stop by one of CC's three locations in Clarendon, Pampa or Childress.

## Geithner gives Obama letter to IRS workers

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner is offering President Barack Obama's support to government workers in Austin.

That's where a suicide pilot rammed his plane last week into an office building housing Internal Revenue Service offices, killing an IRS employee.

Geithner and IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman made brief comments to reporters Monday after meeting with IRS employees and delivering a letter from Obama. They were scheduled to tour the devastation that software engineer and pilot Joe Stack left behind.

## Fire

cont. from page 1

suspect owned a pair of boots of a type that authorities believe were used to kick in a door during the Dover fire and at the scene of other blazes, according to Davis.

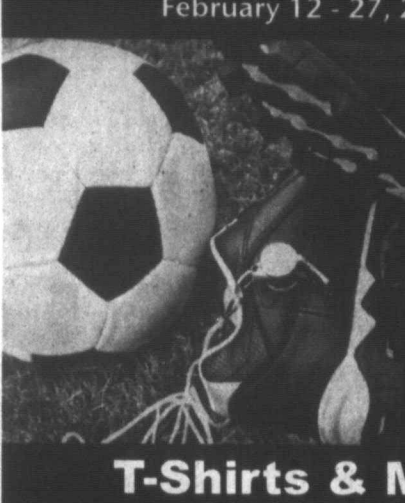
On Sunday, Crowley said DNA samples taken at the scene of several of the fires matched that of one of the two suspects, but he did not say which.

Authorities have not explained the motive behind the blazes.

**Pampa Soccer Association**  
Spring Soccer Registration  
February 12 - 27, 2010

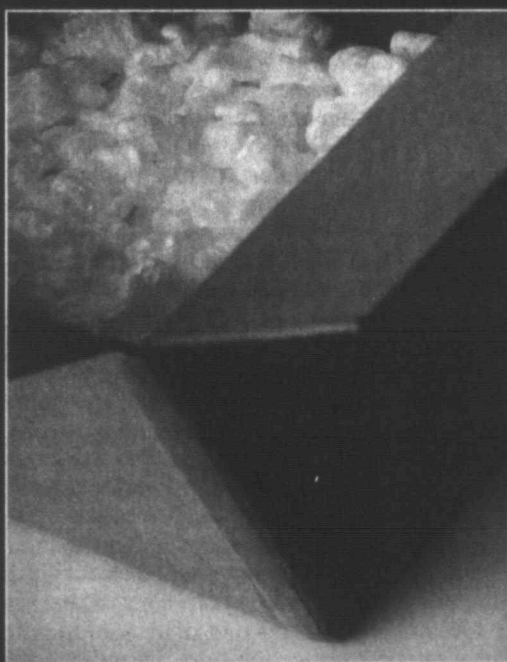
**THE GAMES START MARCH 27TH.**

**T-Shirts & More**  
111 Kingsmill  
\$45.00  
(Spring Season Only)



## Planning your next big move?

- Automatics
- A/C
- Power Steering
- AM/FM Radio
- Low Cost Moving Protection Plan
- One-Way Rentals U.S. & Canada Mileage Included
- FREE 24-Hour Road Service
- Auto Transports
- Wiring Adapters





**Packing Supplies**  
Boxes • Mattress Bags •  
Tape • etc



Tow Dollies


**We can take you there.**

**Moving shouldn't be a hassle. We're here to make your moving experience the easiest it's ever been.**

**WINK'S U-HAUL**

228 W. Brown Pampa, Texas  
(806) 665-5710 • (806) 665-1360  
[www.uhaul.com](http://www.uhaul.com)



# Viewpoints

## Today in History

This is Tuesday Feb. 23, the 54th day of 2010. There are 311 days left in the year.

### Highlights in history on this date:

1573 - Irish rebellion is crushed with surrender of James Fitzmaurice; pacification of Perth ends fighting in Scotland between Regent and supporters of Mary Queen of Scots.

1574 - Fifth War of Religion breaks out in France.

1660 - Sweden's King Charles IX executes leaders of pro-Polish party for treason.

1836 - Siege of the Alamo begins in future U.S. state of Texas against Mexicans.

1854 - Britain agrees to leave territory north of Orange River in South Africa, allowing for establishment of constitution for Orange Free State.

'Love is the chain whereby to bind a child to his parents.'

— Abraham Lincoln

1861 - American President-elect Abraham Lincoln arrives secretly in Washington to take office after an assassination plot was foiled in Baltimore.

1905 - The Rotary Club is established in Chicago.

1927 - U.S. President Calvin Coolidge signs a bill creating the Federal Radio Commission, forerunner of the Federal Communications Commission.

1933 - Japan begins occupation of China north of the Great Wall.

1934 - Nicaraguan rebel leader Cesar Augusto Sandino, invited to meet with army leader and later dictator Anastasio Somoza, is abducted and murdered.

1942 - Japanese submarine shells oil refinery near Santa Barbara, California.

1945 - U.S. Marines plant flag on Mount Suribachi, Iwo Jima, but it will be another three weeks until all Japanese defenders on the island are defeated.

1954 - The first mass inoculation of children against polio with the Salk vaccine begins in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

1964 - Britain recognizes President Abdul Amari Karume's regime in Zanzibar.

1970 - Republic of Guyana, formerly British Guinea, ends association with Britain but remains within Commonwealth.

1975 - U.S. decision to end arms embargo against Pakistan draws wrath of India, which cancels planned March meeting in Washington.

1990 - Prince Sihanouk returns to Cambodia after 11 years in exile.

1991 - Military junta seizes power in Thailand after a bloodless coup.

1993 - Rallying behind red flags and portraits of Lenin, more than 10,000 pro-Communists march to the Kremlin to denounce Russian President Boris Yeltsin and urge the military to rise up against him.

1996 - Two sons-in-law of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein are killed by clan members after returning to the country after defecting.

1997 - Ali Abu Kamal, a Palestinian, fires a gun into a crowd on the observation deck of New York City's Empire State Building, killing one person and injuring six, then shoots himself to death.

1998 - Leftist guerrillas set off a mine in India, killing five soldiers sent to guard polling stations and raising the death toll related to parliamentary elections to 29.

1999 - The first peace talks between Kosovo Albanians and Yugoslavia end in Rambouillet, France, without much progress toward a settlement. NATO suspends its threat of bombing till the talks resume March 15.

2000 - Preston King, a black man who refused induction into the Army in the 1960s because the all-white draft board wouldn't address him as "Mr.," returns to the United States for the first time in 39 years after receiving a presidential pardon.

2001 - Thousands of people flee brutal ethnic clashes on the Indonesian part of Borneo island as fighting between native Dayak people and immigrants from Madura island escalates, claiming at least 165 lives.

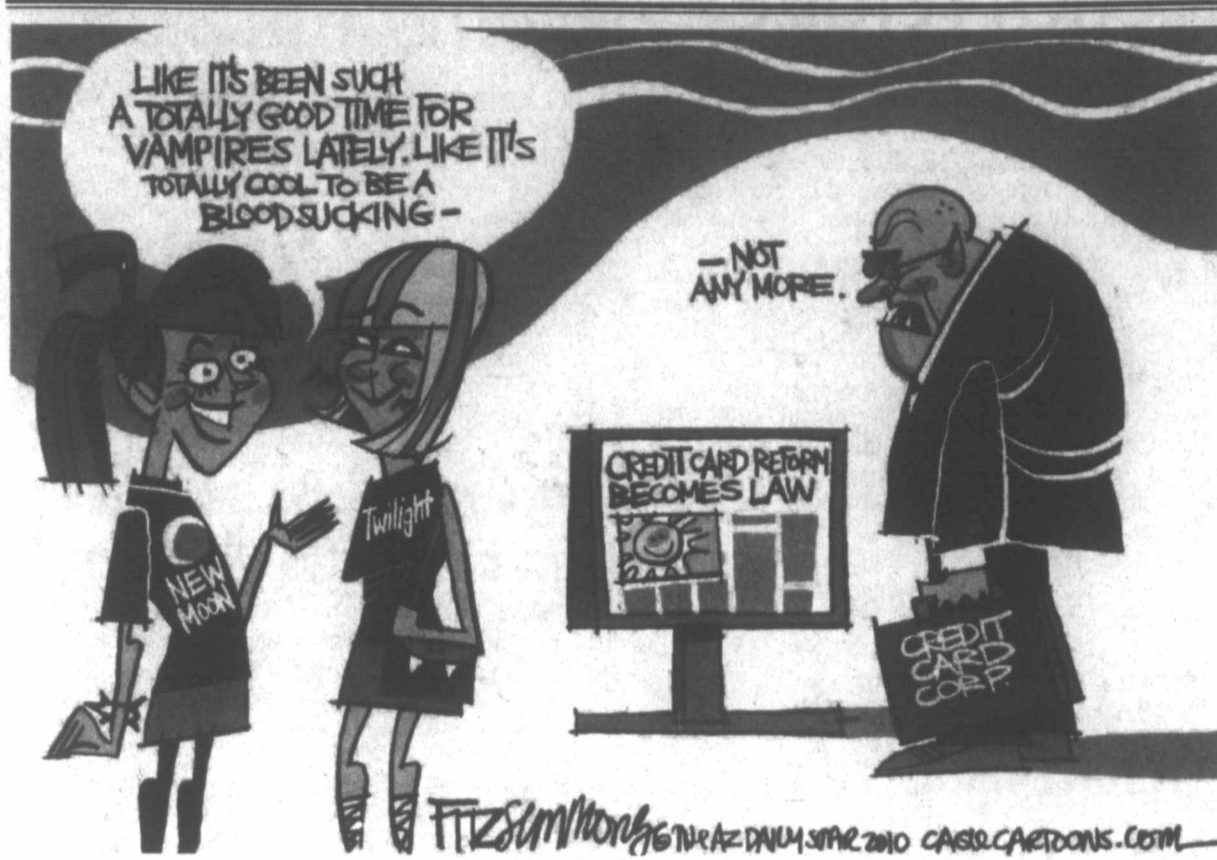
2004 - At least 66 people die in weekend clashes among Colombian troops, leftist rebels of the United Self-Defense Forces or AUC, and right-wing paramilitary forces. The two-day toll is extremely high even by standards in Colombia, which has been engulfed in a 40-year insurgency.

2007 - Forty-six countries sign a declaration in Oslo pushing for a global ban on cluster bombs, a move activists hailed as a major step forward despite opposition from major powers the U.S., Russia, Israel and China.

2008 - A B-2 stealth bomber plunges to the ground shortly after taking off from an air base in Guam, the first time the aircraft has crashed, but both pilots eject safely.

### Today's Birthdays:

George Frederick Handel, German composer (1685-1759); Sir George Frederick Watts, English artist (1817-1904); Constantine Caramanlis, Greek president (1907-1998); Peter Fonda, U.S. actor/director (1940-); Brad Whitford, guitarist for Aerosmith (1952-); Howard Jones, British singer (1955-); Kristin Davis, U.S. actress (1965-).



## Excerpts from recent Texas editorials

Texarkana Gazette, Feb. 18, 2010

### Credit card holders will benefit from new legislation

Credit card holders in Texarkana and around the country will have a little more protection from arbitrary rate increases and other tricks card issuers use to boost revenue.

The Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009 passed both the House and Senate with support from both parties. President Barack Obama signed the bill into law last May. Some provisions of the act went into effect over the summer. The rest of the legislation takes effect Monday.

The act does not try to limit how much banks can charge on credit card balances. Instead, the aim was to make sure consumers know what they were getting into by requiring full, plain-language disclosure of terms and conditions, allowing cardholders ample time to pay off balances if they don't like any new conditions and end deceptive practices card issuers employed to tack on hefty fees for late payments and over-the-limit balances.

The whitehouse.gov Website outlines key reforms in the legislation: The bill bans rate increases on existing balances due to "any time, any reason" or "universal default" and severely restricts retroactive rate increases due to late payment.

Contract terms must be clearly spelled out and stable for the entirety of the first year. Firms may continue to offer promotional rates with new accounts or during the life of an account, but these rates must be clearly disclosed and last at least six months.

Institutions will have to give cardholders a reasonable time to pay the monthly bill at least 21 calendar days from time of mailing. The act also ends late fee traps such as weekend deadlines, due dates that change each month and deadlines that fall in the middle of the day.

Credit card companies will be required to apply excess payments to the highest interest balance first, as consumers expect them to do. The act also ends the confusing and unfair practice by which issuers use the balance in a previous month to calculate interest charges on the current month, so called "double-cycle" billing. ...

Credit card contract terms will be disclosed in language that consumers can see and understand so they can avoid unnecessary costs and manage their finances.

The legislation also offers more protection for credit card holders under the age of 21 and increases penalties for card issuers who violate the rules.

Naturally the credit card companies aren't happy. But we think they will get by.

Big lenders have had their way in Washington for a long time. The last administration gutted consumer bankruptcy protection to make credit card issuers happy. This bill does not level the playing field, but it does offer consumers a bit more protection from deceptive practices than they had. And that's a good thing.

The Dallas Morning News, Feb. 17, 2010.

### Taxpayers deserve to know why UNT president quit

We still don't know exactly what's behind this University of North Texas mess, the one that resulted in President Gretchen Bataille abruptly resigning after a routine meeting this month with Chancellor Lee Jackson.

We do know this: Texas taxpayers fund much of UNT's freight, and they deserve a clearer explanation.

Jackson insists that Bataille's resignation after a little more than three years as president has nothing to do with the school's goal of becoming a leading research university. It instead involves internal management operations.

And that's as far as he will go, at least in speaking publicly to us. Jackson and Bataille, the first woman to serve at UNT president, both say their truncated explanations stem from an agreement they reached. (As part of the deal, Bataille will get \$723,000 for the balance of her contract, plus \$150,000 to do education research and \$139,000 a year to teach, if she chooses to stay on the UNT faculty.)

Yes, we understand there are limits in discussing personnel files. Yes, chancellors and university boards are entitled to make changes. But the principals' spare responses give taxpayers, tuition-paying UNT families and potential UNT families no idea what happened to a president who essentially worked for them in running Texas' fourth-largest university. And, from all appearances, Bataille, 65, was doing a darn good job taking the Denton campus to a higher level.

There's a second point in play here, too. This is the second Texas university president to suddenly tumble out of office in eight months. In June, Texas A&M's Elsa Murano was dismissed from her short stint in charge in College Station. Chancellor Mike McKinney pushed her out, setting off rumors that Gov. Rick Perry, an alum, was behind the move since McKinney was his former chief of staff.

What Texas can't afford is a cloud hanging over the freedom of its universities. Nothing will dry up the incoming flow of intellectual capital faster than a sense that its university leaders are subject to purges. Jackson insists that Bataille's departure won't hurt his ability to recruit top-flight administrators and faculty. We wish we were so confident.

Texans have a lot on the line in attracting creative talent. The state's economy depends upon ideas flowing from its universities. That's why this newspaper and others pushed legislators to set up a pool of money that eventually will lead to more Tier One research universities.

Guess who was a big part of that push? Gretchen Bataille. She and fellow Presidents David Daniel of the University of Texas at Dallas and James Spaniolo of the University of Texas at Arlington joined hands as part of the campaign to develop more leading research schools in Texas.

Now Bataille is gone. That the taxpaying public has no idea why is simply not acceptable.

## THE PAMPA NEWS

403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065

806-669-2525 • 800-687-3348

Fax: 806-669-2520

Randall Pribble  
Publisher

rpribble@thepampanews.com

ReDonn Woods  
Advertising Manager

rwoods@thepampanews.com

Betsy Phillips  
Editor

bphillips@thepampanews.com

Sue Pribble  
Advertising Representative

spribble@thepampanews.com

David Bowser  
Reporter

dbowser@thepampanews.com

Beverly Taylor  
Classified Advertising

classified@thepampanews.com

Andrew Glover  
Reporter

aglover@thepampanews.com

Kera Kent  
Circulation

circulation@thepampanews.com

Marcus Elkins  
Press Supervisor

press@thepampanews.com

Carrie Hair  
Accounting

bookkeeper@thepampanews.com

Chico Ramirez  
Circulation Supervisor

This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily, except Sundays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day, by The Pampa News. Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.

All carriers are independent contractors and The Pampa News is not responsible for advance payments of two or more months made to the carrier. Please pay directly to the Pampa News any payment that exceeds the current collection period. There are no mail subscriptions available within the city limits of Pampa. Mail subscriptions must be paid three months in advance.

© 2010 The Pampa News

MEMBER  
2010  
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

# Marijuana use by seniors goes up as boomers age

MIAMI (AP) — In her 88 years, Florence Siegel has learned how to relax: A glass of red wine. A crisp copy of *The New York Times*, if she can wrest it from her husband. Some classical music, preferably Bach. And every night like clockwork, she lifts a pipe to her lips and smokes marijuana.

Long a fixture among young people, use of the country's most popular illicit drug is now growing among the AARP set, as the massive generation of baby boomers who came of age in the 1960s and '70s grows older.

The number of people aged 50 and older reporting marijuana use in the prior year went up from 1.9 percent to 2.9 percent from 2002 to 2008, according to surveys from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

The rise was most dramatic among 55- to 59-year-olds, whose reported marijuana use more than tripled from 1.6 percent in 2002 to 5.1 percent.

Observers expect further increases as 78 million boomers born between

1945 and 1964 age. For many boomers, the drug never held the stigma it did for previous generations, and they tried it decades ago.

Some have used it ever since, while others are revisiting the habit in retirement, either for recreation or as a way to cope with the aches and pains of aging.

Siegel walks with a cane and has arthritis in her back and legs. She finds marijuana has helped her sleep better than pills ever did. And she can't figure out why everyone her age isn't sharing a joint, too.

"They're missing a lot of fun and a lot of relief," she said.

Politically, advocates for legalizing marijuana say the number of older users could represent an important shift in their decades-long push to change the laws.

"For the longest time, our political opponents were older Americans who were not familiar with marijuana and had lived through the 'Reefer Madness' mentality and they considered marijuana a very dangerous

drug," said Keith Stroup, the founder and lawyer of NORML, a marijuana advocacy group.

"Now, whether they resume the habit of smoking or whether they simply understand that it's no big deal and that it shouldn't be a crime, in large numbers they're on our side of the issue."

Each night, 66-year-old Stroup says he sits down to the evening news, pours himself a glass of wine and rolls a joint. He's used the drug since he was a freshman at Georgetown, but many older adults are revisiting marijuana after years away.

"The kids are grown, they're out of school, you've got time on your hands and frankly it's a time when you can really enjoy marijuana," Stroup said. "Food tastes better, music sounds better, sex is more enjoyable."

The drug is credited with relieving many problems of aging: aches and pains, glaucoma, macular degeneration, and so on. Patients in 14 states enjoy medical marijuana laws, but those elsewhere buy or grow the

drug illegally to ease their conditions.

Among them is Perry Parks, 67, of Rockingham, N.C., a retired Army pilot who suffered crippling pain from degenerative disc disease and arthritis. He had tried all sorts of drugs, from Vicox to epidural steroids, but found little success. About two years ago he turned to marijuana, which he first had tried in college, and was amazed how well it worked for the pain.

"I realized I could get by without the narcotics," Parks said, referring to prescription painkillers. "I am essentially pain free."

But there's also the risk that health problems already faced by older people can be exacerbated by regular marijuana use.

Older users could be at risk for falls if they become dizzy, smoking it increases the risk of heart disease and it can cause cognitive impairment, said Dr. William Dale, chief of geriatrics and palliative medicine at the University of Chicago Medical Center.

He said he'd caution against using it even if a

patient cites benefits.

"There are other better ways to achieve the same effects," he said.

Pete Delany, director of applied studies at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, said boomers' drug use defied stereotypes, but is important to address.

"When you think about people who are 50 and older you don't generally think of them as using illicit drugs — the occasional Hunter Thompson or the kind of hippie dippie guy that gets a lot of press maybe," he said. "As a nation, it's important to us to say, 'It's not just young people using drugs it's older people using drugs.'"

In conversations, older marijuana users often say they smoke in less social settings than when they were younger, frequently preferring to enjoy the drug privately. They say

the quality (and price) of the drug has increased substantially since their youth and they aren't as paranoid about using it.

Dennis Day, a 61-year-old attorney in Columbus, Ohio, said when he used to get high, he wore dark glasses to disguise his red eyes, feared talking to people on the street and worried about encountering police. With age, he says, any drawbacks to the drug have disappeared.

"My eyes no longer turn red, I no longer get the munchies," Day said. "The primary drawbacks to me now are legal."

Siegel bucks the trend as someone who was well into her 50s before she tried pot for the first time. She can muster only one frustration with the drug.

"I never learned how to roll a joint," she said. "It's just a big nuisance. It's much easier to fill a pipe."

## Going Green: What's old is new again

Since 1871, Galveston Historical Foundation has worked to save hundreds of treasures in the island city, from documents to buildings, including tiny, decrepit houses, mansions and commercial structures. GHF begins a new era in its nationally renowned preservation efforts with the 36th Annual Galveston Historic Homes Tour the first two weekends in May.

Among 10 houses that will be opened to the public during the annual

historic homes tour is the "Green Revival House," an 1890s shotgun-style house being restored by GHF in partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The house is one of the first in the nation planned to give the public a vivid look at how energy-saving and "sustainable" building and landscaping features are becoming essential and affordable parts of all restoration blueprints.

The tour also emphasizes

"historic green architecture," the building methods developed to make homes more comfortable before the luxuries of electricity, municipal water systems and natural gas were widespread. Before they had electric fans, owners of many of Galveston's oldest homes relied on floor-to-ceiling windows that could be thrown open to catch every available breeze. Spacious hallways and staircases helped air circulation. Cisterns caught

rainwater for drinking, cooking, bathing and irrigation.

This year's homes tour sets the tone for GHF's future restoration programs—to help the public find affordable old homes for restoration while keeping them informed of the best ways to preserve historic green features and incorporate modern green features.

Tickets to the 2010 Historic Homes Tour are \$25 per person, \$20 per person in advance. Tickets will be available online soon at [www.galvestonhistory.org](http://www.galvestonhistory.org). For more information call 409 765 7834.

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Beginner

## Guinness: Arizona Great Dane is tallest dog ever

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — A 250-pound blue Great Dane from Arizona gives new meaning to the term "big dog."

Guinness World Records says Giant George from Tucson is the tallest dog ever on record.

Guinness said Monday that he stands 3 feet, 7 inches tall from paw to shoulder, which is three-quarters of an inch taller than his closest rival — Titan, a white Great Dane from San Diego.

The 4-year-old Titan took the title of world's tallest dog in 2009 after Gibson, a Great Dane from Grass Valley, Calif., died of bone cancer.

Guinness officials say there were conflicting reports about Giant George's height, so they sent a judge to verify it.

The 4-year-old is owned by David Nasser.



### Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I agree with the response you gave to "Low Priority in Pennsylvania" (Dec. 11) that she reconsider her relationship with her fiance, but not for the reason you may think. Unless they are kids just out of college, three years is a long time to be engaged. Add to this the fact that the man seems to be making no moves to blend his old family with his new one, and it suggests to me that he isn't really serious about making his relationship with "Low Priority" permanent.

After three years, a man who is planning to remarry should be gently encouraging his biological children to accept the new relationship. Obviously, when his kids are visiting he is going to spend a lot of time with them on their own, but he shouldn't be reluctant to show her affection and respect in their presence. He also should not be ignoring her or her child, and there should be time scheduled for all of them to do things together.

That Sunday breakfast would be a perfect opportunity. A man who is serious would wake up the whole house and they'd go to breakfast together. Then afterward, maybe she would go home and he would take all the kids — her son included — to do something fun. Or maybe she should be the one who takes the kids for an afternoon, to give his kids a chance to get used to this new woman and negotiate a relationship with her on their own terms.

The fact that he has done none of this should be a huge red flag to "Low Priority." She needs to decide if being engaged for life is good enough, or if she'd rather cut bait and look for a man who loves and respects her enough to fully incorporate her into his life. — JAYMI IN ATLANTA

DEAR JAYMI: Thank you for writing. Many readers disagreed with my comments and told me emphatically that not

only did they regard the man as an uncaring partner, but also as an ineffective parent. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: That man is not being a good parent when he has his kids. A real parent sets bedtimes and teaches the kids to consider all the members of the family. He is shortchanging his kids because of his behavior! — ELIZABETH IN SAN DIEGO

DEAR ABBY: Through 23 years of marriage I tolerated isolating behavior from my husband when his two sons were visiting, first as teens and later as young adults. Nothing worked — talking to him, ignoring the behavior, taking my own trips on visit weekends, marriage counseling. I had no say in matters pertaining to the two stepsons, even though they affected my marriage and our home life.

My marriage ended when I finally decided if I was going to feel alone, I might as well enjoy the benefits. My former husband is now alone and none too happy about it. And his now grown sons are no more concerned with his feelings than he was with mine. Children learn by example. — FORMER STEPMOTHER

DEAR ABBY: In a family, blended or otherwise, the adults are the heads of the family. It's the so-called "executive system." Their relationship must be kind, harmonious and respectful because it sets the tone for the entire family dynamic.

The fiance may love his children, but he's actually causing them more harm by allowing them to rule the roost and see him essentially mistreat the woman and child with whom he has lived for three years. The part of your advice I agree with is that the woman should not marry him. — THERAPIST IN MAINE

### Their Future is in Your Hands

## Vote for Todd Alvey

### for 223rd Judicial District Judge

- Family Oriented
  - Married to Misty for 17 years
  - Four Children - Paige, Payton, Patterson and Preslee
- Successfully owned his own business for 17 years
- Experienced - 18 years as an attorney
  - Criminal Law
    - 10 years Prosecutor (youngest elected official at time of election)
    - 8 years Defense Attorney
    - Both sides of counsel table
  - Juvenile Attorney - hundreds of cases as both Prosecutor and Defense Counsel
- Family Law
  - Divorces
  - Child Custody
  - Property Disputes
- Balanced
- Aggressive
- Locally Raised

Paid for by Todd L. Alvey for 223rd Judicial District Judge, Kathy Cota Treasurer, 1504 N. Christy

## Dallas high school salutes artist, alum Tex Avery

DALLAS (AP) — Tex Avery's cartoons were funny 70 years ago, and they're still funny today. Avery created the wisecracking Bugs Bunny and awarded him the signature, "Eh, what's up, doc?"

He first heard the line at North Dallas High, where he graduated with the Class of 1926. Standing in the cavernous hallways, one can almost hear Roaring '20s teenagers passing one another during class changes. "Hiya, doc." "What's new, doc?" "What's up, doc?"

Avery, who died of lung cancer in 1980, once told an interviewer that Daffy Duck was born on White Rock Lake in East Dallas, where he and his friends hunted ducks.

Avery's animated films that's what academics call cartoons are enjoying a renaissance at his alma mater this month. In a narrow, whitewashed hallway between the cafeteria and a computer lab, students are painting color-drenched murals depicting the Avery characters Bugs, Daffy, Elmer, sad-eyed Droopy the dog, and the rest.

"I grew up watching them on Cartoon Network," said Jesus Martinez, one of the student muralists.

"I like the ones with Foghorn Leghorn and Droopy," said Noland Sowels, a 17-year-old senior.

Even though Avery created his best cartoons in the 1930s and '40s, they still appeal to young people today. The reason, probably, is because the stories are fast-paced and infused with satire, irony, sex and violence. Above all, they're funny.

These cartoons started out among the "short subjects" preceding a feature film. In the late '40s, some were resurrected for television. Today, they live in DVD collections and on cable channels.

Walt Disney was the cartoon king of Avery's era. Think of Mickey Mouse and Goofy or Jiminy Cricket and Snow White. Disney characters were sweet, earnest and without rough edges. Avery and his crew decided to go the other way, creating edgy characters such as Red Hot Riding Hood and the wolf who lusted after her.

"I think he brought Texas attitude to his work," said Robert Musburger, professor emeritus at the University of Houston and a noted animation historian. "His characters had a certain cockiness get out of my way because I'm always right. Bugs was the epitome of that character."

And it all started in Dallas.

The student artists are competing in a contest to paint the best mural of Avery's characters. Winners will be declared later this month. Teachers say incidents of illegal graffiti have decreased recently, because students can use the cartoon contest as an outlet. But the North Dallas teachers who created the mural contest set a bigger goal.

"We want our students to know that great people went to school here, and that there are great people here today," said Gordon Markley, a business teacher who came up with the idea of using Avery to make that point.

AVERY cont. on page 7

## What to do when your boss gives up

NEW YORK (AP) — Your boss shows up late, sneaks out early, ignores e-mails and winces at work-related questions.

Sound familiar? Many managers are burned out from trying to get more work done with fewer staffers and resources. Some have even stopped caring.

That can frustrate employees who can't get questions answered, are waiting in vain for decisions to be made and feel like the workplace is in limbo.

Here are some tips for those trying to cope with a boss who's given up:

### DISCOVER WHAT'S GOING ON

Bosses have mood swings like everyone. So before you do anything to fix the problem, try to determine why your supervisor shows so little interest in work.

It's possible the boss is dealing with a temporary situation such as a marital issue that will eventually pass, says Katherine Crowley, the co-author of "Working for You Isn't Working for Me."

But there's also the likelihood that something more serious is going on with his or her job. Some bosses lose interest because they're being pushed out, while others get so fed up that they can't put any more energy into their work.

Try to ask discreet questions to find out what's going on.

"You really need to dig deep and see," says Lynn Taylor, a workplace consultant. "They may just be more forthcoming than you might imagine."

### TRY TO HELP — EVEN IF YOU'RE FRUSTRATED

It's upsetting to work with a manager who's detached or distracted.

Disinterested bosses "bring down the energy level and motivation" of everyone in a workplace, says Robert I. Sutton, a professor of management science at Stanford University, and the author of the forthcoming book "Good Boss, Bad Boss."

"The indifference is contagious," he says.

But while you may resent your boss's

behavior, don't gossip with other employees or say things that are sarcastic or insulting. Instead, look for opportunities to step in and help.

Many burned-out bosses are more than willing to hand over some responsibilities. So, if there's a project that could use some much-needed attention, volunteer to work on it, says Gini Graham Scott, the author of "A Survival Guide for Working With Bad Bosses."

It will help your boss, and make you look good. But be careful. Don't overstep your boundaries or threaten your manager's job. The boss may have given up, but he or she is still in charge.

"You don't want to sort of look like you're trying to take over the position," Scott says.

### MORE ASSERTIVE ACTION

If that doesn't work, it may be time to take more direct steps.

At one company, Sutton says, four or five influential employees gathered together and confronted their boss, saying: "We've admired the work you've done in the past, but if you don't change your behavior, we think you should step down."

It was a risky move, and one that's not appropriate for every company. But those employees felt OK going with the direct approach, since they knew it was difficult for the boss to fire them.

Other workers don't have that luxury, so Sutton says there may be subtler ways to fight back.

If a large group of employees makes note of the boss on a workplace attitude survey, that could alert the higher-ups. Or, if the company's clients express frustration about the indifferent manager, that could lead to some change, too.

Then there's the other option: talking to your boss' boss. Telling higher-ups there's a problem can sometimes be the best solution. But it's not without risks.

If you go above your boss' head, he or she will likely get angry or upset, and may

BOSS cont. on page 7

## January sweetheart



Gabrielle Powell, daughter of Dr. Dan and Lisa Powel, is the Pampa Lions Club's January sweetheart. Activities include membership in ASTRA, SADD, and Leos Club, as well as playing varsity volleyball for two years and singing in the concert choir and show choir for two years. Honors include two year member of the National Honor Society, 2008 Most Improved Volleyball Player, two year member of the student council, Student Council Senior Class Reporter, Choir Secretary, performed as lead in the concert choir's presentation of 42nd Street this year and 2009 Homecoming Queen. Future plans are to attend Abilene Christian University.

## 3 pups thrown over Port Arthur seawall, rescued

PORT ARTHUR, Texas (AP) — Three rescued puppies are recovering after being thrown over a seawall and on to some rocks in Port Arthur.

Firefighters rescued the crying pups and placed the creatures with animal control.

KFDM-TV reports the man who tossed the animals on Sunday was heard

saying he was "turning them into soldiers." A bystander noticed the abandoned puppies and summoned help.

Pat Lavergne with Port Arthur Animal Control says the puppies, with health problems such as mange, were at the shelter Tuesday and available for adoption. She described them as a retriever mix.

The owner of the dogs, who was not immediately located, could face animal cruelty charges.

**READ IT ONLINE**

Access a complete issue of  
**The Pampa News**  
every day,  
Monday through  
Saturday,  
on your computer!

Call Kera at 669-2525  
for subscription  
details.

**S & P BOOKKEEPING SERVICE OF PAMPA**

J'Neil Stiles & Sherri Pollock  
408 W Kingsmill Suite 173A  
(806) 665-4904 Fax: (806) 665-4914

Come see us for all your personal/professional bookkeeping & tax needs.  
Pick-up and delivery available.  
Please call for an appointment today!

**\$10<sup>00</sup> OFF COMPLETION OF TAX RETURN**  
Limit 1 Coupon per return  
Valid thru 4/15/10

[www.sandpbookkeeping.com](http://www.sandpbookkeeping.com)

**CENTRAL BAIL BONDS II**  
*Kenneth Knowles, Founder*

315 N. SOMERVILLE • PAMPA TX

Larry Ingram, Agent

24 HOUR SERVICE PAMPA 806-665-7716  
CREDIT BONDS BORGER 806-273-5333  
SE HABLA ESPANOL PANHANDLE 806-537-4795  
WHEELER 806-826-0132

*The Ones to Trust*  
**TRUSTAR REAL ESTATE**

INDEPENDENT REAL ESTATE SERVICES

**Gary L. Winton**  
Building Contractor,  
Realtor  
1716 N. Hobart, Pampa  
Mobile: 806.440.1698  
Office: 806.665.4595  
Fax: 806.688.9277

[www.FinneyBuiltHomes.com](http://www.FinneyBuiltHomes.com)

**Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency, Inc.**

**Home Health Care**  
*"Established 1988"*

- SKILLED NURSING CARE
- HOME HEALTH AIDES
- PHYSICAL THERAPY
- ELDER WELLNESS PROGRAM
- CASE MANAGEMENT

- INTERNAL & IV INFUSION
- DIABETIC MANAGEMENT
- CARDIAC REHABILITATION
- WOUND CARE SPECIALIST
- MEDICARE-MEDICAIDE CERTIFIED

LICENSED BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
**806-665-0356**  
916 N. CREST RD. SUITE 101 • PAMPA

**New Pellet Grill**

**Green Mountain Grill**  
**Fireside Comfort**

**WHITNEY INSURANCE AGENCY**

Authorized John Deere Crop Insurance Agent

721 W. KINGSMILL AVE.  
PAMPA, TEXAS 79008

Office (806)665-2221  
Fax (806)665-0129  
Home (806)665-2927  
Toll Free 866-665-2221

**DONALD R. WHITNEY**  
LUTCF

Jessica Whiteley, Agent

**Pampa Realty Inc. 669-0007**  
**Pampa MLS & Amarillo MLS**

- Jim Davidson (BKR)/OWNER..... 662-9021
- Rebecca Atkins..... 662-2190
- Katrina Bigham..... 898-8510
- Donna Courter..... 595-0779
- Twila Fisher (BKR)..... 440-2314
- John Goddard (BKR)..... 595-1234
- Linda Lapacka..... 662-9611
- Zeb Salors..... 664-0312
- Sandra Schuneman (BKR)..... 662-7291
- Andrea Walling..... 664-6227

Real Estate For The Real World

VISIT CENTURY 21 COMMUNITIES™ on AOL@keyword:CENTURY 21

# Foreign CEO testimony a rare catch for Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress regularly hauls in U.S. chief executives for public interrogations, from tobacco CEOs claiming nicotine isn't addictive to New York bankers defending their bonuses. But this week brings a rare catch — the head of a foreign company.

Toyota President Akio Toyoda will appear Wednesday in front of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform to explain safety problems that forced the world's top automaker to recall 8.5 million of its most popular cars and trucks.

Foreign executives, beyond the reach of congressional subpoenas, usually try to avoid hearings that are often as much about public shaming as improving the public good. Often, the task is left to underlings more familiar with Washington or the issues under investigation.

That Toyoda agreed to testify after initially resisting an invitation is proof of how deep Toyota's problems are. But the track record of the few foreign executives who have showed up on Capitol Hill illustrates the many pitfalls that Toyoda faces, and the lasting effects his performance could have on the company and his tenure.

"He will be in for a firestorm, but it is the honorable thing to do," said

Mark Zupan, dean of the University of Rochester's business school. "It sends a big signal to actually show up on somebody else's home turf."

Congress does not have the legal authority to compel citizens of foreign countries to testify, according to Graham Wilson, a political scientist at Boston University who studies politics and business. But Toyoda, under enormous pressure to answer how long his company knew about safety problems and whether it did enough to solve them, likely had little choice but to accept an invitation from the committee last week.

Many analysts draw parallels between Toyoda and another Japanese auto executive who testified nearly 10 years ago over a similar safety debacle.

On Sept. 6, 2000, Masatoshi Ono went before House and Senate committees investigating blowouts that led to the recall of millions of tires made by his Bridgestone-Firestone company. It was a rare public appearance for Ono, who admitted he was nervous and had practiced his opening speech so that he could deliver it in English. He later used a translator for questions, most of which were fielded by two senior executives who sat with him.

The result was terrible. Ono apologized for deaths

linked to the blowouts but could not provide an answer to why they happened. Lawmakers spent nearly 13 hours excoriating Ono and his company, the U.S. division of the Japanese Bridgestone rubber conglomerate. Sen. Barbara Mikulski, D-Md., even asked where his "sense of concern as a human being was." A month later, Ono resigned.

"It was a disaster," said Jason Vines, who was the top spokesman at the time for the Ford Motor Co., whose then-CEO, Jacques Nasser, was also grilled by Congress that day about his company's role in crashes connected to blowouts.

Other foreign companies have tried different strategies during crises.

When Congress moved to block efforts by the Dubai-based DP World to acquire management rights to six U.S. ports, the company enlisted its chief operating officer, H. Edward Bilkey, a U.S. citizen, to testify on its behalf in February 2006.

The grandson of a senator, Bilkey told the Senate Commerce Committee that DP World would ensure security, a losing effort to allay lawmaker fears over ceding port control to a foreign nation following the terror attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. He also enlisted well-connected Washington lobbying firms to help make his case.

A month later, DP World agreed to transfer the U.S. operations to a domestic company. Bilkey died in July 2006 at age 72.

Akio Toyoda has held press conferences in Japan since the crisis broke several weeks ago, apologizing to consumers and promising to fix the problems of faulty brakes in the Prius hybrid and unintended acceleration in cars brand like the Corolla and Camry.

But he will have to answer pointed questions from lawmakers during the hearing, which could present an awkward situation. It is unclear if Toyoda plans to use an interpreter, and his performance in English in some of the press conferences has been mixed. The company says he speaks the language well, but may get help to make sure his points are made clearly.

As an executive in Japan, where businesses are generally treated with reverence, he may also be unaccustomed to the grilling he will face, according to Harvard Business School and former Medtronic CEO Bill George.

But it will be a critical appearance for Toyoda to try to salvage both his own and Toyota's reputation.

"When you are the grandson of the founder, you think you are protected," George said. "But a crisis puts the job on the line."

## Boss

cont. from page 6

become even more difficult to work with, says Wayne A. Hochwarter, a professor of management at Florida State University.

"Animals that are injured are a little bit nastier," he says. So weigh your options carefully.

If you don't feel like complaining, try to find a mentor within the company. He or she may be able to serve as a quasi-manager, providing you with guidance that you're missing from your boss — and possibly some ways to deal with the situation.

Of course, finding another job may be another solution. Craig Isaacs, now the CEO of a computer software company, did that in the early '90s. He was working at a technology firm, when his boss eventually gave up and stopped doing his job. Isaacs caught his supervisor playing solitaire on the computer, and decided it was time to put his resume together and start looking.

"At some point, you have to decide what it is you want to do," he says. "If it's not fun, get out."

If finding another job isn't an option, Sutton says workers can take comfort from the television series, "The Office."

The lesson, he says: Even if you've got an absentee boss, you can still find a way to do good work.

### CHICKEN FRIED STEAK MEAL

SPECIAL OFFER WEDNESDAYS ONLY!





**\$1.99**

plus tax—no substitutions—lunch or dinner—no limit

**YOU GET:**

- chicken fried steak with white gravy
- individual mashed potatoes with gravy
- individual cole slaw
- 1 baked biscuit

PAMPA 2201 N. Hobart St. 665-2766

**DINE IN! DRIVE THRU! CARRY OUT!**

# Wall, window cut to remove woman

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston firefighters had to cut the window and wall from a second-floor apartment to get a 400-pound woman out for medical treatment.

KPRC-TV reports the 38-year-old woman was attempting to get to the

bathroom when she broke her leg Sunday.

Dennis Spellman from the Houston Housing Authority says the agency had urged the woman, who uses a wheelchair, to move to a lower level due to health concerns.

Spellman says the woman

told the housing authority that her wheelchair use was temporary.

The videotaped rescue shows firefighters used a ladder truck and a pulley system to get the woman out the opening, after failing to remove her through a hallway.

KPRC reports doctors later had to amputate her leg. Further details on her treatment were not immediately available.

## Avery

Avery left Dallas after high school and briefly attended an art school in Chicago. But he chafed under the discipline of structured classes. He returned to Dallas and worked odd jobs for several months before moving to Los Angeles.

Tex Avery rendered this artwork for the North Dallas High School yearbook when he was a student there in the '20s. Avery had penned some cartoons in high school for the yearbook and school newspaper, but they weren't very good. His attempts to sell a cartoon strip to California newspapers went nowhere. After a while, he landed a job with Walter Lantz studios, which years later produced the Woody Woodpecker cartoons. But he and Lantz fell out over money, and Avery moved on to Warner Bros. studios, where he worked from 1935 to 1941. As a director, he was responsible for bringing together the whole cartoon the story, the music, the writing and the animation.

Chuck Jones, a fellow director who created the Road Runner/Wile E. Coyote series, called Avery "a genius" and credited him with moving cartoons from realism to surrealism, meaning that Bugs could do things like moving a hole in the ground from one place to another so Elmer Fudd could fall into it.

Anything could happen in a Tex Avery cartoon.

"Tex took things to another level," said Jerry Beck, an animation historian in Los Angeles (cartoonbrew.com). "He is right up there with the greats of comedy like Buster Keaton and

Charlie Chaplin. And as a director, he is way up there, too."

Avery was as introspective as he was zany. Later in life, he lamented spending too much time at work and neglecting his wife and two children, one of whom died of a drug overdose in 1972. He later divorced and lived alone in a small apartment. He died in Los Angeles at age 72.

Avery created enduring images that cause people to exclaim, "Oh yeah, I remember that!"

Later in his career, he directed television commercials. One of the most successful was for Raid, the insecticide. A cartoon cockroach's eyes get wide, he screams "RAID!" and lands dead on his back.

Animation historians credit Avery with inventing the extreme "take" and "double take" that became commonplace in cartoons.

The best example is Wolfie, the amorous rogue who appears in a series of cartoons that lay waste to the Little Red Riding Hood children's story.

When the wolf first spots the sexy Red Hot Riding Hood, his eyes bug out of his head, and his body becomes horizontally erect in a metaphor that adults understand. It's called a "take."

"Tex loved the wild takes," Beck said. "Every part of a character's body would fly apart and come back together."

The Mask, a 1994 Jim Carrey movie that incorporated animation and live action, paid homage to several "Averysisms." In one scene, the cartoon version of Carrey's character spots Cameron Diaz in a nightclub. His eyes pop out, his jaw literally drops to

the floor, and his tongue unrolls like a garden hose.

The 1988 movie Who Framed Roger Rabbit? features a cartoon character named Jessica Rabbit, a sexpot with more curves than a mountain road. Red Hot Riding Hood was the inspiration for Jessica, according to animation historians.

In some cases, Avery acknowledged that he had gone too far in creating scabrous characters with sketchy morals and values.

Take the misanthropic Screwly Squirrel, who starred in five Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer cartoons that Avery directed between 1944 and 1946.

The first Screwly Squirrel cartoon opens with cute, cuddly Sammy Squirrel merrily dancing through a pastoral forest setting. Sammy is childlike, with a sweet voice clearly a parody of a Disney character.

Before long, Sammy runs into rough-and-tumble Screwly.

"What kind of a cartoon is this going to be, anyway?" Screwly asks Sammy.

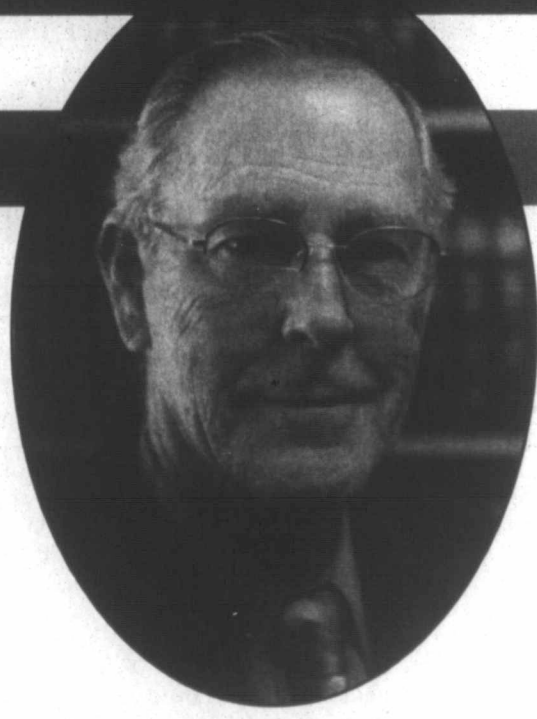
"The story is all about me and my cute little furry friends in the forest," Sammy answers.

A disgusted Screwly takes Sammy behind a tree, beats him senseless and then takes over the cartoon. For the next seven minutes, Screwly inflicts torture on a not-too-bright dog named Meathead.

"Tex Avery had no patience for the earnest world of the saccharine sweet," said Kirsten Thompson, an animation historian at Wayne State University in Detroit.

"He wanted to mock it and spoof it."

cont. from page 6



### Reasons to re-elect JUDGE RICHARD PEET

- ◆ Instead of hiring outside professionals, Judge Peet has exhibited abilities above and beyond his serving in the office of county judge
- ◆ In 1997 Judge Peet acquired contracts with over 20 panhandle counties to utilize our Golden Phoenix facility at the Pampa Regional Medical Center, thereby bringing in revenue to Pampa and Gray County
- ◆ In 1998 Judge Peet saved the county thousands of dollars by personally writing the grant application that received \$595,000 from the governor's justice fund to build a juvenile rehab facility
- ◆ In 2000 Judge Peet saved the county about \$16,000 by doing the redistricting required by law following the 2000 census and will do it again this year
- ◆ In 2001 Judge Peet worked with Architexas in writing the master plan for courthouse restoration which resulted in Gray County receiving a grant of 3.8 million dollars from the state
- ◆ In 2005 and again in 2008 Judge Peet saved the county altogether about \$24,000 by writing the criteria for the establishing of reinvestment zones, which provides business incentives in Gray County

Pd. Pol. Ad. By John Stewart, Treas., 717 E 14th Pampa, TX 79065

# Sports

## Shockers win Canadian Area Youth Tournament

**SUBMITTED BY CHRIS ENGLE**  
The Pampa Shockers 5th and 6th grade basketball team competed in the Canadian Area Youth Basketball Tournament last weekend notching its 2nd tournament win on the season. Pampa won all four games that they played defeating Miami 34 to 27,

Canadian 41 to 37, Fritch 45 to 15 and Shamrock in the championship game 55 to 13. The Shockers have eight kids on the team consisting of six 6th graders and two 5th graders. Cade Engle led the team in scoring for the tournament with (45 points, four rebounds, 28 steals and 11 assists), Kyndan Lott added (30

points, 14 rebounds, seven steals and six assists), Marchean Hair had (24 points, three rebounds and seven steals), Brandon Sieck totaled (18 points, four rebounds, 11 steals and five assists), Rhett Harden dropped (17 points, 12 rebounds, seven steals and four assists), Adam Zuniga added (16 points,

10 rebounds, four steals and 12 assists), Rickie Johnson led the Shockers in the paint with (15 points, 25 rebounds, eight steals and two assists) and Bryson Burrell added (nine points, 12 rebounds, five steals and two assists). The Shockers recently won the Lefors Little Dribblers Tournament a

few weeks ago and finished third in the Amarillo Advanced Basketball League at the Courts of Amarillo. They are currently competing in the Kids Incorporated Competitive League against the same club teams from Amarillo and the surrounding area that they saw in the Advanced

League at the Courts. In the immediate future they will be traveling to Perryton next weekend to compete in their annual All-Star Tournament. The Shockers are coached by Kevin Sieck and Roy Lott.

## Tennis team finishes sixth in Palo Duro Tourney

**BY ANDREW GLOVER**  
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Harvesters tennis team finished sixth in the Palo Duro Tournament Friday and Saturday in Amarillo.

Head Coach Sarah Corse said it was a good tournament for her team as they beat some of their district opponents.

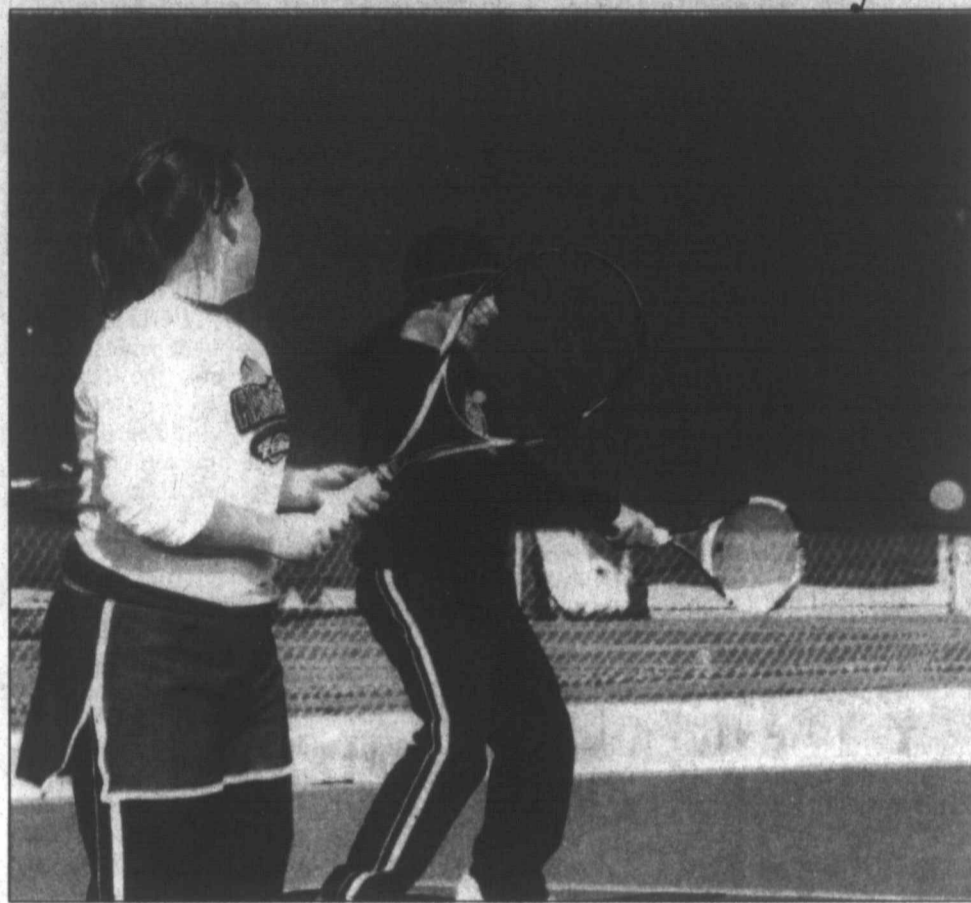
"This was a huge victory in that we beat two teams

from our district and we are hoping to build from that," Corse said. "We finished sixth as a team one point out of the tie for place."

Myles Foreman and Sammi Finney finished first in mixed doubles. Aaron Silva and Holly Gage finished seventh in mixed doubles. Erin Buck and Hilary Acker finished seventh in girls doubles. Alyssa Hoelting and Kayla Ware finished 10th.

Logan Karbo and Nick Nelson finished eighth in boys doubles. Landon Karbo and Collin McClendon finished 15th. Kallie Marak finished 18th in girls singles and Makayla Hampton finished 19th. David Moore finished 13th in boys singles and Braden Russell finished 20th.

The Harvesters next tournament is March 5-6 in Amarillo.



Myles Foreman returns a serve from Amarillo High while Sammi Finney prepares at the net in the Palo Duro tournament. Finney and Foreman won first in mixed doubles. Photo courtesy of Synda Foreman.

## JV girls soccer falls 10-2

The Pampa Lady Harvesters junior varsity soccer team lost 10-2 to the Randall Lady Raiders Friday.

Coach Libby Garza said

the team was playing with no subs on the bench.

"We hung tough for as long as we could," Garza said.

Kirsten Kuhn scored both

goals for Pampa as she just joined the team after the basketball season.

The junior varsity will play at Borger 5 p.m. Wednesday.

## US women's hockey rolls, ice dancers take silver medal in Olympics

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — The United States won only one medal at the Vancouver Olympics on Monday, a silver in ice dancing. Yet there was some significance to it. With 25 medals, Americans have won as many as they have at any Winter Games not held in the United States, matching their haul from Turin in 2006.

The record is all-but-broken, too, because the women's hockey team has advanced to the gold-medal game, meaning they can get no worse than silver. They will face Canada on Thursday.

The next big number for the Americans: 34, their record for medals won at any Winter Olympics, set at the 2002 Salt Lake City Games.

There are six days and 35 events left to try piling them up.

Otherwise, the big news Monday was the fallout from the U.S. men's hockey victory over Canada the day before, including Canada deciding to change

goaltenders. Robert Luongo will be in goal Tuesday against Germany, with Martin Brodeur watching from the bench.

"We're in the winning business and to win in any game, at any level, you need big saves," Canada coach Mike Babcock said. "We're looking for Lu to do that."

The ongoing reverberations started with the head of Canada's Olympic committee conceding that his country wasn't going to win the medals race, a huge proclamation considering they spent \$117 million over five years to "Own the Podium." The white flag wasn't raised directly because of the hockey game, but the timing makes you wonder.

"We'd be living in a fool's paradise if we said we were going to catch the Americans and win," COC head Chris Rudge said.

In the afternoon, TV ratings were released, and the game was the most-watched sporting event in Canadian television history and it tied the 2008 elec-

tions for the most-watched event on MSNBC.

Other events fed off the U.S.-Canada hockey game. For instance, Canada's men's curling team beat the Americans 5-3, eliminating them from the tournament, then one of the Canadian curlers called it "some redemption for the hockey team."

Oh, don't forget the other connection Monday: Happy 30th anniversary to Mike Eruzione, Jim Craig and the "Miracle on Ice" club.

"It was more than a hockey game to a lot of people," Craig said. "As you get older ... it becomes more and more important to us."

Also Monday, Germany made a big move to try catching the United States in the medals race, tying the Americans for the most gold (seven) and getting to 21 overall.

The Germans won the women's cross-country team sprint and got silver in the men's team sprint and in ski jumping.

Subscribe today.  
Call 669-2525

Pampa Area  
Chamber of Commerce  
Annual Banquet



featuring  
Bruce Chadwick  
• Comedy  
• Inspiration  
• Magic



2009  
Citizen of the Year

2009  
Business of the Year

February 25, 2010 • 7pm  
MK Brown Auditorium

RSVP 669-3241 - \$25 per person  
Tickets must be purchased by noon,  
Wednesday, February 24th

Celebrating 85 years of promoting the Pampa area.

## Cancellations

The junior varsity and varsity softball game against Borger was cancelled due to weather as of press time the makeup is pending.

The boys and girls junior varsity soccer teams games at Borger was cancelled due to weather. Makeup games will be played Wednesday in Borger with the girls starting at 5 p.m. and the boys at 7 p.m.

Be aware of the possibility of cancellations of today's games because of snow that is still on the ground.



# Wanted: Ambitious cowgirls

The Top O' Texas Rodeo Association is currently accepting entries for the 2010 Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas and Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas Teen Pageant. Young ladies 19-24 years of age are eligible to enter the Queen division while those who are 14-18 years of age are eligible for the Teen division.

This year's pageant will be held on one day only, Thursday, August 12. The Horsemanship competition will begin at 8:00 a.m. at the Top O' Texas/Bowers Arena. The Interview portion of the pageant will be held in conjunction with Horsemanship. The Luncheon and Style Show is scheduled for noon at the M.K. Brown Room of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce building. Rodeo announcer Shane Burris will act as Master of Ceremonies. Each contestant will be giving a 3-minute speech on their hometown. Coronation will be held during the barbecue prior to the first performance of the 64th annual Top O' Texas Rodeo. The new Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas and Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas Teen will reign over

all 3 performances of the rodeo to be held August 12, 13 and 14.

Winners will receive many outstanding prizes including saddles, tiaras and custom-made belt buckles. Prizes will also be presented to the winners of the Horsemanship, Appearance and Personality categories. A scholarship will be awarded to Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas.

The Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas Pageant is under the direction of Gina Greenhouse. Previous winners have done an outstanding job representing Pampa and the Top O' Texas Rodeo Association at many functions area wide.

Entry forms, fees and pictures are due in the rodeo office by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 1, 2010. There will be no extension of the deadline and young ladies are encouraged to enter as soon as possible. For more information or to request an information packet, please contact the rodeo office, 200 North Ballard, at 806-669-0434, E-mail totrodeo@gmail.com or contact the pageant director at 806-665-6093.



Former Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas Teen Jennifer Huffhines and former Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas Markie Oden.

# Miller has 1st Olympic gold, two more shots

WHISTLER, British Columbia (AP) — Whether Bode Miller acknowledges it himself or not, one Olympic gold medal forever changes the way his skiing career will be viewed.

For all of his many accomplishments — two World Cup overall titles, a U.S.-record 32 World Cup race victories, four world championships, Olympic medals of silver and bronze — the one thing Miller never had done was have a gold medal draped around his neck at a Winter Games.

Until Sunday. Until he capped one sublime week by finishing first in the super-combined event that signifies all-around ability, giving him a record-tying three medals in three events at these Olympics.

Quite a comeback from his infamous flop at the 2006 Turin Games and his near-retirement last year.

"The gold medal is great. I think it's perfect. Ideally, that's what everyone is shooting for. But the way I skied these last races is what matters. I would've been proud of that skiing with a medal or not," Miller said after turning in the third-fastest slalom leg for an overall time of 2 minutes, 44.92 seconds, a comfortable 0.33 ahead of Ivica Kostelic of Croatia. Silvan Zurbriggen of Switzerland got the bronze.

The 32-year-old from Franconia, N.H., conquered a tricky course with sometimes-spectacular skiing that reminded him of being a kid on the slopes. He overcame a big deficit by pushing himself despite a bum left-knee and an aching right ankle. In sum, he turned in a performance

that pleased him, regardless of what the leaderboard said.

"The way I executed — the way I skied — is something I'll be proud of the rest of my life," Miller said.

Just like that, what happened in Italy four years ago suddenly becomes an aberration, not his defining moment. Now he'll always be seen by those outside the sport as one of Alpine skiing's greats who frittered away one Olympics, not a should-have-been who couldn't handle the Olympics.

"Bode has now done everything you can in skiing. He's won World Cups. He's won World Cup overall titles. He's won medals in every color," said Will Brandenburg of Spokane, Wash., who finished 10th in his Olympic debut. "And now he's got the gold. And I think that's big. He's one of the best skiers of all time now, and no one can discredit that."

Don't forget: Miller might not even be done.

There are two races left at Whistler — Tuesday's giant slalom and Saturday's slalom — and there is reason to believe Miller could become the first man to win four medals at a single Olympics.

"I am in a good position to do it," he said.

He won a bronze in Monday's downhill and a silver in Friday's super-G, adding to two silvers at the 2002 Salt Lake City Games. The five Alpine medals tie him for the second-most by any man in Olympic history, behind only the eight won by Kjetil Andre Aamodt of Norway.

Inevitably, Miller was asked why he's doing this now, and did not in 2006, when he tuned out, partied hard and failed to live up to expectations. Miller only finished two of five races back then, never better than fifth place.

In short, he said, what happened there was a reaction to all of those expectations and the way he was set up to be the star of those Olympics. What's happening here, basically, is a reaction to enjoying a fresh sense of excitement after taking time away from skiing and thinking about quitting before eventually deciding in September to return to the U.S. Ski Team.

"The Olympics is definitely, in my mind, a two-sided coin. It has all the best things in sports. It has amazing energy and enthusiasm, passion, inspiration," he said.

"On the flip side, it's the opposite, and that's the corruption and the abuse and the money, and I'm not pointing fingers, but that's what was bothering me — being thrust in the middle of that, being the poster boy for that, when it's the absolute thing I despised the most in the world, was really draining on my inspiration, my level of passion, and those are things that I function on primarily when I'm racing. So I just had the plug pulled out on my most important fuel source."

He's doing just fine at the moment. Miller's father, Woody, who was at Sunday's race, said Bode "was hungry" to perform well this time around.

"He's enjoying himself. That's always been key for him. He lost that. That was what was key in Torino," Woody Miller

said. "He was going through the motions, but not really enjoying himself."

The different vibe in Vancouver comes in part from spending more time around his younger teammates. At the last Olympics, Miller stayed in his own RV, away from the rest of the Americans. At these Olympics, he's living in a condo with everyone else, eating with everyone else, training with everyone else, feeding off the energy of everyone else.

"He's been really motivated," said Ted Ligety, the surprise 2006 Turin gold medalist who was fifth Sunday. "It's cool to really see him win an Olympic gold. That's what's been missing from his resume."

Miller got a late start to training before the World Cup season, and when he worked hard to get going, he hurt his left knee and needed arthroscopic surgery in October to clean it out. Another setback came in December, when Miller injured his right ankle playing volleyball, of all things. On top of that, he took a bad tumble in slalom training at Whistler, flying and landing on his left hip.

In the downhill that opened the super-combined, Miller was only seventh-fastest. He knew he had to make up time in the slalom, and it didn't help that he was hurting and felt exhausted, even if he did begin his career as a slalom specialist.

Miller increased his lead at both checkpoints in the slalom, but after skiing fluidly at the top, he barely managed to get through one gate after another on a

BODE cont. on page 4B

## Win \$100

### in The Pampa News' Amateur Photography Contest!



*"Family Fun" 2009 Winning Photo by Palmon Dorn*

Submit your favorite snapshots in two categories: **"Family Fun"** and **"Pampa Panoramas."**

Family Fun photos can be of an individual or of a group of people, but the key is to take a non-posed image of Gray County residents enjoying life.

Pampa Panoramas can be places, events and beautiful scenes in Gray County.



*"Pampa Panoramas" 2009 Winner Photo by Rick Blain*



The editorial staff of The Pampa News will judge the contest and the top submissions in each category will receive \$100. Second place winners in each category will receive \$50. Third place winners will receive \$25. The photos will be judged on creativity and general appeal.

---

## Photography Contest Entry Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person/Persons in Photo (Left to Right) \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Photo: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Please submit all photos by 5 p.m. Friday, February 26. Any submissions received after this date will not be judged.

**Contest Rules:**  
All photos submitted to the contest must be taken by the person submitting it and must have been taken in Gray County since Jan. 1, 2009. The photos cannot have appeared previously in any other publication or contest. You can submit as many photos to the contest categories as you like. The best way to submit your photo is to send them via email to rpribble@thepampanews.com. The photos should be in .jpg format with a resolution of 200 dpi and a size no larger than 1 mb. Include your name, address, telephone number for verification and a description of the photograph. Please identify any people in the photo. Any photo without this information will not be considered in the contest. If you would rather submit your entries as prints, send them with the information to: Photography Contest, The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison Avenue, Pampa TX. If you wish the prints returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your entry. All entries must be postmarked or emailed by 5 p.m. Friday, February 26. Submissions after that date will not be considered. The Pampa News will publish all the winners, and many of the other submissions, in a special section of our annual Pride issue in March.

# Comics

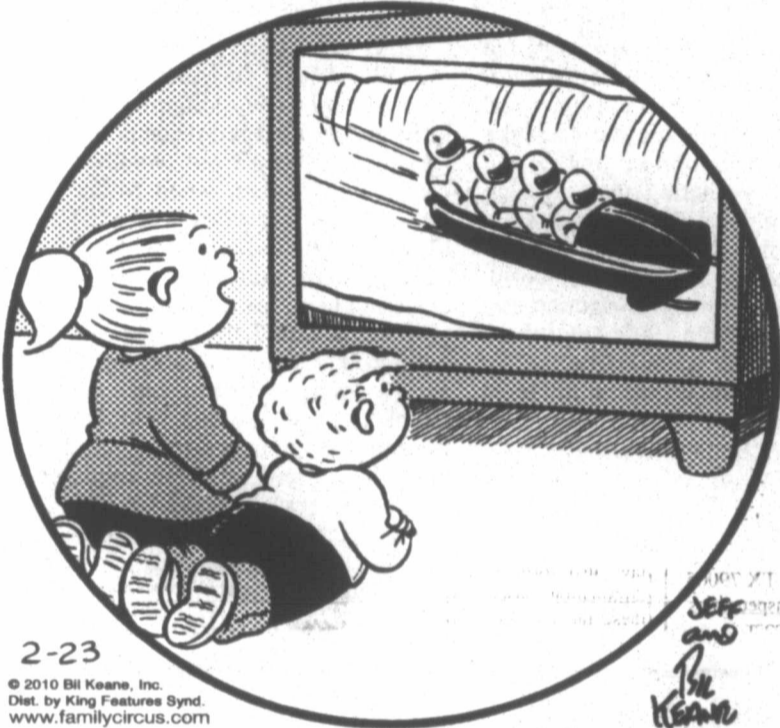
Marmaduke



"Even an ice storm won't stop Marm from checking his bones."

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"I wonder if all their sleds are named Bob."

### Daily Crossword Puzzle

#### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

- 1 Chunnel
- city
- 7 Don't budge
- 11 "Ugly Betty" receptionist
- 12 Act the model
- 13 Disk-snapping
- 15 Pine product
- 16 "Moon-struck" star
- 18 Foolhardy
- 21 Broadway offering
- 22 Kane's portrayer
- 24 Consume
- 25 Auction signal
- 26 Stable particle
- 27 "Jeopardy!" host
- 29 Thatcher, for one
- 30 Feed the hogs
- 31 Swabbing tools
- 32 Toil
- 34 Least amount
- 40 Lake near Buffalo
- 41 Cuban dance
- 42 Saloon order
- 43 Intensify

BANFF	ALLOT
ATOLL	LEAVE
RADII	LEVER
ERGO	ARM
BLASTOFF	
IOTA	DMINOR
BROWS	ELOPE
SENATE	EVAN
YARDSALE	
LAP	TARA
ALICE	AWAIT
STEAL	FALSE
SORRY	TYSON

#### Yesterday's answer

- 20 Learns about
- 21 Match part
- 22 Stir-frying vessel
- 23 Hog holder
- 25 Neighbor of Tibet
- 28 More brassy
- 29 Twisting force
- 31 Israel's Dayan
- 33 Pole explorer
- 34 Ball girl
- 35 Anger
- 36 Conk out
- 37 Strike caller
- 38 Presidential nickname
- 39 Brown hue

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11						12			
13						14			
			15						
	16	17				18	19	20	
21					22				23
24				25			26		
27						28		29	
			30				31		1
34	35	36						37	38
40							41		
42									43

### For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



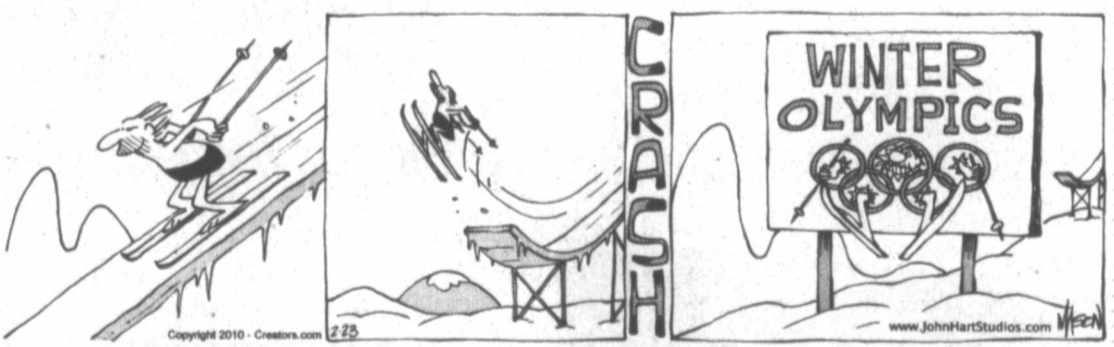
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



5 Spectacular Adventure the MUST through News!  
We  
HAPPY Feb. 2 You (opport this y your: see th try to this y both. year l single or. It could under Enjoy exists  
The S Have: 3-Ave  
ARIE \*\*\* person come need another TONI TAU \*\*\* A gro as lon idea, wh ing. c Hang GEM \*\*\* You a fan think

# The Pampa News Classifieds

- ### 5 Special Notices

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

**LOST**  
Female  
White English Bull Dog  
806-570-1969

**FOUND:** Female Welsh Terrier mix, in Keller Estates, Sat. Feb. 21. 665-7188, 665-4408

**13 Bus. Opp.**

**GREAT** Investment opportunity Howardwick Convenience store. 665-1875, 806-383-1985.

**14d Carpentry**

Carpentry, Roofing, Replacement Windows, steel siding & trim. Continuous gutters. Jerry Nicholas 669-9991, 662-8169

**CUSTOM** Building & Remodeling. New Homes & Additions. Shawn Deaver Const., 806-662-2977.

**OVERHEAD DOOR** REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

### 10 Lost/Found

**14d Carpentry**

**WOOD & METAL FENCING** and REPAIRS. Call 665-2859 or 662-5582.

**14e Carpet Serv.**

**NU-WAY CLEANING SERVICE**  
Bob Marx Owner-Operator. Call 665-3541.

**14h Gen. Serv.**

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

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

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

**PANHANDLE** HOUSE LEVELING Floor or roof sagging, walls cracking, doors dragging, bricks cracking? Call us 1st! 669-0958

### 14h Gen. Serv.

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

**SOLIS FENCING.** New Fence / Fence Repairs. Free estimates. 806-486-1368, 662-2473

**FOR** all your repairs and remodeling needs custom building, roofing, concrete, free estimates. Call 440-1660, Tony

**14r Plowing/Yard**

**ALL** types of work. Clean up, haul off, trees, demolition. Free estimates. 806-665-0766

**14s Plumbing/Heat**

**BROWNING** Heating & Air Cond., 665-1212. Free est. on new equip. We service all brands!

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

**14u Roofing**

**WENDELL'S** ROOFING CO. Metal Roofs, Composition Roofs and Built-Up Roofs. Free Estimates. 806-665-7648

### 21 Help Wanted

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

**EXP.** Auto Tech needed (3-5 yrs. required) for well established independent auto shop. Must have tools. Good pay & benefits. Send resume to 217 E. Atchison, Pampa, 665-4851.

**QUALITY** Control earn up to \$15 hr. Evaluate retail stores. Training provided. 877-289-8554

**PHARMACY** Tech or person willing to train. Must be 18 with high school diploma or GED. Apply in person, Keyes Pharmacy.

**NOW** accepting applications at EZ Pawn for trainee. Starting pay is \$7.50 / hr. Apply on-line only at [ezpawnjobs.com](http://ezpawnjobs.com)

**HOT** Oiler Operator. Experience required. Apply in person Top O Texas Oilfield, 408 S. Price Rd., Pampa

**HIRING** Full-Time Servers. Apply in person only - no phone calls. The Plaza, Pampa

### 21 Help Wanted

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

**EXP.** Auto Tech needed (3-5 yrs. required) for well established independent auto shop. Must have tools. Good pay & benefits. Send resume to 217 E. Atchison, Pampa, 665-4851.

**QUALITY** Control earn up to \$15 hr. Evaluate retail stores. Training provided. 877-289-8554

**PHARMACY** Tech or person willing to train. Must be 18 with high school diploma or GED. Apply in person, Keyes Pharmacy.

**NOW** accepting applications at EZ Pawn for trainee. Starting pay is \$7.50 / hr. Apply on-line only at [ezpawnjobs.com](http://ezpawnjobs.com)

**HOT** Oiler Operator. Experience required. Apply in person Top O Texas Oilfield, 408 S. Price Rd., Pampa

**HIRING** Full-Time Servers. Apply in person only - no phone calls. The Plaza, Pampa

### 21 Help Wanted

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

**EXP.** Auto Tech needed (3-5 yrs. required) for well established independent auto shop. Must have tools. Good pay & benefits. Send resume to 217 E. Atchison, Pampa, 665-4851.

**QUALITY** Control earn up to \$15 hr. Evaluate retail stores. Training provided. 877-289-8554

**PHARMACY** Tech or person willing to train. Must be 18 with high school diploma or GED. Apply in person, Keyes Pharmacy.

**NOW** accepting applications at EZ Pawn for trainee. Starting pay is \$7.50 / hr. Apply on-line only at [ezpawnjobs.com](http://ezpawnjobs.com)

**HOT** Oiler Operator. Experience required. Apply in person Top O Texas Oilfield, 408 S. Price Rd., Pampa

**HIRING** Full-Time Servers. Apply in person only - no phone calls. The Plaza, Pampa

### 95 Furn. Apts.

1 bdrm's avail. starting at \$445/mo. 1/2 Off 1st mo. rent w/7 mo. lease. Corp. units: utilities, linens, basic cable. Caprock Apts. 665-7149

**96 Unfurn. Apts.**  
1 and 2 bdrs. for rent. Beautiful park view! HUD welcome. 710 N. Russell. Call aft. 6pm. Karen, 662-7106.

1 Bedroom Apts. Reasonable Rate Coffee Street Apts. 665-4274

1/2 Off 1st Mo. Rent, 1&2 BR starting at \$390 / mo. On-site laundry & w/d hookups in all 2 bdr. apts. Caprock Apts., 665-7149.

3 BR for only \$649/mo. 1/2 off 1st mo. rent. W/d hookups & on-site laundry. Caprock Apts., 665-7149.

**BATHROOM** heaters, used, good condition. \$15 a peice or make offer for whole lot. 665-0415.

**FIREWOOD** for Sale. \$265 cord. 806-663-3124

**FOR** Sale: Kenmore Elite gas dryer- Large capacity sweater rack \$350. 806-665-9445 or 806-664-0801

**SELLING** mattresses for 30 yrs. New queen sets \$266. Don Minnick, Montgomery Ward retiree. Red Barn, 1420 Hwy. 273 South. Open only on sat. Will open anytime for you. Call 665-2767.

### 97 Furn. Houses

1 bedroom, Partially furnished, Ranch Style house for rent. \$400 a month. 662-0097

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

LRG. 3 or small 4 bdr. 700 Bradley. \$550 mo. \$200 dep. 665-4842.

4, 3 & 2 Bedroom Houses & Duplexes for rent. Call 595-0234.

LRG. 2 bdr., 1228 Garland. \$400 mo., \$200 dep. Call 665-4842.

3 bdrm, 1 bath, 1 car garage for rent. Call 664-7959

2 bdr., 1 ba., new carpet & paint. Fenced yard. Nice area. HUD ok. 665-4082

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

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

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

**103 Homes For Sale**  
FIXER Upper. 2 bdr., 1 ba. \$27,500. Rolisa Twombly Realtors. 806-674-7714.

FSBO 2120 N. Christy. 3 bdr., 1 3/4 ba. Lots of updates, hardwood floors. 806-470-1191

HIGHEST CASH PAID FOR HOUSES! CALL 665-1875

MCLEAN, Tx. 3 bdr., 1 ba. Totally rebuilt. All new appliances included. 806-584-7166.

TRUSTAR Real Estate, 1716 N. Hobart. List with us! Property mgmt., Home staging. 665-4595.

**114 Recre. Veh.**  
2003 Hitchhiker II 34 ft. fifth wheel. All season pkg., 3 slide-outs, fold-out couch, qu. bed, full ba., open kitchen. Very clean. Great shape! \$25,000 obo. 806-231-2597.

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

## February GARAGE SALE SPECIAL

(It's snow proof)

### 4 Lines - \$5

(plus a free garage sale kit)

Must run before Feb. 28th. In case of snow, same ad will run free of charge - (must be within the next 30 days.)

All ads paid in advance!  
Call for deadlines 669-2525

**TURNER ENERGY SERVICES**  
A COMPLETE PRODUCTION SERVICE CO.

**TRANSPORT DRIVERS**  
These Full-Time positions are immediately available in our Miami location. Previous experience and a valid CDL Drivers License required.

**Competitive Wages & Excellent Benefits!**

- \*Health Ins.
- \*Dental Ins.
- \*Life Ins.
- \*STD/LTD Ins.
- \*Vacation / Sick Leave
- \*Paid Holidays
- \*Uniforms
- \*401(K)
- Retirement Plan

Interested Candidates Please Apply At Our Miami Yard  
479 FM 283  
Miami, Tx  
806-868-6561  
EOE  
DRUG FREE WORKPLACE

**Titan SPECIALTIES, LTD.**

**ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN**  
Responsible for lay out, building, testing, troubleshooting, repair and modification of electronic components, parts and systems. Associates degree from a two-year college / technical school, or military required. Good communication, mathematical and problem-solving skills are highly desirable. Pre-employment physical exam, drug screen and background check required. EOE

Contact Titan  
806-665-3781  
11785 Hwy. 152  
Pampa, TX 79065  
[hr@titanspecialties.com](mailto:hr@titanspecialties.com)

**Equal Housing Opportunity**

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

**PAMPA MANOR**  
SENIORS OR DISABLED ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE W/D CONNECTIONS  
2700 N. HOBART  
665-2828

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

**SWEETHEART** Special for Feb. \$300 total move-in! Efficiency at Carroll Apts. 665-1875



**AXYDLBAAXR 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.

2-23 CRYPTOQUOTE

ASJ LIDSOI PJDDIPTTJU ZQI

OSOIMZ ASJ PZFGZ OSRKMV

ZSHFGY F HSGZQHQUKUI VSFU.

— PFOJIU BSQMP\$M  
Yesterday's Cryptquote: OPPORTUNITY DANCES WITH THOSE WHO ARE ALREADY ON THE DANCE FLOOR. — H. JACKSON BROWN JR.

## Your Guide to Local Beauty Professionals

**A Cut Above**  
We're A Full Service Salon!  
2000 N. Hobart  
665-4071

**All About You**  
Salon & Tattoo Studio  
2145 N. Hobart, Suite A  
669-2228

**Massage Therapy**  
Cathy Potter, Holly Albert & Brittany Shuman  
1224 N. Hobart, Ste. #9  
669-0013

Want to list your salon?  
Call Beverly at 669-2525 for information.

### Daily Horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2010:  
You could be taken back by all the opportunities that head in your direction this year. You often feel pulled between your feelings and your goals. You will see them in opposition to each other and try to juggle them. A strong possibility this year will be the ability to merge both. You are in the first year of an 11-year luck cycle. Start it well. If you are single, you will have your choice of suitors. If you are attached, the two of you could act like lovebirds again. **CANCER** understands and appreciates your depth. Enjoy the bond that forms or already exists.

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

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)  
\*\*\*\* Your sensitivity to a domestic, personal or real-estate issue needs to come out. In some fashion, you might need to revamp your thinking, or try another person's logic on for size. Tonight: Happy at home.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
\*\*\*\*\* Feelings flow; ideas flourish. A great brainstorming session can evolve as long as you aren't locked in to any one idea. You'll find a get-together — whether it is friends or a business meeting. Communication happens. Tonight: Hang out with pals.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
\*\*\*\*\* Know when enough is enough. You might have been trying to negotiate a financial agreement. Just when you think you see eye to eye with someone,

there is a change. Perhaps you want to be less proactive. Tonight: Treat yourself well.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
\*\*\*\*\* You might be pushed beyond your normal level and are wondering how to handle a personal matter. Lighten up about someone at a distance. In some fashion, you might be overwhelmed by this person or the possibilities provided by him or her. Tonight: Conjure up a dream.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
\*\*\* Take your time making a decision. Not everyone has to agree with you, nor will they. Still, you seek out diverse feedback from various key people. Your mind could be on overload by the end of the day. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
\*\*\*\*\* Being focused might be a good quality, as so much could be tossed into your path. Try not to push too hard when determining which course to take. A discussion or meeting provides serious, viable options. You have a lot to choose from. Tonight: Where crowds are.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
\*\*\* Continue on your chosen path, but don't be surprised by all the suggestions and steps on the way. It seems as if everyone wants to add in his or her two cents. Learn how to say "no" nicely, or maybe "later." Tonight: Burning the candle at both ends.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
\*\*\*\*\* Your creativity surges, especially if you detach from a draining situation or one that triggers you. Ideas start popping up out of the blue. A new friend made right now could be most interesting. Tonight: Follow the music.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
\*\*\*\*\* A partner continues to dominate. You might need to determine what you must have control over and establish effective boundaries. A family member's changing moods could have you shaking your head. Tonight: Be a duo.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
\*\*\*\*\* Return messages, ask questions and get a project off the back burner. Your understanding of how others work will add strength to your ideas. You cannot say "no" to an invitation. It is so alluring! Tonight: So many choices.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
\*\*\* Toss yourself into each project or meeting. With intense focus, you'll get through a lot of work. New ways of making money or increasing your stature appear. You might wonder which way to go. Tonight: Do something just for you.

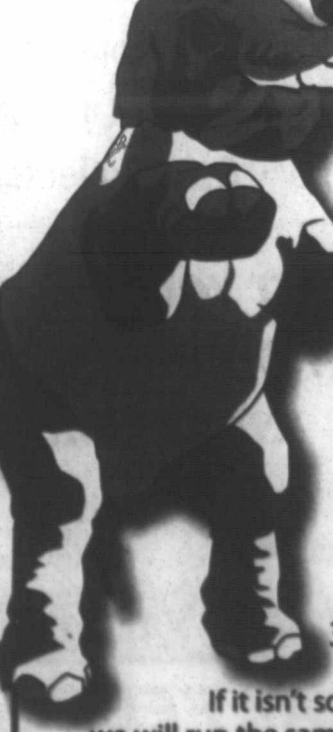

**FISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
\*\*\*\*\* You could be distracted by your emotions. Dealing with a situation is important, and you will come out on top of your game. Excitement surrounds your ideas, and you might overwhelm others if you blurt them out. Tonight: Let your mind go.

**BORN TODAY**  
Sen. Joe Lieberman (1942), co-founder of Apple Steve Jobs (1955), actor Billy Zane (1966)

\*\*\*  
Jacqueline Diger is on the Internet at [www.jacquelinediger.com](http://www.jacquelinediger.com).  
© 2010 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

## sell it

or get another month FREE!

### \$75

1x3 classified display ad with photo  
30-day contract

If it isn't sold within 30 days, we will run the same ad (no changes) for an additional 30 days!

FOR SALE!  
Barely used weight machine. Start your new exercise program today! (Also makes a great clothes hanger.) 555-2525

**Sell your car, your house, or that weight set gathering dust in the basement corner!**

All ads paid in advance!  
Call for deadlines - 669-2525

# Get ready sports fans, pole dancers eye Olympics

TOKYO (AP) — For Japan's Mai Sato, watching all those gold medals being handed out in Vancouver is a bittersweet experience.

Sato knows the demands of being the best. In her world, blisters are the rule, bruises a way of life. And the training — five hours a day, five days a week.

The world champion in her sport, Sato is as athletic, dedicated and competitive as the Olympians representing their nations. And she thinks it's high time her discipline, too, got some real recognition.

Still, pole dancing? In the Olympics? Absolutely, say thousands of pole dancers and the rapidly growing number of international and national federations transforming what was once the exclusive property of strip clubs and cheap bars into a respectable — and highly athletic — event.

"I could definitely see pole dancing in the Olympics," said Sato, who, a dancer since the age of three, out-twirled a bevy of athletes from 11 countries at the second International Pole Dancing Fitness Championships in Tokyo two months ago. "I would love to win a gold medal."

It's admittedly a high bar. Established sports such as squash and cricket have failed to make the Olympic cut, baseball and softball were recently given the ax, and the International Olympic Committee's decision to end its support of nonofficial, demonstration sports after the Summer Games in 1992 has made gaining a foothold, the way judo and taekwondo did, all that much harder.

Plus, pole dancing needs to first gain IOC recognition as a sport — an uphill battle if ever there was one.

No matter, pole dance enthusiasts say. Hong Kong-based Ania Przeplasko, the founder of the International Pole Dancing Fitness Association, the sport's fledgling supervisory body, believes Olympic recognition is only a matter of time and would be a victory for underappreciated sports worldwide.

"There will be a day when the Olympics see pole dancing as a sport," she said. "The Olympic community needs to acknowledge the number of people doing pole fitness now. We're shooting for 2012."

That's pretty ambitious. It's already too late for any new sports to be added to the London Games. But the IOC decision to end its support of exhibition sports after Barcelona has not completely closed the door on Olympic hopefuls looking for a way to showcase their skills — Beijing did it with the martial art wushu.

Pole dance advocates note that more unlikely sports have gotten the IOC's nod.

Tug of war, for example, was one of the early Olympic medal contests. Equestrian events are in the Olympics, but who owns a horse? Curling, which virtually no one pays any attention to in non-Olympic years, has become one of the Winter Games' biggest darlings. Though they are not in the games, the IOC recognizes such obscure sporting endeavors as boules, powerboating, bandy and floorball.

KT Coates, a leading pole dancer in Britain and director of Vertical Dance, is leading the effort to make pole dancing a "test" event in 2012 and foresees a more formal pitch in 2016, when the Olympics go to Rio de Janeiro.

"After a great deal of feedback from

the pole dance community, many of us have decided that it's about time pole fitness is recognized as a competitive sport, and what better way for recognition than to be part of the 2012 Olympics held in London," Coates wrote in a petition she is readying for the London organizers.

"It has the wow factor," she told The Associated Press in an e-mail.

So far, the petition has about 4,000 signatures. Coates is shooting for 5,000.

Iina Laatikainen, one of Finland's top pole teachers, likens pole dancing to skateboarding and snowboarding, two sports that have gotten serious mainstream attention without completely abandoning their rebellious roots.

"I think getting in the Olympics would be great for the sport," she said. "I actually see a lot of similarities in what pole dancing is now for women with what skateboarding used to be for men back in the day. Pole dancing is definitely on its way to becoming a mainstream sport."

But some pole dancers worry the sensual side of pole dancing, and its counterculture undertones, would be destroyed in an effort to clean it up for the Olympics. After all, would it really be the same without stilettoes, a boozy audience and a red-tinted spotlight? And how do you score for sexiness?

Others fear old-school pole dancers would be eaten alive by gymnasts, who

could easily make the conversion from other apparatuses, circus performers or Chinese acrobats, who have a long tradition of performing aerial tricks.

"I don't need to see pole dancing in the Olympics," said Wendy Traskos, co-founder of the U.S. Pole Dance Federation, which will be hosting its annual U.S. championships next month. "I don't think this is necessarily the path that we need to take, as a sport."

Traskos, a former competitive gymnast who lives in New York, believes pole dancing needs to do more groundwork before it shoots for the Olympics. In particular, scoring for competitions needs to be standardized, she said, adding that the names of the techniques vary among different clubs in different regions.

"I feel there are many small, tiny, steps that need to be taken before this sport, or any sport, can get into the Olympics," she said. "We are on, like, tiny step 10 of 1,000."

Nevertheless, she said pole dancers on the medal podium is not as wild a dream as it might have seemed just five years ago.

"Now, when you talk about it you don't hear 'like a stripper' anymore," she said. "You hear things like, 'Oh, my friend takes classes for fitness' or 'Yes, I've seen it on Oprah.'"

## Continental eliminating 600 call center jobs

DALLAS (AP) — Continental Airlines is cutting about 600 jobs in its reservations centers because customers increasingly prefer to book flights online.

Continental told employees about the furloughs on Monday and said they would take effect April 11.

The airline said it will cut the jobs of 250 agents who are currently on leave plus another 350 still working.

The company said calls

to reservations agents are falling 15 percent per year as customers instead buy tickets from Web sites. There is no charge for booking on continental.com, but customers must pay \$20 to make a reservation by phone. Airlines use the call center fees to raise money and encourage passengers to book online, which is cheaper for the carrier as well as the passenger.

Continental also said it

won't renew a contract to answer calls for Disney resorts, which will result in about 100 of the 600 job losses.

The April furloughs will be based on seniority. The airline said it will offer early retirement packages including travel benefits to employees with at least 10 years of service, and will offer severance payments to others losing their jobs.

## Bode

cont. from page 1B

demanding course set by Kostelic's father and coach, Ante.

"I was like, 'God, get me to the finish.' I knew I had a great run going, but I mean I don't know how I got those last 15 gates," Miller said. "It was literally just will-power, because my legs were completely shot."

He moved into the lead, but had to wait while six other skiers who were faster in the downhill portion got their turns, including double medalist Aksel Lund Svindal of Norway.

"I couldn't hold back," Svindal said. "I had to attack it if I had any chance to get that gold."

But when Svindal, who had the fastest morning downhill, skied off-course in the slalom, that gold medal was Miller's.

As he walked away from the finish area, he stopped to sign autographs and pose for pictures to a chorus of "Bo-de! Bo-de!" He even knelt down to eye level to thank one girl for her support. Miller's own daughter turned 2 this month, and while he won't tell you fatherhood changed him as a per-

son, he will say it made him reconsider his priorities.

On the slopes, he refuses to change his stance that medals are not what matters.

Miller did, indeed, make clear that he was happy to finally have a gold, but he also repeatedly made the point he's long espoused: The reward he finds most satisfying is a great trip down the mountain.

"It's hard to really describe in a way that makes sense, but the actual gold medal doesn't mean that much. If I'd won it in a way that I wasn't excited about or proud of today, I would have probably resented the medal in a certain way because of what it makes everyone else think," Miller said.

A few minutes later, he said: "People are generally not good at separating those two things. They think you're proud because you won an Olympic medal, and the reality is I'm proud because I skied that way at the Olympics."

With that, he walked away from the race site, heading to the official ceremony in the nearby village to collect his latest medal. Gold, at last.

# GOLD BUYERS ROAD SHOW

CASH \$ CASH \$ CASH \$ CASH \$ CASH \$ CASH \$ CASH \$ CASH \$ CASH \$ CASH \$ CASH \$ CASH \$ CASH \$ CASH \$


## WE PAY CASH FOR GOLD NOW!

Gold Bullion • Gold Coins • All Gold Jewelry  
Any Broken Gold Jewelry • Rolex Watches  
Diamonds • Silver • Platinum • Old Silver Coins  
Sterling Flatware • Coin Collections

DON'T LET YOUR UNWANTED JEWELRY SIT AROUND, TURN IT INTO CASH!!

Armed police officer will be on the premises.

We Want Your Broken and Scrap Gold



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Holiday Inn Express

3119 Perryton Parkway, Pampa TX 79065 (off Hwy 70 next to WalMart)

806.665.9500