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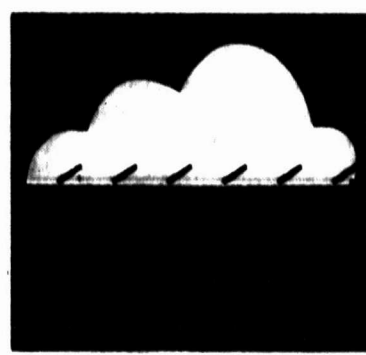
Pampa

Vol. 93 No. 308 • Pampa, Texas
50¢ Daily • Sunday *1

Pampa Cyber Net

Internet Power
for the
New Millenium

Dialup or dedicated
T-1 and high speed



High today 55
Low tonight 40
For weather details see
Page 2

STINNETT A former Hutchinson County jailer, Shane Toney, 25, Amarillo, pleaded guilty Wednesday to having sex with prisoners and pleaded guilty to aggravated perjury for lying to a grand jury about the matter. Toney was sentenced to 15 days in the Armstrong County Jail. He was given four years probation and a \$3,000 fine. District Attorney Clay Ballman said the main reason for making the deal was "two out of three of our witnesses are in the penitentiary."

FORT WORTH (AP) From the curb, there's little evidence that the mountain of crushed concrete, twisted metal and sprawling wires is The Sweet Shop's chocolate factory.

But closer to the rubble, the smell of smashed bonbons is overpowering.

A powerful tornado broke thousands of pounds of confection to pieces Tuesday night. The F-2 twister swept through downtown Fort Worth, destroying the Sweet Shop and dozens of other businesses.

Several candy shop workers were trapped in the debris but miraculously, none was seriously injured.

It's their spirit that hurts the most, said Darla James, a 16-year employee.

"I'm just devastated, sheer devastation," she said. "I've been here so long. It's my life."

James said her employer has vowed to rebuild. The candy company is one of the largest wholesalers of gourmet chocolates in the United States.

• Morris A. "Slim" Mason, 69, rancher.

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Comics10
Religion7
Sports11

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Countdown on to April 11 run-off vote

By NANCY YOUNG
Managing Editor

31st District Attorney incumbent John Mann and challenger Rick Roach are campaigning steadily as Gray County residents are preparing to go to the polls for the April 11 run-off election.

Incumbent Mann received 47 percent of the vote with 2,408 votes in the March 14 primary. Coming in second was Roach with 34 percent of the vote. He received 1,769 votes in the primary election to put him in the runoff with Mann.

Third in the race was Phil Pendleton with 907 votes.

The main issue in the campaign is whether or not the 31st District should have a fulltime district attorney. Roach says the five counties served by the district — Wheeler, Gray, Roberts, Lipscomb

and Hemphill — have enough cases to justify a fulltime DA.

Mann contends a \$101,000 salary for a fulltime district attorney would hit people in the pocketbook, and is not needed. The present salary for a part time DA is around \$80,000.

Mann and Roach were contenders in the 1996 General Election for the district attorney position. Only 500 votes separated the two attorneys in that hard fought campaign. Mann, who ran as a Democrat, defeated Roach on the Republican ticket.

In the March 14 primary election, Mann carried Gray, Hemphill and Wheeler counties while Roach carried Lipscomb and Roberts counties.

Gray County vote totals in the DAS race were Mann, 1,721; Roach, 1,248; and Pendleton, 614.

Hemphill voters gave Mann the edge with 436 votes. Roach was second with 135 and Pendleton came in third with 85.

Roberts County gave the nod to Richard J. (Rick) Roach with 222 votes. Mann was second with 106 votes and Pendleton third with 57 votes in the county.

Roach lead the voting in Lipscomb County with 109 votes. Pendleton had 68 to Mann's 30.

The winner from the runoff will face Charles L. Kessie in the November General Election. Kessie was the only candidate to seek the Democratic nomination in the March primary.

In Constable, Precinct No. 2 runoff, incumbent Chris Lockridge will face challenger Paul Sublett in the runoff. Lockridge received 244 votes to Sublett's 229. Coming in third was Robert Douglas

with 181 votes.

In the Constable, Precinct No. 1 & 3 race, incumbent James H. Lewis captured 813 votes in the Republican primary to lead the field of our, but it was not enough to achieve a majority. Randy Stubblefield will face Lewis in the runoff as he came in second with 401 votes. Curtis Dalton was third with 298 votes and Michael Ray was fourth with 236.

Early voting in the election begins Monday at the Gray County Courthouse. It will be held through Friday, April 11.

Anyone who voted in the Republican primary in the primary election may cast a ballot in the Republican runoff. Voters who did not cast votes in either primary in March may vote. However, Democrat voters in the March primary elections may not cross the political lines and vote in the Republican primary.

Tick, tock ...



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

JoAnn Workman springs ahead at Dos Caballeros as the time changes this weekend. Daylight Savings Time begins at 2 a.m. Sunday. Because clocks are moved up an hour, it means we'll lose an hour's sleep. And remember, if you don't want to be late for church, change your clock before you go to bed.

Cowboy cooking for sale Saturday

Want some cowboy cooking?

Members of the Top of Texas Fellowship — of Christian

Cowboys will be cooking fajitas Saturday in the parking lot of

Wayne's Western Wear in the 1500 block of North Hobart to raise funds to defray the cost of a Rodeo Bible camp to be held in June.

Food will be served 11 a.m. - 2

p.m. The Rodeo Bible Camp

will be held June 23, 24, and 25

at the Pampa Rodeo Arena.

The event will be for both

boys and girls in high school.

The teens will receive instruction

from qualified instructors in

all rodeo events during the

June camp. They will end the

camp with a rodeo the final day.

During the camp the participants

will also study the Bible

and have devotionals.

President of the Top of Texas

FCC chapter is Kevin Romine.

Entry forms may be obtained

from him.

Vice president of the organization

is Jim Greene.

Pride's inside! Year's largest issue has lots for readers

It's that time of year again. Time for the annual Pride issue published by *The Pampa News*. And we hope you enjoy it.

Last year's Pride took first place honors in our circulation division in the Texas Press Association's special sections contest.

There's 60 pages of reading and photos covering a multitude of subjects. It celebrates our neighbors and friends, our rich history, our leaders, educational opportunities and more.

An especially fun section is your section — Images. It is a compilation of contest photos entered by you, our readers. The categories include family and friends, critters and landscapes.

Because the pictures are so good and because we can't fit them all into one section, keep watching *The Pampa News* in the weeks ahead for more of these great photos. The first of these will be a full page of color pictures Sunday.

The staff of *The Pampa News* is very proud of Pride. It takes months to put the section together and involves every person in the building, as well as all the newspaper carriers.

And special thanks go out to all the advertisers. Without them, the section would not be possible. We urge you to patronize these merchants and take a minute to thank them for showing their Pride!

Dog hair DNA, hypnosis, factors in assault case

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

Judge Steven Emmert is expected to rule Monday on a motion to suppress evidence in an aggravated assault case concerning an attack on a Pampa convenience store clerk.

Dewayne Gordon Hickman, 32, is accused of viciously beating a store clerk in the early morning hours of Oct. 21, 1997.

Judge Emmert denied a motion by Hickman's attorney Harold Comer to exclude testimony by veterinarian M.S. Ketchum concerning DNA evidence but requested legal briefs from both the defense and prosecution.

Hair from Hickman's dog was taken in an effort to match hair taken as evidence from a duffel bag, authorities said.

Comer argued in his motion that hair from Hickman's dog was obtained without Hickman's permission and without a search warrant.

Hair from Hickman's dog was taken in an effort to match hair taken as evidence from a duffel bag, authorities said.

(See ASSAULT, Page 2)

Outlook improved for nation's retirement programs

WASHINGTON (AP) Armed with news that the strong economy has improved the financial outlook for Social Security and Medicare, the Clinton administration is renewing pressure on Congress to create a new prescription drug benefit for the elderly this year.

"It's an issue of a political will, not an issue of resources," said Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala.

Congressional Republicans are including \$40 billion for drug assistance for the elderly in their budget blueprint, but they and the administration are far from agreement on exactly how benefits should be designed and who should be eligible. And election year grandstanding will make compromise difficult.

Thanks to the strong economy, Medicare will have an additional eight years, until

2023, before cash runs short to pay benefits to aging baby boomers. And Social Security will remain financially healthy an extra three years, until 2037, trustees of the programs said Thursday.

On Capitol Hill, the good news prompted Republicans to renew attacks on Clinton's proposals to commit future income tax surpluses to bolster the nation's retirement programs.

"Instead of that failed approach, we should work on a real plan that saves Social Security and creates personal savings accounts for all Americans," said House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Archer, R-Texas.

This is the third consecutive year that both Social Security and Medicare have shown improvement in their long range financial outlook.

For Medicare, it was the best report card in 25 years. The health insurance program for the elderly and disabled had been projected to run short of cash in 2001, lending urgency to lawmakers' struggle over historic legislation to balance the federal budget back in 1997.

Last year, trustees reported that date had improved to 2015. It was moved to 2023 in their newest estimate on Thursday.

Meanwhile, the date when Social Security will exhaust its trust fund was moved back to 2037, compared with an estimate of 2034 last year. The trustees had pushed it off by two years in 1999 and three in 1998, from 2029.

Also significant this year, the trustees estimated that Medicare will take in more money from workers' payroll taxes than it has to pay out in benefits until 2010, when

it will have to start dipping into its trust fund to pay bills.

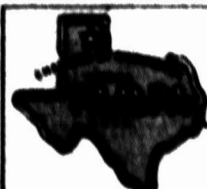
Before the boost from the strong economy, Medicare had already started to dip into the trust fund.

Social Security will have to start tapping its trust fund in 2015, the trustees said this year, compared with last year's estimate of 2014.

Economic factors contributing to the brighter prospects for Social Security and Medicare included the lowest unemployment rate in 30 years. With more Americans working, more are also paying the payroll taxes that support the two programs, padding their balance sheets.

Low inflation also has saved Social Security money because yearly cost-of-living raises to retirees are smaller.

(See OUTLOOK, Page 2)



Join The Chamber ... Call Clay Rice For More Details ... 669-3241

Daily Record

Services tomorrow

MASON, Morris A. "Slim" — Graveside services, 2 p.m., Hillcrest Cemetery, McLean.

Obituaries

MORRIS A. 'SLIM' MASON

McLEAN — Morris A. "Slim" Mason, 69, died Wednesday, March 29, 2000, at Amarillo. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday in Hillcrest Cemetery with the Rev. Norman Jones officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Lamb Funeral Home of McLean.

Mr. Mason was born Oct. 14, 1930, at Throckmorton, to Levi Mason and Willie Tapper Mason. He had been a lifelong resident of the Texas Panhandle prior to moving to Oklahoma eight years ago.

He was a rancher, a cattleman and a U.S. Korean War veteran.

Survivors include two sons and a daughter-in-law, Allen and Sherry Mason of Elk City, Okla., and Elden Mason of Sayre, Okla.; a sister, Mildred Edins of Abilene; two brothers, Malcom Mason of Oregon and Melvin Mason of Vega; and four grandchildren.

Stocks

Stocks were not available today due to an early deadline to accommodate inserting the Pride issue.

Fires

Thursday, March 30

One unit and three personnel responded to the 2600 block of Chestnut on a first responder call.

Police report

The Pampa Police Department reported the following arrest during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Friday, March 31

Amanda Sue Wolfe, 20, 1125 S. Clark, was arrested on charges of theft.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Department reported the following arrest during the 24 hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Thursday, March 30

Charles Mehaffey, 41, 824 Deane, was arrested on charges of theft by check.

Ambulance

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

Thursday, March 30

8:04 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 2200 block of Dogwood and transported one to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

2:52 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 2400 block of Mary Ellen and transported to Baptist-St. Anthony's.

3:19 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the Jordan Unit and transported one to PRMC.

6:53 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the PMRC and transported to Northwest Texas Hospital.

8 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 800 block of Deane and transported one to PRMC.

College to allow opposite-sex dormitory roommates

HAVERFORD, Pa. (AP) — Partly in response to requests from gay students, Haverford College will allow men and women to share bedrooms next school year in the college's apartment-style dormitories.

"There are a number of men and women who are friends and who would like to live together, just as there are gay and lesbian students who have difficulty finding people who they're comfortable living with," said Robin Doan, the college's director of student housing.

Mixed-gender groups of three students will be allowed to share two-bedroom units at the Haverford College Apartments, which house a third of the school's 1,118 students. The new rules will not apply to one-bedroom apartments or to dormitories for freshmen.

Wesleyan University in Middletown, Conn., and Hampshire College in Amherst, Mass., already allow men and women to share dormitory rooms.

Haverford College officials said they expect few boyfriend-girlfriend pairs will take advantage of the offer. Only about five of the 134 apartments are expected to be rented next fall by mixed-gender groups, Doan said.

Killian Kroell, a member of the Bisexual, Gay

and Lesbian Alliance, said gay students frequently prefer to share housing with someone of the opposite sex, but typical college housing regulations prevent such arrangements.

"No one forces you to live with someone of the opposite sex," Kroell said. "You are sometimes forced to live with someone of the same sex."

Haverford already has some of the most liberal campus housing rules in the region, including some dorms with coed bathrooms and groups of one-person bedrooms that share communal living areas.

"In the situation we have now, where you're exposed to sharing a bathroom with guys, it's very normal after a year of doing it," said Kristen Watson, a freshman who plans to live next year with one male and one female friend from Haverford's track teams.

Nearby Bryn Mawr still has an all-female enrollment. And Villanova University has all-male and all-female floors in its dormitories.

"I think there's privacy issues (with coed housing), there's developmental issues, there's educational issues," said Christine Lysionek, who is in charge of Villanova's dormitories. "We're certainly not where Haverford is, nor would we ever want to be."

Appraisal show drops two experts

BOSTON (AP) — Each week, the "Antiques Roadshow" features a story that seems too good to be true, as someone finds out that their piece of "junk" is actually a valuable treasure.

The rags-to-riches stories are part of the charm of the public television show in which regular people have their wares appraised by antiques experts.

But producers said that in one instance, what seemed too good to be true just that. On Thursday, the show cut ties to two experts who staged "an extravagant deception" that violated the show's premise.

"I think they thought they were helping the show, but they were wrong," said Peter McGhee, vice president of national programs at WGBH-TV in Boston, which produces "Antiques Roadshow."

The incident occurred during the show's debut season in 1997.

A man showed an appraiser a Civil War sword found in his attic that he used to cut watermelon. Appraisers were delighted when presented with the weapon and told the man it was worth \$35,000.

But the two appraisers — George Juno and Russ Pritchard — actually knew the man who brought in the sword, and they knew the sword's history, show officials said.

McGhee said the station was cutting ties with Juno and Pritchard, and removing them from seg-

ments in future shows and shows that might be rerun.

"Our objective at this point is to deny them any further benefit from association with the 'Roadshow,'" McGhee said.

Juno, contacted at his business in Allentown, Pa., denied any wrongdoing and said the station had been pressured by rival experts in the antiques business.

"There were no fake interviews. ... There was never proof," he said. "It was pressure put on the station by our competitors in an attempt to get us off the show."

He added, "We still think very highly of WGBH and think the 'Roadshow' is a great thing."

Pritchard, who has a business near Philadelphia, did not return telephone or pager messages Thursday.

"Antiques Roadshow" is watched by about 14 million people each week and has gained such popularity that it was used as a premise for an episode of the sitcom "Frasier," McGhee said.

The show travels around the country, allowing thousands of people to show up at tapings to have items examined by dozens of appraisers. Appraisers who think they have a good story and a good item approach the show's producers. About 15 to 20 segments are included in each show.

OUTLOOK

In addition, Medicare spending decreased slightly in 1999, by about 1 percent — the first decline in the program's history. The trustees attributed that to restrained inflation, budget cuts ordered by Congress in 1997, and a crackdown on fraud and billing errors.

Medicare spending is not expected to continue to fall, however, mainly because the nation's elderly population is growing.

Also, Medicare's trust fund only backs up part of the program: the core hospital benefits. Other coverage, known as Part B, including doctor's office visits and other outpatient care, is paid for with income taxes and participants' premiums. Part B costs continued to climb last year, the trustees said, although at a slower rate than expected.

On the Net: Social Security report: <http://www.ssa.gov>
Medicare report: <http://www.hcfa.gov/publications/tr>

Man jailed in Boozery robbery

Larry Donnell Freeman, 45, remains in Gray County Jail in lieu of \$20,000 bond for aggravated robbery in connection with the March 7 robbery of Brogan's Boozery.

He was arrested Wednesday by the Pampa Police Department on the charges after he was

identified by two victims through a photo lineup.

Freeman was in jail at the time of his arrest on charges from Pampa and Gray County Sheriff's office as well as warrants out of Lubbock, according to the Pampa Police department.

JP Curt Curfman arraigned Freeman.

ASSAULT

Tests concerning the sample hairs involve a new procedure that uses mitochondrial DNA.

District Attorney John Mann said if the court rules that it is permissible, it will be the first time such a test will be used in court.

The case is scheduled to go to trial Tuesday, but if the new DNA test is allowed, it could delay the case.

Authorities said that a 46-year-old clerk apparently surprised a burglar in when she came to work early at the Minute Mart, 1106 Alcock.

"It was a particularly brutal attack," said Pampa Police Chief Charlie Morris.

Officers said the woman came to work about 4 a.m. on the morning of the attack. Authorities said it appeared that a would-be burglar was hiding in the store and beat her when she came in. She suf-

fered two broken arms and numerous gashes to her head and body.

Hickman was arrested about a week later at his home at 2116 Coffee after the victim described her attacker while being questioned under hypnosis by Pampa Police Sgt. Charlie Love.

The use of hypnosis in the case was the subject of a bitter battle between Mann and Comer during an Oct. 15, 1998, pretrial hearing, but then Judge M. Kent Sims ruled that the hypnosis was allowable. Sims has since been replaced in 31st District Court by Judge Steven Emmert.

The trial has been rescheduled a number of times due to delays in crime lab testing of evidence.

Hickman has remained in jail in lieu of bond since being arrested and charged in the case. He is also being held for parole violation in connection with being accused of escaping a halfway house in Dallas.

Names in the news ...

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — Catherine Zeta-Jones is being sued by a woman who says she was hurt in a car accident involving the actress.

In court papers filed this week in Superior Court, Petra Von Oelffen said she was a passenger in the car Zeta-Jones was driving last August in Pacific Palisades.

Von Oelffen charged that Zeta-Jones "negligently operated, maintained and used said vehicle so as to cause a collision." She said she suffered hospital and medical expenses, loss of earnings and property damage.

The actress is engaged to actor Michael Douglas, and the pair are expecting a baby later this year.

BOSTON (AP) — Ted Turner and Jane Fonda are reuniting — for one day, anyway.

The two have agreed to share the stage May 15 at Emerson College as they both receive honorary degrees, a college spokesman said. The spokesman said the invitations were sent before the couple announced their separation in January, but both have confirmed their attendance.

Turner, who created the Cable News Network, is scheduled to give the main commencement address

at Emerson, which specializes in communications and performing arts.

Fonda, whose films include "The China Syndrome" and "On Golden Pond," will be honored for her acting career and community service.

The couple is separating after eight years of marriage.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Joe DiMaggio Bridge or Airport sounds great. Joe DiMaggio Playground? Uh-uh.

The family of the late baseball legend has threatened to sue the city of San Francisco, where DiMaggio grew up, if it goes ahead with plans to name a playground in his honor.

DiMaggio attorney Morris Engelberg told city Supervisor Gavin Newsom that DiMaggio's family would prefer having a bridge or airport named after the New York Yankees center fielder, who died a year ago at 84.

Nothing less will do, Engelberg warned. Newsom responded Wednesday, saying the naming procedure "has been belabored by Mr. Engelberg's insistence on controlling the process."

"So now we're back where we started," he said.

City Briefs

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

BAG PHONE taken from Jacks car wash by Wal-Mart. If found please call 669-0936 or drop it off at Cellular One. Thanks

CRAZY SALE Sat. & Mon. only. Lrg. groups of items 20-75% Off at Carousel Expressions, 113 N. Cuyler.

CREATE -A- BOOKS by Tammy will be at the St. Vincent's Arts and Crafts Extravaganza April 1. Come and See. 665-5901

DO YOU have dark areas in your home? Problem solved with a 10", 13" or 18" Sun Star of Pampa skylight. See at Fireside Comfort, 725 W. Brown, Hwy. 60, 665-9333.

RHEAMS DIAMOND Shop April Fool Sale Saturday Only. Open 12 to 4. See enclosed ad in today's paper.

FIRESIDE COMFORT, 725 W. Brown (Hwy. 60), 665-9333.

FRESH EGGS, Beans & Buddies old & New, 665-4732.

"INVITATION" "REALTOR Open Houses," in Miami, Tx., Sun. Apr. 2nd, 518 Lenora 2-3:30 p.m., 100 S. Custer 3:30-5 p.m. Shed Realtors, Lorene Paris, Agent.

ONE TIME Only Sale- Father & Son matching Easter suits, sizes 3-52, Dinner Jackets & Tuxedos. Coat, pants & shirt \$40 per suit, while they last! Sat. Apr. 1 thru Thurs. Apr. 6, 9 a.-5 p. 1104 N. Perry (off W. Kentucky).

ONSTAGE KARAOKE: Hideaway Lounge. 8:30 Saturday night.

REV. BOB'S Appliances, lease to own new & used, 2000 W. Alcock, 1-6 p.m. 665-6035, 665-1878.

SIDEWALK SALE 50% Off select items. Dress for less with our great prices on name brand clothing. New shipment of Heart of the Prairie candles. Accepting Summer consignments. Nearly New (next to Subway).

97 GRAND Prix, 4 door, 52,000 miles, \$12,900, 669-1624

SPECIAL \$5 Off Reflexology Foot Treatment- Wed., Thurs., Fri. Call 665-4422.

SPECIALS GALORE at Gift Shop, in Tangles Hair Studio.

SWEET DREAMS now open!! Sat. 9-5 p.m., 1064 N. Hobart. Gifts, collectibles, gourmet items, etc.

THEME PARTIES in a Box, all your party needs, over 100 to choose from, delivered right to your door. Call Holly 323-8843 or on line save 10%, www.1800.partyconsultant.com/15098. Now expanding, work from home, be 1st in your area. Free drawing at Kid's Stuff or see booth at Cottage Collection.

WHY WAIT until next Winter to purchase that woodstove? We have a Lay-A-Way Plan, tailor made just for you. Fireside Comfort, 725 W. Brown, Hwy. 60, 665-9333.

Weather focus

PAMPA — The forecast for today calls for a 70 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms with a high of around 55 and 15-20 mph east winds. Tonight should be cloudy with a 60 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms and a low around 40 with 10-20 mph northeast winds. Saturday's forecast calls for mostly cloudy skies with a 60 percent chance of rain and a high in the lower 50s. A 30 percent chance of rain is predicted Saturday night with a low between 35 and 40. Thursday: High, 60; low, 43.

STATEWIDE — Another upper-level low pressure system was poised to bring a wet weekend to much of Texas.

The system, which was stationary this morning over the desert Southwest, began trig-

gering showers and thunderstorms in West Texas, mainly east of the mountains.

Light fog shrouded parts of South Texas.

Early-morning temperatures ranged from the 40s in the north and west to the 50s and 60s in the far south, Gulf coast and along the Rio Grande.

It was 49 degrees at Burnet, 74 at Port Isabel and 60 at Dryden.

Winds statewide were easterly to northeasterly east of the mountains at 5 to 15 mph and variable to the west at speeds under 10 mph.

The easterly and southeasterly winds were transporting low-level moisture into North and West Texas. A large area of showers and isolated thunderstorms moved northeasterly across the northwest Panhandle while scattered showers and

thunderstorms developed across the northern South Plains and low rolling plains.

The National Weather Service forecast calls for periods of rain and a few thunderstorms in the Panhandle and South Plains. A chance of showers and thunderstorms was possible across remaining areas east of the mountains.

Some storms may become severe across parts of central and southern West Texas through Saturday.

Scattered showers were expected over the deep south and along the Rio Grande.

Highs this weekend will range from the mid-40s in the far north to near 90 in the Big Bend valleys.

Lows overnight will vary from the 30s across the Panhandle to the 50s and 60s along the Rio Grande.

URGENT NOTICE

to owners of property in

Memory Gardens of Pampa

We are in the process of reorganizing all of our records into our new computer system. It is extremely important that you notify us by phone if:

- you or your family are deed holders
- you may be heirs and plan to use graves at Memory Gardens of Pampa

This new computer system will provide a centralized database with current and up to date property owner information.

Please Call 806-669-7605

Between the hours of 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Mon. - Thurs. and thank you in advance for your cooperation.

At this time of completion other products and services will be explained to you.

OUR OFFICE IS LOCATED

at the intersection of Price Road and 23rd Street

Calendar of events

THE PAMPA NEWS — Friday, March 31, 2000 — 3

PAMPA AREA LITERACY COUNCIL

Pampa Area Literacy Council office is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, call 665-2331.

THEE PLACE

Thee Place for Singles is open 7-10:30 p.m. Saturdays at 520 W. Kingsmill.

ADHD/ADD SUPPORT GROUP

If interested in the ADHD/ADD Support Group call Connie at 669-9364.

ST. MARK CME CHURCH

St. Mark will host a monthly breakfast the first Saturday of every month from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Donations will be accepted.

MACEDONIA CHURCH

Macedonia Church will host a monthly breakfast the third Saturday of every month from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at 441 Elm Street with the Rev. L.L. Patrick. Donations will be accepted and the public is invited.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN COWBOYS

The Fellowship of Christian Cowboys potluck will meet on the fourth Saturday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Clyde Carruth Pavilion. For more information, contact Keven Romines at 665-8547 or Jim Greene at 665-8067.

CCPC

Clarendon College-Pampa Center will offer the following continuing education courses: "Bible as Literature," instructor Linda Haynes, 6-7 p.m., March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2 and 9; and "Microsoft Access '97," instructor Tex Buckhaults, 1-3 p.m., April 3, 10, 17 and 24. Cost for each course is \$25. For more information, call 665-8801.

ARTS AND CRAFTS EXTRAVAGANZA

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church will hold an Arts and Crafts Extravaganza from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, April 1 in the school gymnasium, 2300 N. Hobart. The event will include a variety of crafts, tasty treats, face painting and more. The public is cordially invited to attend. Admission is free. For more information or to inquire about booth space, call 665-5665.

HOSPICE CELEBRATION

Crown of Texas Hospice families, volunteers and staff will gather to celebrate the memories and lives of loved ones at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 2 at St. Mary's Church, 1200 S. Washington, Amarillo. A reception, hosted by Crown of Texas Hospice volunteers will follow. For more information, call (806) 372-7696.

AHA ART GALA

The local chapter of the American Heart Association will hold its annual Art Gala and Auction fund-raiser at 7 p.m. April 8 at M.K. Brown Auditorium.

BUSINESS SEMINAR

The Texas Agricultural Extension Service has announced a meeting for small business owners is slated from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. April 6 at Frank Phillips College in Borger. The program will feature the following speakers: Don Taylor,

WTAMU College of Business; Dick Novotny, FPC Business Instructor; and Joe Frank Wheeler, Borger Chamber of Commerce. Cost of registration is \$15 and covers cost of materials and lunch. For more information, call the Gray County Extension office by Tuesday, April 4 or contact Tom Benton at (806) 878-4026.

BSA HOSPICE PROGRAM

BSA Hospice will offer a class for anyone interested in becoming a BSA Hospice volunteer from 1:30-4:30 p.m. every Monday and Thursday, March 20-April 13 at Amarillo BSA Hospice Building, 600 N. Tyler. The training is free and CEUs will be awarded by Amarillo College. To register, call Deborah Andrews, LSW, (806) 212-8715.

DIALOGUE

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center will hold "Dialogue," a patient/family education support group sponsored by the cancer center and the American Cancer Society, Thursdays from 12 noon-1 p.m. throughout April. For more information, call Gerry Kelly at (806) 359-4673, ext. 235 or Stan McKeever at (806) 359-4673, ext. 141 or toll-free at 1-800-274-4673.

WOMEN IN TOUCH

The Women's Center at the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center will present "Women in Touch," a monthly support group for women living with breast cancer. The group will meet from 5:30-7 p.m. April 17 at the cancer center amphitheatre, 1500 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo. For more information, call Gerry Kelly at the cancer center, (806) 359-4673, ext. 235 or 1-800-274-4673.

STRAIGHT TALK FOR MEN

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center will host "Straight Talk for Men" from 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday evenings throughout the month of April. The program is a wellness series for men living with prostate cancer. For more information or to register, call (806) 359-4673 or 1-800-274-4673. Wives and friends are welcome.

PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE SCHOLARSHIPS

President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities is hosting three scholarship competitions for post-secondary students with disabilities

for the 2000-01 academic year. Two competitions are open to candidates with disabilities seeking financial assistance for undergraduate study at a four-year college or university. The third competition is open to female candidates with disabilities seeking financial assistance for graduate study. For more information, visit the President's Committee website at www.pcpd.gov and click the "Scholarships" link on the home page.

AMERICAN YOUTH ABROAD

American Youth Abroad offers study abroad opportunities to high school students in the U.S. AYA is a not-for-profit program sponsored by American Institute of Foreign Study Foundation. To receive the AYA 2000 Brochure, call Andrea Baskinger at 1-800-322-4678, ext. 5164 or e-mail abaskinger@aifs.com. The deadline is April 15.

T.O.P.S. #149

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (T.O.P.S.) #149 meets at 6 p.m. Monday at 513 E. Francis. Call 669-2389 for more information.

T.O.P.S. #41

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (T.O.P.S.) #41 meets at noon

Monday at 511 N. Hobart. For more information, call 665-3024.

AL-ANON

Al-Anon will hold weekly meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at 910 W. Kentucky.

VFW CHARITY BINGO

The Pampa Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1657, 105 S. Cuyler, will be having Charity Bingo every Sunday at 1:30 p.m. Doors open at 12 noon. The public is welcome. License No. 1-75-6037422-9.

CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS

The Celebration of Lights project will hold regular workshop meetings at 6:30 p.m. on Monday nights at 822 E. Foster. Anyone wishing to help with the project is invited to attend any work session.

PAMPA DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

The Pampa Duplicate Bridge Club plays Monday at 1:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 10 a.m. at The Senior Citizens. For a partner, or more information, please call Marie Jamieson at 669-2945.

PANHANDLE ALLIANCE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL

A support group for the mentally ill and family members meet

the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at 218 N. Russell. This week we are discussing the negative symptoms of paranoid schizophrenia. There is no charge. For more information or if you need a ride call Sharon King, 665-2818.

INVESTMENT SERIES

Greg Brown and Richard Russell, A.G. Edwards and Sons, Inc., will present a series of investment topics during the noon hour each Thursday in April in Room #102 of Clarendon College-Pampa Center. The public is cordially invited to bring a lunch and attend the sessions. The series will cover: "Stock Market History and Trivia," April 6; "Mechanics of the Stock Market," April 13; "The Federal Reserve System and the Stock Market," April 20; and "Fundamental," April 27.

CATTLEWOMEN SCHOLARSHIPS

Top O' Texas CattleWomen will award one \$500 scholarship and two \$250 scholarships to

high school seniors who are planning to major in an agricultural, nutritional or health-related field in college. These scholarships are available to students living in Carson, Collingsworth, Gray, Hemphill, Lipscomb, Ochiltree, Roberts or Wheeler Counties. Applications — now available at schools in these counties — must be received by April 28 and should be mailed to Sandra Christner, P.O. Box 522, Wheeler, TX 79096. The winners' schools will be notified in early May prior to graduation.

LIFE AFTER LOSS

American Cancer Society and Crown of Texas Hospice will sponsor a four-week "Life After Loss" seminar for those who have recently suffered the loss of a loved one from 5:30-6:30 p.m. April 4, 11, 18 and 25 at Crown of Texas Hospice, 10000 S. Jefferson, Amarillo. To register or for more information, call (806) 353-4306.

Keeping an Eye on Texas

ROLL 'EM!

Film and television production in Texas

Since 1910, more than 950 movies and television programs have been shot in Texas, including *Wings* (San Antonio, 1927), *The Last Picture Show* (Archer City, 1971) and *Michael* (Austin area, 1996). Feature films produced in Texas in 1999 include *Any Given Sunday* (Irving) and *All the Pretty Horses* (San Antonio). In the last decade, the production budgets of film and television projects in Texas totaled \$2.02 billion.

	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995
Studio feature films	5	7	7	7	10
Independent feature films	17	29	17	29	20
Network TV movies	3	1	5	4	6
Cable TV movies	1	1	4	1	2

SOURCES: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (www.window.state.tx.us) and the Texas Film Commission (www.governor.state.tx.us/film).

JOHN MANN says he is available to law enforcement and can handle the District Attorney's job on a part-time basis.

As voters in the 31st District, You Deserve To Know The Truth!!

We thought you might want to read the following excerpts of a letter from Sheriff James Robertson printed in area newspapers on March 9, 2000.

Dear Editor,

When I read the newspaper accounts of the District Attorney Candidates forum that was held in Canadian, Texas on February 10, 2000, to say the least I was shocked and embarrassed. In disbelief, I read that District Attorney John Mann implied that the reason felony cases were not being prosecuted in Lipscomb County is a conflict between me and the District Attorney's office which is hindering prosecution....

The "case in point" was a child molestation case that John Mann said happened in May, 1998 and was not presented to his office until August, 1998.... In fact, we have no record of any such offense which occurred in May, 1998, nor do we have record of any such case being sent to the District Attorney's office in August, 1998. The only case I have knowledge of involving indecency with children was sent by fax to the District Attorney's office on June 24, 1998. That was over 20 months ago. I had no idea there was a problem with that case. Mr. Mann's accusation that I "had urged him repeatedly to plead the accused out" is not true.

A very accurate statement was made when Mr. Mann said that it's a "frustrating problem". Victims are frustrated when they wait months, or even years, to hear if case will ever go to court. We in law enforcement become frustrated that we can't provide answers for the victims. All citizens become frustrated when they spend so much money for a system that doesn't seem to work for them. We owe it to those good people to make the system work. It is with reluctance that I write this letter, but I do so in defense of the dedicated men and women of the Lipscomb County Sheriff's Department who give so much to us all. I cannot stand idly by and while our citizens are led to believe that their sheriff's department is not doing its job. Citizen's need to hear both sides to decide who is to be blamed.

In the last three years, the Lipscomb County Sheriff's department has presented 31 felony cases to the District Attorney's office. Three of those offenders have entered guilty pleas. I believe it is the lack of prosecution that is causing the "conflict" between me and the District Attorney's office, not the "conflict" hindering prosecution....

Respectfully,

James Robertson, Sheriff
Lipscomb County, Texas

On April 11, elect RICHARD J. (RICK) ROACH Full-Time District Attorney.
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Let's Talk Real Estate



by Jim Davidson Realtor

NEW OR IMPROVED?

When homeowners are faced with the decision of whether to move to a new house or improve the one they have, they should use market conditions as a guide. In a neighborhood of similar homes, selling prices tend to cluster within eight to twelve percent above or below the median price. If a home improvement is sufficiently expensive to raise a home's value beyond the outer reaches of this range, then the homeowner should question the wisdom of proceeding ahead with improvement plans. Homeowners who are considering major improvements to their existing homes would do well to consult with a real estate agent who can best outline payback limits and discuss alternative measures and strategies.

If your current home no longer meets your family's growing needs, rather than risking over improving, consider looking for a house that better meets your needs. At CENTURY 21 - PAMPA REALTY INC., our professional Realtors can provide information on schools, shopping, and places of work. We also have national relocation services. For personalized service, contact CENTURY 21 - PAMPA REALTY INC., 312 N. Gray Street, 669-5007.

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Pampa Middle School honor roll

Pampa Middle School recently released its honor roll for the fourth six weeks grading period of the 1999-00 school year.

A HONOR ROLL

Sixth Grade
 Andy Joseph Anderson, Aaron Alexander Anguiano, Shalea A. Ausbrooks, Braydon Andrew Barker, Cooper C. Brazile, Cody McKay Carnley, Todd Andrew Carter, Trevor Blane Day, Zachary J. Edens, Dakston Dewitt Fallon, Taylor David Fatheree, Charlton Chaz Franks, Juan Raymond

Gallegos, Jackie Ann Gerber, Chase Guyer, Allison Ruth Hall, Bryan A. Heersema, Mayra Cassandra Hernandez.

Seventh Grade
 Tyson J. Hickman, Amanda Gayle Hoke, Monica Deshun Johnson, Clay Michael Jones, Megan Ann Jouett, Sunil Kamnani, John Tyler Klein, Eric Michael Knott, Lacie Nichole Long, Jennifer Alyson Mackie, Destinee Joy Manhart, Michael Ryan Munnerlyn, Manuel Navarrete, Lindzi Nichole Schaible, Alexa Rae Silva, Brody Davis Smith, Christopher Henry Smith,

Weston Paul Teichmann, Brenon Edward Thomas, Heather Blair Wills.

Eighth Grade
 Kristen Nicole Boyd, Melissa Mary Brown, Amanda Cabrales, Diana Cabrales, Elizabeth M. Campbell, Cody Lance Dyer, Brittin Cole East, Rebecca A. Gindorf, Clayton T. Hall, Theresa D. Hernandez, Brianna Leigh Hopkins, Dusty J. Lenderman, Yi Lin, Stacy L. Pepper, Tosha M. Powell, Jaime Resendiz, Brian David Schepp, Ruth Ann Schlewitz, Carissa Breann Snelgrooves, Darby Blaine Snow, Trevor Noel Talley, Ronnie L. Tucker.

Ninth Grade
 Ryan L. Barnes, Barton Dan Cathey, Kori Adele Dunn, Jacob Lee Hopkins, Charles Crittenden Jarvis, Mitchell C. Jefferis, Tara B. Jordan, Melissa C. Land, Joshua Jed Martin, Natalie N. McVay, Brian Peters, Briana N. Russell, Annabel Saldierna, Kaylee Anne Shank, James Mac Smith, Jeremy Taylor Smith, Ashley Nichole Swanson, Max O. Vinson.

AB HONOR ROLL
Sixth Grade
 Jordan Nicole Albracht, Cheryl Elaine Alexander, Kristina Donn Alexander, Victoria Alexander Alfaro, Chelsea Diana Anderson, Alicia De An Anguiano,

Heather D. Balay, Meagan P. Clark, Callie Sue Cobb, Christopher Ethan Collier, Manden Lewis Conklin, Nakayla Brianna Courter, Jacob Zachary Craig, Dip B. Das, Spencer Daniel Defever, Christina Maria Deleon, Karli Lynn Douglas, Audrey Katherine Dunn, Tawanna Lachele Ellis.

Tenth Grade
 Sarah Michelle Everson, Nicole Fernuik, Brian Joseph Haddock, Laura Jean Haley, Angie D. Hall, Heath Dylan Henley, Kaylee Beth Hill, Emily Michelle Hillman, Sara Ann Hoke, Andrea K. Hughes, Kambryell Jeffery, Taren La'Shea Johnson, Nikolas R. Julian, Whitney L. Karr, Kaylee Anne Keith, Christopher Shay Kidd, Eric P. Kingcade, John Jarrett Kotara, Dustin R. Kuhn, Sarah Nichole Langford.

Eleventh Grade
 Kaysha Dalynn Lee, Ashlee Mae Lucas, Luis Daniel Marin, Royce Clifford McGrath, Ragan Danielle Meeks, Morgan Blair Meharg, Britany Nelson, Cama Renee Niccum, Stacianne Novian, Ashley Michelle Orr, Adrian Isabel Puentes, Amber Janae Qualls, Lexton Lyle Rabel, David Ramirez, Taylor B. Reeves, Vanessa Resendiz, Zed Joseph Richards, Maria Joanna Rivera, Yesenia Rodriguez, Ashley Meagan Shaw, Bradley Nelson

Smith, Shannon Brianne Smith, Steven David Smith, Craig C. Stone, Kari Kristine Terrell, Elizabeth C. Thomas, Felicia Nicole Urban, Elena Leigh Valdez, Myca Marie Vinson, Whitney Marie Wichert, Kylie J. Winegeart.

Twelfth Grade
 Lindsey Dale Ammons, Payton L. Baird, Benjamin Thomas Briscoe, Wesley Adam Broggin, Alyssa D. Bromwell, Adam Chance Brown, Shea Gregory Brown, Jerrod Steven Busse, Chera Jade Chavado, Isabell Chavez, Quinton Burns Cobb, Megan L. Coffey, Alisha Marie Dallas, Daniel Anthony Dean, Heather L. Dildy, John Robert Doss, Tyler Brett Doughty, Luke Andrew Dyer, Monica Paige Eakin, Andrew Michael Fraser, Teryn L. Garner.

Thirteenth Grade
 Rickey Wayne Gattis, Kaydrian Cherrell Grays, Alma O. Gutierrez, Ricky Don Harvill, Cody Dean Hukill, Aaron M. Hunt, Keaton D. Hutto, Amber Rena Jenkins, Roger Dale Johnson, Elizabeth Ashley Joiner, April Lyn Laycock, Lynzy Terryn Leach, William Ryan Lewis, Kandice Yvette Maddox, Ashley Denise McLean, Rebecca Ann Middlebrook, Wendi Marie Miller, Austin C. Morgan, Drew Haynes Morrison, Austin K. Morton, Mark Jordan Murray, Catherine Skye Niccum, Curtis Levi Nunn, Kenneth R. O'Neal, Jason Kyle Orr, Chassey Leah Oxley, Whitney Nicole Parker.

Fourteenth Grade
 Lashonda Kay Parks, Jessie H. Parsley, Felipe J. Portillo, Amanda Jo Rasmussen, Diana Resendiz, Matthew B. Robertson, Jennie Elizabeth Rogers, Anna Schafer, Autumn L. Schaub, Meghan Tierney Scott, Cameron Alexander Seger, Kristy Colynn Sinyard, Garnet Sue Skinner, Lindsey Tatum Smith, Jaclyn Dianna Spearman, Jacob Ryan Stillwagon, Kendall Shae Stokes, Gary Wayne Teakell, Jerica Jerisha Timmons, Joshua David Vandergriff, Christopher Ford Veal, D'ann Michele Vela, Ying Wei Wang, Brittany Lynnea Westbrook, Michael Wayne Wilkinson, Erin Dawn Winegeart, Jared Lee Winegeart, Lauren Chantile Winkelman, Melissa Zubia.

Fifteenth Grade
 Sara A. Albracht, Darrin Lynn Allen, April Adele Amador, Andrew C. Ammons,

Alan M. Arzola, Amber Michelle Asher, Brianna R. Bailey, Haley M. Bowen, Chance W. Bowers, Collin L. Bowers, Kera Leeann Bruce, Jerrod L. Carruth, Keisha Brittany Childress, Jasmin Cordova, Abbi Elizabeth Covatt, Raeanna M. Cowan, Hunter Alan Craig, Shelby Joann Crook, Andrew C. Curtis.

Sixteenth Grade
 Caleb P. Darling, Megan E. David, Chelsey R. Davis, Ryan M. Davis, Heather Rena Dean, Marcos Antonio Ricky Deleon, Britny Dion Downey, Chelsea B. Dyer, Quitin Laveil Ellis, Sarah Christine Ellis, Adam Daniel Etchison, Amber N. Freeman, Mallory Kathlene Gallagher, Jessica Kelley Grantham, Jansen Don Hancock, Brianna Jo Hartman, Krissy Anne Holman, Blake E. Howard, Zachry Scott Hucks, Kera N. Ivey, Misty D. Ivey, Evelyn Rose Jasso, Lindsay Marie Jennings, Joseph A. Johnson, Stacey Jo Johnson.

Seventeenth Grade
 Tyler Don Jonas, Patricia Dawn Jones, Kellen Dan Ketchersid, Shayna N. Grace Kirkland, Christopher Dane Koop, Lauryn N. Langford, Derek R. Lewis, Cody W. Locknane, Diana Laura Lozano, Benito N. Martinez, Demetrio Martinez, Michael A. Martinez, Erika Joy Mauricio, Sarah Drucilla Mae Medley, Jose N. Meraz, Dean A. Moman, Tera D. Murray, Heather Dawn Neider, Stephanie Ann Nelson, Edwardo J. Palma.

Eighteenth Grade
 Katlin Rose Passini, Shelby D. Patton, Nerissa D. Perry, Lindsey B. Price, Cara M. Pryor, Raquel Ramirez, K'lee Jo Ratzlaff, Angela A. Resendiz, Kandace D. Roby, Neysha Renee Rodgers, Crystal Sanchez, Jamie Lane Schroeder, Melissa K. Scobee, Carissa A. Seger, Katie Shaffer, Michael Paul Shaw, Luis A. Silva, Aaron J. Simon, Erika Dawn Skinner, Jera N. Skinner, Latisha Rachel Smith, Shelley Elizabeth Smith, Felipe Antonio Soria, Jesus Rafael Tarango, Shaleene M. Taylor, Catherine A. Trimble, Minerva Vasquez, Jennie L. Waggoner, Britton T. White, Gregory D. Wiley.

PHS students compete in UIL

Fifty-five Pampa High School students recently participated in District UIL Academic competition at West Texas A&M University in Canyon.

The following students earned points for the Pampa team:

Calculator Applications. Second place team, Kira Chumbley, second place; Anson Henthorn, fifth place; Stephanie Blankenship, sixth place.

Computer Applications. Adam Fox, first place; Jessica Conner, second place; Caryn Lowery, third place.

Computer Science. Michalla Mechler, second place. Third place team, Mechler, Chris Shaffer, Luke Burton, L.J. Lawley.

Literary Criticism. Hayle Garrison, second place. Second place team, Garrison, Jacob Lewis, Jeremy Buck.

Ready Writing. Hayle Garrison, first place; Mary Fetter, sixth place.

Science. Dori Edens, second place, chemistry; Chris Shaffer and Ben Williams, third place, chemistry. Third place overall team, Edens, Williams, Wesley Warren.

Spelling. Michalla Mechler, third place; Luke Burton, fourth place. Second place team, Mechler, Burton, Ryan Black, Angela McCarty.

Prose Interpretation. Daniel Kirkpatrick, first place; Josh Ellis, second place.

Informative Speaking. Lance Burton, fourth place; Kevin Smith, fifth place.

Persuasive Speaking. Daniel Kirkpatrick, fifth place.

News Writing. Stephanie Braddock, fifth place.

Feature Writing. Marcie Bennett, first place.

Editorial Writing. Stephanie Braddock, fourth place.

Headline Writing. Lisa Wilson, fourth place.

The following 16 students will advance to Regional competition in San Angelo: Marcie Bennett, Stephanie Braddock, Lance Burton, Luke Burton, Kira Chumbley, Jessica Conner, Dori Edens, Josh Ellis, Adam Fox, Hayle Garrison, Daniel Kirkpatrick, Caryn Lowery, Michalla Mechler, Chris Shaffer, Ben Williams and Lisa Wilson.

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Institute of Medicine Report warns of hospital closings, urges federal aid

By KAREN GULLO
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Public hospitals and clinics serving the poor are cutting back services and struggling to survive as they lose patients to HMOs and take on more uninsured, said a panel of health experts that recommended spending \$2.5 billion over five years to keep them afloat.

Without the federal funds, many providers of last resort for people who can't afford to see a doctor will be forced to close, predicted an Institute of Medicine report on the nation's health "safety net."

"You can't just assume that these providers will always be there," said Raymond Baxter, IOM panel member and executive vice president at The Lewin Group, a private health policy research group. "People who have come to rely on these clinics will have their care delayed at best, or won't be able to get care at all."

Many local public health services are losing patients subsidized by federal and state programs such as Medicaid — an important source of revenue — to managed care organizations, leaving fewer dollars to offset the free care they provide to people who can't pay.

The Contra Costa County health department in northern California is facing an \$8.2 million budget shortfall next year because revenues are exceeding costs, 31 percent of which goes to providing care for people with no insurance.

"We'll have to start looking at cutbacks in programs," said Sara Hoffman, assistant county administrator.

Most safety net providers have been able to survive by cobbling together grants, the report said. Federal officials

Many local public health services are losing patients subsidized by federal and state programs such as Medicaid — an important source of revenue — to managed care organizations, leaving fewer dollars to offset the free care they provide to people who can't pay.

said more needs to be done to stabilize the safety net.

"This report has confirmed our worst fears," said Dr. Claude Earle Fox, head of the Health Resources and Services Administration at the Department of Health and Human Services. "We need to get all of the potential sources of funding working closely together to ensure that we strengthen the safety net and don't weaken it."

Fox, whose department commissioned the IOM study, said a \$25 million pilot program for consortiums of safety net providers aims to improve coordination of care for the uninsured. The Clinton administration has asked Congress for \$1 billion to expand the program over the next five years.

The Institute of Medicine is part of the National Academy of Sciences, a private organization chartered by Congress to advise the government of scientific matters.

The term "safety net" refers to organi-

zations that are legally obligated to provide care to people who cannot afford it. They include some 700 community health centers and 1,300 public hospitals. Though estimates vary, more than 8 million Americans get basic health care from these providers.

Many safety net patients are covered by Medicaid, a federal-state health program for the poor that reimburses safety net providers and is the single biggest source of revenue for them.

But over the last decade, many states have converted Medicaid to managed care to cut costs, inviting health maintenance organizations and other private providers to compete for Medicaid patients.

While paying patients benefited from having more choices in medical care, public hospitals and other safety net providers lost 6 percent of their Medicaid patients, the IOM report said.

Some hospitals and clinics have joined managed care groups to compete, but reimbursement rates for Medicaid patients under those plans are sometimes less than what it costs to provide care, the report said.

Meanwhile, Congress in 1997 reduced federal subsidies for public health centers.

With this backdrop of financial pressures, the number of uninsured who rely on safety net providers grew by 20 percent between 1988 and 1998 and now numbers an estimated 44 million, or nearly one in five Americans.

The report said it also cited a study of 400 local health departments that showed 23 percent of urban centers and 17 percent of nonurban centers had stopped providing basic health care services.

On the Net: Institute of Medicine: <http://www.iom.edu/>

Senate votes loan guarantees for rural television providers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans in rural markets may soon be able to watch local news, sports and weather for the first time, thanks to legislation that gives businesses an incentive to offer local television signals.

The Senate passed a bill Thursday offering \$1.25 billion in federal loan guarantees to entice satellite, cable and wireless companies to deliver local TV signals to rural areas where millions can't get them now. That's because the viewers may live outside the broadcast signal range of local TV stations signals, are in not served by cable companies or have broadcast satellite subscriptions that are not yet offering the local channels.

"Just because they are small, doesn't mean they should be left out," said Sen. Conrad Burns, R-Mont., one of the authors of the bill.

The loan guarantees would be capped at 80 percent. That means the federal government would promise to cover 80 percent of the loans if the borrower defaults.

The bill is technologically neutral — meaning that companies getting the loan guarantees could use cable, satellite or any other type of service to deliver the local signals. But satellites may offer the most cost-effective option, with the ability to cover the greatest rural area.

The House Commerce Committee has approved a similar bill and the Agriculture Committee in the House has cleared one that would guarantee

100 percent of the loans. The House must either merge those two or pick one before the legislation can advance. The White House has taken no position on the legislation.

The loans would have to be approved by a board composed of the secretaries of Treasury and Agriculture and the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board. They could choose designees who would have to be confirmed by the Senate.

Lawmakers forged agreement Thursday to allow rural cooperatives to participate — in addition to lenders insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation — as long as they meet certain conditions.

Senate Banking Committee Chairman Phil Gramm, R-Texas, said the bill was structured so that taxpayers would not be placed at financial risk by the loan guarantees.

"The bill maximizes the chances that the loans will be paid back," said Gramm, who last year blocked action on the measure.

An amendment added by Sens. Max Baucus, D-Mont., and Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., also seeks to promote the rollout of high-speed Internet service — dozens of times faster than today's dial-up connections — to rural communities.

Projects seeking to receive the local TV loan guarantees would get special consideration if they also provide high-speed Internet access and National Weather Service information to those communities.

Organic cropland doubled in 1990s, government says

WASHINGTON (AP) — Farmers doubled the nation's organic crop acreage in the 1990s, and production of organic eggs and milk increased even more to meet rising consumer demand, the government says.

The amount of certified organic cropland grew from 403,000 acres in 1992 to 850,000 in 1997.

The number of organic laying hens jumped from 43,981 to 537,826 during the same period, a time when public concern about bacterial contamination of eggs was on the rise. The number of organic milk cows grew from 2,265 to 12,897.

"Organic farming became one of the fastest growing segments of U.S. agriculture during the 1990s and producers, exporters and retailers are still struggling to meet consumer demand," according to a study by the Agriculture Department's Economic Research Service.

Organic farming is still a very small part of U.S. agriculture, however. About 0.2 percent of U.S. cropland was certified organic in 1997, compared with 1.5 percent in Europe, where farmers are offered government aid to convert to organic agriculture.

Captured Mexican kidnapper linked to drug trafficker

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Marcos Tinoco seemed a dapper and educated man — charming widows and secretaries in the richer neighborhoods of Mexico's capital.

But prosecutors said Thursday he used that charm to gather information on wealthy victims — most of them Jews — who were kidnapped and sometimes had fingers sliced off to force ransom.

Tinoco, 41, was arrested this week while driving in the Polanco neighborhood of Mexico City. On Thursday the federal attorney general's office presented him to the cameras.

Appearing relatively calm before the flashing lights, Tinoco asked for silence and then shouted, "Innocent!"

The head of the attorney general's organized crime unit, Jose Trinidad Larrieta, said Tinoco was "one of the most-sought kidnappers" and he led "the most active and dangerous criminal organization" of the moment.

Police say Tinoco is suspected of at least 11 kidnappings over the past 15 months, 10 of them aimed at Jews whose relatives, employees and acquaintances he would befriend to gather information.

"The majority of his kidnappings last only a few hours," Larrieta said, calling Tinoco "the king of the express kidnap."

But on one occasion, he said, a victim was held for 18 days. A finger was sliced off and sent to the victim's family to force a ransom payment.

Ransoms ranged from \$38,000 to \$650,000, Larrieta said.

The newspaper Reforma reported that Tinoco was a fourth-year law student when he dropped out of school. It said he tried his hand running jewelry shops in Mexico City and Cancun, but failed.

Quoting from a videotaped interview it said was conducted by federal police, Reforma said Tinoco described himself as a teetotaling sportsman who practiced skydiving and karate.

Larrieta said Tinoco used his legal training to intimidate victims. Kidnappers impersonating federal police would threaten to frame them on drug charges if they did not offer a payoff.

Tinoco "created false arrest orders which he showed to his victims to make them believe there really was a judicial order against them," Larrieta said.

The amount of organic pasture and rangeland actually declined from 1992 to 1997, from 532,000 acres to 496,000 acres. Economists say organic production of meat and poultry lagged during the decade because they could not be labeled as organic until February 1999.

A summary of the USDA study was released Thursday.

Organic farming practices prohibit the use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides for crops or antibiotics or hormones in livestock. New national standards for organic food that the department announced earlier this month are expected to stimulate growth in the industry by bolstering consumer confidence and making it easier to export the products.

But the study said it remains difficult for farmers to switch to organic practices for a number of reasons: the cost and risk involved in shifting to the new methods, insufficient numbers of processors and distributors, and limited access to capital.

While organic products can fetch significantly higher prices than conventional ones, farmers cannot sell their crops as organic during the three-year conversion period required to be certified.

Nationally, 2 percent of apple, grape, lettuce and carrot acreage was organic in 1997, along with 1 percent of oats, dry peas and tomatoes.

There is evidence that organic agriculture has continued to expand since 1997. California Certified Organic Farmers, one of the top certifying agencies in the state, estimated its 1999 acreage at 96,878, up 38 percent from 1997. Idaho estimated its 1999 organic cropland at 85,061 acres, up 55 percent from 1997.

On the Net: USDA's National Organic Program: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop>
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RELIGION

Minister's musing

Why is it that parents and others dropping off young people at Pampa High School will not pull to the curb when they drop off students? Ever notice? They will stop right in the middle of the lane, holding up traffic behind them. Then the young people get out, kiss their parents goodbye, pick up their books, close the door and saunter across the street. This is unsafe and very discourteous to other traffic. Get a life! Pull over to the side of the street next to the curb if you are letting kids out! It's an accident waiting to happen. If we could change this, it might make everyone safer.

Speaking of letting our kids off, the Bible presents a very unique idea in that God delivered His Son, Jesus Christ for each of us

By DAVE
SCHLEWITZ

Chaplain at
Jordan Unit

on the Cross of Calvary. Unlike us, Christ never committed any wrongs, nor did He break any law. Unlike us, He gave his life for all of us. "Unique?" You say, "I've heard that all my life!" Well, it is unique in ... Well, write me and let me

know of another parent who gave their son for a bunch of other people who didn't even want him, didn't think they needed him? Get my drift? Very, very unique. The Bible says, "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

"Hoo, hoo, ha, ha, hee, hee!" I can hear you laughing now. "That is just a fairy tale." Well, now. There you've gone and said it. I do appreciate your honesty. This is just minister's musings so I can't take a lot of time to defend Christianity. Don't really need to. The motive of God in sending His Son is pure and powerful. He surely can speak for Himself. The question is will you pull over to the curb and listen?

Religion briefs...

Musical set in Perryton

Full Gospel Community Worship Center in Perryton will present the musical "One Voice" at 7 p.m., April 21 and 22 and at 2:30 p.m. April 23. Though admission is free, tickets are required for early seating. "One Voice" is a musical depicting the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ as seen through the eyes of the Pharisees. The public is cordially invited to attend. For tickets or for more information, call (806) 435-2506.

Share your church news and photos. The weekly church news deadline is noon Wednesday.

Evangelicals may be bound to Bush, but what about Catholics?

By RICHARD N. OSTLING
AP Religion Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The religious tumult during the primary campaign reinforced one of the dogmas of Republican Party politics: You can't get the nomination without the Evangelical Protestant activists. George W. Bush cultivated this flock; John McCain alienated it. Guess who won.

But some see a flip side. The primaries "created the perception of closer ties between Gov. Bush and the religious right than many Republicans feel comfortable with," remarks the Interfaith Alliance's C. Welton Gaddy, who opposes the evangelical activists. "It's a tricky situation for him."

Corwin Smidt, a Calvin College political scientist, agrees that Bush "doesn't want to be painted as the Christian conservative candidate." Yet Bush will be counting on this bloc in November.

Smidt is part of a team of four political scientists who have carefully tracked religious voting patterns since 1980. The others John Green of the University of Akron, James Guth of Furman University and Lyman Kellstedt of Wheaton College in Illinois.

Rather than the vague religious identifications in typical exit polls, this team checks whether voters are actually active in their faith, and uses an unusually large sample (4,000) to categorize the specific churches where they worship.

Smidt told a National Association of Evangelicals briefing last week that whites who are active in evangelical churches, a devoutly Republican group, now make up some 25 percent of the electorate. (Black Protestants are often evangelical in style but loyally Democratic; the team treats them as a separate category.)

Evangelical Protestants are not only numerous but cohesive, Smidt said, and they have a solid consensus on issues, vote at higher levels than they used to, and are readily mobilized through churches and other associations — all crucial for political clout.

With the shift of white southerners to the G.O.P. since 1980,

said Smidt, "evangelicals serve largely as the bedrock of the Republican coalition," taking the former role of Protestants in "Mainline" denominations that have become more mixed, politically as well as theologically.

Evangelicalism is no monolith. The Bush-McCain squabbles exposed differences among Bob Jones fundamentalists, Pat Robertson activists, and National Association of Evangelicals-type moderates. However, all conservative Protestant factions appear bound to Bush.

But what about active Catholics, the second biggest religious bloc with 22 percent of voters?

Interviewed at the evangelical briefing, John Green said "there isn't a Catholic vote any more." He said Hispanic Catholics and non-Hispanic liberal Catholics tend to vote for Democrats, conservative Catholics for Republicans, and middle-of-the-road Catholics for either.

The flap over Bush's appearance at doctrinally anti-Catholic Bob Jones University cemented Gore's hold on the liberals, Green said, while conservative Catholics don't consider Bush anti-Catholic and can forgive him now that he has apologized in writing to Cardinal John O'Connor. That leaves both men fighting for Catholic swing voters.

Green predicts a close result in November, "and middle Catholics will decide the election."

Another political scientist, A. James Reichley of Georgetown University, told the evangelical briefing that the abortion issue changed Catholic politics, though not in the way many think.

From the days of Andrew Jackson, he explained, "a good Catholic was a good Democrat."

But once the abortion issue turned into a national debate, the Democratic leadership and the Catholic Church became polar opposites. For many Catholics, abortion rights aren't a critical factor in their politics, said Reichley, but they "decided that if they liked an individual Republican candidate on other

issues they no longer felt that tribal hold to the Democratic Party."

With party uncoupled from church, many Catholics have been going Republican, especially those who are regular churchgoers. But now the pendulum may be swinging back again. The shift toward the Republicans has stalled and "is in danger of being reversed," says Deal Hudson, editor of Crisis, a conservative Catholic magazine which has been analyzing the trend. "The moment could not be more critical."

GOP prospects have been hurt lately, not only by Bush's Bob Jones visit but the ruckus over Republican leaders picking a Protestant over a Catholic for House chaplain.

More than one-third of Republicans are now Catholic, said Hudson, and Republican candidates "have to be as sensitive to Catholic attitudes as they have been to evangelical attitudes."

He thinks political pitches that appeal to evangelicals can turn off Catholics. "The Catholic responds to compassionate, inclusive, accepting rhetoric." However, he said, evangelicals and active Catholics agree that their leaders should "address the moral breakdown in the family and the culture."

One indication that the Bush campaign is watching the issue came last September, when Hudson was invited to Texas to brief Bush on his magazine's research into the Catholic vote.

There's another huge voting bloc identified by the four political scientists: non-religious Americans. When those who are church members in name only are added to those with no religious affiliation at all, they outnumber the evangelicals.

For Al Gore, the good news is that this bloc is as devoutly Democratic as the Evangelical Protestants and conservative Catholics are Republican. The bad news is that, unlike the believers, they're a fuzzy group that's devilishly difficult to locate and mobilize.

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RELIGION

Religion news from around the country ...

Lutheran bishops seek to calm opposition

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — A meeting of Evangelical Lutheran Church in America bishops has sent its 5.2 million members a pastoral letter acknowledging "deep concern and opposition" regarding a unity pact with the Episcopal Church but urging Lutherans to accept it.

The "full communion" pact, which allows sharing of ministers and sacraments, passed overwhelmingly at the Lutherans' convention last year and comes up for approval at the Episcopal Church convention in July.

The Word Alone Network, a group of Lutherans opposed to the agreement, has organized more than 100 regional meetings. Last month a caucus of 18 Lutherans from both sides of the debate met in Milwaukee to draft a "Common Ground" statement and bridge the gap.

Some Lutherans object to the requirement that they accept the Episcopal concept of the "historic episcopate," a succession of bishops dating from the origins of Christianity, and the rule that only such bishops have power to ordain clergy.

Lutherans historically have allowed a variety of church structures, and have emphasized the "priesthood of all believers."

The bishops' letter calls for discussion about altering the clergy ordination rule "in unusual circumstances and with appropriate consultation." However, it appears unlikely that Episcopalians would change their stance.

One opponent, Bishop Rick Foss of Fargo, N.D., claims as many as half of Lutheran church members oppose the pact. He said the bishops' discussion was "difficult and draining" and called the letter "a first attempt, officially, to acknowledge that some people are going to find it very hard to live with it."

Evangelical association opens up membership rule

ARLINGTON, Va. (AP) — Rewriting a rule that dates from its founding in 1943, the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) has decided to admit denominations that affirm its conservative creed even if they also hold membership in the National Council of Churches (NCC).

The constitutional change by an NAE board meeting resulted from a 1999 inquiry about such dual membership from the 260,000-member Reformed Church in America, a charter member of the NCC.

The NCC, based in New York City, is the larger of the two church federations, with a constituency of 33 Protestant and Orthodox denominations that have 100,000 local congregations.

The NAE, with offices in Glendora, Calif., includes 51 Protestant denominations and 45,000 local congregations. It also represents 250 interdenominational organizations such as National Religious Broadcasters and World Relief.

NAE President Kevin Mannoia, who took office last year just as the Reformed Church sent its request, said the change means evangelicals no longer define themselves in relation to other interchurch organizations. He called it "a statement of maturity and strength of identity."

"To me, this is a monumental decision," Mannoia said. "The ramifications are as yet unseen."

Newspaper debate going over priests' AIDS deaths

NEW YORK (AP) — A widely circulated Kansas City Star report that U.S. Roman Catholic priests die of AIDS at a rate four times the general population continues to stir debate.

The Star later amended its Jan. 30 article to say priests die at double the rate for other adult men.

But an AIDS expert writes in the current edition of America magazine that priests' death rate is not higher, and that new infections among clergy have actually "trended downward over time."

The writer is Jon Fuller, a Jesuit, physician, medical school professor in Boston and founder of the National Catholic AIDS Network. Fuller estimates the HIV infection rate at between 0.25 percent and one percent for clergy, compared with a United Nations estimate of 0.5 percent for all U.S. adults.

The Star's statistics are also criticized on NewsWatch, a media watchdog site on the Web, by David Murray of the Statistical Assessment Service. Using data for the 1990s from the Statistical Abstract of the United States, Murray says the AIDS death rate for priests and other Americans is similar.

Responding to critics, the Star said its estimate came from medical experts and counselors who have treated priests with HIV and AIDS. It did not identify them.

Monsignor Francis Maniscalco, communications director for the U.S. bishops' conference, said "this was a highly sensationalized description of the situation. The tragedy of individuals was portrayed as a crisis of the institution. That was not borne out by the statistics."

On the Net: America magazine: <http://www.americapress.org>; NewsWatch: <http://www.newswatch.org>

Church won't be ready by April 19 anniversary

WACO, Texas (AP) — Due to lagging donations and lack of volunteer labor, the remaining Branch Davidians won't have a new church ready for the seventh anniversary of their fiery standoff with federal agents.

The group plans to worship at the site of the tragedy April 19, but builders said the new church will probably lack seating, flooring and plumbing.

Davidians who survived the 51-day standoff say the project began when libertarian radio talk show host Alex Jones and an aide asked what they could do to help David Koresh's remaining disciples restore what they lost in 1993.

Some \$83,000 has been donated.

U.S. Muslims protest comedy series on God

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Muslim organization has been the first religious group to publicly protest "God, the Devil and Bob," a new animated comedy series on NBC-TV.

"This kind of tasteless and trivial portrayal of God does a disservice to the millions of American television viewers who have deeply felt religious beliefs," declared Nihad Awad, executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations.

The council is urging viewers to contact the network and affiliated stations and express concern about companies that buy ads on the show.

The series deals with a Detroit auto worker named Bob who meets God in a bar and discusses moral questions and whether mankind is worth saving.

At least nine of NBC's 215 affiliates have refused to carry the sitcom saying it contains offensive matter. They include KSL in Salt Lake City, owned by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Indiana diocese to forgive church debts

GARY, Ind. (AP) — Citing a strong economy and the principle of stewardship, the Roman Catholic diocese of Gary said it will reduce or forgive debts of \$2.8 million for eight parishes and institutions.

Diocesan spokesman Brian Olszewski said investment earnings made the plan possible. "We're a forgiving church. We practice what we preach," he said. "Through the country, I think more and more dioceses will be doing this."

A typical beneficiary is St. Mary of the Lake parish. "To keep the school running, for a while we had to pump money in. The parish could no longer do it," said the Rev. Tom Mischler. "It truly is a weight lifted off us. We can begin to think about creating programs. People are attracted to a parish when they see action."

Orthodox Jews launch "virtual Purim" Web site

NEW YORK (AP) — An Orthodox Jewish group has post-

ed a Web site to help believers around the world observe the festival of Purim.

Purin, which celebrates Haman's failure to annihilate the Jews as recorded in the biblical book of Esther, falls on March 20-21.

The site, www.virtualpurim.org, is sponsored by the Lubavitch branch of Hasidic Jews and its Chabad centers.

It gives detailed information about the holiday and how to celebrate it, with an interactive Ask-the-Rabbi section, children's games, recipes, prayer and study guides, a worldwide on-line costume contest and an audio selection of holiday songs.

Church suit calls city zoning policy unconstitutional

GRAND HAVEN, Mich. (AP) — A local church is suing the city in federal court, alleging zoning rules discriminate against religious organizations and violate the Constitution.

Haven Shores Community Church wants to open a storefront worship center in a shopping center. Its lawsuit says the zoning board discriminated by "applying a vague ordinance" and prohibiting worship "in a location where similar, but non-religious, groups would be permitted to associate."

The city council supports existing zoning regulations, citing traffic and concern that customers might be reluctant to shop during worship times.

The church is represented by the Becket Fund of Washington, D.C., a non-profit legal group.



April Fool's Day Sale

Saturday 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

***50% off Storewide**

Select Group of Watches

75% off

*Sale excludes Fossil



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April 7-8 Trinity Women's Conference

Trinity Fellowship Church will present its Women's Spring Conference 2000 with guest speaker Devi Titus April 7-8. The conference will begin at 7 p.m., Friday, April 7 in the sanctuary of the church. Brunch will be served at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 8 in fellowship hall of the church and the conference will resume at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. Titus will speak on "Passion for Purity."

Titus is one of American's rec-

ognized Christian conference speakers and authors. She first came to the attention of women nationwide in 1978 when she founded and edited Virtue, a successful Christian alternative to secular women's magazines. In 1979, she received the Superior Performance Award by Washington Press Women for her work with the magazine.

As an international conference speaker, Titus is able to draw

from 30 years in the ministry. She always purposes to encourage women in every aspect of their personal and ministry life.

Titus is a contributing author of "Help, I'm a Pastor's Wife" and "How to Love Your Husband," published by Creation House. She also serves on the advisory boards of Ministries Today, Aspire and Excellence magazines.

Briefly

Michigan poll: Most women pray daily

DETROIT (AP) — Nearly two-thirds of 900 Michigan women surveyed in a Detroit Free Press poll said they pray daily. The survey also found that half the women say they attend weekly religious services.

The newspaper said the purpose of the survey was to measure attitudes about work, family, love and daily life at the end of a century that brought profound changes in women's roles.

For many women, faith brings peace to their often hectic lives. Faith is even more important to women than to men, according to a nationwide 1998 Gallup poll in which 67 percent of women said faith was very important in their lives, compared with 53 percent of men.

In the Michigan survey, 62 percent of the women said they pray daily and 19 percent said at least weekly.

When asked if they believed their prayers are answered, 68 percent said they were, 17 percent said sometimes and 4 percent said they were not answered.

More than a third of mothers said they have primary responsibility for religious upbringing of their children while 45 percent said they share that role equally with their husbands.

Nebraska archbishop forbids priests at casinos

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Omaha's Roman Catholic archbishop has ordered priests under his jurisdiction to shun casinos, even in secular dress.

Casinos are illegal in Nebraska. In a letter to priests, Archbishop Elden Curtiss said he acted after complaints from parishioners who spotted clergy at casinos in neighboring states.

Gambling can be addictive and

tempt a priest to use parish funds to recoup losses or to try to hit it big, Curtiss said.

The letter was pre-emptive, said the Rev. Michael Gutsell, the archdiocese's chancellor. To his knowledge, Gutsell said, no priest has such a gambling problem.

Curtiss had previously discouraged use of bingo and other games of chance for parish fund-raising.

**We invite you to hear
Kent Watson
In a Gospel Meeting**

"Studies in the book of Philippians"

April 2-5, 2000

Sunday Bible Class	9:30 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship	6:00 P.M.
Monday-Wednesday Service	7:30 P.M.
Congregational Singing from 2:00-4:00 P.M. Sunday	
Hosted by the Church of Christ	
First and Newcome	
Groom, TX	

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JESUS 2000

The Year 2000 Marks 70 Years of Celebrating the Life of Jesus
Join the Celebration Through Special Services April 2 - 5
Central Baptist Church 665-1631

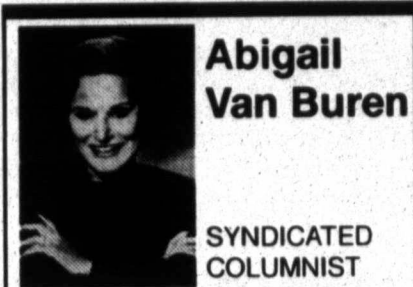
Grocery Store Parking Lots Aren't Safe for Kids in Carts

DEAR ABBY: Yesterday at the grocery store, I observed a woman with two young children in the parking lot. While she loaded her groceries and her toddler from the cart into her van, she left the younger child (under a year old) sitting in the cart behind her vehicle.

The scene brought back an incident when my own child was just a year old. I parked the grocery cart at the rear of my small pickup truck and hesitated only a moment before deciding to load my child into the pickup before my purchases. I had taken only three steps when a car pulling out of the parking space directly behind me slammed into my grocery cart hard enough that the cart dented the tailgate of my truck. Customers all over the parking lot heard the impact. Even if my child had not died from the impact, he would have been seriously — and possibly permanently — injured.

During the time that this woman took to load her toddler and groceries, the cart and the baby were out of her line of sight. Someone could have pulled up and taken her child, could have hit the cart, or the cart could have rolled into the path of a car.

Abby, please remind your readers that the most important thing in a grocery cart is your child. Al-



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

ways put the child (or children) in the car first.

DIANE IN SCAPPOOSE, ORE.

DEAR DIANE: When I read your letter, the hairs on my arms stood straight up! In case other parents need this reminder: If a child is a passenger in the grocery cart, the cart should be placed beside the parent's vehicle where it's protected from traffic. And, of course, the child (or children) should be placed first in the vehicle.

DEAR ABBY: The letter regarding calendars depicting almost nude women hanging in businesses frequented by both men and women brought back an incident that I experienced.

I worked in a car radio company

and had to regularly visit the garage where the radios were installed. The installers had many calendars in their work areas that offended me, some depicting completely nude women.

I spoke to the owner (a woman) about my feelings and she had the perfect solution. She bought a magazine (Playgirl) that contained photos of completely naked men and tacked a few of the pics up in the garage. The installers had a fit, telling her that the pictures were "obscene." Needless to say, all the girlie pics were down the next day!

By the way, this was 25 years ago, long before there were any laws regarding sexual harassment.

JO IN LARGO, FLA.

DEAR JO: What's good for the gander is good for the goose! I have to wonder at the logic that pictures of nude women are art and pictures of nude men are obscene, since both the subjects were formed by the same creator.

CONFIDENTIAL TO "CONSIDERING DIPLOMACY AS A CAREER": Art Linkletter described diplomacy succinctly: "The art of jumping into troubled water without making a splash."

Horoscope

SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2000

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

**** You might feel vulnerable doing so, but express your feelings. Another really needs to know where you are coming from, and a serious discussion can ensue. Make time to price a new item. Get the most bang for your buck! Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

This week: Your actions bring big-time results. Consolidate and build.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

**** Aim for what you want, but know what your expectations are. You might need to have a serious discussion with an associate, which might not be that easy. Once you clear the air, talks become animated and open. Visit over a lengthy lunch. Tonight: Where your friends are.

This week: Judge, think and consider, first thing. Then take action from Wednesday on.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

**** Your instincts lead you in the right direction with an older relative or with someone who is in charge. You might hesitate, but trust your judgment. Take a leap of faith. Invite a loved one to join you; go out and do something together that you love. Tonight: Dinner out.

This week: You soar through events until Tuesday. Evaluate gains from Wednesday on.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

**** Take off; make calls; do

something fun and worthwhile. You might want to head out of town, go to a concert or visit with someone at a distance. Empathize with a friend. As a result, you'll see things differently. Tonight: Try a new restaurant.

This week: Take charge, knowing that others are watching. Celebrations follow. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

**** Work with a partner, even if you must cancel plans or you feel restrained in some manner. You cruise through problems, reaching a new understanding. Plan on a movie or a fun mutual pastime, making time to chat around it. Tonight: Could be cozy.

This week: Check out an opportunity carefully. Responsibilities call.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

**** Listen, even though someone else might not use the words you would use. Clear out problems that have been lingering. Realize that another means well, even if he has an odd way of expressing it. Talk, share and be more open. Tonight: Just don't be alone!

This week: Work with a partner, and you'll gain. Mix intellect with imagination.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** A partner makes a demand you just might not want to fulfill. Discuss where you are coming from. Don't necessarily cut another off cold. Discuss what is on your docket and why you might feel overwhelmed. Tonight: Get a head start on tomorrow.

This week: Others make the call. Think teamwork, and you'll all prevail.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

**** Another might not mean to rain on your parade. Make time for an intense conversation. You might not see eye to eye, but you come to some type of mutual understanding. Share a favorite common activity and talk less. Actions speak louder than words. Tonight: Your attitude

is contagious.

This week: Consolidate a long-sought gain. Network from Wednesday on. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**** Family and home need to be major priorities. Don't push, this morning; simply take your time getting started. Even your energetic sign needs some time off from the hectic pace. Make calls and chat with family, but don't push! Tonight: Take it easy.

This week: Through Tuesday, focus on living the good life. Work calls from Wednesday on.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

**** Conversations prove to be interesting, though stilted at first. You or another might have a hard time getting the right words out. Once you do, it's easy. Let a loved one have greater say. If single, let a flirtation develop into more. Tonight: Don't worry about tomorrow.

This week: Handle personal matters — family first, then children. Then, at last, schedule some fun.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

**** Indulge a family member, who might have a difficult time asking for what he wants or needs. The two of you have a lot to discuss, once you open the door to better communication. Price a major purchase before making it. Tonight: Your treat.

This week: You gain through your excellent communication skills. Follow through from Wednesday on.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

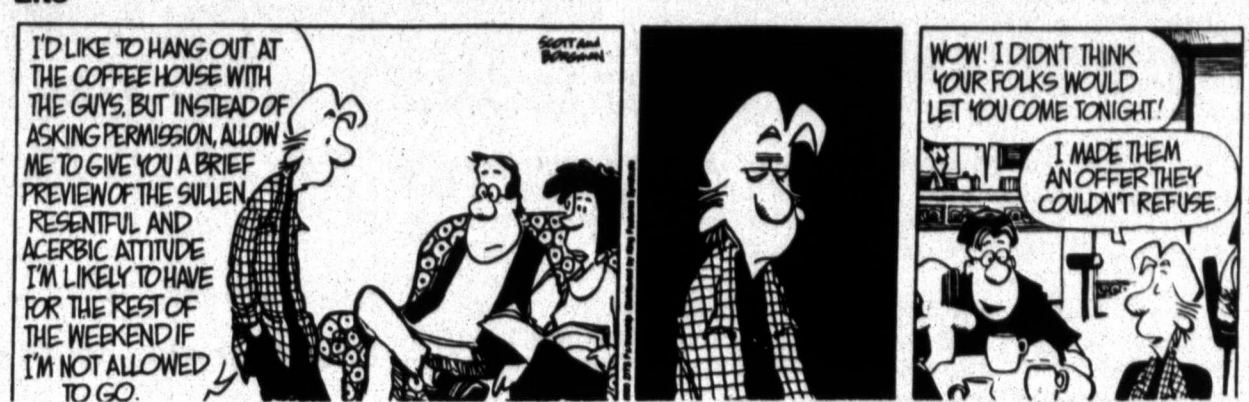
**** What you were sure would be very difficult doesn't have to be. Get past a problem. Accept a challenge. Your understanding of what can happen could change a lot when you get feedback. Bring friends together in the afternoon. Tonight: Pick and choose.

This week: Make money; deal with money. Check out investments from Wednesday on.

For Better or For Worse



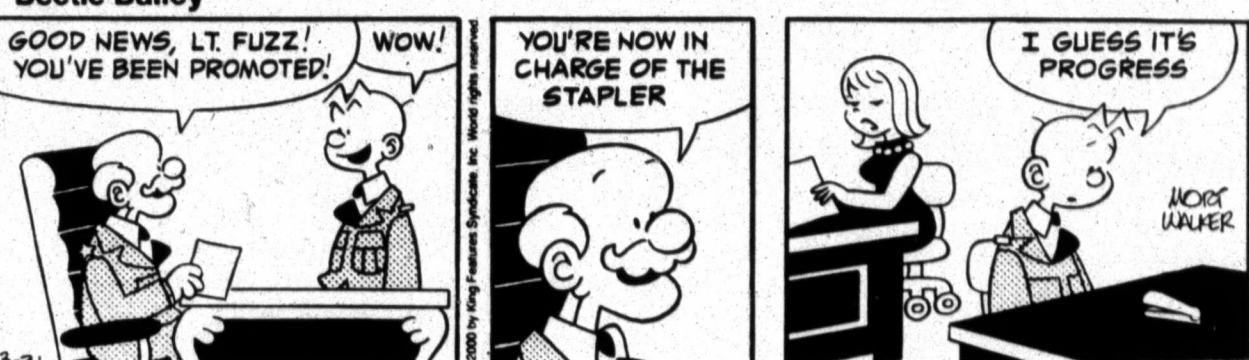
Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



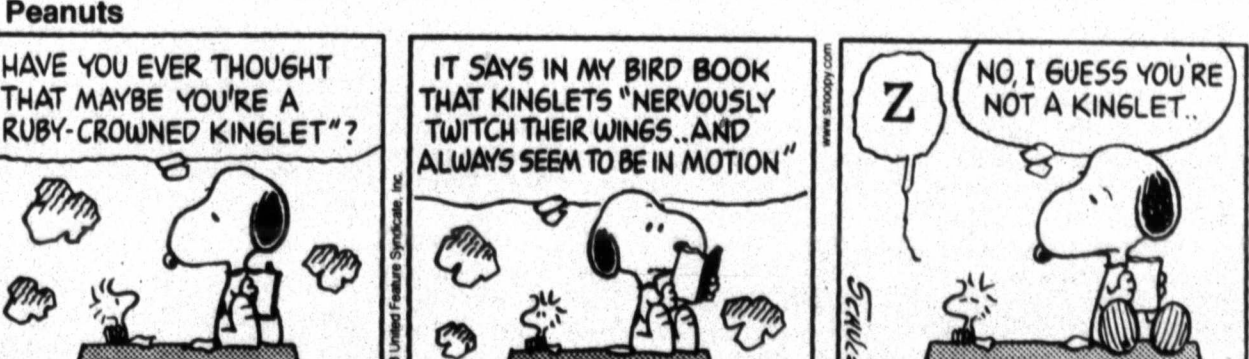
B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



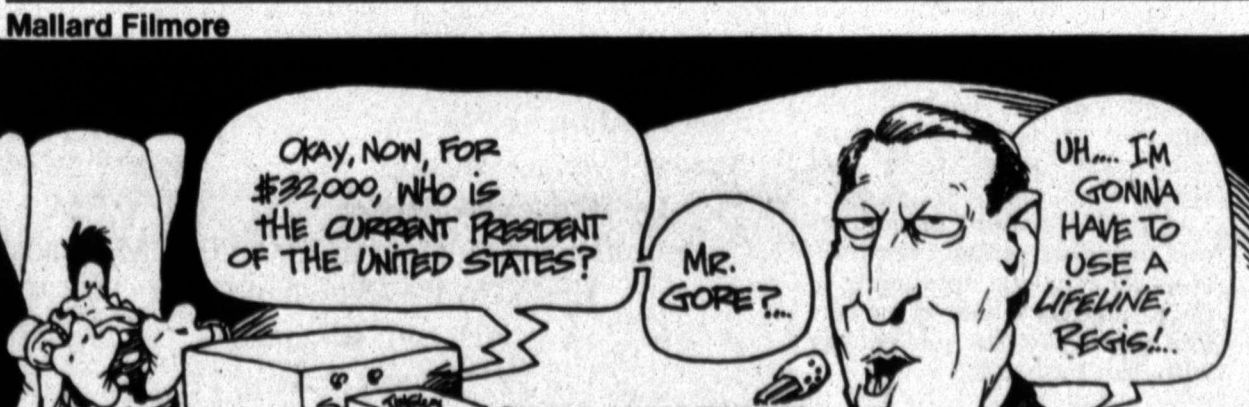
Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore



Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

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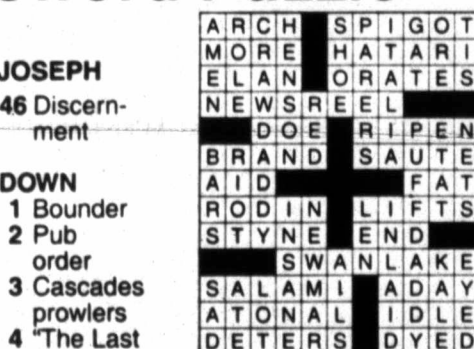
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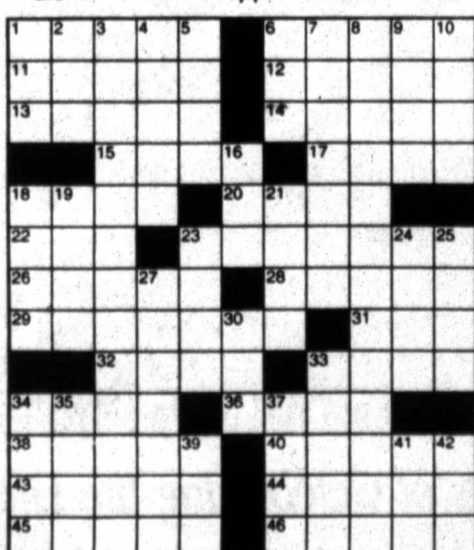
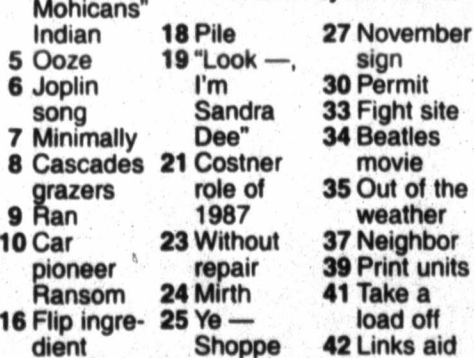
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Yesterday's answer



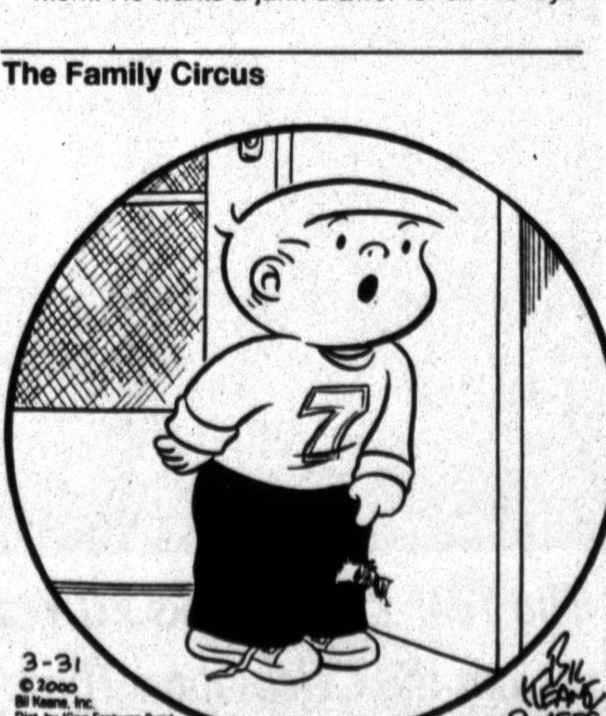
STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-7377! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Marmaduke



The Family Circus



"Sewing takes too long, Mommy. I'll just tape it shut."

SPORTS

Notebook

GOLF

PAMPA — Hidden Hills Public Golf Course held a 2000 3-Man Scramble last weekend.

Results are as follows:

Woods flight

First place: Jerry Steed, Buster Kelly and Sam Maple 62.

Second place: Ronnie Wood, Ted Jett and Bill Allison 62.

Third place: Ken Maple, David McGill and Martin Stevens 62.

Fourth place: Ric Valingo, Mike Soukup and Warren Swarb, 63.

Love Flight

First place: Steve Williams, Greg Vanderlinden and Lonny Flower, 64.

Second place: Bill Harwood, Ralph Wilson and John Darby, 66.

Third place: Fred Courtney, Irvin Williams and Jack Davis, 66.

Fourth place: Elmer Wilson, Buzz Tarpley and Howard Musgrave, 66.

TRACK

PAMPA — The names of three Pampa seventh-grade athletes were omitted from the Pampa Middle School track article in Thursday's edition.

Chera Chavado was fourth in the triple jump (27-7), Jennie Rogers was fourth in the long jump (13-4) and Jaclyn Spearman was sixth (13-1) in the long jump at the Valleyview Relays.



Pampa's Daniel Heuston (above) is the medalist leader after two rounds into the District 3-4A Boys' Golf Tournament. Heuston has a two-round total of 151 and leads Borger's Jeremy West by two shots. The third round of district will be played Saturday at Hereford.

**Lets Support
Harvester Baseball
Tomorrow 1:00 pm
Harvester Field vs Dumas**

Pampa takes on Dumas in District 3-4A home opener

PAMPA — A year ago, Pampa and Dumas battled right down to the wire for supremacy in the District 3-4A baseball race and ended up sharing the championship.

The two teams are set to do battle once again in 2000 as Dumas comes to Pampa for a 1 p.m. meeting Saturday at Harvester Field.

Both teams opened district play with victories on Tuesday. Pampa downed Borger 8-1 while Dumas slipped by Hereford 6-4.

Pampa is 11-5-1 for the season while Dumas is 9-8.

The Harvesters were impressive in their district opener, hitting with consistency up and down the lineup. Only in the seventh inning were the

Harvester hitters set down in order.

Pampa's offense was sparked by shortstop Jesse Francis and second baseman Kaleb Snelgrooves while southpaw pitcher Brent Coffee struck out five and walked one in going the distance.

Francis had four hits and three RBI while Snelgrooves had three hits and an RBI. Russell Robben, Randy Tice, Justin Barnes, Cody Shepard and Greg Lindsey all hit safely.

The last game between Pampa and Dumas was a playoff game to determine the No. 1 playoff seed a year ago. The Harvesters rolled to a 22-4 win.

Top returnees for Dumas are infielder Matt Rehkopf and pitch-

er Marcus Simpson. Both were all-district picks a year ago.

The Final Four

All Times EST

At The RCA Dome

Indianapolis

National Semifinals

Saturday, April 1

Wisconsin (22-13) vs.

Michigan State (30-7), 5:42

p.m.

North Carolina (22-13) vs.

Florida (28-7), 30 minutes

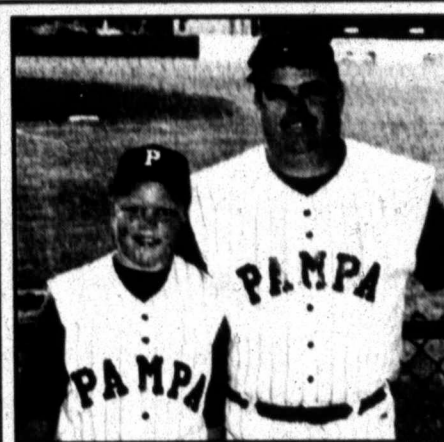
after first game

National Championship

Monday, April 3

Semifinal winners, 9:18

p.m.



Optimist Sign-Ups

Sign-Ups & Tryouts for Baseball & Softball

April 4, 5, 6 • 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

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Boys & Girls Ages 5-15

for more information call 669-3397

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Astros win at Enron Field

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Astros have moved into their new home at Enron Field. Now, they have to get used to it.

Darrel Ward hit a two-run homer, fueling a four-run rally in the eighth inning that treated Astros fans to a 6-5 victory over the New York Yankees on Thursday night in the first game played in Enron Field.

The Astros won, the fans got to see all the new amenities, but it's still not quite like home in the Astrodome, where the Astros had played since 1965.

"It's going to take awhile," Craig Biggio said. "It doesn't seem like our park yet. We were in the Dome for so long we knew every nook and cranny. It's going to be a little weird playing here for awhile, but we'll get used to it."

Fans started showing up hours before the game, just to gawk at the Astros' new playing field, complete with its retractable roof, grass playing field and unusual features. There is a 30-degree rising hill to the fence in center field.

The multiheight fence has 21 different angles to cause unusual bounces.



Seven Pampa High JV tennis players were at the top of their game at the Dumas Tournament last weekend. They were (front row, l-r) Matt Cook, David Thacker and Jay Gerber; (back row, l-r) Stacie Carter, Ashlei Jordan, Ashley Willis and Jared Spearman. Gerber was first and Thacker second in boys' singles while Willis won the girls' singles title. Also taking first were Cook and Spearman in boys' doubles and Carter-Jordan in girls' doubles. Pampa junior varsity finished with 226 points to win the team championship.

Pampa JVs divide games with Borger and Caprock teams

PAMPA — Pampa split a pair of games with Borger and Caprock in recent junior varsity baseball action.

Wes Martin was 2 for 2 and Adam Wright was 2 for 3 at the plate as Pampa beat Borger 11-4.

The winning pitcher was Kyle Keith, who went six innings and gave up 7 hits while striking out four and walking four. Kevin Schaub pitched the seventh inning and didn't allow a hit while striking out 1 and walking 1.

Schaub, Keith, Evan Miller, Tyler Ross, Justin Waggoner, Mike Galloway, Antonio Estrada and Shawn Strate had 1 hit each.

Chris Lewis, Galloway, Schaub and Ross played good defense, according to coach Troy Owens.

"This is the most hits we've had in one game," Owens said. "No one struck out looking and everyone was swinging the bat

like they wanted to hit. A lot of good things happened. We had a six-run rally in the seventh with three doubles."

Pampa JVs fell to Caprock 7-4 in their last game.

Kyle Keith, Kevin Schaub, Adam Wright, Justin Waggoner and Shawn Strate each had a hit for Pampa.

Coach Owens said Wes Martin, Keith and Schaub played good defense.

Strate was the losing pitcher, going 2 2/3rds innings. He gave up 9 hits while striking out 3 and walking 5.

Jon Lambright went 3 1/3rd innings, giving up 3 hits while striking out 2 and not walking a batter.

"We made a lot of mental mistakes at the plate and on the bases. The guys never gave up and kept playing hard. Our defense did a good job. We just couldn't hit," Owens said.

Pampa Middle School team hosts swim meet

PAMPA — Pampa Middle School swim team hosted a meet last weekend at the Pampa Youth & Community Center. Five Lubbock teams joined Pampa in the meet.

Pampa placed second in the boys division and third in the girls division. Slaton won both divisions.

"I would like to thank everyone for their help and support throughout this meet," said Pampa swim coach Amy Seitz. "It was a great experience for all."

Pampa Middle School Meet

Boys Division
Team totals: 1. Slaton 179; 2. Pampa 96; 3. Irons 81; 4. Dunbar 20; 5. Cavazos, 9

Girls Division
Team totals: 1. Slaton 304; 2. Irons 139; 3. Pampa 16; 4. Dunbar 10; 5. Atkins 8.

Pampa results
Girls 200 medley relay: 8. Pampa A, 2:55.76; 11. Pampa B, 3:17.11.

Boys 200 medley relay: 4. Pampa B, 2:43.57; 5. Pampa A, 2:56.19.

Girls 200 freestyle: 6. V. Vigil, 3:03.49; 8. A. Henthorn, 3:33.98; 9. L. Nelson, 3:47.61; 10. M. North, 3:56.18.

Boys 200 freestyle: 4. B. Brummett, 3:02.11; 5. B. Kane, 3:05.69; 6. M. Martinez, 3:07.42; 7. N. Carnagey, 3:08.82.

Girls 100 IM: 11. V. Vigil, 1:37.52; 12. S. Boyd, 1:48.58; 13. A. Henthorn, 1:50.40.

Boys 100 IM: 6. A. Arzola, 1:26.45; 9. J. Sturgill, 1:43.08; 10. J. Kilhoffer, 1:49.63.

Girls 50 freestyle: 10. M. David, 30.84; 29. S. Boyd, 39.42; 31. K. Strickland, 40.22; 32. K. Maddox, 40.37.

Boys 50 freestyle: 6. J. Johnson, 30.84; 11. B. Brummett, 35.17.

Girls 50 flystroke: 19. A. Ruiz, 55.71; 20. C. Maddox, 58.65.

Boys 50 flystroke: 7. J. Sturgill, 46.76; 8. M. Martinez, 48.05.

Girls 100 freestyle: 19. K. Strickland, 1:30.65; 21. M. North, 1:42.43.

Boys 100 freestyle: 7. J. Johnson, 1:12.93; 10. B. Brummett, 1:17.00.

Girls 500 freestyle: 5. V. Vigil, 8:25.91; 6. M. David, 8:38.16; 7. S. Boyd, 9:18.72; 8. L. Nelson, 10:19.38.

Boys 500 freestyle: 2. J. Johnson, 7:03.65; 5. B. Kane, 7:59.07; 6. A. Arzola, 8:02.36; 7. J. Sturgill, 8:49.28.

Girls 50 backstroke: 23. K. Maddox, 46.14; 25. M. North, 47.21; 26. A. Ruiz, 47.52.

Boys 50 backstroke: 3. M. Martinez, 43.25; 4. N. Carnagey, 43.70; 6. J. Kilhoffer, 50.29.

Girls 50 breaststroke: 9. M. David, 44.33; 13. A. Henthorn, 48.91; 17. K. Strickland, 59.00; 18. L. Nelson, 59.59.

Boys 50 breaststroke: 8. A. Arzola, 42.82; 10. N. Carnagey, 47.35; 14. B. Kane, 52.63; 15. J. Kilhoffer, 56.64.

Girls 500 freestyle relay: 9. Pampa A, 2:19.55; 5. Pampa B, 2:37.42.

Drexler quits at University of Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — Clyde Drexler quit Thursday as coach of the University of Houston basketball team just two years after he retired from an All-Star NBA career to take over at his alma mater.

"He's been thinking about it a while," Chet Gladchuk, Houston's athletic director, said.

"It boiled to his position that he's been a 20-year run in basketball as a player and the last two years as a coach and it's time he needs a break."

"He's very committed to his family and children and with time demands he was away from his family. It got to the point that he needs to break away."

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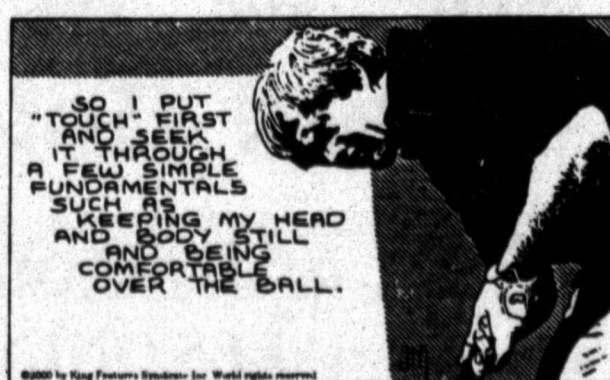
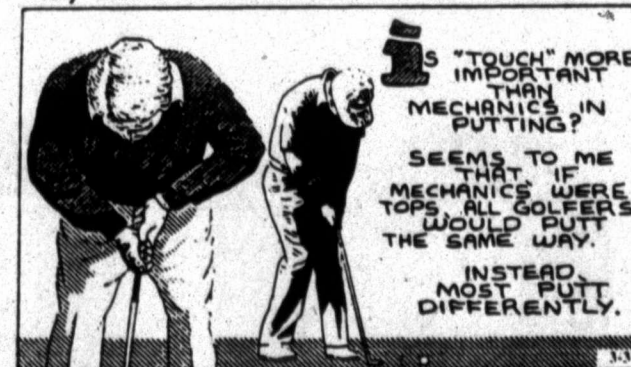
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(Special photo)

Three agents from the local Texas Farm Bureau Insurance office recently attended District I Awards Banquet. Each brought back awards. Above: (left-right) James Race, Don Whitney and David Haynes.

Local Farm Bureau agents attend awards banquet

Three members of the local Texas Farm Bureau Insurance office recently attended District I Awards Banquet in Amarillo and came home winners. James Race, LUTCF, agency manager, Don Whitney, LUTCF, service agent, and David Haynes, service agent, brought home awards for outstanding service in 1999.

Race brought home several awards including: All Star Award, Winners Challenge, Triple Crown Winner, Pro Agent Winner, \$5,000,000 Agency Award, 1999 Annual Multi-Line Agency Award and Million Dollar Watch Award. He also received the highest TFB award — the Master Agency Award for 1999, only 12 out of 187 agencies statewide received this award.

Whitney claimed the All Star Award, Round Table Winner, Triple Crown Award, Winners Challenge, \$2,000,000 Production Award and Million Dollar Ring Award. He received the Professional Agent Award in TFB and was the only recipient of the panhandle area. Out of 629 agents in Texas, only 37 agents were recognized with this award in 1999. Whitney also won the 1999 Multi-Line Award for top agent in District 1 which covers 26 counties and 55 agents.

Haynes received All Star Award, Pro-Agent Holiday Winner, Round Table Winner, Triple Crown Award and Winners Challenge. He was also the recipient of the Master Agent Award, the highest award in TFB which is represented by a statue of an eagle. Only 37 agents out of 629 received this award.

In addition, both Whitney and Haynes were honored by the National Association of Life Underwriters with the National Multi-Line Agent Award, a non-company award bestowed nationally.



(Special photo)

(Left-right) Bill, Gus and Robert Greene with Grandfather R.W. Yeager.

Robert and Mary Yeager moved to area to be closer to daughters, Lula Greene and Lena McKamy

Robert Walter Yeager, born May 28, 1856, in Kentucky, came to Texas when he was 2-years-old. On Nov. 14, 1877, he married Mary Elizabeth Reasor at Lebanon, Texas. Born Aug. 24, 1860, in Spencer County, Ky., she came to Texas when she was 16-years-old.

Robert and Mary had three daughters: Myrtle, who died in 1902, Lula and Lena. The three daughters were educated at Baylor University at Waco. About 1912, Robert and Mary moved from Frisco in Collin County, Texas, to Pampa so that they could be closer to their daughters, Lula Greene and Lena McKamy.

Robert and Mary built a house at the corner of East Browning and North Starkweather (present parking lot of the Central Baptist Church). (Later an alley had to go around the brick garage which is still standing. The house is now at 727 Magnolia). The Yeagers bought 60 acres in town and also

Robert, known familiarly as "Uncle Bob," died May 10, 1918, after a fall from a horse. A resolution by the Pampa Baptist Church and Sunday School described him as "a cheerful heroic character whose work in the church and community was a mighty factor for good."

Robert purchased land east and northeast of Pampa. The property in town extended from East Browning northward to present East Harvester (the southern edge of Fairview Cemetery). On school days, the Yeager grandchildren, Bob, Guss and Bill Greene

and Mary McKamy, with their neighbors, John, Henry and Jim Ayres, rode their horses from their farm homes north of town into Pampa. They left their horses with the Yeagers while they walked to the red brick school building at 309 N. Cuyler. Mary, the only girl among six boys, had to learn to defend herself. When the season was right, the group often had sword fights, using sunflower stalks as weapons.

Robert, known familiarly as "Uncle Bob," died May 10, 1918, after a fall from a horse. A resolution by the Pampa Baptist Church and Sunday School described him as "a cheerful heroic character whose work in the church and community was a mighty factor for good."

Mary, affectionately known as "Aunt Betty," died June 16, 1924. Yeager Street in Pampa was named for Robert and Mary Yeager.

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