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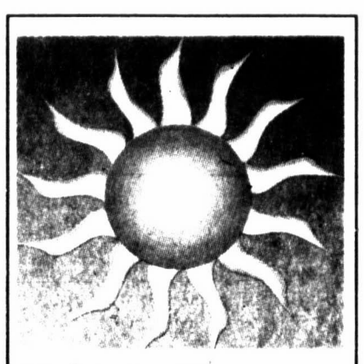
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High today 80
Low tonight low 40s
For weather details see Page 2.

No ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Saturday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said. The jackpot was worth $23 million. The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 50 were: 5, 11, 14, 24, 38 and 40. Wednesday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $30 million.

FRITCH — A ban on all open fires at Lake Meredith National Recreation Area and Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument was announced today by Supt. John Benjamin. Fire danger readings are high to extreme and are expected to remain dangerously high until precipitation arrives or plant cover begins to green up. An abundance of dormant vegetation, temperatures and winds on the rise, and low relative humidity have created serious fire danger conditions throughout the Texas Panhandle. Also beginning today, charcoal in grills may be used in 10 designated campgrounds. Fires of all kinds are banned outside those areas. Visitors may use only self-contained cooking stoves outside the campgrounds.

- **Ollie Berry, 82,** homemaker.
- **Suzanne Nave Bryan, 51,** retired teacher.
- **Morris C. Pittman, 71,** member of Eastside Baptist Church.
- **Richard H. Shedeck, 77,** farmer.
- **Stella Virginia Snider, 91,** former hospital management employee.
- **Thomas Young, 72,** former Pampa Steel employee.

Classified 8
Comics 6
Editorial 4
Medical 5
Sports 7

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Board ponders water bill fund park projects

By MIRANDA G. BAILEY
Managing Editor

Because of a lack of information, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members took no action on a request for a covering for the performance stage at Central Park during the board's meeting.

Speaking last week on behalf of Pampa resident Darlene Birkes, board member Judy Elliott presented the board with the request that water bill donation funding be used to purchase a "canopy of sorts" to provide shade for performers who use the stage for community events like the annual Chautauqua celebration.

"I told her I'd present this idea to the board," Elliott said.

When Kenneth Strickland, the board's chairman, asked for any comments, member Rusty Neef said, "Yes, where would the money come from?"

The city's Water Bill Donation Fund allows residents to designate money to the city to "provide money for visible benefits to the parks," according to a city ordinance.

The fund has, to date, collected over $230,000 for the parks department.

Currently, the board is allotted $16,000 per budget year with

(See **PARK,** Page 2)

Warning against scam seeking bank numbers

Pampa police are warning of a new mail scam that has hit Pampa, one targeting bank account numbers.

Letters have been received across the country, according to Police Chief Charlie Morris.

The letter is supposedly from the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, Lagos.

The letter states that the person who received the letter was discovered through the Nigerian Chamber of Commerce. It goes on to say the people writing the letter have acquired $41 million through "over invoicing on an old project."

The letter then asks the recipient of the letter to provide a "safe account into which the funds could be transferred."

"It is agreed that the owner of the account will be compensated with $8.3 million of the remitted funds," according to the letter, which goes on to promise the transaction is "100% risk free."

"You don't get something for nothing," Morris said.

While there's no legal action Pampa law officials can take since it is out of their jurisdiction, Morris wants to make sure Pampa and area residents are aware of the latest attempt to steal their money.

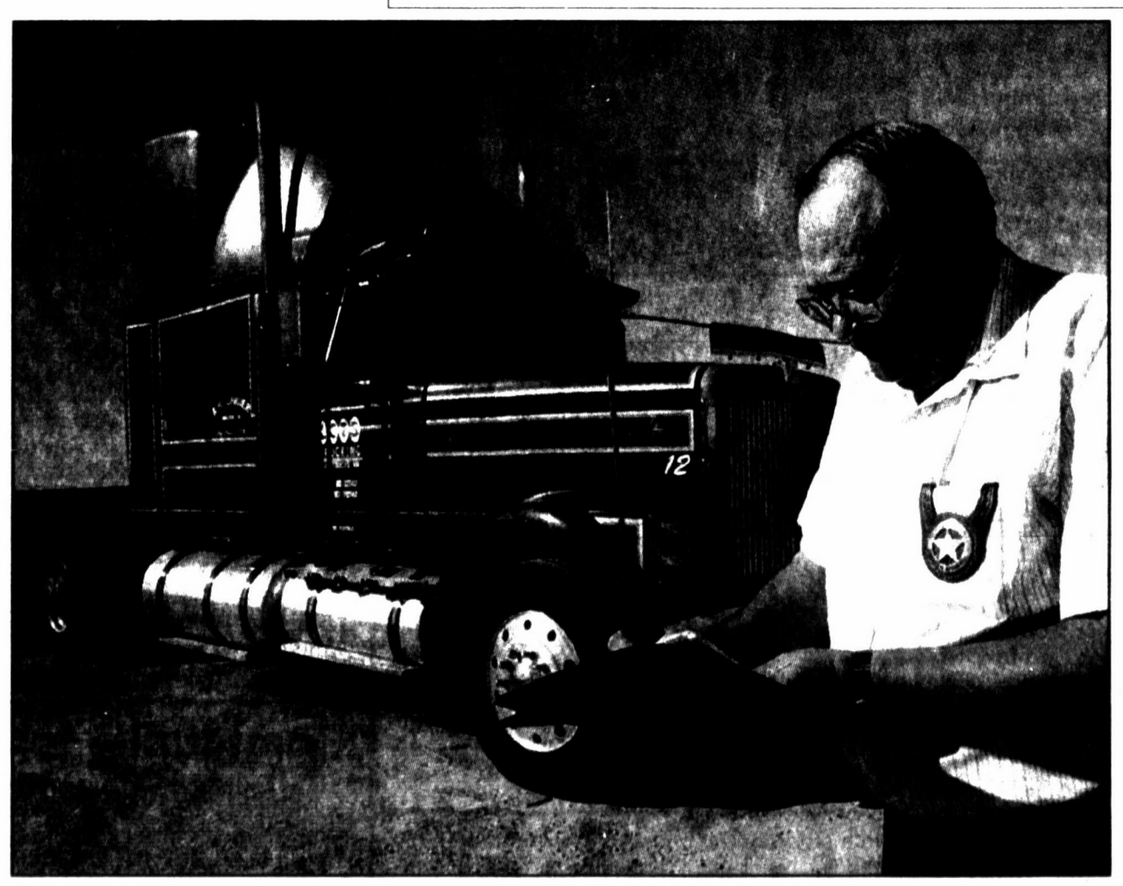
Seized vehicles readied for county auction block

Three cars and a tractor-trailer rig go on the auction block at Gray County courthouse on St. Patrick's Day. The vehicles were seized by the District Attorney's office in connection with several drug cases. Gray County Sheriff Don Copeland will auction off three cars and a tractor-trailer rig at 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 17.

"The auction will be in the parking lot across the street north of the courthouse," said District Attorney John Mann.

The vehicles include a 1987 International Eagle tractor with a 400 Cummings engine, 15 speed airshift transmission and a Thermal King refrigerated trailer. The tractor-trailer rig was confiscated after Department of Public Safety trooper Kevin King found 200 pounds of marijuana in it during a routine inspection on Interstate 40.

Also to be auctioned is a black 1985 Volvo station wagon, a red 1992 Toyota Celica and a blue 1987 Dodge Shadow. All the vehicles have new batteries and like new tires.



District Attorney investigator Bill McMinn checks over seized vehicles to be auctioned off in Pampa at Gray County courthouse on St. Patrick's Day. The vehicles were seized by the District Attorney's office in connection with several drug cases.

(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Artistic experience ...



(Pampa News photo by Miranda Bailey)

Alzora Zeromba shares china painting techniques during a week-long art school at Coronado Inn. Students participating last week came in from Kansas, Colorado, and other areas of Texas. However, the award for long distance travel goes to Nobuko Yamada, who flew in from Japan for the week's program.

Pampa art school attracts painters from around country

By MIRANDA G. BAILEY
Managing Editor

"That's the nice thing about china painting — if you don't like, take it off," says the spirited Alzora Zeromba, who spent part of last week teaching her china painting techniques to a group of china painters.

The week-long art school, which was advertised in a national china painters magazine, brought in artists from around the country, including one from as far away as Japan, for the second annual Campana Porcelain Art School.

Katie Schumker, from the Dallas area, and Alzora Zeromba, from Washington state, flew into the panhandle earlier this week to teach painting techniques specifically for the school.

Students are participating in the program at the Coronado Inn Hotel. Some of the art work was displayed in the Star Light Room at the hotel, while many of the finished pieces were found laying beside the artists on the tables set up in the lobby.

The Campana Art Company, owned by Pampa residents Floye Christenson and Nancy Crites, hosted the activities.

Pantex tosses $63,000 in parts

AMARILLO, Texas (AP) — Pantex Plant officials last year accidentally scrapped more than $63,000 in weapons parts because of an inventory error, according to government reports.

The error was discovered in October 1998 when a program planner for a thermonuclear weapons program checked inventories for two part numbers and found that the warehouse no longer had sufficient numbers of the parts in stock.

A warehouse manager soon discovered the parts had been shipped off for disposal. Two weeks later, a manager in the material control and logistics division verified that one particular set of parts worth more than $1,000 had been disposed.

"There were 55 parts that were inadvertently disposed of at a cost of $1,159 each for a total cost of $63,745," an Energy Department incident report stated.

The error was reported to the DOE on Oct. 30. Records show a final report on the incident was completed in December.

In their reports, DOE officials attributed the cause of the inventory error to personnel error, inattention to detail and improper management controls.

(See **PANTEX,** Page 2)

Itching for some fishing?

Attention all trout fishermen and fisherwomen.

On Friday, some 1,500 rainbow trout will be released into the Stilling Basin of Sanford Dam at Lake Meredith, according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Lake MEredith National Recreation Area.

The trout program at the lake has been operated as a put-and-take operation with funding for trout coming from the sale of Texas trout stamps and the National Park Service.

The program was designed to provide anglers with additional fishing opportunities during winter and spring months when most other fishing has slowed and to provide a unique fishing experience in warm water.

The trout will average 10 inches.

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Daily Record

Services tomorrow

SNIDER, Stella Virginia — 10 a.m., Schooler Funeral Home Brentwood Chapel, Amarillo.

YOUNG, Thomas — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

Obituaries

OLLIE BERRY

BORGER – Ollie Berry, 82, mother of Pampa residents, died Saturday, Feb. 27, 1999. Services are to be at 4 p.m. today in the Church of God with the Rev. Buck Lawley, the Rev. B.L. Thornton and the Rev. Mark Stripling officiating. Burial will be in Eastlawn Garden at Highland Park Cemetery under the direction of Minton/Chatwell Funeral Directors of Borger.

Mrs. Berry was born at Colgate, Okla. She was active in high school sports and was class valedictorian. She married Ernest C. Berry on Sept. 4, 1938, at Ringling, Okla.; he died in 1998. She had been a Borger resident for 53 years, moving from Ringling. She was a homemaker and a member of the Church of God.

Survivors include a daughter, Sue Thornton of Pampa; three sons, R. Dean Berry of Borger, Ernest D. Berry of Pampa and Raymond D. Berry of Flower Mound; a sister, Ada Garcia of Altus, Okla.; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

SUZANNE NAVE BRYAN

PERRYTON – Suzanne Nave Bryan, 51, died Saturday, Feb. 27, 1999, at Anadarko, Okla. Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday in First Baptist Church in Pampa with the Rev. John Glover, associate pastor, officiating. Burial will be at 10:30 a.m. (MST) Thursday in Prairie Haven Cemetery Chapel in Hobbs, N.M., with Darrel Bethany officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Bryan was born Jan. 23, 1948, at Kilgore. She grew up in Eunice, N.M. She held a bachelor of arts degree in education from Northern Arizona University at Flagstaff, Ariz. She married Jerry Tom Nave on June 17, 1967, at Hobbs; he died Nov. 2, 1993.

She lived in Pampa from 1988 until moving to Perryton in 1997. She was a high school English teacher, employed with Pampa ISD from 1988 until retiring in January of 1999. She also owned West Texas Snow Company in Pampa.

She married Jerry Bryan on Jan. 11, 1997, at Pampa. She was a member of Texas Teachers Association and First Baptist Church of Pampa.

Survivors include her husband, Jerry, of the home; two daughters, Tara Hoganson and Tori Kelley, both of Pampa; her parents, Bill and Grace Carlton of Ruidoso, N.M.; and two sisters, Marsha Hart of Hobbs and Lisa Shive of Houston.

The family requests memorials be to Ronald McDonald House in Amarillo.

MORRIS C. PITTMAN

COMANCHE – Morris C. Pittman, 71, died Saturday, Feb. 27, 1999. Services were to be at 10:30 a.m. today in Comanche Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Don Longoria officiating. Burial will be in Blake Cemetery in Brown County under the direction of Comanche Funeral Home in Comanche.

Mr. Pittman was born in Brown County. He married Bernice Yvonne Bryan in 1948; she died in 1995. He was a member of Eastside Baptist Church.

Survivors include two sons, Tony Pittman of Keystone Heights, Fla., and Mike Pittman of Amarillo; two brothers, Joe Pittman of Alaska and Doyle Pittman of Houston; five grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

RICHARD H. SHEDECK

SPEARMAN – Richard H. Shedeck, 77, died Saturday, Feb. 27, 1999. Services were to be at 2 p.m. today in First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Ken Cole officiating. Burial will be in Hansford Cemetery under the direction of Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home of Spearman.

Mr. Shedeck was born Sept. 24, 1921, at Yukon, Okla. He had been a Spearman area resident since 1929, moving from Yukon. He graduated from high school at Spearman and from Draughon's Business College in Oklahoma City, Okla. He was a farmer.

He belonged to First United Methodist Church and was a 50-year Mason and a member of Hansford Lodge #1040 AF&AM. He was a 32nd degree Mason. He collected antique cars and farm machinery.

He was preceded in death by his parents, H.M. and Margaret Shedeck, and a great-granddaughter.

Survivors include a daughter, Vicki Wilson of Fritch; two sons, Mike Shedeck of Dalhart and Kurt Shedeck of Midland; two sisters, Dolly McWhirter of Spearman and Leona Sikes of Portales, N.M.; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Hansford Hospice; Station Master's House Museum; First United Methodist Church of Spearman; or Crown of Texas Hospice.

STELLA VIRGINIA SNIDER

AMARILLO – Stella Virginia Snider, 91, mother of a Canadian resident, died Saturday, Feb. 27, 1999. Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday in Schooler Funeral Home Brentwood Chapel. Burial will be in Memorial Park Cemetery under the direction of Schooler Funeral Home of Amarillo.

Mrs. Snider was born in Archer County. She married John A. Snider in 1925; he died in 1965. She had been an Amarillo resident since 1950. She worked in management at a hospital.

She belonged to Immanuel Baptist Church and Martha Sunday School Class.

She was preceded in death by a son and by a daughter.

Survivors include four daughters, Gloria Jean Chumbly of Canadian, Patsy Hamilton and Virginia Pennington, both of Amarillo, and Jerrie Lamon of Buchanan Dam; three sons, Art Snider of Lindale, Marvin Snider of Buchanan Dam and Ken Snider of Amarillo; 32 grandchildren; 38 great-grandchildren; and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Edward Abraham Memorial Home, 803 Birch, Canadian, TX 79014.

THOMAS YOUNG

Thomas Young, 72, of Pampa, died Friday, Feb. 26, 1999. Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with Frankie Lemons, minister of McCullough Street Church of Christ, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Young was born May 15, 1926, at Naples. He had been a Pampa resident since the late 1940s. He worked for Pampa Steel and attended McCullough Street Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Martha Smiley.

Survivors include his mother, Annie Mae Jones of Pampa; and a brother, Vivian Porter, Sr., of McKinney.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Department reported the following arrests during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Sunday, February 28

Rhonda Reiser, 29, Midlothian Texas, was arrested on charges of violation of probation/forgery.

Ambulance

The Rural/Metro reported the following calls during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, February 27

11:21 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 700 block of N. Banks and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

11:28 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2400 block of Mary Ellen. No one was transported.

4:45 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Columbia Medical Center and transported one to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

Sunday, February 28

12:11 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of Garland and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

1:41 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of Somerville and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

2:48 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Columbia Medical Center and transported one to Baptist St. Anthony's in Amarillo.

5:47 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of Somerville and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

11:25 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 900 block of S. Hobart and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

Police report

The Pampa Police Department reported the following arrests and reports during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, February 27

Jesus Soto, 19, 309 Canadian, was arrested on charges of minor in possession.

Donald M. Mundell, 28, 1230 E. Francis, was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated.

Assault was reported in the 1200 block of N. Hobart.

Sunday, February 28

Theft was reported in the 700 block of Brunow.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1300 block of Mary Ellen.

Fires

The Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, February 27

11:40 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to a smoke odor in the 800 block of E. Foster.

Sunday, February 28

2:27 a.m. — Two units and three personnel responded to a natural gas leak in the 600 block of N. Russell.

1:52 p.m. — Two units and three personnel responded to a grass fire in the 800 block of N. Cuyler.

7:08 p.m. — Two units and four personnel responded to a downed line in the 1200 block of N. Hobart.

Stocks

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

Wheat	2.26
Milo	3.00
Corn	3.37
Soybeans	3.75

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

Occidental	14 15/16	dn 1/16
Magellan	123.10	
Puritan	19.94	

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

Amoco		NA
Arco	54 5/8	NC
Cabot	25 1/4	up 1/16
Cabot O&G	11 3/16	dn 1/4
Chevron	75 9/16	dn 1 5/16
Coca-Cola	63 1/8	dn 3/4
Columbia/HCA	17 9/16	dn 5/16
Enron	64 3/8	dn 5/8
Halliburton	28 3/8	dn 1/8
IRI	3 1/8	NC
KNE	21	up 1/16
Kerr McGee	28 11/16	up 1/16
Limited	35 3/8	dn 1/8
McDonald's	85 5/16	up 1/8
Mobil	82 1/4	dn 15/16
New Atmos	26	up 2
NCE	40 3/8	dn 3/16
Penney's	35 5/8	dn 1/2
Phillips	38 5/16	dn 3/8
Pioneer Nat. Res.	5 5/16	up 1/8
SLB	48 9/16	NC
Tenneco	29 1/2	dn 7/16
Texaco	46 1/4	dn 5/16
Ultramar	19 13/16	up 1/16
Wal-Mart	85 1/4	dn 7/8
Williams	35 5/8	dn 1 3/8
New York Gold		285.00
Silver		5.48
West Texas Crude		12.43

Correction

In a story on the probation violation of Terry Lee Boaz, his original sentence was for aggravated assault and the five years he recently received for assaulting a Borger Police Officer was the the result of a plea bargain.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

PARK

which they can use to make project recommendations to the city commission.

As of December of 1998, the budget shows $4,023 carried over from the prior year's budget, plus the $16,000 budgeted for 1998-99, minus $5,000 that was donated to the Super Playground.

The current amount available for projects is approximately $15,000.

Interjecting into the discussion, Bill Hildebrandt, community services director, said he knew firsthand that the Pampa Fine Arts Association was interested in putting a covering over the stage, too. (Hildebrandt's wife serves on the PFAA board.)

"As a city employee, I think there's merit to this idea," said Hildebrandt. "But as much as I love this park, it takes hard hits from vandalism."

In terms of a more temporary solution, he suggested purchasing a temporary canopy. But, he said, he could already foresee problems with trying to have the canopy set up in time for every community event.

Further discussion drifted toward the PFAA's role regarding the upkeep of Central Park.

One of the goals of the Chautauqua event, which is sponsored annually by PFAA, is to raise enough money to give back to Central Park, said Hildebrandt.

This has been demonstrated in the past by the PFAA's involvement in raising money to upgrade the handicapped parking spaces and plant trees in the park, he added.

In an attempt to find out what the PFAA has in mind regarding a stage covering, board member Judy Elliott was asked to steer Darlene Birkes into the direction of the PFAA regarding the request.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

PANTEX

Pantex contractor Mason & Hanger Corp. took steps to correct the problem, including disciplinary action against a warehouse supervisor and developing new procedures to handle parts disposal.

"We have looked at those corrective actions and are comfortable with the fact that they are going forward in a manner that hopefully will preclude this type of thing from happening again," said Tom Walton, a DOE spokesman at Pantex.

Pantex is the nation's primary nuclear weapons disassembly site and serves as the interim storage site for more than 8,000 pits from dismantled warheads.

According to the reports, the parts tossed out were identified as non-hazardous weapons components that Pantex retained in its weapons programs inventory.

Mann named special prosecutor in murder of Quitaque CofC president

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

Investigators said Pigg had either taken Garner home or had gone by to check on him after Garner left the Sportsman. Employees at the Sportsman said it wasn't unusual for Pigg to see customers home. They said it was part of his concern for people.

Pampa District Attorney John Mann said today he expects pretrial hearings in a Quitaque murder case to begin in April.

One of the first to be heard, he said, will probably be a motion for a change of venue due to the publicity over of the killing of Quitaque Chamber of Commerce President Roye Pigg last summer.

Mann has been appointed by Floydada Judge Randy Hollums to prosecute Johnny Miller "Corkey" Garner, 63, of Quitaque, who is charged with first degree murder in the death of Pigg, 48.

Pigg, who owned the Sportsman cafe and bar in Quitaque, was killed early on the morning of June 4, at Garner's home.

Mann said he was appointed at the Pigg family's request after Briscoe County District Attorney Becky McPherson recused herself because of land dealings with the defendant.

Although there is nothing improper about the connection between McPherson's father-in-law and the defendant in the murder case, Mann said, McPherson agreed it could have the appearance of impropriety.

"The family requested that I be appointed," Mann said.

Garner was indicted last Wednesday by a Briscoe County Grand Jury.

"His arraignment is scheduled for April 8," Mann said.

According to McPherson, Pigg was shot between 2 a.m. and 4 a.m. June 4. Garner reported the shooting to authorities, but Pigg was dead when officers arrived.

Briscoe County Sheriff Max Whitworth said after a deputy arrived at Garner's home, Garner broke out the window of the deputy's patrol car. Garner was arrested for criminal mischief and taken to the Swisher County jail in Tulia. Later that afternoon, Garner was charged with murder. He was released June 10 on bond. Bond was set at $500,000, but it was later reduced to a $150,000 property bond and $10,000 cash.

According to a preliminary autopsy report, Pigg died of a gunshot wound to the chest from a .22-caliber rifle. A .22-caliber rifle was found at Garner's home.

Investigators said Pigg had either taken Garner home or had gone by to check on him after Garner left the Sportsman. Employees at the Sportsman said it wasn't unusual for Pigg to see customers home. They said it was part of his concern for people.

Sheriff Whitworth said he was unaware of any animosity between Pigg and Garner.

Born in Houston, Pigg took over the Sportsman about 15 years ago. Previously, he ran a drug store.

Pigg was the president of the Quitaque Chamber of Commerce and helped organize the community's National Trail Days celebration.

Calendar of events

PAMPA AREA LITERACY COUNCIL

Pampa Area Literary Council office will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. For more information, call 665-2331.

PAMPA CHESS CLUB

The Pampa Chess Club meets every Tuesday night at Yummie's Pizza in the Pampa Mall at 7:30 p.m. We offer casual yet competitive games, free instruction, and a quarterly newsletter. For more information contact James A. Shook at 669-0227.

CLEAN AIR AL-ANON

Clean Air Al-Anon will hold weekly meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon at 810 W. 23rd. For more information, call 669-0407 or 669-3988.

TRALEE CRISIS CENTER FOR WOMEN

Tralee Crisis Center for Women is offering an in-house support group for victims of family violence. Meetings will be Tuesday's from 11 a.m.-12 noon and on Thursday's from 7-8 p.m. For more information call (806) 669-1131. All calls are kept confidential.

PRE-SCHOOL STORY HOUR

The Lovett Memorial Library is presenting a Pre-School Story Hour every Tuesday at 10 a.m. This story hour is for children ages 18 months to 5 years old. If you have any questions, call Shanla Brookshire at 669-5780. This schedule will be subject to change pending the move of the library back

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Sunny today with a high of 80 and a northwest wind at 5-10 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy with a low in the low 40s and northwest winds at 10-20 mph. Tomorrow, sunny and cooler with a high in the mid 60s and north winds at 15-20 mph. Yesterday's high was 75; the overnight low was 39.

REGIONAL FORECAST

WEST TEXAS — Panhandle — Tonight, partly cloudy. Low near 40. Wind becoming northwest 10-20 mph. Tuesday, mostly sunny and cooler. High in the lower 60s. North wind 10 to 20 mph, diminishing and becoming northeast in the afternoon. Extreme Southern Panhandle/Low Rolling Plains — Tonight, mostly clear. Lows in the lower 40s. Tuesday, mostly sunny and cooler. Highs near 70. Permian Basin/Upper Trans Pecos — Tonight, clear. Lows near 40. Tuesday, mostly sunny and not as warm. Highs in the 70s. Concho Valley/Edwards Plateau — Tonight, clear. Lows 45 to 50. Tuesday, mostly sunny. Highs near 80. Far West Texas — Tonight, mostly clear. Lows 40 to 45. Tuesday, mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s. Guadalupe Mountains/Big Bend Area — Tonight, clear. Lows 45-50. Tuesday, mostly sunny. Highs from near 70 northern mountains to the upper 80s along the Rio Grande.

SOUTH TEXAS — Hill Country and South Central Texas — Tonight, mostly clear this evening, late night and early morning fog and low clouds developing south central. Low in the 40s to near 50 hill country, 50s south central. Tuesday, becoming mostly sunny and warm again with the high in the 80s. Southeast Texas and Upper Texas Coast — Tonight, mostly clear early. Becoming partly cloudy with low clouds and patchy fog developing. Lows in the mid to upper 50s inland, lower 60s at the coast. Tuesday, morning low clouds and fog. Otherwise, partly cloudy. Highs around 80 inland, mid 70s at the coast. Coastal Bend and the Rio Grande Plains — Tonight, mostly clear early, then increasing low clouds and fog developing. Warmer, with lows in the upper 50s inland, mid 60s at the coast. Tuesday, early morning low clouds and fog, then partly cloudy. Highs from near 80 coast, near 90 inland.

NORTH TEXAS — Tonight, clear. Lows 47 to 53. Tuesday, partly cloudy. Windy and not as warm west and central. Highs 72 north to 81 southeast.

BORDER STATES

NEW MEXICO — Tonight, fair skies. Breezy this evening central mountain chain. Lows upper teens to low 30s mountains and northwest, 30s to mid 40s elsewhere. Tuesday, fair. Cooler northeast, not quite as warm remainder. Highs 50s and 60s mountains and north, upper 60s to near 80 south. Lows upper teens to low 30s mountains, mid 30s to low 40s lower elevations.

OKLAHOMA — Tonight, mostly clear. Lows in the 40s. Tuesday, mostly clear and a little cooler. Highs in the 60s.

Community to rally, pray for rain

BIG SPRING, Texas (AP) — West Texas needs rain so badly that some residents planned to meet tonight at the First Baptist Church to pray for some.

"Technology cannot pull us out of this hole. We can have the best seed, fertilize the soil, have the best tractors, but if we don't have rain we don't have anything," said Eddie Tubbs, pastor at First Baptist.

Tubbs, along with First United Methodist Church pastor Ed Williamson, Big Spring Mayor Tim Blackshear, area farmers and ranchers, business owners and cothers organized the prayer rally.

City briefs

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

MASSAGE THERAPY - by Doris King RMT, at A Tranquil Touch, 111 W. Foster. Call 665-6067 for an appointment. Adv.



(Special photo)

Business Professionals of America members attended the Area IV Regional Leadership Conference in Amarillo. Those who attended included: front row from left, Ryan Bradley, Stephen Vanderpool, Lorrie Phillips, Adam Fox. Second row, Daisy Leal, Sheila Berry, Shari Albus, Jamie Mears, Kristen Bell, Jessica Morrison. Third row, Miah Ebel, Jesse Glaseman, Jeremy Sheila, Chris Hearron, Daniel Dreher, Sean Stowers, Erich Crosswhite. Eleven of the students will be advancing to the State Leadership Conference in Corpus Christi this month.

Business Professional of America students to advance to state

Thirteen Business Professionals of America students from Pampa will advance to state competition on March 3-5 in Corpus Christi. Students earned the right to compete at the state competition by placing in the top three at the Area IV Region 1 Leadership Conference held in Amarillo recently.

The students who will be advancing to state include: Sheila Berry, Entrepreneur; Sean Stowers, International Business; Ryan Bradley, Management Concepts; Jessica Morrison, Legal Concepts; Shari Albus, Information Processing Specialist; and Adam Fox, Spreadsheet Applications.

Also advancing to state from the Associate Level are Chris Hearon, Document Formatting; Jamie Mears, Keyboarding; and Lorrie Phillips, Desktop Publishing. One team placed first and will be competing at state. Small Business Management Team, consisting of Daniel Dreher, Sheila Berry, Sean Stowers, and Jessica Morrsion. The Website Development Team placed third, and will be the state alternate. This team included: Jesse Glaseman, Erich Crosswhite, and Ryan Bradley.

The Presentation Management Team placed fifth, and they are also state alternates. This team included: Miah Ebel and Jeremy Whitley.

In the Associate Division, the Presentation Management Team will also be advancing to state. This team consisted of: Daisy Leal, Jamie Mears, and Lorrie Phillips.

Three other individuals placed in the top six and are alternates to the state competition. These include: Daniel Dreher, Job Interview; Steven Vanderpool, Database Applications; and Jeremy Whitely, Verbal Communications-Extemporaneous.

Several students also competed in and placed in General Competitive Events. These included: Economic Awareness — Sean Stowers, first; Erich Crosswhite, second; Sheila Berry, fifth; Network Administrator — Erich Crosswhite, first; Jesse Glaseman, fourth; and Data Communications — Erich Crosswhite, first; Jesse Glaseman, third; and Daisy Leal, fifth; Business Math — Erich Crosswhite, third.

Ten Pampa students were also recognized by receiving their Torch Award Certificates. These are given to students who demonstrate responsibility in participating in activities in the nine torches of Business Professionals of America. These torch areas include leadership, friendship, service, knowledge, love, hope, faith, cooperation, and patriotism. Students receiving this recognition included Sheila Berry, Jessica Morrison, Daniel Dreher, Jesse Glaseman, Jeremy Whitley, Lorrie Phillips, Miah Ebel, Kristen Bell, Chris Hearon, and Jamie Mears.

Thirteen students will be going to Corpus Christi the first week of March to present Pampa at the Texas State Leadership Conference. Daniel Dreher, who is serving as the State Organization parliamentarian, will be a part of the officer team that will be leading the state conference in Corpus Christi. He will also be running for national office. Jamie Mears will be running for State Associate Division vice president.



Horton's Baby Elephant Bird Is Ready To Fly.

Happy Birthday Peeps!

Drilling Intentions

Intentions to Drill

GRAY (WILDCAT) Raydon Exploration, Inc., #1-109 Iva, 467' from South & 1200' from West line, Sec. 109,M-2,BS&F, PD 10000'.

Application to Re-Enter

HUTCHINSON (WEST PANHANDLE) Rass Operating, #5 J.A. Chap, 330' from South & 990' from East line, Sec. 78,46,H&TC, PD 3155'. Replacement well

Gas Well Completions

GRAY (EAST PANHANDLE) Gruy Petroleum Mgmt. Co., #2 Brazos River Gas, Sec. 4,25,H&GN, elev. 2715 rkb, spud 11-7-98, drlg. compl 11-9-98, tested 1-18-99, potential 280 MCF, TD 2357', PBTD 2715' —

GRAY (WEST PANHANDLE) Gruy Petroleum Mgmt. Co., #2 Callaham, Sec. 42,23,H&GN, elev. 2751 rkb, spud 10-7-98, drlg. compl 10-17-98, tested 12-10-98, potential 220 MCF, TD 2522' —

GRAY (WEST PANHANDLE) Gruy Petroleum Mgmt. Co., #3 Darsey, Sec. 2,R,BS&F, elev. 2877 rkb, spud 9-28-98, drlg. compl 9-30-98, tested 11-19-98, potential 430 MCF, TD 2450'.

GRAY (IWEST PANHANDLE) Gruy Petroleum Mgmt. Co., #2 Yoes, Sec. 4,R,BS&F, elev. 2857 rkb, spud 9-23-98, drlg. compl 9-25-98, tested 11-13-98, potential 700 MCF, TD 2500'.

HUTCHINSON (WEST PANHANDLE) Odessa Exploration, Inc., #4 Burnett, Sec. 122,5,I&GN, elev. 3220 gr, spud 10-30-98, drlg. compl 12-10-98, tested 2-4-99, potential 83 MCF, TD 3244', PBTD 2900' — Plug Back

ROBERTS (N.W. MENDOTA Granite Wash) Crescendo Resources, L.P., #502 J.C. Vollmert, Sec. 2,—,BS&F, elev. 2858 kb, spud 11-6-98, drlg. compl 112-2-98, tested 1-8-99, potenital 2700 MCF, TD 10900', PBTD 10898' —

Plugged Wells

HUTCHINSON (WILDCAT) Strat Land Exploration Co., #1 Hutchison, Sec. 70R,BS&F, spud 9-10-97, plugged 9-29-98, TD 8349' (gas) — Form 1 filed in Robert Klabzube

HUTCHINSON (ALPAR-LIPS Lower Douglas) Strat Land Exploration Co., #6 Brainard, Sec. 12,XO,H&OB, spud 9-28-96, plugged 10-4-98, TD 5360' (gas) —

WHEELER (PANHANDLE) Black Jack Oil & Gas, #2 Sesco 'A', Sec. 90,13,H&GN, spud 7-26-84, plugged 2-2-99, TD 2188' (oil) — Form 1 in Wheeler Oil Co.

Hotline provides free legal advice

AUSTIN — There are more than 1,000 licensed nursing homes in Texas and two of them are in Pampa. Relatives of people in those and other Texas nursing homes often worry, mostly because the statewide horror stories, infrequent though they may be, are widely publicized.

There are agencies and organizations watching out for people in nursing homes. The Texas Legal Services Center's Nursing Home Advocacy Project is just one of many.

The Nursing Home Advocacy Project operates a toll-free hotline that anyone in Texas who is worried about the legal rights of someone in a nursing home can use. Once connected to a Nursing Home Advocacy Project attorney, the caller will receive free advice on legal problems that nursing home residents may face.

If a legal solution is necessary — that is, if there's enough evidence to file a lawsuit on behalf of the patient or the patient's family — NHAP will put the caller in touch with an attorney versed in elder law.

Call NHAP toll-free at 1-888-343-4414.

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Sun. thru Thurs. 7:15
Sat. & Sun. Matinees 2:00

3rd Week • Tied For #1

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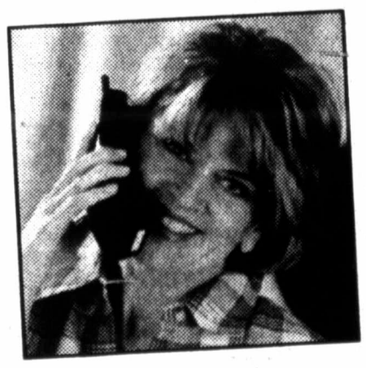
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VIEWPOINTS

THE Pampa NEWS

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Inside the Beltway

with

Rep. Mac Thornberry

Improving schools top of agenda

One of the issues you'll be hearing a lot about this year is education. This is true of both Austin and Washington.

While most people agree that schools in Texas have gotten better when compared with schools in other states, the same can't be said for the nation's educational system as a whole.

Nearly everyone recognizes we need to do something about this problem. The question is how we go about doing it.

The president and many of his allies on Capitol Hill believe that the federal government should take the leading role in solving the problems we face. They would issue new rules, lay down new mandates and centralize decision-making in Washington. They are even proposing that teachers should be required to take a new federal competency test.

I believe we should take the opposite approach, and that states, parents and local school boards should take the lead in fixing our classrooms. Washington already attaches too many strings to the dollars being sent to our communities. There should be less federal intrusion — not more — in solving the problems being faced by our schools.

There are currently more than 800 federal education programs spread out across 39 federal agencies, each with its own set of restrictions. If new federal programs were the answer to improving our schools, America would have the top educational system in the world.

But we do not — which is why one of the key questions to be asked this year in Washington will not only be whether these programs work, but whether we need more.

Thought for today

"Solvency is entirely a matter of temperament and not of income."
—Logan Pearsall Smith

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Constitution is held in contempt



Walter Williams

Syndicated columnist

The recent impeachment proceedings against Clinton have produced something wonderful — politicians, political pundits and legal "scholars" are discussing our Constitution, making references to the "Federalist Papers" and quoting the Constitution's Framers.

I'd like to see this healthy turn of events continue. You can bet it won't because most senators and representatives have broad contempt for our Constitution and the principles of liberty it represents. They have only a selective respect, as they seek protection for a president who's violated his oath of office, lied to the American people and disgraced his office.

"Williams, you've gone too far," you say, "Explain yourself." OK, I'll try.

Rep. Zoe Lofgren, D-Calif., a member of the House Judiciary Committee, insisted we are not free to read into the Constitution's "high crimes and misdemeanors" anything we wish. She said she reached this conclusion by reading the words of Alexander Hamilton, James Madison and George Mason, and the "Federalist Papers."

As a result of Lofgren's studying our Founders, she concluded that Congress is "constrained by what the law is, what the Constitution says. If we're just going to do whatever we think, then we're not going to have a constitutional form of government."

For Lofgren to make such a comment represents shameless deceit — but she's by no means alone. Most of her colleagues, both Democrats and Republicans would spit on most constitutional constraints and most of the ideas expressed by its Framers. They get away with their shameless sham because most Americans are ignorant or also have contempt for the Constitution.

Try this. Ask one of these Constitution-talking politicians how much respect we should have for the 10th Amendment, which reads, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution ... are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

The 10th Amendment simply and clearly says if the Constitution does not permit the federal government to do something, then the federal government doesn't have the right to do it. You tell me where in the Constitution is there delegated authority for federal involvement in education, retirement, health, housing, transportation, hand-outs and other activities representing more than three-quarters of federal spending.

You say: "Williams, lighten up. Congress gets authority to control our lives through the 'general welfare' clause of the Constitution."

Here's what James Madison, the acknowledged father of our Constitution, had to say: "With respect to the words general welfare, I have always regarded them as qualified by the detail of powers connected with them. To take them in a literal and unlimited sense would be a metamorphosis of the Constitution into a character which there is a host of proofs was not contemplated by its creators."

Thomas Jefferson, always fearful of the perversion of the general welfare clause, wrote, "Congress has not unlimited powers to provide for the general welfare, but only those specifically enumerated."

In 1794, Madison wrote disapprovingly of an appropriation to assist French refugees, "I cannot undertake to lay my finger on that article of the Constitution which granted a right to Congress of expending, on objects of benevolence, the money of their constituents."

If Thomas Jefferson and James Madison were around today, their enunciation of constitutional principles would be greeted with derision and contempt by no less than 520 of the 535 members of the House and the Senate.

I hope it's our ignorance that allows Congress to trash our Constitution, and that Jefferson was right when he said, "Enlighten the people generally, and tyranny and oppressions of body and mind will vanish like evil spirits at the dawn of day." But I fear the possibility that most Americans share Congress' constitutional contempt.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, March 1, the 60th day of 1999. There are 305 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 1, 1974, seven people, including former Nixon White House aides H.R. Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman, former Attorney General John Mitchell and former assistant Attorney General Robert Mardian, were indicted on charges of conspiring to obstruct justice in connection with the Watergate break-in. They were convicted the following January, although Mardian's conviction was later reversed.

On this date:

In 1781, the Continental Congress adopted the Articles of Confederation.

In 1790, Congress authorized the first U.S. census.

In 1845, President Tyler signed a congressional resolution to annex the Republic of Texas.

In 1867, Nebraska became the 37th state.

In 1872, Congress authorized creation of Yellowstone National Park.

In 1932, the infant son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh was kidnapped from the family home near Hopewell, N.J. The baby's remains were found the following May.

In 1954, Puerto Rican nationalists opened fire from the gallery of the U.S. House of Representatives, wounding five congressmen.

In 1961, President Kennedy established the Peace Corps.

In 1967, U.S. Rep. Adam Clayton Powell of New York, accused of misconduct, was denied his seat in the 90th Congress. The Supreme Court ruled in 1969 that Powell had to be seated.

Ten years ago: The Senate overwhelmingly approved Dr. Louis W. Sullivan to be secretary of health and human services and Adm. James D. Watkins to be secretary of energy.

Five years ago: Falling four votes shy of a two-thirds majority, the Senate rejected a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution. A Lebanese immigrant opened fire on a van of Hasidic students on New York's Brooklyn Bridge, killing one. At the 36th annual Grammy Awards, Whitney Houston won best female pop vocalist and record of the year for "I Will Always Love You"; "The Bodyguard" won album of the year.

Castro is a vile tyrant and sociopath



Charley Reese

Syndicated columnist

Since high on the agenda of the leftist Clinton administration is relieving Fidel Castro of his economic problems, there are some things you should keep in mind.

First, Fidel Castro is not a normal human being. He is mentally sick, a pathological psychopath who from childhood has burned with hatred for the United States. This guy, don't forget, screamed and hollered for the Soviets to launch nuclear missiles during the Cuban missile crisis. This assessment is not mine. It is what Cubans, both exiles and defectors, who have known him intimately say about him.

All of them believe that, if Castro thought he was about to go down, he would launch some type of attack against the United States. He has honeycombed the Cuban cities with tunnels. He has invested heavily in biological research. He could easily get biological toxins into the United States.

In short, this psychopath — who is often compared to Hitler even by his former revolutionary comrades — is a dangerous man.

A second point to keep in mind is that the poverty in Cuba is not the result of the U.S. embargo. Castro himself is listed by Forbes magazine as a billionaire, worth about $1.4 billion. Prior to Castro, Cuba had the second-highest standard of living in all of Latin America. Castro and his communist policies have destroyed the economy and lost support of 80 percent of the people, even those born after he came to power.

He runs a system of slavery. Here is how it works: Foreign investors who need employees for a hotel, for example, must pay Castro in dollars. He then supplies the workers and pays them in worthless pesos. He charges foreign governments in dollars for Cuban soldiers or health workers and pays the workers in pesos. The guy is a cheap gangster.

For years, this vile tyrant lived off the Soviet Union. When it collapsed, he lost his subsidies. He uses the U.S. embargo as a propaganda excuse, though in fact he can and does do business with every other country in the world.

Cuban exiles believe we should keep the embargo as a card to play when Castro dies. To lift it and to allow Castro access to World Bank and International Monetary Funds would be to institutionalize communism. The dollars would go to him to strengthen his army, his secret police, his biological warfare research and to fund revolutionaries in other countries.

In fact, for the United States to save Castro would be insanely stupid and a cruel betrayal of the Cuban people. Unfortunately, the United States has a history of doing insanely stupid things and betraying people who desired only freedom.

The third thing to keep in mind is that the United States has an old, entrenched group of leftists and communists who have for years propagandized on behalf of Castro, just as earlier generations did for Ho Chi Minh, Mao Tse-tung and Josef Stalin.

Then there are the businesses that would sell coal to Satan. They will be pushing to save Castro just as they pushed to do business with communist China and Vietnam. As an Englishman observed long ago: Don't expect a corporation to have a conscience since it has neither a soul to damn nor a body to kick.

To help you counter the heifer dust put out by the Clinton administration, here are a few Internet sites where you can find legitimate information about the situation in Cuba: Free Cuba Foundation (www.fiu.edu/-fcf/), Independent Press Bureau (www.bpicuba.org), Cuban American National Foundation (www.canfnet.org), Cuban Catholic Church (www.nacub.org), and the Cuba Free Press Project (www.cubafreepress.org).

MEDICAL

Gene may cause facial, heart defects

DALLAS — Researchers at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas have isolated the gene they believe is responsible for the most common genetic cause of heart and facial birth defects.

Scientists have suspected for many years that a gene on chromosome 22 is responsible for these birth defects, but the identification of a single gene that could be involved in cardiac and facial defects has been elusive. I a recent issue of "Science," Dr. Deepak Srivastava, assistant professor of pediatrics and molecular biology and oncology, and colleagues demonstrate that deletion of part of one gene can cause the variety of anomalies found in children known to be missing a piece of chromosome 22.

Children with chromosome 22 deletion syndrome, also known as DiGeorge syndrome, can suffer cardiac defects, abnormal facial features, immune deficiencies, cleft palate and low blood calcium. Although the defects seem unrelated to one another, all the affected tissue share a common embryologic origin, suggestion that a single gene may be important for both heart and facial formation. The researchers discovered a candidate gene in mice. They then established that only one instead of the two usual copies of the gene are present in children known to have the chromosome 22 deletion. They confirmed their hypotheses that the presence of only one gene copy was sufficient to cause the associated physical anomalies by finding a child who exhibited the cardiac and facial defects characteristics of chromosome 22 deletion syndrome, and who had only a single copy of this gene while the rest of chromosome 22 was normal.

Children with chromosome 22 deletion syndrome, also known as DiGeorge syndrome, can suffer cardiac defects, abnormal facial features, immune deficiencies, cleft palate and low blood calcium. Although the defects seem unrelated to one another, all the affected tissue share a common embryologic origin, suggestion that a single gene may be important for both heart and facial formation.

One in 4,000 children is born with chromosome 22 deletion syndrome, making it one of the most common genetic abnormalities in children. Many children with just facial or just cardiac defects also have the same deletion, which is second-most common genetic cause of congenital heart defects. CHD affects one in 100 births.

Over the last 10 years, many researchers have examined the deletion region of chromosome 22 trying to identify the gene responsible for the anomalies. Last year Srivastava and his colleagues, who have been studying cardiac development, noticed that mutant mice with improper heart development had characteristics similar to those found with the chromosome 22 deletion. These mice lacked a small protein and also had a less-than-normal amount of an important cardiac-gene regulator, dHAND, whose job is to turn heart-specific genes on and off. But the human genes for these proteins did not lie on chromosome 22.

"We suspected that the heart-regulatory protein. dHAND, was probably somehow involved with the critical gene in chromosome 22," said Sricasta, an attending cardiologist at Children's Medical Center of Dallas. "So we looked for genes that were regulated by dHAND."

They have identified several genes found in mice with normal hearts but missing in those mutant dHAND genes. The human corresponding copy of one of those genes, UFD1, is located on chromosome 22 in the region that is missing the 22q11 deletion.

Using molecular techniques, the researchers looked in mice to see where the gene is active. They found that UFD1 normally was turned on in mice in the tissues that are affected in children wit 22q11 deletion. Next they turned to humans and examined the deoxyribonucleic acid from 182 chromosomes 22 deletion patients to see id the UDF1 gene was missing. All 182 lacked one copy of the gene. Srivastva believes that having only half the normal amount of this gene leads to a dysregulation of the quantity of critical proteins involved in the formation of cardiac and craniofacial structures.

Because the syndrome includes a broad variety of defects and not all patients are the same, it is possible that other genes in this region are also involved in some features. The patient with a single UFD1 gene has a neighboring gene, CDC45, missing. However, the scientists feel that is is unlikely that CDC45 is involved in this syndrome because it is active in all cells.

"This paper representing a unique combination of studies," said Srivastave. "Dissection of a molecular pathway regulating embryogenisis in mice led to the identification of a human disease gene. This study will help us to further understand the mechanisms that control cardiac and craniofacial development."

Other UT Southwestern researchers participating in this study were pediatric research fellows Dr. Hiroyuki Yamagishi and Dr. Vidu Garg, and Tiffani Thomas, a research assistant in pediatrics. Dr. Rumiko Matsuoka of the Heart Institute of Japan at Tokyo Women's Medical University also was a co-author.

Government advisers reject new flu drug

GAITHERSBURG, Md. (AP) — Bad news for flu sufferers: Government scientists say a long-anticipated drug that promised to lessen patients' misery has not shown it works for Americans, so they rejected its approval for use.

Glaxo Wellcome had hoped to sell Relenza, an inhaled drug racing to become the first new flu medicine in 30 years, in time for next year's flu season.

But scientific advisers to the Food and Drug Administration said that so far, studies do not prove that inhaling Relenza helps Americans fight off the flu. They voted 13-4 that it needs more study.

It was a major blow to Glaxo, which argued that studies in Europe and Australia showed that Relenza shortened those patients' flu bouts by up to 2 1/2 days, compared with patients who inhaled a dummy drug.

Relenza also seemed to make flu less severe for some patients in those studies. Inhaling it daily for five days cut by 29 percent the chance of flu worsening into bronchitis or even pneumonia, a serious risk for tens of thousands of people, particularly the elderly.

And preliminary results from ongoing studies worldwide suggest the best use for Relenza would be to stem a flu epidemic, because taking it daily seems to cut by 60 percent to 80 percent the chance of catching the disease in the first place. That could be particularly useful to keep flu from sweeping through nursing homes and their vulnerable patients.

Based on such data, Relenza's sale has just been approved in Sweden and has been recommended in Australia.

But Relenza didn't help as much when given to Americans with the flu. Under Glaxo's best-case analysis, it seemed to shorten the flu's typical weeklong attack by just one day among Americans. FDA officials, however, attacked that study as inadequate and said Relenza offered Americans no benefit.

"We're all feeling a bit of a tug here" because U.S. doctors had been so eagerly anticipating Relenza, said Dr. Gregory Poland of the Mayo Clinic, a member of the panel.

Early studies had suggested Relenza was powerful. This first in a new class of drugs was specially designed to strike a chink in flu's armor: It inhibits an enzyme that is vital to allowing all flu strains to spread through the body. By inhibiting this neuraminidase, patients should suffer a shorter, milder attack.

Plus, public health experts hoped Relenza could be a weapon against the world's next pandemic of killer flu. Laboratory and animal testing indicate Relenza could have protected against previous killer flus and even against the strange bird flu that struck Hong Kong a year ago.

But because of Relenza's U.S. failure, "There isn't sufficient evidence to warrant me to recommend this drug for my family or myself," said Dr. Leslie Hendeles, a panel member from the University of Florida.

The panel urged Glaxo to study the drug's use in nursing homes, to determine if a higher dose would work better, and to find out if it could lower contagion in families when a child gets sick because the drug seems to lower the flu virus in each patient.

Some 30 million Americans get influenza each year. For most it's a nuisance causing about a week of illness. But it does kill about 20,000 Americans a year, hospitalizes 50,000 to 300,000 and costs billions in medical care and 15 million lost work days.

Getting a yearly vaccine can protect against the flu, but too few people get vaccinated. Some particularly at-risk people get sick anyway, and sometimes a vaccine doesn't protect against all the strains circulating that year.

Health briefs

Laser may correct farsightedness

HOUSTON — The holium YAG laser, the first of its kind to correct farsightedness, is being tested at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston to evaluate its effectiveness and safety.

"The technique involves gently heating the peripheral cornea to steepen the curvature of the cornea," said Dr. Douglas Koch, a Baylor opthamologist. "By changing the shape of the cornea, we're able to correct farsightedness up to about +2.5, which covers the majority of patients."

The laser may also benefit people over 40, whose age-related vision changes require them to wear reading glasses.

Summer program for future MDs

HOUSTON — Minority college students and graduates interested in becoming physicians may apply for the Honors Premedical Academy, a six-week summer program at Baylor College of Medicine and Rice Universities, both in Houston.

Funded in part by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the program offers additional educational experiences designed to enhance competitiveness among applicants for medical school.

For program information, call (800) 798-8244 or E-mail mmep@bcm,tmc.edu. The application deadline is April 1.

Think twice before changing formulas

HOUSTON — When an infant becomes sick or fussy, changing formulas is not necessarily the answer.

The two most common formula types that pediatricians recommend are cow milk protein-based or soy protein-based formulas. If an infant begins to have diarrhea, vomiting, respiratory problems or rashes, seek a pediatrician's advice before changing formula.

"Many times parents think they are changing formulas, when all they are doing is changing brands," said Dr. Kathleen Motil of the USDA/ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. "A pediatrician can recommend the best course of action if problems occur."

Prostate surgeons study device to minimize risk of impotence

HOUSTON — A new device might help surgeons preserve the nerves needed for potency that are often severed during prostate surgery.

Prostate removal is an extremely effective treatment for cancer if the disease hasn't spread, but impotence is often a side effect, said Dr. Kevin M. Slawin, director of the Baylor Prostate Center at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

The nerves that control the ability to have an erection can be difficult to identify with the naked eye. Surgeons are evaluating whether the CaverMap Surgical Aid can help them identify these nerves. The device uses sensors and electrical signals to show the location of functioning erectile nerve tissue near the prostate.

Drug helps prevent recurrence of herpes of the eye

HOUSTON — A drug used to treat genital herpes is also effective in preventing recurrences o herpes of the eye, a leading cause of corneal blindness.

Oral acyclovir reduced the recurrence rate of herpes simplex virus in the eye 41 percent in patients who had previously developed the disease. Patients with a more severe form of the disease, stromal keratitis, noticed a 50 percent reduction in recurrence rate.

"Acyclovir does not cure herpes of the eye, but by helping prevent recurrences, the drug can improve quality of life and help to prevent sight-threatening infections," said Dr. Kirk Wilhelmus, an opthamologist at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

Keeping marathon runners on the road

HOUSTON — By tracking marathon runners throughout their training, sports-medicine experts hope to help them stay off the injured list.

An estimated 25 to 30 percent of people who train for a marathon never make it to the starting line because of an injury.

"If we can identify some risk factors beforehand, as well as what types of training techniques may predispose people to injury, we can help marathoners avoid injuries and finish the race," said Dr. Joe Chorley, an assistant professor of sports medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. The study is following members of a Houston-based marathon-training group.

Doctors find new way to identify cancerous growths

By The Associated Press

A microscopic change in breast tissue can help doctors predict whether a woman whose biopsy is benign may develop cancer, researchers reported recently in the New England Journal of Medicine.

If the tissue has an abnormality called a radial scar, the woman is almost twice as likely to develop cancer, researchers said.

Under a microscope, normal breast tissue shows random clusters of ducts. Radial scars have a core of what appears to be scarred tissue surrounded by a cluster of ducts radiating outward.

Some studies found a link between radial scars and breast cancer, while others were inconclusive. The latest study, conducted at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, is believed to be the largest so far.

It looked at 1,396 women with benign breast biopsies. Ninety-nine had radial scars.

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THE Pampa NEWS

Monday March 1 Page 6

Battle Lines Sometimes Hard To Draw in War Against Drugs



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

DEAR ABBY: I'm responding to the letter in your column from our federal drug czar, Barry R. McCaffrey. The general is not an M.D. or social worker, and isn't qualified to speak on the drug problem. None of what he suggests will prevent drug abuse. Furthermore, he recently made himself look foolish with his inaccurate statement that Holland has a higher crime rate than the United States due to Holland's liberal drug policies. In fact, Holland has a much lower crime rate and a lower rate of drug abuse than the U.S. Obviously, Holland's moderate approach works far better than our draconian criminal approach.

The United States should follow Holland's good example and make a distinction between marijuana and hard drugs. The alleged dangers of marijuana have been absurdly exaggerated. There is a growing mountain of hard scientific evidence that marijuana is not harmful unless used in very large doses. By lying about the dangers of marijuana, we cast doubt on the warnings about truly dangerous cocaine, LSD, heroin and designer drugs.

We shouldn't ruin the lives of young people — or anyone else — by jailing them for smoking marijuana, nor should sick people be denied medical marijuana.

I have read your columns for 25 years, Abby. You have good sense. I hope you'll seriously consider that prohibition is not preventing abuse or addiction, but is instead greatly worsening the drug situation. Prohibition didn't work with alcohol, and is an even bigger failure with marijuana.

STEVE J. WILCOTT, SAN FRANCISCO

DEAR STEVE: I agree that marijuana laws are overdue for an overhaul. I also favor the medical use of marijuana — if it's prescribed by a physician. I cannot understand why the federal government should interfere with the doctor-patient relationship, nor why it would ignore the will of a majority of voters who have legally approved such legislation.

However, regardless of whether Gen. McCaffrey is right or wrong about the crime rate in Holland, I'm staunchly behind his effort to initiate dialogue between concerned parents and children about drugs. Honest dialogue is essential. Parents must level with their children about which drugs are dangerous and which are not, or they'll lose their credibility and be disregarded. This is especially important at a time when drug dealers offer an array of new designer drugs — some virtually undetectable, and some of which can be fatal.

An excellent book on the subject of marijuana is "Marijuana Myths, Marijuana Facts" by Lynn Zimmer, Ph.D., and John P. Morgan, M.D., published by the Lindesmith Center in New York. It can be ordered through Bookworld Cos. by calling (800) 444-2524. The cost is $12.95 per book, plus $3.95 per book shipping and handling. When ordering, please provide the following ISBN number: 0-9641568-4-9.

***

CONFIDENTIAL TO MY READERS: Debtors Anonymous has moved. The new address is P.O. Box 888, Needham, Mass. 02492-0009. The Web address is: www.debtorsanonymous.org.

***

Abby shares her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "Abby's More Favorite Recipes." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 per booklet ($4.50 each in Canada) to: Dear Abby Booklets, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

Everybody has a problem. What's yours? Get it off your chest by writing to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069. For a personal reply, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Horoscope

TUESDAY, MAR. 2, 1999

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)
★★★★ Use your creativity dynamically. Brainstorming brings positive results. You gain through mental exchange, especially concerning work and long-term goals. Do not settle; instead, seek a solution that satisfies all parties. Emphasize efficiency. Tonight: Go for a workout.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Push comes to shove; somehow, you manage to make a good situation out of a potential crisis. Keep communication flowing; group discussions are particularly effective. Although sometimes meetings aren't the best place for consolidating ideas, it can work. Tonight: Enjoy your life.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Pressure is most intense. As you try to juggle different interests, you deplete your energy. Stay in control; understand just how much you are willing to do. A partner changes his stand, adding to the pressure and confusion. Listen to a friend's advice. Tonight: Happy at home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Be willing to juggle your schedule and screen calls. You can accomplish a lot where others cannot. Recognize your limits with a co-worker. Listen as another discusses his intense feelings. A boss demonstrates his support. Tonight: Visit with friends over the phone or in person.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Make the best of what is going on. Pressure builds, especially financially. You'll need to juggle. Refuse to commit to any plans. Use your creativity and insights to gain through a partnership. Seek out others to find unusual answers. A relationship weighs on you. Tonight: Indulge.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ You are being pulled in two different directions. Take in another's point of view, even though you don't have to go along with it. Listening and acceding are two different issues. Carefully evaluate financial resources. Get feedback about a money source. Tonight: Do what you want.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★ You could be whacked by the full moon and alternate between depression and high energy. Note how many people give you advice; be grateful for their interest in your situation. Communication flows once you understand the flaw in your style. Be your best friend and listen to yourself. Tonight: Hide out.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Sometimes, getting a grasp of the big picture is difficult. Listen to all sides. Social life proves exciting, as another offers you the moon and the stars. You don't have all the answers, but detaching provides an endless source of information. Tonight: Where the fun is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You are pulled in many directions. Debut the "new you" when dealing with others. Your responsiveness means a lot; however, be clear about what you can and will do. Your relationship with a child or new friend opens up because of an exchange. Tonight: In the limelight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Communication swiftly overloads. You might hope for a more effective way of handling the pressure. Deal with confusion over information by asking more questions. Your soothing manner pacifies a family member. Tonight: Watch extreme sports on TV.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Managing your funds and figuring out what another wants from you could make you wonder. You certainly have your hands full! Communicating sparks solutions. Certainly you understand where an associate is coming from. Caring abounds. You feel good with news. Tonight: Indulge a little — you're worth it!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Others certainly want their way. You can laugh at what is going on, or you could get triggered. This is your call. Realize you are more in control than you are aware. Indulge another; buy that gift or card. Meanwhile, a boss might be ready to talk about a positive job change. Tonight: Make it easy.

BORN TODAY
Singer Eddie Money (1949), singer/actor Jon Bon Jovi (1962), author Tom Wolfe (1931)

* * *

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Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
1 Burn slightly
5 Crime outing
10 Tortoise's rival
11 Hindu incarnation
13 Dry
14 Ebb
15 House head
17 Disencumber
18 Aquarium fishes
19 Dissenting vote
20 Go awry
21 Fence opening
22 "Jaws" critter
25 Where van Gogh painted
26 "Stop!"
27 In the style of
28 Feel sick
29 Lose it
33 Hosp. workers
34 Musically cheery
35 Prompt
37 Comic's offering
38 Rug maker
39 Writer James
40 Rendezvous
41 Porch items

DOWN
1 Abyss
2 Silent brother
3 Disney's mermaid
4 Combat conditions on the Enterprise
5 Line of work
6 States
7 Lobbying org.
8 Lasting forever
9 Glow
12 Colors anew
16 Shatner role
21 Popular spread
22 Sundial need
23 Snood
24 Baseball's — Game
25 Stepped down
27 Music's Herb
29 Vapors
30 Last letter
31 Surprise win
32 Carries
36 Wall climber

S	T	A	T	U	S	■	L	I	E	D
C	A	R	U	S	O	■	A	N	N	E
A	L	G	R	E	N	■	M	E	T	S
L	I	O	N	S	■	B	A	R	R	E
D	A	N	S	■	T	E	R	R	O	R
■	■	O	K	R	A	■	O	P	T	■
■	G	E	N	E	A	U	T	R	Y	■
R	A	M	■	V	I	S	A	■	■	■
E	L	I	C	I	T	■	K	I	T	S
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Saturday's answer



3-1

STUMPED?

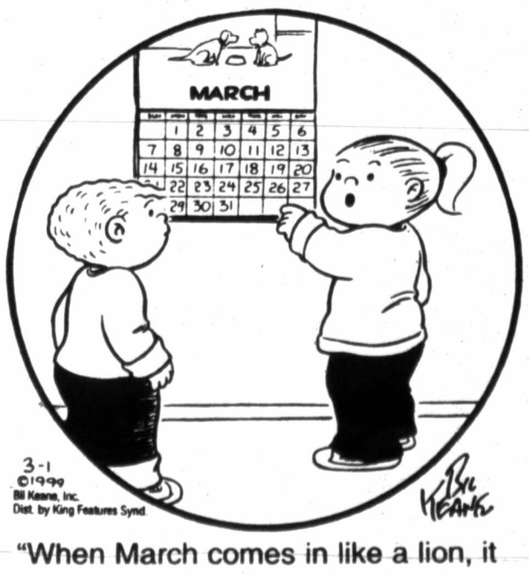
For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-454-7377!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Marmaduke



"Marmaduke, when my head is under the blanket, I'm hiding from you."

The Family Circus



"When March comes in like a lion, it goes out like a light."

For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



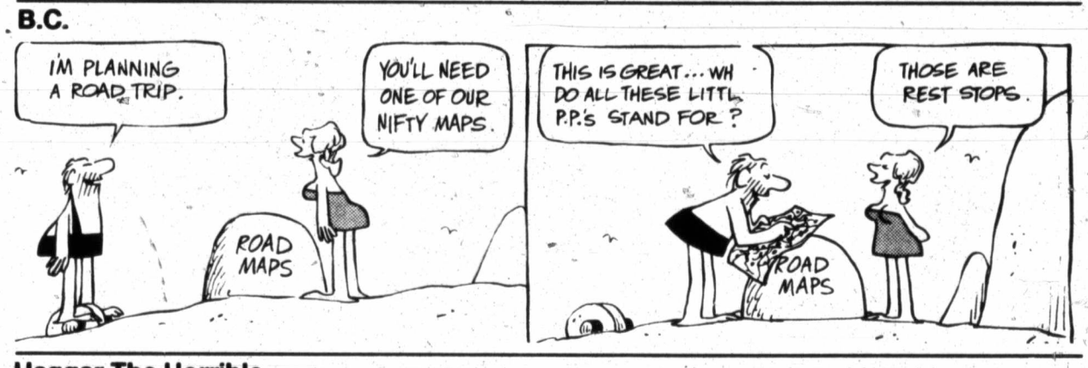
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



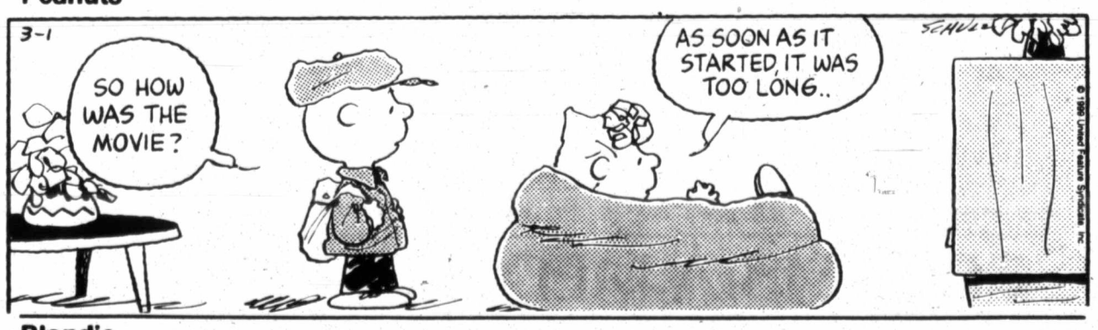
B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore



SPORTS

Notebook

BASKETBALL

BRISCOE — Fort Elliott meets Rankin at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Class 1A boys' regional quarterfinals in Wayland Baptist University's Hutcherson Center in Plainview.

Fort Elliott has a 33-1 record while Rankin is 24-5.

GOLF

Hidden Hills Seniors Four Man Scramble

First Place, Buzz Tarpley, Jack Mitchell, Preston Cox, Gabe Crossman, 60.

Second Place, Elmer Wilson, Glen Downs, Bill Abernathy, Marvin Allison, 62.

Third Place, Jerry Dorman, J.T. Lamberson, Bob Brandon, Dale Butler, 63.

Fourth Place, Bill King, Howard Wells, Bill Brown, Jim Osborne, 64.

Closest to the hole third shot, Jim Batton number 18.

CARLSBAD, Calif. (AP) — Jeff Maggert has always had trouble with 18 holes on Sunday. With $1 million at stake in the Match Play Championship, he couldn't even get the job done in 36.

But with one chip with a sand wedge from the green-side rough on the 38th hole, he managed on this Sunday to both shed a runner-up tag and win the biggest single first prize in PGA Tour history.

"You don't have to ask me what it feels like to finish second this week," Maggert said after chipping in to beat Andrew Magee.

Not this time, after a gutty performance that saw Maggert come back from 2-down after the morning 18 to pull even on the 31st hole before finally putting it away on the second hole of sudden death.

This time, the questions were more of those befitting a winner who battled through six opponents over 127 holes to win in spectacular fashion when his chip surprised both he and Magee by hitting the cup and falling in.

"I've been waiting 5 1/2 years for that," Maggert said. "I thought it was going to kind of pop out of there and it went in, and that is what I needed."

The man whose game had gotten him into contention enough to finish second 13 times — but had only one win to show for it — finally broke through when it meant the most on a day that started early, with the fog just lifting at La Costa Resort.

The money was huge, but it might have been secondary to Maggert.

"There is going to be a lot of doubters, for sure, but I have been around this game for a long time, and played some good golf," Maggert said. "I don't really care what they say. This was a good win for me."

Maggert, who two days earlier ousted Tiger Woods in the quarterfinals, would have been a runner-up once again if not for a match play format that made the championship showdown a 36-hole affair.

Magee won four of five holes on the front nine and was 3-up at one point. It was familiar territory for Maggert, who trailed for 48 of the holes he played during the week, but won all six of his matches.

"If it was a nine-hole tournament, I might have won," Magee said. "But we had 27 more to play."

Actually, it turned out to be 29 more, delighting a crowd that wanted Woods and other big names to play on the weekend. The fans ended up getting a classic final anyway.

After a 54-minute break between rounds, Maggert kept grinding away and would have gotten a comfortable lead had four putts in six holes not lipped out. As it was, he finally evened the match at 13 with a birdie from 12 feet.

The two players then matched pars until the second extra hole.

Lady Harvesters capture district opener

Softball

PAMPA--The Lady Harvester - softball team opened district play against the Hereford Lady Whitefaces Saturday at Optimist Park. Pampa won the high scoring contest 20-10 in six innings. Pampa never trailed and enjoyed what appeared to be a comfortable 9 run lead after just two innings of play. However, Hereford had ideas of their own. The Lady Whitefaces scored 3 runs on 3 hits in the top of the third to pull within six, 9-3. Pampa answered with 2 runs of their own in the bottom half of the third to stretch the lead to 11-3.

Hereford was retired in order in the fourth. Pampa had a chance to add to their total after a lead-off single by Jessica Conner in the bottom of the fourth, but she was caught attempting to steal resulting in the first out of the inning.

The next two batters were retired in order.

The fifth inning proved to be very productive for the Lady Whitefaces as they scored 6 runs on 4 hits, a walk and an error.

Pampa continued to lead, but Hereford had pulled within two, 11-9.

The Lady Harvesters responded by plating 7 runs of their own in the fifth. Back to back triples by Lisa Kirkpatrick and Mandy Rains to start the inning ignited a fire under the Lady Harvesters. Three errors, a walk, a triple by Lisa Dwight, and a double by Cali Covalt, along with Kirkpatrick's second triple of the inning put the game out of reach, as Pampa took a commanding 18-9 lead into the sixth.

Hereford was held to just one more run on two hits in the top of the sixth. Pampa scored the necessary two runs to bring the contest to an end in the bottom of the sixth.

A lead-off single by Cassi Scott, followed by a single from the bat of Stephanie Cameron, and a two RBI double down the left-field line by Kimberly Clark brought the game to an end on the ten run rule.

For the game, Clark struck out 7, issued 1 base on balls, and allowed 9 hits.

The Lady Harvesters collected 17 hits. Pampa's Clark went 3 for 3 with 2 doubles and a single. Kirkpatrick was 3 for 4 with two triples and a single, followed by Stephanie Cameron's three singles. Others with hits included Cassi Scott, two singles, Lisa Dwight and Mandy Rains each 1 triple, Cali Covalt a double and single, and Jessica Conner, Kelsey Yowell and Shanna Buck, 1 single each.

Pampa improved to 3-1 on the season and 1-0 in district play.

The Lady Harvesters travel to Borger Tuesday to take on the Lady Bulldogs. Game time is set for 4:30 p.m.

The next home game for the Lady Harvesters is March 9 against Dumas.

Gametime is 4:30 p.m. at Optimist Park.

'Dogs top Harvies

PAMPA — Plainview spoiled Pampa's home baseball opener with a 12-2 win Saturday afternoon.

Plainview took an early lead on Peter Gonzales' two-run homer in the first inning. The Bulldogs stayed on top the rest of the way.

Greg Lindsey led Pampa at the plate with 3 hits in 3 times at bat. Casey Owens was 2 for 2.

Jesse Francis started on the mound for Pampa and took the loss. Owens and Lindsey saw relief action.

In the fourth inning, Plainview erupted for five runs to make the score 8-0.

Both Pampa runs came in the fifth inning.

The Bulldogs had 12 hits while the Harvesters had 8.

"We're just not getting the key hits," said Pampa head coach Dennis Doughty.

"We loaded the bases one time and couldn't get any runs across. We made a couple of mistakes that cost us runs. We did the same thing against River Road. I think the kids will eventually stop making those costly mistakes and start getting the hits at the right time. Right now, however, it's just not happening."

Plainview is now 2-0 for the season while Pampa drops to 0-2.

Pampa travels to Amarillo to take on the Sandies at 4:30 today. The Harvesters won't play at home again until March 30. It will be the District 3-4A opener against Amarillo Caprock with the game starting at 4:30 p.m.

The Harvesters host Amarillo High at 4:30 today in Amarillo.

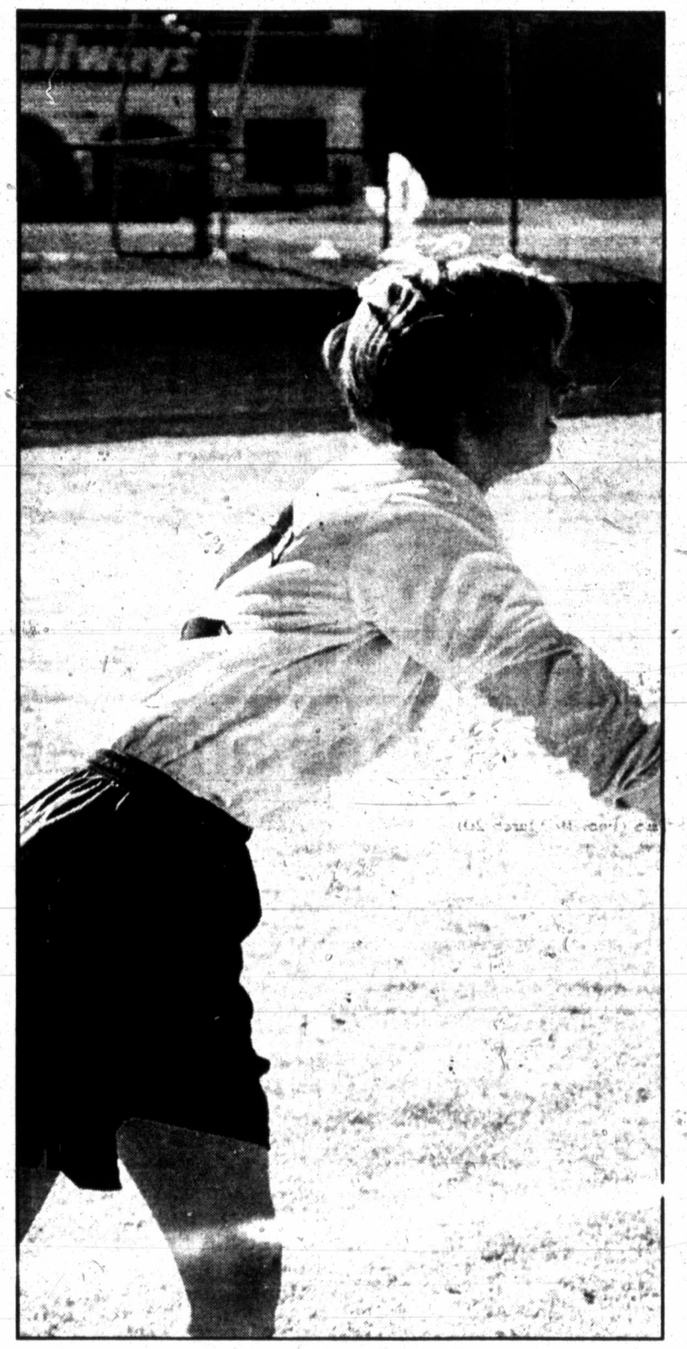
Baseball

BRYAN, Texas (AP) — Here is the preseason Texas high school baseball poll, selected by the Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association:

Class 4A

1. Highland Park
2. Nederland
3. CC Calallen
4. Andrews
5. FW Arlington Heights
6. LC Mauriceville
7. Grapevine
8. Belton
9. Carthage
10. Robstown

Denmark connection



(Pampa News photo)

Tanja Horsanger is a foreign exchange student from Denmark and a member of the Pampa girls' soccer team. Tanja has helped lead the Lady Harvesters to a 5-3 record and a tie for second place in District 3-4A. Pampa defeated Canyon 2-1 in soccer action on Saturday. Canyon defeated Pampa 2-1 in the boys' division. Pampa hosts Borger on Tuesday with the girls' match starting at 4:15 followed by the boys' match at 6.

Harvesters place 3rd at Randall Relays

RANDALL — The Pampa boys' track team opened the season by placing third at the Randall Relays this past weekend.

Pampa finished with 75 1/2 points. Canyon had 106 points to win the meet championship while Dumas placed second with 95.

Senior Curtis Johnson won both the long jump and 100 for the Harvesters.

Pampa results are as follows:

Discus: White, sixth place, 124-7.

Shot: Tucker, fifth place, 43-8 1/2.

High jump: Hartman, second place, 6-2; Holmes (tie), fifth place, 5-10.

Triple jump: Cortez, fourth place, 37-9; Tarango, fifth place, 36-9 1/2.

Long jump: Johnson, first place, 21-4; Tarango, third place, 19-1 1/2.

400 relay: Pampa, fifth place, 45.48.

110 hurdles: Roark, fifth place, 17.19.

100: Johnson, first place, 11.30.

300 hurdles: Hawill, Pampa, sixth place, 44.6.

200: Johnson, fourth place, 23.6.

• • • • •

Pampa placed seventh in the junior varsity division with 43 points.

Pampa results are as follows:

Triple jump: Williams, third place, 36.1.

110 hurdles: Dyer, third place, 18.23.

300 hurdles: Dyer, third place, 47.00.

Tech's Braziel named Big 12 player of year

DALLAS (AP) — Texas Tech senior Angie Braziel was named Big 12 Conference women's player of the year Sunday, and coach Marsha Sharp took the conference's coaching honor.

The league's coaches voted after the 11th-ranked Lady Raiders (14-2, 25-3) won their second straight regular-season Big 12 championship. The league tournament starts Tuesday in Kansas City.

Braziel, a 6-foot-2 post, has started every game this season and leads the Big 12 with 22 points and two blocks per conference game. She is second with 8.8 rebounds per conference game.

The Odessa native was named to the 1999 Women's Basketball News Service All-America first team. She was conference player of the week twice.

Sharp, in her 17th year at Texas Tech, claimed her second straight Big 12 Coach of the Year honor. She has led her teams to seven conference titles, four conference tournament titles, 11 trips to the NCAA Tournament and the 1993 national championship.

Sharp, a Tulia native, won her 400th career game on Feb. 24 in an 83-71 decision over Colorado. During her tenure, 99 percent of her players have graduated, according to conference officials.

Iowa State's Desiree Francis, a 6-foot junior-college transfer, was named conference newcomer of the year.

She was 26th in conference scoring at 10.8 points per game and averaged 13.9 points in all games. She averaged 7.3 rebounds per game and fifth in field goal percentage, .520.

Oklahoma's LaNeishea Caufield was freshman of the year. The 5-9 guard was sixth in the league scoring at 17.9 points per game, fourth in field goal percentage with a .509 and fifth in steals with 2.63 per contest.

All Big-12, first team:

Angie Braziel, Texas Tech; Lynn Pride, Kansas; Stacy Frese, Iowa State, Phylesha Whaley, Oklahoma and Edwina Brown, Texas.

PHS golf team ties for 4th at Midland

MIDLAND — The Pampa boys' golf team tied for fourth at the Midland Invitational last weekend.

Pampa and Borger each finished with a two-round total of 634. Andrews won with a 609 while Frenship was second at 626.

Barry Brauchi led Pampa with a 154 (81-73).

The Harvesters are entered in the San Angelo Tournament March 12-13.

Midland Invitational

Team totals: 1. Andrews 296-609; 2. Frenship 309-626; 3. Abilene Wylie 317-629; 4 (tie) Pampa 309-634; Borger 311-634; 6. San Angelo Lake View 312-636; 7. El Paso Burges 315-646; 8. Sweetwater 315-647; 9. Fort Stockton 313-654; 10. Big Spring 329-657; 11. Canyon Randall 319-664; 12. Lamesa 323-667; 13. Lee Rebels No. 3 351-694; 14. Pecos 350-698; 15. Midland No. 3 353-720; 16. Amarillo Caprock 394-782.

Medalist standings: 1. Sammy Rodriguez, Big Spring, 66-137; 2. Brad Gibson, Andrews, 71-146; 3. Shawn Melville, Frenship, 77-153.

Pampa scores: Barry Brauchi 81-73—154; Grady Locknane 79-77 —156; Matt Heasley 81-88—161; Clay Banner 84-80—164; Nathan Banner 91-79—180.

SMU cager wins WAC honors

DENVER (AP) — Jeryl Sasser of SMU was named Mountain Division player of the year and Utah's Andre Miller took Pacific Division honors in the Western Athletic Conference's postseason awards.

Sasser, a guard and last year's freshman of the year, is averaging 19.2 points per game, 8.5 rebounds, 3.7 assists and 1.9 steals. Miller, a senior guard, is averaging 16 points, 5.8 assists, 2.6 steals and is shooting 49.7 percent from the field.

WAC officials announced the awards Sunday following voting by the conference's 16 head coaches.

Rice's Willis Wilson and Utah's Rick Majerus were chosen coaches of the year in the Pacific and Mountain divisions.

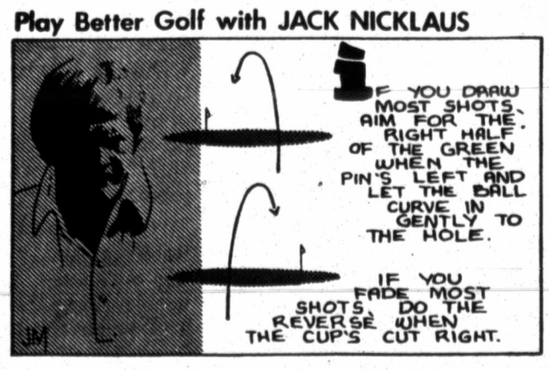
Wilson led the Owls to one of the nation's biggest turnarounds as Rice finished the regular season 17-9, compared to 6-22 last year. Majerus led the Runnin' Utes to the Pacific Division title with a 14-0 conference record, only the second school in WAC history to post a perfect league performance.

In the Pacific Division, Miller and teammates Hanno Mottola and Alex Jensen, both forwards, were named to the all-WAC first team, along with Fresno State guard Courtney Alexander and New Mexico center Kenny Thomas. Brigham Young guard Mark Bigelow earned freshman of the year honors.

Named to the All-WAC first team for the Mountain Division were Sasser, UNLV forward Shawn Marion, TCU forward Lee Nailon, Rice guard/forward Robert Johnson and Colorado State guard Milt Palacio.

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LA downs Rockets

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP) — An injury, the blossoming of Kobe Bryant and the addition of Dennis Rodman have contributed to making Rick Fox the forgotten man for the Los Angeles Lakers.

After what happened Sunday, that should no longer be the case.

Fox had a scoring outburst Michael Jordan would have been proud of, and Jordan was on hand to watch it in the Lakers' 106-90 victory over the Houston Rockets.

Fox, who didn't play for the first 2 1/2 quarters, scored 15 of his season-high 21 points in the opening 6:55 of the fourth period to provide the bulk of the scoring in a 19-8 run that gave the Lakers a 96-80 lead.

Playing a little less than 19 minutes, Fox made all seven of his field goal attempts — five from 3-point range.

"That's the coach's decision," Fox said of sitting on the bench until 6:40 remained in the third period, when he replaced Bryant with the Rockets leading 64-59. "I can only be prepared. Yeah, I'd love to be in there as much as I can, all 48 minutes.

"I wasn't sure I was going to play. I was watching the game, trying to be ready. I know it wasn't going to help if I got down on myself."

Of all the dilemmas faced by Kurt Rambis when he took over as coach of the Lakers on Friday, one was doling out minutes to deserving front-line players following the addition of Rodman.

Fox might have made Rambis' job even tougher.

"He's had some excellent practices, and it's just a gut feeling that he'd come in and do something offensively," Rambis said.

Fox started all 82 games for the Lakers last season, but missed the first three this year due to a sore right foot. He was replaced in the starting lineup by Bryant, who is averaging 19.3 points and 8.4 rebounds.

Fox, who has said repeatedly he has no problem coming off the bench, brought a 7.3-point scoring average into the game.

"The difference in the game was Rick Fox," said Rockets forward Charles Barkley, who played his first game since undergoing arthroscopic knee surgery on Feb. 14. "He played terrific, and he broke the game open."

It was the Lakers' second game with Rodman and second with Rambis as head coach, and the team's first victory in four nationally televised Sunday games this season.

"I think there is a huge team concept around us now," Lakers guard Derek Harper said. "We're playing very unselfish as a team. We're on the right track now."

Jordan, who sat next to Jack Nicholson at courtside, teamed up with Scottie Pippen to lead the Bulls to six championships in an eight-year span including the last three, when Rodman was also a key member.

After Jordan retired in January following the settlement of the lockout, the Bulls traded Pippen to the Rockets, and made it clear that without Jordan coach Phil Jackson, they couldn't invite Rodman back.

Rodman had two points, 10 rebounds and two assists in addition to playing effective defense in 26 minutes. He had 11 rebounds and six assists in 26 minutes during a 99-83 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers on Friday night.

"He (Rambis) knows his players have to go out there and split time, and you have to be unselfish to win games," Rodman said. "If you want to be a good basketball team, then you have to be unselfish. You have to bite your tongue and your pride and just go out there and win."

Pippen said Rodman's performance was typical.

"It's the same thing he always gives you — energy, hustle, rebounds and good defense," Pippen said. "Those are some of the things you can count on every night when he goes out there."

Shaquille O'Neal led the Lakers with 22 points and seven rebounds, and Bryant added 18 points.

Houston's Hakeem Olajuwon had 22 points and eight rebounds before fouling out with 3:56 remaining. Pippen had 16 points, six rebounds, eight assists and five steals along with five turnovers, and Barkley added 14 points and six rebounds.

Notes: The Lakers (9-6) have beaten only one team with a winning record so far this season — the Rockets (8-6). Los Angeles won a 99-91 decision over Houston in the season-opener Feb. 5. ... The Lakers play their next four games against teams with winning records — two against Phoenix, and one each against Seattle and Utah. ... Elden Campbell, who backs up O'Neal, missed the game because of the flu. ... The Rockets are just 4-16 in their 20 most recent nationally televised games. ... To make room for Barkley on their roster, the Rockets placed Eddie Johnson on the injured list due to a lower back strain. ... Barkley, who averaged 19.2 points and 17.0 rebounds in five games before missing the next eight, played 19 minutes. He had said beforehand he hoped to play 30 minutes, but would settle for 25.

Spurs bow to Jazz

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Gregg Popovich the general manager insists he isn't losing confidence in Gregg Popovich the coach.

San Antonio fans, however, aren't very pleased with either as the Spurs are 6-8 in a shortened season that began with high hopes.

"Obviously, it's a disappointing start," Popovich said following a boo-filled 101-87 loss to Utah on Sunday. "It's just a process that we thought would be a little bit easier. The time off hurt us more than we thought it would."

Utah improved its NBA-best record to 11-2 as Karl Malone scored 30 points and Jeff Hornacek and John Stockton added 18 and 14 points.

Malone scored 17 of his points in the first two quarters, pushing Utah to a 14-point halftime lead that the Spurs couldn't overcome despite 21 points and 13 rebounds from Tim Duncan.

"We have a lot of respect for their team," Malone said. "We don't want to come out and embarrass them, but we want to win."

Popovich wasn't around to see the end of his team's third loss in four games. Furious over a foul call against Malik Rose, Popovich was slapped with two technicals and ejected with 2:06 left in the third.

Before the season, the Spurs were viewed as one of the top teams in the league. In addition to the frontline of Duncan and David Robinson, Sean Elliott was back from injuries and San Antonio added playoff-tested veterans Steve Kerr, Mario Elie and Jerome Kersey.

But most of the season the Spurs have fizzled. After opening the year 2-0, then lost three straight. They bounced back with consecutive wins only to go 2-5 since.

Duncan has been carrying the scoring load, averaging 18.7 points, 12.5 rebounds and two blocks. Robinson has averaged 15.7 points per game, 9.8 rebounds and three blocks.

"Guys are working hard," Robinson said. "We're just banging our heads on the wall. We keep making the same mistakes, and we haven't had practice time to work on them."

Scoreboard

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Parings for UIL girls' state basketball tournament

AUSTIN (AP) — Here are the pairings for the UIL girls' state basketball tournament, Thursday through Saturday at the Frank Erwin Center in Austin.

Semifinals, Thursday — Conference 1A, 8:30 a.m., Valley View (35-2) vs. Gail Borden County (30-4); 10 a.m., Moulton (34-3) vs. Vega (23-12). Conference 3A, 2 p.m., Winnsboro (38-2) vs. Shallowater (32-4); 3:30 p.m., Lufkin Hudson (34-2) vs. Wimberley (24-10). Conference 4A, 7 p.m., Canyon (36-0) vs. Bay City (27-1); 8:30 p.m., Dallas Lincoln (28-0) vs. San Antonio Sam Houston (33-3).

Semifinals, Friday — Conference 2A, 9:30 a.m., Hughes Springs (28-2) vs. Celina (28-7); 11 a.m., Salado (29-7) vs. Farwell (27-8). Conference 5A, 3 p.m., Mansfield (36-0) vs. Dallas Adams (25-9); 7 p.m., Corpus Christi Carroll (33-6) vs. Sugar Land Dulles (12-24).

Finals, Saturday — 9 a.m., Conference 1A; 10:30 a.m., Conference 3A; 2:30 p.m., Conference 2A; 4 p.m., Conference 4A; 8 p.m., Conference 5A.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Sunday's College Basketball
Major Scores
By The Associated Press
EAST
Connecticut 70, Syracuse 58
Fordham 74, Rhode Island 70
Massachusetts 57, Temple 49
SOUTH
Clemson 92, Georgia Tech 64
Tennessee 68, Kentucky 61
Wake Forest 74, N. Carolina St. 45
MIDWEST
Iowa St. 52, Kansas 50
Michigan St. 60, Purdue 46
Notre Dame 78, Boston College 59
FAR WEST
Idaho 64, Boise St. 59
TOURNAMENTS
America East Conference
Semifinals
Delaware 90, Maine 73
Drexel 55, Hofstra 37
Colonial Athletic Association Championship
George Mason 63, Old Dominion 58
Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference
Semifinals
Siena 56, Marist 55
St. Peter's 78, Niagara 70
Mid-Continent Conference
First Round
Valparaiso 81, Chicago St. 43
W. Illinois 77, Missouri-Kansas City 71
Youngstown St. 78, S. Utah 56
Midwestern Collegiate Conference
Semifinals
Butler 68, Wis.-Green Bay 65, 3OT
Detroit 80, Cleveland St. 65
Missouri Valley Conference
Semifinals
Creighton 78, SW Missouri St. 70
Evansville 64, Bradley 63
Northeast Conference
Semifinals
Cent. Connecticut St. 82, Md.-Baltimore County 72
Mount St. Mary's, Md. 68, St. Francis, N.Y. 66
Ohio Valley Conference
Championship
Murray St. 62, SE Missouri 61
Patriot League
Semifinals
Bucknell 58, Lehigh 50
Lafayette 73, Colgate 71
Southern Conference
Championship
Coll. of Charleston 77, Appalachian St. 67
Sun Belt Conference
Semifinals
Arkansas St. 87, Fla. International 69
W. Kentucky 76, Louisiana Tech 66
West Coast Conference
Semifinals
Gonzaga 70, St. Mary's, Cal. 57
Santa Clara 58, Pepperdine 54

The Women's Top Twenty Five
By The Associated Press

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Feb. 28, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

Record	Pts	Pv
1. Purdue(37)27-1	1,020	1
2. Tennessee(2)28-2	983	2
3. LouisianaTech(1)24-2	945	3
4. ColoradoSt.(1)29-1	899	4
5. OldDominion23-3	846	5
6. Connecticut25-4	819	6
7. Rutgers26-4	759	7
8. NotreDame24-3	720	10
9. TexasTech25-3	666	11
10. Duke24-6	623	8
11. NorthCarolina26-6	569	13
12. VirginiaTech26-2	564	9
13. Clemson23-5	545	16
14. Georgia23-6	490	14
15. Oregon23-4	438	18
16. UCLA21-7	424	12
17. UCSantaBarbara23-3	320	21
18. PennSt.21-7	305	15
19. Virginia20-8	257	19
20. LSU20-7	250	17
21. IowaSt.20-6	219	20
22. Alabama19-10	149	24
23. Fla.International21-5	102	25
24. Tulane23-5	68	—
25. Kansas21-8	67	22

Others receiving votes: Auburn 63, SW Missouri St. 50, Cincinnati 26, Kentucky 24, Illinois 22, Toledo 21, Xavier 12, St. Mary's, Cal. 11, Arizona 10, W. Kentucky 9, Boston College 8, Marquette 8, St. Joseph's 4, Kansas St. 3, Stanford 3, New Mexico 2, Georgetown 1, Utah 1.

PRO BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association
At A Glance
By The Associated Press
All Times EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	10	4	.714	—
Miami	9	4	.692	1/2
New York	8	5	.615	1 1/2
Philadelphia	8	5	.615	1 1/2
Boston	6	5	.545	2 1/2
Washington	4	7	.364	4 1/2
New Jersey	2	10	.167	7
Central Division				
Indiana	9	4	.692	—
Atlanta	8	5	.615	1
Detroit	8	6	.571	1 1/2
Milwaukee	6	5	.545	2
Cleveland	5	6	.455	3
Toronto	4	8	.333	4 1/2
Chicago	4	10	.286	5 1/2
Charlotte	2	9	.182	6
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	11	2	.846	—
Minnesota	8	5	.615	3
Houston	8	6	.571	3 1/2
San Antonio	6	8	.429	5 1/2
Denver	5	9	.357	6 1/2
Dallas	5	10	.333	7
Vancouver	4	9	.308	7
Pacific Division				
Portland	9	3	.750	—
Seattle	8	4	.667	1
Phoenix	8	5	.615	1 1/2
L.A. Lakers	9	6	.600	1 1/2
Golden State	6	7	.462	3 1/2
Sacramento	6	7	.462	3 1/2
L.A. Clippers	0	12	.000	9

Saturday's Games
Houston 86, Vancouver 74
Portland 82, Washington 81
Boston 101, New Jersey 92
Dallas 97, Sacramento 90
Chicago 94, Charlotte 77
Atlanta 103, L.A. Clippers 74
Sunday's Games
Miami 84, Orlando 78
Detroit 89, New York 68
Utah 101, San Antonio 87
Philadelphia 87, Milwaukee 76
L.A. Lakers 106, Houston 90
Phoenix 102, Golden State 89
Portland 100, Minnesota 93
Chicago 90, Toronto 88, OT
Denver 116, Vancouver 112
Monday's Games
New Jersey at Boston, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Washington, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Seattle at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.
Tuesday's Games
Denver at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Washington at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
New York at Miami, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Detroit at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Utah at Portland, 10 p.m.
Sacramento at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

Weekend Sports Transactions
By The Associated Press
BASEBALL
American League
ANAHEIM ANGELS—Agreed to terms with LHP Scott Schoeneweis.
DETROIT TIGERS—Agreed to terms with LHP Justin Thompson on a two-year contract and LHP Sean Runyan on a one-year contract.
MINNESOTA TWINS—Signed OF Chris Latham and RHP Dan Perkins to one-year contracts.
TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—Agreed to terms with LHP Tony Saunders, LHP Ramon Tatis, RHP Jim Mecir, RHP Bryan Rekar, RHP Julio Santana, and OF Rich Butler on one-year contracts.
National League
CINCINNATI REDS—Agreed to terms with INF Tim Naehring to a minor league contract.
COLORADO ROCKIES—Signed Clint Hurdle, hitting instructor, to a three-year contract.
BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
NBA—Suspended Portland G Isaiah Rider for one game and fined him $2,500 for leaving the bench area during an altercation during a Feb. 26 game with Charlotte. Fined Chicago coach Tim Floyd $5,000 for verbally abusing officials following his ejection from a Feb. 25 game with Philadelphia.
CHARLOTTE HORNETS—Waived F Travis Williams. Agreed to terms with G-F Willie Burton.
HOUSTON ROCKETS—Activated F Charles Barkley from the injured list. Placed F Eddie Johnson on the injured list.
LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS—Placed C Michael Olowokandi and G Pooh Richardson on the injured list. Activated F Brian Skinner and C Stojko Vrankovic from the injured list.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
CHICAGO BEARS—Agreed to terms with OT Blake Brockermeyer on a four-year contract.
OAKLAND RAIDERS—Signed OL Isaac Davis, RB Reynard Rutherford and DB Johnnie Harris and DB Eric Sutton.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
CAROLINA HURRICANES—Recalled F Byron Ritchie and F Shane Willis from New Haven of the AHL.
COLORADO AVALANCHE—Acquired F Theo Fleury and F Chris Dingman from the Calgary Flames for F Rene Corbet and D Wade Belak. Assigned G Marc Denis to Hershey of the AHL.
DETROIT RED WINGS—Assigned G Norm Maracle to Adirondack of the AHL.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League
At A Glance
By The Associated Press
All Times EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	33	20	8	74	181	153
Philadelphia	30	17	13	73	187	137
Pittsburgh	32	20	7	71	187	163
N.Y. Rangers	25	28	7	57	169	170
N.Y. Islanders	19	35	7	45	143	183
Northeast Division						
Ottawa	33	18	8	74	170	128
Toronto	34	21	5	73	194	176
Buffalo	28	20	12	68	163	132
Boston	25	24	10	60	154	140
Montreal	24	29	8	56	144	158
Southeast Division						
Carolina	27	23	12	66	160	154
Florida	22	22	16	60	153	159
Washington	25	30	5	55	153	159
Tampa Bay	13	41	5	31	123	214
WESTERN CONFERENCE						
Central Division						
Detroit	31	25	6	68	183	158
St. Louis	25	24	10	60	165	151
Nashville	21	33	6	48	141	193
Chicago	17	37	8	42	136	196
Northwest Division						
Colorado	30	22	8	68	163	147
Edmonton	23	28	9	55	164	156
Calgary	21	29	10	52	155	174
Vancouver	19	33	9	47	148	189
Pacific Division						
Dallas	38	11	9	85	171	116
Phoenix	30	20	10	70	149	136
Anaheim	27	25	9	63	164	150
San Jose	20	27	14	54	135	144
Los Angeles	23	33	5	51	140	162

Saturday's Games
Boston 4, Washington 3
Toronto 4, Florida 1
Montreal 4, Ottawa 1
N.Y. Islanders 3, Detroit 1
Colorado 3, Nashville 1
Carolina 2, Edmonton 2, tie
Anaheim 4, San Jose 1
Sunday's Games
New Jersey 4, Phoenix 1
N.Y. Rangers 6, Philadelphia 5
Washington 4, Pittsburgh 3
Dallas 1, Los Angeles 0
St. Louis 3, Chicago 1
Buffalo 2, Vancouver 0
Monday's Games
San Jose at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Edmonton at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Tuesday's Games
Phoenix at Boston, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Washington at Tampa Bay, 7:05 p.m.
Ottawa at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30 p.m.
Dallas at N.Y. Rangers, 7:30 p.m.
St. Louis at Nashville, 8 p.m.

UConn wins another Big East championship

By The Associated Press

Richard Hamilton gave Connecticut another Big East title and the Huskies also handed Syracuse a little payback in the process.

Hamilton scored 26 points as No. 4 UConn claimed its fifth regular-season conference title in the last six years with a 70-58 victory over the No. 24 Orangemen.

Syracuse beat the Huskies 59-42 earlier this season for UConn's first loss. The Huskies (25-2, 16-2 Big East) played that game without Hamilton and Jake Voskuhl because of injuries.

"We definitely had something to prove, especially without those guys (in the first game) and because they beat us," said Khalid El-Amin, who added 21 for the Huskies. "We wanted to come out and show we're really the best team in the Big East."

UConn, which fell behind by 10 points in the first half, took control in the second.

Syracuse (19-10, 10-8) did not score a basket for a span of 8:30, including the final 3:13 of the first half, as Connecticut rallied from an eight-point deficit with an impressive 23-3 run.

In other Top 25 games, it was No. 3 Michigan State 60, No. 23 Purdue 46; Tennessee 68, No. 13 Kentucky 61; No. 17 College of Charleston 77, Appalachian State 67; and Massachusetts 57, No. 24 Temple 49.

Ryan Blackwell had 20 points and Jason Hart added 11 for Syracuse, which shot just 25.8 percent in the second half, while the Huskies hit 69.6 percent thanks to 10 fast-break layups or dunks.

"Khalid hurt us the most, particularly starting out the second half in transition," Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim said. "We did not do a good job in transition. We just did not get back well. They went with a smaller team."

At West Lafayette, Ind., Morris Peterson led Michigan State (26-4, 15-1) to its school-record 15th straight Big Ten victory. The Spartans previously clinched the regular-season conference crown.

Purdue (19-11, 7-9) saw its hopes for a seventh consecutive NCAA appearance diminish. The Boilermakers would need four victories in the Big Ten tournament to get the conference's automatic bid.

At Knoxville, Tenn., Tony Harris scored 18 points as the Volunteers (20-7, 12-4) upset Kentucky to sweep the Wildcats for the first time in two decades and capture the Southeastern Conference East Division crown.

Kentucky (22-8, 11-5) closed with a fourth consecutive road loss and was led by Scott Padgett's and Michael Bradley's 10 points.

At Greensboro, N.C., Danny Johnson scored 21 points, including a clutch 3-pointer down the stretch, as the Cougars rallied to beat Appalachian State in the Southern Conference championship game.

The victory was the 25th in a row for the Cougars (28-2), who earned an automatic berth to the NCAA tournament with the win.

At Amherst, Mass., Monty Mack hit five 3-pointers and finished with 18 points as the Minutemen (13-15, 9-7 Atlantic-10) held the Owls to just two baskets for nearly the entire second half.

Lamont Barnes had 14 points and eight rebounds to pace the Owls (19-9, 13-3), who lost for just the third time in 16 games.

At Nashville, Tenn., Aubrey Reese hit a running one-handed shot at the buzzer to give Murray State (27-5) a victory over Southeast Missouri in the Ohio Valley Conference championship game. The Racers secured an automatic NCAA Tournament bid with the win.

George Mason (19-10) also received an NCAA tournament berth with a 63-58 victory over Old Dominion in the Colonial Athletic Association championship game.

They join Samford, Winthrop and Stanford, who received automatic bids on Saturday.

Samford (24-5) defeated Central Florida 89-61 for the Trans America Athletic Conference title. Winthrop (21-7) beat Radford 86-74 for the Big South championship. No. 6 Stanford (24-5, 14-2) clinched the Pac-10 crown with a 98-83 win over No. 7 Arizona.

The combined records of the teams already in the NCAAs is 143-34.

Stars shut out Kings, 1-0

DALLAS (AP) — For about 50 minutes, Los Angeles goalie Stephane Fiset outplayed his Dallas counterpart.

Then it was Ed Belfour's turn, and the Stars' All-Star goalie came through with a series of game-saving stops.

Joe Nieuwendyk scored in the game's first minute, and Belfour made 18 saves as the Stars remained unbeaten in their last 16 games against the Kings with a 1-0 victory on Sunday.

"Fiset played real well, but so did Eddie," Stars center Mike Modano said. "Eddie made some big saves down the stretch."

Fiset stopped 34 shots for the Kings, who had a two-game winning streak snapped, but Belfour registered his 44th career shutout and fourth of the season.

The Kings were unable to cash in on a two-man power play over the game's final 37.7 seconds. Los Angeles had six skaters to Dallas' three because the Kings had pulled Fiset with 1:14 to play.

"Toward the end they really kept up the pressure, but our guys were able to block a few shots," Belfour said. "Getting the shutout is nice, but the win is the main thing."

Dallas has won all four meetings this season — and all by one goal

"It's not like any of them have been easy," Nieuwendyk said. "We just seem to match up well against them and do a good job of limiting their speed."

The Stars haven't lost to the Kings since April 6, 1995, a 3-2 defeat at Los Angeles. Dallas is 10-0-6 against Los Angeles over the 16-game span.

Dallas is 7-1-1 in its last nine games, but four of those victories have come by one goal.

"We always seem to make it interesting at the end in our own building," Stars coach Ken Hitchcock said. "We can't seem to put teams away."

The Stars needed only 31 seconds from the opening faceoff to grab a 1-0 lead as Nieuwendyk converted Pat Verbeek's pass on a 2-on-1 break for his 13th goal.

Top seven stays the same in women's college basketball poll

By CHUCK SCHOFFNER
AP Sports Writer

Purdue led a top seven that stayed the same today in The Associated Press women's basketball poll, and Tulane joined at No. 24 as the first newcomer in three weeks.

With one poll remaining in the 1998-99 season, Purdue (27-1) received 37 of 41 first-place votes and 1,020 points from a national media panel to lead the rankings for the second straight week.

No. 2 Tennessee (28-2) received two votes for first and had 983 points after beating Florida, Alabama and Georgia to win the Southeastern Conference tournament for the second consecutive year.

Purdue ran its winning streak to 25 by defeating Northwestern and Ohio State to reach tonight's finals in the Big Ten tournament.

The Boilermakers and Tennessee are expected to get No. 1 seeds when the NCAA tournament field is announced next Sunday.

Louisiana Tech (24-2), which has lost only to Purdue and Tennessee, held at No. 3 with 945 points and was followed by Colorado State, Old Dominion, Connecticut and Rutgers. Louisiana Tech and Colorado State each had one first-place vote.

No. 8 Notre Dame and No. 9 Texas Tech each climbed two places, while Duke fell two spots to 10th after losing to Clemson in the semifinals of the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament.

North Carolina, which will play Clemson for the ACC title, climbed two places to 11th. Then it was Virginia Tech, Clemson, Georgia and Oregon, followed by UCLA, UC Santa Barbara, Penn State, Virginia and Louisiana State.

Iowa State, Alabama, Florida International, Tulane and Kansas held the final five spots.

Tulane (23-5), ranked for two weeks earlier this season, has won six straight after losing three in a row.

The Green Wave, who meet Cincinnati in the Conference USA finals tonight, broke into the poll at No. 24 on Jan. 18, jumped to 18th the following week, then dropped out after losing to Louisville and Cincinnati, both at home.

Auburn, 23rd last week, fell out of the poll after losing to Alabama in its first game in the SEC tournament. The Tigers (19-8), who have lost four of their last five, had been ranked for seven weeks and were as high as 17th.

Other major changes included UC Santa Barbara jumping from 21st to 17th for its highest ranking ever, Clemson climbing three places to 13th and Oregon moving up three spots to 15th.

UCLA fell from 12th to 16th after losing to Washington for the biggest drop within the poll. Virginia Tech, Penn State, LSU and Kansas all fell three spots. Virginia Tech, Penn State and LSU lost in their conference tournaments, while Kansas lost at Kansas State in its regular-season finale.

Albright says trade talks to continue

BEIJING (AP) — Secretary of State Madeleine Albright clashed with Chinese leaders today on China's crackdown on dissidents. But she said the Clinton administration will not punish Beijing by holding up negotiations on China joining the World Trade Organization.

"We determined some time ago that it was not a good idea to link human rights and trade and that we actually make better progress with both when they are not linked," Albright said at a joint news conference with Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan.

In her meetings with Tang and Premier Zhu Rongji, the two sides disagreed on China stifling political dissent and opposition parties, State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said. Albright argued for a universal right to express different views.

"The discussions were forceful, tough and there wasn't a lot of agreement," Rubin said.

Albright "made clear that the crackdowns, the arrests ... have caused substantial and intense reaction in the United States and that she is deeply disturbed by these detentions, trials, punishment for these peaceful political activities."

Tang blamed criticism of China's human rights record on "a handful of anti-China elements" in the United States. He warned that confronting Beijing on the matter is considered an intrusion into the country's internal affairs.

Tang also suggested China would be unhappy if the administration sponsored a resolution condemning China's human rights record at a meeting of the U.N. Human Rights Commission in Geneva this spring. No U.S. decision has been made.

"We have always been opposed to politicizing the human rights question," Tang said, smiling politely. "Practice has proved that confrontation cannot solve the problem. And, secondly, to backtrack in this regard will have no future."

Albright, standing beside Tang at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse, did not address Tang's "anti-China elements" remark.

In their meeting, Albright told him "this was a bipartisan concern" of the administration and Congress, Rubin said. "She did not accept the idea that there was somehow some big conspiracy in the United States against China."

The crackdown, focusing on Chinese trying to form an opposition democratic political party, has resulted in stiff sentences of 11 to 13 years for its leaders.

Just ahead of Albright's visit, Chinese police detained one activist, warned several others not to leave their homes and sentenced another to 1 1/2 years in jail.

Chinese dissidents canceled a meeting on human rights set to begin today because organizers were in detention and police prevented others from attending, said Zha Jianguo, a member of the banned China Democracy Party in Beijing.

Chinese officials strongly objected to U.S. plans to develop a theater missile defense system, which Taiwan wants to use as protection.

Albright told the Chinese leaders the United States has not made a decision on deployment and that such a system is defensive, Rubin said. The secretary also urged the Chinese to help prevent North Korea from developing missiles that are driving the missile protection effort.

A new Pentagon report estimates that by 2005 Beijing may be able to launch effective air and missile strikes against Taiwan, which it considers a renegade province.

China has more than 100 ballistic missiles pointed at Taiwan and has never renounced the use of force to regain the island, although the Pentagon did not predict a Chinese attack.

Albright also discussed with Zhu the possibility of reaching a WTO agreement with China in time for the premier's visit to Washington in April.

Rubin said "there was good intent and good will expressed on both sides," but that detailed WTO negotiations still "have a long way to go."

Joining the WTO would give China low-tariff access to export markets and protect it from sanctions. The United States wants Beijing first to lower more of its tariffs on goods and get rid of other trade barriers so that it does not have a big advantage. Last year, the U.S. trade deficit with China hit a record $57 billion.

Albright also was scheduled to see Chinese President Jiang Zemin on Tuesday before returning to Washington.

Before seeing Zhu, Albright visited China Central Television studios and praised its "Focal Point" program, a "60 Minutes"-style nightly news show that often investigates low-level corruption among Chinese officials and others.

classifieds ...



Danny Cowan



Beverly Taylor



Leslie Stiles

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1 Public Notice

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Sealed proposals addressed to Board of Trustees, Grandview-Hopkins Independent School District, Rt. 1, Box 27, Groom, Texas 79039 herein called "Owner", will be accepted for the Construction of:
GRANDVIEW-HOPKINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
1999 DEMOLITION PROJECT
GROOM, TEXAS
The work will be let under a single stipulated sum agreement for the work as set out in the plans and specifications. Bids will be received at the Grandview-Hopkins School Board Meeting Room located at 18 mi. south of Pampa, Tx. on Hwy. 70 and 2.8 miles west on FM 293, Groom, Texas until 2:00 PM, Wednesday, March 3, 1999. Bids will be opened publicly and will be read aloud at that time. Plans and specifications have been prepared by Stephen L. Butler, Architect, P.O. Box 1307, 300 T-Anchor View, Canyon, Texas 79015 and may be obtained at the School Offices or Jerry Haning Builders, Inc., Construction Manager, 7713 Whippoorwill, Amarillo, Texas 79121. Bids shall be enclosed in a sealed opaque envelope with the name of the project and bid category written on the outside of the envelope. Bidders are required to submit with their bids a certified check or bid bond made out to the Owner as payee or obligee in the amount of five (5) percent of the base bid on bids or $5,000.00, whichever is more made out to Grandview-Hopkins I.S.D. The Bid Bond will be returned to the successful contractor upon completion of the project, less any liquidated damages. A Performance and Payment Bonds will also be required of the successful contractor of successful bidders.
A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be required of the bidders to attend on Wednesday, February 24, 1999, 2 p.m. at the Grandview-Hopkins I.S.D. cafeteria located 18 miles South of Pampa on Hwy. 70 and 2.8 miles West on FM 283, Groom, Texas 79039.
In case of ambiguity or lack of clearness in stating prices in the proposal, the Owner reserves the right to adopt prices written in words or reject any proposal and to waive all formalities.
C-53 Feb. 24, Mar. 1, 1999

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF THE ESTATE OF FRANCES A. OGDEN, DECEASED
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Frances A. Ogden, Deceased were issued to the undersigned on the 17th day of August, 1998, in the proceeding indicated below my signature hereto, which is still pending and that the undersigned now holds such Letters.
All persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same to the undersigned at the address below given, within the time prescribed by law. The residence of the undersigned Executor, Willard Le Roi Ogden, is in Gray County, Texas. The mailing address of the undersigned Executor is 2133 Mary Ellen, Pampa, Texas 79065.
Willard Le Roi Ogden,
Independent Executor of the Estate of Frances A. Ogden, Deceased"
No. 8412
in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, styled " Estate of Frances A. Ogden,
C-54 Mar. 1, 1999

3 Personal

MARY Kay Cosmetics and Skin-care. Facials, supplies, call Deb Stapleton, 665-2095.

BEAUTICONTROL Cosmetics sales, service, makeovers. Lynn Allison 1304 Christine, 669-3848

5 Special Notices

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

14d Carpentry

CUSTOM homes, additions, remodeling, residential / commercial Deaver Construction, 665-0447.

PAINTING, remodeling, add on, roofing, siding, carpentry & small welding. Call Ken 665-1256.

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

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

ADDITIONS, remodeling, all types of home repairs. 25 years local experience. Jerry Reagan 669-3943

14e Carpet Serv.

NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost...It pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541, or from out of town, 800-536-5341. Free estimates.

ESTY Restoration-Carpet, Upholstery Cleaning. Fire & water restoration. Air duct cleaning. (free estimates) Barry Terrell coowner-operator 665-0276 or 883-7021

14h Gen. Serv.

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

FOUNDATION Settling? Cracks in walls, ceilings, brick? Doors won't close? Childers Brothers, 1-800-299-9563.

A-1 Concrete Constr.
All types of Concrete
Call Day or Night
665-2462

14h Gen. Serv.

BRICK REPAIR
Free Estimates!!
Harley Knutson, 665-4237

Limbs B' Gone
Brush and Tree Removal and Trimming.
669-7717 leave message.

Waiting for the City?
Tree trimming & limb disposal.
665-0910 or 669-0004

NAVARRO Masonry. Brick work, block, stucco, stone, and concrete. Fences-all types. 878-3000.

TREE Limb Service. Topping, Trimming & Removal. Reasonable. 665-2222 or 669-7313

14i Gen. Repair

Appliances Broke,
It's No Joke
Call 665-8894
Williams Appliance
We care-We'll be there!

14n Painting

PAINTING reasonable, interior, exterior. Minor repairs. Free estimates. Bob Gorson 665-0033.

TAKE advantage of our Winter rates. Save! 50 yrs. in the business. Happy Painters 665-3214.

Powder Coating Has Made It To Pampa
Powder Coating is a metal coating that is more durable than any paint. It is used to coat most things made of metal. Motorcycle frames, automotive metal parts, lawn furniture, etc. Call for details 665-3798.

14r Plowing/Yard

TREE trimming, yard clean-up, hauling. 21 yrs. experience. Kenneth Banks 665-3672.

14s Plumbing/Heat

JACK'S Faucet Shop, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115. Faucets, Plumbing Supplies & Repair Parts.

JACK'S Plumbing/Heating. New construction, repair, remodeling, sewer & drain cleaning. Septic systems installed. 665-7115.

Larry Baker Plumbing
Heating/ Air Conditioning
Borger Hwy. 665-4392

14t Radio/Tv

RENT TO RENT
RENT TO OWN
We have tvs, VCRs, camcorders, to suit your needs. Rent by hour, day, week. We do service on most major brand of tvs & VCRs. Call for estimate. Johnson Home Enertainment, 2211 Perryton Prkwy. 665-0504.

14u Roofing

ROOFING, tear off, addition, torch ons and all types Free est. 15 yrs. exp. James Lee, 665-7055.

19 Situations

BUSY? I'll do your laundry or ironing. Call 669-0628 after 5 p.m.

21 Help Wanted

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

GANELL Overhead Door Inc.- needs non-smoker, good driving record, steady work with a future. Apply 1000 S. Price Rd.

WANTED - individuals interested in Internet business opportunities. Call 669-0231.

SALES Clerk needed. Retail experience preferred. Apply in person at Rheams Diamond Shop, 111 N. Cuyler.

BABYSITTER needed-prefer in my home. 3 kids, 2-3 times wk. Occ. housework & meals. Ref. req. 669-0227

48 Trees, Shrubs, Plants

Tree Trimming/Removal
General Clean-Up
Call Andy
935-7429 or 935-8647

50 Building Suppl.

White House Lumber
101 S. Ballard
669-3291

HOUSTON LUMBER
420 W. Foster
669-6881

STEEL building, new, must sell. 40x60x14 was $17,430 now $10,671. 50x12x16 was $33,560 now $23,865, 60x150x16 was $48,630 now $32,350. 100x175x20 was $98,650 now $78,650. 1-800-406-5126.

60 Household

JOHNSON HOME FURNISHINGS
Rent 1 piece or house full
Washer-Dryer-Ranges
Bedroom-Dining Room
Livingroom
801 W. Francis 665-3361

2 waterbeds-1 reg. bed, metal frame, soft side, heater, non-wave bladder, 1- queen sz., dual bladders, metal frame, soft side, newly upholstered. 665-8525.

SOLID oak bunk beds, complete with mattresses, ladder, exc. condition! 665-8525

SALE-Pre-Owned washers, dryers, refrigerators, stoves. Bob McGinnis 669-9797, 665-6035, 663-0265.

COUCH, loveseat, 2 recliners, w/ 3 matching oriental type rugs, $450. Call 669-3629

69 Misc.

CHIMNEY Fire can be prevented. Queen Sweep Chimney Cleaning. 665-4686 or 665-5364.

INTERNET ACCESS-
The leading Internet Service provider in the Eastern Texas Panhandle.
PAMPA CYBER NET
1319 N. HOBART
PAMPA, TEXAS
806-665-8501

69 Misc.

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

ANTIQUE Clock Repair, auth. by Ridgeway & Howard Miller. Larry Norton, 669-7916 aft. 5.

2 Generators--5000 watt, 6250 serge, 110, 220, $865 ea. 665-1131, 669-1370.

**CLOTHING ROOM
MARY ELLEN & HARVESTER CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Building across the street, south of Pampa High School)
Open Tues., Mar. 2nd, 9-5 p.m.
or call 665-2373, leave message for appointment.**

FLATBED for 1 ton with Tommy Lift for sale. Call 669-1395.

70 Musical

PIANOS FOR RENT
New and used pianos. Starting at $40 per month. Up to 9 months of rent will apply to purchase. It's all right here in Pampa at Tarpley Music. 665-1251.

77 Livest./Equip.

CATTLE for sale, 55 bred cows, 32 pairs, 11 bred heifers, 25 feeder calves, 11 bulls, ready to go. Will sell them all as a pkg. deal or in smaller groups. 806-835-2792 late evenings.

REGISTERED Red Angus yearling bulls for sale. Call 806-323-6063

80 Pets & Suppl.

CANINE and Feline grooming. Boarding. Science diets. Royse Animal Hospital, 665-2223.

Grooming & Boarding
Jo Ann's Pet Salon
669-1410

The Country Clip
Dog Grooming
Teresa Eubank 665-8714
Sat. appointments avail.

Lee Ann's Grooming
Canine & Feline Grooming
Call
669-9660

BEAUTIFUL black Mini Schnauzers, ready for new homes Feb. 26. Call 669-1935 after 5 p.m.

THE Pampered Pup Grooming & Boarding, Feb. Special - puppies to 4 mo. $10. Mona 669-3836.

FEMALE 1/2 Dachshund 1/2 Pomeranian, free. Call 669-7611

4 Siberian Huskies for sale. 3-females, 1 male. 665-4134 lv. message.

89 Wanted To Buy

NOW buying furniture, appliances, TV's, tools, antiques, Levi's 501 jackets, almost anything, 376-1023.

WILL pay cash for good used furn., appli. Wrights Used Furn., 116 W. Foster, 669-9654, 669-0804.

95 Furn. Apts.

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

NICE 1 bdr. duplex. We pay gas and water. Washer/dryer included. Call 665-3634

ALL bills paid. Furn./ unf. 1, 2 bdrs., short term lease. Courtyard Apts. 1031 N. Sumner, 669-9712.

BEAUTIFULLY furnished 1 bedrooms starting at $335, 6 month lease, pool, laundry on site. Caprock Apts. 1601 W. Somerville, 665-7149.

ROOMS for rent. Showers, clean, quiet, $35 wk. Davis Hotel, 1161/2 W. Foster. 669-9115, 669-9137.

96 Unfurn. Apts.

CLEAN 1 bedroom, stove, refrigerator, all bills paid. 669-3672, 665-5900

DOGWOOD Apts. 2 bedroom, unfurnished. Refer., deposit required. $325 mo. 669-9817, 669-9952

LAKEVIEW Apartments, 1-2 bedrooms. Free gift with move-in. 2600 N. Hobart, 669-7682.

LARGE 1 BDR, appliances, covered parking, laundry. $275 mo. + elec., $100 dep. 1334 N. Coffee, 663-7522, 883-2461.

SCHNEIDER HOUSE APTS.
Seniors or Disabled
Rent Based on Income
120 S. Russell
665-0415
Open House Model Apt. for show, 9-1 p.m.

SENIORS / DISABLED
Pam Apartments
Rent Based on Income
1200 N. Wells, 669-2594

Spring Time Deal!
1/2 off 1st mo. rent. 1,2,3 bdr., starting at $275. 6 mo. lease, pool, fireplaces, washer/dryer hookups in 2 and 3 bedrooms. Caprock Apt. 1601 W. Somerville, 665-7149. Open Sun. 1-4.

97 Furn. Houses

LARGE 1 br., w/car port $310 mo., bills paid. Lrg. 1 br. garage apartment $275 bills paid. 665-4842

3 br., m.h., 2 br. h. $300 ea., water pd., 1 br. h.$175. Lrg. 3 br. h. (unfurn.) $500. 665-1193

98 Unfurn. Houses

2 bdr. house, 1 ba. corner lot, fenced backyard
532 Doucette
669-6881, 669-6973

3 BDR, 2 bath mobile home near Lamar school. Cnt. heat, $350 mo. Rent on HUD, 665-4842.

1 bedroom house, rent on HUD, double garage. 937 S. Sumner, 665-4842.

2 br., 405 Pitts, $225. Nice 3 br. 801 Christy. Lease purchase avail. w/small down. 665-4270 lv. msg.

2 BDR, appliances $275 mo. + $150 dep. 1319 N. Coffee. 663-7522 or 883-2461.

LRG. clean 2 bdr., cent. heat, utility, fence, storage bldg., Sumner str. Realtor 665-4180, 665-5436.

3 Bedroom
404 Lowry
$375 mo./$200 dep.
665-8880

For Lease - 1908 Lynn
$750 month + deposit
References Required
355-7750

CLEAN 2 bdr. duplex, w/d hookups, gar. Lease. Dep. $200, $325 mo., 1908 Beech. 665-7618

2 bedroom house for rent. Will Accept HUD. $275 mo. 669-0767 after 5 p.m. 665-4763, 835-2459

2 bed., cent. heat/air, storm cellar, fp., garage. 1116 Garland. $350 mo, $250 dep. 665-0524

TOP quality 2 br., gar. with opener, fence, carpet, ac, storm windows & door. 669-2961.

2 bdr. brick, 2 ba., 2 car gar., 1 1/2 miles west of Pampa, acreage available. $375 mo. + dep. without acreage. 665-4485.

2 bdr., 2 ba. condo, w/garage, fplace., cathedral ceilings, 1127 E. Harvester. 806-669-6841 office hrs.

2 or 3 bedroom
1214 E. Francis
$250 Month + deposit
665-2254

99 Stor. Bldgs.

TUMBLEWEED ACRES SELF STORAGE UNITS
Various Sizes
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B & W Storage
10x16 10x24
2200 Alcock
669-7275 669-1623

Top O' Texas Storage
10'x20'
6th Month Free!
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Norma Ward REALTY
669-3346
Mike Ward.....669-6413
Jim Ward.....665-1593
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102 Bus. Rent. Prop.

Executive Office
All Bills Paid
105 W. Foster, $275/ mo.
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103 Homes For Sale

!! 4 Immediate Disposal!!
Repo, must sell: brand new R30 insul. pre-fab panel, 4 br. home. 1-800-874-6032

Twila Fisher
Century 21 Pampa Realty
665-3560, 663-1442
669-0007

2314 Mary Ellen-3/1/1-Price to Sell!!
936 Terry Rd.-3/1.75/2 cp-Priced Reduced!!
324 Henry-2/1/1 storm cellar-Priced Reduced!!
Call Jim D. at
Century 21, 669-0007

312 Tignor, 2 bdr., 1 bath, large livingroom, kitchen, cnt. h/a. Call 669-7320 or 665-1131.

4 bedroom house for sale.
612 Hazel
Call 669-2192
after 5 p.m.

Jim Davidson
Century 21-Pampa Realty
669-1863, 669-0007
663-9021

Bobbie Nisbet
Realtor
665-7037

Buying? Selling?
Need Property Manager?
Call Linda C. Daniels C-21
669-2799 or 662-5756

Gail W. Sanders
Corral Real Estate
665-6596

NICE 3 bd., 1 1/2 ba., inside/outside new remodel, back yard w/new fence. 665-5985. Asking $28,000

112 Farms/Ranches

GRAY CO., 35 ACRES
Near McLean on I-40 E Access Rd., good for agriculture, interest reduced to 4%, $150/mo., owner finance, Forest America Group 800-275-7376

114 Recre. Veh.

Bill's Custom Campers
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Pampa, Tx. 79065
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Superior RV Center
1019 Alcock
Parts and Service

115 Trailer Parks

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Free First Months Rent
Storm shelters, fenced lots, and storage units available. 665-0079, 665-2450.

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More POWER to you:
For All Your Real Estate Needs
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116 Mobile Homes

HELP!
Save my credit!
Lost my job!
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Call 800-820-0103 ask for Roxanne.

1989 Solitaire double wide be to moved, 1568 sq. ft. 3 bd., 2 ba., fp., new carpet. Call after 5 p.m. 826-3747

120 Autos

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Chamberlain Motor Co.
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Jerry Don Mackie

1948 Willis Jeep
For Sale
$500
Call 669-0027

120 Autos

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76 CJ7 off road Jeep, no top, no doors, $1500. Call 665-1131, 669-1370.

82 Toyota Supra Celica, t-tops, all elec., runs good. $1,300. 665-5075 or 669-7153.

1996 Mustang GT
Convertible
Call 806-826-5566
9:00am to 4:00pm M-F

121 Trucks

'89 Jeep Comanche, a/c, heater, 4 new tires, toolb., 4 cyl./4 sp., good paint, security sys. exc. gas mileage. 665-8525

FOR Sale: 1994 Chevy S-10 pickup. 4 cylinder, 5 speed, 49,000 miles. $5000, phone 669-3898.

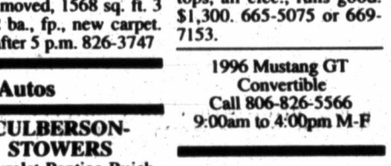
92 Dodge Dakota, 3.9 V6, auto., air, am/fm cass., bed cover, 90k mi., very good cond. $3700. 665-2696

124 Tires & Access.

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CHEVY Pickup tires & rims, mounted & balanced. See at 1700 W. Kentucky. 665-6064

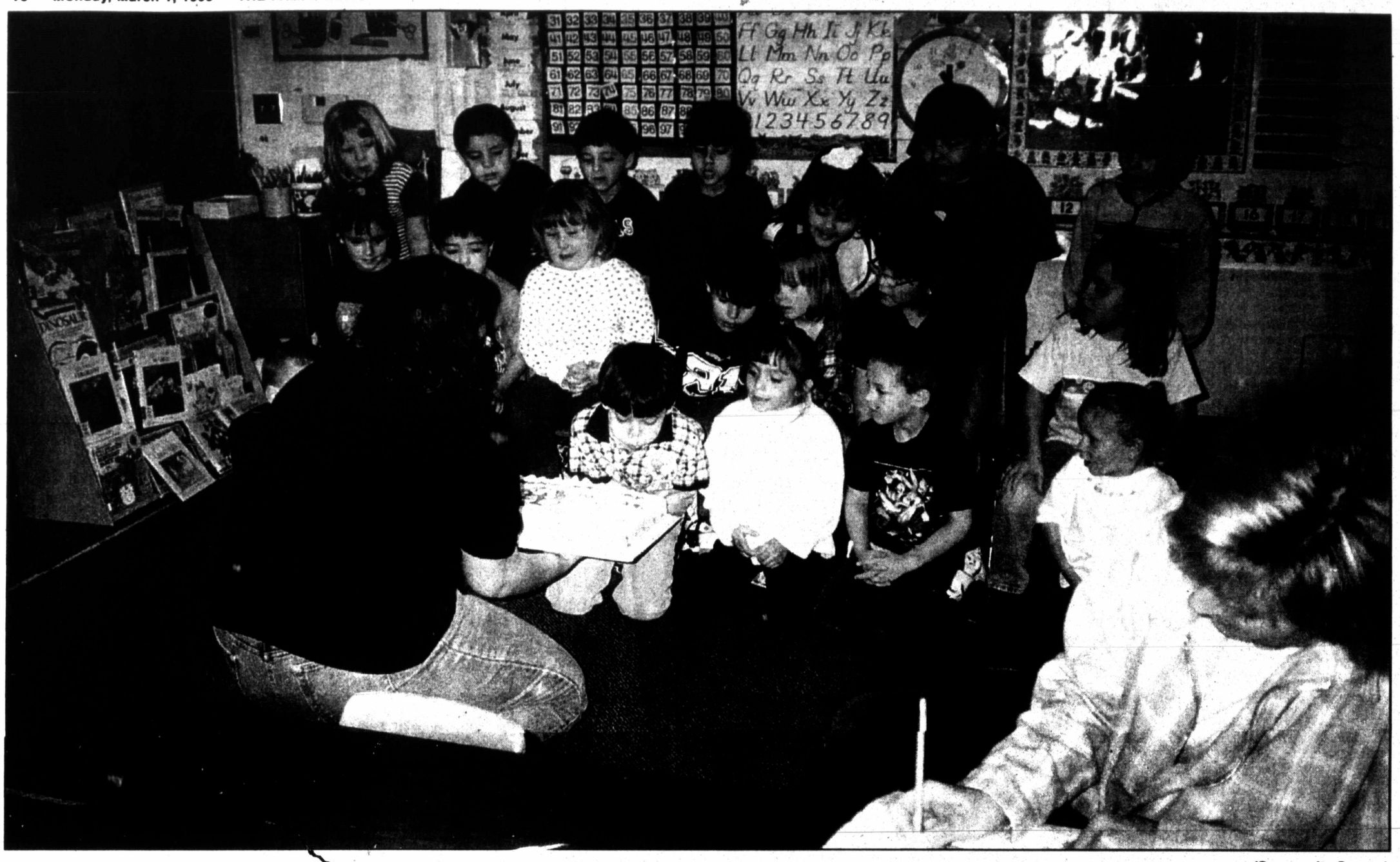
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Model 245, Air Microwave Sound System..... $10,900
DICKEY-STOUT MOTOR RANCH
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1-800-256-7364



(Community Camera)

Mrs. Stucki's Kindergarten class at Woodrow Wilson School take time out from learning to help a class mate celebrate his sixth birthday. With the help of Mom and older sister they brought joy to David Stevens, II on his special day. Front row from left, Tobbey Whisenhunt, Michael Feagin, David Stevens (birthday boy with cake), Karen Jimenez, Cody McIntyre, McKenzie Trusty.

Audit finds IRS not able to balance its books

By CURT ANDERSON
AP Tax Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The federal agency whose threat of an audit strikes fear in the hearts of American taxpayers did a poor job of keeping its own financial books last year, congressional investigators reported today.

The General Accounting Office found that the Internal Revenue Service experienced "serious internal control and financial management issues" that resulted in millions of dollars in fraudulent refunds, failure to keep track of assets like cars and computers and substandard computer security controls.

"The IRS cannot do some of the basic accounting and record-keeping tasks that it expects American taxpayers to do," said Gregory Kutz, who oversaw the audit for GAO.

"Think of this as not balancing your checkbook with the monthly bank statement, and at the same time having a system prone to error," Kutz told the House Government Reform Committee's panel on government management.

IRS officials were quick to take full responsibility for the problems, which they said were largely rooted in the agency's antiquated computer systems. But they were clearly embarrassed by the report, coming as it does while the IRS attempts to become more efficient and more customer-friendly.

"I am deeply disappointed that we failed to meet our obligations," said Donna Cunninghame, IRS chief ancial officer. "This is unacceptable."

The GAO found IRS did a good job of collecting $1.8 trillion in tax revenue in fiscal 1998. The problems were found in the agency's administration of an $8.1 billion annual budget. They include:

—At least $17 million paid out in fraudulent refunds in the first nine months of 1998. Another $65 million in refunds were stopped by IRS investigators.

—Improper paperwork to keep track of items such as a Chevrolet Blazer, a $300,000 laser printer, laptop computers, televisions and fax machines. Most of these were accounting errors, not thefts.

—Poor computer security, including controls on access to sensitive taxpayer information.

—Inadequate controls over basic financial reporting, inability to focus on accounts most likely to result in tax collection and failure to reconcile IRS balances with Treasury Department records.

Many of these problems are chronic, and Cunninghame said the new management team at IRS is redoubling efforts to eliminate them. She pledged improved performance in fiscal 1999, but said the agency's computer systems must be modernized for a long-term fix.

"It will take time, and it won't be easy," she said. "The IRS must replace nearly its entire inventory of computer applications."

Lawmaker attacks hepatitis C with education/prevention bill

AUSTIN (AP) — A Texas lawmaker has filed a bill calling for statewide education and prevention programs focusing on the threat of hepatitis C.

Rep. Glen Maxey's bill also calls for a prevalence study that would put Texas at the forefront of the national response to the epidemic.

Such a study would involve giving blood tests to a sample of the state's population and analyzing the results to determine the prevalence of infection among different geographic areas and demographic populations.

The Austin Democrat said he drafted the bill in the hope that the state could "get ahead of the curve" in its response to hepatitis C.

"With HIV we waited too late and, in effect, let the disease get in front of the public-health concerns where it truly got to epidemic proportions," Maxey told the Houston Chronicle.

Maxey's bill also calls for hepatitis C testing and counseling to be provided in state-funded clinics that now provide HIV testing and counseling.

Several public health officials and advocates said they are unaware of any state that has undertaken a study such as the one proposed in Maxey's bill.

"I think states are just starting to see the need for that sort of thing," said Helen Fox Fields, senior director of infectious disease policy for the National Association of State and Territorial Health Officials.

Ms. Fields said such studies would be extremely useful in planning public-health policy for hepatitis C.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that about 4 million Americans, or about 1.8 percent of the population, are infected. If this percentage, which some experts believe is low, is applied to the Texas population, it yields an estimate of about 360,000 Texans infected with hepatitis C.

Dr. Sharon Melville, director of HIV/STD epidemiology in the Texas Department of Health, said the study proposed in Maxey's bill would provide more precise numbers for Texas.

Maxey acknowledged that services provided by the state if his bill is passed would be costly. He conceded that it might be difficult to pass the bill in its entirety, but he hopes funding can be found at least for the study.

Regardless, he said, the bill force lawmakers to talk about the threat of hepatitis C.

"I don't think it's on anybody's radar screen," Maxey said.

Toddler killed by pit bull

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A 14-month-old boy died after being mauled by his family's pit bull dog in their back yard.

Paramedics sent to the home on Sunday found that flesh had been ripped from the youngster's face, said Fire Department spokesman Brian Humphrey. The boy, whose name was not released, died later at Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center, said hospital spokeswoman Adelaida De La Cerda.

An 11-year-old neighbor heard the dog growling.

"I saw that (the boy) was fighting off the dog and called for his parents but no one heard me, that's when I called my parents," Adrian Banuelos said. His father called paramedics.

It was unclear what provoked the dog, and the family said it was the first time the animal had attacked anyone, said Officer Joe Estrada.

Animal control officers took custody of the dog.

$pend at home.
$upport Pampa's merchants ...

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New Shipment of Adidas Spring Clothing and Tear-Away Windpants
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The city was without power for hours on end.
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Internet power for the new millennium.