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SEE PAGE 6



THE PAMPA NEWS

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Wednesday, February 22, 2006

Volume 101 • No. 1201

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Early voting turnout average

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

The first day of early voting in the March primary election ended at 5 p.m. Tuesday with 63 ballots cast, an average turnout, according to the Gray County Clerk's office.

The primary election is the first local election in which new electronic voting machines are available for use. The machines were bought by Gray County as the result of a federal mandate requiring that they be available for all voters as of Jan. 1.

"It was not hard. And there is a person who will help you if you have trouble. It didn't seem like it took longer," said JoAnn Jones of Pampa after she cast her votes Tuesday afternoon on one of the new machines.

Paper ballots are also

available for those who prefer the more traditional method of voting.

Tuesday's ballot total falls in between the extremes of other recent elections. In the May 11, 2004 primary runoff, 17 votes were cast the first day of early voting.

The general election concerning several constitutional amendments and the formation of a new economic development corporation for Pampa drew 216 votes on the first day of early voting, Oct. 25, 2005.

Early voting continues between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays in the second-floor courtroom at the courthouse through March 3. Election day is March 7, when voters may cast their ballots between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. at precinct polling

See VOTING, Page 3



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
Gray County Clerk Susan Winborne uses a wheel measure to check distances from the south door of the courthouse. No political advertising may be displayed within 100 feet of the entrance to the site of early voting, she said.

PEDC to deal with Top 10 list

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

The Pampa Economic Development Corporation is working through their top 10 list.

At Tuesday night's meeting, they developed 10 objectives and tasks that need to be dealt with immediately.

Kathy Cota, the group's secretary, said that gives the economic development corporation a starting point.

"We need to hire legal counsel," Cota said. "We need to look at insurance for our board."

Shawn Clifton, the corporation's treasurer, drew up a budget and presented it at Tuesday's meeting.

"We're going to take that

to the city commission the next time they meet and ask for a loan," Cota said.

That should be at 4 p.m. Tuesday at City Hall.

The Pampa EDC discussed administrative support and finding office space.

They also discussed hiring an executive director.

The corporation is exploring the possibility of putting up a Web site and finding out what labor market information they need.

The Pampa EDC is also looking for organizations with whom they can form partnerships and joining the Texas Economic Development Corporation.

See PEDC, Page 3

2 hospitalized after accident south of town

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Two Amarillo women were taken to Pampa Regional Medical Center by Guardian EMS ambulance after their Oldsmobile Silhouette was involved in a collision with a semitrailer flatbed rig Tuesday afternoon on Highway 70.

The names and other information on the women and on the Houston man who was driving the rig were not available as of press time today.

Texas Department of Public Safety investigated the accident. Two units

See CRASH, Page 3

O'Brien officially chosen to lead WT

COLLEGE STATION — J. Patrick O'Brien, dean of the College of Business Administration and professor of economics at Loyola University New Orleans, was named president of West Texas A&M University Tuesday in a unanimous vote during a telephonic meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System.

Chancellor Robert D. McTeer recommended O'Brien's appointment, which is effective May 15. The board named O'Brien the sole finalist for the position at its Jan. 27 meeting following a national search. O'Brien was one of three candidates forwarded by an 18-member search advisory

committee through McTeer to the board for consideration. State law requires a 21-day public notice period before a finalist can be officially appointed.

O'Brien, a Tennessee native who has degrees from Auburn University and Oklahoma State University, has been dean and professor at Loyola since 1995. Before going to Loyola, he held the positions of dean at Jacksonville State University, head of the department of economics at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and visiting associate professor of agricultural economics at Auburn.

Under his leadership at Loyola, the College of

See O'BRIEN, Page 3

Mardi Gras party to benefit Chris Martinez

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

A Mardi Gras party to raise funds for medical expenses of Chris Martinez, 35, of Pampa will be March 4 at The Lone Star, 1300 S. Barnes.

Martinez suffered head injuries, facial lacerations and a broken back when he was ejected from a vehicle Nov. 22, 2004, near Price, Utah, between Provo and Moab, according to his brother, Miguel, also known as "Mikey."

Martinez was traveling with his mother, father, brother and daughter at the time of the accident, and was

the only one seriously injured. The other occupants of the vehicle suffered only minor injuries, Mikey said.

Martinez was released from BSA Hospital in Amarillo on Feb. 6.

"His head trauma hasn't totally cleared up," Mikey said. "His short-term memory is coming along. They're pleased with the way his therapy's been coming along."

Martinez, who was employed at National Oilwell at the time of the Nov. 22 accident, must use a wheelchair to move about.

"He didn't injure his spinal cord,

so we're hopeful that in time he'll be walking again," Mikey said.

The Utah crash was not the first major accident for Martinez. He was also badly injured in a motorcycle accident about a year ago, according to Wendy Henderson.

The Mardi Gras party will begin at 7 p.m. March 4 and continue until 1 a.m. A silent auction and live auction will be held, along with a 50/50 raffle and door prize giveaways.

Donations entitle those attending to participate in dancing to two bands, Bo Salin & The Brakes Are All Gone and a small jazz band,

along with drinks, dancing and door prizes.

An advance donation of \$20 per single or \$30 per couple will be collected. Donations at the door will be \$25 per person.

Advance tickets are available at The Hamburger Station, 11820 Highway 60, and Onie's, 1222 N. Price Road, or call Wendy at 806-440-1463 or Trina at 806-662-4032.

A fund has been established at Bank of America for all donations. Checks may be made to the Miguel A. Martinez Special Fund.

Martinez' family owns El Mejor Restaurant in Pampa.

Be An Early Bird ... Sign Up Now!
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Watch For Entry Forms In Your February Newsletter "or" Online At www.coc.pampa.com

Obituaries

Services tomorrow

KLEY, John T. — 2 p.m., Abundant Life Assembly of God Church, Canadian.
SIMMONS, Willa Mae — Graveside services, 2 p.m., St. Louis Cemetery, Eunice, La.
WYLIE, Oral Edward "Ed" — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

Richard (Dick) L. Burkhardt, 83

Richard (Dick) L. Burkhardt passed from this life to his eternal home on February 18, 2006, in his home in Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

Dick was born May 21, 1922, to his parents, William H. Burkhardt and Mary Francis Perkins, in Haskew, Oklahoma. He grew up on the family farm near Moreland, Oklahoma and graduated from Moreland High School. He served in the Army Air Force during WWII (1942-1945) as a Radio Operator and Mechanic.

He lived in Pampa, Texas from 1955-2001. Dick was married to Velma Elizabeth Carter in Pampa, Texas, January 1, 1971, until her death in April of 2003.

While living in Pampa, he worked as a police officer for Pampa Police Department in the 1950's, as an auto mechanic and service department manager for Montgomery Ward, and as a security guard for Cabot and Ingersoll Rand until his retire-

ment.

He loved music and enjoyed playing the drums, bass guitar, steel guitar, and being a vocalist in several local country western bands. While in Pampa, he was a member of Zion Lutheran Church.

In 2001, he moved with his wife, Velma, to Claremore, Oklahoma, to be near family. Following her death, he moved with his son and daughter-in-law, Rev. and Mrs. Mark Carter to their home in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. He was currently a member of Redeemer Lutheran Church of Bartlesville.

Preceding him in death are his parents, three brothers and five sisters, his wife, Velma Burkhardt, and one son, Robert W. Carter. Survivors include his sister, Alma Dean Stanly of Elk City, Oklahoma; daughter, Judy Burkhardt Mackey of Paris, Tennessee; daughter Sharon Carter-Valdez and her husband, Phil,

of Austin, Texas; son, Mike Carter and his wife, Kitty, of Phoenix, Arizona; daughter, Carolyn Wardlow of Waco, Texas; and son, Mark Carter and his wife, Karla, of Bartlesville, Oklahoma; 10 grandchildren; and numerous great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m., Friday, February 24, at Zion Lutheran Church of Pampa, Texas with committal following at Memory Gardens Cemetery of Pampa. Officiating will be the Rev. Mark E. Carter of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Local cremation arrangements were directed by the Stumpff, Funeral Home & Crematory.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in his name to Redeemer Lutheran Church, 3700 SE Woodland Road, Bartlesville, OK 74006 or to Zion Lutheran Church, 1200 Duncan, Pampa, TX 79065.

Jimmy Joe 'J.J.' Thomas, 64

STINNETT — Jimmy Joe "J.J." Thomas, 64, of Stinnett, died Monday, Feb. 20, 2006, at Golden Plains Community Hospital in Borger. Graveside services are scheduled at 2 p.m.

Friday in White Deer Cemetery at White Deer with the Rev. Jerry Moon, pastor of Biblical Apostolic Church of Borger, officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Brown Funeral Directors of Borger.

Mr. Thomas was born April 13, 1941, at Lubbock. An oil field driller by occupation, he belonged to Biblical Apostolic Church and was a veteran of the U.S. Army.

He married Wenona McBee on Sept. 26, 1959, at Fritch.

Mr. Thomas was preceded in death by a son, Curtis Ray Thomas in 1981; his father, Joseph Thomas in 1952; and

a brother, Jerry Lynn Thomas in 1943.

Survivors include his wife, Wenona; four sons, Jerry Thomas, James Thomas, Arian Thomas, all of Stinnett, and Haywood Thomas of Panhandle; two daughters, Karen Purcell of Stinnett and Mary Ellen Dorman of Pampa; his mother, Pauline Pike of Amarillo; two sisters, Mary Molina of Red Oak and Tammy Young of Tyler; three brothers, Tim Brazeal of Maryville, Tenn., Bobby Brazeal of Springtown and Roger Brazeal of Tyler; 16 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Willa Mae Simmons, 83

Willa Mae Simmons, 83, of Pampa, Texas, daughter, Juanette Hutto and husband Howard of Ellisville, Miss.; two brothers, the Rev. Andrew Hebert of Lydia, La., and Dewey Hebert of Florida; three sisters, Ella Laughlin of Elton, La., Daisy Bonin of Tioga, La., and Noonie Toups of New Iberia, La.; one sister-in-law, Dorothy Hebert of Slidell, La.; six grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.



Simmons

She was preceded in death by a brother, Harry Hebert.

The family requests memorials be to Odyssey Healthcare, 6900 I-40 West, Suite 150, Amarillo, TX 79106.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

Oral Edward 'Ed' Wylie, 96

Oral Edward "Ed" Wylie, 96, of Pampa, Texas, died Feb. 19, 2006, at Pampa.

Services will be at 2 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 23, 2006, at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Charles Lowry, pastor of the Crosspoint Baptist Church, officiating.

Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Wylie was born June 9, 1909, in Collins County, Texas, to Thomas and Caroline Wylie. He had been a resident of Pampa for the past 65 years. He was employed by the Pampa Independent School District for many years. He was a member of the First Baptist



Wylie

Church and the International Order of the Oddfellows.

He was blessed with three loving wives who all preceded him in death. He was also preceded in death by parents; eight brothers; and two sisters.

Survivors include one step-daughter, Ruby May Hargrove of Lone Wolf, Okla.; two stepgranddaughters; and two stepgrandsons; and many loving nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 6-8 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2006.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Six traffic stops were made. Traffic complaints were received from the 700 block of West Browning, the 500 block of North Frost and the 1100 block of Sirroco.

Motorist assistance was rendered in the 100 block of South Hobart.

Vehicle accidents were reported on Highway 70 South and the 1200 block of North Hobart, where at least one arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Lost property was reported in the police department lobby. A cell phone was lost.

An unattended death was reported in the 100 block of West 30th Avenue.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 1200 block of North Russell.

One burglar alarm was reported.

Warrant service was attempted on two occasions, resulting in at least one arrest.

Information on a welfare check was received in the police department lobby.

A welfare check was made in the 1100 block of South Christy.

A civil matter was reported in the 200 block of North Wells.

Information on a suspicious person was received in the police department lobby.

A suspicious person call

was received from the 2600 block of Charles

A narcotics violation was reported in the 1600 block of North Sumner.

Theft was reported in the 300 block of East Brown.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 100 block of Lowry and the 600 block of East Foster. No injuries were reported in either incidence.

A domestic disturbance and interference with an emergency call were reported in the 700 block of North Christy.

Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the following accident today.

Tuesday, Feb. 21
 1:37 p.m. — An Oldsmobile Silhouette, unknown year, driven by an Amarillo woman, and a semi-tractor-trailer flatbed rig, driven by a Houston man, collided 18 miles south of Pampa on Highway 70. The driver of the Silhouette and her passenger, also an Amarillo woman, were taken to Pampa Regional Medical Center by ambulance with non-life-threatening injuries.

4:08 p.m. — A 1987 Ford F-150 Lariat, driven by Billie Davis Turner, 73, 1513 N. Zimmers, and a 2002 Chevrolet Silverado, driven by Jerry Keith Mulanax, 22, 908 S. Wells, collided at the intersection of Kentucky and

Sumner streets. No injuries were reported. Turner was cited for failure to yield right of way at a stop sign.

Sheriff

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests today.

Tuesday, Feb. 21
 Edward Jewel Sargent, 38, of Pampa was arrested in the 300 block of East Brown by Pampa Police Department on capias pro fines for speeding, failure to appear, no valid driver's license and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

Amanda Rene Cook, 18, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for theft by check.

Harold Gene Pendergrass, 67, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO on two counts of violating a protective order.

Fire

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

Tuesday, Feb. 21
 1:38 p.m. — Two units and five personnel responded to the area of Highway 70 and FM 2477 on a vehicle accident.

3:48 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the intersection of Hobart and Somerville on a vehicle accident.

See RECORD, Page 3

CITY BRIEFS

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

50TH YEAR- Pancakes & Bacon, all trimmings, St. Matthew's Parish Hall, 727 W. Browning, Tues. February 28th, 5-8 p.m. Tickets \$5, preschool free. Day School Support Group Bake Sale & Scholastic Book Fair

ESTATE SALE 19th & Mary Ellen. Household & Everything for that office. Ref. Furs, something for everyone. Don't miss this one. Sat 9-4 & Sun 1-4. Check w/ ID.

ON FEBRUARY 25th, beginning at 2:30 p.m., a Reception will be held in Fellowship Hall of the McLean United Methodist Church to celebrate the 75th birthday of Johnny Haynes. All friends are invited!

ONION PLANTS, The Potting Shed, 410 E. Foster, (greenhouse behind Freeman's). Open 1-4, Mon.-Fri.

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Our purchase of Freeman's Flowers included the use of the Freeman name, but only for a period of time. We are pleased now to announce our new name **Pampa Flowers & Greenhouse** which better reflects our close association and relationship with Pampa; its friendly people and their strength as a unified community."

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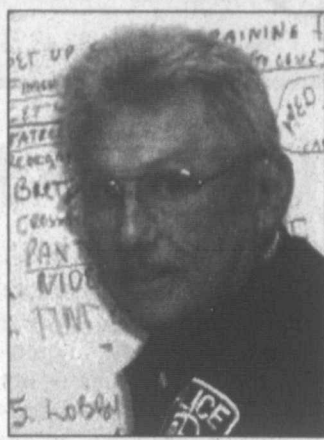
I know there are very few people who don't like pets. We are fortunate to have three individuals who make it their business to see the pets and animals in Pampa are well cared for.

The Animal Control Section is nearly as big as the whole Special Services Division. I would like to thank the city commissioners for restoring a position to Animal Control. That third person has made a big difference in the operations of Animal Control.

As you all know, the animal control officers have a responsibility to keep strays off the street. They have a duty to find that one dog that bit a child. They have the bitter task of putting down pets they can't find a home for.

You might think, after several years, you become immune to your feelings about putting a dog or cat to sleep. I'm proud to know that our officers haven't gotten there and try to find a place for every adoptable animal.

Another job the animal control officers have to do is picking up dogs, cats, squirrels, and other animals that fall prey to automobiles. People say a cop's job is bad, but we don't do



Lt. Fred Courtney

that.

I hope everyone has seen the new striping being sported on the Animal Control trucks because they look good. The officers work on a rotating schedule so that an animal control officer is on duty seven days a week.

You might get a ticket from one of the officers for your dog being loose, but I'll bet you probably had a note left on your door warning of the consequences. Our Animal Control Officers work hard and make some hard decisions, but they do it out of concern for all Pampa residents.

Cop Corner is provided by Pampa Police Department and Lt. Fred Courtney.

Thornberry backs farm bill extension

WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry says it would be unfair to our nation's agriculture producers to write a new farm bill in the midst of ongoing international trade negotiations. Thornberry filed legislation recently to extend the current farm bill until the Doha round of World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations is complete.

"Our nation's farmers and their lenders should not be asked to operate under rules that keep changing," Thornberry said. "We should get fairer global trading rules in place first before we write the next farm bill."

The current farm bill was approved in 2002, and many of its provisions are scheduled to expire in 2007. Congress has begun preliminary work on the next farm bill.

But, unless the Doha

process can be completed before the current farm bill expires, Congress will attempt to write a new farm bill without a clear understanding of the trade conditions that the new WTO agreement will create. Thornberry wants to prevent the possibility that a new farm bill could wind up putting American farmers at a competitive disadvantage when new international trade rules are later established.

Under H.R. 4775, the 2002 farm bill will remain in effect while the Doha negotiations continue. The bill will also keep the current farm bill in place for at least one crop year after Congress has approved legislation to implement any eventual Doha agreement.

"I believe extending the current farm bill will help our trade negotiators by making the point that we are

insisting on a more level playing field with regard to market access, domestic support, and export assistance," he said. "Producers I talk to have said they like the

2002 farm bill's structure. We should be careful about making changes until we know what will result from the Doha negotiations."

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Voting

Continued from Page 1

places. The offices of U.S. Senator and U.S. District 13 Representative are up for election, as are state offices of governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, comptroller of public accounts, commissioner of the general land office, commissioner of agriculture, railroad com-

missioner, District 88 state representative, a member of the state board of education and a number of state Supreme Court and appeals courts positions.

District and county offices in the March 7 primary are 31st and 223rd District judges, 31st District attorney, district clerk, county clerk, county treasurer, inspector of hides and animals, justices of the peace Precincts 2 and 4, county commissioners, and county chairmen for both political parties.

PEDC

Continued from Page 1

"That is the state's EDC," Cota said. "We need to see what we can do to

become a member and work with them."

The next Pampa Economic Development Corporation meeting is 11 a.m., March 9, in the commission chambers of City Hall.

Crash

Continued from Page 1

and five firefighters from Pampa Fire Department responded and assisted Guardian personnel in removing the women from their vehicle and placing them in the ambulance.

Gray County Sheriff's Office also responded to the scene and provided traffic control.

The accident was reported at 1:37 p.m. The driver

of the van reportedly had pulled to the side of the road and began a U-turn when the truck collided with her van. Both vehicles had been southbound until the van began the turn.

The accident occurred 18 miles south of Pampa. The women's injuries were thought by accident workers to be non-life-threatening. The driver of the rig was not injured in the accident.

The Silhouette sustained heavy damage to the front end as a result of the collision.

Record

Continued from Page 2

10:15 p.m. — One unit and four personnel responded to the 1100 block of South Banks on a carbon monoxide check.

Ambulance

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Tuesday, Feb. 21

9:28 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Jordan prison unit and

transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

11:18 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 400 block of Jupiter and transported a patient to PRMC.

1:41 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Highways 70 and 2477 and transported two patients to PRMC.

5:56 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 12000 block of East Highway 60 and transported a patient to BSA in Amarillo.

9:07 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1200 block of North Wells. No transport.

O'Brien

Continued from Page 1

Business Administration increased its endowment from \$1.6 million to \$9.7 million and increased the number of endowed chairs and professorships from two to 17. In 2004, the college was ranked seventh in

the nation by The Princeton Review for providing opportunities for minority students.

West Texas A&M is the northernmost senior institution of higher learning in Texas. The university has an enrollment of nearly 7,300 and offers one doctoral program, 43 masters' programs and 61 undergraduate degree programs.

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PAMPA
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Viewpoints

According to Tim Kane, wage gap relative

Tim Kane, one of the top scholars on economic policy issues at the Heritage Foundation think tank, is no ivory-tower intellectual. A former software company entrepreneur and former college economics professor, the U.S. Air Force Academy grad has done government research work for Congress, the CIA and several defense agencies. I talked to him recently by phone from his offices in Washington about one of his areas of expertise — the income gap between rich and poor.

Q: We constantly hear complaints in the media about rising inequality. What are they talking about?

A: It's true. Critics say that the poor are falling behind. It's a loaded phrase,

because the average American would hear that as "the rich are getting richer, and the poor are getting poorer," the old refrain — which statistically is not true. The poor are not getting poorer, the poor are getting wealthier. The debate has really transitioned from a disagreement over poverty in America to a conversation about inequality, brought as an indictment that there is rising inequality. Superficially, you can see this in the stories about CEO pay, which can seem awfully outrageous. But the statistical argument is that rising inequality is dangerous and it is not conducive to a democracy; it's an embodiment of class distinction, and there's this dystopia of class

warfare on the horizon.

There are two problems with that. One is that it is tangential to poverty issues. And two is, the fears are pretty much make-believe. It's a Chicken Little scenario that someday there will be such great inequality that the rich might become disengaged from the poor and won't want to pay taxes anymore.

God forbid that there'd be smaller government, right? It's what I call "income relativism." Income relativism is where there are a group of critics who have decided they can't win the argument over poverty — because in

fact poverty is declining in America. Instead, they are left with just comparing incomes relative to another.

Q: They make it sound like this is threat to the entire fabric of our republic — this widening wealth gap. But are the poorest 20 percent of



Bill Steigerwald
Columnist

American households worse off or better off than they were in 1980?

A: In dollar terms, they are wealthier. There are a couple problems with that though. One is, it's not the same 20 percent. This is one of my first complaints about this type of analysis. There's always a bottom quintile. No matter

where you are, if everybody's gotten 10 percent wealthier, there's still a group that's the bottom quintile. What's interesting is, it's not the same group of individuals. There's so much mobility that the majority of people in each quintile have moved. They've either moved up or they've moved down. They've moved on to a different job. Maybe they've retired. Maybe they are newborns and weren't around the last time the income survey was taken.

The idea that you can take a snapshot of U.S. incomes and get an accurate perspective on relative incomes is just deeply flawed at the beginning — and it's not a flaw that can be really remedied. It's just not the right

way to look at the world. The right way to look at the world is, "Are the poor getting poorer or is there a lack of opportunity?" And the answer to that is, "Definitely no." We're still a great nation of opportunity.

Q: Yet there is real poverty in America. Who are they? Where are they?

A: I think the incidence of real poverty is pretty self-evident. It's almost like the homeless issue. It's very hard to get a count, but you see the evidence with your own eyes. I'm not an expert on what the real poverty is, but it's pretty clear that it's not the 12 percent that is used from the Census Department data. What I think happens when the Left

See GAP, Page 8

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 22, the 53rd day of 2006. There are 312 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 22, 1732, the first president of the United States, George Washington, was born at his parents' plantation in the Virginia Colony.

On this date:

In 1819, Spain ceded Florida to the United States.

In 1879, Frank Winfield Woolworth opened a 5 cent store in Utica, N.Y.

In 1889, President Cleveland signed a bill to admit the Dakotas, Montana and Washington state to the Union.

In 1892, "Lady Windermere's Fan," by Oscar Wilde, was first performed, at London's St. James's Theater.

In 1924, Calvin Coolidge delivered the first presidential radio broadcast from the White House.

In 1935, it became illegal for airplanes to fly over the White House.

'The passion for setting people right is in itself an afflictive disease.'

— Marianne Moore
American poet
(1887-1972)

In 1973, the United States and Communist China agreed to establish liaison offices.

In 1980, the United States Olympic hockey team upset the Soviets at Lake Placid, N.Y., 4-3. (The U.S. team went on to win the gold medal.)

In 1984, a 12-year-old Houston boy known publicly only as "David," who'd spent most his life in a plastic bubble because he had no immunity to disease, died 15 days after being removed from the bubble for a bone-marrow transplant.

In 1987, pop artist Andy Warhol died at a New York City hospital at age 58.

Ten years ago: The space shuttle Columbia blasted into orbit on a mission to unreel a satellite on the end of a 12.8-mile cord. President Clinton announced he would nominate Alan Greenspan to a third term as chairman of the Federal Reserve. Russia and the head of the International Monetary Fund reached a deal for a loan of more than \$10 billion to back up free-market reforms.

Five years ago: President Bush held his first full-fledged presidential news conference, in which he defended his tax-cutting and budget-tightening plans and gave FBI director Louis Freeh a vote of confidence following the arrest of veteran agent Robert Hanssen on spying charges. A U.N. war crimes tribunal convicted three Bosnian Serbs standing trial on charges of rape and torture in the first case of wartime sexual enslavement to go before an international court.



Exploring the myth of 'equal opportunity'

Former President Jimmy Carter made a statement recently that neatly sums up the flawed premise of most liberals. He said the black faces of the poor means we have yet to achieve equal opportunity in America.

Implicit in that statement is the assumption that equal opportunity will mean equal success. That's false. We desperately need to dump this human myth so that we can get on with more realistic programs.

It is humanly impossible to create equal opportunity. No child born in a poor household will have an opportunity equal to that of a child born to wealthy parents. It doesn't mean the poor child can't succeed. There are numerous examples of that, Oprah Winfrey being only the latest and most well known. But the chances for success are heavily weighted for the child whose parents are affluent.

A child born with an IQ of 95 will not have the same opportunity to succeed as

will a child born with an IQ of 145. A sickly or handicapped child will not have the same opportunity for success as a healthy child. A child born into a dysfunctional family will not have the same opportunity to succeed as a child born into a healthy family. A child born in Zaire will not have the same opportunity to succeed as a child born in the U.S. or in Switzerland.

Somehow, a notion was created that all human beings are identical units stamped out by some cosmic cookie cutter. We are not. We are all different. We are all born into different circumstances. It is impossible for any government or any set of government programs to erase those individual differences and those different circumstances. Consequently, the end result of human lives will never be uniform.

There will always be rich

and poor. There will always be successes and failures. There will always be triumphs and tragedies. That is the human condition, and it is immutable. Now, does that mean that we have to throw up our hands and revert to Charles Darwin's law of the fittest and to hell with the hindmost? Not if we value a decent society. There are some things we can do to smooth out, if not eliminate, differences.

Public schools, which are 100 percent creations of the government, should be equal in material and human resources. There is no excuse for children in one part of town to attend a broken-down school while children in another neighborhood attend a fully equipped modern school. Equality of government resources is achievable.

I've come to believe that

we must adopt a national health-insurance program that will provide basic medical care to all citizens regardless of age or income. Every other industrialized nation has already done this, and the U.S. needs to junk its patchwork system and get on the train.

We also need workable food and housing supplementary programs. A free market, distorted as it is today by speculation and inflation, does not do a good job of providing affordable housing for people with limited incomes. If we want a decent society, then we have to make sure that even personal failure does not result in sleeping on the street and suffering malnutrition or starvation.

I suppose this brands me as a liberal. Well, I've never feared labels. I simply do not want my grandchildren to grow up in a society in which they have to step over people's bodies and live in fortified compounds to protect

See REESE, Page 8

Charley Reese
Columnist



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True, the EPA has not imposed those sanctions before, but, given the Republicans' political disarray, the face of Washington may look very different by 2010. Besides, environmental groups have already shown themselves willing to sue the EPA if it fails to act. TXU, which wants to build the largest of the new plants, makes several arguments: that coal technology is

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THE PAMPA NEWS

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Advertising Director: ReDonn Woods

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

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

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Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ Feb. 20

The Dallas Morning News on coal-burning plants:

Back in October, when Gov. Rick Perry signed an executive order expediting the permitting process for seven proposed coal-fired power plants, the cost of natural gas was around \$14 per million BTU (British thermal units). That hurricane-induced spike, on top of the already steep price increases of the past few years, spurred the governor's interest in coal.

Texas does possess coal in abundance, and its price, compared to gas, is very stable. Unfortunately, coal is also

dirty which is one reason natural gas has become the dominant fuel among electric producers. And, coincidentally or not, the governor's order forces state regulators to approve or deny the new permits just months before the state must tell the federal government how it will achieve massive reductions in nitrogen oxides, which coal-fired plants emit.

Meanwhile, the cost of natural gas has fallen by half.

Texas clearly needs a diversity of energy sources, especially renewable ones such as wind, solar and biomass. It probably also needs to use more coal. But rushing to put more than a half dozen new coal-burning plants on the map just ahead of new air quality rules is foolhardy.

Prevailing winds will blow some of the plants' emissions into the Dallas area, which is at severe risk of failing to meet new federal clean air standards that will take effect in 2010. If that happens, the EPA could cut off Texas' highway funds and restrict new industrial facilities.

True, the EPA has not imposed those sanctions before, but, given the Republicans' political disarray, the face of Washington may look very different by 2010. Besides, environmental groups have already shown themselves willing to sue the EPA if it fails to act.

TXU, which wants to build the largest of the new plants, makes several arguments: that coal technology is

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: What should I have said to my new 24-year-old stepdaughter who started bawling when her father and I told her that we had eloped? She wasn't crying out of happiness, or even disappointment that she hadn't been invited. In fact, the first thing out of her mouth was to ask her father, "Did you make her sign a pre-nup?" Abby, I have never in my life felt so humiliated and offended by someone else's rude behavior. If we hadn't been out to dinner, I would have left immediately. She was sobbing uncontrollably at the table. But I held my head high and forced a smile for the rest of the meal. Now I'm not really sure how I should act toward her. Before her father and I married, I thought we had a very friendly relationship. I never imagined a reaction like the one she had. I feel it was rude, tacky, inappropriate and cruel. Part of me never wants to see her again. Any suggestions? — **CRUSHED IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR CRUSHED: I don't blame you for feeling her behavior was rude, tacky, inappropriate and cruel. But you are all "family" now, and face it, you will be seeing her again. So my recommendation is to recognize that she was shocked, and forgive her candor and loss of control. But don't forget it.

DEAR ABBY: My son, "Ian," has a girlfriend, "Patty," who is 5 1/2 months pregnant. Patty is bipolar, but she is not being treated for it and will not take medication. She has gotten mad at Ian and literally beaten him up. The last time it happened, Ian ended up with scratches on his face and a large bite on his upper arm. Patty was arrested and had to spend four days in jail. In the meantime, her mother, "Liz," came over to Ian's house and proceeded to tell me about Patty's life. Before this all happened, Patty told me she didn't want me to meet Liz because she was "crazy." While Patty was in jail, Liz told her that I had said Patty needed to be institutionalized. What I

did say was that Patty needs to be ANALYZED. Her mother also said that Ian's house has "bad spirits" in it. Now Patty refuses to move back home with my son. Abby, this girl needs a lot of understanding and help, but how can I help her if she thinks I said all these bad things about her? A horrible thing happened while Patty was in jail. Her mother killed herself. What can I do to help her? I know and understand her special needs. I want to be there for her and the baby. Can you help me? — **CARING GRANDMOTHER-TO-BE**

DEAR CARING: Remind Patty that she told you how mentally ill her mother was, which was proven to be true by the fact she committed suicide while Patty was in jail. Explain that her mother may have thought you said she (Patty) needed institutionalization, but that she was "confused." What you really said was that Patty should be evaluated to determine the cause of her mood swings, and to determine if there was medication she could take to calm them. Frankly, I, too, am concerned for the baby's welfare. Because Patty becomes violent when she "loses it," it might be safer if your son has legal custody of the child until his girlfriend becomes more stable. I recommend that you and Ian explore that option with a lawyer NOW.

DEAR ABBY: I am currently pregnant with a child I cannot keep. I have chosen adoption, and the parents will be a childhood friend of mine and her husband, with whom I am living. My question is, I know there should be a baby shower. But should I attend? And if so, should I bring a gift? — **"VI" IN NEW JERSEY**

DEAR "VI": I see no reason why you should not attend the shower if you wish. However, no gift should be necessary. You are already bringing the most important gift of all.

Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- Woods'
- Stocks the party
- Two-reel instrument
- Slow passage
- Lascivious
- Mandrill, for one
- Color
- Brewery need
- Singer Bonnie
- Poker prize
- Heston film
- Replay feature
- Fork choice
- Traveling
- Commerce-
- Auguries
- Glimpse
- Fighting
- Watch part
- Cavern dweller
- Basketball shots
- One of the Bears
- Charm
- Manipulative sort
- Singer Holiday
- Barber's call

DOWN

- Olympi-
- an's goal
- Follow orders
- Like most of these letters
- G-man
- Labrador explorer
- Makes ready
- Bar bills
- I strain
- Southern resort
- Icarus, to Daedalus
- Con-coaled
- Staff member
- Politician's loyal supporters
- 30 Night flier
- 20 Mideast sultanate
- 21 Contents of Santa's bag
- 22 God of love
- 23 Solitary
- 25 Himalayan monk
- 29 Asian capital
- 33 Sample
- 34 Boring
- 36 High point
- 37 Pucker-inducing spot
- 38 Research
- 39 French friend
- 40 Actor
- 41 Groan inducer

Yesterday's answer

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Marmaduke



The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



For Better Or For Worse



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Garfield



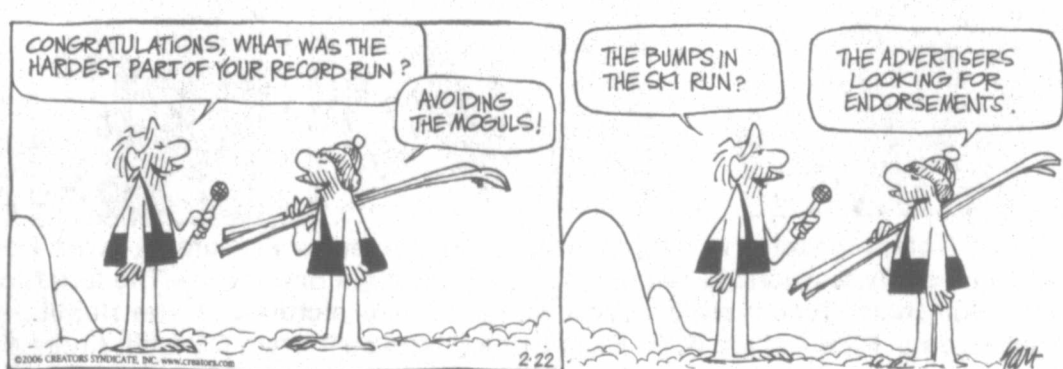
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports Day

Pampa routs Frenship for bidistrict championship

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

Pampa 85, Frenship 64

To understand just how good the Harvesters were Tuesday night, you only need to know that Pampa's 6'9" senior Jarett Kotara fouled out at the start of the fourth quarter, freshman Matt Smith got his fourth foul minutes later, Ryan Torres came off the bench and Frenship pulled to within 11 points early in the period by way of aggressive defense and turnovers.

And yet with one minute left in the game, Pampa head coach Dustin Miller was able to sit all his starters and give the bench the chance to experience a championship.

Pampa was prepared, focused and executed a nearly flawless game plan. Better yet, Pampa was dominating Tuesday night.

The game was close from tip-off to the end of the first quarter as both teams swapped basket after basket to end the period tied at 13 apiece.

That was as close as the Tigers would get to the Harvesters.

Pampa was the 'home' team for this game. And on the floor of Wayland Baptist University's Hutcherson Center more than 120 miles away from Pampa, the Harvesters played the second quarter like they were home.

The Harvesters outscored Frenship in the second, 23-12, to take a 36-25 lead into the locker room at the break.

The Harvester fans on hand Tuesday night were excited by how well their team played in the first half, but knew there was another half left to play.

As many made their way to the concession stand for sodas and snacks, the common theme among the conversation was, "The kids looked great, hope they can keep it going."

While the student bodies for both schools used the break to heckle and chide one another, in the Harvesters' locker room, Coach Miller and his staff plotted a course

of action for the final two periods of the game.

When the third quarter began, it was obvious part of that plan included giving the Tigers a taste of their own medicine. Pampa opened the period by holding the ball as long as possible, passing and waiting for the right shot at the basket.

minute into the period and Frenship began to press and swarm every Harvester inbound pass from there.

The Tigers netted some quick points, but once Pampa began breaking the press, Frenship had no choice but to foul. And the Harvesters were very effective from the charity stripe Tuesday night.

students fell as silent as the rest of the Tiger fans.

With exactly one minute showing on the game clock and the game well in hand, Coach Miller saw to it all his guys experienced the thrill of playing in a championship game, pulling his starters and playing the bench.

Minutes later, the team gathered at center court and hoisted the gold basketball. Miller wanted so badly for his team. "Seeing all the years of hard work they have put in get rewarded makes your chest swell up," noted a proud Miller. "They had such a great season but they really did not have anything to stake to their legacy. Now they do. They are bidistrict champs."

Asked to sum up his team's performance Tuesday night, Miller said, "I think we saw what had been coming all season — this team ready to just break out and show what they are capable of. They sure picked a good time to show it."

Pampa was led by Young who had a game-high 21 points. Barker closed with 18. Kotara had 17 points and eight rebounds. Torres and Tyler Hall each added 10 points and five rebounds. Matt Smith scored six points and snagged nine rebounds.

There will be barely enough time to celebrate the win as Pampa (24-6) will travel to Seminole Friday to face El Paso Ysleta for the Area Championship. That game is set for a 6 o'clock start.

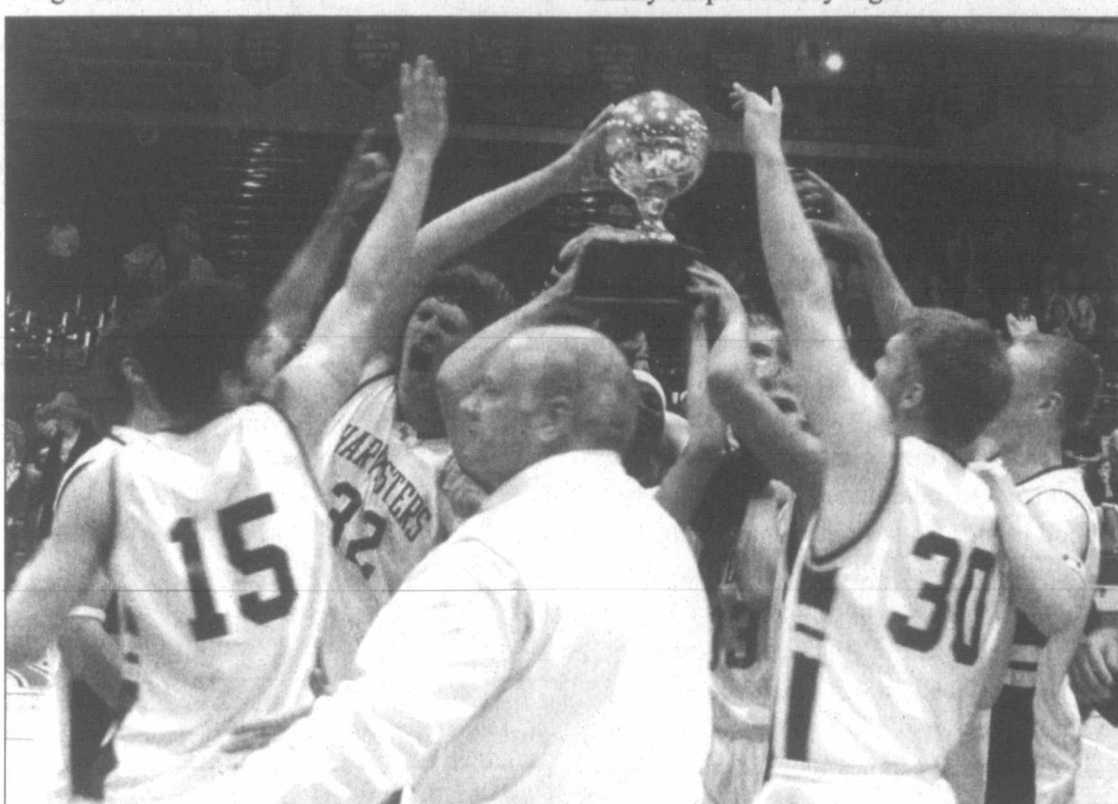
For Miller, Tuesday night was great. But he wants more.

Not for him, but his team.

"That presentation is something they will remember for the rest of their life. But we play for another one Friday night. We do not want to settle for one. We would like to rack up a few of them."

The Harvesters will leave early Friday afternoon.

Tickets for the game are on sale now and can be purchased by calling the PHS athletic office, 669-4830.



Pampa News photos by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

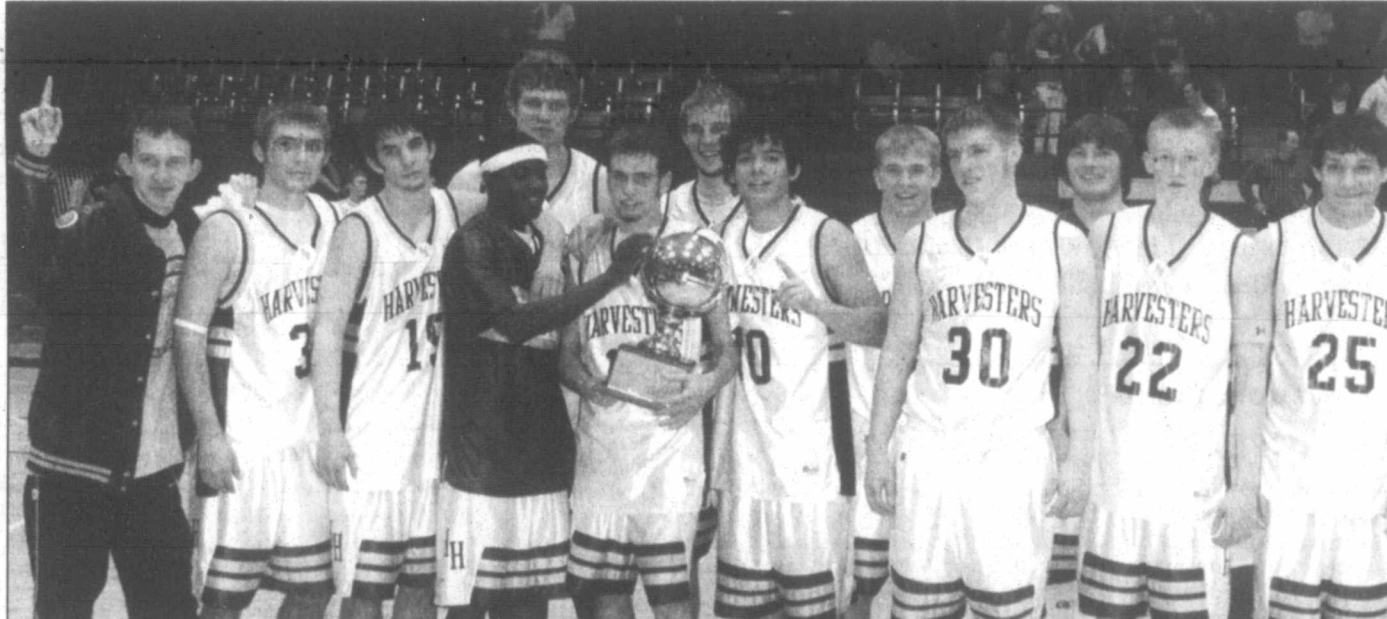
A Wayland Baptist University official (foreground) barely has time to exit after presenting the bidistrict championship trophy to an excited group of Pampa Harvesters Tuesday night.

And the Harvesters took advantage of those opportunities, widening their lead and further forcing Frenship out of its comfort zone and into survival mode. The Tigers began to look more and more uncomfortable.

Pampa led 56-39 entering the final quarter. Kotara fouled out little more than a

Sharod Young, Torres and Braydon Barker stroked smooth shots from the line despite chants of "You're ugly," "Pedro" and "Your shoes are untied" from a few Frenship students dressed in brightly colored costumes, standing at the edge of the court.

Toward the end of the game, those same



◀ Jarett Kotara muscles in a layup while being fouled by Frenship's Devin Pool. Kotara made the basket and both free throws. ▲ A referee smiles while visiting some oddly festooned Frenship students during a time-out. ▼ The target of Frenship heckling, Sharod Young (#55) smiles while letting Tiger fans know he can't hear them. Teammate Braydon Barker is also pictured. ▶ The Hustlin' Harvesters hold the bidistrict championship trophy just minutes after Tuesday night's game. Pictured are (L-R) Evan Grice (manager), Craig Crowell, Andrew Winton, Sharod Young, Jarett Kotara, Braydon Barker, Matt Smith, Ryan Torres, Brody Smith, Bradley Johnson, Eric Kingcade, Tyler Hall and Aaron Anguiano.

Pressure on for Cohen

TURIN, Italy (AP) — All the Olympic medal contenders in women's figure skating practiced on Wednesday. All except Sasha Cohen, who leads the pack going for gold.

A sign of nerves? Injury? Or simply the confidence of a champion in waiting?

"I talked to her this morning," coach John Nicks said, "and she was tired and she agreed to rest today and come in tomorrow for a short practice. She has trained very hard; stamina is not a problem."

"She has occasional muscle problems and uses a lot of ice," he added, referring to questions about a possible groin injury for Cohen, who wore an ice pack and whose right leg was wrapped after Tuesday's short program. "There is nothing untoward. She has a few aches, a few pains, as we all do when we get older."

Cohen is all of 21.

What Cohen does have is a tendency to tighten up in the most stressful skating situations. Nothing could be more pressure-packed than what she'll face in

Thursday's finale — the task of winning the United States' third straight women's gold.

Cohen claims she's an entirely different skater — more mature, more relaxed — something she'll get every chance to prove in her long program.

"It's definitely going to be tough for everyone to do great things with all of the pressure," Cohen said after Tuesday night's victory. "I'm going to believe in myself and expect the best."

Cohen is ahead by the slimmest of margins, .03 points over Russia's Irina Slutskaya and .71 over Japan's Shizuka Arakawa. And Cohen's history when she's in such a position has been spotty.

She owns two world championship silver medals, one behind Arakawa in 2004 and the other behind Slutskaya last year. Until Michelle Kwan wasn't healthy enough to skate in the U.S. nationals in January, Cohen had never won the American title, finishing second four times.

Lady Harvesters fall to Coronado; JV cruises past Lady 'Horns

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

The Lady Harvesters varsity softball team traveled to Canyon Tuesday to take on Lubbock Coronado, coming away with an 8-0 loss.

Though very early in the season, this was not the way head coach Bobbi Gill and her team expect to play.

"We played with a lot of first game jitters," said Gill. "But I saw some good things we can build on."

The Lady Harvesters are considered by many to be one of the stronger teams in the Panhandle.

In Tuesday's game, Stephanie McVay had two hits. Nicole Clark, Jackie Gerber and Kambra Jimenez each had a hit as well.

Pampa will hit the road again Saturday when they visit Lubbock for a pair of meetings.

They will take on Frenship at 11 a.m., then make the short trip to Cooper for a 3 p.m. game.

Said Coach Gill, "We are going to make the trip to Lubbock worth our effort."

They are at home Tuesday to face Borger.

The Lady Harvesters junior varsity team took care of Caprock Tuesday, 12-7, in Pampa.

They will join the varsity team Saturday in Lubbock for the twin bill with Frenship and Cooper.

They are home Tuesday against Borger as well.

HARVESTER SOCCER

Postponed games to be played today

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

The Pampa High School soccer games originally scheduled for Saturday will be played this afternoon.

The Harvesters and Lady Harvesters were to have played Caprock Saturday, but the cold weather forced those games to be moved to today.

Both games will be played at Caprock High School and should begin at 4:30.

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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

2-22

CRYPTOQUOTE

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RE PUD HASXXVHX VX SM

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— UDMWO JVAADW

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: A VEGETARIAN IS A PERSON WHO WON'T EAT ANYTHING THAT CAN HAVE CHILDREN. — DAVID BRENNER

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

14h Gen. Serv.

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

IS your House or Foundation Settling? Cracks in bricks or walls? Door won't close? Call Childers Brothers, Inc. Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling. 1-800-299-9563 or 806-352-9563 Amarillo.

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

HANDYMAN: Painting, carpentry, fencing, welding, hauling, cleanup. No job too small! 662-2566.

14s Plumbing/Heat

JACK'S Plumbing & Faucet Shop, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115 faucets, plumbing supplies, new constr., repair, remodeling, sewer / drain cleaning, septic systems installed. Visa/MC

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

19 Situations

PJ Home Care Pvt 24 hr. Care, Pvt Pay, has opening. Will take care of elderly in my home. Call 669-2271 Have References

NEED your home or business cleaned?? Call Christy, 664-1885.

WILL sit with the elderly, night or day, CNA 8 yrs., Call 665-2273.

21 Help Wanted

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

W&W FIBERGLASS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS FOR Fiberglass Manufacturing General Labor +40 hrs./wk Apply in person: 100 N. Price Rd. Pampa

OILFIELD Trucking Co. needs Mechanic w/tools and Truck Drivers. 665-0729, 866-415-4104.

DIETARY Cooks, Housekeeper & Laundry needed. Apply in person Coronado Healthcare, 1504 W. Kentucky. No phone calls

21 Help Wanted

Immediate Openings LVN's & CNA's Needed For All Shifts McLellan Care Center Call 806-739-2169 Ask for Administrator Billy Ray Johnston

OILFIELD related co. seeking Shop/Warehouseman. 401k, pd. vac., drug test. Send resume to P.O. Box 1836, Pampa, Tx..

BRITKARE Home Medical is now taking applications for a Delivery Driver in Pampa. Requirements incl. being able to lift 150 lbs., pass a drug screen, a physical and a background check. Must also be willing to take call and have a good driving record. Please apply in person at 912 W. Kentucky. No phone calls please. EOE.

Front Office / Insurance Team Members needed in a busy chiropractic office Put your "people skills" to work. Fax resume to (806)665-0537

HELP WANTED Amarillo firm is expanding in the Pampa area. FT Permanent work avail. Call 806-467-0313

21 Help Wanted

Local Non-Profit Agency seeking LPC to work with adolescents. Must be willing to work flexible schedule. Competitive salary and exc. benefit pkg. Background check and drug test required. Call Sharon 806-665-7123

Local Non-Profit Agency accepting applications for mature, responsible individual to supervise adolescents. Must be willing to live in the home 2-4 days per week. Background check and drug test required. Call Sharon 806-665-7123

PT Day Cook's Helper and PT Evening Cook's Helper are needed. Must be able to work weekends. For more info., call St. Ann's Nursing Home, 537-3194, ask for Linda or Phyllis.

CRALL PRODUCTS Immediate Openings Welders • Painter/Sandblaster 40hrs + wk. Salary based on exp. Apply in Person: W. Hwy 152, Pampa

21 Help Wanted

OFFICE/WAREHOUSE help needed at Johnson Home Furnishings. Apply at 801 W. Francis, Pampa

CRALL PRODUCTS 2930 W. Hwy. 152 ASME Code Welder-Fabricators for Pressure Vessels Needed. Apply in person or Fax resume to: 665-9736

BOOKKEEPER w/ exp. needed. We process GL, AR, AP, PR and do oil & Gas distributions. Send resume to Po Box 2018, Pampa, Tx. 79066-2018.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT Fun Valley Family Resort. South Fork Colo. Needs students to work all types of jobs. kitchen, dining room, house keeping, stores, maintenance, horse wrangler & office salary. Room, Board, Bono. For info. & apply Write to Personnel Director. 6315 Westover Dr., Granbury Tx. 76049

Driver Get the BEST of BOTH Worlds! **Small Company... BIG Company Freight!** Earn Up to 38¢ / ml. Drop Pay, Credit Union Detention Pay, Medical & Dental Ins., Top of the Line Late Model Equipment Ask about the "Comfort Zones" you can run! **CDL TRAINING AVAIL** 100% Tuition Reimbursement **INTERSTATE** 1-888-413-2775 Hiring Co. Drivers Solo or Team Learn All About Us & Apply Online at: www.IELApplication.com

SKELLYTOWN NEWSPAPER CARRIER needed for the Pampa News. Apply in person, 403 W. Atchison. No phone calls, please.

WHITE DEER ISD is now accepting applications for a Full-Time Bus Driver (Experience and CDL Preferred) for Route and Extra-Circular Activities, until filled. Will train. Applicants may contact Mr. Danny Ferrell, Supt., at 806-883-2311 (Option 3). Applications may be obtained from White Deer Administration Bldg., 601 Omohundro St., White Deer, Tx., 79097. White Deer ISD is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Local Restaurant Group now taking applications for the following positions:

General Manager
Kitchen Manager
Catering Manager
Wait Staff Supervisor
Line Cooks
Prep Cooks

\$7 per hr., paid vacation & bonuses! Send resume or apply in person 2219 Perryton Pkwy., Pampa (next to Dean's Pharmacy)

UNION Tank Car is taking applications for car repair person / welder. For more info. 806-663-4677.

RN, LVN & Nurse Aid Wheeler Nursing and Rehabilitation

is seeking caring, dedicated employees for the position of 2-10 and 10-6 Nurse Aid (will certify). Please apply in person to Donna Cox RN DON, 1000 S. Kiowa

\$300 Sign On Bonus Wheeler Nursing & Rehabilitation. Dietary Position: Nursing Home, FT Cook & Dietary Aide. Competitive wages, exp. preferred but will train. Apply in person to Megan McKinley 1000 S. Kiowa, Wheeler Tx

21 Help Wanted

HOSTESS, wait staff, full-time and part-time cooks needed. Apply at Dixie Cafe, before 11 am. & aft. 2 pm.

ACCEPTING applications for a legal secretary in Pampa. Experience required. Fax resume to 806-358-0884.

EXP. Pumper in Lefors / Pampa area. Resumes to Box 52040, Amarillo, Tx. 79159-2040.

WANTED One person to conduct a survey. • Good phone skills • Organized • No selling involved Call 669-0672

NOW hiring all positions at Pizza Hut Delivery. Inquire within @ 1500 N. Banks. No Phone Calls!!!

KITCHEN help needed. Apply in person at Dyer's Barbeque, Pampa.

PT HS-Graduate needed (10 hrs. / wk) to Assist Elementary Age children w/ homework. 665-7474

THE CARTRIDGE GUYS is now hiring for a full time position. Apply in person at 700 N. Price Rd.

FENCE LABORER needed. Call 669-7769.

NOW Hiring servers-must be 18 to apply & position for a part-time cook. Apply in person. Amber's Mexican Food Restaurant 2014 N. Hobart.

JANITORIAL Service taking appl., drivers license required, will train. 669-9186, 665-2667.

60 Household

RARELY used livrm. \$500 or best offer. hotpinkninja@yahoo.com Can email pics. 663-0374

69 Misc.

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

BUYING GOLD Time to sell your old Gold Gold at its highest in 25 years. Rheads Diamond Shop- 111 N. Cuyler

WOOD Burning Stove w/ blower & draft regulator for sale. Never used. 806-669-0636 lv. msg.

32 ft. x 17 ft. collapsible pool and spa pool table for sale, in laminate. Call 405-922-1698.

69a Garage Sales

DEBBIE'S Used Furniture. We buy & sell 1 piece or complete house. 903 S. Main, Borger, 273-2905, 886-0268 Tues-Sat.

MOVING SALE! Down sizing. Freezer, furni., yard tools, gas grill, shelves, much more, Fri., Sat. 24th, 25th, 8-1 pm. 2320 Dogwood.

1001 E. Frederic, Fri. 8-5. 34 Barbie dolls, doll clothes, drink glass collection, lots of antiques.

ESTATE Sale: Everything for The Office, Household, Lots Of Misc. Don't Miss This One. 19th & Mary Ellen. Saturday 9:00-4:00 & Sunday 1:00-4:00. See Today's City Briefs.

95 Furn. Apts.

FIELD AND PLANT OPERATORS Eagle Rock Energy, a diversified energy company involved in the processing, purchase, sale and transportation of natural gas has the following immediate openings to be located in the Canadian area: **Plant Operator**- Position requires 2-5 years experience and knowledge operating and maintaining processing plant equipment, natural gas engines, and compressors. Must be versed in Process safety management and other microcomputer software applications. In addition to operating and maintaining processing plant equipment including cryogenic plant, lean oil absorption plant, compressors and motors, successful candidate will assist mechanics in performing repairs to all plant equipment. H.S. degree required; technical college degree desirable. **Field Operator**- Position requires 2-5 years experience and knowledge operating and maintaining gas gathering systems, natural gas engines and compressors. Must be versed in use of microcomputer and related software. Responsibilities will include: operating and maintaining gathering pipelines, engines, compressors and pigging equipment; changing charts; assisting mechanics, H.S. degree required; technical college degree desirable. We offer a competitive starting salary and comprehensive benefits package. For immediate consideration, please submit resume with salary history, no later than Friday, March 3, 2006 to:

Eagle Rock Energy Box 939 Canadian, Texas 79014 Fax 806-323-5821 We are an equal opportunity employer

48 Trees/Shrubs

PUTMAN'S Quality Serv. Tree trim, custom carports, stor. bldgs., decks. Msg. 662-4583

50 Building Suppl.

White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

60 Household

Mattress Sets IN STOCK Extra Thick Pillow Top, T. \$190.00 F. \$230.00 Q. \$360.00 K. \$450.00 5 yr. Warr. Elite Furniture 806-677-0400

Mattress Sets IN STOCK Smooth Top T. \$90.00 F. \$120.00 Q. \$200.00 K. \$300.00 10yr. Warr. Elite Furniture 806-677-0400

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

98 Unfurn. Houses

PICK UP rental list from Gary Box on front porch of 125 S. Houston, Pampa. Update each Fri.

1019 N. Wells, 2 bdr., 2 ba. duplex, cent. h/a, w/d hookups, 1 car gar, 354-0779 or 282-0204 (cell#)

99 Stor. Bldgs.

TUMBLEWEED Acres, self storage units. Various sizes. 665-0079, 665-2450.

100 Rooms For Rent

HOTEL DAVIS 116 1/2 W. Foster 440-1066 Rooms \$70 wk., bills paid

102 Bus. Rent. Prop.

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

LOWEST Rents in City! Downtown locations-stores, warehouses, rec. facilities. Call 665-4274.

103 Homes For Sale

Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-3560, 440-2314 669-0007

1900 N. Russell Pampa, Tx. 3177 sq. ft. Corner lot. 4 bdr., liv. rm., den, din. rm., large kitchen. 3 full ba. Tile and wood floors. Wet bar. Extra lrg. dbl. car gar. Lots of storage!! 663-2284 By appt. Only

2 bdr., dbl. gar. For sale by owner. No financing. Call 440-2892 or 688-0072, 662-8570.

3/2/2 2k sq. ft., basement, hardwoods, jacuzzi, 12 person table hanging from ceiling in formal dining, 2 living areas, new roof, sewer, gutters. Dog run. \$89,500. C-21 669-0007, 1106 Charles.

FOR SALE BY OWNER 1212 DARBY 3/1/1 NICE, CLEAN & BEAUTIFUL SHADY BACK YARD! WILSON SCHOOL DIST. 877 sq ft+ garage \$29,500 OWNER WILL NOT FINANCE FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 665-3379 (Leave Message)

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BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Feb. 23, 2006: You see life from a different perspective this year. You make more friends, life runs more smoothly, and you like what life deals you in general. Nevertheless, you discover that even you have limits to what you are capable of. At a certain point this year, you will find that many people might be constricting your lifestyle. As a result, there could be a mini-rebellion as you head in a new direction. If you are single, it is through friendship that you discover a love relationship. Travel or education also could play a role. If you are attached, you will draw much happiness as a couple if you work on a mutual project. CAPRICORN is a real friend.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★ You are on top of your game. Listen to others' opinions. You need to be sensitive to them. Think carefully. Your intuition comes through if you use it. You will be pleased. Tonight: In the limelight. **TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ Do your own research and find out the facts. Others might not intend to, but they mix up your priorities. Friends tend to act out of the blue. Talk about your feelings. Bright ideas come forward through discussions. Tonight: Surround yourself with music. **GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Togetherness happens easily, and you relate to someone more clearly than you have in a while. Sometimes you

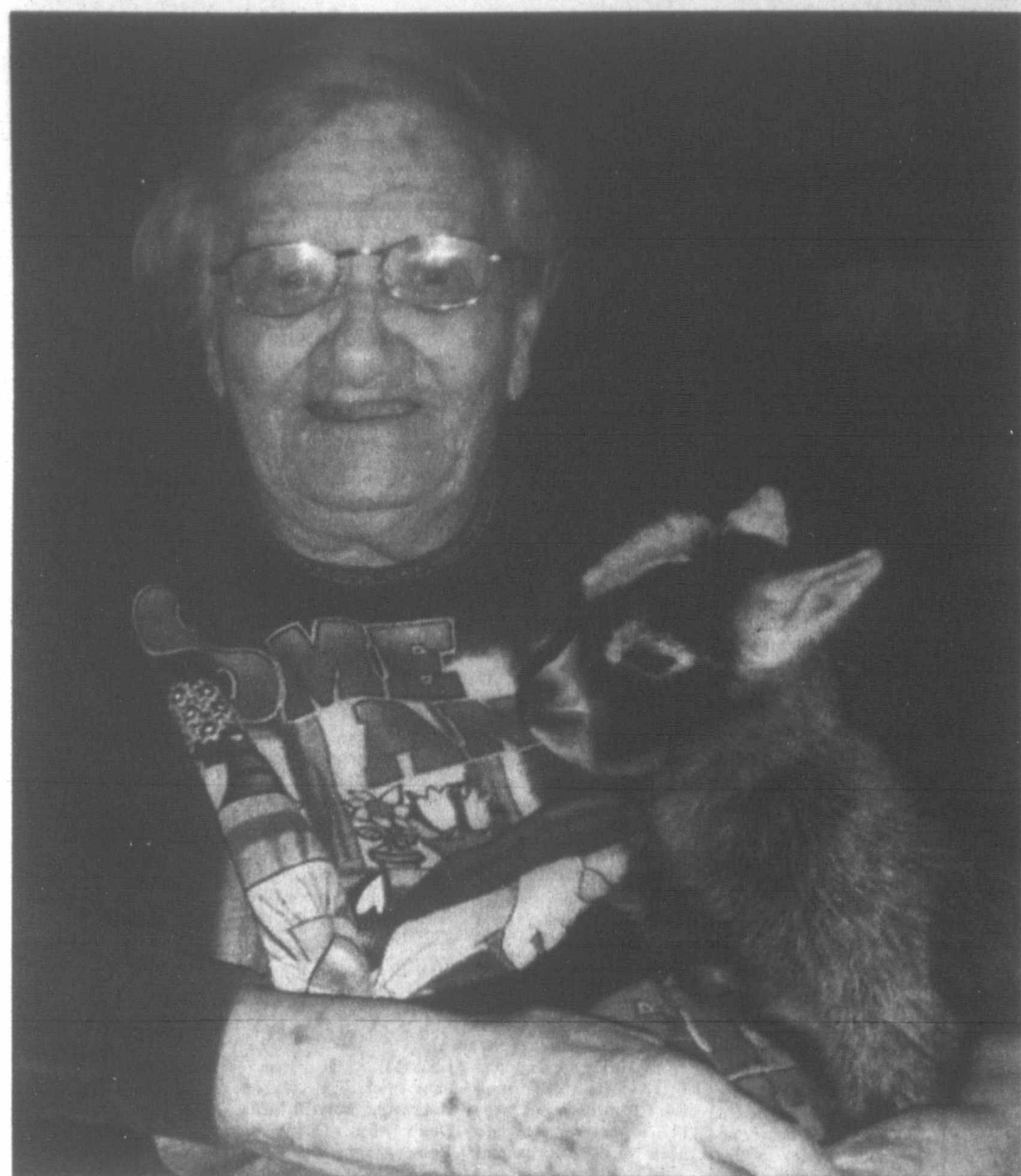
might wonder what your limits are and what is important. Discussions help you isolate this fact. Tonight: Togetherness works. **CANCER** (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ Others are demanding, and you can meet their demands — if you so choose. Laughter could be the response to sharing some heavy feelings. Investigate and make decisions that work for you. You don't have to please everyone all the time. Tonight: Go with an invitation. **LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★ Chill out with the knowledge that you are getting as much done as possible. You might get sidetracked by a conversation or two. Listen to the feedback you get involving a situation or project. Be forthright. Tonight: You have a party wherever you are. **VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ Let your creativity direct you to the right avenue. You will like what happens. Not everything needs to be dreary and serious. You can add a lot to your environment and relationships to perk them up. Tonight: Ever playful. What fits the bill? **LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Handle a personal matter with the dignity that your sign is known for. Realize that your limits will help you understand what needs to happen for a situation or project to work. Spontaneity energizes you. Take a walk. Tonight: At home. **SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ You might be more vested in the outcome of a situation than you realize. Understand more of what needs to happen within an important relationship

where creativity and ingenuity dominate. Return calls. Tonight: You rock wherever you are. **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★ Expenses keep bubbling forth, hitting a new crescendo. You might wonder how you are ever going to get this all under control. Discuss this issue with those who are most affected by it. They might have some good ideas. Tonight: Your treat. **CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ You are a star and accomplish a lot no matter what you do. Others will go along with your ideas and considerations. Others are unusually verbal. Brainstorm. Open doors. You'll make headway. Tonight: As you like. **AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★ The less said, the better. You have a strong intuitive sense, though you might not be willing or able to act on it just yet. You are in a position to judge a risk and find alternatives if you aren't comfortable. Tonight: Light and easy. **PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ Your playfulness comes out in meetings and in nearly any situation that comes along. Inevitably, there are limits to what works. You might need to calm down in order to achieve long-term results. Tonight: Midweek break.

BORN TODAY Actor Peter Fonda (1939), musician Johnny Winter (1944), political activist, author W.E.B. DuBois (1868) ***

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.

Pet therapy



Anna Wallin, a resident at Coronado Healthcare Center, got to make friends with this baby goat during "pet therapy" at the center recently.

Gap

Continued from Page 4

tries to dress up the statistics of poverty is, they get people focused on the wrong group. So instead of talking seriously about 2 percent or 1 percent hard-core poverty, we get in a debate about people classified as being in poverty who are retired, who are college seniors, who are working families that maybe don't rise above the poverty threshold but are living well.

Q: They have a house, seven TVs, three cars ...

A: The classic story that Robert Rector did here at the Heritage Foundation assessing the assets and finding out that people classified as in poverty — I think it's a majority — own their own home. It's hard to pin down what real poverty is, and yet we can pretty clearly pin down why they become poor. And they are issues driven by social problems — like illiteracy, like drug use. That's not to say that it's anybody's fault. It's just saying that this isn't a flaw in capitalism; this is not a flaw of free markets. We have social problems. Let's address them correctly as social problems, not as economic problems.

Q: You talk about "income relativism" — when people worry about the difference between the rich and poor as opposed to worrying about whether poor people are getting richer. What's the danger of that kind of thinking?

A: The biggest danger is that it gets in the way of progress. I believe we have a genuine fight on our hands to provide quality education and skills to every American and that that is the real source of poverty. By focusing on what some people call the politics of envy and I call income relativism, we miss an opportunity.

The rich people are not the enemy in the struggle. There aren't any people that are the enemy. It's sort of these ignorant forces that we've allowed to continue to operate. It's this arrogance on the side of the Left; I call it a glibness that they see themselves as the only champions of the poor, that gets in the way of new thinking.

The other danger is, we do get stuck in class warfare. Let's be honest, that benefits some groups. In particular, labor unions are very happy to engage in class warfare — that there is capital versus labor. But in the era where the workers' interests are aligned with business interests, we all want companies to be successful. Nobody wins when GM suffers. Nobody wins when Ford has layoffs or one of the airlines goes under. Labor unions at Northwest don't benefit if that airline goes bankrupt. Workers understand that, and that is one of the reasons unions are declining. But they are stuck in the old mindset of it's either profits or wage gains. The world doesn't work that way.

Q: What about the rapid growth in Social Security

and Medicare costs? Are they going to make us all poor together?

A: We do have to have a day of reckoning and I think it will be a generational day of reckoning. There's a real question mark over whether the younger generation will accept a constantly increasing tax rate — vastly higher than any retiree has had to pay into the system. My kids are going to be faced with that because I don't think this generation of politicians is willing to meet the challenge.

If there is good news here, it is that our demographic time bomb blows up a decade later than the one in Europe and Japan. So we're going to see how other countries deal with it or in fact don't deal with it. Here's my prediction: The nations that are able to get leaner governments and lower labor protections, ironically, will grow much faster and make wealthier citizens across the board. The nations that continue to go with bloated Nanny States will slow down, they'll lose businesses, they'll lose investment and they are going to get in a much worse situation. We have the data now to do cross-country comparisons and see why governments fail — and they fail because they have generous Nanny States. The evidence is there. It's whether the politicians have the courage to admit reality or not.

Bill Steigerwald is a columnist at the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review.

Coal

Continued from Page 4

cleaner than it used to be; that cars are the largest source of North Texas' smog; and that their proposed plant would use the "best available control technology."

True. But the past is irrelevant when North Texas air is still unhealthy. Every emissions source, from cars to power plants, must be a

part of the solution. And "best available" is not the strongest type of pollution control. That's "lowest available emission rate," which is what the plants would have to install if they were inside the Dallas-Fort Worth "nonattainment area" rather than upwind of it.

Texas does need more

diverse sources of electric power. It does not need to leapfrog the clean air process in the name of expediting new coal-fired plants by a few months, especially when the long-term consequences could harm the state's economy just as surely as high energy prices. Remember, haste makes waste.

Freeman to get Tracy Award

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Morgan Freeman will be honored with UCLA's Spencer Tracy Award, which recognizes outstanding screen performances and professional achievement.

Jason Kaminsky, UCLA campus events commissioner, made the announcement Tuesday.

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NEW OWNERS:
FRANKIE & JANET WATTS

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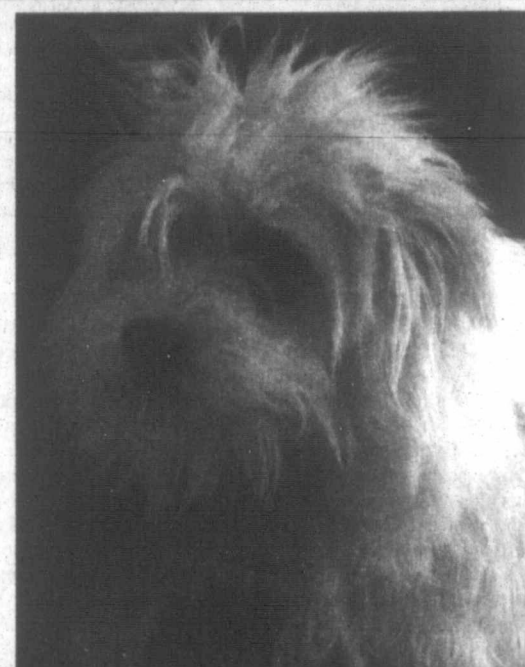
EXHAUST
OIL CHANGE
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FULL SERVICE PUMP

VISIT US TODAY
300 N. HOBART

Pet of the Week

Bangle

This 1-2 year old female white/tan Lhaso Apso mixed dog. Bangle is about 15 to 20 lbs and will be a medium sized dog. She is very sweet, loveable and looks just like "Benji" ... visit us today!



If You Would Like To Help The Animals,
Donations Can Be Sent To...
City Of Pampa Fund 12 • PO Box 2499
Pampa, Texas 79066

For information about these pets or any other contact the Animal Shelter at 669-5775 or come by their location at Hobart Street Park.

HOURS: Monday - Sunday 9 am - 5 pm • Closed All Major Holidays
Office Open To The Public Monday - Sunday 5 pm - 6pm

FOUND A PET? Let us know ... we might be able to help them find their home.

LOST YOUR PET? Come by the shelter every 2-3 days to check for your animal. We hold stray animals for 72 hours only. So PLEASE call us as soon as your pet is missing! sponsored by... The Pampa News

THURSDAY THRU SUNDAY ONLY!

BEALLS RED-TICKET CLEARANCE BLOWOUT!

\$1

BUY ONE
GET ONE
FOR A

MILLIONS IN NEW REDUCTIONS TAKEN
STOREWIDE ON FALL & WINTER ITEMS!

MISSSES • SPECIAL SIZES • JUNIORS
DRESSES • MEN'S • YOUNG MEN'S
KIDS • SHOES • ACCESSORIES

Coronado Center • 665-8612 • Mon-Sat. 10-8; Sun 12-6

Reese

Continued from Page 4

fect themselves from mobs and criminals.

We abandoned free enterprise a long time ago. The so-called market economy the corporate elite peddles is a far cry from a free-enterprise system. It is a shared monopolistic system designed to eliminate both competition and opportunity. It's not working. It's turning us into a Third World country.

Let us then surrender the myth of equal outcomes and concentrate on ameliorating the worst effects of unequal outcomes.

Write to Charley Reese at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando, FL 32802.

Mc's Car Wash



AUTOMATIC

1901 N. HOBART

Brushless

With SPOT FREE Water

For Final Rinse

Wash Levels... \$5 Regular

\$6 Deluxe • \$7 Super

SELF SERVICE

1811 N. HOBART

5 Minutes... \$1.00

24

OPEN HOURS