

Sunday's Weather

HIGH 51
LOW 33

See expanded weather on Page 2

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THE PAMPA NEWS

Volume 103 • No. 301

Weekend Edition
Saturday and Sunday, March 22-23, 2008

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Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

A cross at Calvary Baptist Church is a symbol of Easter, when Jesus arose from the dead after having been crucified on Good Friday. Today is Easter Sunday for people of the Christian faith.

Cleaning up Pampa

An ongoing battle, says retiring City Manager

By Randy Pribble
The Pampa News

What to do about abandoned properties, used tires and general trash and debris is a constant challenge for city government, said retiring City

Manager John Horst, who spoke before a luncheon meeting of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce Tuesday.

"At economic seminars, we always hear about the importance of first impressions by visitors to a community," he said.

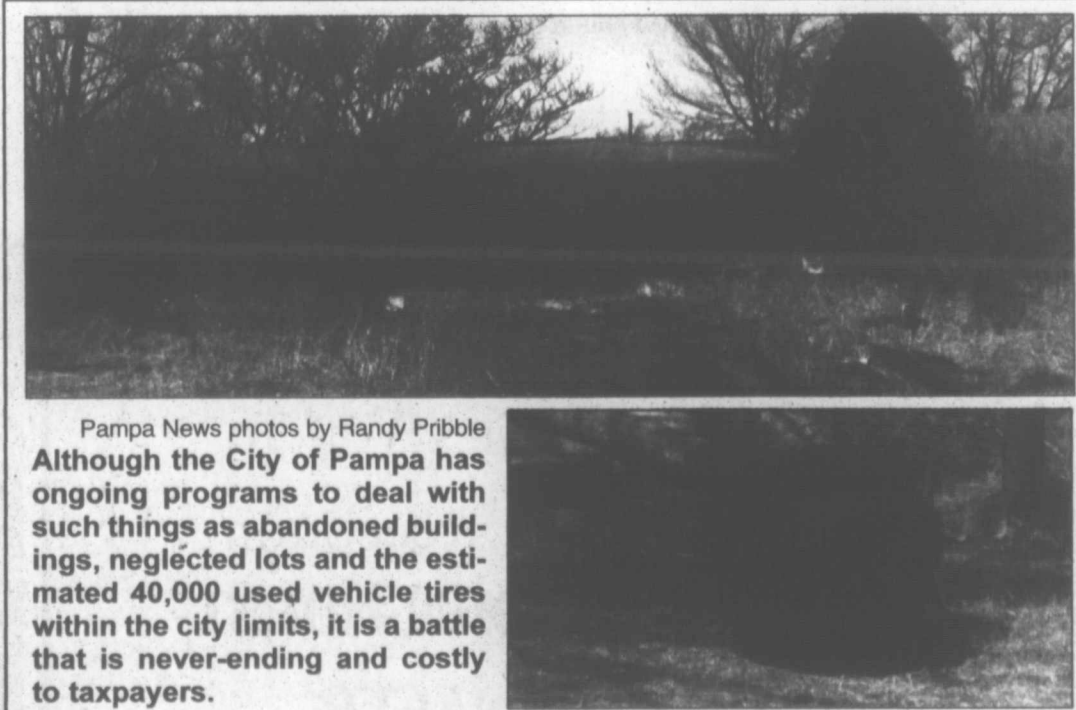
Horst added that that local government has increased its budget during the recent past to make attempts at alleviating some of the city's problems and he enumerated the scope of some of those problems.

"To date, we have removed

over 150 dilapidated structures," he said. "Our 2008 goal is 100 more structures, and there are plenty more out there."

A limiting factor in the process is the sheer cost of removal. The city uses its own equipment for the demolition and contracts the debris removal to a private company. The debris from an average-sized home fills a 30-yard container six times at \$100 per container load. The concrete and metal from the structure is recycled, but the waste going into the landfill still amounts to about 14 tons per structure.

If the cost of operating the landfill and the labor and overhead on equipment is added to the equation, taxpayers are paying between \$3,000 and \$4,000 to remove each abandoned building, according to Horst.



Pampa News photos by Randy Pribble
Although the City of Pampa has ongoing programs to deal with such things as abandoned buildings, neglected lots and the estimated 40,000 used vehicle tires within the city limits, it is a battle that is never-ending and costly to taxpayers.

The cost for commercial buildings is even higher, if local government can even

find a way to work through the legal maze of ownership and responsibility.

"We must have an asbestos survey," Horst said, noting

See PAMPA, Page 3

Unsolved Pampa bank robbery topic of presentation

By MARILYN POWERS
The Pampa News

Ann Davidson, director of White Deer Land Museum, presented a program March 8 at Hutchinson County Museum in Borger in connection with Borger's 82nd anniversary observance.

Davidson spoke about the Pampa bank robbery of 1927, which was never solved due

to the sketchy identification and lack of evidence on any one suspect, she said.

"The only man brought back to Gray County was Ace Pendleton, and he was no-billed by the grand jury, according to The Pampa News," Davidson said.

She displayed a razor which was given to her

See BANK, Page 3

Childcare assistance offered for local low income families

By JULIE ANN THOMPSON
The Pampa News

Panhandle Worksource Child Care Services is offering child care assistance to eligible families in the 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle. The project is managed to improve the quality, availability and affordability of child care.

"We understand families struggle to make ends meet. By helping families pay for application packet and daycare, these families no longer have to worry about losing their jobs because they can't afford daycare," Lead Provider Service Specialist




Julie Harper said. "Parents can feel good knowing their children are in a safe place while they are working and/or attending school."

Assistance is offered to low income families, parents who are working and/or attending school or training, TANF/food stamp recipient, teen parents and children with special needs. Eligible applicants may be seen as a walk-in or may call for an appointment. A child care application packet and additional child care information is available at their website: www.panhandleworksource.com. At this time, there is no waiting list.

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NEXT DAY FORECAST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
		
Cloudy	Sunny	Sunny

Sunday: A chance of rain and snow before 9 a.m., then a chance of rain between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 49. Wind chill values between 26 and 36 early. North-northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east-southeast. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 36. Wind chill values between 29 and 34. South wind around 10 mph.

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 70. South-southwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 49. Southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 75. West-southwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 47. South-southwest wind around 10 mph becoming north-west.

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Services tomorrow

Services MONDAY
FRYE, Harry Eugene — Memorial services, 2 p.m., First United Methodist Church, Pampa.
SMITH, Eric Lee Roy — 2 p.m., Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Pampa.

Laura Bentley Smith, 95

Laura Bentley Smith, 95, of Pampa, died Saturday, March 22, 2008, in Wheeler. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa. **Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.**

CITY BRIEFS

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Obituaries

Harry Eugene Frye, 91

Harry Eugene Frye, 91, of Pampa, Texas, died March 22, 2008, at Pampa.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Monday, March 24, 2008, at the First United Methodist Church with John Curry officiating. Cremation and arrangements are by Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Frye was born in 1917 on the Frye Ranch in Wheeler County. He graduated from Sulphur High School in Sulphur, Okla., and attended Draughn's Business School and the University of Oklahoma.

He graduated from Spartan School of Aeronautics of Tulsa and

Dallas School of Aviation. He received his commercial pilot's license, instructor's rating, instrument rating and multi-engine rating licenses.

He served with the U.S. Air Force during World War II, following three years as a civilian flight instructor and check pilot for the Air Force training command.

Following World War II, he was business manager for Gatesville State School for boys until 1951 and moved to Shamrock as a partner in Walker-Frye Insurance Agency. He later owned and was actively engaged in Frye Insurance Agency in Shamrock, retiring in 1979.

Harry married Betty

Casey.

He was a member of First United Methodist Church, Tri-State Seniors Golf Association and American Legion for 60 years. He served on the of the Red River Authority of Texas Board of Directors for 12 years where he held the office of vice-president.

He was past president of Shamrock Chamber of Commerce, had served as chairman of Shamrock's St. Patrick Day Association, and was past member of the Shamrock Lions Club and Booster Club. He really enjoyed fishing and golfing.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Casey, of the

home; a daughter, Dianne Buckingham and husband Bob of Kelton; one step-daughter, Ann Handren and husband Patrick of Flower Mound; one stepson, Bert Casey and wife Melissa of San Antonio; two brothers, Tom Frye of Wheeler, and Dr. Bruce Frye and wife Ruth of Lindsey, Okla.; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a cousin, Fran Morrison of Pampa.

MEMORIALS: First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 1981, Pampa, TX 79066-1981.

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

Eric Lee Roy Smith, 40

MIAMI, Texas — Eric Lee Roy Smith, 40, died March 19, 2008, at Mount Pleasant, Texas.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday, March 24, 2008, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Pampa with Bishop Brian Tenney of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints of St. George, Utah, officiating.

Burial will be in the Smith Family Ranch Cemetery in Roberts County.

Mr. Smith was born March 20, 1967, in Pampa, Texas. He attended Miami schools, graduating from Miami High School in 1985.

Eric attended New Mexico Institute in Roswell, N.M., graduating in 1988. He graduated from the University of Texas at Arlington with a degree in Spanish, with the goal of teaching.

He used his education to teach Spanish in Mexico for a year and a half. Survivors include his mother and stepfather, Mary and Cecil Martin of Miami; sister, Amanda Tenney and husband Brian of St. George,



Smith

Utah; brother, Lt. Col. Wayne Smith and wife Rebecca of Shiloh, Ill.; grandmother, Grace Sanford of Lawrenceburg, Tenn.; stepbrother, Stephen Martin and wife Susan of Pampa; stepsister, Vicki Ray and husband Jay of Mobeetie; three uncles, Doyle Smith and wife Mary of Pampa, Ron Sanford and wife Lana of Lawrenceburg, Tenn., and Lee "Butch" Sanford and wife Leanora of San Diego, Calif.; four

nieces; and four nephews.

Eric was preceded in death by his father, John H. Smith, in 1989; grandparents, Horace Smith in 1963 and Faye Smith in 1999; and grandfather, Leroy Sanford in 1999.

MEMORIALS: Pampa Ward Missionary Fund, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 411 E. 29th, Pampa, TX 79065, or the Miami High School Library Fund, Miami ISD, P.O. Box 368, Miami, TX 79059.

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

Emergency Services

Sheriff

Gray County Sheriff's Office recorded the following arrests before 8 a.m. Saturday.

Friday, March 21

Terry Lee Jobe, 44, of Amarillo was arrested by GCSO on probation violations for sexual assault of a child and for indecency with a child by contact, both out of Potter County.

Adam Chase Knoop, 17, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa Police Department and charged with minor in possession of tobacco.

Jacey Leigh Wagner, 18, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa PD and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and minor in possession of alcohol.

Jill Loraine Wilson, 41, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa PD and charged with making alcohol available to a minor.

Saturday, March 22

Tarrel Dashane Johnson, 24, of Plainview was arrested by Pampa PD and charged with possession of a dangerous drug.

Kenneth Dale Putman, 25, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO and charged with possession of a controlled substance.

Mark Williams Holmes Jr., 34, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia.

Julian Salazar, 20, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa PD and charged with possession of a dangerous drug.

Bradley Dewayne Sellers, 36, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia.

Jennifer Teresa Reed, 24, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa PD and charged with possession of marijuana and possession of a dangerous drug.

Brandon Lynn Mahon, 34, of

Pampa was arrested by Pampa PD and charged with failure to identify fugitive with intent to give false information.

Isabell Lopez Ybarra, 48, of Del Rio was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety and charged with DWI.

Fire

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

Friday, March 21

4:42 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to a medical call in the 2600 block of Navajo.

7:46 p.m. — Three units and seven personnel responded to a structure fire in the 600 block of North Wells.

11:09 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 1900 block of Banks on a Dumpster fire.

Candidates' passport files pried into by State Department workers

WASHINGTON (AP) — State Department workers pried into the supposedly secure passport files of presidential contenders Hillary Rodham Clinton, Barack

Obama and John McCain, abashed officials admitted Friday in a revelation that had Condoleezza Rice telephoning the candidates to personally apologize.

The snooping incidents raised questions as to whether there was political motivation and why two contractors involved were fired before investigators had a chance to interview them. The State Department's inspector general was probing, with the Justice Department monitoring the effort, but Obama said that was not enough. He urged congressional involvement "so it's not simply an internal matter."

The digging into supposedly secure government records on politicians recalled a 1992 case in which a Republican political appointee at the State Department was demoted for searching Bill Clinton's passport records when Clinton was running against President George H.W. Bush.

McCain, the Republican nominee-in-waiting, said there should be "a full investigation" of the new snooping as well as an apology.

Democrat Obama said that better include Congress, not

just Bush administration investigators.

"When you have not just one but a series of attempts to tap into people's personal records, that's a problem not just for me but for how our government functions," Obama told reporters in Portland, Ore., where he was campaigning. "I expect a full and thorough investigation. It should be done in conjunction with those congressional committees that have oversight function so it's not simply an internal matter."

Rice was apologetic in public as well as in her private phone calls to the candidates.

"None of us wants to have a circumstance in which any American's passport file is looked at in an unauthorized way," she said after speaking with Obama.

"I told him that I was sorry, and I told him that I, myself, would be very disturbed if I learned that somebody had looked into my passport file," she added. "And therefore, I will stay on top of it and get to the bottom of it."

The State Department confirmed Thursday night that Obama's files had been com-

promised on three separate occasions — Jan. 9, Feb. 21 and as recently as last week, on March 14. By the time senior officials were made aware, two contract employees had been fired and a third disciplined, agency officials said. The fact that the two have been fired could make it more difficult for the State Department to force them to answer questions.

The department wouldn't name the company that employed those workers, but The Associated Press learned it was Stanley Inc., a Virginia-based outfit that earlier this week won a five-year, \$570-million government contract to support passport services.

Department spokesman Sean McCormack said Friday that a separate search conducted after the first revelation showed that workers also had snooped on McCain and Clinton.

The individual who had been reprimanded in the Obama incident had also reviewed McCain's records earlier this year, McCormack said. While the employee has not been fired, that person no longer has access to passport files, he said.

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Pampa

Continued from Front Page

that two recent surveys costs \$1,500 and \$1,800 respectively. And, if asbestos is found, it is not unusual for asbestos removal processes to cost upwards of \$100,000.

"We can't afford it as this time, and we are not the only city that has this predicament," he said.

Among the biggest offenders contributing to the abandoned property problem are "absentee corporate owners." Horst pointed to several abandoned gas station/convenience stores in the community and noted the legal difficulties in getting responsibilities defined for such things as the removal of underground storage tanks.

Trash and debris on private property is also a concern for the city.

"If we get a call, we go take a look, take some photos and we write (the proper-

ty owner) a letter," he said. The letter gives the property owner 10 days to clean up the mess.

"Most of the time they comply," Horst added. If they don't, the city can file a complaint in Municipal Court which could lead to an arrest warrant.

A similar process is undertaken in the case of junk cars and unmowed lots. And, although it "aggravates some people," it does not violate city ordinances to park a car in your front yard.

"It all amounts to personal pride, I think," Horst said, noting that the city has towed away some 80 junk vehicles over the past year.

Horst said one of his biggest concerns in the city is the removal of used vehicle tires. A recent survey estimated some 40,000 used tires lying around in yards and vacant lots through the city. He said the city has

considered buying some tire shredding machines, but decided the cost of maintenance was prohibitive.

Although the city has a "tire amnesty day," where residents could turn in tires to the city free of charge, it met with limited success.

Getting rid of old tires and junk refrigerators and generally keeping your property clean is a question of attitude.

"The people we are targeting just aren't going to participate," he said. However, Horst added that "The Great Pampa Trash-Off" is set for April 5 and he noted that Pampa Mayor Lonnie Robbins has begun some discussions with community groups about taking ownership of the community.

"There is a lot more that all of us can do instead of writing a letter to the editor about what is not being done," Horst said.



Pampa News Photo by Katherine Flannery

Pampa's St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church will host the folkloric ballet "XAPOXIL" Friday and today at the church. The group will perform Stations of the Cross in Spanish Friday at 1 p.m. They will perform during an Easter family celebration, potluck dinner and open house set for 1:30 p.m. today. This group of young dancers comes from Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Zapotlanejo, Jalisco, Mexico. Their dances are taken from the natives of the Aztec's empire, the regional music and dances from Jalisco, Nayarit, Veracruz and northern states of Mexico.

Bank

Continued from Front Page

father, long-time Gray County Sheriff Rufe Jordan, by Pendleton when Pendleton left Pampa.

Davidson also discussed four suspects who were thought to have been staying at Signal Hill, about four miles from Borger.

"Signal Hill was a pretty lawless place during the '20s and '30s, and numerous tales

of fact and fiction came from there, many of which are still being told," she said.

Many of the tales were related to Davidson by her father, who had observed some of the activity when he was a teen-ager, she said. One such story included a brief history of noted Texas Ranger Frank Hamer, who was in Borger at that time because the governor had declared martial law there.

Davidson developed the program she presented in Borger in conjunction with the opening in May of a Law Enforcement Room at White Deer Land Museum, 116 S. Cuyler. Photographs and artifacts shown by Davidson in Borger will be among those included in the Pampa museum exhibit.

"Law enforcement played a large part in the history of Gray County from about

1900, when our county seat was at Lefors, Texas," Davidson said. "The same is true of Hutchinson and many other Panhandle counties."

A birthday cake was cut and a new building was opened on Borger's Main Street following the program. The building will house a new exhibit for Hutchinson County Museum.

Texas has 51 percent of active US oil rigs

AUSTIN — The Texas average rig count as of Feb. 15 was 867, representing about 51 percent of all active land rigs in the United States. In the last 12 months total Texas reported production was 337 million barrels of oil and 6.4 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. Texas natural gas production represents approximately 29 percent of total U.S. natural gas demand.

The Commission's estimated final production for December 2007 is 28,656,929 barrels of crude oil and 492,006,845 Mef (thousand cubic feet) of gas

well gas.

The Commission derives final production numbers by multiplying the preliminary December 2007 production totals of 27,436,026 barrels of crude oil and 425,795,625 Mef of gas well gas by a production adjustment factor of 1.0445 for crude oil and 1.1555 for gas well gas. (These production totals do not include casinghead gas or condensate.)

Texas natural gas storage reported by Commission for January 2008 is 295,721,290 Mef compared to 308,049,741 Mef in January 2007. The February 2008 gas

storage estimate is 273,062,864 Mef.

The Texas Railroad Commission's Oil and Gas Division set initial March 2008 natural gas production allowables for prorated fields in the state to meet market demand of 16,284,379 Mef (thousand cubic feet). In setting the initial March 2008 allowables, the Commission used historical production figures from previous months, producers' demand forecasts for the coming month and adjusted the figures based on well capability. These initial allowables will be adjusted after actual pro-

duction for March 2008 is reported.

Ed Jones ranked No. 1

The financial services firm Edward Jones recently was named the No. 1 company in the "75 Best Companies to Work for in Texas" ranking by Texas Monthly magazine.

The ranking was based on an employer inventory of practices and an anonymous survey of associates.

Edward Jones has 984 branch offices all over Texas.

Local realty board to stage auction fund-raiser

The Pampa Board of REALTORS®, Inc., will stage a fund-raiser auction to benefit the Texas Real Estate Political Action Committee. The auction, an annual event, will take place at 6 p.m. Friday, April 4 in the M.K. Brown Room of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce Building.

The local board is currently seeking auction items. To donate an item, call Maxine Watson at 669-2522.

The committee is a voluntary, nonprofit group dedicated to protecting the free

rights of property owners, to fighting homeowner insurance problems within the state, and to fighting other issues facing property owners at the government level. Membership consists of Realtors and other interested individuals.

As a political action committee, the organization must comply with all federal and state campaign investment laws. The voluntary investments received are used to support candidates for federal, state and local offices. According to a news release

from the board, the committee is not affiliated with any one political party.

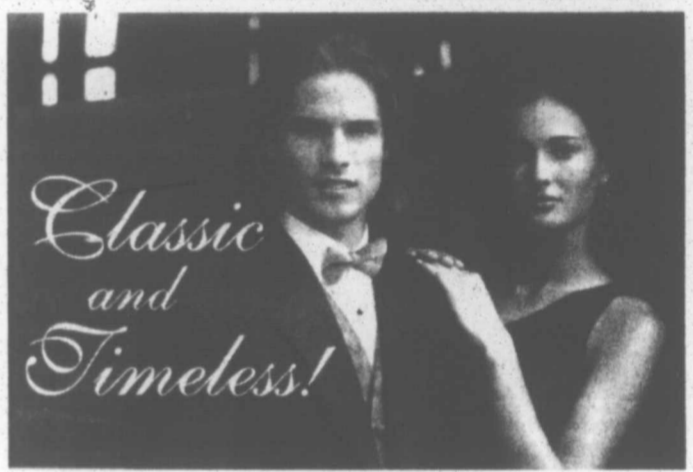
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(LEFT) DAN THOMPSON, DIRECTOR OF THE PANHANDLE SINGING MEN AND THE MINISTER OF MUSIC AT TRINITY BAPTIST IN AMARILLO. (RIGHT) TODD BLACKHURST, ACCOMPANIST OF THE PANHANDLE SINGING MEN AND THE YOUTH MINISTER AT TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH IN AMARILLO

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Pampa ISD Events for the week of MARCH 24-29

Pampa High School
 March 24 • "Charley's Aunt" Production • 7:00pm • Auditorium
 March 25 • UIL One Act Play
 March 27 • Cheerleading Tryout Info Meeting • 7:00pm • Cafeteria
 March 27 • Joe Dicosimo Band Concert
 March 28 & 29 • UIL Academics WTAMU
 March 28 • "Grease" Performance for Elementary Schools • 9:00am

Pampa Jr. High
 March 24 • Pre-Enrollment for 6th and 7th Grade Begins
 March 25 • Student Council • 1:55pm
 March 27 • Pre- UIL Concert for 7th and 8th Grade Choir • 7:00pm
 March 27 • Band Festival

Lamar Elementary
 March 24 • 28-Scholastic Book Fair • 8:30AM-3:00PM
 March 25 • Open House • 6:00-7:00PM
 March 25 & 27 • Kid's Café • 5:30-6:30 PM

Wilson
 March 24 • Monday Morning Celebration (2nd & 3rd Grade Awards)
 March 24 & 26 • Kids Café • 5:30-6:30 PM
 March 25 • ESL • 1:30-2:30 PM
 March 26 • Power Hour
 March 28 • 1st Grade WOWW trip to Botanical Gardens

March 27-School Board Meeting 6:00pm

Viewpoints

Spitzer: We're picking on the wrong party

Along with most Americans, the media have swooned over Eliot Spitzer like women swooning over Barack Obama (about whom they are also aswoon), but are now outraged over the departing New York governor for doing naughty things to what appears to be a battery of hookers.

They're picking on the wrong perpetrator. What Spitzer did to those ladies of the night — and the voters of New York — the Democrat Congress has been doing to us. That's where we ought to be focusing our rage.

Spitzer, the scourge of Wall Street (which he claimed, often groundlessly, was exploiting stockholders), came into office prom-

ising to reform the state's government, which he claimed was exploiting the people of New York. Instead he seems to have spent a lot of time with hookers and the voters of New York State.

Madam Pelosi and her co-conspirator Harry Reid took over the House and Senate promising to reform Capitol Hill. Spitzer cavorted with hookers; Pelosi and Reid proceeded hoodwinked the American people.

At this very moment, the safety of the American people is at risk thanks to Pelosi and the House Democratic leadership, who won't let the House vote to allow the government to monitor communications between terrorists plotting to wreak havoc on

the citizens of the U.S.

On Feb. 16, 2008, House Democrats allowed the terrorist surveillance program to expire, putting the American people in danger. The following week, the House left for a 10-day vacation.

Michael Reagan
Columnist



As Bloomberg News noted, Democrats have sought to block the Protect America Act, fully aware that it would pass with overwhelming bipartisan support, just as the Senate bill did earlier in February by a vote of 68-29. Pelosi and Reid and their

fellow Democrats are planning to stick it to taxpayers by refusing to extend the Bush tax cuts, which got us out of the post-Clinton recession and spurred economic growth on a heroic scale. They expire at the end of 2010.

If Democrats have their way, we will suffer the largest tax increase in American history — as much as \$2 trillion according to some experts.

The National Center for Policy Analysis has reported that the U.S. Department of the Treasury estimated that "repealing the 2001 and

2003 tax cuts would raise taxes an average of \$1,544 for more than 100 million Americans and cost a married couple with an income of \$40,000 and two children \$1,933 annually."

That's royal exploitation, and it's the American people being exploited.

An increasing number of top scientists are disputing the claims of Al Gore and his fellow global-warming alarmists that the rise in atmospheric levels of CO2 is caused by human activity or that the rise is causing global warming. Despite growing evidence that the critics are correct, Congressional Democrats are attempting to impose restrictions that would put an additional bur-

den of billions of dollars on industry and commerce at the very time when the economy is crippled.

With clear and convincing evidence that the surge is working in Iraq, and that the Iraqis are now shouldering more and more of the burden of fighting al Qaeda, House and Senate Democrats continue to insist that the war is lost and are demanding that the United States withdraw from Iraq before the job is done, thus exposing the Iraqis to a rebirth of al Qaeda and threatening the entire Middle East to new terrorism.

Democrats' promises to reform the sleazy process

See REAGAN, Page 5

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Easter Sunday, March 23, the 83rd day of 2008. There are 283 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 23, 1775, Patrick Henry delivered his famous call for American independence from Britain, telling the Virginia Provincial Convention, "Give me liberty, or give me death!"

On this date:

In 1743, George Frideric Handel's oratorio "Messiah" had its London premiere. (During the "Hallelujah Chorus," Britain's King George II, who was in attendance, stood up — followed by the entire audience.)

In 1792, Joseph Haydn's Symphony No. 94 in G Major (the "Surprise" symphony) was performed publicly for the first time, in London.

In 1806, explorers Lewis and Clark, having reached the Pacific coast, began their journey back east.

In 1919, Benito Mussolini founded his Fascist political movement in Milan, Italy.

'A conscience which has been bought once will be bought twice.'

— Norbert Wiener
American mathematician
(1894-1964)

In 1933, the German Reichstag adopted the Enabling Act, which effectively granted Adolf Hitler dictatorial powers.

In 1956, Pakistan became an Islamic republic.

In 1965, America's first two-person space flight began as Gemini 3 blasted off from Cape Kennedy with astronauts Virgil Grissom and John Young aboard for a nearly five-hour flight. (Young had sneaked a corned beef sandwich on board, for which he was later reprimanded.)

In 1983, President Reagan first proposed developing technology to intercept incoming enemy missiles — a proposal that came to be known as the Strategic Defense Initiative, as well as "Star Wars."

In 1983, Dr. Barney Clark, recipient of a Jarvik permanent artificial heart, died at the University of Utah Medical Center after 112 days with the device.

In 2001, Russia's orbiting Mir space station ended its 15-year odyssey with a planned fiery plunge into the South Pacific.

Ten years ago: President Clinton hailed "the new face of Africa" as he opened a historic six-nation tour in Ghana. The Supreme Court allowed term limits for state lawmakers. Russian President Boris Yeltsin fired his Cabinet. At the Academy Awards, "Titanic" tied the record by winning 11 Oscars, including best picture, director (James Cameron) and song ("My Heart Will Go On").



www.capeartists.com

Idle American: A paid political 'quack'

To be wakened an hour before alarms jangle on the first day we've "sprung forward" to Daylight Saving Time borders on the inhumane.

Slumber interruption at an hour when sleep is deepest is about as welcome as an FAA inspector at a stockholders' meeting of Southwest Airlines.

And it's even worse when the raucous noise seems comparable to the sound emitted by the AFLAC duck with one foot in a mud puddle and the other in a light socket. ...

I wobbled to the window, and there stood my Uncle Mort on his golf cart, both jaws puffed as he blasted away on a duck call.

There were headphones dangling from the canopy, eight-track tape players in boxes and signs plastered all

over the cart reading "honk if you're tired of campaign commercials."

I'm here to tell you it was a sight equal to the farmer's wife spotting the blind mice. Mort's vehicle of choice had a l w a y s looked like what it is — a golf cart.

He'd always pat it, kick a tire and then brag on "miles per cup" of gasoline. This day, it looked more like a reject from a Shrine parade. ...

"I know it's early, nephew," he began. "But when I see a clear path to a fast buck, I have to get moving."

(Aunt Maude, back at home in the thicket, claims that her hubby's "fast buck"

ideas typically turn into plug nickels, and slow ones at that.)

He asked if I'm as tired of radio and TV pitches of political candidates as he is.

My mind, reeling with the ongoing spiels that clog the airways, was weary. I was only half awake, but my emphatic answer was easy: "Yes!" ...

I told him of my sorrow that presidential elections fall on leap years, giving all candidates an extra 24 hours to spend gazillions of dollars on advertising. Mort nodded knowingly.

"And there's so much sameness in those 30-second appeals," Mort pointed out. Yep, we learn the names

of campaign treasurers by heart, and that the respective candidates "approve the message." Mort sized it up well: "Who cares who the treasurers are, and shouldn't message approval be determined by the voters instead of the candidates?" ...

"I was up to my ears in paid political announcements the other day, but thankfully, the very next ad struck my fancy," Mort said. "It was for a duck call so authentic that it attracts decoys."

That explained the raucous noise that had wakened me, but it didn't explain the headphones and tape players.

"Needing to strike while the iron is hot is why I'm getting an early start on the day," Mort continued apolo-

See NEWBURY, Page 5

Don Newbury
Columnist



THE PAMPA NEWS
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Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ March 14

The Dallas Morning News on the EPA's new ozone limits:

The Environmental Protection Agency managed to anger scientists, industries and environmentalists at once with this week's announcement of new ozone limits.

Facing pressure to either do nothing or significantly strengthen pollution rules, the EPA essentially split the difference by making modest changes, eschewing the more aggressive approach that its own science advisers had unanimously recommended.

In this case, meeting in the middle

was not the answer. Federal law requires that science supersede economics in this process, and recent research made clear that a stricter standard was necessary to protect public health. But White House interference and political pressure clouded the EPA's scientific judgment.

The EPA's effort to find middle ground will mean that more people will die prematurely. More will suffer heart attacks. And more people will have respiratory problems, research shows.

While the federal government opted for a less-than-aggressive approach, the new limit will present substantial challenges for the Dallas-Fort Worth area, which has failed to comply with existing pollution rules. With Wednesday's announcement, North Texas fell even

further behind.

Amazingly, our state's environmental officials have responded so far with fussing and fighting, arguing against cleaner air at every turn. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has sided with industry while casting aside scientific evidence.

But now, with tougher limits looming, the TCEQ has no choice but to refocus on developing new pollution-reduction strategies. Areas with the most pollution will have up to 20 years to comply, but given the current state of our air, North Texas will need every minute.

In the past, state officials have settled for a path of least resistance from

See OZONE, Page 5

Book review

Local P.E.O. Sisterhood to host special presenter

P.E.O. Sisterhood preparing for annual fund-raiser Chapter CS, the local chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, will again present its annual book review with Carol Smith Headrick at 2 p.m. March 30 at in the parlor of First Presbyterian Church. Ms. Headrick will review "Stranger and Traveler - The Story of Dorothea Dix - American Reformer" by Dorothy Clarke Wilson.

The book was written in 1975. Dix lived from 1802-1887. Dorothea Lynde Dix spent her life teaching, working for the humane treatment of the mentally ill, prison reform and being superintendent of nurses during the Civil War.

An unhappy childhood helped Dix to identify with society's outcasts. Like many young women of her day, she became a school teacher. In 1841, she volunteered to teach a Sunday school class at the jail in East Cambridge. Among the convicts, shivering in an unheated room, she found some women who were mentally ill.

Why was there no stove to warm them, she demanded? Lunatics, she was told, could not feel the cold, and they would only burn themselves or set the building afire. Dorothea Dix determined to act; she had found her cause.

Dix spent more than a year touring every jail, almshouse and house of correction in Massachusetts. She then presented a report to the legislature asking for funds for an institution specially designed to treat the mentally ill. She did the same in state after state, traveling thousands of miles alone and publicizing the terrible conditions she found.

When the Civil War broke out, she was appointed superintendent of nurses for the Union Army. Unfortunately, this was a role for which she was ill-suited, and controversy swirled around her. After the war, she toured hospitals in the South and in Europe, slowing up but never abandoning her role as a crusader for humane treatment of the insane.

Headrick is a Texas native and a speech-language pathologist. She holds a bachelor of arts degree from Baylor University and a master's in communication disorders from the University of Oklahoma. A professor emeritus form Oklahoma State University, Headrick was an educator for 24 years. She and her husband, Charles, have three sons and three grandchildren.

She reviews one book each spring and has been presenting book reviews to the public for 16 years. She memorizes her text and presents the review in first-person.



COURTESY PHOTO

Carol Smith Headrick will present a book review as part of a fund-raiser hosted by the local chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood. Headrick will review "Stranger and Traveler - The Story of Dorothea Dix - American Reformer" by Dorothy Clarke Wilson. Proceeds will benefit the chapter's scholarship fund.

The book review will be open to the public. Tickets are available for \$10 apiece and will be available at the door. To purchase a ticket in advance, contact Judy Sutton at 665-7064. Proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the chapter's scholarship fund.

Reagan

Continued from Page 4

known as earmarking have kept reformers from gutting this shameful and deceptive practice, thus allowing tens of millions of taxpayer dollars to fund pork projects in members' districts to help them win re-election. Pennsylvania Democrat Rep. John Murtha was named as the number-one porker thanks to the large number of earmarks he managed to push through.

Compared to Congressional Democrats, Eliot Spitzer was a rank amateur in the art of exploitation - he should have learned how to


do it from his Democrat Party colleagues in Washington. They're the real experts.

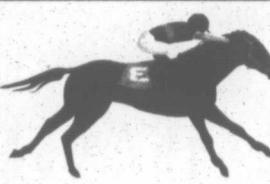
—Mike Reagan, the elder son of the late President Ronald Reagan, is heard on more than 200 talk radio stations nationally as part of the Radio America Network.

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Newbury

Continued from Page 4

getically. "And I need your help."

Slowly, the early morning picture became clearer. Mort explained how he'd "made a killing" on eBay, getting dozens of headphones and eight-track players for a quarter apiece.

"When I heard about that duck call, it came to me in a flash what to do," he bragged.

What he needed, at this juncture, was a repetitious recording of the duck call on an eight-track tape. Our fingers walked to "recording studios" in the Yellow Pages.

"The AFLAC people are no dummies," Mort observed. "They've figured out that a majority of folks enjoy hearing duck quacks."

Mort's plan is to peddle the quacking tapes to people whose tolerance for political announcements is used up.

"I'll drive up and down the highway on my golf cart, motorists will see my signs and honk," he speculated. ...

My uncle had his spiel down pat. He explained how he planned to ask if they are so tired of hearing political ads, they'd prefer hearing ducks quack.

Judging their agreement with the arc of their nods, he'll offer them a \$20 package deal - an eight-track tape with the best duck call ever heard by man (or duck), along with one-size-fits-all headphones.

"When a guy claims that he doesn't have an eight-track player, I'll tell him that this is his lucky day," Mort smiled. "The deal includes an eight-track player, too."

He drove away, continuing his heavy-duty blowing on the duck call. I went back to bed. ...

—Dr. Newbury is a speaker and author in the Metroplex.

Ozone

Continued from Page 4

business groups. The new ozone standards should spur reconsideration of additional pollution controls for cement kilns and improvements to the permitting process for power plants.

The state also must continue to fund and promote its fledgling grant programs that take the dirtiest vehicles and diesel

engines off the road.

While much of the onus will be on policymakers, individuals also can contribute to these efforts by driving less, choosing more efficient vehicles, reducing electricity consumption and purchasing clean energy from their power companies.

Under the old ozone rules, North Texas could see the goal line ahead. But our area now finds itself back at midfield.

We'd better get to work. URL: <http://www.dallasnews.com>

Events calendar

- **Pampa's Tribute** to Woody Guthrie Center is currently seeking memorabilia from the Dust Bowl Days for a special commemoration of this particular period in history April 10-13 at the center. For more information, e-mail lmmb777@hotmail.com.
- **Harrington Cancer Center's** Pampa Support Group will meet from 6:30-7:30 p.m. March 25 in the second floor classroom of Pampa Regional Medical

Center. The program will be the video, "Fun is Fundamental."

• **Scholarships** are currently available for grant-writing workshops March 25-26 in Dallas and March 27-28 in Houston. The partial scholarships are available to nonprofit and faith-based organizations, government agencies, schools and students. For more information, call 1-800-371-5703.

• **The deadline** to regis-

ter for a free Watershed Workshop is March 28. The workshop will be from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. April 2 in the Pilot's Lounge at Curtis Field in Brady. Continuing education units will be awarded in soil and water management to certified crop advisors, to certified science teachers and to general Texas Department of Agriculture pesticide license holders. To register or for more information, call (979) 862-8072.

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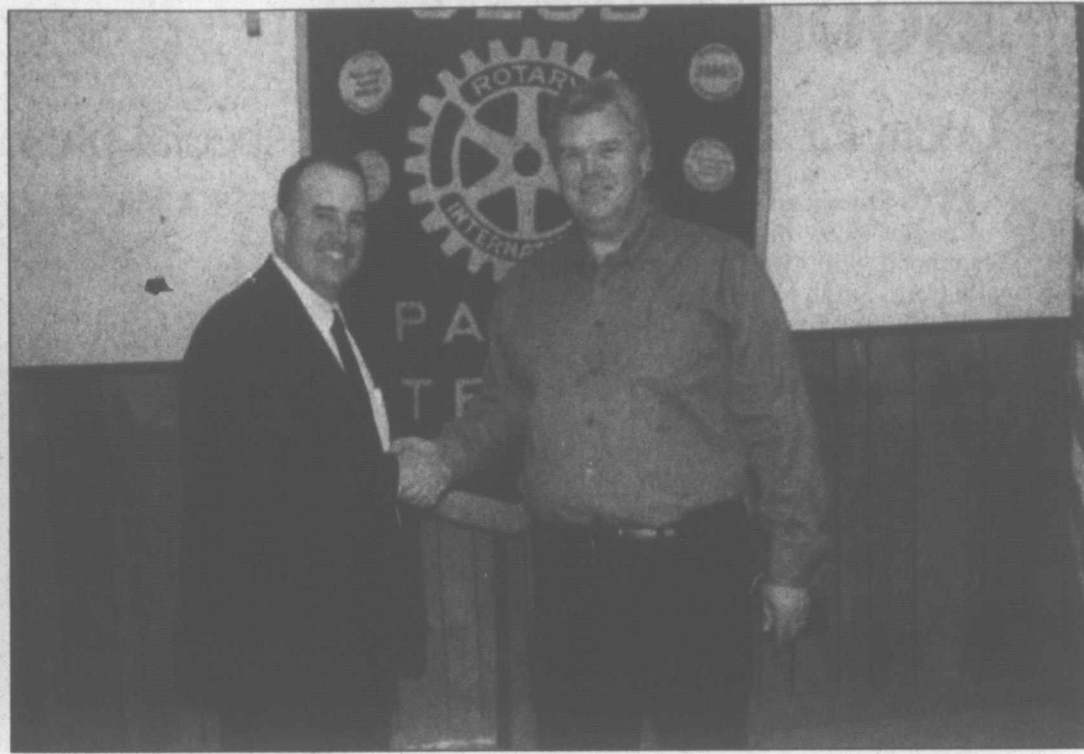
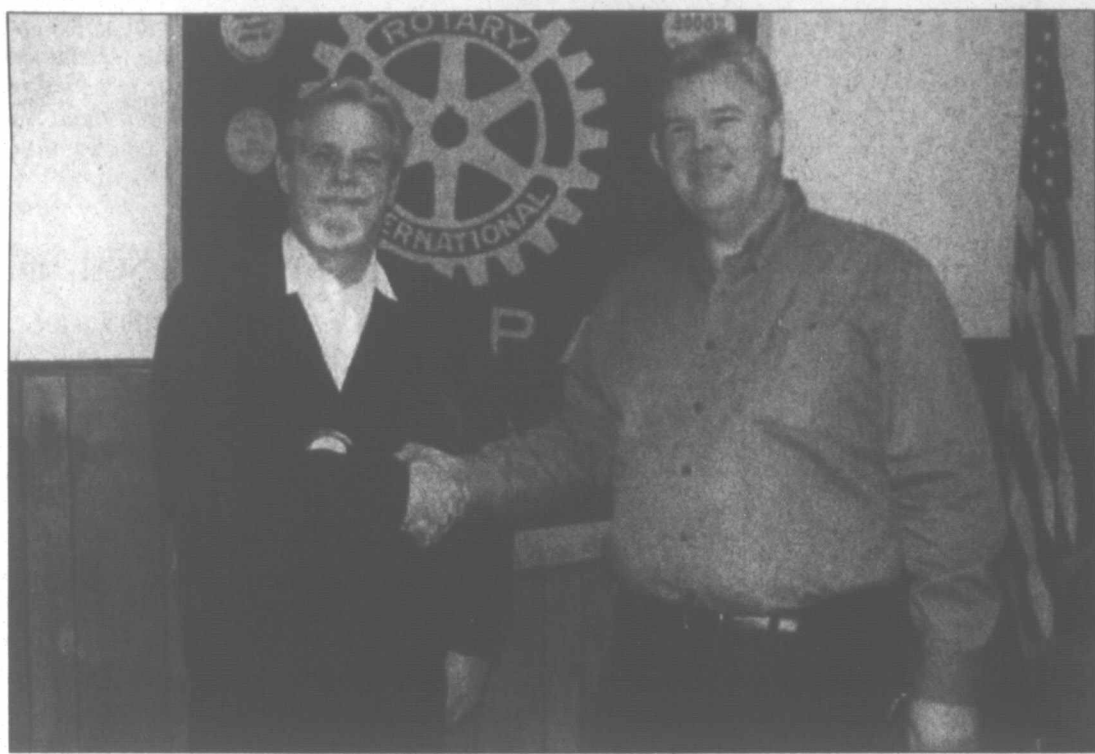
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Rotary Club



COURTESY PHOTOS

Clay Rice recently shook hands with Capt. Mark Martin of the Salvation Army, photo at left, and Todd Lorenz, CEO of Pampa Regional Medical Center, photo at right, during two different meetings of Pampa Rotary Club. Both Martin and Lorenz were guest speakers at the meetings.

Drilling Intentions

Intentions to Drill

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Cordillera Texas, L.P., PD 13000' for the following wells:

#2116 Buckthal, 1877' from North & 1980' from East line, Sec. 16,41,H&TC.

#1918 Hoover, 2099' from North & 1980' from East line, Sec. 18,41,H&TC.

HEMPHILL (HEMPHILL Granite Wash) Cimarex

Energy Co., Hobart Ranch, for the following wells:

#1969, 20' from South & 785' from West line, Sec. 69,A-2,H&GN, PD 12800'.

#2067, 1445' from North & 2069' from West line, Sec. 67,A-2,H&GN, PD 15500'.

HEMPHILL (HEMPHILL Granite Wash) Devon Energy Production Co., L.P., #1 Young '51', 560' from North & 1980' from West line, Sec. 52,A-2,H&GN, PD 15500'.

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & N.W. MENDOTA Granite Wash) Cimarex Energy Co. of Colorado, #7H Isaacs '1', 1385' from South & 2047' from East line, Sec. 1,—, Alfred Lout, PD 12000' (BHL: 1676' from North & 1790' from East Sec. line) Horizontal

HUTCHINSON (HANSFORD Morrow) Laredo Petroleum, Inc., #2 KL West Gas Unit, 726' from South & 850' from West line, Sec. 5,—,FL&C, PD 8350'. Recompletion

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) Linn Operating, Inc., Herring 'A' Tract '2', Sec. 5,J,H&GN, PD 3700', for the following wells:

#120, 430' from South & 1500' from West line of Sec. #121, 1300' from North & 2050' from West line of Sec.

#122, 2375' from South & 1325' from West line of Sec.

HUTCHINSON (WEST PANHANDLE) Linn Operating, Inc., #3A Herring 'A', 650' from North & 750' from West line, Sec. 5,J,H&GN, PD 3400' (BHL: #1, 650' from North & 1525' from East Sec. line, Sec. 5,J,H&GN, PD 3400' (BHL: #1, 650' from North & 1525' from East Sec. line, #2, 1590' from South & 750' from West Sec. line) Horizontal

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE & WEST PANHANDLE) SNW Operating Co., #17 J. Johnson, 1650' from North & West line, Sec. 5,1,B&B PD 3300'.

ROBERTS (WILDCAT & NORTH MENDOTA Upper Morrow) Unit Petroleum Co., #9 Waterfield 'C', 1446' from North & 500' from West line, Sec. 105,C,G&M, PD 11200'.

ROBERTS (RED DEER CREEK Granite Wash) Cimarex Energy Co. of Colorado, #18 Byrum '6', 1095' from North & 2034' from West line, Sec. 6,B-1,H&GN, PD 11000'.

WHEELER (WILDCAT & DYCO Granite Wash) Linn Operating, Inc., #6 Lohberger '25', 2173' from North & 853' from West line, Sec. 25,M-1,H&GN, PD 14620'.

WHEELER (STILES RANCH Atoka) Apache Corp., #804 Stiles '4', 1980' from North & 467' from West line, Sec. 4,A-3,H&GN, PD 18000'. Recompletion

WHEELER (WILDCAT & STILES RANCH Atoka) Apache Corp., #1468R Stiles '48', 1725' from South & 1980' from East line, Sec. 68,A-7,H&GN, PD 18000'.

WHEELER (WILDCAT & MILLS RANCH Atoka) Forest Oil Corp., #2043 Davis, 1001' from North & 1776' from East line, Sec. 43,A-7,H&GN, PD 16600'.

WHEELER (WILDCAT & STILES RANCH Atoka) Chesapeake Operating, Inc., #6 Legg '6', 467' from North & 937' from East line, Sec. 6,E,G.W. Jacobs, PD 18000'.

WHEELER (WILDCAT & STILES RANCH Atoka) Linn Operating, Inc., for the following wells:

#3 Dobson Ranch, 1749' from South & 1908' from East line, Sec. 40,A-3,H&GN, PD 16790'.

#5 Rizley '22', 2173' from North & 467' from West line, Sec. 22,A-3,H&GN, PD 16500'.

WHEELER (WILDCAT & STILES RANCH Atoka & Granite Wash) Apache Corp., #1219 Bartz '19', 1980' from North & East line, Sec. 19,A-3,H&GN, PD 18000'.

WHEELER (WILDCAT & WEST PARK Granite Wash) Linn Operating, Inc., #2 Donelson '15', 1980' from North & 660' from East line, Sec. 15,RE,R&E, PD 15090'.

Oil Well Completions

ROBERTS (LARD RANCH Granite Wash) Linn Operating, Inc., #1 Flowers 'QCSL', Clay County School Lands, spud 9-17-07, drlg. compl 9-27-07, test-

See INTENTS, Page 7

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED



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WEST TEXAS A&M

Banker to address next lecture series

CANYON — Gerald J. Ford, a renowned banker most recognized for buying and selling thrift banks, will be the first guest speaker for the 2008 West Texas A&M University Investment Series.

The meeting is at noon Wednesday, April 2 at the Amarillo Club, Sunburst Room.

The buffet line opens at 11:45 a.m., and the public is invited to attend; however, seating is limited and reservations are appropriate. Contact Dr. Anne Macy, Edwards Professor of Finance and director of the Investment Series, at 806-651-2523 or amacy@wtamu.edu.

Ford, originally from

Pampa, is chairman of the board and principle shareholder of First Acceptance Corporation and Hilltop Holdings, Inc. He also serves as a director of McMoRan Exploration Company, Freeport-McMoRan Cooper and Gold Inc., and Scientific Games Corp. Ford bought his first bank in 1975 and sold it for a profit of \$80 million. Most recently, he sold Golden State Bancorp to Citigroup for \$6 billion, according to Macy.

"The economy, the market, oil prices and the election have provided a wild ride over the past few months," Macy said. "The rising oil prices indicate inflation, and the slowing economy indicates a

recession. With so much conflicting information, the 2008 Investment Series is ready to provide a lot of new ideas, and having Mr. Ford present 'The State of the Banking Industry' gives us an excellent start."

The WTAMU Investment Series features lectures and presentations several times a year from professionals in the financial world, and series members pay \$200 annually, which is placed in an investment portfolio managed by the WTAMU Portfolio Management class.

Earnings from the portfolio, membership dues and donations are used to fund WTAMU scholarships of \$1,000 or more.

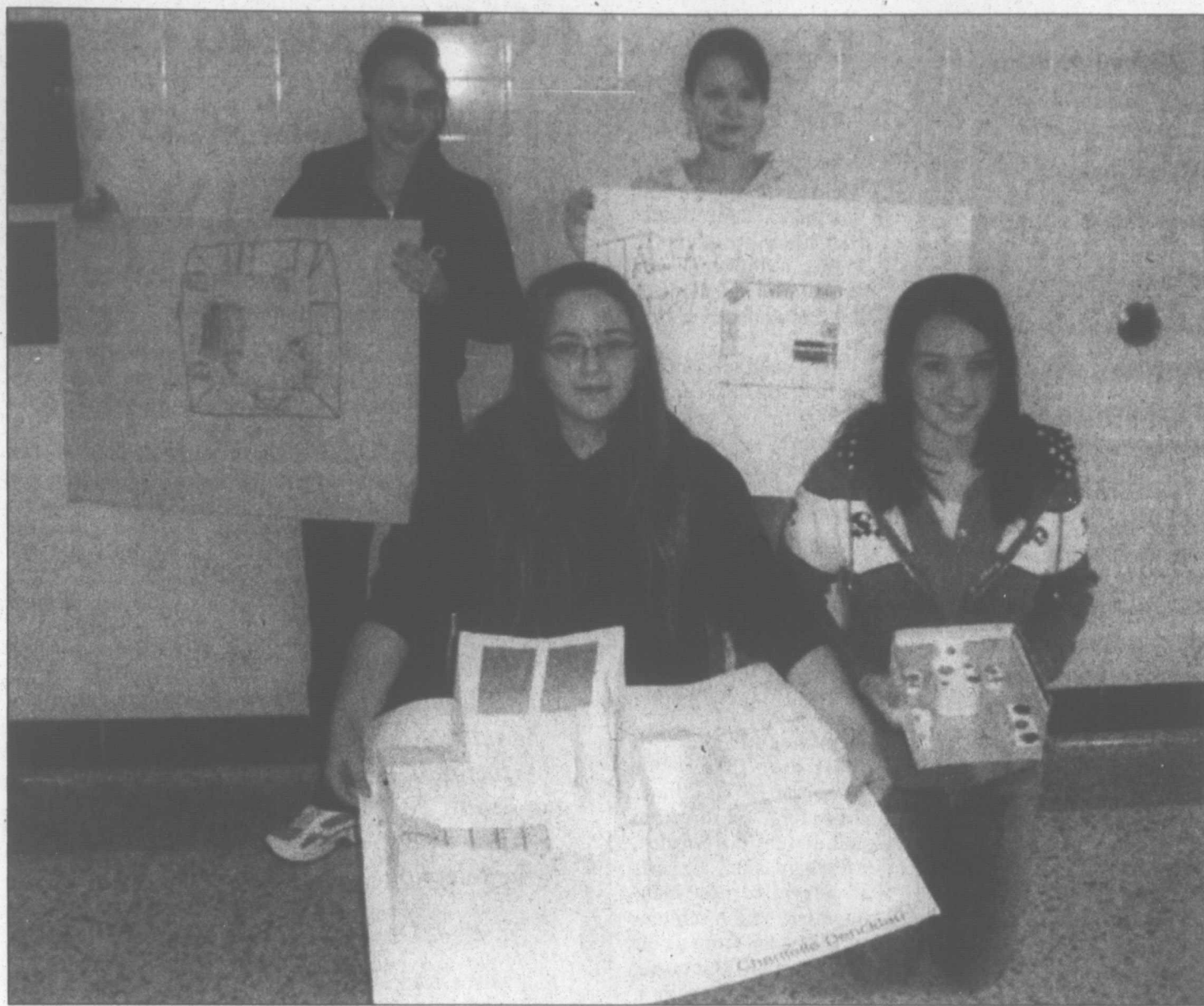


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Class project

(Back, from left) Molly Andorfer, Talia Watson, (front, l-r) Chantelle Dencklau and Elizabeth Woody recently drew up their own plans to down-scale their bedrooms as part of their studies with the Pre-ap math class at Pampa Junior High School.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Educator's EXPO offers one-stop job search

CANYON — West Texas A&M University will host a one-stop, find-a-job event for education majors on Wednesday, March 26 at the First United Bank Center.

That's when school districts from across the region will be on hand from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. for the University's annual Educator's EXPO.

Educator's EXPO is sponsored by WTAMU's Office of Career and Counseling Services and gives education majors and prospective teachers an opportunity to learn more about different school districts, personnel needs and the career paths offered. School districts from Amarillo to Waxahachie as well as districts in New Mexico and Kansas will be represented at the event. Job openings range from special education to math and science.

WTAMU students and any educator certified to teach as of fall 2008 are invited to attend. Underclassmen also are encouraged to attend to see what prospective employers are looking for and what the various school districts have to offer.

"All students who may be considering teaching as a career are encouraged to come to the EXPO," Kim Muller, assistant director of career and counseling services, said. "It's a great source of information, not just for those looking for a job, but for anyone interested in the field of education."

Those attending are encouraged to bring multiple copies of their résumés and an official transcript. Some districts will be conducting interviews on-site after the job fair, and others will do on-the-spot interviews during the EXPO for openings in their school districts.

Educator's EXPO is free and allows students to make contact with a large number of school systems at one time, in one place. The event also helps students make decisions

Experts discuss pest-proof building ideas

By MIKE JACKSON
Extension News

DALLAS — "Green buildings" might be good at keeping out cold air in the winter and heat during the summer, but they're often open to bugs and other pests year-round, said experts with Texas AgriLife Extension.

"We're finding that most buildings, even green ones, can be better designed to keep pests out," said Dr. Mike Merchant, an AgriLife Extension entomologist based in Dallas.

Pest control is often ignored by architects who design green buildings — those certified under the Leadership in Energy Environmental Design rating system, Merchant said. But it shouldn't.

As interest in green architecture grows, architects should consider including pest management features in their plans, said Michael Kawecki, chair emeritus with the U.S. Green Building Council

North Texas Chapter, the group that certifies green buildings.

"Integrating pest management ideas into the design of green buildings makes sense," Kawecki said.

Some experts in pest management, architecture and engineering agreed at a three-day seminar recently hosted by AgriLife Extension in Dallas.

About 40 of them met to share ideas on designing pest-proof public and commercial buildings. They discussed how integrated pest management concepts could be blended with green-building designs.

They came up with dozens of ideas, and their suggestions will eventually be refined in a list prepared by AgriLife Extension for architects, engineers and builders, Merchant said.

Some ideas included screening weep holes, sealing utility conduits and installing small window ledges to deter birds, they said. Standard garbage

dumpsters, a magnet for pests, could be replaced by sealed trash compactors.

"We are especially interested in how these ideas might be used to protect school kids from pests and unnecessary pesticide use," said Janet Hurley, an AgriLife Extension program specialist in school pest management. "But many of the suggestions could eventually be applied to all kinds of buildings."

During a break in the meetings, participants toured Hector Garcia Middle School, a certified green building in the Dallas school district. Garcia's principal, Gary Auld, acknowledged that mice have been a problem.

It was clear to the group how the rodents got in.

"See that mouse doorway and welcome mat?" Merchant said while pointing out a tiny space between the bases of two glass doors. He said it doesn't take much for a rodent to slip in.

Pest-resistant features are

See PEST, Page 8

See EXPO, Page 8

2nd Annual Cindy Cooper Pampa Special Olympics GOLF SCRAMBLE

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Intents

Continued from Page 6

PBTD 9500' —

Gas Well Completions

HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Linn Operating, Inc., #12 Lola '235', Sec. 235,C,G&MMB&A, spud 9-17-07, drlg. compl 10-5-07, tested 11-12-07, TD 13675', PBTD 13184'

HEMPHILL (HEMPHILL Granite Wash) Cimarex Energy Co., #2368 Hobart Ranch, Sec. 68,A-2,H&GN, spud 11-26-07, drlg. compl 12-17-07, tested 2-6-08, potential 3063 MCF, TD 12805', PBTD 12713' —

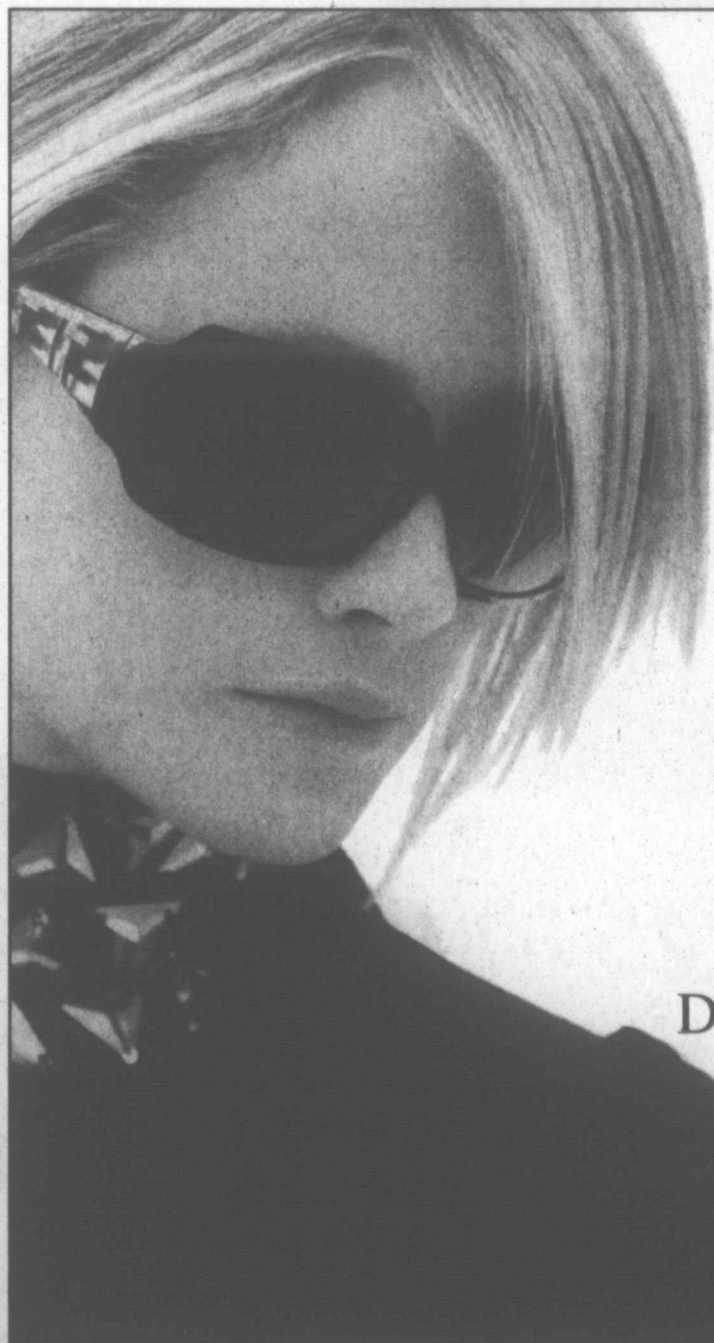
HEMPHILL (HEMPHILL Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star, L.L.C., #15 Hobart '67', Sec. 67,A-2,H&GN, spud 11-13-07, drlg. compl 12-1-07, tested 2-14-08, TD 12447', PBTD 12370' —

WHEELER (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Devon Energy Production Co., L.P., #5036 Hefley, Sec. 36,M-1,H&TC, spud 10-12-07, drlg. compl 11-9-07, tested 12-22-07, TD 13800', PBTD 13760' —

WHEELER (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star, L.L.C., #8048 Hefley, Sec. 48,M-1,H&TC, spud 11-20-07, drlg. compl 12-18-07, tested 2-21-08, TD 13700', PBTD 13666' —

WHEELER (MILLS RANCH Granite Wash) Crest Resources, Inc., #6045 Fabian, Sec. 45,A,H&GN, spud 7-3-07, drlg. compl 9-6-07, tested 2-12-08, potential 702 MCF, TD 12777', PBTD 12758' —

ed 2-13-08, flowed 58.9 bbl. of 56.4 grav. oil + 35 bbls. water thru 42/64" choke on 24 hour test, GOR 10203, TD 9500',



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Pest

Cont. from Page 7

seldom considered when a building is being designed, said James McClure, president of Estes, McClure and Associates, an engineering and consulting firm in Tyler.

"We need to bring all parties together during the planning phase," McClure said. "Architects, engineers, plumbers, construction administrators and pest management experts should be working together at a round table."

The meeting's expenses were covered by an \$18,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Cooperative State, Research, Education and Extension Service, Merchant said. Experts in integrated pest management and architecture traveled from as far as Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Wisconsin and Washington, D.C.

FCC grant to create broadband network to help rural West

By SUE MAJOR HOLMES
Associated Press Writer

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — In rural areas, where accessing health care is often a challenge, the doctors and patients of the future will increasingly be linked by virtual interstates.

That's the vision of Dr. Dale Alverson, who predicts clinics, hospitals and private doctors' offices will routinely be hooked into a computerized network for telemedicine, allowing specialists to review records of faraway patients, analyze tests remotely and consult doctors elsewhere.

"I believe, in the end, telehealth will be part of doing business in the health field, just like we use the telephone," said Alverson, medical director of the Center for Telehealth at the University of New Mexico's Health Sciences Center. "It won't be looked at as something unique or special; it's just what we do. ... Just as for many of us now it's second nature to use the Internet and the Web for health information."

— Dr. Dale Alverson

A \$15.5 million grant from the Federal Communications

Commission to the Center for Telehealth and Cybermedicine Research at the Health Sciences Center will be used to design, build, operate and evaluate a Southwest Telehealth Access Grid, a broadband network largely serving rural areas that typically lack such technology.

The grant to increase the bandwidth will be a boon to New Mexico, said Gary Bauerschmidt, UNM's director for information technology services and co-chairman of the network design and modeling committee.

"There's a lot of sites that have no connectivity or very poor connectivity," he said. "Telehealth is such an advantage here. Doctors just can't travel around our state, and when you get to the reservations, it's even more challenging."

The grid of telehealth networks will support rural systems and connections to more than 500 sites, primarily in New Mexico and Arizona, along with several Indian Health Service sites in Colorado, California, Nevada, Texas and Utah.

"What this really means is a network of networks, a virtual electronic highway that allows you as a patient to access health care at a distance," Alverson said.

See RURAL, Page 9.

EXPO

Continued from Page 7

about any additional classes or activities they may need to complete their coursework for a certain career path.

Community members who are certified teachers are also welcome to attend and network with the school district representatives.

For more information about the WTAMU Educator's EXPO, please call the Office of Career and Counseling Services at 806-651-2345 or visit <http://wtcareer.wtamu.edu>.

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Agriculture economy remains strong, says banker

Panhandle-Plains Land Bank CEO Robert R. Williams, Jr. issued the association's 2007 report following delivery of the Farm Credit System financial reports recently.

Williams' report includes end of year volume numbers which were again significantly above projections for the year. "2007 has been another very strong year for the association as we close the books at \$353.7 million in total volume," he said. "The driving force this past year has been retail volume, or real estate loans we make in the panhandle and south plains. Our participation portfolio continues to be a good income source and provides portfolio diversity; however, retail growth is a better indicator of how our local agriculture economy is doing."

"Each of our offices enjoyed an excellent year reflecting a good crop and overall strong commodity prices. These factors are pushing up land values and keeping credit quality very good," he added.

As is the nature of West Texas agriculture, Williams recognized that some areas had to deal with late season hail and lack of moisture; however, the area overall enjoyed a very good year.

"Good quality, productive land is in high demand, and that drives up values," explained Williams. "Even at these higher prices, agriculture land is a good investment providing an acceptable return. Our market analysis finds that rural recreation tracts are holding in value as well."

Reflecting the good year, the board of directors announced the 2008 patronage at their January meeting. This year's cash payment to stockholders will total \$2.835 million. Checks will be available at regional customer appreciation meetings being held the week of March 3 through the 7 at the four credit office locations of the association.

The association also announced the hiring of an additional loan officer at the Amarillo office. Blain Eubank joined the Amarillo team this past summer. He returned to the association having worked in the Pampa office some years ago.

Panhandle-Plains Land Bank provides long-term credit to farmers, ranchers and agribusiness in 17 counties of the Panhandle and South Plains. Offices are located in Amarillo, Pampa, Perryton and Plainview.

Its under the direction of a stockholder-elected board of directors. Members include Larry E. Fairchild of Adrian; Dennis Babcock of Groom; Randy Darnell of Amarillo; Ronnie N. Hopper of Petersburg; Don James of Plainview; Rusty Henson of Quitaque; Steve Rader of Canadian; Daniel Krienke of Perryton; Wayne Garrett of Gruver; and Steve Brown of Floydada.

Cattle Raisers applaud funds to fight fever ticks

FORT WORTH — "Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association applauds the decision of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to make an additional \$5.2 million available in the fight against cattle fever ticks," Jon Means, association president, recently said.

"USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's decision to make additional funds available," Means continued, "will help provide more resources in the fight against fever tick outbreaks. Last summer, TSCRA requested the USDA release and the Office of Management and Budget approve \$13 million for the Cattle Fever Tick Eradication Program."

Left uncontrolled, Means said, the ticks could transmit the fever throughout the nation's cattle herds thereby escalating food costs and costing the industry an estimated \$1 billion a year.

Fever ticks can carry and transmit a tiny parasite that causes the fever, a disease that can kill up to 90 percent of infected cattle, the association reports. The ticks once extended across the southeastern United States from the Atlantic coast around to the Gulf Coast and into Texas and Oklahoma.

The Texas Animal Health Commission was established in 1893 to fight the disease. Since 1943, the fever has been eradicated in the United States except for a permanent quarantine zone that was established in 1938 along the Rio Grande River in South Texas.

The permanent quarantine zone covers 852-square miles through eight South Texas counties. Due to recent increased infestations, the commission has imposed additional temporary quarantines over 1,100-square miles across the counties of Starr, Zapata, Maverick, Dimmit and Webb.

Rural

Continued from Page 8

Eventually, telemedicine could make virtual house calls, he said. With an aging population and a related increase in chronic disease, "the shift is more to getting the care to the patient where they live," Alverson said.

Telemedicine isn't new. The Health Sciences Center has had programs for a dozen years and already connects to nearly 100 sites in 50 communities. It offers telemedicine services in behavioral health, substance abuse and developmental disabilities, among others.

But the grid offers a chance to expand.

"The idea with the FCC is not only to support our region, but eventually to connect these regions for a national telehealth network," Alverson said. The Southwest initiative was one of 69 nationwide the FCC funded.

A grid would not only improve the network for patient care and training health professionals, it would also allow people to switch into emergency mode for disasters or emergencies such as a flu pandemic, he said.

Leonard Thomas, chief medical officer for the Albuquerque area

Indian Health Service — which serves 86,000 largely rural residents from southern Colorado to El Paso, Texas — said the IHS is maxing out its current infrastructure for telemedicine.

Through telemedicine, screenings done in rural areas can be reviewed by urban specialists. Patients who need additional care could travel for it, while those who don't could avoid hours away from home and work, Alverson said.

A grid would let the Albuquerque area IHS offer more than the teleradiology, teleophthalmology and telepsychology it now has. There are about 60 telemedicine services the network could make available, Thomas said.

"There's a whole array out there that our providers could definitely use," he said.

Alverson expects demand to increase as people see the network's value.

"Telehealth doesn't replace the value of physical interaction," he said. "It can't do everything, but it goes a long way to augment" doctor-patient relationships.

Telemedicine offers virtual travel to bring the patient to specialized care, allowing doctors to spot problems earlier, make adjustments in the patient's care and avoid trips to far-away specialists, Alverson said.

For example, specialized cameras can screen for eye diseases associated with chronic conditions such as diabetes. Screenings can detect problems early, allowing intervention to prevent blindness.

Through telemedicine, screenings done in rural areas can be reviewed by urban specialists. Patients who need additional care could travel for it, while those who don't could avoid hours away from home and work, Alverson said.

"It's not only keeping people healthier in their community, but it's also keeping them in that community," he said.

On the Net:
 UNM Health Sciences Center:
<http://hsc.unm.edu/som/telehealth>
 FCC Office for the Advancement of Telehealth:
<http://www.hrsa.gov/telehealth>

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Museum Mementos

Gray County native honored in Taos ...

The museum has received a copy of "Among the Taos Moderns," a book in the series of Bell Tower Editions

documenting major artists of New Mexico. The photos in the book are the work of Mildred Tolbert who died on

Jan. 22, 2008, at her home in Taos de Ranchos, N.M.

Born on Jan. 8, 1919, Mildred was the daughter of Weimer S. Tolbert and Ariana McAfee. All four of her grandparents were pioneers in Gray County. Her sisters are Burton Bearden of Amarillo and Frances McMurry of Haskell, Okla. Mildred and her sisters attended Gray County's first school, originally known as "High Windy." Later they finished high school in

Pampa where they lived with their maternal grandmother, Mrs. A.B. McAfee at 529 N. Somerville.

As a young child, Mildred was fascinated by the photo albums and memory books made by her mother, and she began to make her own memory book. At the age of 12, she received a Box Brownie camera and began taking her own pictures of family and friends.

After graduating from Pampa High in 1936, Mildred took a course in basic photography at the college that has become North Texas State University at Denton. She attended West Texas State College in Canyon and then went to Texas Tech at Lubbock where she intended to study journalism. Because of her timidity and her dislike of the strong dirt-laden winds of the time, she returned to Pampa and found work at the local Montgomery Ward store.

When World War II was coming to a close, she went back to Taos, but then a young couple urged her to go to New York again. This time she got a job as a printer at Leco Photo Service and, as her circle of friends widened, she began to make freelance portraits of them and their work.

By the summer of 1947, she was again longing for Taos and returned there to set up as a freelance photographer. Judson Crews, a poet and publisher, was also in Taos studying art under the G.I. Bill. Mildred and Judson married in October and lived in Taos for the next 22 years. They raised two daughters, Anna Bush Crews and Carole Crews, entertained friends in a big old house they bought in Ranchos de Taos and pursued their parallel paths of work.

In the two decades after the Second World War, Taos became an authentic crossroads and haven for artists working at the highest cultural level of the times. These artists came to be known as the Taos Moderns. They were a contrast to the Taos Founders whose work centered around the native culture they found in New Mexico. Mildred and her camera were both witness and testament to the heyday of the Taos Moderns.

Mildred's greatest pleasure was photographing visual and literary artists. She

never wanted a studio because she preferred going to the artists' homes, seeing how they lived and relating to them.

Upon leaving Taos in 1966, Mildred studied literature at the University of Houston at El Paso and completed her bachelor of arts degree at the university in 1970. As a recipient of a Wurlitzer Fellowship in 1973, she settled at her home in Ranchos de Taos to write and to live for most of the rest of her life. After separation from her husband in 1972 and eventual divorce in 1979, she resumed the use of her family name.

Mildred spent several years in Pampa caring for her parents. While in Pampa, she helped to prepare "Gray County Heritage," a history book published in observance of the Texas Sesquicentennial in 1986.

In 2005, Mildred's portraits were rediscovered at an exhibition in Tony Abeyta's Gallery, largely due to an early photograph of the renowned Agnes Martin. The next year "Mildred Tolbert: Among the Taos Moderns" was published by Bell Tower Editions.

An exhibition, "The Photography of Mildred Tolbert," opened on Sept. 24, 2006, at the University of New Mexico's Harwood

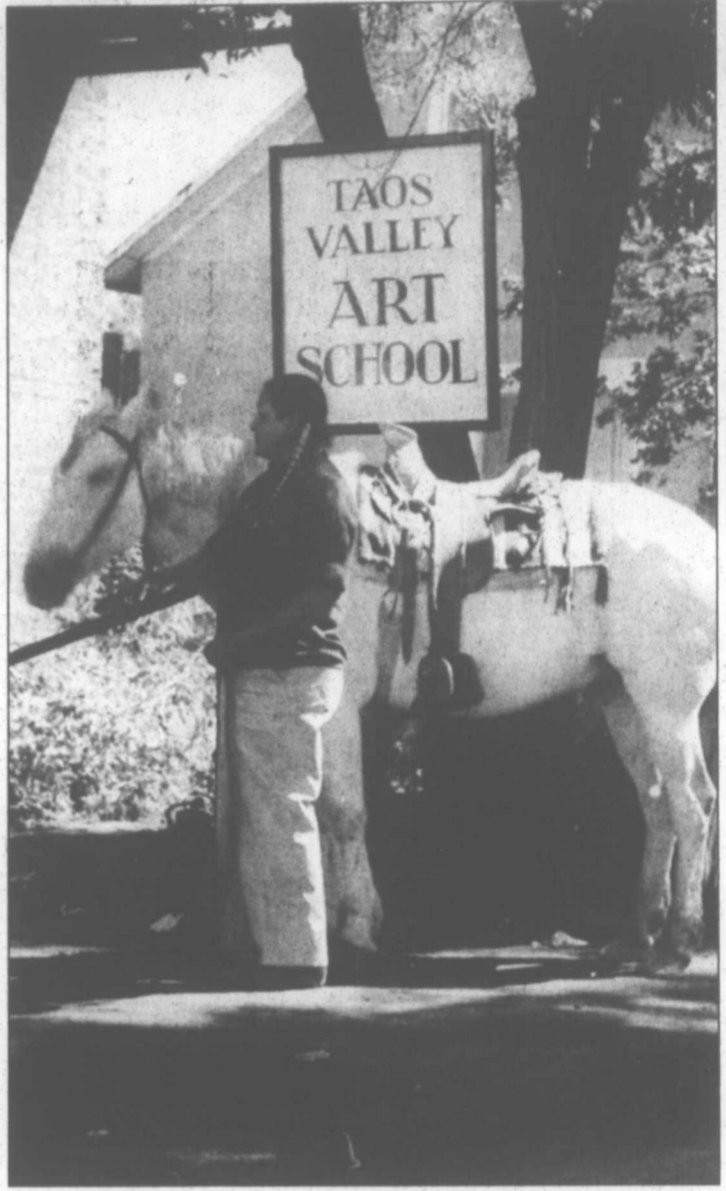


Photo courtesy of BELL TOWER EDITIONS
This photo was taken by Mildred Tolbert and was later used for the cover of the book "Mildred Tolbert: The Taos Moderns." Most of the photos featured in the book were taken in the 1950s and 1960s.

Museum of Art and continued through Dec. 30. Mildred was honored at a public reception on the opening day of the festival.

Many paintings from Mildred's art collection now belong to the Harwood Museum of Art along with her donation of 7,000 of her negatives. These hidden treasures were discovered in a pasteboard box at the museum.

"Originals 2007" was a three-month juried and invitational exhibit featuring multi-genre work by New Mexico women artists. The exhibit, hosted by the Harwood Museum of Art and the Millicent Rogers Museum, opened on Saturday, Sept. 29, 2007, and continued through Dec. 30.

Mildred was one of five Honored Artists recognized at two private awards ceremonies on Friday, Sept. 28. On Saturday, the 29th, there was a luncheon for the artists in the beautiful private garden of a Taos home, and Mildred received a first place prize for her collection of photos. The luncheon was well attended — even by the mayor of Taos.

A memorial service for Mildred was held on Feb. 2, 2008, at the Harwood Museum in Taos. She was well-known and admired for her participation in civic affairs as well as for her photography. Several young photographers expressed their appreciation for the assistance she had given them.

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Altrusa to host annual event

Members of Altrusa International Inc., of Pampa are busy planning the club's Annual Style Show fund-raiser which is set to kick-off at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 12 in the Heritage Room of M.K. Brown Auditorium.

This year's show will follow a circus theme. This theme will be carried out not only in the Style Show dec-

See SHOW, Page 12

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The Easter Egg

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Before the egg became closely entwined with the Christian Easter, it was honored during many rite-of-Spring festivals. The Romans, Gauls, Chinese, Egyptians and Persians all cherished the egg as a symbol of the universe. From ancient times eggs were dyed, exchanged and shown reverence.

In Pagan times the egg represented the rebirth of the earth. The long, hard winter was over; the earth burst forth and was reborn just as the egg miraculously burst forth with life. The egg, therefore, was believed to have special powers.

It was buried under the foundations of buildings to ward off evil; pregnant young Roman women carried an egg on their persons to foretell the sex of their unborn children; French brides stepped upon an egg before crossing the threshold of their new homes.

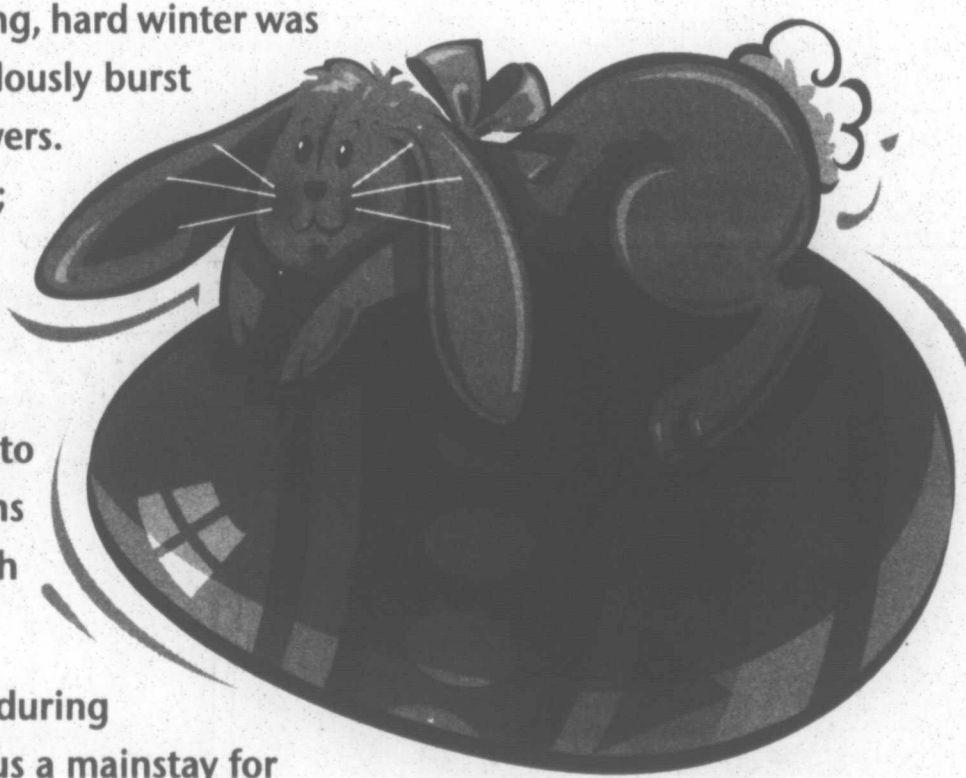
With the advent of Christianity the symbolism of the egg changed to represent, not nature's rebirth, but the rebirth of man. Christians embraced the egg symbol and likened it to the tomb from which Christ rose.

In Medieval Europe, eggs were forbidden during Lent. Eggs laid during that time were often boiled or otherwise preserved. Eggs were thus a mainstay for Easter meals, and a prized Easter gift for children and servants.

Decorating and coloring eggs for Easter was the custom in England during the middle ages. The household accounts of Edward I, for the year 1290, recorded an expenditure of eighteen pence for four hundred and fifty eggs to be gold-leafed and colored for Easter gifts.

The most famous decorated Easter eggs were those made by the well-known goldsmith, Peter Carl Faberge. In 1883 the Russian Czar, Alexander, commissioned Faberge to make a special Easter gift for his wife, the Empress Marie. The first Faberge egg was an egg within an egg. It had an outside shell of platinum and enameled white which opened to reveal a smaller gold egg. The smaller egg, in turn, opened to display a golden chicken and a jeweled replica of the Imperial crown.

This special Faberge egg so delighted the Czarina that the Czar promptly ordered the Faberge firm to design further eggs to be delivered every Easter. In later years Nicholas II, Alexander's son, continued the custom. Fifty-seven eggs were made in all.



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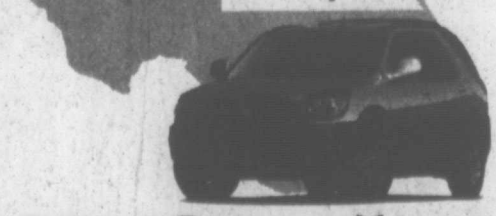
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Pampa JHS honor roll

Pampa Junior High School announced its honor roll for the fourth six-weeks grading period of the 2007-08 school year.

A HONOR ROLL

Sixth Grade. Cyler Brice Clifton, Macy Layne Cochran, Samara Elizabeth Cummins, Lacey Renee Dodson, Marisa Marie Fuentes, Kyle William Gant, Seth Allen Harris, Joshua Jeremiah Hernandez, Jared Leroy Howard, Chelsea Ann Hubanks, Eddie Colton Johnson, Madison McKaylee Joyce, Ashlee Brooke Kieth, Allison Nicole Leigh, Tanner Reid Logan, Megan Elizabeth McCallum, Savanna Victoria Mertz, Alexa Raye O'Brien, Cager Lane Osborne, Nicholas James Penaranda, Jesse Kent Poston, Jacob Clark Sexton, Kelly Marina Silva, Kailey Jade Smiles, Ashton Lynn Standerfer, Kaylee Michelle Suttle, Emily Kaye Terry, Blayne Scot Troxell, Bret Wayne Troxell, Logan Brant Turley, Bailey Ann Wichert, Brooke Arin Woelfle.

Seventh Grade. Rachel Catherine Andrews, Matthew James A. Arnold, Miriam Georgina Avila, Renee Baggerman, Jocelyn Mercedes Brady, Sadie Cheyenne Cobb, Jonathan Michael Cox, Claire Elaine Hopkins, Riddhi Ashwin Jani, Kristen Mackenzie Ladd, Holly Leighann Lane, April Marie Loving, Brenda Recendiz, Mariela Resendiz, Zane Tyler Robles, Abigail Salazar Mendoza, Dayana Silva, Abigail Lauren Taylor.

Eighth Grade. Cyndal Ann M. Boyd, Samuel Scott Cain, Ellen Lane Cambren, Autumn Brook Chidester, Delaney Dawn Clendening, Heather Mae Coffee, Latigo Jimmy Collins, Jessica K. Covil, Brandon Lee Cox, Cole Alexander Engle, Meganne Briar Fraser, Chelsie Marie Griffin, Laketon Cardrell Harris, Laci Michelle Hernandez, Austin Kelby Hinkle, Taylor Daniel Kennedy, Kirsten Alice Kuhn, Tierra Cheyenne Lewis, Kaitlynn Nikole Ramirez, Jennifer Danielle Sanders, Caitlin Nicole Sieck, Sarai Soria, Caylee Lynn Steward, Sarah Elizabeth Terry, Kailyn D'Anne Troxell.

AB HONOR ROLL

Sixth Grade. Alexis Kearsen Arreola, Alex Barraza, Destry Dale Baten, Skyler Arron Been, Brian Ivan Blancas, Logan Brett W. Boehmisch, Dalia Camacho, Falon Nachell Canaday, Fernando Castillo, Blake Allen Chisum, Amanda Mae Cline,

Paul Michael Cuellar, Abigail Janette Davila, Savannah Ann Davis, Alisha Dawn Dewbre, Bailey Sue Dixon, Jessie Ann Dixon, Damara Sage Dorn, Tanner Edward Doucette, Mattie Lou Eldridge, Harley Marie Elliott, Bryanna A. Espinoza Barraza, Christian Alexander Free, Jake Bradley Freelen, Brandon Michael Gage, Vanessa Garcia Rodriguez, Edward Christopher Garvin, Ashlynn Taylor Giles, Lindsey Renea Gillis, Samantha Makayla Gonzalez, Jazmyn Brashai Hair, Tyler John Hamel, Jessica LeAnne Hinton, Hunter Patton Hughes, Keenan Michael Hughes, Ethan Ryan Hunt, Ceygan Garrett Jameson.

Andrew Jimenez, Dalton Lee Johnson, Susie Micheal Joiner, Cinthya Guadalupe Lara, Emily Marie Licklider, Paul Steve Lopez, Courtney Loraine Ma, Irasema Jane Madrid, Casey Irvin Martindale, Margarita Mier, Jathen Quade Miller, Taylin Suritha-Ma Neff, Michael Robin L. Parnell, Ashlyn Leigh Paronto, Erin Lindsay Parr, Iris Nohemi Pepi, Niki Lee Poland, Cory M. Ponce-Nickerson, Kylee Mae Quillin, Angel Emmanuel Ramirez, Rodolfo Ramirez, Vanessa Ramirez, Sandra Ramos, Vanessa Ramos Gonzalez, Valeria Alejandra Rodriguez, Jocelyn Ruiz Moreno, Clarissa Lourey Salazar, Cynthia Margaret Schepp, Taylor Ann Smith, Brandon Scott Stokes, Ropoer Montana Sweeney, James Lee Tabor, Bella Ivette Tarango, Cassidy Elizabeth Terry, Ryan Christopher Thompson, Mayra Tinajero Resendiz, Shasta Lee Triplett, Daisy M. Vargas Salgado, Deysy Susana Vasquez, Katelyn Nichole Velasquez, Pamela Michelle Whinery, Shawn Lewis Willoughby, Kirsti Jordan Winegeart.

Seventh Grade. Alison Brooke Alexander, Martecia Lenee Alexander, Kyler Dwayne Allen, Jeanette Almanza, Patterson Reid Alvey, Molly Deborah Andorfer, Rosa Bianca Apodaca, Natalie Annette Bagley, Tiffany Nicole Britton, Kelsey Morgan Brookshire, Johnny Todd Brown, William Coleman Buck, Oliver Cabrales, Bethany LeAnn Casas, Katrina Stephanie Casey, Eddie Castillo, Allison Lee Ceyanes, Nicholas James Clancy, William Chase Cook, Jacob Tyler Crippen, Amaris Denis Cruz, Brittany Anne Darnell, B'anca Danielle DeLeon, Chantelle J'nae Dencklau, Lane Riley

Douglas, Caleb Brant Dunham, Zachary Ryan Edmunds, Madison Kay Fatheree, Nathan Fuentes, Armando G. Garcia Ramirez, Karli Nicole Harden, Rosa I. Hernandez Cortez, Sydney Gayle Hoelting.

J'Cee Diane Holmes, Christopher Wayne Howard, Ty Allen Hutto, Jordan Scott Hyde, Johana A. Jimenez Vasquez, Nicholas Dwayne Johnson, Rachael Camille Jones, Scott Fredrick Kelly, Tamra Sue Klusmeyer, Diamond Monique Marrufo, Brittany Elizabeth Martinez, Brittany Lee McCallum, Cameron Leigh McDonald, Nicholas Harding Nelson, Daniel Ortiz, Joshua Ren Owen, Heather Michele Parks, Johnny Lamar Price, Taylor J. Ranney, Bailey Suzanne Read, Sheldon Kyle Reeve, Arin Lydia Rice, Christopher Owen Rivera, Luis Alfredo Servin, Summer Ann Sieber, Daisy Nichol Silva, Jeffrey Kyle Smith, Ryan Lee Smith, Austin Garrett Starbuck, Courtney Dawn Taylor, Destaney Vasquez, Taylor Shea Woods, Elizabeth Faith Woody, Monica Ann Zubia.

Eighth Grade. Colten Lee-Ross Adams, Kendall Morgan Aikin, Cecilia Alonzo, Yelitza Vianay Anguiano, Tamasha Antwynette Berry, Nicole Ann Brashears, Kayla Diane Brown, Lindsey Larie Brown, Brendon William Burrell, Trace Devan Carter, Jazmin Castillo Diaz, Maranda

Nicole Contreras, Ryan Lee Damron, Dakota Shane Davis, Gerardo Delgado, Amy Nicole Dewbre, Rikki Michelle Earnest, Skylar Don Estes, Spencer Eugene Estes, Mayra Estrada Madrid, Kaitlyn Marie Grant, Zachary Aaron Graves, Amber Rane Harris, Kortney Diane Hawthorne, Koltan Wynn Henderson, Juan A. Hernandez Zavola, Dylan James Hooker, Bree Ann Howard, Jaden Allen Howard, Chanel Jimenez, Landon Levi Karbo, Logan Garrett Karbo, Carmela Marin, Stephenea R. Marshall, Harley Breann Mayfield.

Collin Creed McClendon, Codi Mathew McIntosh, Miguel Trejo Pacheco, Sierra Gayle Parker, Cody Jack Parks, Janell Dawn Parks, Miranda Leigh Patterson, Ryan Thomas Pearson, Megan Lecann Pirtle, Joleen Neshay Pittman, Kendra Renea Poole, Alexandra Margeret Porter, Juan Manuel Resendiz, Karami Noel Rice, Wesley A. Rivera Carmona, Keith Bryan Rodriguez, Matthew Garrett Rodriguez, Jessica Brittany N. Roe, Jazmine JoQta Rose, Braden Paul Russell, Danielle Elizabeth Savoie, Trevor Duncan Smith, Celby Briann Snapp, Alanna O'Ryon Stephens, Ashley Lauren Stucker, Karina Tello, Nate Towry, Meira Rhiannon Vaid, Courtney Ashton Ward, Iris Fawn Wheat, Dustin Wayne Whinery, Shelby Marie Woodward, Sarah Young.

Altrusa

Continued from Page 10

orations but in the entertainment at the event as well.

Models will be showing Spring and Summer fashions from local and area stores including Bealls, Carousel Expressions, Cato's, Gebo's, V.J.'s Fashions, Wayne's Western Wear, Walmart, Taylor's Tans, all local businesses, Amy Lynn's Fashions from Borger and Every Nook and Cranny from Clarendon. Musical entertainment, door prizes and refreshments will be provided.


The style show is a major fund-raiser

for the club and funds various community service projects including Children's Shopping Tour, Pampa Senior Citizens, PHS Career Clinic, Tralee Crisis Center, Sheltered Workshop Reception, Adult Vocational Award, Senior Citizens Center, Schneider House, Salvation Army Angel Tree, and the literacy project "Make a Difference Day."

In addition to the project listed above, Altrusa members volunteer for Meals on Wheels, Celebration of Light, and Salvation Army Christmas wrapping project.

Tickets may be purchased from any Altrusa member or will be available at the door for \$12 apiece (\$10 tax deductible).

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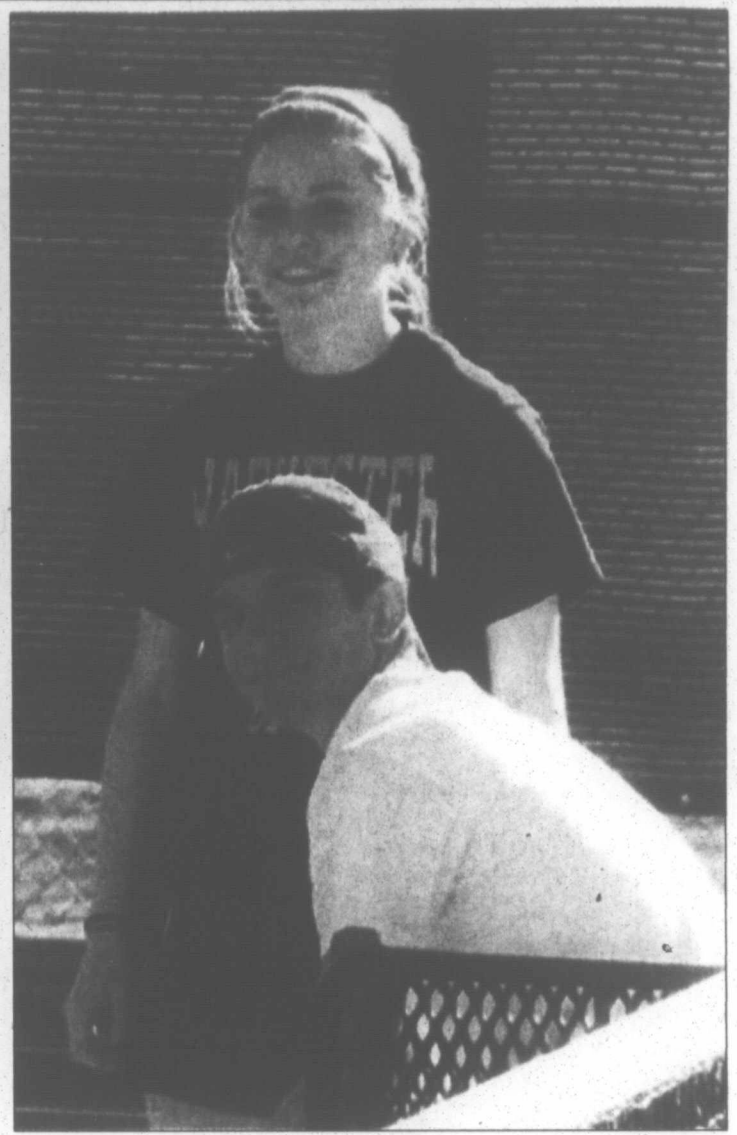
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Sports



Courtesy Photo

Kadin Barton and Alyssa Hoelting pose for a photo after defeating Plainview in the Lubbock Invitational Tournament's mixed doubles March 14 and 15.



Courtesy Photo

Rachel Lee and Jack Ware catch their breath after splitting sets again during the Lubbock Invitational Tournament's mixed doubles held on March 14 and 15.

Unnerved by protests, China says it will bar live Tiananmen broadcasts during Olympics

BEIJING (AP) — Don't expect to turn on your TV during the Beijing Olympics and see live shots of Tiananmen Square, where Chinese troops crushed pro-democracy protests nearly two decades ago.

Apparently unnerved by recent unrest among Tibetans and fearful of protests in the heart of the capital, China has told broadcast officials it will bar live television shots from the vast square during the games.

A ban on live broadcasts would wreck the plans of NBC and other major international networks, who have paid hundreds of millions of dollars to broadcast the Aug. 8-24 games and are counting on eye-pleasing live shots from the iconic square.

The rethinking of Beijing's earlier promise to broadcasters comes as the government has poured troops into Tibetan areas wracked by anti-government protests this month and stepped up security in cities, airports and entertainment venues far from the unrest.

In another sign of the government's unease, 400 American Boy Scouts who had been promised they could go onto the field following a March 15 exhibition game between the Los Angeles Dodgers and San Diego Padres were prevented from doing so by police.

"It was never specifically mentioned to me it was because of Tibet that there were extra controls, but there were all these changes at the last minute," said a person involved in the Major League Baseball event who asked for anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

The communist govern-

ment's resorting to heavy-handed measures runs the risk of undermining Beijing's pledge to the International Olympic Committee that the games would promote greater openness in what a generation ago was still an isolated China. If still in place by the games, they could alienate the half-million foreigners expected at the games.

Like the Olympics, live broadcasts from Tiananmen Square were meant to showcase a friendly, confident China — one that had put behind it the deadly 1989 military assault on democracy demonstrators in the vast plaza that remains a defining image for many foreigners.

"Tiananmen is the face of China, the face of Beijing, so many broadcasters would like to do live or recorded coverage of the square," said Yosuke Fujiwara, the head of broadcast relations for the Beijing Olympic Broadcasting Co., or BOB, a joint-venture between Beijing Olympic organizers and an IOC subsidiary. BOB coordinates and provides technical services for the TV networks with rights to broadcast the Olympics, such as NBC.

Earlier this week, however, officials with the Beijing Organizing Committee, or BOCOG, told executives at BOB that the

live shots were canceled, according to three people familiar with the matter who requested anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

"We learned that standup positions would be canceled," one of these people said. "No explanation was given for the change."

Sun Weijia, the BOCOG official in charge of dealing with BOB, declined comment, referring the matter to press officers, three of whom also declined comment.

'Tiananmen is the face of China, the face of Beijing, so many broadcasters would like to do live or recorded coverage of the square.'

— Yosuke Fujiwara
Head of Broadcast Relations for the Beijing Olympic Broadcasting Co.

The decision by BOCOG may not be final. The change was relayed verbally, one person said. All three hoped that IOC President Jacques Rogge and other leading IOC officials, expected in Beijing next month for regularly scheduled meetings, may be able to prevail on BOCOG to change its mind.

If the decision stands, it would be a blow to the TV networks whose money to buy the right to broadcast the games accounts for more than half the IOC's revenues. The biggest spender is NBC. It paid \$2.3 billion for the rights for three Olympics from 2004 to 2008 — Athens, Turin and Beijing.

Officials at NBC refused to comment.

The unrest — which broke out March 10 in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa and has since spread across western China — and the government's harsh response underscores the communist leaders' unease as the Olympics approach.

With paramilitary police patrolling Beijing at night and journalists being expelled from Tibetan areas, security measures are on par with those not seen since the government mobilized police to crush the Falun Gong spiritual movement in 1999-2000.

Activist groups have said for months that they planned to use the Olympics to promote their causes. But the challenge faced by China's leadership seems to grow more imminent.

Aside from Tibet protests, the government said it foiled a plot this month by Muslim separatists in western China to blow up a China Southern Boeing 757. Foreign activists angry about China's support for Sudan, which is party to a civil war in Darfur, said this week they would demonstrate in Beijing during the games.

After the Icelandic singer Bjork shouted "Tibet!" at the finale of a Shanghai concert this month, officials ordered tighter scrutiny of all performances.

The Boy Scouts seemed to get caught in a response to both the sometimes violent Tibet protests and Bjork; police canceled all on-field entertainment for the exhibition baseball games, including the singing of the Chinese and U.S. national anthems.

All-you-can-eat seat

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jacks. And some more. And more.

A growing trend in all-you-can-eat seating at sports venues is making baseball's summer chorus sound more like "Take Me Out to the Buffet."

Dozens of arenas, stadiums and tracks have offered tickets that come with unlimited snacks. The seats have been a hit with fans, a moneymaker for the venues and a worry for obesity-conscious health officials.

Instead of paying for a ticket and multiple trips to the concession stand, the ticket includes everything and costs about 50 percent more. Alcohol and desserts are sold separately.

"I don't think you're ever going to get your value from it food-wise, but convenience-wise, I think it is a heck of a lot nicer than waiting in line for 20 minutes," said Drew Nurenberg, 30, of Malvern, Pa., who bought all-you-can-eat seats with his wife for a Philadelphia Flyers game last month.

Nearly half of the 30 major league baseball teams have added the all-inclusive seats, and others are looking into it. The NHL has nine teams offering the deal; the NBA has six. The idea has not caught on with the NFL, but NASCAR has put it in overdrive, selling the tickets at multiple racetracks.

Fans get bargain grub, and the venues are able to charge a premium for foods they already buy cheap in bulk. All-you-can-eat ticket holders get a special wristband that allows unlimited trips to a cash-free concession stand, avoiding a wait in long lines.

The result is like a giant

hot dog on a hook — a way for teams to lure new fans to their games or get old ones to switch to higher-priced sections. In the past, unlimited food and drink was reserved for luxury suites, which cost up to six figures a year.

The Los Angeles Dodgers first offered all-you-can-eat seats in their right-field bleacher pavilion last season. They averaged 2,200 fans per game in a section that typically opened only when the left-field bleachers were full.

Last June, the Kansas City Royals opened four little-used upper-deck sections along the right-field line for select games. This season, they're adding a section — for a total of 500 seats — and making them available at every game.

"When these were first started, there was a lot of unused inventory, a lot of real estate in the ballpark where people never visited before," said Joe Strohm, vice president of ticket sales for the St. Louis Cardinals, who have offered the seats since 1996. "This was a way to get people to visit those areas."

Most all-you-can-eat seats cover only the basics: hot dogs, popcorn and soda.

"Just what the world doesn't need is another way to get as much food as they want whenever they want it," said Jeanne Goldberg, a professor of nutrition science at Tufts' Friedman School of Nutrition.

The unlimited quantity has turned some sporting events into games of can-you-top-this in the stands, with fans competing to see who can shovel the most hot dogs down their gullets.

career. But I mean, so many things can go wrong in a week, even if you're going well. That he just seems to even ride those out, it's pretty good."

Woods had a solid round, nothing spectacular, even when he made two eagles in one round for the first time since the 2007 Buick Invitational, on the North Course at Torrey Pines in the first round. After the round ended, Ladbroke's had Woods as a 1-to-3 favorite, even though he was in second place.

Former Open champion is bogey-free, but not free of Tiger Woods

DORAL, Fla. (AP) — The birdie putt broke sharply and was just inside 25 feet, similar to the one Tiger Woods made last week at Bay Hill for a one-shot victory to extend his winning streak to six months.

He knew it was in. Everyone did.

The biggest difference was the celebration. Woods spiked his cap into the ground at Bay Hill. When he finished his round on the par-3 ninth at Doral with an unlikely birdie, he merely raised the putter in his left hand as the ball still had 8 feet to travel.

Then again, this was only Friday at the CA Championship. No one hands out a trophy until Sunday.

And this time, Woods wasn't even in the lead.

He closed with two birdies on the Blue Monster for a 6-under 66 that ultimately left him one shot behind former U.S. Open champion Geoff Ogilvy, but still poised to add to a variety of winning streaks.

"A lot better than yesterday," Woods said, alluding to a three-putt finish on Thursday.

The cheer for his final birdie was so loud that Masters champion Zach Johnson backed off his putt across the lake on the 18th green and smiled, as if he had to look to see who was responsible for such noise.

But the roars didn't reach Ogilvy, who was on the front nine finishing his round and kept right on plodding. Ogilvy holed a 30-foot birdie putt on No. 5 to take the lead, then finished with four gritty pars. Ogilvy did a lot of that Friday. He saved par from the bunker four times, got up

and-down from easy spots off the green and wound up with 23 putts in his round of 67.

Ogilvy was at 12-under 132, one shot ahead of Woods, three shots ahead of his best friend, Adam Scott (68). Scott could have been a little closer until having to play one shot left-handed and hitting another into the water, making bogeys on his final two holes.

Even so, they will make for quite a threesome for Saturday, when tee times were moved up to avoid storms.

"How can you not enjoy playing with the guy who's on his way to being the best golfer of all time?" Ogilvy said.

Ogilvy wouldn't mind if Woods took a detour on the weekend of this World Golf Championship. He has not won since the U.S. Open at Winged Foot in 2006, and while he certainly feels capable, there is no denying what Woods has done since September.

"Seven in a row? Six in a row? It's pretty impressive," Ogilvy said. "That's a good

Chacon's performance eased concerns

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Shawn Chacon's performance on Wednesday night eased some of Houston's concerns about its pitching staff and earned him a spot in the Astros rotation.

Chacon allowed three hits and one run with four strikeouts in five innings of Houston's 8-7 win over Atlanta.

The Astros know what they have in ace Roy Oswalt. But after him, their rotation is a bit shaky. Brandon Backe is coming off Tommy John surgery, Wandy Rodriguez has been inconsistent in past seasons and Woody Williams has had a terrible spring.

Chacon signed a \$2 mil-

lion, one-year contract with Houston last month and has said one of the selling points to playing for the Astros was a chance to compete for a starting job.

Astros manager Cecil Cooper had been non-committal about Chacon's place in the rotation this spring, but said after the game that he had secured a spot.

"Really at this point, we'll have to say that he's got to be

one of the guys," Cooper said.

The right-hander hopes his strong outing will be a boost to the pitching staff.

"We've been struggling as a staff all spring and coming out tonight and having a good outing definitely ... feed off that," Chacon said. "Now is the time in spring where things really have to start tightening up."

Cooper said Chacon's work was very encouraging and that either he, Backe or Rodriguez need to prove to be a reliable starter for the Astros to be successful.

"We need one of those two or three guys behind Roy to step up so we can count on them," Cooper said.

Most of Houston's relievers also did well on Wednesday with new closer Jose Valverde and right-hander Doug Brocail throwing a scoreless inning apiece.

Oscar Villarreal was the exception to Houston's strong pitching night, allowing seven hits and five runs in 1 2-3 innings.

'Really at this point, we'll have to say that he's got to be one of the guys.'

— Cecil Cooper
Astros Manager



Courtesy Photo

Pampa High School Girl's Relay Team received third place recently during the 4 X 200 Meter Relay at the Frenship People's Bank Relays. There were 24 high schools participating in the meet. Pictured from left to right are Amber Brown, Chandler Talley, Kara Stephens and Natalie Parker.

HARVESTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

2008



SOFTBALL

MONDAY • MARCH 24

Lady Harvesters JV VS Palo Duro • 4:30pm at Palo Duro

TUESDAY • MARCH 25

Lady Harvesters VS Palo Duro • 4:30pm at Palo Duro

SATURDAY • MARCH 29

Lady Harvesters VS Hereford • 1:00pm at Pampa

Lady Harvesters JV VS Hereford • 3:00pm at Pampa

BASEBALL

TUESDAY • MARCH 25

Harvesters VS Dumas • 7:00pm at Dumas

SATURDAY • MARCH 29

Harvesters VS Caprock • 1:00pm at Pampa

TENNIS

TUESDAY • MARCH 25

Harvesters JV VS Borger • 3:30pm at Pampa

FRIDAY & SATURDAY • MARCH 28-29

Harvesters at Amarillo Tournament • 8:00am

TRACK

FRIDAY & SATURDAY • MARCH 28-29

Harvesters at Amarillo Tournament • Dick Bivins

Harvesters JV at Amarillo Tournament • Dick Bivins

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De Rosario leads Dynamo to 3-1 win

HOUSTON (AP) — Dwayne De Rosario helped the Houston Dynamo advance to the CONCACAF Champions Cup semifinals, scoring twice in a 3-1 victory over CSD Municipal of Guatemala on Wednesday night in the second leg of the quarterfinal series.

Two-time defending MLS champion Houston advanced to the semifinals for the second straight year. The Dynamo will play the winner of Thursday night's game between Atlante de Mexico against Deportivo Saprissa of Costa Rica.

The Dynamo and Municipal played to a scoreless tie in the first game of the quarterfinal series a week ago in Guatemala.

That defensive play continued for both teams in the scoreless first half Wednesday. Houston managed only two shots on goal in the first 45 minutes, while

Municipal had one.

But De Rosario changed that quickly in the second half. In the 46th minute, he dribbled in from the left side, got bumped by two defenders and turned a circle inside the box. When he came out of the crowd, De Rosario found himself wide open for a shot from 3 yards out.

De Rosario then made it 2-0 in the 69th minute on a penalty kick from 10 yards out. It came after a foul by Municipal's Claudio Albizures inside the box.

Houston made it 3-0 in the 73rd minute when Chris Wondolowski took a crossing pass from Corey Ashe to score from short range. Brian Ching also got an assist on the play.

Municipal got on the scoreboard in the 85th minute on a short penalty kick by Guillermo Ramirez. The penalty was a handball call on Wade Barrett.

Wide receiver Fred Rouse leaves UTEP

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — Fred Rouse, once one of the most sought-after recruits in the country who tried to revive his career at Texas-El Paso, has left the Miners after one season, coach Mike Price said Friday.

"Fred will not be coming back for personal reasons and will most likely be going back to Florida," Price said in a statement.

Rouse, ranked by several recruiting publications as one of the top receivers in the country coming out of high school, originally signed with Florida State but was kicked off the team after one

season for what coach Bobby Bowden called "conduct detrimental to the welfare of the football team."

At one point in his freshman season, Rouse had been suspended for a game for arguing with coaches.

Rouse transferred to UTEP where he played in 10 games last season, catching 25 passes for 379 yards and two touchdowns.

"We tried to make it work, and Fred tried hard to make it work," Price said. "It's unfortunate that he's not going to play for the Miners next year, but we wish him the best."

Organizers of 2010 Vancouver Olympics speak up

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — The organizers of the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver spoke out Wednesday against a boycott of the Beijing Olympics over the violence in Tibet.

A boycott of the Aug. 8-24 games would only end up hurting athletes, said John Furlong, head of the Vancouver Olympic Organizing Committee.

"I share the same concern any other decent human being would share for anybody who's in harms way, anybody who's suffering," Furlong said.

"But what I am saying is that the Olympic Games is not the place to solve this. Sport is the one thing we all have around the world that's good."

This week's violent protests in Tibet, the most serious challenge in almost two decades to China's rule in the region, are forcing human rights campaigners to re-examine their approach to the Olympics.

Hundreds of pro-Tibetan activists will demand a Canadian boycott of this summer's Olympic Games in Beijing when they converge at Parliament Hill on

Thursday.

No country is threatening such a measure and the Canadian government has remained largely silent, referring questions on a boycott to the Canadian Olympic Committee.

There is no hint of a full or partial boycott of the opening ceremonies on the agenda of the Canadian Olympic Committee's pre-Beijing meeting in Calgary next month.

Committee president Michael Chambers said his members can request a vote on a boycott, and he would decide whether to hold a meeting on the matter.

But so far, none of about 100 eligible COC voters has asked him to examine the possibility. "Not a single request," Chambers said.

"There are human-rights issues that Beijing and China must deal with. ... But that is something best left to the political engagements between respective countries," Chambers said.

"Hitchhiking that issue on the back of the Olympic Games — and the athletes who attend those games — history has showed us that past boycotts have had no impact whatsoever on a country's foreign or domestic policy."

Ogilvy, Jimenez share lead ahead of streaking Woods

DORAL, Fla. (AP) — Geoff Ogilvy left Bay Hill on a positive note last week after closing with a 66 to salvage a finish in the top 20, and he got back to his room in time to flip on the TV and watch the final hole of the Arnold Palmer Invitational.

There was Tiger Woods, in a familiar red shirt and equally familiar position to win. He was tied for the lead and facing a slick 25-foot putt on the final hole of the victory. The highlight is among his best: The putt breaks sharply to the right and drops for birdie, and Woods slams his cap to the ground in celebration.

"It's never surprising when he holes it, but it's always amazing," Ogilvy said Thursday after a bogey-free round of 7-under 65 at the CA Championship, gave him a share of the first-round lead with Miguel Angel Jimenez on a day the wind shifted and the scores fell.

"It's always fun to watch," he said. "We're all impressed. Hopefully, none of us are scared. I mean, I'm not scared, I just want to win golf tournaments. And he's very impressive, but I don't go to be thinking about it."

The fine line between impressed and nervous has yet to be determined at this World Golf Championship for a couple of reasons.

Only one round is in the books on the Blue Monster, and Woods was only two shots behind after three-putting the final hole for a 67, leaving him in a group with Phil Mickelson and Adam Scott. A week ago, Woods

was five shots behind after the first round, seven shots behind going into the weekend and still won.

Plus, Woods was bordering on ballistic after his round, in which he picked up three birdies on the par 5s.

"I didn't really do anything all that special today," Woods said. "I just kind of hung in there and took care of the par 5s, and made a couple of other birdies here and there. But all in all, just kind of ground it out."

If it wasn't anything spectacular and he still was only two shots bad, that seems a like bad sign for the rest of the 78 players gathered at Doral for this World Golf Championship.

But there was a sense after one day that no one was going to lay down.

Ogilvy is a tough customer, a former U.S. Open champion who is still shaking off some rust after taking a month off over the holidays when his second child was born. Jimenez, playing at Doral for the first in his career, is a Spaniard not known to get too shook up over anything. Give him a cigar, a nice bottle of red wine and a few birdies, and he is happy.

Jimenez lost to Woods in a playoff at this tournament in 1999, when it was called the American Express Championship and played amid the cork trees of Valderrama in southwestern Spain.

One shot behind was Stewart Cink, who is playing as consistently as anyone except the world's No. 1

Stephen Curry's 40 points lead Davidson past Gonzaga, 82-76

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — It took 39 years, but Davidson is back as a player in the NCAA tournament, thanks to a dynamic guard with a magic touch that none of the big schools wanted.

Stephen Curry scored 30 of his 40 points in the second half and hit the tie-breaking 3-pointer with just over a minute left to lead Davidson to an 82-76 win over Gonzaga on Friday in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

Displaying his lightning-quick release, Curry hit 8 of 10 3-pointers. His two free throws with 14.5 seconds left iced it for the 10th-seeded Wildcats (27-6), who won their first NCAA game since Lefty Driesell put this tiny liberal arts school on the map in the 1960s.

Curry, the son of former NBA 3-point specialist Dell Curry, wanted to play for his

father's alma mater, Virginia Tech. But the big schools shied away from the baby-faced Curry, who has grown four inches to 6-foot-3 since signing with Davidson, and now has put the Wildcats into the second round of the Midwest Regional against the Georgetown-Maryland-Baltimore County winner.

Jason Richards added 15 points and nine assists for Davidson, which extended the nation's longest winning streak to 23 games. Andrew Lovedale had 12 points and one of his 13 rebounds came on the offensive glass, which led to Curry's deciding 3-pointer.

Freshman Steve Gray hit seven 3-pointers and scored 21 points for No. 7 seed Gonzaga (25-8), which blew 11-point leads in both halves to make a first-round exit for the second straight year.

Cradle call



Hope Liann Scribner

Hope Liann Scribner was born at 4:07 p.m. Nov. 19, 2007, at BSA Hospital in Amarillo to Garrett and Carisa Scribner of Pampa. At birth, the infant weighed 7-pounds, 1-ounce and was 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inches long. Hope has one sibling, brother Hudson Scribner. Her grandparents are Billy and Cathy Scribner of Pampa, and Randy and Lianna Dobbins of Thomas, Okla. Her great-grandparents are Frank and Patricia Daugherty of Pampa, and the late Lawrence and Bonnie Scribner.



Bergen Alexis Pulse

Bergen Alexis Pulse was born at 4:51 p.m. Dec. 3, 2007, at BSA Hospital in Amarillo, to Laura Pulse of White Deer. At birth, the infant weighed 7-pounds, 10-ounces and was 20-inches long. She is the granddaughter of Bryan and Darla Pulse of White Deer; and is the great-granddaughter of Hugh and Alice Hutchinson of Pampa, E.C. Pulse of Oklahoma City, Okla., and the late Ernestyne Pulse.



Caden Lawrence Holly

Caden Lawrence Holly was born at 12:58 a.m. Feb. 25 at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo, to Desirae Rochelle and Sean Holly of Pampa. At birth, the infant weighed 6-pounds, 2.5-ounces and was 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inches long. Caden is the grandson of Wallace and Marilyn Holly of White Deer, and Ina Rochelle of Pampa; is the great-grandson of Lois Rochelle of Pampa; and is the great-great-grandson of Ina Mae Anglin of Pampa.

Bell, Nolte Wedding

Kristen Bell of Pampa and Isaiah Nolte of Amarillo were wed Feb. 23 at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Pampa with the Rev. Steve Cox, of the church, officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bell of Pampa. The groom is the son of Darlene Nolte of Prosper and Mr. and Mrs. Dwaine Nolte of Moscow, Russia.

The bride was attended by her cousin and maid of honor, Carrie Parker of Canyon. The bridesmaids were Becca Wood of Perryton and Amber Bell, sister-in-law of the bride of Amarillo. The flower girl was Hannah Bell, niece of the bride of Amarillo.

Standing up as best man was Zach Watson, cousin of the groom of San Angelo. The groomsmen were Michael Plunk of Pampa and Eric Grusendorf of Lubbock.



Kristen Bell and Isaiah Nolte

The ring bearer was Hayden Bell, nephew of the bride of Amarillo.

Ushering guests to their seats were Matthew Bell, brother of the bride of

the Rev. and Mrs. John and Frances Westman of White Deer and vocalist Becca Wood.

A reception followed the service at the local Knights of Columbus Hall with Mindy Parker of Canyon and Allison Bell and Melinda Bell, cousin of the bride, both of Pampa, serving the guests.

The bride is a 1999 graduate of Pampa High School and completed her office technology certification at Clarendon College. She is employed by Texas Panhandle Mental Health Mental Retardation in Amarillo.

The groom is a 1997 graduate of PHS and holds a degree in computer networking from TSTC. He is employed by McCoy-Myers of Amarillo.

The newlyweds honeymooned in Destin, Fla., and intend to make their home in Amarillo.

Music was provided by

bridal registry

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Amanda Castleberry ~ Wes Bryant

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Abby Cavalier & Jansen Hancock
Liana Ammerman & Jeremy Goode
Cassie Gibson & Jacob Willis
Tiffany McCullough & Casey Shock
Lindsey Price & Eric Wade
Katie Foust & Matt Foust
Tara Coffee & Luke Thornton
Amy Robbins & Ian May

On Eagle's Wings
113 N. Cuyler 665-0614

Menus

Week of March 24-28

Pampa Schools
MONDAY
Breakfast: Biscuits.
Lunch: Popcorn shrimp or pizza, potatoes, spinach, applesauce, rolls.

TUESDAY
Breakfast: Blueberry pancake and sausage on a stick.
Lunch: Spaghetti or chicken nuggets, green beans, salad, pineapple, garlic toast.

WEDNESDAY
Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, toast.
Lunch: Pigs in a blanket or chef salad, corn, English peas, fruit.

THURSDAY
Breakfast: French toast sticks.
Lunch: Chicken alfredo or cheese cups/chips.

FRIDAY
Breakfast: Cereal, toast.
Lunch: Hot dogs or breaded chicken patty on a bun, fries, burger salad, fruit.

Kid's Cafe-Wilson
MONDAY
Chicken or beef noodles, corn, salad, dessert.

Kid's Cafe-Lamar
TUESDAY
Soft tacos, beans, salad, dessert.

THURSDAY
Goulash, cornbread, salad, dessert.

Kid's Cafe-Briarwood
FRIDAY
Shrimp, fish sticks, fries, corn, dessert.

Senior Citizens
MONDAY
Chicken fried steak or glazed chicken breast/pasta, mashed potatoes, turnip greens, beets, beans, German

chocolate cake or banana pudding cups, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.

TUESDAY
Chicken legs/dressing or Salisbury steak/au jus, scalloped potatoes, green beans, buttered corn, beans, lemon poppyseed cake or chocolate pudding cups lemon, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.

WEDNESDAY
Roast beef brisket/brown gravy or cook's choice, mashed potatoes, peas, carrots, beans, strawberry shortcake or lemon icebox pie, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.

THURSDAY
Chicken strips or barbecued sausages, potato salad, onion rings, spinach, beans, coconut cream cake or butterscotch pie, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.

FRIDAY
Catfish/hushpuppies or beef tips/noodles, potato wedges, broccoli casserole, beans, brownies or tapioca cups, slaw, tossed or jello salad, garlic bread sticks, hot rolls or cornbread.

Meals On Wheels
MONDAY
Chicken casserole, tomatoes, mixed vegetables, pears.

TUESDAY
Burgers, tater tots, pineapple.

WEDNESDAY
Pot roast, carrots/potatoes, green beans, rolls, jello.

THURSDAY
Ravioli, chuckwagon corn, green beans, applesauce.

FRIDAY
Baked fish, rice pilaf, garlic bread, green beans, apricots.

Bridal Registry...

Abby Cavalier & Jansen Hancock
Bonnie Holmes & Derek Bruner
Tiffany McCullough & Casey Shock
Victoria Rodriguez & Phillip Bridges
Brittany Adams & Barret Lowenstein
Jill Miller & Kurt West
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An Announcement from Texas Plains Women's Center

We regret to inform our valued patients that Texas Plains Women's Center will be closing its doors to the public on or about April 15th, 2008. Dr. Ellis will be relocating to the state of Colorado to continue his practice in Obstetrics and Minimally Invasive Gynecology.

The staff of Texas Plains Women's Center joins Dr. Ellis in thanking the people of Pampa and the surrounding area for their patronage, and more importantly, their trust in our ability to bring them the finest of modern, cutting edge Obstetrical and Gynecological care.

A copy of your medical records may be obtained by completing a release of records form, available by calling our office at 665-9900 prior to April 15, 2008.

806-665-9900

Twin of the Taurus offers a lot of car for the money

By ANN M. JOB
For The Associated Press

Shoppers can get a lot of car for the money with the 2008 Mercury Sable.

It's a large, nearly 17-foot long, smooth-riding sedan with generous interior space, a huge trunk, commendable V-6 power and top safety ratings. In fact, the Sable, which was resurrected in the 2008 model year after a hiatus from the market, is a recommended buy of Consumer Reports magazine, which notes this four-door car emphasizes comfort.

Still, the Sable lives under the shadow of its better known twin, the Ford Taurus, which tends to get all the attention.

Starting manufacturer's suggested retail price, including destination charge, for a base, front-wheel drive Sable is \$24,530 with standard six-speed automatic transmission. One of the few non-luxury cars of its size offered with all-wheel drive, the 2008 Sable starts at \$26,380 with all-wheel drive.

It's true that both starting prices are higher than the comparable Tauruses. But the difference is slight.

The base Sable is only a \$295 premium over the base front-drive Taurus, and the all-wheel drive Sable is only \$295 more than a comparable Taurus.

It's also worth noting that base prices of Sable under-

cut many smaller sedans with V-6s, including the 2008 Honda Accord and 2008 Nissan Maxima, whose base prices are at least \$2,065 more.

The test Sable excelled in providing a nice, compliant ride. Don't expect a sport sedan ride with a firm, stuck-to-the-road feel.

The federal government's fuel economy rating for a front-wheel drive Sable is 18 miles per gallon in city driving and 28 mpg on the highway. This is on par with smaller, V-6-powered sedans such as the mid-size 2008 Chevrolet Malibu and 2008 Saturn Aura.

Instead, the Sable easily rolls over and above road bumps and almost, but not quite, cushions passengers from them. This isn't a floaty ride, but it's a notable, modern-day version of a plush sedan ride, and it makes for peaceful and unfettered long highway drives.

The Sable uses a MacPherson strut front suspension with stabilizer bar and isolated subframe. At the back, an independent, coil-over-shock suspension is at work. The power, rack-and-pinion steering has a mainstream feel, and the turning circle is sizable at 41 feet.

The test car, in Premier trim, rode on 18-inch tires, but there wasn't much road or wind noise to be heard. The interior is quiet. I did hear the 263-horsepower, 3.5-liter, Duratec V-6 every time I accelerated, and it sounded confident and unstressed.

Even at a weight of more than 3,700 pounds, the Sable moved strongly to merge into traffic and in passing maneuvers. It conveys that it's a substantial car — from the thud of its doors closing to the palpable heftiness of its size. There were a couple instances when the six-speed automatic could have downshifted quicker to provide quicker response and power on mountain roads.

Torque in the Sable peaks at 249 foot-pounds at 4,500 rpm.

The federal government's fuel economy rating for a front-wheel drive Sable is 18 miles per gallon in city driving and 28 mpg on the highway. This is on par with smaller, V-6-powered sedans such as the mid-size 2008 Chevrolet Malibu and 2008 Saturn Aura.

See SABLE, Page 14-B

Did you know?

(NAPSA) — Merging technology and home decor can be easier-and more fun-than many people realize, even in those hard-to-decorate rooms and spaces. Tips from interior designer Doug Wilson paired with home technology from LG Electronics are at www.lgusa.com/Techorate.

Each year, more than 671,800 small businesses open their doors. The 50-plus crowd now accounts for about half of all small-business owners, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration. To learn more about where they turn for help, visit www.zananet.work.com.

The American Heart Association's Go Red For Women movement paired with Jafra Cosmetics International to spread a heart-healthy message to women. The cosmetics company will train its representatives to talk to customers about heart health.

Credit Union 24 now has the nation's largest network of surcharge-free ATMs. With 45,000 ATMs in 50 states, that's more than twice that of the nation's largest bank. For more information, visit www.cu24.com.

When buying a new boat or personal watercraft, shopping early gets you the best deals and a first look at the new models that haven't hit the dealerships yet. To find a boat show near you, visit www.bestofboating.com.

Three-row crossovers have become the quintessential family vehicle. To find out Kelley Blue Book's selections for this year's Best New Family Vehicle, visit www.kbb.com.

See KNOW?, Page 14-B

Club news

Club news is published strictly on a first come, first serve basis due to space limitations. The deadline each week for Sunday's paper is Wednesday at 5 p.m., (Tuesday at 12 noon on holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas.) The deadline does not guarantee publication that week. Thank you.

Genealogical Society
Gray County

Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. March 24 at Lovett Memorial Library in Pampa. Special guest speaker will be Wes Phillips. Phillips' program will revolve around Jamestown and the early American settlers.

Phillips grew up in Wichita Falls and holds a degree from Midwestern University (1964). In 1965, he joined the National Park Service and during his 34-

year career worked at Petrified Forest National Park, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Grand Canyon National Park, Big Ben National Park, Yorktown Battlefield and Jamestown Island, Everglades National Park and Lake Meredith National Recreation Area.

Phillips currently works as collections registrar at the Hutchinson County Museum in Borger. He is in charge of around 45,000 artifacts and/or historical objects. He has been registrar for more than five years. He and wife, Roberta, have two children and three grandchildren.

Red Hat Royalty
Red Hattitude Royalty Red Hat Club of Pampa met March 6 at The Coffee Shop. Twelve members and one visitor, Kathy Leever, were present.

Hostesses for the meeting were Kathy White and Donna Reynolds. Members enjoyed a meal together and played Mad Gab.

The next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. April 10 at the Dixie Cafe with Karen Jones and Cindy Loughmiller acting as hostesses. Members will celebrate the club's anniversary. For more information, call Jane Jacobs at 665-3878.

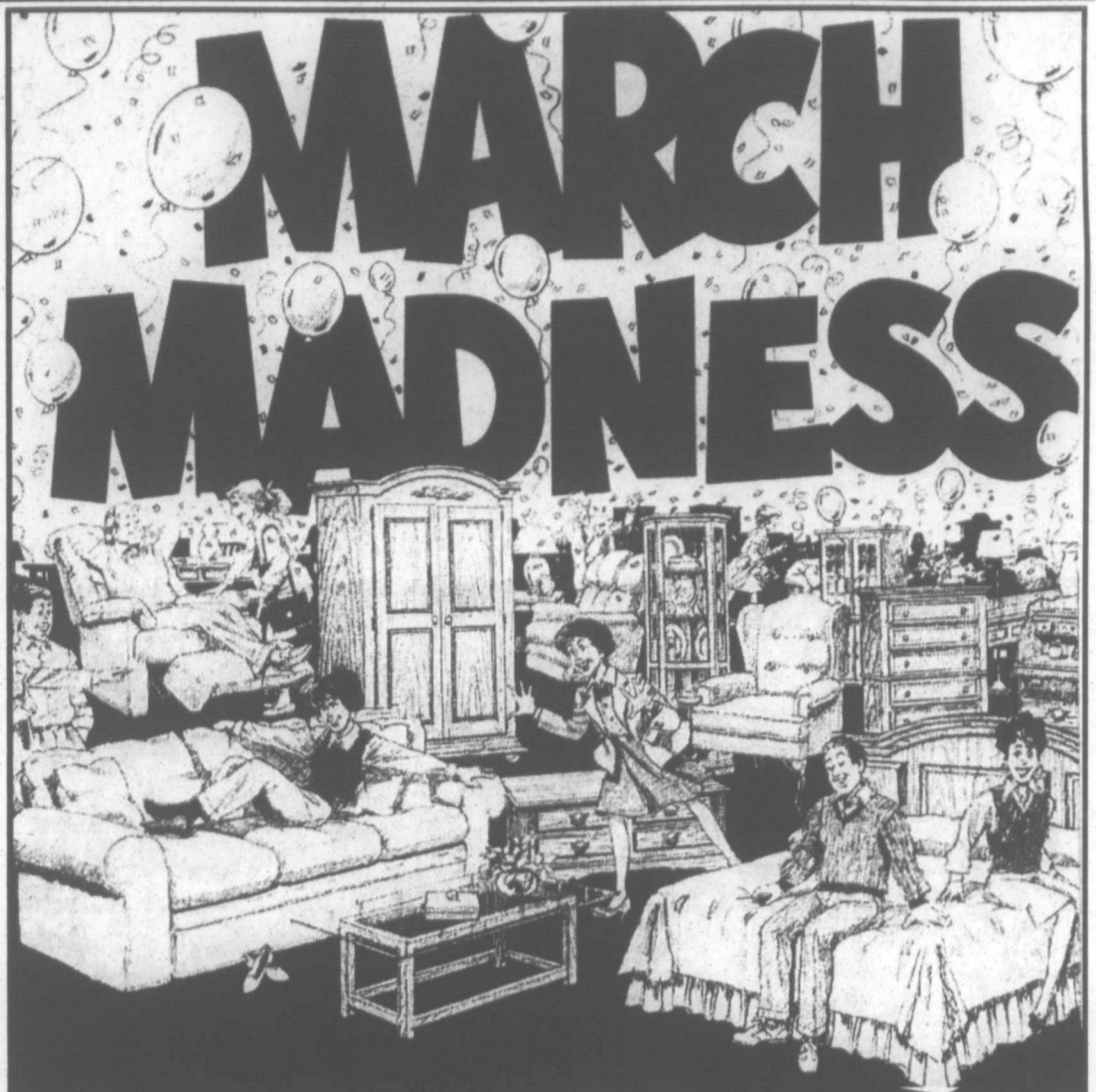
NEWSMAKERS

WINFIELD, Kan. — Kathy Cavalier is being honored with the Marilyn McNeish Special Education Award at Southwestern College during a reception at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 19 in the college's Memorial Library.

Cavalier raised four children in Pampa. Cavalier graduated from Southwestern in 1969 with a degree in elementary education. She began her teaching career in Mulvane with the task of starting their special education program.

After attaining her master's degree and teaching for six years, Cavalier moved to Pampa. After taking a break from teaching to raise her family, she returned to her career in 1991, working with students diagnosed as emotionally disturbed.

Cavalier says she "fell in love" with the challenge and has been in that position for the past 17 years. Along with working with emotionally disturbed high school students, she teaches two core subjects of English and math education. However, she spends most of her time working on social skills and study skills.



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SUNDAY AFTERNOON / EVENING

Table for Sunday Afternoon/Evening (March 23, 2008) with columns for time slots (12pm-10pm) and various TV channels (KACV, KAMR, etc.) listing programs and movies.

MONDAY AFTERNOON / EVENING

Table for Monday Afternoon/Evening (March 24, 2008) with columns for time slots (12pm-10pm) and various TV channels (KACV, KAMR, etc.) listing programs and movies.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON / EVENING

Table for Tuesday Afternoon/Evening (March 25, 2008) with columns for time slots (12pm-10pm) and various TV channels (KACV, KAMR, etc.) listing programs and movies.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON / EVENING

Table for Wednesday Afternoon/Evening (March 26, 2008) with columns for time slots (12pm-10pm) and various TV channels (KACV, KAMR, etc.) listing programs and movies.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including station call letters (KACV, KAMR, etc.) and other identifiers.

West Texas A&M offers free 'Distinguished Lecture Series'

CANYON — West Texas A&M University will host a string of guest speakers for its Distinguished Lecture Series on topics ranging from water management to social science.

The lectures will kick off with Dr. Chad Staddon of the University of the West of England at Bristol who will discuss "Climate Change, Social Change and Water Management: A European Perspective" at 3 p.m. Thursday, March 27 in the Agriculture and Natural Sciences (ANS) Building, Room 101.

He will look at water as a resource, as a hazard and at its sustainability, all backed by extensive case study materials from the UK and Europe. Staddon holds a Ph.D. in geography from the University of Kentucky and has numerous books, chapters and journal articles to his credit. He currently serves as senior lecturer in human geography at the University of West England.

The Distinguished Lecture Series also is sponsoring George Ancona, a children's author and photo essayist. He will be the fea-

tured guest speaker at the University's fourth annual WT Literacy Conference Saturday, March 29 in the ANS Building. Ancona will make presentations at 9 a.m. and at 1 p.m.

He is an author, photographer and filmmaker. He is the author or photographer of more than 100 non-fiction books for children and the recipient of numerous awards, including the 2002 Children's Book Guild Non-Fiction Award and the 2003 Americas Award Commended Book.

On April 2 the WTAMU Distinguished Lecture Series will present Dr. Dominique Bauer of the Sint-Lucas Higher Institute for Architecture. She will speak at 7 p.m. in Old Main, Room 220 on "The Medieval Canon Law Contribution to International Legal Order."

She is a lecturer in philosophy and jurisprudence with specializations in medieval canon and civil law. She has several published credits to her name on topics as diverse as the legal and moral justifications for war to the origins of modern

legal procedure in the 12th century.

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Dr. Jared Diamond will be on campus April 3 as part of the University's Distinguished Lecture Series. He will speak at a 7 p.m. lecture in the Alumni Banquet Facility. Diamond is a professor of geography at UCLA and the author of the prize-winning book "Guns, Germs and Steel."

He also is the author of the national best sellers "Collapse," "The Third Chimpanzee" and "Why Is Sex Fun?" His interests and expertise run from environmental history to evolutionary biology and molecular physiology. Diamond is the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement and the National Medal of Science for his research and discoveries in evolutionary biology.

Presentations by each of the Distinguished Lecture Series speakers are free and open to the public. For more information, call Steve Sellers at 806-651-2345.

State seeks proposals for border cameras

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas is seeking private company bids for a video camera network on the Mexican border, similar to an earlier state pilot program that allowed the public to help spot illegal activity on the Internet.

Gov. Rick Perry's emergency management division calls it a "virtual border neighborhood watch" designed to help crack down on drug running, human trafficking and other crime along the 1,200-mile border between the state and Mexico.

A request for private companies to submit bids was posted March 7 by the Texas Department of Public Safety on behalf of the governor's division. Proposals are due April 7.

The contract request calls for fixed and mobile cameras and Internet feeds in border counties and some adjacent counties. The cameras are to transmit images to local sheriff's offices and to the public, with most cameras addressing "the surveillance needs of private property and ranch land," the document states.

Those watching on the Web will be able to contact law enforcement about suspicious activity using the Internet or a toll-free telephone number.

Perry's office has identified \$2 million in federal grants to re-establish the border video surveillance camera program on private property.

Judge rules in favor of Baptist seminary

DALLAS (AP) — Leaders of a prominent Southern Baptist seminary who believe women are biblically forbidden from teaching men were within their rights when they told a female professor to leave, a federal judge has ruled.

Sheri Klouda was the only female professor teaching at the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's School of Theology when officials decided not to renew her contract in 2006. Klouda claimed seminary officials breached an oral contract guaranteeing she would remain employed if her performance was favorable.

Seminary officials said their action was based on ecclesiastical decisions protected under the First Amendment's religion clauses. U.S. District Judge John McBryde agreed, dismissing Klouda's claims Wednesday.

"I'm disappointed by the outcome but ... it wasn't totally unexpected," Klouda said from her home in Indiana. "Generally speaking, federal courts try to avoid becoming entangled in matters dealing with religious institutions."

Seminary President Paige Patterson issued a statement saying he was thankful for the decision.

"My response is simply one of gratitude to God and to a host of people," he said. "Americans everywhere may still rejoice in freedom of faith and the ordering of their churches and institutions accordingly."

Klouda, who departed the seminary in Fort Worth after six years of teaching there, said she's considering appealing the decision.

Her departure was one example of the division between conservative and moderate factions within the

Southern Baptist Convention. The case has caused discussions about the role of women within the denomination, the largest Protestant one in the country with more than 16 million members.

According to the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message, the denomination's most recent statement of beliefs, both men and women can serve the church but the office of pastor is limited to men. The statement is based on a verse in 1st Timothy in which the Apostle Paul says, "I permit no woman to teach or have authority over a man."

After he was elected seminary president, Patterson told officials he believed all those teaching future ministers at the school of theology should be qualified to serve as pastors themselves. Klouda alleged in court documents Patterson told her she was a mistake the trustees needed to fix.

Seminary officials claimed the school's relationship with the faculty is the same as the relationship of a church and its ministers, according to court documents. But critics say the interpretation should not be applied to the seminary because it is not a church.

Klouda, who now teaches at Taylor University in Upland, Ind., points out she taught Hebrew and Aramaic at the seminary.

"The biggest contradiction is that Dr. Patterson and Southwestern and ... all of us agree that I am not a minister or pastor," Klouda said.

The seminary has 10 female professors out of a full-time faculty of 116. One serves as a dean and another is in the theology division, spokesman Thomas White said.

Texas gas prices up penny

HOUSTON (AP) — The price of gasoline in Texas rose slightly to average \$3.17 per gallon this week.

AAA Texas on Friday reported the penny increase.

Nationally, the average price for gasoline held steady at about \$3.27.

AAA Texas says El Paso has the lowest average in the state survey, at \$3.12 per gallon.

Gasoline in Galveston listed the highest average price at \$3.19 per gallon.

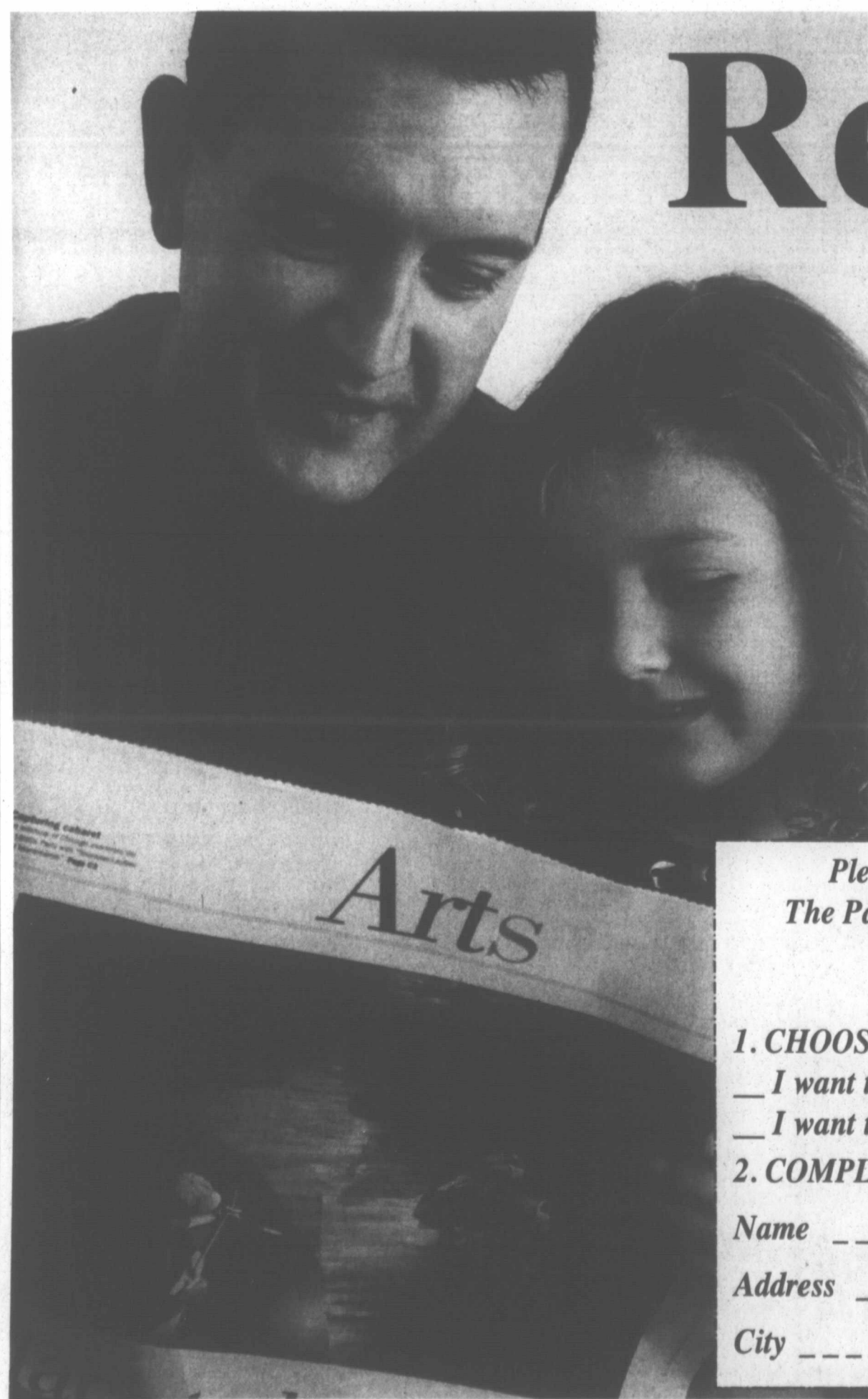
AAA Texas spokeswoman Rose Rougeau (roo-ZHOH) says it's unclear whether the

slight price declines in the last couple of days signal that we've reached a peak — or just a plateau.

On the Net: www.aaa-texas.com

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Is my money safe?

Accounts at commercial banks are considered protected from credit crisis

NEW YORK (AP) — The credit crisis has done more damage on Park Avenue than on Main Street, but the near-collapse of investment bank Bear Stearns raises the question of whether Wall Street's troubles could spread to commercial banks and ordinary depositors.

The short answer is this: Deposits in commercial banks are considered safe, barring catastrophe, and they are protected by federal insurance if a bank fails.

"The average guy on the street has nothing to worry about," said Gerard Cassidy, a banking analyst at RBC Capital Markets. "There should be no panic whatsoever."

Individual bank accounts at a single institution are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. up to \$100,000, including checking and savings accounts, trusts, and IRAs or

certificates of deposit. Some retirement accounts are insured up to \$250,000.

Accounts at Bear Stearns, an investment bank that does not cater to consumers, are not insured by the FDIC. But JPMorgan Chase & Co., which plans to buy Bear, has assured Bear's customers it will guarantee all the bank's business. If Bear were to fail, customers of failed brokerages are protected by the federal Securities Investor Protection Corp., which can restore investor assets held by financially troubled firms.

If you have more than \$100,000 in a commercial bank, you can get coverage a couple of different ways, including by simply opening accounts at other banks.

Commercial banks would have to fall far before they match the 1991 recession, when 502 banks failed in three years. By contrast, only three U.S. banks failed last

year, and none failed the previous two years, according to the FDIC.

The FDIC was monitoring only 76 "problem institutions" last year, down from 1,430 in 1991.

Still, bank failures will probably increase through 2009, said Anthony Davis, an analyst at Stifel Nicolaus & Co. Inc. But "based on what we're hearing from various regulatory agencies, they don't think there will be a surge in failures."

Still not convinced? After all, banking analyst Meredith Whitney warned Monday that financial stocks could fall by as much as half, and consumer banks such as National City Corp. have seen their stocks slide, too, as the banking world shuddered.

Say the regulators are wrong and scores of banks begin to fail. How will the FDIC possibly cover all of them?

As of December, the FDIC was covering \$4.3 trillion in insured deposits with a fund of \$52.4 billion, for a reserve ratio of 1.22 percent. That sounds scant.

But take a deep breath, because the FDIC's reserve ratio sank as low as a negative 0.25 percent in 1991, and depositors with accounts at failed banks were still covered.

The FDIC assesses banks an insurance rate, based on how risky it judges the banks to be. The existing rates range from 0.05 percent for the least risky to 0.43 percent for the most risky. Should the FDIC need to, it could increase those rates.

Just last week, the FDIC's staff recommended that it maintain the existing rates, saying that 99 percent of the institutions it insures are well-capitalized — that is, not too risky.

College of Business focusing on ethics, corp. responsibility

CANYON — The College of Business at West Texas A&M University recently made a significant commitment to incorporate into its curriculum a great deal more discourse on ethical business practices and corporate responsibility.

Don Hodges, chairman of First Dallas Securities and portfolio co-manager of the award-winning Hodges Fund, is backing the effort. Hodges, a 1956 graduate of WTAMU, has contributed \$50,000 to the College of Business, funds that are being used to add to the curriculum and support student and faculty development.

The initiative already has led to the addition of two new courses in the College of Business: ACCT 6321—Ethical Solutions in Professional Accounting for those studying to become certified public accountants, and FIN 4311/5311—Corporate Governance and Ethics for finance, economics and graduate students.

One community won't escape border fence

LOS EBANOS, Texas (AP) — From a rocking chair on her back porch Aleida Flores Garcia traced the path government border fence surveyors took last week across the park she and her husband carved out of the scrub behind their stucco home.

A month ago, it sounded as though Los Ebanos and every other Hidalgo County community along the Rio Grande could breathe easy. There was a compromise that would modify levees to double as border walls making fencing on private property unnecessary.

"You won't have any kind of fencing in Hidalgo County," County Judge J.D. Salinas said on Feb. 8, when Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff announced the plan.

Garcia, 48, was relieved. "I said, 'oh great, I'd rather have a levee than a fence.'"

Then she realized there were no levees on this small

fist of land surrounded on three sides by the Rio Grande. She knew the fence would some day come to Los Ebanos.

Salinas came to the same realization weeks later.

"Nobody really talked about Los Ebanos," Salinas said this week as several Los Ebanos property owners appeared in federal court to fight condemnation lawsuits. "I guess everybody was kind of surprised."

The Rio Grande is Los Ebanos' identity. The unincorporated community of about 400 residents is best known for having the only hand-pulled ferry crossing any U.S. border.

There is a post office, a pink community center, St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church and houses — some appearing more inhabited than others — lining streets that run at odd angles.

The Rio Grande is the only reason anyone goes to Los

Ebanos, to cross three cars at a time or to barbecue on its banks.

On Easter weekend families spend the day at the river, returning to land passed down through the generations.

Garcia expected a good turnout at La Paloma Ranch, which bears her father's nickname and means "dove," this weekend. She hoped it wouldn't be the last Easter families can reach the river through the land passed down by her grandmother, where she was born and raised.

Garcia strongly opposes the border fence. Its intermittent segments will not stop or deter illegal immigrants as Washington hopes, she said. The money would be better spent on more border agents.

She eventually signed a waiver allowing surveyors temporary access to her property, but made it clear she was not giving permission

for fence construction.

Garcia, who works for the school district, thought of retiring at the end of the year to work full time on the ranch. She envisions families barbecuing in the park she can see from her porch, spiking over the volleyball net, riding the seesaw.

Bit by bit over seven years, she and her husband, Jorge Garcia, have been clearing land. There is a dirt track through heavy scrub and cactus to the river. At a clearing, is an unfinished boat ramp Jorge Garcia is building in his spare time.

The Garcias imagine a large palapa, or thatched-roof pavilion, nearby that would some day host country bands and fishing tournaments. There are already some benches along the river where people have camped.

"That land is mine, but it's actually going to belong to the Mexican side," Garcia said. Her uncle's land next door could all end up on the other side of the fence.

Fence planners have said there will be access gates in the segments so that property owners can reach land on the other side, but where those gates will go remains unknown.

Barry Morrissey, a spokesman with U.S. Customs and Border Protection, confirmed that a fence is still planned at Los Ebanos. "That was not included when the county approached us" about modifying the levees, he said, adding that the historic Los Ebanos ferry should not be affected.

Congress has mandated that there be 670 miles of pedestrian and vehicle fencing across the border with Mexico by the end of the year. South Texas property owners have been the most resistant.

UT tuition increase proposal varies by major

AUSTIN (AP) — Proposed tuition hikes by the University of Texas system would have students paying more than the 5 percent increase cap officials set last year.

While averages across all majors at a campus can't exceed 5 percent, increases for individual programs could be much higher. For example, UT-Austin, the system's flagship campus, proposed raising tuition and fees for architecture students by 7.5 percent next year while engineering students would see a more modest 4 percent increase.

The UT system Board of Regents is expected to consider the tuition changes for the next two school years next week.

The variables could mean families trying to budget for college would have to sort through a complicated set of options. Some students and parents are unhappy with any increase.

Paul Montoya, a junior at UT-Austin, pays for his education with a few scholarships and student loans.

"It's not fair. Every year I've been here the tuition has gone up," Montoya said.

"We are very concerned about the future of the economy," said his mother, Martha Montoya said. "UT has gotten a lot more expensive. I just don't think this a good time to be raising tuition."

UT regents decided last year to limit tuition and fee increases to 4.95 percent a year for in-state undergraduates. The decision came after a committee suggested hikes above that, prompting complaints from students and lawmakers.

But it could go higher on campuses where students already decided to pay more for certain perks. At UT-Arlington, students agreed to chip in \$120 more a year for

a new recreation center. Throw in other added costs, and UTA's average hike would be 6.5 percent next year. The following year, it would be 4.95 percent with no increase in the rec center fee.

At UT-Dallas, students approved an extra \$268 next year for public transportation passes, intramural sports and a new student services building, making the proposed average increase 7.6 percent. The average hike the following year would be 4.95 percent.

"They, in essence, proposed a tax on themselves in order to improve the campus," UTD spokeswoman Susan Rogers said.

The varying tuition hikes and rates result from tuition deregulation. Until 2003, the Legislature decided how much public universities could charge. But then it let campuses set their own rates, as it allowed per-student funding from the state to lag.

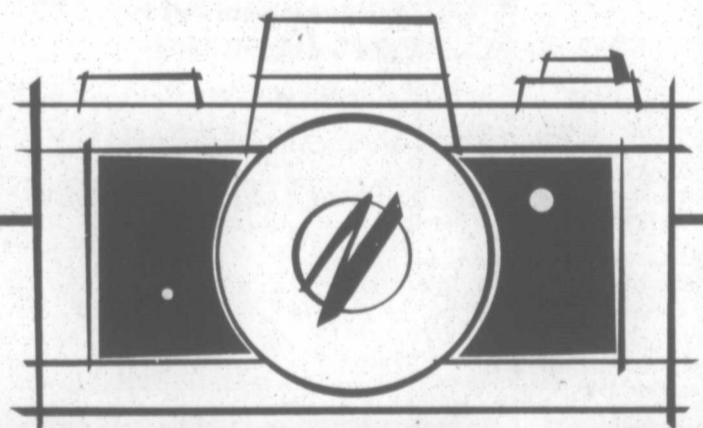
Since then tuition and fees at public universities across Texas have risen 40 percent on average. Some students say paying more won't bother them.

Yajaira Diaz pays for her UT-Austin education with loans and a scholarship, so she'll just have more to pay back.

"In my case, I've already taken out loans, so taking out more wouldn't be a big deal," Diaz said. "It's the value of the education they can offer me."

By law, public universities must set aside some tuition increase dollars for financial aid. Many campus officials in the UT System say that as the sticker price rises, they still want to keep the price lower for needy families.

For instance, UT-Austin has a grant program that helps families making up to \$80,000 a year.



FOCUS ON PAMPA

With A **COMMUNITY CAMERA**

From **THE PAMPA NEWS**

We want to share with our readers events throughout the community ...so come by to borrow a camera for Church Socials, Family Reunions, School Activities or Any Other Ideas You Have!

THE PAMPA NEWS

403 W. ATCHISON • 669-2525

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, March 24, 2008:

You make a difference this year. Your strength is your ability to detach and see the whole picture. Just sharing your vision of a situation will allow others to find solutions. You also will be great at determining the correct path. Use some of your innate talent and skills. Apply these skills in your life. Travel and education could play key roles. If you are single, a new person who's quite unique and different could mosey into your life. Transform and grow. Many new opportunities surround this person. If you are attached, walk in your sweetie's shoes more often. A natural empathy emerges, building closeness. **SCORPIO** pushes you to grow mentally.

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)

★★★★ Let someone else run with the ball. Ask yourself why you feel you must shoulder every responsibility. Others need to and can pitch in. But to do that, you need to back off and make space for them. Tonight: Listen to another's revelations.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Let others make the first move; enjoy being the Bull in the pasture sniffing the flowers. Sometimes a passive stand creates far more action than being assertive. You naturally will incorporate and express these skills. Tonight: Sort through invitations.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Dig into any project 100 percent. The more you concentrate, the less you will encounter flub-ups. You also

might clear out work faster. Take time for yourself and get a little exercise. A walk at lunch might even work! Tonight: Clear your desk first.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Examine the many different opportunities that are being dropped in your lap. You are not committing to going with them by checking them out. Be smart and do nothing that could entail a high risk factor. Tonight: Happy as a cat!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Home is where the heart is. If you can work from home more often, do. Otherwise, try to add that homey touch to your house. A plant or two, or perhaps a pillow could add that quality. Emotional confusion surrounds you. Tonight: Easy as can be.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Share your thoughts more often and let your imagination bubble forth. You could be an endless source of information and solutions. Step into this natural role. Let others appreciate what you have to offer. Tonight: Give up being shy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Expenses could be mounting, making you feel far more uncomfortable. If you allow, you will see someone in a far clearer light. Understanding flows as long as you are willing to reiterate several times. Tonight: Indulge a little. Lighten up.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Follow your instincts, even if you are uncomfortable or unsure. You will do the right thing. It might be true that whatever you do will work out in an unprecedented manner. Think in terms of what you want. Tonight: All smiles. **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★ Take your time initiating a new idea or project. In fact, some deep thought and investigation would be most appropriate. You might feel like your professional life works against your personal life. Tonight: Think all you want, but choose not to act.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You could be wondering which way to go and when. If you really want to work out a problem, ask for others' suggestions. You might need to be the only source for a good idea. Teamwork and participation can break down barriers too. Tonight: Aim for what you want.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Step up to the plate. If you feel confused by different messages on the same issue, stop. You might need to go on your own fact-finding mission. Staying anchored will help you more than you realize. Someone tells you that he or she cares. Tonight: Could be late.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Reach out for those at a distance. Easily, you could be overwhelmed by what is happening. There is such a thing as too much of a good thing. Be willing to step back and get others' feedback. You might be very interested in their point of view. Tonight: Say yes to living.

BORN TODAY

Geologist John Wesley Powell (1834), artist William Morris (1834), actor Steve McQueen (1930)

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

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The Pampa News Classifieds

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Realtors

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665-0717
 2545 Perryton Pkwy. in the Pampa Mall

LYNN ST.
 Wonderful 3 or 4 bedroom brick 2 baths Huge open and airy kitchen-den WB fireplace Formal living room Hobby room Office Basement Mint condition and too many amenities to mention Call Irvine for details OE

ASPEN ST.
 Quality custom built one owner home on Aspen Street 3 bedrooms, 1 3/4 baths plus utility room shower Large living room den with WB fireplace formal dining room has built ins Beautiful cabinetry, tiled countertops in kitchen and baths Nice carpet Double garage Sprinklers storage building Excellent location Call Bobbie to see 7901

Travis School District
 Lots of updates in this 3 bedroom 1 3/4 baths Nice den has beautiful fireplace Open kitchen-breakfast area Free maintenance-brick and steel wrap on eaves Must see to appreciate Call for an appointment 7878

DWIGHT ST.
 2 bedroom 1 bath Home hardwood flooring in living room Fresh interior paint Huge garage Priced to sell Perfect for first time buyers OE

GRAPE ST.
 Great 3 bedroom 1 3/4 baths Large formal living room Den has nice built ins New windows Great utility room Large screened in patio for outdoor pleasure Basement room Double car garage Many amenities Call Irvine for an appointment to see 7808

DOGWOOD
 Unique 3 bedroom brick 1 3/4 baths Open living area Large room has tiled flooring would make a wonderful hobby room or rec. room Storage building in back along with a nice garden area Corner lot Call to see OE

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Irvine Riphahn GRI 865-4534
 Chris Moore GRI 865-8172
 Bobbie Nisbet BKR 865-7037

14d Carpentry

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction Call 669-6347.

RICHARD'S General Carpentry, Roofs & Painting, Building & Remodeling. 886-0267, 275-9038

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.

14h Gen. Serv.

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

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

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

JH Concrete Work. Stamps, driveways, addition, fences, patios. Free Est. 806-382-5408.

14s Plumbing/Heat

JACK'S Plumbing, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115. Plumbing, repairs, new constr., & septic sys.

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

19 Situations

I will clean your house. 665-2621.

BABYSITTING, in my home, Mon. thru Fri. Call 665-0113.

REAL Estate Co. needs maintenance man w/ own tools. Apply at 1347 Coffee, Mon.-Fri., 8am-6pm, 665-4274, 665-1875.

21 Help Wanted

MAINTENANCE Man needed, remodeling exp. for various properties. Painting, drywall & plumbing a must!! Must have own tools & trans. 665-1875, 665-4274.

Wanted individual capable of handling all Landscaping and Janitorial Services at Pampa Seniors Apt. Bldg. Should have basic maintenance skills and own transportation. Please call 806-669-2594

POST OFFICE NOW HIRING. Avg. Pay \$20 / hr. or \$57K yr. incl. Federal benefits and OT. Offered by Exam Services, not aff. w/ USPS who hires. 1-866-483-6490.

NEED a Career? Become a licensed Vocational Nurse! Frank Phillips College is now accepting applications for the next 12-month program beginning May 15th. THEA waived. Financial Aid to those who qualify. Background check and drug screening. Application deadline is April 1st. 806-457-4200 ext. 746

What are you waiting for? Come take advantage of the most attractive sales opportunity in the panhandle area. Send resume to Affac Regional Office 2600 Paramount Suite H3 Amarillo, TX 79109 or email to: wildwest@megapathds.net

21 Help Wanted

GREAT opp. for single or retired couple, for 12 unit motel in Pampa. Lrg. apt. incl. 665-4274, 665-4274.

REAL Estate Co. needs maintenance man w/ own tools. Apply at 1347 Coffee, Mon.-Fri., 8am-6pm, 665-4274, 665-1875.

MAINTENANCE Man needed, remodeling exp. for various properties. Painting, drywall & plumbing a must!! Must have own tools & trans. 665-1875, 665-4274.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, March 30, 2008:

You have a sense of destiny and direction this year. If you go into your own business, you might be a natural. If you work for others, you could see a pay raise and promotion. If you are single, check out each person who blips on your radar. Find out if the apple of your eye is truly emotionally available. Take your time getting to know each other. If you are attached, you are in a position to transform your bond into a closer relationship. Schedule plenty of special time alone. CAPRICORN appreciates your leadership skills.

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 juggle enough responsibility for many different people. Use your unusual creativity and dynamic energy. Step up to the plate, understanding your long-term choices. Tonight: Enjoy every minute as the centerfold. This Week: Your fire determines the outcome of a project.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You'll see a difference when you detach and look at the long term. As you plan for the future, be aware of what you are asking. Decide on an offbeat experience, be it an exotic restaurant or a new place to explore. Tonight: Enjoy great company and music. This Week: Accept your major role in a project. The results will be great.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Someone might be acting like a benevolent dictator. If you're enjoying yourself, don't worry about it. Someone's efforts could touch you deeply. Finally you understand a lot more about this relationship. Tonight: Go along with another's ideas. This Week: Pull back and look at the big picture. Be absolutely sure before acting.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You might have a much better time if you don't demand agreement. How you visualize a situation and its possibilities are your uniqueness. Listen to others' interpretations. Tonight: Be with a group of friends or family if possible. This Week: Another's insight is far more enlightening than you were initially aware of. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★ Slow down. Use this Sunday as a day of rest. Don't minimize the importance of getting enough rest. Your sign tends to be in the middle of the action. That place might not be best right now. Tonight: Aim for a good night's sleep. This Week: Others dominate. Information bubbles up. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ Let your hair down. Sometimes you allow tension to cause a darkness. Use today to start changing this tendency. Don't wonder or contemplate; just go and do for a change. Tonight: Pretend the word "Monday" does not exist. This Week: Focus your energy where it counts. Network Wednesday on. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Family remains a very high priority. Let go and relax with those you enjoy most. You recharge in the private company of family, loved ones or friends. Foster good will by sharing more. Tonight: Order in. Don't make anything complicated. This Week: Your imagination peaks and adds dimension to whatever you do. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ You act as if it's all or nothing. Communication flourishes, but to such an extent that you might not be able to respond as you would like. Sometimes a gesture or smile can say more. Tonight: Enjoy the ones you are with! This Week: Your interests might be different from normal. Take a break from the tried-and-true. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Rethink a decision with greater care.

Someone could radically change his or her mood or actions. You could see a newfound gentleness emerge. Actually, perhaps some of your defenses could be dropping away. Tonight: Make whatever you do your pleasure. This Week: Conversation after conversation invigorates whatever you do. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ You are in your element. As you smile and beam in others, you get to see how very nice certain people are in your life. Share more and open up. Perhaps you have no idea how contained you are. Tonight: Whatever makes you smile. This Week: Stick to your budget, and you will have reason to smile from ear to ear. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ You might not want to share your special day. Even if you are with one person, that might be a lot, unless you can be completely open with him or her. Loosen up and relax. Opt to buy a card or do something unique for a loved one. Tonight: Early to bed. This Week: Unleash your dynamic intellect and personality. You will see results. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ Your intentions speak for themselves. You will create what you want! Bring friends and family together. The how, what and why all depend on you and your likes. Your soft and affable manner will make a difference. Tonight: As late as you want! This Week: Take your time making a decision. Act on it Wednesday.

BORN TODAY

Artist Francisco Goya (1746), singer Celine Dion (1968), actor Warren Beatty (1937)

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

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3 Personal

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5 Special Notices

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

10 Lost/Found

FOUND: Black & white cat, pink flea collar, on Scott st. Indoor cat. 669-5142 or 662-7969

FOUND set of Chevrolet keys with remote in 2200 block of Hamilton. Call 669-3026.

13 Bus. Opp.

GREAT investment opp. Pampa motel. Retired couple or individual. 665-1875, 806-383-1985.

14d Carpentry

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

JUSTOM Carpentry By Lance. Orange peel, framing, paint, drywall, crown & baseboard molding. 663-1696

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.

3-22 CRYPTOQUOTE
 MVOZRSKCBYVO KDVGHW QR
 HYNR C KHCW. MVEUVKRW
 VA ZCSYVGK YOTSRWYROBK
 COW XRHH-KBYSSRW XYBD
 KCHB. VYH COW ZYORTCS.
 — KRBCOBY
 Yesterday's Cryptquote: HE STOOD SPELLBOUND, LIKE A CHILD TO WHOM HIS NURSE IS TELLING HIM SOME WONDERFUL STORY. — BALZAC



8484 Rabbit Lane
 Brand new construction, this is truly an impressive home. 10' x 12' tray & vaulted ceiling, crown molding, architectural columns, granite counter tops, custom cabinets, stone fireplace, designer lighting and fixtures, 3 covered porches. You simply must see this house to appreciate it. 3/2/2 on 1 acre. MLS 08-7889

2706 Duncan St.
 Looking for a basement? This home offers 3 bdrms., 2 1/2 baths, 2 living areas, o/s garage with heated workshop and a wonderful basement! Excellent condition and ready to move into with updated flooring, texture and paint. MLS 08-7888 \$187,000.00

Other Listings
 1900 Grape: Need 4 Bedrooms? Here it is! Over 3200 sq./ft., 4 bdrms, 2 3/4 baths; 2 lg. living areas, 2 dining areas, big roomy kitchen, sunroom...all completely renovated. Large master suite with fabulous bathroom. All new flooring, fixtures, texture, paint, appliances and so much more! MLS 08-7884 \$238,000.00

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 Gaye Sadler, Broker
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NEW LISTING- MARY ELLEN- Great street appeal, 3 bedroom home with sprinkler system in front and back. Large den, central heat and air, brick with steel siding for low maintenance. Large kitchen with lots of storage. MLS 07-7918

N. SUMMER- Nice 2 bedroom brick home with steel siding on eaves. New central heat and air in 2000, storm windows and a single garage. MLS 08-7886

NEW LISTING- N. PERRYTON PARKWAY- Great lot to build a small office. Good visibility located close to nice office building. 252.3 Highway frontage. MLS 08-7907

N. SOMERVILLE- Three bedroom home close to downtown area. Extra large living area. Fenced back yard. One bath, wall heat has new vinyl in kitchen, dining and utility areas. Some hardwood floors under carpet. Mock fireplace. Single detached garage with storage area. MLS 08-7887

RUSSELL- Two or three bedroom home with vinyl siding. Good street appeal, double paneled windows, formal dining room, three window air units, single garage. MLS 07-7832

E. FRANCIS- Very unique home in older part of home. Lots of closets, built in bookcases, three bedrooms, 2 apartments in back, corner lot, kitchen has some remodeling. MLS 08-7866

98.2 ACRES AT COUNTY ROAD E1/2 AND TYNG- 9 surveyed lots ranging from 9.8 acres to 16.7 acres. Restricted for new construction. Located east of Loop 171. MLS 07-7737

N. PERRYTON PARKWAY- Commercial property located on corner lot. Good location. 3278 square foot in restaurant. MLS 07-7840

SEMINOLE- New interior paint and carpet. Large living and dining area. Metal roofing. Vaulted ceiling in dining and living areas. Central heat and air. MLS 07-7776

S. WELLS- nice well cared for three bedroom with two closets. Covered patio, 2 storage buildings. New roof last year. Most of rooms are paneled. Dining room, steel siding for low maintenance. Single garage. MLS 07-7821

NEW LISTING- N. CREST- Great investment property. Large building with plenty of parking. Building has central heat and air. The property is currently zoned medical. It is leased to Amarillo Heart Group and a Home Health Care Company. MLS- 08-7880

FIR- Great floor plan in nice neighborhood with woodburning fireplace. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, isolated master has his/her bath. Custom painted kitchen and bedrooms. Sprinkler front and back, storage building, well landscaped. All appliances, siding on eaves, storm windows and door, front door and HVAC are new. MLS 08-7903

ASPEN- Four bedroom home located on corner lot. New tile in kitchen, utility, den, hall, and entry. Covered patio, 2 storage buildings, sprinkler system front and back. Steel siding on soffits for low maintenance. Double Garage. MLS 08-7895

N. BANKS- Very nice 16' X 76' Northcrest mobile home with three bedrooms. Central heat and air. Large living and kitchen areas. Master bedroom has a wonderful bath area. Double drive. MLS 07-7742

BEECH- Nice neighborhood in Austin School district. Central heat and air less than 2 years old. New woodburning triple pane windows. Shop and storm cellar, storage building, utility and craft room, 3 bedrooms, above ground pool, 2 ponds, and a green house.

BEECH- Very nice three bedroom home located on corner lot. Has 1 3/4 baths, large screened in porch. Garage plus three storage buildings. Kitchen has nice cabinets. Some updating has been done. MLS 07-7847

Becky Bates 669-2214 Roberta Babb 665-6158
 Heidi Chronister 665-6368 Joan Mabry 669-3201
 Daniel Schorn 669-6284 Sandra Bronner 665-4218
 Linda Burt 665-5524 Dennis Edmondson 669-6582
 Rod Donaldson 665-2800 Maxine Watson 662-9052
 JUDY EDWARDS GRI CRS 662-4896
 BROKER-OWNER 665-3687 MARILYN REAGY GRI CRS
 BROKER-OWNER 665-1449

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AUSTIN SCHOOL DISTRICT	North and North East
2700 Duncan	365,000 4/2/2 - 3830 SF/GCAD
210 W. Harvester	275,000 5/3.75/2 - 3262 SF/GCAD
12004 White Acres	209,900 3/2/2 - 2300 SF/GCAD
12002 White Acres	199,900 3/2/2 - 2080 SF/GCAD
2724 Duncan	195,900 4/1.75/2 - 2912 SF/GCAD
1228 Charles	145,000 3/1.75/2 - 2912 SF/GCAD
1806 Chestnut	114,900 3/1.75/2 - 2058 SF/GCAD
2200 Duncan	82,000 4/1.5/2 - 1912 SF/GCAD
621 Red Deer	75,000 3/1/1 - 1041 SF/GCAD
2425 Navajo	60,000 3/1/0 - 1347 SF/GCAD
2231 Mary Ellen	59,900 3/1/1cpl - 1386 SF/GCAD
1216 Williston	31,900 2/1/1 - 1064 SF/GCAD

LAMAR SCHOOL DISTRICT	South West
701 N. Nelson	58,900 4/1/1 - 1411 SF/Appt.
853 N. Craver	55,000 3/1/1 - 1056 SF/GCAD
1141 S. Christy	35,000 3/1/1 - 1520 SF/GCAD
615 N. Faulkner	19,900 2/1/0 - 728 SF/GCAD

TRAVIS SCHOOL DISTRICT	West and North West
915 Sierra	169,000 3/2/2 - 1659 SF/Bldr
2113 Lynn	129,900 4/1.75/2 - 2007 SF/GCAD
1524 Christy	124,900 3/1.75/2 - 1562 SF/GCAD
1532 N. Christy	117,500 3/1.75/1 - 1450 SF/GCAD
1605 N. Summer	89,000 3/1.75/2 - 1277 SF/GCAD
1916 Zimmers	79,900 3/1.5/1 - 1244 SF/GCAD
1825 Dwight	79,000 3/1.5/1 - 1902 SF/GCAD
1108 Willow	72,500 3/1.5/1 - 1138 SF/GCAD
2225 N. Dwight	69,900 3/1/1 - 1209 SF/GCAD
2133 N. Wells	57,500 3/1/0 - 1284 SF/GCAD
2223 N. Nelson	34,500 3/1/1 - 1112 SF/GCAD

WILSON SCHOOL DISTRICT	South East
533 Powell St	62,500 3/1/2 - 1372 SF/GCAD
621 Lefors	47,500 3/1/1 - 1027 SF/GCAD
805 E. Francis	45,000 3/1/0 - 992 SF/GCAD
1212 Darby	32,000 3/1/1 - 877 SF/GCAD
107 Warren	27,000 2/1/1 - 852 SF/GCAD
1329 Terrace	25,000 2/1/1 - 954 SF/GCAD
1412 E. Browning	24,900 2/1/1 - 912 SF/GCAD
1144 N. Starkweather	24,500 3/1/1 - 1228 SF/GCAD

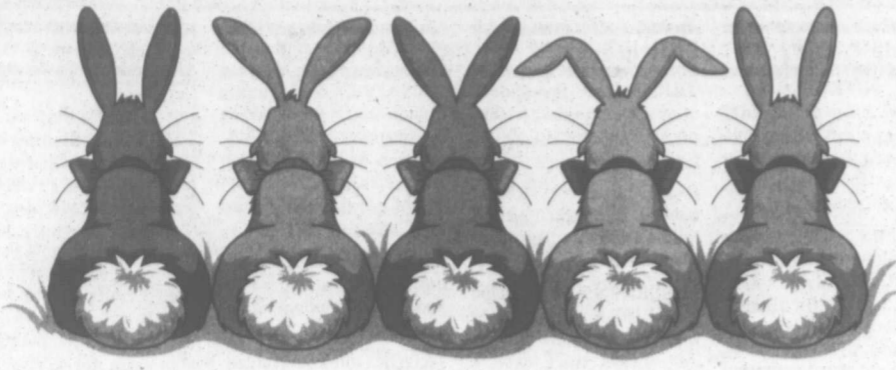
OTHER AREAS	Outside Pampa City Limits
640 Acres Magic City	\$740,000 Ranch
530 Acres Near Lefors	\$530,000 Ranch West Of Lefors
7400 Hog Fm Rd, Lef	\$139,900 4 bd house on 10 acres
1706 County Rd V	\$119,900 4/2.75/1725SF on 10 acres

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY	
30th & Charles	\$3 sf & \$1 sf 50.9 Acres N of Walmart
420 W. Foster	\$165-400,000 Houston Lumber Co.
Hwy 60 Ranch House Motel	\$150,000 Ranch House Motel
319 W. Foster	\$95,000 Milano Pizza
1122 Alcock	\$80,000 3,360 SF Bldg
1421 N. Hobart	\$69,900 Beauty Shop 1080SF

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

Jim Davidson (BKR/OWNER) . 662-9021
 Robert Anderwald 665-3357
 Katrina Bigham 898-8510
 Christa Carpenter 664-0463
 Donna Courter 595-0779
 Twila Fisher (BKR) 440-2314
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669-2525

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69 Misc.

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99 Stor. Bldgs.

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Sealed bids being taken: Closing date- April 30, 2008.

Seller reserves the right to refuse any or all bids. Please mail bids to: DADS-Guardianship Rosemary Foster 512 West Main Street, Box 11

4th Floor Courthouse Memphis, Texas 79245 Call for additional info: 806/259-3013 ext 25.

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With movie soundtrack in works, Lufkin artist busy with her music

By STEVEN ALFORD
The Lufkin Daily News

LUFKIN, Texas (AP) — With a movie soundtrack in the works, an upcoming performance at a national conference and a local song-writing organization to run, Connie Blackledge has a lot on her plate these days. But that's just the way she likes it.

Having been around music her whole life, Blackledge, a Lufkin native, has found her career taking off as more and more people are finding out about her music — which has an East Texas flair all its own.

For someone who picked up a guitar in 2005 and began teaching herself how to write songs, Blackledge has already accom-

plished a lot in a short time. "My mother played the piano in church, and my father was the music director," she said. "At age 6 I heard perfect harmony, and I knew there was no going back. My childhood shaped the way I hear and write music today."

After writing a collection of songs, which she says is her "absolute favorite thing to do," Blackledge began working on an album and showcasing her mellow, singer-songwriter style around Texas. "I had heard about the Mixing Studio in Nacogdoches, where I recorded my album, from some friends at a local music store," she said. "It sounded like a cool place to record, and I always try to support the local music business."

Soon Blackledge was invited to perform at

the Texas Songwriters' Cruise, where her song "You Thought You Were Loving Me" made the finals. "People from all over the world come to take part in the cruise. I met a lot of talented individuals from as far away as Australia," she said.

"Some of the people I met on the cruise who were from overseas heard my music and liked it a lot. Because of that contact I've been invited to help write a song for the next James Bond movie, which I'm really excited about."

Blackledge tries to write songs that relate her own experiences to listeners in the hope that music fans can take her message and work through their own problems. "I know it is God that puts a song in my heart every day. I try to take a bad event or a circumstance, find a positive and turn it into a song," she said. "I hope that it will help someone mend what was unseen." It's her feeling of reaching out to others that has gotten Blackledge interest from several chari-

ties.

One of those interested in her message was RAINN, the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network. RAINN is the nation's largest anti-sexual assault organization. They liked her song "Breath of Fresh Air" so much, Blackledge was asked to perform the song at their annual conference in June at Houston.

"I was honored; I think it's a great organization. I'm looking forward to playing it at the conference in front of everyone," she said. "A film crew is going to document the event for a television special, and I can't wait."

When she's not shuffling from show to show, Connie finds the time to run "Write Around Texas," a local song-writing organization that meets the first Tuesday of every month at the First Street Arts Center in Lufkin. Here musicians can critique each other's songs and make lasting contacts.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Altrusa

Local Altrusan Judy Warner recently presented a container of metal tabs to Shriner Ben Watson. The tabs are off metal soft drink cans and were collected by Pampa Altrusa Club members. The tabs help raise funds for families of children receiving medical treatment at Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Sable

Continued from Page 5-B

Indeed, the Sable, with its big, 21.2-cubic-foot trunk, has a higher mileage rating than a six-cylinder-powered 2008 Volkswagen Passat sedan and 2008 Chrysler Sebring sedan.

Not unexpectedly, with all-wheel drive, the Sable's fuel economy rating drops slightly to 17/24 mpg. This is the same rating that the government gives the 2008 Subaru Legacy with four-cylinder engine and manual transmission.

The Sable's recommended fuel is unleaded regular.

The best part of the Sable, however, is the interior: The driver's seat position is elevated for a good view out and people in the back seat have stretch-out room. Second-row legroom is a full 41.2 inches, which is more than what's in the second row of an extended-length, Cadillac Escalade ESV.

It can be difficult for the driver to see what's directly behind and close to the rear bumper of the Sable when the car is backing up. So I'd advise getting the optional reverse sensing system, which has a retail price from the factory of \$295.

Other nice additions that can improve comfort and functionality include power adjustable pedals which

raise and move closer to the driver, for \$195, and a cargo management system to help keep items from rolling around that big trunk. It retails for \$200.

The Sable doesn't attract looks, and the front, bar-like grille can look inelegant when the headlights are on. Mercury's parent company, Ford Motor Co., has made much of the fact the Taurus — and the Sable — have crash test ratings that make them "the safest full-size cars in America."

And it's true that both sedans received the top, five-out-of-five-stars rating in frontal and side crash testing by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

But electronic stability control, which is standard on every Hyundai, is an option on the Sable and is retail priced at \$495. Standard safety equipment includes curtain air bags, seat-mounted side air bags for the front seats, antilock brakes and traction control.

Some knowledgeable car buyers may remember that the Sable was discontinued from the market for about a year because of slow sales. It was supposed to be replaced by the Mercury Montego.

But Montego sales were poor, too, so company officials decided to revive the Sable as a remade and much-improved Montego in the same way the 2008 Taurus is a remade Ford Five

Hundred. So far this year, sales of the 2008 Sable total about 1,000 a month, while the tally for the 2008 Taurus is 4,500 a month.



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4:00 p.m. FFA Ag Mechanics Awards Presentation - South Exhibit Hall
5:00 p.m. Expo Closes

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Know?

Continued from Page 5-B

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According to a survey by AstraZeneca and the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, there is a large disconnect between what is being said and how patients are actually affected by their asthma every day. To learn more, visit www.asthmagap.com.

The National Problem Gambling Awareness Week campaign provides free materials on gambling problems. To learn more or to find help, call toll free (800) 522-4700 or visit www.ncpgambling.org.