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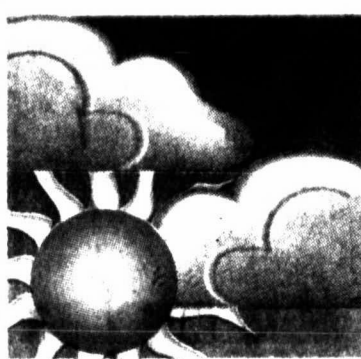
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Pampa

Vol. 92 No. 18 • Pampa, Texas
50¢ Daily • Sunday \$1



High today mid 70s
Low tonight upper 40s
For weather details see
Page 2.

PAMPA — The Shriner's Annual Barbeque fundraiser to aid Crippled Children's Hospitals will be May 2 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sportsman Club on South Barnes.

PAMPA — Parents who are signing up children for Head Start/Pre K are reminded to bring their children's shot records. That information was not provided for Sunday's article about the process.

No ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Saturday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket would have been worth an estimated \$7 million.

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 50 were: 11-17-26-32-38-49

Wednesday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$10 million.

AUSTIN (AP) — The Travis County sheriff's department for the first time is offering a weekly four-hour crash course to help deputies communicate better with those who speak only Spanish.

Curtis Weeks, who teaches the four-hour class, said the need to teach officers Spanish is overwhelming because only 20 percent of the department's 200 deputies speak the language. It was his suggestion to offer the class.

By the end of four hours with Weeks, officers can write tickets and arrest someone in Spanish that was surprisingly understandable.

- Wanda Mae Cox, 61, former secretary.
- B.B. "Bo" Dyer, 69, retired pipeline construction foreman.
- Thelma I. Farrar, 92, services pending.
- Lillian M. Shirley, 70, licensed vocational nurse.
- Shawn Dirk White, 33, mortgage loan officer.

Classified 7
Comics 5
Medical 4
Sports 6

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May Fest has lots to offer May 1-2

Come join your friends and neighbors for an exciting weekend of activities in Pampa. The Top O' Texas Rodeo Association is sponsoring a variety of activities for the entire family on May 1-2.

The May Fest Celebrations start on Saturday with the Sixth Annual Arts & Crafts Show at 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The arts and crafts show is being held at the National Guard Armory on Hwy. 60 next to Recreation Park. Area artisans will be displaying miscellaneous wood and cloth items, candles, T-shirts, purses, wind chimes, jewelry, wooden yard ornaments plus items too numerous to mention. Beanie Babies, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Tupperware and Mountain Man candies and snacks will also be available.

The amateur Team Penning books will open at 9 a.m. with the penning starting at 10 a.m. The Chicken, Ribs, and Brisket cook-off will be held from noon to 4 p.m. and sample plates will be available to the public after each judging is completed.

The May Fest Celebrations start on Saturday with the Sixth Annual Arts & Crafts Show at 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The arts and crafts show is being held at the National Guard Armory on Hwy. 60 next to Recreation Park.

Sponsored by North Country Coors, Subway Sandwiches, McDonalds of Pampa and Perryton, Holmes Gift Shoppe and Sports Center, and Perryton Printing, these events are being held at the rodeo arena and under trees at the north end of the arena.

A USSSA Mens Class E Softball Tournament is also being planned for Saturday, May 1 at Recreation Park. This is a state and national tournament qualifier and berths will be awarded. Shane Stokes can be contacted for additional information at 669-5770 or 665-6848.

On Sunday, Pokey the Clown and area

High Country Chevy Dealers will be sponsoring a WRCA sanctioned Junior Ranch Rodeo and "Horse" Sale. This is a fun event for all ages. PeeWee team members are 3 to 7 years old, Junior team children are 4 to 11 years of age and Senior team youth are 7 to 16 years old. Rodeo events include Pony Express Race, Cow Doctoring, Wild Cow Milking, and Calf Branding.

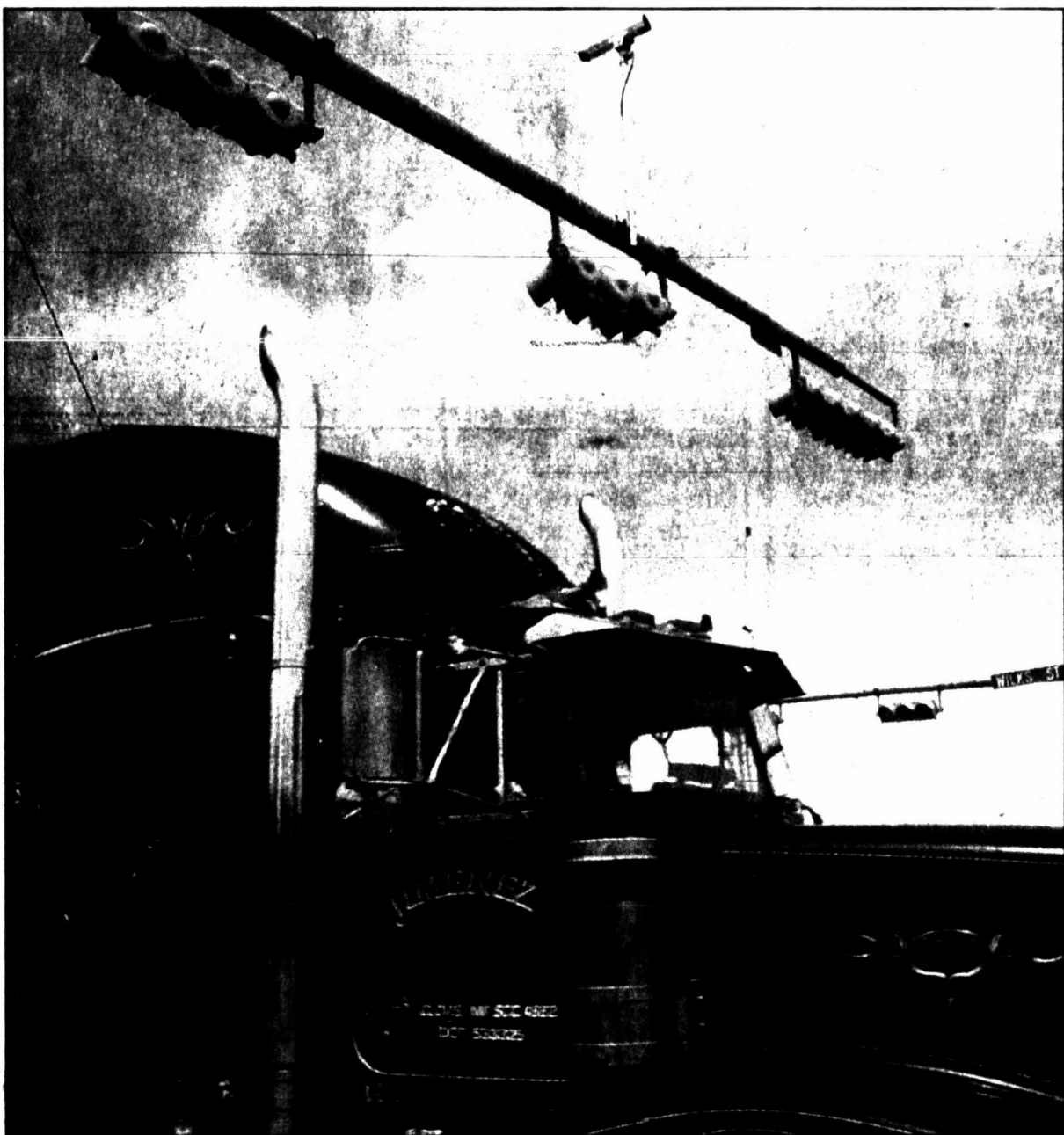
Live animals are not used and contestants will compete on Pokey's "special horse's" so everyone is encouraged to come out to participate. Teams will be receiving points and working to qualify

for the WRCA Junior Ranch Rodeo World Championship Finals to be held in Amarillo in November. Contestants may contact the rodeo office for more information or registration will begin at noon on May 2 at the arena.

The auction of top quality stick horses will be held at 1:30 p.m. with the Junior Ranch Rodeo to follow. Sponsors are currently being sought for the "Horse" Sale. This is an excellent opportunity for businesses and individuals to sponsor and buy one of these beautiful horses. Sponsors are asked to contact the rodeo office for more information.

The Proud Heritage Farm Equipment Club will be having a display of their antique farm machinery, also. With the arts and crafts show continuing on Sunday, Recreation Park in Pampa is the place to be this weekend for the Sixth Annual May-Fest activities. Food, fun, fellowship and fine weather are planned so bring the entire family.

Not what you think ...



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

A truck rumbles under the camera-equipped traffic signal at the intersection of Highways 60 and 70 in Pampa.

Pampa gets high-tech camera at intersection

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

"Cameras mounted atop the signal lights at Hobart and U.S. 60 are part of a high tech traffic control system not a government attempt to catch people who run red lights."

That's according to the Texas Department of Transportation whose crews installed four cameras this week at the Pampa intersection of Texas 70 (Hobart Street) and U.S. 60 (Wilks Street).

"It's a video detection system," said Jerry Raines, area engineer assigned to Pampa. "It will eliminate the loops in the pavement."

Prior to the cameras, electronic sensors in the form of loops of wire embedded in the pavement controlled the time and duration of the traffic signal. That function will now be taken

over by the cameras, Raines said.

The cameras are not related to traffic violations and will not be used to issue traffic tickets.

"It's not that type of system," Raines said.

He said it is from the detection of traffic and activation of the signal lights. There is no video recording of traffic movement.

"There's only one small monitor," Raines said.

The cameras, however, are connected to the Amarillo traffic office of the Texas Department of Transportation. Their actions are read by computer and if one fails or the lens becomes covered with dirt or ice, the Amarillo office will be notified by the computer connection and they will send a maintenance crew out to repair it.

All the signals are tied to the Amarillo office," Raines said.

(See CAMERA, Page 2)

The cameras are not related to traffic violations and will not be used to issue traffic tickets.

Commission sets Super Playground safety discussion

By KATE B. DICKSON
Associate Publisher

Safety at the Super Playground will be one of the topics discussed when city commissioners get together at 4 p.m. Tuesday at City Hall for their public work session which will be followed at 6 p.m. by the regular commission meeting.

In March, 18-month-old Ethan Wayne Anderson drowned after walking away from the playground and falling into a nearby rain-swollen creek bed. He was the son of James Alexander and Angela Anderson.

Bill Hildebrandt, director of community services, will give commissioners a status report on his evaluation of the playground site and told *The Pampa News* today he will offer the commission "some options" to consider.

"It was a horribly tragic accident," Hildebrandt said of Ethan's death. "... But if you are going to keep the playground accessible there is going to be the ability in some specific instances where someone could get away as happened in this case. It's a Catch-22."

Ethan's aunt and great aunt recently spoke during the general comments session of a Parks and Recreation Board meeting about their nephew's death and about what the city can do to prevent another like tragedy, Hildebrandt said.

The Parks and Recreation board talked about the incident with the two relatives and "expressed interest in would can be done," to make the playground safer, Hildebrandt said.

(See COMMISSION, Page 2)

Bill would raise rural speed limits

Gray Sheriff Don Copeland has some mixed emotions

By KATE B. DICKSON
Associate Publisher

While it's true Gray County has miles and miles of rural highways, including a 32-mile stretch of Interstate 40, Gray County Sheriff Don Copeland has mixed emotions about proposals to raise some speed limits in Texas.

There's legislation pending that could raise the limit from 70 mph to 80 mph on east-west interstate highways in counties with populations under 25,000. That would include Gray County where the population is about 23,000.

"Eighty seems a little fast to me," Copeland said. "Raising the speed limits would probably increase the severity of accidents ... maybe not the number of them ... but the severity."

But on the other hand, Copeland says he sees how increasing the limits on long stretches of rural Texas highways can benefit a driver's traveling time.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Pete Gallego of Alpine, described the need for higher rural speeds this way — "In my district, it can take two hours to get to a hardware store."

(See SPEED, Page 2)

Bond set at \$100,000

CANADIAN — A Canadian man is in Hemphill County jail today in lieu of a \$100,000 bond on a drug charge.

Victor Rodriguez, 49, was charged with delivery of a controlled substance in connection with a Department of Public Safety undercover operation last summer.

Authorities said the charges against Rodriguez stem from a transaction on July 29, 1998, reported by a DPS undercover narcotics officer.

Rodriguez pleaded not guilty before Judge Steven Emmert in 31st District Court here Thursday morning.

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Daily Record

Services tomorrow

COX, Wanda Mae — 10 a.m., Trinity Fellowship Church, Pampa.

Obituaries

WANDA MAE COX

Wanda Mae Cox, 61, of Pampa, died Saturday, April 24, 1999, at Amarillo. Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday in Trinity Fellowship Church with the Rev. Lonny Robbins officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Cox was born May 6, 1937, at Delta, Colo. She married Joe Cox on Aug. 2, 1958, at Oklahoma City, Okla. She worked as a secretary for Canyon Insurance Company, moving from Pampa to Canyon in 1971. She retired in 1991 and returned to Pampa in 1994.

She belonged to Trinity Fellowship Church. She was preceded in death by a grandson, Brandon, in 1982; and a sister, Mary Ann Bales, in 1996.

Survivors include her husband, Joe, of the home; three daughters and sons-in-law, Pamela and Mark Smith and Tracy and Tommy Washington, all of Pampa, and Kandy and Robby Owen of Canyon; a sister, Violet Hopper of Newalla, Okla.; four brothers, John Shuffield of Prague, Okla., Edward Shuffield and Noel Shuffield, both of Newalla, and Jimmy Shuffield of McCloud, Okla.; and five grandchildren, Brittney, Josh, Shannon, Abbie and Camron.

The family requests memorials be to Harvest House, 736 S. Cuyler, Pampa, TX 79065.

B.B. 'BO' DYER

B.B. "Bo" Dyer, 69, of Pampa, died Monday, April 26, 1999, at Amarillo. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Dyer was born Feb. 18, 1930, at Rush Springs, Okla. He married Helen Ridings on Jan. 12, 1950, at Memphis. He had been a Pampa resident since 1951, moving from Memphis. He was a longtime pipeline construction foreman prior to retiring in 1992.

He belonged to Wells Street Church of Christ. Survivors include his wife, Helen, of the home; five daughters, Laura Kindle, Debbie Stroud, Alice Westbrook and Linda Baldrige, all of Pampa, and Carol Richmond of Briscoe; five sons, Tarell Dyer, Michael Dyer and Denver Dyer, all of Pampa, and Perry Dyer and Richard Dyer, both of Amarillo; three sisters, Alma Carter of Chickasha, Okla., Mary Hughes of Porterville, Calif., and Esther Stone of Pampa; five brothers, Dan Dyer, Curtis Dyer and Leonard Dyer, all of California, Floyd Dyer of Chickasha and Finace Dyer of Pampa; 26 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to BSA Hospice and Life Enrichment Center, P.O. Box 950, Amarillo, TX 79176; or to the Amy Newhouse Fund in care of First State Bank of Miami, Pampa Branch, 120 W. Kingsmill, Pampa, TX 79065.

THELMA I. FARRAR

WHEELER — Thelma I. Farrar, 92, died Sunday, April 25, 1999. Services are pending under the direction of Wright Funeral Home of Wheeler.

LILLIAN M. SHIRLEY

SHAMROCK — Lillian M. Shirley, 70, died Saturday, April 24, 1999. Services were to be at 2 p.m. today in the Church of Christ with Sid Smith, minister, officiating. Burial will be in Shamrock Cemetery under the direction of Wright Funeral Directors of Shamrock.

Mrs. Shirley was born June 23, 1928, at Dimmitt, to James and Ethel McAllister. She married Robert Barth; he died in 1972. She had been a Shamrock area resident most of her life and was a licensed vocational nurse, working at Shamrock General Hospital, Parkview Hospital in Wheeler and Dr. Louie Mendiola's office in Wheeler.

She belonged to the Church of Christ and American Legion Lady's Auxiliary.

Survivors include a daughter, Lisa Davis of Amarillo; a son, Tim Barth of Amarillo; her mother, Ethel McAllister of Shamrock; two brothers, Curtis McAllister of Shamrock and Melvin McAllister of Odessa; and three grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Crown of Texas Hospice.

SHAWN DIRK WHITE

THE COLONY — Shawn Dirk White, 33, died Sunday, April 25, 1999, at Durant, Okla. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. White was born Jan. 25, 1966, at Borger. He graduated from Pampa High School in 1984. He participated in swimming and diving at PHS and attended West Texas State University in Canyon. He was a mortgage loan officer for Fidelity Funding in the Dallas area.

Survivors include his wife, Christie White, of the home; a daughter, Paige Nichole White, of the home; two sons, Corey White and Samuel Peyton White III, both of the home; his parents, Sam and Sally White of Pampa; a sister, Amber Lea Sullivan of Amarillo; and a brother, James Kevin White of Perry, Fla.

Stocks

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

Wheat	2.25	
Milo	1.18	
Corn	1.56	
Soybeans	4.05	

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

Occidental	19 11/16	dn 7/16
Magellan	135 3/4	
Puritan	20 9/16	

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

Amerco	106 11/16	up 1/2
Arco	79 5/8	up 3/16
Cabot	25 1/16	dn 3/16
Cabot O&G	15 7/8	NC
Chevron	94 5/8	dn 1 1/4

Coca-Cola	65 15/16	dn 9/16
Columbia/HCA	26 3/8	dn 3/16
Enron	68 3/8	dn 5/8
Halliburton	40 1/16	dn 1 1/8
IBM	25 5/16	dn 1/8
KNE	21 5/8	dn 1/8
Kerr McGee	38	dn 1 1/4
Limited	42 1/8	dn 3/16
McDonald's	44 3/8	up 1/4
Mobil	98 1/4	dn 1 5/8
New Amos	25 5/16	dn 3/16
NCE	34 3/16	up 1/16
Penney's	44 3/16	dn 3/8
Phillips	46 9/16	dn 1 5/16
Procter Nat. Res.	9 5/16	up 3/16
SLB	59 5/16	dn 1 9/16
Tenneco	30 1/16	NC
Texaco	57 7/8	dn 1/4
Ultramar	21 3/4	dn 1/4
Wal-Mart	51 7/16	up 1/2
Williams	44 1/8	dn 3/16
New York Gold	283 5/8	
Silver	5 16	
West Texas Crude	18 24	

Police report

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

Saturday, April 24

Raul Mendoza Romero, 37, 944 E. Denver, was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated.

Sunday, April 25

Michael Esparza, 21, 2132 Williston, was arrested on charges of violation of promise to appear, no liability insurance, defective muffler, defective headlights and failure to report address change.

Dewayne McBee, 25, 1328 Starkweather, was arrested on charges of issuance of a bad check.

Felix Estrada Gonzalez, 28, 1200 S. Hobart, was arrested on traffic warrants.

Jack Dean Collum, 57, 1303 Williston, was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated.

Johnny Tony Rosalez, 24, 216 E. Tuke, was arrested on charges of issuance of a worthless check and a warrant.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 1200 block of Kingsmill.

Sheriff's Office

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

Saturday, April 24

John Eric Allen, 31, 1016 Terry, was arrested on charges of evading, resisting arrest and driving while intoxicated.

Jackie Lynn Vaughn, 38, Ranch House Motel, was arrested on charges of possession of controlled substance, failure to appear and theft by check.

Ambulance

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

Saturday, April 24

8:54 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of North Russell and transported one to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

3:10 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 500 block of North Frost and transported one to PRMC.

6:01 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported one to Baptist St. Anthony West.

10:13 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported one to Northwest Texas Hospital.

Sunday, April 25

11:27 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of Darby and transported one to Baptist St. Anthony Hospice.

12:20 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Prairie and transported one to PRMC.

4:48 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded PRMC and transported one to Baptist St. Anthony West.

8:59 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of North Hobart; no patient was transported.

Monday, April 26 p.m.

2:16 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 1600 block of Mary Ellen and transported one to PRMC.

4:54 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the Jordan Unit and transported one to PRMC.

Fires

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

Saturday, April 24

8:14 a.m. — Three units and seven personnel responded to the 2500 block of Aspen on a lightning strike.

11:20 a.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to Gray 1 off of Highway 60 on an electrical short.

9:15 p.m. — One unit and one personnel responded to the 400 block of Warren on a smoke scare.

Sunday, April 25

6:35 p.m. — Three units and seven personnel responded to a false alarm in the 1300 block of Williston.

8:49 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to a police assist at Pampa Middle School.

Court report

Jeremiah Kenton Ascher, possession of marijuana, \$500 fine, 90 days in county jail

Eva Solis, modification of probation

Jennifer Pennell, theft of property by check, dismissed: court costs and restitution made

Lezlie Brown Stewart, theft of property by check, dismissed: court costs and restitution made

Carlos Octavio Solis, modification of probation

Duane Curtis King, modification of probation

Alan R. Langley, driving at an unsafe speed, \$100 fine

Dewey B. Vaughn, speeding, 60 days probation, \$100 fine

failure to appear, dismissed: taken into account with cause no. 24682

Shawn Doss, judgment NISI

Joan Thomas Ritter, criminal trespass, dismissed: complaining witness requested dismissal

Mark Anthony Hernandez, telephone harassment, dismissed: complaining witness requested dismissal

Glenn Wade Newsome, termination of probation

Sherry Swindle, theft of property by check, dismissed: court costs and restitution made

Joy Bybee, false report, dismissed: insufficient evidence

Elizabeth Lang, theft \$50-\$500, dismissed: defendant paid restitution in full.

COMMISSION

At Tuesday's meeting it will be the first time the playground death will have been discussed by the commission in a public setting, Hildebrandt said. It is for discussion only and is not an action item.

On the regular agenda, the commission will:

- Consider Ordinance No. 1329 on Landscaping Requirements on second and final reading.
- Consider a budget amendment to City of

Pampa's Operating Budget.

- Consider the award of bid for various city vehicles.
- Approval of secondary list of disbursements.
- Consider a resolution authorizing an increase in the cost of groundwater supply project with CRMWA.
- Consider rejection of bid relative to the purchase of a used compactor.
- Consider the award of bid for improvements at the wastewater treatment plant.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

SPEED

Also proposed is an amendment to the bill which would increase speed limits from 70 mph to 75 mph on state and federal highways outside urban districts.

If approved, the new speed limits would apply only to cars, motorcycles and light trucks and the Texas Department of Transportation would study where changes could safely be made.

Copeland, a former DPS trooper, said many drivers ignore the posted speed limits driving as much as 10 or 20 mph over the limit — something he predicts will continue to happen even if permitted

speeds are set higher.

"It's just human nature to push it," Copeland said of drivers who speed over the limit now matter how high it is.

According to TxDOT, no state has a speed limit higher than 75 mph. Montana is the only state with no posted daytime limit, but a new law capping travel at 75 takes effect there next month.

And, while the DPS takes no stand on pending legislation, its spokesman, Mike Cox, said higher speed limits mean a greater risk of accidents.

"Each time over the years that there's been an increase in speed, there has been a spike in the number of traffic deaths," Cox said.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

CAMERA

The system in Pampa is connected by the antennae on the cameras, he explained.

"It's a pretty good system," Raines said.

The nicest thing about it, he said, is that if maintenance is performed on the pavement at the intersection, the crew doesn't need to worry about cutting the loops embedded in it. The camera system is much easier to access for maintenance.

"It's pretty basic," said Leon Wood, the area traffic manager in Amarillo.

The level of sophistication in order to enforce traffic violation is much higher, Raines said.

The cameras for the video detection system in Pampa are fairly rudimentary, unlike the high resolution cameras needed to read license plates of traffic violators. Each camera for the Pampa intersection costs about \$700.

The \$18,000 system is one of the first in the area.

Last year, a pilot system was installed in Dumas to see how it would work in Texas Panhandle weather. Raines said the brutal panhandle winters didn't seem to bother it.

Following the testing of the system in Dumas last year, the system was installed in Pampa and will also be installed in Dalhart this year.

Plans call for the video detection system to be installed in Canadian next year.

More Images ...

On a bright fall day the U.S. and Texas flags fly high in front of Pampa City Hall. The photo was submitted by Darlene Birkes in the countryside category of the Pride '99 photo contest.



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City Briefs

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

EYECARE PLUS is receiving shipments of sunglasses daily. Tommy Hilfiger, Guess, Harley Davidson, Vogue, Calvin Klein, The Original Military Aviator, Adidas, NBA and more! All affordably priced and backed with our unbeatable 2-year warranty. 1916 N. Hobart, 669-2824.

RABIES DRIVE- Dogs April 30th & May 2nd, Cats May 3rd. Rabies & other vaccinations given at reduced prices, at all Pampa Veterinary offices. It's the law!

TRALEE RE-SALE Shop, 308 S. Cuyler now open Mon. thru Sat. 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Partly cloudy today with a high in the mid 70s and west-northwest winds from 10-20 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy with a low in the upper 40s. Tomorrow, a high of 83 and light winds. Sunday's high was 70; the overnight low 47.

REGIONAL FORECAST

WEST TEXAS — Panhandle — Tonight, clear with a low in the mid 40s. Light and variable wind. Tuesday, mostly sunny and warm with a high in the lower 80s. Light southwest wind, becoming southeast around 10 mph in the afternoon.

Southern Panhandle/Low Rolling Plains — Tonight, clear. Lows mid 40s to lower 50s. Tuesday, sunny. Highs in the 80s. Permian Basin/Upper Trans Pecos — Tonight, fair. Low in the lower 50s. Tuesday, mostly sunny and warmer. High near 90. Concho Valley/Edwards Plateau —

Tonight, mostly clear. Low in the lower 50s. Tuesday, mostly sunny. High near 90. Light wind. Far West Texas — Tonight, fair. Low in the mid 50s. Tuesday, mostly sunny and warmer. High in the mid 80s. Guadalupe Mountains/Big Bend Area — Tonight, fair. Lows 40s to mid 50s. Tuesday, mostly sunny and warmer. Highs 80s mountains to near 100 along the Rio Grande.

NORTH TEXAS — Tonight, scattered thunderstorms ending early east, then decreasing clouds. Clear elsewhere. Lows 52 west to near 60 east. Tuesday, sunny and warm. Highs 82 to 88.

SOUTH TEXAS — Hill Country and South Central Texas — Tonight, mostly clear. Patchy fog developing hills and south central portions toward sunrise. Lows in the 40s and 50s. Hill Country to near 60 south central. Tuesday, partly cloudy. High near 90. Southeast Texas and Upper Texas Coast — Tonight, scattered evening showers and thunderstorms, then par-

tial clearing from west to east. Lows in the lower to mid 60s inland, near 70 at the coast. Tuesday, mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 80s inland, lower 80s at the coast. Coastal Bend and the Rio Grande Plains — Tonight, clearing and slightly cooler. Patchy fog developing around midnight across the east. Lows in the 60s, except around 70 coast. Tuesday, patchy morning fog east, otherwise sunny. Highs from the mid 80s coast to mid 90s west.

BORDER STATES

NEW MEXICO — Tonight, fair to partly cloudy. Lows 20s to 30s mountains and northwest, 30s to 40s elsewhere. Tuesday, mostly sunny south, fair skies north, breezy and warmer. Highs from the 60s and 70s mountains and north to the 80s southern lowlands. Oklahoma — Tonight, partly cloudy. Lows 45 to 55. Tuesday, clear to partly cloudy. Highs upper 70s and lower 80s.

OKLAHOMA — Not available from the source.

Poster contest winners

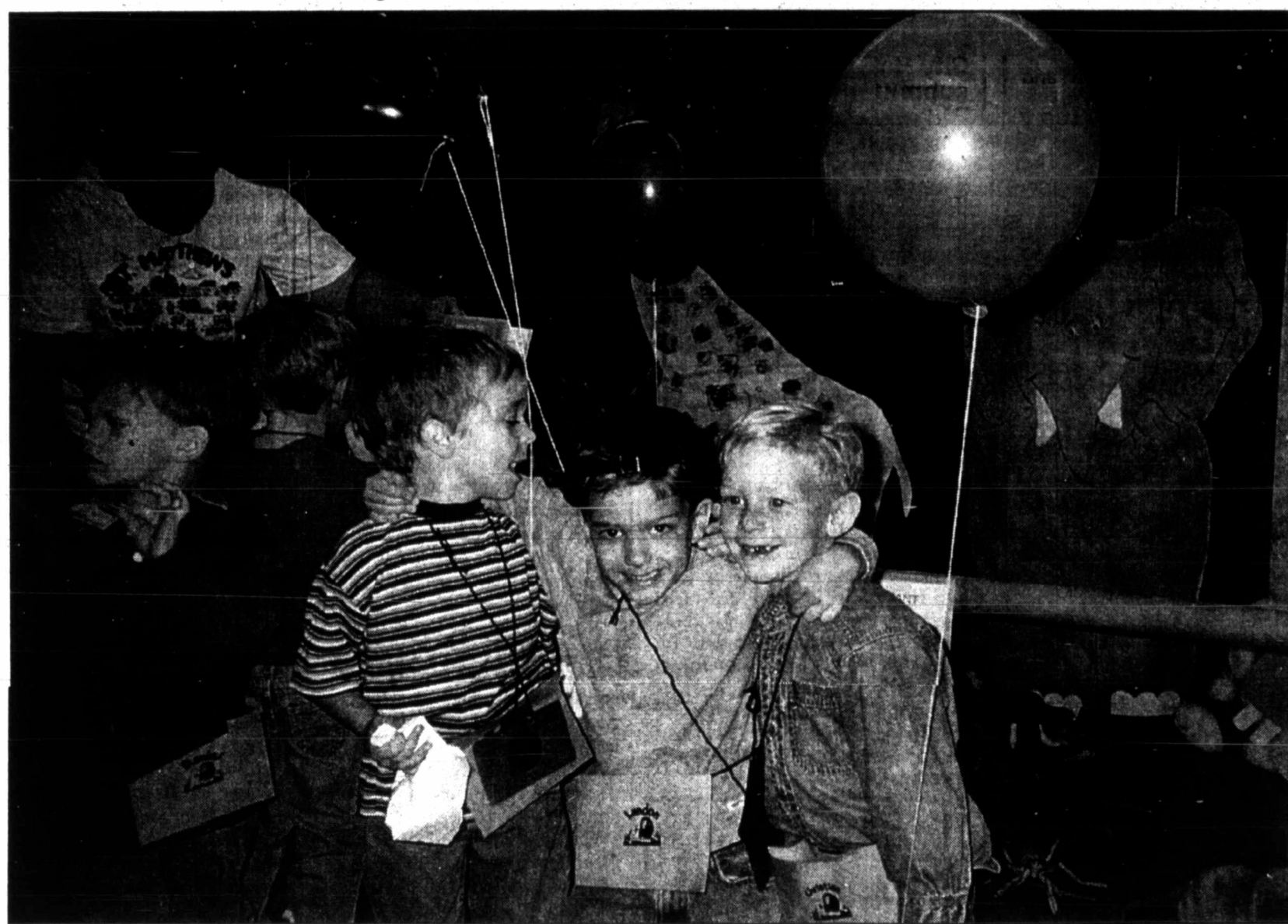


(Community Camera photo)

Gray County Soil and Water Conservation District sponsored a poster contest in which students showed ways to conserve water or soil. Every one drawing a poster was given a red cedar tree to plant somewhere. The top five students from each class were given

ribbons. In addition to those things, Mrs. Prater's class was awarded a five dollar check for being third place class winner. Poster winners from Mrs. Flume's class are (from left) Sunil Kamnani, Whitney Wichert, Diana Cabrales, Kayla DeBose, Christopher Smith.

St. Matthew's Zany Zoo



(Community Camera photo)

St. Matthew's Day School recently had a Zany Zoo Day. Each class created one zoo area they included a tropical forest, grassland, wildcats, polar ice cap, and bear cave. The children brought their stuffed animals to complete one of the zoo habitats. (From left) Teacher Treasa Heuston, Danielle Brown, Brandon Grimsley, Brandon Carroll, Landon Powell, Christian Reeves.

Calendar of events

PAMPA AREA LITERACY COUNCIL

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

PAMPA CHESS CLUB

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

CLEAN AIR AL-ANON

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

TRALEE CRISIS CENTER FOR WOMEN

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

PRE-SCHOOL STORY HOUR

The Lovett Memorial Library is presenting a Pre-School Story Hour every Tuesday at 10 a.m. This story hour is for children ages 18 months to 5 years old. If you have any questions, call Shanla Brookshire at 669-5780. This schedule will be subject to change pending the move of the library back to 111 N. Houston.

GRAY CO. GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The Gray Co. Genealogical Society will meet on Monday, Apr. 26 at the St. Matthew's Episcopal Parish Hall at 7:30 p.m. For more information call Dale Roth at 665-0280.

CREATIVE ARTISANS NETWORK

Creative Artisans Network invites you to their monthly meeting on Monday, Apr. 26 at 6:30 p.m. June Dirickson, the High School Art Teacher, will be presenting a program on "Drawing on the Inventive Mind," and "Exercises in Thinking" by Jon Pearson.

HIDDEN HILLS LADIES GOLF

Hidden Hills Ladies Golf Association will have a meeting on Monday, Apr. 26 at 6:30 p.m. in the Hidden Hills Pro Shop. The purpose of the meeting is to elect officers and sign up for 1999 season. Dues are \$10 plus optional \$2 for hole-in-one pot. Playdays begin May 3 at 6 p.m.

EASTERN STAR CHAPTER #65

Eastern Star, Chapter #65 will hold its regular meeting Tuesday, Apr. 27 will hold an election of officers. Officers need to wear their Chapter Dresses.

USS LONG BEACH REUNION

USS Long Beach Reunion Association will hold its 1999 reunion Sept. 15-19 at Pensacola, Fla. Participants will be staying at the Holiday Inn Bay Beach, 51 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze, FL 32561-9990. For reservations, call (850) 932-2214. For more information, contact Don Shade at P.O. Box 69, Clymer, NY 14724-0069, (716) 569-2314, or e-mail LBCGN@aol.com.

Cancer Center to conduct Breast Cancer Screening Clinic

AMARILLO — The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center and Baptist/St. Anthony's Health System will conduct a Breast Cancer Screening Clinic on May 20 at Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency, Inc., 2225 Perryton Parkway, in Pampa.

Breast cancer affects on in eight women. The key to winning the battle against cancer is early detection by having an annual breast exam, mammogram and performing a breast self-exam each month.

Participants will receive a low-cost screening mammogram. Each

woman screened will receive a breast health risk appraisal and individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are done by appointment only.

Call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673 for more information.

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Sat. & Sun. Matinees 1:50
4th Week
The Matrix (R)
Fri. & Sat. 7:00 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 7:15
Sat. & Sun. Matinees 1:45
4th Week
The Out Of Towners (PG-13)
Fri. & Sat. 7:15 & 9:05
Sun. thru Thurs. 7:15
Sat. & Sun. Matinees 1:55
2nd Week
October Sky (PG)
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Sun. thru Thurs. 7:10
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MEDICAL

New diabetes drug, with fewer risks, may be available soon

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP Medical Writer

BETHESDA, Md. (AP) — A drug that promises to fight diabetes as effectively as the controversial medicine Rezulin but causes less risk to patients' livers may soon hit the market.

Diabetics have been frightened by headlines that the popular drug Rezulin, the only medicine now available that can resensitize their bodies to insulin, also can destroy the liver.

Advisers to the Food and Drug Administration recommended the sale of SmithKline Beecham's Avandia, a drug that promises to treat diabetes in the same manner as Rezulin but that in studies of more than 4,000 patients has shown no sign of liver damage.

But the advisers stressed that there was no certainty that Avandia never would damage diabetics' livers. They urged Avandia patients to have intensive liver testing similar to the kind now required for Rezulin patients.

If liver damage is a rare side effect, as it is for Rezulin, then it may appear only after hundreds of thousands of diabetics have tried Avandia, said FDA panel chairman Dr. Henry Bone of the Michigan Bone and Mineral Clinic.

"I think this drug is far safer," said Dr. Leonard Seef, a liver expert from the National Institutes of Health. But he joined other panelists in insisting patients get precautionary liver tests.

Rezulin, known chemically as troglitazone, was cheered widely when it hit the market in 1997 because it is the only drug sold that resensitizes the body to insulin, the underlying cause of Type 2, or adult-onset, diabetes. Many doctors contend it is invaluable for patients who have failed other diabetes therapies. Some 750,000 Americans now use the drug.

Shortly after Rezulin hit the market, however, it began causing liver failure. FDA officials list 43 Rezulin patients who suffered acute liver failure. Of those, 28 died and seven needed liver transplants to survive.

The FDA warned that those cases may represent only 10 percent of all Rezulin-related liver damage, and the agency's advisers last month urged new restrictions on Rezulin sales.

The FDA is not bound by the recommendations on Avandia, but typically follows the panel's advice.

Nor is Avandia the only potentially safer Rezulin competitor; the agency also is considering sales of Takeda Pharmaceuticals' Actos.

But any drug related to Rezulin must bear warnings that call for liver tests until doctors are sure the drugs are less risky, the FDA panel said.

In studies, Avandia, known chemically as rosiglitazone, significantly lowered blood glucose, particularly when used with another popular diabetes drug called metformin. For some reason, it worked best in women.

But the big question was safety. In studies, no one suffered jaundice or liver failure — but neither did any Rezulin patients when that drug first was tested.

To predict liver damage, doctors measure patients' liver enzymes. Elevations are a danger signal.

In Rezulin's studies, 2 percent of patients showed significantly elevated liver enzymes. But Avandia patients had no difference in elevated liver enzymes compared with patients taking a placebo or other diabetes medicines, FDA officials said.

Why would Avandia be less risky? SmithKline said Avandia requires 100 times less drug per dose to treat diabetes, is metabolized differently and seems to accumulate far less in the liver.

But Avandia is not without risk, the FDA panel said. It can increase cholesterol levels, particularly the so-called bad cholesterol or LDL.

Diabetics with high LDL levels probably should not be prescribed Avandia, and all patients need cholesterol tests, the panel said. Also, the drug seemed to cause weight gain of about 4 pounds to 6 pounds, a concern because diabetics are supposed to lose weight.

In addition, animal studies suggested Avandia use in pregnancy can be toxic to fetuses.

Company to bring Today Sponge back into U.S. market

WASHINGTON (AP) — A New Jersey company is preparing to bring back the Today Sponge, the most popular over-the-counter contraceptive for women before it was taken off the market in 1995.

Allendale Pharmaceuticals Inc. told The Associated Press on recently that it has bought the contraceptive sponge from its previous manufacturer and hopes to begin selling it again by fall.

"There's still a great need for the sponge," said Allendale chief executive Gene Detroyer, who plans to formally announce the product's return at a contraceptive meeting in San Francisco.

It was good news for family planning groups. "We're pleased and excited that it's coming back," said Susan Tew of the Alan Guttmacher Institute, which says that there are not enough contraceptive choices for American women.

"Women need different methods at different points in life. ... Certainly it's not for everyone," Tew cautioned. "But those contraceptive sponge users loved that method" before Today disappeared in 1995.

With its low risk of side effects, the sponge was attractive to women who had problems with prescribed hormonal contraceptives or difficulty with more complex inserted devices.

But its appeal was limited by a relatively high failure rate, about 10 percent in women who had never borne children and somewhat higher in women who had gone through childbirth, Tew noted.

Whitehall-Robins Healthcare quit selling the Today Sponge in 1995 for financial reasons: It decided it would cost too much to correct manufacturing problems the Food and Drug Administration had uncovered at the old factory where the sponge was made. To the distress of women's groups, it pulled Today off the market instead of upgrading the factory.

The FDA stressed that there never was any problem with Today's safety, just with the factory.

No contraceptive sponge has been sold in the United States since. Women in France, Canada and a few other countries can buy competing sponges made abroad.

Because the FDA never revoked the Today's approval, getting it back on the market should be a quick process, said Allendale co-founder Robert Staab.

American Home Products, parent company of Whitehall-Robins, confirmed Wednesday that it is notifying the FDA of the change in ownership.

Allendale then must have its own sponge factory, outside Philadelphia, inspected for safety in order for the FDA to allow sales to resume. Staab said the factory already manufactures medicines for large U.S. drug companies in compliance with FDA rules, so he expects no problems.

Some 116,000 American women were using Today in 1995. That's a small proportion of the 38 million women who used some contraception that year; sterilization and the pill were the No. 1 and 2 choices then and now.

But Today was the most popular choice that did not require a doctor's visit. The only other woman-controlled nonprescription choices are spermicidal foams or suppositories and the female condom. Unlike those options, the sponge can be inserted up to 24 hours before sex and doesn't require repeat applications for repeated intercourse.

The donut-shaped device, coated in the spermicide nonoxonyl-9, is simply pushed up the vagina to cover the cervix. It has a loop to grasp for removal, and comes with warnings not to leave it in for more than 30 hours due to avoid a low risk of infection.

Detroyer would not reveal how much his private company paid to buy the Today Sponge. But he noted that at Today's peak, it brought in about \$17 million in annual sales and said he is confident of recouping the investment.

Study shows simple test to be a live saver

WASHINGTON (AP) — The death rate from colon cancer, the second leading cancer killer in the United States, could be reduced by up to a third if more people over 50 started using a simple screening test that detects bleeding in the bowel, researchers say.

In a study, Minnesota researchers say that a study of the long-term health of 46,000 volunteers shows that people who take an annual fecal occult blood test have 33 percent fewer deaths from colon cancer than do people who do not take the test. Among those who are tested every other year, the death rate is reduced by 21 percent, the study found.

The study was published in a recent issue of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute.

"When you have a positive test for blood, the likelihood of finding a growth in the colon is about 35 percent," said Dr. John H. Bond, the study's co-author. "About 9 percent will have cancer, and the rest will have

significant precancerous polyps in the colon."

An analysis of data from the study in 1993 suggested that annual tests could reduce deaths from colon cancer, and a new analysis shows that even biennial tests can have a dramatic effect, said Bond, a professor of medicine at the University of Minnesota and a staff physician at the Minneapolis Veterans Affairs.

"It is a very valuable way to identify people who are healthy and have no symptoms, who nevertheless have a developing cancer in their colon."

The results confirm findings from two earlier studies in Europe, he said.

Prompted by the research results, federal health agencies on Tuesday announced a new campaign to encourage all Americans over 50 to take the fecal occult blood test.

"The good news is that we can prevent many deaths from colorectal cancer through screening," said Surgeon General David

Satcher. "If you've celebrated your 50th birthday and have never been screened for colorectal cancer, start now."

Under a program that went into effect last year, Medicare now pays for the screening, officials said.

About 129,000 Americans, most past the age of 50, are diagnosed each year with colorectal cancer, and about 56,000 die each year. It is the second most common cancer killer, just behind lung cancer.

The fecal occult blood test used in the Minnesota research has long been a common part of physical examinations.

Using a card with small inserts, patients collect specimens for the tests at home. Fecal specimens from several bowel movements are placed into the inserts, and the self-sealing card is then mailed or delivered to a doctor's office where a chemical is applied to each specimen. If the chemical turns blue, it is evidence of blood.

Drug can significantly lower heart attack risks, researchers say

HOUSTON — People with mildly elevated levels of cholesterol can still develop heart disease, but a new study shows that treatment with the drug fluvastatin can significantly lower the risk for the millions who fall into this category.

Research conducted at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston showed that treatment with fluvastatin slows the progression of heart disease in patients with mildly to moderately elevated LDL, or "bad" cholesterol, and low levels

of HDL, or "good" cholesterol.

Approximately 48 million people in the United States either have heart disease or have two or more factors for developing the disease.

The randomized, double-blinded study involved 339 men and postmenopausal women, ages 35-75, who had average cholesterol levels and evidence of coronary artery disease.

In the placebo group, patients with low HDL cholesterol had the most progression of coronary

artery disease. Patients with low levels of HDL cholesterol, however, also received the most benefit when treated with fluvastatin, a drug from a class of medications commonly used to lower LDL cholesterol. Fluvastatin therapy lowered this group's LDL cholesterol level by 25 percent, while increasing the HDL cholesterol level by 16 percent.

People with heart disease usually have cholesterol levels in the 215-220 mg/dL range, only slightly

higher than the national average of 206. An HDL cholesterol level less than 35 mg/dL is considered low. Approximately 16 million U.S. adults with heart disease or with two or more risk factors for heart disease have low HDL cholesterol.

The research was funded by Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, the manufacturer of fluvastatin, a National Institute of Health grant and an American Heart Association Established Investigator Award.



The Golden Phoenix Center has been appointed the specific mission of improving the psychological health of patients 65 years of age or older who require short term psychiatric hospitalization.

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Heart disease, not cancer, is leading killer of women

HOUSTON — Many people may not realize it, but heart disease, not breast cancer is the leading killer of women in the U.S. Hundreds of thousands of women die from heart attacks each year.

Researchers at The DeBakey Heart Center at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston say some of the risk factors for heart disease in women include a poor diet, a lack of exercise, obesity, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and smoking.

Eating a balanced diet where less than 30 percent of the calories come from fat is very important. Foods high in fiber and low in cholesterol, sodium, and fat will help a woman maintain a healthy weight.

Whole grain cereals, pasta products, and fruits and vegetables are examples of good, healthy foods. Studies have shown people are healthier when they consume at least five servings of fruits and vegetables daily. Other research has shown that taking at least 100 milligrams of vitamin E each day lowers the risk for heart disease.

Exercise is a must. Running,

walking, gardening, bike riding, or taking part in any other aerobic activity four-to-six days a week for 30 minutes at a time will help a woman maintain her weight and keep her heart strong.

It is important for women over age 55 to have their blood pressure and cholesterol checked on a regular basis. This was preventative measures can be taken immediately if problems arise that would put her at risk for heart disease. If you are a smoker, the best time to quit is now. Studies have shown smoking increases the risk of heart disease. Other research has shown smokers are twice as likely to have a heart attack than non-smokers.

Unless there is a family history, most women do not experience heart disease until after menopause, usually around age 55. Up until that time, their bodies are protected by the hormone estrogen. However, after menopause, hormone levels change. Many doctors encourage women to go on hormone replacement therapy because of these changes at menopause.

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DO I NEED HYPNOTHERAPY? WILL IT WORK FOR ME?

Hypnosis is an alternative to other methods of treatment for change. If you have nervous symptoms such as tension, depression, fears, chronic fatigue and certain physical complaints for which your doctor finds no physical basis; if you find it difficult to get along in your work or in relationships with others; if you have school or marital problems; or, if you feel irritable, unhappy, and believe you are not getting the most out of life, then hypnosis is for you!

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Bridesmaid Hurt That Parents Did Not Make Wedding Cut

DEAR ABBY: My best friend is being married this summer, and she has asked me to be one of her bridesmaids. We have been friends since the third grade. My parents have always treated her like one of their own children. We see her only a couple of times a year now, because she moved 800 miles away.

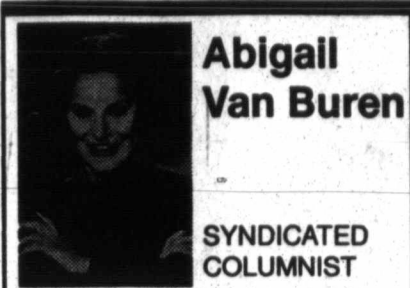
Abby, I recently learned that my parents are not invited to the wedding. Am I wrong to feel hurt that they are excluded? If she had to limit the number of guests, why didn't she just omit my sisters and make room for my parents, who have always been so good to her?

I always thought that proper etiquette requires the parents of wedding attendants to be invited to the wedding. Am I wrong?

NETTLED IN NANTUCKET

DEAR NETTLED: Although most etiquette experts say the parents of attendants should be invited to the wedding, Emily Post explains that it is a nice gesture when feasible, but not necessary. It's possible that budget constraints caused your friend to limit her guest list. Please give her the benefit of the doubt. Don't take this personally or allow it to sour a life-long friendship.

DEAR ABBY: Enclosed is a poem my late father wrote in 1951 for Mother's Day. I thought you might like to print it.



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

DEAR PAT: Absolutely! Your father's poem carries a strong message for children who live at a distance from their mothers. If the message is taken to heart, it should brighten Mother's Day for many a mother. Read on:

Thought for Mother's Day

If you have a gray-haired mother In the old home, far away, Sit down and write the letter You've put off from day to day. Don't wait until your weary steps Have reached the pearly gate, But let her know you think of her Before it is too late.

If you have a tender message — A loving word to say — Don't wait till you forget it, But whisper it today. Who knows what bitter memories May haunt you if you wait; So make your loved ones happy

Before it is too late.

The tender words unspeak, The letters never sent, The long forgotten messages, The wealth of love unspent — For those, some hearts are breaking. For those, some loved ones wait — So make your mother happy Before it is too late.

A. ROBERTSON, SOUTH BURNABY, B.C., CANADA

DEAR ABBY: You and your readers might like to know that airplane seats are uncomfortable because they were designed when fewer people traveled and air travel was more of a luxury. The basic airframe hasn't changed since the 707. Engineers say that the airlines are unwilling to pay for design changes necessary to produce the comfort customers want. If Boeing doesn't do it, maybe Airbus will, which will be to their gain!

STEPHEN L. RENNACKER, BERKELEY, CALIF.

DEAR STEPHEN: Clearly, this is a problem that will not be resolved without cooperation from the airline industry. If anyone from the airlines would like to reassure the millions of people who fly every year and who read this column — I'm sure it would clear the air.

Horoscope

TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 1999
BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ Others are much more serious about a money issue than you anticipated. Reaching an agreement doesn't happen very easily. Defer to others right now. A friend has wonderful ideas — brainstorm. You come up with unusual solutions. Tonight: Out and about.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ Dig into work. Pressure to perform becomes increasingly high. You could feel bogged down, but another helps you lighten up. Intuition works well with financial decisions. Trust your instincts. A boss really does think the world of you. Tonight: Putting in that extra effort.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Allow your imagination to reign. Don't take another's decision personally. You gain a new understanding from a discussion with a friend. Take an overview. Accept an invitation that could take you back to school or on travels. Tonight: Say "yes" to life and its offerings.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ Carefully think through a decision. Family and domestic matters need to take higher priorities, even for you. A boss or parent has high expectations, but you can and will meet them. Ask for that pay raise or promotion. Others are in the mood to

grant your wishes. Tonight: A cozy night at home.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ Make calls, schedule meetings. Your gregarious style draws others. New information sheds light on a decision and on plans. A partner mixes information with fantasy at times. Sort through what is realistic. Creativity and humor bubble forth. Tonight: Where the action is.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ Gather feedback to make strong money decisions. You need to increase your security; to do that, opt to invest more in yourself. A dream involving your work and the quality of your life is possible! A partner does more than his share to help you on your chosen course. Tonight: Organize your bills.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Others respond to your magnetism and personality. Recognize that time is your friend. Be aware that you are putting a loved one or child on a pedestal. The bad news is that he can only fall off! Use different styles of communicating, and note the varied responses you receive. Tonight: Show your stuff.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ Take a deep breath and think before you leap into a situation. It might be wisest to do nothing. You find out who you can count on. A co-worker offers you important information. If you want a pay raise or promotion, start doing what you need to do to get there. Tonight: Get away from it all.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ Others clearly back you up and do anything they can to make your life easier. You can't control your imagination, which is clearly spinning way out of control. A gut instinct leads you in the right direction.

Make time for a group meeting or get-together. Tonight: With the gang. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ Be more in sync with your long-term needs. Another could cause an uproar when you least expect it. Examine where you are coming from with a boss or someone to whom you give a lot of power. Intuition works. Implement a money decision. Tonight: Thinking about work into the wee hours.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ Your imagination leads you to new types of thinking. How you decide to handle another could make a substantial difference. Listen more. Ask questions, not only of others, but also of yourself. How might you be limiting your thoughts when you don't need to? Tonight: Relax with a movie.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ One-to-one relating is highlighted. Think before you make a decision revolving around a partnership and funds. Realize that a boss means well; ask for his advice. Work more as a team. Show that you value his judgment, even if he can be testy. Tonight: Dinner and a chat for two.

BORN TODAY Singer Sheena Easton (1959), lecturer/writer Corretta Scott King (1927), actor Jack Klugman (1922)

For a personal consultation with a psychic, call (900) 000-0000, \$2.95 per minute. You can request your favorite psychic, and Spanish-speaking psychics are available. Rotary or touch-tone phones. Must be 18 or older to call. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.

Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 41 "Auld Lang —"

1 Too

5 Good quality

10 Boring

11 In the hospital

13 Base

14 Opposer

15 Works

17 Brewed beverage

18 Large cactus

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20 Museum topic

21 Stir up

22 "Jaws" critter

25 Actor Aiello

26 Grasped

27 Rep.'s counterpart

28 Tenn. neighbor

29 Rodin sculpture

33 Vigor

34 Overact

35 Excitingly strange

37 Nothing, to a nio

38 Debt medium

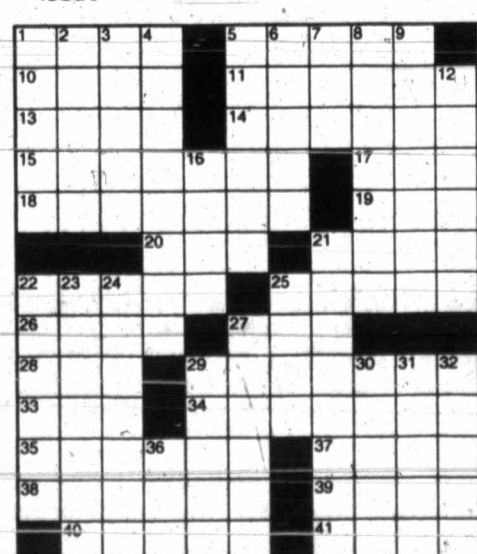
39 Pleased

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27 Rough homes
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29 Cogitate
21 Sports positions
30 European nation
17 Part of
31 African nation
8 News-
32 Digging tool
paper issue
36 Make a knot
24 Pie order



STUMPED?

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

Marmaduke



"You mean he stood you up and ran off with Veronica? Wait until I talk to the cad!"

The Family Circus



"Try standin' on her shoes."

For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



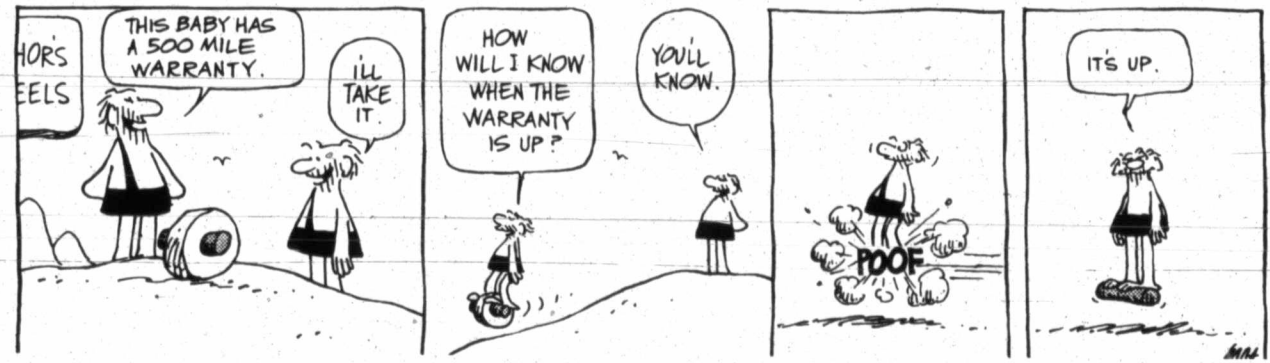
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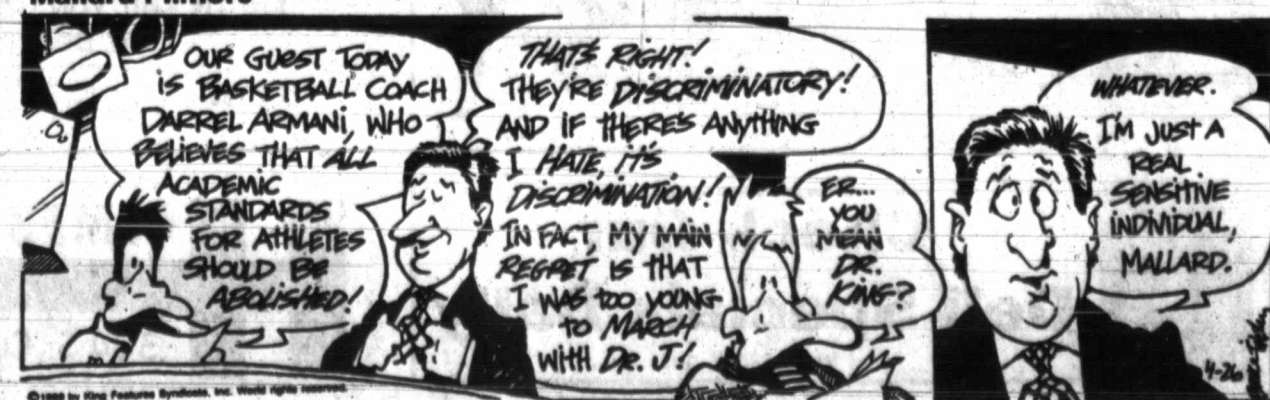
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Blondie



Mallard Filmore



SPORTS

Notebook

BASKETBALL

PAMPA — The 1999 Lady Harvester Hoops Camp is set for the month of June in Pampa's McNeely Fieldhouse, located at the high school.

There will be two camps this year. The first camp is June 2 through June 4 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon daily. It's open to any girl going into the 4th, 5th and 6th grade in the school year 1999-2000.

Cost is \$45 and a \$25 deposit is required.

The second camp is June 14 through June 18 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon daily. It's for any girl going into the 7th, 8th, or 9th grade in the school year 1999-2000.

Cost is \$70 and a \$40 deposit is required.

The deposit will be required during registration today through Wednesday from 5 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. daily at McNeely Fieldhouse.

FOOTBALL

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Ricky Williams tried to downplay the significance of his presence at the New Orleans Saints' minicamp over the weekend, but he was clearly the center of attention.

About 3,000 fans watched Sunday's final workout — about a thousand more than showed up on Saturday. And most were there to see the Heisman Trophy-winning running back for whom the Saints traded their entire 1999 draft and No. 1 and No. 3 picks next year.

"Coming out here and seeing this kind of a reaction really humbles me," Williams said after Sunday's workout. "All these people think that I'm the best player on the team and I'm probably not even in the top 10."

Williams said he felt more comfortable with the offense than he did during the first practice Friday.

DENVER (AP) — John Elway wants to leave on his own terms. And not even the possibility of a third straight Super Bowl victory will change his mind.

"Absolutely, I'm retired," he said in The Denver Post today. "One of the reasons I held off saying anything was to make sure it's what I would do."

"I seriously considered coming back, but I just couldn't make it because of my knee," he said. "I've never liked it when an athlete says he's retired and then comes back. Once I've decided, I am certain."

Broncos spokesman Jim Saccamano said Sunday night the team is aiming for a mid-week news conference, most likely Wednesday.

Elway, the master of improvisation and the late-game comeback, all but announced his retirement Saturday in an interview with Denver TV station KCNC.

Umpires ready for Optimist openers

Baseball is still America's favorite pastime, but without umpires there would be no game.

"Our volunteer umpires are an essential part of the Optimist baseball and softball programs," said James Davis, Optimist President.

Melvin Wills and Rick Harris are serving as the Umpires-in-Chief for the Optimist Major League and for the Babe Ruth 13-15 League respectively.

Melvin Wills

They have the responsibility of finding home plate umpires for league games. The coaches in the league umpire the bases.

Wills has umpired baseball games for 18 years and has been the head umpire for the 11-12 League for about 10 years. "I do not remember exactly," Wills said. "I began umpiring in McLean in 1981 when they could not find an umpire. I volunteered and have been doing it ever since. I started helping the Optimist Club in about 1983."

When asked how many games he had umpired in Optimist baseball, Wills said, "Probably something over 200. I have called as many as 35 games a year. Some years I had trouble finding people to call the plate and had to do it myself."

"Now we have more volunteers willing to call games which makes it easier for me," Wills reflected. "It reduces the number of phone calls I have to make. I can just go down the list until I find somebody. I don't even have to call long distance any more."

Wills, a Groom farmer, and his

wife, Sue, had a son who played Optimist baseball. "He quit playing, but I just kept umpiring," Wills said. Wills is a past member of the Groom Lions Club and is a member of the St. Mary's Catholic Church in Groom.

Living 20 miles from Optimist Park, Wills estimates that he has driven in excess of 10,000 miles to umpire Optimist games. "I love to do it," Wills smiled. "I particularly enjoy umpiring in the 11-12 League. I think it is important to both sides to have an umpire who is impartial. Since I do not have any kids in the league, I feel I can be fair to both teams at all times."

Harris is a Pampa attorney who serves as the City Prosecutor for Pampa's Municipal Court. "My son, Taylor, played Optimist ball for seven years," Harris explained. Harris umpired and coached in the baseball program while his son was playing. He now calls high school games in addition to his work with the Optimist Club.

A Past President of the Gray County Bar Association and a member of the Texas Bar Foundation, Harris has practiced law in Pampa for 22 years. He has served on the Salvation Army Board. Harris and his wife, Cindy, are members of the First United Methodist Church.

"Working with the youth in Optimist programs runs in my family," Harris concluded. "My father, Bill Harris, was also involved with Optimist work for several years."

Wills and Harris' duties begin this week as the leagues begin action tonight in Optimist Park where more than 600 youngsters from Pampa, Miami and Lefors on 49 teams in eight leagues will take part in Optimist baseball and softball under the watchful eyes of 150 coaches.

Nothing happens, however, until the umpire calls, "Play ball!"

Texas grabs 2-game lead

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Johnny Oates joked that the Texas Rangers haven't lived up to his expectations.

"I'd like to be 25 games in front," said Oates, whose team has a two-game lead over Oakland in the AL West Division.

What does make him happy is completing a four-game sweep at Minnesota with a 9-5 win on Sunday. That gave the Rangers eight wins in their 12-game road trip, giving them momentum heading into a three-game series at the Ballpark against the Yankees starting Tuesday.

"Anytime you play them, you know you're matched up against a good ballclub," he said. "You've got to pitch well, you've got to play a mental and physical error-free game. It's important that we start beating them a couple of times."

Texas has had its injury problems this season, with both first baseman Mike Simms and pitcher John Burkett on the disabled

list. Lee Stevens has filled the void at first with seven home runs, two in Sunday's win.

"With our injury situation, I have to go out and be prepared to play every day, no matter who's here," Stevens said. "As long as I'm swinging the bat, I'll be in the lineup."

Rick Helling was forced to go Sunday on three days rest after Burkett was temporarily scratched from the rotation. The short layoff didn't hurt the right-hander, who pitched seven strong innings for his first win of the season after three straight losses.

"It didn't really feel any different, to be honest with you," Helling said. "I felt like I could have pitched more. I felt fine."

The Rangers staked Helling to an early 6-0 lead, which enabled him to relax on the mound.

"This four-game series looked more like our offense from last year," Helling said.

Oates said all four games against the Twins followed the same blueprint.

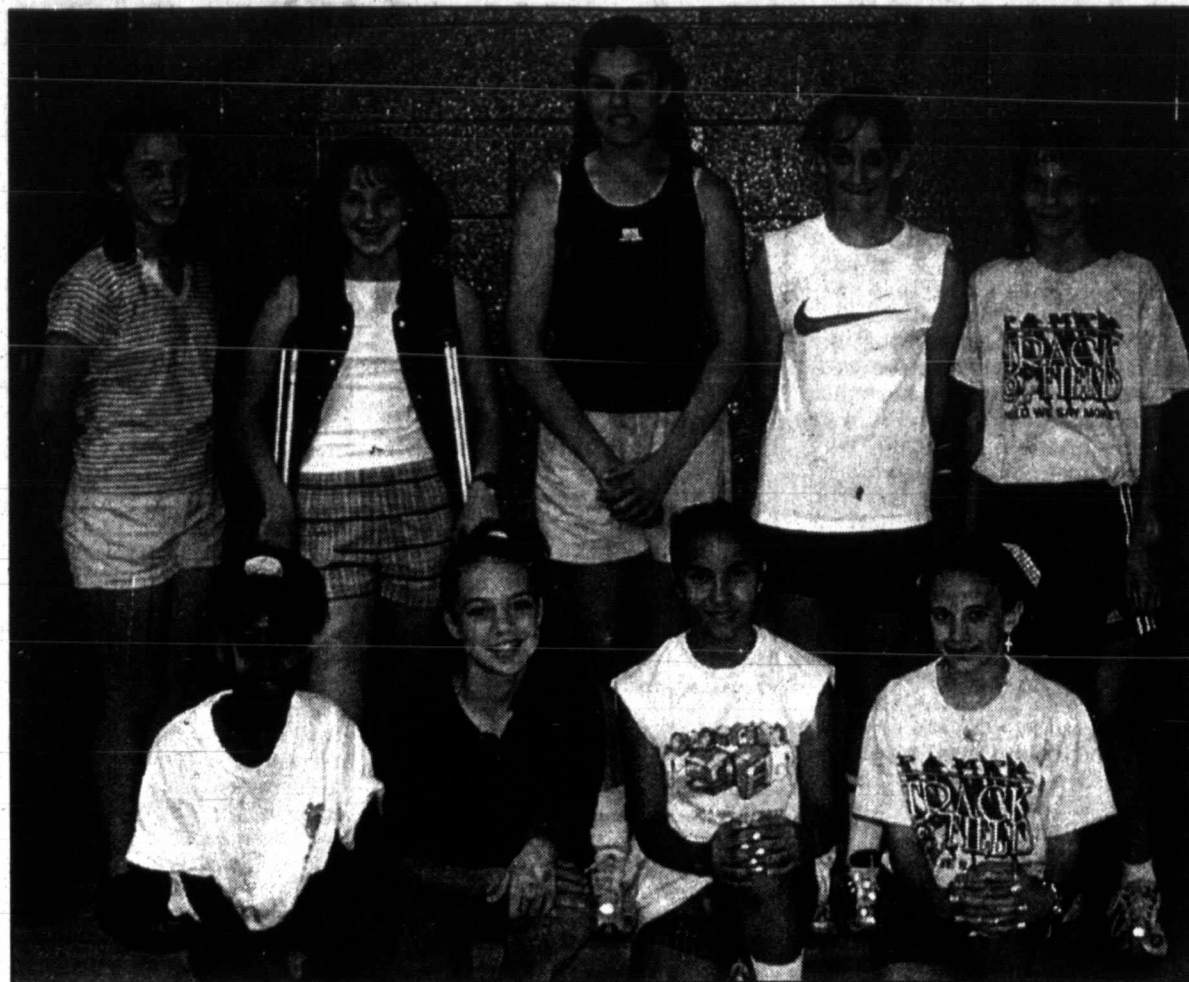
"All four guys gave us good starting pitching, we got some runs on the board early, we played pretty good defense, and the bullpen did a real good job consistently," he said, ready to head home after the 13-day road trip.

"It's good to be over, it's good to win eight," Oates said.

Minnesota also followed a pattern, but it's one that they just as soon forget. They fell behind early, rallied in the late innings, but came up short.

"We score late, but I don't know if that's a good thing," said Matt Lawton, who homered against Helling.

Track champions



(Pampa News photo)

The Pampa 7th grade girls' team won the district track championship this year. Team members are (front row, from left) Nerissa Perry, Abbi Covatt, Katlin Passini and Tara Jordan; (back row) Kori Dunn, Robin Reidle, Brianna Hartman, Stacey Johnson and Sara Albracht. Kori Dunn went undefeated in the 800 and Tara Jordan was undefeated in the 1600 and 2400 in meets this season.

Harvesters one win away from District 3-4A crown

PAMPA — Pampa clinched a spot in the playoffs with a 5-2 win over Hereford on Saturday.

The Harvesters extended their record to 7-1 in District 3-4A and 16-10 for the season.

All the scoring came in one inning for both teams.

Hereford did all its damage in the first inning, scoring two runs on an RBI-double by J.P. Holman and a squeeze bunt by Kyle Arthro.

With a lot of help from the defense, Pampa pitcher Casey Owens shut down Hereford the rest of the way to record his seventh win against no losses.

Shortstop Jesse Francis and Owens started double plays which got the Harvesters out of jams in the second and third innings.

Center fielder Justin Roark was a solid rock in Pampa's outfield throughout the game. His running catch of a deep flyball in the sixth inning stifled a Hereford rally.

"Everybody in the ballpark thought that ball was a hit, but Justin used sheer determination and speed to catch up to the ball," Pampa coach Dennis Doughty said.

There was one out and two runners on base when Roark made the catch off the bat of Slade Hodges.

"We turned a double play on Roark's catch because one runner had already crossed the plate," Doughty said. "It saved the game for us."

All five Pampa runs came in the fifth inning, which was high-

lighted by a run-scoring single by Jonathan Waggoner. A squeeze bunt by Roark scored another run and three more runs crossed the plate on Hereford miscues.

"We only had one hit, but we found a way to win. We had some hard-hit balls that Hereford made some good plays on. It's not like their pitchers were striking everybody out," Doughty added.

Owens, who is 5-0 in district play, struck out six and walked seven.

The Harvesters can wrap up the outright district championship with a win at Palo Duro on Tuesday. The Dons are 4-3 in district and 9-10 for the season.

Brent Coffee will start on the mound against Palo Duro.

Major League standings

National League					Monday's Games					Oakland					
At A Glance					Atlanta (Millwood 1-2) at Florida					9 10 .474 2					
By The Associated Press					(Springer 0-3), 7:05 p.m.					Seattle					
All Times EDT					Arizona (Stottmeyer 2-0) at Houston					8 10 .444 2 1/2					
East Division					(Lima 2-1), 8:05 p.m.					Anaheim					
	W	L	Pct.	GB	Only games scheduled					7 11 .389 3 1/2					
Atlanta	11	6	.647	—	Tuesday's Games					Saturday's Games					
New York	11	8	.579	1	San Francisco (Nathan 1-0) at Montreal					Boston 9, Cleveland 4					
Philadelphia	10	8	.556	1 1/2	(Batista 2-0), 7:05 p.m.					New York 7, Toronto 4					
Montreal	6	11	.353	5	Cincinnati (Neagle 0-0) at Philadelphia					Oakland 3, Baltimore 0					
Florida	5	13	.278	6 1/2	(Schilling 3-1), 7:05 p.m.					Chicago 3, Detroit 1					
Central Division					Chicago (Sanders 0-2) at Florida (Ojala					Kansas City 4, Anaheim 3					
	W	L	Pct.	GB	0-1), 7:05 p.m.					Seattle 9, Tampa Bay 4					
St. Louis	11	6	.647	—	Los Angeles (Brown 1-1) at Milwaukee					Texas 7, Minnesota 2					
Houston	9	8	.529	2	(Roque 0-1), 7:05 p.m.					Sunday's Games					
Milwaukee	9	9	.500	2 1/2	San Diego (Clement 0-2) at New York					Boston 3, Cleveland 2					
Pittsburgh	8	9	.471	3	(Yoshii 1-2), 7:10 p.m.					Oakland 11, Baltimore 10					
Chicago	7	9	.438	3 1/2	Pittsburgh (Schmidt 2-1) at Atlanta					Seattle 6, Tampa Bay 4					
Cincinnati	7	10	.412	4	(O.Perez 0-0), 7:40 p.m.					Detroit 9, Chicago 4					
West Division					Arizona (Reynoso 1-0) at Houston					Texas 9, Minnesota 5					
	W	L	Pct.	GB	(Reynolds 3-1), 8:05 p.m.					Anaheim at Kansas City, ppd., rain					
San Francisco	13	7	.650	—	Colorado (Thomson 0-1) at St. Louis					New York 4, Toronto 3, 11 innings					
Arizona	11	8	.579	1 1/2	(Mercker 2-0), 8:10 p.m.					Monday's Games					
Los Angeles	9	10	.474	3 1/2	American League					Boston (Wakefield 1-2) at Minnesota					
San Diego	8	10	.444	4	At A Glance					(Radke 1-2), 8:05 p.m.					
Colorado	6	9	.400	4 1/2	By The Associated Press					Toronto (Carpenter 2-1) at Anaheim					
					All Times EDT					(Finley 1-2), 10:05 p.m.					
					East Division					Cleveland (Gooden 0-0) at Oakland					
	W	L	Pct.	GB		W	L	Pct.	GB	(Heredia 1-1), 10:05 p.m.					
Houston	4	1	.800	—	New York	12	5	.706	—	Detroit (Moehler 2-2) at Seattle (Moyer					
Milwaukee	5	1	.833	—	Toronto	12	7	.632	1	1-2), 10:05 p.m.					
Chicago	2	1	.667	—	Boston	10	8	.556	2 1/2	Only games scheduled					
San Francisco	8	0	1.000	—	Tampa Bay	11	9	.550	2 1/2	Tuesday's Games					
Philadelphia	6	0	1.000	—	Baltimore	4	14	.222	8 1/2	Kansas City (Appler 2-1) at Baltimore					
Atlanta	8	0	1.000	—	Central Division					(Mussina 2-1), 7:05 p.m.					
San Diego	7	0	1.000	—		W	L	Pct.	GB	Tampa Bay (Rekar 2-0) at Chicago					
Los Angeles	6	0	1.000	—	Cleveland	12	5	.706	—	(Parque 2-1), 8:05 p.m.					
St. Louis	1	0	1.000	—	Chicago	9	7	.563	2 1/2	Boston (Portugal 2-1) at Minnesota					
Saturday's Games						Detroit	8	10	.444	4 1/2	(Milton 0-1), 8:05 p.m.				
Houston 4, Cincinnati 3						Kansas City	8	10	.375	5 1/2	New York (Clemens 2-0) at Texas (Sele				
Milwaukee 5, Pittsburgh 3						Minnesota	7	12	.368	6	3-1), 8:35 p.m.				
Chicago 2, New York 0						West Division					Toronto (Hentgen 0-1) at Anaheim				
San Francisco 8, Colorado 4							W	L	Pct.	GB	(Olivares 2-1), 10:05 p.m.				
Philadelphia 6, Montreal 5							W	L	Pct.	GB	Cleveland (Nagy 2-1) at Oakland				
Atlanta 8, Florida 7							W	L	Pct.	GB	(Candiotti 2-2), 10:05 p.m.				
San Diego 7, Arizona 2							W	L	Pct.	GB	Detroit (Thompson 2-2) at Seattle				
Los Angeles 6, St. Louis 1							W	L	Pct.	GB	(Hinchliffe 0-0), 10:05 p.m.				
Sunday's Games															
Cincinnati 7, Houston 6															
Philadelphia 8, Montreal 6															
Milwaukee 4, Pittsburgh 2															
Chicago 8, New York 4															
Atlanta 5, Florida 1															
San Francisco 7, Colorado 6															
Arizona 5, San Diego 3, 11 innings															
St. Louis 6, Los Angeles 4															

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Longhorns sweep Iowa St.

AMES, Iowa (AP) — Scott Dunn and D.J. Jones each pitched complete games for Texas as the Longhorns beat Iowa State Sunday in a Big 12 doubleheader for a sweep of the four-game series.

Texas (32-17 overall, 16-8 conference) won the first game 7-2 and the second 4-1.

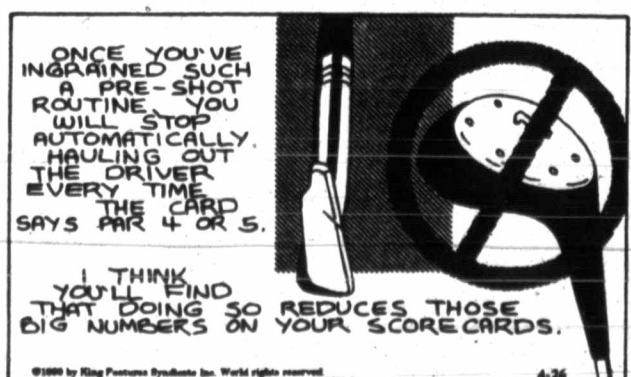
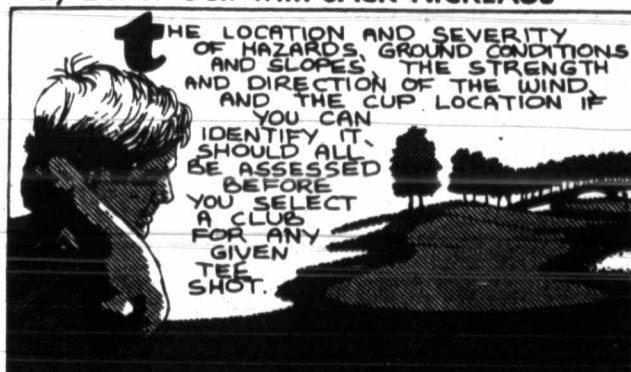
In the first game, Texas scored four runs in the fifth inning, including Mike Pumo's two-RBI,

bases-loaded double. Dunn (9-3) gave up five hits, struck out eight and walked two. ISU reliever Charly Bigwood (4-2) got the loss.

In the second game, Iowa State (14-28, 1-20) tied the game 1-1 in the fourth on an RBI single by Matt Nordby. But Texas scored two runs in the sixth, thanks to doubles from Sam Anderson, Steve Woodward and Jeff Ontiveros.

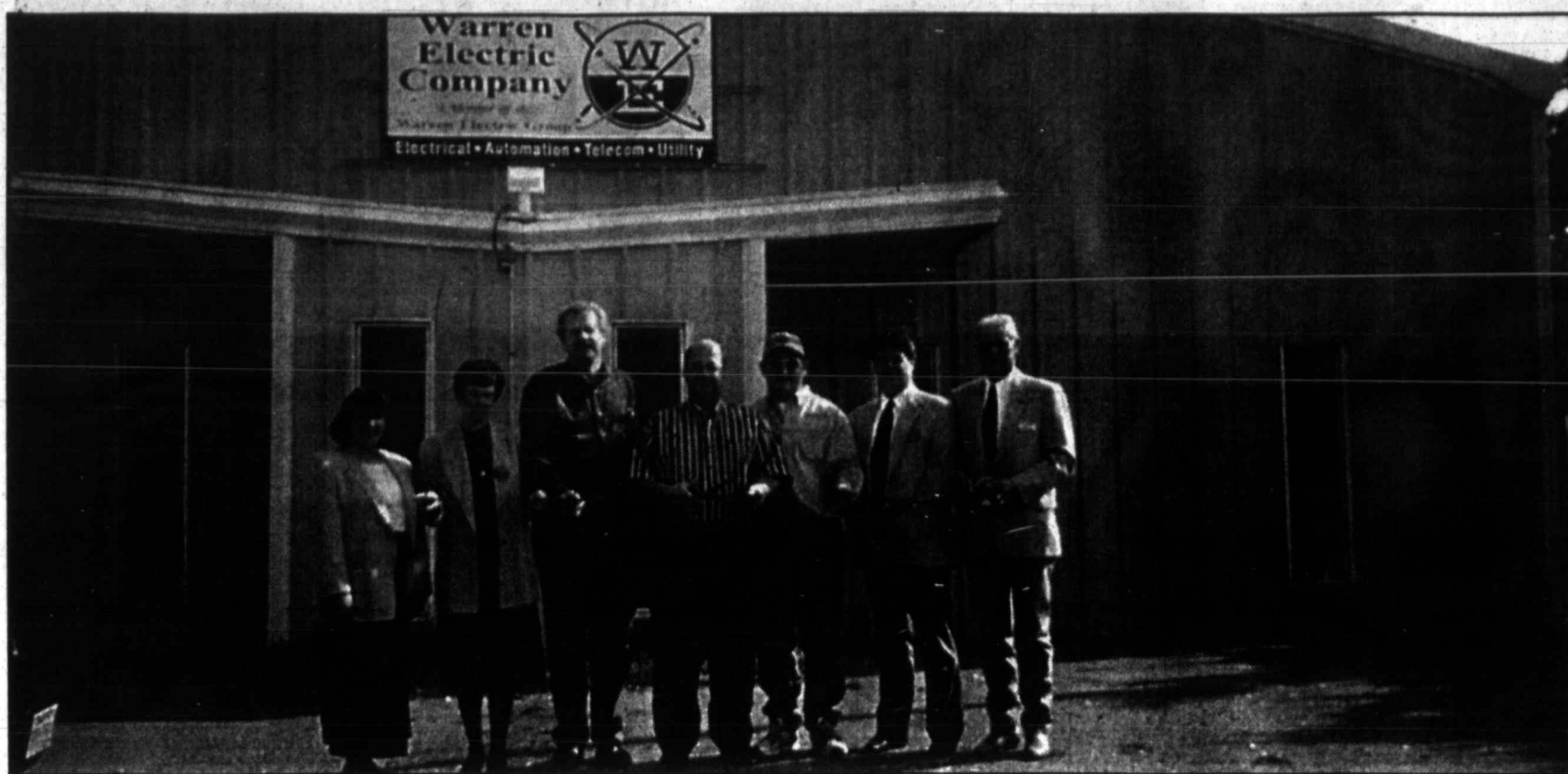
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Warren Electric recently celebrated their anniversary here in Pampa and as members of the Chamber with a ribbon cutting. (From left) Goldcoats Gladys Vanderpool and Kerrick Horton, Warren Electric Regional Manager, Gene Johnson, Manager, Ralph West and Jay Burnett, employee, goldcoats Clay Rice and Jim Davidson.

Carousel Expressions



Carousel Expressions recently moved from 1600 N. Hobart to 113 N. Cuyler downtown.

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Thursday.....Wednesday, 4 p.m.

Friday.....Thursday, 4 p.m.
Saturday.....Friday, 12 noon

City Brief
Deadlines

Weekdays..... 10 a.m. Day of Publication
Tuesday.....Monday, 4 p.m.
Sunday.....Friday, 4 p.m.

1 Public Notice

THE GRAY-PAMPA FOUNDATION, INC.
The annual report of The Gray-Pampa Foundation, Inc. for its calendar year ended December 31, 1998, is available at its principal office for inspection during regular business hours by any citizen who requests it within 180 days after the date of this notice. The address of the foundation's principal office is 401 Combs-Worley Building, Pampa, Texas. The principal manager of the Foundation is W. Wesley Green, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

C-95

W. WESLEY GREEN
Chairman of the Board of Trustees
Apr. 23, 25, 26, 1999

The City of Skellytown will be accepting sealed bids on a 1979 White Read Boss-100 BBL aluminum tanker. New 64,000 lbs. rear & drive shafts, 5000 miles on rebuilt 425 turbo cat, 3" roper pump, 8 new tires, spray bar, may be seen at 204 Fourth Street, Skellytown, Tx.

Bids will be opened May 6, 1999. Send bids to City of Skellytown, P.O. Box 129, Skellytown, Tx. 79080-0129, or you can bring bids by City Hall, 204 Fourth Street, Skellytown, Tx. For more information call 806-848-2477. Please clearly mark envelopes, "1979 Tanker". The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

C-99

Apr. 26, 27, 28, 1999

3 Personal

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

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

5 Special Notices

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

14d Carpentry

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

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

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction, Call 669-6347.

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14e Carpet Serv.

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

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14s Plumbing/Heat

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

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21 Help Wanted

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

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SUPPORT Services/Training Coordinator for non-profit agency. Associates Degree with at least 20 hours in social services and/or equivalent work experience may be substituted for undergraduate studies. Experience in coordinating groups, working with volunteers and public relations. Bilinguals / Interpretation skills a plus. Mail resume to P.O. Box 2880, Pampa, Texas 79066-2880. Applicant deadline is April 28, 1999.

PART-TIME insert needed, stop by Pampa News for application. NO PHONE CALLS. Applications will be taken until 5 p.m. 4-26-99.

OUTREACH Health Service needs a provider in Pampa for weekends. Call 1-800-800-0697 EOE.

VIP Adult & Pediatric Care is accepting applications for RN's, LVN's, CNA's, HHA's for Pampa & the surrounding areas. Please apply in person, 1619 S. Kentucky Suite D1330, Amarillo.

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SUBWAY Sandwiches is now hiring lunch time help. Apply in person, 2141 N. Hobart.

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69 Misc.

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Diary: Shooters wanted to kill at least 500, hijack airplane, crash it into New York City

By TED ANTHONY
AP National Writer

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — The two students who killed 13 people at Columbine High School wanted to kill at least 500 others, attack nearby homes and then hijack a plane and crash it into New York City, investigators said. Authorities also said today they were questioning an 18-year-old girlfriend about whether she purchased two of the firearms used in the rampage.

Jefferson County Sheriff John Stone earlier told reporters the goal of the killers, Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris, was to strike during the busy lunch hour to go for "a big kill."

But sheriff's department spokesman Steve Davis said today that the gunmen's diary indicates that if they survived, they wanted more.

"They wanted to kill 500 people, hijack a plane and take it to New York City," Davis said. "If in fact they were able to carry out the entire plan, there could have been quite a bit more damage and quite a few more fatalities."

As to why the gunmen were thinking of New York City, he said: "I have no idea. Maybe the density of population, for all I know."

"I suppose when you first hear it, you think that it's some horrible fantasy," District Attorney Dave Thomas told NBC's "Today" show. "But we now know that at least the first portion of those planned activities were in fact carried out."

"Unfortunately, we also know that had a couple of the devices in the school actually detonated as they had planned, the death toll could have been much higher than it was," Thomas said.

The diary plotting the mayhem

in precise detail, bomb-making materials and weapons were found in Harris' bedroom. Davis said.

Police said the pair, enraged by what they considered taunts and insults from classmates, rampaged through their school with guns and bombs before turning their weapons on themselves. Investigators, amazed at the sheer firepower, are trying to determine if others were involved.

Thomas confirmed reports that an 18-year-old woman, described as Klebold's girlfriend, was to be brought in for questioning today about whether she had purchased two of the four firearms used in Tuesday's massacre at Columbine, a 9 mm carbine rifle and a TEC-DC9 semiautomatic pistol. Authorities were attempting to determine if any law was broken, he said.

Thomas said the woman has not been named as a suspect and no arrests were imminent. He said he didn't know if she supplied the guns or, if she did, whether she knew what Harris and Klebold planned to do with them. He wouldn't say what information had led authorities to think she might have supplied the guns.

As for whether anyone other than Harris, Klebold and the young woman were under investigation, Thomas said: "We believe more than three were certainly aware of it. Whether more than three were involved in it, that's really the essence of our investigation at this point."

Of the 12 students slain, three were to be laid to rest today. A funeral was held this morning for Dave Sanders, a popular teacher praised for his bravery in shepherding students to safety during the attack.

"He was and always will be a hero in my heart," his niece, Kim Sanders, told mourners.

Wall Street came to a halt at noon EDT today to observe a minute of silence for the victims of the shooting. Trading was halted at the New York Stock Exchange, American Stock Exchange, Nasdaq Stock Market and Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

On Sunday, students, friends, relatives and thousands of others turned a strip-mall parking lot into an arena of grief and promised each other they would reach past their pain.

Vice President Al Gore brought the 70,000 heartbroken people a message Sunday: "You are not alone."

Sunday's outdoor ceremony was a mass catharsis at the foot of the snow-capped Rockies. People hugged and wept as a parade of students, singers and public officials tried to make sense of the

week's events. Many wore Columbine clothing; everything in sight — even portable toilets — was festooned with blue Columbine memorial ribbons.

"Behind you, scarred but still standing, is Columbine High School," Gov. Bill Owens said. "One thing is clear: This community will not be beaten."

Christian singer Amy Grant began a tribute song to the victims with a gentle lament: "So much pain and no reason why." Bagpipe players played "Amazing Grace" and four F-16 jets flew over in a "missing-man" formation after 13 doves were released — one for each victim.

Brothers Jonathan and Stephen Cohen sang a tribute they wrote. Jonathan Cohen, a junior, was trapped in the Columbine choir room when gunfire erupted. Stephen, a senior, was in the cafeteria where many students were shot or hit by shrapnel from pipe bombs.

"Can you still hear raging guns ending dreams of precious ones?" they sang. "In God's son, hope will come, his red stain will take our pain."

Columbine Principal Frank DeAngelis called the gathering "the end of a nightmare." Religious leaders urged trust in God. And Gore, thundering like a preacher at a revival, underscored that such bloodshed must remain an aberration.

"The young killers of Columbine High School do not stand for the spirit of America," Gore said. "America is a good and decent place, and our goodness is a light to all the nations of the world."

After the gathering, the proceedings moved en masse to Clement Park, adjacent to Columbine and — as long as the school remains cordoned off — the mourning place of choice and site of a vast makeshift memorial. Hundreds lined the procession

route. "I always knew this school was very strong and this is a good community, and all the kids love each other. But to see the kids and the community come together was just amazing," said Scott Rathbun, a senior.

Jefferson County school officials said Columbine's 1,800 students would return to classes Thursday a few miles south at Chatfield High School, a school originally built to accommodate Columbine's overflow.

Columbine's graduation ceremony will be held May 22 at a suburban amphitheater normally used for rock concerts, a baby step toward normalcy and in defiance of the gunmen.

"They wanted death and destruction. Instead, we've all come together," said Phyllis Cain, whose daughter, Mickey, attends Columbine. "They can't kill the message. They can't kill the hope."

Columbine students prepare to say goodbye to their beloved teacher

By SANDY SHORE
Associated Press Writer

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — The sign said it all: Friend, coach, father.

The photo above the words was of William "Dave" Sanders, the heroic teacher killed during the massacre at Columbine High School.

The white sign, propped against a tree during Sunday's memorial for the 13 victims, was just one small tribute to the man many students credit for saving their lives by herding them away from the gunmen.

Today, Sanders' students, who huddled by their beloved teacher's side after he was shot, were to come together again — to bid him farewell at his funeral.

On Sunday, current and former students remembered Sanders' dedication and devotion.

"He was just a model teacher, said Jeff Markle, the school's 1994 student body president who traveled from Dallas to honor Sanders. "He'd come early, stay late. Anything he could do to make us feel better he would do."

"He was a really exceptional coach," a teary-eyed Stephanie Gilbert, 34, said of the man who guided her cross-country team 15 years ago. "I was never really into sports. He got me to learn. He ran with me the first week of practice to keep me going, right beside me. I still run today."

Last Tuesday, when gunfire and explosions echoed through the school cafeteria, Sanders jumped on tables, shouting for students to get out. He ran through the halls, herding students to safety.

Sanders was shot twice in the chest and staggered into a second-floor classroom, where students tore off their T-shirts and pressed them to his wounds.

They covered him with blankets and told him how important he was to them. They tenderly showed him pictures of his wife and daughters from his wallet.

"I'm not going to make it," Sanders told them. "Tell my girls I love them."

Sanders, 47, was an unassuming guy with an easy smile, a teacher-coach who taught old-fashioned values. He urged students to look for the best in every situation, to strive to do their best and be responsible.

Born Oct. 22, 1951, in Eldorado, Ill., Sanders was raised in Veederburg, about 50 miles northwest of Indianapolis. In high school, the 6-foot-1-inch Sanders played basketball and baseball and ran cross country. He got his college degree from Chadron State in Nebraska in 1973.

With the help of a former coach, Sanders landed his first — and only — teaching job at Columbine, where he taught business and substituted in the science department. He also coached girls' basketball, girls' softball and track for nearly 25 years.

He earned the respect and praise of co-workers and competitors. "He wasn't out for glory," said Joe Poisson, coach of the girls' basketball team in Arvada, a suburb northwest of Denver. "His team played really tough defense, and you'd have to play your best to win against him."

Rudy Martin, who coached with Sanders at Columbine for 22 years, said Sanders "was more concerned with the student athlete and what they got out of games than he was with winning and losing."

This season, Sanders coached his girls' basketball team through its first winning season in several years. Even-tempered as always, Sanders sat on the bench for most of what turned out to be his final game. "He was making all the right moves," Martin said, but the team lost.

Sanders' first love was his family: wife Linda; daughters, Angela, Cindy and Coni; and 10 grandchildren. He organized an annual reunion and frequent gatherings, which typically included a softball game.

But his students, too, were close to his heart. At Sunday's memorial, they spoke of his inspiration.

"I love you and I will miss you," said Amber Burgess. "I know that each day your memory will push me to become a better person and to live my life to its fullest."

Many turn to clergy for answers

NEW YORK (AP) — The mourners in Colorado weren't alone.

On the first Sunday after the most devastating school rampage in U.S. history, churchgoers nationwide crowded into pews looking for guidance in dealing with their own children, and for answers about why someone else's would turn a gun on a classmate.

Beneath the brilliant stained glass and gothic arches of St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, Cardinal John O'Connor offered a prayer for those "emotionally and spiritually shattered" by the killings.

Everywhere, amid the floral dresses and the whispered prayers, there were questions.

From Rev. Richard R. Wolschlaeger, of the Swarthmore Presbyterian Church in Swarthmore, Pa.: "What are we to do with the horror of Littleton? ... How will adolescents who have witnessed firsthand such wanton human evil ever be able to hear the shepherd's voice again to lead them from despair to the promise of abundant life?"

From Rev. Randolph L. Williamson at nearby Trinity Episcopal Church, "How can we look at a world which presents us with these images and not lose a sense of sanity, and not become immobilized in despair or in apathy?"

And from Rev. Susan Swanson of Luther Memorial Church in Chicago: "What is causing all this turmoil? The media? TV? The Internet? Music? Or far right-wing hate groups?"

"How can things like this happen in our society — children killing children?" she asked.

• **Concerns over parental supervision and the wide availability of firearms were both recurrent themes from small, country churches to the grandest houses of worship.**

• **"It just goes to show you that we need to know what our children are doing," Holley said.**

She also offered an answer: "Take off the earphones, turn off the TV, turn down the radio... Start speaking words of love and kindness in our families."

Rabbi Ronald M. Shapiro of Congregation Shalom, in Fox Point, Wis., also focused on the need to spend time with children and show them they're special.

"The preciousness of human life can sometimes be lost in the flurry of activity of American life," he said during Shabbat services on Friday.

Concerns over parental supervision and the wide availability of firearms were both recurrent themes from small, country churches to the grandest houses of worship.

In Boston, Roman Catholic Cardinal Bernard Law criticized society for making guns "too accessible and too acceptable."

And at the Historic Little Rock Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit, Rev. Jim Holley said parents have to take more responsibility.

"It just goes to show you that we need to know what our children are doing," Holley said.

Rev. David Schonhoff of Central Church of Christ in Chattanooga, Tenn., based his sermon on Proverbs 22:6 of the Bible. "Train up a child in the way he should go," it says.

He called on the nation to reclaim its children by reintroducing a moral compass. But he said it won't be easy in a society where "matters of faith and worship are used in all manner of jokes" and where pop culture shows "revenge and violence always win."

THE Pampa NEWS

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