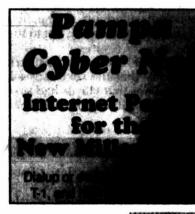


Steppin' out

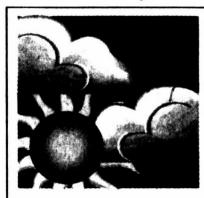




I'm your

Neighborhood State Farm Agent

Call me for all your ---insurance needs



High today 54 Low tonight 32 For weather details see Page 2

tickets correctly No matched all six numbers drawn Saturday night for the

Unpaid county medical claims near \$100,000

By DEE DEE LARAMORE Staff Writer

Unpaid medical claims for county employees nearing \$100,000 prompted an executive session, for legal reasons, of the Gray County **Commission Friday.**

"Close to \$100,000 in insurance claims were to be paid by the end of February and they're not," said Gray County Judge Richard Peet today. "It's not the employees' fault and it's not the county's fault," he added.

Peet explained that when Gray County changed health insurance providers earlier this year, commissioners agreed to purchase "runout" insurance to cover any medical claims made under West Texas Rural County Association that had not been paid by Dec. 31, 1999. Gray County changed to IMS as its insurance provider effective Jan. 1, he said.

A premium of \$78,376.88 for the run-out insurance was paid to West Texas Rural on Dec. 31, 1999, according to Gray County Auditor records.

After the closed session, commissioners instructed county attorney Todd Alvey to compose a letter to employees' healthcare creditors, Peet said.

"The letter is asking them to be patient and telling them that we are working on the problem," he said.

Commissioners also approved a one-time variance to cover a medication not covered by the IMS insurance plan for a specific county employee.

In other action, commissioners directed Judge Peet to develop contracts for elevator maintenance and for the purchase of equipment.

(See CLAIMS, Page 2)

Police nab man wanted

twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said. The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 50 were: 7-11-17-19-37-46. Wednesday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$13 million.

PAMPA — A style show to Matthew's benefit St. Episcopal Day School is set for 7 p.m., Tuesday at M.K. Brown Heritage Room. Tickets for the show featuring fashions from Kids Stuff will be available at the door. Tickets are \$1 for students and \$4 for adults.

• W. Bee Burgess, 91, retired barber.

 Leon M. Cook, 91, retired welder.

 Jon Williams Fuller, 92, former Pampa teacher.

• Vernon N. Graham, 73, retired from U.S. Air Force. • Vickie Ann Maxey, 43, cook.

· John L. Thomas, 78, retired from U.S. Air Force. · Jay T. Wallis, formerly of

Lefors.

The Pampa News has professionals on staff who can help you word the perfect classified ad. Call 669-2525

Would you like your retirement income to be: S Federal Income Tax Free er 5 years and age 59 1/2)

Sheila Webb

on sex charge

By DAVID BOWSER Staff Writer

Keith Morris and DPS A 39-year-old Hereford man was in Gray County Trooper David O'Brien jail today in lieu of bonds put spikes out at Gray E totaling \$10,000 following a high speed chase that and Gray D 1/2 to stop the ended in a muddy field Car, early Sunday morning. Terry Len Hayes, 39, of

a bond of \$5,000. It's in connection with a bond surren-

but the driver stopped, broke from the 305 E. Sixth in Hereford, car and began running was in Gray County jail on across a muddy field.

Pampa Police Officer

der in Deaf Smith County concerning a sexual assault charge and a bond of \$5,000 on an evading arrest charge in Pampa, said Gray County Justice of the Peace Kurt Curfman.

Pampa Police Officer Tony Wooley reported he saw a car weaving in the 900 block of Frederic shortly after midnight Saturday. When he turned on his emergency lights to pull the vehicle over, he said the car sped off.

"There was a puff of smoke, and he took off," Wooley said.

Pampa Police Lt. Kenneth Hopson, who was in another patrol car behind Wooley, joined the chase.

They followed the speeding car out U.S. Highway 60 to county road Gray E as officers from the Department of Public Safety and Gray County Sheriff's Department joined them.

giving us an extra hour of daylight until next fall.

The driver of the car being pursued turned around on Gray E and (See POLICE, Page 2)

(Pampa News photo by Kate B. Dickson)

PHS Senior John Johnson tries out one of the new PHS band uniforms which will be in use next year. Band director Bruce Collins said 180 new uniforms will be ordered and the sizes will be larger than when uniforms were last bought. "Youngsters now are heavier and taller than they were some years back ... it's a nationwide trend," Collins said. The school board approved the \$42,871 purchase.

Lefors students to receive realistic look at DWI impact

LEFORS - A Lefors High School student is expected be arrested in early May for driving under the influence of alcohol.

The arrest is part of the Shattered Dreams program that will be hosted by the Lefors High School the week of May 1 through 5.

"They'll have an assembly just about every day," said Department of Public Safety spokesman L.D. Snider. "There will be a wrap up Friday, May 5."

The objective of the program is to show students the impact that drinking and driving can have.

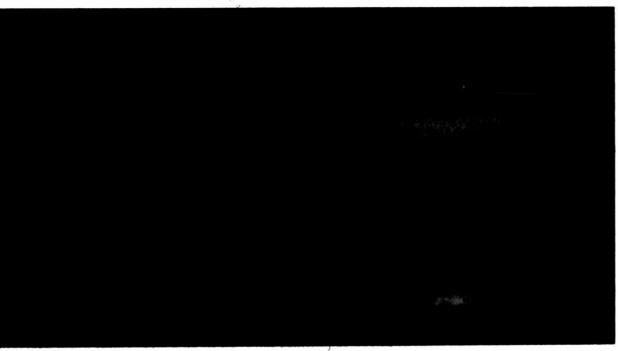
On Thursday, May 4, wrecked cars will be placed in front of the school. Local DPS troopers will work

Shattered Dreams is the name of the special program.

the simulated accident as though it were a real one involving Lefors High School students as simulated fatalities, both at the scene and at the hospital.

One student will be accused as the driver and will be presumed to have been driving under the influence of alcohol. DPS troopers will administer field sobriety tests and take the student to Gray County jail for booking.

"It's a real detailed project," Snider said of Shattered Dreams.



Eight-to-fivers saw an earlier sunrise today as Daylight Savings time is back into effect

Many Pampans help serve city

Each year the City of Pampa updates its citizen board and commissions. Those serving this year are:

Board of Adjustments -- Charles Buzzard, Cleo Meaker, Richard "Dick" Stowers, Durward Williams, Ralph Milliron and Wayne Bruce.

Cable Advisory Commission - Bill Brady, Charles LaBarr, James Lewis, Tanita Olson, Cheryl Shuck, Denver Bruner and Bill Willingham.

Canadian River Municipal Water Authority - Jerry Carlson and Bill Hallerberg.

Construction Board of Appeals - Matt Hinton, Larry Baker, Hugh Hall, Jack Hamel, Rhett DeSpain, Bobby Burns and Bill Browning.

Lovett Memorial Library Board - Dr. Ray Hampton, Virginia Green, Mary Jarvis, Vanessa Buzzard, Betty Henderson, Debbie Robertson, Sharon Haynes, Ed Cooley and Harold W. Taylor.

M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium Board - Nancy Hahn, Clay Rice, Sandi Crosswhite, Floyd Sackett, Nelda Cotham and Kathy Cota

(See PAMPANS, Page 2)

Membership Committee Meeting, Tuesday, April 4, Noon, At The Chamber Office

2 - Monday, April 3, 2000 - THE PAMPA NEWS

Daily Record

Services tomorrow

COOK, Leon M. - 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

MAXEY, Vickie Ann — Graveside services, 11 a.m., Llano Cemetery, Amarillo.

MAYO, Audra Lee Sargent Dehls - 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

Obituaries

W. BEE BURGESS

W. Bee Burgess, 91, of Pampa, died Sunday, April 2, 2000, at Amarillo. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Burgess was born Aug. 26, 1908, in Gray County. He married Viva Willis on Aug. 26, 1937, at Pampa. He enrolled in barber school at 16 and worked at the barber shop on South Cuyler prior to working for Phillips in 1942. He continued to cut hair on Saturdays and retired from Phillips in 1973. Following retirement, he worked at Crowson Barber Shop until his illness.

He belonged to First Baptist Church and Everyman's Bible Class.

Survivors include his wife, Viva, of the home; a daughter, Margo Stanley of Pampa; two sons, Leon Mason of Arapaho, Okla., and Harold Burgess of Corpus Christi; a sister, Yvonne Huddleston of Black Eagle, Mont.; two brothers, Keith Burgess of Twin Falls, Idaho, and Erless Burgess of Homer, Alaska; seven grandchildren; and seven greatgrandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Mobeetie Cemetery Association.

LEON M. COOK

Leon M. Cook, 91, of Pampa, died Sunday, April 2, 2000. Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Jim Teeter, pastor of St. Paul United Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery with Masonic graveside rites courtesy of Pampa Masonic Lodge #966 AF&AM. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Cook was born Dec. 16, 1908, at Graham. He graduated from Wellington High School and attended the University of Texas at Austin. He had been a Pampa resident since 1926. He married June Converse on June 24, 1934, at Sayre, Okla.

He was a welder for Milliron Engineering, retiring in 1970. He belonged to St. Paul United Methodist Church, Pampa Masonic Lodge #966 AF&AM and Pampa Chapter #65 Order of the Eastern Star.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Shirley Hoover, in 1983.

Survivors include his wife, June, of the home; a daughter, Wanda Lou McIver of San Angelo; a son, Donald L. Cook of Tyler; two sisters, Aileen McConnell of Pampa and Lorene Wilson of Duckhill, Miss.; five grandchildren; and six great-

American Veterans.

Survivors include a cousin, Maurine Marshall of Carthage, Mo.

VICKIE ANN MAXEY

AMARILLO - Vickie Ann Maxey, 43, died Friday, March 31, 2000. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday in Llano Cemetery. Burial will be under the direction of Warford-Walker Mortuary of Amarillo.

Mrs. Maxey was born at Victoria and attended Pampa schools. She had been an Amarillo resident since 1977, moving from Pampa. She cooked for several food franchises and belonged to First **Baptist Church**.

Survivors include two daughters, Sarah Thompson of Pampa and Angie Bailey of Amarillo; two sons, B.C. Maxey and Willie Maxey, both of Amarillo; a brother, Ron Jouett of Pampa, and her parents, Wallace and Jacque Jouett of Pampa.

JOHN L. THOMAS

John L. Thomas, 78, of Pampa, died Saturday, April 1, 2000, at Amarillo. Services were to be at 10 a.m. today in Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Randy White, pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Thomas was born Dec. 20, 1921, at Harrin, Ill. He married Faye Walker on Sept. 13, 1940, at Guthrie, Okla. He had been a Pampa resident since 1963, moving from Heber Springs, Ark. He was retired from the U.S. Air Force and was a veteran of World War II and the Korean Conflict. He was a lieutenant in the Pampa Police Department for several years, retiring in the 1980s, and was also a retired Gray County adult probation officer. He was a Baptist.

Survivors include his wife, Faye, of the home; a son, Larry Thomas of Sacramento, Calif.; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to American Heart Association or to American Lung Association.

JAY T. WALLIS

Jay T. Wallis, formerly of Lefors, died Friday, March 31, 2000, at Chama, N.M. Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in First Baptist Church of Mobeetie.

Mr. Wallis was preceded in death by his wife, Evelyn.

Survivors include two daughters, Jaylene and Tinna, both of Amarillo; a son, Larry of McLean; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren

Police report

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents during the 72-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Friday, March 31 Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1000 block of Varnon. About \$400 worth of compact discs along with a carrying case was reported missing. Information was reported to officers.

Sunday April 2

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

ing the county to buy equipment from typewriters to vehicles at a lower rate.

Brian Byron was appointed as the local rabies control authority as requested by the Texas Department of Health.

No action was taken on closing an unused road which crosses the railroad tracks at Kingsmill. Commissioners are to reconsider closing the road at the May 1 meeting, according to Peet. Bills and salaries were approved for payment by

the commissioners also during the meeting Friday.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

could hear a dog barking up at a nearby farm house. He keyed the microphone on his radio and told them to turn the dog loose. His words echoed through every radio surrounding the field.

Powell said Hayes then stood up in the field, aised his hands and surrendered, saying not to turn the dog loose.

A spokesman with the Deaf Smith County district attorney's office said today that the sexual assault charge stems from accusations that Hayes had sexual intercourse with a woman without her consent in February.

Board - Roger David, Lewis Meers, Jerry Foote, Riley Kothmann and Richard Stowers, Jr.

City of Pampa - City Commission - Jeff Andrews, Faustina Curry, Robert Dixon, Jeff McCormic and Robert Neslage.

Pampa Housing Finance Corporation - Jeff McCormick, Jeff Andrews, Faustina Curry, Robert Dixon and Robert Neslage.

Panhandle Elderly Apartment Corporation – Milo Carlson, Gary Sutherland and H.J. Johnson.

Pampa Housing Committee - John Curry, Robert Dixon, Dennis Godwin, Florence Kimbley, Joe Martinez, Frankie Lemons, Larry Ogden, Richard Peet, Janie Shed. Ex-Officio-Members -Bob Curry, Clay Rice and Susan Tripplehorn. Legal Counsel - Don Lane. Advisory member - Charles Henry.

Latest worker perk Health insurance for Fido and Fluffy

NEW YORK (AP) — Rene member." Castro's cat, Mitsu, developed a uterine infection last year and needed a hysterectomy that cost \$1,700.

CLAIMS

annual inspection, he said.

started back, officers said today

PAMPANS

POLICE

muddy field.

Martinez.

The elevator maintenance contract will include elevators in the Gray County Courthouse, Gray County Jail and White Deer Land Museum, Peet

said. County elevators are to be inspected on a

monthly basis, in addition to the state-required

Commissioners granted Peet authority to seek an

inter-local agreement between Gray County and Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC), allow-

Pampa Police Officer Keith Morris and DPS

Trooper David O'Brien put spikes out at Gray E and

Gray D 1/2 to stop the car, but the driver stopped,

broke from the car and began running across a

Cory Powell said today. "Lots of mud." As officers surrounded the field, Powell said he

"There was lots of mud," Pampa Police Officer

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board --- Michael

Miller, Rev. Leif Hasskarl, Rusty Neff, Kenneth

Strickland, Doug Pollard, Elleen Kludt and Jose K.

Planning and Zoning Commission - Annie

Traffic Commission - Dennis Laycock, Ben

Woodington, Holly Sheridan, Jeff Thiry, Judy

Pampa Municipal Golf Course Advisory Board -

T.B. Moore, Pat Darling, Dannie Cagle, Martin

Stevens, Loyd Waters, Rodnie Winborne, Richard

Harrelson, Řichard Peet and Bob Neslage. Pampa Economic Development Corporation

Swaney, Larry G. Ogden, Robert Curry, Janie Shed,

John Haesle, Charles Henry and Roy Sparkman.

Warner, Doug Locke and Wallace Bruce.

The year before, his 6-pound Maltese dog, Princess, dislocated a disc when she fell off the sofa. The bill for treatment including a CAT scan was \$750.

So Castro was thrilled when his employer, Lenox Hill Hospital, added pet health insurance to its list of optional benefits.

"Everybody went crazy," said have signed up. Castro, who supervises the sterilization of instruments in the hospital's operating room. "I think it's great.

Lewis said VPI has between 75 and 100 corporate members based Ralston Purina Co. and or species. Mirage Resorts Inc., which is being bought by rival MGM Grand Inc.

for Las Vegas-based Mirage what new benefits they would Resorts, said the company started like. Life insurance for spouses offering pet insurance about six was the top choice, followed by months ago, and so far just under car and home insurance. Pet 100 of Mirage's 32,000 employees health insurance was No. 3. 0.5.2

roll deduction - and get a 25 percent discount at network providers. All animals are covnationwide, including St. Louis- ered regardless of age, infirmity

Erin O'Connor, vice president for human resources at Lenox Hill, said the hospital signed on Alan Feldman, a spokesman after polling its employees about

So far 50 employees out of VPI offers a typical indemnity about 2,800 at Lenox Hill have

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ION WILLIAMS FULLER

Jon Williams Fuller, 92, a former Pampa resident, died Sunday, April 2, 2000, at Plano. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Fuller was born May 9, 1907, in Smith County, Tenn. She married William Henry Fuller on July 18, 1936, at Scottsville, Ky.; he died in 1978. She held a bachelor of arts degree from Tennessee Tech and taught school in Tennessee and Pampa for 12 years. She also gave private piano lessons in Pampa for many years. She belonged to First Baptist Church of Pampa and had been a Plano resident since 1995.

Survivors include two sons, Don Fuller of Lancaster, Calif., and Gordon Fuller of Lucas; seven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

VERNON N. GRAHAM

MIAMI — Vernon N. Graham, 73, died Sunday, April 2, 2000. Memorial services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral directors of Pampa. The body was cremated and consequently will not be available for view-

Mr. Graham was born Aug. 30, 1926, at Miami and was a lifelong Miami resident. He retired from the U.S. Air Force as a staff sergeant after 23 years of service.

He was a Baptist and belonged to American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Disabled

Accidents

from a convenience store.

ing a bag of Oreos.

The Pampa Police Department reported the fol- Love and Wilks. Neil was cited for failure to lowing accidents during the 72-hour period end- yield. ing at 7 a.m. today.

Friday, March 31

A 1999 blue Chevrolet pickup, owned by Albert Lamar Morgan, 20, was in collision about 8 a.m. Mendoza of 102 S. Sumner, was parked in the 100 block of East Foster about 11:30 a.m. Friday when by Corey Don Searl, 19, in the 2300 block of North it was struck by a vehicle pulling out of the next parking place and then left.

A 1987 brown Ford Escort driven by Reggie of Lefors, struck a dumpster, utility pole, gas ugene Williams, 30, was in collision about 4 p.m. meter and tree about 8:45 p.m. Saturday in the 500 Eugene Williams, 30, was in collision about 4 p.m. Friday with a 1987 white Chevrolet pickup driven block of East Harvester. The accident is still under by William Joseph Neil, 22, at the intersection of investigation.

It wasn't the first time that Kenneth Payne III's

according to a report in the Tyler Morning

Telegraph. He has a previous conviction for steal-

The district attorney's office tried Payne as a

Violation of a protective order was reported in the 1300 block of North Coffee.

Homeland Supermarket at 2545 Perryton Parkway reported \$380 worth of bags of Kingsford charcoal was stolen from the store.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Department reported the following arrests in the 72-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, April 1

Lucas Shane Turner, 20, 1112 Terrace, was arrested about 9:45 a.m. Saturday on warrants charging him with speeding, no driver's license and failure to appear.

D. Burry Osborne, 29, of Amarillo, was arrested by the Department of Public Safety about 8 p.m. Saturday and charged with driving while intoxicated.

Sunday, April 2

Terry L. Hayes, 39, of Hereford, was arrested shortly after midnight Saturday and charged with evading arrest and was being held for Deaf Smith County on a bond surrender in connection with a sexual assault charge.

Shanna Eve Tambunga, 37, 520 Yeager, was arrested abou;t 3 a.m. Sunday on charges of no valid driver's license, not wearing a seat belt, possession of drug paraphernalia and driving while intoxicated.

Lenox Hill is among a small but growing number of companies offering some form of health insurance for their workers' pets. Jerry Hirsch of Pet Assure Inc. in Dover, N.J., which manages the Lenox Hill pet insurance pro- tor of communications. gram, said the program is one of added as a defense against a tight labor market and booming econo-

"Employers are looking for ways to attract and keep their

ly how many employers offer pet health insurance. Kristin Accipiter, spokeswoman for the Society for Human Resource Management, said a survey of her organization's 130,000 members found 1 percent of companies offered the benefit last year, the first time the question was included in the annual survey.

policies since 1982 but group plans for employers only started taking off in 1999.

"We've seen a real big interest from a corporate standpoint," Lewis said. "With unemployment low, benefits become a real key

Additionally, she said, "The Pets are seen more as a family plans apply to sale items.

generally southeast of a line Weather focus from Sulphur Springs through

PAMPA - Partly cloudy and windy today with a high of 54 and north winds at 20-30 mph. Tonight, clear and cold with a low of 32 and west winds at 5-15 mph. Tomorrow, sunny and warmer with a high near 70. The overnight low was 35. STATEWIDE — In a soggy

weekend(s wake, more showers and thunderstorms developed today along a strong cold front that was moving into Texas. Snow fell in the northwestern

anhandle. The front stretched early

today from southeast of Childress to south of Lubbock. A large area of rain and embedded thunderstorms was

plan, with average premiums of signed up for the pet insurance \$200 a year and a \$40 deductible. program, which went into effect VPI covers only dogs and cats, and pre-existing conditions gen-

In contrast, Pet Assure, is not a traditional insurance program but "kind of an HMO for pets," said Hirsh, the company's direc-

Members pay a small fee — at http://www.ppins.com several employee benefits being Lenox Hill it's a \$4 monthly pay-

City Briefs

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

AROUND THE Clock Bail Bonds. 24 hr. confidential jail retact lens fit and comfort authorilease. Call 665-3553. ty. Whether you would like to try

CLEARANCE 50% off all Men's and Women's Winter and Summer clothes. Consignment Gallery Coronado Center 665-5877.

CLOTHING ROOM Mary Ellen & Harvester Church of Christ (building across the street, south of Pampa High School). Open Tues., Apr. 4th, 10-4 p.m., or call Joe Johnson 665-3368. 665-2373, lv. msg. for appt.

COME AND check out the great selection of eyewear for the entire family at EYECARE PLUS. Complete lens and frame packages start at only \$99.00 and incl. our exclusive two-year warranty. role of the pet has truly evolved. No other discount or insurance

Corsicana to Lampasas.

south.

Early-morning temperatures ranged from the 30s in the

Panhandle to 50s and 60s in the

Amarillo's reading dropped

from the high 40s to 36 degrees

after the frontal passage. It was 30 degrees at Marfa, 48 at Abilene and 57 at both Lufkin

and Longview. Dryden and El Paso had 52 degrees.

ranged from 48 degrees at junc-

tion to 66

brownsville.

Early morning temperatures

Winds were southerly to

southwesterly at 5 to 15 mph

ahead of the front, but northerly

degrees

at

MIKE YOUNG now at Crowson Barber Shop, Combs-Worley bldg. on Wed. - Sat. Latest styles/ hairstyles. 669-6721

some gusts. Houston Hobby Airport reported a wind gust of 44 mph today.

Light snow was reported at Dalhart in the northwestern Panhandle.

Fog also developed over South Texas. Strong thunderstorms developed from the **Coastal Bend into the Beaumont** area.

The National Weather Service forecast called for decreasing cloudiness in West Texas and a chance of showers and thunderstorms in the east.

Daytime highs should range from the mid-50s in the northwest to near 70 in the southeast. Lows overnight should range from near 30 in the northwest behind it at 25 to 35 mph with through 40s in the southeast.

TYLER, Texas (AP) — A sweet tooth led to a 16- of the prosecutor. year prison sentence for a Smith County man, who

Man gets 16-year sentence in candy bar theft

Assistant District Attorney Jodi Brown said she was convicted of swiping a Snickers candy bar was a little surprised by the panel's recommendation on the theft of the \$1 chocolate bar on Dec. 17.

"But it was a king-size," she joked. "And it was a chocolate craving prompted a run-in with the law, Snickers bar. If it was a Milky Way, we probably wouldn't have even tried him on it.

Besides the cookie theft, Payne also has a previous conviction for stealing a box of tools.

"He was no stranger to the system and disrehabitual offender, bumping the misdemeanor garding the law," Brown said. shoplifting charge to felony theft, making him eli-

Payne's attorney, Linda Altier, declined any comment on the case except to say it is on appeal. The jury's decision came March 16.

gible for a sentence of up to 20 years in prison. A Smith County jury assessed 16 years at the urging



Saturday, April 1 A 1990 white Buick Century driven by Gaylon part of retaining and obtaining new employees. Saturday with a 1991 red Chevrolet pickup driven

Hobart. Morgan was cited for following to close. A pickup driven by Velda Wanell Chadwick, 53,

Rebecca Lewis, vice president for marketing and communications at Veterinary Pet Insurance Inc. in Anaheim, Calif., said her company has sold individual

favored employees," he said. It's difficult to determine exact-

erally are not covered.

On http://www.petassure.com

Veterinary Pet Insurance Inc.: http://www.veterinarypetinsur-

ance.com Pet Insurance: Premier

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color of your eyes, bifocal con-

tacts, or if you simply want to ex-

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glasses, call our office at 669-2824

for an appointment or for more

FENCE REPAIR or build new.

HIGH SCHOOL student, will

mow lawns. Call Ryan 669-6327.

information. 1916 N. Hobart.

Saturday.

the

Net:

THE PAMPA NEWS - Monday, April 3, 2000 - 3

Calendar of events

PAMPA AREA LITERACY COUNCIL

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

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-

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TRALEE CRISIS CENTER Tralee Crisis Center will offer Volunteer Training for people interested in working with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and other crime victims. For more information, call Diane Wells at 669-1131 or 1-800-658-2796.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Planned Parenthood of Amarillo and the Texas Panhandle is extending clinic hours in Pampa. The clinic is now open from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, 408 W. Kingsmill Ave., #175-A. Special evening hours until 6 p.m. are available by appointment. For more information or for an appointment, call 665-2291. Planned Parenthood is a not-for-profit health care organization serving women and men in 17 offices covering 26 counties in the panhandle.

LOVETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Lovett Memorial Library's Spring Story Hours will be at 10 a.m. every Tuesday from Jan. 11-May 16. The program, which includes crafts and stories, is open to all children 18 months to 5-years-old.

Frank Phillips College in Borger. The program will feature the fol-lowing speakers: Don Taylor, WTAMU College of Business; Dick Novotny, FPC Business Instruction; and Joe Frank Wheeler, Borger Chamber of Commerce. Cost of registration is \$15 and covers cost of materials and busch. For a provide the second se materials and lunch. For more information, call the Gray County Extension office by Tuesday, April 4 or contact Tom Benton at (806) 878-4026.

HARRINGTON CANCER CENTER

The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center has announced the following breast cancer screening clinics: April 10, First United Methodist Church Educational Building, 201 E. Foster, Pampa; April 12, Parkview Hospital, 901 S. Sweetwater, Wheeler; April 24, Shephard's Crook, 919 N. Crest, Pampa, and Hemphill County Hospital, 1020 S. 4th, Canadian. Participants will receive a low-cost self-exam mammogram and a breast health appraisal along with 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 assis-tance. All exams are by appointment only. For more information, call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673.

Call (806) 336-1905 of 1-800-377-4673. WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD Amarillo Mayor Kel Seliger and the Panhandle Association for the Education of Young Children will honor over 100 people who work to make the lives of young children healthy, safe and enriched with a breakfast at 8 a.m. Thursday, April 13 in the Oak Acorn Room of the College Union Building on Amarillo College's Washington Street campus. The event is being held in conjunction

registration is April 10. The cost per individual the day of the conference is \$80. For more information or to register, contact Gerry Kelly, director of Supportive Care, at (806) 359-4673, ext. 235 or 1-800-274-4673, ext. 235

WTAMU 'e CAMP'

West Texas A&M University's "e Camp" for youngsters will explore the radio, television and film industry. For more information, write, call or e-mail the following: Dr. Leigh Browning, e Camp director, WTAMU Box 60747, Canyon, TX 79016-0207; (806) 651-2412; lbrowning@wtamu.edu.

AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Area Agency on Aging of the Panhandle is seeking volunteers to serve as advocates for nursing home residents as part of its Ombudsmen program. The Ombudsmen will visit residents of long-term care facilities and help resolve complaints involving residents rights, quality of life and quality of care. Once accepted into the program, volunteers complete a three month internship includ-ing intensive training and supervision in preparation. Ideal candi-dates will have strong sense of fair play, excellent problem-solving skills, good relationships with older people and the ability to devote two hours a week to the residents served by the Ombudgman program. For more information contact left Price Ombudsman program. For more information, contact Jeff Price, regional Ombudsman, or Shirley Sheldon, Ombudsman Program Aide, at 1-800-642-6008; or write P.O. Box 9257, Amarillo, TX, 79105.







SYNDICATED

COLUMNIST

love each other.

for it. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Please reprint the

forms of government you had in

your column a few years ago. I

believe there was something about

A.P. IN SPARTANBURG, S.C.

DEAR A.P.: I'm happy to

grant your request. My readers

got a "kick" out of it then, and I

have since had several requests

COMMUNISM: You have two

SOCIALISM: You have two

FASCISM: You have two cows.

NAZIŚM: You have two cows.

An associate is unpredictable! Tonight:

**** Make calls and express your

views. Once you start brainstorming, it

might be difficult to stop the flow of

ideas. New beginnings are possible if

you venture off the beaten path. A friend

displays quirkiness. Don't buck trends.

Tonight: Let another express his individ-

*** Work as a team rather than

engaging in a touchy or difficult situa-

tion A discussion brings new under-

standing and greater rapport between you

cows. The government takes both of

them and gives you part of the milk.

cows. The government takes one

The government takes both cows

The government takes both your

and gives it to your neighbor.

and sells you the milk.

A public appearance.

uality

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

together with a friend.

a cow in the explanation.

Grandpa" describes the scenario I found myself in almost two years ago. She was pregnant after two months, and I, too, wanted to "do the right thing." We married after knowing each other five months.

If you think marrying someone you hardly know is stressful, wait until the birth of a child. I love my beautiful daughter with all my heart. However, my marriage to her mother was the most traumatic experience I have ever been through!

Abby, you were right on the money when you said that marriage can wait. The young man should not put himself in a bind to prove he is committed to the unborn child. That is what I did - and it was the worst decision I've ever made. The divorce (we were married eight months) still causes much pain for me and everyone I know.

Things are finally starting to normalize. We have joint custody of our daughter.

Please tell "Soon to Be a Grandpa" to warn his son. I know the son feels like his relationship is different and he can make it work. I felt the same way

He should enjoy his newborn and participate in his/her life as much as possible. But marriage is not the answer. If it turns out that their commitment to each other is genuine, best of luck to them! However, nothing is harmed by a little patience

LESSON LEARNED IN FLORIDA

TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2000

Horoscope

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) * * * * Reach out for others. Be willing to break outdated patterns. Your perspective might change considerably. A tresh start is possible. Work with unexpected developments. Seize the moment and its opportunities. Tonight: Try a new

then pours the milk down the drain. **CAPITALISM:** You have two

cows. You sell one of them and buy a bull. Abby, what happens in a democracy?

MRS. J. MC C.

DEAR MRS. MC C.: In a **DEAR LESSON LEARNED: I** democracy, everyone has two agree; a child should be raised cows, then a vote is taken, and in a home where the parents whatever the majority decides to do, you do, and that's no bull!

> DEAR ABBY: The level of ignorance in this country runs from street level to administrative. In U.S. News magazine, I recently saw a photograph of a table full of guns from a "buyback" - with police officers and officials touting safer streets. Unfortunately, they forgot to ensure their own safety. Several of the weapons had their hammers back – presumably ready to fire!

DR. ALLAN QUERENS JR., METAIRIE, LA.

DEAR DR. QUERENS: So much for guns being safe in the hands of gun experts - experts who should be more safety conscious.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable .- and most frequently requested - poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby's "Keepers," P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

chance

*** Basics are important, and no one knows that better than you. Establish limits. Discuss your needs with loved ones. Security remains a high priority. Don't sell yourself short. A parent's interesting idea might improve your finances. Tonight: Make a favorite meal. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

**** You know what you want. Mobilize your energy - start a crusade if you need to. Let others know where you are coming from. Change occurs quickly and suddenly. Realize what you can and cannot do. Decide on a class or and another. A new vista opens up. Break to go in a new direction. Tonight: Speak free of an old work routine. Tonight: Get your mind.



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look TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

* * * Stay in touch with your feelings. Get clearer about what you want and expect from another. Discussions with a partner help illuminate both of you. Take some time to yourself. Think through a decision carefully. Tonight: Enjoy some solitude.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

* * * * Friends and supporters surround you. Friendships change and grow. You can move in a new direction, visualizing in a different way what you want. Your opinions could change substantially because of a friend's input. Go for what you want. Tonight: Where the gang is. CANCER (June 21-July 22)

*** Take charge. Be willing to make a needed change or to reorganize. Your vision of the future could change. Listen to feedback. Touch base with a special adviser, who shares a fresh view.

ACROSS

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e.g.

15 Rise

17 Boot part

feature

creation

27 Top story

29 Massage

30 Goober

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38 Family fight 39 Draw out 41 Stiff 45 Permit

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4 Scatter-

18 Outsider

22 Finger

23 Salon

11 Radio

Crossword Puzzle

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

* * * * Reach out for another. Make time to get together. Revise your style of communication so you'll be heard loud and clear. You still might be stunned by another's reaction. Be extra flexible, avoiding all rigidity. Tonight: Fun and games.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

* * * * Pace yourself and clear your desk. You enter a new phase at work. Open up to new possibilities. Building the kind of professional security you seek might require an image change. Research another approach. Shift gears if need be. Tonight: Off to the gym. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**** Kick up your heels and be more childlike. Stimulate your mental processes by adding more fun and caring to your professional and personal lives. Be yourself. Ask for feedback from social contacts. Tonight: Take a creative

GAMED

ALONE

Marmaduke

4

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

* * Intuition chimes with reality. The time has come to make an adjustment or commitment. Not everyone agrees with your perspective. Maintaining continuity might not be as important as you had previously believed. Be a free thinker. Tonight: Start a new budget.

BORN TODAY Author Maya Angelou (1928), actor Robert Downey Jr. (1965), actress Christine Lahti (1950)

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



LIMBS WON'T HURT

THE TREE!

LIMBS I'M

WORRIED

ABOUT!



Haggar The Horrible

TREE SERVICE



Peanuts



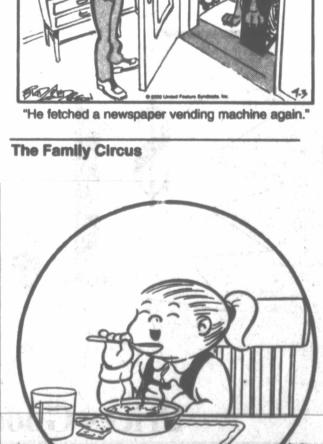


By THOMAS JOSEPH RELAX LENDL SAINTS GOO LENDL 5 Director BOGDOWN 1 Informal Welles ORE SYS ONEALS greeting 6 Like some CONAN 6 Winfrey train BOOKER SAD trave COHOSTS 7 Golf ESHARON goal SENORISING 8 Revolt TERRA FENCE 12 Tinkerbell, 9 Italian SPYON TATER river Saturday's answer 13 Sea birds 10 Jekyll's 14 Fern part

OLIVE

disgust-**25 Valley** ina! 26 Keats 18 Cinch works 37 Tug 19 London 28 Off-thegallery street bed 20 Actress times Moreno

bad side 16 "That's 24 Peruse 35 Squad 36 Unemployed **40 Barracks** 42 Combo's 31 Golf job 21 Wild 43 Altar peg excite-34 Clinic words ment 44 Lair worker



"Mmm! Chicken Soup for the Tummy!"

Ρ ED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-73771 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+only.) A King Features service, NYC.

THE PAMPA NEWS - Monday, April 3, 2000 - 5

SPORTS

Connecticut takes Auriemma on a joy ride Notebook GENERAL

PAMPA — Pampa High baseball and softball games postponed last week because of rain have been re-scheduled for Thursday.

Pampa hosts Dumas at 4:30 p.m. in District 3-4A baseball action. The Lady Harvesters host Caprock at 5:30 at Optimist Park in a softball game.

AUTO RACING

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WY III

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) - Mark Martin waited out Saturday's long rain delay and finished four car lengths ahead of Roush racing teammate Matt Kenseth to win the Albertson's 300 Busch Grand National race.

It was Martin's fourth victory in five Busch starts this season and 44th career. Jack Roush's team has won six of seven Busch races. Martin averaged 108.130 mph, leading twice for 38 laps. David Green, who started last in a backup car after a Friday crash in practice, wound up third.

BASKETBALL

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) - The Dallas Mavericks suddenly are playing strong defense, getting balanced scoring and winning on the road. Too bad the playoffs are not a possibility. Dirk Nowitzki scored 15 of his 22 points in the third quarter, leading six Mavericks in double figures, as Dallas beat the Vancouver Grizzlies 100-86 Sunday night.

Dallas, out of postseason play for a league-worst 10th straight year, won for the 12th time in its last 19 road games. Michael Finley scored 18 points, Hubert Davis had 16 points and seven rebounds in a reserve role, and Shawn Bradley had 10 points and 10 rebounds. "It was just a really good game for us," Davis said. "I thought we worked hard defensively and played unselfishly on the offensive end. We had a lot of guys trying to find the open man and when you do that, good things happen." Steve Nash added 11 points and 10 assists and effectively shut down Grizzlies guard Michael Dickerson, who scored 14 points on 4-of-14 shooting. Dickerson had averaged 30 points the past two games. "Coach said he was the hot guy," Nash said of Dickerson. "He said, 'If you're not all over him, he'll kill you.' It's my job to get all over him and luckily it worked and he missed some shots.

Head lolling back and arms outstretched, Auriemma savored the the looks on the kids' faces are and moment as his players carried him what's going through their minds down the court in celebration of and bodies, and that's what this is Connecticut's second national all about."

ball. Tennessee, winner of more national titles than any school not named Huskies took control of the game UCLA, and they did it with such early by building a 15-point lead skill, efficiency and precision that a and just never let go in completing League. game expected to be a showcase a 36-1 season. The loss: a oneevent for the sport turned into a pointer to Tennessee on Feb. 2. total mismatch.

championship in women's basket-

Oh, yes, UConn's 71-52 victory from Auriemma's 68-year-old in Sunday night's Philly final just mother, Marziello, who sprinkled happened to come in Auriemma's backyard.

"It really is an indescribable feel-

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — ing when you win something like this well all year, and we got the this," Auriemma said. "The reason Auriemma on the ride of his life. really can't put into words what Four.

ball-hawking defense, offensive country from Italy when he was 7. The Huskies had just defeated balance and depth - the founda- He learned his basketball on the tion of its play all season. The

They got an assist beforehand holy water on the team. On this a championship team. night, no extra help was necessary.

"I don't know if I've seen us play and they are all in the stands and

thing.

Ralph and her teammates helped produce a sweet homecoming for Auriemma, who grew up in the Philadelphia suburb of Connecticut won because of its Norristown after moving to this playgrounds, where a guy needed an attitude to survive, and in the tough Philadelphia Catholic

> "A lot of guys that were coaching when I was playing said I'd never be any good as a player. They were right," Auriemma said. "So I turned out to be the coach of

"It's kind of funny to come back

they are all happy for me, because cent they finally saw me win some-

The game was the first national final between the teams ranked time," No. 1 and No. 2 since 1989. But only Connecticut, which also beat Tennessee for the 1995 national title, looked worthy of its ranking.

Tennessee (33-4), playing without starting guard and Philly native Kristen Clement, unraveled early in the face of Connecticut's relentless trapping defense. The Lady Vols committed 26 turnovers, and when they did get a shot, they usually missed badly or had it blocked.

Connecticut blocked 11 shots in all, including nine by Kelly Tennessee made just 5-of-27 firsthalf shots and finished at 31.4 per- defender on the perimeter."

"They got all the turnovers, they got all the hustle plays and they converted them basically every Tennessee's Tamika Catchings said.

Clement, valuable because of her leadership and experience, sprained her right ankle when she stepped on teammate Michelle Snow's foot at the morning shootaround.

Trainers treated the ankle all day, but when she entered the arena on crutches and then limped noticeably onto the court before the game, it was clear the Lady Vols would have to try to win their seventh NCAA title without her.

"We've relied greatly on Ace Schumacher, a Final Four record. Clement," coach Pat Summitt said. "She's been our best

Gators, Spartans are ready to run

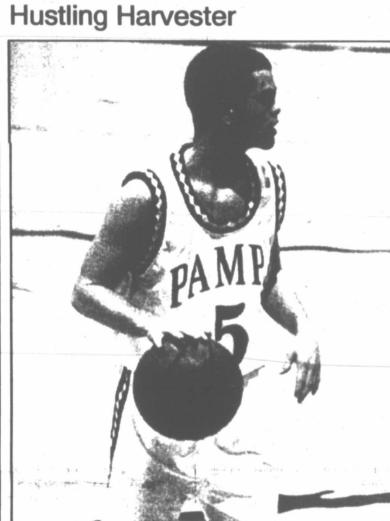
INDIANAPOLIS (AP) Michigan State is ready to run. Florida never stopped.

They meet at warp speed tonight in the NCAA championship game, with the Spartans hoping to rejoin the modern basketball world after a turn-backthe-clock victory over Wisconsin in the semifinals

Rest assured, the Gators will be open to the idea of opening up

things. "When Wisconsin, it's tough," said Michigan State's Method Michigan State's Mateen Cleaves, still wincing at the memory of a 53-41 victory, the lowest-scoring Final Four game since the shot clock was added in 1986. "Hopefully, we can get up and down and play our style of basketball against Florida."

The Gators (29-7) start running as soon as the ball is tossed in the air and don't let up until the horn sounds. There seems to be no method to their style of play, just five guys running around like dogs chasing their tails. Of course, it all makes perfect sense to the man who orchestrates the chaos. "Every team in the country practices their half-court offense," coach Billy Donovan said. "We try to be as disruptive as possible and take teams out of what they practice on a regular basis." Granted, the Spartans (31-7) are most effective in a half-court game, where they can crash the boards and be physical. But Michigan State can get up and down the court, having scored more than 80 points nine times this season.



Signups, tryouts set for baseball, softball

will be conducted at Optimist Park from 5:30 to 7 Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Program co-coordinator Jeff Skinner said the sports are for boys and girls from 5 to 15 years of age.

"Everybody will need to come to the Optimist building to sign up," Skinner explained. "A player can find out at signups whether or not he or she will get the opportunity to try out. If a player was on a team last year and is still within the same age group, he or she will normally stay on that team and will not try out."

Skinner said players in the 5-6 and 7-8 baseball leagues and the 7-9 softball leagues will not need to try out. These players are assigned in a blind draft, he added.

"We recommend that players of all ages bring a light jacket and a glove when trying out," said Mondo Ramirez, the Commissioner of the 9-10 Cal Ripken Baseball League. "It can get a little cool before 7 o'clock rolls around. All players should have their names on

Commissioner of the Babe Ruth League, said 620 players were formed into 14 girls softball teams and 34 boys baseball teams playing

'Almost 30,000 boys and girls have participated in the Optimist baseball and softball programs during the 46 years the Optimist Club has offered these programs," Davis

"We need additional coaches," said Sherri Tice, the Girls' Little League Softball Commissioner, and Richard Stowers, the Commissioner of the 5-6 Beginner league and 7-8 Rookie League. "We hope to find parents interested in working with their children's age groups who will volunteer during signups."

. . . .

Jeff Skinner and John Warner, cocoordinators of Optimist Baseball-Softball 2000, will present a program entitled "The New Draft Rules," to managers, coaches and league offficials tonight, following the regular Optimist 6:30 meeting.

PAMPA — Sign-ups and tryouts their gloves and on their jackets," for Optimist baseball and softball he added. Pampa's James Davis, the State

on six different fields.

Tri-State Rodeo

Tri-State Rodeo at Vernon

Bareback: 1. B.J. Shipp, Wheeler 55

Saddle bronc: 1. Marty Eakin, Amarillo, 71.

Calf roping: 1. Rhett Yoder, Gruver, 11.564; 2. Josh Coy, Wheeler, 12.359; 3. Joshua Onebey, Vernon, 12.946.

Barrel racing: 1. Randus London, Canadian, 17.776; 2. Shandra Jones, Childress, 18.038; 3. Amanda Schumacher, Hereford, 18.135.

Ribbon roping: 1. Tyler Hargrave, Canyon, 5.692; 2. Shane Brooks, Amarillo, 5.873; 3. Josh Coy, Wheeler, 6.958.

bending: Julie Pole -10 Richardson, Wheeler, 21.099; 2. Randus London, Canadian, 21.521; 3. Amanda Schumacher, Hereford, 21.548.

Goat tying: 1. Brianna Brooks, Canadian, 8.918; 2. Jessie Waite, Canadian, 10.245; 3. Julie Richardson, Wheeler, 10.876.

Team roping: 1. Kendrick, Hereford-Jones, Childress, 6.136; 2. McLain-Chad Helmer, Canyon, 8.388; 3. Clinti McCloy, Wheeler-Derrick Elliott, Gruver, 8.403.

Steer wrestling: 1. Dustin Lanham, Amarillo, 5.373; 2. Marty Eakin, Amarillo, 6.353; 3. Bray Armes, Gruver, 6.536.

All-Around Cowboy: Josh Coy, Wheeler, 21 points. All-Around Cowgirl: Randus

London, Canadian, 28 points.

1. 1.

"We like to run, too," coach Tom Izzo said. "I think we have an understanding for that."

(Photo by Jerry Heasley)

Pampa senior Jesse Francis, pictured above in the final game of the season, was the recipient of the 1999-2000 Hustling Harvester award. Francis and his Harvester teammates were honored at the boys' basketball banquet last weekend.

Poor free throw shooting hurts Spurs

might spend a little extra time at Duncan said. the free throw line this week.

Duncan's free throw percentage dropped a point, down to 76 percent, after missing seven free Duncan early and often, forcing throws Sunday night against Miami.

He was 5-for-12 from the line, missing three times in the final two minutes as Miami won 88-84, the Heat's 16th win in their

that exceeds the current collection

period

last 17 home games.

MIAMI (AP) — Tim Duncan was me not making free throws," some nights." That and a huge defensive

effort by the Heat, especially P.J. Brown. Miami double-teamed him to surrender the ball.

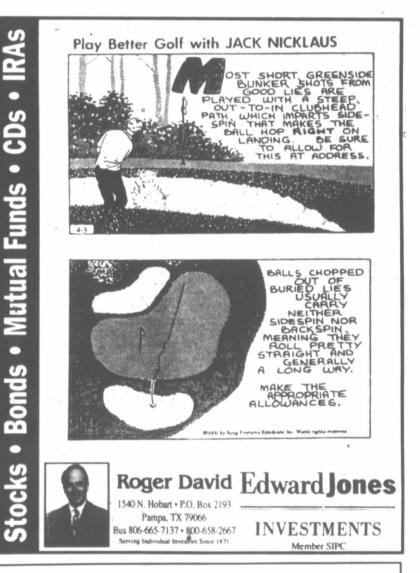
Brown had 13 rebounds and "(Brown) did the best job that he four blocked shots, including one could against Duncan. P.J. on Duncan in the final minutes of the game.

"I just tried to break up his Robinson because if one guy rhythm a little bit," Brown said. doesn't get it, the other guy "When it came down to it, it "I've seen him have some awe- does."

Duncan had scored at least 30

ve games.

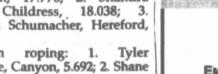
vints in three of his previous "Our defense was about as good as it's been maybe all year," Heat coach Pat Riley said. worked him. It's a very tough matchup with Duncan and





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6 - Monday, April 3, 2000 - THE PAMPA NEWS

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Junior time starts in Cincy

By RONALD BLUM AP Sports Writer

Starting today, the National League is the Junior Circuit.

As in Ken Griffey Jr., who -weather permitting - makes his debut for the Cincinnati Reds.

"My son's skipping school on opening day. It's a tradition," Griffey said. "Cincinnati expects that a lot of kids are not going to be there."

Also today, Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa will have the first faceoff in the Home Run Central. Andres Galarraga, Kerry

Ligtenberg, Moises Alou and Jason Kendall will be back.

And John Rocker, John Smoltz, Curt Schilling, Kerry Wood, Matt thing, because we're the Yankees Williams, Darryl Strawberry and umpire Richie Garcia will be ons, so everybody is gunning for among the missing.

The first full day of baseball in the new century — did those games in Japan last week really count? — is filled with a year's worth of plot lines.

Griffey renewed baseball's buzz in Cincinnati when he forced Seattle to trade him to his hometown team on Feb. 10. With their annual parade, the Reds before the AL began - get the Phillips' Major League Umpires most worked up about opening

day. "I can't wait to see Junior get Hal Morris said Sunday, a day American portion of the baseball season against Milwaukee.

"In '91, there was tremendous excitement because we'd just won the World Series," Morris surpasses that."

Chicago Cubs split a two-game series in Tokyo last week — the Yorkers in a magazine article. America — the other 28 clubs is out for the season with a torn it two years in a row.

were still at spring training.

The rest of the NL schedule has the Cubs at St. Louis, San Diego at the Mets, Colorado at Atlanta, Los Angeles at Montreal, San Francisco at Florida, and Houston at Pittsburgh.

In the AL, the New York Yankees are at Anaheim as they start the quest to become the first team to win three straight World Series since the 1972-74 Oakland Athletics. They'll be missing Darryl Strawberry, again suspended for cocaine use, this time for a year.

"I think there's pressure because we're the Yankees," second baseman Chuck Knoblauch said. "It's a double-barreled and we're the defending champi- to the Pirates after a gruesome us.

In other AL games, the Chicago White Sox are at Texas, Cleveland is at Baltimore, Kansas City at Toronto, Tampa Bay Minnesota, and Detroit at Oakland.

Two openers are scheduled for Tuesday, with Philadelphia at Arizona, and Boston at Seattle.

Fans will see new crews of mixed AL and NL umps. The new who started play in 1869, 31 years union, which replaced Richie Association, agreed to the merger as part of baseball's elimination of separate league offices.

Garcia, perhaps the most recognizable umpire, won't be on the before the Reds open the North field and Frank Pulli won't be, either. They are among 22 umps still trying to regain their jobs, the result of Phillips' failed mass resignation plan.

Rocker also will be missing, said. "I think this matches if not serving a two-week suspension an arbitrator cut it from four While the New York Mets and weeks — for disparaging gays, hicago Cubs split a two-game foreigners, minorities and New first season opener outside North Smoltz, his Atlanta teammate, confidence is there when you do

elbow ligament, but Ligtenberg, the Braves' closer in 1998, has returned from ligament-replacement surgery.

Kerry Wood, the NL Rookie of the Year for the Cubs in 1998, is still rehabbing from the same Schilling, injury, and . Philadelphia's ace, is working his way back from shoulder surgery. Williams, a big reason Arizona won the NL West in only its second season, broke a bone in his foot last week and will miss at least the first month and a half.

C

Galarraga, back from cancer treatment, has reclaimed his firstbase spot in Atlanta, and Alou is back with Houston following a knee injury that caused him to miss all of 1999. Kendall returned ankle injury last July 4.

Managers making debuts with new teams today are Mike Hargrove (Baltimore), Charlie Manuel (Cleveland), Davey at Lopes (Milwaukee), Mike Scioscia (Anaheim), Buddy Bell (Colorado) and Phil Garner (Detroit). Don Baylor made his with the Cubs in Tokyo last week.

Baseball's focus, at least for the start, will be on the NL Central, dubbed the Home Run Central. Can Griffey, McGwire and Sosa combine to top 180 homers?

"The focus on McGwire and Sosa comes from the media as much as the fans," Cardinals manager Tony La Russa said. "I don't think there's anything wrong with that part of the game getting a lot of attention, as long as the teams are, too."

And, as always, owner George Steinbrenner will keep pressure on the Yankees.

"The pressure's always there; it's part of what we do," Yankees manager Joe Torre said. "Relaxation won't happen, but

was only the sixth it yielded in

Nelson got his bogey there.

On the fifth extra hole, Watson

ade an extraordinary chip out

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San Diego San Francisco Monday's Ga Milwaukee (Woodard 11-8) at Cincinnati (Harnisch 16-10), 1:05

p.m. San Diego (Hitchcock 12-14) at New York Mets (Leiter 13-12), 1:10

Colorado (Astacio 17-11) at Atlanta (Maddux 19-9), 4:05 p.m. Chicago Cubs (Tapani 8-12) at St. Louis (Kile 8-13), 4:10 p.m. Los Angeles (Brown 18-9) at Montreal (Hermanson 9-14), 7:05 p.m. San Francisco (Hernandez 8-12) at Florida (Fernandez 7-8), 7:05

p.m. Houston (Reynolds 16-14) at Pittsburgh (Schmidt 13-11), 7:05 p.m. Only games scheduled

Tuesday's Games

Tuesday's Games Los Angeles (Park 13-11) at Montreal (Irabu 11-7), 7:05 p.m. San Francisco (Ortiz 18-9) at Florida (Dempster 7-8), 7:05 p.m. Colorado (Arrojo 7-12) at Atlanta (Giavine 14-11), 7:40 p.m. Philadelphia (Ashby 14-10) at Arizona (Johnson 17-9), 10:05 p.m. Only games scheduled Wednesday's Games

Los Angeles at Montreal, 7:05 p.m. San Francisco at Florida, 7:05 p.m. Houston at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m. Milwaukee at Cincinnati, 7:05 p.m. San Diego at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m. Colorado at Atlanta, 7:40 p.m. Chicago Cubs at St. Louis, 8:10 p.m Philadelphia at Arizona, 9:35 p.m.

American League At A Glanc **By The Associated Press** All Times EDT **East Division**

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Monday's Games Chicago White Sox (Sirotka 11-13) at Texas (Rogers 5-1), 3:05 p.m. Cleveland (Colon 18-5) at Baltimore (Mussina 18-7), 3:05 p.m. Kansas City (Suppan 10-12) at Toronto (Wells 17-10), 4:05 p.m. Tampa Bay (Trachsel 8-18) at Minnesota (Radke 12-14), 8:05 p.m. Detroit (Nomo 12-8) at Oakland (Appler 16-14), 10:05 p.m. N.Y. Yankees (Hernandez 17-9) at Anaheim (Hill 4-11), 10:35 p.m.

Only games scheduled Tuesday's Games

Kansas City (Witasick 9-12) at Toronto (Halladay 8-7), 7:05 p.m. Boston (P.Martinez 23-4) at Seattle (Moyer 14-8), 8:05 p.m. Chicago White Sox (Baldwin 12-13) at Texas (Heiling 13-11), 8:05 p.m.

ampa Bay (Rupe 8-9) at Minnesota (Milton 7-11), 8:05 p.m.

Tuesday's Games , Jersey at Washington, 7 p.m. Detroit at Toronto, 8 p.m. eveland vs. Miami, 7:30 p.m. oston at Chartotte, 7:30 p.m. San Antonio at Orlando, 7:30 p.m. San Antonio at Criando, 7:30 p.m. Chicago at Milwaukee, 8 p.m. Atlanta at Milmesota, 8 p.m. Sacramento at Dallas, 8:30 p.m. Deriver at Seattle, 10 p.m. LA Lakers at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m. Utah at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m. Houston at Vancouver, 10:30 p.m. str fal

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TRANSACTIONS

kend Sports Transactions By The Ase BASEBALL

American League ANAHEIM ANGELS—Purchased the contracts of INF Benji Gil and LHP Kent Mercker. Released RHP Tom Candiotti. BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Reassigned OF Wayne Kirby and OF Derrick May to Rochester of the International League. Placed C Greg Myers on the 15-day disabled list. Purchased the contract of C Willie

Morales. Assigned RHP. Rich Negrette outright to Rochester. CHICAGO WHITE SOX-Optioned RHP Chad Bradlord to Charlotte of the International League. Purchased the contract of RHP Kelly Wunsch from Charlotte.

Wunsch from Charlotte. CLEVELAND INDIANS—Optioned INF Russell Branyan and INF John McDonald to Buffalo of the International League. Reassigned OF Mark Whiten, C Jesse Levis and LHP Mark Watson to their minor-league camp. Signed RHP Scott Sanders to a minor-league contrac

KANSAS CITY ROYALS-Reassigned C Jorge Fabregas to their minor-league camp. MINNESOTA TWINS—Purchased the contracts of OF Butch Huskey

INF Jason Maxwell, C Marcus Jensen and C Matt LeCroy. Placed LHP J.C. Romero on the 15-day disabled list, retroactive to March

25. NEW YORK YÁNKEES—Designated RHP Mike Buddle for assignment. Released OF Ryan Thompson and INF Jason Bates. Placed 1B Nick Johnson, LHP Ted Lilly and RHP Luis De Los Santos on the 15-day disabled list. Purchased the contracts of OF Roberto Kelly and OF Lance Johnson from Columbus of the International League. Optioned RHP Darrell Einerston to Columbus. Assigned OF Felix Jose, INF Joha Zuber and C Chris Turner to Columbus. Assigned RHP Domingo Jean to Norwich of the Eastern League. OAKI AND ATHLETICS—Optioned CA_L Hinch and OF Terrence.

HHP Domingo Jean to Norwich of the Eastern League. OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Optioned C A.J. Hinch and OF Terrence Long to Sacramento of the PCL. Designated OF Bo Porter for assignment. Placed RHP Doug Jones on the 15-day disabled list retroactive to March 24. Placed INF Randy Velarde on the 15-day disabled list. Purchased the contracts of C Sal Fasano and RHP Jeff Tam from Sacramento. Sent RHP Kevin Gregg outright to Midland of the Tevas Learvie the Texas League. SEATTLE MARINERS—Placed C Tom Lampkin on the 15-day dis-

abled list, retroactive to March 25. Purchased the contract of C Joe Oliver. Designated OF Anthony Sanders for assignment. Optioned RHP Brett Tomko, RHP Kevin Hodges and INF Carlos Hernandez to Tacoma of the PCL. Assigned RHP Todd Williams outright to Tacoma

Tacoma. TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—Placed 3B Vinny Castilla on the 15-day disabled list, retroactive to March 25, and OF Jose Guillen on the 15-day disabled list, retroactive to March 28. Reassigned C Pat Borders to their minor-league camp. Recalled RHP Dave Eiland from Durham of the International League. TEXAS RANGERS—Placed LHP Justin Thompson on the 15-day disabled list, retroactive to March 25.

disabled list, retroactive to March 25. TORONTO BLUE JAYS-Optioned LHP Clayton Andrews to

Syracuse of the International League. Purchased the contract of RHP Frank Castillo. Agreed to terms with LHP Pedro Borbon on a two-year contract extension.

National League ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Placed RHP Matt Mantei on the 15-

day disabled list. , ATLANTA BRAVES—Optioned RHP Ismael Villegas and OF George ATLANTA BRAVES—Optioned HHP Ismael Villegas and OF George Lombard to Richmond of the International League, and RHP Jason Marquis to Greenville of the Southern League. Reassigned 1B-OF Brian Hunter, INF Steve Sisco, C Jeff Horn and C Toby Rumfield to Richmond. Placed RHP Rudy Seanez, RHP David Cortes, LHP Odalis Perez and RHP John Smoltz on the 15-day disabled list. Purchased the contracts of RHP Greg McMichael, OF Trenidad Hudbard and OE Rothy Booille.

Hubbard and OF Bobby Bonilla. CINCINNATI REDS—Placed 1B Sean Casey on the 15-day disabled list. Recalled 1B D.T. Cromer from Louisville of the International

COLORADO ROCKIES—Placed RHP Jerry Dipoto on the 15-day disabled list, retroactive to March 25. Optioned OF Angel Echevarria

to Colorado Springs of the PCL. FLORIDA MARLINS—Placed INF David Berg, RHP Brian Edmondson and LHP Michael Tejera on the 15-day disabled list. Purchased the contracts of INF Chds Clapinald and C Sandy

LOS ANGELES DODGERS-Traded INF Juan Castro to the

Cincinnati Reds for a player to be named. MONTREAL EXPOS—Agreed to terms with LHP Steve Kline on a

three-year contract. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—Placed RHP Jeff Brantley, RHP Curt

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—Placed HIP Jet Branney, HIP Carlos Schilling, RHP Carlos Reyes and RHP Jason Boyd on the 15-day disabled list. Sent C Fausto Tejero to their minor-league camp. Purchased the contract of RHP Kirk Bullinger from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre of the International League. Optioned INF Marton Anderson to Scranton. Sent INF Tomas Perez to Reading of the Eastern League.

HOUSTON ASTROS-Placed OF Matt Mieske on the 15-day dis abled list, retroactive to March 28

Kite beats Watson in playoff

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) -Tom Watson turned 50 last Sept. 4, and by the end of 1999 Lanny Wadkins and Tom Kite also came of PGA Senior a

The Tradition

Countrywide, but not because of the loss to his friend

The infusion of new blood into the players themselves.

Kite showed why on Sunday, beating Watson in a monumental, six-hole playoff to get his first senior win in the Tradition, the tour s mest major.

prime did not really coincide," Kite said. "Lanny was the best early on. He had his really good years in the '70s. Tom came in in John Jacobs was alone at 286. the late 70s and started winning and won throughout the '80s, and I really didn't hit stride until the '80s and early '90s. So even though we're contemporaries, we haven't had that many opportunities to go head-to-head.

Kite ended the 24-hole Course. The stroke average there birdie putt after Watson nearly birdied with a chip from behind the green.

Larry Nelson also finished regulation at 8-under-par 280, but missed his chance to win when 18th green. Then he bogeyed the second playoff hole, leaving Kite and Watson to duel it out.

Classic and fourth-longest in tour field history.

is in trouble, but certainly if that show out there today doesn't help, then it can't be helped," Kite said. "I mean, that was just an incredible exhibition."

Watson shot a 4-under 68 to make the playoff, Nelson fired a 69 and Kite, struggling with his putting, had a 72. He had two chances to win earlier when putts of veterans Jeff Burton, Bobby headed for the heart of the cup stopped short - on No. 18, and on the fifth playoff hole.

The victory closed a gap for Kite, who won the 1992 U.S. Open and 18 other titles on the regular tour. He was the only one of the celebrated rookie trio who hadn't won.

He also had seen only modest financial success, with one top-10 finish. But the \$240,000 first prize sent Kite's earnings to \$311,426, enough to jump from 49th to sixth on the money list.

Watson won the second of two events he entered last season, and Wadkins won in Naples, Fla., on Feb. 13, beating Watson and two others in a playoff.

Tradition, sponsored

"I'm pretty happy about the of a sandy natural area to within a tour where Arnold Palmer, Jack way I played," the five-time 7 feet. Nicklaus and Lee Trevino no British Open champion said, longer ruled was eagerly antici- looking ahead to the Masters, pated — not only by fans, but by which he won in 1977 and 1981. "I am not happy about the way I Watson had won, but Watson putted when I had to make some- two-putted as well. thing. My long game is pretty good, but my putting is going to have to be better."

pruce rieisner was' tourth at from next to the cup. it stopped a "The time that we hit our 282, and Joe Inman followed at foot away. **283**.

were four shots off the pace, and

The group of six at 287 included Nicklaus, who closed with a 67

The playoff was conducted on the par-5 18th hole and the par-3 right, it could have gone in. I 17th, a 194-yard puzzler that is scared him a little bit," Watson the toughest hole on the Cochise said.

endurance test with a 1-foot was 3.38, and Kite's final birdie Kite sank his birdie putt.

Kite then rolled his 30-foot first

four days.

putt within six inches of the cup only to see it stop. He thought On the last hole, Watson

bounced his tee shot over the green, while Kite dropped a 6-

That lets me know what I Gary McCord and Andy North have to do," Watson joked with the crowd. Then he nearly did it, lofting a high, 30-foot chip that bounced once and hit the flagstick, rolling 2 feet to the side as the gallery erupted in applause.

"If it had caught the pin just

Watson putted out for par, and

Only the caution flags slow down Earnhardt missed his chance to win when he two-putted from 5 feet on the Jr.'s first racing victory

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) - Earnhardt's first victory came on Only the caution flags kept Dale The playoff was the longest Earnhardt Jr. from completely runsince the 1997 Pittsburgh Senior Ining away from the DirecTV 500

After twice seeing long leads "I don't see that the Senior tour erased by yellow flags, Earnhardt Cup race. I knew the kid could do emerged from the restart of the record 12th and final caution period at Texas Motor Speedway still in front. With no more stops, the 25-year-old rookie cruised to his first Winston Cup victory by a nearly six-second margin Sunday.

> Little E finished directly ahead Labonte and Rusty Wallace. His famous father, a fearsome 75-time Winston winner known as The Intimidator, was 19 seconds behind in seventh place.

"I couldn't believe our car was that good, but it was," Earnhardt said. "I didn't have to do a whole lot. I'd point and shoot and that thing ran. We didn't really change nothing to our car, but I thought the typical guys who run up front would be a little faster than us."

Earnhardt became the secondfastest to a Winston Cup win, needing only 12 starts to get into the winner's circle, one more than Ron Bouchard did in 1981.

It took Dale Earnhardt, a proud father and happy team owner Watson was downcast after the Sunday, 16 races before he won changes among 17 drivers - both by behind the wheel. The senior race records.

the same weekend 21 years ago.

"I'll tell you, he's something else," the father said. "He was talking about coming to Texas and winning his first Winston it. This kid has worked hard, had a good car and drove a good race.'

Earnhardt Jr., a two-time Busch Series champion, got the first of his 13 victories on the junior circuit at the same track in 1998. His best previous Winston Cup finish had been 10th.

He dominated the 334-lap event at Texas in his No. 8 Budweiser Chevrolet, leading six times for a race-high total of 106 laps. The \$374,675 winner's share was the largest of his life.

Even after the yellow flags made it closer, the younger Earnhardt still broke from the pack to cross the finish line 5.920 seconds - nearly a full straightway - ahead of Jeff Burton.

Burton, the winner of the inaugural Texas race in 1997, passed Labonte for second place with 16 laps left. Labonte, the Winston Cup points leader, was followed by Wallace, Kevin Lepage and Jeremy Mayfield.

Although Junior was dominant in the end, there were 29 lead

Detroit (Nitkowski 4-5) at Oakland (Hudson 11-2), 10:05 p.m N.Y. Yankees (Clemens 14-10) at Anaheim (Bottenfield (18-7), 10:05 p.m.

Only games scheduled Wednesday's Games Chicago White Sox at Texas, 3:05 p.m. Detroit at Oakland, 3:35 p.m. Kansas City at Toronto, 7:05 p.m. Cleveland at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m. Tampa Bay at Minnesota, 8:05 p.m. Boston at Seattle, 10:05 p.m. N.Y. Yankees at Anaheim, 10:05 p.m.

PRO BASKETBALL

National Baske thall Association By The Associated Press All Times EDT

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division				
11 A. 1 I.	w	L	Pct	GB
x-Miami	46	26	.639	
x-New York	45	28	.616	1 1/2
Philadelphia	42	31	.575	4 1/2
Orlando	37	36	.507	9.1/2
New Jersey	31	42	.425	15 1/2
Boston	30	43	.411	16 1/2
Washington	26	47	.356	20 1/2
Central Division				
x-Indiana	, 49	24	.671	_
Charlotte	41	31	.569	7 1/2
Toronto	40	33	.548	9
Detroit	37	35	.514	11 1/2
Milwaukee	35	38	.479	14
Cleveland	29	44	.397	20
Atlanta	26	46	.361	22 1/2
Chicago WESTERN CONF	15	58	.205	34
Midwest Division	ERENCE			
WIGWEST DIVISION	w		Det	0.0
x-Utah	49	23	Pct .681	GB
x-San Antonio	47	26	.644	2 1/2
x-Minnesota	44	29	.603	5 1/2
Dallas	32	41	.438	17 1/2
Denver	30	43	.411	19 1/2
Houston	28	45	.384	21 1/2
Vancouver	19	53	.264	30
Pacific Division				
x-L.A. Lakers	62	12	.838	_
x-Portland	54	19	.740	7 1/2
x-Phoenix	48	25	.658	13 1/2
x-Sacramento	42	30	.583	19
x-Seattle	41	32	.562	20 1/2
Golden State	17	57	.230	45
L.A. Clippers	14	59	.192	47 1/2
	x-clincl	ned playof	f berth	
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Cleveland 109, Boston 103 Houston 115, Atlanta 93 Charlotte 90, Chicago 87 Denver 112, Utah 92 Portland 113, Milwaukee 79 Sunday's Games Detroit 113, New Jersey 92 Phoenix 87, Minnesota 86 Indiana 104, Toronto 83 Sacramento 117, Philadelphia 95 L.A. Lakers 106, New York 82 Miami 88, San Antonio 84 Chicago 83, Cleveland 74 Dallas 100, Vancouver 86

Portland 95, Seattle 82 Milwaukee 117, Golden State 113

Monday's Games No Games Scheduled

Scranton. Sent INF Tomas Perez to Reading of the Eastern League. Designated INF Felix Martinez for assignment. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Optioned RHP Alan Benes, 18-OF Larry Sutton and RHP Gene Stechshulte to Memphis of the PCL. Sent INF-OF Eduardo Perez, RHP Mike James, C Rick Wilkins and C Henry Mercedes to Memphis. Assigned LHP Mike Matthews outright to Memphis. Placed RHP Matt Morris and LHP Scott Radinsky on the 15-day disabled list. 15-day disabled list. SAN DIEGO PADRES-Reassigned RHP Viscenet Palacios and INF John Roskos to Las Vegas of the PCL. Placed OF Kory DeHaan on the 15-day disabled list. Recalled INF David Newhan from Las Vegas of the PCL. Purchased the contract of 3B Ed Sprague. SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS-Sent INF Jay Canizaro outright to Fresno of the PCL. BASKETBALL **National Bask** all Association SAN ANTONIO SPURS—Placed G Derrick Dial on the injured list. Activated G Terry Porter from the injured list. FOOTBALL National Football League OAKLAND RAIDERS-Released DT Russell Maryland.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League CALGARY FLAMES—Recalled F Benoit Gratton from St. John of the

NEW YORK RANGERS-Suspended D Stephane Quintal for the final four games of the season for conduct detrimental to the tea

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

CONNECTICUTT 71, TENNESSEE 52 Women's Championship, Box

TENNESSEE (33-4)

Randall 1-11 4-6 6, Catchings 4-6 5-10 16, Snow 2-9 1-2,5, Elzy 3-5 2-2 8, Lawson 3-13 0-0 6, McDivitt 1-2 2-2 5, Jackson 2-4 0-0 4, Pillow 0-1 2-2 2, Butts 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 16-51 16-24 52.

CONNECTICUT (36-1) Abrosimova 5-9 3-4 14, Cash 4-8 1-2 9, Schumacher 3-4 0-0 6, Bird 2-8 0-0 4, Ralph 7-8 1-2 15, Williams 3-4 0-0 6, Jones 5-14 2-3 12, Johnson 1-3 1-2 3, Hansmeyer 0-1 0-2 0, Sauer 1-1 0-0 2, Czel 0-0 0-0 0, Rigby 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 31-61 8-15 71.

Tennessee 4-7 (Catchings 3-3, McDivitt 1-2, Lawson 0-2), Connecticut 1-9 (Abrosimova 1-3, Hansmeyer 0-1, Johnson 0-2, Bird 0-3). Fouled out-None. Rebounds-Tennessee 39 (Randall 8), Connecticut 34 (Jones 8). Assists-Tennessee 6 (Lawson 3), Connecticut 21 (Ralph 7). Total fouls-Tennessee 17, Connecticut 20. A-20,060.

NCAA Basketball Tournament At A Glance By The Associated Press All Times EDT THE FINAL FOUR At The RCA Dome Indianapolis National Semifinais Saturday, April 1 Michigan State 53, Wisconsin 41 Florida 71, North Carolina 59 tional Champions Monday, April 3 Michigan State (31-7) vs. Florida (29-7), 9:18 p.m.

Stars drop overtime contest to Avalanche

Podein, the Colorado Avalanche moved closer to clinching theirs.

Podein stole the puck from goalie Ed Belfour behind the net and scored a short-handed goal with 47 seconds left in overtime, lifting the Avalanche to a 3-2 victory over the Stars on Sunday.

Colorado, posting its fifth straight victory, extended its lead over Edmonton to six points in the Northwest Division, nearly

DENVER (AP) - The Dallas securing the division title. Stars have already clinched a Colorado has three games division title. Thanks to Shjon remaining and Edmonton four. "This was a huge game for us

since Edmonton won (Saturday) night," Avalanche coach Bob Hartley said. "This keeps us six points ahead of them."

Added defenseman Ray Bourque, who scored a first-period goal, "We're running out of games, so if we just keep winning we'll take care of business." roamed far from the crease, con- close to goalies."

trolling the puck from near the right corner to behind the net. Podein, approaching from the right side, stole the puck and tucked it between Belfour and defenseman Darryl Sydor just left of the goal — only the second short-handed goal for the Avalanche this season.

"Podein's goal was a matter of pressure, of going to the goalie and forcing him to move the puck," Hartley said. "Too often Late in overtime, Belfour players don't want to get too

THE PAMPA NEWS - Monday, April 3, 2000 - 7

Internet romance grows into federal kidnappin

NEW YORK (AP) - It was the summer of 1997. man in his 20s. Gangandeep Bakshi was a Queens teen-ager whose strict Sikh family was apparently unaware she was falling in love over the Internet with a man outside her religion.

Two years later, at age 18, Bakshi ran off to Houston to live with the man. What happened next has become the focus of an unusual federal kidnapping case

The FBI arrested Bakshi's parents, Agyapal and Kamla Singh, and her two older sisters last week at their New York home after they were indicted in Texas. The 55-year-old father was ordered jailed until a scheduled arraignment as a threat to his daughter.

The indictment charges the four family members brutally abducted Bakshi last August from her Hindu lover's Houston apartment - at one point "beating her into submission" - because they objected to the romance. The victim also claims her father drugged her and threatened to "cut her to pieces.'

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Even though Bakshi quickly fled her family again, married the man and moved out of Houston, Bakshi has told investigators that her father has been using connections in Indian enclaves in Texas and elsewhere to locate and harass her. The FBI says fear has driven the couple into hiding.

Defense attorneys vigorously deny the allegations, insisting Singh is a respected member of the Queens Sikh community. They accuse prosecutors of turning a simple family dispute into a full-blown federal case, and portrayed Bakshi's husband as someone who took advantage of a naive teen-ager in cyberspace.

"If it hadn't been for the marvel of computers, none of us might be here right now," one attorney, Rafael Abramovitz, said during a hearing in Brooklyn federal court last week attended by several of Singh's Sikh supporters.

But Assistant U.S. Attorney Christina Dugger argued that Singh was a threat.

This isn't a case about some internet Lothario who seduced a girl," Dugger said. "This is about a man who's been indicted in Texas for a violent crime."

After the hearing, another defense attorney, William Watanabe, declined to offer more information about Singh.

Court papers do not name Bakshi's husband. Authorities would only describe him as a Hindu

According to statements Bakshi made to the FBI, the trouble began when she used an airline ticket provided by her then-boyfriend to join him in Houston. The pair had secretly seen each other for the first time in New York City before that.

On Aug. 24, after learning Bakshi was gone, Singh, his wife and two daughters, ages 24 and 29, set out from Queens in rented van to find her. At about 5:30 a.m. on Aug. 24, the victim was awakened by a knock at the door.

ing for work told the FBI he heard screaming, then phone, the police arranged for her to spend the

saw a turbaned man "ball his fist, cock back and night in a shelter. She was on a plane back to punch this girl in the stomach," FBI agent Eric Houston the next day. ohnson testified.

Bakshi told the FBI that while en route back to New York, her parents punched and slapped her for an hour. She also claimed her father forced her to drink a substance that made her pass out.

Along the way, the victim alleged, her father put a knife to her chest, "telling her that he would cut her to pieces if she returned to Houston," court papers said.

Authorities allege Singh lured his daughter out-side and dragged her into the van. A neighbor leav-returned to Queens. After she called 911 from a pay

The victim claims that over the next several months the couple moved from city to city --- and even state to state - to escape her father's threats. In one instance, Singh allegedly tried to turn in the husband, an illegal immigrant, to immigration authorities.

The daughter finally responded by reporting her alleged abduction to the FBI. Agents launched an investigation leading to the arrests.

Magistrate Cheryl Pollak, in denying bail for Singh, said she was convinced that Bakshi is "in serious danger from her father."

prah, queen of the airwaves, moves to print

NEW YORK (AP) - Oprah Winfrey knew she 850,000 but was recently pushed up to 1 million, had a problem when a woman who was interviewing to be the editor of her new magazine asked the following question: "I would like to know, who will be the queen?"

Obviously, that particular candidate didn't get the job.

. There is little question that Winfrey, from her perch in Chicago, is the reigning monarch of her latest media venture — a new magazine that bears her nickname, "O."

Due out on newsstands April 19, O is intended to bring Winfrey's message of self-determination and empowerment for women, already widely disseminated over the airwaves, into a magazine format.

She did eventually find an editor in Ellen Kunes who, Winfrey says, "has done a good job of not having her ego get in the way with someone like me, who has such a big mouth."

Making sure the point isn't lost, she emphasizes: "I won't shut up. I WON'T SHUT UP! That's on the record."

In order to morph the Oprah phenomenon into the printed word, Winfrey partnered with Hearst, the publisher of major women's magazines such as Cosmopolitan and Marie Claire. Hearst is accustomed to working with partners, putting out SmartMoney with Dow Jones and Talk with the Miramax film studio.

O will be slightly oversize, about the shape of Martha Stewart Living, said publisher Alyce Alston. The initial print run was planned for

making it an aggressive launch.

The magazine will be bimonthly for two issues, then monthly beginning in September.

For Winfrey, who will be the magazine's editorial director and also will write occasional articles, the transition from television to print has been the hardest thing she's done since first going on TV in 1973. Long lead times, working without a camera, and relying on a tape recorder in interviews were ers need to know it's her voice that's guiding the all new experiences.

Coordinating with an editorial staff in New York also has been a logistical challenge, requiring daily FedEx deliveries, frequent e-mails and downloading of images. "I didn't know the computer until last fall," Winfrey said. "Now I don't know how I lived without it.

On the other end of the line in New York, editor Kunes says she has no illusions about who is leading the magazine. "This is her magazine, and readeditorial."

Julia Roberts rules at the box office

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It's tough to make \$6.4 million. inroads against Julia Roberts at the box office.

'The Road to El Dorado" sure couldn't. Despite heavy marketing and wide distribution, the animated movie was No. 2 behind Roberts' "Erin Brockovich," which was the top draw at North American theaters for a third straight weekend, according to industry estimates Sunday.

"Erin Brockovich" took in \$14.2 million, pushing its total gross to \$76.2 million in just 17 days. "The Road to El Dorado" had \$12.5 million.

"The Skulls," a campus thriller about a workingclass stiff who joins an Ivy League secret society, overcame bad reviews to debut at No. 3 with \$11.4 million

"High Fidelity," a romantic comedy starring John Cusack as the owner of a vinyl record shop trying to sort out his love life, premiered in fifth place with

The weekend's other new movie, Jimmy Smits' boxing picture "Price of Glory," bombed with just \$1.5 million, finishing well dut of the top 10. Final figures were to be released today.

'The Road to El Dorado," featuring the voices of Kevin Kline, Kenneth Branagh and Rosie Perez, was the latest cartoon epic from DreamWorks, which has been trying to challenge Disney's dominance in animation.

DreamWorks has had modest success with two previous animated pictures, "The Prince of Egypt" and "Antz." But its animated movies have failed to rival Disney's typical cartoon returns.

'The Road to El Dorado" is about two 16th century fortune-hunters searching for a lost city of gold. It played in 3,218 theaters, 315 more than "Erin Brockovich."



Danny Cowan

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8 - Monday, April 3, 2000 - THE PAMPA NEWS

20 North March (C.C.) A Ca



With vast surveys of tumor genes, scientists hope for better treatment

By MALCOLM RITTER AP Science Writer

Imagine a few white islands littered with blue-stained boulders and surrounded by a pastel pink sea. Still more boulders cluster in the water.

"Very bad," Dr. Carlos Cordon-Cardo says softly as he contemplates this scene in his microscope. "Very bad."

It's prostate cancer. In this tissue sample, the boulders are malignant cells that have overwhelmed the prostate's glands and broken into the surrounding tissue. There they have gathered escape routes to the rest of the cancer care: body.

For more than 100 years, scenes new targets for therapy; ike this have been the face of can- ----Scientists could test new like this have been the face of cansome other tests, to diagnose the type of cancer a patient has and how severe it is. That in turn guides the choice of treatment.

tumors that look the same can type behave differently. A treatment that cures one cancer can fail against its apparent twin.

into cancers, to the very essence of malignancy — the genes.

lyzing thousands of genes at once, looking for patterns of activity that will betray the deepest secrets of a patient's cancer.

standing on 56th Street in Manhattan and being in a helicopter flying above Manhattan," said Dr. Sridhar Ramaswamy, a physician and scientist pursuing thousands of genes. the work. "You get a whole different perspective on what's going works, is the Whitehead on in a tumor."

f course, researchers have examined individual genes in cancer for years. But now they've begun a much bolder effort: analyzing thousands of genes at once, looking for patterns of activity that will betray the deepest secrets of a patient's cancer.

If this research pays off, scientists and doctors will see a new, more informative face of cancer for individual tumors. That could at nerves and blood vessels, produce tremendous gains in

-The knowledge could reveal

cer. Doctors use them, along with treatments against a truly uniform sample of tumors rather than a mishmash of similar-seeming tumors. So it would be easier to recognize a treatment that's But this face can deceive. Two effective for one particular sub-

-Doctors could better match patients to the best treatment. That could improve the outcome So scientists are probing deeper and spare patients the side effects of therapies that won't help.

We will learn how to specifi-Of course, researchers have cally treat breast cancer in Miss examined individual genes in Smith," says Cordon-Cardo, of cancer for years. But now they've the Memorial Sloan-Kettering begun a much bolder effort: ana- Cancer Center in New York. "This is the beginning of a new momentum in cancer."

The gene-survey effort is still in its infancy, and it's too soon to "It's the difference between know what it will mean for patients. But labs around the country are examining a variety of cancers, eavesdropping on the whispered instructions from

One lab, where Ramaswamy Institute/Massachusetts Institute

of Technology Center for Genome Research in Cambridge, Mass. Computer screens there show the result of surveying 6,800 genes. It looks like a mess - rows of broken, densely packed white lines on a black background - but a computer can make sense of it.

Remarkably, the technological heart of this mass survey is quite small: glass slides little bigger than a thumbnail. They're called DNA chips or microarrays. Each one carries row upon row of DNA fragments, which act as specialized hooks to grab messages from particular genes.

Here's how it works: When a gene is active, it sends out chemical strings called RNA. Each RNA carries a particular sequence of building blocks that tells what gene it came from. When scientists extract RNA strings from a tumor, modify them slightly and slosh them over a DNA chip, each string grabs onto a DNA segment that's designed to attract it.

So by detecting how many strings end up at each site on the chip, lab instruments can tell how active the corresponding gene had been in the tumor. Lots of strings means a very active gene. No strings at a particular site means the corresponding gene had been turned off.

What good does this do? Consider a report in February

from scientists who surveyed 18,000 genes in tumors from one kind of lymphoma. They found two distinct patterns of activity. Patients whose tumors showed one pattern had a much better prognosis than patients with the other pattern.

The scientists' conclusion: What everybody thought was one disease is, in fact, two.

Late last year, other scientists showed that genetic activity patterns could distinguish two kinds of leukemia, acute myeloid and acute lymphoblastic. Doctors could do that already, but the report showed that such "expression profiling" really can, on its own, reveal fundamental differences in cancers.

Those scientists monitored the activity of nearly 7,000 genes. There's good reason to cast a wide net.

"We're just not smart enough to know which of the genes are likely to be important," said Todd Golub, who led the study at the Whitehead-MIT lab. "So we should let the biology and the genetics speak for itself."

His study found that just 10 genes were enough to distinguish the two kinds of leukemia, but it's not clear yet whether focusing on fewer genes rather than thousands will give any advantage. After all, Golub noted, this isn't "Name That Tune."

About the time his study was finished, he and colleagues came across another illustration of what this new face of cancer can reveal.

A doctor at a nearby hospital had diagnosed a boy with acute mveloid leukemia, though the cancerous cells looked odd under a microscope, and began treatment accordingly.

Because of the uncertainty, Golub and colleagues surveyed genes in the cancerous cells to see if they could confirm the diagnosis.

The verdict: It wasn't AML after all. Nor was it ALL, the

Herbal remedies need much more research, researchers say

535

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) - Herbal remedies generally are safe, but at least one can cause severe liver damage - evidence that much more research into the popular products is needed, scientists at an international conference.

The scientists counseled prudence in using herbal medicines because so little is known about them. Nearly a third of the adult U.S. population spends \$4 billion a year on herbs, which are sold as food rather than regulated drugs.

"Is it a waste of money? Is it dangerous? We don't have enough data to know," said Lenore Arab, professor of epidemiology and nutrition at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, which sponsored the conference.

One of the herbs discussed at the meeting was comfrey, a rootderived remedy that is widely available in the United States and is taken for its purported anti-inflammatory and antibacterial properties

Felix Stickel of the University of Erlangen and Salem Medical Center in Heidelberg, Germany, said the herb should be restricted as it is in Germany and Canada.

Not only are the effects of comfrey unproven in limited clinical studies, it appears to destroy small veins in the liver and can result in abdominal pain, liver enlargement and liver failure, Stickel said. "It is difficult to understand why comfrey ... is still freely available in the United States," Stickel said.

Other speakers at the conference said many other herbal remedies appear no more dangerous than aspirin, but far less understood.

"We need to convince the producers to put some money into research on these products," said Varro Tyler, an herbal medicine expert at Purdue University.

Speakers covered the most popular remedies: St. John's wort for depression, garlic for cholesterol and anticancer uses, gingko biloba for treating dementia, ginseng as a tonic, saw palmetto for urological problems, echinacea for colds and to enhance the immune system and feverfew to treat migraine headaches.

Tyler said a system should be developed to regulate herbal remedies without the stringent requirements for synthetic drugs enforced by the Food and Drug Administration. The FDA issued new rules in January to liberalize the claims that can be made about herbal remedies, but the conference participants said what herb users need is more information.

"There is absolutely no way that consumers can be assured that what is on the label is actually in the package, other than the reputation of the producer," Tyler said.

Study links beta blockers with risk of diabetes

BOSTON (AP) - A new found no sign that thiazide study confirms that the widely diuretics contribute to diabetes. prescribed blood pressure pills The study also found no link called beta blockers can mod- between diabetes and two other estly increase the risk of diabetes. But the research clears another important variety of hypertension medicines. The study published in a recent issue of the New England Journal of Medicine also found that people with high blood pressure are 2 1/2 times more likely to develop adult-onset diabetes - what doctors call Type 2 or non-insulin-dependent diabetes than are those with normal blood pressure. Like some earlier research, this study found that the risk of diabetes is 28 percent greater among patients who get beta blockers than among those whose high blood pressure is left untreated. However, in contrast to smaller studies, this one

major classes of blood pressure medicines — ACE inhibitors and calcium-channel blockers. The study, involving 12,550 adults ages 45 to 64, was conducted by Dr. Todd Gress and others from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. The doctors said they do not recommend abandoning beta blockers, since these drugs are proven to lower the risk of heart disease. But they said physicians need to monitor their patients carefully for diabetes. The study was financed by the National Institutes of Health and the American Heart Association.

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SI CHIROLD

When Lou Gehrig's widow chose an organization to lead the fight against amyotrophic lateral sclerosis --- the muscle-wasting disease that killed her husband - she selected the Muscular Dystrophy Association

Since the time she served as MDA national campaign chairman, the Association has consistently led the battle against ALS. MDA maintains the world's largest nongovernmental ALS research and patient services program.

Join our rally for a cure. Together, we can enrich the lives of Americans fighting the ravages of ALS today, and save countless lives tomorrow

other disease Golub's study was meant to identify. The pattern of gene activity differed from both leukemias because it showed that muscle-related genes were busy. That suggested the cancer wasn't leukemia at all, but that it arose in muscle.

Sure enough, when a standard analysis of chromosomes from the cancer eventually came back from the lab, it showed an abnormal splicing typical of a muscle tumor. The boy's treatment was changed.

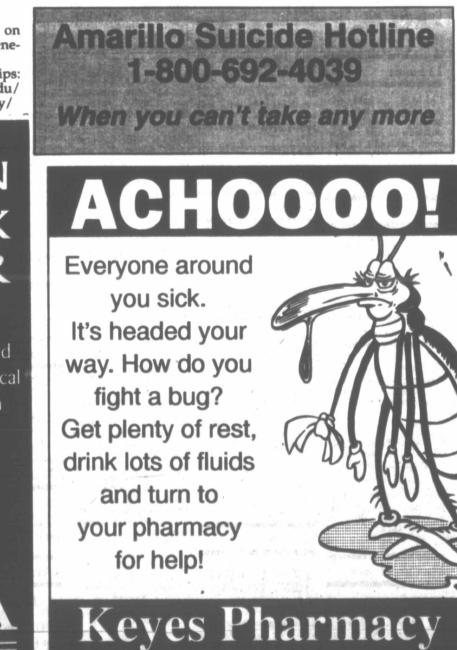
Most cancers can't be diagnosed by such a chromosomal abnormality.

The original diagnosis was a judgment based on the information available at the time. The new gene surveys might someday give doctors a lot more to go on.

On the Net: Information on DNA chips: http://www.genechips.com

One way to use chips: http://www.cs.washington.edu/ homes/jbuhler/research/array/

On the Net: New England Journal of Medicine site: http://www.nejm.org



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