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WEATHER WEATHER

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LOCAL

API meets Thursday
 Panhandle Chapter of the American Petroleum Institute will convene for its monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, March 20, at Pampa Country Club. A Mexican buffet will be served at 7 p.m.

Guest speaker Jeff Boyd, of National Oilwell in Pampa, will discuss new technologies, universal derrick replacement and new API inspection guidelines.

The meal will cost \$15 per person. Memberships will be available at the door. Door prizes are being donated by Sanabi Oil and Suoco Oil.

STATE

American Airlines to talk to unions

DALLAS (AP) — The chief executive of cash-strapped American Airlines Inc. wants to keep the world's largest carrier from sinking more deeply into financial distress.

Representatives of the carrier were expected Monday to begin formal meetings with two unions representing flight attendants, ground workers and mechanics. For the first time, according to the Fort Worth-based airline, it would be working with all three of its major unions in an attempt to cut labor costs and avoid federal bankruptcy court.

DEATHS

No obituaries were reported today.

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WEST TEXAS LANDSCAPE

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U.S. abandons U.N. diplomacy

By SCOTT LINDLAW
 ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

President to address nation tonight

WASHINGTON (AP) — Abandoning diplomacy, President Bush gave Saddam Hussein a final ultimatum Monday to leave Iraq or face a U.S.-led war. The president planned an address to the nation at 8 p.m. to explain his decision.

State Colin Powell said. The development came as the United States, Britain and Spain ended diplomatic efforts in the United Nations to disarm Saddam, withdrawing their proposed resolution setting an ultimatum and clearing the way for a U.S.-led war without Security Council approval.

"It was our judgment that no further purpose would be served by pushing this resolution," Powell said. The latest draft of Bush's address gives Saddam a firm deadline to go into exile or face military action, said two senior White House officials

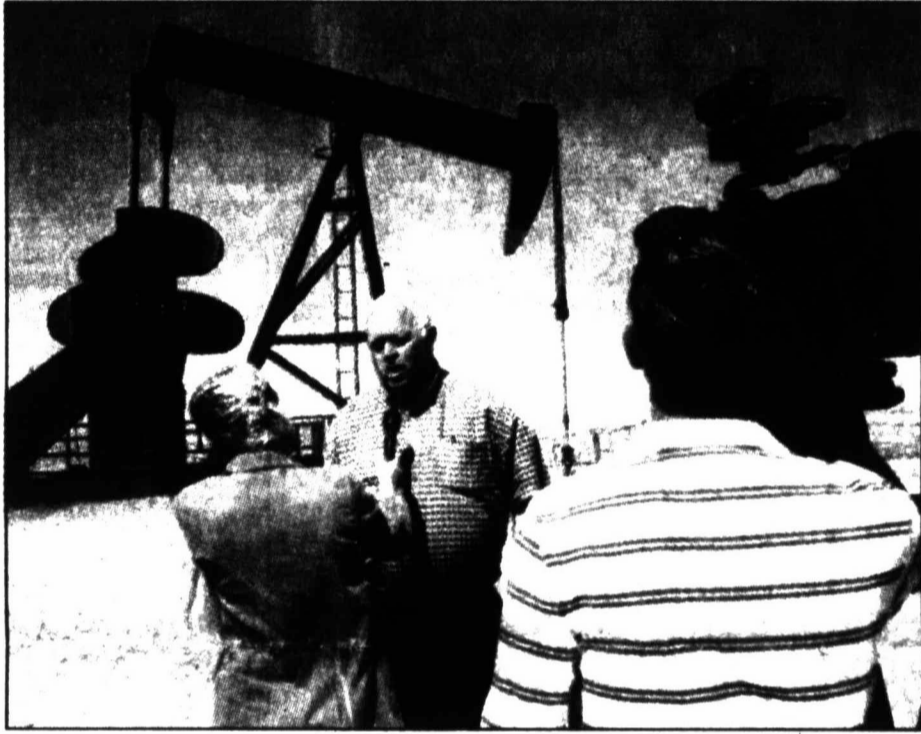
who spoke on condition of anonymity. They would not say precisely how long the deadline would be, but said it was a matter of days. The officials cautioned that Bush could decide before his address to drop the deadline, and that some of his advisers were opposed to it.

Whether Bush sets a deadline or not, several White House officials said war is days away unless Saddam complies. Ahead of the speech, top congressional leaders were to go to the White House to meet with the president. First thing Monday, several top administration officials, including Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, Attorney General

(See IRAQ, Page 3)

War may stabilize local oil prices

By DAVID BOWSER
 STAFF WRITER



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

AMARILLO - Despite war clouds hanging over Iraq, a local spokesman for the oil industry said the Middle East crisis should do little to help or hinder oil prices paid to Texas Panhandle oilmen.

Wayne Hughes, executive vice president of the Panhandle Producers and Royalty Owners Association, said there should be little fluctuation in panhandle oil prices in the near future because of the Iraq situation.

As a mature field, the panhandle produces little oil. Most of the activity in the panhandle deals with natural gas and those prices, to a great extent, are the result of cold weather in the northeastern United States.

"We have such a small part that we play in the panhandle in the overall scheme of things," Hughes said.

If Saudi Arabia decides to increase production, he said, that will drive the price down.

"Our price will be pulled down," Hughes said.

If the Saudis don't increase production, Hughes expects a brief spike in the price of oil.

Wayne Hughes, executive vice president of the Panhandle Producers and Royalty Owners Association, explains the workings of the oil market to an Amarillo television crew.

It's a question of supply and demand, he explained. The Saudis, not the Texas Panhandle, can increase or decrease the supply of oil to the point where prices are impacted.

Should the Saudis decide not to increase their oil production, that will mean a decrease in reserves, or supply, in the market.

"We'd experience a slight increase in

price here," Hughes said. "Probably between five and seven percent. We'll go from \$33 a barrel to \$36 a barrel pretty quickly."

But the market will react and OPEC will begin to increase supply to take advantage of the higher prices for oil.

"Eventually, it will be taken down substantially," Hughes said.

The White Deer native is basing his expectations on the Gulf War a decade ago.

"It's just like the 1992 war," Hughes said. "There was a bump right at the first, and then prices went down again. There's no reason to think that won't happen this time."

The big variable in the equation, he said, is the length of the war and the diplomatic problems that may follow.

"That will translate into pressures on the world oil supply," Hughes said. "That's where prices might begin to go up and stabilize."

He said that even if Saddam Hussein destroys his oil fields, it won't have much impact on the world's oil supply.

"That's a million barrels a day taken off the world market," Hughes said.

"We use 14 million barrels a day here

(See OIL, Page 3)

Sheriff warns off-roaders to get landowner approval

As spring weather has settled over the Texas Panhandle, so has outdoor recreation and complaints to the Gray County Sheriff's office.

"We've had several complaints the last couple of weeks about all-terrain vehicles and motorcycles on private property," Sheriff Don Copeland said today.

He said his office has received a number of reports about off-road vehicles traveling creek beds and river beds on private property in Gray County.

Chief Deputy Kelly Rushing said that all creek beds and river beds in the county are on private property and recreationalists must have the permission

of the landowner to ride ATVs, motorcycles and off-road vehicles in the creek beds.

Under state law, only creeks and rivers that are considered navigable streams are public property.

"Gray County does have public land that allows off-road vehicles," Rushing said. "That's at Lake McClelland."

Crossing private property without permission, Rushing said, is trespassing, a misdemeanor under state law. He also warned that cutting a fence is a criminal offense.

"If you're going to drive your ATV on private property," Sheriff Copeland said, "you have to have permission of the landowner."

County lowers speed limit on Gray E and 10

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 EDITOR

Safety is the primary reason Gray County Commissioner Gary Willoughby wants to reduce the speed limit on a well-traveled county road from 55 mph to 35 mph.

Friday, Gray County Commissioners approved Willoughby's request to reduce the speed limit on Gray E, straighten an S-curve where the road meets Gray 10, and erect three stop signs at the resulting T-intersection.

"This was part of my going out and talking to all the people when I was running for office," Willoughby explained. "This was the only safety issue that came up."

Gray County Road E is the continuation of Tyng Street after it goes under the Loop 171 overpass. It runs parallel with the railroad tracks and is often used by people going to the prison units east of Pampa, Willoughby said.

Gray 10 intersects with Loop 171 and is

used by tanker trucks filled with salt water to be dumped in the salt water disposal plant south of Gray 10.

Willoughby, and others who live along the road, believe 55 mph is too fast for vehicles to travel along the caliche road.

A number of accidents have occurred in the area, according to Texas Department of Public Safety records, he said.

A comment from his neighbor is what spurred Willoughby to try to change the speed limit, he explained.

"It's bad when you're afraid to back out of your own drive way, afraid you'll get run over," the man told him.

Willoughby brought the matter to Gray County Judge Richard Peet who researched the Texas Transportation Code and found a provision that allows county commissions to set speed limits on county roads.

Gray County Commissioners unanimously

(See SPEED, Page 3)

McLean beauty relinquishes her crown

AMARILLO -- With teardimmed eyes, McLean native Teddra Simmons said goodbye to the spotlights Sunday afternoon, but kept some wonderful memories.

The 19-year-old sophomore at Frank Phillips College was crowned Miss Amarillo Area USA pageant here in 2002. Sunday, she relinquished her crown to Courtney Powell, 17, a Tascosa High School senior

from Amarillo.

During her farewell speech, Simmons told of growing up wanting to be in a pageant such as the Miss Amarillo Area USA pageant, part of the Miss Universe pageant system. That desire was further fueled by her cousin, Yanci Yarbrough, Miss Texas 1999, of Childress.

Simmons competed in the Miss Texas USA competition

last year in Lubbock against 126 others.

She said that was a lot of hard work, but she made a lot of friends among the other contestants and enjoyed the experience.

Simmons said that what she enjoyed the most, however, during the past year was being a role model for other kids in the community. She admitted, however, that she also had a

lot of fun.

"It's pretty fun," she said. She advised Powell that the Miss Texas USA competition, July 28, in Lubbock, won't be easy.

"She'll need to get ready to work hard at Miss Texas," she said. "That's for sure."

Simmons plans to continue her education, transferring to Colorado State University next year.



Teddra Simmons, Miss Amarillo Area USA 2002.

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ON RECORD

POLICE

The Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents.

Sunday, March 9

A television, stereo and jewelry were reported stolen from a home in the 2200 block of North Dwight.

Monday, March 10

Vandals wrote on the side of a house in the 300 block of South Barnes.

Wednesday, March 12

A CD player and radar detector were reported stolen from a vehicle in the 2500 block of North Evergreen.

Thursday, March 13

An unattended death was reported in the 2500 block of Mary Ellen.

Friday, March 14

A theft was reported in the 800 block of Gordon.

Credit card abuse was reported in the 2800 block of Perryton Parkway.

Indecency with a child was reported.

A check book was taken in the 800 block of North West.

Checks and CDs were reported taken from a vehicle in the 1000 block of North Christine.

Saturday, March 15

Two 12-packs of beer was reported stolen from Allsup's, 1900 Hobart.

An assault by threat was reported in the 400 block of Roberta.

A 1997 GMC pickup was reported stolen in the 300 block of Canadian.

A gas drive off was reported at Taylor Food Mart, 2100 N. Hobart.

A bicycle was reported found in the 700 block of East 16th.

A mail box was reported knocked over in the 2100 block of North Lynn.

Damage to a door and figurines was reported in the 300 block of South Gray.

Three men were reported trying to put sugar in the gas tank of a vehicle in the 800 block of East Denver.

Tires were slashed in the 1900 block of Evergreen.

Sunday, March 16

Violation of a protective order was reported in the 100 block of Kingsmill.

Pampa police recovered a vehicle stolen from Borger.

A probation violation was reported in the 1100 block of Varnon.

Beer was reported stolen at Allsup's, 140 S. Starkweather.

A television set, CDs, a VCR player, jewelry and video cassettes were reported taken from a home in the 800 block of West Oklahoma.

A red and white Chevy truck bed trailer was reported stolen from the 700 block of Brunow.

An assault on a family member was reported in the 200 block of Tignor.

Monday, March 17

Two 18-packs of beer was reported stolen from Allsup's, 140 S. Starkweather.

SHERIFF

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

Saturday, March 15

Michael Shea Box, 21, 2404 Comanche, was arrested by Pampa police officers on a warrant charging him with theft over \$500 but under \$1,500.

Paula Johnson, 36, 620 E. Foster, was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, driving without a license, theft under \$150 and failure to appear.

Christine Stephenson, 40, 1400 W. Somerville #5, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of criminal trespass.

Kendra Diane Minnett, 19, Skellytown, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of public intoxication.

Sunday, March 16

Keith Wayne Rodgers, 29, of Lefors, was arrested by Pampa police officers on traffic warrants out of Guadalupe County.

Roy Dowell Britt, 39, listed as homeless, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of criminal trespassing and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Gary Michael Loftis, 48, 1002 S. Wilks, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of child molestation out of Dekalb, Ga.

Jennifer Dawn Gaines, 28, of Amarillo, and Kenneth Patrick Harrison, 35, of McLean, were arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of possession of a controlled substance and manufacture and delivery of a controlled substance.

Reynaldo Wilson, 27, 1117 N. Starkweather, was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of public intoxication.

Arlene Elene Silva, 32, 1137 Terry, was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of public intoxication and having an open container of alcohol in her vehicle.

Robert Roy Harris, 27, Wellington, was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of possession of a controlled substance.

AMBULANCE

Rural/Metro Ambulance Service made the following runs during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, March 15

1 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Huff and transported one to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

10:19 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky and transported one to PRMC.

3 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred one to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

5:46 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of West Kentucky and transported one to PRMC.

FIRE

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

Saturday, March 15

6:31 p.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to the 1900 block of North Hobart and cleaned up an antifreeze spill from a motor vehicle collision.

Sunday, March 16

5:35 p.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to a dumpster fire in the 400 block of North Hill.

STOCKS

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

Wheat	3.15	Kerr McGee	38.56	+0.18
Milo	3.83	Limited	12.78	+0.33
Corn	4.31	Williams	4.06	+0.06
Soybeans	4.95	McDonalds	13.41	-0.13
		Exxon Mobil	34.48	+0.45
		Atmos	21.34	-0.09
		Pioneer Nat	24.99	+0.14
		Penney's	20.20	+0.48
		COP	51.08	+0.50
		Schlumberger	38.10	+0.39
		Tenneco	2.28	+0.15
		CVX	64.10	+0.51
		Wal-Mart	50.40	+1.04
		OKE	17.94	+0.04
		NS Group	7.47	+0.23

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

BP	38.75	+0.37
Celanese	16.41	-0.59
Cabot Corp	22.15	+0.03
Cabot Oil Gas	23.90	+0.03
Coca Cola	40.31	+0.41
VLO	40.02	+0.07
Halliburton	19.92	+0.37

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

Triad Hospitals	24.35	+0.23
NOI	21.95	+0.15
KMI	43.41	+0.04
XCEL	11.25	+0.05
McDonalds	13.41	-0.13
Exxon Mobil	34.48	+0.45
Atmos	21.34	-0.09
Pioneer Nat	24.99	+0.14
Penney's	20.20	+0.48
COP	51.08	+0.50
Schlumberger	38.10	+0.39
Tenneco	2.28	+0.15
CVX	64.10	+0.51
Wal-Mart	50.40	+1.04
OKE	17.94	+0.04
NS Group	7.47	+0.23
New York Gold	336.35	
Silver	4.54	
West Texas Crude	35.38	

Analysts question reality of savings in House, Senate GOP budget plan

By ALAN FRAM
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans are proposing cuts to popular programs, which probably won't happen, as the bulwark of budget-balancing plans they want to push through Congress this week, analysts say.

There is growing unease in Congress as federal deficits rocket toward record levels. Even so, budget watchers see little evidence that GOP lawmakers will really reduce benefits for veterans, students and farmers — and perhaps Medicare and Medicaid recipients — as the House budget proposes.

They also consider it unlikely that toward the end of this decade, Congress will be willing to limit annual spending increases to the 2 percent or less for the military and many domestic federal agencies that the Senate's fiscal framework envisions.

"As a political reality, Congress just isn't there yet," said Robert Bixby, executive director of the Concord Coalition, a bipartisan group that advocates a balanced budget.

"His own party isn't there yet," Bixby said, referring to Budget Committee Chairman Jim Nussle, R-Iowa, architect of the House proposal.

Nussle is proposing savings he says would eliminate annual deficits by 2010. The plan by Senate Budget Committee Chairman Don Nickles, R-Okla., sees surpluses by 2013. Congress will eventually have to pass a compromise version.

If anything, members of both parties in recent years have shown a taste to increase spending, showering billions lately on farmers and Medicare providers.

This year, both parties are talking about providing new Medicare prescription drug benefits that President Bush says should cost \$400 billion over the next 10 years. Republicans hope to pass Bush's economic

package of tax cuts costing \$726 billion over a decade, an amount expected to shrink but that will still increase deficits.

"The question is, 'Do Republicans and Congress in general have the will to show the spending restraint the budgets would require?' It's fair to say they haven't shown that recently," said Andy LaPerriere, who monitors the federal budget for the ISI Group, an economic research firm.

Both budget chairmen concede that getting their proposed savings become law won't be easy. Congress' budget sets overall limits for revenue and spending, with later bills making actual changes and deciding the details.

"I understand we're having to change the culture," Nussle told reporters of Congress' reluctance to cut popular initiatives. "But it is time to do so, otherwise we're digging a hole that it may be hard to get out of."

The budget outlines by Nussle and Nickles are responses to a tidal wave of deficits that forecasters say will surely break the \$290 billion record set in 1992. Bush and the two chairmen all predict shortfalls exceeding \$300 billion next year.

But even those figures omit the possible costs of war with Iraq, and some private forecasters say they understate other spending too. On Friday, the investment bank Goldman Sachs said it believed the 2004 deficit will hit \$425 billion.

With Democrats almost uniformly against the Republican blueprints, GOP leaders will need the votes of nearly all their members to prevail. But even before his committee approved his budget last week, Nussle had to reduce some of his proposed savings.

To help pay for deficit reduction, a new \$400 billion Medicare prescription drug plan and a \$1.4 trillion tax cut, he originally proposed \$470 billion in savings over a decade from programs like Medicare, Medicaid, student loans and farm aid.

Mexican president to leave hospital today

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexican President Vicente Fox, who is recovering from back surgery, will be released from the hospital this week, the president's office said.

Fox was expected to go home Sunday, but his office said the president would remain hospitalized another day because he was undergoing physical therapy to rehabilitate his back.

Doctors said Fox, who underwent surgery Wednesday for a herniated disc, is recovering well.

Fox spent Sunday consulting with his foreign relations minister after President Bush gave the United Nations a Monday deadline to endorse the use of force to compel Iraq's immediate disarmament.

Bush announced the ultimatum after meeting with

British Prime Minister Tony Blair and Spanish Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar at an Atlantic Ocean summit in the Azores Islands.

Fox is expected to hold formal Cabinet meetings after leaving the hospital Monday afternoon.

The president, whose country is one of 15 Security

Council members, has called for the disarmament of Saddam Hussein, but stopped short of endorsing war.

While recent polls show most Mexicans oppose military action against Iraq, it also risks offending its largest trading partner, the United States, by voting against war.

City Briefs

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ACCIDENTS

Pampa Police Department today reported the following accident.

Thursday, March 6

A 1995 Mercury, driven by Martin V. Avila, 40, 1057 Huff Road, struck a utility pole in the 600 block of South Cuyler.

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

Today's forecast is calling for partly cloudy skies and breezy conditions with highs in the mid 70s, south winds 10 to 15 mph, increasing to 20 to 25 mph in the afternoon. Caution is advised on area lakes. Tonight should be partly cloudy and breezy with lows in the lower 40s and southwest winds 20 to 25 mph. Tuesday should be cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s. South winds 15 to 20 mph. Tuesday night, mostly cloudy. Slight chance of rain. Lows in the upper 30s. East winds 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 20 percent. Wednesday,

mostly cloudy. Chance of rain. Highs in the upper 40s. North winds 15 to 20 mph. Chance of rain 30 percent. Wednesday night, mostly cloudy. Chance of rain. Lows in the lower 30s. Chance of rain 30 percent. Thursday, partly cloudy. Breezy. Highs in the lower 50s. Thursday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s. Friday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s. Friday night, mostly cloudy. Slight chance of showers. Lows in the mid 30s. Chance of rain 20 percent. Saturday, partly cloudy.

STATEWIDE

Thunderstorms, some potentially severe, were expected Monday in North Texas after showers moved across western and central parts of the state.

Skies were mostly cloudy in Central and East Texas, with conditions generally clear across the western third of the state.

Low-level moisture streaming northward from the Gulf of Mexico produced low clouds for the eastern two-thirds of Texas.

Isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms that developed late Sunday in the Permian Basin and South Plains diminished in intensity

overnight. Isolated showers remained across a large portion of Central Texas along a line from Childress to San Antonio.

Light rain showers remained south and west of North Texas.

Early-morning temperatures ranged from 40s to 50s. Extremes were 40 degrees at Dalhart and 65 degrees at Childress.

Other readings included 64 at McAllen.

Winds were generally from the southwest at 10 to 20 mph in the west, with southerly conditions in the eastern two-thirds of the state.

Blowing dust was expected

in the South Plains through Tuesday.

Daytime highs will be from the mid-60s in the north to mid 80s along the Rio Grande.

A slight chance of rain was expected in the Panhandle. It should be windy and partly cloudy in the far western mountains and far west through Tuesday.

Mostly cloudy skies with a slight chance of rain were forecast in the Panhandle.

Lows overnight should range from the 30s in the Panhandle to lower 50s elsewhere.

Daytime highs should range from the 50s in the north to 70s in the south.

Vandals strike Houston area home of French woman

HOUSTON (AP) — For Francoise Thomas, the anger against France for its continuing opposition to military action against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein hadn't hit home until she read about it on one of her doors.

When Thomas took out the garbage Saturday morning, she saw red letters spray-painted on the garage door of her townhouse.

"Scum go back to France," it read.

"I nearly had a heart attack," she told the Houston Chronicle in Monday's editions.

Thomas, who has lived in the United States 23 years and made her career as a real estate agent here, recently retired and plans to stay in Kingwood.

"I love France and I love the U.S.," Thomas said in a slight French accent, adding that she has tried to stay out of politics on Iraq.

Neighbors criticized the vandal and said they fear it was someone they know.

"Who knows she's from France?" asked Sandra Winkler. "Only the people in the neighborhood."

An unidentified neighbor

on Sunday began repainting the white garage door while others brought Thomas flowers and chocolates to show their support.

"It's just the right thing to do," the painter, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said as he dabbed at then-pink marks still showing.

Thomas, who considers the graffiti a hate crime, is offering a \$1,000 reward for information that leads to the arrest and prosecution of the perpetrator. She requested anyone with information to call the Houston Police Department.

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Attorney says his client considers Elizabeth Smart his wife

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The self-proclaimed prophet accused of abducting Elizabeth Smart told his attorney he considers the 15-year-old girl his wife and wants her to be renamed "Remnant Who Will Return."

"He wanted me to tell the world that she is his wife, and he still loves her and knows that she still loves him, that no harm came to her during their relationship and the adventure that went on," attorney Larry Long said in an interview aired late Sunday on KUTV.

Long, who said he had agreed earlier Sunday to become Brian David Mitchell's attorney, was speaking for his client for the first time.

Long said Mitchell — whom he referred to as "the perpetrator" — would consider the girl's nine-month disappearance a "call from God," not a kidnapping.

Smart, who was snatched from her bedroom June 5, was found Wednesday with Mitchell and his wife, Wanda Barzee, in Sandy, Utah, when

they were stopped by police.

Mitchell and Barzee remained in jail and prosecutors said charges of aggravated kidnapping were expected to be filed Monday. Conviction on that charge in Utah is punishable by a prison term of six years to life.

Long suggested that giving his client a light sentence could encourage kidnapers to keep their captives alive.

"If we can somehow set up some structure where the message gets out that if you bring the girl back alive, that there's some kind of commutation of the sentence, we may be much better off as a society," Long said.

He also said Mitchell, 49, wanted to be known as Immanuel David Isaiah, and wanted Barzee, 57, to be called Hephzibah Eladah Isaiah. Mitchell's name for Elizabeth, Long said, is Shear Jashub Isaiah, or "Remnant Who Will Return."

He said his client, who did handyman work at

the Smart house one day in November 2001, was on a fruit-only diet in jail.

"I found him to be very intelligent, very knowledgeable, very coherent and very articulate in his expression of his views," Long said.

Calls to Long's office from The Associated Press were not returned Sunday, and calls to his home went unanswered.

Mitchell, an excommunicated Mormon, wrote a rambling manifesto last year espousing the virtues of polygamy. The Mormon church has long distanced itself from polygamy and excommunicates those who practice it.

No details have been released about any abuse Elizabeth may have suffered while captive. The girl has been interviewed several times by police, but her parents have not asked her for details, according to family spokesman Chris Thomas.

He did deny speculation the girl could be pregnant: "Unequivocally, she is not pregnant and was never pregnant."

"She has been thoroughly examined and tested," Thomas said Saturday.

The Salt Lake Tribune reported Monday that Elizabeth boarded a police helicopter during the weekend to point investigators to the camp where she, Mitchell and Barzee lived for two months in the foothills near her family's home.

Salt Lake City detective Dwayne Baird said police interviewers are taking care not to traumatize her with their questions.

At a Mormon church service Sunday, Elizabeth Smart's grandfather said her captors sapped her of free will that she didn't try to escape even when left alone for a day.

"As a doctor, it's amazing to me that you can become so brainwashed that you identify with your captor," Charles Smart said.

Bishop David Hamblin said despite anything that may have happened during the ordeal, the teen is "pure before the Lord. People who are in the control of others are not accountable."

Ten Palestinians, including child, killed in raids

NUSSEIRAT REFUGEE CAMP, Gaza Strip (AP) — Israeli troops firing from tanks and helicopters battled Palestinian gunmen in this refugee camp Monday and rounded up hundreds of men in a nearby town. Ten Palestinians, including a 4-year-old girl, were killed in intense fighting.

Yasser Arafat suffered defeat in the Palestinian parliament when legislators rejected his demand that a Cabinet formed by a future prime minister be presented to the Palestinian leader.

Arafat had proposed several changes in the prime minister's bill. The measure will become law within two weeks. Last week, President Bush said the appointment of a credible prime minister is a prerequisite for the unveiling of a U.S.-backed "road map" to Palestinian statehood.

Also Monday, international pro-Palestinian activists disputed the Israeli military's claim that an American woman crushed by an Israeli bulldozer was killed accidentally. The

International Solidarity Movement said in a statement that Rachel Corrie, 23, of Olympia, Wash., was visible to the driver of the bulldozer as she stood before the vehicle to try to prevent the demolition of a Palestinian home.

Israeli forces entered the Nusseirat refugee camp at about 4 a.m. Monday as residents headed to the mosques for morning prayers and farmers began harvesting their crops to take to the Gaza City market, witnesses said.

The main target of the raid was Mohammed Saafen, 34, a leader of the militant Islamic Jihad group in central Gaza. Undercover troops surrounded the Saafen family's four-story house, and ordered residents to come out, said a neighbor, Hazem Khatib. All did, except for the wanted man who shot at troops, drawing return fire, the neighbor said.

Saafen's 75-year-old father suffered a gunshot wound in the leg. Several neighbors claimed the elderly man was deliberately shot by a soldier trying to force

the fugitive to surrender. The army had no comment.

The wanted man was killed in the gun battle, and soldiers blew up the house.

Fighting also erupted elsewhere in the camp, with troops firing machine guns from helicopters and tanks toward gunmen hiding in alleys and shacks.

In one three-room, doorless hut shared by 35 members of the Assar family, women and children huddled as the fighting raged outside. Four-year-old Ihlam Assar was killed by tank fire, said her aunt, Itmead.

"All the children gathered near the kitchen while the tanks were firing outside, from all directions," said the aunt. "The girl (Ihlam) was standing next to my daughter when she got a bullet in her chest, leaving her in a pool of blood among the scared children."

An Israeli army commander insisted no civilians were killed by his troops. "They (Palestinians) fire in every direction with the goal of hitting us and if they hit their own people, so be it," said the com-

mander, identified only as Lt. Col. Adam.

Seven Palestinians were killed in Nusseirat. Hospital officials said 25 residents were wounded.

The military said Mohammed Saafen, until a year ago a member of the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade, a militia linked to Arafat's Fatah movement, was involved in attacks on Israelis, including bombings, mortar fire and shooting ambushes.

In Gaza City, an empty coffin was placed in the main square Monday in memory of Corrie, the U.S. peace activist killed Sunday in the Rafah refugee camp. Palestinians gathered around the coffin to pay their respects.

Corrie's body remained at a hospital morgue Monday, awaiting the arrival of her parents. The 23-year-old was a member of the International Solidarity Movement, a Palestinian-backed group that has been protesting Israeli military strikes in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Deputies uncover McLean meth lab

An Amarillo woman and a McLean man were in Gray County jail today in lieu of bond on drug charges.

Jennifer Dawn Gaines, 28, of Amarillo, and Kenneth Patrick Harrison, 35, of McLean, remained in custody today on charges of manufacture and delivery of a controlled substance and possession of a controlled substance after Gray County deputies discovered what appeared to be a methamphetamine laboratory Sunday afternoon in Harrison's house in McLean.

Sheriff Don Copeland said today that Deputy Larry Wallis, acting on a tip that a fugitive was at the residence at 720 E. First Street, Harrison's home, in McLean, took several other deputies and went to the home about 3 p.m. Sunday, where they found Harrison and Gaines.

After getting permission to search the residence for the fugitive, officers found what they believed to be a methamphetamine lab in the house.

Copeland said agents of the Panhandle Regional Narcotics Trafficking Task Force were called to the home. Task force personnel, in turn, notified a hazardous material team in Oklahoma City to come take care of the chemicals involved.

Chief Gray County Deputy Kelly Rushing said neither Gaines nor Harrison offered any resistance when they were arrested Sunday afternoon.

Gray County Justice of the Peace Kurt Curfman set bond for each at \$10,000 on the manufacturing and delivery charges and \$5,000 on the possession charges.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

IRAQ

John Ashcroft, Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge and FBI Director Robert Mueller, filed into the White House.

Bush's speech, scheduled to run anywhere from 10 to 30 minutes, was to include a warning for humanitarian workers and journalists to leave the country, officials said. Bush planned to warn them that Saddam has a history of taking hostages, they said.

Powell, in a news conference at the State Department, said that Bush would say that

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

SPEED

approved the changes at their regular meeting Friday.

Willoughby plans to order the stop signs and speed limit signs today. He hopes to purchase used signs from the City of Pampa.

He estimates the cost of the changes at approximately \$300 which is covered in his budget.

Although he lives along the road, Willoughby emphasized, "It's not my road. It's your intersection. This is about safety. We want to slow the traffic down for the residents of the area."

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

OIL

in the United States. So that really doesn't translate into much of a problem."

He said, however, that such an action in Iraq would serve to stabilize oil prices for producers in the Texas Panhandle.

"It wouldn't add anything to our prices," Hughes said, "but it would stabilize our prices."

leaving Iraq was the only way for Saddam to avoid war. He said that those who must leave Iraq include Saddam and "immediate members of his family."

The U.S. ultimatum came a day after Bush and the leaders of Britain, Spain and Portugal held a brief summit on Azores Island and agreed to give U.N. diplomacy one last day. Bush left the impression Sunday that he would work through Monday on finding a last-ditch diplomatic decision.

Powell said the move to abandon diplomacy early on Monday came after "we spent a great deal of time overnight and early this morning talking to friends and colleagues."

Bush spoke early Monday with his two principal allies — British Prime Minister Tony Blair and Spanish King Juan Carlos and Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar. Powell spoke to U.N.

Secretary-General Kofi Annan and with a half-dozen foreign ministers.

Powell, who at one time was the administration's strongest advocate for finding a diplomatic solution, said that such efforts had ended. "I can think of nothing that Saddam Hussein could do diplomatically — I think that time is now over. He's had his chance, he's had many chances over the last 12 years and he's blown every one of those chances."

Powell had sharp criticism for France, saying five years ago it tried to weaken the U.N. inspection system. Close aides said he would not attend a foreign ministers' meeting called by France with the support of Russia and Germany.

Powell said that discussions were continuing with Turkey despite the legislature's decision not to allow that country to be used by the United States for a northern

offensive. The Turkish government fears that war in Iraq would cause an uprising among Kurds in northern Iraq, including a possible attempt to create their own state.

"We've assured the Turks that we are committed to the territorial integrity of Iraq," Powell said.

At the U.N., John Negroponte, U.S. ambassador to the world body, told reporters, "It has been nearly 4 1/2 months since the council unanimously adopted 1441 which found Iraq in material breach and gave it a final opportunity to disarm. The government of Iraq has clearly failed to comply."

Earlier Monday, White House spokesman Ari Fleischer told reporters: "The diplomatic window has closed as a result of the U.N.'s failure to enforce its own resolutions for Saddam to disarm."

Those words echoed those of the president at Sunday's

news conference in the Azores. "He got to decide whether he's going to disarm, and he didn't. He can decide whether he wants to leave the country."

Saddam threatened a wider war if attacked.

On Monday, Saddam said that Iraq once had weapons of mass destruction for defense against Iran and Israel but no longer holds them, the Iraqi News Agency said. The agency said Saddam made the remarks while meeting with a Tunisian envoy.

Fleischer said U.S. officials were reviewing whether to raise the national terror alert.

Also Monday, Mohamed ElBaradei, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, announced that the Bush administration had advised the agency to start pulling its inspectors out of Iraq.

The American-led military buildup in the Persian Gulf continued. More than 250,000 troops, a naval armada and an estimated 1,000 combat aircraft are in the region, ready to strike if and when the president gives the word.

The American public, by a 2-1 margin, supports military action against Iraq to remove Saddam, a slight increase in support from recent weeks, according to a CNN-USA Today-Gallup poll out Monday.

The State Department on Sunday night ordered nonessential personnel and all family members to leave Israel, Kuwait and Syria in a precautionary move. The departure order updates an advisory last month that authorized those people to leave voluntarily.

Join Us For A Good Old

TEXAS REVIVAL

With Evangelist

Jerry McGee



"God is exalted, the Holy Spirit is present, the Devil's defeated, and Jesus is Lord!"

March 17th - 21st • 7:00pm Nightly Services Held At

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Host: Pastor Carl Cox

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- Individual cole slaw
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• Drive Thru

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MONDAY • MARCH 17, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Glacial Pace Of Relationship Puzzles Woman Wanting More

DEAR ABBY: I am a 20-year-old college student. I first met "Andy" in my freshman year. We became good friends and shared a fair amount of time with each other. I became very fond of him after several months of dinners, going to Mass each week and studying together. I finally asked Andy point-blank where our relationship was headed. He responded that relationships "evolve."

Although I'm in no hurry to rush into anything, I wouldn't mind a little kiss from Andy now and then. He is very courteous and caring when we're together. He calls our get-togethers "appointments," and if he has to break one (which has happened only twice in two years) he is very apologetic.

My question: In developing a serious relationship, how slow is too slow?

PERPLEXED SOMEWHERE IN FLORIDA

DEAR PERPLEXED: This is too slow. Andy appears to be a master of the noncommittal understatement. He has a way with words, but they're not the words you want to hear. You are both young, and you clearly want more than Andy wants to offer. I suggest you look elsewhere if you're looking for romance.

DEAR ABBY: Excuse me? Did I detect the perception of a correlation between "uncool" and "being in the high school band" in recent letters in your column?

I played baritone horn in school band and married my childhood sweetheart, a tuba player, 22 years ago. We gave birth to a French horn-playing daughter and a trombone-playing son, both all-state band musicians. Our homegrown brass quartet plays together in churches, at festivals and in our local community band, and I arrange music for us.

Can life even get any cooler than being able to share brass with your entire family? Our kind of "cool" holds up over time.

KAY IN BASS CLEF, MILFORD, DEL.

DEAR KAY: It certainly does. Through music, your children have learned more than the value of teamwork — you live together in beautiful harmony. What a gift!

DEAR ABBY: I am a 75-year-old married man. Recently a good friend of mine died. He is survived by his wife.

Is it proper for me to call her on a regular basis to see how she is getting along? Would it be more correct to just call her once in a while? Please let me know.

FRED IN FLORIDA

DEAR FRED: You are a caring friend. It's fine to call her on

a regular basis as long as you call her together with your wife. You and your wife should also, as a couple, invite her out occasionally. Sometimes after a death, friends seem to pull back just when their friendship and support are most needed. I'm sure your friend's widow will appreciate being both remembered and included.

TO MY IRISH READERS: Happy St. Patrick's Day! May there always be work for your hands to do.

May your purse always hold a coin or two.
May the sun always shine on your windowpane.
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain.
May the hand of a friend always be near you.
May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For Better or For Worse



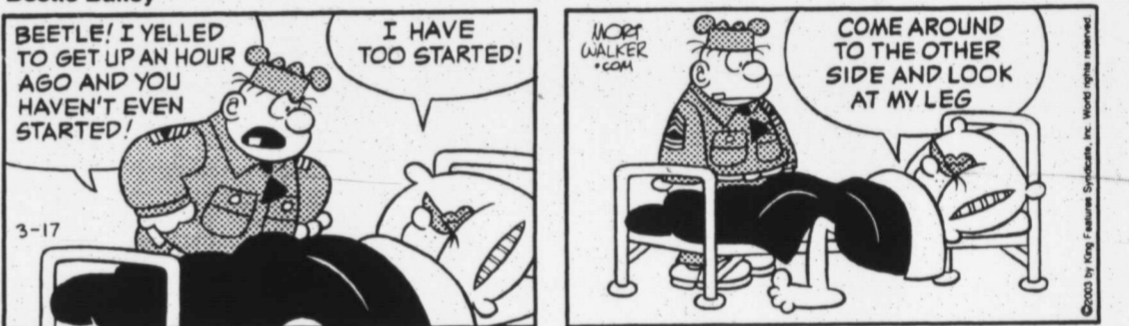
Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin

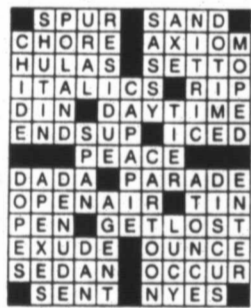


Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

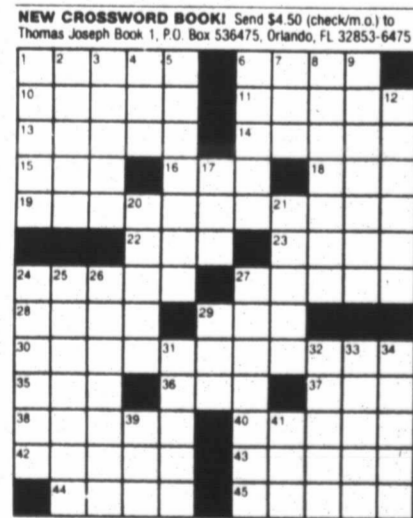
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- Muscle woe
 - Paul Sorvino's daughter
 - Trail user
 - Perfect places
 - Sheeplike
 - Lifeboat
 - lowerer
 - Slip preventer
 - Take to the slopes
 - Flightless bird
 - Alternative to foil
 - Auction buy
 - Concerning
 - Osaka setting
 - Ranch critter
 - Stove
 - Gorilla, e.g.
 - Music genre
 - Bar staple
 - Bad review
 - In the style of
 - Thrill
 - Lustrous fabric
 - Imp
 - Choose
 - Title paper
- DOWN**
- Eat noisily
 - Foe
 - Muscular dog
 - Fellows
 - Movie sergeant
 - Army doc
 - Gilbert and Sullivan princess
 - Overture
 - Bring to life
 - Daze
 - Young fox poet
 - Loose talk
 - Lake loss
 - Use up
 - Used the track score to
 - Used
 - Mark guest
 - Twain, e.g.
 - Faerie
 - Queen
 - Will Smith film



Saturday's answer

- 20 Loose talk
21 Lake loss
22 Used the track score to
23 Used
24 Mark guest
25 Twain, e.g.
26 Faerie
27 Queen
28 Will Smith film



STUMPED?

For answer to today's crossword call 1-800-454-7377. 99¢ per min., 18 years of age or older only. A King Features Service.

Flo & Friends



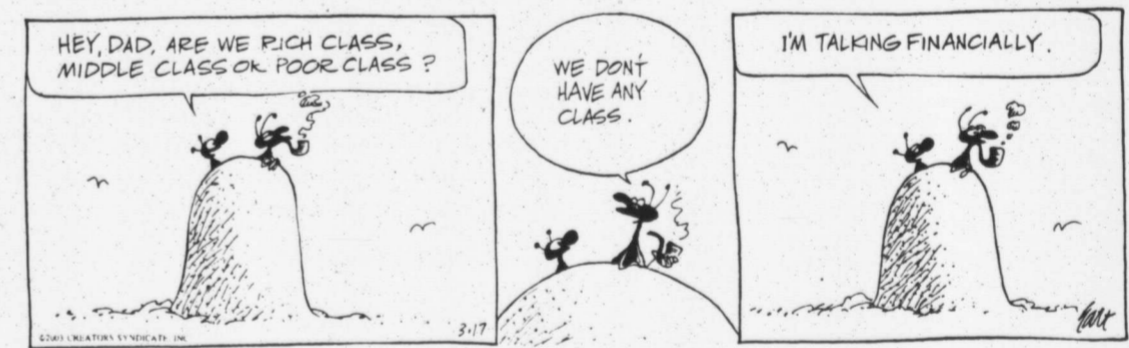
Marmaduke



The Family Circus



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blonde



SPORTS

Harvesters advance with bi-district win

WICHITA FALLS — The Pampa Harvesters move onto the Area round of the soccer playoffs after a 2-1 bi-district win over Gainesville in a shootout Saturday at Northwestern State University.

At the end of regulation, the two teams were tied at 1-1, and the match continued into two 10-minute overtime periods without another score. The two teams went to a shootout with Pampa coming away with a 3-2 advantage.

Chance Crain, with an assist from Dannie Meza, gave Pampa a 1-0 lead with a sizzling shot into the right side of the net. Pampa's score came in the 32nd minute of the first half. Gainesville came back with a goal two minutes later from Omar Ochoa to tie the score at 1 at halftime. The score came after a throw-in that resulted in a one-on-one situation with the goalie.

"The game was very physical and well-played by both

teams," said Pampa head coach John True.

During the shootout, Marc Garza, Curtis Pritchett and Tristan Brown made their attempts while Pampa goalie Carlos Medina stopped three of five attempts by Gainesville.

Pampa's defense contained Gainesville's speed with Hayden Wade, Adam Brown and Tristan Brown all making outstanding game-saving plays throughout the entire 100 minutes of play.

"The midfield controlled the pace of play as Marc Garza, Eddie Palm, Blake Helms and Andrew Fraser did a fantastic job winning 50-50 balls and distributing the ball throughout the field, making it difficult for Gainesville to score," coach True said.

Curtis Pritchett, Brodie Hall, Jason Brown and Drew Morrison spread the field out with outstanding flank play on the wings. That kept the Leopards at bay, defending and pushing the play offen-

sively to provide outstanding crosses and shots.

Luis Campos, Crain and Meza at forwards consistently got themselves into position to score. That pressured Gainesville defenders into making mistakes which became scoring opportunities for the Harvesters.

The Harvesters meet El Paso Bowie at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Midland Lee High School.

Pampa was eliminated by Wichita Falls Rider 6-0 in the girls' bi-district match.

NOTEBOOK

BASEBALL

HONOLULU, Hawaii (AP) — Austin Davis had four hits for Rice, which beat Hawaii 11-1 on Sunday. Davis had two doubles, and the Owls (19-1, 6-0 WAC) piled up 15 hits. Josh Baker (4-0) gave up seven hits and one run in seven innings. Ricky Bauer (1-1) took the loss for Hawaii (13-8, 1-5). Dane Bubela had two RBIs for Rice, which completed a three-game sweep of the series.

SOFTBALL

PAMPA — Pampa Optimist softball signups are scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 5:30 to 7 at Optimist Park.

All new signups in the 10-12 league will try out on Tuesday from 6 to 7.

Fees are \$35 for 7-9 year-olds and \$45 for 10-15 year-olds.

Practice will begin Monday, March 31.

BASKETBALL

WACO, Texas (AP) — Baylor, which did not receive an invitation to the NCAA tournament, accepted a bid Sunday to the National Invitational Tournament.

The Bears (20-10) will face Northern Iowa (18-10) on Thursday at Baylor.

Baylor, the Big 12's highest scoring team during the regular season, lost 77-60 to Kansas State in the conference tournament quarterfinals.

RUSTON, La. (AP) — Texas A&M tried to lure former Louisiana Tech women's basketball coach Leon Barmore out of retirement, but the Hall of Fame coach has decided to remain out of coaching.

Barmore confirmed that he held serious discussions with Texas A&M athletics director Bill Byrne within last week and was all but offered the job.

But in the end, the sweet smiles of his twin baby granddaughters, Sophie and Ellie Puljak, proved to be too powerful.

"I really wrestled with that," Barmore said. "I would like to go, but I can't take my family out of here right now."

Barmore retired for good as the Techsters' coach on Aug. 22, 2002, after 25 years at the school and 20 as its head coach. Barmore will soon be inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame and is a finalist to be inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

"He's raring to get back in it," former Tech and Baylor coach Sonja Hogg, who attended college at Tech with Barmore and later hired him as an assistant, told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. "This is the life of a coach; you think you're tired and you want to go out. When I saw him a month ago at a retirement gathering, he said November was tough on him. He was a lost puppy."

Pampa escapes with 4-3 victory over Palo Duro in District 3-4A softball action

PAMPA — Pampa held off Palo Duro for a 4-3 win in District 3-4A softball action last weekend at Recreation Park.

The victory kept the Lady Harvesters undefeated in district play with a 4-0 record. Palo Duro falls to 0-3 in district, 3-7 overall.

Pampa scored all four of its runs in the second inning, and then held off PD with some outstanding defensive plays.

With two outs in the third inning, PD plated two runs on two walks and three singles. Left fielder Teryn Garner prevented another run from scoring with a diving catch to leave three PD runners stranded.

In the seventh, the Lady Dons got their leadoff batter on, but Pampa turned in a 6-

3-5 double play when the PD runner attempted to take

third on a groundball. First baseman Whitney Roden took the throw from shortstop Abbi Covalt, then threw to third baseman Stacey Johnson, who tagged out the runner. With two out, the game's final batter singled, but was thrown out trying to go for extra bases.

Jennie Rogers led Pampa at the plate with two hits while Amy Youree, Covalt, Roden and Garner each had one hit. Garner's double was the game's only base hit.

Rogers had two stolen bases and Covalt had one.

The Lady Harvesters missed out on several scoring opportunities, going 0 for 11 at the plate with runners in scoring position.

Winning pitcher was Dusti Wilson (9-0) while

Chelsey Davis picked up her fourth save of the season.

Wilson went five innings and gave up two runs on five hits while striking out one and walking three. Davis went two innings and allowed one run on two hits.

Gricelda Barajas took the loss. She pitched six innings, giving up four runs on six hits while striking out six and walking one. Barajas allowed only one earned run.

Jennifer Gonzalez was 3 for 4 at the plate to lead the Lady Dons. Barajas was 2 for 4.

Pampa goes to Dumas (3-0) in a battle of unbeaten district foes at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Pampa defeated Palo Duro 14-0 in the junior varsity contest. Pampa JVs have a 5-0 record.



(Pampa News photo by Tess Kingcade)

The Lady Harvesters' Stacey Johnson receives congratulations from teammates Teryn Garner (12) and April Amador after making an outstanding defensive play against Palo Duro.

OU beats Mizzou for title, gets No. 1 seed

DALLAS (AP) — Oklahoma coach Kelvin Sampson thinks the team he took into last year's NCAA tournament was stronger than this year's version.

There is one difference, though. These Sooners are a No. 1 seed.

Oklahoma won its third straight Big 12 tournament title Sunday, beating Missouri 49-47 despite not making a basket in the final 15:05 to nearly squander a 22-point lead.

The NCAA selection committee apparently was more swayed by the good start because it gave the Sooners (24-6) their first No. 1 seed since 1990. They were placed atop the East Region and will open Thursday in Oklahoma City against South Carolina State.

"I think winning the conference tournament has a bearing on the seeding," Sampson said. "If it's close between teams, it can tilt the scales."

"It's strange — last year we thought we might have been the best team in the country going into the NCAA tournament, and we proved it by getting to the Final Four. This year, I don't think we are good as we were last year, and we got a one seed."

The Tigers (21-10) were seeded sixth in the Midwest. They'll play No. 11 Southern Illinois on Thursday in Indianapolis.

The Big 12 got six teams into the NCAA field, matching the Southeastern Conference for the most.

But the Big 12 was the one with two No. 1 seeds: OU and

This is the fourth straight year, fifth time in six years and ninth time overall that one league has snagged two No. 1s.

Texas.

This is the fourth straight year, fifth time in six years and ninth time overall that one league has snagged two No. 1s. It's the first time for the Big 12 or its predecessors, the Southwest Conference and the Big Eight.

The Longhorns top the South region and will open Friday in Birmingham, Ala., against the winner of the play-in game between UNC-Asheville and Texas Southern.

Kansas, the league's regular-season champion, was made a No. 2 seed in the West. As a consolation prize, the Jayhawks get to open in Oklahoma City on Thursday against Utah State.

Oklahoma State, sixth in the East, plays Penn in Boston on Friday. Colorado, 10th in the South, plays Michigan State in Tampa, Fla., on Friday.

Texas Tech was hoping to parlay a run to the semifinals of the conference tournament and the publicity of coach Bob Knight's refusal to accept his salary into a seventh spot for the Big 12.

Oklahoma and Missouri are looking forward to the time off after an intense weekend.

The Tigers played four games in four days, winning the first three with two big comebacks and a shot at the

buzzer. The Sooners won their first game easily, then had to sweat out the last two because of lousy second halves.

After scoring only 18 in the second half Saturday, which forced overtime against Texas Tech, Oklahoma scored just 12 points in the final 20 minutes against Missouri. They had only one point over the last 8:49, and that was a free throw with 0.3 seconds left.

OU's meltdown included 14 straight missed shots and seven turnovers.

"We've got to find a way to knock down our open shots," said Hollis Price, who scored 14 points, including the 3-pointer that turned out to be the Sooners' final field goal. "We've got to be more aggressive down the stretch — way more than we were in the second half."

Price is Oklahoma's leader in every sense, which is why Sooners fans gasped when he was helped off the court in the final minute. He went down hard several times and in the first half had to have his right knee taped.

Price, the Big 12 player of the year and the tournament MVP, said all he had was a pulled groin muscle and promised he'd be fine Thursday.

Missouri coach Quin Snyder told the team at halftime that they would get hot

and the Sooners would cool off. He asked them to make a run to get back into the game and another to win it. They sure came close.

"I thought we played like champions," he said. "The effort we showed in the second half was a championship

effort. That's what you need to take into the NCAAs."

Arthur Johnson, who had 21 points and 11 rebounds, hit many big shots to drive the rally. Ricky Clemons missed an open 3-pointer with 16 seconds left that would've put the Tigers ahead.

Rampage slips past Desperados, 45-42

DALLAS (AP) — Brian Gowins kicked a 42-yard field goal as the Grand Rapids Rampage scored 17 unanswered points in the fourth quarter to beat the Dallas Desperados 45-42 Sunday.

Shea Showers intercepted Jim Kubiak's pass with 28 seconds left to seal the victory for the Rampage (5-2), who took a one-game lead over Dallas (4-3) in the Central Division.

Clint Dolezel passed for 241 yards and five touchdowns for Grand Rapids. Willis Marshall had 11 catches for 98 yards and three TDs.

Chris Avery had a franchise-record 71 yards rushing.

Kubiak threw for 271 yards and four touchdowns. Scoring passes to Will Pettis and Luke Levenson put Dallas ahead 42-28 after three quarters, but the Desperados didn't score again.

Dolezel connected with Shaw for a score and, after Steve Smith recovered an onside kick, Dolezel threw a TD pass to Marshall to tie it at 42.

Dallas used up the next 4:35, but Jason Wells missed a 25-yard field goal, setting up Gowins' winning kick.

Tech drops to 1-2 in Big 12

WACO, Texas (AP) — Josh Ford's three-run homer in the bottom of the first inning was all the offense Baylor needed in a 9-2 win over Texas Tech on Sunday.

Baylor (17-6, 2-1 Big 12) starter Sean Walker gave up two hits, two walks and was the victim of an error in the first inning, allowing Tech (17-8, 1-2) to take a 2-0 lead.

Later in the first, Walker stranded three runners by forcing a groundout to end the inning.

After Ford's home run in the bottom of the first, Baylor scored twice more in the second on four singles. Ross Bennett and Seth Fortenberry each had solo homers for Baylor, and Ford added an RBI single in the eighth.

Walker (3-1) walked a career-high five batters and struck out only one, but he was able to scatter six hits over 6 1/3 innings to earn the win. Ryan LaMotta earned his first save of the season.

SCOREBOARD

BOWLING

Harvester Lanes League Standings
Wednesday Night Mixed League (Week 16)

Team	Won	Lost
Harvester Lanes	43 1/2	20 1/2
Team One	43	21
Bob's Bandits	40	24
The Spark	38	26
Team Five	34 1/2	29 1/2
State Farm Ins.	30	24
Cooper Energy Service	21	43

Men
High game: Andy Anderson 247; High series: Andy Anderson 611; High handicap game: Andy Anderson 250; High handicap series: Kelley Dewey 657.

Women
High game: Judy Anderson 189; High series: Judy Anderson 552; High handicap game: Kristi Lee 232; High handicap series: Judy Anderson 669.

Celanese Mixed League

(Week 7)

Team	Won	Lost
Team Eight	18 1/2	9 1/2
Darcy's Team	16 1/2	11 1/2
Wanna Be's	15	13
Pin Busters	15	13
Gutterdaws	13	15
DJ's 12	16	
Bust'em	11	17
WTM & N	11	17

Men
High game: Craig Davis 212; High series: Craig Davis 594; High handicap game: Darrel Crafton 249; High handicap series: Darrel Crafton 657.

Women
High game: Jo Karbo 187; High series: Diane Sims 517; High handicap game: Anita Davis 238; High handicap series: Anita Davis 679.

BASKETBALL

NCAA Tournament

At A Glance

By The Associated Press
All Times EST
OPENING ROUND
At University of Dayton Arena
Dayton, Ohio
Tuesday, March 18
North Carolina-Asheville (14-16) vs. Texas Southern (18-12), 7 p.m.

EAST REGIONAL
First Round
Thursday, March 20
At The Ford Center
Oklahoma City
California (21-8) vs. North Carolina State (18-12), 12:25 p.m.
Oklahoma (24-6) vs. South Carolina State (20-10), 30 minutes after first game
Friday, March 21
At The Fleet Center
Boston
Syracuse (24-5) vs. Manhattan (23-6), 12:15 p.m.
Oklahoma State (21-9) vs. Pennsylvania (22-5), 30 minutes after first game
At St. Pete Times Forum
Tampa, Fla.
Saint Joseph's (23-6) vs. Auburn (20-11), 12:25 p.m.
Wake Forest (24-5) vs. East Tennessee State (20-10), 30 minutes after first game

At Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center
Birmingham, Ala.
Louisville (24-6) vs. Austin Peay (23-7), 7:20 p.m.
Mississippi State (21-9) vs. Butler (25-5), 30 minutes after first game

SOUTH REGIONAL
First Round
Thursday, March 20
At Spokane Arena
Spokane, Wash.
Connecticut (21-9) vs. Brigham Young (23-8), 2:40 p.m.
Stanford (23-8) vs. San Diego (18-11), 30 minutes after first game
Friday, March 21
At The Gaylord Entertainment Center
Nashville, Tenn.
Xavier (25-5) vs. Troy State (26-5), 7:25 p.m.
Maryland (19-9) vs. North Carolina-Wilmington (24-6), 30 minutes after first game

At Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center
Birmingham, Ala.
Texas (22-6) vs. North Carolina-Asheville-Texas Southern winner, 12:30 p.m.
LSU (21-10) vs. Purdue (18-10), 30 minutes after first game
At St. Pete Times Forum
Tampa, Fla.
Michigan State (19-12) vs. Colorado (20-11), 7:10 p.m.
Florida (24-7) vs. Sam Houston State (23-6), 30 minutes after first game

MIDWEST REGIONAL
First Round
Thursday, March 20
At The RCA Dome
Indianapolis
Marquette (23-5) vs. Holy Cross (26-4), 12:20 p.m.
Missouri (21-10) vs. Southern Illinois (24-6), 30 minutes after first game
At Spokane Arena
Spokane, Wash.
Wisconsin (22-7) vs. Weber State (26-5), 7:25 p.m.
Dayton (24-5) vs. Tulsa (22-9), 30 minutes after first game
Friday, March 21
At The Fleet Center
Boston
Pittsburgh (26-4) vs. Wagner (21-10), 7:10 p.m.
Indiana (20-12) vs. Alabama (17-11), 30 minutes after first game

WEST REGIONAL
First Round
Thursday, March 20
At The RCA Dome
Indianapolis
Illinois (24-6) vs. Western Kentucky (24-8), 7:10 p.m.
Notre Dame (22-9) vs. Wisconsin-Milwaukee (24-7), 30 minutes after first game
At The Jon M. Huntsman Center
Salt Lake City
Cincinnati (17-11) vs. Gonzaga (23-8), 12:40 p.m.
Arizona (25-3) vs. Vermont (21-11), 30 minutes after first game
Creighton (29-4) vs. Central Michigan (24-6), 7:20 p.m.
Duke (24-6) vs. Colorado State (19-13), 30 minutes after first game

At The Ford Center
Oklahoma City
Memphis (23-6) vs. Arizona State (19-11), 7:10 p.m.
Kansas (25-7) vs. Utah State (24-8), 30 minutes after first game

At The Gaylord Entertainment Center
Nashville, Tenn.
Kentucky (29-3) vs. Indiana-Purdue-Indianapolis (20-13), 12:30 p.m.
Oregon (23-9) vs. Utah (24-7), 30 minutes after first game

Duncan hurt, but Mavs win

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Tony Parker filled the scoring void after Tim Duncan got hurt, and Parker might have to keep it up if the San Antonio Spurs find themselves without their best player.

After Duncan sprained his right ankle with about three minutes left Sunday night against Chicago, Parker made a 3-pointer and hit two free throws in the Spurs' 108-97 victory.

"He has been solid all year, but really gave an extra effort down the stretch," forward Bruce Bowen said of Parker. "He really stepped up and hit some big shots tonight."

Parker finished with 25 points.

Duncan, who had 22 points and 12 rebounds, was helped off the floor by teammates. An X-ray was negative, and the team said he'll have an MRI on Monday to determine the extent of the injury.

"He did it pretty good," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "He's walking gingerly."

San Antonio's next game is Tuesday night at home against New York, and two days later the team ventures north for a crucial matchup with Midwest Division-leading Dallas. The Spurs, who have won six straight and 19 of 22, are 2 1/2 games behind the Mavericks.

The Bulls cut a 12-point halftime deficit to three entering the fourth quarter, but the Spurs responded with 32 points on 11-of-17 shooting in the period to pull away.

"When we shut down the inside, they'd go outside," said Chicago's Donyell Marshall, who had 29 points. "When we shut down the outside, they went inside. That makes them hard to defend."

While Malik Rose added 19 points and Stephen Jackson had 15 for the Spurs, whose harassing defense led to a season-high 17 steals.

Chicago made its third-quarter run behind Jamal Crawford, who had 13 points in the period. Crawford, who finished with 21 points, went for 3-for-3 on 3-pointers in the quarter.

Bulls coach Bill Cartwright said his young team, which has lost seven of

its last nine games, hurt itself on the offensive end with turnovers and poor shooting down the stretch. Chicago shot 6-for-20 in the final period.

"Our ability to handle pressure and play with poise is something we need to work on," Cartwright said. "That's the difference between young players and veterans."

Jalen Rose, who turned in his third straight subpar performance, was ejected after picking up two technical fouls in the final minutes. He finished with 12 points, about half his season average, on 4-for-24 shooting.

Notes: Manu Ginobili, the Spurs' rookie backup shooting guard, did not play. He was rested after bruising ribs in Friday's win over the Los Angeles Clippers. ... The Spurs are 12-0 at home against Eastern Conference teams, while the Bulls are 0-13 on the road against Western Conference opponents. ... Spurs center David Robinson missed his fifth straight game with a lower back injury.

Leonard captured the Honda Classic title in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. (AP) — Justin Leonard received a long and loud ovation as he approached the 18th green in the Honda Classic. Even if he wasn't on the verge of victory, the reception might have been the same.

He had too many relatives on hand to be ignored.

Leonard shot a 5-under 67 on Sunday at The Country Club at Mirasol, broke the

tournament record with a 24-under 264 and beat Davis Love III and Chad Campbell by one stroke.

His eighth career tour victory came in front of dozens of friends and family members, many of them watching him play in person for the first time.

"There were some new people introduced to the PGA Tour this week, and I was responsible for a few of them," he said. "The only

problem is that I set the bar pretty high. Now they are going to expect me to come down here and win every year. I'll have to try to soften their expectations."

Leonard spent several days begging for tickets to the tournament. Leonard and his wife, Amanda, were married in February 2002, and with her family being from nearby Juno, the Honda Classic was the first chance to see him play in person.

problem is that I set the bar pretty high. Now they are going to expect me to come down here and win every year. I'll have to try to soften their expectations."

Leonard spent several days begging for tickets to the tournament. Leonard and his wife, Amanda, were married in February 2002, and with her family being from nearby Juno, the Honda Classic was the first chance to see him play in person.

Rockets notch fifth consecutive win with 85-75 decision over Suns

HOUSTON (AP) — Rudy Tomjanovich's condition put the Houston Rockets' big victory over Phoenix in perspective.

The Houston coach told his players that follow-up testing after a bladder infection revealed "abnormal cells" that will force further tests, meaning he'll miss Tuesday night's game at Seattle.

That came just moments after the Rockets were celebrating Sunday night's 85-75 victory over Phoenix, which broke an eighth-place tie in the West and clinched the season series — giving Houston the playoff tiebreaker.

"It was very serious and Rudy is like a father to a lot of us around here, and for him not to be there, it seems like we don't have someone to rely on, to lean on," said Yao Ming, who led the Rockets with 20 points. "I hope he gets back

soon."

Tomjanovich, who will go in for more tests Monday, was confident he would rejoin the team as it continues its five-game road trip. Assistant coach Larry Smith will lead the Rockets in the interim.

"We just have to do some further testing. The doctors have made me feel pretty comfortable," said Tomjanovich, who has been a player, scout, broadcaster or coach for the Rockets for all 33 years since he graduated from Michigan.

As for the victory, Tomjanovich was as upbeat as ever.

"It's probably the biggest victory in the last four years for us, since the Dream years," Tomjanovich said, referring to Hakeem Olajuwon's championship tenure. "Our defense again was fantastic, we got great contributions from a lot of

guys."

The Rockets improved their longest winning streak since the 1999-00 season to five games. The Suns have lost three of four.

Houston rode a near-perfect second quarter to a 55-27 halftime lead, then held off a rally. Led by their guard tandem of Stephon Marbury and Anfernee Hardaway, the Suns closed the third quarter with an 18-3 run to whittle Houston's lead to nine.

Hardaway cut the Rockets' lead to 70-64 before Yao took control, scoring three of Houston's next four baskets — including an emphatic breakaway dunk and a 17-foot baseline jump shot.

Marbury, who led Phoenix with 19, helped the Suns keep pace, but the clock killed any comeback aspirations.

Houston (35-30) took a one-game lead in the West stand-

ings, but the tiebreaker means the Rockets would advance if they finish even with the Suns (34-31).

"This game right here meant a lot as far as playoff implications, standings, series-wise,"

Craven a one-car wonder at Darlington

DARLINGTON, S.C. (AP) — Ricky Craven did his part to keep NASCAR from ever leaving Darlington Raceway.

With the sport's first superspeedway on notice it might lose this race to realignment, Craven pulled off the most breathtaking finish in its 100 Winston Cup races, beating Kurt Busch by inches Sunday in the Carolina Dodge Dealers 400.

Craven has long loved coming to Darlington and thinks it would be a mistake to leave, now more than ever.

"If today, the product was

good and it was an exciting finish," he said, "then maybe that will help."

It sure couldn't hurt.

Darlington president Andrew Gurtis says he should know about the track's 2004 future by late spring or early summer. Count Craven in the "Keep Two Races at Darlington" group.

"I'm not nearly as good as Jeff Gordon is here or David Pearson or some of these legends," said Craven, who got his second career victory. "But I'll tell you, I wouldn't mind running 36 times a year here."

The margin of victory was two-thousandths of a second — the smallest since NASCAR introduced electronic timing in 1993.

And it followed a slam-bang, last-lap duel that had everyone — including Craven — wondering who won.

Craven's crew chief, Scott Miller, came on the radio as the driver slowed and told him how incredible the finish was. "I actually got a little frustrated because I thought, 'Great, great. Glad we entertained you. But did we win the race?'"

Pitchers get pounded in south of the border exhibitions

By The Associated Press

Fans in Mexico sure didn't get to see much pitching this weekend.

The Los Angeles Dodgers completed major league baseball's weekend trip south of the border by piling up 30 hits in a 20-10 victory over the New York Mets.

In the thin air, more than 7,200 feet above sea level, the teams combined for 10 homers Sunday, including three by New York's Jeremy Burnitz. The final totals for the two-game "Serie de Primavera" or "Spring Series": 57 runs, 74 hits and 14 homers.

Those numbers make Coors Field look like a pitcher's park.

"On the bases, I was scared," said Dodgers slugger Shawn Green, who had four RBIs. "It's almost like guys

were using aluminum bats."

The Arizona Diamondbacks made their annual spring trip to the desert city of Hermosillo, Mexico, and routed the Kansas City Royals 15-1 behind a two-run homer from Mark Grace.

"The people love baseball here, they get very excited to see in person the players whose careers they follow," said Kansas City manager Tony Pena, who played in Hermosillo during the Caribbean World Series more than 20 years ago.

Mets ace Tom Glavine was battered for 10 runs — eight earned — and 13 hits in 3 2-3 innings, giving up homers to Fred McGriff and Jason Romero.

"That's the best I've ever pitched and given up nine or 10 runs," Glavine said. "If I had to pitch here all the time, I'd probably retire."

There was no trouble between the Mets and Dodgers after they had a bench-clearing brawl Wednesday in Port St. Lucie, Fla. In fact, behavior was impeccable.

All seven games in Arizona were rained out Sunday.

In other games:

Yankees 1, Astros 0
At Tampa, Fla., Roger Clemens allowed four hits in five scoreless innings and Raul Mondesi hit an RBI double in the bottom of the ninth. Yankees reliever Steve Karsay, who hadn't pitched since March 3 because of a sore right shoulder, walked one in a scoreless inning.

Pirates 10, Red Sox 4
At Fort Myers, Fla., Kris Benson gave up three runs in five innings and was officially named Pittsburgh's opening day starter. He had surgery to repair his right elbow less

than two years ago.

Boston starter Casey Fossum was shelled for six runs in 2 1-3 innings. Manny Ramirez went 3-for-3, improving his spring average to .581.

Devil Rays 3, Indians 2
At Winter Haven, Fla., Jim Parque pitched five strong innings, aiding his case to make Tampa Bay's starting rotation. C.C. Sabathia, the Indians' opening day starter, worked five shutout innings before allowing an RBI double by Damian Rolls in the sixth.

Braves 5, Cardinals 3
At Kissimmee, Fla., Greg Maddux gave up his first earned runs of the spring but Atlanta got homers from Andruw Jones and Bo Porter.

St. Louis slugger Albert Pujols hit his sixth homer of the spring. He has 22 RBIs. Matt Morris allowed four runs

and seven hits in six innings.

Maddux gave up three earned runs and seven hits in four innings. He left one inning earlier than scheduled after twice fouling pitches off his foot during an at-bat.

Blue Jays 2, Reds 0
At Sarasota, Fla., Cory Lidle allowed five hits in four sharp innings and Dave Berg had three hits for Toronto.

Orioles 5, Marlins 2, 10 innings
At Jupiter, Fla., Jason Johnson pitched six solid innings and Larry Bigbie hit a two-run single in the 10th for Baltimore.

Florida right-hander Brad Penny had his best outing of the spring as well, allowing two runs and five hits in 4 2-3 innings.

Expos 5, Tigers 2
At Viera, Fla., Montreal ace Javier Vazquez struck out 12 in six dominant innings.

Britt Reames, Tim Drew and Dicky Gonzalez finished the one-hitter.

Jose Macias hit a two-run homer off Detroit starter Mike Maroth, and Jeff Liefer had a three-run shot.

Phillies 12, Twins 5
At Clearwater, Fla., Ricky Ledee's two-run triple in the seventh inning lifted Philadelphia past Minnesota. Ledee also had a double and is hitting .667 (12-for-18) with four homers, seven extra-base hits and 13 RBIs in his last five games.

Kevin Millwood pitched five innings, allowing three runs — two earned — in his fourth spring outing. Phillies outfielder Pat Burrell (hamstring) returned after missing four games, and shortstop Jimmy Rollins (hamstring) came back after missing six.



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DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES - Here's how to work it: AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc.

3-17 CRYPTOQUOTE L U L P Q S B H Z F L U H S R H N B U S O B U H N S R I S O C I P G C P O B O H H C S O

SRRPZOBABOB. - SOPOAPGF Saturday's Cryptoquote: GEORGE WASHINGTON, AS A BOY, WAS IGNORANT OF THE COMMONEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF YOUTH. HE COULD NOT EVEN LIE. - MARK TWAIN

Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, March 18, 2003: You often feel pulled between two different goals, people or options.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ***** Pace yourself evenly if you want to make a difference to a child or loved one.

possible. Family as well as a loved one demand extra time and attention. Tonight: Express your friskiness.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ** Though you could wake up on the right side of the bed, by midday you might wonder exactly what is going on here.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** Though you seem to know where you're heading, you might be on overload.

BORN TODAY Writer Friedrich Hebbel (1813), Pope John Paul II (1920), actor Peter Graves (1925)

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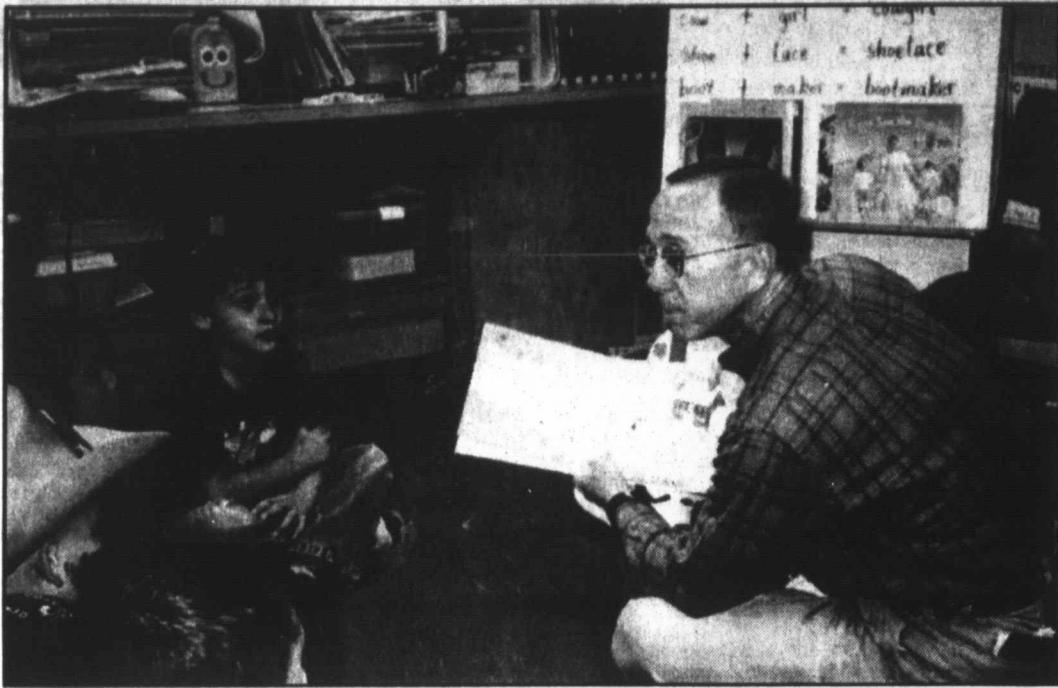
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D.E.A.R. Day



(Photo by Emily Elliott)

Lee Carter, former Lamar Elementary School principal, was among those who volunteered their time to read to Lamar students during the school's annual D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) Day recently. Mr. Carter shared one of his family's favorite children's books, "Hamilton," with Kim West's first grade class. In addition to reading to students, volunteers stressed the importance of learning to read, and teachers dressed up as characters from various children's books for a book parade that began the day.

North Korea claims its sovereignty on line, U.S. calls fears 'irrational'

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea warned Monday that its sovereignty is at stake in the standoff over its nuclear development, while the U.S. ambassador in South Korea said the North has an "irrational fear" of the United States.

North Korea's official Rodong Sinmun newspaper said Washington's rejection of direct talks was "little short of refusing to solve the nuclear issue."

Washington wants to resolve the issue through talks involving other countries, but North Korea insists the dispute is only with the United States and wants a nonaggression treaty with Washington.

"The nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula is a very crucial problem related to who beats whom," the North Korean newspaper said. "It will decide whether the DPRK's sovereignty will be trampled down by the U.S. or protected." DPRK is short for the North's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

North Korea accuses the United States of inciting the tension over its suspected nuclear weapons programs as a pretext for an invasion.

In Seoul, U.S. Ambassador Thomas Hubbard said North Korea's actions posed a threat to worldwide stability because of the threat of nuclear proliferation. He repeated the Bush administration's stance that Washington wants to solve the nuclear dispute peacefully, but all options are open.

"They seem to be sustained only by an irrational fear of the United States, and an equally irrational adulation of their own leadership, both of which they

have been taught for decades in complete isolation from the rest of the world," Hubbard said.

A South Korean presidential adviser said North Korea has shown no signs of reactivating a nuclear reprocessing facility that could enable the production of bombs within months.

There are concerns that North Korea's next step in the standoff will be to reactivate the reprocessing plant in a bid to pressure Washington into negotiations. U.S. officials say the facility could produce enough weapons-grade plutonium from spent fuel

Feds target renegade snow mobile riders in forest area

HUMBOLDT-TOIYABE NATIONAL FOREST, Calif. (AP) — Paul Hale edged his snowmobile up to a sign marking the Mokelumne Wilderness and its 105,156 acres of pristine bowls, ragged peaks and snowy canyons.

It was tempting, he thought, but not worth crossing into territory where motorized vehicles are forbidden. Smart thing, too, because the law was watching.

In an effort to catch snowmobile scofflaws plowing ever deeper into the wild in search of untracked snow and solitude, the U.S. Forest Service is patrolling by air and land.

For the past month, rangers on snowmobiles have prowled the borders of the wild sprawling over three national forests in eastern California, while spotters in

planes watch from above.

There's little terrain where snowmobilers fear to tread. And that's getting them into all kinds of trouble.

Nearly 20 citations — with penalties ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 — have been issued in the Sierra Nevada near Lake Tahoe this season.

Hale, who has been motoring in the area for 15 years and leads off-trail tours, knows the boundaries well enough to steer clear. On a recent day, he took a guide he was training to the border. Two rangers lay in wait behind a rock.

"There are hundreds of thousands of acres without going into the wilderness areas. Why would you need to?" Hale asked.

Hale said he welcomes efforts by law enforcement.

Earlier this year, the patrols were in jeopardy after a state commission rejected grants sought by the Forest Service based on complaints by cross-country skiers about noise, pollution and the speed of snowmobiles.

planes watch from above.

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Authorities suspect virus cause of deadly Asian flu-like illness

By EMMA ROSS
AP MEDICAL WRITER

Health experts searching for the cause of a frightening outbreak of a deadly flu-like illness in Asia say the culprit is probably a virus, and they are encouraged that some victims appear to be getting better.

More than 150 people have fallen ill, mostly in Hong Kong and Vietnam, over the past three weeks. And experts suspect that another 300 people in China's Guangdong province had the same disease beginning in mid-November.

While experts are unsure precisely what is causing the outbreak, several say their biggest fear is that it is a new and lethal form of influenza.

"If it really is the flu, it could be we have a new organism that could cause a pandemic," said Dr. R. Bradley Sack, director of Johns Hopkins' international travel clinic. "People immediately start thinking of 1917," when a worldwide flu epidemic began that killed at least 20 million people.

So far, the disease has killed nine people — seven in

Asia and two in North America. Its rapid spread, and the discovery of two clusters in Canada, caused a rare worldwide health alert to be issued on Saturday.

Health officials in China said Monday that the disease that infected about 300 people and killed five in Guangdong province "seems amenable to treatment," although they stressed there is still no link to cases in other countries.

Asian airports were screening passengers for flu-like symptoms, in the hope of stopping the spread of the disease. Some fearful passengers wore surgical masks or covered their faces to ward off infection.

Experts discounted the possibility that terrorism is the source and believe it almost certainly is a contagious infection that spreads most easily from victims to their doctors, nurses and families through coughing, sneezing and other contact with nasal fluids.

"Nothing about that pattern suggests bioterrorism," said Dr. Julie Gerberding, head of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

FBI lab problems may damage some 3,000 cases

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than six years after the FBI crime laboratory was rocked by controversy, the Justice Department has identified about 3,000 criminal cases that could have been affected by flawed science and skewed testimony.

It is letting prosecutors decide whether to tell defendants about the problems.

Government officials told The Associated Press they are aware of between 100 and 150 cases in which prosecutors have alerted defendants of problems they concluded were material to verdicts. None has resulted in overturned convictions, they said.

One of those cases already has reached the Florida Supreme Court, which ruled earlier this month that convicted murderer George Trepal was not entitled to a new trial despite evidence the FBI's chief toxicology chemist gave inaccurate testimony.

The identification of cases and prosecutorial reviews are the final stages of a scandal that shook the FBI during the mid-1990s when a senior chemist at the famed crime lab went public with allegations of shoddy work, tainted evidence and skewed testimony.

A Justice Department internal investigation concluded in 1997 that 13 lab technicians made scientific errors in cases or slanted testimony to help prose-

cutors. Several were reprimanded, but none was fired or prosecuted.

FBI and Justice officials say they continue to review cases handled by those technicians to determine if there are problems that could have affected verdicts. But they say the lab today is much different after a series of changes designed to ensure scientific and forensic analyses are subjected to checks and balances.

Support groups for moms

Pampa now has three monthly support groups open to expectant mothers and to mothers with infants and pre-school age children. The groups provide these women with an opportunity to meet and visit with other moms and to share parenting advice and information with each other.

Each group schedules a special speaker for every meeting, and mothers are encouraged to bring their babies and toddlers to the gatherings.

The groups are MOM MANIA, Mommy 'N' Me and Mamá Manía.

MOM MANIA, a general information group, meets at 6:30 p.m., the last Tuesday of each month in the meeting room at the north end of Lovett Memorial Library. Mamá Manía is the Spanish counterpart of MOM MANIA. It is conducted entirely in Spanish and meets at 10 a.m., the third Thursday of each month in the meeting room of Lovett Library. For more information about this, the newest group, contact Evelyn at 1-888-892-2273, ext. 228.

Mommy 'N' Me focuses on breastfeeding. It meets at 10 a.m., the first Monday of each month in the parish hall of Zion Lutheran Church.

For additional details on any of these groups, call Judith Loyd at 664-2459.

Clarendon College to hold Women's History program

March is Women's History Month, a time to celebrate the accomplishments of women throughout American history. This annual recognition focuses on the progress women have made, and the mark they continue to make on history, their communities and cultures.

Clarendon College will present the 2003 Women's History Month theme "Women Pioneering the Future," on Tuesday, March 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the foyer of the Clarendon College Pampa Center at 1601 W. Kentucky.

The public is cordially invited to come and hear local trailblazers tell the story of bravery, courage, and determination of the clubs and organizations they belong, and how

the remarkable work they do has changed their lives and the lives of others.

For more information contact Jewel Houston at 874-9997.

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- Acute Granulocytic Leukemia
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- Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia

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