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TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2003

NEWS

Vol. 98 No. 597 • Pampa, Texas
50 cents Daily • Sunday \$1



WEATHER WEATHER

HIGH **LOW**
58 **37**

LOCAL

Book Fair set at Lamar Elementary

Lamar Elementary Library is hosting a Book Fair, March 31-April 4, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. A special family event is set for 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the school library. Books are for all ages. The public is invited.

Event to honor victims of crime

AMARILLO - A commemorative candlelighting ceremony honoring victims of crime, their families and those who support them is set for 6 p.m., Sunday, April 6, at the Central Jury Room of the Potter County Courts Building, 501 S. Fillmore.

DEATHS

Hallie Mae Bullard, 92, homemaker.
Helen Frances Brown Swaney, 84, homemaker.
George Earl Winegeart, 89, services pending.

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WEST TEXAS LANDSCAPE

It's Tree Planting Season ...
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Saddam's seat of power in sight

Coalition slowed by swirling sandstorms; resistance persists in southern Iraq

By MEG RICHARDS
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Sandstorms slowed U.S. and British forces to a crawl and thwarted air missions Tuesday as U.S.-led forces edged closer to the Iraqi capital. Baghdad residents, hunkered down for an eventual battle, woke to howling winds and the distant crash of artillery.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair said the coalition had secured a key southern port despite tenacious resistance and had much of the western desert in hand.

He said the allies launched air attacks on targets in the northern oil centers of Mosul and Kirkuk, as well as Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit, and that troops were making advances in eastern Iraq to help defend two main bridges over the Euphrates.

Blair stressed that the final miles on the road to Baghdad would be the most challenging, as U.S. Army troops face the Medina division of Saddam's Republican Guard. "This will plainly be a crucial moment," he said.

The Army met sporadic resistance on its journey north.

A report from the 3rd Infantry Division's headquarters estimated 500 Iraqis were killed during a two-day sweep past the holy Shiite city of Najaf, said Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Preston of the Army's V Corps. At least 20 U.S. troops have been killed and 14 captured or missing since the operation began.

President Bush, asking Congress for \$74.7 billion to pay for six months of combat, said Tuesday that coalition forces are "on a steady advance" but said he could not predict how long the war will last.

Support for the ground troops advancing on Baghdad is increasingly becoming the focus of Navy air power, said Capt. Patrick Driscoll, commander of the more than 70-plane air wing aboard the USS Kitty Hawk.

U.S. officials said they believe Iraq is more likely to use chemical or biological weapons against coalition troops the closer they get to Baghdad. The Republican Guard controls the bulk of Iraq's chemical weaponry, most of which can be fired from artillery guns or short-range rocket launchers,

according to U.S. officials. Military analyst John Abrams, a retired Army four-star general, said coalition forces would try to avoid street warfare once they get to Baghdad.

"Chechnya did not work for the Russians," Abrams told The Associated Press. "You're going to have to get into a framework of precision operations ... but you have to have very, very solid intelligence."

In other developments: — In a friendly fire incident, an American F-16 fired on a U.S. Patriot missile bat-

(See WAR, Page 3)

PGWCD to use \$250,000 loan to conserve agriculture water

WHITE DEER - The Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District received a quarter of a million dollar loan this month from the Texas Water Development Board to provide financing for agricultural water conservation.

"I will give us the ability to get some water conservation equipment out to farmers," said C.E. Williams, general director of the water district.

The Texas Water Development Board approved the \$250,000 loan to the Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District earlier

this month, almost in record time.

The Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District made application for the funds in February.

"We had people who wanted loans," Williams said, "so we fast tracked the application."

Under the Texas Water Development Board's Agricultural Conservation Loan Program,

the TWDB can make loans to lender districts such as the Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District. The

(See WATER, Page 3)

HOME of the BRAVE

MMFN Benjamin A. Smith

Rank: E-3 Fireman
Branch of Service: United States Navy
Job Description: Machinist Mate/Fireman, Reactor Dept.
Stationed: Norfolk, Va.
Deployed: USS Harry S. Truman CVN 75, Mediterranean Sea
Graduated: Pampa High School 2000
Parents: Albert and Sandra Veach of Pampa

Phone book recycling under way

By NANCY YOUNG
MANAGING EDITOR

If you haven't yet delivered your outdated phone directories to a depository to be recycled, you still have time.

Paula Goff of Clean Pampa, Inc. said Monday that the depository at the Pampa Post Office will remain for the next two weeks due to the excellent response of local residents.

All other local drop boxes have been closed, she said.

Over a ton of directories have been placed in the local repositories, said Goff. Literally a ton as she said of the directories which have been weighed the total has reached 2,171.

"We still have more that haven't been weighed," said Goff.

She said for each ton of directories that is recycled, 17 trees are saved. And added that the space saved in the landfill is the size of a typical bedroom.

(See RECYCLING, Page 3)

Locke: Pampa must pull together

Editor's Note: This is another in a series of interviews of candidates for offices to be decided in the May 3 local elections.

By DAVID BOWSER
STAFF WRITER

Doug Locke wants to unify Pampa and open up the governing process.

"Pampa needs to pull together," Locke said.

Locke is running for Pampa City Commission, Ward 1, against Jeff McCormick, the incumbent.

He said he's found more than a few people who feel that local governments are conducting business behind closed doors, rather than encouraging open participation.

"That may have some truth to it," Locke said, "but I suspect it's more a false observation."

In either case, he said he wants to do everything he can to make sure that local government is open to all.

Second on his agenda is healing old wounds.

"Several times over the last few years," Locke said, "we've gotten into situations where the community was split between wanting to go one way and wanting to go another. Obviously, the biggest one is the PEDC and the pig farm. This has done severe damage to our community."

He said he wants to bring the community together again. He doesn't want difficult decisions to tear it asunder.



Doug Locke

Third on his agenda is the city's financial stability.

"All of our local governments are under severe financial pressure," Locke said. "We've got one of the higher tax rates in the panhandle."

He said he wants to work with the other commissioners and the city staff to take some of that pressure off the city and off the taxpayers.

"I know that over the last five to eight years," Locke said, "we've made signifi-

cant cuts in city finances, but we have that staring us in the face again. I would hope to be able to work with various parties to see how we could cut budgets where necessary."

He said he doesn't see an increase in revenues because the city is already pushing its tax limits.

"We have to manage our expenses," Locke said.

To do that, he said, the city needs to work with the county or the school district.

A Pampa native, Locke graduated from Pampa High School in 1963 and earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Texas Tech in 1967.

From there, he went to work for about a dozen years in Dallas in the computer industry, then moved to Los Angeles and worked for Xerox for a couple of years.

"While I was at Xerox, I went to Pepperdine University and got an MBA in 1981," Locke said.

After several years of working for different electronic companies, Locke returned to the Panhandle in the late 1980s.

He earned an accounting degree at West Texas State University and became a certified public accountant in 1992.

He opened his own accounting firm in 1993, in Pampa. That was about the same time he became interested in local government.

"I moved back to Pampa in about

(See LOCKE, Page 3)



74th Annual Pampa Chamber of Commerce Banquet and Citizen of the Year Award

Speaker Kenneth Chambers "The Cellular Cowboy"

March 27th • 7:00 pm • Pampa Country Club • Tickets \$20 • For More Information Call 669-3241

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OBITUARIES

GEORGE EARL WINEGEART
1913-2003

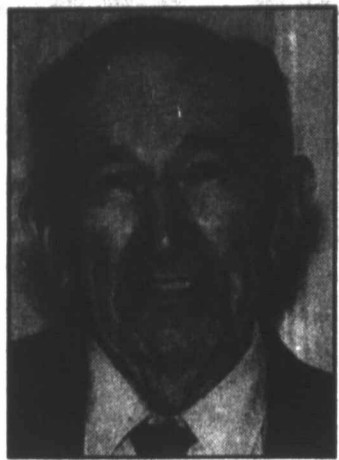
George Earl Winegeart, 89, died Monday, March 24, 2003. Services are pending under the direction of Bailey-Ware Funeral Home of McLean. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery at Pampa.

Mr. Winegeart was born Nov. 12, 1913, in Collingsworth County. He married Laura Gertrude Null in October of 1933.

He worked in the oilfield for 45 years and retired in 1978. He served as a deacon and song-leader at Central Baptist Church. He enjoyed RVing and fishing for many years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, David Paul and Annie Winegeart; a daughter, Colleen Lowe; a grandson, Gary Dean Timmons; six brothers; and five sisters.

Survivors include his wife of 69 1/2 years, Gertrude, of Pampa; two sons, Earl Winegeart of



Pampa and E. Don Winegeart of Lefors; two daughters, Joann Ring of Pampa and Patsy Jones of Port Aransas; a sister, Dovie Gilbreath of California; nine grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Central Baptist Church of Pampa and to Crown of Texas Hospice, 1000 S. Jefferson, Amarillo, TX 79101.

HALLIE MAE BULLARD
1910-2003

Hallie Mae Bullard, 92, of Pampa, Texas, died Sunday, March 23, 2003, at Pampa. Services will be at 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 26, 2003, at Carmichael-Whately Colonial Chapel with Pastor Paul Nachtigall, of the Highland Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Bullard was born May 30, 1910, in Honey Grove, Texas. She married Dewey Bullard on Dec. 13, 1930, in Hugo, Okla. He preceded her in death in 1996.

She had been a resident of Pampa since 1952. She was a homemaker and a Baptist.

Survivors include three daughters and two

sons-in-law, Ruthie and Bob Baird and Martha and Jim Maple, all of Pampa, and Ruby Ferrell of Roswell, N.M.; a son and daughter-in-law, George and Shirley Bullard of Pampa; a brother, J.C. Nelson of Canton; a special friend, Linda Ellison of Pampa; nine grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a great-grandson, Allan Ferrell.

The family requests memorials be to BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065; or to Highland Baptist Church, 1301 N. Banks, Pampa, TX 79065.

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

HELEN FRANCES BROWN SWANEY
1918-2003

Helen Frances Brown Swaney, 84, of Pampa, died Sunday, March 23, 2003, at Sayre, Okla. Vigil will be held at 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 25, 2003, at Carmichael-Whately Colonial Chapel, and funeral mass will be held at 2 p.m., Wednesday, March 26, 2003, at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church with the Rev. John Valdez, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Swaney was born Dec. 14, 1918, in Moreland, Kansas, to Andrew and Christina Brown. She married Harold Raymond Swaney in June of 1937 in Kansas. They moved to Wickett, Texas, where they made their home for their four children and many a friend or family member in need. Anyone ever needing a caring heart was never turned away. Helen took them in and loved them all. She was a caring and devoted wife and mother, but always found the time and a place in her heart for anyone in need of a helping hand.

She loved to travel and was usually the first one out the door when someone said, "Go." She and Harold were able to spend the best part of their last years together on the road. Helen was always glad to be home

though, to see the kids and grandkids. A lot of their traveling was to go to be with a new grandchild or one on the way. She had so many extended grandkids and loved them all. She could probably name each and every one that ever called her "Granny."

The most loyal companion in her life was Jesus Christ and her faith in the Catholic Church. They never wavered and took her through life with a will and determination that could only lead her to her home in heaven.

She was welcomed to that home by her mother and father, her husband Harold, her son Jerry Lee Swaney, infant son Steven Swaney, her grandson Freddie Wayne Mann, nine brothers and three sisters.

The family left behind waiting to join her in her new home are her daughter Edith Mann and husband Fred of Pampa, a son Raymond Swaney of Lefors, a daughter Kathy Davis and husband Kervin of Sayre, Okla., a sister, Margaret Swank of Commerce City, Colo., 15 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, a great-great-grandson. Also numerous friends and family. She will be truly missed by every heart she touched.

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

SERVICES TOMORROW

POOLE, Argues Elmo — 11 a.m., Life of Praise Fellowship, Amarillo.
SWANEY, Helen Frances Brown — Funeral mass, 2 p.m., St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Pampa.

ON RECORD

AMBULANCE

Rural Metro Ambulance Service reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m.

Monday, March 24

8:42 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a mutual aid call with Miami Emergency Services; one patient was transported to Pampa Regional Medical Services.

11:48 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility; one patient was transported to PRMC.

12:48 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC; one patient was transported to Veteran's Administration Hospital in Amarillo.

1:55 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC; one patient was transported to BSA-West in Amarillo.

5:13 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of West 25th; no patient was transported.

5:28 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2100 block of North Hobart; no patient was transported.

5:28 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2100 block of Coffee; one patient was transported to PRMC.

9:10 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2100 block of Coffee; one patient was transported to BSAW.

9:12 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1700 block of North Hobart; no patient was transported.

Tuesday, March 25

12:11 — A mobile ICU responded to Alcock and Sumner; one patient was transported to PRMC.

STOCKS

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa.			
Wheat	.....NA	.....	.....
Milo	.....NA	.....	.....
Corn	.....NA	.....	.....
Soybeans	.....NA	.....	.....

The following show prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation:			
OXY	.....29.48	.....+0.16	.....
.....
.....

The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.			
BP	.....40.10	.....+0.95	.....
Celanese	.....16.78	.....-0.50	.....
Cabot Corp	.....23.65	.....-0.23	.....
Cabot Oil Gas	.....23.74	.....+0.24	.....
Coca Cola	.....40.74	.....-0.17	.....
VLO	.....41.23	.....+0.07	.....
Halliburton	.....20.54	.....+0.42	.....
Triad Hospitals	.....26.27	.....+0.47	.....
NOI	.....21.99	.....+0.18	.....
KMI	.....45.25	.....+0.25	.....
XCEL	.....11.91	.....+0.27	.....
Kerr-McGee	.....39.92	.....+0.28	.....
Limited	.....12.98	.....+0.03	.....
Williams	.....4.43	.....+0.13	.....
McDonalds	.....14.04	.....+0.01	.....
Exxon Mobil	.....35.78	.....+0.47	.....
Atmos	.....21.47	.....+0.13	.....
Pioneer Nat	.....24.98	.....+0.24	.....
Penney's	.....20.32	.....+0.15	.....
COP	.....51.82	.....+0.74	.....
Schlumberger	.....38.14	.....+0.09	.....
Tenneco	.....2.33	.....-0.16	.....
CVX	.....65.49	.....+0.51	.....
Wal-Mart	.....52.90	.....+0.38	.....
OKE	.....17.98	.....+0.05	.....
NS Group	.....6.97	.....-0.04	.....
New York Gold	.....329.75	.....	.....
Silver	.....4.37	.....	.....
West Texas Crude	.....29.56	.....	.....

CLARIFICATION

In Monday's edition of *The Pampa News*, city commission candidate Ed Robinson was quoted as saying that "Pampa needs someone to represent the city to potential businesses, something he doesn't think the Chamber of Commerce is doing."

He said Tuesday morning that the chamber is doing the best they can to attract new businesses, but "The Pampa Chamber of commerce doesn't have the finances to attract new business to Pampa."

ACCIDENTS

Pampa Police Department today reported the following accidents.

Saturday, March 22

5:51 p.m. — A 2003 Dodge Dakota pickup owned by Derek Shawn Peters, 1621 N. Dwight, was parked in a private parking lot in the 1200 block of North Hobart when it was struck in the right rear quarter panel by an unknown vehicle.

Monday, March 24

9:14 a.m. — A 1991 Buick Regal driven by Walter Lee Batman, 58, 927 S. Hobart, was eastbound in the 100 block of West Atchison when it collided with a 1999 Buick LeSabre driven by Alma Gober Goodner, 83, 509 Lowry. The Goodner vehicle was northbound at 100 S. Cuyler. According to the police report, Batman failed to yield right of way and struck the LeSabre. Damage estimate was \$1,000. No injuries were reported.

10:39 a.m. — A 1999 Dodge Dakota SUV was legally parked in a private parking lot in the 2200 block of North Hobart when it was struck in the drivers side in a hit and run. The vehicle is owned

by Kenneth Smith, 2231 N. Duncan.

5:27 p.m. — A 1997 Pontiac Sunfire driven by Kerri Nichol Dona, 26, 600 N. Powell, was northbound in the 1900 block of North Hobart. A 1998 Ford Ranger pickup driven by David Lee Love, 25, of White Deer, was southbound on North Hobart. Dona initiated a left turn onto 21st Avenue when Love failed to yield right of way at a stop sign and struck the Sunfire. Love was cited for fail to yield right of way at a stop sign and expired motor vehicle insurance.

9 p.m. — A 1991 Mercury Cougar driven by David Aric Luedecke, 17, 1726 Evergreen, was traveling eastbound in the 900 block of West 18th. Pamela Zemanek, 46, of Pampa, was driving a 2000 Chevy Tahoe SUV southbound in the 1800 block of North Hobart. Luedecke stopped at a stop sign. According to the police report, Luedecke did not see the Zemanek vehicle due to vehicles in turning lane. He preceded into an unclear intersection and was struck by Zemanek. Luedecke was cited for failure to yield right of way at a stop sign and no valid drivers license (expired).

POLICE

Pampa Police Department today reported the following arrest and incidents.

Saturday, March 15

A "Peeping Tom" was reported in the 3000 block of Rosewood. The case is being monitored closely, according to Pampa PD.

Thursday, March 20

Assault by threat was reported in the 400 block of East Browning.

Friday, March 21

Theft from a vehicle was reported in the 400 block of Barnes. A cell phone and keys were reported taken. Source of entry was unknown.

PPD provided assistance to Child Protective Services.

Sunday, March 23

Burglary was reported in the 1400 block of Williston. Three guns were reported taken approximately three weeks ago. Estimate of loss was \$650. According to the police report, there was no forced entry.

Monday, March 24

Zachariah Thomas Gercken, 24, homeless, was arrested for criminal trespass. He was also arrested for assault on a public servant in connection with the incident. A gas drive-off was reported

ed in the 300 block of North Hobart. Estimate of loss was \$27.50.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1700 block of North Aspen when a vehicle was keyed. Estimate of damage was \$1,000.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1300 block of North Coffee.

Forgery was reported in the 600 block of South Cuyler.

Telephone harassment was reported in the 800 block of South Faulkner.

Credit card fraud was reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart in connection with a gas drive off. Estimate of loss was \$20.01.

Disorderly conduct by fighting was reported at Pampa High School.

Tuesday, March 25

PPD provided assistance to Child Protective Services.

Theft of \$680 in cash was reported at One Medical Center.

SHERIFF

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

Monday, March 24

Shawn Lee Weatherford, 32, 1101 Christy, was sentenced to 180 days in jail for possession of a controlled substance.

Tuesday, March 25

Earl Jiles, III, 36, 1109 Terry, was arrested on warrants from Justice of the Peace Place 1 and municipal court for failure to appear and no insurance.

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City Briefs

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

BEAUTY 2000 has openings for hairstylists and nail techs. 806-665-5447.

KATCH-UM BAIT Shop, goldfish, buy cans, copper, brass, aluminum, cast aluminum, radiators. West on Hwy. 60, 665-4732.

KNIGHTS OF Columbus Fish Fry, Mar. 28, 6-8 p.m. \$7, \$3-6 yr. & under, all you can eat. KC Hall, 318 N. Cuyler.

LOST 2 male Schnauzers 1 black & 1 silver. Reward. Call 669-2381, 664-0150, 661-4001.

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Clean Pa with SBC Inc. to coll phone direc cling.

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Pampa F during the 2

10:09 p. fire report reported se arrived, no there was a

Today's 1 for cloudy skies, breez highs in the winds 15 to 35 mph pos

percent cl Caution is lakes. Tonig with lows i and northea mph, shiftin 10 mph. W be mostly s warmer. Hi

Balmy w across parts be interrupt ly scatter Tuesday, fo National V said.

Warm, s were report on Monda blanketed p Texas.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

WAR

tery in Iraq after the battery's radar locked on the plane, the U.S. Central Command said Tuesday. No U.S. casualties were reported. The strike Monday was the war's second such incident involving Patriot batteries apparently failing to distinguish between friendly and hostile targets.

Coalition forces destroyed six satellite jamming devices, which Iraq was using to try to thwart American precision guided weapons, Air Force Maj. Gen. Victor Renault said. He said the devices have had "no effect" on U.S. military operations.

Bad weather caused the military to call back combat missions from two aircraft carriers, and two Army divisions were virtually stalled in a vicious sandstorm that reduced visibility to a few feet.

Thousands of Marines trekking north toward Baghdad traveled only about 20 miles in five hours, buffeted by heavy winds and blowing sand. While Iraq often sees sandstorms in the spring, meteorologists said this one was exceptional.

The Army's 3rd Infantry Division advanced to within 60 miles of Baghdad early Tuesday and pounded military installations with howitzers and rockets. U.S. war-

planes and helicopters had come under heavy fire Monday during their first attacks on Republican Guard units.

In Monday's helicopter assault, the first known engagement in central Iraq, about 10 Iraqi tanks were destroyed. One Apache helicopter went down, and the Pentagon said two pilots had been taken prisoner — Chief Warrant Officer Ronald D. Young Jr., 26, of Lithia Springs, Ga., and Chief Warrant Officer David S. Williams, 30, of Orlando, Fla. Military officials later said they had destroyed the helicopter, but did not say how.

In the south, a pattern of deadly ambushes and ruse

attacks by Iraqi militiamen in civilian clothes have hampered the efforts of coalition forces, and sporadic fighting forced firefighters to withdraw from burning oil fields. British officials said Umm Qasr, Iraq's only deep-water port, was secure, though it could take several days before humanitarian aid deliveries begin because the waterway must be swept for mines.

British officials also said they would target pro-Saddam militiamen in the main southern city of Basra; coalition commanders had previously said they wanted to avoid urban combat there.

"Basra is surrounded and cannot be used as an Iraqi

base," Blair said in a news conference Tuesday. "But in Basra there are pockets of Saddam's most fiercely loyal security services who are holding out. They are contained but still able to inflict casualties on our troops, and so we are proceeding with caution."

Heavy fighting continued in An Nasiriyah, considered a strategic prize because of its bridges across the Euphrates. Navy pilots pounded Iraqi artillery and ammunition posts about 45 miles northwest of Basra overnight into Tuesday morning, U.S. officials said. Two British soldiers were killed at Az Zubayr, an Iraqi navy port not far from Basra.

Air Marshal Brian Burridge, commander of British forces in the Persian Gulf, said a Baath party headquarters in Az Zubayr was targeted late Monday by the First Battalion Black Watch, whose members are mostly from Scotland.

Troops advancing toward Baghdad said they were prepared for the fight ahead, despite news of fallen comrades.

"I think the deaths of Americans gives us more incentive to fight," said Lance Cpl. Chad Borgmann, 23, of Sidney, Neb., with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Force. "Freeing Iraq is all fine and dandy ... but this gives us a personal motivation to fight."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

LOCKE

1991," Locke said. "You can't help be here and not observe government operations."

That was also about the time the Pampa Economic Development Corporation started, he said.

"I started going to the meetings of the PEDC," Locke said, "and then went to a few city commission meetings and went to some county commission meetings and school district meetings."

He ran for school board once and for county commission once.

"You learn from those experiences," Locke said.

In addition to his accounting practice, Locke became the first internet provider in Pampa in 1996.

He said that he provides internet service to the city and to Lovett Memorial Library and to Pampa Emergency Preparedness.

"All of those either have been for free," Locke said, "or will be free starting the first of April."

Explaining that he is concerned about full disclosure, he also said his daughter is employed by the city.

"My daughter is on the police force, and I will have to exercise due caution in voting and discussing police issues

because of her employment," Locke said.

There is a state law having to do with nepotism which would prevent him from voting or discussing any issue specifically related to his daughter.

"Issues relating to the department as a whole or as to groups of employees, I can discuss and participate in, according to that law," he said, "but I am very conscious of conflicts of interest."

Locke said he decided, with the encouragement of others, to offer his services to the citizens of Pampa by running for city commission.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

WATER

lender districts can then loan the money to individual borrowers to purchase and install more efficient irrigation equipment.

Carla Daws with the TWDB

said the board has made 11 loans to the PGWCD over the past 10 years. The District, in turn, has made 75 loans to irrigation farmers in their nine-county area.

The PGWCD covers all or

part of Gray, Carson, Donley, Roberts, Armstrong, Potter, Hutchinson, Hemphill and Wheeler Counties.

The district consists of more than four million acres, or 6,378 square miles, with 967,000 cultivated acres of which 281,000 are irrigated.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

RECYCLING

The project diverts directories from landfills and conserves trees, water and other natural resources.

Clean Pampa is working with SBC Communications, Inc. to collect outdated telephone directories for recycling.

The project is to help preserve the environment by reducing waste and recycling

directories in an efficient and cost-effective manner. All types of phone directories are collected said Goff.

In 2002 Clean Pampa collected over 1,000 phone books and it appears the 2003 campaign will exceed that amount.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting Clean Pampa office at 665-2514 between 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

ON RECORD, CONT. FROM PAGE TWO

FIRE

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

Tuesday, March 24

10:09 p.m. - Two units and six firefighters responded to a fire report in the 700 block of North Banks. A neighbor reported seeing flames in a residence. When firefighters arrived, no fire was found. Occupant of the residence said there was a candle burning.

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

Today's forecast is calling for cloudy to partly cloudy skies, breezy and colder with highs in the upper 50s, north winds 15 to 25 mph - gusts to 35 mph possible - and a 20 percent chance of rain. Caution is advised on area lakes. Tonight should be clear with lows in the upper 30s and northeast winds 10 to 15 mph, shifting to the south 5 to 10 mph. Wednesday should be mostly sunny. Breezy and warmer. Highs in the mid

70s. South winds 15 to 25 mph. Wednesday night, mostly clear. Lows in the mid 40s. South winds 15 to 20 mph. Thursday, mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s. Southwest winds 20 to 30 mph becoming west. Thursday night, mostly cloudy. Windy. Chance of thunderstorms or showers. Lows in the mid 30s. Chance of rain 30 percent. Friday, cloudy in the morning then becoming partly cloudy.

STATEWIDE

Balmy weather spreading across parts of Texas could be interrupted by a few widely scattered thunderstorms Tuesday, forecasters with the National Weather Service said.

Warm, sunny conditions were reported in North Texas on Monday, while clouds blanketed portions of South Texas.

Statewide, temperatures soared into the 70s and 80s and winds were blowing from the south at 10 to 20 mph.

Isolated thunderstorms could sweep across North Texas on Tuesday, as highs reach the lower 70s. Overnight lows will dip into the middle to upper 40s under clearing skies.

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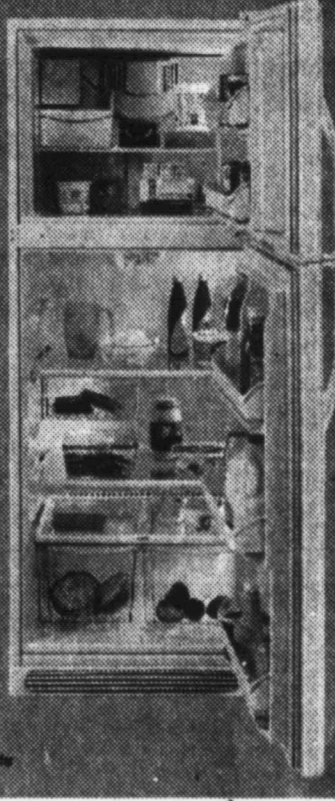


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VIEWPOINTS

Demonstrating for Karl Marx

THE Pampa NEWS

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A lot of people watching the anti-war demonstrations look upon the hordes of eager young people participating in them, as being what Lenin called "useful idiots," when the truth is that they are really innocent victims of brainwashing in classrooms and lecture halls dominated by rabid Marxist teachers and professors.



MICHAEL REAGAN
COLUMNIST

If you listen to what these youngsters are saying or read the signs and banners they carry, it becomes obvious that the focus of their protests is not really the war in Iraq, but instead a burning hatred of America and President Bush and our free enterprise system, along with strident demands for nothing less than what amounts to a socialist America.

This is the kind of thing we are seeing today and behind it all are the same kind of totalitarian agitators who exploited their useful idiots back in the 30s.

You would never know it from the media, but as John Perazzo wrote recently in FrontPage Magazine, the so-called "peace movement" today is "dominated by the same Communists that once marched in support of Stalin, Mao, the Vietcong, the Sandinista Marxists, and the Communist guerrillas in El Salvador; the same America-loathing radicals who, because they passionately deem America the root of all evil in the world, now support Kim and Castro."

Back in the thirties, and during the Cold War, the Communists set up front groups which agitated for what on the surface appeared to be praiseworthy causes such as civil rights or world peace, and they managed to suck in a lot of well meaning Americans who were not communists, didn't believe in communism, and would never have joined an openly communist group.

Thanks to years of brainwashing in high schools and on college campuses by disciples of Karl Marx, a sizeable number of the present generation are unwitting supporters of the most brutal and coercive political system ever to inflict itself upon mankind.

What none of these young people understand is the fact that Communism is a means of achieving socialism—it has been called "socialism in a hurry." The

most murderous regimes of the 20th century were all socialist dictatorships—the Soviet Union, Germany under the National Socialist (Nazi) Party, Cuba, China, the captive nations in Eastern Europe. The death toll ran into the hundreds of millions—all victims of socialism and socialist governments which by their very nature are coercive dictatorships.

And whether they know it or not, it's socialism for which they are marching and demonstrating, the reality and nature of which they know nothing. Their young impressionable minds have been appropriated and molded by their Marxist teachers and filled with intellectual garbage fed to them under the guise of compassion for the "poor and repressed."

And they have been handed over to skilled veteran communist manipulators and drawn into new front groups allegedly to protest a war against Iraq—and their manipulators never tell them that they are in reality serving the purposes of the Iraqi government which just happens to be a socialist dictatorship ruled by Saddam's Socialist Baath Party.

As Marxists say: "No enemy to the left." And that's where Iraq is today and why the so-called "peace movement" opposes a war to free the Iraqi people from the Marxist yoke around their necks.

Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Pampa News*.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Looks like they got us again

To the editor:

Did you feel it? They got to us again. Our Texas Governor, the Lt. Governor and the 78th Texas legislature failed again to get out of bed with the insurance industry. They just rolled over and sat on the edge. It was getting pretty crowded in there! Our elected representatives saw a need in all haste to fashion, pass and sign a piece of lulling legislation to quiet the outcry of homeowners who are faced with rate increases on homeowner policies of 90-100-200 percent. Appropriately, the Texas Department of Insurance should have noted the problem and motivated passage of some easing legislation. The Department of Insurance is filled with appointees and exists more for the benefit of the insurance industry than individual policy holders.

Senate Bill 310, recently signed into law provides insurance companies will furnish the Texas Insurance Department the date utilized in their rate setting and presumably will include their losses in the stock market which they are authorized to use. How the insurance department will utilize the information is questionable.

Lt. Governor David Dewhurst expressed hope that enacting SB 310 could possibly bring down rates 12-18 percent. This is chump change given the increases in homeowner policy rates. The bill may however curtail the insurance companies discriminatory practices such as credit scoring.

Senate Bill 310 is an outstanding example of the relationship between political contributions and payback time. The bill will not be significant help in reducing exorbitant rates on homeowner insurance premiums.

**Bill Reeves
McLean**

TODAY IN HISTORY

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Tuesday, March 25, the 84th day of 2003. There are 281 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 25, 1965, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. led 25,000 marchers to the state capitol in Montgomery, Ala., to protest the denial of voting rights to blacks.

On this date:

In 1634, Maryland was founded by English colonists sent by the second Lord Baltimore.

In 1894, Jacob S. Coxey began leading an "army" of unemployed from Massillon, Ohio, to Washington, D.C., to demand help from the federal government.

In 1911, in a tragedy that galvanized America's labor movement, 146 immigrant workers were killed when fire broke out at the Triangle Shirtwaist Company in New York.

In 1913, the home of vaudeville, the Palace Theatre, opened in New York City.

In 1947, a coal mine explosion in Centralia, Ill., claimed 111 lives.

In 1957, the Treaty of Rome established the European Economic Community.

In 1975, King Faisal of Saudi Arabia was shot to death by a nephew with a history of mental illness. (The nephew was beheaded the following June.)

In 1990, 87 people, most of them Honduran and Dominican immigrants, were killed when fire raged through an illegal social club in New York City.

In 1996, the redesigned \$100 bill went into circulation.

In 1997, former President George Bush, at age 73, parachuted from a plane over the Arizona desert.

Ten years ago: The Senate approved an outline of President Clinton's plan to spark the economy and trim the budget deficit by a vote of 54-45.

Five years ago: Shaken by horror stories from the worst genocide since World War II, President Clinton grimly acknowledged during his Africa tour that "we did not act quickly enough" to stop the slaughter of up to a million Rwandans four years earlier. The FCC netted \$578.6 million at auction for licenses for new wireless technology.

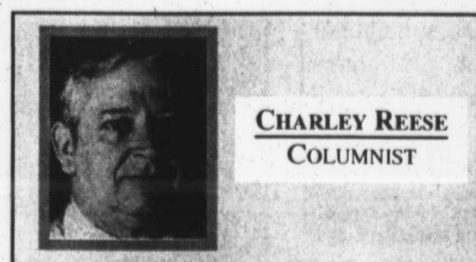
One year ago: A powerful earthquake rocked Afghanistan and northwestern Pakistan, killing up to 1,000 people.

Today's Birthdays: Modeling agency founder Eileen Ford is 81. Former astronaut James Lovell is 75. Movie reviewer Gene Shalit is 71. Feminist author Gloria Steinem is 69.



Let's all declare our intentions

I wish to take this opportunity to announce that I will not be a candidate for the presidential nomination of the Democratic, Republican, Green, Libertarian or Communist Party. If you don't plan to be a candidate, you might as well announce it, too, as Sen. Chris Dodd, D-Conn., did recently.



CHARLEY REESE
COLUMNIST

I didn't even know he was thinking about it, but there he was, holding a press conference and announcing that if anybody thought he was, he wasn't. Gosh this opens up new possibilities for anybody who wants publicity. He or she can call a press conference and announce something that he or she doesn't intend to do.

Al Sharpton is fairly witty and serves as a nice source of embarrassment to the white Democrats. They have to pretend to be nice to this blowhard, race-baiting demagogue, lest they offend their black constituencies. That's because, being the latent racists they are, they think all blacks think alike. In fact, I'm sure many blacks view the Rev. Sharpton as the joke he is.

I have a long list of things I don't intend to do, including attempting to climb Mount Everest, visiting New York City, going to the Brazilian rain forest (I hate cockroaches, and they are up to five inches long there), visiting Calcutta or listening to another speech by the president.

I met and interviewed Rep. Dick Gephardt once and thought he acted like a robot. Still, when he left, I couldn't detect any electrical outlet on his back. He might very well be a Stepford Candidate, though. That refers to an old movie, "The Stepford Wives," a sci-fi tale about perfect wives who turned out to be robots. (As I get older, I have to remember that the list of shared experiences is shrinking.)

Given the muttering herd of candidates for the Democratic nomination, I suppose Sen. Dodd felt that it would clear things up a bit if he announced he wasn't joining the crowd. He wouldn't have had a chance anyway - though, by and large, the candidates, with one exception, are prime examples of mediocrity.

Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts resembles Jay Leno and married a rich widow, but seems to me, at least, to be entirely too serious, most of all about himself. "Dour" is a word I want apply to him. The last thing I want to hear from a president is a moralistic lecture.

Carol Moseley Braun got stumped at one of her first press conferences. Someone asked her what she majored in at college. She said she'd have to get back to the questioner on that. She couldn't remember.

Sen. Joe Lieberman is too goody-goody for my tastes. To go from an evangelical Christian to an observant Jew in

the White House strikes me as a bit more religion at the top than would be good for us.

As for Sen. John Edwards from North Carolina, well, wasn't Bill Clinton enough? Do we really want another slick, Southern good old boy/ used-car salesman type in the White House? May my finger rot off if I ever use it to vote for a trial lawyer, and that's what Edwards is. He'd probably hand out his business card every time we bombed somebody and suggest they sue us.

Former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean seems comparatively intelligent and has at least had the guts to criticize war with Iraq (for a crazy vision, imagine Gov. Dean as Scarlett O'Hara saying, "War, war, war. That's all you boys ever talk about!") Still, my Southern prejudice makes me wary of New Englanders.

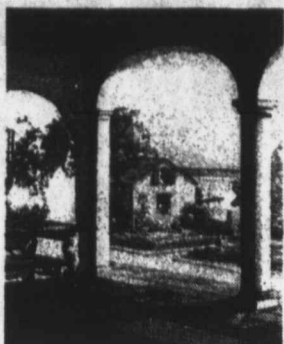
It's purely subjective, but I will support Sen. Bob Graham. I know him. He's one of the few politicians I've ever known who is genuinely witty and funny. He's also very intelligent and competent. I don't always agree with him, but I respect him. Once, when he was governor of Florida, he came down to my newspaper to explain a bill he was pushing, and I asked what a senator who was his nemesis thought about it.

"He's for the same damned thing you are for, Reese - anarchy," Graham replied. Democratic candidates who underestimate this man could be in for a big shock. He's first-class all the way.

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

BUSINESS REVIEW

Consuelo's



In today's fast paced society it seems that we have lost some of the old world ways especially when it comes to cooking. Having been from Mexico Consuelo attempts to bring you an authentic traditional taste. We hope you will agree that doing it the hard way is the best way.

Appetizers

- 1) Shrimp Cocktail (estilo Mexicana) _____
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- 2) Ceviche _____
Fish & Shrimp marinated in lime juice & mixture of Consuelo's spices & vegetables
- 3) Quesadillas your choice of fajita beef or chicken _____
Served with guacamole & sour cream. Add grilled onions and peppers
- 4) Supreme Nachos your choice of beef or chicken _____
- 5) Queso Fundido (served flaming) _____
- 6) Chile con Queso with nopales (cactus) _____
- 7) Guacamole served on a bed of salad _____ one scoop
two scoops

Burrito Dinners

Served with rice, beans and salad

- 8) Bean and Cheese _____
- 9) Lengua (Beef) the burrito that speaks _____
- 10) Supreme (Beef) _____
- 11) Carne Guisada (tender tasty stewed beef) _____
- 12) Barbacoa (Beef) _____
- 13) Fajita (Beef or Chicken) _____

Side Orders

- 14) Order of Beans _____
- 15) Order of Rice _____

Lunch Special

- 16) Served Mon - Fri 11-2 _____
includes light portions of rice & beans
- One Tamale _____
- One Taco _____
- One Enchilada _____
- Carne Guisada _____



Kid's Plate

- 17) Only for 8 and under _____
Supreme Nachos _____
Quesadillas _____
- Items below served w/ kid portion of rice & beans
Choice of One Taco, Tamale, Enchilada
or Bean Burrito _____

Drinks

- 18) Cafe Reg or Decaf _____
- 19) Hot Chocolate _____
- 21) Soft Drinks _____
Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Root Beer, Dr. Pepper
7-up & Cherry Lime Slice
- 22) Ice Tea _____
- 23) Cappuccino _____
- 24) Bottled Water _____

Specialities

Consuelo's Speciality

- 25) Plato de Enchiladas _____ 6.95
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- 26) Hearty portion _____ 8.95

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Fajitas

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- 27) Serves two (2) people 25.95
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beans, rice, salad & choice of tortillas
- 28) Each additional person 12.49

House Special

- 29) Chile Relleno Combination _____ 8.95
Large Poblano Chile stuffed with your choice of beef, chicken, or cheese and your choice of taco (beef or chicken), or enchilada (beef, chicken or cheese), or tamale and served with rice, beans, salad and your choice of flour or corn tortillas.
- 30) Plato de Chile Relleno _____ 7.75
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THE PUMPER NEWS COMICS

TUESDAY • MARCH 25, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Girl May Need Hormones To Help Her Stand Tall

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing in response to the "Anonymous Girl in North Dakota," a fifth-grader who said she is teased because she's "really short." My 10th-grade daughter was in the same boat, always the tiniest and suffering from comments made not only by other kids, but by adults as well. Please let "Anonymous Girl's" parents know they should see a pediatric endocrinologist as quickly as possible. Their daughter may be a candidate for treatment with GHG (human growth hormone), which many insurance companies have recently allowed as a pharmaceutical deduction rather than a medical expense, making treatment much more affordable. Time is of the essence! Once the growth plates close, for children who do not produce enough growth hormone, the treatment is a medical necessity. JERI IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

DEAR JERI: Thank you for an important letter. I did not realize that the solution to the girl's problem might be solved by medical intervention. Her letter generated comments from many readers who wanted to help. READ ON:

DEAR ABBY: Please let that young girl in on a secret. The kids who tease her are not making fun of her because she's short. They do it because they're worried someone is going to find a reason to make fun of them. They're trying to make themselves look good by making her look bad. When I was in fifth grade, I was

made fun of for being tall. By focusing attention on someone else, they deflect criticism from themselves. MANDY IN COLORADO

DEAR MANDY: You've hit the nail on the head.

DEAR ABBY: The girl who's teased should give a big laugh and say, "I like to think of myself as perfection in miniature!" It worked for me. SUZANNE IN SEATTLE

DEAR ABBY: The child in North Dakota should know that the Greek philosopher, Aristotle, was very short, too. His nicknames were "Shorty" or "Flatty." We know him today as Plato. FRANCIS A. BURKLE-YOUNG, GETTYSBURG COLLEGE

DEAR ABBY: An interviewer asked a short-statured man how he felt being surrounded by people taller than he. His reply was priceless: "Like a dime among pennies." CATHERINE IN TEXAS

DEAR ABBY: Please tell that girl to get involved in competitive cheerleading or gymnastics. In either sport, small size can be an advantage. In cheerleading, the smallest girls get to be the "fliers," the ones who are tossed in the air or at the top of the stunts. This is true of my daughter. It has boosted her confidence. She now views her height as an asset rather than a liability. MOTHER IN S.E. TEXAS

DEAR ABBY: The plea from the child in North Dakota touched my heart. I, too, have always been

short. My defense was to become an achiever in class and in athletics. (I later became a doctor.) The best response to people who tease should be, "That's the way God made me, and I do the best I can with what I was given." Detractors have a difficult time fielding that response. ALBERT IN VERO BEACH, FLA.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter had the same problem. Finally she looked at her tormentor and said, "Yes, I am short. I'm also sweet, cute, bright and a good friend. I am also finished talking to you about things that are out of my control. You're boring me!" And she walked away. The girl never bothered her again. PROUD MOM IN HONOLULU

DEAR PROUD MOM: Which proves there is no defense like a strong offense. (Thank you to everyone who wrote. "Shortness" of space is a frustrating reality I can't ignore.)

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.



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

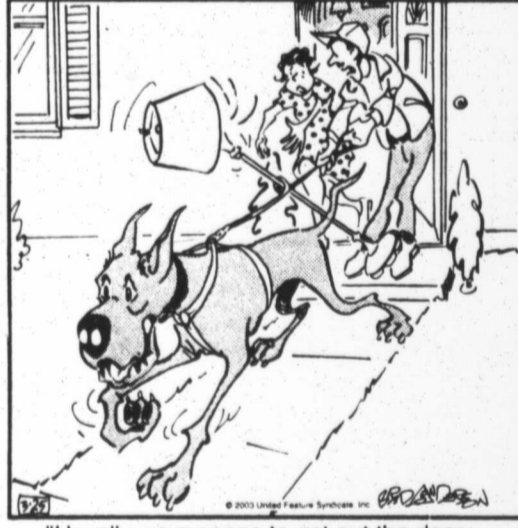
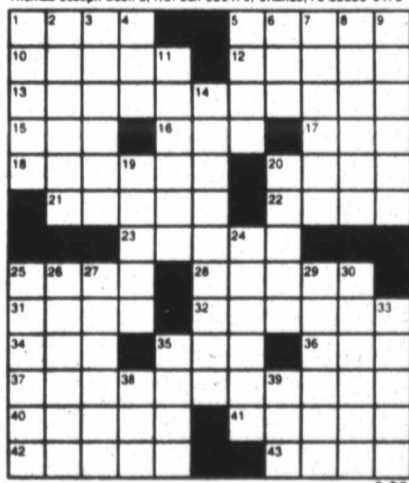
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS
1 Disparaging remark
5 Underpinning
10 Wine grape
12 Game setting
13 Hexed
15 Old-time auto
16 "A mouse!"
17 Eastern philosophy
18 Kind of fork
20 Gaunt
21 Coventry coins
22 Ohio team
23 Be generous
25 Produce
28 When pigs fly
31 Do film work
32 Book backs
34 Actor
35 Arthur of TV
36 Lee's org.
37 In disgrace
40 Area's trees
41 Hindu force
42 Up to now
43 Convene
- DOWN
1 Unexpected growth
2 Roster
3 Destroyed
4 Fish eggs
5 Lie in the sun
6 Dadaist
7 Jean
8 Like marquetry
9 Beauty parlors
10 Big ditch
11 Greece-Turkey separator
19 Map feature
20 Rome fountain
21 Like
24 Prepare for a return trip
25 One of the Gorgons
26 Beautiful boy
27 Benevolent
29 Concert cry
30 Take up again
33 Mubarak's predecessor
35 Rotten kid
38 Genesis woman
39 Flight

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Flo & Friends



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SPORTS

Ford drives top-seeded Texas to San Antonio

By BEN WALKER
AP Sports Writer

Ready for a big crowd wearing burnt orange, the Texas Longhorns are heading home. Well, 80 miles from home, but that's close enough. "It's going to be loud," Texas point T.J. Ford said. "It's going to feel like we're in our own building."

The top-seeded Longhorns play Connecticut in San Antonio on Friday night in the South Regional semifinals.

No team left in the tournament will be as close to its campus as the Longhorns are. Syracuse, also near home and with fans decked

out in orange, plays 135 miles away in Albany, N.Y., site of the East Regional.

Texas went 14-0 at home this season, but Longhorns forward Brian Boddicker wonders how much geography means at this stage.

"When you come to this time, the teams are so good and there's so much on the line, I don't think it's going to have a big impact on the game," he said.

A bigger impact may be Ford, regarded by some as the best guard in college basketball. Ford turned 20 on Monday and got an early start on his birthday, taking over in the second half to lead the Longhorns over Purdue 77-67 Sunday.

Ford scored 21 points and had nine rebounds and eight assists. He stayed out of trouble after picking up two quick fouls seven minutes into the game, and really accelerated after halftime.

Ford thinks Texas' tough regular-season schedule, which included losses to Notre Dame and Arizona, will pay dividends. "It all goes back to the strength of our schedule and the games we lost early in the year—everyone learning from those games," he said. "You'd rather lose then and learn than lose them now."

The Longhorns reached the round of 16 for the second straight year, a first for the program.

Texas (24-6) and fifth-seeded Connecticut (23-9) have played four times but never in the NCAAAs. The Longhorns posted their only win in the series the last time they met, on Jan. 15, 2001, beating the Huskies 60-56 at home.

Barnes doesn't think the crowd in San Antonio will shake UConn.

"They've been in a lot of hostile situations," he said. "They are a tough team."

The 5-foot-10 Ford is tough, all right. He's also amazingly fast, and he had the ball in his hands throughout the second half. During a four-minute span where Texas scored 18 points, 16 came by Ford or

were set up by his passes.

Texas led just 69-67 with 2:01 left. Then Ford made two foul shots as the Longhorns scored the last eight points.

"We've been in that situation a lot this year," Ford said. "The last four minutes of the game is when you know you've got to protect the ball and get good shots."

Ford spent the last few seconds dribbling out the clock. Only then did he give it up, spiking the ball near midcourt at the buzzer.

"We took care of business here by winning these two rounds," guard Royal Ivey said. "Next up is San Antonio, which is going to be fun."

NOTEBOOK

BASEBALL

PAMPA — There will be a Harvester Baseball Booster Club meeting at 7 Thursday night in the high school athletic office.

All club members are urged to attend.

GOLF

DUMAS — Pampa took seventh place with a two-round score of 634 at last weekend's Dumas Boys Invitational.

Gary Utsey led the Harvesters with a 152, including a first-round 75. Other Pampa scores were: Cooper Brazile 160, Reid Schindler 161, Weston Teichmann 161, and Taylor Fatheree 169.

Canyon had a two-round total of 600 to win the tournament by two strokes over Memphis.

BASKETBALL

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles Clippers' seventh sellout crowd of a miserable season came out to see Wang ZhiZhi and Yao Ming in a reunion of former Chinese National Team members.

What they got instead was a first-half shooting clinic by James Posey and Glen Rice that left a second half with no drama.

Wang outscored Yao nine points to eight and had six rebounds to Yao's three in the Houston Rockets' 108-90 victory Monday night. But the two centers were never on the floor at the same time.

The Clippers were so preoccupied with stopping Yao in the low post, the Rockets had plenty of scoring opportunities on the perimeter and built a 28-point cushion with about three minutes left in the second quarter.

"We did a good job of moving the ball and taking our shots when we had them," Posey said. "And with Yao's presence down low, it made it easy to shoot the ball from the outside."

"Everybody was just telling me to keep shooting," Posey added. "They were able to find me in certain situations and I was able to come through. I think this was the best I was feeling it since I came here."

Posey, acquired by the Rockets Dec. 18 from Denver in a three-way deal with Philadelphia, made his first seven shots — including five from 3-point range and scored 19 of his 23 points in the first half. Rice was 4-for-4 in the first half with three 3s. Houston's 10 3-point baskets in the half were a season high by a Clippers opponent.

"We focused a lot on Yao Ming and slacked off on the other guys, and they hit jump shots," said Lamar Odom, who led Los Angeles with a season-high 30 points and added 10 rebounds. "But I don't care if they hit 20 shots in a row — you've got to protect your home court."

Champion Spurs



(Courtesy photo)

The Celanese Spurs are the 2003 3rd-4th Grade Boys' City and Tournament Optimist Basketball Champions. The Spurs finished the regular season with a 9-3 record and went undefeated in the tournament. Team members are (front row, l-r) Ty Youree, Brandon Yates, Farmer Schaeffer and Joseph Mechelay; (back row, l-r) Coach Joe Mechelay, Daniel Zumstein, Shane Smith, Chase Ferguson, Jonathan Polasek and Coach Eugene Polasek.

Optimist baseball sign-ups continue

PAMPA — Sign-ups and tryouts for Optimist baseball continues today through Thursday from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Optimist Park, according to Commissioner Kevin Davis.

Only players who will be new to the Cal Ripken 9-10 League, the Cal Ripken 11-12 League or the 13-15 Babe Ruth League need to try out during at least two sessions.

All players need to register in order to be assigned to a team.

The Tee Ball League has the largest number of players registered for the upcoming season thus far with 89, Davis said. Running a close second with

68 is the Cal Ripken 10-12 League. In the Pitching Machine league there are 48 players registered.

The Cal Ripken 10-12 League and the 13-15 Babe Ruth League have 37 and 38 players signed up, respectively.

Teams from Clarendon, Miami and Lefors will play in the Optimist program this year, Davis said.

"We have been pleased with the steady registration we have had so far," Davis said. "We are signing up earlier this year than we usually do because the Cal Ripken post-season has been moved up. This forces us to have to complete our regular season program ear-

lier so the all-star teams will have time to organize and practice."

Davis said the drafts will probably be conducted on Thursday or Friday.

"Practice will begin March 31 with games in some leagues to begin the week of April 21," he said. "The Optimist Board of Directors is looking at having a second season for players who would like to play more. We think the second season would last from two weeks to a month. We would like to get feedback from parents and players about the proposal. It is presently in the idea stage and has not been officially adopted."

Ernie Els drops out with wrist problems

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Ernie Els withdrew from The Players Championship on Tuesday after injuring his right wrist two weeks ago while working out with a punching bag at his home in London.

Els, the No. 2 player in the world, already has won four times this year. His absence comes one day after third-ranked Phil Mickelson withdrew because his wife recently gave birth to their third child.

Els is expected to be able to play in the Masters in two weeks.

His withdrawal was a back-to-back blow for The Players Championship, which perennially has the strongest and deepest field in golf and is regarded as the fifth major.

Els has never finished higher than 10th in The Players. He played in the Bay Hill Invitational and had a 7-under 65 in the second round to get into contention, four strokes behind Tiger Woods.

His wrist flared up again

Saturday, however, and Els had to scramble for a 72. He closed with a 77 in a steady rain to finish 19 strokes off the lead.

"I could not be as aggressive as I wanted to be and kind of flinched a couple of times," Els said. "It's like an ankle; it takes time to recover. I've just got to give it some time."

Els said he only recently started using a punching bag as part of his workout routine.

"I'll probably strap my wrists next time," he said.

Els opened the year with back-to-back victories in Hawaii, the first player in 14 years to win the PGA Tour's first two tournaments of the year. He also won twice in Australia against strong foreign fields, and finished runner-up in two other stroke-play events.

The withdrawals of Els and Mickelson reduced the field to 146 at The Players Championship. Aaron Baddeley is the first alternate, but he will not play unless three others drop out.

Ford wins Naismith Award

ATLANTA (AP) — Texas sophomore T.J. Ford and Connecticut junior Diana Taurasi won the Naismith Awards on Monday as the top college basketball players in the country.

Ford, a 5-foot-10 guard, leads the Longhorns in scoring (15), assists (7.4), and steals (1.96) per game. Last year, he was the first freshman in NCAA history to lead the nation in assists with 8.27 per game. He ranks second on Texas' all-time career assist list with 495.

"My teammates should share in this honor, as none of our program's success would

be possible without them," Ford said. "This honor means a lot to me. When I took a look at the list of names who have won the award in the past, I was humbled. It does show that hard work pays off."

Taurasi, a 6-foot guard, leads the Huskies with 16.5 points, 4.7 assists and 1.2 blocks per game this season. She is 12th on UConn's all-time scoring list with 1,452 points.

The Naismith Awards, in their 35th year, honor basketball's inventor — Dr. James Naismith. The awards program was founded by the Atlanta Tipoff Club.

Texas high school baseball poll

AUSTIN (AP) — Here is the Texas high school baseball poll for March 24, as compiled by the Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association and Texas High School Baseball Magazine:

- Class 5A**
- 1. Round Rock (14-1)
 - 2. A&M Consolidated (16-1)
 - 3. Midland (15-3)
 - 4. Bellaire (16-2)
 - 5. Lubbock Monterey (16-2)
 - 6. Sugar Land Clements (13-3)
 - 7. El Paso Montwood (17-1)
 - 8. Flower Mound (14-1)
 - 9. Fort Bend Elkins (11-6)
 - 10. Rowlett (14-1)
- Class 4A**
- 1. Corpus Christi Calallen

- (18-1-1)
 - 2. Hewett-Midway (14-2)
 - 3. San Antonio Alamo Heights (15-2)
 - 4. Kerrville Tivy (12-3)
 - 5. Mission Sharyland (14-3)
 - 6. Brenham (15-1)
 - 7. Cleburne (17-0)
 - 8. Little Cypress-Mauriceville (15-4)
 - 9. Levelland (13-3)
 - 10. Montgomery (13-20)
- Class 3A**
- 1. Lorena (11-0)
 - 2. La Grange (13-1)
 - 3. Sinton (11-4)
 - 4. Jasper (14-2)
 - 5. Yoakum (10-3)
 - 6. Kaufman (11-1)
 - 7. Van (10-1)
 - 8. Barbers Hill (13-2)
 - 9. Crockett (11-4)
 - 10. Celinea (9-3)

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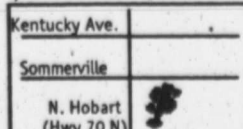


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Haynes named Optimist Cal Ripken 11-12 Commissioner

PAMPA — Ronnie Haynes will be the Commissioner of the Optimist Cal Ripken 11-12 Baseball League this season, Kevin Davis, the 2003 Optimist Baseball Commissioner, announced.

Haynes has coached in the league for 13 years. He has also served as basketball coach for six years for Special Olympics and has served on the Board of Directors for the Special Olympics Booster Club for two years.

Haynes has served two terms on the Board of Directors of the Optimist



Ronnie Haynes Club and was Vice-President twice.

"I don't have children in the program any more," Haynes said, "but I enjoy working with kids and want to be a part of programs that benefit kids. Baseball helps kids learn sportsmanship as well as the fundamentals of

the game. Baseball also helps prepare kids for sports in school and down the road for life."

Employed by Plains Pipeline, Haynes and his wife, Denise, have a son, Aaron, 20, and a daughter, Lauren, 19.

Additional sign-ups and tryouts will take place today, Wednesday and Thursday from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Optimist Park for all Optimist leagues.

Optimist baseball receives an annual grant from the Pampa United Way to assist the youth of this area.

Injuries force lineup changes as spring season nears an end

By The Associated Press

Injuries to top stars might have some teams scrambling to readjust their lineups for opening day.

World Series MVP Troy Glaus was sent back to California to have his injured right hand examined, and pitchers Jarrod Washburn, Kazuhiro Sasaki and Orlando Hernandez all might miss the openers.

Alex Rodriguez will play Tuesday for the first time in two weeks in a minor league game but won't play any more games for the Rangers this spring in case his sore neck acts up.

The AL home run leader the past two seasons hasn't played

since March 11 because of a herniated disc in his neck. If Rodriguez doesn't play in a major league spring game, the Rangers could retroactively place him on the disabled list for the final 10 days of spring training.

Miguel Tejada will sit out at least two games for Oakland after getting hit on the left knee with a pitch. He was bothered by the knee for the past couple of weeks and then was hit by a pitch Sunday.

Washburn, an 18-game winner for the World Series champion Angels last year, probably won't start until the team's fifth game this season because of a sprained left shoulder.

Manager Mike Scioscia said Washburn will pitch in a minor league game Sunday when the Angels face the Rangers to begin the season. John Lackey, the first rookie to win Game 7 of the Series in 93 years, will start in Washburn's place.

Glaus was sent back to Anaheim on Monday to be examined by hand specialist Dr. Norman Zemel. Glaus injured his hand before Sunday's game with San Diego and was scratched from the lineup minutes before the game.

"He's probably going to miss the next couple of days," Scioscia said.

Source: National Football League Europe season to proceed as scheduled

PHOENIX (AP) — NFL Europe will proceed as scheduled this season despite war in Iraq, a football source told The Associated Press.

NFL owners decided overwhelmingly Monday to send players overseas starting Monday, said the source, speaking on condition of anonymity. The discussion on the developmental league was one of several during the opening session of the NFL owners' meetings.

Players on the six teams have been practicing in Florida and will begin leaving Tuesday and Wednesday for Europe to begin play April 4-5. Three of the teams are based in Germany, with the others in Spain, Scotland and the Netherlands.

The players had said they wanted to go despite some fears about travel. They made that clear during a conference call Sunday

among Doug Quinn, the senior vice president of NFL international, and the general managers of the six teams.

NFL Europe is primarily a training league that has turned out such stars as two-time MVP quarterback Kurt Warner of St. Louis to left tackle Barry Sims of AFC champion Oakland. It has existed in various forms for more than a decade but is considered more an investment to develop talent than a profit-making venture.

The three German teams are the Berlin Thunder, Frankfurt Galaxy and Rhein Fire. Some league officials had been concerned that anti-war and anti-American feelings in that country could make things difficult.

The other teams are the Amsterdam Admirals, Barcelona Dragons and Scottish Claymores.

The meetings officially

got under way Monday, with a variety of issues on the agenda. They started with commissioner Paul Tagliabue's address on the state of the league.

The one that could have the biggest impact on the league involves a change in the overtime system. A proposal would allow both teams to get the ball in overtime, instead of the current first-to-score-wins system. That comes after a season in which there were a record 25 overtime games in the league, 40 percent won on the first possession.

The NFL's committee on diversity met for 90 minutes. But chairman Dan Rooney, the Pittsburgh Steelers' owner, said there was no decision on what action, if any, to take against the Detroit Lions in the hiring of coach Steve Mariucci.

Rooney had said after the hiring that the Lions failed

to meet the new league guidelines to interview minority candidates for the

Van Exel sparks Mavs by Nuggets

DENVER (AP) — Nick Van Exel thinks he knows why he gets booed every time he comes to Denver.

"They don't have nothing to do here," the Dallas Mavericks point guard said. "The Broncos aren't playing, the Avalanche ain't here tonight, so they had to come in and mess with me."

Van Exel, who played nearly four seasons with the Nuggets, ignored the jeers long enough to score 24 points to help the Mavericks beat Denver 108-96 Monday night, completing their second straight season-series sweep of the Nuggets.

"It would be different if this game really meant something and I'd probably be more juiced up for it," Van Exel said. "I've played in hostile

environments before in tougher situations. I used to play against Memphis State when I was in college, a big-time rivalry."

Dirk Nowitzki scored 25 points to help Dallas to its eighth straight win over Denver. The Mavericks increased their lead over idle San Antonio to 3 1/2 games in the Midwest Division.

Van Exel made two layups in the final two minutes. Nowitzki overcame a 6-for-23 shooting night by hitting 12 of 12 free throws.

"I thought Nick responded well to the boos," Dallas coach Don Nelson said. "We needed Nick to come on big and score and he did."

Juwan Howard had 25 points and Nene Hilario had 23 for Denver. Rodney White

believed Mariucci was sure to get the job in Detroit after being fired by the 49ers.

added 17 points, 12 rebounds and 10 assists for his first career triple-double.

"That was a nice effort by Rodney, who has worked hard over the past couple of weeks," Denver coach Jeff Bzdelick said. "I can't say the same about our transition defense in the first half and our inability to handle the basketball and shoot free throws."

After allowing 68 points in the first half, the Nuggets held Dallas to 8-for-23 shooting in the third quarter, including an 0-for-7 performance by Nowitzki. Denver's Shammond Williams hit a 3-pointer with 3:15 left in the third to cut Dallas' lead to nine, 79-70, before Van Exel's layup gave the Mavericks a double-digit lead heading into the fourth.

Tech team prompts memories of '93 title

LUBBOCK (AP) — West Texas basketball fans are reminiscing about the Texas Tech Lady Raiders' 1993 national championship as this year's team prepares to face Southwest Missouri State in the first round of the NCAA Women's Tournament on Sunday.

"Even though the national championship happened 10 years ago, people still want to hear about it," said Krista Kirkland-Gerlich, a veteran of the 1993 team who now teaches high school in Hereford. "They want to see the ring, the jersey and the pictures. It makes me think you can do anything that you set your mind to."

That's good advice for this year's group of Lady Raiders, who hope to reach the Final Four in Atlanta, the same city where the 1993 Lady Raiders won the championship, reported The Dallas Morning News in Saturday editions.

"I couldn't think of a better year for it to happen," said Sheryl Swoopes, the star forward of the 1993 team.

It isn't far-fetched to see

Tech celebrating in Atlanta again. The Lady Raiders are seeded second in the Midwest Region and will host first- and second-round games. The regional will be in Albuquerque, N.M., just a four-hour drive west of Lubbock.

The 1993 team won the tournament as women's basketball itself was on the verge of a breakthrough. The 1993 season was the first year the women's Final Four sold out in advance. A seven-year television deal with ESPN loomed on the horizon.

This year's Final Four will be held in the 28,210-seat Georgia Dome. ESPN is beginning an 11-year, \$200 million deal.

"I think a lot of people would agree that (the 1993 Final Four) took women's basketball to a whole other level," said Marsha Sharp, the coach who orchestrated Tech's 31-3 national championship season.

By the 1993 standard, the depth on this year's Tech squad is an abyss.

Forward Plenette Pierson

(17.8 points per game) and guard Jia Perkins (16.3) both average double figures. Guard Natalie Ritchie is a solid 3-point threat.

Freshman Erin Grant controls the tempo. Jametra Clark and Casey Jackson bring athleticism and height off the bench. Jolee Ayers, Cisti Greenwalt and LaToya Davis rotate at center, giving the Lady Raiders a different look.

Tech fans were able to leave a lasting memory on the players when the '93 team returned from Atlanta. More than 35,000 fans streamed into 50,000-seat Jones SBC Stadium for a ceremony honoring Sharp and the Lady Raiders.

The 1992-93 Tech team was honored in January during halftime of a Lady Raiders game and during a dinner banquet. That left fans wondering one question: Who would win in a battle between the 1993 Lady Raiders and the 2003 version?

"We're way out of shape," said Janice Farris, a '93 veteran. "We had a tough time getting into the limos."

Lady Longhorns go against Arkansas tonight

CINCINNATI (AP) — Second-seeded Texas has won 14 straight and is coming off an easy first-round win in the NCAA West Regional.

"It gets serious now," Texas coach Jody Conradt said Monday. "I can't imagine having a tougher second-round game."

Tonight's opponent, No. 7 seed Arkansas, was an archrival when both schools played in the Southwest Conference, but they have not met since 1991.

"Arkansas and Texas, that's something very special," said Arkansas coach Gary Blair.

"You out-of-state writers might not understand."

Texas (26-5) was ranked fifth in the final Associated Press poll and has outscored opponents by nearly 20 points a game. But the Longhorns didn't get good until they buckled down on defense, Conradt said.

"Those early losses convinced them more than anything that they were going to have to work on defense," she said.

Arkansas (22-10) is righting itself after losing four straight in February. The Lady Razorbacks are coming off a

71-57 victory over Cincinnati in which leading scorer Shameka Christon played only 23 minutes because of foul trouble.

Only one Texas starter played more than that in a 90-46 victory over Hampton — not because of fouls, but because they weren't needed. Texas led 52-20 at halftime.

"It was good yesterday that we got to play so many people. It gave us an opportunity to keep our legs fresh," said Heather Schreiber, who scored 17 points in 19 minutes.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NCAA Tournament
At A Glance
By The Associated Press
All Times EST

EAST REGIONAL
Second Round
Saturday, March 22
At The Ford Center
Oklahoma City
Oklahoma 74, California 65
Sunday, March 23
At The Fleet Center
Boston
Syracuse 68, Oklahoma State 56
At St. Pete Times Forum
Tampa, Fla.
Auburn 68, Wake Forest 62
At Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center
Birmingham, Ala.
Butler 79, Louisville 71
Semifinals
At Pepsi Arena
Albany, N.Y.
Friday, March 28
Oklahoma (26-6) vs. Butler (27-5), 7:10 p.m.
Syracuse (26-5) vs. Auburn (22-11), 9:40 p.m.
Championship
At Pepsi Arena
Albany, N.Y.
Sunday, March 30
Oklahoma-Butler winner vs. Syracuse-Auburn winner

SOUTH REGIONAL
Second Round
Saturday, March 22
At Spokane Arena
Spokane, Wash.
Connecticut 85, Stanford 74
Sunday, March 23
At The Gaylord Entertainment Center
Nashville, Tenn.
Maryland 77, Xavier 64
At Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center
Birmingham, Ala.
Texas 77, Purdue 67
At St. Pete Times Forum
Tampa, Fla.
Michigan State 68, Florida 46
Semifinals
At The Alamodome
San Antonio
Friday, March 28
Connecticut (23-9) vs. Texas (24-6), 7:27 p.m.
Maryland (21-9) vs. Michigan State (21-12), 9:57 p.m.
Championship
At The Alamodome
San Antonio
Sunday, March 30
Connecticut-Texas winner vs. Maryland-Michigan State winner
Semifinal winners

MIDWEST REGIONAL
Second Round
Saturday, March 22
At The RCA Dome
Indianapolis
Marquette 101, Missouri 92, OT
At Spokane Arena
Spokane, Wash.
Wisconsin 61, Tulsa 60
Sunday, March 23
At The Fleet Center
Boston
Pittsburgh 74, Indiana 52

At The Gaylord Entertainment Center
Nashville, Tenn.
Kentucky 74, Utah 54
Semifinals
At The Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome
Minneapolis
Thursday, March 27
Wisconsin (24-7) vs. Kentucky (31-3), 7:10 p.m.
Marquette (25-5) vs. Pittsburgh (28-4), 9:40 p.m.
Championship
At The Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome
Minneapolis
Saturday, March 29
Semifinal winners

WEST REGIONAL
Second Round
Saturday, March 22
At The RCA Dome
Indianapolis
Notre Dame 68, Illinois 60
At The Jon M. Huntsman Center
Salt Lake City
Arizona 96, Gonzaga 95, 2OT
Duke 86, Central Michigan 60
At The Ford Center
Oklahoma City
Kansas 108, Arizona State 76
Semifinals
At Arrowhead Pond
Anaheim, Calif.
Thursday, March 27
Notre Dame (24-9) vs. Arizona (27-3), 7:27 p.m.
Duke (26-6) vs. Kansas (27-7), 9:57 p.m.
Championship
At Arrowhead Pond
Anaheim, Calif.
Saturday, March 29
Semifinal winners

BOWLING

Harvester Lanes
League Standings
Generation Gap
(Week 13)

Team	Won	Lost
Two Balls, No Strikes	24	1
Whoopin' Wintons	22	2
The Dickey Bowlers	19	3
K.O. Average	18	4
Team Ten	17	5
Team One	15	8
Bald Eagles	15	7
Slithering Snakes	15	6
Why Are We Even Out Here?	14	9
The Young & The Old	13	10
Team Four	9	11
Rootin' Tootin' Texans	7	12

Men's Top Scores
High scratch game: Steve Nolte 221; High handicap series: Gary Winton 637; High handicap game: Steve Nolte 243; High handicap series: Gary Winton 637.

Women
High scratch game: Tonya DeArman 164; High handicap series: Tonya DeArman 459; High handicap game: Krista Mayberry 214; High handicap series: Tonya DeArman 603.

Boys
High scratch game: Andrew Winton 206; High handicap series: Andrew Winton 527; High handicap game: Andrew Winton 243; High handicap series: Alex Romero 710.

Girls
High scratch game: Laraine Hess 157; High handicap series: Laraine Hess 407; High handicap game: Haley Clark 218; High handicap series: Haley Clark 593.

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The Pampa News

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14d Carpentry

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

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

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ADDITIONS, Remodeling decks, fences, patios, home repairs. Jerry Reagan, 669-3943

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

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

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♦ Taylor Ceramic Tile Works ♦ Handicap Conversions Shower Installation Floor Tile & Regrouting Keith 665-0328 or lv. msg

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A-1 Concrete Const. All types of concrete work or removal. Call day or night, 663-6414

14n Painting

50 yr. exp. We paint, dry-wall, texture, comm / residential. Free Estimates. Happy Painters 665-3214

14r Plowing/Yard

ROTOTILLING, lawn mowing & scalping. Free estimates. 665-3039 or local cell # 440-1304.

YARD Work & Clean-Up 835-2945 or 665-8605

14s Plumbing/Heat

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

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

21 Help Wanted

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

21 Help Wanted

THERAPIST TECHNICIAN II ASCI-PAMPA

Work floor Supervisor Quality control of workshop contracts assigned deadlines. Shares in workshop vocational and day program responsibilities. This includes implementation of daily scheduled training programs and documentation for assigned case-load. **Qualifications:** High School diploma or GED, plus some experience in the therapeutic activities. Must have a valid Texas drivers license. With an hourly rate of \$7.63 plus a generous employee benefit package. Apply at TPMHMR, 901 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, Tx. 79106, 806-358-1681. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

THERAPIST TECHNICIAN III PART-TIME PAMPA, TEXAS

Texas Panhandle MHMR is taking appli. for a Therapist Technician III to serve as a Community Program Manager for persons with Mental Retardation in Pampa, Tx. This person will be responsible for providing supported home living and in-home respite services for HCS clients. Will provide training in health related skills, completes assessments and provides assistance in the activities of daily living. The position requires a high school diploma / GED plus six months experience assisting in therapeutic activities and a valid Texas Drivers License. This is a part-time position and offers an hourly salary of \$8.01. Apply at TPMHMR, 901 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, Tx. 79106, 806-358-1681. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

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ATTENTION Work From Home. \$1500-\$10,000 mo. 1-800-413-4918. www.securewealthfromhome.com

RN or LVN needed in Pampa area for home care. 40+ hours, excellent pay and benefits. Apply at 3242 Hobbs in Amarillo or call 806-355-1899.

FULL-TIME LVN's 3-11 p.m. shift, Charge Nurse & PRN LVN. Must have caring attitude. Apply in person at St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle, or call Kay 537-3194.

FUN Valley Family Resort, South Fork Colo. needs students for Summer jobs. Office, sales, housekeeping, dining room, horse wrangler, kitchen & other. Salary, room, board, bonus. Write: Personnel 9010 Ravenswood, Granbury, Tx. 76049.



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FUN Valley Family Resort, South Fork Colo. needs retirees & others with own RV for Summer employment. Office, housekeeping, cooks, sales, maintenance & rv parks. Write: Personnel 9010 Ravenswood, Granbury, Tx 76049.

Assistant Manager Start at \$10/hr (+ bonus potential) w / 1+ yrs. Mgt exper. Must be available all shifts

Benefits include holiday, vacation, dental, medical, life, 401K & more Restaurant or Grocery Experience helpful **Apply at Braum's in Pampa**

HIRING Sports Industry Const. Super. up to 50K, track tech. no exp. nec. Benefits & Bonuses. Apply 94 Main St., Panhandle, Tx., 537-3526.

SIGN ON BONUS Pampa Nursing Center has an opening for a Registered Nurse or a Licensed Vocational Nurse, in the position of Charge Nurse on the 2-10 shift. Applicants can contact Mitzi Devoll, R.N., Director of Nursing at 1321 W. Kentucky, EEOE.

DUNLAPS

DUNLAPS is now accepting applications for Store Manager. College degree preferred.

Please bring resume with references to:
Dunlaps Coronado Center Pampa Tx 79065 or call Cristy Parker at 669-7417

\$500 SIGN-ON BONUS FOR CERTIFIED NURSES AIDES

Pampa Nursing Center is currently hiring Certified Nurses Aides. Qualified applicants apply in person to Mitzi Devoll, R. N., Director of Nursing, at 1321 W. Kentucky, Pampa, Tx. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

NOW accepting applications for LVN 10-6 shift, weekend RN. Contact Francis Sims RN, DON, McLean Care Center, 806-779-2469.

DOUBLE YOUR MONEY Wanted: Sharp, Energetic Person currently making Between \$250-\$500 per week who is in a dead end job wanting to double their current income. National Co. with Local office is looking for 2 people to start immediately. We will train you to earn \$30,000 to \$50,000 per year with no credit turn-downs, advanced commissions, present appointments, major medical, life insurance and 401K available. If you are interested about wanting this Opportunity, call 664-2190 Tuesday thru Friday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. to schedule A confidential interview.

77 Livest/Equip.

65 yearling Black Angus Bulls-Bloodlines-Basin Max 602C-Sleep Easy-GT Max-SchurrTop Supreme-Fame-Fly Traveler-1680 Precision-Battle Cry...Low to Moderate BW and High Growth, 40 Angus Heifers to be bred in May to Sleep Easy, Northern Improvement, and Fame. Preg. Checked and Delivered in Sept. More Info. Contact Thomas Angus-Gordon Thomas 580-655-4318 or 580-497-7217 Reydon Okla.

80 Pets & Suppl.

BLACK Schnauzer Female, 2 white back feet and white on chest, 5 weeks old. \$300. Call 665-5130 or 665-3669.

7 Free Puppies 669-6997

21 Help Wanted

DRIVER needed, local hauling, excellent pay, and benefits bonus program, new trucks, 12 hour shifts. May apply in person at County Rd. 16 in Wheeler or call 826-3522.

WANTED: Babysitter for 2 kids (13 & 11) Need someone before I can look for work. Please Call Susan 665-2088.

50 Building Suppl.

White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

HOUSTON LUMBER 420 W. Foster 669-6881

60 Household

DIGITAL Big Screen TV, take on small payments. Good credit required. 1-800-9398-3970.

68 Antiques

ANTIQUE sofa w/carved legs, unique \$400; antique Oak Highboy dresser w/Beveled mirror \$350 883-7406

69 Misc.

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QUEEN Chimney Sweep. Free inspection. Call for appointment 665-9452, if no answer leave message.

LIKE New Toro 6.0 hp, 21" Personal Pace Self Propelled mower, rear bag Super recycler. 665-5942

69a Garage Sales

NEW Flea Market Open every weekend. Call 664-1027 for spaces, Corner of Hwy. 60 & Price Rd. \$10 spaces this weekend.

MOVING Sale 1045 Prairie Dr. 669-0878 All Week

MOVING Sale Moving to Indiana everything must go. appliances, bdr suite, dining table & cabinet & more. Wed. & Thurs 8-4, 502 E. 10th, Lefors

GARAGE Sale 912 S. Sumner Computer New \$400

80 Pets & Suppl.

FREE Australian Shepherd puppy, 6 months old. 665-1105 ask for Vickie.

95 Furn. Apts.

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." State law also forbids discrimination based on these factors. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

DOGWOOD Apts., 1 bdr. furn. avail. Dep. & ref. required. 669-9817, 669-2981.

EFFICIENCY, apt. \$225 mo., bills pd. Rooms \$20 day, \$80 wk. & up, air, tv, cable, phone. 669-3221.

96 Unfurn. Apts. CAPROCK Apts. has fantastic specials on all 1, 2 & 3 bdr. apts. starting at \$290. 3, 6, 9 & 12 mo. leases avail. Pool, laundry, washer / dryer hook-ups, club room, on-site management and SOFTENED WATER to all units. 1601 N. Somerville, 665-7149 Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5:30, Sat. 10-4.

WENDDOLEN Plaza Apts., 1&2 bdr. Gas / water pd. 3, 6 mo.-1yr. lease. 800 N. Nelson, 665-1875.

VERY clean, large 2 bd. appliances, w/d hook up, water & gas paid. HUD, Ref. Call 665-1346

98 Unfurn. Houses PICK UP rental list from Gray Box on front porch of Lakeview Apartments. Update each Fri.

LEFORS, 3 bdr House for rent. Call 662-8771

FOR Rent, 130 S. Sumner, small 3 bdr trailer, 1 1/2 bath, \$250 mo, \$150 dep. 669-2291.

313 N. Faulkner, 522 N. Dwight, 2 & 3 bd. central h/a. Call 669-2080.

REMODELED 3 bd, 2 bath, 327 Sunset, 886-1920 Possible Lease Purchase.

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

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AMERICAN Self Storage, 2520 N. Hobart-Pampa. 806-669-2537, 806-664-1900.

102 Bus. Rent. Prop.

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

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

OFFICE space for rent, 105 W. Foster. Call 669-2048, 898-0013.

103 Homes For Sale

Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-3560, 663-1442 669-0007

3 bedroom, spacious, near high school, fenced, c. heat & c. air. C-21 Realtor 665-5436, 665-4180

BY Owner, 3 bdr., 1 3/4 ba., 2 car gar., 2 liv. areas, lrg. laundry rm., covered patio. 1806 Chestnut. \$59,000. 665-3627.

MUST See! 3 bd, 1 bath, 2 L., 1121 Sierra. For loan payoff, as is. 665-2869. Call to view.

PRICE REDUCED!! \$27,500 Rt. 1, Box 43, Hoover 2 bedrooms, 1 bath on .48 Acres, storm cellar and well. **JIM DAVIDSON CENTURY 21 669-0007**

SEVERAL 2 & 3 bd houses for sale by owner. Use your tax refund for down pymnts, 665-4842.

WE are moving & need to sell our neat & spacious 2 story, 4 bdr., 2 full ba., 2 liv. areas home. Must see to appreciate. 901 E. Francis. Call 665-7815.

Why Rent When You Can Buy? Owner Will Finance 413 Pitts, 2 bd, 1 bath with den ad on, \$2000 down, \$250 monthly payments, 405 Pitts, 2 bd, 1 bath, \$1700 down, \$210 monthly payments, Chance we can work with down payment. 806-790-0827

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118 Trailers 1969 Avion 20 ft. new ac, waterheater, tires, plumbing, \$3500. Call 413-478-4917.

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Doug Boyd Motor Co. "On The Spot Financing" 821 W. Wilks 669-6062

CULBERSON-STOWERS Chevrolet-Pontiac-Buick GMC-Olds-Cadillac 805 N. Hobart 665-1665 1984 Volvo. Great shape! \$2500. See at 2300 Christine or call 669-9347.

4- SALE 1994 Ford Tempo, excellent work or school car. \$2500. 848-2976.

PHIL-PET Federal Credit Union is accepting bids on a 1996 Dodge Van. We have the right to accept or refuse any and all bids. Call 669-6044.

1986 Ford Van Club Wagon XLT, 460 engine, 43,000 actual miles, 5 new tires. 669-2030.

Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, March 26, 2003:

You might want to push plans that you think are a high priority. Even though your ideas might be great, you might need to try very hard to achieve the results you want. Success greets you in the professional realm later this year, after August. Meanwhile, allow your creativity to flow and take on a new dimension. You could be delighted by the net results. If you are single, romance should be knocking on your door anytime, making a new, significant relationship a possibility. If you're attached, you will have a good time with your mate as long as you don't need to play king or queen for the day too often! CAPRICORN pushes you hard.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ***** Slow down and manage your work with an eye to completion. You'll take your bows, but look toward a meeting later on. For many, this gathering might not be social, but it will develop into a happening. Note the importance of a group consensus. Tonight: Where your friends are.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ***** Read between the lines with a boss who could see a situation differently than you. What you choose to say could be considerably different. You might opt to defer to this person rather than going into the mind-reading business. Either works. Tonight: A must show.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ***** Deal with the basics when talking to those close to you. You might find individual conversations far more

significant than dealing with groups. Reach out for experts at a distance, especially if you want to get more feedback. Lighten up. Tonight: Don't be too serious.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ***** You might defer to others, as you have little chance of making waves as you would like to. Your sense of direction could change after an important conversation that occurs later in the day. Clear out work while you're biding your time. Tonight: Be with your best friend.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ***** Go in to work focused on getting the job done. Your ability to clear out work and get a lot done might make a big difference in your choices.

Question what might be going on within your immediate circle, especially as others clamor at your door later in the day. Tonight: Take a midweek break.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ***** Investigate what might be the solution to a problem that appears to be blocking others left and right. Touch base with your long-term desires that involve a child or loved one. Postpone a project in order to handle this issue. Tonight: Off to the gym.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ***** Deal with security and finances first. You really cannot give 100 percent at work until you clear your head.

Remain positive and optimistic with a child, loved one or creative endeavor. Once you charge your energy into a project, it might be difficult to stop you. Tonight: Play away. Everyone needs a Diana Ross (1944), journalist Bob Woodward (1943)

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ***** Speak your mind for once and for all. Stop complaining and express Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at what's on your mind. Your ability to understand what happens with others will make or break a situation. Lighten

up about events that surround a neighbor or sibling. Tonight: You need a night off.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** Take off for the bank. Check out CDs or a new financial plan. As a high risk-taker, you could get yourself into trouble very easily. Understand your limits more carefully. Discussions with those in the know reveal a different outlook. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ***** You're empowered, but don't be surprised if you have to repeat much of what you do at a later date. Somehow, others might be distracted. Review personal matters more directly that involve a childlike expenditure. Tonight: Give in. Spend a little.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***** You feel as if you're a race horse ready to jump out of the gate. You might not be exactly sure what is workable for others. Listen during the daylight hours; take action as the sun sets. You will be a veritable force to deal with. Tonight: Whatever you want.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ***** You find that your entry into a meeting could have a great deal more impact than you initially thought. Discussions could be animated but fun. Don't count on making waves that will last. You might not be in control as much as you would like to be. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

BORN TODAY NFL player Marcus Allen (1960), singer Diana Ross (1944), journalist Bob Woodward (1943)

BAM WV — A J G Y A B K J X Y K K Yesterday's Cryptoquote: WOMEN WANT MEDIOCRE MEN, AND MEN ARE WORKING TO BE AS MEDIOCRE AS POSSIBLE. — MARGARET MEAD

China baby trade illicit but thriving

BEIJING (AP) — The trade is illicit but thriving: baby girls, abducted or bought from Chinese farm families, sold to others who want a daughter, a servant or a future bride for a son.

And despite police crackdowns on gangs that sell thousands of babies a year, the government's own birth-control policies that limit most couples to one child appear to add to the demand.

The discovery last week of 28 baby girls, none older than 3 months, packed in nylon tote bags aboard a long-distance bus in southern China was a striking example of the trade but far from unusual, Chinese officials and experts in family issues say.

"Demand for girl infants is big in China's rural areas," said Song Liya, editor of the newspaper China Women's News.

Most buyers of baby girls are families that have a boy and want a second child, said an official in Beijing for the official All-China Women's Federation. Sometimes, she said, a girl might be kept to work around the house or till the fields until she is a teenager, then sold to a family whose son needs a wife.

The baby girls might have been abducted, abandoned or sold by their parents, said the official, who would give only her surname, Li.

"In infant trafficking rings, many children's parents are also the sellers," Li said. "So in many cases, it's almost impossible to find out the origins of the children."

The scale of the trade isn't clear, but China's Justice Ministry says a three-month-long nationwide crackdown in 2000 resulted in the rescue of some 10,000 babies.

Chinese society has never valued girls as highly as boys, who carry on the family name

and look after elderly parents. By contrast, girls join their husbands' families — prompting a folk saying that raising a daughter is like "watering another family's field."

Until the 1940s, girls were considered so unimportant that many weren't given names until adulthood.

Communist authorities — led by Mao Zedong, who famously remarked that women "hold up half the sky" — prided themselves on raising the status of women. Upon taking power in 1949, they ended the prewar custom of selling unwanted daughters to brothels or as servants.

But the trade has flourished anew amid looser social controls and tighter enforcement of "one-child" rules meant to restrain the growth of China's population of 1.3 billion people.

Parents are so intent on a boy that some abort female fetuses and kill or abandon baby girls in order to try again. That has led to a lopsided ratio of boys to girls that experts say could, in coming decades, leave tens of millions of men without wives.

The government recently banned abortion as a means of selecting a baby's sex, the official Xinhua News Agency reported last week.

Still, the shortage has prompted some parents to acquire future brides for their sons as babies, said Song, the newspaper editor. She said infants are considered more appealing because they are less likely to run away, will look on their buyers as their own parents and are cheaper than buying a teenage bride.

Buying a baby girl can cost as little as a \$100 and won't result in the fines imposed on couples who violate birth-control limits, according to Song. Such fines can equal as much as six years' income.

Local VISTA recruit travels to Austin

AMERICORPS, an organization offering volunteer opportunities throughout the world through the Peace Corps, offers similar opportunities in the United States with its Volunteers in Service to America program.

As part of the training for VISTA volunteers, orientation sessions are held throughout the country to allow volunteers to network and to share practical information.

Judith Loyd, of Pampa, along with several other VISTA volunteers working with Coalition of Health Services of Amarillo, recently traveled to Austin for an "Early Service Orientation."

Loyd serves with 2CARE for MOMS and Babies program here in Pampa and is beginning her second year of service. 2CARE for MOMS is an incentive pro-

gram to encourage expectant mothers to begin prenatal care early and to be consistent with care during the entire term.

2CARE for Babies encourages regular well-baby check-ups to assess infants' growth and development at this most crucial stage of life. Support groups are held in conjunction with

these programs and are open to non-participants as well. Moms and expectant moms enrolled in the programs earn points which can be redeemed at the Baby's Coming Shop at the conclusion of each program.

For more information about 2CARE or the support groups, contact Judith Loyd at 664-2459.



(Courtesy photo)

Local VISTA volunteer Judith Loyd, far right, recently participated in an "Early Service Orientation" in Austin along with several other area volunteers.

Majority of state Democrats denounce insurance bill

AUSTIN (AP) — All but one of the 12 Democrats in the Senate said in a letter Monday that a bill to change the way homeowners and auto insurance rates are regulated will not bring real reform to the industry and they will not support the bill unless changes are made to it.

"We cannot vote to allow the bill to leave the Senate Chamber unless it contains, at a minimum, significant improvements to protect consumers and improve accountability and transparency in the market and at the Texas Department of Insurance," the Democrats said in a letter to Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst.

The Senate tentatively is scheduled to debate the bill Thursday. Senate rules require 21 senators to vote to bring up a bill on the Senate floor if all members are present. With 11 senators against the bill, there would not be enough votes to give the bill a debate.

Sen. Troy Fraser, Republican chairman of the Senate Business and Commerce Committee, criticized the Democrats, saying that several of them who signed the letter were at a news conference a few weeks ago to explain terms of a bipartisan compromise reached on the legislation.

"It appears now that after they got substantially all the things they wanted in the bill, they are attempting to re-trade several of the issues they agreed to and get one more bite of the apple," said Fraser, whose committee last week approved the bill, sending it to the full Senate.

The bill would require Insurance Commissioner Jose Montemayor to set new rates for the largest homeowners insurance companies 30 days after the bill is signed into law, which Fraser has said he believes will

result in an average 12 percent to 15 percent rate reduction for customers.

After the rates are set, both auto and homeowners insurance companies would then have to get approval from Montemayor for any proposed rate increase. The commissioner would

approve or reject the rates, but if he did not take action in 30 days, the rates would be deemed approved. The commissioner could have a 30-day extension to further review the rates under the bill.

The bill also would set rules on insurance companies using a

person's credit history to set rates. There are no rules in the law now.

Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, D-San Antonio, voted against the bill last week in the business committee, saying she believed auto insurance rates would increase and there would be a regression on consumer protections for auto insurance under the legislation. She also said the bill needed more consumer protections on credit scoring.

"The question at hand is do we want to have an industry bill or do we want to have a consumer bill," Van de Putte said Monday. "In spite of our best efforts, this does not protect consumers."

ARC Proclamation



(Community Camera photo)

Mayor Lonny Robbins recently signed a proclamation designating March as American Red Cross Month as Gray County ARC Executive Director Jana Gregory looks on. ARC stresses the importance of preparedness in case of disaster whether by nature, war or terrorism. For more information, stop by 108 N. Russell or call 669-7121.

Tycoon arrested in Britain on Russian fraud charges

LONDON (AP) — British police said Tuesday they have arrested Russian tycoon Boris Berezovsky at the request of Russian authorities who are investigating him for alleged fraud.

An extradition request charges that Berezovsky defrauded the administration of Russia's Samara region while director of a company called LogoVaz between Jan. 1 1994 and Dec. 31 1995.

The Metropolitan Police said officers arrested Berezovsky in London early Monday. A LogoVaz associate, Yuli Dubov, was also arrested Monday, police said.

Berezovsky and Dubov were released on bail, pending an appearance at Bow Street Magistrates Court on April 2, police said.

"Both were charged on the extradition warrant issued by Bow Street Magistrates' Court following a request for assistance from Russian Authorities investigating allegations of a fraud," said a statement from the Metropolitan Police.

"The charge alleges that between Jan. 1, 1994, and Dec. 31, 1995, they defrauded the Administration of Samara Region of 60 billion rubles whilst being directors of LogoVaz," it added.

In December 1995, 60 billion rubles was worth some \$13 million.

A Moscow court last

October issued an arrest warrant for Berezovsky, Dubov and another associate in connection with the theft of cars from Russia's largest carmaker AvtoVaz.

LogoVaz was the official dealer for AvtoVaz and later functioned as the holding company for a range of Berezovsky investments. Dubov was general director of LogoVaz.

Berezovsky, an influential member of former Russian President Boris Yeltsin's circle, was emblematic of the politically connected group of so-called oligarchs who amassed huge wealth after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

However, Putin's government targeted Berezovsky in its anti-corruption campaign, and the tycoon became a bitter critic of the Russian leader. Berezovsky says the efforts to prosecute him are motivated by his criticism, and have forced his self-imposed exile in Britain.

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