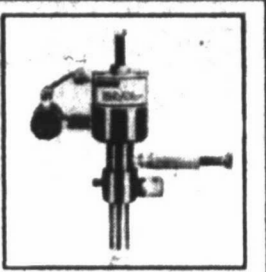


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 Pampa, Texas

SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2004

NEWS

City places final touches on its Hike & Bike Trail

By MARILYN POWERS
 STAFF WRITER

The latest addition to Pampa's Hike and Bike Trail is nearly completed, with final touches expected to be in place by the end of April, according to Public Service Superintendent Kimberly Lincycomb.

The new section of trail, running north and south along Evergreen Avenue from 16th Avenue to Harvester Avenue, brings the total paved trail surface to 3.72 miles.

The trail is the last phase of a \$44,000 project to overlay trails in parks in north Pampa with concrete, Lincycomb said. Some pre-existing trails had their asphalt surfaces dug up and replaced with concrete.

Texas Parks and Wildlife is paying for 80 percent of the cost of the project, and the City of Pampa is responsible for the other 20 percent, she said. Texas Department of Criminal Justice has provided workers from its Jordan Unit outside Pampa to help with the project.

Pampa's Hike and Bike Trail, also called the Fun 'n' Fitness Trail, began in the late 1990s, Lincycomb said, when Pampa's Parks and Recreation Advisory Board found grants on the Internet which were available from Texas Parks and Wildlife.

"They developed a request and it was approved, and that started the Hike and Bike Trail," Lincycomb said.

The first segment of trail extended from West Coronado Park to M.K. Brown Swimming Pool, she said.

In 2000, another grant proposal was submitted by Reed Kirkpatrick, now retired, of the Parks and Recreation Department. The grant, which was approved, was used to overlay a three-quarter-mile long trail at Recreation Park.

Lincycomb submitted the latest grant proposal, and began work earlier this year on trails from Alameda Park through Chestnut Park. The trail from Mora Wilks Park to M.K. Brown Pool has 1,200 feet of new trail now, she said.

"We still lack tying in a couple of drains so water off Evergreen Avenue will go under the trail at Mora Wilks Park," Lincycomb said. "We also need to fill in with dirt along the trail edges in some places."

The grant for the latest project required that all work be completed by Dec. 31, she said.

The first two grants, like the current project, provided 80 percent of funding from Texas Parks and Wildlife, with the city responsible for the remaining 20 percent. Jordan Unit inmates have been involved in each project.

Lincycomb hopes the new trail will help make the area safer for pedestrians and others.

"Everybody was walking down the middle of Evergreen" before the new trail was added, she said.

VFW 75th anniversary

Saturday, April 3, will mark a day filled with events and special guests celebrating the 75th anniversary of Pampa Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1657.

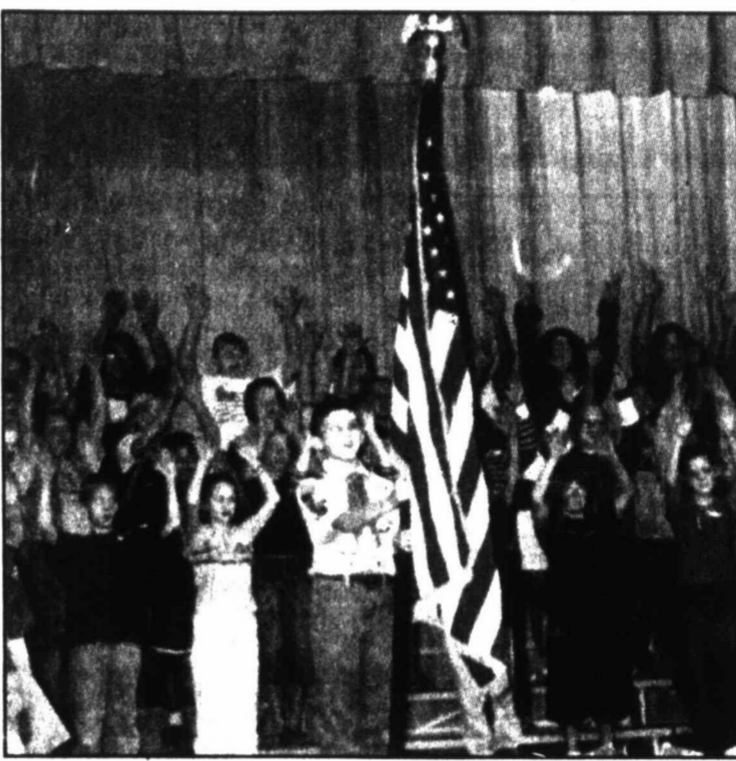
A parade with the theme "Patriotic" and an open house with a display of local veteran's photographs and memorabilia at the VFW Post, 105 S. Cuyler, will be among the day's festivities.

The parade begins at 1 p.m. Saturday and will form at M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium parking lot. Participants are asked to enter the parking lot through the west entrance off Sumner Street on the south side of the auditorium. Parade entry forms are available at the VFW Post or by calling 662-4367. Last minute entries will also be accepted at M.K. Brown parking lot prior to the parade.

VFW Commander Danny Martin said a number of parade entries have already been received, such as the Khiva Shrine, classic cars, and participants both local and from throughout the area.

To culminate the day, a banquet for VFW members and local, district and state VFW dignitaries, and special guests is planned at 6 p.m. in the VFW Post building. The Hon. Lee Waters, 223rd District Judge, will be keynote speaker with musical entertainment provided by the Pampa High School Show Choir.

Kris Karson, a returning veteran from the war in Iraq, is scheduled to talk about



(Courtesy photo)

A number of Pampa VFW members attend the patriotic Veterans Day program, shown, presented each year by Travis Elementary Students.

his experiences that night and John Triplehorn, a longtime member of the Pampa VFW, will present a history of the local post.

Special guests include Texas VFW Commander Ron Hornsby of Austin and District 9 VFW Commander Gary Branch of Amarillo.

VFW members must make reservations for the banquet by Tuesday, March 30, by calling 662-4367.

"Post 1657 was chartered on April 4, 1929," Martin said. "The first Commander of the Post was J.L. Noel."

Martin said the actual history of the

local post has been difficult to reconstruct. Many of the post's records were lost or ruined in the June 8, 1995 tornado that destroyed the VFW building just west of Pampa on Texas Highway 152, he said.

After several months, the building became available at 105 S. Cuyler and the local VFW set up their new Post. The new facility is large enough to accommodate the Post meetings, house medical equipment and host community functions.

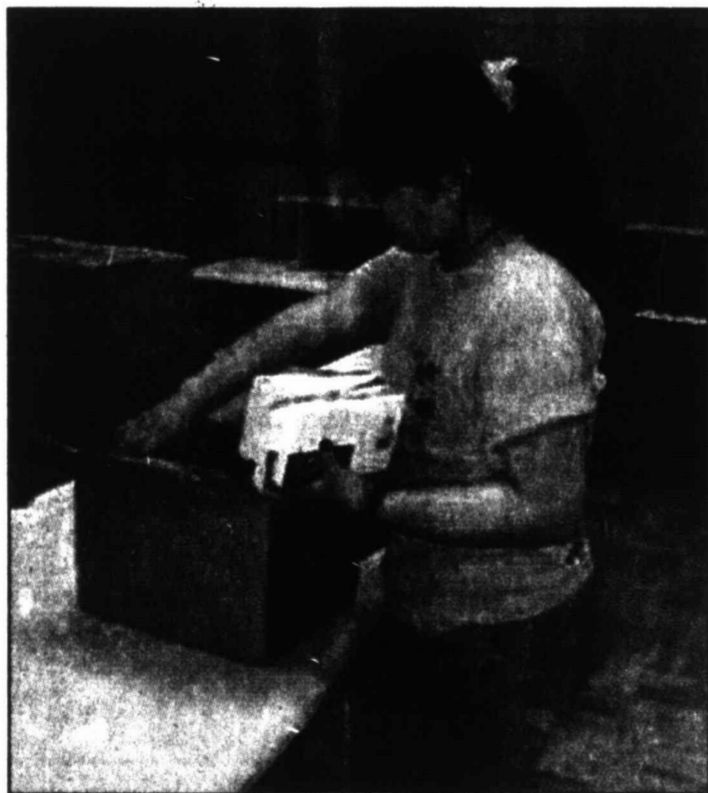
"As of now our membership consists of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Granada, Desert Storm and Iraq veterans," Martin said. "We also have a very active Ladies Auxiliary."

Martin urges all eligible veterans to join the post. All those who have served their country overseas and/or their family members are encouraged to join, he said.

Local VFW members not only served their country, they continue to be an active part of the community. The VFW provides assistance to veterans and their families financially, with medical supplies, meals, scholarships, fellowship and any other needed services.

Pampa VFW Ladies Auxiliary supports the activities of the VFW. The auxiliary also promotes cancer aid and research, community service, hospital and nursing home service, and many other programs to assist the veteran and their families.

Library book sale



(Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers)

Cynthia Hernandez, a volunteer, sorts paperbacks for the Friends of the Library's annual book sale, April 1-4 at Lovett Memorial Library in Pampa.

Republicans favor declassifying 2002 testimony by Richard Clarke

WASHINGTON (AP) — Key Republicans in Congress want to declassify 2002 testimony by former counterterrorism official Richard Clarke, hoping to show discrepancies between his recent criticisms of the Bush administration and positive remarks he made as a White House aide.

"Mr. Clarke has told two

entirely different stories under oath," Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., told the Senate on Friday.

Frist and House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., want to make public Clarke's classified testimony in July 2002 before a joint House-Senate

(See CLARKE, Page 2)

Living history group to hold 'School of the Horse Soldier'

Frontier Regiment of the High Plains, a living history group based in the Panhandle of Texas is reviving traditions of the past with a "School of the Horse Soldier" in Pampa on April 3.

The workshop is one of many to be conducted this spring and summer to commemorate the 130th anniversary of the 1874 Red River War. The last segment is planned Sept. 24 and 25 at Palo Duro Canyon.

Under the careful guidance of one of the founders of the group, Jimmy Northcutt, a longtime member of the 4th U.S. Cavalry Regiment and veteran cavalry reenactor, the group endeavors to preserve Texas Panhandle history by reliving that history centered around the 1870s Red River War.

Many remember the Alamo, but do they remember the struggle at a place called Adobe Walls in 1874? Do they remember the conflict that became the Red River War or the Battle of Palo Duro Canyon? Do people living today realize the hardships of life that the people faced daily as they tried to tame the Panhandle.

known as the last Texas frontier?

Members of the Frontier Regiment of the High Plains understand and through their dedication, will not let this important part of Texas history be forgotten.

One way they accomplish this is by providing historical programs for museums, schools, parades, and workshops to the public. On Saturday, April 3, the Frontier Regiment of the High Plains will sponsor a Cavalry "School of the Horse Soldier" workshop at the Mark Craddock arena located 1/4 mile south of U.S. Highway 60 intersection traffic light on Price Road, west of Pampa.

This is a one-day school open to adults and teenagers interested in learning more about cavalry reenacting. Students can provide their own horses and equipment if they have them, or they may be outfitted with some of the members' equipment. Students will be instructed in the same cavalry horsemanship and maneuvers as was practiced in the late 1860s and 1870s and will learn about the life of the military men that traversed these Panhandle prairies.

(See CALVARY, Page 2)

DEATHS
 Elizabeth Ann Reynolds, 59.

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| | 1942 Grape ... \$98,000 | |



Sandra Schuneman

Tax Return Refunds Will Make GREAT DOWN PAYMENTS On Your NEW HOME

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

CALVARY

There will also be instructions on the equestrian style of the 19th century lady riding in her habit on a sidesaddle, demonstrating the form and riding qualities in vogue during the later 19th century for the horse-woman.

Instructor for this school is experienced Cavalry reenactor 1st Sgt. Butch Kelly, 7th U.S. Cavalry (Memorial) of Lamar, Colo. He is a veteran "living history" presenter who is

knowledgeable in all phases of the "School of the Cavalry Horse." He and members of his group have appeared in many movies as well as presented living history programs at Fort Larned, Kan., Cheyenne Frontier Days and numerous public schools. The group has participated in the Little Big Horn battle reenactment as well as competition in the National Cavalry Competition sponsored by the U.S. Cavalry Association.

Kelly's wife, Laura, an accomplished sidesaddle competitor, is excellent in her presentation to the ladies of the regiment or public for competition or pleasure sidesaddle riding.

Persons interested in attending the school or needing more information may contact Jimmy Northcutt at (806) 622-1289 and leave a message. Or e-mail him at jnorthcutt@amaonline.com.

City Briefs

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

1ST YEAR Anniversary! \$5 off tanning pkgs. & 25% off lotions. All About Beauty, 1405 N. Banks, 665-1101.

3/4- SLEEVE baseball jerseys, \$6.99. T-Shirts & More.

OPENING VERY Soon! Patrick's Game Room, 310 W. Foster.

DOES THAT old grill need new parts? Come see us at Fireside Comfort Hearth & Home, 530 W. Brown.

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FOR RENT tuxedos, business suits, wedding gowns, bridesmaid dresses, everything you need for your wedding at VJ's Fashions & Gifts, 118 N. Cuyler, 669-6323.

GOING OUT of business Sale. 50% off at All It's Charm.

KAREN'S KITCHEN, 716 W. Foster, Sun. 11-2. Country style ribs, enchiladas, ch, tenders. All You Can Eat \$7.50.

LEEANN'S GROOMING, 669-9660.

MARRIAGE, PREMARITAL, individual, & family counseling. For more info, call 688-0096. Redeemed Hearts Christian Counseling Center. Worley & Danina Kennedy.

MONDAY LUNCH Special, roast beef plate w/ 2 sides \$5.99. Bell Mart, 1020 E. Frederic.

NASCAR TICKETS for Sold Out April 4th Race. \$125 per ticket, 4 avail. 886-3677

NEW SPRING jewelry to match Spring, Easter & Prom fashions! Twice Is Nice.

PAMPA NEWS Carrier needed immediately. Come by 403 W. Atchison & fill out application. No phone calls please. Must be 13 yrs. old or older.

PAMPA SHRINE Club Spring BBQ, Sun. Apr. 4, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. All you can eat (2 meats) adults \$8, kids 6-12 \$5, under 6 free. Top O Tx. Sportsman Club on S. Barnes.

PROM DRESSES on sale at VJ's Fashions & Gifts. Petite, Missy & Plus Size. Downtown Pampa, 669-6323.

SEALED BIDS are being accepted for a 1999 Isuzu Vehicross. Bid sheets may be picked up from the Pampa Teachers Federal Union at 808 W. Francis, Monday, March 29th through Thursday, April 1st. Opening of the bids will be April 5th, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. Pampa Teachers Federal Credit Union reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

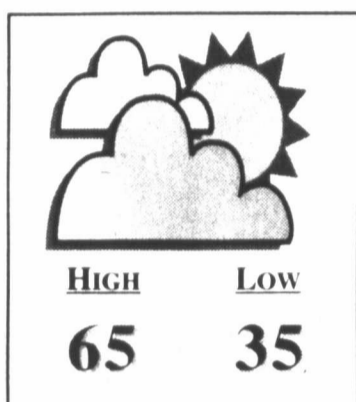
TAMMY'S CUT-UPS Hair dresser and manicurist booth open. Great location, lots of walk-ins, very clean, friendly atmosphere. Tues.-Fri. 665-6558, Sat.-Mon. 665-6950 or 662-1780. 816 N. Hobart.

VERY NICE 3-6 month Girls Summer Clothes for sale. at Jiffy Cleaners 1807 N. Hobart- 669-7711

VFW MEMBERS need to make reservations for the April 3rd Banquet by Tues. Mar. 30, 662-4367 or 662-4148.

LOCAL FORECAST

The forecast today is calling for partly cloudy skies, highs in the upper 60s and north winds 5 to 15 mph. Tonight should fall on mostly clear skies with lows in the mid 30s and north winds 10 to 15 mph. Monday should see mostly sunny skies. Highs around 70. West winds 5 to 10 mph. Monday night, mostly



clear. Lows around 40.

Tuesday, mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s. Tuesday night, mostly clear. Lows in the mid 40s. Wednesday, mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s. Wednesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 50s. Thursday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. Thursday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s. Friday, partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s.

OBITUARIES

SERVICES TOMORROW

MUSGRAVE, Mary Francis — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

ELIZABETH ANN REYNOLDS
Born Nov. 27, 1944, in Pampa, Texas
Died Feb. 7, 2004, in Denver, Colo.

Ann is survived by her Mother Mary Harlan of Centennial, Colo.; Father George Reynolds of Prague, Okla.; Brother Mike Reynolds of Lacy, Wash.; Sister Nancy

Saporta of Lone Tree, Colo. Also five nieces and nephews. Services will be at the Lefors cemetery March 31 at 1 p.m.

ON RECORD

POLICE

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

Friday, March 26

Heather Dawn Heiskell, 23, 602 N. West, was arrested on capias pro fines for possession of drug paraphernalia, expired motor vehicle inspection and ran a stop sign.

Randy Cox, 23, 1032 Huff Rd., was arrested for possession of a controlled substance over 1 gram and less than 4 grams.

Jose Soto, 21, 309 Canadian, was arrested on a warrant for failure to display driver's license and on violation of a protective order and criminal mischief.

Lawrence Lee Henderson, 21, 1036 S. Christy, was arrested on two capias pro fines for minor in possession and another capias pro fine for driving while license suspended.

Patricia Montoya Dominquez, 24, 405 Hughes, was arrested for failure to identify fugitive, no driver's license, no insurance, expired motor vehicle registration and on capias pro fines for no driver's license-times two, no seat belt, ran stop sign and no insurance.

Saturday, March 27

Joshua Lloyd Mullen, 18, 418 Wynne, was arrested for criminal trespass.

SHERIFF

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported making no arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m., Saturday.

AMBULANCE

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

Friday, March 26

10:05 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Pampa Regional Medical Center and transferred a patient(s) to Baptist-St. Anthony's, Amarillo.

12:30 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient(s) to BSA.

7:35 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1400 block of North Hobart. No transport.

8:52 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of West Kingsmill. No transport.

10:11 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of Dwight. No transport.

FIRE

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

Friday, March 26

9:37 a.m. — One unit and three firefighters delivered a fire prevention program at Community Day Care Center.

2:29 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to the 800 block of Craven on a call for lifting assistance.

7:54 p.m. — Two units and six firefighters were called to the 1200 block of North Hobart on a bomb threat.

CRIME STOPPERS

Caller #4545. Please contact Crime Stoppers at 662-1022.

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COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN School is now enrolling for Fall 2004. Info. avail. in school office, 220 N. Ballard, Pampa, 806-665-3393.

CLARKE

intelligence inquiry into the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

Frist said Clarke, testifying then as a White House counterterrorism adviser, was "effusive in his praise for the actions of the Bush administration" and had told lawmakers the White House actively

sought to address the threat by the al-Qaida terrorist network.

He said he was not accusing Clarke of perjury.

Republicans hope to contrast those words to testimony Clarke made this week to a bipartisan commission investigating the attacks.

The declassification requests mark the latest turn in a GOP counterattack against Clarke, who has criticized President Bush in a new book, "Against All Enemies," as well as in interviews and this week's sworn testimony.

You're invited to a Retirement Reception Honoring Joyce Rasco

When: Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Where: Larry Baker Plumbing, Heating & Air • 2711 Alcock

What Time: Come and go from 2:00 pm. till 4:00 p.m.

The family of Willfred L. (CRACKER) Stubblefield would like to THANK EACH AND EVERY ONE FOR THEIR THOUGHTS, PRAYERS, THE PHONE CALLS, THE DELICIOUS FOOD AND THE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS. A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OF THE EASTERN STAR LADIES AND THE TOP OF TEXAS MASONIC LODGE #1381 FOR THE MEALS. EVERYONE WAS SO NICE AND HELPFUL IN HELPING US THROUGH OUR DIFFICULT TIME.

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Brogdon reception



(Courtesy photo)

After more than 35 years of service with First State Bank of Miami, Shirley Brogdon, above, is retiring effective March 31. In appreciation of Brogdon's many years of service to the bank and the community, First State's board of directors and employees cordially invite friends and customers to a come-and-go reception in Brogdon's honor between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., March 30 at the bank's Pampa branch. Refreshments will be served.

Texas Agricultural Service: March Texas Cattle on Feed up 5 percent from last year.

AUSTIN — Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in Texas feedlots with capacity of 1,000 head or more totaled 2.69 million head on March 1, up 5 percent from a year ago. According to the monthly report released by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service, the estimate was down 3 percent from the Feb. 1 level. Producers placed 350,000 head in commercial feedlots during February, down 5 percent from a year ago and down 10 percent from the January 2004 total.

Texas commercial feeders marketed 420,000 head during February, up 6 percent from last year but down 2 per-

cent from the January 2004, total.

On March 1 there were 2.20 million head of cattle and calves on feed in the Northern High Plains, 82 percent of the state's total. The number on feed across the area was up 3 percent from last year but down 4 percent from the February total.

February placements in the Northern High Plains totaled 289,000 head, down 9 percent from the January total. Marketings were up 2 percent from last month to 363,000 head.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States in feedlots with

a capacity of 1,000 head or more totaled 10.98 million head on March 1, 2004. This inventory was 4 percent above March 1, 2003.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.61 million head, 2 percent below February 2003. February placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds totaled 319,000 head;

600-699 pounds totaled 351,000 head; 700-799 pounds totaled 548,000 head; 800 pounds and greater totaled 392,000 head. Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.69 million head, 2 percent below 2003.

RRC sets gas production allowables for April

AUSTIN — The Texas Railroad Commission recently set April 2004 natural gas production allowables for prorated fields in the state to meet market demand of 27,679,226 Mcf (thousand cubic feet).

For these fields, the April 2004 allowable represents an increase of 2,121,787 Mcf when compared to actual production of 29,801,013 Mcf in April 2003. In setting the April 2004 allowable, the Commission used historical production figures from April 2003 and producer forecasts for the April 2004 demand, and then adjusted the figures to account for such factors as well capability, new wells in a field, etc.

Texas natural gas storage reported by the Commission for February 2004 is 148,620,679 Mcf compared to 105,627,505 Mcf in February 2003. The March 2004 gas

storage estimate is 156,100,785 Mcf.

Gas well gas from prorated fields accounts for 9 percent of total gas well production in Texas.

Preliminary statewide production reported for January 2004 is 29,210,320 barrels of crude oil and 383,719,198 Mcf of gas well gas.

The Commission's estimated final production for this month can be obtained by multiplying these preliminary production totals by a production adjustment factor of 1.0482 for crude oil and 1.0943 for gas well gas. (These production totals do not include casinghead gas or condensate.)

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TxDOT seeking public input on Texas Mobility Fund plans

AUSTIN — Texas Department of Transportation officials recently began seeking public comments on plans for the Texas Mobility Fund.

Established by the 77th Legislature and approved by Texas voters, the fund allows TxDOT to issue bonds to speed up mobility projects in the state. Money from transportation-related fees will go into the fund. Based on revenue projections, it is anticipated that approximately \$3 billion in bonds secured by money in the fund can be issued.

"We want to hear how congestion-weary Texans think this new source of money should be spent," said Mike Behrens, TxDOT's executive director. "Their ideas can translate into safer roads, faster commutes and cost savings to the state."

TxDOT officials particularly seek public comment on the fundamental principles guiding their creation of the strategic plan for the

Texas Mobility Fund. Those guidelines include:

- A multimodal approach
- Local control
- Leveraged funding to accelerate projects and maximize financial resources
- Priority status to previously requested, locally-supported projects
- A success metric focused on speed and efficiency in reducing congestion

TxDOT is also mailing letters to major stakeholders including county judges and other state and local officials involved in transportation decisions, seeking their comments on the strategic plan. All Texans are invited to participate.

Comments can be sent to: Jim Randall, Director, Transportation Planning and Programming Division, TxDOT, P.O. Box 149217, Austin, TX 78714-9217 or via e-mail at pi@mail@dot.state.tx.us.

AAA members can file registration papers on-line

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. — American Angus Association members and affiliates now have the option to electronically store their animals' registration certificates. The new procedure will allow more flexibility when transferring papers and will eliminate the typical "paper shuffle" that some cattle breeders experience.

Electronic storage will give producers the option to electronically transfer papers, with no mail time or postage cost. Breeders have the convenience of accessing the herd information 24 hours a day, seven days a week at AAA Login at www.angus.org.

"The option of electronic storage offers added convenience to our members," says Bryce Schumann, director of member services for the Association. "Electronic storage will not change the registration process or the authenticity of the papers. It just simplifies the process and gives

producers more options."

From June 1 to Sept. 30, members can chose the electronic storage feature free of charge to store the paper registration certificates of existing registered Angus cattle. After Sept. 30, printed registration papers that are electronically stored will be assessed a \$2 correction fee.

Producers can request a printed copy of an electronically stored registration

paper at no charge. Members who participate in Angus shows will still need to provide original registration papers at check-in.

The American Angus Association, with headquarters in St. Joseph, Mo., provides services to more than 34,000 members and thousands of affiliates nationwide. For more information about the Angus breed, go to www.angus.org.

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VIEWPOINTS

We are doing the right things



MICHAEL REAGAN
COLUMNIST

As I write this the commission studying the 9/11 disaster is seeking to get to the bottom of the matter, when we already know what the bottom is - the failure of the CIA and the FBI and their refusal to share intelligence.

But that is the way the government was set up. As I learned back during my dad's administration, government agencies don't talk to each other. They have their own little fiefdoms and they don't share information, which is why the President set up the Department of Homeland Security to have one central agency where the information gathered by the various intelligence organizations could be pooled and evaluated.

So what we are now watching in Washington is election year politics being practiced under the guise of investigating a national tragedy. We have people posturing to show that they are trying to get to the bottom of the question of who is to blame for 9/11 when the answer has been staring them in the face from the very beginning. Osama bin Laden and his al Qaeda thugs did it and our intelligence agencies failed to stop them.

The people asking the questions are as responsible for 9/11 as the people answering the questions because many of them were in power in Washington when they were passing laws inspired by the Church Commission that gutted the CIA's intelligence operation by decreeing that only altar boys and choir boys could be recruited as agents in the cut-throat business of espionage, where the

terrorists' own homeland.

John Kerry leads us back to the United Nations which is now busy trying to explain how the UN's Oil For Food program turned into a gigantic slush fund for Saddam Hussein to use for bribery.

But here we are two and a half years after 9/11 chasing our tails, going round and round in circles having hearings in an election year. Doesn't it seem as if politics may have a role in all of this?

The bottom line is that nobody in the government, nobody in the media, nobody at all thought for one second that terrorists would hijack airliners and fly them into buildings in the U.S.

As Colin Powell said, going to war against al Qaeda and the Taliban before 9/11 would never have stopped the terrorists from attacking the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. He said that when the administration took office that they were already in this country getting ready to launch their attack. They had been here for ages.

All that matters is what we are doing now. What we are doing now is the right thing. We are at war against terrorism wherever terrorism is.

At the end of the day, every one of these hearings will end up the same. They will affix blame everywhere, they'll blame everyone and they'll come up with a plan of what we need to be doing in the future, which has already been done.

And they'll never catch their tails.

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TEXAS EDITORIAL

Federal courts buried in cases

From the El Paso Times:
 Red flags should be going up in both the judicial and legislative branches after a group of federal judges noted recently that federal courts are becoming swamped.

Carolyn Dineen King, Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals judge and chairwoman of the policy-setting Judicial Conference of the United States, said, "Our criminal caseloads keep going up, but our resources go down every year."

Federal District Court Judge Philip Martinez of El Paso said things have remained pretty steady in El Paso for him. "In terms of my caseload, things have been steady," he said. "I don't know that legislation has increased the burden on courts." Martinez said that as long as drugs are illegal and borders closed, we will always have significant numbers of narcotics and immigration cases in El Paso.

Dineen, however, is concerned that President Bush's increasingly tough policies on crime, and measures such as Attorney General John Ashcroft's 2003 memo that U.S. attorneys should use plea bargains only in limited circumstances, are resulting in more cases going to trial. That in turn could cause lengthy trials that could have been avoided with plea bargains, according to the judges.

One of the ways to cope with that is to keep the federal judiciary fully staffed. There are a number of judicial nominees awaiting confirmation by the Senate. The battle for confirmation is well-documented. It would help for the Senate to expedite the approval of these nominees so they could get to work and take part of the caseload.

If the Democrats could put aside partisan politics for a bit and work for the good of the court system (and the American people), at least part of the problem could be alleviated. Ashcroft last year ordered federal prosecutors to seek the severest charges and penalties. Nothing wrong with that. As the saying goes, do the crime, do the time.

But Judge King said that federal spending isn't keeping up with increased pace of cases generated by such decisions. And that's a concern. The choice seems clear: Either don't pursue the harshest charges and penalties (which shouldn't be an option), or find the resources to keep teeth in the judicial system.

More money? More judges? More courtrooms? Those are possibilities, but softening the judicial system isn't wise. Increasing drug problems, expanding immigration concerns, national security concerns, toughening laws and penalties — and the ever-increasing national population — all spell a growing number of federal cases. King's concerns must be heeded, and the resources found to keep up with the federal courts' expanding responsibilities.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Sunday, March 28, the 88th day of 2004. There are 278 days left in the year.

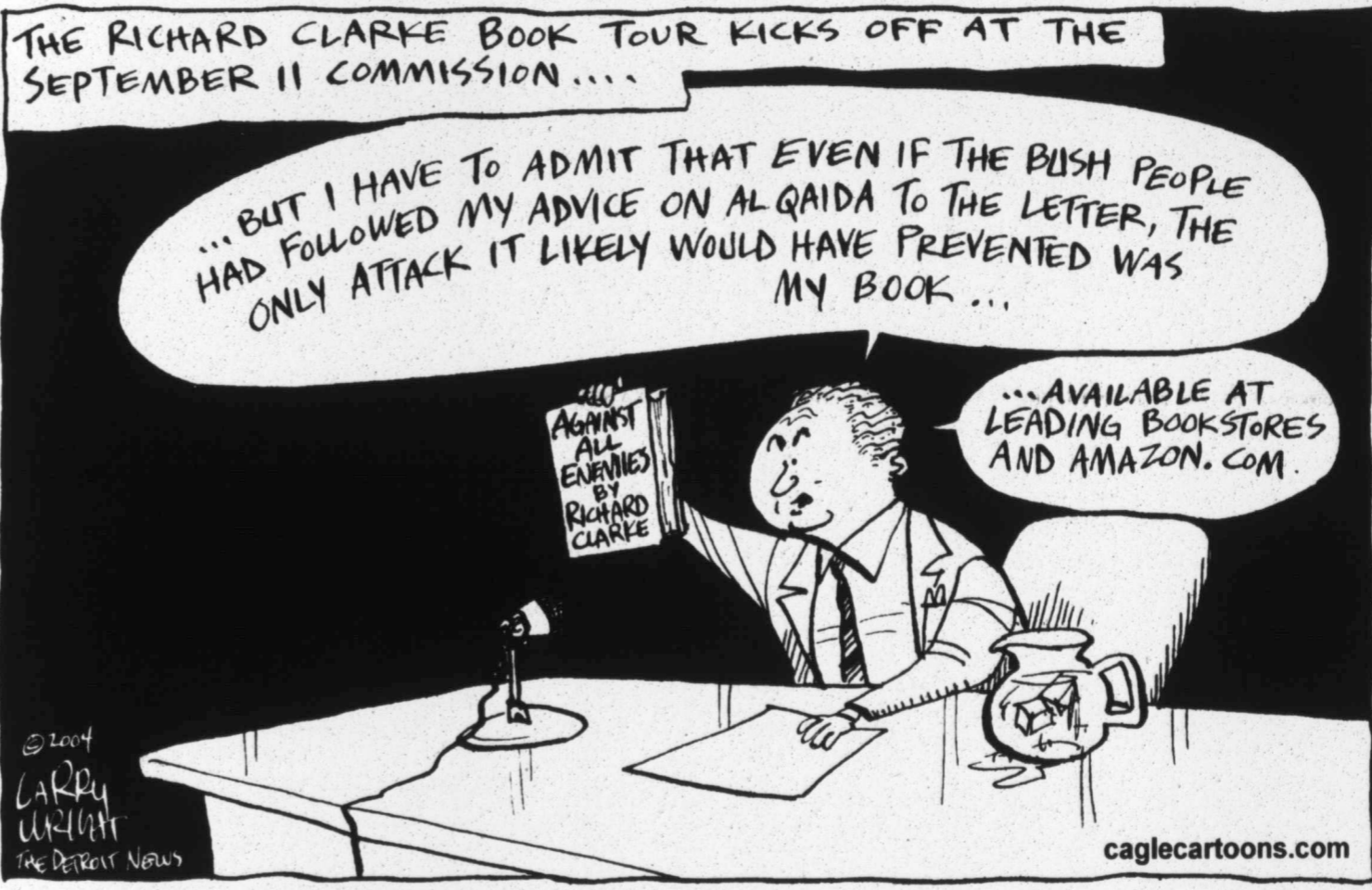
Today's Highlight in History:
 On March 28, 1979, America's worst commercial nuclear accident occurred inside the Unit Two reactor at the Three Mile Island plant near Middletown, Pa.

On this date:
 In 1834, the U.S. Senate voted to censure President Jackson for the removal of federal deposits from the Bank of the United States.

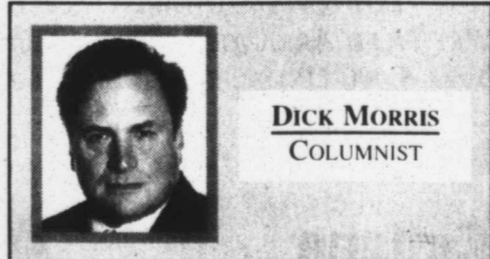
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There's a blowout in the making



DICK MORRIS
COLUMNIST

The Bush ads are working: Two weeks ago, the Washington Post poll showed Sen. John Kerry ahead of President Bush by 11 points, and the Gallup Poll had him up by 8, while more recent polls reflect a dead heat between the two.

Zogby (March 21) has Kerry up by only 48-46, and Rasmussen (March 20) has it Bush 46, Kerry 45.

Interestingly, the new surveys don't show Bush gaining so much as they show Kerry dropping. In the odd configurations of political strategy, that is good news for the Republicans.

If Bush were simply gaining because of good news or a bump from the recent focus on terrorism, he could go down as easily as he went up. Let the news turn bad, and Bush would go back to the low ratings of a few weeks ago.

But with the gap closing because of Kerry's drop, the impact is likely to last a lot longer. The fact is that 6 to 9 percent of Americans were voting for the Democrat two weeks ago and now are undecided. The doubts that Bush's ads are raising about Kerry are not going to go away; they will grow as the ads continue and the facts pile up.

The polls are starting to reflect the effectiveness of Bush's ads, which depict Kerry explaining his ultra-liberal record to the voters. This Democrat, who escaped scrutiny by posing as the underdog in the primary, is now being revealed as the leftist he is.

Having defeated the three candidates of his party who might have beaten Bush - Wesley Clark, Joe Lieberman and John Edwards - Kerry is finding out that

for a 50 cent increase in the gasoline tax. Remember, it was the gas tax, more than any other issue, that cost the Democrats control of Congress in 1994. With pump prices closing in on \$2 a gallon, Americans will not look kindly on someone who proposes to add another half-dollar per gallon.

Kerry's two gaffes - on foreign leaders with whom he allegedly spoke and on his flip-flop on the money for the war - were not unforced errors: They were fumbles caused by the aggressive pressure of the Bush campaign.

This Democrat is not ready to run for president, and the more the Republicans press him, the more he will self-destruct. His campaign advisers are hoping that a few hours extra sleep on his ski trip will restore his political judgment, but they ignore the fact that he never had a lot to begin with.

The fact is that Massachusetts liberal Democrats don't spend a lot of time learning how to appeal to Middle America.

Kerry only won the nomination because Dean lost it and Edwards was hobbled by Clark so he could not get the momentum he needed to mount a real challenge. With the front-loaded process, decreed by financial-wizard-but-political-amateur Terry McAuliffe, the party is united but saddled with a nominee who can't handle prime time.

Bush needs to keep up the pressure and watch Kerry's ratings drop. In a few months, we may be wondering why the conventional wisdom ever thought this race would be so close.

In the next round of attack ads, Bush should focus on Kerry's previous support

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Intentions to Drill
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & BUFFALO WALLOW Upper Morrow) Newfield Exploration Mid-Con., Inc., D.H. Honath, Sec. 75, M-1, H&GN, PD 14300', for the following wells:
 #4, 2275' from South & 2200' from East Sec. line. Rule 37
 #5, 1750' from North &

985' from West Sec. Line.
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & HEMPHELL Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star Ltd., Partnership, PD 13500', for the following wells:
 #11 Hobart Ranch '20', 1960' from South & 1410' from East line, Sec. 20, A-1, H&GN.
 #10 Hobart Ranch '49', 467' from South & 1525'

from East line, Sec. 49, A-2, H&GN.
 #11 Hobart Ranch '49', 467' from South & 1875' from West line, Sec. 49, A-2, H&GN.
 #13 Hobart Ranch '50', 1320' from South & 2250' from West line, Sec. 50, A-2, H&GN.
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & N.W. MENDOTA Granite

Wash) Mewbourne Oil Co., #2 Mendota '40', 1201' from North & 565' from West line, Sec. 40, 1, I&GN, PD 11800'.
ROBERTS (WILDCAT & PARSELL Lower Morrow) Range Production Co., #16 Ben Hill, 1031' from North & 3759' from West line, Sec. 145, 42, H&TC, PD 11500'. Rule 37

WHEELER (WILDCAT) Apache Corp., #1068 Atherton, 990' from North & 467' from East line, Sec. 68, A-7, H&GN, PD 15000'.

WHEELER (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Dominion Oklahoma Texas E&P, Inc., #2 Zybach '65' 1980' from North & 467' from West line, Sec. 65, M-1, H&GN, PD 12125'.

WHEELER (WILDCAT & BUFFALO WALLOW Upper Morrow) Newfield Exploration Mid-Con., Inc., #2 Karen Meek, 2328' from South & 2225' from East line, Sec. 71, M-1, H&GN, PD 14350'.

WHEELER (WILDCAT & STILES RANCH Granite Wash) Bravo Natural Resources, Inc., PD 1400', for the following wells:
 #1023 Alexander, 1667' from Nor& 500' from West line, Sec. 23,082.
 #8069 Atherton, 1880' from North & 2313' from East line, Sec. 69, A-7, H&GN.

CORRECTED Application to Re-Enter
WHEELER (WILDCAT & FULLER Hunton Deep) Brigham Oil & Gas, L.P., #3-97S Mills Ranch, 1292' from North & 1316' from East line, Sec. 84,13,H&GN, PD 27000' (BHL: 2022' from South & 2545' from East Sec. line) Directional Sidetrack (Corrected to show BHL.)

Oil Well Completions
HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) J.M. Huber Corp., #51 W.A. Carver, Lot 31.7, J.J. Hall, spud 1-3-04, drlg. compl 1-8-04, tested 3-2-04, pumped 23.2 bbl. of 39 grav. oil + 174 bbls. water, GOR

3922, TD 3650', PBTD 3587' --
ROBERTS (COURSON RANCH Upper Morrow) Range Production Co., #2 Courson Ranch O.T. Brown 3608' from North & 3059' from West line O.T. Brown Survey, spud 12-4-03, drlg. compl 2-16-04, tested 2-17-04, flowed 74 bbl. of 42 grav. oil + no water thru 10/64" choke on 24 hour test, GOR 8108, TD 9250', PBTD 8797' --

Gas Well Completions
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Patina Oil & Gas Corp., #5713" Holland 'C', Sec. 57, M-1, H&GN, spud 10-16-03, tested 11-5-03, test incomplete at this time, TD 13300', PBTD 12160' --

HEMPHILL (HEMPHILL Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star Ltd. Partnership, #7 Hobart '49', Sec. 49, A-2, H&GN, spud 12-11-03, drlg. compl 12-27-03, tested 2-11-04, potential 1347 MCF, TD 12200', PBTD 12112' --

Xcel Energy announces end of surcharge in six Texas Panhandle communities

AMARILLO — A surcharge appearing on Xcel Energy bills in six northeast Texas Panhandle communities since the mid-1990s expires this month. Xcel Energy officials have announced in a press release. Consequently, ongoing electric rates in the affected communities — Perryton, Spearman, Booker, Follett, Darrouzett, Higgins and surrounding areas — will decrease between 8 and 20 percent.

All Xcel customers in these communities have been paying the surcharge, but now will be billed at the same rates as other Xcel retail customers in Texas.

These towns' residential customers using 500 kilowatt-hours of service monthly will see a price reduction of \$3.11 or 8.1 percent compared to the surcharged prices. Customers using 1,000 kilowatt-hours monthly will save \$11.10, slightly over 14 percent. Business and industrial customers will see rate reductions

ranging from about 14 to 20 percent.

The surcharge began Sept. 15, 1995, when Xcel acquired the electric utility properties in the six communities from Texas-New Mexico Power Company for \$29.2 million — a market price over book value.

Customers in the communities, the press release said, requested the purchase and agreed to the \$15.3 million "acquisition adjustment surcharge" because TNP rates were significantly higher than Xcel rates. Even with the surcharge, the communities saved, the release said, an immediate rate reduction averaging 10 percent, with other rate decreases implemented since.

The surcharge was expected to continue through 2005, but electric load growth and increased kilowatt-hour sales in the communities accelerated recovery of the adjustment.

The following are examples of rate reductions in the communities (and of Xcel Energy's

retail rates in Texas), calculated for Public Utility Commission of Texas monthly bill survey:

—General service, or commercial, customers with an electrical demand of 35 kilowatts and a consumption of 7,500 kilowatt-hours should see a monthly price reduction of \$112.45 or 17.7 percent compared to the surcharged bill.

—General service customers with a demand of 35 kilowatts and a consumption of 15,000 kilowatt-hours should see a price reduction of \$224.90 or 20.66 percent.

—Large general service, or industrial, customers with a demand of 300 kilowatts and a consumption of 87,000 kilowatt-hours should see a price reduction of \$843.81 or 13.65 percent.

The PUC of Texas typically posts bill comparisons each month at www.puc.state.tx.us at Electric, reports, recurring reports for non-competitive sales.

TPMHMR board of trustees convenes March meeting

AMARILLO — Texas Panhandle Mental Health Mental Retardation board of trustees recently convened its March meeting. According to an agency press release, the board heard from Anna Isom, Practice Management director, on accountable care efforts to include practice management. Steve Parker, director of Information Technology,

addressed the board on Internet security and precautions.

The press release also reported that a medication refill phone line, manned by nursing staff, will be established in April to assist clients with refills.

In other business, the trustees approved an application to the Pampa United Way

for funding. Funding from Pampa UW represents 10 percent of that mental health clinic's budget, the news release said. The clinic covers Gray, Roberts and Wheeler counties.

The last phase of the agency's facility consolidation project is scheduled for mid-April. Children's Services will be relocated to 1500 S. Taylor in Amarillo.

Local conference to help writers find publication

AMARILLO — "Frontiers in Writing 2004" will kick off with special pre-conference workshops on Friday, June 25, at the Ambassador Hotel in Amarillo. A two-day event, the first day will conclude with a banquet by keynote speaker Marsha Preston, editor and publisher of "Byline Magazine" and award-winning mystery writer.

On Saturday, June 26, workshops conducted by Publishing Editors' Hilary Sares of Kensington, John Lewis of Durban House and Ron Kovach of "The Writer" magazine along with script brokers Devorah Cutler-Rubenstein and husband, Scott, will provide important networking opportunities for attendees.

Other speakers will include literary agents Andrea Brown and Elsa Hurley; authors Brian Hopkins, Bruce Holland Rogers

and Terry Burns; and freelance editors and authors Kim Campbell and Karen D. Smith.

Cost of the conference is \$150 for Panhandle Professional Writers members and \$175 for nonmembers before May 15. The fee goes up to \$175 for members and \$200 for nonmembers after May 17. The conference fee includes the Friday night banquet, the Saturday workshops and the Saturday Contest Award Luncheon.

Friday pre-conference sessions will be open for attendees at an additional cost. Friday workshops will cost \$30 per session or \$50 all day.

For more information, call (806) 383-4351 or visit www.panhandleprowriter.org on the Internet. The conference is being sponsored by Panhandle Professional Writers, Amarillo College, Cox Communications and Ambassador Hotel.

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The law firm of Waters, Holt & Fields, Pampa, Texas, is pleased to announce the association of Pampa native, Jeffrey T. Jones. The firm's Wheeler County office has been relocated to 315 N. Main, Shamrock, Texas. The new telephone number for the Wheeler County office is 806-256-1474.

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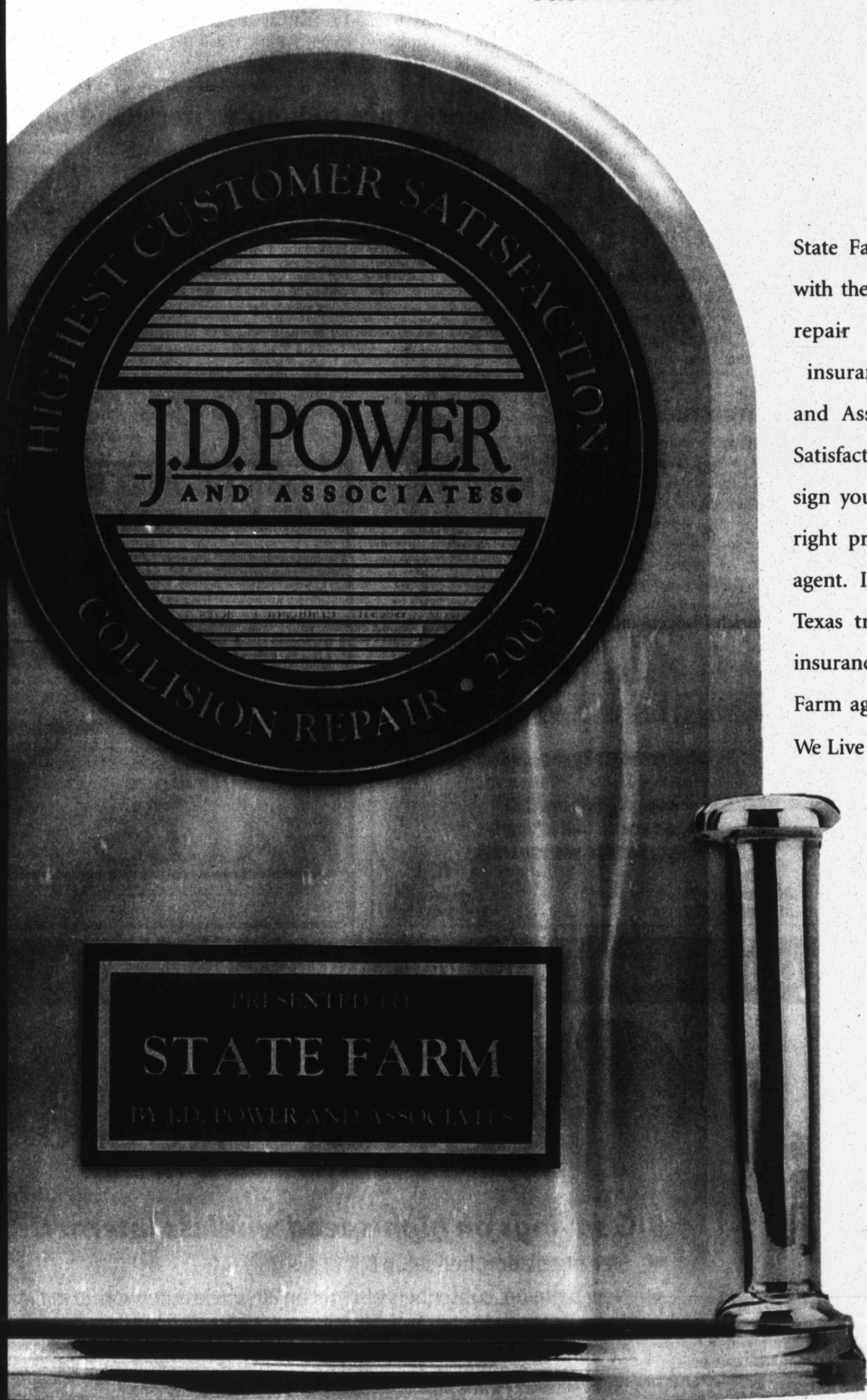
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Jacy Padgett recently... in ma... Sebastian... Cody Gre...

TABLE 1-

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| (3) SOUTH TEXAS |
| (4) DEEP SOUTH TEXAS |
| (5) EAST TEXAS |
| (6) EAST TEXAS |
| (7B) WEST TEXAS |
| (7C) SAN ANTONIO AREA |
| (8) MIDLAND |
| (8A) LUBBOCK |
| (9) NORTH TEXAS |
| (10) PANHANDLE |

TABLE 2

| COUNTY |
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| 1. GAINES |
| 2. YOAKUM |
| 3. ANDREW |
| 4. HOCKLEY |
| 5. ECTOR |
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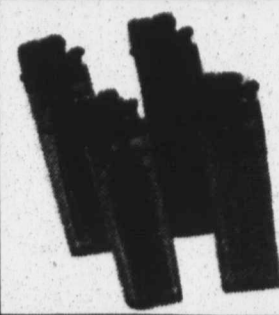
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Kappa Mu Epsilon inductee



(Courtesy photo)

Jacy Padgett of Pampa, a Southwestern Oklahoma State University student, was recently inducted into Kappa Mu Epsilon, an honor society for students interested in mathematics. Students inducted into the honor society were, from left, Sebastian Harris, Krystal Sawatzky, Kayla Richeter, Anna Dittrich, Padgett and Cody Gregory.

Boll Weevils suppressed in seven eradication zones

AUSTIN — Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs today officially declared seven Boll Weevil Eradication Zones as "suppressed," comprising 59 counties and more than 4 million acres in the Panhandle and western parts of the state.

The suppressed Boll Weevil Eradication Zones are Southern High Plains Caprock around Lubbock; Northern High Plains around Plainview; Western High Plains around Seminole; Permian Basin around Midland-Odessa; Northern Rolling Plains around Childress; Northwest Plains around Hereford; and El Paso/Trans-Pecos around El Paso.

"Suppressed" means that less than 0.025 boll weevils were found per trap per week during the cotton growing season.

"This is a great milestone in Texas' fight against boll weevils, a destructive pest that has plagued our state's cotton industry for more than a century," Combs said. "The determination and hard work of cotton growers in each zone, the Texas Legislature and the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication

Foundation helped us reach this goal.

"Boll weevils cause more than \$200 million in crop losses and crop protection treatment costs in Texas every year, so obviously our ultimate goal is to completely eradicate this pest in Texas. Today we are much closer to that day," Combs said.

"It is indeed a proud moment for our producers when we can claim a region is nearing a weevil-free status," said Sen. Robert Duncan from Lubbock. "This spirit of hard work and cooperation for a common goal is commendable, and I hope it will continue as we face other challenges in rural Texas."

The seven "suppressed" zones join two Texas zones that have been declared weevil free. The Southern Rolling Plains Zone around San Angelo was declared weevil free in 2000 and the Rolling Plains Central Zone around Abilene in 2002.

The state's current boll weevil eradication program was signed into law in 1997. There are currently 12 active boll weevil eradication zones in Texas covering more than 6 million acres.

TABLE 1—JANUARY TEXAS OIL AND GAS DRILLING PERMITS AND COMPLETIONS BY DISTRICT

| RAILROAD COMMISSION DISTRICT | PERMITS TO DRILL OIL/GAS HOLES | OIL COMPLETIONS | GAS COMPLETIONS |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| (1) SAN ANTONIO AREA | 25 | 8 | 18 |
| (2) REFUGIO AREA | 55 | 14 | 38 |
| (3) SOUTHEAST TEXAS | 87 | 31 | 66 |
| (4) DEEP SOUTH TEXAS | 122 | 7 | 132 |
| (5) EAST CENTRAL TX | 61 | 5 | 68 |
| (6) EAST TEXAS | 132 | 5 | 92 |
| (7B) WEST CENTRAL TX | 58 | 22 | 14 |
| (7C) SAN ANGELO AREA | 131 | 12 | 37 |
| (8) MIDLAND | 138 | 68 | 10 |
| (8A) LUBBOCK AREA | 80 | 34 | 4 |
| (9) NORTH TEXAS | 115 | 31 | 93 |
| (10) PANHANDLE | 67 | 12 | 78 |

TABLE 2 - DECEMBER TEXAS TOP TEN OIL AND GAS PRODUCING COUNTIES RANKED BY PRELIMINARY PRODUCTION

| COUNTY | CRUDE OIL (BBLs) | COUNTY | TOTAL GAS (MCF) |
|------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. GAINES | 2,575,104 | 1. ZAPATA | 21,709,195 |
| 2. YOAKUM | 2,072,810 | 2. HIDALGO | 21,585,920 |
| 3. ANDREWS | 1,948,313 | 3. FREESTONE | 20,228,207 |
| 4. HOCKLEY | 1,795,186 | 4. PANOLA | 19,401,508 |
| 5. ECTOR | 1,659,454 | 5. WEBB | 16,671,956 |
| 6. SCURRY | 1,087,302 | 6. PECOS | 16,123,626 |
| 7. MIDLAND | 936,084 | 7. WISE | 13,833,513 |
| 8. CRANE | 835,694 | 8. STARR | 12,839,418 |
| 9. PECOS | 736,156 | 9. DENTON | 10,428,615 |
| 10. UPTON | 644,059 | 10. YOAKUM | 9,792,584 |

RRC posts monthly oil, gas statistics

AUSTIN — The Texas Railroad Commission issued a total of 1,071 original drilling permits in February 2004 compared to 976 in February 2003.

The January total included 854 permits to drill new oil and gas wells, 30 to re-enter existing well bores, and 187 for re-completions. Permits issued in February 2004 included 253 oil, 334 gas, 461 oil and gas, 78 injection, one service and four other permits.

Texas preliminary January 2004 crude oil production averaged 941,548 barrels daily, down from the 1,001,262 barrels daily average of January 2003.

The preliminary Texas crude oil production figure for January 2004 is 29,210,320 barrels, a decrease from 31,094,931 barrels reported during January 2003.

In February 2004, operators reported 249

oil, 680 gas, 26 injection and 11 other completions compared to 255 oil, 364 gas, 24 injection, and four others during February 2004.

Total well completions for 2004 year to date are 1,754, up from 1,367 recorded during the same period in 2003.

Operators reported 544 holes plugged and 148 dry holes in February 2004 compared to 542 holes plugged and 53 dry holes in February 2003.

Texas oil and gas wells produced 457,592,735 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas based upon preliminary production figures for January 2004, up from the January 2003 preliminary gas production total of 443,321,898 Mcf.

Texas production in January 2004 came from 139,639 oil and 62,814 gas wells.

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MEDICAL

Next big thing in heart disease: Pills to clean out artery gunk

By DANIEL O. HANEY
AP MEDICAL EDITOR

Heart researchers may be closing in at last on a long-fantasized goal — treatments that flush out the nasty globs of gunk that clog the heart's plumbing.

This idea goes beyond merely preventing new coronary artery disease. The intention is to actually clear away what's already there, to clean up the source of heart attacks before they happen.

Ideally, the human body already does this on its own, and the new medicines are intended to enhance the natural artery cleansing process. If testing goes as scientists hope, the strategy could prove to be as important for preventing heart disease as the cholesterol-lowering statin drugs introduced in the late 1980s.

"If it works, we are talking about the potential of reducing cardiac events by 50 or 60 percent or more," says Dr. Steven Nissen of the Cleveland Clinic. "We are talking about really controlling the disease."

Nissen is working with about a half dozen of these drugs, and it is too soon to know which of these and others in the pipeline will eventually make it into drug stores. When they arrive the medicines are likely to become part of a heart-protecting cocktail of medicines doctors envision to increase good cholesterol, lower the bad variety and reduce bloodstream inflammation.

The new drugs boost high-density lipoproteins — HDL.

This is the friendly half of cholesterol's yin and yang, often outgunned by its evil counterpart, LDL.

The interest in HDL is a big shift in attention for the field of heart disease prevention. Ever since the arrival of statins, its main preoccupation has been reducing LDL, which carries in the cholesterol that clogs the arteries.

The statins' benefits have been impressive, even though cardiovascular disease remains the world's biggest killer. They cut LDL in half, which helps stabilize the disease and reduce heart attacks and deaths by one-quarter to one-third.

"To an optimist, that's terrific," says Dr. Prediman Shah, cardiology chief at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. "But the glass is still two-thirds empty. To contain the continuing ravages of this disease, there has to be something else."

He and many others believe that something is HDL. In its garbage truck role, HDL scoops up cholesterol from the arteries and carries it back to the liver for disposal.

Doctors have suspected its importance since the 1970s. Studies that follow people through life show the higher one's HDL, the lower the risk of heart attacks. Each single point of increase is matched by a two percent to three percent reduction in heart disease.

In the United States, men's average HDL is about 45 and

women's is 55. HDL under 40 is an especially bad sign, while anything over 60 is considered good. Those with HDL over 75 may even be blessed with what's called the "longevity syndrome."

"Just like your LDL can't be too low, your HDL can't be too high," says Dr. Lori Mosca, head of preventive cardiology at Columbia University. "I have patients with HDL over 120, and I tell them that's probably how long they will live."

Such off-the-chart amounts result from good genes, not healthy habits. For most people, budging HDL upward is difficult, although exercising, losing weight, drinking modestly, and quitting smoking can all help.

Attacking heart disease with HDL has been slow to take hold, in part because of skimpy evidence this tinkering will make a difference. Even though people with high HDL tend to have healthy hearts, that does not prove raising everyone else's HDL will save lives.

Some animal studies and other research suggest it will, but "there has not been an enormous amount of data to support the HDL-raising effect, in large part because there was not enough financial interest in it," says Dr. Harvey Hecht, head of preventive cardiology at New York City's Beth Israel Medical Center.

Until recently, the only pills that raised HDL even modestly were generic or over the counter.

The best of them, niacin, is a vitamin. Without exclusive rights, drug companies have no incentive to prove such compounds work.

"We know lowering LDL saves lives. Now we need to know if raising HDL adds to that," Dr. Jennifer Robinson, a University of Iowa epidemiologist.

For many skeptics, though, the doubts began to fade last fall with the publication of a remarkable study. The story began in the early 1980s, when researchers discovered a man in the northern Italy village of Limone sul Garda who had very low HDL but no sign of cardiovascular disease. Blood tests revealed about 40 more villagers with the same peculiarity. All traced their origins to a common ancestor born in 1780.

Eventually it was discovered these people carry a slightly unusual version of the main protein that makes up their HDL. Researchers called this ApoA-I Milano and wondered if it might be a supercharged version of HDL. In the first of many animal studies, Shah injected the protein into rabbits with clogged arteries. It quickly cleared them out.

Researchers still argue over whether ApoA-I Milano is a better artery cleaner than the normal version, but it hardly matters. The ordinary kind cannot be patented, so it will never be developed as a drug, but the newly discovered mutant could be. The biotech firm that owns the rights, Esperion Therapeutics, sponsored a pilot study in people.

When the results were released in November, heart specialists were simply astonished. Artery clogging in people takes decades, so many assumed reversing it would be a slow business, too. But after just five weekly infusions, the volunteers' artery buildups had actually regressed about 4 percent. Nothing like this had ever been seen before.

"Many of us didn't believe it would do anything," says Dr. Michael Miller, head of preventive cardiology at the University of Maryland. "The big surprise is that it happened within such a short time. It's unbelievable."

The study was small, involving just 47 patients. Years more

testing will be needed to prove the treatment truly safe and effective. Even then, it will have to be given by intravenous infusion, probably making it unrealistic for lifelong use. Instead, doctors envision giving it for a month or two to quickly clean up patients' arteries, a treatment that Esperion head Roger Newton estimates will cost between \$2,000 and \$4,000.

The results set off a frenzy among drug companies, said Nissen, who directed the study, all searching for a more practical pill version of the drug. However, the next HDL pill is likely to be an entirely different variety of medicine.

These drugs, being developed by several companies, work by blocking a protein that allows HDL to give away its cholesterol. HDL ordinarily hauls much of its load back to the liver, but it also hands off some of it to LDL, which in turn may cart it back to the artery walls, among other places. Shutting down this transfer can make HDL levels go up substantially.

The version furthest along is Pfizer's torcetrapib, which Nissen is testing in a two-year study on 886 volunteers. It increases HDL by 60 percent, but will it clean arteries and save lives?

Scientists are unsure. People who are naturally low in the cholesterol-transferring protein do not seem to be protected from heart disease, despite their high HDL. Notwithstanding its nasty reputation, LDL can actually be helpful at times by hauling some of its cholesterol load back to the liver. Some worry that blocking the transfer from HDL to LDL will thwart that housekeeping.

"That would be bad," says Dr. Daniel Rader, head of preventive cardiology at Presbyterian Medical Center in Philadelphia. "There is a lot of disagreement and uncertainty" over what will happen in people, even though the strategy works in rabbits.

Rader says the Holy Grail of HDL research is a drug that will stimulate the liver to make more HDL on its own, but progress is slow. Among other approaches:

—An experimental vaccine against the cholesterol-transferring protein raises HDL about 8

percent, but only in those not already on statins. Una Ryan, president of Avant Immunotherapeutics, said the twice yearly shots could be targeted at the estimated 21 million Americans with low HDL but normal LDL.

—Several companies are testing new versions of drugs called PPARs — for peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor — that also help direct cholesterol flow in the arteries. They raise HDL about 25 percent, lower triglycerides and improve the body's use of insulin. The medicines may prove especially useful for those at risk of diabetes.

—Shah hopes within the next year or two to try gene therapy to prompt the body to manufacture more HDL. His strategy: Insert large quantities of the gene that makes ApoA-I Milano, the HDL protein found in the Italian village, into volunteers' bone marrow. "The idea is to have a permanent supply from one single treatment," Shah said.

Many specialists recommend more use of the HDL booster already on the market, the vitamin niacin. No one has convincingly proven niacin saves lives, but doctors say evidence from a smattering of studies suggests it may. High doses — typically two to three grams a day — can raise HDL about 25 percent and should only be taken under a doctor's supervision.

Niacin's main drawback is that it can cause unbearable flushing and itching, and about one-third of patients simply cannot stay on it. "If we had a niacin with no side effects, it probably would be much more widely used," says Dr. H. Bryan Brewer, chief of the molecular disease branch at the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

Many experts say they are optimistic that at least some of the new HDL-raising strategies will work out, because it is a logical target with a potentially huge payoff.

"I liken it to Mark McGuire taking a big cut," says Dr. Christie Ballantyne, head of cardiovascular disease prevention at Methodist Hospital in Houston. "This could be a grand slam or it could be a strike out. But it's a bold approach."

Roly-poly babies not only ones at-risk for diabetes

By JANET MCCONNAUGHEY
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

It isn't just the fat kids who are in danger of becoming diabetics as adults. Children who are skinny as babies but start bulking up early are at risk even if they aren't overweight, a study found.

That is true of all children whose weight gain outstrips their growth rate early on, but "it seems to be more pronounced in those who were initially slim or skinny," said Dr. Harshpal Singh Sachdev, a pediatrics professor at Maulana Azad Medical College in New Delhi.

He said it may be possible to stem diabetes by making sure that children who bulk up sooner and faster than most get additional exercise and a sound diet.

Sachdev was a lead researcher in the 30-year study published recently in New England Journal of Medicine. He and his colleagues measured 1,492 children in India and tracked them until adulthood.

Toddlers grow up faster than they grow out, so they usually slim down. They tend to "rebound" around age 6, starting to bulk up again.

But 21 percent of those who began their rebound between ages 2 and 5 developed diabetes or impaired glucose tolerance as adults, compared with 12 percent to 14.5 percent of those whose rebounds began later.

The diabetes and glucose-intolerance rate was as high as 27 percent among children

who were skinny as babies but rebounded quickly.

None of the children in the study were actually overweight.

Doctors should reconsider the idea that small babies should get extra calories to encourage rapid growth, said Dr. Francine Kaufman, a pediatric endocrinologist at Children's Hospital-Los Angeles and past president of the American Diabetes Association.

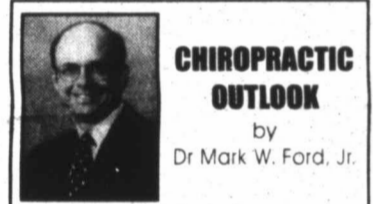
"We need to look at not overfeeding some of these children," she said.

Dr. William H. Dietz of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's division of nutrition and physical activity, said the study may have little effect on medical practice, since rebound often goes unnoticed until it has occurred, and "it's not clear to me that anyone knows how to prevent early rebound."

He agreed that additional exercise and good nutrition might help children who rebound early avoid diabetes later. And pediatricians should look more carefully at how children's body mass index — a ratio of weight to height — is changing, he said.

But, he said, it is more important to focus on children who already are overweight.

The study also may be more applicable to developing countries than to the United States and Europe, he said, since many of the children in this study were undernourished during early childhood.



CHIROPRACTIC OUTLOOK

By Dr. Mark W. Ford, Jr.


ATHLETES SUSCEPTIBLE TO ILLIOTIBIAL FRICTION SYNDROME

The iliotibial (or IT) band is a large fibrous tissue that runs down the outside of the thigh one past the knee joint. There is attached to the outside lower leg bone, the tibia. The IT band keeps the knee stabilized. When the knee flexes, the IT band bends and slides. Runners, walkers, cyclists and other athletes who put too much stress on their legs can experience pain in the IT band. This is called IT band friction syndrome (ITBFS). The discomfort is due to the band rubbing back and forth across the extended part of the femur, the bone that runs from the knee to the hip joint. This causes swelling and pain in the knee. Running can also cause a tilt in the pelvis and the length of one's legs to be uneven. This tightens the hamstring and quadriceps muscles and increases the tension on the IT band. If you have ITBFS, try staying in shape by swimming and aqua-running, another way to resolve the condition is seeing a chiropractor who can use biomechanical techniques to restore balance, improve strength and flexibility, and increase normal pelvic movement.

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By Mark W. Ford, Jr.
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Managing stress seminar to begin soon

"Decisional overload. Job burnout. Family tension. They all add up to one thing ... stress. And, for many people, the stress they face can actually become a killer." That's how seminar lecturer Leland Lewis describes the stress crisis facing thousands today.

"But a solution does exist," Lewis says. "And if a person has the strength to make one more decision, I hope it's a decision to attend the informative seminar,


"Managing Life's Stress." Scheduled to begin on Tuesday, March 30, the series continues twice weekly on Tuesday and Friday evenings through April 13. Each session is from 7-9:30 p.m. in the Medical Office Building conference room at Pampa Regional Medical Center located at One Medical Plaza.

"For many, the magic word is COPE," says Lewis. "I'm getting by" people

report. "I'm holding my own." They opt for the band-aid approach. But their stress continues to mount because they do nothing to solve the underlying problems that are causing the stress.

"How much better," he says, "to conquer rather than cope!"

Participants can register for the five-session seminar by contacting Lori at 663-5852. Cost of the seminar is \$6 for materials.



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LIONS CLUB SWEETHEARTS

Tosha Powell and Kori Dunn are Pampa Lions Club's December 2003 Sweethearts of the Month.

Tosha is the daughter of Kim and Tyson Powell and is the granddaughter of Robert and Karen Lake. Her honors, activities and accomplishments include the following: Pampa High School Marketing program, DECA and D-FY-IT.

She attends Body of Christ Church where she has been active with the church praise team for two years. She is currently employed by The Coffee Shop.

Tosha plans to pursue a degree in business and public relations at West Texas A&M University.

Kori is the daughter of Randy and Brenda Dunn and is the granddaughter of Wanda Dunn of Lubbock and Jeff and Allyne Talkmitt of Slaton.

Her honors, activities and accomplishments include varsity cross-country (four years); Most Valuable Runner for 2002; D-FY-IT Advisory Board; FFA Conducting and Dairy Products Judging teams; FFA chapter reporter and vice president; Top O' Texas District reporter; FFA livestock exhibitor (lambs and barrows); National Honor Society; Lady Harvesters soccer team (four years); soccer team captain (2002-03 and 2003-04); All-District Honorable Mention and Second Team All-District Recognition in soccer; and PHS senior class vice president.

Kori is a member of Zion Lutheran Church. She plans to pursue a degree in animal science with a science option at Texas Tech University and to eventually become a dentist.



Kori Dunn

(Courtesy photo)

UPCOMING EVENTS

PCCA

Pampa Community Concert Association's 2003-04 concert series includes the following programs: Lee and Suits Duo - 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 30, M.K. Brown Auditorium; "Guthrie in Dance and Music" - 3 p.m., Jan. 20, M.K. Brown Auditorium; "The Woods Tea Co." - Feb. 15, Heritage Room, M.K. Brown Auditorium; and Cantus - 7:30 p.m., April 26, Borger High School Auditorium. Memberships/tickets are available at the door. For more information on any of these events, contact Ronnie Holmes, PCCA president, at 665-2631.

BABY'S COMING SHOP

The Moms and Babies Coming Shop in Pampa is looking for volunteers to help man the shop. For more information, call 664-2459.

TWO-CYLINDER CLUB

The Texas Plains Two-Cylinder Club will stage its 12th annual antique tractor show March 27-28 at the Ollie Liner Center in Plainview. The event, which will include a daily parade of tractors at 2:30 p.m., will be open from 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, and from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday. The show will also feature a pedal tractor pull and various other activities. Admission is free. Concessions will be available. For more information, call (806) 744-4457.

HOSPICE TRAINING

BSA Hospice will offer "The Hospice Approach to Living and Dying," its volunteer training and community education class, from 1-4 p.m., Mondays and Thursdays, April 5-29 at Frank Phillips College in Borger. The program is free to participants from Borger and surrounding communities and is worth 2.4 CEUs. For more information or to pre-register, call Janet at (806) 274-9111 or toll-free at 1-800-658-6985.

FRESHSTART

"FRESHSTART" Tobacco Cessation Program will be offered from 6-7 p.m. over a two-week period at Texas Tech Women's Health & Research Institute in Amarillo. Participants must attend all four classes scheduled Tuesday, April 6, Thursday, April 8, Tuesday, April 13 and Thursday, April 15. For more information, call (806) 463-7848.

CATTLEWOMEN SCHOLARSHIPS

Several scholarship opportunities are currently available to area high school seniors through Top O' Texas CattleWomen. Awarded will be one \$500 scholarship and two \$250 scholarships. Applications for these scholarships are due April 23 and may be obtained through your high school counselor. All scholarship applications must be returned to Sandra Christner, P.O. Box 522, Wheeler, TX 79096. For more information, contact Christner at (806) 826-3572.

CANCER CENTER

The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center has announced the following upcoming breast cancer screening clinics: April 27, Shephard's Crook Nursing Agency, Pampa; April 6, Family Care Clinic, Shamrock; April 7 and 21, Hemphill County Hospital, Canadian; and April 30, Parkview Hospital, Wheeler. Participants will receive a low-cost self-exam mammogram and a breast health appraisal along with individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are by appointment only. For more information, call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673.

ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION

Ten free white flowering dogwood trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation throughout this month. The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign. The 10 trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between March 1 and May 31 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge. To receive the free trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to Autumn Classic Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, by March 31. For more information, check out the foundation's web site at www.arborday.org on the Internet.

VFW ANNIVERSARY

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1657 will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the local post on April 3. The celebration will include a parade, tours of Freedom Museum USA, an open house and a banquet. Members of the 17 posts that comprise the area's District 9 as well as the state commander will be invited. Donations are

welcome. Donations may be sent to Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S., Pampa Post #1657, P.O. Box 2684, Pampa, TX 79066.

DEVIL'S ROPE MUSEUM

The Devil's Rope Museum in McLean will host its annual Barb Wire Show April 1 and 2 in the Western Heritage Room of the museum, located at 100 Kingsley. The show will feature various types of barbed wire and fencing tools plus a multitude of other items. The event is free and open to the public.

CINDERELLA PAGEANT

The West Texas Cinderella Pageant initially scheduled for March 6 has been moved up to April 3 and will be staged at the high school in Kress. The pageant is open to girls between 0 and 2 years of age and 3 and 26 years of age and boys between 0-6 years of age. For more information, call (806) 684-2389.

COLGATE SERVICE CONTEST

Local Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs, Girls Inc., Camp Fire and 4-H organizations are invited to enter their best community service projects in the 2000 "Colgate Youth for America" campaign. Cash grants of up to \$2,000 will be awarded to the most creative and best executed projects from local clubs and troops. Local club and troop community service programs running between March 1, 2003, and March 1, 2004, are eligible for the contest. Entry forms are available through regional offices of the national organizations or by sending a SASE to: Colgate Youth for America Campaign, P.O. Box 1058, FDR Station, New York, NY 10150-1058. Deadline for entry into this year's program is April 30, 2004. Forms are also available on-line at www.youthforamerica.com.

THEATRE SCHOOL

Circle in the Square Theatre School in New York will hold auditions on May 1 in Dallas as part of its Professional Two Year Workshops (both acting and

musical) and its seven-week Summer Workshops (acting and musical). For more information, call (212) 307-0388; write: Admissions, Circle in the Square Theatre School, 1633 Broadway, New York, NY 10019-6795; or e-mail circleinthesquare@att.net. For a downloadable application, visit www.circleinthesquare.org on the World Wide Web.

WINE&CLAY FESTIVAL

Llano Estacado's Seventh Annual Wine & Clay Festival will be held Saturday and Sunday, June 12 and 13 at Llano Estacado Winery, 3.2 miles east of US87 on FM 1585. Demonstrations are planned throughout the day. Admission is free. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, and 12 noon-5 p.m., Sunday.

HOUSTON CRAFT SHOW

Houston Center for Contemporary Craft is seeking entries for "CraftHouston 2004: Texas" set for June 19 through Sept. 12 at the Craft Center. Postmark deadline for entries is April 1. Entry forms and application information for this juried event are available at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, 4848 Main St., Houston, TX 77002; at www.crafthouston.org; or by calling (713) 529-4848, ext. 106, or e-mailing hcc@craft-houston.org.

WTA&MU to present 24th Annual Showcase of Music

CANYON — The Department of Music and Dance at West Texas A&M University will present some music and a few surprises while honoring one of its own with a special dedication at the 24th annual Showcase of Music at 8 p.m. Friday, April 2 at the Amarillo Civic Center Auditorium.

This year's program will be dedicated to Dr. Dudley Moore, a talented tuba player who joined the University band when he retired several years ago from his medical practice. Through the years, Moore has performed on stage with the band and traveled with the group on tours. He also formed a local jazz band called the Fabulous Five. The group plays an average of 75 gigs a year, and all proceeds go to the WTAMU band scholarship fund.

"He is such a tremendous friend, supporter and mentor to our students and our faculty that we wanted to show our support and appreciation to him in some way," Doug Storey, associate professor of music and chair of the Showcase committee, said.

Showcase of Music is sponsored by the Amarillo Globe-News. In addition to this year's special dedication, the Showcase will feature a full program of musical entertainment with everything from the contemporary to the classical. The event is designed to showcase student talent and to help raise funds for student scholarships. Funds are raised through advertising, ticket sales and donations. Last year's program brought in more than \$36,000 for student scholarships. Since its inception 24 years ago, the Showcase of Music has netted more than \$350,000 in scholarship funds.

In honor of next year's 25th anniversary, the Department of Music and Dance will introduce its "25 for 25." Coin banks, sporting the Showcase logo, will be distributed to each audience member attend-

ing this year's Showcase of Music. Audience members will be asked to use the banks to collect spare change throughout the year for scholarships for the Showcase's 25th anniversary.

"We are grateful to all the people of the Panhandle who have supported us for all these years," Storey said. "It means a lot to the students, and this program is a way to say thank you to everyone."

This year's Showcase will once again follow a traditional format for the first half of the program before switching to a fast-paced collage format in the second half. Storey said the audience enjoys the fast pace of the collage format, which utilizes different areas of the auditorium to present one musical act right after another.

The Showcase program includes everything from the Chorale and Concert Band to a dance ensemble and a clarinet ensemble. The Boulevards, a French horn quartet, earned a spot on the Showcase program by winning first place in the Showcase student competition. Members include Guli Manfredi, a senior performance major from Canyon; Felipe Vera, a senior music major from Alice; Kimberli Theel, a junior performance major from Borger; and Chris Munoz, a senior music major from Midland.

A traditional preconcert show will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium lobby.

Tickets for the event, priced at \$10 for adults and \$5 for students, are available at the WTAMU music office in the Fine Arts Building, Room 102 or in Amarillo at Jent's House of Music or Tarpley Music. Tickets for preferred seating are priced at \$75 each and include a gourmet dinner at O.H.M.S. Preferred seating tickets are limited and all proceeds will benefit the student scholarship fund. For more information, contact the WTAMU music office at (806) 651-2840.

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SPORTS

Pampa High diver earns all-state status

By L.D. STRATE
Sports Editor

PAMPA — Champion diver Whitney Penrod is hoping a long summer at the Maverick Club pool in Amarillo will hold her advance to the state swim meet again next year.

The Pampa junior made history for the school diving program this year when she placed eighth in the state 1-meter diving at Austin.

That placing was the best finish ever for a PHS female diver at the state meet. Penrod added another first when she was named to the All-State, First Team by swim coaches across Texas.

Since the swim season ended, Penrod has been going to the Maverick Pool twice a week to take lessons from AISD instructor Jerry Smith, a highly-respected diving coach. She plans to extend those lessons to four times a week this summer.

"I'm at the point where I can't help her anymore," said PHS swim coach Greg Miller. "She needed someone with

more expertise. One of the things we're doing is enhancing her training at the Maverick Club, which has a larger pool than the one here (Pampa Youth Center pool). Mr. Smith agreed to work with her."

Diving had been a lost art form in the PHS swim program before Penrod came along. She was the only diver on this year's team and there have been very few before her.

"I'm not really sure why there isn't more divers," Penrod said. "I think it's because it's not as recognized as the other events. There may be a couple on the middle school team who are diving now."

Penrod is also one of the fastest swimmers on the team. She anchors the 200 freestyle and 200 medley relays.

Penrod gives a lot of credit to coach Miller for her steady progress as a diver.

"He's been very supportive. He helped me get the help I needed so I could get better at diving," she pointed out.

Penrod came to Pampa from Silver City, New Mexico as a

sophomore.

Her dad, Scott Penrod, is the pastor at First United Methodist Church.

"I was involved in gymnastics for eight years in New Mexico. That sport really

helped me develop my diving skills. I'm hoping I can improve my degree of difficulty this summer so I can place higher at state next year," the 16-year-old Penrod added.

"Whitney has several colleges looking at her. She has a good chance to win state next year," Miller said. "Whitney is also an excellent student. She's very strong academically."



Pampa High Diver Whitney Penrod received all-state honors this season after placing in Austin. Penrod, a junior, was the first diver to place at state in school history.

NOTEBOOK

RODEO

HEREFORD

Pampa High cowboys Q.B. Cobb and Hawk Tucker won some rodeo honors at a Tri-State High School Rodeo in Hereford.

Cobb won ribbon roping with a 6.333 score. He was also second in steer wrestling. Tucker and teammate Jacob Trevathan placed 1-2 respectively in bull riding. Tucker had 78 points and Trevathan 72.

GOLF

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (AP)

Tiger Woods made his 120th consecutive cut at The Players Championship.

He'll need to play even better to catch up to Kevin Sutherland and Jerry Kelly.

Sutherland holed an 80-foot bunker shot on his way to a 3-under 69. Kelly joined him with a 66, a mixture of short birdie putts and a scrappy short game on the TPC at Sawgrass.

BASKETBALL

MIAMI (AP)

Marquis Daniels was having his best offensive game as a professional. Too bad it's a defensive lapse in the final seconds of overtime that he'll remember.

Miami's Rafer Alston made a game-winning 3-pointer with 0.5 seconds left in overtime to give the Heat a 119-118 victory over the Mavericks on Friday night.

"I got screened, and he was open for the shot," said Daniels, who scored 31 points. "He made a big shot for them. He got some open looks in our zone and he made us pay for it."

Alston's 3-pointer gave Miami a seven-game winning streak for the first time since March 28-April 9, 2000. It also sent the Mavericks to their eighth loss in 13 games.

Dallas is 1-3 on its current road trip.

"He found a hole in our zone," Mavericks coach Don Nelson said. "There must have been a breakdown at the end of the game. I had two rookies (Daniels and Josh Howard) in the game, but I'm not blaming the rookies. Somebody should've helped on Alston though."



Junior team members (from left) Nakayla Hardman, Kelsey Bradley, Chelsie Griffin and Danielle Sims of Gymnastics of Pampa

Local gymnasts earn medals at Lubbock Recreation meet

LUBBOCK —

Gymnastics of Pampa junior team members competed in a Recreation meet in Lubbock. Making the Lubbock trip were Nakayla Hardman, Danielle Sims, Kelsey Bradley and Chelsie Griffin.

All four girls had outstanding performances at the meet.

Results are as follows:

Level 4 (non-sanctioned)
Nakayla Hardman: blue ribbons for vault, bars, beam

and floor exercise.

Danielle Sims: blue ribbons for vault, bars, beam and floor exercise.

Kelsey Bradley: blue ribbons on vault, bars and floor exercise; red ribbon balance beam.

Level 3
Chelsie Griffin: blue ribbons for vault, balance beam and floor exercise; red ribbon for bars.

Aggies down Texas Tech, 5-2

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Jason Meyer struck out 11 batters through seven innings and Austin Boggs hit a three-run homer as Texas A&M beat Texas Tech 5-2 on Friday night.

Meyer (5-0), making his first start this season, allowed only three hits and one earned run.

Boggs was 2-for-4 with

three RBIs and scored two runs. Cory Patton was 2-for-3 for the Aggies (22-5, 2-2 Big 12).

Josh Brady and Josh Haney each batted in a run for Texas Tech, which couldn't overcome a 5-0 deficit.

Dallas Braden (1-2) took the loss, giving up five runs on nine hits in six innings for the Red Raiders (16-8, 0-1).

Longhorns fall to Xavier in Atlanta Regional clash

ATLANTA (AP) — The kid with the catchy Web site can post some breaking news: Xavier is going to an NCAA regional final for the first time.

Romain Sato scored 27 points and backcourt mate Lionel Chalmers added 14, helping the Musketeers beat Texas 79-71 in the semifinals of the Atlanta Regional on Friday night.

No. 7 seed Xavier (26-10) won for the 16th time in 17 games and advanced to Sunday's regional final against Duke. That information surely will be featured prominently on www.stari-nanylanguage.com, the site started by Sato, a native of the Central African Republic who speaks six different languages.

Brandon Mouton had 21 before fouling out for the Longhorns (25-8), who were trying to reach the Final Four for the second straight season. Brian Boddicker added 11, and P.J. Tucker finished with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Duke 72, Illinois 62
ATLANTA (AP) — Chris Duhon may be hurting, but he's doing just fine. So are the Duke Blue Devils.

Dragging himself off the floor time and time again, Duhon steered Duke into an all-too-familiar position — one win from the Final Four.

Duhon, nursing sore ribs, attempted only one shot, but it didn't matter for Duke (30-5). The 6-foot-1 point guard

dished out eight assists and kept sneaking inside for rebounds, winding up with a game-high 10. He also helped hold Illinois' top scorer, Deron Williams, to just seven points on 3-of-13 shooting.

Luol Deng led the Blue Devils with 18 points, while J.J. Redick added 17 and Shelden Williams 14. But it was Duhon, the senior leader, who set the tone.

Kansas 100, UAB 74
ST. LOUIS (AP) — Wayne Simien, Aaron Miles and Kansas put Alabama-Birmingham through its own version of "40 Minutes of Hell."

Simien had 30 points, nine rebounds and five assists and the Jayhawks had few problems handling UAB's frenetic defense, moving a step closer to their third straight Final Four.

Kansas (24-8) advanced to play Georgia Tech for a trip to San Antonio. The St. Louis Regional final will be played Sunday.

The Jayhawks, who practiced against eight players this week to prepare for UAB's pressing defense, committed 17 turnovers and were forced into plenty of silly errors but offset that by beating the Blazers at their own chaotic game.

Miles keyed it all by out-running the press, either hitting all sorts of twisting layups or dishing off to wide-open teammates. He finished with 10 assists.

Freshman J.R. Giddens had 18 points and Jeff Graves added 13 points and eight rebounds.

The Blazers (22-10) made it to St. Louis after ousting the tournament's top overall seed Kentucky.

Georgia Tech 72, Nevada 67

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Georgia Tech is so good it didn't even need its leading scorer to reach the regional finals of the NCAA tournament.

Marvin Lewis had 23 points and Will Bynum made a huge layup with 65 seconds left to give the Yellow Jackets a victory in the regional semifinals of the NCAA tournament.

The third-seeded Yellow Jackets (26-9) are in the regional finals for just the third time in school history and the first time since 1990.

The 10th-seeded Wolf Pack (25-9) knocked off Michigan State and routed Gonzaga to make the round of 16, and it seemed as if another upset was in the making early — especially with Georgia Tech forced to play without B.J. Elder.

Elder, who is averaging 16.2 points, sprained his right ankle less than two minutes into the game when Kirk Snyder landed on it.

Ryan is back with Astros

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Not every Houston Astros pitcher can hold the mound with the same intimidating presence that Nolan Ryan exuded in his Hall of Fame career.

But they're trying. "I grew up idolizing him and I used to grunt like he did, but it didn't help me much," reliever

Ricky Stone said.

After 15 years away, Ryan is again part of the Astros as more than just the owner of one of their minor league teams. He signed a personal services contract with the team, and spent time this spring watching and advising Stone and the other pitchers.

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All Times EST
OPENING ROUND
At UD Arena
Dayton, Ohio
Tuesday, March 16
Florida A&M 72, Lehigh 57

EAST RUTHERFORD REGIONAL
First Round
Thursday, March 18
At HSBC Arena
Buffalo, N.Y.
Texas Tech 76, Charlotte 73
Saint Joseph's 82, Liberty 63
At RBC Center
Raleigh, N.C.
Manhattan 75, Florida 60
Wake Forest 79, Virginia Commonwealth 78
Friday, March 19
At Kemper Arena
Kansas City, Mo.
Memphis 59, South Carolina 43
Oklahoma State 75, Eastern Washington 56
At The Bradley Center
Milwaukee
Wisconsin 76, Richmond 64
Second Round
Saturday, March 20
At HSBC Arena
Buffalo, N.Y.
Saint Joseph's 70, Texas Tech 65
At RBC Center
Raleigh, N.C.
Wake Forest 84, Manhattan 80
Sunday, March 21
At Kemper Arena
Kansas City, Mo.
Oklahoma State 70, Memphis 53

At The Bradley Center
Milwaukee
Pittsburgh 59, Wisconsin 55
Semifinals
Thursday, March 25
At Continental Airlines Arena
East Rutherford, N.J.
Oklahoma State 63, Pittsburgh 51
Saint Joseph's 84, Wake Forest 80
Championship
Saturday, March 27
At Continental Airlines Arena
East Rutherford, N.J.
Oklahoma State (30-3) vs. Saint Joseph's (30-1), 7:05 p.m.

ATLANTA REGIONAL
First Round
Thursday, March 18
At The Pepsi Center
Denver
Texas 66, Princeton 49
North Carolina 63, Air Force 52
At RBC Center
Raleigh, N.C.
Duke 96, Alabama State 61
Seton Hall 80, Arizona 76
Friday, March 19
At Nationwide Arena
Columbus, Ohio
Illinois 72, Murray State 53
Cincinnati 80, East Tennessee State 77
At TD Waterhouse Centre
Orlando, Fla.
Mississippi State 85, Monmouth, N.J. 52
Xavier 80, Louisville 70
Second Round
Saturday, March 20
At The Pepsi Center
Denver
Texas 78, North Carolina 35
At RBC Center
Raleigh, N.C.

Duke 90, Seton Hall 62
Sunday, March 21
At Nationwide Arena
Columbus, Ohio
Illinois 92, Cincinnati 68
At TD Waterhouse Center
Orlando, Fla.
Xavier 89, Mississippi State 74
Semifinals
Friday, March 26
At The Georgia Dome
Atlanta
Xavier 79, Texas 71
Duke 72, Illinois 62
Championship
Sunday, March 28
At The Georgia Dome
Atlanta
Xavier (26-10) vs. Duke (30-5), 5:05 p.m.

ST. LOUIS REGIONAL
First Round
Thursday, March 18
At Key Arena
Seattle
Nevada 72, Michigan State 66
Gonzaga 76, Valparaiso 49
Friday, March 19
At Nationwide Arena
Columbus, Ohio
Kentucky 96, Florida A&M 76
Alabama-Birmingham 102, Washington 100
At Kemper Arena
Kansas City, Mo.
Pacific 66, Providence 58
Kansas 78, Illinois-Chicago 53
At The Bradley Center
Milwaukee
Boston College 58, Utah 51
Georgia Tech 65, Northern Iowa 60
Second Round
Saturday, March 20
At Key Arena

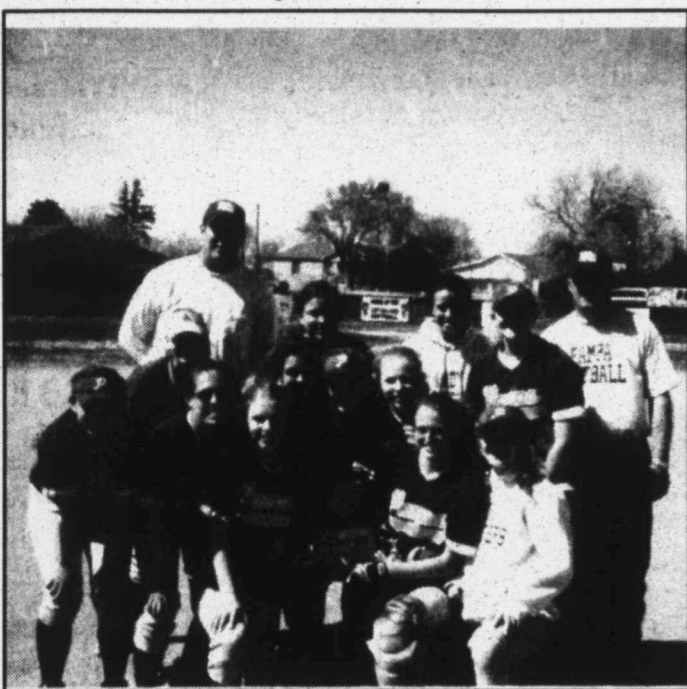
Seattle
Nevada 91, Gonzaga 72
Sunday, March 21
At Nationwide Arena
Columbus, Ohio
Alabama-Birmingham 76, Kentucky 75
At Kemper Arena
Kansas City, Mo.
Kansas 78, Pacific 63
At The Bradley Center
Milwaukee
Georgia Tech 57, Boston College 54
Semifinals
Friday, March 26
At Edward Jones Dome
St. Louis
Kansas 100, Alabama-Birmingham 74
Georgia Tech 72, Nevada 67
Championship
Sunday, March 28
At Edward Jones Dome
St. Louis
Kansas (24-8) vs. Georgia Tech (26-9), 2:40 p.m.

PHOENIX REGIONAL
First Round
Thursday, March 18
At HSBC Arena
Buffalo, N.Y.
Connecticut 70, Vermont 53
DePaul 76, Dayton 69, 20T
At The Pepsi Center
Denver
Maryland 86, Texas-El Paso 83
Syracuse 80, Brigham Young 75
At Key Arena
Seattle
Alabama 65, Southern Illinois 64
Stanford 71, Texas-San Antonio 45
Friday, March 19
At TD Waterhouse Centre
Orlando, Fla.

North Carolina State 61, Louisiana-Lafayette 52
Vanderbilt 71, Western Michigan 58
Second Round
Saturday, March 20
At HSBC Arena
Buffalo, N.Y.
Connecticut 72, DePaul 55
At The Pepsi Center
Denver
Syracuse 72, Maryland 70
At Key Arena
Seattle
Alabama 70, Stanford 67
Sunday, March 21
At TD Waterhouse Centre
Orlando, Fla.
Vanderbilt 75, North Carolina State 73
Semifinals
Thursday, March 25
At America West Arena
Phoenix
Connecticut 73, Vanderbilt 53
Alabama 80, Syracuse 71
Championship
Saturday, March 27
At America West Arena
Phoenix
Connecticut (30-6) vs. Alabama (20-12), 4:40 p.m.

FINAL FOUR
At The Alamodome
San Antonio
Semifinals
Saturday, April 3
East Rutherford champion vs. St. Louis champion, TBA
Atlanta champion vs. Phoenix champion, TBA
Championship
Monday, April 5
Semifinal winners

JV champs



The Pampa junior varsity softball team shows the championship trophy brought back from the Bulldog Junior Varsity Classic in Borger.

Rangers' Rogers has good outing against Brewers

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — Kenny Rogers had his best outing of the spring Friday, despite allowing a solo home run to Scott Podsednik that lifted the Milwaukee Brewers to a 1-0 win over the Texas Rangers. Rogers, who has been named as the Rangers' opening day starter, went 6 2/3 innings and gave up only four hits. It was the longest outing by a Rangers pitcher this spring. The 37-year-old used a variety of off-speed pitches to hold Milwaukee to only three other singles, while striking out four with no

walks on 81 pitches. His only major mistake was a sinker to Podsednik, an excellent low-ball hitter. "I didn't put it where I wanted to put it," Rogers said. "Basically, it was a good game. I was working on a new pitch — a split-finger — and it seemed to be moving pretty good. "I still need to work on my location, but I still have one more outing." Podsednik wasn't thrilled with his performance, despite his first home run of the spring. "I'm glad to hit the home run, but the other three at-bats weren't very solid," he

said. Milwaukee starter Dave Burba didn't allow a run in three of innings of work. "The starting rotation is pretty well set at this point," Milwaukee manager Ned Yost said. "We're looking at him more in a long-relief role. "All three of our pitchers tonight are in that battle." Burba was followed by Ben Ford who pitched three innings and gave up one hit and walked one. Adrian Hernandez pitched the final three innings, allowing only one hit. **Notes:** Rangers reliever Jeff Zimmerman will have his right elbow

examined by team doctors this weekend. Zimmerman, who has had two reconstructive surgeries and hasn't pitched in a major league game since 2001, re-injured his elbow three weeks ago. He had an MRI exam on Tuesday. Texas right fielder Brian Jordan did not play in either of Friday's split-squad games. He is out with a sore left knee and is day-to-day. Milwaukee outfielder Geoff Jenkins was out of the lineup Friday with strep throat.

Duke faces Louisiana Tech today in regionals

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Monique Currie always seems content to let her Duke teammates have the spotlight. The redshirt sophomore — she sat out last season with a knee injury — often defers to seniors Alana Beard and Iciss Tillis, opting to let them lead the way. But coach Gail Goestenkers wants more. While Beard and Tillis grab the headlines, Goestenkers told Currie she could be the key to the Blue Devils' hopes of finally breaking through and winning a national championship. "She's the one that does a lot of the dirty work for us," Goestenkers said. "She's the unsung hero. She's happy right now to be in the shadows of those players. ... She said, 'I'm just happy when we win. It doesn't really matter what my stat line is.' "That's when I talked to her about really stepping for-

ward, and that her stat line does matter for us to be successful at this point." Currie, a 6-foot wing player, is averaging 11.9 points and 6.1 rebounds while shooting 48 percent for the top-seeded Blue Devils, who face No. 5 seed Louisiana Tech in the third round of the Mideast Regional today. The second-team all-Atlantic Coast Conference performer knocks down jumpers and drives to the basket, providing a physical perimeter presence to complement the graceful Beard, a three-time All-American. "People have watched us all year, so they know what Iciss can do and Alana can do," Currie said. "They know what I can do, but I'm sure their first bet is to stop Alana, so someone's just got to be there to pick up the slack." In the first half of Duke's second-round win over Marquette, Currie scored 15 points on 6-of-7 shooting.

Newman earns starting spot for Food City 500

BRISTOL, Tenn. (AP) — Ryan Newman has been around NASCAR's top stock car series long enough to know what he's capable of doing. "It's a team sport, and I don't amaze myself," Newman said Friday. "It's all about teamwork and amazing other people." Newman won the top starting position for today's Food City 500, the 21st pole of his career. Newman, winless in the first five races this season, led the circuit last year with 11 poles and eight victories.

He ran a lap at 128.313 mph, just shy of his year-old Bristol Motor Speedway track record of 128.709. His fast lap Friday took just 14.954 seconds on the high-banked, .533-mile oval. "When you get around this place as fast as we did, it's certainly not that easy," Newman said. "You have to hit your marks and you have to do it at a really fast speed. It's easy to make a mistake." Jeff Gordon, who has three poles and five wins here, made it very close with a lap of 128.288.



Pampa Harvester Sports Schedule

BASEBALL

TUESDAY • MARCH 30
Pampa vs. Hereford • 4:30 pm at Pampa
FRIDAY • APRIL 2
Pampa vs. Palo Duro • 4:30 pm at Palo Duro
SATURDAY • APRIL 3
Pampa vs. Dumas • 1:00 pm at Pampa

SOFTBALL

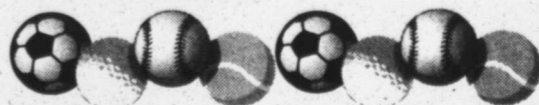
FRIDAY • APRIL 2
Pampa vs. Caprock • 4:30 pm at Pampa
SATURDAY • APRIL 3
Pampa vs. Randall • 2:30 pm at Randall

TRACK

FRIDAY • APRIL 2
Pampa at Amarillo Relays Dick Bovins Stadium

GOLF

WEDNESDAY • MARCH 31
Pampa Girls at Dumas
THURSDAY • APRIL 1
Pampa Boys Invitational



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Officials announce county stock show results

The 2004 Gray County Junior Livestock Show was conducted recently at Clyde Carruth Pavilion in Pampa. Judging the event were Baron Westsel, FFA teacher from Lubbock; Burt Williams, Hansford County Extension agent; and Kim Brock, swine herdsman from Oklahoma State University.

Results from the county show are as follows:

WINNERS

Grand Champions. Tanner Cadra, McLean FFA, lamb; Zach Licklider, Gray 4-H, barrow; Chance Bowers, Gray 4-H, steer; and Elizabeth Thomas, Gray 4-H, goat.

Reserve Grand Champions. Kaylene Wyant, Pampa FFA, lamb; Garrett Coutts, Pampa FFA, barrow; Meredith Coutts, Pampa FFA, steer; and Tabitha Courter, Gray 4-H, goat.

SHOWMANSHIP AWARDS

Steers/Junior Division. Larri Galleher, Pampa FFA, first place; Taryn Eubanks, Gray 4-H, second place.

Steers/Senior Division. Chance Bowers, Gray 4-H, first place; Collin Bowers, Gray 4-H, second place.

Lambs/Junior Division. Emily Nicklas, Gray 4-H, first place; Kristen Dunn, Pampa FFA, second place.

Lambs/Senior Division. No entries.

Goats/Junior Division. Hillary Thomas, Gray 4-H, first place; Meagan Crawford, Gray 4-H, second place.

Goats/Senior Division. Elizabeth Thomas, Gray 4-H, first place; Ashlee Lucas, Gray 4-H, second place.

Barrows/Junior Division. Blake Nusser, Gray 4-H, first place; Logan Sparling, McLean FFA, second place.

Barrows/Senior Division. Jeremy Pritchett, Pampa FFA, first place; Meredith Coutts, Pampa FFA, second place.

BRED CHAMPIONS

Lambs. K'Lyn Holmes, Pampa FFA, Finewool Cross; Tanner Cadra, McLean FFA, Medium Wool.

Steers. Taryn Eubanks, Gray 4-H, Angus; Chance Bowers, Gray 4-H, Hereford; Garrett Coutts, Pampa FFA, Shorthorn; Tyler O'Neal, Pampa FFA, Brangus; Blake Nusser, Pampa FFA, both Santa Gertrudis and Maine;

Ryan Baggerman, Gray 4-H, Chiannina; Emily Nusser, Gray 4-H, Charola; Meredith Coutts, Gray 4-H, both Simmental and Limousine.

Barrows. Emilea Greer, Gray 4-H, Berkshire; Lauren Coutts, Gray 4-H, Duroc; Ethan Greer, Gray 4-H, Hampshire; Destinee Manhart, Gray 4-H, Spots & Polands; Zach Licklider, Gray 4-H, Yorkshire; Garrett Coutts, Pampa FFA, Cross.

RESERVE BREED CHAMPIONS

Lambs. Emily Nicklas, Gray 4-H, Finewool Cross; Kaylene Wyant, Pampa FFA, Medium Wool.

Steers. Courtney Crawford, Gray 4-H, Angus; Kelby Rucker, Gray 4-H, Hereford; Ashlee Lucas, Gray 4-H, Shorthorn; Royce O'Neal, Pampa FFA, Brangus; K'Lyn Holmes, Pampa FFA, Chiannina; Collin Bowers, Gray 4-H, Maine; Bobby Hedley, Gray 4-H, Charola; Meagan Crawford, Gray 4-H, Simmental; Ty Baggerman, Gray 4-H, Limousine.

Barrows. Stephen McCarley, Pampa FFA, Berkshire; Elizabeth Campbell, Pampa FFA, Chester; K'Leigh Sweeney, Gray 4-H, Duroc; Brittany Chisum, Gray 4-H, Hampshire; Ryan McCarley, Pampa FFA, Spots & Polands; Blake Nusser, Gray 4-H, both Yorkshire and Cross.

GOATS

Class #1-Light Weight Goats. Tabitha Courter, Gray 4-H, first place; Hilary Thomas, Gray 4-H, second place; Ty Baggerman, Gray 4-H, third place; K'Leigh Sweeney, Gray 4-H, fourth place; and Ashley Winton, Pampa FFA, fifth place.

Class #2-Medium Weight Goats. Elizabeth Thomas, Gray 4-H, first place; Tyler Morris, Gray 4-H, second place; Shana Sykes, Gray 4-H, third through fifth place.

Class #3-Heavy Weight Goats. Meagan Crawford, Gray 4-H, first place; Jessica Baggerman, Gray 4-H, second place; Laci Sailor, Gray 4-H, third place; Ashlee Lucas, Gray 4-H, fourth place; Destinee Manhart, Gray 4-H, fifth place; Levi Sailor, Gray 4-H, sixth place.

LAMBS

Class #4-Fine Wool

Cross. K'Lyn Holmes, Pampa FFA, first place; Emily Nicklas, Gray 4-H, second, fourth and fifth place; Kristen Dunn, Pampa FFA, third place.

Class #5-Light Weight Medium Wool. Kaylene Wyant, Pampa FFA, first and fourth place; Emily Nicklas, Gray 4-H, second place; K'Lyn Holmes, Pampa FFA, third place; Taylor Kellerman, Gray 4-H, fifth place.

Class #6-Medium Weight Medium Wool. Tanner Cadra, McLean FFA, first place; Emily Nicklas, Gray 4-H, second and third place; Renee Baggerman, Gray 4-H, fourth place; Tyler Lamb, McLean FFA, fifth place.

Class #7-Heavy Weight Medium Wool. Tanner Cadra, McLean FFA, first place; Kaylene Wyant, Pampa FFA, second place; Emily Nicklas, Gray 4-H, third and fifth place; Robert Douglas, Gray 4-H, fourth place; Brian Jones, Gray 4-H, sixth place.

STEERS

Class #8-Brangus. Tyler O'Neal, Pampa FFA, first place; Royce O'Neal, Pampa FFA, second place; Larri Galleher, Pampa FFA, third place.

Class #9-Charolais. Emily Nusser, Gray 4-H, first place; Bobby Haley, Gray 4-H, second place.

Class #10-Chiannina. Ryan Baggerman, Gray 4-H, first place; K'Lyn Holmes, Pampa FFA, second place.

Class #11-Hereford. Chance Bowers, Gray 4-H, first place; Kelby Rucker, Gray 4-H, second place; Jessica Baggerman, Gray 4-H, third place; Bill Haley, Gray 4-H, fourth place.

Class #12-Limousine. Meredith Coutts, Pampa FFA, first place; Ty Baggerman, Gray 4-H, second place.

Class #13-Maine. Blake Nusser, Gray 4-H, first place; Collin Bowers, Gray 4-H, second and third place; Jessica Baggerman, Gray 4-H, fourth place.

Class #14-Santa Gertrudis. Blake Nusser, Gray 4-H, first place.

Class #15-Shorthorn. Garrett Coutts, Pampa FFA, first place; Ashlee Lucas, Gray 4-H, second place.

Class #16-Simmental. Meredith Coutts, Pampa FFA,

first place; Meagan Crawford, Gray 4-H, second place.

Angus (no class given). Taryn Eubank, first place, Gray 4-H; Courtney Crawford, second place, Gray 4-H.

BARROWS

Class #17-Medium Weight Berkshire. Stephen McCarley, Pampa FFA, first place; Ethan Greer, Gray 4-H, second place; Kevin Smith, McLean FFA, third place; Amber Freeman, Pampa FFA, fourth place.

Class #18-Heavy Weight Berkshire. Emilea Greer, Gray 4-H, first place; Logan Sparling, McLean FFA, second place; Jamie Sanderson, McLean FFA, third place; Blake Chisum, Gray 4-H, fourth place.

Class #19-Medium Weight Chester. Elizabeth Terry, Pampa FFA, first place; Karli Douglas, Pampa FFA, second place; Cody Lee, Pampa FFA, third place; Mandy Cross, Gray 4-H, fourth place.

Class #20-Heavy Weight Chester. Lauren Coutts, Gray 4-H, first place; Elizabeth Campbell, Pampa FFA, second place; Dayla Newman, Gray 4-H, third place; Jonathan Cook, Gray 4-H, fourth place.

Class #21-Medium Weight Duroc. Blake Nusser, Gray 4-H, first place; Kori Dunn, Pampa FFA, second place; Maggie Hopkins, Pampa FFA, third place; J'Ce Holmes, Pampa FFA, fourth place; Hannah Hopkins, Pampa FFA, fifth place.

Class #22-Heavy Weight Duroc. K'Leigh Sweeney, Gray 4-H, first place; Stephen McCarley, Pampa FFA, second place; Ryan McCarley, Pampa FFA, third place; Trindee Talley, Pampa FFA, fourth place; Austin Pritchett, Pampa FFA, fifth place; Jeremy Pritchett, Pampa FFA, sixth place.

Class #23-Light Weight Hampshire. Garrett Coutts, Pampa FFA, first place; Jamie Sanderson, McLean FFA, second place; Levi Sailor, Gray 4-H, third place; K'Lyn Holmes, Pampa FFA, fourth place; Sandi Anderson, McLean FFA, fifth place; Tanner Cochran, Pampa FFA, sixth place.

Class #24-Medium

Weight Hampshire. Emilea Greer, Gray 4-H, first place; Meredith Coutts, Pampa FFA, second place; Kutter Anderson, McLean FFA, third and sixth place; J'Ce Holmes, Pampa FFA, fourth place; Ashley Winton, Pampa FFA, fifth place.

Class #25-Medium Heavy Weight Hampshire. Ethan Greer, Gray 4-H, first place; Brittany Chisum, Gray 4-H, second place; Jazmine Rose, Gray 4-H, third place; Trindee Talley, Pampa FFA, fourth place; John Luke Covalt, Gray 4-H, fifth place; Emily Nusser, Gray 4-H, sixth place.

Class #26-Heavy Weight Hampshire. Lauren Coutts, Gray 4-H, first place; Jeremy Pritchett, Pampa FFA, second place; Kristen Dunn, Pampa FFA, third place; Garrett Kennedy, Pampa FFA, fourth place; Skye Niccum, Pampa FFA, fifth place; Courtney Crawford, Gray 4-H, sixth place.

Class #27-Medium Weight Spots & Polands. Korina Medley, Gray 4-H, first place; Matthew Applewhite, McLean FFA, second place; Chance Bowers, Gray 4-H, third place; K'Leigh Sweeney, Gray 4-H, fourth place; Cody Lee, Pampa FFA, fifth place.

Class #28-Heavy Weight Spots & Polands. Destinee Manhart, Gray 4-H, first place; Ryan McCarley, Pampa FFA, second place; K'Lyn Holmes, Pampa FFA, third place; Jessica Baggerman, Gray 4-H, fourth place; J'Ce Holmes, Pampa FFA, fifth place; Sandi Anderson, McLean FFA, sixth place.

Class #29-Medium Weight Yorkshire. Zachary Licklider, Gray 4-H, first place; Claire Hopkins, Pampa FFA, second place; Blake Chisum, Gray 4-H, third place; Mark Smith, McLean FFA, fourth place; Laci Sailor, Gray 4-H, fifth place; Amber Freeman, Pampa FFA, sixth place.

Class #30-Heavy Weight Yorkshire. Blake Nusser,

Gray 4-H, first place; Bill Haley, Gray 4-H, second place; Tyler O'Neal, Gray 4-H, third place; Jazmine Rose, Gray 4-H, fourth place; John Luke Covalt, Gray 4-H, fifth place; Elizabeth Terry, Pampa FFA, sixth place.

Class #31-Light Weight Cross. Cody Lee, Pampa FFA, first place; Kori Dunn, Pampa FFA, second place; Jake Hopkins, Pampa FFA, third place; Emily Nusser, Gray 4-H, fourth place; Emily Nusser, Gray 4-H, fifth place; Tyler O'Neal, Gray 4-H, sixth place.

Class #32-Light Medium Weight Cross. Garrett Coutts, Pampa FFA, first place; Blake Nusser, Gray 4-H, second place; Kevin Smith, McLean FFA, third place; Ashlee Lucas, Gray 4-H, fourth place; Tabitha Courter, Gray 4-H, fifth place; Ty Youree, Gray 4-H, sixth place.

Class #33-Medium Weight Cross. Meredith Coutts, Pampa FFA, first place; Jazmine Rose, Gray 4-H, second place; K'Lyn Holmes, Pampa FFA, third place; Laci Sailor, Gray 4-H, fourth place; Royce O'Neal, Gray 4-H, fifth place; Jake Hopkins, Pampa FFA, sixth place.

Class #34-Medium Heavy Weight Cross. Garrett Kennedy, Pampa FFA, first place; Dustin Langley, Pampa FFA, second place; Jordan Wortham, Gray 4-H, third place; Elizabeth Thomas, Gray 4-H, fourth place; Alexandra Stevens, Pampa FFA, fifth place; Meagan Crawford, Gray 4-H, sixth place.

Class #35-Heavy Weight Cross. Austin Pritchett, Pampa FFA, first place; Hilary Thomas, Gray 4-H, second place; Royce O'Neal, Pampa FFA, third place; Jeremy Pritchett, Pampa FFA, fourth place; Kori Dunn, Pampa FFA, fifth place; Garrett Coutts, Pampa FFA, sixth place.

Tenth Farm Credit District reports record year-end results

AUSTIN — The Tenth Farm Credit District recently reported record loan volume and net income for the year ended Dec. 31, 2003. According to a press release from Farm Credit Bank of Texas, the district is the largest rural lending network serving Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico and Texas, comprising the Austin-based Farm Credit Bank of Texas and 21 financing cooperatives in the five-state area.

The press release reported the following details:

For the ninth consecutive year, the district loan volume reached a new record level. Gross loan volume totaled \$7.3 billion at year-end 2003, representing an increase of 7.0 percent and 21.0 percent from Dec. 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively.

"Last year, producers in the Tenth District benefited from the lower interest rate environment, stable land prices and

improved prices in several major crops," said Larry Doyle, FCBT chief executive officer. "However, farmers also had to contend with rising production expenses, input costs and fuel prices. Despite these challenges, the district experienced loan volume growth, strong earnings and strong credit quality."

A solid demand for real estate, competitive pricing by the bank and associations, and continued marketing efforts contributed to the increase in the loan portfolio. Overall district loan credit quality was high, with acceptable loan volume remaining at 97.4 percent at year-end, unchanged from the previous year.

District net income totaled \$168.6 million for the year ended Dec. 31, 2003, reflecting an increase of 31.7 percent from net income of \$128.1 million for the previous year and 50.4 percent from net income reported at

year-end 2001. The substantial increase is credited, in part, to the sale of the bank's mineral rights holdings for a gain of \$30.5 million. Net interest income increased by 11.8 percent from 2002 to a total \$265.1 million for 2003.

In 2003, the district returned \$268 million in patronage and dividend distributions to stockholders, compared with \$26.1 million in distributions in 2002.

The Farm Credit Bank of Texas provides funds and services to nine Federal Land Credit Associations, which provide rural mortgage financing, and 12 Agricultural

Credit Associations, which offer both agricultural and rural mortgage loans. Together, these lending cooperatives had approximately 63,000 loans outstanding to farmers, ranchers, rural homeowners, agribusinesses and other rural landowners at year-end 2003. District assets totaled more than \$8.8 billion.

The Tenth Farm Credit District is part of the nationwide Farm Credit System, established more than 85 years ago. The system reported combined net income of \$1.825 billion for the year ended Dec. 31, 2003, as compared with \$1.773 billion for 2002.

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COMMUNITY

NEWSMAKERS

GEORGETOWN — Lindsay Adair Cree of Pampa was recognized as "Outstanding Graduate in Business" during Honors Convocation at Southwestern University recently.

CANYON — Karissa Intemann, Lauren Walters, both of Pampa, and Tamera Hartline of Canadian were recently awarded scholarships courtesy of the President's Honor Scholarship Program at West Texas A&M University in Canyon.

To receive President's Honor Scholarships, students must rank in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating class, score at least a 25 on the ACT or a 1200 on the SAT and have proven themselves as community leaders.

To maintain eligibility, students must keep a cumulative grade point average of 3.4 or higher and carry at least a 15-hour class load each semester.

Intemann, a freshman music business major, was awarded the Dee Anne Trotter Memorial Voice Scholarship.

Walters, a sophomore bio-chemistry major, was awarded the Geneva Schaeffer Scholarship, and Hartline, a freshman undeclared major, the Louisa Miller Eldredge Memorial Scholarship.

Since its inception in 1992, the President's Honor Scholarship Program has helped attract some of the area's best students to West Texas A&M University.

On Tuesday, March 30, the individuals and corporations responsible for establishing the endowed scholarships upon which the program relies will be honored at the President's Honor Scholarship Dinner.

The event is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Alumni Banquet Facility on the WTAMU campus.

LSB to present season finale premier event

AMARILLO — Collaborations can represent many things — a cooperation with another entity, assisting another organization or simply utilizing the strengths of someone else. That is why the Lone Star Ballet's season finale is called "Collaborations" because it is a true collaboration. LSB will present the finale — a world premier event — with special guests and selections from Russia at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 17, at Amarillo Civic Center.

As part of LSB's on-going collaboration with St. Petersburg, Russia, Natalia Kasparova will train LSB dancers for this event, work with them when the students travel to St. Petersburg this summer and collaborate once again during the 2004-05 season for another world premier.

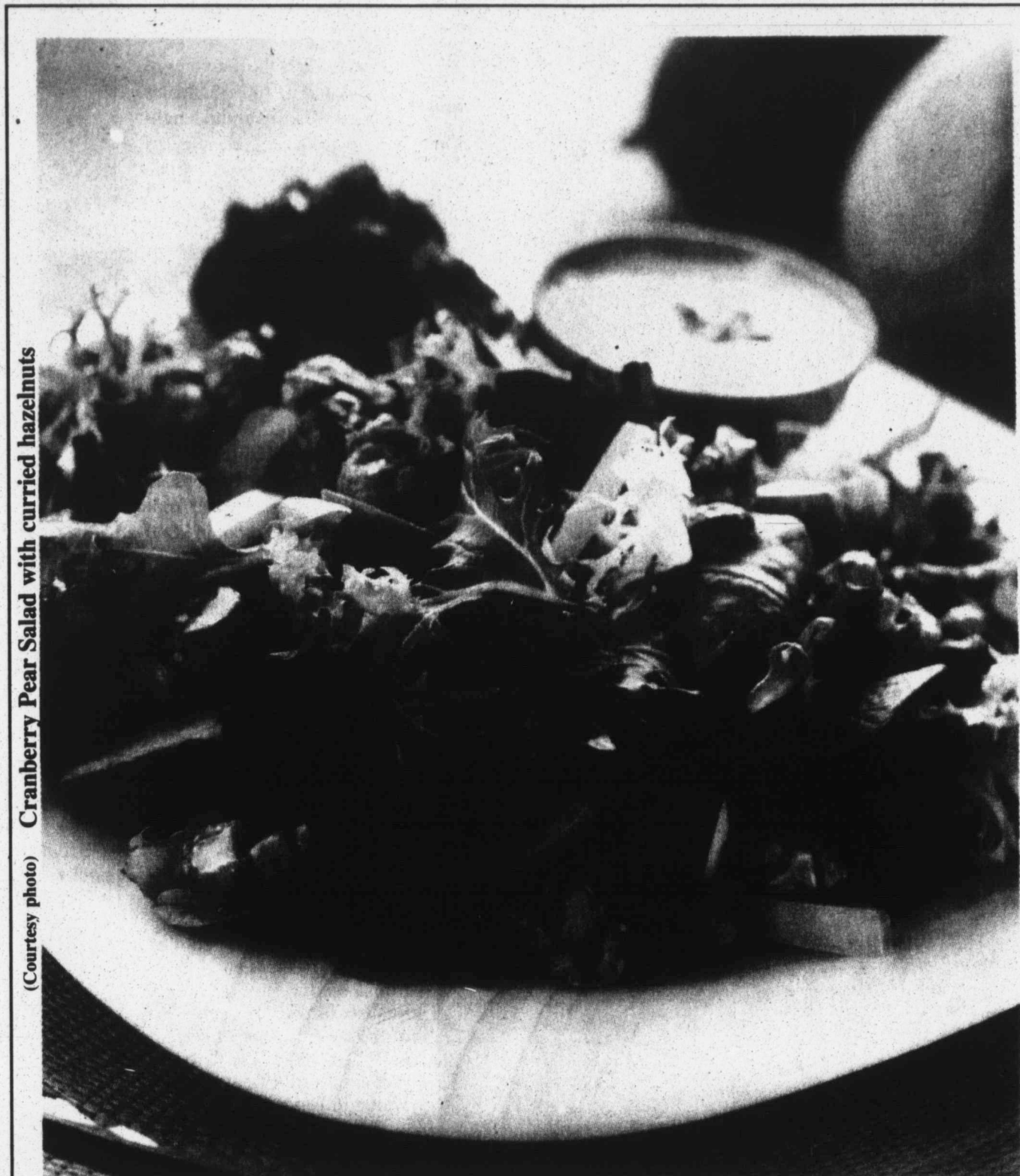
"I am extremely proud of the efforts put forth so far by the dancers of the Lone Star Ballet and the students from the Sybil B. Harrington College of Fine Arts and Humanities of West Texas A&M University," said Artistic Director Edward R. Truitt. "Learning selections from new choreographers and working with guests from Russia can be very challenging and this group of talents will not disappoint. They are truly amazing."

"Don't miss the first five minutes," said Executive Director Craig Henderson. "It is exciting to see what Mr. Truitt is accomplishing and it is a remarkable production from start to finish."

Featured divertissements will include "Kinetic Ties," "Together with You," "Innocence No More," and "T.P. Opus #1." Special guest choreographers Kasparova from St. Petersburg and Stevan Novakovich will present unique works from around the globe.

For ticket information, contact Panhandle Tickets at (806) 378-3096 or contact LSB's office at (806) 372-2463. Tickets start at \$12. Group and senior rates are available.

"Collaborations" is being sponsored by Ms. Ginger Green, Amarillo Chamber of Commerce Arts Committee, Duncan and Boyd Jewelers, Texas Commission for the Arts, Xcel Energy Foundation, Panhandle Tickets, Ambassador Hotel and Johnny Carrinos.



(Courtesy photo) Cranberry Pear Salad with curried hazelnuts

A taste of spring ...

Fair weather cuisine

With arrival of spring, make a move toward lighter, healthier cuisine. Fresh, contemporary fare complements the enticing blend of pears, cranberries and hazelnuts. Whether searching for a delightful dessert to tempt even the most calorie conscious or an innovative new wrap, the following recipes provide a full array of menu choices for light and delicious springtime meals.

For more information or to access additional recipes, please visit www.usapears.com, www.uscranberries.com and www.hazelnutcouncil.org.

CRANBERRY PEAR SALAD WITH CURRIED HAZELNUTS

- Dressing
 - 8 ounces plain, fat-free yogurt
 - 1 cup peeled, seeded and chopped cucumber
 - 1 tablespoon honey
 - 1 teaspoon lemon juice
 - 1 teaspoon dried tarragon
 - 1 teaspoon chopped chives
 - 1/4 teaspoon minced garlic
 - 1/4 teaspoon salt
 - 1/8 teaspoon ground white pepper
- Hazelnuts
 - 1 3/4 cups toasted, coarsely chopped hazelnuts
 - 1 tablespoon melted butter
 - 1/4 cup light corn syrup
 - 3 tablespoons honey
 - 3/4 teaspoon curry powder
 - 1/4 teaspoon salt
 - 1/8 teaspoon ground cayenne pepper
 - 1 1/2 teaspoons butter

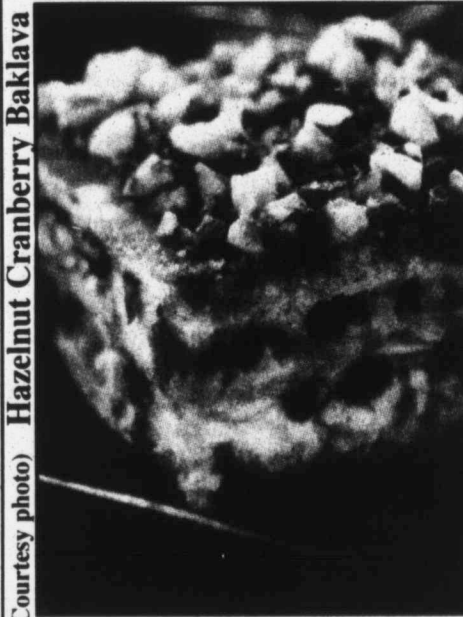
- Salad
 - 2 cups spinach leaves, washed
 - 1 1/2 cups spring greens, washed and torn
 - 1 1/3 cups sweetened dried cranberries
 - 1 Anjou pear, cored and cubed
 - 1 yellow bell pepper, seeded and cut into thin strips
 - 1/4 cup thinly sliced green onions

Process dressing ingredients in food processor or blender until smooth. Preheat oven to 300°F. Place hazelnuts in large bowl. Pour melted butter into 9 x 9 x 2-inch pan; set aside.

Stir corn syrup, honey, curry powder, salt and cayenne pepper in small saucepan until boiling. Boil 2 minutes; do not stir. Stir in 1 1/2 teaspoons butter until melted. Immediately pour over nuts. Stir until coated. Spread into prepared pan. Bake 15 to 20 minutes, stirring occasionally, until golden brown. Pour onto baking sheet; cool. Break into small pieces.

Place salad ingredients in large bowl. Toss with dressing. Sprinkle with curried hazelnuts. Makes 4 servings.

Serving Nutritional Analysis:
Calories 420 (33% Calories from Fat), Protein 8g, Carbohydrate 68g, Fiber 8g, Fat 17g, Sat. Fat 2.5g, Cholesterol 10mg, Sodium 310mg



(Courtesy photo) Hazelnut Cranberry Baklava

HAZELNUT CRANBERRY BAKLAVA WITH PEAR FILLING

- 16 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 2 Anjou pears, peeled, cored and cubed
- 1/3 cup honey
- 2 eggs
- 1 tablespoon grated lemon peel
- 1 1/2 cups toasted, finely chopped hazelnuts
- 1 1/3 cups sweetened dried cranberries, chopped
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
- 3/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 8 ounces (1/2 package) phyllo pastry, defrosted
- 1/2 cup melted butter

Whip cream cheese and pears until smooth. Add honey, eggs and lemon peel; beat until blended. Set aside. Mix hazelnuts, cranberries, sugar, cinnamon and cloves; set aside.

Preheat oven to 300°F. Cut phyllo in half to 13 x 9-inch rectangle; cover with damp cloth. Layer 10 sheets on bottom of buttered 9 x 13 x 2-inch pan, brushing each layer with butter.

Pour half cream cheese mixture over phyllo and sprinkle with 1 1/4 cups spice mixture. Place 7 sheets phyllo over spice mixture; brushing each layer with butter; repeat. Sprinkle remaining spice mixture over buttered top. Bake 45 to 60 minutes until golden brown and center is set. Cool and refrigerate. Makes 24 bars.

Serving Nutritional Analysis: Calories 250 (55% Calories from Fat), Protein 4g, Carbohydrate 25g, Fiber 2g, Fat 16g, Sat. Fat 7g, Cholesterol 45mg, Sodium 150mg

EASY COUSCOUS WRAP

- Sauce
 - 1 (12-ounce) jar roasted red peppers, drained
 - 2 tablespoons olive oil
 - 1 teaspoon red wine vinegar
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - 1/4 teaspoon minced garlic
 - 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
 - 1/4 teaspoon sugar
 - 4 drops Tabasco Sauce
- Couscous
 - 1 (12-ounce) package couscous
 - 1/2 cup sweetened dried cranberries
 - 1/2 cup toasted, chopped hazelnuts
- Wrap
 - 1 Anjou pear, peeled, cored and diced
 - 1 cup cooked, shredded chicken
 - 1 tablespoon olive oil
 - 1 teaspoon dried basil
 - 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano leaves
 - 4 (10-inch) flour tortillas
 - 1 cup spinach leaves, washed
 - Salt and pepper to taste

Process sauce ingredients in food processor or blender until smooth; set aside. Prepare couscous as directed on package for 2 servings, adding cranberries. Stir in hazelnuts after cooking; set aside. Mix pear, chicken, oil, basil and oregano; set aside.

Spread 3 tablespoons sauce over each tortilla to 1/2-inch of edge. Layer with 1/2 cup couscous, 1/4 cup spinach and 1/2 cup pear mixture. Salt and pepper to taste.

Fold tortilla bottom and top edges over filling. Fold one side to center. Fold last side overlapping center. Roll until tight. Makes 4 servings.

Serving Nutritional Analysis: Calories 660 (35% Calories from Fat), Protein 22g, Carbohydrate 87g, Fiber 8g, Fat 26g, Sat. Fat 4g, Cholesterol 20mg, Sodium 980mg

Picking the Perfect Pear. Sweet, juicy and crisp, pears are a refreshingly wholesome snack and wonderful component in contemporary cuisine. Available in many varieties, there is a pear for every season. For springtime fare, look for juicy green Anjous, whose sweet, mellow flavor is a perfect accompaniment to

(See RECIPE, Page 17)

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LIFESTYLES

WEDDINGS

Gonzales-Whittington

Cristan Nicole Gonzales and Jason Daniel Whittington, both of Amarillo, were wed Saturday, March 20, at The Wedding Chapel in Amarillo with Larry Barnes, minister, officiating.

The matron of honor was Maricel Gonzales, sister-in-law of the bride of Amarillo. The bridesmaid was Christina Whittington, sister of the groom of Amarillo. The flower girl was Cheyenne Whittington, daughter of the bride and groom of Pampa.

The best man was Kelly Caddell of Amarillo. The groomsmen was Anthony



Cristan Nicole Gonzales

Gonzales, brother of the bride of Amarillo. The groomsmen also served as ushers.

Music included "Butterfly Kisses" and "All I Long For." A reception was held fol-

lowing the service at the chapel.

The bride is the daughter of Johnny and D'Ann Gonzales of Pampa; is the granddaughter of Sherry Begert of Pampa, Sonny and Susie Riojas of Amarillo and Santana and Olga Gonzales of McAllen; and is the great-granddaughter of Edna Begert Trask of Pampa. She graduated from Highland Park High School in 2000 and is attending Amarillo College.

The groom is the son of Steve and Ruth Whittington of Amarillo and is the grandson of Emma Jo Gafford of Amarillo. He graduated from Amarillo High School in 2000 and works for Meineke.

The couple plan to make their home in Amarillo.

ANNIVERSARIES

Norton anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Norton of Pampa celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary with a family dinner Saturday, March 27.

Larry Norton and Mattie Aull were married March 27, 1964, in Pampa. Both are lifelong Pampa residents and belong to Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ.

Mr. Norton worked for National Oilwell for 31 years and is currently self-employed at N&T Specialty Welding and Manufacturing. He is a certified repairman for Ridgeway Clocks.

Mrs. Norton is a homemaker and a member of Altrusa



Mr. and Mrs. Larry Norton

International of Pampa.

Children of the couple are Keith Norton, Misty and Jimmy Townson, and Christy

and Danny Ogle, all of Pampa, and Mark Norton of Arlington. They have two grandchildren.

ENGAGEMENTS

Isbell-Ferguson

Susie Isbell and Rusty Ferguson, both of Pampa, plan to wed July 3 in Central Baptist Church of Pampa.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Johnny Isbell of Pampa and Nancy Wolfe of Cleburne. She graduated from Pampa High School and is employed at Panhandle Community Services.

The prospective groom is the son of Gene and Rhonda Ferguson of Wheeler. He graduated from Briscoe High School in Briscoe and is employed at Pampa Concrete.



Susie Isbell and Rusty Ferguson

Free seminar to show seniors how to 'protect home and savings

Melissa Griggs, an Amarillo attorney with 20 years experience specializing in estate planning issues and probate, will conduct a free seminar for seniors, "Protecting Your Home and Life Savings," at 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 31, at Pampa Senior Citizens Center, 500 W. Francis in Pampa.

Co-presenter Mark McKay has 14 years experience and is a certified senior estate planner with Senior Financial Solutions. His

specialty is helping seniors manage, protect and transfer their wealth.

"It is crucial," Griggs added, "for seniors to have their estate plans reviewed after the 2001 tax law changes. Wills or trusts that would've worked perfectly well in 2000 may have unintended consequences for families now."

Seating is limited. For reservations, call (877) 373-8341.

Museum acquires director

CANYON — The search for a new executive director for the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum is history.

Guy Clifton Vanderpool of Texarkana has been chosen from a field of three remaining finalists to oversee operations of the largest history museum in Texas. He is scheduled to start on April 19, succeeding Walter R. Davis II, who retired in January after 12 years at the museum's helm.

Vanderpool has been executive director of the three-site Texarkana Museums System since 1994. He received a baccalaureate degree in political science from Lipscomb University and a graduate degree in history from Middle Tennessee State.

Before moving to Texarkana, Vanderpool served as curator for the Dallas Historical Society (1993-94), and he was a grant administrator for the University of Alabama's Center for Southern History and Culture (1991-92).

Vanderpool, who also teaches American history and world civilization survey courses at Texarkana College, said the reputation of Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum is well known throughout the state.

"I look forward to being part of a great tradition, an excellent museum and a series of new successes," Vanderpool said. "I am so impressed by the high standards and level of commitment demonstrated by both the museum's board of trustees and the University administration."

The Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum was founded in 1933 and has more than 3 million artifacts and five major exhibit areas: petroleum, western heritage, paleontology, transportation and art.

MENUS

WEEK OF MARCH 29-APRIL 2

| | |
|---|--|
| Pampa Schools | tomato soup, French fries, oranges, milk. |
| MONDAY | Senior Citizens |
| Breakfast: Breakfast pizza. | MONDAY |
| Lunch: Popcorn shrimp or steak fingers, French fries, English peas, apricots, rolls. | Chicken fried steak or mozzarella chicken/pasta, mashed potatoes, peas/carrots, beets, beans, red velvet cake or cherry cream pie, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread. |
| TUESDAY | TUESDAY |
| Breakfast: Kolache. | Salmon patties or spaghetti/meatballs, boiled potatoes, fried okra, Scandinavian blend, beans, Boston cream pie or butterscotch pudding cups, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread. |
| Lunch: Spaghetti/meat sauce or chicken nuggets, green beans, salad, peaches, bread sticks. | WEDNESDAY |
| WEDNESDAY | Roast beef brisket/brown gravy or cook's choice, mashed potatoes, baked cabbage, cream corn, beans, carrot cake or chocolate pie, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread. |
| Breakfast: Biscuits, gravy. | THURSDAY |
| Lunch: Chicken fajitas or pizza, western beans, Spanish rice, fruit, brownies. | Chicken strips or sauerkraut/sausage, au gratin potatoes, fried squash, broccoli casserole, beans, chocolate pistachio cake or rice pudding, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread. |
| THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
| Breakfast: Cinnamon rolls. | Breakfast: Cereal, toast. |
| Lunch: Pigs-in-a-blanket or chef salad, corn, salad, mixed fruit. | Lunch: Corndogs or hamburger, French fries, vegetarian beans, pears. |
| FRIDAY | Lefors Schools |
| Breakfast: Cereal, toast. | MONDAY |
| Lunch: Frito pie, chicken patty, peas, French fries, salad bar, milk. | Breakfast: Breakfast pockets, cold cereal, toast, juice, milk. |
| Lunch: Frito pie, chicken patty, peas, French fries, salad bar, milk. | Lunch: Frito pie, chicken patty, peas, French fries, salad bar, milk. |
| TUESDAY | TUESDAY |
| Breakfast: Cinnamon pastries, cold cereal, toast, juice, milk. | Breakfast: Cinnamon pastries, cold cereal, toast, juice, milk. |
| Lunch: Rotel chicken, tacos, rice, beans, pineapples; salad bar, milk. | Lunch: Rotel chicken, tacos, rice, beans, pineapples; salad bar, milk. |
| WEDNESDAY | WEDNESDAY |
| Breakfast: Biscuits, gravy, cold cereal, toast, juice, milk. | Breakfast: Biscuits, gravy, cold cereal, toast, juice, milk. |
| Lunch: Fried chicken, steak fingers, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, pears, salad bar, milk. | Lunch: Fried chicken, steak fingers, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, pears, salad bar, milk. |
| THURSDAY | THURSDAY |
| Breakfast: Pancake on a stick, cold cereal, toast, juice, milk. | Breakfast: Pancake on a stick, cold cereal, toast, juice, milk. |
| Lunch: Nachos, mini burritos, blackeyed peas, mixed fruit, salad bar, milk. | Lunch: Nachos, mini burritos, blackeyed peas, mixed fruit, salad bar, milk. |
| FRIDAY | FRIDAY |
| Breakfast: Pop Tarts, cold cereal, toast, juice, milk. | Breakfast: Pop Tarts, cold cereal, toast, juice, milk. |
| Lunch: Sloppy Joes, | Lunch: Sloppy Joes, |
| | Turkey, rice pilaf, English peas, apples. |

LIFESTYLES POLICY

1. The Pampa News will not be responsible for photographs used in announcing births, weddings, engagements or anniversaries. We also reserve the right to refuse publication of photographs of poor quality. Photographs cannot be returned unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. They may be picked up in the office after appearing in the paper.
2. All information must be submitted by 5 p.m. Wednesday (12 noon Tuesday before a holiday such as Thanksgiving or Christmas), prior to Sunday insertion.
3. Engagement, wedding and anniversary news only will be printed on Sunday.
4. Engagement announcements will be published if the announcement is submitted at least one month before the wedding, but not more than three months before the wedding.
5. Bridal photos and information will not be accepted in The Pampa News office later than one month past the date of the wedding.
6. Anniversary announcements will be published for celebrations only of 25 years or more and will not be published more than four weeks after the anniversary date.
7. Birth announcements will only be published for 0- to 3-month-olds. (See form for more details.)
8. Forms are available from the office 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday, or by sending a SASE to The Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.
9. Two anniversary pictures may be placed for a \$25 charge or four extra lines may be added to announcements for \$25 (\$50 for both).

Bridal Registry...

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Bridal Selection

Angel Briggs & Jason Wheeler
Laura Miller & Daniel Frye
Amy Hayes & Ben Rodriguez
Michelle Bailey & Danny Kirkpatrick
Misty Vick & Daniel Hatfield
Starla Honeycutt & Jonathan Phelps

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

MARQUEE

SUNDAY, March 28, 2004
to
SATURDAY, April 3, 2004

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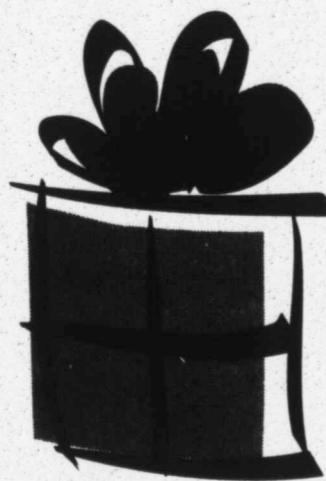
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The Gift Shop
at Pampa Regional Medical Center

Pre-Easter

SALE

MARCH 30TH - APRIL 9TH

40% OFF EVERYTHING

*excluding candy, paperbacks,
baby-door decorations, tapes, CDs and logo wear*

**Hours ... 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday-Friday
One Medical Plaza ... Pampa, Texas
All Proceeds Benefit The Hospital Auxiliary**

PAMPA ISD

Teacher Profile

Beth Shannon



My name is Beth Shannon and I teach chemistry at Pampa High School. After finishing college at New Mexico State University, I worked in a quality control laboratory. My teaching career began in 1972 and I started teaching at PHS in 1978. I earned my master's degree after I began teaching. Through the years my teaching assignments have included middle school, high school, and junior college levels.

It has been my goal as a teacher to do all things with integrity and excellence. Two Bible verses have guided me in this pursuit. The first one states, "A wise teacher makes learning a joy." (Proverbs 15:2, Living Bible) This is my responsibility to my students. Early in my teaching career, I decided to enroll in an aerobics exercise class. Immediately I discovered that this class was something I could not learn to do. I began to dread class days and to find excuses to miss class. But I decided to stay in the class, so I persuaded a friend to help me learn the routines (It was a tutorial for aerobics class!) It was a small detail that was causing me so much embarrassment. Once my friend pointed it out and helped me correct it, aerobics became fun. Suddenly a light turned on in my head. Some of my own students felt about school like I once did about aerobics, but they couldn't skip school. Everyday they faced failure and embarrassment. Teachers tend to teach in their areas of strength; it is easy to forget that not everyone loves your subject and struggles in it. My aerobics incident changed my perspective of school and it became my goal to help each one of my students to become successful. It has made me willing to look for the small details that may keep them from understanding. Students may never like the subject I teach, but I will do what I can to make our time together pleasant and productive. The second Bible verse that guides my teaching is, "To learn, you must want to be taught." (Proverbs 12:1, Living Bible) This places some of the responsibility back on my students. In my aerobics story, please notice that I decided to get help and learn the routines. Learning is not a spectator sport; students have to do their fair share in order to give me a chance to teach them.

Teaching is a career that someone shouldn't enter lightly. Teachers are entrusted with our country's most valuable asset - its children - and that carries a heavy responsibility. But it also comes with intangible rewards. To quote Christa MacAuliffe, "I touch the future, I teach." It has been an honor to teach Pampa's children and touch its future.

Teacher Profiles are chosen by the PISD District Leadership Team. Advertisement provided courtesy of Pampa Regional Medical Center.

The Pampa News Comics

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Girlfriend's Critical Remarks Could Close Couple's Show

DEAR ABBY: My girlfriend and I have been a couple for almost two years and have been living together for two months. We rented a house so it would be "our" home, and neither of us would feel that we had moved in on the other.

At first, we split all the chores. She likes to cook, I like to clean; she did the laundry, I did the yardwork. Now she doesn't do anything at all! I find myself doing all the laundry, cooking, etc., which to tell you the truth, I don't really mind. What I DO mind is her constant complaints about the way I do things.

She implies that I am incompetent, yet she won't lift a finger. In the morning before work, if I am busy doing chores and paying bills, she complains that I'm not spending enough time with her. But when I stop, she only wants to watch TV. When I try to talk to her about it, she yells and storms off.

Is it possible to fall out of love with someone over things like this? Or am I just disillusioned? When I look at her, I don't feel that twinge of excitement anymore. -- EXHAUSTED AND FRUSTRATED

DEAR EXHAUSTED: Yes, it is indeed possible to fall out of love with someone who is lazy, hypercritical and impossible to please. Consider yourself fortunate to have seen this side of your girlfriend before it was too late. Frankly, you deserve better -- so don't look back.

DEAR ABBY: Before I married my husband, I had, shall we say, a "colorful past." None of those encounters gave me much satisfaction. I was up front about it with my husband before we married. He asked how many and I told him.

Last night, I made an off-the-cuff remark that he took the wrong way. He told me later that it reminded him of my past. He felt I was bragging about it and throwing it in his face. He told me

that after he learned how experienced I was, he had almost broken up with me.

Abby, I have explained to him repeatedly that the only relationship that has ever given me any pleasure has been with him. I have told him over and over how much I love him and need him. But this hurts. How do I help him get over my past? -- HURTING IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR HURTING: Men who ask the question are often insecure. An emotionally mature man would have respected your privacy and not pushed. The next time he brings up your past, suggest to him that it is healthier and more fruitful to live in the present. Assure him that you love him only and offer to go to counseling together until he has talked it out. The rest is up to him.

DEAR ABBY: My sister-in-law gave my daughter a beautiful antique desk a few months ago. I was there at the time, and both of us thanked her for the generous gift.

My mother says I was rude for not sending a thank-you card for the gift.

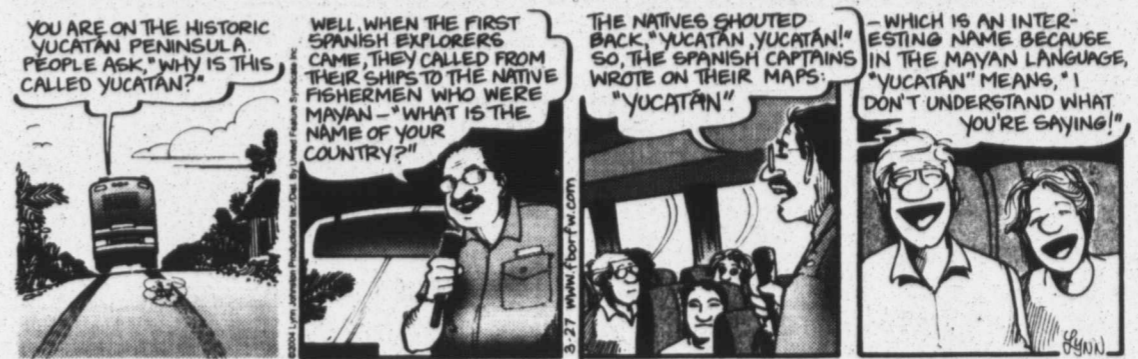
What is the proper etiquette when someone receives a gift and thanks the giver in person? Is an additional written thank-you card called for? -- CONCERNING MANNERS

DEAR CONCERNING: In addition to thanking the giver in person, a handwritten note is the proper way to show gratitude for a gift. It doesn't have to be long and flowery -- only heartfelt. However, the person who receives the gift should write the note -- and that's your daughter, not you.

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

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For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 42 Bright

1 Software beam

holder

6 Silly one

11 Profound

12 One with a title

13 Starts the pot

14 Put off

15 Score count

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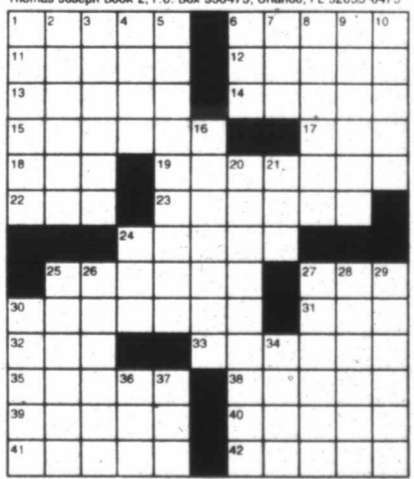
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Marmaduke



The Family Circus



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



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BUSINESS & SERVICE

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HOROSCOPES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, March 29, 2004:
You might be better off building on what you have rather than going off to pioneer new projects this birthday year. Many of you could be startled by your new "security" orientation, but ultimately that's the way it is this year. You also might be more willing to spend on commodities that improve the quality of your life than in past years. If you are single, an important relationship could wave hello at this time. You might be ready to settle down with this person -- if you are at that point in life. If you are attached, respect your sweetie's input about expenditures and improvements. Together you make a great investment that brings you closer. Center more of your life around your home. **CANCER** is an anchor.

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)
★★★★ Getting into a high-powered energy mode could take more effort than you want. Still, somehow you manage to get going. If you can work from home, do so. You also might want to add something to your workplace that will make it homier. Tonight: Home is definitely your castle!
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You make a strong impression on others. You might not be aware of your charisma, as others say "yes" very easily. Return calls and make time for others. Reach for others around you. Pass the good mood around. Tonight: Talk up a storm.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ If possible, curb a devil-may-care attitude that comes with finances.

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Right now, you see life as if there is no tomorrow. Unfortunately, there will be a tomorrow. Be cautious; don't overdo it or overcommit yourself. Tonight: Buy a favorite snack on the way home.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ With the Moon in your sign, you could find it difficult not to be scatterbrained, as so much interests you. A meeting proves to be significant, if you kick back and let others express their ideas. Realize that at this point, your magnetism could bowl others over. Tonight: Just ask, my dear Moon Child.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Sometimes your expression says it all, as is the case today. You don't need words, and you might choose to say much less than usual. You smile as you gather facts. Others respond accordingly. Be an observer and not a player, for now. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Aim for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Not everyone sees a situation like you do. Know what absolutely works for you. An expert helps you with a major decision. Detach and don't come from an emotional basis. Tonight: Hook up with friends.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Others look to you to set an example, if not for direction. A partner or associate could be key to finding out what will work best. Trust this person's good intentions. Deal with others on a more direct level. Tonight: Take your time with each person.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Others need your vision and insight. But you might be seeking the same from them. A brainstorming session creates a better atmosphere for solution-finding. Remember, there are

no problems, just solutions. Tonight: Call a friend at a distance.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Others, but one person in particular, seek you out. Know that this person wants to pitch in and help with a project. This person's good will helps make work more palatable. Together you build a stronger bond. Tonight: Say "yes."
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Others seek you out with only the best intentions. You find that ideas freely float between you and another. Understanding grows in this free-flowing atmosphere. Brainstorm away, but allow others to have more say. Tonight: Just don't be alone.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Your hardworking ethics come through. You are more than willing to go 100 percent of the way to clear up a problem. Think through an expenditure on your home. In fact play, Ralph Nader before committing. Tonight: How about some exercise?
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Let your imagination tackle your work or projects. You might enjoy yourself even more and get more done. A child needs special attention. Or could this be a new friend? Buy a little gift on the way home. Tonight: Enjoy the spring night.

BORN TODAY
Actor Eric Idle (1943), actress Lucy Lawless (1968), model, actress Elle MacPherson (1964)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.
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What leads a 92-year-old to a life of crime — anger, money, one last adventure?

SPUR (AP) — "Red" Rountree shuffled into the bank and surveyed the teller windows.

He had done this twice before and knew the best way was to pick a bank within a full gas tank's drive of home, hit it early before there were too many customers and then never, ever return to that city.

He handed two manila envelopes to the teller. On the first, in red marker, was written "ROBBERY." The second envelope, he told her, was for the money.

"Are you kidding?" the teller asked the bespectacled man with nearly translucent skin and wrinkled, knotted hands.

"Hurry up and put the money in the envelope or you'll get hurt," Rountree told her.

As the teller complied, Rountree became the oldest known bank robber in U.S. history. He was 91.

Sitting in a wheelchair now at the Dickens County Correctional Center, at the edge of the Texas Plains, Rountree puts his hand to his forehead, coaxing memories from a brain fogged by age. He's 92 and is serving a 12-year sentence, the equivalent of life for someone his age.

He can't remember when he decided to rob the First American Bank in Abilene. Or even what he planned to do with the loot — \$1,999. But he does have one answer.

"You want to know why I rob banks?" Rountree said. "It's fun. I feel good, awful good. I feel good for sometimes days, for sometimes hours."

It was one last adventure for a man who'd had others years ago.

He once made millions as a businessman, once had a family.

But time has a way of erasing things, and if you stick around long enough, the world you know can disappear.

That's what happened to "Red" Rountree.

As he tells it, J.L. Hunter Rountree was born Dec. 16, 1911, in the family farmhouse near Brownsville, Texas, in the days when farmers charged items at the dry goods and grocery stores.

"When they sold the crops and got some money, they went and paid. We didn't have a very good crop one year, so J.L. Hunter Rountree is my name. J.L. King was the dry goods man and Hunter was the grocer," he says.

Really?
No, he says. "But it makes a real good story."

Rountree loses track of many names, events, dates. But he can remember the important details.

The good ones revolve around Faye, the woman with whom he had a "50-year-one-month love affair." The bad ones — especially the death of his beloved wife — marked the start of a second, lawless life.

He met Faye, a striking brunette, in the early 1930s at a honky-tonk in Freer, Texas. She had a son, Thomas, from a previous marriage, whom Rountree later adopted.

Together, they owned a small boat-building and shipyard business, Corpus Christi Marine.

In 1965, he said he was approached by a company to build three boats, for running supplies to offshore oil rigs. Rountree said he

took out a bank loan with the understanding that he would repay it when he finished the boats.

"They let me buy the steel," he said, "and then they called the note."

The incident forced him into bankruptcy. Rountree eventually recovered, making more than a million dollars with his Houston-based Rountree Machinery Co., salvaging hoist winches from retired warships and refurbishing them for oil rigs.

But he always resented banks.

That bitterness blends in his mind with another loss, even more grievous, at about the same time.

Thomas Rountree, just returned from a tour of duty in the Army, was killed in a car accident following a father-son dinner in Galveston.

Time eased the pain somewhat, but then it created more. At age 75, after years of smoking, Faye was diagnosed with lung cancer. She died in October 1986.

"After the funeral, I stayed in the house a week. I was trying to figure out what I was going to do," he said. "Then maybe a week later, I went to a beer joint. People were nice to me there."

That's where Rountree's second life took hold.

Never much of a drinker before, Rountree says he began spending a lot of time in bars.

At age 83, he says he experimented with a few drugs. "I tried it, marijuana mostly. I even tried some of the other stuff, cocaine. I didn't care for it much," he said.

Later, he married a woman he met in a bar.

"You know how she got me? She gave me a hug," he says. "She was a nice woman. She had two kids, and I just loved them to death."

Texas marriage records show Rountree married a Juanita Adams in 1989 and that they divorced in 1995.

It was some time during this period, Rountree visited his nephew, Buddy Rountree, at his home in Goldthwaite, a speck of town on the back roads between Abilene and Austin.

"He showed up one day wearing a purple and black running suit, the kind that had baggy pants, and he had his hair in a ponytail. This old man with a ponytail," said the 72-year-old nephew, shaking his head.

Rountree burned through his money and found himself broke, on Social Security, and living in a trailer in Alabama.

Truthfully, he says he can't remember when he came up with the idea to rob a bank.

"I guess I was just mad at them for what they had done to me with my business," he said.

Whatever the prompt, on Dec. 9, 1998, a week before his 87th birthday, Rountree entered the SouthTrust Bank in Biloxi, Miss.

"I was kind of dumb about it. I just walked in and told the gal behind the counter to give me money," he said. "Then I told her not to say anything until five minutes after I left."

But as the old man was making his getaway, someone followed him and he was arrested within minutes, according to police records. He was eventually given three years' probation, fined \$260 and told to leave Mississippi.

In jail awaiting sentencing he met a man who knew how to rob banks — successfully. This part, he insisted, is true. During hours of conversations, the man — whom he would not identify — taught him "the rules" of bank robbery.

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

3-27 CRYPTOQUOTE

CE ESB SEMVREX CE QKS
LHFCEM C KRDS ZNTEQSX NES
KTEFSX QKCFQG-LCU PCEXL
NY BSRQKSF CE QBSEQG-
YNTF KNTFL. — WRFP QBRCE
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| 2000 MITSUBISHI MONTERO SPORT XLS \$12,995 Green, Tan Cloth | 2000 FORD EXPLORER \$14,995 58,000 Miles, V-8, Cranberry, Tan Leather | 1997 ISUZU RODEO \$7,995 4X4, 4-Dr., Gray, Gray Cloth |
| 1999 CHEVY TAHOE Z-71 \$12,995 White, Gray Leather | 2004 CHEVY EXT. CAB LS \$24,995 17,063 Miles, White, Charcoal Cloth | 2000 DODGE DURANGO \$14,900 White, Gray Leather |
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1 Public Notice

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
The City of Pampa, Texas will receive bids for the following until 5:00 P.M. April 12, 2004:

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Specifications may be obtained from the office of the City Purchasing Agent, City Hall, Pampa, Texas, 806/669-5730. Bids may be delivered to the Purchasing Agent's Office, 200 W. Foster.

Gray County and the City of Pampa are seeking RFPs for Ambulance Service. Packets may be picked up at the Gray County Judge's office, 205 N. Russell, Pampa, TX 79065. Contact Judge Richard Peet at 806-669-8007, to request the mailing of a Packet. RFPs will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. April 29, 2004.

E-22 Mar. 28, 2004
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7 Auction

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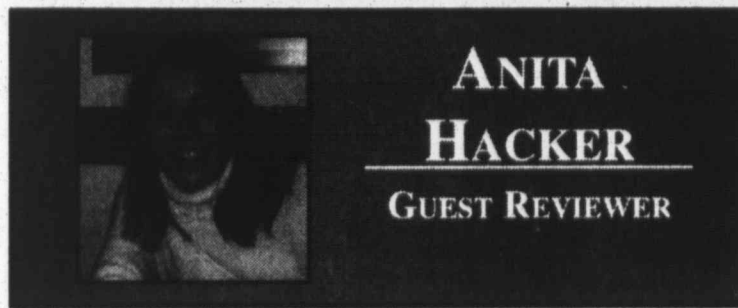
'Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind' film that just fits

BY ANITA HACKER
GUEST REVIEWER

Some movies just feel right. Maybe you watched it with the right people. Maybe you watched it in the right mood. But I like to attribute that feeling to the filmmakers. They pick a simple theme, put it in the right context and voilà, get a film that just fits. It's not forced. It flows naturally. "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" is that kind of movie.

"Sunshine" is about Joel Barish (Jim Carrey), an introverted, slightly paranoid guy. When he finds out his girlfriend Clementine (Kate Winslet) erased him from her memory after their breakup, he decided to erase her also. But during the procedure he realizes he doesn't want to go through with it, so he tries to retain Clementine's memory even though he is still unconscious.

Charlie Kaufman, who has written even more off-the-wall films such as "Being John Malkovich" and "Adaptation," again delves into questions of the human mind. But that's just the



ANITA HACKER
GUEST REVIEWER

framework of the film. Sure, Joel questions the memory erasure procedure a little in the beginning, but for the most part everyone accepts it. The movie is really about the relationship between him and Clementine. It is an unconventional love story.

It is the best performance of Carrey's career. And, yes, I did say he was playing an introvert. He plays all the emotions so subtly, Joel is sad and insecure, and even when he is panicky Carrey doesn't go overboard. What makes this movie really work is the energy between Carrey and Winslet. Joel and Clementine are total opposites, but the actors make the affection between the two seem believable. They are sincere.

Another great thing about "Sunshine" are all the techniques used to illustrate the memory, and director Michael Gondry comes up with a lot. Lights turn off and on. Carrey walks from one set directly to another. The scene disappears around him. But it never feels like too much or that you have to work to keep up.

In the end, "Sunshine" is successful because it doesn't force you to feel a certain way or think a certain thing. The characters aren't glamorized or dramatized. They all have their flaws and their redeeming qualities. No tricks are used to make you really like one person and hate another. They are in an extreme situation, but they could be real people. That's why this film is a breath of fresh air. It's a unique and innovative romance with relatable characters.

Grade: A

Anita Hacker was born and raised in Pampa. She graduated from Pampa High School in 2001 and is a recipient of the Eugene and Daniella Anderson Scholarship. She's now a journalism major in her third year at the University of Texas at Austin.

Natural gas drilling completions hit historic high record, Matthews says

AUSTIN — Texas Railroad Commissioner Charles Matthews applauds the actions taken by the industry in regard to increasing drilling completions to meet public demand. Today in open conference at the Railroad Commission of Texas during the Statewide oil and gas hearing, Commission staff reported that 680 wells were completed during the month of February, the highest number in over 30 years.

Texas has been and still is the country's largest producer of natural gas, averaging 5.7 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) per year and representing nearly 30 percent of total United States production, even though the industry has seen a dramatic decrease in

employment figures since 1998.

In addition, Texas is also both the largest consumer of natural gas at 3.9 Tcf annually and the largest exporter of natural gas. Texas regularly exports about 1.8 Tcf per year, mostly to the Northeast and Midwestern states, and more recently to Mexico.

Since 1999, the number of new gas-fired merchant power plants built in Texas has increased by over 25,000 mega watts (MW) of new generating capacity, the equivalent of about 50 new power plants. Another 5,000 MW is under construction and will be online over the next year and a half. These plants continue to put pressure on the natural gas market.

CLUB NEWS

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

CattleWomen

Top O' Texas CattleWomen met March 15 at The Irish Inn Restaurant in Shamrock with President Liz Austin presiding. Nine members were present.

The following business was conducted and announcements made:

—Austin reported that Ag Day press releases have been distributed to area newspapers and that 41 out of 44 registered members attended the spring convention recently. Ten members from the local chapter were present at the convention.

—Dr. Andy Vestal, associate director of outreach for the Institute of Food Science and Engineering at Texas A&M, delivered a power point program to members.

—Bob McCan, president of Texas Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, addressed the group on several topics including water issues and Country of Origin Labeling.

—Texas Beef Council brought members up-to-date on the topic of Mad Cow Disease.

—The local chapter observed the 100th anniversary of ground beef.

—The chapter will reprint its cookbook in 2005 in remembrance of the late Pat Grote, a former member. A scholarship in Grote's honor was recently awarded to Claire Ellice Williams of East Bernard.

—The state fall convention is scheduled Nov. 7-8 in San Antonio.

—Plans for an upcoming program with Andy King and Mindy Brashears are in the making.

—The Hereford chapter has approached Top O' Texas CattleWomen about sponsoring a women's health symposium in Amarillo. No details yet.

—Glenda Adcock reported that \$17,000 was raised for three families at the MAYO

Tournament and Silent Auction held recently in Miami. The local chapter had donated a Beef Gift Certificate.

The next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. April 12 at Lovett Memorial Library in Pampa.

Altrusa

Altrusa International Inc., of Pampa met March 23 at Pampa Country Club with President Billie Sue Evans presiding. Jackie Collins and Penni Pfitzner served as greeters. Attending as guests were Sharon Williams, Edith Phillis and Amy Reed, foreign exchange students at Pampa High School.

The following business was conducted and announcements made:

—The Accent was delivered by Marian Stroup on the International History of Altrusa. The club became international in 1935 with extension into Mexico.

—Final plans were made for the March 27 Altrusa Style Show to be held at M.K. Brown Auditorium. DeLynn Gordzelik, chair, assigned duties for decorations and food. All members were asked to meet at the auditorium at 8 a.m. Friday, March 26, to decorate for the show.

—Billie Dixon reported on plans for the April 16 Add-an-ASTRA Member Day. ASTRA members are helping with the style show by serving as models and selling tickets.

—Pat Johnson discussed a Career Clinic scheduled March 31 at Pampa Learning Center. Ten local consultants are participating in the clinic.

—Members were encouraged to attend District Conference, April 2-4, at Temple.

—An ice cream social will be held at 2 p.m. April 18 at Schneider House. Members were asked to volunteer for this project.

—Exchange students Opal Pimsakul of Thailand and Masha Soldatova and Vlad Rybalkin, both of Ukraine, presented a slide show on their respective countries. Host families for the students are Mr. and Mrs. Norman Stephens, Mr. and Mrs. Al Williams, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Phillis.

The next meeting will be at 12 noon April 9 at Pampa Country Club.

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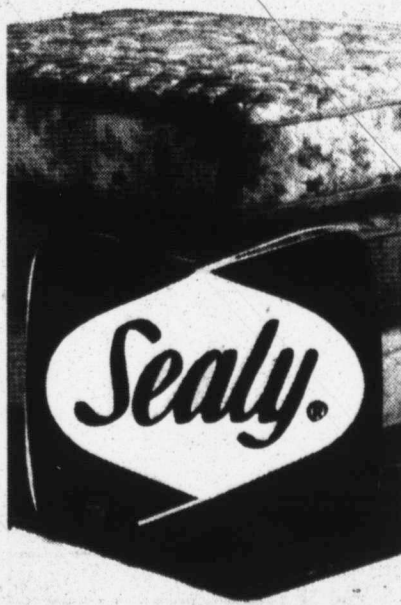
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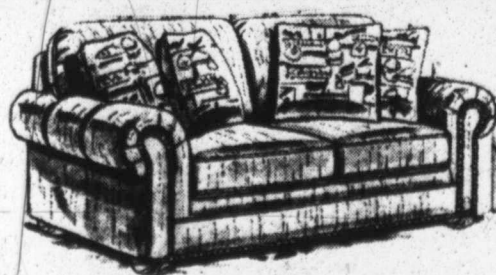
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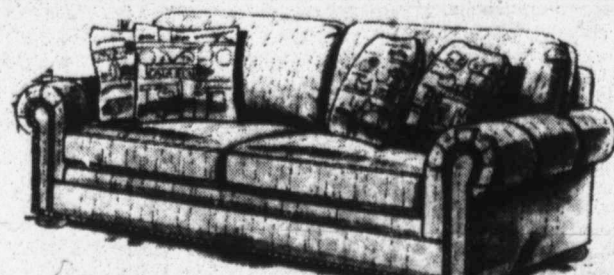
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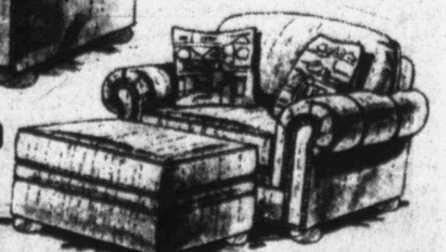


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