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Today's weather



H 36 L 30

Deaths

- JoAnn Berner**, 63, social worker.
- Billy Joe Broadbent**, 73, business owner.
- Ahava Lanae Mears**, infant.
- Helen L. Shepherd**, 80, homemaker.

Texas Today

**Woman who lost father in Iraq loses her husband, too**  
 Less than a year ago, Tabitha Bonilla's father gave his life for his country in Iraq. On Friday, her husband gave his, too.  
 Army Capt. Orlando A. Bonilla, 27, of Killeen, Texas, was killed in a helicopter accident in Baghdad, just days after the pilot and his wife had talked about his anticipated return home in early March.  
 "He told me he was going to fly a couple more missions before he came home," Tabitha Bonilla, 23, said Monday night from her mother's home in Fayetteville, N.C. "I was going to welcome him home, since I didn't get to welcome my dad home."  
 She described her husband as "just a wonderful, kindhearted, caring, gentle person."  
 Her mechanic father, Army Sgt. 1st Class Henry A. Bacon, 45, died last February when he was hit by one vehicle while making repairs on another in Dujayl, Iraq. Bacon, who joined the Army in 1982, had delayed his retirement to serve in the war on terrorism, relatives said.  
 Bacon's death delayed his son-in-law's deployment to Iraq, but only for a few months.  
 "He treated my dad as though he were his dad," Keith Bacon, 18, said of his brother-in-law. "He wanted to be here for us, but he said he wanted to do his job. ... Even though he was going through a troubling time, he was needing to go over there. You know how a military man is."  
 Bonilla was one of 18 Texans killed in Iraq in January, exceeding the state's previous worst toll for a month, when 17 were killed in April 2004.

## Warrant inventory for DA lists 35 weapons

By **DAVID BOWSER**  
 Staff Writer

As federal agents led handcuffed District Attorney Rick Roach from a Gray County courtroom the morning of Jan. 11, FBI agents were also serving search warrants on Roach's home, office and an apartment his office maintained in Pampa.



**Roach**

Federal agents found two guns in Roach's brief case when he was arrested in the Gray County Courthouse, according to the Associated Press. They found another 33 weapons, including revolvers, semi-automatic pistols, rifles and shotguns at his office and home.

Federal prosecutor Christy Drake told the Associated Press she wouldn't discuss whether Roach owned the guns legally, whether they were evidence from criminal cases Roach's office handled, or why Roach had so many guns.

"The origin of those guns I can't really comment on, other than to say they traveled in interstate commerce," Drake said.

Roach's attorney, Bill Kelly of Canyon, told the Associated Press he hadn't talked to his client about the weapons, but he believed Roach either had legal rights to them as a prosecutor or legally owned them.

"A lot of people collect guns, and

See **GUNS**, Page 5



Pampa News photo by **DAVID BOWSER**  
**Smoke swirls up around Capt. Mike Day, left, and Firefighter Jerry Brock as they battle flames in a burning home at 1100 Juniper.**

## Officials probe fire's cause

*Fire marshal calls in state to help investigate 'massive' blaze*

By **DEE DEE LARAMORE**  
 Editor

Pampa fire officials today are waiting for a Texas deputy fire marshal's arrival before tackling the task of finding out what caused a home to erupt in flames shortly after noon Monday.

"It's not suspicious," Pampa Fire Marshal Gary Stevens said this morning. "It's just that this is such a massive fire, it's going to be a heck of a job to dig through all this and find out what happened."

Stevens said he called in the state deputy fire marshal to help him with the task, made more difficult because the roof of the single-story brick home had caved in.

He said he expected the deputy fire marshal to arrive sometime today.

At 12:23 p.m. Monday, Pampa Fire Department received a call of a structure fire at 1100 Juniper,

according to fire reports. The home belongs to Margaret Lawyer, fire officials said, but she was not at home at the time.

When firefighters arrived on the scene, the front of the home was ablaze with thick smoke pouring out. Unable to go into the home because of the fire and smoke, firefighters worked on extinguishing the blaze from the outside.

See **FIRE**, Page 5

## Tax error proves costly to Gray County, PISD

By **MARILYN POWERS**  
 Staff Writer

A clerical error has resulted in a loss of \$103,431.26 in property tax revenues for Pampa Independent School District, and a loss of \$32,500.15 for Gray County.

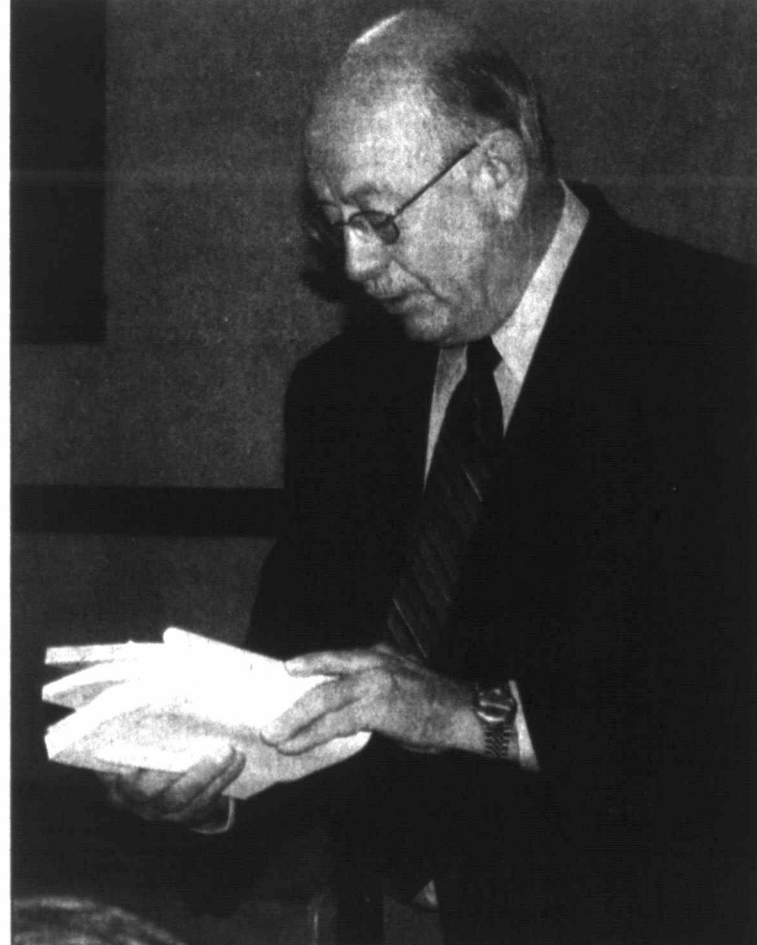
Pat Bagley, chief appraiser of Gray County Appraisal District, attended this morning's county commissioners' meeting in Gray County Courthouse at the request of County Judge Richard Peet to discuss the decrease in revenues.

The topic was not included as an action item on the county's agenda, and no action was taken concerning it.

The error concerns one taxpayer, Celanese Ltd., according to Bagley and Peet. The original 2004 taxable value of Celanese property had been \$85,100,951. That value was later adjusted to \$78,453,698, a decrease of \$6,647,253.

It was unclear whether the

See **ERROR**, Page 5



Pampa News photo by **MARILYN POWERS**  
**Pat Bagley, chief appraiser for Gray County Appraisal District, refers to a book containing state guidelines and laws regarding appraisal districts.**

## Four jailed after meth, Ecstasy found in vehicle

By **DEE DEE LARAMORE**  
 Editor

Four Interstate-40 travelers remained in Gray County Jail today on felony charges for possession of methamphetamine and Ecstasy.

The arrests came after a Texas Department of Public Safety trooper stopped a 1998 Chevrolet Lumina, traveling east on I-40 near McLean, for failing to move left or slow for an emergency vehicle, according to DPS reports.

After seeing several indicators of possible criminal activity, the officer asked for and received permission to search the vehicle.

During the search, officers discovered 226.8 grams of methamphetamine and 500 grams of Ecstasy concealed in the Lumina's door. Officials estimate street value of the drugs at \$32,000 for the meth and \$7,500 for the Ecstasy.

Four persons were arrested in connection with the discovery and booked into Gray County Jail, DPS officials said. They were each charged with felony possession of a controlled substance - penalty group 1 over 400 grams.

Arrested were Taurus Demond Harris, 29, and Aurora Tyrone Grant, 27, both of Blytheville, Ark.; Shambria Jeannie Allen, 23, Osceola, Ark.; and Skyler Lee Stewart, 21, of San Francisco, Calif.

Justice of the Peace Joe Martinez set bond at \$25,000 each for Harris and Stewart and \$20,000 each for Grant and Allen, according to Gray County Jail records. All four remained in jail at press time today.

A DPS spokesman today said it wasn't clear whether or not the Chevrolet Lumina would be confiscated.

Obituaries

JoAnn Berner, 63

AMARILLO — JoAnn Berner, 63, of Amarillo, died Sunday, Jan. 30, 2005, at Amarillo. Services are scheduled at 10 a.m. Wednesday in Rector Funeral Home's Osage Chapel with the Rev. Calvin Newton, of First Assembly of God in Borger, officiating. Burial will be in Llano East Cemetery under the direction of Rector Funeral Home of Amarillo. Mrs. Berner, a native of Hobart, Okla., moved to Amarillo from Pampa in 1997. She married Ralph Berner in 1970; he died in 2002.



Berner

Mrs. Berner was a social worker for Texas Panhandle Mental Health Agency for many years, retiring in 2001, and belonged to Polk Street United Methodist Church. Survivors include a son, Jackie Brown of Amarillo; a sister, Sheila Berner of Claremore, Okla.; a brother, Tommy Montgomery of Claremore; two grandchildren; and a great-grandchild. The family requests memorials be to Don & Sybil Harrington Cancer Center, 1500 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, TX 79106. Go to www.rectorfuneralhome.com to sign the on-line register.

Billy Joe Broadbent, 73

Billy Joe Broadbent, 73, died Sunday, Jan. 30, 2005, in Pampa. Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday in Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with Billy Jones, minister of Pleasant Valley Church of Christ in Amarillo, officiating. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Butler Cemetery in Butler, Okla., with Ronald Fletcher, Church of Christ minister of Butler, officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa. Mr. Broadbent was born Dec. 4, 1931, in Butler, Okla. He had been a resident of Pampa since 1952. He married DeLoris Ann Terry on Oct. 17, 1954, in Clovis, N.M. She preceded him in death on Nov. 10, 2001. He owned Broadbent Scrap Metal for 35 years.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean Conflict. He was a Baptist. Survivors include two sons, Alan Broadbent and Charlie Broadbent, both of Pampa; a daughter, JoAnn Adams of Pampa; one sister, Barbara Dodson of Nowata, Okla.; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by his parents, William and Sarah Broadbent; one brother, Floyd Broadbent, and one granddaughter, Ashley Broadbent. The family will receive friends at 1806 Coffee in Pampa. —Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Ahava Lanae Miears, 3-days-old

Ahava Lanae Miears, 3-day-old infant daughter of Jerry Miears and Amanda Parks of Pampa, died Saturday, Jan. 29, 2005, at Amarillo. Graveside services are scheduled at 2 p.m. Wednesday in Fairview Cemetery with the Rev. Paul Carruth, associate pastor of First Christian Church, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Ahava was born Jan. 26, 2005, at Pampa. She was preceded in death by her maternal grandfather, Mark Parks. Survivors include her parents; a brother, Jason Miears, of the home; her paternal grandparents, Debbie Estep of Pampa and James Miears of Big Spring; and her maternal grandmother, Tronda Johnson of Tacoma, Wash. —Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Services tomorrow

BERNER, JoAnn — 10 a.m., Rector Funeral Home's Osage Chapel, Amarillo. BROADBENT, Billy Joe — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa. Graveside services, 3 p.m., Butler Cemetery, Butler, Okla. MIEARS, Ahava Lanae — Graveside services, 2 p.m., Fairview Cemetery, Pampa.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents and arrests. Monday, Jan. 31 Police officers responded to two business alarms in the 1100 block of Gwendolyn and the 900 block of Crest, respectively, and a residential alarm in the 2700 block of Chaumont Terrace; performed seven traffic stops; served, or attempted to serve, four warrants; assisted fire personnel in the 1100 block of Juniper; and conducted one welfare check in the 900 block of South Gray. Theft, involving an estimated \$450 in games, was reported at Hastings Books, Music & Video, 1205 N. Hobart St. Burglary was reported in the 600 block of Reid in which a guitar and amplifier worth an estimated \$600 was reported taken. Terroristic threats were reported in the 1100 block of East Francis. An assault by threat, location unknown, was reported to the PD. Theft, involving a ladder, two drills, table saw and heater worth

an estimated \$355, was reported in the 1090 block of South Sumner. Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of North Nelson. A window on a vehicle was apparently shot out by a BB gun. Estimated value of damage unknown. Suspicious persons were reported in the 1700 block of North Duncan, and in the 900 block of North Hobart. Traffic complaints were taken in the 100 block of East Harvester, the 900 block of North Duncan, at 23rd and Hamilton and the 1400 block of North Hobart. Criminal mischief was reported in the 200 block of West Kingsmill, the 600 block of South West, and the 500 block of North Frost. Criminal trespass was reported in the 2300 block of Navajo. A vehicle accident was reported in a parking lot in the 100 block of North Hobart. Theft was reported in the 200 block of West Kingsmill, and the 1200 block of North Hobart. A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1800 block of North Christy.

Assault was reported in the 200 block of West Kingsmill. Disorderly conduct-other was reported in the 100 block of East Harvester. Domestic disturbance was reported in the 2100 block of North Wells. Officers arrested Craig Mitchell Seely, 26, 2108 N. Wells for domestic assault. Tuesday, Feb. 1 Tiaquana Hall, 17, 1044 Neel Rd., was arrested for disruption of class at Pampa High School, 111 E. Harvester. Sheriff Gray County Sheriff's Office today reported the following arrests. Monday, Jan. 31 Robert T. Harris, 45, 1112 S. Sumner, was arrested on a bond surrender for driving while intoxicated - second offense/ judgment nisi out of Wise County, and fugitive warrant for escape out of San Juan County, New Mexico. Taurus Demond Harris, 29, Blytheville, Ark., was arrested by the Texas Department of Public Safety for possession of a con-

trolled substance - penalty group 1, over 400 grams. Shambria Jeannie Allen, 23, Osceola, Ark., was arrested by the DPS for possession of a controlled substance - penalty group 1, over 400 grams. Autora Tyrone Grant, 27, Blytheville, Ark., was arrested by the DPS for possession of a controlled substance - penalty group 1, over 400 grams. Skyler Lee Stewart, 21, San Francisco, Calif., was arrested by the DPS for possession of a controlled substance - penalty group 1, over 400 grams. Jason S. Shorter, 24, 837 E. Campbell, was arrested on a municipal warrant for possession of drug paraphernalia. Fire Pampa Fire Department responded to the following call during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today. Monday, Jan. 31 12:23 p.m. - Seven units and 16 firefighters responded to a structure fire at 1100 Juniper. (See related story and photo on Page 1.)

Ambulance Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today. Monday, Jan. 31 9:56 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 2700 block of Duncan and transported a patient(s) to Pampa Regional Medical Center. 10:31 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transferred a patient(s) to Baptist-St. Anthony's West, Amarillo. 12:20 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1100 block of Juniper on a fire standby. 2 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transferred a patient(s) to Northwest Texas Hospital, Amarillo. 3 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 800 block of 25th and transported a patient(s) to PRMC. 4 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient(s) to a local residence. 4:42 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

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HARVESTER LANES Youth Bowling Leagues now forming ages 3-18, Sat., Feb. 5th, 10:30 am. No one sits, everyone plays!
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HARVESTER LANES Clock Out Rock Out!! Starts Fri. 9:30 p.m. Lites, music, & fun.
PKYC ROLLER Hockey SignUps, Mon.-Thurs. at old Baker Elementary gym, 6-8 p

Gray County Weather

Today: A slight chance of snow before 11 a.m., then a slight chance of rain and snow between 11 a.m. and 12 noon, then a slight chance of rain after noon. Areas of fog between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m.
Otherwise, cloudy, with a high near 36. Wind chill values between 25 and 30. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.
Tonight: Cloudy, with a low around 30. Wind chill values between 22 and 27. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.
Wednesday: Cloudy, then gradually

becoming partly sunny, with a high around 43. Wind chill values between 20 and 29. North northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.
Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low near 27. Wind chill values between 19 and 24. Northwest wind around 10 mph.
Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 53. Northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.
Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 28. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.
Friday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 56. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.
Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 31. East wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south southwest.
Saturday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 55. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.
Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low near 33.
Sunday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 53.
Sunday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 30.
Monday: Mostly cloudy, with a high around 42.

Helen L. Shepherd, 80

FARGO, Okla. — Helen L. Shepherd, 80, of Fargo, mother of a Pampa resident, died Monday, Jan. 24, 2005. Services for Mrs. Shepherd were conducted Jan. 27 at Fargo United Methodist Church with the Revs. Aaron Martin and David Jenkins officiating. Burial was in Fargo Cemetery under the direction of Billings Funeral Home. Born Nov. 6, 1924, at Enid, Okla., Mrs. Shepherd married John Vincent Shepherd on May 25, 1941, at Sitka, Kan. Survivors include her husband, Vincent; four children, Una Covalt of Pampa, Sissy Sexton of Holdenville, Okla., and Patty Holmes Wilcoxon of Woodward, Okla.; 11 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Insurance chief passes buck

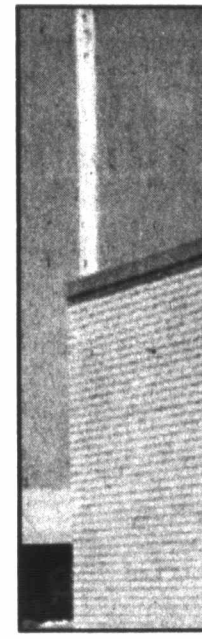
AUSTIN (AP) — The state insurance commissioner says that banning the practice of using credit scores or histories to determine rates could disrupt Texas automobile and homeowners' markets. Commissioner Jose Montemayor said Monday that only lawmakers could stop credit scoring by the state's insurance industry because he has no authority to ban it. Lawmakers this year have filed bills this year to ban insurers' use of credit histories. The bills' sponsors say that credit scoring unfairly targets blacks and Hispanics, who tend to have lower credit scores and thus pay more for insurance. A halt or sharp restrictions on credit scoring by insurance companies was also urged by leading consumer groups. Among groups urging a ban are AARP, Common Cause, League of United Latin American Citizens and the NAACP. A state report released last month indicated that black, Hispanic and low-to-moderate income policyholders generally have lower credit scores than their white, Asian, older or high-income counterparts. Typically, those with higher credit scores pay lower insurance premiums. But the second of two state reports on credit scoring sent to legislators firmly backed use of credit histories in pricing insurance policies. Montemayor, in a letter to Gov. Rick Perry and legislative leaders regarding the impact on minorities, wrote: "I do not have a legal basis to ban a practice that has a disproportionate impact if it produces an actuarially supported result and is not unfairly or intentionally discriminatory." "Credit scoring is not unfairly discriminatory as defined in current law because credit scoring is not based on race, nor is it a precise indicator of one's race," the commissioner wrote. The new study establishes that credit scoring "significantly improves pricing accuracy" when combined with other factors to determine a person's risk as a driver or a homeowner, Montemayor said. The study showed that policyholders with the worst credit scores, in the bottom 10 percent, were up to twice as likely to file insurance claims than policyholders with the best credit scores — the top 10 percent. Montemayor said that, if the Legislature opts to outlaw or severely limit insurers' use of credit histories, it should phase in the changes over time to avoid disruption in the auto and homeowners insurance markets.

Stocks

Table listing stock prices for various companies including Cabot Corp, Cabot Oil Gas, Coca Cola, VLO, HAL, TRI, NOI, KMI, XCEL, Kerr McGee, XOM, Limited, Williams, MCD, Atmos, Pioneer Nat, ICP, COP, SLB, Tenneco, CVX, Wal-Mart, OKE, NS GIP, New York Gold, Silver, West Texas Crude.

B&

A small town larger pharmacy. Home-owned Pharmacy is dedicated service to all of us and his wife Doris. The pharmacy since orders can be o canes, braces an Medical needs also be found. Customers at sional service f make our custo free to ask any said Roark. The staff at h vide the person provide. "We try to st ties of a big cha ber," he said. " that can cause s welcome our c



Located at his wife Doris service from

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BATH



# Business Review

## B&B Pharmacy offers personal service

A small town pharmacy offers services a larger pharmacy cannot provide.

Home-owned and operated, B&B Pharmacy is dedicated to providing personal service to all of its customers. Dennis Roark and his wife Donna have owned the local pharmacy since 1988.

The pharmacy offers a full line of medical needs, including ostomy supplies. Special orders can be obtained in one day. Crutches, canes, braces and wraps are always in stock. Medical needs for sports-related injuries can also be found.

Customers at B&B Pharmacy receive personal service from the Roarks. "We try to make our customers feel comfortable and free to ask any questions they might have," said Roark.

The staff at B&B Pharmacy strive to provide the personal service a big chain cannot provide.

"We try to stay away from the personalities of a big chain where you are just a number," he said. "Drugs have some interactions that can cause serious medical problems. We welcome our customers to come to us with

any concerns about interactions with their medications. It is important to us to know them and their needs."

"If any person has questions about the over-the-counter medications and possible reactions with their prescriptions, I would be more than happy to assist them."

Long time customers know that the staff at B&B Pharmacy will do all they can to meet the needs of their customers. New customers will find the personal service appealing to them.

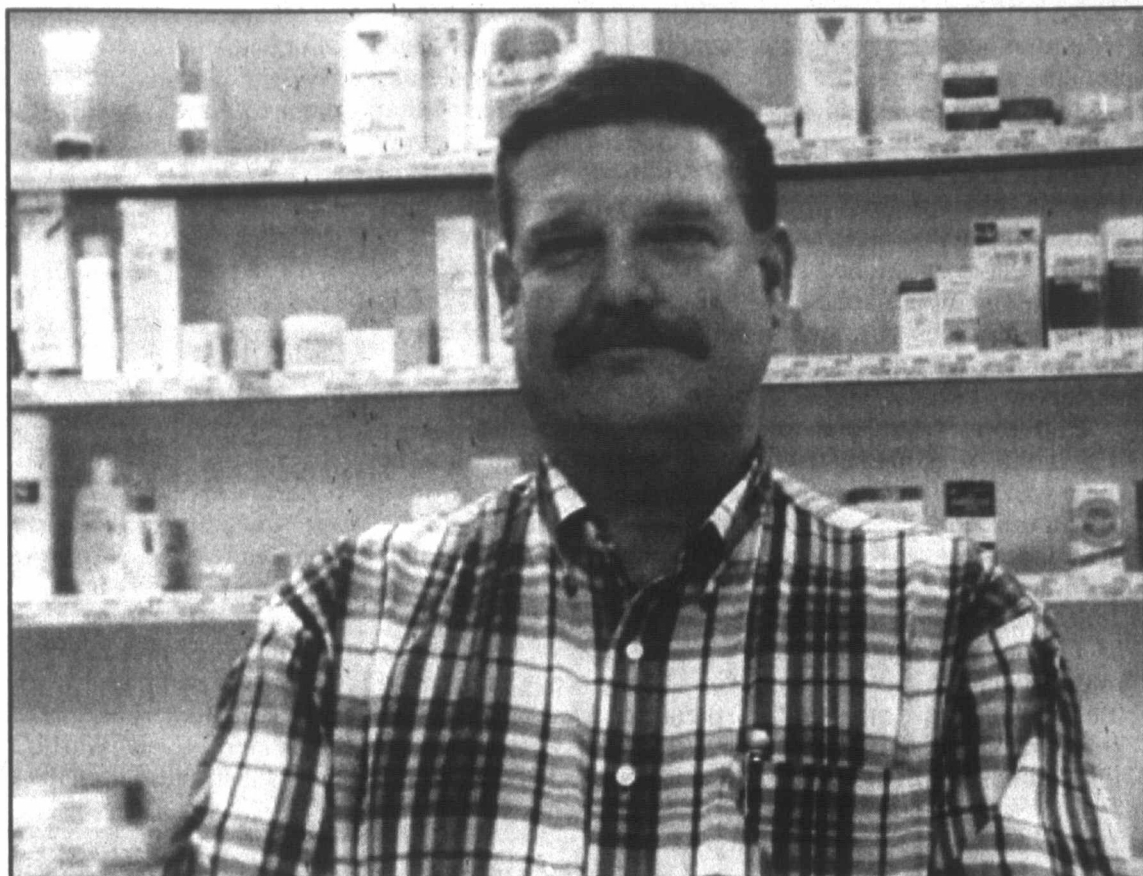
"We want to provide our customers with their needs," said Roark. "New customers are always welcome."

The store covers almost all insurance plans.

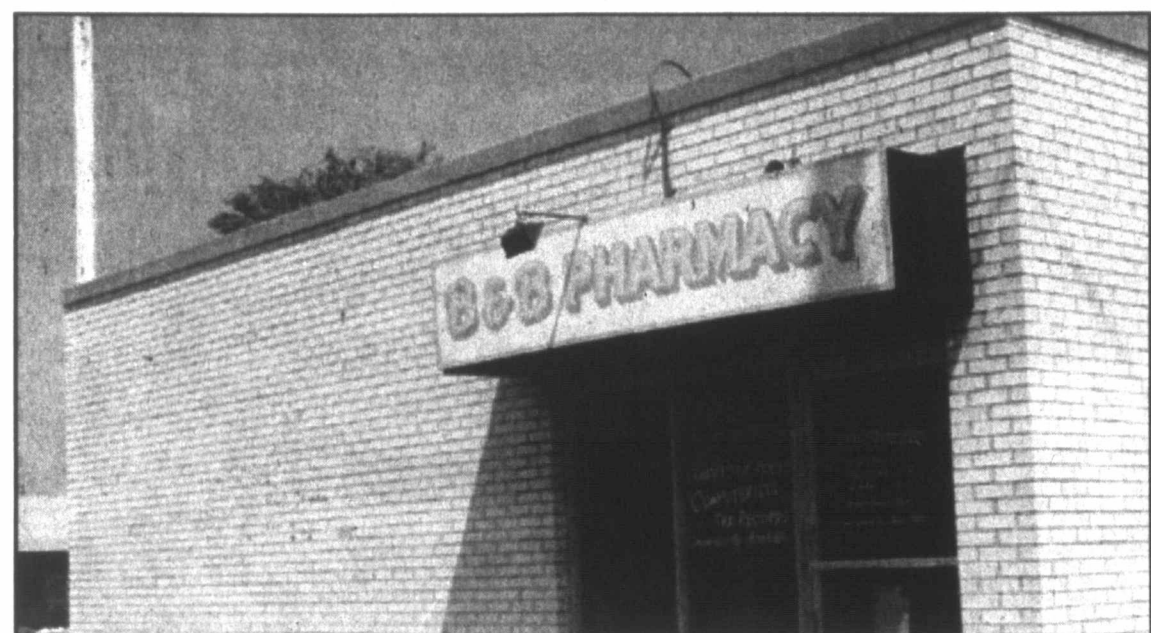
B&B also provides free prescription delivery service.

The pharmacy is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Saturdays. The business is closed on Sundays and holidays.

B&B Pharmacy is located at 300 N. Ballard, and their phone number is 665-5788.



▲ Pharmacist Dennis Roark provides friendly service to customers at the local B&B Pharmacy at 300 N. Ballard. Business phone for the pharmacy is 665-5788.



▲ Located at 300 N. Ballard, B&B Pharmacy has been owned by Roark and his wife Donna since 1988. Customers at B&B Pharmacy receive personal service from the couple and their staff that a large company cannot provide.

**B & B Pharmacy** provides its customers a full line of medical needs and free prescription delivery service.

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# Viewpoints

## Groundhogs and prairie dogs: Weather indicators?

Groundhogs and prairie dogs.

Sometimes they seem to be about as accurate at weather forecasting as any other climate predictor.

Tomorrow is Groundhog Day, the day when Punxsutawney Phil, a Pennsylvania groundhog living in a burrow at Gobbler's Knob, emerges from his home to see whether he casts a shadow.

Traditional belief dictates that if Phil sees his shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter. If Phil does not see his shadow, an early spring is on the way.

I searched for the origins of Groundhog Day on the Internet, and found out that the day was originally known as Candlemas.

Candlemas was a day on

which early Christians would bless and distribute candles. Somewhere along the way, Candlemas observers decided that whether the day was sunny or cloudy was a sign of whether winter would linger or spring would arrive early.

An old Scotch verse says, "If Candlemas Day is bright and clear, There'll be two winters in the year."

An old English song says the same thing a little more poetically: "If Candlemas be fair and bright, Come, Winter, have another flight; If Candlemas brings clouds and rain, Go Winter, and come not again."

This idea of long-range forecasting caught on and spread, and was adopted by the Germans, who decided to introduce an animal to the

equation. They used a hedgehog as their barometer of choice on Candlemas, and brought the tradition with them to America when they became Pennsylvania's earliest European settlers.

The Germans, not to be outdone by the English and Scots, also have a verse for what is now Groundhog Day: "For as the sun shines on Candlemas Day, So far will the snow swirl until the May."

The Pennsylvania Germans found few hedgehogs but numerous groundhogs in the New World, so they substituted animals for

their Candlemas observations. Groundhog Day was underway.

Believe it or not, an average of 20,000 people now trek to Punxsutawney each



**Marilyn Powers**  
Staff Writer

Feb. 2 to watch a groundhog get held aloft by a bunch of guys in formal attire, complete with top hats.

Punxsutawney Phil has been around since 1887. No, not the same groundhog, just the name. This rodent is probably the first animal to have his own fan club, publicity chairman and eager audience.

That first year, a group of Punxsutawney groundhog

hunters dubbed themselves "The Punxsutawney Groundhog Club" and set to work. One member was the local newspaper editor, and he launched a campaign to proclaim the club's mascot as the one and only official weather-forecasting groundhog.

Other newspapers heard and repeated this claim, until it became a self-fulfilling prophecy.

By the way, Phil got his name from King Phillip, who hasn't enjoyed near as much fame from the name.

I think there are probably more prairie dogs on the Great Plains than there are groundhogs back East. They are also rodents, and they also live in burrows in the ground.

Another thing about

prairie dogs is that they don't have to be hauled out of their living rooms by guys in tuxes. There's usually at least one standing sentinel at each prairie dog town, holding him- or herself at military attention to perform lookout duties.

Seems to me this would be an even better shadow-caster than a fat, foul-tempered Yankee beast.

I propose a new tradition. How about selecting a prairie dog town with a conscientious lookout, and dub that critter Pampa Pete or Pampa Paul?

If a feminine forecaster is preferred, we could find a Pampa Phyllis or a Pampa Pam.

With the right publicity and local backing, we could be onto a great tourism idea.

## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 1, the 32nd day of 2005. There are 333 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 1, 2003, the space shuttle Columbia broke up during re-entry, killing all seven of its crew members: commander Rick Husband; pilot William McCool; payload commander Michael Anderson; engineer Kalpana Chawla; David Brown; Laurel Clark; and Ilan Ramon, the first Israeli in space.

On this date:

In 1861, Texas voted to secede from the Union.

In 1893, inventor Thomas A. Edison completed work on the world's first motion picture studio, his "Black Maria," in West Orange, N.J.

In 1920, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police came into existence.

In 1943, one of America's most highly decorated military units of World War II, the 442nd Central Postal Directory, made up almost entirely of Japanese-Americans, was authorized.

In 1946, Norwegian statesman Trygve Lie was chosen to be the first secretary-general of the United Nations.

In 1960, four black college students began a

sit-in protest at a lunch counter in Greensboro, N.C., where they'd been refused service.

In 1968, during the Vietnam War, Saigon's police chief (Nguyen Ngoc Loan) executed a Viet Cong officer with a pistol shot to the head in a scene captured in a famous news photograph.

In 1979, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini received a tumultuous welcome in Tehran as he ended nearly 15 years of exile.

In 1979, newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst, whose prison sentence for bank robbery had been commuted by President Carter, left a federal prison near San Francisco.

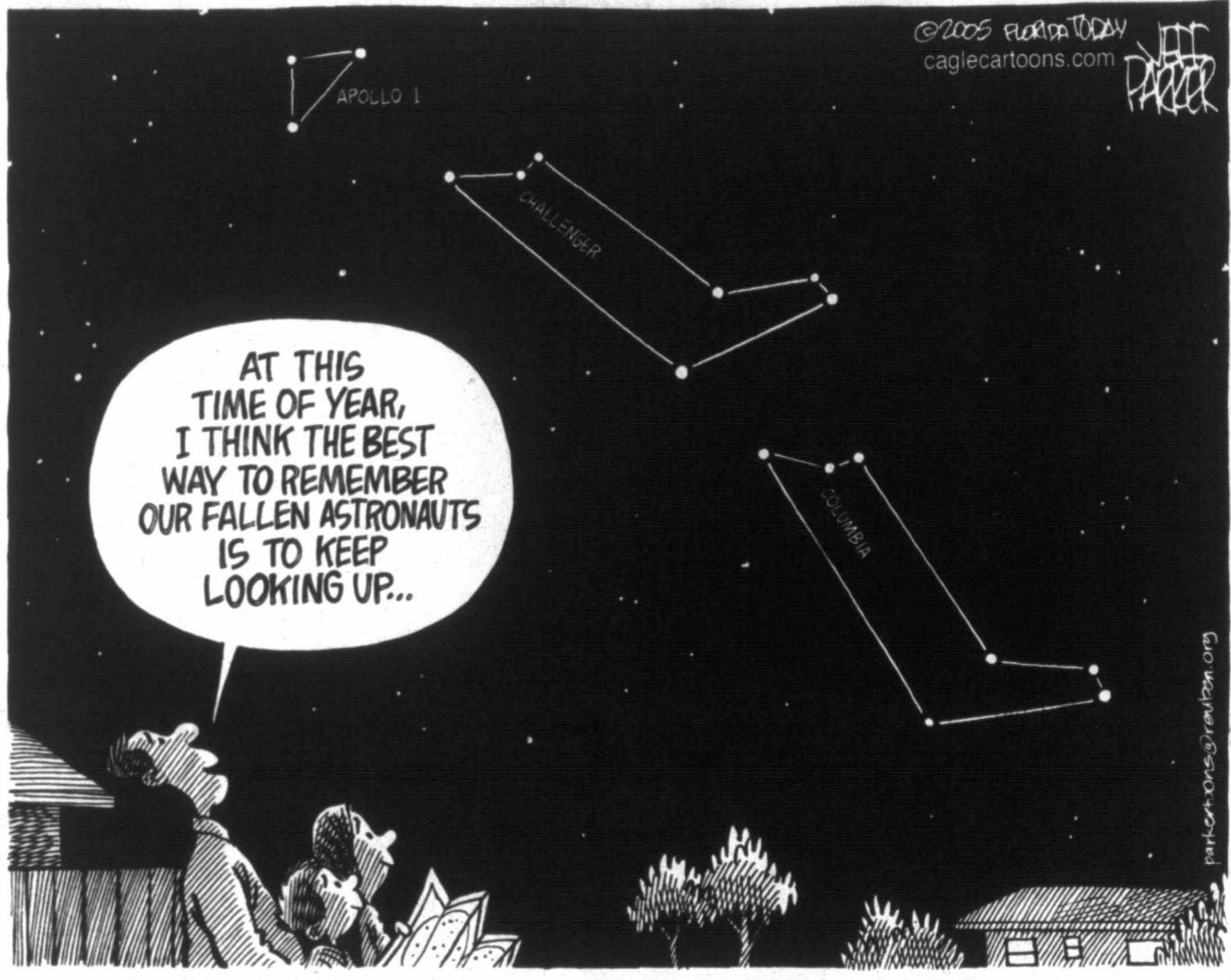
In 1991, 35 people were killed when a USAir jetliner crashed atop a commuter plane on a runway at Los Angeles International Airport.

Ten years ago: The Federal Reserve boosted interest rates by half a percentage point, the seventh rate hike in a year. House Republicans pushed through a bill restricting the federal government's ability to impose unfunded mandates on states.

Five years ago: Sen. John McCain defeated Texas Gov. George W. Bush to win the Republican New Hampshire primary; Vice President Al Gore edged Bill Bradley to win the Democratic primary.

*'Marriage always demands the finest arts of insincerity possible between two human beings.'*

— Vicki Baum  
Austrian-born author  
(1888-1960)



## Power of the people make pols listen

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Here's a way for compassionate conservatives and libertarians to work together to help the poor and reduce governmental power at the same time: Ask your senators and representatives to support vouchers for programs dealing with social needs.

Some history: Four years ago, on Jan. 29, 2001, 30 leaders from faith-based organizations met here with President George W. Bush in the White House to celebrate establishment of the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. The meeting was like one at the First Baptist Church in Austin a month before, but there the president-elect and participants sat on plastic chairs. On Jan. 29, leather

chairs and dark paneling suggested that people now in power were serious about reducing their power.

It didn't turn out that way. Four years later, we often have the worst of both worlds: bureaucracy and, at the end of the process, only plastic seats. A three-faction axis — anti-religious bigots, officials who prize bureaucracy over street-level smarts and longtime nonprofit recipients of federal funds — brought almost to a halt the movement toward giving little guys of different religions and ideologies the chance to break secular liberalism's

stranglehold on social services.

That was not surprising. Although James Monroe's administration

enjoyed an era of good feeling almost two centuries ago, the most we

can expect now is a day of good feeling, and that's how long the Jan. 29 coalition lasted. As the legislative part of the initiative faltered, disappointment grew.

The original Bush proposal to establish a \$500-per-person charity tax credit didn't get even to first base. Social service voucher plans languished on second. Legislation to provide reli-

gious charities with some protection died at third. The administration ended up promulgating good executive orders that could temporarily remove some discrimination against religious groups, but executive orders don't have the staying power of laws.

Overall, the line score of the first four innings of the faith-based initiative reads: No runs, a few bunt singles, lots of errors and many men left on base. Now, though, year five has begun and, at the top of the fifth inning, the faith-based initiative shows signs of a rally, as it uses social service vouchers.

For example, this year, \$100 million will go to Access to Recovery, a pro-



**Marvin Olasky**  
Columnist

See PEEPS, Page 5

## Iraqis risked their lives to get to the polls

Here is what did not happen in Iraq: the mass murder of voters promised by insurgents.

Here is what did happen: Men and women who have lived under tyranny for as long as they can remember risked their very lives to vote.

Here is the unexpectedly good news: All things considered, it was a magnificent day in Iraq.

Iraqis had been warned last week by the cutthroat Abu Musab al-Zarqawi that they would pay with their own blood if they dared to vote. Said the terrorist chief-tain, "We have declared a bitter war against the principle

of democracy and all those who seek to enact it." The choice could hardly have been clearer: democracy or religious fascism. Defying the killers, most Iraqis had the courage to choose democracy.

What a beautiful thing. Let's not kid ourselves: We've all got a long way to go in Iraq, and the road ahead is fraught with peril. The election was not an end in itself, but the means to a future Iraq that is governed democratically and ruled by

law. Achieving that won't be easy.

Mr. al-Zarqawi and his men will not now pick up their bombs and go home.

Many minority Sunnis stayed away from the polls, either from pique or sheer fright,

which will make it difficult for newly elected leaders to forge a working government. And given the region's religious and tribal tensions, and history of absolutist regimes, instituting any governing system with checks and bal-

ances, and guaranteed protection for minority rights, won't be easy. Civil war is still a real possibility.

Nevertheless, the Shia, who will dominate the incoming government, have promised to include their recalcitrant Sunni counterparts in the writing of the country's permanent constitution, which is the task confronting the country's new rulers in advance of the National Assembly elections in December. And the popular enthusiasm on the streets from Baghdad to Basra suggests that maybe, just maybe, the Iraqi military will now

See VOTE, Page 5

**THE PAMPA NEWS**  
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## Fire

Continued

Firefighter fire for approx and half hour seven units an ers respond seven call-ba

Radio trans cated city asked to adj sure to the a much water to fight the fi

North Crest of Juniper w traffic as firef to extinguis Despite the h evacuations v fire officials s

The home destroyed, ac reports. Inclu damages wer \$100,000.

At least o has remaine since Monday officials sai

## Gun

Conti

"A lot of they're certai so," he said.

But David prosecutor un and 2003, sai so many gun home.

"I never k hunter," Hol Roach, in attorney, has accusations a

The unseal tories showe sleeping bag implements, s bullets, a wat miscellaneou magazines f Caprock A Somerville.

The district edly rented th an investigat used-it occa

## Iraq

BAGHDA

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## Peep

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## Calen

• Texas are current ing a state ship for hig dents called Memorial Applicants 2005 gradu a Texas hi equivalent i must be ac agricultural-a Texas coll sity for th semester. for applica returned to P.O. Box 5 TX 79014, more info www.texas

# Fire

Continued from Page 1

Firefighters battled the fire for approximately five and half hours. A total of seven units and 16 firefighters responded, including seven call-back personnel.

Radio transmissions indicated city officials were asked to adjust water pressure to the area because so much water was being used to fight the fire.

North Crest street and part of Juniper were closed to traffic as firefighters worked to extinguish the blaze. Despite the heavy smoke, no evacuations were necessary, fire officials said.

The home was completely destroyed, according to fire reports. Including contents, damages were estimated at \$100,000.

At least one firefighter has remained at the scene since Monday evening, fire officials said this morning.



Pampa Firefighter Leroy Cox battles to open an vent in the attic of a burning home at 1100 Juniper.

Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

# Guns

Continued from Page 1

"A lot of people collect guns, and they're certainly not illegal in doing so," he said. "This is hunters' country."

But David Holmes, an assistant prosecutor under Roach between 2001 and 2003, said he was surprised to hear so many guns were found at Roach's home.

"I never knew him to be an avid hunter," Holmes told the AP.

Roach, in court and through his attorney, has repeatedly denied all accusations against him.

The unsealed search warrant inventories showed federal officers took sleeping bags, assorted adult sex implements, shirts, a rubber tube band, bullets, a water bottle, a sports bag and miscellaneous pornography videos and magazines from Apt. 504, at the Caprock Apartments, 1601 W. Somerville.

The district attorney's office reportedly rented the apartment initially for an investigator, but Roach apparently used it occasionally, according to

court documents.

At the same time the apartment was being searched, other federal agents searched Roach's office in the Gray County Courthouse and took a black zippered pouch containing suspected cocaine, methamphetamine and marijuana.

They also took scales, a computer, 20 handguns, two unmarked 8mm video tapes, a syringe, tax records, five tablets of Levitra, several unidentified pills, a brown briefcase, a checkbook and a number of unidentified documents from the office.

Federal agents also went to Roach's home at 133 Walnut Drive in a subdivision just north of Pampa that morning and served a search warrant, collecting a small round metal can, two cassette recorders, a Texas license plate, an Indiana license plate, eight rifles, five shotguns, a flight schedule,

a laptop computer, a plastic bag, nylon shorts, a small piece of tin foil, computer disks and miscellaneous paperwork.

Roach, 55, who was elected in 2000 after running on a tough-on-drugs campaign, is accused of possessing methamphetamines, possession of one ounce each of methamphetamine and cocaine with intent to distribute, and unlawful possession of weapons by a drug addict.

If convicted on all counts, he faces up to 51 years in prison and \$2.5 million in fines.

Roach was arrested in the Gray County Courthouse as he entered the 223rd Courtroom to present cases shortly before 9 a.m., Jan. 11.

Court documents indicated that the charges against Roach and the search warrants were the result of tips from reliable witnesses in the law enforcement community.

Affidavits filed with the court show that the investigation had lasted more than a year.

*'A lot of people collect guns, and they're certainly not illegal in doing so. This is hunters' country.'*

—Bill Kelly  
Roach's attorney

# Error

Continued from Page 1

clerical error which resulted in the incorrect valuation for Celanese Ltd. was a result of a mistake by Celanese or one by someone acting for the appraisal district.

"On this particular one, it was a clerical error. The taxpayer made the error and then submitted a corrected asset listing," Bagley said.

"You certify the numbers, and Gaye (Whitehead, county tax assessor-collector) presents them to us. Now we're not going to get \$32,000 which we've included in our budget," said Precinct 2 Commissioner Gary Willoughby to Bagley. He said this is the second year an error had been made on the school district's tax revenues concerning property evaluated by a consultant contracted by the appraisal district.

"What steps do you take to make sure they're right?" asked Precinct 4 Commissioner James Hefley concerning anyone claiming a mistake had been made.

"We always go with the best information available. We've hired a consultant with an engineering background, and he looks at asset listings for businesses such as (chemical) plants, and estimates their value," Bagley said.

Celanese notified the appraisal district of a problem with their property valuation last Sept. 17, Peet said. However, the change in valuation was not done until four months later, in January, he said.

"Why the four-month delay?" Peet asked.

"Caution on my part. I was waiting for information," Bagley said.

The county and school district, along with city water coffers, were paid the amount of taxes calculated on the larger valuation, Peet said. Tax value loss concerning water service was \$1,010.38.

"Now we and the schools have to send them refund checks on overage paid," he said.

Peet also pointed out that the school district receives matching funds from the state, which may mean additional refunds to be paid by the school back to the state.

Pampa Independent School District Superintendent Barry Haenisch was out of his office today and unavailable for comment on the Celanese tax revenues.

Willoughby pointed out that Bagley had not signed the certification letter concerning Celanese taxes. Bagley explained that he did not usually sign every copy, only those which required it, such as those mailed out to the taxpayers. Peet suggested Bagley sign the bottom of each letter.

"Currently, a review board cannot overturn an agreement between a chief appraiser and a taxpayer" according to state regulations, Peet said.

"My caution to this commission and all the taxing entities is to set aside a reserve because a thing like this is going to happen," Bagley said.

"This is a warranted change. I'm not happy with it either," he said.

# Vote

Continued from Page 4

have a government for which it's willing to fight.

For once in a very long time, the news from Iraq gives us all

reason to hope. The struggle for a more perfect liberty never ends, but for now let us savor the moment and congratulate both the Iraqi people and the American soldiers who helped win for them the gift of that extraordinary thing in human history: The vote.

# Iraqi president says U.S. troops should stay

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iraq's president said Tuesday it would be "complete nonsense" to ask foreign troops to leave the country now, although some could depart by year's end. Officials began the final vote tally from elections to produce a government to confront the insurgency.

Despite scattered clashes in rebel areas across the country, Iraq reopened its borders Tuesday and commercial flights took off from Baghdad International Airport as authorities eased security restrictions imposed

to protect last weekend's landmark voting.

In Baghdad, about 200 election workers Tuesday began the second stage of the count. They reviewed tally sheets prepared by workers who counted ballots starting Sunday night at the 5,200 polling centers across the country and began crunching the numbers into 80 computer terminals. Officials said no figures were expected to be released Tuesday.

The ballots themselves have also been sent to Baghdad, but will not be recounted unless there are

challenges or discrepancies in the tally sheets, officials said.

Sunday's election raised hopes that a new Iraqi government would be able to assume greater responsibility for security, hastening the day when the 170,000 U.S. and other foreign troops can go home.

During a news conference, President Ghazi al-Yawer was asked whether the presence of foreign troops might be fueling the Sunni Arab revolt by encouraging rebel attacks.

"It's only complete non-

sense to ask the troops to leave in this chaos and this vacuum of power," al-Yawer, a Sunni Arab, said.

He said foreign troops should leave only after Iraq's security forces are built up, the country's security situation has improved and some pockets of terrorists are eliminated.

"By the end of this year, we could see the number of foreign troops decreasing," al-Yawer said.

Al-Yawer had been a strong critic of some aspects of the U.S. military's performance in Iraq, including

the three-week Marine siege of the Sunni rebel city of Fallujah in April.

Al-Yawer helped negotiate an end to that siege. The city fell into the hands of insurgents and religious zealots, forcing the Marines to recapture Fallujah last November in some of the heaviest urban combat for American forces since the Vietnam war.

"There were some mistakes" in the occupation "but to be fair ... I think all in all it was positive, the contribution of the foreign forces in Iraq," al-Yawer said. "It was worth it."

# Peeps

Continued from Page 4

gram that allows addicts to seek treatment from religious groups as well as secular ones. Some dollars will be wasted, but over the decades the feds have thrown away billions of dollars on ineffective anti-addiction programs. Now, finally, organizations that rely on religious conversion to break addiction can be on a

level playing field with all others, without having Washington boss them around.

Christian conservatives especially should be emphasizing vouchers, since activist courts are likely to shut down grant-based programs that give religion a chance. (Two weeks ago, U.S. District Judge John Shabaz ruled that federal funding of a prison mentoring program in Arizona was unconstitutional advancing religion.) Libertarians should back vouchers because a continuation of

the grant-making process will let Washington continue to boss around community groups.

Jim Towey, who took over the Bush faith-based office after its troubled first year, received on Jan. 13 a well-deserved promotion: He is now officially assistant to the president, with good Oval Office access. When we talked last month, he said that the voucherized drug treatment program is "exciting stuff" and that "we should be pressuring to have vouchers in other areas -- but alas, I never,

ever hear a peep from the Hill on this."

We'll be missing a great opportunity to help the poor and reduce federal power if we don't hear lots of peeps from Capitol Hill -- and the shouts from people around the country that lead to Washington peeping.

\*\*\*  
Marvin Olasky, Ph.D., is a professor of journalism at the University of Texas at Arlington and editor of "World" magazine.

# Calendar of Events

• **Texas CattleWomen** are currently sponsoring a statewide scholarship for high school students called the Pat Grote Memorial Scholarship. Applicants must be a 2005 graduating senior at a Texas high school or equivalent institution and must be accepted into an agricultural-related field at a Texas college or university for the 2005 fall semester. The deadline for applications to be returned to Amy Brainard, P.O. Box 570, Canadian, TX 79014, is Feb. 18. For more information, visit [www.texascattlewomen.org](http://www.texascattlewomen.org)

rg on the Internet or call Brainard at (806) 323-6397.

• **Texas Cooperative Extension in Ochiltree County** will sponsor a beginning futures and options workshop for area producers from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Feb. 18 at the Ochiltree County Expo Center in Perryton. Dr. Steve Amosson will be the instructor for the course which will provide basic information to producers about using futures and options in marketing. The registration fee is \$10. To register or for more information, call Scott Strawn

by Feb. 16 at (806) 435-4501.

• **The next Pampa Area Singles dance**, featuring Mike Porter, is scheduled from 8-11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19 at the Sportsman Club on South Barnes Street. Admission is \$6 per person. No smoking or alcohol allowed. Snacks welcome. For more information, call 665-7059.

• **North American Grain Congress**, the first joint conference of National Association of Wheat Growers and National Grain Sorghum Producers, will be Feb.

19-22, 2005, at John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel & Casino in Reno, Nev. Register by Feb. 1 for an early birth discount. To register, log onto [www.graincongress.org](http://www.graincongress.org) on the World Wide Web.

• **The Second Annual Playwrights Showcase** of the Western Region is Aug. 12-14, 2005, at Red Rocks Community College in Lakewood, Colo. The deadline for submissions is March 1, 2005. Registration forms and more information are available at [www.rrocc.edu/playwright-showcase](http://www.rrocc.edu/playwright-showcase) on the Internet.

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THE PAMPA NEWS COMICS

# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR READERS:** Believe it or not, I'm still getting mail regarding the letters I printed about hospital gowns. Some of them gave me a chuckle, and I thought I'd share them with you. So pour yourselves a cup of coffee or tea, sit back, and as they say, "Bottoms up!"

**DEAR ABBY:** Your column about hospital gowns reminded me of an item that appeared in the Milwaukee Journal Green Sheet years ago.

"Did you know that hospital gowns come in three sizes? Short, shorter, and don't bend over!"

-- A. BEYERSDORF, MILWAUKEE

**DEAR A.:** No, but that sounds like good advice to me.

**DEAR ABBY:** After reading the letters about hospital gowns, I wondered if your readers know that the first hospital gown was designed by a man named Seymour Heiny. -- R. McA., JOHNSTOWN, PA.

**DEAR R.:** A true visionary.

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a nurse who works in intensive care. We have a saying where I work: "That's why they call it an I.C.U." -- KEN THE RN

**DEAR KEN:** And I'll bet you've seen more than your share.

**DEAR ABBY:** Twenty years ago, I was in the hospital going through a miscarriage, wearing a hospital gown. My roommate was a large woman who complained to the nurse that hers barely covered her. I told them we were wearing designer gowns. My roommate responded that it couldn't be true -- hers looked like a regular gown to her. I told her ours were made by "Jordass."

Once she stopping laughing, the nurse said she thought I'd emotionally and physically sur-

vive the miscarriage if I could make a joke at a time like that. Two years later, I became pregnant with my son, who's a high school senior this year. Even if you can't print this, I thought you would get a laugh from it. -- YOU CAN LAUGH OR YOU CAN CRY

**DEAR YOU:** I did -- and I want you to know I admire your strength in the face of adversity.

**DEAR ABBY:** Feel free to use all or part of this story from my latest book, "The Dog Ate My Things to Do' List -- What a Good Dog!" A brief history of the hospital gown:

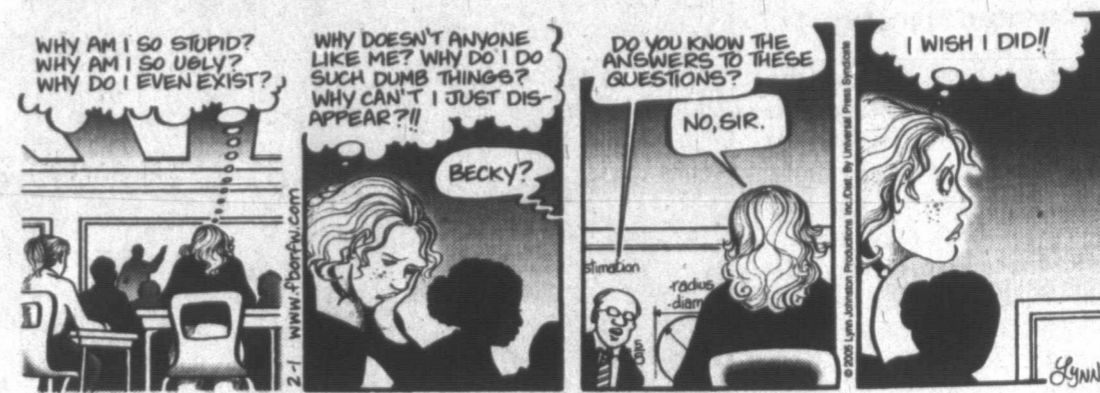
"There is the straitjacket, the bullet-proof vest, the lead apron that wards off stray X-rays, and then there is the 'just put it on backyard hospital gown.' Some say that Betty Barebottom invented this product. Betty, according to this account, wished to teach men two things. One: It isn't easy to wear a skirt and not expose your anatomy to a gawking world. Two: Men should understand how difficult it is to fasten things behind your back.

"Others claim that the designer of this impossible gown is a man named Seymour Butts. ... Although he considers the hospital gown the culmination of his life's work, Seymour currently works as a fashion designer. His line of unusual designs bears the label 'Butt First.'" -- DEAN CHAPMAN, CONCORD, CALIF.

**DEAR DEAN:** Whether Seymour's clothing line is famous or infamous is debatable, although no one can deny its popularity. The low-slung hip-hugger is "hot" from coast-to-coast regardless of the weather or the sex of the wearer. But that's another column.

P.S. Anyone interested in purchasing books by Mr. Chapman can get ordering information by contacting him: [deanchap@aol.com](mailto:deanchap@aol.com).

## For Better Or Worse



## Zits



## Garfield



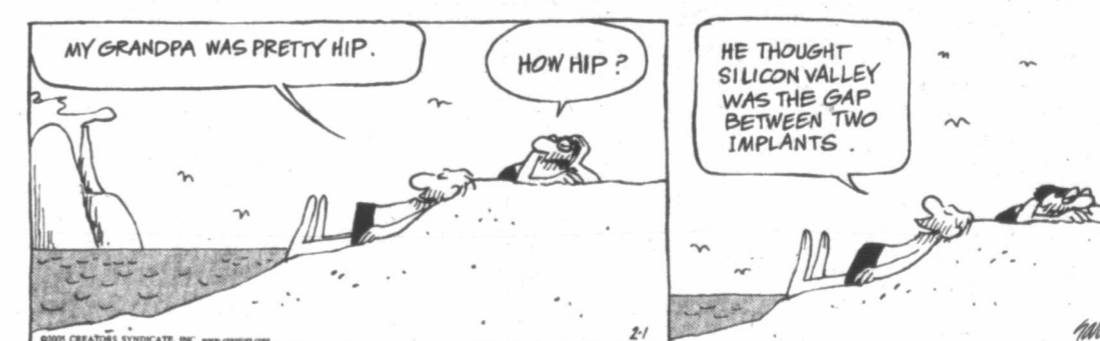
## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



## B.C.



## Haggar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie



## Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

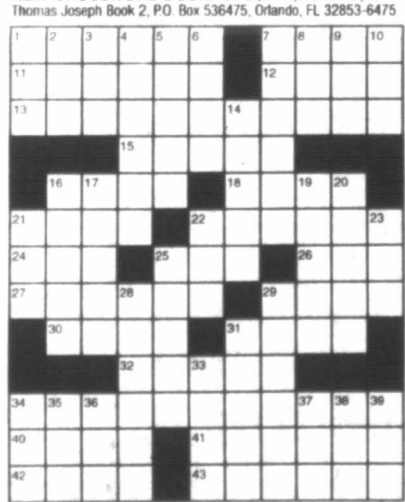
- 1 Pueblo homes
- 2 River
- 3 Canal setting
- 4 Heaps
- 5 Wizard's home
- 6 Soft drink buy
- 7 Banana part
- 8 Phobia
- 9 Like paraffin
- 10 Station worker
- 11 "Lord of the Rings" creature
- 12 Compact, for example
- 13 Org. associated with 2-Down
- 14 Maintain
- 15 Worked the garden
- 16 Blinds piece
- 17 Nixon's successor
- 18 Number part
- 19 Rome nickname
- 20 Radius, for one
- 21 Bad guy
- 22 Hotel furniture
- 23 Straying

JABBA BALMS  
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PINHEADS  
EDITT MOORED  
NOMOS GUISE  
SLEUTH GNAW  
DUH MEAT  
ARUBA LOOPS  
MAGIC AUDIO  
SLOTH STEEP

Yesterday's answer

- 20 Spoke
- 21 Holy
- 22 Quarter-back
- 23 Manning
- 24 Youngster
- 25 Pig holder
- 26 Put off
- 27 Does kitchen work
- 28 Do well
- 29 Cast member
- 30 Form
- 31 1040 user
- 32 Hunter's quarry
- 33 Wane
- 34 Foot feature
- 35 Finish
- 36 One million
- 37 San Diego
- 38 Light metal
- 39 Chop by this time

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.50 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



## Marmaduke



## The Family Circus



## Flo & Friends



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greatest...  
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person...  
Cowbo...  
What...  
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# Sports Day



Pampa News photo by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

The Pampa Junior High School wrestling team is (left to right), front row- Zach Doan, Steven Botello, Garret Fatheree and Jeremy Maxwell. Back row- Keith Stevens, Bart Bullard, Jonathan Olsen and Jordan Eakin. Not pictured are Madison Wilson, Nick Millikan and Michael Taylor. PJHS wrestling is coached by Darrel Adkins.

## Botello takes first place, other Boys Ranch results

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS  
Sports Editor

Here are the results as provided by Coach Adkins:

Congratulations are in order for Coach Darrel Adkins and his Pampa Junior high School wrestlers. The team took part in the District Wrestling Tournament at Boys Ranch this past Saturday and brought back plenty of hardware, with seven wrestlers finishing sixth or better.

- 1st Place, 110 pounds- Steven Botello
- 3rd Place, 142 pounds- Jordan Eakin
- 3rd Place, Heavyweight- Jonathan Olsen
- 4th Place, 118 pounds- Jeremy Maxwell
- 5th Place, 126 pounds- Madison Wilson
- 6th Place, 102 pounds- Zach Doan
- 6th Place, Heavyweight- Nick Millikan

## Harvesters on the road at Randall for key games

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS  
Sports Editor

**Pampa Varsity vs. Randall**  
There may be something of a revenge factor for the Raiders at home tonight. Pampa has had Randall's number of late, including a hard fought meeting in Pampa Jan 14.

And though the Raiders have had less than the season they hoped for (8-15, 1-4), there's nothing like pulling it all together for one night in front of a home crowd.

This may be Randall's greatest weapon.

Harvester head coach Jeff Reed knows this is a big week for his team. Pampa (15-9, 3-2) is on the road twice with tonight's game at Randall and Friday's meeting at Caprock.

"If we can win the next three games, our home game against Palo Duro February 11 becomes very interesting," said Reed.

Reed says he expects Randall to be scrappy. "They will come out swinging tonight," he said.

The Raiders are also at the odd place in sport where, if you can come out strong and hang with the opponent, you build confidence. But allow the opponent to get out of the blocks fast, and your ego gets bruised, you will start to question ability to play. Reed is hoping for the fast start.

**Lady Harvesters vs. Lady Raiders**

Here are two teams entering the night with near identical records. The Lady Raiders are 13-11, 5-2, while the Lady Harvesters are 13-14, 5-2.

Tonight's winner will not only improve their overall record, but take over sole possession of second place in District 3-4A, one game behind Palo Duro with the play-off's now within sight.

The Lady Dons play host to Dumas tonight.

Lady Harvester head coach Troy Fry says his team is 100 percent healthy and ready for tonight.

"Lauren Winkleman was cleared by the doctor and will be suited up tonight," said Fry.

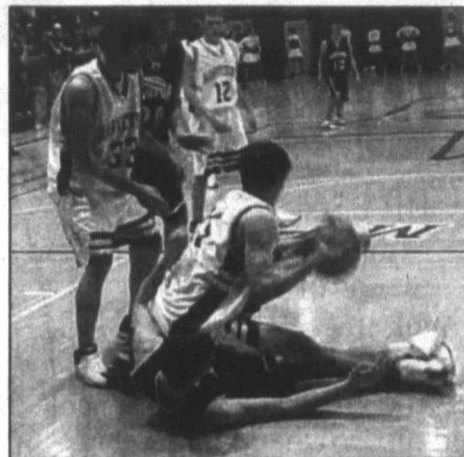
Fry added his team had one goal in mind at the start of the season.

"We wanted to make the playoffs," he said.

The Lady Harvesters are in great position to just that.

In fact, leave Randall 6-2, and Pampa would be one important step closer to turning a preseason goal into a post-season reality.

**Notes:**  
**Game time:** Lady Harvesters, 6 p.m., Varsity boys at 7:30 p.m.  
**On-air:** AM 1230 KGRO  
**On-line:** www.centramedia.com  
**Remember:** The junior varsity teams will be in action as well. Boys at 6 p.m., girls at 7:30 p.m.  
**Health:** Both teams are at 100 percent. The key here may be staying that way to and through the playoffs.



With teammate Brandon Johnston ready for the hand-off, Pampa's Clayton Hall fights for the ball in last Friday's win over Hereford.

## 9th grade Lady Harvesters take Lady Rebels, 40-34

The Lady Harvester freshmen team outlasted Tascosa Black for a big home win last night, 40-34.

The scoring was close throughout the game. Pampa managed an 11 point second period, while holding the Lady Rebels to just five. This would prove to be the difference in the game.

Top scorers for the Lady Harvesters included Sara Foster with 10, Lacey Beesley with nine and Chelsey with eight points.

"This was a game of spurts," said Coach Troy Owens. "We would get going good then the next thing you know, we were having trouble."

Owens pointed out Beesley's and Foster's work under the basket, and noted Knight's clutch freethrows in the fourth quarter.

"The team played hard. I'm very proud of them," said Owens.

The team, 7-11, will next compete in the District Tournament at Tascosa this Thursday.

## 9th grade puts up fight, falls to Bulldogs 59-54

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS  
Sports Editor

Give them an A for effort, the Pampa 9th grade boys' basketball team put up a fight but came up short against the visiting Bulldogs of Plainview. The final score from that game was 59-54.

Pampa will travel to Randall Saturday to take on the Raiders. Game time is 10 a.m.

### PAMPA RULES THE POOL

## Harvesters sink competition, win sixth straight District 3-4A title

The following was submitted by Pampa head swimming and diving coach, Greg Miller.

Pampa's swimming and diving program once again dominated the District Meet at the Pete Ragus Aquatics Center this past weekend in Lubbock. This is the sixth consecutive title for both the girls and boys teams.

The girl's division was won by Pampa with a score of 129, followed by Seminole 72, Lubbock Estacado 26 and Caprock 10. The girl's team had a strong showing, winning all but three of the 11 events.

Senior captains Angela Henthorn and Kandice Maddox finished their four years with great swims and great leadership. We had two double district champions on the girl's team. Freshman Lydia West placed first in both the 200 Freestyle and the 500 Freestyle. Lydia worked hard last summer and into the school year to get ready to swim this year. The other double winner is senior Whitney Penrod, who pulled double duty at this weekend's meet both diving and swimming. Whitney placed first in the 1 Meter Dive, notching a new school and district record of 311.35 points in

the process. Penrod also finished first in the 50 Freestyle event and swam on two first place relay teams. She is well on her way to repeat as Region Champion and a return trip to the State Meet in Austin. Angela Henthorn took first place in the 200 Individual Medley, while the girls won both the 200 Medley Relay and the 200 Freestyle Relay.

On the boy's side, it was Pampa 106, Seminole 74, Lubbock Estacado 22, and Caprock 0. "The Seminole team is improving but we have worked hard and we know that will see us through," said Pampa's Thomas Wilson, one of three boys that were double district champions this year. Wilson finished first in the 100 Breaststroke where he set a new district record. He also placed first in the 100 Butterfly. Tyler Wishon won both the 50 and 100 Freestyle, with D.J. Elliott winning the 200 Freestyle and the 100 Backstroke. The junior boys have been hard workers this year and have led the team at all our meets, including Derek Wishon, who placed second in the 100 Butterfly while swimming the entire last lap with a dislocated shoulder. Sophomore

Christopher Keough placed first in the 500 Freestyle and second in the 50 Freestyle. The boys won both the 200 Medley Relay and the 400 Free Relay.

Other swimmers who enjoyed great performance this past weekend were Megan Addington who placed 5th in the 200 Freestyle and 4th in the 500 Freestyle. Christine Kroebel finished 2nd in the 100 Butterfly and 3rd in the 100 Breaststroke. Maikie Knutz claimed 2nd in the 100 Breaststroke and 3rd in the 50 Freestyle. Kevin Schepp placed 2nd in the 100 Backstroke and 3rd in the 50 freestyle. And Gavin Eggleston, who placed 3rd in both the 200 Individual Medley and the 500 Freestyle.

All our Pampa swimmers and divers who placed in this meet will advance to the Regional Meet Feb. 10-12 in Lubbock.

The kids here in Pampa have an excellent work ethic. Their families and the community have a history of working hard for what they really want and our swimmers have put this into practice. This is a great group of kids that our community can be proud of. I sure am.

## 7th and 8th grade basketball teams cast out Demons

The following was submitted by Coach East of Pampa Junior High School.

The Dumas Demons left town licking their wounds after being swept by Pampa's 7th and 8th grade basketball teams last night at the PJHS gyms.

The 8th B team got into a groove as they scored 50 points and held the Demons to 17 points. Heath Skinner led the scoring with 14 points, followed by Cobron Harris with 12, Brett Powell had eight and Ryan Baggerman tossed in six. Big Dan Kirkland and Johnathon Anguiano continue to control the boards on the defensive end of the floor and make it difficult for teams to score on the inside. Defensive pressure throughout the game was just too much for the Demons to handle. The Demons turned the ball over countless times and the Green Team turned them into easy baskets. The final score was Pampa 50, Dumas 17.

The second game of the night in the

8th grade gym was more of the same. It was White on Black all game long. Full court pressure again forced Dumas into passing errors and easy baskets for the Green Team. Four players scored in double figures for the Pampa. Hayden Skinner led the way with 15, followed by Casey Trimble with 13, Matt Smith had 12, Byron Smith had 12 and Alex Torres chipped in eight. Relentless defensive pressure by every team member on the floor just would not let Dumas get into the game. Thomas Fraser, Matt Smith, Byron Smith and Casey Trimble dominated the boards all night. Dumas was limited just to one shot when they could get one shot off. Dumas tried to get into a running game with the Green Team, which only works into Pampa's favor. The final score was Pampa 70, Dumas 36.

The 7th grade games were much of the same. The 7th A team got things rolling early and routed the Demons 58-39. Braden Hunt was on the receiv-

ing end of countless feeds from teammates and poured in 21 points and had 7 steals. Alex Clendening scored 17 points, 19 rebounds eleven of those on the offensive end and eight assists. Luke Watson also tossed in seven points for the Green Team. The A team record improves to 9-2 overall.

The 7th B team got its third win of the season last night as they defeated the Demons 30-29. Uriel Diaz tossed in 14 points, Anthony Allen had six points, 19 boards and seven steals. Eric Lewis also got into the scoring column with five. Zach Shaw hit a free throw with four seconds on the clock to preserve the win for the B team.

All four teams will be in action for the last regular season game next Monday night against Westover at the PJH gyms. Game times are 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Come out and cheer your future Harvesters.

## Conte denies leaking grand jury testimony

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO — Victor Conte denied leaking grand jury testimony from Barry Bonds and other prominent athletes days after his home was raided by the FBI as part of an investigation into the release of the information. Conte, the founder of the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative who is among four people indicted for allegedly distributing steroids, is being investigated by a grand jury trying to find out who leaked testi-

mony to the San Francisco Chronicle in violation of secrecy rules and a court order.

Conte was subpoenaed to appear before the San Francisco panel Tuesday and turn over the contents of the hard drive in a computer from Burlingame-based BALCO.

His attorney, Robert Holley, said that Conte will not appear, as he and prosecutors are brokering a resolution to that subpoena.

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# AP: Pentagon would give extra to families of dead troops

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush will propose that families of U.S. troops killed in Iraq, Afghanistan and war zones of the future receive an extra \$250,000 in government payments.

The plan, which includes retroactive payments to the spouses or surviving relatives of the more than 1,500 who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan since October 2001, will be part of the 2006 budget proposal submitted to Congress next week, the Pentagon's personnel chief said.

A tax-free "death gratuity," now \$12,420, would grow to \$100,000. The government would also pay for \$150,000 in life insurance for troops. Veterans groups and many in Congress have been pushing for such increases.

"We think the nation ought to make a larger one-time payment, quite apart from insurance, should you be killed in a combat area of operations," David Chu, the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, said in an interview in his Pentagon office.

"We can never in any program give someone back their loved one," he added. "There

*'We can never in any program give someone back their loved one. There is nothing we can do about the hurt, to make it go away. But we can make your circumstances reasonable, in terms of finances.'*

— David Chu  
Pentagon official

is nothing we can do about the hurt, to make it go away. But we can make your circumstances reasonable, in terms of finances."

Chu was unveiling the administration's full proposal in congressional testimony Tuesday.

Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., who is sponsoring a bill with the same provisions, said in an interview Monday that the first-year cost of the increased benefit would be \$459 million, including more than \$280 million in retroactive payments of the higher gratuity and the extra life insurance payouts.

"The American people want to be gener-

ous to the families of service people who give their lives for their country. It's not a nickel-and-dime issue," he said.

In addition to the higher gratuity, the Pentagon would substantially increase life insurance benefits, Chu said. The current \$250,000 coverage offered to all service members at a subsidized rate under the Servicemen's Group Life Insurance program would be raised to \$400,000, and for troops in a combat zone the government would pay the premiums on the extra \$150,000 coverage.

Even in the case of a service member who

did not participate in the basic life insurance program, the surviving spouse would receive a \$150,000 settlement if the death happened in a designated combat zone, since the Pentagon is proposing to pay the premiums on that amount of coverage for everyone in a war zone. The spouse or other surviving family member also would get the \$100,000 gratuity.

Chu said the extra \$150,000 in life insurance and the higher death gratuity would be retroactive to Oct. 7, 2001, the date the United States launched its invasion of Afghanistan in response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Some bills in Congress would make the higher gratuity retroactive but not the extra life insurance.

Under the administration's proposal, the 53 military members who were killed in the Sept. 11 attack on the Pentagon would not get the higher gratuity, a spokeswoman said.

As of Monday, 1,415 Americans had died in the Iraq war, according to the Pentagon's count, and 156 had died in Afghanistan and other locations deemed part of the war on terrorism.

## Jackson saga

# Pop singer polite as jury selection begins in child molestation case

SANTA MARIA, Calif. (AP) — Michael Jackson stood and smiled as he faced the first prospective jurors in his criminal trial — a group roughly split between those willing to decide his fate and those hoping to avoid a role in the latest trial of the century.

Jackson, dressed in an all-white suit and a jewel-trimmed vest and belt, rose and remained standing as two batches of prospects — about 150 in the morning and another 150 in the afternoon — filed into the courtroom Monday. The singer, his lawyers, and prosecutors remained silent as Judge Rodney S. Melville questioned the prospects about their willingness to serve.

By the end of the day, Melville had listened to 138 people ask to be excused, but the only person he dismissed immediately was a woman who was eight months pregnant.

"That's OK, first one that got deferred," the judge said to applause.

Another 300 prospects were to be processed Tuesday, followed by 150 on Wednesday. Those not immediately excused were to fill out questionnaires to be studied by attorneys before individual questioning later. Besides 12 jurors, Melville wants eight alternates.

Outside, hundreds of fans from around the world shouted their support, some dressed like the superstar. There also was a contingent of people who came to support the alleged victim.

Security fences kept order, unlike a year ago at Jackson's arraignment

when 1,500 or more watched the pop star dance on an SUV and surged after his vehicle as he motored away.

*'Most of us have relatives who have fought and died to protect this system. Freedom is not free. Jury duty is part of the cost of freedom.'*

— Rodney S. Melville  
Judge

Holding signs that read, "Dear God, Please Give Michael Justice" and "Smooth But Not a Smooth Criminal," fans sang along with a Jackson song that derides the prosecutor in the case as a "cold man."

The target of their ire, Santa Barbara County District Attorney Tom Sneddon, did not come to court. A deputy represented the prosecution.

Jackson, 46, is charged with molesting a teenage boy and plying him with alcohol at his Neverland Ranch. He also is accused of conspiring to hold the boy and his family captive. Early Sunday, Jackson issued a court-approved video statement on his Web site, proclaiming his innocence and predicting he would be acquitted.

Melville told both groups of prospective jurors that they might have to serve for about six months, and that it was an important duty.

"Most of us have relatives who have fought and died to protect this system," Melville said. "Freedom is not free. Jury duty is part of the cost of freedom."

The jury pool was predominantly white. About a quarter appeared to be Hispanic, and only a few were black.

One of the black men in the pool told the judge he was unemployed and "six months will affect my future. I think I should worry about myself and not the defendant."

A white man said during a stint in jail he got into a dispute between a black prisoner and a white prisoner and had been branded a racist, even though he was not.

Another man who had been convicted of an undisclosed crime said he was on an electronic monitor and confined to his home. Melville ordered the man to remain in the jury pool and said he would inform those monitoring him.

Another prospect said he is chief launch coordinator at nearby Vandenberg Air Force Base. He said he has two launches in the near future and can't take time off to be a juror.

On the Net:  
Michael Jackson:  
<http://mjsource.com>  
Santa Barbara District Attorney:  
<http://www.countyofsb.org/da/index.asp>

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# Nepal's king dismisses government for second time in three years

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) — King Gyanendra dismissed Nepal's government on Tuesday and declared a state of emergency, taking control of the Himalayan kingdom for the second time in three years.

He denied his takeover was a coup, although soldiers surrounded the houses of Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba and other government leaders.

"We will oppose this step," Deuba, who was not allowed to leave his home, told reporters in brief comments.

Armored military vehicles with mounted machine guns were patrolling the streets of Katmandu, the capital, and phone lines in the city had been cut. Airlines reported that the Katmandu airport had been closed to flights. Long lines quickly formed at grocery stores and gas stations, as worried residents stocked up on supplies.

Democracy and royalty have long had a difficult relationship in Nepal, a Himalayan nation lying between India and China.

Gyanendra's late father, King Mahendra, established

a rubber-stamp government and parliament but retained absolute power and outlawed political parties. The absolute monarchy ended when street demonstrations forced the king to give way to a multiparty government in 1990.

Since then, Nepal has been wracked by a war against leftist rebels, often testy relations between the king and government, and the killing of 10 royal family members in a massacre.

"We are so confused. We don't know what is going on or what will happen," said Narayan Thapa, a government worker in Katmandu. "I am worried I can't reach my family on the phone."

In an announcement on state-run television, the king accused the government of failing to conduct parliamentary elections and being unable to restore peace in the country, which is beset by rebel violence.

"A new Cabinet will be formed under my leadership," he said, accusing political parties of plunging the country into crisis. "This will restore peace and effective democracy in this coun-

try within the next three years."

Later, state-run television reported that a state of emergency had been declared.

The monarch, who is also the supreme commander of the 78,000-member Royal Nepalese Army, said security forces would be given more power to maintain law and order. But he insisted human rights would be respected.

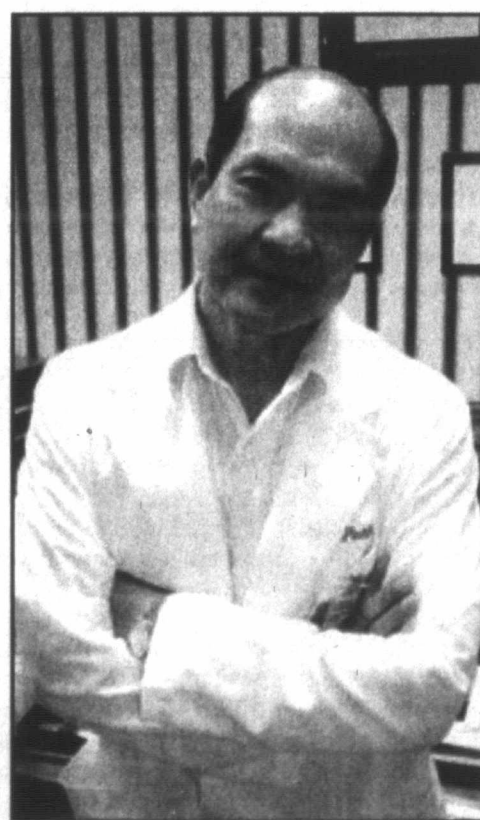
Deuba also was fired as prime minister in October 2002, sparking mass street protests demanding the restoration of a democratically elected government.

The king reinstated Deuba last year with the task of holding parliamentary elections by March 2005 and conducting peace talks with the Maoist rebels.

Nepal has been in turmoil since Gyanendra, 55, suddenly assumed the crown in 2001 after his brother, King Birendra, was gunned down in a palace massacre apparently committed by Birendra's son, the crown prince, who also died. Ten members of the royal family were killed.

Riots shook Katmandu after the killings.

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