

Obituaries

Services tomorrow

BRIDGES, Max — 9 a.m., Shannon Rufe Snow Funeral Chapel, Fort Worth.

Helen Pearce, 79

Helen Pearce, 79, of Pampa, Texas, died April 23, 2006, at Pampa. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Pearce was born Aug. 18, 1926, in Childress. She married Gordon Pearce on Nov. 30, 1963, in Reno, Nev. He preceded her in death on June 12, 2005.

She was an active member of the First Pentecostal Holiness Church and was a known as a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Survivors include four daughters, Pamela Rae Willis of Pampa, Marie Proctor and Angela Maddox, both of Webster, Fla., and Patricia Baer of Jay, Okla.; three sons, John Kinnear of Gonzales, Calif., Michael Pearce of Plano and Charles Pearce of Richland Hills; two sisters, Bessie

Etheredge and husband Pete, and Clara Quarry and husband James, all of Pampa; 13 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a grandson, Jeffrey D. Willis; two sisters, Donnie Ralston, Izzadia Subia in 2006; and a sister-in-law, Joy Garcia in 2006.

The family requests memorials be to First Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock, Pampa, TX 79065.

The family requests memorials be to Odyssey Healthcare, The Atrium at Coulter Ridge, 6900 I-40 West, Suite 150, Amarillo, TX 79106.

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



Pearce

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Five traffic stops were made. Warrant service was attempted on two occasions.

Lost property was reported in the police department lobby.

A welfare check was made in the 700 block of Malone.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 1300 block of Coffee and the intersection of Brown and Huff streets.

Three burglar alarms were reported. A suspicious vehicle call was received from Highway 60 East.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 600 block of Sloan, the 1600 block of West Somerville and at Pampa Junior High School, 2401 Charles.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 700 block of Lefors. A window and door were damaged. Estimated cost of damage is \$390.

Criminal mischief was reported in the police department lobby. The incident occurred in the 1200 block of South Banks. The right passenger door was dented and paint was chipped on the right back quarter of a vehicle. Estimated cost of damage is \$200.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1900 block of North Faulkner, the 700 block of North Roberta and the 1900 block of Zimmers.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 700 block of West Browning.

Harassment was reported in the 1100 block of Darby and the 400 block of Lefors.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 800 block of East Browning and the 1000 block of Huff Road, where at least one arrest was made.

A disturbance was reported in the 1600 block of North Sumner.

Forgery was reported in the police department lobby.

Burglary was reported in the 1100 block of North Starkweather.

Burglary of a habitation was reported in the 1000 block of South Nelson. Approximately \$1,000 in old silver dollars and half dollar was taken.

Theft was reported at Wal-Mart, 2801 Charles.

bodily injury to a family member. Danasty Dawn Mize, 20, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa Police Department for forgery by passing.

Antonio Andy Vela, 26, of Pampa was arrested in the 2800 block of Charles by PPD for theft.

George Thomas Reames, 63, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for making a terroristic threat.

Wednesday, April 26

Troy Williams, 44, of Pampa was arrested in the 1000 block of Huff Road by PPD for assault causing bodily injury.

Fire

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

Tuesday, April 25

7:52 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 100 block of Starkweather on a medical assist.

7:32 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 200 block of Rham on a hazardous material spill.

Ambulance

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Tuesday, April 25

7:53 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 100 block of Starkweather and transported a patient(s) to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

9:47 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1200 block of Wells and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

10:23 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transferred a patient(s) to BSA Hospital in Amarillo.

10:37 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1100 block of Prairie Drive and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

5:46 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient(s) to a local nursing facility.

7:57 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to a local nursing facility and transported one patient to PRMC.

8:42 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1300 block of Coffee. No transport.

Correction

In a story Monday on Holocaust Remembrance Day, Ken Sliviak's grandmother was reported to be living in Germany. His grandmother actually emigrated to the United States in the early 1950s.

Sheriff

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

Tuesday, April 25

Kevin Todd Howe, 35, of Lefors was arrested by GCSO for assault causing

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Atebury Grain of White Deer.

Wheat	3.98
Milo	3.27
Corn	4.16
Soybeans	4.62

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

OXY	105.57	+1.05
BP PLC ADR	75.02	+0.14
Cabot Corp	36.01	+0.02
Celanese	21.77	+0.07
Cabot Oil Gas	51.13	+0.87
Coca Cola	41.63	+0.28
VLO	67.00	+0.70
HAL	80.71	+1.89
TRI	42.63	+0.04
KML	88.07	+0.04
XCEL	18.18	-0.03
Kerr McGee	104.14	+1.54
XOM	64.69	+0.74
Nat'l Oilwell	71.85	+3.09
Limited	25.23	+0.33
Williams	22.65	+0.39
MCD	33.97	+0.12
Atmos	26.62	+0.17
Pioneer Nat	44.26	-0.06
JCP	65.25	+0.73
COP	68.79	+0.54
SLB	70.25	+1.50
Tenneco	27.03	+0.43
CVX	61.16	+0.75
Wal-Mart	45.90	+0.27
OKE	33.54	+0.46
NS Grp	51.80	-1.42

New York Gold	630.50
Silver	12.54
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\$500 REWARD. Lost male black Lab, 1800 block Beech. 688-0196.

GERANIUM SALE, by Gray Co. 4-H!! May 4th & 5th 5-8pm., May 6th 8am. til sold out. 4 in.-\$3 ea., hanging baskets-\$15. Coronado Center.

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Gray County Weather

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high around 66. Wind chill values between 26 and 31 early. North wind around 5 mph becoming south-southeast.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 45. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Thursday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 77. South wind between 10 and 20 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low near 55. South wind between 10 and 20 mph.

Friday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high around 71. South

wind between 5 and 15 mph. Friday Night: Showers and thunderstorms likely. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 54. North-northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high around 65. Northeast wind between 15 and 20 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 50. North-northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 67. North-northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

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COP CORNER

What a way to make Texas History! The grass fires between Sunday March 12 and Friday March 17, 2006, will long be remembered. The fires have replaced the June 95 tornado as being the "Where were you?" question.



Courtney

I, along with all of the other first responders, was greatly affected. We all regret the loss of life caused by this disaster, but we rejoice that the number was not 10 times greater.

The county and cities involved are well into the recovery phase. Utilities have been repaired, livestock and wildlife are being fed, and people have some sense of getting their lives back together.

All of the hundreds of firefighters are back at home, rested, and ready for the next call out. As first responders and emergency

management staff gather reports for FEMA and the State Department of Emergency Management, we focus on the results of the response for what worked and what needs more work.

Every disaster is a unique event. I know I have learned some valuable lessons that will enable me to do a better job.

Cop Corner is provided by Pampa Police Department and Lt. Fred Courtney.

City

Continued from Page 1

Violation of the curfew could result in a fine of up to \$500.

The ordinance also allows for the citation of parents who knowingly permit a minor out during the curfew or a business that knowingly allows a minor to remain in their establishment during curfew hours. Chief Pitner, however, said that parents are rarely cited and that he has never cited a business under a curfew ordinance.

"It puts pressure on parents to be better parents, not punish the kids," Pitner said.

He said finding minors out on the street after midnight is almost a nightly occurrence for his officers.

"A lot of that is foot traffic," he said.

Pitner noted that the pro-

posed ordinance listed a series of defenses for being out during the curfew, including being accompanied by parents; at the direction of the minor's parents; traveling through town; emergencies; being outside at the minor's residence; attending an official school, religious or city function; or exercising First Amendment rights such as freedom of religion, speech or the right to assemble.

The city commission was to have considered changing the by-laws of the Pampa Economic Development Corporation, Horst said, but added that he had not heard anything from the EDC.

The change, according to Pampa Economic Development Corporation Secretary Kathy Cota, was to have been a change of address from City Hall to the Pampa Community Building where the EDC has taken offices.

EDC

Continued from Page 1

counsel, is to review the proposal and report back to the board at their next meeting.

The board also discussed following a Pampa City Commission policy of reviewing and excusing absences by board members who submit legitimate reasons for missing meetings.

Under the by-laws a board member is not allowed to miss more than three consecutive meetings or 50 percent of the meetings in one year. The board appeared to be split on excusing absences. No action was taken.

EDC President Dwight Fiveash said he had been approached about advertising Pampa in a magazine

apparently endorsed by High Ground of Texas, a consortium of economic development groups in 54 counties on the Texas High Plains.

A full-page ad, he said, costs \$3,800 and the magazine appeared to be distributed to other economic development corporations.

"I don't think it's a good idea because of the distribution," Fiveash said. "It doesn't appear that distribution is worth that kind of money to us."

Noting that the deadline for advertising was the end of the week, the board voted against advertising in the magazine.

The board also approved a code of ethics, noting that the board members and employees of the EDC will not put themselves in a position where personal interests or business relationships conflict or may appear to

conflict with the best interests of the Pampa Economic Development Corporation, the City of Pampa or Gray County.

The code states that no board member or employee shall accept any gift from a potential Pampa Economic Development Corporation client that is in excess of token monetary value and that no assets of the EDC will be used for personal gain or opportunity.

Board Vice President Ken May reported on the Texas Economic Development Corporation, saying that membership appeared to be for individuals rather than organizations.

He said full membership costs \$350 a year and said the TEDC's Web site offered a lot of activities and economic information. Although no action was taken at Tuesday's meeting, the board seemed to agree

that Fiveash should join the organization and that when an executive director is hired, the membership would go to him.

The board also discussed holding a contest to design a logo for the Pampa Economic Development Corporation. The logo would be used, among other things, on the EDC's business cards. Until then, Fiveash suggested getting generic business cards with only Pampa Economic Development Corporation, phone number and address on them for the board members.

The board was to review a lease agreement for offices in the Pampa Community Building at their Tuesday meeting but the written agreement was not ready, so it will be reviewed for possible approval at the board's next meeting, May 11.

Roach

Continued from Page 1

will be paid by Gray County, to represent and assist Scott at the hearing, according to Kelly's motion.

Kelly said in the motion that if Scott is disqualified from representing the state, as alleged in a previous motion by Kelly, then anyone hired by Scott is also disqualified.

Kelly also sent a letter dated April 13 to Judge Smith asking that he not sign the order appointing Mitchell as assistant district attorney pro tem.

A first amended motion to disqualify and remove Scott as special prosecutor and/or district attorney pro tem was filed April 21 by Kelly and expands on the original motion filed July 8.

The motions claim that 31st District Judge Steven Emmert was disqualified from acting in any case against Roach because of Emmert's involvement in the investigation and prosecution of the cases against Roach.

The motion further alleges that because of Emmert's disqualification, his appointment of Scott as district attorney pro tem in the cases against Roach was improper. Scott was appointed March 23, 2005, at the same time Emmert granted 31st District Attorney Lynn Switzer's request to recuse her from prosecuting Roach in the state's case against him.

An application to issue subpoenas was filed by Kelly in the district clerk's office in Gray County Courthouse on April 21 and lists witnesses to appear at the May 5 hearing.

The list of witnesses is Court Reporter Toni McClendon of Pampa, former Texas Department of Public Safety officer R.L. Davis of Amarillo, DPS Officer Richard Diegelman

of Amarillo, Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent William Endorf of San Angelo, FBI Special Agent John Whitworth of Amarillo, Emmert, Scott, DPS Officer Jason Henderson of McLean, DPS Officer Jerome Ingle of McLean and Switzer.

Roach was indicted May 17, 2005, by a Gray County grand jury on two state charges of possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver. One indictment concerns methamphetamine, and the other specifies cocaine.

Both indictments state that a handgun was present at the time of the incident, that the amount of the substance was four or more but less than 200 grams, that the incidents occurred Jan. 11, 2005, and that they occurred

within 1,000 feet of a drug-free zone.

Community Christian School, 220 N. Ballard, is within 1,000 feet of Gray County Courthouse, where Roach was arrested Jan. 11, 2005, by agents of the FBI's Amarillo office on a federal charge of possession of methamphetamine. Further federal charges involving methamphetamine, cocaine and firearms were added to the federal indictment on Jan. 12, 2005.

Roach was also indicted June 21, 2005, by a Gray County grand jury on charges of aggravated perjury in connection with an affidavit of financial status and request for court-appointed counsel. The affidavit had been filed June 10, 2005, by Kelly.

Roach pled guilty to the

federal firearms charge in a plea bargain agreement on Feb. 8, 2005, the same day that he resigned as 31st District Attorney. In a June 1, 2005, hearing in federal court in Amarillo, he was sentenced to five years in federal prison followed by three years' supervised release.

Roach is currently incarcerated at Federal Medical Center of Fort Worth.

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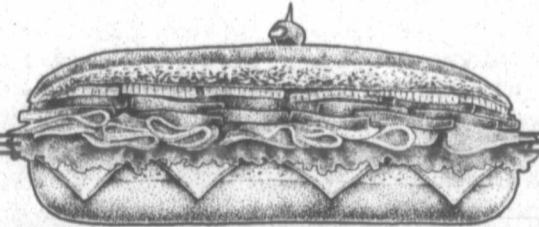
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Viewpoints

At last, Hillary looks to be stoppable

Suddenly, thankfully, it does not seem that Hillary Clinton is on an automatic trajectory to become the next Democratic nominee for president. Two recent polls suggest problems that may loom in her path.

From New York state comes the latest John Zogby poll, forecasting a race for the Senate instead of a cakewalk. For the first time since GOP wannabe Jeanine Pirro dropped out of the race, polls indicate that New Yorkers are having second thoughts about reelecting Hillary.

While the former first lady was leading her main opponent, John Spencer, 61-31 in Zogby's Jan. 13 poll, her lead is down to 54-33 in his survey of March 27. Zogby reflects increases in Hillary's

negatives across the board — among Democrats, Republicans and independents. He also shows a sharp drop in moderate and conservative support for Hillary, an indication that the shrill tone of her national attacks on the Bush administration and all things Republican is destroying the carefully cultivated bipartisan image she has sold to New York.

The drop in New York is especially interesting since Spencer has yet to wage any campaign. He has not advertised or been heavily covered by the left-leaning Empire State press corps. Hillary is dropping on her own.

For his part, Spencer is likely to get enough votes at the Republican state conven-

tion to stop his primary opponent, K.T. McFarland, from getting on the ballot. While she could petition her way on, that is a very hard task in New York, where one must get signatures in more than half of the counties. In some of these places, Republicans are hard to find.

And on the national level, a revealing insight comes from the Marist Poll of Feb. 22. The survey reported that Hillary finished a far-ahead first among her rivals for the Democratic nomination, getting 40 percent of the Democratic primary vote to

former vice-presidential nominee John Edwards's 16 percent and Sen. John Kerry's 15 percent.

But, with Al Gore figured into the race, Hillary's vote share dropped to 33 percent, with the former vice president at 17 percent, Edwards at 11 percent. A 33-17 lead over Gore sounds a lot more shaky than 40-16 over Edwards. (And remember, Gore has not even hinted at a candidacy. Once he does — if he does — his numbers are likely to increase rapidly.)

Gore turns Hillary's left flank and would be able to

use his past and present opposition to the war and hefty environmental record to attract liberals repelled by Hillary's off-again, on-again flirtation with centrism.

Democratic animosity toward the Bush administration, approaching an all-time high, means that the 2008 primaries are likely to be a kind of audition to see which candidate would do the best against the Republicans. Hillary is suspect because of the way she polarizes the voters. She doesn't polarize Democrats — they all love her — but even the most enthusiastic of her base voters grasps that she is a red flag to independents and Republicans.

As for Gore, he has already proved that he can

get more votes than the Republican. He just needs to get them in the right states this time. Gore's popular-vote success is likely to play well when Democrats contemplate the Kerry debacle, just as Nixon's narrow defeat in 1960 looked pretty good after the pasting Johnson gave Goldwater in 1964, good enough to give Nixon another chance.

The "electability" issue is the soft-core version of Hillary negatives, which could undermine her in 2008.

Meanwhile, Spencer can also run on a soft-core negative. Rather than have to attack Hillary frontally, he can point to her looming

See MORRIS, Page 8



Dick Morris
Columnist

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, April 26, the 116th day of 2006. There are 249 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Twenty years ago, on April 26, 1986, the world's worst nuclear accident occurred at the Chernobyl plant in the Soviet Union. An explosion and fire killed at least 31 people and sent radioactivity into the atmosphere.

On this date:

In 1785, American naturalist and artist John James Audubon was born in Haiti.

In 1865, John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of President Lincoln, was surrounded by federal troops near Bowling Green, Va., and killed.

In 1937, planes from Nazi Germany raided the Basque town of Guernica during the Spanish Civil War.

In 1945, Marshal Henri Philippe Petain, the head of France's Vichy government during World War II, was arrested.

In 1964, the African nations of Tanganyika and Zanzibar merged to form Tanzania.

'For those who do not think, it is best at least to rearrange their prejudices once in a while.'

— Luther Burbank
American horticulturist (1849-1926)

In 1968, the United States exploded beneath the Nevada desert a 1-megaton nuclear device called "Boxcar."

In 1970, the Broadway musical "Company" opened at the Alvin Theatre in New York.

In 1980, following an unsuccessful attempt by the United States to rescue the U.S. Embassy hostages in Iran, the Tehran government announced the captives were being scattered to thwart any future rescue effort.

In 1994, a Taiwanese jetliner crashed in Nagoya, Japan, killing 264 people.

In 2000, Vermont Gov. Howard Dean signed the nation's first bill allowing same-sex couples to form civil unions.

Ten years ago: After 16 days of bloodshed, Israel and Hezbollah guerrillas pledged to end the worst fighting in the Mideast in three years, agreeing to a U.S.-brokered truce.

Five years ago: Ukraine's communist-dominated parliament dismissed reform-oriented Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko and his government, plunging the nation into political chaos. Junichiro Koizumi was elected as prime minister of Japan in a vote by the lower house of Japan's parliament.



Teens should not be treated as children

I've mentioned before my contention that childhood ends with puberty and that we do young people a grave injustice by branding them as children until they are 18. Worse, we keep them confined in the world's most ineffective public education system.

Let me contrast that fate with the actions of Benjamin Franklin. Franklin, at the age of 8, studied at Boston Grammar School. He was withdrawn because of poor family finances and finished his formal schooling at George Brownell's English School — at age 11.

From 11 to 12, he worked in his father's shop making candles and soap, then tried the cutlery business but came back to his father's shop. From age 13 to 15, he worked for his brother and wrote broadside ballads. He borrowed books to read,

among them John Bunyan, Xenophon, John Locke, various histories and religious polemics, and improved his writing by imitating the essays of Joseph Addison and Sir Richard Steele in the London Spectator.

What is your 15-year-old reading? I might point out that most students don't read Locke until they get to college. At age 16, Franklin started his own newspaper, and his career was under way. At 16, our young people are still confined in public schools, and generally without any practical work experience at all. The senior English reading list at the high school I attended contained such difficult works as "Sue Barton,

Student Nurse."

Granted, Franklin had a genius IQ, but don't think there aren't young men and women today in their teens

who also have a genius IQ, and too many of them are being bored to bad behavior by curricula that have been dumbed down to make sure those with below-average IQs can pass. Our public education system is a disgrace. It is the most expensive in the world and produces the worst results.

To stretch out for 12 years so little knowledge is ridiculous. Basic education should be finished by the age of 12 or 13. After that, young people should be apprenticed, enrolled in commercial or

vocational schools, freed to work or, if they have the IQ for college, enrolled in the university system. Instead, we, in effect, put off until age 22 when a young person can even get started in a career if it requires a college degree. No wonder the really smart ones drop out.

Franklin's IQ might have been high, but his experiences were the norm in his time. Childhood ended with puberty, and young men and women were expected to get about the business of life instead of trying to amuse themselves until the age of 18. We would have far less juvenile crime and teen pregnancy if we treated young people as young adults instead of as children. Boredom is the devil's workshop, and I can't think of anything more boring than an American public school.

See REESE, Page 8



Charley Reese
Columnist

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403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065
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Publisher: Sean Smith
Editor: Dennis Spies
Advertising Director: ReDonn Woods
Composing Supervisor: Brenda Cook

This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily, except Saturdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day, by The Pampa News. Periodicals postaged paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.

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Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ **April 24**
El Paso Times on human trafficking: We must continue to demand Mexico's help in stopping the inhuman practice of human trafficking.

It's become a \$10 billion business in Mexico, according to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials.

Smugglers, called "coyotes," charge Mexican migrants some \$1,200 each to be sneaked across the border into the United States. And Mexican President Vicente Fox promised to crack down on the close-to-100 smuggling gangs that operate along the U.S.-Mexican border. So far he has not.

It's understood, but only to a point, that Mexico has three reasons to turn a blind eye to this practice:

Crossing with a guide, in some cases, is safer. Many die every year trying to cross, especially in hot desert areas.

Once across, undocumented immigrants send much money back to their families in Mexico, aiding that country's economy.

And Mexican officials already have their hands full with kidnappings, drug trafficking and murders often associated with the two.

But in many cases, smugglers rob and strand immigrants.

That's inhumane. Then there are U.S. immigration laws, laws not much different than

those of virtually all countries in the world. Mexico has its own such laws, and is active in rebuffing Central and South American immigrants from illegally entering their country from the south.

To enter virtually all countries, one must follow procedures. Most allow guests, such as students and tourists. Presently, because of rampant illegal immigration, more than 10 million undocumented people are in the United States. Those are not students or tourists. That, as we know, is a rush into the country to spread out and find jobs.

Most Americans are not against anyone who wants to work to support a

See ILLEGALS, Page 8

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating a nice guy for two years. We started out as good friends and the relationship progressed from there. He's truly all that you could ask for. My dilemma is, he doesn't know how to read and write. This is a very sensitive subject for him. He is 33 years old and works as a custodian for the school district. He earns a fraction over minimum wage and is making child support payments. I have been very patient with him, but any time I raise the subject of his going back to school, we end up arguing. Now he has decided to take a part-time job in the evenings -- so there will definitely be no time for school. What am I to do? He thinks my pushing him to learn to read and write is about the money. It's not! He keeps saying he's leaving his reading and writing "in God's hands." How can I help him? -- **WITS' END IN MIAMI**

DEAR WITS' END: Your boyfriend's unwillingness to reach out for help may stem from embarrassment. Please explain to him that there are programs especially for people like him, and that they are easy to access. All you have to do is call your county library and tell the librarian you are looking for a referral to a literacy coalition so your friend can learn to read. Your friend will be treated with dignity, I promise.

DEAR ABBY: I would like to thank you for more than 10 years of a happy marriage. Let me explain: I am an active-duty soldier with only 14 months left to retire after almost 20 years of service, including two tours in Iraq. In October 1995, I was deployed to Kuwait and I received three letters from Operation Dear Abby. One of them was from a beautiful lady from

California. On Feb. 17, 1996, I met the young lady and married her. Now, more than 10 years later, I am the proud father of three wonderful children. I'm writing today to thank you for continuing the program with OperationDearAbby.net. This was the first holiday season in two years that I was home with my family, and I want to thank you for sending me my angel. -- **STAFF SGT. ROB G., FORT LEWIS, WASH.**

DEAR STAFF SGT. G.: Thank you for an upper of a letter. I'm pleased to know that Operation Dear Abby brought you not only a pen pal, but also a wife, children and happiness. You deserve them all. Readers, why wait for a holiday? How about spreading some joy by logging on to OperationDearAbby.net and letting our young men and women stationed around the world in the military know that they're in our hearts today, tomorrow and every day. They'll love hearing from you -- and you'll be glad you did.

DEAR ABBY: My boss's mother passed away recently and the funeral is this weekend. I had spoken to "Mrs. White" on several occasions and met her twice. My question is, should I attend the visitation, as it is my boss's mother who passed away? I don't want to commit "career suicide" by not attending -- but on the other hand, I don't think I'd feel comfortable being there. -- **MISSISSIPPI MAIDEN**

DEAR MAIDEN: Funerals are for the living. You attend not only as a gesture of respect for the deceased, but by your presence, to offer comfort to the living. To attend would be a kindness, and I'm sure it would be appreciated -- so go.

For Better Or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin

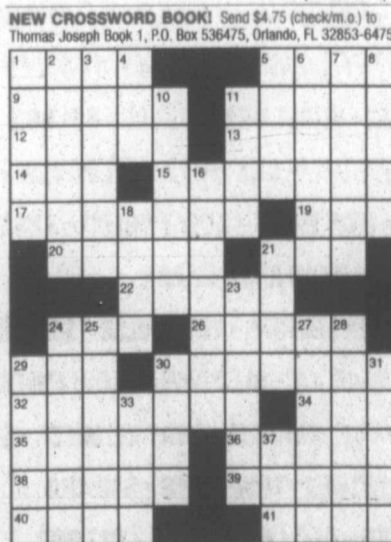


Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Weight of 11-
 - 5 Kid Down
 - 9 Jennifer Garner series
 - 11 Military coup group
 - 12 Skit-filled show
 - 13 Cager Shaquille
 - 14 Holiday lead-in
 - 15 Jennifer Garner movie
 - 17 How we roll along
 - 19 Director Craven
 - 20 "Bye Bye Bye" band
 - 21 New England catch
 - 22 Old market
 - 24 Sewing aid
 - 26 Caravan stop
 - 29 Team backer
 - 30 Like good pasta
 - 32 Robin Williams movie
 - 34 Task
 - 35 Dizzying posters
 - 36 Cursed
 - 38 Bind anew
 - 39 Trail user
- DOWN**
- 1 Women's quarters
 - 2 Craps roll
 - 3 Change for a sawbuck
 - 4 Greek letter
 - 5 Chinese boat
 - 6 Boxing combo
 - 7 Gawked
 - 8 NFL pioneer
 - 10 It's believing fellow
 - 11 Matt LeBlanc sitcom
 - 16 "Goin' Back to Cali" rapper
 - 18 Meg of movies
 - 21 Job for a lawyer
 - 23 Salad-bar item
 - 24 Poor fellow
 - 25 Con Group's gag
 - 28 Mail units
 - 29 Coastal inlet
 - 30 Pay to play
 - 31 Critic Roger
 - 33 La Scala song
 - 37 "The ..." (musical)



Marmaduke

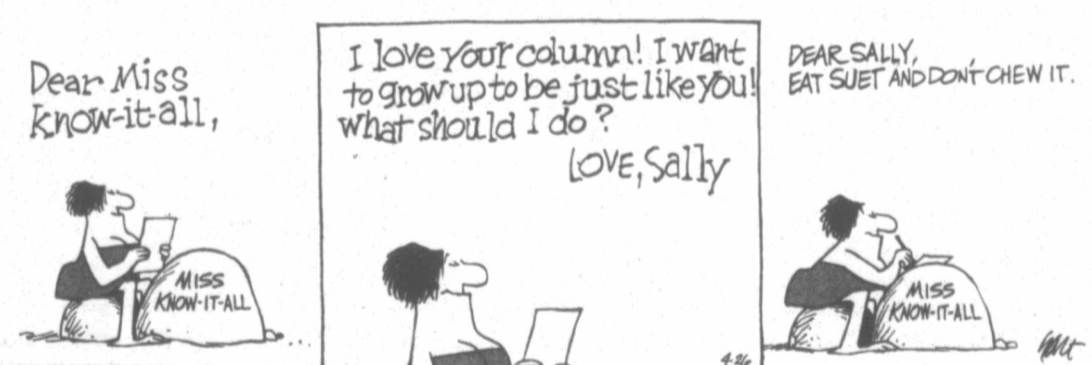


The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



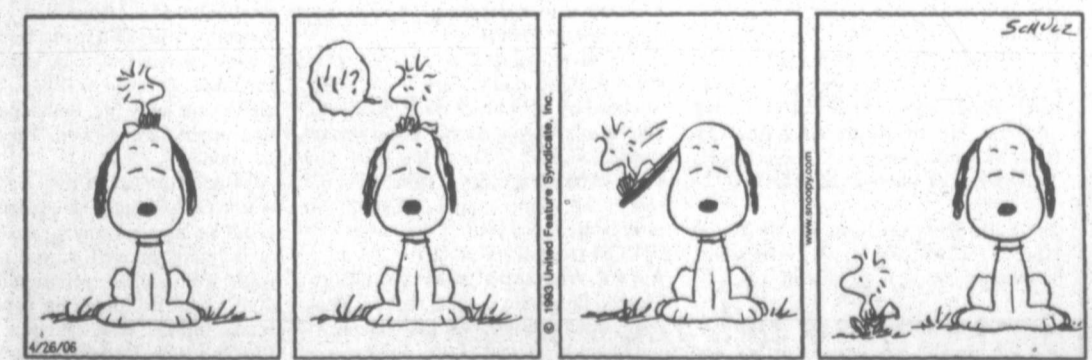
B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



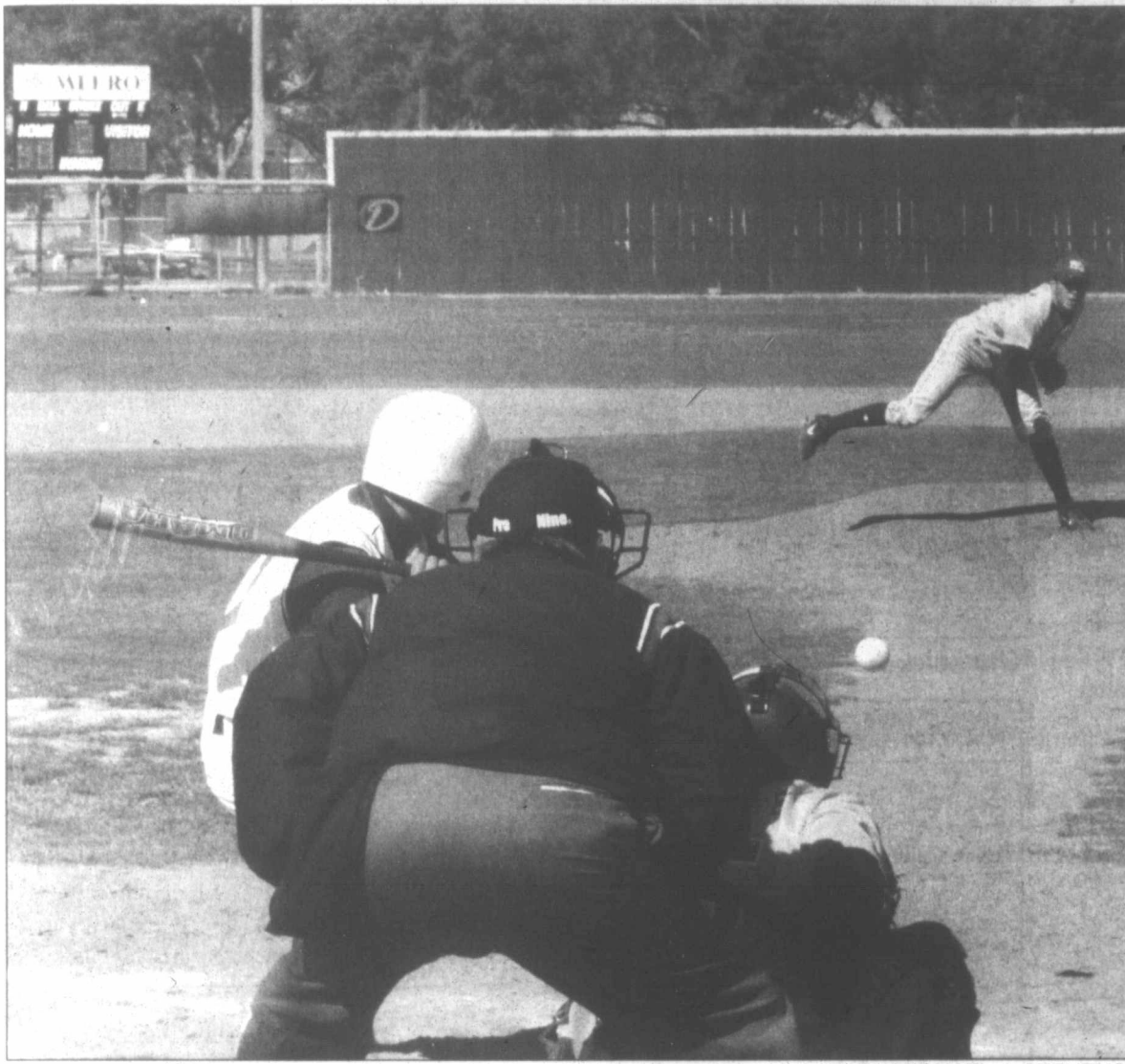
Blondie



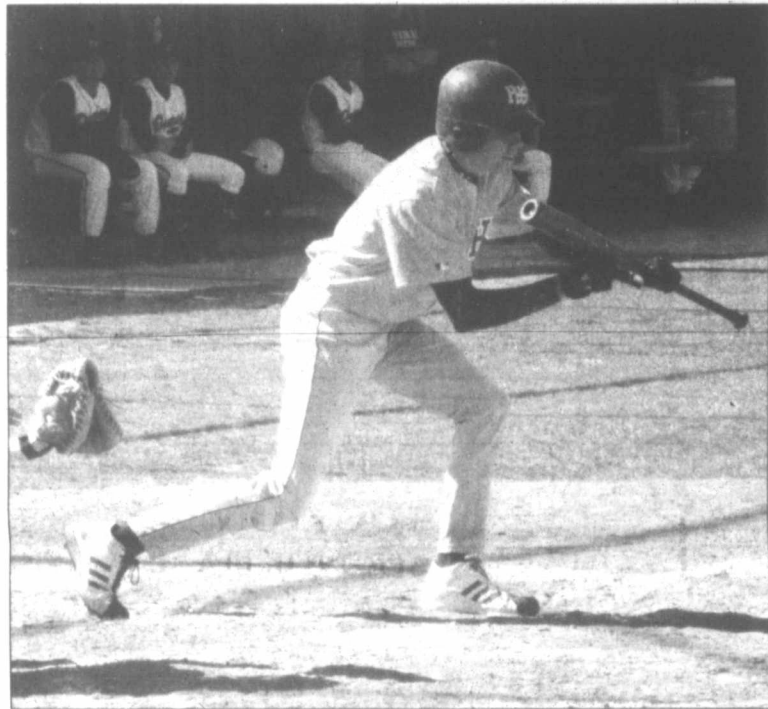
Flo & Friends



Sports Day



Pampa News photos by MICHAEL J. STEVENS



Tyson Hickman (above) sends a strike past a Demon batter Tuesday afternoon in Dumas. Hickman improved to 6-3 for the season as Pampa won the district affair, 9-5.

Pampa second baseman Brady Eakin (left) squares up to lay down a bunt against Dumas. Eakin reached first base safely while moving his Pampa teammates into scoring position.

Pampa prevails in Dumas, 9-5

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

Coach Clay Wilson and his Pampa Harvesters moved one step closer defending their District 3-4A title by dropping a determined Dumas club Tuesday afternoon, 9-5.

Pitcher Tyson Hickman started the game for Pampa, tossing six innings. Hickman faced 28 Demon batters, giving up eight hits and five runs, two earned. He walked two and struck out seven. He was spelled in the seventh by Brett Ferrell who faced four batters, striking out one while allowing no hits or runs en route to his first save of the year.

Pampa led the game 3-0 going into the bottom of the third inning. The Demons then took advantage of Harvesters errors while stringing together a few hits, plating four Demon runners to take a 4-3 lead into the top of the fourth.

Pampa rallied for four more runs in the top of

the inning, adding two in the seventh to secure the win.

The victory keeps the Harvesters (17-7) on pace with Randall for the district lead (8-1). The Raiders defeated Hereford Tuesday, 11-0. Caprock edged Palo Duro, 11-7.

Teams will end the District 3-4A regular season Saturday, including Pampa hosting Caprock at 1 p.m.

Offensive Team Stats

Shavious Kelley, 1-3 with a double and 4 runs
Weston Teichmann, 2-2 with a double and 2 runs

Tyson Hickman, 1-3 with 4 RBI
Brady Eakin, 2-4 with 2 runs

Pampa 102 400 2 - 9 10 3
Dumas 004 010 0 - 5 8 4

Glo-Valve, Celanese survive Tuesday afternoon games

Glo-Valve Service won its third consecutive one-run baseball game with a 10-9 win over Rotary Club Tuesday surviving a furious sixth-inning rally.

Daniel Hulsey took over mound duties for Glo-Valve in the top of the sixth with a 10-2 lead. He ran into trouble after two were out. Walks forced in two runs bringing back Zach Graves to pitch. Ryan Smith greeted him with a two-run single. Riley Douglas followed with an infield single which drove in another run. A walk to Cody Parks loaded the bases bringing on Reid Miller. Dustin Whinery singled up the middle scoring two runs and putting the tying run on second base and the lead run on first. Miller then struck out the last batter on three pitches to earn a save.

Glo-Valve scored first in the bottom of the first inning. Latigo Collins singled, moved to second on a walk to Graves and scored following a passed ball and a wild pitch. In the second inning Landon Powell walked and took second on a wild pitch. He went to third when Hulsey singled and scored on an error. Hulsey scored after a passed ball and a single by Tyler Smith. Miller walked. Collins scored both runners with a triple. Glo-Valve led 5-0.

Rotary got two runs back in the top of the third. Chris Howard reached base on an error, Cager Osborne beat out an infield single. Both runners scored on passed balls and a wild pitch.

Glo-Valve came back strong in the bottom of the third. Cody Davis reached base when his pop up was misplayed. Corey McCarn and Hulsey walked. Schrade Thompson stroked a Texas Leaguer to left field scoring Davis. Taylor Smith walked to force in a run. Two more runs scored when Miller reached base on an error. A double steal plated Smith giving Glo-Valve a 10-2 lead. Neither team scored in the fourth or fifth leading to the dramatic comeback by Rotary that fell just short

in the sixth. Davis was the winning pitcher for Glo-Valve. He worked the first two innings and allowed no runs or hits. He struck out three without walking a batter leaving the mound with a 5-0 lead. Graves was touched for two unearned runs in the third and two earned runs in the sixth. He struck out three, walked two and allowed three hits.

Collins struck out five and walked two while pitching the fourth and fifth innings. He permitted no runs and one hit. Clendennen and Ryan Smith pitched for Rotary. Thompson for Glo-Valve made the defensive play of the game picking up a single in right field and throwing a strike to Aric Wagner at third to get a runner trying to move from first to third on the hit. Hulsey fielded a ball down the first base line and flipped to Collins at catcher to nab a runner in the sixth for another good defensive play for Glo-Valve.

Whinery hustled after a short passed ball and tagged out a Glo-Valve runner at the plate and threw out another runner trying to steal home for Rotary's defensive plays of the game.

In the early game Cole Engle tripled to tie the score and later scored the winning run on a wild pitch as Celanese Corporation edged Duncan, Fraser & Bridges Insurance Agency 5-4 to take sole possession of second place with a 2-1 record. Glo-Valve is in first at 3-0. Engle, who pitched the last three innings, was the winning pitcher. Zach Ruth and James Thompson also pitched for Celanese. Dane Pereira and Cody McIntyre were DFB's pitchers.

Thursday's games find Rotary and Cabot Corporation playing in the 5:45 p.m. game.

Celanese challenges Glo-Valve at 7:45 p.m. Cabot and Glo-Valve clash in the early game on Friday with DFB and Rotary featured in the nightcap.

The Pampa Optimist Youth Club is a Pampa United Way agency.

Monday scramble results

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

The Ladies Golf Association of Pampa sponsored another Monday Night Scramble at Hidden Hills Monday.

The fund-raising scramble is played on the second and fourth Monday of every month.

Those interested in playing are encouraged to call Hidden Hills Golf Course, 669-5866.

Monday Night Scramble
Hidden Hills Golf Course
April 24, 2006

1st Place (31)
Steve Williams
Jackie Harper
Carolyn Allison
Jan Elston

2nd Place (33)
Tom Grantham
Chunky Leonard
Marvin Allison
Becky Bailey

Also of note

Ray Covalt of Pampa shot his age at Hidden Hills Monday. Covalt fired a 37-39 for a round of 76. Jim Bridges and Jess Mathis were witnesses.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, April 27, 2006.

Your creativity flows. You naturally meet life's situations with a smile and a solution. You might often wonder how much is too much to give and when to say no. Boundaries develop into a significant issue. Your high magnetism draws many people to you. Know that anything is possible if you decide to make it so. If you are single, many people gravitate toward you. You need to indulge in a long courtship to make sure you are with the right person. If you are attached, you need to understand that you don't always get what you significant other thinks or feels. Watch becoming too me-oriented. TAURUS is as stubborn as you.

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)
★★★★ Emphasize concrete reality, not ethereal ideas. Make resolutions to increase your security. Do you need to make a change in how you handle your finances? Now might be the time. Spruce up your house. Tonight: Your treat.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ A conversation this morning could give you a case of the blues. You are personality plus and have a way of jumping over problems. A decision you make today is likely to stick. Would you like to make a personal resolution? Tonight: Off to join a friend.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Take your time with others. You might want and need to pull back. Get more facts and then reflect on a situation. You might opt to do something different-

ly. An expenditure might be quite necessary. Just make sure you are getting the best buy possible. Tonight: Lie back. Some time off.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You zero in on what you want. You are close to unstoppable. Line up your ducks and network all you need to. A meeting could transform into a happening. Be careful with your money. You don't have to overspend. Tonight: Get together with friends.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You might feel a bit overwhelmed by what heads down your path. Like it or not, you cannot avoid certain responsibilities. Crusade for what you want. What starts today is destined to put you in the winner's circle. Tonight: No early bedtime for you!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ What at first makes you uncomfortable turns into a catalyst. You break your patterns, going past the obvious — and quickly at that. Seek out experts. Explore very different ideas. Walk down a new path. Tonight: Try a new restaurant.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ A partner takes a much stronger stand than he or she has in the past. Together a new idea arises. You might be disappointed by what a friend does or doesn't do. New beginnings become possible, financially and emotionally. Tonight: Togetherness.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ If you let others have their way, you will like what happens. If you challenge others, you might be left out in the cold. You can always say no to a plan or bad idea. Have more faith in the people who surround you. Tonight: Get into

weekend mode.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Dig into your work and get the job done. What you initiate is likely to last or be a success. A partner might play devil's advocate. Welcome the feedback. Ultimately, you are enlisting this person's help. Tonight: Easy does it.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Your imagination delights those who do not have heavy or serious concerns. You could inadvertently irritate a close associate who has a lot on his or her mind. This too will pass. Add more zip to your daily life. Someone's suggestion might surprise you. Tonight: Love the moment.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Others might be challenging. You could be happiest staying close to home or isolating yourself. If you are able to work from home, you might want to think about it. Spruce up your personal space. Tonight: Relax at home.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ If you are tired, find a more efficient way or creative solution. You don't need to do everything all by yourself. A discussion draws many ideas to make your life much easier. Learn to communicate more often. Tonight: A long-overdue talk.

BORN TODAY
Civil-rights leader Coretta Scott King (1927), singer Sheena Easton (1959), actress Sandy Dennis (1937)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.

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Fox host Tony Snow named White House spokesman

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush today named conservative commentator Tony Snow as White House press secretary, putting a new face on a troubled administration.

Snow, a Fox news pundit and former speechwriter in the White House under Bush's father, replaced Scott McClellan who resigned in a personnel shuffle intended to re-energize the White House and lift the president's record-low approval ratings.

"My job is to make decisions and his job is to help explain those decisions to the press corps and the American people," Bush said, with Snow and McClellan at his side in the

'My job is to make decisions and his job is to help explain those decisions to the press corps and the American people.'

— President George W. Bush

White House briefing room.

Snow's appointment is notable in a White House that has a reputation for not suffering criticism. He has had some harsh things to say about Bush.

Snow called the president "something of an embarrassment," a leader who has "lost control of the federal budget," the architect of a

"listless domestic policy" and a man who has "a habit of singing from the political correctness hymnal."

Bush shrugged off the criticism. "He's not afraid to express his own opinions," he said of his new spokesman. "For those of you who've read his columns and listened to his radio show, he sometimes

has disagreed with me. I asked him about those comments, and he said, 'You should have heard what I said about the other guy.'"

Snow thanked Bush for the job and told reporters, "Believe it or not, I want to work with you."

Bush also addressed reporters directly. "Tony already knows most of you and he's agreed to take the job anyway," he said with a laugh.

Snow, in an Associated Press interview Tuesday, didn't dispute that he's been a tough critic of Bush. "It's public record," he said. "I've written some critical stuff. When you're a columnist, you're going to criticize and

you're going to praise." A liberal think tank, the Center for American Progress, circulated a sam-

pling of Snow's opinions, restricting the observations to those critical of the president.

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Geranium sale



Gray County 4-H Council Members Drake Jackson, Courtney Crawford, Gabriel Miller and Brittany Chisum admire the geraniums to be put up for sale in Gray County 4-H's annual Geranium Sale May 4, 5 and 6 in the parking lot of Pampa's Coronado shopping center. The sale will be conducted from 5-8 p.m. the 4th and 5th and from 8 a.m. until all plants are sold the 6th. Four-inch pots will sell for \$3 apiece. Hanging baskets will go for \$15 each.

Morris

Continued from Page 4

presidential candidacy, there for all to see with each day's national speech, and note that he is the only candidate running for senator from New York who wants to be senator from New York.

When Hillary ran in 2000, few believed she would run for president. It was not an issue. Her gullible supporters believed that she was moving to New York so that she could become a senator, but it did not enter their minds that she only wanted to

be a senator in order to become a president. Now that the second shoe is dropping, New York voters are obviously reassessing their view of Hillary's commitment to their state. And to be asked to vote for her reelection when she obviously will move heaven and earth not to have to serve out her term, may be too much for New Yorkers to put up with.

If Spencer can get the funding his standing in the polls warrants, he could be part of a one-two punch (with Al Gore providing the knockout) to stop a second Clinton presidency.

Dick Morris was an adviser to Bill Clinton for 20 years.

Reese

Continued from Page 4

Education doesn't really take place in an institution. The individual educates himself by reading and thinking. Ideally, a teacher can offer some guidance, perhaps stir some enthusiasm. Most of our public schoolteachers are trapped in an institutional setting where most of their day involves more or less the same duties

as a prison guard.

The idea of consolidated central schools is one of the dumbest ones ever to come down the pike, and the field of education is crowded with dumb ideas. Compulsory-attendance laws are another dumb idea. If parents had to face the prospect of living with their own children, instead of dumping them into the public school system, they'd make a better effort to teach them good manners. Without compulsory-attendance laws, a school

could set standards and send home any student who failed to meet them.

In our corporate-dominated, frenzied-consumerist society, many have lost touch with reality and no longer know to how to live, much less rear children. We need to make drastic changes, because our society, as it is presently structured, is doomed.

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

Illegals

Cont. from Page 4

family, pay taxes and be a positive force in society. But that has to be done in an orderly manner.

The Mexican government, with its blind eye toward the crime of human trafficking, is not helping efforts to create an orderly flow of workers into the United States. And coyotes, charging smuggling fees, are a blight on all of humanity.

The Mexican government should be a big help in righting these wrongs.

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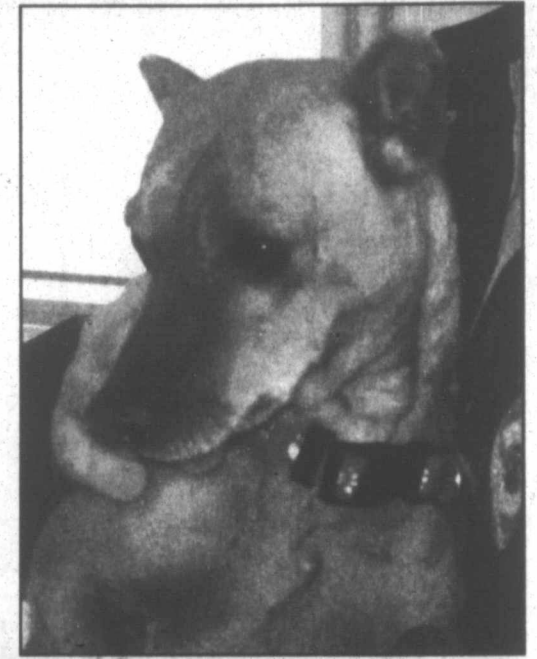


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