

Tomorrow's Weather

HIGH 43
LOW 28

See expanded weather on Page 2

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Copeland, Fletcher local election winners

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Gray County Sheriff Don Copeland of Pampa won the Republican primary Tuesday evening with over 86 percent of Gray County votes, ending with 2,677 while his opponent, Vincent M. "Sonny" Marasco of Pampa received 418 votes.

"It's pretty humbling to get an 86 percent vote," Copeland said after the results were announced. "I am so proud to have the support of the Gray County voters. We're going to continue doing the best job we can do."

Don Fletcher of Pampa garnered almost 62 percent of votes for Precinct 4 constable. Fletcher got 597 votes, and Curtis Broadus, the other candidate for the post, earned 352 votes. Both are Republicans.

"The voters of Precinct 4 have made their wishes known," Fletcher said after the results were received.

Fletcher was first elected Precinct 4 constable in 2004 on the promise that he would vacate the office if elected, thereby saving county taxpayers money and beginning the process of making the office eligible to be abolished. State law requires that a local office be vacant for at least seven consecutive years before it can be abolished.

Fletcher was again elected in 2006 as a write-in candidate after Broadus filed as a write-in to be elected to Fletcher's unexpired term.

Almost 16 percent of

the 27,800 registered voters in Gray County cast ballots by mail in early voting and on Tuesday. Total number of votes for both Democratic and Republican ballots was 4,439.

Local Democrats followed the state trend by favoring Democratic presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton over Barack Obama. Clinton received 738 votes, or almost 61 percent of Democratic ballots, and Obama garnered 421 votes, or nearly 35 percent.

Republicans in Gray County also mirrored their party's trend around the state. Presidential candidate John McCain got 1,538 local votes, or nearly 49 percent of local Republican ballots, while Mike Huckabee received 1,412 votes, or almost 45 percent.

Another local primary result which agreed with statewide results was that of U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, who defeated Larry Kilgore in the Republican primary. Cornyn earned 2,219 Gray County votes over Kilgore's 617 votes.

Cornyn will now face a Democratic challenger, State Rep. Rick Noriega, in the November general election.

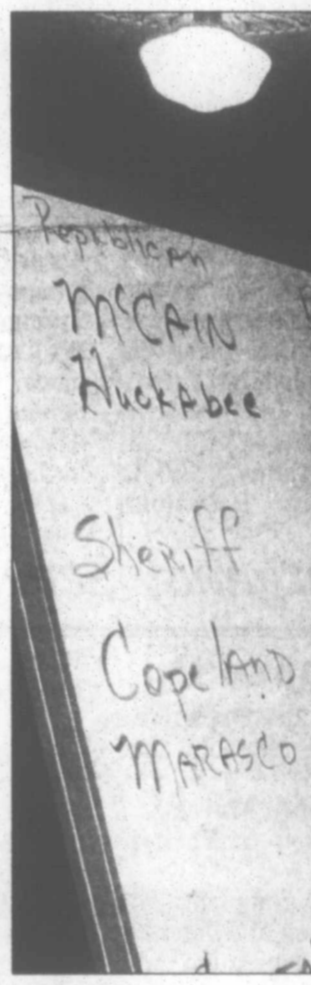
Noriega was not as popular with Gray County Democrats as in other parts of the state, however. The local winner in Noriega's race was Gene Kelly, with 343 votes, or over 36 percent of local ballots. Noriega came in second with 255 votes, or about 27 percent. There were also two other candi-

dates, Rhett R. Smith, Mark Thompson received the most Gray County votes for railroad commissioner in his party's primary, with 549 votes. His opponents were Dale Henry, who received 188 local votes, and Art Hall, who got 156 local votes. Henry and Thompson will advance to a runoff election as a result of statewide balloting.

Democrat Sam Houston won easily in Gray County for Justice of the Supreme Court, Place 7. He received 654 local votes, while Baltasar D. Cruz garnered 248. Houston also

won his party's candidacy statewide.

Susan Criss was also a big winner locally in the Democratic race for Justice of the Supreme Court, Place 8. The final



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
Jerry Lewis of Pampa posts election results from early voting and each of Gray County's seven precincts as they were received Tuesday evening at Gray County Courthouse.

Gray County tally was Criss, 649 votes, and Linda Reyna Yanez, 251 votes.

Statewide, however, Yanez defeated Criss to earn a spot on the November general election ballot.

Paul Womack defeated Robert Francis locally as well as statewide on his party's ticket for Court of Criminal Appeals Judge, Place 4. Womack earned 1,521 Gray County votes, and Francis garnered 891.

Three ballot initiatives passed easily. Each received over 90 percent of Gray County votes.

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Pampan awaiting arraignment, caught with illegal firearm

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

A Pampa man who was arrested Tuesday evening on outstanding warrants incurred two additional charges against him when a firearm was reportedly discovered in his possession.

Gray County Sheriff's Deputy Rhett Rollins observed a vehicle at about 11 p.m. Tuesday on Kingsmill Avenue, and the driver was a person Rollins knew was wanted on outstanding warrants, said GCSO Lt. Joe B.

Hoard, of Gray County Sheriff's Office.

Rollins lost sight of the vehicle but a few minutes later observed it at a convenience store, Hoard said.

The driver, Marlon Bryan Larue, 39, was arrested on the warrants.

"During an inventory of Larue's vehicle, the deputy found a firearm," Hoard said. "It was a stolen firearm."

Larue was booked into Gray County Jail at 11:14 p.m. Tuesday on the outstanding warrants and on charges of theft by firearm and

unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, according to records.

"He was on felony probation at the time of the arrest," Hoard said. Larue remained in jail as of press time today awaiting arraignment.

MEETING NOTICE

School board calls special meetings this week

Pampa Independent School District's Board of Trustees has called two special meetings this week. The board will meet at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in the library of Pampa Junior High School, 2401 Charles, and again at 9 a.m. Saturday in Carver Center Administration office, 321 W. Albert.

The following items are on the agenda for the Thursday evening meeting:

- Consideration and action to approve professional absences for staff development;
- Discussion of CSCOPE curriculum and construction projects.
- Discussion of renewal of employee term contracts and discussion and possible action to revise superintendent's contract.

The Saturday meeting will serve as a work meeting for school officials who plan to discuss Pampa ISD goal setting for 2008-09.

Both meetings are open to the public.

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NEXT DAY FORECAST

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Cloudy	Sunny	Sunny

Thursday: A slight chance of snow before 10 a.m., then a slight chance of rain and snow between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., then a slight chance of rain after 11 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 43. Wind chill values between 24 and 34. North wind around 5 mph becoming calm. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 28. Wind chill values between 21 and 26. Calm wind becoming south between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 46. Northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 28. North wind 5 to 15 mph becoming south. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 64. South-southwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 38. South-southwest wind around 10 mph.

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Wheat..... 11.55	
Milo..... 8.60	
Corn..... 9.49	
Soybeans..... 13.20	
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa	
OXY..... 76.83 +0.89	
BP PLC ADR..... 64.83 +0.73	
Cabot Corp..... 27.38 +0.06	
Celanese..... 40.01 +0.15	
Cabot Oil Gas..... 51.09 +1.01	
Coca Cola..... 59.20 -0.17	
VLO..... 57.05 +0.38	
HAL..... 38.95 +0.74	
XCEL..... 20.11 -0.13	
Anadarko..... 64.85 +0.69	
XOM..... 86.89 +0.20	
Natl Oilwell..... 63.51 +1.72	
Limited..... 15.68 +0.34	
Williams..... 36.13 +0.41	
MCD..... 53.82 +0.19	
Atmos..... 26.23 -0.11	
Pioneer Nat..... 45.58 +0.42	
JCP..... 48.33 +1.11	
COP..... 81.83 +0.33	
SLB..... 86.68 +2.13	
Tenneco..... 25.75 +0.09	
CVX..... 87.43 +0.70	
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DKE..... 47.11 +0.19	
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Silver..... 19.84	
West Texas Crude..... 99.52	

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Obituaries

Services tomorrow

SAULSBURY, Olin Baker — 2 p.m., First United Methodist Church, Monroe, La.

Betty Joyce Rice, 84

Betty Joyce Rice, 84, of Pampa, Texas, died March 1, 2008, at Pampa. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors. Mrs. Rice was born Jan. 26, 1924, in Oklahoma. She had been a resident of

Pampa most of her life. Betty was a surgical nurse at Highland General Hospital for over 25 years. She was a member of Briarwood Church. Survivors include one son, Loren Rice and wife Debbie

of Vidor; two grandsons, Kerry Michael Rice of Lumberton and Kevin Matthew Rice of Beaumont; and one sister, Bonnie Everhart of Albuquerque, N.M.

Briarwood Church, 1800 W. Harvester, Pampa, Texas 79065.

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

MEMORIALS:

Olin Baker Saulsbury, 73

Funeral services for Mr. Olin Baker Saulsbury, 73, of Monroe, La., will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, March 6, 2008, at First United Methodist Church, Loop Road, Monroe, with the Rev. Larry Stafford and the Rev. Jo Ann Cooper officiating. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Friday, March 7, 2008, at Forest Park Cemetery in Shreveport, La., under the direction of Mulhearn Funeral Home, Sterlington Road, Monroe.

Mr. Saulsbury passed away Monday, March 3, 2008. He was retired from Bank One (Chase) as Senior Vice President and Ford Motor Credit Company. He

was a member of First United Methodist Church of Monroe, Bayou DeSiard Country Club, Red Raider Club, ULM Athletic Scholarship Foundation, United Way Steamboat Club, A Paul Harris Fellow, Little Theater, NELA Arts Council, A 32nd Degree Mason and a member of Barak Shrine Temple. Survivors include his wife of 49 years, Sammie Fowler Saulsbury; brother, Tony Saulsbury and wife Pat of Wichita Falls, Texas; in-laws, Dr. and Mrs. Garry Nall of Amarillo, Texas, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bettinger of Lakewood, Colo., and Dr. and Mrs. John Fowler of

Aiken, S.C.; nieces and nephews, Stuart Saulsbury, Scott Saulsbury, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. John Barnhart, Scott Saulsbury, Drs. Jim and Julie Bettinger Salzman, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bettinger, Joe Bettinger, Bill Fowler and Lori Fowler.

Pallbearers will be Sam Pack, Stuart Saulsbury, Joe Bettinger, Willie Mitchell, Scott Saulsbury and John Barnhart.

Honorary pallbearers will be Paul Bettinger, TTS group - Ernest Strauss, Ken Conrad, Gene Worthen, Tom Hardee, Bill Morrow, Ed Major, Ed Miller, Dick Blanchard, Dick McGivern,

Tom Zentner, Jim Jordan, Jack Neel, Graham Schneider, Larry Winter, Jim Ellis, Jerry Garner, Walter Hastings, Bill Matthews, Fred Marx, Jay Adams and Bill Malone.

Visitation will be Wednesday from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. at Mulhearn Funeral Home, Sterlington Road, Monroe.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church Building Fund, American Cancer Society or to the charity of your choice. Online registry/condolences: www.mulhearnfuneral-home.com

Tyree Williams, 15

Tyree Williams, age 15 of Kerrville, passed away Tuesday, March 4, 2008. He was born Nov. 9, 1992, to Calvin Williams and Rita Gill in Las Vegas, Nev.

Tyree was residing at the Medina Children's Home and attending school in Medina. He traveled internationally for sports and a year and a half ago played soccer in Holland. He was in Big Brothers/Big Sisters and was active in youth group at Kerrville Church of Christ.

Survivors include his mother, Rita Gill of Kerrville; father, Calvin Williams of Beaumont;

grandparents, Carolyn Williams of Houston and Cecil and Marie Gill of Miami, Texas; sister, V'Lana Williams of Beaumont; brothers, Bryan Kincannon and wife, Brooke, of Amarillo, Tim Williams of Spring, Texas, and Ivan Williams of Reno, Nev.; niece, Kenzie Kincannon; cousin, Kaleb Hayworth; numerous other cousins; and his best friend, Juan Ramero. His brother, Shawn Dee

Kincannon, preceded him in death.

Visitation will be held Thursday, March 6, 2008, from 5-7 p.m. at Grimes Funeral Chapels.

Services will be held Friday, March 7, 2008, 3 p.m. at Kerrville Church of Christ officiated by Mr. Greg Cummings, Dean Fitch and Eddie Mathews.

Burial will be held Saturday, March 8, 2008, at 3 p.m. at Miami Cemetery in

Miami, Texas.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Kerrville Church of Christ Youth Group, Medina Children's Home, or donations may be made to help the family with burial expenses.

The family invites you to send condolences at www.grimesfuneralchapels.com by selecting the "Send Condolences" link.

Funeral arrangements are entrusted to Grimes Funeral Chapels of Kerrville.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents today.

Saturday, March 1
 Twenty-four traffic stops were made.

A traffic complaint was received from the intersection of Gwendolen and Hobart streets.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 900 block of Brunow.

An abandoned vehicle was reported in the 1000 block of North Hobart.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 600 block of

North Dwight, the 1600 block of Duncan, the 1900 block of North Nelson, on two occasions in the 300 block of Henry, the 1100 block of Huff Road, the 2100 block of Montagu, the 1800 block of North Banks, the 800 block of North Nelson, the 100 block of North Warren, on two occasions in the 300 block of East Kingsmill, the 1100 block of Willow, the 100 block of East 28th, the 1500 block of North Sumner, the 100 block of West 30th and on two occasions at Recreation Park, 1600 E. Highway 60.

Welfare checks were

made in the 900 block of East Browning and the 1700 block of Aspen.

A missing person was reported in the 2300 block of Dogwood.

Found property was reported in the 700 block of Brunow.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 500 block of North Hobart, the intersection of Frederic and Henry streets and the 1200 block of North Hobart.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 300 block of Jean, the 1100 block of North Starkweather, the 700 block of Scott and the 1500 block of Hamilton.

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

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of Garland and the 400 block of South Cuyler. At least one arrest was made in connection with the incident in the 1100 block of Garland.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1000 block of North Wells.

A narcotics violation was reported in the 300 block of Jean. At least one arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Harassment was reported in the 900 block of Brunow.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 1800 block of North Nelson, the intersection of Cuyler and Russell streets and on two occasions in the 600 block of North Sumner. At least one arrest was made in connection with the incident in the 1800 block of North Nelson.

Assault was reported in

the 1100 block of South Dwight, the 700 block of Brunow and the 500 block of North Wynne.

Two alarms were reported.

One building check was made.

Theft was reported in the 1700 block of Beech.

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported in the 900 block of Osborn.

Sunday, March 2

Eighteen traffic stops were made. Arrests were made in connection with the stops in the 400 block of West Foster, the 900 block of West 18th, the 300 block of East Brown and the 2400 block of Comanche.

Motorist assistance was rendered at the intersection of Barrett and Harlem streets and the intersection of Browning and Sloan streets.

Traffic complaints were received from the intersection of Rham and Hobart streets and the intersection of 23rd Avenue and Perryton Parkway.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 1800 block of Alcock.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 1900 block of North Sumner, the 800 block of South Faulkner, on two occasions in the 500 block of North Frost, the 900 block of East Francis, the 700 block of Lefors and the 1000 block of North Wells.

Agency assistance was rendered at Danziger Crossing and on two occasions in the 2300 block of Alcock.

See RECORD, Page 3

RETIREMENT MAY BE FAR OFF, BUT THE APRIL 15 DEADLINE FOR IRA CONTRIBUTIONS ISN'T.

You only have so many years to prepare for retirement. That's why contributing to your IRA is so important. Fortunately, you still have time to maximize your 2007 IRA contribution before the April 15 deadline.

By contributing now, your retirement savings will have more opportunity to grow. Even if you already have an IRA elsewhere, it's easy to transfer to an Edward Jones IRA and begin receiving the face-to-face advice you deserve.

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Record

Continued from Page 2

A civil matter was reported in the 1500 block of North Nelson.

A runaway was reported in the 400 block of Jupiter.

Suspicious person calls were received from the intersection of Varnon Drive and McCullough Avenue, the 1100 block of South Sumner, the 1000 block of North Hobart, the 800 block of North Hobart and the intersection of Huff Road and Varnon Drive.

A prowler was reported in the 1000 block of Huff Road.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 100 block of North Faulkner.

Harassment was reported in the 1200 block of North Wells.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 400 block of North Doyle.

Assault was reported in the police department lobby.

Four alarms were reported.

Theft was reported in the police department lobby and at Wal-Mart Supercenter, 2801 Charles. At least one arrest was made in connection with the incident at Wal-Mart.

Monday, March 3

Ten traffic stops were made.

Traffic complaints were received from the 2300 block of Primrose and the 2200 block of North Nelson.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 1300 block of North Hobart.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 700 block of Bradley Drive, the 1000 block of South Cuyler, the 800 block of South Faulkner, the 100 block of West Craven, on two occasions in the 600 block of South Ballard, the 500 block of Reid, the 2500 block of Fir and the 900 block of East Browning.

Warrant service was attempted on one occasion.

Lost property was reported in the police department lobby.

A missing person was reported in the 2300 block of Fir.

A runaway was reported in the 500 block of North Dwight.

A civil matter was reported in the police department lobby.

A suspicious person call was received from the intersection of Oklahoma and

Octavius streets.

A prowler was reported in the 500 block of West Foster.

Silent/abusive 911 calls were received from the 500 block of North Starkweather and the 400 block of Louisiana.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 600 block of South West and the 1000 block of Duncan.

Harassment was reported in the police department lobby.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 900 block of Denver.

Three alarms were reported.

Identity theft was reported in the police department lobby.

Theft was reported in the 200 block of East Brown.

Tuesday, March 4

One traffic stop was made.

Animal control officers made a stop concerning animals in the 900 block of East Browning.

Suspicious person calls were received from the intersection of Russell and Brown streets and the 300 block of West Brown. At least one arrest was made in connection with the incident at the intersection of Russell and Brown streets.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the 300 block of East Brown.

A narcotics violation was reported in the 500 block of South Barnes.

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

Twenty-nine traffic stops were made. Stops in the 300 block of West Brown and the 700 block of East Frederic resulted in arrests.

A traffic complaint was received from the 800 block of East Browning.

Abandoned vehicles were reported at the intersection of 17th and Russell streets, the intersection of Frederic and Henry streets, and the police department lobby.

Vehicle accidents were reported at the intersection of 23rd Avenue and Perryton Parkway, the 1200 block of McCullough, the 1200 block of North Hobart and the 600 block of North Somerville.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 500 block of North Somerville, the 100 block of South Warren, the 600 block of East Foster, the 800 block of North Hobart, the 900 block of East Browning, the 500 block of South Barnes, the 1800

block of Alcock, the 1100 block of Juniper, the 2400 block of Rosewood, the 400 block of Red Deer, the 400 block of Lefors and the 100 block of South Gillespie.

Found property was reported in the police department lobby.

Civil matters were reported in the 1000 block of North Sumner and the 2200 block of North Wells.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 1000 block of Varnon Drive, the 900 block of Varnon Drive and the 300 block of East Kingsmill.

Silent/abusive 911 calls were received from the 400 block of North Somerville and the 800 block of South Sumner.

A narcotics violation was reported in the 200 block of West Brown. A K-9 search was conducted as assistance to Gray County Sheriff's Office. A vehicle was searched, and nothing illegal was found.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 800 block of North Nelson.

Sex offender registration was conducted in the police department.

Criminal mischief was reported at T Shirts and More, 111 W. Kingsmill. The side of the business was tagged with graffiti. Estimated cost of damage is \$50.

Criminal mischief was reported at the American Red Cross, 108 N. Russell. A garage door of the building was tagged with graffiti. Estimated cost of damage is \$50.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2500 block of Beech.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 1300 block of North Starkweather and the 1400 block of West Somerville.

Aggravated assault with a deadly weapon was reported in the 600 block of East Frederic. The back window of a vehicle was broken out, and a knife was pulled on the victim. No injuries were reported in connection with the incident.

One alarm was reported. One building check was made.

Theft of services was reported at Hudson Tire, 1800 N. Hobart. Tires were charged to an account in September and October of 2007 but the charges were never paid. Estimated value of loss is \$4,773.

Forgery was reported in the 1300 block of North Hobart. A check for approxi-



COP CORNER

Respect Parking Spaces for the Disabled

By Chief Trevlyn Pitner

Respect Parking Spaces for the Disabled

Many times we feel we need to park close to the door (maybe because of the weather or items we are carrying or maybe just because we're in a hurry.) Are we always thinking of others or just thinking about ourselves?

Remember this the next time you may be tempted to pull into that spot marked "Disabled Parking Space." It doesn't matter whether it is on public or private property, parking there illegally can land you a huge fine and community service - not to mention a bad feeling when everyone around looks at you with disgust!

Here is a quick look at the penalties:

• First offense is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than \$250 or more than \$500;

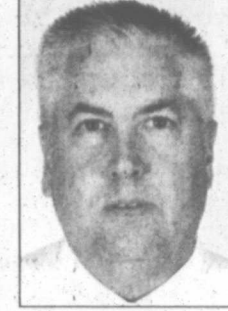
• Second offense is punishable by a fine of not less than \$300 or more than \$600;

• Third offense is punishable by a fine of not less than \$300 or more than \$600 and not less than 10 or more than 20 hours of community service;

• Fourth offense is punishable by a fine of not less than \$500 or more than \$1,000 and not less than 20 hours or more than 50 hours of community service; and

• Fifth offense or more is punishable by a fine of \$1,000 and 50 hours of mandatory community service.

Please do your part to keep Pampa a safe and friendly place. Be Pampa proud!



Pitner

mately \$49 was forged.

Sheriff

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

Tuesday, March 4

Marlon Bryan Larue, 39, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO on outstanding warrants, theft of a firearm and unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.

Wednesday, March 5

Jarren David-Thomas Long, 22, of Pampa was arrested in the 600 block of North Somerville by Pampa Police Department for driving while intoxicated and no valid driver's license.

Fire

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

Tuesday, March 4

8:15 a.m. - Two units and six personnel responded to a false alarm in the 400 block of North Ward.

11:13 a.m. - One unit and two personnel responded to a grass fire involving approximately 2-acres in the 100 block of Dwight.

11:55 p.m. - One unit and three personnel responded to the 600 block of Somerville on a hazardous material spill/cleanup.

Agency on Aging to host training

The Area Agency on Aging of the Panhandle is looking for volunteers in the Pampa area to work with local senior citizens.

Training will begin Thursday for a volunteer benefits counselor who will help seniors with Medicare and Medicaid eligibility, program benefits and low-income assistance.

The agency is also looking for a volunteer ombudsman to act as an advocate to enhance the lives of residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Training for the ombudsman's position is ongoing and flexible.

For more information, call the agency at 1-800-642-6008.

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Viewpoints

McCain cold-shoulders warm-up host

Although I agree with Cincinnati talk-show host Bill Cunningham on many issues, I have to side with Sen. John McCain in denouncing Cunningham for his behavior while appearing at a McCain rally on the candidate's behalf.

During his introductory remarks to the audience Cunningham repeatedly referred to Sen. Barack Obama as a "hack" and as Barrack Hussein Obama with the emphasis on Hussein, Obama's middle name — a tactic used by critics who insist that Obama is really a Muslim.

McCain, who was not in the hall when Cunningham spoke, reacted angrily, telling reporters, "I take

responsibility and I repudiate what he said. A person came out here before I arrived and made some disparaging remarks about Sens. Obama and Clinton and I regret that. In my entire campaign I have treated Sen. Obama and Sen. Clinton with respect. I will continue to do that throughout this campaign."

For his part, Cunningham acted like a spoiled child being punished by his parents, threatening to vote for ultra-liberal Hillary Clinton in response to McCain's scolding.

Cunningham seems to have forgotten that when you are speaking at a rally for a candidate, you're not there for yourself, but for the per-

son you are representing.

Unfortunately, when my fellow conservatives forget what their function is under certain specific circumstances, such as doing a warm-up for a candidate, they get it into their heads that everything is always about them.

Michael Reagan
Columnist



They forget that it isn't about them, it isn't about us radio hosts — it's really about the person for whom we're emceeing an event, or introducing.

I go after liberals who start their spiel by using every imaginable obscene

four-letter word when they are doing an event for a presidential candidate who just happens to be in the audience.

That's appalling conduct but it's equally appalling when conservatives think they have to prove their First Amendment rights by saying

whatever they feel like saying, regardless of the fact that they may be hurting the very person they're supporting.

They don't have the right to say what they feel like saying when they are there

on behalf of someone else who may well disagree with their remarks.

You have to understand your role as a warm-up speaker. You can't just take it upon yourself to saddle your candidate with your personal opinions. You can't decide, as Cunningham did, that you can help your man win this election by repeatedly reminding everybody what Obama's middle name is and doing it in a derogatory way. There are, after all, far more important issues at stake.

Those who are going out of their way to stress Obama's middle name know full well that they are really suggesting that Obama is a Manchurian candidate — a Muslim disguised as a

Christian. That's garbage politics and McCain was right in denouncing the tactic.

My fellow conservatives had better understand that this election isn't just about us.

If somebody invited me to emcee an event or to introduce them I would keep in mind that my role would be to uplift the candidate, not to use the event as a pulpit from which I could promote Michael Reagan's views.

John McCain is following in my dad's footsteps when even in the heat of an election battle he shows respect for his opponents. Their stands on issues are fair

See REAGAN, Page 7

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, March 5, the 65th day of 2008. There are 301 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 5, 1770, the Boston Massacre took place as British soldiers who'd been taunted by a crowd of colonists opened fire, killing five people.

On this date:

In 1849, Zachary Taylor took the oath of office at his presidential inauguration.

In 1868, the Senate was organized into a Court of Impeachment to decide charges against President Andrew Johnson, who was later acquitted.

In 1908, actor Rex Harrison was born in Lancashire, England.

In 1933, in German parliamentary elections, the Nazi Party won 44 percent of the vote; the Nazis joined with a conservative nationalist party to gain a slender majority in the Reichstag.

In 1946, Winston Churchill delivered his famous "Iron Curtain" speech at Westminster College in Fulton, Mo.

In 1953, Soviet dictator Josef Stalin died after three decades in power.

In 1963, country music performers Patsy Cline, "Cowboy" Copas and "Hawkshaw" Hawkins died in a plane crash near Camden, Tenn., that also claimed the life of pilot Randy Hughes (Cline's manager).

In 1970, a nuclear nonproliferation treaty went into effect after 43 nations ratified it.

In 1977, President Carter took questions from 42 telephone callers in 26 states on a network radio call-in program moderated by Walter Cronkite.

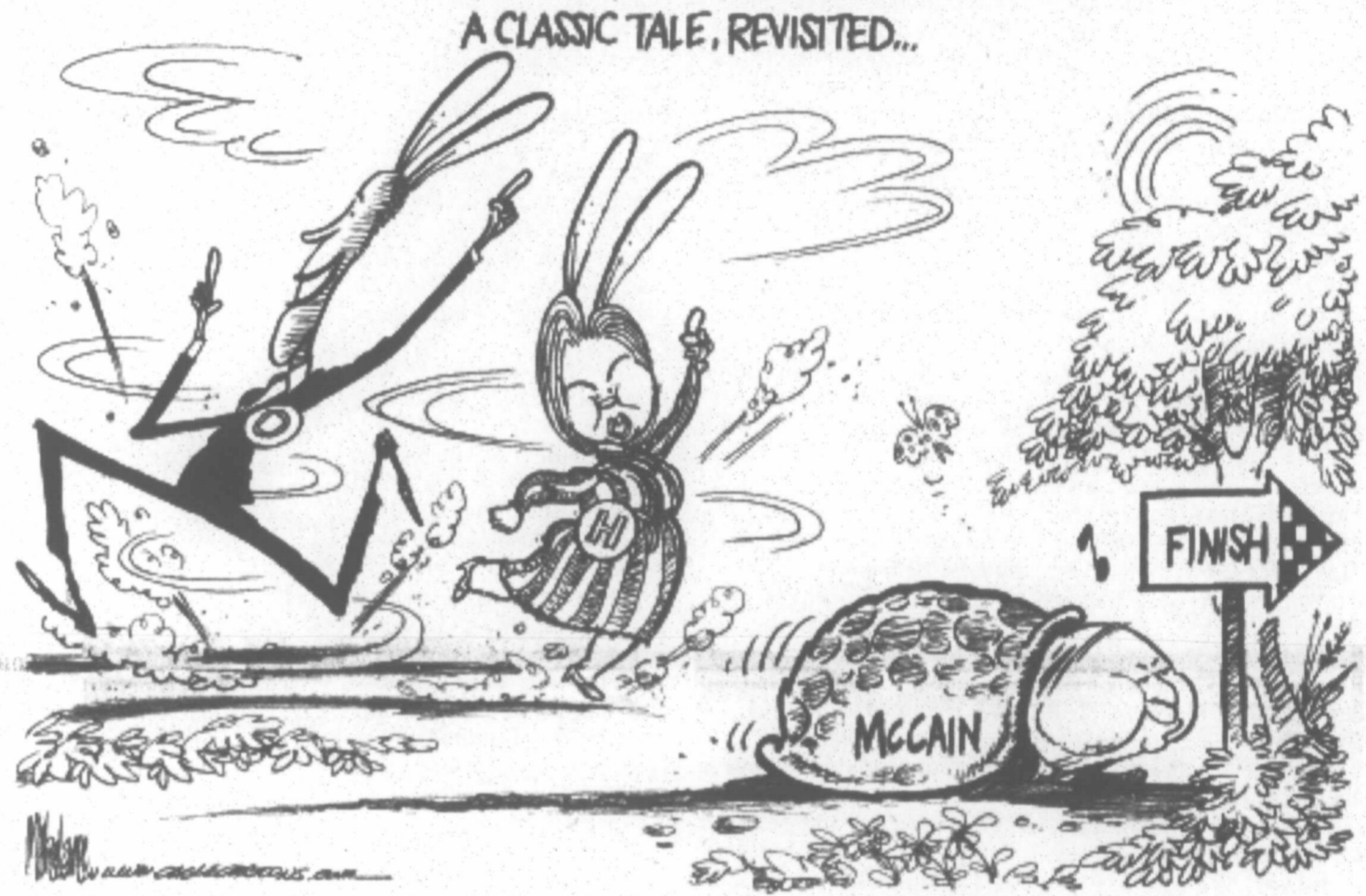
In 1982, comedian John Belushi was found dead of a drug overdose in a rented bungalow in Hollywood; he was 33.

Ten years ago: Details of President Clinton's deposition testimony in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case against him were published in The Washington Post, prompting an angry denunciation from the president for the news leak. NASA scientists said enough water was frozen in the loose soil of the moon to support a lunar base and perhaps, one day, a human colony.

Five years ago: In a blunt warning to the United States and Britain, the foreign ministers of France, Germany and Russia said they would block any attempt to get U.N. approval for war against Iraq. Thousands of students around the U.S. walked out of classes to protest a possible war.

'Exhilaration is that feeling you get just after a great idea hits you, and just before you realize what's wrong with it.'

— Sir Rex Harrison
British actor
(1908-1990)



Consensual sex not same as rape crimes

Sexual predators allegedly preying on children through the Internet have become the subject of near mass hysteria in this country, thanks to all the people trying to make a buck off the subject.

Turns out, according to a scholarly study, your child is safer with the Internet than at the local mall.

The Crimes Against Children Research Center at the University of New Hampshire has completed three nationwide surveys and concludes that Internet-related crimes against children are a pretty small proportion of the sex crimes that adolescents suffer.

Furthermore, the study found that sex crimes against adolescents are down, not up. They fell 52 percent between 1995 and 2003. Moreover, the majority of Internet predators are not pedophiles.

You can always count on the press and popular entertainment to abuse the language. Anybody, real or fictional, with sexual interest in an adolescent is in the popular vocabulary a pedophile.

In fact, pedophiles are defined as people who are aroused by prepubescent children. Most are not interested in teenagers, even early teens.

Most Internet predators are adult males looking for sex with young teenage girls. Only 5 percent pose as teenagers themselves. And here's a shocker — three-quarters of the teens meet their Internet pal face to face with the full intention of having sex with the person. In other words, we are talk-

ing about statutory rape, not sexual assault.

Statutory rape is consensual sex with a person whom some legislative body has arbitrarily decided cannot give his or her consent. I say

arbitrary because age-of-consent laws vary from country to country. The law and biology are two different things. It may please politicians to decide that a young woman cannot have sex until she is 18, but that has nothing to do with her biology, her desires or her real-life situation.

I personally don't think it is a good idea for teenagers to have sex. No birth-control method is foolproof, and our society, which demands long years of education and pro-

vides fewer and fewer jobs to those without the education, is ill-suited to early marriage. Abortion ought not to be an option. Death is too high a penalty for a child to pay for someone else's carelessness.

But I also think that this is another problem better handled with education and parental counsel than with the criminal courts. Someone who has consensual sex is not a predator in the same way a rapist is. Statutory rape is a case of creating a crime by legislative decision and calling something rape that is not rape. The true rapist is a person more interested in violence and inflicting pain (and sometimes death) than in sex. Statutory rape involves sweethearts, or at least a couple who are mutually attracted.

See REESE, Page 7

Charley Reese
Columnist



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Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ Feb. 25
Houston Chronicle on its picks for the March 4 primary:

With the March 4 primary elections bearing down on Texas and early voting already under way, the Houston Chronicle makes the following recommendations to readers who will be casting ballots in the Democratic or Republican contests:

U.S. Congress, District 10, Democrat Dan Grant A graduate of the London School of Economics and Georgetown University, Grant has deep foreign policy experience earned as a U.S. Agency for International

Development official in Afghanistan and Iraq. He favors an immediate pull-out of the bulk of American troops from Iraq. Closer to home, Grant says his domestic priorities will be supporting policies geared to economic recovery and health care reform.

U.S. Congress, District 22, Republican Dean Hrbacek A former mayor of Sugar Land, Hrbacek is respected for his economic development policies, tax cuts and reduction of waste in municipal government. An attorney and accountant by training, Hrbacek understands the need for expanded rail transit to reduce traffic congestion, a concept a previous holder of this office, Tom DeLay, never fully embraced. Hrbacek gave potential supporters pause when they learned a full-

body campaign photo he distributed was doctored so that his face appeared on a slimmer body. Hrbacek's record leads us to trust that this instance of poor judgment is an aberration in a solid track record.

State representative, District 140, Democrat Armando Walle If elected, Walle pledges to focus on education and health care. A lifelong district resident, Walle is intimately familiar with the needs of this community. This is Walle's first run at elective office, but he has long served the district as an aide to U.S. Rep. Gene Green and Harris County Commissioner Sylvia Garcia. The incumbent, state Rep. Kevin Bailey, has been an able repre-

See PICKS, Page 7



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Chuck Steak
\$2.39 LB. \$2.59

FAMILY PACK PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS
Sirloin Cut Pork Chops
\$1.79 LB.

PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS BEEF
Chuck Eye Steak \$4.59 LB.
BONELESS PORK
Country Style Ribs \$1.99 LB.

BONELESS BEEF
Stew Meat \$2.79 LB.
TENDERIZED PORK
Cube Steak \$2.59 LB.

FRESH
Ground Chuck \$2.49 LB.
FRESH
Pork for Stir Fry \$2.59 LB.

WISCONSIN MARKET
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Ribeye Steaks \$6.99 LB.

WIC
Cook's Ham \$2.99 LB.

POUNDED BONE IN BONE
Cooked Shrimp \$8.99 7 LB. BAG

WISCONSIN MARKET
Sandwich Slices 89¢ 16.75 LB. PKG.

SHURFINE ASSORTED
Pimento \$1.89 2.5 LB. BAG

SHURFINE BROADWAY
Smoked Sausage 4\$5 12 OZ. PKG.

SHURFINE
Wheat Wafers 69¢ 12 OZ. PKG.

SHURFINE SELECT GROUP
Lunch Meat 5\$5 12 OZ. PKG.

SHURFINE
Beef Wieners \$1.79 12 OZ. PKG.

SHURFINE
Beef Bologna \$1.79 12 OZ. PKG.

SHURFINE
Cooked Ham 2\$5 12 OZ. PKG.

SHURFINE BROADWAY
Sliced Bacon 2\$4 12 OZ. PKG.

SHURFINE
Shurline Bacon \$3.99 12 OZ. PKG.

SHURFINE
Turkey Breast \$2.99 12 OZ. PKG.

SHURFINE BROADWAY
Sausage Links 5\$5 16 OZ. PKG.

SELECT GROUP
Shurline Bratwurst \$2.99 16 OZ. PKG.

Coke, Sprite, Dr Pepper
12 PACK CANS
3 for \$9

SHURFINE
Long Spaghetti 2\$3 24 OZ. PKG.

SHURFINE INSTANT LIGHT
Charcoal Briquets \$3.99 7.2 LB. BAG

ASSORTED FLAVORS
Shurline Ice Cream \$3.99 144 OZ. FAMILY SIZE

SELECT GROUP
Shurline Cheese 2\$5 16 OZ. PKG.

SHURFINE
Family Size Tea Bags 99¢ 24 CT. BOX

SHURFINE SELECT GROUP
Skillet Meals 99¢ 5.6-7.1 OZ. BOX

SHURFINE
Chili No Beans 2\$3 19 OZ. CAN

SHURFINE
Salad Dressing or Mayonnaise 2\$4 32 OZ. JAR

SHURFINE SELECT GROUP
Tomato Sauce 6\$1 8 OZ. CAN

SHURFINE
Long Grain Rice 2\$4 5 LB. BAG

SHURFINE
Granulated Shurline Sugar 2\$3 4 LB. BAG

SHURFINE SELECT GROUP
Liquid Bleach 99¢ 96 OZ. JUG

SHURFINE SELECT GROUP
Saltine Crackers 89¢ 15-16 OZ. BOX

ASSORTED FLAVORS
Shurline Cake Mixes 79¢ 10.75-10.5 OZ. BOX

SHURFINE
6 DOUBLE OR 17 REGULAR ROLLS
Bathroom Tissue 2\$5 PKG.

SHURFINE 2-PLY
REGULATOR PRINTS
Paper Towels 2\$3 3 ROLL PKG.

SELECT GROUP
Shurline Vegetables 3\$1 14.5-15.25 OZ. CAN

SHURFINE
WATER PACKED
Chunk Light Tuna 2\$1 6 OZ. CAN

FOR ALL
COFFEE MAKERS
Shurline Coffee \$3.99 39 OZ. CAN

SHURFINE SPAGHETTI
THICK CUT
Pasta with Meat 5\$5 15 OZ. CAN

Produce Savings

FRESH
Chilean Peaches \$1.29 LB.

Farm Fresh
Cantaloupe 2\$5 FOR

SHURFINE
REGULAR OR HOT
Pork Sausage \$1.39 1 LB. ROLL

LARGE GREEN
Bell Peppers 2\$1 FOR

FRESH
Crisp Celery 79¢ LB.

FAMILY PACK
BONELESS PORK
Sirloin Roast \$1.49 LB.
GREAT FOR ROAST, CHOPS, STEW, OR TAMALES

FRESH
Asparagus \$2.99 LB.

FRESH
Gala Apples 99¢ LB.

SPICY
Jalapeno Peppers 2\$1 LBS.

REAL GREEK
OR BURGUNDY
Leaf Lettuce 99¢ LB.

MEXICAN
100% SWEET
Yellow Onions 69¢ LB.

FRESH
Red Ripe Strawberries \$2.99 1 LB. PKG.

SHURFINE
Long Spaghetti 2\$3 24 OZ. PKG.

SHURFINE
Instant Light
Charcoal Briquets \$3.99 7.2 LB. BAG

SHURFINE
6 DOUBLE OR 17 REGULAR ROLLS
Bathroom Tissue 2\$5 PKG.

SHURFINE
WATER PACKED
Chunk Light Tuna 2\$1 6 OZ. CAN

FOR ALL
COFFEE MAKERS
Shurline Coffee \$3.99 39 OZ. CAN

SHURFINE SPAGHETTI
THICK CUT
Pasta with Meat 5\$5 15 OZ. CAN

Produce Savings

SHURFINE
ASSORTED
Premium Chocolates 2\$5 6.5-12 OZ. PKG.

SHURFINE
ASSORTED
Black Pepper 99¢ 4 OZ. CAN

SHURFINE
SELECT GROUP
Cooking Oil 2\$5 48 OZ. BTL.

SHURFINE
DIETETAL
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SHURFINE
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Pancake Mix 2\$3 32 OZ. BOX

SHURFINE
ASSORTED
Gelatin Mix 5\$2 44-3 OZ. BOX

SHURFINE
ASSORTED
Instant Pudding Mix 5\$2 1.34-3.0 OZ. BOX

SHURFINE
ASSORTED
Shurline Pineapple 99¢ 15.2 OZ. CAN

SHURFINE
SELECT GROUP
Breakfast Cereal 2\$4 12.25-18 OZ. BOX

SHURFINE
ASSORTED
Microwave Popcorn 99¢ 5 OZ. BOX

SHURFINE
SALTED,
LIGHTLY SALTED,
OR UNFLAVORED
Dry Roasted Peanuts 2\$4 16 OZ. BAG

SHURFINE
ASSORTED
Toaster Tarts 2\$3 14.0 OZ. BOX

SHURFINE
ASSORTED
Canned Tomatoes 5\$5 20 OZ. CAN

SHURFINE
ASSORTED
Chunky Soup 2\$3 10.5-10.8 OZ. CAN

SHURFINE
FRUIT CRACKLE OR
YELLOW CORN PUFFERS,
SALTED OR UNSALTED
Canned Fruit 2\$3 20-30 OZ. CAN

SHURFINE
ASSORTED
Stuffing Mix 99¢ 8 OZ. BOX

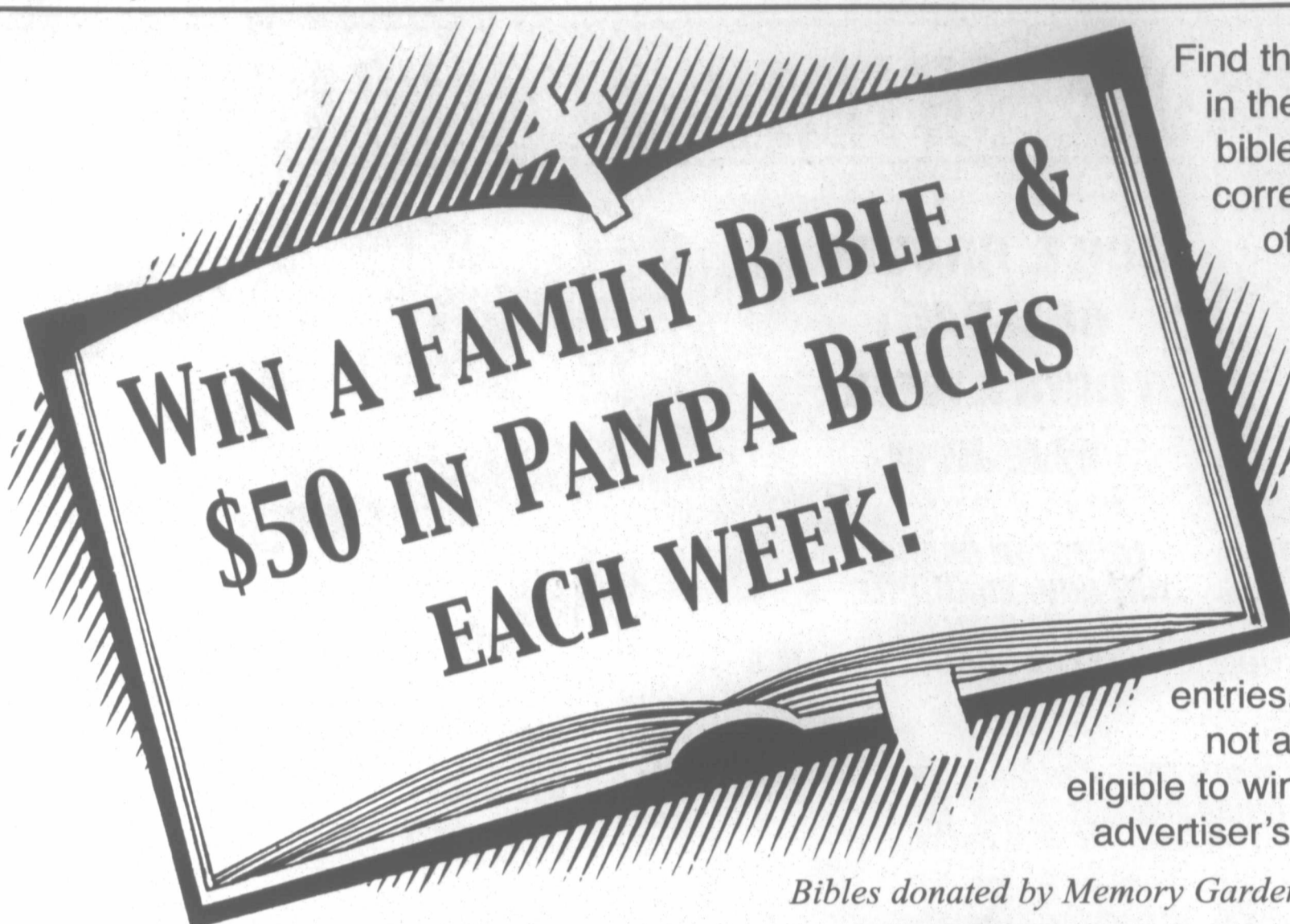
SHURFINE
ASSORTED
Spaghetti Sauce \$1.29 24 OZ. JAR

SHURFINE
ASSORTED
Enchilada Sauce 79¢ 10 OZ. CAN

SHURFINE
ASSORTED
Cranberry Cocktail 2\$5 64 OZ. BTL.

WHITE OR
GOLDEN
Shurline Hominy 2\$1 10 OZ. CAN

ORIGINAL CORN CHIPS OR
BACON CHEESE TORTILLA CHIPS
Shurline Snack Chips 2\$3 10 OZ. PKG.



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THIS WEEK'S VERSE HOLY BIBLE

But **1** **2** of the **3** that I **4** give him shall never **5**; **6** the water I shall **7** **8** shall be **9** him a **10** of water **11** **12** into **13** **14**. The **15** **16** unto him, **17**, give me this water, that I thirst **18**, **19** come **20** to **21**.

John 4:14 & 15

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My co-workers and I have been talking, and we disagree on this. Is fantasizing about someone other than your partner cheating? I say no. What do you think? -- "BEAUTIFUL DREAMER," BRIDGETON, MO.

DEAR "BEAUTIFUL DREAMER": It is not unusual for people in the throes of passion -- or even walking down the street -- to take a fantasy side trip. It's not cheating and can enhance the experience. However, for you and your co-workers to discuss sex at the office IS being "unfaithful" -- to your boss!

DEAR ABBY: After 10 years of marriage, I have come to a realization. I am a terrible housekeeper! I have tried learning to clean better, using new techniques or different equipment. My husband has begged, bribed and fought with me over picking up my stuff. We have a good relationship, though, and this is one of the only conflicts between us. We by no means live in squalor, but our house is usually messy. Frankly, I'm not interested in housecleaning. I'm not lazy. I'm busy with two kids, volunteering at two different schools, preparing healthy meals, engaging in endless play, make-believe and kiddie craft projects. My mom and grandmother were also somewhat laissez-faire about housekeeping. Their motto was always, "Happy children are more important than a clean house." There are so many more interesting and important things to do; I get little satisfaction from housekeeping. Cleanliness is short-lived around here, anyway. I believe there are more messy homes out there than people admit. A little clutter never hurt anyone. This problem is not family-threatening, but I would like your opinion on it. -- GOOD MOM IN ROCHESTER, N.Y.

DEAR GOOD MOM: You asked for it -- and here it is. I agree that there are proba-

bly more messy homes out there than people admit. However, there is a difference between "clutter" and "not clean." Your kitchen and bathrooms should be kept clean to safeguard the health of your children and spouse. If the problem is clothing in your bedroom that you have tossed all over, allow me to remind you that it takes only a moment to toss an item into the clothes hamper, hang it up or return it, folded, to the drawer from which you took it. While I agree that "happy children are more important than a clean house," the two are not mutually exclusive. A disorganized house can also be a sign of a disorganized mind. You're setting a poor example for your children, who will grow up thinking this is acceptable -- just as you did. You should be teaching them to do their part, too. P.S. Has it occurred to you to hire a housekeeper to come once or twice a month?

DEAR ABBY: My husband reads the newspaper at the dinner table almost every night in front of the children. He says it's the only time he has to read the paper.

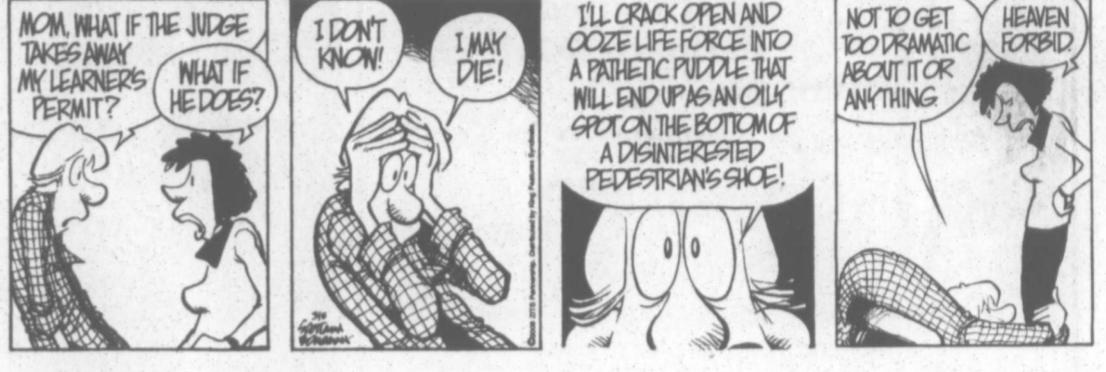
Is it rude to read at the dinner table when there are four other people sitting there? -- INQUIRING MIND IN GEORGIA

DEAR INQUIRING MIND: It's not only rude, it's poor parenting. You're doing your part by having dinner on the table, but your husband is shirking his duty as a dad. The dinner hour is the ideal time for family conversation, for him to learn about what's going on in the children's lives and to discuss current events -- providing they are old enough. It is also a time for parents to "model" the kind of manners they want to pass on to their kids. I don't know what your husband is doing AFTER dinner, but that would be the optimum time for him to catch up on the news rather than hiding from all of you.

For Better Or Worse



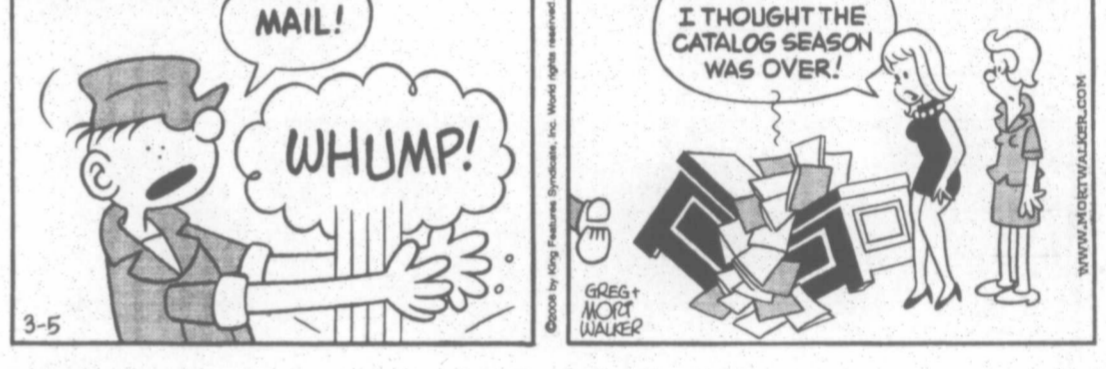
Zits



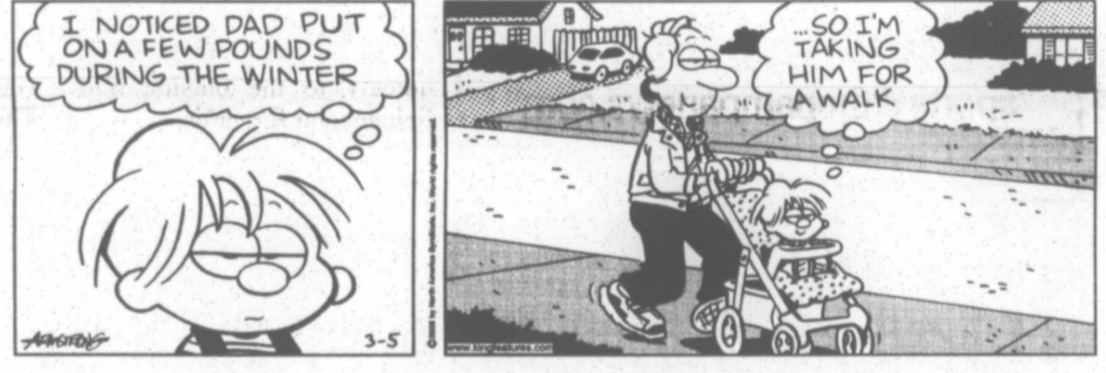
Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

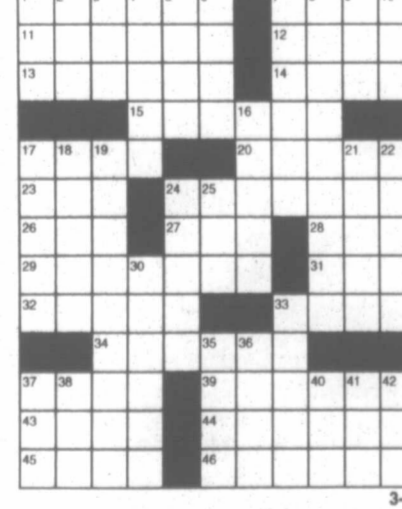
ACROSS

- 46 Ballet dancer, at times
- 1 Plains homes
- 7 Airport line
- 11 Broad street
- 12 Silly song
- 13 Word of caution
- 14 Put away seat
- 15 Verb in an O'Neill title
- 17 Minor argument
- 20 Second airing
- 23 That lass
- 24 Bean-filled treat
- 26 Horse bit
- 27 GI-entertaining org.
- 28 Breath mint holder
- 29 One pointing the finger
- 31 Glacier makeup
- 32 Pithy
- 33 "Get lost!"
- 34 Sneaker part
- 37 Almanac fill
- 39 Shreds
- 43 Tel --
- 44 Take to the skies
- 45 Singer Gray

DOWN

- 1 Folder feature
- 2 Holiday lead-in
- 3 Sunday seat
- 4 Make law
- 5 Continental coin
- 6 Appear
- 7 Chair wheel
- 8 Suffering from stiff joints
- 9 Book jacket item
- 10 Spotted slipup
- 16 Slipup
- 17 Young pig
- 18 UN goal
- 19 Gallery show
- 21 City on the Mohawk
- 22 Tripled trio
- 24 Tour carriers
- 25 Apply
- 30 SEALs' player
- 33 Brown shade
- 35 Uttered
- 36 Not taped
- 37 Block up
- 38 Gardner of film
- 40 Easy victim
- 41 Salt Lake City
- 42 For each

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Marmaduke

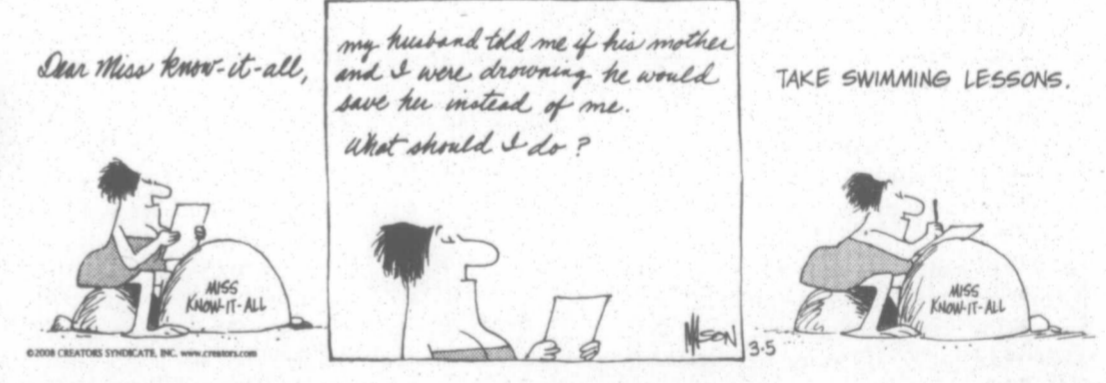


The Family Circus

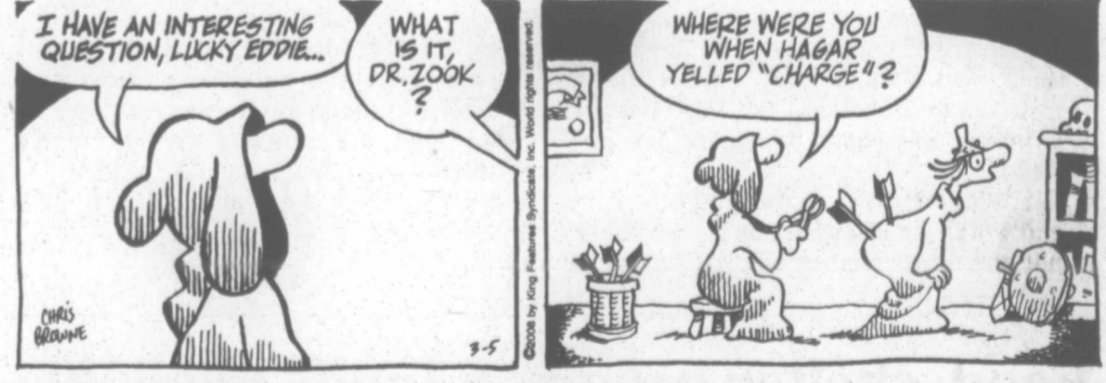
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



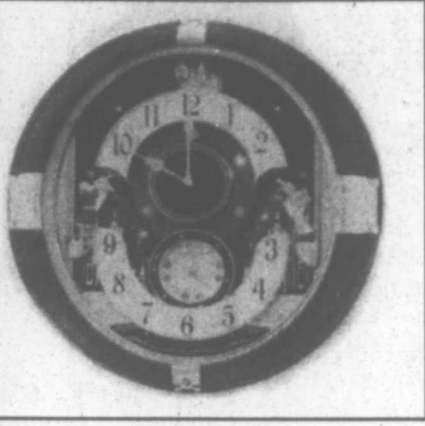
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Sports

Kicking

Harvester boys soccer earns district win



Courtesy Photo

Senior Rusty Snider shoots for a goal during the Borger game Saturday, which the Harvesters won.

The Pampa Harvester boys soccer team earned their third district win Saturday defeating Borger 6-1 getting four goals from Tanner Dyson.

Dyson scored the first, third, fifth and sixth goals respectively. Mitch Kelly scored the second goal with the fourth tally going to Rusty Snider. The back four comprised of Adam Estrada, Nick Day, Jesus Quesada, and Mitchell Kelly/Rusty Snider played well again, while the mid-field did a great job of getting the ball forward quickly to the outside mid-fielders and forwards.

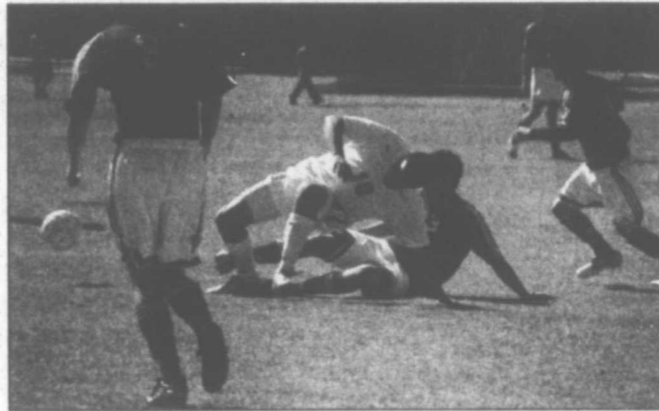
The Lady Harvester soccer team played Borger Saturday and could not overcome three first half goals by Borger concluding in a 1-4 setback.

Angelica Pena scored the

Borger team, and an equally tough wind against them in the first half which led to problems getting the ball out of the defensive third for the Lady Harvesters.

The second half was a much better effort by the girls, but in the end the first half mistakes were too much to overcome in the loss.

The next games for the boys and girls soccer teams are Sat., March 8, at Kimbrough Stadium in Canyon. The girls play at noon and the boys will follow at 2 p.m.



Courtesy Photo

David Soto gets taken down by a Borger player at Saturday's game. Pampa ended up with the win.

lone goal for the Lady Harvesters in the second half. The girls' fought "a tough



Courtesy Photo

Colby Copeland, a senior varsity soccer player, was injured early in the season with a stress fracture to his right leg. He hopes that if the Harvesters make the playoffs he can return to help. Despite his season ending injury, Colby has remained a very positive member of the team.

Thanks to everyone who has sent in sports stories and photos.

Please keep sending to "sports@thepampanews.com"

BASEBALL / SOFTBALL

Optimist sign-ups continue after good turnout so far

By KERRI SMITH
Managing Editor

Snow and cold weather did not stop youngsters from signing up for Pampa Optimist Baseball/Softball 2008 on Monday as 78 registered on the first day, according to Jody Clendennen, one of the registrars. Tuesday was even better for registrations as 106 players signed up.

Registration will continue today and tomorrow from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Optimist building for boys and girls from ages 5-15. All players must register to be eligible to play this season.

Leading the way after two days of registration with 46 is the T-ball league for five and six year olds. The 7-8 pitching machine league has 36 players registered. The 11-12 Cal Ripken League has 31 while the 9-10 Cal Ripken League has 29 signed up. A total of 16 players are on board for Babe Ruth Baseball and 26 have registered

for girls softball.

Tryouts for the two Cal Ripken leagues, the Babe Ruth League and girls softball will be March 11-13. Drafts for those leagues are scheduled for the week of March 24.

Optimist leagues include T-ball for boys and girls ages five and six and pitching machine for boys and girls ages seven and eight.

Three leagues of softball are offered: 9 and 10 year-old girls, 11 and 12 year-old girls and girls ages 13-15.

A 9-10 Cal Ripken Baseball League features 60 foot bases and a mound 46 feet from home plate. The 11-12 Cal Ripken Baseball League has 70 foot bases, lead-offs and a mound 50 feet from home plate. Babe Ruth Baseball is for boys 13 to 15 years old and is played on a regulation diamond.

Ready to run



Courtesy Photo

Wayne Parker prepares to race in the 1600 meter relay Saturday at a track meet in Borger.



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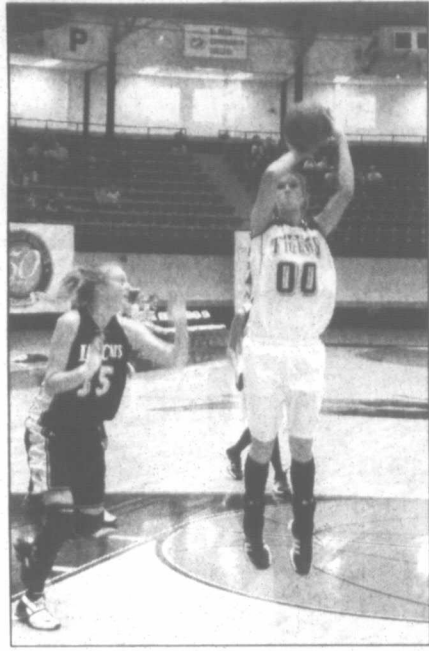
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Shooting



Courtesy Photo
Ashley Byron of McLean shoots as Grady's Rachel Romine defends in the regional semifinals Feb. 22 at South Plains College in Levelland.

McLean Lady Tigers go all the way to regionals

By KERRI SMITH
Managing Editor

The McLean Lady Tigers completed one of their most successful basketball seasons in history with a 25-6 record as they advanced to the regional semifinals in Levelland.

Coach Benji Hausen's team was undefeated in District 3-1A before rattling off playoff victories against Fort Elliott, Happy and Grady. They lost in the regional semifinals Feb. 23 to No. 4-ranked Follett. The Lady Tigers started one junior, three sophomores and one freshman.

After district play, McLean stopped state-ranked Strawn, 43-40, in a practice game at Rule.

In area competition, the Lady Tigers defeated Fort Elliott 53-41, then stopped Happy 61-48 in the regional quarterfinals at Randall High School in Amarillo.

In the regional semifinals at South Plains College in Levelland, McLean came from behind to topple Grady 51-48 behind Sheri Haynes's 22 points, Ashley Byron had 16, Alexis Menefield had eight, DeShae Tolleson scored three and Nancy Castillo scored two.

Against Follett the next day, the Lady Tigers sped to a 16-3 lead in the first quarter and led 38-25 at the half. But the Lady Panthers came back to take a 41-40 lead in the third quarter and prevailed 72-55. Menefield was high-point with 23, Haynes had 13, Tolleson scored 12 and Byron scored eight.

With only three players coming off the bench, the team consisted of senior Lacey Wallis, juniors DaShae Tolleson and Summer Morris, sophomores Nancy Castillo, Sheri Haynes and Alexis Menefield and freshmen Ashley Byron and Nicole McClendon.

Dribbling



Courtesy Photo
McLean's Sheri Haynes drives around a Grady defender in the regional semifinals Feb. 22 at South Plains College in Levelland.

McLean Lady Tigers



Courtesy Photo
The McLean Lady Tigers won District 3-1A and advanced to the regional semifinals in Levelland. Shown here after defeating Fort Elliott in the area round are, front row, Sheri Haynes and DaShae Tolleson; second row, Nicole McClendon and Nancy Castillo; and third row, Coach Benji Hausen, Summer Morris, Ashley Byron, Lacey Wallis, Alexis Menefield and Amanda Loya.

White Deer boys basketball advances to state tournament

By KERRI SMITH
Managing Editor

The White Deer boys basketball team advanced to the state tournament thanks to a win at the regional level last weekend in Levelland.

The team left Tuesday for the state tournament in Austin to play in the Class A game.

According to the Mike Ehrle from KOMX-KGRO

Radio, the game against Thorndale will be played at the Frank Erwin Center in Austin and will be broadcast live at 10 a.m. Thursday on Pampa's local radio station, KOMX FM 100.3.

If White Deer wins the game Thursday morning, they will advance and play the state crowning game at 8:30 a.m. Saturday.

BOYS BASKETBALL STATE TOURNAMENT

Texas boys basketball tournament, a state sports treasure

By JIM VERTUNO
AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — They are the best three days in Texas sports.

Underdogs upset favorites. Small towns drive in by busloads to watch their skinny sons and nephews and neighbor's kids try to bring home a trophy.

The big-city All-Americans run, dunk and taunt in a preview of their college and professional careers.

The Texas boys high school basketball tournament is my favorite time of the year.

So let the fun begin. This season's tournament starts Thursday at the University of Texas' Frank Erwin Center.

For nine years, I've covered every minute of every game, watching the smallest schools and the biggest, from the shortest players to the tallest. That's 137 games in all, 292 if you count the girls tournament, which has its special moments and players as well.

But the boys tournament is different: the crowds are bigger, the rosters are sprinkled with future NBA stars and the atmosphere — from the scalpers to the player posesses to the Houston vs. Dallas rivalries — can be a carnival of excess.

It produces moments like San Antonio Jay hitting a 3-pointer from beyond the halfcourt line to win the 2002 Class 5A title and a rotund center's put-back of a missed dunk at the buzzer to give Houston Jones the 4A title in 2004.

Texas may be a football state, but the level of basketball talent that has rolled through Austin in recent years could fill an NBA roster: Chris Bosh (Dallas Lincoln), Kendrick Perkins (Beaumont Ozen), Acie Law (Dallas Kimball), Daniel Gibson (Houston Jones) and T.J. Ford (Fort Bend Willowridge) are just a few of the marquee players.

Every year the tournament pro-

duces game-winning baskets, high-flying dunks and upsets. Here's one eyewitness account of the best moments and players since 1999.

Best Moments

—Class 2A final, Peaster vs. Wellington, 1999: My baptism to just how much fun the tournament can be. Peaster's A.J. Hill gets fouled on a 3-pointer with 2.1 seconds left, then makes all three knee-knocking free throws to force overtime. Peaster goes on to win the first of two straight state titles. The entire Peaster squad came to the tournament sporting bleached blond hair. The next year, they were jet black.

—Class 3A final, Waco La Vega vs. Gainesville, 2000: There have been better teams and better games but one play captured the kind of razzle-dazzle the tournament regularly produces. La Vega already had the game wrapped up when Mario Kinsey took a

crossover dribble between the legs of a defender, bounced a pass to a teammate who lobbed it to a third for an alley-oop dunk. A showtime spectacular.

—Class 5A semifinal, Willowridge vs. Converse Judson, 2001: Willowridge was the defending champion and ranked No. 2 in the country, but was pushed to the brink in a double-overtime victory in front of a sell-out crowd expecting a blowout.

Judson's diminutive point guard Leonard Brown quieted the crowd by arguably outplaying Ford, who would go on to be the national college player of the year and lead the Texas Longhorns to the Final Four in 2003.

—Class 4A final, Dallas Lincoln vs. Beaumont Ozen, 2002: The most anticipated high school game in Texas in years featured two future NBA players matched up head-to-head: Lincoln's Bosh and Ozen's Perkins. Perkins had 20 points and

14 rebounds, but Bosh emerged as one of the greatest players in tournament history with 21 points, 11 rebounds and seven blocks in Lincoln's 20-point win.

Lincoln was the top-ranked team in the country and finished 40-0. Asked whether the state or national title was bigger, Bosh said: "It's bigger to win both."

—Class 5A final, San Antonio Jay vs. Dallas Kimball, 2002: They still talk about The Shot, and it produced the single greatest moment of joy and heartbreak I've personally witnessed in sports.

Jay was down by two when Chris Ross stripped the ball from Kimball's Acie Law and heaved a desperation 3-pointer from half-court. The ball was still in the air when the final horn sounded and the arena erupted when it swished.

It was Ross' only basket of the tournament. It came on his 17th birthday, no less, and the lone basket earned him game MVP honors.

Pampa Optimist boys basketball plays annual city tournament

Pampa Optimist boys basketball was back in action last Friday night with the start of the annual City Tournament. The Douglas Paint & Body Tarheels defeated the Celanese Red Raiders 30-5 in the 6 p.m. game. High point for the Tarheels was Brenden Woelfle with 19 points, Austin Hernandez had four, David O'Rear had three and Ajay Mitchell and Tyler Hughes each scored two points. Collin Massick had the only points of the game for the Red Raiders with five.

In the 7 p.m. game, the K.C. Enterprise Irish continued their winning streak with a 32-28 victory over the Roden Oilfield Aggies. High point for the Irish was Zach Wilson with 19 points, Ryan Lee had 10 and Alec McClendon had three points to wrap up the night

for the Irish. Bryson Burrell was high point for the Aggies with 12, Nathan Furgason tossed in 10, Chase Brown had four and Michael Mechelay finish for the Aggies with two points.

In the late game last Friday night, the Clifton Supply Pistons advanced with an 18-11 victory over the Celtics. Cuyler Clifton lead the way for the Pistons with eight points, Calvin Webb tossed in six and Alec Hendricks and Roy Nelson each scored two points to complete the night for the Pistons. Blaine Troxell had five points on the night to lead the Celtics, Marcus Jernigan added four points and J.C. Allen and John Cryer tossed in one point each to wrap up the night for the Celtics.

The second night of tournament play got underway on Monday

night with the Fenton Motor Cowboys pulling off a 33-15 victory over the Enbridge Longhorns in the early game. The Cowboys were led by Josh DeLoach with 20 points, Kolton Jefferis added six and Zach Beedy finished the night with two points. The Longhorns were led by Barrak Reeves with seven points, Bryce Chidester added five points, Matthew Wheeler had two and Cory Chidester wrapped up the Longhorns night with one point.

In the 7 p.m. game, point guard Cade Engle tossed in 16 points and four assists to lead the Great Plains Abstract & Title Buckeyes to a 33-9 victory over the Douglas Paint & Body Tarheels. Solon Wilson with six points, Garrett Mullican and Jordan Green each with four and Landon Taylor with three points

completed the night for the Buckeyes. Brenden Woelfle had all of the Tarheels points on the night.

In what was the most exciting game of the entire year, the NBC Sonics were behind by as much as eight points in the fourth quarter, but came from behind to tie the game at 26 with about 30 seconds left in regulation against the Alvey Law Mavericks. With seven seconds remaining in the game, all the Sonics could do was watch as Brandon Stokes sank one of two free throws to pull off the 27-26 win.

Point guard Brandon Stokes also led the Mavericks with nine points, Jonathan Stevens and Dylan Zawicki each had seven and Korbin Ramirez and Nicholas Wells each had two points to wrap up the Mavericks night. The Sonics

were led by Josh Hernandez and Cager Osborne with nine points each and Ethan Hunt added another eight points to wrap up the season for the Sonics.

The Buckeyes in the 3rd/4th grade division and the Mavericks of the 5th/6th grade division each advanced to the championship games on Thursday night. The semifinal round was scheduled for Tuesday night when the K.C. Enterprise Irish took on the Fenton Motor Cowboys and the Willis Oilfield Nuggets put their undefeated record on the line against the Clifton Supply Pistons in the late game.

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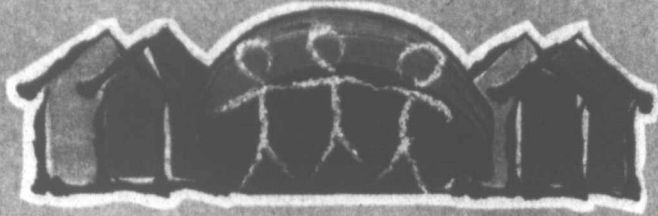
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