

Tomorrow's Weather

HIGH 62
LOW 39

See expanded weather on Page 2

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New staff, old problem

Animal shelter hosts hundreds each month

By **JULIE ANN THOMPSON**
The Pampa News

Pampa's animal shelter has gained a few new recruits in the last few months, all working to make a difference in the lives of local animals.

First to join last year was Animal Control Officer (ACO) Gloria Day, who is the staff's only bilingual employee. She worked for the prison system before making the jump to the shelter.

Next, was ACO Samantha Meier who came all the way from Tennessee to join the staff. She brought with her over 30 years of vet tech and wild life rehab experience. K'Leigh Sweeney, who works in the office and

kennel, previously worked at the shelter as a junior in high school.

"Our goal is to protect the animals from owners, disease, cars ..." Supervisor Sandy Burns said. "We also keep the streets safe for people."

Also recently employed, is Fena, the K9 Search and Rescue dog, that is DNA scent specific. Fena is able to track a single person's scent through any terrain, including crowded malls or carnivals. The dog is intended for use in finding missing children, prisoners or even Alzheimer's patients, according to Burns.

"I wanted to put her to the test when I first met her, so I backtracked my steps and



Pampa News photo by Julie Thompson
Supervisor Sandy Burns holds a horned owl ready to be released back into the wild. The owl was rehabilitated after being found injured in central park several months ago.

climbed up a tree," Meier said. "Sure enough, she followed my trail right to the base of that tree."

The shelter handles roughly 10 to 30 calls per day and processes 300 to 500 animals per month. Almost 90 percent of those animals have to be put down either due to behavior issues or health problems.

See **SHELTER**, Page 3

'Shoes on trees' a somber memorial to abused children

By **MARILYN POWERS**
The Pampa News

Shoes will appear on the branches of trees at Pampa City Hall, 201 W. Kingsmill, Friday as a memorial to local victims of child abuse and neglect and child sexual assault.

A pair of shoes for each of the 286 children who were confirmed victims in 2007 in

Gray County will be hung on the trees beginning at 2 p.m. for the "Don't Walk Away" observance. Information on the meaning behind the shoes will also be displayed.

"Area agencies will be dressing the trees in front of City Hall to raise awareness of what life is like for crime victims," said Emily Ellis, development director for The Bridge children's advocacy

center in Amarillo. Local agencies who are sponsoring the observance and who will be hanging the shoes are Tralee Crisis Center, CASA of the High Plains, Community Partners, Child Protective Services, the Gray County Child Welfare Board, Genesis House and The Bridge's Pampa office.

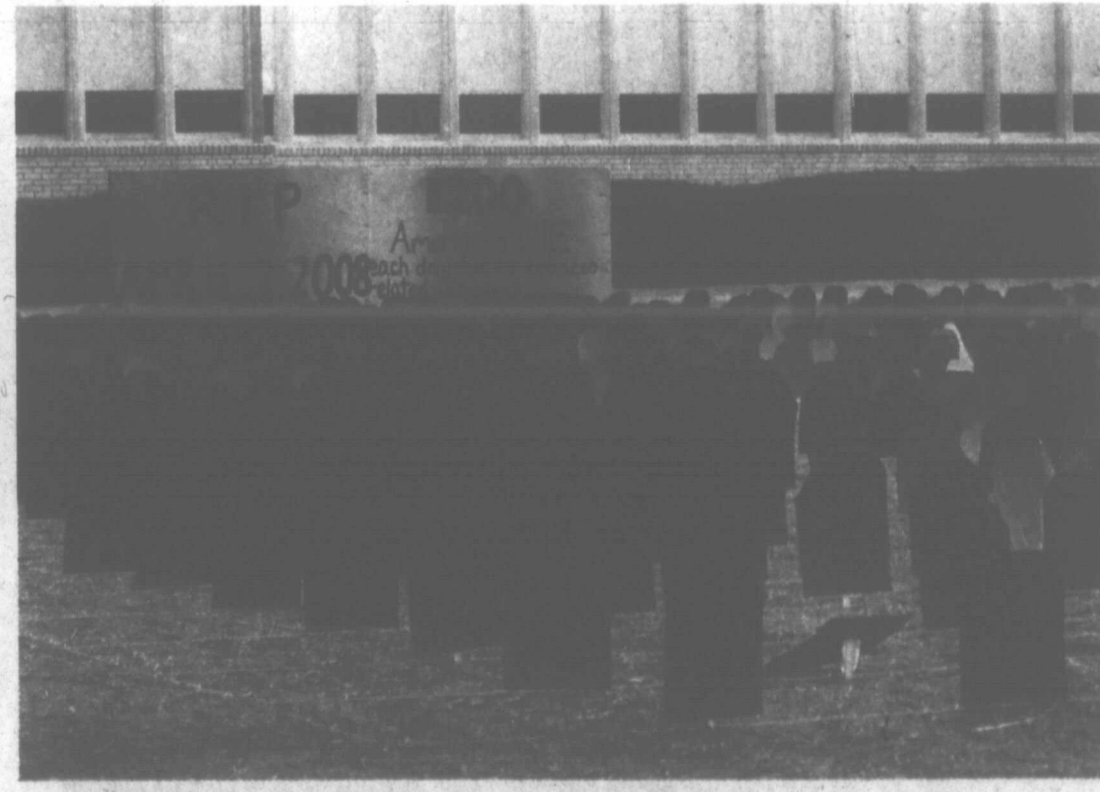
See **SHOES**, Page 3

Pampa Fire Dept. not soliciting donations, McDonald says

The Pampa Fire Department has been notified that someone is collecting money on their behalf without authorization.

According to Acting Captain Robert McDonald, the department is not currently sponsoring any donation program nor is it making any effort to collect money itself.

"If you get a call asking for money, it isn't us," McDonald said.



Pampa News photo by Julie Ann Thompson
This display of "headstones" represent 1,200 tobacco-related deaths per day. Pampa High School's SADD Chapter is using the display to draw attention to the nationwide problem of tobacco abuse.

School headstones represent deaths from tobacco use

By **JULIE ANN THOMPSON**
The Pampa News

Several students at Pampa High School found an unusual and poignant approach this week in taking a stand against the use of tobacco. Members of SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) set up 1,200 cardboard headstones on Wednesday, April 2 to represent the victims of tobacco-related deaths in America each day. The display covered the high school lawn just east of the main walkway.

"There was a school in south Texas who used the same idea but with 66 headstones to represent the deaths just in Texas," SADD Treasurer Sara Ceyanes said. "We wanted to effect as many people as possible."

The students attended the Tobacco Free Kids Day Summit in Ceta Canyon in January and managed to keep their idea a secret right up until Wednesday morning, which was "Tobacco Free Day." Cardboard was donated by Cabot Corporation, which the students then con-

See **HEADSTONES**, Page 3

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NEXT DAY FORECAST

Friday  Sunny	Saturday  Sunny	Sunday  Sunny
---	---	---

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 62. Wind chill values between 25 and 35 early. North-northwest wind around-15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 39. Wind chill values between 32 and 37. North wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 72. Windy, with a south wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 46. Windy, with a south-southwest wind 20 to 25 mph decreasing to between 10 and 15 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 66. North-northwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 43. East-northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south-southeast.

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Wheat	8.81
Milo	9.39
Corn	10.64
Soybeans	10.53

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

OXY	75.86	+0.97
BP PLC ADR	62.61	+0.25
Cabot Corp	29.05	+0.04
Celanese	40.11	-0.35
Cabot Oil Gas	53.90	+0.26
Coca Cola	60.39	-0.07
VLO	52.83	+0.86
HAL	40.17	-0.01

XCEL	20.61	+0.07
Anadarko	63.22	+0.09
XOM	89.00	+0.48
Nat'l Oilwell	63.10	+0.88
Limited	18.24	-0.30
Williams	33.88	+0.13
MCD	56.11	-0.55
Atmos	26.79	+0.01
Pioneer Nat	50.99	-0.75
JCP	40.01	-0.90
COP	79.05	+0.28
SLB	90.95	+0.15
Tenneco	29.65	-0.16
CVX	88.13	+0.62
Wal-Mart	54.76	+0.30
OKE	45.84	+0.03

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Obituaries

Allen 'Britches' Lemon, 64

Allen "Britches" Lemon, 64, of Stinnett, Texas, died Monday, March 31, 2008, in Wheeler County, Texas.

Mr. Lemon was born on Feb. 19, 1944, in Borger, Texas, to Ralph and Velda Lemon. He was a Heavy Equipment Operator for Four Wind Company in Pampa, Texas, and a member of the First Christian Church in Stinnett, Texas.

He married Mert Cannon on Sept. 10, 1980, in Stinnett, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and one sister, Alice Lee.

He is survived by his wife, Mert Lemon, of the home; three sons, Michael Lemon and wife Meaghan, Todd Lemon and wife Darla all of Borger, Terry Lemon and wife Michelle of Saginaw, Texas; one daughter, Vicki



Lemon

Adams and husband Justin of Craig, Colo.; one brother, Glenn Lemon and wife Janice of Rio Rancho, N.M.; two sisters, Margie Hughes and husband Orton of Arvada, Colo., and Betty Anderson and husband Bud of Stinnett, Texas; and eight grandchildren. Memorial Services will be

10 a.m. Friday, April 4, 2008, at the First Christian Church in Stinnett, Texas, with Pastor Jim West officiating.

The Family Register Book will be available to sign at Brown Funeral Directors in Borger until service time.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to the First Christian Church, P.O. Box 517, Stinnett, TX 79083.

Freda LeMond, 88

Freda LeMond, 88, of Pampa, Texas, died April 2, 2008, at Pampa. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

Mrs. LeMond was born Sept. 1, 1919, in Shamrock. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1936. She married Guy LeMond in 1947 in Pampa. He preceded her in death in 1990.

Freda was assistant vice president of Citizens Bank & Trust from 1941 until 1983, and then vice president of National Bank of Commerce

from 1983 until her retirement in 1992.

She was a member of Epsilon Sigma Alpha sorority, various banking organizations, Pampa Country Club, Pampa Senior Citizens Center, and First Presbyterian Church.

Survivors include two grandsons, Mark Barrett of Euless and Michael Barrett



LeMond

of McKinney; six great-grandchildren; daughter-in-law, Carolyn Barrett of McKinney; niece, Becky Peterson of Eagle, Colo.; extended family, Jim and Karen Gardner of Pampa, Neal Gardner of Pampa, Kevin Gardner of Garland, and Andy Gardner of Pflugerville; and caregiver, Pat Murry of Pampa.

Freda preceded in death by a son, Richard Preston Barrett; a sister, Gwen Gravitt; and her parents, Fred and Gertrude Glass.

The family will receive friends at 2535 Beech in Pampa.

MEMORIALS: A favorite charity.

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

Lena Pearce, 96

LINDALE — Lena Pearce, 96, of Lindale, died March 31, 2008, at Lindale.

Graveside services are scheduled at 11 a.m. Friday in Fairview Cemetery in Pampa with Pastor Jimmie Cole, of the Church of the Nazarene in Pampa, officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors

of Pampa.

Mrs. Pearce was born March 23, 1912, at Shongaloo, La. She married William Claud Pearce on Sept. 26, 1928, in Smackover, Ark.; he died on Aug. 15, 1977.

Mrs. Pearce formerly

lived in Pampa before moving to Lindale in 2002. She was a homemaker and a member of Church of the Nazarene in Pampa.

She was preceded in death by a son, George Pearce in May of 2004; and a grandson, Greg Cole on Dec. 26,

1976.

Survivors include two daughters, Marjorie Edmunds and Claudia Cole, both of Hideaway; one sister, Treby Staten of Springhill, Louisiana; one brother, Jim Lindsey of Cotton Valley, La.; eight grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

MEMORIALS: Heart to Heart Hospice, 1402 Rice Road, Suite 100, Tyler, TX 75703.

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

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Emergency Services

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

Wednesday, April 2
8:44 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2600 block of Navajo and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.
1:25 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to a local nursing facility.
1:52 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of East 30th and transported a patient to PRMC.

3:16 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 400 block of Perry and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

5:11 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Terrace and transported a patient to PRMC.

Thursday, April 3
5:11 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of East Albert and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

6:07 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of Zimmers and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

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Shelter

Continued from Front Page

ioral problems, health problems or overcrowding. The law states that untagged animals must be held at least 72 hours, while tagged animals have six days.

"That's the biggest reason to spay or neuter your pet. We just get too overpopulated," Burns said.

The adoption process is relatively simple. Puppies and kittens under four months are \$10 without shots and adults are \$20. The state of Texas requires that all animals from a pound or shelter be spayed or neutered, as well as tattooed or microchipped. A potential owner must have a yard with a fence of adequate strength which will be inspected by a member of the staff. The animal may be picked up the following day.

"We do microchipping here by appointment, even if

you didn't get your animal from us," Burns said. "I scan every animal we pick up, and then a second time before I put them down."

A microchip implant is placed under the skin of a dog, cat or other animal usually at the base of the neck. The chips are about the size of a grain of rice. The chip not only matches the animal with the owner, but also the name and description of the pet, the shelter's and/or veterinarian's contact information and any alternative emergency contact designated by the pet owner. The process costs only \$20. It is one of very few ways the shelter is able to bring in money.

"Right now, we're trying to raise money for a new shelter. It's called Building Fund 12," Burns said. "We'll take money any way we can get it."

According to Burns, any

money donated to the shelter goes directly to providing for the animals. There is a board that oversees the money and it rolls over from year to year. Many people donate money through memorials in friends' or loved ones' names. Burns, who's been working at the shelter since June 9, 1980, has had to do much of the work herself. She and other employees have built or moved in all the buildings on the property but one, as well as each kennel.

"I've had a lot of dedicated employees over the years and they've made us what we are," Burns said. "The tax payers pay our salary, and I think they deserve the best that we can give."

The shelter has an answering machine that is checked constantly and responded to in the order that the calls are received, with the exception of emergencies. When Burns started, she recorded



Pampa News photo by Julie Ann Thompson
The Pampa Animal Shelter staff includes (from left) Gloria Day, K'Leigh Sweeney, Supervisor Sandy Burns and Samantha Meier.

the first animal as one. At press time, the number was 95,654. In all that time, only 2,026 dog bites have been

reported. They do not have a policy concerning pit-bulls as most shelters in the area do.

"We rarely come across a mean one," Burns said. "Every dog is an individual and is judged as such."

Shoes

Continued from Front Page

"The shoes mean, 'Don't walk away, help me,'" said Ofelia Marszal, volunteer coordinator for CASA of the

High Plains. CASA is an acronym for Court Appointed Special Advocates.

"We must unify our voices to clearly state that we will

not tolerate the many forms of violence against our children, students, neighbors, friends and family members," Ellis said.

"Don't Walk Away" is part of the local events planned in observance of April as Child Abuse and Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

The shoes will remain on the trees at City Hall until 2 p.m. April 11.

Pampa Mayor Lonny Robbins is expected to sign a proclamation this month designating April as Sexual Assault Awareness and Child Abuse Awareness Month for Pampa.

Also planned this month are "Shine a Light on Child Abuse," April 9; a CASA volunteers' banquet on April 14; training April 21 on how to recognize the signs of child abuse and what to do; and "Blue Sunday" on April 27.

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Headstones

Continued from Front Page

structed into the headstones during work days they'd set up for the project.

"We figured if everyone knew about it, it wouldn't be as big a shock," Ceyanes said.

Ceyanes, a new student this year whose father is now a pastor at New Life Assembly of God, said she wanted to join SADD in an effort to integrate into the school. According to her, it was a group that shared her beliefs.

"There were a couple of announcements about it," Ceyanes said. "Spit tobacco is really the worst problem at our school."

The students had their faces painted to simulate what the body goes through under the stresses of tobacco use. However, that's not the only step SADD has taken. They put together what Safe and Drug Free Coordinator Suzanne Pingel calls The Quit Spit Kit. The kit was comprised as an aid to help students give up spit tobacco.

"Doctor Buck's office donated toothbrushes for our kits and they also come with information cards and sunflower seeds," Pingel said.

The students have also been speaking at other local schools about tobacco's effects.

"At the beginning of the year, we all signed up to be a

mentor for a school," SADD treasurer Garrett Coutts said. "We wanted to get kids started with SADD early. Peer pressure is getting really tough, so maybe if we start at a young age we can fight that."

The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention describes tobacco use as the single most important preventable risk to human health. According to the World Lung Foundation, tobacco-related deaths are expected to reach ten million a year by 2030. Disturbingly, it's not only voluntary users who are affected. Secondhand smoke causes approximately 3,400 lung cancer deaths and 46,000 heart disease deaths in adult nonsmokers in the United States each year, according to lungusa.org. The students hope to educate others about these statistics.

"We want to tell them about tobacco, how it effects you and others around you," Ceyanes said.

The students will continue their lectures at the other Pampa schools through the rest of this week. All work and effort that the students put in is extracurricular, completed after school and on weekends.

"They've worked so hard and they could be out doing their own thing," Pingel said. "I'm so proud of them for making a stand."

Traffic stop leads to meth bust

AMARILLO — Texas Department of Public Safety troopers seized \$471,121 worth of methamphetamine Monday afternoon on Interstate 40 west of Amarillo following a traffic stop, according to Trooper Wayne Beigle, public information officer for the DPS Amarillo office.

Shortly after noon Monday, a 2004 Nissan Maxima was stopped for a traffic violation in the east-bound lane of I-40, five miles west of Amarillo. After consent to search was given, a K-9 unit alerted to the vehicle and troopers found 5,816 grams of meth in a false compartment behind the rear seat, Beigle said.

Arrested and booked into Potter County Detention

Center was Oliver R. Cardenas, 48, of Lawrenceville, Ga.

"Investigators believe this load originated in Phoenix, Ariz. and was headed for Atlanta, Ga.," Beigle said.

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Viewpoints

Look sharply before buying your next home

Are you currently a homeowner, or are you contemplating buying a home? I am a homeowner. Not a proud homeowner since my poor house needs more help than I can provide it, but I try. Nearly every fall, I am either painting or caulking something at my home.

Now, lest you get the impression that my painting and caulking projects are neat and professional, let me advise you that my efforts are merely slapdash. I get the job done. That's the kindest way to put it.

What damage I could do if my home improvement efforts went any deeper than painting and caulking is not a notion that bears much pondering about. The ques-

tion is, what would need fixing when I got through? (Wince, wince ...)

Let me now say: I am the bane of all new (and old) appliances and all manner of electronic gizmos. Add to that, I am a hopeless klutz.

I once borrowed a BRAND-NEW shop-vac from my sister and within minutes of powering it up completely and utterly destroyed it. I knew to unplug it when it began smoking, but, alack and alas, the damage was all ready done.

My sister is such a good and brave soul. She immediately forgave me and has even offered up other gadgets for my use. Only the other day, she offered to lend

me her lawnmower so that I might quell the overgrowth in my backyard left-over from last year. (Okay, so home-improvement projects are not my thing and neither is yard work.)

Skyla Bryant

News Editor



For those of you searching for your next home, the folks at Response Insurance have several suggestions of "issues" to "watch for":

Maintenance: Observing an overall pattern of poor maintenance is often a signal of trouble. Crumbling masonry, makeshift wiring, peeling paint, cracked cement sur-

faces, broken fixtures and appliances may indicate that other, even more important items have been neglected.

Electrical: Electrical service that is inadequate to meet the demand of the household can cause wires to overload and start a fire. Older homes in particular tend to have electrical service patched together and added on as the demand grew. Today's lifestyles place additional demands on home electric not anticipated when first

built, including computers, microwave ovens, larger refrigerators, air conditioners, more lighting and television/video centers.

Roof: Old or damaged shingles, improper flashing and broken gutter and drainage systems can all contribute to roof leaks and water damage around the house.

Plumbing: Faulty and inefficient fixtures, lead water pipes, non-compliant gas lines, inadequate or old waste pipes, and a mix of incompatible piping materials can present problems. Water heaters should meet the needs of the occupants.

Structure: Foundation walls, floor joists, rafters, windows and doors and sky-

lights should all be examined for cracks and air/water leakage. An improperly graded property that slopes toward the house can result in water penetration in basements and crawl spaces, and damage to foundation walls.

Insulation: Inadequate or cracked caulking around windows and doors, and insufficient wall and attic insulation drive up heating and cooling costs. However, over-sealing a house can cause excessive interior moisture.

Additional Tests: Separate inspections for termite infestation, asbestos, radon, well-water contamination, and other potential hazards are often advisable.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, April 3, the 94th day of 2008. There are 272 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 3, 1968, the day before he was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn., the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his famous "mountaintop" speech to a rally of striking sanitation workers.

On this date:

In 1783, author Washington Irving was born in New York.

In 1860, the legendary Pony Express began service between St. Joseph, Mo., and Sacramento, Calif.

In 1865, Union forces occupied the Confederate capital of Richmond, Va.

In 1882, outlaw Jesse James was shot to death in St. Joseph, Mo., by Robert Ford, a member of James' gang.

In 1936, Bruno Hauptmann was electrocuted in Trenton, N.J., for the kidnap-murder of the Lindbergh child.

In 1946, Lt. Gen. Masaharu Homma, the Japanese commander

responsible for the Bataan Death March, was executed by firing squad outside Manila.

In 1948, President Truman signed into law the Marshall Plan, designed to help European allies rebuild after World War II and resist Communism.

In 1968, North Vietnam agreed to meet with U.S. representatives to set up preliminary peace talks.

In 1974, deadly tornadoes struck wide parts of the South and Midwest before jumping across the border into Canada; more than 300 fatalities resulted.

In 1996, an Air Force jetliner carrying Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and American business executives crashed in Croatia, killing all 35 people aboard.

Ten years ago: The Dow Jones industrial average climbed above 9,000 for the first time, but finished with a 3.23-point drop at 8,983.41. Douglas Fred Groat, a disgruntled spy fired by the CIA, was charged with espionage and extortion. (Groat later pleaded guilty to trying to extort \$1 million from the agency, and was sentenced to five years in prison.)

Five years ago: Moving with a sense of wartime urgency, the House and Senate separately agreed to give President Bush nearly \$80 billion to carry out the battle against Iraq and meet the threat of terrorism. Atlantic magazine editor Michael Kelly, 46, became the first American journalist to be killed while covering the Iraq war when his Army Humvee came under fire and rolled into a canal. Cuban security forces arrested the hijackers of a passenger ferry, rescuing nearly 50 hostages.

'I didn't invent the world I write about — it's all true.'

— Graham Greene
British author
(1904-1991)

THIRD-GRADERS PLOT TO KILL TEACHER...



When should you buy a new computer?

Every week or so I try to drop by a computer store and check out what's new. Over the past few years, I've noticed some interesting trends. First, new computer speeds tend to increase 10 percent every month. Second, the overall price of computers drops by about the same percentage in that same month.

Most people don't notice these rapid changes until they buy a new system. They quickly discover that new PCs depreciate faster than cars. If you want your PC investment to last as long as possible, make sure you buy a "current" system. What do I mean by that? Read on ...

Processors
The most expensive part of your PC is the CPU (central processing unit). Think of it as the "brains" of your system. Roughly one-third to one-half the price of a PC

is tied up in this little black computer chip. The CPU is the most critical variable in determining overall system speed. Back in the old days, we measured CPU speed in "megahertz." Basically, a megahertz is the ability for a CPU to process one million instructions per second. Therefore, a seven hundred megahertz (700mhz) chip could process 700 million instructions per second. To take it a step further, 1000 megahertz is also known as one gigahertz. Today's chips now rate in the "gigahertz" range: When looking for a new system, make sure the chip rates somewhere between 2 and 4 gigahertz.

RAM
The second most impor-

tant variable in the computer speed equation is RAM, the onboard memory used by running programs. RAM is measured in bytes. Similar to "hertz," it breaks down this way: One byte is roughly the equivalent of one letter of the alphabet or one numeric digit. So, in order to store the

letter "A" in a computer, you would need one byte of storage. A thousand bytes is called a kilobyte. A thousand kilobytes (or a million bytes) is called a megabyte. One thousand megabytes equals one gigabyte; and finally, one thousand gigabytes is called a "terabyte." These days, RAM is measured in megabytes. In my opinion, if you were buying a new com-

puter today, it should have somewhere between 500 megabytes and 2 gigabytes of RAM installed.

CD/DVD Burners
When buying a CD/DVD-RW drive, also known as a burner, you need to know what factors make one unit better than another. Three speed variables define the usefulness of these devices. For instance, you may see a drive advertised as "32X/12X/40X." The first number represents the "write speed" of the unit. In other words, how quick can it permanently "burn" data to the blank CD?

The second number is "rewrite speed." Most CD/DVDs can only be "written to" once. However, RW disks can be erased and re-used a number of times. The final variable is the

See SPELL, Page 10

Eric Spellmann
Columnist



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Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ March 21
San Antonio Express-News on the need for improved preschool education programs:

The latest study out of Rutgers University confirms what we have suspected for some time: 4-year-olds in Texas are not getting the quality education they deserve.

As Express-News education writer Lindsay Kastner reported this week, Texas' public preschool programs have a long way to go in terms of quality.

The recent study conducted by the National Institute for Early Education Research at Rutgers University found

several areas of concern with the state-funded public school program.

Among the problems cited are a lack of limits on class size and inadequate monitoring of the programs through site visits.

A 2007 study of the Texas Early Education Model conducted by San Antonio-based Edvance Research revealed that despite efforts to improve teacher quality, preschoolers in the state's program were not leaving better prepared for kindergarten.

Federally-funded Head Start programs have also faced their share of problems.

Quality preschool programs make a big difference in a child's success.

Early success often translates into higher high school graduation rates,

higher earning potential, fewer arrests and less dependency on social programs.

The state and the federal government cannot afford to skimp on quality nor can quantity be substituted for quality.

More children deserve the opportunity to participate in preschool programs.

Currently, free preschool in Texas is limited to low income or homeless children, those with limited English proficiency, children who are or were in foster care and whose parents are active military or were injured or killed on duty.

Lobbying efforts are under way to get state lawmakers to expand the pub-

See PRESCHOOL, Page 10

BUSINESS REVIEW



CENTRAL BAIL BONDS

Kenneth Knowles owner

Area Manager Larry Ingram

Central Bail Bonds is a privately owned company providing bail bonds service for the Panhandle, North Central and West Texas area. Owner Kenneth Knowles founded the company in 1978.

Larry Ingram has been the area manager for the Pampa area since August 1997. The Pampa office covers 9 counties, which include Hansford, Ochiltree, Lipscomb, Hutchinson, Roberts, Hemphill, Carson, Gray and Wheeler. On average, Larry drives over 50K miles yearly. Barbara Brogdon, secretary/agent since November 1999, handles the paperwork and backup for Larry. Together they make a great team to serve all your bail bond needs.

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I was offended by your response to "True Love Texan" (Jan. 18) when he asked about loving a woman with multiple personality disorder. MPD is also known as Dissociative Identity Disorder. Individuals with DID have survived severe childhood abuse. The way they coped was to split into different personalities. DID can be treated through intense psychotherapy, which attempts to integrate the personalities into one. A loving relationship IS possible with people who have DID. My mother is an example. She has DID due to extreme childhood ritual and sexual abuse. She's the most amazing and resilient woman I have ever known, and I am proud to be her daughter. My father has been married to her for 35 years and has supported her unconditionally. It can work! Please educate your readers and provide some useful information about the courageous people who live with DID. -- **PROUD OF MOM IN PENNSYLVANIA**

DEAR PROUD OF MOM: I received a slew of mail about this. My response to "True Love Texan" was not meant to minimize the seriousness of Dissociative Identity Disorder. This man must understand what is involved before he makes a lifelong commitment. The following responses offer personal insights meant to support him as well as provide information about this sensitive topic. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Telling that Texan to be certain that he loves every one of the multiple personalities may not be possible. However, it is possible to have a successful marriage with a person who has DID. My husband and I will celebrate our 20th anniversary this summer, and he is a multiple. We knew about some of his personalities when we began dating, but others have

surfaced as the years went on. It has not been easy, and I have had to deal with different folks coming out at awkward times. But as my husband said, "Your life will never be boring if you marry me," and he was right. -- **WIFE TO ONE OF MANY IN VANCOUVER, WASH.**

DEAR ABBY: I know from firsthand experiences that all the love, devotion and loyalty may never be enough when dealing with a person with DID. Instead of being a partner, spouse or equal, I became my wife's caregiver, peacemaker and sometimes a target. Nothing was ever easy; I could not depend on anything going smoothly or without incident. More than once, my life and safety were seriously compromised. Finally, I became lost and overwhelmed by her illness. After 13 years of turmoil and uncertainty, I had to leave. A serious illness gave me no choice but to take care of myself for a change. I hope "True Love Texan" will heed the warnings of his friends and understand the gravity of this illness before he makes a lifetime commitment. -- **WISER IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR ABBY: When a child is denied "normal" defenses and abused by those who are responsible for providing safety, some children do the most sane thing possible. They retreat into their own minds to a place of safety. We choose to call this by a new term, Multiple Personality Gift (MPG). As long as the woman is in counseling, and "True Love Texan" is on board with the counseling, there is no reason they cannot have a good and productive life together. He needs to understand the abuse issues and be patient and gentle. Many people with MPG are highly intelligent and creative, with much to offer to those who are willing to open their minds and hearts. -- **ADOPTIVE MOM IN NEW YORK**

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

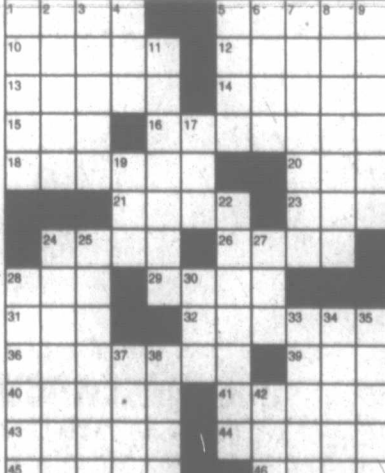
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Gangsters' sport's cry
 - 5 Lock
 - 10 Sprawling tales
 - 12 "Luck of Roaring Camp" writer
 - 13 On the up and up
 - 14 Cook's wear
 - 15 "En-tourage" agent
 - 16 Acrobat's wear
 - 18 "Citizen Kane" estate
 - 20 Recent: Pref.
 - 21 Tooth-paste flavor
 - 23 Brownish gray
 - 24 Super-hero's wear
 - 26 Door fastener
 - 28 High hit
 - 29 Fix socks
 - 31 Hang out
 - 32 Saw red
 - 36 Connected facial feature
 - 39 Man-mouse link
 - 40 Mission head
- DOWN**
- 41 Poor
 - 43 Spurred (on)
 - 44 Clinic worker
 - 45 Marsh plants
 - 46 Change machine inserts
 - 9 Forward, as a message
 - 11 Prepared for finals
 - 17 Habit inhabitant
 - 19 Band blaster
 - 22 Add for free
 - 24 Invented work
 - 25 Shorten
 - 27 Termite's cousin
 - 28 Singer Cyndi
 - 30 Hitherto
 - 33 Lament
 - 34 Occur numbers
 - 37 Raised
 - 38 Some wines
 - 42 Status

V	I	C	A	R	S	S	C	A	M
I	R	O	N	O	N	P	O	P	E
M	A	X	I	M	A	O	M	E	N
P	A	C	E	M	A	G	N	U	M
R	E	O	A	N	T	E	N	N	A
T	S	M	M	A	T	D	I	P	
C	O	M	P	A	N	Y	E	T	
E	P	E	E	S	O	D	E	S	
N	E	S	T	E	D				
H	U	C	K	I	C	O	N	I	
I	S	E	E	R	R	A	T	A	
T	O	D	D	O	U	S	T	E	

Yesterday's answer

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Marmaduke

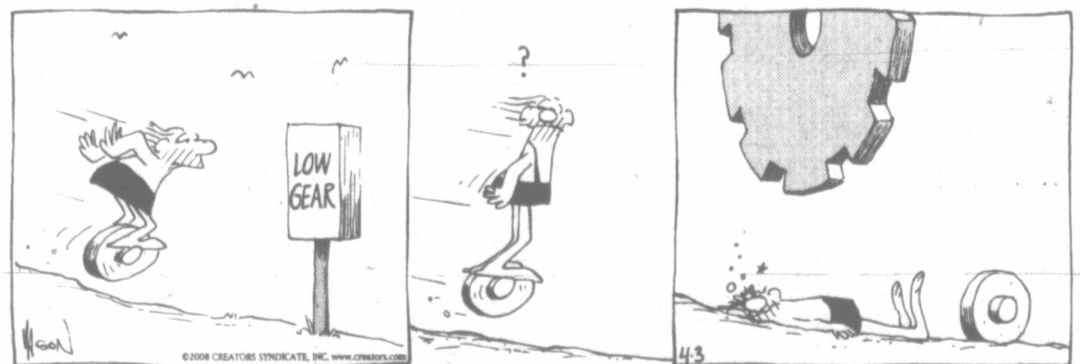


The Family Circus

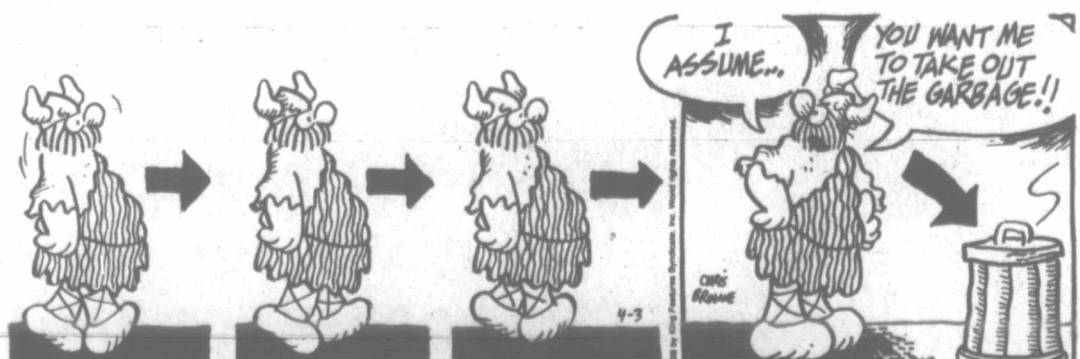
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Flo & Friends



Blondie



Sports



The Lefors Lady Pirates 400 meter relay team placed second at the district meet and will compete next Tuesday at the area meet in Panhandle. Left to right: Emily Jackson, Lacie Johnston, Valerie Miller and Monica Pairsh.

Lefors Pirates compete in District 2-A

The Lefors track team competed in the District 2-A meet Wednesday, April 2 in Booker. The boys and girls team both placed second. The top four finishers in each event qualified to compete at the Area meet on Tuesday, April 8 in Panhandle. Valerie Miller, Emily Jackson and Jeremy Spouse qualified for the Area meet in all five events in which they competed.

Results are as follows: The girls team Area qualifiers were, in pole vault, Valerie Miller placed first (8'6"). In long jump, Valerie Miller placed first (15'2") and Emily Jackson placed second (14'0"). In triple jump, Emily Jackson placed first (32'2").

In shot put, Timbra Overstreet placed first (32' 10 1/2"). In discus, Timbra Overstreet placed second (88' 3 1/2"). In 4x100 meter relay, Emily Jackson, Lacie Johnston, Monica Pairsh and Valerie Miller placed second (56.54). In 100 meter dash, Valerie Miller placed second (13.23) and Emily Jackson placed fourth (13.51). In 200 meter dash, Valerie Miller placed first (27.44) and Emily Jackson placed second (27.72).

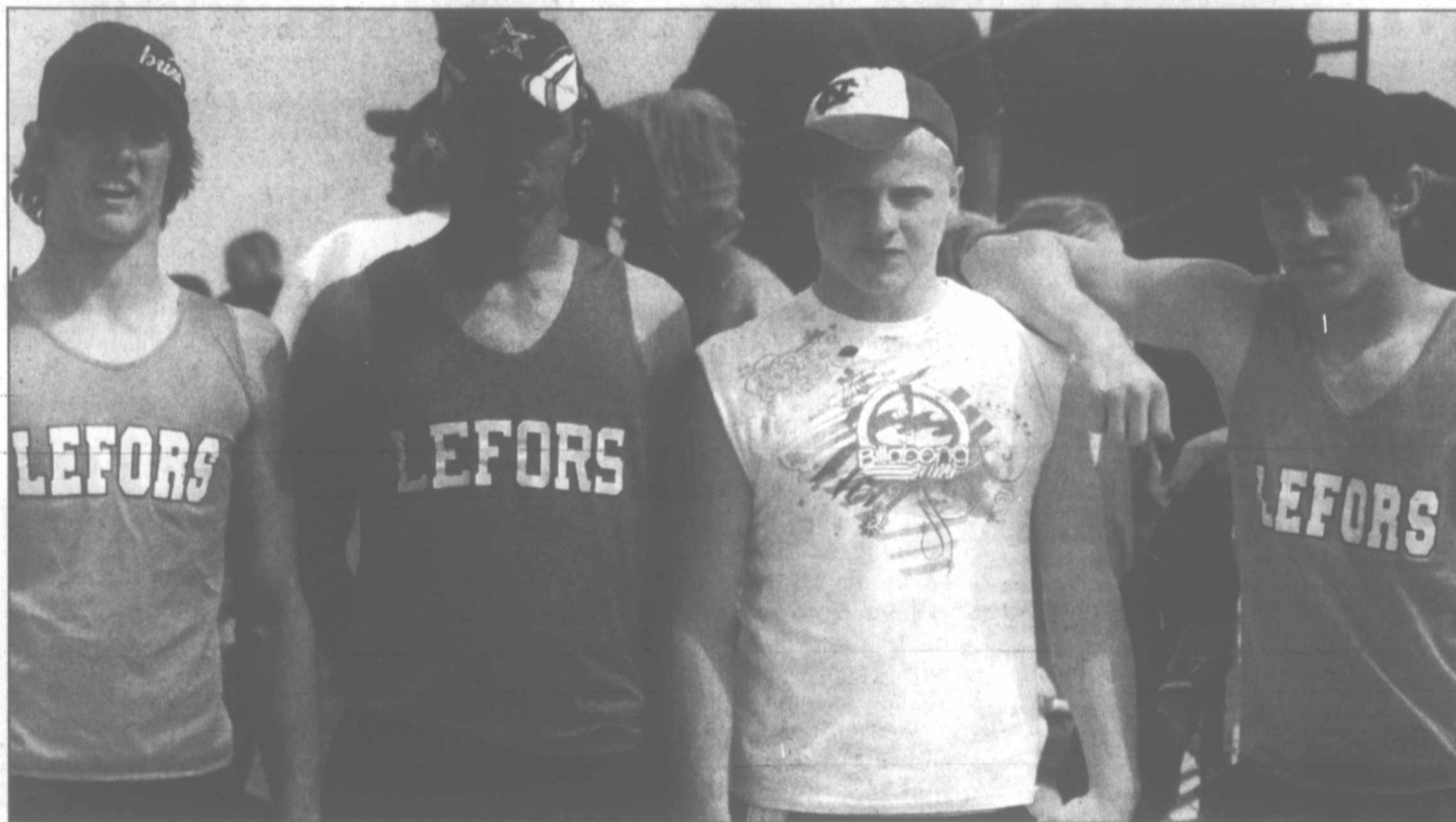
Other top finishers for the girls were, in 3200 meter run and 800 meter run, Taylor Overstreet placed sixth in both events. In the 1600 meter relay, Monica Pairsh, Taylor Overstreet, Lacie

Johnston and Tori Meeks placed fifth.

For the boys team, Area qualifiers were, in pole vault Nick Hess placed first (8'6") and Keenan Lott placed second (8'0"). In triple jump, Jeremy Spouse placed fourth (38'9") and also placed second in high jump (5'10"). In shot put, Dustin Forsyth placed second (39'7 1/2") and J.D. Pairsh placed third (37'10"). In discus, Dustin Forsyth placed first (116"). In 4x100 meter relay, Payton Johnson, Jeremy Spouse, Nick Hess and Brandon McBee placed second (47.88). In 110 meter hurdles, Jeremy Spouse placed third (18.49). In 800 meter run, Trevor Czubinski

placed fourth (2:27.12). In 100 meter dash, Payton Johnson placed third (12.00). In 400 meter dash, Trevor Czubinski placed second (58.07). In 300 meter hurdles, Jeremy Spouse placed second (45.19). In 200 meter run, Gabriel Miller placed second (5:32.86). In 1600 meter relay, J.D. Pairsh, Dustin Forsyth, Robert Wallen and Trevor Czubinski placed fourth (4:15.68).

Other top finishers for the boys team were Gabriel Miller who placed fifth in 3200 meter run and Brandon McBee who placed fifth in 110 meter hurdles.



The Pirate 400 meter relay team placed second at the district meet. Left to right are Brandon McBee, Jeremy Spouse, Payton Johnson, and Nick Hess.

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Hidden Hills results

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 April 2, 2008

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 Jerry Davis
 B. Millican
 Jack Davis

2nd Place (61)
 H. Knutson
 R. Cross
 B. Housley

3rd Place (64)
 W. Nickelberry
 C. Byrun
 L. Moreno
 B. Harwood

4th Place (64)
 E. Maxwell
 H. Wells
 J. Lee
 G. Owens

Cloest to the Pin
 E. Maxwell (#6)
 D. Dunham (#15)

Do you have local sports tips, scores or photographs? If you'd like to see your information on the sports page, call Julie Thompson at The Pampa News: (806) 669-2525 or E-mail at: sports@thepampanews.com

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Hidden Hills

Hidden Hills will host the Three-Man Scramble on Saturday, April 5 with a 9:00 a.m. shotgun start. Only one player with an eight handicap or less allowed. Teams will be flighted according to their total handicap.

Admission is \$40.00 upon sign up. Players must be 18 years of age and must have their handicap ready. A percentage of the money will go into Hidden Hills' Cart Trail Fund. Prizes will be given the day of the tournament.

Berkman's three run homer lifts Astros to first win

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The Houston Astros were one strike away from opening the season with three straight losses, then inches away.

They managed to stick around long enough for Lance Berkman to hit a three-run homer off Trevor Hoffman in the ninth inning that carried them to a 9-6 win over the San Diego Padres on Wednesday night.

"Our bats woke up," manager Cecil Cooper said. "We got some big, big, big hits."

None was bigger than Berkman's homer. It was his first career hit off Hoffman, baseball's career saves leader.

"I just wanted to not strike out on three pitches like I did last night," said Berkman, who fanned against Hoffman to end Tuesday night's game.

With the Padres leading 6-5, Hoffman retired the first two batters before walking pinch-hitter Jose Cruz Jr. on a full-count pitch. Michael Bourn singled to right and Hunter Pence followed with a single off the tip of first baseman Adrian Gonzalez's glove to score Cruz. Berkman drove a 3-1 pitch to center field for his first homer of the season.

Berkman said he was able to pick up Hoffman's release point much better than he had on Tuesday, then patiently worked the count.

"He gave me a fastball that I could hit 3-1 and I'm glad I swung at it," Berkman said.

"Lance just crushed that one," Cooper said. "That ball was almost on a line going out of the ballpark."

Fans saw a rare sight —

Hoffman (0-1) being pulled. He blew the save a night after getting his first save of the season and the 525th of his career.

"It's part of the process and here we are talking about being on the other end of it," Hoffman said. "We had done a good job of shutting them down for almost three games, but they exploded for four runs in the ninth."

The Astros had scored just one run in their first two games, and that was on a bases-loaded walk.

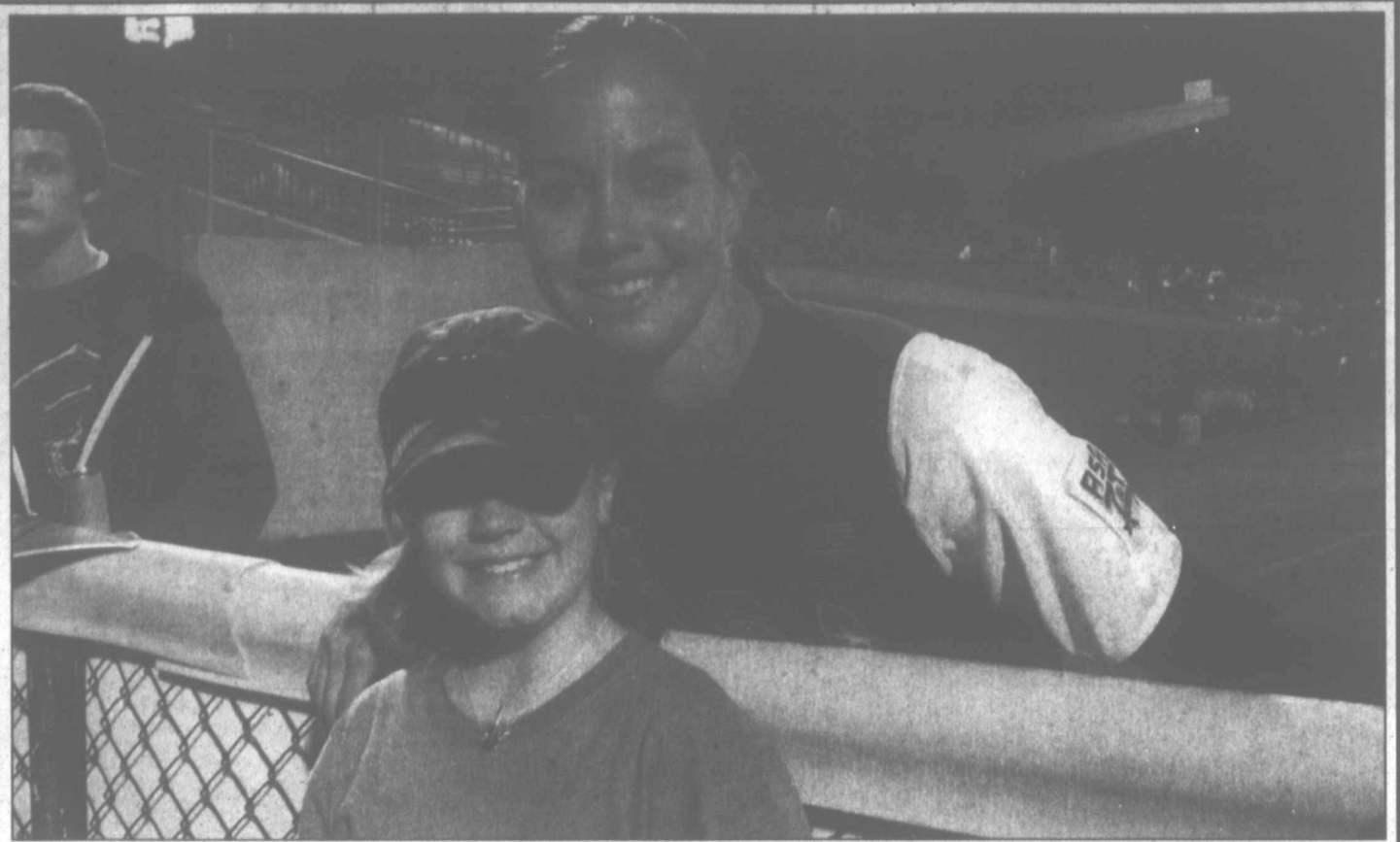
Padres manager Bud Black called Berkman "one of the best players in the National League. He's a good hitter and good hitters do those things."

Balls were flying out of spacious Petco Park on a cold night. The Astros hit four homers and the Padres had two.

The Astros had tied the game at 5 in the top of the eighth when Berkman hit a leadoff double, stole third and scored on Miguel Tejada's sac fly.

San Diego's Brian Giles singled three times and had three RBIs, including a go-ahead sacrifice fly in the eighth off Jose Valverde (1-0). Michael Barrett scored three runs for the Padres.

Greg Maddux made five nice defensive plays in his season debut for the Padres, including one where he dove to his right to field Berkman's sharp grounder, got up and threw him out to end the fifth inning. Maddux won his record 17th Gold Glove Award last year.



Above, Bailee Budd (daughter of Paul and Leslie Budd) and below, Brittney Green (daughter of Huey and Judy Green) posed for pictures and received autographs at the USA Olympic softball game against OU on March 25 in Oklahoma City. Budd wanted to go to the game to celebrate her 10th birthday, and she and Green stood in line to meet their favorite player, Cat Osterman. The game will air on ESPN at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29.



Mariners win 4-1 over Texas Rangers

SEATTLE (AP) — So what if he's a starter? Miguel Batista was destined to close this game.

The Mariners' bullpen was a mess after just two games. All-Star closer J.J. Putz had just gone on the disabled list

with a ribcage injury.

And the fortune cookie Batista had to finish off his pregame dinner declared: "Someone will need your help this month."

Carlos Silva allowed three hits and one run in his Seattle debut, Jose Lopez hit a three-run homer and Batista, the No. 5 starter, turned his cookie into an omen by getting his first save in three years to close out the Mariners' 4-1 win over the Texas Rangers.

When Batista showed John McLaren what fortune cookie he had drawn at dinner, the Mariners manager exclaimed: "Oh, no you didn't!"

Putz had gone on the disabled list for an indefinite period hours earlier with a ribcage injury, after allowing a ninth-inning home run to Josh Hamilton in a rare blown save Tuesday. The next option to close, hard-throwing right-hander Mark Lowe, had pitched in consecutive games and is coming off two elbow surgeries in 19 months. Plus, Thursday was an off day for Seattle.

Just like that, the starter was now closer for a day.

"Well, it is actually an interesting way of using your bullets," Batista said.

McLaren was left with a huge grin.

"Everything came together for us pretty well there," he said.

Batista saved 31 games for Toronto in 2005 but led Seattle with 16 wins as a starter last season. He got shoved to the back of the rotation by the arrival of Silva and new ace Erik Bedard and was preparing for a routine bullpen session during batting practice when McLaren told him to save himself for a possible ninth-inning bailout.

When Sean Green walked Hamilton on four pitches to begin the ninth, bailout time arrived. Batista quickly got Hank Blalock and Milton Bradley to fly out. Then Frank Catalanotto grounded out for Batista's first save since Sept. 27, 2005, at Boston.

"I would have used all my pitches during batting practice. It's a little, not nerve wracking, but a concern to do it in a game with the heart of the lineup coming up," Batista said.

"As a starter, you can pitch six or seven innings and pace. As a closer, you have to put everything you have into that one inning and challenge guys."

Silva challenged the Rangers all night — and won. The Mariners were laughed at for signing the 270-pound right-hander with a lineman's build to a to \$48 million, four-year contract to be their No. 3 starter. He looks worth it so far.

"Silva was spectacular," McLaren said. "Another No. 1 pitcher for us. You can't pitch much better than that."

Silva (1-0) showed off his usual sinkerball for which he

is known for getting ground balls, a tricky changeup, plus a new cutter he learned from pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre a few weeks ago. They — and just about everything else — worked in the colder, heavier air better than in the Arizona desert.

"It's hard to believe how weather can affect you. The ball was moving great," Silva said.

He didn't allow a hit from Ian Kinsler's leadoff double until his only real blemish, a home run by former Mariner Ben Broussard leading off the sixth. Broussard's first home run for Texas plopped onto the top of the right-field fence and bounced past to make it 4-1. It came on an 0-2 that Silva left up.

Seattle's new top triumvirate of Bedard, Felix Hernandez and Silva have allowed two earned runs combined in three starts.

"Oh, yeah, that's the way everyone was expecting it to be from the starters," Silva said.

Jason Jennings (0-1) allowed four runs on five hits in five innings, giving up Lopez's three-run shot with two outs in the fifth. That came on a full count, after he had Lopez down 0-2.

"I was doing everything I wanted to do, but you can't make mistakes like that with their guy is throwing as well as he did tonight," Jennings said.

Lopez, the No. 2 hitter, has five RBIs in three games. He was an All-Star in 2006 while batting second during the first half of '06 then slumped for a season and a half while at the bottom of the order.

Notes: Texas still hasn't won an opening series since 2001. ... Betancourt, the No. 9 hitter, is 6-for-11 (.545) through three games.

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March 30, 2008

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DRIVERS- IMMEDIATE OPENING for regional & OTR drivers! CDL-A with tanker required. Premium pay & benefits. Call 1-877-810-1041. or visit www.oakleytransport.com

EVENTS

WORLD'S LARGEST GUN SHOW April. 5th & April 6th. Tulsa, OK Fairgrounds. Saturday 8-6, Sunday 8-4. Whinnemacher Productions. Free appraisals. Bring your guns! www.tulsagunshow.com

NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee products or services advertised. We urge readers to use caution and when in doubt contact the Texas Attorney General at 1-800-621-0508 or the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP. The FTC web site is www.ftc.gov/biztop

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POST OFFICE NOW Hiring. Avg. Pay \$20/hour or \$57K/yr. Including Federal Benefits, OT. Offered placed by Exam Services, not affiliated with USPS who hires. 1-866-918-1182

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EXPERIENCED REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED to recruit families for FE Students. Willing to complete with pay/benefits of current employer. Contact: rliether@laafi.org or 1-626-964-9588 ext. 113.

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AFFORDABLE 1-4 BEDROOM home from \$199/month! Banks repos & foreclosures! For listings & info. Foreclosure Agency: 1-800-604-8389.

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BRAND NEW MOBILE/manufactured homes with warranty. Buy at the factory for \$17,750. Photos/floor plans online: www.BuyAtTheFactory.com; Free color brochure! Call Factory Expo Home Center: 1-800-464-0062.

FORECLOSURES! 5BR/2BA HOME only \$30K! 3 bedroom, 2 bath only \$18K! Financing referrals available. Listings & info: Foreclosure Agency, 1-800-604-8389.

NEW MANUFACTURED HOMES, now wholesale prices direct to the public. Save thousands guaranteed. Free information packet. Toll free 1-866-467-8811/para espanol marque ext. seiscientos cuatro.

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SCOOTERS & POWER WHEELCHAIRS. Did you know in most cases Medicare, Medicaid and insurance pay 100% of the cost? Call Melissa or Jon for details. 1-800-606-9860. www.medicaremedicalsupply.com.

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HAPPY JACK® NOVATION® protective 'ban' get patented release 8-month flea/tick control-before heavy infestation. At Farm Feed & Hardware stores. www.happyjackinc.com.

REAL ESTATE

MEYERS CANYON RANCH, 320.8 acres, \$395/acre, smaller tracts available. Large mesa and deep canyon, good hunting. West Texas, Terrell County. 1-866-286-0199. www.ranchcenterprisesltd.com

NEAR RUIDOSO NEW MEXICO, 149 acre ranch parcels from \$995/acre. Great views, excellent home property. Power & gravel roads. Borders national forest, may split. 1-877-289-6650. www.swpproperties.com.

SOUTHERN COLORADO RANCH Sale. 35 acres- \$29,900. Spectacular rocky mountain views, year round access, electricity/ telephone included. Excellent financing available with low down payment. Call Red Creek Land Co. Today! 1-866-696-5263 x 3473.

STOP RENTING! GOV'T & Bank foreclosures! Consumer Resource Network, call now. 1-800-724-2318.

5.02 ACRES North of Brady, Texas. Country living, central water, electricity. Seasonal creek, oaks, mesquite trees. Low down, \$399/month or TX Vet financing. 1-325-456-4678. www.hillcountryranches.com

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3 Personal

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5 Special Notices

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7 Auction

LAND AUCTION. Apr. 4th, 10:00 am. 419 Ac Farm. 3 yr Mineral Lease. Ele. substitution for wind energy. 7 miles sw of Spearman. Apr 5th 10:00 Am. Solar Earth Home. 1-12 lots Bushland. Brokers: LandandCattleLLC. com 679-6787.

10 Lost/Found

FOUND toolbox, near Price Rd., Pampa. Describe contents. Call cell# 806-336-4565.

FOUND Hound Dog puppy. Call to identify, 277-0385.

LOST White Jack Russell puppy, Blk & Brown face, family pet. Please call 440-6558.

13 Bus. Opp.

GREAT investment opp. Pampa motel. Retired couple or individual. 665-1875, 806-383-1985.

14d Carpentry

Carpentry, Roofing, Replacement Windows, steel siding & trim. Continuous gutters. Jerry Nicholas 669-9991, 662-8169

14d Carpentry

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

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14e Carpet Serv.

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

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CERAMIC tile work. Remodeling floor, shower, kitchen. Texture, painting, dry wall. Free esti. Call 665-3453 leave message, Jesus Barraza.

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14s Plumbing/Heat

JACK'S Plumbing, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115. Plumbing, repairs, new constr., & septic sys.

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

19 Situations

IT'S that time of year-Spring is here! Let our team assist you, from housekeeping to yard work. No job too big. 669-1661, 663-3299.

21 Help Wanted

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

GREAT opp. for single or retired couple, for 12 unit motel in Pampa. Lrg. apt. incl. 665-4274, 665-4274.

REAL Estate Co. needs maintenance man w/ own tools. Apply at 1347 Coffee, Mon.-Fri., 8am-6pm, 665-4274, 665-1875.

MAINTENANCE Man needed, remodeling exp. for various properties. Painting, drywall & plumbing a must!! Must have own tools & trans. 665-1875, 665-4274.

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TAKING applications for all positions. Johnson Home Furnishings. 801 W. Francis.

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\$17.89-\$28.27/hr., now hiring. For application & free government job info, call American Assoc. of Labor, 1-913-599-8226 24 hrs. emp.serv.

TEXAS Rose Steakhouse is now hiring Servers. Apply in person! No Phone Calls.

MAKE UP TO \$900 A WEEK Work for a local Well Service Company *Must have a good driving record *Must have a good background *Must be at least a GED *Must be at least 21 yrs. of age

Please contact SOS STAFFING SERVICES 806-648-2633

TOP O Texas Oilfield needs Kill Truck Driver. Exp. a MUST. Must have Class A CDL. Drug test, competitive pay & insurance. 408 S. Price Rd.

TOP O Texas Oilfield needs Exp. Roustabouts. Valid CDL a plus! Drug test, competitive pay & ins. 408 S. Price Rd.

D.E. Chase, Inc. is looking to fill the following positions:

Exp. Drivers for the Pampa & Wheeler Area Shop Hand for Wheeler Exp. Mechanics

Please apply in person at 1445 S. Barnes Pampa, TX

HELP wanted in a chiropractic office. Ins. exp. is a plus! Send reply to Box 63 c/o Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa.

21 Help Wanted

SUBWAY Sandwiches is now hiring for both stores. Apply in person 2141 N. Hobart, or the Subway in Walmart.

OUTREACH Health Services needs Providers in Pampa. Please call 1-806-354-6815 or 1-800-800-0697. EOE.

Cable One is introducing new products to the Borger, Dumas & Pampa markets. Digital television, high speed Internet and Home Telephone Sales. Must be able to sell our services DOOR-TO-DOOR to residential homes in Borger, Dumas & Pampa areas.

Our door to door sales representatives earn a national average of \$28,000 to \$38,000 per year including a base salary, commissions and sales incentives. A good driving record and a valid driver's license are required. Must be able to work flexible hours on Saturdays and Sundays. Sales experience is a plus! All offers of employment are dependent upon a pre-hire physical and drug screen, background and DMV screen EOE The ONE you can count on

Send Resume to Donna Litterell

CABLEONE DIGITAL

1423 N. Hobart St. Pampa, TX. 79065 Fax 806-665-5174

CITY OF PANHANDLE

Water/Wastewater Operator (1 position) Requires: Minimum of a high school diploma or its equivalent; on year related exp. preferred, Class "D" certification in Water Treatment and Class "D" Wastewater certification within one year of employment (upon expiration of the Class "D", a Class "C" must be obtained); Operates heavy equipment such as a backhoe, or light or heavy truck and assisting the maintenance crew with repairs and new construction projects. Class "B" CDL with air brakes within agreed time frame. Position requires successful completion of a pre-employment drug screen. **Open until filled.** First review of applications will be in early April. Salary: DOE. Benefits package available.

Contact Shawn Watson P.O. Box 129 Panhandle, TX. 79068 Phone: 806-537-3517 Fax: 806-537-5049 Email: publicworks@cableone.net

CITY OF PANHANDLE

MSW Operator Type I A/E Landfill (1 position) Requires: Minimum of a high school diploma or its equivalent; one year related experience preferred, Class C MSW Operator License preferred or availability to obtain required TCEQ State License within mandated time frame. Operates heavy equipment such as loader, compactor, light or heavy truck personnel with maintenance, repairs, and building projects. Position requires successful completion of a pre-employment drug screen. **Open until filled.** First review of applications will be in early April. Salary: DOE. Benefits package available.

Contact Shawn Watson P.O. Box 129 Panhandle, TX. 79068 Phone: 806-537-3517 Fax: 806-537-5049 Email: publicworks@cableone.net

21 Help Wanted

HOUSEKEEPERS to Yard Personnel needed. Background check, drug screen req. 669-1961

MISSION PETROLEUM CARRIERS is looking for a Great Mechanic. If you have heavy truck exp., a CDL (w/Hazmat a plus), want your own tools and have Great Benefits incl. Medical / 401K / Uniforms and a great shop to work in, You Need To Call Us! 806-922-3047.

ASSISTANT Property Manager needed for Pampa area. Must have strong people skills. Will train right person. Call 665-4274 for interview.

DEBBIE'S Used Furniture, 903 S. Main, Borger, TX. Lrg. Inventory! Specials. 273-2905, 886-0268

CHESTS, beds, desks, table & chairs, wall decor, lots more. Red Barn, Buy & Sell. Sat. 10am-5pm. Call anytime, 665-2767.

PROM Dresses for sale. Size 1-6. On display at Tangles Nail Salon. 669-3733 or 806-207-0105.

69a Garage Sales GARAGE Sale. Friday & Saturday. 8-4. Larry Beck Electric Shop. 1314 w. Kentucky.

HUGE Sale 2132 N. Dwight. Fri 4-6 pm. Sat 9-4 pm. Baby stuff, old stuff, kid stuff, Disney stuff, furniture, all sizes clothes-kids to large ladies.

YARD Sale. 304 Lowry. Friday & Saturday 8-5. Books, Childrens clothes & electronics.

11950 McCullough. Fri & Sat 8-7. Almost new 30 gal. Kobalt compressor, 4 swivel chairs, very good stacked washer & dryer, portable dishwasher, weed sprayer on small trailer & wood chipper. Lots of kids & baby clothes etc.

SAT. 5th and Sun. 6th, SAT. 7th and Sun. 8th, SAT. 9th and Sun. 10th. 10:30pm-7am. St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle, 537-3194. Would consider 2 RN's alternating weekends.

WEEKEND RN, Fri. & Sat., 10:30pm-7am. St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle, 537-3194.

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21 Help Wanted

SEMICRUDE, L.P. has an opening for a Full-Time Mechanic in the Pampa shop. Must have your own tools and meet DOT qualifications. Exc. benefit pkg. Please call 806-934-7505 for application.

SANDBLASTING & painting person. Exp. pref. \$12/ hr up depending on exp. 918-431-5545.

FOOD Service Person. Must be clean, dependable & have good ref. Apply aft. 3pm. Heard-Jones

ASSISTANT Property Manager needed for Pampa area. Must have strong people skills. Will train right person. Call 665-4274 for interview.

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60 Household

SALE Mattress Sets Q-\$269 All sizes available 806-677-0400

Complete Bedroom Sets \$599-\$999 806-677-0400

FOR Sale: Sofa & love-seat, Ex. cond. \$100. Evaporative cooler, only used 2 mos. bought new. \$150 firm. Call 662-1826 & leave a message.

69 Misc. ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

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POLITICS

Clinton, Obama hunt for money in California

By JIM KUHNHENN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — In back-to-back stops, Barack Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton are returning to a popular financial wellhead, raising money in California to help finance a heavy stretch of spending in April.

Both Obama and Clinton are expected to report less money raised in March than they did in their banner fundraising performances in February. With their race for the Democratic nomination showing no signs of ending, tapping donors for more cash has new urgency.

Obama, expected to report raising between \$30 million and \$35 million in

March, has scheduled fundraisers at the homes of four different financial backers Sunday afternoon and evening in northern California.

Clinton, with a March total expected at about \$20 million, attended one fundraiser Wednesday in Silicon Valley, and had three planned Thursday — in San Francisco, Pasadena and Los Angeles.

Most of the events are for donors giving the \$2,300 maximum allowed by law.

Obama raised a record \$55 million in February; Clinton raised \$34.5 million. Their March fundraising reports won't be filed with the government until April 20 and the campaigns declined to make their figures public; the totals cited are based on estimates from advisers.

The only presidential nominating contest this month is in Pennsylvania, and its outcome will be closely scrutinized for signs of strength and weakness by the two Democratic senators. Clinton has had a public opinion poll lead in the state, but Obama has closed it to single digits.

Obama, the fundraising leader in the presidential contest, is already outspending her in advertising. Clinton, seeking to draw attention back to her, launched a new commercial in the state Wednesday that is a sequel to the "3 a.m." national security ad she ran against Obama in Texas last month. This time she takes on Republican John McCain's economic policies.

Clinton aides said Wednesday that they anticipate Obama will outspend her by 2-

to-1 in Pennsylvania. In the first round of campaign ads, Obama spent about \$2 million to Clinton's \$450,000, according to data compiled by TNS Media Intelligence/Campaign Media Analysis Group, which tracks political ads. Obama is also already airing ads in Indiana and North Carolina, which won't hold primaries until next month.

"We don't expect to match Senator Obama ad for ad," Clinton communications director Howard Wolfson told reporters during a conference call Wednesday. "We will have significant resources to compete and be resourceful, but we know that Senator Obama will outspend us significantly."

Spell

Continued from Page 4

"read speed." (How fast can data be transferred from the CD/DVD to your computer?) Basically, you should find a drive with high numbers across the board.

• How to Benchmark Your System

So, now that you know some of the current speed standards, how do you find out where your current system ranks? You need to benchmark it and compare it to today's systems.

One of my favorite utilities for this purpose is Fresh Diagnose (<http://www.freshdevices.com>). It analyzes every aspect of your system and displays the results in easy-to-read graphs. Another great utility is the Belarc advisor

(<http://www.belarc.com>). In addition to displaying your hardware specifications, it lists every installed program along with your software license numbers. The results are shown in an easily-printed web page format.

I'm often asked, "When's the best time to buy a PC?" My answer is always the same: "Right now!" Prices will continue to fall and speeds will increase. Given that truism, you need to accept the fact that PC's are only good for about five years. It's not that they quit working after five years. They're just not powerful enough to run the software developed five years from now. Oh, and one more thing. The recommendations I made in this week's column are only good for about a month, if that long ...

I'll see you in Cyberspace!

Events calendar

• **Pampa Book Club** will review the following books in the coming months: "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" by Betty Smith, April 9; and "Walking Drum" by Louis L'Amour, May 14. The club meets at 10 a.m. the second Wednesday of each month in the Texas Room at Lovett Memorial Library in Pampa.

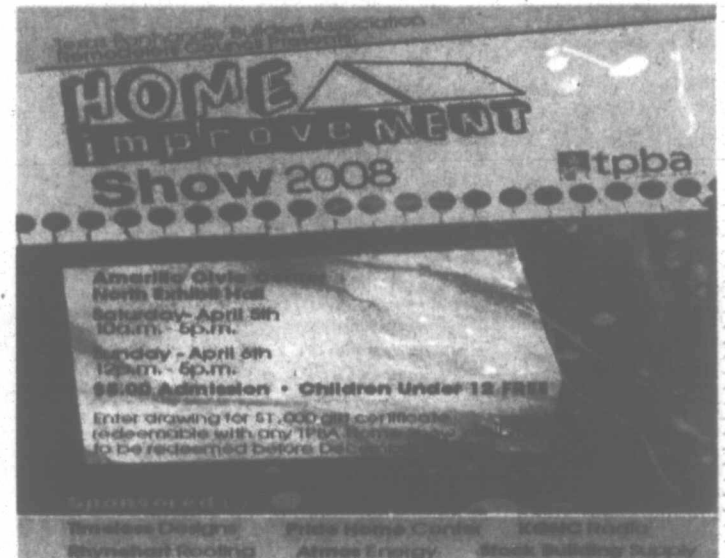
• **The 82nd Airborne Division Association, Inc.**, open to Airborne veterans from the 11th, 13th, 17th, 82nd, 101st and today's special forces, will hold and/or celebrate several national activities including Static Line Awards, April 9-12, Atlanta, Ga.; All American Week, May 19-25, Fort Bragg, N.C.; and National Convention, Aug. 13-16, St. Louis, Mo. The only requirement for members is that they have their jump wings. For complete details and material for membership,

call or e-mail, 1-937-898-5977 or Srgabn@aol.com. The association consists of 100 chapters across America and 30,000 active members.

• **The Texas LST/Amphibious Association** (including veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam and other

peacetime veterans) will meet April 10-12 at Corsicana. For more information, call (806) 435-5647.

• **The annual Altrusa Style Show** will be staged at 10:30 a.m. April 12 in the Heritage Room of M.K. Brown Auditorium. Tickets will be \$12 at the door.



Preschool

Continued from Page 4

lic schools' preschool program.

As attempts are made to expand access to these very worthwhile programs, great care is required to ensure that the quality of the product is not compromised.

The economic future of the state is riding on it. URL: <http://www.mysa.com>

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Wildfires March 2006

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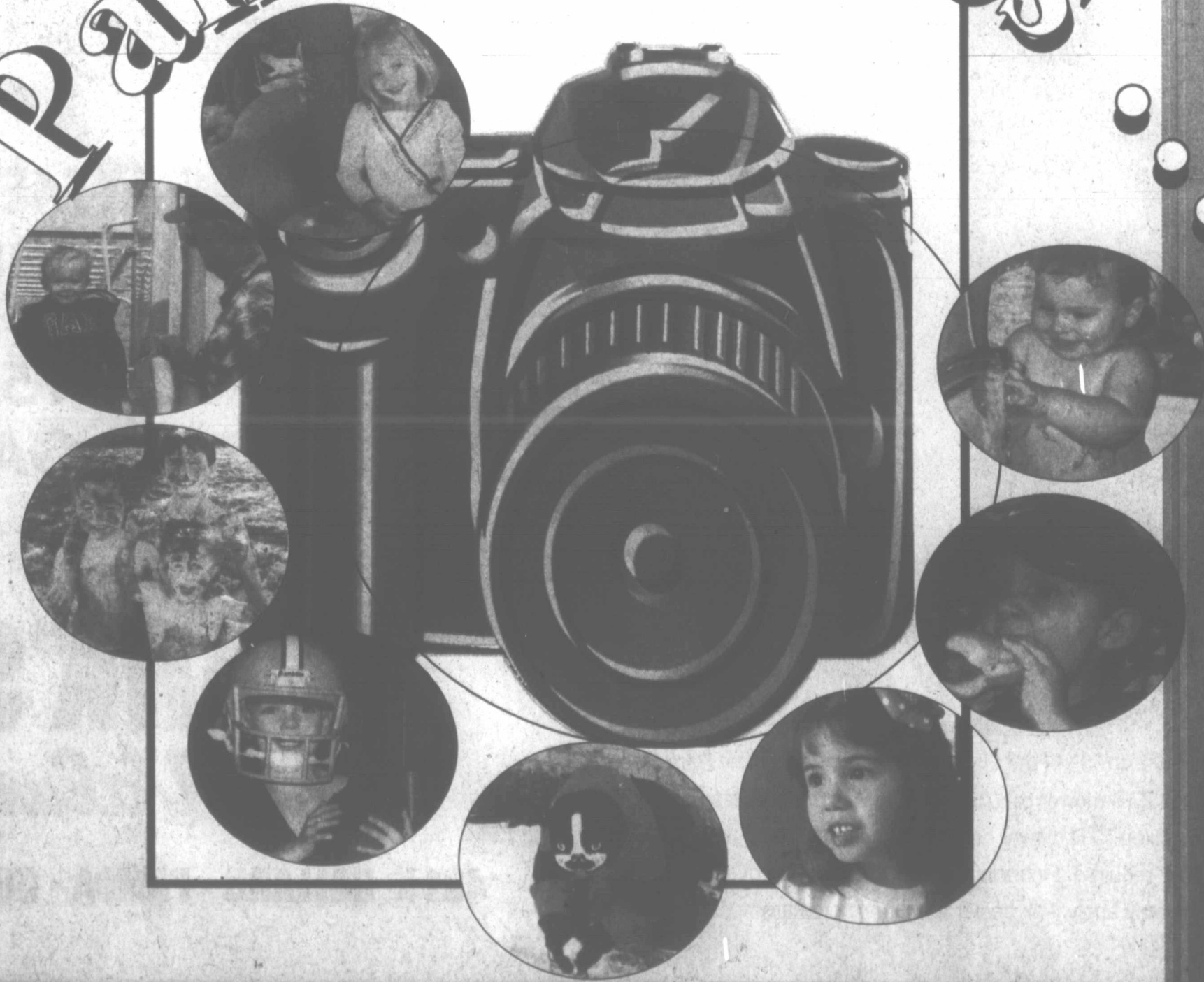
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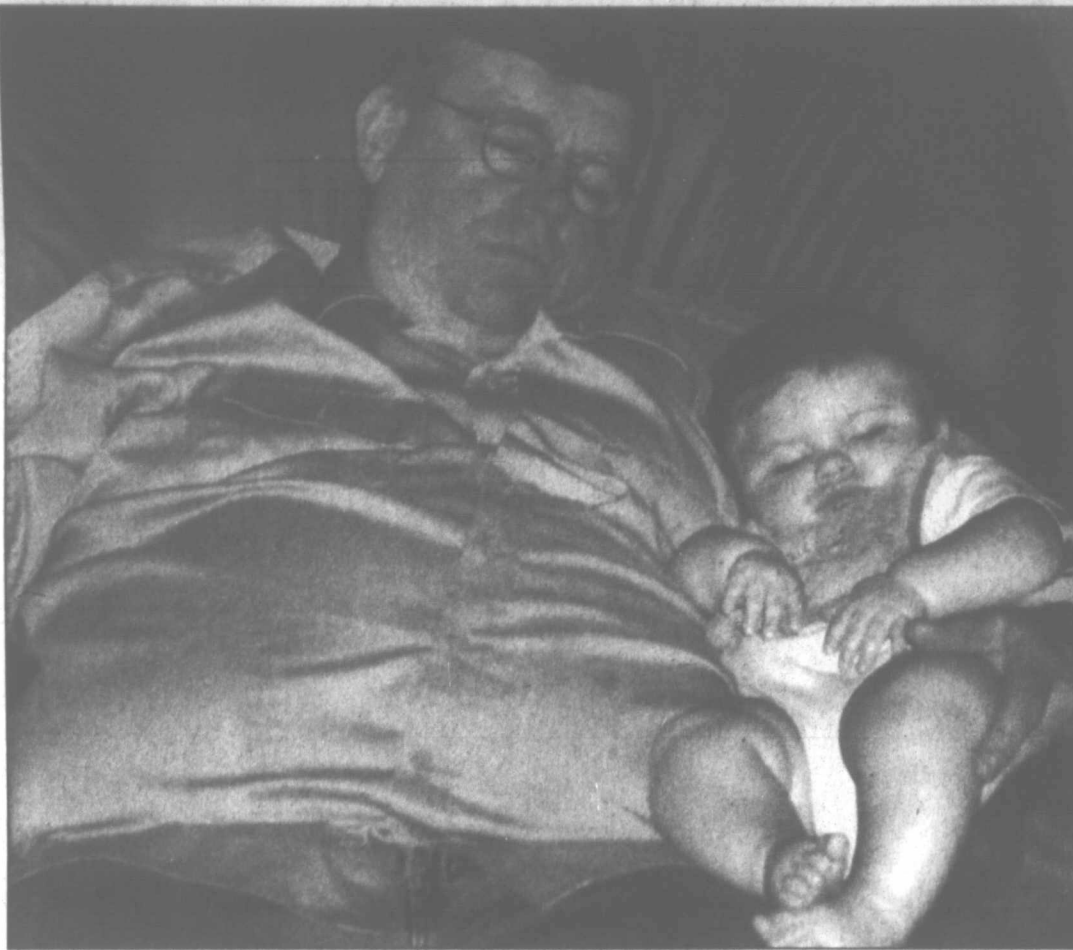


□ Emma Grace Searl, 1. Photo taken by Linda Searl.

THE WINNER!!! THE WINNER!!! THE WINNER!!! THE WINNER!!! THE WINNER!!!
THE WINNER!!! THE WINNER!!! THE WINNER!!! THE WINNER!!! THE WINNER!!!
THE WINNER!!! THE WINNER!!! THE WINNER!!! THE WINNER!!! THE WINNER!!!

Pampa Faces





Stephen Kade Preston relaxes with his Grandfather Steve Fuglein. —Photo taken by Shirley Fueglein, Kade's grandmother.



Jorden Perry, 3, with her great-grandfather Billy Neal, 83, at the 2007 Kid Pony Show in Pampa. Jorden is the fourth generation to rodeo in the Top O' Texas Rodeo arena. Perry, his daughter, granddaughter and great-granddaughter have all participated in rodeos held at the Pampa arena. —Photo taken by Cindy Kempf.



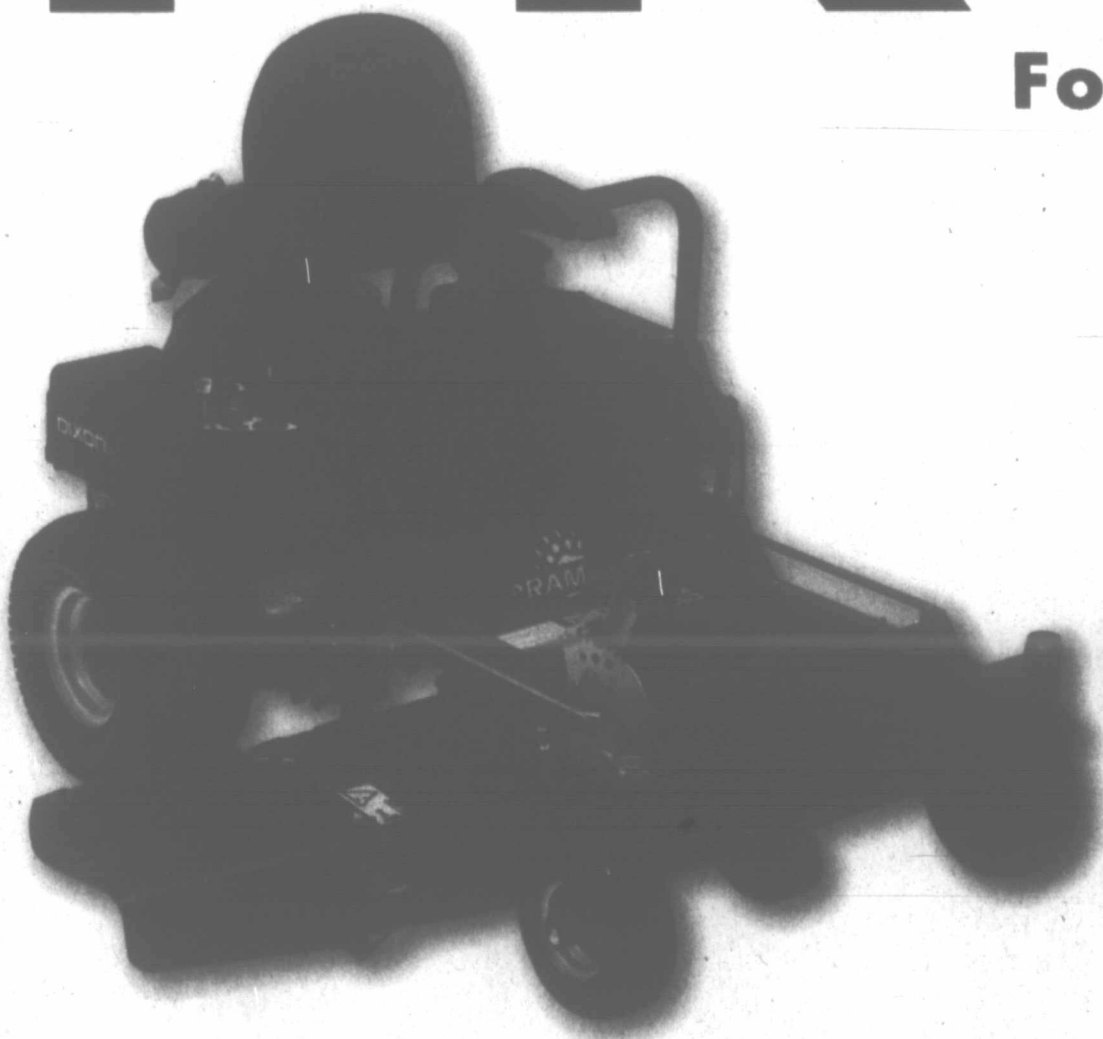
◀ Grace Stone, granddaughter of Robert and Cara Morris. —Photo taken by Cara Morris.

◀ ◀ Caleb Jones with his "Poppy" Kent Jones at the playground at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School. —Photo taken by Karen Jones, Caleb's grandmother.

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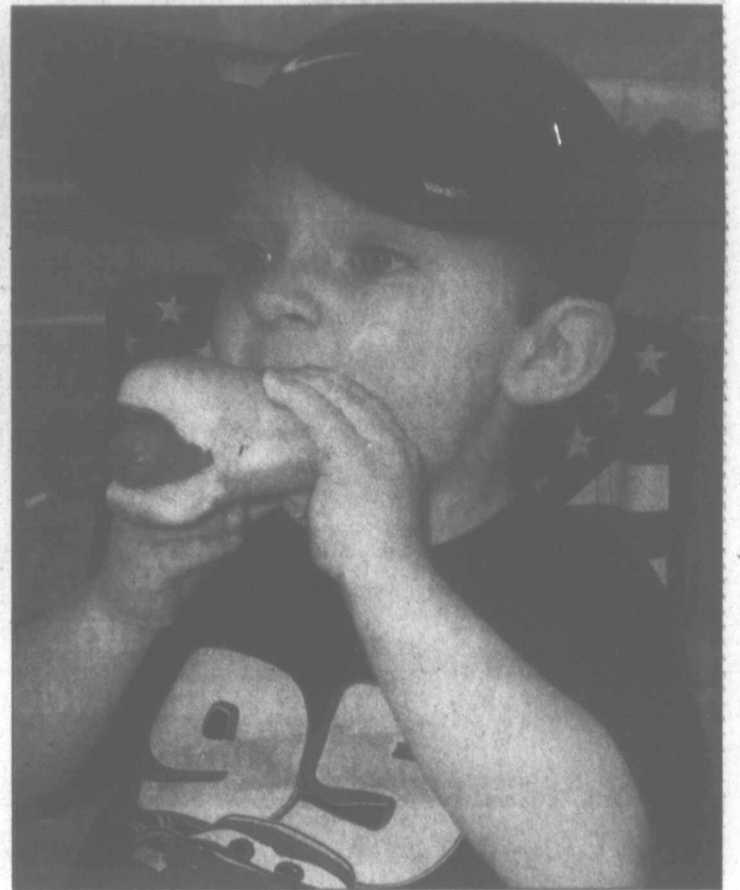
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Stephen Kade Preston joyously enjoyed a bath. —Photo taken by Shirley Fueglein, Kade's grandmother.



Riley Coble devours a hot dog while participating in a church event at Trinity Fellowship. —Photo taken by Kristi Coble.



Cookie Thavaradham tangles with some yarn while knitting. —Photo taken by Nancy Paronto.



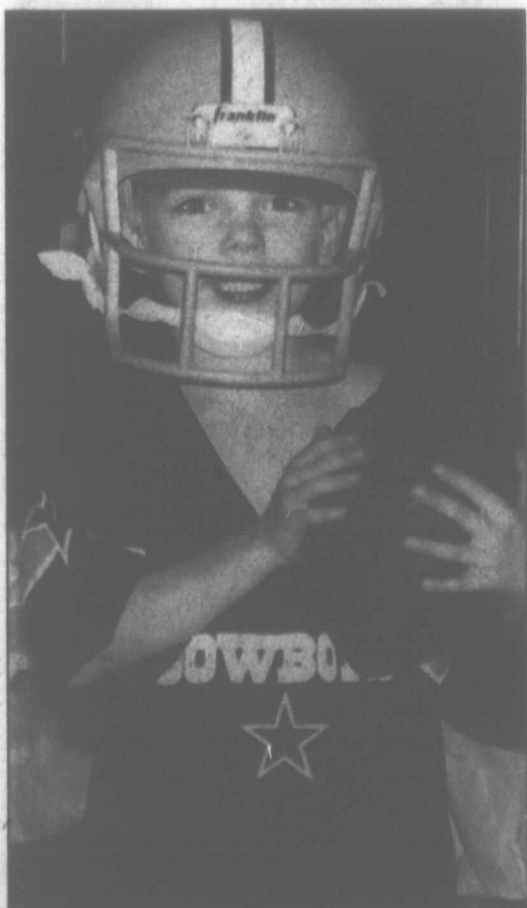
Trevor Ferland donned his "puppy" toboggan to play in the snow. He is the son of Cami and Lance Ferland and is the grandson of Robert and Cara Morris. —Photo taken by Cara Morris.



Clay Ray, Tyler Ray and Cooper Ray pose for this picture after playing in the mud at their Grandmother Opal Ray's house in Pampa. —Photo taken by Opal Ray.



Makenna Reed, 4, in the midst of a host of pumpkins. —Photo taken by Linda Reed.



Go Cowboys! Reid Smith, 6, is ready for some football. —Photo taken by Rick Smith, Reid's father.



Riley Coble enjoys a snack during a picnic at Celanese park. —Photo taken by Kristi Coble.

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▲ Whitney Jenkins, 18. —Photo taken by Amanda Whinery.



Stephen Kade Preston in his swing. —Photo taken by Kaysi Preston.



◀ Jase Lang makes a new friend with this little goat. —Photo taken by Mo Lang, Jase's father, and submitted by Laurann Gilbert, his great-aunt.



Reid Smith, 6, with dog Maddy take a rest on the floor. —Photo taken by Rick Smith, Reid's father.

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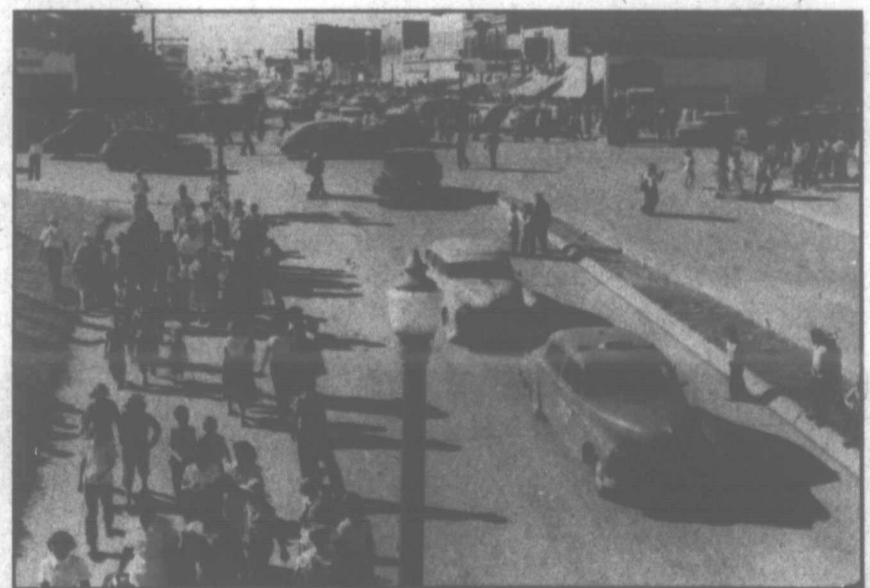
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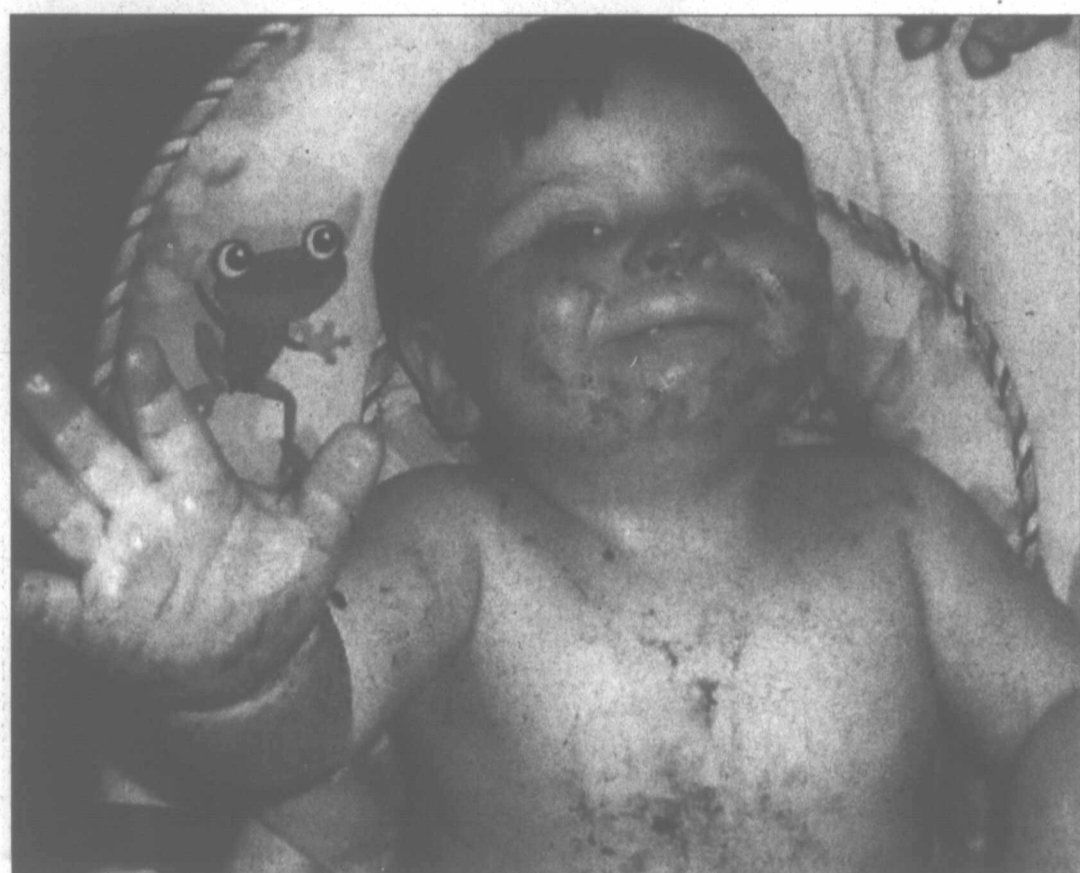




Tristan Seely, 4, on the cell phone. —Photo by Wynona Seely, Tristan's great-grandmother.



Mason Pitner. —Photo taken by Ashly Pitner.



Stephen Kade Preston enjoys his brownie. —Photo taken by Kaysi Preston.



Cambree Taylor Brown, 7-months, sits a rocking horse. —Photo taken by Christie Eads.

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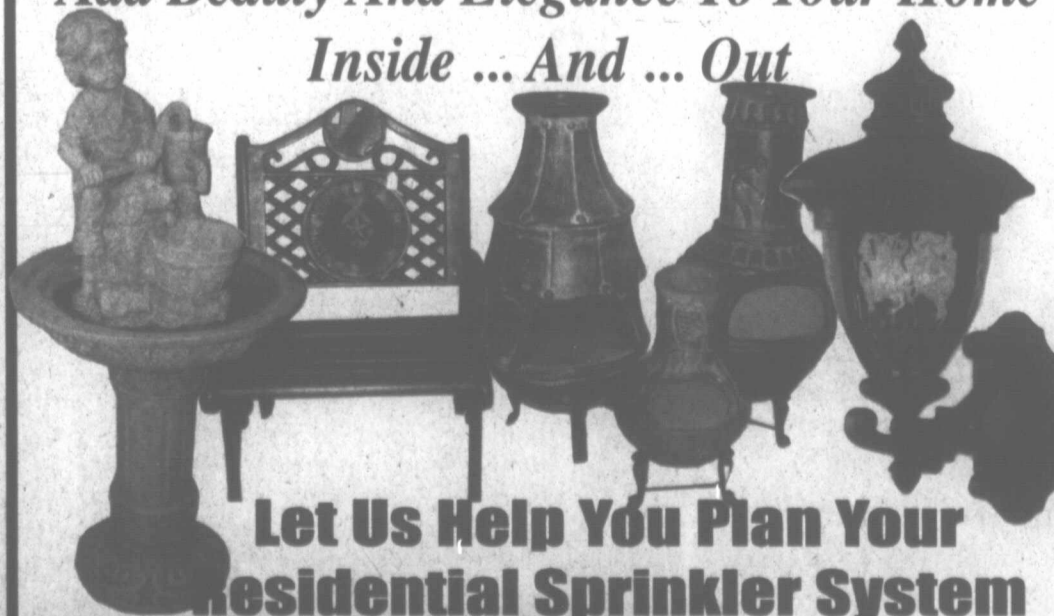
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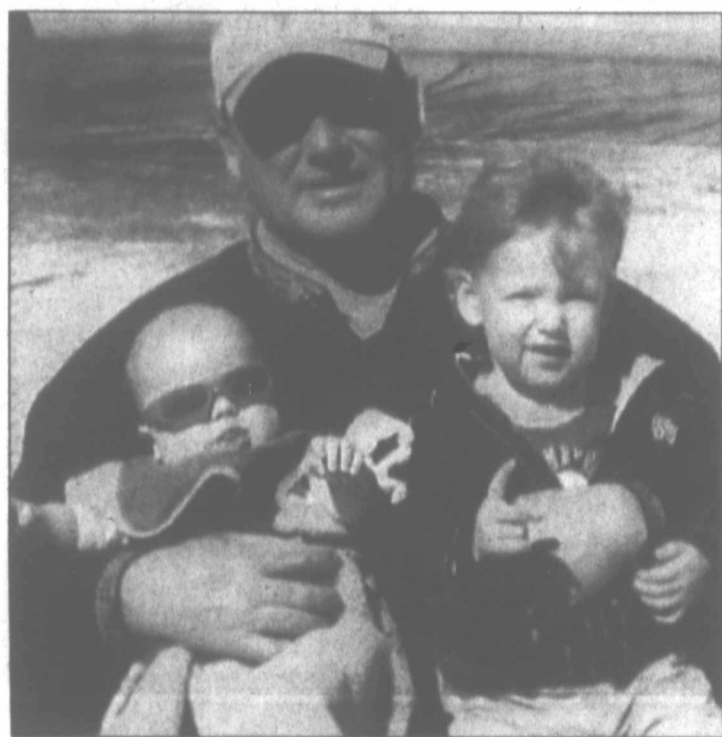
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Cherish and Destiny Peet. —Photo taken by Jennifer Peet.



▲ Juan Carlos Salazar Jr., 22-months, drags his tricycle down the sidewalk. —Photo taken by Cinthia Salazar, Juan's mom.

◀ Cameron Johnston, 4-months, and Gunnar Pierce, 20-months, helped their "Pa" Terry Garner mow. —Photo taken by Melissa Garner.



Grace with dog Joy. —Photo taken by Grace Hudson, Grace's mother.

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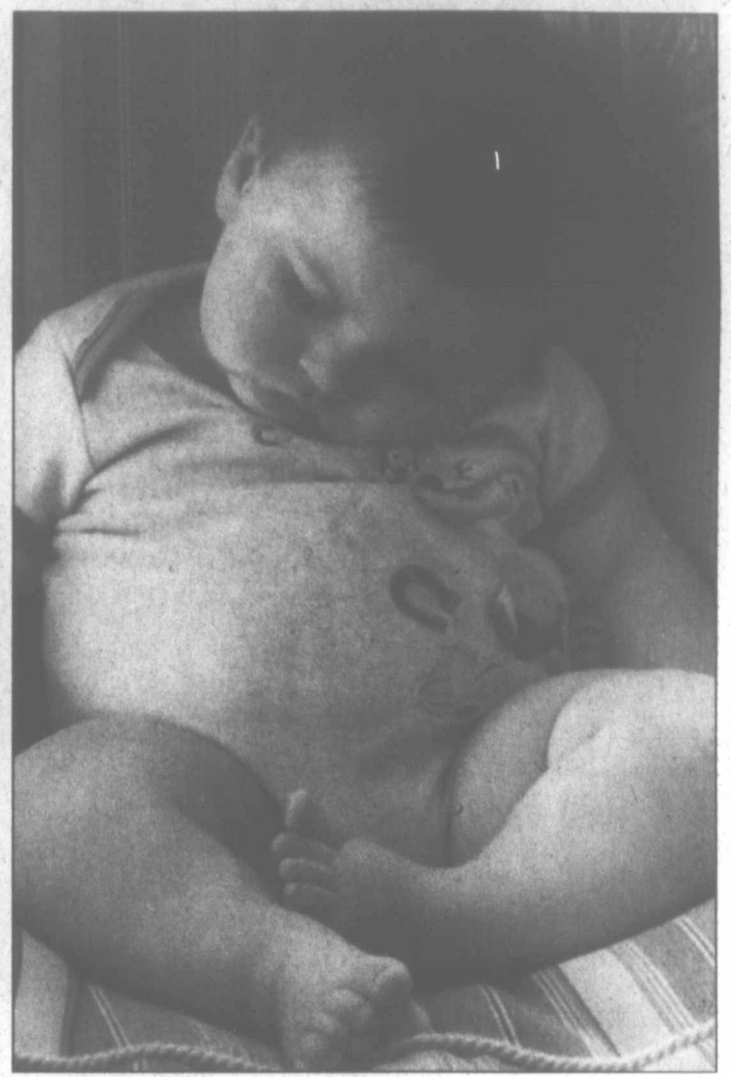
INSTALLERS ERIC WADE & JOHN LOCKE



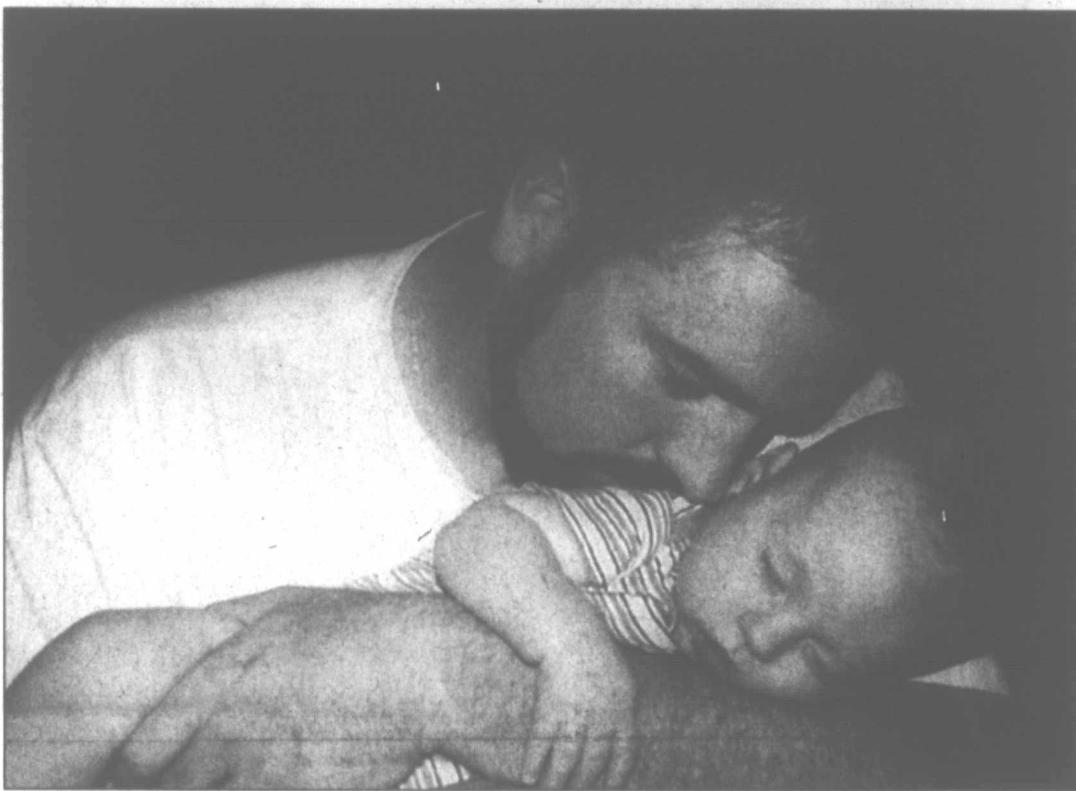
Lorelai Fulton, 14-months, tried to lift a pumpkin. —Photo taken by Gloria Swires.



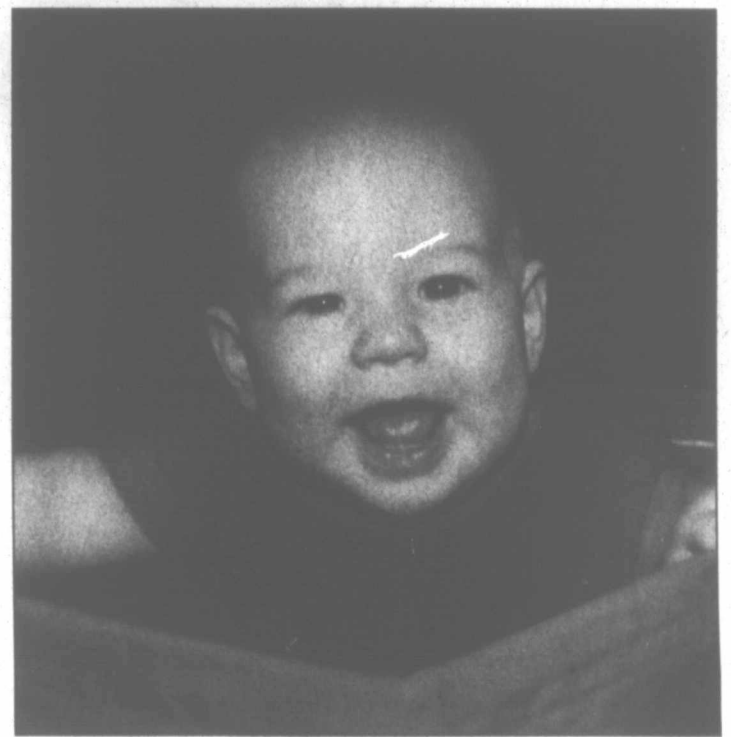
Alexis Janai Salazar tries to land a big kiss on her brother Juan Carlos Salazar Jr. —Photo taken by Cinthia Salazar, the children's mother.



Stephen Kade Preston naps following an outdoor cookout. —Photo taken by Shirley Fueglein, Kade's grandmother.

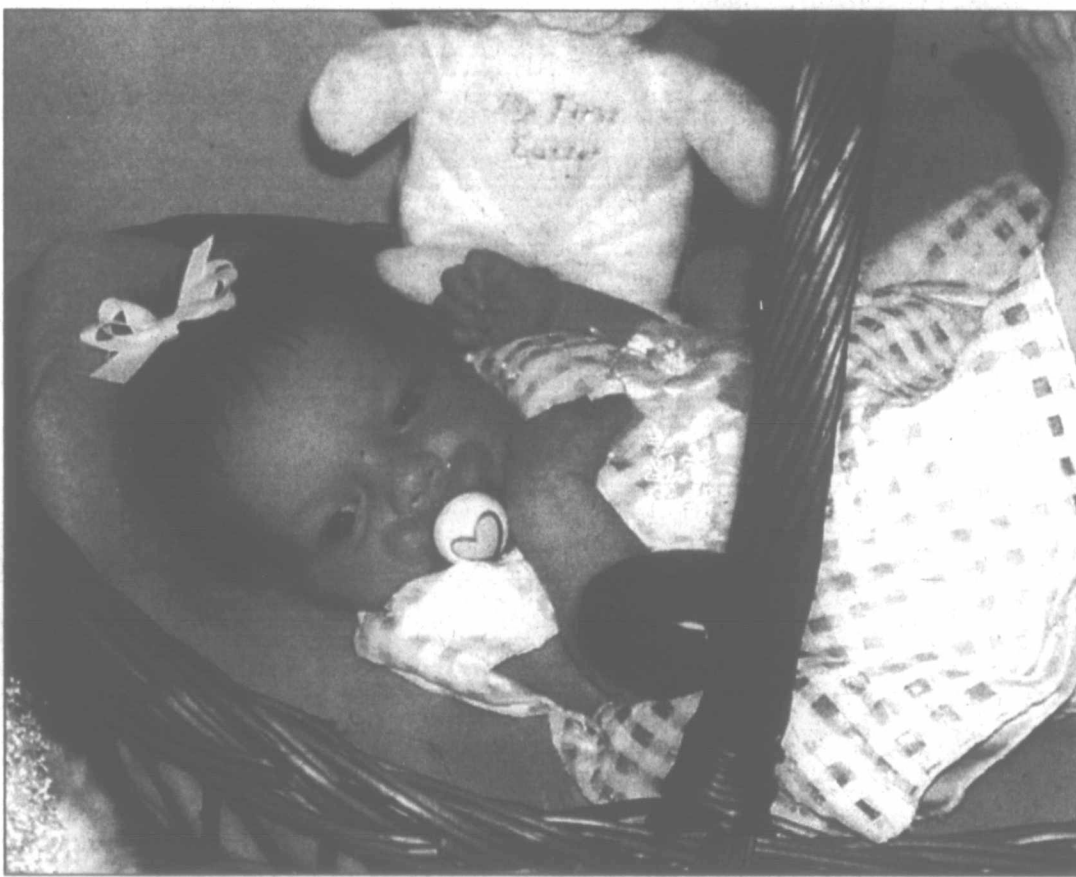


▲ D.J. Harris plays with a guitar. —Photo taken by Danny Whitely, D.J.'s grandfather.



▶ Greyson Tory Peet, 7 1/2-months. —Photo taken by Jennifer Peet.

Tracy Peet with son Kyler, 3-months. —Photo taken by Jennifer Peet.



Cambree Taylor Brown, 2-months, on her first Easter. —Photo taken by Christie Eads.



Paige Allen and Caden Ensey ride their ponies, Jasper and Little Feather. —Photo taken by Jill Schroeder.

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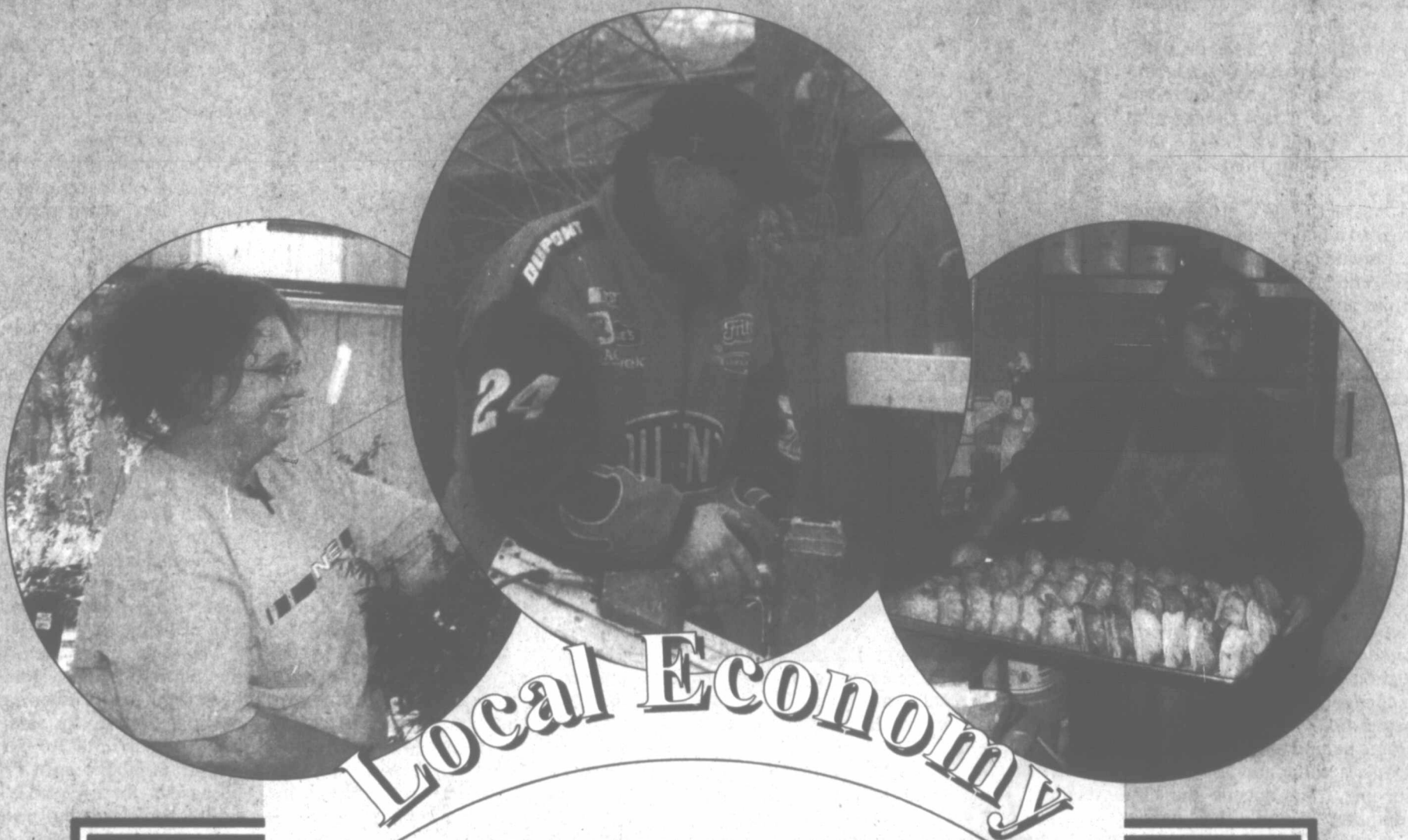
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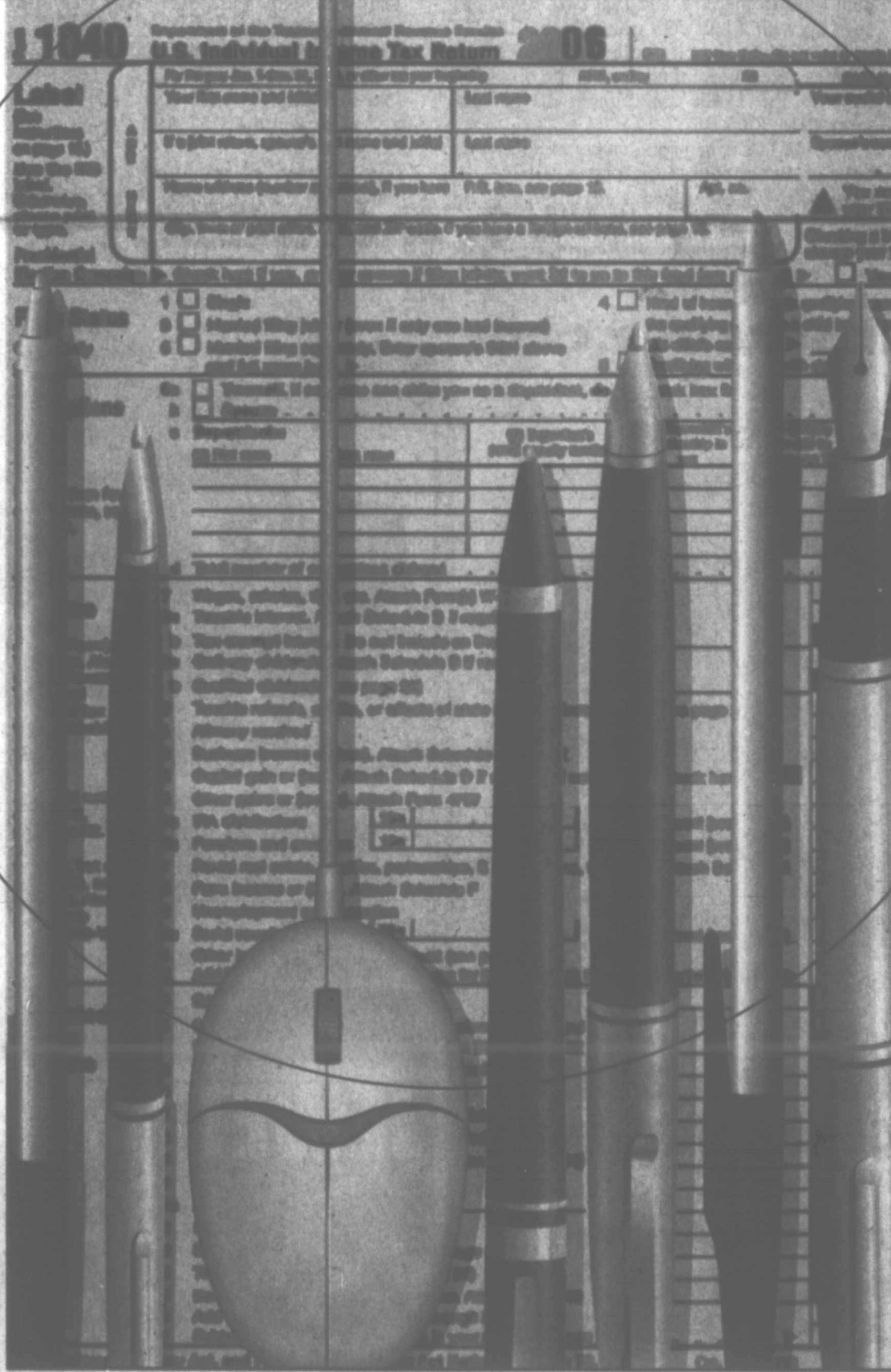
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Business & Commerce



Local Economy



Sales tax growth

Trend for 2007-08 *could* be above 20 percent . . .

By David Bowser
The Pampa News

The city's sales tax receipts, reflecting the local economy, has trended upward since the early 1990s.

As boom turned to bust in the oil patch in the 1980s, the one percent sales tax revenue slumped, dropping 8.3 percent from \$1,604,801 for fiscal year 1984-85 to \$1,471,673 in FY 1985-86. In 1986-87, then plummeted 18.38 percent from the year before to \$1,201,189.

"In 1986-87," said Pampa City Manager John Horst, "we had a major retail-wholesale business move outside the city limits."

As the 1980s ended, Pampa sales taxes began to stabilize and started a long slow climb back.

Sales tax revenue for the city took a jump in 1992-93, when citizens voted to increase the sales tax rate by one half percent to 1.5 percent and take a property tax cut.

"We got a big boost when we went to the additional half-cent sales tax," Horst said.

Sales tax revenue that year was up by more than 31 percent over the previous year followed in 1993-94 by an increase of more than 12 percent to \$1,979,126.

"That was an additional half-cent in lieu of property tax that the voters voted in," said Horst. "They voted to lower their property tax. It amounted that year to right at a \$600,000 reduction in total property tax in the city. In exchange for that, we added a half a percent sales tax."

He said the logic behind that was to spread the tax burden over a wider area.

"We have people from outside the city limits using our streets and other public facilities," Horst said. "This gives them an opportunity to help finance the maintenance and upkeep of our infrastructure."

In 1995-96, sales tax revenue entered the \$2 million range. Although it dropped back briefly in 1998-99 and again in 1999-00, it surged back above the \$2 million mark in 2000-2001 and hasn't stopped growing yet.

Sales tax revenues took another jump in 2003-04 when Pampa voters approved



another half-cent sales tax increase to fund an economic development corporation for the city.

Today, the city draws 1.5 percent of the sales taxes collected in Pampa while the state keeps 6.25 percent. The Pampa Economic Development Corporation gets 0.5 percent of the collections.

"When you go down here to your local retailer," Horst said, "you're going to pay 8.25 cents on the dollar, or 8.25 percent. Six and a quarter goes to the state, and two percent goes to the city, and that two percent is split up with a half cent going to the EDC."

In 2006-07, the city collected \$3,675,549 in sales taxes, more than double the oil boom days of the 1980s and almost 20 percent more than 2005-06.

For the last four years, sales tax increases have grown at double-digit rates.

In 2002-03, the sales tax revenues slipped

slightly — it was down 1.3 percent — but since then it's grown by a healthy margin, according to Robin Bailey, the city finance director.

"Since '03-'04, we've had at least 13 percent growth every year," Bailey said.

Through the first half of this fiscal year, the growth rate has been about 12 percent. If that trend continues, the sales tax growth rate for 2007-08 could be well above 20 percent.

"We budgeted \$3,330,000 for the year," Bailey said, "and in five months we've collected \$1,649,759.36."

That's 20.78 percent over what was budgeted this year, she said.

It's also almost 10 more than what the city collected at that time last year.

The February revenue was \$431,351.97. That was some \$177,000 more than January's revenues.

The February check reflected a healthy Christmas in Pampa, since it was based on sales in December, 2007.

Bailey said the checks lag the actual sales

receipts by two months.

Horst noted that another major business moved out of the city limits about two months ago, and he expected to see that reflected in a drop in sales tax revenue report in the next month or so.

"What I think we're going to see is either a leveling off or a loss," Horst said.

Horst said that there was a change in the sale tax revenue when United Supermarket opened on Hobart.

"Of course now, we have a Super Wal-Mart, and we're growing customers from the market area as far away as Kansas," Horst said. "We now have two new hotels that are quite successful."

He says the city doesn't get any sales tax off the hotels, but it makes it more convenient for visitors to the city to come and stay and shop. The hotel-motel tax that is collected has risen sharply. That goes back into tourism promotion for the city.

"Our hotel-motel tax has more than doubled," Horst said.

Generally, Horst said the improved underlying economy could be attributed to rising oil and gas prices.

"I think so," Horst said. "I really do."

The increased activity has led to increased employment in oil and gas service companies, which in turn has increased the population of Pampa.

While there has been an influx of people moving into Pampa, Horst said that has not been reflected in water and wastewater connections. Those, he said, have held fairly steady about 7,500 for the decade.

The numbers aren't greater, he said, because a lot of people have rent houses where they keep the water turned on year around whether it's rented or not.

"Our apartments are full," Horst said, "and it looks like everything from a single family dwelling to a four-plex in addition to the apartments are full. There's a waiting list."

He said there is one city employee that has been on a waiting list for two or three months.

"Those don't reflect new connections; however, they are additional people in Pampa," Horst said.

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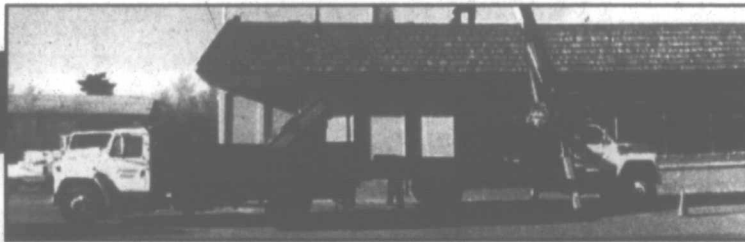
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Pampa News photo by Katherine Flanary
 Kris Cox, Kenneth Cox's son, works on updating part of a fence. The wood he is using is spruce.



Pampa News photo by Katherine Flanary
 An example of a six-foot tall cedar fence that has been capped, which is an option that Cox Fencing offers. Cedar is not as common as spruce, but just as popular.

No substitute for good fences

Spruce common building material

By KATHERINE FLANARY
 The Pampa News

Good fences make good neighbors, according to poet Robert Frost.

However, Frost's stomping ground was the rock-strewn hills of New England - not the grass-covered plains of the Texas Panhandle.

Here we have a few choices to make in terms of materials and fence styles and heights.

Kenneth Cox is in the business of helping his customers make such choices. As the owner of Pampa's Cox Fence Company, he

routinely advise local residents.

For instance, if a customer wants privacy, he advises against a chain-link fence.

Wood, he noted, is the most common choice of fence-building material, and spruce is the most

common form of wood used.

"You see a lot of people in their mid-40's or older using cedar," Cox said. "Younger people tend to go with spruce, since it's less expensive."

However, he advises them to use steel posts for the spruce fence. That way they have the option of upgrading their fence to cedar down the road - when their spruce has fallen apart or needs to be replaced.

All you need to do, Cox said, is to strip the old wood down and put up the new wood on the same steel posts.

"Steel posts can last 50 to 60 years," Cox said. "You definitely get your initial money's worth out of them."

Spruce can have a 15 to 20 year lifespan, while cedar can have a 20

to 30 year lifespan.

To protect a fence from water, a water repellent can be applied and the fence can be stained.

Cedar, with steel posts, can withstand 60 to 70 mile-per-hour winds.

Cox and his crew are called out often to fix fences that have been knocked over due to the high winds the Panhandle has to offer.

"This winter has been horrible," Cox said, referring to the wind damage.

Cox offers a number of fence options, including picket fences, cedar cat fences, and three heights to choose from - six, seven and eight feet high.

The most expensive, other than metal and rod iron, is the cedar cat.

See FENCES, Page 5

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Housing starts show progressing economy

By David Bowser
The Pampa News

"New housing is on the grow in Pampa," said Danny Winborne, the city's code enforcement officer.

He said five new houses have been built and another 12 are being planned, and that's not including the 76 single-family homes planned for Hampton Village, a low to moderate-income subdivision at Dwight and Aleock.

"New Housing starts really shows the city is moving," Winborne said.

In addition to the houses being built within the Pampa city limits, he said there are about seven large homes being built just out-

side the city limits. thought he paid too much for it.

"I had \$200 a month house payments," Winborne said.

There are also three executive homes being built in additions outside the city limits. They range from an estimated \$300,000 to over a million dollars.

Back in the 1950s, Winborne said his grandfather built homes in Pampa.

"In one year," Winborne said, "he built 366 houses in Pampa, but they were these little two bedroom shotgun houses."

But Winborne deals in more than houses. He oversees all construction permits issued by the city, and commercial construction is up, too.

"I know of one permit that will probably be issued this year for a little over \$5 million," Winborne said.

"That'll put us in another record year."

That's the Hampton Village building permit. It's expected to be \$5.5 million.

Winborne said there should be another commercial project that would run \$4 million.

"We're going to have a good record year this year," Winborne said.

There's a retail building project that should be about \$1 million, and a new Social Security office building is being built on North Hobart.

The school projects, building a new junior high school and remodeling and adding on to the high school and old junior high, are ongoing.



Pampa News Photo by Julie Ann Thompson
One of the best indicators of Pampa's booming economy is the number of new housing construction sites in the city.

Titan's adding a big building on their property, although it's outside the city limits.

"There's a tremendous amount of construction for the City of Pampa," Winborne said.

There is so much construction going on, Winborne said that the city is anticipating reorganizing the code enforcement office.

There are several home builders working in the area now, including Chad Giles and Chuck Morgan of Pampa and Jerry Hunter of Amarillo. There are also Coronas Builders and Tinney Homes.

"I tell you the quality of building today is so much better than it has been in the past," Winborne said.

He said the builders are much more knowledgeable about the city code requirements.

"The Texas Residential Construction Commission is probably a big part of it," he said. "All the builders are held accountable now, more than they've ever been."

In addition to the construction in and near Pampa, Winborne said Boone Pickens is apparently expanding the operation at his ranch north of Pampa. Several Pampa businesses are benefiting from that.

"People don't realize

that," Winborne said, "but that is a huge help for our community."

But with all the benefits of growth accruing to Pampa, there are problems.

"The biggest problem I see right now in Pampa," Winborne said, "is with professional construction people, we don't have enough of them."

A lot of the licensed construction people in Amarillo are beginning to come to Pampa a lot more, he said.

"They seem to be selling homes over here as quick as they build them," Winborne said.

While Winborne said he's happy with the booming construction in Pampa, he

said there are no new developments right now other than Hampton Village.

"We're limited in our development areas," he said.

That may change with the construction of a new junior high on the northwest part of town. There will be 1,200 acres of land surrounding the new school that is being planned for development.

"Since I've been a building official," Winborne said, "this has probably been the most exciting time that I've encountered because of the growth and development."

'Construction costs are running about \$100 a square foot.'

'We're going to have a good record year this year.'

— Danny Winborne
Code enforcement officer

side the city limits.

Excluding Hampton Village, the average price of the new homes being built in Pampa is in excess of \$200,000.

"Construction costs are running about \$100 a square foot," Winborne said.

Winborne said that he bought his home in 1970 for \$19,000 and his father

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Fences

Continued from Page 3

It is the strongest fence because it is built with the steel rods.

Most fences are six feet tall, though there are homes that have both six and seven foot fences mixed, or homes that have just seven feet or just eight foot fences.

"For every foot you go above six feet, you lose 25 percent of the expected life of the fence," Cox said.

Spruce is three and a half feet wide and five-eighths of an inch thick, while cedar is four feet wide and a little thicker than five-eighths of an inch.

Cedar can also come as a six-foot wide board.

Cox does not supply wood posts because they are strong enough for the Panhandle climate.

"Steel posts can handle the Panhandle weather a lot better than wood posts. The steel posts are also cheaper," Cox said.

"I don't want to stock wood posts," Cox said. "I only put in steel posts."

"You can tell by looking at a fence the quality in which it was built," Cox said, explaining that just by looking at a gate, one can tell the quality of the fence by whether or not it is braced with wood.

Cox Fence Company supplies about 85 percent Pampa. It also caters to surrounding communities such as Dalhart, Dumas and even Amarillo.

Pampa News photos by Katherine Flanary

TOP: Jason Bagwell, an employee of Cox Fencing, works on the spruce fence's gate. This spruce fence is six feet tall. **BOTTOM:** A standard spruce fence that has been finished. This particular spruce fence is six feet tall. Spruce is the most common form of wood used when building a fence.

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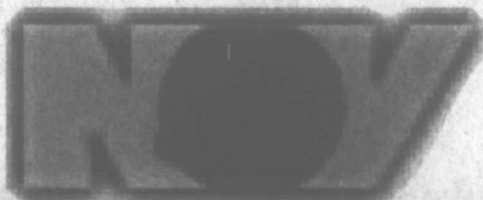
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Yard service

A&T delivers both commercial and residential lawn care

By JULIE ANN THOMPSON
The Pampa News

A&T Yard Service originally started as a side-job for Pedro Arreola and his son David. Beginning in 1992 with only six workers, it took them only four years to become incorporated and have now grown to employ almost 30 people ... including two of Pedro's sons and his daughter-in-law.

"We maintain at least 500 properties now," Pedro, president of A&T said. "It's not easy, but we're doing it."

A&T does landscaping and maintenance for both commercial and residential properties. They trim and plant trees and other plants mostly supplied by their own green house which is also open to the public.

"Right now is a good season to buy trees. They're just now beginning to bud," Pedro Arreola said.

Along with installing and repairing sprinkler systems, they are licensed to provide the vital service of installing back-flow preventers.

"Say one of your sprinkler heads break and then someone comes along to spray for mosquitos or something like that. That poison can back up through the broken sprinkler head and into your main line which supplies your drinking water," Pedro said.

The company has a bucket truck for tree trimming as well as a stump grinder, which can be used to grind stumps down as much as 15



A&T Yard Service has its own green house.

Pampa News photo by Julie Ann Thompson

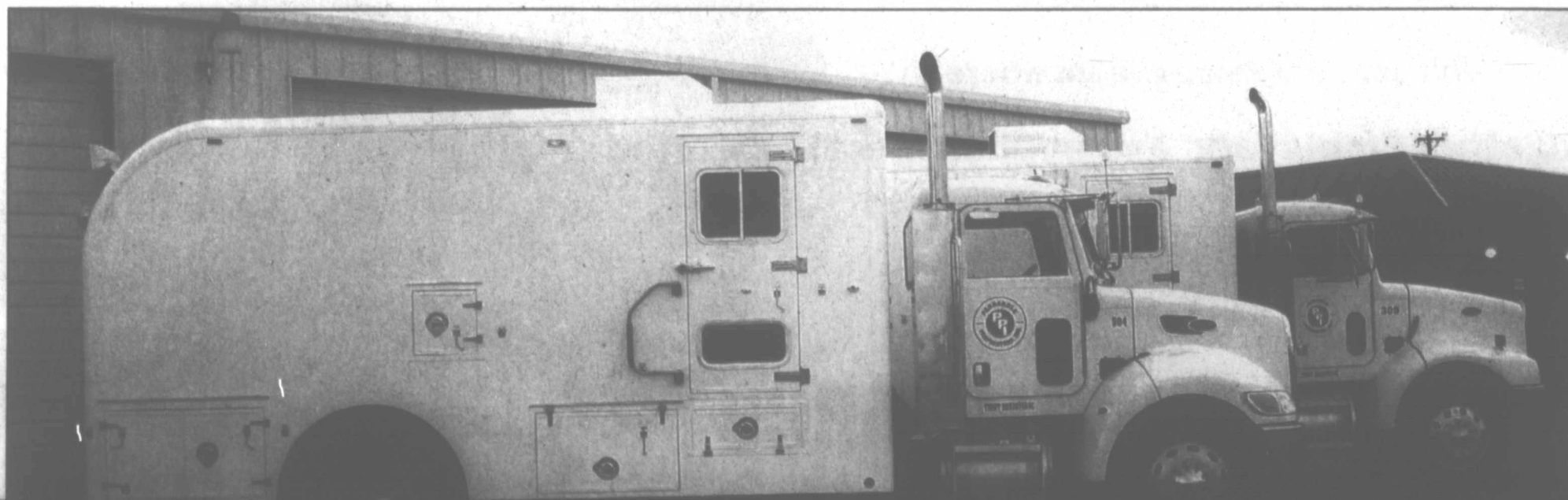
See A&T, Page 7



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A&T

Continued from Page 6

to 20 inches below ground. However, when it comes to landscaping commercial properties, there are certain rules that must be followed.

"Commercial stuff has to have so many trees per acre," Vice President David said. "The city will tell the architect of the business and then he'll bring us the blueprints that tell us what plants need to go where."

Trees also need to be at least two inches in diameter on commercial property and as a rule are planted three feet from any building

or structure. However, when it comes to residential properties, it's up to the owner.

"We'll plant trees that probably shouldn't be planted but it's what they wanted," Pedro said.

There are many challenges to landscaping in Gray county, and the unpredictable weather doesn't make it any easier. There's only so many things landscapers can do when it rains, which keeps them mostly indoors maintaining their equipment. Perhaps their greatest challenge is dealing with local soil.

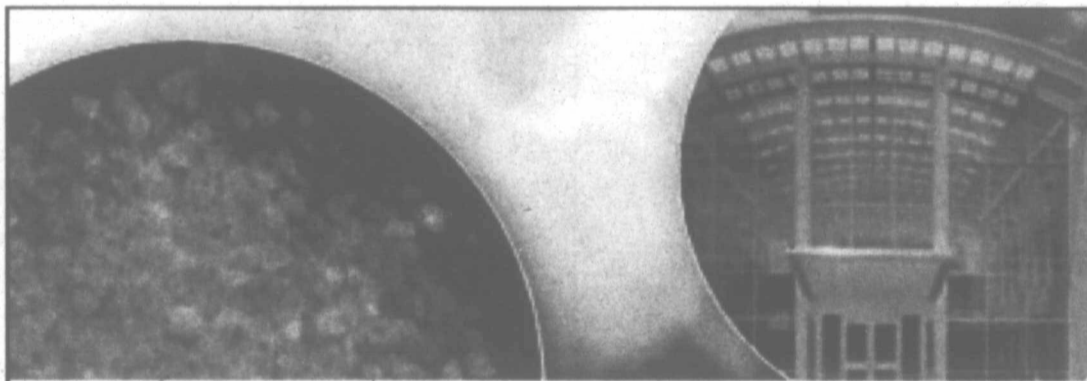
"We have to change the soil in a lot of places. If you don't, you won't be able to grow anything," Pedro said. "Even with our

See A&T, Page 8



Pampa News photos by Julie Ann Thompson

Rita Kramer of A&T Yard Service inspects new blooms. Row upon row of new trees for use in various landscaping projects .



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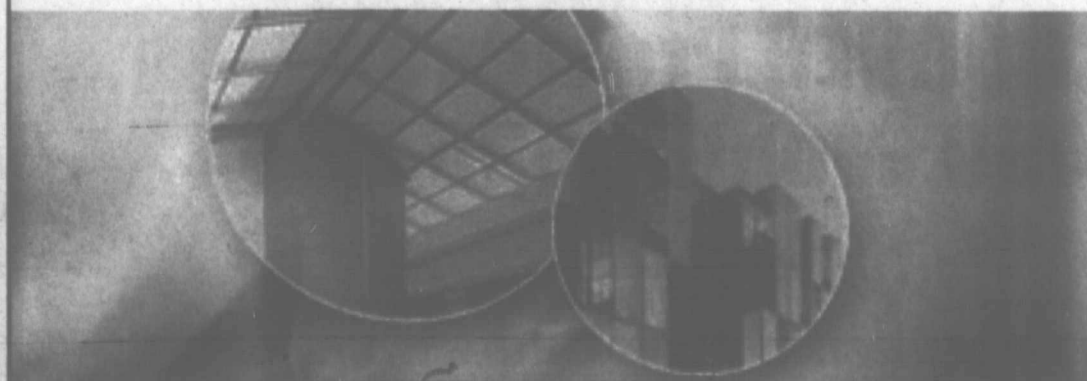


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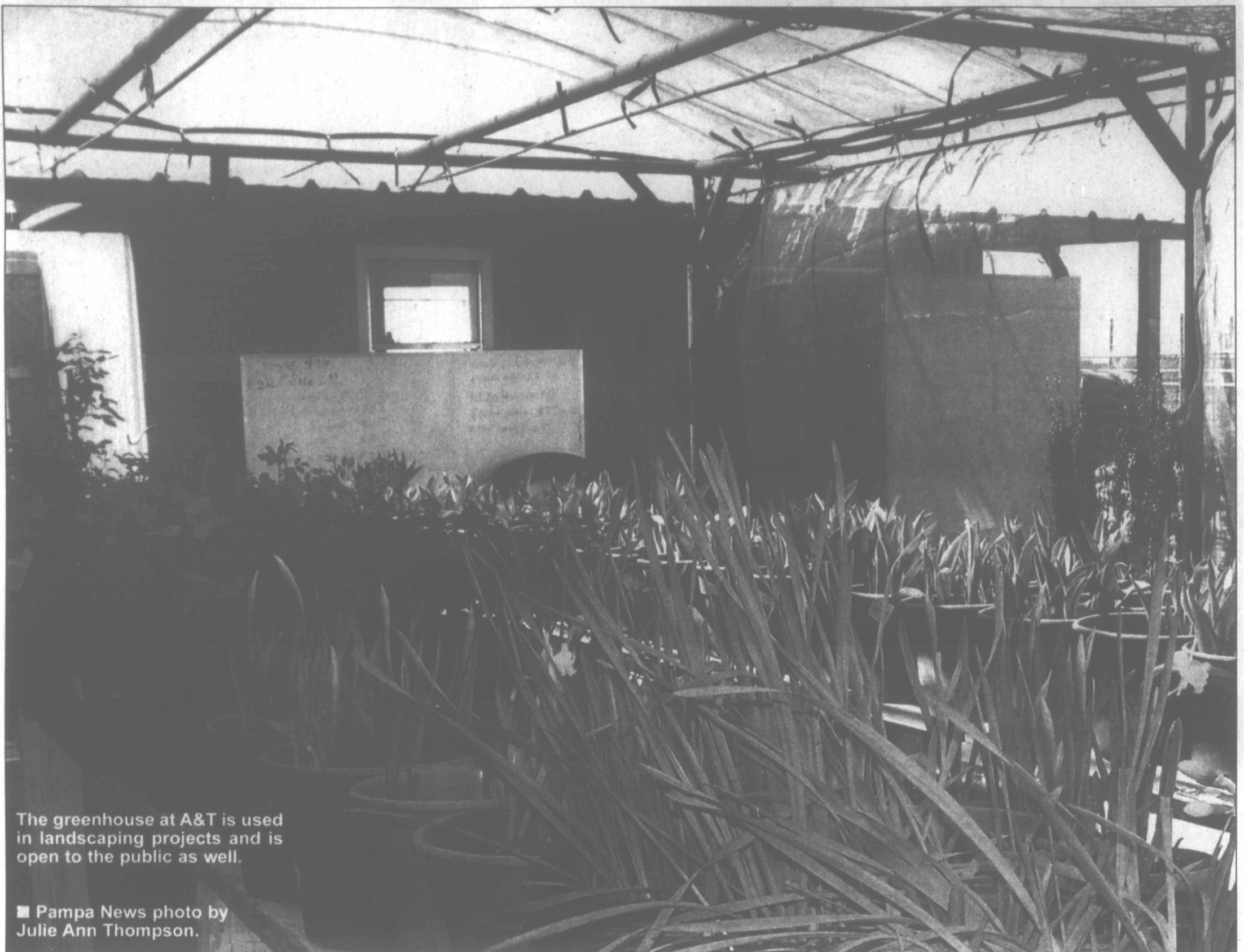
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The greenhouse at A&T is used in landscaping projects and is open to the public as well.

■ Pampa News photo by Julie Ann Thompson.

A&T

Continued from Page 7

trees, we'll dig a larger hole and add better soil. It's hard

to grow anything in caliche."

The company designs landscaping in various styles, and have even done two yards in a New Mexican desert theme. According to Pedro, they do sell cacti in

the spring as well as other low maintenance plants.

"Most people want flowers, plants, shrubs they want it to look colorful," Pedro said.

When asked what the

hardest part of their job is, Pedro immediately answers that it is the manual labor. Finding the right person for the right job is often challenging.

"The only easy part is

locking the gates in the evening," David laughed.

At the end of the day, despite the challenges, both Arreolas' are proud of what they do every day.

"If a person likes what

he's doing, you can't tell the difference between easy and hard," Pedro said. "When you finish the job and see what a difference you've made and when people like it, it makes you feel good."



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Bakery offers some scrumptious wares to public

By JULIE ANN THOMPSON
The Pampa News

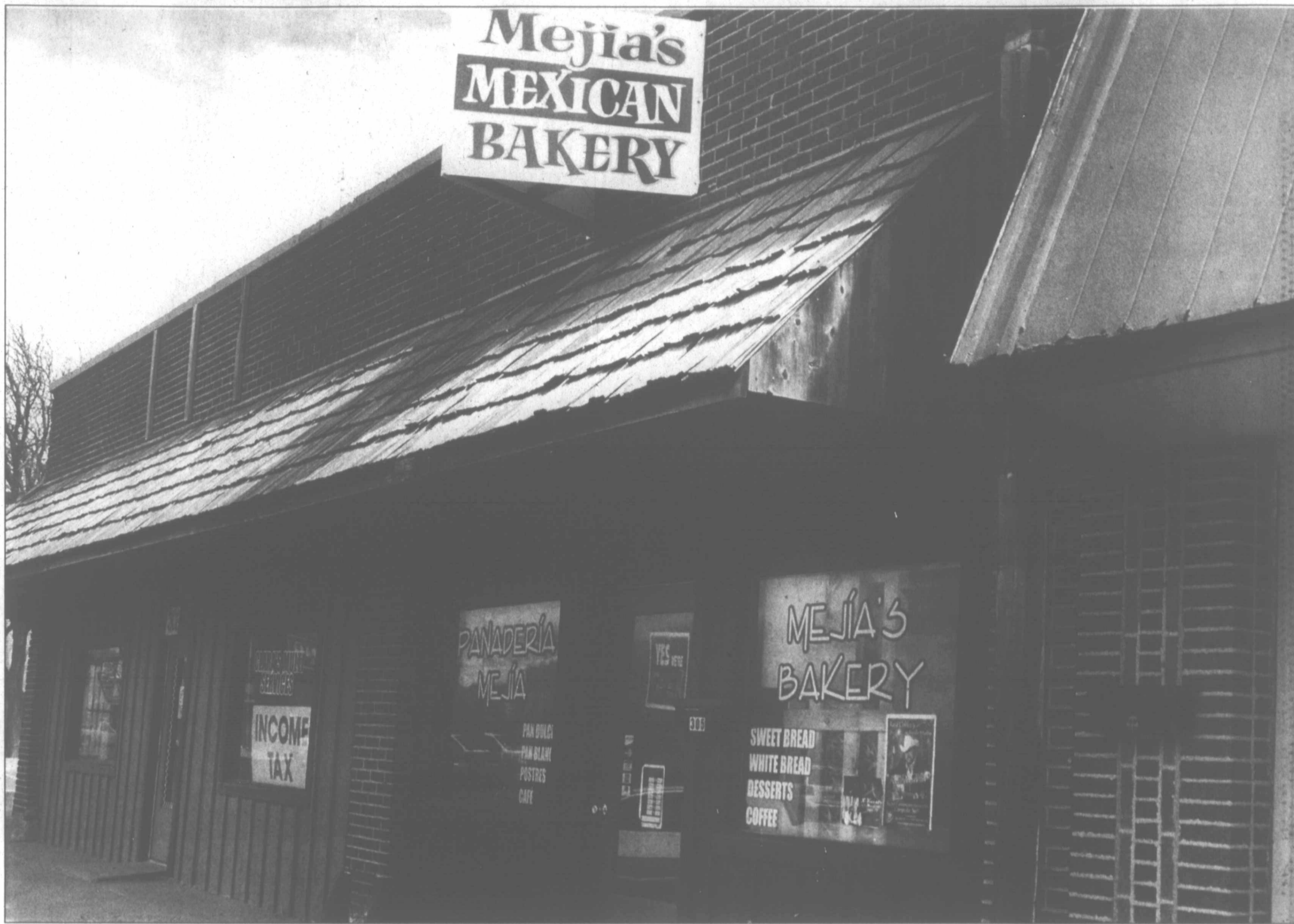
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Mejia, son of Manager Raul Mejia, said his father has been in the bakery business all his life.

Mejia's Mexican Bakery, which opened June 26, 2007 on

"Nothing sits on our shelves any longer than two days," Assistant Manager Jesus Mejia said.

See MEJIA'S, Page 10



Mejia's Mexican Bakery in downtown Pampa.

Pampa News photo by Julie Ann Thompson

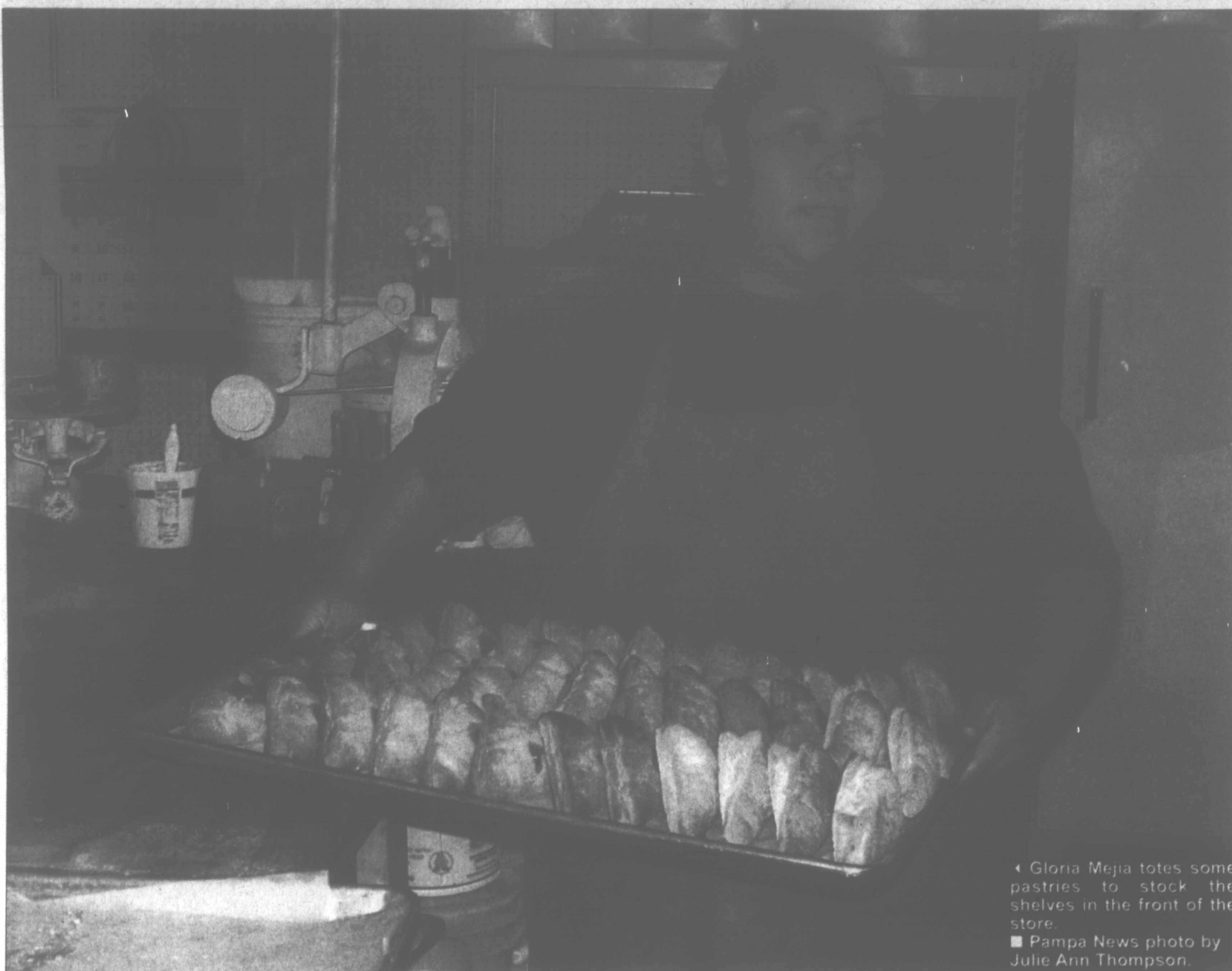
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◀ Gloria Mejia totes some pastries to stock the shelves in the front of the store.
■ Pampa News photo by Julie Ann Thompson.

Mejia's

Continued from Page 9

"We moved here from Los Angeles,"

Mejia said. "Houses were so expensive out there and my dad really wanted to own his own house."

The Mejias moved to Pampa two years ago and soon set about starting their own business. They now bake cakes for all occa-

sions, authentic Mexican bread as well as sweet and white breads.

"The difference between Mexican bread and regular is just different ingredients," Mejia said. "For instance, our biscuits are a bit firmer than what people here are used to."

However, according to Mejia, their bakery generates business from all races.

"People told us that before we came here, they had to go to Amarillo to buy their bread fresh," Mejia said. "So, come visit us whenever you want. We're open for everybody."

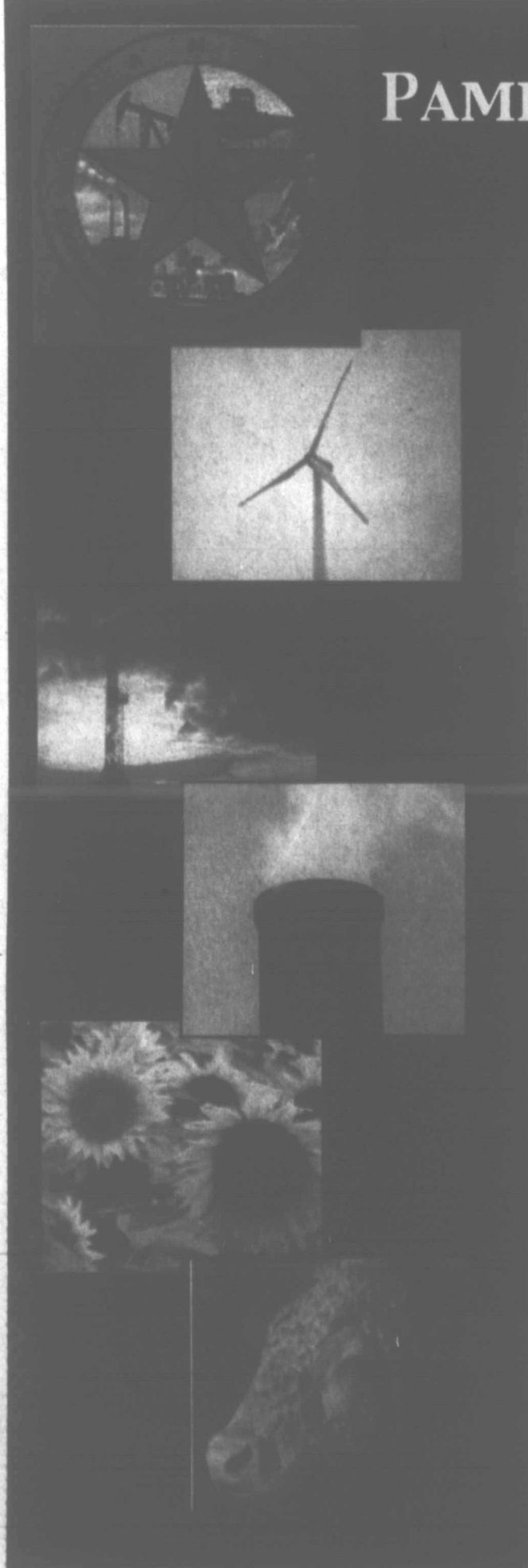
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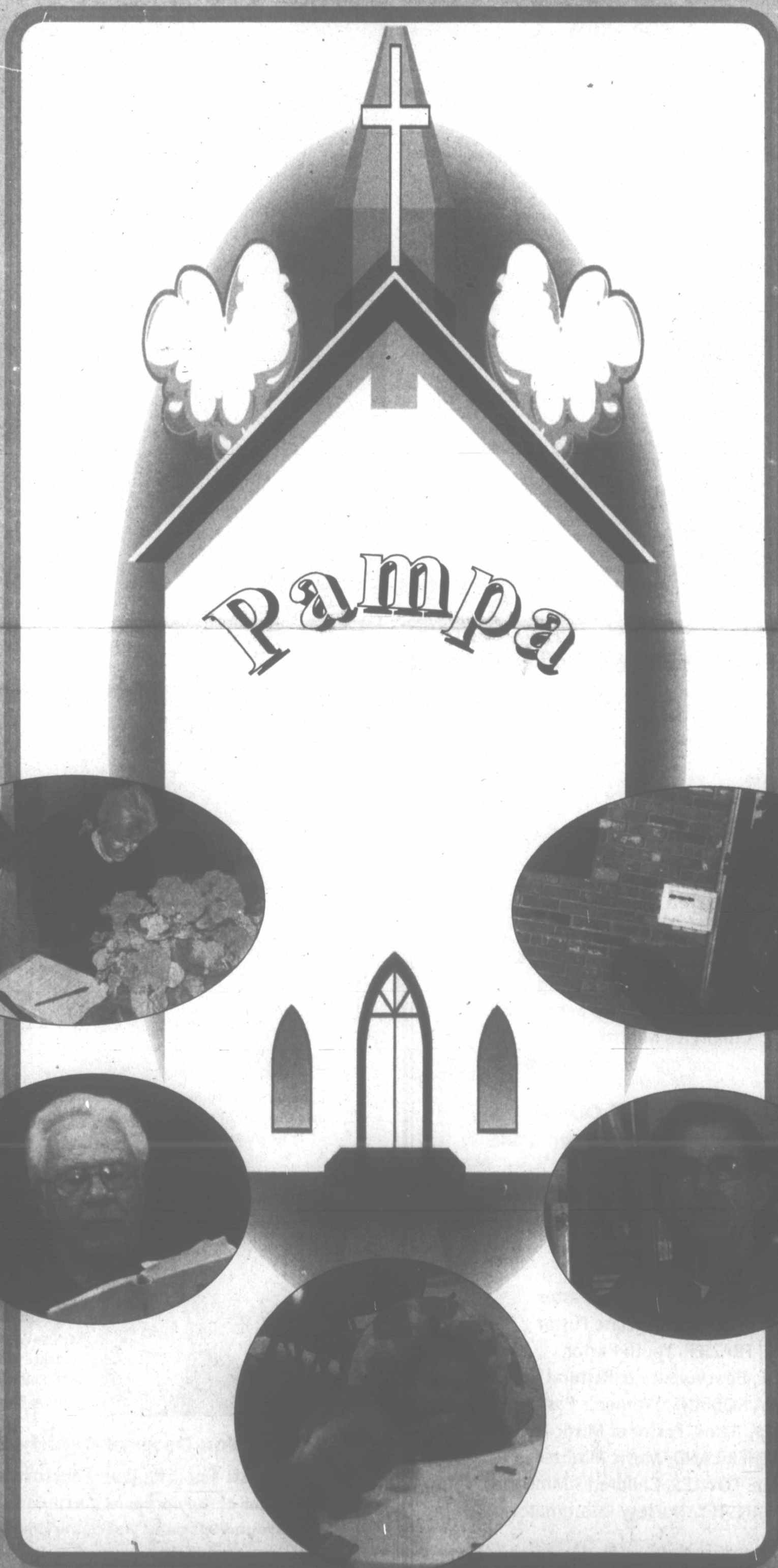
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The Pampa Economic Development Corporation is an organization that promotes new business in Pampa. The Pampa EDC 4B has aggressive business incentives funded from the half-cent sales tax for Economic Development that yields over \$1,000,000 dollars annually. Incentives are available to companies creating new jobs in Pampa. The level of assistance from the Pampa EDC is determined by the number of new jobs a company will create, the average wage rate of those jobs, and the company's total capital investment in the project. Location and excellent quality of life make Pampa a prime spot for new industrial business and sales. Pampa, Texas is located 50 miles Northeast of Amarillo, Texas, 113 miles from Elk City, Oklahoma and 120 miles from Liberal, Kansas. Pampa has *8,170 occupied homes and a population of *17,679. *2000 Census

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Faith & Inspiration



Gray County jail ministry

Longtime educator brings special gifts to jail ministry

By SKYLA BRYANT
Lifestyles Editor

For more than 30 years, longtime Pampa resident Frank Anderson has dedicated most Sunday afternoons, rain or shine, to the local jail ministry. Frank and Donna Anderson moved to Pampa in 1961. Both are longtime educators in the community. According to wife Donna, Frank began his ministry in the early 1960s.

Frank's calling is at Gray County Jail. He ministers to the jail's male population between 2 and 3 p.m. most every Sunday.

"A fellow named Bro. Krause asked me to go play my guitar," said Frank. He said that former long-standing Gray County Sheriff Rufe Jordan, now deceased, sometimes attended the services.

"One of the most exciting moments was when Rufe Jordan came up there and sang with us," Frank observed with a smile. "He loved to sing," he said.

When Frank first started going to the jail on Sundays, he was not alone. Several others rounded out the ministry and assisted Frank

in achieving his ministerial niche. That six or seven, Donna said, eventually "just dropped out." That left George and Thelma Knight and himself, Frank said. Sadly, the Knights stopped participating about 10 years ago.

They had to quit, Donna said, due to failing health.

"They (the inmates) always want to sing 'Amazing Grace' and 'He Set Me Free,'" both Frank and Donna said, laughing. Frank, of course, accompanies the inmates with his guitar. The service includes a sermon, music, singing and prayer time.

"In the old jail," Frank said, "they couldn't come out of the cells." During that time, Frank stood in a small walkway between the barred cubicles to present his sermon.

"The number of men present varies," Frank said.

No inmate is forced to participate in the ministry, but many choose to, said Frank, allowing that the ministry usually averages between six and 12 attending each week.

Donna recalled one Sunday afternoon when she became quite worried because Frank was terribly late coming home. At the time, she said, the inmates were still being housed in the previous Gray County Jail facility or the "old" jail. The offices associated with the jail had been moved to the present-day jail location and the staff and facility were in transition.

"For some reason," Donna said, "the Knights were not there."

Frank was taken by elevator and admitted into the area where the inmates were held. During the service, Donna explained, a shift change occurred.

"So, when the jail service was over, the new staff didn't realize Frank was still in with the prisoners!" Donna laughed.

It took getting the attention of some trustees washing vehicles in the street below to alert the proper officials of Frank's predicament. The inmates at the time hollered and waved until they got the trustees attention, Donna said.



Pampa News photo by SKYLA BRYANT
Frank Anderson's jail ministry includes music as well as a weekly message.



Pampa News photo by SKYLA BRYANT
Frank and Donna Anderson

See ANDERSON, Page 5

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Pampa's Calvary Baptist celebrates drama, music

By SKYLA BRYANT
Lifestyles Editor

Drama is celebrated at Calvary Baptist Church in Pampa ... Bible drama, that is.

For the past 10 years, Calvary has staged a yearly Christmas production called "Christmas at Calvary." According to Calvary's Minister of Music, Gary Jameson, past "Christmas at Calvary" productions have included, "Spreading the News One Christmas Card at a Time" in 2004; "Devotional Thoughts on Jesus' Birth" in 2005; "The Nativity" in 2006; and "The Mysteries of Christmas" in 2007.

"The Mysteries of Christmas" evolved around the many wonders that characterized the life of Jesus, Jameson said. For example, the Christmas star, the Virgin

Church productions often include multi-choirs and an orchestra ...

birth, angels appearing before the shepherds—all the myriad details that help make the Christmas story grand, glorious and not a little miraculous.

Jameson said the 2006 program included a multitude of Nativity sets from all over the world. The sets were displayed in the church foyer, allowing the audience to view them as they passed in and out of the church. Members of the production provided the Nativity sets from their own private collections, Jameson said.

Every year, Calvary tries to write an entirely new script for the Christmas program and to structure a selection of music around the script. "The Mysteries of Christmas," for instance, was written by Walt Parry and directed by Jameson himself, the music minister said.

The Christmas production often spotlights the church's many choirs, featuring ensembles and even a small orchestra. The orchestra involved in "The Mysteries of Christmas" consisted of



COURTESY PHOTO

Shown here is a scene from a previous Easter program at Calvary Baptist. Ricky Addington, portrayed Jesus Christ teaching the children.

approximately 20 musicians, Jameson said, adding that some of the musicians were church members while others were high school and college students.

"Several members work at the schools, so we have connections there," Jameson observed. Those connections, he said, help to flesh out the orchestra each year.

The Christmas program, Jameson observed, is usually not a musical in the sense of "Guys and Dolls." The choirs, for instance, do not perform in costume although the program often includes some actors in set garb performing on a decorated set. Performers can consist of the adult choir, the children's choir, the pre-school choir and the Youth Singers at Calvary, Jameson said.

The ensembles are made up of anywhere between six to eight people from the choir.

Altogether, Jameson said, approximately 70 people on

average from the church's various choirs participate in the Christmas program along with an orchestra, 15 or so actors and approximately 10 technical crew

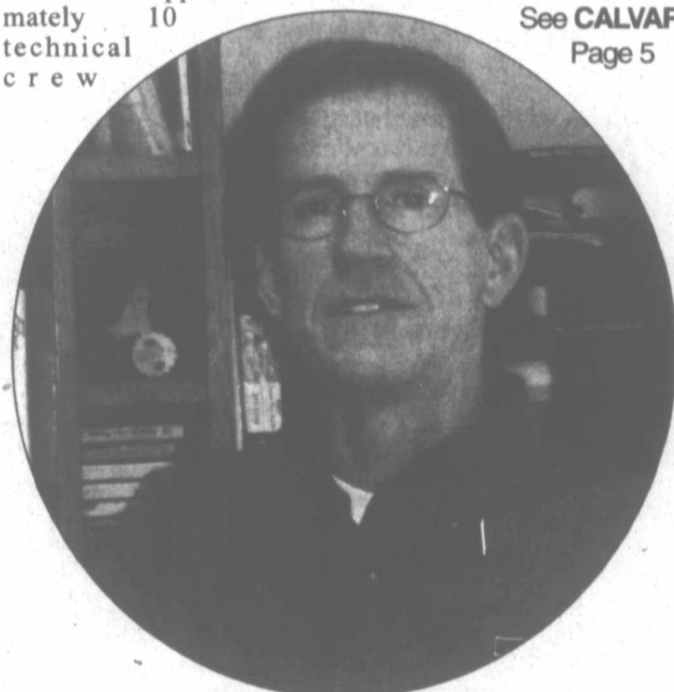
members. The technical crew, the music minister said, tapes the show and handles the sound system.

See CALVARY, Page 5




COURTESY PHOTO

Ronnie Holmes and Jessica Smith discuss the "Mysteries of Christmas."




Pampa News photo by SKYLA BRYANT
Gary Jameson, minister of music at Calvary Baptist in Pampa.



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Pampa News photo by SKYLA BRYANT

▲ Devin and little sister Aubrey at Mother's Day Out at First Christian Church. ▲ Abby, left, and McKinley are in the infant class at the Mother's Day Out at First Christian Church.

Mother's Day Out programs gives moms a break ...

By SKYLA BRYANT
Lifestyles Editor

Mothers and their special needs are central to the Mother's Day Out programs offered to the community and surrounding area through two local churches.

"The Mother's Day Out program was originally just for stay-at-home moms," said Kelly Cambern, "so they could run some errands and have some personal time for themselves."

Now, Cambern said, the program currently serves all mothers — both working moms and full-time homemakers. Cambern is director of the program at First Christian Church of Pampa and says she loves the program's flexibility.

The Mother's Day Out program at First Christian is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the church. First United Methodist of Pampa opens a separate Mother's Day Out from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays.

Cambert oversees a staff of seven. Each position is paid, she said. Some parents,

however, volunteer when a substitute is needed. Cambern, mother of twins and an older daughter, became associated with the MDO program after bringing her own children to participate.



Kelly Cambern

About two years ago, Stacey Brainard, former director of the program at First Christian, expressed her intent to step down and approached Cambern about directing the program. Cambern decided to take on the



Beverly Alexander

directorship.

Cambert said she "tries to run the program as close to a pre-school as possible without being a preschool." Because the program is not full-time, Cambern said the church is not bound by the same regulations that govern regular day care centers and preschools.

First Christian's MDO program is divided into classes by age groups. In all, the program includes five classes — an infant class, a 1-year-old class, a 2-year-old class, a 3-year-old class and a 4- & 5-year-old class. In the summer, the program, though offered only once a week on Thursdays, extends to older children through age 8.

"We follow the Pampa ISD school schedule," Cambern explained. "When school is out, we're out."

Cambert said the program affords its young pupils numerous field trips (such as to the fire station and police department), parties and other activities. Children even dress-up in celebration of special holidays and themes.

See MOMS, Page 6



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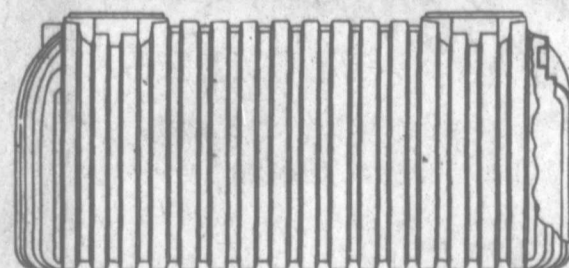


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Calvary

Continued from Page 4

Inspiration for each program typically comes from God, Jameson observed.

"I'll pray about it, and usually an idea will come," he explained. Like in 2006, when the Hollywood version of "The Nativity" hit theaters. Jameson said the movie was the source of that year's program.

This year, the church staged an Easter pageant. The last Easter program of that magnitude was held in 2004, Jameson said.

"This year was to be the biggest one we've ever done," he said. "We had new scenery, new sets and a new script. The sanctuary was literally transformed into Jerusalem and the surrounding countryside as it was during Jesus' life."

The program, titled "Mary Did You Know?," was staged March 30 at the church.

"The adult choir and soloists of about 30 people total sang," Jameson said, adding that the dramas performed at the church don't generally involve the same amount of music as a musical and

therefore requires less participation by choir members.

"Mary Did You Know?" featured approximately 25 actors, a small orchestra of about 10 and a technical crew of about 10. The entire production was under the direction of Sandy Crosswhite. Crosswhite, Jameson said, wrote the script and has been heavily involved in theater all her life. Her associations include ACT I Community Theatre of Pampa.

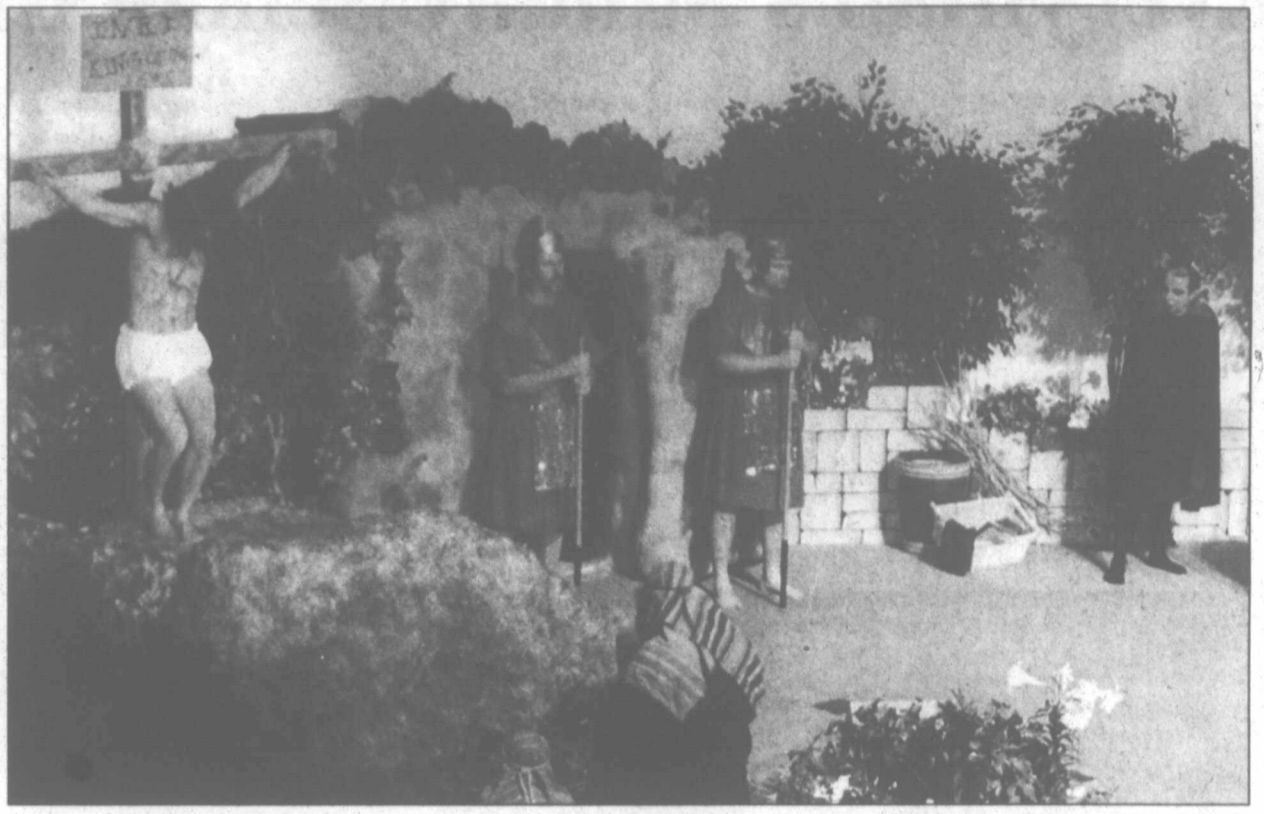
"The story line or synopsis was Mary one week after the crucifixion," Jameson said in summary of the Easter production. "She is discussing Jesus' life and His death with her relative Elizabeth (John the Baptist's mother) and others."

As Mary recounted the life of Jesus, the story came alive on the stage, Jameson said. The choir and soloists were in character and in costume. "They were performing selections that help tell Jesus' story," said Jameson.

Jameson served as music director for "Mary Did You Know?"

Jim Hudson, a member of the congregation, was in charge of set design and construction.

"Hudson," Jameson said, "moved here two years ago from Dallas, where he worked extensively on set design and construction."



COURTESY PHOTO

This crucifixion scene was staged in years past at Calvary Baptist. Ricky Addington was Jesus. Bill Crook and Shawn Smith were soldiers. Ronnie Holmes was Satan.

Many of the sets were built away from the church and brought in, Jameson said. "Mary Did You Know?" was in production since rehearsals began in January. Crosswhite started writ-

ing the script before Christmas.

The Easter program was open and free to the public, and a nursery was provided for children up to age 3.

Jameson has been minister of

music at Calvary for 16 years. He moved to Pampa from Lubbock and has been a longtime resident of the Texas Panhandle.

Anderson

Continued from Page 2

When asked if he'd ever felt any fear or been intimidated during his time with the ministry, Frank said, "I never was afraid of going up there."

He said his experience as a teacher was invaluable to him in the ministry and allowed him to focus on the group and to deliver his message without becoming nervous or afraid.

Once Frank even took a mentoring course offered at the Clements Unit, a Texas Department of Criminal Justice facility in Amarillo. For a time, he served with both the local jail ministry in his usual

capacity and with TDCJ's Jordan prison unit near Pampa as a mentor, but scheduling limitations forced him to choose between the two ministries, Donna said, and he chose the ministry he'd been associated with the longest, the local jail ministry.

Donna said Frank has received a number of letters from past Gray County Jail inmates who've experienced salvation and who wished to share that change in their lives with him.

"I just get a thrill out of helping those guys," Frank said, "or trying to help!" He says he wants to make the most of every opportunity that might make a positive impact in a life or in another's walk with God.

Frank said he never asks the inmates why they are in jail. He said he finds the

saddest part of his ministry to be when he encounters a former student in the lock-up.

"Some of them (the inmates) have drawn pictures for him," Donna said. "Some have written him poems, and some have even written to the church."

Frank and Donna attend First Assembly of God in Pampa. They have been married for 52 years and have one child and three grandchildren.

Frank taught photography and math at Pampa Middle School (now Pampa Junior High School) for a number of years. Prior to working with Pampa Independent School District, he worked at White Deer Elementary and Woodrow Wilson Elementary schools. He retired from the Pampa school system in 1993.

Donna taught school for 13 years and worked as an educational diagnostician

with Pampa ISD until retiring from PISD in 2000. Frank worked as an educator for a total of 36 years and Donna for a total of 40 years.

Besides their "day" jobs, Frank and Donna operated a photography business for many years. They took studio shots including senior portraits and family portraits as well as photographing weddings, class reunions, proms, banquets and the like.

Photography has been a passion for Frank since he was a teenager. These days he busies himself mainly with taking passport photos and enjoying his retirement, Donna said, but he continues his jail ministries with no immediate thoughts of quitting.



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Everyman's Sunday School Class still going strong

By SKYLA BRYANT
Lifestyles Editor

Everyman's Sunday School Class is practically an institution in Pampa. According to Dr. Raymond Laycock, himself a longtime member of Everyman's, the class dates back to the 1930s. According to current President Manny Holden, Everyman's was started by the late Dr. Douglas Carver.

Carver, a former pastor at First Baptist Church in Pampa, spearheaded an effort to establish the class. His dream, Holden said, was

to interest men in attending Sunday school. He wanted to appeal to both regular church-goers as well as the unchurched. The class is offered through First Baptist.

According to First Baptist's "Pictorial Church Directory" of 1978, the class was first taught by Clifford Solomon. Solomon later, the directory states, became a career chaplain in the United States military. The directory lists Bob Rose as a former song leader and Inez Barrett McCarley, Mrs. Maude Shulkey and Mrs. Hester Branham as former pianists.

Shulkey, according to the directory, served the class for more than 20 years.

The directory was provided by Dr. Laycock with permission from the church. The directory reports that in its heyday the class had seen as many as 125 men in attendance.

"In the last two or three years," Holden sadly observed, "we've had several members die." The group in recent years, Holden said, has averaged around 40 members. He said when the class met at City Hall it averaged around 50 or 60 members. Altogether, the class has been meeting for approximately 60 years.

Dr. Laycock said Everyman's originally met at the old LaNora Theater in downtown Pampa. The theater was destroyed by fire; however, according to the directory, the class relocated to City Auditorium at City Hall before the theater burned down due to poor lighting. Information culled from the directory put the class as moving from the auditorium at City Hall to the City Club Room of City Hall in 1942, when the auditorium was converted into offices.

The directory further states that, at one time, the class merged with another class.

"... (T)he class merged with a class meeting in the First Baptist Church, with the pastor, Rev. C.E. Lancaster, serving as teacher. He taught the class until leaving Pampa in 1937. When Rev. C. Gordon Bayless became pastor of the church in 1937, he became the class teacher and served until he left Pampa in 1942. Although Douglas Carver taught the class many times, he enlisted the help of a number of laymen. This practice of using class members as teachers has continued."

In all, Everyman's has met at City Hall, the old First Baptist Church, Duenkel Funeral Home and Pampa Senior Citizens Center, Dr. Laycock and Holden said.

Holden said when the class first began meeting at the center no fee was charged. After the center began charging, the class moved to Duenkel Funeral Home, but returned to the center after First Baptist agreed to pay the fee.

Everyman's currently meets from 10-10:45 a.m. Sunday mornings at Pampa Senior Citizens Center.

Holden said E.E. Shelhamer, 95, is one of the group's oldest long-term members. Shelhamer acts as recording secretary along with



Pampa News photo by SKYLA BRYANT
Carl Meyer serves as music director for the class.

John McKinley. Jim Davidson is secretary. Dr. Laycock is past president. Don Russell is vice president.

The class is nondenominational, Holden said, and is open to men of every age. "There have been many members from other denominations who have attended," he said.

See CLASS, Page 8



Everyman's Sunday School Class, 1959.

COURTESY PHOTO

Moms

Continued from Page 4

During the summer months, children are treated to a good many "water days." Cambern said water days can include a Bonanza water slide, Slip and Slide or lawn sprinklers. Other warm weather outings include walks to the park.

Lunch is served every day at noon. Cambern and her assistant,

Kristin Arganbright, prepare the meals. Snacks are distributed to the various classes twice a day.

"Our program furnishes lunch," Cambern said, "two

snacks a day — a morning and an afternoon snack — and their Kool-aid or juice for the day."

Cambren said the program is open to all mothers in the immediate area. She said she has mothers from as far away as White Deer and Miami bringing their children to the program which she said has almost doubled in size during the past three years and has a waiting list.

Fifty-six children are presently enrolled.

Every teacher must pass a background check, Cambern said, to work in the program. All the current teachers, she explained, are moms who have themselves used the program.

"I have a wonderful staff — a wonderful group of teachers. Each and every one of them are gifted in their own special way with these children," Cambern said.

Instructors follow the same schedule daily. The schedule includes play time, lesson time, chapel time, and Bible instruction. Nap time is observed in some of the younger classes. Since the program is Christian-centered, a Bible lesson is taught each day, Cambern said. During chapel time, the children learn songs. The older children participate in quiet time (not nap time) and generally watch a movie.

According to Cambern, the MDO program at First

Christian dates back to 1986. Current and past teachers include Arganbright, Kala Lindley, Amy McDowell, Britney Monds, Jana Ingram, Ann-E Loyd and Candace Helton.

"If people need child care on Wednesday or Friday, then I do recommend the Mother's Day Out at First Methodist Church," Cambern declared. Cambern sent her eldest daughter to the Methodist MDO program when her daughter was younger.

Beverly Alexander serves as current director of the MDO program at First United Methodist. The program was established at the church in 1987, Alexander said. She herself has worked with the program for 19 years, acting as director for 18 of those years.

Alexander is born and raised in Pampa and is a lifelong member of First United Methodist.

First United divides its program into five different classes. Those classes consist of a preschool class, a 3-year-old "So Big" class, a 2-year-old "Toddler 2's" class, a 1-year-old "Toddler 1" class and an infant class.

The pre-school class is made up mainly of 4-year-olds.

Alexander said the program has a waiting list and currently serves 70 students. "I like to take drop-ins, too," Alexander said. "If we have an absence, I try to fill that spot."

Unlike First Christian, the program doesn't serve a hot lunch, instead children bring a sack lunch. Snacks, however, are provided, Alexander said. In fact,

morning refreshments are served just before Chapel each day. Chapel starts at 10:15 a.m. and is designed primarily for the 2- through 4-year-old classes. During Chapel, the children sing Bible songs, educational songs and "color" songs.

"I require the teachers to have a story time each day," Alexander said. "I feel they need to learn. I think that's important."

Alexander said she also feels it is crucial to have two teachers in every classroom.

The program employs 10 staffers. As with the program at First Christian, First United is not considered a daycare and is therefore not licensed by the state.

"If you meet more than two days a week," Alexander explained, "you must be state licensed."

Beverly said her staff members are Brenda Holmes and Alisha Snapp (infant class); Katie Lopez and Jamie Danner (1-year-old class); Angie Smith and Jana Ingram (2-year-old class); Carrie Reagan and Pinky Osby (3-year-old class); and Trisha Hughes and Louise Lebow (4-year-old class).

Hughes, Alexander said, has been with the program for 12 years.

Besides what is taught in Chapel, Alexander said the teachers follow a regular curriculum. They teach the alphabet, colors and shapes, numbers and more. Though Bible lessons are not a focus of the program, Alexander said she often relies on the Golden Rule to discipline a student.

"Would you want so and so to (bite, spit, slap, etc.) you?" Alexander explained her habitual lecture when an

infraction has occurred, laughing.

Alexander said the program is used by stay-at-home moms as well as part-time and full-time working mothers. The older children take field trips. They occasionally go to McDonald's, to the library and other places.

Teachers also pick a particular letter each week, the director said, and celebrate that letter with a "fun day." Examples include, "Pajama Day" for P-day, "Silly Sock Day" for S-day, and so forth.

The program has both an indoor and an outdoor play area with corresponding equipment. In the summer, Alexander said, the program often goes outdoors and meets only once a week on Wednesdays. Like First Christian, First United Methodist follows the calendar followed by the local schools.

The summer classes are open to children in kindergarten through third grades. The children often play in water sprinklers and the like and take trips to local parks, Alexander said.

According to Alexander, the program was organized by Sherry McCavit. When it began, the current director said, the program was strictly volunteer.

Alexander said she and the other staff members "are careful about who picks up the children." The program has a sign-in sheet. Security is important to Alexander and the program. All staff members must submit and pass a background check prior to employment with First United Methodist MDO.

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'Moms In Touch' prayer group positive about prayer

By SKYLA BRYANT
Lifestyles Editor

Guardian forces ... Mothers in prayer ... "Moms In Touch" prayer program for women unites these concepts to benefit the nation's schools and America's schoolchildren. A number of local mothers keep this mission alive in Pampa, participating in the local Moms In Touch chapter.

Moms In Touch was formed in 1984 by Fern Nichols, materials provided by the local Moms In Touch states. The first Moms In Touch prayer group in Pampa was organized in 1996, said Regional Moms In Touch Coordinator, Pat Kennedy, of Pampa. In all, the local Moms In Touch has five different prayer groups. One group joins together to pray for students at nine different colleges.

Besides the college group, the local chapter consists of a high school group, a special needs group, a junior high group and a Community Christian School group. Each group prays for its specific school or schools. For example, the junior and high school group prays for Pampa High School and Pampa Junior High.

The groups meet each week at separate times, usually at a local residence. Each group is led by at least one prayer leader, Kennedy said.

"We train mothers to pray the scriptures and to be specific," Kennedy stated.

The groups are nondenominational.

Kennedy said Moms In Touch recommends and prefers that two leaders be selected per group. The Pampa groups actually manage to have two leaders. Other groups, Kennedy said, are often unable to do so.

Sue Fatheree has been with the local Moms In Touch since its inception in Pampa. When she started with Moms In Touch, she said, her youngest child was a seventh grader and her oldest was in 10th grade.

Tonja Stowers of Pampa is the local contact person.

Moms In Touch meets while school is in session and observes all school holidays and breaks.

Groups are currently needed, Kennedy said, to pray for the elementary schools. Moms In Touch is open to home-school groups as well.

Kennedy said Moms In Touch will schedule informational meetings for individuals interested in learning more about the organization. "We would have an information coffee to introduce the ministry of Moms In Touch to those who are interested," she said. "We then trust God to raise up leaders."

A group can form with only two moms, but it takes at least two to establish a Moms In Touch group, Kennedy said. A leadership training is offered once or twice a year or in a one-on-one format as needed, she observed.



Pampa News photos by SKYLA BRYANT
LEFT: Sue Fatheree leafs through a leader's guide provided by the Moms In Touch program. RIGHT: Pat Kennedy, regional Moms In Touch coordinator.

All leaders receive a leader's guide, and a special booklet is available to each member of Moms In Touch. Booklets come in both an English-speaking version and in a Spanish version, Kennedy said. The booklet may be purchased at Hastings Books, Music & Video in Pampa.

Thanks to the help of Elena Gomez of Borger, the Spanish-speaking coordinator for the region, the local Moms In Touch can offer, Kennedy reported, an informational meeting all in Spanish to mothers seeking details of how to form their own Moms In Touch group for Spanish-speakers.

Kennedy said Gomez is originally from Venezuela and is fluent in both English and Spanish. Gomez has developed her own Power Point program for the Spanish presentation. A Spanish leader's guide is available as well. In fact, the same program and materials are provided in both languages.

Kennedy said the local program is currently praying for a Spanish-speaking group to form.

The groups meet for one hour. Priority is given to stopping and starting on time, Kennedy said. Grandmothers and aunts are welcome to pray with the groups or "any woman who has a heart for kids," Kennedy said. Churches are also encouraged to form a group.

Fatheree said one of the most rewarding aspects of participating in the groups comes when the children prayed for realize what a blessing the prayer group has been in their lives.

"We really do see lots of answers to our prayers," Stowers added.

For this reason, a certain portion of prayer time, the regional coordinator said, is given over specifically to thank God for His goodness and for His answers.

At the beginning of every new school year, the individual prayer leaders introduce themselves to the principals of the schools for which their group is praying.

"We have so much support from our principals," Kennedy said. "We pray faithfully for our schools, teachers and administrators. We are praying FOR the

chapter or chapters.

To learn more or to establish a Moms In Touch group in your community, contact

Stowers at (806) 669-7713 or Kennedy at (806) 669-3006.



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Class

Cont. from Page 6

Dr. Laycock has belonged to Everyman's since about 1950. The class first became known to him while he was visiting his brother, Dr. Royce Laycock, in Pampa in 1945. He was visiting while on leave from the military during World War II. Dr. Laycock attended the class with Royce, moving to Pampa five or six years later.

Fred Thompson, Holden said, is another former long-time teacher of Everyman's. Butch Sheppard, Doug DuBose and Warren Chisum presently share responsibility for teaching the class.

Chisum is a state representative who is frequently required to travel to the capitol while the Texas Legislature is in session. "A lot of times Chisum is not here, so the teachers take turns," Holden said.

The current song leader is Henry Gruben, and the current music director is Carl Meyer of Skellytown. The pianist for the group is now Suzanne Wood. Wood is a schoolteacher.

Holden said the class begins each session with a song followed by a prayer followed by another musical selection.

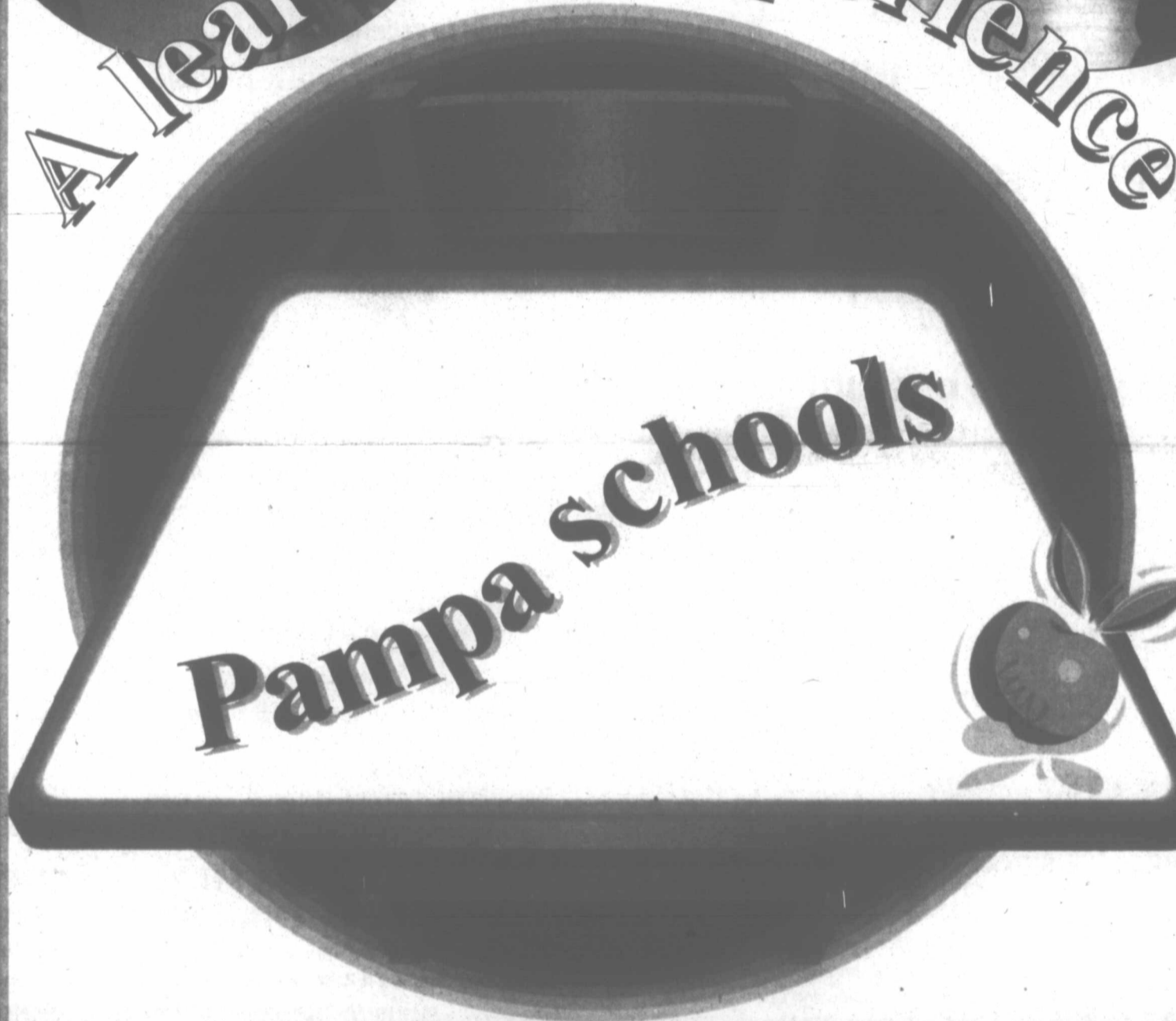
"A lot of times Carl and Suzanne will do a duet," Holden said.

After the music and prayer, the class president will address the group and members will discuss the prayer list. Closing remarks by the president follow the lesson and the class typically concludes with the secretary's report and the closing prayer.

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ABUS Agricultural Business	MARK Marketing
ACCT Accounting	MATH Mathematics
AECO Agricultural Economics	MUSI Music
AEQU Agriculture, Equine Science	RNUR Nursing RN
AGRI Agricultural, General	VNSG Nursing, Vocational LVN
ARCH Architecture	OFFA Office Technology AAS
ARTC Art-Commercial/Computer	OFFC Office Technology Cert.
ARTS Art	PHED Health and Physical Education
BIOL Biology	PHYS Physics
BUSI Business/Commerce, General	PALH Pre-Allied Health
CHEM Chemistry	PDEN Pre-Dentistry
CMTC Computer Tech Entry Net Specialist Cert.	PLAW Pre-Law
CNAC Computer Tech Networking Technician Cert.	PMED Pre-Medicine
COSC Computer Science CIS	PPHR Pre-Pharmacy
CPMT Computer Technology AAS	PTHE Pre-Physical Therapy
CRIJ Criminal Justice	PVET Pre-Veterinary Medicine
CRAM Drama, Theatre	PSYC Psychology
ECON Economics	RFOA Ranch and Feedlot Operations AAS
EDUC Education, General	RFOC Ranch and Feedlot Operations Cert.
EDEL Education, Elementary	RECR Recreation and Leisure Services
EDSE Education, Secondary	RELI Religion/Theology
EMMS Emergency Medical Services	SOCs Social Work
ENGR Engineering	SOCI Sociology
ENGL English	SPCH Speech, Speech Communications
ENVS Environmental Science	UNDC Undecided, Undeclared
FINC Finance	CORE Core Curriculum
FLNG Foreign Languages	FECE Field of Study-early Childhood Education
GENS General Studies	FMGT Field of Study-Middle Grades Teacher Cert.
GEOL Geology	FBUS Field of Study-Business
GOVT Government, Political Science	FMUS Field of Study-Music
HIST History	FCOS Field of Study-Computer Science
KINE Kinesiology and Exercise Science	FCRJ Field of Study-Criminal Justice



2008 SUMMER SCHEDULE FOR PAMPA CENTER PRE-REGISTRATION STARTS APRIL 14, 2008 Friday, July 4 Is A College Holiday

Notes: TBA - To Be Announced
 Class days are as follows: M = Monday, T = Tuesday, W = Wednesday, R = Thursday, F = Friday, S = Saturday

SUMMER 1 SCHEDULE JUNE 9, THRU JULY 10 - FIVE WEEKS

This is a tentative schedule subject to change. Some changes in course offerings are anticipated for Summer I 2008 and will be announced later. Clarendon College administration reserves the right to modify or amend all contents of this schedule.

BIOLOGY						
BIOL 2401 .931	HUMAN A&P I	TR	5:30PM-9:45PM	101-C	WIGINTON	
BIOL 2401L .231	HUMAN A&P I LAB	TBA	TBA	202	STAFF	
BIOL 2421.221	MICROBIOLOGY	TR	8:00-12:00PM	203	ESTLACK	
BIOL 2421L.221	MICROBIOLOGY LAB	TR	1:00-5:00PM	202	ESTLACK	
CHEMISTRY						
CHEM 1311.931	CHEMISTRY I	MW	5:30-9:45PM	101-C	WIGINTON	
CHEM 1111.231	CHEMISTRY I LAB	TBA	TBA	202	WIGINTON	
COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY						
ITSC1405.221	INTRO TO PC OPERATING	MTWRF	10:00-10:55AM	204	MCCARTY	
ITSC1405L.221	INTRO TO PC OPER LAB	MTWRF	11:00-11:55AM	204	MCCARTY	
ITSC1425.221	PERSONAL COM	MTWRF	8:00-8:55AM	204	MCCARTY	
ITSC1425L.221	PERSONAL COMP LAB	MTWRF	9:00-9:55AM	204	MCCARTY	
ENGLISH						
ENGL 1301.231	ENGLISH COMP I	MW	5:30-9:30PM	203	WILSON	
ENGL 1301.195	ENGLISH COMP I	ONLINE			BAXTER	
ENGL 2311.195	TECHNICAL WRITING	ONLINE			MURPHEY	
ENGL 2332.195	WORLDS LITERATURE I	ONLINE			WILLIAMS	
GOVERNMENT						
GOVT 2305.221	FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	TR	1:00-5:00PM	207	MCLATCHY	
GOVT 2305.195	FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	ONLINE			JEFFERY	
HISTORY						
HIST 1301.195	US HISTORY TO 1877	ONLINE			BAILEY	
MATHEMATICS						
MATH 1314.231	COLLEGE ALGEBRA	TR	5:30-9:30PM	102	VANCE	
MUSIC THEORY						
MUSI 1306.195	MUSIC APPRECIATION	ONLINE			SMITH	
SOCIOLOGY						
SOCI 1301.221	INTRO TO SOCIOLOGY	MW	1:00-5:00PM	207	WILSON	
PHYSICAL EDUCATION						
PHED 1304.195	PERSONAL HEALTH I	ONLINE			RIMA	

SUMMER II 2008 SCHEDULE JUNE 14 THRU AUG 14 - FIVE WEEKS

This is a tentative schedule subject to change. Some changes in course offerings are anticipated for Summer II 2008 and will be announced later. Clarendon College administration reserves the right to modify or amend all contents of this schedule.

BIOLOGY						
BIOL 2402 .931	HUMAN A&P I	TR	5:30PM-9:45PM	101-C	WIGINTON	
BIOL 2402L .231	HUMAN A&P I LAB	TBA	TBA	202	STAFF	
CHEMISTRY						
CHEM 1312.931	CHEMISTRY II	MW	5:30-9:45PM	101-C	WIGINTON	
CHEM 1112.231	CHEMISTRY II LAB	TBA	TBA	202	STAFF	
COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY						
ITMT 1400.221	IMPLEM/SUPPORT XP PRO	MTWRF	10:00-10:55AM	204	MCCARTY	
ITMT 1400L.221	IMPL/SUPPORT XP PRO LAB	MTWRF	11:00-11:55AM	204	MCCARTY	
ITSC 2439.221	PC HELP DESK SUPPORT	MTWRF	8:00-8:55AM	204	MCCARTY	
ITSC 2439L.221	PC HELP DESK SUPPORT LAB	MTWRF	9:00-9:55AM	204	MCCARTY	
ITSC 2386.221	INTERNSHIP CIS	MW	1:00-2:50PM	204	MCCARTY	
ENGLISH						
ENGL 1302.231	ENGLISH COMP II	MW	5:30-9:30PM	209	WILSON	
ENGL 1302.195	ENGLISH COMP II	ONLINE			WILLIAMS	
GOVERNMENT						
GOVT 2306.221	STATE GOVERNMENT	TR	1:00-5:00PM	207	MCLATCHY	
GOVT 2306.195	STATE GOVERNMENT	ONLINE			JEFFERY	
HISTORY						
HIST 1302.195	US HISTORY TO 1877	ONLINE			BAILEY	
MATHEMATICS						
MATH 1342.921	ELEMENTARY STATISTICS	TR	1:00-5:48PM	101-P	TAYLOR	
SPEECH						
SPCH 1315.221	PUBLIC SPEAKING	MW	1:00-5:00PM	203	WILSON	
SPCH 1318.195	INTERPERSONAL COMM	ONLINE			SHOOK	



NURSING PROGRAM

Associate of Applied Science

A vocational nursing program at Clarendon College-Pampa Center is underway. "This is a program to help students work toward taking the exam to become a licensed vocational nurse," said Jennifer Black, RN, nursing director for Clarendon College.

Students who complete the one-year course which starts in January could take the state exam as early as December to become LVNs, she said.

Applicants must have a high school diploma or a GED. They must take a pre-admission test; immunizations completed including Hepatitis B, followed by an interview with the college's nursing committee.

A background check will be conducted on students selected for the course. Students will be notified of the results of the check, and must pass it in order to take the course. The pre-admission test consists of math, science, english and reading comprehension questions, and is taken on a computer. The test can be scheduled and taken at the Pampa campus.

Classes are limited to 20 students at each campus. Classes are Monday - Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm. Clinicals are from 6:00am to 2:00 or 4:00pm.

Pampa Regional Medical Center and Parkview Hospital of Wheeler have both donated to the new program. PRMC's contributions include beds, a crib, and examination table, scales and various bedside and over-the-bed-tables. Parkview has donated six beds and mattresses, a respiratory tent for cribs, a suction machine and funds for several scholarships.

Clarendon College students get hands on training with personal instructions from Jennifer Black, RN.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

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Certificates Of Entry Networking Specialist & Networking Technician

A program in Computer Technology that Clarendon College provides relevant and current training. The program has an operational committee made up of persons from business and industry who advise in curriculum and industry expectations. This degree qualifies you to pursue further college training or seek employment in the field of computer technology, computer maintenance and computer networking administration. Begin now ... summer computer classes start soon.



OFFICE TECHNOLOGY

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Secure a safe future with a promising career. As the reliance on technology continues to expand in offices, the role of the office professional is evolving. Responsibilities include a variety of administrative and clerical duties necessary to run an organization efficiently. Office professionals serve as information and communication managers for an office; plan and schedule meetings and appointments; organize and maintain paper and electronic files; manage projects; conduct research; and disseminate information by using the telephone, mail services, Web sites, and e-mail. They also handle travel and guest arrangements. Many secretarial and administrative duties are of a personal, interactive nature and because technology cannot substitute for these personal skills, secretaries and administrative assistants will continue to play a key role in most organizations. Whether you propose a certificate or A.A.S. in Office Technology and go right to work, or continue your education seeking a higher degree, you'll find opportunities at all levels. Gain skills and confidence. Secretaries and administrative assistants are aided in their tasks by a variety of office equipment, such as fax machines, photocopier, scanners, calculators, and telephone systems. In Addition, secretaries and administrative assistants often use computers to do tasks previously handled by managers and professionals such as create spreadsheets; compose correspondence; manage databases; and create presentations, reports and documents using desktop publishing software. In the Office Technology Program you grow personally as you learn different entry-level skills such as computer technology, accounting, professional development, business math, calculating machines, advance keyboarding, record keeping, and medical office procedures.



Business Management Accelerated Degree Program

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Have you ever thought, "I wish I could go back to college?" Are you finding that you need a degree to advance your career? Are you interested in a different job, but need a bit more education to feel qualified? According to the U.S. Department of Labor Secretary Elaine L. Chao, "Higher skilled jobs that require more education are clearly the future of our country in the worldwide economy." Are you ready for the future? Are you ready to advance in your work environment? At Clarendon College-Pampa Center, we'll teach you how to be a better manager, how to efficiently gather and analyze information, how to examine costs and profitability, plus aspects of law, marketing, writing, economics, accounting and finance. While learning to better meet your organization's goals and objectives, you'll be developing skills that are critical for achieving success in today's competitive business environment. We know you are busy: you have a life-a full life. Whether you have work obligations, demands for family time or church commitments, Clarendon College makes it easy to fit earning your degree into your busy schedule. The Business Management course of study at Clarendon College is designed to allow students to earn an Associate of Applied Science degree in an accelerated fashion. This program will offer convenient classes one Saturday each month for three months in order to appeal to business people. These courses will be a combination of classroom and Online instruction. Clarendon College is a comprehensive community college committed to teaching and learning and to providing equal access to opportunities that assist in the holistic development of its constituents and community. In pursuit of that mission, the College provides academic transfer programs, workforce education programs, student services, developmental education courses, service courses, and diverse cultural enrichment opportunities.

St. Vincent

Continued from Page 4

half-day sessions will not include a lunch or nap so all of the time spent here at school will just be academic time."

Mullen explained that the morning always begins with "circle time," where the children sit in their designated spot and go through different lessons as a group. The students have learned how to count from 1 to 50, know all the months of the year and all of the days of the week. The students can also count to 10 in Spanish.

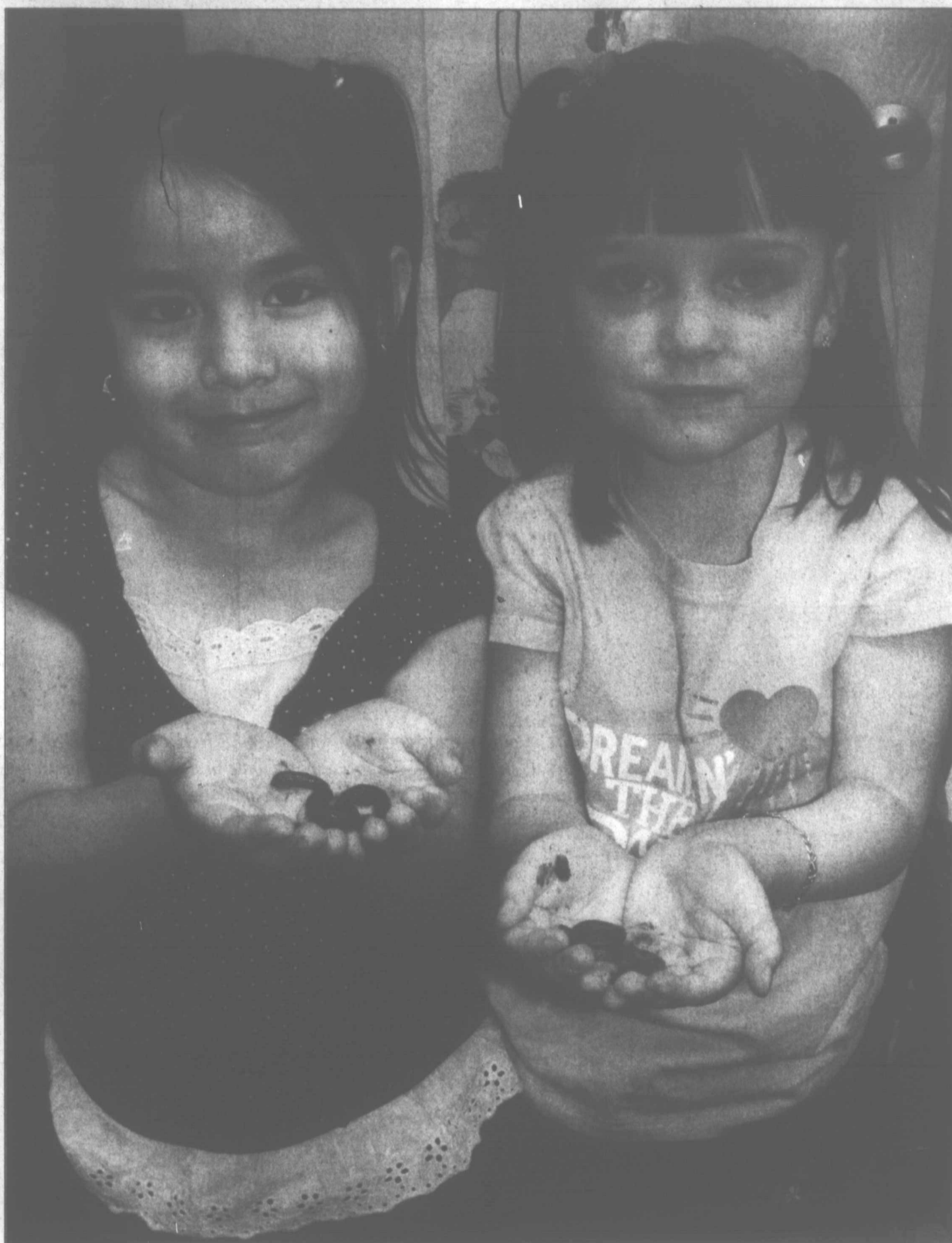
"My class here at St. Vincent's is a good mixture of different cultures and backgrounds," Mullen said. "Many of the students come from Hispanic families so they know how to speak Spanish as well as English. But, I also have many other nationalities too so the kids learn about different types of families."

Each month, Mullen said she has a different theme for the classroom. This month the theme was "worms," which many of the students enjoyed, while others thought the whole thing was a little gross.

Mullen said that most kids that attend Pre-K enter kindergarten at a higher level than those who do not. Most of the kids in her class know how to write their first names and some of them even write their first and last name on all of their class work.

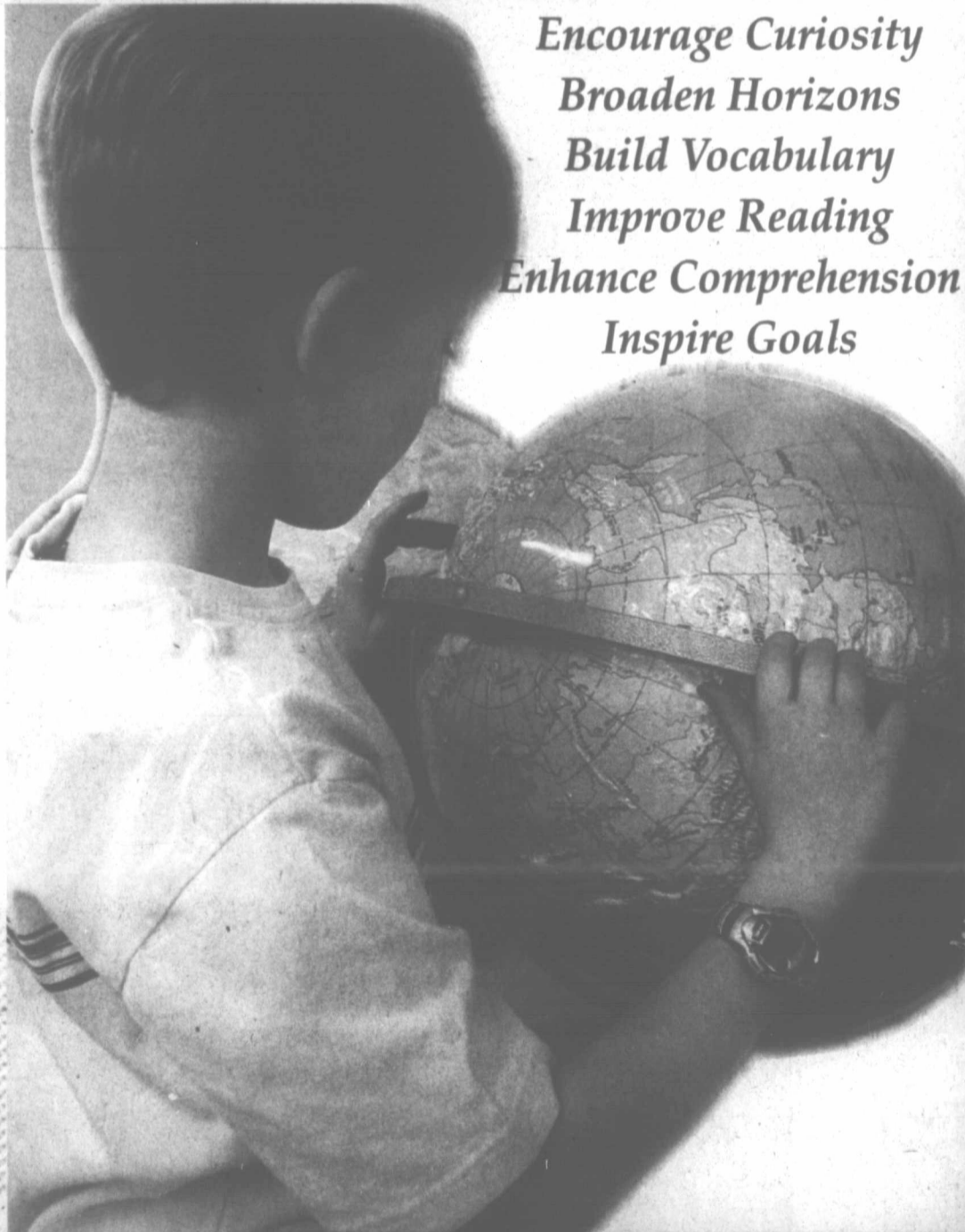
"I try to have as much hands-on learning as possible," Mullen said. "The students love to do arts and crafts, which includes playing with rice, making homemade playdough and other artwork. We also have a computer in the classroom and the kids enjoy 'www.starfall.com,' which is a free educational program on the Web. They take turns at the computer with headphones on, so they don't bother the other students."

Emma Doucette, a student at St. Vincent.



Photos by KERRI SMITH
Myra Villanueva, left, and Zapryce Johnson with worms.

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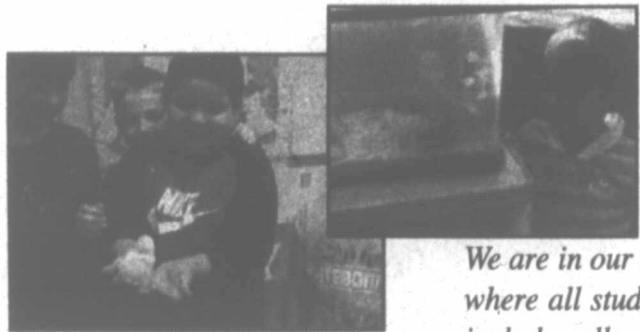
WOODROW ELEMENTARY

PRINCIPAL - TANYA LARKIN

"Wilson is a special place! We strive to do "whatever it takes" for our students to be successful. Students, Staff and Parents work together to improve our school and we never stop learning from each other."



Wilson Elementary is participating in the WOWW (Window on a Wider World) program. WOWW is dedicated to enriching the education of Texas Panhandle students through arts, science and cultural experiences. WOWW is a collaborative partnership between the Amarillo Foundation, Globe News Center for Performing Arts, and participating arts, science and cultural organizations of the Texas Panhandle. Wilson's participation in the WOWW program is allowing every grade level to take a field trip to exciting places such as Palo Duro Canyon, The Amarillo Botanical Gardens, Don Harrington Discovery Center, Wild Cat Bluff Nature Center, The Square House Museum, and the Globe News Center for a live presentation of "Old Yeller". We are excited to be part of such a wonderful enrichment program.



We are in our second year of Wilson's POWER HOUR! Power Hour is an enrichment time where all students in K-5th grade participate in new learning opportunities. Some of those include college planning, Journalism, Community Awareness and more. These students are learning about chicks, lizards, and owls in Animal Science and Science Lab stations.

AUSTIN ELEMENTARY

PRINCIPAL - BEVERLY OWEN

"We strive to find new and innovative ways to facilitate your child's learning process. Austin has a proud tradition of academic success."

Beverly Owen, Austin principal, is pictured here with Mrs. Reed, who taught at Austin when it opened in 1957. Mrs. Reed who turned 105 years old in December attended the school's fiftieth birthday celebration.

Austin kindergarteners Connor Antsey, Jacob Baker, and Landon Rehmsch enjoy snacks at the annual Thanksgiving Feast held each year by kindergarten teachers. Parents provided delicious snacks and drinks for all of the children to celebrate this special holiday.



Austin first graders dressed as one hundred year old people in observance of the one hundredth day of school. Pictured here are Bethany Rodeh and Jady Parsons.



Taylor Jefferis and Alexis Espino enjoy stacking when Austin Kindergarten second grade combined for a day "Under the Big Top." The Austin faculty pulled together the big top affair to free classrooms for the TAKS testing. The event was a hit!



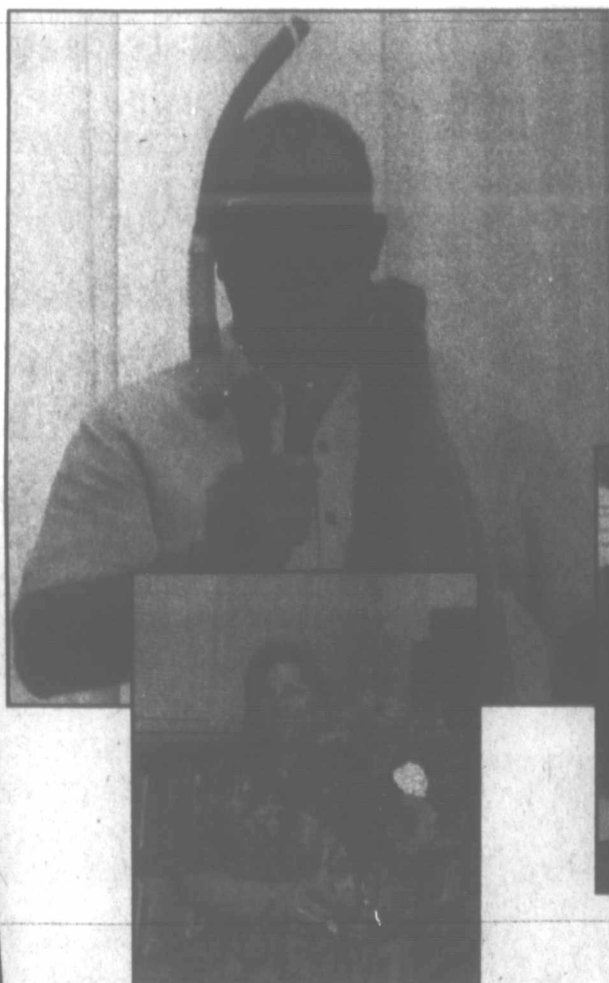
Austin third graders Ariel Cambern and Rylee Novian congratulate each other on a job well done after their September production of "Froggy Day in Lindentown."

PAMPA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL - PAUL NIES

"PJHS offers many opportunities for students to grow and develop a sense of knowledge and selfworth. We take pride in building future leaders for tomorrow's successes."

A new activity at PJHS this year is the "Academic Pep Rally". Teacher Clint Allen is dressed to entertain students at the "Surfin' to Excellence" pep rally.



Intramural Soccer is in its second year at Pampa Junior High.



National Junior Honor Society is collecting used cell phones. This is their spring fund raiser that serves other purposes of helping the environment and providing repurposed cell phones to third world countries. Be looking for their project, "A Day of Service" to be held in May.

Pampa Junior High School is pleased to announce Mrs. Cheryl Wisdom as our 2007-2008 Teacher of the Year.

LAMAR ELEMENTARY

PRINCIPAL - JAN CLEEK

"We continue to work together to make Lamar a place with positive attitudes working for success. Working with the parents allows us to achieve academic and social success for our children."



Lamar kindergarten students enjoy the parachute during P.E.



PAAS students learn how a crime scene is investigated.



Mrs. Cleek puts fun in learning, as she takes a minute to visit with the cat-in a hat.



TRAVIS ELEMENTARY

PRINCIPAL - JILL FAUBION

"Travis Elementary is a great place to learn! Our students and staff members strive to meet high academic goals. We are very lucky at Travis to have outstanding support from our Booster Club and from the Cabot Corporation... our Partners in Education."



Students having fun with their mother at our December Make and Take.



Fourth grade students celebrating at an attendance party provided by Cabot Corp., our partners in Education.



Travis has several class musical programs during the year, and present a terrific Veterans program on November 11th during which the students honor our local veterans.

Enjoying a meal with Dad at "Donuts for Dads"!



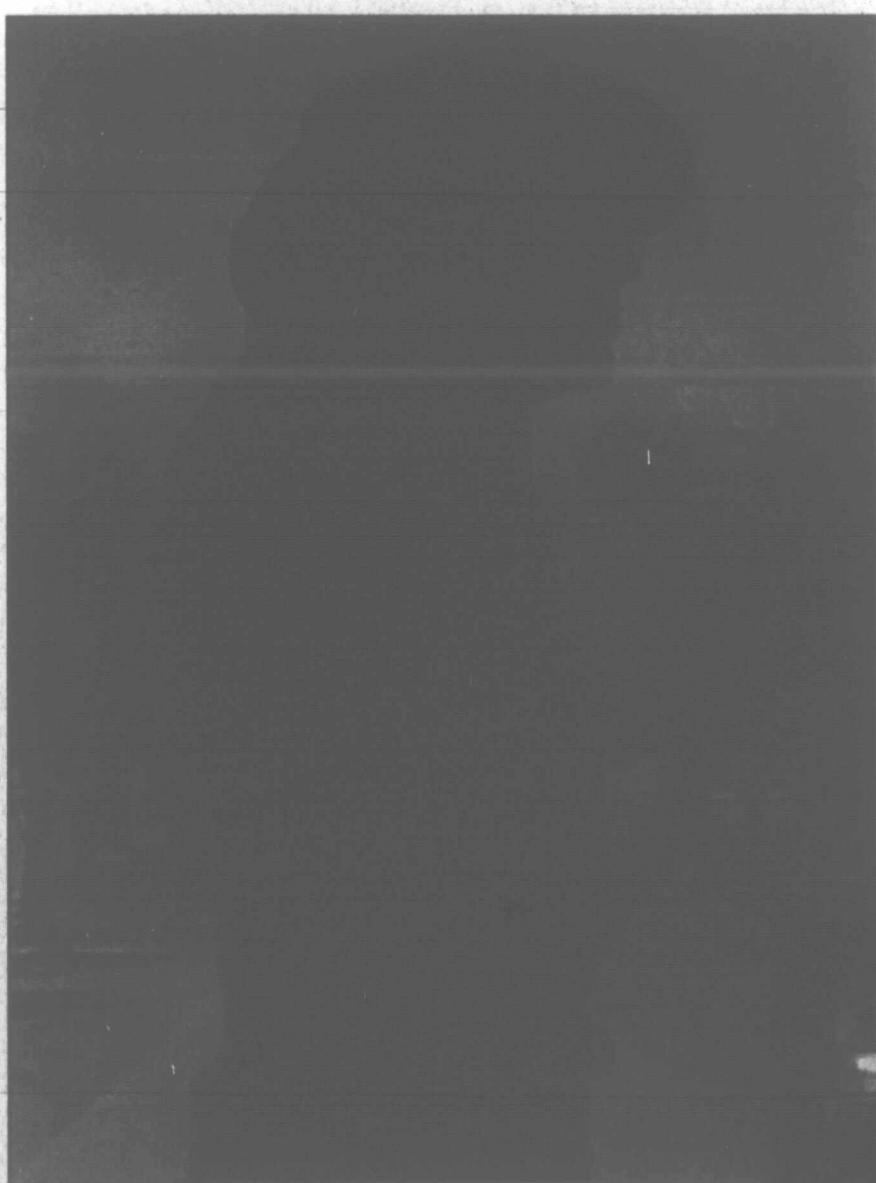
Ms. Miller sharing a moment with a student and parent at Open House.

PAMPA HIGH SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL - DANNY SEABOURN

The name Pampa conjures several images but none as dominant as Pampa High School. When citizens of outside communities think of Pampa, the first image they get is often the green and gold of the Harvesters. Harvester sports are a bright point of the community. From a tall reminder of past champions as travelers enter from the east to the festive facilities on campus, Harvester pride is everywhere.

Pampa High School offers more than sports, though. Pampa youth walk the halls everyday surrounded by chances. Chances to learn a new hobby or train for a career. Possibilities are endless for students across the board.



Teacher of the year

Faculty singles out special teacher with special award

By KERRI SMITH
Special to The News

Every year at Pampa Junior High School, the teachers vote on one of their own who they feel is worthy of being named Teacher of the Year. This year that honor went to eighth grade special education teacher Cheryl Wisdom.

"Being named teacher of the year is quite an honor," Wisdom said. "What makes this more special is knowing this honor was bestowed to me by my teaching peers, the people I work with on a daily basis. This is definitely one of the highlights of my career here at Pampa Junior High School."

Wisdom is part of an inclusion program for special education students that have mild to moderate learning disabilities. Most of the students just need help reading and learning how to process the information that they just read.

She said that going into the regular classroom to help these students really makes these kids feel like they are no different than everyone else, since they are not pulled out of class and taken to a special classroom to receive this individual attention.

"The inclusion program keeps the student who just needs a little extra assistance in the regular classroom with all of the other kids," Wisdom said. "We go in to all of the core subjects and help these students process the information that is assigned by their teacher."

This inclusion program has been at PJHS for 11 years and Wisdom has been there all 11 of those years. She was one of the special education teachers that helped start the program and she said it has given her a great sense of accomplishment to see how well the program helps the students.

"For this eighth grade program, we have three teachers and six aides,"



PJHS Teacher of the Year Cheryl Wisdom.

Photo by KERRI SMITH

Wisdom said. "The teachers are all certified in special education and the aides are paraprofessionals that have had some type of higher education and have

received special training from the school district. Many of these paraprofessionals have also been here the 11 years of the program or many of those years, so they

are very invaluable. The teachers could not do this work and have the success that we do without them."

See WISDOM, Page 9

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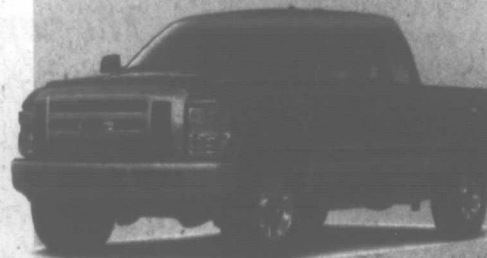
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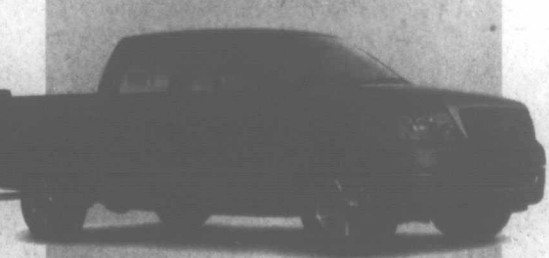
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Wisdom

Continued from Page 8

Wisdom has taught school for 11 years, all of which has been in Pampa at the junior high level. She knew she would go to college after she graduated from Lefors High School because her mother was a teacher in Lefors and education was very important in their

household.

She majored in accounting when she originally went to college at North Texas State in Dallas with an emphasis on business education and English. When she graduated from North Texas State in Dallas, she did some substitute teaching in a Dallas County junior high and decided to go back to school and get her certificate in special education.

"I said I would never teach

eighth grade because it was so difficult and the kids were such a challenge, but now that I'm here in this grade I really enjoy it," Wisdom said. "It just feels right and I feel like I'm where I'm supposed to be. It's been a blessing in my life."

She said that teaching has worked well for her family and children and she really cannot see any negatives to the profession. She and her family live on a small acreage with cattle and horses.

"It is nice to get outside and work on the land after a day of teaching and being inside," Wisdom said. "I love to go back to the country after working all day because it is a way to spend some time alone or with my family and just enjoy the outdoors."

Her parents, Loyd and Shirley McKnight, still live in Pampa and she enjoys having them close to her family, which consists of husband Gary, daughters Codi and Shelby and step-son Sam.

Her husband is a security director for the Department of Energy at Pantex. Her daughter Shelby is a junior at Pampa High School and Wisdom enjoys watching her play golf as a member of the golf team. Codi recently got married to Cory Fowler so Wisdom is also enjoying her new son-in-law since the couple also lives in Pampa. Here step-son Sam lives in Amarillo with his family so they are close as well.



Photo by KERRI SMITH

Taiten Sanders, left, and Diamond Chavez are both students at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School.

CHILDHOOD LEARNING

Montessori method taught at St. Vincent's School

Parents of young children in Pampa have a few options when it comes time to send their kids to an educational setting, such as early childhood learning and Pre-Kindergarten. One of these options is St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School, which offers traditional Pre-K along with Montessori classes.

Since St. Vincent's is the only school in Pampa to offer the Montessori method of learning, many do not know what this type of education is all about. According to Wikipedia, the Montessori Method is a teaching methodology developed in Italy by Dr. Maria Montessori who opened her first school in Rome in 1907.

"From the moment the child enters the classroom, each step in his education is seen as a progressive building block, ultimately forming the whole person, in the emergence from The main feature of the Montessori method is that preschool-age children should direct their own learning by choosing from sections of a well-structured and stocked classroom that promotes fine and gross motor skill development, as well as sensory and brain development. The role of the teacher is to introduce children to materials and then remain a silent presence in the classroom.

Sister Mary Magdalene is the facilitator for St. Vincent's Montessori program. She said her students range in age from 2 1/2 to 5. All of the students are in the same classroom because this helps the younger students learn from the older kids.

"Children want to be independent and learn at their own pace," Magdalene said. "The environment in this Montessori classroom is quiet and I try to get the kids to slow down, focus and concentrate on the task at hand. This is a half-day program and the first few hours of the morning the children choose the tasks they want to work on, place them on their mat, which is considered their own personal space, and they concentrate on the hands on materials."

Magdalene said she is there mainly to point the children in a different direction if they are getting distracted or veering off in the wrong direction. She also explained that the students in this class do not receive stickers or other rewards other than a simple comment about how they are doing. She said it is important for children to learn from the inside out that they are learning and accomplishing tasks and learn to be proud of themselves

See METHOD, Page 10

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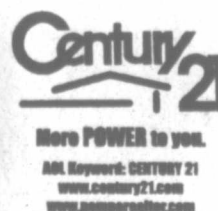


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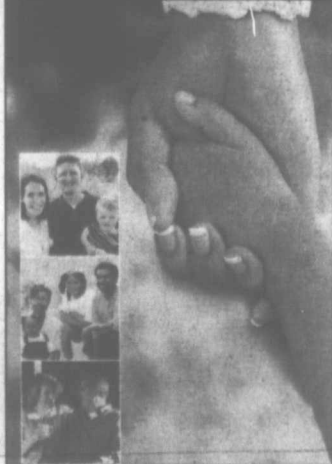
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Method

without always needing the praise of others.

Continued from Page 9

"Children at these ages have a great imagination," Magdalene said. "Even though computer games and television shows can be educational, children need to spend more time using their own imagination with hands-on materials. We do a lot of art work in here, but the kids create their own art. I very rarely hand out color sheets for them to color."

The Montessori method is very hands-on and physical. Magdalene said she has the children walk on a wavy line on the floor while carrying a bowl of water to learn how to balance it without spilling it. Or, they carry a bell and learn how to walk without having the bell ring. She said this helps develop their motor skills.

"Kids today are pushed too hard into reading early," Magdalene said. "This method of learning has the reading materials available if the child is ready, but if they aren't ready that is okay also. The best thing is the kids absorb things from each other."

Lunch time is also different for Montessori students. Instead of eating in the cafeteria, the students go get their food trays, carry them into the classroom and they all eat together "as a family" at a large table. Magdalene said this is a quiet time when the children can enjoy one another and tell stories to each other.

Magdalene explained that the Montessori method of learning is not just daycare for the young children. She said the parents really need to be involved with the kids and understand the system so they can help with the process at home. Even though the program is open to kids as young as 2 1/2, the parents and children are interviewed and evaluated to make sure the child is ready for this program.

Thanks to a recent grant received by St. Vincent's school, the children have a brand new playground to play on outside. Magdalene said the school is also trying to build up their school library so the children have more books available to them.

For more information about the Montessori program at St. Vincent's, call the school office at 665-5665.



Destiny Slater, a student at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School, with a worm.

Photo by KERRI SMITH

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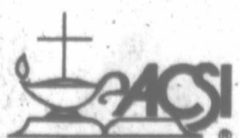


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Problem lateness plaguing junior high school

By KERRI SMITH
Special to The News

Pampa Junior High School has a very big problem ... tardies. According to PJHS Principal Paul Nies, tardies are the number one problem at the school currently. The only thing that might surprise the residents of Pampa though is one of the main reasons for these tardies ... the parents.

"Most junior high schools have a problem with their students being tardy to some of their classes occasionally, but the majority of our tardies happen for first period and I feel the parents are a big part of this problem," Nies said. "None of our students at this school are able to drive so it is the responsibility of the parent to get the child to school on time."

Nies said that he recently had the administration put together a list of how many tardies occurred and split them up by the period in which they happened. The following is the breakdown of these tardies:

- 1st period - 511 students were tardy to class
- 2nd period - 109
- 3rd period - 138
- 4th period - 108
- 5th period - 203
- 6th period - 143
- 7th period - 85
- Total = 1,297

"It was amazing to see that 40 percent of the tardies that occurred happened for first period," Nies said. "So of the 1,297 tardies we had, 511 were from first period alone and 786 was the total for all of the other periods. This is totally unacceptable and we need to get this problem solved. One way to accomplish this is for the parents to get their kids up out of bed, dressed and fed and to school on time."

He explained that the first bell of the morning rings at 7:55 a.m. and the tardy bell for first period rings at 8 a.m. If the students arrive for class later than 8 a.m., they are considered tardy.

"I understand that things like flat tires and running out of gas happen, but those problems should not happen frequently and instead should only be the occasional reason for getting their children to school on time," Nies said. "A lot of parents say they can't get their child out of bed in the morning, but I'm asking 'Who is the parent?' Make your children get up in the morning in plenty of time to get ready for school and get to class on time."

"We start educating our students at 8:01 a.m. and students get behind and disrupt class if they are not in their seats ready to go at that time. Society thinks that students can just get to school when they want to, but that is incorrect. We



Photo by Kerri Smith

See TARDY, Page 12

PJHS Principal Paul Nies.



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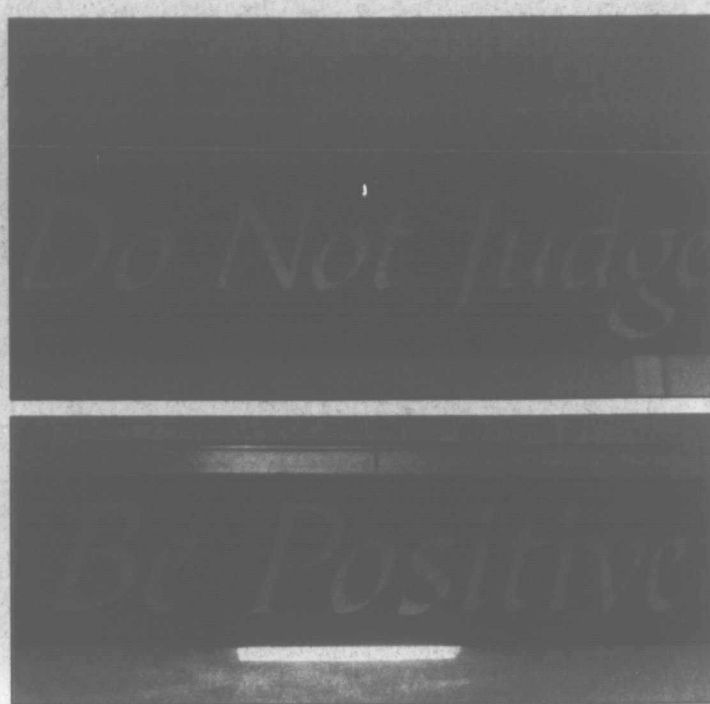
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Photos by Kerri Smith

Signs, signs, everywhere signs. ... Local junior high school uses power of words to influence students toward good choices, behavior.

Signs at PJHS reinforce positive behaviors

By KERRI SMITH
Special to The News

The junior high years for many kids are a difficult time in their "growing up" process. This is also a time when children are very impressionable, so it is a time when they need to be surrounded by good role models and positive influences. A small group of parents recently got together with Pampa Junior High School Principal Paul Nies to try and make a difference

in not only their children's lives, but also the hundreds of other kids at the school.

"When kids are in junior high, there are many obstacles in front of them," Nies said. "Not only do they have a lot to learn academically, but they are trying to learn about themselves and those around them on a personal level. They need to be surrounded by as many positive influences as possible and many feel the school is a great place to make this happen."

Nies said that a parent approached him a short time ago and asked if there was anything he needed for the school but was unable to get financially. Nies said he would love to put up some positive sayings around the school building so he and the parent came up with a plan.

This parent approached a few other parents (seven families in total participated) to come up with a way to have some signs printed up with positive sayings that could be hung in the hall-

ways so students would see them every day and hopefully internalize them.

The parents pooled together some money, found a printer that would do the job and had quite a few green and gold signs printed up with different sayings. The plan was to hang all of the signs from the ceiling down the hallways so they would be very visible to every student. After a few signs were hung, the group decided that some should also be placed on the walls.

"I'd really like to thank all of these parents that came together, made a plan and implemented it for the betterment of our students and school," Nies said. "I'd like to recognize all of them for their commitment to Pampa Junior High School and this community and children."

One of the parents in this group was contacted and interviewed, but she said she thought it best not to name those involved publicly.

"The parents that came together and selflessly gave

of their time and money did not do this to be recognized," the parent said. "We did this because we wanted to do something nice for the school that also gave a positive message to these students. It is amazing what can be accomplished if people just put their minds together and work towards a common goal. Many times, the silent and anonymous participant can get more accomplished than those who are known."

Tardy

Continued from Page 11

need to start teaching are children at a young age that they have to get to school, work and other places on time or there are consequences. What I can't believe is that many of these parents are also getting to

their workplaces late also after dropping their children off at school. This is not the correct way to show our children how to be responsible."

If parents worry about their children being out in the weather elements if they are dropped off at school early, then they need not worry. Nies said that those who get there early can sit in the hallways of the school as long as they sit quietly

The junior high school even has a tardy

policy that gives the students a few chances to be late. This is for those occasional mishaps. The first two tardies a student receives are not punishable. When the student receives their third tardy, their punishment is lunch detention. Each additional tardy results in harsher punishment.

Nies said he and the teachers and administrators of Pampa Junior High School are trying to provide the best learning environment for the students of this town, but they

need the cooperation of the students and teachers.

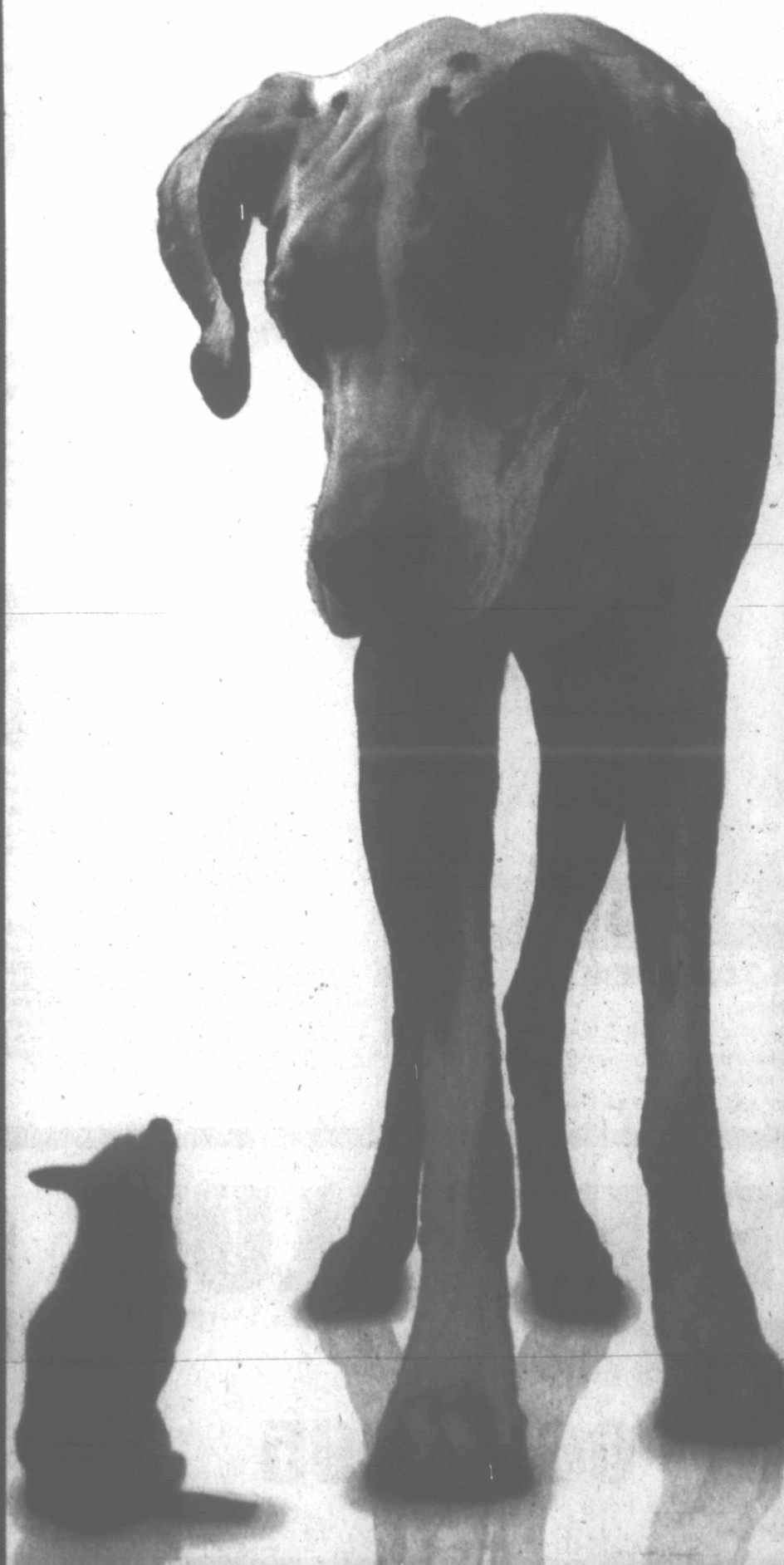
"There is just no excuse for 49 percent of our students, who don't even drive, to be tardy to first period," Nies said. "I'd just like to get the word out to the parents that they need to get their kids up out of bed and ready for school and get them here at 7:55 a.m. every morning so their children can receive the best possible education at this school."

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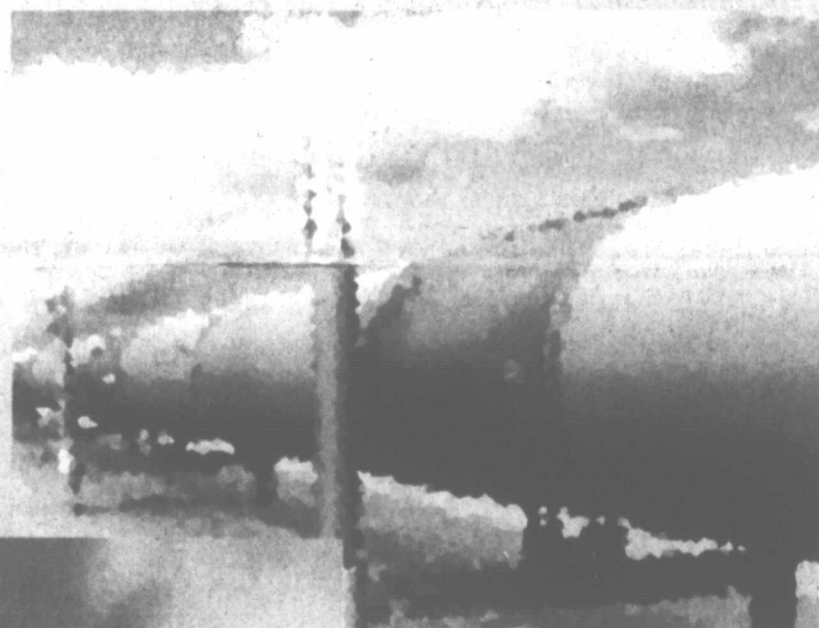
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Business & Commerce



Pampa Industry



Windmills may soon rival pumpjacks on local horizon

By MARILYN POWERS
The Pampa News

Wind generators may someday be as numerous as pump jacks in Gray County and the Texas Panhandle as alternative energy companies plan to establish wind farms here.

Wind-generated electricity is a viable product for the Texas Panhandle, according to a study done by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, said Gray County Judge Richard Peet.

The study divided the state up into 25 areas and rated each according to its capability of generating power using wind. An area consisting of Gray and Roberts counties, plus portions of Carson and Wheeler counties, rated fourth statewide in the survey, Peet said.

The top three sites are also in the Panhandle. An area southwest of Gray County is rated first, followed by an area south of the county. Third place went to an area near Perryton.

The first company to seek and receive tax abatements

install 19 generators in southern Gray County and another 38 in Donley County. Pickens County commissioners approved creation of a reinvestment zone on Nov. 30, 2007 for the northern half of the county, excluding the

The tax abatements were granted after Gray County commissioners established a reinvestment zone in early 2007 which includes the area for the planned generators. CPV was to receive a 90 percent tax abatement in county property taxes for the first four years of its operation, followed by a 60 percent abatement for six years afterward.

The company sold to Iberdrola Renewable Energies, an alternative energy company based in Spain, in April 2007. The tax abatements granted to CPV Wind Ventures were transferred to Iberdrola, which has not yet begun construction of a wind farm in the reinvestment zone, according to a spokeswoman in Gray County Judge Richard Peet's office.

The reinvestment zone covers approximately 1,219.09 acres along an area east of Highway 70 on the Trew Ranch.

The next request for tax abatement by Gray County came from Mesa Power, owned by Roberts County rancher and Dallas businessman T. Boone

The top three sites are also in the Panhandle. An area southwest of Gray County is rated first, followed by an area south of the county. Third place went to an area near Perryton.

City of Pampa. Pickens plans to build a 300,000-acre wind farm in the area covered by the zone as well as portions of Roberts, Hemphill and Wheeler counties.

Pickens may now submit an application for tax abatements subsequent to the reinvestment zone being established.

A reinvestment zone, once called an enterprise zone, is an area in which businesses could apply for potential tax abatements if they establish a facility within the zone. Taxing entities which create reinvestment zones may or may not award property tax abatements, and may also require specific situations such as a minimum number of employees to be hired and maintained by the business.

Mesa Power's wind farm is planned to consist of approximately 1,400 generators, with most of the units in Gray and Roberts counties. Total estimated investment in the project is \$11 billion. The

See WIND, Page 4

Mesa Power's wind farm is planned to consist of approximately 1,400 generators, with most of the units in Gray and Roberts Counties. Total investment in the project is \$11 billion.

from Gray County for a wind farm was CPV Wind Ventures of Massachusetts. The company planned to

Mesa Power, owned by Roberts County rancher and Dallas businessman T. Boone



Pampa News photo by David Bowser
Windmills aren't just for water pumps anymore. Tall, three-bladed windmills are used to generate electricity by harvesting a renewable natural resource, the wind.

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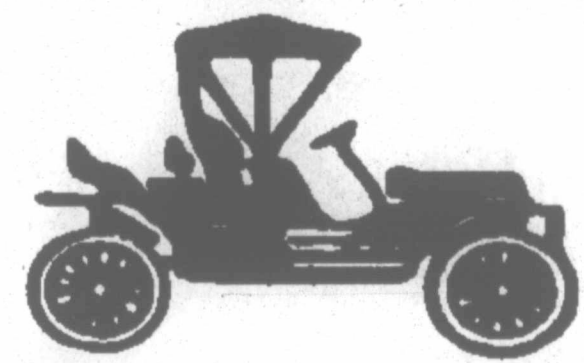
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Widespread use of solar power also dawning in the area

By MARILYN POWERS
The Pampa News.

The multi-bladed windmills which mark the locations of water pumps for rural use are slowly being joined by tilted panels of solar cells to bring water up out of the ground to fill stock tanks.

One solar-powered water pump is on land off Highway 70 south of Pampa. The land is owned by Virginia Hopkins Jones of Lubbock, along with her sister, and is leased to Jimmy McCracken of Pampa.

"It has worked well," Jones said of the solar pump. "We have toyed with the idea that we may need another solar panel. When it's really hot, the cattle drink the stock tank low fast."

"It takes about 48 hours to fill the tank," McCracken said.

The stock tank and solar-powered water pump are on 160 acres of land which McCracken uses for grazing about 50 head of cattle.

"This is the first one I've been around," McCracken said of the solar panel. "This one was put in because there's no electricity in the vicinity."

"Overall, it does pretty well at pumping water," he said. "It hasn't given any problems."

The water pump provides water for two adjoining pastures for rotational grazing. The stock tank which the pump fills is located half on each pasture, with the dividing fence bisecting the tank.

The watering system on

Jones' land was put in three years ago via the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, a cost-share program offered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Jones said.

Since 2004, EQIP contracts in Gray County have

'Even though we're up here where the wind seems to blow all the time, there are times when the wind doesn't blow.'

— Manuel DeLeon
District Conservationist

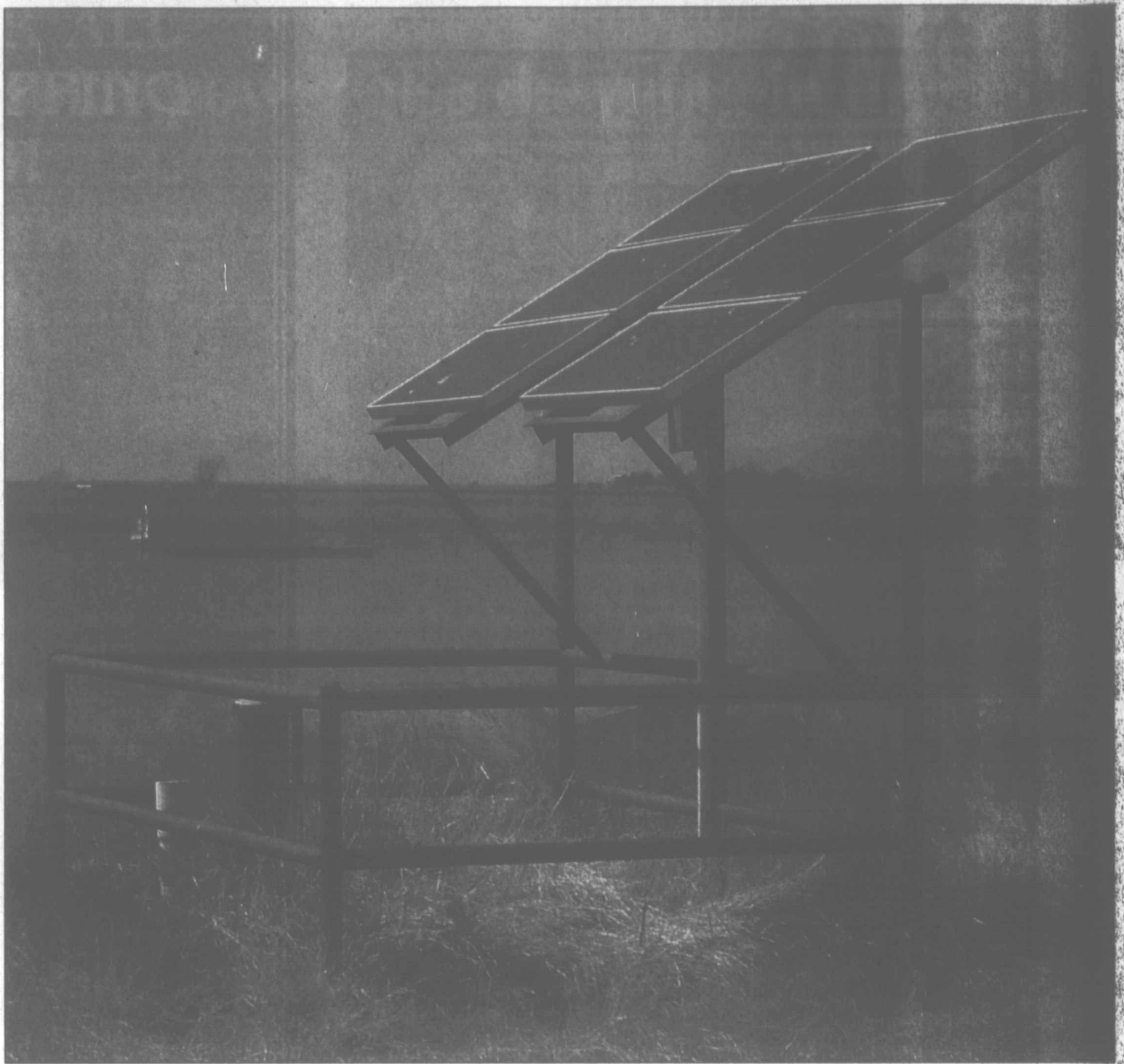
cost-shared installation of two solar pumps on livestock wells, two windmills and one solar pack on an electric fence, according to information provided by the local NRCS office.

There are several reasons why a rancher may choose to pump water with solar power rather than the traditional wind-powered windmill, said Manuel DeLeon, district conservationist at the NRCS Pampa field office.

"Even though we're up here where the wind seems to blow all the time, there are times when the wind doesn't blow," DeLeon said.

Location is another factor. "When windmills were installed, what seemed like a good location may be good for part of the season but not other times," he said. "A solar panel pump is affected by cloud cover, but any sun will help run the pump."

There is no way to use any type of energy other than wind to power a windmill,



Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers

Solar panels provide the energy to run a water pump which fills a stock tank for cattle on land south of Pampa off Highway 70. The stock tank, in background, is bisected by a fence, allowing cattle from two pastures to drink at it.

while a solar-powered pump can accommodate other energy sources.

"Some have options to get a small version of a wind turbine to help charge the panel to run the pump, and some

can also set up with a generator," DeLeon said.

Windmills may require more maintenance than solar pumps, too. Windmills have blades and a rudder as well as components which enable the

blades to rotate and to swivel toward the proper direction to coordinate with wind direction. Solar pumps have fewer moving parts.

"A hailstorm can affect solar panels, but one of our

engineers has seen some with hail damage that were still functioning," DeLeon said.

"A lot of it comes down to preference," he said concerning use of solar versus wind power to pump water.

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John A. King says, "If you're down in our neck of the woods at 918 S. Barnes, drop in and talk oilfield, beef feeding, irrigation or ham talk with the fellows at John T. Kings and Sons."

Wind

Continued from Page 2

wind generator towers will be 400 feet tall and cost \$1.5 million each.

"The project is estimated to bring 274 jobs to Gray County, mostly of a technical nature," said Ron Harris, a spokesman and consultant for Mesa Power.

Other wind energy companies have also considered establishing operations in Gray County. Airtricity, a company based in Ireland, expressed interest in placing wind generators in western Gray County and parts of Donley County, Peet said. By May 2007, more than 100 landowners in Gray County had signed agreements with Airtricity to allow the company to install electricity-generating windmills on their land, according to records on file in the county clerk's office.

Selling wind-generated electricity requires a way to transmit that power from its source to the customers. Airtricity is also involved in this stage of the process by taking part in a consortium of five companies which are planning an electricity transmission loop in the Panhandle.

The Panhandle Loop will be an 800-mile transmission line which will carry 4,200 megawatts of wind energy-generated electricity, enough to supply more than one million homes, according to Airtricity's Web site.

The Loop will cost \$1.5 billion to construct and will carry electricity from the Panhandle to cities south of Dallas/Fort Worth, San Antonio and Austin, according to the Web site of Renewable Choice, an energy company specializing in renewable power sources.

Other companies included in the consortium are Babcock and Brown



Pampa News photo by David Bowser

If companies are successful in converting wind power into a profitable commodity, the sight of modern windmills will soon be the definitive high plains landmark.

Renewable Holdings Inc., Celanese Ltd., Occidental Energy Ventures Corp. and Sharyland Utilities, L.P.

Completion of the Panhandle Loop is planned for 2010. The Loop will carry not only 4,200 MW of wind-generated electricity, but an additional 2,000 MW of gas-fired power and 1,800 MW of coal fired power, according to Sharyland Utilities' Web site.

Pickens is also planning a transmission line which will stretch approximately 300 miles from the Panhandle to Mesa Power customers downstate.

Wind generators will likely be constructed somewhere in Gray County in the not-too-distant future. A wind farm is already in operation near White Deer in Carson County, with another near Panhandle in that county.



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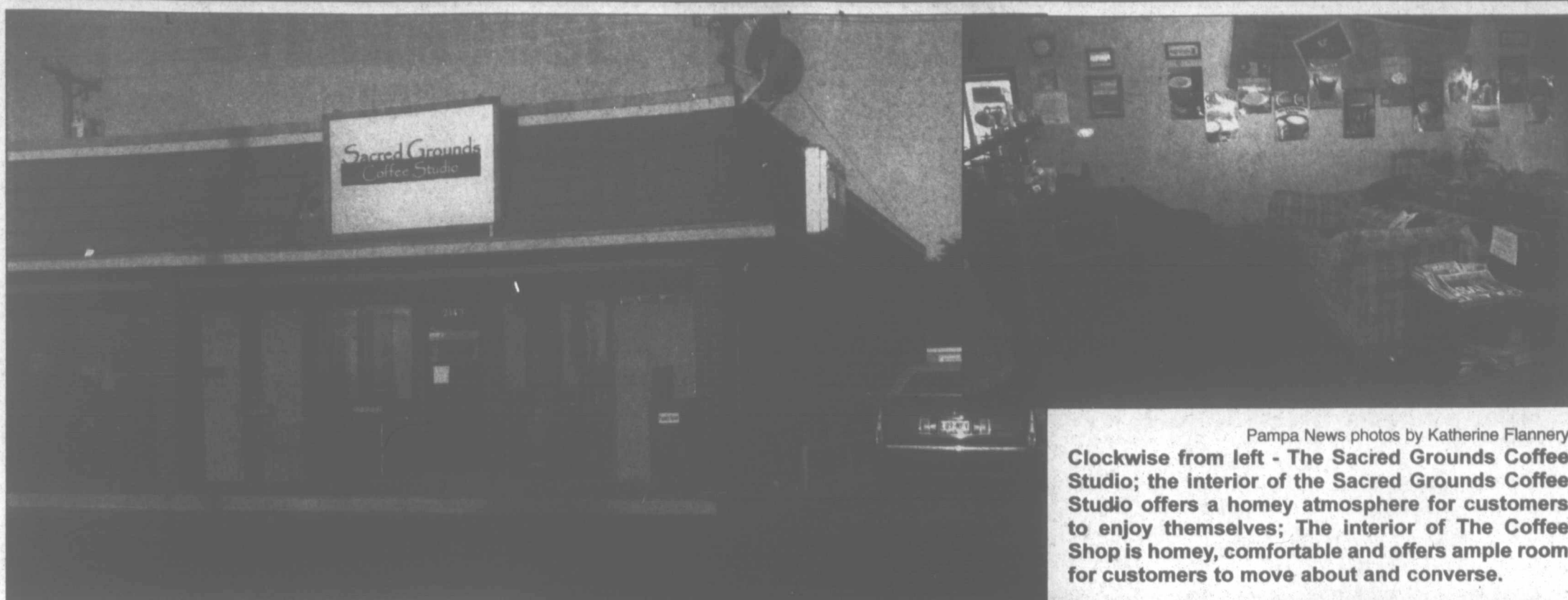
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Pampa News photos by Katherine Flannery
 Clockwise from left - The Sacred Grounds Coffee Studio; the interior of the Sacred Grounds Coffee Studio offers a homey atmosphere for customers to enjoy themselves; The interior of The Coffee Shop is homey, comfortable and offers ample room for customers to move about and converse.

Places to go for that special 'Cup 'o Joe'

By Katherine Flannery
 The Pampa News

Coffee is such a morning staple in this country that popular television shows, such as Friends and the Gilmore Girls, make references to it on a regular basis.

People seek coffee to wake up, for an afternoon pick-me-up, or to just to feed a habit.

To cater Pampans' requirement for coffee, both The Sacred Grounds Coffee Studio and The Coffee Shop are available.

Sacred Grounds, located

on N. Hobart near Subway, first opened in May of 2006 and is owned by Pamela and Brad Mathis.

Pamela says it has been her dream since she was 19 years old to open a coffee shop. She spent eight days in Rome on a sight-seeing trip and fell in love with the cappuccinos there.

"There is nothing like it here," Pamela said. "I drove my family nuts, making different kinds of coffee for them when I got back from Italy."

Pamela moved from

Lubbock to Pampa when she married Brad and decided it was time to start on her dream.

The name Sacred Grounds Coffee Studio was Brad's idea.

"I'm half Native American," Pamela said. "We were trying to think of

names, and Brad said, 'Hey, how about Sacred Grounds?'"

Sacred Grounds Coffee Studio serves all kinds of coffee, including cappuccinos, lattes, frozen and iced coffees. There are 50 flavors to choose from, with a special flavor of the month. There

are also fruit smoothies, Italian sodas with many flavors, including 10 sugar-free flavors. There are several teas offered.

Chicken salad sandwiches are served all day, as well as pastries. At least four blends of house coffee are always on hand.

"Anything ordered here is my recipe, made my way," Pamela said. "My coffee is made to order and made when you order."

Flavored beans can be special ordered, with a one

See COFFEE, Page 7

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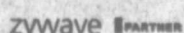


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 Office Manager

Jim Bruton
 Agency Manager

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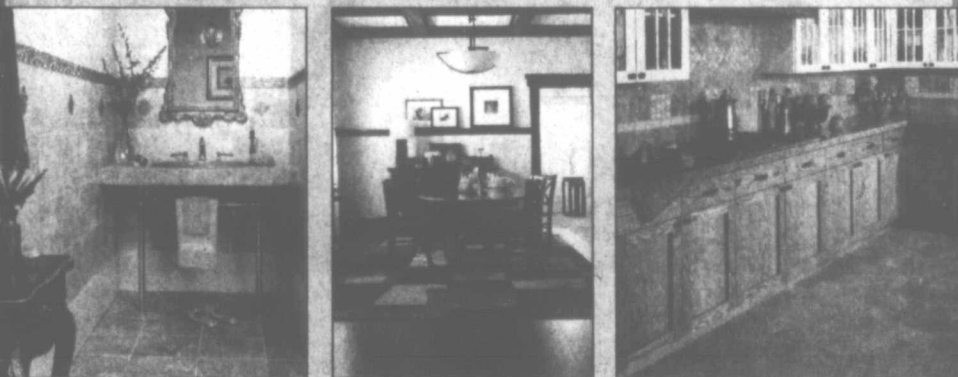
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Local business is alternative to dumping old appliances

By MARILYN POWERS
The Pampa News

One Pampa business saw a problem and decided to be part of the solution.

Top Of Texas Ice Company, 1945 N. Hobart, learned of the problem after

sioners about adopting state regulations concerning rural dumping and junk yards. The county currently has no such regulations in force, and it has the option of adopting the state guidelines in order to regulate dumping and junk yards.

One problem with disposing of appliances is that some have coolant which must be removed and disposed of properly by a certified person and a certificate declaring the removal placed on or with the appliance. These appliances include refrigerators, freezers, water coolers

One problem with disposing of appliances is that some have coolant which must be removed and disposed of properly by a certified person....

Gray County Precinct 2 Commissioner Gary Willoughby brought the issue of rural dumping before county commissioners court in February.

Appliances are sometimes dumped along rural roads and on rural property without permission of the property owner, Willoughby found. Also dumped are tires, furniture, household trash and other discarded items.

Willoughby set about cleaning up some of the dump sites in his precinct. He approached county commis-

and refrigerated air conditioners.

The Pampa landfill, off Loop 171, will not accept coolant-containing appliances unless the coolant has been removed and a certificate or sticker verifying the removal is presented with the appliance, according to Doug Brown, Pampa sanitation department superintendent. The Pampa landfill also requires that the compressors be detached from the appliances.

What's an appliance owner to do? Owners of the appli-



Gray County Precinct 2 Commissioner Gary Willoughby checks one of the trailer loads of unwanted appliances collected March 1 at Top Of Texas Ice Company. The business has begun a public service program of accepting certain unwanted appliances on the first Saturday of each month.

Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers

ances who wish to dispose of them must find someone authorized to remove the coolant and provide the required documentation, and then find a way to get the item to the landfill.

Finding someone who is authorized to remove and properly dispose of the coolant isn't difficult, but having the means to pay that person for the service may strain the pocketbooks of some who are on a tight budget or fixed income.

One local appliance repairman quoted a price of \$45 to perform the service, and one heating and air conditioning company said they would charge \$60 if the appliance was brought to them, and \$65

if they made a house call.

Enter Top Of Texas Ice. Paulette Hinkle and Mary Ann Richards decided to offer their business as a drop-off point for unwanted coolant-containing appliances. The items will then be disposed of properly, without the owner having the expense of having the coolant removed beforehand.

The first collection day yielded 16 refrigerators and freezers which were later loaded up and taken to have their coolant removed and then have all components of the appliances properly dis-

Drop-off day is the first Saturday of each month, with appliances accepted between 9 and 11 a.m. The next collection day will be Saturday.

will arrange to have the unwanted appliances picked up if the owner is unable to bring them to the business.

Drop-off day is the first Saturday of each month, with appliances accepted between 9 and 11 a.m. The next collection day will be Saturday.

Anyone wishing to take appliances accepted by Top Of Texas Ice Company to its address, but unable to do so, may call 665-2061 to make arrangements for pick-up.

carded. Top Of Texas Ice Company decided to expand their service to include unwanted clothes washers, dryers and stoves. They also



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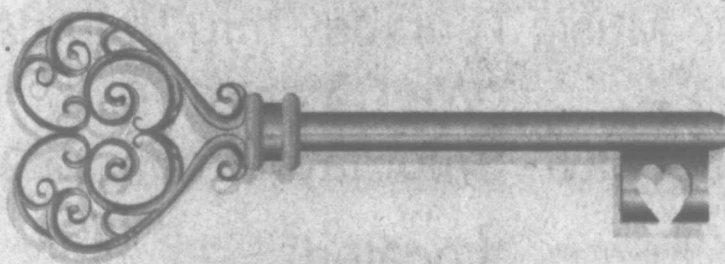
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Coffee

Continued from Page 5

pound minimum. A drive through is also available at Sacred Grounds. Open jam sessions are held at Sacred Grounds, and wireless Internet service is

coffee shop in Pampa, and the fact that Robin needed something to do.

"I was part-time and the kids were in school," Robin said. "Ron travels a lot, all over the place. Ron thought of the idea, then decided to buy."

When the building was bought, the Nelsons completely renovated the building. Stucco was removed from the wall and the ceilings were redone.

As well as being in the ranching business, Ron claims that his

'I drove my family nuts, making different kinds of coffee for them when I got back from Italy.'

— Pam Mathis
Owner, Sacred Grounds Coffee

available.

The atmosphere at Sacred Grounds is homey and comfortable, with couches, tables and chairs everywhere.

An old piano located inside adds to the atmosphere, with an interesting story behind it.

"Tarpley's had this piano," Pamela said. "Before they closed, they stripped it of everything useful and were going to put a sledgehammer to it. We gave it a home."

Mathis said that she plans to paint keys onto the old piano.

Mathis and her husband also own a recording studio, located in a back room of Sacred Grounds.

The Coffee Shop, located at Cuyler and Francis, has been open since March 1999 and is owned by Ron and Robin Nelson.

The idea for The Coffee Shop came when the realization came that there was no

ranching friends thought he was berserk for wanting to start a coffee shop.

"The ranchers thought I was crazy," Ron said. "Now the ranchers come in and order mochas. It's interesting, cowboys and mochas."

"When we first opened up, we were just about the drinks," Robin said. "Then we added lunch to add more revenue. It's been valuable to keep the business open."

The Coffee Shop does not offer wireless Internet, due to the fact that there was not much demand from customers when it was offered.

The Coffee Shop has a Hospitality Room, where showers are hosted and church groups can meet. Doctors have had a catered meal of lobster and steak in the Hospitality Room, and the Red Hat Ladies have even met there on a regular basis.

There are 44 flavors to choose from, with The Coffee Shop serving cappuccinos, lattes and mochas, among other drinks.



A view of the coffee bar at Sacred Grounds Coffee Studio

Pampa News photo by Katherine Flannery

The Coffee Shop has its regulars.

"You can tell the time of day by the customers who come in," Robin said. "It gets to be like family, it really does."

And providing a comfortable, homey atmosphere is important to the Nelsons.

"We wanted it to be a place where customers could come in and feel comfortable," Robin said. "We wanted it to be a place to read a book or just visit."

"Our customers are just like a big family. We would have never have known them, had it not been for The Coffee Shop."

Pamela, Ron and Robin

confirmed the fact that coffee does have positive benefits for people, such as preventing cavities, lowering the risk of diabetes, Parkinson's and colon cancer.

According to an article found on WebMD, "At least six studies indicate that peo-

ple who drink coffee on a regular basis are up to 80 percent less likely to develop Parkinson's, with three showing the more they drink, the lower the risk. Other research shows that compared to not drinking coffee, at least two cups

daily can translate to a 25 percent reduced risk of colon cancer, an 80 percent drop in liver cirrhosis risk, and nearly half the risk of gallstones."

The article also states that there is some evidence that coffee may help control asthma. When medication is not available to control asthma, a cup of coffee can control attacks. Coffee can also stop a headache and boost mood.

"Coffee is the number one anti-oxidant," Mathis said.

"A mocha a day keeps the doctor away," Ron said.

The ranchers though I was crazy. Now the ranchers come in and order mochas. It is interesting, cowboys and mochas.

— Ron Nelson
Owner, The Coffee Shop

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Business good at local aviation maintenance company

By David Bowser
The Pampa News

Travis Lamance, one of Pampa's newest business owners, came to the city from Grants, N.M., by way of Winnemucca, Nev.; Denver, Colo.; Wichita, Kan.; Albuquerque, N.M.; Gallup, N.M., and Graybull, Wyo. Born in 1980 in Grants, his family moved to Winnemucca when he was in high school and his father became involved in a gold mining venture. After he graduated from high school in Winnemucca, Lamance returned to New

Mexico and worked at a lumberyard for a couple of months. "I knew that wasn't what I wanted to do," Lamance said. "I wanted to do something more than that." He saw an ad for an Airframe and Power Plant School near Denver. "Whenever I got out of high school, I wasn't sure what I wanted to do," Lamance said. "I'd never flown airplanes, but I was always interested in them." Lamance said he called the recruiter at the school and found out he could get some financial assistance.

"It was a year and a half associate's degree program," Lamance said. Even before he graduated, the experimental department at Cessna Aircraft in Wichita, Kan., offered him a job. "I went and did research on Citations," Lamance said of the Cessna airplane. He was there about a year when his little brother was diagnosed with congestive heart failure, so Lamance returned to Grants to help his brother. With his background in the aircraft business, Lamance got a job at Cutter Aviation in Albuquerque and commuted

the 80 miles each way for about a year and a half. "It's a long haul," he admitted. To shorten his commute, Lamance got a job with Gallup Flying Service in Gallup, N.M., 63 miles to the west. After about a year of that commute, Lamance went to work for Hawkins and Powers in Greybull, Wyo. "They did aerial firefighting with the old World War II airplanes," Lamance said. While he was there, he restored the C-119 "Flying Boxcar" for the movie "Flight of the Phoenix."

"I was part of a crew that built that airplane," he said. "It's pretty interesting how they made it look like it crashed in the movie. I know it didn't because when they were done, they brought it home in one piece." But Hawkins and Powers went out of business and Lamance returned to New Mexico again. The shop foreman at Gallup Flying Service was a reservist in the Army and got called up for Iraq. "They were needing a temporary shop foreman until he got back," Lamance said. When the shop foreman returned, Lamance debated about staying in Gallup, but he said he didn't feel like a job there would lead anywhere. That's when he saw another ad. This one was put in the magazine by Ron Unruh at Pampa Aircraft. He was looking for a mechanic. Lamance called and they

hit it off over the phone. "I'd never been to Pampa

'We're very busy. I work seven days a week, 12 to 14 hours per day.'

— Travis Lamance
Owner, Allegra Aviation

or know where it was," Lamance confessed, "but I talked to Ron on the phone and really liked him." After traveling to Pampa, Lamance said he decided there was a lot of potential here. "It was a good place to be," he said. After working for Unruh for two years, Lamance was offered a chance to buy the maintenance part of the business. "Ron's been running this See AVIATION, Page 3



Travis Lamance checking an aircraft engine at his business at Perry Lefors Field.



Pampa News photo by David Bowser
Travis Lamance checking an aircraft engine at his business at Perry Lefors Field.

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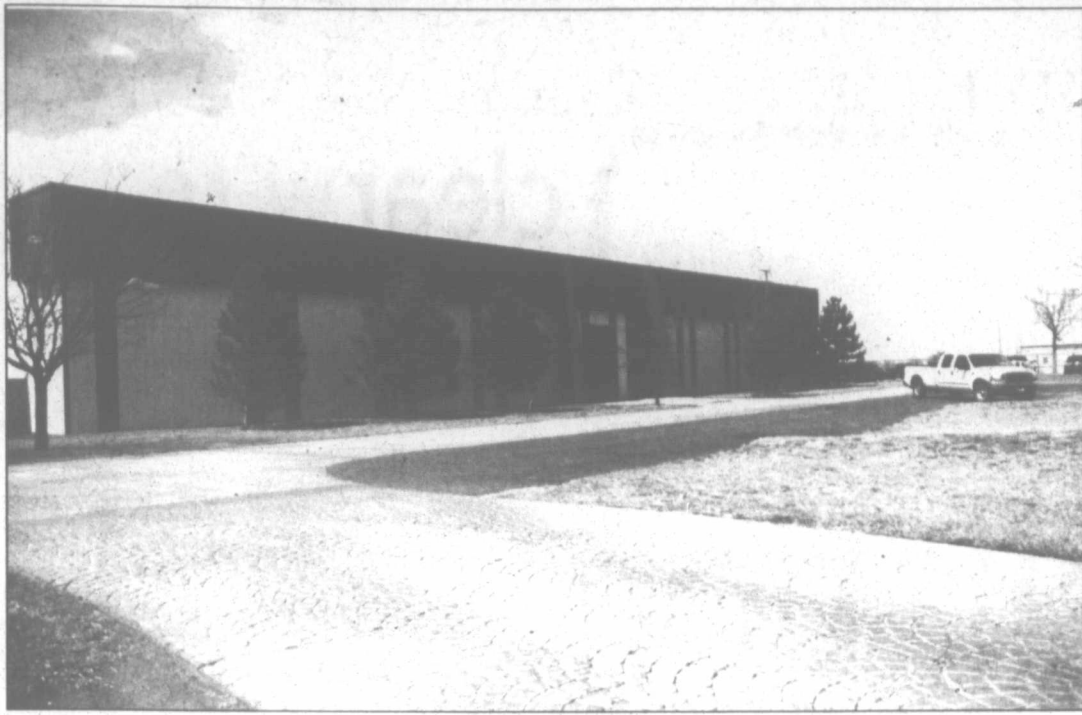
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Clifton Supply

Clifton Supply services oil businesses in four states

by Katherine Flannery
The Pampa News

Since the beginning of Gray County, there has been oil. Since the beginning of the drilling of oil in Gray County, there has been a need for supplies for those oil and well services.

Who better to profit from the oil and well production than Clifton Supply?

Clifton Supply, owned by Shawn Clifton, is big in the oil business. They supply drilling rigs and well services with parts. They also supply gas plants and industrial plants with parts.

Clifton Supply also offers safety products.

"We offer safety products such as fall protection, which is harnesses, fire retardant clothing, which is specially treated," said Clifton. "We also offer have first aid kits,

as well as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), such as hard hats, gloves, safety glasses and boots."

Clifton Supply was started in 1969 by Clifton's father, LG. Clifton started working for his father in 1980.

The senior Clifton, who has passed away in the last couple of years, got started with the business due to the fact that another business, now out of business, needed distributors. Since then, Clifton's Supply has grown.

Over the years, Clifton Supply has grown to service eastern New Mexico, southern Kansas, western Oklahoma and the Texas Panhandle.

"Our main objective of having a store like this is that we want our customers to be able to walk in and out," Clifton said. "We want them to walk in, get the supply or

part they need and be able to walk out without us having to special order it.

"Nobody in Texas really has a store like this."

According to Clifton, the reason gas and oil prices have gotten so high is because of supply and demand.

"People are demanding more gas than what the gas companies can supply," Clifton said. "Consumption is outpacing the making of gasoline."

"Over the years that I have been in this business, I would rather see the gas booming because it effects our business," Clifton said.

Aviation

Continued from Page 8

place for almost 17 years," Lamance said. "He just wanted to lighten his load up a little bit."

Lamance said business is good.

He named his new company for a mountain that overlooks his family's ranch south of Grants, near Pie Town, N.M. While the

mountain is named Elegras, Lamance anglicized it to Allegra Aviation.

"We're very busy," he said. "I work seven days a week, 12 to 14 hours a day."

Lamance has another mechanic that works for him four days a week and Unruh still puts in four or five hours a day in the shop.

"We're trying to find another mechanic right now

because we're about three months behind," Lamance said. "We've got lots and lots of business."

He said it's amazing how busy Perry Lefors Field is.

"I've been to little airports all over the country," Lamance said, "and there's more jet traffic and more recreational flying here than I've ever seen anywhere."

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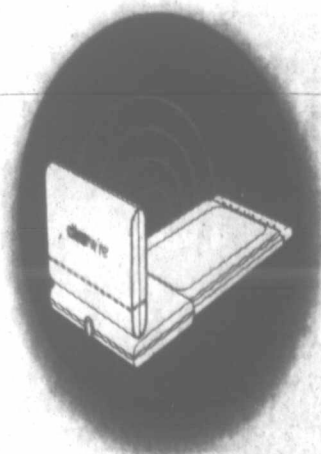
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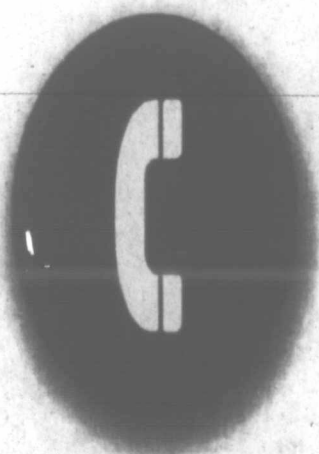
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