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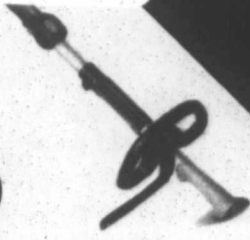
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Water districts battling for territory

AMARILLO — At issue is 390 acres in Hemphill County, but it will be at least another 30 days before a decision is made over who has jurisdiction of the water beneath that property.

The Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District said it belonged to them. The Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District said it belonged to them.

The owner of the property, Doyle Smith of Pampa, who also has land in Gray and Roberts Counties, said he wanted to remain in the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District.

Amarillo lawyer Marty Jones, who represents Mesa Water Group, which has 50 percent of Smith's water rights, said Mesa, too, wanted the property to remain in the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District.

In 1994, the Tom Grantham family, which then owned the property, petitioned to join the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District. Since then, the Grantham family, and then Smith after he bought the property, paid taxes to the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District on the acreage in Hemphill County, said C.E. Williams, general manager of the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District.

Consequently, Williams said, the property



John R. Spearman, left, president of the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District, talks with Jim Haley, president of the Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District, about solving disagreements between the two districts during a Groundwater Management Area meeting in Amarillo Friday. staff photo by David Bowser

Water— cont. on page 3

Community worship service set for March 29

by Rachel Stennett
 rstennett@thepampanews.com

A community worship service will be held on March 29, to enhance "a spirit of unity" in Pampa churches, hosted by the Ministerial Alliance.

According to Barry Owens, minister of music for First Baptist Church, the alliance is hosting the evening of worship, which will include a variety of music genres and talents,

to "create a way to involve churches in Pampa and have a worship service together as a community," Owens said.

At least 10 churches from various denominations will participate in the musical service at First Baptist Church at 6 p.m. "We expect to have all types and variations of music," Owens said.

Music presented during the service, including tra-

ditional, sacred music, hymn, southern gospel, contemporary praise, and solo and ensemble performances.

This is the first music service that the Ministerial Alliance has hosted. The alliance has put on season services in the past, most recently a Thanksgiving community service, which Owens considered a success.

Gambling rivals try to win over lawmakers

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Casino gambling at resorts and Indian reservations. Video slot machines at racetracks. It's all on the table at the Texas Legislature.

Lobbyists for the different gambling factions are working to win support. Opponents want to stop the proposals from gaining momentum. For both sides, the next couple of weeks could be crucial.

Lawmakers aren't desperately looking for new sources of revenue, like taxes on gambling, especially since billions of dollars in federal stimulus money are coming to the state.

"It's been my observation that the Legislature looks more favorably upon the expansion of gaming legislation in years where it looks like the budget is going to be difficult to make without it. This doesn't appear to be one of those years as we're figuring our way through the stimulus package," said Republican House Speaker Joe Straus.

Straus' family ties to the horse racing business have fueled speculation that gambling measures might have a better run than usual. Straus removed himself from decisions on gambling, and in a brief interview with The Associated Press last week declined to comment on which gambling legislation stands the best chance of approval.

Plenty of others are willing to carry on the casino conversation: Indian tribal leaders, representatives of horse and dog race tracks, proponents of "destination" resort casinos and Baptists opposed to gambling.

"There's a lot of vote-counting going on right now," said Suzii Paynter, director of the



Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission. Paynter argues that casino gambling leads to increases in addiction and bankruptcies and that casinos suck money from local businesses in their communities.

Several new gambling proposals emerged just before the bill-filing deadline arrived Friday. Casino proposals that would require voter approval of a state constitutional amendment would first need a two-thirds majority in the Session— cont. on page 3

FLOWER FACE



With eyes wide open, a Bougainvillea blossom stares out the window at promised snow and rain from the offices of the Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District in Canadian. staff photo by David Bowser

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PAMPA FORECAST

Tuesday **Wednesday** **Thursday**



High 82
Low 47



High 67
Low 39



High 59
Low 42

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 82. South southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Tuesday Night: Clear, with a low around 47. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 67. Windy, with a north northwest wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 39. East northeast wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 59. East southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 42. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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Winning Lotto Texas numbers

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 35-44-53-31-51-42.
Number matching six of six: 1. Prize: \$28 million
Winning number purchased in: Houston.
Number matching five of six: 28. Prize: \$2,028.
Number matching four of six: 1,421. Prize: \$59.
Number matching three of six: 28,948. Prize: \$3.
Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$4 million.

Cash Five Texas results

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 10-18-2-37-13.
Number matching five of five: 1. Prize: \$26,802
Winning ticket purchased in: Houston
Matching four of five: 82. Prize: \$147
Matching three of five: 2,978. Prize: \$10
Matching two of five: 28,913. Prize: \$2

CPS: More caseworkers, but turnovers high

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A new report says legislative efforts in 2007 led to more caseworkers for Child Protective Services but failed to solve high turnover rates and rising overtime costs.
The State Auditor's Office report released Monday on CPS staffing said in 2007 there were 4,104 caseworkers in Texas, 965 more than in 2004. By 2007, workers were also paid more, had fewer cases per investigator and received annual bonuses up to \$5,000.

Emergency Services

FIRE

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Friday and 7 a.m. today.
Friday
11:22 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the intersection of Price Road and Highway 60 on an odor investigation.
4:16 p.m. — One unit and six personnel responded to the 300 block of North Dwight on hazardous conditions call.
Saturday
5:30 p.m. — one unit and three personnel responded to the intersection of Louisiana and Russell on a motor vehicle accident.
Sunday
1:06 a.m. — One unit and six personnel responded to the 1900 block of North Nelson on

a med assist.
6:39 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 2100 block of North Faulkner on a lift assist.
11:11 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 900 block of East 23rd on a med assist.
1:34 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 1100 block of East Harvester on an odor investigation.
2:18 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 500 block of South Barnes on a gas leak.
4:38 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 600 block of North Nelson on a med assist.
4:55 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 1800 block of North Hamilton on a med assist.

Deputy pulls gun on officer

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Officials say a Bexar County sheriff's deputy pulled a gun on a San Antonio police officer after a traffic mishap.
A uniformed police sergeant on his way to work in his personal vehicle Friday night became involved in a minor accident involving another vehicle, according to a report by KABB in San Antonio.
The other driver got out with a gun drawn, pointing it at the officer approaching, police Sgt. Gabe Trevino said. The officer pulled his gun and ordered the man to the ground. The officer placed the man in handcuffs.
Officials discovered that the man and a passenger were both off-duty sheriff's deputies. The two, who both work at the Bexar County Jail, were given citations for open-container violations.

For the Record

Emergency Services

PAMPA PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Friday and 7 a.m. today.
Friday
Officers conducted four traffic stops. A stop in the intersection of Hobart and Alcock resulted in at least one arrest.
A total of six calls and/or stops concerning animals were made.
Seven attempts to serve papers were made.
Disorderly conduct was reported in the 2400 block of North Charles, and the 100 block of East Craven.
A burglary was reported in the 500 block of West Brown, where tools were stolen with an estimated value of \$200.
Two alarms were investigated.
A traffic complaint was reported in the 1100 block of East Darby.
Criminal mischief was reported in the 1000 block of South Dwight.
Suspicious persons were reported in the intersection of Hobart and Kentucky streets, and the intersection of Gwendolyn and Banks streets.
A civil matter was reported in the 500 block of West Monatgu.
A domestic disturbance was reported in the 500 block of North Hazel.
Criminal trespass was reported in the 700 block of North Frost.
A suspicious vehicle call was received from the 900 block of South Llano.
Theft was reported in the 1100 block of South Prairie, where a bicycle was stolen, value \$150.
Saturday
Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of West Wilks, the 600 block of Wynne, the 1200 block of North Hobart, the 500 block of North Frost, and the 900 block of East Denver.
Domestic disturbances were reported in the 1200 block of Garland, the 2100 block of North Coffee, the lobby of the PD, the 2600 block of North Rosewood, the 2200 block of North Nelson, and the 500 block of North Powell.
A motor vehicle accident was reported in the 300 block of North Starkweather.
One open door was investigated.
Criminal mischief was reported at One Medical Plaza, where two tires on a vehicle were damaged, value \$200.
Suspicious person calls were received from the 1900 block of North Hobart, the 300 block of North Hobart, the 300 block of North Roberta, and the 100 block of South Starkweather.
Three calls and/or stops concerning animals were made.
Two alarms were investigated.
Civil matters were reported in the lobby of the PD, and the 500 block of North Naida.
A traffic complaint was received from the 400 block of East Frederic.
Motor vehicle accidents

were reported in the 900 block of South Love, and the intersection of Louisiana and Russell.
A suspicious vehicle call was received from the 1000 block of North Hobart.
An assault was reported in the lobby of the PD.
Welfare checks were made in the 800 block of East Jordan, and the 1100 block of East Darby.
Phone harassment was reported in the 600 block of North Faulkner.
Officers conducted seven traffic stops.
Sunday
Officers conducted 16 traffic stops.
A total of five calls and/or stops concerning animals were made.
Suspicious person calls were received from the intersection of Sumner and Gwendolyn streets, the intersection of Tyng and Russeel streets, the intersection of Foster and Warren streets, the 300 block of Starkweather, the 500 block of South Russell, the 1000 block of North Dwight, and the 1100 block of South Huff.
Burglaries were reported in the 400 block of South Graham, the 100 block of Russell, and the 1200 block of North Wells.
Assaults were reported in the 100 block of West 30th.
A prowler was reported in the 1100 block of South Varnon.
Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 2500 block of North Perryton Parkway, and the 2100 block of North Russell.
A threat was reported in the 800 block of East Scott.
Theft was reported in the 2800 block of North Charles.
Disorderly conduct was reported in the 300 block of South Tignor, and the 1000 block of South Wells.
Found property was reported in the 1300 block of North Hobart, where two Texas driver's licenses were found.
Monday
Found property was reported in the 1300 block of North Hobart.
Suspicious person calls were received from the 300 block of North Hobart, and the 1400 block of North Banks.
Agency assistance was rendered in the intersection of Kingsmill and Marie.
Officers conducted three traffic stops. A stop in the intersection of Gwendolyn and Naida streets resulted in at least one arrest.
Criminal mischief was reported in the 1600 block of North Coffee, where a screen door was broken, value \$250.
One open door was investigated.
A missing person was reported in the 1100 block of West Coronado.

SHERIFF

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests.
Friday
Dalila Hernandez, 18, was arrested by the Pampa Police Department on

Man arrested in armored car robbery

ROSEBUD, Texas (AP) — Authorities captured a 53-year-old man Sunday afternoon who is wanted in a \$1.9 million armored car robbery in Dallas.
The FBI said Donald Ray Williams was arrested without incident at a residence in Rosebud, about 35 miles south of Waco. Williams was being held Sunday night at the McLennan County Jail in Waco.
The FBI had posted wanted information about Williams on digital bill-

boards last month and received tips that led them to San Antonio. News of the San Antonio focus led to additional tips over the weekend that Williams might be in Rosebud.
Williams is suspected of being one of two men who robbed the armored car while it was being unloaded at a Dallas bank on Sept. 5, 2007. Freddy Lee Fouts, 53, was convicted and sentenced to nearly 30 years in prison for his role in the robbery.
Fouts was arrested

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warrants.
Derek Paul Kindle, 18, of Pampa was arrested by the GCSO for indecency with a child, sexual contact.
Tasha Nicole Medley, 20, of Pampa was arrested by the PPD on warrants.
Josua Jeremiah Garza, 34, of Pampa was arrested by the PPD for TBC in Potter County, speeding, no driver's license, and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
Saturday
Daniel James Wariner, 17, of Lefors was arrested by the PPD for possession of marijuana, and minor in possession-alcohol.
Johnathon Wayne Tinney, 24, of Lefors was arrested by the PPD for purchase/furnish alcohol to minor, possession of marijuana, and public intoxication.
Ashely Bryan Sandlin, 35, of Skellytown was arrested by the GCSO for failure to maintain financial responsibility.
Jeremy Wayne Ray, 34, was arrested by the PPD for possession of marijuana, no driver's license, and no insurance.
Sunday
Jesus Manual Satacruz, 24, of Pampa was arrested by the GCSO for warrants for passing in a no passing zone and failure to appear.
Johnny Lee Roe, 29, of Pampa was arrested by the GCSO for warrants for theft under \$50, and failure to appear/bail jumping.
Atziri Arit Murgado, 18, of Pampa was arrested by the PPD for criminal trespass, warrants for bond surrender criminal mischief over \$50, but under \$500, and theft under \$50.
Eric Daniel Gene Davis, 19, of Pampa was arrested on warrants for disorderly conduct/unreasonable noise, failure to appear, no driver's license, and no liability insurance.
Monday
Zachery Wade Skinner, 23, of Pampa was arrested by the PPD for warrants on fraud, use of identifying information.

AMBULANCE

Guardian EMS ambulance service reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Friday and 7 a.m. today.
Friday
9:29 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of North Wells and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.
2:52 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of Fisher and transported a patient to PRMC.
3:43 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of West 21st and transported a patient to PRMC.
4:07 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of Red Deer and transported a patient to PRMC.
4:42 p.m. — A mobile

ICU responded to the 1900 block of Hilton Road and transported a patient to PRMC.
7:34 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of Nelson and transported a patient to PRMC.
8:39 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of Hilton Road and transported a patient to PRMC.
10:07 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to North West Texas Hospital.
Saturday
5:45 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of Hilton Road and transported a patient to PRMC.
6:52 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of Christy and transported a patient to PRMC.
8:32 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Christine and transported a patient to PRMC.
10:02 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of Kingsmill and transported a patient to PRMC.
Sunday
1:10 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of North Nelson and transported a patient to PRMC.
8:39 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the East High 152 and transported a patient to PRMC.
11:17 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 900 block of East 23rd and transported a patient to PRMC.
12:14 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 8000 block of FM 749 and transported a patient to PRMC.
2:21 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of South Sumner and transported a patient to PRMC.
4:46 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of North Nelson and transported a patient to PRMC.
4:48 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1800 block of Hamilton and transported a patient to PRMC.
10:24 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to North West Texas Hospital.

LAST MINUTE CLASSIFIED LINE ADS

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement
OFFICE / Administrative Assistant Position available. See help wanted-classified for more details.
PHOTO CONTEST at the Pampa News-Deadline has been extended thru 5pm, Friday, March 20th!!
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RICHARD SMITH Student & Contemporary of Chet Atkins, will be at the Woody Guthrie Center, Mar. 21, 5pm., \$10 at the door.

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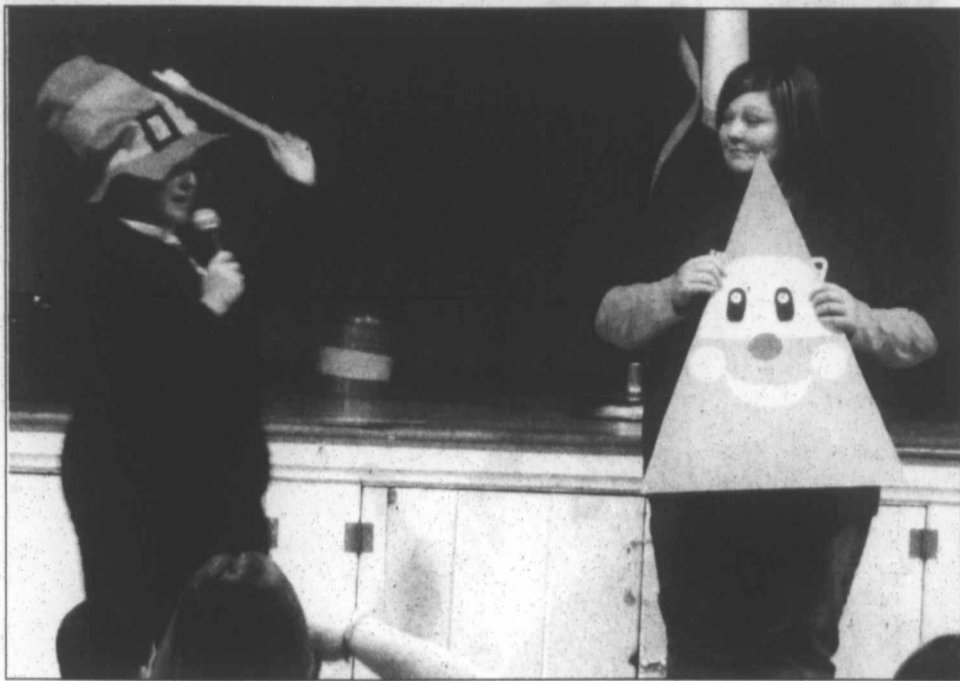


photo by Rachel Stennett

The 19th annual D.E.A.R (drop everything and read) Morning was held at Lamar Elementary on Friday (March 13). A character parade was held in the gym, featuring characters from a variety of books encouraging students to read.

Gambling entities courting legislators

Session— cont. from page 1

legislative chambers. On Wednesday, Speaker Pro Tempore Craig Eiland of Galveston, an ally of Straus, filed legislation with Rep. Carol Alvarado of Houston that would let voters decide in November whether to allow casino gambling on islands like Galveston, in large cities and on Indian reservations. It also would allow expanded gambling at existing race tracks. If voters approve, the governor would call the Legislature back by June 2010 to work out the details.

"I think that Texans spend way too much money in Louisiana and Nevada and other states that allow gambling. ... Texans like to gamble," Alvarado said. "I think it ought to stay here in Texas. I believe taking it to the voters first is the more appropriate thing to do. And then if it passes we'll come back and determine what type of gaming we'll have."

That would prevent Republican Gov. Rick Perry — who has said he doesn't want to expand the "footprint" of gambling in the state but at one time supported video slot machines at racetracks — from having to decide on legislation or call a special session until after his March 2010 gubernatorial primary against U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison. Perry needs the support of social conservatives who oppose gambling.

Perry said in an AP interview earlier this year he's skeptical that a gambling measure will pass this session. He predicted no bill

will reach his desk. (A proposed constitutional amendment would bypass Perry and go straight to the voters.)

Alabama-Coushatta tribal council chairman Carlos Bullock likes the legislative proposals that would allow his East Texas tribe and the Tiguas of El Paso to operate casinos like they did before they were shuttered by the state attorney general a few years ago.

"There's quite a few gambling bills out there right now and we just want to be included," said Bullock, who plans to be at the Capitol this week to meet with lawmakers.

In the 2007 session, an Indian casino proposal by Democratic Rep. Norma Chavez of El Paso came the closest to passage of any gambling bill in recent years. It failed on a rare tie vote in the House. Chavez has filed a similar measure this session that would provide a defense to prosecution for tribes that conduct gambling.

Even if a gambling bill passes the House, it's questionable whether there's support in the Senate.

Two prominent senators — Democrat Rodney Ellis of Houston and John Carona of Dallas — have filed wide-ranging casino legislation that would allow for major casinos, gambling on Indian lands and slot machines at racetracks.

One question is whether the major casino interests and the race track operators will unite. Texans for Economic Development, which is pushing to legal-

ize slot machines at race tracks, says it wants to make sure that tracks don't get taxed at a higher rate than casinos or get short-changed on the casino games they would get to offer.

"The horsemen, the track owners and the tribes, we're at the table together. That's working very well," said Elyse Yates, spokeswoman for Texans for Economic Development. A bill that would allow video slot machines at race tracks and gambling at Indian reservations was filed Thursday by Rep. Yvonne Gonzalez Tourelles, an Alice Democrat.

Many casino companies are on the sidelines and closely watching the Texas fight while warning that these are tough financial times for the gambling industry.

Revenues have slowed because of the recession, and many construction loans for new casinos have dried up, said David Strow, spokesman for Las Vegas-based Boyd Gaming Corp., which operates casinos in several states that attract Texans.

Strow said Texas lawmakers need to realize that in establishing casinos it could take two years or more for revenue to stream in, if the complex licensing and regulation steps go smoothly.

"Creating a gaming industry from square one is a very lengthy process. It doesn't happen overnight," Strow said. "It takes time if you want to do it right."

More than 230 traumatized animals discovered

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — More than 230 traumatized animals have been awarded to the Humane Society of North Texas in what some volunteers say could be one of the largest recorded livestock rescues due to cruelty in Texas.

The animals, including 168 horses and 67 cattle, were awarded to the Humane Society by a district judge after complaints that they were starving and in medical danger, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported Sunday.

Authorities confiscated the animals from a ranch near Blum on March 5. The ranch's owner, Gregory W. Brinkley, has been charged with two counts of aggravated assault on a peace officer and 25 counts of animal cruelty. He was arrested after allegedly pointing a shotgun with a pistol grip at two sheriff's deputies as they were attempting to assess the situation at the ranch, located in Hill County.

Brinkley, 50, remained in the Hill

County Law Enforcement Center Sunday, a jail spokesman told The Associated Press. His bail has been set at \$1 million on the assault charges and \$50,000 on the animal cruelty charges. There was no listing of an attorney in the center's records, according to the jail spokesman.

An estimated 25 to 30 animal carcasses were found on the property along with the injured and emaciated animals.

"This is probably the most overwhelming situation I've been in during my 25-year career," said Sandy Granbolt, the Humane Society's equine and livestock program coordinator.

The Humane Society spends \$2,000 daily caring for and feeding the animals. Officials said they hope many of the animals can be adopted, according to Tammy Hawley, the group's operations director.

Districts debate territory

Water— cont. from page 1

was part of the Panhandle district.

In 1995, legislation passed in Austin that created the Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District. Hemphill County voters approved the district in 1997.

Janet Guthrie, general manager of the Hemphill County Underground Water District, said that the enabling legislation, the law that created the district, set the boundary of the district at the county line.

Consequently, she said, the 390 acres in Hemphill County were a part of the Hemphill County district.

At a meeting Friday of Groundwater Management Area 1, which consists of four groundwater districts covering the Texas Panhandle including the Panhandle and Hemphill County districts, neither side appeared to be willing to back off their claims.

The Groundwater Management Area, GMA, was in the process of setting desired future conditions for the Ogallala Aquifer, the giant aquifer that lies beneath the panhandle, for the next 50 years, although those conditions will be revisited every five years.

The GMA1 board, made up of one voting member from each of the four groundwater districts in the panhandle groundwater management area, had earlier come up with a resolution agreeing to disagree. Rather than one unified desired future condition, the GMA would have three as they are allowed to do by law.

The western four coun-

ties of the panhandle would have a target of 40 percent of their water at the end of 50 years. Hemphill County would have 80 percent of their water at the end of the same time period. The remaining counties would have a target of 50 percent of the water in storage in the aquifer at the end of 50 years.

It is the differing view of that desired future condition that was the sticking point of the controversy.

The 390 acres, if it were part of the Panhandle district, would have less restriction on pumping. If it were part of the Hemphill County district, it would potentially have a more restrictive pumping limit.

The limits on pumping could affect the value of the water rights, particular for a water marketer like Mesa.

Williams said he wanted an attorney general's opinion concerning in which groundwater district the 390 acres in Hemphill County lies, something with which the Hemphill County delegation appeared to agree, but that could take six months or more.

The question was what happens between now and then.

The desired future conditions that GMA1 was planning on voting on Friday must be submitted to the Texas Water Development Board by September, 2010, but Kyle Ingham, who coordinates the GMA activities through the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission, said the group had wanted to submit their desired

future conditions to state engineers working on the 2011 Texas Water Plan. That deadline was Dec. 31, 2008. Ingham said that the state engineers had agreed to extend the deadline, but only through mid-March.

Now, Ingham said, water planners will rely on the conditions set forth in the previous state water plan.

Earlier Friday, the Panhandle district board of directors, meeting in White Deer, proposed amending a resolution concerning the desired future condition of the aquifer to read that the Hemphill County district's desired future condition would apply to all of Hemphill County except for the area in the county that was a part of the Panhandle district and that the Panhandle district's desired future condition would apply to the part of the district that was in Hemphill County.

But at the GMA meeting Friday afternoon in Amarillo, Hemphill County rancher Jim Haley, the president of the Hemphill County district, was having none of it.

Haley said that his board was not willing to cede any part of Hemphill County to another groundwater district.

Following a heated debate, Gray County rancher John R. Spearman, president of the Panhandle board, asked that the amended resolution be tabled for 30 days so that Haley could return to his board and the two groundwater districts, Panhandle and Hemphill County, could try to iron out their differences.

Immigrants face detention, few rights

America's detention system for immigrants has mushroomed in the last decade, a costly building boom that was supposed to sweep up criminals and ensure that undocumented immigrants were quickly shown the door.

Instead, an Associated Press computer analysis of every person being held on a recent Sunday night shows that most did not have a criminal record and many were not about to leave the country — voluntarily or via deportation.

An official Immigration and Customs Enforcement database, obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, showed a U.S. detainee population of exactly 32,000 on the evening of Jan. 25.

The data show that 18,690 immigrants had no criminal conviction, not even for illegal entry or low-level crimes like trespassing. More than 400 of those with no criminal record had been incarcerated for at least a year. A dozen had been held for three years or more; one man from China had been locked up for more than five years.

Nearly 10,000 had been in custody longer than 31 days — the average detention stay that ICE cites as evidence of its effective detention management.

Especially tough bail conditions are exacerbated by disregard or bending of the rules regarding how long immigrants can be detained.

Based on a 2001 ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court, ICE has about six months to deport or release immigrants after their case is decided. But immigration lawyers say that deadline is routinely missed. In the system snapshot provided to the AP, 950 people

were in that category.

The detainee buildup began in the mid 1990s, long before the 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Since 2003, though, Congress has doubled to \$1.7 billion the amount dedicated to imprisoning immigrants, as furor over "criminal aliens" intertwined with post-9/11 fears and anti-immigrant political rhetoric.

But the dragnet has come to include not only terrorism suspects and cop killers, but an honors student who was raised in Orlando, Fla.; a convenience store clerk who begged to go back to Canada; and a Pentecostal minister who was forcibly drugged by ICE agents

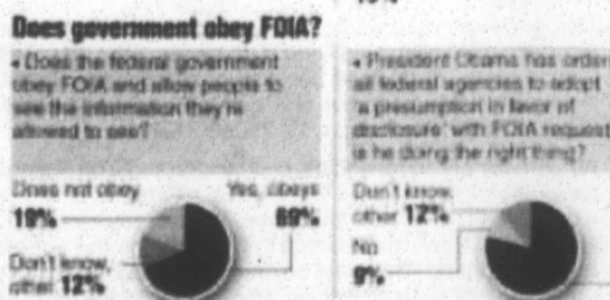
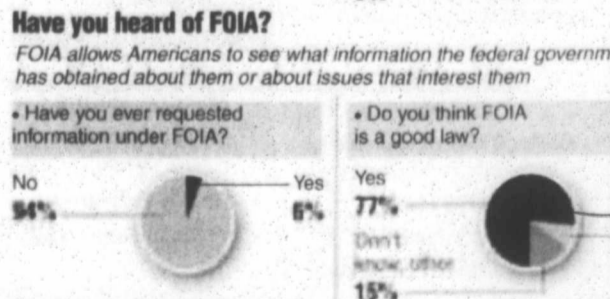
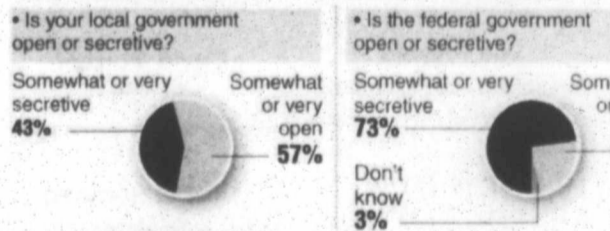
after he asked to contact his wife, according to court records.

Immigration lawyers note that substantial numbers of detainees, from 177 countries in the data provided, are not illegal immigrants at all. Many of the longest-term non-criminal detainees are asylum seekers fighting to stay here because they fear being killed in their home country. Still other long-term detainees include people who can't be deported because their home country won't accept them or people who seemingly have been forgotten in the behemoth system, where 58 percent have no lawyers or anyone else advocating on their behalf.

Sunshine Laws— Are we getting the info?

Is the government secretive?

How Americans feel about government secrecy, the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and President Obama's efforts at open government



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Source: A Sunshine Week poll by Scripps Survey Research Center at Ohio University of 946 adults, Feb. 16-March 11, 2009, margin of error: ±4 percentage points. Graphic: Jeff Trevis

Music festival big draw despite economic woes

By JAY ROOT
Associated Press
WriterAUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Even in the worst economy since the Great Depression, people will stand in line for good entertainment, particularly in this so-called "Live Music Capital of the World."

Fans are snapping up four-day passes to the famed South by Southwest (SXSW) music festival that starts this week, when thousands are expected to hit the town's storied nightclubs to catch the hottest new acts. It's too soon to say how the 23rd annual SXSW will compare to last year, but hotel room bookings are up, jazz legend and 27-time Grammy Award winner Quincy Jones is opening the show and nearly 2,000 bands from 52 countries will be playing, promoters say.

"There is really nothing bigger," said Rose Reyes, music marketing director for the city convention bureau. "It is Christmas for cab drivers, restaurant owners, for hotels, for businesses all around the city."

While Austin has been hit by the same economic woes that are spreading across the globe, the hip college town remains an incubator for sizzling new bands and a thriving music scene that brought SXSW here nearly a quarter century ago. Back then, about 700 attended; last year there were nearly 13,000 paid registrants at the music festival and thousands more who showed

up to absorb unofficial sideshows.

Event organizers face the inevitable tension of promoting an international festival with fresh new acts without ignoring the dizzying array of local bands to pick from. Nor can they overlook the growing popularity of all the free, unofficial events.

Austin produces about 13 percent of all the musical performances at the festival and remains the largest single source of bands at SXSW — about 220 of the 1850 expected to show.

Among them are Drew Smith, whose original new album, Drew Smith's Lonely Choir, was named the No. 1 CD last year by Austin.com, an entertainment and local news Web site. Smith has also gotten rave reviews from critics who find strains of Van Morrison, the Kinks and even The Beatles in his music. He's playing at his old haunt Momo's on Saturday night, which is about as close to top billing as a band can get at SXSW.

"In the midst of everything going on financially around the world it's pretty nice to go play shows and still have people showing up and there's few cities that could still be happening in," said Smith, an Austin transplant who hails from Colorado Springs. "It's still a pretty great town to be an artist in."

For some artists, the festival can be a career launchpad, and Austin jazz singer Kat Edmonson is

hoping that's what will happen with her first SXSW showcase. Her new CD, "Take to the Sky" has become an iTunes sensation and her single "Lucky," has been picked as the theme song of the new Steven Spielberg-produced "United States of Tara" series on Showtime.

Edmonson, who grew up in Houston, is physically diminutive — tiny, really. But everyone knows what kind of packages dynamite comes in: the Austin American-Statesman recently called her "Austin's Great Jazz Hope." She plays on Saturday at the Elephant Room, an underground jazz bar a few blocks from the state capitol.

"There's a lot of hype around SXSW. The underlying idea among all the bands is an opportunity to possibly get discovered," she said. "Most of all it's an opportunity to really be heard by people that would never hear you otherwise."

Though Smith and Edmonson landed prime official showcases this year, they and many other Austin musicians have also found themselves on the outside looking in at past festivals. But one artist's struggle is another fan's treasure.

There are hundreds of unofficial gigs, staged by artists who didn't make the cut, that some say are just as good as the real thing. There are also hundreds of free, sponsored parties and concerts, indie rock band Cold War Kids and Joe McDermott, a favorite for wholesome family enter-

tainment are among the groups playing free along the banks of Lady Bird Lake during the festival.

"It's become a big free for all," said Jimmy Stewart, who runs DOS12.com, an entertainment Web site that breaks down SXSW events by category and time, both official and unofficial. "You can drink beer for free and see live bands from all over the world for nothing."

That's not music to the ears of the SXSW promoters, who, after all, have a for-profit business to run.

It costs \$165 for a wristband that's good for all the music shows. Others are all-access badges for about \$700, which include panel discussions and exclusive parties. SXSW is actually a three-genre event, with components on interactive media and a film festival crammed into a weeklong music and creative arts frenzy that pumps an estimated \$100 million into the local economy.

The film and interactive pieces began Friday, but Austin's reputation as a live music hub makes the music festival, which begins Wednesday, the heart and soul of SXSW. With the economy lagging elsewhere, promoters say the chamber of commerce types are crossing their fingers.

"I think this year a lot of businesses are counting on us to deliver," said Roland Swenson, managing director of SXSW. "We certainly take that responsibility very seriously."

Burkburnett tourney rained out Saturday

Sitting at 3-0, the Pampa Harvesters were chomping at the bit to finish their tournament, but mother nature had other plans.

Friday night rains forced the cancellation of all Saturday games at Burkburnett. Pampa was the only team sitting at 3-0 when the tournament was cancelled.

They defeated perennial 3A powerhouse Abilene Wylie 5-0, a strong 4A team from Wichita Falls Rider 2-1 and then came back with 4 runs in the last inning to defeat Sequoyah, OK by a score of 7-6.

Pampa ends its non-district schedule with a record of 13-3, including a first place trophy at the

Cavalier Classic, a 2nd place plaque from Snyder and being in the drivers seat for a first place trophy at Burkburnett. Pampa also had non-district wins against Bushland and Perryton.

Pampa kicks off district action against the Randall Raiders at 5:00 on Tuesday.

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Man dies after being struck by lightning

Texas (AP) — A 63-year-old man is dead after being struck by lightning on Mustang Island Beach in Port Aransas.

Police identified the victim of Sunday's lightning strike as Stan Grassel of Ransom Canyon, near Lubbock.

The death occurred as storms rolled through the

Harris County deputies find 13 alleged hostages

CLOVERLEAF, Texas (AP) — Harris County deputies investigating a hostage report found 13 people they believe were held against their will.

Deputy Thomas Gilliland said Sunday that it appeared a human trafficking ring was operating out of the Cloverleaf-area home.

Six people were arrested as they fled from the home after deputies surrounded it Sunday afternoon.

Authorities went to the house after a man said his father had been kidnapped by three men who were holding him for ransom.

Gulf Coast area Sunday afternoon, the Corpus Christi Caller-Times reported in its online edition. Emergency crews

responding to a 911 call found Grassel unconscious on the beach in Port Aransas.

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

1	6	8	9	4	3	5	2	7
2	3	5	6	7	1	4	9	8
4	9	7	8	2	5	3	6	1
6	1	2	3	9	7	8	5	4
5	7	3	2	8	4	9	1	6
9	8	4	5	1	6	2	7	3
7	5	1	4	3	9	6	8	2
3	2	6	1	5	8	7	4	9
8	4	9	7	6	2	1	3	5

Sudoku

					3	5		7	
3		9		5	6				
	4		7	8				2	6
	5	7	1						
	6			9		2	1		
		1	6	4	2		7		
	8		9					3	
	1								
						5	7	6	

Level: Beginner

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The 2008 "Pride" photo contest winner was this photo of one-year-old Emma Grace Searl, sent in by Linda Searl.

PHOTO CONTEST



The Pampa News' annual amateur photo contest will feature two categories this year - "Family and Friends" and "Gray County Scenes."

Family and Friends

Photos should be non-posed snapshots of people doing things together. They can also be individual shots, but the key is to make them candid photos that show a slice of life in Gray County. The photos that "tell a story" will also be given a higher rating.

Gray County Scenes

Send us your best shots of local scenery. Photos may be sunsets, storms, old buildings, cityscapes, wildlife or domestic animals.

The deadline for entries is 5 p.m. Friday, March 20.

Winners in each category will be selected by our editorial staff. The top photographers in each category will receive \$100 and their photos will be published in the newspaper's annual "Pride" issue to be published in March. Second place winners in each category will receive \$50. Third Place winners in each category will receive \$25.

Any photos submitted to the contest must be taken by the person submitting them and must have been taken in Gray County since Jan. 1, 2008. The photos cannot have appeared previously in any other publication or contest.

You can submit as many photos to the contest categories as you like. The best way to submit your photo is to send them via E-mail, as an attachment, to editor@thepampa.com. The photos should be in a .jpg format, preferably shot on the "fine" setting on a digital camera or higher.

Do not edit the photo. We need to make changes in resolution to run photos in the newspaper. If you are entering more than one photo, please send them individually as an E-mail attachment.

Include your name, address, telephone number for verification and a description of the photograph. Identify the people in the photo if possible. Any photo without this information included will be disqualified.

If you would rather submit your entries as prints, send them with the information to: Photography Contest, The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison Avenue, Pampa, TX. If you wish the prints returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your entry.

The Pampa News will publish the winners and many of the other submissions in a special section of our annual Pride issue in March.

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Comics

Marmaduke



"See what happens when you jump out of a chair too fast?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

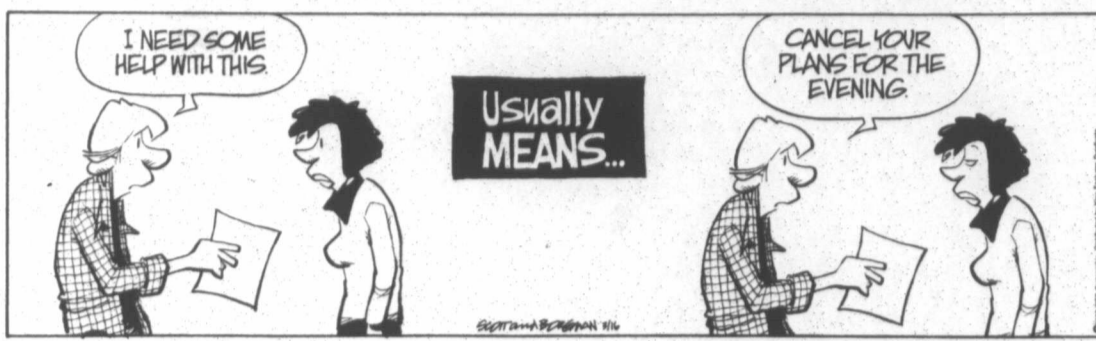


"I'm glad we don't get too old for hugs."

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 39— to

- 1 Corrosive liquid
- 5 Rubbish
- 10 Nevada city
- 11 Attacked
- 13 Designer Cassini
- 14 All together
- 15 Flight cost
- 17 Hockey legend Bobby
- 18 Give a new name to
- 19 "Kapital"
- 20 USO audience
- 21 Designer Chanel
- 22 Form-fitting
- 25 "The Da Vinci Code" star
- 26 Do magazine work
- 27 Unconscious
- 28 Writer Anaïs
- 29 Bright swimmer
- 33 Eggy drink
- 34 West Indies island
- 35 Slanted type
- 37 Pleased
- 38 Philosopher Weil

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

Saturday's answer

- 8 Observed rigorously
- 9 Bowler holder
- 12 Trunks
- 16 Quarreling
- 21 Vicious dispute
- 22 Court sport
- 23 Stupid
- 24 Activity that
- 25 Quest
- 27 Pound
- 29 Pious sort
- 30 Dome home
- 31 Debonair
- 32 Pluto's realm
- 36 Chaney of horror

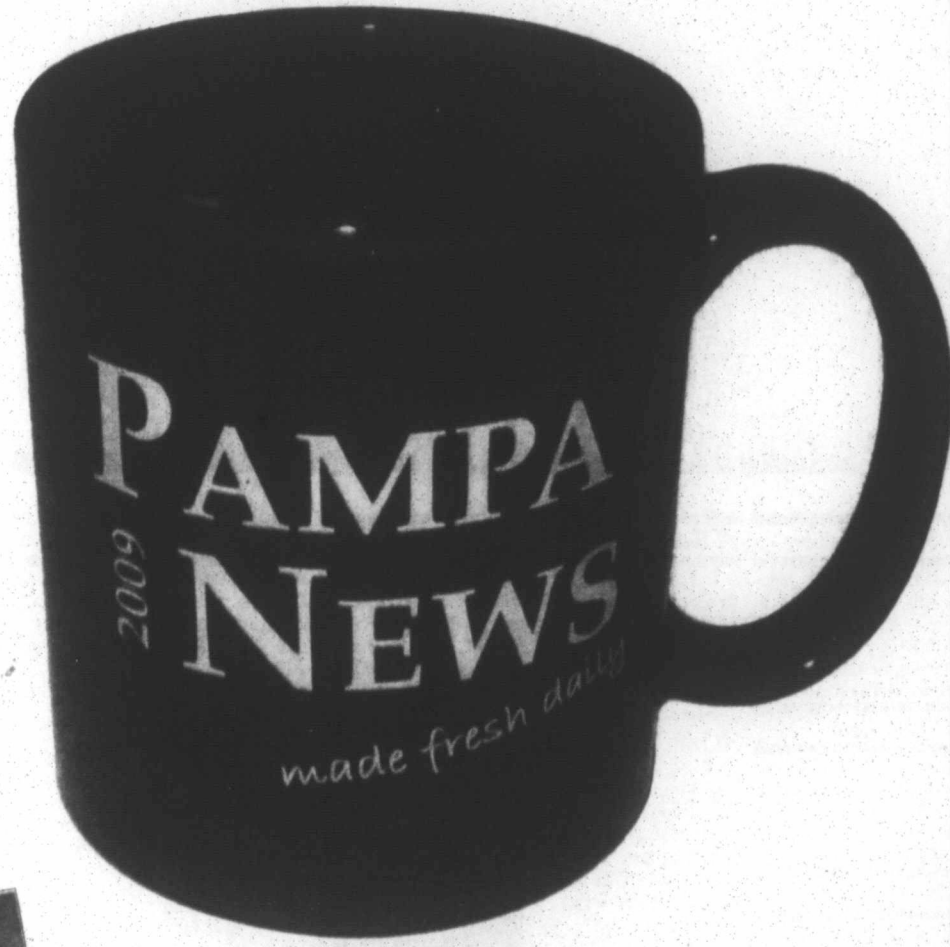
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Lessons learned, systems upgraded since massive wild fires of 2006
by David Bowser
No matter how well prepared a fire department is, local firefighters agree, it's never enough. That was one of the lessons learned three years ago as wildfires whipped across the Texas Panhandle burning millions of acres and killing 12 people, including one firefighter. Coordinated Gray County Emergency Coordinator Mike Millican said that lessons learned during the massive wildfires that swept across Hutchinson, Carson, Gray and Roberts Counties, threatening Skutumpah, Pampa, Lefors, Abilene, Melrose and Miami, are still being put into practice.

Next week, the county will begin making letters and notices to post on the tops of county vehicles as a fire scene and to be pulled out of a fire scene and directed more efficiently. Millican said that the old fire fighting equipment in the area that had been damaged or lost during the wildfires has been replaced and firefighters from Hoover Volunteer Fire Department douse flames along a canyon ridge north of Pampa March 13, 2006.

FAMILY SETS UP TRAINING FUND
The children of a Berger grandmother who lost her life during the massive wildfires during the 2006 wildfires established a scholarship fund this week for grants to fire and rescue personnel in the Texas Panhandle for training.

The Kathy Ryan Rural Fire and Rescue Foundation was announced Thursday afternoon in Abilene by Kathy Ryan's daughters, Pam Ayers and Tonya Corbin and son Daniel Ryan.

An devastating wildfire swept across the panhandle destroying about a million acres of grass.

What do the people have in common?
Our readers tell us...

County meets M...
The county will meet at the airport and drug court Monday morning.

Texas cattle losses approach \$1 bil
November...
By BETSY BLANEY (LHR/KK, Texas AP)
Agri-business officials...
said Friday that ranchers in the nation's largest cattle-producing state have already lost nearly \$1 billion in the state's largest crop-raising industry.

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