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The PAMPA NEWS

Volume 106 • No. 303 Weekend Issue Saturday and Sunday, April 2-3, 2011 75¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50



Winning tradition
 Keown reflects on softball journey
Page B1

inside: PRIDE 2011
 • 30 under 30
 • Churches and Clubs
 • Pampa ISD and more!

THIRTY PEOPLE. UNDER THIRTY. MAKING PAMPA PROUD.

Hall speaks to county officials

DAVID BOWSER
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

The Gray County Commission heard from Dr. James Hall Jr. of the Emergency Services Foundation of Texas today.

The commission in their first meeting of the month, heard Hall say that his foundation is trying to buy the Pampa Regional Medical Center. He estimated that the price would be \$25 million to \$30 million, but those figures include funds to upgrade the facilities.

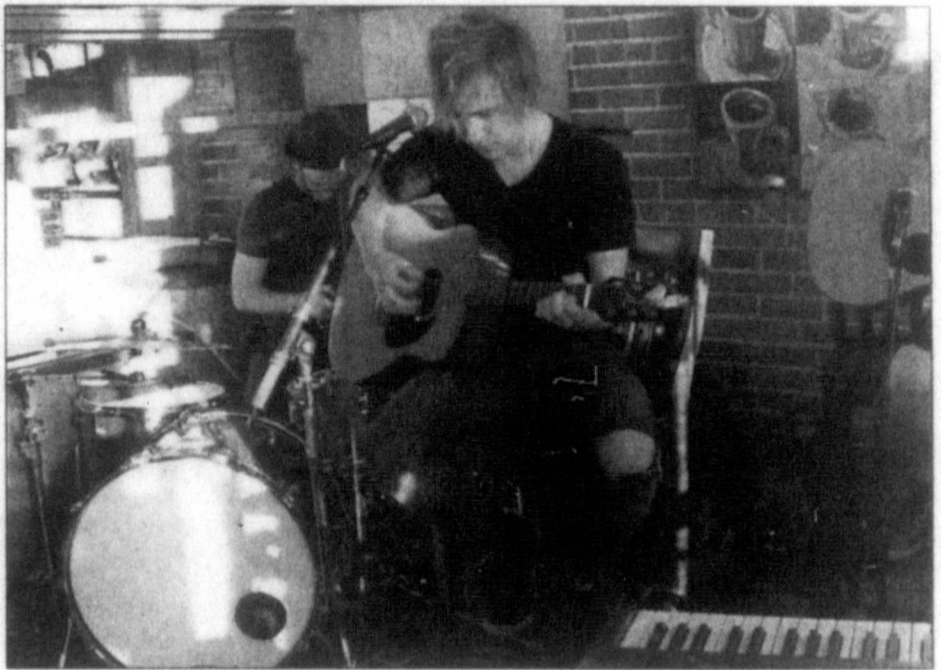
The commission approved a resolution calling for the hospital to be under local ownership and control. Signature Corporation, the parent company of Pampa Regional Medical Center, had said it will sell the hospital by the end of the year.

Hall indicated during the commissioners' meeting today that Signature Corporation would like to sell the hospital by this summer.

The Emergency Service Foundation, a not-for-profit corporation, is holding a fund-raising drive as part of their bid for local ownership.

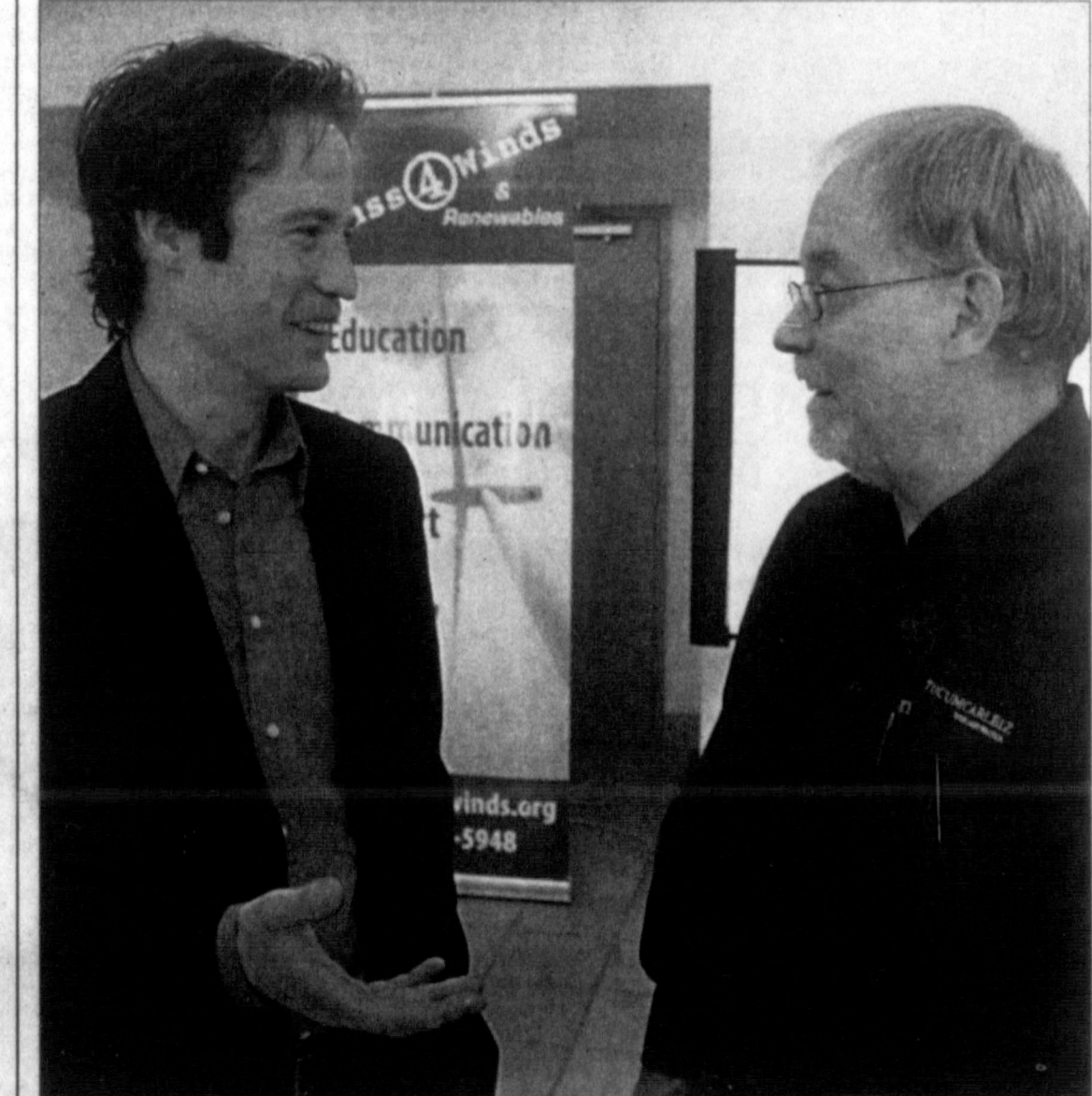
The commission approved the renewal of the District Attorney's request for a grant to fund the position of **COUNTY** cont. on page 7

AFTER EDMUND IN PAMPA BEFORE AFTER



staff photo by **Randy Pribble**
Guitarist Mitch Parks (foreground) and drummer **Matt McFadden** of Grammy-nominated Christian rock artists **After Edmund** prepare for their set at The Coffee Shop on Friday evening.

LOCAL BOYS



staff photo by **David Bowser**
Pampa natives A.J. Swope (left) and **Patrick Vanderpool** compare notes during a meeting in Tucumcari, N.M., earlier this week. Swope, who heads Class 4 Wind and Resources, an alternative energy advocacy group, and Vanderpool, head of the Tucumcari Economic Development Corporation, were each speaking on wind energy in the area. Swope is one of the 30 local individuals featured in the special **Pride Edition 30 under 30** section (**sections C and D**).

USDA adopts discrimination claims process

SPECIAL TO THE PAMPA NEWS

As part of continued efforts to close the chapter on allegations that discrimination occurred at USDA in past decades, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and Assistant Attorney General Tony West today announced the establishment of a process to resolve claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who assert that they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans.

The claims process offers a streamlined alternative to litigation and provides at least \$1.33 billion in compensation, plus up to \$160 million in farm debt relief, to eligible Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers. This announcement follows the Obama administration's settlement of long-standing litigation brought by African American farmers and Native American farmers.

In conjunction with this announcement, USDA is launching an outreach effort to potential claimants that will include a call center for farmers and ranchers, a website, public service announcements, and in-person meetings around the country. Individuals interested in participating in the claims process may register to receive a claims package, or may obtain more information by visiting www.farmerclaims.gov. Beginning February 25, 2011, individuals can register to receive **USDA** cont. on page 7

Just 10 bucks and you're good to go with a smile and a mug for your morning joe!

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PAMPA FORECAST

Sunday



High 83
Low 37

Monday



High 40
Low 35

Tuesday



High 64
Low 43

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 54. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 83. Windy, with a southwest wind between 20 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph.

Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of rain after 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 37. Windy, with a north northwest wind 25 to 30 mph decreasing to between 15 and 20 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.

Monday: A 30 percent chance of rain. Partly sunny, with a high near 40. Windy, with a north northwest wind 15 to 20 mph increasing to between 25 and 30 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 35. Breezy, with a north northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 64. Breezy, with a south southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 43. Breezy, with a south southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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LAST MINUTE ADS

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

- ALTRUSA STYLE Show,** Apr. 9, 2:30pm, Trinity Fellowship Church. Tickets \$12.
- DRY CLEANERS** for sale, for a Great Price!! Call 663-2706.
- FAIRVIEW CEMETERY** will begin removing ground decorations on Apr. 15th.
- FRIENDS OF Library** Annual Book Sale, Mar. 31 thru Apr. 3 Lovett Memorial Library.
- HAVING A Garage,** Moving or Estate Sale? Going to put an ad in Pampa News Classified Garage Sale column?? Don't miss the deadline and be too late to get your ad in the paper!! Be sure to call Classified Dept. 669-2525 to ask for deadlines.
- KAMELEON EASTER** Poppers available!! Colorful Easter Egg & Spring Chick Pops. Hurry in while supplies last. Rheams Diamond Shop, 111 N. Cuyler.
- PAMPERED PETS** Grooming! Call Missy, 662-1236.
- PERRYTON / OCHILTREE** County Crimestoppers 3rd Annual Auto Show, Apr. 16 & 17. Contact Rick O'Quinn for entry forms at (806)435-2898. Exhibitors need to contact Rick early, to allow time to process entries.
- SAME PRICES,** Better Service! Free pick up & delivery to Pampa. Puppy Parlor, 440-2226.

Two convicted of kidnapping trafficker

EL PASO (AP) — A jury on Friday convicted two men of kidnapping an American drug trafficker from his home near El Paso two years ago, five days before he turned up dead with his hands chopped off in a city across the border in Mexico.

The West Texas Federal Court jury found Cesar Obregon-Reyes and Rafael Vega guilty of abducting Sergio Saucedo from his home on Sept. 3, 2009. They could be sent to prison for life when they are sentenced in July. Attorneys for both men said they would appeal.

Prosecutors say Obregon-Reyes, Vega and a third man, Obregon-Ortiz, kidnapped Saucedo under orders of a Mexican drug cartel in what was a rare case of drug war violence spilling into the U.S. Saucedo's body was found on an unpaved street in Juarez, across the border from El Paso.

Obregon-Ortiz, who gave incriminating testimony about the other two men after his arrest, pleaded guilty to undisclosed charges last week and will be sentenced separately, court documents indicate.

Obregon-Reyes and Vega also were convicted of three other counts Friday, including conspiracy to kidnap and kill in a foreign country, and interstate and foreign travel in aid of racketeering.

"We are going to appeal, I think we have pretty good chance there," Vega's attorney, Robert J. Perez, said after the hearing.

Friends and relatives of the defendants wept as they listened to the jury's verdict.

"Before this, I wanted to become a prosecutor. I want-

ed to work with the system. Now I'll become a defense attorney to defend innocent people like my cousin", Vega's cousin, Maria Biddlestone, said after the hearing.

During the trial, a bus driver testified that Obregon-Reyes was among a group of men she saw shoving another man into a sport utility vehicle. Two other witnesses testified that they heard Vega bragging at a party about the abduction and the money, car and drugs he received as payment. Prosecutors also presented an undercover recording in which the defendants were heard discussing a defense strategy and how Obregon-Ortiz had wronged them by talking to detectives.

Defense attorneys argued that Saucedo's wife — who admitted on the witness stand that her husband was a drug trafficker — could not identify the kidnapers, and that it was therefore unlikely that the bus driver could do so after allegedly seeing the abduction for less than 10 seconds. A defense witness also testified that they never went to the party where Vega allegedly bragged about the abduction. They also cited excerpts from the recording in which Obregon-Reyes is heard saying that, when questioned by detectives about the kidnapping, he had told them he didn't do it.

A convicted drug trafficker, testifying under an assumed name, said he and Saucedo had been distributing drugs in the U.S. for more than 16 years and that the owners of a 670-pound (300-kilogram) marijuana shipment that was intercepted at a Border Patrol checkpoint east of El Paso were angry at Saucedo for lying to them about the date it was seized.

Tucson shooting victim honored with statue

ORO VALLEY, Ariz. (AP) — The silver angel lies just beyond the outfield fence, overlooking the field where Christina-Taylor Green once scooped up grounders.

The 9-foot, 11-inch-tall statue was unveiled Friday evening before the Canyon del Oro Little League season opener Friday evening in honor of the youngest victim of the Tucson shootings.

Christina-Taylor's mother, father and brother watched as a fire truck pulled off a cover to reveal the glistening figure. "It's going to serve as a daily reminder to us that we had the privilege of knowing Christina," said John Ward, who coached her for two years.

The angel's hand extends out, its robes appearing to blow in the wind — a symbol of peace after the Jan. 8 shooting that killed five others and wounded 13, including Rep. Gabrielle Giffords.

The statue's height holds added significance because the numbers 9 and 11 are prominent in Christina-Taylor's life. She was born on Sept. 11, 2001 — the day of the terrorist attacks — and was featured in a book about other children born that day.

Besides a 5 1/2-foot long fragment of an I-beam from ground zero, the Freedom's Steadfast Angel of Love also incorporates a 3 1/2-foot-long piece of steel from the Pentagon and a large rock from the Flight 93 crash site, sculptor Lei Hennessy-Owen said.

"It's beautiful," said shooting victim Susan Hileman, 59, who was holding Christina-Taylor's hand when a gunman opened fire at a meet and greet held by Giffords outside a supermarket. Hileman had taken her to the event because the little girl said she was interested in politics.

Hileman and other survivors also were planning to attend the ceremony at James D. Krieger Park, where Christina-Taylor donned a forest green and bright yellow baseball uniform to play for the Pirates. On Friday, her father, John Green, spoke of how being born on 9/11 shaped who his daughter was, saying she was touched that on her birthday, the country waives its flags highest and remembers those who were lost. "I think that's how she started forming her ideas," he said. "Unfortunately on Jan. 8 this year she lost her life. She's up there with God right now."

He also said he was proud of how Tucson came together after the shooting, much like the country came together after 9-11.

"We're very grateful that Christina meant as much to her community as she did to us," John Green said. "It's very humbling to look out and see what an impact our daughter

has made in nine short years."

He and his family held each other in tears as they took in the statue for the first time before his son Dallas threw out the first pitch.

Before the unveiling, the family sat in the front row on the field as bagpipes played in the waning light of day. Christina-Taylor's mother, Roxanna, wiped tears away.

"It was very moving and touching for us both. We had goosebumps," Roxanna Green said. "We're very proud and honored and pleased."

Ward, Christina-Taylor's coach, said he will always remember her as a no-nonsense, competitive player who had the team's most RBIs and became a leader for the other players — even though they were all boys.

Today, there are eight girls in the league, up from three last year. "I read that as Christina might have been a little inspiration," he said.

"In many ways, she led by example, being able to show the boys how to make a play, how to work hard, and she also led with her character," Ward said. "She was the first one to straighten out a rough issue. If there was an argument, she was like, 'C'mon guys, let's play ball.'"

It might not be all that surprising. Her father is a Los Angeles Dodgers scout, and her grandfather, Dallas Green, the no-nonsense manager who led the Philadelphia Phillies to their first World Series title in 1980.

Jack Ward, Ward's 8-year-old son who played with Christina-Taylor for two years, will be at first base this year and plans on remembering her in his own unique way.

"First base is pretty close to second base so every time I go out to first position I'm going to touch second," he said. "I think what's going to be on my mind is that she's an angel and she was really good."

He said when Christina-Taylor first joined the team he wasn't all that excited because she's a girl.

"I was like, girls are better at softball. By the second game I thought maybe girls are better at both," he said.

In practices now, John Ward said he has noticed a renewed focus from the boys, as they try to honor her memory.

They don't have to look far for a reminder of her.

When they see the patch on their uniforms and those of the league's other ballplayers, they will see her initials, CTG on a baseball, the American flag and the twin towers of the World Trade Center in the background.

"The world looks a lot brighter today from my perspective than it did on the 9th of January," league president Clyde Turpin said.

Obituaries

Erma Lee Kennedy Barber, 83

WEATHERFORD — Erma Lee Kennedy Barber, 83, died March 28, 2011, in Weatherford.

Memorial services are pending. Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Barber was born May 9, 1927, in Pampa where she was a lifelong resident before moving to Weatherford three years ago. She was a 1946 graduate of Pampa High School and attended Texas Woman's University in Denton. Erma



Barber

Lee married Gene Barber on June 24, 1949, in Pampa. In 1985 she became the corporate secretary for her husband's company, Merriman & Barber, Inc. She was a member of First United Methodist Church. She was a supporter of the arts and was a member of Pampa Fine Arts Association and Community Concert Association.

Survivors include her husband, Gene Barber; daughter, Connie Jean Carlisle of Weatherford; son, Ronald Lee Barber of Fort Worth; two grandchildren, Jeanette Hawkins and husband Gary of Nevada, Mo., and Scott Carlson of Taos, N.M.; two great-grandchildren, Alyx Hawkins and Spencer Hawkins, both of Nevada, Mo. Erma Lee was preceded in death by a sister, Maleta Parker; and by five brothers, Russell Kennedy, Clarence Kennedy, Everett Kennedy, Harley Kennedy, and Cecil Kennedy.

Memorials may be made to Pampa Meals on Wheels, P.O. Box 939, Pampa, TX 79066-0939

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

Cops' Corner

The Pampa Police Department was notified again in reference to a scam called the "Grandma and Grandpa" scam. How the scam works is the con-artists will claim to be their grandson or granddaughter and will call the victim and state they are in Mexico or Canada. The con-artist will then make up a story stating they need money to get out of a bad situation. One claim the con-artist will sometimes use is that he has been in a bad accident and if he does not come up with a certain amount of money to pay for the damages to the other drivers vehicle then he will go to jail. This scam is widely used throughout the United States. One of the citizens that had called in about this scam advised me

that when they advised the con-artist they did not have any money, he told them that if they had a credit card then they could use it.

I encourage the community to check out the accusation before you make a hasty decision and send any money or give out a credit card. These con artists need to be stopped, and it starts with you not permitting them to use your honesty and good heart to obtain what they want.

If you would like more information on this scam please go to www.snopes.com/fraud/distress/family.asp. If you have any questions on whether something is a scam please contact the Pampa Police Department at 806-669-5700 ext. 259.

Thank you,
Pampa Police Department
201 W Kingsmill
Pampa Texas 79065
(806)669-5700
Emergency Dial 911

Don't grieve for me, for now I am free. God wanted me now... He set me free.
Happy Birthday Victor "Nino" Wallace
Love, Mom, your Sisters & Brothers

The Pampa News Kid of the Week
Submit your favorite photo of your kids, grandkids, nephews, etc. to www.thepampanews.com. Once a week, we will choose a new photo to feature on our "Kid of the Week."

AFTERNOON RUSH Dow reaches 2011 high after unemployment falls

Daylong protest at Capitol

AUSTIN (AP) - As state House members engage in a grueling debate over massive state budget cuts, Texans affected by the cuts are holding a daylong vigil and protest at the Capitol.

Protesters said Friday they were dismayed that lawmakers have allowed a floor vote for a budget they say hurts so many Texans.

The House budget contains deep cuts to health care and historic cutbacks to education, prompting weeks of outrage and protests across the state.

Protesters said lawmakers are poking holes in a revenue system that is already broken. They say the budget will create severe deficiencies in schools, leave the poor and disabled without adequate health care and create at-risk children.

Instead of protecting the state's Rainy Day Fund, protesters said lawmakers should be protecting Texans.

Gunmen kill 8 in border town

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP) - Police say gunmen burst into a bar in the Mexican border city of Ciudad Juarez and opened fire, killing eight people.

Chihuahua state prosecutors' spokesman Arturo Sandoval says assailants traveling in three cars arrived at the bar called El Castillo late Thursday and opened fire.

Sandoval said Friday that police found more than 130 bullet casings at the scene.

Ciudad Juarez is across from El Paso, Texas. It has been wracked by a turf war between the Sinaloa and Juarez drug cartels.

More than 3,000 people were killed in the city of 1.3 million in 2010.

Family planning funding cut

AUSTIN (AP) - Family planning services would take a hit in the state budget being proposed by the Texas House.

One Republican amendment, by Rep. Randy Weber, would take about \$7 million from family planning services for needy families and redirect the money to programs intended to provide alternatives to abortion. It was approved by a 100-44 vote along party lines.

Another amendment, by Republican Rep. Wayne Christian, would take \$6.6 million away from the family planning program to pay for services for children with Autism. It was approved by a 106-34 vote.

Democrats railed against taking money from the family planning program, which also provides cancer screening and other routine health care for women and children. Critics called the efforts counterproductive and warned of future cost increases to the state.

Death row inmate loses appeal

HOUSTON (AP) - An East Texas man condemned for fatally shooting a disabled man at a convenience store has lost an appeal at the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The ruling posted Friday clears the way for prosecutors to seek an execution date for 28-year-old Beunka Adams. Adams was one of two men sentenced to die for the 2002 attack that left 37-year-old Kenneth Vandever dead.

Two female employees at the store in Rusk in Cherokee County were abducted and shot and wounded. One of them was raped.

Adams' co-defendant, Richard Cobb, also is on death row.

The women testified Adams was in charge during the holdup and abduction. He also was identified as the man who raped one of the women and initiated their abduction.

Another seeks to delay execution

AUSTIN (AP) - A Texas inmate facing execution wants a judge to rule the state improperly switched to a new lethal injection drug.

Cleve Foster is scheduled to be executed April 5 for the 2002 slaying of a Sudanese woman in Fort Worth. His lawyers hope a favorable ruling Friday will delay his execution.

Texas announced in March it would use a new drug in lethal injections after a shortage made the old one unavailable.

Foster's lawyers argue the change was made in private, violating rules that require 30-days' notice and a chance for public comment. His lawyers want the judge to say the state must use the old drug, which is unavailable.

Bartonville bans gas drilling

BARTONVILLE (AP) - Leaders of a North Texas town have imposed a 90-day moratorium on new permits for natural gas drilling and hydraulic fracturing.

The Denton Record-Chronicle reported Friday that the Bartonville Town Council also agreed to form a seven-member advisory board on gas drilling and production.

Mayor Ron Robertson says the moratorium, passed Wednesday night, is a "cooling off period" as town leaders continue studying potential new regulations.

Robertson says council members are concerned about chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. The practice involves pumping water, sand and chemicals underground to break up rock and free gas.

Robertson says the town of about 1,600, located 30 miles northwest of Dallas, needs a better grasp on what to allow. At least one operator is currently fracking a well in Bartonville.

US rig count up by 38 this week

HOUSTON (AP) - The number of rigs actively exploring for oil and natural gas in the U.S. increased by 38 this week to 1,776.

Houston-based Baker Hughes Inc. reported Friday that 891 rigs were exploring for gas and 877 for oil. Eight were listed as miscellaneous. A year ago, the count was 1,465.

Of the major oil- and gas-producing states, Oklahoma gained 19 rigs, North Dakota and Texas each gained four, while Arkansas and Wyoming gained two. Colorado and New Mexico each gained one.

California and Louisiana each lost one rig. Alaska, Pennsylvania and West Virginia were unchanged.

The rig count peaked at 4,530 in 1981, the height of the oil boom. The record low of 488 was in 1999.

NEW YORK (AP) - A drop in the unemployment rate to a two-year low sent stocks higher Friday.

The Labor Department said the unemployment rate fell to 8.8 percent, the lowest since March 2009, as companies added workers at the fastest two-month pace since before the recession began. Approximately 216,000 new jobs were added to the economy last month, offsetting layoffs by local governments. Economists had expected the unemployment rate to remain at 8.9 percent.

"We are clearly seeing a breakout in the labor market," said Paul Zensky, the head of asset allocation at ING Investment Management. "The jobless recovery is ending and we are moving into a job expansion stage of the economy."

The report helped send the Dow Jones industrial average to a new 2011 high during early trading. Stocks then pared those gains in the afternoon as oil prices hit new 30-month highs. Crude oil jumped \$1.22 to settle at \$107.94.

The Dow's 100 point gain early in the day seemed unwarranted, because the employment report was just slightly

better than expected, said Jack Ablin, chief investment officer at Harris Private Bank in Chicago. "There's a relief that the job gains were continuing, but it's not a huge surprise," he said. "It's worth maybe 40 points on the Dow."

Stocks rose across the market. Eight of the 10 company groups that make up the S&P 500 index moved higher, led by a 0.9 percent rise in industrials shares.

The Dow rose 54 points, or 0.4 percent, to 12,374. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 6, or 0.5 percent, to 1,331. The Nasdaq composite rose 5, or 0.2 percent, to 2,786.

"This jobs report shows that we are in the early stages of a sustainable recovery in employment, and that is what's letting the market put the recent correction behind us," said Phil Orlando, chief equity strategist at Federated Investors.


The Institute of Supply Management reported a slight slowing in manufacturing growth during March. The trade group's index of manufacturing activity slipped to 61.2 from February's 61.4. However, the drop was expected after manufacturing hit its highest level

since May 2004 during February.

The Commerce Department delivered more bad news on the

construction industry. The government said construction spending fell in February to its lowest level since 1999.

New ITEM!



Smoked pork loin, chopped lettuce, cheddar-jack cheese, pico-de-gallo in a soft flour tortilla with a side of tortilla chips!

Texas Rose

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Pampa, Texas | (806) 669-1009

Rep: Cartels threatening US agents

WASHINGTON (AP) - Mexican drug cartel members threatened to kill U.S. agents working on the American side of the border this month, a Texas congressman said Thursday.

Republican Michael McCaul said a law enforcement bulletin was issued this month warning that Mexican gangsters were overheard plotting to kill Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents and Texas Rangers stationed along the border. McCaul did not identify which cartels or what agency issued the bulletin.

Don Reay, executive director of the Texas Border Sheriff's Coalition, said threats against American law enforcement officials along the border are nothing new.

"We get almost periodic reports of some informant saying there is a bounty" on U.S. authorities, Reay said. "We realize the potential is there, the threat is there."

The latest bulletin warned of a plot to shoot at the agents with AK-47 assault rifles from the Mexican side of the border into the U.S.

Reay said he couldn't comment on the specific threat McCaul mentioned, but said it was proof that a serious security threat remains along the U.S. border with Mexico. Members of Congress have asked the administration to get what they call "operational control" of the Mexican and Canadian borders. But they define that as meaning no "unlawful entries into the United States", including drugs, terrorists and illegal immigrants, a definition Homeland Security officials call unrealistic.

More than 35,000 people have been killed in Mexico's drug war since President Felipe Calderon launched an offensive against the drug gangs shortly after taking office in late 2006.

Numerous U.S. citizens have been caught up in the violence. In February, ICE agent Jaime Zapata was shot and killed, and agent Victor Avila was wounded, in a roadside ambush in Mexico.

LOVE WORTH FIGHTING FOR

MARRIAGE EVENT



Saturday, Apr 16 - Amarillo, TX • Sunday, Apr 17 - Pampa, TX

The LOVE WORTH FIGHTING FOR tour features actor, writer and evangelist Kirk Cameron and singer/songwriter Warren Barfield ("Love Is Not A Fight" from the FIREPROOF movie starring Kirk Cameron). The event features teaching by Kirk Cameron and music by Warren Barfield, designed to strengthen and encourage your marriage.

Tickets available at www.feedyourfaith.org or 1-800-965-9324

Pa+MPA

Pampa ISD Events for the Week of April 4 - April 8, 2011

Parent Involvement Title 1 Survey-please complete by April 8.
Go to the Pampa ISD Website - www.pampaisd.net

Pampa High School

April 4 • Green Ribbon Week Begins
April 5&6 • Choir UIL Test @ Amarillo
April 7 • Harvester Basketball Banquet 7:00 p.m.
April 7 • Nona Payne Band Concert @ MK Brown 7:00 p.m.

Pampa Jr. High

April 4 • 8th Grade Math TAKS Test
April 5 • 8th Grade Reading TAKS
April 6 • National Junior Honor Society 7:30 a.m. or 3:30 p.m.
April 9 • 8th Grade Dance PJH Cafetorium 8:00-11:00 p.m.

Austin Elementary

April 4 • 5th Grade Math TAKS
April 5 • 5th Grade Reading TAKS
April 5 • Booster Club Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Lamar Elementary

April 4 • 5th Grade Math TAKS
April 5 • 5th Grade Reading TAKS

Travis Elementary

April 4 • 5th Grade Math TAKS
April 5 • 5th Grade Reading TAKS

Wilson

April 4 • 5th Grade Math TAKS
April 5 • 5th Grade Reading TAKS

Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Saturday, April 2, the 92nd day of 2011. There are 273 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 2, 1811, James Monroe became the seventh U.S. Secretary of State.

On this date:

In 1513, Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon landed in present-day Florida.

In 1792, Congress passed the Coinage Act, which authorized establishment of the U.S. Mint.

In 1865, Confederate President Jefferson Davis and most of his Cabinet fled the Confederate capital of Richmond, Va., because of advancing Union forces.

In 1917, President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress to declare war against Germany, saying, "The world must be made safe for democracy." (Congress declared war four days later.)

In 1932, aviator Charles A. Lindbergh and John F. Condon went to a cemetery in The Bronx, N.Y., where Condon turned over \$50,000 to a man in exchange for Lindbergh's kidnapped son. (The child, who was not returned, was found dead the following month.)

In 1956, the soap operas "As the World Turns" and "The Edge of Night" premiered on CBS television.

In 1974, French President Georges Pompidou died in Paris.

In 1982, several thousand troops from Argentina seized the disputed Falkland Islands, located in the south Atlantic, from Britain. (Britain seized the islands back the following June.)

In 1986, four American passengers were killed when a bomb exploded aboard a TWA jetliner en route from Rome to Athens, Greece.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush demanded that China promptly return a U.S. spy plane and its crew members. (The plane had made an emergency landing in China after colliding with a Chinese fighter.)

Five years ago: Journalist Jill Carroll arrived in Boston, tearfully embracing her parents and twin sister after 82 days as a hostage in Iraq.

One year ago: President Barack Obama, visiting a factory in Charlotte, N.C., hailed a new government report showing the most jobs created in nearly three years, saying, "We are beginning to turn the corner."

Today's Birthdays: Actress Rita Gam is 83. Actress Sharon Acker is 76. Singer Leon Russell is 69. Jazz musician Larry Coryell is 68. Actress Linda Hunt is 66. Singer Emmylou Harris is 64. Social critic and author Camille Paglia is 64. Actor Ron Palillo is 62. Actress Pamela Reed is 62. Rock musician Dave Robinson (The Cars) is 58. Country singer Buddy Jewell is 50. Actor Christopher Meloni is 50. Singer Keren Woodward (Bananarama) is 50. Country singer Billy Dean is 49. Actor Clark Gregg is 49. Actress Jana Marie Hupp is 47. Rock musician Greg Camp is 44. Rock musician Tony Fredianelli (Third Eye Blind) is 42. Actress Roselyn Sanchez is 38. Country singer Jill King is 36. Actor Jeremy Garrett is 35. Rock musician Jesse Carmichael (Maroon 5) is 32. Actress Bethany Joy Lenz is 30. Actor Jesse Plemons is 23.

Thought for Today: "Never think you've seen the last of anything." - Eudora Welty, American author (1909-2001)



Texas shines big in the 2010 census

The Census Bureau last week released county and city populations for the last of the 50 states from the 2010 Census last week, ahead of schedule. Behind the columns of numbers are many vivid stories of how our nation has been changing -- and some lessons for public policy, as well.

Geographically, our population is moving to the south and west, to the point that the center of the nation's population has moved to Texas County, Missouri.

That sounds like the familiar story of people moving from the Snow Belt to the Sun Belt, but that's not exactly what's happening. Instead, the fastest growth rates in the 2000-10 decade have been in Texas, the Rocky Mountain states and the South Atlantic states.

We're familiar with the phenomenon of people moving to the West Coast. But the three Pacific Coast states -- California, Oregon and Washington -- grew by 11 percent in the last decade, just 1 percent above the national average, while the South Atlantic states from Virginia through the Carolinas and Georgia to Florida grew by 17 percent.

In 2000, the South Atlantic states had 121,000 more people than the Pacific Coast states. In 2010 they had 2.8 million more.

What's been happening is that people from the Northeast and the Midwest have been flocking to the South Atlantic states, not to retirement communities but to Tampa and Jacksonville, Atlanta and Charlotte and Raleigh, which are among the nation's fastest-growing metro areas. The South Atlantic has been attracting smaller numbers of immigrants, as well.

Coastal California, in contrast, has had a vast inflow of immigrants and a similarly vast outflow of Americans. High housing costs,



MICHAEL BARONE

exacerbated by no-growth policies and environmental restrictions, have made modest homes unaffordable to middle class families who don't want to live in Spanish-speaking neighborhoods or commute 50 miles to work.

Michael Barone

Texas Shines Big in the 2010 Census

California for the first time in its history grew only microscopically faster than the nation as a whole (10 percent to 9.7 percent). Metro Los Angeles and San Francisco increasingly resemble Mexico City and Sao Paulo, with a large affluent upper class, a vast proletariat and a huge income gap in between.

Public policy plays an important role here -- one that's especially relevant as state governments seek to cut spending and reduce the power of the public employee unions that seek to raise spending and prevent accountability.

The lesson is that high taxes and strong public employee unions tend to stifle growth and produce a two-tier society like coastal California's.

The eight states with no state income tax grew 18 percent in the last decade. The other states (including the District of Columbia) grew just 8 percent.

The 22 states with right-to-work laws grew 15 percent in the last decade. The other states grew just 6 percent.

The 16 states where collective bargaining with public employees is not required grew 15 percent in the last decade. The other states

grew 7 percent. Now some people say that low population growth is desirable. The argument goes that it reduces environmental damage and prevents the visual blight of sprawl.

But states and nations with slow growth end up with aging populations and not enough people of working age to generate an economy capable of supporting them in the style to which they've grown accustomed.

Slow growth is nice if you've got a good-sized trust fund and some nice acreage in a place like Aspen. But it reduces opportunity for those who don't start off with such advantages to move upward on the economic ladder.

The most rapid growth in 2000-10, 21 percent, was in the Rocky Mountain states and in Texas. The Rocky Mountain states tend to have low taxes, weak unions and light regulation. Texas has no state income tax, no public employee union bargaining and light regulation.

Texas' economy has diversified far beyond petroleum, with booming high-tech centers, major corporate headquarters and thriving small businesses. It has attracted hundreds of thousands of Americans and immigrants, high-skill as well as low-skill. Its wide open spaces made for low housing costs, which protected it against the housing bubble and bust that has slowed growth in Phoenix and Las Vegas.

The states, said Justice Brandeis, are laboratories of reform. The 2010 Census tells us whose experiment worked best. It's the state with the same name as the county that's the center of the nation's population: Texas.

Michael Barone is a nationally syndicated columnist.

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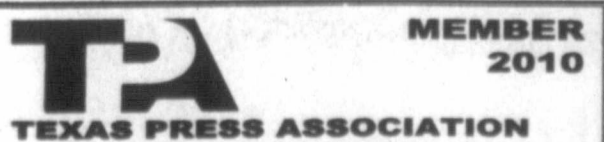
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General Electric and the death of American outrage

If there was a funeral notice, I missed it. No obituary appeared in any of my daily papers. But make no mistake about it: In the spring of 2011 in the United States of America, our collective sense of moral outrage must now be officially dead.

You want proof? On March 25, The New York Times ran David Kocieniewski's front-page story disclosing that General Electric -- which had corporate profits of \$14.2 billion last year, including \$5.1 billion in this country -- did not pay one dime of federal taxes to the U.S. Treasury. That is the same GE the CEO of which, Jeffrey Immelt, was chosen personally by President Obama to head the president's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness.

Where did the outrage go? Every one of us can know for sure that every firefighter, every special education teacher, every hospice nurse we run into, each of them will individually on April 15 pay more in federal taxes than will General Electric. And more as well than ExxonMobil, Citigroup and Bank of America paid Uncle Sam last year.



MARK SHIELDS

There was a time, barely a quarter-century ago, when news like that did engage an American president and lead to a rewriting and reform of the nation's loophole-heavy tax law. When then-Treasury Secretary Donald Regan told President Ronald Reagan that 60 American corporations would pay less that year in federal taxes than the president's personal secretary, Kathleen Osbourne, would, Reagan, according to Regan, responded, "I just didn't realize that things had gotten that far out of line."

More importantly, the Gipper, after being re-elected in a landslide, threw his political support squarely behind the tax-reform effort, initiated by Democratic Sen. Bill Bradley, which would eventually triumph in law as the Tax Reform Act of 1986.

Shepherded expertly through Congress by Democratic House

Ways and Means Committee Chairman Dan Rostenkowski and Republican Senate Finance Committee Chairman Bob Packwood, the reform law was inspired by the straightforward principles that people of equal incomes should pay equal taxes and that the tax code should elevate simplicity and, as to the degree possible, eliminate complexity.

In the last 25 years, presidents and Congresses have compromised -- make that sold out -- those principles, and we end up with the current statutory snarl and its corporate welfare, when the corporate share of all U.S. taxes paid has dropped from 30 percent of the total in the mid-1950s to just 6.6 percent in 2009.

While all of this takes place, the newly empowered House Republican majority makes it clear that their new lean, federal budget will include cuts of \$1.3 billion from community health centers across that nation, which could mean denying access to medical care for 11 million people. Add to those, cuts to Head Start of \$1.1

SHIELDS cont. on page 5

Sunday in History

Tomorrow is Sunday, April 3, the 93rd day of 2011. There are 272 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 3, 1860, the legendary Pony Express began carrying mail between St. Joseph, Mo., and Sacramento, Calif. (The delivery system lasted only 18 months before giving way to the transcontinental telegraph.)

On this date:

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 Charles Lindbergh Jr.

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

In 1968, the day before he was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn., civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his famous "mountaintop" speech to a rally of striking sanitation workers. 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 1979, Jane M. Byrne was elected mayor of Chicago, defeating Republican Wallace D. Johnson.

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: President George W. Bush warned China it risked damaging relations with the United States unless it quickly released the American crew of a damaged Navy spy plane. (The plane had made an emergency landing in China after colliding with a Chinese fighter.)

Five years ago: Former Libean President Charles Taylor pleaded not guilty before an international war crimes tribunal in Sierra Leone, denying he'd helped destabilize West Africa through killings, sexual slavery and sending children into combat. (Taylor's case has yet to be decided.) Florida beat UCLA, 73-57, to win its first NCAA title in men's basketball. Charles Barkley, Dominique Wilkins and Joe Dumars were among six people elected to the Basketball Hall of Fame.

One year ago: The leader of the Anglican church, Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, said in remarks released by the BBC that the Roman Catholic church in Ireland had lost all credibility because of its mishandling of abuse by priests. White supremacist Eugene TerreBlanche, 68, was bludgeoned to death on his South African farm in a dispute with black farm workers over wages. Connecticut senior Tina Charles was the runaway choice as The Associated Press' women's college basketball player of the year. Nebraska's Connie Yori was named The Associated Press' women's college basketball coach of the year.

Today's Birthdays: Actress-singer Doris Day is 88. Former German Chancellor Helmut Kohl is 81. Conservationist Dame Jane Goodall is 77. Actor William Gaunt is 74. Actor Eric Braeden is 70. Actress Marsha Mason is 69. Singer Wayne Newton is 69. Singer Billy Joe Royal is 69. Singer Tony Orlando is 67. Comedy writer Pat Proft is 64. Folk-rock singer Richard Thompson is 62. Country musician Curtis Stone (Highway 101) is 61. Blues singer-guitarist John Mooney is 56. Rock musician Mick Mars (Mötley Crüe) is 55. Actor Alec Baldwin is 53. Actor David Hyde Pierce is 52. Rock singer John Thomas Griffith (Cowboy Mouth) is 51. Comedian-actor Eddie Murphy is 50. Rock singer-musician Mike Ness (Social Distortion) is 49. Rock singer Sebastian Bach is 43. Rock musician James MacDonough is 41. Olympic gold medal ski racer Picabo Street is 40. Actress Jennie Garth is 39. Comedian Aries Spears is 36. Actress Cobie Smulders is 29. Rock-pop singer Leona Lewis is 26. Actress Amanda Bynes is 25.

Thought for Today: "The world is not black and white. More like black and grey." - Graham Greene, English author (born 1904, died this date in 1991).

High oil prices good for Texas

AUSTIN (AP) - Higher oil prices may make consumers miserable, but unrest in the Middle East could mean a tax revenue windfall for Texas' tight budget.

The money is coming from Texas oil producers who have increased their rig counts to take advantage of prices that spiked in mid-February, when fighting in Libya squeezed off shipments that had supplied nearly 2 percent of the world's oil.

A percentage of the price from every barrel of oil produced in the state - now fetching about \$104 each - goes into the state's Economic Stabilization Fund, commonly known as the Rainy Day Fund.

It's way too early to know how big the fund will get or whether the Legislature will overcome political opposition to using it. The Texas House has approved a proposal to tap the Rainy Day Fund to pay off \$3.2 billion in state debt due in August.

But most experts agree: the fund will get bigger than current projections. A lot bigger. Based on an estimate of oil at \$70 per barrel, the state comptroller forecast a \$9.4 billion balance in the fund at the end of the next budget period. Prices have been well above that since last summer.

Stuart Greenfield, an

economist and former revenue estimator who worked for three Texas comptrollers, has studied the numbers and predicts the fund could reach \$11.6 billion if left untouched and prices stay high.

"If they take \$3 billion out of it, they're still going to have a pile of money," said Greenfield, who now teaches economics at Austin Community College.

House leaders say that is probably the most the fiscally conservative body is willing to spend. The Senate is looking to tap more than that, setting up a budgetary battle between the two chambers.

Analysts have mixed expectations for how long high oil prices can be sustained.

Amrita Sen, an oil analyst for Barclays Capital, says prices are likely to stay high for a while. That's because fundamental market variables - like demand - have remained strong while unrest plagues oil-producing countries.

"The fundamentals were strong. If they weren't ... we wouldn't have seen this reaction," Sen said. "It's a combination of those two that's leading to prices being at current levels."

She said upcoming elections in Nigeria and simmering tensions in Bahrain could keep prices

high, even if Libya begins exporting oil again. But with gas prices approaching \$4 a gallon, demand could take a hit before the start of the summer driving season.

"These markets move on a dime," said Billy Hamilton, a former state revenue estimator who spent decades in the Texas comptroller's office. Even though Hamilton said the fund balance will likely be higher than predicted, he said years of watching the oil market have taught him to use caution.

"People always say 'this time it's all going to go up and it's never going to come down,' but it does tend to come down."

Even so, for lawmakers writing the next two-year state budget, the money isn't there until Comptroller Susan Combs says it's there. So far, she's sticking with the \$9.4 billion estimate she made in January, a report that included a prescient caveat.

"If the price of oil, however, were to rise and remain above \$100 per barrel, the near-term implications could be positive for the state," she wrote. "In the longer-term ... businesses and households would be burdened by increasing prices."

Led by Gov. Rick Perry, fiscal conservatives say they want to keep enough

money in the fund to help the state in the event of a hurricane or other emergency.

But moderates and liberals say with a revenue shortfall that could reach as high as \$27 billion when counting for population growth, the reserve fund is needed to keep schools, nursing homes and other state programs operating.

The Rainy Day Fund was created by a constitutional amendment in 1987. Supporters included Perry, who was then a conservative West Texas Democrat and a rising political star.

At the time, Texas was more dependent on oil and gas revenue. Decreased energy prices coupled with cost pressures from education, prisons and Medicaid pushed the Legislature to expand the sales tax that year.

"You can't just go out and pass a tax bill every time you need a little bit of money," said former Rep. Stan Schlueter, who wrote the legislation in 1987 after two failed attempts in 1983 and 1985. "My intent was to smooth out the ups and downs of the economy or take care of an emergency situation."

"Once we passed it, it's up to each Legislature to decide (how to use the money). It's not for me to determine."

Shields

billion, which would translate into dropping 200,000 children from the proven preschool program.

I forgot to mention that GE, according to the Times piece, also claimed it was owed a tax benefit from the Treasury of \$3.2 billion on its 2010 taxes.

All of this brings to mind the sworn testimony in a New York courtroom of Elizabeth Baum. Baum, a housekeeper, quoted her multimillionaire employer, on trial for

income-tax evasion, as telling her: "We don't pay taxes. Only the little people pay taxes." After that, Leona Helmsley became an enduring object of

public scorn. Of course, that was when outrage was still alive in this land.

Mark Shields is a nationally syndicated columnist.

cont. from page 4

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Much of Texas suffering from severe drought conditions

ROBERT BURNS
Texas Agrilife Extension

COLLEGE STATION — The drought continued to expand in Texas, stunting crop growth, delaying planting and putting additional stress on livestock producers, according to Texas AgriLife Extension Service personnel.

As of March 22, the U.S. Drought Monitor ranked 29 percent of Texas as being under an extreme drought, and more than another 30 percent as being under severe drought. Overall, according to the monitor, 98 percent of the state is abnormally dry. More information on the drought monitor and its drought-classification scheme can be found at <http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>.

At this point, there are going to have to be some very significant rains to make a difference in the crop situation, said Dr. Travis Miller, AgriLife Extension program leader and associate department head of the soil and crop sciences department, College Station.

"We measure drought over a three-month period, a six-month period, a year and so on," Miller said. "When you get a long-term deficit, it really takes a pretty good rain to move the needle and put you back into a normal situation."

All crops have been affected by the drought, including irrigated ones, but wheat is the one that's suffering the most right now, he said.

There's been a lot of corn, sorghum and some cotton going into the ground on "pretty marginal moisture" in South Texas, Central Texas and North Texas, Miller said.

Dry planting is risky even during normal times. But during a drought, farmers risk losing seed and other production costs if the planting is not followed soon by rain.

For cotton farmers, this risk has been magnified by recent advances in plant technology, Miller said. Most of the cotton seed used today is transgenic and may cost \$100 or more an acre — as much as ten times what it cost in the late 1990s.

"So farmers are really reluctant to dry-seed — and I would be so myself — with what a bag of cotton seed costs," Miller said.

As for wheat, there have been numerous reports from AgriLife Extension county agents the crop is maturing too early, but this is a result of the warmer than normal temperatures and moisture stress, he said. Irrigated wheat is in better shape, but of the approximately 6 million acres of wheat grown in Texas, with only about 1 million acres under irrigation.

But very high wheat prices, higher than have been seen for years, means there is a real incentive to irrigate wheat despite high pumping costs, he said.

"By irrigated, it means they can put water on it at some time during the crop's growing season," Miller said. "It doesn't mean they have all the water they need to finish the crop. And they may need that (limited) amount of

water to pre-irrigate other crops such as corn and cotton."

More information on the current Texas drought and wildfire alerts can be found on the AgriLife Extension Agricultural Drought Task Force webpage at <http://agrilife.tamu.edu/drought/>.

AgriLife Extension district reporters compiled the following summaries:

PANHANDLE: The area continued to be dry and windy. Soil-moisture levels were very short in

most counties. Wheat was in from very poor to good condition, with most counties reporting poor. Farmers continued preparing land for spring planting. Rangeland conditions varied from very poor to good, with most reporting poor. Cattle were in good condition. The wildfire potential remained high.

ROLLING PLAINS: Very warm and windy conditions continued to rule. Wheat showed signs of severe stress from lack of moisture. The same held true for rangeland forages, which needed rain soon to boost grass growth. Moisture stress appeared to have pushed wheat heading one to three weeks ahead of expectations. Some producers reported receiving insurance adjustments and crop releases on their wheat, while other producers were put on hold by the adjusters and might have to take the crop to harvest. Ranchers continued to provide supplemental protein to cattle because of poor forage quality. Stock-water tank levels were approaching critically low levels. Producers prepared fields for cotton planting. Some producers increased their cotton-planting acres.

SOUTH PLAINS: The weather was warm and windy. A few areas received light showers, but overall the region remained very dry. The threat of wildfire was high throughout the region, and most counties were still under burn bans. Livestock were still being supplemented. Wheat under irrigation was in good shape; dryland wheat was being adjusted out for insurance in some counties. Producers were pre-irrigating and minimal tilling, hoping they'll eventually have enough moisture to plant. Public meetings were being held by the High Plains Underground Water District to discuss proposed regulations to allow residents to meet the desired future condition of the aquifer for our the area under the state water plan.

U.S. Drought Monitor

March 22, 2011
Issued 7 a.m. EDT

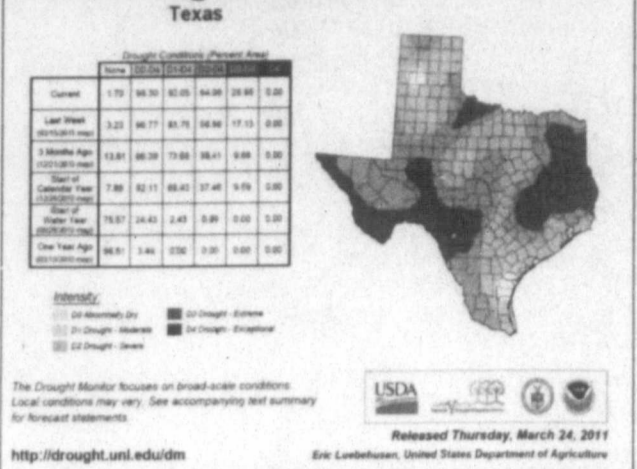


image courtesy of U.S. Drought Monitor

Texas Maps from the U.S. Drought Monitor (such as the one shown above) show most of the state is abnormally dry, with 64 percent suffering either severe or extreme drought conditions. According to the monitor's website, the analysis "represents a consensus of federal and academic scientists."

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High prices lead to copper boom

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) - With copper prices high and backing in place from some of the world's largest mining companies, the hunt for the ore in the American Southwest is experiencing a revival.

Mining operations are ramping up in Arizona and hundreds of jobs are up for grabs from Morenci to Safford.

It's a similar situation in southwestern New Mexico, where the Chino mine has restarted its mining and milling operations after two years.

And now in the hills of Sierra County, a new company plans to reopen a mine that has been shuttered for nearly three decades.

The president of New Mexico Copper Corp., Ann Carpenter, says the time is right.

The company has started the permitting process. If approved, the operation could mean 500 construction jobs and another 200 mining jobs.

Western OK under fire watch

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - Oklahoma firefighters may have a busy weekend as conditions become more favorable for wildfires.

The National Weather Service has issued a fire weather watch for the Oklahoma Panhandle and 14 counties in western Oklahoma. It will be in effect on Sunday because strong winds and low relative humidity are expected.

Forecasters say temperatures are expected to soar into the 80s and 90s.

Southwest winds are expected to range from 25 to 35 mph with higher gusts in the Panhandle, and winds of 20 to 30 mph with gusts exceeding 40 mph are expected in the 14 other western counties.

Relative humidity in the region is expected to fall to between 5 and 15 percent in the Panhandle and 10 to 15 percent in the remaining counties covered in the watch.

Marijuana seized

EDINBURG (AP) - Thousands of pounds of marijuana were confiscated by U.S. Border Patrol agents in multiple seizures over two days.

On Thursday night near La Joya, agents working near the Rio Grande saw several people loading bundles into a minivan near the river's edge. The smugglers hopped into a motorized boat and crossed the river to Mexico. Agents found nearly 680 pounds of marijuana worth an estimated \$540,000 in the van.

In another seizure that day in Havana, agents found a bag of homemade spikes and a bundle of marijuana after following a trail of footprints. Two people were apprehended and nearly 350 pounds of marijuana worth more than \$275,000 was seized.

Additional seizures in the agency's Rio Grande Valley sector pushed the total marijuana seized to more than 6,000 pounds.

Committee approves SBOE map

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) - A new map for the 15-member Texas State Board of Education has won approval from the House Redistricting Committee.

The map was approved Friday on a 12-4 vote. Rep. Carol Alvarado, D-Houston, said she voted against the newly proposed boundaries because she thought lawmakers could craft an alternative that would give Hispanics a bigger voice on the board. Rep. Burt Solomons, the North Texas Republican who chairs the committee, said he thought it was a fair map. It now moves to the full House.

The committee is drawing new district boundaries for the education board, members of the Legislature and Texans who serve in the U.S. Congress.

States turn over injection drug to DEA

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) - The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration has taken supplies of a key lethal injection drug from Kentucky and Tennessee, effectively preventing any executions in three states while it investigates how the drug was imported during a national shortage.

States have been scrambling over the past year to find a new supplier of sodium thiopental, a fast-acting sedative in a three-drug cocktail used when putting inmates to death, since its primary manufac-

turer in the United States stopped making the drug.

In March, the DEA took Georgia's entire supply, putting a hold on executions there following claims from a defense attorney for a death row inmate that the state bought the drug from a fly-by-night outfit in the United Kingdom.

Kentucky officials confirmed Friday that they turned their supply over to the DEA and Tennessee officials said Friday that they relinquished theirs on March 22.

There are currently no scheduled executions in

Kentucky because of a court order that has temporarily halted them. In Tennessee, four inmates are scheduled for execution in September and October of this year.

The DEA and state officials have given few details about the investigation except saying there were questions about whether it was imported properly.

Kentucky officials said they were cooperating in an unspecified federal investigation and the state willingly turned over its entire supply — enough for three executions.

"There was no court order and no search warrant," said Jennifer Brislin, spokeswoman for the Kentucky Justice Cabinet.

Brislin declined to comment further about the case Friday, as did DEA special agents Jim Balcom in Louisville and Chuvalo J. Truesdell in Atlanta.

"I think the DEA recognizes that this was likely illegally obtained," said Kentucky public defender David Barron, who represents a Kentucky man sentenced to death for killing a sheriff and a deputy.

Slain Grammy winner Selena remembered

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) - Sixteen years after Selena Quintanilla-Perez was gunned down at a Corpus Christi motel, her legacy lives on at her annual tribute.

The beloved Latin music singer was celebrated Thursday by those who gathered on the anniversary of her death.

Held at the Molina Veterans Park in the neighborhood where her family once lived, about 100 fans turned out to hear their favorite Selena songs and show just how much they remember her.

Maria Anita Monsivaiz drove her truck with Selena's image painted on the sides from San Antonio to be there.

Wearing a Selena T-shirt and a baseball hat covered in Selena pins, Monsivaiz recounted the last time she saw the singer during an appearance at an H-E-B store.

"Selena was so nice to everybody, it didn't matter how you dressed or who you were," she said. "She was just a nice person. She had it all but she was down to earth. That's what I love about her."

Monsivaiz began painting portraits of Selena after her death. She's made nearly 20 now.

"I wouldn't do them if it wasn't for Selena," she said.

Selena began her career singing around South Texas with her band Selena y Los Dinos in the late 1980s. Her fame grew in the 1990s, selling hundreds of thousands of albums and earning awards from English

and Spanish entities alike.

But it all came to an end March 31, 1995, when she was killed at the age of 23 by the president of her fan club.

The annual tribute began after her death and is organized by fans. Selena's family in Corpus Christi historically has distanced itself from the event.

Abraham Quintanilla, Selena's father, said the day is one he would rather not remember.

Quintanilla said the family had no special plans to gather on the anniversary of his daughter's death.

"For us, it's not a time to celebrate anything," he said.

But Selena's face could be seen everywhere Thursday evening, on shirts, blankets, hats, artwork and in videos, as her music rang out.

At dusk, fans paused for a candlelight vigil in her memory.

"It seems like it was just yesterday that she was with us," said Carolina Saenz, who travels each year from New Jersey to perform at the tribute.

Saenz has been four years in a row, wearing outfits she handmakes modeled after

Selena's own iconic wardrobe.

Many on Thursday sang some of Selena's top hits including "Bidi Bidi Bom Bom," "Amor Prohibido" and "Como La Flor."

Organizer Sylvia Dancer

manned the microphone between performances, recounting Selena's legacy.

"It keeps getting bigger and bigger every year," Dancer said. "Her fans will never forget their queen."



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USDA

cont. from page 1

a claims package by calling the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429. USDA cannot provide legal advice to potential claimants. Persons seeking legal advice may contact a

lawyer or other legal services provider. Printed information to assist in the claims process can also be found at the local USDA Service Center in Pampa at 12125 East Frederic Avenue.

County

cont. from page 1

Crime Victim Coordinator, now held by Molli Segura.

The county commission also approved a road crossing for rerouting a pipeline near Hay Barn Road in John Mark Baggerman's Precinct 3.



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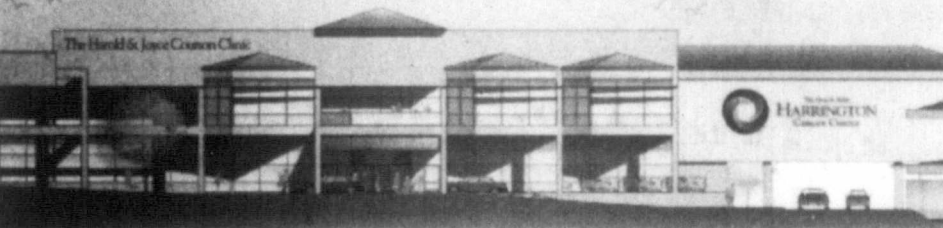
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Texas House plods through marathon debate on lean budget

AUSTIN (AP) - The Texas House plodded through a marathon debate over staggering cuts to the state budget Friday, including the first reduction in overall public education funding in decades.

The proposal is \$23 billion less than the amount spent in state and federal funds in the existing two-year budget. With almost 400 amendments to slog through, the debate on the 2012-2013 budget is expected to last well into the weekend before a vote is taken.

The House plan underfunds Medicaid, which provides health care to the poor and disabled, by more than \$4 billion. Some parents brought their severely disabled children in wheelchairs to line up outside the chamber before the debate began.

"Why are you voting to

hurt me?" read a placard sitting in the lap of nine-year-old Charles Miller, who was born with hydranencephaly, meaning most of his brain tissue is missing. His parents are fighting steep reductions in reimbursements for home-based health care.

Public education, representing more than half the state budget outlays, faces historic cutbacks. The plan on the House floor Friday reduces full-day pre-kindergarten, teacher incentive pay, college financial aid and numerous education programs. Dan Casey, co-author of "The Basics of Texas Public School Finance," said it's the first time since the current school finance structure was put in place in 1949 that public schools would get less than called for under state funding laws from one budget to the next.

Rep. Larry Taylor, leader of the House Republicans, says the proper comparison stretches back to the Great Depression. He said before the debate began Friday morning that the Legislature was on the verge of enacting the first reduction in public education funding since 1929. But GOP leaders, in firm control of the Legislature, are vowing to balance the budget without raising new taxes.

"This is the hand that we've been dealt," Taylor said. "If we don't have the money, we don't have the money."

Taylor said legislators "don't have the luxury to pander to every constituency" and pointed to reforms that could soften the blow to school districts before the session ends in May.

Rep. Jessica Farrar, leader of the House Democrats, said the GOP created the

financial mess and has the supermajority to get Texas out of it. She said the Legislature should take more money out of the reserve Rainy Day Fund and close tax loopholes to raise more money.

"They have to stop the politics and begin to govern," Farrar said.

The proposal cuts Medicaid reimbursement rates by 10 percent. That's on top of 3 percent rate reduction state leaders requested this year. The federal-state Medicaid health care program serves 3.1 million Texans - mostly children, pregnant women and adults with disabilities.

For nursing homes, the cuts could come closer to 33 percent because of recent changes in the federal-state funding formula. The state's share has increased, but budget proposals are not paying for that increase.

Experts say that could jeopardize 45,000 residents in the state's 550 nursing homes that depend on Medicaid.

The Department of Aging and Disability Services would be directed to develop a contingency plan for displaced disabled and elderly residents, under an amendment adopted without objection Friday.

In an assault on family planning services for needy Texans, Republicans redirected more than \$50 million to other programs, including to services that encourage alternatives to abortion.

"You're moving it into a strategy that has nothing to do with prevention," said Rep. Mike Villarreal, a Democrat from San Antonio. "It's about counseling women who are already pregnant. Isn't that counterproductive?"

About six Republican-backed amendments cut funding to the family planning program from \$99 million to under \$50 million.

Money also was moved to programs for children with Autism, early childhood care and mid-size homes for

the deaf, blind and disabled.

The effort outraged Rep. Sylvester Turner, D-Houston.

"I will not be put in the position of choosing from one need to another when we are underfunding them both," Turner said. "If we were not willing to pull from the Rainy Day (fund) to meet the needs of these children and elderly folks, I will not be caught trying to decide if I should fund child one or child two."

He and several Democrats began voting "present not voting" on the reshuffling efforts.

The plan also reinstates funding to four community colleges that had been set to have their funding cut off. Those cuts would instead be evenly distributed among all community colleges in Texas.

The Senate is working on its own version of the budget and plans to spend billions more on education. That sets up a budgetary battle that will likely stretch into the final days of the biennial legislative session - or force a special session this summer.

Ex-Texas district judge pleads guilty to taking bribes

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - A former state district judge who ran a busy South Texas courtroom has pleaded guilty to charges of taking more than \$250,000 in bribes from attorneys in exchange for favors from the bench, including dismissing charges and easing probation terms.

Abel C. Limas, who ran the 404th district court in Brownsville from 2001 to 2008, was arrested Thursday and pleaded guilty hours later in federal court. The 57-year-old, who is also a former Brownsville police officer, is scheduled to be sentenced in July.

A 17-page indictment alleges Limas accepted money from at least four unnamed attorneys. Two of them allegedly paid Limas \$235,000 alone for favorable consideration in civil cases, though the indictment does not go into specific detail.

U.S. Attorney Office's spokeswoman Angela Dodge said Friday she could not provide any details about the case. Limas declined comment after making his plea, and his attorney, Chip Lewis of Houston, did not return a phone message Friday. Limas was freed on a \$50,000 bond.

From his Brownsville courtroom, Limas handled everything from capital murder cases to civil cases and divorce proceedings. Attorneys who argued cases before Limas greeted the news with disappointment but not surprise, saying rumors dogged the former judge for the past year.

Limas resumed a law practice after losing his re-election bid in 2008. He states on his website that he presided over more than 160 jury trials.

"In addition, as a former judge, I can quickly and precisely determine if a court is acting within the boundaries of justice, allowing you to feel confident that justice will be served," the website reads.

It was unclear what affect Limas' guilty plea might have on closed cases he oversaw. Legal experts called the situation rare but did not believe that Limas admitting to accepting money in some cases was necessarily grounds for appealing other decisions.

Cameron County District Attorney Armando Villalobos said in a statement that, generally speaking, the judicial system is not set up to protect the state's right to prosecute. Villalobos also said his office has been given no information about which criminal cases were the subject of Limas' guilty plea.

Brownsville attorney Arnold Aguilar, who had several cases before Limas, said the indictment didn't cause him to second-guess the outcomes.

"After I heard about the indictment came down, I didn't think, 'Oh dear, all my cases must have been badly decided,'" Aguilar said. "For the most part the judge is just a referee. He doesn't control most of the actions."

The state Commission on Judicial Conduct never publicly disciplined Limas. Seana Willing, the agency's executive director, said she could not disclose whether Limas was ever the focus of an investigation.

Limas initially pleaded not guilty before U.S. Magistrate Felix Recio. He later appeared before U.S. District Judge Andrew Hanen and pleaded guilty in a plea agreement.

The indictment charges Lima with using his court to "generate income ... through bribery, extortion, favoritism, improper influence, personal self-enrichment, self-dealing, concealment and conflict of interest." It goes on to list eight separate alleged episodes of racketeering.

The sentence for racketeering ranges from 10 years to life.

Weekly Menus

Pampa Meals on Wheels

The following is the menu next week for Pampa Meals on wheels:

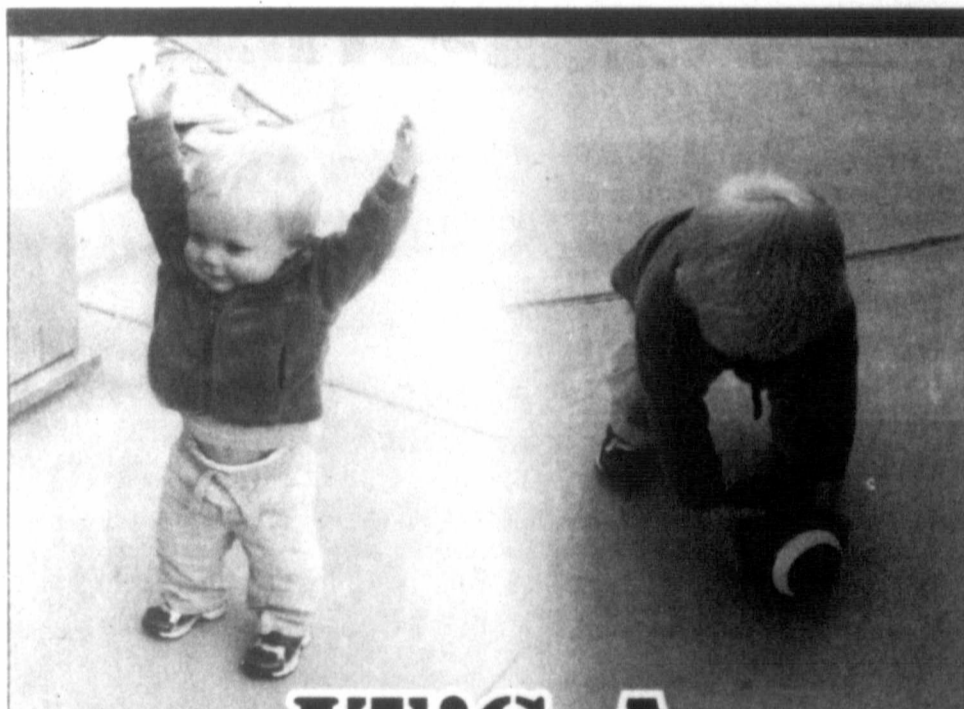
MONDAY, April 4
Chicken pot pie, pickled beets, salad, apricots.

TUESDAY, April 5
Lasagna, green beans, garlic bread, salad, pineapple.

WEDNESDAY, April 6
Egg, sausage, biscuits, hash browns, peaches.

THURSDAY, April 7
Sloppy Joes, tater tots, cole slaw, mixed fruit.

FRIDAY, April 8
Salmon patties, macaroni and cheese, pickled beets, apricots.



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Hall, James K, MD 107 W. 30th	806-688-4205	Family Medicine
Hampton, David M, MD 2931 Perryton Parkway	806-669-1200	Orthopaedics
Julian, Robert D, MD 3023 Perryton Parkway, Ste 101	806-665-0801	Family Medicine
Kamrani, Laxmichand, MD 104 East 30th	806-665-0815	Cardiology
Nirmala, Laxmichand, MD 104 East 30th	806-665-0815	Internal Medicine
Michener, Brent D, DO 3023 Perryton Parkway, Ste 101	806-665-0801	General Surgery
Nguyen, Giang T, MD 107 W. 30th	806-688-4208	IM/Pediatrics
Pay, Adrian P, MD 3023 Perryton Parkway, Suite 201	806-665-2120	Internal Medicine
Powell, Dan C, MD 3023 Perryton Parkway Ste 101	806-665-0801	Family Medicine
Sieck, Kevin D, MD 3023 Perryton Parkway, Suite 101	806-665-0801	Internal Medicine
Smith, Bobby W, DO 3023 Perryton Parkway, Suite 101	806-665-0801	General Surgery
Terry, Jill R, DO 3023 Perryton Parkway, Suite 101	806-665-0801	OB/GYN

Community

WEDDING BELLS



Solomon Cruz and Kandice Garrison

Garrison, Cruz to wed May 7

Rick and Renee Garrison of Pampa, Texas, are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kandice Garrison to Solomon Cruz, son of Sherylene Cruz of Pampa. Kandice is a 2003 graduate of Pampa High School

and is employed at Bob Douthit Autos. Solomon is a 2008 graduate of Pampa High School and is also employed at Bob Douthit Autos. Kandice and Solomon both attend Priest Park Church of God in Pampa,

where they are involved with the church youth. The couple plans to wed at Priest Park Church of God on May, 7, 2011.

CLUB NOTES

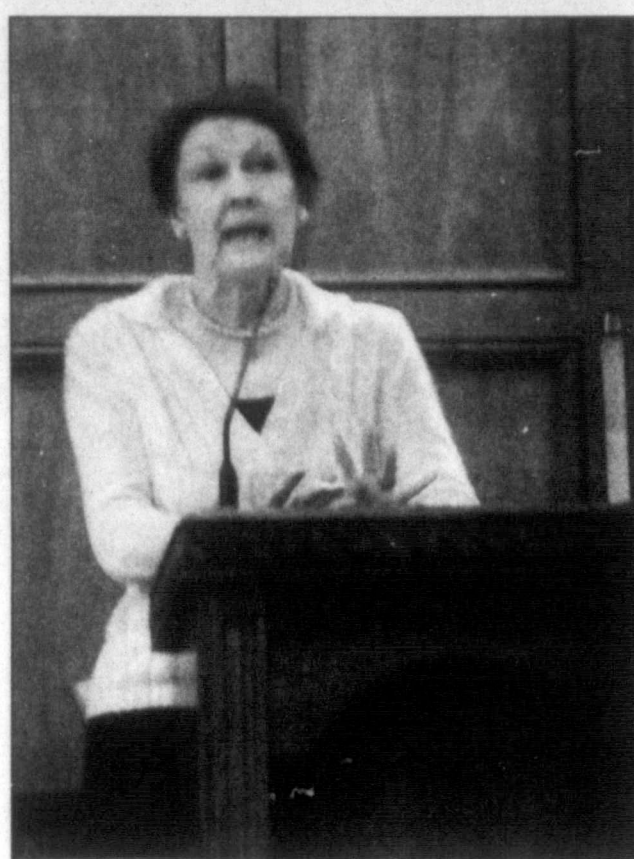
Headrick speaks on Sills bio

Smith Headrick presented her narrative on "Beverly-An Autobiography" or, as she told her audience, "The Life of an Opera Singer" which was a first-person rendition of the life of Beverly Sills.

She spoke to a group on Sunday, March 27, in the First United Methodist Church chapel.

Headrick is an annual spring guest of Chapter CS, the local chapter of the P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) Sisterhood.

She is a Texas native and a speech-language pathologist. She holds a bachelor of arts degree from Baylor University and a master's degree in communication disorders from Oklahoma State University. She was an educator for 24 years. She and her husband,



Carol Smith Headrick

Charles, have three sons and three grandchildren.

She reviews one book each spring and has been presenting book reviews

to the public for 15 years. She memorizes her text and presents the review in first-person.

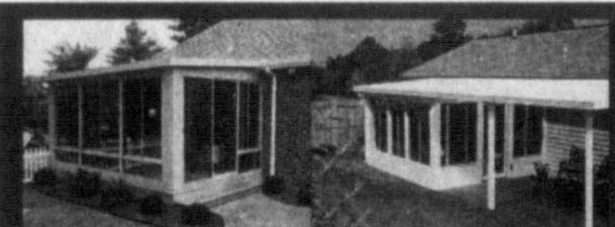
Fredriksson promoted to Lt. Colonel

Stacie Delaine Neff Fredriksson has been promoted to the rank of Lt. Colonel in the United States Air Force (Active Reserve).

Stacie and her husband,

Colonel Brian Fredriksson, and baby daughter, Gracelyn Elaine reside in Chelmsford, Mass.

Stacie is the daughter of Raymond Dee and Elaine Neff of Pampa.



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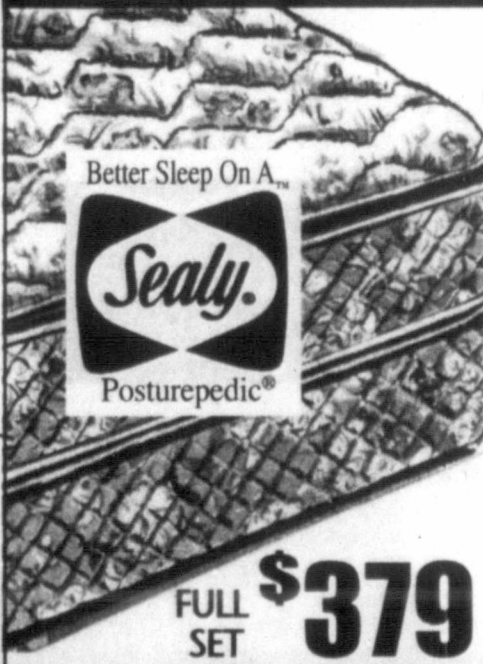
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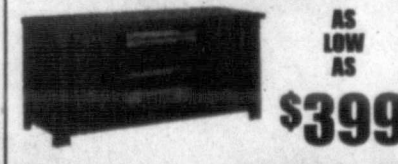


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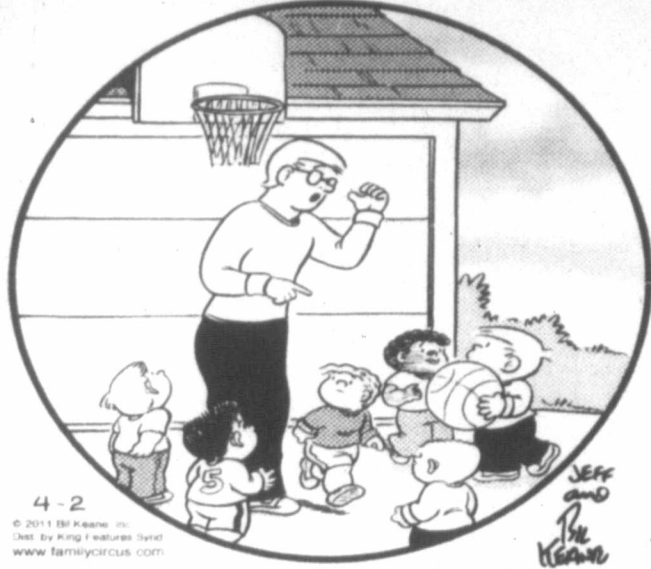
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"OK, rule number one is no hanging from the rim."

Non Sequitur

LIFE and DEATH IN THE 24-HOUR NEWS CYCLE ERA...



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Nest Heads



ALLEN 4/2

daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, April 4, 2011.

You could be surprised and delighted by everything that might occur in the next few months. You have entered a new life cycle, and the first year is often very lucky. Money could flow more easily, in and out of your hands. Be aware that if you are entering a 12-year high financially. If you are single, the person you have long dreamt of could appear. Certainly the relationship you choose to enter could be substantial and exciting. If you are attached, you'll be much happier within the relationship than you have been for years. TAURUS could be quite possessive.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
***** You wake up refreshed and ready to go. If you're not working, you might have what seems like endless ideas and possibilities. This creativity is most unusual, and a lot more productive than normal. Tonight: Treat yourself on the way home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
*** Much happens behind the scenes during the daylight hours. You wonder what your possibilities are, and you sense they might be limitless. Question what is happening with a friend. This person might be developing a case of the flakies. Tonight: Go for what you want.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
***** Your ability to grasp concepts is far more unique than you know. For you, the problem lies in relaying the idea. Sometimes you cannot find the right words, especially now. Slow down if you are a boss. Tonight: Burning the midnight oil.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
***** Deal with a partnership directly early on. You don't want a problem later, when a potential issue could have been rerouted and/or worked through. Merge intellect and imagination, and you'll come up with unusual ideas. Tonight: Dream on.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
***** You often visualize situations very differently from many people. Your ability to read between the lines helps you establish a greater sense of

direction. A creative associate seems to be unlimited when it comes to ideas. Tonight: Until the wee hours.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
***** Others naturally defer to you, as they know whatever the issue in question might be, you will handle it properly. Some of you might discover that having a mutual understanding with the many different people in your life becomes more complicated. Tonight: Say "yes." Open up to a discussion.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
***** Dive into work knowing full well that a lot could happen and toss you into chaos. You see a networking option on the horizon. You could be amazed by what you encounter. Let others be rather than notify them just yet. Tonight: Maintain a sense of humor.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
***** Your creativity seems endless to many. Please don't take it for granted, as nothing is endless, and a lot can and might happen. Be clear with your choices. Understand what others might be feeling. Tonight: Let the good times rock and roll.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
***** There is only so much one person can do in a key situation. You might wonder what the best option is. Right now, you need to think as if you were on your own. Try a brainstorming situation. Tonight: Working a little too long for your taste.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
***** Acting confident is half the battle, if not more. However, if you don't have the intellectual or mental grounding, situations could develop that you never wished for or dreamt of. Tonight: A friend becomes more receptive.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
***** You can be succinct and forthright, but don't be too sure of yourself. Know when you don't know. Acting like you do know could become problematic at this juncture. Act on what appears to be a great idea. Tonight: Head home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
***** Use caution with spending. A swirl of activity could cause a problem if you aren't ready. Listen to what is being shared about a money matter. Right now, any decision you make would be off. Know that. Tonight: Share with a pal.

Tundra



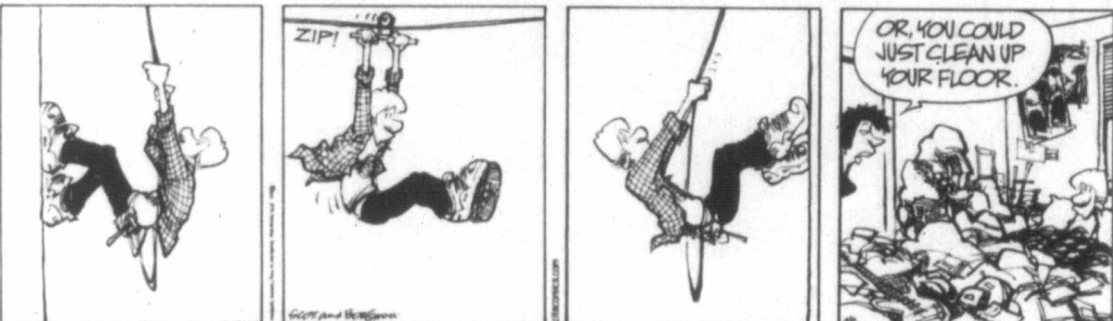
Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible

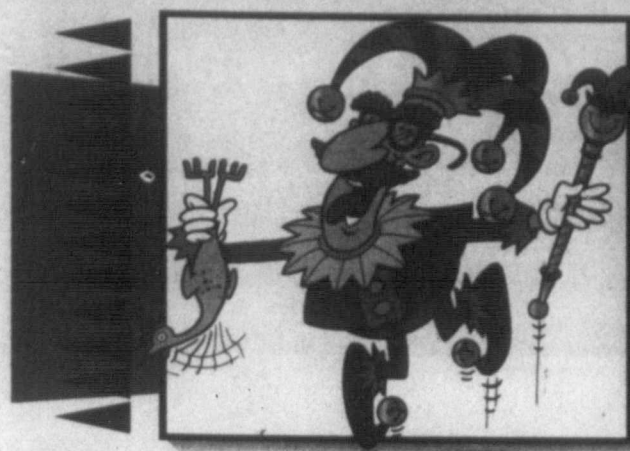


Peanuts



Blondie





kicks kids

GAMES AND PUZZLES

DRAW IT!

DRAW RAIN FALLING FROM THE SKY...



GIVE ME 5 RHYMES FOR WET...



SCRATCH OUT EVERY LETTER THAT APPEARS 3 TIMES TO SEE WHAT GOES UP WHEN RAIN COMES DOWN...



THIS UMBRELLA IS BIG AND WIDE AND ALL MY PALS ARE BY MY SIDE! SOLVE THE RIDDLE AND YOU WILL SEE WHY WE'RE AS DRY AS WE CAN BE!

TWELVE DOGS SHARED ONE UMBRELLA, YET NONE GOT WET! HOW DID THEY MANAGE TO STAY DRY?



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WHAT DID THE RAIN CLOUD WEAR UNDER HIS RAINCOAT?



Automotive Word Find

Just in time for Car Care Month, find the hidden words in the puzzle.

AUTO BELT BRAKES CAR DRIVE ENGINE MECHANIC SAFETY SIGNAL STEER TIRES WASH

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

PEOPLE FACT!

WHAT IS THE TERM COMMONLY USED FOR A HIGH-PERFORMANCE VEHICLE?

ANSWER: MUSCLE CAR

Car Match

Match the model with its make.

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Accord | A. Chevrolet |
| 2. Camaro | B. Jeep |
| 3. Cherokee | C. Ford |
| 4. Edge | D. Honda |

ANSWERS: 1.D 2.A 3.B 4.C

How they say that in...

ENGLISH: Engine
SPANISH: Motor
ITALIAN: Motore
FRENCH: Moteur
GERMAN: Motor

Did you know?

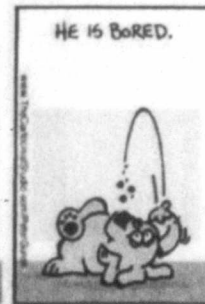
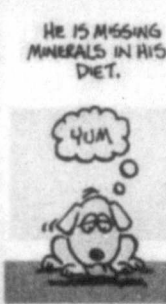


DEFENSIVE DRIVING DICTATES THAT HANDS BE AT "2" AND "10" ON THE STEERING WHEEL.

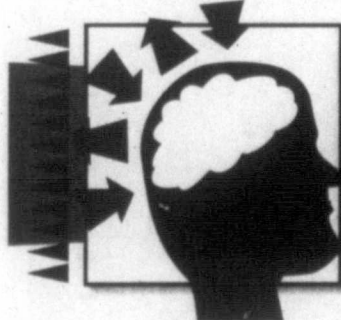
ASK SHAGG

Dear Shagg, My dog eats dirt. Why does he love it so much?
Bobbie Merzopada Newport News, VA

FEEL FREE TO ASK US ANY QUESTION ABOUT ANY OF THE PUZZLES IN THIS ISSUE. SEND TO 'ASK SHAGG' 54 THE NEWSWEEKLY, WE E-MAIL: shaggedog@aol.com



SHAGG'S ANSWER: A TIGON IS THE OFFSPRING OF A MALE TIGER AND A FEMALE LION. A LIGER IS THE OFFSPRING OF A MALE LION AND A FEMALE TIGER. AND A FIRED ZOOKEEPER IS THE ONE WHO LET THE SPECIES GET TOGETHER IN THE FIRST PLACE.



adult addlers

Word Search — April Showers

F U N D O U D V M S S T H R H
C L O U D S M O H G E B Z L L
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I I O U T R U C M V D E Z W G
N I J T E X Q W J Y Y E F Q O
T S I M W H W O G G J J E L D

April Boots Clouds Damp Jacket Lightning Mist Puddle Rain Showers Slicker Thunder Umbrella Weather Wet

MANY WORDS ARE HIDDEN IN THIS PUZZLE. HOWEVER, YOUR TASK IS ONLY TO TRAVEL ALONG THE BAMBOO FRAMEWORK AND FIND TWO WORDS OF OPPOSITE MEANING. BOTH WORDS MAY START AND END ANYWHERE, BUT EACH LETTER AND

BAMBOOZLE

BAMBOO CONNECTOR MAY ONLY BE UTILIZED ONCE. BOTH WORDS MUST CONTAIN EXACTLY "8" LETTERS. CRISSCROSSING BAMBOO CONNECTORS DO NOT INTERSECT.

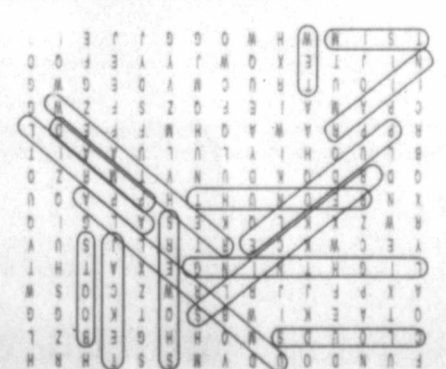
WAY OUT

- CREATORS NEWS SERVICE
- ACROSS**
- 1 West Point freshman
 - 8 Chair or street
 - 10 Moorfish
 - 14 German autos
 - 15 Redolence
 - 16 Pointed, in heraldry
 - 17 Flying jibe, e.g.
 - 18 Layer of the eye
 - 19 Knell
 - 20 Bizarre
 - 22 Wampum
 - 23 For votes
 - 24 Weakness
 - 26 Place side by side
 - 30 Elsie's bull
 - 32 "Geezer"
 - 33 Bandleader
 - 35 All het up
 - 39 Aristocrat, for one
 - 41 Tallinn is its capital
 - 43 Passover dinner
 - 44 El ___ Pacific current
 - 46 Elec. units
 - 47 Actress Ruth ___
 - 49 Videlicet
 - 51 California turkey center
 - 54 Graven image
 - 56 Genie's home
 - 57 Insolvent
 - 63 Capital of Samoa
 - 64 Check
 - 65 Siouan tongue
 - 66 Campus military gp.
 - 67 Pizzazz
 - 68 Pertaining to one's birth
 - 69 Massachusetts motto word
 - 70 Strike out
 - 71 Amusing, in an odd way
 - 13 Comic Hagar's wife
 - 21 Exigencies
 - 25 Undiluted
 - 26 Fortes and Vigda
 - 27 Soccer notable
 - 28 Yielded a return
 - 29 USS Enterprise milieu
 - 31 Legal claim
 - 34 Sicilian smoker
 - 36 Arrow poison
 - 37 Brooklet
 - 38 "Rider" Fonda movie
 - 46 Mangle, for one
 - 42 Swth. ___ Adam
 - 48 At anchor
 - 50 Popular appliance color
 - 51 Sudden blaze of flame
 - 52 Keep talking!
 - 53 Exudes
 - 55 English poet, John ___
 - 58 Ubangi feeder
 - 59 Mountain ridges
 - 60 1949 defense org.
 - 61 Altk, to Henri
 - 62 Cheer
- DOWN**
- 1 El ___
 - 2 Oahu cookout
 - 3 Revise copy
 - 4 Coo's partner
 - 5 Ella's output
 - 6 Dutch cheese
 - 7 Counsels
 - 8 Against votes
 - 9 U.S. evangelist Billy ___
 - 10 Win the gold
 - 11 Presmble
 - 12 U.S. statesman ___ Stevenson

Crossword Puzzle Answers

TOLO DELE ENSE
LAVAN NATAL
APIA REIN OSAGE
LAMP OUT FOMONEY
FRESH ONO
ROMAN NAMELY
SEDER ONIN
ELITIST ESTIN
BEAU DESTI AFIRE
APPOSE ELMER
LEAS ANEMIA
OUTLANDISH PEAV
SAILS UVEA TOLL
AUDIS ODOOR UDE
FLERE GANG OPAP

Word Search Answers



Bamboo Solution

Community

Lion's Club Queen



submitted photos

Cori Cook (above, left) was the local winner in the Pampa Lion's Club Queen contest held recently. Runner-up was **Hannah Smith** (right). Cook will be the local representative at the District level of the contest. Below - the field of candidates in the Queen's contest included (from left) Cook, **Danielle Zuniga**, **Jackie Karson**, **Smith**, **Kayla Hughes** and **Bianca Hernandez**.



Weekly Menus

Pampa Independent School District

The following is the menu next week for the Pampa Independent School District:

MONDAY, April 4

Chicken-fried steak or chicken nuggets, whipped potatoes, corn, mixed fruit, hot roll. **Breakfast** - French toast sticks.

TUESDAY, April 5

Barbeque on a bun or pizza, vegetarian beans, broccoli florets, applesauce. **Breakfast** - Biscuit and gravy.

WEDNESDAY, April 6

Pizza dippers or steak fingers, blackeyed peas, tossed salad, fresh fruit. **Breakfast** - Cinnamon pastries.

THURSDAY, April 7

Macaroni and cheese or popcorn chicken, English peas, tossed salad, peaches, chocolate cake. **Breakfast** - Cereal, toast.

FRIDAY, April 8

Fish Strips or hot dog, French fries, baked beans, pineapple tidbits, hot roll. **Breakfast** - Cereal, toast.

Pampa Senior Citizens Center

The following is the menu next week for the Pampa Senior Citizens Center:

MONDAY, April 4

Chicken-fried steak or chile rellenos with cheese sauce, mashed potatoes, hominy casserole, spinach, pintos, slaw, tossed salad, Jello, carrot cake, cherry crême pie, fruit cup, hot roll or cornbread.

TUESDAY, April 5

Baked tilapia filet with rice or hamburger steak, steak fries, California blend, buttered corn, northern beans, slaw, tossed, Jello, Boston cream pie, chocolate pie, fruit cup, hot roll or cornbread.

WEDNESDAY, April 6

Roast beef brisket with brown gravy or cook's choice, mashed potatoes, carrots, peas, butter beans, slaw, tossed salad, Jello, cherry chip cake, peach cobbler, fruit cup, hot roll or cornbread.

THURSDAY, April 7

Chicken strips or liver and onions, sour cream potatoes, fried okra, beets, beans, slaw, tossed salad, Jello, cinnamon rolls, coconut cream pie, fruit cup, hot roll or cornbread.

FRIDAY, April 8

Fried cod fillets with hush puppies, sloppy joes, potato wedges, Brussel sprouts, beans, slaw, tossed salad, Jello, brownies, tapioca cup, fruit cup, garlic breadstick, hot roll, cornbread.

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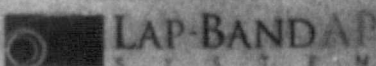
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Sports

SECTION **B**

Keown's softball journey began before freshman year

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

Pampa High School senior Shanna Keown started playing softball when her mom got her interested before her freshman year in Canyon.

"She signed me up for High Plains softball in Canyon and said 'Give it a try,'" Keown said. "I did the summer before my freshman year. I've liked it ever since then."

Now, Keown is playing her final season on the Lady Harvesters and is hoping to add to the winning tradition.

Keown played one season at Canyon High school on the junior varsity and moved to Pampa during her sophomore year. The senior outfielder said she would have been moved up to varsity at Canyon and added that it wasn't weird playing for Canyon's rival.

"We didn't play them but once," Keown

said. "I wasn't on varsity."

When she joined Pampa's team, Keown was amazed at the winning tradition of the Lady Harvester program.

"I was very blessed to become a part of the softball team," Keown said. "It's awesome to be a part of tradition and that kind of stuff."

Keown was a part of three regional quarterfinal teams, one regional semifinals team and two district championship teams. Last season, Keown hit the game-winning single and made the final out against Abilene Cooper in Game One of the bi-district round. In her final season, Keown is looking forward to continuing the tradition.

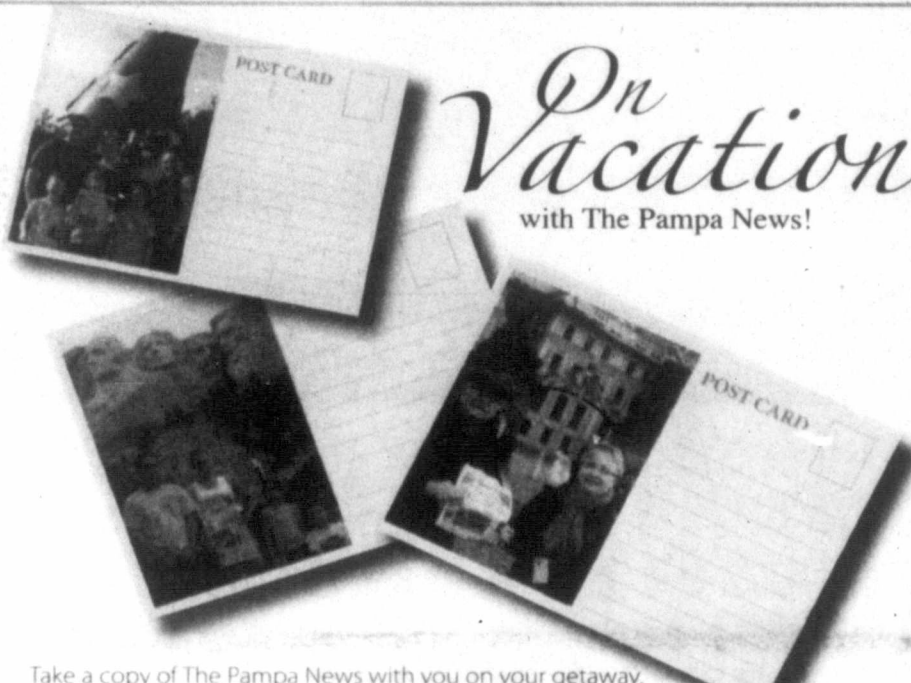
"It's amazing," Keown said. "It's sad it's my last year to do it, but I'm enjoying every minute of it that I can."

Keown hopes to go out strong.

"Hopefully we can make it as far and go further than last year," Keown said.

More about Shanna Keown

- Hit the game-winning single against Caprock March 26, 2010.
- Hit a two-run single against Abilene Cooper to break a 1-1 tie in the area round April 30.
- Favorite Ice cream flavors are chocolate and vanilla because they are good.
- Likes Country Music.



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photo courtesy of *Charla Shults*


Senior Shanna Keown catches a fly ball to end the top of the fifth against Perryton Tuesday at Lady Harvester Field. Keown started playing softball before her freshman year and has been on varsity since her sophomore season.

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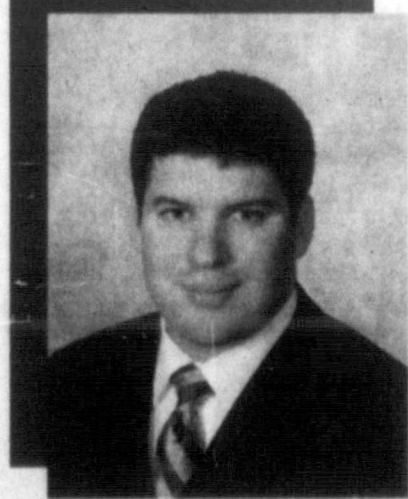
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Sports

Malone emerges as senior leader on the mound

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

Two summers ago, Pampa High School senior Tyler Malone started playing baseball in summer league for the first time since he was 12. Malone said then-first year head coach Kaleb Snelgrooves asked him if he was going to try out for the Harvesters.

"I said I would probably try out this year," Malone said. "He said 'Alright let's see what you got.'"

Immediately after talking with Snelgrooves, Malone hit a home run and left no doubt that he was going to be dressed in green and gold. Now in his senior year, Malone has emerged as a leader and as a pitcher.

In the first week last season, Malone drove in three runs and earned a win in relief. Malone said Snelgrooves threw him to the wolves last season and added that it felt good to be playing again.

"I got off to a quick start as soon as I got back," Malone said. "I felt like I got back into it pretty quick and got the swing of it."

Last year Malone, was primarily used as a late reliever and an outfielder. On the mound Malone went 2-0. This year

Malone has made the transition to a starting pitcher. The senior said he developed more muscle.

"Last year my arm kept me from being more of a pitcher," Malone said. "It hurt a lot more. This year it's feeling pretty good. (Snelgrooves) puts me in a lot longer...My arm feels a lot better."

Snelgrooves said Malone has come a long way since he was known as "The kid that hasn't played baseball since he was 12."

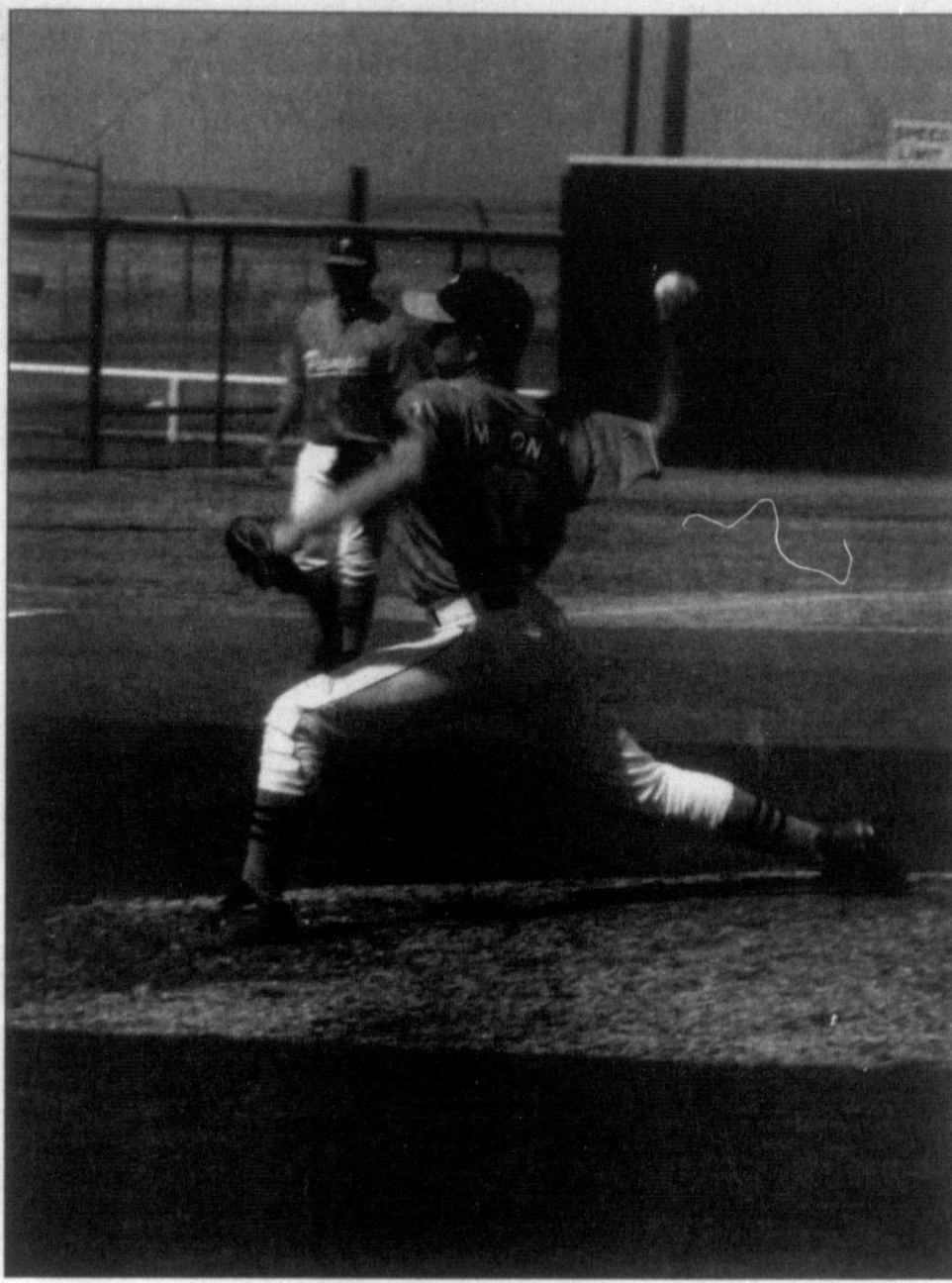
"He is still so raw and doesn't know how good he can be," Snelgrooves said. "I'm just excited to see what unfolds the rest of the season with him."

Striving to be the best player he can, Malone idolizes one of baseball's greats, Mickey Mantle.

"He is a legend," Malone said. "He's a switch hitter with 20 all-star appearances. He can play the game better than anybody."

Malone said it means a lot to be a Harvester baseball player.

"To see all the players that have played and say I play on the same team as them, and see their names in the bricks and my name is in there, it feels pretty good," Malone said.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Tyler Malone Varsity Highlights

- Was 2-for-3 against Dalhart February 25, 2010 with a double and drove in three runs.
- Earned his first win of the season against Borger February 25, 2010.
- Earned his second win against Amarillo San Jacinto February 26, 2010.
- Hit his first career high school home run against Hereford April 2, 2010.
- Picked up his first win of the 2011 season against Graham in Midland March 10.
- Pitched a complete game and struck out nine against Sayre March 16.
- Hit an inside-the-park home run against River Road March 22.

MLB OPENING DAY

Astros let lead slip late

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Brett Myers nearly stuck it to his old team on opening day.

Myers outdueled Roy Halladay and turned a two-run lead over to the bullpen, only to see the Philadelphia Phillies rally for three runs in the bottom of the ninth inning Friday to beat the Houston Astros 5-4.

John Mayberry Jr. lined an RBI single off closer Brandon Lyon that capped that comeback and spoiled Myers' outing.

"They're a good team. That's how it goes sometimes," Myers said.

Trailing 4-2 to start the ninth, the Phillies got going when Jimmy Rollins and Ryan Howard started with singles off Lyon (0-1). After Raul Ibanez popped up, Rollins stole third and Ben Francisco lined an RBI single. Carlos Ruiz followed with a single and Wilson Valdez hit a tying single that kept the bases loaded with one out.

Mayberry then sent a shot over drawn-in center fielder Michael Bourn, kicking off a celebration after he touched first base. He then got a shaving cream pie in the face during a postgame interview.

"I felt real good. I just didn't make the pitches I needed to make," said Lyon, who was 20 for 22 in save chances last year. "I'll just learn from this."

Ryan Madson (1-0) earned the win with a scoreless inning in relief.

Myers, the Phillies' opening-day starter from 2007-09, allowed two runs — one earned — and three hits in seven innings.

Sporting a long, bushy goatee, Myers threw just 85 pitches, partly because he didn't have any strikeouts. The Phillies didn't even swing and miss against him until the seventh, but they didn't hit the ball too hard despite making plenty of contact — until the ninth.

"I didn't pay attention to the pitch count," Myers said. "I could have gone to 120 if I had to."

Halladay, the reigning

NL Cy Young Award winner, allowed one run and five hits, striking out six in six innings. Myers had two of those hits.

Halladay didn't get much support from an offense that's missing No. 3 hitter Chase Utley (injured) and former No. 5 hitter Jayson Werth (signed a \$126 million deal with Washington).

Myers had something to do with that. He picked up where he left off last year. A former first-round pick by the Phillies, Myers was 14-8 with a 3.14 ERA in his first season with the Astros, and pitched at least six innings in 32 of his 33 starts.

"I can't say enough about how he pitched," Astros manager Brad Mills said.

The four-time NL East champion Phillies became instant favorites to win their second World Series title in four years after signing Cliff Lee in December. But injuries took a toll in the spring and they entered the season without Utley, their five-time All-Star second baseman, and closer Brad Lidge.

They're going to need more production from a lineup that features two former MVPs and five former All-Stars to avoid having dramatic finishes.

Valdez, filling in Utley, and Francisco, taking Werth's place for now, delivered key hits in the ninth.

The Astros broke through against Halladay in the sixth. Angel Sanchez led off with an infield single on a slow grounder that rolled under second baseman Valdez's glove. Hunter Pence followed with a double off the fence in right-center. Sanchez scored on Bill Hall's one-out groundout to give Houston a 1-0 lead.

Halladay departed after that inning and the Astros tacked on three more runs in the seventh. Brett Wallace singled off reliever J.C. Romero, and reliever David Herndon allowed a single to Humberto Quintero. After Myers sac-

rificed, Bourn hit a triple to right-center for a 3-0 lead. Sanchez followed with a sacrifice fly to make it 4-0.

The Phillies cut the deficit in half in the bottom half. Placido Polanco walked, Rollins singled and they advanced on Quintero's passed ball. A sacrifice fly by Howard and RBI groundout by Ibanez got the Phillies within 4-2.

Halladay struck out five of the first eight batters he faced and didn't allow a runner until Myers punched a single to center in the third. Myers' hit surprised even his teammates, who chuckled in the dugout.

Myers got another one his next time up, too. With two outs in the fifth, Quintero reached second when right fielder Francisco dropped his liner for an error. Myers then lined a single to right, but Quintero held up. Halladay escaped the jam by retiring Bourn on a fly to deep right.

Halladay won 21 games in his first season with the Phillies, including a perfect game. He then tossed a no-hitter in his first career postseason start.

Tyler Malone throws a pitch in a March 16 game against Sayre. Malone has emerged as a starting pitcher after spending last season as a reliever. The senior started playing baseball last year after not playing the previous four years. Malone is currently 2-2 on the year.



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this week in SPORTS:

APR 4 Monday

- Girls Golf District, TBA, Hidden Hills
- Boys Golf District, TBA, Hidden Hills
- JV Baseball vs. Borger, 5 p.m., Harvester Field
- City Spring Leagues begin

Tuesday

- Varsity Baseball vs. Borger, 5 p.m., Harvester Field
- Varsity Softball vs. Borger, 5 p.m., Lady Harvester Field
- JV Softball vs. Borger, 6:30 p.m., Lady Harvester Field

APR 6 Wednesday

- Hidden Hills Senior Scramble

APR 7 Thursday

- Varsity Tennis District, TBA, Borger

APR 8 Friday

- Varsity Tennis District, TBA, Borger
- Varsity Tennis Amarillo Relay, TBA
- Varsity Boys Track, Dalhart Relays, TBA, Dalhart
- Varsity Softball vs. Garden City, 4 & 5:30
- Varsity Track North Plains Relays, TBA, Dumas

Saturday

- Varsity Tennis Amarillo Relay, TBA
- Varsity and JV Softball vs. Perryton Varsity 1 p.m., JV 2:30 p.m., Perryton
- V and JV Baseball vs. Perryton, Varsity 2 p.m., JV 4 p.m. Perryton

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Sports

NCAA FINAL FOUR

'First losers' back for another shot at Final Four

HOUSTON (AP) — Butler's trip is 1,036 miles this year, not six. The only way players are getting to class is if they Skype. And it's a safe bet there won't be 30,000 Bulldog fans jamming Reliant Stadium for open practice Friday.

The hometown lovefest that surrounded Butler at last year's Final Four is gone. This is a road trip, not a "Hoosiers" remake, and the Bulldogs want something better than second place this time.

"We feel like we were just the first losers from last year's tournament," Shelvin Mack said Thursday.

Now that's a little harsh.

The Bulldogs delighted the country last year, giving the Final Four a distinctly warm-and-fuzzy feel. They were a mid-major crashing the power schools' party, and doing it just down the road from their campus made the story even better. The players were in class between practices and interviews like the rest of Butler's 4,200 students, and future NBA lottery pick Gordon Hayward even managed to make it back to his hometown church for Easter services with his family.

The memory that sticks most with the Bulldogs, though, is how it ended. Butler held its own against Duke in the national title game, coming within a half-court shot by Hayward that bounced off the rim of winning the whole thing.

A loss is a loss, no matter how impressive the effort. "The feeling I had after we lost. That's one of the worst feelings," Shawn Vanzant said, not hesitating when asked what he remembers most from last year. "To work so hard and come so close and fall a little bit short, that's been driving me all year."



Mack



Nored

Added Ronald Nored, "I don't want to come here and be defeated twice."

Butler (27-9) plays VCU, this year's version of the plucky underdog after going from the "First Four" to the Final Four, in the national semifinals Saturday night.

That Butler is even back at the Final Four is impressive. Only a dozen other schools have managed it since the tournament expanded in 1985,

and the list reads like a Who's Who of college basketball: Duke. North Carolina. Kentucky. Kansas. UCLA. Michigan State, just to name a few. (Michigan did it, too, but the Fab Five's appearances were later vacated by the NCAA.) Butler has managed it despite losing Hayward, who led the Bulldogs in scoring (15.5 points) and rebounds (8.2), and two other veterans who got significant playing time, Willie Veasley and Avery Jukes.

The Bulldogs still had Mack, Nored, Vanzant, a trio of sweet-shooting and smooth-passing guards, and Matt Howard, their second-leading rebounder and third-leading scorer last year. But they had to rely heavily on Chase Stigall, who was on the floor for all of 44 minutes last year; Andrew Smith, who scored 24 points; and a freshman, Khyle Marshall.

The growing pains were obvious midway through the Horizon League season, when the Bulldogs lost four of five games, including a stretch of three straight. Once one of the country's stingiest teams, they were giving up points in bunches.

Forget getting back to the Final Four. Many wondered whether Butler could even get back to the tournament.

"The few losses we had, it was tough, especially coming off the season before," Nored said. "You have



Vanzant

a lot of guys who want to be good, right away. But that took a second to build. It took a second for this team to be where we are now. I really think it took until the beginning of February for us to get to this point."

Finally, though, in a Feb. 3 game at Youngstown State, the Bulldogs figured out what they'd been doing wrong.

"We were really focused on the defensive end of the floor," Howard said. "We weren't guarding the way we normally had, and I think that was really important for us to get back to that."

Butler lost the game, 62-60 in overtime. It hasn't lost since, bringing a 13-game winning streak that's best of any of the Final Four teams into Saturday night's game.

The Bulldogs are giving up 59.6 points during the stretch, almost eight points better than their average through the first 23 games of the season. Only two teams have managed to get 70 or more off Butler, both in the NCAA tournament. Butler upset top-seeded Pittsburgh 71-70 in the second round and beat Florida 74-71 in overtime to win the Southeast Regional final.

"The season goes from Oct. 15 until March 1, at the earliest. You're supposed to get better during that time," coach Brad Stevens said. "But it's hard. People get tired. But if you have a team that's committed to one another and willing to work through it, the chances of getting better are high."

Even higher when there's some unfinished business. "A lot of people were counting us out this year," Vanzant said. "We really want to win this thing."

VCU coach rolls out Emily Dickinson at Final Four

HOUSTON (AP) — You know it's a new day at the Final Four when a coach pulls Emily Dickinson off his bench to bolster his argument for winning the national title.

"Dwell in possibility."

The poet's words trip so easily off the tongue of Virginia Commonwealth coach Shaka Smart — whose name just about says it all — that they hardly sound jarring, even in this era of countless clichés and 24-hour sports talk. And with good reason.

Run into Smart away from the basketball court and he's likely to have a stack of papers tucked underneath one arm, more than 100 pages of inspirational quotes and poems that inform almost everything he does. To say he's spent nearly every waking moment preparing for the next one isn't saying nearly enough.

As a kid growing up near Madison, Wis., Smart wrote "Duke" on a sheet of paper and taped it to his bedroom wall because that's where he planned to play college basketball. Around the time he realized he'd never crack the lineup there, he turned down a chance to attend Harvard and Yale for tiny Kenyon College. After his junior year there, he taped a list of the all-conference team to his dorm room wall to remind himself of the player he wanted to become. Smart not only did that, he graduated magna cum laude with a degree in history.

Neither the appearance of a cerebral young coach nor a mid-major program at the annual party thrown for the sport's royalty should be all that jarring anymore. Just last year, Butler coach Brad Stevens — whose Bulldogs will face VCU in Saturday's first semifinal — rolled into the championship game, only to be turned away at the buzzer when a half-court shot by since-departed NBA first-round pick Gordon Hayward skidded off the front of the rim.

So naturally, when Smart was asked whether it was realistic for his mid-major team to be the last one standing when confetti rains down from the roof of Reliant Stadium come Monday night, he cited Stevens and Butler, then dropped the pearl from Dickinson before a crowd of reporters, and paused.

"At least I hope it's possible," he added, smiling, "or we just might as well turn around now and go home."

VCU isn't going anywhere, of course, even though everybody connected to the game save Smart and his players whined long and loud about the Rams simply being invited to the tournament. It might have been the biggest motivational gift ever for a coach, since just this once it was nearly impossible for Smart to overplay the "us-against-the-world" angle.

"Every day, he showed us something to remind us, 'We don't belong,'" VCU guard Brandon Burgess said, shaking his head and remembering the barrage even as the Rams battered a succession



Smart

of major-conference foes. "Video clips, newspapers, pages off the internet, e-mails, you name it."

Smart never lacks for material, to be sure, but not just because of that well-worn sheaf of papers. Like Stevens, who at 34 is a year older, he's

in the vanguard of a youth movement making a dent in one of the most hide-bound fraternities in sports. Coaching at the highest level remains largely an older man's racket, because jobs at the top programs still require a long, success-stuffed resume, not to mention a name well-enough known to sell tickets.

Yet it's the guys like Smart, who saw the dispersal of talented kids to mid-major programs as a way to jump the coaching queue, who are generating most of the buzz lately. They're still young enough to talk to their players instead of at them, hang out after practice or step onto the court and demonstrate exactly what they're trying to get across.

"I try not to make it a dictatorship," he said, "unless I have to."

Yet seeing him as an authority figure wasn't easy, at least not initially. After a decade of apprenticeships at California University (Pa.), Dayton, Akron, Clemson and Florida, VCU was Smart's first head-coaching stint. He followed Anthony Grant, who was nearly a decade older and spent most of his free time with a growing family.

"The first time I saw him on the court, I'm thinking, 'Who is this little guy?'" Burgess recalled. "I thought it was a joke at first."

"He thinks he's a better player than us. He thinks he's a better passer than me," teammate Joey Rodriguez said. "I tell him, 'You played at Kenyon College, we're in the Final Four, so ...'"

Although no one who has spent much time around Smart — his siblings, professors, former bosses and even LeBron James, who worked out with him the summer before he turned pro — ever doubted Smart would find his calling, none ever expected it to happen so fast.

"He understands what it takes to run a basketball program, he understands rhythm of the team, and he understands you stay with it," said DePaul coach Oliver Purnell, who gave Smart his first big break as an assistant at Dayton, then brought him back when Purnell got the top job at Clemson.

"I think most importantly," Purnell said, "he understands you're in competition on a daily basis for hearts and minds of kids."

Huskies are Kentucky's latest shot at redemption

HOUSTON (AP) — Brandon Knight can run through the list of Kentucky's issues over the winter as easily as the straight-A student can rip through an exam.

Missed shots, inexperience and untimely defensive lapses — all valid reasons why the Wildcats found themselves wobbling through the regular season collecting nearly as many losses (eight) as coach John Calipari's previous three teams combined (nine).

True enough. Yet the candid point guard says Kentucky's biggest problem — beyond a freshman-laden squad trying to live up to expectations — was ego.

As in, too much of it.

"At the beginning we weren't as good as we thought we were," he said.

The defeats piled up, yet Calipari didn't panic even as he threw around phrases such as "crisis mode." He remained convinced Kentucky would grow up, even if it took longer than he anticipated.

Calipari insisted that all that mattered was the postseason. If the Wildcats dumped the selfishness and focused on something other than the numbers next to their name in the box score, he promised them they'd get another shot at the teams that handled them earlier in the year.

Calipari was right. Now the once dysfunctional group has been dubbed "The Redeem Team" for its ability to exact revenge.

Kentucky has avenged six of its eight defeats this season and will get a chance at a seventh on Saturday when the Wildcats (29-8) play Connecticut (30-9) in the Final Four.

The Huskies whipped Kentucky 84-67 in the finals of the Maui Invitational a day before Thanksgiving.

Back then, UConn was considered a middle-of-the-pack Big East team and Walker a role player not expected to become one of the country's top scorers. The Huskies dispatched both assumptions in 40 dominating minutes.

"I think we underestimated them and didn't play hard," Kentucky center Josh Harrellson said.

It certainly looked at way as the Huskies thrashed Kentucky while handing Calipari his worst loss in four years. Playing their fourth game in six days, the Wildcats shot just 37 percent and looked helpless as Walker went off for 29 points.

"He killed us," said Kentucky guard DeAndre Liggins, who served as the primary defender on Walker.

It was a jarring reality check for a team that expected the incoming freshman trio of Knight, Terrence Jones and Doron Lamb to pick up where John Wall, DeMarcus Cousins and company left off last spring.

Calipari had no illusions. He spent last summer telling anyone within earshot the Wildcats would lose early.

He never said anything about losing late.

And the Wildcats haven't.

Kentucky has won 10 straight entering the 14th Final Four in school history, with five of those wins coming against teams that beat the Wildcats earlier in the year.

The run started with a 76-68 win over Florida on February 26. Get even wins over Vanderbilt, Mississippi and Alabama followed.

The Wildcats were just getting started. They ripped the Gators again in the SEC title game and evened another score by knocking off West Virginia in the third round of the NCAAs to send the team that ended Kentucky's run last spring home early.

Then came graduation, a 76-69 win over North Carolina in the regional final last Sunday, a victory that showcased how far the Wildcats had come in the months since the Tar Heels edged them by a bucket in Chapel Hill on Dec. 4.

Kentucky took control early then dug in when North Carolina tied at 67 with 3:18 to go. Knight drilled a 3-pointer, and Liggins added one for good measure as the Wildcats pulled away in the final minute.

It's a game the Wildcats admit they would have lost in the regular season, when seven of their eight defeats were by an average of 3.1 points.

The rematches have been blowouts by comparison. Only Vanderbilt came within a possession of pulling off the sweep. No other team came within six points of beating the Kentucky a second time.

A victory over the Huskies would bring the Wildcats full circle, and UConn isn't reading to much into what happened in the tiny gym tucked among the palm trees in Maui.

"They are an extremely different team now," Walker said. "They're playing their best basketball of the year."

The secret, the players say, is that there is no secret.

Calipari, never one to pore over hours of tape, didn't change the way he prepared the Wildcats to play, and the stats don't point to any one area where Kentucky has greatly improved.

Though the players insist they are a better defensive team than they were in January, Jones points to a trust level between teammates that didn't exist when UConn steamrolled them in paradise as the difference.

Entertainment!

THE PAMPA NEWS

'Limitless' totally illogical, but still really fun to watch

"Limitless," admittedly, is a fairly illogical movie. It's built entirely around the widely-perpetuated belief that humans only use 20 percent of the brain (or ten percent, or five percent, or fifteen percent, or whatever arbitrary number depending on who you talk to). Lo and behold, in "Limitless," someone has manufactured a drug that allows the brain to harness that unused extra portion.

That drug falls into the hands of aspiring author Eddie Morra, played by Bradley Cooper in his first headline role. Suddenly, Morra's mind is supercharged, and he uses his newfound mental powers to turn his deteriorating life around — doing everything from cleaning his apartment to fixing his ruined relationship to, oh, earning millions of dollars on the stock market in like two days.

Again, illogical.

Is that bad? A lot of the time, but not here.

"Limitless" instead embraces its own ridiculous premise and runs with it, churning out a solid, incredibly entertaining wish fulfillment fantasy that almost everyone can relate to. It has only the surface hint of any kind of message, the vaguest clue of a warning caution against want gone wild. Instead, it's fun. Watching Morra put his mind to use is a joyride, and you can't help but smile as Cooper's cocky but relatable main character enjoys his meteoric rise to the top. When things do go wrong, we can't help but root for him, because on some base level, we all want what he's managed to unlock.

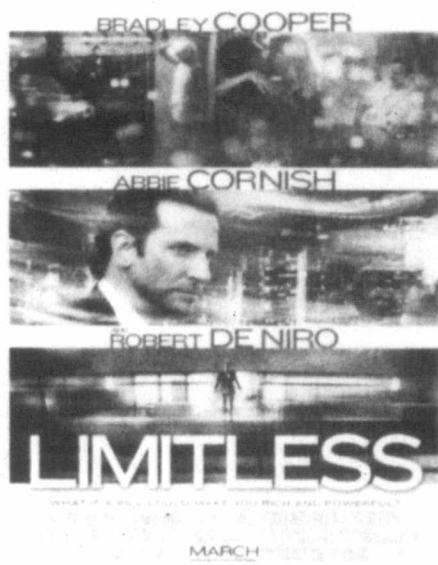
Director Neil Burger makes good use of cinematic tools as he puts Morra's new perspective on screen. The visuals are attractively jarring but not annoying, except maybe for the opening cinematic.

The film also gets good mileage out of its underdog cast, as Bradley does well as the most real lead performance, possibly opening the door for bigger roles ahead. Robert De Niro is great as usual as a sleazy

Wall Street magnate, and Abbie Cornish is good as Morra's tortured girlfriend. The rest of the movie is populated by virtual unknowns; other than Johnny Whitworth and Anna Friel (two of those innumerable "Where have I seen you before?" actors), the cast is pretty much a bunch of guys with Russian accents.

Grab some popcorn, suspend your disbelief and sit back and enjoy the ride. "Limitless" may not be the thinking man's movie, but it's definitely one for the guy who likes to enjoy himself in the theater.

Arnie Aurellano is the editor of The Pampa News. He can be reached online at editor@thepampanews.com.



Limitless ★★★★★
PG-13 for thematic material involving a drug, violence including disturbing images, sexuality and language

SPLIT-SCREEN



ARNIE AURELLANO



TRAVIS TIDMORE

The film, which stars Jake Gyllenhaal, Vera Farmiga, and Michelle Monaghan, introduces us to a new division of the government, which uses a form of time travel called "source code" to solve terrorist attacks.

In their first real test of the program, Captain Colter Stevens (Gyllenhaal) wakes up on a commuter train on his way to Chicago. Stevens has eight minutes to discover who is behind the

No depth in 'Source Code,' but sci-fi thrills abound

"Source Code," the new movie from director Duncan Jones (also known as Zowie Bowie, the son of rock star David Bowie), takes a familiar movie trope, time travel, and turns it slightly askew. The

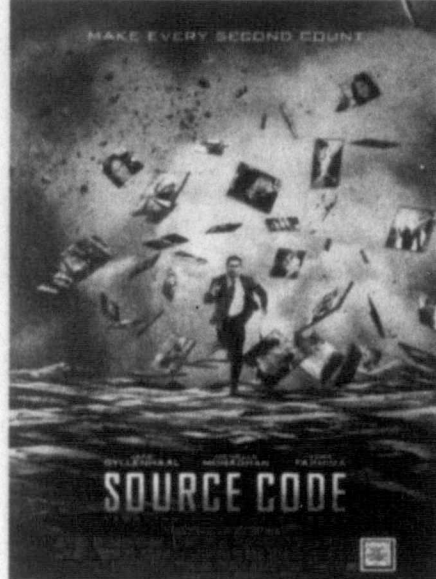
bombing of the train, before they can unleash another terrorist attack. The catch is that Stevens is not in his own body, but rather that of Sean, a commuter on the train. His consciousness has been placed in Sean's body for the last eight minutes of his life.

For all intents and purposes much of the movie features the same eight minutes, playing out over and over again. However, each time Stevens is sent back he changes things just slightly in his pursuit to catch the terrorist. Think "Groundhog Day" as an action-sci-fi thriller.

Over the course of Steven's repeated eight minutes he slowly develops feelings for Christina (Monaghan), another commuter on the train. As his feelings for her grow, he is determined to prove that "Source Code" can be used to actually change time and not just as a way to observe it.

The movie is Jones' second film to direct, after 2009's critically acclaimed "Moon," and he shows that he's got a handle on sci-fi and will likely be a director to watch in the genre in the next decade. Gyllenhaal, Monaghan, and Farmiga all do a wonderful job, with both Monaghan and Farmiga adding a lot of heart to the film. The actors carry most of the movie on their shoulders and do a great job with the material they've been given.

The movie is well-paced and provides a good thrill ride for its 90ish minute run time. But don't go in expecting a deep movie that you'll be talking about for days. Instead go in and enjoy it for what it is, a sci-fi movie that keeps you on the edge of your seat for most of the ride.



Source Code ★★★★★
PG-13 for some violence including disturbing images, and for language

Local attorney Travis Tidmore reviews movies for The Pampa News as well as on his blog, www.thecinemaniac.com.

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One for the Road

A DAY AT THE PARK
staff photo by *David Bouswer*
Jay Weeden pulls an old culvert out of the ground in Central Park as the City of Pampa replaces the pipe that helps drain the park.

UNITED WAY CELEBRATES 2010 WITH LUNCHEON
story by *Arnie Aurellano*
There were two prevailing messages from Tuesday's United Way Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon: Thanks for a productive 2010, and let's get ready for an even... More.

PAMPA RENEWS ANIMAL CONTROL ASSISTANCE PACTS
story by *David Bouswer*
The City of Pampa is renewing its animal control contracts with seven area towns concerning animal control contracts.
The Pampa City Commission, during its... More.

FUNERAL FUND ESTABLISHED FOR PAMPA WOMAN
story by *Arnie Aurellano*
Billie Phea was not only a longtime Pampa resident, but also an active one, serving as her Progressive Baptist Church's secretary-treasurer until her death Friday at the age of 103... More.

POWCD CONSIDERS USE OF SOIL MOISTURE PROBES
story by *David Bouswer*
WHITE DEER - The Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District is studying the possibility of using soil moisture probes to enhance timely water application to crops in the area... More.

DO YOU THINK I'M CUTE?
staff photo by *David Bouswer*
Frolicking in the dog days of winter, Major, a seven-month-old English Bulldog puppy that arrived in Pampa over the Christmas holidays... More.

OLDS GETS PRISON TIME FOR INJURY TO ELDERLY
story by *David Bouswer*
Lawrence Scott Olds was in the Gray County jail today awaiting transfer to the Texas Department of Corrections after being convicted of beating his mother... More.

ENBRIDGE CAREER FAIR TOMORROW

What's happening

Nice show by Harvesters for McNeely alums # 2011/01/22

Latigo putting on a show in the first at Phs boys bb # 2011/01/22

Clendering pulls Pampa back in game # 2011/01/22

Lady Harvesters struggle to run offense # 2011/01/22

Kuhn heats up from three # 2011/01/22

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★ Sunday horoscope

Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign.

A baby born today, April 3, 2011, has an Aries Sun and Moon.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, April 3, 2011:

Your birthday occurs on a New Moon, which adds charisma, energy and strength of will. If you decide you want to forge ahead in a new direction, it is as good as done. Make a wish of a significant nature this year. If you are single, you can kiss that status goodbye if you want to. You also might enjoy the compliment of having of several suitors. If you are attached, you easily could outshine your sweetie. Be aware of this tendency. You might want to give your partner more attention. ARIES can be a soul mate.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Everyone experiences mood swings, so don't worry if you feel nostalgic one moment, then wonder if you have what it takes the next. A New Moon makes a new resolution more than possible. Don't think in terms of what you can do, but what you want to achieve! Tonight: Enjoying life.

This Week: If you think people have been vague lately, strap on your seat belt.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ You are more than conscious of the social aspects of your

life. Don't make it a big deal if you want to close down. You might want to do something just for you. Tempers explode when you least expect it. Tonight: Make it early.

This Week: You have an excellent point. Communicate it well.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Focus on friends and the fulfillment of a long-term desire. No one should color your thinking. No one can block you from ultimately creating what you desire. Get together for a happening with friends. Tonight: Where your friends are.

This Week: A new friend could saunter into your life. This person could be very different!

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Take a stand and handle what is coming down the path. You might feel as if you are absorbing too much responsibility. You could be. Make sure you want to follow through on a project or idea. Tonight: Out late.

This Week: The longing for travel and new horizons starts to take over. Be an armchair traveler — for now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Keep reaching out for new ideas, realizing you might be holding yourself back. Touch base with a family member and those at a distance. Before you know it, you might be planning a trip. Hold off. Don't split right now. Tonight: Talk about a trip. Don't take a trip.

This Week: Use care with financial matters. Someone might not be as clear as he or she seems.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ A partner could be overly dominant right now. You might believe

that this person is aware of what he or she is doing. Of course that is an assumption. This person might just be overly happy. Tonight: If need be, use the word "no."

This Week: If you meet someone you think is perfect, stop. Step back. This could be happening too soon.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You enjoy a friend or loved one, even if you never or barely ever see eye to eye. This person might be resilient and lucky. Just being around him or her adds to your get-up-and-go. Let this person call the shots for the day. Tonight: Going along for the ride. Don't forget to strap on your seat belt.

This Week: Investigate what a partner presents. You might be surprised by your reaction.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ You are direct. Listen to feedback from friends when you get together. Whatever you do, allow more interaction and feedback. These people care about you, no matter what. Tonight: Feeling like the Energizer Bunny? You will get tired soon enough.

This Week: Defer to others. You want some creative time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Your imagination goes haywire, and there is no way to contain your thoughts. You might try staying mum once in a while if a thought is inappropriate! Look to a new beginning within a relationship, or a new relationship. Tonight: Let it all hang out.

This Week: Take news with a grain of salt. Continue as you have.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ You need some downtime with those you can relax with. Understanding will evolve if you allow greater give-and-take. Imagine what it must be like to be in another person's shoes. Tonight: Make it easy. Enjoy a conversation.

This Week: You might start "knowing" events before they occur. Relax with your premonitions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Meet friends for brunch or maybe the movies. You'll enjoy yourself wherever you are. Key into the possibilities, understanding where others are coming from. Check out a new item that will make your life more copasetic. Tonight: Chat and dinner with a fun loved one.

This Week: Suddenly you feel anchored. How does it feel?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Make a budget that you think you can stick to. You might be sharing a purchase with a friend, loved one or partner. Pull this person into the conversation. You could be surprised by what comes up. Tonight: Treat someone to dinner.

This Week: Keep conversations open. Listen to comments. Are you being vague?

BORN TODAY

Actress Doris Day (1922), singer Wayne Newton (1942), comedian Eddie Murphy (1961)

BANANAGRAMS!

Add a P to each of the six-letter words below and then rearrange the letters in each word to form a new seven-letter word.

- LEVEL
- DIAPER
AREOLE
FRESCO
CEASED

Yesterday's Answer: DRESSER, ARMOIRE, RECLINER

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

1	8	7	5	2	6	3	9	4
9	6	3	7	1	4	8	5	2
2	4	5	3	9	8	7	1	6
8	5	9	6	4	7	2	3	1
3	7	2	1	5	9	6	4	8
6	1	4	8	3	2	9	7	5
5	2	1	9	8	3	4	6	7
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Level: Advanced

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 42 Shows
1 "Serpico" fondness author
43 Squeal
5 Fling
44 Iditarod
9 Slowly, in need scores
10 Over
12 Film'dom's Flynn
13 "Cape Fear" star
14 Old war-ship
16 In need of a doc
17 "Mazel —!"
18 Fast sailing ship
20 Norway neighbor
22 Lord's wife
23 "Frasier" pooch
25 "Fernando" group
28 "Hold on ..."
32 Armada ship
34 One of Frank's wives
35 Equal: Prefix
36 Fishing boat
38 Crack up
40 Bar buy
41 Cow of ads
- DOWN**
- 1 Core
2 Show up
3 Wildly
eager
4 Comforted
5 Chair worker
6 Before now
7 Digestive aid
8 Like nobles
9 Some punches
11 Nervous one
15 Indian oven
19 Out of the wind
21 Start a hand
24 Viscera
25 Acrobatic
26 Igneous rock
27 Boutique buy
29 Greet, in a way
30 Made flat
31 Hand makeup
33 Lucy's pal
37 Sweater material
39 Jazz composer Evans

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- Yesterday's answer
- 11 Nervous one
15 Indian oven
19 Out of the wind
21 Start a hand
24 Viscera
25 Acrobatic
26 Igneous rock
27 Boutique buy
29 Greet, in a way
30 Made flat
31 Hand makeup
33 Lucy's pal
37 Sweater material
39 Jazz composer Evans

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I have 10-year-old twin boys. "Frank" is popular with the boys in his class, while "Jake" has only one close friend, "Tommy." When Frank is invited to parties, sleepovers, movies, swimming and play dates, Jake is left out and never invited. Tommy is a great kid, but comes from a family that isn't very social. We invite Tommy to our home, but Jake isn't invited back. I feel terrible when I see how sad Jake is when his brother is constantly going off to do fun things and he's left at home. We try to keep Jake busy with enjoyable activities when this happens, but it's not the same. While Frank has a right to have his own friends, sometimes I feel I should say something to the parents about how much their leaving Jake out is hurting his feelings and self-confidence. — HEARTBROKEN MOM IN MISSOURI

DEAR HEARTBROKEN MOM: I don't recommend saying anything to the parents of Frank's friends because it could backfire. Boys that age pick their own friends, and if Jake was forced on them, no one would be happy about it — including Jake. Instead, continue inviting Tommy over and explore activities out-

side of school where Jake can shine in his own right. That will do more for his self-confidence than tagging along with his brother where he really isn't wanted.

DEAR ABBY: My son "Marshall" is 36. He's handsome, has a great job, is a wonderful son and would be a tremendous "catch." The problem is Marshall has no interest in marriage or even dating. He was in a relationship six or seven years ago that ended badly. Since then, he has decided he doesn't want any woman getting close to him. He hasn't been on a date since. Marshall spends his time hunting, fishing and playing/watching sports with his single and divorced friends. It doesn't help that the divorced friends tell him he's doing the right thing by staying single, and how they wish they had done the same thing. Every time I raise the subject, he tells me he's happy with his life and doesn't want to change. How do I get through to him? My husband says we should let him do what he wants because it's his life. But I have trouble accepting that my son wants to stay single the rest of his life. Help! — PROTECTIVE MOM IN OHIO

DEAR MOM: That's understandable. You come from a generation in which marriage was the norm. However, in the decades since you were married there has been a slow (but steady) erosion in the percentage of Americans who think marriage is important. Your son may have much to offer, but if he isn't interested in closeness, intimacy and partnership, he probably wouldn't be very good at it. So trust him, love him, and don't push him. Marriage, when it's a good one, is wonderful. But it is no longer a must, and more and more people are concluding it isn't for everyone.

DEAR ABBY: You often refer your readers who are troubled to doctors and clergy. Another reference to consider is the Human Resource professionals at their workplace. We offer a variety of programs to assist our employees with financial and family issues. We want healthy and happy employees. — HELPING HANDS IN CORTE MADERA, CALIF.

DEAR HELPING: With mental health services stressed to the max because of cutbacks, this is certainly a worthwhile option. Thank you for the suggestion.

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AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-2 CRYPTOQUOTE

MZZ ZCYU XLOTAX MWF
BLMWRUX O FCW A GWCD OT
NCQ BMW KU DLCZULUMIAUFZ N
OW ZCYU MZZ ALU AOPU.

EQZOU MWFIUDX
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: A COACH IS SOMEONE WHO CAN GIVE CORRECTION WITHOUT CAUSING RESENTMENT. — JOHN WOODEN

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HSE MANAGER

Pampa - Texas

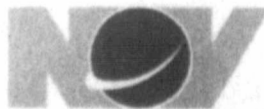
Health Safety and Environmental Manager. Preferred BS Degree with major in Health Safety and Environmental; 3-5 years job experience in the Safety and Environmental field, or 7-10 years of specific job experience in the HSE arena.

HSE Manager must work through organization's leadership team to implement positive changes that increase performance in all areas of HSE, develop and assist in integrating new HSE measurements (leading and lagging indicators) that clearly articulate the organizations performance, ensure all required compliance audits are performed, gaps are communicated, and plans are implemented; as well as conducting internal audits. Maintain positive working relationships with employees and shop personnel.

MACHINE SHOP MANAGER

Machine Shop Manager, preferred bachelor's degree in area of specialty, and with significant background experience in machining.

Manages the operations of machine shop area to ensure that volume, cost, quality and safety standards are achieved. Ensures physical and workforce resources are adequate to meet the organization's production schedule. Manages the activities of production personnel including workflow and work force utilization.



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buzzed last night.
You saved my life.

Liz Osaki

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U.S. Department of Transportation

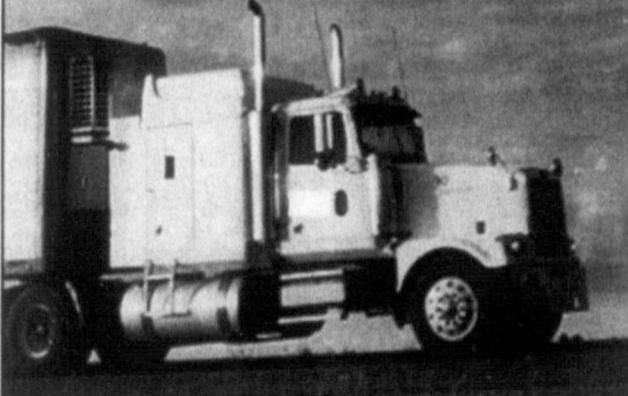


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- Good Driving/Employment Record
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Contact Schwan Sales of Pampa, James Martin for questions. 806-669-0235.

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WED. APR. 20, 9:43 A.M.

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4-Dr., Leather Int.
\$12,995



2004 CADILLAC ESCALADE
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Quicksilver
\$21,995



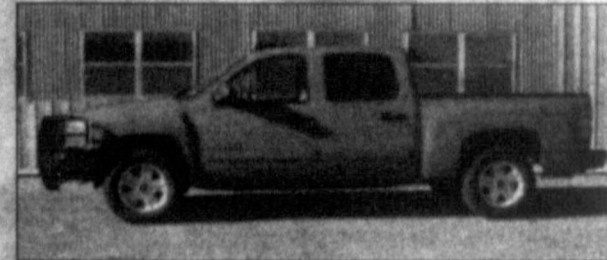
2005 BMW 5-SERIES 525i
Alpine White
Auburn Leather Int.
\$17,995



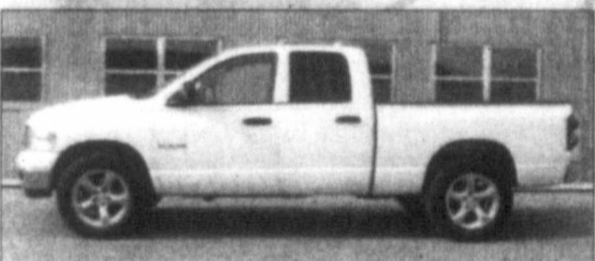
2008 FORD TAURUS X
Silver Birch Met.
Sports Van, Leather Int.
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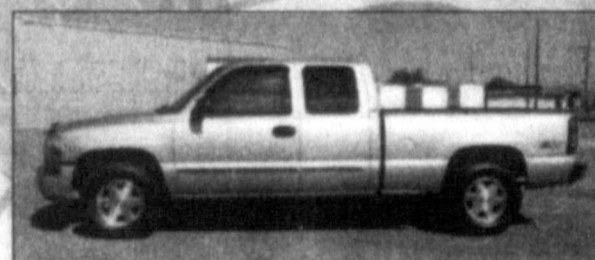
2004 CHRYSLER CROSSFIRE
Blaze Red Crystal
2 Dr. Coupe, Leather Int.
\$14,995



2007 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500
Red, Crew Cab
4x4
\$19,995



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