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TODAY IN SPORTS



Thursday, April 5, 2012 www.thepampanews.com Volume 107 • No. 310

75¢
 \$1.50 weekend

Texans sift through tornado rubble
 National Weather Service probing damage | p2A

Pampa shuts out Borger
 Lady Harvesters down rivals; shutout for O'Brien | p2B

Consultants to PISD discuss superintendent hire

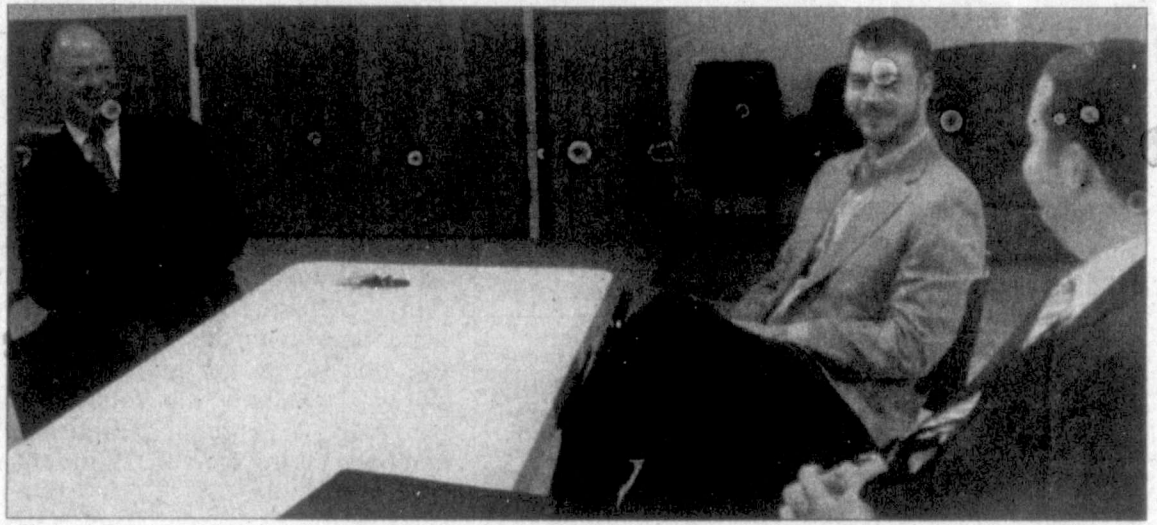
■ *Comments on ideal candidate solicited through public meetings*

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

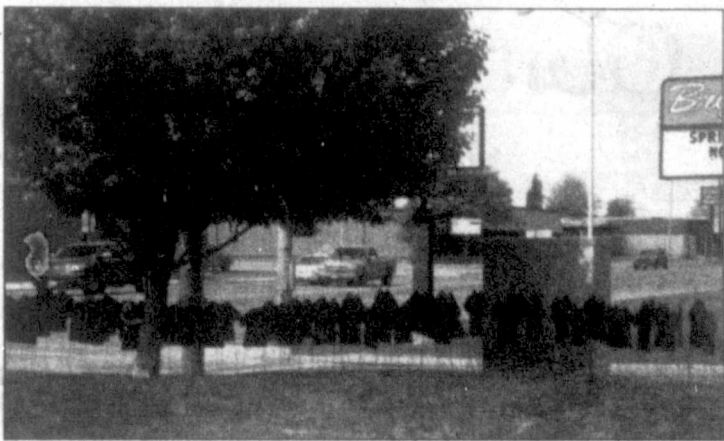
It's been a busy two days for Bob E. Griggs. Griggs, of Fort Worth-based Bob E. Griggs and Associates, was in Pampa on Tuesday and Wednesday, speaking with Pampa Independent School District personnel as well as members of the community. Griggs, along with fellow consultant Hoyt Watson, were interviewing Pampans

about their ideal new superintendent, since current PISD superintendent Barry Haenisch will retire at the end of the school year. "We've had some good visits at Pampa ISD," Griggs said. "We have talked with a lot of community and hopefully all of the educators. ... (Attendance) has been average. We haven't been overwhelmed with attendance, but we've had attendance at each of the meetings that

GRIGGS cont. on page 8A



staff photo by Mollie Bryant
Consultant Bob Griggs (left) speaks with David Hall (center) and Bryan Guymon of the Pampa Young Professionals at a profile meeting on Wednesday morning.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Two hundred eleven blue t-shirts in a CASA display in front of United Supermarket on Hobart symbolize the 211 cases of child abuse and neglect last year in CASA's service area.

CASA shines light on abuse with display

■ *211 blue shirts represent cases of abuse in CASA area*

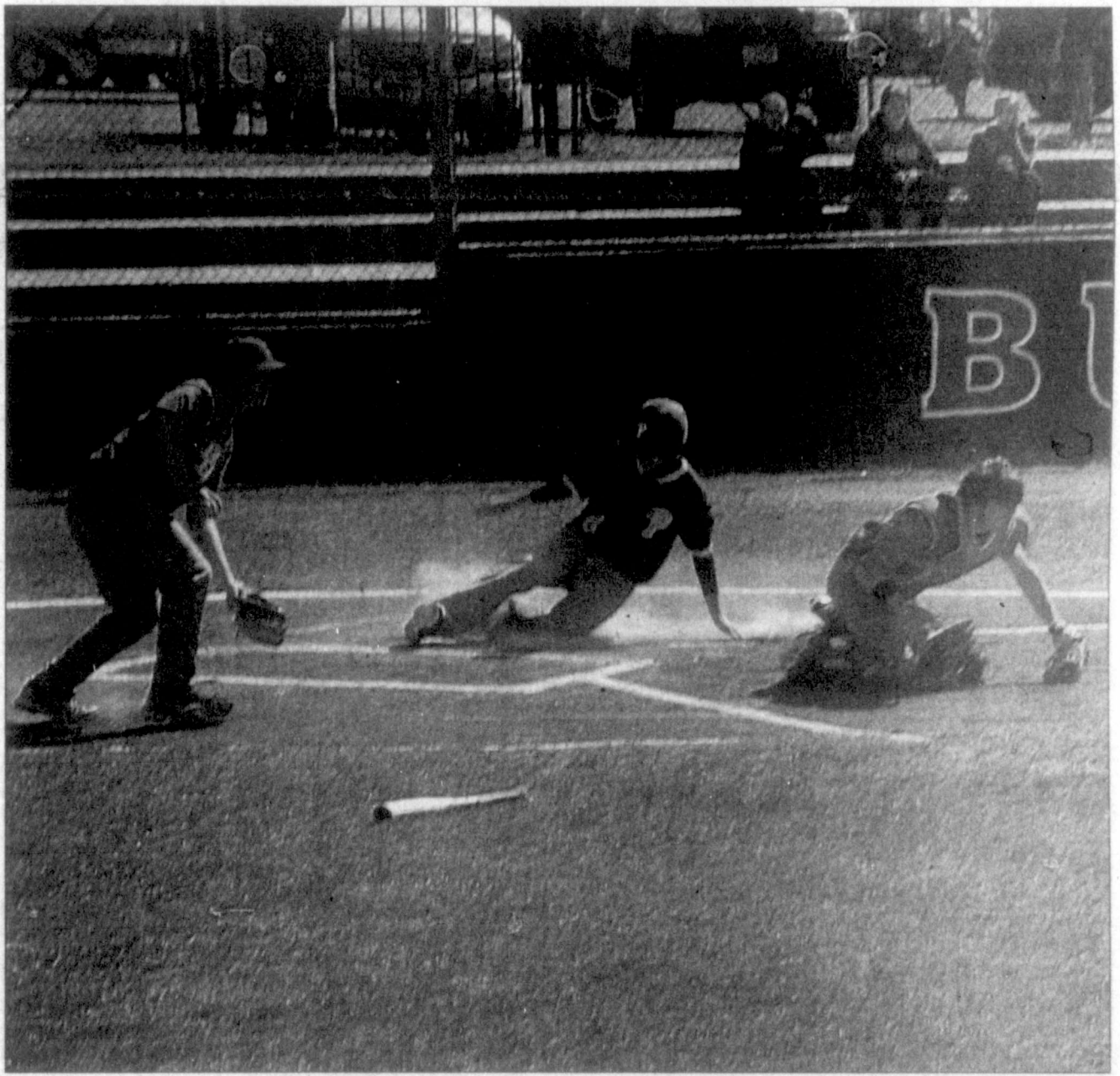
MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com

To kick off Child Abuse Prevention Month, CASA of the High Plains has set up a display outside of United Supermarkets. With assistance from Students Against Destructive Decisions, the setup represents the 211 cases of child abuse and neglect last year in CASA's service area, which includes eight counties. The traveling display, in its fourth year, will stay at United for a week, and then move to CVS, the Gregory Kelly dentist office and the William S. Buck dentist office.

For 2011, counties in CASA's service area had a slight decrease in cases of child abuse and neglect, from 245 in

CASA cont. on page 3A

OFF TO THE RACES



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Junior Taylor Woods slides home to notch a run for the Pampa Harvesters in their 8-3 victory against district rival Borger. The win put Pampa in first place in the district and solidified a sweep in the "Kentucky Derby," coach Kaleb Snelgrooves' term for the first three games of district play. Full story in **SPORTS**, page 1B.

Two arrested by Sheriff's Office for marijuana possession

MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com

A midweek traffic stop ended in two Gray County Sheriff's Office arrests for possession after a search revealed over 10 pounds of marijuana in the vehicle.

Around 12:30 a.m. on Wednesday, deputies conducted a traffic stop on the 114 mile marker of I-40. During the traffic stop, deputies observed nervous behavior from the driver, and requested assistance from the Wheeler County Sheriff's Office, which

brought a K-9 dog to the scene.

A search of the vehicle yielded 13 pounds of high grade marijuana and a handgun.

The occupants of the vehicle, Ryan Neal Richardson, 30, of Dayton, Ohio, and Jason Free Lopez, 35, of Independence, Kentucky, were transported to Gray County Jail and charged with possession of marijuana over five pounds but less than 50 pounds and unlawfully carrying a handgun.

Both men were released on bonds totaling \$12,000.



Lopez



Richardson

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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Friday	Saturday
		
High 73 Low 47	High 77 Low 52	High 67 Low 44

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 73. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 47. Southeast wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. Breezy, with a south southeast wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52. Breezy, with a south southeast wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 67. North northwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 44. East northeast wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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PAMPA NEWS office will close at noon Fri. Apr. 6th and there will be a Fri newspaper. We'll be open Mon. Apr. 9th, 8am. Happy Easter!!

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Randall Pribble

Publisher

rpribble@thepampanews.com

ReDonn Woods

Advertising Manager

woods@thepampanews.com

Bernie Frazier

Advertising Representative

bfrazier@thepampanews.com

Beverly Taylor

Classified Advertising

classified@thepampanews.com

Marijane Kent

Composing

composing@thepampanews.com

Carrie Hair

Accounting

bookkeeper@thepampanews.com

Sue Pribble

Subscription Manager

spribble@thepampanews.com

Arnie Aurellano

Editor

editor@thepampanews.com

Mollie Bryant

Reporter

mbryant@thepampanews.com

Andrew Glover

Reporter

aglover@thepampanews.com

Holley Bimson

Composing

composing2@thepampanews.com

Marcus Elkins

Press Supervisor

press@thepampanews.com

Chico Ramirez

Circulation Manager

circulation2@thepampanews.com

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TPA

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Texans sift through tornado rubble

FORNEY (AP) — As a twister bore down on her neighborhood, Sherry Enochs grabbed the three young children in her home and hid in her bathtub. The winds swirled and snatched away two of the children. Her home collapsed around her.

Miraculously, no one was seriously hurt.

Enochs, 53, stood Wednesday amid the wreckage of what was once her home in the North Texas city of Forney, among the hardest hit by a series of tornadoes that barreled through one of the nation's largest metropolitan areas a day earlier. No one was reported dead, and of the more than 20 injured, only a handful were seriously hurt.

"If you really think about it, the fact that everybody who woke up in Forney yesterday is alive today in Forney, that's a real blessing," Mayor Darren Rozell said.

The National Weather Service is investigating the damage caused by the tornadoes, which appeared to flatten some homes and graze others next door. The twisters jumped from place to place, passing many heavily populated areas overhead and perhaps limiting what could have been a more damaging, deadly storm. Most of Dallas was spared the full wrath of the storms.

While tornadoes can strike major cities, having two major systems strike a single metropolitan area is highly unusual, meteorologist Jesse Moore said. The Texas twisters would have done more damage had they stayed on the ground for more of the storms' path. But weather experts and officials credited the quick response to tornado warnings for preventing deaths or more injuries.

In the Diamond Creek subdivision where Enochs' home was destroyed, residents put on work gloves Wednesday and began cleaning up. Many noticed things in their front yards that didn't belong to them.

Enochs doesn't have a clear memory of exactly how things happened Tuesday, but she was found holding her grandson in the bathtub, which had blown into the area where her garage once was. A 3-year-old she was watching was found wandering around the backyard. A neighbor pulled another child Enochs had been taking care of, 19-month-old Abigail Jones, from the rubble.

"I heard the rumbling from the tornado and I didn't even hear the house fall," Enochs said.

Abigail was taken to the hospital but released. The blonde, smiling child with bows in her hair was bruised on her cheek and forehead, but not seriously hurt. Her mother, Misty Jones, brought her back Wednesday to see what had happened.

Seven people were injured in Forney, none seriously. An additional 10 people were hurt in Lancaster, south of Dallas, and three people in Arlington, west of Dallas.

National Weather Service crews in Forney, east

of Dallas, spotted storm damage that suggested the twister there was an EF3, with wind speeds as high as 165 mph. Other tornadoes in Arlington and Lancaster appear to have been EF2 tornadoes, with wind speeds up to 135 mph. Tornadoes can range from EF0, the weakest, to EF5, the strongest. An EF2 or higher is considered a significant tornado.

A twister can hit one spot and continue for miles before touching down again, Moore said. It's difficult to explain why a tornado touches down when it does.

"It can destroy one house and the one across the street is fine. It can go back up for a mile or two and drop back down," Moore said. "That's all the crazy things that can happen with tornadoes."

Randy McKeever and his wife and several of their friends sorted through what was left of their house Wednesday. Their roof was completely gone. The front yard was littered with shingles and pieces of wood. Inside was a jumble of belongings. McKeever, 47, wore work gloves as he tried to find anything that could be salvaged.

"There's a bunch of stuff in there that's not even ours," he said.

Stunning video from Dallas showed big-rig trailers tossed into the air and spiraling like footballs. An entire wing of an Arlington nursing home crumbled. In Lancaster, dozens of young children cowered in the safe room of a day care near a local church. The storm pulled one of the walls back "like you were peeling an orange," day care director Danita Harris said.

The students were moved further indoors and rode out the rest of the storm safely, she said.

"Not one Band-Aid had to be applied," Harris said.

Hundreds of flights into and out of Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and Dallas Love Field were canceled or diverted elsewhere Tuesday. American Airlines, which operates most flights at the airport, said it canceled more than 400 flights Wednesday after stopping about 800 Tuesday. An airport spokesman said more than 110 planes were damaged by hail.

April is typically the worst month in a tornado season that stretches from March to June, but Tuesday's outburst suggests that "we're on pace to be above normal," said National Weather Service meteorologist Matt Bishop.

Gov. Rick Perry plans an aerial tour of the damage on Thursday.

Obituaries

Sue Reames, 81

CANADIAN — Special services for Sue Reames, 81, of Canadian, TX will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday, April 6, 2012 at Hughs Funeral Home Memorial Chapel with Dr. Dean English, officiating. Burial will follow in the Washita Cemetery in Hemphill County under the direction of Hughs Funeral Home of Canadian, TX.

Sue passed away Sunday, April 1, 2012 in Canadian, TX.

Sue was born January 8, 1931 in Canadian, TX to the late Mr. Ruben Ballard and Mrs. Sudie (McDaniels) Ballard. She attended schools in Canadian. She married Wink Reames on July 2, 1946 in Wheeler County. He preceded her in death on June 9, 1981. They moved to Pampa, TX in 1955 from Hemphill County and then moved back to the family farm in 1970 where she has been a resident of ever since. She worked as a certified nursing aid from 1984 until retiring in 2004. She was a member of the First Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by one sister, Marjorie Trask.

She is survived by two sons, Eddie Reames and wife Betty of Pampa, TX; Gerald Reames and wife Dawn of Guthrie, OK; three daughters, Winford "Sue Ratliff" of Canadian, TX; Jo Ann Witcher of Pampa, TX; Sheila Light of Canadian, TX; 15 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

You may send condolences online at www.hughsfuneralhome.com.



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Good Friday Grace
Friday, April 6, 7:00 pm

Son Rise Service
Sunday, April 8, 6:30 am

Easter Sunday Service
Sunday, April 8, 10:50 am

Rev. Dr. Jeff Knighton—Senior Minister



MORNINGRUSH

NOV acquires company

HOUSTON (AP) — National-Oilwell Varco, Inc. said Wednesday it has completed its \$670 million acquisition of a Danish pipe product maker.

Houston-based National-Oilwell announced the deal for NKT Flexibles I/S in February.

The Danish company, which recently signed a supply contract with Brazilian oil company Petrobras, is expected to expand National-Oilwell's offshore oil and gas drilling business.

Shares of National Oilwell fell \$2.02, or 2.5 percent, to \$78.65 in midday trading amid a broad market selloff. They have traded in a 52-week range of \$47.97 to \$87.72.

Water decision opposed

HOUSTON (AP) — Texas officials are opposing a federal commission's decision to give Mexico water from the Rio Grande despite a historic drought that has severely depleted Texas water resources.

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Commissioner Carlos Rubinstein say they're challenging

a decision by the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) to give Mexico water. They said Wednesday that they're asking President Barack Obama to intervene.

The worst one-year drought in Texas history has caused more than \$7 billion in losses to the agricultural industry. Some reservoirs are barely half full, and the state has the smallest herd of cattle since the 1950s.

The statement says the commission's decision harms Texas' drought plans, wastes water and "sets a dangerous precedent of catering to Mexico's demands for water."

Tornado was EF3

ARLINGTON (AP) — Preliminary findings indicate one of the tornadoes that struck North Texas had wind gusts ranging from 136 to 165 mph.

National Weather Service meteorologist Jesse Moore said Wednesday that a twister a day earlier in Forney, about 20 miles east of Dallas, appears to have registered as an EF3. That's two categories shy of the strongest.

Moore said tornadoes in Lancaster and Arlington appeared to be EF2 twisters.

CASA

cont. from page 1A

2010. Gray County had the highest number of confirmed victims, 121, while Gray and Donley Counties had the highest rate of child abuse per 1000 children.

"Donley County and Gray County have always been our two highest counties, and this year is the first year that we've been keeping the statistics that that number has changed," said Janet Watts, Executive Director of CASA. "Gray County has always been the highest. We were at 33 percent last year, so to drop to 23.4 was a decrease for us, and Donley County was at 25 (percent), and they went up to 32 (percent)."

Watts said the statistics changes resulted from a number of things, like better reporting of child abuse and experienced CPS investigators. However, risk factors associated with child abuse and neglect have become more prevalent.

"I think last year, Texas really started feeling the economic crunch, and that affects our numbers quite a bit, because we see the neglect cases going up quite a bit when the economy is harder," said Watts. "Unfortunately, we're seeing another increase, though, in the parents having drug addiction issues. We were seeing a leveling off and even a slight decline in that, but we're beginning to see that's an issue in a lot of our cases again that are coming in."

Watts said that the blue shirts display works well as a conversation starter with parents and their kids, while reminding people that child abuse occurs.

"That's one of those things that we'd rather not have to acknowledge, but we have to acknowledge it happens in our communities, and the more people are aware of it, and the more that it's talked about, the more protected our kids are," she said.

That desire to create awareness sums up the efforts of Child Abuse Prevention Month, which will have its first event on National Go Blue Day on April 11, when people are encouraged to wear blue in support of child abuse and neglect victims. On that day, the Gray County Child Welfare Board and CASA will hand out blue wristbands to all Pampa

Independent School District Students that say "Keep kids safe," on one side, with the 1-800 number to report child abuse on the other side.

"Our purpose in that is for kids to understand at an early age what child abuse and neglect is, and there may be some kids that may be in abusive situations that they don't even realize they're in," said Watts. "Sometimes, we find that when we do education like this, kids realize, Hey, what's going on in my home is not the way it should be. The other thing is to raise awareness. When those kids come home with that bracelet on their arm, their parents are going to say, What's that bracelet about? Then again, that starts a conversation with the parents about child abuse and neglect."

On April 12 at 6:30 p.m., CASA, SADD, National Honor Society and other organizations will sponsor two events at Pampa High School to raise awareness of child abuse and neglect. Shine the Light, an informational event focused on junior high and high school students, will take place in the commons, with games, door prizes and opportunities for kids to hear a speaker who is a former foster youth.

At the same time, a video called "The Little Voice" will be screened in the library. The video, which features a victim of child abuse, a judge and CPS workers, discusses the duty to report child abuse and neglect.

"We're really encouraging school faculty to come

to that, but it's also open to the community, and we're going to have door prizes for people who come to that also," said Watts.

"Those are two of the things we're doing to really increase understanding of the existence of child abuse and neglect and everybody's responsibility as a citizen to report any suspicious of child abuse and neglect," she added.

Aside from raising awareness of child abuse and neglect, the video in particular encourages people to be sure to report abusive situations.

"We tell people all the time that this is one of those instances where it's ok to be wrong," said Watts. "If you think maybe something's there, but you don't really know, it's better to call and be wrong than not call and have been right."

The final event for the month, Blue Sunday, will take place on April 29, when CASA recognizes victims of child abuse and neglect, as well as people who make a difference in their lives. At 2 p.m. at the Pampa High School track, the group will hold a balloon release.

"We'll release 211 balloons, one for every one of the victims that were confirmed victims in our area for last year, and then we'll release two white balloons, one for each child that died as a result of child abuse and neglect, and then we will honor people like the fire department and police department and CPS workers and those that intervene in those children's lives to rescue them," said Watts.

'Til death do us part with dogs

Dog Talk with Uncle Matty



MATTHEW "UNCLE MATTY" MARGOLIS
Creator's Syndicate

They dream in courtship, but in wedlock wake. — Alexander Pope

Some days it feels as if my 40 years of working with dogs have earned me professional competency in the field of couples counseling. This was especially true this week, when I took a call from a man whose first words to me were: Ya gotta save my marriage.

He and his wife, newlyweds, are just back from their honeymoon. As the next logical step in building a life together, he is in the process of moving into her home, soon to be their home. Along with his wardrobe, toiletries, favorite furnishings and beloved doodads, he will bring his dogs: Two 5-year-old Pomeranian mixes who have been spoiled, indulged and appeared as a matter of day-to-day life.

The problem? She doesn't like dogs.

While one might question the wisdom of the "marry first, get to know each other later" school of thought for those willing to agree to such daunting terms as "'til death do us part," my years of experience as a marriage and family counselor, ahem, dog trainer, suggested something else was going on.

In talking with the two of them together, a far less insidious truth was revealed. It isn't that she doesn't like dogs. Period. It's that she doesn't like the behavior of dogs, generally, and of these dogs, particularly. An entirely different beast...

In his bachelor days, this man enjoyed sleeping with his dogs at night, cuddling with them on the sofa, sitting with them on his lap, and romping and roughhousing with them in his home. Were he insistent on bringing these rituals untamed

into his marriage, he'd find himself divorced and for reasons on par with those of Woody Allen, who once said, "Basically, my wife was immature. I'd be at home in the bath, and she'd come in and sink my boats."

Marriage doesn't have to mean the end of all that, but it does call for boundaries and compromise.

Generally speaking, dogs are malleable both in behavior and in preference. Princess Pomeranians accustomed to the master bed can be guided toward the use of dog beds and trained to respect boundaries. The great majority of domesticated dog behaviors, by which this dog lover's bride is so repelled, are in actuality the reflection of human preference.

In this case, the prognosis is good because their marital preferences are aligned: Both husband and wife prefer to share a bed, and with each other. Concerned about the implications for his dogs, he asked whether they'd feel bad about being relegated to another sleeping space. My answer: No. They'll learn, and they'll be fine.

Today, with people remaining single longer, with more people living alone and with more people sharing space with dogs, a blending of homes often requires the help of a professional dog trainer. This version -- two dogs who live together moving into a non-dog home -- is one of the easiest. Dog people moving in with cat people; two head-of-household dogs suddenly under one roof; multiple dogs horning in on an "only dog" household... Those are tougher.

While he has been permissive over the years, and she isn't fond of the dogs' behavior, these two have two things going for them: They're open to training, and they're open to change. And because of this, they will wake in wedlock and live the dream.

Woof!

Dog trainer Matthew "Uncle Matty" Margolis is co-author of 18 books about dogs, a behaviorist, a popular radio and television guest, and host of the PBS series "WOOF! It's a Dog's Life!"

Have stock questions? Let's Talk.



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Sun 2:00 4:30 7:30
Mon/Thur 7:30

The Hunger Games
(PG-13)
Fri 7:00 10:00
Sat 2:00 7:00 10:00
Sun 2:00 7:00
Mon/Thur 7:00

Mirror Mirror (PG)
Fri 7:00 9:30
Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00
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21 Jump Street (R)
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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Thursday, April 5, the 96th day of 2012. There are 270 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 5, 1862, during the Civil War, the monthlong Siege of Yorktown began in Virginia. (Because the Union commander, Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan, overestimated the enemy's strength and insisted on preparations for a full-scale assault, the Confederate defenders were finally able to slip away and head toward Williamsburg.)

On this date:

In 1614, Pocahontas, daughter of the leader of the Powhatan tribe, married English colonist John Rolfe in Virginia. (A convert to Christianity, she went by the name Lady Rebecca.)

In 1621, the Mayflower sailed from Plymouth Colony in present-day Massachusetts on a month-long return trip to England.

In 1792, President George Washington cast his first veto, rejecting a congressional measure for apportioning representatives among the states.

In 1887, in Tusculum, Ala., Anne Sullivan achieved a breakthrough as her blind and deaf pupil, Helen Keller, learned the meaning of the word "water" as spelled out in the Manual Alphabet.

In 1895, Oscar Wilde lost his criminal libel case against the Marquess of Queensberry, who'd accused the writer of homosexual practices.

In 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an executive order creating the Civilian Conservation Corps and naming its director, Robert Fechner.

In 1951, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were sentenced to death following their conviction in New York on charges of conspiring to commit espionage for the Soviet Union.

In 1964, Army General Douglas MacArthur died in Washington at age 84.

In 1976, reclusive billionaire Howard Hughes died in Houston at age 70.

In 1986, two American servicemen and a Turkish woman were killed in the bombing of a West Berlin discotheque, an incident which prompted a U.S. air raid on Libya more than a week later.

In 1987, Fox Broadcasting Co. made its prime-time TV debut by airing the premiere episodes of "Married... with Children" and "The Tracey Ullman Show" three times each.

In 1988, a 15-day hijacking ordeal began as gunmen forced a Kuwait Airways jumbo jet to land in Iran.

Ten years ago: U.S. mediator Anthony Zinni met with Yasser Arafat at the Palestinian leader's besieged West Bank headquarters on the bloodiest day of fighting since the beginning of Israel's week-old military offensive. The coffin of The Queen Mother Elizabeth was carried on a gun carriage through the streets of London to lie in state at Westminster Hall.

Five years ago: Fifteen Royal Navy crew members freed by Iran enjoyed their first night on English soil. A Greek cruise ship, the Sea Diamond, sank off an Aegean Sea island, forcing the evacuation of nearly 1,600 people; two French tourists went missing and were presumed to have drowned. FBI Special Agent Barry Lee Bush was accidentally shot and killed by a fellow agent as a stakeout team closed in on three suspected bank robbers in Readington, N.J. Darryl Stingley, a former New England Patriots player paralyzed during an on-field collision in 1978, died in Chicago at age 55.

One year ago: Ivory Coast's strongman leader, Laurent Gbagbo, remained holed up in a bunker inside the presidential residence, defiantly maintaining he'd won an election four months earlier even as troops backing the internationally recognized winner encircled the home. (Gbagbo was arrested six days later.) Texas A&M won its first national women's basketball championship with a 76-70 victory over Notre Dame.

Today's Birthdays: Movie producer Roger Corman is 86. Country music producer Cowboy Jack Clement is 81. Former Secretary of State Colin Powell is 75. Country singer Tommy Cash is 72. Actor Michael Moriarty is 71. Pop singer Allan Clarke (The Hollies) is 70. Writer-director Peter Greenaway is 70. Actor Max Gail is 69. Actress Jane Asher is 66. Singer Agnetha Faltskog (ABBA) is 62. Actor Mitch Pileggi is 60. Singer-songwriter Peter Case is 58. Rock musician Mike McCready (Pearl Jam) is 46. Country singer Troy Gentry is 45. Singer Paula Cole is 44. Actress Krista Allen is 41. Country singer Pat Green is 40. Rapper-producer Pharrell Williams is 39.

Thought for Today: "Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men, even when they exercise influence and not authority, still more when you superadd the tendency or the certainty of corruption by authority." - Lord Acton, British historian (1834-1902), in a letter written on this date in 1887.



Wait, I thought this was a 'jobs' bill?

Hallelujah, Washington has finally heard the people's cries for jobs! In an urgent bipartisan push, Democrats and Republicans have joined hands across the aisle to pass the JOBS Act. In this time of "The Great Hurt" -- with widespread unemployment, middle-class incomes tumbling and the price of gasoline skyrocketing -- we can all applaud our stalwarts in the capital city for meeting the No. 1 need of America's hard-hit economy: deregulating Wall Street.

Huh? I thought this was a jobs bill?

We'll get to that, but first (as always) Wall Street bankers must be served. Yes, them. The same priests of unmitigated arrogance who caused the disastrous financial crash that continues to rumble across our land. The same Wall Streeters we bailed out with trillions of public dollars. That Wall Street is now sulking and skulking around the U.S. Capitol, insisting that it is an economic victim, held back from its profiteering potential by government regulations to protect the public from finaglers and fraudsters. "Free Wall Street," is their cry!

Clucking with sympathy, Congress' tea party Republicans have rushed to the side of these poor, rich financiers, pledging to unshackle them from "burdensome" regulations. Serving Wall Street is not all that popular these days with voters, however, so the Repubs and their Democratic allies have committed their own fraud in order to pass

this bill, deceptively titled it the "JOBS Act" (even though it doesn't actually create any jobs).

Then they pushed it in the name of small businesses (even though they quietly defined "small" as a billion dollars a year in sales). In fact, the accent on the JOBS acronym should be on "B.S." Will it surprise you to learn that the word "jobs" isn't even included in the title? Instead, JOBS stands for "Jump-start Our Business Start-ups."

Alarming, the so-called "onerous" regulations that Congress eliminated primarily are the extremely useful financial disclosure rules passed a decade ago to prevent another Enron scandal. The GOP House even tried to free financial hucksters from having to tell potential investors the names of the executives running the company and -- get this -- from providing such essential investor information as a description of what the company does and accurate accounting of its financial condition!

The last thing our economy needs is an open invitation for a new crop of Enroners to be unleashed to defraud the public -- but that's the first thing that Washington agreed to do. It's a disgrace.

While the law was rushed to passage without any public hearings in the name of hard-hit American work-



JIM HIGHTOWER

ers and small business, all of the benefits go to corporate and financial hucksters who begged Congress to roll back financial disclosure and anti-fraud rules that were designed to protect investors, consumers and taxpayers. It's just another "tinkle-down" economic scam written by and for Wall Street fraudsters. The law makes it easier for them to raise cash for their

new business schemes by deceiving investors about the risk of losses, the true financial condition of the enterprise and the amount of capital being raked off by executives.

"Free us from those pesky old regulations," demanded the hucksters, "and we'll attract speculators for corporate startups that (if they succeed and don't set up operations offshore) could possibly, someday create a few low-wage American jobs. But don't hold us to that job thing."

Sure enough, Washington's Wall Street-hugging politicians did not. Instead, they merrily passed a bill upping the likelihood of more financial swindles without even getting a promise from the swindlers that America will get some good jobs in return. The JOBS Act should be called the ROBS Act.

Jim Hightower is a nationally syndicated columnist.

Democrats: Do as we say, not as we vote

"Who killed the debt deal?" read The New York Times Magazine as it hyped its Sunday cover story as a "Washington whodunit."

Author Matt Bai explained that "some of Washington's most connected Democrats and Republicans" didn't know whose story to believe or what had been on the table after last summer's "grand bargain" deficit reduction negotiations between President Barack Obama and House Speaker John Boehner crumbled.

It's hard to understand how Bai and all those savvy insiders couldn't figure out how the budget talks collapsed. The New York Times reported on their demise in July. Boehner and Obama were working on a 10-year, \$3 trillion deficit reduction package that included \$800 billion in new revenue. Obama then piled on another \$400 billion. Boehner walked. No mystery.

There's no whodunit, only a howdoweexplainit.

Boehner threw the White House off its game by reasonably agreeing to \$800 billion in additional revenue through the elimination of deductions and loopholes. Oops.

When members of the Senate's "Gang of Six" -- a bipartisan posse determined to cut the national debt

-- announced a proposal to raise revenue by \$2 trillion, Obama talked up the gang's proposal. Bad idea. In so doing, Obama made the \$800 billion Boehner deal look too puny to tax-happy Democrats. He torched a potato that already may have been too hot for the GOP Biggie to handle.

When the deal fell apart, Obama held a news conference to rail at House Republicans. "Can they say yes to anything?" said the president, with no sense of irony.

The New York Times editorialized, "Republicans killed an overly generous deal largely over a paltry \$400 billion."

Bai wrote on the impossible hole into which Obama had dug himself. How could Obama ask Democratic leaders to go for a deal with \$800 billion in new revenue when GOP senators applauded the Gang of Six's \$2 trillion trial balloon?

There was no vote on the Gang of Six package, no bill -- only a memo, lip service and self-congratulation. That was all it took to nudge Obama off his game.

Last week, the House killed the Obama 2013 budget bill in a 414-0 vote. Not even House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi voted for it. Spokesman Drew Hammill explained



DEBRA J. SAUNDERS

that a GOP member had put Obama budget language in his own bill to stage "a gimmick vote that the Republican leadership engineered." That is, the GOP arranged the vote to embarrass Democrats, who didn't want to vote for spending cuts or tax increases.

Last May, the Senate killed the Obama 2012 budget in a 97-0 vote.

Bai concluded that though it seems "counterintuitive," if re-elected, Obama probably could do a better job of tackling the deficit than Mitt Romney.

Boehner spokesman Michael Steel was having none of it. The spending plan written by House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan -- which the House passed 228-191 last week even though it presents political pain -- is, said Steel, the only "responsible budget in Washington right now."

Boehner already saw Obama walk away from a deal. If the president didn't have to worry about winning re-election, would he be more courageous or more outrageous?

Debra J. Saunders writes for the San Francisco Chronicle and is a nationally syndicated columnist.

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Some Hispanics want to share more about background

Survey reports majority prefers identify themselves by origin rather than as 'Hispanics' or 'Latinos'

WASHINGTON (AP) — A majority of Hispanics prefer to identify themselves according to their families' countries of origin, rather than by the government's suggested terms "Hispanic" or "Latino," Pew Hispanic Center reported Wednesday.

The description preferred by 51 percent of Hispanics is Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or other culture they are tied to through family or ancestry. About a quarter surveyed said they identify as Latino or Hispanic first and a fifth said they tend to say American, according to Pew's survey. About 50 million people in the U.S. are Hispanic.

Although Latinos have long maintained they are not a monolithic group, the complexity of Hispanic identity has drawn renewed interest in the United States recently in the aftermath of the fatal shooting of Trayvon Martin, a black teenager, by George Zimmerman, whose father is white and mother is Hispanic, of Peruvian ancestry.

Police and early media reports described Zimmerman as white, but his father has defended his son against allegations of racial profiling by describing him as a

"Spanish-speaking minority."

Whites, blacks and Asian Americans are all considered a racial group. Hispanics are an ethnic group, which means although they share a common language, culture and heritage, they do not share a common race. They can be black, white, Asian, American-Indian, or descended from original peoples of a place colonized by Spain and a few others.

Some 18 million Latinos checked "some other race" when they were asked to pick a race on census forms and were told Hispanic is not a race. But so many Latinos identified themselves as white, the overall number of white people in the U.S. increased.

In Pew's survey, more than a third said they were white, and half said they were "some other race" or volunteered Hispanic or Latino.

The term Hispanic was first officially used by the federal government in the 1970 Census.

Ilan Stavans, an Amherst College professor of Latino culture, said the findings suggest a journey back in time is happening among the population. Identifying by

country of origin or lineage tended to be the preferred description in the 1950s as well, said Stavans, author of "What Is la Hispanidad?" Identifying as Latino or Hispanic arose within the community and among non-Hispanics with the and 1960s and 1970s civil rights movement and took hold in the early '80s, giving strength to the idea that Latinos were "a sum, more than parts," he said.

"It seems to me that the whole identity of George Zimmerman is really an expression how modern individual American identity has all these many facets. If I were to say where he belongs, I'd say he belongs right at the center of where America is today," said Stavans, who was born in Mexico to a Jewish, Eastern European family.

The Pew Hispanic Center survey is based on interviews by cell phone and landline of 1,220 Latino adults from across the country during the period of Nov. 9 through Dec. 7, 2011. The error rate is plus or minus 3.6 percentage points.

Study: Quarter of Texas children live in poverty

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas has the second-highest birth rate in the nation and more than 25 percent of those children live in poverty, according to the annual Kids Count survey released Thursday.

The number of children in Texas rose by nearly 1 million between 2000 and 2010, and accounted for more than half of the U.S. child population growth. But 39 percent of Texas mothers received no, or very late, prenatal care and the percentage of babies born underweight jumped 13 percent during that same period, according to the Texas survey, conducted every year by the Austin-based Center for Public Policy Priorities and funded by Methodist Healthcare Ministries and the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

The nonprofit and nonpartisan organizations advocate for solutions to poverty and health care problems. The report pulls together state and federal demographic and public health data.

The Kids Count study also reported that the number of children without health insurance dropped from 20.8 percent in 2006 to only 16.9 percent in 2009, the latest year data was available. But that still means 1.2 million Texas children have no form of health insurance. More than 96 percent of Texas children are

U.S. citizens.

The high school drop-out rate also decreased from 40 percent in 2001 to 27 percent in 2011, marking a major improvement in Texas. But the report noted the Texas Legislature cut funding for programs designed to reduce drop-outs last year, when lawmakers cut \$27 billion in state services to balance the budget.

The report's authors said they hope the data will inform policymakers about how to spend taxpayer money.

"After a \$5.3 billion dollar cut to education, a 66 percent cut to the Family Planning Program, and cuts to child abuse prevention, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program provider rates, and children with special health care needs — to name a few — children were not our top priority," said Francis Deviney, the director of the survey. "It's time we learn from our past choices, positive and negative, so that we can shape a different story for our future."

Conservative Republicans, who hold every statewide office and control the Legislature, have said the government cannot solve these problems, and insist they maintained funding for key safety net programs. They argue that economic

growth in the private sector will lead to better jobs and less poverty.

The economic status of a child's family remained the leading indicator of health and education problems, the study said. Children from poor families were 53 percent more likely to be obese. Forty-percent percent of children without health insurance were considered unhealthy, compared with 10 percent of those covered by private insurance. There was also a 12 percent gap in standardized test scores between poor children and those in middle and upper-class families.

Black and Hispanic children in Texas are three times more likely to live in poverty than whites and Asians, the study found. This comes as the number of Hispanic children rose 39 percent, the number of blacks by 11 percent and the number of whites dropped 7 percent. The fastest growing population was Asians, up 66 percent.


"Our policy choices reflect our priorities and what we choose to invest in for the future," the report concluded. "After devastating cuts last legislative session, our future returns may be quite small."

'Pink slime' to be labeled?

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Some beef processors plan on labeling beef containing the meat product known as "pink slime" in hope that doing so will help restore consumer confidence.


The USDA says it has received applications for such labeling for the first time and plans on granting approval after it checks labels for accuracy. Some processors who provide the ammonia-treated trimmings plan to identify ground beef containing the product with a label that says: "Contains Lean Finely Textured Beef" or a similar statement.

"Several companies have chosen to voluntarily pursue a new claim on their product labels that will allow them to clarify the use of lean finely textured beef," spokesman Aaron Lavallee said. "USDA has received this type of application for the first time through the normal label approval process and the department has determined that such requests will be approved."



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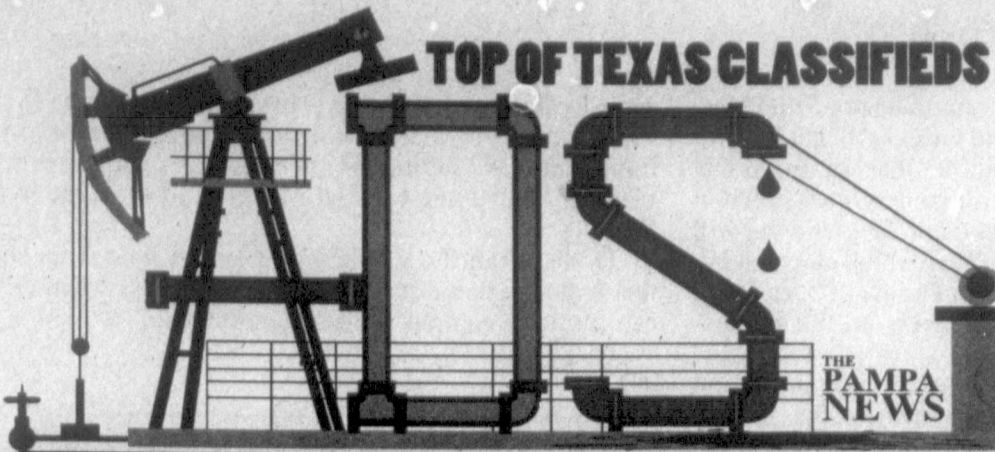
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 B-96 Apr. 5, 2012

Public Notice
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Griggs

cont. from page 1A

we have scheduled.”

Regarding the average attendance, Griggs said that it's actually a fairly good sign, adding that large crowds at previous profile meetings in other communities have indicated particular criticism over how the school district is run.

“We find that as we go to communities and conduct these meetings, if we have a heavy turnout, then there is a concern in that school district from the patrons about some issue,” Griggs said. “The average attendance here would be a reflection of the same.”

Since no such singular problem exists, Griggs said, the task at hand is about isolating specific attributes that Pampa wants in the next person to preside over its school system.

“We're simply attempting to get traits and characteristics that this population desires in their next leader (of the school district),” Griggs said. “We're trying to establish the personalities that exist in the Pampa ISD. If we can ascertain the personality of this school district, then we can go out and recruit individuals that will fit that personality.”

The meetings have been productive so far, Griggs said.

“They've given us a good insight into what the men-

tality is as far as the citizens' and educators' thoughts and desires for Pampa ISD,” said Griggs. “(That insight) is critical. It's the heart and soul of what we do, in that from all of the comments that we have written down in all these meetings, we will take them back and we will ferret through that information. We will develop a document that we refer to as a profile of Pampa ISD, and then we will utilize that document screening all the applications that we receive.”

“We'll pull out of that profile 10 to 15 individuals, and then we'll invite those individuals to the office in Fort Worth. We'll interview them, and when we finish with the interviews, we'll look at the profile again and see which candidate fits that profile.”

Because the profile has not yet been completed, Griggs declined to share any particular trends from the meetings as of yet. He did, however, give a timeline for the process of hiring the PISD's new superintendent.

“We are closing the application deadline on May 11,” Griggs said. “At that time, my partner and I will go through all the applications that we have had, then go through our interview process. We will attempt to come up with five individuals. The board has agreed that that is a good number. ... The board will be interviewing them (in an) extended interview. They will decide on

an individual they feel like is best suited to Pampa ISD. They will go to that school district to confirm everything that was said in that interview is true and correct, then they will come back on May 31 and name the lone finalist.

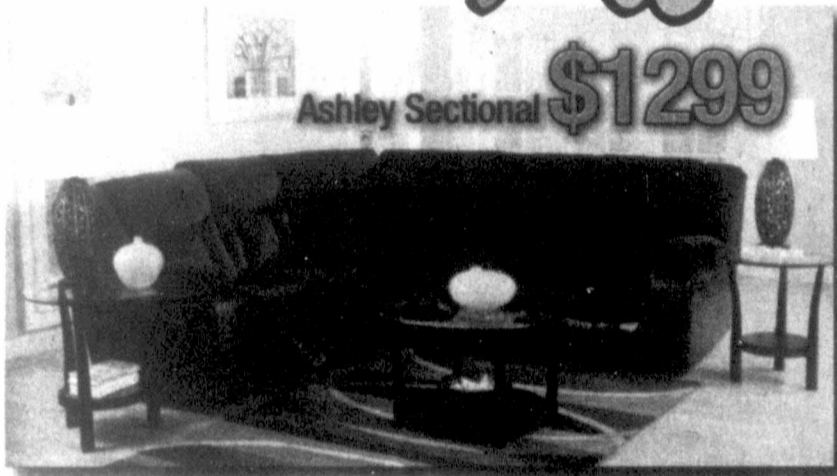
“That's when the whole world knows who it is, and that will also start a statutory clock of 21 days when they can formally contract with that individual.”



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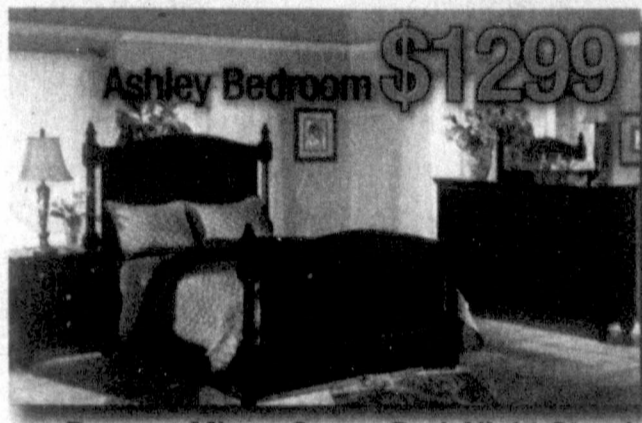
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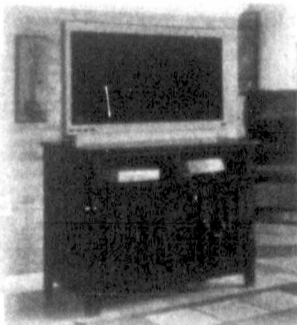


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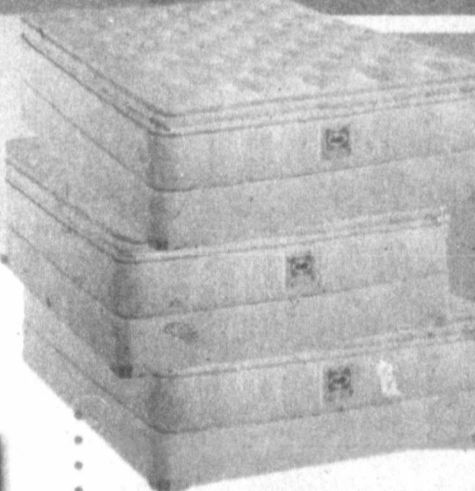
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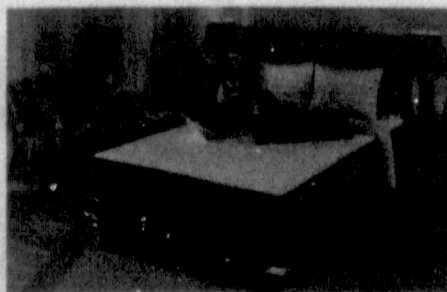
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Harvesters' small ball leads to victory over Borger

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The last time the Pampa Harvesters visited the Borger Bulldogs, they watched Borger celebrate a district title. At the end of Wednesday's game at Bulldog Field, it was the Harvesters celebrating after an 8-3 victory.

"Any time you win a district ballgame on the road, you've done something," head coach Kaleb Snelgrooes said. "To beat Borger here at their place is doing something. They are a good ball club. We put the ball in play and did some good things. I couldn't be more proud of our guys."

The victory was Pampa's first against Borger since 2010. The Bulldogs beat Pampa four times last season. Junior catcher Jordan Lemons said he was happy about the victory.

"It's undecidable," Lemons said. "We're on top of the world right now."

The Harvesters (7-10, 3-0) generated most of their offense using "small ball" tactics. Senior Devin Coleman and Lemons hit bunt singles. Seniors Jared Lusk and Zach Graves hit sacrifice bunts.

"We hit for power and bunted like crazy," Snelgrooes said. "I told you everyone in our lineup can bunt or hit a home run. Today we proved that and did a good job."

Pampa jumped out to a 3-0 lead and never looked back. Lemons hit a two-RBI single to left and advanced to second on the throw home. Lemons said the hit helped get the team's momentum going.

"It felt really good," Lemons said. "I got the ball to connect and knew it was a single at least. Then the runner on second saw it was deep enough for him to score and I went and took second too."

Coleman fell behind 1-2 but kept fouling off pitches to keep his at-bat going. On the 15th pitch, Coleman made it pay

off with a double to left field. The senior outfielder said the at-bat was frustrating at first.

"You get annoyed after the fourth one," Coleman said. "Just got to keep fighting and keep your at-bat."

Junior James Thompson started, pitching in his first game since March 17. Thompson kept a Borger lineup that put up 13 runs on Saturday against Perryton in check allowing just two hits in five innings. Thompson only gave up six hits, all of them singles in seven innings.

"We got three great pitchers in our rotation," Snelgrooes said. "We got three great guys. James hasn't been on the mound, so he's on plenty of rest. It's nice that Collin (Killgo) went a whole game. Ethan (Hunt) went a whole game and now James went a whole game. That's always good on your bullpen."

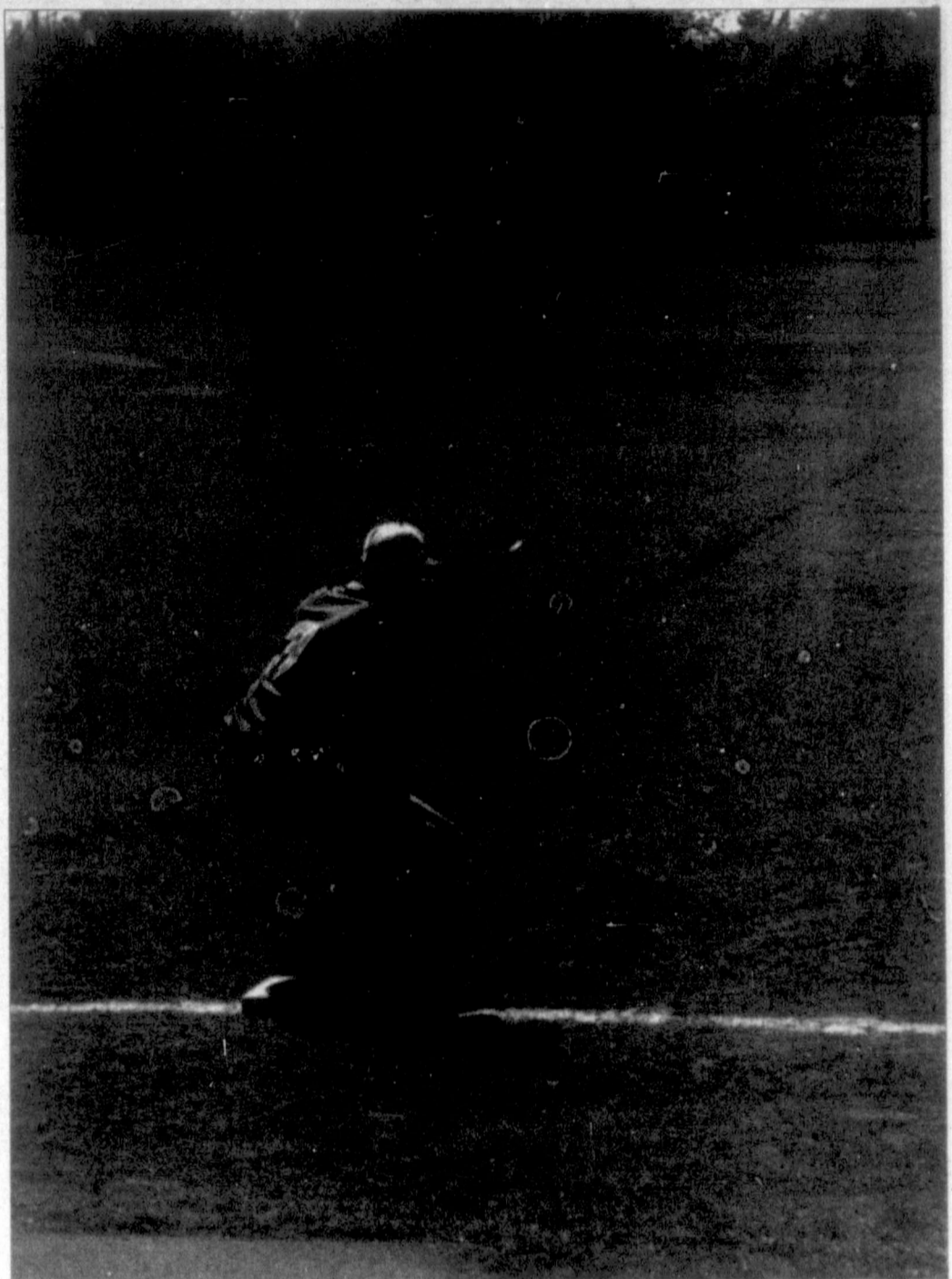
The Harvesters' defense was strong as it turned two double plays. Senior Cole Engle fielded a grounder and stepped on second before throwing to Killgo to complete the double play in the first. In the fifth, senior Trace Carter caught a fly ball and Borger's Tanner Gowdy left third before the ball was caught resulting in a double play.

Pampa also had some "highlight reel plays to end innings. Thompson dove for a ball in the second inning, got up and threw to first. Carter made a diving catch to end the third. Junior Chris Howard made a catch at the wall in left field to end the game.

The victory gives Pampa sole possession of first in District 1-3A. Snelgrooes and Coleman said that's a great place to be.

"I told them two out of three, I'm happy," Snelgrooes said. "Three out of three, I'm ecstatic."

"We are going to try and be undefeated the rest of the year," Coleman said.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Senior Collin Killgo catches a throw from senior Cole Engle to complete a double play in the first inning Wednesday against Borger. Pampa's defense made several plays behind Thompson to secure an 8-3 victory. The Harvesters are in first entering the second round of district.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Senior Jared Lusk lays down a bunt against Borger Wednesday. The Harvesters used "small ball" tactics to advance runners in order to score runs.

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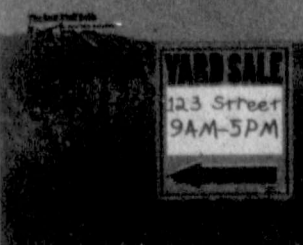
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Sports

O'Brien pitches a no-no in Pampa's win over Borger



ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

Pampa sophomore Alexa O'Brien has developed into a solid pitcher in her last several starts. Wednesday at Borger was no different as she threw her first career no-hitter in a 7-0 victory.

"Alexa threw well," head coach Bobbi Gill said.

O'Brien (7-3) struck out 12 for her fourth straight start of 10 or more strikeouts. The Lady Bulldogs only reached base on three errors and a walk.

Borger kept the Lady Harvesters off the scoreboard until the top of the fourth. Senior Alanna Stephens led off with a single. Senior McKinlee Stokes was hit by a pitch. After senior Heather Coffee

reached on a fielder's choice, sophomore Bailey Wichert hit a sacrifice bunt and reached on an error. Stokes scored on the play. Junior Martecia Alexander brought home Wichert and junior Francheska Bridwell on an error by the center fielder.

Junior Bailey Beck hit a two-RBI triple in the top of the sixth and scored on an error to put Pampa ahead 6-0. Gill said her team played well.

"I was proud of the girls for just gutting it out and putting runs on the board," Gill said. "It was just a good overall performance."

The Lady Harvesters (15-7, 4-0) visit Amarillo Tascosa at 5:30 p.m. today and resume district play on Friday, hosting Perryton at noon.



O'Brien



Gill



LEFT: Tiffany Britton scores in the sixth inning on a triple by Bailey Beck (not pictured). RIGHT: Senior Heather Coffee makes an out at first. The Lady Harvesters won 7-0 and improve to 4-0 in district.

photo courtesy of Don Rice/The Borger News Herald

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Sports

Fans welcome home Lady Bears after title victory

WACO, Texas (AP) — These are heady times at Baylor.

A few months ago, quarterback Robert Griffin III became Baylor's first Heisman Trophy winner. In March, the men's basketball team advanced to the NCAA round of 16 for the second time in three years. Together, those two teams won 40 games and lost 11 over this year.

Fundraising efforts are going gangbusters and applications to enroll are up.

And then there are the Lady Bears, Kim Mulkey's women's basketball team that just went 40-0 to win the program's second NCAA championship. Player of the year Brittney Griner led the way to an 80-61 rout Tuesday night against Notre Dame.

And all five starters are expected back next season.

Some 2,000 people turned out Wednesday at the Ferrell Center — Baylor's home arena, where the Lady Bears won 19 games this season and have gone 184-19 during Mulkey's 12

years at the school — to welcome the team back to Waco after its championship game win in Denver.

"You do not win championships with one player, two players," Mulkey told the crowd. "You need five, six, seven, eight people heading the same direction. I told them in the locker room after the game, many hours after the game when we were still there: 'Any one of you can go to another university and play 40 minutes a game and average double figures, but you would not have gotten this trophy right here.'"

"And I tell you what: You better get your tickets to New Orleans. See you next year."

Mulkey and her team made it clear from the start of the season that a national championship was their goal, and they seem to be saying the same thing for next season as well.

"I can't even think about next year, but we're going to be good," she said in a news conference after the public celebration. "The expectations are there. Had we not

won the national championship this year, the expectations would be there. And we're going to embrace it. We're going to do that very humbly, not arrogantly. We're going to do it with a sense of appreciation for what we did this year. We like the way it feels. We want to do it again."

Mulkey received a congratulatory phone call from President Barack Obama earlier Wednesday. The President picked the Lady Bears to win the national championship before the tournament started.

Not exactly a bold pick. Baylor was No. 1 from the start of the season to the finish.

Mulkey (coach of the year) and Griner led the way to this year's title. Griner, though she's the star of the Baylor squad and the face of women's college basketball right now, was quick to acknowledge that it was not a one-woman show.

"It definitely takes more than me to win a national championship. You can't do this by yourself," she said.

Baylor president Ken

Starr called the past several months "epic," ending with Tuesday's win.

"You combine that with men's basketball and 30 wins. And go back to football with the Heisman. Now we have the Wade Trophy, the Heisman of women's basketball. Are we thankful? Are we grateful?" he said.

As Mulkey stepped to the podium, she was rushed by several members of the Noze Brothers, an underground fraternity at Baylor. They made Mulkey, and all the members of the basketball team, honorary Noze Brothers and even asked Mulkey to autograph a football.

"She has very nice penmanship," one Noze brother said over the microphone.

All of Baylor's sports teams, men and women, have qualified for the post-season so far this academic year, and the 400-plus athletes on campus had a combined 3.16 GPA last fall. And before Griner grabbed the spotlight, it was Griffin on the gridiron last fall.

Griffin, who got his polit-

ical science degree in three years, set or tied 54 school records in 41 games and led the Bears to only the second 10-win season in their 112 years of football. They had never even had a winning record in the Big 12 before RG3 arrived with coach Art Briles, who was at Wednesday's celebration; Griffin was in Denver to cheer on the Lady Bears in person. He even helped cut down a net.

School officials have noted there were more than 40,000 applications for the upcoming fall semester for only about 3,000 freshman spots. That's up from 15,458 applicants for the Fall 2005 class, right after the Lady Bears won their first national title. More than \$250 million in new athletic and academic facilities have been added in the past decade, and another \$120 million in capital improvements are under way.

The Bear Foundation, the primary fundraising arm supporting the school's 19 athletic programs, contributed nearly \$7.7 million for scholarship support during

the 2010-11 academic year. It was the seventh consecutive year with a record total.

There are also plans for a new campus football stadium for the school of 15,000. The family of former Houston Astros owner Drayton McLane Jr., a 1958 Baylor grad and former regents chairman, recently gave the school the largest capital gift ever — more than \$20 million — for the stadium the school hopes to have for the 2014 season.

For now, Mulkey can celebrate and recover from her recent diagnosis of Bell's palsy, which can cause a partial facial paralysis. And she can take comfort in knowing she will have a strong team coming back. She recalled last year's loss to eventual national champion Texas A&M in the NCAA tournament.

"Last year, on that ride home from Dallas, Brittney Griner texted me, from the back of the bus to the front of the bus, 'Coach, we won't ever let you down again,'" she said.

And they haven't.

New NCAA rule forces players to make NBA decision faster

Testing the NBA waters seemingly has become a thing of the past for college players. These days, they're likely either in or out.

The reason: Players have less time to make a decision.

A new NCAA rule says players who entered the NBA draft early but want to return to school only have until next week to withdraw. That April 10 deadline is about a month earlier than before and 19 days before the NBA requires players to say they're entering early.

Not surprisingly, the NCAA and NBA are not on the same page.

The NCAA says the change keeps players focused on academics and gives coaches a measure of certainty for their rosters as they prepare for the next year.

NBA Commissioner David Stern isn't buying it.

His league says underclassmen have until April 29 to enter the draft and may withdraw from it by June 18 — more than two months later than the NCAA allows.

"I believe it makes it harder for the player, but that's a can that I don't want to open up other than to say that we would like to make it as easy for the players as possible," Stern said. "And if the NCAA would spend a little less time talking about whether players should stay in school for one year or two years and enforce their rules equally so that hockey players can talk to agents but basketball players can't?"

"I think, to me, the most

important thing is to get kids in college the most informed advice they can get without losing their eligibility," Stern added. "That's what they should be focusing on, and hopefully they'll get around to it because it seems fair and just."

Villanova coach Jay Wright says he's taking a wait-and-see approach this first year, pointing to former guard Kyle Lowry as an example of someone who benefited from the old system.

Lowry entered the 2006 draft pool early but didn't immediately hire an agent, didn't decide to stay in until nearly the last minute — and wound up being picked in the first round by Memphis.

"He was able to go through workouts, and by the end of the workouts, we were able to see he was going to be a first-round pick," Wright said. "Now, you've kind of just got to make your decision. You've got to base it based on what agents tell you and what kind of information we can get. But you don't really get to work yourself into a spot in the workouts. It's different. I don't know yet."

"I'm going to reserve judgment and see how it goes this year."

The rule, adopted last April and put into effect Aug. 1, is crafted so the deadline falls on the day before the start of the spring

signing period. In theory, that gives coaches who lose a player a chance to find a quality replacement.

In reality, many recruits talented enough to replace them already have settled on their schools by then. Only seven of the top 50 players rated by Rivals.com for 2012 have yet to sign their letters of intent.

The rule's impact might be strongest on the borderline players who in previous years could benefit from feedback from NBA teams before making decisions.

The past two years, the NCAA allowed early entrants until the second week in May to decide to return to school. That still gave them some time to explore their options: They could work out for pro teams, find out where they must improve and then come back to college.

Pittsburgh guard Tray Woodall says that's something he might have tried this spring, after a disappointing junior year in which he averaged 11.5 points but missed 11 games with a groin and abdominal injury while his team struggled. Because the rule change essentially removes that option, he says he's definitely returning to the

Panthers next year.

"Since the time period has been shortened, I'm not able to get the evaluation to see what I could possibly work on," Woodall said. "Especially playing in a tournament like (the CBI) because it ends so late and guys in the Final Four, they probably only got a couple days now. It's tough. You've just got to know if you're going or not now."

For those determined to enter the draft, the new rule isn't that big of a deal, Baylor coach Scott Drew said.

"I think for people coming out early, I mean, if you're not sure where you're going to go, why are you coming out?" Drew said. "Our philosophy is, when we know you're going to be a first-round and you have an idea where you're going to go, that's much different than somebody hoping to be a first-round pick."

North Carolina's Kendall Marshall is pegged as the top-point guard in the draft. His father, Dennis Marshall, said his son knew he had to be "100 percent sure" of his choice.

"If you want to go to the NBA, I think you have to know that and have to be confident in that," Dennis

Marshall said. "I don't like the idea of 'testing the waters' or guys taking a month to figure it out. I think it's something if you're going to do it, you have to know. You have to be confident, believe you can be good enough and handle it mentally."

And there's possible workarounds for the undecided: There's nothing to stop someone from saying next week that he's coming back to school — and then going pro two weeks later.

That's one reason Kentucky coach John Calipari — who won his first national championship

with a roster full of early-entry candidates — says he's only paying attention to one of the deadlines.

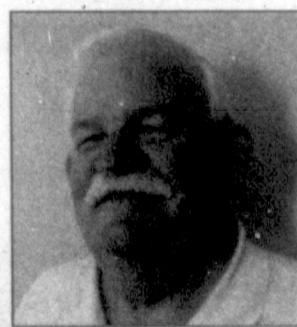
"We're not going to worry about the (NCAA) date. Our guys will tell me when they want to tell me," Calipari said. "They have until ... whenever the date is, to make a decision by the NBA standards. That's the only one we're going to think about."

"So if they want to wait to make a decision by the 27th when they have to by the NBA, that's when they'll make it. We're not even — I don't even know the other date, nor do I care."

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: "Robert" and I met four years ago and fell head-over-heels in love. At the time, he was two years clean and sober and attending meetings. Due to his hectic work schedule, he stopped attending the meetings.

Robert is intelligent, a hard worker, handsome and my best friend. He prided himself on his sobriety, so imagine my shock when I found an empty liquor bottle buried in the trash and three more under the bed. I never thought I'd see the day when he would relapse, but he has. I am devastated. I didn't know what to say to him or how to react, because I have never been down this road.

I told Robert I knew he was drinking again. I could barely hold back my tears because I knew what a huge personal setback this is for him. He said he didn't want to discuss it, so I didn't push.

What am I supposed to do when the man I love has relapsed? My heart aches for him. I'm trying to be supportive, but I am clueless. Please help. —

HELPLESS

DEAR HELPLESS: The first thing to do is recognize that this is Robert's problem, and only he can fix it. If you plan to stay involved with him, understand that it is not unusual for someone with a substance abuse problem to fall off the wagon from time to time.

The next thing you should do, and this is important, is find your nearest chapter of Al-Anon. It's an organization that was started by the wife of an alcoholic, and its sole purpose is to help the family and friends of alcoholics. The toll-free phone number is 888-425-2666, and it has been mentioned in this column many times.

There will be meetings for you to attend so you can learn to avoid falling into the trap of trying to "save" or enable Robert, because in order for him to get better he must experience the consequences of going back to drinking. This is not easy to do with someone you care about, and you

will need all of the support you can get.

By the way, your letter arrived in the same batch as the one below. It may give you some insight:

DEAR ABBY: A few years ago I talked to my mother about her drinking. She's a binge drinker and her excuse is always, "It's my day off." I am focusing on myself and trying to figure out my life, as well, with the help of Al-Anon — the only thing that has kept me positive.

I knew that once I uttered the word "alcoholic" aloud, my relationship with my mother would forever be affected. I asked her to contact me when she was ready to quit because I can no longer enable her drinking.

I miss the mom who doesn't drink, but I can't be around her when she does. As I grow in my recovery, I may figure out how to do that. But for now, I need to put space between us.

My family is worried something drastic will happen (as her health isn't good) and I will have regrets. But I have expressed my thoughts and accepted that Mom and I may never speak again. Is that wrong? — STILL A LOVING DAUGHTER IN WISCONSIN

DEAR STILL A LOVING DAUGHTER: No, it's not wrong. Your mother's binge drinking was affecting her health as well as her relationship with you, and while it may have been difficult and wrenching, it was the right thing to do — for both of you. Let's hope that your strength in doing that will give her the strength to stop her alcohol binges.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Messing on TV
- 6 Tussle
- 11 Dole out
- 12 Half of Hispaniola
- 13 Symbol on a Jolly Roger
- 14 Almanac section
- 15 Galahad's mother
- 17 Beans buy
- 19 Sow site
- 20 Diet no-no
- 23 Homes
- 25 Deep mud
- 26 Poem starter
- 28 Flat
- 29 Map key
- 30 "Sure thing!"
- 31 One heart, e.g.
- 32 Cow chow
- 33 Magic word
- 35 Radium discoverer
- 38 Puccini opera
- 41 Practical
- 42 Provinces
- 43 Spoil
- 44 Takes a break

DOWN

- 1 German article
- 2 Antlered animal
- 3 Puritans
- 4 Dice turn
- 5 Map collections
- 6 Like new pennies
- 7 Walking aid
- 8 Disen-cumber
- 9 Pigged out
- 10 Films, slangily
- 16 "Not true!"
- 17 Music's Mariah
- 18 Superior to
- 20 Hydrant attachments
- 21 Sports spot
- 22 Lingerie buy
- 24 Comfy room
- 25 Sister of Jo
- 27 Soviet symbol
- 31 Dog-show category
- 33 Galileo's home
- 34 Ripped
- 35 Machinery part
- 36 Sky sighting
- 37 Massage
- 39 Jazz fan
- 40 Cart puller

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4-5

BANANAGRAMS!

Use the 15 tiles in this bunch to create words that fit into the grids below. To get you started, a few tiles from the bunch have been placed. Reuse the 15 tiles in the bunch for each grid.

LEVEL



Yesterday's Answer: 1-4; 2-7; 3-6; 5-8

4.5

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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