

**Peace talks**

Japan, Soviet Union discuss WWII treaty, Page 6

# The Pampa News

**New members**

Eight selected to join Women's Hall of Fame, Page 3

25°

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THURSDAY

## Sabotage claimed in Pan Am jumbo jet crash

By MAUREEN JOHNSON  
Associated Press Writer

LOCKERBIE, Scotland (AP)— A Pan Am jumbo jet apparently exploded in the air before crashing and killing all 259 people aboard, and investigators focused today on terrorist threats to place a bomb on a Pan Am airliner.

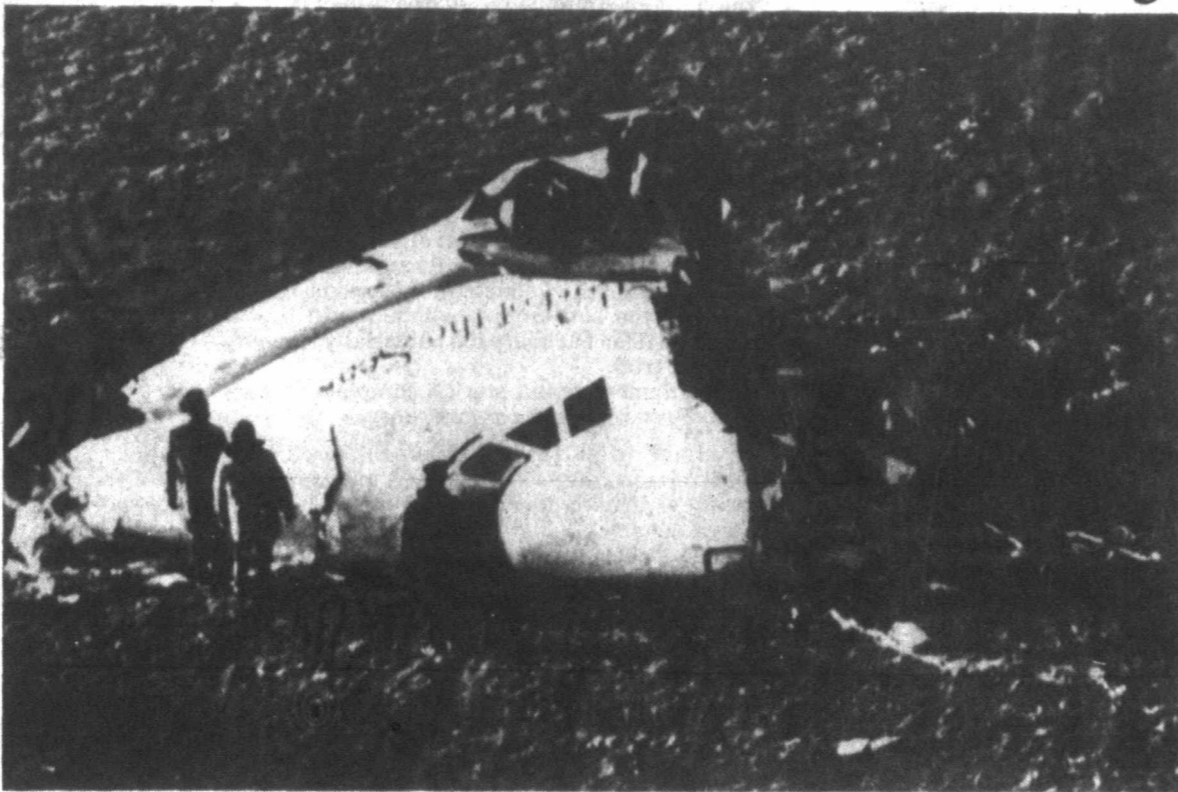
The wreckage of the Boeing 747 bound for New York with Christmas travelers scattered bodies and wreckage over the countryside and ravaged the village of Lockerbie.

News reports said at least 10 people were killed on the ground.

The plane smashed into the ground, destroying 40 houses, triggering an explosion at a gas station and engulfing cars in flames.

The death toll rose to 259 today when it was discovered that another flight attendant had been on board, said Pamela Hanlon, a Pan Am spokeswoman.

The victims included U.S. servicemen, 38 students from Syracuse University and an Associated Press executive and five family members.



Nose section of the Pan Am jet lays on its side 3 miles from Lockerbie as wreckage inspectors check the sight.

**The caller said a bomb would be placed aboard a Pan Am plane and that it would be carried by a woman.**

Neither Scottish Secretary Malcolm Rifkind, the chief British official at the site, nor U.S. Ambassador Charles Price would speculate on the possibility of sabotage, but both the International Air Transport Association and the British Airline Pilots Association said that was the most likely explanation.

In Washington, a U.S. government source said the U.S. Embassy in Helsinki, Finland, received a telephone threat about two weeks ago from a person claiming to belong to the Abu Nidal group, a radical Palestinian faction that has been implicated in terrorist attacks.

The caller said a bomb would be placed aboard a Pan Am plane and that it would be carried by a woman, said the government source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The caller didn't say whether

the woman would be a willing accomplice.

The government source said that threat was the basis for posting notices at U.S. embassies.

In Moscow, the U.S. Embassy last week warned American diplomats that a bomb threat had been made against a Pan Am flight flying from Frankfurt, West Germany to the United States sometime in December.

The warning left it to the diplomats' discretion whether to change travel plans.

The doomed Pan Am Flight 103

originated in Frankfurt aboard a different aircraft.

In Frankfurt, the airport security chief said officials stepped up security at Pan Am after receiving threats against the carrier earlier this month.

Transport Secretary Paul Channon told the House of Commons that searchers had recovered both the airplane's flight recorders, the vital electronic devices which monitor all flight data and conversation by the pilots.

Prime Minister Margaret

Thatcher and Prince Andrew, the Duke of York, visited Lockerbie and talked to rescuers.

Rifkind, the British Cabinet minister responsible for Scotland, said the widespread wreckage of the New York-bound plane indicated "the aircraft clearly experienced some form of explosion."

"It's clear that the accident happened in the air because parts of the wreckage are strewn over such a wide area," said Rifkind, who toured the crash site with Price.

Price also said the way the plane had split into several sections "would indicate a midair explosion."

Asked on NBC-TV's *Today* show about the reported bomb threats, Price said: "No, we did not have any specific information such as that in London."

Asked how many Americans were on board, Price said he "understood that there were some 49 servicemen" on the jet.

Also on the jet was John Mulroy, director of international communications for The Associated Press. Mulroy, 59, died along with five family members.

An anonymous male caller to The Associated Press in London claimed responsibility for the disaster and said it was in retaliation for the shooting down of an Iran Air Airbus by the U.S. Navy cruiser Vincennes in July.

The Navy said the plane carrying 290 people over the Persian Gulf had been mistaken for an Iranian fighter. At the time, some Islamic extremists vowed revenge, but later Iranian officials said they understood the attack was a mistake.

"We the guardians of the Islamic revolution are undertaking this heroic execution in revenge of blowing the Iran air plane by America a few months ago and keeping the Shah's family in America. We are very proud," the caller said, then hung up quickly.



Crash firemen hose down wreckage.

### Santa greetings



(Staff photo by Duane A. Lavery)

A quiet morning at *The Pampa News* office was interrupted Wednesday when a strange man wearing red and sporting a white beard showed up to pass out candy canes. The mer-

ry gentleman wished everyone a happy Christmas and then left. Rumor has it that he might be Santa Claus, but it has not been verified.

### 'Home for Holiday' rides offered

Bedridden Pampans will have the opportunity to celebrate Christmas at home with their families through Rural/Metro Ambulance Service's annual "home for the holiday" program.

Through the program, the ambulance service provides transportation for bedridden patients from extended care health facilities to their family's local residence for the holidays.

Rural/Metro officials ask that those who wish to participate in the free program meet the following requirements:

1. The patient must be bedridden and transportable only by stretcher.
2. The general health of the patient should be good with no I.V.s, advanced life support needs, or specialized care.
3. A signed release from the patient's physician must be available at the time of transport.

4. The transportation is not to be used for patient discharge. Any health care facility having patients that may be eligible for the free "home for the holiday" program may call before Saturday 5 p.m. at 665-6551 in order to schedule pick up and return back. For more information, contact any Rural/Metro employee.

### Holiday closings announced

City offices in Pampa as well as Lovett Memorial Library will close at noon on Friday, Dec. 23, and remain closed through Monday, Dec. 26, for the Christmas holidays.

Gray County offices will be closed all day Friday and Monday. Both will reopen for regular business hours on Tuesday, Dec. 27.

Other entities that will be closed all day Friday and Monday include: Lefors city offices, Canadian city offices, Groom city offices, Wheeler city offices, Skellytown city offices, McLean city offices and Pampa Sheltered Workshop.

Those that will be closed Monday only are: Miami city offices,

Shamrock city offices, Gray County Appraisal District and Pampa Meals on Wheels. Public schools in the area will remain closed through Tuesday, Jan. 3, 1989, when classes will resume at the normal time.

*Pampa News* subscribers will be getting their Christmas day Sunday issue of the newspaper Saturday afternoon. The newspaper will be printed early Saturday to allow early delivery so employees can enjoy the holiday with family and friends.

There will be no miss service for the Sunday paper. Those who are missing their Sunday paper can call Monday to get it delivered.



3 shopping days to Christmas

## County jail inmates will see only green paint for Christmas

By DEE DEE LARAMORE  
Staff Writer

The only greenery in Gray County Jail this Christmas comes from the paint on the walls. The only carols its 16 inmates will hear drift from the transistor radios they're given for good behavior.

They won't hear any bells this holiday season, only the metallic ring of a heavy steel door closing behind them.

Two men serving time in county jail for felony driving while intoxicated charges agreed to share their thoughts at Christmas time. Both were sentenced to two years imprisonment for driving while intoxicated, subsequent offense.

One is Lazario Rosalez. The other spoke on the condition that his name not be used. We'll call him Joe. Both have lived in the jail for the past five months and are the jail's senior residents.

"People don't realize what they've got in life now. Not until they're put in confinement like this," Joe said. "It will be a sad Christmas for me — a real sad Christmas."

Rosalez admitted he'd prob-

ably spend the day crying. It will be the first Christmas he's spent away from his wife and three children, ages six, five and one.

He worries about his wife. "Where is she going to get the money to buy Christmas? What are they going to eat? Your mind wears out from all the worrying. That's what hurts on a special day like this.

"You know you're going to get your meal, even if it's not turkey. But you don't know if your wife and children will have anything," Rosalez added.

Today is visiting day at the jail, probably the only time inmates will be able to see their families before Christmas. Visiting will not be allowed on Christmas Day, said Sheriff Rufe Jordan. He wants his deputies to be able to spend the holiday with their families.

But Jordan does try to soften the harshness of imprisonment to some extent. He said he buys fruit and nuts and fills stockings to be given to each of the inmates for Christmas.

On Christmas afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. George Knight conduct church services from 2:30 to 3:05 as they have every Sunday after-

noon for many years. Frank Andrews plays the guitar and sings for them, Jordan said.

Jordan gave the two men a bit of a Christmas present Wednesday afternoon. He has interceded with them before the district judge, asking that their sentences be reduced.

"I'm supposed to write a resume for you two. And I'll do that," Jordan said. "There's no

**'The very young adults think it's a free ride out there. All they're doing is making the future look worse on them.'**

way you'll be out by Christmas. But maybe the judge will let you out in 60 days or so."

"It's my fault," Rosalez said of his confinement. "I knew I should have stayed away from (alcohol)."

Since he's been jailed, Rosalez said he has found consolation in knowing the Lord has forgiven him and will help him have the strength to fight his weakness with alcohol once he's released from prison.

He's teasingly called "Preacher" by other jail prisoners, Rosalez said, because he preaches to them every night. "Some listen to me and some don't," he said. "Some are too far gone for me to help them."

"The very young adults think it's a free ride out there," Joe said. "All they're doing is making the future look worse on them."

"We try to tell them to get out, get a job, go to work and stay away from (drugs and alcohol). If they don't they might spend their birthday in jail ... they might spend Christmas in jail."

"I was told numerous times 'that bottle is going to get you in trouble,'" Joe remembered. "I heard a song on the radio I wish all children could hear. It almost happened to me. Thank God, it wasn't my time."

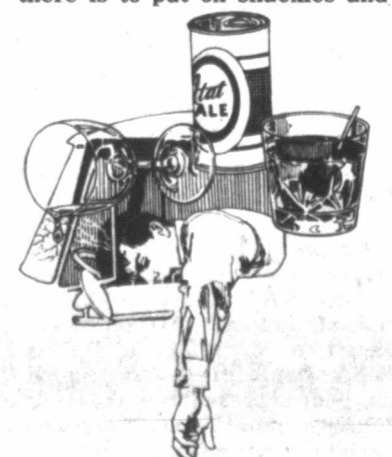
Joe was referring to the Merle Haggard tune "Mama Tried," particularly the line, "I turned 21 in prison, doing life without parole. No one could steer me right, but Mama tried ..."

Rosalez said he doesn't have any advice to give young people who may be taking the same road that landed him in jail. "If I was any smarter, I wouldn't be in

here," he explained. "The only advice I can give them is 'get out and turn to the Lord. He's the only one that can help you.'"

Joe nodded his head in agreement.

"The closest to being in jail that could happen to anybody out there is to put on shackles and



handcuffs and blindfold themselves and stand in a dark room. Not that that's what happens in here. It's just that's what it's like," Joe said.

"It's lonely, not knowing when you're going to get out. Not knowing what people will think of you

when you do get out ... I lost a lot of special moments in my life coming to jail," he said, adding, "It ain't worth it! Jail time ... you can't put a price tag on it; there ain't no way."

Joe thinks he'll be able to stay away from alcohol once he's released from jail "because I have to. If I don't, it's going to kill me. It's caused me to lose a wife and a child. It's hard to know that because of alcohol you lost her. Alcohol is like a soft spot for you, but it's not — it's a mirage."

He knows he's going to stay away from alcohol, he said, because "every time I start to pick up that bottle, it's going to reflect back at me. It's going to reflect them jail bars back."

Rosalez said he knows he's too weak to say that he won't return to his old ways once he's released. He's trusting in God to give him the strength he'll need to fight the battle of the bottle. "As long as I stay with the good Lord, I know I can make it," he said. "I pray to him and I know he hears me."

"Don't drink," Rosalez said, emphatically.

"... and drive," Joe said, adding his own emphasis.

# Daily Record

## Services tomorrow

**PASS, Margaret Looper** — 2 p.m., Wood-Dunning Colonial Chapel, Plainview.  
**SHEEHAN, Willie** — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel.  
**BYNUM, Joe C.** — 10 a.m., Minton Memorial Chapel, Borger.  
**WRIGHT, Pearlle Bell** — 2 p.m., graveside, Canadian Cemetery, Canadian.

## Obituaries

**WILLIE SHEEHAN**  
 Willie Sheehan, 81, died Wednesday. Services are to be at 2 p.m. Friday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with Dr. Bill Boswell, pastor of First Christian Church, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery by Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Sheehan was born in Welch, Okla. She moved to Pampa in 1928 from Bristow, Okla. She married Glenn Sheehan in 1925 at Beggs, Okla. He died in 1985. She and her husband owned Master Cleaners and later owned Sparks Cleaners until her retirement in 1975. She was a member of First Christian Church and Builders Sunday School Class.

Survivors include two daughters, Rosemary Holloway of Pampa and Debbie Caldwell of Amarillo; one son, Billy Coy Sheehan of National City, Calif.; two brothers, Harold Payne of Pampa and Jack Payne of Tulsa, Okla.; seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

**PEARLLE BELL WRIGHT**  
 CANADIAN — Pearlle Bell Wright, 80, died Tuesday. Graveside services are to be at 2 p.m. Friday in Canadian Cemetery with the Rev. Rick Bartlett, pastor of First Christian Church, officiating. Arrangements are by Stickle-Hill Funeral Home.

Mrs. Wright was born in Perry County, Ark. She was a resident of Russellville, Ark. She was a member of the First Christian Church and Order of the Eastern Star. Her husband, Frank Wright, died in 1951.

Survivors include one son, John Frank Wright Jr. of Lake Jackson; three daughters, Lyda Davis of Amarillo, Leloras Ruth of Renton, Wash., and Katherine Wright of Baytown; a sister, Lettie Whitfield of Darnell, Ark.; 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

The family will be at the Annie Wright residence in Glazier.

**JOE C. BYNUM**  
 BORGER — Services for Joe C. Bynum, 74, brother of two Pampa residents, are to be at 10 a.m. Friday in Minton Memorial Chapel with the Rev. Leonard Forsythe, pastor of Bible Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Highland Park Cemetery by Minton-Chatwell Funeral Directors.

Mr. Bynum died Tuesday. Born in Oklahoma, Mr. Bynum had been a resident of Borger for 60 years. He was retired from Phillips Petroleum Company. He was a Baptist and a veteran of World War II.

Survivors include a daughter, two stepdaughters, three brothers, eight sisters — including Jessie Albertson and Frances Musgraves, both of Pampa — eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The family will be at 906 Parkway in Borger.

**MARGARET LOOPER PASS**  
 PLAINVIEW — Margaret Looper Pass, 74, a former Pampa resident, died Wednesday. Services are set for 2 p.m. Friday in Wood-Dunning Colonial Chapel with Dr. Travis Hart, pastor of First Baptist Church of Plainview, officiating. Burial will be in Plainview Memorial Park.

Mrs. Pass was born in Aubrey, moving to Plainview in 1930 from Denton. She married Chester Pass in 1930 in Marietta, Okla. She and her husband moved from Clarendon to Pampa in 1959. She returned to Plainview in 1987. She was a bookkeeper and a member of First Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband, Chester; two daughters, Frankie Douglas of Plainview and Shirley Ames of Austin; a sister, Joan Ragland of Plainview; her stepmother, Edna Looper of Plainview; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

## Obituaries

**PRISCILLA M. GRISSOM**  
 Graveside services for Priscilla M. Grissom, 88, are to be at 4 p.m. today in Memory Gardens Cemetery with Dr. Bill Boswell, pastor of First Christian Church, officiating. Arrangements are by Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Grissom married Joe Grissom in March 1926. He died in 1962. She moved to Pampa in 1936 from Elk City, Okla. She was a member of First Christian Church.

Survivors include one son, two grandsons and four great-grandchildren.

The family will be at 1025 E. Browning. They request memorials be made to a favorite charity.

## Hospital

**CORONADO HOSPITAL Admissions**  
 Lee Belknap, Pampa  
 L.L. Jones, Allison  
 Debbie Larkin, Pampa  
 Nora Meaker, Pampa  
 Clarence Noack, Pampa

**Births**  
 to Mr. and Mrs. C.E. Bogges of Pampa, a boy.

**Dismissals**  
 Mary Lindrop and baby girl, Memphis  
 Lynn Rodriguez and baby girl, Panhandle

Ida Sullivan, Pampa  
 Laquita Whiteley, Pampa  
 Leona Williams, Mobeetie

**SHAMROCK HOSPITAL Admissions**  
 Ernest Cook, Shamrock  
 Velma Johnson, Shamrock

**Dismissals**  
 Ann Gardner, McLean  
 Fern Turnbo, Shamrock

Otelia Riley, Miami  
 John D. Morgan, Shamrock

## Police report

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

**WEDNESDAY, Dec. 21**

Helen Adair, 605 N. Jupiter, reported criminal mischief at the residence.

Timothy Johnson, P.O. Box 634, reported criminal mischief at 2545 Perryton Pkwy.

Department of Public Safety, Austin, issued a "wanted by outside agency" notice.

Department of Public Safety, Houston, issued a "wanted by outside agency" notice.

Carolyn Joyce White, 1022 Wilcox, reported theft of a motor vehicle at the residence.

**Arrests**

**WEDNESDAY, Dec. 21**  
 Van Johnson, 34, 1831 S. Barnes, was arrested in the 900 block of West Brown on charges of driving while intoxicated and speeding.

Danny Lee Prochazka, 34, Deer Park, was arrested in the 800 block of South Cuyler on charges of driving while intoxicated, no liability insurance, expired driver's license and DPS warrants.

Michael Joseph Meisner, 34, Davis Motel #11, was arrested in the 800 block of South Cuyler on DPS warrants. He was released on payment of fines.

## Fire report

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

**WEDNESDAY, Dec. 21**  
 9:02 a.m. — A car fire was reported at 304 E. 17th. One unit and two firefighters responded.

9:55 a.m. — A trash fire was reported at 841 E. Campbell. One unit and two men responded.

## Stock market

The following grain quotations are provided by Wheeler-Evans of Pampa. Stock quotations from Edward D. Jones & Co. were not available at press time today.

Corn ..... 4.85  
 Wheat ..... 3.89  
 Milo ..... 4.35

# Drexel agrees to plead guilty to felony in securities fraud

By RICK GLADSTONE  
 AP Business Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — After asserting innocence for more than two years, Wall Street powerhouse Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc. agreed to plead guilty to six felonies and pay a record \$650 million fine to settle the biggest securities fraud case in history.

The plea bargain agreement is the most stunning break yet in a criminal probe of the nation's fifth-largest investment firm, which bankrolled some of the biggest corporate takeovers of the decade through its pioneering use of high-yield "junk bond" securities.

The agreement, announced Wednesday by U.S. Attorney Rudolph W. Giuliani, does not protect Michael Milken, Drexel's senior high-yield bond executive and a key target of the criminal probe.

The investigation already has cost Drexel nearly \$2 billion in lost business and legal expenses, sapped morale of its 10,000 employees and seriously undermined what many consider Wall Street's most aggressive and able financier.

Sources familiar with Drexel's decision who spoke on condition of anonymity said its board of directors agonized Wednesday afternoon before approving the settlement, which would brand Drexel as a felon but spare it a potentially ruinous, drawn-out trial.

The settlement would mark a complete turnaround in Drexel's claims of innocence.

By admitting guilt in the settlement, Drexel exposes itself to numerous lawsuits by investors who claim they were victimized by the firm's admitted illegal acts.

Drexel spokesman Steven Anreder declined to comment on how the board voted or its specific reasons, but said directors had "concluded that this settlement is in the best interest of our firm and our employees."

Attorneys for Milken, who has asserted he's done nothing wrong, "are continuing to prepare to defend him against any charges that might be brought," according to a statement from his public relations agent, Robinson, Lake, Lerer & Montgomery.

Gary Lynch, the Securities and Exchange Commission enforcement director, did not return telephone calls for comment about the agreement between Drexel and Giuliani.

The agreement is the high-water mark in a federal crackdown on securities fraud that resulted in the arrest two years ago of Ivan Boesky, the now-imprisoned inside trader who turned state's evidence and was a key source of information in the case against Drexel.

The \$650 million fine — more than four times as large as the SEC's annual budget — easily surpasses the previous record of \$100 million against Boesky in November 1986.

The settlement also marks a major victory for Giuliani, who had been pressuring Drexel for weeks to settle the case or face a much broader and potentially crippling racketeering and fraud indictment.

"There are contingencies," Giuliani said at a hastily called news conference. "Everybody is proceeding in good faith, I hope."

Giuliani said the felonies cover mail, wire and securities fraud violations but would not be more specific.

Asked why he chose to press for a settlement instead of proceed with an indictment, Giuliani said "when a corporation is involved, the best result you can get after any trial is a financial result. ... There's no point of prolonging this, getting involved in criminal litigation to get a result that would not be any better than this."

Several key Drexel executives themselves had been pushing for a settlement, saying the barrage of publicity and negative speculation was eroding the firm's ability to maintain its business.

# New treatment turns body's own cancer against tumors

By DANIEL Q. HANEY  
 AP Science Writer

**BOSTON (AP)** — Doctors giving patients high doses of cancer-fighting cells taken from their tumors have turned back lethal skin cancer at a rate nearly four times greater than by using chemotherapy, scientists reported today.

The work is the latest development in a new strategy of revving up the body's own weapons to stop cancer.

However, experts say this approach is still highly experimental, and no one knows whether it will turn out to be a practical way to fight disease.

Only one of the 20 patients treated has had a lasting remission after more than a year, but doctors were encouraged because most of the patients had at least partial responses.

The study was directed by Dr. Steven A. Rosenberg, who has developed the strategy known as adoptive immunotherapy at the National Cancer Institute.

In earlier attempts, he used a natural chemical called interleukin-2 to prime cancer-fighting cells taken from the blood. These cells were then turned loose inside the body to hunt for cancer.

His latest effort, described in today's *New England Journal of Medicine*, is a refinement of that approach.

Instead of using cells from the bloodstream, he drew killing cells from patient's own tumors, multiplied them and injected them back.

"We are finally zeroing in on the important cells, and he is getting better numbers to indicate that the strategy is the right one," said Dr. Malcolm S. Mitchell of the University of Southern California.

Rosenberg said the new approach, used so far on patients with the skin cancer melanoma, is more potent and less toxic than his earlier treatment.

"The first treatment, which we have now used in over 400 patients, is a first step," he said. "Now we are seeing an improvement upon it. Hopefully, there will be improvements beyond this."

In experimental use, they found that the latest approach shrank the tumors of 55 percent of advanced melanoma patients. Ordinary chemotherapy produces a response in about 20 percent of such patients.

"This is very exciting," commented Dr. Michael Atkins of New England Medical Center. "I hope it will give us clues as to where to go next. But it shouldn't be considered applicable to the general patient population."

Other experts were also cautious about the new therapy.

"It offers potentially a more specific approach," said Dr. Richard Fisher of Loyola University Medical Center in Chicago. "Whether that will turn out to be better is unknown, although in his early data, he has an impressive number of responses."

The treatment is based on a variety of cancer-killing cells, known as tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes, that are taken from the patient's own cancer.

"They have unique specificity for the tumor from which they are derived," said Rosenberg. "Presumably they are part of the host defense against the tumor, but there are not enough of them."

After being grown outside the body in interleukin-2, the tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes are returned to the patient, along with extra doses of interleukin-2 and a chemotherapy drug.

After one treatment, melanoma shrank in nine of 15 patients who had never received interleukin-2. They also regressed in two of five patients who had failed earlier treatment with interleukin-2.

The tumors that shrank had spread to other parts of the body, including the lungs, liver and bones. The cancer disappeared completely in one 56-year-old man, who remains cancer free about 15 months after the treatment ended.

## City briefs

**EARLY DEADLINES** for Sunday Classified Line ads, Friday 23rd, 1 p.m.

**LAST MINUTE** gifts, oil paintings on saws, saw blades, canvas, mail boxes for business cards, handmade knives. Renner Knives & Crafts, 669-9689. Adv.

**NEW YEARS** Eve at Club Biarritz. Champagne breakfast. Call 669-2506 or 669-2737. Adv.

**REWARD LOST** blonde female Cocker Spaniel, answers to Buffy, no tags, 4 and 5 year olds pet. Call 669-6896 or 669-7366. Adv.

**CALLIGRAPHY** SHOWING Home of Don Jonas for that special personal gift. Illuminated scripture, poetry, verse. Friday 23rd noon till 8 p.m. 2232 N. Christy. 665-3440. Adv.

**NEW SHIPMENT** of Transfers. New design in bandanas. Sunshine Factory, 1313 Alcock. Adv.

**THE PAMPA** Mall will be open until 10 p.m. thru Friday, December 23, Saturday December 24 until 6 p.m. Closed Christmas Day. Adv.

**JERRY'S GRILL** will be Open Christmas Day with a traditional buffet dinner only. Open 11 a.m. Closed Monday. Adv.

**MUSIC SHOPPE** has your last minute gift ideas, L.P.s, cassette tapes, compact discs and accessories. Gift certificates available. Music Shoppe, 2139 N. Hobart, Plaza 21. Adv.

**JUST ARRIVED** - In time for Christmas. "Watch-A-Ma-Call-It" Newest concept in costume jewelry. Several styles. Michelles, 201 N. Cuyler. Adv.

## Weather focus

**LOCAL FORECAST**  
 Mostly fair tonight with a low near 20. Winds will be from the west at 20 to 30 mph, shifting to the north at 10-20 mph later in the evening. Fair Friday, becoming partly cloudy later in the day. High will be in the low 50s with west to southwesterly winds at 15 to 20 mph. Wednesday's high was 58.

**REGIONAL FORECAST**  
 West Texas — Fair and colder tonight. Fair Friday morning with increasing cloudiness during the afternoon. Lows tonight near 20. Panhandle to low 30s. Concho Valley and mid 30s. Big Bend valleys. Highs Friday low 50s. Panhandle to near 70. Concho Valley and Big Bend.

North Texas — Showers ending east tonight, becoming fair and cooler all areas. Partly cloudy and unseasonably mild again Friday. Lows tonight 29. Northwest to 49. Southeast. Highs Friday 65 to 73.

South Texas — Decreasing cloudiness and cooler west and central tonight, mostly cloudy with a chance of showers east. Partly cloudy and mild Friday with a slight chance of showers east. Lows tonight from 30s Hill Country to 40s north and 50s south. Highs Friday from 60s to near 70 north to 70s south.

**EXTENDED FORECAST**  
**Saturday through Monday**  
 West Texas — Partly cloudy with near normal temperatures. Panhandle: Highs in low 50s and lows upper to mid 20s. South Plains: Highs in mid to low 50s with lows upper to mid 20s. Permian Basin: Highs mid to upper 50s and lows around 30. Concho Valley: Highs near 60 with lows mid 30s. Far West: Highs in low to mid 50s and lows in mid 20s to near 30. Big Bend: Highs mid 50s mountains to mid 60s. Big Bend. Lows in 20s mountains to mid 30s. Big Bend valleys.

North Texas — Partly cloudy and mild Saturday with a slight chance of thunderstorms mainly eastern sections. Mostly fair and mild Christmas day and Monday. Highs Saturday in the 60s cooling into the 50s to near 60 Sunday and Monday. Lows in the 40s.

South Texas — Cloudy to partly cloudy and mild with a chance of showers, mainly east and south on Saturday and Sunday. Lows near 40 Hill Country to near 60 lower coast. Highs in the 60s north and 70s south.

**BORDER STATES**  
 Oklahoma — Fair and colder tonight. Partly cloudy and mild Friday. Lows tonight near 20. Panhandle to near 40 southeast. Highs Friday upper 50s to low 60s.

New Mexico — Partly cloudy north and fair south tonight. A slight chance of snow showers over the northern mountains and Northwest Plateau, otherwise partly cloudy Friday. Highs Friday will be in the 30s and 40s over the mountains and northwest to the 50s and low 60s east and south. Low tonight will range from 10 to 20 over the mountains and northwest with the 20s elsewhere.

# Commissioner tours MHMR facilities

**AUSTIN (AP)** — Texas' new mental health commissioner, Denny Jones, has fulfilled his pledge to visit all 27 state mental facilities within six months of taking the job and says he was pleasantly surprised by what he found.

Jones, who took over the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation on July 1, this week spent the night at the Austin State Hospital to wrap up an inspection tour that included eight mental hospitals, 13 state schools for people with mental retardation, five state centers and the Waco Center for Youth.

"It really was a very personally rewarding experience, exhausting at times," said Jones, 43.

"What I found in comparison to what I expected has been very positive," said Jones, the former mental health commissioner of Indiana.

"I was pleasantly surprised. I

expected to find a fairly demoralized kind of system, given all people have been through (with federal class-action lawsuits). I did not find that. I found people who, by and large, were not only working hard, but who were really trying to be creative about what they were doing."

Jones said he believes mentally ill and mentally retarded people in Texas institutions are receiving good care. He said the treatment programs and services are being improved.

"It certainly felt like a system I am very much proud to be part of," he said. "But if you ask us if we are as good as we can be, we'd say no. I felt a very clear sense that all the facilities want to improve."

Jones said the lack of community mental health services in Texas is causing hospital admission rates that are much higher in Texas than in other states. He

said it may take five to 10 years to develop an adequate array of community services that would free hospitals to concentrate on the long-term mentally ill.

Jones said he especially is concerned about some of the aged buildings he saw in disrepair. "Our buildings are one of the major systemic problems we have. They are very institutional looking," he said.

Upon his return to Austin, Jones said he immediately began making plans to use money from the department's bond package to construct a 40-bed hospital for the mentally ill in Harlingen.

"Things started happening here after he got back to Austin," said Aurelio Valdez, director of the Rio Grande State Center. "This has been a neglected area historically. This is not a new problem. It's been ignored, for whatever reason. I think he (Jones) had a lot to do with re-motivating the momentum."

West Texas — Fair and colder tonight. Fair Friday morning with increasing cloudiness during the afternoon. Lows tonight near 20. Panhandle to low 30s. Concho Valley and mid 30s. Big Bend valleys. Highs Friday low 50s. Panhandle to near 70. Concho Valley and Big Bend.

North Texas — Showers ending east tonight, becoming fair and cooler all areas. Partly cloudy and unseasonably mild again Friday. Lows tonight 29. Northwest to 49. Southeast. Highs Friday 65 to 73.

South Texas — Decreasing cloudiness and cooler west and central tonight, mostly cloudy with a chance of showers east. Partly cloudy and mild Friday with a slight chance of showers east. Lows tonight from 30s Hill Country to 40s north and 50s south. Highs Friday from 60s to near 70 north to 70s south.

**EXTENDED FORECAST**  
**Saturday through Monday**  
 West Texas — Partly cloudy with near normal temperatures. Panhandle: Highs in low 50s and lows upper to mid 20s. South Plains: Highs in mid to low 50s with lows upper to mid 20s. Permian Basin: Highs mid to upper 50s and lows around 30. Concho Valley: Highs near 60 with lows mid 30s. Far West: Highs in low to mid 50s and lows in mid 20s to near 30. Big Bend: Highs mid 50s mountains to mid 60s. Big Bend. Lows in 20s mountains to mid 30s. Big Bend valleys.

North Texas — Partly cloudy and mild Saturday with a slight chance of thunderstorms mainly eastern sections. Mostly fair and mild Christmas day and Monday. Highs Saturday in the 60s cooling into the 50s to near 60 Sunday and Monday. Lows in the 40s.

South Texas — Cloudy to partly cloudy and mild with a chance of showers, mainly east and south on Saturday and Sunday. Lows near 40 Hill Country to near 60 lower coast. Highs in the 60s north and 70s south.

# Thief steals car with 224 dozen cookies

**DALLAS (AP)** — A car thief got more than he bargained for when he stole a Dallas woman's car from her driveway. He got enough cookies for a Texas-size Christmas party.

Cynthia Gammill said the 224 dozen cookies had been baked by members of the First United Methodist Church of Dallas to give to members of the Dallas County Sheriff's Office who have to work Christmas.

Sheriff's department spokesman Jim Ewell told the church women that there would be 600 people working on the holiday so

the women began baking the 2,688 cookies right after Thanksgiving.

The church women had baked similar amounts of cookies the past two years for the Dallas Police Department and decided this year to present the cookies to deputies, jailers and others who have to work on the holiday.

The cookies were to be delivered on Wednesday morning, only hours after the thief stole Gammill's car from her driveway.

Ewell said he hopes the thieves will discover the cookies in the trunk and realize they were des-

tined for lawmen and abandon the car because "they don't want to deal with it."

Not to be stopped by the thief, Gammill said the women are back at work, baking more cookies for the lawmen.

"They all said they are willing to bake another two dozen by Friday," she said.

Ewell said the officers were disappointed about the loss of the cookies.

"It's a very kind getsture on the part of the people at the First Methodist Church," Ewell said.

# Texas/Regional

## Eight picked to join others in Texas Women's Hall of Fame

AUSTIN (AP) — Eight women have been selected to join the Texas Women's Hall of Fame, including a Dallas woman who is spearheading a fight against a disease that claimed her sister's life.

Nancy Brinker, who founded an organization to fight breast cancer, and seven others will be inducted into the hall on Feb. 8 in Austin, said Ann Quirk, chairman of the sponsoring Governor's Commission for Women.

Those being inducted with Brinker are Olympic gold medalist Louise Ritter; Panhandle arts patron Margaret Pease Harper; restaurant entrepreneur Ninfa Laurenzo; Sam Houston State University educator Lane Murray; outstanding deaf athlete Ruth Taubert Seeger; mental health expert Bert Kruger Smith; and Houston city council member Eleanor Tinsley.

"We have completed again this year a thorough review process of applications for Hall of Fame inductees from throughout the state, and we are extremely pleased with the eight nominations for the Hall of Fame," Quirk said.

The hall was established in 1984 by the Governor's Commission for Women.

This year's eight inductees again represent success in a number of diverse activities.

Ms. Brinker is the wife of Norman Brinker, the chairman of the board of Chili's Inc., and has molded her own dynamic identity by serving a number of organizations in leadership roles.

But she reserves a special effort for the Dallas-based Susan G. Komen Foundation for the Advancement of Breast Cancer Research, which Ms. Brinker created in 1984 after her sister, Ms. Komen, died from breast cancer. Ms. Brinker is the chairman of the board of the thriving organization of 700 women who raise funds to advance breast cancer research.

Ms. Harper of Canyon founded the Texas Panhandle Heritage Foundation in 1961 for the sole purpose of sponsoring Pulitzer Prize-winning author Paul Green's musical historical drama TEXAS, which focuses on the Texas Panhandle. More than 2 million have seen the drama. She is the co-founder of the Lone Star Ballet and helped create a musical dictionary for children.

Ms. Laurenzo is a Houston businesswoman who owns a large chain of Mexican restaurants in the Houston area and gave a speech that seconded the

nomination of President-elect George Bush at the Republican National Convention. She has been featured in a number of national publications for her contributions to Texas business and the Houston community.

Ms. Murray of Huntsville had served as a high school teacher in Barstow and was the first female Texas A&M full-time faculty member in the College of Education before becoming a pioneer in prison education in 1969. In that year, she was named first (and only) superintendent of the Windham School System within the Texas Department of Corrections. Since 1978, she has been a professor of criminal justice at Sam Houston State University. She also has served on a national advisory council for adult education.

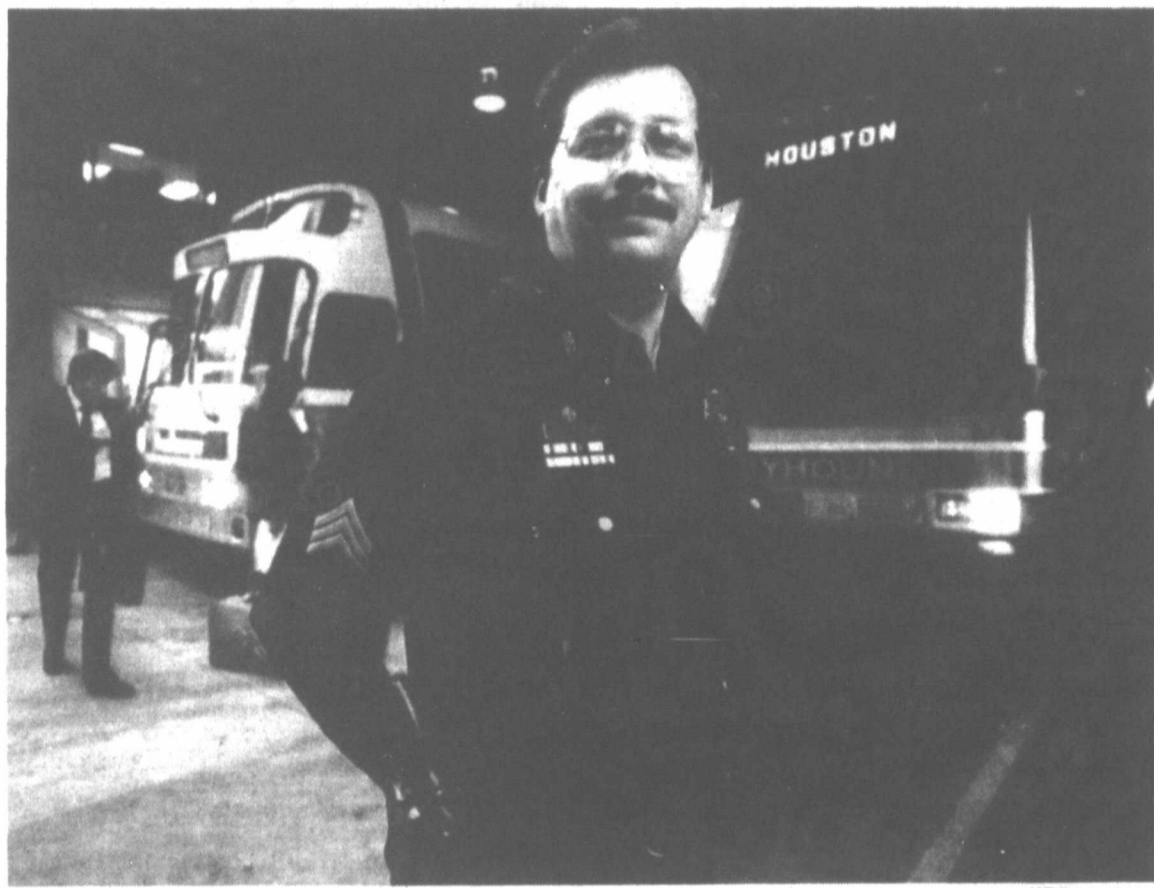
Ms. Ritter literally leaped into the headlines when she won the women's high jump at the Summer Olympics in Seoul, South Korea. A native of tiny Rci Oak, she has since been named an assistant track coach at Southern Methodist University. Although her Olympic victory was considered an upset because she stunned the world-record holder in a jumpoff, she has long been considered the premier American high jumper and has been ranked No. 1 in the nation since 1983.

Ms. Seeger of Austin is another outstanding athletic figure who had a gymnasium named in her honor by the Texas School for the Deaf. She was a superior athlete and participated in a number of sports at Gallaudet College. Ms. Seeger organized the first Texas School for the Deaf track team for girls in 1963. As a coach, her girls won 27 medals at the World Games for the Deaf. She is a member of the American Athletic Association of the Deaf Coaches Hall of Fame.

Ms. Smith of Austin has been a special consultant to the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health at the University of Texas at Austin. Her advice has been sought by local, national and international organizations on a number of human services issues, particularly concerning the elderly and mental health. She has served on a number of state committees.

Ms. Tinsley in 1983 received the largest number of votes ever given a candidate for city office in Houston history and received more votes than any other candidate in 1987. She also has served on the Houston Independent School District board of trustees and served as its president in 1972.

### Police aid



Dallas police officer Sgt. Drew Roberts poses at a bus station in Dallas, where he helped a stranded woman return home to her husband. Several Dallas police officers donated money to help the woman purchase her ticket.

## Group of church leaders plan rally in favor of Dallas judge

By SUZANNE GAMBOA  
Associated Press Writer

DALLAS (AP) — A group of church leaders who believe a Dallas judge has been wrongly criticized for what they consider a Christian stand will rally in his support today at the Dallas County Courthouse.

State District Judge Jack Hampton has already been the subject of rallies from those who are calling for his ouster following his disclosure that he gave a lighter sentence to a murderer partly because his two victims were homosexuals.

The Rev. Don Skelton, pastor at Fountain of The Living Word, said at least seven pastors have agreed to participate in a 5 p.m. rally supporting Hampton, which he expects to draw about 100 to 150 people.

"They're in favor of the stand the judge has taken to sodomy," Skelton said. "We're very much opposed to sodomy. It's against Texas law for one thing and God's law for another thing."

But on Wednesday, a coalition of other church leaders, some with large gay congregations, called on other religious leaders, judges and lawyers to join them in publicly criticizing Hampton.

"We ... deplore the mentality recently expressed by Judge Jack Hampton in the press, which suggests that all human beings are not of equal value and are not entitled to equal protection under the law," said the Rev. Howard Tyas, pastor of Bethany Presbyterian Church, reading from the group's statement at a news conference Wednesday.

Hampton's comments in a copyright interview last week in the Dallas Times Herald have agitated the gay community and equal rights activists to protest and to seek his removal from the bench.

On Tuesday, elected officials, including State Treasurer Ann Richards and U.S. Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., joined protesters in criticizing Hampton.

Hampton told the newspaper that he sentenced Richard Lee Bednarski, 18, to 30 years in prison instead of a maximum life sentence on Nov. 28 in part because the two men Bednarski was convicted of killing were homosexuals.

The judge also referred to the two victims as "queers."

"We also have the concern of the repercussions that this could have on the community in the future, because by his statements what does this suggest to the criminal element?" said Ken Coulter, pastor of Grace Fellowship Church.

"It seems it's saying to them that ... if they commit (crimes) against gay people, then the sentence may be less severe than otherwise."

"And so we fear this could spell an open season on the people of our community," he said.

Religious leaders who support Hampton say they strongly back his stance against sodomy, which

**'It seems it's saying to them that ... if they commit (crimes) against gay people, then the sentence may be less severe.'**

is a misdemeanor under Texas law. The act carries a maximum penalty of a \$200 fine.

A law forbidding sexual intercourse between homosexuals was challenged on constitutional grounds and was thrown out in 1982, but a federal appeals court reinstated it three years later.

However, the church leaders who criticized Hampton's state-

ments said the issue was not homosexuality or sodomy, but equal justice.

"Every person has a right to equal justice under the law," said the Rev. Lou Arceneaux, pastor at Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

The church leaders said their intention was not to ask for Hampton's resignation, but to ask him to retract his comments.

"If this is not what he means, we are asking him to speak up and say, 'this is not what I mean,'" Arceneaux said.

The leaders said any further action against Hampton would be up to "the system."

Tom Doyal, legal director of the Texas Human Rights Foundation, has filed a formal complaint with the Commission on Judicial Conduct alleging that Hampton violated canons of the Code of Judicial Ethics.

He said the judge's reference to homosexuals as "queers" is as offensive as if he had referred to a black person as a "nigger."

The commission has yet to act on the complaint.

## Meningitis outbreak hits Bexar area

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Federal officials will pay to vaccinate about 12,000 Bexar County children to halt the spread of a preventable form of meningitis that has killed one youngster and caused permanent nerve damage in two others.

Health authorities are stopping short of calling it an epidemic, but at least 30 babies and toddlers are known to have had the disease this year and seven other possible cases are being investigated in the San Antonio area.

There had been only 17 re-

ported cases of the same disease last year.

The San Antonio Health District has received a grant of \$132,000 from the national Centers for Disease Control to provide antibiotics for youngsters who will be 18 months old during 1989.

The grant will provide vaccinations for about half the local children in the age group, district immunization administrator Hector F. Gonzalez said.

The fee for the vaccination is \$3, but no one without the funds

will be turned away, health officials said.

At least four children are currently hospitalized with the disease, according to *The San Antonio Light*.

The meningitis strain is characterized by a severe headache, high fever and can produce nerve-damaging swelling of the brain's lining and spinal cord.

A 17-month-old boy died from the disease in March, health officials said. Two others have confirmed permanent nerve damage.

## Ah, yes, angels can be brats, too

"And what would you like for Christmas?"

"You're not Santa Claus — Whadda you care?"

I fought back the urge to cause the darling child's parents to have one less tax exemption.

"Oh, I just thought I'd ask."

"My mom said not to talk to strangers."

"I'm not a stranger. I'm a volunteer for the school."

"You look strange."

That was all my fault. I'd started this wonderful conversation with a first-grader at one of the local elementary schools. Silly me.

I have always held the conviction that children are pretty neat under two conditions: They are somebody else's or they're asleep.

My opinion comes from experience. In my college days I worked for a while at a YMCA daycare program. It was there I learned about children.

A darling little 4-year-old named Sara had just screamed across the room at a playmate.

"You're a LIAR!!!"

"Sara, it's not nice to call people a liar. If they said something that wasn't true, just tell them about it, but don't get mad or call names."

"Why can't I call them a liar?"

"That's just not the kind of thing nice people say."

"My mommy called my daddy a liar."

Where were Art Linkletter or Erma Bombeck when I needed them most? I was forced to improvise.

"Why would your mommy say that to your daddy?"

"Cause my daddy said that girl was only a friend and my mommy said, 'You're a liar!'"

I was very sorry I had asked.

Another time I was attempting to read a story to some 3-year-olds. One little lad, David, started doing a war dance near the back of the room.

"So the little rabbit said to the ... David, do you need to go to the bathroom?"

"Noooooooooooooooooooo." The dance picked up pace.

"David, go to the bathroom, please."

"I don't neeeeeeeeeee toooooooo." Hand to crotch, the child was now in a frenzy.

I left my chair, dared the children to start talking and walked David to the bathroom. The dance continued.

"David, why couldn't you come to the bathroom yourself? You know where it is."

### Off Beat

By Bear Mills



"I don't neeeeeeeeeee toooooooo."

We reached the potty. Down came David's jeans. Out came the flood waters. David looked deeply into my eyes as a yellow stream rolled down my leg.

"David! Stop! Now!"

"I caaaaaaaan't."

It's hard to be calm when a 3-year-old has just urinated all over your right leg, but I did try. I don't remember actually cursing out loud, but if thoughts could have killed, I'd have had a dead kid on my hands.

Several years later I found a little lost child in a shopping mall. Being the kind soul I am, I went to assist the child.

"Are you lost?"

Nothing except tears.

"Can I help you find your mommy or daddy?"

The fountain became a stream and the sobs became walls.

About that time a mall security guard came up.

"What's the problem, little man?"

"This man won't leave me alone."

The guard looked at me like you would your typical pervert.

"You botherin' the kid, mister?"

"I thought he was lost. I was tryin' to help him find his ..."

"My baby, what is that man doing to my baby?"

Up came the hysterical mother. Her child was lost and she was sure some fiend had grabbed the kid.

"Buddy, I think you better come with me," the guard said.

It took some mighty smooth talkin' to avoid going to the pokey for trying to help a kid find his mother. But I just kept thinking what I always think when kids are less than angels to me:

"At least he didn't wet on my leg."

**665-1111**

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Happy Birthday  
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**Love Pat**

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# Viewpoints

## The Pampa News

EVER STRIVING FOR THE TOP O' TEXAS  
TO BE AN EVEN BETTER PLACE TO LIVE

Let Peace Begin With Me

This newspaper is dedicated to furnishing information to our readers so that they can better promote and preserve their own freedom and encourage others to see its blessings. Only when man understands freedom and is free to control himself and all he possesses can he develop to his utmost capabilities.

We believe that freedom is a gift from God and not a political grant from government, and that men have the right to take moral action to preserve their life and property for themselves and others.

Freedom is neither license nor anarchy. It is control and sovereignty of oneself, no more, no less. It is, thus, consistent with the coveting commandment.

Louise Fletcher  
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis  
Managing Editor

## Opinion

### Rewrite the rules instead of salaries

Ousting bad apples from the public-school system is a time-consuming and costly process, often made worse by layers of union regulations. The result is that inadequate teachers and administrators may not be told to shape up because everyone knows they won't be shipped out.

The case of Bronx elementary-school principal Matthew Barnwell is illustrative. Three times Barnwell had been suspended for "poor leadership" and other problems — such as failing to show up for work. Parents and school board officials alike complained of his "sloppy" appearance, and three years ago he was transferred temporarily to a job in the district office "to keep him away from the kids."

But when the school board tried to make that transfer permanent, Barnwell threatened to seek a formal grievance procedure — a time-consuming, expensive process comparable to a court trial. Under pressure from the union that represents New York principals, the board weakened.

Last month a board member tried to meet Barnwell at the school to discuss further complaints from parents. The principal "didn't show up the whole day and didn't even call," says board member Jerome Greene. "We went to his office and it looked like it hadn't been dusted or cleaned in, I don't know, maybe months."

Two weeks later, police arrested Barnwell after witnessing him buying two vials of crack on a Manhattan street. And the Bronx may at last be rid of Barnwell.

Clearly this case is an extreme one. But it underlines a profound weakness in public-school governance: If it is this difficult to get rid of such an obvious bad apple, it must be even harder to remove a teacher or principal who is merely inadequate.

Education professor Edward Wynne of the University of Illinois has noted that in one recent year, "only seven discharges of certified personnel were carried through to hearing by the Chicago system — which employs some 28,000 certified employees." Each such case cost the taxpayers an estimated \$30,000 — plus heavy intangible losses as hard-pressed supervisors were forced to divert their attention from other concerns. Wynne says that Chicago's personnel rules "are typical of those applied elsewhere in America."

These rules, once thought to ensure "academic freedom," have instead come to insulate academic incompetence. Absent competition from private schools, it's doubly important to end the isolation of the public schools. The next time board and union negotiators sit down to talk contract, they should rewrite the rules as well as the salary schedules.

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# Astonish them with ingratitude

A 19th-century Italian statesman, asked how he would repay those who had helped his cause at a crucial moment, replied that "we will astonish the world with our ingratitude." That is exactly the policy the West should follow with respect to Mikhail Gorbachev's conventional arms reductions.

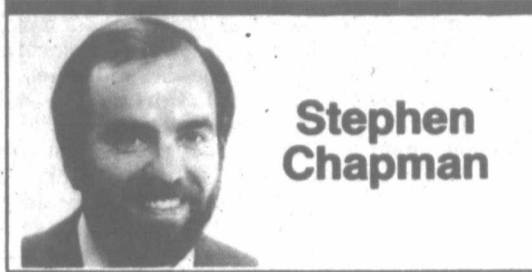
The announced cuts are not the dawn of a new era, but neither are they an empty ploy. If the Soviets keep their promise to remove 50,000 troops and 5,000 tanks from East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Hungary, they will modestly erode their ability to mount a successful invasion of Western Europe. That is something NATO should welcome.

But it isn't something NATO should reward. The dangers to the West from Gorbachev's decision are greater than the benefits. A German proverb says "the best enemies are those who make threats." That sort of enemy stimulates caution and vigilance. The kind who manages to appear unthreatening fosters complacency, which is a particular threat to NATO right now.

The allies face the same economic pinch that the United States does, which they could ease considerably by the pleasant expedient of spending less of their income on armaments and more on things that provide more immediate satisfactions.

They also face a demographic obstacle: a rapidly declining pool of draft-age men. Both pressures will make it tempting to match the Soviet steps with troop and equipment cuts of our own.

But the Soviets can afford to reduce their presence in Europe for two reasons that NATO doesn't have. The first is that the Warsaw Pact countries have no fear of invasion: The Western allies have neither the means nor the motive. The second is that the communist bloc has a far



Stephen Chapman

more powerful military force than it needs for defensive purposes.

Even after these cuts have taken place — assuming they do take place — the Warsaw Pact will continue to outnumber NATO troops in the crucial central region of Europe. More important, it will still enjoy a 2-to-1 margin in tanks, a 6-to-1 edge in armored troop carriers, and a 2½-to-1 lead in artillery.

Those advantages are not necessary for defense, but they would be exceedingly convenient in an attack. If the Soviets truly want to shift their strategy from offense to defense, they should treat the elimination of such disparities as the equivalent of a Treasury bill — a guaranteed payoff with absolutely no risk.

NATO, by contrast, can make hardly any reductions at all without some danger. It sounds like common sense that if the other side has fewer men than now, we won't need as many of our own to stop them.

But this intuition is wrong. The attacker, after all, has the advantage of being able to choose where to attempt a breakthrough. The defender, not knowing where the fight will come, has to protect his entire front.

If our forces are stretched so thin that a con-

centrated Soviet attack can manage to break through in two or three key spots, it won't be much comfort to know that overall, we were an even match for them.

We would be like the 6-foot man who drowned trying to walk across a river that averaged 5 feet deep. The unpleasant truth is that, barring Warsaw Pact reductions so huge as to be almost unimaginable, NATO can't reduce its numbers without falling below the minimum needed to be confident of stopping an invasion.

That's why the West's aim should be something like what NATO proposed the day after Gorbachev's announcement — not comparable cuts by each side, but comparable forces on each side. The right goal is equalizing the strength of NATO and the Warsaw Pact. The way to pursue it is for the Soviet bloc to reduce to NATO's size.

The test of the Soviets' intent is what they demand in return for their unilateral reductions. If Gorbachev's real motive is to free his economy from the burden of an overgrown war machine, he should proceed with these cuts, and more, regardless of what NATO does.

If he refuses to continue on this path without some reciprocal steps from our side, he will betray a sinister purpose — undermining NATO's ability and will to defend itself.

There is always the chance that the Soviet Union not only appears unthreatening but actually is unthreatening — that it has genuinely given up hope of dominating Europe through military might. But prudence demands that NATO heed the Warsaw Pact's worrisome abilities rather than Gorbachev's reassuring words.

If the Soviets are abandoning their old strategy, they should be willing to abandon the means of executing it too. To do that, they need no inducement from the West.



# Elderly don't forget everything

A friend was telling me a story about his elderly parents.

"Daddy's 81," he began. "And Momma's 76." "Daddy went to the doctor and found out he might have prostate cancer. He was supposed to have a lot of tests done, and I asked my own doctor what sort of prognosis I could expect if Daddy's tests were positive."

"He said, 'I really don't know why they would do a lot of tests on your father. They're not about to operate on him at his age.'"

"Prostate cancer moves so slowly, he'll likely die of something else before the cancer has time to do it."

"Anyway, the doctors went ahead and did the tests, and they did find prostate cancer in Daddy, but, like my doctor said, there would be no operation."

"But Momma called me again and seemed a little worried. She said, 'Son, there's something your daddy and me want you to find out for us.'"

"I said, 'What is it?'" "She said, 'Well, our doctor at home is just so young we didn't want to ask him. But do you mind asking your doctor that, with Daddy's condition, is it still safe for us to have sex?'"

I have another friend whose father, a widower, was in his mid-80s when he was diagnosed as



Lewis Grizzard

having cancer of the testicles. An operation was scheduled to remove them.

"Daddy worried and worried about it," said my friend.

"I said, 'Daddy, you'll do just fine.'"

"He said, 'I'm not worried about the operation, I'm worried about what's going to happen to my social life if I live through it.'"

I know another man who's well into his 80s. He's a widower, too. He's slim, tan, and he still has a full head of white hair.

He's a regular in the singles' bars, despite his age. He still even makes a move now and then. Once I asked him, "How can you stay this interested at your age?"

"For one thing," he answered, "I've never eaten any vegetables."

My grandmother described the night my grandfather died. He was 73.

"We had just gone to bed and all of a sudden, he turned over on top of me and started kissing me. He hadn't kissed me that way in years. Then, I felt his arms, which were around me, loosen. He died that way, in our embrace."

Earl and Phil were up into their 80s. As lifelong friends they made a pact that whoever died first would come back and tell the other what heaven was like.

Earl died and then came back to Phil as he slept one night.

"Phil," he said, "this is Earl."

"Earl! You're back! Tell me what it's like!" "Well," said Earl, "I get up in the morning and eat and then I have sex until noon."

"Then I eat lunch and take a nap and have sex for the rest of the afternoon. After that, I eat supper and have some more sex and then I go to sleep."

"So that's what heaven's like," said Phil. "I'm not in heaven," said Earl. "I'm a jack rabbit in West Texas."

The older I get, the more I appreciate such stories.

# But should we help Mikhail Gorbachev?

By WILLIAM A. RUSHER

The problem of designing an appropriate response to Mikhail Gorbachev's implicit plea for help is one of the most difficult issues the West has faced since the beginnings of the Cold War.

There are, in the first place, hard-liners who are convinced that the Soviet leader's "reforms" are just a stunt, intended to confuse the free world and trick it into providing the money and technology the Soviet Union needs to pursue its aim of global domination.

I happen to disagree with that analysis, but the possible ouster of Gorbachev and his replacement by a hard-line regime make it advisable for the West to keep its powder dry, no matter how much in earnest we think Gorbachev is.

Conversely, there are many people who are convinced that Gorbachev is an authentic convert to democratic principles in both politics and economics, and who therefore believe

passionately that the West ought to be doing everything in its power to make sure that he "succeeds."

I have several troubles with this hypothesis too. For one thing, I doubt very much that Gorbachev really subscribes to democratic principles in either politics or economics. More likely, he has simply faced the fact that the Soviet system is inexorably losing its competition with the free world, and has made up his mind to inject small doses of both market principles (perestroika) and free speech (glasnost) to improve its performance, even while privately conceding that it can't dominate the globe.

Gorbachev, in other words, is trying to "fix" the Soviet system — i.e. repair it, so it will work better hereafter. Before asking the really fundamental question (namely, can it be fixed?), let us pause to consider whether it would be in our interest if his repair job succeeded.

Presumably that would depend on whether the repairs involve structural alterations in the regime that fun-

damentally change its nature, its intentions and its capabilities. Although there are indications that they might do exactly that, we must bear in mind the possibility — even the probability — that reactionary forces within the Soviet Communist Party will at some point overthrow Gorbachev and seek to reverse his "reforms."

The prospects, in short, are for a time of troubles in the Soviet Union, in which reformist and reactionary regimes follow each other, quarreling savagely over how the nation shall proceed.

And that brings us to the really key question: Can the Soviet system be reformed? Certainly it can be modified (as Gorbachev is modifying it), and probably in the process weakened (as his internal critics are already complaining that he has weakened it). But can it be repaired and made to work more or less successfully?

Much as Gorbachev's admirers in the West wish it were otherwise, I am afraid the answer to that question is "No." The Soviet system cannot be re-

paired, because it is based upon false concepts of the nature of man and of the "laws" of history. Gorbachev is in the position of a man who is trying to fix a perpetual motion machine.

Does this mean we shouldn't help him? Not at all; on the contrary we should encourage his "reforms," because they can only bring closer the day when the Soviet system is abandoned as a total failure.

But everything depends on the nature and terms of our aid. Credits and technology that merely lengthen the life of the present regime would be positively counterproductive. Our help must be strictly conditioned on real and irreversible reforms in such fields as human rights and foreign aggression.

Slowly, the Soviet regime must be brought to recognize that, in its present form, it is doomed — but, at the same time, that there are other paths toward a bright future for Russia and her peoples.

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## Berry's World



"ELVIS!"

# Nation

## Holiday happiness turns to grief for crash victims' families

By LAWRENCE NEUMEISTER  
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP)—A mother eager to welcome her child home for the holidays wailed "my baby, my baby" upon learning the worst at Kennedy Airport, where Flight 103's fate was reduced to a flickering message on a gray screen: See Agent.

Over and over, happy anticipation changed to shock and grief Wednesday night, as relatives of those aboard the Pan Am jet learned it had crashed en route from London to New York. Authorities believed there were no survivors among the 258 aboard.

"Many of these people were coming home just for the holidays, for Christmas," said Carla Abell, the volunteer disaster nursing chairwoman for greater New York, who helped counsel about 25 families at an airport lounge.

"Some of the families are going through the terrible part of, 'Oh, I shouldn't have insisted that they come home,' or, 'Oh, why did I ever allow them to go over,'" Abell said.

As she spoke, just hours after the flight was to have landed Wednesday, a sobbing woman passed by only to find herself facing dozens of bright lights and cameras.

"Look, my son is dead. What else do you want?" she screamed, her words hanging in silence long after she had left the spot.

She was anguished over the loss of her son, a Syracuse student who celebrated his birthday three days ago.

"It's so sad," said Abell. "He just turned 21 and was so excited to come home and share all of his great experience with his family and friends."

"And, you know, there was a big party planned for tonight at home with a big sandwich and a cake and all the presents and now who's going to be opening the presents?" added Abell, whose eyes glistened with emotion.

Some of the friends and relatives of the passengers had to be treated for shock or high blood pressure as they learned of the crash, according to Red Cross spokeswoman Debra Ricciardi.

"It was a horrible surprise," she said. "Some were completely overcome. A couple just collapsed. Others went into shock. It's heartbreaking."

At Syracuse University, more than 25,000 people attending a basketball game paused for a minute of silence after it was learned that 38 students in the school's European study program had been on the jet. At the campus chapel, weeping students gathered in disbelief as they heard the news.

Rabbi Milton Elefant, chaplain of the Jewish students at Syracuse, arrived at Kennedy and said he spoke with the families of three victims from Syracuse.

"Some are just feeling that the end has come. One woman had to talk her heart out. Another couple felt they would meet their son again in another life and were strong. A third couple was somewhere in the middle," he recalled.

Neither Pan Am nor the university had released passenger names by early today, saying the list still had to be compiled and relatives notified.



(AP Laserphoto)  
Eugene Coleman of Southfield, Mich., consoles his wife Lelia as they await word on their daughter, who was expected on a flight from Frankfurt, West Germany.

## Blind eye turned to Pentagon 'black market'

By JIM DRINKARD  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—Pentagon employees, contractors and defense consultants regularly deal in a "black market" of classified Defense Department documents, and the government has closed its eyes to the practice for at least five years, congressional investigators say.

A staff report of the congressional Joint Economic Committee, released Wednesday, said the Pentagon's internal investigators discovered the practice in 1983 and sought to bring it to the attention of Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger and the Justice Department.

But efforts to sound the alarm were ignored by higher-ups, leading some subordinates to believe the practice was condoned, according to testimony at a hearing of the panel's national security subcommittee.

In a practice that strongly parallels the pattern in the current Pentagon procurement fraud case, outside defense consultants would develop sources inside the Pentagon who could furnish them with classified data, the report said. Documents included secret bid specifications for weapons systems and long-range defense acquisition plans.

It could not be determined whether Pentagon employees were paid for the documents, the investigators testified.

The consultants then sold the secrets to contractors who could use them to get an edge on their competitors, at the same time depriving the government of the cost-saving benefits of open competition, the investigation concluded.

Sen. William Proxmire, D-Wis., the subcommittee chairman, said at the hearing the practice is even worse than the procurement fraud scandal because

it involves not just business information, but secrets that if revealed could damage national security.

The practice, which witnesses said involved at least two dozen defense contractors, is continuing, said Donald Mancuso, an assistant Pentagon inspector general.

John F. Donnelly, director of the Defense Investigative Service, told the hearing eight of them are still under investigation.

He identified those as Boeing Co., General Dynamics Corp., Litton Systems Inc., Martin Marietta Corp., McDonnell Douglas Corp., Northrop Corp., Sanders Associates Inc. and TRW Inc. The Pentagon is investigating seven of the contractors while the FBI is investigating the eighth, he said later.

In a related development, the inspector general's office announced a record 596 firms were barred in fiscal 1988 from doing business with the military, and more than 4,000 people, most in uniform, were convicted of contracting misdeeds in just the last half of the year.

The report to Congress suggested department auditors are becoming more effective at finding waste, fraud and mismanagement. But it also was a reminder that industry wrongdoing remains pervasive.

The Joint Economic Committee's report noted that Pentagon investigators unearthed the "black market" in secret documents in 1983 while investigating an employee in California of GTE Corp., a defense contractor. The documents were obtained outside normal channels through a private consultant. A similar investigation in Ohio involving the National Aeronautics and Space Administration surfaced at about the same time.

## No room at inn for thousands of homeless

By THEASA TUOHY  
Associated Press Writer

Home for the holidays for the nation's growing legions of homeless could be under a bridge in Oklahoma City, a cardboard box in Philadelphia, or the streets in the nation's capital for those with no bed of their own.

In New York City, the estimated number of homeless has increased 25 percent during the last year with the total estimated between 60,000 and 90,000; in Portland, Ore., the number rose 10 to 20 percent each year this decade.

"The need doesn't stop with Christmas," said Salvation Army Major Raymond L. Peacock in Seattle, where he said there has been a 15 percent increase this year in the number of people seeking assistance.

A big holiday celebration in a heated tent is planned for the homeless in front of the U.S. Capitol on Christmas Eve, featuring entertainers, athletes, gifts for the children and a special feast.

But the lack of beds is especially acute in Washington, D.C., where, despite the estimated 10,000 to 15,000 people living in the streets, there are only about 2,500 shelter beds, said Maria Foscarinis, an attorney for the National Coalition for the Homeless.

The coalition estimates there are as many as 3 million homeless nationwide.

"There are some communities who use our inability to count the homeless as an excuse not to provide services," said Mary Orton,

executive director of Central Arizona Shelter Services in Phoenix, where estimates range from 6,000 to 9,000.

"The simple fact is, regardless of the exact number of people, they are there and they do need help," she said.

One hard hit city is Oklahoma City, where the number is estimated at 17,000, according to Christine Byrd, regional director of the national coalition. She said a December report from a governor's task force put the total for the state at 35,000.

Byrd said 48 percent are families, and that is blamed on Oklahoma's central location. She said poor families traveling between the West and East coasts run out of gas or have car trouble there.

Byrd said homelessness in rural areas is increasing because of farm foreclosures, bank failures, depressed oil and farm economies. Neither the state or the city provides any aid to the homeless.

"People don't want to accept (a homeless problem exists) because it is a harsh reality that could happen to them, too," said Byrd, who works at the Jesus House shelter, which holds 350 people per night. The rest of those without shelter huddle in groups under bridges, sleep on sidewalks or stay in abandoned buildings or cars, she said.

Baloney Joe's, a Portland shelter for homeless men, is "so full we're stacking people on top of each other," said Gene Ediger of the Burnside Community Council, a private agency for the

homeless. He said the number of homeless has gone up 10 to 20 percent each year this decade.

"There's been a steady increase of about 25 percent a year that hasn't changed in six years," said Keith Summa of the Coalition for the Homeless in New York City.

In Philadelphia, the city has started daily cleanups of a subway concourse where homeless people cart cardboard boxes, mattresses and blankets around Thanksgiving.

Mayor W. Wilson Goode said the cleanup was not an eviction. Police have not stopped homeless people from returning.

A few blocks away, a group of homeless people and supporters Monday erected a "Disenchanted Village" of cardboard boxes outside the federal courthouse, where they said they would stay for the holidays.

"Christmas is a time of enchantment, but not when you're homeless," said Sister Mary Scullion, who runs the Women of Hope residence for mentally ill homeless women.

## Tree dealers cry 'grinch'

WYOMING, Mich. (AP)—Stung by cries of "grinch," planning commissioners are trying to write some yuletide spirit into an ordinance that inadvertently made lawbreakers out of most of the city's Christmas tree dealers.

The city's building inspections department presented eviction notices earlier this month to 14 of the 17 outdoor Christmas tree dealers in this Grand Rapids' suburb, including the Wyoming Park High School Band Boosters.

The evictions resulted from an ordinance enacted last

summer to ban outdoor sales.

"When we passed that ordinance, frankly, no one thought about Christmas trees," Gerald Mears, head of Wyoming's planning and inspections departments, told planning commissioners Tuesday.

The dealers were told to clear the trees off their lots or pay a \$110 application for a zoning variance, prompting Councilman Edward Frederick to call Mears a "grinch."

"It was not our intention to stop Christmas," said Councilman Michel Hill.

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# World

## Japan, Soviet Union agree to resume WWII treaty talks

By ELAINE KURTENBACH  
Associated Press Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Japan and the Soviet Union agreed Wednesday to resume talks on a peace treaty formally ending World War II, despite their failure to overcome a territorial dispute that has chilled relations for decades.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said the two sides had also agreed to prepare for a summit.

During the last summit meeting in October 1973, peace treaty

negotiations stalled on a 43-year-old dispute over a group of Soviet-held islands that Tokyo wants returned.

Tokyo and Moscow have rival claims to the Kuril islands off northern Japan, from which 17,000 Japanese residents were ousted by the Soviets at the end of World War II. Japan asserts a long historical right to the islands, which now are fortified by 10,000 Soviet troops.

Shevardnadze gave an upbeat assessment of his two days of meetings with his Japanese coun-

terpart Sousuke Uno before flying on to Manila, becoming the highest-ranking Soviet official to visit the Philippines since the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1976.

"We have attained a degree of mutual understanding that allows us to speak of a new chapter in Japan-Soviet relations," said Shevardnadze, speaking Russian that was translated into English.

Later, however, Uno told a news conference "there can be no peace treaty without a resolution

of the territorial issue." After Shevardnadze's departure, the two nations released a nine-page joint communique that made no direct reference to the territorial dispute but vaguely mentions "difficulties existing in their bilateral relations."

Citing the agreement on further meetings leading to a possible summit between Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev and Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, Shevardnadze said the talks had won "a victory for reason, for balance of interests, and for a realistic policy."

He said he would meet Uno in Paris next month while attending a conference on chemical weapons, and that Uno would visit Moscow in the spring.

Asked about the territorial issue, Shevardnadze said the two sides had "agreed to consider the historical and political aspects related to removal of difficulties pending in bilateral relations."

## South Korea frees 281 political prisoners

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The government released 281 political prisoners Wednesday as part of a sweeping amnesty, and the freed dissidents vowed to topple President Roh Tae-woo and drive U.S. forces out of South Korea.

Roh ordered the amnesty involving 2,015 "politically motivated offenders" as part of efforts to defuse nationwide furor over demands for the punishment of former president Chun Doo-hwan for human rights abuses and corruption under his authoritarian regime.

In addition to the releases, the

Justice Ministry said the civil rights of 1,581 dissidents had been restored, the sentences of 92 people reduced and 61 fugitive radical students dropped from police wanted lists.

Dissident leaders charged that 300 political prisoners remained in jail and dismissed the amnesty as a government trick to perpetuate its control.

Released prisoners and supporters called for Roh's fall and the expulsion of the 42,000 U.S. troops based in the country.

Park Suk-yook, a dissident freed from a prison in the southern city of Kwangju, told support-

ters, "All prisoners of conscience must be freed to realize democracy... I will fight, together with my comrades, until the military dictatorship is terminated in this land."

"Drive out the Yankees," dozens of protesters chanted in Chongju south of Seoul as they greeted Moon Boo-shik, who was serving a 20-year sentence for his part in a 1982 attack on a U.S. cultural center in the southern port of Pusan.

Kim Hyun-jang, also involved in the Pusan attack, ridiculed the amnesty. "I am sorry to be released when many comrades are

still held in prison," he said.

One person died and three others were injured when the Pusan center was set on fire in an anti-U.S. protest.

Dissidents contend Washington supports authoritarian rule in South Korea and demand the withdrawal of U.S. forces based in the country under a defense treaty.

A government spokesman, who declined to be named, warned the released dissidents not to engage in violent anti-government protests.

"The government will deal sternly with radicals' future actions which are seen as defying the nation's free democratic system," he said.

Justice Ministry officials said 224 "anti-state criminals" remained in jail, but said nearly all were communist North Korean spies.

Roh appealed to the nation last month to forgive Chun and promised to free political prisoners.

## U.S. had word of bomb threat

MOSCOW (AP) — The U.S. Embassy last week warned American diplomats that a bomb threat had been made against Pan Am flights from Frankfurt to the United States sometime in December.

On Wednesday, a New York-bound Pan Am Boeing 747 crashed in Scotland with 258 people on board. Flight 103 had originated in Frankfurt with a Boeing 727.

The embassy's warning was contained in a Dec. 13 circular from William C. Kelly, its administrative counselor, that was posted on embassy bulletin boards.

It read: "Post (the embassy) has been notified by the Federal Aviation Administration that on Dec. 5, 1988, an unidentified individual telephoned a U.S. diplomatic facility in Europe and stated that sometime within the next two weeks there would be a bombing attempt against a Pan American aircraft flying from Frankfurt to the United States."

In Washington, a State Department spokeswoman at the department's working group on the crash said there was no immediate comment. An FAA spokeswoman in Washington, Kathleen Harrington, also said there would be no immediate

comment. Frankfurt airport officials, meanwhile, said today that security had been stepped up at Pan Am after tips were received earlier this month that a bomb might be smuggled aboard a jet.

The official, Horst Harnstein, told The Associated Press by telephone that the tips were about "the transportation of a bomb from Frankfurt heading in the direction of the United States."

ABC News quoted FBI sources who said the threat apparently came from what they described as "some kind of Islamic group."

In London today, an anonymous caller to the AP office in London claimed responsibility for the crash of flight 103 and said it was in retaliation for the downing of an Iran Air Airbus by the U.S. Navy cruiser Vincennes in July.

"We the guardians of the Islamic revolution are undertaking this heroic execution in revenge of blowing the Iran air plane by America a few months ago and keeping the Shah's family in America. We are very proud," the male caller said, then hung up quickly.

The Navy said that plane carrying 290 people had been mistaken for an Iranian fighter.

## Judges suspended for freeing killer

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Two judges who let a playboy killer go free after serving only two years for the rape and murder of a 6-year-old girl have been suspended pending an investigation into charges they took a \$200,000 bribe.

The government news agency Notimex said Chief Justice Carlos del Rio Rodriguez told a news conference that the case, which has provoked a public outcry, was being investigated "at the highest level."

Alejandro Braun Diaz, a wealthy German-Mexican, went free last week after serving only two years of his 30-year sentence for the rape, torture and strangulation of Merle Yudiria Mondain.

The 6-year-old girl was murdered two years ago in the posh resort town of Acapulco, where Braun's family has a successful cruise business.

Braun, described by one newspaper as "The Jackal of Acapulco," had confessed to keeping the little girl tied to his bed for two days while he drugged and raped her.

He and his teen-age houseboy, who is still in jail, told the court they strangled her and dumped the body in a junkyard. The houseboy testified that Braun, 34, was addicted to drugs and alcohol.

Notimex said the magistrates who ordered Braun's release, Gilberto Arredondo Vega and

Eufemio Zamudio Aleman, were suspended from the bench in Guerrero state pending an inquiry into charges they took a \$200,000 bribe.

"The Judges. To Justice," the headline in the declared in thick black letters more than two inches tall.

News that Braun had gone free 28 years before the end of his sentence, the maximum under Mexican law, provoked nationwide outrage.

Tourists joined locals for protest marches through the streets of Acapulco and local officials, including the governor of Guerrero, appealed to the Supreme Court to investigate.

## Quake damages Kirghizia region

MOSCOW (AP) — An earthquake damaged houses in a mountain village of Soviet Kirghizia Wednesday, but apparently caused no injuries, Tass reported.

The official Soviet news agency said the quake in the small Soviet republic bordering China registered 6 on the 12-point Soviet scale that measures visible effects.

An earthquake with a magnitude of 6 is listed by Soviet references as a "strong" quake capable of knocking pictures from walls and causing light damage to buildings.

The quake that struck the republic of Armenia on Dec. 7, killing an estimated 55,000 people, was reported to have had an intensity of 10.5 on the Soviet scale near its epicenter.

Tass said the epicenter of the earthquake in Kirghizia, 1,300 miles south of Armenia, was on the southwest slopes of the Fergana mountain range in the southern part of the republic near the village of Shamaldy Sai.

"According to preliminary data, the tremors damaged houses in the village, but there were no casualties," Tass said. Tremors also were felt in neighboring Uzbekistan, including in that republic's capital of Tashkent which was heavily damaged by a quake in 1966.

In Denver, John Minsch of the National Earthquake Information Service said the agency's seismology equipment had no reading on the tremor.

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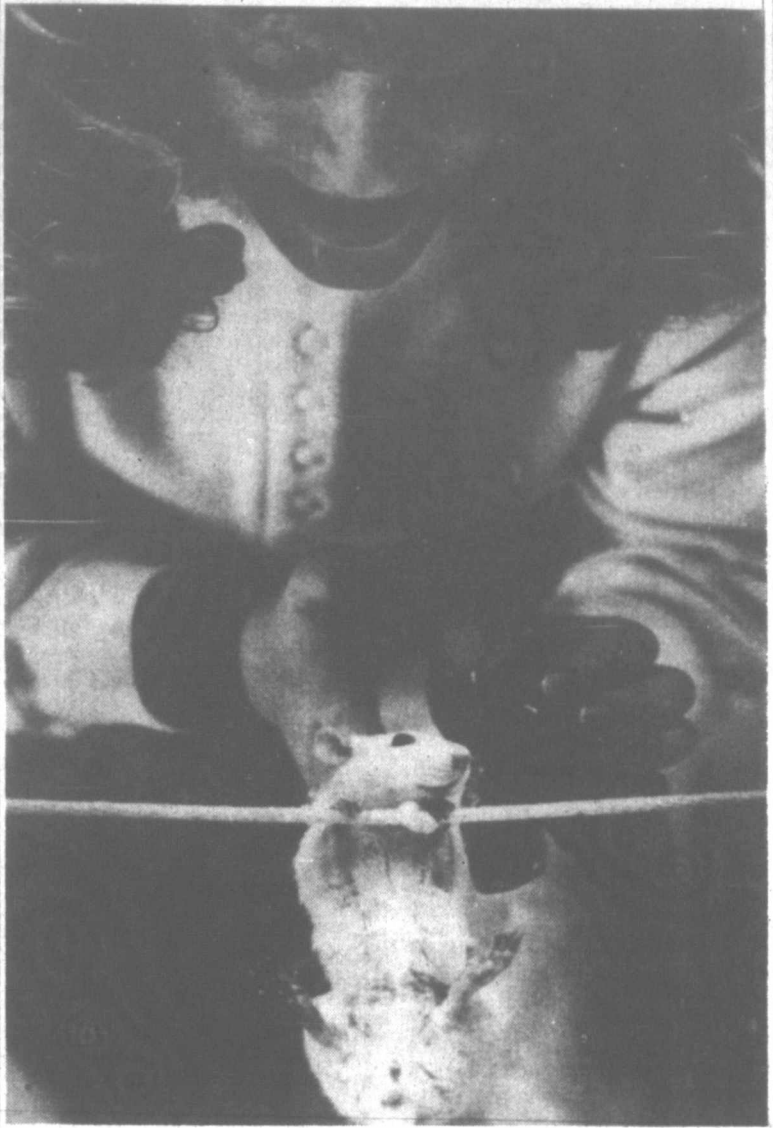
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### Hang in there



(AP Laserphoto)

Nebraska Wesleyan University student Amy Phares of North Platte encourages her rat to "hang in there" during the annual Rat Olympics in Lincoln, Neb., recently. The competition, sponsored by the psychology department, is part of a motivation and learning class. Events include dashes, tightrope walk, weightlifting, hurdles, long jump and rope climb.

## New agency proposed for S&L clean-up

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal regulators are proposing the creation of a new agency, possibly drawing money from banks, credit unions and savings institutions, to oversee the clean up of the money-losing savings and loan industry.

The Federal Home Loan Bank Board, which regulates the nation's 3,000 S&Ls, has sent the broad outlines of the proposal to the Treasury Department, which is formulating the incoming Bush administration's plans for dealing with hundreds of insolvent savings institutions, agency spokesman Karl Hoyle said.

Bank Board Chairman M. Danny Wall, in a speech to a group called the National Housing Conference, proposed what he called a "reinsurance agency" for all federally insured financial in-

stitutions.

On an unrelated topic, Wall also said the bank board is offering to make foreclosed properties available to house the homeless in a half dozen cities.

The bank board's insurance fund, the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp., has been paying for a record number of S&L rescues this year primarily through promissory notes pledging future income from an assessment on still-operating institutions.

Wall has argued previously that the fees paid by S&Ls to the FSLIC, as well as by banks and credit unions to separate insurance funds, were meant to cover a "normal" level of failures, not the "catastrophic" level of the current thrift crisis.

Regulators said they have re-

solved the cases of 159 insolvent thrifts this year. More than 400 insolvent S&Ls remain open and hundreds of others are close to insolvency.

The reinsurance agency would oversee three insurance funds — for banks, S&Ls and credit unions. It could collect premiums from all three, spending them when one of the funds got in trouble. It also could serve as the mechanism for further borrowing to pay for the thrift crisis or as the conduit for any money Congress wanted to spend on the cleanup.

Bank board member Lawrence White, in an interview, said the proposal leaves open who will pay for the S&L clean-up and whether a new agency's expenditures would be counted toward the budget deficit.

"I don't think it is intended to

be a back door way of getting them (banks and credit unions) to pay for the FSLIC's current problems," White said. "The concept is both a funding mechanism and a forward looking means of dealing with catastrophic costs" in the future.

An administration source, who declined to be named, told The Associated Press that the Treasury Department estimates the cost of restoring the thrift industry to health at \$60 billion to \$75 billion if interest rates remain unchanged and as high as \$105 billion if interest rates increase by two percentage points.

Regarding the proposal to use S&L properties for the homeless, Hoyle said the bank board is talking with six or seven cities in Texas and in the North and Midwest. He declined to identify them.

## Roadways should meet needs of older drivers

By H. JOSEF HEBERT  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Older drivers pose a greater risk of being involved in accidents but driving should not be restricted solely on the basis of age, says a recent government study.

The study by the National Research Council says roadway signs and markings should be redesigned to better meet the needs of older drivers, and that screening should be improved to identify impaired drivers of all ages.

The report urges states to tighten their screening programs and issue restricted licenses in some cases such as limiting certain applicants to daytime driving only.

It criticized a movement in some states to allow drivers licenses to be renewed by mail without drivers being required to undergo vision tests at least every four years.

But the study concluded that "age alone is a poor predictor of the (driving) performance

of any individual," although acknowledging after age 75 a driver is "about twice as likely (per mile driven) to be involved in a crash" as middle-aged drivers.

The National Research Council panel, composed of experts assembled by the National Academy of Sciences, spent two years examining questions about transportation and the elderly.

It said problems of meeting the transportation needs of older citizens will increase in the years ahead as the number of people over 75 increases and more elderly people live in the suburbs where less public transportation is available.

"The states are not prepared to handle the growing number of very old drivers or to identify those at high risk of accident involvement," the study concluded.

"Most older persons will probably be quite capable and safe drivers. But current statistics indicate that drivers 75 and over are more at risk of crash involvement than the average driver. ... These facts must be ack-

nnowledged even though there is no justification for restricting driving on the basis of age alone."

Furthermore, the panel said, elderly people are more likely to suffer serious or fatal injuries than other drivers in accidents of similar severity.

The study said elderly people, especially those 75 years or older, often have problems reading traffic signs, seeing clearly at night, gauging traffic flow when merging into traffic or making left turns, and turning their heads when backing their vehicles.

But "when examined in terms of incidents, the problem that older persons represent to overall traffic safety is small relative to that of the (teen-age) driver," the committee wrote.

The panel encouraged older drivers to buy automobiles equipped with air bags, the devices that inflate automatically to protect the head and upper torso in a crash.

The committee also urged the use of seat belts.

## Economic Commission still shaky despite new appointments

WASHINGTON (AP) — President-elect Bush has made his appointments for the final two spots on the National Economic Commission, but doubts persist over how successful the panel will be in breaking a seven-year deadlock over the budget deficit.

The high-level commission was created to help the new president deal with President Reagan's biggest economic failure, huge budget deficits that have more than doubled the national debt.

On Tuesday, Bush announced he was choosing former Sen. Paul Laxalt, R-Nev., and former Ohio Congressman Thomas "Lud" Ashley, a Democrat and one of

Bush's closest friends.

Under law, Bush was required to pick one Democrat and one Republican to complete the 14-member commission, which is headed by Democrat Robert Strauss and Republican Drew Lewis.

Supporters once believed the bipartisan panel represented the best hope of breaking the impasse between Reagan's opposition to tax increases and the Democratic Congress's refusal to trim domestic spending enough to tame the budget deficit.

But even with the appointments, many observers said the commission faces a nearly im-

possible task of reaching a consensus among panel members who have squabbled openly over such issues as taxes and the need to trim defense spending.

"What Bush has done is give the commission a renewed look of respectability, but the members are a long way from reaching a consensus on a credible plan that Bush and Congress will accept," said Michael Evans, head of a Washington consulting firm that bears his name.

The commission once had hoped to complete its work before Christmas but Lewis has said the panel may not issue its recommendations until next

September.

At that time, the panel could serve as an emergency vehicle which Bush could use to throw together a compromise with Congress in order to avoid automatic spending cuts under the Gramm-Rudman deficit reduction law.

But Strauss said he hoped the commission would try to meet a March 1 deadline specified in the law creating the panel. The law did provide an escape clause that would allow the new president to delay the report until Sept. 1.

The commission has scheduled 16 days of hearings in January and February to begin making decisions on a deficit-cutting plan

even though those sessions have been clouded by a court battle over whether the commission can deliberate in secret.

During the campaign, Bush had derided the commission as a stalking horse for tax increases, something he has pledged repeatedly he will not accept.

But in making his announcements, he tempered his earlier skepticism, noting that he had named Ashley and Laxalt one day after the Electoral College ratified the Nov. 8 vote electing him president.

"The swiftness with which I am making these appointments underscores the importance I

place on the need to reduce the federal budget deficit," Bush said.

Ashley's appointment had been expected, but the choice of Laxalt was a surprise and came after Bush apparently rejected the advice of some aides that he select Oklahoma Gov. Henry Bellmon, who as a ranking Republican on the Senate Budget Committee in the 1970s had gained a reputation as a political pragmatist.

The other 12 members of the commission, evenly split between Democrats and Republicans, were appointed by congressional leaders and Reagan.

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# More offenders spend time paying back society by service

**EDITOR'S NOTE** — Instead of putting non-violent and minor offenders in overcrowded prisons, why not have them repay society through community service? The logic seems inescapable, and more and more offenders around the country are serving their time in useful though unpaid employment. Sometimes it takes odd forms.

By **LARRY MARGASAK**  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — They

pull debris from vacant lots in big cities. They weed community gardens. They paint, they plaster, they hammer and nail. They help old folks. They try to straighten out street kids on the verge of going wrong.

If they know computers, they might wind up programming one for a community volunteer group.

And thus a growing number of non-violent criminal offenders pay their debt to society by doing useful tasks, without serving se-

less time and taxpayers' money if their alternative were prison.

The idea of community service in lieu of — or in addition to — prison time has been around for two decades or so, but has only recently gained widespread use.

It helps relieve overcrowding in America's prisons, a chronic problem, but not much is known about whether it is more effective than prison sentences in deterring further crime.

One study suggests it is not. It concluded that 46 percent of the petty thieves given community service in New York City six years ago were re-arrested six months after their release. The recidivism figure for similar criminals who went to jail was roughly the same, 44 percent.

"Being punished by community service does not make Boy Scouts out of petty recidivists — but neither does jailing them," wrote Michael E. Smith, who conducted the study.

But some of those who served the community rather than serving time don't doubt the effectiveness of that alternative.

"I paid back society. I'm a better person," says John Zaccaro Jr., son of Geraldine Ferraro, the Democratic vice presidential candidate in 1984.

After getting in trouble for selling \$25 worth of cocaine to an undercover officer, he worked off his community service hours at a youth center in Burlington, Vt.

Along the way, he says, he exceeded his 300-hour sentence by an extra 200 hours of work.

Zaccaro's case gained some notoriety when it was found that he was serving the house-arrest portion of his sentence in the comforts of a \$1,500-a-month luxury apartment, but he says life was anything but luxurious at Burlington's King Street youth program.

"The 10, 11, and 12-year-old kids I was working with after school were in state custody," Zaccaro says. "They would try to kick out windows, they would spit at you, throw things at you. On a daily basis I had to restrain the

kids, because they would throw rocks and swing bats at each other."

Many judges let non-profit agencies or probation departments decide the many possibilities for how community service time is to be spent. Other judges like to come up with their own ideas.

Judge Ted Poe of Houston is one who relishes the task. He sentenced Edward Louis Young III, an airline baggage handler, to cleaning the stables for Houston's mounted police squad — the perfect sentence, the judge reasoned, for the man who stole the Lone Ranger's guns.

Young actually took the two Colt .45 revolvers from the man behind the famous mask — actor Clayton Moore.

"He stole from the one individual who represents law enforcement, and it's only right he do community service for a law enforcement agency," Poe said.

Michael Smith, who conducted the study on recidivism among those who serve community service sentences, is director of the Vera Institute in New York City. The institute assigns misdemeanor repeat offenders to 10-day, 70-hour community service programs.

Jobs include clearing out vacant lots, removing trash, renovating buildings for homeless families, weeding community gardens, helping the elderly, and all sorts of construction tasks.

In Los Angeles Foundation For People works with federal courts to place mostly white-collar or skilled offenders in assignments where their talents are best used.

A computer whiz teaches his craft to people working at non-profit agencies; an offender with a theater background works with a performing arts group; a copyright violator makes videos for Amnesty International.

Chief U.S. District Judge Sherman G. Finesilver in Denver is known for his novel community service sentencing. He had violators of the Endangered Species

Act set up a wildlife exhibit at the city's airport.

Finesilver cautioned, "If not used properly, the public can lose faith in the community service system ... For example in sports, if you always have offenders speaking to youth groups. The sentence should not take on the aspect of a fix."

Houston's Judge Poe has some 50 skilled tradesmen — welders, carpenters, painters and electricians — helping restore the battleship Texas, now a museum in the Houston ship channel.

His latest project, he says, is expanding an offender-run vegetable garden which provides food for Houston's hungry. "Next year it's going to be a big-time operation."

No hard figures exist to show how much community service sentencing has grown, but one indication was the formation four years ago of the National Community Service Sentencing Association.

Director Cres Van Keulen, whose office is in San Francisco, says there are some 500 formal, local programs placing offenders in community service jobs, averaging about 1,000 new cases a year.

She adds that there could be another 1,000 informally structured operations handling additional placements.

If her estimates are right, more than a half-million offenders a year are sentenced to community service time.

Dr. Alan Harland, professor of criminal justice at Temple University, says preliminary results of a study he's conducting indi-

cate that more than 80 percent of those working off community service sentences complete their work.

Van Keulen cited a California study that provides only a glimpse of the financial savings in cases where community service replaces imprisonment.

Sixty-three California programs reported in 1987 that 103,000 offenders worked more than 6.3 million unpaid hours, a saving of \$21 million to volunteer organizations and government agencies if they had paid the minimum hourly wage of \$3.35.

Another study by the Public Agenda Foundation in New York City indicates that the public accepts community service.

Observations by 125 people who participated in 10 small-group discussions said they favored alternatives to imprisonment if an offender would "face the implications of his crime and undertake work that could prove useful."

One unscientific sign of success comes from program participants. Petty thieves and white-collar criminals alike spoke favorably of the experience.

Sterling Hall, who says he was convicted three dozen times for shoplifting (a claim borne out by the Vera Institute's records), claims his second community service tour of 70 hours helped him develop "good work habits."

"It has shown me teamwork," he says. "It gave me personal self-worth. It got me getting up in the morning. It gets you used to taking orders."



(AP Laserphoto)

Judge Ted Poe

## Penn's Cave only all-water cavern in U.S.

CENTRE HALL, Pa. (AP) — Driving past the white barns, fields and wildlife, the road to Penn's Cave looks like many others in this rural Centre County borough.

But hidden beyond the rich farmland and forests stands the yawning entrance of one of the country's natural fascinations.

Penn's Cave, the only all-water cavern in the United States, has been attracting tourists for nearly 130 years.

Visitors come to see the geological forms such as those aptly named "the Buddha," the "Statue of Liberty" and, of course, the "Nittany Lion."

Situated about 90 miles from Harrisburg, beyond State College on Route 192, Penn's Cave is a 1½-hour drive from the state capital. Visitors to the cave, which is a cool 52 degrees F year-round, are taken on a 50-minute guided tour in small motorboats.

From the first stalagmites to the last stalactites, the limestone cavern's history and beauty can be seen up close. The rock formations were created millions of years ago when the cave was a shallow sea.

After descending the long staircase leading to the cave's entrance, visitors come face to face with Boomer, a male North

American mountain lion that lives in a natural den at the cave.

The history of the cave is not without its legends, the most famous of which concerns an Indian princess named Nitane who fell in love with a Frenchman, Malachi Boyer.

The two decided to run away but were stopped by the princess's seven brothers. Boyer was thrown into the mouth of a cave, where he died.

On still summer nights, it is said, an unaccountable echo rings through the cave, "Nitane ... Nitanee ..."

After passing through the caverns, the boats motor around

Lake Nitane, the headwaters of Penn's Creek, where wildlife can be observed.

The William Campbell family, which has been operating the cave for 80 years, has expanded the tourist attractions to include 800 acres that feature a farm, a commercial airport and a picnic area and mountain and valley trails.

Each September, an antiques show at the site attracts thousands of people. The exhibit includes tractor and equipment parades, model trains, horse-drawn wagons and craftsmen creating their wares.

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# Lifestyles

## Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,  
My name is Ashlyn Mitchell I am 2 1/2 years old. Thank you for last years gifts. This year I would like a Special Blessings Baby, some dishes a kitchen & a bouncing baby.  
Love,  
Ashlyn

Dear Santa  
My name is Ryan Mitchell 5 years old I would like to have a dino riders tyrannosaurus rex, a white shirt and a soccer ball. Thanks for last year gifts  
Love  
Ryan  
P.S. I would also like a bed bugs game, and a fat skateboard.

Dear Santa  
For Christmas I would like a cork gun the reason I want it is so I can have fun and I would also like a new record player and some new records so I can listen to them.  
And I also want a play sword so I can be a niga.  
From Casey Brookshire

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy this year. I am writing for me and my baby sister. I want a drum set, a Pee Wee Herman Doll, & a Ghost Busters Proton Pack. My sister Shannon wants a doll and a Puffalump. We will leave you cookies & milk by the tree. Have a safe trip. We love you Santa!  
Josh & Shannon

Dear Santa,  
My name is Stacy Lynn Pepper and I'm 2 years old. I have tried to be a good girl. I would like a Big Bird game, an animal game, some candy canes, and a Garfield kitty cat. I will leave some milk & fudge for you on the kitchen table. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Stacy

Dear Santa Claus,  
How have you been this year? I have gotten into trouble at Day Care, but I will be real good from now on. I will be really good the rest of this year and next year too.  
Would you please bring me a play-dough maker, and a toy fire-station house, and a big train track set, and some more "Masters of the Universe" stuff. Not Hordak, I already have him.  
I love you and I love Mrs. Santa Claus too.  
Ty Heard

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph doing? I've

been a good boy this year. aould you please bring me some red cowboy boots and I also have a little sister named Marlee, would you please bring her a ball of her own and a little horn. I will leave you some milk and chocolate chip cookies. I love you  
Ryan Chisum

Dear santa,  
how are the rain deers? fine I hope  
how are you santa? fine I hope. I wanta nintindo, talking pee we herman, train set, clothes, shoes, money, games, mr. potato head, e.t., the movie, an american tale the tape  
Love  
Brandon

Dear Santa,  
I would like a pop up tent and a new bike, a new chain like my daddys and a new play car, electric car and a new baseball bat and ball and new electric dump truck and new motorcycle. Please bring my brothers Brandon and Matt new toys too.  
Love,  
Alan  
P.S. I will leave you cookies and milk for you and carrots for your reindeer when you come Christmas eve. and apples for your elves

Dear Santa  
My name is Kirby O'Neal and I am 4 years old. I have been a good girl. Would you please bring me a Cinderella tape, Lil' Miss Makeup doll, a Barbie house, and some clothes and shoes for my dolls? And would you bring my little brother Jordan a choo-choo train and trucks? I will have cookies and milk waiting for you.  
Thank you, Santa.  
By!  
Kirby O'Neal

Dear Santa Claus  
I've been a good boy all in December. I would like a scooter without training wheels. I would also like a back pack for school and a transformer that turns into a pickup.  
I would like to wish all the other boys and girls a very merry Christmas.  
Love  
Jas

Dear Santa,  
My name is Cameron. i am 6. I would like aero turbo car color racer paint factory, foot-notes, electric piano, electronic battleship 3 nintendo, games. please, bring, Casey, my brother, some riding toys. We love you! We will have

cookies & milk for you!  
Cameron & Casey

Dear Santa Claus,  
Would you please bring me an E.T. tape? I would also like a race track with racing cars, a fishing game and a gun. I sure did enjoy my visit with you at the North Pole last summer when we went to Colorado. I have been a pretty good boy this year. I can't wait till Christmas!  
I love you Santa,  
Clinton Watson, age 4  
P.S. I would also like a new poster for my room.

Dear Santa  
Please bring me all the thi gs I want. I will be better next year than I was this year. I would like a doll and tapes a superdough play set and an Alarm clock so I can get up by my self.  
from Tiffany Watson  
Age 7

Dear Santa,  
I think your beard is as white as glittering snow. And Santa I want you to bring me a Nintendo or a ten speed. I do not care which one you bring me. Santa will you put a present under my tree? Will you tell Mrs. Santa to make my mom a teddy bear. Santa, my mom is about to have a baby in January. Will you wish my mom to have a baby boy? please! And also please live me a picture of you! please!  
Love,  
Valerie Simpson

Dear Santa,  
My name is Shayna. I'm 1 year old. I have been a pretty good girl this year. For Christmas I would like a Rocking horse & a baby doll.  
Santa don't forget about my two cousins (Steven & Timothy) back in Okla. They have been good boys this year too. There will be cookies & milk for you.  
Love,  
Shayna Evans

Dear Santa,  
I would like some micro machines, some match box cars. I also would like a cat named Fluffy. My baby bother would like some clothes and some toys.  
love ya,  
Willie

Dear Santa,  
My name is Angie Marie Kaye Gatlin. I would like a Barbie ice cream shoppe. A new dog named stuffy. A new cat named barbie. Six barbie dolls. My little brother Danny would like a fire truck.  
Love  
Angie Gatlin

## Top decorators



(Staff Photo by Larry Hollis)

Winners in the overall appearance category of the home decorating contest sponsored by the Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce and The Pampa News are, from left, Joye Cree and granddaughter Meagan Cree, 1819 Dogwood; Willie Montgomery and, not shown, husband Buddy, 209 N. Tignor; Jo Ann Stephens and daughters Amber and Tam-

my, 709 E. Francis; Steve Giles, 2218 N. Nelson; and Robin and Sam Parsley, 821 N. Gray. Not shown is Wayne Fannon, 1197 Prairie Drive. Winners were also chosen in the category of originality for each of six geographic areas of Pampa; each winner received 25 Susan B. Anthony dollars.

## Letters to Santa

Dear Santa Claus,  
We are the Fields sisters. We have tried our best to be good. Sarah would like a Barbie house. Mary Grace would like a tape player. Kate would like a three speed bicycle. Please remember all of the other children in the world. We would also appreciate anything else you might bring us.  
Don't worry we will leave you some cookies and milk. Have a safe trip!!!!  
Love,  
Kate, Sarah and Mary Grace  
P.S. We will be in Pampa Christmas Eve!!!!

Dear Santa,  
I would like a necklace, a new bike, a new pair of shoes, a new StarStage, a new jambox, a jogging suit, a pair of snow-boots, a Alf doll, a secret charm. My name is Tina Smith. I am 10 years old. I go to Woodrow Wilson school. I have been pretty good lately. I will leave you some milk and homemade cookies for you Santa.  
Love,  
Tina Smith  
P.S. I live at 926 E. Malone St.

Dear St. Nick,  
Casey and I have been good this year. I would like a tank transformer, a new animal for my new bunk bed, and Army gear, and any other surprises. Casey would like a combine and a big plow, a new animal for his new bunk bed and any surprises.  
We will have Oreos and milk waiting for your visit on Christmas Eve. We hope you have a good and safe trip.  
Mommy and Daddy have been good this year. Could you please bring them a surprise for their stockings.  
We love you.  
Cody Reeves  
Casey Reeves

Dear Santa,  
I'm 5 years old and I'm in kindergarten.  
I would like to have a new race car, a puppy, a walkie talkie, and a Army Gear set. Also, I want all the children in the world to have a Merry Christmas.  
I will have brownies and a glass of milk on the table waiting for you.  
Thank you.  
Love,  
Sean Pope

## Question of 'How are you?' gets full range of responses

DEAR ABBY: I read with interest the letter from the woman who was embarrassed because of her husband's detailed report of his physical ailments when someone greeted him with, "How are you?"  
Some years ago I read about a lady who didn't want to lie about her condition, so when someone asked her in passing, "How are you?" she replied, "I'm better than I was, but not quite so good as I was before I got worse."  
I thought the comment was so good, I often use it in my response to that greeting. It usually brings a chuckle.  
"BETTER" IN TAVARES, FLA.



Dear Abby  
Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: Living in a retirement home where we're not supposed to discuss health or illnesses at the table, one of our residents has passed out copies of the enclosed.  
TED IN CALIFORNIA

HOW ARE YOU?  
When people ask, "How are you?" It's just a salutation — And common sense should bar you from a lengthy explanation. It's not the kind of query That requires a diagnosis Of each and every dreary Reaction and neurosis. It doesn't mean devising An answer to the question In which you're itemizing What's wrong with your digestion. If operations scare you, Don't analyze and spell 'em And when folks ask, "How are you?" For heaven's sake, don't tell 'em!"

DEAR ABBY: I work for a large company in a large office. One of my fellow employees insists on brushing his teeth often during the

He also flosses at his desk, which I find offensive. There is no way to avoid seeing this, as our office is set up with rows of desks in one large room with no partitions.  
How should I approach this man to explain my objections? Or am I being overly critical?

REVOLTED  
DEAR REVOLTED: Others may also be offended by this no-class man, so write him an interoffice memo — and make it a class-action project.

CONFIDENTIAL TO YOU:  
"Teach thy tongue to say, 'I do not know,' and thou shalt progress." (Maimonides)

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# Today's Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- College group
  - Landing boat
  - Neck part
  - Long times
  - Sweet potato
  - Loch monster
  - Breakfast food
  - Firearm
  - owners' gp.
  - Epochs
  - Dolores Rio
  - Chopping
  - de France
  - Fishhook connector
  - Paper measures
  - Walks
  - Boat parts
  - Victory symbol
  - Snakelike fish
  - Author Levin
  - Econ. indicator
  - Corny
  - Korean city
  - Pretend
  - Leather strip
  - Part of corn plant
  - Small anvil
  - Widebeest
  - Monkshood
  - Caustic substance
  - Paraphernalia
  - Vex
  - Guardian spirit
  - Against
  - River in Hades
  - Compass point
- DOWN**
- Requires
  - Valid
  - Fisherman
  - Horse relative
  - Wildcat
  - Indian garment
  - Government agent
  - Compass point
  - Antenna
  - Old Testament book
  - SSS
  - Something that changes
  - Least experienced
  - Affectionate
  - Fish trap
  - Fur-bearing animal
  - Barrels
  - Scat (2 wds.)
  - Lightly
  - Pressing
  - Woolly
  - Dreads
  - Jewish festival
  - Additions to houses
  - Young hawk
  - Dried up
  - Gender
  - Heating material

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

27 Fur-bearing animal  
28 Barrels  
33 Scat (2 wds.)  
34 Lightly  
36 Pressing  
37 Woolly  
38 Dreads  
40 Jewish festival  
43 Additions to houses  
44 Young hawk  
45 Dried up  
48 Gender  
50 Heating material

**GEECH** By Jerry Bittle

RAY: I JUST CAME BY TO INVITE YOU TO OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY TOMORROW NIGHT.  
GEECH: THAT SOUNDS LIKE FUN. I CAN'T MAKE IT.  
RAY: SORRY, RABBIT, BUT I DIDN'T INVITE YOU.  
GEECH: YEAH, BUT YOU WERE GOING TO.  
RAY: ACTUALLY, I WASN'T. I DECIDED THAT WITH YOUR ATTITUDE, PERSONALITY AND TOTAL LACK OF CHRISTMAS SPIRIT, YOU WOULD JUST SPOIL THINGS FOR EVERYBODY.  
GEECH: OK, YOU TALKED ME INTO IT.

**THE WIZARD OF ID** By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

BOOM!  
GEECH: WHAT'S WITH THE ROLL?  
WIZARD: DURING BATTLE IT SERVES AS AN INSPIRATION TO THE MEN.  
GEECH: WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF ARROWS, SIR.  
WIZARD: HERE... HOLD UP THE INSPIRATION.

**EEK & MEEK** By Howie Schneider

E. PLOTZ REAL ESTATE  
HISTORIC LAUDMARK MEMORIAL CONDOS  
GEECH: WE'RE NOT TOTALLY INSENSITIVE, Y'KNOW

**B.C.** By Johnny Hart

GOSH, MY FAVORITE FROCK IS THREADBARE AND MY MUSK OIL IS ALMOST GONE.  
OH, NO! ... A BIG HOLE IN MY BEST JEANS...  
DO YOU CARRY MOUTH MUFFS?  
XMAS GIFTS

## Astro-Graph

by bernice bede osol

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You're likely to fare better in situations today where you are unhampered by partners or assistants. If they aren't prepared to do things your way, things could come to a dead stop. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail \$2 to Matchmaker, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Performing well under pressure is not apt to be among your personal assets today. Don't let your duties and responsibilities pile up on you.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) At gatherings you are usually democratic and treat everyone equally. However, today you might play favorites and this will not go unnoticed by two sensitive friends.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) Be careful today that you do not discuss sensitive family matters with a person who has difficulty keeping secrets. This individual may broadcast to others a distorted version of what you say.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) Any critical judgments you make today should not be based upon wishful thinking. You might choose to ignore the facts, but they won't ignore you.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) This is not a good day to juggle your finances around to where you use funds earmarked for essentials for something rather frivolous. Adhere to your budget.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) Disagreements between you and your mate should be worked out privately today and not in front of others. If you involve friends or relatives, it will only add to the discord.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) If there is a matter you cannot manage on your own today, don't let your pride prevent you from requesting assistance, even if you have to ask for help from someone you dislike.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You might be able to arbitrate a volatile issue between dissenting friends today and make each feel like the winner. You're the only one who can pull it off.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) It's highly probable your self-interest will be gratified today, but the methods you'll use to achieve this could cause others to think unkindly of you.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Today you could be more sensitive than usual where your ideas are concerned. This might cause you to overreact if they are challenged.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) In joint ventures today, either for social or business purposes, be sure your counterpart shares equally in all the risks and expenses involved.

**MARVIN** By Tom Armstrong

I CAN'T MAKE HEADS OR TAILS OUT OF THESE ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS THAT CAME WITH MARVIN'S TRICYCLE!  
MAYBE STUDYING THE ILLUSTRATIONS WOULD HELP.  
NOPE, THESE PICTURES MIGHT BE WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS.  
...UNFORTUNATELY, ALL THOSE WORDS ARE GREEK.

**MARMADUKE** By Brad Anderson

"Don't worry, I'm sending you one."

**KIT N' CARLYLE** By Larry Wright

NO, REALLY, IT'S OKAY! I DON'T NEED THEM! I'M GOING TO GET HER SOMETHING ELSE FOR CHRISTMAS!

**ALLEY OOP** By Dave Graue

THE NEXT TIME YOU CALL ME A MONKEY...  
...I'LL CUT OFF THAT RED BEARD OF YOURS AN' MAKE YOU EAT IT, Y'HEAR?!!  
YAH! YAH! I VILL NEFFER CALL YOU DOT EFFER, AGAIN, I... I PROMISE!  
NOW GET UP!  
V...VUT ARE YOU GOING TO DO...??  
I'M GONNA GIVE YOU AN EARLY CHRISTMAS PRESENT! ???

**WINTHROP** By Dick Cavalli

I TOLD MY DAD I WANTED TO GROW A BEARD.  
HE SAID FIRST I LEARN TO PLIT THE CAP BACK ON THE TOOTHPASTE...  
THEN WE'LL TALK ABOUT GROWING A BEARD.

**SNAFU** By Bruce Beattie

"This snowflake is exactly the same as the one...let's see, where was it?"

**The Family Circus** By Bil Keane

"Did you get our card, Grandma? ...I licked the stamp!"

**CALVIN AND HOBBS** By Bill Watterson

MOMM! MOM!  
WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S THE MATTER?  
DO PEOPLE GROW FROM SPORES?  
SPORES?? YOU WAKE ME UP AT 2 AM TO ASK IF PEOPLE GROW FROM SPORES? ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?? WHY ARE YOU EVEN AWAKE?? GO TO SLEEP!!  
SHE DIDN'T ANSWER. SHE MUST NOT KNOW.  
I'M TELLING YOU, IT'S TRUE.

**THE BORN LOSER** By Art Sansom

YES, MY PROBLEM WAS DIAGNOSED AS A BAD GALLBLADDER.  
AND THEY REMOVED IT.  
UNFORTUNATELY, YES.  
UNFORTUNATELY?  
THEY FOUND OUT IT WASN'T MY GALLBLADDER.  
WELL... I MEAN...  
UH... WHOSE WAS IT?

**FRANK AND ERNEST** By Bob Thaves

ERNE LIKES TO FIX THINGS AROUND THE HOUSE... JUST TODAY HE'S FIXED TWO SANDWICHES, THREE SUNDAYES, AND SOME MICROWAVE BROWNIES.

**PEANUTS** By Charles M. Schultz

HI, MARCIE... WHAT DID YOU PUT DOWN FOR HOW YOU SPENT YOUR CHRISTMAS VACATION?  
I WROTE ABOUT HOW I VISITED THE MUSEUM, AND CLEANED OUT OUR GARAGE AND HELPED MOM POLISH ALL THE SILVERWARE...  
I'M HANGING UP, MARCIE...

**GARFIELD** By Jim Davis

ONLY THREE DAYS 'TIL CHRISTMAS  
GO BACK TO BED, GARFIELD

# Sports

## Harvester hustle pays off

By L.D. STRATE  
Sports Editor

Heading into the holiday break, the Pampa Harvesters are living up to their pre-season billing as a playoff contender in the District 1-4A basketball race.

The Harvesters are off to 3-0 start in district and head coach Robert Hale feels the winning trend will continue as long as team members keep playing hard.

"What we're trying to do is play as hard as we can for the whole game. A lot of teams will play hard, but they won't keep it up for the entire game. I'm trying to stress to the players that they play hard and play the best they can at all times and not worry about winning or losing. When you play hard, you're going to be successful, whether it shows up on the scoreboard or not," Hale explained.

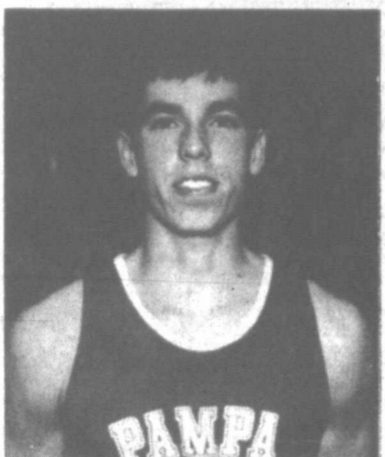
So far, the Harvesters' workmanlike approach is showing up on the scoreboard in a positive way.

Hereford was the latest victim as the Harvesters posted an impressive 70-54 win Monday night. "Defense has been a real point of emphasis for us and Monday night we played a pretty good defensive game," Hale added.

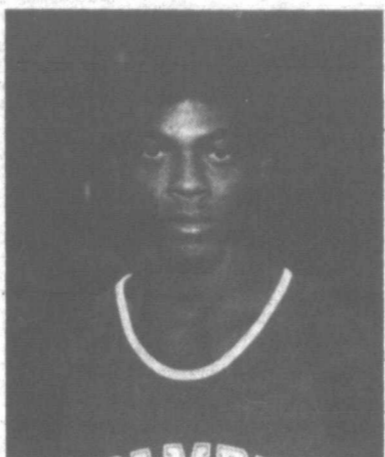
The offense was also clicking as the Harvesters shot 54.7 percent from the floor, including 59.2 percent the first half.

"We shot the ball well and we knew that was something we were going to have to do," Hale said. "Playing good defense, shooting well and keeping our composure are three important points for us."

One of the unsung heroes of



Chris Hoganson



Billy Wortham

Monday night's win was 6-0 senior Billy Wortham who came off the bench to score nine points and provide additional rebounding power.

"Billy came in and really gave us a lift. The main thing he did that really helped us was that he played hard," said Hale. Hereford just couldn't match Pampa in marksmanship, hitting only 36.3 percent of its shots.

Pampa all-state candidate Dustin Miller hit 12 of 17 field goal attempts for 28 points. The 6-5 senior drilled in four 3-point goals. Another accurate shooter was 6-2 junior Mark Wood who hit six of nine field goal attempts to finish with 15 points. Guard Ryan Teague, who was seven of nine from the floor, had 14 points. The 6-0 junior hit his first five shots.

"I can't say enough about these three guys," Hale said. "They were really hustling out there."

Pampa, 9-4 overall, slipped away from Hereford late in the second quarter with an 11-2 run

for a 40-28 halftime lead.

"Anytime you can get a run going it's going to help you," Hale said. "When you've got good shot selection you have a chance to make several buckets in a row. It's also easier to get into your rhythm of play when you're going as hard as you can."

Playing hard isn't without its mishaps, however.

Senior guard Chris Hoganson had to have four stitches taken in his forehead after he collided with a Hereford defender on a driving layup.

"Chris took a pretty good blow, but he's a tough kid," Hale said. "He does a super job on offense, even though he doesn't score many points. He sets the offense and gets the ball to the right players."

Currently, Pampa is tied with defending champion Levelland for the top spot in the district standings. The Lobos are also unbeaten in district (3-0) and have a 12-2 overall mark.

## Bucks honored



(Staff Photo by Sonny Bohanan)

The White Deer Bucks were honored at a rally in the high school auditorium Wednesday afternoon when the UIL presented team members with state football championship medals. Pictured above (l-r) are seniors

Mark Walden, T.W. Lowe, Jason Marlar, Alan Holly, Bryan Waitman, Tommy Martinez and Bart Thomas, who presented their six playoff trophies and state championship plaques to the school and community.

## Oilers' Allen seeks revenge

HOUSTON (AP) — There's no other team Houston Oiler cornerback Patrick Allen would rather be playing Saturday than the Cleveland Browns.

Allen said he played the worst game of his career and let his team down Sunday when the Browns rallied to a 28-23 victory.

Cleveland's victory forces the Oilers to return to Municipal Stadium Saturday for the AFC Wild Card playoff game.

Allen yielded four passes to Webster Slaughter including a 22-yard game winner in the fourth quarter.

Allen wants to get back quickly and avenge his performance.

"I'm excited about going back," Allen said. "I know what I did wrong. It's correctable. My technique just wasn't there."

Slaughter finished with six catches for 136 yards and his last four catches came with Allen defending.

"It's the first time that I've ever been beaten for the winning touchdown," Allen said. "That's the first time any receiver has caught four passes on me in a game."

But the Oilers get a second chance and Allen says he's ready.

"I've got a lot of pride and playing like that is hard for me to accept," Allen said. "I took it personally and I'm upset with myself."

Allen, one of the most affable Oilers, didn't hide after his off-performance.

"You have to take the bad with the good," he said. "I could never lie to myself. It's the man-in-the-mirror concept. It's tough but I can face it."

Allen said his technique was poor and he was off-balance against the Browns receivers.

"There's no reason to go into a shell, it happened," Allen said. "I had to face the music."

Now he has to recover and face the same receivers again.

"A cornerback has to be able to recover," Allen said. "It's no big deal now."

## PMS teams victorious

Pampa Blue defeated Canyon White 36-34 in eighth-grade basketball action Monday night.

Chester Jackson led Pampa in scoring with 15 points while Desmond Johnson followed with seven.

Pampa eighth-graders have a 7-1 record.

Pampa Blue won over Canyon White 38-35 in the seventh-grade game.

Gavin Porter was top scorer for Pampa with 13 points while Seivern Wallace had seven.

The Pampa seventh-grade Blue team has an 8-0 record.

The seventh and eighth-grade teams host Valley View at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 5.

## Jayhawks nip Texas Tech

By The Associated Press

Kansas coach Roy Williams had a lot of nice things to say about Texas Tech after his Jayhawks managed to salvage a non-conference college basketball victory over the Red Raiders thanks to some heroics by Mike Maddox in the closing seconds.

Maddox, a sophomore forward, banked in a baseline jumper with 20 seconds remaining Wednesday night to give the No. 20-ranked Jayhawks an 81-80 non-conference college basketball victory over Texas Tech.

In other non-conference games involving Southwest Conference teams, Texas A&M whipped Central Michigan, 73-57, in a first round game at the Rebel Round-Up tournament, and Arkansas rolled to an easy 97-79 victory over Texas Southern.

The Aggies will play 13th-ranked Nevada-Las Vegas in the tournament finals Friday night.

Williams admitted that the ending of the game had him on the edge of his seat.

"It was scary at the end," said Williams, the Jayhawks' first-year head coach, who saw the defending NCAA champions blow an 18-point halftime lead and then rally for their eighth victory in nine games.

"But that's what's great about college basketball. Tech made an excellent comeback," Williams said. "I don't think we played as well as we could have, but I don't want to take anything from Texas Tech. They worked us. They were down 18 points at halftime and could have folded it in."

Texas Tech, 2-6, went in front 80-79 on Sean Gay's shot with 1:47 left.

After the teams exchanged possessions, Maddox drove the right baseline for his go-ahead basket.

Gay made a turnover on the Red Raiders' next possession and Texas Tech got the ball back

again with one second left, but Wes Lowe could not handle an in-bound pass.

"With 18 seconds left we had plenty of time, but we just didn't run the play we wanted to," Texas Tech coach Gerald Myers said.

"We played hard and had a couple of chances at the end to win, but we just didn't get it done. This will give us something to build on."

Although it was closer than he would have liked, Williams said the Jayhawks will benefit from the close victory.

"This was good for our team," he said. "We learned something. We made some bad decisions, but we were able to stick it out at the end."

Milt Newton scored 27 points, Mark Randall 19 and Kevin Pritchard 14 for Kansas.

Jerry Mason scored 24, Todd Duncan 23 and Gay 16 for Texas Tech.

Kansas led 51-33 at halftime. But Duncan and Mason rallied Texas Tech, and Mason's layup put the Red Raiders ahead 76-75 with 3:32 to play.

Newton made two foul shots, Duncan countered with a pair of free throws and Newton then made two more foul shots for a 79-78 lead with 2:12 to go.

Freddie Ricks scored 14 points for the Aggies, who held the Central Michigan Chippewas without a basket for nearly the first six minutes of the second half to break open a close game and win 73-57.

Ray Little had 11 points for Texas A&M while Tony Milton and David Williams added 10 apiece.

Jeff Majerle topped Central Michigan with 12 points and Ed Wilcox added 11.

Keith Wilson made 7 points during a 17-2 run and Arkansas went on to a 97-79 victory over Texas Southern.

The Razorbacks, 4-1, held the Tigers to one field goal during the first 11 minutes and opened a 20-4 lead.



(AP Laserphoto)

Arkansas' Keith Wilson (right) works to steal the ball from Texas Southern's Darrion Applewhite.

## Weekly Pick 'em Poll

WEEK SEVENTEEN  
DEC. 23-28



L.D. Strate



Sonny Bohanan



Larry Hollis



Crystal Ball



Harry Hoyler  
KPDN Radio  
Personality

INDEPENDENCE BOWL: UTEP vs. S. Mississippi	S. Mississippi	UTEP	UTEP	S. Mississippi	UTEP
SUN BOWL: Alabama vs. Army	Army	Alabama	Army	Alabama	Alabama
BLUE-GRAY GAME: North vs. South	North	North	South	North	South
ALPHA BOWL: Houston vs. Washington St.	Houston	Houston	Houston	Houston	Houston
LIBERTY BOWL: Indiana vs. S. Carolina	S. Carolina	S. Carolina	Indiana	S. Carolina	S. Carolina
NFC WILDCARD Bears of Minnesota Village	Vikings	Vikings	Rams	Vikings	Vikings
AFC WILDCARD Oilers at Cleveland Browns	Browns	Browns	Oilers	Browns	Oilers
Last Week	6-9	9-6	9-6	9-6	8-7
All	153-90	181-47	169-79	168-90	163-85
Percentage	.657	.739	.681	.677	.657

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# Refugio invites friends and relatives 'home for Christmas'

By SHELLY EMLING  
Corpus Christi Caller-Times

REFUGIO (AP) — For the first time in more than a decade, Deb Bauer will celebrate Christmas with her entire family.

The 31-year-old Refugio native has spent weeks mailing invitations to family member statewide to come home for the holidays, and the replies have been positive.

Her five brothers, one sister, 19 cousins and their children all will converge on the town of 3,890 in two weeks.

Bauer is her own best example of an idea she had last summer for a weeklong campaign in Refugio dubbed "Home for Christmas."

Faced with a population decline of 1,000 in the past two years, Bauer and the Refugio Chamber of Commerce are pulling out all the stops in an effort to rekindle interest in the county and revive former

residents to return for a second look. The campaign drive is characterized by a full calendar of holiday events for residents and visitors the week before Christmas.

Residents here say they are proud of their historical community and aren't afraid to show it off.

The Spanish built their last mission in Texas at Refugio in 1795 in an attempt to Christianize the Karankawa, a feared Indian tribe they believed to be cannibalistic. The mission was called "La Mission de Nuestra Senora del Refuge" — the Mission of Our Lady of Refuge.

Joe Cavanaugh, director of the Refugio County Museum, said the city boasts a wide selection of historic buildings, many of which date from the late 1860s to the turn of the century.

A tour of eight such historical homes kicked off the "Home for Christmas" campaign last Sunday. Stops on the tour, organized by the Refugio County Historical Society, included the historic Our

Lady of Refuge Church and homes featuring antique collections and displays of homemade Christmas ornaments.

A tour of the homes two years ago drew 250 people.

"It may take awhile to get something started here, but once you do, everyone in the town really rallies together to get something accomplished," Bauer said.

Refugio's residents are determined to put gloomy statistics behind them — including the decline in population and a higher-than-state-average unemployment rate.

Mayor Olan McBroom said Refugio traditionally has been held together by high school football and is hoping the "Home for Christmas" campaign reiterates the city's other good points, such as a strong feeling of family.

"Football is No. 1 in this town," McBroom said. "It's the one thing that really unites everyone and

gets everyone excited."

The Refugio Bobcats were one point shy of a Class 2A state championship last year and reached the semifinals this year.

Bauer, who returned to Refugio to practice law after attending St. Mary's University in San Antonio, fondly remembers when her family would gather each Christmas Eve at her grandparent's house for a Mexican luncheon, complete with tamales and enchiladas — a Bauer tradition.

"I remember it was always a big deal for us to get all dressed up and go to midnight Mass," she said. "Although Christmases aren't the same anymore, it's still the best time of the year."

"Things aren't going to improve in Refugio unless we ourselves do something about it," Bauer said.

"Home for Christmas will remind us what we have to offer here," she said.

## Teacher puts his collected junk to use

By MELANIE POPPLEWELL  
Texarkana Gazette

LINDEN, Texas (AP) — Long before Charles Harris decided on teaching math as a career, he had figured out his life's avocation — collecting junk.

"I started out when I was just a kid collecting unusual things like wasp nests," said Harris, 62, a math teacher in McLeod in Cass County. "I just kept trying to rescue things."

Many of the things he has rescued in recent years ended up in his home in Atlanta until they added up to more than space allowed.

So about three years ago, he opened the Trading Post Antiques on Highway 59, five miles north of Linden.

The rusty gasoline company signs, old farm implements and dishes in front of the building are a telltale sign of Harris' eclectic tastes in junk.

He spends almost every waking minute in the store, except when he is teaching school.

"I love what I do," Harris said of teaching. But sometimes teaching becomes stressful, and he escapes to the world of antiques and junk to relax.

"It's mostly all fun here," he said of the items in his collection, some of which date to the 1800s. "There's not much stress. This represents an era — the good old days."

The 30-by-60-foot room housing Harris' collectibles is cluttered with everything from false teeth to books to Indian pottery.

"A lot of people specialize (in antiques). I feel so sorry for them," he said, laughing. "They don't know what they are missing. People come in here and they will rummage around all day long."

"I sold a set (of false teeth) two days ago. I asked them if they were going to try them, and they said no, they wanted them for a practical joke."

Many times Harris does not have to look for the things he collects and sells. People bring it to him.

"There is not a single source, but I'm so well-known in this area that when people around here have something they want to get rid of, they holler at me first," Harris said.

Sometimes he buys the contents of a house or old building without knowing exactly what's inside. He finds many treasures inside furniture drawers that way.

"I bought a sewing machine the other day, and the drawers were crammed full," Harris said, his eyes gleaming at the thought of misplaced treasure.

"Some things are gone the week they come in," he said, recalling the brightly colored pieces of Fiesta pottery he sells from time to time. "They were made to brighten up the home. A lot of people still use them to put up in a cabinet for display."

On an average day, about 11,000 cars pass Harris' business, he calculates.

"A lot of them are antique or junk collectors," he said. Business is good even on rainy and snowy days.

"A real dyed-in-the-wool antique collector will come in and see what you've got," Harris said.

When he retires, Harris says he will devote his full attention to his junk collecting.

"I enjoy rescuing this stuff before it gets destroyed or damaged," he said, smiling. "I can't think of anything I'd rather do."



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Texas Coalition for Safety Belts

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