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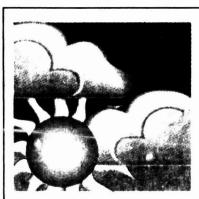
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### ROBERT KNOWLES WEST TEXAS FORD • LINCOLN • MERCURY 701 W. BROWN 665-8404

Vol. 91 No. 229 • Pampa, Texas 50° Daily • Sunday \$1



High today mid 60s Low tonight 30 For weather details see Page 2.

PAMPA - In observation of the new year, St. Mark CME Church is having a "Watch Night" program on Thursday, Dec. 31 at 9 p.m. Following the message, which is to be presented by four area pastors, a free dinner will be provided consisting of black-eyed peas, neckbones, cornbread, onions, punch and dessert. And on Saturday, the church will host a Community Breakfast beginning at 8 a.m. A donation is asked for the meal of pancakes, bacon, sausage, eggs, coffee and juice.

HARLINGEN (AP) When arsonists torched a three-bedroom house, they may have had the wrong address, a fire investigator

Someone burned down the home where Lucy Sanchez and her family have lived for more than two years.

"It's been determined that it is definitely arson," Cameron County , Fire Marshal Desi Najera said of the Tuesday morning blaze. "It was possibly retaliation, but I think they were mistaken in the residence they burned. I think they were trying to retaliate against a neighbor in that area.

- · Woodrow Wilson Adcock, 85, retired United Methodist minister
- Harvey Lee Bailey, 68, retired owner-operator of Bailey's Oil & Conoco. • Ray M. Hogan, 90, retired
- trucker, construction worker. Arnold Edward 'Red' Miller, Jr., 71, former cook at Boys Ranch, Wheeler Care Center.

Classified . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 Comics . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 6 Editorial .....4 







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# Street rubble to be crushed for alley repair

By JEFF WEST Staff Writer

What do you get when you when you rebuild a lot of city

A huge concrete and rock pile. While the main benefit of the project was better streets, another benefit to the city was the nearly 30,000 yards of concrete removed from streets, curbs and

road project and the virtual mountain of concrete is stored at the city landfill. While it might look like a

About 4.4 miles of concrete streets were torn up during the

huge problem to some, to Pampa City Manager Bob Eskridge it looks like part of a needed to serve as a base.

The pile of concrete and rock is scheduled to be crushed and used as a base to repair some of the more than 70 miles of alleys that the city says needs repair.

City personnel have traveled all the alleys to evaluate their condition and made a list of worst to best.

But even with the 30,000 vards of concrete it will take \$120,000 to \$130,000 in materials to finish the entire project which Eskridge predicts will take several years to complete.

"The limiting factor is the manpower," he nid.

Requests for bids will go out soon to get all the concrete crushed into the powder that's



Pampa City Manager Bob Eskridge and Engineering Technician Donny Hooper look over part of the 30,000 yards of concrete waiting to be crushed for use in the alleys.

# London band trip mulled

By MIRANDA G. BAILEY **Managing Editor** 

"This is either a great opportunity, or a great challenge, or a combination of both," said Superintendent Dr. Dawson Orr.

This was the sentiment expressed by Orr at the Pampa ISD Board of Education meeting this ticipate. month in introduction to the topic of a Jan. 1, 2000, London band trip. The issue, a they have coll non-action item, was brought before the board said Collins.

by PHS band director Bruce Collins after receiv-

"We get offers everyday from tour companies to go on trips since I've been director but we've never received an invitation like this," Collins

Upon calling the London millennium parade festival director, Collins said he was told that only bands of high quality were invited to par-

'He (the London director) assured me that they have college directors scoping high quality,'

"There's no way we can take a trip like this ing an invitation to participate in the London without lots of approval. We're not going to sell Millennium Parade on New Year's Day next candy bars door to door to raise this kind of

(See LONDON, Page 2)



(Pampa News photo by Miranda Bailey)

Eighth-grader Megan Shannon and seventh-grader Cody Locklane show off Pampa Middle School's new phone directory. Shannon and Locklane's drawings were chosen and then used to make the front and back cover of the booklet distributed to the school's student body.

# 100-plus mph chase lands driver in jail

With speeds reaching over 100 mph before all was said and done, an early morning chase has landed a Pampa man behind bars.

James M. Brown, 25, 2129 N. Dwight, was being held in the Gray County Jail this morning in lieu of \$14,000 assessed on several charges including driving while intoxicated.

In all, three city police units and two cars from the sheriff's department were involved in the chase that began shortly after 1 a.m.

The incident began when Pampa Police Officer Anthony Wooley saw a 1984 Thunderbird pass another car on the right on Francis, he

Wooley said he pulled behind the car and turned on his flashing

lights. The Thunderbird sped up and made a right turn onto Somerville, driving over the safety cones in front of the Hughes building and running a stop stop sign. From there, the officer said the T-Bird's driver turned onto Kingsmill then Hobart. Next, the car ran a red light at Alcock and

Hobart, turned onto Alcock then onto Price where he turned north leaving the city. Wooley said he was driving 94 miles an hour but said the suspect

was traveling between 110-115 miles an hour. At one point, Wooley (See **CHASE**, Page 2)

### 'It wasn't easy' Octuplets mother talks

HOUSTON (AP) — After a visit to her seven surviving babies, Nkem Chukwu said today she suffered the discomfort and difficulty of carrying octuplets for one reason: for love.

Ms. Chukwu spoke publicly for the first time today before leaving the hospital, three months after entering to wait for the birth of her

She looked frail but happy as she and her husband, lyke Louis Udobi, addressed reporters at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital. She entered the hospital in early October and spent the last 2 1/2 weeks in bed with her head inclined toward the floor.

"It wasn't easy but I did it for the love I have for them," said Ms. Chukwu, 27, who delivered the first of the babies Dec. 8 and the remaining seven by Caesarean section on Dec. 20. "I knew one day it

(See OCTUPLETS, Page 5)

# Horse lovers thrive in 'Arabian paradise'

and the nearby valley have welcomed Arabian horses, not just as visitors but as big business.

Surrounded by ranches and breeding areas, Scottsdale has become the Southwest's hub for breeding and raising, training and riding, buying and selling the majestic creatures — and has become known internationally as "an Arabian paradise.

Along the way, Arabians have become to Arizona what thoroughbreds are to Kentucky. The Fall and Futurity show, sponsored by the Arabian Horse Association of Arizona last month, warms up winter's traditional hoopla.

Fight-year-old Elena Ugliepta showed her love for her horse at the show. A competitor in the 13-and-under showmanship class, she doted on Adijahn, bestowing

very public kisses. Dedication to the animals was clear even with less

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — For decades, this city—demonstrative—trainers, such as Rod Owens of—the "brains" among horse breeds. Bedouin riders in the Chandler, Ariz., who exercised H.R. Freedom at dawn during the show.

Horse groom Nolene Lowrey was not shy either. "Horses have always been a part of my life," she said, displaying a horse-head tattoo on her shoulder. "They will always be with me.

The November show is just one showcase for the horses. The All Arabian Horse Show, planned for early 1999 in Scottsdale, often draws more than 300,000 visitors. Entering its 44th year, the show remains one of the world's largest Arabian horse events.

Locals have shown their appreciation of the shows and the houses they celebrate. City planners protect horse-riding trails. Developers build luxury "equestrian residences" with barns, training and exercise areas

plus a condo, of course. Excellent endurance racers, Arabians are considered

Middle East considered their horses gifts from God, fashioned from a desert breeze. The line originated 20 centuries ago, traceable to just three racehorses: the Byerly Turk, the Darley Arabian, the Godolphin.

Two purebred stallions — gifts from the Turkish sultan to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant — arrived in the United States in 1873. Twenty years later, the Turkish exhibit at the Chicago World's Fair had 45 Arabians and was a hit. One of the largest shipments followed, arranged by Jeddy Roosevelt in 1906. To keep track, the Arabian Horse Registry of America began in 1908.

Arabian horses began arriving in Arizona in the 1930s, as such prominent families as the Wrigleys and McCormicks bought horse ranches. The arid desert climate proved irresistible then, and still does. The area has bred champions for decades, with sales records following racetrack records.

806-665-5729 314 S. Starkweather • Pampa



#### Services tomorrow

ADCOCK, Woodrow Wilson — 10 a.m., First United Methodist Church, Lubbock. **HOGAN**, Ray M. — 10 a.m., Bell Avenue

Baptist Church, Amarillo. MILLER, Arnold Edward "Red" Jr. — 2 p.m., First Baptist Church, Allison.

#### **Obituaries**

#### **WOODROW WILSON ADCOCK**

LUBBOCK - Woodrow Wilson Adcock, 85, died Monday, Dec. 28, 1998. Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday in First United Methodist Church with Dr. Jimmy Nunn and the Rev. Marisue Smith officiating. Entombment will be in Garden of Shepherd of Resthaven Mausoleum. Arrangements are under the direction of Resthaven Funeral Home of Lubbock

Mr. Adcock was born March 3, 1913, in Haskell County to Willis and Jessie Adcock. He graduated from Haskell High School in 1932 and from McMurry College in 1936, receiving a bachelor of arts degree. He earned a B.D. degree from SMU Perkins School of Theology at Dallas in 1939. He was awarded a doctor of divinity degree Aug. 24,

He married Grace Wylie on Dec. 24, 1937, at Howe, Texas.

He was a United Methodist minister for 66 years serving churches in Sagerton and O'Brien, Valley View, Whitewright, Vera, Hale Center, Snyder, Pampa, Amarillo, Brownfield and the Howe Circuit and worked in the Northwest Texas Conference as president of the youth assembly for two years. He was minister of evangelism at First United Methodist Church in Lubbock and was interim minister at Seagraves and Stinnett.

He was district superintendent of the Abilene District and was a representative of the Northwest Conference to the National Archives and History Center of the Me hodist Church at Drew University, Madison, N.J., in 1983.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving in Europe as chaplain and attaining the rank of captain. He received the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater ribbon. He was a member of the Lions Club, twice serving as president.

Survivors include his wife, Grace; four children, Ruth Smith, Ann Fossler, Woody Adcock and Beth Ankrom; three sisters, Mildred Green, Evelyn Norris and Bertha Grissom; a brother, Grady Adcock; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

#### HARVEY LEE BAILEY

MIAMI - Harvey Lee Bailey, 68, died Tuesday, Dec. 29, 1998, at Pampa. Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday in First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Jerry Moore, pastor of First United Methodist Church of Gruver, the Rev. Tom Moore, pastor of First United Methodist Church of Groom, and the Rev. Steve Patterson, pastor of First United Methodist Church of Miami, officiating. Burial will be in Miami Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa. Flag presentation will be courtesy of Gary Pettit of the American Legion.

Mr. Bailey was born April 20, 1930, at Miami. He was a lifelong Miami resident. He married Shizuko Mochizuki on March 23, 1954, at Toyko, Iapan. He owned-operated Bailey's Oil & Conoco, retiring in 1992. He was a member of First United Methodist Church of Miami and American Legion Post #106 of Miami.

He was a U.S. Air Force veteran, serving during the Korean Conflict.

Survivors include his wife, Shizuko, of the home; a daughter, Emmy Bean of Germany; two brothers, Royce Bailey and Wiley Bailey, both of Miami; and two grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to First United Methodist Church of Miami or to Hemphill County Hospice.

RAY M. HOGAN

AMARILLO - Ray M. Hogan, 90, died Tuesday, Dec. 28, 1998. Services will be at 10 a.m., Thursday in Bell Avenue Baptist Church with the Rev. Danny Logan, of the church, Entombment will be in Memorial Park Cemetery Mausoleum East under the direction of Memorial Park Funeral Home of Amarillo.

Mr. Hogan was born at Foss, Okla. He married Katherine Whitaker in 1959 at Gruver. He had been an Amarillo resident since 1966, moving from Borger. He was a truck driver for Chemical Express and was a millwright in the construction industry prior to retiring. He was a member of Bell Avenue Baptist Church and Carpenter's Union #1884 of Lubbock.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Maxine Langley, in 1966.

Survivors include his wife, Katherine; two sons, Justin Hogan of Abilene and Bob Hogan of Pampa; a sister, Mary Kimbrough of Rockport; a brother, Henry Hogan of Denver, Colo.; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

ARNOLD EDWARD 'RED' MILLER, JR. HOWARDWICK - Arnold Edward "Red" Miller, Jr., 71, died Tuesday, Dec. 29, 1998, at Veterans Administration Medical Center at Amarillo. Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at First Baptist Church in Allison with the Rev. Jim Powell, pastor of First Baptist Church of Howardwick, the Rev. Mike Dyer of Sayre, Okla., and the Rev. Bob Meller officiating. Burial will be in Zybach Cemetery under the direction of Wright Funeral Home of Wheeler.

Mr. Miller was born Aug. 24, 1927, at Joliet, Ill., to Arnold Edward Miller Sr. and Sadie Rae Wells. He worked as a cook at Boys Ranch and Wheeler Care Center. He moved to Wheeler in 1980 and to Howardwick in 1992. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Howardwick and Masonic Lodge.

He was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving during World War II.

Survivors include his wife, Frankie, of Howardwick; two daughters, Peggy Murphy of Gorman and Wanda Miller of Tyler; a sister, Marilyn Ensign of Wichita, Kan.; two brothers, Ted Polk of Albuquerque, N.M., and Thomas Glen Polk of Cheyenne, Okla.; four grandchil-

dren; and four great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to V.A. Hospitality House of Amarillo and Crown of Texas Hospice, 1000 S. Jefferson in Amarillo.

#### Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Department reported the following arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Tuesday, December 29

Daniel Burrows, 22, Austin, was arrested on charges of violation of probation/unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Leo Francis McMahon, 41, 701 N. Zimmers, was arrested on warrants.

Ricardo Armendariz, 25, 1025 S. Wells, was arrested on charges of disorderly conduct, fight-

Francisco Sotoro Cruz, 21, 1035 E. Fisher, was arrested on charges of disorderly conduct, fight-

#### Ambulance

The Rural/Metro reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today. Tuesday, December 29

10:19 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Scirroco and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

11:41 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to Columbia Medical Center and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

12:13 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Grav 13 at 1 transported one to Columbia Medical

6:3. p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Frederick and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

Wednesday, December 30

12:43 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2300 block of Alcock. No one was transported. 5:41 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 400 block of Nelson and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

5:52 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

#### Stocks

The following grain quotations are	Coca-Cola68 13/16	dn 1/2
provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa.	Columbia/HCA25 1/2	up 1/4
	Enron57 1/16	dn 1/4
Wheat 2.61	Halliburton29 7/8	dn 1/2
Milo	IRI3 5/16	up 1/16
Corn	KNE34 9/16	up 1/16
Soybeans 4.74	Кеп МсGее38	up 5/16
Joy Commission Commiss	Limited29 7/8	up 3/8
The following show the prices for	McDonald's76 3/4	dn 1/4
which these mutual funds were bid at	Mobil90	up 5/16
the time of compilation:	New Atmos 31 5/8	NC
the time of compilation.	NCE48 1/16	NC
Occidental 17 dn 5/16	Penney's47 15/16	dn 7/8
	Phillips42 5/8	NC
Magellan 121.27	Pioneer Nat. Res. 7 15/16	dn 1/8
Puritan	SLB45 11/16	dn 1 3/16
	Tenneco33	up 1
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock	Texaco53 5/8	up 9/16
Market quotations are furnished by	Ultramar22 7/8	up 1/4
Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.	Wal-Mart 80 7/8	dn 1 1/16
Amoco	Williams31	dn 1/8
Arco	New York Gold	286.30
Cabot	Silver	4.99
Cábot O&G15 1/16 NC	West Texas Crude	11.59

#### Police report

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

Tuesday, December 29

Jerry Wayne Young, 37, 1017 S. Somerville, was arrested on charges of assault with threat. James M. Brown, 25, 2129 N. Dwight, was

arrested on charges of evading arrest, driving while intoxicated, probation violation and war-

Burglary of a vehicle was reported in the 800 block of N. Christy.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1100 block of S. Dwight.

Offense against a child was reported in the 500 block of Lowry.

#### Calendar of events

#### WHITE DEER LAND MUSEUM

The White Deer Land Museum (112-116 S. Cuyler) visiting hours are Tuesday-Sunday, 1 p.m.- 4 p.m. There will be history of the White Deer Land Co., and the early area settlers and outstanding arrowhead collection and art gallery. Elevator.

#### **EMMAUS REUNION**

Emmaus Reunion Group meets the second Thursday of each month. For more information call 669-3426 or 669-9226.

#### **NEW YEARS EVE FELLOWSHIP &** DANCE

The New Years Eve Fellowship and Dance is for couples only. No smoking or Alcohol. Charge is \$10 a couple, and it will be in the M.K. Brown Heritage Room. Bring finger food. For information call 669-9993 or 665-2829.

#### WEIGH DOWN WORKSHOP

Do you feel like a slave to food? Do you fight the diet battle, only to regain the weight soon after? If so, join us for a free Orientation session and learn about The Weigh Down Workshop - a Christ centered program that teaches us to replace our devotion to the refrigerator with a deeper, more satisfying devotion to God. Through this 12-week seminar you will learn how you can be delivered fro the slavery of overeating an of dieting. The free orientation will be held on Jan. 11, 1999 at 7 p.m. at Hi-Land Christian Church, 1615 N. Banks. This program is for men as well as women, so please make plans to attend. For more information, please call Deborah Ferrell at 669-2014 or 669-6700.

#### ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

School of instruction honoring Mrs. Alma Lynn Bane Worthy Grand Matron and Mr. Henry S. Martin Worthy Grand Patron Thursday Jan. 7 Registration starts at 8 a.m. School starts at 9 a.m. There will a salad supper Wednesday night at 6:30 bring you favorite salad, at Pampa Masonic Hall, 420 W. Kingsmill.

#### CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

#### LONDON

money. But it's a once in a thousand years opportunity," Collins said in approach to the Board.

The trip is a six-day, all-inclusive package which flies out of Dallas for a cost of \$1,695 per person. The cost to fly to Dallas was an added expense discussed by Collins and the board.

The average cost of what Collins described as a "long trip" for the band is around \$650 per person, making the London trip "three and a half times more that what we pay," he said.

"I've tried to weigh the short-term goals with the long-term numbers. This may be what we need to encourage students," he said.

If approved, Collins said he projects a minimum of 120 people will go on the trip, including the sponsors. He said he would like to raise \$1,000 for each student and have the students provide \$700 of

Board member Sue Fatheree posed concerns with having students out of the country with potential Y2K problems — an issue she said that has led her

and her family to decide to stay home next New

Year's Day.

The uncertainty of students not getting home, and air traffic backing up were a couple of the results Fatheree said she could see happening

The planes have got to work ... "there's only one way to get home," said Pat Kennedy, board secre-

Collins said they have until June to back out of

the deal. There are all kinds of economic uncertainties for the area," John Curry, board president, said.

He encouraged Collins to meet with band parents, including those of eighth grade students, to gather a consensus opinion on the issue.

"I'm excited. But without significant corporation sponsorship, I don't see it being attainable," said

"The community's been generous over the last few years with projects like Clarendon College, the Super Playground, even the prison. It's possible that the money is just not there, but it would certainly be an exciting opportunity for the kids."

#### CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

#### CHASE

said the Thunderbird nearly went out of control. By this time, other patrol units were involved in the chase that was coordinated by Police Corporal Alvin Johnson with the help of rookie Officer Anthony Alaniz.

The Thunderbird continued on Price past the airport and made the curve back to Highway 70 going south, Wooley said. At that point, the Thunderbird nearly collided with a Gray County deputy who was headed north in pursuit.

Officer Heather Kemp was waiting at Columbia Medical Center and joined the pursuit as the suspect

suspect abandoned the car and started running down an alley. He jumped over a fence in the 1800 block of N. Banks and Officers Wooley and Kemp followed and

The Thunderbird turned on 21st Street where the

tackled the suspect. Gray County Deputies Heath Cates and Paul Ortega, who had both been involved in the pursuit, took Brown to the Gray County Jail on charges of evading arrest, driving while intoxicated and refusal

to take a Breatherlizer test. It was then discovered that Brown had outstanding warrants in Potter and Hutchinson Counties as well. The combined bond for the charges from the three counties total \$14,000.

### Grand jury indicts one in Oklahoma City bombing

that investigated the Oklahoma City bombing and a shadowy network of white supremacists returned one indictment today.

available as District Judge Bill Burkett read the grand jury's lengthy report out loud in the court-

Details of the indictment were not immediately

"We have returned one indictment. We leave other charging matters in the capable hands of the appropriate prosecutorial authorities," the report said. The grand jury also called on District Attorney

plans to bring state charges against Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, who already have been convicted of federal charges in the bombing. The grand jury had been convened over Macy's objec-In its report, the grand jury said there was no cred-said they saw someone with McVeigh downtown, a

and Firearms had prior knowledge of the bombing members and the lead FBI investigator in McVeigh's or that there had been a federal government sting case, among others. eration that had gone bad. The grand jury also said it found no evidence of a second bomb explo-The grand jury went through the details of the

bombing, going step-by-step over ground that had been covered in the federal bombing trials of McVeigh and Nichols. The report outlined telephone calls and fertilizer purchases and phone records.

Even before the report was released, critics and proponents of the probe said Tuesday that many people would find the report on allegations of a wider conspiracy and government cover-up unsatis-

Former state Rep. Charles Key, who helped launch the investigation with a citizen petition drive, called the grand jury investigation deficient and said his private investigative committee would issue its report next month.

"It will be a complete report and won't be absent testimony and facts," Key said. "That's a reference to Bob Macy to carry through with his announced the grand jury not pursuing all the testimony and facts they could have pursued."

The Oklahoma County jury interviewed 117 witnesses in an 18-month investigation that by October had cost taxpayers \$414,000. It questioned a former federal informant, a white supremacist, people who ible evidence the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco congressman, a structural engineer, bomb squad

McVeigh and Nichols have been convicted of federal charges in the April 19, 1995, bombing, which killed 168 and injured more than 500.

McVeigh received a death sentence, Nichols life in prison. One of McVeigh's army buddies, Michael Fortier, pleaded guilty to knowing about the attack beforehand but telling no one. He got 12 years in

#### **Weather focus**

**LOCAL FORECAST** 

Mostly sunny today with a high in the mid 60s and southwest winds at 10-20 mpn. Mostly clear with a low of 30 and north-northeast winds at 5-10 mph. Tomorrow, partly cloudy with a high in the low 50s. Yesterday's high was 53; the

overnight low, 25. **REGIONAL FORECAST** 

Texas — Tonight, increasing clouds. Patchy drizzle possible late tonight. Lows in the 40s to near 50. Thursday, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers mainly south central. Highs in the 50s Hill Country to near 60 south central. Southeast Texas and Upper Texas Coast from the lower 40s inland to the lower 50s at the coast. Thursday, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of afternoon showers or

60s at the coast. Coastal Bend mid and the Rio Grande Plains -Tonight, mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid to upper 50s inland to near 60 at the coast. Thursday, cloudy. A slight chance of showers over the coastal bend and crossroads region. Highs in the mid 60s. **WEST TEXAS** — Panhandle

 Tonight, mostly clear with a 61. **SOUTH TEXAS** — Hill low in the upper 20s. North to Country and South Central northeast winds 5-10 mph. Thursday, partly cloudy with a high in the lower 50s. South winds 10-20 mph. Extreme Southern Panhandle/Low Rolling Plains — Tonight, fair. Low 30-35. Thursday, increasing clouds. High around 60. Permian Basin/Upper Trans Pecos — Tonight, fair. Low Tonight, partly cloudy. Lows around 35. Thursday, increasing and south. clouds. High 60-65. Concho Valley/Edwards Plateau -Tonight, fair. Low around 40. High 60-65. Far West Texas —

thunderstorms. Highs in the Tonight, fair. Low mid 30s. upper 60s inland to the lower Thursday, partly cloudy. High Guadalupe 60s. Mountains/Big Bend Area -Tonight, fair. Low 30-40. Thursday, mostly-cloudy. High 50s to around 70.

NORTH TEXAS — Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 36 to 39 Thursday, increasing cloudiness west, central, and southeast. Partly cloudy east. High 55 to

#### BORDER STATES

NEW MEXICO — Tonight, mostly fair skies. Lows in the teens to mid 20s mountains with mid 20s and 30s elsewhere. Thursday, increasing cloudiness northwest quarter with mostly fair skies elsewhere. A little cooler most sections. Highs in the 40s to mid 50s mountains and northwest with 50s and 60s east

OKLAHOMA - Tonight, partly cloudy. Lows mainly in the 20s. Thursday, partly cloudy. Thursday, increasing clouds. Highs upper 30s northeast to around 50 south.

### City briefs

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

**BEST KEPT** Secrets Sale - 50% off Christmas decorations, 25% off Bella Casa and Millson Lewis dishes. Closed Mon. Dec. 28th, open 10 a.m. Dec. 29th, 1925 N. Hobart. Adv.

NEW YEAR'S Party - party favors, food, Southern Comfort band at OCB, 2302 Alcock, reservations 665-0165, \$8 advance.

DANCE NEW Year's Eve to Sound of Country. Moose off. Joy's Unlimited. Adv. Lodge, members & guest. Bingo Fri. 1st. Adv.

5 PIECE king size bedroom suite, 669-6287. Adv.

MEREDITH HOUSE has studio size apartment available. Licensed assisted living. 665-5668. Adv.

**CLUB BIARRITZ** Opening New Year's Eve night. Come help celebrate the Re-Opening at our new location. 618 W. Foster. Adv. Sorry for the delay. For more info. 665-0225, 665-3792. Adv.

20 USED office desks, 2 computer desk fits in corner, office chairs folding tables, much more at Pampa Bargain Barn, 614 S. Cuyler. Adv.

**CHRISTMAS ITEMS 10-50%** 

**COME SHOP** at Celebrations for your New Years Eve party supplies & also our Christmas Clearance Sale continues. 125 N. Somerville. Adv.

SHOP SAND'S Fabrics Inventory Reduction Sale, 225 N. Cuyler. Adv.

COLE CREEK will be open Thurs., Fri., Sat. 50% off all holiday items. Lots of new "stuff"

NEW YEAR'S Eve Dance, McLean Country Club, 8-12:30. Music by Plain Country, \$20 couple. Members & visitors welcome. Adv.

RETIREMENT PARTY for Davie Turner, Central Fire Station, Thurs. 21st, 2-4 p.m. GIFT CERTIFICATES &

Holiday Gift Books now available, Pizza Hut Delivery, 665-0887. Adv.

WATER FOUNTAINS, cedar log furniture & more on sale at Watson's Garden Center. Up to 50% off. 125 N. Somerville. Adv.

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Winding down ...



Pampa High School students Damon Martinez, Tyler Hudson, Patrick Dunning, and Kris Davis winding down after final exams.

(Special photo by CJ Frazier)

### Independent Cattlemen's Association leader calls for action

live Canadian slaughter cattle imports and Mexican International Trade Commission to launch an immefeeder cattle imports, the president of the diate investigation into the issues. Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas ICA's plea to the International Trade

Austin — With allegations spreading about unfair recently called on the U.S. Department of Commerce Commission follows on the heels of three petitions

and take action if that is what the result of the ators up against the ropes. investigation demands."

Brown noted, "Texas producers are competitive, that have been filed by a national organization but grass-roots cattle producers are faced with a requesting action to halt the flood of live young triple threat. Two severe droughts and three conseccattle from Mexico and slaughter cattle from utive years of lower than market prices have been body blows to the producer side of the cattle indus-"If launched today, an investigation could take try. When added to those two threats, a new dangereight to 10 months," said John Brown, president of ous glut of slaughter cattle from Canada and feeder ICA of Texas. "We hope the ITC will move quickly cattle from Mexico would force Texas cow-calf oper-

See ICA, Page 10

**Good Samaritan** 



"Santa Claus" from Travis Elementary's choral Christmas production presents John Norris with a check for Good Samaritan. Children throughout the school pitched in to raise money for the cause.

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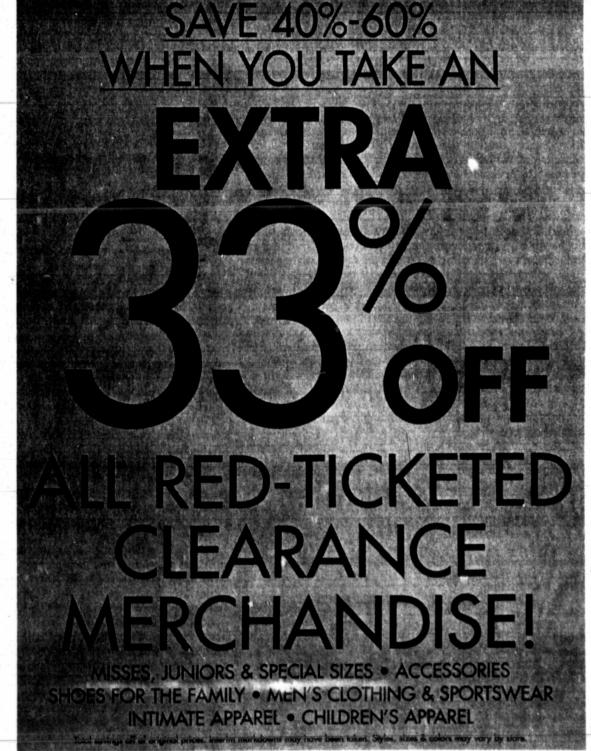
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### E-mail injunction is going too far

■ Injunction against disgruntled employee is troubling. A temporary injunction halting an ex-employee of Intel from sending mass e-mails to company workers presents a clash of competing rights. Once again, cyberspace is adding new twists to old constitutional tensions.

For now, a Superior Court judge has decided that Intel's freedom from a deluge of unwanted e-mails deserves priority over the former worker's right to transmit them. The judge ruled that the exworker's electronic communications constituted a trespass on the

There is a reasonable argument for the finding. Intel cast the case as garden variety spamming: annoying and unsolicited e-mail that it had tried repeatedly and unsuccessfully to block. Seen through the prism of privacy rights, the ruling is, as one legal authority told us, no different from telephone call blocking or an order to keep a stalker at bay.

But cast through the prism of protected speech — the ex-worker's right to express opinions and Intel employees' right to receive them — the case takes on a different light. This is not a matter of junk mail or harassment but criticisms that Intel didn't like.

Intel is claiming, as companies commonly do, that ownership of the Internet servers and computers that employees use entitles it to monitor and screen any or all e-mails that go through the system. That assertion, along with the judge's injunction, has troublesome First Amendment implications. The circumstances are these: Ken Hamidi is a 51-year-old engineer whom Intel fired three years ago over his claims of job-related injuries. He has posted on a website sharp criticisms of Intel's treatment of employees, which the company dismisses. But over the past two years, he also has sent mass mailings to Intel's employees. Intel blocked some of them, and notified him to stop, as it would other spammers. But, by switching servers and disguising his return address, Hamidi was able to slip through the company's defenses and deliver a seventh mass mailing to 30,000 employees. Intel went to court to stop him.

Courts have placed curbs on junk e-mail. In a 1970 case that's broadly applicable, the U.S. Supreme Court said that a recipient can ask the post office to stop delivering unwanted mail from a known source. By its nature, the Internet arguably poses the potential for greater harm. Senders can bombard recipients with e-mails continuously and instantaneously.

But Superior Court Judge John Lewis' injunction, though temporary, goes too far. It prevents Hamidi from sending unsolicited emails to any Intel employee at work. It puts government in the role of limiting speech based on the content of the message.

The injunction also creates a more restrictive standard for e-mail than for other channels of information. Intel has argued that just as it has the right to keep Hamidi off its property, it can keep him or anyone else from violating its virtual space through its computer networks and e-mail systems.

We question the limits of that authority. As an employer, Intel certainly has the right to set e-mail and Internet policies that protect its interests, such as guarding trade secrets and restricting messages that reflect badly on the company. It certainly can block employee access to pornographic sites and limit personal uses on

But employers who open up their networks to the outside world shouldn't then have the unchallenged ability to pick and choose content. Once it permits employees to exchange information over the Internet, it shouldn't have the power to block political sites it disagrees with or expunge only those e-mails that are critical of it.

Companies compare Internet servers to the company's gates. We prefer the analogy to the shopping mall: privately owned space to which the public has access. That includes non-obstructionist canvassers and protesters.

Your representatives

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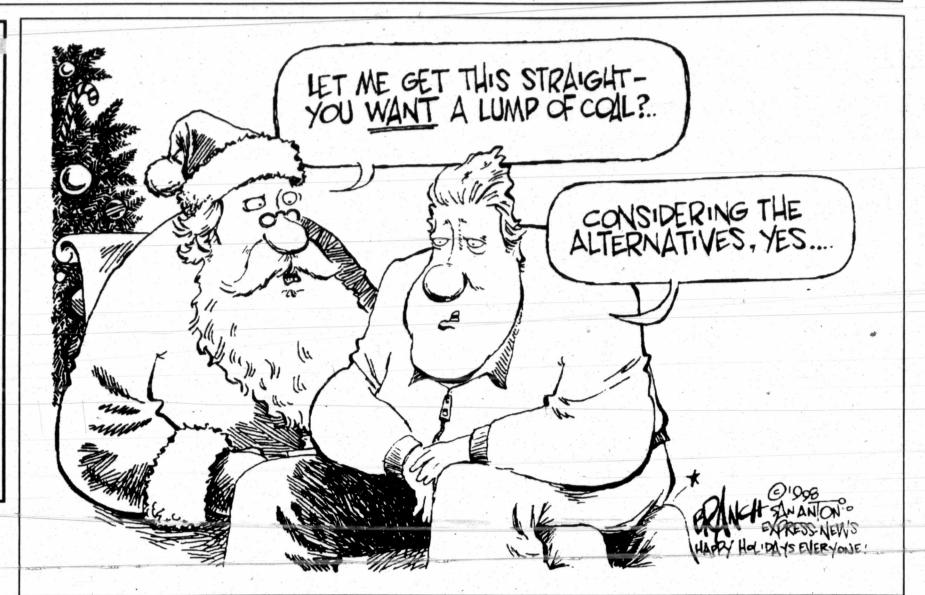
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# Party of shamelessness

They blindsided him. President Clinton, the master of political tactics and jujitsu, was caught by surprise when the Republican House impeached him. And the reason he was caught unawares is written in his character.

Bill Clinton could not possibly have imagined that the Republican members of the House, along with five Democrats, would do something so strange and unexpected as to risk their own political futures for the sake of the nation. They are already paying a price in popularity. Certainly he would never put the inter- House. When he encouraged the president to ests of the nation above his own narrow self-

The division between the two parties was more stark than at any time in recent memory. President Clinton's was the party of shamelessness, while the Republicans showed themselves the party capable of shame and therefore ing humor. capable of honor.

Though the Democrats used strong language the chief executive of, among other things, having "disgraced his office," they vitiated those words by their actions. Standing shoulder to shoulder with the president in the Rose Garden after he was impeached, they cheered him as if he had just won the Nobel Peace Prize.

Their arguments were contradictory. They urged, on the one hand, that the president's sins were entirely personal and yet, on the other, that he deserved to be censured by Congress. But if the offenses were purely personal, surely censure was out of place, too.

The Democrats' shamelessness was on display when Rep. Bob Livingston delivered his shocking and dramatic speech before the with public standards is actually a tangled and advance the larger struggle for honor and truth.



Mona Charen

Syndicated columnist

heal the nation's wounds by doing the honorable thing and stepping down, the Democrats in the House began to jeer. They booed and shouted, "You resign!" For a moment, the House of Representatives sounded like the to the Democratic Party, encouraged Americans House of Commons but with none of the sav-

in their proposed censure resolution, accusing Democrats were thunderstruck. As soon as the vertigo wore off, several speakers (and later the president, for utterly self-serving reasons) rose to discourage Livingston from following through on his decision. The subtext was clear: This sort of thing cannot be permitted. This might set a new standard for public officials, and we reject all notions of sexual morality.

> In the days that followed, a number of the new "sexual McCarthyism" and insisting that if the Livingston model stands, only residents of monasteries will be suited to hold

complex matter. A good case can be made that for the president, the sphere that can really be called "personal" is quite limited, while this is not true of legislators. But however you define what private is, and how much private sins impinge upon public duties, surely it is remarkable to argue that simple marital fidelity is too high a bar to expect public officials to clear.

The Democrats have resorted throughout this sordid mess to character assassination and name calling again and again. The White House, devoid of any sense of shame and remote even from a seemly silence, analyzed the impeachment vote as the triumph of "partisanship," "hate" and "extremism.

Alec Baldwin, friend of Bill, actor and donor to march on Washington and kill the wives and children of members who voted for impeach-And when Livingston announced that ment. Alan Dershowitz, Harvard Law profesindeed he would follow his own advice, the sor and O.J. defender, stopped short of Baldwin's hysterics but not by much. He called a vote against impeachment "a vote against bigotry, against fundamentalism, against antienvironmentalism, against the radical right and against the pro-life movement.'

Meanwhile, leading Republicans like Robert Dole and Gerald Ford are filling op-ed pages with pleas for leniency toward Clinton. Republicans who think he deserves removal Democrats amplified on this theme, decrying are phrasing their views in the measured language of constitutional duty. And two Republican leaders have tendered their own resignations — not, as the Democrats believe, in the fevered desire to "get" Clinton — but out Now, where personal morality intersects of passionate hope that their sacrifice will

#### Today in history

By The Associated Press

364th day of 1998. There is one day left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 30, 1853, the United

States bought some 45,000 square was born in Bombay, India. Today is Wednesday, Dec. 30, the miles of land from Mexico in a In 1903, about 600 people died Republics. deal known as the Gadsden when fire broke out at the Iroquois Purchase.

On this date:

In 1865, author Rudyard Kipling claimed the establishment of the Plant in Flint, Mich.

Union

In 1936, the United Auto Workers union staged its first "sit-In 1922, Vladimir I. Lenin pro-down" strike, at a Fisher Body

# Expanding the limits of cynicism

Bill Clinton is a devious and manipulative man who has been willing to go to great lengths to save his presidency. But the charge that he undertook the bombing of Iraq to avert impeachment is more than implausible; it's preposterous. There is such a thing as being too cynical. Clinton's critics have gone beyond any reasonable limits and well into Oliver Stone land.

Everyone who has been paying attention has known for weeks that U.S. military action was likely. After Iraq narrowly avoided an attack a month ago by promising to finally cooperate with the inspections regime, chief U.N. weapons inspector Richard Butler said he would deliver a report. His report let the White House know that Iraq was still balking — not exactly a big surprise.

The United States and Britain had said after the last showdown that the next time, there would be, in the words of Prime Minister Tony Blair, "no warnings, no wrangling, no negotiations, no last-minute letters" - only prompt action. At the time, conservative New York Times columnist William Safire scoffed: "The Clinton White House would have us believe that as soon as Saddam claps one little fetter on inspections, boom! — without warning, missiles will fly, Stealth aircraft will pose for cameras and B-52s will smart-bomb until it's over over there." But when the moment arrived, that's what happened.

The conspiracy-mongers haven't bothered to explain why, if Clinton wanted to time the bombing for his personal political advantage, he actually decided to carry it out in November - at a time when impeachment looked unlikely, thanks to the Republican losses in the midterm elections. He ordered the assault on Nov. 14, and B-52s armed with cruise missiles were in the air nearing Iraq when the White



Steve Chapman

Theater in Chicago.

Syndicated columnist

House got word that Hussein had backed down. At the very last moment, the president recalled the bombers.

The administration had an understandable desire to move quickly once Butler presented his report. Any delay would give Hussein a chance to wriggle off the hook once more. In addition, speed is an asset in a military operation. Intelligence sources told The Washington Post that the swift action "caught Iraqi forces off guard, belatedly grasping their peril and just beginning a 24-to-48 hour process of scattering 'high-value targets' from fixed positions."

Another factor was the looming advent of Ramadan. Given that the Muslim world would not welcome seeing the United States pummel Iraq, the least the administration could do was not compound the offense with religious insensitivity

GOP partisans have overlooked another inconvenient fact: No one would have advised Clinton that attacking Iraq would derail or even appreciably delay impeachment — and didn't. The critics are assuming the president is politically tone-deaf, which is like accusing esse Ventura of being conventional. Clinton has many faults, but that is not one of them. The action against Iraq had exactly the effect on the impeachment crusade that any sentient Washington's brawl down to new depths.

observer would have predicted: zero.

The blame for the poisonous Washington climate can be laid partly on Clinton himself. Apart from his lies in the Lewinsky matter, he has repeatedly dissembled in the realm of foreign policy — as when he pledged an early end to our military mission in Bosnia, a promise he clearly knew he couldn't keep. Credibility is a flower Clinton has not cultivated

But Republicans are also to blame. Their implacable hatred of the president has grossly warped their judgment and made them nearly as indifferent to the truth as he is. They are ready to believe anything about Clinton, as long as it's bad. You know things have gotten out of hand when New Gingrich is the voice of moderation.

Senate GOP leader Trent Lott said recently, While I have been assured by administration officials that there is no connection with the impeachment process in the House of Representatives, I cannot support this military action in the Persian Gulf at this time. Both the timing and the policy are subject to question."

But later, he was lamely insisting that he didn't mean to insinuate that Clinton was playing politics with the lives of American troops. Lott also claimed, falsely, that not a single Democrat in Congress voted to authorize President Bush's use of force against Iraq in 1991 (the correct number was 96). But despite his doubts, Lott couldn't be bothered to show up when Defense Secretary William Cohen went to Capitol Hill to brief senators on the decision.

Ignorance is bliss" is apparently the new GOP mantra. Both Clinton and his critics have disgraced themselves over the past 11 months. But it was the Republicans who did what seemed impossible: They

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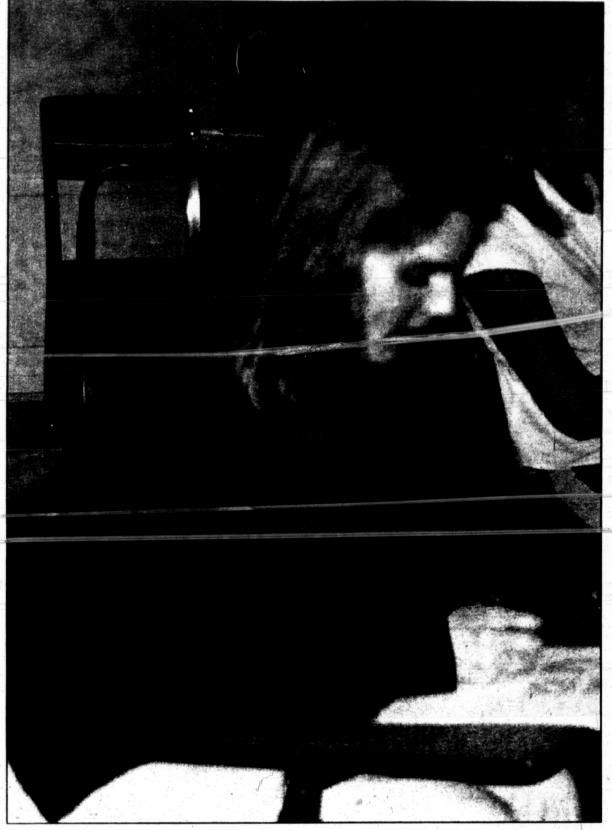
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PHS student Susan Brackey takes a final exam the last day before winter vacation. Pampa ISD students go back to school on Tuesday, Jan. 5.

#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE**

#### OCTUPLETS

Asked how she feels now, she smiled and said, "Great."

Ms. Chukwu declined to address the debate about whether infertility doctors should try to prevent such multiple births. But she did say she would not consider undergoing selective reduction, in which some of the fetuses are aborted to give the others a better chance at survival.

"I've never seen such a word in my Bible," she said she told her doctor, Brian Kirshon. "I wasn't even going to give it a thought, a second thought."

Ms. Chukwu thanked God several times throughout the 20minute news conference. Wearing street clothes, makeup, small gold earrings and red nail polish, she sat in a wheelchair and was flanked by her husband and her mother, Janet Chukwu.

"I am blessed. I thank the whole world for their support and prayers," Nkem Chukwu said. She planned to visit her babies every day "because they are part of me still. I'm not com-

plete without them." "They're great boys and girls," she added. "Even when I saw them for the first time, I was so amazed at what God's blessed me with ... They are unique."

The surviving octuplets — the

#### **Existing home** sales rise 2.7%

WASHINGTON (AP) Existing home sales rose 2.7 percent in November and are poised to ride low mortgage rates and Americans' prosperity to a record high this year. Analysts expect such unprecedented consumer exuberance to settle down in 1999.

"A good year ahead, but no record breakers," said David Littmann, chief economist at Comerica Bank in Detroit. The data was issued Tuesday.

A second report issued Tuesday by the Conference Board, a New York-based business-financed private research group that surveys consumers nationwide, showed that consumer confidence held nearly steady in December. However, the board said a marginal 0.3 percent fall in its confidence index reflects growing caution in Americans' outlook for the

littlest, Odera, died Sunday - longer distances, obviously no breathing on their own, while more." three needed help from ventilators. They're expected to remain they would do what they could hospitalized for at least three

milk for the first time Tuesday, describing it as "a good sign."

She said she hopes the other babies can begin having breast week. They have been fed intra-

We're feeling better and better ahead of us. We're taking it a day at a time just as we have so far."

a checkup scheduled for next be frequent guests.

going to have to slowly walk enough."

remained in critical but stable heavy lifting. Each day she's condition Wednesday. Four were going to be able to do a little

The couple's neighbors said for the family of nine.

months.

"We'll help if they need any help," said Lovely Cyriac, who cian, said two of the babies had added that it was "something been given their mother's breast exciting" for the neighborhood to have such instant celebrities or the block.

As with the septuplets of Carlisle, Iowa, born last year milk later this week or early next companies have donated baby products, food and other goods and services.

The Houston-based Randalls about the babies as each day goes Food Markets gave the family on," Dr. Savrick said. "It's a very \$100 gift certificate for each week big day and we have a long road of 1999. Eric Johnson, manager of

a neighborhood Randalls seemed pleased to learn the sud Kirshon said Ms. Chukwu has denly famous clan likely would

"It's a miracle they had so Until then she's under orders many babies. It's always a privifor "a slow integration back into lege to help someone," Johnson normal life," he said. "She's said. "We just hope 52 is



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# Southern ice storm as costly as hurricane

By JUSTIN M. NORTON **Associated Press Writer** 

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Thousands of people remained in the dark nearly a week after an ice storm struck the South, and Virginia Power officials said damage will cost the utility at least \$13 million — as much as Hurricane Fran did two

"We knew the storm was coming and we were ahead of it, but we did not expect this," utility spokesman Dan Genest said Tuesday.

Nearly 30,000 Virginia Power customers remained in the dark Tuesday night, by far the most in any Southern state. Fewer than 1,000 people were without power in Tennessee, where snow was forecast by tonight.

Hurricane Fran roared across the South in 1996, killing 24 people. Thirteen of the victims were in Virginia, which also sustained \$286 million in damage. Virginia Power put its costs at \$13 mil-

Richard R. Zuercher in Virginia Power's central region office said most customers will have power restored by tonight, but said some won't until Thursday or Friday.

"It's not been a pleasant experience for anybody," Zuercher said.

In the West, rain and melting snow kept a dozen rivers at or near flood stage in Washington state. No injuries or major property damage were reported, though gusting winds tipped over a tractor-trailer near Snoqualmie Pass.

"You know Mother Nature she's going to do what she's going to do," he said Tuesday. "My neck and shoulders were killing me. It was a lot of work."

Scott Smith spent six hours sandbagging his home in Chehalis, Wash

'You know Mother Nature — she's going to do what she's going to do," he said Tuesday. "My neck and shoulders were killing me. It was a lot of

With only light rain expected to fall in Oregon today, communities turned to the task of cleaning up. The National Weather Service predicted that most rivers in the state would crest below flood stage and recede today.

In the coastal dairy town of Tillamook, retreating floodwaters left behind cow pastures covered in mud and roads clogged with fallen trees and

Steve Baertlein, owner of Coast Tire Factory, spent much of Tuesday chasing down more than 300 tires that floated away when floodwaters swamped his garage for the 27th time in the past

"Everything floated around, everything is wasted," he said. "It's not a good scene down here."



# SUNDAY SNAPSHOT

Anyone Can Do It ... And It's This Simple Just Fill Out The Following Questions (you do not have to answer all the questions to be a Sunday Snapshot) And Bring It To The Pampa News Office. We Can Take Your Picture In The Office Or You Can Bring A Favorite Photo With You.

It's That Easy ... And It's For All Ages!

1	Birth Date & Place:     Family:
	If I had a different job, I'd be a: "or"     When I grow up I want to be:
	My personal hero:
;	The best advice I ever got was:
1	People who knew me in High School thought: "or"  My classmates think of me as:
	The best word or words to describe me:
	People will remember me as being:
١	The four quests at my feateny diagon ports

Occupation/Activities:\_\_\_\_\_

- The four guests at my fantasy dinner party would be:\_
- My hobbies are:\_\_\_\_\_
- My favorite sports team is:\_\_\_\_\_
- My favorite author is:\_\_\_\_\_
- The last book I read was:\_\_\_\_\_
- My favorite possesion is:\_\_\_
- Thje biggest honor I've ever received is:\_\_\_\_
- My favorite performer is:\_\_\_\_\_

I wish I knew how to:\_\_\_\_\_

- My trademark cliche or expression is:\_\_\_\_\_ If I had three wishes they would be:
- I would never:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
- The last good movie I saw was:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

- I stay home to watch:\_\_
- Nobody knows:
- I drive a: "or"
- Someday I want to drive a:\_\_\_
- My favorite junk food is:\_
- My favorite beverage:\_
- My favorite restaurant is:\_\_
- My favorite pet:
- For my last meal, I would choose: "or" My favorite meal is:\_\_\_\_\_
- I wish I could sing like:\_\_\_\_\_
- I'm happiest when I'm:\_
- I'm tired of:\_\_

I regret:\_

- I have a phobia about: "or"
- My biggest fear is: The electrical device I couldn't live without
- My most embarrassing moment:\_
- The biggest waste of time is:
- If I won the lottery, the most extravagant thing I would do is:\_\_\_\_

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### Free Eye Care Is Available To Eligible Kids and Adults

**DEAR ABBY: Every January for** the last eight years, thousands of your readers have called and written the American Optometric Association to apply for free eye care available to low-income working people through VISION USA.

During that time, more than 7,500 optometrists have given free eye exams to nearly 245,000 children and adults. Among those helped last year was a teen-ager who had never had an eye exam and who was treated for crossed eyes that caused him to see double when he tried to read. Another young man was diagnosed and treated for glaucoma, and surgery was arranged for a middle-aged man who had a massive tear in his retina, which lines the back of the eye. Without surgical repair, he would have gone blind in that eye.

We hope you will alert your readers to the 1999 VISION USA program. Abby, we appreciate your steadfast support of VISION USA. You are helping many hardworking, deserving people to see better and have healthy eyes.

JOHN A. McCALL JR., O.D., PRESIDENT, AMERICAN OPTOMETRIC ASSOCIATION

DEAR JOHN: Thank you for sharing your success stories with me and my readers. I'm pleased to publicize your generous efforts. Readers: Application forms are available now from VISION USA, 243 N. Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, Mo.

Horoscope

**THURSDAY, DEC. 31, 1998** 

The Stars Show the Kind of Day

You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive;

\*\*\* Wish others a happy New

Year. You could miss a call or mes-

sage. Don't stand on ceremony. Your

extra effort breaks down a barrier.

Someone picks up the need for a long

talk. Discussions are fruitful. To-

\*\* Reach out for others. You have

to go out of your way to let someone

know you care. Don't worry about

finances on the year's final day. Make

resolutions for the future, but enjoy

the moment. Join others; you'll like

the party atmosphere. Tonight: Make

\*\*\*\* You are a locomotive: hard

to stop and full of energy. Confusion

surrounds partners. Straighten out

a misunderstanding. Others have

expectations of how you should be-

have. Touch base with a friend be-

fore starting the celebrations. To-

night: The party is where you are.

It is best to get additional sleep.

Friends want to visit with you, how-

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

night: You don't have to go far.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

that extra effort.

3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR



**Abigail** Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

63141, or on the American Optometric Association (AOA) Web site (www.acanet.org) in the "Meet the AOA" section. Completed forms must be postmarked by Jan. 22, 1999. Or, from Jan. 4-29, 1999, low-income working people can be screened for eligibility for VISION USA by calling 1-800-766-4466. Phone lines will be open weekdays from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.(CST).

To qualify for the free eye care, persons must: have a job or live in a household where

there is one working member; have no health insurance that covers eye examinations; have income below an established level based on household size; and have had no eye exam within the last two years. Eligibility requirements may vary in some

DEAR ABBY: My wife and her brother took our children and theirs to visit their folks. It was a four-

us to remove the middle seat from our van so his children could ride on the floor and play. Our children could be buckled in the third seat, but his would have no seat belts and would ride unprotected.

Abby, in my opinion, his request showed an outrageous lack of judgment. We have seat-belt laws in this state, and my brother-in-law had been issued a warning ticket for not buckling up his kids.

I was viewed as a fool for objecting to the removal of the middle seat. They all had a good laugh at my expense. Was I wrong? SAFETY-CONSCIOUS DAD

IN MONTANA

**DEAR DAD: You were not** wrong. Had there been an accident, without seat belts, the children could have been seriously injured or killed. You were the only parent who showed common sense and concern for the safety of the children and respect for the law. I hope you stood your ground.

Abby shares her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "Abby's More Favorite Recipes." To order, send a business-sized, selfaddressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 per booklet (\$4.50 each in Canada) to: Dear Abby Cookbooklets I and II, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

hour drive. My brother-in-law asked ever. Don't forget someone who some- fret, just clarify. Popularity is high; times is a bit tough on you. Tonight: Play it low-key.

\*\*\*\* Make calls. Join friends for a glass of holiday cheer. Take the time to mend a fence. Others appreciate your gestures, especially a partner who can't get enough of you. Good times flow. Think about what you want in the coming year. Tonight: Where the party is.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ Examine your expectations. You feel let down because your plans aren't realistic. Question decisions about work or a relationship. Make an effort toward a difficult partner. Others seek you out as you flow into the new year. Tonight: Enjoy the

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

\*\*\*\* Take an overview. Think through recent changes. Do you want your life as it is? You could be overwhelmed by what you have to do. Start sorting through priorities. A partner comes through for you. Listen to him; he means well. Tonight: Do something different. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Make this a holiday for two. Even if you are with others, focus on that one special person in your life. Romance sparkles as you reveal more of yourself. Make resolutions about your health. Realize and honor your limits. Tonight: Two glasses and a

\*\*\* Others seek you out, but you don't receive a message clearly. Don't

you still might opt to ring in the new year at home. Invite special friends and family over. Be spontaneous. Tonight: Warm and snuggled in.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

\*\* You could have a lot to do to get. ready for tonight. Whether kicking off celebrations at your place or getting some extra work done, you plunge in. You make mountains out of molehills. Think through a problem. It just might not be one after all! Tonight: There is a tomorrow. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

\*\*\*\* Your mischievous side emerges as you decide to kiss 1998 goodbye with style. Allow more joy into your life. A friend feels left out. Be sensitive to this person, yet help him recognize how he have created this situation. Tonight: Have fun.

\*\*\* Take time to visualize what you want rather than blindly flying into another year. What you see as workable probably is. Just go for it! A partner is out of sync and appreciates your feedback. Let others seek you out, but make plans that suit you. Tonight: As you like it.

**BORN TODAY** 

Actor Val Kilmer (1959), actress Bebe Neuwirth (1958), singer Donna Summer (1948)

at http://www.coolpage.com/bigar. © 1998 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

#### For Better or For Worse







**Zits** 





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**Beetle Bailey** 







trying to find THE FIGURE I LOST WHEN I HAD THE BABY!











#### \*\* You are out of sorts because of bottle of champagne. your recent social schedule and work. Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

### Crossword Puzzle

DOWN

1 Ski course

2 Canada's

Chrétien

for one

3 Friendly

William

summer

clearing

6 Throat-

sound

topper

4 Pirate

5 Seine

#### by THOMAS JOSEPH ACROSS 1 Quench 6 Mideast native

10 Bound 11 Surf site 12 Tolerate 13 One of the Bradys

14 Pencil part 15 Singer Vic 16 Planet 17 Broadcast

7 Copter part 18 Scoundrel 8 Bowl 19 Feign 9 French illness 22 Incline 11 Barbecue 23 Stairway sight 26 Slanderer

29 Scoundrel 32 Laura's TV hubby 33 Boot part 34 Manhattan Project creations 36 Camera

part 37 Western contest 38 Number

39 Mysterywriter's award 40 Dancer Castle 41 College freshman,

usually

King Features service, NYC.

42 Peeled

25 Like Simba 36 Italian treat 15 Excavate 27 — Alamos coin 28 Took it 38 Party need 17 Ford 12-30

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-7377!

99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+only.) A

Yesterday's Answer

conclusion 30 Dwelling

21 Joplin tune 31 Steer

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29 Insertion

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35 Average

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20 Descartes

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#### Marmaduke



"I see Marmaduke has invited himself to the party.

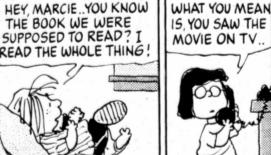
#### The Family Circus



"If I finish learning the piano next week, THEN can I play the drums?"

#### **Haggar The Horrible** I LOST THE SIT DOWN WHAT ELSE COULD GO HOME, AND I'LL THE LOOT **Peanuts**

BUT I









#### **Blondie**







#### **Mallard Filmore**



THE GLAND to BE "ALL THINGS to ALL PEOPLE:

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# **S**PORTS

KID'S CLUB

PAMPA -Kids Club basketball registration sign-ups will be Saturday, Jan. 2from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the M-PAC building, located between the high school's baseball and football fields.

Join the 27 teams ages K-12 already formed for the winter season-Jan. 23-April 17. The registration fee is \$15. There will be no tryouts or draft. For more information call Sonny & Tinde Haskins, 669-7762 or 669-6732. Or write PAMPA KIDS CLUB, P.O. Box 1057, Pampa, 79066-1057.

**FOOTBALL** 

METAIRIE, La. (AP) -New Orleans Saints offensive lineman Keno Hills was charged with heroin and weapon charges after police said he was observed in a

"hand-to-hand" drug deal Hills, 25, was booked with possession of heroin with the intent to distribute and possession of a firearm during a drug transaction. If convicted, he could face life in jail. Hills was released on \$425,000 bond.

**OLYMPICS** 

WASHINGTON (AP) -Former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell promised an investigation of alleged bribes by Salt Lake City officials to help win the 2002 Winter Olympic Games would be "thorough and prompt.'

Mitchell, who brokered a Northern Ireland peace accord and has advised the President Clinton informally in the impeachment process, said the five-member panel must file its report to the U.S. Olympic Committee by Feb. 28, and that there would be no public reports

Past and present officials of the Salt Lake City Olympic Committee have acknowledged that they gave members of the Olympic International Committee gifts and paid college tuition to some of the committee member's relatives.

HOCKEY

CHICAGO (AP) — The Chicago Blackhawks traded defenseman Paul Coffey to the Carolina Hurricanes for right wing Nelson Emerson. Coffey, 37, the Norris Trophy winner as the league's top defenseman in 1985, 1986 and 1995, has 383 goals and 1,094 assists in 19 NHL seasons. He had four assists in 10 games with the Blackhawks this season.

Chicago also traded minor league goalie Andrei Trefilov to Calgary for future considerations.

PHOENIX (AP) — The Phoenix Coyotes will be without their top offensive players after losing Keith Tkachuk and Jeremy Roenick to injuries and Dallas Drake to a four-game suspension.

Tkachuk, the team's captain and leading goal-scorer, will be sidelined at least three weeks by a broken rib, and Roenick will miss at least a week because of a concussion. They were injured Monday night against Los Angeles, and Drake was suspended for an illegal hit on Kings defenseman Doug Bodger.

SKIING

BORMIO, Italy (AP) -Hermann Maier raced to his fourth World Cup victory of the season, leading an Austrian sweep of the first six places in a downhill - a men's record in the discipline.

Maier completed the Stelvio course in 1 minute, 54.51 seconds for his 15th World Cup victory. Fritz Strobl was second, 0.70 seconds back. The Austrians set a World Cup record last week in Innsbruck, Austria, taking the top nine spots in a super-G.

# Notebook Coaching carousel starts revolving

By DAVE GOLDBERG AP Football Writer

Gary Kubiak was interviewed by Cleveland, a day after Brian Billick was there. George Seifert was in Carolina, talking to the Panthers about their head coach-

ing job.
All are white, and one of the NFL's two remaining black coaches raised this question: With so many jobs open, why aren't more blacks high on the list of candidates? "Maybe after Denny Green wins the

Super Bowl, they'll take notice," Tampa Bay coach Tony Dungy said Tuesday. Dungy and Green are the only black head coaches left in the NFL now that Ray Rhodes was among the five coaches fired

Monday. There are now seven coaching vacancies, there will probably be more, and no minority coach seems to be in the front rank of candidates other than perhaps Rhodes, who could go to Baltimore or to Green Bay if Mike Holmgren leaves.

That's nothing new. Since Dungy was hired by Tampa Bay after the 1995 season, there have been 16 openings for head coaches. All have been filled by whites.

In a league that's 70 percent black, Green, Dungy, Rhodes, and Art Shell — who had a 56-41 record with the Raiders from 1989-94 fueled by the media. are the only black head coaches of the

"It's baffling," Dungy said. "There still

owners' minds."

Dungy's comment came a day after five one a good defensive coordinator. head coaches were fired, including Philadelphia's Rhodes.

Things heated up Tuesday, although many of the candidates are constrained from interviews because their teams are in the playoffs. Only expansion Cleveland has a dispensation because it has to get ready for the expansion and regular drafts.

Seifert, the former San Francisco head coach, was in Carolina interviewing for the Panthers' job that opened when Dom Capers was fired. Seifert also will be interviewed by Baltimore, and is considered a front-runner in Seattle — which fired Dennis Erickson on Monday.

Kubiak, Denver's offensive coordinator, year." was in Cleveland visiting the expansion Browns, who interviewed Billick on Monday.

Seifert, Kubiak and Billick are at the top of most teams' lists, along with Green Bay coach Mike Holmgren, who can seek a head coach-general manager job when the Packers' season ends.

The other leading candidates include lacksonville offensive coordinator Chris Palmer, Capers and defensive coordinators Greg Robinson of Denver and Jim Haslett of Pittsburgh.

Dungy thinks much of the perception is

"I was watching the Monday night game, and Al Michaels and Dan Dierdorf were talking about Capers being a prospect for a seems to be a perception out there clouding head coaching job," Dungy said. "Then Bears' Hall of Fame middle linebacker in and people think you've failed."

they said Ray Rhodes would make some- the '80s, although he's had no coaching

Both were coaches of the year. Why is Ray only qualified for a coordinator's job? Owners watch games and they absorb

There are some black candidates.

Browns president Carmen Policy said he will speak to Rhodes, who was defensive coach, and while he doesn't seem to be on coordinator in San Francisco when Policy was the 49ers' president.

You never, ever discount Ray Rhodes relative to the coaching ranks based upon the level of his talents," Policy said. "But this is something Ray has to think out and deal with himself in terms of whether he

The Ravens, who fired Ted Marchibroda Willingham, Stanford's black head coach, coach." and also are interested in Rhodes.

Shaw, who improved Oakland's defense already been considered and bypassed, from last in the NFL to fifth in his first sea- dropping him toward the bottom of the son, also has been mentioned as a candi-list. date for one of the vacancies.

say, 'You're our guy,"' he said.

by a headhunting firm hired by the NFL to

Allstars...

experience at any level. But Singletary has consistently told friends he's not interested in coaching.

Dungy said he was puzzled about Shell, who took the Raiders to the 1990 AFC title

Shell is now Atlanta's offensive line many lists, Falcons' defensive coordinator Rich Brooks is. Brooks was 13-19 in two seasons as coach of the Rams.

Then there's Sherm Lewis, Green Bay's offensive coordinator, who has been bypassed for two seasons.

He got a ringing endorsement from wants to be in a head coaching job this Holmgren, who said Monday: "I would tell any owner that phoned me that he is the most qualified assistant coach in this on Monday, are expected to talk to Tyrone league right now, bar none, to be a head

The perception around the league about Another black coach, coordinator Willie Lewis, however, seems to be that he's

That happened for a while to Dungy, too. The only thing you can do is wait for He was first considered for a head coachsomeone to tap you on the shoulder and ing job at 33, but had to wait 10 years before he was hired. He said the perception Shaw said he is willing to be interviewed that he had been bypassed hurt him.

"When I was interviewed by Rich interview candidates and send the tapes to McKay for this job, he said, "You've had 12 interviews before," Dungy said. "I said, Chicago, which fired Dave Wannstedt, 'No, I've had three.' That's how ideas get may be interested in Mike Singletary, the around. Your name gets thrown out there

# Texas sports roundup

By The Associated Press

**Cowboys Playoffs** 

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Dallas players don't even call Jake Plummer by his real name anymore. It's 'the Snake" this and "the Snake" that.

The Arizona Cardinals quarterback, who recently signed a \$29.4 million contract, spooked the Cowboys badly the last time the two teams met.

Dallas was rolling along with a 28-0 lead on Nov. 15 before Plummer started one of his comeback acts which he made famous at Arizona State and earned the nickname of "the Snake."

The next thing the Cowboys knew they were ers on the team were down." ahead only 35-28 and "the Snake" was at the door. Kevin Smith in the end zone. No flag flew. Game backs continued to play.

"We couldn't get out of town fast enough," Smith said. "'The Snake' gave us a scare. Deion Sanders got hurt and we had a little panic in our arriving at Baylor in December 1996. secondary. We've settled down and we're playing much better now."

Foreman-Holmes

HOUSTON (AP) — Larry Holmes has been reading in the newspaper that his "Birthday Bash" bout with George Foreman is off. Not as far as he

He said Tuesday that he spoke with promoter Roger Levitt, who assured him the old-timers' showdown in the Houston Astrodome on Jan. 23

"I'm preparing to go to Texas," Holmes said from his office in Easton, Pa.

The New York Daily News reported Tuesday that the fight between former eavyweight champions would be canceled because Levitt has failed to Holmes \$4 million.

"It' 100 percent on," Levitt said. "There is nothing happening to make this fight not happen."

An unidentified source told the newspaper an announcement calling off the fight would be made Thursday.

**Baylor-James** 

HOUSTON (AP) — Baylor quarterback Odell James has applauded the school's recent firing of football coach Dave Roberts, whose tenure he described as contentious.

"It was just a lot of arguing and fussing in the locker room," said James, a Houston native, in an interview with television station KRIV-TV here. "It had been like that the whole season. A lot of play-

Calls to Baylor were not returned Tuesday. His last pass of the game was intended for Rob Roberts benched James in favor of Jermaine Alfred Moore who was openly mugged by cornerback after the Bears started 1-3, though both quarter

James, a junior, criticized Roberts' demeanor as the team prepared to play Notre Dame, where Roberts was an assistant for three years before

"It was like he was going back to a family reunion to visit his old ... coaching staff," James said. "We don't need that at Baylor.

**Hockey All-Star Coaches** 

NEW YORK (AP) — Ken Hitchcock of the Dallas Stars and Lindy Ruff of the Buffalo Sabres were picked Tuesday as the head coaches for the 1999 NHL all-star game.

Hitchcock will coach the North America team and Ruff the World All-Star team in the Ian. 24 game at the Ice Palace in Tampa, Fla.

The North America All-Stars will consist of players representing Canada and the United States. Players from the rest of the world will comprise the World All-Stars.

Hitchcock will be making his third straight all-Jim Schoenfield of the Phoenix Coyotes will

Robbie Ftorek will be Ruff's assistant.

assist Hitchcock while the New Jersey Devils'

### Bowl lineups, ons would be canceled because Levitt has failed to come up with all of the combined \$14 million star game appearance as head coach. Ruff will be purse. Foreman is to receive \$10 million and making his all-star coaching debut. Holmes \$4 million Tim Schoenfield of the Phoenix Covetes will the Phoenix Covetes will the purse. 2), 1 p.m. (ABC)

**Cotton Bowl** At Dallas

Rose Bowl

Sugar Bowl

(8-3), 11 a.m. (FOX)

At Pasadena, Calif.

1), 4:30 p.m. (ABC)

At New Orleans

Saturday, Jan. 2

**Orange Bowl** 

8 p.m. (ABC)

Monday, Jan. 4

At Tempe Ariz.

Saturday, Jan. 16

Fiesta Bowl

At Miami

Mississippi State (8-4) vs. Texas

Wisconsin (10-1) vs. UCLA (10-

Texas A&M (11-2) vs. Ohio

Syracuse (8-3) vs. Florida (9-2),

Tennessee (12-0) vs. Florida

State (10-1), 8:30 p.m. (ABC)

Lady Pacers Angie Edmondson, left, and Stacey

Brown were chosen by area coaches as Allstars

for the High Plains Christian Athlete Association

for the 1998 volleyball season.

**All Times EST** 

Wednesday, Dec. 30 Humanitarian Bowl

At Boise, Idaho Idaho (8-3) vs. Southern Miss (7-4), 3 p.m. (ESPN2) **Holiday Bowl** 

At San Diego Nebraska (9-3) vs. Arizona (11-1), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday, Dec. 31 **Liberty Bowl** At Memphis, Tenn.

Brigham Young (9-4) vs. Tulane (11-0), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN) Sun Bowl At El Paso, Texas

Southern Cal (8-4) vs. Texas Christian (6-5), 2 p.m. (CBS) Peach Bowl

At Atlanta Virginia (9-2) vs. Georgia (8-3), 5 p.m. (ESPN) Independence Bowl

At Shreveport, La. Mississippi (6-5) vs. Texas Tech (7-4), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Friday, Jan. 1 **Outback Bowl** At Tampa, Fla. Penn State (8-3) vs. Kentucky (-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN)

Gator Bowl At Jacksonville, Fla.

Georgia Tech (9-2) vs. Notre Dame (9-2), 12:30 p.m. (NBC) Citrus Bowl At Orlando, Fla.

Michigan (9-3) vs. Arkansas (9-

South vs. North, 4 p.m. (ESPN)

At Stanford, Calif. East vs. West, 4 p.m. (ESPN)

State (11-1), 8 p.m. (ABC)

**East-West Shrine Classic** 

Saturday, Jan. 23 Senior Bowl

At Mobile, Ala. North vs. South, 2:30 p.m

At Kahului, Maui

(TBS)

Sunday, Jan. 24 **Hula Bowl** 

# Yippee!! Its lockout's half-birthday

NEW YORK (AP) — At noon EST today, the NBA lockout turned a half-year old. No one is celebrating.

With the two main negotiators for the owners not expected to return to New York until the new year, the only action taking place in the lockout Tuesday was on the telephone.

The players held a conference call with union leadership, three agents held a call with the media and the commissioner worked from his home in

Suffice to say that all of them were feeling the effects of a stalemate that could cause the entire season to be canceled.

"This whole negotiation has been disgraceful," agent Keith Glass said. "I don't care if they have a season or they don't, but this is not a game. And this has been treated as a game by the league.

"There's an awful lot of people — and I'm not talking about owners, players or agents — who have been hurt by this: vendors, parking lot people, hotel managers, restaurateurs, people who rely on this for income. It's not a game, and it has been treated as such, and I think it's disgraceful.

Glass and agents Jerome Stanley and Steve Kauffman also said the lockout has been "scripted, orchestrated and preplanned" by the owners.

Stern, in response, said: "They can say anything they want about me, but they are not neutral par-

Stern was still in Aspen, and deputy commissioner Russ Granik was in Florida with his family. Union director Billy Hunter conducted a conference call with players from his office in Manhattan.

The league has scheduled a Board of Governors meeting for Jan. 7, and Stern and Granik have said they will recommend canceling the season if no agreement has been reached by that date.

The league says it has made its final offer, and no further talks are scheduled.

Also Tuesday, New Jersey star Jayson Williams joined Toronto's Kevin Willis in calling for a secret vote of players.

"Let's have a secret vote," Williams told reporters at Gold's Gym in Paramus, N.J. "This would strengthen our union. Billy Hunter, the union, the press and the league would all know where the players stand."

Williams blamed both sides for the stalled negotia-

"I have the best job in the world, and two people ruined it for me - David Stern and Billy Hunter," Williams said. "Who cares about the NBA anymore? I don't. I'm just like Joe Public.

"I'm ashamed to be an NBA players right now. We are really looking like a bunch of dumb athletes and a dumb league if you can't split \$2 billion."

A hearing was scheduled today in Houston federal court on a lawsuit filed by players Nick Van Exel, Marcus Camby and Reggie Slater charging USA Basketball and the NBA with denying them clearance to play in Europe. The NBA was added as a defendant Monday night.

The three agents, who spoke on a conference call arranged by the union, said the players made huge concessions regarding high-end salaries, reducing annual raises, agreeing to a longer rookie salary scale and agreeing to reduce annual salary cap increases.

College

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Major

Tuesday's

Davidson 75, Massachusetts 66, St. Bonaventure 81, Delaware St.

St. Francis, Pa. 80, Md.-Eastern SOUTH

Appalachian St. 81, Citadel 65 Auburn 99, Bethune-Cookman 46 Evansville 75, Morehead St. 74 Southern 86, North Georgia

Georgia 53 Illinois 67, Clemson 50 Kentucky 97, Tennessee St. 47 LSU 82, Belmont 63 Mississippi 111, Prairie View 50 South Carolina 74, S. Carolina St.

South Florida 81, Austin Peay 63 Stetson 73, Anderson, S.C. 40 Tennessee Tech 68, Idaho St. 54 MIDWEST

Bowling Green 91, Urbana 62 Illinois St. 76, E. Illinois 65 lowa St. 112, Southern, NO 43 Minnesota 98, Sacramento St. 57 Oakland, Mich. 81, Loyola, III. 80 Syracuse 75, Notre Dame 63 Wis.-Milwaukee 74, Trinity, III. 66

SOUTHWEST Tulsa 79, Cleveland St. 51 **FAR WEST** 

Buffalo 68, Hawaii-Hilo 62

CS Northridge 88, Lewis & Clark California 78, North Carolina 71 N. Arizona 99, Elon 65

New Mexico St. 78, Alaska-Fairbanks 64 Dominion Connecticut St. 75 Southern Cal 64, Arkansas St. 48

Stanford 57, Temple 50 UCLA 92, Loyola Marymount 67 TOURNAMENTS ASU-Fiesta Bowl Holiday Classic Championship

Arizona St. 85, Alaska-Anchorage Third Place

Navy 68, Southern Meth. 65 All-College Tournament First Round Oklahoma 72, W. Kentucky 62, OT

Oral Roberts 96, Cal Poly-SLO 78 **Bobcat Holiday Classic** Championship Montana St. 78, Colorado 75 Third Place

Boston U. 80, Canisius 58 Cable Car Classic First Round Harvard 59, Santa Clara 54 St. Joseph's 63, San Francisco 50

**Capital City Classic First Round** Jacksonville 71, Florida A&M 70 Radford 75, Niagara 72

Day of Insertion

Day of Insertion

Day of Insertion

Scoreboard			
Cessna Classic	Montreal 10	18	7
First Round	27 78	98	
W. Illinois 90, Miss. Valley St. 76	Southeast Div	ision	
Wichita St. 83, Mercer 43	W L	T	PI
Dr Pepper Classic	GF GA		
First Round	Carolina 16	14	5
Chattanooga 60, Rider 57	37 89	84	
Samford 84, Hampton 72	Florida 13	12	6
Gossner Foods Classic	32 81	82	
First Round	Washington 11	18	3
Lafayette 80, Troy St. 77	25 70	82	
Utah St. 84, Norfolk St. 71	Tampa Bay	9	23
Jones Intercable Lobo Invitational	3 21 72	119	
Championship	<b>WESTERN CO</b>	NFERE	NCE
New Mexico 84, Houston 69	Central Division	n	
Third Place	W L	T	Pt

Portland St. 91, New Hampshire	GF GA
73	Detroit 17
Oneida Nation Bingo & Casino	36 106
Classic	St. Louis12
First Round	33 87
Air Force 56, Drexel 50	Nashville 13
WisGreen Bay 67, Texas	29 78
Southern 46	Chicago 10
Outrigger Hotels Rainhow Classic	24 77

Outrigger Semifinals N.C. Charlotte 70, Hawaii 68 Princeton 56, Texas 46 **Consolation Bracket** Florida St. 69, Mississippi St. 58 Murray St. 81, SW Louisiana 68 Sierra Providence Sun Classic

Championship Detroit 47, Texas-El Paso 44 Third Place Washington St. 114, Grambling St.

Sparkletts Invitational First Round

Pepperdine 61, Rhode Island 57 Siena 71, E. Michigan 70 **EXHIBITION** Rice 91, Houston AAU Flyers 82

**National Hockey League** At A Glance By The Associated Press All Times EST **EASTERN CONFERENCE** 

Atlantic Division

Boston 15

Ottawa 15

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS

So that our employees may spend the

New Years Holiday with their families

we will observe the following

EARLY DEADLINES

DISPLAY AND CLASSIFIED DISPLAY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31 .....TUES. DEC. 29, 12 NOON

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1 .....TUES., DEC. 29, 3 P.M

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3......WED., DEC. 30, 12 NOON

MONDAY, JANUARY 4......WED., DEC. 30, 3 P.M. TUESDAY, JANUARY 5 .....THURS., DEC. 31, 12 NOON

CLASSIFIED LINE ADS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31.....WED., DEC. 30, 1 P.M.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1......WED., DEC. 30, 4 P.M.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3 ..... THURS., DEC. 31, 1 P.M.

MONDAY, JANUARY 4.....THURS., DEC. 31, 4 P.M.

**CITY BRIEFS** 

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31.....WED., DEC. 30, 1 P.M.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1......WED., DEC. 30, 4 P.M.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3.....THURS., DEC. 31, 1 P.M.

All other DEADLINES will remain at regular times.

We appreciate your cooperation and wish you

and your friends a safe and happy holiday.

W	L	T	Pts
GF	GA		
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31	90	90	
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Nort	heast Divis	ion	
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GF	GA		
Buffal	o 19	7	5
43	91	58	
Toron	to 10	12	2

72

13

Deadline

Deadline

Ottawa at Buffalo, 7 p.m. New Jersey at Washington, 7 p.m. Tampa Bay at Carolina, 7 p.m. Anaheim at Toronto, 7:30 p.m. Florida at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m. Boston at Nashville, 8 p.m. N.Y. Rangers at Phoenix, 9 p.m. San Jose at Los Angeles, 10:30

### Top teams...

How the top teams in The Associated Press' college basketball poll fared Tuesday:

1. Connecticut (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. Villanova at Hartford, Wednesday.

2. Duke (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. North Carolina-Greensboro, Wednesday.

3. Cincinnati (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. North Carolina-Wilmington, Wednesday.

4. Maryland (13-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 2 Duke, Sunday. 5. Stanford (10-2) beat Temple 57-50. Next: vs. Oregon State,

Saturday. 6. Arizona (7-0) did not play. Next: vs. Florida International,

Wednesday. 7. Kentucky (11-3) beat Tennessee State 97-47. Next: vs. Florida, Saturday.

8. Indiana (13-2) did not play. Next: at No. 21 Iowa, Thursday. 9. North Carolina (12-3) lost to California 78-71. Next: vs. No. 14

Clemson, Saturday. 10. UCLA (8-2) beat Loyola Marymount 92-67. Next: vs. No. 6 Arizona, Saturday.

11. Purdue (12-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 16 Minnesota, Saturday.

12. St. John's (10-2) did not play. Next: at Rutgers, Saturday. 13. Michigan State (9-3) did not

play. Next: vs. North Carolina-Asheville, Wednesday. 14. Clemson (11-2) lost to Illinois 67-50. Next: at No. 9 North

15. New Mexico (10-1) beat Houston 84-69. Next: vs. Coppin State, Thursday.

Carolina, Saturday.

Minnesota (9-1) beat Sacramento State 98-57. Next: at No. 11 Purdue, Saturday.

17. Auburn (12-0) beat Bethune-Cookman 99-46. Next:

Tennessee, Saturday. 18. Kansas (8-3) did not play.

Next: vs. Texas A&M, Saturday. 19. Wisconsin (12-1) did not play. Next: at Michigan, Wednesday.

20. Arkansas (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. North Texas, Wednesday.

# On gameday Williams plans to remember Walker

**AP Sports Writer** 

15

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12

**Pacific Division** 

GA

Colorado 16

Edmonton 15

Vancouver 13

GF

Dallas 22

Phoenix 20

Anaheim 13

San Jose 10

Los Angeles11

**Monday's Games** 

Tuesday's Games

New Jersey 7, Buffalo 4

Anaheim 2, Ottawa 2, tie Washington 5, Boston 1 Florida 5, N.Y. Islanders 1

St. Louis 4, Detroit 4, tie

Los Angeles 4, Phoenix 2

Montreal 5, Edmonton 2

Colorado 4, Vancouver 2

Wednesday's Games

Philadelphia 1, San Jose 1, tie

Tampa Bay 3, N.Y. Islanders 0

Philadelphia 4, Calgary 3, OT

Dallas 1, Nashville 0

**Northwest Division** 

23

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DALLAS (AP) - Sure, Ricky Williams won the Heisman Trophy, became the leading rusher and scorer in major-college football history and led his team to an 8-3 record after going 4-7 the year before.

But things weren't always good for the Texas senior. There were times - like, after his 43-yard game against Kansas State when pundits said he was out of the Heisman race - when he wasn't always in the best of moods.

Then he'd think about Doak Walker, the former football superstar struggling for his life in a Colorado hospital. Once an incredibly graceful athlete, Walker could only hope to one day walk

"The Doak thing affected me," Williams said. "He was my motivation when things went bad. I knew what he was fighting and he never gave up." Walker lost his battle in September, but Williams didn't stop thinking about him. He wore a No. 37

sticker on his helmet as a tribute and made an even bigger gesture one on a particular Saturday. Playing Oklahoma in the Cotton Bowl, known as "The House That Doak Built" because it was expanded to handle the capacity crowds Walker drew while at Southern Methodist, Williams wore

Williams talked about Walker all season, especially earlier this month when he was in New

No. 37. After leading Texas to a 34-3 victory, he pre-

sented his jersey and a game ball to Walker's fami-

years ago this season that Walker won the award. Speaking of anniversaries, Jan. 1 will be a significant one for Williams and Walker.

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New Year's would've been been Walker's 72nd birthday. It's also the 50th anniversary of his second MVP performance in the Cotton Bowl, the game Williams will be playing in for the first time that day when Texas plays Mississippi State.

Williams, whose team is practicing on the campus at Walker's alma mater just a few blocks from where Walker grew up, said Tuesday he hasn't yet thought about all the Walker ties to his final col-

lege game.
"I'm sure on game day it'll hit me and I'll be very emotional," said Williams, who won't wear No. 37 again this time because he doesn't want to cheapen the first time he did it. "Hopefully, I can have a great game. I'm sure that would be a great birthday gift for him."

Williams will be the seventh Heisman Trophy winner to play in the Cotton Bowl right after winning the award, a legacy that began with Walker.

The previous six Heisman winners haven't done so well in the game. Walker won the 1949 game and Doug Flutie the 1985 game, but Roger Staubach (1964), Earl Campbell (1978), Bo Jackson (1986) and Tim Brown (1978) were all losers.

Coincidentally, Jackson and Brown both lost to Texas A&M teams coached by Jackie Sherrill who now coaches Mississippi State.

Sherrill apparently has made a point of noting that to his team.

"All the Heisman people he's played here, he's York for the Heisman Trophy ceremony. It was 50 beat," offensive lineman Randy Thomas said.

# Dallas Cowboys trying to avoid snake bite

By DENNE H. FREEMAN **AP Sports Writer** 

IRVING, Tex. (AP) — Jake Plummer left a big impression on the Dallas Cowboys they won't soon

The Arizona Cardinals quarterback, who recently signed a \$29.4 million contract, spooked the Cowboys the last time the two teams met.

Dallas was rolling along with a 28-0 lead on Nov. 15 before Plummer started one of his comeback acts that he made famous at Arizona State and earned him the nickname of "the Snake."

The next thing the Cowboys knew, they were ahead by only 35-28 and hoping the game would

Plummmer's last pass of the game was intended for Rob Moore, who was openly mugged by cornerback Kevin Smith in the end zone. No flag flew.

"We couldn't get out of town fast enough," Smith said. "The "snake" gave us a scare. Deion Sanders got hurt and we had a little panic in our secondary. We've settled down and we're playing much better now."

Plummer "is doing very well right now," Smith said. "He has a knack for making things happen. The key for us is to keep him in the pocket.'

Smith said playoff experience will be the big difference when the teams meet for the third time

this season on Saturday in the NFC wild-card round at Texas Stadium. "A lot of them (the Cardinals) haven't been in

the playoffs, so they'll be excited," Smith said. "Most of us have been in the playoffs and know how to handle it."

Linebacker Randall Godfrey said Dallas will have to do a better job of containing Plummer, who is known for beating the pass rush with roll-

"We know what the 'Snake' can do now a lot better than we did in the first game," said linebacker Randall Godfrey. "It's going to take everybody on our defense to contain him.

Dallas beat Arizona 38-10 in the first game of the season in Texas Stadium when Plummer hit only 14 of 33 passes for 166 yards. The second time he faced the Cowboys, Plummer had 314 yards passing in the second half alone. Gailey said of Plummer:

"He's one of the most dangerous players I've seen once he gets out of the pocket. He just runs around and makes things happen."

If Sanders doesn't play, Kevin Mathis will start at left cornerback and Smith will be at right cornerback. Mathis didn't play in the second game against Arizona because of a broken arm,

'The defensive backs are starting to play better," Mathis said. "We are getting where we trust each other when it comes time to make plays."

## Little guys stand tall in Texas A&M running game

**AP Sports Writer** 

NEW ORLEANS (AP) -State is a tall order. That won't stop Texas A&M from turning to take on the challenge in the Sugar Bowl.

Dante Hall admits he strugles to make 190 pounds and Sirr Parker claims to be 195 He's shaken off injuries that ball I'm a receiver, but after I pounds. They're only 5-8 and 5respectively, but they are big men on the football field. The pair have combined for

1,648 all-purpose yards and 11 touchdowns this season, including Parker's great grab for a victory over Kansas State that sent them on to the Sugar Bowl.

"We always want to run the football," said Hall, who had more than 20 carries in six different games this season. "It's game because their secondary is the best in the nation, and we have to give them something else to worry about."

Stopping the run has been No. 3 Ohio State's strong suit this year. The Buckeyes have the best defense in the nation against the run, allowing just 67.4 yards per game. But facing No. 8 A&M will be a different

burly-type guys,' Buckeyes linebacker Na'il ate mismatches with him when Running the ball against Ohio Diggs said. "They're more the he lines up at tailback." quick, scatty guys. Maybe a little more talent than we've seen. to two of their smallest players. For sure as much speed as matched up against a safety or we've seen."

Parker, who clocked at 4:24 in the 40-yard dash last spring, is caught a 32-yard touchdown moves and mentality." pass to propel A&M past Kansas State in the Big 12 championship game, he can do more than run.

over again at the start of his even more important in this team. I have told the NFL guys field."

"We're kind of used to seeing can catch and then can run after he makes the catch. We can cre-

Against Ohio State the Aggies would like to see Parker linebacker. "I think I'm more of a threat

than a regular receiver," Parker the fastest Aggie player ever. said. "Because when I catch the plagued him earlier in the sea- catch it, I'm a running back son and, as he showed when he again with a running back's Hall has been the Aggies'

workhorse, averaging 5.6 yards every time he put his hand on the football this season and "If I would have done this rushed for 1,024 yards. "We can't let him have the

career, I would have put him at tiniest crease," Ohio State corwide receiver," Aggies coach nerback Antoine Winfield said. R.C. Slocum said. "He has the "You give him gone and you're best hands of anybody on our looking at him in the back

### **Humanitarians Robinson,** Joyner-Kersee, Pele inducted

BOISE, Idaho (AP) - Helping children gives Jackie Joyner-Kersee more of a thrill than winning Olympic track-and-field medals, and that community-minded spirit has landed her in the World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame.

With San Antonio Spurs basketball star David Robinson and Brazilian soccer great Pele, Joyner-Kersee was formally inducted into the hall late Tuesday, joining a dozen other athletes previously honored in Boise for their philanthropic work. Their efforts truly go beyond the game, and that is why we

honor them tonight," hall founder Myron Finkbeiner said. Pele could not attend because his daughter was just married, but

A former NBA Most Valuable Player, Robinson said athletes eventually realize there is more than big-money contracts.

all," Robinson said. "That's not what success is all about."

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Kathy Guinn and Carolyn Stroud daughters of Ray and Alice Stewart cordially invite their friends and family to a brunch to honor their parents 50th Year Anniversary of their Marriage, the morning of January 2, 1999 at St. Paul Methodist Church from 10 to 11:45 a.m.

at 511 North Hobart, Pampa, Texas.

Robinson and Joyner-Kersee stirred a crowd of 1,500 with their

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# Area code crisis escalating despite unused numbers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Coming soon to a tele- propose new rules in the coming year.

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Across the country, the phone industry is runforcing the creation of new area codes that translate into confusion and costs for callers.

of a growing demand for phone numbers. More at in 1999. fault is the way that numbers are assigned, in blocks of 10,000, leaving many numbers unused.

"You hear it's the cellular phones, faxes and

prompting federal officials to find more efficient can have different codes.

California went from 13 area codes in early 1997 to the current 23 and is projected to have at least ning out of numbers faster than ever imagined, 39 by 2001. The Chicago area went from two codes to five in 1996 and is getting at least one more. Dallas and Houston, which got new codes less The growing need for new codes isn't the result than two years ago, are each getting a third code

There are two basic ways to add a code. Traditionally, a region is split into smaller sections, forcing some customers to change their area code modems wiping out area codes, but that's not completely. More common in recent years is the quite accurate," said Ronald J. Binz of the overlay method. Only new customers in the Competition Policy Institute, a Washington think region get the new code, but that system forces everyone to dial 10 digits for local calls. Phones in The rapid depletion of phone numbers is the same neighborhood, or even the same house,

ways to dole out numbers. The Federal Either way, business and residential customers require a block of numbers for every billing region all the numbers used up," said Phil Lindley of the

upgrade equipment and reprint business cards, dozens or hundreds of such regions. stationery and advertising.

"Five years ago, maybe, there was a very slow increase in the number of area codes being assigned," said Bruce Armstrong of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission. "Then all of a sudden it started snowballing."

The system, which also covers Canada and the Caribbean, began with 78 area codes for the United States in 1947. Forty-eight codes were gradually added through 1994.

Then it sped up: 14 more codes in 1995, 11 in 1996, 32 in 1997 and 22 in 1998. Industry officials project the need for 30 new codes a year unless changes are made.

the telephone monopoly, competing local carriers phones and who knows what — and still not have Communications Commission is expected to must learn new dialing patterns, and many must they wish to serve. An area code may cover Maine Public Utilities Commission.

If a carrier has only 100 customers in a given region, the remaining 9,900 numbers of the block are tied up. The amount of unusable numbers grows if a startup carrier serves several regions or if a region has several such carriers.

"In a monopoly world, where there's essentially one provider, the system worked reasonably well," said Alan Hasselwander, chairman of the North American Numbering Council federal advi-

sory panel. As few as half the nearly 8 million number combinations for each area code are actually assigned before a new area code is requested.

We have 1.2 million people in Maine, and they Under the block system, created in the days of could all have second lines, pagers, cellular



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Pampa News, MUST be days from the date of is- Only. suance of this citation the date for answer being the 11 Financial 25th day of January, A.D. 1999, to Plantiff's Petition filed in said court on the 8th day of December, and styled JO BELL IN. DIVIDUALLY, AND AS INDEPENDENT EXE-CUTRIX OF THE ES. 14d Carpentry tiff vs. WILLISTON tions, remodeling, residen-BENEDICT, OR IF DE-CEASED THE UN. Construction, 665-0447.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as fol-TRESPASS TO TRY TI-TLE (SECTION 102, bus, 665-4774. SURVEY, GRAY COUN-

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Notice is hereby given that original letters testamentary upon the Estate of F.W. Gilreath, Deceased, were granted to us, the undersigned, on this 22nd day of cember, 1998, in Cause No. 8455, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas. All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present PAINTING reasonable, them to us within the time and in the manner pre-

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refrigerator, all bills paid. 669-3672, 665-5900 Lee Ann's Grooming Canine & Feline Grooming Holiday Special 1/2 off 1st mo. rent. 1,2,3 bdr., starting at \$275. 6 mo. lease, pool, fireplaces, washer/dryer hookups in 2 and 3 bedrooms. Caprock

es, covered parking, laundry. \$275 mo. + elec., \$100 dep. 1334 N. Coffee, 663-7522, 883-2461. AVAIL. soon, 113 N. location. Very attractive. Ray Duncan 669-3333 NEW Ownership! New

102 Bus. Rent.

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103 Homes For Sale Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-3560, 663-1442 SCHNEIDER HOUSE 669-0007 Seniors or Disabled Rent Based on Income

1811 N. Nelson - 3 bdr., 1 bath. New int. paint/wall paper. New kit. floor, cnt. h/a. \$31,000 665-5907. 2145 Dogwood, comer lot,

3-2-2. Ready to move in Call 669-0007 Jim D. 3 bdr, 1 bath

Owner Will Carry

Hunter 665-2903 98 Unfurn. Houses 3 bdr., 1 3/4 ba., lrg. walkin closets, heat & air, 2 BDR, 1 bath, garage. 922 E. Browning \$300 mo. range, gar. Consider lease. C-21, 665-4180.

ter deck w/arbor, pond, CLEAN 2 bdr. duplex, w/d strg. bldg. Price reduced hookups, gar. Lease. Dep. 1608 N. Christy 669-0778 hookups, gar. Lease. Dep. \$200, \$325 mo., 1908 3 or 4 bdr., 1 ba. fenced y., clean, must see!

3 bdr., cent. heat & air. Linda Daniels C-21 References & deposit re- 669-2799, 669-0007 Jim Davidson

quired, yearly lease. Call 669-9952. 669-1863, 669-0007 2 and 3 bedroom houses. Unfurnished. Available 663-9021 HUD. 669-2080 or 669-

Best reasonable 120 Autos 3 br. 2 bath, isolated mas- Lefors. offer. 537-3783 after 5pm

114 Recre. Veh.

103 Homes For Sale 115 Trailer Parks

4 bdr., 2 ba. br., 2513 Evergreen, lrg. cov. patio. **NBC Plaza** Office Space Available Call 665-4100 Home w/ everything. Century 21, Marie, 665-4180 Bobbie Nisbet

> CUTE 3 bdr., 1 ba., large backyard. 1017 S. Wells. Call 665-3936.

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Gail W. Sanders

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hood, 1001 Mary Ellen. \$24,525.665-6215 104 Lots

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> Bill's Custom Campers 930 S. Hobart Pampa, Tx. 79065

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for yearly lease, located FOR Sale 96 Mustang GT, east of Pampa. Call 669-black, black leather, low miles. Call 665-4083 or

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#### **Schneider House**



Everyone enjoyed festivities around the Christmas tree, during the Schneider House Christmas party.

Independent

In December, action by the full board of directors of the

Association allowed the Texas

cow-calf organization to join in

support of the Canadian and

Mexican cattle dumping petition.

tle imports from Canada have

increased from 262,000 head in

1987 to over 1.4 million head in

11,397 and beef imports (meat)

from Canada have increased

from 191 million pounds in 1987

can to help the producer meet

current production costs,"

Brown said. "Canadian dumping

of live cattle in 1995 alone pro-

duced over two billion pounds of

extra beef in the United States,

for an estimated loss in value to

the American cattle producer of

being done today to help the pro-

ducer side of the cattle industry.

This is one way to help the grass-

roots cattle producers, not just in

The Independent Cattlemen's

Association of Texas is a 25 year-

old grass-roots cow-calf produc-

er organization, which repre-

sents thousands of Texas cattle

Texas, but nation-wide."

producers.

Brown noted, "Not much is

over \$100 per head."

"We must do everything we

to 712 million pounds in 1997.

According to R-CALF, live cat-

Cattlemen's

#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3**

#### **ICA**

In October, the executive committee of ICA voted to review and support petitions filed by the Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Foundation. The petitions asked the International Trade Commission to examine whether imports from Canada are entering the United States at unfairly low prices (i.e. "dumped") or at prices which reflect a benefit from a subsidy, and which are causing or threatening economic harm to a domestic industry. In addition, the petitions called for the imposition of countervailing duties on imports of live cattle.

### Wild horses shot to death

RENO, Nev. (AP) — Thirty-one wild horses were shot to death at close range with a rifle in the worst slaughter of free-roaming horses in Nevada in a decade, investigators said Tuesday.

"This kind of stuff is just sick and absolutely senseless," said Paul Iverson, administrator of the Nevada Division of Agriculture. "Some of them were shot and left to suffer for a long period of

Twenty-five of the horses were found in and around a valley known as Devil's Flat on Sunday and Monday. Six additional bodies were discovered during a helicopter search on Tuesday.

The horses included several young colts and pregnant mares. Some were maimed and at least one was tortured with sprays to the head from a fire extinguisher after being shot, sheriff's Sgt. Bob Towery said.

"I have no reason why. There's no rationale for it," Towery said.

One young horse was still alive when leaders of a local animal rescue group were called to the scene Sunday afternoon, but it had to be destroyed.

'We only saw two (dead) horses at first. Then, oh my God, we saw another one. And then a fourth and a fifth. It was horrible," said Bobbi Royle of Wild Horse Spirit based in the nearby Washoe Valley.

"There was one little filly still alive, probably just eight or nine months old. She was shot in the back and paralyzed," she said Tuesday. "She had to be put down.

State officials were using a metal detector to locate and remove bullets from the carcasses to be sent to a forensics lab. A reward totaling more than \$20,000 was posted for the arrest of the killers.

'There's just total outrage. People are so upset," said Lydia Hammack, president of Virginia Range Wildlife Protection Association in Virginia City. "These animals are magnificent animals and I really can't understand how somebody can do this.

It's a real sicko out there. Investigators do not believe the killings are related to the longstanding tensions between ranchers and government managers of wild horses, said John Tyson, a Storey County range management officer. For decades, ranchers have complained that wild horses compete with their livestock for limited food in the high

desert. The slaughter is believed to be the biggest single shooting of wild horses in Nevada since as many as 600 were killed during a two-year period in the mid-

#### **Coronado Healthcare Center**



John Gilcreast resident of Coronado Healthcare Center, visits with Santa, (Terry Rowan), while Cathy Bailey. director of nurses looks on during the Coronado Healthcare Center's "Hall Party" for residents and their families.

### Balloon lifts off in test before round-the-world trip

(AP) — The spaceship-like capsule a U.S.-Australian team hopes to fly around the world beneath a balloon was lifted off the ground today for the first time for a pre-flight inspection.

Organizers identified some technical problems, but said they were part of normal testing and the final adjustment process and should not delay the launch, planned for Friday.

The 7-foot-by-8-foot gondola was lifted off the ground for the dangling beneath a crane to be to fly at the edge of space. weighed and for some ballast and landing equipment checks.

The bid by the Re/Max International team comes just days after Chicago millionaire

ALICF SPRINGS, Australia Steve Fossett and his team redistribute the 6,600-pound splashed down in the Pacific Ocean.

> Lindstrand of Sweden abandoned their balloon flight near Hawaii, on Christmas Day. They have tried a total of 11 times.

In the Re/Max attempt, testing today showed uneven weight distribution between the six steel cables from which the gondola will be strung. The gondola will first time in the desert launch hang beneath a giant polyethylzone, but it rose only inches, ene balloon that the pilots plan

Technicians began working

capacity payload and said later more dangerous than the other Fossett, British millionaire gondola and some of the cables Richard Branson and Per could be shifted and the tension ble they can slowly go down and adjusted to solve the problem.

Scientists and engineers also the northeast tip of Oahu, checked equipment, including oxygen and nitrogen tanks to create atmosphere inside the pressurized gondola; space suits and parachutes; and scientific and communications equip-

"We're checking and rechecking every circuit, every life sup-port component," team leader Australia from the United States, and Denver real estate magnate was canceled because of the lat-Dave Liniger said today.

"There's no question that it's the joining pins between the missions," Liniger said. "The other people, if they get in trousit down in the ocean. If we get into trouble, we're 25 miles up, so it creates some special haz-

> The attempt has already been delayed twice; once by high winds and unseasonal rain over the launch zone and once when the contract for the C-130 Hercules cargo plane, which was est crisis in the Persian Gulf.

#### Making the grade



Pampa High School English teacher Billie Osborne grading papers before the Christmas break.

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