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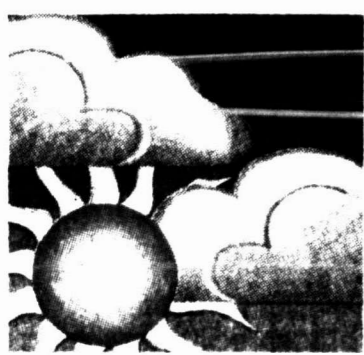
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# Pampa

Vol. 91 No. 230 • Pampa, Texas  
50¢ Daily • Sunday \$1



High today upper 40s  
Low tonight mid 30s  
For weather details see  
Page 2.

**PAMPA** — The PHS Class of 1989 will hold a class reunion meeting Monday at 7 p.m. at 2114 Sumner. For more information call Dustin Miller at 665-4918.

**PAMPA** — Kids Club basketball registration sign-ups will be Saturday from 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 try-outs 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.

No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

Wednesday's winning numbers were 2-3-22-26-32-42.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$22 million.

- Joe Bailey Taylor Sr., 91, rancher, barber.
- Alberta V. Woods, 89, homemaker.

Classifieds are a quick and easy way to get your advertising message across. To place an ad or to get more information, call Beverly or Leslie at The Pampa News at 669-2525.

Customers are to be reminded that the news office will be closed Friday.

Classified .....8  
Comics .....6  
Editorial .....7  
Sports .....8

*Enjoy A Safe & Happy Holiday Season*

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## Time's a movin' Countdown goes into full swing to new millennium

By MIRANDA G. BAILEY  
Managing Editor

What exactly is going to happen when the clock strikes midnight on New Year's Eve 1999?

There are some who believe it will be the first hour of doom's day, while others shrug their shoulders and say nothing will happen. And then there are those who believe something in between.

Regardless, the Y2K issue is a hot topic of conversation these days. And it is affecting Pampa.

Y2K — the shortened term used in reference to the longer version of "the year 2000" — was brought up earlier this month in a Pampa ISD Board of Education meeting regarding whether the district should approve a band trip to the London Millennium Parade on New Year's Day, 2000 because of poten-

tial problems associated with the Y2K problem.

The widely discussed "Y2K problem" begins with a computer chip.

When computers were first being used in everyday life, they were all programmed to use only two digits to keep track of the year. Therefore, beginning Jan. 1, 2000, computers that have not been reprogrammed will recognize "double zero" not as the year 2000, but 1900 — a problem that could cause them to produce false data or stop functioning altogether.

The results of such a problem could range from stock markets failing to open in some countries, to major food spoilage resulting from the failure of computer-operated food storage or delivery refrigeration systems.

Difficulties in completing electronic banking transactions, to power outages, to farmers not being able to operate

automated feeding, watering and milking equipment — these are a few of the problems that could arise from non-compliant computers.

Most national news stories coming out now concern businesses and agencies that are working on getting their computers compliant to avoid these pitfalls.

President Clinton assured Americans on Monday that social security will be paid without delay in the new millennium because government computers are free of programming bugs many expect with the arrival of the year 2000.

However, Christmas Day a Corpus Christi newspaper reported that church leaders are banding together spreading a gospel that says: get ready for Y2K.

Earlier this month, Microsoft reported finding several minor Year 2000 bugs in Windows 98, one of the most heavily tested software products ever, according

## Y2K what?

to the company.

What are Pampa leaders and residents doing to make local computer systems compliant? Are leaders predicting problems in Gray County? And what are residents doing, if anything, because of this issue?

These are some of the questions that will be answered in the upcoming stories on Y2K.

## Top Ten stories in U.S., the world

The top news stories of 1998 chosen by 299 Associated Press newspaper editors and broadcast executives in the United States. A first-place vote gave the story 10 points, a second-place vote gave it nine points, and so on. Stories are followed by the number of points they received.

The Top Ten U.S. stories are:

1. Clinton-Lewinsky. 2,744.
2. McGwire-Sosa home run race. 1,327.
3. World economic turmoil. 1,222.
4. Hurricanes Georges, Mitch. 1,143.
5. Iraq showdown. 1,108.
6. GOP slide in elections. 1,047.
7. U.S. embassies bombed. 1,002.
8. School shootings. 880.
9. Glenn return to space. 799.
10. Tobacco settlement. 729.

The second 10: Northern Ireland peace accord; Viagra; Mideast peace deal; Swissair crash; U.S. budget surplus; Microsoft antitrust trial; India, Pakistan nuclear tests; Sinatra die; Kosovo; Texas heat, drought, floods.

The top 10 international news stories of 1998, as chosen by 84 news media subscribers of The Associated Press in 39 countries outside the United States, followed by the points they received:

1. Impeachment probe of President Clinton. 638.
2. Global economic turmoil. 561.
3. India, Pakistan nuclear tests. 288.
4. Hurricanes Georges, Mitch. 282.
5. Northern Ireland peace accord. 276.
6. Russia's economic, political crises. 271.
7. Pinochet's arrest. 244.
8. Kosovo. 243.
9. Indonesia unrest, Suharto's resignation. 229.
10. Iraq showdown. 195.

The top 10 stories of 1998 chosen by 1,302 readers casting ballots at The AP Web site, <http://wire.ap.org>, followed by points received:

1. Clinton-Lewinsky. 8,302.
2. McGwire-Sosa home run race. 5,005.
3. Iraq showdown. 4,170.
4. U.S. embassies bombed. 3,985.
5. Hurricanes Georges, Mitch. 3,779.
6. Global economic turmoil. 3,639.
7. School shootings. 3,282.
8. Glenn return to space. 2,697.
9. GOP slide in elections. 2,515.
10. India, Pakistan nuclear tests. 2,263.

The top 10 stories of 1998 chosen by 765 visitors to the Newseum in Arlington, Va., followed by points received:

1. Clinton-Lewinsky. 4,856.
2. Glenn return to space. 2,397.
3. Iraq showdown. 2,362.
4. McGwire-Sosa home run race. 2,229.
5. Global economic turmoil. 1,750.
6. Hurricanes Georges, Mitch. 1,686.
7. GOP slide in U.S. elections. 1,371.
8. Tobacco settlement. 1,308.
9. Viagra. 1,243.
10. School shootings. 1,175.



(Community Camera photo by Alecia Hall)

Amy Robbins loads groceries into a car for the Harvest House's recent food outreach, was one of the many participants who volunteered to take groceries to those in need this holiday season.

## Stock show season starts Saturday with 4-H event

By KATE B. DICKSON  
Associate Publisher

Some Gray County 4-H youngsters will start their new year off with the first stock show of the season Saturday at Recreation Park.

Here's the schedule:

9:30 a.m. — Steer Demonstration - boning legs - Donna Crawford and Shonda Rucker.

10 a.m. — Steer Demonstration - proper washing and blowing - Danny Nusser.

10 a.m. — Weights must be turned in on all species.

11 a.m. — Team Teaching - lamb and swine teams will show younger 4-Hers showmanship and grooming.

1 p.m. — Judging - steers, lamb, then swine.

Swine team leaders for one of two teams are

Meagan Craig, Lindsey Price and Megan Coutts. Member include Jimmy Craig, Bridget Craig, Brooke Seymour, Courtney Crawford, Jeremy Pritchett, Justin Hampton, Cesily Cadra, Ashley Price, Savannah Smith, Trent Cadra, Mark Smith, Meagan Crawford, Jake Hopkins, Meredith Coutts, Kevin Smith, Lucas Seymour, Josh Gibson, Kristen Shults, Chance Bowers and Lindsey Hampton.

Other swine team leaders are Justin Thomas, Alan Parker and Emily Nusser. Team members include Josh Seymour, Tamara Lova, Cassie Gibson, Colin Bowers, Austin Pritchett, Elizabeth Thomas, Scotty Willett, Cassie Hamilton, Cory Jackson, Karra Longo, Rovee O'Neal, Sean Smith, Rebecca Moore, Blake Nusser, Ben Gibson, Elizabeth Campbell, Keeley Longo, Maggie Hopkins and Karli Douglas.

(See SHOW, Page 2)

## Swearing-in ceremony Friday

Friday is the beginning of a new year and the beginning of new terms for several newly-elected or re-elected officials.

223rd District Judge Lee Waters will do the honors at the courthouse and swear in the nine office holders Friday morning at 9 a.m.

Returning office holders who will be sworn in include County Treasurer Scott Hahn, County Commissioners Jim Greene and James Helvey, Justices of the Peace Bob Munn and Mary Ann Carpenter and County Judge Richard Peet.

Newly-elected officials who will be sworn in

include Gave Honderich who is taking over as District Clerk. Susan Winborne will be sworn in as the new County Clerk and Kurt R. Curtman will take over as Justice of the Peace Precinct 2.

Being re-sworn will also be Elaine Morris as County Auditor and Carla Carter as Assistant County Auditor. Each of those positions are appointed for two-year terms.

Also being re-sworn will be any deputy County and District Clerks who are present as well as the County Treasurer's deputy, if present.

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# Daily Record

## Obituaries

### JOE BAILEY TAYLOR SR.

McLEAN — Joe Bailey Taylor Sr., 91, died Tuesday, Dec. 29, 1998, at Shamrock. Services were to be at 2 p.m. today in First Baptist Church with the Rev. James Martindale officiating. Burial will be in Hillcrest Cemetery under the direction of Lamb Funeral Home of McLean.

Mr. Taylor was born Nov. 13, 1907, at Sweetwater. He had been a McLean resident for 48 years. He was a rancher and a barber. He was a deacon of First Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Edna. Survivors include two daughters, Lynn Ellen Taylor of Amarillo and Louvera Dilbeck of Lubbock; three sons, Dan J. Taylor of McLean and Don B. Taylor and Joe B. Taylor, both of Hereford; 12 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

### ALBERTA V. WOODS

Alberta V. Woods, 89, of Pampa, died Sunday, Dec. 27, 1998. Services were to be at 2:30 today in St. Mark C.M.E. Church with the Rev. I.L. Patrick, pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church of Pampa, officiating assisted by the Rev. Maurice Burks, of Antioch Fellowship Church of Amarillo, and the Rev. T.J. Patterson, pastor of New Hope Baptist Church of Pampa. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Warford-Walker Mortuary of Amarillo.

Mrs. Woods was born at New Boston, Texas. She had been a Pampa resident for the past 60 years and was a homemaker and a member of Macedonia Baptist Church.

Survivors include three daughters, Irish Woods-Streat of Panhandle, Henry Lois McKinnon of Wellington and Warnza Demerson of Amarillo; three sons, Edward "Jack" Woods of Crosbyton, William Kyle "Sonny" Woods of Denver, Colo., and Ronald "Tim" Woods of Pampa; 23 grandchildren; and 41 great-grandchildren.

The family will be at 1104 Varnon Street.

## Calendar of events

### PAMPA AREA LITERACY COUNCIL

Pampa Area Literary Council office will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. For more information, call 665-2331.

### THEE PLACE

Thee Place for Singles is open 7-10:30 p.m. Saturdays at 520 W. Kingsmill.

### ADHD/ADD SUPPORT GROUP

If interested in the ADHD/ADD Support Group call Connie at 669-9364.

### 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.

## Fires

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

### Wednesday, December 30

1:42 p.m. — Two units and three personnel responded to the 600 block of Campbell on a gas odor.

11:04 p.m. — Three units and seven personnel responded to the 1000 block of S. Nelson on an investigation.

## Emergency numbers

Ambulance.....	911
Crime Stoppers.....	669-2222
Energas.....	665-5777
Fire.....	911
Police (emergency).....	911
Police (non-emergency).....	669-5700
SPS.....	1-800-750-2520
Water.....	669-5830

## Police report

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

### Wednesday, December 30

Johnny Vernon Scott, 48, 1404 E. Browning, was arrested on charges of enticing a child, retaliation and possession of a prohibited substance in a correction facility.

Clayton Durand Johnson, 34, 407 E. Browning, was arrested on charges of no valid drivers license, expired inspection sticker and a bond surrender out of Potter County.

Lana Gage Murrah, 36, no address given, was arrested on charges of criminal mischief and a warrant.

Tomarbysshe C. Embers, 25, 1141 Huff, was arrested on charges of possession of dangerous drugs and warrants.

## Sheriff's Office

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

### Wednesday, December 30

Touni Leneece Archie, 35, 407 E. Browning, was arrested on charges of failure to appear from Randall County.

## Ambulance

Rural/Metro reported the following calls for the 24-hour period ending today.

### Wednesday, Dec. 30

8:56 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Sirroco on a fall and one patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

12:38 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 900 block of S. Hobart and transported one patient to Columbia Medical Center.

1:13 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of E. Kingsmill on a medical call and one patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

2:08 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of N. Cuyler on a medical and on patients were transported.

2:42 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Columbia Medical Center for a one patient transport to Baptist St. Anthony's West.

3:07 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Columbia Medical Center for a one patient transport to a local nursing center.

6:25 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1700 block of Chestnut on a medical call and one patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

7: 35 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2100 block of N. Dwight on a medical call and no patients were transported.

7:57 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 400 block of N. Wells on a medical call and one patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

### Thursday, Dec. 31

4:21 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported one patient to Columbia Medical Center.

## Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Atterbury Grain of Pampa.		
Wheat.....	2.63	
Milo.....	3.17	
Corn.....	3.47	
Soybeans.....	4.68	
The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation.		
Occidental.....	16 15/16	NC
Magellan.....	120.38	
Puritan.....	20.07	
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.		
Amoco.....	55 7/16	up 11/16
Arco.....	66 5/8	dn 1/2
Cabot.....	26 13/16	up 1/4
Cabot O&G.....	15 1/4	NC
Chevron.....	84 3/16	NC
Coca-Cola.....	67 7/16	dn 3/8
Columbia/HCA.....	24 11/16	dn 5/16
Enron.....	56 9/16	dn 1/16
Halliburton.....	29 1/4	dn 1/8
IRI.....	3 7/16	dn 3/16
KNE.....	34 11/16	up 5/16
Ker McGee.....	27 3/4	dn 1/8
Limited.....	29 1/8	dn 1/8
McDonald's.....	77 3/8	dn 11/16
Mobil.....	87 11/16	dn 5/16
New Atmos.....	32	dn 1/4
NCE.....	48 1/16	up 1/8
Penney's.....	47 7/16	up 7/16
Phillips.....	42 3/8	dn 1/4
Pioneer Nat. Res.....	7 7/8	dn 1/16
SLB.....	45 3/4	up 1/8
Tenneco.....	33 15/16	dn 5/16
Texaco.....	53	dn 1/2
Ultrasun.....	23 1/4	up 3/16
Williams.....	79 7/8	dn 7/8
Williams.....	31	dn 1/16
New York Gold.....	287.30	
Silver.....	4.99	
West Texas Crude.....	11.71	

## SHOW

Sheep team leaders are Sean O'Neal, D.J. Basham and Jessi Fish. Members include Kalyann Jones, Casey Coleman, Cody Lee, Tabitha McCoy, Nicholas Odom, Daniella McCoy, Austin Williams, Trent Cadra, Bron Bohlar, Travis Fish, Ricky McCoy, Nikki Hefley and Kristen Odom.

Division announcers are: Steers — Joe Coutts, Terry O'Neal and Kevin Crawford. Sheep — Emily Nusser and Megan Coutts. Swine — Sean O'Neal and Cassie Hamilton.

Division superintendents are: Steers — Joe

Coutts, Terry O'Neal and Kevin Crawford. Lambs — Diane O'Neal, J.D. Fish and Neal Odom. Swine — Charlie Thomas, Brad Givson, Mike Price, Jim Willett, Doug Pritchett, Larry Parker and Jimmy Hampton.

Steer classes include: ABC, Brangus, Shorthorn, Angus, Charolais, Simmental, Chianina and Maine Anjou. Sheep classes include: Southdown, Finewool, Finewool X and Medium Wool. Swine classes include: Duroc, Hamp, Cross, White OPB, Black OPB.

Those attending are reminded there will not be a concession stand at this show.

# Texas roundup...

## She's finally home, but the work has just begun for octuplet mom

HOUSTON (AP) — Finally back home after three grueling months in the hospital, the mother of the Houston octuplets already is gearing up for her next big challenge: preparing to care for her seven surviving babies.

Nkem Chukwu knows she'll need support — lots of it.

"I'll get help from the members of my church, our friends," the 27-year-old mother said Wednesday before she was released from St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital.

"God has been my great provider, and he will continue to provide for me and the babies," she added. "I know he'll take care of them."

But Ms. Chukwu and her husband, Lyke Louis Udobi, also put out a call for some secular assistance — specifically, donations to help them provide for their new family.

## Microsoft files lawsuit against Texans who registered Internet domains

HOUSTON (AP) — Microsoft has filed suit against two Texas men who have registered Internet domain names including microsoftwindows.com and microsoftoffice.com.

The world's largest software maker claims the two men are infringing on trademarks for popular Microsoft products and are misleading the public.

The men have registered other Internet domain names nearly identical to Airborne Express, Wal Mart, Alamo Car Rental and The Associated Press.

The lawsuit in federal court describes the men as "pirates" and "cybersquatters."

"No one, on the Internet or off, should be permitted to benefit from using Microsoft's trademarks to mislead the public," Microsoft attorney Steve Aeschbacher said in a written statement.

"We believe that once the court has had a chance to review the facts, it will agree the defendants' registration, offer to sell and use of these domain names is deliberately designed to be confusing to consumers and is a violation of federal and state trademark law."

## Visually impaired man files lawsuit after front-row seats were refused

HOUSTON (AP) — A visually impaired North Texas man has filed a lawsuit against Ticketmaster and Texas A&M University for refusing to sell him front-row seats to concerts by Garth Brooks, Michael Bolton and Wynonna Judd.

Patrick Cavanagh of Wylie in Collin County says that the ticket seller and the university are obligated by federal law to accommodate his disability.

Cavanagh alleged in the lawsuit filed

Wednesday in federal court that Ticketmaster and the university are violating the Americans with Disabilities Act by refusing to give him seats "at or near the front of the concert venues."

Representatives of Ticketmaster and A&M could not be reached late Wednesday, the Houston Chronicle reported today.

Cavanagh said he regularly attends concerts throughout Texas and "plans to continue to do so."

## Wildlife service wants to protect cave-dwelling spiders and beetles

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Suburban development could be hampered if the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service succeeds in listing as endangered nine invertebrate species found only in caves in northern and northwestern Bexar County.

The species — five spiders, three beetles and a harvestman — are threatened by habitat destruction and contamination, along with the proliferation of imported red fire ants, said the Fish and Wildlife Service. The service published a notice Wednesday in the Federal Register, initiating a 120-day public comment period that could result in a decision within one year.

The species are known to inhabit 56 caves, but three are found in only one cave and two are found in only two caves. Half of the caves are on publicly-owned land, The San Antonio Express-News reported today.

Several area groups petitioned for the listing six years ago. Fish and wildlife service officials said their response was delayed while they tried to work out voluntary conservation agreements with landowners.

If conservation efforts succeed, "the chances of extinction should be reduced and the need to list one or more of these species could be precluded," said Nancy Kaufman, director of the service's southwest regional headquarters in Albuquerque.

## Elsewhere:

**FATAL CHASE:** Two people died after a 25-mile police chase during rush hour on an interstate highway. Fort Worth police say an officer shot and killed a burglary suspect who aimed a gun at him, and the suspect's female companion then shot herself in the head. ... **CROSS APPEAL:** A former Arlington police sergeant who was fired for wearing a cross-shaped pin on his uniform has lost his third bid for reinstatement. George Daniels' attorneys say they'll take the issue to federal court. ... **JEWELRY ROBBER:** A man suspected of leading a gang of thieves who robbed jewelry stores in several states pleaded guilty Wednesday to heists in Beaumont and two other cities. John F. Bracken, 34, could receive 25 years in prison.

## Weather focus

### LOCAL FORECAST

Partly cloudy with a high in the upper 40s and a northeast wind from 5-15 mph. Mostly cloudy tonight with a low in the mid 30s and south winds at 10-20. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy with a high reaching the mid 40s before temperatures start dropping in the afternoon. Yesterday's high was 64; the overnight low, 24.

### REGIONAL FORECAST

**WEST TEXAS** — Panhandle — Tonight, mostly cloudy with a low in the lower 30s. South to southwest wind 10-15 mph. New Year's Day, cloudy and turning colder with a 30 percent chance of rain by late afternoon. High in the mid 40s dropping to around 40 during the afternoon. Wind shifting to the north to northwest at 10-20 mph. Extreme Southern Panhandle/Low Rolling Plains — Tonight, becoming cloudy. Low mid 30s to mid 40s New Year's Day, slight chance of showers. High lower to mid 50s. Permian Basin/Upper Trans Pecos — Tonight, becoming cloudy. Low 40-45. New Year's Day, slight chance of showers. High 60-65. Concho Valley/Edwards Plateau — Tonight, a slight chance of showers. Low 45-50. New Year's Day,

chance of showers. High around 65. Far West Texas — Tonight, becoming mostly cloudy. Low around 40. New Year's Day, partly cloudy and breezy. High around 60.

**GUADALUPE MOUNTAINS/BIG BEND AREA** — Tonight, partly cloudy. Lows in the 30s to mid 40s. New Year's Day, partly cloudy. Slight chance of showers guadalupe mountain area. Highs 50s Guadalupe Mountains to mid 70s along the river.

### NORTH TEXAS

— Tonight, mostly cloudy. A slight chance of showers southeast. Low 40 to 47. Nw thunderstorms north and northeast, rain likely south and southeast. Rain possibly changing to light snow or snow flurries mainly northwest and northern north central late. Low 31 west to 45 southeast.

### NEW MEXICO

— Tonight, mostly cloudy northwest half with a slight chance for lowland rain and mountain snow showers. Increasing cloudiness east and south. Lows in the teens and 20s mountains with upper 20s and 30s at lower elevations. New Year's Day, cloudy, breezy and colder. A slight chance for lowland rain and mountain snow showers north and a chance for showers south. Highs in the mid 30s and 40s mountains and north with upper 40s and 50s east and

50s to low 60s southwest.

### BORDER STATES

**OKLAHOMA** — Tonight, mostly cloudy. A slight chance of light rain central and south, possibly changing to freezing rain north. Lows mainly in the 30s. New Year's Day, cloudy with a chance of rain, changing to freezing rain or sleet north late. Highs in the lower 40s to middle 50s.

### SOUTH TEXAS

— Hill Country and South Central Texas — Tonight, cloudy with a chance of rain. Lows in the lower 50s, upper 40s Hill Country. New Year's Day, cloudy with a chance of showers or thunderstorms. Highs near 70. Southeast Texas and Upper Texas Coast — Tonight, cloudy with a chance of showers. Lows ranging from the lower 50s inland to the upper 50s at the coast. New Year's Day, cloudy with a chance of showers or thunderstorms. Highs in the mid and upper 60s. New Year's night, cloudy and breezy with showers and thunderstorms likely. Lows in the lower to mid 50s. Coastal Bend and the Rio Grande Plains — Tonight, cloudy with patchy drizzle. Lows in the upper 50s to near 60 inland to the mid 60s at the coast. New Year's Day, mostly cloudy and breezy with a slight chance of showers. Highs in the lower 70s.

# Business highlights...

## Europe's new currency debuts

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Europe's single currency debuts at midnight tonight, the biggest step so far toward uniting Europe into an economic bloc that could rival the United States.

The euro's birth is being hailed as a historic turning point in international finance and is arguably the greatest single step in the drive to create a united Europe from the ruins of World War II.

Banks, bond and stock markets and international businesses are spending the weekend adapting trading floors and computer screens to include the joint currency. A strong, unified euro may level the playing field when it comes to global trade by challenging the dollar's position as the leading world currency.

## BP, Amoco merger to be complete

WASHINGTON (AP) — British Petroleum Co. and Amoco Corp. will complete their \$53 billion merger Thursday after winning regulatory approval from the Federal Trade Commission.

The FTC said Wednesday it voted 4-0 to approve the deal after the companies agreed to address antitrust concerns by selling 134 gasoline stations and nine petroleum terminals.

They also agreed to give owners of more than 1,600 gasoline stations in 30 cities permission to end their contracts.

## Justice approves AT&T merger

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department approved the \$40 billion merger of AT&T and cable giant Tele-Communications Inc. on Wednesday on the condition that TCI sell its interest in a rival phone company.

AT&T is the nation's largest provider of wireless, or mobile, telephone service, with about 9 million customers. TCI is the second-largest cable television operator in the United States and also owns approximately 23 percent of the stock in phone company Sprint's mobile telephone business, called Sprint PCS.

TCI must sell off all its Sprint PCS holdings to pass antitrust muster, said Joel I. Klein, assistant attorney general in charge of the Justice Department's antitrust division.

## Boeing meets 550 jet order

SEATTLE (AP) — At the end of a year pockmarked by scalebacks, shakeups and job cuts, executives at The Boeing Co. are finally wearing smiles.

As the aerospace giant closes the 1998 books today, it does so with some simple math. It promised 550 jets to customers this year, and that's exactly what it delivered.

The number was an all-time company high made possible by the production of "60 or more" planes in December alone, company spokesman Mark Hooper said. The company shipped 14 planes on Tuesday to tie a single-day delivery record.

## Russia defaults on \$26 billion debt

NEW YORK (AP) — Russia's default on \$26 billion in Soviet-era debt to commercial banks worldwide this week won't sting top U.S. banks further since most wrote off their Russian debts months ago, economists said.

But the move gives banks an even stronger case for denying crucial new loans to help rouse the country from its crisis, analysts and economists in London and New York said Wednesday.

## City briefs

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

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

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

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

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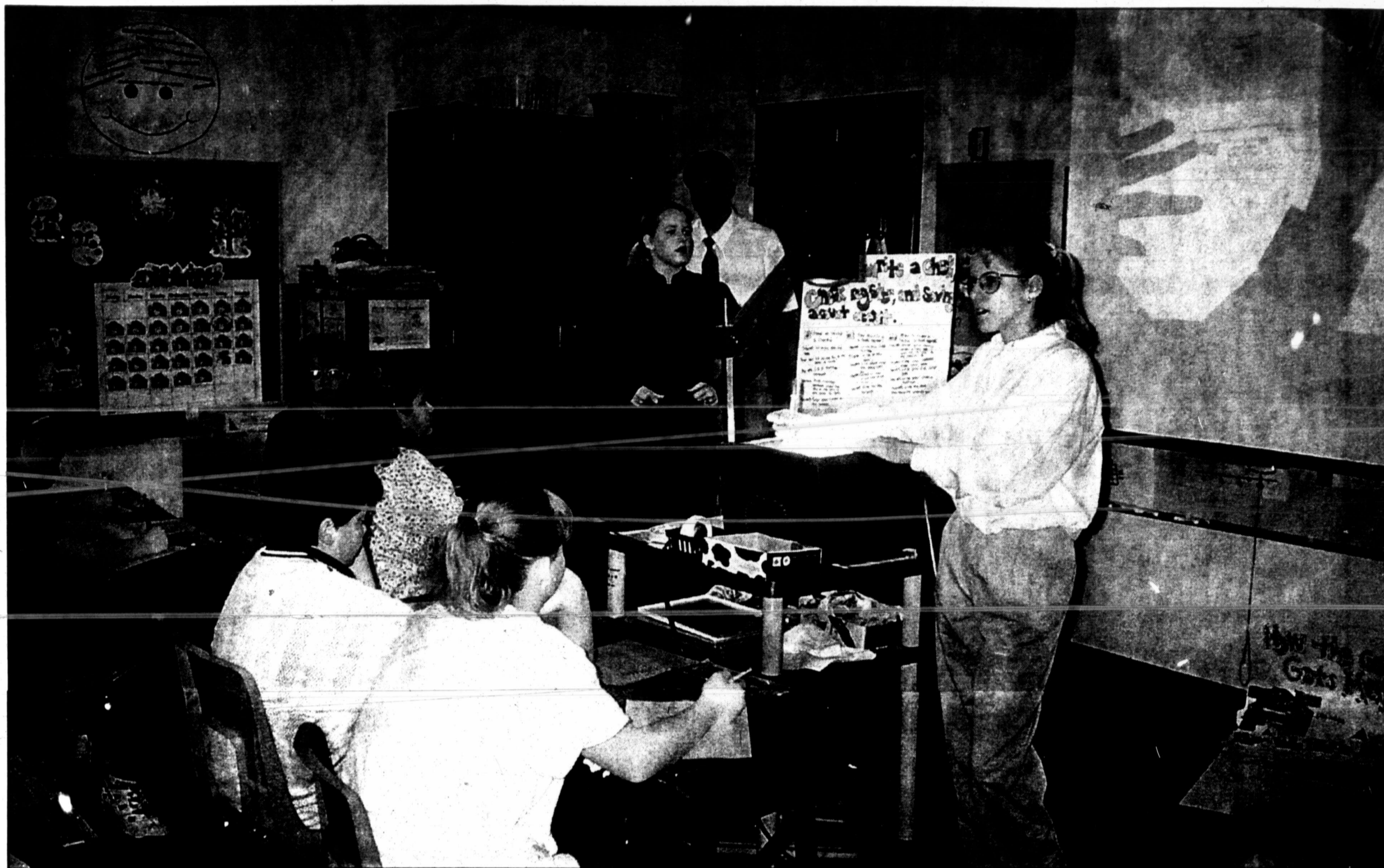
**WATER FOUNTAINS**, cedar log furniture & more on sale at Watson's Garden Center. Up to 50% off. 125 N. Somerville. Adv.

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

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

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

DECA



(Community Camera photo)

Donna Crow's Pampa High School DECA class visited with Lamar fourth grade classes recently to instruct them on keeping a check register and personal budget. Instructing Mrs. Stokes' class are Lucas Tollison, Angela Bowman, Amanda Buck.



(Community Camera photo)

Middle school Principal Tim Powers, students Casey Lee, Krissy Halman and Erika Sheiner look at the canned foods collected at Pampa Middle School's food drive.

## Pampa Middle School holds annual food drive

Pampa Middle School held its annual Christmas Season Food Drive. The goal this year was to have 1000 cans donated to the Salvation Army for distribution to the needy of Pampa. Each homeroom was encouraged to bring canned food and non-perishable food items to the homeroom where it was totaled before it was taken to the big barrel and boxes by the cafeteria. Each homeroom could win a certificate if it had 100 percent participation, a coke party if it had 200 percent participation, and popcorn for the homeroom in each grade with the highest percentage.

The following homerooms earned certificate coke parties and popcorn.

The sixth grade class who won the certificate, coke and popcorn was Mrs. Gill, Teacher, Melissa Brown, Home Room President, 22 students with 94 totaled cans. The following sixth grade classes won a certificate and coke; Mrs. Grice, Teacher, Natasha Martinez, Home Room President, 19 students with 53 totaled cans; Ms. Diller, Teacher, Clayton Young, Home Room President, 21 students with 68 totaled cans; Mrs. Jett, Teacher, Brandon Valingo, 24 students with 60 cans totaled; Mrs. Ellis, Teacher, Eric McClure, Home Room President, 22 students with 29 cans totaled; Mrs. Kerbo, Teacher, Payton Baird, Home Room President, 19 student wit 20 cans totaled; Mrs. Noble, Teacher, Monica Eakin, Home Room President, 22 students with 30

cans totaled; Mr. Allen, Teacher, Heath Miller, Home Room President, 22 students with 23 totaled cans.

The seventh grade class who won the certificate, coke and popcorn was Mrs. Stump, Teacher, Krissy Holman, Home Room President, 18 students with 101 cans totaled. The seventh grade classes who won a certificate and coke were, Mrs. Abbe, Teacher, Cody Lockmane, Home Room President, 19 students with 69 totaled cans; Mrs. Fuentes, Teacher, Erika Skinner, Home Room President, 19 students with 96 totaled cans; Mrs. Day, Teacher, Sarah Driggers, Home Room President, 19 students with 62 totaled cans; Mrs. Bailey, Teacher, Abbi Covalt, Home Room President, 22 students with 30 totaled cans; Ms. Woodard, Teacher, Zach Woodruff, Home Room President, 21 students with 21 totaled cans.

The eighth grade class who won the certificate, coke and popcorn was Mr. Wallum, Teacher, Casey Lee, Home Room Teacher, 19 students with 100 totaled cans. The eighth grade classes who won the certificate and coke include, Mrs. Brown, Teacher, Lindsey Ledbetter, Home Room President, 22 students with 51 totaled cans; Mr. Adkins, Teacher, James Silva, Home Room President, 20 students with 48 totaled cans; Mrs. Stroud, Teacher, Hayden Wade, Home Room President, 21 students with 22 totaled cans.

The Pampa Middle School total between the students and staff was 1215 cans.

## TDA plan goes 'Back to Basics' to help consumers rebound from holiday feasting

HOUSTON — If you're going to make a New Year's resolution in 1999, how about one that says you're not going to buy any new fad diet books to help you lose the extra pounds you put on during holiday excess?

Instead, resolve to take a "Back to Basics" approach to losing weight.

That's a resolution that's not only easy to keep, says Belinda Boshell, RD, LD, president of the 4,000-member Texas Dietetic Association, but also one that saves you money. The reason is fad diets don't work.

"From Thanksgiving to New Year's Day we're deluged with a series of feasts, parties, snacks and other calorie-laden opportunities," Boshell said. "According to the Calorie Control Council, the average person puts on between 5 to 10 pounds."

Unfortunately, most Americans look for quick-fix answers once the holidays end. They seek out the latest diet claiming to produce rapid, short-term weight loss. Some may have temporary results, Boshell said, but none is the answer.

"At any one time, 50 million Americans are on some kind of weight loss," Boshell said. "But only 5 percent of those keep off any weight they may lose."

And even if fad diets did work there are other reasons to avoid them. Most fad diets promote

fast, unhealthy weight loss (more than 2 pounds per week) which in the long run can work against your metabolism, making it easier to regain the weight.

Another reason is such diets eliminate various foods. And

since all foods are there for a reason — namely to provide us with nutrients — cutting out any food may cause dietary deficiencies that can affect daily performance and long-term health.

See TDA, Page 10

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Fri. & Sat. 7:10 & 9:15  
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1<sup>st</sup> Run  
**Patch Adams** (PG-13)  
Fri. & Sat. 7:05  
Sun. thru Thurs. 7:05 & 9:20  
Daily Matinees 1:45  
1<sup>st</sup> Week  
**Mighty Joe Young** (PG)  
Fri. & Sat. 7:05  
Sun. thru Thurs. 7:15 & 9:20  
Daily Matinees 1:45  
2<sup>nd</sup> Week  
**The Prince of Egypt** (PG)  
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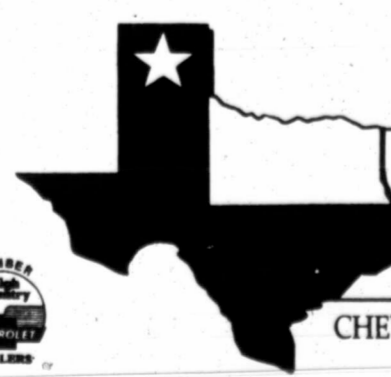
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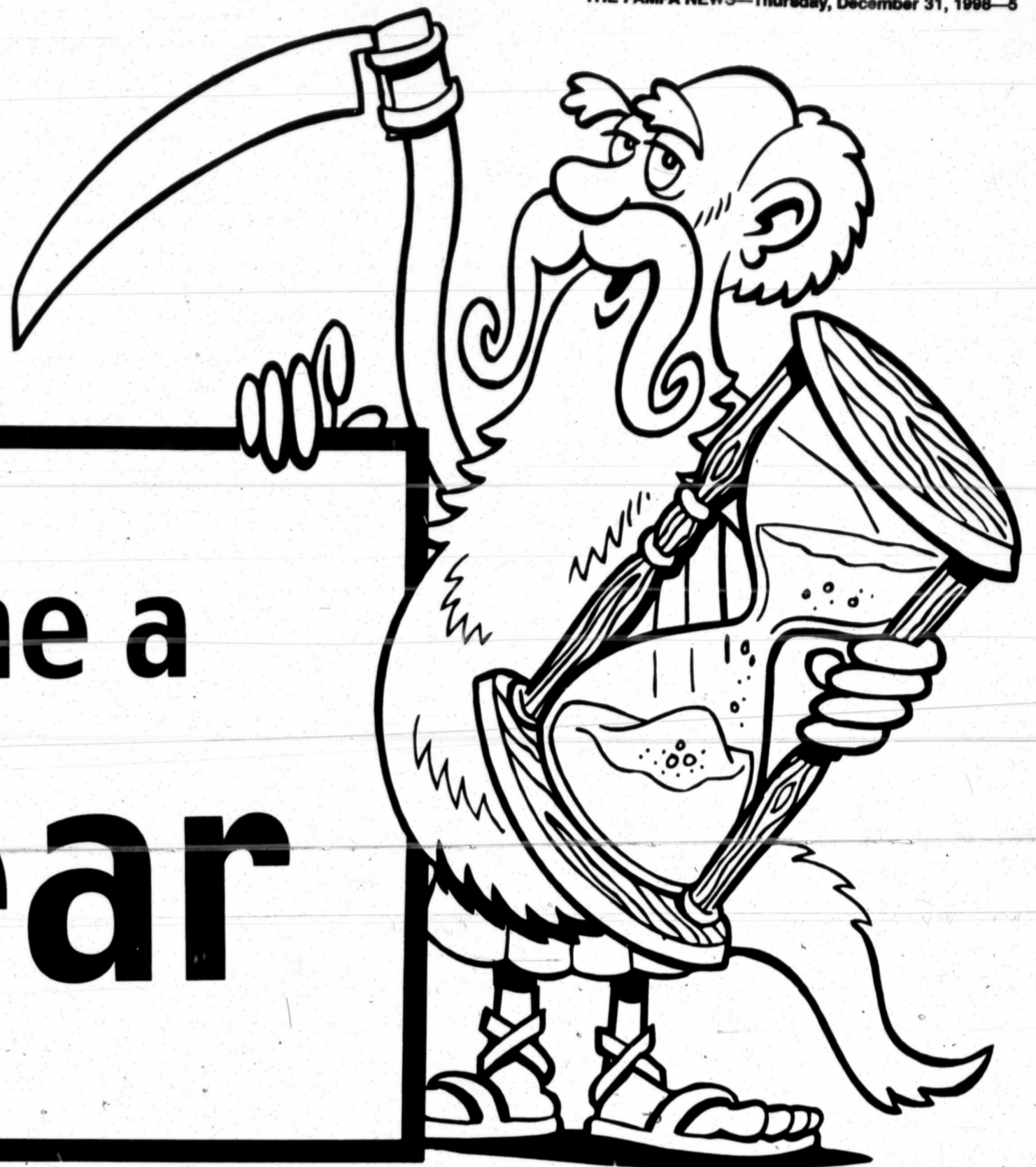
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DEC 31 1998

# Woman Struggles to Separate From Her 'Inseparable' Friend

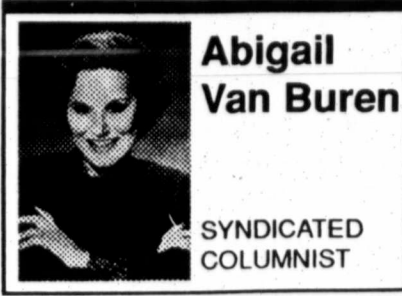
DEAR ABBY: I have a terrible problem on my hands and desperately need your advice.

Several years ago, after enduring a nightmare marriage for 27 years, I left my husband "Joe," with the loving support of a dear friend I'll call "Sally." I found a kindred spirit in this funny, gentle, intelligent woman — and without her I don't know how I could have survived that terrible time in my life. We were virtually inseparable. I had my own room in her home, and she had her own room in mine. We took trips together, spent weekends and holidays together, took care of each other and each other's kids. We did everything together, and I must admit I've never been happier. We were always there for each other.

But after three years of trying to make it without a husband, I caved in and remarried Joe. He promised to change, and he's been quite tolerable. The problem I'm faced with is that I no longer have a place in my life for Sally. I just don't have any time for her. She does not fit in with my "married crowd." She's a single mom, and even though I love her dearly, she's quite eccentric and my husband does not approve of her.

I know how to break up with a man. My question is, how do I "break up" with a girlfriend without hurting her? I really thought that she would understand, but she apparently doesn't. She is terribly upset with how things have turned out, but there's nothing I can do about it.

CAUGHT BETWEEN A ROCK



**Abigail Van Buren**

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

AND A HARD PLACE

**DEAR CAUGHT:** Your letter gives credence to the adage, "No good deed goes unpunished." There's no way to break up with Sally without hurting her.

It's not surprising that your husband disapproves of Sally. She was your lifeline during the separation, and she symbolizes your independence. Where was your "married crowd" when you needed support after your "nightmare marriage" and no longer fit in with them?

If you really wanted to, you could maintain the friendship despite the altered circumstances. However, since you don't — show her this column and, I assure you, she will understand.

DEAR ABBY: Just a few words to let you know what happened after you printed my letter about the donation of frequent-flier miles

to the Make-A-Wish Foundation:

The overwhelming number of phone calls the Make-A-Wish Foundation received at their national office prompted them to set up a special phone line to facilitate the high volume of inquiries they received after the column ran. Northwest Airlines WorldPerks members donated more than 800,000 miles in the two days following the date my letter appeared. And in addition, the foundation's Delta Airlines account was credited with more than 5 million miles during the month of July!

So, Abby, I'm pleased to report that hundreds of children will benefit. Bless you and your many readers who made this possible.

SID FISHER, PALM SPRINGS, CALIF.

**DEAR SID:** That's terrific news, and I know my readers will be as pleased as I to read it. To all my readers who donated airline mileage so generously, thank you on behalf of the children who will benefit for making this possible.

**DEAR READERS:** Have a happy, healthy and prosperous 1999. And remember, if you're driving, don't drink; and if you're drinking, don't drive.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

## Horoscope

FRIDAY, JAN. 1, 1999

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

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

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You feel tense about a personal matter. Why are you being so serious on a holiday? Lighten up. Let others do their thing. Next year can start tomorrow, if that helps you relax. Hedge your bets, lie low and be an armchair activist. Tonight: Slow and easy.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Speak out, and all will fall into place. Listen to someone's presentation. You become aware of a contradiction between what he says and what is happening. Clarifying points doesn't work now. You feel tired. Did you have a wild New Year's Eve? Tonight: Hang out.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Your romantic visions become drowned in reality. Everything is subject to change! Relax, and give life a chance to happen. Be careful with excess; though it could help you forget, there will be damages! Tonight: Easy does it.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ The moon makes you the main star. But you feel pressured to please someone. Be realistic about

your limits, and establish boundaries. Others will make that extra effort if they care. And, they do! Dreams happen. Tonight: Go for exactly what you want.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You feel unusually burdened. Someone shares something a bit heavy, or you might sense a change in the wind. You'll need some time to digest it all. Pitch in and help where you can. Be a friend to those around you. Tonight: Slow down.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Your creativity soars as you mix with different type of people. You understand where your friends come from, though a child or loved one seems rather touchy. You can forge bridges or rupture pathways, depending on what you want. Tonight: You are the party.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Reach for someone you put on a pedestal. You often feel competitive for this person's attention. Take charge. Handle a problem. You feel a bit down; much is on your mind. You don't have to think all about this now. Let go and relax. Tonight: Others look to you.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Let your mind spin. Accept an invitation to do something totally new. You feel pressured by your work or what you need to accomplish in the future. Contact relatives at a distance. Wish everyone the kind of new year you wish for yourself. Tonight: Go exotic.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You become caught up in a

high-pressure situation with someone, or you could choose to let it go. Choose not to play. Let someone offer you what they want, be it emotional or financial. You could find what happens quite seductive. Don't commit just yet. Tonight: With a dear friend.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Popularity presents problems, even though you enjoy every moment of today. Be easy on yourself if you don't do a perfect job mixing with others. It could have more to do with them than you. Carefully handle funds. Tonight: Among friends.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ You feel like you have a lot to do, even if others are enjoying themselves. If you have invited too many people over or made too many commitments, remember this for future planning. Allow others to pitch in. Get into a fun happening. No "bah humbugs"! Tonight: Early to bed!

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Allow greater creativity into your life. Ideas from others can be built upon. Get into a favorite sport or pastime with a friend. Laughter heals and is a wonderful way to start the year. Spend time with friends and loved ones. Tonight: How about a pillow fight?

**BORN TODAY**

Actress Dedee Pfeiffer (1965), actor Frank Langella (1940), comedian Don Novello (1943)

## Crossword Puzzle

by THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Chris-

tened

6 Oddball

11 Century

plant

12 Shirt size

13 "Under-

stand?"

14 Soap Box

Derby

setting

15 Contract

part

17 German

cry

19 Squid's

defense

20 Dove call

23 Epithets

25 Desire

26 One way

to start

over

28 Aussie

hoppers

29 Salvage

30 Moose's

cousin

31 Gun (a

motor)

32 Yon lass

33 "Ivanhoe"

woman

35 Became

cheerful

38 Airy

tunes

41 Dodge

42 Bay

43 Classes

44 Janet

SLAKE ARAB  
LIMIT SHORE  
ABIDE PETER  
LEAD DAMONE  
ORBIT AIR RAT  
MALINGER  
LEAN RAIL  
MALIGNER  
CADROB TOE  
ABOMBS LENS  
RODEO DIGIT  
EDGAR IRENE  
TEEN PARED

Yesterday's Answer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11						12			
13						14			
	15			16					
17	18		19			20	21	22	
23		24				25			
26						27			
28						29			
30			31			32			
33						34			
35	36	37				38	39	40	
41						42			
43						44			

### STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-7377! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+only.) A King Features service, NYC.

## Marmaduke



"I hear the party was raided by the dog catcher."

## The Family Circus



"If tomorrow's New Year's Day, is today OLD Year's Day?"

## For Better or For Worse



## Zits



## Garfield



## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



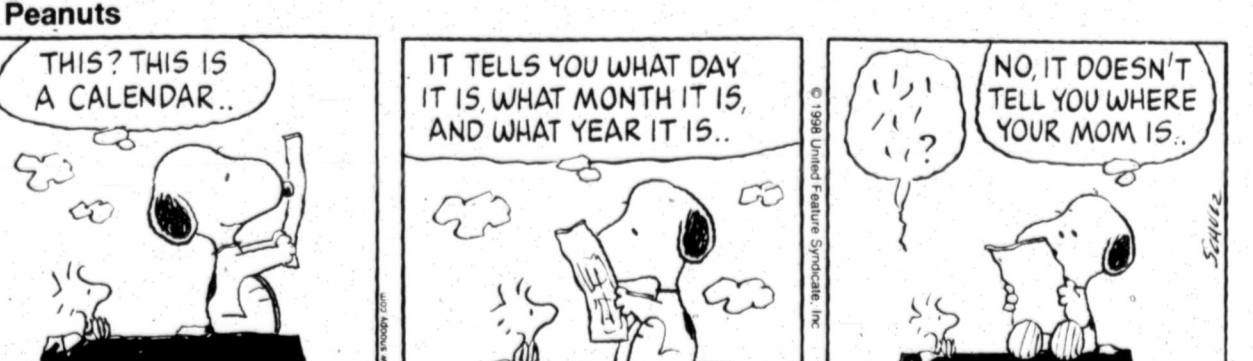
## B.C.



## Haggar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie



## Mallard Filmore



VIEWPOINTS

THE Pampa NEWS

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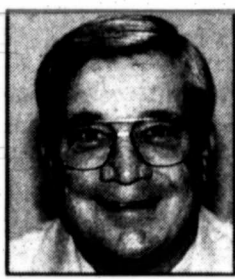
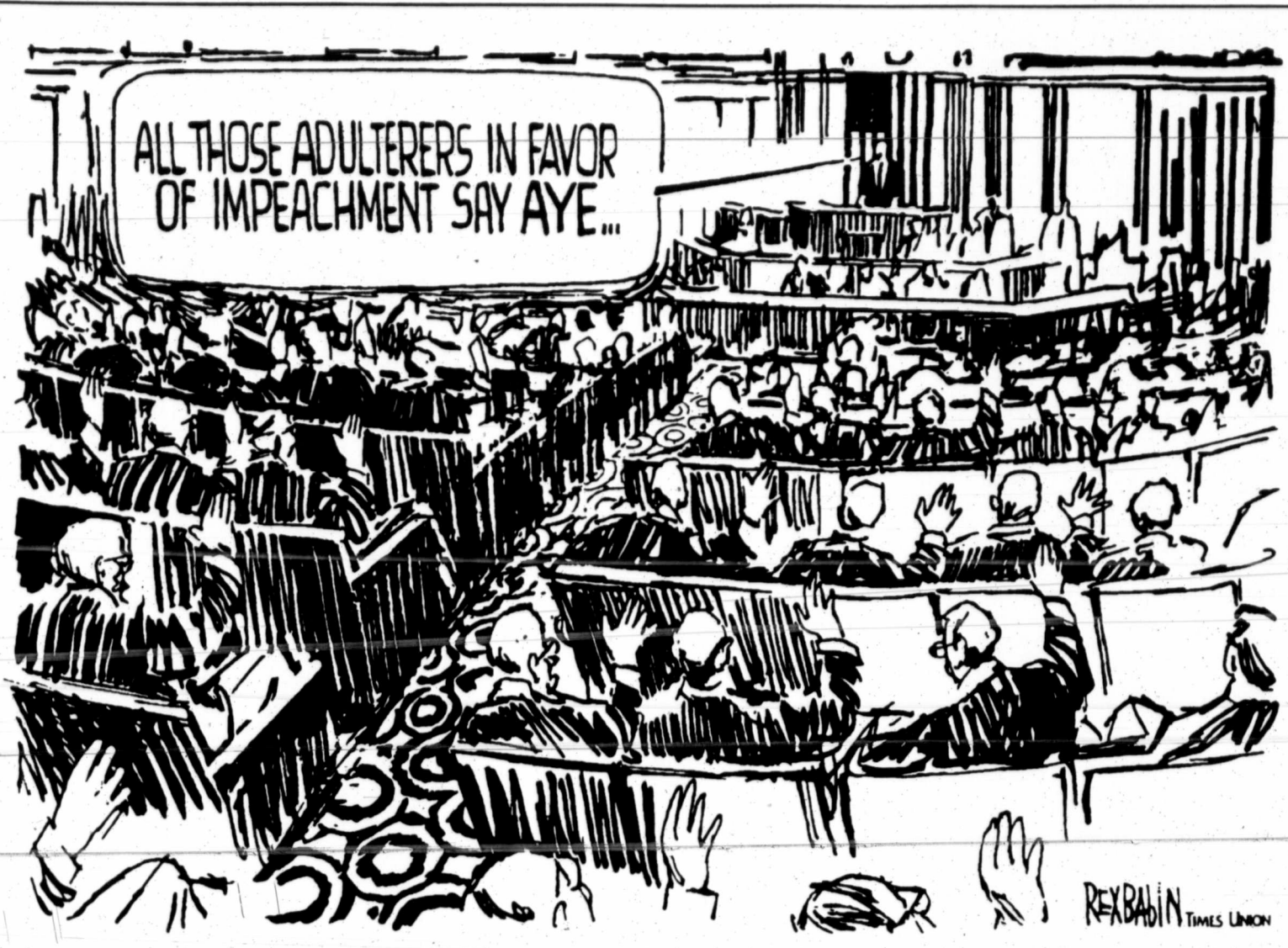
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Across the mayor's desk

with Mayor Bob Neslage

Citizens of Pampa give 110 percent

Pampa is truly a wonderful community in which to live and raise a family due to the efforts of its citizens. I am often reminded of this when reflecting on some of the significant accomplishments made during 1998. We are fortunate to have so many caring and giving citizens who are willing to make contributions of their time to improve our community.

There can be no better example of team work, benevolence, cooperation, generosity, hard work, and determination than was displayed in our community while constructing the Super Playground. While working on the project, it was gratifying to see business owners, teachers, CPAs, lawyers, clergy, housewives, city and county employees and many more working collectively with a positive attitude to put a smile on the faces of many children. Chuck White and Jack Reeve were a driving force behind the project but could not have succeeded without the energetic support of Kathy White and Teresa Dyson. Over 1,000 people were involved in this \$110,000 project which is still in need of \$20,000 to put finishing touches on the facility.

The Clarendon College building drive is another community accomplishment in which we can all take pride. Don Lane, Chuck White and Lloyd Waters overcame insurmountable odds to see this project to completion. During the darkest most discouraging moments of the lengthy project, Lloyd Waters was always there promoting and providing encouragement at community events. This \$1.2 million project broke ground on Dec. 11 and will accommodate approximately 1,000 students within a year. Our investment in Clarendon College is an investment which will keep on yielding a return to our community in the form of a higher quality workforce, college education for those currently denied, employment and economic development.

The 1998 United Way Campaign is another community effort still in progress through the efforts of many Pampa citizens. This year's goal of \$335,000, the highest goal ever in Pampa, is currently at 98 percent completion. We only lack \$7,000 in achieving 100 percent of our goal. This is remarkable when considering both the Clarendon College and Super Playground drives took place this year. We have asked much of our citizens this year and they have responded.

I could never begin to mention the names of all the men and women in this community who give so much back to Pampa, but I can say that words could never express my heartfelt gratitude. It is an honor to serve you.

Time to get organized!

In 1999: I'm going to get organized. Ooo-eee! So organized! I'll buy a new day planner and pack it full with all the things I need to get done.

I will keep my house clean. I'll make a schedule to clean the toilets once a week so they won't get those dirty rings around them and I won't have to spend two hours cleaning them when mom comes to visit only to find them dirty the next day because that's how bathrooms are.

I won't watch so much T.V. I won't get sucked into everything I see on the tube. Commercials will no longer mesmerize me in 1999. I will hate television. I will unplug my two T.V.'s and throw them out.

I will practice piano. I'll take lessons. I'll be the next great pianist. I will write music. I will sing. I will take singing lessons. I will be the next Amy Grant.

I will learn to draw and paint. I'll write a play. A play that's so original, the whole world will be wanting to produce my play. It will be



Random Revelations  
Miranda G. Bailey  
Pampa News staff writer

made into a movie. Robert DeNiro, Dustin Hoffman and Jack Nicholson will be in it.

I will act. I will teach acting. I'll move to NY and go to acting school. I will become a teacher. I will go get certified. I'll go back to school. I will get my Master's Degree in English, maybe. I'll read every Shakespeare play ever written. And I will love them and be so intelligent sounding about Othello and Desdemona and their ill-fated relationship.

I will learn to understand every comic strip I read. I'll remember jokes. I'll be funny and popular and the life of the crowd. I'll sit at

breakfast with my husband and read the Sunday comics and be happy to be sitting there with my husband, reading the Sunday comics.

I'll get up early. I'll exercise every morning before work. And make sure I've done my morning devotion for at least an hour before I wash my hair and blow dry it straight and touch up my nails and shave my legs. I'll shave my legs every single morning. I'll take a bubble bath every morning, too. And take my time and eat a well-balanced breakfast and go to work early. I will love getting up early. I will never be grumpy when I get up. I'll even make my sweetie breakfast each day before he goes to work.

I'll learn to cook gourmet. I'll love to cook. I'll cook, period.

I will take my dogs on a walk every day. I'll write in my diary on a daily basis.

My house will stay spotless. I won't ever tell a lie ... Well.

There's always next year.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Dec. 31, the 365th and final day of 1998.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 31, 1946, President Truman officially proclaimed the end of hostilities in World War II.

On this date:

In 1775, the British repulsed an attack by Continental Army generals Richard Montgomery and Benedict Arnold at Quebec; Montgomery was killed.

In 1862, President Lincoln signed an act admitting West Virginia to the Union.

In 1879, Thomas Edison first publicly demonstrated his electric incandescent light in Menlo Park, N.J.

In 1897, Brooklyn, N.Y., spent its

last day as a separate entity before becoming part of New York City.

In 1961, the Marshall Plan expired after distributing more than \$12 billion in foreign aid.

In 1974, private U.S. citizens were allowed to buy and own gold for the first time in more than 40 years.

In 1978, Taiwanese diplomats struck their colors for the final time from the embassy flagpole in Washington, marking the end of diplomatic relations with the U.S.

In 1985, singer Rick Nelson, 45, and six other people were killed when fire broke out aboard a DC-3 en route to a New Year's Eve performance in Dallas.

In 1986, 97 people were killed when fire broke out in the Dupont

Plaza Hotel in San Juan, Puerto Rico. (Three hotel workers later pleaded guilty to charges in connection with the blaze.)

Ten years ago: President Reagan and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev exchanged New Year's messages in which both leaders expressed optimism about future superpower relations.

Five years ago: Entertainer Barbra Streisand performed her first paid concert in 22 years, singing to a sellout crowd at the MGM Grand Garden in Las Vegas. Former IBM chairman Thomas J. Watson died in Greenwich, Conn., at age 79.

One year ago: Michael Kennedy, 39-year-old son of the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, was killed in a

skiing accident on Aspen Mountain in Colorado. Pianist Floyd Cramer died in Nashville, Tenn., at age 64. In Sorocaba, Brazil, riot troops stormed a prison where inmates held hundreds of hostages, quickly ending a three-day rebellion without any deaths.

Today's Birthdays: Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal is 90. Folk and blues singer Odette is 68. Actor Sir Anthony Hopkins is 61. Actress Sarah Miles is 57. Rock musician Andy Summers is 56. Actor Ben Kingsley is 55. Producer-director Taylor Hackford is 54. Fashion designer Diane Von Furstenberg is 52. Actor Tim Matheson is 51. Pop singer Burton Cummings (The Guess Who) is 51. Singer Donna Summer is 50.

Clear case of wag the country

There comes a point beyond which extending the benefit of the doubt becomes foolhardy.

This column has urged seriousness of purpose regarding Saddam Hussein for the past decade. President Bush was scored for placing ephemeral U.N. cohesion ahead of U.S. national interests in failing to remove Saddam Hussein from power when we were in the neighborhood in 1991 (so to speak). And this administration has been urged to interest itself in the Iraqi threat many times since.

But far from taking the Iraqi threat seriously, the Clinton administration has demonstrated fecklessness and, worse, bad faith, for the past six years. It has ignored or papered over thousands of instances of Iraqi intransigence and obstruction of the weapons inspection scheme. It has threatened military action at least three times and backed down in each case on the flimsiest of paper guarantees that Iraq would cooperate.

Each time the administration has gone to the brink and then retreated, it has sent devastating signals of unseriousness to the Iraqi regime.

In each instance, Iraq has resumed its chemical, nuclear and biological weapons program, as well as its policy of obstructing the UNSCOM inspectors, within hours of the U.S. climb down. Scott Ritter, the U.N. weapons inspector who resigned from UNSCOM rather than participate in a sham, blew the whistle on this administration's vacillation, revealing that the secretary of state had signaled to UNSCOM that it not push the Iraqis too hard since President Clinton was unprepared to use force as he had promised to do if Iraq failed to live up to its promises.



Mona Charen  
Syndicated columnist

For this bit of courage, Ritter was rewarded by the administration in classic Clinton style — he became the victim of character assassination. The administration had him investigated by the FBI on utterly spurious charges. Ritter joins Billy Dale, Kathleen Willey, Linda Tripp and too many others to mention.

Only 24 hours before the impeachment vote, the president asks us to believe that the timing of the military action is coincidence?

The last time this president noticed that we have armed forces and world threats was in August following his testimony before the grand jury. At that time, he launched an air attack (no casualties, please, we're Democrats) on a previously unknown terrorist. There were assurances then that the timing was pure coincidence and that taking on Osama bin Laden was a long-term project that would absorb the time and attention of the administration for years to come. Republicans dutifully supported the action and denied that the president was "wagging the dog." Two days later, bin Laden was forgotten. And the administration has had not one word to say since about fighting international terrorism.

The president claims that he was forced to attack Iraq now, at least in part, because Ramadan is set to begin soon. Yet one month ago (and one year ago and four years ago), we knew everything that is known today about Saddam's drive to acquire weapons of mass destruction. Why didn't the president take account of the approach of Ramadan back then? Surely being sensitive about Ramadan was an argument for striking in November or long before.

If the administration were at all serious about the threat from Saddam Hussein, it would plan more than a week in advance. Everyone who has studied the problem even for a few days comes away with only one conclusion: There is no solution to the problem of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons in Iraqi hands short of removing Saddam Hussein from power. President Clinton and his foreign-policy team wish for Saddam's ouster but do nothing to accomplish it. The announced purpose of this bombing is merely to "degrade" his capabilities. That puts American lives at risk for the sake of a mere delaying action.

Under pressure from Congress, the president signed the Iraq Liberation Act in October, which provided \$8 million to support Saddam's opposition. But as Republicans have noted, only \$58,000 of that money has been spent.

By making it appear that Iraq is only a convenient whipping boy for a president in political trouble, Bill Clinton has trivialized the most serious threat we face and proved that there really are no limits to what he will do to save his own hide.

Your representatives

- State Rep. Warren Chisum**  
Pampa Address: 100-N. Price Road, Pampa TX 79065  
Pampa Phone: 665-3552  
Austin Address: P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910  
Austin Phone: (512) 463-0736
- State Sen. Teel Bivins**  
Amarillo Address: P.O. Box 9155, Amarillo, TX 79105  
Amarillo Phone: (806) 374-8994  
Austin Address: P.O. Box 12068, Austin, TX 78711  
Austin Phone: (512) 463-0131
- U.S. Rep. William M. "Mac" Thornberry**  
Amarillo Address: 724 S. Polk, Suite 400, Amarillo, TX 79101  
Amarillo Phone: (806) 371-8844  
Washington Address: 412 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515  
Washington Phone: (202) 225-3706
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Washington Address: 283 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510  
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# SPORTS

## Notebook

### FOOTBALL

**PAMPA** — The PHS Football Banquet will be Saturday, Jan. 9 in the Heritage Room at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Tickets are \$8.50 and are available in the PHS athletic office beginning Monday.

**SEATTLE (AP)** — Jim Lambright, who spent 35 years as a player, assistant and coach at Washington, was fired after the Huskies failed to post a winning record for the first time in 22 years.

Athletic director Barbara Hedges said that she alone made the decision to fire Lambright, 57, and his staff. Lambright said he believed Hedges was pressured into firing him by alumni and boosters.

Hedges' decision came after Air Force beat Washington 45-25 in the Oahu Bowl, leaving the Huskies with a 6-6 record. Lambright was 44-25-1 in four seasons as head coach.

**EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)** — New York Giants center Brian Williams, sidelined two seasons by an eye injury, is making a comeback.

Williams, 32, was poked in the eye during a 1997 training drill and ended up with double vision whenever he looks up.

## Top teams

How the top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college basketball poll fared Wednesday:

1. Connecticut (10-0) beat Villanova 100-76. Next: vs. Georgetown, Saturday.
2. Duke (12-1) beat North Carolina-Greensboro 104-58. Next: at No. 4 Maryland, Sunday.
3. Cincinnati (12-0) beat North Carolina-Wilmington 81-52. Next: vs. Marquette, Sunday.
4. Maryland (13-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 2 Duke, Sunday.
5. Stanford (10-2) did not play. Next: vs. Oregon State, Saturday.
6. Arizona (8-0) beat Florida International 91-75. Next: at No. 10 UCLA, Saturday.
7. Kentucky (11-3) did not play. Next: vs. Florida, Saturday.
8. Indiana (13-2) did not play. Next: at No. 21 Iowa, Thursday.
9. North Carolina (12-3) did not play. Next: vs. No. 14 Clemson, Saturday.
10. UCLA (8-2) did not play. 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 (10-3) beat North Carolina-Asheville 64-39. Next: vs. Louisville, Saturday.
14. Clemson (11-2) did not play. Next: at No. 9 North Carolina, Saturday.
15. New Mexico (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Coppin State, Thursday.
16. Minnesota (9-1) did not play. Next: at No. 11 Purdue, Saturday.
17. Auburn (12-0) did not play. Next: vs. Tennessee, Saturday.
18. Kansas (8-3) did not play. Next: vs. Texas A&M, Saturday.
19. Wisconsin (12-2) lost to Michigan 59-55. Next: vs. Ohio State, Saturday.
20. Arkansas (10-2) beat North Texas 100-77. Next: at LSU, Saturday.
21. Iowa (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 8 Indiana, Thursday.
22. Syracuse (9-3) did not play. Next: vs. West Virginia, Saturday.
23. Pittsburgh (8-5) lost to Providence 83-68. Next: at Notre Dame, Tuesday.
24. Texas Christian (11-2) beat Gonzaga 90-87. Next: vs. North Carolina-Asheville, Saturday.
25. Oklahoma State (8-3) beat Southeast Missouri State 75-64. Next: vs. Kansas State, Saturday.

# Aggie linebacker serves as role model in Vietnamese community

By MARY FOSTER  
AP Sports Writer

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — There are a lot more Vietnamese kids involved in sports in Rockport, Texas, these days.

They're following in the footsteps of a hometown hero.

Former Rockport star Dat Nguyen is now a linebacker for Texas A&M. Come Friday night, he'll be playing linebacker against No. 3 Ohio State in the Sugar Bowl. His next step is probably the NFL. Nguyen believes that should teach a lot of Asian-American kids that they can succeed in sports.

"I've been thinking for the past year that I really set the ground for Asian-American kids who have dreams to pursue any sport on a collegiate level,"

Nguyen said. "I've shown that if you have dreams of playing any sport at any level you can see it come true if you put your heart and soul into it."

Nguyen (pronounced "Win") has come a long way from the 12-year-old troublemaker who turned to football to stay out of trouble.

"He wasn't in big trouble, he was only about 12 then," his sister-in-law Lan Nguyen remembered. "But he was getting into things. Staying out late and Mom didn't know where he was, things like that."

Nguyen's family fled Viet Nam in 1975 with nothing but the clothes they wore. So when he was young, his mother and father worked long hours, leaving him unsupervised. Once he took up football, Nguyen said all he had time for was that

and school work.

It wasn't easy. Nguyen was small, but he was fast and he worked very hard.

He made All-State as a punter and earned a scholarship at A&M, only to be redshirted his freshman year.

"He talks about how he almost left, almost gave up," said fellow linebacker Chad Frantzen. "That's hard to believe, because he never give up on anything. He's the hardest-working guy on the team."

The hard work finally paid off.

Nguyen, who won the Lombardi Award as the nation's top collegiate lineman, led the Aggies in tackles all four years he played, with 517 career stops. In the 36-33 double overtime victory against Kansas State, Nguyen set a Big 12 championship record with 17 tackles.

Nguyen, 5-foot-11, 230 pounds, received his degree a year ago and is in graduate school. But his first job will no doubt be tackling people in the NFL.

Nguyen said he still remembers the prejudice Vietnamese families encountered when they first located in Texas. And he said he still encounters it now, although not from those who know his accomplishments.

Meanwhile, back in Rockport, Lan Nguyen said more and more "Asian faces" are turning up, not just on the football team but in all sports at Dat's old high school.

"Because of Dat, the young people feel more accepted and more like they fit in," she said. "And a lot of white people know about Dat and welcome us more."

## Bowl lineup

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 (7-4), 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 (9-2), 1 p.m. (ABC)

**Cotton Bowl**

At Dallas

Mississippi State (8-4) vs. Texas (8-3), 11 a.m. (FOX)

**Rose Bowl**

At Pasadena, Calif.

Wisconsin (10-1) vs. UCLA (10-1), 4:30 p.m. (ABC)

**Sugar Bowl**

At New Orleans

Texas A&M (11-2) vs. Ohio State (10-1), 8:30 p.m. (ABC)

Saturday, Jan. 2

**Orange Bowl**

At Miami

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

Monday, Jan. 4

**Fiesta Bowl**

At Tempe, Ariz.

Tennessee (12-0) vs. Florida State (11-1), 8 p.m. (ABC)

## Texas sports...

By The Associated Press

**Cowboys Comeback**

**IRVING, Texas (AP)** — New coach. New attitude. NFL parity.

What a difference a year has made to the Dallas Cowboys, who have won three Super Bowls in the 1990s but hit bottom last season.

"A year ago we were hurting bad," said running back Emmitt Smith. "I don't ever want to hurt like that again."

Smith was referring to a 6-10 season in which the Cowboys lost their last five games. Owner Jerry Jones gave Barry Switzer a million dollar goodbye present and hired Pittsburgh offensive coordinator Chan Gailey to revive down and out Dallas.

Gailey, aided by a weaker schedule, and a weak NFC East, flipped the Cowboys around with a 10-6 season and their NFL-record 23rd playoff appearance.

"Last year was a shock to the system," said wide receiver Michael Irvin. "I couldn't believe last year it was so disappointing."

**Cardinals-Lassiter**

**TEMPE, Ariz. (AP)** — Kwamie Lassiter's stock is rising big-time.

A backup until last month, the four-year veteran now looms as one of the top safeties who will be unrestricted free agents in February. The Arizona Cardinals want to resign him but doing that will be more expensive than it was a week ago.

"Last week didn't hurt at all," Lassiter said about his four-interception game in a 16-13 victory over the San Diego Chargers on Sunday that clinched Arizona's first playoff berth since 1982.

He tied a record held by 16 others, including former Cardinals Bob Nussbaumer (1949) and Jerry Norton (twice, 1960 and 1961) and finished the regular season with eight interceptions — tops in the NFC and more than any other safety.

But Lassiter doesn't expect to embarrass Troy Aikman in a first-round game Saturday in Dallas the way he victimized Craig Whelihan of the Chargers.

**Lockout-Lawsuit**

**HOUSTON (AP)** — A federal judge Wednesday refused to grant a temporary restraining order to allow three NBA players to play the rest of the season in Europe.

Nick Van Exel of the Denver Nuggets, Marcus Camby of the New York Knicks and Reggie Slater of the Toronto Raptors had sued the NBA and USA Basketball, accusing both entities failing to provide them with unconditional letters of clearance that would allow them to finish the season in Europe even if the lockout ended.

After a 3 1/2-hour hearing, U.S. District Judge Simeon Lake rejected the players' bid but said they were entitled to arbitration.

Agent James Bryant said the players would pursue arbitration, but it was not immediately clear where or when such a hearing would take place.

"We welcome the opportunity," said Bryant, who represents all three players. "The problem has been until now there has been no remedy anywhere. It's a victory to have the opportunity to present that."

**Texas-Hawaii**

**HONOLULU (AP)** — Gabe Muoneke scored 25 points and Chris Mihm picked off 16 rebounds Wednesday to power Texas to an 84-72 victory over Hawaii in the third place game of the Rainbow Classic.

The Longhorns (4-8) got off to an early lead and never looked back, building up a 13-point lead, 22-9, less than 8 minutes of the game.

It was 37-29 at the half thanks to unexpected scoring and rebounding help off the bench from William Clay and Wendell Carter. Clay had 12 points and three boards, while Carter chipped in with five points and four rebounds.

The Rainbows didn't help themselves over the first 20 minutes, shooting only 9-of-30 (30 percent).

Hawaii (3-9) rallied to pull within four, 50-46, with 12 minutes left, but Muoneke knocked down a 3-pointer and Kris Clack followed with a basket to give the Longhorns breathing room.

# Duke tunes up for Maryland showdown

By The Associated Press

With December coming to a close, so too are those easy tune-ups for the top-ranked teams. Starting this weekend, most of the nonconference mismatches will be memories and coaches must hope their teams are ready for the tougher conference foes.

No. 2 Duke looks prepared for its showdown Sunday with fourth-ranked Maryland after dispatching North Carolina-Greensboro 104-58 Wednesday night.

"Our focus was to use this game to work on Duke things," said Shane Battier, who had eight points and two steals. "We knew we were a better team coming in and our focus was on executing and playing Duke basketball."

Corey Maggette had a career-high 22 points, 10 rebounds and six assists and Elton Brand and William Avery added 18 points each for the host Blue Devils.

Duke made 38 of 80 shots (48 percent) but coach Mike Krzyzewski said the Blue Devils will have to shoot better than that to beat the Terrapins, whom they defeated 104-72 and 86-59 in two meetings last season.

"In their way of playing

defense, they force turnovers and tempo. But you do get some open looks," Krzyzewski said. "We were unbelievable from the outside in both games last year. We really attacked (Maryland's defense) and we're going to look to attack it again."

In other Top 25 games Wednesday, it was No. 1 Connecticut 100, Villanova 76; No. 3 Cincinnati 81, North Carolina-Wilmington 52; No. 6 Arizona 91, Florida International 75; No. 13 Michigan State 64, North Carolina-Asheville 39; Michigan 59, No. 19 Wisconsin 55; No. 20 Arkansas 100, North Texas 77; Providence 83, No. 23 Pittsburgh 68; No. 24 Texas Christian 90, Gonzaga 87; and No. 25 Oklahoma State 75, Southeast Missouri State 64.

Michigan State coach Tom Izzo was not pleased with his team's tuneup for Saturday's matchup with Louisville.

"It was a very uninspired and disappointing performance," Izzo said after Spartans beat UNC-Asheville. "We were hoping to end the 1998 portion of our schedule on a good note, but we didn't."

"We didn't do any of the things we worked on the last three days

in practice. If we don't change it by Saturday, there will be a massacre."

After playing Louisville, the Spartans (10-3) open Big Ten play next Wednesday against No. 19 Wisconsin.

Kevin Martin scored 21 points to lead UNC-Asheville (1-10). No. 1 Connecticut 100, Villanova 76

At Hartford, Conn., Richard Hamilton scored 27 points and Kevin Freeman had a career-high 24 as Connecticut (10-0, 2-0 Big East) cruised past Villanova.

Freeman led all players with 11 rebounds and reserve Antrick Klamber tied a career best with eight boards as the Huskies built a 41-29 rebound margin over Villanova (10-3, 1-2).

No. 3 Cincinnati 81, N.C.-Wilmington 52

At Cincinnati, Melvin Levett scored 23 points as the Bearcats (12-0) matched the third-best start in school history by beating North Carolina-Wilmington (2-8) for coach Bob Huggins' 400th career victory.

No. 6 Arizona 91, Fla. International 75

At Tucson, Ariz., Jason Terry had 21 points and seven assists as Arizona stayed unbeaten by winning the Fiesta Bowl Classic.

A.J. Bramlett added 18 points and 13 rebounds, and freshmen Richard Jefferson and Michael Wright scored 17 points each for the Wildcats (8-0). Raja Bell had 22 points for the Panthers (6-8).

Michigan 59, No. 19 Wisconsin 55

At Ann Arbor, Mich., Robbie Reid and Louis Bullock combined to score 49 points as Michigan snapped the Badgers' 10-game winning streak.

Reid finished with 25 points and Bullock had 24 for the Wolverines (7-7). Sean Mason scored 29 points for Wisconsin (12-2) before fouling out with 36.7 seconds remaining.

No. 20 Arkansas 100, North Texas 77

At Fayetteville, Ark., Pat Bradley made 10 3-pointers and scored 32 points and Arkansas attempted a school-record 54 3-pointers.

Kareem Reid had 22 points and 14 assists and Derek Hood had 15 points and 14 rebounds for Arkansas (10-2). Charles Washington finished with 17 points and 12 rebounds for North Texas (0-10).

Providence 83, No. 23 Pittsburgh 68

At Pittsburgh, Jamel Thomas

scored 25 points as Providence (8-4, 1-2 Big East) upset a ranked team for the second time in four days.

Thomas, the Big East Conference's leading scorer with a 23.7 average, had 22 points as the Friars defeated then-No. 9 Purdue 87-82 on Sunday. Vonteego Cummings scored 17 points to lead Pittsburgh (8-5, 0-3).

No. 24 TCU 90, Gonzaga 87

At Fort Worth, Texas, Lee Nailon had 44 points and 17 rebounds and Marquise Gainous made a free throw with 59 seconds left and a layup with 16 seconds remaining for Texas Christian (11-2).

Axel Dench scored 22 points to lead Gonzaga (9-4).

No. 25 Oklahoma St. 75, SE Missouri 64

At Stillwater, Okla., Adrian Peterson scored 10 of his 20 points in the final eight minutes to lead Oklahoma State.

Desmond Mason added 15 points and seven rebounds for the Cowboys (8-3), who begin Big 12 play Saturday against Kansas State.

Cory Johnson made five 3-pointers and scored 18 for Southeast Missouri (6-5).

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# Report: China hurt national security

WASHINGTON (AP) — China's aggressive pursuit of U.S. technology, including sensitive military secrets, hurt national security and calls for extensive reforms, a House committee has concluded.

Committee members refused to discuss specifics Wednesday after unanimously adopting their report and did not release the 700-page document, much of which is classified.

But The New York Times reported in today's editions that the committee concluded the Chinese stole some of this nation's most sensitive military information, including nuclear weapons designs, from American military laboratories.

Those allegations of Chinese theft of information go beyond the report's findings about satellite deals with China that sparked the original committee investigation. The newspaper reported that the satellite deals by two U.S. aerospace companies, Hughes Electronics Corp. and Loral Space & Communications, helped Beijing's ability to launch satellites and rockets.

The report, which the committee approved unanimously, found the Chinese have been pursuing U.S. military information aggressively for more than 20 years.

"These transfers are not limited to missile (and) satellite technology, but cover militarily significant technology," said Rep. Christopher Cox, chairman of a special House committee investigating military and commercial deals with China.

**The select committee of five Republicans and four Democrats began with an inquiry into the Clinton administration's satellite export dealings ...**

"Based on unclassified information, we have found that national security harm did occur," said Cox, R-Calif. He said China's record in aiding weapons proliferation was a consideration.

In Beijing, Zhu Bangzao, a spokesman for China's Foreign Ministry, said, "The allegation is groundless and irresponsible and we express our strong resentment over this."

The select committee of five Republicans and four Democrats began with an inquiry into the Clinton administration's satellite export dealings with China and whether the administration's actions compromised security or were influenced by campaign contributions. Loral's chairman,

Bernard Schwartz, is a major Democratic donor. When it was formed in June, the committee was given broad subpoena powers and special authorization to look into tax records of individuals and businesses it considered pertinent to its investigation.

But Cox indicated the report covers both Republican and Democratic administrations.

"United States transfer of technology to the People's Republic of China has been the target of serious PRC efforts over the last two decades," Cox said.

The report's findings on transfer of sensitive materials went beyond the initial investigations of Hughes and Loral to other technology deals, Cox said.

Valuable military technology allegedly flowed to China as part of commercial satellite deals in which U.S.-built communications satellites were put into orbit on Chinese rockets. Hughes and Loral have maintained they did nothing to hurt U.S. national security.

White House officials said they would carefully consider the recommendations.

"We haven't seen the report and we look forward to reading it and studying its recommendations," said David Leavy, a White House spokesman. "It's known that we have consistently

supported effective export controls to protect U.S. national security interests. We agree with the committee on the need to protect competitiveness of U.S. industry."

Cox later explained why he worked hard to get a bipartisan report at a time members of Congress are deeply divided over the impeachment struggle.

"Rather quickly, our investigation led to even more serious problems of PRC technology acquisition efforts targeted at the United States," Cox said. "The seriousness of the findings and their enormous significance to our national security, led us to a unanimous report."

The committee makes 38 recommendations for legislation and executive action to remedy the situation, but those recommendations and the bulk of the report will be made available later. The Washington Post in today's editions said one of the recommendations was that more export licensing authority be granted to the Defense and State departments and less to the Commerce Department.

Congress last year inserted a provision into the 1999 defense spending bill requiring that, beginning in March, satellite export licensing authority be transferred from the Commerce Department — where Clinton lodged it in 1996 — back to the State Department.

## Cambodian government divided on fate of Khmer Rouge leaders

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — The king of Cambodia and the country's prime minister disagreed Wednesday on whether amnesty should be granted to two leaders of the genocidal Khmer Rouge, whose years in jungle camps could not be further removed from the life they now are leading.

Khieu Samphan and Nuon Chea awoke in crisp sheets at the Royal Phnom Penh Hotel, had breakfast in the stylish Thai restaurant and set about a busy day of meetings.

Their families embarked on a tour of the capital in luxury cars, viewing temples and palaces that they last saw 20 years ago when the Vietnamese army toppled the Khmer Rouge regime.

Khieu Samphan and Nuon Chea were both members of the inner circle of the notorious Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot, who died in April of a heart attack.

They are being received in Phnom Penh as VIPs by Prime Minister Hun Sen, who struck a deal with the pair allowing them to defect to his government with assurances they would not be put on trial.

But King Norodom Sihanouk said Wednesday he would not approve amnesty, a decision that puts him on a collision course with Hun Sen.

The king, receiving treatment for several ailments in Beijing, stated in a palace bulletin that he believes the majority of Cambodians do not support a pardon.

"I announce to this majority that I respect them and will not renew my power of amnesty for major Khmer Rouge criminals," Sihanouk said. "I leave all the responsibility to Hun Sen of handling this unfortunate and dramatic affair of pardons accorded to the Khmer Rouge."

Hun Sen was silent on the issue Wednesday, but he is Cambodia's most powerful man. If he wants to pardon the pair — which he claims is needed to prevent

Cambodia sliding back toward civil war — he can easily do so through the pliant court system.

Without the popular king's approval, however, the deal will lack legitimacy in the eyes of many countries and Cambodians.

"The Cambodian people cannot forget that so easily," said Eam Chan, who lost eight family members to the reign of terror and himself barely survived.

Eam Chan, 55, was once an inmate at Tuol Sleng, the infamous high school that the Maoist revolutionaries turned into a crude prison and torture center.

Accused of being a U.S. spy, Eam Chan was tortured daily by electroshock and asphyxiation. A favorite technique was to hold a wet rag over his face and drip water on it, suffocating him.

"As a victim, my mind cannot be at rest without seeing the prosecution of these people, because the suffering was indescribable," Sihanouk, 76, who lost a score of family members under the Khmer Rouge regime, said the world had a "perfect right" to bring the pair before an international tribunal to face justice for crimes against humanity.

Sihanouk bowed to pressure from his government in 1996 to grant amnesty to another Khmer Rouge leader, Ieng Sary, who in exchange broke the back of the rebel group by leading thousands of guerrillas out of a festering civil war.

But with the Khmer Rouge now all but extinct, many wonder why Hun Sen is pushing amnesty again. Speculation has always run high that as a former Khmer Rouge field officer before fleeing purges in 1977, he wants to protect his own past.

Those who have studied evidence against the Khmer Rouge, however, say Hun Sen is relatively clean. But pressure is growing to hold someone accountable for the Khmer Rouge atrocities.



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# Software executive warns of Microsoft's influence

WASHINGTON (AP) — Intuit Inc. software founder Scott Cook warned his company's directors that he feared Microsoft Corp.'s response if they rejected a \$2 billion buyout offer.

At the time, the immensely successful Intuit was maker of the world's most popular personal finance computer software, called Quicken. That made it an attractive target for Microsoft, whose Windows operating system is dominant but whose rival finance software at the time was panned by critics.

In a confidential letter to his company's directors, Cook outlined Intuit's options if it rejected the offer in the summer of 1994: Microsoft might try to improve its own finance software to compete with Quicken, or Microsoft might try using its operating system as leverage against Intuit.

"We fear the second approach," Cook wrote. In written testimony made public Wednesday, William Harris, the company's chief executive officer, described for the judge in the Microsoft antitrust trial how Microsoft has "unparalleled power" in the nation's high-tech industry because of its influence as the maker of Windows.

## Grand jury debunks, rejects conspiracy theories in Oklahoma City bombing

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — No second bomb. No additional conspirators. No evidence of a federal government cover-up. Not even a John Doe No. 2.

The county grand jury that investigated the Oklahoma City bombing has debunked most of the wildest theories swirling around the deadliest terrorist attack on U.S. soil.

In its 21-page report read aloud Wednesday by District Judge Bill Burkett, the panel went through the details of the bombing step by step, discounting all evidence of a wider conspiracy — much to the dismay of critics.

The panel did return one indictment, but it was sealed.

"We cannot affirmatively state that absolutely no one else was involved in the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building," the grand jury said. "However, we have not been presented with or uncovered information sufficient to indict any additional conspirators."

Among other things, the grand jury took up lingering questions about the identity of John Doe No. 2, the mystery suspect depicted in FBI sketches shortly after the attack, the existence of a second blast and suspicions that the government knew of the bombing in advance.

Created by a petition drive, the grand jury's investigation found no credible evidence the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms knew about a bombing plot or that the blast was the result of a federal sting gone bad.

Jurors said they could "state with assurance that we do not believe that the federal government had prior knowledge that this horrible terrorist attack was going to happen."

Oklahoma Attorney General Drew Edmondson, who has called such suspicions "the worst kind of paranoid conspiracy pandering," said of the grand jury: "I'm proud of them for the diligence and thoroughness and not surprised with the outcome."

"Unless there is some real, credible evidence of other involvement in the future, it is time for Oklahoma to move on with the process of healing and rebuilding," added Gov. Frank Keating.

The grand jury, which heard from 117 witnesses

and studied more than 1,900 exhibits during its 18-month, \$525,000 investigation, said it also found no credible proof that the bombing was tied to white supremacists or foreign terrorists.

"This was an act perpetrated by Americans on Americans," the grand jury said. "This was an act that could have been carried out by one individual."

The grand jury also called on the district attorney to carry through with his plan to bring state murder charges against Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, who have been convicted on federal charges.

"I hope that the many victims will draw comfort from the completeness of these investigations," said U.S. Attorney Patrick Ryan, who helped prosecute McVeigh and Nichols.

McVeigh received a death sentence, while Nichols got life in prison. An Army buddy, Michael Fortier, got 12 years for knowing about the attack beforehand but telling no one.

For Paul Heath, a Veterans Administration psychologist who was on the fifth floor of the federal building when the bomb exploded April 19, 1995, the panel's conclusions were a relief.

"It hurts you deeply if you were a person in the building like I was to continue to grind away at you that the government that I represent, that the government I was a part of, would deliberately fabricate" a cover-up, Heath said.

"Let's get back to reality," he said. Yet even as the report was released, critics and proponents of the probe said that many people would find the discounted allegations of a wider conspiracy unsatisfactory.

Former state Rep. Charles Key of Oklahoma City, a principal conspiracy theorist, said a private committee probing the bombing would issue a differing report next month. He said the grand jury report could have been "signed by the FBI" and had "huge gaping holes."

Key and Glenn Wilburn, who worked to convene the grand jury, have said they believe there were more people involved and that the federal government had prior knowledge. Wilburn's two young grandsons were among the 168 people killed in the blast.

"Microsoft's ability to be the gatekeeper of the Internet will be unchallenged, and competition on the Internet will be constrained," Harris warned.

Microsoft responded by calling Harris' allegations "half-baked" and noting that Quicken successfully competes with Microsoft's product, called Money.

"Intuit apparently wants the government to guarantee it a permanent lead in the marketplace without actually competing," Microsoft's response said. It said the government's lawsuit "has degenerated to a state where any competitor with a business grudge can come to Washington and use the (Justice Department) as a weapon."

In its antitrust case, the government alleges that Microsoft illegally wielded its influence to crush a rival Internet software company and to extend its dominance from operating systems to other types of software.

The trial resumes Monday. Harris said Intuit's fear that Microsoft might include finance features within Windows, as described in Cook's 1994 memo, influenced its decision agreeing to the \$2 billion buyout.

The deal was called off in 1995 after federal regulators raised antitrust concerns because Intuit and Microsoft together dominated the market for financial software.

Harris alleged Intuit's worst fears were realized shortly after the deal was canceled, when rival CheckFree Corp. disclosed that Microsoft had approached it to develop banking software, called WinATM, to be built into Windows. Microsoft never carried through with the plans.

"WinATM was to be bundled with the operating system, so that it would be universally and freely available and be the default option for personal finance and online and payment activities for all users of the Windows operating system," Harris wrote.

## City may appeal judgment for police shooting of dog

RICHMOND, Calif. (AP) — City officials are considering an appeal after a jury awarded \$255,000 to the owner of a dog that was killed by police.

The city's lawyer, Austin Gibson, said it was the largest jury verdict he could find in a dog killing.

"I don't want to tick off the animal lovers, but this is two steps

short of ridiculous," City Manager Isiah Turner said Tuesday.

Dog owner James Fuller Sr. said the suit could have been avoided if police had apologized for the death of 12-year-old Champ. The dog was shot in 1991 when two policemen looking for a car thief walked past Fuller's yard with their guns drawn.

Fuller said Champ, an obedient, friendly and arthritic dog, did nothing more than stand.

Officer Keith Vine said he fired when the dog rushed at him, barking and growling.

A federal court jury found Dec. 18 that police had seized Fuller's property — Champ — in violation of the constitutional ban on unreasonable seizures.



# SUNDAY SNAPSHOT

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- My personal hero: \_\_\_\_\_
- The best advice I ever got was: \_\_\_\_\_
- 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: \_\_\_\_\_
- 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 possession is: \_\_\_\_\_
- The biggest honor I've ever received is: \_\_\_\_\_
- My favorite performer is: \_\_\_\_\_
- I wish I knew how to: \_\_\_\_\_
- My trademark cliché or expression is: \_\_\_\_\_
- My worst habit is: \_\_\_\_\_
- 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 regret: \_\_\_\_\_
- I'm tired of: \_\_\_\_\_
- I have a phobia about: "or" \_\_\_\_\_
- My biggest fear is: \_\_\_\_\_
- The electrical device I couldn't live without is: \_\_\_\_\_
- My most embarrassing moment: \_\_\_\_\_
- The biggest waste of time is: \_\_\_\_\_
- If I won the lottery, the most extravagant thing I would do is: \_\_\_\_\_
- If I had three wishes they would be: \_\_\_\_\_
- If I could change one thing about Pampa, it would be: \_\_\_\_\_

## Murder rate keeps on dropping in nation's largest cities

Peggy Naylor is no longer is afraid to go to the grocery store by herself in Washington Heights, once the drug hub of New York City.

"It used to be so awful here, with all those drug dealers on the streets, day and night," said Ms. Naylor, whose community had 13 murders this year compared with 122 in 1991.

"Now my grandchildren can play outside," she said. "There's Christmas lights on the block."

Murder took a long holiday in most major American cities in 1998, with several seeing their lowest homicide tallies in decades.

New York, whose total peaked in 1992 with 2,262 killings, and Los Angeles each posted a 20 percent drop in murders for the second straight year.

Only a few big cities — including Dallas, Minneapolis, Newark, N.J., Phoenix and Seattle — had more murders this year than last, but most were still well below their peaks, according to an Associated Press survey of big-city police departments.

"The economy's good, apprehension rates are high and the emergency clinics are excellent in

saving people's lives," said police Lt. A.J. Biello of Atlanta, which had 146 murders in 1998 as of Monday, four fewer than last year.

New York dropped from 767 murders last year to 616 as of Monday — the lowest toll since 1964. Los Angeles went from 566 in 1997 to 414 on Monday, a level not seen since 1970. Among the next three largest cities, Chicago's toll is comparable to that of the late 1960s and Philadelphia to the mid-1980s. Miami's homicide rate is similar to that of the mid-1970s.

The trend began in the early 1990s. Aside from the booming economy, the reasons given for the decline include a waning crack cocaine trade, mandatory prison sentences, better police work and perhaps even changing attitudes toward crime.

"There's been a rising revulsion in personal violence in those neighborhoods," said Eric Monkkonen, a professor at the University of California at Los Angeles who specializes in studying murder in American cities. "And violent young men are no longer honorable."

In New York, officials credit drug crackdowns and a war on "quality of life" crimes, such as jaywalking and riding bicycles on the sidewalk.

"The people who are involved in minor crimes are sometimes the same people who are involved in major crimes, or have knowledge of major crimes," Police Commissioner Howard Safir said.

Other cities with lower numbers than last year were Chicago (695 from 755); Houston (229 from 241); Philadelphia (333 from 418); Miami (94 from 97); Boston (35 from 42); Nashville, Tenn. (96 from 112); Denver (56 from 72).

Even cities that saw more murders were still off totals from just two years ago. Newark had 94 murders in 1996, 58 last year and 59 so far this year. Minneapolis went from 86 in 1996 to 58 last year and 61 this year.

Despite an 8 percent decrease from 755 murders last year, Chicago was headed for the highest toll in the country, with 695 as of Tuesday. And Baltimore had 310 murders, the same as 1997, despite the city's strong push to get below 300 for the first time in nine years.

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## TDA

"For instance, we all need iron to stay healthy," Boshell said. "Although fruits and vegetables contain a lot of important nutrients, they are not typically rich sources of iron. For example, you'd have to eat 10 1/2 cups of raw broccoli or 21 cups of cooked corn to get the same amount of iron as in a 3-ounce serving of cooked sirloin steak. And combining vegetables with protein is a better, more balanced option."

Boshell said the Back to Basics approach is based upon eating all foods in moderate, balanced form. Here are the components of TDA's "Back to Basics" plan to get your physique where you want it after the holidays:

- Eat a variety of foods. Enjoy foods from all food groups.
- Choose the leanest cuts of meat. For example, lean cuts of beef can be found by looking for the word "round" or "loin" in the name.
- Cook it right. Use low-fat cooking methods

such as roasting, broiling and grilling.

—Enjoy five a day. Eat at least five servings of fruits and vegetables daily.

—Get active. Work toward 30 minutes of moderate exercise most days of the week.

—Plan your snacking. Bring healthy, low-fat snacks such as pretzels, yogurt or fruit to work to eat at a specific time. Avoid the candy jar.

"For my own purposes, I've reduced these tips into my own ABC's about nutrition," Boshell said. "It helps me remember what is important. They are:

- All foods can fit. Just don't overdo the amounts.
  - Balance a variety of foods with physical activity.
  - Make Conscious choices at mealtime and snacktime.
- "Back to Basics is an ideal way to reach or maintain a healthy weight. We know from years of experience that restrictive diets don't work. But with Back to Basics there's no extremes and it can fit into anyone's eating plan."