



# Daily Record

## Services tomorrow

**CLENDENNEN**, Wesley Adell — Memorial services, 1 p.m., Bible Baptist Church, Borger.  
**HAND**, Lowal "Spook" — 2 p.m., Central Baptist Church, Canadian.

## Obituaries

**LOWAL 'SPOOK' HAND**  
**CANADIAN** — Lowal "Spook" Hand, 63, died Tuesday, Dec. 1, 1998, in Roger Mills County, Okla. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in Central Baptist Church in Canadian with the Rev. Rick Timmons officiating. Burial will be in Edith Ford Memorial Cemetery under the direction of Stickley-Hill Funeral Directors of Canadian.

Mr. Hand was born June 9, 1935, in Wichita County, Texas, to A.A. and Pearl Hand, Sr. He grew up around Canadian and was baptized in First Christian Church. He married Mary Helen Morrow on March 21, 1955, at Canadian; she died April 29, 1998. He married Dorothy Phillips on March 26, 1986, in Lipscomb County.

He was a heavy equipment operator, a dry watchman for several oil companies in the area and crewed for several Merchant Marine vessels from 1965-70. He moved to Arnett, Okla., in 1984 from Canadian.

He was preceded in death by a son, Billy James Hand, in 1958; and by a grandson, Caleb Hammontree, in 1997.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothy, of Arnett; four daughters, Bobbie Chase of Protection, Kan., Cynthia Pugaczewski of Kenosha, Wis., and Deonna Hand and Renea Hand, both of Oklahoma City, Okla.; two sons, Lonnie Dee Hand of Clinton, Okla., and Terry Wayne Hand of Woodward, Okla.; a stepdaughter, Kathy Phillips of Arnett; five stepsons, Wes Phillips, Bill Phillips and Mike Phillips, all of Arnett, Wayne Phillips of Vici, Okla., and Roy Phillips of Leach, Okla.; two sisters, Betty Jo Thomason of Canadian and Polly Horton of Higgins; three brothers, Alonzo Hand Jr. of Canadian and George Hand of Wewoka, Okla.; 23 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

## BLANCHE TOLBERT OSBORNE

**MIAMI** — Blanche Tolbert Osborne, 80, died Wednesday, Dec. 2, 1998, at Amarillo. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

## Calendar of events

**PAMPA AREA LITERACY COUNCIL**  
 Pampa Area Literacy 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 Sport 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.

**THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS**  
 The Spirit of Christmas volunteers will distribute Wish Cards and raise funds for gifts Nov. 12-14. Gifts will be given to abused and neglected Amarillo children under the care of the social services agency Child Protective Services. For more information or to make a contribution, call Nancy Hutchens, (806) 378-3206.

**PANHANDLE PIECEMAKERS GUILD**  
 Panhandle Piece-makers Quilt Guild Christmas party will be on Dec. 10, 6:30 p.m. at Pampa Senior Citizens Center, 500 W. Francis. Members should bring a covered dish, Christmas block, and wrapped gift. For more information, please call 669-0568 or 665-4718.

**SOUTHSIDE SENIOR CITIZENS**  
 Southside Senior Citizen's Center at 438 Crawford is having their Annual Bar-B-Que Dec. 5 starting at 11 a.m. until sold out. Carry outs are available. There is a cost of adults \$6 and children 10 and under \$3. Tickets are available at the center, 665-4765.

## Emergency numbers

Ambulance.....911  
 Crime Stoppers.....669-2222  
 Energas.....665-5777

## Police report

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

**Wednesday, December 2**  
 Eric Dale Bennett, 18, 618 Lowry, was arrested on charges of disorderly conduct, resisting arrest and aggravated assault on a peace officer.  
 Criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of Naida.

Criminal mischief was reported at Ballard and Browning.  
 Domestic violence was reported in the 1300 block of N. Duncan.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1500 block of N. Hobart.  
 Assault was reported in the 100 block of W. Foster.

## 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 2**  
 Gary Hunter Hayes, 40, Lefors, was arrested on warrants.

Tina Marie Walker, 40, Miami, was arrested on charges of theft by check.

## Accidents

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

**Wednesday, December 2**  
 An unknown driver was doing donuts in the 1200 block of N. Sumner while in a 1983 Cadillac owned by Bob Weloon, 736 Banks, according to police reports and struck an SPS light pole about 11:40 p.m. Weloon reported the car stolen.

## Fires

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

**Wednesday, December 2**  
 2:33 p.m. — Two units and five personnel responded to the 1200 block of Garland on a spill.  
 6:32 p.m. — Three units and seven personnel responded to 1200 block of Hamilton on a smoke scare.

**Thursday, December 3**  
 2:05 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 1500 block of Kentucky on a medical assist.

## Ambulance

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

**Wednesday, December 2**  
 11:16 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Columbia Medical Center and transported one to Baptist St. Anthony's in Amarillo.

1:58 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Columbia Medical Center and transported one to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

2:41 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Columbia Medical Center and transported one to a local nursing facility.

2:26 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Columbia Medical Center and transported one to Panhandle Surgical Hospital.

4:28 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of Darby and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

5:56 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Columbia Medical Center and transported one to a McLean Nursing Home.

7:04 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of S. Prairie and transported one to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

10:02 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of N. Foster and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

**Thursday, December 3**  
 2:04 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

4:31 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of Hamilton and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

## FATALITY

surgery but died from her injuries the next day. Shank reports that she was wearing her seatbelt and her airbag deployed. Her 11-month old child,

Alexis, was in a child safety seat and suffered only minor injuries.

Witnesses indicate that Nickel knows Stuart's family, who live in Pampa, and is highly upset over the incident.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

## EDUCATION

"Both the printing and distribution of the brochure were unauthorized," Jay Aiyer, chief of staff for Brown, told the newspaper.

The cover contained a punctuation error in the mayor's title and misspelled the word "millennium."  
 Inside, nearly every page contained at least one error, including misspelled versions of "library,"

"teaches" and "national," and fragmentary and incomprehensible sentences appeared throughout the brochure, the newspaper said.

"It's going to cost us some more money to reprint these because they are all going into the garbage can," Sanchez said.

The booklet was intended to provide information about youth programs the mayor has sponsored. The mayor's communications office is working on a corrected version.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

## CAREER

analyzing and arranging the enrollment of students in clinics based on student job interest evaluations.

The Altrusa Club, under the direction of this year's career clinic chairs, Judy Warner and Mayda King, was in charge of finding the professionals to come into the classrooms. And the Pampa Rotary Club provided a free luncheon for the participating professionals from Pampa, Borger, Canyon, Amarillo, Dallas, and Oklahoma.

Warner said many of the professionals have participated in past career clinics, but because of the changing nature of the job market, each clinic is always a little different. This career program is offered every other year at PHS, providing students six opportunities during high school to visit with business professionals, said Donna Crow.

Altrusa, a professional women's civic organization with the main objective of doing community service projects, has sponsored the high school career clinic since 1959.

# Warm weather crimping retail sales

NEW YORK (AP) — Warm weather across the country hurt sales at the nation's biggest retailers in November, and industry analysts warn that unless cool temperatures come soon, the holiday shopping season could be a disaster for some stores.

"Everyone is sitting around with an enormous amount of cold weather merchandise that they must get rid of," said Kurt Barnard, a retail consultant and president of Barnard's Retail Trend Report in Upper Montclair, N.J., after retailers announced their November sales figures today.

"Almost every forecast that was made for this holiday season is falling apart," he said.

There were very strong expectations for this Christmas season, thanks to the rebounding stock market and rising consumer sentiment in recent months. Many analysts predicted sales gains of about 4 percent to 5 percent for the November-December season compared to the same period in 1997.

According to the November results, discount stores continue to flourish, attracting value-conscious consumers who want affordable prices and wide selection of merchandise. The best results in November came from Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and Dayton Hudson Corp. Target's division.

Clothing chains like the Gap, Inc., which owns Old Navy, Gap and Banana Republic stores, and The Limited Inc., with its Express and controlling interest in Victoria's Secret, also wooed shoppers last month with current fashions and well-known brand names.

"Who is going to go out and buy a warm coat or a sweater when it's 62 degrees in New York and warmer in the Midwest," said Jeffrey Feiner, managing director at Lehman Brothers Inc.

For department stores, the warm weather was just the latest problem to plague their already troubled businesses. Many chains, including Macy's, Lord & Taylor and Dillard's, are losing sales to the discount and clothing stores that offer better service, prices and selection.

Wal-Mart, the nation's largest retailer, reported sales from stores open at least a year rose 7.7 percent from a year earlier, while total sales were up 13.7 percent. Sales from stores open at least a year, known as same-store sales, are considered the most accurate measure of a retailer's strength.

Other retailers' reports:

—Sears: Same-store sales down 3.6 percent, total sales down 3.2 percent.

—Kmart: Same-store sales up 2.5 percent, total sales up 5.2 percent.

## Weather focus

### LOCAL FORECAST

Occasional showers and thunderstorms with a high in the mid 60s and southeast winds at 10-20 mph. Tonight, cloudy with a 40 percent chance of rain, a low in the low 40s and winds from the southeast at 10-15 mph. Tomorrow, areas of morning fog otherwise mostly sunny with a high in the upper 60s. Yesterday's high was 67; the overnight low, 51.

### REGIONAL FORECAST

**WEST TEXAS** — Panhandle — Tonight, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers early. Otherwise decreasing clouds with a low in the upper 30s. West to northwest wind 10-15 mph. Chance of rain, 20 percent. Friday, areas of morning fog, otherwise mostly sunny with a high 60 to 65. Southwest wind 10-20 mph. Low Rolling Plains — Tonight, a slight chance of showers with a few thunderstorms low rolling plains, other-

wise partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s to lower 40s. Friday, mostly sunny. Highs 60-70. Permian Basin/Upper Trans Pecos — Tonight, mostly clear. Lows 40-45. Friday, mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s. Concho Valley/Edwards Plateau — Tonight, mostly clear. Lows in the mid 40s. Friday, mostly sunny. Highs in the mid to upper 70s. Far West Texas — Tonight, clear. Lows around 40. Friday, sunny. Highs in the mid to upper 60s. Guadalupe Mountains/Big Bend Area — Tonight, mostly clear. Lows in the 30s and 40s. Friday, mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 60s mountains to the mid 70s along the Rio Grande.

**NORTH TEXAS** — Tonight, cloudy central and east with scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms. Widely scattered showers ending west, then decreasing clouds. Lows 48 west to 62 southeast. Friday, widely scattered to scattered showers ending early, central and east.

Otherwise, mostly cloudy east, partly cloudy elsewhere. Highs 71 to 77.

**SOUTH TEXAS** — Hill Country and South Central Texas — Tonight, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of mainly evening showers or thunderstorms east, clearing west. Lows around 60 east, upper 40s and 50s west. Friday, decreasing clouds east, sunny west. Highs in the upper 70s to near 80. Southeast Texas and Upper Texas Coast — Tonight, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers or thunderstorms. Lows in the low to mid 60s inland, upper 60s coast. Friday, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. Highs in the mid to upper 70s. Coastal Bend and the Rio Grande Plains — Tonight, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers or thunderstorms. Lows in the mid to upper 60s inland, near 70 coast. Friday, partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers or thunderstorms. Highs near 80.

## City briefs

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

### FREEMAN'S FLOWERS

Open House - Thurs. Dec. 3rd, 7-9 p.m. Come see our Christmas wreaths & poinsettias. Adv.

**KNIGHTS OF Columbus** Fried Christmas Turkeys. Order now! 665-8446, 665-6341. Adv.

**FOR YOUR Christmas** embroidery & monogramming come to Sew What! Embroidery, 110 E. Francis. Adv.

**DUNCAN-FIFE dining table** & 6 chairs for sale. Call 665-6815. Adv.

**PERM SPECIAL \$35 12-2 thru 12-8.** Call 669-7131 & ask for Brandi. Adv.

**SHOP SANDS Fabrics** Open House, Dec. 4th & 5th, 25% off reg. price items. Refreshments served. Adv.

**RHEAMS DIAMOND Shop,** open til 8 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Register for Free Diamond ring, 6-8 p.m. nightly. Adv.

**BEST KEPT Secrets** will be open until 9 p.m. on Thursday. Register to win Willow Loveseat with every \$25 purchase. New items have arrived. 1925 N. Hobart. Adv.

### PANCAKE FUND Raiser

for TOT-1381 Masonic Lodge at Chaney's Cafe, 716 W. Foster, Sat. Dec. 5, 7 a.m.-11 a.m. Adv.

**25% OFF** storewide at Joy's Unlimited Open House, Fri. Dec. 6, 12 noon-8 p.m. Adv.

**PAM APTS.** Activity Club, 1200 N. Wells, Crafts & Bake Sale, Fri. Dec. 4, 5th, 9-4 p.m. Adv.

**HOME INTERIORS Sale!** Everything must go! Elizabeth, 913 Varnon, Sat. 10-5. Adv.

**THANKS TO Sue, Susan & Cindy** of The Gift Box for the beautiful bible. Wanda Youngquist. Adv.

**FREE DISH Network Satellite** System, Pampa Communications Open House, Sat. Dec. 5, 10 a.m. 641 N. Hobart, 665-1663. Adv.

**NEWLY CONSTRUCTED** commercial real estate in Lefors. Great potential for small business or office. Call 835-2773. Adv.

**NASCAR T-SHIRTS,** Gordon hats & t-shirts just arrived. T-Shirts & More 665-3036. Adv.

### ROLANDA'S SILVER

Jewelry, Afghans, Silk flowers, Candles, Room Spray & lots more. Adv.

**HOME INTERIOR Sale** Sat. Dec. 5, 3 to 7 p.m. 2429 Mary Ellen. 669-1846. Christmas items, new & discontinued merchandise. Drawings. Adv.

**NASCAR DIE cast cars** 1/24 scale just arrived. Labonte, Wallace, Jarrett, Mayfield, Irwin & Gordon, RSVP. T-Shirts & More 665-3036. Adv.

**FREE ACTIVATION** on all pagers, Pampa Communications Open House, 641 N. Hobart, Sat. Dec. 5th 10 a.m. Adv.

**TUPPERWARE OPEN House** - Last week to order those Christmas gifts of Tupperware. Lots of items discount priced. 1621 N. Hobart, Southwest Tile & Carpet. Thurs. & Fri. 8:30-5:30. Adv.

**OPEN HOUSE Savings,** Free Gift Wrap, Hot Chocolate and Snacks. Fri. and Sat. Holmes Sports Center, 304 S. Cuyler. Adv.

# Father on trial charged with injecting HIV in son

By JASON STRAIT  
 Associated Press Writer

ST. CHARLES, Mo. (AP) — Jennifer's infant son was in a hospital recovering from an asthma attack — doing well, she says, until his father showed up.

The father, Brian Stewart, told her to take a break from their son's bedside. When she returned, Jennifer testified Wednesday, the baby was upset and Stewart immediately left.

Stewart, 32, of Columbia, Ill., is accused of injecting HIV-tainted blood into his 11-month-old son in February 1992. Prosecutors say he wanted to avoid paying child support.

The boy, now 7, was diagnosed with AIDS in 1996.

Stewart allegedly smuggled contaminated blood out of a hospital where he worked as a phlebotomist, a person who draws blood. If convicted of first-degree assault, he could get life in prison.

The boy's mother, identified only as Jennifer to protect the child's anonymity, testified on the first day of Stewart's trial that he told her she didn't need to seek child support because "your child is

not going to live very long."

Defense attorney Joseph Murphy denied that Stewart injected the boy with HIV, saying the boy was in contact with 23 other people who could have infected him with HIV.

Jennifer said that her son's health deteriorated after Stewart visited him in the hospital on Feb. 6, 1992. The woman also said Stewart kept vials of blood in a freezer in her apartment.

She conceded that Stewart had never specifically said he would inject the boy or anyone else with HIV-tainted blood.

The boy's pediatrician, Dr. Linda Steele Green, testified today that the boy suddenly became lethargic and started running a fever for no apparent reason. "He just all of a sudden — we found him in his bed listless," she said.

Michael Graham, a professor of pathology at St. Louis University and a blood bank specialist, testified that the boy's condition that day was consistent with someone who had received a transfusion of incompatible blood.

Green and Graham both conceded on cross-examination by Murphy that many of the child's symptoms were present before Stewart's visit.

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Gray Extended Attention

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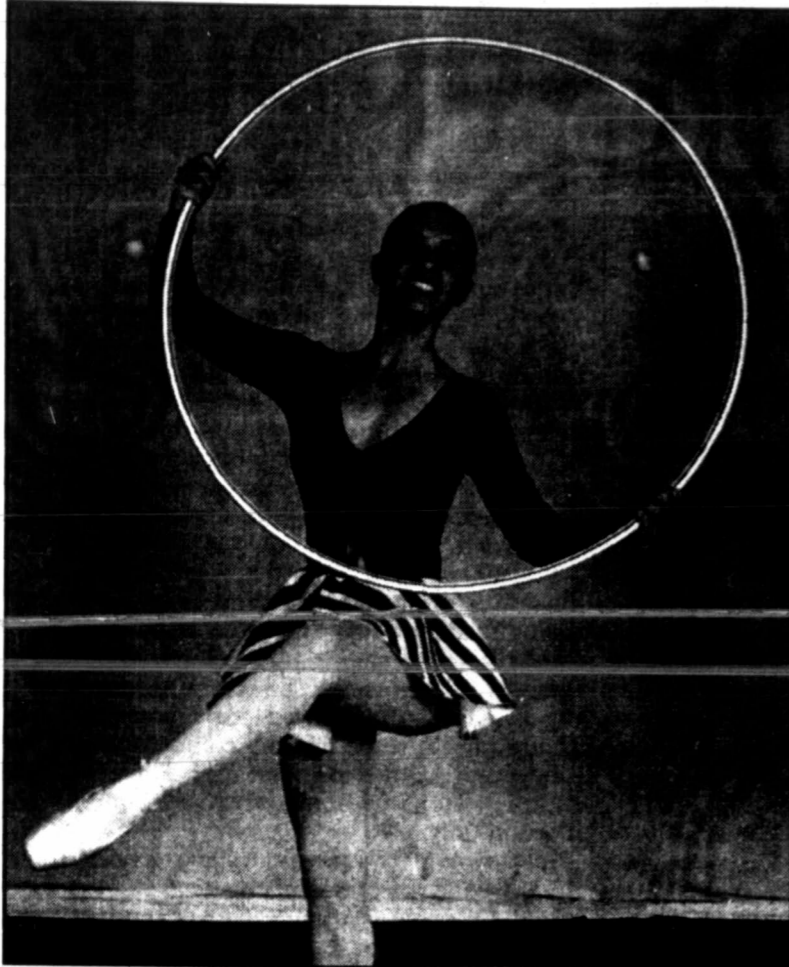
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# PCB to present 'The Nutcracker'



(photos by Keith Hart)



(photos by Keith Hart)

The Pampa Civic Ballet will present its annual Christmas production, "The Nutcracker," at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5 in the M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium. Tickets, available at the door or in advance, are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. For ticket information, call (806) 669-6361. Clockwise from top are Jennie Rapstine, Peppermint, Maegan Wheeler, left, and Mollie Baker, Chinese (Tea); Jesse Parsley, Nutcracker Prince, left, and Mike Eskridge, Mouse King; and Rapstine, bottom, Peppermint.

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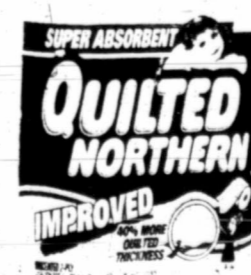
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1/2 Liter 6 Pkg..... **2 For \$5.00**



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Limit 4 pkgs.



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PAPER. PRICES GOOD  
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## Gray County Extension agent attends conference

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Joan Gray, Gray County Extension agent, recently attended the annual conference of the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents in Louisville.

Gray was among more than 1,100 youth professionals from across the nation present at the conference.

The purpose of the association is to enhance the agents' professional skills and competence in education and to strengthen the profession, its image, standards and support.

Participants attended seminars, workshops and research presentations covering a wide range of topics including: "Turning to Kids," a talk focusing on making 4-H programming more responsive to the needs of all youth; "Capitalizing on Change," a review of future trends; and "Keeping Things in Perspective," a guide devised to help agents keep their professional and personal lives in balance.

At the conference, Gray was installed as the National Member Recognition chair-elect. She will be responsible for coordination and selection of the National Air Force Recruiting Salute Award and committee correspondence. She will assume the two-year position in October 1999.

# OPEN HOUSE

Participating Downtown Merchants  
Will Open At 8:00 AM

## December 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>

Special Discounts,  
Great Sales  
& Refreshments  
Paid For By DBA Association

## Warm Up To These Great Ideas

- Mens Wranglers 20X Jeans reg. 34.95 **29.95**
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- Montana Silver Jewelry..... **10%-20% Off**
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**BOB'S WESTERN WEAR**

273-2741 • 521 N. Main • Borger, Texas

We Will Be Open Every Thursday 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Till Christmas

## CINEMA

2<sup>nd</sup> Week • 11 Movie  
**The Rugrats Movie (G)**  
Fri. & Sat. 7:10 & 8:55  
Sun. thru Thurs. 7:15  
Wed., Thurs., Sat. & Sun. Matinees 2:00

1<sup>st</sup> Run  
**A Bugs Life (G)**  
Fri. & Sat. 7:10 & 9:00  
Sun. thru Thurs. 7:10  
Wed., Thurs., Sat. & Sun. Matinees 1:55

3<sup>rd</sup> Week  
**Meet Joe Black (PG-13)**  
Fri. & Sat. 7:00  
Sun. thru Thurs. 7:00  
Wed., Thurs., Sat. & Sun. Matinees 1:30

2<sup>nd</sup> Week  
**Enemy of the State (R)**  
Fri. & Sat. 7:05 & 9:35  
Sun. thru Thurs. 7:05  
Wed., Thurs., Sat. & Sun. Matinees 1:45

VIEWPOINTS

**THE Pampa NEWS**

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Opinion

**Another Saddam rerun is probable**

Just because another crisis has been handled in Iraq doesn't mean that the whole scenario won't be played out again.

As pure political drama, America's latest showdown with Iraq is hard to match: A defiant Iraqi dictator refuses to let United Nations weapons inspectors continue searching for "weapons of mass destruction." An angry U.S. president rallies the world's leaders to support his threats of air strikes if the recalcitrant Iraqis don't back down. American warplanes and ships put Baghdad in the crosshairs, but pull back after a last-minute change of heart from Iraqi leader-Saddam Hussein.

Given that such brinkmanship has typified the U.S.-Iraqi relationship since the end of the Persian Gulf War, there's little reason to expect that a similar "crisis" won't flare up again in the coming months. So noted supply-side economist Jude Wanniski, an outspoken critic of U.S. policy in the Middle East, has some observations about the on-again off-again Persian Gulf confrontation that are worth considering.

U.S. leaders are showing what Wanniski calls a "Versailles mentality." The punitive sanctions U.S. officials maintain against Iraq, and the occasional U.S. plans for bombing Iraqi cities, are causing such intense suffering that Iraqis might respond much as the Germans did — by wanting to settle scores, he said. That can spell long-term trouble for Middle East security and prosperity. America cannot possibly monitor the development of weapons on every corner of Iraqi territory. As Wanniski explained, there is little reason to do so: No chemical, nuclear or biological weapons have been discovered there since 1991. And there is no evidence, he said, of Saddam using such weapons during the Gulf War or against his own people. U.S. policy defies the rule of law, he said, by insisting on a negative: forcing Saddam Hussein to prove that he hasn't done anything wrong.

The president, with the acquiescence of the Republican-controlled Congress, has defied the Constitution's "War Powers Act" by initiating military actions without getting Congress' approval. This unilateral approach has denied Americans the wide-ranging congressional debate that should accompany any potential military action.

Wanniski fears that America's "warrior class" may be hankering for the installation of a U.S.-backed "puppet regime" in Iraq — an action that could require U.S. ground troops and would in no way solve the problem. It doesn't matter who would be installed as the new Iraqi president, he said, "no one believes things are going to change" under the current Mideast political climate.

Wanniski raises good discussion points for a much-needed debate about American policy in the Persian Gulf. This much seems certain: If the administration and Congress continue along the current course, Saddam Hussein will torment U.S. policy makers on another day.

—Odessa American

**Thanks for the support**

I have received an overwhelming response from well-wishers about my recent promotion as managing editor. And for the record, I'd like to say thank you for calling, and writing, and showing you care. Your thoughtfulness astounds me ...

So here I am. The new managing editor. Pretty much, that translates into assistant editor, the other person you get to complain to, Kate's right-hand man— woman—in this case. But technically speaking, I'm not doing too much more than I have been for the last year.

A year ago Kate's mother had some very serious health problems which took her out of the office for a few weeks. It was then that I received a crash course in "putting the paper out" as we like to call it around here. And I've been doing it on a regular basis every since.

Putting out the paper means proofing and designing pages one and two on the computer between 8 and noon each day in the midst of reading over all the inside pages, answering incoming phone calls and talking with drop-by visitors.

It means trying to have a page full of local stories and local pictures written and printed and ready to go before lunch.

Kate and I don't layout the inside pages for the most part. Skyla Bryant, who is in charge of the Sunday Lifestyles section and the daily obituaries, is responsible for laying out the inside pages daily.

'Lay out' means reading and choosing stories from the associated press wire on the computer, figuring out where they should go, writing headlines, making quote boxes and trying to get everything to fit into the space you've been allotted after the ads are laid on the page. This is all done on computer.

Kate and I alternate putting out the paper on the weekends. When I fill in for her on



**Random Revelations**  
**Miranda G. Bailey**  
Pampa News staff writer

Saturday, I'm also doing Monday's paper. And vice-versa. We do Sunday pages one and two on Saturday morning. The rest of it's done by Friday night.

I'll be honest, it's a little frightening being responsible for things that are written in a couple of hours most of the time. It's hard to not be a little rattled by complaints and comments regarding what readers dislike about the paper, when you realize that there's no way to make everyone happy.

But it's tremendous experience. I've learned so much so quickly. And I enjoy meeting you all and visiting with you about your lives.

If you had asked my English teachers in high school if they had thought I would end up being a newspaper editor, they probably would have smirked a little. Though I have a love for writing, I whined many days about the significance of metaphors in "The Lord of The Flies," and the necessity of gerunds while diagramming sentences.

I like to read about things that are relevant to me. I love true-life stories. And I've always written personal columns. I was first voted to write responses as "Gabby" in the seventh grade for my middle school's "Dear Gabby" column. Before that, I wrote letters to my parents explaining why I shouldn't be grounded.

So in some ways, I can see why I am where I am.

In other ways, I cannot. When I got to college, I tried writing for the daily paper there. My first story assignment was on the gay student union. Within 3 weeks of stories on sorority fund-raisers, I decided non-opinionated writing was not for me. I like writing, about what I find interesting. It's easier. So I didn't think I would become a journalist. I thought I'd go with public relations, and I studied PR within my broad, journalism & communication degree. (I'm so thankful now it was broad.)

I also spent 30 hours a week selling and designing newspaper ads in college. I sold enough ads to win myself a trip to Disney World and another one to Chicago. I never thought I'd be one for sales ... but I found selling something that helped local businesses easy enough. With some healthy competition in my blood and a love for working with people, I soon got along great with my part-time, commission-only, pay.

In May of 1997, I moved to Pampa because of my husband's wonderful chemical engineering job at Celanese. We were packed and on our way the day after I finished my last college, final exam.

Unfortunately, I found there were no ad agencies or PR jobs in sight in Pampa. I knew to expect that. But, still finding a job was a little harder than I had thought it was going to be. After six weeks at home by myself, and plenty of tears of boredom and homesickness, I heard the newspaper needed a features writer.

I can basically write, I thought. I've sort of had newspaper experience, and advertising deadlines have got to be worse than editorial ones ... so I applied. Boy, did I have a lot to learn ...

(To be continued)

**What's happened to us?**

The scandals surrounding the Clinton White House, and the public's response to them, is symptomatic of a problem far more devastating than a president committing perjury and obstruction.

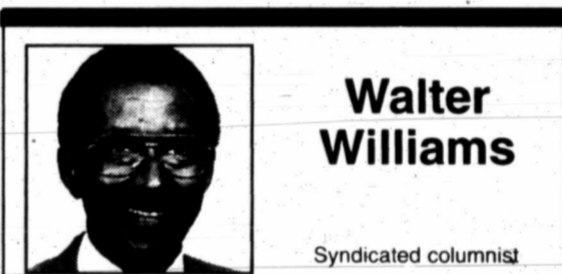
We've had presidents, such as Warren Harding and Richard Nixon, who disgraced their office and our basic institutions survived. But this is the first time in our history we've had a president disgrace his office and receive widespread political and public support while doing so.

Most Americans chalk up Clinton's behavior in the Monica Lewinsky scandal to "understandable lies and cover-up about sex." For them, a president committing clearly criminal acts like perjury, subornation of perjury and obstruction of justice are OK if it's "just about sex."

I'm wondering how far we're willing to go with that principle. After all, some people have murdered, assaulted and blackmailed to conceal an illicit sexual affair. I pray Americans will never accept those acts because they're "just about sex."

Most Americans want us to forget the whole thing. Those who believe some action should be taken against the president think censure is enough. The Constitution makes no provision for censure. The only authority Congress has is impeachment and removal from office.

Some point to public opinion polls and the



**Walter Williams**  
Syndicated columnist

recent elections and say the people have spoken; they don't want impeachment and removal! My question is: Are we a nation of laws or mob rule? If we accept mob rule for Clinton, should mob rule decide the fate of other Americans who've committed criminal acts? If not, why not?

There's another twist. Americans have cheered and supported the White House's scathing attack on duly appointed court officers investigating the president's criminal acts. Are we now ready to accept the principle that subjects of criminal investigations can use every means at their disposal to attack court officers and intimidate jurors and witnesses?

Liberty and civility are fragile. At the minimum, they depend on rule of law, but moral values as well. Clinton and his supporters have waged a successful war on the rule of law. They've gotten away with it because of our precipitous moral decline over the last several decades. What we accept today would have

been seen as bizarre and low-down yesteryear. Years ago, kids might have used foul language, but they didn't use it in the presence of, or to, adults. Out-of-wedlock childbirth was a disgrace, and bastardy wouldn't occasion a baby shower. High schools distributing condoms, giving pregnancy counseling and having daycare facilities would have been deemed lunacy.

Popular daytime sleaze shows like "Jerry Springer," where guests openly discuss despicable acts, shows that shame is going the way of the dinosaur. We Americans accept the Clinton-Lewinsky affair as if it was an off-stage version of "Jerry Springer" writ large.

Whether Congress follows its constitutional mandate, and removes Clinton from office if he's found guilty is relatively minor in the whole scheme of things. The Clinton affair is merely the tip of an iceberg where we accept as routine the kind of moral decadence that would have horrified Americans of yesteryear.

Who's ultimately to blame for it? It's us, America's 60-and-over crowd. We've done wonders in giving our children all those material things our parents could not hope to give us. We've failed miserably in giving our children what our parents gave us: honor, duty, moral values, and a sense of right and wrong. Because of that, we can accept a president who is not only an immoral shameless person, but has ruthlessly attacked the very foundations of a civilized society — the rule of law.

**Today in history**

**By The Associated Press**

Today is Thursday, Dec. 3, the 337th day of 1998. There are 28 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**  
Fifty years ago, on Dec. 3, 1948, the "Pumpkin Papers" came to light as the House Un-American Activities Committee announced that former Communist spy Whittaker Chambers had produced microfilm of secret docu-

ments hidden inside a pumpkin on his Maryland farm.

On this date:  
In 1818, Illinois was admitted as the 21st state.

In 1828, Andrew Jackson was elected president of the United States.

In 1833, Oberlin College in Ohio, the first truly coeducational school of higher learning in the United States, opened its doors.

In 1925, "Concerto in F," by George Gershwin, had its world premiere at New York's Carnegie Hall, with Gershwin himself at the piano.

In 1947, the Tennessee Williams play "A Streetcar Named Desire" opened on Broadway.

In 1964, police arrested some 800 students at the University of California at Berkeley, one day after the students stormed the

administration building and staged a massive sit-in.

In 1967, surgeons in Cape Town, South Africa, led by Dr. Christiaan Barnard, performed the first human heart transplant on Louis Washkansky, who lived 18 days with the new heart.

In 1967, the Twentieth Century Limited, the famed luxury train, completed its final run from New York to Chicago.

**Signals point to nominations**

Nobody can say for certain when or how the presidential impeachment business will end.

The most popular guesses now are that it will be finished within a few months, and that when it's over Bill Clinton will still be president.

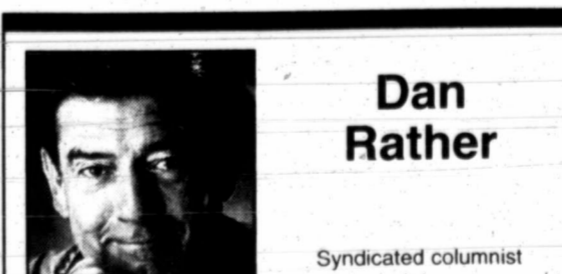
Right now, the betting is that the House Judiciary Committee will vote out at least one article of impeachment, but that the full House won't vote for a trial in the Senate.

Many professional politicians now believe there are enough self-described "Republican moderates" to foil the efforts of Rep. Tom DeLay (Texas) and his followers who are determined to force a Senate trial.

While all of this plays itself out, Republicans are pushing forward with their drive to cut up Vice President Gore. They are convinced that Gore broke the law while gathering money for the 1996 Clinton-Gore campaign. And they want him punished for it.

There ARE serious questions of law and principle involved in this, especially regarding accusations (so far unproven) that the Chinese government tunneled money through intelligence operatives into the last U.S. presidential campaign. (There is less talk about the possibility that the Chinese, and other foreign governments, may have contributed to various congressional campaigns in both parties.)

But much of what this is about is politics and the battle over who is to be the next president of the United States.



**Dan Rather**  
Syndicated columnist

Gore is, by far, the leading Democratic contender. He has had some encouraging news lately. Attorney General Janet Reno declined Republican demands for a special prosecutor to deal with the accusations against Gore. This was a major boost for him. So was the Democrats' showing in this month's elections. Labor and blacks, natural allies of Gore, turned up big at the polls. George Bush rode the vice presidency to the White House in 1988, and Gore could do it this time.

That is, unless he is driven out of the race before he can get the nomination, or else is so badly wounded over the next year that he loses the national election. Republicans would take it either way.

Even some Democrats argue that Gore is already badly damaged and figures to be more so in the months just ahead.

Gore's biggest problem is his weakness in the national polls. Exit polls on Election Day showed him trailing Texas Governor George

W. Bush 52 percent to 38 percent. Democrats worry and Republicans speculate that a ticket of Bush and New York Governor George Pataki could be a winner.

Such early indicators generally don't mean much. But for Gore they guarantee that Republicans redouble their efforts to work him over, and that one or more Democratic hopefuls will challenge him in the presidential primaries.

Rep. Dick Gephardt of Missouri has been aching to challenge Gore. And he is the best organized, best financed of Gore's potential Democratic challengers. But in the light of the last election results, Gephardt may be having second thoughts because of the enhanced possibility that he could become House Speaker in 2000.

Labor loves Gephardt even more than Gore. But what union leaders love most is to dream of having Gore become president with Gephardt House Speaker.

In the meantime, other Democratic hopefuls and possibles are circling. These include former New Jersey Sen. Bill Bradley, Sens. Bob Kerrey (Nebraska), John Kerry (Massachusetts), and Paul Wellstone (Minnesota).

What they do, how well they do depends heavily on the Republicans' current renewed drive to give Vice President Gore hell — knock him out if they can, otherwise leave him politically limping and bleeding.

**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  
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Austin Phone: (512) 463-0131

**U.S. Rep. William M. "Mac" Thornberry**  
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Amarillo Phone: (806) 371-8844  
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**U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison**  
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Washington Phone: (202) 224-5922

**U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm**  
Washington Address: 370 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510  
Washington Phone: (202) 224-2934

**Texas Gov. George W. Bush**  
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

## SKINNER

mailing address and that his private investigator was pregnant.

Sims denied Losch's plea that he be allowed to file after the deadline for a writ of habeas corpus for Skinner.

Skinner's direct appeal was denied and the deadline for filing a habeas corpus appeal was Jan. 21, 1998.

Skinner's attorney in both procedures, Steven Losch, asked for a deadline extension on Jan. 19. Losch, however, asked the wrong court, going to the appeals court instead of the trial court as set by law, the Court of Criminal Appeals' ruling said.

The Court of Criminal Appeals rejected the motion Jan. 21, saying it had been filed before the wrong court. Losch sent it to the trial court on Jan. 22, a day after the deadline.

Losch said he tried to file the extension motion with the trial court a day earlier by fax, but the court's fax machine was out of order.

Losch filed the application for habeas corpus relief on March 26, citing unfamiliarity with the case and an investigator's pregnancy complications that forced her to be hospitalized.

Losch also said he had a heavy workload with

other capital murder cases and Skinner's case was very complicated.

The trial court said the appeal attempt was too late, a ruling the Court of Criminal Appeals upheld Wednesday.

Losch should have been familiar with Skinner's case because he also had been the attorney on direct appeal, the appeals court said.

Losch's claims of a busy workload with other cases was "troubling," the court said.

"Counsel's primary responsibility was to serve his client, the applicant, and to take on additional cases from around the country ... That he played 'brinkmanship' and risk having his client's application as untimely is most troubling," Judge Steven Mansfield wrote.

Dissenting, Judge Charles Baird noted the appeals court took three days to notify Losch that his motion had been filed in the wrong place.

Appeals court have been sympathetic and cooperative with trial attorneys who have busy case-loads, the dissent said.

Losch did not immediately return phone calls to his office and home.

With his appeals through the Texas judicial system exhausted, Mann said, Skinner will now have to turn to the federal appeals process.

## Report: Retired teachers' health-care system in danger

AUSTIN (AP) — A part of the Teachers Retirement System that pays health-care costs for more than 100,000 retired Texas school employees is on the brink of bankruptcy, according to a report due out today.

The report, by a special joint committee in the Texas House, says the TRS-Care program will require a major bailout to remain afloat, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

Insolvency will hit in September 2000 if nothing is done.

"The state could pay the initial deficit of \$64-plus million, but this would only be a temporary solution," the report says. "Due to the increasing number of retirees, the system is projected to need more than \$2 billion to be solvent by fiscal year 2008."

TRS-Care was created by lawmakers in 1985 to plug a major gap in health-care coverage for retired public school employees, most of whom are not covered by Medicare.

Of Texas' 1,043 school districts, only about 20 contribute to Social Security for employees. Without the contributions, retirees are not eligible for Medicare coverage.

The funding crisis may require drastic action.

"For the retired teachers out there, we have no choice. We have to address it," said House Public Education Chairman Paul Sadler, who co-chaired the special panel.

"I was floored," he said. "I had no idea the teachers were not eligible for Social Security."

The report says just about every option should be on the table.

"Ultimately, the policy issue facing the state is to offer catastrophic care only or build an affordable system of health care with the current systems provided," the committee concluded.

But James Moore of Amarillo, chairman of the Teachers Retirement System board that oversees TRS-Care, said the crisis is no surprise.

"We knew that claims would outstrip the money over a period of time," he said. "Legislators began inquiring about it two years ago, but it was not a high priority because it had some years remaining before the funds were expended."

The system now serves 101,853 retirees and 17,252 dependents. The number of participants has tripled since the program was created.

Claims also have skyrocketed, from \$62 million in the first full year to \$211 million in 1997.

Under the current funding setup, the state contributes a half-percent of the statewide school district payroll. Full-time employees contribute a quarter percent of their salaries.

Retirees pay premiums based on the type of coverage they choose, ranging from a low-end payment for catastrophic coverage to a comprehensive plan.

According to the report, it would cost school districts almost \$2 billion a year to get all employees into the Social Security system.

Annette Cootes, spokeswoman for the Texas State Teachers Association, called TRS-Care "absolutely critical."

"For many of them, you are talking life and death," she said.



Kelly Kidwell, right, takes the oath of office as a reserve police officer in Pampa City Commission chambers, repeating after City Secretary Phyllis Jeffers. Kidwell, sworn in at City Hall recently, is the first reserve officer in the Pampa Police Department's new reserve officer program.

## NJ governor says garbage plan stinks

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — Gov. Christie Whitman had this to say about New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's new plan to barge thousands of tons of garbage to New Jersey every day: "Whitman to New York's Garbage Plan: Drop Dead."

Whitman called the plan "an environmental disaster waiting to happen," but New York City officials said the mayor's plan is environmentally sound.

The proposal, unveiled by the Republican mayor Wednesday, was not made public to Whitman, also a Republican, until that morning. City officials admitted they did not adequately inform the governor, but have requested a meeting to explain the proposal.

The plan is designed to find a future home for the 13,000 tons of trash dumped each day at a Staten Island landfill that is due to close by the end of 2001.

It calls for about 5,000 tons of New York trash to be barged each day to transfer stations in

Newark and Carteret, where it would be compacted and shipped to landfills elsewhere.

Whitman, recalling "garbage slicks" from the Staten Island landfill that closed New Jersey beaches in the 1980s, said the latest plan could bring great harm to the Jersey shore.

"The proposal being promoted by the City of New York is a direct assault on the beaches of New Jersey and a very real threat to our quality of life," she said in a statement. "Moving millions of tons of garbage from the land to

barges and back onto the land could be an environmental disaster waiting to happen."

Borrowing from a 1975 tabloid headline during New York City's fiscal crisis, her statement began: "Whitman to New York's Garbage Plan: Drop Dead."

Richard Codey, the Democratic leader in New Jersey's Senate, was among the other officials expressing outrage.

"I've got one message for Mayor Giuliani," Codey said. "Don't trash us."

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by Darrel Martin  
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## Jailed teens in new trouble

HAMTRAMCK, Mich. (AP) — Two young men from a wealthy Detroit suburb who were jailed for having sex with young girls have gotten into trouble behind bars.

Daniel Granger, 19, the Class of 1998 president at Grosse Pointe North High School whose ambition was to go into politics, was recently placed in an isolation cell on a charge of forging a witness name on a document.

Robert Cooper, 19, was ordered Tuesday to spend 10 days in solitary confinement for improper contact with a girlfriend who posed as a paralegal to see him. The prosecutor's office had no detail today on the nature of the contact.

The two men were among four accused of having sex with three 14-year-old girls they plied with alcohol.

Granger will remain in isolation, in which he can have visitors but is isolated from other prisoners, until his case is heard. Cooper, who was found to have committed his infraction, is prohibited from seeing anyone for 10 days.

In October, Granger was sentenced to 4 1/2 months in jail and Cooper to 70 days for having sex with the underage girls. Attorneys for the two men, both from the affluent community of Grosse Pointe, did not return calls.

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# House Is Too Small to Hold Both In-Laws and Criticism

**DEAR ABBY:** My father-in-law, "Bert," and his wife of 10 years, "Mary," will be coming to town for a family reunion. My husband wants to invite them to stay with us. I'm reluctant to extend the invitation for a number of reasons. After the birth of our last child, we no longer have a spare room. The other reasons are emotional.

When Bert and Mary moved across country nine years ago, they would return every year for a 10- to 14-day visit. They always stayed in our guest room. Their last visit was three years ago, while I was pregnant with our youngest.

Mary actually told me she thought I was too old to be having another child. During their visits, I had to endure much criticism of my child-rearing skills from Mary, who is childless. They'd invite their friends and family to our home for dinners and barbecues that my husband and I had to provide. When our baby arrived, there was no acknowledgment from them. My husband didn't even get a phone call from them acknowledging his 40th birthday. I send them cards for every holiday and flowers at Christmas. I also send them pictures of the kids, which they never mention when we call.

Bert is always mentioning all his stocks and bonds, so I know they can afford a motel room. However, my husband thinks the "right" thing to do would be to invite them to stay in our home. I would much prefer inviting them for dinners and spending some time with them, and



**Abigail Van Buren**

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

avoiding the stress of their staying with us. What do you think, Abby? **FRUSTRATED IN CALIFORNIA**

**DEAR FRUSTRATED:** I don't blame you for feeling frustrated. Mary appears to be one of those people who leave discord in their wake. However, since your husband would feel guilty if an invitation isn't extended to his father and Mary, invite them. In view of the fact that you no longer have a guest room to accommodate them, offer them a choice that includes reservations for them at a motel that's not too far away.

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm writing to confirm my advice to "Confused," who lost her boyfriend in a motorcycle accident and is wondering if it's too soon for her to get involved with another man.

I lost my husband of six years the same way. I can tell her from experience that six months is too soon to become involved. Grieving

people are very vulnerable. The first advice grief counselors give is, "Make no serious life decisions for at least one year after the death of a loved one."

Some very poor decisions can result if they are made while grieving. I married my second husband two years after my first husband died because of an overwhelming need to feel connected. I divorced him two years later.

My advice to "Confused" is: Involve yourself with a group of people so you don't become emotionally dependent on one person. Although loneliness can become overwhelming and the need to reach out is very powerful, give yourself some time. You will be doing yourself — and the young man — a favor.

**A WISER WIDOW NOW**

**DEAR WIDOW:** Thank you for writing. I hope "Confused" sees your letter. Your hard-won wisdom could spare a younger woman unnecessary pain.

**Everybody has a problem. What's yours? Get it off your chest by writing to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069. For a personal reply, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.**

## For Better or For Worse



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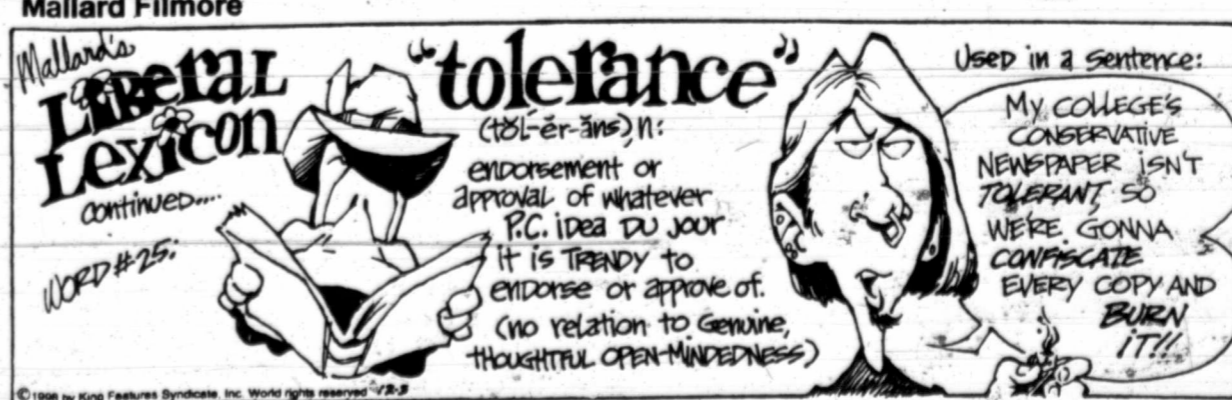
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## Horoscope

FRIDAY, DEC. 4, 1998  
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)

\*\*\*\* Clear your desk. You feel down and not ready to meet others. Recognize your need for some fun. Head home as early as you can to gear up for the weekend. Others appreciate your efforts. Family takes an even higher priority. Release pressure. Tonight: Avoid a fight.

### TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

\*\*\*\* Handle the budget with your customary care. Intuition is dulled yet still directs you the right way. Count on your financial sense. Touch base with friends, and make weekend plans. Others are happy to hear from you. Fatigue becomes an element later on. Tonight: Head out and about.

### GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

\*\*\*\* You are on a roll. Finish a key project. Your ability to complete your work makes you feel good. Balance your checkbook. Finances need to be in order now. A flirtation could go sour; it means more to someone else than to you. Tonight: Don your Santa suit.

### CANCER (June 21-July 22)

\*\*\*\* You are uncomfortable with someone's demands. Right now, you

scarcely have a choice. Lighten up, and do what you must. Humor plays into your day. Be careful not to overeat now. The holidays are just beginning! Tonight: Don't let a family member make the choice.

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

\*\*\*\* Ask for what you want. Others don't necessarily agree with you, and let you know. Understanding where others come from could be challenging but it's possible. Make time for a get-together with friends. Confirm plans before you're out the door. Tonight: Head home.

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

\*\*\*\* Take responsibility. Organize a project, and delegate what you can. A partner doesn't give you the applause you want but supports you in his fashion. Balance your checkbook before going holiday shopping. A friend will do anything to coax you along. Tonight: A good time.

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

\*\*\*\* Reach out for someone, and make plans. You have a tendency to go overboard at times. Today is no exception. You try to please someone who is really quite contrary. Get to the bottom of a problem with someone you put on a pedestal. Tonight: Home.

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

\*\*\*\* Discussions with a partner are important. You could be distracted at work until you have this talk. Be direct about what is irritating you. Consider a change in pace. You might be witnessing some anger that needs to be vented. Take off ASAP from work. Tonight: Escape.

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

\*\*\*\* Make inroads where it counts. Someone really does listen, even a child. He might have a difficult time showing his love in a positive way. Loosen up, and don't worry as much. One-to-one relating is necessary. Plans might need to change. Tonight: Heat up the night.

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

\*\*\*\* Plunge into work, and forget what is ailing you. You'll feel a great sense of well-being. Take time to walk at lunch or perhaps race to the gym. Exercise invigorates you. Others seek you out, wanting to be with you. Popularity soars. Tonight: Kiss work and bosses goodbye.

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

\*\*\*\* You have a nearly impossible time focusing on anything but pleasure. You cannot contain your whimsical nature. A good time is had wherever you go, except maybe at work! Clear your desk, then clear out ASAP! Fun awaits, even at lunch! Tonight: Test your energy levels.

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

\*\*\*\* Deal with security and family, to get more out of life. Discussions could be hard with a roommate or someone who needs to be in control. Feelings might be overwhelming. Don't try to suppress them; it is important that someone knows. Tonight: Let the romantic in you out.

### BORN TODAY

Model Tyra Banks (1973), musician Chris Hillman (1942), actress Marisa Tomei (1964)

## Crossword Puzzle

by THOMAS JOSEPH

### ACROSS

- 1 Chess victories
- 6 Wild pigs
- 11 Put on a pedestal
- 12 Laud
- 13 Powell of the military
- 14 Poor
- 15 "lizards!"
- 17 Wrestling need
- 19 Cargo unit
- 20 Train unit
- 23 Come to
- 25 Fix chairs
- 26 Assumes command
- 28 Ship staff
- 29 Monopoly buys
- 30 Yon lass
- 31 Rival of Peter and Dan
- 32 Course start
- 33 Spanish coin
- 35 Spiral
- 38 Lawn aids
- 41 Concert site
- 42 Worth of acting
- 43 New
- 44 Inverted v

### DOWN

- 4 Historic canal
- 5 Legislative groups
- 6 West African nation
- 7 Yoked beasts
- 8 Had a snack
- 9 Fishing aid
- 10 Foxy
- 16 Rainy-day garments
- 17 Court competition
- 18 Not oblivious
- 20 Manor
- 21 Pro-tractor's target
- 22 Actress Della
- 24 London district
- 25 Alley prowler
- 27 Like the liad
- 31 LBJ, for one
- 33 Long
- 34 Scarlett's home
- 35 Crone
- 36 Blunder
- 37 Actress Grant
- 39 Compass pt.
- 40 Go down



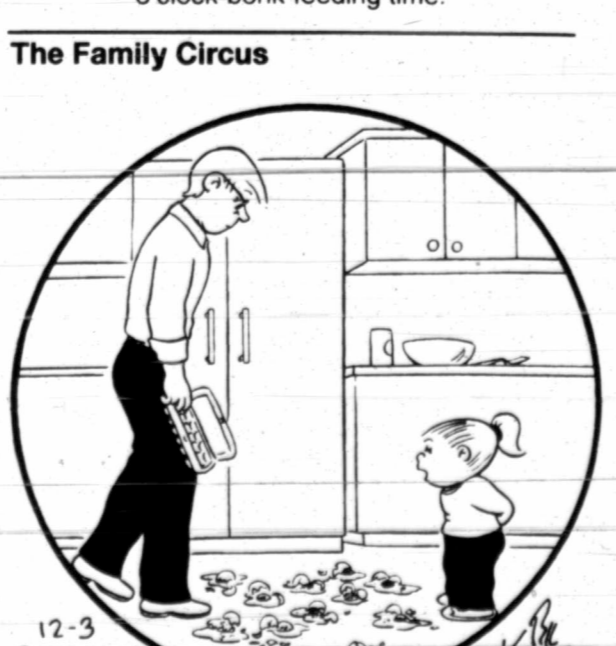
### Yesterday's Answer

- 1 worker
- 2 LBJ, for one
- 3 Long
- 4 Scarlett's home
- 5 Crone
- 6 Blunder
- 7 Actress Grant
- 8 Compass pt.
- 9 Go down

## Marmaduke



## The Family Circus



**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.

"Don't even THINK about callin' in all the king's horses and all the king's men for THIS one!"

# SPORTS

## Notebook

### FOOTBALL

**BILOXI, Miss. (AP)** — The Southwestern Athletic Conference will split into two divisions starting next season and also hold its first championship football game.

The split was announced Wednesday at a conference meeting in Biloxi.

New SWAC commissioner Rudy Washington advocated the split.

Alabama State, Alabama A&M, Alcorn State, Jackson State and Mississippi Valley will make up the East Division. Southern University, Texas Southern, Grambling, Arkansas Pine-Bluff and Prairie View will compete in the West Division.

Each team in each division can only play three teams from the other division while playing four divisional members and four non-conference games for an 11-game schedule.

### WRESTLING

**AMARILLO** — The Pampa Takedown Club competed in the Panhandle Nationals recently in Amarillo.

The Nationals were represented by Dallas, El Paso, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Dumas Borger and Amarillo teams. This is one of two large tournaments in before the state meet that the Pampa wrestlers have a chance to compete in.

Results are as follows:

#### Division I

37 pounds: Cameron Wall, second place.

40 pounds: Cuyler Brewer, third place.

40 pounds: Jacob Day, sixth place.

40 pounds: Austin Beck, seventh place.

52 pounds: Garrett Fatheree, sixth place.

65 pounds: Conner Cambren, fourth place.

#### Division II

49 pounds: Coleby West, sixth place.

#### Division III

55 pounds: Kasey Urganhart, fourth place.

80 pounds: Taylor Fatheree, sixth place.

120 pounds: Don Gatlin, fourth place.

#### Division IV

120 pounds: Kyle Cambren, second place.

120 pounds: Dusty Langley, sixth place.

#### Division 5

125 pounds: Andrew Cambren, fourth place.

125 pounds: Stephen Muriz, fifth place.

Cameron Wall won a jacket for the fastest pin in Division I. He pinned his opponent in 12 seconds.

Takedown Club members will be competing in the Amarillo Invitational, Dumas Invitational and the Cotton Bowl Classic in Dallas later this month.

The club has 15 to 20 youngsters who compete weekly. They range in age from 4 to 15 years.

Coach Rick Urquhart is very proud of all the hard work and improvement he sees weekly in the youngsters. He also feels Pampa will be well-represented at the State Tournament in February. The State Tournament will be held Feb. 19-20 in Amarillo at Cal Farley Coliseum.

### BASEBALL

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Roger Clemens wants a new place to play. Are you listening, George Steinbrenner?

Tired of playing for a team that he does not think will contend, Clemens told the Toronto Blue Jays on Wednesday he wants to be traded.

The World Series champion New York Yankees, Houston Astros and Texas Rangers are considered the top — and perhaps only — clubs likely to land Clemens, who has won a record five Cy Young awards.

"Who wouldn't have an interest in Clemens?" Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said. "I'm sure Toronto will have many discussions with us before this is over with."

## Fort Elliott claims basketball victories

PAMPA — Pampa junior varsity fell to Fort Elliott varsity, 51-39, Tuesday night at McNeely Fieldhouse.

Ja'Nae Goad had 14 points and Amber Estes 10 to lead Fort Elliott. Carissa Dukes added 8 points.

Ashley Derington and Emily Hartman had 8 points each and Cali Covalt 7 for Pampa.

The score was tied 17-all at halftime.

The Pampa JV girls are entered in the Miami Tournament, which starts today.

Curt Smith scored 23 points to lead Fort Elliott to a 55-43 win over Pampa junior varsity in the boys' game.

Michael Hilburn added 13 points and Nathan Hefley 11 for the Cougars.

Fort Elliott held a 22-17 lead at halftime.

Kirk George and Victor Brooks led Pampa with 9 points each. Stephen Vanderpool had 8.

Pampa's record is now 5-2 for the year.

PAMPA — Pampa defeated Canyon, 34-24, in 8th grade boys basketball action earlier this week.

James Silva had 8 points and Jordan Klaus 7 to lead Pampa in scoring.

Canyon won the B team game, 37-28.

Matt Foust, James Gaddis and David Thacker had 6 points each to lead Pampa in scoring.

Both Pampa teams have 2-1 records.

In the 7th grade division, Pampa won over Canyon, 44-35.

Aaron Silva had 11 points and Clarke Hale 10 to lead Pampa in scoring. Andrew Curtis followed with 9 and Johnny Story had 7.

Pampa has a 2-1 record.

Pampa also won the B team game, 34-32.

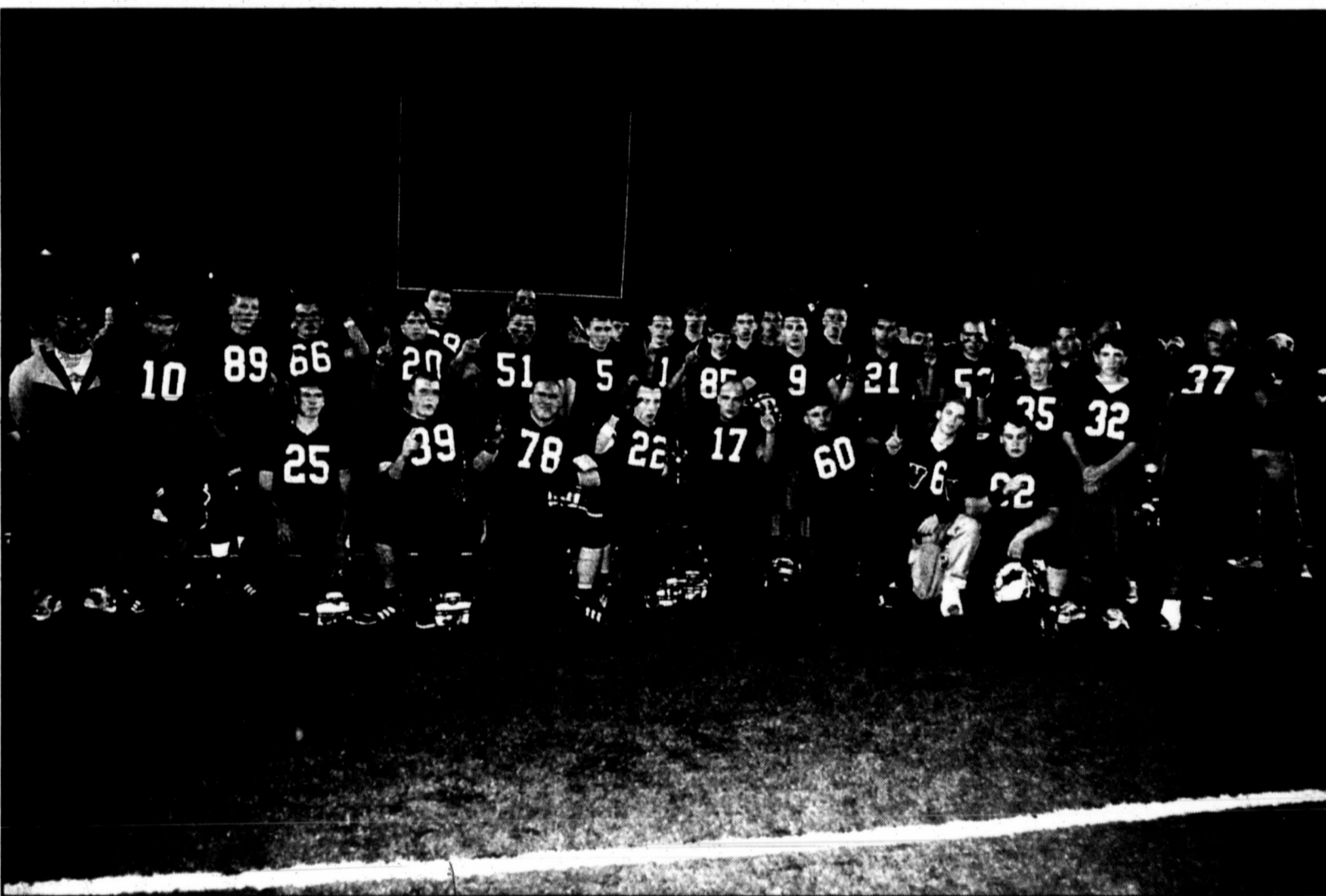
Andy Rodgers was high scorer for Pampa with 10 points. Also scoring for Pampa were Tyler DuBose, Jake Hopkins, Cody Jenkins and Aaron Simon 4 points each.



(Pampa News photo)

Fort Elliott's Reagan Meadows tries to dribble out of traffic after controlling a rebound against Pampa's junior varsity.

## Mustang celebration



(Pampa News photo by Bonner Green)

The Wheeler Mustangs gather for a team picture after their 28-27 double-overtime win over Sudan last weekend. Holding the regional championship trophy are Mike Jones (22) and Aaron Dunnam (17).

## Pampa swimmers compete in Monahans Invitational; enter dual meet at Amarillo on Sat.

The P.H.S. swim team competed at the Monahans Invitational Saturday November 21. Eight teams attended the meet held at the beautiful Monahans High School Pool. Six of the schools that swam are from West Texas: Pampa, Monahans, Pecos, Big Spring, Ft. Stockton, and Seminole; Carlsbad and Hobbs traveled to the meet from Eastern New Mexico.

The 4-A competition was exciting, highlighted by close races and many time drops by all the teams. In team competition, Pampa's boys beat out Big Spring by one point to finish 4th overall, scoring 150 points. Pecos High won the boys competition with 401 points. Monahans finished first among the girls teams with 392 points. Pampa's girls came in 6th with an 84 point total.

Individual times and places follow for each event. Girls 200 Medley Relay: 2:31.71 (7th); Boys 200 Medley Relay A: 2:06.37; Boys 200 Medley Relay B: 2:20.95; Girls 200 Freestyle: Desiree Vigil (9)--2:37.86 (11th); Boys 200 Freestyle: Matt Brown (1.2)--2:08.10 (4th),

Willie Griffin (9)--2:31.86 (11th), J.J. Juan (9)--2:44.00 (12th); Girls 200 Individual Medley: Stacy Huddleston (12)--2:48.25 (5th); Boys 200 I.M.: Sepp Haukebo (9)--2:43.63; Girls 50 Freestyle: Kelley Stowers (9)--30.45 (8th), Rhiarina Anglin (9)--37.88 (24th); Boys 50 Freestyle: Clay David (9)--26.57 (10th), Nefi Meza (10)--35.82 (31st); Girls 100 Butterfly: Misty Moman (9)--1:20.14 (4th), D. Vlgll--1:34.60 (9th); Boys 100 Butterfly: C. David--1:11.40 (6th), M. Brown--1:17.88 (9th), Jeff Holman--1:24.10 (12th); Girls 100 Freestyle: S. Huddleston--1:08.49 (9th), M. Moman--1:11.94 (13th); Boys 100 Freestyle: J. Holman--1:07.21 (18th), Jonathan Fleming (9)--1:10.26 (20th), N. Meza--1:23.12 (29th); Boys 500 Freestyle: W. Griffin--6:42.33 (3rd), Doug Warren (9)--6:51.29 (4th), J.J. Juan--7:32.16 (5th); Girls 200 Freestyle Relay: 2:05.12 (7th); Boys 200 Freestyle Relay A: 1:50.52 (7th); Boys 200 Freestyle Relay B: 2:13.53 (11th); Girls 100 Backstroke: K. Stowers--1:21.02 (8th), R. Anglin--1:42.61 (12th); Boys 100 Backstroke: S. Haukebo--1:

15.29 (9th), D. Warren--1:19.68 (10th); Boys 100 Breaststroke: Ryan Milligan (9)--1:24.21 (13th). According to Pampa's coaches, this was one of the more memorable road trips the team has taken. "Our kids swam as hard in the water as they played out of it," said Head Coach David Pink. "They all swam great—just about everyone improved at least one time. Their confidence is really improving, and it shows in the water." Following the meet, the team made a sight-seeing stop at Sandhills National Park just outside Monahans. "Everyone took off their shoes and ran up and down huge dunes of sand for about an hour. It was a quiet trip home because they all zonked out," stated Assistant Coach Tyler Pink. The Pinks also stated that the team really appreciated the parents who made the long trip to show their support.

Next week the swimmers will travel to Amarillo to duel with Tascosa High on Saturday, December 12. The meet will be held at the Maverick Club Pool, with a starting time of 10:00 a.m.

## Jr. high Lady Pacers claim victory over Amarillo team

The Lady Pacer Junior High team won easily against Amarillo Homeschool Jr. High last week.

Kendra Raber led the Pacer scoring with 4 quick buckets in the first quarter. The Jr. High Pacers went on to win 24-4. Kaylee Shank had 6 points and a strong 16 rebounds and 4 blocked shots. Paniela McCoy also had 6 points and Tabitha McCoy had 4 points with 6 steals.

Monday, the Junior High

girls played against a much tougher St. Andrews ndrews Jr. High team.

The Pacers led throughout the game, but only by a narrow margin, and pulled out a 25-21 victory. Erin Raber led the scoring for the Pampa team with 8 points and 13 rebounds. Kendra Raber put in 7 points along with 6 steals and Ande Shank had 6 points.

Kaylee Shank finished out the scoring with 4 points and 9 rebounds.

## Williams in a runaway?

By RICHARD ROSENBLATT  
AP Football Writer

Who will win the Heisman Trophy?

Just ask three of the Heisman's final four, who say it's no contest: Ricky Williams in a runaway.

"As many times as he carries the ball, he's just as strong in the fourth quarter as he is in the first quarter," Kentucky's Tim Couch said. "He's an amazing player. I'd give him my vote."

So would Kansas State's Michael Bishop and UCLA's Cade McNown, who along with Williams and Couch were invited Wednesday to New York for the Heisman presentation on Dec. 12.

Williams had a tough time making a choice, but that may have been because he was the final player to answer the question posed during a conference call.

"I don't think I could pick one person," Williams, Division I-A's career rushing record holder with 6,279 yards, said. "We played against Kansas State and UCLA and they both tore our defense apart."

"Cade would check at the line, drop back and the next thing you knew the crowd was going wild and they had touchdown. Against Michael, he'd go back on a third-and-15 and throw a bomb or scramble."

## Bowling News

HARVESTER LANES — PAMPA			Knoxies Auto Center			Ward's Tree Service		
Team	Won	Lost	Team	Won	Lost	Team	Won	Lost
Davis Minit Mart	35 1/2	16 1/2	Harvester Women's League	22	22	Hall's Construction	22	22
O'Brien Enterprises	33	19	Jernigan Tax Service	21 1/2	22 1/2	Team Six	19	25
H & H Sporting	32	20	Regional Eye Center	17 1/2	14 1/2	Southwest Collision	14 1/2	29
DBR H2O Vending	28	24	Individual			Week's High Scores		
Harvester Lanes	27 1/2	24 1/2	Keyes Pharmacy	25	27	High scratch game: Jonnie Ray 202; High handicap game: O'Nita Robinson 234;		
Schiffman Machine	25	27	Peggy's Place	24	28	High scratch series: Geneva Schiffman 505; High handicap series: Stacy Narron 532;		
Wendell's Roofing	24	28	Week's High Scores			Team		
Individual			High scratch game: Peggy Smith 211;			High scratch game: Schiffman Machine Co. 526; High scratch series: Schiffman Machine Co. 1,427; High handicap game: www.pc2net.com 539; High handicap series: Team Seven 1,776;		
Team			High scratch game: Davis Minit Mart 558;			Caprock Men's League		
High scratch game: Davis Minit Mart 1,649; High handicap game: Davis Minit Mart 648; High handicap series: Davis Minit Mart 1,919.			High scratch game: Davis Minit Mart 558;			Individual		
Ladies Trio League			Chaney's Cafe	29	15	High scratch game: Jim Eakin 235; High handicap game: Buddy Plunk 251; High scratch series: Jim Eakin, no score available; High handicap series: Russell Eakin 658.		
Team			www.pc2net.com	28 1/2	15 1/2	Team		
Schiffman Machine Co.	26	18	Team Seven	22 1/2	21 1/2	High scratch series: Team Three 2,829; High handicap series: Schiffman Machine 2,848.		





# Ban slows basic human cell research, experts say

WASHINGTON (AP) — New primordial cell technology offers the hope of more effective treatments for heart disease, diabetes and other disorders, but the research is being slowed by a ban on federal support for studies using human embryos, experts told Congress.

A medical ethicist affiliated with an anti-abortion group countered that because the cell research begins with destruction of human embryos, it is morally unacceptable.

The comments came Wednesday at a Senate subcommittee hearing called to consider how the government should respond to a recent announcement that privately financed researchers have isolated embryonic stem cells. These are the basic or pri-

mordial cells from which all of a human's bodily tissues and organs develop during gestation.

Subcommittee chairman Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., said the issue is so complicated that other hearings will be required before any federal action is possible.

Expert witnesses, led by Dr. Harold Varmus, head of the National Institutes of Health, said stem-cell research could lead to the prevention of birth defects or to the ability to grow replacement parts for human beings.

Cultured stem cells, they said, could produce new heart cells, or new insulin-producing cells for the treatment of diabetes, or new neurons for patients with Parkinson's disease or spinal-cord injuries.

Some treatments could be ready

within five years, but only with government support, said Dr. James Thomson, a University of Wisconsin researcher who isolated stem cells from a human embryo.

"It is in the public interest for the government to support this research," he said.

Without full government support, Thomson said, the work would be slowed, and the medical benefits would take years longer to develop.

Under a federal ban, government-funded researchers must avoid human stem-cell studies and other research that involves the use of human embryos. Thomson's work was funded privately.

Part of the federal law states that the ban applies only to what it calls "organisms." Sen. Tom

Harkin, D-Iowa, minority leader on the subcommittee, said that definition would exclude stem-cell culturing and thus allow it.

"If it is not organisms, then it is not included," Harkin said. "This is not covered by the federal ban."

Varmus, Thomson and two other scientist witnesses confirmed for Harkin that stem cells technically are not organisms because they cannot independently maintain life and function.

"You could not create a full human being from these cells," said Michael D. West, president of Advanced Cell Technology.

But Richard M. Doerflinger, associate director of the Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, said that to isolate the

stem cells, Thomson and other researchers had either to destroy a living human embryo or to collect cells from a freshly aborted fetus. A third method, used by West's company, places human genes into a cow's egg.

"Each system arouses ethical concerns," said Doerflinger. "These are the type of experiments that the federal ban" applies to, he said.

"You could rip my heart out of my body and it would not be an organism," Doerflinger added. But such research would be fatal and this, he said, is what happens to the embryo.

Many believe, he said, that a fertilized embryo represents a human life and is entitled to all the protection of a human life. Arthur L. Caplan, director of the

Center for Bioethics of the University of Pennsylvania Health System, disagreed. Research by Thomson involves embryos that are being discarded by patients at fertility clinics, he said.



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### 3 Personal

MARY Kay Cosmetics and Skin-care. Facials, supplies, call Deb Stapleton, 665-2095.

MARY Kay Cosmetics, supplies, call Vijay Murgai at 669-6323, 118 N. Cuyler, Pampa.

BEAUTICONTROL Cosmetics sales, service, makeovers. Lynn Allison 1304 Christine, 669-3848

### 5 Special Notices

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

### 10 Lost/Found

FOUND 11/29 on Lea St. Bloched tabby w/white underneath. Very friendly, can't keep. 669-2677.

FOUND small dog, no collar. Sirocco street area. 669-2449.

### 11 Financial

NEED \$\$\$? Continental Credit, 1427 N. Hobart, 669-6095. Se Hablo Espanol. Phone applications welcome.

### 13 Bus. Opp.

BE Your Own Boss, start your own business. \$245. No products to buy or sell. Big Bucks. 800-558-7912.

### 14d Carpentry

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### OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR

Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

### ADDITIONS, remodeling, roofing, cabinets, painting, all types repairs. Mike Albus, 665-4774.

### 14e Carpet Serv.

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### FOUNDATION Settling? Cracks in walls, ceilings, brick? Doors won't close? Children Brothers, 1-800-299-9563.

### NAVARRO Masonry. Brick work, block, stucco, stone, and concrete. Fences-all types. 878-3000.

### 14i Gen. Repair

APPLIANCE Repair, give us a call, 665-8894. Williams Appliance Service.

### 14j Gen. Repair

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FOR all your minor mechanical work needs, truck or car, call McLean, 806-779-3136, ask for Brett.

### 14n Painting

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### 14s Plumbing/Heat

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### 14v Sewing

WILL do sewing in my home. 669-7230.

### 21 Help Wanted

NOTICE Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

### PART Time telemarketer position \$5.15 hr. Mon-Fri. 1-9p.m. Must have strong communication & phone skills. Apply by mail to Box 59, c/o The Pampa News, Drawer 2198, Pampa, Tx. 79065

### TAKING Applications for CNA's, Nurses Aids, Laundry (PT). 607 W 7th, McLean. 779-2469

### ELECTRICIANS helper, 2 yrs. exp. in comm. wiring. pref. Spain Electric, Guyton, Ok. 580-338-6188.

### HAVE you ever thought about a career in health care? The Drs. and Staff of Regional Eye Center are looking for happy, friendly, dedicated persons who enjoy working with people. On the job training provided, please bring a resume to Regional Eye Center, 107 W. 30th St. in Pampa.

### WANTED 25-50 yr. old woman, non/light smoker, to live in & do light house keeping 669-1896

### NEED immediate Registered Medical Technologist, FT or PT. Call 806-273-6498 or send resume to P.O. Box 247 Borger, Tx.

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### 21 Help Wanted

CNA'S or NA's needed to work 2-10 or 10-6. Contact Debbie Douglas at Pampa Nursing Center 669-2551

### 30 Sewing Machines

WE service all makes/models of sewing machines, vacuum cleaners. 214 N. Cuyler, 665-2383.

### 50 Building Suppl.

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### HOUSTON LUMBER

420 W. Foster 669-6881

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### 69 Misc.

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### CHIMNEY Fire can be prevented. Queen Sweep Chimney Cleaning. 665-4686 or 665-5364.

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### ANTIQUE Clock Repair, auth. by Ridgeway & Howard Miller. Larry Norton, 669-7916 aft. 5.

### CABLE Descrambler, 599. Shipped COD. Sale ends Thanksgiving. Call toll free 888-572-6310

### THE Grandview-Hopkins School Board invites public input with regard to District renovations and new construction on the evening of December 8, 1998, beginning at 6 p.m. at the school cafeteria.

### \*\*\*FREE WOOD\*\*\* \*\*PALLET\*\*

The holiday season & cold weather are here!! Wood pallets can be used for starter wood or craft projects. The pallets can be found behind The Pampa News Office at 403 W. Atchison, please come by and get all the pallets you want!!!

### Norma Ward REALTY 669-3346

Mike Ward 669-6413 Jim Ward 665-1593 Norma Ward, GRI, Broker

### Century 21 More POWER to you: For All Your Real Estate Needs 669-0007

### 69a Garage Sales

CLOSING Out Family Thrift Store, back room VJ's, 118 N. Cuyler, downtown.

MOVING Sale: 421 S. Price Rd, just inside fence, Fri. 9-6, Sat. 8-4. Furn., show posters, children's adult clothing, tires, appl., everything must go.

### Yard Sale

Fri. Sat. 9 to 6 (Outside) Inside 1026 E. Francis

### ESTATE Sale-400 S. Longwood, Fritch, Dec. 4, 5th, 9-4 p.m. - Dec. 6, 2-5 p.m. Antique furniture, ranch oak, quilts, jewelry, turquoise, primitives, pottery, oak wall phone; lamps, dolls, wall coffee grinder, glassware, Imperial punch bowl, cups & pitcher, old utensils, national cash register, tools, guns, taxidermy, barb wire, waterless cookware, TVs, appliances, furniture, John Deere riding lawnmower. Lots more.

### ESTATE Sale: 411 Linda Dr. Fri. & Sat. One more time. Lots of good stuff. Antique radios, stereo w/ speakers, dishes, Pyrex, corning ware & tupperware. Antique tools & more tools, old records & books, some linens.

### Garage Sale

1943 N. Banks Fri. 8:30-5 p.m. Sat. 8:30-noon

### 70 Musical

PIANOS FOR RENT New and used pianos. Starting at \$40 per month. Up to 9 months of rent will apply to purchase. It's all right here in Pampa at Tarpley Music. 665-1251.

### FOR Sale: antique upright piano. Beautiful oak finish. Oakleaf w/acorn pattern on front. \$1500 669-0729

### 75 Feeds/Seeds

BRITTEN FEED & SEED Hwy. 60, Kingsmill 665-5881

### LARGE round bales, grass hay for sale. Call 669-0027.

### 77 Livest/Equip.

NEW & Used T & S Cakes Feeders. New & Used DewEze Beds. Call 806-779-2229

### 80 Pets & Suppl.

CANINE and Feline grooming, Boarding, Science diets. Roysie Animal Hospital, 665-2223.

### Grooming & Boarding Jo Ann's Pet Salon 669-1410

### The Country Clip Dog Grooming

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### Lee Ann's Grooming Canine & Feline Grooming 669-9660

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### FOR Sale: 4 male Chihuahua puppies, 6 weeks old. Call 665-4015

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### 96 Unfurn. Apts.

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### 80 Pets & Suppl.

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AUSTRALIAN Shep., 1, 9 mo. old, free to good home. 669-3233 for Ronda

### 89 Wanted To Buy

USED set double paneled patio doors. 665-1771 leave message.

WILL pay cash for good used furniture, appl., Wrights Used Furn., 669-9654, 669-0804.

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# Jury clears former agriculture secretary in corruption case

WASHINGTON (AP) — Each day at his federal corruption trial, former Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy opened a Bible he kept shielded from jurors and turned to a favorite verse.

"Whom shall I fear?" asks the 27th Psalm. Upon his acquittal Wednesday on 30 corruption-related charges brought by Independent Counsel Donald Smaltz, Espy defiantly declared his answer. "Certainly, not Donald Smaltz," he said on the federal courthouse steps.

Espy was forced to resign in 1994 after being accused of accepting illegal gifts on the job and trying to cover it up. He maintained his innocence throughout, arguing he was the target of an overzealous prosecutor. Smaltz spent four years and \$17 million on his investigation.

"I stood before the jury several months ago and said that I was not guilty," Espy said. "I don't believe I've lost my good name because I never believed that I was guilty of anything."

Interviewed on NBC's "Today," Espy said: "I've admitted some lapses in judgment. I've admitted some appearance problems. There are a number of things if I could do it all over again that I would not do."

Another major regret: As a House member, he had voted to reauthorize the law creating the independent counsel. "I wish I could take it back," Espy said of that vote.

After fighting federal corruption charges for four years and facing the possibility of at least three years in prison, Espy declared himself a "much stronger per-

son," physically and mentally. Although he now practices law in Mississippi, he was uncertain about his future plans.

He recalled for reporters during a news conference a conversation he had with President Clinton in the Oval Office just before he left his post.

"He made a promise to me," Espy said. "I will not reveal what he said — that was man to man, person to person — and I'm hopeful that he will keep that promise."

In a statement, Clinton said he was pleased with the verdict and praised Espy for serving the country with distinction.

"After what have been challenging times for Mr. Espy, both personally and professionally, I am heartened that he has, as he said, emerged from this ordeal stronger," Clinton said. "I hope that as he moves forward he will continue his notable record of service to the country."

Espy had faced 30 counts stemming from about \$33,000 worth of gifts and entertainment he received from companies such as chicken giant Tyson Foods Inc. U.S. District Judge Ricardo Urbina threw out an additional eight charges before the jury began its deliberations.

Espy was a Democratic congressman from Mississippi when Clinton nominated him to the Cabinet in 1993. He was the first Cabinet-level official to face trial since Raymond Donovan, labor secretary under President Reagan. Donovan was acquitted in 1987 on charges involving old business deals.

Henry Cisneros, who was Clinton's secretary of housing and urban development, faces trial in February on charges involving payments he made to an ex-lover.

Espy's trial was the culmination of work by Smaltz, who tried much of the case himself. His investigation traced sports tickets, travel, meals and trinkets such as a crystal bowl and an oil painting that came from companies regulated by Espy's department.

Several charges involved trips Espy took to the 1994

Super Bowl, a Chicago Bulls playoff game and the U.S. Open tennis tournament.

Among the 70 prosecution witnesses called were farm executives who testified that they expected nothing in return for their gifts and that Espy had never showed any favoritism.

Espy's lawyers did not call any witnesses. Federal ethics laws prohibit expensive gifts to public officials. Espy also faced potentially more serious violations of the Meat Inspection Act, which could have meant three years in prison if he was convicted.

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