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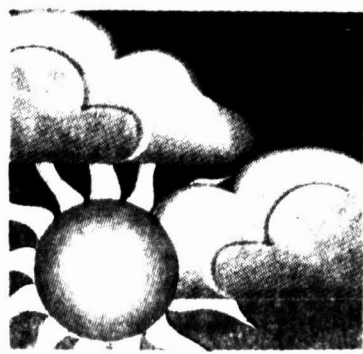
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Pampa

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50¢ Daily • Sunday *1



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

PAMPA — The County Clerk's office will be closed from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Friday during the retirement party for County Clerk Wanda Carter. The office will reopen at 4 p.m. Also, the office will be open from 8:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.

PAMPA — The Community Partners, the coalition of law enforcement and citizens fighting substance abuse, will meet tonight at the Commission Chamber in City Hall from 7-9. City Hall is at 201 W. Kingsmill Street.

PANHANDLE — The ladies' capella quintet "One Voice" will perform its third annual Christmas concert Saturday at 6 p.m. and again at 8 p.m. at the Conway Community Church on the Square House Museum complex on Highway 207. Admission is a can of food per person which will be donated to the Panhandle Community Food Bank.

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

The ticket would have been worth an estimated \$4 million.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 4-16-29-32-35-44

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$7 million.

• Floyd Keith Dixon, 53, employee of Robert Knowles Chrysler, Dodge, Plymouth.

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& Happy
Holiday
Season

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15 arraigned today before district judge

Fifteen people stood before 223rd District Judge Lee Waters today on arraignment for a variety of charges.

Ashmad Rashard Session was arraigned on a charge of delivery of a controlled substance. Bond was continued at \$5,000.

Teresa Gattis was charged with theft over \$1500 and under \$20,000. Bond was continued at \$2,500.

Charles Ronald Gatlin faces charges of sexual assault and two counts of aggravated sexual assault. Bond was set at \$5,000 on each charge.

Kenneth Lloyd Dean faces an enhanced forgery charge. Bond was set at \$10,000.

Ricky Allen Basden and Jeremy Hernandez were charged with engaging in organized criminal activity. Bond for each was set at \$10,000.

Pete Vargas Perez was charged with possession of a controlled substance. Bond was set at \$5,000.

Sandra Denise Rogers was charged with delivery of a controlled substance. Bond was set at \$5,000.

Michelle Annette Cole was charged with possession of a controlled substance. Bond was set at \$2,500.

Wilfred Nez Begave Jr. was charged with possession of a controlled substance. Bond was set at \$10,000.

Robert Dee Preston was charged with engaging in organized criminal activity. Bond was set at \$10,000.

(See ARRIGNED, Page 2)

Carol celebration community event

"There should be something for everyone to enjoy ... we've got a real variety for our Friday night 'Celebration of Carols,'" said Loralee Cooley and Katrina Hildebrandt, coordinators for the evening of carols and music of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany sponsored by Pampa Fine Arts Association.

It gets underway at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18 at First Presbyterian Church, 525 N. Gray. Admission is free of charge.

At least 10 churches are already represented in the various ensembles, solos and featured readers that will be participating.

These include Central Baptist with Zan Walker, minister of music, leading the congregational singing; First Presbyterian with Doris Goad, organist, and Loralee Cooley, pianist; First Christian's Melea Jouett singing "Gesu Bambino"; and Macedonia Baptist Church Choir performing "Go, Tell It on the Mountain."

Others involved include First Baptist's Richard and Wanetta Hill as well as Dillon Hill (no relation), First Presbyterian's Jim and Kate Juengerman, Bill, Katrina and Jon Hildebrandt and Pastor Ed Cooley and Cara Kee from St. Matthew's Episcopal.

The Rev. Mrs. Amy Lakey of St. Mark C.M.E. Church and the Rev. Mike Sublett of Hi-Land Christian will serve as readers. There is a wide array of hand-bell ringers (more are needed, if interested) from many churches. They will be featured — if all goes well — on the popular Ukrainian folk tune "Carol of the Bells."

For more information, contact Lee Crow at PFAA office, 665-0343, or Loralee Cooley at 665-7321. Anyone interested in participating in the hand-bell choir, contact Katrina Hildebrandt at 669-1991.



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Michael Jenkins takes a break at work to enjoy a smoke. Although he's been smoking since he was 12 years old, he claims that if cigarettes keep going up in price, he may quit.

Smokers cough up more as price of puffing rises

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

Michael Jenkins has been smoking since he was 12 years old. Today, he's retired from the military and working in Pampa.

"I may quit if they keep going up," Jenkins says.

It's bad enough, he complained, that he can't buy his cigarettes tax free at the post exchange anymore. Now, in addition to paying taxes on his cigarettes, the price of each pack, each carton, has gone up.

"That's because of the lawsuit against the tobacco companies," said Bill Martin, who with his wife Gail and their grandson Michael Steadman, runs a smoke shop in Pampa.

The cigarette companies have been sued and reached a settlement with the government. Now the consumers are paying for it.

Recently, Philip Morris' Marlboro cigarettes, the leading cigarette choice in Pampa and the nation, raised their prices. Other cigarette manufacturers followed suit.

"They went up about \$1.50 a carton about three months ago," Martin said. "They went up \$4.50 a carton the other week."

There may be more price increases in the future, he says.

Right now, a carton of Marlboro's at Martin's store costs \$24.59 and a pack is \$2.45. A check with Albertson's shows a carton of Marlboro's there is \$24.99 and a pack is \$2.79.

There are 1.1 billion smokers worldwide, according to the Tobacco Retailers Association. There are some 6,000 billion cigarettes are smoked every year.

In developed countries, 41 percent of men and 21 percent of women regularly smoke cigarettes. In developing countries, 50 percent of men smoke, and eight percent of women, but the number of women who smoke is increasing in many countries.

In developed countries annual consumption of cigarettes dropped from 2,800 cigarettes per adult in the early 1980s to 2,400 in the early 1990s.

(See SMOKING, Page 5)



(Pampa News photo by Jeff West)

Pamela G. Lorensen, 37, 422 Yeager, was cited for no valid drivers license and no proof of financial responsibility when the 1986 Oldsmobile collided with a 1984 Bronco driven by Jason Paul Phelps, 22, in the 400 block of Pitts. The force of the impact drove the Oldsmobile into a parked 1995 Ford Aspire owned by Marcos Chavez, 906 E. Gordon. Lorensen was treated and released from Columbia Medical Center.

Commission approves bid for new truck

County Commissioners agreed to buy a pickup, hire an employee, appointed some board members and gave away some money at this week's regular meeting.

Offering a bid on a pickup is more complicated now than ever, according to Dick Stowers of Culberson-Stowers. The reason is that even specifying a 1999 pickup with certain features does not limit the field to one.

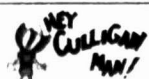
The commission opened bids for a new pickup for precinct 3. While two firms offered bids, West Texas Ford and Culberson-Stowers, the latter actually tendered three different bids. The situation arose because Chevrolet offers two models of the same basic pickup. Both are listed as 1999 models but one has a slightly different engine and some minor differences. After some discussion the commissioners went with the lowest bid, \$20,879.40 which was from Culberson-Stowers.

County Judge Richard Peet was granted permission to replace his secretary, Susan Winborne, who was elected County Clerk, and will take office in January.

The Court also re-appointed (See COMMISSION, Page 2)

Culligan

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DEAN'S PHARMACY
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Daily Record

Services tomorrow

BRYANT, Columbus — 11 a.m., First Baptist Church, Shamrock.
DIXON, Floyd Keith — 2 p.m., Bible Baptist Church, Borger.

Obituaries

FLOYD KEITH DIXON
Floyd Keith Dixon, 53, of Pampa, died Tuesday, Dec. 15, 1998, at Baptist St. Anthony's Hospice in Amarillo. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in Bible Baptist Church of Borger with the Rev. Leonard Forsythe officiating. Burial will be in Eastlawn Garden in Highland Park Cemetery in Borger under the direction of Minton/Chatwell Funeral Directors.

Mr. Dixon was born at Merced, Calif. He had been a Pampa resident since 1992. He was a mechanic for Robert Knowles Chrysler Dodge Plymouth and was a member of Fellowship Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents and by three sisters.

Survivors include his wife, Faye, of the home; three daughters, Sherry K. Oakley and Kelley Gross, both of Amarillo, and Cindy L. Cranor of Fort Worth; three sons, Wade K. Dixon of Saginaw, and Rick Hadley and Mike Hadley, both of Amarillo; three sisters, Betty Herndon of Liberal, Kan., Flossie Boyd of Gruver and Sandra Christner of Davis, Okla.; and 13 grandchildren. The family will be at 200 Bryan No. 3 in Borger and requests memorials be to Hospice of the Panhandle.

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 Support Group call Connie at 669-9364.

VFW CANNED FOOD DRIVE
VFW is now accepting canned foods for Christmas baskets going to the needy. Bring them to the corner of 105 S. Cuyler and 123 W. Foster.

FREE CHRISTMAS DINNER
The Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ would like to invite you to come eat with us on Friday, Dec. 25 at 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall of the Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ located on Harvester St. across from Pampa High School. We know many in our community, and in our congregation are pinching pennies during this time of year, and we just wanted to help out. This meal is provided because we serve Jesus Christ whose birth the whole world celebrated this time of year. It is out of the surplus that God has given us that we give to you. Come and share with us the blessing and surplus of God's grace as we eat together on Christmas Day.

Fires

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

Wednesday, December 16
5:29 p.m. — Two units and four personnel responded to the 1200 block of Garland on a medical.

Thursday, December 17
6:07 a.m. — Two units and four personnel responded to the 1200 block of E. Frederic on a medical.

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 16
Teresa Brown, 34, 916 Murphy, was arrested on charges of burglary.
Christopher Phillips, 20, 118 S. Wells, was arrested on charges of violation of probation/burglary.
Telephone harassment was reported in the 1200 block of S. Finley.
Credit Card abuse was reported at 19th and Hobart.
Theft was reported in, the 1400 block of N. Christy.

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 16
Williana Louise Pyle, 40, 640 Roberta, was arrested on charges of burglary.
Cheryl L. Junes, 26, 1815 Hamilton, was arrested on charges of violation of probation/DWI.
Augusta N. Wilkins, 30, 1032 Huff, was arrested on charges of violation of probation/DWI.

Court report

Marriage licenses
Ricky Fedancio Arguiyo and Teresa Rae Navarro
Michael Heath Summers and Amy Denise Cross
John E. Henley and Mildred Clay
Jeremy Wayne Strack and Rebekah Ann Goodson
William Vernon Hughes and Dory Jane Woodruff
Christopher M. Luster and Shannon Renee Beal
Randy Lee Smith and Shelly Lynn Kelley
Ignacio Rodriguez and Marcia Guadalupe Hernandez
Mark Douglas Scott and Jessica Lynn Plunk
Jason Paul Johnson and Laurie Kay Kroll
Guy Wesley Skelton and Cherie Elizabeth Schwartz
Patrick Ryan Passini and Mist Dawn Menefee
Jeremy Jim Helfer and Brandi Renee Kelley

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Atebury Grain of Pampa.	
Wheat.....	2.58
Milo.....	3.34
Corn.....	3.65
Soybeans.....	4.83
The following show the prices for which these securities could have traded at the time of compilation.	
Occidental.....	17 15/16 up 1/16
The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation.	
Magellan.....	111.30
Paritan.....	19.28
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.	
Amoco.....	57 5/16 dn 1/8
Arco.....	63 13/16 dn 1/8
Cabot.....	27 9/16 dn 1/4
Cabot O&G.....	15 1/16 dn 3/8
Chevron.....	82 7/16 dn 1 1/16
Coca Cola.....	65 3/4 up 7/8
Columbia/HCA.....	22 1/4 dn 1/8
Enron.....	55 1/4 up 1/8
Halliburton.....	32 3/16 dn 1/16
IRI.....	3 15/16 up 1/16
KNE.....	38 1/8 up 1/2
Kerr McGee.....	37 1/8 dn 7/8
Limited.....	26 up 3/16
McDonald's.....	71 15/16 up 1 13/16
Mobil.....	88 7/8 dn 3/4
New Atmos.....	30 1/16 up 3/16
NCE.....	47 1/2 up 5/16
Pennex.....	56 up 1/2
Pioneer Nat. Res.....	9 1/2 dn 1/16
SLB.....	44 7/8 dn 1 13/16
Tenneco.....	34 1/16 up 1/4
Tetaco.....	53 15/16 dn 1 1/16
Ultramar.....	24 5/16 NC
Wal-Mart.....	76 1/8 up 7/16
Williams.....	28 15/16 NC
New York Gold.....	294.90
Silver.....	4.98
West Texas Crude.....	12.55

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

Republicans plan to start impeachment debate Friday

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican leaders decided today to begin the impeachment debate Friday on the House floor and finish action on the four articles against President Clinton by Saturday even if U.S. attacks against Iraq are ongoing, congressional sources said today.

These sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said incoming House Speaker Bob Livingston would announce the decision later today. Republicans discussed allowing 16 hours of debate on the articles, according to the sources, who were in both parties.

The historic debate had been set for today, but Republicans grudgingly agreed Wednesday to a postponement after Clinton ordered airstrikes against Iraq. Under the GOP plan, the postponement would last only 24 hours.

Debate on Friday and Saturday would defy the wishes of House Democrats, who have asked for a halt to impeachment proceedings until the air campaign is over in a few days.

The president told reporters today it was up to Republican leaders to "decide how to do their job" in bringing the impeachment debate to the floor. But he sternly dismissed suggestions by Senate Republican Leader Trent Lott, House Majority Leader Dick Army and other GOP lawmakers that he had ordered the Iraqi attack to divert attention from his impeachment woes.

"I don't think any serious person would believe that any president would do such a thing," he said. Clinton is the second president in history to face impeachment proceedings on the floor of the House, and the first since Andrew Johnson in 1868. Even Democratic supporters concede he is likely to be impeached on at least one of four articles, sending his case to a trial in the Senate.

A formal announcement on a new schedule for the impeachment proceedings was expected later in the

day, perhaps after a closed-door meeting of the GOP leadership.

After weeks of intense activity around impeachment, the subject briefly took a back seat today as lawmakers debated legislation expressing support for the troops engaged in the air strikes in Iraq.

One of a dwindling band of uncommitted lawmakers, Rep. Paul McClellan, D-Pa., told reporters he had decided how to vote on impeachment, but would defer an announcement, in view of the ongoing hostilities.

The White House continued to lose moderate Republicans it had hoped to lure to the president's defense. Rep. Rick Lazio, R-N.Y., who had traveled to the Middle East with Clinton last week, announced today he would vote to approve articles of impeachment against Clinton. Republican Reps. Jim Nussle of Iowa and Heather Wilson of New Mexico also announced they would vote for impeachment.

Lazio wrote in a Newsday column published today that he made the decision to "hammer home as best I can that we must continue to insist that no one is above the law, and that the truth must be told."

In announcing the decision Wednesday to suspend the impeachment debate, incoming Speaker Bob Livingston, R-La., urged all lawmakers "Republican and Democrat, remain available ... for further action possibly Friday, possibly Saturday, but within the near future."

Even before the announcement, Clinton's prospects for being spared impeachment were dimming as moderate Republican continued to announce for impeachment.

"I would think the votes are pretty much in place," said Rep. Peter King, a New York Republican who favors censure over impeachment. "Right now it certainly looks like the president will be impeached."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

ARRAIGNED

Travis Calvin Selby was charged with possession of a controlled substance. Bond was set at \$2,500.
Lee Alvin Williams was charged with possession of a controlled substance. Bond was set at \$2,500.
John Maglaughlin was charged with possession of a controlled substance and escape. Bond was set at \$5,000 on each charge.
Curtis Lee was charged with forgery. Bond was set at \$2,000.
Migel Antoine Shorter, charged with engaging in organized criminal activity, waived arraignment. Bond was continued on Shorter for \$10,000.
Eddie Sasueda, Alonzo Concepcion Reyes and John David Steele waived arraignment on charges of possession of a controlled substance. Bond on each had been set at \$10,000.
Karen Denise Skipper waived arraignment on charges of delivery of a controlled substance. Bond was continued at \$5,000.

Johnny Todd Preston and Michael Shane McGavock waived arraignment on charges of engaging in organized criminal activity. Bond was continued for Preston at \$20,000 and for McGavock at \$10,000.
Howard Ray Vance waived arraignment on charges of escape. Bond was set at \$1,500.
A bond of \$5,000 was revoked on Jesus Rodriguez, who faces charges of possession of a controlled substance.
A \$4,000 bond was revoked on Jennifer Marie Darnell on charges of possession of a controlled substance.
Christopher Ally Sturgeon was charged with possession of a controlled substance. Bond was set at \$4,000.
Bond was continued on Gary Lynn Davis at \$10,000 on charges of theft over \$1500 and under \$20,000. Davis is in the Winkler County jail.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

COMMISSION

Helen Wilson, Iris Ragsdale and Lee Frasher to a three-year term on the White Deer Land Museum Advisory Board. School Superintendent Dawson Orr was appointed to serve a two-year term filling an unexpired term on the board.

The commission also decided how to distribute a grant of \$7,133 from the Texas Department of Health to ambulance companies in the county. They decided to give the McLean Ambulance Service and the Lefors Ambulance 40 percent each and Rural/Metro 10 percent. Peet said this is the same distribution as last year and said that Rural/Metro is already subsidized for its service.

Reporter found slain

MEXICO CITY (AP) — An American reporter who died on a reporting trip to western Mexico apparently had been strangled, the Jalisco state coroner said today.

The body of Philip True, who worked for the San Antonio Express-News, was discovered Wednesday in a deep ravine in a remote mountain range on the border of Jalisco and Nayarit states.

Officials at first believed that he had accidentally fallen to his death.

But coroner Mario Rivas Souza said in an interview broadcast by a Guadalajara television station that an autopsy found signs that True had been strangled and that none of his bones were broken.

"We all mourn the loss of a colleague and an outstanding journalist," W. Lawrence Walker Jr., publisher and chief executive officer of the Express-News, told staff members gathered in the newspaper's newsroom Wednesday.

True's body was spotted by a one of several army aircraft sweeping the area, military officials said. It took soldiers hours to reach the isolated Chapangana Canyon in the western Sierra Madre,

and several hours more to identify the body.

True, a 50-year-old reporter based in Mexico City, headed into the Sierra Madre Occidental range on Nov. 29 to photograph and write about the region's Huichol Indians.

He had planned to hike into neighboring Nayarit state and return to Mexico City on Dec. 10. The Mexican army and authorities from both states had been searching the region since then.

The U.S. Consulate in Guadalajara expressed thanks to authorities for their help in the search.

True worked for the Brownsville Herald before joining the Express-News staff in 1992 as the newspaper's border correspondent based in Laredo. He became the Express-News correspondent in Mexico City in January 1996.

Among the high-profile stories he covered for the San Antonio paper were the Zapatista rebel conflict in the southern state of Chiapas and Pope John Paul II's trip to Cuba.

Before his newspaper career, True worked as a wallpaper hanger until his late 30s, recalled friend and colleague.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Mostly sunny and breezy today with a high in the low 60s and southwest winds at 10-15 mph. Tonight, mostly clear with a low in the mid 30s and southwest winds at 10-20 mph. Tomorrow, mostly sunny with a high in the mid 60s.

REGIONAL FORECAST

WEST TEXAS — Panhandle — Extreme Southern Panhandle/Low Rolling Plains — Tonight, fair. Low 30-40. Friday, partly cloudy. Highs 60-65. Permian Basin/Upper Trans Pecos — Tonight, fair in the evening, then increasing clouds after midnight. Lows 40-45. Friday, mostly cloudy with a chance of showers or thunderstorms. High in the lower to mid 60s. Concho Valley/Edwards Plateau — Tonight, fair in the evening, then increasing clouds after midnight. Lows in the mid 40s. Friday, mostly cloudy with a chance of showers or thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 60s. Far West Texas — Tonight, partly cloudy. A slight chance of showers. Lows near 40. Friday, a

slight chance of showers in the morning, otherwise partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s. Guadalupe Mountains/Big Bend Area — Tonight, becoming mostly cloudy with a chance of showers or thunderstorms. Lows in the 30s to mid 40s. Friday, mostly cloudy with a chance of showers mainly in the morning, decreasing clouds in the afternoon. Highs from the lower 50s Guadalupe Mountains to near 70 along the river.

NORTH TEXAS — Tonight, mostly clear. Lows 35 to 44. Friday, increasing cloudiness. A chance of afternoon showers or thunderstorms south. A slight chance of afternoon showers north. Highs 58 to 65.

SOUTH TEXAS — Hill Country and South Central Texas — Tonight, partly to mostly cloudy with a slight chance of rain west. Lows in the 40s to near 50. Friday, mostly cloudy and cool with a chance of showers spreading east. Highs in the 50s to near 60. Southeast Texas and Upper Texas Coast — Tonight, mostly clear. Lows in the lower 40s inland, upper 40s at the coast.

Friday, becoming mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid to upper 60s. Coastal Bend and the Rio Grande Plains — Tonight, mostly clear except increasing cloudiness Rio Grande plains. Lows in the mid 40s inland to near 50 coast. Friday, becoming mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. Highs in the upper 60s to near 70.

BORDER STATES

NEW MEXICO — Tonight, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers extreme south. Fair skies northern two thirds. Lows from 5 to 25 northern mountains and northwest to the 30s and lower 40s eastern and southern lowlands. Friday, a slight chance of showers southcentral and southeast. Otherwise, variable cloudiness south with fair skies north. Highs 40s to mid 50s mountains and northwest, middle 50s to mid 60s eastern and southern lowlands.

OKLAHOMA — Tonight, clear. Low in the middle 30s to lower 40s. Friday, mostly sunny. Turning cooler north. High in the middle 50s to lower 60s.

City briefs

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

FURBY RAFFLE!

Buy tickets from any student of Madeline Graves Dance & Gymnastics Center or tickets for sale at the center, 1345 S. Hobart, Mon. Dec. 14th, 4-6 p.m. Christmas Dance Recital, free to the public, Thurs. Dec. 17th, 7 p.m. MK Brown. Furby Drawing at end of recital. Adv.

GOLDKRAFT JEWELERS, let us customize your Christmas gift. Open nightly til 7 p.m. Adv.

WED. NIGHT Karaoke w/Cowboy. Sunset Bar & Grill will be featuring Kracker Jack on New Year's Eve. Call for reservations 669-0959. Adv.

BEST KEPT Secrets - 25% off all Christmas items. New shipment of Hello Kitty, Kerokerokeroppi, Pochacco & Badtz-Maru, great stocking stuffers! Holiday Hours Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. 1925 N. Hobart. Adv.

CLASSIC COLLECTOR - Limited Treasures Premier and Holiday Editions. Bamm-Beano Bears, Homerun Kings, Holiday sets, best prices around. Holmes Sports Center, 304 S. Cuyler. Adv.

COLE CREEK - 10% Sale on Christmas crafts & collectibles Thurs. & Fri., closed Sat. 19th. Adv.

PET GROOMING.

Limited number Th-Fri-Sat-Mon only. No appt. needed. 115 N. West. Adv.

ICECYCLE LIGHTS and Titanic Puzzles available at Frank's True Value, 638 S. Cuyler, 665-4995. Adv.

NEW SHIPMENT of ole fashioned ribbon candy, peanut patties, fruit slices, peppermint sticks, haystacks & more. Fresh roasted peanuts, creamed honey, coffees, cocoa, gourmet teas are also in. Let us make up your Holiday fruit & candy baskets. Call Celebrations, 665-3100. Adv.

SPORTS CARDS, football, baseball, basketball - great Xmas gifts. None over \$20 box. DK Glass, 523 W. Foster. Adv.

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

COLLECTION COOKIE Jars 30% off. Fri. only, My Favorite Things. Adv.

CHRISTMAS TREATS. Special for your family & friends. Great for gifts - smoked turkeys, honey glazed hams, prime rib, brisket, meat packs, meat trays, gift baskets & much more! Clint & Sons Smokehouse, 1421 N. Hobart, 665-2825. Order today! Adv.

FREEMAN'S FLOWERS

Equadorian Roses \$37.50 doz. Fire & Ice, Sterling, Red & many more. For delivery 669-3336. Adv.

MEN, NEED A Christmas gift? We have gift certificates for sterling silver. Silver Creek Collection, 121 S. Houston, 665-5000. M-F 9:00-5:30 & Sat. 10:00-4:00. Adv.

OPEN SATURDAYS only, 10-5 p.m. (back to regular hours), Granny Had One. Adv.

CHRIST ELY'S book - Through Eyes of Faith - perfect Christmas gift, at the Gift Box & Hastings. Adv.

MERRY, THE Christmas bear from Planet Plush, Ice, Rudy and Nick are now in. All are collectibles & limited production. Great stocking stuffers. My Favorite Things. Adv.

SENIOR CITIZENS Christmas Dance Live music, refreshments. Served by the ESA sorority. Admission \$3. Friday, Dec. 18th 7-9:30 p.m. Adv.

GREAT SELECTION of gifts & stocking stuffers for kids, new shipment of yo-yos, including the new sleep machine, key chains, fingernail art & friendship bead kits, Winnie The Pooh jewelry, Klutz press books & more at Celebrations, 125 N. Somerville. Adv.

National Honor Society



Pampa High School recently inducted new members in the National Honor Society. They include: top photo, back row from left, Angela Klein, Stephen Vanderpool, Cortnie Allison, Tyson Curtis. Front row from left, Samantha Hurst, Maggie Cowan and Emily Curtis; bottom photo, Bree Ann Dennis and Melissa Session.

Christmas program



(Special photo)

Grandview-Hopkins will present its annual Christmas play at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17 in the school auditorium. This year's program, "Holly and the Ivy League," tells the story of a young girl named Holly Day, played by Chardon Wilson, who wants to earn her whiskers and become a Deputy Santa. Above are Jessica Baggerman, Alex Hutto, back; Brenna Ellison, Kathy Aler, Andi Hutto, Hannah Hopkins, middle; and Marisa Ponce, Hilary Acker and Ashly Ginn, front, as elves.

Entries being accepted for Rural Heroism Award

WACO — Entries for the Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council's 1998 Rural Heroism Award are now being accepted, according to Ben Bullard, council president.

To qualify, a candidate must have performed a heroic act of human lifesaving within Texas during 1998. The heroic deed should be related to farming or ranching. The 1998 recipient will be announced March 22, 1999, at the Texas Safety Association 60th annual Texas/Southwestern Conference and Exposition, to be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Houston.

The nominations must be submitted and post-marked no later than Feb. 1, 1999. Send all nomina-

tions to the Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council, P.O. Box 5539, Waco, TX 76708.

The letter of nomination should include a written account of the incident and names, addresses and telephone numbers of all persons involved. Newspaper clippings and photos should also accompany nominations when available.

The 1997 winner was Stanley H. Davis of Port Neches who rescued Clyde Allison from being attacked by a bull. Davis then administered first aid for his injuries until EMS arrived.

Bullard has been president of the Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council for 22 years and is retired from the Texas farm Bureau Insurance Companies.

'Trends' reports home sales in Texas

COLLEGE STATION — North Texas can claim some of the highest- and lowest-priced homes in the state, according to the December issue of "Trends," a monthly statistical report from the Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University.

Four of the five highest median prices in October were in North Texas cities. Three of the five low-

est medians could be found there, too.

Plano's median topped the state at \$152,500. Denton was second with a \$125,000 median. Northeast Tarrant County was third with \$124,300. Irving had the fourth highest median price with \$122,900. Austin made the top five with \$118,800.

According to "Trends," the Sherman-Denison area's median of \$62,100 was lowest in the state. Port Arthur and Odessa-Midland had the second and third lowest medians at \$63,800 and \$64,100, respectively. Paris was fourth at \$65,000. Wichita Falls' \$67,500 median price was the fifth lowest in Texas.

These and other real estate statistics can be found on the Real

Estate Center's website at <http://recenter.tamu.edu>.



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VIEWPOINTS

THE Pampa NEWS

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Opinion

Pinochet's pursuers seem overzealous

■ Pursuit of charges against a former leader should be left to those he governed.

How does a nation come to terms with a brutal past? Countries as diverse as South Africa, Argentina and the Czech Republic are wrestling with that question in the aftermath of the Cold War — the decades-long global conflict that resulted in widespread human rights violations from governments of the left and right.

Most countries have found ways to move on with minimal retribution — in South Africa a Truth and Reconciliation Commission granted immunity in return for testimony of past abuses. The reason is society can quickly degenerate into bitterness and violence if despots and their minions are put on trial for policies they pursued while leading the country.

It is with that backdrop that the public should view efforts by Spain to extradite former Chilean strongman Augusto Pinochet from England, where he was undergoing back surgery. The 83-year-old Pinochet, who ruled Chile from 1973 to 1990 after overthrowing the Marxist government of Salvador Allende, is the target of a Spanish judge who accuses him of genocide, murder and torture against Spanish nationals during his rule.

Britain's top court ruled recently that Pinochet is not immune from prosecution because the crimes his secret police are accused of committing are forbidden under international law. Now politicians in Britain and Spain are pondering possible compromises with Chilean officials, who want Pinochet returned to their country.

No one is disputing the Pinochet regime committed atrocities. But it's a more complicated story than some human rights activists would have the public believe. In fact, many Chileans still view Pinochet as a political savior for having overthrown a man who was turning Chile into a Cuban-style totalitarian state.

Pinochet peacefully relinquished power in 1990, thus allowing a transition to democratic rule. The new Chilean democracy still is fragile, which makes Spanish and British grandstanding so hard to understand. Spain's action, and Britain's reluctance to free a man who had been a close British ally, has sparked unrest in Chile. It gives a preview of what can occur when old wounds are torn open.

Some dangerous precedents are being set: That international law can be determined by ideological pique, rather than by impartial deliberations. And that any former government leader can be pursued anywhere if atrocities have occurred under his watch. It doesn't take much imagination to foresee a former U.S. president someday pursued for, say, mistakenly bombing an African pharmaceutical plant.

It's a complicated issue. Hoover Institution research fellow Arnold Beichman, who said he applauded Pinochet for saving his country "from a monster like Allende," nonetheless said that he has "no sympathy at all for Pinochet." He believes a case can be made for putting Pinochet on trial, but agreed that it would have been better for Chile to have done so.

We believe that it should be up to the Chilean people — not ideologically motivated European judges and politicians — to come to terms with their past.

—Odessa American

KENNY PERKINS THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER © 1998



Black hole on my shoulder

I have this purse. And it's got everything I own in it. My wallet, Tylenol, brush, lotion, camera, film, cell phone, another wallet, hair things, lipstick, earrings, nail file, and at the moment, CDs and tapes. It's heavy, it's huge, and in a nutshell, it's my whole life tucked away in one bag.

A New Mexican said I was carrying around a Texas purse. And I had to stop and reluctantly agree, because of how I came to acquire the darn thing.

Two years ago, I had a teeny, tiny purse that easily tucked away into my backpack at college. It had money, what money I had, and maybe a little mirror, along with my student ID.

Last year, I got to be a guest at the Oprah Winfrey Show in Amarillo. It was at that show that she did a segment on big things in Texas, including purses. She ended up having a complimentary purse stashed underneath everyone's chair.

I couldn't disrespect the queen of talk shows, and not use my free purse! I thought to myself at the time. Even if the purse was too big for my taste. Besides, it was tangible proof that I had been one of the lucky ones. I had seen Oprah in person.



Random Revelations
Miranda G. Bailey
Pampa News staff writer

And so, I carried it around the last year. And somehow, along the way, my purse has grown into a monstrosity that some call a "Texas purse."

I'm sure there are other women, perhaps you know one, maybe you are one, who would agree that carrying one's life in one's bag can come in handy.

Even the sheer weight of the purse can be made into a point on the bright side, for "Texas purses" build strength in a person. Besides, you're bound to maintain muscles lugging that thing around.

They also build character. What are the prospects of a woman with a non-Texas purse coming to the rescue of a poor, drippy-eyed, well-wisher at the airport? Who's

got the Kleenex? I ask myself. Well, it sure as heck ain't gonna be the small-pursed woman, unless all she's carrying is Kleenex.

A woman with a large purse is a woman you can rely on. She won't let you down. She's got the lotion. She's got the aspirin. She's got the mirror and the lipstick. (Can't have one without the other.)

But more than likely, she's got the cat's collar with the tags. She's got the car insurance. She's got the kids' social security cards, and she's got 10 pens, 12 grocery lists from the last three months, and the lid to the peanut butter jar.

Hey, how did that get in there?

Interestingly, I've concluded that things gravitate to Texas purses. Almost like magic. It only takes a week for the little odds and ends in your life to land into the black hole, as I fondly refer to my purse these days.

Something's missing? Let's check the black hole. Where are my keys? Not in the black hole. My back is hurting. Must be the black hole. It's funny how this purse invades my life more than I'd like it to.

I suppose I'll just have to keep thinking of reasons to justify its existence as well as my quarterly desire to buy another cute one every few months.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Dec. 17, the 351st day of 1998. There are 14 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 17, 1903, Orville and Wilbur Wright went on the first successful manned powered-airplane flights, near Kitty Hawk, N.C.

On this date:

In 1777, France recognized American independence.

In 1830, South American patriot Simon Bolivar died in Colombia.

In 1925, Col. William "Billy" Mitchell was convicted at his court-martial of insubordination.

In 1939, the German pocket battleship Graf Spee was scuttled by its crew, ending the World War II Battle of the River Plate off Uruguay.

In 1944, the U.S. Army announced it was ending its policy of excluding Japanese-Americans from the West Coast.

In 1957, the United States successfully test-fired the Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile for the first time.

In 1969, the U.S. Air Force closed its Project "Blue Book" by concluding there was no evidence of extraterrestrial spaceships behind thousands of UFO sightings.

In 1975, Lynette Fromme was sentenced in federal court in Sacramento, California, to life in prison for her attempt on the life of President Ford.

In 1986, Eugene Hasenfus, the American convicted by Nicaragua for his part in running guns to the Contras, was pardoned, then released.

In 1996, Peruvian guerrillas took hundreds of people hostage at the Japanese embassy in Lima. (All but 72 of the hostages were later released by the rebels; commandos stormed the embassy the following April to end the siege.)

In 1996, Kofi Annan of Ghana was appointed United Nations secretary-general.

Ten years ago: In his first public statement since the U.S. decided to open direct talks with the PLO, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir expressed shock, calling the U.S. decision a "painful" blow.

Five years ago: Fox Television outbid CBS for the National Football Conference TV package. So-called "suicide doctor" Jack Kevorkian was released from jail in Oakland County, Mich., after

promising not to help anyone end their lives for the time being.

One year ago: The United States and 33 other countries signed a convention in Paris aimed at eradicating bribery in international business. President Clinton's panel on race relations met at Annandale High School in Virginia.

Today's Birthdays: Newspaper columnist William Safire is 69. Actor Armin Mueller-Stahl is 68. Magazine publisher Robert Guccione is 68. Singer-actor Tommy Steele is 62. Rock singer-musician Art Neville is 61. Actor Bernard Hill is 54. Actor Ernie Hudson is 53. Comedian-actor Eugene Levy is 52. Rhythm-and-blues singer Wanda Hutchinson (The Emotions) is 47. Actor Bill Pullman is 45.

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Advancing of national decadence

Democrats were right in their claim that the House Judiciary Committee hearings haven't revealed anything new about Clinton's conduct in office. What the hearings have revealed is the advanced cancerous stage of American moral decadence. Let's look at it.

Americans watched a day-long questioning of Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr. Any objective viewer would have seen Starr as poised, dignified and responsive to committee members' questions. By contrast, the questioning by Democrat committee members like Maxine Waters, D-Calif.; Sheila Jackson, D-Texas; Barney Frank, D-Mass.; and Zoe Lofgren, D-Calif., were rude and shameful.

Moreover, their questions had nothing to do with the subject of the hearings — the evidence presented and the president's behavior. Instead, they brazenly attacked the integrity of Starr. The fact they conducted themselves as agitated infants in need of a diaper change in and of itself is not very significant. What is significant is the confidence they had that our national standards have sunk so low there'd be no outrage and political price to pay for their conduct.

Within hours of Starr's testimony, Sam Dash, his legal advisor, publicly resigned because Starr rejected his advice not to accept Congress' request to testify about his impeachment referral. The legal community, and other Clinton supporters, applauded Dash. If a lawyer in a civil or criminal case called a press



Walter Williams
Syndicated columnist

conference to announce his resignation, saying his client is guilty, that lawyer would be in clear violation of legal ethics.

Washington's Rules of Professional Ethics says, "A lawyer shall not intentionally prejudice or damage a client during the course of the professional relationship." And, "The lawyer's obligation to preserve the client's confidences and secrets continues after the termination of the lawyer's employment." Dash felt confident that legal ethical standards have sunk so low that he could damage his client with impunity.

The House Judiciary Committee held hearings featuring convicted perjurers — people who lied under oath about sexual episodes. Other witnesses were two high-ranking retired military officers who discussed the corrosive influence commander in chief Clinton's behavior was having on military morale and how a commander's integrity and truthfulness are vital to fighting units. The fact that jittery

Republicans felt they had to call witnesses to say that the president should be held accountable to laws, and that a commander's integrity and truthfulness is important, is more evidence of our advanced moral decadence. That a president should have honesty and integrity, and not be above the law is something that used to be taken for granted.

Nobody can say the House Judiciary Committee didn't have witness balance. Harvard law professor Alan Dershowitz told the committee that the real perjury problem in America are the police. Dershowitz had confidence that academic standards have declined so much that his colleagues won't criticize his asininity. Former Judge Leon Higginbotham testified in reference to committee witnesses convicted for perjury, "What is the relevance of what they did to a president who got 49 percent of the vote?" Higginbotham added that the president did nothing more serious than lie about driving 5 mph over the speed limit. Higginbotham can still walk proudly among his colleagues.

Have we become a nation where perjury, witness-tampering and obstruction of justice is OK — like driving 5 mph over the speed limit? Or do we just grant our rulers immunity from the rule of law? I hope both answers are no. But just in case, I'll point out that a benefit of being 62-years-old is I won't be around when chaos and tyranny overcome the nation and people ask, "Where did it start?"

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SMOKING

In developing countries, accounting for three-quarters of the world's population, per adult consumption rose from 1150 cigarettes per year to 1400, and is still increasing at 1.7 percent per year. There are about three million deaths a year now, with about one-third of them in developing countries. If current smoking trends persist, there will be about 10 million a year in 30 to 40 years, with about 70 percent of them in developing countries. Cigarettes currently cause just

under 20 percent of all deaths in developed countries.

Despite these statistics, Martin and his wife said few of their customers appear to be willing to quit. Even the recent price increases have not significantly slowed the sale of cigarettes in Pampa. "Now, there supposed to go up again," Martin said. "That's what everybody's telling us. We don't really know. It's over that law suit."

In the two and a half years that they've had the smoke shop, they said the major complaint they've

gotten has been over the recent price increases. Even with the price increases, however, nobody appears to be quitting.

"They just pay it," Mrs. Martin said.

"They have to," he said. "There's nothing they can do about it."

Their customers always want to know how much cigarette prices are going to go up next week, she said. Then they'll buy three or four more cartons to beat the next price increase.

"We never know," Mrs. Martin said, "until we get our shipment. That's so we can't order extras."

They have customers that want them to sell their cigarettes at the old price.

"I can't sell them at the old price," she said. "I can't get them at the old price."

Mrs. Martin said the cigarette companies don't tell her about impending price increases on pur-

pose. "I get a shipment, and it says on there you're cigarettes have gone up," she said. "You either take them or close up. You don't have any choice."

The price of cigarettes really started to escalate about 1990. "They've probably tripled in

price in the last seven or eight years," said Mrs. Martin, who quit about three years ago.

"That's outrageous," said Pampa resident Barbara Hughes. "It's nearly three dollars a pack."

But is she quitting? "No, I'm not," she said emphatically.

U.S. makes second wave of strikes on Iraq targets

WASHINGTON (AP) — With a second wave of strikes under way today, U.S. warplanes and cruise missiles aimed at military targets in Iraq, including Saddam Hussein's presidential palaces, air defense installations and an elite security force headquarters in Baghdad.

The second wave of strikes began before noon today EST and involved additional cruise missile attacks and strikes by carrier-launched F-18 fighters armed with laser-guided bombs, according to a senior defense official.

THUR P5 12/17 12/17/98 12:02 PM Page 1 (1,2) ir strikes, dubbed "Operation Desert Fox," are expected to be over by this weekend, when the Muslim holy month of Ramadan begins. But Cohen said the U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf will remain as long as Iraq remains a threat.

"This is a long-term effort," Cohen said. "It's not going to happen overnight."

The targets, either struck so far or on the list for what is billed as a sustained air campaign, include Iraqi surface-to-air missile batteries and control centers, military headquarters, military intelligence headquarters and missile production facilities, Cohen said.

The first wave of missions, including cruise missile strikes and carrier-launched fighter-bomber attacks, ended without U.S. or British casualties. Pentagon officials planned to release gun-camera footage showing some of the attacks later today.

Defense officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the targets include Iraqi intelligence headquarters in Baghdad; a missile design and production facility in Al Taji about 19 miles northwest of Baghdad; headquarters in Baghdad of Iraq's Special Security Services, responsible for guarding Saddam; and Jabul Makhul near the Iraqi town of Samarra, one of eight presidential palace sites covering 10 square miles and containing command offices and bunkers. The presidential palaces are

believed to be hiding places for elements of Iraq's suspected chemical, biological and nuclear weapons programs.

Army Gen. Henry H. Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said other targets will include "the things ... (Saddam) uses to guard his facilities" an apparent reference to the elite Republican Guard forces.

By this afternoon, senior defense officials say, the first waves will have sent more than 200 Tomahawk cruise missiles slamming into targets suspected of concealing key elements of Iraq's biological and chemical weapons program.

The "serious and sustained" strikes described by Cohen, however, are not expected to eliminate Saddam's arsenal or end the need for a massive U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf.

Once the dust settles — probably sometime this weekend as the Muslim holy month of Ramadan begins — the situation will remain much as it has been since the end of the Persian Gulf War in 1991.

"We're trying to degrade (Saddam's) capacity to threaten his neighbors with chemical, biological or nuclear weapons and the means to deliver them," Cohen said at a Pentagon news conference. "We're not seeking to eliminate it." After the strikes, Cohen said, "we will remain ready for an indefinite period of time to maintain our presence."

As dawn broke over Iraq today, U.S. spy satellites and U-2 spy planes carried out overflight missions to assess the destruction wrought by the first wave of strikes. The attack started Wednesday at 5 p.m. EST — midnight Iraqi time — with sea-launched cruise missiles.

By Friday, with the arrival of the USS Carl Vinson carrier battle group, the Navy will be able to launch upwards of 500 more cruise missiles at Iraq, defense officials said.

Cohen told AP Radio that initial assessments indicate "substantial damage was done to a number of targets." But he added, "I'm not trying to classify them as being totally successful at this point."

Cohen responded curtly to Iraqi claims that civilian targets were struck by stray cruise missiles: "We've got the right targets."

The targets, hit by more than 200 guided Tomahawk cruise missiles launched from ships and anti-radar missiles launched from Navy EA-6B fighters, were all military in nature, according to Cohen, and the Pentagon was trying to avoid causing civilian casualties. Pentagon strike plans for follow-up waves include as many as 300 more cruise missiles, depending on the effectiveness of the first strike, according to a senior defense official.

The United States was not trying to kill Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein as part of the strikes.

"We have not singled out any individual," Cohen said.

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Mom Is Unsure About Breaking Engagement News to Daughters

DEAR ABBY: I am a 38-year-old woman with two daughters, 17 and 13. I've been divorced for eight months, but the marriage was dead 10 years ago. Most of that time, I have slept on the couch. Although my daughters never saw me hold hands, kiss, or show any kind of affection toward their father, I'm not sure they realized how unhappy our marriage was, and they were upset when we divorced.

I met "Andy" while separated but still legally married. We have fallen in love and want to marry in about six months. However, my daughters are not crazy about him and think I should date others.

Andy and I have been looking at engagement rings. I'm worried that if I just show up with a ring on my finger, my daughters will be upset. They don't like it when they see Andy and me being affectionate with each other, and I'm not sure they know how serious we are. When should I tell them? I've been somewhat of a pushover in the past, but I won't budge on this. Andy and I love each other and we will be married.

FUTURE FIANCEE

DEAR FUTURE FIANCEE: Forewarn your daughters and explain, without blaming or belittling their father, that you are seizing this opportunity for a happy future. If they're not forthcoming, make it clear that just as you treat their friends with respect, you expect the same from them with regard to



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

your future husband. Reassure them that your love for them won't change, and ask for their blessings.

DEAR ABBY: I have begun a weight-loss program after having been seriously overweight for many years. This time I seem to be on the right track because it's working.

When I go to a dinner party, is it OK to take a cooked chicken breast with me and give it to my hostess to serve to me? It would not be putting her out, as I would have already cooked it. I cannot eat ham, roasts or steaks, but I don't want to miss being with my friends.

Please answer ASAP because the holidays are upon us.
MOTIVATED IN MICHIGAN

DEAR MOTIVATED: I admire your determination in negotiating the holiday minefields. You certainly may take your specially prepared food with you, but warn your hostess when you accept the invitation, so she won't be offended. Most guests

will respect and admire your efforts to lose weight. And nuts to those who would criticize you!

DEAR ABBY: I went into shock when I read the letter from "Stressed Daughter in Florida." She perfectly described my mother, who insisted on living with me rather than in the apartment next door.

My mother had money and was in excellent health, but couldn't keep a friend. She would eat only certain foods. My life was hell if I went out with friends and didn't include her. Her lies to my friends caused a lot of heartache.

Please tell "Stressed Daughter" to say "NO" and not back down. I've been there and know how it feels. My mother died five months ago after four years with me. I am still recuperating mentally, physically and spiritually. I would not say "yes" again. Thank God, I'm free at last. Hell is gone, heaven has returned. Sign me...
NEVER AGAIN IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR NEVER AGAIN: I advised "Stressed Daughter" to stand her ground and not back down. If she had any doubts before, seeing your story should convince her.

Good advice for everyone - teens to seniors - is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Horoscope

FRIDAY, DEC. 18, 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)

Prepare to take an even stronger role with the people whom you care most about. Make resolutions about enhancing your professional image. What you promise yourself today can happen in future tomorrows. Your steady guidance and deep insights promote others' confidence. Tonight: In the limelight. **TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** Listening to a partner helps you make a decision. Find ways to gain more insight, be it through a course, observing other styles or simple detachment. Intuition helps you know what direction to go in. Being alone could be difficult; find friends. Tonight: Catch a live musical show.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Reveal what is going on inside your head. Understand what makes someone tick. Discuss what will inspire your confidence. Decide about investments and a partnership. Who wears the pants here? Decide which stepping stones lead to a special goal. Tonight: Enjoy the seasonal social whirl. **CANCER (June 21-July 22)**

Finish up work as soon as you possibly can. Others might not have the same ideas as you regarding the most recent plans. Still, you must meet several social commitments. You can no longer ignore them. Put on your most festive face and make the best of it. Later, you will be happy with your actions. Tonight: One party after another. **LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** Use your imagination at work. You accomplish a lot, even if someone plays devil's advocate. Finding the holes in an idea helps you solidify the concept. Be open to feedback. Take a relaxation break. Get to the gym at lunchtime. Tonight: Last-minute errands and calls. **VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Build on strong foundations. Make resolutions about loved ones, children and friends. You can improve the caliber of your relationships by opening up. If single, you might meet someone important. But keep business, money and pleasure separate. Tonight: Do what you enjoy the most. **LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** Reach out for others. Make a point of discussing plans this morning to avoid a last-minute snafu. A partner responds to your overtures slightly negatively. What did you expect from this person? Keep communications flowing. Tonight: Finish errands, then head home. **SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** You work hard and often leave little energy for anything else. Handle funds in an appropriate

manner. Consider using the phone for shopping, visiting and completing as much as possible. Acknowledge your limitations. Tonight: Do as little as you can get away with. **SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** Follow through on money matters right now. A loved one or child might be demanding, wanting everything his way. Recognize your capabilities, then help others be realistic. It all starts with you! Start making important resolutions. Tonight: It could become expensive! **CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Pull back, then make decisions. Family life is unusually dominant right now. You could be weighed down, feeling a lack of space. Discussions produce solutions. The answer could be a lot simpler than you think. Be willing to do your part. Tonight: Out of the doldrums. **AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** Join friends, and let more celebration into your life. You are already in the holiday spirit. Stay focused on what you want. Someone wants to help and is there for you. Loosen up, and talk about a problem. Solutions come easily. A new friend puts a smile on your face. Tonight: Holiday cheer. **PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** Accept responsibility, and stay on top of work. A boss might really need your assistance. Although you might feel pressured, the effort is more than worth it. New beginnings occur because of your willingness. Delay personal plans if needed. Tonight: A lot of hoopla and fun with friends.

Crossword Puzzle

by THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Game period
 - 4 Hefty shirt material
 - 5 Actor Underwood
 - 10 Diabolical
 - 11 Baby's place
 - 12 Italia's capital
 - 13 Nancy's hubby
 - 14 Tchaikovsky ballet
 - 16 Junior, for example
 - 20 Goes 75
 - 23 Casserole bit
 - 24 Tom's aunt
 - 25 Stingy one
 - 27 Building wing
 - 28 Arm muscle
 - 29 Beach cookout
 - 32 Low-cal snack
 - 36 Cordiality
 - 39 Dry
 - 40 Block-heads
 - 41 Sharp sound
 - 42 The Who work
 - 43 Wise one
- DOWN**
- 1 Towel inscription
 - 2 Swear
 - 3 South

BASE OZAWA
LAMS PAPA
NOVEL ERODE
ERA GACKLED
DENMARK LIE
STOPS JOT
OPERA
RAN NACHO
PEN TANKARD
EGGYOLK TAR
TILED ELATE
AMEND DARES
LESS BIDS

Yesterday's Answer

- 10 Keaton/Garr comedy
- 11 Survey
- 12 Great name in scat
- 13 Emcee's aid
- 14 Polar features
- 15 Family of German composers
- 16 Keaton/Garr comedy
- 17 Tiny
- 18 Verdi song
- 19 Throne occupant
- 20 Keenness
- 21 Funny one
- 22 Family of German composers
- 23 Border

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



"Want to have some fun with a telemarketer?"

The Family Circus

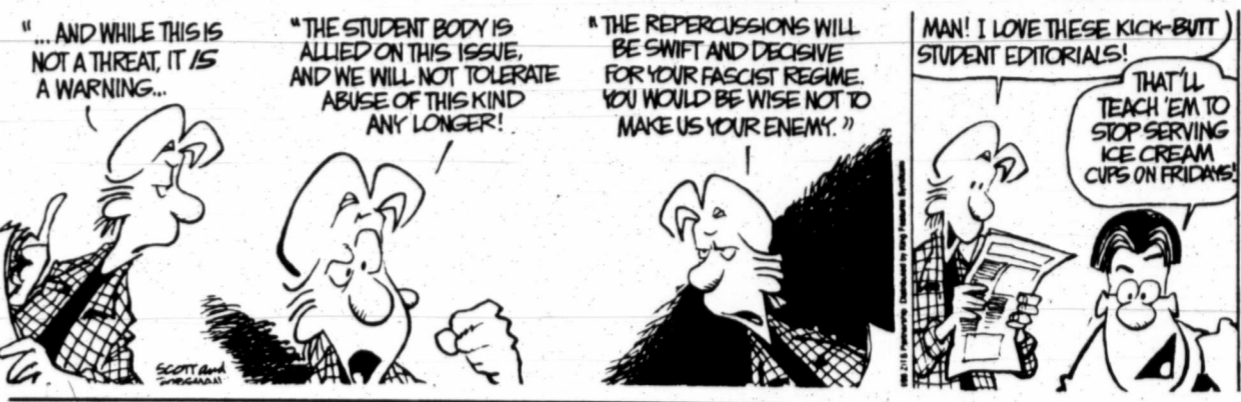


"Why don't they get Santa new clothes? He wears that same red suit every year."

For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



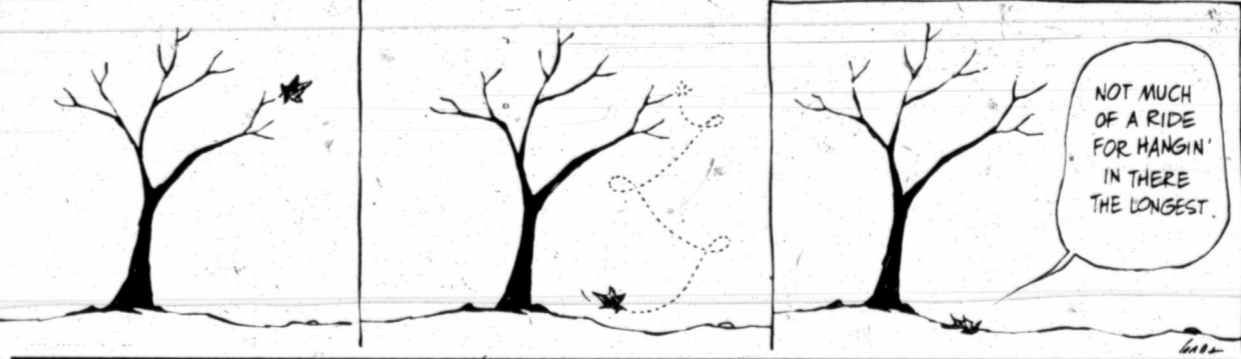
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore



SPORTS

Notebook

FOOTBALL

HOUSTON (AP) — Prairie View A&M University officials are considering leaving the Southwestern Athletic Conference after the school pays a \$31,000 fine stemming from a fight involving its marching band, the Houston Chronicle reported today.

Officials at Prairie View, a SWAC member since 1920, are "so disgusted" with the 10-team conference that "they want out" rather than fight the sanctions in court, an unidentified source told the newspaper.

"It's nearly guaranteed that Prairie View will leave," the source said. "They want to pay that fine and disappear into the night."

In addition to the fine, the league ordered Prairie View to conduct workshops and seminars on SWAC membership, "participate actively and in good faith" in all league activities and demonstrate its commitment to the conference's values and ideals.

Prairie View, about 50 miles northwest of Houston, has until Dec. 31 to pay the fine and respond to SWAC officials, who levied the fine and other penalties last week.

BASKETBALL

PAMPA — The Pampa freshmen basketball teams were in action last weekend.

Pampa lost to Borger, 49-39.

David Jenkins had 11 points and Chandler Bowers 7 for Pampa.

Pampa lost to Clarendon, 37-33.

Sixto Albear had 7 points and Matt Brown 6 for Pampa.

HUNTING

PAMPA — Eleven-year-old Austin Morgan of Pampa shot an 8-point whitetail deer earlier this month in Hemphill County. It was his first deer.

Austin went hunting with his grandfather, Gene Daniels of Canadian.

BASEBALL

CORAL SPRINGS, Fla. (AP) — Florida Marlins president Don Smiley, who ordered the 1997 World Series champions dismantled amid a failed bid to buy the club, will leave the team at the end of the year.

The club is in the process of being sold by H. Wayne Huizenga to Boca Raton, Fla., commodities trader John Henry. Smiley, whose announcement Wednesday was expected, succeeded the late Carl Barger as club president in 1994.

"The oft-used phrase is mixed emotions, but that really doesn't begin to describe where I'm at," Smiley said after completing a round of golf Wednesday afternoon.

"This is the franchise I've been with since the beginning. We experienced the tremendous feeling of winning a world championship. It's hard leaving the employees and the relationships I've had over the years."

Smiley, 44, was an original member of Huizenga's bid to bring major league baseball to South Florida. He was vice president of the bid effort, a position that carried over when Huizenga was awarded an expansion franchise in July 1991.

Six years later, Smiley and Huizenga broke up the Marlins after winning the World Series, starting to jettison players within two weeks of the victory parade. Florida dealt Moises Alou, Kevin Brown, Al Leiter, Bobby Bonilla, Gary Sheffield, Charles Johnson and Robb Nen, leaving just four players from the World Series roster.

Smiley attempted to put together an ownership group to buy the team from Huizenga but failed to gain sufficient financing.

Wheeler will look to slow McCollister down

Mustangs meet No. 1-ranked Tenaha for the 1A state crown

WHEELER — Harris Ratings has Tenaha listed as an 18-point favorite over Wheeler for one reason — or make that one player. His name is Chavis McCollister and the 195-pound senior quarterback was recently named the Associated Press Sports Editors' 1A offensive player of the year for the second straight season.

"It's going to be a challenge to try and slow McCollister down. He's a good runner and he's got an arm on him. He also plays safety on defense, punts and runs back kickoffs and punts. He's their go-to man," said Wheeler head coach Jim Verden.

Third-ranked Wheeler (12-2) and No. 1-ranked Tenaha (15-0) meet for the Class 1A state championship at 7:30 Saturday night at Pennington Field in Bedford.

Wheeler whipped Aspermont, 35-14, and Tenaha shut out Iola, 34-0, in the semifinals.

"Tenaha is about the same size as Aspermont, about 200 pounds (average) up front, so they've got pretty good size. They will throw the ball more than Aspermont," Verden said. "They've got two backs (Len Giles) and

(Olesby) who are very good runners. Tenaha's offense is pretty diversified."

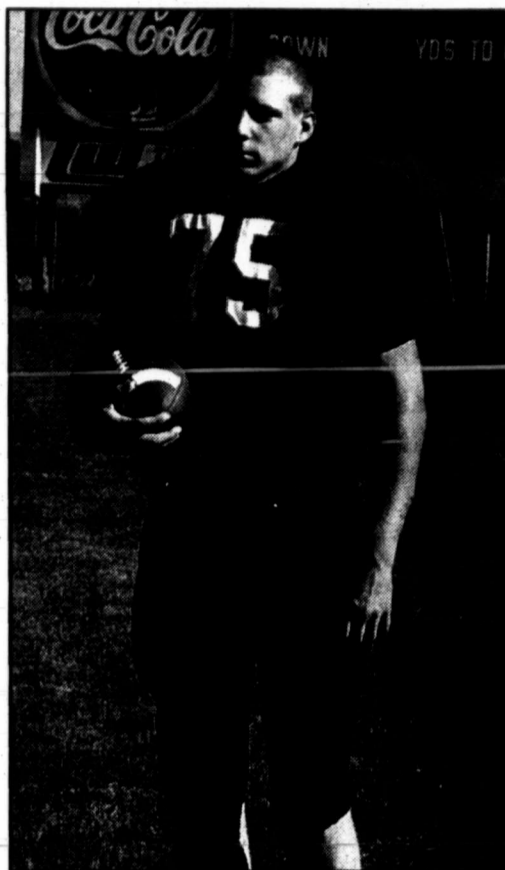
Tenaha's size is represented by 300-pound defensive lineman Deon Horton, who leads the team in tackles.

Both Wheeler and Tenaha have made recent trips to the state finals. Granger turned back Wheeler, 40-0, in last year's championship game while Tenaha fell to Windhorst, 41-12, in the '96 finals. Tenaha lost to Granger, 22-21, in last year's semifinals on a last-second field goal.

While McCollister set Class 1A records for career passing yards and touchdowns, Wheeler quarterback Aaron Dunnam hasn't exactly been standing still this season. The 200-pound senior has rushed for 1,251 yards and 21 touchdowns while passing for 798 yards and 9 TDs.

Junior running back Casey Childress is Wheeler's leading rusher with 1,542 yards and 14 touchdowns. Sophomore running back Caleb Finsterwald is closing in on the 1,000-yard rushing mark with 988 yards. He's rushed for 8 touchdowns.

Craig Bass (150, jr.) and Kyle Masters (185-pound junior) are



Kelby Ledbetter got to hold a football in this photo taken earlier in the season. Ledbetter, who plays defensive end for Wheeler, is more adept at holding onto opposing runners. He had 2 tackles, 5 assists and a quarterback sack against Aspermont.

Wheeler's leading receivers. Bass has caught 13 passes for 240 yards while Masters has 8 catches for 269 yards.

Dunnam from his linebacker position leads the Wheeler defense with 84 solo tackles and 56 assists.

Wheeler's offense and defense were both clicking in thoroughly dominating previously-unbeaten Aspermont.

Dunnam threw two touchdown passes and ran for another as the Mustangs chalked up 415 yards in total offense. Wheeler had three backs — Dunnam (125), Childress (119) and Finsterwald (100) — with 100 or more yards rushing.

Wheeler's 21 third-quarter points was more points than Aspermont had given up in a single game this season.

"That third quarter was definitely the deciding factor. We still played pretty good the first half," Verden said. "We gave up a kickoff return for a touchdown and they got off another long run off us, but other than that we did okay."

Dunnam and Ben Dollar from their linebacker positions led the Wheeler defense, which held Aspermont to 122 yards total offense. Dunnam collected 6 tackles and 3 assists while Dollar had 5 tackles and 2 assists. Tackle Don Hudgins had 3 tackles and 4 assists, end Bruce Copeland had 3 tackles, 4 assists and 3 quarterback sacks and end Kelby Ledbetter had 2 tackles, 5 assists and 1 quarterback sack.

WD hosts Spearman

WHITE DEER — White Deer hosts Spearman in high school basketball play Friday night.

Both White Deer teams are coming off wins over Sunray on Monday night.

In the boys' game, White Deer notched a 78-69 victory.

Jon Kinsey had 18 points and Jason Ketchum 11 to lead the Bucks in scoring.

Frank Rodriguez had 21 points for Sunray. Jeremy Debord added 18.

White Deer girls rolled to a 59-42 victory.

Rhonda McClendon was the Lady Bucks' leading scorer with 19 points. Samantha Lee followed with 12.

J. Crowley and Jamie Keith had 10 points apiece for Sunray.

White Deer girls have a 7-5 record while White Deer boys are 4-7.

Wore down by the run

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Coach Chan Gailey grew up learning that a football team can't win at any level if it can't run or stop the run.

In the last three games, the Dallas Cowboys are living proof of that premise.

They have rushed for only 117 yards in their last three losses and have given up a total of 414 yards on the ground to Minnesota, New Orleans and Kansas City.

Emmitt Smith hasn't had any place to run the last three weeks. New Orleans held him to a career-low six yards. Smith had six 100-yard games rushing before teams began shutting him down.

The dual problem — running and stopping the run — has sent the Cowboys into a three-game losing spin.

"We've got to get it turned around now," Smith said. "We have to make a strong run into the playoffs. We're in a bad spell right now and we have to shake out of it. I take it personally when the running game doesn't do well."

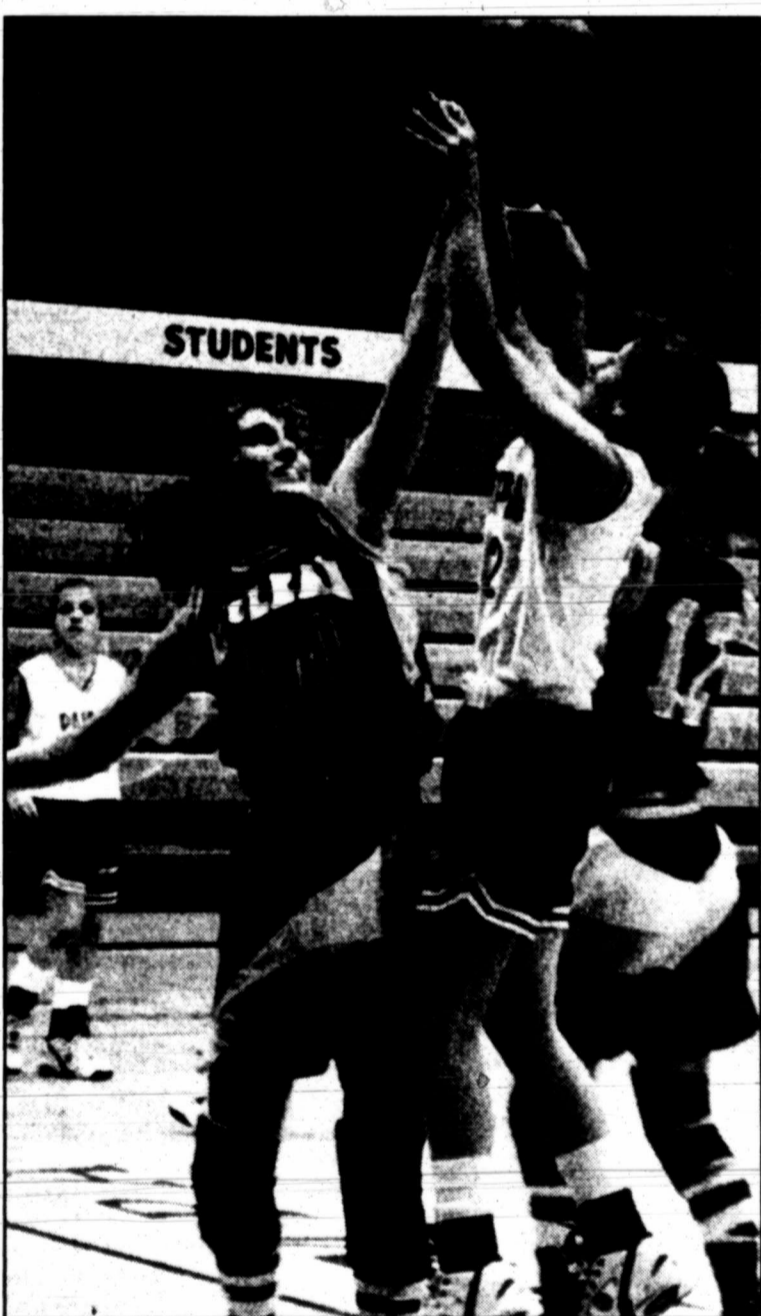
Guard Nate Newton said the Cowboys have always lived and died by the run.

"It's hurting us bad not being able to run the ball," Newton said. "We have to run the ball to take the pressure off Troy (Aikman). If you can't get your running game going you're not going to go very far in the playoffs."

Newton said nobody in particular is to blame.

"It's become glaring that we can't run the ball and I don't have the answer," Newton said. "We just have to let everything go in the next two weeks that doesn't pertain to football and get the job done."

Block attempt



Lacey Steel (40) of McLean tries to block a shot by Mandy Rains of Pampa junior varsity in girls' basketball action earlier this week. Both Pampa JVs and McLean won't play again until Jan. 5. Pampa hosts Perryton and McLean hosts Miami.

Ennis defensive back sees football as path to better life

ENNIS, Texas — They called Quentin Brown at Ennis High School, pulled him from class and told him to go home.

All he saw was smoke.

Quentin's sister Tamika was taking a shower when the decorative candle she lit in the bathroom fell on the floor in April 1997. Fire claimed that room and their mother's. They had no insurance.

"When that happened we moved into a homeless shelter and we had to stay there for two weeks," said Vera Brown Hawkins and her children, Quentin, Tamika and 9-year-old twins Monica and Veronica, have returned, but there is no telephone while the family tries to get back to where it was and the son tries to make it better.

Quentin Brown, a senior defensive back, is considered to be one of the top high school football recruits in the state. Arkansas, Baylor, New Mexico and Texas A&M have begun to court him, calling him at his coach's office because they can't reach him at home.

For those schools, he is a 5-foot-11, 165-pound ball of aggression — a defensive back who led his team in tackles for two consecutive years and a defending state champion in the

triple jump. For him, those schools are a chance to get out of that house.

"I can take all the pressure off my mom when I graduate from college," Brown said.

"Hopefully, I'll be able to buy my mom some things she's never had — maybe I'd try to help her get another car."

"I'll be the first in my family to go to college, so it can be kind of hard, because you don't want to say the wrong thing to all the coaches."

Like a graduate interviewing for an entry-level position, it doesn't matter to Brown how much of a sure thing coaches say he is or even that he's taking an official trip to Arkansas this weekend. What matters is the scholarship that his family would never be able to afford.

When he began playing football in ninth grade, Brown never imagined a college coach would want to talk to him. He arrived at Ennis High School in the fall of 1995 as part of a talented class of freshmen.

"The last game of the year, the ninth-grade coach sort of discovered Quentin and tells me this kid can play," said Ennis head coach Sam Harrell. "There were so many good players that year. The bad thing is, the majority of those guys are not with us. They've either moved or dropped out of football or dropped out of school altogether. Those kids changed, but Quentin kept getting better."

"It took a whole lot of courage and bravery to stay in football and stay straight instead of going the other way."

Cowboys' Allen wins award at new position

IRVING, Tex. (AP) — Two weeks ago Dallas offensive tackle Larry Allen got the lesson of his young career from Joe Johnson of the New Orleans Saints.

On play after play Johnson sped around Allen like the Cowboys blocker was a fence post in concrete.

Dallas quarterback Troy Aikman, who is used to Allen's perfect blocking of defensive right ends, took as many hits as he has all season.

The Cowboys offense couldn't get untracked and the only score was a field goal in the humiliating 22-3 loss to the Saints.

"I learned a lot from that game," Allen said. "I wasn't very patient. I've got to play games under control and not just try to kill the guy opposite

me. Joe is a great player and showed me some great moves."

Allen became one of five Cowboys named to the Pro Bowl on Wednesday. Allen got more votes than any other player at tackle.

Others named were cornerback-punt returner Deion Sanders, safety Darren Woodson, defensive tackle Leon Lett, and offensive lineman Nate Newton.

Allen was switched from guard, where he had made three Pro Bowl teams starting in 1995, to left tackle to replace the retired Mark Tuinei, who had protected Aikman's blind side for years.

"There was a lot to learn but the coaches have been great with me," Allen said. "I still have a lot to learn about the position, though."

Allen said one thing he has

learned is "to look for the unexpected. Good players change their tactics on you."

He gets another challenge on Sunday against the Eagles from rugged defensive end Hugh Douglas, who has 12 sacks this season.

"I know Hugh can be tough," Allen said.

Lamar downs SW Louisiana

BEAUMONT, Texas (AP) — Kenyon Spears scored 20 points and Marlene Jackson added 16 Wednesday night, leading Lamar in an 89-74 victory over Southwestern Louisiana.

The Cardinals (4-3) cashed in at the free-throw line, hitting 27 of 34 attempts. Spears scored 12 of his points on 14 attempts at the line.

Lamar took control of the game in the first half, shooting 50 percent (17-34) while taking a 43-31 halftime lead.

The Ragin' Cajuns (3-4) were led by Reginald Poole with 16 points and 9 rebounds. Jarret Evans added 13 points.

Lamar also got 12 points from Anthony Murphy and 10 each from Landon Rowe and Matt Sundblad.

Usual suspects make Pro Bowl roster, but Zach Thomas doesn't

NEW YORK (AP) — Zach Thomas, Miami's middle linebacker, appeared to establish himself in 14 games as not only a Pro Bowl candidate, but a possibility for defensive player of the year.

Not to Pro Bowl voters. When the results were announced Wednesday, the inside linebackers on the AFC team were Junior Seau of San Diego and Ray Lewis of Baltimore, not Thomas, who has overcome a lack of height to become the leader of a defense that has allowed 40 fewer points than any team in the NFL.

"You don't rate your success on making the Pro Bowl," a disappointed Thomas said. "I know I had a great year and I'm still playing well. I look at the guys who made it, and they're not playing any better than I am."

As usual, the Pro Bowl voting was often a case of rounding up the usual suspects.

Reggie White was selected for a record 13th time; Jerry Rice, back from a year off with knee injuries, made it for the 12th; and Bruce Smith and Bruce Matthews for the 11th.

Randy Moss earned what is likely to be the first of many selections, and Doug Flutie, back from Canada, proved that age (36) and height (5-9) aren't impediments to stardom.

As usual, good teams were rewarded. The Denver Broncos and Minnesota Vikings, both 13-1, each led their conference with nine players each.

And the only four teams without representatives were clear losers — Indianapolis (3-11), Chicago (3-11), Philadelphia (3-11) and St. Louis (4-10).

But the Dolphins (9-5) came close, placing only defensive tackle Tim Bowens on the AFC squad that will face the AFC Feb. 7 in Honolulu. That's compared with five from Baltimore (5-9).

"As good as the defense has been playing, I felt we'd get some recognition," coach Jimmy Johnson said. "It always makes you scratch your head."

Still, there were a lot of pleasant surprises, like Flutie and Sam Gash, his Buffalo teammate, who was voted to the AFC team as the fullback.

"I love that kid, a special guy," said Jets coach Bill Parcells, who coached Gash in New England, where he tore up a knee and missed the Patriots' Super Bowl

No NBA until February?

NEW YORK (AP) — In lockout circles, it's called full bickering mode.

And when David Stern and Billy Hunter expend considerable energy and expense arguing over who made the last phone call, full bickering mode has been achieved.

The level of discourse and any hope for a quick settlement dropped simultaneously Wednesday as the two main antagonists in a very serious argument took shots at each other and made plans to leave town for the holidays. No new negotiations are planned.

"Things can't be too critical or extreme in view of the fact that commissioner Stern is planning a vacation in Aspen, Colo. If that's the case, I would assume that Jan. 1 is not the drop dead date," Hunter said on a conference call.

Hunter also addressed the issue of race relations in the bargaining process following two published reports that some players think it might be a complicating factor.

"I don't think race is a factor. You've got billionaire owners accustomed to seeing their dictates honored, and on the other side of the table you have players predominantly of African-American origin. People can read into it anything they want. Maybe subliminally it may be there, but it's all about dollars and hard economics," Hunter said.

Complaining that he is always the one to pick up the phone and make a call to try to jump-start the process, Hunter said this time will be different.

"I'll let them decide if they want to talk to me," he said.

In response, the NBA issued a statement from Stern claiming it was the commissioner, not Hunter, who got the sides back to the bargaining table last week when they held two secret sessions.

"Last week's meetings were

against Green Bay. "There are some who are different, and he is one of them. It's a great tribute to Sam. I think everybody in the league knows that now, what kind of player and person he is." Moss was the only rookie voted to the team.

White, who leads the NFL with 16 sacks, vowed to break with a tradition observed by many veterans who decline to play once they're elected. If he does go to Honolulu, he will set a record he shares with Ronnie Lott, Lawrence Taylor and Mike Singletary by actually playing in his 11th game.

Rice, out last season with knee injuries, capped his comeback with his 12th election, although teammate Terrell Owens, who has 12 touchdowns to seven for Rice, missed out.

"It feels good that your peers and everybody still respects you," Rice said. "But it takes a supporting cast. So I'm happy to get there, but I'm disappointed for Terrell Owens. He's having a great season, so it leaves a little bad taste in your mouth."

Matthews, the Oilers' 37-year-old guard, made it for the 11th straight season. Smith returned to his regular defensive end spot for the AFC and Deion Sanders of Dallas made the team at two positions — cornerback and kick returner, although Green Bay's Roell Preston will also return kicks.

In addition to Thomas, two notable absentees are Dallas running back Emmitt Smith and Green Bay quarterback Brett Favre.

Smith simply lost by the numbers. He is fourth in the NFC in yards rushing, and the three players ahead of him were chosen — Jamal Anderson of Atlanta, Barry Sanders of Detroit and Garrison Hearst of San Francisco.

Favre, who has been the NFL MVP three seasons in a row, is having what for him is a down year. He couldn't beat out Steve Young of San Francisco, who will start, plus Randall Cunningham of Minnesota and Chris Chandler of Atlanta.

Denver's John Elway, chosen for the ninth time, is the AFC starter at quarterback, backed up by two players who started the season as second-stringers — Vinny Testaverde of the Jets and Flutie, who had played in the Canadian league for the last eight seasons.

Olympics: Filed tax forms show no record of questioned scholarship fund

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Tax forms filed by Salt Lake's Olympic organizers do not include entries for the scholarship program that sparked charges of widespread corruption in the Olympic movement.

Salt Lake Organizing Committee officials have said \$400,000 in scholarships were paid to 13 students, including six relatives of International Olympic Committee members.

The fund was run by the Salt Lake Olympic Bid Committee, the group that secured the 2002 Winter Olympics.

The documents — Form 990s that nonprofit public charities must file with the Internal Revenue Service — obtained by KUER radio, provide the only peek into the financing of Salt Lake's Olympic pursuit because the \$13 million spent on the bid was private money.

In each fiscal year between 1991 to 1997, the question, "Does the organization make grants for scholarships, fellowships, student loans, etc.," is answered "No," and lines used to report grants or assistance to individuals are left blank.

Between fiscal years 1992 and 1994, the bid committee reported expenses for a National Olympic Committee program. SLOC officials have said the scholarship program went through the

convened at my initiative alone. I called him on Tuesday, met privately with him that evening and outlined to him the compromises the NBA was prepared to make in order to achieve a deal," Stern said.

"The meetings that followed were thus the result of my initiative and were without precondition.

"As we told the union's representatives, we remain willing to negotiate at any time and at any location if it will be productive."

The sides have not met since Saturday, when the union made what Hunter called a "substantial concession" by offering a \$10 million limit on the salary in the first year of any new contract signed by a player with less than seven years' experience.

The main points of contention remain how large a percentage of revenues will be devoted to salaries and whether there will be an absolute maximum salary for players with more than seven years' experience.

Hunter said he will discuss any issue, but won't simply give things away.

"We are willing to negotiate, but it's not going to be any kind of a fire sale or a blue light special at K-Mart. It's not going to be a give-away," Hunter said.

"Our players, believe me, are committed. If it means we can't get a deal that's a win-win for both sides, then there won't be a deal. And if the commissioner and the owners are prepared to blow up the season and suffer the consequences, then we have no other choice but to share in that demise."

Hunter said he will fly home to San Francisco for the holidays if Stern leaves town. An NBA spokesman said Stern could be back in New York within a few hours if developments warranted.

The sides are fighting over how to split \$2 billion in annual revenue.

PRO FOOTBALL										
National Football League										
At A Glance										
By The Associated Press										
All Times EST										
AMERICAN CONFERENCE										
East										
	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA				
x-N.Y. Jets	10	4	0	.714	368	246				
Buffalo	9	5	0	.643	345	283				
Miami	9	5	0	.643	274	206				
New England	8	6	0	.571	303	277				
Indianapolis	3	11	0	.214	268	390				
Central										
Jacksonville	10	4	0	.714	361	285				
Tennessee	8	6	0	.571	292	264				
Pittsburgh	7	7	0	.500	236	257				
Baltimore	5	9	0	.357	247	301				
Cincinnati	2	12	0	.143	243	393				
West										
x-Denver	13	1	0	.929	452	257				
Oakland	7	7	0	.500	247	315				
Seattle	7	7	0	.500	324	259				
Kansas City	6	8	0	.429	289	311				
San Diego	5	9	0	.357	218	309				
NATIONAL CONFERENCE										
East										
Dallas	8	6	0	.571	345	259				
Arizona	7	7	0	.500	290	348				
N.Y. Giants	6	8	0	.429	239	292				
Washington	5	9	0	.357	292	382				
Philadelphia	3	11	0	.214	142	311				
Central										
x-Minnesota	13	1	0	.929	480	270				
Green Bay	9	5	0	.643	382	284				
Tampa Bay	7	7	0	.500	263	275				
Detroit	5	9	0	.357	279	335				
Chicago	3	11	0	.214	239	349				
West										
x-Atlanta	12	2	0	.857	380	256				
x-San Francisco	11	3	0	.768	420	285				
New Orleans	6	8	0	.429	255	295				
St. Louis	4	10	0	.286	253	320				
Carolina	2	12	0	.143	289	381				
x-clinched playoff berth										
y-clinched division title										
Saturday's Games										
New York Jets at Buffalo, 12:35 p.m.										
Tampa Bay at Washington, 4:15 p.m.										
Sunday's Games										
Baltimore at Chicago, 1:01 p.m.										
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, 1:01 p.m.										
Kansas City at New York Giants, 1:01 p.m.										
St. Louis at Carolina, 1:01 p.m.										
San Francisco at New England, 1:01 p.m.										
Tennessee at Green Bay, 1:01 p.m.										
Indianapolis at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.										
Oakland at San Diego, 4:05 p.m.										
New Orleans at Arizona, 4:15 p.m.										
Atlanta at Detroit, 4:15 p.m.										
Philadelphia at Dallas, 4:15 p.m.										
Jacksonville at Minnesota, 8:20 p.m.										
Denver at Miami, 8:20 p.m.										
Saturday, Dec. 26										
Minnesota at Tennessee, 12:35 p.m.										
Kansas City at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.										
Sunday, Dec. 27										
Buffalo at New Orleans, 1:01 p.m.										
Carolina at Indianapolis, 1:01 p.m.										
Detroit at Baltimore, 1:01 p.m.										
Green Bay at Chicago, 1:01 p.m.										
Miami at Atlanta, 1:01 p.m.										
New England at New York Jets, 1:01 p.m.										
Tampa Bay at Cincinnati, 1:01 p.m.										
New York Giants at Philadelphia, 4:05 p.m.										
St. Louis at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.										
San Diego at Arizona, 4:15 p.m.										
Seattle at Denver, 4:15 p.m.										
Washington at Dallas, 8:20 p.m.										
Monday, Dec. 28										
Pittsburgh at Jacksonville, 8:20 p.m.										
COLLEGE FOOTBALL										
College Bowl Games										
At A Glance										
By The Associated Press										
All Times EST										
Saturday, Dec. 19										
Las Vegas Bowl										
At Las Vegas										
San Diego State (7-4) vs. North Carolina (6-5), 6 p.m. (ESPN2)										
Wednesday, Dec. 23										
Motor City Bowl										
At Pontiac, Mich.										
Marshall (11-1) vs. Louisville (7-4), 8 p.m. (ESPN2)										
Friday, Dec. 25										
Blue-Gray Classic										
At Montgomery, Ala.										
Blue vs. Gray, Noon (ABC)										
Aloha Bowl										
At Honolulu										
Colorado (7-4) vs. Oregon (8-3), 3:30 p.m. (ABC)										
Oahu Classic										
At Honolulu										
Air Force (11-1) vs. Washington (6-5), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)										
Saturday, Dec. 26										
Heritage Bowl										
At Atlanta										
Bethune-Cookman (8-2) vs. Southern U. (8-3), 12:30 p.m. (NBC)										
Insight.com Bowl										
At Tucson, Ariz.										
Missouri (7-4) vs. West Virginia (8-3), 8 p.m. (ESPN)										
Tuesday, Dec. 29										
Music City Bowl										
At Nashville, Tenn.										
Alabama (7-4) vs. Virginia Tech (8-3), 5 p.m. (ESPN)										
MICRON PC Bowl										
At Miami										
North Carolina State (7-4) vs. Miami (8-3), 7:30 p.m. (TBS)										
Alamo Bowl										
At San Antonio										
Kansas State (11-1) vs. Purdue (8-4), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)										
Wednesday, Dec. 30										
Humanitarian Bowl										
At Boise, Idaho										
Idaho (8-3) vs. Southern Miss (7-4), 3 p.m. (ESPN2)										
Holiday Bowl										
At San Diego										
Nebraska (9-3) vs. Arizona (11-1), 8 p.m. (ESPN)										
Thursday, Dec. 31										
Liberty Bowl										
At Memphis, Tenn.										
Brigham Young (9-4) vs. Tulane (11-0), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)										
Sun Bowl										
At El Paso, Texas										
Southern Cal (8-4) vs. Texas Christian (6-5), 2 p.m. (CBS)										
Peach Bowl										
At Atlanta										
Virginia (9-2) vs. Georgia (8-3), 5 p.m. (ESPN)										
Independence Bowl										
At Shreveport, La.										
Mississippi (6-5) vs. Texas Tech (7-4), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)										
Friday, Jan. 1										
Outback Bowl										
At Tampa, Fla.										
Penn State (8-3) vs. Kentucky (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)										
Rival 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)										
TRANSACTIONS										
Wednesday's Sports Transactions										
By The Associated Press										
BASEBALL										
American League										
CLEVELAND INDIANS—Agreed to terms with RHP Jerry Spradlin on a two-year contract.										
OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Agreed to terms with C Mike Macfarlane on a one-year contract.										
SEATTLE MARINERS—Agreed to terms with LHP Butch Henry to a one-year contract. Claimed OF Matt Mieseke off waivers from the Chicago Cubs.										
National League										
COLORADO ROCKIES—Agreed to terms with C Kirt Manwaring on a one-year contract.										
FLORIDA MARLINS—Announced the resignation of Don Smiley, president, effective at the end of the year.										
BASKETBALL										
Women's National Basketball Association										
NEW YORK LIBERTY—Named Patty Coyle assistant coach.										
Football										
National Football League										
CINCINNATI BENGALS—Signed LB Tim Tarry and S Lawrence Wright to the practice squad.										
GREEN BAY PACKERS—Signed FB Jim Kitts. Placed C Frank Winters on injured reserve.										
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS—Waived RB Kintroy Barber. Signed DB Billy Austin off the practice squad.										
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS—Signed S Blaine McElmurry. Signed G Andrew Greene to the practice squad.										
MIAMI DOLPHINS—Signed QB Dan Gonzalez.										
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS—Signed FB Cliff Groce.										
NEW YORK JETS—Placed RB-KR Leon Johnson on injured reserve.										
ST. LOUIS RAMS—Signed QB Ron Powlus to the practice squad.										
TENNESSEE OILERS—Re-signed G Evan Pilgrim. Returned RB Spencer George to the practice squad.										
College										
National Hockey League										
DALLAS STARS—Assigned G Manny Fernandez to Houston of the IHL.										
MONTREAL CANADIENS—Returned F Aron Ashom to Fredericton of the AHL.										
COLLEGE AMERICAN —Suspended G Omar Vanderhorst and F Bryan Wynn indefinitely for academic reasons.										
BRIGHAM YOUNG—Suspended RB Ronny Jenkins and DB Heshimu Robertson from the Liberty Bowl.										

Olympics: Filed tax forms show no record of questioned scholarship fund

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Tax forms filed by Salt Lake's Olympic organizers do not include entries for the scholarship program that sparked charges of widespread corruption in the Olympic movement.

Salt Lake Organizing Committee officials have said \$400,000 in scholarships were paid to 13 students, including six relatives of International Olympic Committee members.

The fund was run by the Salt Lake Olympic Bid Committee, the group that secured the 2002 Winter Olympics.

The documents — Form 990s that nonprofit public charities must file with the Internal Revenue Service — obtained by KUER radio, provide the only peek into the financing of Salt Lake's Olympic pursuit because the \$13 million spent on the bid was private money.

In each fiscal year between 1991 to 1997, the question, "Does the organization make grants for scholarships, fellowships, student loans, etc.," is answered "No," and lines used to report grants or assistance to individuals are left blank.

Between fiscal years 1992 and 1994, the bid committee reported expenses for a National Olympic Committee program. SLOC officials have said the scholarship program went through the

Aggies punter ready to play quarterback

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Shane Lechler's practice schedule has changed dramatically. But then, so have his duties with the No. 8 Texas A&M.

Until two weeks ago, Lechler was the team's punter, an AP third-team All-America selection. Now he's the backup quarterback, too, as the No. 8 Aggies prepare for their New Year's Day Sugar Bowl game against No. 3 Ohio State.

"This keeps me busy ... Usually, I'm done (with punting duties) the first 15 minutes of practice," Lechler said. "I'll go in and lift weights and — I'm not going to lie — I'll watch TV sometimes. What are you going to do, stand around and let the mosquitoes bite you?"

Lechler, a high school quarterback, added quarterback duties when starter Randy McCown left practice with a broken left collarbone Dec. 2 as the Aggies prepared for the Big 12 title game against Kansas State.

Branndon Stewart, the hero of Texas A&M's upset of the Wildcats, will start the Sugar Bowl, but Lechler is one injury away from calling signals for the Aggies. Lechler hasn't thrown a college pass as a quarterback but he has completed two passes this sea-

son, one on a fake field goal that went for a 37-yard touchdown to roommate tight end Dan Campbell.

"We'll give him some reps in practice and see how he does," offensive coordinator Steve Kragthorpe said. "He's able to execute all of the running game and I had him write down six or eight passes that he felt comfortable throwing."

McCown got his injury on his final play, a 1-yard touchdown, against Texas on Nov. 27. The break wasn't confirmed until Wednesday after the game when McCown went down in practice.

That's when Kragthorpe sent for Lechler.

"He was probably in the weight room watching Oprah when they told him he was the backup quarterback," Kragthorpe said.

Lechler almost had to play quarterback again. Kansas State on Dec. 5, when Stewart suffered a sprained right knee at the end of a series. Kragthorpe told Lechler to get ready to go into the game.

"I was in the press box and he still had his punting shoe on," Kragthorpe said. "I was yelling down 'tell him to put his shoe on.' They were trying to put the wrist list (plays) on him and get his shoes

tyed. It looked

Republicans postpone impeachment vote

By LARRY MARGASAK
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite strong cynicism about the timing of airstrikes against Iraq, House Republican leaders postponed a history-making impeachment vote against President Clinton. They advised lawmakers to stay in town and stand by.

"We're going to ask that all members, Republican and Democrat, remain available ... for further action possibly Friday, possibly Saturday, but within the near future," said incoming Speaker Bob Livingston, R-La.

Before Wednesday's decision to postpone, the president's prospects were growing increasingly dim as one GOP moderate after another declared support for impeachment. That outlook is not expected to change by a short delay.

"I would think the votes are pretty much in place," said Rep. Peter King, a New York Republican who favors censure over impeachment. "Right now it certainly looks like the president will be impeached."

Livingston said Republicans decided "in the interest of support of our troops ... the only thing that we need do is ... pass a resolution of support for our troops."

Democrats rushed to defend Clinton. House Democratic leader Dick Gephardt suggested that the House "not take up impeachment

until the hostilities have ended. It shouldn't come up as long as our troops are in harm's way."

He also joined with Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle in warning Saddam Hussein to "make no mistake that despite domestic political differences in the United States, the American people and Congress stand firmly behind the defense of our nation's vital interests."

Clinton, near the end of a televised address on the bombing, broached the subject himself. "Saddam Hussein and the other enemies of peace may have thought that the serious debate currently before the House of Representatives would distract Americans or weaken our resolve to face them down," the president said.

Livingston contended that Republicans "have left the issue of impeachment to the conscience of the men and women in the Congress," while the White House has waged a major lobbying campaign.

"And ironically, in the last few days, there have been many, many members who have, left to their own devices, decided that they were prepared to vote in favor of impeachment," Livingston said.

One announcement that stung the White House was the pro-impeachment declaration of Rep. John Porter, R-Ill., who had previously said he would oppose impeachment.

"I get the impression that the president considers himself above the

law," Porter said.

Also coming out for impeachment was Republican Rep. Bob Ney of Ohio, who said Clinton "has shattered the trust of the American people by committing perjury, obstructing justice and corroding the rule of law."

An Associated Press telephone survey of House members found 182 lawmakers said they would support impeachment, 181 said they would oppose it, 50 remained undecided and 22 wouldn't answer or didn't return phone calls. The totals include members who said they are leaning toward a position.

The four impeachment articles accuse Clinton of perjury in the Paula Jones civil lawsuit, perjury before Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr's grand jury, obstruction of justice and abuse of power, all dealing with the president's efforts to conceal his sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

Some Republicans couldn't have been more skeptical about the attack's timing.

"Never underestimate a desperate president," said Rep. Gerald Solomon, R-N.Y. "This time he means business. What option is left for getting impeachment off the front page and maybe even postponed?" Solomon is retiring at the end of the year.

"Not that Saddam Hussein doesn't deserve it," said Solomon. "But why now?"



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Research facility planned

AMARILLO — Texas A&M System Agriculture Program and Texas Agricultural Experiment Station will break ground for the first of a three phase Wheat Genetic Improvement Program facility at 3 p.m. Dec. 22.

The construction site is located within the Conservation and Production Research Laboratory Complex, three-quarters of a mile west of Bushland on the south I-40 access road.

The event will begin with comments from John M. Sweeten, the agency's resident director of research at the Amarillo, Bushland and Etter stations, and Rodney Mosier, executive vice president, Texas Wheat Producers Board.

Remarks from Don Powell, director of Amarillo Area Foundation, will follow. Powell is current chairman of Texas A&M University System Board of Regents.

Actual construction will begin before Jan. 1 with scheduled completion May 1. The three phase project calls for initial construction of a building to house a research unit for wheat seed processing and storage.

The facility will include a well-lit barn area for unloading, weighing and separating seed and plant samples; a drying room for removing moisture from soil and plant samples for storage; an air conditioned laboratory for storing seed samples from two to five years; and a walk-in, dehumidified cold room with storage capacity for 5-15 years.

The new complex will eventually consist of two more components to be constructed during Phases II and III of the project, according to Sweeten.

"Within one to two years, we expect construction of four new greenhouses to support wheat genetics research and breeding programs," he said. Later, a plant sciences laboratory will be built to house research programs in molecular genetics, plant pathology, virology, entomology and integrated pest management.

"This largely depends upon our securing new grants and additional support from external sources," he explained.

Funding and support for Phase I's basic construction and equipment was made possible through grants totaling more than \$245,000 from the Texas Wheat Producers Board, the Don and Sybil Harrington Foundation and Amarillo Area Foundation, area banks, trusts, production credit associations, agribusinesses and individuals in the panhandle area.

The Experiment Station awarded the building project to Plains Builders, Inc., of Amarillo. Jimmy Dunn, P.E. of College Station is the station's project designer and construction engineer.

"This project is part of our overall master plan for expansion in facilities and personnel in the Panhandle," said Sweeten.

"Our projections for growth will enable us to better serve the stable agricultural base of this area. It's clear this industry is the backbone of the region's economy. We'll continue to look for ways to strengthen our research and extension programs here," he said.

For more information, contact Sweeten at (806) 359-5401.

Teen sentenced for killing parents

DALLAS, Ore. (AP) — A 17-year-old boy who shot his parents to death in July was ordered to serve 50 years in prison without parole.

Matthew Sexton pleaded guilty last month to two counts of aggravated murder after failing to pin the crimes on his 13-year-old brother, Brian. Matthew Sexton said he and his brother had feared their father's wrath because they hadn't finished their chores.

A few relatives asked the judge for mercy at Wednesday's sentencing, but others dismissed Matthew's claims that the boys had grown up suffering beatings from their father.

"He is a spoiled brat who thought if his dad was dead he wouldn't have to do more chores," said Bruce Sexton, the teen-ager's uncle.

Another uncle, Tom Sexton, testified he had once encountered Matthew with a rifle lying in wait in his mobile home in his rural community 55 miles southwest of Portland. The boy never gave an explanation, Tom Sexton said.

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