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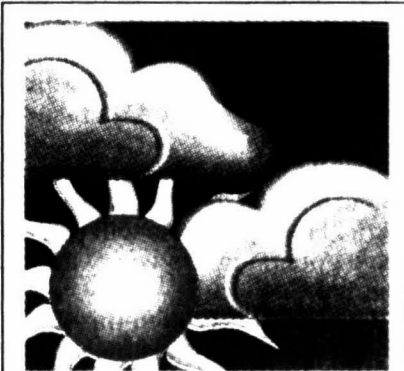
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High today mid 60s
 Low tonight mid 30s
 For weather details see Page 2

No winner; jackpot grows
 No ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Saturday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.
 The ticket was worth an estimated \$19 million.
 The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 54 were: 6-13-26-27-32-46.
 Wednesday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$23 million.

Need some quick cash to help with those holiday expenses? Use Pampa News classified ads to sell your unwanted items. 669-2525.

- Nellie Mae Brown, 90, former child care provider.
- Lee Harold 'Buffalo' Shea, Jr., 42, employee of IRI International.

- Classified9
- Comics6
- Medical4
- Sports7

Where in the World is Santa?
Clue #4
 Santa needs to pick up some childrens clothes for gifts. He might need to ring his "bells" while he is in there.
Coronado Center Merchants Association

Bush preparing for transition Gore vows to fight on

By DAVID ESPO
 AP Political Writer

George W. Bush took on the work, if not the title, of president-elect on Monday, meeting with a top aide to discuss a transition to the White House. Al Gore's lawyers filed court papers challenging his rival's certified, 537-vote victory in Florida.

"We may just open our own transition office," said Andy Card, Bush's choice for White House chief of staff, as he arrived at the Texas state Capitol on the morning after the GOP ticket was certified the winner in Florida's make-or-break election. The government agency

responsible for securing official transition offices in Washington has said it won't yet turn the keys over to the Republicans. But Card said, "We know how important it is to keep moving."

A few hours later, Gore's lawyers went to court in Tallahassee, formally contesting the election results in Palm Beach, Miami-Dade and Nassau counties. They asked the court to "certify that the true and accurate results of the 2000 presidential election in Florida" show the Democrats as the winners.

"The vote totals reported in the election canvassing commission's certification of Nov. 26, 2000, are wrong," the Gore campaign argued.

"They include illegal votes and do not include legal votes that were improperly rejected. The number of such votes is more than sufficient to place in doubt, indeed to change, the result of the election."

Republicans said in advance that Bush aides would aggressively fight Gore's contests, but not file any of their own.

"This is something that's too important to be decided in a partisan environment," David Boies, a Gore lawyer, said on NBC's "Today" show. "This is something that ought to be decided by impartial judges."

An overnight poll by ABC and The Washington Post found that 60 percent of those surveyed thought the vice president should concede. Thirty-five percent said he should not.

Gore himself was expected to speak publicly later in the day, and outline his reasons for continuing to challenge for the White House.

In the meantime, the Democrats' congressional leaders, Sen. Tom Daschle and Rep. Dick Gephardt, were flying to Florida to lend support to the vice president's decision to fight on.

Secretary of State Katherine Harris, a Bush partisan, certified the Texas governor the winner by 537 votes out of roughly 6 million cast. But Gore dispatched a phalanx of surrogates Sunday night to make clear he wasn't ready to concede.

"The integrity of our self-government is too important to cast into doubt," running mate Joseph Lieberman said, reflect-

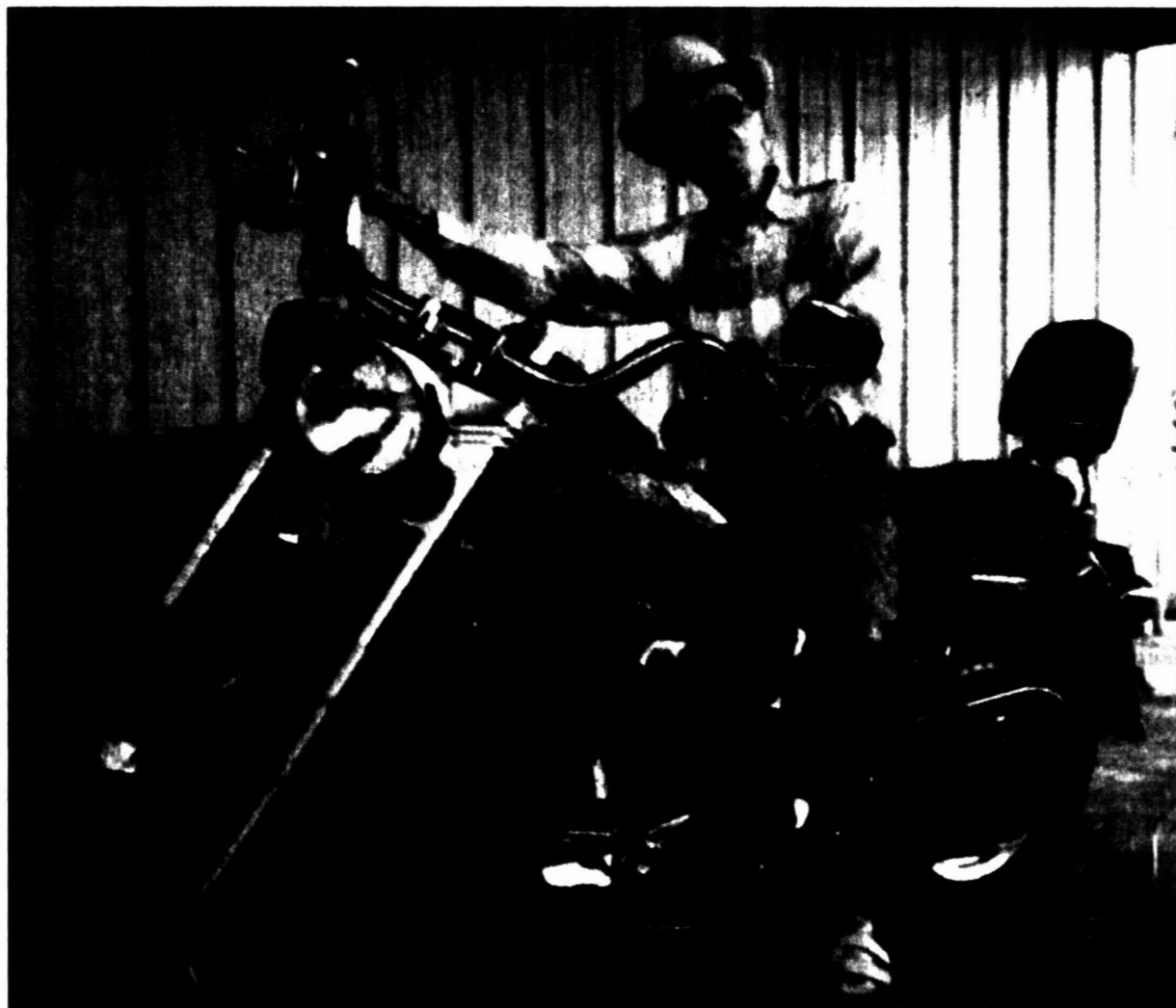


Gov. George W. Bush

ing Democratic objections over the manual recounts in Miami-Dade, Palm Beach and Nassau counties.

Bush, the Texas governor, said (See BUSH, Page 5)

Road trip?



A birthday present idea -- maybe? Pampan George E. Keeton, who will celebrate his 101st birthday on Dec. 27, sits astride a Harley-Davidson motorcycle to get the feel of the bike. The motorcycle belongs to his great-grandson, Jason Wood, who rode it to the Keeton Family reunion at PamCel Hall.

Kessie cancels last recount Bush signs off on Roach victory

By NANCY YOUNG
 Managing Editor

Richard J. (Rick) Roach, 31st District Attorney elect, and George W. Bush, possible U.S. President-elect have something in common -- they both have been declared winners in their respective races only to have their opponents ask for recounts. Both men have, for the time being, been declared winners a second time.

Both are Republicans. And they both are acutely aware anything can happen in Election 2000.

Roach's opponent, Democrat Charles Kessie, in the DA's race requested Wednesday afternoon that a recount in the DAs race be stopped after Roach gained 19 votes in three of the four counties in the recount request. Kessie gained 10 votes in those

three counties, and the fourth county will not have to recount.

Ironically, George W. Bush, Texas Governor and possible U.S. President-elect, on Monday morning signed off on the canvassing of the recount in the 31st District Attorney's race declaring Roach as District Attorney-elect.

The sign-off by the Texas Governor was approximately 12 hours after the Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris certified Bush as the winner of the Florida primary the infamous Election 2000. Supposedly, the certification would cause him to get Florida's 25 electoral college votes, giving him the required number to become U. S. President-elect.

Roach was declared the winner in the DA's race (See RECOUNT, Page 2)

Water, sewer plan to up cost

By KATE B. DICKSON
 Associate Publisher

Water and sewer costs are expected to increase in January by a total of \$3.10 per month for the average residential water user if the Pampa City Commission follows through with plans discussed during the summer's budget sessions.

First readings of the water and sewer ordinances are set for 6 p.m. Tuesday when the Commission meets in regular session at Pampa City Hall. It takes yes votes on two readings to pass an ordinance.

Ordinances covering increases in rates charged at the prison and for customers outside the city limits are also on the agenda.

The increases are needed to help pay for improvements made and/or to be made to water and sewer systems.

The in-city revenue increase will be generated by dropping the minimum usage billed from 3,000 gallons per month to 2,000 gallons. Sewer rates are based upon the amount of water used.

The rates will be kept the same but most customers will see their cost go up due to lowering the minimum.

The result of the change will mean that the 10 percent of customers who use 2,000 gallons or less a month won't see an increase in their bills. According to City Manager Bob Eskridge, most of the low-usage customers are senior citizens.

During budget sessions several options were considered to increase rates before the consensus was formed to use the above in-city plan which is expected to generate \$271,598 the first year.

That plan also calls for a second water and sewer rate increase next year to bring in about \$125,000. This would be a volume charge and would amount to an average residential bill increase of \$1.12 per month. This proposed increase will not be voted on until sometime next year.

Halliburton official explains company's chemical use, safety

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 Staff Writer

Jerry Lewis of Halliburton Services explained his company's use of hazardous chemicals in the oil field at the quarterly meeting of the Community Awareness and Emergency Response (CAER) Committee.

CAER/IEPC Chair Ken Hall said he asked the Halliburton representative to speak to the CAER committee because he felt discussing possible chemical hazards in the area helps ensure the safety of law enforcement and emergency workers who may be first on the scene of a hazardous material spill.

"The more we talk about this in a public forum, the better off we are," he said.

Lewis, field quality service coordinator, told CAER members that the local Halliburton facility east of Pampa no longer stores hazardous chemicals on site.

(See HALLIBURTON, Page 2)

Victorian-style Christmas coming Saturday to downtown

"Come Back to Christmas," a chance for area shoppers to experience Christmas - Victorian style in downtown Pampa Dec. 2, is the creation of The Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce and local merchants.

Two city blocks are to be closed from vehicle traffic that Saturday so shoppers

can walk at their leisure through the many special holiday activities planned along the quaint brick streets of downtown Pampa.

Cuyler Street will be blocked from Francis Street on the north to Foster Street on the south.

A number of street-side activities are

scheduled. Many stores will have open house during the day. Merchants plan to remain open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. that day.

To add authenticity to the theme, many merchants plan to dress in Victorian-style clothing.

Local churches and organizations have

been invited to sell snacks or host bake sales, as well.

"Come Back to Christmas" offers an opportunity for area shoppers to take a break from the hectic season and select their Christmas gifts in Pampa in the kinder, gentler times of holidays in the past.



"Come Back To Christmas" - Saturday - December 2nd
Downtown Pampa - 10:00 A.M. To 8:00 P.M.

COMMUNITY

PAMPA TAKEDOWN CLUB WRESTLING open to youth five to 15 years of age. Practice is held at 900 N. Frost. Season ends in February 2001. For more information, contact Coach Rick Urganhart, 665-8321.

MAJIC PLAINS CHAPTER of the American Business Women's Association will meet at 6:30 p.m. the second Monday of each month at Furr's Cafeteria. Working business women are invited to attend. For more information, call Pat Winkleblack at 669-7828 or Estelle Malone at 669-9614.

FREEDOM MUSEUM, USA, 600 N. Hobart is open from 12-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Revolutionary War to Kosovo. All branches of service are represented. For more information, call 669-6066.

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN COWBOYS meet the fourth Saturday of each month at the Clyde Carruth Livestock Pavilion, 6:30 p.m. Pot luck supper. For more information contact Kevin Romines, 665-8547 or Jim Greene, 665-8067.

RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION meets at 2 p.m. the third Monday of every month at the Senior Citizens Center. For more information, contact Willie Mae Mangold, 669-7259.

FIRST PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS CHURCH hosts "Second Sunday Singing" from 2-4 p.m. the second Sunday of each month. Singers and musicians from all over perform congregational singing. The public is cordially invited to attend. For more information, call Mina Towey, 665-8529.

WHITE DEER LAND MUSEUM will celebrate its 30th anniversary in the Year 2000. A new exhibit, "A Season of Change, 1900-200," will go up in January to celebrate the anniversary and the millennium. The exhibit will run from January-September.

WHITE DEER LAND MUSEUM will be selling leaves and rocks to go on the new bronze Heritage which is in the Holland Wing. The items may be purchased all year as memorials and tributes to families, family members and friends.

TRALEE CRISIS CENTER support groups for victims of family violence — both women and children — meet every Thursday evening. For more information about adult support groups, call 669-1788, and to inquire about children's support groups, 669-1131.

TRALEE CRISIS CENTER Coordinating Council meets once a month. For more information, call 669-1131.

MEALS ON WHEELS Garage Sale, 900 N. Frost, will be every Monday throughout February and April. For more information, call Cindy Gindorf, 669-1007.

PAMPA YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTER Water Aerobics class will be from 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call Frankie Hildenbrand, 669-

3713, or Lee, Betty or Liz at Pampa Youth Center, 665-0748.

PAMPA AREA LITERACY COUNCIL office will be open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday. PALC volunteers work with people who need basic reading/writing skills as well as English as a second language. For more information, call 665-2331.

GRAY COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY HEADQUARTERS, 500 W. Kingsmill, is open from 12-4 p.m., Monday-Friday and from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday through Nov. 7. For more information or to volunteer, call 669-3545.

OUTREACH HEALTH SERVICES/WIC Nutrition education classes. Open to the public. For more information, call 665-1182.

PANHANDLE ALLIANCE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL will meet the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at 218 N. Russell. For more information call Sharon King, 665-2818.

AL-ANON will hold weekly meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at 910 W. Kentucky. For more information, call 669-7501.

CLEAN AIR AL-ANON will hold weekly meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon at 810 W. 23rd. For more information, call 669-7501.

CLEAN AIR AL-ATEEN will hold weekly meetings on Mondays at 7 p.m. at 810 W. 23rd. For more information, contact 669-3988.

VFW POST #1657, 105 S. Cuyler. Charity Bingo every Wednesday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 1:30 p.m. Doors open one hour early. No one under 18 allowed. Public is welcome. License No. 1-75-6037422-9. For more information contact Edgar D. Carson, 669-0853 or 669-1264.

THE ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP will have regularly scheduled meetings the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency, Inc. For more information contact Chrys Smith at 665-0356.

HIDDEN HILLS Women's Golf Association will hold its "Play Day" at 6 p.m. each Monday from May-September. For more information, call 669-0434.

GRAY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY regular meetings will be at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month at the Sheriff's office classroom at the Francis Street entrance. For more information, call Harley Madison at 669-6294.

TEXCARE PARTNERSHIP is the New Children's Health Insurance campaign developed especially for Texas families with uninsured children, birth through age 18. The following health insurance programs are available: Children's Health Insurance Program, Medicaid and Texas Healthy Kids Corp. For more information, call 1-800-647-

6558 or 1-888-892-2273.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH, 441 Elm, will hold daily prayer services at 7:30 a.m., 12 noon and 6 p.m. for the citizens of Pampa — churches, schools, etc. The prayer services are open to everyone. For more information, call 665-4926.

PAMPA MOOSE LODGE #1385 charity bingo is at 7 p.m. every Friday at the lodge, 401 E. Brown.

PAMPA SHRINE CLUB will meet every third Friday at the Sportsman's Club. For more information, call James Washington, 665-1488.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS is taking orders for deep-fried and smoked turkeys ranging in size from 12- to 14-pounds. Cost is \$25. Deadline is Nov. 12. For more information, call 665-1562 or 665-3786.

PAMPA GARDEN CLUB is sponsoring the annual "Festival of Trees" scheduled Dec. 9-10 at Lovett Memorial Library. Entry fees are \$5 for small trees and \$10 for full size trees. The deadline is Nov. 30. For more information, call Cynthia, 665-6144.

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR will hold a school instruction Jan. 8-9 in honor of Worthy Grand Matron Naomi Wolfe and Worthy Grand Patron Buddy Baker. For more information, call Bettie Craig, deputy grand matron, District II, Section I, at 665-5081.

NOVEMBER

30 - GREATER PAMPA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Parade will start at 6:30 p.m. at M.K. Brown Auditorium and end downtown. For more information, call the Chamber, 669-3241.

DECEMBER

1 - GREATER PAMPA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Style Show will be at 7 p.m. at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Tickets are \$10. For more information, call 669-3241.

1-2 - CELEBRATIONS Open House will be from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. at Coronado Shopping Center. For more information, call Sharon McCormick, 665-3100.

2 - LOVETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY Children's Christmas Program will be from 10-11:30 a.m. The program is free and activities will include cookie decorating. To register, call 669-5780.

2-5 - CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH will hold a Christmas spectacular called "That Night" at 7 p.m. nightly. For more information, call 665-1631.

5 - CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Prayer Breakfast is scheduled at 7 a.m. in M.K. Brown Room of Pampa Community Building. For reservations, call 669-3241.

5, 10- LOVETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY Computer Lab Classes will be offered from 1:30-3 p.m. and from 2-3:30 p.m., respectively. The classes are free. Registration is required. For more information, call 669-5780.

'Nutcracker'



(Special photo)

Pampa Civic Ballet will present "The Nutcracker" at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 2, at M.K. Brown Auditorium. The annual production will be under the direction of Jeanne Willingham. The guest artists for this year are Cornelia Crabtree and Dana Lewis and the soloist is Deanna McGill. Above: (left-right) Travis Hagerman, Tyler Fry, Logan Gillis and Dustin Neef.

Second annual Chamber style show in offing

Holiday fashions, furs, and gift ideas highlight the Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce's second annual style show at 7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 1, in the Heritage Room of M.K. Brown Auditorium.

"Fashion Avenue: The Pampa Retail Collection" will feature local models wearing the latest styles on a runway rivaling those found in New York.

This fashion fete provides an assortment of ensembles from merchants throughout the city, perfect for the holiday party, New Year's celebration, or gift.

Businesses participating in this year's style show and their models will be Paulette Hinkle, Louise Bailey and Pat Johnson for V.J.'s; Lee Erin Freeman, Maxine R. Watson and Gaye Hendricks for Wayne's Western Wear; Lisa Clifton, Jean Autry and Kim Price for Images; Darla Brown, Erin Baker and Tammi Allen for Dunlap's; and Stephanie Smith, Tammy Stevens and Jem Ann Freeman for Bealls.

Also, Images' furrier from Dallas will be adding an extra dimension by providing luxurious furs and leather fashions. Mary Ann Richards, Edna Hickman and Donna Slavick will be modeling furs.

Jennifer Valingo will model a wedding gown from V.J.'s

Booths featuring addition fashion merchandise will be set up by Twice as Nice and Carousel Expressions.

Admission to the style show is \$10 per person and includes hors d'oeuvres and beverages. Door prizes will be given away throughout the evening.

Tickets are available at the Chamber office, 200 N. Ballard, or at the door that evening.

Days 'til Christmas

28

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Pampan to perform in opera in UNT Opera Theatre production

DENTON — Thann Scoggin, a 1999 Pampa High School graduate, will appear in the University of North Texas Opera Theatre's production of Puccini's "La Boheme" in four separate performances at 8 p.m. Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 and 2 and at 3 p.m. Dec. 3 at the Lyric Theatre on the UNT campus in Denton. A baritone, Scoggin is cast in the supporting role of Alcindoro, a "sugar daddy" to Musetta, the second female lead.

Born in Amarillo in 1980, Scoggin is the son of Terry and Jennifer Scoggin of Pampa. He sang in the choir at Pampa High and appeared in several PHS musicals, playing Curly in "Oklahoma" and the Jester in "Once Upon a Mattress." In addition, he was valedictorian of his graduating class, belonged to National Honor Society and served as president of PHS Concert Choir.

His mentor, Scoggin says, was his high school choir director, Fred Mays. He attributes to Mays his many opportunities to prepare for college and a career as a professional singer.

Scoggin is currently pursuing a degree in vocal performance at UNT School of Music under the guidance of Dr. Cody Garner. His university singing credits include roles in "The Merry Widow" and another Puccini opera "Gianna Schicci."

Directed by UNT Opera Theatre Director and former Pampan Paula Homer, "La Boheme" will be sung in Italian with English supertitles projected over the stage. UNT singers will be accompanied by UNT Chamber Orchestra under the baton of Dr. Stephen Dubberly, theatre music director.

Panned by critics at its 1896 debut in Turin, Italy, and its first U.S. performance Dec. 26, 1900, at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, "La Boheme" survived to become one of the most beloved operatic love stories.

Tickets for the opera may be reserved by calling the Lyric Theatre box office at (940) 369-7802 between 12-6 p.m. and one hour before curtain time of each performance.

Unemployment drops slightly as 21-year lows continue, according to TWC

AUSTIN — Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dipped to 4.3 percent in October from September's revised rate of 4.4 percent, continuing a series of 21-year-lows, officials at the Texas Workforce Commission report.

"Not only is the unemployment rate down from the previous month," TWC Chair Diane Rath said, "the rate is 3/10 of a percent lower than it was last October."

Nonagricultural jobs grew by an estimated 22,600 over the month, with the Service Producing Sector's 20,500 additional jobs leading the growth.

The Services industry added 7,000 jobs in October.

"Services led all major industries in monthly job growth," said commissioner representing Labor, T.P. O'Mahoney, "with Business Services and Health Services comprising more than half of the jobs gained."

The Mining industry, which is dominated by the Oil and Gas industry in Texas, gained 400 jobs in October.

"This is the third consecutive month of job gains in Mining," said commissioner representing Employers, Ron Lehman, "and the industry's annual growth rate of 9/10 of a percent is the highest rate since July of 1998."

The lowest unemployment rate among the Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) was 1.4 percent in Bryan-College Station. Austin-San Marcos was next at 1.9 percent followed by Lubbock at 2.2 percent, Dallas at 3.0 per-

Open house

(Special photo)

Santa, played by Kenny Shirley, handed out candy to Taylor Smith recently during open house at Dunlap's department store.

THE Pampa NEWS

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MEDICAL

Scientists close to deciphering Y chromosome

By MALCOLM RITTER
AP Science Writer

Scientists are close to deciphering the makeup of the Y chromosome, that essential core of maleness that's saddled with a bad reputation, a weird past and an uncertain future.

It's true, guys: Millions of years from now, your descendants might not have a Y chromosome at all.

First things first. By this winter, scientists hope to have worked out the DNA sequence of the Y chromosome — the identity of its DNA building blocks. They plan to publish their analysis of the sequence sometime next year.

The work should help researchers learn about causes of male infertility, because it'll help them identify genes on the Y that men need to make sperm.

It should also give a big push to understanding the evolution and functions of the chromosome, a quest that went nowhere for decades until just the 1980s. In fact, one expert says earlier failures to

understand the Y have given it a bad rap as a genetic couch potato, and he hopes new DNA studies will finally gain it some respect.

"There's been almost a century of ignorance-based misunderstanding of the Y," says David Page of the Whitehead Institute in Cambridge, Mass. "There aren't that many chromosomes that have an intellectual history" of thought and study by scientists, he said. "It's just that most of its intellectual history sounds like the life story of Rodney Dangerfield."

The Y chromosome probably didn't get much respect from your high school biology teacher. You did learn that chromosomes are the microscopic rods that hold genes. Chromosomes generally come in matched pairs, with one member of each pair from Mom and the other from Dad.

Men have one wildly mismatched pair, the X and the Y. The Y chromosome makes males. If you inherit it from your dad, you'll become a boy. If you get an X chromosome from Dad instead, you'll be a girl.

What else is there to say about the Y, this dinky chromosome with a paltry number of genes? Even now among scientists, Page concedes, beyond its sex-determining role "the general feeling is that it's at best a landfill."

Having studied it for about 20 years, Page sees it as more of a national park, full of unusual natural features.

"There's no doubt in my mind," he said, "that the Y will stand out as much as Yosemite and Yellowstone stand out from the landscape."

The sequencing of the Y is being overseen by Page and Robert Waterston and Rick Wilson of Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. The sequence will cover 20 million to 30 million of its 60 million building blocks, because the missing portion resists current sequencing technology and appears relatively inert anyway. Under scientific standards, the sequence will still be considered complete.

The effort is part of the Human Genome Project, which seeks to reveal the 3 billion chemical building blocks that make up all 24 of the human chromosomes. Only two chromosomes have been completely sequenced so far by the project, which announced in June that it had finished a rough draft of all the human chromosomes.

Also this summer, Celera Genomics said it had sequenced all the human chromosomes, the

collection called the human genome. But Celera shares its data only with paying clients. So for most scientists, data on the Y chromosome sequence will come from the efforts of Page, Waterston and Wilson.

The idea that men had their own chromosome was recognized in the early 1920s, and the Y was one of the first to be identifiable under a microscope. But while researchers could figure out what kinds of genes the X chromosome carried by studying generations of families, this approach failed spectacularly when applied to the Y.

Not that researchers didn't try. In the first half of the 20th century, there were lots of claims about physical traits that seemed to pass from father to son, and so seemed to arise from Y chromosome genes. Hairy earlobes and a particular kind of scaling called porcupine skin were among them, Page noted.

At a 1957 meeting of the American Society of Human Genetics, the group's president stood up and demolished all the claims.

"That was sort of a defining moment in the intellectual history of the Y chromosome," Page said. "At the end of his talk, there were no genes left standing."

For decades after that, scientists regarded the Y as a wasteland, Page said. Yes, it carried some gene that determined gender in a fertilized egg, "but it was other-

wise perceived to be ... the empty dance partner for the X chromosome in males."

That view has largely held on, even though evidence has emerged in the past three years that the chromosome carries at least two dozen genes or gene families. That's meager compared to maybe 2,000 or more genes on the X, Page concedes, but it shows the Y deserves more credit than it usually gets.

He said the Y is unique for its degree of specialization. Nearly all its genes do one of just two things: help make sperm, or help cells do essential housekeeping tasks like build proteins. In addition, of course, there's the gene SRY, the master switch that turns on the boy-making machinery.

To understand today's Y chromosome, it helps to consider its evolution — both where it came from and where it's going. That story is inextricably linked with the X.

"The story of the evolution of the sex chromosomes is as rich as any novel ever written," Page declares.

Here's the plot line that has emerged in just the past few years:

The ancestors of the human X and the Y were a pair of identical chromosomes. They were found some 300 million years ago in reptiles, long before mammals arose. Genes didn't decide sex on their own in these creatures. They responded to some environmental

cue like temperature. That still goes on today in turtles and crocodiles.

In a single animal, an odd thing happened. One of those sex genes became altered. As Page puts it, this mutated version became "a tyrannical male-determining gene that said, 'I will no longer respond to these environmental cues. If I am present, the male pathway will be followed.'"

This rogue gene made trouble for its chromosome because the other DNA in its immediate vicinity became altered. Later in evolution, this zone of alteration got bigger and bigger.

Normally, the pairs of identical chromosomes in people and other animals trade little bits of corresponding DNA back and forth. This reshuffles the genetic deck and helps species get rid of harmful mutations.

As that zone of altered DNA widened around the rogue gene, the chromosome was able to do less and less of this trading with its unaltered partner. As a result, the once-identical chromosomes grew more and more unlike over time. In fact, they eventually became the X and Y chromosomes.

This was a better deal for the X than the Y. Every female inherited two X chromosomes, just like today, so those two could carry out the DNA exchange normally. That left the X in good shape for the long haul.

The Y chromosome never got a chance to pair up with another Y. Just like today, it kept being paired up with an X instead, in males. And as the X and Y chromosomes grew more dissimilar over time, that poor Y chromosome became less and less able to trade DNA with its partner.

The result? Genes on the Y began to suffer minor mutations they couldn't get rid of, and these nicks and scratches built up. "It's like the genes are being nicked-and-dimed to death," explained William R. Rice, who studies the Y chromosome at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Eventually, these genes simply stopped working. And once genes stop working, they tend to disappear. That's why the Y chromosome is only one-third the size of the X.

For a gene, Page notes, the Y chromosome is a very hard place to make a living.

And that's the threat to the Y's existence in the future. It's a toxic neighborhood. Will any genes survive? Even the master sex switch or the genes required for making sperm aren't guaranteed a free ride. If necessary, genes on other chromosomes might take over their jobs, leaving them free to slip into oblivion without taking the human race with them.

The Y chromosome has disappeared in hundreds of other species, Rice said.

There is hope for this beleaguered chromosome: immigration.

Remember that trading between matched chromosome pairs? That isn't the only way DNA can move between chromosomes. Genes can also jump from one chromosome to a completely different one. And in the last few years scientists have discovered that during the last 30 million to 50 million years of primate evolution, the Y has been an alluring destination.

The immigrants are genes that are essential for making sperm. That makes sense, according to theory, because they would naturally accumulate on a chromosome that appears only in men, where they'd avoid any potential side effects from operating in women.

So, over the next 100 million years or so, the balance between the death of Y chromosome genes and the arrival of new ones will decide if the Y chromosome sticks around.

"There's new stuff coming on all the time," Rice says. The Y is "not about to blink out."

The Y has so few genes to justify its existence, he said, that "if we last long enough we will probably lose it."

Page isn't placing any bets. "The experiment is continuing," he said, "and its outcome is unpredictable."

On the Net: Description of David Page research: www.hhmi.org/science/genetics/page.htm

Progress on sequencing chromosomes: www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genome/seq

To understand today's Y chromosome, it helps to consider its evolution — both where it came from and where it's going. That story is inextricably linked with the X.

TDH: Too many Texans with epilepsy go without help

AUSTIN — "I didn't develop it until I was 21," said the athletic young man. "I was working at the time, out on my own, just enjoying life and then, all of a sudden, they began coming on slowly."

Doctors weren't able to tell Scott Jenkins what brought on his epilepsy, but testing showed the seizures that robbed him of much of his life, including his job and his driver's license, were originating in the left part of his brain.

"It slowly got worse and worse," Jenkins said, "until it progressed to the point where my body was functioning and I'd get up and walk around, but I'd lose total consciousness of what was happening."

Epilepsy is a neurological disorder characterized by seizures that occur when brain cells release high amounts of electrical energy. This process then triggers a sudden loss of control over movement, thought or awareness. Seizures can range from simple loss of awareness for a short time to unconsciousness and convulsions.

About 380,000 Texans have epilepsy, and an estimated 14,000 new cases of epilepsy are diagnosed in Texas each year. Epilepsy affects more than 2 million Americans, young and old, and for 70 percent, there is no known cause. Of the remaining 30 percent, head injuries, strokes, brain tumors, lead poisoning, infections such as meningitis and injury during childbirth are the most frequent causes. For people like Jenkins who cannot control their seizures with medication, testing at an epilepsy monitoring unit such as the one at Parkland Hospital in Dallas can help pinpoint where in the brain seizures begin. Electrodes on the patient's head send information about brain waves to a computer.

"Right here we're beginning to see rhythmic activity in the right temporal lobe," explained Dr. Paul Van Ness, director of the Neurophysiological Center at Parkland Hospital. Pointing to a graph called an electroencephalogram (EEG) that tracked a patient's brain waves during a seizure, Van Ness said, "This activity gets higher in

amplitude, then spreads to the other temporal lobe. At this point, the patient will often lose consciousness."

Jenkins underwent a successful surgery that removed the tiny part of the temporal lobe where the seizures were originating. "After a year of being without seizures," Jenkins said, "the doctor could say, 'Scott, you're not going to have any more seizures — your epilepsy is taken care of.' I was able to get my drivers' license back. At that point, I went on a tour. I drove around the country. I wanted to experience everything that there was."

Early diagnosis is crucial to controlling seizures. Children and adults with undiagnosed seizures risk developing a severe condition that is more difficult and costly to treat. Prompt detection and early treatment improve seizure control and the patient's quality of life and reduce the lifetime cost of care. Undiagnosed and untreated seizures can lead to learning disabilities, behavior problems, safety risks and social problems.

Epilepsy can be difficult to detect. Common signs include:

- short attention blackouts that look like daydreaming,
- sudden falls for no reason,
- lack of response for brief periods,
- dazed behavior,
- head nodding,
- rapid blinking, and
- frequent complaints that things look, sound, taste, smell or feel "funny."

For Texans with low incomes who have epilepsy or seizure-like symptoms and have little or no health insurance, the Texas Department of Health provides funding for diagnostic and medical services at 17 clinics throughout the state. The Epilepsy Program currently serves more than 4,000 patients.

British researcher describes promising arthritis treatment

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — An experimental new rheumatoid arthritis treatment that targets renegade white blood cells shows promise in early testing, allowing some victims to resume normal lives and stop taking other medicines, researchers said recently.

The research, though preliminary, has had major benefits for the first five subjects treated after 18 months and has helped a

second group of five people six months after treatment, said Dr. Jonathan Edwards of University College in London.

"It's early days yet, but we've gotten very good responses from the patients. We need to do a lot more work before this would be any sort of routine treatment," said Edwards, a professor of connective tissue medicine.

He will deliver a presentation on the treatment, which uses a

biotechnology drug targeted at the immune system, on Wednesday at a meeting of the American College of Rheumatology in Philadelphia.

Dr. John Klippel, medical director of the Arthritis Foundation in Washington, who is also among the 7,000 people attending the convention, said Edwards' research stood out because the patients improved so markedly.

"The degree of improvement and the duration of the response is much, much greater than we

are accustomed to seeing," Klippel said.

The 20 subjects treated so far ranged in age from 40 to 70 and had had arthritis for an average of 22 years.

Edwards said the first five patients treated had 70 percent improvement after 18 months, though two have required further treatment during that time. Two of the 20 treated so far have shown no improvement.

"All of the first five subjects returned to leading a more or less normal life, one going to the

gym and one taking up gardening for the first time in years," Edwards said. He said they stopped taking their arthritis medications.

He said three subjects have had relapses during the study, but retreatment has produced results as good as or better than the first treatment. Even if treatment had to be repeated on average once a year, he said, it still would be worthwhile.

"We are talking about a therapy that might be available in five to seven years," Klippel said.

Edwards said he based the treatment on recent research indicating that B lymphocytes, which are antibody-forming white blood cells, create abnormal antibodies that not only cause rheumatoid arthritis symptoms but keep the disease going through a vicious cycle.

Edwards theorized that if the B lymphocytes were removed, normal cells making normal antibodies would return after a few months, in effect "rebooting" the immune system.

The B lymphocytes were removed using a new drug, Mabthera, also called rituximab, developed by Hoffman La Roche, in conjunction with prednisolone, a steroid, and cyclophosphamide, also called cytoxan. The treatment required two short hospital stays for intravenous infusions of the drugs.

Edwards said he has begun a larger, controlled study that will last two years, involving 160 rheumatoid patients in Europe, Australia and Canada.

Edwards said Hoffman La Roche contributed 30 percent of the cost of the drugs for the study, with no other major contributors. "We scraped together the rest," he said.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

BUSH

Sunday night that Gore should give up the contest. "If the vice president chooses to go forward, he is filing a contest to the outcome of the election," he said. "And that is not the best route for America." One Democrat said Monday that Gore should probably give up. "I have great doubts about whether it is wise ... for the vice president to continue to pursue and to contest the results in Florida," Robert Reich, former labor secretary, said on ABC's "Good Morning America."

Reich had endorsed Gore's rival in the primaries, Bill Bradley. Bush and Lieberman made their comments Sunday night, shortly after Harris awarded the GOP ticket of Bush and Dick Cheney the 25 electoral votes they needed for victory in the race for the White House.

"On behalf of the state elections canvassing commission, and in accordance with the laws of the state of Florida, I hereby declare Governor George W. Bush the winner of Florida's 25 electoral votes," said Harris.

The remarks touched off a wave of noisy cheering from Bush supporters gathered outside the state government building where Harris and other members of the state canvassing board signed multiple copies of the official certification.

And within minutes, the two campaigns had plunged into a fresh round of maneuvering, as Democrats sought to build public support for continuing the struggle, and Republicans bid to close out the race for the White House.

"This has been a hard-fought election," Bush said in the state Capitol in Austin. "But now that the votes are counted, it is time for the votes to count."

He said he had asked Cheney to "work with President Clinton's administration to open a transition office in Washington." He also said he had named Card to serve as his chief of staff.

It wasn't clear how fast Cheney could get an office up and running, though. Beth Newburger, a spokeswoman for the federal General Services Administration, said that "as long as there is not an apparent winner, and the outcome is unclear,

there's not much we can do." Lieberman went before the cameras within moments of Harris' certification. "What is at issue here is nothing less than every American's simple, sacred right to vote," he said.

Referring to the ballots that were uncounted in various manual recounts, or else counted but rejected by Harris, he asked, "How can we teach our children that every vote counts if we are not willing to make a good-faith effort to count every vote?"

But the Republicans countered that the votes have been counted — over and over and over — and Bush and Cheney emerged ahead each time.

"At some point, the law must prevail and the lawyers must go home. We have reached that point," said former Secretary of State James A. Baker III, speaking on Bush's behalf. Even so, he said Bush will not drop his case before the U.S. Supreme Court challenging the validity of manual recounts.

The high court has set arguments in Washington on Friday.

The manual recounting proved as controversial at its end as it was at its beginning.

In Palm Beach County, members of the local canvassing board wrote Harris without success seeking an extension beyond a 5 p.m. Sunday deadline. They said that with a few more hours work, they could make it all the way through an estimated 10,000 ballots.

"The secretary of state has apparently decided to shut us down with approximately two hours to go," said Charles Burton, head of the county canvassing board.

Board members, who had been at work virtually around the clock since Saturday morning, paused briefly in their work to fax incomplete precinct-by-precinct totals to Harris' office. They then returned to their counting, completing the last of the questionable ballots later in the evening.

By then, Harris had rejected the incomplete count, saying they fail to comply with state law. She instead accepted results from the last machine count, on Nov. 14, a decision that deprived Gore of 180 votes he gained in the partial recount.

Mammoth ballot recount effort wiped out by secretary of state

By MARCY GORDON
Associated Press Writer

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Ten days of painstaking counting and examination, mountains of ballot cards, blistered fingers, strained necks and raw nerves. Suddenly it was done, and Democratic Palm Beach County election officials hugged their Republican adversaries, who had peeked over their shoulders for days.

Then, just as suddenly, all the strain and effort didn't matter. With a stroke of a pen Sunday night, Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris erased the gargantuan pile of hand-counted ballots, nearly 400,000 in all.

Palm Beach officials missed their deadline for finishing a complete manual recount of the county's presidential votes by about two hours. The canvassing board turned in a tally with a majority of precincts accounted for.

That didn't satisfy Harris, who rejected the huge manual recount and threw out about 180 votes that Vice President Al Gore would have picked up in his race against Republican George W. Bush in this Democratic-leaning county.

"It's a slap in the face to all these people who spent a lot of time to do it," County Judge Charles Burton, the canvassing board's chairman, said with a trace of bitterness.

With the counting done, the focus turned to the courts. On Monday, a lawsuit over the county's "butterfly ballot" was sent to the state Supreme Court. Some Democrats complained that the ballot was so confusing that they mistakenly cast votes for Pat Buchanan instead of Gore. The party is seeking a new election in the county.

Bob Crawford, a Democratic member of the Florida Election Canvassing Commission, said Monday that despite the controversy he was confident Bush had received the most votes in the state.

"We can keep going back and recounting and counting. We had the first count, we had the second count. Some counties did a third count, some counties did a fourth count. And no matter how you count it George W. Bush is the winner," he said on ABC's "Good Morning America."

Burton, appearing on the same program, said "they could have waited" but he agreed the additional votes in his county "certainly wouldn't have changed the outcome."

Burton gave a final news conference on the raised platform in front of the blocky Emergency Operations Center that had become home to elections officials, out-of-town politicians, pro-Bush demonstrators and journalists from around the globe for nearly two weeks.

He was alone this time, under a storm-threatening sky. Absent were his fellow elections commissioners: Carol Roberts, who had declared her willingness to go to jail if state officials blocked the massive hand recount, and Theresa LePore, the beleaguered elections supervisor who had designed the much-maligned "butterfly" ballot assailed by many Democrats as confusing and costly in votes to Gore.

Burton defended the board's decision to take the Thanksgiving holiday off, even though it meant a failed, round-the-clock race to finish the recount.

"I really believed we could make it," he said. "You can't go second-guessing."

Earlier, as the grueling examination and counting of ballot cards finally reached its end around 7 p.m., the bleary-eyed Roberts and LePore embraced each other and Democratic and Republican observers.

Lead GOP observer Mark Wallace patted Burton on the shoulder. Awkward applause broke out in the chilly amphitheater, which normally is used as a hurricane emergency center and days earlier had been filled with ballot counters recruited for the task.

Then about 30 minutes later, disappointed Democrats gathered to watch Harris' announcement on an overhead TV screen.

The room grew hushed as she read out the statewide vote totals she certified: 2,912,790 for Bush, 2,912,253 for Gore. Then came the words: "I hereby declare Governor George W. Bush the winner of Florida's 25 electoral votes for president of the United States."

"Disappointing, disappointing," muttered state Sen. Ron Klein, a Democrat.

Republicans at the counting site were subdued and willing to let Bush do the talking, in a televised speech later Sunday evening.

The vocal pro-Bush demonstrators beyond the gates whooped and exulted. And as Camp Recount began to be disassembled after so many days, there was a sense that the next phase of the election drama would soon begin.

Text of Bush's remarks given on Sunday night

Text of remarks Sunday night by Texas Gov. George W. Bush, the Republican presidential nominee, as transcribed by eMediaMillWorks, Inc.:

Good evening. The last 19 days have been extraordinary ones. As our nation watched, we were all reminded on a daily basis of the importance of each and every vote. We were reminded of the strength of our democracy, that while our system is not always perfect, it is fundamentally strong and far better than any other alternative.

The election was close, but tonight, after a count, a recount and yet another manual recount, Secretary Cheney and I are honored and humbled to have won the state of Florida, which gives us the needed electoral votes to win the election.

We will therefore undertake the responsibility of preparing to serve as America's next president and vice president.

During the past year and a half of the presidential campaign, I've had the privilege of traveling America and meeting so many of my fellow Americans: the teachers who mold our future, the volunteers who take time to help neighbors in need, the police and firemen who risk their lives to protect ours, the workers who keep our economy strong and growing.

These experiences, have confirmed that ours is a strong and vibrant nation, full of people whose hearts are bigger than even our most bountiful harvest.

As our country ends its Thanksgiving weekend, we have so much to be thankful for, beginning with the fundamental freedoms that are the birthright of every American: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. And with our freedom comes responsibility, for all of us. Once our elections are behind us, once our

disagreements are expressed, we have a responsibility to honor our Constitution and laws, and come together to do the people's business.

Two hundred years ago, after a difficult election, President Thomas Jefferson reminded his fellow citizens that every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle.

Vice President Gore and I had our differences of opinion in this election, and so did the many candidates who ran for the United States Congress. But there is broad agreement on some important principles.

Republicans and Democrats agree we need to provide an excellent education for every child at every public school.

Democrats and Republicans agree that our seniors deserve a secure retirement and a prescription drug coverage in Medicare. Already there is some bipartisan groundwork on efforts to reform Social Security and Medicare. We have a duty to find common ground to reform these vital programs for the greatest generation and for future generations.

Republicans and Democrats want a strong military to keep the peace and a foreign policy that reassures our friends and restrains our enemies.

There is growing consensus in Congress and America on the need to reduce taxes by reducing the marriage penalty and eliminating the death tax.

And I will work with members of the Congress from both parties to reduce tax rates for everyone who pays income taxes in America.

Progress on these issues will require a new tone in Washington. The path to progress is consideration and fair-dealing. I've worked with Democrats and Republicans in Texas, and I will do so in Washington. I will listen and I will respect different points

of view, and, most of all, I will work to unite our great land.

This has been a hard-fought election, a healthy contest for American democracy. But now that the votes are counted, it is time for the votes to count.

The vice president's lawyers have indicated he will challenge the certified election results. I respectfully ask him to reconsider.

Until Florida's votes were certified, the vice president was working to represent the interests of those who supported him. I did not agree with his call for additional recounts, but I respected his decision to fight until the votes were finally certified. Now that they are certified, we enter a different phase. If the vice president chooses to go forward, he is filing a contest to the outcome of the election, and that is not the best route for America.

All of us in this election fought for our views. Now we must live up to our principles. We must show our commitment to the common good, which is bigger than any person or any party. We cannot change yesterday, but we share a responsibility for tomorrow.

Time runs short, and we have a lot of work to do. So tonight I'm naming Secretary Dick Cheney to chair our transition effort, and Secretary Andy Card to serve as my chief of staff.

I've asked Secretary Cheney to work with President Clinton's administration to open a transition office in Washington. And we look forward to a constructive working relationship throughout this transition.

The end of an election is the beginning of a new day. Together we can make this a positive day of hope and opportunity for all of us who are blessed to be Americans.

Thank you very much, and God bless America.

Capital murder trial set in organist's murder

ATHENS, Texas (AP) — The capital murder trial of the oldest of four people accused of binding and gagging an 84-year-old organist and throwing her cinder-block weighted body into the Neches River begins Wednesday.

Danielle Nathaniel Simpson, 20, of Palestine could face the death penalty if convicted of taking part in the January death of Geraldine Davidson, who played the organ at Grace United Methodist Church in Palestine.

Davidson's body was spotted Jan. 27 afloat in the river between Palestine and Jacksonville. She had been bound and gagged. A cinder block was tied to her feet.

While searching for the former fifth-grade teacher, police pulled over five people, including Simpson, in her car.

Simpson is the second of the defendants to go on trial in the

death.

Jennifer Simpson, 17, his wife, accepted the state's offer to testify against Simpson and his brother, Lionel Simpson, 15, in exchange for life in prison on a lesser charge of murder. She will be eligible for parole in 30 years.

Lionel Simpson who has been certified to stand trial as an adult, was scheduled to go on trial in August in Cherokee County, but the state appealed a judge's ruling which threw out part of his statement to police.

The 12th Court of Appeals in Tyler is expected to hear arguments on that matter next month in Palestine.

Another 15-year-old-boy has been charged with capital murder in the death. He's expected to testify in the remaining two trials in exchange for a more favorable sentence.



The Sinches family would like to thank each and every one of you for your kind expressions of sympathy, that was so deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged by the family.

Your love and kindness show to us during our time of sorrow will always be remembered. God bless each of you.

The Arthur Lee Sinches Family

Court to hear appeal in Texas death penalty case

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court agreed Monday to hear an appeal by a condemned killer from Texas whose lawyers say he is mentally retarded and has the reasoning capacity of a 7-year-old.

The court said it will use the case of Johnny Paul Penry to clarify how much opportunity jurors in death-penalty cases must have to consider the defendant's mental capacity.

Penry's lawyers also say prosecutors were improperly allowed to use a psychiatric exam report in violation of his right not to testify against himself.

On Nov. 16, the justices blocked Penry's execution just hours before he was to be put to death. The execution will remain on hold until the justices issue a

Actor Downey busted again

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (AP) — Robert Downey Jr. was arrested for alleged drug possession less than four months after being released from prison and relaunching his career, police said.

An anonymous caller led investigators to a hotel room at the Merv Griffin Resort on Saturday night where they found the actor alone with cocaine and methamphetamine, police officer Ralph Landry said.

"He was conscious and conversed with the officers," Landry said. "He was very cooperative."

Downey, 35, was arrested for alleged drug possession, being under the influence of a controlled substance and committing a felony while free on bail, police said.

He was released Sunday on \$15,000 bail and is scheduled to appear in court within 30 days.

ruling, expected by July.

A group of Texas state senators had asked Gov. George W. Bush, the Republican presidential candidate to grant Penry a 30-day reprieve, an authority Bush has invoked only once in his nearly six years in office. Before the Supreme Court blocked Penry's execution, the governor's spokesman had said Bush would not act until all court appeals had been completed.

Penry's lawyers describe him as having an IQ of 50 to 60 and the reasoning capacity of a 7-year-old.

However, prosecutors say he is ignorant, not retarded. Texas Attorney General John Cornyn said Penry is "a schemer, a planner and can be purposefully deceptive."

Penry was convicted and sentenced to death for killing Pamela Moseley Carpenter in Livingston, Texas, in 1979. Carpenter was stabbed repeatedly in the chest with a pair of scissors she had been using to make Halloween decorations.

The Supreme Court threw out Penry's conviction in 1989, ruling that his rights were violated because the sentencing jury was not properly allowed to take his mental capacity into account. But the justices also decided the Constitution allows the execution of mentally retarded killers.

Penry was retried, convicted and sentenced to death in 1990. His lawyers appealed, saying the

jury again was not given enough chance to consider his mental capacity.

The jury had been told to consider mitigating circumstances in deciding whether Penry's conduct was deliberate, whether he was a continuing threat to society and whether his actions were provoked by the victim.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld Penry's conviction and death sentence last June.

In the appeal acted on Monday, Penry's lawyers said the jury instruction unfairly limited jurors' consideration of his mental capacity and the fact that he suffered "horrific" abuse by his mother when he was a child.

His lawyers also said prosecutors wrongly used a report on a 1977 psychiatric exam of Penry while he was being held on a rape charge. The doctor said he would be a danger if released, but Penry's lawyers said he was not warned his words could be used against him.

Prosecutors said the jury had ample chance to consider Penry's mental capacity, and that prosecutors could use the exam results to rebut psychological evidence offered by Penry's lawyers.

The case is Penry v. Johnson, 00-6677.

On the Net: For the appeals court ruling: <http://www.uscourts.gov/links.html> and click on 5th Circuit.

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Family Extends Too Far When Husband's Ex-Wife Is Included

DEAR ABBY: Eight months ago, I married "Tim." We're very happy. There's only one problem. Tim has a son from a previous marriage. The boy lives with his mother, "Agnes."

Abby, Tim's family invites Agnes to all the family holiday dinners. They say they do it for his son's sake, but I find it extremely uncomfortable. Last Christmas, I stayed home while Tim went to his mother's for dinner so he could be with his son and family.

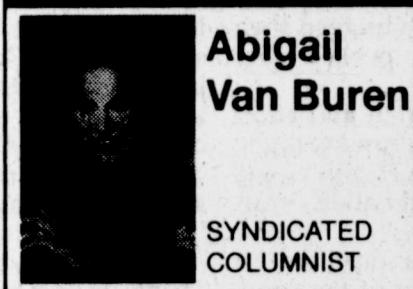
Now that I'm Tim's wife, I feel strongly that I should no longer have to spend all my holidays with Agnes. Tim knows how I feel. He spends very little time with Agnes at these functions, but he says we must participate in these holiday dinners.

Tim has told his parents how awkward the situation is for me. They say we should be more mature about it. This is very upsetting, but what can I do?

DREADING THE HOLIDAYS IN MEMPHIS

DEAR DREADING: The solution may lie in compromise. Now that you are Tim's wife, you may wish to start some holiday traditions of your own, and include Tim's son and family members. Consider inviting them for Christmas Eve dinner or brunch on Christmas morning, easing Agnes out of the picture.

The situation may improve when Agnes finds a replace-



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

ment for Tim, but meanwhile, take some positive steps to make your holidays brighter by not relying on his family for all your Christmas cheer.

DEAR ABBY: Having read the letter from "Newly Widowed, Baden, Pa.," who wondered when she could start going out in public, I must respond.

I am also in my 50s and was widowed two months ago. During my husband's last days fighting kidney cancer, our children and grandchildren came from out of state to be with us. The day after he died, I took my family to LegoLand. We had a wonderful day together. My husband would not have wanted us to sit around mourning his death. Instead, we celebrated together as a family.

A week after the funeral, I returned to work. I also signed up for two adult education classes and resumed my swim exercise class. If "Newly Widowed" is being stared at, perhaps it is because people don't know how to express their con-

lences to such a young widow. She shouldn't care what others think. If she has friends who think she should stay home and cry, she needs to find new ones.

While I miss my beloved husband with all my heart, I believe life is for the living. Please advise "Newly Widowed" to go out and enjoy life while she can.

LYNN FROM VISTA, CALIF.

DEAR LYNN: I agree. I hope the widow heeds your wise words.

DEAR ABBY: What is the polite way to ask people not to bring gifts to our wedding? My fiancé and I have lived together for 11 years and already have most everything we need. More toasters, juice glasses and towel sets will not fit in our house.

BRIDE-TO-BE WHO HAS IT ALL

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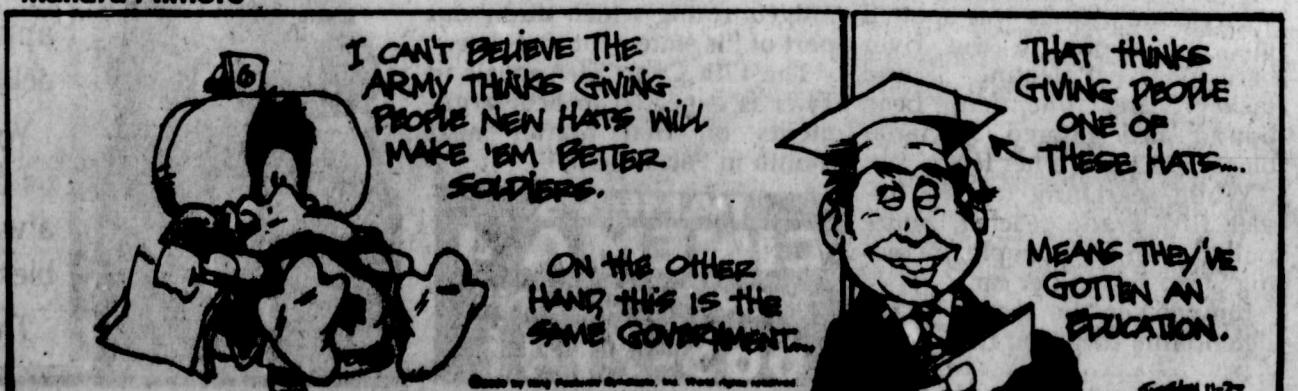
Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore



Horoscope

TUESDAY, NOV. 28, 2000

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)

Take charge and enjoy the limelight. Others seek you out for advice. What you might find difficult is that, after giving him all your time, another goes off and does exactly what he wants. Avoid becoming vested in others' decisions. Look at yourself as a source of information. Tonight: In the limelight.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Make inquiries. Seek out other points of view. You break patterns. Your sense of humor comes out when you look at a situation or issue with detachment. Somehow, you see how others are puppets of their circumstances. Help them see this, too. Tonight: Take in a movie.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

One-on-one relating remains key. Do not pull back. Stay in touch with what is important to you. You are subject to mood swings. A partner sometimes goes to war for what he wants, without thought to the ramifications. Say "enough." Tonight: Make love, not war.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Let others come to you. Making a request might not be as effective right now. The ball is in another's lap. Think

twice before accepting anything you don't want. Remember that you have the power of a yes or a no. Tonight: Out and about.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Pace yourself, as you have a lot to do and would prefer not to blow a fuse. Your diligence directs you. Screen calls. Others see you as an idea person. Think carefully about anything new you take on. You could easily go into overdrive. Tonight: Slow down.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

When energized, you have unusual creativity and focus. Note that this is one of those periods. Let your mind lead you in new directions. Take your time and make a doctor or dentist appointment. Don't push yourself. Tonight: Dance to a different tune.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

You could become frustrated when you can't get a project off the back burner. Your highest priority needs to be family and loved ones. Think about a long-term decision. Another could become testy if he feels you're not doing your part. Tonight: Dance on home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Speak your mind and stay as clear as you can. Your ability to watch another and see what he doesn't rescues a difficult situation. How you convey this information can make all the difference. Curb a tendency to be angry or swallow frustration. Tonight: Out and about.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You are a sign that often takes risks with money. How much money do you want in your war chest? You can make it happen. Avoid an argument with a friend. You need to listen to logic and

ideas. Recognize your need to direct and focus. Tonight: Start thinking like Santa.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You beam in opportunities. Your personality, energy and magnetism peak. You can choose to break barriers rather than create them. An authority figure or boss seems pushy during the next few days. You can choose your response. Tonight: Whatever makes you happy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Assume little. Even if another says something, you might not be sure about his intentions. Give this person the space to demonstrate commitment. You will learn more by saying little and observing. News from someone at a distance could shake up the status quo. Tonight: Do only what you want.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

Keep aiming for what you want. You are unusually successful at gaining objectives. Touch base with others and share your ideas. You are a strong force when you're in a group. Tonight: Go for something on your wish list.

BORN TODAY

Entertainer "Buffalo Bob" Smith (1917), singer Randy Newman (1943), model Anna Nicole Smith (1967)

For a personal consultation with a psychic, call (900) 000-0000, \$2.95 per minute. You can request your favorite psychic, and Spanish-speaking psychics are available. Rotary or touch-tone phones. Must be 18 or older to call. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.

Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 School fixtures

6 Gait

10 Top story

11 Some golf clubs

13 Valerie Harper sitcom

14 Beethoven symphony

15 Decimal base

16 Philosopher — Tzu

18 Writer Levin

19 Train component

22 Scarlet

23 Corporal or captain

24 Essential

27 Pants accessories

28 Pub brews

29 Pull on

30 Camper's need

35 Hair, at times

36 Pen fill

37 Had lunch

38 Wide open

40 Lowest noble

42 Severity

43 Happening

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

Saturday's answer

6 Western

7 Onassis nickname

8 Like a dunce cap

9 Contest participant

12 San Jose team

17 Help

20 Wipe clean

21 Rock's Allman

24 Pough-keepsie school

25 Faulty reasoning

26 Adolescent

27 Two-level furniture

29 Light metal

31 Fishing spots

32 Less covered

33 Make amends

34 Polite fellows

39 Campaigner, for short

41 Actress Gardner

Marmaduke



"Marmaduke always knows exactly when to bark!"

The Family Circus



"PJ learned to say 'hello.' Now whenever our phone rings he can answer it."

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-484-7377/ 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones, (18+only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SPORTS

QB Simms has perfect 8-for-8 passing day

Notebook

FOOTBALL
WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (AP) — Wake Forest coach Jim Caldwell was fired after one winning season in eight years.

The Demon Deacons were 2-9 overall and 1-7 in the ACC this season.

Caldwell, who became the first black head football coach in ACC history in 1993, was 26-63 at Wake Forest, including 1-10 in 1995. The Demon Deacons had their only winning season under Caldwell last year (7-5).

Caldwell, 45, is the third ACC coach fired in the last seven days, joining Maryland's Ron Vanderlinden and North Carolina's Carl Torbush.

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — West Virginia hired Clemson offensive coordinator Rich Rodriguez, a former Mountaineers player, as football coach to succeed the retiring Don Nehlen.

Rodriguez, who was given a five-year contract, starts Friday. Nehlen, who is retiring at the end of the season, will coach the Mountaineers if they earn a bowl trip.

Rodriguez played under Nehlen as a defensive back and on special teams from 1982-84.

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP) — Former Pro Bowl cornerback Cris Dishman was waived by the Minnesota Vikings. Dishman, who was signed by Minnesota on Aug. 28 after being released by the Kansas City Chiefs, started eight games for the Vikings, sat out a game against Arizona because of a shoulder injury and played nickel back in their past two games.

CALGARY, Alberta (AP) — Robert Drummond and Damon Allen scored fourth-quarter touchdowns to power the B.C. Lions to a 28-26 Grey Cup victory over the Montreal Alouettes.

Drummond was named MVP while fellow Lions running back Sean Millington was named top Canadian in the CFL championship.

It was the final game of B.C. kicker Lui Passaglia's 25-year CFL career, and he kicked what proved to be the winning field goal.

BASKETBALL
MIAMI (AP) — The Miami Heat acquired forward Cedric Ceballos from the Detroit Pistons for a conditional second-round draft choice.

Ceballos is an 11-year veteran with career averages of 14.6 points and 5.5 rebounds. This season, the 6-foot-7, 220-pound small forward averaged 5.8 points in limited playing time.

HOCKEY
PHILADELPHIA (AP) — John LeClair returned to the Philadelphia lineup, five weeks after having back surgery. LeClair had a herniated disc repaired on Oct. 21, and was expected to be out at least six weeks. He missed 20 games.

GOLF
INDIO, Calif. (AP) — Colin Montgomerie won \$415,000 and the Skins Game title by making two routine pars, including one for a playoff victory over Fred Couples.

Playing his first Skins Game, Montgomerie won the event when he earned \$340,000 on the third and final playoff hole.

Both Vijay Singh, the runner-up with \$260,000, and Sergio Garcia, who earned \$200,000, were eliminated on the first playoff hole Sunday.

Defending champion Couples, who reached the \$2 million mark in skins career earnings by winning \$25,000 on the first hole, added \$100,000 at No. 11, but finished fourth.

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Aaron Baddeley retained his Australian Open golf championship, becoming only the second player in the 100-year history of the tournament to win one year as an amateur and the next as a professional.

Baddeley, 19, shot a final-round 72 to finish at 10-under-par 278 and win \$117,000.

No. 12 Texas 43, No. 22 Texas A&M 17
 In Austin, Texas' young guns appeared to be all grown up.

Sophomore Chris Simms threw for 383 yards and three touchdowns, all to freshman receivers, in No. 12 Texas' 43-17 victory over No. 22 Texas A&M on Friday.

Simms was a perfect 8-for-8 passing for 234 yards and threw all of his touchdown passes in an explosive third quarter in which the teams combined for 37 points.

It was a dynamic coming-of-age performance for the son of former New York Giants quarterback Phil Simms.

After an up-and-down season in which he bounced in and out of the starting lineup and had more interceptions than touchdown passes coming into the game, Simms got the start because Major Applewhite was hobbled by a knee injury.

Leading 10-7 at halftime, the Longhorns opened the decisive third quarter by driving 71 yards on four plays. Roy Williams capped the drive with a 40-yard TD run on a reverse.

After forcing the Aggies to punt, Texas quickly struck again when Simms finished an 81-yard drive with a 20-yard scoring strike to Williams that made it 24-7.

Texas: 9-2, 7-1. Texas A&M: 7-4, 5-3.

No. 9 Nebraska 34, Colorado 32

In Lincoln, Neb., Josh Brown's 29-yard field goal as time expired gave No. 9 Nebraska a 34-32 win over Colorado Friday, keeping the Cornhuskers' slim Bowl Championship Series hopes alive.

Colorado looked like it was headed for an upset victory after Craig Ochs' touchdown pass and 2-point conversion put the Buffaloes ahead 32-31 with 47 seconds left. But Eric Crouch, who ran for three touchdowns, directed a 47-yard drive that ended on Brown's field goal.

Crouch ran for 123 yards on 19 carries and was 11-for-17 for 94 yards. He was 3-for-4 in the final drive, including a 17-yard pass to Bobby Newcombe with less than 10 seconds left, that set up Brown's field goal.

Nebraska has won nine straight over Colorado, but the last five have been by a total of 15 points. The Huskers, who needed overtime to beat the Buffaloes 33-

30 last year, are done until their bowl game, which probably won't be determined until next weekend.

With nine wins, the Huskers are eligible for a BCS at-large berth, but were not impressive Saturday until their final drive. Nebraska fumbled four times, losing three, had two kickoffs go out of bounds, a punt blocked, botched a punt return when the ball bounced off a blocker's helmet, and missed a field goal.

Nebraska kept Colorado from scoring only once in the second half, and that was by blocking a field goal.

Colorado ended a disappointing season with an even more disappointing loss. After Brown's kick, several Buffaloes were face down on the artificial turf as the Cornhuskers swarmed Brown.

Nebraska: 9-2, 6-2. Colorado 3-8, 3-5.

No. 1 Oklahoma 12, Oklahoma St. 7

In Stillwater, Okla., Oklahoma survived an off day by Josh Heupel and a scare from Oklahoma State to beat the Cowboys 12-7 Saturday and complete its first perfect regular season since 1987.

The No. 1 Sooners will play Kansas

State next Saturday in the Big 12 championship game, where a victory would send them to the Orange Bowl to play for the national title.

Oklahoma State put up a great effort in Bob Simmons' final game as coach but came up short in the closing minutes.

The 12 points were Oklahoma's fewest in 26 games, since a 29-0 loss to Texas A&M in 1998.

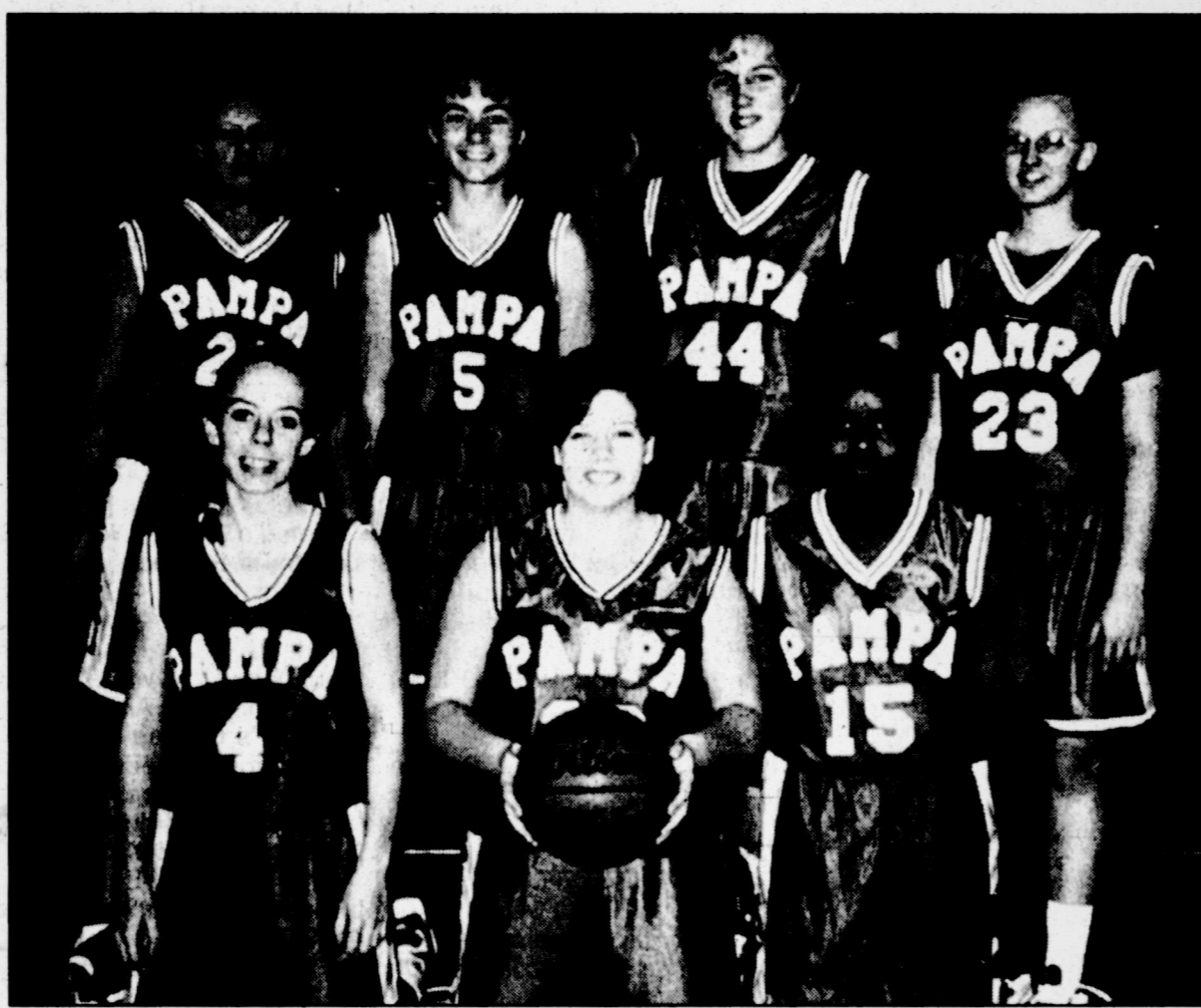
Oklahoma drove 99 yards for a touchdown on its first possession of the game, then played sporadically the rest of the way. Heupel was 19-of-36 for a season-low 154 yards with two interceptions.

But Heupel completed a clutch pass to Curtis Fagan on a third-and-11 play with just over two minutes remaining and the Sooners at their own 11. He later sealed the victory by running for 4 yards on a third-and-2.

Oklahoma had held Oklahoma State in check before freshman Tatum Bell took a pitch around the left side and raced 60 yards for a touchdown that made it 12-7 late in the third quarter.

Oklahoma 11-0, 8-0. Oklahoma St.: 3-8, 1-7.

Lady Pacers on a roll ...



(Community Camera photo)

The Lady Pacers recently completed a three-game winning streak and will challenge Bible Heritage girls at 6 p.m. Dec. 4 at First Assembly gym in Pampa. Above: (front) Shay Chapman, Kellie Mullican, Courtney Echols; (back) Stephanie Willoughby, Kendra Raber, Erin Raber and Brooke Colton.

Lady Pacers take three game wins in league play

The Lady Pacers continued its league play recently against the Lady Eagles of Bible Heritage in Amarillo. The Lady Pacers took an early lead and went on to win by the score 42-17.

Leading the victory was Erin Raber with 18 points and 11 rebounds followed closely by Kendra Raber with 16 points and 8 steals. Adding to the point total was Kellie Mullican with four, Brooke Colton with two, and Stephanie Willoughby also with two points.

The Lady Pacers then traveled to Portales, N.M., to participate in the Faith Temple Invitational Tournament. The Lady Pacers met up with the JV girls from Texico after a bye in the first round of play. The Pacer girls led each quarter and finished the game on top with the score of 33-29, sending them to the championship game. Leading the scoring was Erin Raber with 15 points followed closely again by Kendra Raber with 13 points. Mullican rounded out the score with five points.

The championship game pitted the Lady

Pacers against Dora of New Mexico. Solid defense and good ball movement allowed the Pacers to come away with a 48-36 win for the first place trophy. Kendra Raber and Mullican helped to lead the team with 16 and 7 points respectively and the Lady Pacers only turned the ball over twice in the first half. Erin Raber lead the team in scoring by dropping in 25 points and was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player for a second year in a row.

The Lady Pacers played its last game of the month, traveling to McLean to meet the Lady Tigers. With a 30-21 lead at the half, the Lady Pacers held on to come away with the win by a score of 52-43. Leading the Lady Pacer attack was Kendra Raber who had 23 points, 10 rebound and 11 steals. Erin Raber added 17 points and 17 rebounds followed by Mullican who had 10 points. Shay Chapman also added a basket to contribute to the total.

The Lady Pacers will host the Bible Heritage girls on Dec. 4. Play will begin at 6 p.m. at the First Assembly gym on the corner of Cuyler and Frederic in Pampa.

Duke back on top; Dayton in Top 25 for first time in 25 years

Duke is No. 1 again, a familiar place for the Blue Devils. Dayton is back in the Top 25, somewhere the Flyers haven't been since 1974.

The Blue Devils (5-0), who won the Preseason NIT, moved into the top spot in The Associated Press' college basketball poll Monday, replacing Arizona, which lost to Purdue in the inaugural Wooden Tradition.

This is the fourth straight season, and the ninth in Mike Krzyzewski's 21 as coach, that Duke has held the No. 1 ranking. It is the 72nd poll the Blue Devils have led, fourth on the all-time list behind UCLA (128), Kentucky (87) and North Carolina (79).

Duke, which beat Temple 63-61 in the Preseason NIT championship game at Madison Square Garden, received 60 first-place votes and 1,740 points from the national media panel.

Kansas, with one first-place vote, was 157 points behind Duke, followed by Michigan State, which received eight first-place votes, Stanford and Arizona.

Arizona (3-1) held the No. 1 ranking in the preseason poll and the first two polls of the regular season. The Wildcats, who received one first-place vote in the latest poll, won the Maui Invitational with a 79-76 victory over then-No. 8 Illinois, but lost to Purdue after making the trip from Hawaii directly to Indiana.

Three teams made their first appearance of the season in the Top 25: No. 17 Temple, No. 20 Syracuse and No. 24 Dayton.

Both Temple and Syracuse have been regularly ranked over recent years, but Dayton (2-1) used its impressive performance in the Maui Invitational to join the Top 25 for the first time since the final poll of the 1973-74 season.

North Carolina, Tennessee, Seton Hall, Illinois and Florida rounded out the Top Ten.

Notre Dame led the Second Ten and was followed by Wake Forest, Maryland, Oklahoma and Southern California. Connecticut was next, Utah was No. 18, followed by St. John's.

Virginia was No. 21, followed by Cincinnati and Wisconsin. Arkansas was the last ranked team.

Dayton beat then-No. 12 Connecticut 80-66 in the opening round at Maui before losing to Arizona 76-59 in the semifinals. The Flyers bounced back with a 77-71 victory over then-No. 6 Maryland in the third-place game.

Temple (4-1), like Dayton a member of the Atlantic 10, moved into the rankings after the tough loss to Duke. The teams meet again Saturday in Philadelphia.

Syracuse (4-0) moved in after beating DePaul, Ohio State and Missouri to win the Great Alaska Shootout.

UCLA (1-2), which was shocked by Cal State-Northridge at home last week, fell out of the poll from No. 15. Also dropping out were DePaul (3-1), from 21st, and Kentucky (1-3), from 22nd following a 73-68 loss to Penn State.

Rangers to roll out red carpet for A-Rod

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Fort Worth area and tell him why it would be a great place to play.

Melvin said he doesn't expect the Rangers to make a formal offer until they can gauge the level of interest from Rodriguez, who has also reportedly been targeted by other teams including the Chicago White Sox, Los Angeles Dodgers, New York Mets and Atlanta Braves.

Rodriguez's team for the past six years, the Seattle Mariners, also wanted to re-sign him. The team's quest for Rodriguez hasn't been slowed by the expected demand of at least a 10-year contract in the range of \$20 million per year, also loaded with fringe benefits for the 25-year-old.

"We feel at the expense of last year, we have our roster where we don't have to trade people to make this work," Melvin told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram on Monday's editions. "I'm not saying we have all the money in the world, but we don't have to bust our budget completely. We're in a better position than most other clubs."

Stars center Mike Modano is being called in to help show Rodriguez, who hit .316 with 41 homers and 132 RBIs at Seattle last season, around the Dallas-

"I can't anticipate any change that would draw us back into it," said Phillips.

Transactions ...

BASEBALL
National League
NEW YORK METS—Agreed to terms with LHP John Franco on a three-year contract.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
MIAMI HEAT—Acquired F Cedric Ceballos from Detroit for a conditional second-round draft choice. Waived F Jamal Robinson.

NEW YORK KNICKS—Activated C Luc Longley from the injured list. Placed C Felton Spencer on the injured list.

FOOTBALL
National Football League
DENVER BRONCOS—Waived RB Raymont Harris. Signed CB Jason Suttle.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS—Waived DB Cris Dishman. Signed LB Pete Berch.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
COLORADO AVALANCHE—Recalled C Joel Prpic and G Frederic Cassivi from Hershey of the AHL.

FLORIDA PANTHERS—Recalled C Eric Boguniecki and D Dan Boyle from Louisville of the AHL. Assigned D Brad Ference and D-W Lance Ward to Louisville.

NEW YORK ISLANDERS—Recalled C Jesse Belanger from Chicago of the IHL.

NEW YORK RANGERS—Recalled F Manny Malhotra from Hartford of the AHL. Assigned D Tomas Kloucek to Hartford.

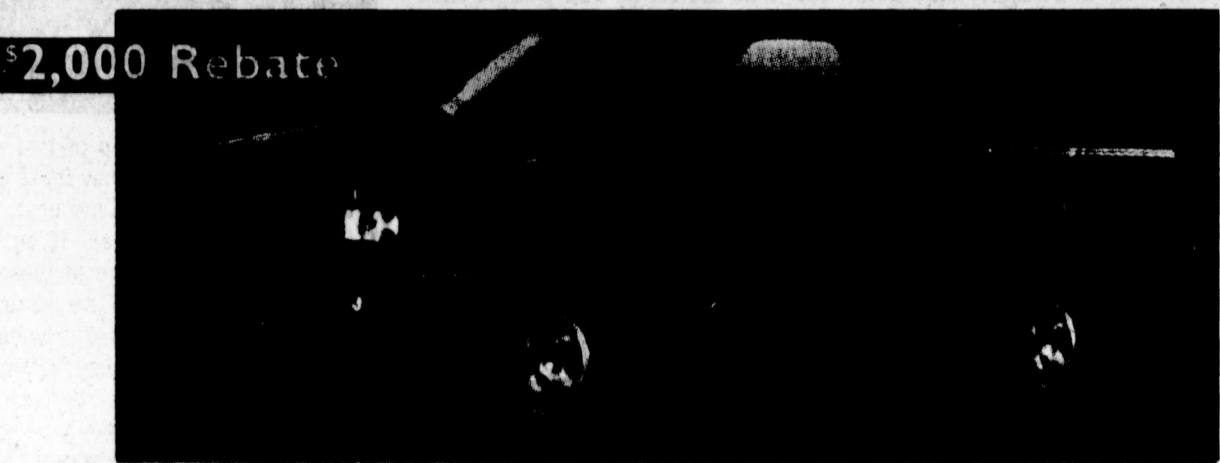
OTTAWA SENATORS—Recalled D Sean Gagnon from Grand Rapids of the IHL.

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Assigned LW Nils Ekman to Detroit of the IHL.

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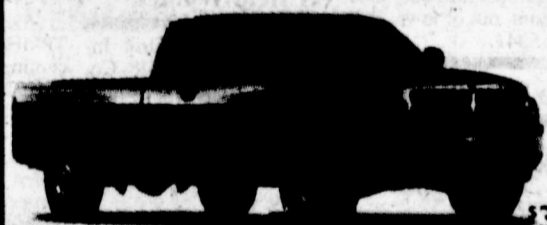
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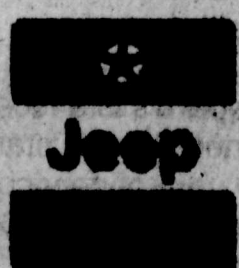
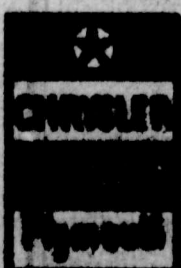


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