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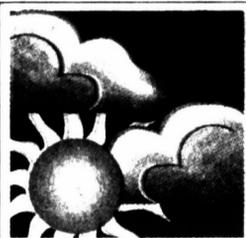
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# Pampa

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High today, 51  
 Low tonight, 15-20  
 For weather details, see Page 2

**Turkey Give-Away winners announced**  
 Winners of *The Pampa News* Christmas Turkey Word Find contest have been selected. Each winner received a Christmas turkey. The winning entries were Jane Radcliff, 736 Bradley; W.H. Shater, 640 N. Dwight; Barbra Helton, 1209 Garland; and Stan Cook, 1112 Seneca.

**Construction worker pleads guilty in drug possession case**

An Amarillo construction worker will pay a \$1,000 fine, lost his driver's license, will do community service and faces jail time in connection with a drug charge to which he pleaded guilty in Pampa this week.

Kenneth Paul McDonald Jr., 40, of 3308 S. Eddy, Apt. 262, Amarillo, pleaded guilty to possession of a controlled substance in 223rd District Court Tuesday afternoon in Pampa.

Judge Lee Waters deferred adjudication on a 180-day sentence in Gray County jail, but ordered McDonald, a Borger native, to pay a \$1,000 fine, perform 80 hours of community service and suspend McDonald's driver's license for 180 days.

A driving while intoxicated charge against McDonald was dropped.

McDonald was accused of having 1.32 grams of methamphetamine in his possession when he was arrested on Sept. 2.

**James E. Britton**, 72, former police officer.  
**Cindy Embery**, 40, Shamrock native.  
**Joann Tarpley**, 58, sister of Pampa residents.

Classified .....7  
 Comics .....12  
 Sports .....5

## Police search home - probe injury to baby

By DAVID BOWSER  
 Staff Writer

A four-month-old baby girl remained in critical condition today after being airlifted to an Amarillo hospital and undergoing surgery for a severe head injury.

Rosa Maticc, four-months old, was in critical condition at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo, with severe head injuries, apparently suffered early Tuesday morning at her home in Pampa.

Pampa police are investigating circumstances surrounding the injuries to the infant.

"We are trying to determine what happened," said Deputy Chief Jerry Young this morning. "It's just too early to tell."

Young reported the baby remained in critical condition today.

David Maticc, 30, and Connie Lerma, 18, took the baby from their house at 432 Wynne to a neighbor's home at 424 Wynne where they called 911 about 7:30 a.m. Tuesday. Police said they reported a choking baby.

Rural Metro Ambulance rushed the infant to Pampa Regional Medical Center. The emergency room at the Pampa hospital transferred the baby to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo. Officials called Lifestar medical helicopter to meet the ambulance carrying the injured baby.

The Pampa ambulance service with a Gray County Sheriff's department escort rushed toward Amarillo, meeting the Lifestar medical helicopter just east of White Deer.

(See BABY, Page 2)

## School audit report 'clean'

By NANCY YOUNG  
 Managing Editor

Pampa Independent School District received a report of a clean audit at Tuesday night's board meeting.

Greg Morgan and Doug Ware of Brown, Graham and Company presented the report to Pampa Board of Trustees during the Tuesday night meeting.

"Government accounting is completely different than commercial accounting," said Morgan during the report. He explained the purpose of the audit was not to determine every single error or omission in the accounting procedures, but to present an over-all picture of the financial operations of the school district.

Morgan told the board that new legislative action will take effect on Sept. 1, 2001 which will change the manner of accounting in schools as well as other taxing entities.

(See AUDIT, Page 2)

## Salvation Army donations down almost 25 percent

By NANCY YOUNG  
 Managing Editor

The Salvation Army needs help. Mail donations are down by 20 to 25 percent to the local agency this year, said Salvation Army Lt. Guy Watts.

"I have no idea why these donations are down," said Watts. "I don't know if it is the economy, the change in population, or something entirely different."

Watts explained that he and his wife, Lt. Dolores Watts, have only lived in Pampa five months and he doesn't know the community history well enough to know what the reason is for the decline in donations to the organization.

Among the projects the Salvation Army provides are aid with food, rent, utility payments, transportation and prescriptions. The group also assists with emergency lodging.

The Salvation Army helps victims whose home has burned, as well.

"We have assisted five families whose homes have burned during the past five months," said Watts. "In fact, we have assisted a total of 12 families who have been victims of residential fires during the past year."

Watts said he has been told by local residents the number has been unusually high during 2000.

He said the families are given clothing and furniture which usually includes a bed and chest of drawers as well as a refrigerator if the families have lost theirs.

Disaster services are provided to people in case of tornadoes, fires or any other disasters. In 1995, the Salvation Army assisted local residents following the tornado which struck Pampa. The group

also provides drinks and sandwiches to fire fighters who are fighting major fires such as large grass fires.

"This year the Salvation Army is not furnishing food baskets to families at Christmas as in the past," said Watts. Instead, he said the group is giving gift certificates for food to 200 families.

"This project is totaling \$3,300," he said.

Watts said the gift certificates will enable the people to have what food they would prefer for Christmas instead of limiting them to the traditional turkey or ham and accompanying foods. "Some people have enchiladas for Christmas Dinner or other types of food. This will enable them to have what they prefer," he said.

The group sponsors the Angel Tree project each Christmas when local residents adopt a child for a Christmas gift by purchasing a gift and set of clothing for a child they have selected.

The Red Kettle Fund during the Christmas season is also a primary source of income to the Salvation Army. He said donations in that area are staying even with last year.

"The volunteers manning the kettle have done really well," he said. He said they could use some more volunteers during the latter part of the week and weekend. He said anyone wanting to donate an hour or so should call him.

The local Salvation Army Thrift Store is located at 409 W. Brown. The items sold in the store are a source of revenue to the organization. He said donations of clothing, furniture, and household items are welcomed at the store. He said the store will even accept donations of cars and

(See DONATIONS, Page 2)

## Lucky Lefors



(Photos courtesy Lefors ISD)

Brightly-colored Christmas decorations on the Lefors school grounds have inspired many Lefors citizens to decorate their residences more than usual this year. Handmade by the students, the decorations have lifted not only the schools' holiday spirit, but seem to have also affected the spirits of the community, said Allen Law, school superintendent. "There's houses that are decorated this year that have never been decorated before," he said. Wooden yard decorations like the playful snowpeople in the photo above and the Christmas tree at right were made by the school's landscaping class, then painted by the junior high and high school art classes, he said.



## Weather service hopes to add more transmitters to Panhandle

By DEE DEE LARAMORE  
 Staff Writer

Amarillo's National Weather Service (NWS) hopes to expand its severe weather warning capabilities to the entire Texas Panhandle by erecting radio transmitters on towers in seven counties.

"We'd sure like cover the whole area," said Richard Wynne, NWS science and operations officer for the Amarillo office. Wynne told of the NWS plans at a recent meeting of the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

"We're the agency that issues (severe weather) warnings that are released by the radio and television," he explained. "A tone frequency on our transmitter activates an alarm on each receiver."

Also, the NWS issues two forecasts per day - at 5 a.m. and 4 p.m., "unless there's changes during

the day," he added.

Wynne said that presently the Texas Panhandle is served by only one National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) tower located on top of the at the KVII-Channel 7 television tower in Amarillo.

"The normal range for these towers is a 40-mile radius," he said. "Anything outside that becomes questionable."

NWS officials are seeking funding to purchase seven 1,000 watt radio transmitters to be set up in south Gray, north Hartley, south Hutchinson, north Castro, north Ochiltree and south Childress counties.

Once the transmitters are operational, the Amarillo NWS can broadcast severe weather warnings to almost every area of the Panhandle.

(See WEATHER, Page 2)



The blue-hatched area in this diagram shows the present area served by the local National Weather Service's radio transmitter in Amarillo. The red crosses indicate proposed weather transmitter sites and the red circles around the crosses show the area the transmitter would cover.

D E C 2 0 0 0

# Daily Record

## Services tomorrow

**EMBERY, Cindy** — 10 a.m., Coulter Road Baptist Church, Amarillo. Graveside services, 2 p.m., Shamrock Cemetery, Shamrock.

## Obituaries

### JAMES E. BRITTON

James E. Britton, 72, of Pampa, died Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2000. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Britton was born March 23, 1928, at Waxahachie, Texas. He married Ruby Gordon Allison in 1955 at Abilene. He was a police officer in Abilene prior to moving to Pampa and joining the Pampa police force in 1962. He served as a policeman in Pampa for several years and was an employee of Cabot Corporation until moving to Oregon in 1969 where he was employed with Farmers Insurance and Georgia Pacific Mills.

In 1963, he relocated to Alaska, working for Alyeska Pipeline and Gearhardt Industries before retiring in 1985.

He returned to Pampa in 1997 and was a member of First Assembly of God Church.

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

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Cynthia Britton, in 1996.

Survivors include his former wife, Ruby Allison Caviness of Pampa; two sons, Sam Britton and Jim "Beau" Britton, both of Pampa; his mother, Irva Crouse of Pampa; two brothers, Rex Britton of Pampa and Bill Britton of Irving; and two grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to American Diabetes Association, 4425 W. Airport Freeway, Suite 130, Irving, TX 75062.

### CINDY EMBERY

**AMARILLO** — Cindy Embery, 40, died Sunday, Dec. 17, 2000. Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday in Coulter Road Baptist Church. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. in Shamrock Cemetery at Shamrock. Burial will be under the direction of Schooler-Gordon Funeral Directors of Amarillo.

Mrs. Embery was born at Shamrock and graduated from Shamrock High School. She married Franky Embery in 1978 at Lela. She had been an Amarillo resident since 1992 and attended Coulter Road Baptist Church.

She was active in Kwahadi Indians and other school activities with her son.

Survivors include her husband, Franky; a son, Justin D. Embery, of the home; her parents, Cloyce and Gloria Troxell of Shamrock; a sister, Rhonda Sanders of Shamrock; and her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. D.L. Hurt of Canyon.

### JOANN TARPLEY

**HOLLIS, Okla.** — Joann Tarpley, 58, sister of two Pampa residents, died Monday, Dec. 18, 2000. Services were to be at 2 p.m. today in First Baptist Church with T.J. Willingham and Bill Webb officiating. Burial will be in Gould Cemetery under the direction of Patterson Greer Funeral Home.

Mrs. Tarpley was born at Arnett, Okla., and had been a lifelong Harmon County resident. She married Bob Tarpley in 1960 and worked at My Sisters Attic and Hollis Cotton Oil Mill.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Sandra Dee Tarpley.

Survivors include her husband, Bob; a daughter, Patricia Johnson of Sapulpa, Okla.; three sisters, Winona Hicks of Clovis, N.M., and Helen Robinson and Linda Pierce, both of Pampa; five brothers, R.G. Pierce of Logan, N.M., Bill Glover of Wilmer, Tex. Pierce of Keller and Gary Pierce and Danny Pierce, both of Hollis; and four grandchildren.

## Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Atterbury Grain of Pampa.		Columbia/HCA	
Wheat	2.53	41.05	up 0.40
Milo	3.41	79.916	dn 3/16
Corn	3.71	38.1/16	dn 1
Soybeans	4.37	48.5/8	dn 7/8
		Kerr McGee	63 1/4
		Limited	15 3/8
		McDonald's	32 1/16
		Exxon Mobil	38.5/8
		New Atmos	23 3/16
		XCEL	27 7/8
		NOI	36 7/8
		OKI	45
		Penney's	8 13/16
		Phillips	52.5/8
		Pioneer Nat.	15.3/4
		SLB	77 1/2
		Tenneco	2.9/16
		Texas	57.3/4
		Ultrapar	29.9/16
		Wal-Mart	47.5/8
		Williams	33 7/16
		New York Gold	270.25
		Silver	4.60
		West Texas Crude	29.70

## Bush nominates O'Neill for treasury

By KAREN GULLO  
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — President-elect Bush named Paul O'Neill, a business and veteran of another Republican administration, to be his secretary of the treasury, saying Wednesday that signs of an economic slowdown made it "incredibly important" to have a man of vast experience and a steady hand in the job.

O'Neill said he'd spent 16 years in public life and had thought he was immune to returning until Bush urged him to become treasury secretary. He said he is dedicated to helping the president-elect "achieve the greatness" he aspires to as president.

"Our economy is showing warning signs of a possible slowdown and so it's important for me to find somebody who has vast experience, who has a steady hand, and when he

speaks, speaks with authority and conviction and knowledge," Bush said. "I found such a man in Paul O'Neill."

Bush, his transition truncated by the 36-day election standoff, also planned later Wednesday to nominate longtime friend Don Evans as commerce secretary, former Cuban refugee Mel Martinez as housing secretary and Californian Ann Veneman as agriculture secretary.

At a news conference after the O'Neill announcement, Bush was asked whether there was a risk that talking down economic prospects might lead to such a downturn. He said he hopes the economy will remain strong, but that his job as incoming president is to "think ahead, just in case."

"We are going to play the hand we have been dealt," Bush said. "Our hope in this administration is that the economy remains robust. But should it

not, we have a plan." The president-elect said that would include his \$1.3 trillion tax cut, free trade, Social Security and regulatory reform.

On energy, Bush said increasing U.S. production of natural gas should be a priority because there are vast untapped supplies. He said he also would seek funds for clean coal technologies to use those reserves without ruining the environment. Bush said he also would seek "a hemispheric energy policy" to make sure there are ample supplies.

He said "there are some ways to move natural gas expeditiously to the market in ways that protect the environment." Bush also said international producers — "our friends in the Middle East" — must respect the needs of the United States and other democracies. He said he will work with OPEC nations to convince them to open up the spigots and ease price pressures.

## Police report

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

### Tuesday, Dec. 19

A burglary was reported in the 700 block of N. Somerville. A leather jacket valued at \$180 was reported taken. A report was also released dated Nov. 15 regarding theft of jewelry valued at \$80 from the same address.

Pampa police found a shotgun in the 1100 block of Huff.

Disorderly conduct by fighting was reported at Pampa Middle School. The case was referred to the Juvenile Probation Office.

A burglary was reported at the Pampa Chamber of Commerce. A window was broken and a purse stolen. Value of purse and contents was estimated at \$200. Estimate of window damage was \$150.

Investigation is continuing into a report of a burglary to commit a felony assault in the 400 block of N. Sumner. Damage was done to a door facing during the commission of a crime, according to Pampa PD.

Pampa PD is investigating a stalking report, according to a report dated Dec. 10.

Criminal mischief was reported near the intersection of Finley and Brunow on Dec. 10. Subjects were reported to have thrown large rocks at a 1996 Chevrolet causing \$1,500 to \$2,000 in damages.

In a report dated Dec. 9, a burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1600 W. Somerville. Jewelry and a cell phone were reported taken, totaling an estimated loss of \$150.

## Sheriff's Office

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

### Tuesday, Dec. 19

Shawn Dale Hefner, 38, Abilene, was arrested on a bond surrender warrant for theft over \$1,500 and under \$20,000.

## Ambulance

Rural Metro Ambulance Service responded to the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

### Tuesday, Dec. 19

7:37 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 400 block of North Wynne and transported one to Lifestar medical helicopter.

12:50 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of North Sumner and transported one to Pampa Regional Medical Center (PRMC).

2:23 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 300 block of South Henry and transported one to PRMC.

4:10 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported one to PRMC.

6:50 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 700 block of East Kingsmill and transported one to PRMC.

### Wednesday, Dec. 20

5:57 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing center and transported one to PRMC.

## Fires

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

### Tuesday, Dec. 19

7:40 a.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to the 300 block of North Wynne on a medical assist.

## Carson County Sheriff

Carson County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests during the week of Dec. 11-17. Currently, 10 persons are incarcerated in the jail and 12 additional prisoners are being held in other jurisdictions.

### Week of Dec. 11-17

Hal C. Heard, 34, Fritch, was arrested for assault causing injury - family violence.

Belmondo Lyew, 25, Palmdale, Calif., was arrested for possession of marijuana more than 50 lbs. and less than 2,000 lbs.

Frank Reyes Jr., 30, Pampa, was arrested for endangering a child and driving while intoxicated - first offense.

Steven Kimbley, 27, of Skellytown, was arrested for assault causing injury - family violence.

## BABY

Gray County deputies blocked traffic on U.S. 60 while the helicopter landed and emergency workers transferred the baby from the ambulance to the helicopter a few minutes after 8 a.m. Tuesday.

Pampa police were notified about noon Tuesday by Child Protective Services in Amarillo that the baby appeared to have suffered a severe head injury. Medical personnel said the baby appeared to have been hit on the right side of the head.

Tuesday afternoon, 223rd District Judge Lee

Waters signed an evidentiary search warrant for the parent's home at 432 Wynne. Shortly before 5 p.m. Tuesday, Pampa police served the warrant and searched the house while the major crimes unit of the Amarillo Police Department took photographs of the baby and questioned medical personnel in Amarillo.

Young said the APD major crimes unit is assisting Pampa PD in the investigation as "a matter of convenience."

Managing Editor Nancy Young contributed to this report.

## AUDIT

Governmental Accounting Standards Board #34 will revamp the accounting procedures of the governmental standards, said Morgan.

He described the new system, GASB #34, as a "needed overhaul." Morgan said it will be quite a task for governmental bodies to make the change as well as the accountants for the entities.

As a result of the change which is required of all school districts in the state, board members voted to increase the school's capitalization limit to \$5,000. Under GASB #34, all fixed assets will be required to be depreciated.

Business Manager Mark McVay told the board the administrative burden of accounting and depreciating items below \$5,000 is not worth the effort.

"We will set in place policies to inventory and track critical items

such as computers and other like items," said McVay.

Printers, televisions, video cassette recorders, and cameras will also be tagged, inventoried and tracked.

The board's previous capitalization limit for all fixed asset items, which was adopted in 1995, was \$500 per unit cost.

McVay explained all assets of the school district must be valued and depreciated, including the cost to build older buildings such as Baker School and the depreciation through the years.

Morgan described the new depreciation schedule as "quite a task."

McVay said the business office is computerizing the information and is attempting to make the change without requiring additional staff.

Superintendent Dr. Dawson Orr said the school is establishing the inventory for the valuable assets of the district.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

## WEATHER

Wynne said.

"Our equipment is capable of driving several antennas," he said.

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture has a rural utility service program trying to get radio coverage," Wynne said, adding that funding is also being sought through the state offices of Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA), and the Department of Emergency Management (DEM).

Ken Hall, Pampa Emergency Management director and LEPC chair, said that because of a radio antenna atop City Hall, he has been able to receive NWS transmissions although Pampa lies beyond the Amarillo NWS broadcast area.

"We're at the 50-mile limit in Pampa right now," Hall said. "With the antenna on City Hall I can get most of the broadcasts."

He added, "The critical things are the tones, if you're not within range (of a tower) you won't hear it."

"We want to help them find a tower they could use down near McLean and one off Highway 207 between Carson and

Hutchinson counties," Hall said.

"We're pleased about this because we can increase warning capabilities to our citizens," he said, adding that local emergency management officials had considered other options. "But this will be the best thing. (NWS) will take care of everything."

Hall said that Gray County is 11th on the list of the 44 projected sites for NOAA transmitters.

"Hopefully it will start happening after the first of next year," he said. "Hopefully we'll have it in place by next storm season."

Wynne said that weather radio receivers are available for a reasonable price at many local electronic stores.

"It's a good device to keep up on warnings in your area, especially now you can put in a code," he said.

Wynne explained that NWS now has codes designated for each state and each county that limits weather warnings only to those that involve state and county entered in the weather radio.

"We will try to have one of these receivers in every principal's office in every school covered by an antenna," Wynne said, adding that the receivers

Morgan told board members the accounting firms providing school audits do not know the full effect of the implementation of GASB #34 yet.

Morgan said PISD has a \$19 million budget and averages \$1.7 million in operation costs per month. While the local district has a reserve fund to operate the school less than a month, the optimal amount of reserve would be a fund balance for operations for three to six months.

The CPA also told the board the school district was fortunate to have a business manager with the capabilities of McVay.

"Of the 20 to 25 school districts which we audit annually, Mark is the best business manager of those districts," said Morgan.

"We have relied on Mark to increase our fund balance each year so we don't have to raise taxes," said board member Pat Kennedy. "We are very pleased with him."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

are donated by local businesses to be distributed to the schools.

Wynne also handed out a list of county codes for the NWS emergency alert system and a list of NOAA weather radio websites that LEPC members might be interested in viewing.

These websites included the National Weather Service NOAA radio website at <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr>; the USDA website for all hazard warning network at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rus/index.html> and The National Weather Service "StormReady" effort at <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/stormready>.

## DONATIONS

boats which can be sold. Lieutenants Guy and Dolores Watts are both ordained ministers in the Salvation Army's Church. They also provide counseling services.

Anyone wishing to donate to the local Salvation Army may contact Watts at 665-7233 or mail the donation to the Salvation Army, P.O. Box 1458, Pampa, TX 79066.

## City Briefs

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

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER**, Pampa Senior Citizen's Center, Thurs. 21st, 10:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. \$5.00

**CHRISTMAS SPECIALS** "Golden Touch" 2 hr. massages-3 essential oils-3 types of vibration stretches trigger points, therapy. Hot towels on back and legs; also uses hot stones on back, neck and legs. 1 massage \$45, \$10 savings. 2 massages \$85, \$25 savings. 3 massages \$130, \$30 savings. 4 massages \$175, \$45 savings. 5 massages \$205, \$70 savings. 806-665-6850.

**CUSTOM EMBROIDERY.** Stitchin' Barn, 669-3543, at Walnut Creek.

**GERMAN SHEPHERD** full bl. puppies, 3 females. \$100 ea. 665-1797.

**HOLIDAY SALE!!** December 22, Praxair is having a Sale for One Day, Walk-In Special Only. 10%, 15% and 20% off manager selected items. Many products to outfit that Welder you know with that last minute perfect gift!

**JOY'S UNLIMITED** will be open until 8 p.m. Thurs. night. Open Sun: X-mas Eve 1-4 p.m. for your late shopping.

**JUST ARRIVED-BOYDS** Collectible Dolls, new cool stuff for the teens on your list, and more Country Church Birdhouses. Shop til 7:30 p.m. Thursday, December 21 and remember we will be open 1:00-4:00 on Christmas Eve. Best Kept Secrets, 1925 N. Hobart.

**MEAT LOAF**, fried chicken, salmon patties, chicken fried steak. Chaney's 5-8 p.m. 716 W. Foster.

**COMET CLEANERS**, coats 20% off (leather not included).

**REMEMBER EARLY** advertising deadlines for Christmas & New Years holidays, in the Pampa News. Happy Holidays!!

**SEE US** for in-car video. Custom overhead monitors, in dash, headrest or visor mountings. DVD, VCR, video games & wireless head phones. Halls Auto Sound.

**START YOUR** business off right in the New Year, in a high impact location. Office spaces available, reasonable rates, leases tailored to your business. For more information contact Blake or Les Howard 669-1287. E-mail us: [bahoward@nts-online.net](mailto:bahoward@nts-online.net), or [lihoward@centramedia.net](mailto:lihoward@centramedia.net).

**WE HAVI** her favorite things-unique selection of sterling jewelry-latest styles. Twice Is Nice.

## Weather focus

**PAMPA** - Today, partly sunny and becoming windy. Highs in the mid 50s. North to northwest winds 10 to 20 mph. Increasing to 15 to 25 mph with higher gusts this afternoon. Caution advised on area lakes. Tonight, partly cloudy with lows 15 to 20. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph, becoming light and variable after midnight. Thursday, partly cloudy. Highs around 39. Light and variable winds, becoming south 5 to 15 mph. Thursday night, mostly clear. Lows around 18. Friday, partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s. High Tuesday was 50 and the overnight low, 34.

**STATEWIDE** - Gusty south winds on Wednesday preceded

the latest cold front's invasion in Texas, with some precipitation now in the forecast for Christmas weekend.

Early-morning temperatures ranged from the 20s in the Panhandle and far West Texas to 30s elsewhere. Extremes were 21 degrees at Marfa and 52 at Fort Stockton.

It was 27 degrees at Hondo and 49 at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

Winds were mostly southerly at 10 to 15 mph, pumping moisture from the Gulf of Mexico ahead of the front, which stretched along the Red River. In the eastern half of the state, winds were southeasterly from 5 to 10 mph, with southwesterly breezes in the far west, gusting

to 37 mph at Guadalupe Pass.

Wind chills were in the lower teens to the 20s in some areas.

Conditions in North Texas should remain partly cloudy and windy through Friday, with increasing cloudiness and gusts.

Daytime temperatures were expected to climb to near 50 in the northeast, into the mid-60s in the southwest and upper 70s in the deep south and along the Rio Grande.

A chance of rain was expected by Thursday in North Texas, with afternoon and evening showers in the southeast.

Lows overnight should range from the teens in the Panhandle through mid-30s and 40s in the north and lower 50s along the coast.

# Calendar of events

## WHITE DEER LAND MUSEUM

White Deer Land Museum (112-116 S. Cuyler) winter visiting hours are 1-4 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. No charge for admission; elevator provided.

## CLARENDON COLLEGE

Clarendon College-Pampa Center will offer GED testing on the fourth Monday and Tuesday of each month. Registration will be at 9 a.m. each day. Cost will be \$45 including a \$20 deposit. For more information, call 665-8801.

## LAS PAMPA WATER GARDEN AND KOI SOCIETY

Las Pampa Water Garden and Koi Society meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Austin Elementary School. For more information, contact Sharron Andrew at 665-6138 or Lance DeFever.

## PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Planned Parenthood of Amarillo and the Texas Panhandle is changing its hours. It is now open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 408 W. Kingsmill Ave., #175-A, in Pampa. For more information or for an appointment, call 665-2291. Planned Parenthood is a not-for-profit health care organization serving women and men in 17 offices covering 26 counties in the panhandle.

## HIGH PLAINS EPILEPSY ASSOCIATION

High Plains Epilepsy Association of Amarillo, funded in part by Pampa United Way, will have a licensed social worker in Pampa from 9:30-12 noon the second Tuesday of each month at Pampa Community Building, 200 N. Ballard. The program assists people with epilepsy and their families. To make an appointment, contact the Amarillo office at 1-800-806-7236.

## PRE-SCHOOL STORY HOUR

Lovett Memorial Library will sponsor a pre-school story hour at 10 a.m. every Tuesday this fall beginning Sept. 5. The free program is open to children 18 months to 5 years of age and will include stories, crafts and other activities. No registration is required. For more information, call the library at 669-5780.

## GED TESTING

Clarendon College-Pampa Center conducts GED testing the fourth Monday and Tuesday of every month except for May and June. Test dates for these two months are May 22 and 23 and June 19 and 20. Those taking the full test must attend both days. Preregistration is required. For more information, call Jana Wesson-Martin at 665-8801.

## PHS SCHOLARSHIPS

Pampa High School is seeking clubs, organizations, individuals or groups interested in establishing scholarships for high school seniors. The scholarships can be for any amount. The high school will make the scholarships available to senior students at the end of February. For more information, contact Starla Kindle or Billie Lowrey at 669-4800.

## FIRST ASSEMBLY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

First Assembly of God Church, 500 S. Cuyler, will present its annual "Home for Christmas" program at 10 a.m., Sunday, Dec. 24 in the sanctuary of the church. Pastor Mike Moss will share the Christmas story, Christmas carols will be sung by candlelight and refreshments will be served. The program is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Moss at 665-5941 or 665-6060.

## MISS TOP OF TEXAS AREA

The Third Annual Miss Top of Texas Area Scholarship Pageant will be held at 7 p.m., Jan. 27 at Frank Phillips College in Borger. Prior to the Miss Top of Texas Pageant, a junior pageant will be held Saturday, Jan. 13 in FPC auditorium for young women between the ages of 2-17. The Miss Top of Texas competition is a preliminary to the Miss Texas Pageant to be held in July 2001 at Fort Worth. Eligibility requirements: Participants must be between the ages of 17 and 24; must be at least a senior in high school; and must currently attend or plan to attend college. The winner will receive a \$250 cash scholarship, a \$250 wardrobe allowance, official crown and the opportunity to compete in the Miss Texas Pageant. Titles for the junior pageant are: Tiny Miss, Petite Miss, Little Miss, Junior Miss and Young Miss. The winner will compete in the Miss Teen Texas Pageant slated in July at Fort Worth. Teens must be between the ages of 13-17. The Teen titleholder will receive a \$100 cash scholarship, official crown and her entry fee to Miss Teen Texas. For more information, call (806) 273-7168 or (806) 857-3804.

## SINGLES NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

The Singles Ministry at Paramount Terrace Christian Church of Amarillo will host an area-wide Singles New Year's Eve dinner and dance from 7 p.m.-12 a.m., Dec. 31 in Amarillo Civic Center Grand Plaza. Music will be by Sharla Lee Hayes and Double Diamond Band. A photographer will be available at 6:30 p.m. for personal photos. Tickets are \$20 per person and will include a guest speaker, dinner and dance. Deadline to purchase tickets is Dec. 22. The event will be alcohol- and smoke-free. For tickets or for more information, call Penny Lawlis or Mike Nuthman at the church, (806) 353-6615.

## TRAIN SHOW

Amarillo Model Railroad Association will hold its annual Magic of Christmas Past Train Show beginning Nov. 24 in Western Plaza. Show hours are, 12 noon-8 p.m., Nov. 24-26 and Dec. 25-31 as well as 5-8 p.m., every Friday in December. The association will raffle off a 4' x 8' HO-scale model railroad at 4 p.m. Christmas Eve. Admission is \$1 for adults and 50-cents for children. Raffle tickets are \$1 a chance or six for \$5.

## PALO DURO PROGRAMS

Palo Duro Canyon State Park will host a series of evening programs throughout the month at Lone Star Interpretive Theater near Hackberry. Topics and dates are as follows: "Birdwatching," (Panhandle Bird Club), 8:10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Dec. 7; "Canyon Chat," 7-8 p.m., Dec. 9; "Starwalk," 7-8 p.m., Dec. 23; "Canyon Critters," 7-8 p.m., Dec. 30. For more information, call (806) 488-2227, ext. 49.

## FPC WEBSITE

Spring class schedules for Frank Phillips College in Borger are available on the college's website located at www.fpc.cc.tx.us on the Internet. Registration for the spring semester will be conducted Jan. 10-11 in the library at FPC. Off-campus registration will be Jan. 8 at various area locations including Canadian, Dalhart, Perryton, Sunray and Spearman.

## AMERICAN GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP

American General Career Distribution Group is offering the American General Scholarship to eligible Texas high school seniors. To qualify, a student must place in the top half of their class academically (but not necessarily in the top 10 percent) and present evidence of good character (two letters of recommendation are required: one from a high school official and the other from a community leader). Students will also be evaluated on extracurricular activities and community service. For more information, call (615) 320-3149. Applications must be post-marked by March 1, 2000.

## ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION

The National Arbor Day Foundation is offering a free "Conservation Trees" booklet with colorful photos and illustrations and easy-to-understand descriptions to help people plant and care for trees. To obtain a booklet, send name and address to: Conservation Trees, The National Arbor Day Foundation, Nebraska City, NE 68410.

## POWER WHEELCHAIRS

Miracle on Wheels is offering Power Wheelchairs to non-ambulatory senior citizens (65 years and up) usually at no out-of-pocket expense if they qualify. No deposit is required. The chairs are provided to those who cannot walk and self-propel a manual wheelchair at their home or independent living quarters and who meet additional qualifications of the program. This service may also be available to the permanently disabled of any age. For more information, call 1-800-749-8778 or visit www.durablemedical.com on the World Wide Web.

## FREE BOOKLET

The Free Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C., is offering a new booklet, "The 100 Most Popular Government Giveaway Programs," to consumers nationwide. To obtain a copy of the booklet, send \$5 to cover cost of printing, postage and handling to: Free Enterprise Institute, 100 Government Giveaways, Dept. 100GG-0816, P.O. Box 96071, Washington, D.C. 20090-6071. For more information, call (202) 595-1031 or visit www.FreeEnterpriseInstitute.org on the Internet.

## ANIMALPRINTS.COM

AnimalPrints.com has dedicated \$1 from each sale of a newly released series of artist's prints to benefit animals in need. For more information or to view the prints, go to AnimalPrints.com on the Internet.

## BUTTERFLY GARDEN CLUB

The Butterfly Garden Club of America is offering free butterfly garden seeds (with growing instructions). To receive a packet, send a long SASE with two stamps to: The Butterfly Garden Club of America, P.O. Box 629, Burgin, KY 40310. Limit one free packet per household. Additional packets are available for \$1 each.

## FREE ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE

Free Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C., has published "Free Money - Winning the Government Giveaway Game," a booklet which offers information concerning free money, free advice and free services from the government. Consumers may receive a copy by sending \$5 to cover the cost of printing and postage/handling to: Free Enterprise Institute, Government Giveaway Booklet Offer, Dept. GGB-407-1, P.O. Box 96071, Washington, DC 20090-6071 or at www.FreeEnterpriseInstitute.org on the World Wide Web.

## TUITION ASSISTANCE

U.S. Commission for Scholastic Assistance - College Bound is an organization with a listing of over 700 different private scholarship sources for college students. Many scholarships pay the entire tuition; other can be applied towards tuition, living expenses and/or other fees. Most scholarships can be used at junior colleges, career and vocation-

al schools, 4-year colleges, graduate schools, medical and law schools. For more information, send a SASE (business size, #10) to: The U.S. Commission for Scholastic Assistance, P.O. Box 668, O'Fallon, IL 62269.

## T.O.P.S. #149

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (T.O.P.S.) #149 meets at 6 p.m. Monday at 513 E. Francis. Call 669-2389 for more information.

## T.O.P.S. #41

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (T.O.P.S.) #41 meets at noon Monday at 511 N. Hobart. For more information, call 665-3024.

## AL-ANON

Al-Anon will hold weekly meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at 910 W. Kentucky.

## VFW CHARITY BINGO

The Pampa Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1657, 105 S. Cuyler, will be having Charity Bingo every Sunday at 1:30 p.m. Doors open at 12 noon. The public is welcome. License No. 1-75-6037422-9.

## CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS

The Celebration of Lights project will hold regular workshop meetings at 6:30 p.m. on Monday nights at 822 E. Foster. Anyone wishing to help with the project is invited to attend any work session.

## PAMPA DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

The Pampa Duplicate Bridge Club plays Monday at 1 p.m. and Thursdays at 10 a.m. at The Senior Citizens. For a partner, or more information, please call Marie Jamieson at 669-2945.

## PANHANDLE ALLIANCE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL

A support group for the mentally ill and family members meet the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at 218 N. Russell. This week we are discussing the negative symptoms of paranoid schizophrenia. There is no charge. For more information or if you need a ride call Sharon King, 665-2818.

## MONTHLY GOSPEL SINGING

First Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock, hosts a Gospel Singing from 2-4 p.m. every second Sunday of the month. Pastor Albert Maggard and the congregation of First Pentecostal cordially invites the public to attend. Singers and musicians from area churches participate in this informal congregational singing and enjoy various special vocal and instrumental presentations.

## PHS SCHOLARSHIPS

Pampa High School is seeking clubs, organizations, individuals or groups interested in establishing scholarships for high school seniors. The scholarships can be for any amount. The high school will make the scholarships available to senior students at the end of February. For more information, contact Starla Kindle or Billie Lowrey at 669-4800.

## GRAY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Gray County Genealogical Society will not meet in the month of December. The January meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. at Lovett Memorial Library and will feature a hands-on orientation to the Internet.

## PAMPA BOOK CLUB

Pampa Book Club will meet at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 10 at Lovett Memorial Library. The group will discuss "East of the Mountain" by David Guterson. Visitors are welcome.

## SANTA HELPERS

In an effort to raise funds for its Summer Educational Student Exchange trip to Germany, the German Club at Pampa High is organizing a volunteer program during the Christmas season. The volunteers are calling themselves "Santa's Little Helpers" and are available to help wrap presents, decorate homes (indoors and outdoors), remove decorations and much more. For more information or to schedule "Santa's Little Helpers," contact Jamie Greene, PHS German Club sponsor, at 669-4800 (PHS) or at 665-8850 (home). Donations are accepted.

## ADOPT-A-SEA TURTLE

Adopt a sea turtle for some one you love this holiday season. For a tax-deductible \$25, the Sea Turtle Survival League, an educational, outreach program of the nonprofit Caribbean Conservation Corp., will send participants a personalized color sea turtle adoption certificate, a sea turtle fact sheet, colorful decal and magnet and a subscription to the organization's quarterly newsletter, all in a special folder. For more information, call 1-800-678-7853 or visit www.cccturtle.org on the Internet.

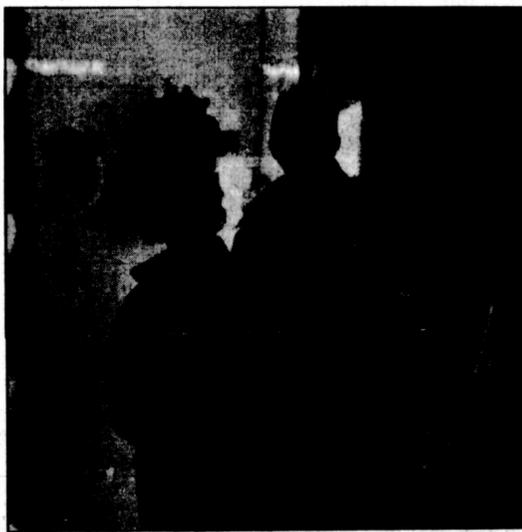
## DISCOVERY CENTER

The Don Harrington Discovery Center in Amarillo is introducing the exhibit "Air Discovery: Soar to New Heights" this month. For more information, call the center at (806) 355-9547.

## AYUSA

Academic Year in the U.S.A. International, a non-profit student exchange program, invites high school students to apply for the Congress-Bundestag scholarship, a full scholarship for one year to study in Germany. Deadline for application is Dec. 1. For more information, call 1-800-727-4540, ext. 567 or visit www.ayusa.org/usagermanyscholarship on the World Wide Web.

## Spreading holiday cheer ...



(Special photo)

David Pitmon, Nick Hillman and Blake Howell, eighth graders from White Deer, recently spread holiday cheer at Coronado Healthcare Center in Pampa. The trio helped decorate doors at CHC.



We invite you to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ! The Midnight Christmas Eve Service begins at 11:00 p.m. Children's service at 5:00p.m.

For more information phone 665-0701

**Come join us!**  
**St. Matthew's Episcopal Church**  
727 West Brotoning Street

Want to know more about us? Visit us at [www.stmatt.pampa.com](http://www.stmatt.pampa.com)



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**Sign Up To Win A Diamond Ring 6:00-8:00 PM Nightly Until December 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Merry Christmas**



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**HOLMES SPORTS CENTER**  
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## Wal-Mart Foundation donation



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Joe Cumby, manager of the Pampa Wal-Mart, presents Wal-Mart Foundation donations to Barbara Kirkham, director of the Community Day Care Center, left, and Monica Galloway, director of the Pregnancy Support Center of Pampa. Kirkham said their gift will go toward day care's Christmas Project. Galloway said the Pregnancy Center funds will be used in the general fund and to buy supplies for the "Lamb's Closet." Cumby said funds are still available and encourages any local 501(c)3 agency to contact him and apply for a grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation.

## Judge pens poetic petition response in inmate suit

AUSTIN (AP) — Dismissing a Texas Panhandle prison inmate's lawsuit against Penthouse magazine, a federal judge used a holiday theme in his poetic response.

The \$500,000 lawsuit by Amarillo inmate David Joyner, who identified himself in court papers as "minister of law" with the Mandingo Warriors prison gang, was dismissed by U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks with a

12-line poem and a \$250 fine. Joyner had contended he had been mentally scarred by false and deceptive advertising in the men's magazine relating to what he described as a disappointing December issue. So he sued in Austin's federal courthouse — naming publisher Bob Guccione and President Clinton's foe Paula Jones as defendants.

"Life has its disappointments.

Some come out of the blue, but that doesn't mean a prisoner should sue," Sparks wrote.

"Twas the night before Christmas and all through the prison, inmates were planning their new porno mission. While the December issue of Penthouse was hitting the stands, the Minister of the Mandingo Warriors was warning his hands.

"For you see, the publishers had promised a pleasurable view of the woman who sued the President, too," the judge wrote.

Sparks has penned other legal poetry. In 1998, he issued a 16-line poem allowing the City of Austin to continue cleaning Barton Springs Pool.

### Callin Bree Burleson

Born To Joel & Kristin Burleson Of Pampa, Tx. On Monday Dec. 4, 2000 At Northwest Texas Hospital Weighing 8 Lbs 1/4 Oz., 20 Inches long. Proud Maternal Grandparents Are Bill & Kay Schwartz Of Weatherford, Ok., Maternal Great Grandmother Is Pauline Fischer Of Arapaho, Ok., Paternal Grandparents Are Jerry & Claudia Burleson Of Arapaho, Ok., Paternal Great Grandmother Is Mrs. Thomas Kister Of Terry, Ms. This Is Their 1st Child.

The Perfect Christmas Gift For Your Favorite Veteran  
**VETERANS BRICK**  
 ON THE WALKWAY OF HONOR  
 Freedom Museum 669-6666 • VFW Post 1657 • 669-1264

## FSA announces programs, upcoming deadlines

According to Gray County Farm Service Agency County Executive Director Matthew Street, application deadlines for emergency farm assistance programs are approaching. Street also wants to inform area producers of several newly developed emergency programs available.

"As area farmers and ranchers continue to fight Mother Nature, increasing input expenses and low commodity prices, FSA continues to develop and deliver programs designed to alleviate these hardships. Through the existing programs and with the proposed new programs, USDA and FSA continue to recognize the farm community's need for support," Street said.

Application deadlines for programs previously announced this year are as follows:

- 2000 Oilseeds Program. Payments in the amount of \$500 are available to the more than 600,000 producers of the 2000 crops of certain oilseeds. Eligible oilseeds include canola, crambe, flaxseed, mustard, rapeseed, safflower, sesame, soybeans and

sunflowers. Application deadline is Jan. 12, 2001.

- Wool and Mohair Market Loss Assistance Program. Approximately \$11 million in relief is available for farmers who suffered economic loss due to low prices during the 1999 marketing year. Application deadline is Dec. 29.

- 2000 Lamb Meat Adjustment Assistance Program. Approximately \$10 million is available to producers whose lamb carcasses meet minimum grade specifications. Application deadline is Aug. 15, 2001.

Local USDA FSA offices will also soon begin accepting applications for the following programs:

- 2000 Crop Disaster Program. Funds will be made available to producers who have been affected by crop disaster. Sign-up is set to get under way Jan. 18, 2001.

- 2000 Livestock Assistance Program. An estimated \$438 million is available to producers

for grazing losses due to weather related disasters. Sign-up period will begin Jan. 18, 2001.

- 2000 Dairy Market Loss Assistance. Payments to operations that received assistance under DMLA II will be automatically issued to producers later this month. Payments will also be available to new operations and to operations that did not have 12 months of marketing established under DMLA II, and will be based on October 1999-September 2000 marketing. The four-week sign-up period for eligible producers will begin in late January, 2001.

Producers should watch for new program announcements released from their local FSA. County offices will receive national guidance regarding new program delivery prior to program sign-up dates. For more information, contact the Gray Co. FSA office at 665-6565, ext. 2. New program eligibility and application information will be available in January.

## Gift-wrapping



(Special photo)

Anne Stobbe of Pampa's Altrusa Club wraps gifts from the Salvation Army Angel Tree program. Altrusa International of Pampa members assist with this community project each year. This year, gifts for 458 needy children in Pampa and Gray County were wrapped.

## A New Brand Of Ownership, A New Kind of Sears

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Sears Dealer Stores, one of America's fastest growing retail formats, is looking for an exceptional individual to own and operate a Sears dealer store. As an authorized Sears dealer, you can bring your hometown the kind of products that make life more enjoyable like Kenmore, Craftsman, GE, DieHard and Sony. From appliances to electronics to lawn and garden, this is a growth-oriented business suited to a community-oriented individual committed to success.

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Estimated financial requirements: \$120,000 net worth, \$10,000 available cash, \$55,000 - \$100,000 initial investment



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## SPORTS

## Notebook

## BASKETBALL

**DENTON, Texas (AP)** — Jason Miller scored 33 points to lead North Texas to a 91-82 victory over Texas A&M Kingsville Tuesday night.

North Texas used a 7-0 run to break open the game and take an 85-78 lead with 1:26 remaining.

The Javelinas had rallied in the second half and led 74-66 with 6:34 remaining in the game, but North Texas (2-7) went on an 11-2 scoring run to regain the lead before North Texas' final run.

Chris Johnson and James Smith led A&M-Kingsville (3-6) in scoring with 17 points each.

Bryan Lucas had 20 points and 13 rebounds for North Texas. Chris Davis added 23 points, six boards and five assists.

Miller and Lucas both had a double-double.

## BASEBALL

**HOUSTON (AP)** — Stardom brings choices, and Jeff Bagwell made his.

With concerns about the future of the Houston Astros answered to his satisfaction, Bagwell decided Tuesday to accept the team's offer of a five-year contract extension worth \$85 million. It will make him the third highest-paid player in the major leagues.

"Jeff Bagwell had choices to make and he had opportunities if he chose to go or remain here, and he decided to stay," general manager Gerry Hunsicker said.

"Every successful team needs someone to build around, someone that has to stand up to the unreasonable expectations that goes with being a franchise player, someone who is willing and able to accept the unfair criticism."

"Jeff Bagwell is our franchise player, and he does this with honors."

The deal includes a \$7 million buyout of a club option for 2007 and averages \$17 million, matching Toronto first baseman Carlos Delgado for the third-highest yearly average in baseball behind Texas shortstop Alex Rodriguez (\$25.2 million) and Boston outfielder Manny Ramirez (\$20 million).

"I couldn't imagine putting on another uniform," Bagwell said. "When I finish, I'll have worn the uniform for 16 years and that's something I'm proud of. There's a ton of money out there, but I'm happy with the money I got. They made it an easy decision."

Bagwell would like to think that his legacy will parallel his upbringing in New England, where Ted Williams and Carl Yastrzemski were synonymous with his favorite team, the Boston Red Sox.

"When you say Houston Astros, you think of (Craig) Biggio and Bagwell, and I'm proud of that," Bagwell said. "I want people to continue to say that. I want to be a Houston Astro the rest of my career and retire, and with the help of the organization, they made it an easy decision."

## BOWLING

## Harvester Lanes League Results

## Ladies Trio League

Ladies high scratch game: Linda Austin 204.

Ladies high scratch series: Carla Schiffman 552.

.....

Stacy Naron, a 136 average bowler, received a WIBC award for a 501 series.

## Harvester Couples League

Ladies high scratch game: Andrea Roberson 203.

Ladies high scratch series: Belinda Nolte 501.

Men's high scratch game: Ralph West 277.

Men's high scratch series: Ralph West 736.

## Caprock League

Men's high scratch game: Ralph West 289.

Men's high scratch series: Ralph West 698.

## Cowboys, Aikman face major decisions

By JAIME ARON  
AP Sports Writer

**IRVING, Texas (AP)** — Sometime next week, Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones and quarterback Troy Aikman will meet to discuss the topic they've been avoiding all season: The future.

The first thing on the agenda will be whether Aikman can safely continue his career after suffering two concussions this season, four in his past 20 starts and 10 in his career.

If he thinks he can, and doctors agree, then Jones will have to decide whether he wants to keep the quarterback who brought him three Super Bowl titles — and at what price. Aikman is due \$7 million if he's on the roster March 8.

The money might put the deci-

sion back on Aikman. How much is it worth to keep risking his health? And, if Dallas won't meet that price, would he consider going to another team that would?

With so many things to think through, neither side will be in a hurry to come to any conclusions.

"I don't want to speculate on when a final decision will be made," Jones said. "My chief concern is his well-being."

Aikman's 12th season officially ended Tuesday when it was announced he won't play in the season finale Monday night against Tennessee.

"We as an organization and our trainers, in conjunction with doctors, felt the risks of playing the last game outweighed the rewards," coach Dave Campo said. "Troy agreed with that."

The 34-year-old Aikman suf-

fered his first concussion of the season in the opener and missed two games. He played four more then missed a game with a back problem.

With Dallas (5-10) realistically out of the playoffs at the time, Aikman could've been shut down for the season to play it safe. However, the quarterback wanted to play and the team needed to see how his body held up because of the pending \$7 million decision.

Aikman was hurt again in his fifth game back on a flying jolt from Washington's LaVar Arrington. Although Aikman was crunched, he suffered the concussion without being hit directly on his head.

"The last concussion concerned me because one of the things I wanted to see in the later part of the season was whether our

offense could protect him," Jones said. "The fact he got another concussion gives rise to concern."

Aikman has barely spoken with reporters since his latest injury. Jones and Campo said that Aikman agreed Monday with the decision to keep him out of the Tennessee game.

"In no way would I intimate he feels this is it," Campo said.

Considering the battering Aikman has taken, the three Super Bowls he's won and the checks he's cashed, many have suggested the quarterback call it a career and avoid any further damage to his health and reputation.

Aikman, however, has always maintained he'd like to play as long as he enjoys the game and isn't risking horrible injury.

His desire remains high, leaving his health as the main con-

cern. Last offseason, his fears were eased by tests that showed no permanent damage from his previous eight concussions.

An added wrinkle this time is concern over a herniated disc in his back. Aikman has had the problem since '93, but this season he needed two rounds of shots to relieve the pain. Another big hit by Jacksonville's Tony Brackens triggered trouble in a back joint as well.

When Aikman played, he was far from his best.

He threw for the fewest touchdowns (seven) and fewest yards (1,632) of his career, plus had the worst QB rating in the NFC. Despite throwing his fewest passes in a season, he had 14 interceptions, including a career-worst five in one game. Dallas was 3-5 in his eight full games.

## KC lands World Cup Qualifier

**CHICAGO (AP)** — The United States will play its second home game of the final round of World Cup qualifying at Arrowhead Stadium on April 25 against either Costa Rica or Guatemala.

It will be the first World Cup qualifier in 33 years at Kansas City, the home of the Wizards, the champion of Major League Soccer.

The Americans open qualifying on Feb. 28 against Mexico at Columbus, Ohio, then play at Honduras on March 28. The opponent for the game at Arrowhead will be determined on Jan. 6, when Costa Rica and Guatemala meet at Miami's Orange Bowl in a one-game playoff.

Mexico, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago also are in the six-team finals of the North and Central American and Caribbean region. After double round-robin play, the top three times qualify for the 2002 World Cup in Japan and South Korea.

Staging the World Cup qualifier had been a goal of Wizards owner Lamar Hunt, who has worked with his son, Clark, to bring the event to Kansas City.

"We look at it as another step in validating Kansas City as a solid soccer market," Hunt said.

The U.S. men's team has not played in Kansas City since a 6-2 win over Bermuda in a World Cup qualifier on Nov. 2, 1968. The U.S. women have had a pair of recent exhibition games at Arrowhead, beating Finland 6-0 in October 1999 and tying Canada 1-1 last August.

At least two Wizards could be on the U.S. national team in coming months. Goalkeeper Tony Meola and midfielder Chris Klein have been invited to the U.S. national team training camp next month.

"I'm happy for Lamar and Clark Hunt," Meola said. "It was important to them to bring this game to Kansas City, and now they got it. It's exciting. Hopefully, it will increase turnout and see what the fans are made of."



Tanner Hucks puts up a shot in a recent game at McNeely Fieldhouse. Hucks is the starting point guard for Pampa.

(Photo by Jerry Heasley)

## Texas high school produces 3 UW recruits

**LARAMIE, Wyo. (AP)** — Wyoming has received three more verbal commitments from the football recruiting trail, bringing to nine the number who have given the nod to the Cowboys.

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Tomlinson and TCU will face a Southern Miss defense that has allowed just eight rushing TDs in the last 57 quarters and racked up 113 tackles behind the line this season.

"He's a great running back," Barnes said. "He'll probably be the best running back we've faced since I've been here. You can't miss him in the open field; he'll score."

## Wal-Mart Foundation donation



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Joe Cumby, manager of the Pampa Wal-Mart, presents Wal-Mart Foundation donations to Barbara Kirkham, director of the Community Day Care Center, left, and Monica Galloway, director of the Pregnancy Support Center of Pampa. Kirkham said their gift will go toward day care's Christmas Project. Galloway said the Pregnancy Center funds will be used in the general fund and to buy supplies for the "Lamb's Closet." Cumby said funds are still available and encourages any local 501(c)3 agency to contact him and apply for a grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation.

## Judge pens poetic petition response in inmate suit

AUSTIN (AP) — Dismissing a Texas Panhandle prison inmate's lawsuit against Penthouse magazine, a federal judge used a holiday theme in his poetic response.

The \$500,000 lawsuit by Amarillo inmate David Joyner, who identified himself in court papers as "minister of law" with the Mandingo Warriors prison gang, was dismissed by U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks with a

12-line poem and a \$250 fine. Joyner had contended he had been mentally scarred by false and deceptive advertising in the men's magazine relating to what he described as a disappointing December issue. So he sued in Austin's federal courthouse — naming publisher Bob Guccione and President Clinton's foe Paula Jones as defendants. "Life has its disappointments.

Some come out of the blue, but that doesn't mean a prisoner should sue," Sparks wrote.

"Twas the night before Christmas and all through the prison, inmates were planning their new porno mission. While the December issue of Penthouse was hitting the stands, the Minister of the Mandingo Warriors was warming his hands.

"For you see, the publishers had promised a pleasurable view of the woman who sued the President, too," the judge wrote.

Sparks has penned other legal poetry. In 1998, he issued a 16-line poem allowing the City of Austin to continue cleaning Barton Springs Pool.

### Callin Bree Burleson

Born To Joel & Kristin Burleson Of Pampa, Tx. On Monday Dec. 4, 2000 At Northwest Texas Hospital Weighing 8 Lbs 1/4 Oz., 20 Inches long. Proud Maternal Grandparents Are Bill & Kay Schwartz Of Weatherford, Ok., Maternal Great Grandmother Is Pauline Fischer Of Arapaho, Ok., Paternal Grandparents Are Jerry & Claudia Burleson Of Arapaho, Ok., Paternal Great Grandmother Is Mrs. Thomas Kister Of Terry, Ms. This Is Their 1st Child.

The Perfect Christmas Gift For Your Favorite Veteran  
**VETERANS BRICK**  
**ON THE WALKWAY OF HONOR**  
 Freedom Museum 669-6666 • VFW Post 1657 • 669-1264

## FSA announces programs, upcoming deadlines

According to Gray County Farm Service Agency County Executive Director Matthew Street, application deadlines for emergency farm assistance programs are approaching. Street also wants to inform area producers of several newly developed emergency programs available.

"As area farmers and ranchers continue to fight Mother Nature, increasing input expenses and low commodity prices, FSA continues to develop and deliver programs designed to alleviate these hardships. Through the existing programs and with the proposed new programs, USDA and FSA continue to recognize the farm community's need for support," Street said.

Application deadlines for programs previously announced this year are as follows:

- 2000 Oilseeds Program. Payments in the amount of \$500 are available to the more than 600,000 producers of the 2000 crops of certain oilseeds. Eligible oilseeds include canola, crambe, flaxseed, mustard, rapeseed, safflower, sesame, soybeans and

sunflowers. Application deadline is Jan. 12, 2001.

- Wool and Mohair Market Loss Assistance Program. Approximately \$11 million in relief is available for farmers who suffered economic loss due to low prices during the 1999 marketing year. Application deadline is Dec. 29.

- 2000 Lamb Meat Adjustment Assistance Program. Approximately \$10 million is available to producers whose lamb carcasses meet minimum grade specifications. Application deadline is Aug. 15, 2001.

Local USDA FSA offices will also soon begin accepting applications for the following programs:

- 2000 Crop Disaster Program. Funds will be made available to producers who have been affected by crop disaster. Sign-up is set to get under way Jan. 18, 2001.

- 2000 Livestock Assistance Program. An estimated \$438 million is available to producers

for grazing losses due to weather related disasters. Sign-up period will begin Jan. 18, 2001.

- 2000 Dairy Market Loss Assistance. Payments to operations that received assistance under DMLA II will be automatically issued to producers later this month. Payments will also be available to new operations and to operations that did not have 12 months of marketing established under DMLA II, and will be based on October 1999-September 2000 marketing. The four-week sign-up period for eligible producers will begin in late January, 2001.

Producers should watch for new program announcements released from their local FSA. County offices will receive national guidance regarding new program delivery prior to program sign-up dates. For more information, contact the Gray Co. FSA office at 665-6565, ext. 2. New program eligibility and application information will be available in January.

## Gift-wrapping



(Special photo)

Anne Stobbe of Pampa's Altrusa Club wraps gifts for the Salvation Army Angel Tree program. Altrusa International of Pampa members assist with this community project each year. This year, gifts for 458 needy children in Pampa and Gray County were wrapped.

Days 'til Christmas  
 5  
 Before trying that fruitcake, remember... you are what you eat.

## A New Brand Of Ownership, A New Kind of Sears

For over 100 years, the Sears, Roebuck and Co. name has been synonymous with trust and integrity. Our customers have come to rely on us for our quality, name brand products and our legendary customer service.

Sears Dealer Stores, one of America's fastest growing retail formats, is looking for an exceptional individual to own and operate a Sears dealer store. As an authorized Sears dealer, you can bring your hometown the kind of products that make life more enjoyable like Kenmore, Craftsman, GE, DieHard and Sony. From appliances to electronics to lawn and garden, this is a growth-oriented business suited to a community-oriented individual committed to success.

### Providing you with the strength of Sears:

- Extensive advertising and marketing support
- Complete inventory with no cost to the owner
- Professional training and on-going support

A unique ownership opportunity in Pampa, TX. Sears collects no fees or royalties.

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Estimated financial requirements: \$120,000 net worth, \$10,000 available cash, \$55,000 - \$100,000 initial investment



**THIS IS A GREAT DEAL.**  
**IT'S AS PLAIN AS THE NOSE ON YOUR FACE.**

1125 minutes for \$29.99

CELLULARONE

Cellular One Stores	Also available at these Locations
Pampa 1329 N. Hobart 669-3435	Pampa Cellular Connections Radio Shack
Wal-Mart 2225 N. Hobart 662-6116	Panhandle Horizon Agency
	Shawnee Irish Pines

Offers good for a limited time on new activations on select rate plans only, and are subject to change without notice. 1125 minutes includes 125 anytime minutes, 600 "night" minutes for calls made from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. Monday through Thursday, and 600 "weekend" minutes for calls made from 8:00 p.m. Friday to 11:59 p.m. Sunday, from within home calling area only. Does not include taxes, assessments, surcharges, roaming or other lot charges. Incoming and outgoing calls are rounded up and billed in 15-minute increments from the time the network begins to process the call (before the call rings or is answered) through its termination of the call. Minimum term commitment required with fee for early cancellation. Featured hardware available at Cellular One stores and participating dealers while supplies last. We may replace your free analog phone with a free digital phone at our discretion while you remain on this plan. Other restrictions apply. See written materials in-store for complete details. Notes: Connecting People, and the Nokia 2820 phone are trademarks of Nokia and/or its affiliates.

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# SPORTS

## Notebook

### BASKETBALL

**DENTON, Texas (AP)** — Jason Miller scored 33 points to lead North Texas to a 91-82 victory over Texas A&M Kingsville Tuesday night.

North Texas used a 7-0 run to break open the game and take an 85-78 lead with 1:26 remaining.

The Javelinas had rallied in the second half and led 74-66 with 6:34 remaining in the game, but North Texas (2-7) went on an 11-2 scoring run to regain the lead before North Texas' final run.

Chris Johnson and James Smith led A&M-Kingsville (3-6) in scoring with 17 points each.

Bryan Lucas had 20 points and 13 rebounds for North Texas. Chris Davis added 23 points, six boards and five assists.

Miller and Lucas both had a double-double.

### BASEBALL

**HOUSTON (AP)** — Stardom brings choices, and Jeff Bagwell made his.

With concerns about the future of the Houston Astros answered to his satisfaction, Bagwell decided Tuesday to accept the team's offer of a five-year contract extension worth \$85 million. It will make him the third highest-paid player in the major leagues.

Jeff Bagwell had choices to make and he had opportunities if he chose to go or remain here, and he decided to stay," general manager Gerry Hunsicker said.

"Every successful team needs someone to build around, someone that has to stand up to the unreasonable expectations that goes with being a franchise player, someone who is willing and able to accept the unfair criticism."

"Jeff Bagwell is our franchise player, and he does this with honors."

The deal includes a \$7 million buyout of a club option for 2007 and averages \$17 million, matching Toronto first baseman Carlos Delgado for the third-highest yearly average in baseball behind Texas shortstop Alex Rodriguez (\$25.2 million) and Boston outfielder Manny Ramirez (\$20 million).

"I couldn't imagine putting on another uniform," Bagwell said. "When I finish, I'll have worn the uniform for 16 years and that's something I'm proud of. There's a ton of money out there, but I'm happy with the money I got. They made it an easy decision."

Bagwell would like to think that his legacy will parallel his upbringing in New England, where Ted Williams and Carl Yastrzemski were synonymous with his favorite team, the Boston Red Sox.

"When you say Houston Astros, you think of (Craig) Biggio and Bagwell, and I'm proud of that," Bagwell said. "I want people to continue to say that. I want to be a Houston Astro the rest of my career and retire, and with the help of the organization, they made it an easy decision."

### BOWLING

#### Harvester Lanes League Results

**Ladies Trio League**  
Ladies high scratch game: Linda Austin 204.  
Ladies high scratch series: Carla Schifman 552.

Stacy Narron, a 136 average bowler, received an WIBC award for a 501 series.

**Harvester Couples League**  
Ladies high scratch game: Andrea Roberson 203.

Ladies high scratch series: Belinda Nolte 501.  
Men's high scratch game: Ralph West 277.  
Men's high scratch series: Ralph West 736.

**Caprock League**  
Men's high scratch game: Ralph West 289.  
Men's high scratch series: Ralph West 698.

# Cowboys, Aikman face major decisions

By JAIME ARON  
AP Sports Writer

**IRVING, Texas (AP)** — Sometime next week, Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones and quarterback Troy Aikman will meet to discuss the topic they've been avoiding all season: The future.

The first thing on the agenda will be whether Aikman can safely continue his career after suffering two concussions this season, four in his past 20 starts and 10 in his career.

If he thinks he can, and doctors agree, then Jones will have to decide whether he wants to keep the quarterback who brought him three Super Bowl titles — and at what price. Aikman is due \$7 million if he's on the roster March 8.

The money might put the deci-

sion back on Aikman. How much is it worth to keep risking his health? And, if Dallas won't meet that price, would he consider going to another team that would?

With so many things to think through, neither side will be in a hurry to come to any conclusions. "I don't want to speculate on when a final decision will be made," Jones said. "My chief concern is his well-being."

Aikman's 12th season officially ended Tuesday when it was announced he won't play in the season finale Monday night against Tennessee.

"We as an organization and our trainers, in conjunction with doctors, felt the risks of playing the last game outweighed the rewards," coach Dave Campo said. "Troy agreed with that."

The 34-year-old Aikman suf-

fered his first concussion of the season in the opener and missed two games. He played four more then missed a game with a back problem.

With Dallas (5-10) realistically out of the playoffs at the time, Aikman could've been shut down for the season to play it safe. However, the quarterback wanted to play and the team needed to see how his body held up because of the pending \$7 million decision.

Aikman was hurt again in his fifth game back on a flying jolt from Washington's LaVar Arrington. Although Aikman was crunched, he suffered the concussion without being hit directly on his head.

"The last concussion concerned me because one of the things I wanted to see in the later part of the season was whether our

offense could protect him," Jones said. "The fact he got another concussion gives rise to concern."

Aikman has barely spoken with reporters since his latest injury. Jones and Campo said that Aikman agreed Monday with the decision to keep him out of the Tennessee game.

"In no way would I intimate he feels this is it," Campo said.

Considering the battering Aikman has taken, the three Super Bowls he's won and the checks he's cashed, many have suggested the quarterback call it a career and avoid any further damage to his health and reputation.

Aikman, however, has always maintained he'd like to play as long as he enjoys the game and isn't risking horrible injury.

His desire remains high, leaving his health as the main con-

cern. Last offseason, his fears were eased by tests that showed no permanent damage from his previous eight concussions.

An added wrinkle this time is concern over a herniated disc in his back. Aikman has had the problem since '93, but this season he needed two rounds of shots to relieve the pain. Another big hit by Jacksonville's Tony Brackens triggered trouble in a back joint as well.

When Aikman played, he was far from his best.

He threw for the fewest touchdowns (seven) and fewest yards (1,632) of his career, plus had the worst QB rating in the NFC. Despite throwing his fewest passes in a season, he had 14 interceptions, including a career-worst five in one game. Dallas was 3-5 in his eight full games.

## KC lands World Cup Qualifier

**CHICAGO (AP)** — The United States will play its second home game of the final round of World Cup qualifying at Arrowhead Stadium on April 25 against either Costa Rica or Guatemala.

It will be the first World Cup qualifier in 33 years at Kansas City, the home of the Wizards, the champion of Major League Soccer.

The Americans open qualifying on Feb. 28 against Mexico at Columbus, Ohio, then play at Honduras on March 28. The opponent for the game at Arrowhead will be determined on Jan. 6, when Costa Rica and Guatemala meet at Miami's Orange Bowl in a one-game playoff.

Mexico, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago also are in the six-team finals of the North and Central American and Caribbean region. After double round-robin play, the top three times qualify for the 2002 World Cup in Japan and South Korea.

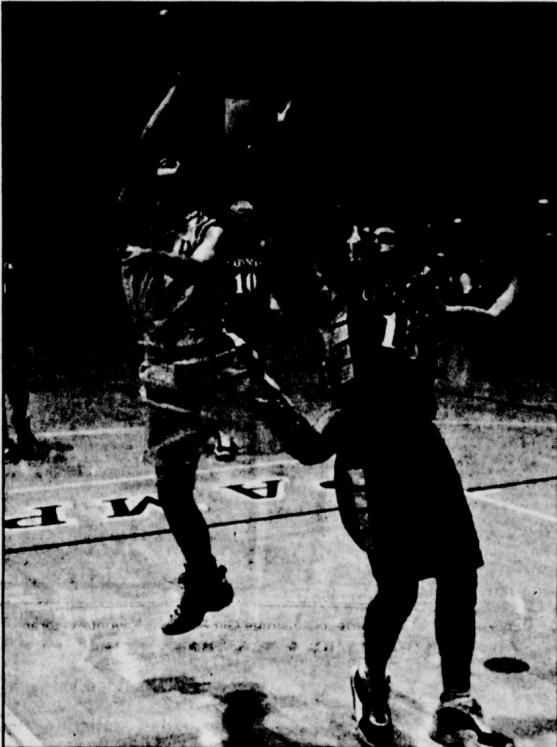
Staging the World Cup qualifier had been a goal of Wizards owner Lamar Hunt, who has worked with his son, Clark, to bring the event to Kansas City.

"We look at it as another step in validating Kansas City as a solid soccer market," Hunt said.

The U.S. men's team has not played in Kansas City since a 6-2 win over Bermuda in a World Cup qualifier on Nov. 2, 1968. The U.S. women have had a pair of recent exhibition games at Arrowhead, beating Finland 6-0 in October 1999 and tying Canada 1-1 last August.

At least two Wizards could be on the U.S. national team in coming months. Goalkeeper Tony Meola and midfielder Chris Klein have been invited to the U.S. national team training camp next month.

"I'm happy for Lamar and Clark Hunt," Meola said. "It was important to them to bring this game to Kansas City, and now they got it. It's exciting. Hopefully, it will increase turnout and see what the fans are made of."



(Photo by Jerry Heasley)

**Tanner Hucks puts up a shot in a recent game at McNeely Fieldhouse. Hucks is the starting point guard for Pampa.**

## Harvesters open district season

### High School Basketball

Pampa clashes with Dumas in a District 3-4A boys' basketball opener Thursday night.

The Harvesters enter the district contest at Dumas with a 9-6 record.

Dumas is coming off an 81-66 win over Sanford-Fritch Tuesday night. Zach Wilson, a 5-7 junior, had 18 points and Chase Potter, a 5-9 senior, had 15 for the Demons.

Pampa will be looking to rebound after an 86-56 loss to Odessa High last weekend. Gary Alexander, a 5-8 guard, had 22 points for the Harvesters.

In the girls' game, both Pampa and Dumas are 0-2 in district play.

"Dumas is a lot like us, up and down. They're relatively short and they like to shoot the three's," said Pampa head coach Mark Elms. "It should be a good matchup."

The Pampa Academy men's basketball team played the Royals from Victory Academy of Amarillo Monday night.

The Harvesters and cold shooting were their downfall in the first half of play leading to a halftime score of 29-12. The team gained some momentum during the fourth period, but was unable to beat the deficit leading to a

final score of 62-48.

Bryce Taylor led the team in scoring with 21 points and rebounding with 19 rebounds. Coy Devoll had 11 points and six steals. Marlon Echols and Luke Raber each had 6 points, and Chad Sublett had 4.

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# Venus soared, Sampras broke Grand Slam record in 2000

By STEVE WILSTEIN  
AP Tennis Writer

## Tennis

Venus Williams twirled in half-circles, laughing and waving her arms on Centre Court after winning Wimbledon last summer, a joy that spilled over to a crowd that laughed with her.

Everyone knew they were seeing something special: the blossoming of a young woman who could dominate tennis for years with sister Serena, and the triumph of the first black female champion at Wimbledon since Althea Gibson in 1958.

Venus confirmed that feeling at the U.S. Open two months later when she tightened the family grip on women's tennis by winning the title Serena had captured the year before. A few weeks later, Venus added two Olympic gold medals to her treasure chest, one for singles and one for doubles with Serena.

"I guess I've graduated to a different level where I can be like some of the greats," Venus said in Sydney after running her singles winning streak to 32 matches.

There was no boasting in her words, no superiority in her voice. Rather, she sounded, at 20, as if she suddenly realized how good she had become.

Her breakthrough to the top of the game, if not the top of the rankings, came after she sat out six months with tendinitis in both wrists. Her father, Richard, suggested in March that she take off a year rather than risk further injury. Venus decided to tape up those thin wrists and play without fear.

Fear had been holding back another young player with great potential until he broke through this year.

Tall and strong, with an all-court game that could bring him success on every Grand Slam surface, Russia's Marat Safin spoke of how he was afraid to attack more established players during the French Open and Wimbledon.

Too often Safin expressed his fear and frustration by throwing temper tantrums, breaking rackets even more often than Goran Ivanisevic.

Then, suddenly, in a two-week show of talent and patience, Safin came of age.

In the U.S. Open final, Pete Sampras looked across the net as if he were staring in a funny mirror distorted by time.

The image he saw was younger, larger, stronger, the 20-year-old Safin with his peach-fuzz face and grown-up game.

The 6-foot-4 Safin gave Sampras, the career Grand Slam champion, one of his worst losses to become the first Russian to win the U.S. Open.

"He reminded me of myself when I was 19 and came here and won for the first time," the 29-year-old Sampras said. "The way he's playing he's the future of the game. I didn't feel old. I felt I was standing next to a big dude."

The big dude, who got down on his knees and kissed the court in Arthur Ashe Stadium to celebrate his victory, became the youngest U.S. Open champion since Sampras won the first of his four titles a decade ago.

If Safin's first major title and only the fifth tournament win of his brief career, and it came in the most lopsided victory (6-4, 6-3, 6-3) over a former champion in 25 years.

"It's a bit of a humbling feeling to have someone play that well for that long," Sampras said. "He serves harder than I did at 19. He's more powerful. He doesn't have many holes. He moves well. He's going to win many majors."

Only two months earlier, Sampras won a record 13th Grand Slam title, capturing Wimbledon for the seventh time in a dramatic four-set match against Patrick Rafter.

Twinkling flashbulbs lit up Centre Court like fireworks in the night when Sampras kissed the trophy once again, his eyes glistening from the tears he had shed moments earlier after he hit his final service winner.

Rarely emotional on court, Sampras showed how much this victory meant to him as he bent over in tears after the final point, then climbed up into the stands to embrace his mother and father, watching

him win a Grand Slam title in person for the first time.

"I wanted them to be a part of it," Sampras said. "As much as I like to say I'm going to be back here every year, there's no guarantees. ... I'm glad they hopped on the plane and made the trip."

Sam and Georgia Sampras flew in from Southern California only the day before and sat high above Centre Court to watch their son pass Roy Emerson for the most Grand Slam championships, and tie Willie Renshaw, a player in the 1880s, for the most Wimbledon titles.

No Wimbledon title had ever come with more pain and difficulty than Sampras suffered in this one, dealing with acute tendinitis above his left ankle from the second round on.

As emotional as the Wimbledon triumphs were for Sampras and Venus Williams, there were equally emotional victories by other players that punctuated the year in tennis:

— Andre Agassi winning his second Australian Open in January as he stretched a glorious eight-month run that included titles at the French and U.S. Opens and a runner-up finish at Wimbledon. Agassi had hopes of holding the No. 1 spot through the year, but a string of injuries stopped him.

— Lindsay Davenport winning the Australian and going on to finish runner-up at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open.

— Mary Pierce becoming the first Frenchwoman to capture the title at Roland Garros in 33 years.

— Gustavo Kuerten surviving a dramatic duel against an amazingly resilient Magnus Norman to win a second French Open en route to claiming the No. 1 spot in the ATP Tour rankings.

— Spain blanking the United States 5-0 in the Davis Cup semifinals, setting the stage for John McEnroe's resignation as captain, and going on to capture the cup for the first time with a victory over Australia in the finals.

## Slay's life a lesson in perseverance

Brandon Slay's life is a lesson for us all in perseverance.

Slay, America's Olympic gold medal wrestler, was the guest speaker at The Pampa Takedown Club banquet last Saturday night.

At an early age, Slay seemed destined more for mediocrity than greatness. In other words, he wasn't born with that gold medal hanging around his neck.

"I was at a clinic after I returned from Sydney and a little kid came up and asked me if I had ever lost a match," Slay said. "I had a good laugh about that. I had a 25 and 7 record this past year. I know what it's like to lose and to fail."

His first trophy was for fourth place in an Amarillo tournament when he was six years old.

Slay never won a match in the tournament. He just claimed the trophy when his opponent didn't show up.

Slay recalled years competing for the Maverick Club when he was 0-10 and 0-15.

"I didn't give up. I didn't quit like so many other kids did," he said. "You're a winner if you never give up. You're a winner if you make an effort."

His parents were divorced when he was three years old. His mother moved to Houston and Slay ended up living in Amarillo with his father and grandmother.

"My grandmother (Dorothy 'Me Ma' Shay) did a great job of raising me," he said. "She was always an inspiration to me. Not everyone comes from an ideal family, but you can't let that stop you. There's always going to be one person who loves you and that's Jesus Christ."

Slay just kept on plugging away while fellows who had beaten him along the way had dropped out of the wrestling program.

Slay was driven, a boy possessed, especially after watching the 1984 Olympics on television. It was the year American wrestler Dave Schultz won the gold medal, and that's when little Brandon set his far-reaching goal.

"I remember telling Me Ma I was going to the big Olympics," he said.



By  
**L. D. Strate**  
Sports  
Editor

That phrase 'big Olympics' would be repeated often in the Shay household in the coming years.

"The big Olympics, that's something Brandon always talked about when he was growing up," recalled Grandmother Slay. "He was very goal-oriented. He would have his tournament schedule on a calendar and when he was through with one he would mark it off, and say I've got four more to go, or three more to go, or whatever it was."

All those tournaments, the grueling practice sessions and the year-around conditioning would finally pay off when Brandon hit high school.

At Tascosa, he won the state championship three times to earn a wrestling scholarship to the University of Pennsylvania. He went on to claim the U.S. Nationals, winning all five of his matches, and then secured the 167-1/2 pound spot on the U.S. team at the Olympic Trials in Dallas.

Slay's silver medal would turn to gold after the International Olympic Committee stripped German Alexander Leipold of the gold after failing a drug test. Slay would dedicate his medal to Schultz, who was shot to death while training for the 1996 Olympics.

Slay is busy these days promoting his Greater Gold program at speaking engagements, wrestling camps and on the internet. His website, [greatergold.com](http://greatergold.com), has a Christian message directed to youngsters all across the country.

Slay sees his accomplishments as a miracle.

"God was with me. He allowed it to happen," he said.

## Scoreboard

COLLEGE FOOTBALL		WESTERN CONFERENCE				
College Bowl Games	At A Glance	W	L			
<b>Saturday, Dec. 30</b>						
<b>Alamo Bowl</b>						
At San Antonio	Pay: \$1.2 million					
Nebraska (9-2) vs. Northwestern (8-3), 8 p.m. (ESPN)						
<b>Sunday, Dec. 31</b>						
<b>Silicon Valley Classic</b>						
At San Jose, Calif.	Pay: \$1.2 million					
Fresno State (7-4) vs. Air Force (8-3), 7 p.m. (FOXSN)						
<b>Independence Bowl</b>						
At Shreveport, La.	Pay: \$1.1 million					
Texas A&M (7-4) vs. Mississippi State (7-4), 8 p.m. (ESPN)						
<b>Monday, Jan. 1</b>						
<b>Outback Bowl</b>						
At Tampa, Fla.	Pay: \$2 million					
Ohio State (8-3) vs. South Carolina (7-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN)						
<b>Cotton Bowl</b>						
At Dallas	Pay: \$2.5 million					
Kansas State (10-3) vs. Tennessee (8-3), 11 a.m. (FOX)						
<b>Gator Bowl</b>						
At Jacksonville, Fla.	Pay: \$1.4 million					
Virginia Tech (10-1) vs. Clemson (9-2), 12:30 p.m. (NBC)						
<b>Citrus Bowl</b>						
At Orlando, Fla.	Pay: \$4 million					
Michigan (8-3) vs. Auburn (9-3), 1 p.m. (ABC)						
<b>Rose Bowl</b>						
At Pasadena, Calif.	Pay: \$13.5 million					
Purdue (8-3) vs. Washington (10-1), 4:30 p.m. (ABC)						
<b>Fiesta Bowl</b>						
At Tempe, Ariz.	Pay: \$13.5 million					
Oregon State (10-1) vs. Notre Dame (9-2), 8 p.m. (ABC)						
<b>Tuesday, Jan. 2</b>						
<b>Sugar Bowl</b>						
At New Orleans	Pay: \$13.5 million					
Florida (10-2) vs. Miami (10-1), 8 p.m. (ABC)						
<b>Wednesday, Jan. 3</b>						
<b>Orange Bowl</b>						
At Miami	Pay: \$11-13 million					
Oklahoma (12-0) vs. Florida State (11-1), 8 p.m. (ABC)						
<b>PRO BASKETBALL</b>						
<b>National Basketball Association</b>						
<b>By The Associated Press</b>						
<b>All Times EST</b>						
<b>EASTERN CONFERENCE</b>						
<b>Atlantic Division</b>						
	W	L	Pct			
Philadelphia	18	6	.750			
New York	15	11	.577			
Miami	13	13	.500			
Orlando	10	14	.417			
Boston	9	15	.375			
New Jersey	9	15	.375			
Washington	5	20	.200			
<b>Central Division</b>						
	W	L	Pct			
Cleveland	15	7	.682			
Charlotte	16	9	.640			
Toronto	13	12	.520			
Milwaukee	12	12	.500			
Indiana	12	13	.480			
Detroit	11	14	.440			
<b>WESTERN CONFERENCE</b>						
<b>Midwest Division</b>						
	W	L	Pct			
Utah	17	8	.680			
Dallas	17	10	.630			
San Antonio	15	9	.625			
Minnesota	15	10	.600			
Houston	13	11	.542			
Denver	12	13	.480			
Vancouver	7	17	.292			
<b>Pacific Division</b>						
	W	L	Pct			
Sacramento	17	6	.739			
Portland	17	8	.680			
L.A. Lakers	18	9	.667			
Phoenix	15	9	.625			
Seattle	13	12	.520			
L.A. Clippers	8	18	.308			
Golden State	7	18	.280			
<b>Monday's Games</b>						
Dallas 106, Boston 98						
<b>Tuesday's Games</b>						
Toronto 103, Utah 95						
Atlanta 87, New York 77						
L.A. Lakers 81, Miami 79						
Indiana 90, Chicago 85						
San Antonio 86, Houston 79						
Detroit 89, Phoenix 84						
Sacramento 106, Washington 72						
Golden State 120, Minnesota 99						
<b>Wednesday's Games</b>						
New Jersey at Boston, 7 p.m.						
Toronto at Indiana, 7 p.m.						
Miami at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.						
Utah at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.						
Portland at Dallas, 8 p.m.						
Cleveland at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.						
Detroit at Denver, 9 p.m.						
Sacramento at Seattle, 10 p.m.						
Washington at Vancouver, 10 p.m.						
Minnesota at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.						
<b>Thursday's Games</b>						
Chicago at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.						
New Jersey at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.						
Boston at New York, 8 p.m.						
L.A. Lakers at Houston, 8:30 p.m.						
<b>HOCKEY</b>						
<b>Western Professional Hockey League At A Glance</b>						
<b>By The Associated Press</b>						
<b>Eastern Division</b>						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Austin	19	8	2	40	109	77
Monroe	18	11	1	37	106	95
Tupelo	18	13	1	37	128	95
B-Shreveport	16	11	1	33	92	81
Corpus Christi	15	15	1	31	90	111
Lake Charles	14	15	1	29	91	114
Central Texas	11	13	4	25	84	93
Fort Worth	9	20	2	20	88	111
<b>Western Division</b>						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Lubbock	16	11	4	36	114	100
New Mexico	17	7	2	36	107	102
Odessa	15	7	5	35	101	81
Amarillo	14	10	4	32	103	99
San Angelo	12	14	4	28	79	120
El Paso	10	12	5	25	73	86
NOTE: Two points are awarded for a victory; shootout losses earn one point and are referred to as ties.						
<b>Tuesday's Games</b>						
Austin 4, Monroe 2						
<b>Wednesday's Games</b>						
No games scheduled						
<b>Thursday's Games</b>						
Lubbock at Amarillo, 8 p.m.						
San Angelo at Odessa, 8 p.m.						
Monroe at Central Texas, 8 p.m.						
Bossier-Shreveport at Corpus Christi, 8 p.m.						
Tupelo at Lake Charles, 8 p.m.						
El Paso at New Mexico, 8 p.m.						

## Kings atop standings in West

By The Associated Press

The team with the best record in the West doesn't have Shaquille O'Neal or Kobe Bryant, or John Stockton and Karl Malone.

That team resides in the capital city of California, where the Sacramento Kings have won seven straight home games.

Following their 34-point rout of the Washington Wizards on Tuesday night, the surprisingly consistent Kings are atop the standings in the West.

The Kings (17-6), who allowed their lowest point total of the season, had 12 blocks and 14 steals, leading to a number of easy baskets in a 106-72 drubbing of the Wizards.

"That's the type of game we have to play. Our offense isn't going to be clicking every night," said Chris Webber, who had three blocks. "That is the difference between this year's team and last year's team. We play much better defense now."

It was the biggest loss for Washington since March 16, 1994, when the Wizards fell to the Los Angeles Lakers 129-94.

In other NBA games, it was Toronto 103, Utah 95; Atlanta 87, New York 77; the Los Angeles Lakers 81, Miami 79; Indiana 90, Chicago 85; San Antonio 86, Houston 79; Detroit 89, Phoenix 84; and Golden State 120, Minnesota 99.

Vlade Divac had 15 points and nine rebounds for the Kings, who won their third straight game. Reserve Lawrence Funderburke made all seven of his shots and finished with a season-high 16 points, while Doug Christie had 15 points and seven rebounds.

"As bad as you can be on offense, we maintained at the other end," Kings coach Rick Adelman said. "We blocked shots and had our hands on a lot of balls. If we keep bringing it defensively every night, we'll be tough to beat, especially in this building."

Rod Strickland scored 13 points for Washington, which has dropped 10 of 11 games. Tyrone Nesby added 12

points.

Washington shot 36 percent from the field, committed 23 turnovers and was horrible from the free-throw line (10-of-23).

"We had been playing well and executing, but then we reversed back to our same old selves," Strickland said. "They got out on the break and executed and got a lot of easy baskets."

**Raptors 103, Jazz 95**  
Vince Carter scored 33 points, and Toronto held Malone scoreless in the second half.

Malone, who played just 26 minutes for Utah, was held to 12 points. The Jazz are in the midst of their longest road trip of the season, playing six games in nine days.

After missing his first three shots of the third quarter, coach Jerry Sloan lifted Malone for the remainder of the period. He played only four minutes in the fourth.

"People don't pay to come watch the players look bored," Sloan said. "I'm sorry to say this, but we looked sad to be here. I don't care what names were out on the floor. I was looking for someone who wants to play. We came down and shot the ball like a cannon."

Sloan also took out Stockton two minutes after he sat Malone. Stockton played just 10 minutes in the second half.

Antonio Davis had 14 points and 13 rebounds for the Raptors, who never trailed.

**Hawks 87, Knicks 77**  
At Atlanta, Lorenzen Wright started in place of the injured Alan Henderson and had 20 points and 12 rebounds to help the Hawks beat New York for the second time this season.

It was the fifth double-double this season for Wright, who got to start his fourth game when Henderson was placed on the injured list prior with a strained left shoulder.

Jason Terry added 17 points, Matt Maloney 15 and Roshown McLeod 12 for the Hawks. Dikembe Mutombo had nine points and 15 rebounds.

Glen Rice led New York

with 23 points.

**Lakers 81, Heat 79**

O'Neal had 22 points, 14 rebounds and four blocked shots — including one in the final seconds — as Los Angeles won at Miami.

Kobe Bryant added 23 points, but shot just 9-of-24. O'Neal struggled from the free-throw line, hitting two in 11 tries.

Leading 81-79, Los Angeles' dynamic duo had a chance to seal the victory in the final minute, but Bryant missed a jumper and O'Neal got the rebound and missed the put-back. The Heat had a chance to tie, but O'Neal blocked Brian Grant's shot from close range.

**Spurs 86, Rockets 79**  
Tim Duncan scored 25 points, including 12 in the fourth quarter, for San Antonio.

Duncan also had 15 rebounds as the Spurs beat the Rockets for the ninth consecutive time, five of them at Compaq Center.

**Pacers 90, Bulls 85**  
Reggie Miller scored 15 of his 22 points in the fourth quarter, and Jermaine O'Neal made two free throws and blocked a shot in the final 29 seconds as Indiana won at Chicago.

O'Neal finished with 11 points, 13 rebounds and five blocked shots. Travis Best scored 19 and had 10 assists before fouling out.

**Pistons 89, Suns 84**  
At Phoenix, Jerry Stackhouse had 35 points — including 13 in the decisive third quarter — as Detroit handed the Suns their third loss in a row.

The Suns were without Jason Kidd (sore lower back and left knee).

**Warriors 120, Timberwolves 99**  
Rookie Marc Jackson scored a career-high 31 points and grabbed 10 rebounds as Golden State ended a five-game losing streak by winning at home against Minnesota.

Antawn Jamison added 26 points for the Warriors.



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Phillips Petroleum Company is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced salt water or other oil and gas waste by well injection into a porous formation productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to dispose of oil and gas waste into the Brown Dolomite Formation, Husted Lease, Well Number 3. The proposed disposal well is located 7.8 miles South of Pampa in the Panhandle Gray County Field, in Gray County. The waste water will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2730 to 2790 feet.  
**LEGAL AUTHORITY:** Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the State-wide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.  
Requests for a public hearing from persons who are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capital Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792).  
H-3 Dec. 20, 2000

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The Texas Department of Protective & Regulatory Services Human Resources Office Suite 450 8100 Cameron Road, Austin, Tx. 78754

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NUMBER 0-04-E194-202 The Texas Department of Transportation will be accepting applications for one full-time position at the Pampa Engineering Office located at 2611 E. Frederic, Pampa, Texas. The applicant must have graduated from high school or equivalent plus two years experience in transportation engineering. College education in engineering areas or technical training in construction inspection, laboratory testing, contract inspection, surveying, roadway construction, contract record keeping or plan review may be substituted for experience on a year per year basis. (Experience requirements may be satisfied by full-time experience or the prorated part-time equivalent.) The starting salary will be \$1812.00 to \$2295.00 per month. A completed application is required and applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 3, 2001. For further application information, including a complete job vacancy notice, contact the nearest Texas Department of Transportation. Information may also be accessed via the Internet at www.dot.state.tx.us. Mailed applications should be postmarked the day the job vacancy closes and sent to: 5715 Canyon Drive, Amarillo, Tx. 79110. Attn: Human Resources. If more information is needed or if an applicant needs an accommodation in order to apply for this job, contact Vicki Ordes at (806)356-3233. TX DOT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER.

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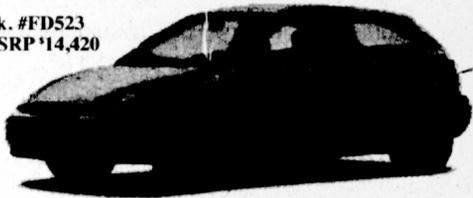


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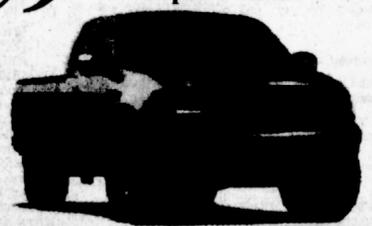
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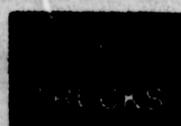


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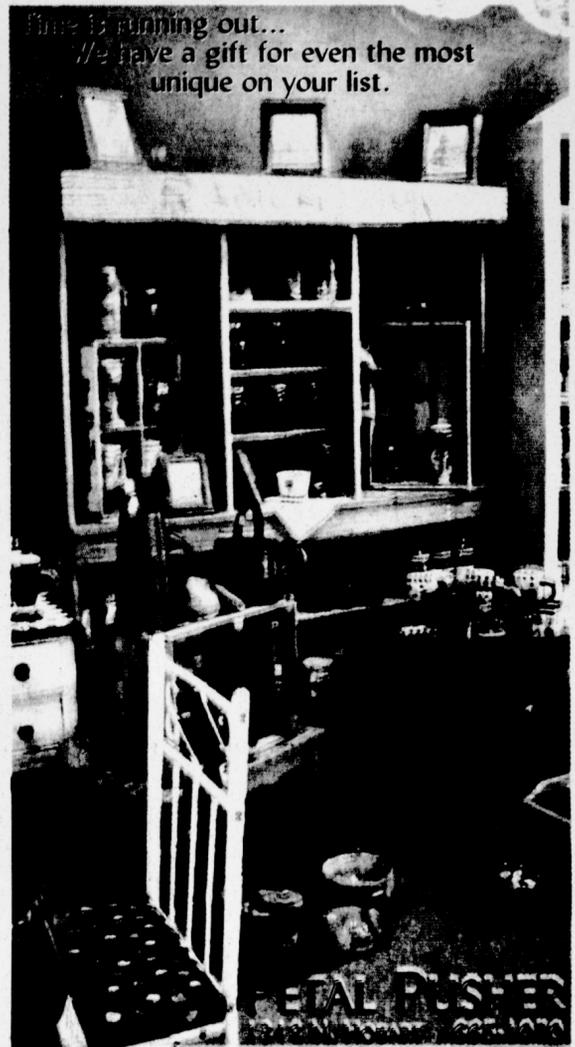


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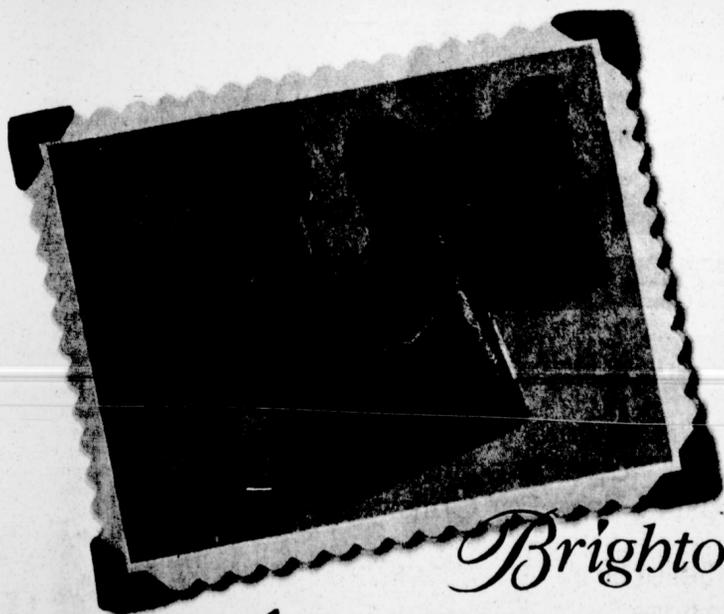
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## Holiday gift certificates



(Pampa News photo taken by Danny Cowan)

Frank's Thriftway recently awarded gift certificates in the amount of \$100 towards purchases in any of the local Frank's stores. Above, left-right: Pauline McCollum, Addie Adkins, Joe Stevens, owner-manager, Dorothy Yearwood, Jim Kindle and Maria Michel. (Not shown: Last weeks winners, Nan Hahn, Clessie Ferris, D.J. Williams, Patricia Lundy and Virginia Tollison.)

## Researchers look to pedal power for astronauts' health

By CHELSEA J. CARTER  
Associated Press Writer

ORANGE, Calif. (AP) — Astronauts may soon be able to participate in a Tour de Space of sorts.

Researchers at the University of California, Irvine, have developed an exercise bicycle to be used in the zero-gravity environment of space.

They say the bike, dubbed Space Cycle, would combat the loss of bone and muscle density and cardiovascular fitness that astronauts suffer during long stints in space.

"A bicycle in space. It sounds like a simple idea, right?" researcher Vince Ciaozzo said during a recent interview. "But it's a lot more complicated than that when you realize it has to function without gravity ...

and still have some impact on the astronauts."

More sci-fi amusement ride than traditional bicycle, the Space Cycle operates as a human centrifuge. Similar in appearance to a spinning wheel, the astronauts sit opposite one another in chairs. As they pedal, they move in a circular motion around a bar. The motion forces them against the seat, mimicking the effect of gravity on Earth.

A special sprocket in the pedaling mechanism can be used to produce the jarring motion of walking and running that's needed to maintain bone density.

The need for exercise in space has been a concern for NASA officials since astronauts went to the moon. Nearly all of the astronauts who spent extended periods aboard Russia's space station Mir returned with some type of muscle and bone loss.

NASA has sent a treadmill and a stationary bicycle into space to be used on the international space station. NASA spokesman John Ira Petty said researchers continue to look at other possibilities.

The Space Cycle was developed by Dr. Art Kreitenberg, an orthopedic surgeon who first came up with the idea as a finalist in NASA's astronaut program in 1991.

During a tour, he saw a wooden mock-up of the stationary bicycle later placed on the space station.

"The first thing I thought was why not have this bicycle whip around inside the can and crfor help building the first prototype. They dubbed it the Millennium Falcon, after the ship Harrison

Ford's character piloted in "Star Wars," because "it didn't look like much, but it got the job done."

Kreitenberg and his team used the model to obtain a \$70,000 grant from NASA in 1995.

To deal with existing gravity, the latest prototype resembles a carnival swing ride, where riders begin in a horizontal position and, as they build speed, rise into a vertical position.

"It's a little different than riding a regular bicycle. The positioning is totally different ... and stopping is much harder. You can't just hit the brakes," said Julia Dierks, 27, of Placentia, who was enlisted along with other members of her Southern California bicycle club to test Space Cycle.

"You can't just look straight ahead or the spinning makes you dizzy." The research team says it has spent \$200,000 to date developing the bike. They estimate it will cost about \$500,000 to complete the project, which will include several more prototypes.

The researchers also are designing a virtual reality system to combat the dizziness and make the ride more enjoyable. Possible designs include allowing riders to participate in a virtual Tour de France or a ride along the beach, Kreitenberg said.

The bike's design takes into account the principle of physics that every action has a reaction. When astronauts were aboard the U.S. Skylab in the 1970s, they exercised by jogging. But their workouts caused the space station to move, and the station's thrusters had to be fired to keep it in position.

The Space Cycle, the researchers believe, can be operated with its own vibration-free system, a collection of wires, cords and dampening mechanisms which would halt the transfer of any vibrations to the station's structure.

Kreitenberg, who has patented the human centrifuge cycle, and the research team also believe there may be commercial and medical applications for the bicycle on Earth.

## For several world leaders, 2000 dished out hard knocks

By LAURA KING  
Associated Press Writer

In the year 2000, politicians got themselves a patron saint, as decreed by Pope John Paul II. It was good timing — all around the world, there were plenty of leaders who could have used a little divine intercession.

Month by month, political casualties mounted as impeachment, insurrection and disasters took their toll. From Asia to the Andes, from Moscow to the Middle East, scores of world leaders were plagued in 2000 by bad judgment, bad timing or just plain bad luck.

Still, political fortune favored a few, in the form of ballot-box victories, feats of diplomacy, or hard-won domestic achievements. Among the year's political winners were some canny veterans whose experience stood them in good stead; others were neophytes on the world stage.

For some leaders, 2000 was a year of early promise that swiftly turned sour.

Few fell so far so fast as Israel's Prime Minister Ehud Barak, who began the year lauded for his peace overtures toward longtime foe Syria, but ended it trying to quell a bloody Palestinian uprising and stave off a challenge from his political nemesis, Benjamin Netanyahu.

In Britain, Tony Blair saw his suave, savvy image eroded by a fiasco over the Millennium Dome, the money-losing centerpiece of the country's year-2000 celebrations, as well as fuel protests that brought the country to a standstill, and a nationwide train system that went badly off track. He even got a tart talking-to, via the tabloids, from Margaret Thatcher, the formidable former prime minister.

Russia's President Vladimir Putin, in office for a year, drew a burst of public anger for his handling of the Kursk nuclear submarine disaster. Many Russians thought the chilly former KGB agent provided shockingly scant comfort to the dead sailors' families.

Some ousted leaders brooded from the sidelines. Yugoslavia's Slobodan Milosevic, whose regime ended with a popular uprising in October, was already charting the course for a political comeback — provided he isn't put on trial for war crimes stemming from Serbian atrocities in Bosnia, Croatia and Kosovo.

Peru's Alberto Fujimori, deposed in absentia over a bribery scandal, took shelter in his ancestral homeland, Japan, while protesting his innocence. Ivory Coast's ex-junta chief, Robert Guei, went into seclusion in his home village after post-election street riots brought him down, but is believed to still have a base of support within the military.

Disgrace haunted some leaders. The reunification of Germany a decade ago was former German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's greatest achievement — but the memory was tarnished by a slush-fund scandal dating from his term in office.

And the Philippines' flamboyant President Joseph Estrada, onetime star of tough-guy action movies, ended the year in the impeachment dock. His corruption trial inspired a spate of luridly detailed reports of his gambling, drinking and womanizing.

Honor was accorded a few politicians, chief among them President Kim Dae-jung of South Korea. The former politi-

cal prisoner won the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to promote human rights and reconcile the two Koreas after more than half a century of bitter estrangement.

It proved too soon to write the political obituaries of a few of the world's most durable leaders, who notched up another year in power — and showed they could still tweak the West.

Iraq's Saddam Hussein continued his long-running confrontation with the United Nations, defying weapons inspectors, halting oil exports and exploiting cracks in decade-old sanctions. Cuba's Fidel Castro reaped a propaganda bonanza from the saga of little Elian Gonzalez, the shipwrecked 6-year-old who was finally returned to his father and his homeland.

Death ended the presidency of Syria's Hafez Assad. His British-educated son Bashar took over, raising hopes of economic and political reform in a country that earned a reputation for backwardness and belligerence during the elder Assad's three decades of autocratic rule.

Politics has always been a tough business, and this year the Vatican sought to offer a bit of comfort, proclaiming Sir Thomas More the patron saint of politicians. Not everyone would want to emulate the English statesman too closely, though — More's career ended with his beheading in 1535.

For some leaders, the coming year augured deepening troubles.

Indonesia's President Abdurrahman Wahid, whose 1999 election was hailed as a victory for democracy, is now seen as disappointingly ineffectual, and has come under increasing international criticism for human rights abuses in restive provinces.

In Zimbabwe, long-ruling President Robert Mugabe cracked down on reformers who had challenged his hold on power in June elections, and condoned a violent campaign to seize white farms and give them to landless blacks.

For some luckless newcomers, there was no such thing as a political honeymoon.

Japan's Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori, in office only since April, has established himself as one of the country's most unpopular prime ministers. He barely survived a rebellion within his own party, and made so many verbal missteps that he was reportedly urged to address the public only from prepared texts.

By contrast, Canada's Prime Minister Jean Chretien got a huge vote of confidence from his compatriots last month, celebrating the biggest victory of a long political career when he guided his Liberal Party to its third consecutive election win.

As New Year approached, Mexico rang in the new with Vicente Fox, who took on the party that had ruled for 71 years — and won. His Dec. 1 inauguration, with an ambitious agenda for reform, marked the first democratic transfer of power between Mexican parties.

Another Latin American populist making waves was Venezuela's Hugo Chavez. In his first full year in office, he pushed through a new constitution and won a national referendum to break the power of labor leaders. But some grumbled that amid all the sweeping change, Chavez might be neglecting the basics of governing.

(See, 2000, Page 11)

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# What a chad, chad, chad, chad world

By LARRY McSHANE  
Associated Press Writer

**NEW YORK (AP) —** Who let the chads out? In the first year of the new millennium, a 12-month extravaganza of rambunctious rappers, potty-mouthed politicians, a Subway Series and the re-re-re-naming of Prince, the whole 365 days still boil down to those five words.

The chads, those tiny rectangles punched out of a Floridian's properly completed ballot, evolved into a symbol of the year 2000 — a signal of hope, change and the future.

Or of ineptitude and antiquity.

Each chad was studied closer than a Pamela Anderson poster in a cellblock full of lifers. There were dimpled chads, pregnant chads, dented chads — scads of chads, oodles of chads, green eggs and chads.

Would you punch them in a car? Would you, could you in a bar?

If the chad standard applied nationwide in 2000, the New York Mets would argue that World Series was not quite over. Drew Brees would still await his Heisman Trophy. The rest of Rage Against the Machine would claim departed lead singer Zach de la Rocha had just gone out for the paper.

Chad-zooks!

But that was not the case; the chad-mania was blissfully prevented from spreading outside the Sunshine State. The other 49 members of the union had to make do with items like these:

— **HUMILIATION, THY NAME IS ...** After marrying a stranger on a Fox television show and getting a quickie annulment in Las Vegas, Darva Conger stripped down for Playboy. Her motivation for doing the Hef thing: "I'm trying to make something positive out of something very bad." And, of course, to make her parents proud.

— **THAT'S P-R-I-N-C-E:** Name change No. 1:

After bopping through the last decade under an assortment of noms-de-weird — a symbol, The Artist, that weird guy with the cheeks cut out of his pants — Prince held a news conference announcing he would now be known as ... Prince!!! This clears the way for Art Garfunkel to rename himself as the Art-ist.

— **HAIL, ARCADIA!** Name change No. 2: Deciding it was easier to switch names than convince America's comedians to mature, Beaver College officially changed its name to the comedy-proof Arcadia University. That sound you hear is the soft weeping of late-night comedy writers.

— **TRUMP PLAZA AT PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE:** After an exploratory committee determined that a baccarat table couldn't fit in the Lincoln Bedroom and the White House couldn't be moved to Atlantic City, Donald Trump ended his alleged run for the presidency.

— **THE MIKE TYSON DIET:** Ears are out, kids are in. The once-fearsome, now-frothing ex-heavyweight champion informed current titleholder Lennox Lewis, "I want to eat your children." Rather than eat alone, Tyson proposed a culinary treat for Lewis, too: "I'll rip his heart out and feed it to him."

— **WELCOME TO THE BIG LEAGUES:** New York Times reporter Adam Clymer was described in distinctly non-presidential terms — Richard Nixon excepted — during a campaign stop by Gov. George W. Bush, who apparently wants to put the "expletive" back in "expletive deleted."

— **DEAD MAN RUNNING:** Some Republicans contemplated challenging Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan's right to run for the U.S. Senate, saying he no longer lived in the state. Technically, they were right — he had died in a plane crash. But Missouri voters opted for Carnahan anyway; the seat will be assumed by his widow.

— **PUFFY GO HOME:** Sean "Puffy" Combs, an

A-list invitee to events of all sorts, was crossed off the guest list — permanently — at Club New York. Owner Michael Bergos sued Puffy for \$1.8 million, saying the notoriety caused by a December shooting incident inside his Times Square club had wrecked his business. Combs is charged with weapons possession in the case.

— **MY NAME IS ... PRISONER NO. 145762:** Keeping it a little too real, Eminem was arrested twice in a week on weapons charges — the second time after a dust-up with members of the Insane Clown Posse (really). Adding insult to arrest, the gutter-mouthed rapper's mom later released her own CD dissing the real Slim Shady.

— **HEIDI, HEIDI, HEIDI HO:** In a move reminiscent of the infamous "Heidi" game, CBS cut away from the last two minutes of the San Diego Chargers-Kansas City Chiefs game to air something equally innocuous: election results two weeks after the election. This deprived San Diego television viewers of seeing their team's first win of the season after 11 consecutive losses.

— **WHERE DID OUR FANS GO?:** Diana Ross, after launching a Supremes reunion that snubbed original member Mary Wilson, discovered the seats

were empty without her, babe. In Columbus, Ohio, there were barely 3,000 people in a 22,000-seat arena; the tour went belly-up after 12 of 23 scheduled dates.

— **THE BAHHA MEN:** Who? Who? Who? One year from now, folks will be asking that question about the purveyors of the inescapable "Who Let the Dogs Out?" — part song, part ritual chant, all annoying, all the time. The Men even performed their hit before a World Series game in Shea Stadium, although not before the Florida Supreme Court.

The chads, those tiny rectangles punched out of a Floridian's properly completed ballot, evolved into a symbol of the year 2000 — a signal of hope, change and the future.

## Reasons for economic downturn

By JOHN CUNNIFF  
AP Business Analyst

**NEW YORK (AP) —** There are good reasons to have an economic downturn, hard as it might be to accept one. Just like individuals, economies become mentally and physically burned out, lose their bearings and need a rest.

You can see the evidence: Highways crowded, airports jammed, energy prices soaring, service eroding, people over their heads in debt, stock prices flipping like hooked fish.

The symptoms are all about you, and as close as home. People have been spending more than they earn, and borrowing heavily too. Homes remain residences, yes, but they've become banks for borrowing too.

People have been racing about for so long now that they've forgotten what they're so frantic about. Coming and going, getting and spending, as the poet said, they lay waste their lives. No time at all for reflecting.

And the sellers — the manufacturers of cars, the operators of cruise lines, the creators of expensive little nothings — have been burning their brains for new ways to promote, advertise, merchandize, market.

Turn on the football game and view more ads than plays. Tune in the news and see the latest model cars zooming about, promising new psychic thrills. Open your mail and find the latest credit offering.

At the same time, some of those great new Internet companies that promised to change the world are finding it hard to collect from disenchanted customers. For more than a few, the

money's running out fast.

It's not limited to the upstarts, either. Bank of America recently shocked the financial world by saying it had \$1 billion in uncollectible debt. If it can happen to BofA, can't it occur elsewhere?

You can see the need for a slowdown in the affairs of companies everywhere. DaimlerChrysler's Chrysler division lost \$500 million in one quarter. AT&T has chosen to split itself up. General Motors announces a major restructuring, cutting out Oldsmobiles and shrinking European operations.

It's more than a mere coincidence that you've been reading more often about corporate accounting irregularities, of regulators looking into questionable stock market practices, and of rumors about companies in financial trouble. Such things happen when you strain the limits.

Oddly, some statistics fail to show the strains. Throughout the long, 116-month expansion, factories have remained with unused capacity, thanks to pro-

ductivity increases. But those increases too are beginning to slow. Creative fatigue, some say, similarly to what happens to the rest of us.

There is nothing very new about slowdowns. They have occurred every few years as part of the economic cycle. They are forever feared by some and simultaneously welcomed as a breather by others.

What could perhaps make this downturn unusual, though not unique, is that it seems to be headed for a soft, bearable landing — a true slowdown in which expansion continues but at a slower, sustainable pace.

It is likely to be a corrective event rather than a debacle, as so many downturns have been. It is likely to provide time for putting things back in whack, eliminating bad habits and developing better ones. A breather.

And that's not the worst fate for an expansion that did so much for so many. Especially so when you consider that every expansion of the economy began at the end of a slowdown.

## Good Sam donation



(Community Camera photo)

Bob Lemke recently presented a check from Lutheran Brotherhood in the amount of \$774 to Reed Echols of Good Samaritan Christian Service.

CONT. FROM PG. 10

## 2000

Reconciliation was a theme in Nigeria, where last year's election of President Olusegun Obasanjo ended 15 years of military rule. Last month, testifying before a human rights panel, Obasanjo embraced the man whose testimony had put him in jail for three years under the nation's former military ruler.

The waning days of 2000 brought a return of some faces from the past — Ion Iliescu in Romania, and Jean-Bertrande Aristide in Haiti. But neither inspired any great hopes in his hard-pressed people.

The previous 1991-96 tenure of Iliescu, a former Communist, was marked by stagnation and corruption. Aristide, a former priest who became Haiti's first freely elected leader in 1990, returned to power in his desperately poor country in a one-sided election steeped in intimidation and thuggery.

For Poland's Lech Walesa, though, there was no political second act. His glory days as Solidarity's founder, facing down his country's communist bosses, didn't help him at the polls this year; in October elections, the former president managed to garner only a humiliating 1 percent of the vote.

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# Sister-in-Law's High Life Makes Husband Feel Low

**DEAR ABBY:** My sister-in-law "Charlotte's" lifestyle is extravagant. She has an annual income of \$500,000, plus "perks." She is in her 40s, divorced for 10 years, and lives in a Park Avenue condo with her live-in boyfriend. Everything Charlotte does is "first class" — restaurants, vacations, clothing, entertainment, etc.

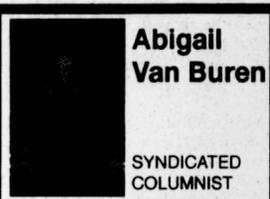
I earn \$50,000 a year. My wife and I have a nice home with a pool. She drives a top-of-the-line car, has plenty of nice clothes, and we enjoy sailing on our small boat. I have never denied her anything.

Several times last year, my wife visited Charlotte in New York. While visiting, my wife charged things we can't afford. I suspect she's trying to keep up with Charlotte's lifestyle, which is impossible. When I point out to her that we can't afford all the expensive things she purchases, she becomes cool and annoyed with me.

Trying to keep up with her sister's lifestyle is causing a rift in our once happy marriage. We are moving apart, and I don't know what to do. I love my wife, and it hurts.

**HURT HUSBAND IN FLORIDA**

**DEAR HURT:** If your wife's visits to her sister make her feel deprived to the point where she routinely busts the budget, you are overdue for a frank talk about it. Tell her how hurt you feel — and give her this message from me: If you don't



**Abigail Van Buren**

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

appreciate what you've got, you'll lose it. Perhaps it will wake her up to reality.

**DEAR ABBY:** Please remind your readers it is extremely important that whenever a patient has a laboratory test, the physician or his or her office communicate the results directly to the patient — regardless of whether the test is positive or negative. It is possible for the lab test to come back with a significant life-threatening or health-threatening finding for the patient and be accidentally misplaced or filed in a chart without the physician seeing it and the patient never learning anything until it's too late.

As recently as last week, I had a patient tell me that her family doctor told her, "No news is good news." This is absolutely the dumbest advice that can ever be given. Almost all physicians know of individuals who have died from cancer because the findings had not been communicated to the patient years

earlier (at a preventative stage), or diabetic findings or dangerously high cholesterol, etc., had never been communicated to patients.

Please, Abby, urge all individuals who have lab tests to expect a call within a week or two. If they hear nothing, they must call the doctor's office to inquire about the results. This could save one's life.

**HAROLD J. GOLDFARB, M.D., ALLENTOWN, PA.**

**DEAR DR. GOLDFARB:** This subject has been addressed in my column before, and I'm sorry it is still an ongoing problem.

Readers, "No news" isn't good news. No news is simply that — no news. Always make a point of obtaining medical test results if you don't receive them from your physician. That precaution could save your life.

**DEAR ABBY:** I would like to respond to your "Confidential" to "Wants to Get Rich Quick in Nevada." I agree that "the quickest way to double your money is to fold it in half and put it back in your pocket"; however, may I also suggest that Ireland is a good place to invest it? I have it on reliable authority that the capital there is always Dublin!

**RAY PLOETZ, MAPLE GROVE, MINN.**

**DEAR RAY:** You may suggest it, but I suspect your "reliable authority" is full of Blarney.

## Horoscope

THURSDAY, DEC. 21, 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)**  
 \*\*\*\*\* You might not agree with others, but you do make strong decisions. You manage to show your caring side while acting responsibly. Stay on top of work. Parents make unusual demands. The unexpected occurs with friends. Tonight: Togetherness works.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**  
 \*\*\*\*\* Listen to another. Defer to someone and let him express what is necessary. Creativity springs from the workplace and from brainstorming with others. The topic might not be work-related, either. Reach out for those at a distance. Extremes mark your day. Tonight: Go along with another's ideas.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**  
 \*\*\*\*\* Pace yourself carefully. You have a lot of ground to cover. The unexpected occurs one more time. Use your unusual flexibility and creativity. Work with associates and friends. Demonstrate your ability to be a team player. Ask more questions. Tonight: Togetherness counts.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**  
 \*\*\*\*\* Your creativity emerges when dealing with others. Listen to someone's opinions. You come out on top if you fol-

low through. Your drive centers on work and on getting the job done. Somehow, you might not understand a partner's action. This person comes from a caring place. Tonight: Get into the holiday spirit.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**  
 \*\*\*\*\* Take care of family. Deal with others carefully. You find that a loved one or a dear friend is highly emotional and unpredictable. Be indulgent, because this person means well. Tension runs high. You see events in a different light if you walk in this person's shoes. Tonight: Stay close to home.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**  
 \*\*\*\*\* Keep someone talking. You need to understand where another comes from. Listen carefully to someone. By conversing with and coming to a decision with another, compassion and understanding build. Your caring warms another. Shortly, love knocks on your door. Tonight: Talk up a storm.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**  
 \*\*\*\*\* Continue to monitor your finances. You need to do something very special for a family member. Pay attention to a loved one. Do not turn your back on a child or loved one. You might be seeing only what you want to see. You could ultimately hurt yourself. Tonight: Treat another well.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**  
 \*\*\*\*\* Your personality draws others out. Keep conversations going during the next few weeks. You learn a lot about another — but also about yourself — through your reactions. You might indulge someone way too much, giving this person permission to act out.

Unexpected developments come forth. Tonight: Draw in what you want.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**  
 \*\* Continue to be careful about making decisions. You are more off kilter than you are aware of. If you need extra sleep or are tired, make a point of calling this an early day. You are particularly vulnerable on the financial front. Double-check your change and checkbook balance. Tonight: Early to bed.

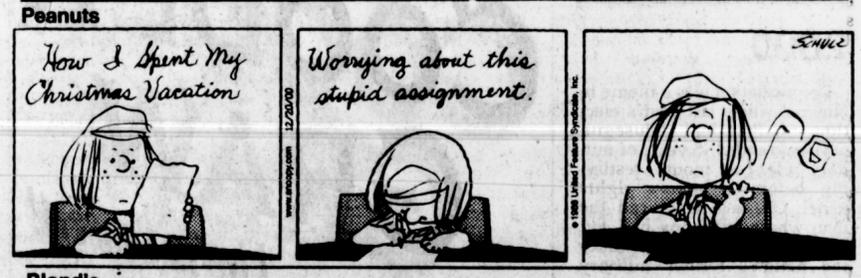
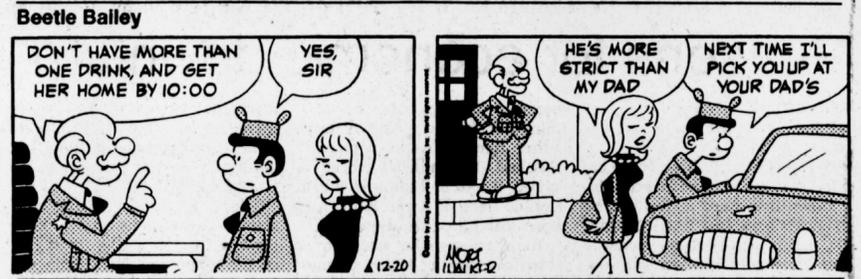
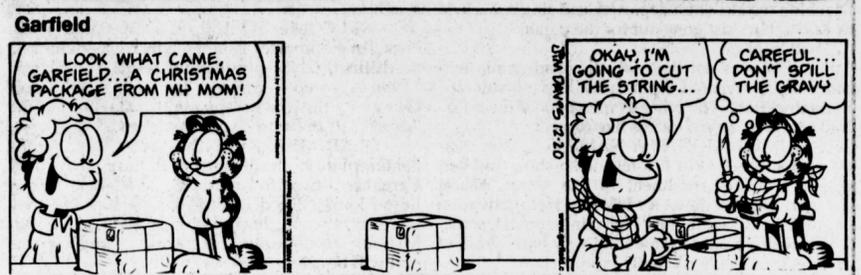
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**  
 \*\*\*\*\* Aim for what you want. Think about your objectives for the next few weeks. You gain momentum and power. Extremes punctuate spending. You could easily make an error. Join friends and get together with others. Tonight: Where your friends are.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**  
 \*\*\*\*\* You are in the driver's seat. Others respond to your energy. Bring family and friends together. Your sense of humor comes out with others. You demonstrate the quirkiness your sign is well-known for. Be generous with another. Think before acting. Tonight: You're the lead player.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**  
 \*\*\*\*\* Listen to your sixth sense with someone at a distance. You might understand what he isn't saying, even more than he does. Be understanding and use your insights to help both of you. Get together with your friends. Good times rock and roll. Tonight: Follow the holiday music.

**BORN TODAY**  
 Soviet leader Joseph Stalin (1879), actress Jane Fonda (1937), tennis pro Chris Evert (1954)

### For Better or For Worse



## Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

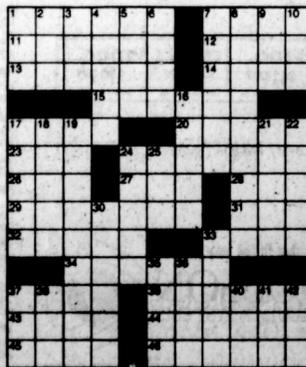
ACROSS DOWN

- 1 Remote
- 7 Like some cheddar
- 11 Perfect place
- 12 Stubborn one
- 13 Late
- 14 Bridge utterance
- 15 Vital
- 17 Sty group
- 20 Some exams
- 23 Flightless bird
- 24 Arthur's home
- 26 Expansive
- 27 Lamb tender
- 28 Exploit
- 29 Line workers
- 31 Pod item
- 32 Mongrel sound
- 33 Make coffee
- 34 Learn completely
- 37 Physics topic
- 39 Rust and others
- 43 Give out
- 44 Comparative phrase
- 45 Visionary
- 46 "Cut that out!"

LATTE MELTS  
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 OMAR AREA  
 TURKS CREEED  
 SNEAK  
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 SHOPPINGBAG  
 KOREA INUSE  
 SADAT PUTTS

Yesterday's answer

- 1 Trapper's ware
- 2 Had lunch
- 3 Flier of myth
- 4 Starts the bidding
- 5 Penalty
- 6 Kismet
- 7 Current unit
- 8 Texas river
- 9 City trains
- 10 — Moines order
- 16 Stadium tops
- 17 Nuisances
- 18 Words of explanation
- 19 Avocado dish
- 21 Also-ran
- 22 Chop-house
- 23 TV spots
- 24 Prison units
- 25 Reverent fear
- 30 Seinfeld neighbor
- 33 Excellent, in slang
- 35 Fling
- 36 Way to go
- 37 TV spots
- 38 Corn setting
- 40 Party staple
- 41 Actor Wallach
- 42 Go down



### STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-454-7377 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18-only.) A King Features service, NYC.

### Marmaduke



"The trouble is, you've got too many lights on your Christmas tree."

### The Family Circus



"Whoever sent us this one must've licked the envelope too hard!"

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## Breakfast with Santa



(Special photo)

Approximately 100 children welcomed Santa during Shepherd's Helping Hands' annual "Breakfast with Santa" held recently in the parish hall of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. Each child had their picture taken with Santa in his sleigh and Santa's elves handed out goodie bags and helped serve. Above: (left-right) Celby Snapp, Dauña Wilkinson, Pam Dalton, Santa (James Miller), Alicia Kirkwood, Suzanne Courtney, Cora Unruh, Jamie Holland, Margaret White, Kayla Kidd, Sherri Lusk and Maegan Dyer.

# What movie-goers want: Mel Gibson in a romantic comedy

'What Women Want' knocks Grinch off top of box office heap

By DAVID GERMAIN  
AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Mel Gibson has stolen the top box office spot from the Grinch.

"What Women Want," Gibson's comedy about a chauvinistic ad exec who can suddenly read women's minds, debuted as the No. 1 movie, taking in \$34.4 million over the weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday.

It was Gibson's best opening ever.

"This movie was definitely what women wanted and definitely what a lot of men were looking for this weekend," said Paul Dergarabedian, president of Exhibitor Relations, which tracks the box office.

The goofy teen comedy "Dude, Where's My Car?," about a madcap search for a missing vehicle, opened in second place with \$14 million.

"Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas," the top film for four straight weekends, slipped to third with \$13 million. The movie has grossed \$212.9 million and will pass "Mission: Impossible 2" this week to become the year's highest-grossing flick.

Disney's animated buddy comedy "The Emperor's New Groove" opened at No. 4 with \$10 million. The movie features the voices of David Spade, John Goodman and Eartha Kitt in the story of a smarmy king who's turned into a talking llama.

Overall, the top 12 movies grossed \$98.6 million, up 33 percent from the same weekend last year. For the year, Hollywood's grosses are up about 2 percent.

A crush of big movies open over Christmas weekend, including Tom Hanks' "Cast Away," Nicolas Cage's "The Family Man," Sandra Bullock's "Miss Congeniality" and Matt Damon's "All the Pretty Horses." With such added fare, Hollywood should easily surpass last year's revenue record of \$7.5 billion.

"What Women Want," co-star-

"This movie was definitely what women wanted and definitely what a lot of men were looking for this weekend," said Paul Dergarabedian, president of Exhibitor Relations, which tracks the box office.

ring Helen Hunt, exceeded the expectations of distributor Paramount, which had hoped the movie would gross a bit upward of \$20 million.

"Traditionally, pre-Christmas is a slow time for adult movies because of all the shopping, parties and general holiday distractions," said Rob Friedman, vice chairman of Paramount's motion-picture group. "We felt we had a great movie with tremendous playability, and we thought we might get a jump on the other holiday movies. And we got a big jump."

Playing in 3,012 cinemas, the movie averaged an impressive \$11,421 a theater, compared with \$6,726 in 2,087 cinemas for "Dude, Where's My Car?" and \$3,570 at 2,801 locations for "The Emperor's New Groove."

"Dude" distributor 20th Century Fox had planned to release the movie in February but moved it up after realizing the teen market was wide open right before Christmas, said Bruce Snyder, head of distribution.

"We just saw a vacuum in terms of teen movies," Snyder said.

Teen-agers turned out in surprisingly big numbers for G-rated "The Emperor's New Groove," making up 10 percent of the audience on opening night, said Disney distribution chief Chuck Viane. The wisecracking cartoon has gotten generally good reviews.

"I think it crossed into that part of the audience that normal-

ly doesn't come to animation because teens see the comedy in it," Viane said.

Two Oscar hopefuls opened to big audiences in limited release. "Pollock," a film biography of abstract painter Jackson Pollock, averaged \$21,949 in two theaters. Director-star Ed Harris a Binoche and directed by past nominee Lasse Hallstrom, debuted with \$160,000 in eight theaters for a \$20,000 average. Binoche stars as a free-spirited chocolatier battling conservatism in a French village.

"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," an action romance set in ancient China, continued its stellar performance, expanding to 31 theaters and grossing \$1.1 million for a \$35,484 average.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at North American theaters, according to Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc. Final figures are to be released Monday.

1. "What Women Want," \$34.4 million.
2. "Dude, Where's My Car?," \$14 million.
3. "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas," \$13 million.
4. "The Emperor's New Groove," \$10 million.
5. "Vertical Limit," \$9 million.
6. "Proof of Life," \$5.2 million.
7. "Unbreakable," \$3.9 million.
8. "102 Dalmatians," \$2.7 million.
9. "Dungeons & Dragons," \$2.2 million.
10. "Rugrats in Paris: The Movie," \$1.8 million.

**PAMPA'S CINEMA 4**  
MOVIE HOTLINE  
**665-7141**

*Rolanda's*  
Silk Flowers & Gifts  
For Christmas  
301 W. Foster

**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.

**MAGIC 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** winter visiting hours are 1-4 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. Admission is free, elevator provided.

**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.

**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 Shepherd'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-Sep.ember. 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 the Christmas holidays for deep-fried and smoked turkeys ranging in size from 12- to 14-pounds. Cost is \$25. 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.

### Holiday Meals on Wheels

A \$10 donation to Pampa Meals on Wheels funds two (2) home delivered meals and provides a personal holiday greeting for two homebound people.

Yes! I want to be a part of the Holiday Meals on Wheels program

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Meals on Wheels P.O. Box 939 Pampa, TX 79066-0939. Call our office for more information @ 669-1007.

## Classified & City Briefs

Insertion Day	Deadline
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> .....	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> - 10 AM
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> .....	No Paper
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> .....	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Noon

Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> .....	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> Noon
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> .....	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> 4:00
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> .....	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> 10:00
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> .....	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> Noon

## Display Advertising

Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> .....	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> 10:00
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> .....	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Noon
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> .....	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> 4:00
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> .....	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> 10:00
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> .....	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> Noon

Happy Holidays!

**PAMPA NEWS**

103 W. N. Russell • 669-1007



*Bill Hite and the Staff of Heard-Jones  
wants to wish you a very Merry Christmas  
and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year*



## Merry Christmas From All Of Us At **Music Box**

Thank You For A Terrific Year!

**INCREDIBLE GIFT SELECTIONS**  
**Hot New Leather Row In Stock!!!**  
**BIKER JACKETS • MEN & WOMEN'S JACKETS**  
**VESTS • CHAPS • DUSTERS • CHILDREN'S**  
**LEATHER JACKETS**  
**TOBACCO ACCESSORIES • JEWELRY • NOVELTIES**  
**ROCK & ROLL MEMORABILIA**  
**DOORS • STEVIE RAY • SANTANA • JANICE**  
**& LOTS MORE!**

**20% OFF ANY ONE ITEM  
WITH THIS COUPON**  
Excludes Leather • Expires Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2000

Mon.-Sat. 11-7  
 10<sup>th</sup> & Madison  
 Amarillo  
 374-7231



## CELLULAR CONNECTIONS 4 DAYS ONLY!

Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> - Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
 For Your Holiday Shopping Convenience We Will Be  
 Open Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> From Noon - 3:00

Plans  
Starting  
At Only  
**\$24.99**  
a month



Don't be limited by coverage  
We have...

**16 STATE HOME AREA**

Plus... **FREE**

- State Wide Toll Free Calling
- Detailed Billing
- Call Waiting, Call Forward  
& 3 Way Conference Calling

\*Toll Free Calling To 48 States

**FREE**

**Nokia 5120**

with extra features  
alarm clock & games  
all phones include  
manufacturer's  
warranty

2 months **FREE**

when using your  
equipment for text  
service paid by  
Cellular  
Connections

Receive A  
**FREE GIFT**  
With Each Activation  
See Store For Details

## Cellular Connections

1708 N. Hobart • 669-1551

\*\$5.00 Per Activation Will Be Donated To The Shriners  
 1 Block N. of Pak A Burger & 2 Doors N. of Rent-A-Center  
 Monday-Friday 9:00 am-5:30 pm • Saturday 11:00 am-3:00 pm  
 Cynthia Hannon-Leach Owner • Valid At Our Sales Center Only!

Air Time Minutes Restrictions Apply Depending On Plan. See Store For Details.  
 Contract Required With CellularONE W.A.C., Other Restrictions May Apply.  
 Sale Ends Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm

## It's a Wrap!

Finish Your Shopping Here!

Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup>  
 Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>

Men's & Ladies' Diamond  
 Wedding Rings..... **60% Off**  
 Gold Chains..... **60% Off**  
 Bracelets..... **60% Off**  
 Mother's Rings..... **25% Off**  
 Silver Jewelry..... **25% Off**  
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Hours 10:00 am - 7:30 pm  
 major credit cards accepted