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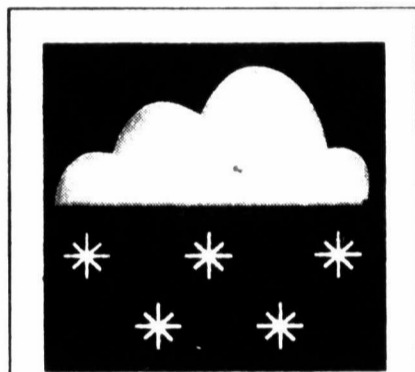
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High in the mid 20s
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 For weather details see Page 2

Texas boots, eastern suits ready to travel

AUSTIN (AP) — For much of America, the image of George W. Bush arriving in Washington may be one of a boot scootin', barbecuing Texan whose chuck wagon caravan will circle the nation's capital.

Bush is a Texan, but with a touch of Eastern elite. And the cultural migration following him from Austin to Washington, D.C., will likely reflect that combination.

The son of an American president, Bush grew up in the Lone Star State and tried to make a living in West Texas' dusty oilfields. His down-home, average-Joe demeanor appeals to many in the Southwest.

But he was also sired in a well-to-do family and educated in New England, where he also took vacations.

His second gubernatorial inauguration in 1999 was a mix of the two Bush worlds.

At the outdoor party right after his swearing in, Bush hosted a casual picnic and served barbecue — lots of it.

The late night party was more regal. The crowd got to nibble on crab cakes at an indoor soiree decorated with white columns adorned in silky red drapes. Tables were covered with gold lame cloths and glass vases with red roses.

- Edna Ira Covington, 96, homemaker.
- Edna Mae Helton, 80, retired teacher.
- Lloyd Eugene 'Gene' Horton, 70, retired Cabot employee.
- Ruth B. Morrison, 97, active Methodist club-woman.
- William G. 'Bill' Puckett, 78, retired self-employed pipeline worker.

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Heavy snowfall creates havoc

Motorists told to stay off treacherous roads

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 Staff Writer

Heavy snow continued to fall across the area today hampering the drive home for many holiday travelers in all directions.

"I indicated in the forecast yesterday that we'd get six or more inches (of snow)," said Darrell Schorn, KGRO-KOMX meteorologist today. "We're probably close to seven inches right now. I predict parts of Gray County will get a foot (of snow) before it's over. It's a significant storm."

A winter storm warning for the entire Texas Panhandle is effective throughout today and this afternoon, said Lance Gearing, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Amarillo.

Gearing said the snow and ice storm resulted from an upper

level low pressure system moving into Texas from southwest New Mexico.

"The cold air met with moisture from the Gulf of Mexico coming up over the top. The moisture started precipitating through the cold air and turned to snow," Gearing explained.

A heavy snow band swept

through the Panhandle, following the path of U.S. 60 east, leaving six inches or more across the area by press time today.

"This is a pretty slow moving system," Schorn said. "It's going to get worse before it gets better."

Gearing said snow will taper off for a brief period before resuming later in the afternoon.

Winds have been northerly at 5 to 15 miles-per-hour, Schorn said, which has kept driving and blowing down.

"The main factor favoring us right now is there's no significant

winds."

However, winds are expected to increase later today to 20 to 25 miles-per-hour, he said.

"I hope it doesn't complicate things," he said.

Pampa-area DPS troopers also kept busy today battling near white-out conditions while working wrecks that were "too many to count" at mid-morning, said Sgt. Don Cameron at the Pampa DPS office.

"No roads here have been officially closed," the sergeant said, "but unless it is absolutely necessary to be out people should not

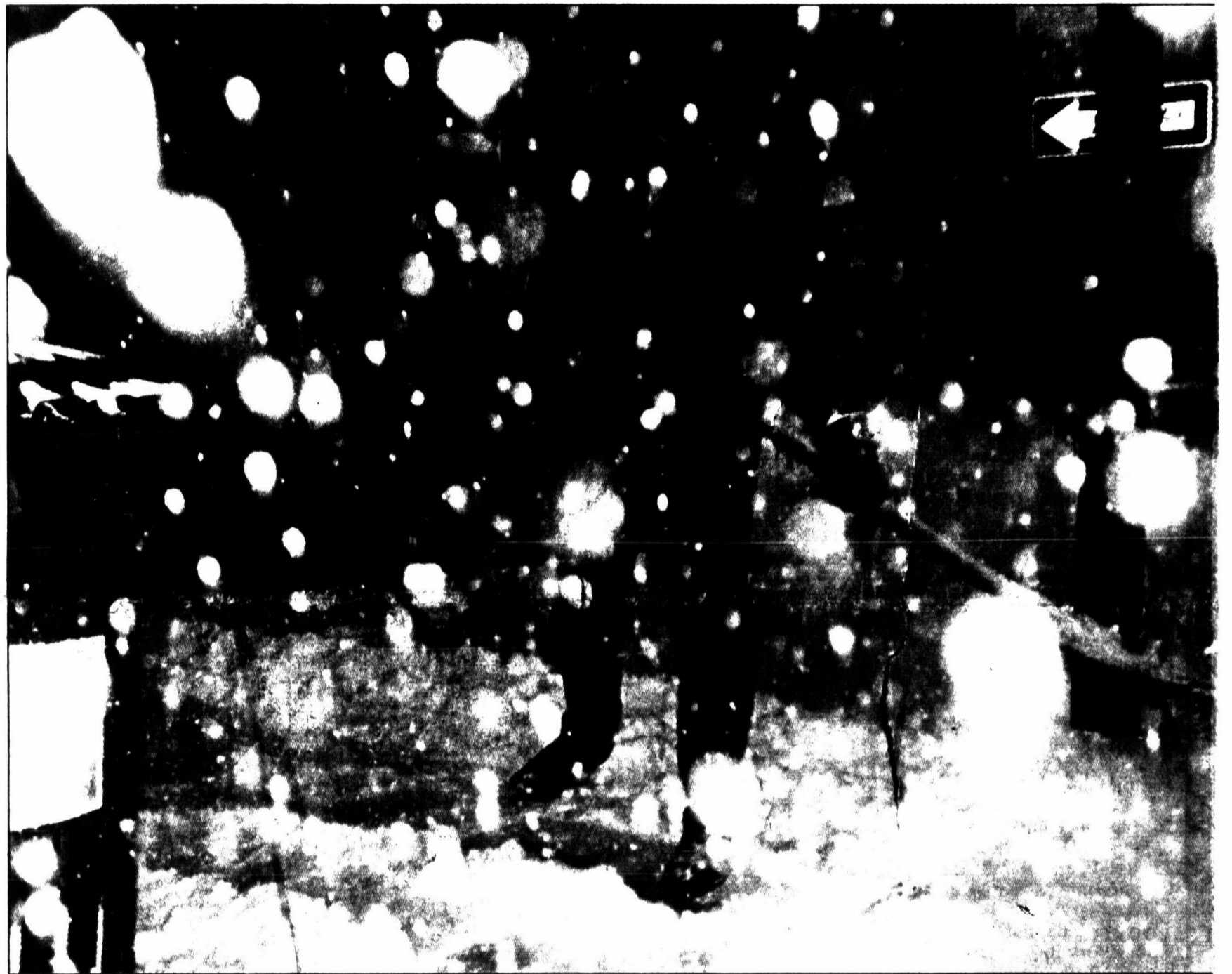
be on the roads.

"As fast as I could scrape off my windshield this morning the snow covered it back up," he said.

In addition to treacherous road conditions, Cameron said the seriousness of the situation is compounded by very low visibility, less than 100 yards in some instances.

Troopers' cars are not equipped with snow chains "so when it gets where you can't go, we can't either," the sergeant said.

(See SNOW, Page 2)



Jerry Noles of Julie's Hallmark Store in downtown Pampa fights a losing battle as he tries to shovel snow in front of the business early today. Despite the winter storm, Noles said his business was receiving calls from shoppers wondering if the store would be open today. Pampa had received more than seven inches of snow by press time today.

Weather blamed for 4 rollovers that claim 5

Freezing weather was being blamed today for four one-vehicle rollovers that killed five people Christmas Day in the Texas Panhandle.

A 4-year-old girl was killed shortly after 3 p.m. Christmas Day on an icy and wind-swept road near Canadian. Five others were injured.

A man and a woman were killed and 12 were injured about 12:30 p.m. Monday on ice-slick roads near Memphis.

A woman was killed on Interstate 40 in the western panhandle about 3 p.m. Monday.

One person was killed near Tulsa about noon Monday.

Department of Public Safety said the cause of the wrecks appeared to be driving too fast on the slick roads of the Texas Panhandle as ice, sleet and snow moved into the area.

Sandra Lee, 4, of Watauga, died at the scene of a one-vehicle rollover about 3:15 p.m. Christmas Day on U.S. 83 in Hemphill County, officials said today.

Tuan Nguyen, 24, Watauga, was in stable condition today at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo with injuries suffered in the one-vehicle rollover.

Trinie Nguyen, 3, Haltom City, was in good condition at Hemphill County Hospital in Canadian with injuries suffered in the wreck.

Lise Nguyen, 27, Watauga, was in stable condition at Northwest Texas Hospital.

Bryant Lee, one, Watauga, was in good condition at Hemphill County Hospital.

Sim Nipharack, 24, Haltom
 (See ROLLOVERS, Page 2)

Guthrie Center hinges on grant effort

By DAVID BOWSER
 Staff Writer

Pampa's Tribute to Woody Guthrie is about to take another step. This month is the deadline for applying for a grant from Pampa's M.K. Brown Foundation that could set the stage for a Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center.

Guthrie, perhaps the nation's preeminent folk singer and certainly a folk hero to the generation of the 1960s, was born in Oklahoma, but grew up in Pampa, attending Pampa High School, marrying his first wife here and buying his first guitar at a drug store on Cuyler Street.

It is this former drug store that Thelma Bray, head of Pampa's Tribute to Woody Guthrie, hopes to turn into a folk music center.

"We're applying for a grant from the M.K.

Brown Foundation," she said this week. "The application is due the last of December."

Guthrie's music of the Dust Bowl days of the 1930s and from World War II and into the early 1950s influenced the music of the 1960s, according to '60s folk musician Bob Dylan, but a prophet is rarely recognized in his own home.

In the past, there appears to have been little interest in a Pampa son who is the subject of retrospectives at New York museums and whose music has its own collection in the Smithsonian Institute in the nation's capital.

Now, Bray says, the tourism committee of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce has become involved in developing a Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center and locating it in the building that formerly housed Harris Drug Store, 318 S. Cuyler, where Guthrie worked, bought his first guitar and began a

musical career that would earn him recognition around the world.

The building will cost \$10,000, Bray said. There is about \$4,000 in the building fund from the concert that Arlo Guthrie, Woody's son, gave at M.K. Brown Auditorium in 1997.

John Forister, co-chair of the chamber's tourism committee with Charles Henry, has drawn up a plan for the building that includes displays on Guthrie's life and the lives of those influenced by his music including Dylan, Pete Seger and Joan Baez.

There will be a performer's corner with a small stage and benches along with offices and work space and storage.

The committee is also planning a walking tour of Woody Guthrie's Pampa, including the home where Guthrie grew up.

"Whenever we get the funds, that's when the action will start," Bray said.

I-40 stop yields 'pot', money

The State of Texas is \$236.80 richer. And there's 21 pounds of suspected marijuana in evidence lockup.

The 31st District Attorney's office last week confiscated \$236.80 from an Ohio man who had been stopped by a Department of Public Safety trooper on Interstate 40 as he crossed through Gray County.

Trooper John Nelson said he clocked David Wayne Snelson of Fremont, Ohio, in the eastbound lanes of I-40 at 72 mph in a 70-mph zone on Oct. 25, 1998. Nelson pulled Snelson's silver gray Chrysler four-door sedan over and radioed for a driver's license and criminal history check.

Nelson said based on the results of

that request the trooper found that Snelson had an extensive criminal history, including prior drug charges in Texas.

Nelson asked for and received permission to search the Chrysler. He said he found drug paraphernalia under the front seat. In the trunk of the car, Nelson said he found 21 pounds of what he believed to be marijuana stuffed into a black canvas duffle bag.

Snelson had \$236.80 on him when he was arrested.

Tuesday afternoon, Phil Pendleton, assistant district attorney, asked 223rd District Judge Lee Waters to order those funds forfeited to the state.

Judge Waters granted the motion.

Christmas Day busy time for many convenience stores

EULESS, Texas (AP) — They came for bread, brown sugar and artificial logs.

Some even made last-minute Christmas purchases. Christmas Day shoppers seemed to find all they needed at 7-Eleven stores around the state Monday — including cellular phones already wrapped in Christmas packaging.

Glad as they were to find convenience stores open on Christmas, some shoppers also were sympathetic.

"It's unfortunate that some people have to work," said Jason Peterson of Euless, whose girlfriend was grabbing some hot cocoa inside a 7-Eleven store in Euless, a suburb of Fort Worth, while he waited in the car.

Store employees said they were busting to handle the brisk pace.

"We are busy, busy, busy all day," said Jesus Farduy, an employee at a 7-Eleven

(See STORES, Page 2)

Daily Record

Services tomorrow

COVINGTON, Edna Ira — 11 a.m., Fairlane Baptist Church, Borger.
HELTON, Edna Mae — 2 p.m., First United Methodist Church, Borger.
HORTON, Lloyd Eugene "Gene" — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.
PUCKETT, William G. "Bill" — Graveside services, 10 a.m., Fairview Cemetery, Pampa.

Obituaries

EDNA IRA COVINGTON BORGER — Edna Ira Covington, 96, mother of a Shamrock resident, died Saturday, Dec. 23, 2000. Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday in Fairlane Baptist Church with the Rev. Wyatt Carpenter officiating. Burial will be in Westlawn Memorial Park's Garden of Good Shepherd under the direction of Minton/Chatwell Funeral Directors.
 Mrs. Covington was born at Gassville, Ark. She married Don Covington in 1926 at Gassville; he died in 1975. She had been a Borger resident since 1926.
 Survivors include three daughters, Donna Lee Scott of Fritch, Merle Dinbow of West Columbia and Fern Edwards of Dumas; two sons, J.D. Covington of Big Fork, Mont., and Bob Covington of Shamrock; a sister, Gladys Williams of Marietta, Okla.; 19 grandchildren; 41 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.
 The family requests memorials be to St. Jude Children's Hospital in Memphis, Tenn.

EDNA MAE HELTON BORGER — Edna Mae McCleery Helton, 80, died Friday, Dec. 22, 2000, at Amarillo. Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday in First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Jint Terry and the Rev. David Purl, pastor of St. Andrew United Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Westlawn Cemetery under the direction of Brown Funeral Directors.
 Mrs. Helton was born at Canadian and graduated from Canadian High School in 1936. She earned a degree from West Texas State Teachers College in 1941 and taught at Sam Houston and Stephen F. Austin junior high schools in Borger until retiring.
 She belonged to First United Methodist Church, AAUW and Retired Teachers Association.
 Survivors include her husband, Carrol D. Helton; three daughters, Carolyn Richmond of San Antonio and Janet Byars and Mary Kay Kuhrtz, both of Amarillo; and five grandchildren.

LLOYD EUGENE "GENE" HORTON
 Lloyd Eugene "Gene" Horton, 70, of Pampa, died Friday, Dec. 22, 2000. Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Bob Hudson, pastor of Bible Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.
 Mr. Horton was born Aug. 16, 1930, at Pampa. He was a lifelong resident of Pampa. He married Shannon Morgan on Jan. 17, 1960, at Miami. He worked for Cabot Corporation as a machinist, retiring after 17 years of service.
 He was a Baptist.
 Survivors include his wife, Shannon, of the home; four daughters and a son-in-law, Cynthia Vargas and Sherry and Gary Boich, all of Pampa, Cherry Illg of Thibodeaux, La., and Carla Laiche of Waggaman, La.; two sons, Jerry Horton of Panhandle and Michael Horton of Pampa; three sisters, Mabel Oakes of Grand Junction, Colo., Evelyn Henry of Lefors and Alma Wade of Edmond, Okla.; two brothers, Robert "Red" Horton of Pampa and Ora Horton of Albuquerque, N.M.; 12 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.
 The family requests memorials be to BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065; or to Pampa Sheltered Workshop, 1301 W. Somerville, Pampa, TX 79065.

RUTH B. MORRISON
 Ruth B. Morrison, 97, of Pampa, died Saturday, Dec. 23, 2000, at Canadian. Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday in First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Todd Dyess officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.
 Mrs. Morrison was born Aug. 10, 1903, at Eldorado, Kan. She married Grundy Morrison on Aug. 27, 1941, at Omaha, Neb.; he died Aug. 20, 1982. She held a degree from Southwestern College at Winfield, Kan., and had been a Pampa resident since 1941, moving from Omaha.
 She was a member of First United Methodist Church, Friendship Sunday School Class, El Progresso Club, Delta Zeta Sorority and Daughters of the American Revolution and was a representative of Methodist Mission Home in San Antonio.
 Survivors include a daughter, Barbara Focht of Houston; a son, Don Morrison of Pampa; seven grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.
 The family requests memorials be to Abraham Memorial Home, 803 Birch St., Canadian, TX 79014; First United Methodist Church, Box 1981, Pampa, TX 79066-1981; or Opportunity Plan, Inc., P.O. Box 1035, Canyon, TX 79015.



Obituaries (cont.)

WILLIAM G. "BILL" PUCKETT
 William G. "Bill" Puckett, 78, of Pampa, died Friday, Dec. 22, 2000. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday in Fairview Cemetery. Burial will be under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.
 Mr. Puckett was born Oct. 29, 1922, at Coffeyville, Kan. He had been a Pampa resident most of his life. He married Joyce Lemons on Sept. 7, 1943, at Panhandle. He retired after 45 years as a self-employed pipeline worker and was a U.S. Army veteran and recipient of the Purple Heart, serving during World War II.
 He was preceded in death by a grandson, Brad Puckett, in 1990.
 Survivors include his wife, Joyce, of the home; a son and a daughter-in-law, Bill and Nancy Puckett of Anchorage, Alaska; and a sister, Betty Neugent of Stinnett.
 The family requests memorials be to BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065.

Police report

Pampa Police Department reported the following arrests during the 96-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, Dec. 23
 Macelo Pierre Lopez, 17, 1204 Willow Rd., was arrested for minor in possession.
 Jeffrey Dewayne Hunt, 38, White Deer, was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia.
 Ronda Jean Cumpston, 32, 308 Miami, was arrested in the 400 block of West Foster for driving while intoxicated and possession of marijuana under two ounces.
 Travis Lawton Marcum, 38, Borger, was arrested in the 2200 block of North Hobart for simple assault.

Ambulance

Rural/Metro made the following calls during the 72-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, Dec. 23
 11:24 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of Duncan and transported one to PRMC.
 1:29 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of Reid and transported one to PRMC.
 6:35 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the Jordan Unit and transported one to PRMC.
 7:47 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 900 block of North Gray; no transport.
Sunday, Dec. 24
 6:21 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of Quail; no transport.
 6:42 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of West Kentucky and transported one to PRMC.
Monday, Dec. 25
 6:30 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the intersection of Highway 152 and Highway 60 on a motor vehicle accident; two transported to PRMC.
 7:33 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 300 block of West Brown and transported one to PRMC.
 9:10 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 2800 block of Perryton Parkway and transported one to PRMC.
 9:42 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of Duncan and transported one to PRMC.
 10:54 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported one to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.
 2:31 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of North Wells and transported one to PRMC.

Fires

Pampa Fire Department responded to the following calls during the 96-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, Dec. 23
 1:41 p.m. - One unit and two firefighters responded to a dumpster fire in the 2400 block of Cherokee.
 5:12 p.m. - One unit and two firefighters responded to a dumpster fire on U.S. 60 between Wells and Dwight streets.
 7:48 p.m. - One unit and two firefighters provided lifting assistance in the 900 block of North Gray.
Monday, Dec. 25
 9:11 a.m. - One unit and three firefighters provided medical assistance in the 2800 block of Perryton Parkway.
 11:16 a.m. - Two units and six firefighters responded to a smoke scare in the 1500 block of West Kentucky. A heater motor shorted out.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Atebery Grain of Pampa.			
Wheat	2.60		
Milo	3.42		
Maize	3.73		
Soybeans	4.35		

The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation.			
Occidental	24 3/8	up 5/8	
Fidelity Mageln	118.00		
Puritan	18.52		

The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.			
BP Amoco	47 7/8	up 1/16	
Cabot O&G	25 1/16	dn 1/8	
Chevron	82 5/8	up 2	
Coca-Cola	59 3/4	up 7/8	

Columbia/HCA	43.07	up 0.71	
Enron	33 5/8	up 2 7/16	
Halliburton	37 1/4	up 1 1/4	
KMI	49 1/4	up 1 3/8	
Kerr McGee	63 15/16	up 1 13/16	
Limited	15 15/16	dn 1/4	
McDonald's	32 5/16	dn 3/8	
Exxon Mobil	38 3/16	up 1 3/8	
New Atmos	23 3/4	NC	
XCEL	29 1/8	up 7/16	
NOI	38 5/8	up 1 3/16	
OKE	47 5/8	up 1	
Penney's	9 1/16	dn 1/8	
Phillips	55 7/8	up 1 1/4	
Pioneer Nat.	19 1/8	up 1 13/16	
SLB	78 9/16	up 2 1/16	
Tenneco	2 3/4	up 1/16	
Texas	60 5/16	up 1 7/16	
Ultrasat	30 1/8	up 1 7/8	
Wal-Mart	50 7/8	dn 1 5/8	
Williams	35 3/8	up 2 1/2	
New York Gold	273.95		
Silver	4.62		
West Texas Crude	26.06		

Police: Man kills wife, daughter, then shoots himself

RINGGOLD, Ga. (AP) — A man who was being treated for mental problems fatally shot his wife and their young daughter on Christmas Day, then killed himself, authorities said.
 Catoosa County Sheriff Phil Summers said Randy Young and his wife, Nicole Young, were in the process of divorcing.
 Randy Young, 31, had arrived earlier in the day to pick up his 14-month-old daughter, Haley, for visitation. He took her, but later returned after she became ill.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

SNOW

Since today was a scheduled holiday for City of Pampa and Gray County employees, the weather did not affect those offices.
 Pampa Police Chief Charlie Morris, who stopped in at the police station briefly this morning, said no special efforts were being made due to the weather. He warned people not to travel unless absolutely necessary and if they did, to be sure to have blankets, water, food and plenty of fuel. He also warned Pampans to watch for carbon monoxide problems in their homes.
 Deputy Gary Noblett of Gray County Sheriff's Office said the sheriff's department was working on a holiday schedule as planned. He said sheriff's deputies were parking sheriff cars, however, and using personal four-wheel drive vehicles because of the heavy snow. Not having emergency equipment in the vehicles was a concern, he added.
 The city's street workers who were out Sunday sanding ice spots and today plowing snow won't get to enjoy the scheduled holiday, however.
 "The snow is covering the streets up just about as fast as we can plow," Public Service Supt. Kimberly Lincycumb said this morning. "We'll just keep working until the snow stops ... until we can get to everything."

Lincycumb said six street workers have been out since 5:30 this morning concentrating on the main thoroughfares and manning two maintainers, one loader, one backhoe/front-end loader, a snow plow and a dump truck.
 "This is a bad one," she said of the snow storm. "When I got out early I felt pretty good ... the snow was dry but then it started getting more moisture in it."
 Wet snow, she said, is harder to clear.
 Terry Barnes, public relations director for Pampa Regional Medical Center, said weather had restricted a few of the hospital personnel from coming in, but all critical personnel were at the hospital.
 "The maintenance guys are struggling to keep the sidewalks clear - they're covering up faster than they can clear them - but other than that everything is going as normal as you can expect," Barnes said.
 Jerry Noles of Julie's Hallmark Store downtown, was busy shoveling snow from the sidewalk in front of the store early today.
 "We've already got a lot of calls to see if we would be open," he said.
 "Come back in a little while and you'll see me doing this again," he added as he pitched a shovelful of snow into the street.
Associate Publisher Kate B. Dickson contributed to this report.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

ROLLOVERS

City, was in stable condition at Northwest Texas. Officers said the vehicle in which they were all riding was traveling at an estimated 60 to 65 miles an hour on icy roads when it slid out of control and flipped twice, ejecting Sandra Le.
 Maknoja Kasamale, 66, and Sunesara Nesim, 36, both of Spring, were killed and 12 were injured Christmas Day when the southbound 2001 Ford van in which they were riding rolled two times on an icy U.S. 287 in Hall County. Kasamale died at the scene of the accident, officers said. Nesim died about 4 p.m. at Hall County Hospital. DPS troopers said neither person was wearing seatbelts.
 There was no immediate report on the 12 people injured in the crash.
 Margaret Caperton, 74, of Espanola, N.M., died at the scene when the westbound Jeep Cherokee in which she was riding rolled twice on Interstate 40 in Oldham County, west of Vega. Officers said the Jeep slid off the road, onto the median between the east and west bound lanes of I-40 and rolled twice, coming to rest on the passenger side of the vehicle.
 Bill Caperton, 72, of Espanola, a passenger in the Jeep, was in stable condition today at Northwest Texas Hospital with injuries suffered in the crash near Vega.
 J.M. Caperton, no age given, of West Covina, Calif., was driving the 2000 Jeep Cherokee. Troopers said the driver was not injured. Officers said the two men were wearing seatbelts. The woman was not.
 One person was killed in a one-vehicle rollover on Interstate 27 about noon Christmas Day in Swisher County. Officers said details of the accident were sketchy because of a number of accidents on the ice-covered stretch of I-27 around Tulia and Happy had delayed reporting.

for popcorn and drinks.
 By midday many youngsters might be looking at new yet already broken toys, said Alan Card.
 "This is something that can't be broken," the youngster said.
 Theater officials there said they expected about 8,000 people would pass through the turnstiles throughout Christmas Day to watch movies on one of the 16 screens.
 "This and the day right after Thanksgiving" are the busiest days for the theater, said Melissa Martinez, a spokeswoman at the Dallas theater.
 7-Eleven based in Dallas, began preparing around Labor Day for what can be one of its busiest days of the year. Not all employees are averse to working the holiday, said Nancy Smith, vice president of sales and marketing.
 "We definitely think we do a service for our customers," Smith said. "But especially on Christmas, we want to be there for them."
 At the Euless 7-Eleven store, one shopper was getting ready for a relaxing day at home. But Johnnie Benyard had forgotten to buy artificial logs.
 "I'm very thankful or I wouldn't get my fire going today," Benyard said. "I'm sure I'll make two more trips today."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

STORES

in Dallas.
 Thongs also made their way through the cold and the rainy weather to take in a movie. Rich Card and his 10-year-old son Alan came to the Cinemark IMAX theater at LBJ Freeway and Webb Chapel Road in Dallas to see Castaway.
 They came to use one of the many gift certificates from the Plano-based theater company they received as Christmas presents.
 "We have more of these things than you can shake a stick at," Rich Card said as he stood in line

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — Dry Santa Ana wind gusting as high as 70 mph drove brush fires close to homes early Tuesday, and some residents prepared to flee before firefighters began knocking the flames back.
 The wind scouring through the Southern California canyons also had knocked out power to thousands of homes and businesses.
 The blaze near Thousands Oaks in southern Ventura County broke out early Tuesday and quickly grew to some 600 acres, Ventura County Fire Department spokesman Sandi Wells said.
 Authorities notified residents before dawn that they might have to evacuate, but the flames began to subside as daylight broke and water-dropping helicopters arrived. There was no official estimate of how much of the fire had been contained.
 "It certainly has improved with respect to the homes in there," sheriff's Capt. Rod Thompson said. "It appears the fire is pretty well knocked down and less of a threat."
 Mandatory brush clearance protected property in the hilly, brush-covered area where upscale homes are separated by

Southern California wind fans wildfires

swaths of open country. The town of 120,000 residents is some 40 miles west of Los Angeles.
 Flames burned right up against the 100-foot-wide buffer areas behind homes, Wells said.
 Homeowner Gwen Schakett took no chances before the firefighters got the upper hand.
 "I turned the water on and the kids and I are packing up and leaving," Schakett said by cellular telephone. She said the smell of smoke woke her up. "I went outside and we couldn't see any-

thing because of the smoke."
 The National Weather Service reported strong Santa Ana wind throughout Southern California, with gusts reaching more than 70 mph in some mountain and pass areas. Wind advisories were in effect Tuesday for parts of Los Angeles and Ventura counties.
 Two other Southern California fires started on Monday.
 One blaze had grown to 370 acres in mountainous terrain between Santa Paula and Camarillo.

City Briefs

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

DEPT. STORE in Pampa needs exp. cosmetic person for established line. Hourly plus commission. Send resume to Box 7 c/o Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, Tx. 79066-2198

QUADRA FIRE December Special, Model 3100 SR, \$1259 for \$825, while they last, Fireside Comfort, 725 W. Brown, Hwy. 60

ORDER YOUR meat & cheese tray for New Year's Eve. We will be closed Jan. 1st, 1421 N. Hobart, 665-2825. Happy New Year!

REMEMBER EARLY advertising deadlines for New Year holiday, in the Pampa News. Happy New Year!! 669-2525.

Weather focus

PAMPA - A winter storm warning is in effect for today and tonight. Snow will be heavy at times with additional accumulations of 3 to 5 inches. Highs in the mid 20s. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph with higher gusts. Tonight, snow. Additional accumulations of 2 to 4 inches. Lows 15 to 20. Northeast to north winds 10 to 15 mph. Wednesday, a 30 percent chance of snow in the morning, otherwise, decreasing clouds. Highs in the lower 30s. North winds 5 to 15 mph. Wednesday night, mostly clear with lows 10 to 15. Thursday through Saturday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid to upper 30s. Lows 15 to 20.
STATEWIDE - Cloudy skies covered the state early Tuesday,

dropping ice and snow in the northern half and drizzle in much of the rest of the state.
 Up to 10 inches of snow was expected in the Panhandle on Tuesday.
 Light snow was falling in Abilene and there was a mixture of rain, sleet and snow over the South Plains and the Panhandle. Officials warned travelers to stay off roads in the region.
 In North Texas, a record for 24-hour rainfall was set at the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport with 1.94 inches recorded Christmas Day. Streets were wet but not freezing.
 In northeast Texas, there was a mixture of rain and freezing rain with temperatures hovering around the freezing mark. Rain was freezing on trees and power lines, snapping lines and causing

power loss. Up to 40,000 residents were without power.
 In South Texas widespread thunderstorms were possible with daytime highs lower than 70 along the coast and southward and near 50 central and east.
 Temperatures statewide ranged from a low of 18 degrees in Amarillo to a high of 68 degrees at Corpus Christi.
 In northeastern Texas, freezing rain fell for much of the day, prompting an ice storm warning to remain in effect through Tuesday. The weather service in Shreveport, La., said up to a half-inch of ice could accumulate north of Interstate 20 and between one-half and 1 inch could accumulate along and north of Interstate 30 in northeastern Texas.

Pampa Monday

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Coffee M Dec. 15- Amarillo "heroes" p.m., Sa Heroes T blood are handle. Thursday Saturday

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Amarillo designed a.m., 2 p.m. Wednesday. Fridays. 10-class call Cind at (806) 3

Pampa A 30 at M.K. event will

In HEMP CANAD Corp., from So 32.1, G&N HEMP IMMEL Energy, 4000' from West line Survey, I WHEEL MILLS Crest R Daberry, 1980' from BB&C, P Appli HEMP AN Mewbroun Abraham North & James A 12700' R Gas HEMP LOW C Natural Holland spud 6-8 tested 9 MCF, TD "ROBEY" Morrow Producti 146.42, H drig. con 00, pote 11240', P filed by R Ben Hill

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Pampa A 30 at M.K. event will

Calendar of events

PAMPA AREA LITERACY COUNCIL

Pampa Area Literary Council office is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, call 665-2331.

CLEAN AIR AL-ANON

Clean Air Al-Anon will hold weekly meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon at 810 W. 23rd. For more information, call 669-3988.

TRALEE CRISIS CENTER

Tralee Crisis Center will offer Volunteer Training for people interested in working with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and other crime victims. For more information, call 669-1131 or 1-800-658-2796.

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.

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.

PAMPA FINE ARTS ASSOCIATION

Pampa Fine Arts Association Board of Directors will meet at 6 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at Pampa Community Building.

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.

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.

WHITE DEER LAND MUSEUM

White Deer Land Museum, 116 S. Cuyler, will feature an extensive around-the-world Nativity collection by Jan Ragsdale as well as a gallery exhibit by artist John Darby, both of Pampa. A Victorian Christmas tree will also be on display and complete tours of the museum will be conducted throughout the Christmas and New Year's holidays. To schedule a tour, call 669-8041. WDLM is open from 1-4 p.m., Monday-Sunday. Tree donations are accepted.

HIGH PLAINS FOOD BANK

High Plains Food Bank is seeking donations this holiday season. For more information, call (806) 374-8562.

CMBC HOLIDAY HEROES

Coffee Memorial Blood Center will hold its Holiday Heroes program Dec. 15-30 at the blood center located at 1915 Coulter Drive in Amarillo. During the program, the center will open especially for "heroes" from 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 15 and from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 16. Each participant will receive a Holiday Heroes T-Shirt. Regular hours resume Dec. 18. More than 500 pints of blood are needed weekly by children and adults throughout the panhandle. CMBC takes appointments from 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Monday-Thursday; from 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Friday and from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call (806) 358-4563.

3D PROGRAM

Free weekly classes for the Christ-centered 3D program featuring the three Ds — Diet, Discipline and Discipleship — will begin soon. The program will tailor an eating plan to suit the individual tastes and lifestyles of each participant. For more information, contact Judith Loyd, 665-6127; Jamee McCarty, 669-7869; or Frankie Hildenbrand, 669-3713.

YMCA DIABETICS CLASS

Amarillo YMCA is offering new water exercise classes specially designed for diabetics. Schedule of classes are as follows: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Mondays; 6 p.m. Tuesdays; 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesdays; 6 p.m. Thursdays; and 9 a.m., 10 a.m., and 2 p.m. Fridays. Cost is \$4 per class for non-members and \$3 per class with a 10-class punch pass. Y members get in free. For more information, call Cindy Gibson, fitness director, or Junior Garcia, aquatics director, at (806) 374-4651.

PAS DANCE

Pampa Area Singles will hold a New Year's Eve dance from 8-11 p.m. Dec. 30 at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Entertainment will be by Mike Porter. The event will be alcohol and smoke free. For more information, call 665-7059.

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.

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.

SANTA'S SECRET VILLAGE

A sleigh-load of Christmas activities designed to keep children and parents happily entertained is available free of charge at www.northpole.com on the World Wide Web. This holiday website — "Santa's Secret Village" — includes: Karaoke, a Christmas-only radio station, new games and an "elf-run" weather station with updated North Pole weather reports.

CANYON NATURE HIKES

The following nature hikes are scheduled at Palo Duro Canyon State Park: 2-5 p.m., Dec. 9 and 23, Givens, Spicer and Lowry Running Trail, 2.5-mile hike, moderately difficult; and 2-4 p.m., Dec. 30, Sunflower Trail. Participants should bring water and good walking shoes. The walks will include discussions on geology, history, wildlife and plants. For more information, call (806) 488-2227, ext. 49.

CD PROGRAM

Dillard's seventh annual fund-raiser, "Make Christmas Magic and Help a Child," will benefit Ronald McDonald Houses in communities it serves including Amarillo and Lubbock. This focus of this year's project is an all-new CD and cassette featuring holiday music now on sale at 345 Dillard's stores nationwide. All profits from the CD/cassette will benefit Ronald McDonald House.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

The Alzheimer's Support Group will continue its four-part series at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 2 in Shepard's Nursing, 916 N. Crest Rd. November's program will be a panel discussion by health care providers. The group meets the first Thursday of each month at Shepard's Crook Nursing. For more information, call Dauna Wilkinson at 6650 0356.

SCIENCE SPECTRUM

Science Spectrum, a non-profit museum for science education in Lubbock, is currently offering several educational films in its Omnimax Theatre — "Michael Jordan to the Max" featuring Michael Jordan; "Mysteries of Egypt" with actors Omar Sharif and Kate Maberly; and "Gold Fever," a history of mining, taking the viewer on

a voyage of abandoned mines from the Klondike to the Gold Coast of Africa. In addition, the interactive traveling exhibit "Whodunit? The Science of Solving Crime" is currently at the museum. For more information, call (806) 745-2525.

NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIPS
National Alliance for Excellence scholarship applications are available for the 2000-01 Lucent Global Science Scholars Program, an international competition to identify and assist future leaders in the field of communications technologies. NAE administers the national portion of the competition which is open to high school seniors who are planning careers in information technologies. Students must plan to enroll in college in the fall of 2001. For more information or to request an application, contact NAE at (732) 747-0028 or visit www.excellence.org. on the Internet.

TG WEBSITE

Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corp. (TG) has revamped its "Adventures in Education" website located at http://www.adventuresineducation.org or http://www.aie.org on the Internet. Although the site is targeted to middle school, high school and college students as well as high school counselors, each section can assist parents in helping their children prepare for college. TG is a public nonprofit corporation that helps create access to higher education for millions of families and students through its role as an administrator of the Federal Family Education Loan Program. Its mission is to provide information to help families and students realize their educational and career dreams.

FRESHSTART

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center will hold FreshStart, a free two-week smoking cessation support series sponsored by the cancer center and the American Cancer Society, from 6-7 p.m., Mondays and Tuesdays, Nov. 6-14. For more information, call Gerry Kelly at (806) 359-4673, ext. 235.

PATHWAYS

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center will offer "Pathways," a four-part support series for those who have lost a loved one, from 1:30-3 p.m. Tuesdays throughout the month. For more information, call Gerry Kelly at (806) 359-4673, ext. 235 or Stan McKeever at (806) 359-4673, ext. 141 or toll-free at 1-800-274-4673.

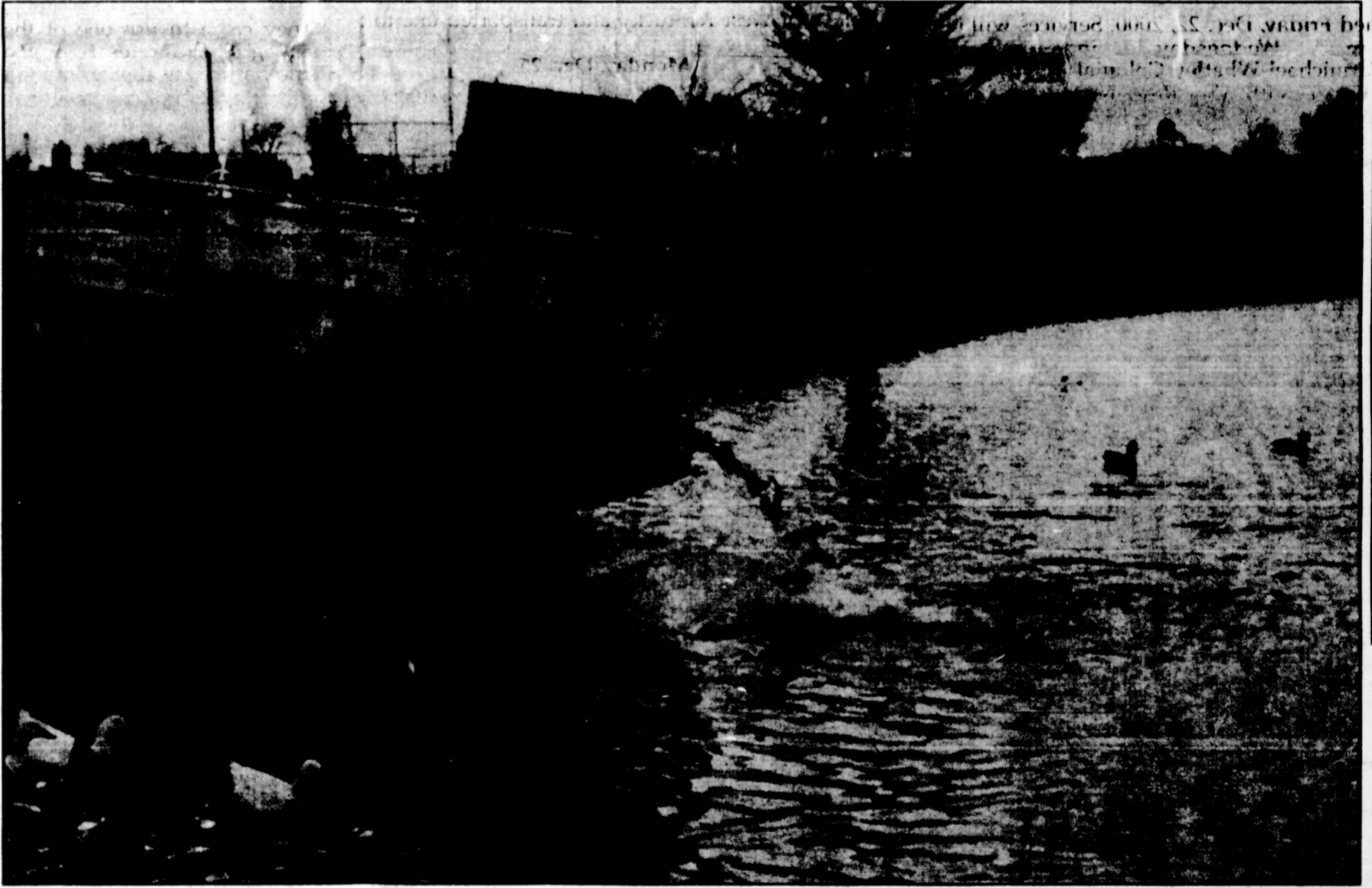
ACT

College-bound high school students can take the ACT Assessment test Feb. 10, 2001, the next nationwide test date. The postmark registration deadline is Jan. 5. Late registration postmark deadline is Jan. 19 (an additional fee is required for late registrants.) The test fee is \$23. For more information including registration forms and test locations, contact your high school counselor or visit www.act.org on the Internet.

AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Area Agency on Aging of the Panhandle is seeking volunteers to serve as advocates for nursing home residents as part of its Ombudsmen program. The Ombudsmen will visit residents of long-term care facilities and help resolve complaints involving residents rights, quality of life and quality of care. Once accepted into the program, volunteers complete a three month internship including intensive training and supervision in preparation. Ideal candidates will have strong sense of fair play, excellent problem-solving skills, good relationships with older people and the ability to devote two hours a week to the residents served by the Ombudsman program. For more information, contact Jeff Price, regional Ombudsman, or Tanya Mock, Ombudsman Program Aide, at 1-800-642-6008; or write P.O. Box 9257, Amarillo, TX, 79105.

Rainbow Trout release



(Special photo)

Earlier this month, Daniel Field (above) and Jeff Gee, Texas Parks and Wildlife Fisheries biologists, introduced 974 Rainbow Trout into the lake at Pampa's Recreation Park. The biologists hooked up a pump to the lake and exchanged the water in the trailer for lake water before releasing the fish, a procedure which took about 30 minutes and greatly reduced shock and stress on the fish.

Drilling intentions

Intentions to Drill
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & S.E. CANADIAN Douglas) Apache Corp., #2 Humphreys, 1320' from South & West line, Sec. 32, I,G&M, PD 7300'.
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & IMMEL Douglas) Sundown Energy, Inc., #3 Jones Ranch, 4000' from South & 2700' from West line, Blockley & McKinney Survey, PD 7550'.
WHEELER (WILDCAT & MILLS RANCH Des Moines) Crest Resources, Inc., #701 Daberry, 1830' from South & 1980' from West line, Sec. 1,—BB&C, PD 12500'.
Applications to Plug-Back
HEMPHILL (WEST CANADIAN Upper Morrow) Mewbourne Oil Co., #1 James Abraham Trust, 1000' from North & 520' from East line, James Abraham Survey, PD 12700'. Rule 37
Gas Well Completions
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WAL-Low Granite Wash) Bravo Natural Resources, Inc., #4057 Holland 'C', Sec. 57, M-1, H&GN, spud 6-8-00, drlg. compl 7-13-00, tested 9-27-00, potential 8000 MCF, TD 11765' —
ROBERTS (PARSELL Lower Morrow) Cambridge Production, Inc., #2 Hill, Sec. 146, 42, H&TC, spud 7-14-00, drlg. compl 8-5-00, tested 11-10-00, potential 400 MCF, TD 11240', PBTD 11200' — Form 1 filed by Range Production as #10 Ben Hill
Plugged Wells
GRAY (PANHANDLE) Questa

In lieu of sending Christmas cards this year we have made a donation in your name to Meals on Wheels of Pampa.

A&T YARDS SERVICES
Pedro Arreola, Don Tidwell & Employees

PAMPA'S CINEMA 4
MOVIE HOTLINE
665-7141

1/2 SINGLE (#1 or #2) BURGERS ALL PRICE DAY EVERY TUESDAY!

Not valid with any other special offers. Available at participating locations only. Offer good for a limited time only, subject to change. Cheese/chile extra.

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VIEWPOINTS

THE Pampa NEWS

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Texas Editorials

By The Associated Press

A sampling of editorial opinion around Texas: Wichita Falls Times Record News on elections ripe for fraud:

The squeaker presidential election this year underscores more than just the importance of a single person's vote. It also illustrates that it is absolutely essential that elections be free of fraud.

There is no evidence to indicate that there was widespread cheating or even localized cheating of the sort that made Chicago infamous in the '50s and '60s and that put Duvall County, Texas, on the map during the same period.

Nevertheless, cheating did occur. Even in Wichita Falls, allegations have been leveled at a couple of residents that they voted more than one time on Election Day. In other cities, similar allegations have been submitted to the courts.

For example, in Milwaukee nearly 200 students attending Marquette University have admitted in an anonymous survey that they voted more than once on Nov. 7. One student interviewed by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel admitted he voted four times, all at the same precinct, writing in his own name as his choice for president each time. He voted multiple times, he said, to illustrate flaws in the voting system. "I wanted to make the point that the system is screwed up here," he told the paper. "I hope people can recognize the system is flawed, and if a poor college kid with no resources can manipulate the system, a person with an agenda and who wants to get things done — think how easily they can manipulate the system."

Indeed, it should make us think about how airtight our voting systems are, particularly when you consider how few votes separated George W. Bush from Al Gore in a great many precincts all across the nation. Obviously, it is possible to vote more than once and not get caught, as the case of the Marquette students illustrates. So what kind of system ought to be instituted to prevent that?

Thanks to modern technology it is entirely possible to design such a system, using computers both to cast votes and to count them. And that's what county election officials all across the country, including those in Wichita County and Texas, ought to be looking at in the wake of the November balloting. Sure, it's going to cost money to make our voting system as foolproof as it can be, but when you look at the holes in the present system and the importance of assuring that our votes count, you have to conclude that if it takes an infusion of money to provide a system that cannot be manipulated, it's worth it.

The election may for the most part be behind us in Texas, but there are other elections just around the corner (in late January in Wichita Falls, for example), and citizens have a right to expect to participate in a system that is fair, accurate and airtight. Most everything about the way we elect public officials is sophisticated these days except the way we cast our ballots.

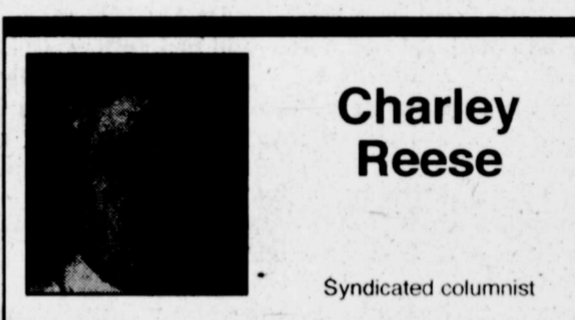
Even the U.N. has condemned Israel

While we've been here stewing about our election, the Israeli government continued to kill a number of Palestinians and strangle the rest of them economically simply because the Palestinians have the audacity to demand an end to 33 years of illegal military occupation.

Let me tell you something else that's interesting. The United Nations has condemned Israel for using excessive force. The United Nations commissioner of human rights has condemned Israel for using excessive force. The Physicians for Human Rights, after examining wounded people in Palestinian hospitals, has condemned Israel for using excessive force. Amnesty International has condemned Israel for using excessive force.

The United States secretary of state, Madeleine Albright, says, however, that Israel is a victim of aggression and is only defending itself. Now, that lady is either nutty or evil. If she's so disconnected from reality that she thinks a people with no army whose dead number 250 and whose wounded exceed 5,000 is a threat to the most powerful military state in the Middle East, she's nutty. If she's deliberately lying, she's evil.

Furthermore, if the U.S. government treated American Jews in precisely the same way in every detail as the Israeli government treats Palestinians, people would be screaming about a new Holocaust. I confess that I'm mystified how decent Americans can condone the brutality and



Charley Reese

Syndicated columnist

abuse Israel inflicts on innocent Palestinians. If you're thinking you don't have the right to criticize a foreign government, let me set you straight. Your government has given \$85 billion of your tax dollars to the Israeli government. I think that buys you a right to criticize.

The truth is, I fear, that Palestinians won't get their independence until Americans get theirs. The Palestinians are held in captivity by the Israeli government, and our government appears to be the captive of the Israeli lobby. You might write your congressional representative and senators and remind them that they ran for office in the United States, not in Israel, and that they took an oath to defend America, not Israel. You might also tell them that it is not in our national interest to be seen the world over as a flaming hypocrite, nor is it in our national interest to alienate 1.1 billion Muslims, who happen to control more than 60 percent of the world's oil reserves.

As an aside, let me clear up a matter. In reprimanding a politician for a racist slur against Palestinians who had killed two Israeli undercover agents, I suggested that he use the same slur against Jewish murderers of Palestinians. The case I cited was one involving a man who people in Ramallah believe was kidnapped and beaten to death either by settlers or Jewish soldiers. The Physicians for Human Rights, at the request of an Israeli human-rights group, examined the X-rays and pictures, talked with doctors and family, and came to the conclusion that his injuries were caused by an automobile accident. Three Palestinian doctors I contacted through a friend dispute the finding, but I've not yet been able to reach the neurosurgeon who took the X-rays and did the examination.

At any rate, examples of Israelis killing Palestinians are plentiful enough. There are the children shot to death, not to mention the 28 Palestinian men and boys murdered by a Jewish settler in Hebron a few years ago. When the Jewish terrorist paused to change magazines, surviving Palestinians overpowered him and beat him to death with his own rifle.

The other Jewish settlers who were mighty proud of their mass murderer turned his grave into a shrine. And, oh yes, as you probably guessed, the politician was far too yellow to apply to Jewish murderers the same foul language he so eagerly applied to Palestinians.

Today in history

By The Associated Press
Today is Tuesday, Dec. 26, the 361st day of 2000. There are five days left in the year.
Today's Highlight in History:
On Dec. 26, 1799, George Washington was eulogized by Col. Henry Lee as "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."
On this date:
In 1776, the British suffered a major defeat in the Battle of Trenton during the Revolutionary War.
In 1893, Chinese leader Mao Tse-tung was born in Hunan province.

In 1917, during World War I, the U.S. government took over operation of the nation's railroads.
In 1941, Winston Churchill became the first British prime minister to address a joint meeting of the U.S. Congress.
In 1944, in the World War II Battle of the Bulge, the embattled U.S. 101st Airborne Division was relieved by units of the 4th Armored Division.
In 1944, Tennessee Williams' play "The Glass Menagerie" was first performed publicly, at the Civic Theatre in Chicago.
In 1972, the 33rd president of the

United States, Harry S. Truman, died in Kansas City, Mo.
In 1974, comedian Jack Benny died in Los Angeles at age 80.
In 1975, the Soviet Union inaugurated the world's first supersonic transport service with a flight of its Tupolev-144 airliner from Moscow to Alma-Ata.
In 1996, 6-year-old beauty queen JonBenet Ramsey was found beaten and strangled in the basement of her family's home in Boulder, Colo. (To date, the slaying remains unsolved.)
Ten years ago: Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev nominated

Gennady I. Yanayev to be the Soviet Union's first vice president. (Yanayev helped lead an abortive coup against Gorbachev in August 1991). Nancy Cruzan, the young woman in an irreversible vegetative state whose case led to a U.S. Supreme Court decision on the right to die, died at a Missouri hospital. The government reported that its 1990 U.S. census had counted a total of 249,632,692 people.
Five years ago: Israel turned dozens of West Bank villages over to the Palestinian Authority in a smooth transfer of power.

Painters, sculptors defined presidents

Lawrence L. Knutson
AP Special correspondent

The cartoon postcard portrayed Theodore Roosevelt in pith helmet, his rifle smoking, surrounded by the lions and elephants he pursued during a post-presidential African safari. The 1909 card, designed by political cartoonist Clifford Berryman, was addressed to the U.S. Senate, followed by a pointed message: "Every time I shoot anything I think of you."
Berryman's inscription, which may well have reflected TR's feelings after years of dealing with Congress, is included in "The Artful Presidency," an online exhibit drawn from the Smithsonian Institution's Archives of American Art.
Available only on the Internet, it is an outgrowth of "The American Presidency, a Glorious Burden," a new exhibit at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.
The show displays letters to artists from Theodore and Franklin Roosevelt, Herbert Hoover and Andrew Jackson. There are photographs and records from Benjamin Harrison's Western tour of 1891 and the papers of artists documenting their portraits of the presidents of their times.
The public image of the nation's presidents was supplied by the artists who portrayed them, and some chief executives were genuinely grateful.
"Sculptor, thy hand has moulded into form the haggard features of a toll-worm face," former President John Quincy Adams intoned in an

"He wanted to know about colors, about the brushes used and about the work of other painters. ... He had expressive blue eyes, clear-cut features and the kind of fair skin that reflects the light. When he looked at me I felt he was trying to sum me up immediately."
Painter Thomas Eakins had a similar opportunity to observe President Rutherford B. Hayes: "The president once posed. I never saw him in the same pose again. He wrote, took notes, stood up, swung his chair around. In short, I had to construct him as I would a little animal."
The artist's eye also took in Theodore Roosevelt.
"His pants are too short," portraitist William Daniel Murphy wrote his wife. "He walks with a bounding step and looks mostly at the pavement ahead of him ... two men 40 feet behind him called detectives trying to keep up with him. No gloves on — hands pink — not too much color in face. Hair brown — shade lighter than mine — slightest tinge of warmth in ugly mustache ..."
And there's a 1939 memo on White House stationery from Franklin Roosevelt to Edward Bruce, who directed New Deal arts programs and who wanted to leave the administration.
"What is all this nonsense about your contemplated resignation? When a fellow turns up in Washington and proves he can make bricks out of straw, that the bricks are durable and artistic, and that nobody else can make them, the president puts a Marine Guard around him and does not let him out of town."

Your representatives

State Rep. Warren Chisum
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Escapees may have made good on threat Irving police officer shot, killed

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Seven escaped convicts may have carried out a threat they made when they broke out of prison nearly two weeks ago, police said.

"You haven't heard the last of us yet," read a note the men left when fleeing the Connally Unit in Kenedy on Dec. 13, said John McAuliffe, inspector general of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Now, the men are suspected in the shooting death of Officer Aubrey Hawkins, 29, who attempted to break up a Christmas Eve robbery at an Oshman's sporting goods.

"It certainly will be a Christmas to remember and for all the wrong reasons," said Jimmy Perdue, Irving's assistant police chief.

Investigators filed capital murder warrants against the seven convicts, who remained at large Tuesday. Two dozen employees herded to the back of the store during the holdup helped identify the suspects, said Chief Lowell Cannaday.

A makeshift memorial had taken shape at the sports store, which was closed in honor of the fallen officer.

Hawkins' weapon had not been found. Police spokesman David Tull said he didn't know if the robbers took any weapons or

ammunition from the store.

During the prison break, the convicts took 14 .357-caliber Magnum pistols with 238 rounds of ammunition, a loaded automatic rifle and a loaded shotgun.

It is unusual that the suspects have remained together since their escape, said Larry Fitzgerald, spokesman for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

"These are desperate and dangerous people," Fitzgerald said.

The prison, 65 miles southeast of San Antonio and more than 300 from Irving, has a capacity of 2,834 male prisoners. It opened in July 1995 and has 550 security personnel.

The escape was the prison's fourth inmate uprising this year.

In April, eight prisoners assaulted three officers, inflicting minor injuries, and in June an inmate severely beat a corrections officer. Also in June, another officer suffered minor injuries when she was stabbed six times by an inmate carrying a sharpened metal rod.

On the Net:

Irving Police Department: <http://www.irvingpd.com/>
Texas Criminal Department of Criminal Justice: <http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/>

Bush daughter has surgery

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — One of President-elect Bush's twin daughters was recovering in a hospital after she had an emergency appendectomy.

Jenna Bush, 19, was in stable condition following surgery at St. David's Hospital on Christmas night. Aides to Bush said she might be well enough to join the family as early as Wednesday on their Florida vacation.

Bush, wearing a gray cowboy hat, left the governor's mansion in a rain storm to visit his daughter for about 45 minutes after the procedure Monday night. Bush himself had his appendix removed when he was 10 years old.

Jenna Bush was taken to the hospital, a five-minute drive from the mansion, after experiencing abdominal pains Christmas Day.

Doctors performed surgery to remove the appendix, which is a small, finger-shaped pouch of intestinal tissue.

When an appendix bursts, it spreads infection throughout the abdomen, which can cause infertility in young females and requires intravenous antibiotics and weeks of hospitalization.

It was not immediately clear whether Jenna Bush's appendix burst. Jenna is a freshman at the University of Texas at Austin.

White Christmas dreams turn into weather nightmare for many areas

Dreams of a white Christmas turned into nightmares Tuesday as snow added to the havoc — including hundreds of traffic accidents, stranded airline passengers and massive power outages — that another round of winter weather caused across the state.

From the Texas Panhandle to northeast Texas, Texans contended with a variety of winter weather, ranging from building snow in Amarillo and Lubbock to freezing rain in northeast Texas that sent trees toppling onto power lines and homes, knocking out power to more than 40,000.

Snow falling in Post, a town of 3,500 about 40 miles southeast of Lubbock, coated already treacherous roads that had prompted authorities to close roads throughout Garza County.

The Texas Department of Public Safety had shut down and 87-mile stretch of U.S. Highway 84 from Lubbock to the Scurry County line and all secondary roads in neighboring Crosby County were also closed.

"Everything is all iced-up," said Garza County deputy constable Cliff Laws. "We have about one-fourth to one-half of an inch of ice under the snow. We can't salt the roads fast enough."

Laws said authorities would have to wait until sunup to see how the early morning snow had worsened conditions and to rescue eight semi-trucks stranded on U.S. Highway 84 south of town.

Otherwise, the county only had limited power outages and no fatalities, Laws said.

As the day goes on, portions of the Panhandle could see as much as a foot of snow by Wednesday, said Steven Taylor, a weather service meteorologist in Lubbock.

"We have been digging ourselves out all day. There have been numerous accidents across the region," Taylor said. "We've had freezing drizzle since Christmas and we really had not switched over to snow until this morning."

In Lubbock, police reported 67 accidents Monday. Authorities across the Panhandle reported numerous accidents, four of them fatal in Hemphill, Oldham, Swisher and Hall counties.

Meanwhile, the weather, which had produced power problems throughout the state, hampered workers trying to restore electricity.

Ice-laden tree limbs falling onto power lines and homes knocked out power to more than 40,000 electric customers in

northeast Texas and damaged several homes in the Texarkana area.

"It sounds like the whole tree is falling," Brenda Herman said as she spoke on the telephone from her home in Texarkana Monday night. "It's so scary."

Dave Hall, emergency management coordinator for the city of Texarkana, said one side effect of the icy weather and power outage was a shortage of gasoline.

"We're finding a lot of people traveling home cannot find fuel," Hall said. "So we've had a handful of people running low on fuel with no place to buy fuel."

By late Monday night, the count of those affected by outages in northeast Texas and adjacent Miller County, Ark., stood at 40,000-plus and counting.

"DeKalb is in the dark," said Scott McCloud, spokesman for AEP/Southwestern Electric Power. Two-thirds of the city of New Boston was without power.

"It is pretty much the I-30 corridor stretching from Mount Pleasant to DeKalb to Texarkana," he said.

The wintery precipitation also stranded hundreds of would-be passengers at airports.

Flights in and out of Lubbock International Airport were canceled Monday because of fog and ice and also in Dallas.

American Airlines had canceled all its flights into and out of Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport until 9:15 a.m. Tuesday and some throughout the day, stranding passengers scheduled on about 180 flights for the day after Christmas.

"The idea is that if we cancel departures out of Dallas/Fort Worth, planes remain here and don't get stranded in some other city and disrupt the schedule even further," American Airlines spokesman Mark Slitt told The Dallas Morning News in Tuesday's editions.

Southwest Airlines, which operates out of Dallas Love Field, reported did not cancel any flights Monday or Tuesday. Spokeswoman Brandy King said the airline has access to enough de-icing equipment to tackle any problems.

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MEDICAL

Study explores pros and cons of two varying types of prostate cancer care

By PAUL RECER
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Surgical removal of a cancerous prostate is more apt to cause urinary and sexual performance problems than is treatment of the disease with radiation, a study says.

But in a report appearing in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, researchers also found that men whose prostate cancer was treated with beamed radiation were more likely to have problems with bowel function than were the surgical patients.

The study is the latest effort to help men and their doctors determine which treatment is best for early stage prostate cancer.

"The take-home message from this is that patients need to get information to make their decision," said Arnold L. Potosky, a National Cancer Institute researcher and first author of the study. "There is still a lot of uncertainty about the survival advantages of the treatments, but there are (side effects) due to treatment."

He said there have been no studies providing definitive answers on which method of treating early stage prostate cancer is best for prolonging life. Such studies are under way, but years from conclusion.

Instead, Potosky's study dealt with the quality of life changes that men experienced two years after having early

... prostate cancer can progress rapidly if it escapes from the organ and creates tumors elsewhere in the body. The American Cancer Society statistics show that about 31,900 American men will die of prostate cancer this year. Only lung cancer causes more cancer deaths among men.

stage prostate cancer treated either with surgery or radiation. The study involved 1,156 men whose diseased prostates were removed surgically and 435 men who received radiation therapy. The men, who came from six different parts of the country, were selected randomly from patients diagnosed with localized prostate cancer, which means the disease had not spread beyond the organ and suggests the cancer was in an early stage.

In interviews starting at six months and continued periodically for up to two years following treatment, the patients were asked about the effects of their therapy on urinary, bowel and sexual function.

Potosky said men who received surgery were 3.2 to 7.4 times more likely to report problems with urine leakage or control. Surgery patients were 15

times more likely to wear pads to stay dry, the study showed.

Surgery patients also reported more sexual function problems, he said.

"Among the men who were potent before treatment, the surgical patients are eight times more likely to be impotent two years later," said Potosky.

Bowel function, however, was most seriously affected in the men who received the beam radiation therapy.

Diarrhea and bowel urgency, said Potosky, were about two times more common in the radiation group of patients.

Dr. Timothy J. Wilt, a prostate cancer researcher at Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Center for Chronic Disease Outcomes Research, said the Potosky study "is a very good one" that may help some men make a decision on prostate cancer therapy.

But Wilt and Potosky both said there is a great need for studies that examine the survival benefits for the various types of treatment now offered for early stage prostate cancer.

Currently, there are four fundamental choices: surgery, in which the organ is removed; radiation, in which the organ is bombarded with radiation from an outside, focused source or from implanted radioactive pellets; hormone therapy designed to slow disease progression; or "watchful waiting." Some studies have shown an advantage for a combination of radiation and hormone therapy.

Potosky said that out of about 180,000 American men diagnosed with prostate cancer annually, about 50,000 select surgery and slightly fewer choose radiation.

Many choose "watchful waiting" because prostate tumors can be so slow growing that the cancer may never become threatening within a normal life span, he said.

"The vast majority of men with clinically localized or early stage prostate cancer don't die of it," said Potosky. "More than 90 percent die of other causes."

However, prostate cancer can progress rapidly if it escapes from the organ and creates tumors elsewhere in the body. The American Cancer Society statistics show that about 31,900 American men will die of prostate cancer this year. Only lung cancer causes more cancer deaths among men.

On the Net:
National Cancer Institute:
<http://cancernet.nci.nih.gov/Cancer-Types/Prostate-Cancer.shtml>

Caffeine being linked to some miscarriages

By JEFF DONN
Associated Press Writer

Five cups of coffee per day more than doubles a pregnant woman's risk of a miscarriage, according to perhaps the most rigorous study yet to focus on the possible link between caffeine and miscarriage.

Some doctors have long suspected a connection and urge pregnant women to avoid caffeine. However, even this study likely won't end the doubts.

Unlike most past research, the latest study looked at women in early pregnancy, when most miscarriages happen. It also tried to account for a separate risk from genetic defects in fetuses and a possible risk from smoking.

The research team in Sweden and the United States, which was to publish its findings in Thursday's issue of the New England Journal of Medicine, found that the equivalent of one-to-three cups of American coffee increase the risk of miscarriage by 30 percent. Three-to-five cups raises the risk by 40 percent.

Five cups or more yields more than double the risk.

The study involved 562 women who had miscarriages at between six to 12 weeks of pregnancy. Since they were Swedish, they often drank stronger coffee than Americans. A cup of Swedish coffee typically carries about 180 milligrams of caffeine, compared to the 100 milligrams in a typical American cup of coffee.

Tea, cocoa and sodas in equal volumes normally contain less caffeine than coffee. But the study suggests a similar effect on miscarriage for these drinks and in caffeine-carrying medications,

if enough is consumed.

The study was directed by Dr. Sven Cnattingius of the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. In an interview, he suggested pregnant women curtail their coffee to the equivalent of about two American cups per day.

The Food and Drug Administration and the March of Dimes, which funds research on birth defects, have both advised pregnant women to curtail caffeine.

The researchers also tried to account for the effects of morning sickness, which has tended to exaggerate the impact of caffeine in earlier studies because nausea is more common in pregnant women with healthy fetuses. Since morning sickness gives many such women a distaste for coffee, more unhealthy fetuses are found among coffee drinkers.

Dr. Mark Klebanoff, at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, who was familiar with the findings, said it is still possible that morning sickness skews the results.

"I think it will never be completely possible to rule it out, no matter how good a study you do," he said.

But he said this study is probably the strongest yet, because it was specifically designed to answer whether caffeine promotes miscarriage. Other studies used data initially collected to resolve other questions.

Robert Nelson, president of the New York-based National Coffee Association trade group, argued that research indicates pregnant women can drink perhaps up to four cups of coffee a day without

Cell phones not linked with cancer

CHICAGO (AP) — A study of people who used cell phones for an average of less than three years found no evidence the devices cause brain cancer.

The research does not answer the question of whether longer-term use is dangerous.

The study, funded by the industry group Wireless Technology Research and the National Cancer Institute, appears in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

The study of 891 people did find a slightly increased risk for a rare type of brain cancer, but the researchers said it was not statistically significant.

While they acknowledge longer-term studies are needed, the researchers said the overall results should reassure the more than 86 million cell phone users nationwide.

"We feel confident that the results reflect that cell phones don't seem to cause brain cancer," said epidemiologist Joshua Muscat, a scientist at the American Health Foundation who helped lead the study.

Publication of Muscat's research prompted the New England Journal of Medicine to release a study Tuesday showing similar results. The study, led by National Cancer Institute researchers and set for publication on Jan. 11, looked at 782 brain cancer patients and 799 people without cancer.

Maximum cell phone use was at least an hour per day for five or more years, and no brain-cancer link was found even at that level. The authors of the second study said longer-term use needs more study.

Unlike regular telephones, handheld cell phones contain an antenna inside the receiver, which puts the user's brain close to the electromagnetic radio waves the antenna emits. Since cell phones were introduced in the United States in 1984, conflicting data have emerged from safety studies on animals and humans.

The Food and Drug Administration has said there is no evidence that the phones are unsafe, but it has joined with the wireless industry in sponsoring research on the devices. Some cell phone makers have also started disclosing their products' radiation levels.

The JAMA study, co-written by Dr. Mark Malkin of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, involved phone-use questionnaires given to 469 men and women ages 18 to 80 with brain cancer and a 422-member cancer-free control group.

Cell-phone use was slightly more common among the cancer-free participants, though average cell-phone use for both groups was under three hours monthly for less than three years.

CDC: Reports on obesity in America

ATLANTA (AP) — The American waistline continues to expand, with 61 percent of adults now considered overweight, the government reported Thursday.

And a growing number of Americans are not just overweight, but obese, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

More than a third of adults, 35 percent, are slightly or moderately overweight, up from 33 percent in the last survey, which covered 1988-94. More than a quarter of Americans, 26 percent, are considered obese, or grossly overweight, compared with 23 percent in the last survey.

The findings are part of the 1999 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, which measured the height and weight of 1,615 people over age 20. Those figures are used to calculate body mass index, a formula involving a person's weight divided by his or her height squared.

A body-mass index of 25 to 29.9 is considered overweight, while obesity is 30 or higher.

Laser heart drill provides longterm pain relief

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Using a laser to drill tiny holes in the heart seems to produce years of relief from disabling chest pain, even though experts still cannot explain for sure why it works.

The procedure, called transmyocardial revascularization, or TMR, became available for routine use last year. However, some doctors remain skeptical and wonder if the apparent benefit is an illusion.

The latest findings came from the first long-term follow-up of patients getting the treatment. It found that the benefits last at least five years and often longer.

The patients were treated with a carbon dioxide laser developed by PLC systems of Franklin, Mass., which sponsored the review. The findings were presented by Dr. Keith Horvath of Northwestern University Medical Center at a meeting in New Orleans of the American Heart Association.

The procedure is intended primarily for patients who cannot undergo balloon angioplasty or coronary bypass surgery, the two leading procedures for increasing blood flow to the heart mus-

cle when clogged arteries choke off the supply.

Doctors rate the intensity of chest pain, known as angina, on a scale of 1 to 4. Before treatment, the patients' average angina scores were 3.7.

One year after treatment, their scores had improved to 1.5. And after an average of five years of follow-up, they were virtually unchanged at 1.6. Seventeen percent of the patients had no chest pain at all after five years. Some still felt fine eight to nine years after the procedure.

The treatment requires doctors to open the chest, expose the heart and use the laser to burn 10 to 50 holes in the heart. Doctors once thought that the holes served as new blood channels. But this idea has been largely rejected, since the holes quickly fill in after the treatment.

Proponents now say they think it works by prompting the heart to improve its own blood supply. They say the drilling probably triggers the release of growth proteins, and these force the muscle to sprout new blood vessels, which carry in oxygen and relieve the pain.

Another idea is that the dam-

age caused by the laser destroys nerves in the heart. Pain goes away, even though the underlying problems remain.

"During a session at the heart meeting, Dr. David Faxon of the University of Chicago raised another often-mentioned possibility.

"Why couldn't the results be an enormous placebo effect?" he asked Horvath.

The patients knew they were undergoing a major procedure that doctors believed would help them. Perhaps, the thinking goes, the patients simply imagined their improvement.

Such illusions are common in medicine, especially with treatments intended to stop pain. Recently doctors tested a competing form of the treatment that uses a laser on a tube threaded into the heart to drill holes from the inside out.

Patients were randomly assigned to get real laser treatment or make-believe therapy. Those who got the laser improved dramatically, but so did patients receiving the mock drilling.

Horvath replied that a placebo effect should have worn off long ago. "We saw improvement that people cannot will to happen," he said.

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Luring retirees lucrative business for states

PIPESTEM, W.Va. (AP) — Walter Andrews wants to spend the rest of his life in his town nestled in the mountains of West Virginia. Fresh mountain air. Lush green forests. Small town atmosphere.

Nothing like Florida. "Florida, like everything else, has gotten too crowded," said Andrews, an 83-year-old retired accountant. He moved to his mountaintop home in Pipestem three years ago after living his entire life in the Baltimore area, and never considered joining some of his other former neighbors who went south.

More states like West Virginia are trying to attract retirees as a new way to boost their population and tax base. They hope to lure them from out of state, and keep their own residents from moving to more popular destinations like Florida and Arizona.

"All you see out here is the power lines, and that's it," Andrews said as he gazed out into woods that surrounded his home.

Florida and Arizona need not worry yet about the increased competition though: Their warm climates, established amenities and word of mouth from current residents will allow them to keep dominating the industry, analysts say.

Still, the retirement industry is quickly turning from an economic development avenue into a recruiting war, said Dr. Steven House, director of the American Association of Retirement Communities.

Those states are trying to attract retirees of all ages, but especially "the relatively young, well-educated and affluent — that's frequently what the migrating retiree is," House said.

The vast majority of retirees, about 85 percent, stay at or close to home, he said. What the industry is now preparing for, he said, is the onslaught of aging baby boomers who are nearing retirement age.

In 1999, the median household income for someone age 55 to 64 was \$44,597, Census Bureau data shows. That was up from \$44,120 in 1998, and \$41,407 in 1989, with each of those figures adjusted for inflation.

The Mississippi Development Authority says the typical retiree it tries to recruit has a median family income of about \$33,000, but brings about \$320,000 in liquid assets.

The buying power of one retiree household moving in from another state is the economic equivalent to 3.7 factory jobs, said Lauren Upchurch of the Mississippi agency. And you don't get the pollution that come with factories, she added.

"The state has recognized the value of retiree attraction as an industry, and they treat it as such," Upchurch said. "Mississippi wanted to categorize itself as a unique retirement destination."

There are no national estimates of the industry's worth. Mark Fagan, sociology professor at Jacksonville State University, estimated that the country's roughly 68 million people age 50 and over have a combined annual income of \$900 billion. In 1998, Florida retirees spent \$37 billion, he said.

Some states like North Carolina, California and Nevada are already well established retirement destinations. Mississippi began its statewide program five years ago, while West Virginia and Kentucky started this past year.

For West Virginia, that essentially means that one of the oldest state populations in the nation could get even older. According to Census Bureau figures, the median age of the state's residents is nearly 39, oldest in the country.

Andrews moved to an area in West Virginia once dominated by the coal mining industry but which is now in the uphill process of reshaping its economy. Though at age 83 he's older than the typical retiree that states want to attract, he had the money saved up to buy his isolated 2-acre mountaintop property for \$200,000.

Bush faces new fervor over Navy's bombing range in Puerto Rico

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — President-elect Bush faces battles in Puerto Rico. Governor-elect Sila Calderon has vowed to fight the incoming administration and try to evict the U.S. Navy from its prized bombing range on Vieques, a small inhabited island off Puerto Rico. Calderon seeks to overturn the agreement between the White House and Puerto Rican government that would delay the Navy's withdrawal until 2003. Navy Secretary Richard Danzig warned Calderon this week that if she does not follow the agreement, the United States will not be obliged to keep its side of the bargain, including returning some 8,000 acres of Navy land on Vieques.

Hopes for peace persist amid Christmas celebrations in world's hot spots

LONDON (AP) — From Bethlehem to the camps of NATO troops in Bosnia, Christians in some of the most violence-shattered corners of the world celebrated Christmas with prayers for peace. Celebrations turned to tragedy in central China, where a fire tore through a building in Luoyang city Monday night, killing up to 309 people, according to official media. Among the dead were revelers at a Christmas party trapped by the blaze in a disco on the top floor. Elsewhere, the year's 2000th commemoration of Christ's birth was marred by a wave of church bombings on Christmas Eve in Indonesia and gloom in the Holy Land caused by Israeli-Palestinian violence.

Ice, sleet, snow make a winter nightmare of the southern Plains

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Dreams of a white Christmas turned into a winter nightmare in Oklahoma as an ice storm turned roads throughout the state treacherous for holiday drivers. The rest of the southern Plains fared little better, with sleet and

freezing rain pummeling Texas and Arkansas for the second time in as many weeks, causing scores of accidents and thousands of power outages. The weather service said the worst may lie ahead, issuing ice and winter storm warnings for Tuesday with high temperatures in the mid-30s.

Thousands of striking Korean bank workers brace for police raid

ULSAN, South Korea (AP) — Police poured in hundreds of extra troopers Tuesday around a site where striking bank workers have been rallying, raising the possibility of a raid to put a stop to the five-day protest. Union employees at two major banks — Kookmin and Housing & Commercial — have been striking since Friday to protest their employers' plan for a merger that unions fear will result in thousands of layoffs. The strikers vowed to continue the fight until the merger, planned for June, is scrapped. The walkout has crippled Kookmin and Housing & Commercial Banks, which handle one-fourth of retail banking in South Korea.

For many, Christmas shopping starts on Dec. 26

NEW YORK (AP) — For Nick Vargas, Christmas shopping begins on Dec. 26. That's when he plans to start hunting down 20 or so gifts for his friends and family. Vargas is one of an increasing number of Americans who are waiting until after Christmas to do most of their holiday shopping. Nearly 11 percent of holiday buying took place last year during the week after Christmas, exceeding the 8.5 percent during Thanksgiving week-end shopping period, according to the International Council of Shopping Centers. The merchandise may be picked over and selection limited, but the bargains more than compensate. And given the heavy discounting that has already taken place this year, the post-Dec. 25 sales stand to be better than ever.

Escaped convicts appear to have made good on threat

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Seven escaped convicts made good on a threat they made while breaking out of prison nearly two weeks ago, police said.

"You haven't heard the last of us yet" read a note the men left when fleeing the Connally Unit in Kenedy on Dec. 13, said John McAuliffe, inspector general of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

The men are suspected in the shooting death of Officer Aubrey Hawkins, 29, who attempted to break up a Christmas Eve robbery at an Oshman's sporting goods.

"It certainly will be a Christmas to remember and for all the wrong reasons," said Jimmy Perdue, Irving's assistant police chief.

Investigators have filed capital murder warrants against the seven escaped convicts who early Tuesday remained at large. Two dozen employees herded to the back of the store during the holdup helped identify the suspects, said Chief Lowell Cannaday.

By Monday night, a makeshift memorial had taken shape at the sports store, closed in honor of the fallen officer. Outside, potted plants were left by the door and a

large red ribbon adorned a bicycle rack.

Hawkins' weapon has not been found since Sunday's incident. Police spokesman David Tull said he didn't know if the robbers took any weapons or ammunition from the store.

The alleged robbers were accused of stealing an employee's white Ford Explorer to escape. The vehicle was found in Irving. It is unknown how they escaped afterward. In the prison break, the convicts took 14 .357 Magnum pistols with 238 rounds of ammunition, a loaded automatic rifle and a loaded shotgun that they stole from a guard tower.

Larry Fitzgerald, spokesman for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, said it is unusual that the suspects have remained together since their escape.

"These are desperate and dangerous people," Fitzgerald said. The prison at Kenedy is 65 miles southeast of San Antonio and more than 300 from Irving.

On the Net: Irving Police Department: <http://www.irvingpd.com/> Texas Criminal Department of Criminal Justice: <http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/>

Triathlete remarkably fit for size

PHOENIX (AP) — Dave Alexander's overweight body doesn't stop him from being an ironman.

The 5-foot-8, 260-pounder estimates he has finished 276 triathlons since 1983, causing his doctor to marvel at this remarkable combination of fitness and admitted obesity.

"I am fat," said Alexander, 55. "I was born a big boy, and I'm always going to be big. But I'm healthy."

Like many men his age, Alexander's silver hair is thinning. His bright blue eyes are going bad, and his barrel stomach is getting bigger. Other triathletes often mistake him for a race organizer.

"I'm a great bar bet," he said, laughing. "I don't look like I can walk across the street, let alone run a triathlon."

Steven Blair, senior editor of the Surgeon General's Report on Physical Activity and Health, said a surprising number of people are both fit and obese.

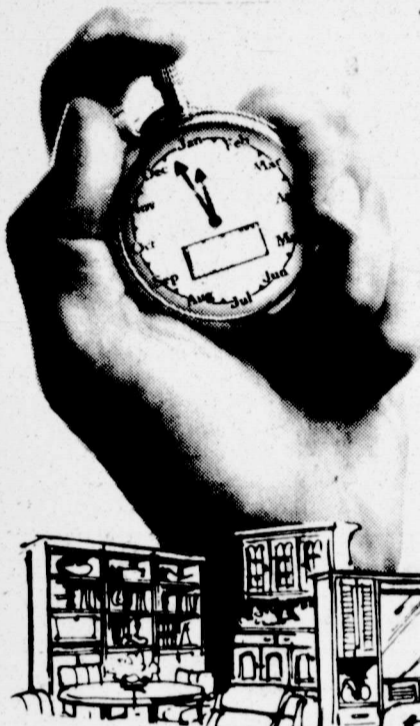
In a recent study of obese men, Blair said that 45 percent had zero or only one of the major risk factors for an early death — smoking, bad eating habits, a sedentary lifestyle, a history of heart disease. These men, despite their obesity, had no increased mortality rate.

"Most people see an obese person walking down the street and they think, 'This guy's a time bomb.' It's not necessarily so," said Blair.

Alexander is living proof. In a recent super-triathlon in Eastern Hungary, he swam 9.6 miles, cycled 448, and ran what he calls, "a 104.8 mile Bataan death march."

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~ Business Review ~

Chief Plastic Pipe & Supply, Inc.

It had always been a dream of Eugene Stubbs to operate his own business.

While employed at Pioneer Natural Gas, Eugene started a small business out of his home that he operated in his spare time known as Stubbs Ditching. As this business became more successful, it became feasible that he and

his wife could quit their jobs and together Eugene and Stacey opened Stubbs Ditching in May, 1974. Their office was in a small tin building on the outskirts

of Pampa.

While Eugene was installing pipelines, Stacey was answering the phone and selling a fitting or two.

Incorporating in 1976, the newly-named business, Inc., continued to grow in the pipeline division as well as in retail sales. Stubbs, Inc. employed 25 people at one time. With so much growth in sales and inventory, it became obvious that the sales division should become its own company.

Chief Plastic Pipe & Supply, Inc. was formed in 1988. Later there was construction of a new, larger building near the one that had formerly housed the two companies. Chief Plastic Pipe & Supply, Inc., has over the years, increased their inventory to

supply many different fields. These include plumbing, electrical, irrigation, sprinkler, oilfield and many home projects, often stocking odd or hard-to-find parts. Chief currently employs five full-time and two part-time employees.

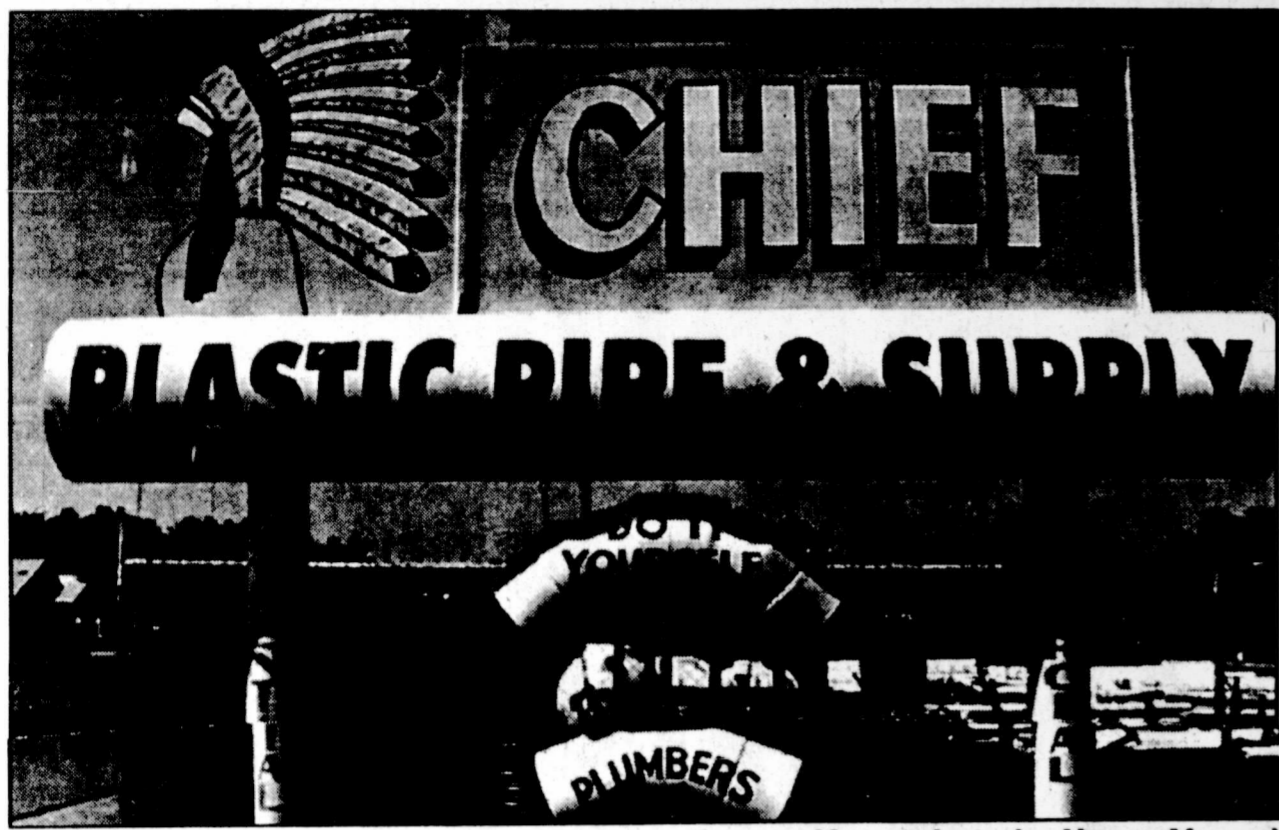
Chief Plastics stocks PVC schedules 40 & 80 fittings from one-fourth inch up to 12 inches, Drain Waste & Vent (DWV) fittings size one and one-half inches up to eight inches, with larger fittings available by special order. They stock PVC pipe in Schedules 160#, 200#, Schedules 40 & 80, and irrigation pipe and fittings.

They also sell water heaters, toilets, septic tanks, and home electrical and plumbing items including several brands of faucets, valves and sinks.

Their inventory includes polyethylene ranging in sizes from three-fourths inch to ten inches in pipe, transitions and fittings, steel hammer unions, small and large valves in brass, PVC, and steel.

Other items in their inventory include tools, home venting pipe and fittings, a complete line of galvanized and steel fittings and pre-cut nipples, and brass fittings including compression, flare and threaded.

Chief Plastic Pipe and Supply, Inc. strives to serve their customers with a friendly sales team and low prices. You are encouraged to come by the store and look at the huge inventory and let them help you save money on your next project.



(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)

Chief Plastic Pipe & Supply, Inc., located at 1237 S. Barnes, is home-owned and home-operated. They are proud of their friendliness and low prices for their customers.

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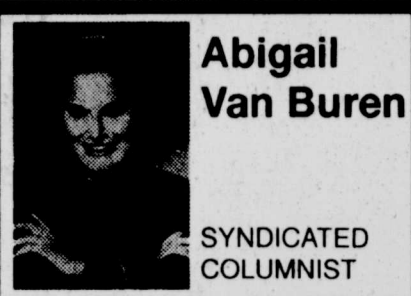
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Funeral Consumers Alliance Is Buried Under by Orders for Kit

DEAR ABBY: I always knew your column was powerful, but perhaps you'd like to hear just how effective it can be. Your October mention of our end-of-life planning kit flooded our offices with 50,000 orders, and they're still coming in! The notes with the orders show how much this idea has clicked with the public:



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

"Just what I need to get organized."
 "I've put this off for a long time. I knew it was meant for me."
 "I love this idea. Please send 20 more. Everyone in my family is getting one."

"The refrigerator is one place I'm sure my family will find it."

But we're suffering from success — and I'm not sure which word to emphasize. We had expected perhaps 10,000 orders — not five times as many. We're shipping the kits as fast as our volunteers can assemble them. Our crews work night and day, seven days a week. Now the folks whose orders haven't been shipped are complaining. As one senior put it, "Time gallops for us." Several people have even wondered if we're "another senior rip-off."

Please let your readers know that we won't cash their check or charge their credit card until we're ready to ship their order. And further, we will be most grateful for their patience in the meantime. Thank you!

LISA CARLSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FUNERAL CONSUMERS ALLIANCE INC.

DEAR LISA: First, let me vouch for the fact that the Funeral Consumers Alliance is on the up-and-up. You have been a trusted source of information about the funeral industry for years, and it has always been a pleasure talking with you.

Second: On one hand, I'm sorry you have been "buried" with orders, and on the other, I'm very pleased. I am sure that once the readers who ordered kits receive them, they will prove to be useful.

Third: You need some more help in filling those orders! If you've run out of volunteers, consider hiring some temps. We both work in the service of others — and there are important needs to be met.

nesswoman. How can I stop him from hassling me about it?
NOT AN ENTREPRENEUR IN FLORIDA

DEAR NOT: What makes your husband think business owners need not pay a fair share of taxes to the government? Starting your own business would not excuse you (and him) from that responsibility.

Visit the nearest Small Business Administration office (it is listed in the phone book) and obtain guidelines for small businesses. Then show your husband how much tax responsibility a business owner must shoulder.

Also make a list of the benefits he reaps as a taxpayer, such as good highways, Social Security, education, fire-fighting, police protection, military readiness to ensure our freedom, etc. Your husband seems to be a person who takes these benefits for granted. Perhaps your research and the list will clue your husband in to the facts of life.

CONFIDENTIAL TO MY READERS OF AFRICAN HERITAGE: Have a joyous Kwanzaa.

Abby shares her favorite recipes in a two-booklet set. To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$7.99 per set (\$9 per set in Canada) to: Dear Abby Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY: My husband wants me to start my own business because he hates paying the government four months of his salary. I don't think I'm cut out to be a busi-

nesswoman. Your vision of what is workable could change after a discussion. Step back from another's tantrum. Tonight: Play the night away. **LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)

***** Your efforts and thoughts do make a difference. Don't allow anyone to interfere with your decisions. Think twice and review what is on your mind. A boss or someone in charge could be remote. You aren't going to change this person! Tonight: Do errands and clear out work.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ***** Your creativity emerges, even now, with the holidays passing. You come up with answers. Your dynamic thinking breaks patterns. You draw good luck by taking charge and managing your work in your customary style. Think **of your own raise.** Tonight: Chug along.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ***** Listen to family, but cruise on out the door. You understand your natural limits. Use your abilities to be detached and to resolve problems. News from a distance adds a twinkle to your eye. Nearly anything is possible. Loosen up and relax with a loved one. Tonight: Be careful with spending.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ***** You could easily lose your temper in a hot discussion. Think through a decision rather than finding a way to hush up a problem. Keep communication flowing, and stay cool. Don't take anyone's opinions personally. Use your sense of humor. Tonight: Get enough sleep.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ***** Now is a good time to take a hard look at what is happening financial-

ly. Start reining yourself in before it is too late. Fortunately, there isn't a holiday every month. Refuse to allow a conversation to get touchy and angry. Tonight: Out and about.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ***** Get an early start this morning, if possible. You might not see eye to eye with a friend. Your expectations of a situation could be very different. Stop and see where this misunderstanding began. Study your finances, with an eye to enhanced security. Tonight: Pay bills.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ***** Take a deep breath and think before you take an important action. Your creativity opens the pathway to many options. Explore it carefully before deciding on your course of action. You come off far stronger than you realize. A boss or parent might be on the warpath. Tonight: Whatever makes you happy.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ***** Use the daytime to accomplish a major project or to get plans in order. You will want to pull back later, feeling somewhat exhausted and pressured to the max. Take some time to answer your cards and write thank-yous. Others love hearing from you. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

BORN TODAY
 Actress Marlene Dietrich (1901), actor Gerard Depardieu (1948), newscaster Cokie Roberts (1943)

 Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>
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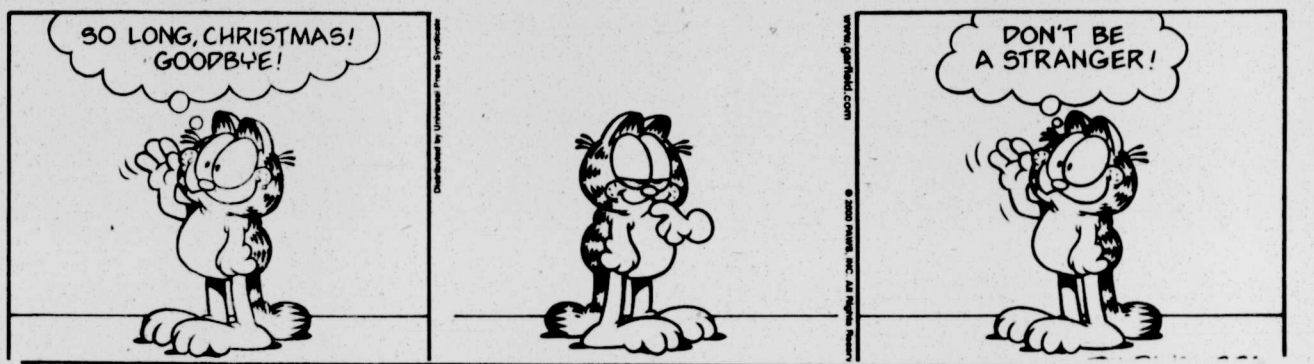
For Better or For Worse



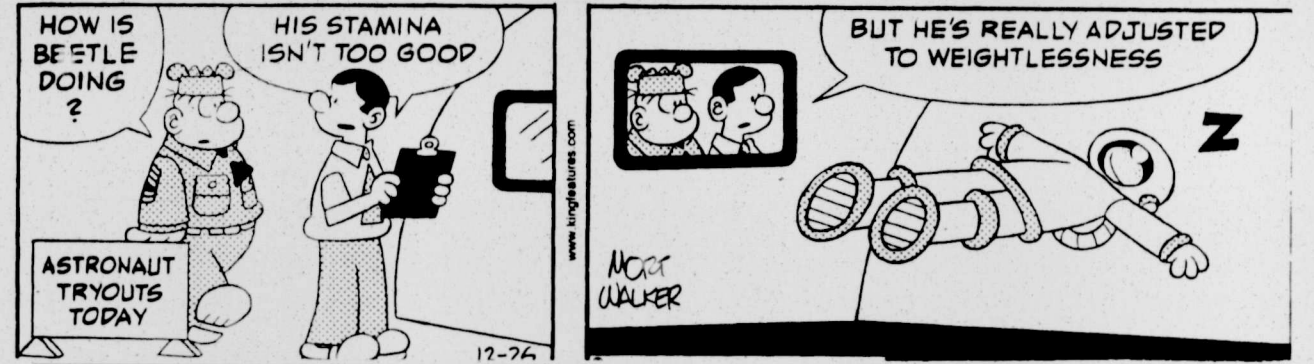
Zits



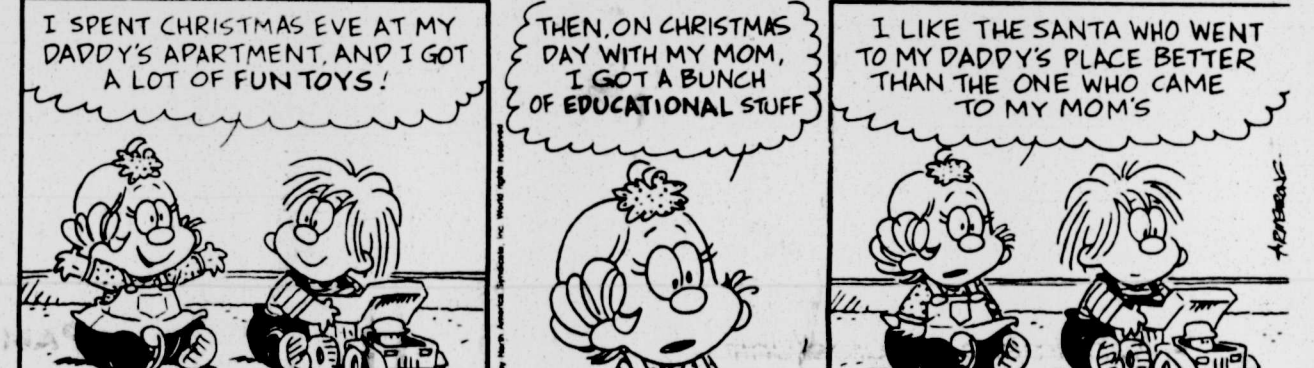
Garfield



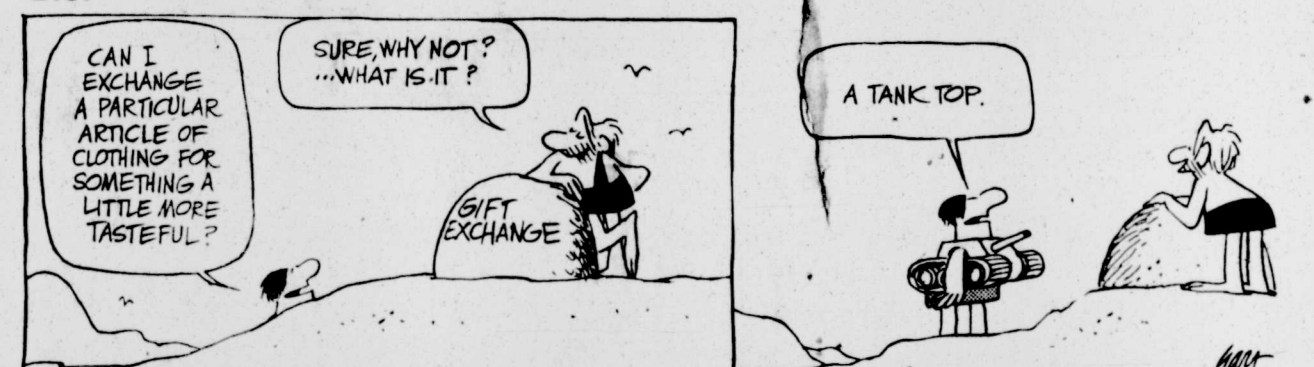
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore



Horoscope

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27, 2000

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
 ***** Take charge, but listen to another. Be direct in your dealings. Bring co-workers together for a pep talk, and eye the end of the year. Set key goals for the week as well as for 2001. Your smile warms the heart of others. You have high energy. Tonight: Avoid a power struggle with a partner.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ***** Call distant friends and loved ones. Check out office gossip carefully. Not everything is as it seems. Evaluate recent spending. Consider working overtime if need be. You might not be ready to make a decision. Tonight: A partner flares up.

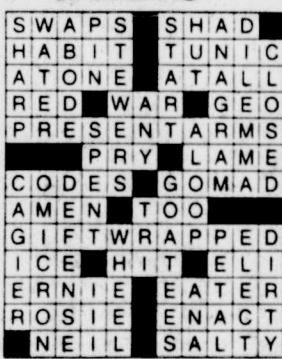
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ***** Your smile warms others up, and your curiosity draws others out. Do what you must in order to get the results you need. Do nothing halfway with a loved one. Make a point of extending yourself 100 percent to someone at a distance. Be upbeat. Check out what is possible. Tonight: Take the high road.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ***** Deal with others fairly. Not everyone is in the mood you would like him to be in. Understand more of what is

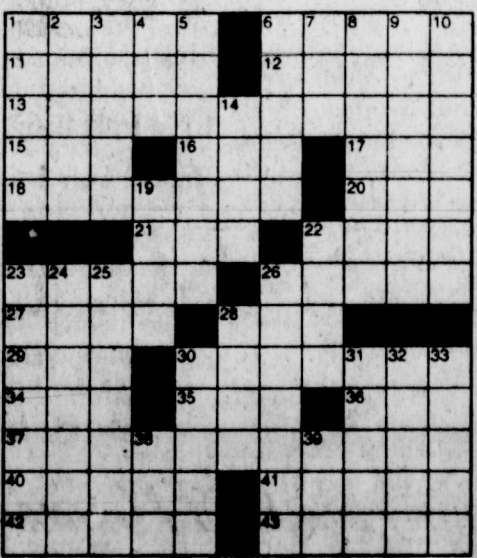
Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fast food drinks
 - 6 Creative sort
 - 11 Critic
 - 12 Nimble
 - 13 Football great of the 1960s
 - 15 Burro
 - 16 Milne youngster
 - 17 December 31, for one
 - 18 More thin
 - 20 Brown hue
 - 21 Snaky swimmer
 - 22 Brad of "Seven"
 - 23 Drills
 - 26 Sneaker features
 - 27 Small bills
 - 28 Swabbing need
 - 29 TV alien
 - 30 Rampart
 - 34 Golf need
 - 35 Top
 - 36 Blvd.'s kin
 - 37 Track star of the 2000 Olympics
 - 40 Happening
 - 41 Like neon
 - 42 Requires
- DOWN**
- 1 Fragrant wood
 - 2 Portly
 - 3 Flat paper
 - 4 Trajectory shape
 - 5 Building units
 - 6 Notable
 - 7 In the past
 - 8 Moving
 - 9 Lift
 - 10 Takes offense at
 - 14 Seasonal song
 - 19 Sandra and Ruby
 - 22 Hemingway nick-name
 - 23 Ferry operators
 - 24 Legally off base
 - 25 Fight official
 - 26 Conrad novel
 - 28 Primary
 - 30 Novel lines
 - 31 Discussion group
 - 32 Turn aside
 - 33 Exams
 - 38 Not Rep. or Dem.
 - 39 — roll (doing well)



Yesterday's answer



STUMPED?

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Marmaduke



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SPORTS

Notebook

BASKETBALL

PAMPA — City of Pampa Recreation Department will be sponsoring men's and women's basketball leagues for ages 16 and up. Men's Competitive, Recreational and Women's Open divisions will be offered. In addition, this year the recreation department will offer a Men's Over 35 division.

Entry deadline will be Jan. 17 at 5 p.m., and the season will begin on Jan. 24, 2001.

Entry fee (sponsor's fee) is \$200 and player's fee is \$10 per player with a minimum of ten (10) players.

Roster forms, fact sheets and league bylaws are available at the Recreation Office at 816 S. Hobart.

For more information, please contact Shane Stokes at 669-5770 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

FOOTBALL

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — The fourth annual Humanitarian Bowl between Boise State and Texas-El Paso on Thursday has the key ingredient for success: the hometown team.

But beginning next year, success may be more difficult to achieve. Conference realignments will make it more likely that Fresno State or Louisiana Tech will be playing instead of an Idaho team.

"We would like to sell out the game during the summer every year," said Gene Bleymaier, athletic director for Boise State University.

To do that, the Humanitarian Bowl must become more than a football game: It must be a tradition that Treasure Valley residents embrace no matter which team plays on the blue turf come December, say Bleymaier and Mark Livingston, the bowl's executive director.

As one of Idaho's few nationally televised events, Bleymaier and Livingston want residents and the corporate community to support the bowl as a showcase for the city and the state to the rest of the country, perhaps reducing some negative stereotypes.

But in 2001, Boise State and the University of Idaho will leave the Big West Conference, which has sent its champion to the Humanitarian Bowl but is giving up sponsoring football. Boise State will join the Western Athletic Conference; Idaho will compete in the Sun Belt Conference.

How then to get people out of their warm homes on a cold winter day to go watch Tulsa or Rice?

In San Diego, the vast majority of residents neither knew nor cared much about schools such as Brigham Young University and Indiana during the Holiday Bowl's early days in the late 1970s, said John Reid, that bowl's executive director.

But promoting the game as a major citywide festival — along with the almost providential help of exciting games with miraculous finishes — helped transform the Holiday Bowl into one of the nation's most successful bowls, outside the older, better-known bowls such as the Rose and the Orange.

The Holiday Bowl now attracts the runner-up of the Pacific 10 and a Big 12 opponent, two of college football's most powerful conferences.

"The key to our success was local support. No magic, just hard work," Reid said. "We got a group of community leaders, about 400 prominent businessmen, to underwrite the game initially."

If ticket sales did not pay the way, businesses made up the costs. But ticket sales are no longer a problem, even after the stadium increased capacity from 52,000 to 70,000 seats.

Community support led to events that turned the bowl from a one-day sporting event into a multi-day festival.

While others fell, Florida State kept winning

By RICHARD ROSENBLATT
AP Football Writer

College Football Review

With Alabama sinking, Oklahoma soaring and Notre Dame restoring its tarnished image, Florida State did what it always does — win.

College football 2000 provided a Saturday full of surprises, from South Carolina's amazing turnaround under Lou Holtz, to Penn State's worst season under Joe Paterno, to Oregon State's best season. But in the end, coach Bobby Bowden's Seminoles won a place in a national title game for the third year in a row and fourth time in the last five seasons.

No. 3 Florida State (11-1), despite a 27-24 loss to No. 2 Miami (10-1) on Oct. 7, will play No. 1 Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl on Jan. 3 in the Bowl Championship Series' national title game. The winner of that game will be crowned champion in the coaches poll.

There is a chance for split champions, however. If Miami beats No. 7 Florida (10-2) in the Sugar Bowl, the Hurricanes could become the national champion in the final AP media poll.

But what a regular-season it was — right from the start.

On Aug. 26, Heisman Trophy favorite Michael Vick's debut was canceled when a severe rainstorm hit Blacksburg, and the Virginia Tech-Georgia Tech game never started. It wasn't made up, either.

Nebraska opened as the No. 1 team in the preseason poll, but after a 27-24 overtime victory at Notre Dame on Sept. 9, the Cornhuskers no longer had that look of invincibility.

Oklahoma, led by rising star Josh Heupel, dominated the Huskers 31-14 on Oct. 28 and changed the course of the season. The Sooners, under second-year coach Bob Stoops, took over at No. 1 the next day, then won out — including a second win over Kansas State in the Big 12 title game — to finish as the nation's only unbeaten major team.

Florida State and Miami added another classic to their rivalry on Oct. 7. Even in defeat, eventual Heisman Trophy winner Chris Weinke excelled.

Hampered by a severe ankle

Seminole ahead of the Hurricanes, setting up the Florida State-Oklahoma Orange Bowl game.

At South Carolina, Holtz worked his magic in his second season. Coming in with a 21-game losing streak, the Gamecocks opened 4-0, including a win over Georgia. They went to 7-1 before losing their final three, but will play Ohio State in the Outback Bowl on Jan. 1.

Out West, the Pacific-10 Conference enjoyed one of its most exciting seasons — for

and coach Mike DuBose said his team was ready to challenge for a national title. But after 40-38 homecoming loss to Central Florida, DuBose announced he was resigning at the end of the season.

After a 9-0 loss to rival Auburn, 'Bama finished 3-8 — its worst record since 1957. After being turned down by Virginia Tech's Frank Beamer and Miami's Butch Davis, the Tide turned to TCU's Dennis Franchione to replace DuBose.

Paterno has no plans to leave not-so-Happy Valley after a 5-7 season, which included quarterback Rashard Casey's legal woes and a spinal injury to freshman linebacker Adam Taliaferro in a game against Ohio State.

Weinke won the Heisman in a close vote over Heupel. Weinke threw for 4,167 yards and 33 TDs; Heupel threw for 3,392 yards and 20 TDs.

Purdue quarterback Drew Brees, who threw for 3,393 yards and 24 TDs, led the Boilermakers (8-3) to the Rose Bowl for the first time in 36 years, while Northwestern was the surprise team in the Big Ten. The Wildcats, led by running back Damien Anderson (1,914 yards), went 8-3.

In one of the wildest games of the season, Northwestern beat Michigan 54-51 on Zak Kustok's 13-yard TD pass with 20 seconds left. The score came just after Michigan's Anthony Thomas fumbled and gave the Wildcats another chance.

LaDainian Tomlinson led the nation in rushing with 2,158 yards as TCU went 10-1 before Franchione left for Alabama. Tomlinson won the Doak Walker

Award as the nation's top running back.

Florida State defensive end Jamal Reynolds won the Lombardi Award as the nation's top lineman and Tennessee's John Henderson took the Outland Trophy as the top interior lineman.

Joining Alabama in the new-coach department for next season are Arizona (Dick Tomey resigned, John Mackovic hired); Arizona State (Bruce Snyder fired, Dirk Koetter hired); BYU (LaVell Edwards retired, Gary Crowton hired); Georgia (Jim Donnan, fired); Missouri (Larry Smith fired, Gary Pinkel hired); North Carolina (Carl Torbush retired, John Bunting hired); Southern California (Paul Hackett fired, Pete Carroll hired); Virginia (George Welsh retired); West Virginia (Don Nehlen retired, Rich Rodriguez hired).

Georgia Southern won the I-AA national title, Delta State took the Division II title, and Mount Union won the Division III championship.

Florida State won the '99 national title — its second national championship — with a 46-29 win over Virginia Tech in the 2000 Sugar Bowl.

Even in defeat, Vick stole the show, throwing for 225 yards and one TD and running for 97 yards and a score, rallying the Hokies from a 21-point deficit to a 29-28 lead late in the third quarter.

But Seminoles wide receiver Peter Warrick had quite a game, too, scoring a record-setting 20 points. He caught TD passes of 64 and 43 yards, returned a punt 59 yards for a score and snagged a 2-point conversion pass from Weinke.

Seminole won a place in the national title game for the third year in a row and fourth time in the last five seasons.

injury, the 28-year-old quarterback threw for 496 yards and three TDs and put his team ahead with 1:37 left. But Miami's Ken Dorsey threw a 13-yard TD pass with 46 seconds to go and the Hurricanes won out. Their only loss was at Washington, 34-29, on Sept. 9.

On Nov. 4, Miami beat Virginia Tech 41-21, a game Vick was in for only 19 plays. Vick's sprained ankle also knocked him out of the Heisman race. The Hokies (10-1) play Clemson in the Gator Bowl on Jan. 1.

Oklahoma, Miami and Florida State finished 1-2-3 in the AP's final regular-season poll, but the BCS standings rated the

Oregon, Oregon State and Washington, that is. The three shared the Pac-10 title, but the Huskies (10-1) earned the Rose Bowl bid through league tiebreakers.

Oregon State, in coach Dennis Erickson's second season, also finished 10-1 and was picked to play Notre Dame in the Fiesta Bowl on Jan. 1.

The Irish, with coach Bob Davie fighting for his job, won their final seven games to finish 9-2 and reach their first BCS game. Davie will be back.

It was a season to forget, at Alabama and Penn State.

'Bama was No. 3 in the preseason poll coming off an SEC title,



Brian Maxwell (left) of Pampa throws a hard left that rocks his opponent at the West Texas Boxing Tournament in Lubbock.

Maxwell gaining experience in the ring

LUBBOCK — Boxer Brian Maxwell of the Youth Survival Club of Pampa continues to improve as the season goes along.

Competing in the West Texas Tournament earlier this month in Lubbock, Maxwell came close to upsetting a more experienced fighter of the Lubbock Warriors club. Maxwell lost the decision by only a few points.

"Brian has shown a lot of improvement with nine bouts under his belt now," said J.R. Moreno, the Youth Survival Club's founder.

Maxwell is a West Texas runner-up along with six other Pampa boxers. They include Sam Gamble, Bobby Sanchez, Russell Douglas, Joshua Perez and Jerry Ruiz. Mark Wood is also a team member, but the Pampa coaches decided not to let him in the ring against a more experienced Hartford boxer, according to Moreno.

Boxing

"Sam Gamble's fight was brutal from the beginning. Both fighters were bleeding from hard blows to the face," Moreno said. "Sam is a very hard hitter."

Judges stopped the match and called it a draw at the end of the first round.

The next tournament will be the Golden Gloves Junior Olympics in Lubbock. No date has been set yet.

NEW YORK (AP) — Felix Trinidad Jr. and Shane Mosley propped up boxing, a sport sagging under a shallow heavyweight division and scandal in 2000.

The speed, power and heart the unbeaten Trinidad and Mosley showed in moving up in weight and winning junior middleweight and welterweight title fights excited fans and had them thinking of greats like Duran,

Leonard, Hagler and Hearns.

The lack of competition, dull fights and another Mike Tyson controversy drained interest from the heavyweight division, in which Lennox Lewis defended the WBC-IBF titles three times during the year and Evander Holyfield won the vacant WBA championship.

Tyson fought Andrew Golota and Lewis defended his titles on pay-per-view. But the most announced pay-per-view buys were the 588,000 for Mosley's split decision over Oscar De La Hoya in an IBF-WBC welterweight title showdown, and the 520,000 for Trinidad's 12th round technical knockout of Fernando Vargas for the IBF-WBA junior middleweight championships.

The year began in controversy for Tyson when women's groups and some politicians, protested the British government's decision to allow the convicted rapist into the country. The ruling was upheld and Tyson scored a second-round technical knockout of Julius Francis on Jan. 29 in Manchester, England.

His fight against Lou Savarese on June 26 in Glasgow, Scotland, was stopped after 38 seconds. But Tyson continued to go after his opponent and he elbowed the referee to the floor. He was fined \$187,500 but was not suspended by the British Boxing Board of Control.

There were many ticket and pay-per-view buyers unhappy when Golota quit against Tyson after the second round on Nov. 11 in the Palace of Auburn Hills in Michigan. Golota was admitted to a hospital for what a doctor said was a concussion, herniated disc in his neck and a broken left cheek bone. He was released in about 24 hours.

Scandal hit boxing, a sport familiar with it, when Robert W. Lee, then president of the IBF, was charged with 27 counts of taking bribes to fix rankings. He was acquitted on all of those counts, but was convicted on one count of money laundering, two counts of tax evasion and three counts of interstate travel in aid of racketeering.

A look back at the horses

By ED SCHUYLER JR.
AP Racing Writer

The 3-year-old colts Fusaichi Pegasus and Tiznow served as equine bookends in thoroughbred racing for 2000.

Fusaichi Pegasus was the star of the spring when he became the first betting favorite to win the Kentucky Derby since Spectacular Bid in 1979.

Tiznow, second in a maiden race May 11, five days after Fusaichi Pegasus won the Derby, won the \$4.77 million Breeders' Cup Classic. Fusaichi Pegasus finished sixth in the race Nov. 6, his last before being retired to breeding under a syndication worth from \$60 million to \$70 million.

The big off-track story was the death of jockey Chris Antley from severe head trauma Dec. 2 at his home in Pasadena, Calif. Antley had struggled with drug and alcohol abuse and police were investigating the death as a homicide.

Antley, who won the Kentucky Derby on Strike the Gold in 1991 and on Charismatic in 1999, helped save Charismatic's life after the horse broke two bones in his left front leg while finishing third in the Belmont Stakes in a bid to win the Triple Crown.

The injury occurred in the deep stretch, and Antley pulled the colt up shortly after the finish, dismounted and held up the injured leg until veterinarians arrived. Charismatic was saved and retired to stud.

Also in 2000, three Hall of Fame jockeys reached milestones.

The retired Julie Krone became the first woman inducted into National Racing Hall of Fame.

On July 4, Russell Baze got victory No. 7,000 aboard This Is the Moment at the Alameda Country Fair in Pleasanton, Calif.

Laffit Pincay Jr., the winningest jockey in history, got win No. 9,000 on Chichim in the California Cup Distaff on Oct. 28 at Santa Anita.

The Japanese-owned Fusaichi Pegasus won his first five starts as a 3-year-old, including the Kentucky Derby, and it appeared he would be the fourth straight colt to take a shot at winning the Triple Crown for the first time since Affirmed in 1978.

Fusaichi Pegasus, however, finished second to Red Bullet in Preakness. The colt, trained Neil Drysdale and ridden by Kent Desormeaux, missed the Belmont Stakes because of a minor foot problem and didn't race again until he won the Jerome Handicap Sept. 23 at Belmont Park. He next raced in the Breeders' Cup Classic.

Titans shut out Cowboys, 31-0

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The Tennessee Titans didn't slap high-fives with fans as they left the field. Most didn't even bother to show off their T-shirts and hats commemorating their first AFC Central title since 1993. But then the Titans never worried about not making the playoffs.

The Titans secured the AFC's top seed, a bye week and home-field advantage throughout the playoffs Monday night by beating the Dallas Cowboys 31-0 in a game where their defense shined by forcing four turnovers to finish as the NFL's best.

"We talked about hitting a peak at the end of the year," Titans end Kenny Holmes said. "I think we're starting to peak right now. Hopefully, we're just getting better every day."

The Titans already feature the NFL's best record at 13-3 and possibly the toughest home-field advantage in the league at Adelphia Coliseum where they are 16-1 the past two seasons.

"We like our chances at home," receiver Yancey Thigpen said. "We have a great record at home, and I think the guys really are going to work hard to take advantage of it."

The Titans put on a show in the third quarter, this time with their defense. They led only 7-0 after a first half in which they turned the ball over four times, but they made up for it in less than 13 minutes.

Linebacker Randall Godfrey forced two fumbles and recovered a third, end Henry Ford fell on a ball and ran 30 yards before diving in for a touchdown, and rookie linebacker Keith Bulluck

walked into the end zone with an 8-yard interception return. Al Del Greco tacked on a 21-yard field goal that left the Titans up 31-0 with 2:36 left in the third quarter.

"The momentum swung, the crowd got into the game more, and it was a very merry Christmas in Tennessee," Bulluck said.

Granted, Dallas featured Anthony Wright at quarterback in only his second NFL start with Troy Aikman watching on the sidelines. But they had Emmitt Smith in the game with a chance to pass Barry Sanders for No. 2 on the career rushing list if he rushed for 124 yards.

He got only 20 yards on 12 carries as the Titans, knowing they could pass the Ravens for honors as the NFL's stingiest defense, gave up just 95 yards total in their second straight shutout after beating the Cleveland Browns 24-0 last week.

Titans safety Blaine Bishop said he has never played with a better defense. Dallas coach Dave Campo was impressed.

"When they jump into their blitz package, it's tough, and they blitzed us all through the game without backing off at all. They're a very good football team defensively, probably the best defensive football team in the league," Campo said.

The Titans finished with 374 yards of offense and held onto the ball in the second half. Steve McNair, who was 17-of-23 for 188 yards with a touchdown and two interceptions, left in the third quarter after his left ankle became sore.

Titans coach Jeff Fisher also

pulled Eddie George in the third quarter eight carries short of breaking Jamal Anderson's NFL record of 410 carries in a season.

The Cowboys had every excuse to give up even before the game started. But they didn't quit and even tried to jump on the Titans on the opening kickoff with an onside kick that Michael Wiley recovered for Dallas.

Not even that helped as Dallas finished off its worst season since 1989 when the Cowboys went 1-15 in Jerry Jones' first season as owner. Smith called it the end of a frustrating season, and Jones said they could have had a chance if they had avoided some of their injuries.

"That's not an excuse. It's a fact," Jones said. "So I will have to do some head-scratching and see how we go from here because we have some players that my concern is more about their health than it is frankly about some other team issues."

Notes: The Titans set a franchise mark for most wins in consecutive seasons with 26, topping the 22 they won in 1992-93 as the Oilers. ... Fisher, who became the franchise's winningest coach last week, added his first AFC Central title as head coach. ... The Titans now have won four of the last five games with the Cowboys who made their first trip to Nashville. ... McNair's TD pass to Derrick Mason in the first quarter gave him 15 TDs this season, matching his career-high set in 1998. ... George topped the 1,500-yard rushing mark for the first time in his career, finishing with 1,509.

Boston College claims Aloha Bowl

HONOLULU (AP) — If Tom O'Brien decides to leave Boston College, the Eagles made sure he went out in style.

Tim Hasselbeck threw two long second-half touchdown passes and Cedric Washington scored on an 11-yard run as Boston College beat Arizona State 31-17 on Monday in the Aloha Bowl.

Rumors were swirling around the Eagles this week that O'Brien would leave the team to take over the retired George Welsh at

Virginia. But O'Brien didn't sound like a coach on the run.

"There is a future for this program, a great future," he said.

When asked if there was a future for him at Boston College, O'Brien succinctly answered, "Yes, absolutely."

The Eagles got two quick touchdowns in the third period and added another in the next quarter to put away Arizona State, which was trying to win the final game

for fired coach Bruce Snyder.

Hasselbeck threw scoring passes of 58 yards to Dedrick Dewalt and 40 yards to Ryan Reed within a two-minute span and Washington, carrying the rushing load for suspended Willie Green, rushed for 109 yards and two touchdowns.

"We didn't do anything different," Hasselbeck said of BC's game plan. "Cedric's a great running back and we have a great offensive line."

Scoreboard

PRO FOOTBALL
NFL Playoff Glance
By The Associated Press
All Times EST
Saturday, Dec. 30
Wild-card Playoffs
Indianapolis at Miami, 12:30 p.m. (ABC)
St. Louis at New Orleans, 4 p.m. (ABC)
Sunday, Dec. 31
Denver at Baltimore, 12:30 p.m. (CBS)
Tampa Bay at Philadelphia, 4 p.m. (FOX)
Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 6
AFC-NFC Divisional Playoffs (CBS, FOX)
Sunday, Jan. 7
AFC-NFC Divisional Playoffs (CBS, FOX)
Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 14
AFC-NFC Championship Games (CBS, FOX)
Super Bowl
Sunday, Jan. 28
6 p.m. at Tampa, Fla. (CBS)
Pro Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 4
NFC vs. AFC, 5:30 p.m. at Honolulu (ABC)
Final Glance
AMERICAN CONFERENCE
East
y-Miami 11 5 0.688 323 226
x-Indianapolis 10 6 0.625 429 326
N.Y. Jets 9 7 0.563 321 321
Buffalo 8 8 0.500 315 350
New England 5 11 0.313 276 338
Central
y-Tennessee 13 3 0.813 346 191
x-Baltimore 12 4 0.750 333 165
Pittsburgh 9 7 0.563 321 255
Jacksonville 7 9 0.438 367 327
Cincinnati 4 12 0.250 185 359
Cleveland 3 13 0.188 161 419
West
y-Oakland 12 4 0.750 479 259
x-Denver 11 5 0.688 485 369
Kansas City 7 9 0.438 355 354
Seattle 6 10 0.375 320 405
San Diego 1 15 0.063 269 440
NATIONAL CONFERENCE
East
y-N.Y. Giants 12 4 0.750 328 246
x-Philadelphia 11 5 0.688 351 245
Washington 8 8 0.500 281 289
Dallas 5 11 0.313 294 361
Arizona 3 13 0.188 210 443
Central
y-Minnesota 11 5 0.688 397 371
x-Tampa Bay 10 6 0.625 388 269
Detroit 9 7 0.563 307 307
Green Bay 9 7 0.563 353 323
Chicago 5 11 0.313 216 355
West
y-New Orleans 10 6 0.625 354 305
x-St. Louis 7 9 0.438 310 310
Carolina 6 10 0.375 388 422
Atlanta 4 12 0.250 252 413
x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division
Saturday's Games
N.Y. Giants 28, Jacksonville 25
Denver 38, San Francisco 9

New baseball draft proposed by Selig

By RONALD BLUM AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball's top teams may be giving up some players to the sport's weak links.

The worst eight teams would be able to select players from the top eight in a new "competitive balance draft" proposed by commissioner Bud Selig.

The teams with the eight highest winning percentages over the previous three years would be able to protect just 25 players apiece from their organization in the draft, according to a 37-page memorandum sent to teams last week and obtained by The Associated Press.

Only the teams with the eight lowest winning percentages over the previous three years would be allowed to make selections, and they could take only one player each. Each of the top teams could only lose one player.

The draft would take place annually after the World Series but before the end of the winter meetings each December.

Because the teams with the worst records often are the ones with the least money, they could attempt to draft high-salaried players and trade them to wealthy clubs for younger and cheaper talent.

"I think that would be a possibility," said Sandy Alderson, executive vice president of baseball operations in the commissioner's office. "This would operate very similar to an expansion draft. Although there is some confidentiality with respect to the protected lists, I'm sure clubs would look for a way to make trades."

The draft was recommended in

July by the owners' latest economic study committee and commissioner Bud Selig told his staff to present it to owners for approval when they meet in Phoenix on Jan. 17-18.

"I really don't want to talk about it," Selig said Monday. "I'm not really sure how that got out."

Owners are being asked to vote on a variety of rules changes, many of which the Major League Baseball Players Association probably would challenge.

Making all players around the world subject to the June draft, which would eliminate much of the ability of Cuban defectors and young Dominican stars to command huge signing bonuses.

Changing the eligibility for college players in the draft from players in their junior seasons to those in their senior seasons, taking away the leverage of players who threaten to return to school.

Forcing all draft picks to sign by July 15.

"If teams really believe they would sign players at bargain-basement prices because they were seniors, I think they're kidding themselves," agent Jeff Moorad said. "I have to believe all that does is to unnecessarily prolong the college careers of players who are often ready to enter the professional ranks."

Agent Tom Reich said the changes were tied to the expiration of the collective bargaining agreement next Oct. 31.

"This is labor dispute foreplay, firing shots across the bow," he said. "This is the kind of stuff that has gone on forever."

While endorsing the competi-

p.m. (ESPN)

Friday, Dec. 29
Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.
Payout: \$1.25 million
Colorado State (9-2) vs. Louisville (9-2), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Sun Bowl
At El Paso, Texas
Payout: \$1 million
UCLA (6-6) vs. Wisconsin (8-4), 2 p.m. (CBS)
Peach Bowl
At Atlanta
Payout: \$1.8 million
Georgia Tech (9-2) vs. LSU (7-4), 5 p.m. (ESPN)
Holiday Bowl
At San Diego
Payout: \$1.9 million
Texas (9-2) vs. Oregon (9-2), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

College Bowl Games
At A Glance
All Times EST
Wednesday, Dec. 20
Mobile Alabama Bowl
Payout: \$750,000
Southern Mississippi 28, TCU 21

Thursday, Dec. 21
Las Vegas Bowl
At Las Vegas
Payout: \$800,000
UNLV 31, Arkansas 14

Sunday, Dec. 24
Oahu Bowl
At Honolulu
Payout: \$750,000
Georgia 37, Virginia 14

Monday, Dec. 25
Blue-Gray Classic
At Montgomery, Ala.
Gray 40, Blue 37
Aloha Bowl
At Honolulu
Payout: \$750,000
Boston College 31, Arizona State 17

Wednesday, Dec. 27
Motor City Bowl
At Pontiac, Mich.
Payout: \$750,000
Marshall (7-5) vs. Cincinnati (7-4), 4 p.m. (ESPN)
Gateway Furniture.com Bowl
At Houston
Payout: \$750,000
Texas Tech (7-5) vs. East Carolina (7-4), 8 p.m. (ESPN2)

Thursday, Dec. 28
Humanitarian Bowl
At Boise, Idaho
Payout: \$750,000
Boise State (9-2) vs. Texas-El Paso (8-3), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN2)
Music City Bowl
At Nashville, Tenn.
Payout: \$750,000
West Virginia (6-5) vs. Mississippi (7-4), 4 p.m. (ESPN)
Micronpc.com Bowl
At Miami
Payout: \$750,000
Minnesota (6-5) vs. North Carolina State (7-4), 7 p.m. (TBS)
Insight.com Bowl
At Phoenix
Payout: \$750,000
Iowa State (8-5) vs. Pittsburgh (7-4), 7:30 p.m. (ABC)

Saturday, Dec. 30
Alamo Bowl
At San Antonio
Payout: \$1.2 million
Nebraska (9-2) vs. Northwestern (8-3), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Sunday, Dec. 31
Silicon Valley Classic
At San Jose, Calif.
Payout: \$1.2 million
Fresno State (7-4) vs. Air Force (8-3), 7 p.m. (FOXSN)
Independence Bowl
At Shreveport, La.
Payout: \$1.1 million
Texas A&M (7-4) vs. Mississippi State (7-4), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

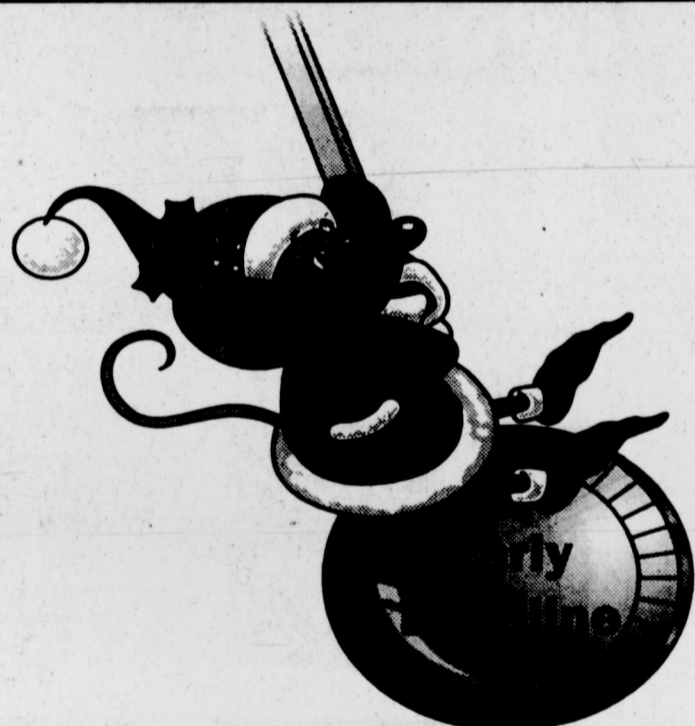
Monday, Jan. 1
Outback Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
Payout: \$2 million
Ohio State (8-3) vs. South Carolina (7-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN)
Cotton Bowl
Payout: \$2.5 million
At Dallas
Kansas State (10-3) vs. Tennessee (8-3), 11 a.m. (FOX)

Gator Bowl
At Jacksonville, Fla.
Payout: \$1.4 million
Virginia Tech (10-1) vs. Clemson (9-2), 12:30 p.m. (NBC)
Citrus Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Payout: \$4 million
Michigan (8-3) vs. Auburn (9-3), 1 p.m. (ABC)

Rose Bowl
At Pasadena, Calif.
Payout: \$13.5 million
Purdue (8-3) vs. Washington (10-1), 4:30 p.m. (ABC)
Fiesta Bowl
At Tempe, Ariz.
Payout: \$13.5 million
Oregon State (10-1) vs. Notre Dame (9-2), 8 p.m. (ABC)

Tuesday, Jan. 2
Sugar Bowl
At New Orleans
Payout: \$13.5 million
Florida (10-2) vs. Miami (10-1), 8 p.m. (ABC)

Wednesday, Jan. 3
Orange Bowl
At Miami
Payout: \$11-13 million
Oklahoma (12-0) vs. Florida State (11-1), 8 p.m. (ABC)



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Monday 25thNo Paper
Tuesday 26thFriday 22nd Noon
Friday 29thThursday 28th Noon
Sunday 31stThursday 28th 4:00
Monday 1stFriday 29th 10:00
Tuesday 2ndFriday 29th Noon

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Wednesday 3rdFriday 29th Noon

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21 Help Wanted
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