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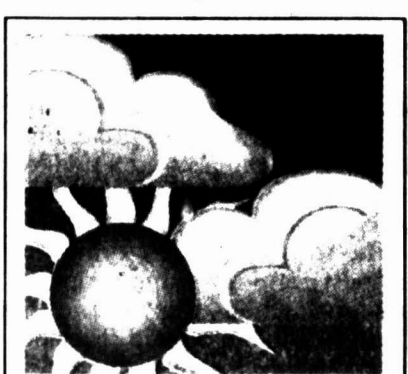
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Pampa

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High, low 40s.
 Low, mid 20s.
 For weather details, see Page 2.

Girl Scout Cookie time!

It's that time again — Girl Scout Cookie time. Sales started Saturday and will run through March 15. Call your favorite Girl Scout or 665-2751 or 669-6862.

Student Leader Reception Thursday

Pampa ISD Board of Trustees will sponsor a Student Leader Reception at 5 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 18 in the high school library. The reception is organized in an effort to recognize students who volunteer with organizations and activities that benefit and add to the quality of the high school.

Neiman's parent co. plans move to Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — The Neiman Marcus Group Inc., parent company of Neiman Marcus Stores, will formally change its corporate address to Dallas this year.

The company's corporate headquarters has been in Chestnut Hill, Mass., since the late 1980s, when Harcourt General acquired a controlling stake in the company.

Harcourt General spun off its 54 percent controlling interest in The Neiman Marcus Group in October 1999 but continued to supply corporate services, such as finance, legal, tax and investor relations, for a fee under an agreement that expires May 14.

Burt Lansky, president and chief operating officer of The Neiman Marcus Group, said the change involves 15 to 20 positions.

Robert L. Harlan, 72, brother of Skellytown resident.

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High utilities blast Pampa ISD

By NANCY YOUNG
 Managing Editor

While residence gas bills have jumped drastically, taxing entities are also experiencing skyrocketing costs and will have to amend budgets to allow for these increases. Pampa Independent School District has a gas bill of \$80,000 while Gray County's gas bill is up 99 percent over last year. The City of Pampa is also getting high bills as evidenced by the tripling over the same time last year of the bill at M.K. Brown Auditorium. An \$80,000 gas bill for the November-December billing cycle is going to require some changes in the school budget, said PISD Superintendent Dr. Dawson Orr. Orr said the school district's gas bill for the same time frame a year ago was \$28,000. "Principals from each of the six campuses as well as school administration personnel will meet soon to identify money in other parts of the budget which may be amended to cover the sky-rocketing cost of the natural gas in heating the school buildings," said Orr. He said the current school budget does not have frills in it, so this is going to be difficult. Not fully anticipating the extent of high gas prices, PISD only budgeted \$124,000 as an estimated cost for the total 2000-2001 budget year for the gas prices. Orr said the year-to-date actual expenses for the local school district's gas is already \$93,000. The 2000-2001 budget year began Oct. 1, 2000, and ends Sept. 30, 2001. "The high costs may require the district amending funds from the fund balance (the amount in reserve) of the school district," said Orr. "We still have the bills from January, February and March, all traditionally cold months, to come in."

(See UTILITIES, Pg. 2)



Gail Nabors, Energas meter reader, reads the gas meter at a local business Friday. Residences, businesses and tax entities bills have skyrocketed. (Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)

Search warrant leads to arrest, drug seizure

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 Staff Writer

Pampa police arrested a 21-year-old Pampa woman Friday afternoon after a search of her home revealed alleged illegal drugs and almost a pound of marijuana.

Audrey Cannon, 21, remained in Gray County Jail early Saturday on felony charges of possession of a controlled substance and possession of marijuana.

Officers obtained a search warrant after receiving information from several sources that illegal drugs were being sold from the Hughes Street residence, police said.

About 1:30 p.m. Friday, Drug Task Force agents, officers from the Pampa Police Department, and Constable Chris Lockridge served a search warrant at the 453 Hughes address, said Deputy Chief Jerry Young.

"No one was at home at the time, so we conducted the search and then waited for someone to come home," Young said, adding they knew someone would be home soon because incense had been left burning in the home.

In their search of the residence, officers found a small quantity of what appeared to be methamphetamine, a plastic bag filled with yellow pills — which the suspect said was morphine — and approximately three quarters of a

(See DRUGS, Pg. 2)



Officers Fawnswa Burrows, Keith Morris, Lt. Fred Courtney, Heather Ratzlaff, and Constable Chris Lockridge serve a search warrant on Hughes Street. (Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Appraisal board elects officers, appoints ARB members

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 Staff Writer

Gray County Appraisal District's board of directors elected officers for 2001 at its January meeting this week.

James Fruge was chosen as the board's chair for the coming year. Wallace Birkes was picked by board

members to serve as secretary. Prior to electing the board's two executive officers, Chief Appraiser Pat Bagley announced the selection of Sam Haynes and Gray County Judge Richard Peet to the board. Haynes was selected by Appraisal District members City of Leters and Leters Independent School District (ISD), City of McLean and McLean ISD.

Grandview Hopkins ISD, and Panhandle Groundwater Conservation to serve as their representative. Judge Peet was chosen to represent Gray County on the board.

The other appraisal board member is Neil Quattlebaum, who has chaired the board for the past several years.

Three positions on the Appraisal

Review Board (ARB) were appointed by the board at this month's meeting. David Gantz and Paula Goff were reappointed for two-year terms, while Charles Henry was appointed to serve the remaining one year of the two-year term of Jack Peoples who is being transferred to the Houston area. Beth Miller was

(See BOARD, Pg. 2)

Sunday snapshot



Name: Ariel Mercado.
Occupation/activities: Go to school and read and art.
Birth date and place: Sept. 25, 1991.

Family: Mom, Arlene, Elena, Isabella.
When I grow up I want to be: Mechanic.
My personal hero: Mom.
The best advice I ever got was: Don't worry about what people say about me.
My classmates think of me as: Nice and funny.
The best word or words to describe me: Angelic, ice cream always on my face.
People will remember me as being: Cool and quiet.
The four guests at my fantasy dinner party would be: Mom, Grandma, Grandpa, Johnny, Jesus.
My hobbies are: Nintendo.

My favorite sports team is: Denver Broncos.
My favorite author is: Tommy DePaulo.
The last book I read was: "Santa Claus Doesn't Mop Floors."
My favorite possession is: My watch.
The biggest honor I've ever received is: Being on the honor roll in second grade.
My favorite performer is: 5 P.M.
I wish I knew how to: Whistle and do cartwheels.
My trademark cliché or expression is: "I didn't do it."
My worst habit is: Sliding down the stairs.

I would never: Cuss.
The last good movie I saw was: "Big Mama's House."
I stay home to watch: Lifetime movies.
Nobody knows: My secrets.
Someday I want to drive a: A low-rider.
My favorite junk food is: Sweeties.
My favorite beverage: Tea.
My favorite restaurant is: Bankok in Amarillo.
My favorite pet: Tito, my dog.
My favorite meal is: Lmales.
I wish I could sing like: Selena.
I'm happiest when I'm: With my mom and my grandma.
I'm tired of: Cleaning, doing my chores.

My biggest fear is: When someone scares me.
The electrical device I couldn't live without is: TV.
My most embarrassing moment: When I wore my slippers to the store.
The biggest waste of time is: Cleaning.
If I won the lottery, the most extravagant thing I would do is: Buy my family each a house.
If I had three wishes they would be: 1) Have a maid; 2) live in a mansion; 3) my family be rich.
If I could change one thing about Pampa, it would be: To get all bad people out and make it bigger.

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Daily Record

Services tomorrow

HARLAN, Robert L. — Graveside services, 2 p.m., Memory Gardens Cemetery, Pampa.

Obituaries

ROBERT L. HARLAN

FRITCH — Robert L. Harlan, 72, died Saturday, Jan. 13, 2001, at Amarillo. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Monday in Memory Gardens Cemetery at Pampa with the Rev. Harold Eggert, of New Life Assembly of God Church, officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Harlan was born April 27, 1928, in Carson County. He had been a lifelong Hutchinson County resident and held a degree from West Texas State College, graduating in 1948. He attended Assembly of God Church in Borger.

He was preceded in death by his mother, dad and sister.

Survivors include two brothers, Eddie Harlan of Skellytown and Merl Harlan of Fort Worth; and two nephews.

Fires

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

Friday, Jan. 12

12:37 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to the 1100 block of Cinderella on a medical assist.

Sheriff's Office

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

Friday, Jan. 12

Shelli Lynn Brandt, 30, 1135 Wilcox, was arrested for theft of property by check.

Daniel Bedoya, 18, 413 Starkweather, was arrested for public intoxication.

Police report

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

Friday, Aug. 12

Edward K. Quarles, 28, 321 Anne, was arrested in the 1000 block of East Foster for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Audrey Jean Cannon, 21, 453 Hughes, was arrested in the 400 block of Hughes for possession of marijuana over four ounces and under five pounds, possession of a controlled substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Police served a search warrant for drugs in the 400 block of Hughes.

Saturday, Aug. 13

Nahum Nunez, 17, 917 E. Gordon, was arrested on a capias pro fine for no liability insurance.

Luis Jimenez, 18, 944 E. Denver, was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

Kevin Kidd, 19, 1806 N. Banks, was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

Ambulance

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

Friday, Jan. 12

12:27 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Cinderella and transported one to Pampa Regional Medical Center (PRMC).

1:14 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred one to Northwest Texas Hospital (NWTX), Amarillo.

4:06 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported one to the 500 block of Magnolia.

5:40 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 300 block of South Henry and transported one to PRMC.

9:28 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 400 block of Wells and transported one to PRMC.

10:35 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to 600 block of North Naida and transported one to PRMC.

11:31 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred one to NWTX, Amarillo.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

DRUGS

pound of marijuana, Young said.

Police said they also discovered a sticky note stuck to a bedroom wall with what appeared to be a price list.

Prices on the list ranged from \$110 for 2 ounces to \$325 for a

half pound, to \$600 for a pound.

"You get a better deal if you buy more," Young joked.

About 20 minutes after police entered the home, Young said a woman unlocked the front door and officers guided her into the house and searched her.

Cannon was taken into cus-

tody at that time and booked into Gray County Jail at approximately 3:30 p.m., police said.

Young said the investigation into the possession is continuing.

He said the unknown substances will be sent to the Texas Department of Public Safety laboratory for testing and identification.

Grandmother grieves as she cares for murdered daughter's children

By KIMBERLY HEFLING
Associated Press Writer

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. (AP)— Paula Grayless tosses and turns, exhausted from caring for her murdered daughter's baby and toddler, yet unable to sleep.

She spends the dark hours of the night talking aloud to a daughter who will never answer. One minute, she asks for advice on raising the girls. The next, she is haunted by images of the crime.

"Sometimes it's hard for me to believe she's not here any more," Grayless said.

With baby Rylee Ann Grayless in her arms and 1-year-old Ryann Renee Crowell bobbing up and down at her feet, Grayless has little time to grieve. The daylight hours are full of bottles, diapers and doctor appointments.

The girls' mother, Melinda Grayless, was killed in a motel parking lot in Oklahoma City three days after giving birth to Rylee. Nathan Crowell, the girls' father, is accused of stabbing her to death with a two-foot sword, a present from Melinda.

Grayless last saw 20-year-old Melinda just before Thanksgiving. Then nine months pregnant, she arrived from Amarillo, Texas, with Ryann and Crowell, 22, her boyfriend of three years.

But they abruptly left town a day after a Fifth Third bank was robbed, claiming Crowell needed to visit a sick relative in Oklahoma.

A month later, Melinda was dead. A confused Crowell, vowing for a priest or a minister, was picked up on the Oklahoma City University campus, said Capt. LaNell White of the Oklahoma City Police Department.

He was charged with murder and identified by police in Indiana as a chief suspect in the Terre Haute bank robbery.

The girls were found alone in the motel room, police said, with methamphetamine nearby.

Melinda and Nathan arrived in Terre Haute planning to stay a while. Their furniture was in storage in Amarillo, Texas, and their belongings were loaded in a brown 1980 Ford Pinto.

Grayless was pleased, glad to have her outgoing daughter at home. Melinda, a 5-foot-11 former high school basketball player nicknamed "Red," was a good mother who read to Ryann every day, Grayless said.

Melinda worked full-time at a Texas restaurant and sometimes expressed frustration that Crowell didn't work. But Crowell did help out. "He cleaned house and you couldn't find a better baby-sitter," Grayless said.

She said the couple were having financial problems, but their arguments didn't seem to be out of the ordinary.

"I really thought Nathan was a pretty sweet guy," Grayless said.

With tattoos and an eyebrow ring, Crowell looked intimidating, "but once you talked to him, he seemed like a nice guy," said Jennifer Warren, a former neighbor in Amarillo.

His court-appointed attorney, Cindy Tedder,

describes him as young looking for his age and slender with "luminescent eyes."

After Melinda's death, Grayless learned Crowell had a history of minor drug- and alcohol-related and weapons possession arrests in Amarillo.

Looking back to Nov. 17, Grayless now said she can't believe she didn't suspect Crowell in the bank robbery. The robber shot into the ceiling before fleeing with \$4,500.

Crowell had left the house that day to get a gallon of milk. When he hadn't returned for several hours, Melinda said he'd gone to St. Louis. The next morning, the couple packed up the Ford Pinto and headed West.

Grayless pleaded with her daughter to stay until the baby was born, but Melinda said she needed to stay with the father of her children.

She promised to return for Thanksgiving.

A few days later, Melinda called to say Rylee had been born healthy in an Oklahoma City hospital. Two days after being released from the hospital, Melinda was dead, repeatedly stabbed at 2:30 a.m. in a Motel 6 parking lot. The sword was found next to her body.

Crowell was raised by his two sets of grandparents in Oklahoma City and Amarillo, said Tedder, his lawyer. She's not sure what happened to his parents.

His childhood "was pretty horrible for what little I know," Tedder said.

Crowell was friendly, but hot tempered, said Warren, who attended middle school with Melinda. The two lost touch for years until by coincidence she and her boyfriend, Eric Gillock, ending up living next door to the couple in Amarillo.

The couple sometimes seemed lovey-dovey, but other times, they argued so loud they woke their neighbors.

"There was a lot of yelling and cursing. They seemed like they weren't real happy with each other. I always wondered why they would stay together with all the tension all the time," Warren said. "Other times, they were like the happiest, most loving couple."

Charged with first-degree murder, Crowell is being held without bail in an Oklahoma City jail. A preliminary hearing is scheduled Feb. 2 in Oklahoma County District Court.

This will likely be a death penalty case, Tedder said.

"I think he's a frightened, sweet young man," Tedder said.

When the call came, Grayless, her mother and a friend piled in a car and drove to Oklahoma City. At a hearing, Grayless obtained temporary custody of her two granddaughters.

"I wasn't ready for it, but I had to get ready for it," said Grayless, who is disabled and already caring for her longtime companion, Harold Jones, who is dying from cancer.

Sharon Tyler, 63, Grayless' mother, helps around the modest house. They try not to dwell on the crime.

UTILITIES

Orr said the December winter storm, which dumped 15 inches snow, was a major factor in the increase in the gas bills.

Six school campuses, Carver Administration Building, transportation center and the Horace Mann school building, which houses maintenance and school ancillary services, are included in the bills.

Orr said electricity costs are also up, but the difference is not as drastic. Last year's bill was \$32,300 while this year's electric bill was \$38,500. He said the school trustees will discuss the school utility situation at their regular meeting, Thursday night.

Gray County is also experiencing price spikes for its natural gas use.

The Gray County Courthouse gas bill for Nov., 2000, is nearly four times higher than Nov. 1999's bill, according to figures furnished by County Auditor Elaine Morris' office.

The courthouse bill for Nov., 2000, is \$1,020 in comparison to \$264 in Nov., 1999. In December, 1999, the courthouse gas bill was \$1,438 while Dec., 2000, jumped to over \$2,900.

Other county buildings and the amounts include the annex, Nov. 1999, \$91, which jumped in Nov. 2000 to \$268. The Dec., 1999, was \$288 while Dec., 2000 was \$702.

The Gray County Jail gas bill was \$994 in Nov. 1999, and increased to \$1,731 in Nov., 2000. In Dec., 1999, the bill was \$1,617 while in Dec., 2000, the bill exceeded \$3,100.

White Deer Land Museum had a minimal increase of \$16 from Nov., 1999, of \$184 to \$200 in Nov., 2000. In Dec., 1999, the gas cost \$414 and was \$526 in Dec., 2000.

November electric bills were up by smaller margins at the courthouse, annex and White Deer Land Museum, but down at the county jail. Courthouse electric rates were up from \$828 to \$871. Bills were up at the annex from \$306 to \$331 while the White Deer Land Museum experienced

a jump from \$94 to \$316 in the November months.

The December electricity bills at the courthouse jumped from \$833 in 1999 to \$1,032 in 2000. Annex bills were up from \$311 to \$395 and county jail bills were up from \$1,764 to \$2,180. The White Deer Land Museum bill was up from \$381 to \$590.

County Judge Richard Peet said he will be discussing the increase in the bills with the county commissioners at their regular meeting on Monday.

He said the county is turning the thermostat way down on weekends and the bills are still staying up.

The City of Pampa has also experienced the increase in gas prices.

Gas bills at the M. K. Brown Auditorium has tripled over last year, going from \$227 in Nov., 1999, to \$692 in Nov., 2000, said City Finance Officer John Horst.

Bills for the warehouse have increased from \$1,217 in Nov., 1999, to \$2,680 in Nov., 2000.

The Lovett Memorial Library's gas bill was actually down by \$27 from last year. In Nov., 1999, the bill was \$526 while a year later it was \$499.

Horst said the only gas at Pampa's City Hall is one gas heater which runs approximately \$50 a month, and there hasn't been a significant increase.

"The electricity is running very close to last year," he said. "There is definitely concern about these bills. I will be advising the commission and the city manager about the effect on the city."

Horst advised the commission will probably also be looking at amending their budget.

John Wagner, local operations superintendent of Energas, said Energas has no control over the cost. He said he wished the company did, and said he hopes the situation will soon get better.

Gail Nabors, Energas meter reader the past two-and-one-half years, said the customers have been courteous to her. "More of them have been coming out when I read the meters to see how much gas they have used," she said, "but very few have been grumpy."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

BOARD

selected to serve as Appraisal Review Board alternate.

Board members also approved expenditures for October and November 2000, as well as a change in the GCAD personnel policy which clarifies how sick leave, annual leave, and auto allowances are paid.

Bagley said in his quarterly investment report as GCAD investment officer that the appraisal district has approximately \$85,000 invested with TexPool and \$100,000 invested in certificates of deposit at First Bank Southwest with interest rates averaging at around six percent.

A report from TexPool Thursday showed interest rates at 6.485 percent, he said today, adding "and the CDs are close to that."

Bagley told board members that since GCAD had been spending some of its reserves, that some funds from the certificates of deposit will be transferred into the reserve account when the CDs mature.

During the chief appraiser's report, board members discussed the Texas Association of Appraisal District's annual conference in Houston next month. Bagley said that he and local board members Peet and Birkes plan to attend the meeting. Haynes and Quattlebaum have

not yet decided.

Bagley updated the appraisal board on the status of the rural 911 addressing efforts. He said GCAD has mailed two letters to rural county residents this past week regarding the project.

The first letter identifying the property and notifying property owners what the new 911 address will be, he said. The second letter was sent to the "best address" of some rural residences to try to identify who the property owners are and what residences are actually occupied.

Bagley said the mailing has already received a good response, both by telephone and through the mail.

CONT. FROM PG. 1

WATER

Water Plan.

Roberts County lies within the boundaries of the Panhandle Groundwater District, whose charge is to preserve, conserve and protect the underground water, Williams said.

Frank Simms, president of the board of directors said Dutton's presentation opened everyone's eyes.

"We'll have to regulate depletion (of the aquifer)," Simms said.

Strip searches lead to supervisor transfers

YAPHANK, N.Y. (AP) — A police department under fire over allegations that one officer forced women stopped for traffic violations to strip off their clothes has transferred four supervisors out of the officer's agency.

The supervisors were not linked to the allegations against officer Frank Wright, but were transferred to send a message that supervisors are responsible for their subordinates' actions, Suffolk County Police Commissioner John Gallagher said in Saturday's editions of Newsday.

Wright is accused of pulling four women over for alcohol tests and then ordering them to remove their clothes or open their shirts. The women said that in return for removing their clothes, they were not charged with drunken driving.

Wright was suspended without pay and prosecutors plan to present the case to a grand jury.

Gallagher ordered a captain, two lieutenants and a sergeant moved out of the Long Island county's highway patrol bureau.

City Briefs

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

30% OFF all demos. Top of Texas Vac & Sew, 407 W. Foster

3 PANT Special for drycleaning only-\$9.50 & 3 Shirt Special for laundry only-\$6. Comet Cleaners

8 ENGLISH Pointer pups for sale. Exc. bloodline. For more info. call 665-4667 after 5 p.m.

CLOTHING ROOM Mary Ellen & Harvester Church of Christ (building across the street, south of Pampa High School) open Tues. Jan. 16th, 9-1 p.m., or call 665-2373, lv. msg. for appt.

CUT THAT heating bill to a minimum with a wood stove. Fireside Comfort, 725 W. Brown, Hwy. 60.

FAIRVIEW CEMETERY - we will begin picking up Christmas decorations, Mon. Jan. 22nd.

FATTEN YOUR wallet, reduce your waistline, Salad & Sandwich Buffet \$4.59, Mon.-Fri. thru Jan. Clint & Sons, 1421 N. Hobart, 665-2825.

FOR SALE By Owner 1618 Country Lane, Panhandle, Tx. 806-537-3702, 1857 sq. ft. living area with double car garage enclosed patio & porches 3 bd, 2 bt, extras, 6 cable hookups, 3 phone jacks, heat pump, humidifier, 5 ceiling fans, double pane windows, storage building, sprinkler system, RV hookups & storage area in back, concrete walk around house, fenced back yard choice location.

GET A woodburning stove, put a damper on your gas bill! Fireside Comfort, 725 W. Brown, Hwy. 60.

MARK YOUR calendars now! The K of C Sausage Dinner will be held on the first Sun. in Mar. from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

BRENDA'S ALTERATIONS. Call after 5 p.m. 665-4737.

MEALS ON Wheels Garage Sale collections begin January 15, 1-3 p.m. Open Mondays for collections only. Sale begins Feb. 5. Old Clarendon College Building, @ Frost and Cook Sts.

MELTING PRICES - Select Winter Wear up to 75% Off. Twice Is Nice.

ORDER YOUR meat & cheese trays now for Super Bowl Sunday!! Clint & Sons Smokehouse, 1421 N. Hobart, 665-2825.

PROFESSIONAL HOUSE-KEEPER / Errand Girl, clean your house, or do your shopping. Call 669-6439.

ROLANDA'S JUST received shipment of new plants & flowers from January market.

WATKINS PRODUCTS. Betty Ridgway, 665-8806.

Weather focus

PAMPA - Sunday, partly cloudy. Highs 40 to 45. Northwest winds around 10 mph. Sunday night, mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 20s. Monday, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of light snow late.

Highs near 40. Tuesday and Wednesday, cloudy with a chance of snow. Lows around 25. Highs 30 to 35.

STATEWIDE - Rain and fog may be tapering off for much of

Texas by late Saturday, forecasters said.

The National Weather Service said a chance of rain and thunderstorms is forecast for parts of Texas Saturday, although decreasing cloudiness is expected by the afternoon.

Highs statewide should range between the 50s and the 70s.

The Panhandle is expected to be very windy Saturday, with a slight chance of rain or even snow. On Monday, the atmosphere should be mostly cloudy with a slight chance of light

snow late. Highs should range between 32 to 42, forecasters said.

Many other parts of West Texas may also get rain. Otherwise, the region should be partly cloudy and sunny, with high temperatures mostly in the 50s and 60s.

Deep South Texas is expected to be cloudy and breezy, but there should be a slow clearing from west to east late Saturday.

Expect lows in the lower to mid-40s inland to lower 50s along the coast.

Am

A serious Amarillo product liability (case no. 93) When you represent Texas Board Office is ve interests. Re

Cal

T.O.P. Take Off Po (T.O.P.S.) #149 Monday at 513 669-2389 for mor

T.O.P. Take Off Po (T.O.P.S.) #41 Monday at 511 more information

AL-Anon will h ings on Wednesdays at Kentucky.

VFW CHAR The Pampa Vets Wars Post #1657 will be having every Sunday at open at 12 noon. come. License No

CELEBRATION The Celebration will hold regular ings at 6:30 p. nights at 822 E. wishing to help v invited to attend a

PAMPA DU BRIDGE The Pampa Dupli plays Monday Thursdays at 10 a Citizens. For a p information, ple Jamieson at 669-2

PANHANDLE FOR THE ME A support group ill and family me second Tuesday o p.m. at 218 N. Ru

we are discuss symptoms of p phrenia. There is more information ride call Sharon K

MONTHLY GOS First Pentecostal 1700 Alcock, h Singing from 2-4 and Sunday of the Albert Maggard at tion of First Pent

Singers and musi churches participi mal congregation enjoy various sp instrumental prese

PHS SCHOOL Pampa High Sch clubs, organizatio or groups interest ing scholarships seniors. The scho for any amount. will make the sch able to senior stu of February. For m contact Starla K Lowrey at 669-480

PARENT/TEACH ORGANIZ A Parent/Teache meeting is sched Tuesday, Jan. 16, PHS. Counselors

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Amarillo Attorney Wins \$8.2 Million Verdict

A seriously injured Texas Panhandle woman, represented by Amarillo attorney Jack Hazlewood, was awarded \$8.2 million in a product liability lawsuit against a major automobile manufacturer. (case no. 93-10141. 116th District Court, Dallas County.)

When you have a claim, you need an experienced attorney to represent you. Jack Hazlewood is a Trial Lawyer Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. The philosophy of the Law Office is very simple: We take care of our clients and see to their best interests. Results obtained depend on the facts of each case.

LAW OFFICES OF JACK HAZLEWOOD

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Suite 200 PNB Place • Fillmore at Eighth
Amarillo, TX

Calendar of events

T.O.P.S. #149

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

T.O.P.S. #41

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

AL-ANON

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

VFW CHARITY BINGO

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

CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS

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

PAMPA DUPLICATE

BRIDGE CLUB

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

PANHANDLE ALLIANCE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL

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

MONTHLY GOSPEL SINGING

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

PHS SCHOLARSHIPS

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

PARENT/TEACHER ORGANIZATION

A Parent/Teacher Organization meeting is scheduled at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 16, in the library of PHS. Counselors from the high

school will be discussing enrollment procedures for students. All parents are urged to attend.

GRAY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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

DALLAS CHILDREN'S THEATRE

The Dallas Children's Theatre will present three performances of "Heidi" for local school children in third- through sixth-grade Thursday, Feb. 1 at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Outlying school districts have been invited to attend the program as well. The project is sponsored by Texas Commission on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, Pampa ISD and other small independent school districts and the Nona Payne and H.E. and Inez McCarter Foundations.

CPC LUNCHEON

The Contract Procurement Center in Amarillo will sponsor a business luncheon for small, minority and women entrepreneurs from 11:45-1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16 at Luby's Cafeteria, 4530 Canyon Dr., Amarillo. The guest speaker will be David D. Terry, director of Client Services with West Texas A&M University, Office of Business Services. For reservations or, for more information, contact Edmond Esparza, (806) 372-3381.

LOVETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

During January, Lovett Memorial Library will offer four introductory hands-on computer workshops: "Computer Comfort I" for beginners; "Computer Comfort II" for individuals who can open and close files and use the mouse; "What is the Internet?"; and "Introduction to E-Mail," for individuals who wish to learn how to establish a free web-based e-mail account. All classes are free but registration is required. Class size is limited to 10, so space is limited. For information, contact the library at 669-5780. The workshops will continue monthly through the spring.

BSA TRAINING

BSA Hospice in Pampa will conduct a "Winter Volunteer Training and Community Education Class" from 6-9 p.m., Monday-Thursday, Jan. 15-Feb. 15 at Clarendon College-Pampa Center, 1601 W. Kentucky. This comprehensive course is designed for adults who are interested in becoming a hospice volunteer, who want to learn more about hospice care or who desire personal growth and enrichment. The program is free of charge to residents of Pampa, Borger and surrounding commu-

nities. CEUs will be awarded through the college. For more information or to preregister, call Janet McCracken, volunteer coordinator, BSA Hospice, at (806) 665-6677.

EVENING GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

BSA Hospice will offer grief education and group support for adults dealing with the loss of a loved one Thursday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m., Jan. 18-Feb. 15 at First Presbyterian Church in Borger. For more information, call (806) 274-9711.

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. The pageant is the preliminary competition to the "Miss Texas" pageant slated in July in Fort Worth. To be eligible to compete, participants must be between the ages of 17-24, must be at least a senior in high school and must be currently attending or plan to attend college. To enter or for more information, call (806) 273-7168 or (806) 857-3804. Winners will receive a \$250 cash scholarship, a \$250 wardrobe allowance, a official crown and will travel to compete in the Miss Texas Pageant.

SQUARE HOUSE

Carson County Square House Museum in Panhandle will offer a photo preservation workshop from 7-9 p.m., Jan. 11, and a china painting class from 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays beginning Jan. 16 in Hazelwood Education Building, 5th and Elsie in Panhandle. The workshop will be facilitated by Christy Sanders, "Creative Memories" consultant of Dumas, and will include a \$10 fee. Participants should bring five to seven pictures to work with. The china painting class will be facilitated by Janice Sackett of Pampa, a 30-year art educator in the public school system. Cost of the class will be \$10. For more information or to RSVP, call the museum at (806) 537-3524.

PPQG MEETING

Panhandle Piecemakers Quilt Guild will meet at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 25 at Pampa Senior Citizens Center, 500 W. Francis. Various members will demonstrate round robin and other quilt-related techniques. For more information, call (806) 779-2115. Visitors are welcome.

PEOPLE'S LAW SCHOOL

Amarillo Area Young Lawyers Association will sponsor the Fourth Annual People's Law School from 9 a.m.-12 noon, Saturday, Jan. 20 in the College Union Building of Amarillo College in Amarillo. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. The event is being funded through a grant from Texas Young Lawyers Association with assistance from

NALS of Amarillo and is open and free to the public. Participants will choose from a variety of topics and attend three 50-minute sessions. Topics include: Criminal Law, Family Law, Landlord/Tenant Law, Wills and Trusts, Small Claims Court and Small Business Issues.

FPC SPRING ENROLLMENT

Late registration at Frank Phillips College in Borger will be from 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Jan. 16-18 in the Office of Admissions and Records, Classroom Learning Complex, FPC campus. Spring schedules are available at www.fpc.cc.tx.us under class offerings on the Internet.

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.

DISCOVERY CENTER

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

MS. TEXAS SENIOR PAGEANT

Ms. Texas Senior Pageant officials are currently seeking participants and corporate sponsorships for the 14th annual Ms. Texas Senior pageant scheduled March 23-24 at

the Ramada Market Center in Dallas. For more information, contact Nell Coleman, state director, at (972) 239-3342, or Red Walker, executive director, (972) 270-5944.

TEXAS VACATION PACKAGES

The Musical Drama "TEXAS" is continuing its fall, winter and spring vacation packages showcasing area attractions such as Amarillo Rattlers, Amarillo Opera, Amarillo Symphony, Lone Star Ballet, American Quarter Horse Association and much more. The packages include hotel/motel accommodations, dining in the best western tradition and one-stop shopping. For more information, call 1-800-655-2181 or visit www.texasmusicaldrama.com on the Internet.

HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL

First Presbyterian Church, 525 N. Gray, is currently accepting aluminum cans for recycling. Proceeds will benefit Heifer Project International, an Arkansas-based service organization which provides livestock (chickens, pigs,

sheep, cattle) along with training and support services to families and communities worldwide. For a limited time, donations will be matched 3-1 by a private foundation. HPI is a non-denominational not-for-profit agency. For more information, call the church office at 665-1031. Office hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-12 noon, Friday and before 10:45 a.m. Sunday. For more information about HPI, call 1-800-422-0474 or visit <http://www.heifer.org> on the Internet.

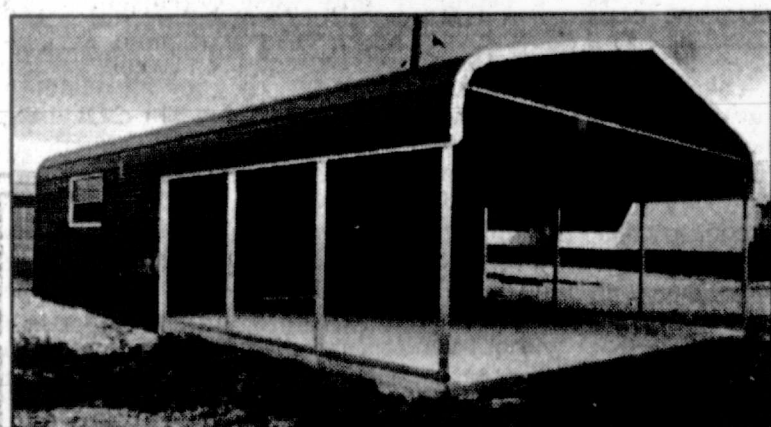
UM ART CONTEST

The University of Mobile, Ala., is calling for entries in its 10th annual Art With a Southern Drawn contest which is open to artists working in any media who currently reside in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee or Texas. Only original artwork will be accepted. Entry deadline is Jan. 10, 2001. To obtain an application form or for more information, call (334) 442-2283 or 1-800-946-7267, ext. 2283, or e-mail UMdrawl@yahoo.com.

Skel-Tex Credit Union has been approved to open, our membership to anyone living, working, or attending school in Carson, Gray and Hutchinson counties if you are not eligible for primary membership in any other credit union. Anyone that joins before March 31, 2001 will be eligible for a chance to win \$100 and the new member fee will be waived.
For more information, please call 848-2413.

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THE Pampa NEWS

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This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily except Saturdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Days. By The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, Pampa, Tx. 79065. Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, Texas 79066-2198.

Publisher: L.W. McCall
Assoc. Publisher-Editor: Kate B. Dickson
Managing Editor: Nancy Young
Circulation Manager: Dean Lynch

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VIEWPOINTS

A spoof on the inaugural address

I can't reveal my source on this. I can't even tell you if I got it from a source close to the source. But I will share it with you. After all, it's not every day one gets an advance copy of the incoming president's inaugural address.

So, here goes. This is what George W. is going to tell us.

My Fellow Armenians, as I stand here today, looking out over this magnificent viagra, I think we can agree that the past is over. Our country is ready for a fresh, bipolar approach. I want to bring America together. We are the hill shining on a city, and each of us can get to the top if we set our feet to it.

Americans have made their decision. They don't need sympathy; they need ablations. We need to move beyond the petty armadillos. Politics doesn't have to be the way it is today. We can make the pie higher. A high pie lets everyone put food on their family and their family on the table. That's my record: I side with the people. And the B-side of my record is Billy-Joe Gibbs and the Shoeshine Boys singing "Streets of Laredo."

A president has to think not only of himself and his family and his baseball team's families, but of all American families. I don't believe a president should be choosing who are the right



Kate B. Dickson

associate publisher/editor

Americans and who are the wrong Americans. All of us are together, white or wrong, black or right. Or perversely. That's why my tax cut is as broad as we are. And it will give our expansion a timely second dose of wind.

I say there's a cost to inaction. I haven't done the acrobatics, but it's probably around a trillion dollars. That's a good round sum to offer to everyone, especially our seniors, who are the backache of our nation.

I would like to take a moment to mention my mother, Barbara Bush, who taught me to read and write when I was still knee-high to a lawnmower. We need our seniors to be free to pass on their life's work to those they love, and especially to pass on. Thanks, Mom and Dad.

We know that America is the best in the world. We are the great super-premium; we

cannot afford to be unleaded. This is still a world of madmen and mental losses. And mental loss is easy to underestimate. We need a sharpened sword to light our way.

To quote Ronald Reagan: I do not believe in a fate that will fall on us if we do nothing. I do believe in a fate that will fall on us if we do something. And it must never run our lives. The purpose of prosperity is to make sure the American dream touches every killing heart.

Progress can be slow; you measure it in inches and feet, not miles or kilograms. Or cantilevers. I worked in Texas by common sense and plain dozing. I got on with small business, because I was one myself. I'm less now. But I'm also more. We are all less and more. More or less. And I believe we must match our compassionate hearts to our preservative minds.

I know you would rather be watching TV, and so would I, so I will draw to a confusion. My message is: I will get things done. I will inspire and untie. I will appeal to people's better angels. I will prove that politics can be bigger than you ever thought possible. We will trust the people we serve, and serve the people we trust. Together, we can do what needs to be done to preserve this great battery of freedom.

And I think ewe from the button of my art, fallow Amerasians.

Texas Editorials

By The Associated Press

A sampling of editorial opinion around Texas: Fort Worth Star-Telegram on race and college admissions: In the four years since the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled against using most considerations of race in admissions decisions at Texas' public universities, the state has struggled with other ways of getting more minority students into higher education.

But the debate about affirmative action has not disappeared. Instead, it has gotten murkier. A series of recent court rulings make the issue ripe for clarification by the U.S. Supreme Court.

On Dec. 4, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said that schools may use race as one factor among others in evaluating applicants when the goal is a diverse student body. That ruling came in a challenge to a now-defunct race-conscious procedure used at the University of Washington Law School.

A federal district court judge made a similar finding Dec. 13 in a case involving the University of Michigan.

Both those decisions relied on a 1978 U.S. Supreme Court ruling named for a rejected California medical school hopeful. In Regents of the University of California vs. Bakke, a fractured court allowed some racial considerations but struck down separate screening of white and minority applicants.

Justice Lewis Powell, the swing vote on both holdings, wrote an opinion for the court saying that "the attainment of a diverse student body... is a constitutionally permissible goal for an institution of higher education" but that ethnic diversity "is only one element in a range of factors a university properly may consider."

In 1996, the 5th Circuit declined to follow Powell's reasoning and ruled 2-1 that the University of Texas School of Law's admissions process amounted to reverse discrimination against a quartet of white applicants.

On Dec. 21, the 5th Circuit affirmed that 1996 decision in Hopwood vs. Texas, refusing to recognize diversity as a justification for taking race into account.

The Supreme Court has not tackled this difficult area of college admissions since Bakke, and it has turned down the Hopwood case once already. But this is precisely the kind of vexatious problem that requires specific guidance amid conflicting lower-court opinions.

Powell left the court in 1987 — to be replaced by Justice Anthony Kennedy — and died in 1998. Only Chief Justice William Rehnquist and Justice John Paul Stevens remain of the group that decided Bakke.

The court has grown decidedly more conservative and less willing to accept affirmative action measures, particularly to broadly remedy past societal discrimination. That doesn't mean that Bakke necessarily should be overruled.

What the court does need to do — as soon as the proper case presents itself — is define for the states, universities and prospective students consistent rules under the Constitution.

This is not about quotas vs. bigotry but about fundamental concepts of equality and access to higher education and how to be inclusive without being exclusionary.

Under the current case law, a clear voice from the Supreme Court is crucial.

From our files

40 years ago

Jan. 13, 1961

Police Chief Jim Conner today announced the appointment of Horace Grady Shaffer Jr. of Bonger to the Pampa police department as a regular patrolman.

Jan. 17, 1961

Pampa is temporary headquarters for the Santa Fe's rail welding equipment in preparation for relaying some 53 track miles of new rail.

Jan. 18, 1961

Proposed changes in Pampa's city charter will be up for discussion at tomorrow morning's breakfast meeting of the Legislative and National Affairs Committee of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce.

25 years ago

Jan. 13, 1976

A time capsule set near the cornerstones of the old Pampa Junior High School in 1920, was recovered by demolition workers in December and has been given to the White Deer Land Museum, according to Clotilde Thompson, museum curator.

Jan. 14, 1976

City Manager Mack Wofford said today Pampa Cable TV will be asked to set forth what franchise requirements must be made in order to meet FCC regulations.

Jan. 15, 1976

Gray County Sheriff Rufe Jordan has announced his candidacy for re-election.

10 years ago

Jan. 13, 1991

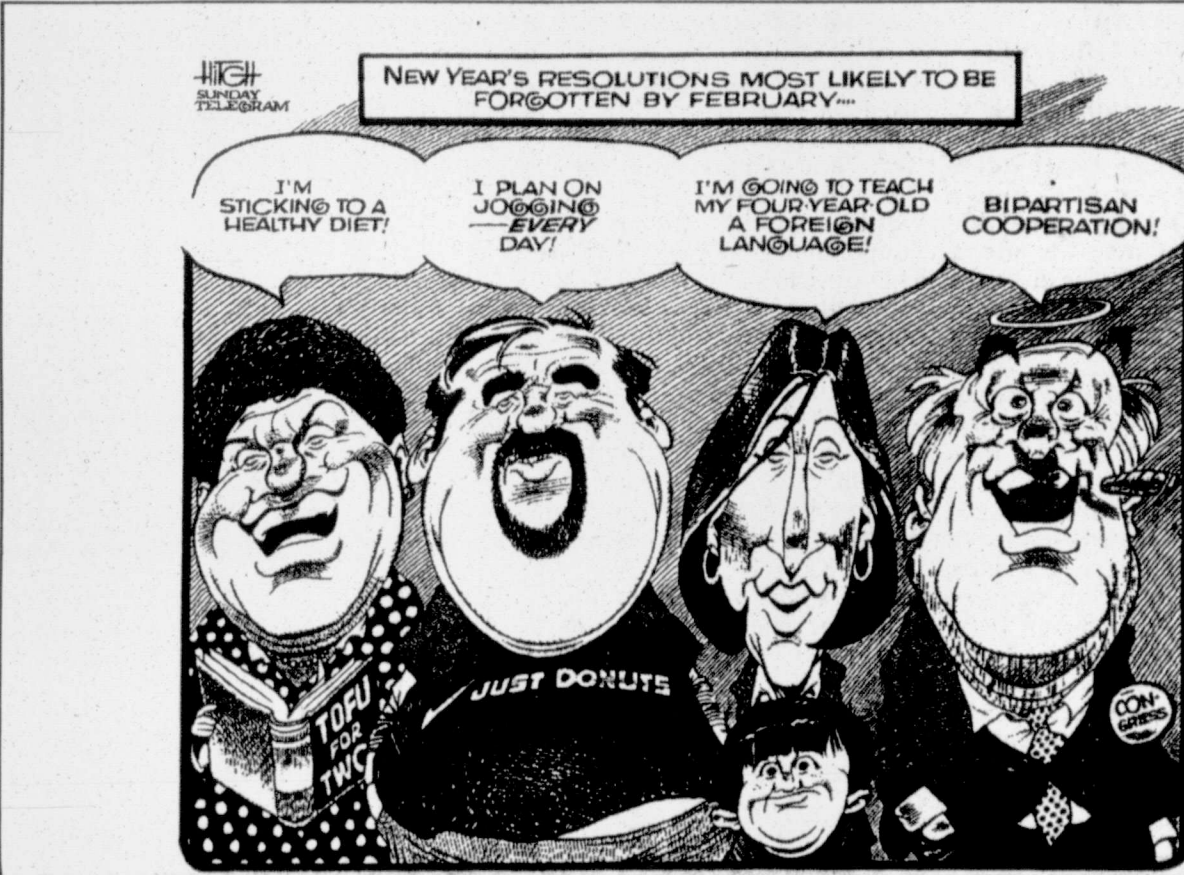
Entrances to a city often are seen as a reflection of what that city has to offer its residents and visitors. A local effort to improve the appearance of the city of Pampa's highway entrances is under way with the most recent meeting held Friday by the Highway Entrance Beautification Committee of Clean Pampa Inc.

Jan. 14, 1991

Pampa police said they still have not identified the three teenagers allegedly responsible for shooting out two windows in a loaded school bus one week ago, on Monday, Jan. 7, behind Pampa Middle School.

Jan. 15, 1991

Five Pampa Democrats are among those who are gathering in Austin in preparation for Gov-elect Ann Richards' inauguration Tuesday.



Threat of missile attack worsening

It's possible the spirit of "bipartisanship" that lately has been gripping official Washington will move President-elect Bush to take a somewhat slower approach to certain big-ticket items on his agenda. Let me eliminate one from contention right now: missile defense.

The reason is as simple as it is alarming. The long-range missile threat to America has actually been getting worse since a 1998 congressional commission — chaired by Secretary of Defense-designate Donald Rumsfeld — first warned of this danger to U.S. security. A new global threat assessment by the National Intelligence Council says that the risk of the United States being attacked by a missile carrying chemical, biological or nuclear warheads is greater today than during most of the Cold War.

And U.S. intelligence sources expect it will get worse, with potential terrorist attacks getting "increasingly sophisticated and designed to achieve mass casualties."

Interestingly, some of the most vociferous critics of a U.S. missile shield are the same governments working the hardest to beef up their own arsenals. China, for example, has been particularly harsh in denouncing a U.S. national missile defense. Yet officials there made a point of testing the DF-31, a missile that could reach California, during a recent visit by Gen.

Henry Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Which is why all Americans should be glad that Retired Army Gen. Colin Powell, tapped by President-elect Bush to be Secretary of State, endorsed missile defense as "an essential part of our overall strategic force posture" in his acceptance speech.

Here are a couple of pointers for the new administration, courtesy of Heritage missile-defense expert Baker Spring:

—Affirm America's decision to deploy a national missile defense. There's this wrong-headed but persistent notion that the president still has to decide whether we'll deploy a missile defense. Wrong. That decision was made over a year ago, when Congress passed and President Clinton signed the National Missile Defense Act of 1999, making it official U.S. policy to build a system "as soon as is technologi-



Edwin Feulner

President of The Heritage Foundation

ally possible." What the president has to do now is figure out which system he wants to deploy: land-based, sea-based, space-based, or some combination.

—Declare the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty null and void. If there's any single reason Americans are unprotected today from missile attack, it's because the United States still clings to the ABM treaty, signed nearly 30 years ago with a country that no longer exists: the Soviet Union. The treaty prohibited the construction of any national missile-defense systems. But with our former treaty partner gone, the agreement is no longer in force. It's time to recognize that our defense needs have shifted dramatically since the Cold War.

—Begin testing a sea-based missile defense. Such a system would offer several advantages over the land-based system proposed by President Clinton. Because sea-based interceptors can be positioned on existing Navy Aegis cruisers, this system would be cheaper to build: \$8 billion, instead of \$20 billion. It also would take less time to build, with a targeted deployment date of 2005, rather than 2007. And because it would be based on ships, it would be mobile and cover a far greater area more efficiently than a single site in Alaska.

But the most important thing is to act — and now. Because the other side is hardly standing still.

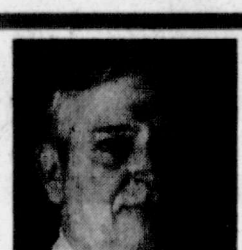
Time for my annual disclosure statement

Every year about this time, I make a financial, philosophical and political disclosure statement to my readers. I think all columnists owe that to their readers, but so far as I know, I'm the only one who does it.

As always, the financial part is the simplest. A hundred percent of my income comes from my newspaper salary and the sale of my syndicated column. I own no stocks other than those involved in my company's retirement plan and the corporation I set up to syndicate my columns. I have no partnerships, no land investments. I drive a '66 Thunderbird, a kind of car that I wanted as a youth but couldn't afford until I was too old for it to do me much good, other than to provide basic transportation.

I do not charge fees for speeches for a number of reasons. First, I think it's ridiculous, and I'm opposed to the idea of journalists as celebrities. I consider myself a working newspaper guy and nothing more. Second, I don't wish to be tempted to speak to people I don't like. And third, when I speak to people I do like, it would be insulting to charge them. And finally, I feel free to say exactly what I think.

Nothing in my house would fetch much from a fence. I've never been into possessions. I don't collect anything. About all I remember from two years of high-school Latin was a statement by the teacher that the Romans



Charley Reese

Syndicated columnist

believed that a man can become a slave to his possessions. I have no intention of being a slave to stuff. Furthermore, I come from a blue-collar background, and I wouldn't feel comfortable driving a fancy car or living in a fancy house. A warm bed and a roof that doesn't leak are about the extent of my housing desires.

Politically, I'm still a registered Democrat, but I plan to change, when I get around to it, to the Republican Party. I've given up hope that the Democrats can rescue their souls from egalitarian hell, and I don't wish to be associated with the trash associated with the Clintons.

Philosophically, I'm a traditionalist or, if you prefer, a neo-Confederate, which is the same thing. I share the philosophy of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry. That can be summarized as follows: a constitutional republic of sovereign states; a constitution that is not a "living document" but a firm contract, clearly defining and limit-

ing the powers of the federal government; trade with all countries, entangling alliances with none. George Washington's farewell address is a perfect summary of my beliefs. This great speech is still read on ceremonial occasions in Washington, but obviously nobody listens to it.

I belong to only three organizations: the National Rifle Association, the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the League of the South. As you can see, they are all related to my traditionalist philosophy. The SCV is an organization of descendants of Confederate soldiers and officials. There is a corresponding organization, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Both organizations have cordial relations, and I would urge all Americans to join one or the other if your ancestors fought in that terrible war. American history, unedited and without the censorship and distortions by contemporary demagogues, is extremely important.

My purpose in writing, other than to keep bread on the table, is to stimulate readers to think about important subjects. We are way over-entertained and distracted these days. It doesn't matter to me whether people agree or disagree with me as long as they think. The enemies at our gates are ignorance, apathy and the inability to think logically. If we don't kill them, they will kill us as a free society.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, Jan. 14, the 14th day of 2001. There are 351 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 14, 1784, the United States ratified a peace treaty with England ending the Revolutionary War.

On this date:

In 1639, the first constitution of Connecticut — the "Fundamental Orders" — was adopted.

In 1742, English astronomer Edmond Halley, who observed the comet that now bears his name, died at age 85.

In 1858, French emperor Napoleon III escaped an attempt on his life.

In 1900, Puccini's opera "Tosca" received a mixed reception at its world premiere in Rome.

In 1914, Ford Motor Co. greatly improved its assembly-line operation by employing a chain to pull each chassis along.

Uncle Nav

By ROBERT AP MILITARY

WASHINGTON — To have done it in 1999, to be unconfident.

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Unconfirmed reports say Navy MIA alive in Iraq

By ROBERT BURNS
AP Military Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A U.S. Navy pilot initially presumed to have died in a shootdown over Iraq during the Persian Gulf War in 1991 was seen alive in Iraqi custody afterward, according to unconfirmed reports reaching intelligence officials in recent years.

The officials, speaking Friday on condition of anonymity, stressed that they knew of no evidence that Lt. Cmdr. Michael S. Speicher was still alive, although President Clinton said "we're going to do our best to find out if he is alive and, if he is, to get him out."

Clinton said he did not want to raise false hope.

"We do not have hard evidence that he is alive," the president said.

The Defense Department declared initially that Speicher died in the shootdown. Another American pilot who saw Speicher's F-18 Hornet jet explode in the air reported that it was hit by an air-to-air missile and that he did not see Speicher eject. A combat search and rescue mission was planned but not executed, and the crash site was not found until after the war.

Shortly after then-Defense Secretary Dick Cheney told reporters on the night of the shootdown that Speicher had died in the crash, the Pentagon declared him to be "missing in action." In May 1991, the Navy approved a "finding of death," in the absence of evidence that he had survived, and he was switched to "killed in action."

The KIA status was reaffirmed by the Navy in 1996.

The U.S. officials said more than one informant had reported to U.S. intelligence agencies that an American thought to be Speicher was being held prisoner in Iraq after the war ended in March 1991. The reports were received over a period of several years but the sightings were in 1991 and 1992, the officials said. The veracity of the reports is uncertain, but they are credible enough to lead American government officials to think Speicher probably survived the Jan. 16, 1991, crash.

The Clinton administration on Wednesday sent a diplomatic communication to Baghdad demanding an accounting, officials said.

Clinton commented on the Speicher case Thursday, after the Navy announced that Navy Secretary Richard Danzig changed the Navy pilot's status from "killed in action" to "missing in action," based on unspecified "additional information and analysis."

"We have some information that leads us to believe that he might be alive and we hope and pray he is," Clinton said in an interview with CBS. "But we have already begun working to try to determine whether, in fact, he's alive; if he is, where he is and how we can get him out and we're going to do everything we can to get him out."

Clinton's comments went beyond the brief Navy statement, and on Friday the president sought to dampen expectations.

"I agreed with the decision to take his name off the killed-in-action list and put it on the missing-in-action list," Clinton said from the White House. "I think it was the right decision, but I don't want to raise false hopes here."

The U.S. intelligence informants whose sightings correlate with Speicher did not refer to him by name, the officials said. They described an American, and in more than one case referred to an American military pilot or U.S. Navy pilot. Other aspects of the physical descriptions seemed to fit Speicher, the officials said.

Speicher is the only American lost in Iraqi territory who has not been accounted for. After the war, the Iraqi government turned over remains that it said were Speicher's, but DNA analysis and blood testing showed it was not him.

Speicher, of Jacksonville, Fla., flew his F-18 off the carrier USS Saratoga on the opening night of the war and went down west of Baghdad. He apparently was attacked by an Iraqi MiG-25 fighter. His crash site was not located until April 1994.

In December 1995 an International Committee of the Red Cross team excavated the crash site with Iraq's permission. Wreckage from Speicher's aircraft was found and the team reported that there had been previous digging at the site.

Keeping an Eye on Texas

We're into eating out

According to the National Restaurant Association's 2001 Restaurant Industry Forecast, nationwide, Americans are expected to spend more than \$1 billion per day dining out. The strength of the economy as well as more disposable income are contributing to the rise in restaurant sales across the country.



State	2001 Sales Forecast	Increase from 2000
Texas	\$22.6 billion	6.7%
Louisiana	4.1 billion	6.3
Oklahoma	3.3 billion	5.3
Arkansas	2.1 billion	5.2

SOURCES: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (www.window.state.tx.us); the National Restaurant Association.

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Medical Billing, Hottest Home Business for 2001 and Beyond

Local doctors desperately need your help and will pay you an almost absurd amount of money to work at home and process their insurance and Medicare claims electronically. Doctors now want to get paid in days instead of months, eliminate hassles and save money.

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BRIEFS

Ronald Reagan breaks hip in fall

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — Former President Reagan was said to be in stable condition in anticipation of surgery on Saturday to repair his broken right hip. Reagan, 89, who has Alzheimer's disease, was "fully alert, in good humor and in stable condition" after being rushed by ambulance to St. John's Health Center on Friday, his spokeswoman Joanne Drake said. He fell at his Bel-Air home and probably would need to have a pin installed in his hip, she said. His wife, Nancy, was at his side. A nursing supervisor said the Reagan family had asked the hospital not to comment. Reagan's eldest daughter, Maureen, has been undergoing cancer treatments for melanoma at the same hospital since Dec. 11.

Negotiators pessimistic on any Israeli-Palestinian accord

JERUSALEM (AP) — Top Israeli and Palestinian negotiators planned another try at what leaders on each team said was almost impossible: closing any kind of meaningful peace agreement before President Clinton leaves office. With just days to go, common sense rules out any kind of "dramatic results," chief Palestinian negotiator Yasser Abed Rabbo cautioned. Senior negotiators from both sides were to meet Saturday, their second session in the first direct, high-level peace talks since a failed Mideast summit in July, and officials raised the possibility that Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and former Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres would join negotiations. Peres, like the others, was pessimistic, telling reporters: "There has been no real movement until now. It's hard for me to believe that in this short time the differences could be bridged." The return to talks was accompanied by Israel's lifting of blockades on two major Palestinian cities — Bethlehem

and Jericho — and a decrease in violence.

Ashcroft increased religious travel before presidential run

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General-designate John Ashcroft increased his Senate travel to religious gatherings as he considered entering last year's presidential campaign. Watchdog groups are suggesting the visits amounted to official trips for political purposes. However, a spokeswoman for President-elect Bush, Mindy Tucker, said Ashcroft has visited and spoken to religious groups "throughout his career." Once Ashcroft abandoned his 2000 presidential ambitions as a candidate aligned with the religious right, Senate-authorized appearances before religious groups dropped dramatically. Senate records show. The religious institutions and organizations paid more than \$23,000 for Ashcroft's travel from 1996 to the present. Such payments are permitted under Senate rules, provided trips are connected with official duties and do not create the appearance of using public office for private gain.

Federal panel grills Florida secretary of state on election

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Secretary of State Katherine Harris left county supervisors to manage for themselves at the expense of voters, said members of a panel investigating Florida's presidential election. The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights on Friday concluded a two-day hearing on what some described as voting irregularities in the state that decided the presidency. Harris, a Republican, deferred most of the questions to Florida's elections director, Clay Roberts, saying she had delegated day-to-day elections operations to him. She said her priority had been to ensure voting systems in the state were up to par. "We want to make sure the will of every voter

is self-evident," she said. Commissioner Christopher Edley, a Harvard law professor, grew frustrated with the explanations, saying officials should simply admit that they blew it. "I don't hear that tone coming through at all, I hear a lot of denial, a lot of excuses and a lot of finger-pointing," he said. The panel will issue an initial report within 60 days.

West Coast governors urge residents to cut power use

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — West Coast governors have urged residents to cut their electricity use by as much 10 percent while federal, state and corporate officials try to solve the region's power crisis. Wholesale power prices have increased fivefold in California since last summer, accompanied by a series of drops in the state's power reserves due partly to power plants being down for maintenance. The Independent System Operator, which manages most of the state's power grid, said electricity supplies had rebounded from the Stage 3 emergency on Thursday, but were still tight. Govs. Gray Davis of California, John Kitzhaber of Oregon and Gary Locke of Washington said Friday that they would urge their residents to cut electricity demand 7 to 10 percent, try to reduce power use by their state governments by at least 10 percent, and look into joining forces to buy energy-efficient products for state and local agencies to get through the crisis.

Vermeil reunited with Peterson in Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Retirement or no retirement, Dick Vermeil figured it was just a matter of time until he would be reunited with Carl Peterson. "I really feel this was sort of inevitable," he said Friday after being introduced as the Kansas City Chiefs new coach. Vermeil, who abruptly quit as coach of the St. Louis Rams after leading

them to last year's NFL title, teared up twice while discussing how Peterson, the Chiefs president, and vice president of football operations Lynn Stiles talked him out of a comfortable retirement. "The fact I changed my mind was based solely upon my personal relationship with Carl Peterson and Lynn Stiles. ... There is no person more responsible for my success as he (Stiles) is," Vermeil said. Vermeil's NFL regular-season record is 76-73. The Chiefs, who haven't won a playoff game since 1993, gave the 64-year-old Vermeil a three-year, \$10 million contract.

Execs celebrate merger in grand style

NEW YORK — Executives from the newly combined AOL Time Warner Inc. went right into champagne-popping mode Friday, ringing the opening bell at the New York Stock Exchange, beaming before TV cameras and unveiling a new sign installed overnight at their corporate headquarters. Consumers are likely to see the first effects of the merger as the company brings more of Time Warner's large array of media properties online. AOL's sports sites can draw on articles and pictures from Sports Illustrated; AOL's music sites will have access to the Warner Bros. music library; and news sites can draw on stories from Time magazine and CNN. Later this month, the company expects to present the investment community with a detailed view of how it expects to achieve all the cost savings and revenue gains promised when they announced the merger.



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A message from the U.S. Department of the Treasury

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Meredith House



(Special photo)
Celebrating birthdays this month at Meredith House are Florence Radcliff, Evelyn Phillips and Johnnie Smith.

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Travis Elementary honor roll

Travis Elementary School recently announced its honor roll for the third six-weeks grading period of the 2000-01 school year.

FIRST GRADE

A Honor Roll

Kendall Aiken, Dustin Arreola, KeEra Busse, Laci Hernandez, Kendle Ramey, Shane Smith, Ashley Stucker, Shelby Worthington, Jacob Frost, Brandon Grimsley, Nakayla Hardman, Jennifer Hendrick, Dylan Hooker, Tierra Lewis, Reid Miller, Sierra Parker, Miranda Patterson, Hayley Pettit, Celby Snapp.

Stephen Spencer, McKinlee Stokes, Schrade Thompson, Brandon Yates, Colten Adams, Lauren Allen, Stephanie Allen, Mary Jo Collier, Brittany Elliot, Logan Feil, Aaron Fisher, Chelsie Griffin, Lanie Hazle, Koltan Henderson, Darian Laubhan, Daniel Leal, Chelsey McCallum, Margo Mendoza, Jacob Pyle, Danny Simmons, Alanna Stephens, Michaela Wolken, Jose

Cabral.

AB Honor Roll
Amanda Everson, Jaden Howard, Janell Parks, Kasey Whinery, Shelby Woodward.

SECOND GRADE

A Honor Roll

Cody Cole, Brandon Gannaway, Dillon Green, Dale Montgomery, T.J. Waldie, Amanda Bennett, Haley Clark, Mandy Cross, Kalee McElreath, Maleesa Martinez, Jordyn Still, Erica Blain, Brittney Clark, Carla Dominguez, Taryn Eubank, Brent Green, Jordan Hukill, Tyler Malone, Emily Nicklas, Madilyn Shults, Hayley Steger, Cole Wilson, Kylee Wyatt, Alex Collins, Kayla Hughes, Monica Pairsh, Cassie Rigney, Rhett Skinner, Clinton Taylor, Danielle Wall.

AB Honor Roll

Colton Sweatt, Colby Cudney, Blake McClelland, Cali Gibson, Kyle Keith, Kailynn McClelland.

THIRD GRADE

A Honor Roll

Craig Conner, Korina Doiron,

Robin Fernuik, Kelli Fields, Braden Hunt, Lauren Jacoby, Hannah Lane, Gabriel Rodriguez, Ashley Shipman, Kara Stephens, Serina Wagner, Paige Whittamore, Garrett Coutts, Teri Dunham, Klarisse Espiritu-Santo, Bryce Hendricks, Rachel Heuston, Collin Pursley, Josh Ross, Brooklyn Barker, Rebekah Bartel, Tanner Davis, Landon Long, Treva Miller.

AB Honor Roll

Abbie Hathcoat, Ashley McCune, Cody Shannon, Kaytlyn Wright, Mikala Furgason, Tyler Hooper, Ally Ramey, Kristin Bivins, Audri Leal.

FOURTH GRADE

A Honor Roll

Jonathan Anguiano, Nicki Cole, Dayla Newman, Rachel Lee, Dustin Neef, Holly Winegeart, Dustin Mathis, Alla Miranda, Angel Munoz.

AB Honor Roll

Jonathan Cook, Bree-Anna

Brulloths, Whitney Brummett, Brittney Cottrell, Gari Sue Haddock, Ashley Hernandez, Anthony Arreola, Terri Frazier, Caitlin Hampton, Tonya Kiper, Scott Langford, Jessica Miner, Tyler Alexander, Jordan Eakin, Kyle Ellis, Kameron Graves, Danny White, Melissa Leal, Carley Richardson, Shawna Salazar.

FIFTH GRADE

A Honor Roll

Megan Barnett, Russell Carter, Julie Crossman, Kristen Dunn, Kayla Mendoza, Valerie Rushing, Brody Russell, K'Lyn Holmes, Meagan Crawford, Erin Holland, Megan Pettit, Andrew Roy, Adam Anguiano, Krishna Henderson, Joshua Humphrey, Ryne Malone, Morgan Reagan, JaCee Villarreal.

AB Honor Roll

Ryan Carnegie, Stephanie Hassell, Emily Woodruff, Jordan Bynum, Chelsea Cain, Michael Fernuik, Conrado Munguia, Richard Oader, Ashley Owen, Stephanie Jasso, Joseph Johnson, Jasmine Moore, Joshua Mulkey, Rachal Nunn.

FEMA: Winter storms and fire safety ...

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's U.S. Fire Administration is reminding consumers of the importance of exercising good safety during or after winter storms.

The agency suggests the following basic safety tips to help prevent fire:

■ Fire related hazards present during and after a winter storm.

—Alternative heating devices used incorrectly create fire hazards;

—Water damaged appliances and utilities can be electrically charged;

—Frozen water pipes can burst and cause safety hazards;

—Leaking gas lines, damaged or leaking gas propane containers and leaking vehicle gas tanks may explode or ignite;

—Generators are often used during power outages and if not properly used and maintained can pose great danger.

■ Chemical safety.

—Look for combustible liquids such as gasoline, lighter fluid and paint thinner that may be spilled and thoroughly clean the spillage and place containers in a well-ventilated area;

—Keep combustible liquids away from heat sources.

■ Electrical safety.

—If your home has sustained flood or water damage, and you can safely get to the main breaker or fuse box, turn off the power;

—Assume all wires on the ground are electrically charged. This includes cable TV feeds;

—Look for and replace frayed or cracked extension and appliance cords, loose prongs and plugs;

—Exposed outlets and wiring could present a fire and life safety hazard;

—Appliances that emit smoke or sparks should be repaired or replaced;

—Have a licensed electrician check your home for damage.

■ Gas safety.

—Smell and listen for leaky gas connections. If you believe there is a gas leak, immediately leave the house and leave the door or doors open;

—Never strike a match. Any size flame can spark an explosion;

—Before turning the gas back on, have the gas system checked by a professional.

■ Generator safety.

—Follow the manufacturer's instructions and guidelines when using generators.

—Use a generator or other fuel-powered machine outside the home. CO fumes are odorless and can quickly overwhelm an individual indoors;

—Use the appropriate size and type power cords to carry electric load. Overloaded cords can over-heat and cause fires;

—Never run cords under rugs or carpets where heat might build up or damage to a cord may go unnoticed;

—Never connect generators to another power source such as power lines. The reverse flow of electricity or "backfeed" can electrocute an unsuspecting utility worker.

■ Heating safety.

—Kerosene heaters may not be legal in your area and should only be used where approved by authorities;

—Do not use the kitchen oven range to heat your home. In addition to being a fire hazard, it can be a source of toxic fumes;

—Alternative heaters need their space. Keep anything combustible at least three-feet away;

—Make sure your alternative heaters have "tip switches" which are designed to automatically turn off the heater in the event it tips over;

—Only use the type of fuel recommended by the manufacturer and follow suggested guidelines;

—Never refill a space heater while it is operating or still hot;

—Refuel heaters only outdoors;

—Make sure wood stoves are properly installed and are at least three-feet away from combustible materials. Ensure they have the proper floor support and adequate ventilation;

—Use a glass or metal screen in front of your fireplace to prevent sparks from igniting nearby carpets, furniture or other combustible items.

Lamar Elementary honor roll

Lamar Elementary recently announced its honor roll for the third six-weeks grading period of the 2000-01 school year.

SECOND GRADE

A Honor Roll

Emily Barrett, Orlando Castillo, Taylor Dickson, Daniela Dominguez, Casey Graham, Bianca Hernandez, James Lawyer, Bivlanna Mendoza, Sissy Palmer, Brianna Preston, Angela Rendon, Fabian Tinajero, Raul Vasquez.

AB Honor Roll

Dominique Alva, Aubrey Dawdy, Ramon Jimenez, Roscoe Keys, Steven Marrufo, Shasta Morris, Michael Nunamaker, Danielle Towles.

THIRD GRADE

A Honor Roll
Ashley Akin, Margarita Cervantez, Cristina Garcia, Laura McGrath.

AB Honor Roll

Meghan Asencio, Jessica Brown, Kristie Davis, Amanda Estes, Mikaela Flores, Katzen Hernandez, Marticka Jackson, Jessica Ramirez, Lorene Sieber, Fabiola Soria, Tracy Torres, Tessa Walker, Chris Wood.

FOURTH GRADE

A Honor Roll

Amber Chavarria, Codi Guthrie, Andrew Hatcher, Azalia Lopez, Tyler Jones, Heath Skinner.

AB Honor Roll

Heather Bryan, Selena Duarte,

Celeste Gonzales, Heather Green, Tyree Johnson, Shawntavia Parker, Callie Preston, Tristin Reeves, Jonathan Robinson, Kelsie Serrato, Hayden Skinner, Michelle Solis, Albert Tambunga, Tom Williams.

FIFTH GRADE

A Honor Roll

Andy Akins, Erin Hall, Veronica Solazano, David Soto.

AB Honor Roll

George Albear, Ashley Brown, Scotty Brown, Shane Davis, Veronica Herrera, Skyler Hunnicutt, Kambra Jimenez, Elizabeth McGrath, Sonia Martinez, Amber Meyer, April Newsome, Jesse Nunez, William Rivera, Jarett Towles.

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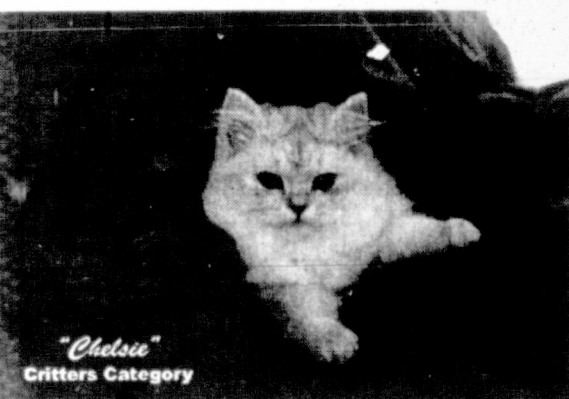
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"Chloe"
Critters Category

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Would you like to share them with us?

We may use them in the annual Pampa Pride Issue which will be published in March.



Categories

1. Family & Friends ...
at work or play
2. Critters ...
pets or wild ones
3. The Countryside ...
landscapes, buildings & scenery without people

IMAGES

OF PAMPA & SURROUNDING AREA

will be filled with photos taken by readers like you. They can be color or black & white photos. We will also accept slides and negatives. Be creative with your photography. The best photos "tell a story."

One entry per person in each category, please!



"The River"
Countryside Category

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1. Each photo must have been taken in Pampa or surrounding area between January 1, 2000 and February 13, 2001.
2. All entries should be submitted with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to allow us to return them.
3. On the back of each photo attach your name, address, telephone number and a brief description of whom or what is pictured.
4. One entry per category per person. No employees of the Pampa News or professional photographers may enter.
5. The Pampa News reserves the right to reprint all entries in promotional advertising.
6. Send or bring your photographs to: The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, Pampa, Texas, 79065
7. Every effort will be made to return your photo. However, do not send one-of-a-kind photos that can not be replaced.

DEADLINE TO ENTER IS 5:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH

THE Pampa NEWS

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(Special photo)

The Saint Petersburg Ballet Theater company will perform the "Diamond Ballet" Feb. 24 in the Amarillo Civic Center. The "Russian Classical Ballet Gala" — brought to Amarillo by Lone Star Ballet — is being choreographed by Peggy Willis-Aarnio of Lubbock. Tickets are currently available through Lone Star Ballet, (806) 372-4263.

Russian troupe to perform in Amarillo Civic Center

AMARILLO — It's a West Texas double whammy with a Russian twist. The High Plains may seem as far away from the origination of classical ballet as it gets, but a Lone Star Ballet presentation plans to bridge that gap when the Saint Petersburg Ballet Theater takes the stage for a "Russian Classical Ballet Gala" Feb. 24 at Amarillo Civic Center.

To see a Russian company of this caliber is certainly a rare opportunity, but what makes this performance even more interesting is that the company of Russian dancers will be presenting the Diamond Ballet, choreographed by a South Plains resident, Peggy Willis-Aarnio of Lubbock.

Amarillo is the first stop on their 2001 world tour that includes performances in Bebee, Ark., Miami, Fla., Barrie, Ontario and Alpena, Mich.

Willis-Aarnio, is a professor of dance at Texas Tech University and is the first American ballet instructor to be sanctioned as a "Certified Practitioner and Teacher of the Teaching Method of Classical Ballet," from the famed Vaganova Ballet Academy in St. Petersburg.

"In our discussions with people from cities around the world that had presented the Diamond Ballet, we couldn't find a single negative review or person that didn't highly recommend us bringing the Company," said Reyne C. Telles, general manager for Lone Star Ballet.

In addition to the Diamond Ballet, the production will also feature company members, many graduates of the Vaganova Ballet Academy, in excerpts from such classics as "Le Corsairs," "The Fairy Doll," "Swan Lake" and "Don Quixote."

Tickets for the event are now on sale and can be purchased through Panhandle Tickets (Amarillo Civic Center) (806) 378-3096 or the Lone Star Ballet (in the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce Building) (806) 372-2463 for as little as \$10. Group rates are also available.



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Texas Youth Hotline

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services has launched a statewide public awareness campaign for Texas Youth Hotline aimed at troubled youth and families, according to Hotline Director Jay Smith.

"The Texas Youth Hotline is answered 24 hours a day and provides prevention and crisis intervention services to callers who are in need of a caring voice and a listening ear," Smith said. "Hotline counselors talk with callers who face a variety of issues including family conflicts, delinquency, truancy, and abuse and neglect."

Smith said new television and radio public service announcements and more than 250,000 pieces of public awareness materials for schools, social service agencies, runaway shelters, law enforcement and youth-related organizations are aimed at bringing the troubled youth problem to wider public attention and to make youth and parents more aware of the services available.

(See, HOTLINE, Page 10)

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To the edit
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Letters to the editor

It's time to take a stand for unity

To the editor,
First, let me say that I do not believe in putting reverend before any man's name. I believe that title only belongs to God. But that is neither here, nor there, at this particular time and does not need to be debated in this space today.

But I've been thinking. Here we have the Rev. Jesse Jackson trying to stir up trouble and divide the races all over again. He proclaims to be "God's man." I thought that if a person belonged to God that he would live like a Christian, walk like a Christian and talk like a Christian. I can't see that he is doing any of those things.

Division means a separation. The Bible speaks of coming together as "a" people. "A" means one. Separation means many. So, is Jesse Jackson march-

Bush's tax cut proposal likely to be sold as an 'antidote for recession'

By JOHN CUNNIFF
AP Business Analyst

NEW YORK (AP) — You seldom hear a good proposal to cut taxes that isn't in some way associated with economic engineering, which in today's economy means tax cuts as a way of stimulating the economy.

It goes like this: If the economy is overheating you raise taxes and take money out of the private sector; if the economy is threatening to fall into recession you lower taxes and put money into circulation.

President-elect George W. Bush has all but declared the latter a good reason to have his proposed tax cuts moved higher on the agenda, the better to spread benefits and lessen the impact of the current slowdown.

But what about a tax cut simply out of fairness to taxpayers? Aspects of that reasoning are contained in Bush's tax goals, but like most such proposals, it is now likely to be sold mainly as an antidote to recession.

Conceding the importance of avoiding inflation and recession, over the longer term it's at least important to watch the changing equation between private and government sectors.

It's been tilting toward government, whereas the productivity gains that raise living standards is very much a consequence of private-sector investing.

AMA to exhibit Ladd collection

AMARILLO — Amarillo Museum of Art's "2001 Achievements in American Art" will honor the art collection of Amarilloans Frank and Peggy Ladd Jan. 28 through March 4 with an exhibit entitled "Four Centuries of Art: A Survey of the Frank and Peggy Ladd Collection." Museum Director Patrick McCracken will lecture during a member's opening at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27 in the gallery. A reception will follow.

Over the past three decades, the Ladds have built an extensive collection of American art. This diverse collection includes examples of Spanish Colonial hollowware and sculpture as well as examples of Southwest Native American art — primarily textiles, baskets and pottery.

The Ladd collection is a well-known resource for scholars and curators, consisting of pieces from pre-American Revolutionary art to 19th century art. The exhibit will include works from such artists as John Singleton Copley, John Marin, John Sloan, Andrew Dasburg, Marsden Hartley, Thomas Hart Benton, Alfred T. Bricher and Charles Demuth plus Joe Andoe, Sally Mann and Christopher Brown.

"The museum quality level of the collection, in regard to both condition and rarity, and the diversity of interests ranging from historical utilitarian objects to the most current artistic developments make this exhibition a delight," McCracken says. "The Ladd's ability to blend cultures and eras while maintaining a commitment to quality and to exceptional examples is the hallmark of informed connoisseurship. The common thread among these objects is both aesthetic beauty and impeccable judgment that was used in making the selection to acquire them."

"Four Centuries of Art: A Survey of the Frank and Peggy Ladd Collection" is the seventh in a series of exhibits organized by Amarillo Museum of Art to recognize private collections of American art.

ing for separation or "a" coming together as "a" people?

On Monday, Jan. 15, at 7 p.m., Martin Luther King's birthday, the church I attend in Pampa will be having a Praise and Worship time to be "Standing In The Gap for Christ." We are making a positive statement by "marching for God's agenda" and not the political world's agenda. All are welcome at Macedonia Baptist Church located at 441 Elm Street.

Oh! One little footnote. If Jesse Jackson would like to have a valid issue befitting the title of reverend, he might use his influence to put public prayer back in school. Or, he could try to walk the walk and talk the talk and save millions of unborn humans before they are murdered for convenience and before they have the chance to become Americans.

Gynelle King
Pampa

**Patience be to all
who wait ...**

To the editor,

After reading the Skinner article in the paper dated Dec. 24, 2000, I became angry and upset! There is no need to remind the "family" of how their loved ones were taken. This article was a crappy Christmas gift! Try to put yourself in their shoes.

Someone needs to apologize for the cold-hearted way the family was reminded of their loved ones. There was no apology in the Dec. 26 paper or the Dec. 27 paper. I take it upon myself to apologize to the family of the loved ones.

Peace be to all who pray. Patience be to all who wait and love be to all who love.

**Carol Trusty
Del Valle**

The Pampa News welcomes and encourages readers to express their opinions on issues of public interest and concern. However, we also reserve

the right to accept or reject any letter for publication

Letters should be **300 words or less**. Letters submitted for publication should be neat and legible, typed if possible, or at least handwritten in a clear manner. Letters may be edited for length, clarity, spelling, grammar, taste and potentially libelous statements. Submission of a letter does not guarantee its publication, nor can we guarantee a date of publication due to space and time limitations.

ALL letters must be signed for publication; *no unsigned, name withheld or anonymous letters will be published.* The writer must list an address and a telephone number or numbers where he or she may be contacted for verification; addresses and telephone numbers will not be printed, unless requested for a specific reason.

Poetry, candidate or political endorsements, letters to third parties and "thank you" letters will not be published except at the discretion of the editor, depending on general interest.

Letters may be dropped off at the office, 403 W. Atchison, or mailed to The Pampa News, Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066.

Economists Gary and Aldona Robbins, sent 1960s and 1990s tax data through their analytical machine and found there was no contest — the 1990s (and beyond) took a bigger bite from incomes than in the 1960s.

In the 1960s, taxes consumed less than 35 percent of national income; in the 1990s the percentage had risen to 37.1. Not all the increase was at the federal level; bigger state and local budgets contributed too.

Working at their own Fiscal Associates, the two ex-Treasury economists found federal, state and local taxes in 1997 took 56.4 cents of the dollar value of private business output. In 1991, it was 48.3 cents.

In short, government grows,

Conceding — the importance of avoiding inflation and recession, over the longer term it's at least important to watch the changing equation between private and government sectors.

the private sector shrinks, a situation that hardly coincides with the ideas proposed by the founding fathers, and probably at odds also with the impression held by millions of Americans.

As taxes grow, government benefits of course expand, but inevitably so does the matter of fairness, the marriage penalty, the loss of family businesses important among them. Myriad inequities arise and, privacy advocates insist, the potential for loss of personal freedom also rises.

The Robbins' analysis, published during the summer by the Institute for Policy Innovation, a Lewis, Tex. think-tank, gets merged into the current political discussion over tax cuts to avert recession.

But the Robbins take a longer view too.

Tax burdens, Gary reminds us, cut short the 1960s expansion. Now, he says, they have the potential to discourage saving and investing in the future — in raising productivity and lifting living standards.

If businesses shy from expanding, he would blame rising marginal tax rates as "the one factor reducing U.S. attractiveness as a place to invest."

Keeping an Eye on Texas

Texas Tidbits

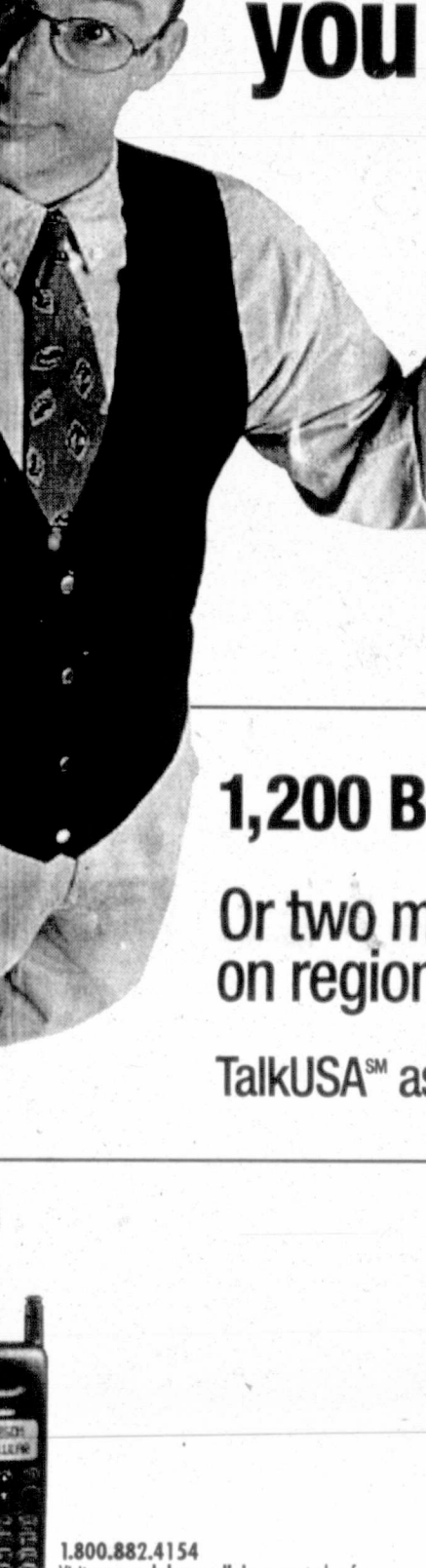
According to a 1997 fact sheet published by National Agriculture Week, Texas produces enough:

- peanuts each year to make almost 9 billion peanut butter sandwiches.
- wheat to make more than 8 billion loaves of bread.
- corn for more than 4 billion pounds of corn flakes.
- cotton to make almost 1.3 billion pairs of denim jeans.

SOURCES: Karen Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (www.window.state.tx.us), and National Agriculture Week.

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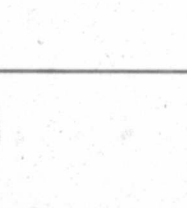
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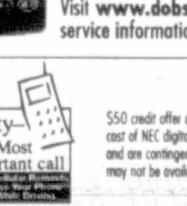
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JAN 14 2001

SPORTS

Notebook

TENNIS

SYDNEY, Australia (AP)

Top-ranked Martina Hingis edged Lindsay Davenport, while Lleyton Hewitt made it back-to-back Adidas International titles when he erased Magnus Norman 6-4, 6-1 in Saturday's finals.

Organizers said the Adidas International was the first time in the Open era that all finals, including men's and women's singles and doubles, featured No. 1 vs. No. 2 seeds.

Hingis beat the second-seeded Davenport 6-3, 4-6, 7-5. Hewitt, the No. 2 seed, upset top-seeded Norman in the men's singles.

Russia's Anna Kournikova and Austrian Barbara Schett earlier upstaged the top-seeded team of Lisa Raymond and Rennae Stubbs of Australia 6-2, 7-5 in the women's doubles final.

Top seeds Daniel Nestor of Canada and Australia's Sandon Stolle defeated the No. 2 duo of Jonas Bjorkman and Todd Woodbridge 2-6, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (5) in the men's doubles final.

BASKETBALL

SUNRAY — Leslie Francis scored 21 points to lead Canadian past Sunray 58-38 Friday night in a District 6-2A girls' game.

Jana Francis added 14 points for the Lady Wildcats, who improved to 6-1 in district play and 16-4 for the season.

Julia Sonen was Sunray's scoring leader with 17 points. Sunray won the boys' tilt, 56-47.

Jarrod Drinnon topped Sunray in scoring with 18 points.

Coleman Bartlett had 14 points and Cade Culver 11 for the Wildcats.

FOOTBALL

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Retirement or no retirement, Dick Vermeil figured it was just a matter of time until he would be reunited with Carl Peterson.

Vermeil, of course, was right.

"I really feel this was sort of inevitable," he said Friday after being introduced as the Kansas City Chiefs new coach.

"Sooner or later it was probably going to happen that Carl and I would be back together again and initiate a new crusade. Every time we've done it, we've been successful."

The Super Bowl-winning coach teamed up twice while discussing how Peterson, the Chiefs president, and vice president of football operations Lynn Stiles talked him out of a comfortable retirement.

Vermeil abruptly quit as coach of the St. Louis Rams after leading them to last year's NFL title.

"The fact I changed my mind was based solely upon my personal relationship with Carl Peterson and Lynn Stiles," said Vermeil, whose NFL regular-season record is 76-73.

"I'm an emotional guy. Let me tell you — Lynn Stiles has been so important in my career. There is no person more responsible for my success as he is. For me to come back and help this club is a way for me to pay that debt I owe him."

Peterson and Stiles, who worked with Vermeil as coaches at UCLA more than 25 years ago and then again with the Philadelphia Eagles' 1981 Super Bowl team, also reminded Vermeil of what he was.

"What I am is a coach. That's what I am. That may be a fault. But that's where I feel best," he said.

The Chiefs, who haven't been in the playoffs in three years and haven't won a playoff game since 1993, gave the 64-year-old Vermeil a three-year, \$10 million contract that makes him one of the NFL's highest-paid coaches.

Gannon and Dilfer got here the hard way

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Trent Dilfer put it nicely.

"I'm not the best quarterback around, but I certainly don't think I'm the worst," the Baltimore Ravens quarterback said. Until this season, the same might have been said about Rich Gannon, his counterpart for the Oakland Raiders in Sunday's AFC title game.

To borrow a Bay Area phrase, it's been a long, strange trip for both of them, more so for Gannon — the Oakland quarterback, who at 35 finished fourth in the MVP voting this season but almost eschewed an NFL career to go to law school.

AFC Championship

That was in 1987, when he was drafted out of Delaware by New England in the fourth round — as a defensive back.

Gannon told the Patriots he was a quarterback, he was going to law school and two weeks later, he was traded to Minnesota.

From the Vikings, he went to Washington, sat out the 1994 season after shoulder surgery, landed in Kansas City and finally in Oakland, where he became a starter last season and an MVP candidate in 2000.

"I learned to be humble

early," said Gannon, who grew up in Philadelphia. "I thought I was a hot shot until I learned that Penn State and Notre Dame weren't interested and wound up at Delaware."

Dilfer had a similar experience. Growing up 70 miles south of Oakland in coastal Santa Cruz, Dilfer was recruited primarily as a linebacker, so he went to Fresno State to play quarterback. He did well enough there to be a first-round draft pick of Tampa Bay in 1994, the sixth choice overall.

But he never quite lived up to expectations and last season was benched late in the season for rookie Shaun King, who got the Bucs to last season's NFC title game.

So on to Baltimore this year with the reverse scenario.

He started the season behind Tony Banks, who had led the Ravens to a 5-2 finish last season that left them at 8-8 and set the stage for this season's 12-4 regular-season record.

But after the Ravens went five games without a touchdown — although they won two, Dilfer replaced Banks. The Ravens lost his first start, but have won nine in a row, although he was just 5-

of-16 for 119 yards last week in the 24-10 victory over Tennessee that got the Ravens into the title game.

That game was won by defense and special teams, which blocked two of Al Del Greco's field-goal attempts and returned one of them for a touchdown.

That could be an omen: during the past few years, Dilfer and Del Greco have been considered the two best golfers in the NFL.

So Dilfer was asked Friday if Del Greco's bad luck last week might extend to him this week.

"No," he replied. "I've got three kids now and I don't think I'm as good a golfer."

Pampa splits District 3-4A clashes with Borger

BORGER — In a game of scoring surges by both teams, Pampa was able to come away with a 64-59 win over Borger in District 3-4A basketball action Friday night.

Pampa's district record is now 2-3 while overall the Harvesters improved to 15-10 for the season. With the score tied, Pampa ran

off 10 points in a row to take a 15-5 lead at the end of the first quarter.

Borger then went on a scoring surge of its own late in the sec-

ond quarter, scoring seven unanswered points to pull within one, 28-27, at halftime.

Pampa stayed on top, but Borger remained close throughout the third quarter. The Bulldogs reeled off seven straight points and led briefly, 41-40, early in the fourth quarter. Pampa never trailed again after a Tanner Hucks' jumper in the paint put the Harvesters ahead, 42-41.

Gary Alexander and Adam Rodgers combined for 11 consecutive points as Pampa went ahead by 11 (53-42) at the halfway mark of the fourth quarter. It wasn't over yet, however, as Borger went on a scoring streak of its own and pulled within two (57-55) of Pampa on a 3-point goal by Gabriel Garcia. Borger wasn't able to get closer though as Pampa used the foul line to stay on top. Two free throws each by Rodgers and Victor Brooks in the final seconds assured Pampa the victory.

Alexander paced Pampa's scoring attack with 24 points while Rodgers finished with 16. Rodgers was Pampa's leading rebounder with 8.

Kendrick Dickson scored 23 points and Garcia 18 to lead Borger scorers.

Other Harvesters who scored were Kyle Francis with 8, Hucks 6, Dustin Johnson 4, Jon East 4 and Brooks 2.

Pampa is at Palo Duro on Tuesday night with the game tipping off at 7:30.

Borger pulled away from Pampa in the fourth quarter for a 58-48 win in a District 3-4A girls' game Friday night.

It was a close contest for three quarters as Pampa led by one (15-14) at the end of the first quarter and Borger taking command by five (34-29) at halftime.

Borger maintained that five-point advantage (46-41) going into the fourth quarter in which the Lady Bulldogs scored seven unanswered points to stay comfortably in front the rest of the way.

Maggie Sauls tossed in 24 points to lead Borger. Marilyn Sauls followed with 9.

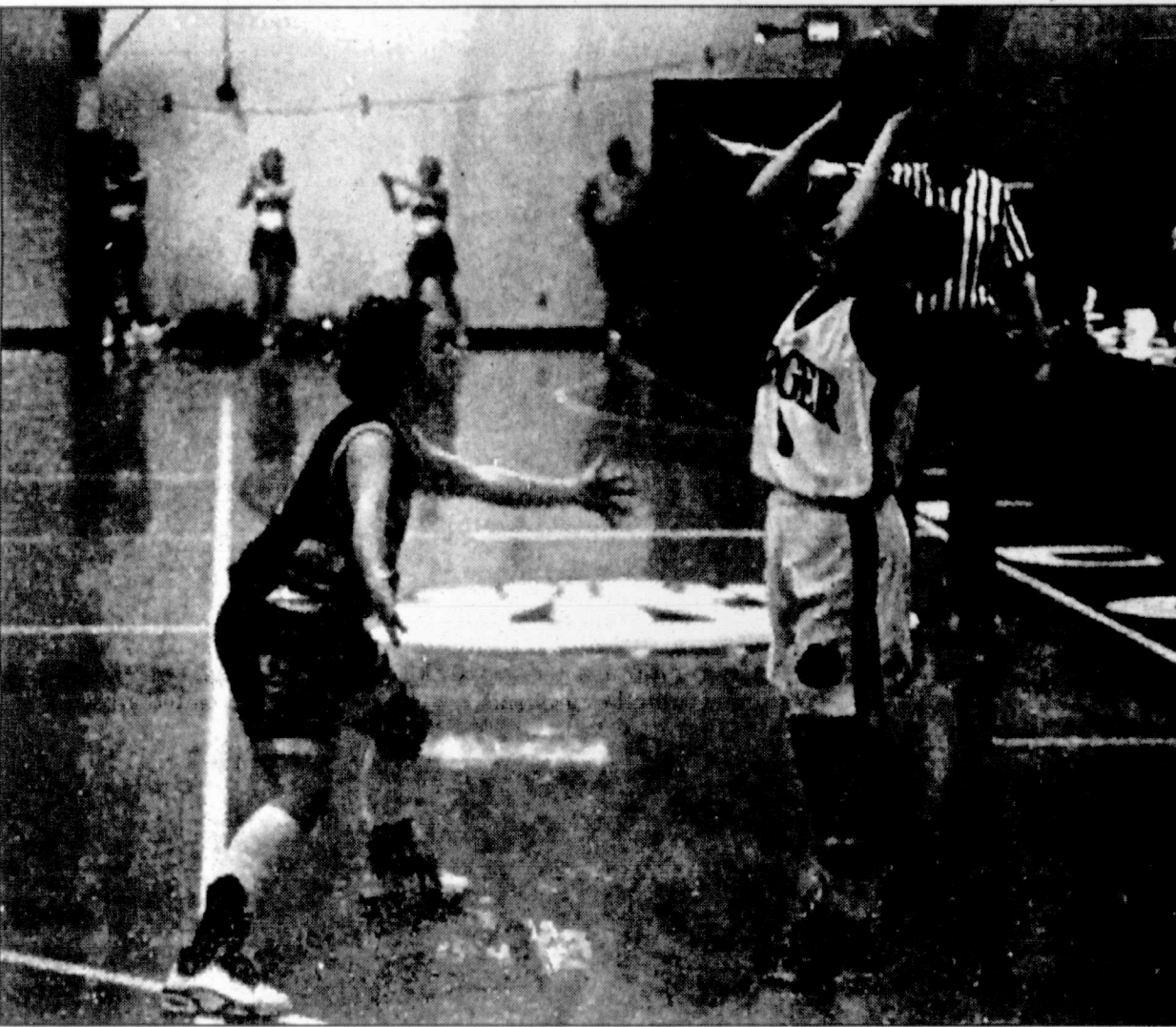
Chasity Nachtigall and Jennifer Lindsey were Pampa's scoring leaders with 12 and 11 points, respectively.

Both teams were fairly even in the battle on the boards with Borger coming away with a slight 26-24 edge. Maggie Sauls had 11 rebounds for Borger while Lindsey Narron had 9 to lead Pampa.

Others who scored for Pampa were Cali Covalt with 9, Narron 6, Morgan White 3, Ashley Derington 2, Randa Morris 2, Charity Nachtigall 2 and Ashlei Jordan 1.

Pampa is 2-5 in district play and 6-12 for the season. Borger improved to 5-1 and 19-4.

The Lady Harvesters visit Palo Duro for their next game Tuesday night. Gametime is 6.



(Pampa News photo)

Pampa's Cali Covalt (left) guards Borger's Casey McClellan in the first half.

Collins the experienced vet, Culpepper the kid

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — The last time Kerry Collins was so close to the Super Bowl, he was a second-year quarterback riding high with the Carolina Panthers.

"I thought I could do no wrong," Collins said, recalling the 1996 season in which the Panthers lost to Green Bay for the NFC title. "I played with no fear. ... You play with that kind of confidence you can do a lot of things."

Collins hasn't had to do a lot of things to get the New York Giants into Sunday's NFC championship game. He's been efficient enough, ranking fifth in the NFC and helping the team win its last six games to reach this point.

His counterpart, second-year QB Daunte Culpepper, has been nothing short of spectacular for the Minnesota Vikings.

When coach Dennis Green chose to let Jeff George and Randall Cunningham leave as free agents, the untested No. 1 pick from 1999 was handed the job.

Culpepper was so sensational he made the Pro Bowl, ranked fourth in the NFL in passing and rushed for 470 yards and accounted for 40 touchdowns.

"Consistency at the quarterback level gives you an opportunity to be successful," star receiver Cris Carter said, "and he has learned very, very fast. He's played

NFC Championship

extremely well under adverse conditions and situations and adjusted. He's had a great year."

Naturally, Culpepper hopes to have more success at the end of his second NFL season than Collins did. And he certainly doesn't want to emulate the off-field problems that plagued Collins in Carolina and New Orleans before he joined the Giants in 1999.

Collins is a recovering alcoholic, and his bouts with liquor nearly ruined his career.

But he has rebounded to climb, once again, within one step of the Super Bowl.

"I remember the things it took to get here, and it is more humbling for me to get success," Collins said. "I'm proud of where I've come from, where I'm at and where I'm going. It's something I think about every day. If I forget about where I came from, I'm bound to regret it."

Culpepper fortunately has not suffered such off-field woes.

The toughest football situation for him came last season, when he sat and watched.

But that seems so long ago, considering what Culpepper did this season.

"He has a great mind for the game, great physical

tools, the ambition," Green said. "He's the best quarterback in the NFC right now. That's a pretty good start."

For Culpepper, having

Triple Crown winner is euthanized

By The Associated Press

More than 20 years after he became the last thoroughbred to win thoroughbred racing's Triple Crown, Affirmed still provides the standard to which other horses are measured.

Affirmed, the handsome chestnut colt who won the Triple Crown in 1978 in riveting stretch duels with Alydar, was euthanized Friday following months of leg problems. He was 26.

"Any time a good horse seems to come along these days, he always gets compared to Affirmed," said Jimmy Bell, general manager and president of Jonabell Farm near Lexington, Ky., where the horse spent his retirement.

"Until one wins the Triple Crown and 14 Grade I races, they've still got a lot to live up to," Bell said. "This horse was the definition of a champion horse."

The death of Affirmed leaves Seattle Slew as the only living Triple Crown winner. Seattle Slew became the 10th Triple Crown winner in 1977.

Affirmed was retired to stud in 1979 after a career that included wins in 14 stakes races and more than \$2.3 million in earnings.

"He was basically the best horse I ever rode, the most intel-

ligent," said Steve Cauthen, who was 18 when he guided Affirmed to the Triple Crown. "He was just a horse of tremendous courage. He loved to race. He was a great horse to ride."

Alydar finished second to Affirmed in all three races, coming closer to victory each time. Affirmed won by 1 1/2 lengths in the Derby, a neck in the Preakness and a mere head in the Belmont.

The most famous duel, of course, was the last, when Affirmed and Alydar battled side-by-side down the final seven furlongs.

"He pulled it out under the most extreme situation," Cauthen recalled in 1999. "Anyone that saw that race will never forget it, and probably remember it as the greatest race they ever saw."

Even in his retirement years, Affirmed always seemed to know when cameras were pointed at him. He had a commanding presence and would strut and pose, his reddish-brown coat showing a smattering of white around the muzzle and eyes.

"Affirmed will forever stand with those who exemplify the word 'champion' in thoroughbred racing. We cannot begin to imagine how much we will miss

sons.

One advantage he does have over Culpepper is a superior defense on his side. Another is having been through all this before.

"I'm glad that four years ago, I was in this position," Collins said.

him," said Patrice Wolfson, who owned the horse with her husband, Louis.

Affirmed had surgery in October to repair a dislocated left front joint just above the hoof, but laminitis soon developed in his right hoof. Laminitis is an inflammation of soft tissue that can be caused by excessive weight-bearing after the opposite limb is injured.

Dr. Larry Bramlage performed the initial surgery. On Jan. 8, the horse was returned to the hospital, where he was put under continuous observation, according to Jonabell Farm. Bramlage examined Affirmed on Friday morning and recommended euthanasia.

Bell said the horse seemed to be moving with pain in recent months.

"We elected to have him humanely euthanized, rather than to allow him to continue to suffer," Bell said.

Since Affirmed accomplished the feat, seven colts have had a shot at the Triple Crown but failed by losing in the Belmont Stakes: Spectacular Bid (1979), Pleasant Colony (1981), Alysheba (1987), Sunday Silence (1989), Silver Charm (1997), Real Quiet (1998) and Charismatic (1999).

Tea

KINGSVILLE, N.J. (AP) — Aaron Turner (Neb.) kicked a goal as the night, cap that gave with the Division I game.

Quarterback McKavish led the East to a touchdown a 35-second final two lead with in the game.

But the Westwood Rhodess, yards on the Coleman pass to Or 2 with 3 trotted on.

Shan

By The As

There were both Kobe O'Neal.

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Bryant scored the fourth barely held.

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"It's a pat when they dictates that Jackson said.

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O'Neal c locker room reporters a Bryant said him some t ball, get i offense. We fella being win; he war

The win games for t pions, who a 118-95 los Clippers las

In other Philadelphia Toronto 93 Antonio Minnesota Charlotte Denver 106 Seattle 115.

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Det

By The Ass

Ed Belfour's Dallas was Detroit Red Belfour's included a statement, e the Red Win leading sp Friday night

Sergei Fe Lapointe s goals as the Stars 3-2 an first start s pension for team after Ken Hitchc Boston.

"I had a f beginning seemed to s on," said B stops and n tion from the time to mo from it. It's But there ha good things

In other g Phoenix 3-2 Atlanta 3-0 Columbus

Teams tie in Cactus Bowl game

KINGSVILLE, Texas (AP) — Aaron Turner of Chadron State (Neb.) kicked a 20-yard field goal as time expired Friday night, capping a 64-yard drive that gave the West a 33-33 tie with the East in the NCAA Division II Cactus Bowl all-star game.

Quarterback Randy McKavish of Slippery Rock led the East to three fourth-quarter touchdowns, including two in a 35-second span in the game's final two minutes, for a 33-30 lead with only 34 seconds left in the game.

But the West came back. Midwestern State's Dominic Rhodes, who rushed for 158 yards on 16 carries, ran 23 yards to the East 23, and Justin Coleman completed a 20-yard pass to Onome Ojo to the East 2 with 3 seconds left. Turner trotted onto the field to kick

the field goal that tied the game.

Unsure if there was an overtime period, the players milled around for several minutes before the game was declared a tie.

J.R. Turner of host Texas A&M-Kingsville was named the Defensive MVP. He had two interceptions and seven tackles. Offensive tackle Brian Crawford of Western Oregon for the West was named the game's top offensive lineman.

The East led 12-9 at the half on McKavish's 8-yard pass to Dalevon Smith and Jeff Smith's 13-yard pass to Brian Dolph. But the West got a safety on Colston Weatherington's block of a punt and Coleman threw a 3-yard pass to Shevon Glover.

The West moved ahead 23-12 in the third quarter on TD receptions of 9 and 17 yards by

Gerald Payne of Harding, the game's offensive MVP. When DeWayne Miles of West Texas A&M ran 11 yards for another West touchdown 5:14 into the fourth quarter, the West lead grew to 30-12.

But McKavish ran for touchdowns of 12 and 4 yards and then connected with Dolph on a 15-yard TD pass in the game's final minute. McKavish's two-point conversion pass to Terence Stokes enabled the East to regain the lead. McKavish's 4-yard run with 1:09 to play capped an 83-yard drive, and the East then successfully executed an onside kick, setting up the East's third TD of the fourth quarter.

McKavish completed 8-of-27 passes for 122 yards and carried the ball 17 times for 145 yards.

Shaq and Kobe co-exist quite nicely as Lakers beat Cavs

By The Associated Press

There were plenty of shots for both Kobe Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal.

In one of his most dominant performances of the season, O'Neal had 34 points and a season-high 23 rebounds to lead the Lakers to a 101-98 victory over the Cleveland Cavaliers in their first game since the squabble between Los Angeles' two superstars surfaced earlier this week.

Bryant scored 32 points, 12 in the fourth quarter as the Lakers barely held off the Cavaliers.

"It was a good performance by both those guys," coach Phil Jackson said, noting that O'Neal dominated early before Bryant took over in the fourth quarter when O'Neal's poor free-throw shooting often becomes an issue.

"It's a pattern with this team; when they start fouling Shaq, it dictates that Kobe steps up," Jackson said.

There were no obvious signs of the squabble between O'Neal and Bryant during the game, with the two trading the usual handslaps after baskets and free throws.

O'Neal ducked out of the locker room and avoided reporters after the game, but Bryant said: "I wanted to get him some touches, get him the ball, get him going in the offense. We can't have the big fella being unhappy. I want to win; he wants to win."

The win was the ninth in 11 games for the defending champions, who hadn't played since a 118-95 loss to the Los Angeles Clippers last Sunday.

In other games, it was Philadelphia 86, Washington 82; Toronto 93, Boston 72; San Antonio 111, Detroit 90; Minnesota 95, L.A. Clippers 89; Charlotte 86, Chicago 85; Denver 106, Sacramento 93; and Seattle 115, Vancouver 102.

The Cavaliers, led by Lamond Murray's 25 points, took the Lakers down to the wire, but O'Neal made five of 10 free

throws in the final 3:40 to help Los Angeles maintain the lead, and Bryant made four free throws in the last 21 seconds.

The Cavaliers have lost 10 of their last 12 on the heels of a seven-game winning streak that put them at 15-7.

76ers 86, Wizards 82

At Washington, Allen Iverson scored 29 points and Tyrone Hill stripped Chris Whitney of the ball in the final seconds as the 76ers extended their road winning streak to 10 games.

Washington trailed by 20 late in the third quarter before rallying behind Whitney. Hill made one of two free throws to make it 85-82 with 18.6 seconds left, giving the Wizards a chance to tie.

Whitney, who made back-to-back 3-pointers earlier in the quarter and finished with 18 points, was dribbling down the right side when Hill stripped the ball in a double team with Iverson.

Philadelphia hasn't lost on the road since a 96-85 defeat to the Los Angeles Lakers on Dec. 5.

Raptors 93, Celtics 72

At Boston, the Celtics and Raptors played the lowest-scoring third quarter in NBA history, combining for just 18 points. The 18 third-quarter points — nine by each team — also tied the record set by Syracuse and Fort Wayne on Nov. 29, 1956, for fewest combined points in any quarter. The old record for the lowest-scoring third quarter was 19 by New York and Atlanta on April 28, 1999.

Spurs 111, Pistons 90

At Auburn Hills, Mich., Derek Anderson scored 25 points and Tim Duncan added 20 points and 11 rebounds as the San Antonio Spurs won their fifth straight game.

The Pistons have lost four in a row and seven of eight.

David Robinson added 18 for San Antonio, while Jerry Stackhouse led all scorers with 35.

Timberwolves 95, Clippers 89

At Minneapolis, Kevin Garnett had 17 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists and the Timberwolves made 20 of their final 30 shots.

Anthony Peeler scored 12 of his 14 points in the third quarter, Chauncey Billups had three 3-pointers in the fourth quarter, Terrell Brandon had 17 points and Wally Szczerbiak added 16.

Lamar Odom led the Clippers with 21 points, nine rebounds and six assists.

Hornets 86, Bulls 85

At Chicago, David Wesley sank a 3-pointer with 3.5 seconds left as Charlotte rallied from a 10-point fourth-quarter deficit to beat Chicago.

Elton Brand missed a jumper right before the buzzer and the Hornets had their second pulsating victory over the Bulls this week.

They beat Chicago in triple overtime Tuesday night.

Nuggets 106, Kings 93

At Denver, James Posey had 13 points and a career-high 19 rebounds, and Nick Van Exel scored 13 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter.

Denver forward Antonio McDyess struggled through a 6-for-21 shooting night in his anticipated matchup against Chris Webber, but he still managed 15 points and 12 rebounds for his 11th straight double-double.

Webber led the Kings with 24 points and 14 rebounds.

SuperSonics 115, Grizzlies 102

At Seattle, new owner Howard Schultz cheered from his courtside seat as Seattle got a season-best 26 points from Ruben Patterson and 21 from Gary Payton.

It was their third win in a row after losing four straight.

Bryant Reeves had a season-high 31 points, while Mike Bibby had a franchise-high 18 assists and 22 points for the Grizzlies.

shut out Tampa Bay 3-0.

Pittsburgh edged the New York Islanders 4-3; Colorado beat Minnesota 5-0; Vancouver slipped past Edmonton 3-2; Buffalo blanked Anaheim 4-0; and Carolina and Florida tied 2-2.

The Red Wings played on the emotions of the high-strung Belfour on Friday, and their plan worked.

Detroit's first goal was set up when Belfour roamed far behind his net and blindly swatted the puck to Fedorov. Brendan Shanahan caught Belfour looking the wrong way on a 2-on-1 with Steve Yzerman to make it 2-1 less than a minute into the second period.

Later in the second, with Detroit on its second power play, Lapointe redirected a long blast by Nicklas Lidstrom for the go-ahead goal.

"We wanted to get him going," said LaPointe, whose long rivalry with the goalie was rekindled with Belfour shoving him in the back just before his goal and a shouting match later. "We knew we wanted to stay in front of him. It doesn't take too much to get him revved up and

get him off his game."

Belfour, 8-9-1 since ending a shutout streak of more than 220 minutes, was in top form late in the game. His play during a third-period power play inspired the chant of his name, something the goalie-loving crowd usually does early and often.

"He gave us a real chance to win," Hitchcock said.

Blackhawks 3, Blue Jackets 1

Dean McAmmond's backhand provided the go-ahead goal as Chicago ended a 17-game losing streak in games in which it trailed heading into the third period.

The host Blue Jackets were 10-1-1 when ahead through two periods.

Jaroslav Spacek and Tony Amonte also scored for Chicago.

Steve Heinze scored for Columbus, which lost its fourth in a row overall and has lost all four meetings to the Blackhawks this season.

Penguins 4, Islanders 3

In Pittsburgh, Mario Lemieux and Kip Miller scored before

the Islanders had a shot as the Penguins finally beat a team with losing record.

The Penguins — 5-2 since Lemieux came out of retirement — ran the Islanders' losing streak to a season-high seven games.

Janne Laukkanen and Alexei Kovalev also scored for the Penguins, who won for the first time in their last seven games against sub-.500 teams.

Bill Muckalt and Zdeno Chara scored for the Islanders, 1-10 in their last 11.

Hurricanes 2, Panthers 2

Jeff O'Neill scored two goals for Carolina, but it was Pavel Bure's goal with 22 seconds left in regulation that lifted Florida into a tie.

Sami Kapanen assisted on both goals for Carolina, which ended a five-game road losing streak but saw its road winless streak reach eight.

Ron Francis assisted on O'Neill's second goal to give the 20-year veteran 1,590 points for his career, tying him with Phil Esposito for fifth on the NHL career list.

Greg Adams scored 1:53 into the first period for Florida.

Scoreboard

PRO FOOTBALL

NFL Playoff Glance

By The Associated Press

All Times EST

Saturday, Dec. 30

Wild-card Playoffs

Miami 23, Indianapolis 17, OT

New Orleans 31, St. Louis 28

Sunday, Dec. 31

Baltimore 21, Denver 3

Philadelphia 21, Tampa Bay 3

Divisional Playoffs

Saturday, Jan. 6

Minnesota 34, New Orleans 16

Oakland 27, Miami 0

Sunday, Jan. 7

Baltimore 24, Tennessee 10

New York Giants 20, Philadelphia 10

Conference Championships

Sunday, Jan. 14

NFC Championship

Minnesota at New York Giants, 12:30 p.m. (FOX)

AFC Championship

Baltimore at Oakland, 4 p.m. (CBS)

Super Bowl

Sunday, Jan. 28

At Tampa, Fla.

AFC champion vs. NFC champion, 6 p.m. (CBS)

Pro Bowl

Sunday, Feb. 4

NFC vs. AFC, 5:30 p.m. at Honolulu (ABC)

PRO BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

At A Glance

By The Associated Press

All Times EST

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division

Philadelphia 25, L 9, Pct 743

New York 22, L 13, Pct 629

Miami 21, L 16, Pct 568

Orlando 15, L 20, Pct 429

Boston 13, L 24, Pct 351

New Jersey 11, L 25, Pct 306

Washington 7, L 31, Pct 184

Central Division

Charlotte 23, L 15, Pct 605

Milwaukee 20, L 15, Pct 571

Toronto 18, L 18, Pct 500

Cleveland 17, L 17, Pct 500

Indiana 16, L 21, Pct 432

Detroit 14, L 22, Pct 389

Atlanta 13, L 22, Pct 371

Chicago 6, L 29, Pct 171

Western Conference

Midwest Division

San Antonio 23, L 11, Pct 676

Dallas 24, L 14, Pct 632

Utah 22, L 13, Pct 629

Denver 21, L 16, Pct 568

Minnesota 21, L 17, Pct 553

Houston 18, L 17, Pct 514

Vancouver 10, L 25, Pct 286

Pacific Division

Portland 27, L 10, Pct 730

Sacramento 23, L 10, Pct 697

L.A. Lakers 24, L 11, Pct 686

Phoenix 21, L 12, Pct 636

Seattle 20, L 18, Pct 526

L.A. Clippers 13, L 25, Pct 342

Golden State 11, L 24, Pct 314

Thursday's Games

Atlanta 107, Golden State 96

Houston 76, New York 75

Orlando 101, New Jersey 87

Portland 83, Charlotte 70

Milwaukee 102, Dallas 94

Phoenix 93, Indiana 85

Friday's Games

Philadelphia 86, Washington 82

Toronto 93, Boston 72

San Antonio 111, Detroit 90

Minnesota 95, L.A. Clippers 89

Charlotte 86, Chicago 85

Denver 106, Sacramento 93

Seattle 115, Vancouver 102

L.A. Lakers 101, Cleveland 98

Saturday's Games

Portland at New York, 5:30 p.m.

Phoenix at Dallas, 5:30 p.m.

San Antonio at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.

Golden State at Orlando, 8 p.m.

Miami at Indiana, 8 p.m.

L.A. Clippers at Atlanta, 8 p.m.

Sacramento at Houston, 8:30 p.m.

New Jersey at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.

L.A. Lakers at Utah, 9 p.m.

Cleveland at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Charlotte at Toronto, 5:30 p.m.

Portland at Detroit, 7 p.m.

Chicago at Miami, 7:30 p.m.

Seattle at Phoenix, 8 p.m.

Groom has three All-Staters

Grant Weinheimer and DeWayne Gray of Groom have been named to the Six-Man Coaches Association All-State Football Team.

Both Weinheimer and Gray were first-team picks. Weinheimer quarterbacked the Tigers while Gray made the team at defensive back. Teammate Clay Ritter was named to the second team as

a wide receiver.

Weinheimer, a 6-4, 205-pound senior, completed 120 of 215 passes for 2,002 yards and 37 touchdowns as Groom compiled a 12-2 record. Gray, a 5-11, 165-pound senior, was the leader of a Groom defense that gave up only two touchdowns a game. Gray collected 102 tackles and had 14

quarterback sacks during the season.

Ritter, a 6-3, 195-pound junior, caught 50 passes for 867 yards and 16 touchdowns. Ritter was also a standout at linebacker where he collected 145 tackles for the Tigers.

Ritter was the area junior named to the team.

Ernie Els makes it look easy

KAPALUA, Hawaii (AP) — Tiger Woods had a lot of snipes, shrimps and chunks — his way of saying the shots didn't come off as planned.

Ernie Els made a lot of birdies, and that didn't require a translator to explain.

The Big Easy made it look like a breeze Friday in the second round of the Mercedes Championships, with a bogey-free round of a 7-under 66 that gave him a four-stroke lead going into the weekend.

"I just played as good as I could," Els said. "I feel comfortable on the course. I've just got to play my game, kind of let it take care of itself."

If he keeps that up, he could take care of a tournament that has gnawed him for the past year — a playoff loss to Woods at Kapalua a year ago, when they matched eagles on the 72nd hole, birdies on the first playoff hole and then Woods made a monster birdie putt to win on the second extra hole.

Els, who had a 12-under 134, is in great position to win the winners-only Mercedes Championships. Woods, who had those "shrimps," is not.

"It can't be much worse," Woods said after scraping by with a 73, which extended his amazing streak of consecutive rounds at par or better to 49 on the PGA Tour. "I'm hitting it terrible, putting it terrible, chipping it terrible. Other than that, it's pretty good."

Els, who has made only one bogey in 36 holes on a windy Plantation Course at Kapalua,

led by four strokes over Masters champion Vijay Singh, Jim Furyk and Rory Sabbatini.

Despite the steady play, Els was curious as he walked toward the ninth green. Moving left to stay clear of Justin Leonard's approach shot, Els studied the electronic scoreboard behind the green with two intentions.

He wanted to see the size of his lead, which was two strokes and growing.

And he wanted to see where Woods was — nowhere to be found.

"I need to see what's going on with the leaders," Els said. "Obviously, you need to know where Tiger is."

Woods was just about everywhere. Short of the green on No. 8, which led to a chunked chip and a bogey. He was long of the green on the par-3 11th, which forced him to take an unplayable lie out of the junk and led to another bogey.

He wound up at even-par 73, his worst score since a 3-over 73 in the first round of the Byron Nelson Classic on May 11, which also happened to be his last round over par.

The streak is now at 49 on tour, 57 worldwide, and of no consolation to Woods.

The nine-stroke deficit is his largest since he trailed by 10 strokes after 36 holes of the Buick Open in August. He wound up tying for 11th that week, seven strokes behind.

"I'm not really striking the ball as well as I need to," Woods said.

Els will play the third round with his favorite practice partner, Masters champion Vijay Singh, who had eagle putts on all of the par 5s and had a 6-under 67.

Woods had trouble in the trade winds, coming up well short on the par-3 eighth that crosses a gorge, and bombing it over the 164-yard 11th hole that was downwind.

The course played slightly easier than the first round, and several

Apples for Students Plus!



(Community Camera photo by Patti Smith)

Lamar Elementary School is currently participating in Homeland's "Apples for the Students Plus!" program. This school-community partnership awards educational equipment to schools that accumulate store register tapes. During the past several years, "Apples for the Students Plus!" has awarded more than \$250 million in needed classroom learning tools free to participating schools. Above: Dallan Poole, Mark Harris and Eddie Castillo, Lamar kindergarten students. For more information about Apples for the Students Plus!, or to donate register tapes to Lamar Elementary, contact Misty Jimenez at 669-4880.

Selective Service accepts registration info on-line

ARLINGTON, Va. — The Selective Service System has added a change of address page to its website that will allow young men to update their registration information on-line. Federal law requires that young men, ages 18 through 25, notify Selective Service within 10 days of an address change. The addition of the new web page will make fulfillment of this legal requirement easier and more convenient.

"This initiative corresponds to

"This initiative corresponds to the Agency's vision of increased customer service," said the Hon. Gil Coronado, director of Selective Service, who first initiated on-line registration on Dec. 2, 1998.

the Agency's vision of increased customer service," said the Hon. Gil Coronado, director of Selective Service, who first initiated on-line registration on Dec. 2, 1998. "For two decades, men could only go to the post office to obtain a Selective Service Change of Address Form; this new web page will make the process more convenient for men who have Internet access." It is also expected to reduce the Agency's printing and processing costs, while saving young men the cost of first class postage to mail the change of address form.

Any man who is registered and was born after 1959 can update his address information by connecting to the Selective Service website at www.sss.gov. He clicks on a link

to the "change of address" page, types his new information, clicks the Submit button, and he is done. He can also check a box if he wants to receive an updated acknowledgment card by conventional mail.

Federal law requires virtually all men to register with Selective Service within 30 days of turning 18. Each year, about 1.8 million men turn 18. All U.S. male citizens, no matter where they reside, as well as male noncitizens residing in the U.S., are required to register.

Although late registrations are accepted, a man cannot register once he reaches age 26. Failure to register is a felony. Moreover, Selective Service registration is linked to many benefits such as eligibility for federal student loans and grants, training programs under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), federal jobs in the Executive Branch of the U.S. Government, and jobs with the U.S. Postal Service.

More than half of the states have enacted legislation that links benefits such as state tuition assistance and eligibility for state jobs to registration. Also, Delaware and Oklahoma have legislation which connects Selective Service registration with a man's application for a driver's license. Additionally, male immigrants who are in the U.S. when they are 18- through 25-years-old may be denied U.S. citizenship if they fail to register.

Although the U.S. relies on an all-volunteer military today, the Selective Service System and the registration program help America remain prepared to reinstate a timely and fair draft in a future crisis, should a draft become necessary.

For more information, visit the Selective Service System website at www.sss.gov.

Go straight, come clean: D-FY-IT

FSA: Emergency loans available

Gray County was recently declared eligible for Farm Service Agency disaster emergency loans. Applications for emergency farm loans for losses caused by drought and excessive heat that occurred Jan. 1, 2000, and continuing are being accepted at the FSA office in Clarendon or at the FSA office in Pampa, Larry Goetze said today.

FSA Ag Credit Manager Larry Goetze is urging farmers who are interested in receiving an emergency loan to get their applications in to FSA as soon as possible. Goetze said, "We hope farmers will get their applications in early rather than waiting until near the deadline which is August 20, 2001. The longer they wait the more chance there is for long delays in getting their checks. If the applications come in early, we can avoid backlogs and speed up the process."

FSA is a credit agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It is authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for a substantial part of their living. Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who are U.S. citizens and to farming partnerships, corporations or cooperatives in which U.S. citizens hold a majority interest.

The FSA office in Clarendon is open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday and is located at 321 Sully. The phone number is (806) 874-3561. The FSA office in Pampa is located at 2501 E. Frederic and is also open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday. The Pampa office may be reached at 665-6561.

CONT. FROM PG. 6

HOTLINE

"Many of today's youth who are lonely or angry do not have constructive ways of venting their frustrations," states Smith. "We offer a safe, non-threatening environment where callers can discuss their problems with someone who will listen and not judge them. Hotline callers are urged to seek ongoing guidance and support from trusted adults, school faculty, or local social service agencies."

"Our goal is to help minimize problems at home or school and prevent youth from becoming involved in delinquent, self-destructive behavior," explains Smith.

For additional information about the Texas Youth Hotline, call 1-800-210-2278 or visit www.texasyouth.org.

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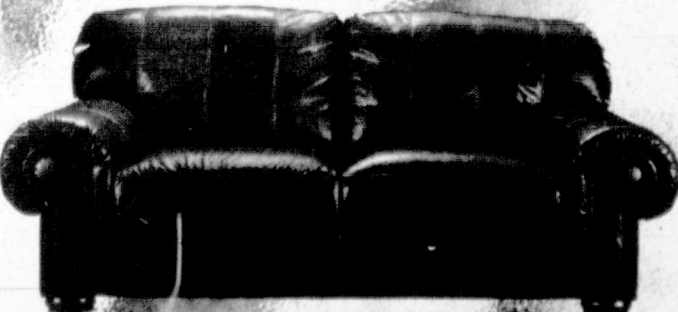


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