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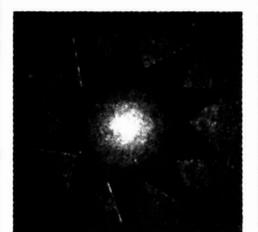
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Pampa

Vol. 96 No. 250 • Pampa, Texas
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No Lotto winner;
jackpot gets larger
 No ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.
 The ticket was worth an estimated \$4 million.
 The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 54 were: 7-21-25-44-46-54.
 Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$6 million.

Valentine's Craft Day
at library for children

PAMPA — Lovett Memorial Library will host a Valentine's Crafts Day beginning at 10 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 10 in the library auditorium. The program is free and open to children ages three and up. Participants will make valentines, gifts and other crafts. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to sign-up, call the library at 669-5780. The program will be under the direction of Shanla Brookshire, children's librarian.

Class of '61 reunion
planners need workers

PAMPA — Pampa High School Class of 1961 will hold its 40th class reunion this year. Organizers are seeking volunteers to help plan the event. For more information, contact Zip Swaney at 665-5532.

- Lucille O'Neal, 83, retired retail clerk, seamstress.
- R.E. 'Buck' Smith, 91, retired City of Pampa employee.
- James 'Jim' Harrison Williamson, 54, employee of Seismic Energy Product Company in Athens.

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Chief juvenile probation officer let go Juvenile Probation Board opts for a 'new direction'

By NANCY YOUNG
 Managing Editor

Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Albert Nichols ended his employment with Gray County at the close of the work day on Friday, according to Gray County Judge Richard Peet.

Peet said the Juvenile Probation Board voted unanimously Friday afternoon following a closed door session to "take a new direction under new leadership" in the Juvenile Probation Office. That new direction will not include Nichols.

Nichols confirmed this morning the reason he was given for the termination of the board wanted to take a new direction.

Nichols was a girls basketball coach for 10 years before he joined the Gray County Probation Department as chief officer, a

post he has held for the past seven-and-one-half years. He said when he joined the JPO staff there was only a chief officer and a secretary. He said through the progressive sanctions program, a state grant program, that six employees were added to the office.

Nichols also said there were 120 youngsters on probation when he began and many less when he ended.

"I'm not bitter. I feel I've done a good job on crime. I've spent my life trying to help kids. Some will let you help them while others won't," said Nichols. "I have worked closely with the school and have a good [working relationship] with them as well as the sheriff's office and police department."

Nichols, 60, said he has seven grandchildren he is going to enjoy and watch play basketball. He said he is now

involved in a cattle operation with Warren Chisum, and that is keeping him very busy.

The juvenile board is composed of 31st District Judge Steve Emmert, 223rd District Judge Leland Waters and Judge Peet.

Peet said the three board members met Friday afternoon in executive session individually with each of the seven juvenile office employees. He said following that series of meetings the three judges voted to relieve Nichols of his duties at the end of the work day.

"I am very pleased with the job Albert has done," said Peet. "I just think we need new ideas and a new approach."

Peet said the board believes the timing is appropriate because currently there are only 55 juveniles on probation. "We have very few on probation in comparison to the usual 100 or more," said Peet, "and we thought it would be a good time to make the change."

"I personally appreciate the job he has done over the years. He's done a good job," said Peet.

Peet also said the resignation of juvenile

probation officer Jason Farmer was received Monday morning. He said Farmer had told the board Friday during the meeting he had applied for a job in Tyler as he had previously lived in East Texas and wanted to return.

Peet said Farmer notified him he had been offered the Tyler position and will be leaving Gray County employment effective, Feb. 9. Farmer told *The Pampa News* he will leave probation work. The two-year employee of Gray County said he will be an appraiser for a claims service.

Sharon Green, a juvenile probation officer in the office, will be acting chief probation officer until a new officer is hired. Peet said the board will be taking applications and hopes to have the position filled permanently by March 1.



Albert Nichols



(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)

Phil Clifton comes to Pampa frequently from Oklahoma to sell firewood locally. Burning firewood in fireplaces and stoves has become a popular heating alternative to helping with the high gas prices.

High bills have residents looking for alternative heat

By NANCY YOUNG
 Managing Editor

With home-heating bills shooting up in price, local residents are looking for alternative heating solutions.

Many are using fireplaces and other alternatives more and more to provide additional heat to their homes as they turn down the thermostats.

June Thurman of Fireside Comfort said her business has been considerably busier since the prices of heating bills have increased, and the cold weather

days have increased.

Thurman recommends having the home fireplaces cleaned and any needed repairs made before building fires in them. She said the best time to do this is in the spring following winter. However, since many people haven't used their fireplaces consistently in recent years due to lack of continuous cold weather days there may have been neglect in having the chimneys cleaned properly.

She said repair of any cracked or splitting mortar in

the fireplace is essential. "Sparks can get in these cracks and travel through the fire-wall catching a home on fire," she said. She also recommends use of a chimney cap during the months the fireplace is not in operation to keep bird nests and other objects from getting in the fireplace.

"Most of the people we have had coming in about purchasing our heating units have been considering making a change for a long time,"

(See HEAT, Page 2)

Chase yields 'rolling' meth lab; 2 arrests

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 Staff Writer

A highway patrolman's routine stop for speeding on a country road near Pampa Wednesday afternoon yielded more than a traffic ticket.

After a high-speed chase, authorities recovered a "rolling lab" for illegal drugs and have opened an investigation by the U.S. Postal Service Inspectors Office into federal mail violations. Two people remained in Gray County jail on felony drug charges.

Bond had not yet been set at press time today for Pat Jarrett Helton, 28, RR 2, Box 384, on charges of possession with intent to manufacture methamphetamine, speeding, evading arrest, and no liability insurance. Laleanna Lynn Downs, 21, 1608 N. Sumner, also faces a charge of possession with intent to manufacture methamphetamine.

The chain of events leading to the pair's arrests began Wednesday afternoon when Trooper Jessie Cerda of the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) clocked a blue 1996 Chevrolet Silverado pickup with handicapped license plates traveling at 80 miles per hour, 10 miles over the posted speed limit.

Cerda stopped the pickup on Texas 152 across from Tejas Feeders east of Pampa, he said.

(See CHASE, Page 2)

Scent of 'pot' alerts trooper 2 arrests; DA plans to file seizure, forfeiture paperwork

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 Staff Writer

District Attorney Rick Roach said he plans to file seizure and forfeiture papers for a Chevrolet Blazer and more than \$4,600 in cash in connection with the weekend arrests of two Illinois men on Interstate 40.

Shortly after noon Saturday, Trooper Jerome Ingle of the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) stopped a 1994 Chevrolet Blazer on a traffic violation near the Milepost 130 on Interstate 40, according to the report given to the DA's office.

When the trooper approached the vehicle and the driver opened the window, Ingle said he smelled marijuana.

"He told them he smelled the marijuana and asked if they had any

(See 'POT', Page 2)

Snow plowing decisions raise questions

By KATE B. DICKSON
 Associate Publisher

Some area motorists have been complaining this week that state highways in adjoining counties were soon plowed after the weekend's ice and snow while the same highways, beginning at the Gray County line, were untouched.

"Those are things that are hard to definitively say why [it happens] and I really can't make a judgment," Tonya Detten, public information officer for TxDOT,

said Wednesday.

The Pampa News received several calls from people who drive in and out of Gray County daily who wanted to know why Gray's state highways weren't cleared. Also, reporters were approached and asked the same question.

One example earlier this week was Highway 70 from Clarendon to Pampa where the stretch from Clarendon to the Interstate 40 overpass (Gray County line) was clear and dry Tuesday while the portion from the overpass to near Pampa remained ice and snow

covered.

Regarding the above example, Detten said maintenance responsibilities for the Donley County portion lies with another regional DOT office.

Another reason some of the highways don't get early plowing, she said, is because concentration is put on the highways in populated areas. In and around Pampa that includes Highways 60, 70, 152, and Loop 171.

Some stretches of roads get made "passable" with plowing but aren't plowed to the point

they are clear, she said.

Detten said Gray County maintenance supervisor Gregg Stammers is working one employee short. The local office has eight snowplows and four sander boxes for Gray and Roberts.

"There have been no eight-hour days for the workers [since the winter storm struck]," she said. "They all have been working long shifts. On Saturday they all worked 20 hours. There do have to be some limits due to commercial driver's license rules. Two years ago you had guys who

could jump on the snowplows ... you can't do that now with CDI required."

Since working for the DOT in the Amarillo office which is responsible for 17 counties, Detten said, "I've learned that no snowstorm is alike. The Christmas snow didn't have ice and there was little wind so we fought it pretty well. Last weekend's storm had ice underneath it and when that's the case the pavement is hard to clear. You just about have to beat the ice to get it off the road."

FEB 01 2001

Daily Record

Obituaries

LUCILLE O'NEAL
SHAMROCK — Lucille O'Neal, 83, died Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2001. Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday in First Baptist Church with the Rev. Ken Cole, pastor of First Methodist Church in Spearman, officiating. Burial will be in Shamrock Cemetery under the direction of Wright Funeral Directors.

Mrs. O'Neal was born at Lockney and married to Paul O'Neal in 1934 at Texola, Okla. She was a longtime resident of the Shamrock area, working as a retail clerk at Tindall Drug and as a seamstress.

She was voted Mother of the Year in 1951 and held membership in Home Extension Club, Women's Missionary Union, and First Baptist Church, serving as Sunday school there. She was active in the Girl Scout program and was a former president of the Shamrock PTA.

She was preceded in death by two daughters, Betty Jean, in 1948, and Peggy Ruth, in 1954.

Survivors include her husband, Paul; three daughters, Louise Alexander, Joyce Bush and Vickie Bedell, all of Amarillo; three sons, James O'Neal of Borger, Eddie O'Neal of Uvalde and Jerry O'Neal of Farmington, N.M.; 13 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

R.E. 'BUCK' SMITH
 R.E. "Buck" Smith, 91, of Pampa, died Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2001, at Claude. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday in Fairview Cemetery with the Rev. Thacker Haynes, pastor of United Methodist Church of McLean, officiating. Masonic rites will be conducted by Pampa Masonic Lodge #966 AF&AM. Burial will be under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Smith was born March 10, 1909, at Cheyenne, Okla. He married Winnie Williams in 1929 at Perryton; she died March 4, 1961. He later married Edith Garner; she died in 1997.

He had been a Pampa resident since 1940, moving from Follett, and worked at Pampa Airbase during World War II. He was later employed with the City of Pampa street maintenance department, retiring in the 1970s after 30 years of service.

He was a Baptist and a member of Pampa Masonic Lodge #966 AF&AM and Lubbock Scottish Rite Consistory.

Survivors include two daughters, Roberta Darsey of Amarillo and Barbara Lewis of Waco; three sons, Carroll Smith of Denver, Colo., Wayne Smith of Amarillo and Ron Smith of San Diego, Calif.; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to a favorite charity.

JAMES 'JIM' HARRISON WILLIAMSON
BROWNSBORO — James "Jim" Harrison Williamson, 54, died Monday, Jan. 29, 2001. Services were to be at 11 a.m. today in Carroll-Lehr Funeral Home Chapel in Athens. Burial will be in Athens City Cemetery at Athens under the direction of Carroll-Lehr Funeral Home of Athens.

Mr. Williamson was born Nov. 16, 1946, at Athens, to Marion Francis and Opha Stringer Williamson. He had been a resident of Henderson County for the past 15 years and was employed by Seismic Energy Product Company in Athens.

Survivors include five sisters, Sarah Howard of Athens, Cheryl Williamson and JoAn Earl, both of Houston, Janis Bryant of Fort Worth and Marilyn Rogers of Hattiesburg, Miss.; and a brother, Jack Williamson of Austin.

The family requests memorials be to American Heart Association, Henderson County Division, P.O. Box 751, Athens, TX 75751.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Antelope Grain of Pampa:

Wheat	2.58	Columbia HC A	37.35	dn 0.06
Midw.	3.16	Emon	78.18	dn 1.82
Corn	3.52	Hullburton	60.00	dn 1.20
Soybeans	1.75	K&M	43.71	dn 0.64
		Kerr-McGee	63.68	dn 0.98
		Limited	20.20	dn 0.64
		McDonald's	29.17	dn 0.18
		Exxon Mobil	82.90	dn 1.25
		New Atmos	23.38	dn 1.09
		NOI	25.26	dn 0.21
		NOI	35.13	dn 1.36
		OKI	44.00	dn 0.69
		Phillips	14.51	dn 0.54
		Phillips	87.52	dn 1.11
		Pioneer Nat	17.33	dn 0.17
		SEB	74.84	dn 1.96
		Tenneco	39.00	dn 0.05
		Texasco	60.87	dn 0.53
		Ultramar	30.15	up 1.57
		Wal-Mart	55.25	dn 1.55
		Williams	38.35	up 0.78

The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by H.F. Smead & Co. of Pampa:

IBM	81.72	up 0.22
Cash	32.40	up 0.05
Gold OIG	27.17	up 0.65
Clonon	81.99	dn 1.29
Coca Cola	56.66	dn 1.34
New York Gold	266.05	
Silver	4.78	
West Texas Crude	28.58	

Court report

(Editor's note: This Gray County court news is from May of 2000. We are working to catch up on these reports.)

Jerry Lee Hicks was found guilty of possession of dangerous drug. He was fined \$200, 40 days in Gray County jail, and court costs.

DWI was dismissed against Jamie R. Lara because defendant is unapprehended.

Assault causing injury-domestic was dismissed against Melford Neil Hanks, Sr. The complaining witness requested dismissal.

Telephone harassment was dismissed against Steve Edmond Smith. The defendant was convicted in another case.

Theft over \$50-under \$500 was dismissed against James Middleton, Sr. due to insufficient evidence.

Possession of marijuana was dismissed against Renea Ann Hilton because the defendant was unapprehended.

Steve Edmond Smith was found guilty of disorderly conduct. He was fined \$250 and court costs.

Police report

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

Wednesday, Jan. 31
 Aggravated assault causing minor injuries was reported in the 300 block of North Ballard.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1600 block of West Somerville.

A representative for Gas-N-Stuff, 225 W. Brown, reported a gas drive-off.

Telephone harassment was reported in the 500 block of North Faulkner.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1900 block of Grape.

Sheriff's Office

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

Wednesday, Jan. 31
 Jeremy Reedy, 21, 404 Somerville, was arrested on a violation of probation.

Dustin Levi Jeffers, 21, 1301 Terrace, was arrested on a violation of probation.

Pat Jarrett Helton, 28, RR 2, Box 384, was arrested by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for possession with the intent to manufacture methamphetamine, speeding, evading, and no liability insurance.

Lajeanna Lynn Downs, 21, 1608 N. Sumner, was arrested for possession with intent to manufacture methamphetamine.

Amanda E. Stamps, 20, Panhandle, was arrested by the DPS on a theft by check warrant out of Potter County.

Fires

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

Wednesday, Jan. 31
 8 a.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to a vehicle fire in the 600 block of North Christy. The fire was out on arrival; firefighters helped push the vehicle out of the roadway. Amount of damage was not listed on the report.

2:27 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a report of a gas odor in the 900 block of East Francis. Energas officials were called to check the source of the odor.

3:16 p.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to a report of a gas odor in the 100 block of West Kingsmill. Energas officials were called to check the source of the odor.

Ambulance

Rural/Metro made the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Wednesday, Jan. 31
 9:18 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported one to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

10:26 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC for a patient transport to Veteran's Administration Medical Center in Amarillo.

10:45 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Terrace and transported one to PRMC.

12:01 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported one to the 1100 block of Terrace.

8:25 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded east on Highway 60 and transported one to PRMC.

Thursday, Feb. 1
 5:28 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of Sixth in Skellytown and transported one to PRMC.

Accidents

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

Wednesday, Jan. 31
 10:38 a.m. — A 1988 John Deere backhoe owned by the City of Pampa and driven by Gene Jermias Moya Jr., 24, 429 Zimmers, was removing snow from the 1100 block of Huff Road. The backhoe's driver was maneuvering the backhoe around a 1986 F250 pickup owned by Albert Young III, 1169 Huff. Moya stopped because he had gotten close to the pickup to check for any damage. The pickup's owner came out and said the front bucket of the backhoe had scratched the back of the pickup. The investigating officer said he saw a scratch about eight inches long that curved to the rear of the pickup but did not find any paint flecks. The officer said in his report that he could not determine if the backhoe had struck the pickup. No citations were listed on the police report.

1:16 p.m. — A 1983 Ford LTD driven by Penny Layne Cole, 30, 1400 W. Somerville # 18, and a 1998 Ford Ranger pickup driven by Roger Clifton Daugherty, 47, 1125 S. Clark, collided at the intersection of Ballard and Francis streets. No injuries were reported at the scene. Cole was cited for failure to yield right of way at a stop sign and no proof of insurance.

5:30 p.m. — A 1993 Mitsubishi Eclipse driven by Jennifer Wheeley Slatten, 29, 2114 N. Sumner and a 1993 Geo Prizm driven by Deborah Sue Flores, 27, 1140 S. Finley, collided at the intersection of Cuyler and Foster streets. The drivers of both vehicles and witnesses all stated that both drivers had green lights. Officer was unable to determine who was at fault. No injuries were reported. No citations were listed on the police report.

Thursday, Feb. 1
 1:30 a.m. — A 1999 International dump truck owned by the City of Pampa and driven by Larry Mac Martinez, 30, 1116 S. Dwight, collided with a legally parked 1985 Pontiac Grand Prix owned by Donna Jones, 1105 N. Frost, in the 1100 block of North Frost. Martinez was cited for unsafe backing. No injuries were reported at the scene.

CHASE

"The thing that really made me suspicious was the way they were acting," the trooper said. "The driver was very nervous. His hand was shaking. The girl, the passenger, kept her eyes down and wouldn't look at me. I knew something wasn't right."

A routine criminal history check showed the driver had been arrested numerous times for illegal drugs, drinking, and weapons violations, the trooper said.

"I visited with them a minute and asked him for consent to search the vehicle. He said, 'No,'" Cerda said. "I said, 'Then you're free to go, but the vehicle is not until I can get a drug dog here.'"

At that point, the trooper said the man wanted to get back in the pickup to get his phone.

Although Cerda had told the man not to get back into the truck, the driver jumped into the vehicle and drove away.

Cerda said he pursued the pickup for about a mile east on Texas 152 when the truck turned off onto a private road, which turned out to be the Ruby Dilger farm, 13 miles east and a half mile south of Pampa.

Calling for backup, he continued to chase the fleeing pickup until it was forced to stop by a fence row and snow.

While Cerda blocked off the truck's exit route and waited for backup units to arrive, he said he saw the driver get out of the truck and take off running behind an unoccupied farm house. The driver then apparently broke a jar he was carrying when he exited the pickup, according to Cerda.

A test of a sample of the contents of the jar revealed methamphetamine oil, he said.

"It was sufficient to charge them with the possession of intent to manufacture methamphetamine," the trooper said.

After more DPS officers and deputies from the Gray County Sheriff's Office arrived on the scene, Helton and Downs were taken into custody, Cerda said.

The pickup truck was impounded, taken to Gray County Jail and searched thoroughly, he said.

"The products and equipment found in the vehicle were what you call a 'rolling lab,'" he said, used to manufacture methamphetamine. Items recovered from the back seat of the truck included funnels, tubing, sulfuric acid, several cans of starter fluid and torches, he added. A small residue of marijuana was also found in the pickup.

Further investigation also revealed a number of pieces of mail dated Jan. 31 allegedly taken from mail boxes in Amarillo before mail carriers were able to pick it up, the trooper said.

As a result U.S. Postal Service Inspectors have been called in to conduct an investigation into the reportedly stolen mail.

Joe Longway from the Amarillo DPS narcotics division was called to dispose of the hazardous materials contained in the meth lab, Cerda said.

Other law enforcement officers assisting in the investigation and arrests included Troopers David Edwards, Jim Bishop, Damion Jones, Sgt. Don Cameron; Chief Deputy David Russell, and Deputies Heath Cates and Gary Noblett of the Gray County Sheriff's Office, and Constable Chris Lockridge.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

HEAT

said Thurman. "It's not been a decision they made just since their bills went up."

Thurman said there are many different types of stoves and fireplaces available and the consumer should consider all points before making a purchase.

The business has wood-burning stoves as well as pellet burning stoves. She said the pellet burning stoves burn pellets which are a by-product of sawdust. She said the pellets are environmentally safe and don't have the large amount of ash that is left after burning wood.

The old time cast iron stoves can be dangerous where children are concerned because if they fall against these stoves their skin can stick to it. She cautioned that non-air type stoves are not designed to leave unattended. The cast iron can crack and seams leak smoke.

Other suggestions Thurman makes are:
 • Before stacking firewood in yard, put a pesticide on the ground where the wood will be stacked to keep down the number of bugs and insects in the

wood.

• Keep wood covered so the wood will remain dry before taking it into the home to be burned.

• Check all gaskets in free-standing stove. Make necessary repairs.

"People can cut corners on their stove, but don't cut them on the venting," said Thurman. "That is where people get in trouble."

She said anyone can install the venting if they do it properly. "Consumers can do just as good a job as a professional as long as they do it step-by-step," she said.

Following strict fire codes is a must, she said. She said to also be careful it is UL or EPA approved.

She said gas logs are also very efficient. She said they are vent free and about 99 percent of the heat stays inside.

Thurman strongly recommends that residents practice "zone-heating" of their homes. "You don't have to keep parts of the house warm that are not being used," she said. "Hanging a plastic curtain over a doorway is one way, and closing doors to rooms that are not being used. These are good ways to cut that heating bill."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

POT

marijuana in the vehicle," Roach said. "The passenger handed him a glass jar with marijuana in it and a small safe with a key."

After getting permission to search the Blazer, Ingle discovered psilocybin mushrooms and a tin container with nine doses of LSD, Roach said. Inside the safe, officers found \$4,620 of cash, he said.

"I'm in the process right now of filing seizure and forfeiture papers for the vehicle and cash," Roach said Wednesday.

Ingle, assisted by Trooper Jason Henderson,

arrested the driver of the vehicle, Nicholas Samuel Ewing, 21, of LaSalle, Ill., for following too closely and possession of drug paraphernalia. The passenger, Smokey Lee Wrona, 22, also of LaSalle, Ill., was charged with two counts of possession of a controlled substance and possession of marijuana over four ounces and under 5 pounds.

Both men were taken to Gray County Sheriff's Office. Ewing was released Sunday after he paid his fines, sheriff's office records show.

Wrona remained in county jail at press time today. Justice of the Peace Kurt Curfman set bond at \$10,000 on one possession charge and \$5,000 on the other, and an additional \$5,000 on the possession of marijuana charge, records show.

Tests indicate Maureen Reagan's cancer has stopped progressing

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — Maureen Reagan's family and doctors are encouraged that she appears to be making progress in her fight against cancer.

Dr. Steven O'Day, director of medical oncology at the John Wayne Cancer Institute at St. John's Health Center, said that while her progress is still guarded, "her response to the treatment so far is encouraging."

The 60-year-old daughter of former President Reagan and actress Jane Wyman was admitted to the hospital Dec. 11 after the spread of the melanoma she was originally diagnosed with four years ago.

She has gone through two cycles of chemotherapy, and doctors plan to begin a third cycle in a few days.

"Tests performed so far show that there has been no further progression of the disease which prior to treatment was growing at an alarming rate," O'Day said in a statement issued Wednesday.

The regression of a small tumor in Reagan's back has

resulted in two mild compression fractures in her spinal column, but doctors do not believe surgery is necessary. In November, doctors removed a golf ball-sized malignant tumor from her pelvis.

Reagan's husband, Dennis Revell, said his wife has been comforted and inspired by the many cards, e-mails and letters of support she has received. Former first lady Nancy Reagan said the family is

"encouraged by the good news that Maureen's tumor has not progressed."

Maureen Reagan is at the same hospital where former President Reagan, who has Alzheimer's disease, was taken after he fell and broke his hip. He underwent surgery the following day to repair the hip. His wife said he has "settled in nicely at home" since his release from the hospital Jan. 20.

City Briefs

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

1ST ANNIVERSARY Sale, Fri. & Sat. -50% Off all fashions! Nearly New (next to Subway).

CHILDREN'S ADOLSCENT Learn to Quilt Class, ages 8 & up, Sat., Feb. 3rd. Call Sands Fabrics, 669-7909.

PAMPA HIGH School Band Spaghetti Supper, Tues. Feb. 6, PHS Cafeteria 5-7 p.m. All You Can Eat, adults \$5, children \$2.50. Tickets avail. from any Band student or at Holmes Sports Center.

PAMPA SENIOR Citizen's Dance, Fri., Mar. 2nd, 7-9:30 p.m.

SUPER SALE! Great selection of 1/2 Price items. Best Kept Secrets, 1925 N. Hobart.

Weather focus

PAMPA — This afternoon, mostly sunny. Highs around 42.

Northwest to north winds 10 to 20 mph. Tonight, mostly clear. Lows around 16. Variable winds 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest. Friday, mostly sunny. Highs around 53.

Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

STATEWIDE — Drizzle lingered in the lower Rio Grande Valley on Thursday while the rest of the state was rain-free, with only residual cloudiness from the last frontal system.

Some low clouds were drift-

ed into the Panhandle, with high-level cloudiness tracking across northern sections of the state.

Early-morning temperatures ranged from the teens to 50s.

Readings ranged from 11 degrees at Dalhart to 50s in South Texas.

Temperatures in the 20s extended southward to the Pecos River and eastward almost to Abilene.

Winds along the coast were northeasterly at around 10 mph. Winds elsewhere across the state winds were variable and under 10 mph.

Variable high level cloudiness was expected in North Texas through Friday, with highs in the 50s.

Mostly clear and cold conditions should prevail overnight through Saturday night.

Friday will be sunny with highs from the 40s to low 50s. Clouds will slowly invade over the weekend.

By Sunday, there is a chance of rainshowers and thunderstorm in the eastern areas on North Texas. Highs will reach into the 50s on Saturday and 60s on Sunday. Nightly lows will fall into the 30s.

Ca

Take Off (T.O.P.S.) #14 Monday at 5 669-2389 for 1 TC

Take Off (T.O.P.S.) #4 Monday at 5 more informa

Al-Anon will ings on Wednesdays Kentucky.

VFW CH. The Pampa Wars Post #1 will be havi every Sunday open at 12 n welcome. L 6037422-9.

CELEBRAT The Celebrati will hold 1 meetings at 6: nights at 822 wishing to h is invited to a sion.

PAMPA BRLI

The Pampa Club plays M Thursdays a Senior Citizener more inform

Marie Jamies PANHAN FOR THE

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a ride call Sha MONTHLY C First Pente Church, 1700 Gospel Singi every secon month. Pasto and the con Pentecostal c public to att musicians fr

participate in regional s various spec mental pres PHS SCF

Pampa High clubs, organiz or groups inte ing scholarshi seniors. The s for any amou will make the able to senior of February. tion, contact Billie Lowrey.

SHO SOL

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.

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.

ACT I
ACT I (Area Community Theater, Inc.) will present its winter dinner-theater "Natalie Needs a Nightie" at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 8-10 and 15-17 at its auditorium in the Pampa Mall. The event will get under way with a prime rib dinner to be catered by Clint and Sons at 6:30 p.m. followed by the actual production at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$9 for the meal and \$7.50 for the show. For reservations or for more information, call Computech Computers at 665-3266. Deadline to RSVP is two days prior to the show. The play is under the direction of Gary Hartman.

CCS BANQUET
Community Christian School of Pampa will stage a fund-raiser banquet at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, March 3 in the Heritage Room of M.K. Brown Auditorium. The guest speaker will be Bob Cornuke, president of Bible Archaeology Search and Exploration Institute. Cost of the catered meal will be \$15 per person. Tickets will be purchased from an CCS family, at the school office at 220 N. Ballard or by sending \$15 per ticket along with a SASE to: Community Christian School, P.O. Box 51, Pampa, TX 79066. Tickets are also available at the following businesses: Clifton Supply, Duncan, Fraser and Bridges Insurance, First Bank Southwest, Fototime, Frank's Hardware, The Gift Box and the office of Dr. Greg Kelly, DDS.

AC THEATRE SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN
Amarillo College Theatre School for Children will present "Sara Crew: A Little Princess" at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 9 and 10 and at 2:30 p.m. Feb. 11 at Ordway Auditorium, 22nd and Washington in Amarillo. The production is under the direction of Linda Dee Hughes, artist in education, Texas Commission on the Arts. Cost of admission will be \$7 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. For reservations, call (806) 371-5353.

EXTENSION WORKSHOP
On March 23 and 25 at Texas 4-H Center in Brownwood, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service will conduct a two-day "Wildlife and Leadership Development" workshop for adults interested in youth development, wildlife and natural resource management.

Cost of the workshop is \$50. Topics will include: Quail behavior, ecosystem, management, deer aging and evaluating predation. Attendees will participate in a tacky deer survey, a hunter safety skills course and wildlife trivia activities. Registration deadline is March 9. To obtain a registration form or for more information, contact Helen Holdsworth at (210) 467-6575.

LOVETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY
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.

GRAIN SORGHUM SEMINAR
National Grain Sorghum Producers will host a Regional Grain Sorghum Seminar beginning at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 7 in the Moore County Community Building in Dumas. For more information, call 1-800-658-9808.

TRAVELING EXHIBIT
The Borger branch of Amarillo National Bank will host the traveling exhibit "Experience Your America" Jan. 22-Feb. 2 in the main lobby of the bank. The exhibit is designed to enhance awareness of the more than 380 units that comprise the National Park System including Lake Meredith National Recreation Area and Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument. For more information, call (806) 857-3151.

LAD N' LASSIE PAGEANT
A new Pre-Teen Pageant is planned in conjunction with the Ninth Annual Lad n' Lassie Pageant to be held at 1:30 p.m. in Shamrock High School Auditorium at Shamrock during the Saint Patrick's Day Celebration. The Lad n' Lassie pageant is open to boys between 0-9 years of age and girls between 0-13. The boys may come dressed in either casual wear or Sunday best. The Pre-Teen Pageant is open to young ladies between the ages of 10 and 13. These contestants will compete in both Casual Wear and Sunday best as well as photo judging, short interview and public speaking. All participants

must submit an entry form along with two photos and a \$10 entry fee. The photos will be published in the local paper. Late entries will pay an additional \$5. Deadline for entry is March 1. For more information or to obtain an entry form, contact Betty Lee at (806) 256-5337 or Lynette Kidd at (806) 256-3044.

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.

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

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' 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.texasmusical-drama.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.

ACT
ACT, Inc., education and career planning organization has announced the following do-it-yourself college planning resources on the Internet: www.act.org, www.c3apply.org, www.collegenet.com, www.finaid.org, www.ed.gov/finaid.html and www.fafsa.ed.gov (financial aid sites), and www.bls.gov/ocohome.htm (career planning).

STUTTERING FOUNDATION
Stuttering Foundation of America is offering a free copy of its brochure "The Child Who Stutters at School: Notes to the Teacher." For more information, contact the non-profit foundation by mail: Stuttering Foundation of America, P.O. Box 11749, Memphis, TN 38111; or phone 1-800-992-9392. The brochure is also available at www.stutteringhelp.org on the World Wide Web.

TWC WEBSITE
The Texas Workforce Commission recently unveiled its new website located at www.texasworkforce.org on the Internet. The new site is designed to meet the needs of five customer groups — businesses and employers; job seekers and employees; service providers; boards and network partners; and researchers and policy-makers.

COLGATE YOUTH SERVICE CONTEST
Local Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs, Girls Inc., Camp Fire and 4-H organizations are invited to enter their best community service projects in the 28th annual "Colgate Youth for America" campaign. Cash grants of up to \$2,000 will be awarded to the most creative and best executed projects from local clubs and troops. Entry forms are available through regional offices of the national organizations or by sending a SASE to: Colgate Youth for America Campaign, P.O. Box 1058, FDR Station, New York, NY 10150-1058. Deadline for entry into this year's program is March 15. Forms are also available online at www.colgate.com.

BBB RESOURCE GUIDE
The Better Business Bureau is offering "The Spring BBB Membership Directory and Resource Guide." The publication is available free of charge and includes a listing of BBB member companies as well as businesses who qualify as members and who uphold BBB's standards of ethical practices. The guide also provides tips on how to be better shoppers along with information on current scams. For more information or to obtain the guide, call (806) 379-7133.

Happy 37th Anniversary
Jim & Sharron Stanley
Love...
Ange, Sheri, Candy & Barbie

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FEBRUARY 2001

VIEWPOINTS

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

SINGLE COPIES
 Daily 50¢/Sunday \$1.00
 Member: Associated Press

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Observations from a commuter



Nancy Young
 Managing editor

Commuting 40 miles one way to work each day. I put a lot of miles on the highways and get to see the driving habits and skills of many people.

On a clear day when there is no ice or snow of the highway, I observe a good number of idiots on our roadway. Playing tag, driving way over the speed limit and just being plan careless. Billboards scream out: "Aggressive driving habits begin in childhood." This is probably one of the truest statements anyone can state.

Many of these drivers who are navigating several tons of heavy machinery are undoubtedly some of the most inconsiderate and possess some of the most aggressive driving habits I have ever seen.

Not everyone drives in such an aggressive manner, but the number seems to be increasing. I guess it is a sign of the times.

Several months ago one young woman would pass me each morning, darting in and out of traffic, and cutting in so sharply that I just knew she was going to hit my car. I kept thinking, "Why doesn't she leave earlier so she doesn't have to drive at that speed?" I realized she wasn't going to change, but I was still frustrated and beginning to get irritated.

When I mentioned this dilemma to a relative she asked why I hadn't called the young woman's license tag number into the Department of Public Safety. Well, I just hadn't thought about doing it.

The next morning I was concentrating on obtaining her tag number as I drove down the highway about the spot where she usually passed me. I saw her car on the side of the highway as a DPS trooper was visiting with her. I really have to admit I enjoyed seeing that scenario. I hoped it

would put a stop to her reckless driving. I was wrong.

It was back to her normal driving the next morning. Then, I hope the JP would really fine her. But her speeding and her passing cars with a yellow line in her lane continued on.

Finally, I solved this problem. When the time change occurred in October, the sun shining in my eyes as I drive into the east in the morning and into the west in the evening made for some really dangerous driving conditions. So, I began leaving about 30 minutes earlier in the mornings to avoid this situation. When I did that, I know longer see this erratic driver on the highway. It's been several months, and I'm glad.

However, another one has taken her place in the evenings as I drive home. This man, driving his employer's vehicle with the company name and logo emblazoned on the side, seems to think the highway belongs to him. As I drive west out of Pampa, he comes from behind and is insistent upon passing my car. And do you know what, I let him. I'd rather have him in front of me than behind me.

The husband of a friend of mine works for this company. I mentioned to him last week about this

company vehicle passing me in such a explosive and speeding manner. He said speeding drivers are common in this company. He said they are always getting speeding tickets. It appears to be a contest. Well, I'm sure not going to solve that problem, so I get out of their way.

Defensive driving is something I practice daily. I don't worry about the cancer getting me — it's these aggressive cretins.

With the snow and ice on the highway in recent weeks, it seems to have made some of them worse. I left home at 6:10 a.m. the other day to allow plenty of time with the snow-and-ice-packed highways. As I was driving along, a car, filled with several passengers came flying past me. Pulling in front of me they made several 360-degree turns and some way managed to keep from causing a major accident. I left them on the side of the road — that's where they belonged.

I recalled listening to the police scanner Saturday as DPS troopers were working an appalling number of wrecks. These weren't accidents, they were wrecks. The common cause seemed to be driving too fast for the weather conditions. There is no telling how many times I heard a dispatcher notifying a trooper with the phrase "one car rollover." Off-duty troopers were being called out to work the large number of accidents because, apparently, some people don't have common sense. The exasperation in the troopers' voices was apparent.

As I get out my son's old football helmet, put on plenty of padding to protect myself, attach arm guards and knee pads, I will continue driving to work. Is this what people are going to have to do to protect themselves?

Texas Editorials

By The Associated Press

A sampling of editorial opinion around Texas: San Angelo Standard-Times on confirmation weeds out good people:

The White House and Congress will have to make the process of becoming a presidential appointee a lot easier and less abusive to continue to attract top talent to government service.

A survey of civic and corporate leaders likely to make up the talent pool for a new administration showed that they were overwhelmingly attracted to the idea of serving as a presidential appointee but many had deep misgivings about doing so. The problem was not the job itself but the onerous ordeal of White House and FBI vetting and Senate confirmation.

A telling figure is that almost half of those surveyed who had been considered for a top government job either turned it down or would have turned it down had the job been offered.

Linda Chavez's nomination as labor secretary may have been withdrawn for sound reasons, but the process showed how personal background investigations have become. Said one respondent who balked at a government job offer, "The threat of having your family vilified was too much for me."

The survey was done by the bipartisan Presidential Appointee Initiative. Its authors are Paul Light of the liberal-leaning Brookings Institution and Virginia Thomas of the conservative-leaning Heritage Foundation. As the wife of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, whose confirmation hearings were notoriously contentious and personal, Thomas said dryly that she was "a little familiar with the rough and tumble" of the process.

The Initiative surveyed corporate and nonprofit, CEOs, university presidents, lobbyists, think tank scholars and serving government officials, the customary source of talent for any new administration.

The survey showed a healthy mix of altruism and self-interest. The leaders thought it would be an honor to serve and a chance to make a difference while at the same time a source of valuable contacts, future opportunities and greater earnings down the road.

A big drawback is that government conflict-of-interest regulations make it hard to resume a previous career. President Clinton's 11th-hour decision to relax a ban from five years to one in which his appointees could have contact with their old agencies was hypocritical but it was also realistic. Presidential appointees should not have to sacrifice their civilian areas of expertise to serve; it is only reasonable to expect them to resume what they were doing before government service.

Politics, as the late House Speaker Tip O'Neill was fond of saying, Anita bean bag, but even so senior government jobs should be an honor to be sought and not an obligation to be dreaded.

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 P.O. Box 12428, Austin, TX 78711.
 Constituent Hotline: 1-800-843-5789



Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Feb. 1, the 32nd day of 2001. There are 333 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
 On Feb. 1, 1960, four black college students began a sit-in protest at a lunch counter in Greensboro, N.C., where they'd been refused service.

On this date:
 In 1861, Texas voted to secede from the Union.

In 1893, inventor Thomas A. Edison completed work on the world's first motion picture studio, his "Black Maria," in West Orange, N.J.

In 1893, the opera "Manon Lescaut," by Giacomo Puccini, premiered in Turin, Italy.

In 1896, Puccini's opera "La Boheme" premiered in Turin.

In 1943, one of America's most highly decorated military units of World War II, the 442d Regimental Combat Team, made up almost entirely of Japanese-Americans, was authorized.

Portrait of a truly remarkable American

Robert E. Lee, whose birthday (Jan. 19) is celebrated this month, is one of the most remarkable men America has ever produced.

While Lee waited in Richmond, Va., after the war to learn if he would be arrested, two Confederates in tattered uniforms appeared at his door. Their 60 comrades had chosen them because their clothes were the least tattered. They had found a farm in the mountains, reachable only through a narrow pass, and if Lee and his family would come there, the Confederates would defend them with their lives.

Lee was moved to tears by their offer but declined it. A day or two later, there was another pounding on the door, and when Lee's sons opened it, there stood a grizzled Union sergeant with a boy holding a big basket of food. This man had served with Lee on the Western frontier before the war, had heard that Lee was hungry and wouldn't stand for that.

Lee, who heard the commotion, assured the man that they had plenty of food but finally said he would accept the gift if the sergeant would agree that it be sent to the hospital for use by the wounded. Before Lee's sons could stop him, the sergeant grabbed Lee in a bear-hug and planted a kiss on his cheek. "Goodbye, Colonel! God bless ye. If I could have got over in time I would have been with ye."

What was it about Lee that provoked such



Charley Reese
 Syndicated columnist

loyalty and affection among common soldiers? Lee was always reserved and dignified, was tightly disciplined and almost never showed his emotions. But one of Lee's subordinates said of the Confederate soldiers, "As a military leader, they respected Lee, but as a man, they loved him."

The answer is Lee's character. He was indeed a hero, an outstanding soldier, but first and foremost, he was a Christian. He never took credit for victory and never blamed anyone else for defeat. In fact, he never publicly criticized anyone or answered any of his critics. He wore a plain uniform, rarely carried a weapon and invariably passed gifts of food or clothing directly on to his men.

Alexander Stephens, the Confederate vice president, said of Gen. Lee, "What I had seen General Lee to be at first — child-like in simplicity and unselfish in his character — he remained, unspoiled by praise and by success."

At the end of the war, Lee was world-famous. Lucrative offers poured in. One English lord offered him an estate. But unlike modern generals of far fewer accomplishments, the thought of profiting from the death and misery of war was unthinkable to Lee. He wanted to be useful and finally accepted the presidency of Washington College, which was on the verge of bankruptcy.

His character is revealed in his letters. In writing to one of his sons, he said: "You and Custis (the oldest son) must take great care of your kind mother and dear sisters when your father is dead. To do that you must learn to be good. Be true, kind and generous, and pray earnestly to God to enable you to keep his commandments."

In a letter to a daughter visiting friends, he reminded her that it would not be becoming of a Virginia girl to be fine or fashionable. "While her people are suffering, she should practice self-denial and show her sympathy in their affliction."

To another daughter he wrote, "I hope you will also find time to read and improve your mind. Read history, works of truth, not novels and romances. Get correct views of life, and learn to see the world in its true light. It will enable you to live pleasantly, to do good, and, when summoned away, to leave without regret."

Texas power source strong, competitive

It's easy to see there's a crisis in California these days. Every day, we read reports of severe electricity shortages. You may be wondering whether this could happen in Texas. The answer is "no" for three key reasons.

First, Texas is building power plants and power lines to stay well ahead of customer needs. California is not. This week, the PUC issued updated figures on our power supply. Thanks to our 35 new power plants, on the hottest day of this coming summer, we should have a 23.3 percent excess power reserve above firm customer demand. That's a healthy cushion — well above the 15 percent goal used under regulation. Texas is an electricity buyer's market. California, with a reserve margin near zero, is a seller's market.

This plant construction happened because the Texas Legislature allowed any company (not just utilities) to enter the power generation in 1995. The PUC has set out clear rules to speed the connection of new power plants to the power grid. The permitting process is also clear and focused. As a result, it takes

about two years to build a clean, efficient power plant in Texas, compared to six or seven years in California.

A second key difference between Texas and California is the diversity of our power supply. Last year, about 46 percent of our power came from gas-fired plants, 41 percent from coal plants and 13 percent from nuclear plants. (West Texas is now the hub of U.S. wind power investment, but those numbers won't show up for a couple of years.)

By contrast, California depends on hydroelectric power — including a large amount from outside the state — for 25 percent of its needs. Hydropower is great when it rains, but when it doesn't, the safety cushion evaporates. Here in Texas, we don't rely on intermittent resources.

Finally, our focus in Texas is on imple-

menting competition before deregulation. Workable competition is a much better regulator than government. But until there is sufficient supply of power and the wholesale market is working well, it doesn't help customers to deregulate a monopoly. That's why the Texas plan has a 12-year phase-in, which began in 1995. Pennsylvania is one state that's doing it right by focusing on competition first. Customers there already are seeing savings of up to 15 percent on their monthly bills.

Texans' ability to shop and save is coming June 1. In the next few weeks, 5 percent of the retail customers of the state's investor-owned utilities can enroll in the Retail Choice Pilot Program. Enrollment means you can choose your electric provider seven months before such freedom comes to other customers. Look for information in your electric bill next month.

The power of choice is yours. Get ready to use it.

—Pat Wood, III, is chairman of the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

Pat Wood, III
 Guest columnist

Anna of tes

By MARY LE Associated P

HOUSTON Playboy Playr first round of band's inheri courtroom.

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Anna Nicole Smith ends first round of testimonies in inheritance case

By MARY LEE GRANT
Associated Press Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Former stripper and Playboy Playmate Anna Nicole Smith ended her first round of testimony in her late elderly husband's inheritance trial by storming out of the courtroom.

Smith, 33, got upset Wednesday when Rusty Hardin, the attorney for her 61-year-old stepson, E. Pierce Marshall, asked the model to post a bond to ensure she would be back in Harris County Probate Judge Mike Wood's court to resume her testimony on Feb. 12.

Wood denied the request. But earlier he did threaten to slap Smith with a contempt of court citation because she continued to make unsubstantiated accusations against Pierce Marshall, saying he shredded documents that showed her multimillionaire husband J. Howard Marshall II promised her half his estate.

She has also accused Pierce Marshall of having his father and the oilman's one-time mistress killed, along with an alleged attempt on the model's own life.

Wood asked Smith's attorney, Tom Cunningham, to counsel the model about her testimony during the lunch break.

"She is continually using this as an opportunity to make up stories, and she can't do that," Wood said as Smith remained in the witness box. "Try to explain to her she can't say these things."

Wood also threatened harsher action against Smith.

"I'm going to tell the (district attorney) of

Harris County that I don't think you're telling the truth," Wood said.

Smith insisted she did not lie, though she admits she has no proof to back her claims.

The 4-month-old trial to determine who will be awarded the estate of Howard Marshall II came to life when Smith took the stand this week.

The case pits Dallas businessman Pierce Marshall, the oilman's sole heir, against 63-year-old disinherited brother J. Howard Marshall III.

Smith dropped out of the trial a month ago after a California bankruptcy judge awarded her \$475 million of her husband's estate, but she was compelled to testify in a countersuit by Pierce Marshall, who says she unlawfully interfered with his inheritance.

Pierce Marshall also is appealing the California bankruptcy ruling.

Smith married Howard Marshall II in 1994, three years after they met in a Houston topless bar. On their wedding day, she was 26 and he was 89.

He died 14 months later. Wednesday's testimony was once again marked by tense exchanges between the model and Hardin.

Hardin showed her an affidavit she used to obtain a \$450,000 loan taken on her Los Angeles house in which she swore she bought it with her own money.

She admits Howard Marshall II bought her the home, however, and appeared shaken when shown the document.

"I would never sign something like this," Smith said, suggesting associates sometimes signed her name without permission.

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Kelly, Brooks AFB stores to shut-down

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Commissaries at Kelly and Brooks Air Force bases will close this year in a move to pare down, officials said Wednesday.

It was not immediately known how many workers would be affected by the closures.

Mark Solheim, spokesman for the Defense Commissary Agency said the agency would try to place all workers at other stores.

"Every effort is going to be made to slot those people in vacancies in the Fort Sam (Houston), Randolph and Lackland (AFB) stores," Solheim said. "That's certainly our first prerogative."

Kelly's commissary is to close April 15, three months before the ordered shut down of the base. The Brooks' store will close Oct. 1.

A Defense Commissary Agency press release encouraged customers at Brooks to shop at larger nearby stores at Lackland, Randolph and Fort Sam Houston. Officials at Brooks were said they fought the closure of the commissary.

"The leadership at Brooks made every effort to articulate the impact on the Brooks community, but the decision was made by the Defense Commissary Agency based on the

overall health and needs of the commissary system," base spokesman Larry Farlow said.

The last day of operation for the Kelly store will be April 13. The last day at Brooks will be Sept. 28.

"We have to be good stewards of the taxpayers' dollar; we need to look where we have inefficient operations and where we can apply those resources against more efficient operations," Solheim said.

Four other commissaries will close around the country, he said. The Defense Commissary Agency runs about 300 grocery stores nationwide for the Pentagon.

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FEB 01 2001

BRIEFS

Billy Graham gets out of the hospital

ASHEVILLE, N.C. (AP) — The Rev. Billy Graham has been released from the hospital. The 82-year-old evangelist was at Mission St. Joseph's Health System for almost three weeks because of fluid buildup on his brain. He returned Wednesday to his home in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Graham was admitted Jan. 11 when tests showed a shunt inserted last summer to stabilize pressure in his brain was not functioning properly because of a blockage. Doctors originally thought they would need to remove the shunt, but Graham's condition stabilized and tests showed no signs of infection.

Earthquake refugees scramble for trains

AHMEDABAD, India (AP) — Thousands of families dragging possessions salvaged from the ruins of their homes camped in Gujarat state's main railroad station Thursday, desperate to catch a train after six days of terror following an earthquake that killed more than 14,200 people. When a train steamed into the station, thousands rushed forward before it rolled to a halt. Men leaped onto the coaches. Others ran alongside, banging at doors that were jammed or locked. Women and children carrying bundles of clothing in each hand ran behind, yelling at the men or at straggling children as they tried to catch up. Railroad police tried to bring some order to the chaos, fearing that people could get crushed in the stampede. Each train can carry about 1,200 seated passengers but about 4,000 of them squeezed in, sitting on the floor or on the overhead bunks.

Barak rejects switch as deadline for changing candidates nears

JERUSALEM (AP) — Ahead of a midnight Thursday deadline for changing candidates in Israel's election, Prime Minister Ehud Barak — far behind in polls — is rejecting suggestions that he let a party rival take his place. Instead, his aides were working on a last-minute summit with

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, amid reports that Israel and the Palestinians were close to a peace agreement. Analysts have said Barak's only chance to reverse a double-digit deficit in the polls to hard-liner Ariel Sharon ahead of the Feb. 6 vote is to produce an agreement or a significant sign of progress from such a summit.

California Assembly rejects \$10 billion state power-buying bill

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — The California Assembly early Thursday narrowly rejected a \$10 billion plan to ease the energy crisis by letting the state buy power on behalf of two large cash-starved utilities. The measure, passed a day earlier by the Senate, would have let the state sign long-term contracts to buy power and sell it to the customers of Southern California Edison and Pacific Gas and Electric Co. The two together serve nearly 9 million residential and business ratepayers. The

Assembly vote was 51-28, three short of the two-thirds needed. The bill's supporters, mostly Democrats, planned to take another vote, hoping to win over Republican opponents in the meantime.

Indonesian Parliament censures president over graft scandals

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — In a first step toward possible impeachment, parliament voted Thursday to accept the findings of an inquiry that implicates Indonesia's president in two corruption scandals. By a 393-4 vote, the legislature passed a censure motion demanding that President Abdurrahman Wahid answer the allegations against him. Forty-three deputies from Wahid's party walked out before the vote. The move could spark a constitutional crisis in the world's fourth-most populous nation because Wahid has said he is not answerable to parliament.

Policy trying to determine whether dogs had history of viciousness

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Police are investigating whether two dogs that mauled a woman to death outside her apartment had any attack training or history of viciousness.

The owners of the Mastiff-Canary Island dogs are also under investigation to determine if they knew of any dangerous tendencies the animals might have had, said District Attorney Terence Hallinan. He said they could face manslaughter charges in Diane Whipple's death under a state law regarding dogs trained to fight, attack or kill.

The two dogs, each weighing more than 110 pounds, were part of a group raised for fighting contests and guarding methamphetamine labs, according to state prison officials.

Robert Noel, 59, and his wife Marjorie Knoller, 45, both lawyers, were raising the dogs for two white supremacist inmates they had previously represented, officials said. Prison officials said the two inmates had run a dog-training business from behind bars.

In an 18-page letter to the prosecutor on Wednesday, Noel said

Whipple could have avoided the attack if she had stayed in her apartment after encountering Knoller and the dogs in the hall outside their apartments.

Noel said Knoller had tried to prevent the attack, which he said could have been brought on by pheromone-based cosmetics. He also accused police and paramedics of not responding fast enough and said he and his wife had been unfairly treated by Hallinan's office.

Police are also investigating complaints that the dogs attacked other animals and bit other people, including prior contact with Whipple, 33.

Friends and colleagues said Whipple, a college lacrosse coach, had showed them her hand after one of the dogs bit her a few weeks before the fatal attack, said San Francisco Police Lt. Henry Hunter.

Angelika Morwald, owner of WereWolf Kennels in Ontario, Canada, who said she had refused to do business with the two inmates, said the dogs must be trained to attack in the way Whipple was attacked.

Tech's medical school involved in lawsuit

LUBBOCK (AP) — Six Texas families and another 168 individuals have sued Texas Tech's medical school and two of its administrators in an attempt to protect DNA samples which the university plans to destroy.

More than 10,000 blood samples from 2,200 families, 150 brains and complete medical records of 600 patients with confirmed or probable Alzheimer's disease are part of the Alzheimer's DNA Bank at Texas Tech University's Health Science Center.

According to the lawsuit, filed last month, the university plans to destroy samples for which it does not possess consent forms. The lawsuit asks a state judge to prevent the samples destruction.

A hearing to determine whether the destruction of the samples should be halted is scheduled for 11 a.m. CST Thursday.

"These samples are ... irreplaceable," the lawsuit states. "Medical records without DNA samples are worthless for genetic research. The destruction of a single DNA

sample could render all other samples from that family useless for research."

But Texas Tech attorney Rebecca Hellbaum says without informed consent documented on an approved written consent form, use of the samples violates federal law.

"Research conducted under the auspices of Texas Tech University Health Science Center must meet all ethical and legal requirements for the protection of human subjects," she said in a written statement. "An essential element of ethical and legal research is to obtain informed consent from potential subjects respecting their right, to the degree that they are capable, to be given the opportunity to choose what shall or shall not happen to them."

Oleta Toliver, who is one of the lawsuit's plaintiffs and helped with the formation of the DNA bank following her mother's diagnosis and death from Alzheimer's disease, said consent forms were signed by every person who agreed to be a part of the bank. She blames inefficient bookkeeping for the missing consent forms.

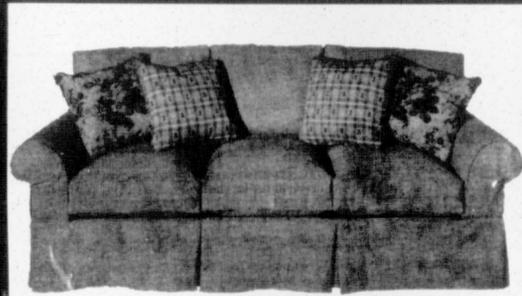
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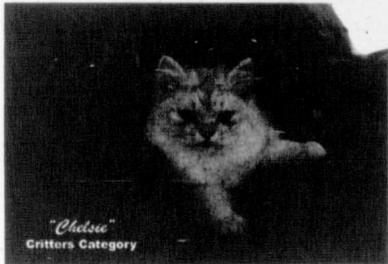
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Crittters Category

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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.



"Frankie Pie"
Family & Friends Category

Categories

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

One winner in each Category will receive \$50 in Pampa Bucks and a 6 Months Subscription to The Pampa News

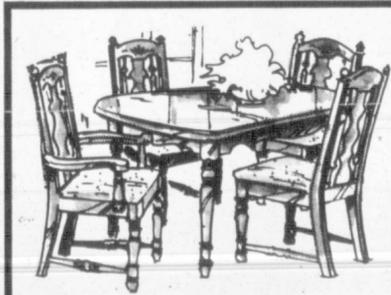
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1. Each photo must have been taken in Pampa or surrounding area between January 1, 2000 and February 13, 2001.
2. All entries should be submitted with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to allow us to return them.
3. On the back of each photo attach 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.

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Good Attitude Goes Long Way When Grandkids Come to Visit

DEAR ABBY: I would like to respond to the letter from "Disappointed Daughter," who complained that her parents found their grandchildren "bothersome."

It's sad when grandparents are more concerned about peace and quiet than in creating happy memories for their grandchildren to treasure all their lives.

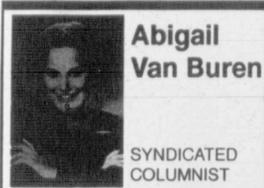
My parents never enjoyed any of their grandchildren. They were interested only in making them toe the line. They provided one disposable cup a day per child — "If you throw yours away, you go thirsty." If they failed to completely shut the sliding glass door, it was "Shut that damn door!" God forbid they giggled and acted like children, because that meant they were "hyper-brats."

Fortunately, my children were blessed with another set of grandparents. Although they are gone now, we have many warm memories of them to share.

My mother is still alive and now complains she doesn't know her grandchildren. She insinuates they are the ones responsible. Being a grandmother is the most wonderful thing I have ever experienced. Recently, when playing "I Spy" with one of my granddaughters, I told her I spied something very precious to me. Her face lit up immediately. She exclaimed "Me!" and she was right.

GRANDMA SHARON, FORKS, WASH.

DEAR GRANDMA SHARON:



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

What a heartwarming story. However, not all grandparents share your view. Read on for the reason why:

DEAR ABBY: I am 64, widowed and live alone. My daughter, son-in-law and three beautiful grandchildren left last week after a short visit. Somehow, I survived.

Within five minutes of their arrival, chaos reigned. The children, ages 2 to 6, were everywhere. Beds were torn apart, toys strewn all over the house. Snacks were ground into my new living room carpet, meals were a nightmare. Two out of three wouldn't eat what was served, but they still got dessert. Soap and wet towels were left in the tub, on the bathroom floor or on a bed. Dirty diapers were left on the sink. You get the picture.

My dear children were not raised without proper training. If only they would pass it on!

BITING MY TONGUE IN HOT SPRINGS

DEAR BITING: Your point is

well taken. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I am the grandmother of three young boys and a girl. I was a single mother, worked hard, and spent many hours after my children went to bed, cleaning and ironing.

After 40 years, I feel I've earned a retirement I can enjoy. I'm sure "Disappointed's" parents feel the same way.

Some questions she should consider:

(1) How often do your children interrupt when adults are speaking?

(2) How much of the conversation revolves around the children?

(3) Do you set aside time for a one-on-one conversation with your mother? There are things some older women will not discuss in front of children.

(4) Do you allow your children to "run loose" in the house?

(5) Do your children have any "quiet" toys? The noise some toys make can be nerve-racking to older people.

(6) Finally, when you telephone your mother, how often are you distracted from the conversation to answer or yell at your kids?

Our children know only what we teach them.

VIRGINIA GRANNY

DEAR GRANNY: If parents of small children will give your letter the consideration it deserves, perhaps it would help to bridge the generation gap.

goals. A more low-key approach brings tremendous results. Remember, nothing is impossible. A boss smiles upon you. Make an effort toward another. Understand this person better. Use your Cancerian sensitivity. Tonight: Take some time for yourself.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ***** Graciously accept responsibilities. Delve into what is going on with those around you, but resist playing amateur psychiatrist. News from a distance allows new options. Consider a long weekend or a mini-vacation in the near future. Tonight: Whatever makes you smile.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ***** Someone expresses caring in a meaningful way. Think before you leap into action later in the day. Remember, you don't have to do everything. Your words might set another off. Think about this person and how it would be best to communicate. Tonight: A force to be held.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ***** You see another side of a close associate or partner. Realize how hard this person tries to please you. You might not be sure about handling work-related confusion. Gentleness and caring take you further than coaxing or manipulating. Tonight: Think "escape."

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ***** Others express their ideas with the confidence that you will understand. You might not mean to, but you are pushing a loved one's limits. Listen to someone, and allow him to plea his case. Financial success stems from teamwork. Go with the flow. Tonight: Be a twosome.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** Someone sees you in a different light. Think about what is important for you. Allow more ingenuity and creativity to come out. Your sense of humor emerges with a loved one. Others go out of their way for you. Good will prevails. Tonight: Enjoy your popularity.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ***** Use your imagination not only for your personal life but also for your professional life. Others tap into your energy and ingenuity. Consider bringing more work home, or perhaps having a home office. Stop and make a little purchase just for you. Tonight: Errands first.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***** Deal with someone head-on. Problems around the home front can be ironed out. You might take a financial risk that could prove to be less than good. Think about what is needed to make your life work. Be optimistic and positive in your communication. It can make all the difference. Tonight: Do only what you love.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ***** Clear your desk early in the morning. Confusion surrounds the later afternoon. Though you might not want to create a problem, you do so inadvertently. A risk is a very bad idea. Family is most understanding of a foible. A thoughtful gift makes all the difference. Tonight: Bring flowers home.

BORN TODAY
Author James Joyce (1882), author Ayn Rand (1905), model Christie Brinkley (1954)

Horoscope

FRIDAY, FEB. 2, 2001

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ***** Your appeal grows and others respond. Recognize how much you offer before making a decision. Do not underestimate what is possible. Keep conversations moving, with an eye to your goals. Walk away from worry. Relax and remain confident. Tonight: Favorite people, favorite places.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ***** Notice, during the next few weeks, a tendency to be overly sensitive. Know that you could be reacting strongly. Your sense of what is right appeals to others. Network and reach out for new people. Carefully consider a moneymaking proposition. Know that anything is possible. Tonight: Your treat.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ***** Energy mounts as the day wears on. You could feel that you're invincible — and you might be, for now! Listen to your sixth sense with a dear friend. Be careful about the direction in which you take this relationship. Others respond to your overtures. You can be even more direct. Tonight: Beam in more bf what you want.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ***** Use the morning to achieve your

Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 2 Stratford river

1 Witches

5 Sculpting tool

3 William Holden film

12 Pump full of bubbles

13 Golf goal

14 Heavy shoe

15 Gillian of "The X-Files"

17 MPG-rating org.

18 Chad neighbor

22 Painter Max

24 Sports page datum

25 Loquacious "gift"

26 Top response

30 Stows cargo

32 Authority

33 Fruit drink

34 Short shorts

38 Sullen

41 Toll

42 Cherishes

43 Clerical error

44 Abhor

45 Ooze

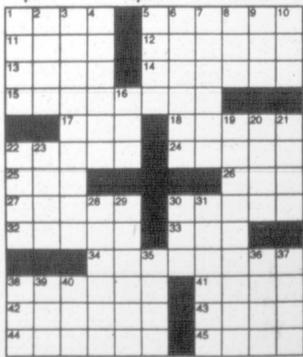
DOWN

1 "Very funny!"

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Yesterday's answer

21	Beatty	31	Makes suitable
22	Meringue need	35	Exam contents
23	— avis	36	Cassette contents
28	Onto the beach	37	Pig chow
29	Rodeo loops	38	Furious creation
30	Napkin spot	40	Non-sense



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-7377! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Marmaduke



"Marmaduke chased the vacuum cleaner until it tried to escape up the fireplace."

The Family Circus



"How did St. Valentine get a day in February without bein' President?"

For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



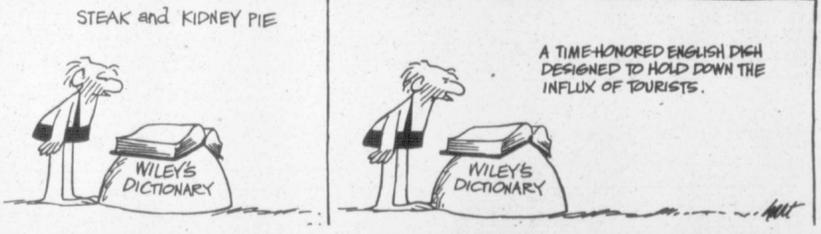
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



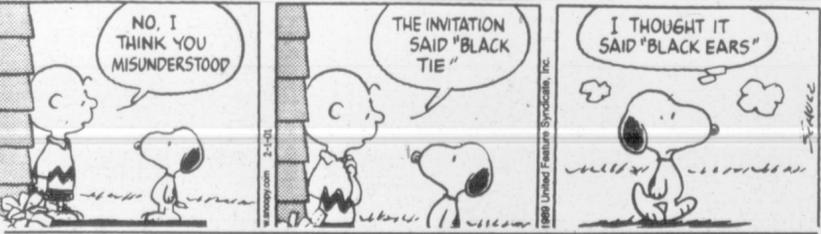
B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



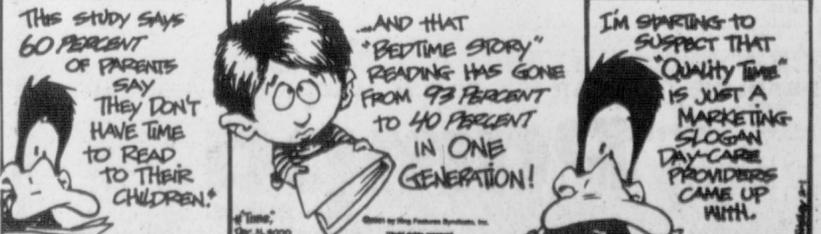
Peanuts



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Mallard Filmore



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SPORTS

Notebook

GENERAL

SAN MARCOS, Texas (AP) — Southwest Texas State athletic director Jim Wacker is finishing up radiation treatment after a grapefruit-size growth attached to his heart was removed in November.

Although the post-surgical tests came back negative, Wacker's doctors recommended a six-week radiation treatment as a precaution, school officials said Wednesday night. He has two weeks remaining.

"With the growth, they've determined it's safer to follow this pattern so it won't perpetuate ... and cause more problems," said Tony Brubaker, assistant athletic director for media relations.

Wacker, former football coach at Texas Christian and Minnesota, has been athletic director at Southwest Texas State since 1998. Wacker coached at TCU from 1983 to 1991. He spent five years at Minnesota, leaving after the 1996 season.

Once the radiation is finished, Wacker will begin three months of chemotherapy, Brubaker said.

WAUKESHA, Wis. (AP) — The teen who accused Mark Chmura of sexual assault flirted with the former Green Bay Packers player at a post-prom party, a high school football player testified Thursday.

Michael Kleber testified Thursday that he watched Chmura's accuser go willingly into a bathroom where the alleged assault took place.

"I said, 'what are you ... doing,' or 'don't even think about it,'" Kleber said he told Chmura's accuser. "She walked up to the bathroom, turned around, smiled or grinned."

Kleber said she put her hand on the knob, opened the door and walked in.

Chmura's accuser, a former baby sitter for Chmura's two sons, testified that Chmura pulled her into the bathroom and had sex with her without her consent during the party at the home of his friend Robert Gessert April 9.

Chmura, 31, has pleaded innocent to third-degree sexual assault and child enticement charges, both felonies. He could face up to 40 years in prison and \$20,000 in fines.

Kleber, an All-State offensive lineman from Waukesha Catholic Memorial High School, said moments after he told the teen-ager not to go into the bathroom, he watched her collapse in the basement and asked her what happened. "She said 'Nothing. I swear on my life. I swear on the Holy Bible. I swear on my parents' life. Nothing,'" Kleber quoted the teen as saying.

Kleber told defense attorney Gerald Boyle that during a drinking game Chmura's accuser and another teen were flirting with Chmura. He said Chmura kept calling his accuser "Hilary" and she kept telling him that wasn't her name.

"She was extremely nice," Kleber said.

Kleber also said he could remember everything that happened at the party even though he had been drinking.

Kleber originally told authorities he saw Chmura's accuser go into the bathroom with a smile. A month after the party, he changed his statement and said he didn't see Chmura's accuser go into the bathroom and didn't remember specific conversations or observations because he was drunk. He later said he would testify to the first statement.

Boyle has said Waukesha District Attorney Paul Bucher pressured Kleber into changing his statement.

The defense opened its case Wednesday by calling Mary Gay, a Virginia nurse certified to interview and examine sex assault victims.

She told Boyle that, based on her experience and hundreds of interviews, she thought it was strange the teen couldn't remember if the lights were on in the bathroom or what Chmura was wearing.

Tenth-ranked Oklahoma routs Texas A&M

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — LaNeisha Caufield's flawless performance from the free-throw line during a 26-point game allowed No. 10 Oklahoma to defeat Texas A&M 93-70 Wednesday night.

The victory came just two weeks after the then-No. 13 Sooners (16-4, 7-1 Big 12) defeated A&M (12-6, 2-6) by 13 points. While Oklahoma's margin of victory was nearly double this time, it felt even closer to Oklahoma coach Sherri Coale.

"The score might not have shown it, but this was a tougher game than it indicated," Coale said. "This was just a war. I look at this and say how in the world did we win this game by 25 points. It felt like it was only five."

The Aggies turned the ball

over a season-high 27-times as Oklahoma handed A&M just its second home loss while extending its own win streak to seven.

A&M turnovers allowed Oklahoma to take a 39-33 lead into the break, despite shooting less than 40 percent from the floor.

"Early in the first half, that's the only way we scored," Coale said.

In the second half, the Sooners shooting soared to 56 percent while Oklahoma extended its lead on the free-throw line.

"Once we get through that little sloppy area, we tend to come out of it that much better," Stacey Dales said. "Once we get on the same page, we're really good. That's what happened the second half."

Coale knew when Caufield went to the free-throw line, the Sooners were going to score. Caufield proved her right, shooting a perfect 14-of-14.

"We didn't start off real well from the line, but Neisha is almost automatic from there," Coale said. "She shoots 87 percent from there, but it's really better than that in conference. We expect hers to go in."

The Sooners missed just four free throws on 26 attempts in the second half after shooting just 55.6 percent in the first half. Oklahoma finished with 27 points off 25 A&M fouls.

"Turnovers hurt us, but we really just fouled too much," A&M coach Peggie Gillom said. "We gave them 27 points from the line. That's what really killed us."

The Aggies could not com-

pete with the Sooners' presence underneath the basket. During the first period, Oklahoma's only points came from either 3-point range or layups.

Caton Hill dominated inside

for Oklahoma, posting 21 points and 12 rebounds. Hill and Caufield combined for 47 points while Dales posted 15 points and Jadrea Seeley added 10.

Wrestlers coming to town

AMARILLO — Wrestling returns to the Clyde Carruth Livestock Pavilion at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 16.

Stars such as Ricky Romero III, Chris Youngblood, Mark Youngblood, The Angel of Darkness, Big Biker Animal, Doink the Clown, Kid Lightning and Mighty Muscle will be battling for King of the Ring.

Former All-State amateur wrestler Chris Red of Borger will make his debut, plus there will be a special guest appearance by legendary Ricky Romero Sr.

Wrestling World Superstars will make a special appearance at Wal-Mart on Friday, Feb. 16 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. for autograph-signing party. The entire family is welcomed to attend.

"The wrestling event promises to be good, clean entertainment and fun for everyone," said promoter Chris Walker of Amarillo. Admission will be seven dollars per adult and five dollars per child under 12 years old.

Walker can be contacted at (806) 372-1801 if more information is needed.

Middle school girls entered in District tourney in Borger

PAMPA — Pampa Middle School girls basketball games were canceled this past Monday due to inclement weather and are re-scheduled for Monday, Feb. 5 at Borger Middle School in Borger.

These will be the final games of the season for the middle schoolers. Those games are scheduled to tip off at 5:30, starting with the 7th grade A team and the 8th grade B team.

Borger is hosting the 8th Grade Girls District Tournament, which starts tonight. The 8th grade B team gets things started, going against Valleyview at 5:15. Later tonight, Pampa plays Borger at

7:45. The 8th grade A plays tonight against Dumas at 6:30. No games will be played Friday, but the 8th grade A gets back into action Saturday at 9 a.m. playing Canyon.

The tournament format will be pool play with the winners advancing to brackets for Saturday afternoon play to determine the champions and consolation winners.

The middle school district is comprised of Pampa, Borger, Canyon, Valleyview, Hereford and Dumas.

Coaching the Pampa 8th graders will be Janyth Bowers and Jenifer Leonard.

Plane crash victims honored by OSU

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — Based on personal experience, Iowa State coach Larry Eustachy counted on facing an emotional opponent Wednesday night.

After all, Colorado was playing for the first time since two Oklahoma State players died in a plane crash following a game in Boulder and a moment of silence was held before tip-off.

The Buffaloes, however, displayed more frustration than inspiration, losing to No. 15 Iowa State 71-61.

"I would think with Colorado being close to the situation, it had to stun them the most," Eustachy said. "I don't think it's bad to talk about. Everybody is trying to heal and move on."

Dan Lawson and Nate Fleming, reserve players for Oklahoma State, were among the 10 people killed when their small charter plane crashed about 40 miles east of Denver just hours after the Cowboys lost to Colorado on Saturday.

The victims were remembered as a spotlight shone on an Oklahoma State banner during the 30-second moment of silence, and the coaching staffs from both teams wore ribbons in their

honor. Finally able to concentrate on basketball, Colorado appeared flat and shot 32 percent from the floor in one of its worst showings of the season.

"It shocked me that we would come out and play as poorly as we did," Buffs coach Ricardo Patton said.

Patton and his team refused to use the plane crash as an excuse for their poor performance, and Iowa State proved Sunday proved that distractions can be put aside. Eustachy and his players took news of the crash particularly hard but routed Texas A&M on Sunday.

"I've just never been lower personally since I've been in coaching," Eustachy said. "Ricardo and I, I'd like to say we recruit character guys. Character guys care about other people."

In the wake of the crash, all Big 12 team are wearing black patches on their uniforms, and Colorado's administrative staff and arena workers wore orange ribbons Wednesday.

Oklahoma State basketball sports information director Will Hancock, another crash victim, was given a dedication in Colorado's game notes.

O'Neal's absence makes Lakers a beatable team

By The Associated Press

With Shaquille O'Neal sidelined and their double-barreled attack cut in half, the Los Angeles Lakers have become predictable and beatable.

Capitalizing on the absence of O'Neal, the Minnesota Timberwolves focused their defense on Kobe Bryant and added the defending NBA champions to their recent string of successes.

Kevin Garnett scored 21 points Wednesday night as the Timberwolves beat Los Angeles 96-83 for their franchise-record eighth straight victory.

Minnesota ended an eight-game losing skid — dating to Feb. 1, 1999 — against the Lakers and swept its first five-game homestand in franchise history.

Los Angeles lost for the second time in three games without O'Neal, who is sidelined with a

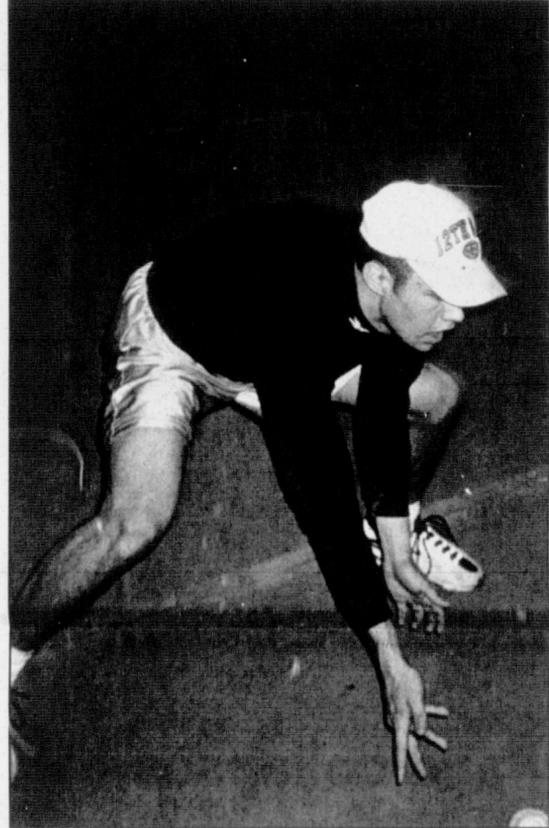
foot injury.

"They did become predictable," said Wolves coach Flip Saunders, whose career record against the Lakers improved to 3-17. "They're so used to having Shaq around, it's a big difference when he isn't."

In other NBA games, Boston beat Indiana 102-96 in overtime; Orlando outlasted Washington 100-96; Atlanta topped Toronto 102-97; Detroit defeated New Jersey 112-103; Milwaukee toppled Denver 116-111; San Antonio beat the Los Angeles Clippers 92-70; and Phoenix stopped Vancouver 101-92.

The Wolves limited Bryant to 24 points on 6-for-17 shooting Wednesday night, one night after he scored 47 against the Cleveland Cavaliers.

"We wanted to double him, triple him, make him make the extra pass," said Todd Day, one of Bryant's defenders. "We just knew he was going to take a lot of shots



(Photo by Lance Burton)

Pampa baseball player Wes Martin goes through a fielding drill during Wednesday's practice. The Harvesters are also getting ready for a Hit-A-Thon Feb. 10.

Pampa at Randall for more district action

PAMPA — Pampa travels to Randall on Friday night for a District 3-4A basketball doubleheader.

With four games to go, the Harvesters will be looking for some help for an outside shot at making the playoffs.

Canyon, which beat Pampa 54-51 Tuesday night, can clinch that third-place playoff spot with a win over Borger tomorrow night.

Pampa, at 5-5 in district and 18-12 overall, maintains its hold on fourth place.

Seventh-ranked Randall is 10-0 in district and 25-1 for the season. The Raiders moved closer to a district title with a 67-58 win over Palo Duro on Tuesday night. The inside-outside offense

of Keenan Hooker (6-0 guard) and Calvin Nite (6-6 pivot) was in good working order against the Dons. Hooker had 23 points and Nite 22.

The Pampa-Randall girls game

tips off at 6.

The Lady Harvesters are 3-9 in district and 6-16 overall. The Lady Raiders are 9-3 and 20-8.

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McLean takes overtime win

McLEAN — McLean knocked off Hedley in overtime 61-54 in a District 3-1A boys game Friday night. The Tigers, who outscored the visitors 9-2 in the overtime period, continue to hold down second place behind Groom in the district standings. Shane Estes led the Tigers in scoring with 18 points. Teammate Terrell Hembree added 12. "We scored the first six points in overtime and the players went back down the floor and played good defense," said McLean coach Blaze Herring. "They really clamped down and did a good job. We've got seniors on the team who are showing a lot of poise and

leadership." Collins paced Hedley with 21 points. McLean improved to 5-2 in district and 11-10 for the season. Hedley is 4-2 and 10-14. The Tigers have a non-district game Friday night against White Deer. They close out the regular season next Tuesday night at Groom in a first-place showdown. Hedley had an 81-29 win in the girls game. Howard's 19 points led Hedley. Cesily Cadra was high scorer for McLean with 11 points. Randi Riley followed with 7. LEFORS — Dewayne Gray

had a 20-point performance as Groom downed Lefors 80-14 Tuesday night in a District 3-1A boys game. Groom, the district leader, also got 17 points from Russell Conrad and 17 from Cody Babcock. Lefors scoring leaders were Calib Barnes (8) and Ray Turpen (4). Groom also won the girls game 74-12. Nichole Barnett was high scorer for Groom with 16 points. Krisanne Davis and Staci Britten followed with 12 each. Amber Ehmann, Amanda Daugherty and Katie Barnes had 4 points each for Lefors.

Tiger leaves with a limp

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP) — When last seen at Pebble Beach, Tiger Woods stepped into the record books with a 15-stroke victory in the U.S. Open. This time, he left with a limp. After a final practice round Wednesday before his bid to win a third straight tournament at Pebble Beach, Woods hyperextended his left knee and sprained a ligament when an overzealous autograph seeker tripped him as Woods was leaving the course. "Just snapped my leg back," Woods said. Woods said the odds were "up there" that he would not be able to play Thursday when the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am begins over three courses. Woods, who is supposed to play Spyglass Hill, said he would give it a try. "If I can't rotate and can't let it go, then obviously I can't go," he said. It was a bizarre return to the course that Woods can claim as a second home, especially after his two thrilling victories at Pebble Beach. In the AT&T National Pro-Am, Woods was seven strokes behind with seven holes to play when he finished eagle-birdie-par-birdie and won by

two, giving him his sixth straight PGA Tour victory and the most stunning comeback in his spectacular career. Four months later under vastly different conditions, he was even better. Woods demolished par that the U.S. Golf Association tries so vainly to protect at the U.S. Open, and he did the same thing to the field. He finished at 12-under 272, unheard of for a U.S. Open, and won by 15 strokes, the largest margin in the 140-year history of the majors. A victory this week would make him the first player since Jack Nicklaus in 1972-73 to win three straight events on the same course over a 12-month span. Nicklaus also sandwiched a pair of Crosbys around a U.S. Open. "I've always enjoyed playing here, seeing the beauty of it," Woods said. "This golf course is right there in front of you." Now if he can only put Wednesday's injury behind him. Woods was swarmed by autograph seekers as he left the 18th green, walking briskly and trying to sign whatever programs and hats were thrust in front of him. One man, hounding him for

autographs during his practice round, tried to position himself in front of the pack, and Woods' inadvertently stepped on his ankle, hyperextending his knee. "A lot of fans just kind of came down on top of me," Woods said. "One guy ran in front. I stepped on his ankle, and my weight going forward and his weight coming back... I hyperextended my knee." Woods winced immediately, glowered at the man and grabbed the back of his leg as he hobbled up a hill. He tried to hit balls after lunch, but couldn't. "No way," Woods said. "That's not going to happen." This is the second time Woods has been injured since turning pro. He had what turned out to be a stinger in his left hand at the Tour Championship in Houston in 1999 when he tried to hit through a baseball-sized rock to get to his ball. As an amateur, Woods had to withdraw from the '95 U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills when he injured his wrist trying to hack out of the deep rough. He also had a cyst removed from behind his left knee while at Stanford.

Scoreboard

BOWLING Harvester Lanes League Individual Scores Caprock League Men's high scratch game: Barry Simmons, 257; Men's high scratch series: Greg Vanderlinden, 672. Harvester Couples Ladies high scratch game: Belinda Nolte, 612; Men's high scratch game: Jake Woodruff, 250; Men's high scratch series: Jake Woodruff, 638. Celanese Mixed League Ladies high scratch game: Lisa Gill, 196; Ladies high scratch series: Diane Sims, 503; Men's high scratch game: Melvin Webster, 225; Men's high scratch series: Tim Hill, 582. Cartoon Network League Ladies high scratch game: Becky Hall, 198; Ladies high scratch series: Belinda Nolte, 562; Men's high scratch game: Gary Winton, 233; Men's high scratch series: Gary Winton, 601. Casino League Ladies high scratch game: Jo Hicks, 215; Ladies high scratch series: Nancy Cooper, 548; Men's high scratch game: Eric Nord, 265; Men's high scratch series: Eric Nord, 699. Pam Cates, a 116 average bowler, received a WIBC Association Award with a 206 game, 75 pins over her average. Ladies Trio League Ladies high scratch game: Carla Schiffman,		209; Ladies high scratch series: Geneva Schiffman, 549. Harvester Women's League Ladies high scratch game: Peggy Smith, 223; Ladies high scratch series: Peggy Smith, 560. Wednesday Night Mixed League Ladies high scratch game: Laveen Anderson, 179; Ladies high scratch series: Sallie Beecher, 492; Men's high scratch game: Carl Cates, 222; Men's high scratch series: Gary Winton, 636. PRO FOOTBALL XFL At A Glance By The Associated Press All Times EST EAST CONFERENCE <table border="1"> <tr><th>W</th><th>L</th><th>Pct</th><th>PF</th><th>PA</th></tr> <tr><td>Birmingham</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0.000</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Chicago</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0.000</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>NY/NJ</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0.000</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Orlando</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0.000</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> </table> WEST CONFERENCE <table border="1"> <tr><th>W</th><th>L</th><th>Pct</th><th>PF</th><th>PA</th></tr> <tr><td>Las Vegas</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0.000</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Los Angeles</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0.000</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Memphis</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0.000</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>San Francisco</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0.000</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> </table> Saturday's Games New York-New Jersey at Las Vegas, 8 p.m. Memphis at Birmingham, 4 p.m. Los Angeles at San Francisco, 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11 Birmingham at New York-New Jersey, 4 p.m.E Chicago at Orlando, 8 p.m. Sunday's Games Memphis at Birmingham, 4 p.m. Los Angeles at San Francisco, 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10 Chicago at Los Angeles, 8 p.m. San Francisco at Orlando, 8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11 Birmingham at New York-New Jersey, 4 p.m. Las Vegas at Memphis, 7 p.m.	W	L	Pct	PF	PA	Birmingham	0	0	0.000	0	0	Chicago	0	0	0.000	0	0	NY/NJ	0	0	0.000	0	0	Orlando	0	0	0.000	0	0	W	L	Pct	PF	PA	Las Vegas	0	0	0.000	0	0	Los Angeles	0	0	0.000	0	0	Memphis	0	0	0.000	0	0	San Francisco	0	0	0.000	0	0
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Sprewell named an all-star

By CHRIS SHERIDAN
AP Basketball Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — Three years ago, David Stern was trying to keep Latrell Sprewell out of the NBA. On Wednesday, Stern made Sprewell an All-Star again. The NBA commissioner chose Sprewell and Dikembe Mutombo on Wednesday as replacements for injured Eastern Conference All-Stars Grant Hill and Alonzo Mourning. Stern might still get an additional pick or two if Shaquille O'Neal and Vince Carter can't recover from injuries in time. O'Neal missed his third consecutive game Wednesday night with an inflamed arch on his right foot, and Carter did not travel with the Raptors for their game at Atlanta on Wednesday night. Stern's choice of Sprewell was a bit surprising given the history between the two. The commissioner suspended Sprewell for a year in 1997 for attacking his coach, and Sprewell went to arbitration and to court to have the sus-

pension reduced. Sprewell still has a lawsuit pending against the league, claiming he was unjustly punished for choking P.J. Carlesimo during practice when the two were with the Golden State Warriors. Sprewell was not available for comment after his selection was announced, but told reporters earlier Wednesday that it would be "special" to be selected by Stern. "I've worked hard, I think, since I've been back, since the suspension, and I think everything is behind me now. It should be just about the way I performed this year. We'll see." Stern was not available for comment. Sprewell, a three-time All-Star when he played for Golden State, is averaging 17.3 points for the New York Knicks, who have the second-best record in the Eastern Conference. Mutombo, a six-time All-Star, currently leads the league in rebounding with an average of 13.8. On Tuesday, the NBA announced the results of the coaches' voting for the

reserves. Picked in the Western Conference for the Feb. 11 game in Washington were Karl Malone (Utah), Antonio McDyess (Denver), David Robinson (San Antonio), Gary Payton (Seattle), Michael Finley (Dallas), Rasheed Wallace (Portland) and Kevin Garnett (Minnesota). Stephon Marbury (New Jersey), Theo Ratliff (Philadelphia), Allan Houston (New York), Anthony Mason (Miami), Jerry Stackhouse (Detroit), Ray Allen and Glenn Robinson (Milwaukee) were chosen for the East. For now, there are five first-timers — Marbury, McDyess, Mason, Ratliff and Tracy McGrady — among the 24 All-Stars. Previously announced as All-Star starters were Hill (Orlando), Mourning (Miami), McGrady (Orlando), Carter (Toronto) and Allen Iverson (Philadelphia) for the East; and O'Neal (Lakers), Tim Duncan (San Antonio), Chris Webber (Sacramento), Jason Kidd (Phoenix) and Kobe Bryant (Lakers) for the West.

No. 9 Maryland collapses early in a 99-78 setback to Virginia

By The Associated Press
Maryland didn't wait until the final minute to collapse this time. Four days after blowing a 10-point lead to Duke in the last 54 seconds of regulation, No. 9 Maryland gave up a 25-4 run to No. 11 Virginia in the second half of a 99-78 loss Wednesday night. The Cavaliers (15-4, 4-4), who also had a 24-2 run in the first half, saw Maryland close to 52-51 with 13:42 left before blitzing the Terps behind Keith Friel's three 3-pointers and some high-flying acrobatics. "When we got it to one, we didn't do a good job of running our offense," said Maryland coach Gary Williams, coming off the 98-96 overtime loss to No. 2 Duke. "That was our last chance." Adam Hall started the run with a driving basket, and Friel followed by sinking a 3-pointer.

After Travis Watson's wrap-around layup gave the Cavaliers a 59-53 edge, Friel hit again. "There was a sense of urgency," Friel said. "We needed to put our foot down and get some defensive stops and score the ball because they answered our run and were making one of their own." In other games, it was Penn State 98, No. 6 Illinois 95; No. 15 Iowa State 71, Colorado 61; No. 16 Wake Forest 74, North Carolina State 69; Vanderbilt 68, No. 17 Alabama 62; No. 18 Iowa 64, Minnesota 55; No. 20 Boston College 83, Virginia Tech 61; No. 24 Oklahoma 65, Baylor 51; and Kentucky 85, No. 25 Georgia 70. Virginia, which started slowly in the ACC, added to a resurgence that began with a 104-76 blowout victory at Clemson on Saturday. "I think we took a big step forward," Cavs coach Pete Gillen said. Donald Hand led Virginia

with 20 points, Roger Mason and Chris Williams had 19 each and Friel had 17. Lonny Baxter led Maryland with 15 points, and Terence Morris had 14. Penn St. 98, No. 6 Illinois 95, OT Titus Ivory returned from a first-half ankle sprain to score a career-high 27 points, including four in overtime, for host Penn State. Frank Williams brought Illinois (16-5, 6-2 Big Ten) to 96-95 when he hit a layup with 13.8 seconds left, but the Illini were forced to foul, and Joe Crispin hit both free throws for Penn State (13-6, 3-5). Williams and Brian Cook scored 22 apiece for the Illini. No. 15 Iowa St. 71, Colorado 61 Martin Rancic had 19 points and 13 rebounds as visiting Iowa State held Colorado to one of its worst shooting performances of the season. Colorado (13-8, 3-5 Big 12),

fifth in the nation in scoring (85.4 points), missed 16 straight shots during a 10-minute stretch of the second half and finished the game 15-of-46. Jamaal Tinsley added 20 points and Jake Sullivan had 14 for the Cyclones (18-3, 6-2). No. 16 Wake Forest 74, North Carolina State 69, OT Broderick Hicks hit a game-tying 3-pointer with 5 seconds left in regulation, then combined with Robert O'Kelley to hit three clutch free throws in overtime for host Wake Forest. O'Kelley led Wake (15-5, 4-4 ACC) with 14 points, and Josh Howard had 13 points and 13 rebounds. Trey Guidry scored a career-high 15 to lead North Carolina State (10-9, 2-6). Vanderbilt 68, No. 17 Alabama 62 Matt Freije scored 20 points as Vanderbilt beat Alabama at home despite blowing a 19-point lead in the second half and play-

ing without leading scorer Greg LaPointe. Alabama (16-4, 5-3 Southeastern Conference) used a Lady Raiders slam K-State LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Jia Perkins scored 27 points, including six 3-pointers, to lead No. 12 Texas Tech to a 72-41 victory over Kansas State on Wednesday. Tech's Natalie Ritchie added another 10 points for the Lady Raiders, including two 3-pointers. The Lady Raiders (16-3, 7-1 Big 12) came out strong during the first half, leading by 28 points at intermission, 49-21. Perkins hit three of her 3-pointers by the 12:15 mark, allowing the Lady Raiders to take a 20-4 lead. They held the Wildcats (11-8, 1-7) to four points until a technical foul was assessed Texas Tech coach

33-8 run to erase Vanderbilt's lead and went up by 59-53 with 4:03 remaining. But Vandy (14-6, 4-4) scored the next 10 points. Marsha Sharp for questioning a foul called on Plenette Pierson and then throwing her arms up in disgust at the referee. Kansas State's Kristin Rethman hit the two free throws before the Lady Raiders went on a 24-10 run to lead the Wildcats 46-15 with 1:52 left in the half. Nicole Ohlde scored 15 points to lead Kansas State, which suffered its fifth straight loss to the Lady Raiders. The win tied the Lady Raiders for the longest current home-court winning streak in the nation at 40 games. Kent also has 40 consecutive home wins. It was Sharp's 450th career victory. She is 450-137 in her 19th year at Tech.

Oklahoma State University plane crash victims remembered

STILLWATER, Okla. (AP) — They came together to mourn, share and most of all, heal. A crowd of about 12,000 gathered inside Gallagher-Iba Arena on Wednesday to remember the victims of Saturday's plane crash in Colorado that killed two reserve basketball players, five university staffers, the team's play-by-play broadcaster and two pilots. "Saturday night's tragedy took the lives of 10 people who were precious not only to their families, but to each one of us who are here," said coach Eddie Sutton, who received a standing ovation when he was introduced. "In dealing with death, nothing seems more unfair or more confusing or more senseless or more jolting than when the light goes out far too soon on bright young lives, and it did happen Saturday night." Those in attendance stood in silence as the families of the

fallen 10 filed into their seats on the arena floor. The only sounds were sniffing, occasional whispers and recorded music, including a bagpipe version of "Amazing Grace." Many wore orange and black, the school colors, and had orange ribbons pinned to their shirts or blouses. Many families clung to each other as they walked. Photographs of the victims stood in front of the stage, which was crowded with orange impatiens. A teen-age girl saw her dad among the photographs, then bowed her head to sob on the teddy bear she clutched. A man kissed the picture of Pat Noyes, director of basketball operations. Another man placed family pictures, Dr. Suess books and a Kansas wrestling medal under the photo of athletic trainer Brian Luinstra. A row of student athletes, some with tears rolling down their cheeks, stood on the arena

floor and handed peach-colored roses to the families. Some in the crowd wept and hugged. Those who died when the twin-engine plane went down were Noyes, Luinstra, players Nate Fleming and Dan Lawson; sports information employee Will Hancock; student manager Jared Weiberg; broadcast engineer Kendall Durfee; KWTN sportscaster Bill Teegins, pilot Denver Mills; and co-pilot Bjorn Fahlstrom. They were returning from a game against Colorado when the turboprop crashed in a remote field less than 20 minutes into the flight. The rest of the players and coaches were on two jets that reached Stillwater safely. Junior forward Andre Williams, wearing a black warmup suit and an orange ribbon, read a poem during the service. "Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free. I'm following the path that God laid for me."

Gov. Frank Keating said those aboard the doomed plane were champions who died while doing what they loved. "Gallagher-Iba Arena and Oklahoma State University have been homes to more national champions than any other campus in America," Keating said. "Today, we add 10 more champions to that long and storied list. "Two played the game, five supported them as members of the department and broadcast staff, two were carrying them back home and one was a reporter who never missed a story until that last one." In the arena lobby, hundreds of bouquets of flowers sat on tables and the floor. Many of them were from other Big 12 Conference athletic departments and university presidents. People attending the service used orange and black markers to write notes about the victims on an 8-foot message board.

One was addressed to "10 special angels." "You gave so much and brought happiness to so many," it said. "Thanks for all the memories. You will not be forgotten." Students lined up outside the athletic complex three hours before the memorial service began. "I think maybe this will start bringing some closure," senior Laura Downing said. "Everyone has been walking around campus lately kind of in a daze." Afternoon classes were canceled so students could attend the memorial or watch it on TV. Many in this small college town stopped what they were doing to tune into live coverage. A handful of people watched from the football stadium on a jumbo screen. University President James Halligan said the school will build two memorials to honor the victims — one in the basket-

ball arena and the other near the crash site in Colorado. Halligan also invited the widows of the victims to send their children to attend Oklahoma State. "We want your children to come here and be a part of this family," he said. "You are a part of us. We are a part of you. We are trying to envelop you with love." Those in attendance included Cedric Dempsey, executive director of the NCAA; Kansas basketball coach Roy Williams; Texas basketball coach Rick Barnes; University of Oklahoma President David Boren; Oklahoma football coach Bob Stoops; former Oklahoma football coach Barry Switzer; and PGA golfers Bob Tway and Scott Verplank. Among the many former OSU basketball players who attended were Desmond Mason, Joe Adkins, Alex Webber, Brian Montonati and Scott Pierce.

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Medical patients' rights rule on hold

By LAURA MECKLER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — States and HMOs are lobbying the Bush administration to undo last-minute Clinton era regulations that gave Medicaid patients new rights in dealing with their health insurance plans.

Contention over the regulations, among many put on hold when President Bush took office, will force the new president to step quickly into the debate over managed health care and how much power patients should have.

Patient groups argue that laws are needed to prevent cost-conscious insurance companies from cutting corners, denying referrals and withholding needed care. Insurance companies and those who pay the bills — in this case, state governments — counter that too many regulations drive up the cost of health care.

Frustrated at its inability to get patients' rights legislation through Congress, the Clinton administration set out to extend protections for patients where it could, including health plans for federal workers and in Medicare, the health program for seniors.

In 1998, HHS issued proposed rules for Medicaid, which serves the poor. States, which administer Medicaid, have aggressively moved

patients into cost-saving HMOs, which now serve more than half of Medicaid beneficiaries.

After reviewing more than 300 comments submitted on the proposed rules, HHS issued a final version on Jan. 18, two days before President Clinton left office.

In a statement, then-Secretary Donna Shalala said, "All Americans — whether they are in Medicare, Medicaid or private health plans — deserve the basic protections that a patients' bill of rights provides."

Under normal procedures, the rules would have taken effect in 90 days. On his first day in office, however, Bush put all pending regulations on hold, including many routine matters, to give new officials a chance to review them.

Now insurance companies, governors and Medicaid directors are gearing up to lobby for changes. They hope the incoming Health and Human Services secretary, Tommy Thompson, who has been Wisconsin's governor for 14 years, will be more sensitive to the costs the rules might impose on states.

"I think Tommy Thompson will be acutely aware of the need to consider state comments," said Matt Salo, director of health legislation for the National Governors' Association.

Salo said the association submitted lengthy comments to HHS on its original proposal. "Ninety-

percent of our comments were ignored," he said.

Thompson, a former NGA president, has railed against imposition of federal rules on the states.

"We are going to push very hard with the agency to make this better," said Susan Pisano of the American Association of Health Plans, which represents health maintenance organizations and other managed care plans.

As governor of Texas, Bush supported a state law extending to patients many rights similar to those in Shalala's regulations and allowed a companion bill to become law without his signature that created a right to sue. During the presidential campaign, he said he supports the idea of a patients' bill of rights, although he was not specific what legislation he would sign.

For more than three years, Congress has debated giving patients new power in dealing with HMOs and other managed care plans but has been unable to agree. Among the disputes: How many Americans should be covered, and whether patients who are harmed should have the right to sue their insurance companies for withholding treatment.

The Medicaid regulations do not allow lawsuits, but they offer a host of other new rights for patients in managed care. Under them, insurance companies must:

—Establish a system for grievances and appeals, including expedited appeals for certain situations, and the right to an independent review.

—Provide patients with comprehensive, easy-to-understand information about how their plans operate, including lists of doctors and hospitals, their phone numbers and addresses.

—Pay for emergency room care, even if it is provided at a hospital outside the network and is not preapproved, for patients who reasonably believe their health to be in jeopardy.

—Allow women to see gynecologists and other women's health specialists for routine and preventive services without getting a referral.

—Have enough doctors and hospitals to serve the patients enrolled.

—Submit any marketing materials to the state for approval.

HHS officials had no comment Wednesday, and there was no immediate response from the White House.

On the Net: National Governors' Association: <http://www.nga.org/>
American Association of Health Plans: <http://www.aahp.org/AAHP/index.cfm>
Health Care Financing Administration: <http://www.hcfa.gov/>



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<p>1 Public Notice</p> <p>NOTICE OF APPLICATION Notice is hereby given the GRUY PETROLEUM MANAGEMENT CO., P.O. BOX 140907, IRVING, TX. 75014-0907 has made application for a density exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 38 (16 Tex. Admin. Code Section 3.38) Applicant seeks exception to the density of the subject field requirement for the amended drill permit for Well No. 3, Fowler c Lease, 634.07 Acres, Sec. 30, BK. R. A Rowe/A D Heiman Survey, A-1146, Panhandle West Field(s), Gray County, being 1 mile from the north of McLean, Texas. The location of this well is as follows: 1,800' from the west line and 745.65' from the north line of lease. 1,800' from the west line and 745.65' from the north line of survey. Field rules for the Panhandle West field are 330/660, 640 acres. This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 3,000 feet. PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Rule 38 (h) (3), this application may be granted administratively if no protest to the application is received. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protest should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative Karen M. Rhodes, Consultant, at 512-458-6351. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission at (512)463-6899. IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE BY March 1, 2001 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY. H-33 Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22, 2001</p>	<p>5 Special Notices</p> <p>ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.</p> <p>10 Lost/Found</p> <p>BORDER Collie, black & white, female. Found in Black Gold Motel area. 665-8684. Leave msg.</p> <p>13 Bus. Opp.</p> <p>GIFT SHOP for sale-ready. Good location. Serious inquiries only. 665-1070.</p> <p>14b Appl. Repair</p> <p>HAPPINESS IS Good Operating Appliances. Call William's Appliance, 665-8894. B&B Electric, 779-3252, 779-2517, 800-834-6058. 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Johnson Home Entertainment, 2211 Perryton Pkwy. 665-0504.</p> <p>21 Help Wanted</p> <p>NEEDED Powerline Contract Lineman Electrician & apprentice. Apprentice needs no exp. Must have clean driving record & pass drug test. 505-390-8644 7a.m.-7p.m., or 806-669-2439 5p.m.-7p.m. ST. Ann's Nursing Home has openings for the following positions: Week-end RN 7-3, PRN LVN all shifts, PT 3-11, CNA/Bath aide, PT 3-11 CNA. Benefits incl. insurance, retirement & furnished meals. Apply in person - Spur 293 of Hwy. 60, in Panhandle or call Andi @ 537-3194. CALDWELL Production Co. needs Welder. 6 paid holidays plus 1 week paid vacation a year. Hwy 60 West Pampa. 665-8888. SIVALLS Inc. needs layout-fabricator. Blue print reading, operation of layout machinery, 3G welding test, drug test req. West Hwy. 60, Pampa, TX. 806-665-7111. IRWIN Auto Co. is hiring technicians, exc. benefits, competitive pay plan. 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Analysts indicate more rate cuts necessary to stave off recession

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve threw a one-two punch with two half-point cuts in interest rates in January as it pursued its fight to keep the nation from falling into a recession. But private economists believe it will take more rate reductions in the coming months to score a knock out.

Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan and his colleagues cut a key interest rate again Wednesday, following up on a cut ordered just four weeks earlier, Jan. 3.

The two half-point cuts marked the first time in Greenspan's 13-year tenure that the central bank has reduced the funds rate by a full percentage point in a single month.

The Fed's action came against the backdrop of troubling economic news. Consumer confidence in the economy fell in January to its lowest point in four years. Manufacturers are struggling, cutting back production and laying off workers as they cope with an economy that has slowed dramatically since the first half of last year.

"The Fed will do whatever it takes to prevent a recession and reignite growth," said Merrill Lynch economist Bruce Steinberg.

On Wednesday, the Fed's half-point cut lowered the target for the federal funds rate, the interest that banks charge each other,

to 5.5 percent. It was 6.5 percent at the beginning of January, reflecting six rate increases from June 1999 to May 2000 as the central bank worked to slow growth and combat inflation.

The Fed's latest action means a further drop in borrowing costs for millions of Americans as commercial banks immediately announced reductions in their prime lending rate, the benchmark for many business and consumer loans, by one-half point to 8.5 percent.

Steinberg and other analysts predicted Fed policy-makers will cut rates again by a quarter point at each of its next three meetings in March, May and June. That would push the funds rate down to 4.75 percent. Some other economists offered slightly different scenarios on the timing of cuts but all agreed more would be forthcoming.

The Fed — in the part of its statement that reflects possible future action — maintained its stance that its chief concern is the threat of the economy stalling and falling into a recession.

"The risks are weighted mainly toward conditions that may generate economic weakness in the foreseeable future," the Fed said.

Explaining its rate-cut decision Wednesday, the Fed pointed to a long list of economic troubles, saying such circumstances called

for "a rapid and forceful response of monetary policy."

Mark Vitner, an economist with First Union, said the Fed's choice of words imply that the central bank "is willing to go to great lengths to revive the economy but also suggests that the Fed views January's two half-point interest rate reductions as an extraordinary event."

Also Wednesday, the government reported that the nation's economy grew at a 1.4 percent annual rate in the fourth quarter of 2000, the weakest pace in more than five years. In the second quarter of last year, the economy was speeding along at a 5.6 percent annual rate.

Greenspan had told Congress last week that growth in the current quarter could be "very close to zero." He said whether the economy averts a full-blown recession would be determined by how much worried consumers cut back on spending.

Many saw the Fed's aggressive easing as an effort by Greenspan to avoid the mistakes that brought on the 1990-91 recession, the only downturn in his tenure. The previous Bush administration blamed that downturn on the Fed's slowness in responding to signs of weakness.

On the Net: <http://www.federalreserve.gov>

Pentagon finds journals did not threaten U.S. security

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pentagon investigators found no evidence that national security was damaged by former deputy defense secretary John Deutch's practice of storing secret information on his home computer, a senior defense official said.

"We can't find that it was compromised in any way," the official said Wednesday, speaking on condition of anonymity. On the other hand, he said the investigators could not rule out the possibility.

The Pentagon planned to release the investigation results Thursday.

Deutch served as undersecretary of defense for acquisition and technology from April 1993 to March 1994 and as deputy secretary of defense from March 1994 to May 1995, when he left the Pentagon to become director of the CIA. He left the CIA in December 1996.

The Pentagon inquiry deals only with the time Deutch was at the Pentagon. A separate CIA probe looked into his computer use during his time at that agency.

President Clinton pardoned Deutch just hours before President Bush was inaugurated Jan. 20. A day earlier, Deutch reportedly agreed to plead

guilty to a misdemeanor for mishandling government secrets, but the pardon was granted before the Justice Department could file the case.

A Defense Department inspector general's investigation report released in November called Deutch's behavior "particularly egregious" considering Pentagon rules on the proper safeguarding of classified information. It noted that Deutch had refused to let Pentagon computer security systems be installed in his home and said he "failed to follow even the most basic security precautions."

Deutch has publicly acknowledged his lapses and apologized.

The Pentagon was alerted in June 1998 that Deutch had stored personal journals on his home computer and made it a practice to carry many of them on floppy disks that he carried in his shirt pocket.

In February 2000, Arthur Money, the assistant secretary of defense for command, control, communications and intelligence, was directed to conduct a damage assessment of Deutch's journal.

The journals, totaling more than 1,000 pages, contained classified code-words but not enough addi-

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