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# Pampa

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## Enron Corp. fall affects teachers' retirement funds

From staff and wire reports

Texas Teachers' Retirement System and Employees Retirement funds have lost \$59.7 million due to the fall of Enron Corp. Smaller state investment funds lost another \$3.3 million.

Retirement funds for teachers and state employees lost nearly \$60 million in stocks and bonds as the funds' managers continued to invest in crumbling Enron Corp.

Officials said the loss will not affect retirees, according to reports from the Associated Press.

Pampa Independent School District Superintendent Dawson Orr said Thursday morning he had not heard about the loss, but said he was sure the teacher retirement fund is secure.

"It's well capitalized," said Orr. "It is a multi-billion dollar fund and is well diversified. When you are dealing with corporate fraud, these things occur."

Orr said the Texas teachers fund is second in size only to California. "It is the second largest," he said. "I'm sure a lot of people lost money when Enron went down, but the IRS fund is fine."

After a loss of investor and industry confidence because of questionable financial practices, Enron crumbled and

the company's stock, which less than a year ago traded for \$80 a share, was down to .67 cents a share Wednesday.

A message left with IRS on Wednesday by The Associated Press was not returned, according to AP reports.

The Employee Retirement System largely avoided the late buying spree in stocks, but managers bought a \$10 million bond for Osprey Trust, one of several partnerships at the center of Enron's downfall. The purchase was made same day Enron's chief executive office, Andrew Fastow, resigned under fire.

The Permanent School Fund, which invests money for public schools, booked \$105 million in profits by selling out months before the collapse.

Texas' investment funds' managers, including the Permanent School Fund, held Enron stock at the end because the portfolios were supposed to mirror the Standard and Poor's 500, an index of some of the country's largest companies.

In such investments, the portfolio manager holds onto his investments in all 500 companies, including Enron, despite bad news about one company.

On Nov. 28, after Enron's bonds were reduced to junk-bond status and Dynegy backed away from buying its rival,

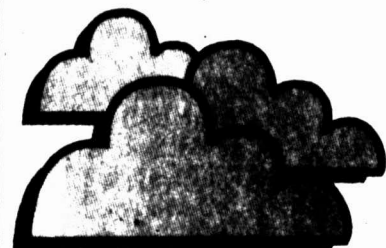
(See ENRON, Page 2)

## Water woes



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Leroy Hibern Jr., left, and Bobby Armstrong, Pampa Water Department employees, flushed out city sewer lines in the 300 block of West Browning using high pressure water lines Wednesday. City officials said there had been several reports of problems with water mains and sewer lines recently. Officials said a drop in temperatures was probably the culprit.



High, 50  
Low, 28  
For weather details, see Page 2.

## Hemphill County grand jury meets

CANADIAN — A recent session of the Hemphill County grand jury resulted in two indictments.

Grand jurors, meeting on Dec. 19, handed up indictments for possession of a controlled substance and burglary of a habitation to 31st District Judge Steven Emmert.

Kevin Raymond Wells, 42, of San Antonio, was named in an indictment charging him with the burglary of a habitation on Oct. 25.

The second indictment named Elvin Lloyd Parkhill, 50, of Canadian with possession of a controlled substance with intent to manufacture. The charge stems from an incident that occurred on July 27, according to the indictment.

## AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:

- Winning numbers drawn: 8-20-40-44-47-51.
- Estimated jackpot: \$36 million.
- Number matching six of six: 1.
- Winning ticket sold in: Fort Worth.
- Matching five of six: 87. Prize: \$2,867.
- Matching four of six: 5,397. Prize: \$114.
- Matching three of six: 111,883. Prize: \$5.
- Next Lotto Texas game: Saturday night.
- Estimated jackpot: \$4 million.

- David "Gabe" Garrison, infant son of Pampa couple.
- Anna Scott, 85, homemaker.
- Lois Steward, 85, former rodeo secretary.
- Nellie Trainer, 88, seamstress.

- Classified .....7
- Comics .....4
- Sports .....5

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## Prevention to be new name of JPO's game

By DAVID BOWSER  
Staff Writer

Prevention is the name of the program for the Juvenile Probation Office.

Beginning in January, Juvenile Probation Office will start a program designed for juveniles trying to deal with social and academic problems at home and at school.

The CARE program targets children, youth and families dealing with poverty, crime, violence, homelessness, HIV and AIDS, alcoholism and drug addiction, Juvenile Probation Officer Felipe Chavez said Wednesday afternoon.

The program, developed by Jim Ingham, a volunteer coordinator with Catholic Family Services in Amarillo, is being offered statewide.

Chavez said several counties in the

The awareness program incorporates education skills training, including self-esteem, feelings, friendships, problem-solving and decision-making.

panhandle have reported having success with the program.

Selected juvenile offenders on probation will meet once a week for 12 weeks at the Gray County Sheriff's office beginning Jan. 9, said Juvenile Probation Officer Shawna Danford, the program coordinator.

They will meet from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. each Wednesday. Community service credit will be given for attending, she said.

Those invited to attend, Danford said,

will be between the ages of 10 and 14 who are considered at high-risk for alcohol, tobacco or drug use.

"It's a group thing," she explained.

The awareness program incorporates education skills training, including self-esteem, feelings, friendships, problem-solving and decision-making.

"It's a prevention tool," Danford said. "We're trying to get them the tools they need."

The curriculum-based support group incorporates opportunities for peer sup-

port and cooperation learning; practice in coping, thinking, social and interpersonal skills development, and a chance to bond with caring adults.

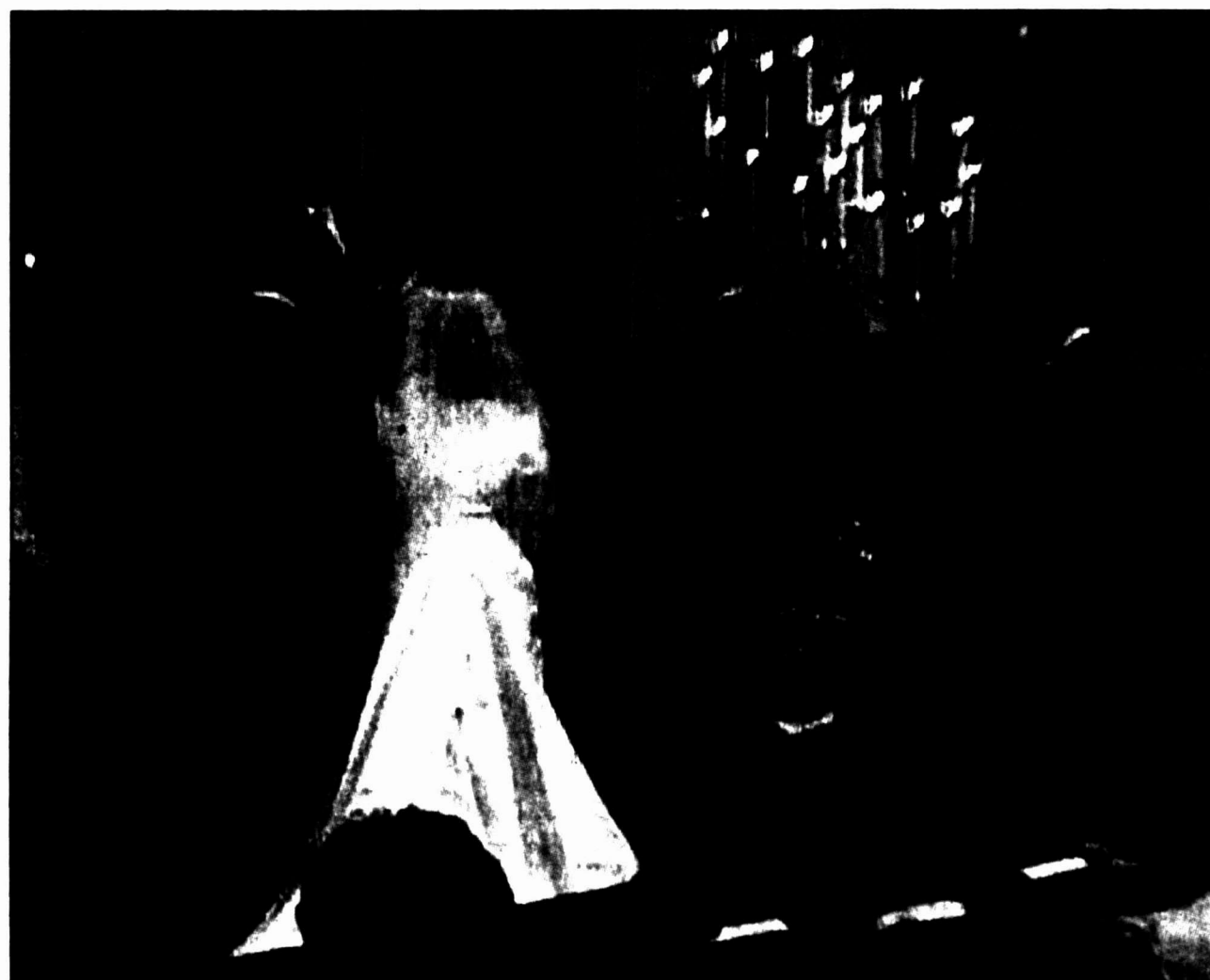
While Ingham's program is set up for 10- to 17-year-olds, Danford said the Gray County program will initially target at-risk youth from 10 to 14.

Depending upon how successful the program is, Chavez said, they may later expand it to 17-year-olds.

Danford is also extending Ingham's plan for 11 sessions to 12 sessions. Ingham, a former teacher, is planning to come to Pampa during one of the sessions to meet with parents.

"I'll send letters home after each meeting," Danford said, "letting parents know what we did in the last session."

Danford said she plans on taking the youth bowling for the last session.



(Courtesy photo)

Justice of the Peace Kurt Curfman received an extra special Christmas gift this year when he was asked to perform the wedding ceremony for his son Michael Curfman and new daughter-in-law Mona Woodard Curfman.

## Curfman clan enjoys special Christmas gift

By DAVID BOWSER  
Staff Writer

It was a Merry Christmas for the Curfman clan.

Kurt Curfman in his duties as a Justice of the Peace performs maybe a dozen weddings each year, but Friday night was special.

The Friday night before Christmas, Judge Curfman performed a wedding ceremony for his son and new daughter-in-law.

Michael Curfman and Mona Woodard were married Dec. 21, in the Mary Ellen Harvester Church of Christ by Judge Curfman.

"It was one of my happiest moments," Judge Curfman said. "Other than performing the marriage ceremony for one's own child, I don't know of anything better unless it would be baptizing them."

Curfman said the justices of the peace in Gray County don't perform a lot of weddings.

"I get one, maybe two a month if I'm lucky," Curfman said. "It's odd how it works."

He said he'll go several months without performing a wedding, but then there will be a flurry of them.

"I did six last February," Curfman said.

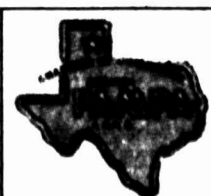
He had one scheduled for the day after Christmas, but the couple couldn't find his office — it's been moved to a building on Hobart Street that used to house a dormitory for nurses while the Gray County courthouse is undergoing renovation — and ended up at the office of Justice of the Peace Joe Martinez.

"They called and said they had decided to go ahead and get married there," Curfman shrugged.

But performing his son's marriage ceremony, he said, was the highlight of his career, especially since his new daughter-in-law asked him to do it.

The newly married couple took a short honeymoon, then returned to Pampa to celebrate the holidays with their parents.

"It was an exceptionally happy Christmas," Judge Curfman said.



Happy Holidays from the Pampa Chamber of Commerce

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# Daily Record

## Services tomorrow

SCOTT, Anna — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa. Graveside services, 2:30 p.m., Gruver Cemetery, Gruver.

## Obituaries

**DAVID 'GABE' GARRISON**  
MEMPHIS — David "Gabe" Garrison, infant son of Pampa residents, died Monday, Dec. 24, 2001, at Amarillo. Graveside services were Wednesday in Fairview Cemetery at Memphis with Deacon Juan Nino officiating. Burial was under the direction of Memphis Funeral Home.

David was born at 1:20 a.m., Dec. 24, 2001, at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo. He weighed 3 pounds and 4.7 ounces and was 16 inches long.

Survivors include his parents, Kerry and Juanita Garrison of Pampa; a brother, Shaun Jarrel of Pampa; a sister, Kaylie Jarrel of Pampa; his grandparents, Robert and Yolanda Galvan of Pampa and David and Susan Garrison of Childress; and his great-grandparents, Lucia and Roman Rodriguez of Lakeview and CD and Evelyn Garrison of Matador.

The family requests memorials be to Northwest Texas Hospital NEO Natal Intensive Care Unit, P.O. Box 1110, Amarillo TX 79176.

## ANNA SCOTT

WHITE DEER — Anna Scott, 85, died Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2001, at Panhandle, Texas.

Services will be at 10 a.m., Friday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel in Pampa with the Rev. J.C. Burt, interim pastor of Barrett Baptist Church of Pampa, officiating.

Graveside services will be at 2:30 p.m., in Gruver Cemetery at Gruver with the Rev. Gary Gumbory, pastor of First Christian Church of Gruver, officiating. Arrangements under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Scott was born March 3, 1916, at Jamestown, Tenn. She married Floyd Turner on July 13, 1934; he died in 1968. She later married Floyd Scott on May 21, 1985, at Pampa. A long-time Gruver resident, she moved to Pampa and later to White Deer in the mid-1980s. She was a homemaker and a member of First Baptist Church of Pampa and Pampa Senior Citizens.

Survivors include her husband, Floyd, of White Deer; two daughters, Floyce Corcoran of Pampa and Carolyn Hardesty of Rock Springs, Wyo.; a son, David Turner of Gruver; a half-sister, Charlene Branum of Amarillo; a step-sister, Bertha Johnson of Amarillo; seven grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to St. Ann's Nursing Home, Hwy 60, Panhandle TX 79068.

## LOIS STEWARD

LINCOLN, Neb. — Lois Steward, 85, died Sunday, Dec. 23, 2001, at Lincoln, Neb. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Steward was born Nov. 21, 1916, in Tennessee. She was a former Pampa resident. She worked as a secretary in the insurance industry for many years. She also worked for the Top O' Texas Rodeo Association and was secretary for the Pampa Chamber of Commerce. She was a member of the Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, W. Cecil and Mary Jane Steward of Lincoln, Neb.; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Troy and Matti Lou Maness and Archie and Theresa Maness, all of Pampa; a sister, Lessie Swain of Pampa; two grandchildren, Craig Steward of Lincoln, Neb., and Karen Steward of Los Angeles, Calif.; and a great-grandchild, Wesley Steward of Lincoln, Neb.

The family requests memorials be to Joslyn Castle Institute for Sustainable Communities, 3902 Davenport St., Omaha, NE 68131.

## NELLIE TRAINER

Nellie "Jane" E. Dowling Trainer, 88, of Pampa, died Wednesday, Dec. 26, 2001. Services will be at 2 p.m., Saturday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Todd Dyess, pastor of First United Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Trainer, a homemaker and a seamstress, was born Feb. 20, 1913, in Atoka County, Okla. She married Basil Edward Trainer on July 27, 1932, at Alva, Okla.; he died June 7, 1984. She had been a Pampa resident since 1980.

Survivors include two daughters, Oma Jean Lewis of Pampa and Gladys E. Moore of Kenwick, Wash.; a brother, Warren Dowling of Arvada, Colo.; five grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

## Man slain during family fight over Christmas holiday

TYLER (AP) — A 44-year-old man who had been drinking all day was stabbed to death after he attacked his wife and three teen-age children with a baseball bat because he didn't want them to celebrate Christmas, authorities said.

Johnny Ray Griffin of Gresham died at East Texas Medical Center Tuesday night.

"Apparently he didn't like

Christmas and his wife did," Lt. Larry Wiginton of the Smith County sheriff's office said in a story in Thursday's Tyler Morning Telegraph. "She was not going to deny her children an opportunity to have Christmas."

Investigators have not ruled out self-defense, and no one has been arrested.

Sherlene Griffin, 38, suffered a

blow to the back of the head. The teens sustained minor injuries. At some point, someone used a knife to fend off the man, according to reports.

The brawl began in the house and ended outside, according to reports. Deputies found Johnny Ray Griffin collapsed in the yard with at least one stab wound and his wife suffering from a head injury.

## Police report

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

### Wednesday, December 26

Trevor Len Slaton, 20, 1126 Wynne, was arrested on capias pro fine warrants for expired registration, no insurance, failure to maintain financial responsibility, running a red light and failure to appear.

Police are investigating a burglary of a building reported in the 1300 block of West Kentucky. A ladder, valued at \$195, and a coffee can were reported stolen. Damage to the doors of the building was estimated at \$500.

An assault was reported in the 1100 block of East Kingsmill.

A criminal trespass was reported in the 1400 block of North Charles.

Eggs were reported thrown at a vehicle in the 500 block of South Finley. No damage was reported.

## Sheriff's Office

Gray County Sheriff's Department reported the following arrests during the 72-hour holiday period ending at 7 a.m. today.

### Monday, December 24

Judy P. Ramirez, 43, 421 E. Browning was arrested for theft by check.

Angela Diann Larson, 30, White Deer, was arrested for assault causing bodily injury.

Johnny Diaz, 24, Hale Center, was arrested for violation of probation. Original charge was driving while intoxicated.

## Ambulance

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

### Wednesday, Dec. 26

11:10 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to U.S. Highway 60, east of Pampa and transported one to Pampa Regional Medical Center (PRMC).

1:58 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of South Russell and transported one to PRMC.

11:56 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of West Kingsmill and transported one to PRMC.

## Fires

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

### Wednesday, Dec. 26

9:55 p.m. — Two units and six firefighters responded to a report of a fire in the 700 block of East Kingsmill. The fire was coming from a coffee can filled with lighter fluid. Firefighters smothered the fire with dirt.

## Carson Co. Sheriff

Carson County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests during the week of Dec. 17-23.

### Week of Dec. 17-23

Marc Rogers, 32, Peoria, Ariz., was arrested for possession of marijuana more than 50 pounds, less than 2000 pounds.

Clarence Porter, 35, Chandler, Ariz., was arrested for possession of marijuana more than 50 pounds, less than 2000 pounds.

San Juanita Martinez, 39, White Deer, was arrested for driving while intoxicated, first offense.

Gerardo Moreno, 29, Huntington Park, Calif., was arrested for possession of a controlled substance and money laundering.

Angelica Garcia, 21, Huntington Park, Calif., was arrested for possession of a controlled substance and money laundering.

John Caraway, 19, Dumas, was arrested on a court ordered commitment.

Sheri Luker, 35, Topeka, Kan., was arrested for public intoxication.

Corrina Liendo, 21, Panhandle, was arrested for assault - family violence.

Michael Isles, 23, Panhandle, was arrested for assault - family violence.

Demetrius Robinson, 27, Tempe, Ariz., was arrested for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Jermaine Petterson, 18, Amarillo, was arrested on a Potter County warrant.

Eugene Thomas, 67, Amarillo, was arrested for driving while intoxicated, first offense.

## Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa.

Wheat 2.35  
Milo 3.33  
Corn 3.35  
Soybeans 3.43  
Oil Sunflowers NA

The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation.

Occidental 26.64 dn 0.19  
Fidelity Mageln 104.25  
Puritan 17.58

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

BP 46.30 up 0.42  
Celanese 18.85 dn 0.23  
Cabot 35.05 up 0.37  
Cabot O&G 23.92 dn 0.07  
Chevron/Texas 89.84 up 0.64

## ENRON

Standard & Poor's dropped Enron stock from its index.

According to the report, TRS bought \$9 million worth of Enron stock just three weeks before Houston-based energy giant filed bankruptcy on Dec. 2. When ERS bought the shares, prices ranged between \$9 and \$10.

Other states have had similar losses. California's retirement pension fund, owned nearly three million shares of Enron stock, about one percent of the fund's total investments. In

Florida, state officials fired an outside investment adviser because it kept buying Enron stock through the final days, losing \$306 million.

In Texas, investment decisions are made by staff or outside managers, depending upon the portfolio. So far, no one has been dismissed because of their Enron decisions.

"We view it as one event, not a systemic problem," Beckett said.

Senate Finance Chairman Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, in early December asked the comptroller's office for a report on the statewide effect of Enron's collapse.

## Buffalo braces for more lake-effect snow; 2 feet falls since Wednesday in some areas

By CAROLYN THOMPSON  
Associated Press Writer

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — More than 2 feet of snow buried parts of Buffalo and neighboring towns overnight, and the robust Lake Erie-fed bands of snow responsible were expected to churn for another full day.

When the snow is tallied Friday, some areas will have seen 4 feet since the storm first blew in Christmas Eve, National Weather Service meteorologists said.

The region's first significant snow of the season has come while schoolchildren are on a holiday break and many businesses are running at less than full capacity, meaning fewer vehicles on the roads.

"If there's any plus, that's it," said Streets Commissioner Paul Sullivan, who has been dispatching plow crews in 12-hour shifts around the clock.

Meteorologist Darin Figsrsky said large masses of cold air are siphoning moisture from Lake Erie and dropping it as snow.

"These bands just keep going back and forth, back and forth," Figsrsky said.

Up to an additional foot of snow was possible during the day Thursday in any area raked by the bands, and the same was possible overnight into Friday.

Hardest hit overnight into Thursday was southern Buffalo and neighboring West Seneca, where 18 inches of snow fell between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m., the

weather service said. That piled on top of snow that fell earlier in the evening, leaving more than 2 feet accumulation in some places that already had received heavy snow earlier in the week.

The snow proved even too much for some private plows. One pickup with a plow couldn't make it down a residential street.

Mary McGuire, who was shoveling a path through waist-deep snow Thursday morning, opted to stay home from work.

"I sell cars, and nobody's buying a car today," she said. "And if they want to, if they can dig it out, it's theirs."

Buffalo Niagara International Airport, which has been closed periodically since Monday, was open Thursday morning but few flights were departing or arriving, officials said.

Most of the city's major roads remained opened, including the New York State Thruway, which was reporting snowfall as far east as Batavia, some 35 miles to the east. A portion of Route 5, connecting Buffalo with some southern suburbs, was closed, and a driving ban was in effect in Lackawanna, just south of Buffalo.

It's a drastic change for a community that enjoyed its first November on record without snow, and recorded only 1 1/2 inches before Christmas Eve.

Christmas Day, 25.2 inches had fallen in parts of the city, ranking No. 3 in the city's history for a 24-hour span.

Because of lake-effect snowfalls, average winter snowfall in Buffalo is 93.5 inches.

## Texas Roundup ...

### Boy who drowned in lake called outspoken

SILSBEE (AP) — A 6-year-old boy whose body was recovered from a lake after he disappeared during a family hike was described as an outspoken and fearless kindergartner who enjoyed climbing trees and playing video games.

Family members had puzzled for days over Ira Clutter's disappearance because he wasn't one to turn off, his father, Randy Clutter said.

Hundreds of volunteers spent days searching the rocky, brushy terrain and dirt trails in Possum Kingdom State Park, about 130 miles west of Dallas. Clutter, who is legally blind, searched alongside those who came from across the state to help.

Divers recovered Ira's body Wednesday from the lake where family members least suspected he would be found.

### After 11 years, thief confesses to slaying

HONDO (AP) — A guilt-ridden California prison inmate, serving a four-year sentence in San Quentin on a grand theft charge, has been extradited to Texas to be tried for the killing 11 years ago of an Air Force sergeant outside San Antonio.

The files on the disappearance on Nov. 9, 1990, of Scott M. Prince had been all but forgotten when Timothy C. Thomason told California officials last May 30 that he robbed and strangled the airman with the help of two others.

Thomason told California officials he robbed and strangled the airman with the help of two others.

According to an arrest warrant affidavit by Medina County Sheriff Joe Tschirhart, Thomason said he and a female friend posed as hitchhikers on Loop 410 in San Antonio, planning to rob whoever stopped.

Prince was overpowered and robbed after he picked up the pair, Thomason reportedly said, and they then were joined by an acquaintance he identified only as "Mike."

### Two San Antonio residents celebrate 212 years of life

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Amelia McDaniel and Julia Hoyle-Gayden have a few things in common.

Both live in San Antonio, both have strong beliefs, and both celebrated birthdays Wednesday.

McDaniel, 105, is the young one. Hoyle-Gayden is 107.

"It's unbelievable," said Dr. Thomas T. Peris, a geriatrician at Beth

Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, Mass., and an assistant professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School.

"There are about 50,000 centenarians living in the United States but having two celebrating their birthdays on the same day in the same city — San Antonio is truly lucky," Peris told the San Antonio Express-News.

### Modern zoos protect endangered animals

EL PASO (AP) — Zoos were founded so visitors could see exotic, dangerous animals.

Humans, it turns out, may be the most dangerous of them all.

As we have fanned out across the planet, conquering land and harnessing natural resources, hundreds of other species are losing their homes and reaching extinction.

"We are seeing islands of (animal) habitat surrounded by seas of humanity," said Michael Hutchins, the American Zoo and Aquarium Association's director of conservation and science.

For the El Paso Zoo, the limiting factor has been space rather than money, said animal curator John Kiseda.

Bit within the next two years, using about \$500,000 from a recent bond election approved by voters, the zoo will add exhibits and facilities to hold and handle threatened and endangered species.

## City Briefs

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

**CELEBRATE THE** New Year with Jumbos Fireworks! Open Dec. 28th-Dec. 31st, Hwy 60 & Price Rd. - Great Sale Prices!!

**CELLULAR ACCESSORY** Sale! All digital face plates \$10, 3D lens covers \$3, other phone accessories 25% Off thru Jan. 31st. Pampa Communications, 641 N. Hobart. Open Sat. 9-3 p.m.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS** from Joys Unlimited. We will be closed Dec. 26th and 27th to spend time with our families.

**MCLEAN COUNTRY** Club New Year's Eve Dance with Charlie Phillips and the "Sugar-timers", Mon., Dec. 31st, 8:30-12:30 p.m. Cover Charge.

**PARTY TRAYS** for the Holidays, Hoagies Deli, 665-0292. We Deliver!

**SHOP SANDS** Fabrics End of Year Clearance Sale, 40% Off All Fabric.

## Weather focus

**PAMPA** - Today, mostly cloudy. Highs near 50. Northeast winds 5 to 15 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. Southwest winds 5 to 15 mph. Friday, mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 50s. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph. Friday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. Saturday, partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 40s. Saturday evening, partly cloudy. Sunday, cloudy with a slight chance of snow. Lows in the lower 20s. Highs in the mid 30s. Monday, cloudy with a slight chance of

snow. Lows near 20. Highs in the upper 30s.

**STATEWIDE** - Except for high thin clouds moving into the Panhandle, skies were clear across Texas on Thursday.

Temperatures mostly ranged from the upper 20s to the middle 30s in the early morning hours, except for readings in the lower 40s along the coast and a few scattered showers.

Highs were expected to rise to near 60 by mid-afternoon. The National Weather Service said the day should be mostly sunny and warmer.

In South Texas, skies were most-

ly sunny, with patchy fog developing east in early morning. Isolated showers could occur in extreme west portions.

The weather service said a slight chance of showers existed for northeast parts of Southeast Texas. By Monday, rain possibly mixed with freezing rain or sleet is likely, with lows around 30 and highs from the mid-30s to the mid-40s.

Precipitation could move into the rest of South Texas by Monday, with a chance of rain possibly mixed with freezing rain or sleet, with lows around 30 and highs ranging from the mid-30s to the mid-40s.

# Captured al-Qaida forces sent to base in Kandahar

WASHINGTON (AP) — Twenty suspected al-Qaida fighters who fled the area of eastern Afghanistan where Osama bin Laden may have been hiding have been transferred to a U.S. Marine detention center, a Pentagon spokesman said Thursday.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Afghan Defense Ministry said bin Laden is believed to be in a border area of Pakistan with friends of a Pakistani religious party leader. A party spokesman said the report was baseless, and a Defense Department official said the United States does not have information to prove or disprove it.

U.S. Navy warplanes struck a Taliban or al-Qaida target southwest of Kandahar Wednesday night, Pentagon officials said. No further information was immediately available.

The new prisoners at the Marine base in Kandahar were captured in Pakistan, where dozens of al-Qaida members fled amid heavy fighting in Afghanistan's Tora Bora region earlier this month. American officials say the prisoners could have useful information in the hunt for bin Laden and the

rest of the anti-terrorism campaign, Pentagon spokeswoman Victoria Clarke said.

"We want to talk to them pretty thoroughly," Clarke said, adding that the interrogations would be performed by "a variety of U.S. officials, including military."

The new prisoners bring to 45 the number of detainees held by U.S. forces. Eight, including American Taliban fighter John Walker Lindh, are being held on the USS Peleliu in the Arabian Sea. The rest are at the Marine base at Kandahar's airport in a facility built to hold up to several hundred people.

The military is considering several sites to hold prisoners captured during the war in Afghanistan, Clarke said. A likely choice is the U.S. Navy base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, defense officials said. The base would offer a secure location close to the United States for possible terrorist trials by a military tribunal.

The Defense Department does not have a copy of a newly aired videotape of bin Laden, Clarke said. The tape does not offer any obvious clues to bin Laden's whereabouts — or even

whether he is alive or dead.

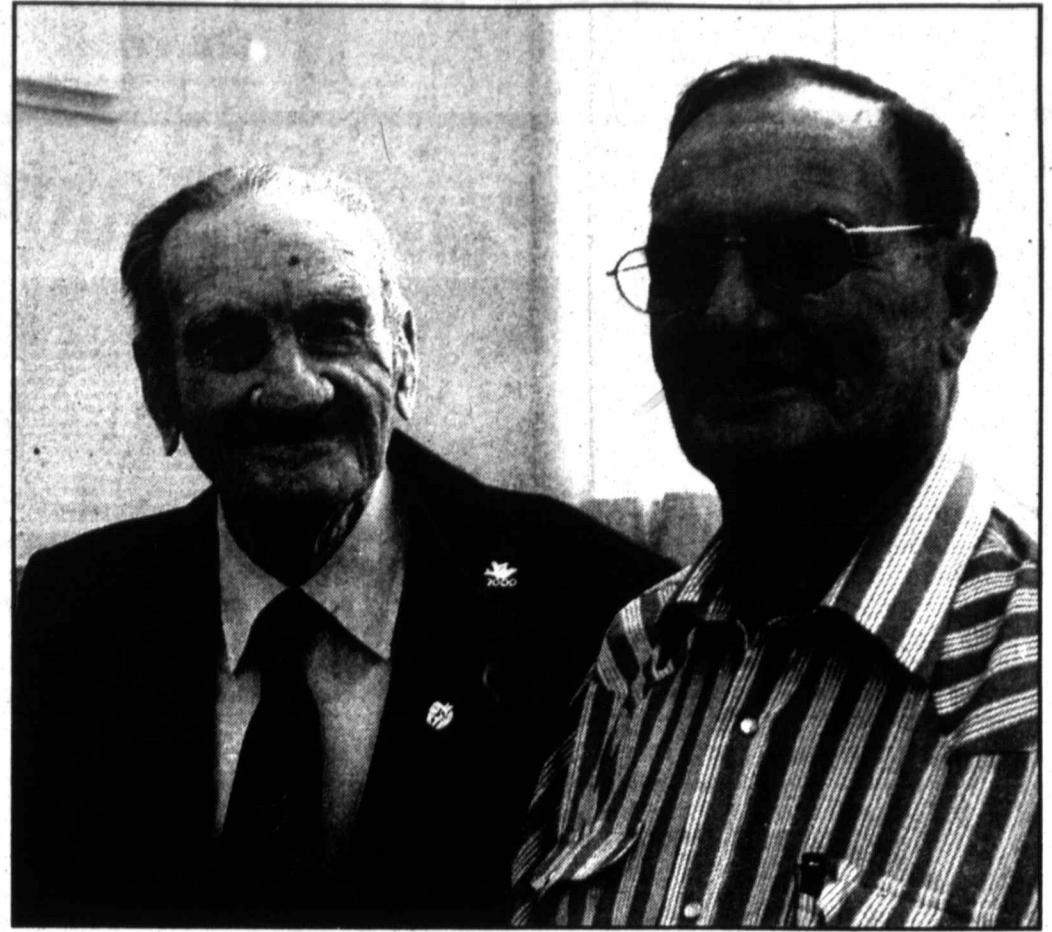
The Afghan Defense Ministry spokesman, Mohammad Abeel, said bin Laden is believed to be in Pakistan with associates of Maulana Fazal-ur Rehman, leader of the Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam party. Abeel did not divulge the source of his information.

The party, which is sympathetic to Afghanistan's deposed Taliban militia, is supported in parts of Pakistan's North West Frontier and Baluchistan provinces, both of which border Afghanistan.

Riaz Durrani, central information secretary for Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam, dismissed the report. "We support the Taliban, but never had any connection with Osama bin Laden," he said. "Maulana Fazal-ur Rehman is under detention for the last three months. How can he or his party do this?"

U.S. intelligence hasn't reported picking up any credible signs of bin Laden's location in about two weeks, and so cannot determine for certain whether bin Laden is dead, alive in Afghanistan or alive in Pakistan, officials said. Bin Laden's statements on the videotape suggest it may have been made just before he disappeared.

## Like father, like son



(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)

George Keeton, left, and his son Doyle Keeton, a young 71, join a celebration honoring George on his 102nd birthday this morning at Bank of America. The elder Keeton's association with the bank spans many years. Still spry after more than a century, Keeton greets customers at the bank at a special desk set up for him.

## Pampa Board of Realtors officers



(Courtesy photo)

Pampa Board of Realtors recently installed the following officers for the coming year: (left-right) Becky Baten of Quentin Williams, president; Sue Baker of Century 21, vice president; Joan Mabry of Quentin Williams, secretary; and Norma Ward of Norma Ward Realty, directory. Joyce Trigg, president of Borger Board of Realtors, officiated at the installation ceremony.

## Military officials: U.S. forces will go beyond Afghanistan

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. military officials are making it clear publicly that Afghanistan isn't the only country where American forces are fighting — or planning to fight — terrorist networks.

They won't say where, but other areas known as hide-outs for terrorist Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network include Somalia, Yemen, Sudan and the Chechnya region of Russia. All are predominantly Muslim, with vast, war-ravaged areas under little or no central government control.

The Afghanistan war's commander, Army Gen. Tommy Franks, gave one of the strongest indications yet about the shadowy aspects of the U.S. military campaign. Speaking to The Associated Press Tuesday on the USS Theodore Roosevelt aircraft carrier, Franks said overt and covert U.S. military operations are "going on in a great many places."

Those operations "are designed to do away with these pockets of terrorism," Franks said without giving details.

"I think General Franks was being vague for an obvious reason," said Army Col. Richard Thomas,

spokesman for U.S. Central Command, which Franks heads. "There's a lot of stuff going on. Some of it you get to report, some of it you don't."

Defense Department officials have said they are focusing on rooting out al-Qaida and their former Taliban sponsors from Afghanistan. They also have stressed that the fight won't end there, and have mentioned several countries where al-Qaida operates or that sponsor terrorism.

One of those countries is Yemen, the native country of bin Laden's wealthy construction magnate father, the late Mohammed Bin-Awad Binladin.

State Department spokesman Philip Reeker on Wednesday denied reports that the United States had asked Yemen to allow U.S. forces to participate in the hunt for al-Qaida members there. Yemeni troops have been searching for members of the terrorist network since Dec. 18, and at least 24 soldiers and six tribesmen have been killed.

U.S. officials hold al-Qaida responsible for the Sept. 11 terror attacks and the 2000 bombing of the USS Cole in a Yemeni harbor which killed 17 sailors.

## Enron donates to Democrats just before filing bankruptcy

WASHINGTON (AP) — A week before filing for bankruptcy protection, Enron Corp. contributed \$100,000 to Democrats after giving nearly all its prior donations this year to Republicans.

The money went to the organization that aids Senate Democratic candidates, but a recently hired attorney for Enron insisted the donations were unrelated to congressional investigations.

Attorney Robert Bennett, who represented former President Clinton and other high-profile clients, said the money was pledged months before Enron's collapse prompted the congressional inquiries. Rather, he said, the shift reflected the Democrats taking control of the Senate this year.

"Donations of this type reflect certain political realities, which are followed by all major corporations," Bennett said Wednesday about Enron's \$50,000 checks on Nov. 25 and Nov. 26 to the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee.

Enron filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on Dec. 2. Tovah Ravitz-Meehan, a spokeswoman for the Democratic Senate fund-raising committee, said the head of the organization, Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., has asked that Enron's money be given to a charitable organization. She said the committee is trying to find an organization

that would help laid-off Enron workers.

"It wasn't right to keep it and it wasn't right to give it back to Enron so we're looking for charitable options," Ravitz-Meehan said.

Congressional Republicans and Democrats alike have heaped criticism on Enron, accusing the company of burning stockholders who were unaware of the company's failing condition, throwing thousands of people out of work and decimating retirement accounts.

This week, Democrats on the Senate Commerce Committee demanded that the Federal Trade Commission investigate why company executives were allowed to cash out their stock while other employees were prevented from selling the company's sinking shares in their retirement accounts.

Bennett said it would be "very unfair to draw any improper motive based on these contributions. While the money was given in November, a large portion of it had been committed as far back as September."

Before the contributions to the Democrats, Enron this year had contributed \$173,000 to candidates and parties, with almost 90 percent going to Republicans.

Since the 1989-90 election cycle,

Enron has made nearly \$5.8 million in campaign contributions, 73 percent to Republicans.

The contributions were compiled by the Center for Responsive Politics, an organization that tracks campaign finance issues.

In addition to the corporate donations, federal reports show Enron chairman and chief executive Kenneth Lay donated \$250,000 to the Republican Party during President Bush's campaign and raised at least \$100,000 for Bush from other donors.

The Justice Department is investigating Houston-based Enron for possible criminal conduct. The Labor Department and the Securities and Exchange Commission are conducting civil investigations.

Bennett will represent Enron in dealings with Congress, the news media and investigators.

He represented Clinton in the sexual-harassment lawsuit filed by Paula Jones, and was the Senate ethics committee's counsel in the investigation of five senators with ties to a failed savings and loan operator.

On the Net: Center for Responsive Politics site is [www.opensecrets.org](http://www.opensecrets.org). Click on News and Issues to find Nov. 9 report on Enron.

## U.S. officials avoid POW designation for captives

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States is reserving the right to try al-Qaida and Taliban captives on its own terms and isn't calling them "prisoners of war," although the Red Cross says it is getting full access to them for now.

Human rights watchdogs are worried that U.S. insistence on describing the captives held by its forces and allies as "detainees" is a precursor to military tribunals and lowered standards of due process.

"It may violate internationally recognized standards for a fair trial," Amnesty International spokeswoman Vienna Colucci said Wednesday of the tribunals, created by President Bush on Nov. 13.

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LEFORS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND  
YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2001

Data Control Codes	GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES			TOTALS (Memorandum Only)	
	100-199 General Fund	200-499 Special Revenue Funds	500-599 Debt Service Fund	98 August 31, 2001	97 August 31, 2000
<b>REVENUES:</b>					
Local and Intermediate Sources:					
	\$ 43,356	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 43,356	\$ 51,149
Investment Income	977,689	19,465	-	997,154	838,826
Other Local and Intermediate Sources	1,021,045	19,465	84,377	1,124,887	889,975
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	434,345	83,241	-	517,586	515,922
5800 State Program Revenues	-	61,962	-	61,962	57,688
5900 Federal Program Revenues	1,455,390	164,668	84,377	1,704,435	1,463,585
5020 Total Revenues					
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>					
Current:					
0010 Instruction and Instructional-Related Services	844,716	111,607	-	956,323	842,929
0020 Instructional and School Leadership	77,594	-	-	77,594	71,588
0030 Support Services - Student (Pupil)	216,483	69,524	-	286,007	219,592
0040 Administrative Support Services	116,571	-	-	116,571	100,141
0050 Support Services - Nonstudent Based	362,417	-	-	362,417	217,922
0070 Debt Service	-	-	83,559	83,559	82,715
0090 Intergovernmental Charges	15,227	-	-	15,227	14,813
6030 Total Expenditures	1,633,008	181,131	83,559	1,897,698	1,549,700
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(177,618)	(16,463)	818	(193,263)	(86,115)
7020 Other Resources	-	15,831	-	15,831	41,784
8030 Other (Uses)	(15,831)	-	-	(15,831)	(41,784)
1200 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues & Other Resources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Uses (193,449)	(632)	818	-	(193,263)	(86,115)
0100 Fund Balance-September 1 (Beginning)	753,531	2,358	-	755,889	842,004
3000 Fund Balance-August 31 (Ending)	\$ 560,082	\$ 1,726	\$ 818	\$ 562,626	\$ 755,889

December 27, 2001

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Thursday, December 27

Page 4

## Pennies From Heaven Are Precious Tokens of Life

**DEAR ABBY:** I have twin sisters who are a few years younger than I. Our mom usually baked them a double-heart birthday cake, since they were born the day after Valentine's Day.

Mom passed away suddenly in 1993. There was no warning. Of course, the three of us were devastated. It took a long time to get over the shock and pain.

This year we got together on the twins' 55th birthday. After opening the gifts that I got them, my sister Marilyn tried on the black fleece jacket. She put her hands in the pockets to model it and felt something. Removing her hands from the pockets she asked, "Sue, did you put these in here?" In each hand she held a penny, dated 1993!

That's our "pennies from heaven" story — strange, but true. We feel these pennies were from Mom, letting us know that she was with us on her twin daughters' birthday.

SUE REICH,  
KANSAS CITY, KAN.

**Dear Abby**  
Is written by  
Pauline Phillips and  
daughter Jeanne Phillips

She went out and cleaned it, and as a joke I paid her a penny for it.

After she passed away and went to heaven, we discovered that she had wrapped the penny in a little piece of paper upon which she had scribbled, "The penny Carl gave me for washing the steering wheel of his car. Signed, Minnie Blaich." (I'm enclosing a photocopy.)

I had the nicest parents, and have a wife who is just as nice. We were married on my birthday, Oct. 8, 1939. We now we have been married for 62 years.

I hope you enjoyed my penny story.

CARL BLAICH,  
ZEPHYRHILLS, FLA.

**DEAR ABBY:** When my daughter was 10 years old (she's 14 now), we sent cupcakes to school on her birthday. Later that evening, I asked her how school went that day. "Oh, Mom," she said, "it was the best day I ever had at school." I smiled, and she continued: "Except for the shooting." Terror struck at my heart and my smile froze into fear.

Apparently, some idiot across the street from her school had shot his gun into the air while the kids were playing in the school yard. The playground supervisor immediately ordered the children to drop to the ground, and the police were called.

My little girl went on with her day: "But I got to pick out a prize from the 'good behavior box' — and this is for you." She handed me a bookmark about guardian angels, attached to which was a penny with an angel cut into its center. It is priceless to me. To this day, I carry it on my key chain and say a little prayer for her safety when I'm reminded of its meaning.

SHARON IN MINNEAPOLIS

**DEAR SUE:** Perhaps your mother was putting in her 2 cents' worth on that happy occasion.

P.S. I'm still kickin' — but I'm not making much dust.

**DEAR SHARON:** If anyone ever says, "A penny for your thoughts," share your story with him or her. It's an important reminder of how precious life is.

**DEAR ABBY:** Back in 1936 or 1937, I was living at home and driving a junky old car. One day I accidentally mentioned to my mother that I needed to give the steering wheel a good cleaning.

**DEAR CARL:** Your penny story touched my heart. Obviously, your dear mother treasured the memory of that event, which is why the penny meant so much to her. I'll bet she wouldn't have parted with that penny for any amount of money.

Dear Abby is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips.

### Wildwood

WHAT'S WRONG, LENNY?  
I DIDN'T GET ALL THE STUFF I WANTED, BOBO.

"I WAS SAD I HAD NO SHOES UNTIL I MET A MAN WITH NO FEET."

NOW I DIDN'T GET ALL THE STUFF I WANTED AND I'M GROSSED OUT.

Crossword Puzzle

Marmaduke

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- Greatly impressed ideas
  - Novel ideas
  - Sir's counter-part
  - Entangled
  - Complexion
  - Noggins
  - Pot starts
  - Like some cheese
  - Yarn amounts
  - Butter on the farm
  - Top card
  - Pig's place
  - Increasing threefold
  - Clueless exclamation
  - Rowing need
  - Insignificant
  - "Platoon" setting
  - North Pole worker
  - Train unit
  - Go by
  - Zorro accessory
  - Lose it
  - Code name
  - Acid type
  - Actor Quinn
- DOWN**
- Disclose
  - Falls on the border
  - Mythical huntress
  - Tend the garden
  - Bradley
  - Begley
  - Collier's place
  - Nay voters
  - Spy
  - Like a slob
  - Deducted
  - Biol. or chem.
  - Outdoor
  - Cherry center
  - Guy's date
  - Actor Montalban
  - Rosy
  - Is curt with
  - de France
  - Salad makeup
  - Himalayan land
  - Texas landmark
  - Overly excited
  - Spring, for one
  - Tourist's aid

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F	R	I	E	N	D	O	R	F	O	E	
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A	S	S	E	S	P	E	A	R			

Yesterday's answer

"Got too close to his tail when I was serving his dinner."

### The Family Circus

"Something I asked for I didn't get. Does Santa have a customer service number?"

For Better or For Worse

HERE WE ARE IN THE KITCHEN TOGETHER—JUST LIKE OLD TIMES!  
YEAH!

ARE YOU ENJOYING SCHOOL? HAVE YOU MADE SOME GOOD FRIENDS? IS EVERYTHING OK?  
OK.

ARE YOU HAPPY, ELIZABETH?  
YEAH, I'M HAPPY! DON'T I LOOK HAPPY? WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I'M NOT HAPPY?

AAAH!

JEREMY, HAVE YOU WRITTEN YOUR CHRISTMAS THANK-YOU NOTES YET?  
YES.

I SAT DOWN AND TOOK CARE OF IT FIRST THING THIS MORNING.  
VERY FUNNY.

I'VE NEVER BEEN A VERY CONVINCING LIAR.  
"FIRST THING THIS MORNING? DUDE, SHE KNOWS YOU DIDN'T GET OUT OF BED UNTIL NOON!"

HI, MOM?... IT'S JON.

ABOUT THAT SWEATER YOU MADE GARFIELD FOR CHRISTMAS?...

YOU LEFT OUT A HOLE.  
HOW DO YOU LEAVE OUT A HOLE?!

TAKE YOUR REPORT AWAY! IT'S GARBAGE!

BUT YOU PASTED RED AND GREEN STARS ON IT.

THAT'S FOR CHRISTMAS.

OKAY... MY FIRST CHRISTMAS PRETTY MUCH LIVED UP TO ALL OF THE HYPE I'D HEARD.

SO...WHAT'S NEXT?

I'D LIKE TO EXCHANGE THIS BOOMERANG! IT HAS ENTIRELY TOO MUCH RANGE!

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? IT OBVIOUSLY COMES BACK TO YOU, DOESN'T IT?

YES! BUT IT COMES BACK C.O.D.!

I CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON YOUR MOTHER TO GIVE ME SOMETHING FOR CHRISTMAS I CAN REALLY USE!

WHAT DID SHE GIVE YOU?

A BOTTLE OF AFTER-SHAVE LOTION.

ALL RIGHT, WHO DID IT? COME ON! CONFESS!

I WANNA KNOW!

WHO INVENTED "THANK YOU" NOTES?!

WHAT DID DAGWOOD'S BOSS GIVE HIM FOR CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR?

A TOP-OF-THE-LINE FLY FISHING ROD.

I'LL BET HE CAN'T WAIT FOR WINTER TO BE OVER!

YOU'RE RIGHT, HE CAN'T!

"AFTER-CHRISTMAS CLOSE-OUT"

"NO INTEREST 'TIL 2008."

"ZERO INTEREST."

"I'VE GOT ZERO INTEREST."

ONLY THING IS WHEN IT COMES TO BUYING STUFF I CAN'T AFFORD.

**STUMPED?**  
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# SPORTS

## Notebook

**VOLLEYBALL**

**PAMPA** — Pampa Optimist Club is offering a volleyball league for fifth and sixth grade girls next year. Signup dates are Jan. 9-10 in the middle school girls gym from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$20, which includes a t-shirt, volleyball basics and games. Games, which begin the week of Jan. 22, will be played on Tuesdays and possibly Thursdays at the middle school. If more information is needed, call Kendra Reeves at 669-4900, ext. 37 during the day. Coaches are also needed and interested persons can contact coach Reeves.

**FOOTBALL**

**AMARILLO** — Three Groom players were first-team selections to the 2001 Region 1 Six-Man All-Star Football Team. Sophomore quarterback Clay Britten was named to the first-team offense. Senior linemen Trey Britten and senior linebacker Clay Ritter were named to the first-team defense. A pair of Miami players were also first-team picks. They were junior kicker Hal Rogers and senior safety Jimmy James. Named to the second-team offense were senior running back Cody Bivens of Groom and senior end Lance Patterson of Miami. Named to the second-team defense were senior lineman Zach McDowell of Miami, junior linebacker Doug Fields of Groom and senior linebacker Caleb Barnes of Lefors.

**BASEBALL**

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — In a record-breaking season capped by major awards, one home run was especially significant to Barry Bonds. It was not his 500th career homer, or his 71st of the season, which broke Mark McGwire's record. Instead, in a year that brought Bonds an unprecedented fourth MVP award and honors as The Associated Press Male Athlete of the Year, it was homer No. 68 that made Bonds cry. That homer came on Sept. 28, as he mourned the death of friend and former bodyguard Franklin Bradley. Bonds wept on the bench after the homer.

**HOCKEY**

**DALLAS (AP)** — Patrick Roy has more wins than any goalie in NHL history because he's really good and, sometimes, really lucky. Roy was both in earning career victory No. 500 Wednesday night, stopping pucks with his stick and his calf, from his belly and against a 6-on-4 attack, leading the Colorado Avalanche past the Dallas Stars 2-0. The Stars did get the puck past Roy twice, only to be rejected by the crossbar both times. "At some point, we all get some breaks," Roy said, "and I'll take them." He didn't need too many Wednesday, though. Roy made 13 of his 31 saves in the final period and many were his best of the night. In the final five minutes, Roy stopped a shot from his left, then knocked away a putback attempt while face-down on the ice.

## Will college football ever have a playoff?

Wonder how low the television ratings will sink for the college bowl games? The percentage will probably fall somewhere between All in the Family re-runs and World Cup Skiing. There's got to be a better way of picking the teams. Many people are wanting some kind of playoff system, possibly pitting the conference champions against each other. If the NCAA insists on using computer rankings, why not match up the top eight teams in a playoff at the end of the regular season? That may not solve the problem of having a legitimate champion, but at least there would be the resemblance of a playoff. Put the top four teams in one bracket and the bottom four in the other bracket. An NCAA championship game prior to the NFL's Super Bowl would push those ratings sky-high. It's doubtful if any kind of a playoff format will satisfy everyone, especially the way the computer rankings are set up now.



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

Rest assured, if the TV ratings are low enough there will be some changes made next season. Congratulations to former Wheeler girls' basketball coach Jan Newland, who will be inducted into the Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame next year. Newland led Claude to two state championships as a player. She's currently coaching at Plains. Newland coached 16 seasons at Wheeler where she had some good girls' teams. The other inductees will be longtime football

coach Greg Sherwood and former Stinnett quarterback Larry Dawson. It's good to see White Deer running back Aaron McKean on the Class 1A 2001 Golden Spread Football Team selected by the Amarillo Globe-News. McKean rushed for 1,275 yards and scored 20 touchdowns in helping lead the Bucks to the District 1-1A championship. White Deer lost to Nazareth 27-6 in bi-district without McKean, who was sidelined with a deep thigh bruise. He could have made the difference. McKean's teammates, wide receiver Dustin Harper and defensive lineman Nick Ball, also made the Golden Spread Team. Wheeler landed offensive lineman Joe Salas and defensive back James Chapman on the team. It's good news for the Mustangs because Salas and Chapman were both sophomores on a District 1-1A runner-up team.

## Aggies, Horned Frogs renew their rivalry

By **MICHAEL A. LUTZ**  
AP Sports Writer

**HOUSTON (AP)** — Former Southwest Conference rivals Texas A&M and TCU are putting the best face they can on the galleryfurniture.com Bowl. The Aggies (7-4) expected to contend for the Big 12 title before late losses soured their season. TCU (6-5) needed upsets in its final two games just to qualify for a bowl. "We've had some great highs and we've had some very, very low points in our season," TCU coach Gary Patterson said. "I think it's the incredible part of our kids, the chemistry and the kind of makeup that they have, that they fought back and gave themselves a chance."

Kickoff is at 12:30 p.m. Friday. The Horned Frogs were going nowhere with a 4-5 record when they upset Conference USA champion Louisville and followed that with a 14-12 victory over Southern Mississippi. It was the conclusion of a 16-week season that started with a 21-7 loss to Nebraska on Aug. 25 in the Pigskin Classic and included six open dates. "I think in the last four weeks of the season, the two weeks we had off for Louisville and Southern Miss really helped us because I think we matured and we started to grow," Patterson said. The Aggies have a 55-29-7 advantage in the series, and they've won 23 in a row since the Horned Frogs' last victory in 1972. The Aggies were poised to be

back and tight end corps. Derek Farmer, Keith Joseph and Oschler Flemming have shared running back duties. Former defensive lineman Thomas Carriger is starting at tight end and is backed up by walk-on Haven Massey. The Aggies expect a tough time running against TCU's eight-man front. "Any time there's extra people in the box, it always makes it difficult to run," A&M running backs coach Ken Rucker said. "We're going to win some and lose some in that situation. But as a team, you've got to do what is you. Running is part of our deal." TCU junior quarterback Casey Printers helped the Horned Frogs' late-season surge. Printers threw eight touchdown passes in the last

## Mavs are NBA's hottest team

**SAN ANTONIO (AP)** — Even a 53-point performance from Tim Duncan couldn't stop the Dallas Mavericks, the NBA's hottest team. Steve Nash scored 27 points and made a 3-pointer with 0.6 seconds remaining in overtime as the Mavericks won their seventh straight game, defeating the San Antonio Spurs for only the 11th time in their last 50 meetings, 126-123. "I really wanted to hit a big shot in overtime and fortunately I got that opportunity," Nash said. "We ran a pick and roll, and when I came off the pick I tried to get the defense off of me and create some space and was just able to get a good look." Dallas won despite a career night by Duncan, who scored 28 of his points in the fourth quarter and overtime and also pulled down 11 rebounds. "I wish I'd have missed all my shots the way this turned out," said Duncan, who was 19-of-28 from the field and connected on 15 straight free throws. The 53 points was fourth-most ever scored by a San Antonio player and the most scored in an NBA game this season. "They were getting the ball to me and I had to take my shots and the shots were falling. We'll learn from this. We'll get better," Duncan said. Michael Finley led the Mavericks with 28 points, Dirk Nowitzki added 26 and Tim Hardaway had 15. "We had no answer for Duncan down low tonight," Dallas coach Don Nelson said. "Other than that I thought we played pretty well defensively. We were able to withstand many times when it looked like we were going to lose the momentum and drop this one. When you're big three are all scoring in the 20's, that can offset a guy scoring fifty-something. But I'm not saying next time he can have 75." San Antonio, placed five players

in double figures as David Robinson backed Duncan with 13 points. "It was a great game," San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich said after watching his team lose its second consecutive game after 10 straight wins in the month of December. "I was pleased with what they (Spurs) did and how they executed at both ends of the court. I thought he (Duncan) played great. It's great to see him taking charge. He's telling me what to run some of the times." The Mavericks opened the overtime period with consecutive baskets by Nash and Hardaway to take a 120-116 lead. San Antonio went back to Duncan, who answered with a 7-0 run of his own to give the Spurs a 123-120 lead on a three-point play with 1:14 to play. Hardaway tied the game 123-123 with a 27-foot 3-point field goal with 26.3 seconds remaining. "That 3 by Hardaway was huge," Nelson said. "We've seen him do that against us many times in the past. That is what he brings to this team. That is the type of thing that he is capable of doing for you." Following a San Antonio turnover, Nash hit the game-winning jump shot. Terry Porter's desperation 3-point field goal was short at the buzzer. Leading 86-82 going to the

fourth quarter, Dallas was able to maintain its advantage by matching baskets with San Antonio. Nowitzki scored on consecutive three-point plays to give the Mavericks a 97-92 lead with 5:59 to play. Duncan scored 13 consecutive points for San Antonio and his driving bank shot brought the Spurs to 106-105 with three minutes remaining. Consecutive baskets by Nash gave Dallas a 112-107 lead with 1:45 to play. After Juwan Howard connected on four straight free throws to give Dallas a 116-111 lead, San Antonio rallied to tie the score on two free throws by Duncan and Porter's 3-point field goal with 5.9 seconds to play. The Mavericks led 59-58 at halftime behind 15 points from Nowitzki and 14 from Finley. Duncan kept San Antonio close with 15 points for the Spurs. Notes: The 126 points was a season-high for the Mavericks ... With the loss, San Antonio now leads the all-time series with Dallas by a 65-44 count, including a 37-18 advantage in San Antonio ... The game matched two of the NBA's top scoring teams, with Dallas entering the game No. 1 with an average of 102.3 points per game and San Antonio is No. 4 at 101.1 ... Duncan's double-double was his 22nd this season and 242nd of his career.

## Two players negotiating with Houston Texans

**HOUSTON (AP)** — Former New York Jets defensive end Kevin Williams is in the final stages of talks with the NFL expansion Houston Texans, his agent says. Agent Jerome Stanley told Houston television station KRIV that he expects a contract to be reached Thursday, the first day the Texans can sign free agents. "I'm really looking forward to it," Williams told the station. "I really would like to play for this team. It's a new situation and I'm looking for a new situation to get in." Williams played nearly three seasons with the Jets and started in 13 games before being cut in November 2000. Free agent Matt Snider, a fullback with the Green Bay Packers for two seasons, also is close to signing with the Texans, KRIV reported. Agent Joe Linta said Snider has reached an agreement in principle with Houston and will sign with the Texans providing he doesn't get a call from another team by Thursday morning. Charlie Casserly, Texans general manager, said the team is talking to Williams, Snider and about 20 others.

## Angels acquire ace pitcher

**ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)** — Aaron Sele, one of baseball's winningest pitchers over the last four years and an All-Star with the Seattle Mariners last season, signed a three-year, \$24 million contract with the Anaheim Angels on Wednesday. The 31-year-old right-hander has won 69 games since 1998, the most by an AL pitcher during that time. Only Randy Johnson (76), Greg Maddux (73) and Tom

Glavine (71) — all NL pitchers — have more victories over that span. Sele will receive \$7.5 million next season, \$8 million in 2003 and \$8.5 million in 2004. "We're happy to add a pitcher of Aaron Sele's stature to our staff," Angels general manager Bill Stoneman said. "Our pitching staff was strong over the course of the 2001 season and, with the addition of Sele, should be even stronger in 2002."

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# Uneasy calm prevails in India-Pakistan as both sides fortify positions

By LAURINDA KEYS  
Associated Press Writer

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — India weighed economic sanctions against rival Pakistan on Thursday, including possible bans on air service and over-flights, as both sides fortified border troop positions and maintained an uneasy calm. There was no indication that either country had deployed nuclear weapons.

Pakistan said it wanted to defuse the crisis and was pursuing diplomatic efforts. Still, a spokesman for its military government, Gen. Rashid Qureshi, said Pakistan has "the capacity to react and retaliate in all conceivable ways" — though he added that a nuclear confrontation was "unthinkable."

In Washington, Secretary of State Colin Powell made phone calls to leaders on both sides Wednesday, urging them to pull back from confrontation and resolve their differences through dialogue.

China — a powerhouse neighboring both nations — also said Thursday it was "deeply worried" by India-Pakistan tensions and called for "dialogue and consultations" to keep stability.

India's defense minister said his country's troops would be fully deployed along the 1,110-mile border with Pakistan by the weekend.

"In the next two to three days, the deployment process will be completed and the forces will be ready for any eventuality," Defense Minister George Fernandes told Press Trust of India during a press tour of the troubled Kashmir region.

Two of the three wars between India and Pakistan since 1947 have been over Kashmir, which both nations claim in its entirety. Islamic militants have waged a 12-year insurgency in the Indian-controlled portion of Kashmir, where human rights groups say more than 60,000 people have died.

Tensions have spiraled between India and Pakistan since a Dec. 13 gun attack on New Delhi's Parliament that left 14 dead. India says Islamic militants conducted the attack and that Pakistan sponsored them, a charge Islamabad denies.

Both sides said they wanted a diplomatic solution.

"Pakistan has been exercising maximum restraint and utilizing diplomatic channels," said Aziz Ahmed Khan, a spokesman for Pakistan's Foreign Ministry said. He said President Gen. Pervez Musharraf was willing to talk with India's prime minister, raising the possibility that the two might meet at a summit in Nepal next week. "The ball is in India's court," Khan said. "Anytime, anyplace, anywhere, at any level. It is up to India to respond."

India has confirmed that Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee will attend the Nepal summit but has said there is no intention to meet with Musharraf.

Defense Minister Fernandes said that "at the moment, India places great emphasis on its diplomatic efforts."

India's Cabinet Committee on Security was meeting late Thursday to consider trade restrictions and flight bans to pressure Islamabad into shutting down two militant groups named as terrorist organizations by the United States.

Measures being considered include halting Pakistan International Airlines flights to or over India; canceling the "most favored nation" trade status it unilaterally gives Pakistan; and further reducing the level and staffing of India's embassy

in Islamabad. India has already recalled its ambassador from Islamabad.

Although both sides were moving troops and weapons such as tanks and rocket launchers toward the border, the frontier remained relatively calm for a second day Thursday, officials said.

A Pakistani military spokesman said there were no exchanges of fire, but that Pakistan had matched India's troop buildup. Witnesses in Karachi said Thursday that anti-aircraft guns had been deployed at the port and other major installations.

There was no indication that either side had deployed nuclear weapons — which are believed to be stored unassembled.

Qureshi said he did not expect the conflict to turn into a nuclear confrontation. "It's something that I think one should not even consider. Pakistan and India are responsible nations," he said.

Still, another Pakistani military spokesman, Brig. Cmdr. Muhammad Yakub Khan, warned on Wednesday, "When the troops are sitting eyeball to eyeball and there is so much hatred for each other... there will be no such thing as limited war."

India demands that Pakistan take further action against two Islamic militant groups fighting in Kashmir that New Delhi says were behind the Parliament attack.

Powell on Wednesday announced that the United States was freezing the assets of the two groups, Lashkar-e-Tayyaba and Jaish-e-Mohammed.

Pakistan has frozen the assets of Jaish-e-Mohammed's parent organization and arrested its leader, Maulana Masood Azhar, and several other members.

India called the actions "cosmetic" and demanded that Pakistan shut down training camps, halt recruitment and block militant's infiltration into India's portion of Kashmir.

Interior Ministry sources in Islamabad said no action was taken against Lashkar-e-Tayyaba because it has not violated any law in Pakistan.

## Mass attempt by refugees to cross tunnel into Britain ends with tear gas and arrests

SANGATTE, France (AP) — Hundreds of refugees living in an overcrowded Red Cross center on the English Channel coast gathered Christmas evening to plot their risky escape to Britain.

Some ate dinner two or three times to store up energy for the journey on foot through the 31-mile Channel tunnel.

The attempted mass exodus ended Wednesday with clouds of tear gas as police dispersed some refugees and hunted down others in the tunnel.

The incident highlighted the fate of some 1,300 Iraqi Kurds, Afghans, Iranians and other refugees holed up indefinitely in this northern French village.

In more than a dozen interviews, refugees explained their plan and vowed to continue trying to reach Britain, drawn there by its relatively liberal asylum laws and dreams of new homes and jobs.

In all, about 550 refugees from the Red Cross center attempted the crossing in two waves beginning Tuesday night. Such a large-scale attempt is rare, but not unprecedented. The refugees were trying to take advantage of the reduced traffic on Christmas Day.

"We decided to form two groups — A and B," Ahmed, a 23-year-old Afghan refugee, told The Associated Press on Wednesday, speaking in Farsi. "We thought we could cross all together by

foot. We had almost managed, but at the very end the police stopped us."

Another Afghan refugee, Zia, said the plan was to launch the assault just after dinnertime.

"Some of us ate dinner two or three times, just to have enough energy to cross," the 24-year-old said. Like other refugees, Ali did not want to provide his last name because of his illegal status.

The melee began at 9:15 p.m. Tuesday, when some 150 refugees broke through electronic barriers. Overwhelmed security forces called in French police, who tracked them down and arrested 129 of them. The refugees had managed to get one-quarter of the way through the tunnel.

"We ran and walked for three hours inside the tunnel," said Ali, an Iraqi Kurd, who said he found it difficult to breathe inside.

Just before 1 a.m. Wednesday, a new group of about 400 tried to storm the same entrance. Police used tear gas to repel them.

Every night, dozens of refugees who live in mobile homes and tents here attempt the dangerous crossing, trying either to jump on trains or navigate the tunnel on foot. Most are caught, but others make it through.

Both Eurotunnel and the Red Cross accused the refugees of staging a media event.

"This is a well-constructed media operation," said Alain Bertrand, an executive with

Eurotunnel. "They knew very well that they would never make it to England," he told France-Info radio.

The Sangatte center, set up in an unused Eurotunnel building in 1999, was intended to house 700 refugees but now holds about 1,300.

Refugees the world over are eager to go to Britain, regarded as having more liberal asylum laws. For some, the journey ends in tragedy. In June 2000, 58 Chinese refugees were found suffocated in the back of a tomato truck in the English Channel port of Dover.

About 50 refugees remained in custody on Wednesday evening, police said. The rest were returned to the center.

Eurotunnel has long demanded that the French government dismantle the Sangatte center. But the government instead is setting up more centers in northern France to ease the burden at Sangatte.

Sangatte mayor Andre Segard, in an interview published Thursday in the daily newspaper Le Figaro, called for the center to be closed.

"A new aggressiveness and violence has appeared among the refugees at the Sangatte camp," Segard said. "Families won't let their children go out alone in the streets, last summer the town's camp sites recorded a decline in visits and real estate agents say buyers are avoiding Sangatte."

TABLE 1 - NOVEMBER TEXAS OIL AND GAS DRILLING PERMITS AND COMPLETIONS BY DISTRICT

RAILROAD COMMISSION DISTRICT	PERMITS TO DRILL OIL/GAS HOLES	OIL COMPLETIONS	GAS COMPLETIONS
(1) SAN ANTONIO AREA	22	12	14
(2) REFUGIO AREA	53	4	19
(3) SOUTHEAST TEXAS	77	20	47
(4) DEEP SOUTH TEXAS	100	2	104
(5) EAST CENTRAL TX	49	5	62
(6) EAST TEXAS	46	7	85
(7B) WEST CENTRAL TX	41	18	15
(7C) SAN ANGELO AREA	76	21	46
(8) MIDLAND	84	60	13
(8A) LUBBOCK AREA	73	33	0
(9) NORTH TEXAS	130	30	43
(10) PANHANDLE	25	8	65

TABLE 2 - OCTOBER TEXAS TOP TEN OIL AND GAS PRODUCING COUNTIES RANKED BY PRELIMINARY PRODUCTION

COUNTY	CRUDE OIL (BBLs)	COUNTY	TOTAL GAS (MCF)
1. GAINES	2,760,143	1. WEBB	23,884,641
2. ANDREWS	2,206,062	2. HIDALGO	22,994,619
3. YOAKUM	2,172,245	3. ZAPATA	21,829,086
4. HOCKLEY	1,927,978	4. PANOLA	20,286,210
5. ECTOR	1,857,658	5. PECOS	17,625,496
6. MIDLAND	954,998	6. FREESTONE	14,438,106
7. CRANE	899,630	7. STARR	11,345,831
8. PECOS	853,073	8. CROCKETT	10,027,898
9. UPTON	752,825	9. WISE	9,781,407
10. HOWARD	638,018	10. YOAKUM	8,577,724

## Texas monthly oil and gas statistics

AUSTIN — The Commission issued a total of 776 original drilling permits in November 2001 compared to 982 in November 2000. Total drilling permits for 2001 year to date is 11,530, up from 10,990 recorded during the same period in 2000. The November total included 595 permits to drill new oil and gas wells, 25 to re-enter existing well bores, and 156 for re-completions. Permits issued in November included 181 oil, 248 gas, 326 oil and gas, 9 injection, and 12 other permits.

Texas preliminary October 2001 crude oil production averaged 988,140 barrels daily, down from the 1,036,485 barrels daily average of October 2000.

The preliminary Texas crude oil production figure for October 2001 is 30,632,330 barrels, a decrease from 32,131,047 barrels reported during October 2000.

In November 2001, operators reported 220 oil, 513 gas, 18 injection, and four other completion, compared to 253 oil, 422 gas, 28 injection and three other completions during November 2000.

Total well completions for 2001 year to date are 8,519 up from 7,347 recorded during the same period in 2000.

Operators reported 743 holes plugged and 85 dry holes in November 2001 compared to 815 plugged and 87 dry holes in November 2000.

Texas oil and gas wells produced 444,166,800 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas based upon preliminary production figures for October 2001, down from the October 2000 preliminary gas production total of 445,787,712 Mcf.

Texas production in October 2001 came from 142,132 oil and 49,270 gas wells.

## Drilling Intentions

**Intentions to Drill**  
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Dominion Oklahoma Texas E&P, Inc., #2 Zybach '66', 660' from North & 1050' from West line, Sec. 66,M-1,H&GN, PD 11800'.

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & N.W. CANADIAN Douglas) Bracken Operating, L.L.C., PD 7000', for the following wells:

#1-83 Davis Sisters, 2400' from South & 1500' from West line, Sec. 83,42,H&TC.

#1-82 Nix, 1375' from South & 750' from East line, Sec. 82,42,H&TC.

**Oil Well Completions**  
HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLER) Harken Exploration Co., #119 Herring 'A' Tr. 2; Sec. 3,J,H&GN, spud 3-19-01, drlg. compl 3-25-01, tested 10-11-01, pumped 2 bbl. of 39 grav. oil + 260 bbls. water, GOR 5000, TD 3500', PBTD 3452' —



This bracelet was a gift Amber Apodaca received from the center where she helped teens with drug and alcohol problems. She was wearing it when an underage drunk driver took her life.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.

# London mosque leader says he warned police of radical recruitment

By BETH GARDINER  
Associated Press Writer

LONDON (AP) — Police failed to act on warnings that Islamic radicals were recruiting young Muslims at a south London mosque once attended by a man who is now suspected of trying to detonate explosives aboard an airliner, the mosque's leader said Thursday.

"We've been saying for a long time that these people are recruiting," Abdul Haqq Baker, chairman of the Brixton mosque, said. "We've been warning about them, and look what's happened now."

Richard C. Reid, who formerly attended the Brixton mosque, was overpowered by flight attendants and passengers after he allegedly tried to detonate explosives in his sneaker aboard an American Airlines flight from Paris to Miami on Saturday.

"When we saw him in the papers were like, 'Oh, gosh, our worst nightmare has come true,'" Baker said.

Baker said Reid — also known as Abdel Rahim — drifted away from the Brixton community after falling under the influence of radicals.

Reid has been charged with intimidation or assault of a flight crew and could face 20 years in prison. He is being held in jail under suicide watch pending a psychological examination.

According to news reports, Reid was born in south London in 1973, the son of a Jamaican father and an English mother. He joined the Brixton mosque in 1996 after serving a prison sentence for street crimes, the reports said. Scotland Yard has declined to give any details of Reid's record.

Baker described Reid as "a very likable character, amiable, affable, he had that enthusiasm of new converts." Reid, Baker added, was "very impressionable" and was willing to listen to the views of radicals who circulated leaflets in the area.

"He would always give someone time to speak," Baker said.

Reid joined the mosque at about the same time as Zacarias Moussaoui, a Frenchman of Moroccan descent charged in the United States with conspiracy in connection with the Sept. 11 attacks on New York and Washington, Baker said.

ABC News reported Wednesday that European authorities have evidence of contact between

Moussaoui and Reid late last year, and that the two spent time together in a training camp in Afghanistan run by Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network.

Two U.S. government officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said some low-level al-Qaida members captured in Afghanistan were shown Reid's picture and recognized him, saying he trained at bin Laden's terrorist training camps. However, the officials said in Washington that they had not verified the prisoners' claims.

"At the end of Zacarias Moussaoui being in the community and spouting off his views, it was true that Mr. Reid was attending at the same time," Baker told reporters earlier. "I'm pretty confident they were attending the extreme scholarship classes being held by some of the extremists who could not attend our center."

"He was one who was easily led — the way the whole thing was bungled is because of his naivety," Baker said.

"The way he tried to commit this act shows his gullibility. He was sent as a tester though he was not to know that. We are confident he was not acting alone."

Brixton mosque, which claims 500 members and as many more people who are loosely affiliated, is located in a row of Victorian house. It attracts many converts and teaches "basic, mainstream orthodox" Islam, but has attracted some "extreme elements" who targeted enthusiastic converts like Reid, Baker said.

Baker suggested Reid might have had contact with more radical mosques such as the Finsbury Park mosque in north London, home of militant Egyptian-born cleric Abu Hamza al-Masri. Al-Masri told the BBC he had no knowledge of Reid.

Meanwhile, a Paris airport security firm told CNN Tuesday that it warned French authorities on two different days that Reid should be screened further, but authorities cleared him to fly.

Head of security firm IVTC Lior Zuckerman said his security officers recommended Friday and Saturday that French authorities take a closer look at Reid. ICTS does security screening for American Airlines in France and in other European countries.

Zuckerman would not go into details about why his agents were suspicious of Reid.

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12-27 CRYPTOQUOTE

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P N C Q C N N F N J H B X I  
C K K B O B C X S Q W S Y F S D Y B O Y  
N Y H P Q J X H S U C J H X C F S F Q Q

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## Horoscope

**FRIDAY, DEC. 28, 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 mood swings from depressed to angry. True to your sign, you most likely feel more comfortable yelling and screaming than internalizing your feelings. Don't worry, you won't get any ulcers this way — although you might give ulcers! Tonight: Burn off steam doing errands, dancing or some other physical activity.  
**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) ★★ You could be quite disconcerted by someone and his or her decisions. You also might be affected by past emotions in a financial situation. How you tell someone you have had enough could jolt this person. Sometimes everyone needs to establish limits. Tonight: First take care of your budget.  
**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) ★★ You might be more serious than you realize. You also might not be up for tolerating someone's disruption or uproar. You clearly let someone know you have had enough! What starts as a disagreement could wind up in a power play, whether you want it or not. Tonight: Chill out.  
**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) ★★ Take your time with someone in your life. You might have to change plans. An in-law or relative could be the source of

the problem. Don't let a situation become a runaway train if you can help it. You easily could be overwhelmed. Tonight: Hide out.  
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) ★ You might have a difficult time maintaining your sunny ways right now. Review a problem with detachment, or you could find yourself in the middle of the "War of the Roses." Avoid control games of all sorts. Be honest with yourself. Tonight: Let off steam with friends.  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★ Tension could build with superiors as well as with family members. You might be right that you cannot juggle demands simultaneously. Still, give it a shot, because in the long run, it might be important to know that you tried. Someone could be angry. Tonight: In the limelight.  
**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Your diplomatic skills are in demand and are desperately needed. Flow with a change of plans, eyeing all that you can do, as opposed to all that you cannot do. Go off and get some exercise, or take a walk. Reduce stress. Tonight: Make merry with your friends.  
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ After recent money struggles, you could wind up making a resolution to change what goes on financially in 2002. With creativity you might be able to change your direction. Be careful with a loved one, be it a child, lover or potential suitor. Tempers flare. Tonight: Listen to someone; say little.  
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★ Play it low-key as others fire up.

Perhaps recent stress has been too much for everyone. Be honest with yourself. Aren't you a bit saturated? Focus on your work rather than on the negatives. Take some time to decide what New Year's resolution would be significant. Tonight: Go along with someone.  
**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★ Much of what spouts out of others' mouths proves to be significant, giving you a lot of insight. Don't get involved in power struggles or in someone else's bad mood. Also, decide not to take what others say personally. Focus on your work. Clear out extra paperwork. Tonight: Squeeze in some much-needed R&R.  
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ You inadvertently find yourself struggling between two different people or factors in your life. You can't win, because you're between a rock and a hard place. You might opt to go off on a spending spree to alleviate some of the tension. Tonight: Treat yourself well, as long as you're going overboard!  
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★ You might not be sure why you are angry. However, you do need to vent and clear out your frustration. Be careful with a boss or someone in charge. Be clear as to what is getting to you. Don't smack the cat when you would like to scream at your lover. Tonight: Vanish.

### BORN TODAY

Actor Denzel Washington (1954), 28th president of the United States Woodrow Wilson (1856), jazz pianist Earl "Fatha" Hines (1903) ★★

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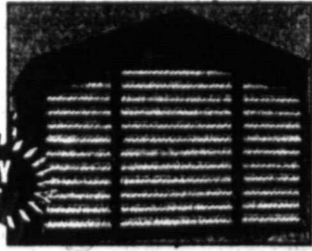
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Thursday, December 27

Page 8

# Father of Flower Girl Finds It's No Bed of Roses at Home

## Dear Abby

Is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My nephew is being married in a few months and has asked my 7-year-old daughter, "Shelley," to be the flower girl in his wedding. He is her godfather.

I also have a 5-year-old daughter, "Ruthie." My wife thinks it is unfair that Ruthie wasn't asked to be in the wedding because "it's every little girl's dream" to be a flower girl. The truth is, Ruthie did not feel slighted in the least when she heard Shelley was asked. However, my wife, her mother, two sisters and a couple of her friends think it is wrong and mean-spirited for Ruthie not to be included.

This argument has caused a great deal of strain between my wife and me. She has even stated that rather than attending the wedding, she may stay home with Ruthie. Abby, do you think I am being an insensitive father for not telling my nephew that he must ask both girls to be flower girls?

BEWILDERED IN TEXAS

extremely busy and calls less and less often as the weeks go by. He makes very little time to see me, although he claims he will make more time for me in the future. I know he has a lot of pressure, but I'm sure he doesn't do heart surgery 24 hours a day.

Every time I decide to give up on him, he calls, apologizes, and promises to see me "soon." He also pays me lavish compliments. I really like him a lot, but the relationship is going nowhere.

What must I do to resolve the situation? I don't have the strength to say no.

HEARTBROKEN OKLAHOMAN

DEAR BEWILDERED: Certainly not. Being a flower girl isn't "every little girl's dream" unless someone has planted the notion. Tell your wife and the meddling in-laws to stop interfering with your nephew's wedding plans. If your wife prefers to stay home with your 5-year-old, that's her choice.

DEAR HEARTBROKEN: Don't let this cardiologist break your heart, and don't burn your bridges. Accept his compliments, issue no ultimatums, and make it a priority to meet and date other eligible men. He may, indeed, have an extremely full schedule. However, until he's willing to place you higher on his list of priorities, make sure your social calendar is as full as you want it to be.

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating my father's heart surgeon. He is

DEAR ABBY: I thought you and your readers might enjoy these announcements from actual church bulletins. Get ready to chuckle! LOIS IN HELLERTOWN, PA.

DEAR LOIS: Although these have appeared in my column before, I'm sure many people would welcome a chuckle. Read on:

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Don't let worry kill you. Let the church help.
2. This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Jenny Palmer to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.
3. The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind and may be seen in the fellowship hall all day Friday.
4. This afternoon, there will be a meeting in the south and north ends of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends.
5. Tonight's sermon will be "What is Hell?" Come early and hear our choir practice.

Dear Abby is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

### For Better or For Worse



### Zits



### Garfield



### Beetle Bailey



### Marvin



### B.C.



### Hagar The Horrible



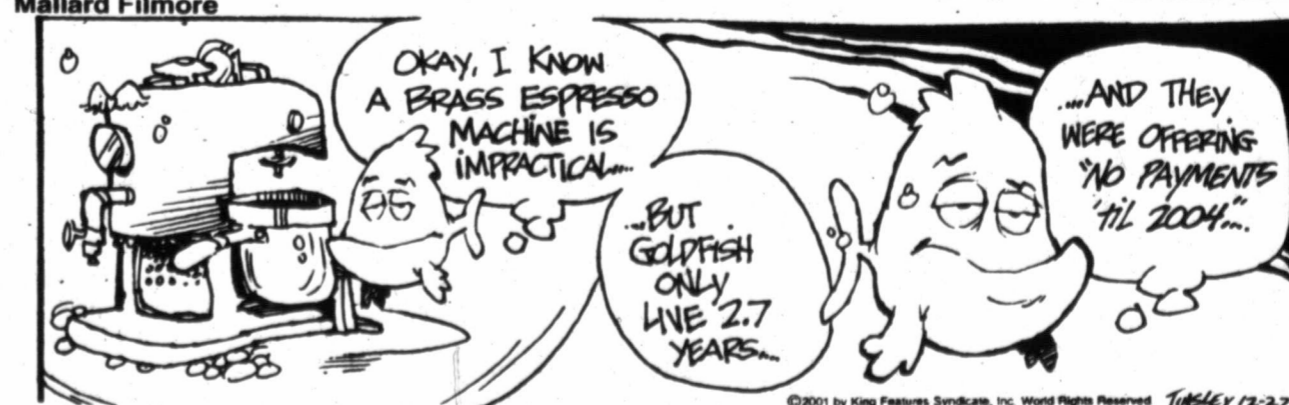
### Peanuts



### Blondie



### Mallard Filmore



### Wildwood



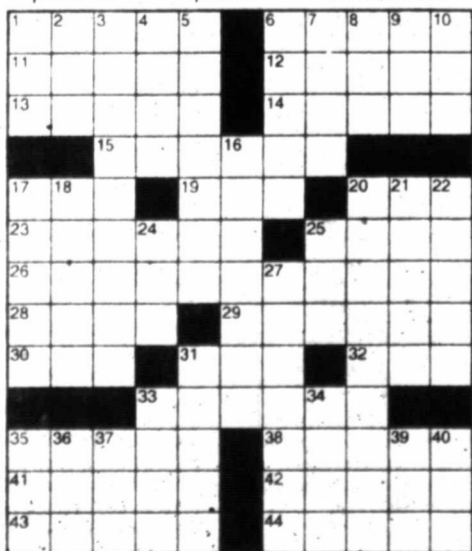
### Crossword Puzzle

#### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 44 Kicked, in a way

- 1 River critter
- 6 Exultant
- 11 Neptune's domain
- 12 Neigh sayer
- 13 Annoy
- 14 Actress Sophia
- 15 Went for another take
- 17 Chick holder
- 19 Prom rental
- 20 Sch average
- 23 Singer James
- 25 Lingerie buys
- 26 Math field
- 28 For two, in music
- 29 Soybean, for one
- 30 Workout unit
- 31 Sparkler
- 32 Butter serving
- 33 Waco school
- 35 November stone
- 38 City on the Missouri
- 41 Stand
- 42 "a Hot Tin Roof"
- 43 Farm units



### STUMPED?

For answer to today's crossword call 1-900-454-7377. 99¢ per minute, 18 years of age or older only. A King Features Service.

### Marmaduke



### The Family Circus



12-27

"I'm glad Jesus wasn't born on the 29th of February!"