

Linda C. Daniels
Keller Williams Realty
110 W. Kingsmill
669-7799
Your Family Realtor for life
No Public Exposure

Call 665-0106
To Sign Up Today!
Watch For Upcoming Promotions In February
DSL Provided by IP Communications - Not Available In All Areas

Century 21
***** ALL FOR ADD 730
*01 BV04227 12/31/14
SOUTHWEST MICRO PUBLISHING
2627 E YANDELL DR
EL PASO TX 79903-3743

THE Pampa NEWS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 2002

NEWS

Vol. 97 No. 244 • Pampa, Texas
50 cents Daily • Sunday \$1



Pampa Cyber Net
Internet Power for the New Miller
Dialup or dedicated T-1, and high speed DSL

WEATHER WEATHER
HIGH 45 LOW 24

LOCAL
ACT I performances set for Jan. 18-20
Performances of ACT I's comedy "Claptrap" continues at 7:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday, Jan. 18-19, and a matinee at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 20.
The production is being performed at the ACT I theatre at the Pampa Mall, back entrance. For more information, call 665-3266.

Ten agencies attend sex offender class
When the roll was taken at Wednesday's Sex Offender Registration class hosted at City Hall by the Pampa Police Department, there were representatives of 10 law enforcement agencies in attendance.
In addition to the police department, attendees were from Hutchinson, Wheeler, Roberts, Hemphill, Donley and Gray County Sheriff's Departments as well as Gray County Juvenile and Adult probation departments and the Dalhart Police Department.
The class was taught by William Charles Yoakum, field representative with the Crime Records Service of the Texas Department of Public Safety.

LOTTERY
AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:
Winning numbers, drawn: 10-17-18-22-32-46.
Estimated jackpot: \$21 million.
Number matching six of six: 0.
Matching five of six: 66.
Prize: \$2,889.

DEATHS
Charles N. George, 75, retired letter carrier.

INSIDE...
Classified 7
Comics 5
Editorial 4
Sports 6

West Texas LANDSCAPE
Residential & Commercial
669-0158 mobile 663-1277

'Fresh set of eyes' to review Roe death

By KATE B. DICKSON
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

The case of the death of teen-ager Ashley Nicole Roe will get "a fresh set of eyes and another mind" to try and solve the mystery that surrounds the death of the 15-year-old.

That's according to Pampa Police Chief Charlie Morris who said the Roe case is among those that are being transferred to other detectives following the recent resignation of Det. David Conner.

"This has nothing to do with his (Conner's) job performance," the chief said. "It's just that his cases are being reassigned ... he'll still be involved from the standpoint that he can be called as a witness in any of his cases."

Det. Connie Lockridge will try her hand at solving the Roe case that involves "a huge file" and is one that has baffled authorities since the PHS student died in an Amarillo hospital on Nov. 30, 2000, the police chief said.

Lockridge could use help

from anyone who may have information about the circumstances surrounding Roe's death. The detective may be reached by calling 669-5700. Also, tips may be phoned to Crime Stoppers at 669-2222.

Several months ago Roe's mother made a public plea for those who were with Ashley at the time in question or who have information to come forward and talk to police. She asked parents whose children might know something regarding her daughter's death to encourage them to tell

authorities what they know.

The autopsy performed on Roe was inclusive as to the cause of her death.

Five days before the teen's death, an ambulance and emergency personnel were called to a home in the 900 block of Cinderella about 12:30 p.m., police reported previously. There they found Roe unconscious after apparently experiencing a seizure.

According to the autopsy report, Roe was reportedly spending the night at a

(See EYES, Page 8)



Ashley Roe

Outstanding officers



(Pampa News photos by Kate B. Dickson)



Gray County Sheriff's Department Chief Deputy Kelly Rushing, left in above photo, receives congratulations from Sheriff Don Copeland at being selected Employee of the Year for 2001. Employees of the sheriff's department vote on the award winner. Below, Deputy Brad Bengé accepts the award for Employee of the Quarter. The awards were given out this morning.

Why are things so complicated?

County looks at boiler contract

By NANCY YOUNG
MANAGING EDITOR

Life used to be so much simpler. That saying was professed during Monday morning's meeting of the Gray County Commissioner's Court — several times.

But those were the days when a handshake would cement a business deal. That is no more.

County Judge Richard Peet said he was contacted by Bill Arrington, owner of the Hughes Building, for temporary assistance in maintaining the building's boiler system.

Peet told the county commission that Arrington explained the maintenance employee for the Hughes Building is having serious health problems, necessitating an extended time away from work.

Arrington asked Peet if it would be possible to have Larry Andrus, county maintenance employee, monitor the boiler daily at the Hughes Building.

As some county offices are temporarily being housed at

the Hughes Building during the courthouse restoration period, Peet said he thought it was a reasonable request.

"It is also for the benefit of the county employees," said Peet.

Arrington and Peet discussed this arrangement being a good solution to the problem. Especially since Andrus is an experienced boiler man, said Peet.

Telling Arrington he would need to discuss the request with Andrus and the commission before committing the county, Peet set out to work out the details to a supposed simple request.

Peet said Andrus was favorable and reported it would only take about eight minutes for him to check the chemicals and water in the boiler. No repair would be involved.

Peet's next step was to contact the Texas Association of Counties to learn about the status of the county's situation. He said the TAC told him there would be no problem regarding the liability to the county.

(See CONTRACT, Page 3)

IRS to examine 50,000 tax returns at random

WASHINGTON (AP) — A fresh reminder to save those receipts: The IRS wants to do a special random check of about 50,000 tax returns filed this year in an effort to improve targeting of taxpayers for audits in the future.

Unlike past efforts, IRS Commissioner Charles Rossotti said Wednesday that fewer of those selected for the information-gathering project will be subjected to intense, face-to-face questioning that drew broad criticism.

"The program should be no more burdensome than it needs to be and be fair to everybody," Rossotti told reporters.

The information, a snapshot of the taxpaying public, could help the Internal Revenue Service reduce by 15,000 a year the number of audits that turn out to be unnecessary. Almost a quarter of audits done now result in no change.

"We don't want to audit somebody who doesn't need to be audited," Rossotti said.

The project, officially called the National Research Program, was last done in 1988. When IRS officials tried a repeat in 1994, it was withdrawn in a hail of criticism from Congress and elsewhere as far too heavy-handed.

Those past efforts required each selected taxpayer — in 1988, it was 54,000 — to undergo a rigid, time-consuming, line-by-line audit of the tax return, even down to bringing birth certificates to prove the identities of their children. A taxpayer's accountant or lawyer wasn't allowed

to participate.

This time, officials promise it will be different. Rossotti said about 2,000 taxpayers will face line-by-line examinations that will be less detailed than in the past. The biggest group, about 30,000 taxpayers, will undergo a more limited in-person audit, but those will be less intrusive than in the past and can be attended by a professional tax preparer.

An additional 9,000 taxpayers can expect a correspondence audit through

(See TAXES, Page 8)

Auditor places blame on Enron's accounting firm

WASHINGTON (AP) — The auditor fired for destroying documents in the Enron Corp. affair is laying the blame squarely on his accounting firm, Arthur Andersen LLP, telling congressional investigators he was just following advice from its lawyers.

The auditor was questioned for several hours Wednesday as the White House disclosed that President Bush's chief economic adviser, Lawrence Lindsey, was asked to study the impact of an Enron collapse after presidential aides were alerted to the problem last fall.

The energy-trading concern, once the seventh-largest U.S. company, entered the biggest bankruptcy in the country's history on Dec. 2.

David Duncan, the former chief auditor for Andersen's Enron account, said the Big Five accounting firm's lawyers suddenly began empha-

sizing Andersen's policy allowing destruction of some documents.

Duncan told investigators with the House Energy and Commerce Committee that in September general discussions began at Andersen of what Enron-related documents to discard.

"It was unusual" to emphasize the document-destruction policy, Duncan told the investigators, according to congressional sources familiar with what he said. The sources spoke on condition of anonymity.

An Andersen spokesman declined comment. According to the sources, Duncan told investigators that an Oct. 12 memo from one of Andersen's lawyers was the beginning of an effort to discard many records.

Andersen has said Duncan organized a two-week document destruction effort that began in late

October. The accounting firm fired Duncan on Tuesday, put three other Enron auditors on administrative leave and stripped management responsibilities from four partners in its office in Houston, where Enron is based.

At the White House, spokesman Ari Fleischer said Lindsey concluded late last year that Enron's collapse would not hurt U.S. and global financial markets. That's the same finding reached by Peter Fisher, the Treasury undersecretary in charge of financial markets who opened a review after two phone calls from Lay to Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill on Oct. 28 and Nov. 8.

Lindsey, a former member of the Federal Reserve board of governors and a private economic consultant at the time, received \$50,000 from Enron in 2000 as a member of an Enron advisory board.

(See AUDITOR, Page 8)

J
A
N
1
7
2
0
0
2

Housing construction dips in December but total for year up

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Construction of new homes and apartments fell 3.3 percent in December but the total housing activity for the year managed a solid 2.2 percent increase, a remarkable achievement for an industry that normally is one of the hardest hit during a recession.

The Commerce Department said Thursday that construction was started on 1.57 million single-family homes and apartments last month at a seasonally adjusted annual rate. That was 3.3 percent below the November level, which had risen a sharp 7 percent.

Even with the December decline, housing construction for all of 2001 rose by a solid 2.2 percent to 1.60 million units, the third-highest performance in the last 15 years.

"Considering everything that happened last year, the performance of the housing sector was nothing short of phenomenal," said David Seiders, chief economist for the National Association of Home Builders.

He predicted 2002 would also be a good year for housing, if the economy escapes part of recession as expected in the early part of the year. He said he expected total construction would remain around the 1.5 million units of 2000.

The Labor Department said Thursday that the number of Americans filing first-time claims for unemployment benefits fell by 14,000 last week to a seasonally adjusted total of 384,000. It was the second consecutive weekly decline, but it stemmed from the government's method of adjusting for normal seasonal variations.

Without the seasonal adjustments, claims would have increased by the largest amount in a single week since the 1990-91 recession. Analysts blamed much of that increase on a surge in claims in California, where unemployed workers had delayed filing for benefits in previous weeks to take advantage of a law taking effect Jan. 6 that increased maximum benefits.

Economists have been surprised by the strength in housing in 2001, a year in which the country dipped into a recession in March, the first downturn in a decade.

Normally, housing is one of the hardest hit industries during an economic downturn as rising job losses force consumers to cut back on big-ticket purchases such as new homes.

This recession has followed a different pattern, with a huge drop-off in business investment rather than a falloff in consumer spending seen as the key cause for the downturn.

Housing was also helped in 2001 by an aggressive credit easing by the Federal Reserve, which last year slashed interest rates 11 times, driving a key short-term rate down to 1.75 percent, its lowest level in four decades.

Long-term mortgage rates also tumbled for most of the year, hitting a 30-year low of 6.45 percent in early November, as the economy, already in a recession, was sent reeling by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Many economists predict housing will remain at reasonably strong levels in 2002 with mortgage rates holding at affordable levels. Last week, Freddie Mac, the mortgage company, reported that rates on 30-year mortgages dipped to 7.06 percent, up from

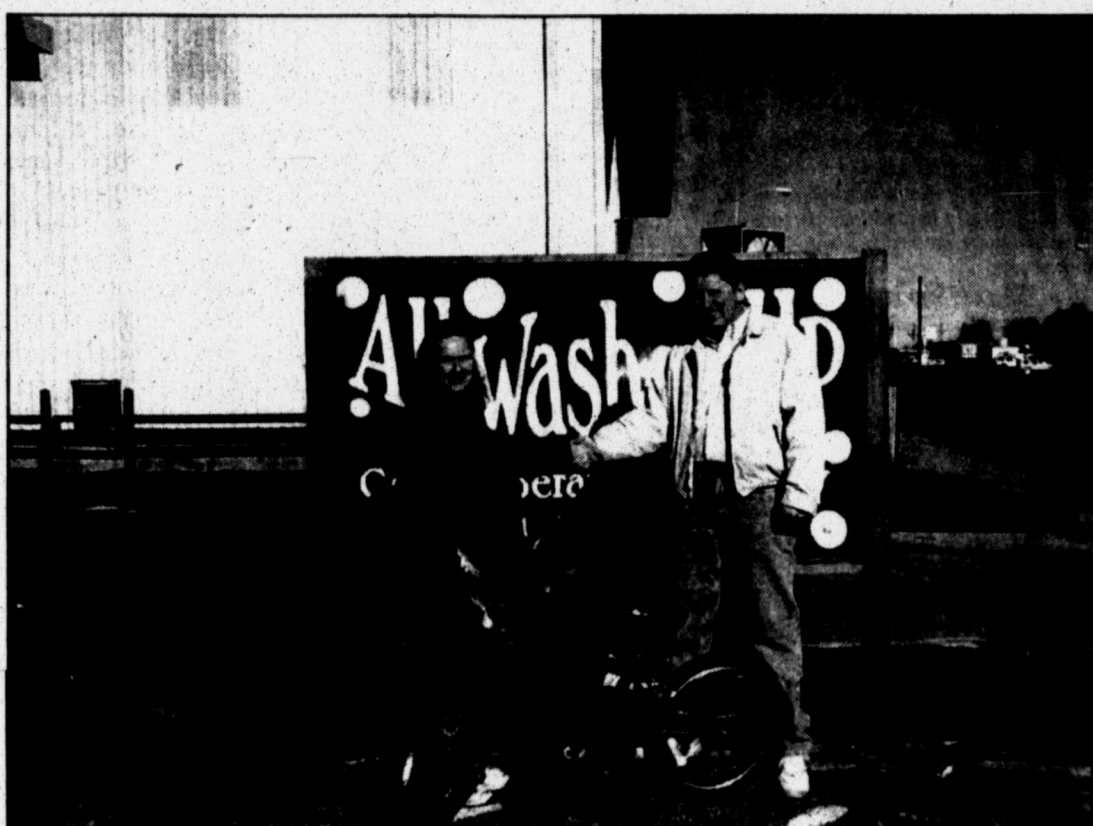
the November low but still at levels considered highly attractive by home buyers.

The 3.3 percent overall decline in housing construction in December stemmed from a huge 22.6 percent plunge in apartment construction. Single-family homes actually posted a 3.6 percent increase last month.

The biggest drop in activity occurred in the Northeast, a decline of 15.8 percent to a

seasonally adjusted annual rate of 144,000 units. Activity in the Midwest fell by 10.9 percent to a rate of 335,000 units and was off 2.5 percent in the South to a rate of 687,000 units. The West was the only region of the country showing an increase in building activity last month, an 8.3 percent jump that pushed housing starts to an annual rate of 404,000 units.

Bike giveaway



(Courtesy photo)

Kay Johnson of Lefors was the lucky winner of one of two Mongoose bicycles given-away recently during a holiday promotion by All Washed Up in Pampa. Congratulating Allen was Royce Jordan, owner of the local business.

Prairie Rivers Musical in offing in Canadian

CANADIAN — The January performance of Prairie Rivers Musical is slated at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 19, in Canadian Middle School Auditorium.

Jay Godwin, director of the monthly show, reminds everyone there is no admission charge for the show which features live performances by area musicians and vocalists.

"We are so proud of the solid and regular attendance from the Central and Eastern Panhandle, plus Western Oklahoma," Godwin commented. "It's a real tribute to the quality of our performers who love music and have a good time...."

"We have a basic regular group," Godwin continued, "that's able to turn out good fun music, at

least, the audience has responded to it."

Regular performers include Scott Campbell, Lisa Graham, George Briant, Godwin, Venita and Hank McPherson, Wayne Wright, Lonnie Cox, Gaylon Lynch, Pat Popham, Phil Ridgway and Frankie McWhorter.

"We've also had tremendous support from area musicians that help us when their schedules permit, such as Myron Merz, Bart Sherrill and Jerry Collier. We really look forward to relative newcomer Wade Hampton of Wheeler joining us again this next show — really good singer and musician," Godwin concluded.

For more information, contact Godwin at (806) 323-6213 or fax (806) 323-8759.

CONTRACT

TAC said that if something would occur during the time he was monitoring the boiler that Andrus would be covered by the county's workers compensation.

Arrington suggested an agreement be drawn up between the county and him.

Peet presented a proposed agreement drawn up by County Attorney Todd Alvey for Gray County and Arrington.

County commissioners responded favorably to the request. Commissioner James Hefley said, "It seems kind of necessary to me to have a boiler."

Judge Peet said it would be to the advantage of the county to have the boiler working in that building.

"Half of our employees are working in that building," he said.

The agreement drawn up by Alvey did not involve the county, but was between the building owner and Andrus.

"The contract specifically states that while he's working on those boilers he's not working for the county," said Alvey. "Therefore, no liability exists to the county."

Commissioner Jim Greene asked if Andrus' name could be removed, but Alvey said no.

Alvey said Andrus would not be working for Gray County while doing the work.

County Treasurer Scott Hahn asked Alvey about Andrus' coverage as a Gray County employee while working on the boiler. Alvey said

he would be covered with the contract.

Peet reiterated that TAC had said if the county received benefit — citing comfort of employees — Andrus would be covered by workers compensation insurance.

Alvey said Gray County would not be separated from any liability if that was the case.

"If you're going to say he is covered as a county employee under workers comp while working on those boilers and he gets hurt over there doing it, then you cannot later say if he does something to those boilers he's not going to be covered for it," said Alvey. "You can't have it both ways."

During the discussion, County Auditor Elaine Morris reminded the commissioners that counties are also forbidden by law to provide gratuitous gestures.

"It seems everything is harder than it should be," said Wheeley.

"Why can't it be simple?" said Peet.

After a lengthy discussion, the commissioners agreed to study the matter further before making a decision on the agreement.

Commissioner Joe Wheeley urged Alvey to make the agreement as simple as possible. "He (Arrington) gave us a heck of a price on the rent of the offices," said Wheeley. "I'd like to work with him."

Commissioner Gerald Wright said, "Can't we do something simple?"

In the meantime, Andrus is monitoring the boiler system.



Rev. J.S. McMullen

Rev. J.S. McMullen will speak in both services Sunday, January 20th.

Rev. McMullen will be speaking on the subject "The Arabs and The Jews" in the 10:45 am service.

Sunday evening at 6:00 pm he will be speaking on the subject, "The Rapture."

We welcome you to come and hear this former pastor share the word for these end times at

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
500 SOUTH CUYLER • PAMPA, TEXAS

Unlimited Flat Rate Calling To
Amarillo, Borger, Canyon, Dumas And
Other Panhandle Towns Now Available
For Only \$15 Per Month Residential
CityLINK
848-2000 ext. 0 or 669-1550

THE
PALACE THEATRE
STARTING FRIDAY
LORD OF THE RINGS
RATED PG
DAILY 7:00 P.M.
SUNDAY 2:00 P.M.
ALL SEATS \$4.00
CANADIAN, TEXAS
806-323-5133
only THX approved theatre in the Texas Panhandle
www.palacetheatre.com

BEALLS
JUST TAKEN!
MILLION\$ IN NEW REDUCTIONS
50% Off
ORIGINAL PRICES
THE BEST OF FALL & WINTER
SWEATERS • FLEECE • HOLIDAY LOOKS
COATS • BOOTS • COLD-WEATHER ACCESSORIES
KIDS' WINTERWEAR • WINTER SLEEPWEAR
Coronado Center Monday - Saturday 10:00 am - 8:00 pm; Sunday 12:00 noon - 6:00 pm

J
A
N
1
7
2
0
0
2

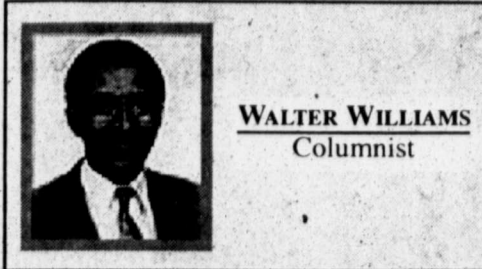
VIEWPOINTS

THE Pampa NEWS

403 W. ATCHISON • PAMPA, TEXAS
TELEPHONES: (806) 669-2525
1-800-687-3348 • FAX: 669-2520

EMAIL: kbd@pan-tex.net • pamnews1@pan-tex.net
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 2196, Pampa, Texas 79066-2196.
Publisher: L.W. McCall
Assoc. Publisher: Kate B. Dickson
Editor: Dee Dee Laramore
Managing Editor: Nancy Young
Circulation Manager: Dean Lynch
Advertising Manager: ReDonn Woods
COPYRIGHT NOTICE
The entire contents of The Pampa News, including its logotype, are fully protected by copyright and registry and cannot be reproduced in any form for any purpose without written permission from The Pampa News.
HOME DELIVERY
All carriers are independent contractors and The Pampa News is not responsible for advance payments of two or more months made to the carrier. Please pay directly to the News Office any payment that exceeds the current collection period.
SINGLE COPIES
Daily 50¢/Sunday \$1.00
Member: Associated Press
SUBSCRIPTION RATES
CARRIER HOME DELIVERY
1 yr.\$84.00 6 mos.\$42.00
3 mos.\$22.00 1 mo.\$8.00
MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS
Mail In Roberts, Gray, Carson; Wheeler and Hemphill Counties In Texas
1 yr.\$102.00 6 mos.\$51.00
3 mos.\$25.50
Mail All Other Areas In U.S.
1 yr.\$114.00 6 mos.\$57.00
3 mos.\$28.50
Single Copy Mail
Daily\$1.50 Sunday\$2.50
No mail subscriptions are available within the city limits of Pampa. Mail subscriptions must be paid 3 months in advance.

Diversity implies toleration



WALTER WILLIAMS
Columnist

Diversity is simultaneously an important and contemptible term in today's climate of political correctness. According to Merriam Webster's Dictionary, diversity means: diverseness, multieity, multifariousness, multiformity, multiplicity, variousness. Its related words are: difference, dissimilarity, distinction, divergence, divergency, unlikeliness. Diversity's antonyms are: uniformity and identity. Diversity implies toleration of differences among people no matter what that difference might be, including those differences that are racial, sexual, ideological or political. Diversity also implies a willingness to permit others who disagree with you to go their separate ways, and form institutions and groups among like-minded friends and associates. In the political arena, diversity implies decentralized decision-making power that in turn requires limited government.

I'm waiting for one of those multicultural/diversity idiots to tell us about the moral equivalency between Western and Taliban treatment of women.

Universities, corporations and government offices that do not hire, promote or admit the right number of minorities, women, disabled or other "protected" classes of Americans are seen as politically incorrect. As such, they risk exposure to heavy-handed Equal Employment Opportunity Commission enforcement actions, government and private lawsuits, loss of government grants and contracts, or loss of university accreditation.

Diversity is simply the old racism in a new guise, spiced up with a touch of sexism. Diversity is a call for race-conscious decisions in hiring, promotion and college admittance policy. Diversity management success is measured by the numbers: How many minorities or women are employed, promoted or enrolled? Wrong numbers invite the wrath of the state.

At colleges, diversity doesn't mean political diversity. It is by no means unusual to find colleges where the bulk of the faculty — sometimes 80 percent or 90 percent — is registered Democrat. In some academic departments, such as philoso-

phy, history and political science, it is by no means rare to find 100 percent of the faculty is registered Democrat.

Equal treatment, academic standards and meritocracy are the major casualties of the quest for diversity. In fact, equal treatment, academic standards and meritocracy can lead to charges of racism by the diversity elite. Being a 65-year-old, I can remember when blacks demanded that questions about race be removed from job or credit application forms. We said race was irrelevant and demanded color-blindness. In today's racial spoils system, racial designations are required.

What might true diversity look like on college campuses? Different colleges might pursue different policies with regard to race and sex. Some might have color- and sex-blind admittance and hiring policies, while others, at least at private colleges, might be race- and sex-conscious. Some colleges would have faculty members who are mostly liberal Democrats or conservative Republicans, as opposed to the current domination by liberal Democrats. There'd be free speech rather than speech codes.

Official racism, in the forms of quotas and preferences, has fallen out of public and political favor, and so has some of its agenda's coded words. Large corporations used to have their "urban affairs" office in charge of racial numbers. Later on, it was the corporate or university "affirmative action" office. Now it's the "equity" office, soon maybe to become the office for "diversity management." But racism is racism with or without a smiley face.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Does this sound familiar?

To the editor:
Does anyone remember when commercial chicken farming was welcomed with open arms by Arkansas about a decade ago?
Now, even the neighboring city of Tulsa's water supply is contaminated, and chicken parts are seen floating in Lake Eucha.
Those trusting folks, like the people of the Panhandle of Texas, were assured by their leaders from the outset that there was no danger to their water or environment, but that much economic benefit was to be gained.
Nowadays, Arkansas' environmental problems are front and center in the public eye, and all else comes second.
Who is cleaning up the mess? I'll venture it's the taxpayers and not the chicken industry.
Does this sound familiar? When, oh when, will we ever learn?

Edna L. Haydon
Pampa

TEXAS EDITORIALS

Missile defense shield crucial part of security

From the El Paso Times:
A new Central Intelligence Agency report reinforces the need for a national missile-defense shield.
"Foreign Missile Developments and the Ballistic Missile Threat Through 2015" contains some worrisome predictions, not the least of which is that China is expected to have approximately 100 long-range nuclear missiles targeted on the United States by 2015. Worse, many of them will be mounted on mobile launchers, which will be difficult to locate.
Given factors such as China's hard-line Communist regime, ill-disguised enmity toward the United States, pressing economic problems and a demonstrated penchant for solving internal and external problems through violence, this report should be causing sleepless nights in the U.S. defense establishment.
Further, says the report, Iran and North Korea will have long-range missiles capable of reaching the continental United States by that same year.
And then there's the Russian missile inventory, which in 2015 will still be far and away the largest collection of missiles capable of hitting the United States. Although it's generally conceded that the Russians pose little or no threat today, there's no accurate way to forecast the political and military situation in 2015. It's best to be prepared.
Just as the United States was caught flat-footed and unprepared by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the country now has a chance to prepare for future threats that have a fairly high level of credibility.
The Bush administration is correct to pursue the research, planning and installation of a missile-defense system. Particularly in light of this latest information, dismissing the report would be an almost-criminal abdication of the government's responsibility to ensure the security of this country and its people.

REPRESENTING YOU IN AUSTIN

STATE REP. WARREN CHISUM

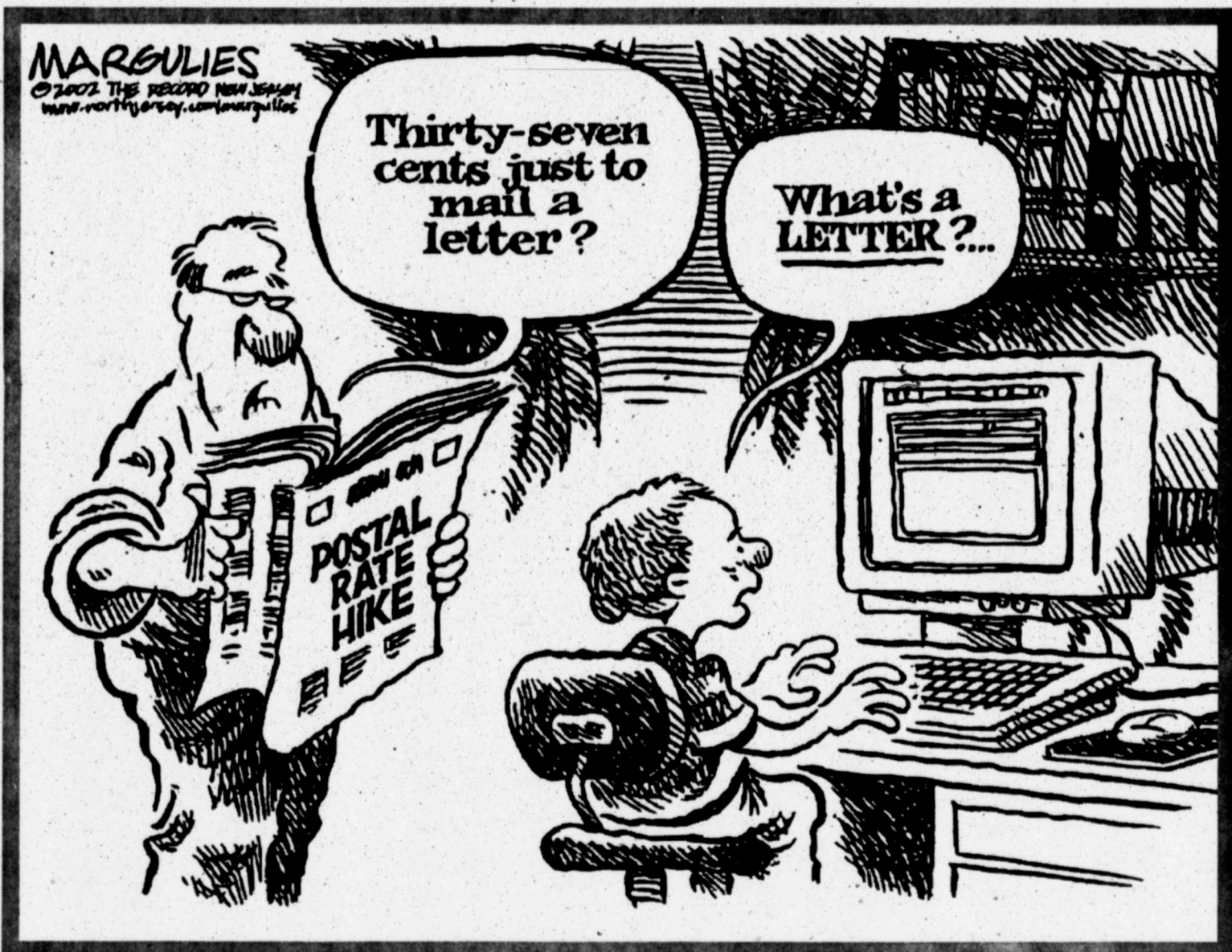
Pampa Address: 100 N. Price Road, Pampa TX 79065
Pampa Phone: 665-3552
Austin Address: P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910
Austin Phone: (512) 463-0736

STATE SEN. TEEL BIVINS

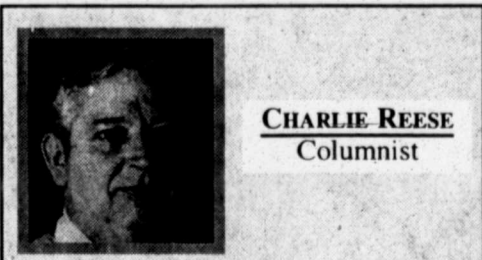
Amarillo Address: P.O. Box 9155, Amarillo, TX 79105
Amarillo Phone: (806) 374-8994
Austin Address: P.O. Box 12068, Austin, TX 78711
Austin Phone: (512) 463-0131
teel.bivins@senate.state.tx.us

TEXAS GOV. RICK PERRY

P.O. Box 12428, Austin, TX 78711-2428.
Constituent Hotline: 1-800-843-5789
www.governor.state.tx.us/e-mail.html



Remembering helps recognize greatness



CHARLIE REESE
Columnist

Many a glass of buttermilk will be hoisted this month from Virginia to Texas as Southerners gather to celebrate the birthdays of Gens. Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson.
Lee, who was born Jan. 19, 1807, probably comes as close to perfection as a human being can get. Jackson, born on Jan. 21, 1824, was a sterner man and was admired and loved more for his ability than for his personality. There are few Southerners who do not believe that had Jackson, who was killed after the battle of Chancellorsville, lived, the outcome at Gettysburg would have been different.

January is actually the birth month of others who played prominent roles in that war. Confederate States of America Gens. James Longstreet (on the 8th) and George Pickett (28th), as well as U.S. Gens. Henry W. Halleck (16th) and John C. Fremont (21st), were January presents to their parents.

I'm proud that the Sons of Confederate Veterans makes a Lee-Jackson banquet an annual and permanent celebration of these two heroes. It's a shame more great Americans aren't honored and remembered. We no longer have a day for George Washington or Thomas Jefferson or (forgive me, my Southern brothers) Abraham Lincoln. All of these men were lumped together as Presidents Day, a meaningless generality. Actually, this is the work of lobbyists from the travel industry and federal employment unions. What they wanted and what they got was not an occasion to honor anybody. It was a three-day weekend.

At least some of us in the South have not allowed commercial interests to sub-

stitute consumerism for remembrance. The value of remembering great men is that, first of all, it teaches us to recognize greatness. After the war, Lee did not go on the speaking circuit collecting big fees, as is customary for modern generals whose records on the battlefield are laughably scant. Nor did he accept gifts or high-paying jobs, though plenty were offered. Lee did not think that he should profit from a war that caused so much misery to the Southern people. Instead, he accepted the presidency of a small, nearly bankrupt college, which today is Washington and Lee University.

Lee was already a hero before Secession. He was offered command of the U.S. forces. Only a professional soldier can appreciate the excruciating decision Lee made to turn it down. Here, for the taking, is what every professional officer would dream of. Moreover, Lee did not think Secession was a wise idea, though he recognized the right of states to do so. He did not approve of slavery. When Virginia left the union, however, he could not bring himself to draw his sword against his own family and friends. He resigned his commission and went home a civilian.

I should add, to save a few cranks an e-mail, that no Confederate committed trea-

son, and none was ever tried for it. The South never tried overthrowing the U.S. government, nor did it have any intention of doing such. The states simply withdrew from what, for decades, most people in the country agreed was a voluntary union. There is nothing in the Constitution to justify Lincoln's war on the South. He waged it in violation of the Constitution.

The best books on Lee are "The Recollections and Letters of Robert E. Lee" by his son, Capt. Robert E. Lee (Konecky & Konecky); "Personal Reminiscences of General Robert E. Lee" by Rev. J. William Jones (LSU press); and "Robert E. Lee on Leadership" by H.W. Crocker III (Prima Publishing). For Jackson, go to the source: "The Life and Campaigns of Lt. Gen. T.J. 'Stonewall' Jackson" by R.L. Dabney, one of his staff officers and a great theologian.

Lee once wrote: "You have only always to do what is right. It will become easier by practice, and you will enjoy in the midst of your trials the pleasure of an approving conscience. That will be worth everything else."

Lee is one of the few men of whom it can be said: "He lived his Christian beliefs." Longstreet said that as a soldier, Lee's men respected him, but as a man, they loved him. I do not know of any modern general in the world whose men, after suffering a hellish defeat, would beg the general to let them try one more time to take the objective. Lee's men did that at Gettysburg. What better tribute can a military officer have?

Charlie Reese can be contacted at
briarl@earthlink.net.

Get More We Make You No Morgan B. Delivers We Make It. Financing A Major Credit 90 Days Sa

Thursday, Ja Rur

Crossword P

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JAC

ACROSS	44
1 Boxing moves	45
5 Setting items	46
10 Oscar, e.g.	DC
12 Foolish	1
13 Out of style	2
14 Dike	3
15 Jackie's second	3
16 More spirited	4
18 Drink of the gods	5
20 Bullfight call	7
21 Trick takers, often	8
23 Went ahead	9
24 Buyer's prof: Abbr.	10
26 Corrosive stuff	13
28 Mermaid's home	15
29 Director Premierer	16
31 Sort	17
32 Imitated a pig	18
36 More intense	21
39 Corn unit	25
40 Conical home	27
41 Thrill	28
43 Steer clear of	29

For answer to 99¢ per m

Get a Morgan!

We Make! You Need!

Morgan Builds, Sells, Delivers & Services We Make It... You Need It!

Financing Available OAC
Major Credit Cards Accepted
90 Days Same As Cash

Spas

Many Sizes Up to 105 Jets

FACTORY DIRECT

Buildings

Any size

Storage Offices Carports Garages Barns Cottages

FACTORY DIRECT

7402 Canyon Dr. • I-27 & Bell
806-358-9597
www.morganusa.com

Morgan Family Fun Since 1961
Bldgs Spas Pools AND CARPORTS

DEAR ABBY written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips.

Thursday, January 17

Page 5

Runaway Hotline Offers Help To Desperate Runaway Kids

DEAR ABBY: The holiday season is finally over — and a lot of people are breathing a collective sigh of relief. The pressure of trying to maintain a greeting-card kind of family facade is overwhelming for families already experiencing problems. Parents aren't going to stop fighting because it's suddenly the time for peace and love. And Johnny isn't going to stop acting out, no matter how much everyone wishes differently.

Family dynamics is the reason cited by nearly 43 percent of kids who have run away — or are thinking about running away from home.

Parents should be especially alert to changes in their child's behavior, including increased stress, withdrawal or overwhelming unhappiness. These are warning signs of a child in crisis, one who may run away to avoid stressful situations. Open communication with children is vital to keep them from turning elsewhere. Taking the time to listen now may prevent a serious problem later.

The National Runaway Switchboard is the federally designated communication system for homeless, runaway and at-risk youth. It is confidential, volunteer-based and not-for-profit.

Please, Abby, encourage young people who are considering running away, and those who already have, as well as parents with children in crisis to call our hotline, (800) 621-4000, before an act of desperation is committed.

CATHLEEN CAROLAN, NATIONAL RUNAWAY SWITCHBOARD

DEAR CATHLEEN: Thank you for a timely and important letter. The streets of major cities are often the only "home" young runaways are able to find. Once on the streets, they are at risk for physical violence, disease and exploitation. They become victims of crime or even resort to crime themselves in order to survive.

Since 1971, the National Runaway Switchboard has been a valuable tool for runaway youth, teens in crisis and

concerned friends and family members. It provides confidential crisis intervention and referral services on a 24-hour hotline. It also offers message relay between runaways and parents or legal guardians, education and outreach services, and administers the Home Free program in partnership with Greyhound Lines Inc. (All services are free.)

The National Runaway Switchboard publishes the Parent Information Guide, which helps parents identify signs that their child may be contemplating running away from home, what to do if a child runs away, and how to deal with the child's return. The guide is also free to anyone who contacts the hotline.

DEAR ABBY: My fiance and I are planning our wedding and reception. Is it proper to invite guests to the reception only? We'd much prefer to keep the ceremony simple and private with only immediate family.

BRIDE-TO-BE

DEAR BRIDE-TO-BE: According to "Emily Post's Complete Book of Wedding Etiquette," it's proper to invite guests to the reception only. This is often done in second marriages. In such cases, a verbal invitation is given for the wedding ceremony, while all guests receive a formal invitation to the reception.

Pauline Phillips and her daughter Jeanne Phillips share the pseudonym Abigail Van Buren. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



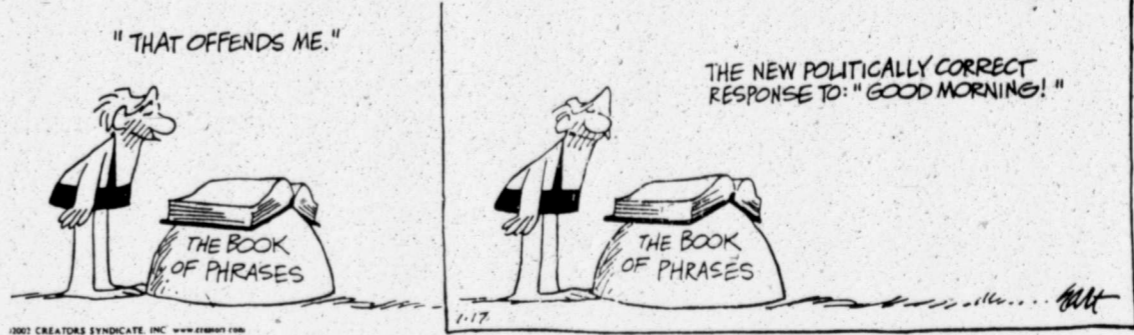
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Wildwood



Crossword Puzzle

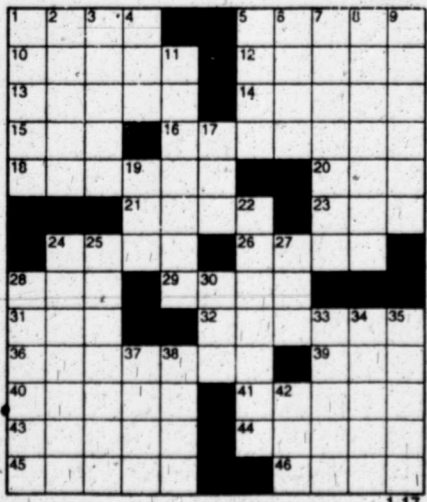
CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Boxing functions moves
 - 5 Setting items
 - 10 Oscar, e.g.
 - 12 Foolish
 - 13 Out of style
 - 14 Dike
 - 15 Jackie's second
 - 16 More spirited
 - 18 Drink of the gods
 - 20 Bullfight call
 - 21 Trick takers, often
 - 23 Went ahead
 - 24 Buyer's proof.
 - 26 Corrosive stuff
 - 28 Mermaid's home
 - 29 Director
 - 31 Sort
 - 32 Imitated a pig
 - 36 More intense
 - 39 Corn unit
 - 40 Conical home
 - 41 Thrill
 - 43 Steer clear of
- DOWN**
- 1 "Shogun" setting
 - 2 Not oblivious
 - 3 Fundamental
 - 4 Fourth-yr. students
 - 5 Computer document
 - 6 Rare bird
 - 7 Trattoria
 - 8 Prepared
 - 9 Fume
 - 11 Real
 - 17 Fury
 - 19 Spigot
 - 22 Swift
 - 24 Fill in for order
 - 25 Baking item
 - 27 Dupe
 - 28 Flour worker
 - 30 Low digit
 - 33 Reeves of film
 - 34 Con- sumed
 - 35 Attire
 - 37 Funny
 - 38 Midding grades
 - 42 Sassiness



Yesterday's answer



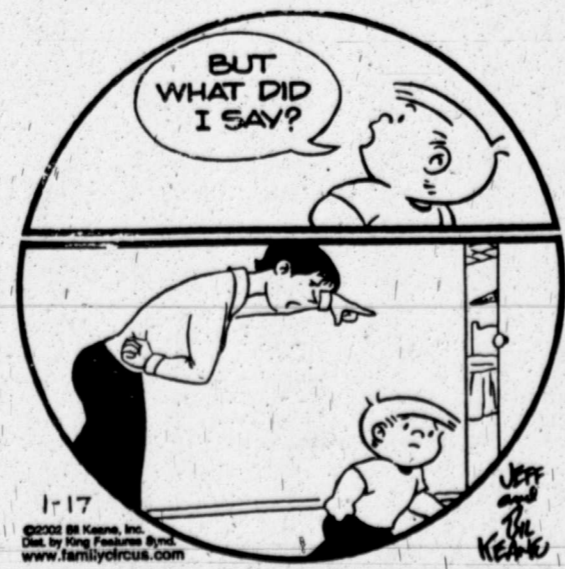
STUMPED?

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



JAN 17 2002

Can You Handle Another Night Of Torture?



WHY SHOULD YOU?

SEALY PLUSH PILLOW TOP
Twin Set \$399
Full Set \$449
Queen Set \$499
King Set \$749

SEALY "WATSON" FIRM
Twin Set \$249 Full Set \$299 Queen Set \$349

SEALY POSTURE PREMIER
Twin Set \$299 Full Set \$349 Queen Set \$399 King Set \$649

SEALY POSTUREPEDIC PLUSH
Twin Set \$399 Full Set \$449 Queen Set \$499 King Set \$749

EVERY MATTRESS ON SALE

LA-Z-BOY

LA-Z-Boy "BIG-MAN" \$478⁰⁰

RET. \$499.
ROCKER RECLINER \$288



"McGWIRE" RECLINER
This recliner goes the distance in offering big comfort. With added height and head support, plus a taller base, it's the ideal choice to comfort larger proportions. And, the seat still allows room for a standard extension legrest...an exclusive La-Z-Boy feature.

LEATHER SOFA \$799 **LOVESEAT \$749**
Ret. 1449 **SAVE \$650⁰⁰** RETAIL \$1395



4 COLORS IN STOCK

DINING ROOM \$499
5 pc GROUP TABLE W/4 CHAIRS

SWIVEL ROCKER \$199
RET. 399" CHOOSE 4 COLORS PLUSH COMFORT

TEXAS FURNITURE

DOWNTOWN PAMPA • PHONE 665-1623 • MON.-SAT. 9:00 TO 5:30
CONVENIENT CREDIT TERMS • LAY-AWAY



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Pampa Police Department and a generous Pampa citizen made one little boy very happy this Christmas. Jim Shepard received a small boy's policeman's outfit as a bonus when he ordered a Christmas present for his daughter. Not having a little boy in the family, Shepard called the Pampa Police Department, who in turn called Capt. Patricia Steward with the Salvation Army. She found "Frank Jr.," a 6-year-old boy who was surprised Christmas Eve by Sgt. Alvin Johnson with the special gift.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

TAXES

the mail, with the remaining 8,000 likely to have no contact at all from the IRS. The study is intended to reflect the taxpaying population as a whole, with a more detailed look at taxpayers earning above \$100,000 a year compared with previous years.

The audits are expected to begin in the fall on individual returns from the 2001 tax year, for which returns are due April 15. Rossotti said the program will not increase the overall number of IRS audits and will not require an increase in the agency's budget.

Taxpayers audited under the project will be told why they were chosen.

In 2000, the IRS conducted 618,000 audits of individual returns, representing less than one-half of 1 percent of the total tax returns filed and less than half the number of the year before.

A projected 132 million individual tax returns will be filed this year, and IRS officials

say reversal of the enforcement slide is essential to ensure compliance with the law.

Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill, who approved the program, said information gleaned will "put us back on the right track" in targeting who is complying and who isn't. The IRS estimated the "tax gap" — the difference between all federal taxes owed and those paid — at \$278 billion for the 1998 tax year.

"While we have a general sense of the tax gap, and we know that compliance is uneven, we don't have the necessary information to know how big the problem is or how to fix it," O'Neill said in a statement.

In addition, the project enables the IRS to find areas in the tax law that consistently give people trouble. Forms and instructions can be improved, and sometimes Congress will change tax law to eliminate problems.

This year's project will involve only individual Form 1040 tax returns. Future projects will focus on other taxes, such as those paid by corporations, small businesses and the self-employed.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

AUDITOR

Enron has been Bush's biggest campaign benefactor over the years.

In another development Wednesday, it was disclosed that Enron executive Sherron Watkins told a friend and former colleague at Andersen on Aug. 20 that she had concerns about Enron's accounting practices. It was revealed this week that Watkins warned Enron's chairman, Kenneth Lay, about her concerns, which focused on outside partnerships used by Enron executives to keep hundreds of millions of dollars in debt off the company's books.

A hurried meeting at Andersen's Houston office took place Aug. 21 and Duncan participated. The meeting occurred the day before Watkins detailed her serious concerns in a meeting with Lay.

"It's now clear to us that key players at Andersen as well as Enron knew of the growing problems months before the company imploded," said Ken Johnson, spokesman for the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Duncan "cooperated fully with our investigators," Johnson said. "He answered all of our questions."

Rep. James Greenwood, R-Pa., chairman of the panel's investigations subcommittee, revealed that the Andersen employee Watkins spoke to on Aug. 20 summarized their conversation.

"This document raises additional concerns about Andersen's knowledge of potential accounting irregularities and the subsequent destruction of Enron-related documents," Greenwood said.

After Watkins' phone call to her former colleague at Andersen on Aug. 20, the accounting firm notified Enron's general counsel and were told that the law firm Vinson & Elkins was conducting an investigation.

"We're still looking into the facts here," said Patrick Dorton, an Andersen spokesman. "We don't know what additional steps were taken" by the accounting firm in response to the call from Watkins.

The accounting firm took out a full-page ad in major newspapers Wednesday seeking to assure the public that it would "do what is right" in the Enron investigation and promising to cooperate with government and congressional investigations.

In related developments:

—Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., said in a letter to Vice President Dick Cheney that Enron would have benefited from 17 provisions in Bush's national energy plan. "This creates the unfortunate appearance that a large contributor received special access and obtained extraordinarily favorable results in the White House energy plan," he wrote.

Fleischer on Thursday dismissed Waxman's review as "one more partisan waste of taxpayers' money."

—The chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Harvey Pitt, called a news conference for Thursday to discuss regulation of the accounting business, including a proposal to create an oversight body within the industry.

Several Democrats in Congress and the private group Common Cause called for Pitt, a securities lawyer who once represented Andersen, to remove himself from the SEC's civil investigation of Enron's accounting and Andersen's role in it.

The Justice Department is conducting a criminal probe of Enron.

—The former chief of staff for Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., who is leading one of the investigations of Enron, tried unsuccessfully last summer to arrange a meeting between the senator and Lay, the Enron chairman. Lieberman's spokesman, Dan Gerstein, said he does not know what Lay wanted to discuss.

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

EYES

friend's house on Nov. 25th where she suffered a prolonged seizure. "Reportedly she had been smoking marijuana dipped in formaldehyde," the report stated.

The autopsy report finding said the tetrahydrocannabinol detected by the Amarillo hospital in a urine test was not confirmed.

A toxicology report said a serum formic acid test showed its presence. It defined formic acid as a metabolite of formaldehyde and an index of exposure to formaldehyde and other precursors.

Prices are Melting Up to 75% off

Leslie's Clean Sweep Sale

Sale Thru Feb. 15, 2002
Twice Is Nice
1541 N. Hobart • 806-665-3989
Mon. - Sat. 10:30 - 5:30