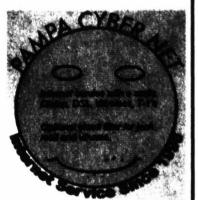
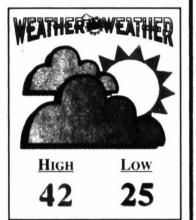
Ends February 14 ... While In Our Store Register To Win Our Valentine Weekend Getaway ... Drawing February 12 ne restrictions apply. WAC. Night, weekend and mobile to mobile minutes apply. CellularOne Authorized dealer. Free phone depends on plan. New activations only.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2003

***** ALL FOR ADC 780 *01 BV04227 12/31/14 SOUTHWEST MICROPUBLISHING 2627 E YANDELL DR EL PASO TX 79903-3743





LOCAL

Police warn of scam

Local police officials warn area residents of a scam being used across the state.

A money laundering scam is being disguised as a legitimate company called FEXX, according to a news release from PPD Officer Donny Brown. The company is claiming to be based out of Las Vegas, Nev. The perpetrators take out advertisements in local newspapers claiming to have positions available for

Cedars go; new trees to come County courthouse undergoes landscaping changes

By NANCY YOUNG MANAGING EDITOR

Passers-by the Gray County Courthouse have observed a noticeable difference as people are able to see the county building following the trees being cut down last week.

Landscape workers from West Texas Landscape cut down the trees a few days ago. Rusty Stevens, owner, said the large cedar trees were in bad condition. He said they were diseased and on the decline.

said. "It was time for them to go."

He said the trees which came down were at least 50 years old.

"I really don't know how old they were. They could have been planted when the courthouse was built in 1929," he said.

Trees will be planted to the exterior tioned have been red oaks. grounds of the building as the restoration project completes its second phase and moves into the third phase. The third phase includes the landscaping around the building and restoration

"They had run their lifespan," he of the original balcony in the court- the county in obtaining a grant from rooms.

ame Great Service At Our New Location 2145-B N. Hobart • 669-155

5300 Minutes only ^{\$40} Month

The type of tree to be planted has not been decided, but several have mentioned Bradford pear trees which is the variety around the Pampa City Hall. Stevens said the average life of those is 30 to 40 years. Also men-

approved the removal of the cedar trees in the courthouse master plan on Feb. 15, 2000, for submission to the ArchiTexas firm. This firm assisted

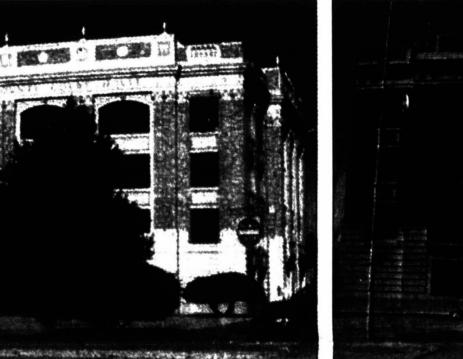
the Texas Historical Commission, and has been involved throughout the project.

The master plan was approved by the architectural firm in April 2000.

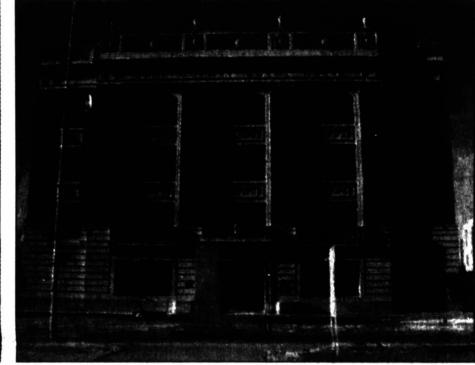
As the trees came down last week, county officials were ecstatic. All were hopeful the bagworms which inhabit-Gray County Commissioners Court ed the cedar trees will be gone from the courthouse grounds.

County Tax Assessor Sammy

(See CEDARS, Page 2)



(Courtesy photo) Gray County Courthouse prior to the two cedar trees being



(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young) Gray County Courthouse as it appears without the cedar

purchasing agents and/or couriers.

The ad requests resumes to be sent to a 1-866 fax number. Once victims send their resumes to the fax number, they are contacted and directed to go to a website and fill out a contract with personal information such as Social Security numbers, mother's name and bank account information. Once the information is collected, another call is made to the victim, according to the release.

The victims are told that they have the job and the company will transfer money into their account for a signon bonus. Some of the victims

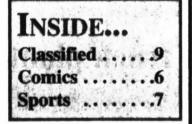
(See SCAM, Page 2)

DEATHS

Charlie Wallace Noe, 79 oilfield company owner. Barbara Smith, account-

ing.

Benny Lynn Young, 48, carpenter and oilfield worker.



WEST TEXAS LANDSCAPE

It's Planting Season ...

> 120 S. HOBART 669-0158



+

cut down last week.

trees this week.

Powell presents case against Iraq

UNITED NATIONS (AP) -Secretary of State Colin Powell, methodically making his case that Iraq had defied all demands that it disarm, presented tape recordings, satellite photos and informant statements Wednesday that he said constituted "irrefutable and undeniable" evidence that Saddam Hussein is concealing weapons of mass destruction.

"Clearly, Saddam will stop at nothing until something stops him," Powell told a skeptical U.N. Security Council, saying Baghdad's denials constitute a "web of lies."

Three months after Iraq pledged that it would disarm, Powell presented his evidence in an appearance that was

televised live around the world. The Council members sat around a large circular table with Powell and listened attentively.

Of the 15 Council members, only the United States and Britain have voiced support for forcibly disarming Saddam.

Tang Jiaxuan, China's foreign minister, said immediately after Powell's presentation that the work of the weapons inspectors should continue. "As long as there is still the slightest hope for political settlement, we should exert our utmost effort to achieve that," he said.

Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov agreed. While saying he had

listened closely to Powell's presentation, he said he believed more study and analysis was needed of the new evidence presented by the United States. Inspections "must be continued," he said.

British Foreign Minister Jack Straw said the secretary made a "most powerful" case. Saddam is "gambling that we will lose our nerve rather than enforce our will," Straw said. Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov

In a more than hour-long presentation, Powell also detailed the U.S. claims that Baghdad and al-Qaida operatives are working together and that some followers of a senior lieu-

tenant of Osama bin Laden are currently in the Iraqi capital, with the approval of Saddam.

Saddam, in an interview broadcast Tuesday in London, denied his government has a relationship with the al-Coming to Powell's defense, Qaida or has weapons of mass destruction. He said it would be impossible to hide such arms.

In his presentation, Powell:

-Asserted that Iraq "bulldozed and graded to conceal chemical weapons evidence" at the Al Musayyib chemical complex in 2002, and had a series of cargo vehicles and a decontamination vehicle moving around at the site. Powell said that was corroborated by a human source.

Report: Tile damage from debris could create Columbia disaster

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — A technical report warned at least nine years ago that the space shuttle could be destroyed if tiles protecting critical wing parts were damaged by debris, but NASA engineers never found a complete solution for the safety soft spot.

Now the failure of the tiles is a leading theory for the catastrophic end of Columbia.

NASA struggled for years in trying to ensure that the tiles were firmly attached to the shuttle, Paul Fischbeck, an engineering professor at Carnegie Mellon University, said in his analysis.

He said Tuesday that NASA engineers "took a lot of our advice to heart" and made changes to lower the risk of debris hitting the tiles during launch. But the problems were never completely solved, he said.

breaking off from the shuttle's external fuel tank during launch and striking tiles on the underside of the left wing is being studied as the possible cause of Columbia's destruction Saturday, which left all seven astronauts dead.

"There are very important tiles under there. If you lose the tiles on those stretches ... it can cause the shuttle to be lost," Fischbeck said.

A NASA spokesman said Tuesday that nobody was available to comment on the report.

Meanwhile, the search for bits and pieces of the shattered Columbia was expanded westward to California and Arizona, where teams are checking reports of debris. That material could provide clues to the earliest stages of Columbia's disintegration.

Investigators also are examining military photos taken from an

A patch of foam insulation Apache helicopter of Columbia's final fiery descent.

> Fischbeck and his colleagues made an initial report to NASA on their findings in 1990, and they later published a follow-up paper on the research in 1994.

They conducted a risk analysis of the shuttle's thermal protection tile system and found that the spacecraft was highly vulnerable to tiles being knocked off or broken by insulation falling from the fuel tank and from other debris.

In a follow up to the report, Fischbeck said he studied debris strikes during the first 50 shuttle launches and concluded that about 25 thermal tiles per flight sustained damage of at least one inch.

The analysis found that the most vulnerable parts of the shuttle were the undersides of the wings close to the fuselage and right under the crew compartment.

Fire official seeks cause of a.m. blaze

BY DEE DEE LARAMORE EDITOR

Fire officials continue to search for the cause of a raging fire Tuesday morning that destroyed a home on Prairie Drive.

Fire Marshal Gary Stevens said today he is continuing to investigate what caused a frame house at 1140 Prairie Dr. to erupt into flames shortly before 7 a.m. Tuesday.

"The fire started in the northwest portion of he structure around a bedroom," Stevens said. "It totally destroyed the house."

Two persons inside the home, Charles Wood and Rebecca Drinkard, were able to safely scape from the burning house, he said.

Wood's mother, Elizabeth Jan Wood, owns the house, Stevens said. Mrs. Wood was not at home at the time of the fire.

Pampa Fire Department responded to the fire with five vehicles and 13 firefighters at 6:58 a.m., Tuesday. The house was enveloped in flames when firefighters arrived, officials said. Heavy smoke from the burning structure drifted as far as downtown Pampa.

2 - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2003 - THE PAMPA NEWS

OBITUARIES

CHARLIE WALLACE NOE 1923-2003

WICHITA FALLS — Charlie Wallace Noe, ny in Pampa for many years.

during World War II.

Weatherford.

Jacksonville, Fla.

Gospel Church of Atoka.

He married Etna Noe at Wichita Falls.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving

Survivors include his wife, Etna, of

Wichita Falls; his children, Pamela Green and

Charla Romack, both of Pampa, Randy Noe of

Grand Junction, Colo., and David Noe of

Perryton; and a brother, Robert Noe of

Fla., preceded Ms. Smith in death. She is sur-

vived by her daughter and grandson, Deborah

Shaw and Jordan Shaw, of Tallahassee, Fla.,

and also by her brother, Jerry Spinks of

A memorial service will be held on

Thursday, Feb. 6, 2003, at 2 p.m., at the

Brown's Funeral Service Chapel in Atoka,

Okla. Ms. Smith was a member of the Full

The constant of Community of

79, of Wichita Falls, died Monday, Feb. 3, 2003. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m., Thursday at Fairview Cemetery in Pampa. Arrangements are under the direction of Owens & Brumley Funeral Home of Wichita Falls

Mr. Noe was born Nov. 16, 1923, at Shannon, to the late Ervin and Ruby Roper Noe. He owned an oil field equipment compa-

BARBARA SMITH 1942-2003

ATOKA, Okla. - Barbara Spinks Smith passed away on Sunday, Feb. 2, in her home in Atoka, Okla. Ms. Smith was born Dec. 28, 1942, in Pampa, Texas, and was a 1961 graduate of Pampa High School. She was retired after a career in accounting as an employee of Oilwell Operators in Pampa and Tallahassee Memorial Hospital in Tallahassee, Fla.

Her parents, Johnny Spinks of Pampa, Texas, and Ina Mae Spinks of Tallahassee,

BENNY LYNN YOUNG

McLEAN — Benny Lynn Young, 48, died Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003, at Hobbs, N.M. Services were held Monday in McLean First Baptist Church. Burial was in Hillcrest Cemetery. Arrangements were under the direction of Bailey-Ware Funeral Home of McLean.

Mr. Young grew up at Hobbs and graduated from high school there. He was a carpenter by trade and worked in the oil field most of his life.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Woodrow and Pauline Young.

Survivors include his wife, Dorthea Young; two daughters, Karissa Sullivan of Huntsville and Cassi Nickerson of College Station; a son, Chad Holland of Irving; a sister, Phondia Sierman of Lefors; two brothers, Fred Young of Dumas and Ronny Young of Washington State; and five grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to First Baptist Church of McLean.

SERVICES TOMORROW

NOE, Charlie Wallace — Graveside services, 2 p.m., Fairview Cemetery, Pampa.

SMITH, Barbara Spinks — Memorial services, 2 p.m., Brown's Funeral Service Chapel, Atoka, Okla.

CEDARS

Morris said, "Hallelujah. When the trees were put in, it should have been a different kind. Those cedar trees were full of bagworms. People couldn't even walk under them without stuff falling on them."

She said she drove by the building and was pleased with the outside appearance.

"It looks so much nicer," she said. "It's all in the architectural plan to replace the trees."

"Those cedar trees were always diseased," she said. "They'll be able to leave the shrubs as the bagworms won't be falling onto them from the cedar trees."

District Clerk Gaye Honderich agreed. "I think it's an improvement. Those trees were diseased and filled with bagworms. I know they are planting more trees. I hope we get some that are native to this area," she said.

Honderich said she'is proud of the restoration project. "I think it looks better," she said. It looks so much prettier. We need to be prouded of our courthouse."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

County Clerk Susan Winborne had similar comments.

"I think it's wonderful the trees' are gone," she said. "We can now see what a beautiful building we have. Also, maybe now we won't have such a problem with the pigeons roosting at the courthouse, or the bagworms."

Winborne said the building and grounds will be "gorgeous" when the project is finished.

"Without the cedar trees, you can see the beautiful building," she said.

County Auditor Elaine Morris said people can see the structure of the historical building without the cedar trees.

"I feel with all the work that has been done, it is nice to see the facade of the building," she said. "Removal of the trees is a noticeable improvement. I think it will be good to put in ornamental trees so people can see the building."

Morris said it was part of the master plan on the project to relandscape the courthouse grounds.

Sandra Martin, administrative assistant to County Judge Richard Peet, said she and her husband Wes plan to purchase two trees to be planted on the courthouse grounds.

"These will be a memorial to his parents and mine," she said. Martin said several local residents have indicated they would like to also donate funds for trees to be planted on the courthouse grounds. She said that anyone who is interested may contact her office.

Judge Peet-said Phase Three of the restoration project must be completed by 2010, but he hopes it will be finished sooner.

Anti-smoking groups: Don't mess with fund

issues and more specifically,

our own concerns about edu-

cating the public about

tobacco and preventing

future generations from

becoming addicted to tobac-

co," said Jay McCullough,

executive director of the

group TRUST for a Smoke-

tobacco companies resulted

in billions of dollars for

The 1998 settlement with

Free Texas.

AUSTIN (AP) - A \$9.9 Texas' future for both health · Children's Health Insurance billion budget shortfall might make getting cash from the state's multibilliondollar tobacco settlement fund enticing to some lawmakers and business groups. But opponents say selling

away rights to future payments from the \$15 billion fund used to pay for health and anti-smoking programs is an idea that should go up in smoke.

"It's not a good idea Texas, which uses some of because it jeopardizes the money to pay for the

ON RECORD

Program and various antismoking efforts.

The fund, now valued at \$15 billion, was intended to be paid over 25 years.

McCullough said Tuesday that his group has joined with Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, the Texas Lung Association, Texas Heart Association, Cancer Society and the state PTA to fight efforts to get cash by giving up future tobacco fund payments.

POLICE

Pampa Police Department reported today the following arrests and incidents. Monday, Feb. 3

Officers took a report of claiming gang affiliation on school grounds at Pampa Middle School.

Tuesday, Feb. 4

Alfredo Campos, Jr., 45, 609 N. Christy, was arrested on municipal traffic warrants. Criminal mischief was reported when a

vehicle and fence were hit with paint balls in the 2600 block of Evergreen.

A book of checks was reported stolen to

Rural Metro reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 4

7 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Huff Road on a fire stand-by. 8:38 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a the 800 block of Barnes; one patient was local nursing facility; one patient was trans-

AMBULANCE

PRMC.

3:27 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Varnon Drive; one patient was transported to PRMC.

4:11 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to transported to PRMC.

5:07 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the intersection of Alcock and Price Road; no

patient was transported.

Vivian Marie Brown, 49, 1016 Prairie Drive, was arrested on three capias pro fine warrants: no drivers license, no insurance and failure to appear.

the police department.

Damage to a 2001 Dodge Neon was reported to the police department. Estimate of damage was \$200.

SHERIFF

Gray County Sheriff's Department today reported the following arrests.

Tuesday, Feb. 4

Gerald Wade Cochran, 29, Rt. 1, Box 40-1, was arrested on a Carson County warrant.

STOCKS

The following	grain quo	tations are	VLO	38 07	+0.93
provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa			Halliburton	19.21	+0.06
			Triad Hospitals	26.51	-0.10
Wheat		3 38	NOL	21.18	+0.11
			KMI	46 30	+0.02
Corn			XCEI	11.00	0.02
			Kerr McGee	42 02	-0.0.3
			Limited .	12.46	-0.09
The following show prices for			Williams	3.15	-0.10
which these mi			McDonalds	14.25	-0.05
			Exxon Mobil	34.26	-0.37
bid at the time of compilation			Atmos	22 27	+0.01
Occidental .	20.4	1 +0 16	Pioneer Nat	24 85	-0.34
			Penney's	19.40	+0.04
Fidelity Mageln NA			COP		-0.20
Puntan	N	Δ	Schlumberger	38 45	+0.14
			Tenneco		0.15
The following 9.30 a.m. N.Y.			CVX		+0.01
Stock Market q			Wal-Mart	47.06	.0.09
nished by Edward Jones & Co.			OKE		-0.02
of Pampa	and some		NS Group		+0.32
BP	38.80	0.04			
Celanese		0.52			
Cabot Corp		-0.15	New York Gold		82.60
Cabot Oil Gas		0.39	Silver		and the second sec
	40.07	0.26	West Texas Crus		and the second
	40.07	0.20			

George Ray Reeves, 44, Amarillo, was arrested for violation of probation on a warrant out of 223rd District Court. Original charge was driving while intoxicated, a subsequent offense.

ACCIDENTS

Pampa Police Department reported the following accident.

Monday, Feb. 3

5:11 p.m. — Jose Larrazolo, 39, 1125 N. Starkweather, was cited for no drivers license in his possession and an unsafe left turn when the 1975 Lincoln Continental he was driving struck Josh Eugene Combs, 14, 1717 Duncan, as Combs was crossing Hobart on foot. The accident occurred at Hobart and Kentucky streets.

Tuesday, Feb. 4

8:21 p.m. — A hit-and-run was reported in a parking lot in the 1400 block of North Hobart According to the police report, a 2002 Ford F-150 pickup was legally parked when it was struck. Witnesses said the vehicle which struck it was an early 1980s supercab with a camper shell

ported to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

10:30 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1700 block of Russell; one patient was transported to PRMC.

5:17 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to 3:22 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of North Nelson; one patient the Baten Unit; one patient was transported to was transported to PRMC.

FIRE

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

Tuesday, Feb. 4

9:52 a.m. - One unit and three firefighters responded to a minor two-vehicle collision at Texas Highway 70 and Loop 171, north of Pampa.

1:20 p.m. - One unit and three firefighters responded to a residence in the 400 block of Pitts to install two smoke detectors.

3:26 p.m. - One unit and two firefighters responded to a dumpster fire in the 700 block of North Hobart.

3:31 p.m. - One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 1100 block of Varnon Drive.

3:38 p.m. - One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 900 block of North Hobart.

7:05 p.m. - One unit and two firefighters responded to a hazardous material spill in the 200 block of West brown. Firefighters cleaned up a small gasoline spill at Gas & Stuff convenience store.

8:15 p.m. - Two units and eight firefighters responded to an electrical fire in the 1800 block of Lea. A heater motor had burned up.

LOCAL FORECAST

Today, mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 40s. East winds 5 to 15 mph. Tonight, cloudy. Chance of snow. Lows in the mid 20s. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph. Chance of snow 40 percent. Thursday, now likely. Snow accumulation up to 1 inch. Total snow accumulation 1 inch. Highs in the upper 20s. Northeast winds 15 to 25 mph. Chance of snow 70 percent Thursday night, mostly cloudy. Lows

around 13. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph. Friday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 30s. North winds 5 to 15 mph becoming light. Friday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 20s. Saturday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s Saturday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 20s. Sunday, partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s. Sunday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 20s.

City Briefs

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

LUNCHEON SPECIAL burger Station, 5 a.m.-4 p.m. No collar. 669-2695. We deliver, 665-9131.

COMPLETE TRAVEL Inc. is relocating. Call 669-6110.

MASSAGE THERAPY Valentines Day Special Gift Certi. Cathy Potter, 669-0013.

MEREDITH HOUSE has a Respite Room avail, for The Pet Patch will be relocattemporary care. 24 hr. li- ing to 1216 Alcock. For appts. censed assisted liv. 665-5668.

LOST FEMALE Boston Cheeseburger or Hamburger, Terrier, 3 mo. old, left side fries & tea, \$3.50. The Ham- face-white, right side-black.

> SALE BY Owner, 3 bd, 2 full baths, new carpet, remodeled kitchen, Price Reduced. For appt. call 669-3913, 1518 N. Nelson

SUE BAKER... Tejas Real Estate, 669-0409.

THE GROOMING Shop at call Mona @ 669-3836.

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Toyota Motor Corp. has as 2,000 people, and carry an selected San Antonio for its annual payroll of nearly \$80 sixth vehicle assembly plant in North America, a decision on a large, rural parcel on the that promises to boost the city's southwest side could economic prospects of a city start by summer, officials hurt in recent years by the said. loss of thousands of military iobs

The board of directors at Toyota, the world's No. 2 automaker, voted Wednesday in Tokyo in favor of San Antonio over other communities vying for the plant, which will build 150,000 of the company's light Tundra pickup truck starting in 2006.

The \$800 million plant is as early as 2005.

Toyota picks San Antonio for new light truck plant expected to employ as many million. Construction work

> The plant jobs will be among the most lucrative in what is generally a low-wage city. Toyota pays workers at its North American plants upward of \$20 per hour.

Toyota said last September it hoped to add a production plant in North America near Mexico, where it is already building another plant set to begin production

San Antonio officials, whose public tone was guarded while Toyota pondered its choice, were jubilant after hearing the news.

"This is a great day for said late Tuesday. "Our econ-

pects or they are asked to wire

transfer the money to the sus-

SCAM

omy will never be the same. We're talking about manufacturing becoming one of largest our industries overnight."

arly Bird

Reg. \$1

The city is the nation's San Antonio and for the state ninth largest, but its history of Texas," Mayor Ed Garza has never included much manufacturing.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

pects. Some victims have had all their money taken from their accounts, the release

"We ask that you do not give any personal information to anyone over the Internet or phone without first checking out the company or individual," Brown said.

have had money transstated. ferred into their accounts. The victims are then asked to transfer the money into other accounts provided by the susAFTER SALES INVENTORY CLEARANCE SEctions may vary by store.

ALE \$19.99 Iebrook ater Silk acket ed jacket available

styles, all in black. \$60

SALE \$19.99 Sag Sport Bubble Cloth Jackets

THE PAMPA NEWS - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2003 -

Long sleeve button front, bubble cloth jackets in assorted spring colors Reg. \$40



\$19.99 Grasshoppers Canvas Shoes

Grasshoppers by Keds. Comfortable canvas casuals. Select from slip-on or lace styles in a variety of colors

Reg. \$26

SALE



50–75% OFF Ladies Fall and Winter Apparel 50–75% OFF Ladies Accessories and Shoes

50–75% OFF 50–75% OFF Home Decor Mens Apparel

Monday - Saturday 10-6; Sunday 1-5

60% OF Universal Jog Suits Choose from a variety of fabrics and styles.

Originally \$36 SALE \$14.99

Coronado Center

B

4 - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2003 - THE PAMPA NEWS

Bush's SEC nominee facing Senate hearing, job of rebuilding confidence

WASHINGTON (AP) -President Bush's nominee to head the Securities and Exchange Commission, Wall Street investment banker William H. Donaldson, is facing Senate scrutiny before he can take on the job of rebuilding investor confidence shattered by last year's corporate scandals

Donaldson, a former New York Stock Exchange chairman and Bush family friend. was designated - with newly installed Treasury Secretary John Snow — a member of the president's revamped economic team. He was appearing at his confirmation hearing Wednesday before the Senate Banking Committee.

The SEC, straining under a heavy load of investigations of corporate fraud and accounting deception, has been led since

Publisher: L.W. McCall

Pampa News

Editor: Dee Dee Laramore

Managing Editor: Nancy Young

Circulation Manager: Dean Lynch

THE PCIM

Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, Texas 79066-2198.

early November by a lameduck chairman, Harvey Pitt. The Bush administration's first SEC head resigned under fire after a series of political fumbles, culminating in a flap over his selection of former FBI Director William Webster to head a new board overseeing the accounting industry. Webster also resigned.

This is the landscape confronting Donaldson: Oncemighty accounting firm Arthur Andersen is a smoldering ruin after an obstruction of justice conviction; its longtime client Enron Corp. led a parade of corporate bankruptcies, scandals and handcuffed CEOs; retirement savings have dissolved and the stock market has plunged.

When Bush named him in December, Donaldson pledged to work to restore confidence

NEWS

in the markets and corporations and to deal swiftly with the numerous cases of company wrongdoing. Legislation enacted last summer expanded the SEC's powers to prosecute fraud and ordered the agency to issue new rules for companies, executives and accountants.

"One of his biggest challenges will be connecting with and communicating to Main Street investors, many of whom are cynical and shellshocked," said Marc Beauchamp, executive director the North of American Securities Administrators Association, a group representing state securities regulators. "Investors are the No. 1 special interest group in the U.S. today. They vote and they're not happy, and politicians are waking up to those facts."

In 2001, from the perch of his own investment firm, Donaldson denounced as "terrible" a year-old SEC rule pro-

revealing financial results and other information to stock analysts and other Wall Street insiders ahead of the public a long-standing practice.

He called the Regulation Fair Disclosure of 2000 pushed by small-investor advocates and then-SEC Chairman Arthur Levitt -"crazy in terms of what it does to the free flow of information." Like other critics, Donaldson contended it could make company executives afraid to say anything.

Years earlier, as NYSE chairman, Donaldson argued that accounting standards should be bent to attract foreign companies to the stock exchange.

While his Senate confirmaappears. assured, tion Democrats on the Banking Committee have examined his leadership of the NYSE in the early 1990s, when floor brokers made millions of dollars in illegal trades. The trading

hibiting companies from fraud scandal later brought the first-ever criminal prosecutions of floor brokers at the exchange.

> Donaldson and other senior NYSE officials are said to have quietly approved of letting brokers who worked on the exchange floor trade and share in profits with private customers.

A federal judge in 1999 accused the stock exchange of "downright anorexic" enforcement of a prohibition against floor brokers trading accounts in which they hold an interest. The judge admonished the NYSE for failing to enforce securities laws and its own rules meant to prevent brokers from getting an unfair advantage over other investors.

Known for a colorful candor, the 71-year-old Donaldson a founder of Wall Street brokerage Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette - recently reported personal assets of between \$89 million and \$253 million. He

West Texas gearing up for career expo

CANYON — West Texas A&M University will host its first winter Career EXPO Job Fair from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6 at the Virgil Henson Activities Center Ballroom on the WTAMU campus.

The event is open to all students, alumni and members of the community who hold a college degree. Representatives from various companies will be available to visit with prospective employees and to answer questions about their company's personnel needs. The Career EXPO is designed to benefit every student and isn't limited to certain majors or classifications.

"We've always hosted a job fair in the fall, but many of our students have expressed an interest in a general job fair in the spring," Kim Storey, assistant director of Career and Counseling Services, said. "We decided to try it and see how it goes."

The Career EXPO will feature a broad

spectrum of opportunities ranging from fulltime to internship positions in sales, business, marketing, healthcare, agriculture and more.

"This is a great way to get information," Storey said. "Besides allowing companies to identify candidates for employment, the job fair is also a great resource for information about the world of work as well as specific organizations. These representatives love to talk about their companies."

Alumni and students graduating in 2003 attending the Career EXPO are encouraged to bring their resumés and be prepared to interview. Student classified as freshman, sophomore and junior students are encouraged to attend to learn more about the job market and what companies are looking for in prospective employees.

For more information, call WTAMU's Career and Counseling Services at 806-651-2345.

was required to report only a range of assets, not specific numbers. He promised to sell his stocks in more than 50 corporations and his interests in partnerships to avoid any potential conflict of interest.

School board clinic planned in Amarillo

AMARILLO - Area school board candidates and interested citizens can learn more about the demands and rewards of school board service at a candidate workshop slated from 7-9 p.m., Thursday, March 20, at Region 16 Education Service Center in Amarillo.

The workshop will provide interested community leaders and individuals thinking about running for a board position with a better understanding of what is involved in being elected and serving as a local trustee.

Experienced school board members will explain board members' key responsibilities and outline the qualities necessary for effective service.

Topics to be covered include what it's like to be a trustee, key responsibilities of the board, division of authority with staff, how to campaign constructively. and much more.

The workshop is free and open to the public. For more information, call Brenda Canul at TASB, 1-800-580-8272, ext. 6104. or log onto www.tasb.org on the Internet.

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This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily except Saturdays, Thanksgiving and

Christmas Days by The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, Pampa, Tx. 79065.

Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to the

and The Pampa News is not responsible for advance payments of two or more Daily that exceeds the current collection period.



THE PAMPA NEWS - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2003 - 5

Serbia, Montenegro get fresh start after abolishing Yugoslavia

By JOVANA GEC ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Serbia-

BELGRADE,

Montenegro (AP) — Officials began the difficult work of institution-building after all but disbanding the troubled nation of Yugoslavia and giving the resulting nation a new name.

Serbia and Montenegro, as the country will now be called, is all that is left after a decade of war that broke Yugoslavia into pieces.

A European Union-brokered accord approved by parliament on Tuesday leaves the two republics only loosely united, and they could break up for good as early as 2006.

Serbia and Montenegro were the only two republics remaining in Yugoslavia after the Balkan wars of the 1990s. Under the new agreement, they will largely run their own affairs but will be linked by a small joint administration in charge of defense and foreign affairs.

The EU-brokered reform was widely seen as an attempt

to accommodate two conflicting views within both republics, ranging from demands for complete separation to a more tightly unified country. The deal keeps the two republics together for at least three more years.

"This is a new beginning, but we should not be euphoric," Serbian Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic said after both chambers of the Yugoslav parliament approved the overhaul.

"This new country is based on a minimum of common interest between Serbia and Montenegro, and we should give it a chance," Djindjic said. Over the next 30 days, the republics are to create a new joint administration, which will include a 126-seat parliament and a government to be called

the Council of Ministers. EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana, who mediated the deal, said the new institutions would be crucial for the success of the new country.

"Now it will be up to the new institutions of the union and to the governments of Serbia and

Montenegro to make the union work — and make the promise of European integration a reality," he said in a statement.

Yugoslavia, founded in 1918 as the Kingdom of Serbs. Croats and Slovenes was renamed Yugoslavia -- "the country of southern Slavs" ---in 1929. After World War II, the country became a communistrun, six-republic federation.

Yugoslavia began falling apart in the 1990s, as then-Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic presided over the bloody breakup that saw Bosnia, Croatia, Macedonia and Slovenia secede.

Serbia and Montenegro, tightly knitted for centuries, opted to stay together. But their relations soured and a pro-independence leadership in Montenegro began boycotting federal institutions in 1998, prompting some Serbs to also demand a separation.

The new arrangement left many dissatisfied, including staunchly separatist leaders in both republics.

"This new country is still-

Marriage revelations topple Miss Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) - Beauty pageant organizers stripped Miss Brazil of her title after they discovered she was married.

Joseane Oliveira, 21, was replaced on Tuesday by first runner-up Taiza Thomsen, 21, who will perform the beauty queen's duties for the remaining three months of the reign.

"Being single is a prerequisite for competing, and Joseane knew that because she signed the contract," said pageant organizer Boanerges Gaeta Jr.

Oliveira will have to return \$3,360 in prize money but will get to keep the jewels she received for winning the pageant, Gaeta said.

Evidence of Oliveira's 1998 wedding to Rafael Gustavo Vargas was uncovered by a newspaper in her home state of Rio Grande do Sul, which pub-

Roberts County Junior Livestock Show in offing

MIAMI — The 2003 tioneer W.B. Dickerson. Roberts County Junior The 2003 Roberts Livestock Show is sched- County Livestock Show uled this weekend, Friday exhibitors will include:

lished the marriage certificate in its Saturday edition. Oliveira, who has since separated from Vargas but is not

divorced, said she concealed the marriage to enter the pageant because her father was sick and she needed the money.

"I wouldn't do it again, but I don't regret anything," Oliveira said at a press conference Tuesday, when organizers presented Thomsen with Oliveira's crown.

It wasn't the first time Oliveira's behavior had drawn criticism.

Earlier this year, she appeared seminude on a Web site. Oliveira also appeared on the Brazilian version of the reality show Big Brother III, in which contestants are locked up in a house and filmed around the clock. At times she appeared to be drunk, performing lurid dances and sensually kissing another contestant. She was among the first contestants voted out of the house by her peers.

born," said Vladan Batic of Serbia's Christian Democrats, who serves as justice minister in the Serbian government. He predicted the two republics would part ways in three years. Equally unhappy were separatist Montenegrin politicians, such as Miodrag Zivkovic of the Liberal Alliance, who contended that Montenegro was being

social activist Dick Gregory

wants to alter the legacy of

one of the most respected

senators of the mid-20th cen-

tury, saying his views on seg-

regation warrant taking his

name off a Senate office

Sen. Richard Russell's 38-

year career in the U.S. Senate

led his colleagues to rename

the Old Senate Office

Building after him in 1972, a

The Georgia Democrat

mentored Lyndon B. Johnson

and shaped U.S. military poli-

cy during the Cold War as

chairman of the Armed

Appropriations Committees.

At the same time, Russell

also was a segregationist who,

with other Southerners,

blocked anti-lynching and

Gregory and others have

formed a group, "Change the

Name;" that wants to erase the

words etched in stone on the

Senate

Once people "realize who

this man was and what he rep-

resented, I don't think there

will be any problem at all in

changing that name," Gregory

other civil rights legislation.

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Services

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"Full independence is our true interest," he said. Moderate politicians from both republics backed the

reform and promised to establish a new administration for the new union by gradually shrinking and reforming existing federal bodies in coming weeks.

"cheated with this reform."

Tiny Montenegro, which cially part of Serbia.

has just 650,000 people, is dwarfed by Serbia, home to 10 million.

Tuesday's overhaul leaves Yugoslav federal president Vojislav Kostunica - who ousted Milosevic in the 2000 elections - without an official position. It also raises questions about the status of Kosovo, which remains offi-

Activists demanding senator's name be taken off Old Senate Office Building

WASHINGTON (AP) - A said at a news conference group led by comedian and Tuesday.

> The group sent letters last month to all 100 senators asking them to pass a resolution to change the building's name, but it has received no responses, Gregory said.

When the Senate changed the name three decades ago on a voice vote, only one senator objected, Sen. Philip Hart, D-Mich. Hart's name now graces another Senate building.

"I thought we had learned

that it is unwise to anticipate history's verdict," Hart cautioned, though he did not criticize Russell as a legislator.

Senate historian Donald Ritchie could not recall any precedence for un-naming a Senate building. He described Russell as a "senator's senator."

"He was always a gentleman, his word was his bond, and people respected him," Ritchie said. "That building was named after him despite his record."

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and Saturday, Feb. 7 and 8 in the Roberts County Project Center, east of Miami on Highway 60. Bart Stover of Follett will judge the competition.

The event will get under way with weigh-in from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Friday. The next day's activities will begin at 9 a.m. with the swine show followed by lambs, Small Fry and steers.

Tickets for a barbecue dinner sponsored by "Seniors 2004," will be sold at the show and the meal will be served from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m., Saturday.

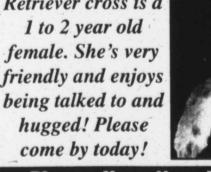
The premium sale will follow at 2 p.m. with auc-

Adcock, Katie Bailey Adcock, Taryn Adcock, Ty Adcock, Jason Adkins, Katie Baggerman, Kelli Bergen, Cole Booze, Jake Booze, Tarah Butler, Tatum Butler, Megan Crismas, Nikki Early, Colby Greenhouse, Marium Hannon.

Justin Holman, Katherine Martin, Danielle Nelson, Tyler Rankin, Roberson. Jonathan Timothy Roberson, Hal Rogers, Kendra Raven Sappenfield, Cameron Sappenfield, Underwood, Sadie Watkins; Kendall Wheeler, Clayton and Courtney Wilcox Wood.







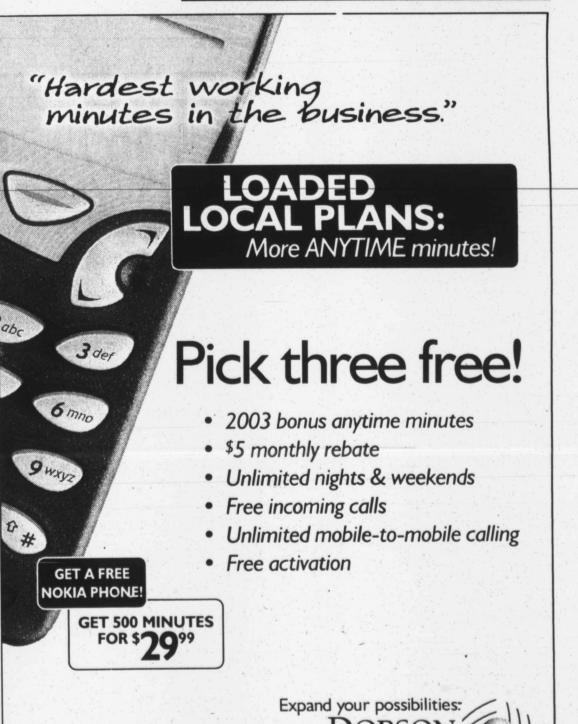
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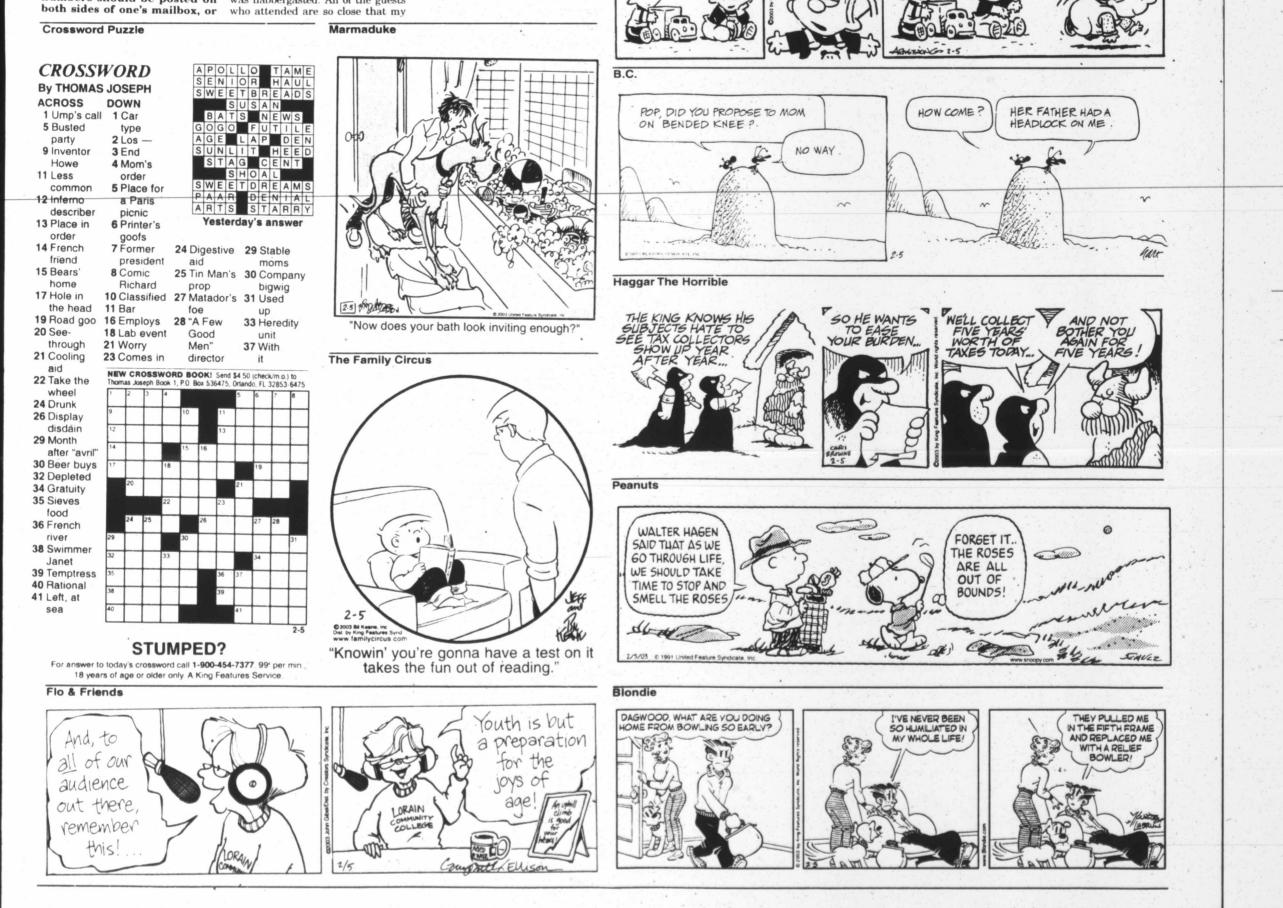
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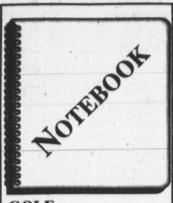
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SPORTS



GOLF

SAN ANGELO - The Pampa girls' golf team opened the spring season last weekend in the San Angelo Invitational.

The Lady Harvesters shot a 797 (410-387) to take ninth place in the 16team field. Megan Shannon shot a 179 (89-90) for the two-day event to lead Pampa. Other Pampa scores were Michelle Haley 200 (103-97), Krissy Holman (106-98) 204; Carissa Snelgrooes 223 (116-107), and Stacey Pepper 112-102 (214).

Andrews had a tworound total of 658 to win the tournament, while Pecos was second at 685, and Granbury was third at 693.

The Lady Harvesters are entered in the Snyder Tournament on Feb. 14-15. The Pampa boys' team opens the season in Plainview, also on Feb. 14-15.

BASKETBALL

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) - Colorado might not finish high enough in the Big 12 standings to merit an NCAA tournament bid, so the Buffaloes are taking a different approach.

Embracing the role of giant-killer, the Buffaloes beat a Top 10 team for the

Harvesters are heading to the playoffs

AMARILLO — Pampa escaped with 37-36 win over Caprock to earn a trip to the playoffs Tuesday night in a

District 3-4A showdown. lar-season games to go, clinched at least the thirdplace playoff spot with the victory.

with Randall for second place.

Behind by three (37-34) with two seconds remaining, The Harvesters, who are Caprock had the opportunity 7-3 in district with two regu- to knot the score when attempt. Caprock had one Harvesters pulled away to throw when he was fouled Cheston Mitchell was fouled on a 3-point shot attempt. Josh Frausto came in to

free throws, but the Longhorns committed a lane last chance after regaining possession when Pampa fumbled the ball out-of-

Pampa is' currently tied the Longhorns after Mitchell However, the Longhorns entire fourth quarter. Jen sustained a leg injury on the weren't able to get off play. Frausto hit the first two another shot before the final shots to give Pampa a 36-31 buzzer sounded.

violation on the third (21-19) at halftime, the three quarters. Some clutch plays near the end helped shoot the three foul shots for bounds on the throw-in. keep Pampa on top the

Martin hit a pair of foul lead with 1:41 remaining. After leading by just two Max Simon stole a pass with 15 seconds left and hit a free lead by six (31-25) after on the play to put Pampa up by 37-34.

> Simon led Pampa scorers with 12 points, followed by Ryan Zemanek with 10.

> Pampa had a 33-25 rebounding advantage with Zemanek collecting a dozen rebounds. Simon had 8 boards.

> Mitchell led the Longhorns in scoring with 15 points and David Hernandez chipped in 9.

> Martin finished with 5 points, while James Silva had 4, Johnny Moore 3, Clayton Hall 2 and Chance Bowers 1 for the Harvesters. Pampa, 11-12 for theyear, visits Randall on Friday

Pampa's Lady Harvesters closed our their season with a 44-31 win over Caprock last night.

Senior Casey Fisher led Pampa with 14 points and 8 rebounds. Valerie Velez and Jaclyn Spearman followed with 9 points each.

It was a see-saw first half with Caprock ahead 10-6 at the end of the first quarter and Pampa in front 19-17 at halftime.

Pampa forged ahead by nine (33-24) after three quarters and never trailed in the second half.

April Brown had 12 points to lead Caprock. Others who scored for

Covalt 2, Mariza Scott 2,



second time in 13 days, upsetting No. 3 Texas 93-80 on Tuesday night.

"This certainly helps," Buffaloes coach Ricardo Patton said of his team's aspirations, postseason "but we've got a lot of work to do. Certainly if we don't follow this win up with several more, then it doesn't matter."

The Buffs scored the last 13 points of the game, a flurry that was triggered by Michel Morandais' tiebreaking 3-pointer with 1:58 left. Morandais finished with 24 points, seven assists, three rebounds, three steals and two blocks. Morandais' play prompted Texas coach Rick Barnes to call him "the most underrated player in the league, maybe the country."

Colorado (13-7, 3-4) also got 23 points from Blair Wilson and 18 points and 14 rebounds from Stephane Pelle.

Brandon Mouton and James Thomas each scored 19 points for Texas (14-4, 5-2).

The Buffaloes, who beat then-No. 6 Kansas 60-59 on Jan. 22, broke open a second half that had 19 lead changes with their flurry over the final two minutes.

After misfiring from the free throw line most of the night — hitting only nine of their first 20 - the Buffaloes went 12-of-14 over the final 3:19.

David Harrison, who had 16 points, hit two free throws to give Colorado an 80-74 lead with 2:50 remaining. Until those foul shots, neither team led by more than four points in the second half.

Pardon My Ponytail! Pampa's Stacey Johnson (10) uses her ponytail to screen out a Caprock defender on a drive to the basket.

Lions hire Mariucci as their new coach

DETROIT (AP) — Steve Mariucci successfully helped

the San Francisco 49ers through a rebuilding process. The Lions are hoping he can do it again in Detroit.

Mariucci was hired as coach on Tuesday, taking over one of the league's worst teams less than three weeks after he was fired by the 49ers.

"He has tremendous experience in this league and brings unique qualities to our team," said Matt Millen, the Lions' chief executive. "Specifically, his ability to guide the 49ers through significant roster adjustments is very impressive.

"His offensive system is one that we already have in place, which certainly is a plus for our football team in general and some of our young offensive players in particular."

Terms were not disclosed, but ESPN.com reported Mariucci will earn \$25 million over five years, which would make him one of the NFL's highest-paid coaches.

Fired by the 49ers after six seasons, Mariucci becomes the Lions' fourth coach in four seasons. He replaces Marty Mornhinweg, who was fired last week after the Lions went

"His offensive system is one that we already have in place, which certainly is a plus for our football team in general and some of our young offensive players in particular."

- Matt Millan, Lions' chief executive

In two seasons, 3-13. Mornhinweg was 5-27 — the worst two-year mark in team history.

Mariucci was 60-43 with the 49ers, and coached them to the playoffs four times. San Francisco was eliminated in the second round this season, losing to Tampa Bay 31-6.

Mariucci clashed with 49ers owner John York, who dismissed him three days after the loss to the Buccaneers. Mariucci's postseason record was 3-4; the Lions have just one playoff victory since winning the NFL title in 1957.

Mariucci presided over a remarkably brief rebuilding period in San Francisco, but it wasn't enough to save his job, even with a year left on his contract.

Lions defensive end Robert Porcher said he has talked to some 49ers, who gave Detroit's new coach good marks. "They all speak very highly

guy's a winner. Six years there, two titles, conference championships, four playoff appearances. That gets it done for me and it should get it done for everyone else.

"Now he comes into a situation where he's wanted, where the city is going to embrace him, where management wants him.

"I can't even begin to tell you how much pressure that takes off of you when you're somewhere and you know you're wanted."

Mariucci, born and raised in the Upper Peninsula town of Iron Mountain, was scheduled to be formally introduced at a news conference Wednesday.

He will be about 90 miles away from best friend, Tom Izzo, Michigan State's basketball coach. Mariucci and Izzo grew up together, attended Northern Michigan and talk almost daily.

"It's going to be great, really

of him," Porcher said. "The it is," Izzo said while traveling to see a recruit Tuesday night. "I'm pumped up for him, and I'm pumped up for the Lions and all their fans."

Mariucci had been Detroit's leading candidate since the Lions fired Mornhinweg. Mariucci was the only coach to have an in-person interview.

Millen never publicly mentioned any other candidate, but said the Lions would do their best to comply with the NFL's policy of interviewing at least one minority candidate.

Mariucci's agent, Gary O'Hagan, who also represents former Minnesota coach Dennis Green, would not comment on numerous reports that Green refused to interview because the Lions appeared to have their sights set only on Mariucci.

A source within the league, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said five minority candidates turned down interview requests from the Lions for the same reason.

and Callie Cobb 1.

Attorney Cyrus Mehri, who along with attorney Johnnie Cochran led a campaign for more minority hiring in the NFL, said he was disappointed with Detroit's hiring process.

"By essentially crowning Mariucci as the next head coach before doing a single interview, the Lions discouraged African-American coaches from putting their hat in the ring in Detroit," Mehri said Tuesday. "Millen, in public and private statements, could not look African-American candidates in the eye and tell them they had a fair shot. I don't blame the coaches who didn't want to be a part of a sham interview."

"We're competing for the soul of the NFL, which has been based on a good old boys, network, not fair competition for jobs. The ball is in the league's court now. If they condone this, they have ripped the heart out of the 'Rooney Plan,' because what Matt Millen has done harkens back to the good old boys days."

The NFL's new policy, announced in late December, said owners would seriously interview at least one minority candidate for each coaching vacancy.

Sooners, Cowboys sign several Texans to football letters

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - Oklahoma State and Oklahoma both signed several Texans to national letters of intent Wednesday morning.

are defensive tackle Xavier Lawson-Kennedy of ranked by most recruiting services as among the best

Among the OSU signees defensive linemen in the nation.

The Sooners, as always, Duncanville, Texas, who is had a large number of Texas recruits lined up, including linebacker Demario Pleasant

and defensive back Tony Cade, both of Lewisville, defensive lineman Steven Coleman of Dallas Skyline and defensive end John Williams of Houston Lamar.

Others who signed by Wednesday morning with OSU were quarterbacks Mike Friess of Wichita, Kan., and Calvin Roberts of Port Arthur, Texas.

8 - WEDNESDAY, FFEBRUARY 5, 2003 - THE PAMPA NEWS

Gymnast wins state medals

Gymnastics of Pampa Fatheree recently entered the Championships in Lancaster. team member Madison Level 5 Texas State



Madison Fatheree shows off her state championship medals.

The 8-year-old first-year Level 5 gymnast had an outstanding showing at her first state competition.

Madison had her best allaround performance of the year and had personal best scores on vault, floor and allaround. Her outstanding floor routine earned a 9.65 and the state championship bronze medal. She had a fantastic bar routine for a 9.525 to tie for sixth place and had a solid beam routine for a 9.2 to place 18th. Madison had her best vault of the season to earn a 9.05 score.

all-around. the In Madison combined for her best ever 37.425 to finish seventh overall in the state.

Over 280 gymnasts from across Texas were competing at the Level 5 Texas State Championships.

Madison will now be moving up to Level 6, and along with their teammates, will be attending invitational gymnastics meets in Texas and Oklahoma.

Kentucky downs Florida

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) - Kentucky didn't think this one would be this easy.

But the sixth-ranked Wildcats' defense made it look that way against topranked Florida on Tuesday night.

Keith Bogans scored 15 points - all in the first half - as Kentucky beat the Gators 70-55, snapping Florida's 14-game winning streak one day after it moved to the top of the poll for the first time in school history.

The active, swarming Wildcats • (17-3, 7-0 Southeastern Conference) limited Florida to six field goals in the first half in taking a 45-22 lead.

Forward Chuck Hayes said the Wildcats could hardly believe the margin as they headed to the locker room.

"We were kind of surprised. We thought they had more firepower," said Hayes, who had nine points and eight rebounds. "You really don't know how bad you've dominated a team until you look at the stat sheet and see you've held them to six baskets. That's unreal."

The Gators (18-3, 7-1) got no closer than the final margin in the second half. They finished 17-of-50 from the field (34 percent), including 5-of-14 from 3point range (36 percent), and also committed 19 turnovers.

"Our guys hung our heads when the shots weren't falling," Florida coach Billy Donovan said. "Our mindset was too much on offense and scoring. They took us out of our game."

In other games involving ranked teams on Tuesday, it was: Colorado 93, No. 3 Texas 80; No. 4 Pittsburgh 68, Providence 61; No. 13 Creighton 84, Northern Iowa 75; and No. 20 Xavier 80, George Washington 68.

Donovan didn't use Florida's high ranking as an excuse.

"This was perfect timing for us to be No. 1, because us playing Kentucky overshadowed the ranking," he said. "It's a big conference matchup with both teams undefeated and working for first place in the league. We didn't have to answer a lot of questions about being No.

Florida's ranking may have meant more to the Wildcats, who won their 11th straight game, their second-longest winning streak in coach Tubby Smith's six seasons.

"We think we're the No. 1 team. That's what we wanted to show everybody," said Gerald Fitch, who had 14 points and seven rebounds. "I think we did a good job of showing them."

The Gators started out well, hitting four of their first seven shots before Kentucky's defense seized control. For the rest of the half, Florida hardly got an open look and the Wildcats seemed to track down every loose ball.

Kentucky finished the half on a 23-4 run as Florida missed 21 of its last 23 shots and committed eight turnovers.

The Wildcats scored 14 straight points over one fiveminute stretch.

Bogans, a senior, shot 6of-11 in the first half. The Wildcats went 19-of-37 from the field (51 percent) in the opening half, including 7-of-12 from 3-point range (58 percent).





1 Public Notice

RAILROAL COMMISSIO TEXAS OIL AND G DIVISION DISTRICT DATE OF ISSUA January 17, 2 Rule 38 Docket No. 10-023 NOTICE O APPLICATI NOTICE IS H GIVEN that the PETROLEUM CO., P.O. BOX IRVING, TX. 0907 has made tion for a density tion permit under visions of Railroa mission Statewid 38 (16 Tex. Admin Section 3.38) A seeks exception density of the field requirement Drill permit for W Barker -A-641.38 Acres, D.

RR. CO. Survey Panhandle. Field(s), Gray being 6 miles fr West of McLean The location of t is as follows: 1750' from the line and 660' fr west line of lease. 1750' from the line and 660' fro west line of survey

Field rules of t

handle, West fie 330/660, 640 acres. This well is to be to an appro depth of 3500 feet. PURSUANT TO **TERMS of Rule 38** this application m granted administr if no protest to the cation is received. fected person is a to protest this appli Affected persons operator or leasees cord of adjacent and tracts nearer proposed well th minimum lease lin ing distance. If a called, the ap has the burden to the need for an exc A Protestant sho prepared to e standing as an a person, and to ap the hearing either son or by qualified sentative and prot application with cr amination or prese of a direct case. Th of evidence are app in the hearing. have questions rethis application, contact the Ap representative Do

Kings once again display supremacy over Mavericks

By The Associated Press

The Dallas Mavericks will go into the All-Star break with the NBA's best record. But they still can't beat the Sacramento Kings.

Keon Clark's high-flying dunk off a missed 3-pointer with 16.5 seconds left gave the Kings a 110-109 victory over the Mavericks on in overtime. Tuesday night in a thrilling showdown of Western Conference division leaders.

the way.

In other games, it was Washington 93, Cleveland 84; the Los Angeles Lakers 97, Indiana 94; Portland 96, Orlando 89; New York 105, the Los Angeles Clippers 92; Toronto 98, Milwaukee 95; Minnesota 103, Houston 89; and Denver 102, Chicago 100

Five straight points by Then Bibby and Nowitzki traded tough jumpers, leaving Dallas still leading by one. Sacramento's Hedo Turkoglu missed a long 3straight up. The long, lanky ball and slammed it through in one motion.

by more than six the rest of Adelman, who punched the air in celebration when the buzzer sounded. "They kept coming back at us and it seemed like they were making every shot. We stayed with it and got the ball to bounce the right way at the end."

Lakers 97, Pacers 94

Bryant scored 35 points and Shaquille O'Neal fought off

The Lakers are at .500 for

Knicks 105, Clippers 92

Sprewell broke the NBA

record for most 3-pointers in

a game without a miss, going

8-for-8 held by Jeff

Steve Smith, making consec-

utive 3s midway through the

fourth quarter to break the

9-for-9 from behind the arc.

At New York, Latrell

Sprewell broke the mark of

loss

Sprewell finished with a season-high 38 points, shooting 14-for-19 overall. The crowd called for him to take another 3 in the closing minutes, but he did not oblige the one time he had a brief open look with about 35 seconds left

Wizards 93, Cavaliers 84 At Washington, Michael Jordan scored 27 points in 43 minutes and the Washington Wizards won their second straight despite the absence of leading scorer Jerry

overtime as the Nuggets won consecutive games for the first time since Jan. 8-10.

Whitney also made the 3pointer that sent the game into overtime. Replays seemed to show Whitney's foot was on the 3-point line when he released the ball.

Donyell Marshall led Chicago, which owns the NBA's worst road record at 2-25, with 21 points. It was the second straight night the Bulls lost in overtime. Phoenix defeated Chicago

shot-clock buzzer became stuck following a violation on Portland with 2:13 remaining in the game. After the buzzer was fixed, all scoreboards and shot clocks then malfunctioned, forcing the arena's public address announcer to call out the time remaining in the game and on the shot clock.

Timberwolves 103, Rockets 89

At Minneapolis, Kevin Garnett scored 23 points, grabbed 11 rebounds and

Michael Finley, who scored foul trouble for 19 points and 28, put the Mavericks ahead 12 rebounds as the Los 107-106 with 57 seconds left. Angeles Lakers won their fourth in a row. the first time since they were 2-2 on Nov. 3. Following a Christmas pointer and the rebound went Sacramento, the Lakers were 11-19. Since then, they are Clark — who earlier had an 12-4 and are only 2 1/2 games amazing one-handed, reverse behind Houston for the eighth seed in the West. alley-oop dunk — caught the

At Indianapolis, Kobe

Dallas goes into the break 38-10, four losses fewer than anyone else, but the Mavericks can't escape their 0 - 3record against Sacramento and San Antonio. That includes a 29-point loss to the Kings three weeks ago.

"We needed this win to convince everybody we can beat them — and we didn't do that," Mavericks starter Raja Bell said. "The consolation is that we still have the best record."

The Mavericks felt they lost at the beginning, when \neg the Kings made 13 of their first 17 shots. Sacramento eventually took a 16-point lead in the third quarter.

Sacramento cooled off and Dallas tied it at 64 early in the third quarter. Neither team led

On Dallas' final possession, Dirk Nowitzki missed a 10-footer in the lane after spinning away from Peja Stojakovic and getting a good look at the basket.

Nowitzki had 28 points, 16 Hornacek, Sam Perkins and rebounds and five assists for Dallas, which had won four straight and seven of eight.

"It's just a huge win for record after a 19-point lead us," said Kings coach Rick had shrunk to nine.

Stackhouse.

to

It was the second successive game for Jordan with a high total of points and minutes. He scored 45 in 44 minutes in a victory over New Orleans on Saturday.

Raptors 98, Bucks 95 At Milwaukee, Vince Carter scored 25 points and blocked a potential tying 3pointer by Ray Allen just before the buzzer as Toronto won for the fourth time in five games

Antonio Davis scored 16 points for the Raptors and Morris Peterson added 14.

Nuggets 102, Bulls 100, OT

At Denver, Juwan Howard scored 30 points and Chris Whitney hit five free throws in the final 20.6 seconds of

Oklahoma City 28 14 2 58156

Tulsa

26 15 5 57150

147

115-111 on Monday.

Trail Blazers 96, Magic 89 At Orlando, Fla., Scottie Pippen recorded his first double-double of the year with 25 points and 17 rebounds as Portland defeated Orlando for the eighth straight time.

The game was delayed for 12 points on 4-of-7 shootseveral minutes when the ing.

Wheeler defeat Clarendon

CLARENDON Wheeler's Lady Mustangs finished the regular-season Tuesday night with a 57-38 win over Clarendon.

Cassi Brown paced Wheeler in scoring with 19 points, while Lyndi Finsterwald was right behind with 18.

Lacey Eads had 11 points for Clarendon.

added nine assists as Minnesota avenged a 20point loss to Houston on Friday.

Rasho Nesterovic added 19 points for the Timberwolves and held Rockets center Yao Ming to

Clarendon came out ahead in the boys' game 52-42.

Todd Hoeltzel had 17 points to lead the Clarendon offense. Drew Sell and Judge Smith chipped in 13 each.

Dagen Moore had 14 points to take Wheeler scoring honors. James Chapman followed with 9.

James headed for a different court

AKRON, Ohio (AP) be in a completely different court

A lawyer for LeBron James, expected to be the No. 1 pick in this year's NBA draft, was to ask a judge to block a ruling that barred the high school basketball superstar from playing the rest of the season.

A hearing was scheduled for Wednesday, and the attorneys were meeting with the judge.

The Ohio High School Athletic Association declared the 6-foot-8 senior from St. Vincent-St. Mary ineligible on Friday for accepting two jerseys worth a combined \$845. The Akron team, ranked No. 1 in the latest USA Today rankings, was forced to forfeit a win because of the ruling.

James' attorney, Fred Nance, argued in court docu-

ments filed Tuesday that bylaw "by capitalizing on King James' next game will James, whose nickname is King James, did nothing wrong when he accepted the "throwback" jerseys from the owner of a Cleveland cloth-

> ing store. "All LeBron did was receive a gift from a friend as congratulations for his academic achievements," Nance said. "Had LeBron wished to capitalize on his fame, the recompense could be in the millions of dollars.'

> Nance said James, who has returned the jerseys, would attend the hearing not Wednesday before Judge James Williams.

The OHSAA found that the store gave James the Gale Sayers and Wes Unseld jerseys in exchange for posing for pictures to be displayed on its walls.

OHSAA commissioner Clair Muscaro ruled that James broke an amateur

athletic fame by receiving money or gifts of monetary value."

The decision came four days after the OHSAA cleared James of any wrongdoing for accepting a \$50,000 Hummer H2 sport utility vehicle as an 18th birthday gift from his mother.

Nance said in the court filing that James returned the jerseys when he learned that the gift was controversial and might threaten his amateur status

James, 18, sat out the first game of his celebrated career Sunday, and he seemed eager to rejoin his teammates.

Wearing a gray T-shirt and blue shorts, James attended practice on Tuesday in the school's gym. He warmed up with his teammates and was stretching in the middle of the floor when coach Dru Joyce closed the practice.

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RAILROAD **COMMISSION OF** TEXAS OIL AND GAS DIVISION **DISTRICT 10** DATE OF ISSUANCE: January 17, 2003 Rule 38 Docket No. 10-02333587 NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the GRUY PETROLEUM MGMT CO., P.O. BOX 140907 IRVING, TX. 75014-0907 has made application for a density exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 38 (16 Tex. Admin. Code Section 3.38) Applicant seeks exception to the density of the subject field requirement for the Drill permit for Well No. 3, Barker -A- Lease, 641.38 Acres, D. & P. RR. CO. Survey, A-940, West Panhandle, Field(s), Gray County, being 6 miles from the West of McLean, Texas, The location of this well is as follows: 1750' from the north line and 660' from the west line of lease. 1750' from the north line and 660' from the west line of survey, Field rules of the Panhandle, West field are 330/660, 640 acres. This well is to be drilled approximate an depth of 3500 feet. PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Rule 38(h)(3). this application may be granted administratively no protest to the appli cation is received. An affected person is entitled to protest this application.

cedure, please contact the Commission at (512)463-IF YOU WISH TO RE-QUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICA-TION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUS-TIN OFFICE BY February 27, 2003 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RE-**CEIVED WITHIN SUCH** TIME, THE REQUEST-ED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINIS-THIS NOTICE OF AP-RE-**PUBLICA-**Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12, 2003 RAILROAD **COMMISSION OF** TEXAS OIL AND GAS DIVISION **DISTRICT 10** 6899 DATE OF ISSUANCE: January 17, 2003 Rule 38 Docket No. 10-02333586 NOTICE OF

if no protest to the application is received. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or leasees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish

1 Public Notice

granted administratively

standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicants representative Don Aldridge, Sr. Regulatory Analyst, at 469-420-2728. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission at (512)463-IF YOU WISH TO RE-**OUEST A HEARING** ON THIS APPLICA-

TION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED NOTICE IS HEREBY IN THE RAILROAD GIVEN that the GRUY COMMISSION'S AUS-PETROLEUM MGMT. TIN OFFICE BY Febru-CO., P.O. BOX 140907 ary 27, 2003 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RE-IRVING, TX. 75014-0907 has made applica-CEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, THE REQUESTtion for a density exception permit under the pro-ED PERMIT MAY BE visions of Railroad Com GRANTED ADMINISmission Statewide Rule TRATIVELY 38 (16 Tex. Admin. Code

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120 Autos PICK up rental list from

SEVERAL 2 & 3 bd houses for sale by owner. Use your tax refund for down pymnts, 665-4842. WE are moving & need to sell our neat & spacious 2 story, 4 bdr., 2 full ba., 2 liv. areas home. Must see to appreciate. 901 E. Francis. Call 665-7815. 115 Trailer Parks TUMBLEWEED Acres,

Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or leasees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the Acres, D. & P. RR. CO. proposed well than the Survey, A-521, Panhanminimum lease line spacdle, West Field(s), Gray ing distance. If a hearing County, being 6 miles is called, the applicant from the West of has the burden to prove the need for an exception. McLean, Texas. The lo-A Protestant should be cation of this well is as follows: prepared to establish 2020' from the north standing as an affected line and 425' from the person, and to appear at the hearing either in per-2020' from the north son or by qualified repreline and 425' from the sentative and protest the application with cross-exwest line of survey, Field rules of the Panamination or presentation handle, West field are of a direct case. The rules 330/660, 640 acres. of evidence are applicable This well is to be drilled in the hearing. If you to an approximate depth of 3500 feet. have questions regarding this application, please PURSUANT TO THE contact the Applicants TERMS of Rule 38(h)(3). representative Don Aldridge, Sr. Regulatory this application may be

seeks exception to the QUIRES density of the subject TION. Jan. 22, 29, field requirement for the B-97 Feb. 5, 12, 2003 Drill permit for Well No. 3, Johnson Lease, 636.1

CERAMIC 3 Personal TILE WORK Keith Taylor, 665-0328 BEAUTICONTROL Cosmetics sales, service, CONCRETE Work, new makeovers. Lynn Allison construction, remodel, re-1304 Christine, 669-3848 pair, & removal, Ron ABORTION? WHY? Schwope, 665-2551. CONSIDER ADOPTION BACKHOE & Loader Warm, secure loving Work, demolition, tophome available for newsoil, sand, gravel. Snow born baby. Please call at-Removal. Ron Schwope, torney at 1-800-606-4411. 665-2551 A-819. 4 Not Respon.

14n Painting 50 yr. exp. We paint, dry AS of this date, Feb. 4,

wall, texture, comm./ resi-2003, we Aldo & Tena dential. Free Estimates. Dennis, Colby Co., Inc. Happy Painters 665-3214 dba Jay's Drive Inn, are INT./EXT. painting, mud no longer responsible for tape, blow accoustic. 35 any debts other than those yr. exp. References. Gene incurred by us. Signed, Calder 665-4840. Aldo & Tena Dennis

Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

west line of lease.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Feb. 6, 2003:

communication, or find that you are get- Tonight: Where the gang is. ting mixed messages. Aim for more of CANCER (June 21-July 22) restricted. You recognize the depth of a ance. commitment. If you are attached, a new LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) commitment might develop between **** Keep conversations moving. sharing. There you, which could involve a new child, If a question develops, seek out an ambivalence bet grandchild or perhaps some other expert. How you view someone could Listen. Tonight: delightful addition. ARIES fills in the change because of his or her inability to AQUARIUS (Ja gaps.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

**** Your popularity increases, taking you down new avenues. Carefully think through a decision that involves a rounds communication. Clarify and straighten out a problem. Tonight: Whatever you want.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

*** Lie back and think about what you want. Question less about what might be going on in your life, and just keep your mind and eyes open. Much is promised. Avoid negativity about money, who you are and what you offer. Tonight: Consider keeping a sleep journal. GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

* * * * Reach out for others, establish-

What you believe is a gigantic misunder-Think before you leap this year. You standing might not be as difficult as you and/or co-workers. Tonight: Work as late could easily find yourself knee-deep in are making it out to be. Relax and work as need be. quicksand if you're not careful. You within the system. Others help you SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) might frequently be overwhelmed with achieve much more of what you want. **** You might want to deal with

what you want. Review bottom lines. *** Keep adjusting as you strive to partner who might be unusually stiff Stay direct. Your creativity will take you work through a work or day-to-day mat- rethinks a decision. Separate reality from in a new direction once harnessed. If you ter. How you view an authority figure make-believe. Tonight: Start laughing are single, you will tumble into a major could change substantially because of a and enjoying your weekend. relationship this year. You might have a conversation. You might want to deal CAPRICORN (difficult time defining what it is you with someone more directly. Pressure *** You mis want, and somehow you could feel builds at work. Tonight: A must appear- with what is hap

move past an issue. You might want to **** You juggle a personal matter more carefully. before you leap. Be careful with a loved one's feelings. urge you on, an Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; Tonight: Rent a movie on the way home. evaluate a decision. If you can, avoid VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

who is boss. Let someone else take that Confusion surrounds a relationship. role; be the follower for now. How you Tonight: At a favorite spot. view a parent or loved one might change PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) substantially if given the opportunity. *** A financial matter reverses your neighbor or sibling. You need to say Fatigue surrounds you. Have you pushed decision at work. A boss pushes you in a "enough is enough." Confusion sur- a bit too hard? Tonight: Take care of new direction. Listen more carefully to yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

don't need to compete with an irrevoca-

ble force. Think in terms of gaining a BORN TODAY knock on your door. You don't need to ball great Babe Ruth (1895) push so hard. Tonight: Say "yes." SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

HIRING in Sports In-420 W. Foster dustry Admin. Assist. / Const. Super. / Sales / Const. Crew Openings. **60 Household** Benefits & Bonuses. Apply 94 Main St., Panhan-

dle, Tx., 537-3526.

someone more directly. You change

pace. You head in a new direction. A

JOHNSON HOME FURNISHINGS Rent 1 piece or house full Washer-Dryer-Ranges Bedroom-Dining Room Livingroom ing better priorities and different options. Expect greater clarity and more friend-801 W. Francis 665-3361 ship within a certain group of associates **KENMORE** Heavy Duty Plus Electric Dryer, \$40 Call 665-1447.

669-6881

665-4842. 69 Misc. 96 Unfurn. Apts. **QUEEN** Chimney Sweep Free inspection. Call for appointment 665-9452, if no answer leave message. Memory Gardens of Pampa is assigning *All single story units REE *Electric Range ery Spaces o local

*Frost-free Refrig. *Blinds & Carpet TERANS *Washer/Dryer connec ualify and *C H/A, walk-in closets not own *Exterior Storage ry property *Front Porches PACES **HUD** Accepted limited 1400 W. Somerville today to Pampa 806-665-3292 ive yours

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES - Here's how to work it: AXYDLBAAXR **isLONGFELLOW**

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

2-5 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

ZCCQ	RPC	w	XAFX	RL	ΚZ	S
OPXQ	w .	w к	FK	R	zcc	Q
UYVCE	ХКЕ	RK	PXN,	ZK	ELK	Y

SEC FKR. - EKJCER PCFEX Yesterday's Cryptoquote: WHEN I PLAY WITH MY CAT, WHO KNOWS BUT THAT SHE REGARDS ME MORE AS A PLAYTHING THAN I DO HER? -MONTAIGNE

Gray Box on front porch **Quality Sales** of Lakeview Apartments. 1300 N. Hobart 669-0433 Make your next car a Quality Car

Doug Boyd Motor Co. "On The Spot Financing" 821 W. Wilks 669-6062 2-3 bedroom houses for

CULBERSON-STOWERS

Chevrolet-Pontiac-Buick GMC-Olds-Cadillac 805 N. Hobart 665-1665

1988 Buick Electra Station Wagon 87,000 miles, great shape, \$1999. Call Pampa, att. gar., \$375 806-794-9330 (Lubbock) mo., \$100 dep. Call Cana-800-687-4625.



ESTATE AUCTION FEB. 22nd & 23rd 10 a.m. Both Days 410 S. Price Rd. J. C. Daniels Estate

is selling nearly **400 LINCOLNS**

ALL AT NO RESERVE over 40 Mark II's onvertibles, Continen tals, Capris, Premieres Zephyrs, Mark III's IV's & Many More!! **Plus Hundreds of Parts** For a complete listing visit

www.rmauctions.com 877-271-8485 Sale conducted by RM CLASSIC CARS, Inc.

Rod C. Egan **Chief Auctioneer** Tx. AUCTNR00013228

1973 Ford Van \$1000.00 or best offer. Please call 665-7792 leave message.

1988 Chevrolet Surburban \$1500.00 or best offer. Please call 665-7792 leave message.

93 Ford Explorer 4x4. 1 owner, new tires. Great cond. \$3500. See at 2131 Perryton Pky 669-3878.

121 Trucks

1996 F350 Crewcab Dully, 102,000 mi., new clutch, \$14,900. 663-1329, 669-7320.

126 Boats & Access.

FOR Sale 16&1/2 foot ski boat with 100-HP Johnson motor. Great family boat. Ski's & other accessories included. Call after 5:30 @ 806-665-2536. If no answer leave message & #

Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ght not be comfortable pening around you. You your perspective as a could easily be an tween the two of you. Happy at home. In. 20-Feb. 18) might want to think Though a friend might	FREE Cemetery Spa to local VETERANS that qualify a do not own cemetery prop SPACES are limited Call today to receive you 665-8921
Though a friend might d might not be wrong,	DAILY

impulsiveness. You might want to take *** * Establish more clarity about your time with a child or loved one.

an authority figure you respect. Ask the right questions, and you'll get positive * * * * Others run with the ball. You feedback. Tonight: Your treat.

could change

result. Listen o

better sense of direction. You might be Telejournalist Tom Brokaw (1940), U.S. unusually tired. Expect associates to President Ronald Reagan (1911), base-

* * * * Realize your limits within your Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at immediate circle of friends. You could be http://www.jacquelinebigar.com. overly tired of dealing with others. © 2003 by King-Features Syndicate Inc.

10 - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2003 - THE PAMPA NEWS Report: State budget gaps jump by nearly 50 percent

WASHINGTON (AP) -The flood of red ink for state governments just keeps rising: Expected budget shortfalls jumped by close to 50 percent in the past three months, and the situation is expected to worsen, the National Conference of State Legislatures said Tuesday.

The deteriorating situation could prompt more cuts in a wide range of programs such as elementary schools, health care for the poor and more. Additionally, it will increase pressure on state lawmakers to raise taxes.

"It's dismal and probably getting worse,' said Nebraska state Sen. Rogef Wehrbein, who heads his budget-writing state's Appropriations Committee. "Even if the economy turns around, we don't go to war and oil prices don't go up, it'll still be two or three years before we see improvements in state revenue."

Angela Monson, who presented the findings of a conference study at a news conference, said if the federal government doesn't help, many states will have no choice but to raise taxes and fees

"If there was a Utopia, the 'no tax' option would be great," Monson said. "But there is an expectation that state government will meet certain needs - education, health, roads."

Several states are already discussing raising so-called sin taxes, on cigarettes or alcohol, while others are pushing gambling to raise revenue, like Maryland Gov. Robert Ehrlich's proposal to put thousands of slot machines at the state's racetracks

Monson and others from the bipartisan legislators' organization criticized the \$2.3 trillion federal budget that President Bush proposed Monday. The plan, they said, fails to provide billions needed for educa-Oklahoma state Sen. tion, homeland security and election reform, or to provide enough help to offset soaring costs of Medicaid,

the federal-state health care program for the poor.

The report's findings were compiled from data collected during the first six months of the fiscal year, which began July 1 for all but four states. Among findings:

-The collective budget shortfall for state governments jumped nearly 50 percent between November and January, rising from \$17.5 billion to \$25.7 billion, despite scaled-back spending plans.

-Next year's projected shortfall is \$68.5 billion now, but analysts said that probably will get higher as revenues continue sagging. That's a jump of almost 40 percent from this year's estimate of \$49 billion. Last year's shortfall hit \$37 billion.

-Thirty-six states reported gaps between income and spending; 15 states were missing money equal to 5 percent or more of their budgets.

The faltering economy,

along with weakness in the stock market, manufacturing and the high-tech industry, drove down tax revenues. Add soaring health care to the mix, and "there is no immediate end to these severe budget troubles," the report said.

In his 2004 budget plan, Bush heeded governors' request for flexibility on federal rules. He proposed to give states more latitude in spending federal money for Medicaid and for Head Start preschools in low-income neighborhoods.

Bush's plan also would increase federal grants to state and local governments by nearly 4 percent to \$398.8 billion, about 18 percent of the budget. More than \$18 billion of the increase, however, is in mandated benefit programs such as Medicaid. For discretionary grant programs, Bush is asking Congress for \$154.1 billion, down from \$157.8 billion this year. An analysis of Bush's proposal by the Center on **Budget and Policy Priorities**, a group that focuses on how policies affect poor people, concludes it would reduce tax revenues for the states by

\$64 billion over 10 years. In 2000, when the economy was booming, states had roughly 10 percent of their spending put aside in reserves and cash. By last summer, that was down to 3.8 percent. It has fallen since, though final numbers aren't yet available, said Corina Eckl, the legislative conference's fiscal affairs director.

Twenty-nine states have imposed across-the-board budget cuts, and eight states have laid off workers. Others cut various programs, including elementary and higher education, Medicaid and corrections.

Next year promises to be worse, the report found. Again, 36 states reported

they expect a shortfall, and half said it would equal at least 10 percent of their budget.

The problems stretched nationwide. In California, a conservative estimate of next year's gap equaled 30 percent of the budget; in New Jersey, the budget shortfall equaled 18.5 percent. Minnesota's is 15 percent.

Several governors who campaigned on no-tax platforms, including New York Gov. George Pataki and Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, both Republicans. They maintain their states will get through without tax increases, but 24 states are considering such hikes.

On the Net: National Conference State of Legislatures': http://www.ncsl.org/

Center on Budget and Policy **Priorities:** http://www.cbpp.org/

CASA seeking volunteers

to make a difference in the world, here's your chance. Every year more than a million children are abused and neglected and every year these children's futures are put at risk. But you can make a difference. By standing up for these children and speaking on their behalf, you'll help ensure that these children find safe, permanent homes something every child deserves. Become a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) and change one life at a time.

CASA of the High Plains and permanent homes. The

If you've always wanted ., Banks. Come and find out how you can more about this special program.

> Every year, the state of Texas removes thousands of children from their homes because of abuse or neglect. These victimized children are drawn into an overburdened child welfare system that is hard-pressed to address their individual concerns. Eventually, they end up in court.

CASA is a nonprofit agency that trains and supports volunteers to work with these children as they journey toward safe, loving

BY EMILY GERSEMA ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) -More than half of 35 large meat processing factories reviewed recently by the government had shortcomings in their plans for protecting meat from harmful bacteria.

A preliminary assessment showed that 21 of the plants had problems with their plans to prevent E. coli contamination, Garry McKee, the Agriculture Department's food safety administrator, said Tuesday.

The problems in the plans were "scientific design issues and not food safety issues," he said.

Steven Cohen, an agency

written plans to prevent E. coli, a bacterium that can cause food poisoning, from contaminating meat. Plants that didn't follow their strategies were sent letters telling them to correct the problems within 30 days, Cohen said.

The government requires plants to create their own prevention plans, known as Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point strategies.

"If plants don't conduct their hazard analysis correctly, or there's something wrong with their HACCP plan — the way that they reassessed it and so forth --there will be actions taken," warned Elsa Murano, the department's undersecretary for food safety.

Congress and consumer groups for how it handled large meat recalls last year that were linked to several illnesses. For instance, ConAgra Beef in Greeley, Colo., recalled 19 million pounds of ground beef after it was linked to an E. coli outbreak that sickened 22 people.

Carol Tucker Foreman, head of the Consumer Federation of America's Food Policy Institute, said plants are endangering public health in failing to adhere to their prevention plans.

"If there's a scientific design problem, either there's something wrong with the notion about what HACCP ought to be, or the HACCP notion is fine but companies

food safety problem," she said.

The department is slated to complete its assessment of E. coli prevention plans at all plants by this summer, Cohen said.

President Bush proposed spending \$675 million on food safety next year in the budget he submitted to Congress on Monday. Murano said \$5.5 million of that would finance training of plant inspectors and \$4.3 million would be spent to hire 80 new ones. The agency now has 7,610 inspectors.

In addition, \$18 million would support the USDA's Office of Food Security and Emergency Preparedness to defend against terrorists' attempts to taint the food sup

will be holding an informa- CASA volunteer is fretional meeting at 7 p.m., quently the most consistent Monday, Feb. 3 in fellow- person in the child's life ship hall of Highland during this crucial involve-Baptist Church, 1301 N. ment with the court.

ookesman, said most of the up to date.

Department officials began checking plants last fall to ensure they were following

The department has been are operating in such a way plants failed to keep records criticized by members of that they're going to have a ply.

Feds find shortcomings in meat safety plans



	GOVER FOR THE YEAR	MENTAL'F R END AUG		02		
Data Contro Codes		10 General Fund	TIF Grant Special Revenue Fund	50 Debt Servic I Fund	e Other Funds	Total Government Funds
	REVENUES					
5700	Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 1,397,827	s -	\$ 108,272	\$ 19,156\$	1,525,25
5800	State Program Revenues	484,548			18,667	503,21
5900	Federal Program Revenues			•	63,262	63,20
5020	Total Revenues	1,882,375		108,272	101,085	2,091,7
	EXPENDITURES:					
	Current					
0011		802,264			47,706	849,9
	Instructional Resources & Media Services	13,183			-	13,18
	Curriculum & Instructional Staff Development	404			1,554	1,9
	School Leadership	107,604	· ·			107,60
0031	Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation Services	38,373				38,31
0033	Health Services	28,280				28,2
0034	Student (Pupil) Transportation	41,050	1 - 1 - <u>1</u>			41,0
0035	Food Services	-			79,623	79,6
0036	Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	158,360				158,30
0041	General Administration	122,034	e 1 - 1	·	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	122,03
0051	Plant Maintenance and Operation	420,387				420,38
	Data Processing Services Debt Service:	52,856				52,85
0071	Debt Service - Principal on long-term debt	· · · · · ·		70,000		70,00
0171	Debt Service - Interest on long-term debt Intergovernmental:			15,076		15,07
0093	Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member					
	Districts of SSA	16,056		•		16,05
6030	Total Expenditures	1,800,851		85,076	128,883	2,014,8
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Paymus Over					
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revnues Over (Under) Expenditures	81,524	•	23,196	(27,798)	76,92
	OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):	1.2				
7912			- S. 1	Sec. Sug.	150	15
7915	Transfers In				27,576	27,51
8911	Transfers Out (Use)	(27,576)				(27,57
7080	Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(27,576).		-	27,726	11
1200	Net Charge In Fred Bull				the second second	
0100	ge in t and butanees	53,948 560,082		23,196 818	(72) 1,726	77,07 562,62
3000	Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	\$ 614,030	s .',	\$ 24,014	\$ 1,654	\$ 639,69