





# Sixteen-year-old school shooter to be released if conditions met

MUSKOGEE, Okla. (AP) — A 16-year-old boy who shot and injured five of his classmates will be released into a private treatment program in Texas if he meets certain conditions, a judge ruled Wednesday.

Muskogee County Associate District Judge Thomas Alford said it appeared Seth Trickey has changed his attitude since an

October hearing in which he seemed to be frustrated and resistant to a treatment program.

"It looks a lot better now than it ever has," Alford said.

Trickey was 13 when he fired his father's 9 mm pistol at fellow Fort Gibson Middle School students Savana Knowles, Brad Schindel, Billy Railey and

Cody Chronister and wounded them.

Another boy, Dakota Baker, was grazed by a bullet that had already wounded one of the other victims.

None of Trickey's victims nor their families came to Wednesday's hearing.

Trickey was convicted of six counts of shooting with intent to kill and one count of carrying a gun onto

school property. He has been in the custody of the Office of Juvenile Affairs ever since.

Trickey on Wednesday told the court more about his thoughts on the crimes. He also wrote a letter to Alford expressing remorse and an understanding of what he did.

Schindel's father, Richard, was doubtful that the release would take place.

"I hear this about every six months, so we'll see," he said Thursday.

He said Trickey's own safety could be a concern because "there will be a lot of kids looking for him."

"There were 80 kids standing there that he took pot shots at," Richard Schindel said.

Four conditions have to be met in order for Trickey to

be released to The Oaks, an Austin, Texas-based treatment center, Alford said.

The Rader Children's Center in Sand Springs, where he is held, has to issue a report saying Trickey has completed all required programs.

Trickey also must graduate from high school. Graduation is expected in March, Alford said.

## OBITUARIES

LONNIE D. KNUTSON

McLEAN — Lonnie D. Knutson, 89, died Thursday, Feb. 6, 2003, at Amarillo. Services are pending under the direction of Bailey-Ware Funeral Home of McLean.

## ON RECORD

### POLICE

Pampa Police Department today reported the following arrests and incidents.

#### Tuesday, Feb. 4

Claming gang affiliation on school grounds at Pampa Middle School was reported to the PD.

#### Wednesday, Feb. 5

Jerry Lee Hicks, 37, 2206 Nelson, was arrested for forgery of government instruments. Forgery of government instruments and possession of drug paraphernalia was reported.

Theft was reported in the 2200 block of North Hobart. Estimate of loss was \$21.41.

Criminal mischief to a vehicle was reported the PD. Estimate of damage was \$400.

Lawn statues were stolen in the 500 block of North Hobart. Estimate of loss was \$400.

A desktop computer was reported to the police department as stolen. Estimate of loss was \$1,500.

A purse and contents were reported to the PD as stolen. Estimate of loss was \$75.

#### Thursday, Feb. 6

Jeffery Dewayne Hunt, 40, 605 Deane, was arrested for no drivers license on person and failure to obtain Texas tags.

Domestic violence was reported to Pampa Police Department. Male offender taken into custody on warrants.

### FIRE

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

#### Wednesday, Feb. 5

9:24 p.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to a natural gas leak in the 1000 block of Scott. Firefighters turned off the gas and the resident called someone to repair the leak.

### STOCKS

The following grain quotations are provided by Axtelway Grain of Bangor

Wheat	3.37	KMI	45.87	-0.38
Milo	3.87	NCTE	10.96	-0.04
Corn	4.40	Kerr McGee	41.25	-0.70
Soybeans	4.91	Limited	12.27	-0.08
		Williams	3.03	-0.07

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

Occidental	29.10	-0.10	Pioneer Nat	24.60	-0.03
Fidelity Magell	NA		Pennex's	19.00	-0.24
Puritan	NA		COP	48.60	-0.81
			Schlumberger	37.85	-0.26

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

BP	36.67	-1.04	West Texas Crude	33.93	
Celanese	20.70	-0.15			
Cabot Corp	24.20	-0.41			
Cabot Oil Gas	23.33	-0.39	New York Gold	372.25	
Coca Cola	39.83	-0.22	Silver	4.74	
AT&T	36.84	-0.09			

### AMBULANCE

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

#### Wednesday, Feb. 5

8 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 700 block of Tyng; one patient was transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

3 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 3000 block of Perryton Parkway; one patient was transported to Baptist-St. Anthony's Hospital West in Amarillo.

### SHERIFF

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

#### Wednesday, Feb. 5

Casey Andreen, 22, Rt. 1, Box 157C, was arrested on a Gray County warrant for theft by check.

Yvette Johnson, 41, 1123 Mary Ellen, was arrested on a bond surrender charge for possession of marijuana two ounces or less.

LaDeana Dudley, 38, 800 East Craven, was arrested on two warrants for theft by check. One was a Gray Co. warrant while the second was from Justice of the Peace Precinct One.

## WEATHER FOCUS

### PAMPA

A snow advisory in effect for today. Today's forecast is calling for a 70 percent chance of snow with accumulations up to 1 inch, highs in the lower 30s and northeast winds 10 to 20 mph. Tonight should be cloudy and cooler with lows around 12 and northeast winds 10 to 20 mph decreasing to 5 to 15 mph. Friday should be partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 30s. Light winds. Friday night, partly cloudy. Lows around 19. Southwest winds 5 to 15 mph. Saturday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s.

West winds 10 to 15 mph shifting to the north 5 to 15 mph. Saturday night, mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 20s. Sunday, mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s. Sunday night, partly cloudy. Lows around 19. Monday, partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s. Monday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 20s. Tuesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s. Tuesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 20s. Wednesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s.

### STATEWIDE

North and West Texas will be chilly today and it will turn colder over the entire state on Friday. Snow is likely in the Panhandle today and possible in the rest of West Texas Friday. South Texas will be cloudy and rainy through the weekend. North Texas will be mostly dry.

On Friday, highs will be around 30 in West Texas, around 40 in North Texas and in the 40s in South Texas. A warmup will begin in West and North Texas on Saturday and in South Texas on Sunday.

High temperatures yesterday ranged from a high of 72 at Brownsville to an overnight low of 25 at Amarillo and Dalhart.

In West Texas, snow is expected in the Panhandle today and light snow is possible in the South Plains. A cold night is forecast, with single digits possible in the Panhandle, teens and 20s elsewhere. Friday will be cloudy and cold, with snow possible in the Permian Basin, Edwards Plateau and far west. Highs Friday will mostly be in the low 30s, warmer north. On Saturday a clearing and warming trend will begin, with highs in the 40s and 50s over the region, and a possibility of isolated snow and rain remaining in the west. By Monday, skies should be clear to partly cloudy, with highs in

the 50s north, 60s south.

South Texas will be cloudy with rain in the forecast through the weekend. Rain will be widespread in Southeast Texas today. It will be mostly warm today, with highs ranging from the 50s in the northeast to the 70s deep south. On Friday it will be much colder, with highs dropping 20-25 degrees across the region, and freezing rain or drizzle possible early in the day in many areas. No overnight freeze is forecast Friday night. Saturday will continue chilly, cloudy and rainy in most areas. Sunday's highs will warm about 10 degrees and skies will begin to clear.

North Texas will be chilly this morning, with rain in the east. Temperatures will begin to fall this afternoon, with winds on the increase. Highs today will range from the lower 30s in the northwest to the mid 50s southeast. Cold tonight. Highs Friday will be in the 30s in the north and 40s in the south, with winds diminishing by afternoon. The Friday night forecast includes a chance of light snow or flurries over the region. On Saturday and Sunday, clouds will decrease and temperatures will warm, with highs from 45 to 55. It will warm to around 60 on Monday.

## Assassins kill former Mexican anti-drug policeman

McALLEN (AP) — Guillermo Gonzalez Calderoni once lived a life that seemed like something out of a Hollywood movie.

His power as the head of Mexico's anti-drug agency was practically limitless; he simultaneously aided and persecuted the country's drug kingpins, while cozying up with U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and FBI agents assigned to Mexico.

He publicly berated Mexican government officials for taking kickbacks from drug lords.

In 1992, Calderoni fled his homeland, fearing he would be killed there.

But his past apparently caught up with him Wednesday. He was assassinated in broad daylight outside his attorney's office in McAllen.

Police said Calderoni, 54, was killed by a single bullet to the head and neck area about 11 a.m. A bullet casing was recovered.

A passenger in a car with Calderoni when he was shot told police a man approached the vehicle and fired at close range through the tinted driver's side window of the Mercedes-Benz. Paramedics were unable to save Calderoni, who was pronounced dead at McAllen Medical Center at 12:24 p.m.

McAllen Police Department spokesman Alfonso Cantu said the witness was uninjured, but appeared badly shaken from the incident.

"He wasn't able to provide much information," Cantu said. "I don't know what state of mind he's in. He appears a bit traumatized himself."

Roberto Yzaguirre was one of several attorneys who defended Calderoni in a 1994 extradition trial related to allegations that Calderoni's Mexican agents tortured witnesses in federal custody. The Yzaguirre & Chapa law office is located in an area in the northern end of the city that is only beginning to be developed. There are no other buildings nearby.

Yzaguirre said Wednesday's shooting was unexpected and horrific.

"He was a very dignified man. He always told me the truth, and was a man who I could count on his word. A handshake was all I needed," Yzaguirre said in an article in Thursday's editions of The (McAllen) Monitor.

Mike Sinder, a legal assistant with the firm, said Calderoni was in the law office Wednesday afternoon for about half an hour, seeking advice about buying a ranch.

## More Texas homeowners resorting to last resort plan

AUSTIN (AP) — As lawmakers work to reform the homeowners insurance market, some Texans are signing up to get their coverage through the recently established insurance market of last resort.

An average of 100 homeowners a day are getting their coverage through the Texas Fair Access to Insurance Requirements Plan Association, or FAIR Plan, said plan spokeswoman Sandra Ray. About 1,400 policies had been written by Wednesday, she said.

"Hopefully the FAIR Plan will serve a niche and hopefully it will play a small role in the future," Ray said. "We are growing, not necessarily because we want to grow that fast, but we are."

The first policy was written Dec. 31, but many of the policies were written more recently, Ray said.

Insurance Commissioner Jose Montemayor said that considering there are about 4 million insured homes in Texas, 1,000 policies was not that many.

"If it was something like 10 percent of (the) entire market being there, I would worry," Montemayor said, adding he would not be surprised to see 20,000 to 30,000 homes insured through the FAIR Plan.

The plan was set up to ensure that no Texan "falls through the cracks on the homeowners market," Montemayor has said.

The Texas insurance market has seen months of skyrocketing rates and some homeowners insurance companies have stopped writing new policies in Texas. Insurance companies blame the increased costs on mold-related claims. Legislative

committees are studying the issue now.

Homeowners are eligible for the FAIR Plan if they have been denied residential property insurance by at least two insurance companies that are licensed to write and are actually writing residential property insurance in Texas.

Also, the homeowners may not have received a valid offer of comparable residential property insurance from an insurance company licensed in Texas, not including surplus lines insurers.

All licensed property and casualty insurers writing residential property insurance are required to participate in the FAIR Plan by paying assessments as needed if the plan's claims and other expenses exceed the premiums paid for coverage. Those assessments can be passed on to the policyholder.

Dan Lambe, the director of the consumer group Texas Watch, said the number of people who have signed up for the program speaks to the "frightening lack of quality insurance for Texas homeowners."

"While the FAIR Plan is better than nothing, it is bare bones insurance and it highlights the lack of available comprehensive and thorough homeowners insurance policies in the market today," Lambe said.

Montemayor, however, said he is pleased that the program is working.

"It's reliable coverage and it's coverage sufficient to satisfy their lenders so it's not an agonizing issue in terms of being able to comply with your bank note," Montemayor said.

## Medical center gets \$10 million gift

DALLAS (AP) — UT Southwestern Medical Center has announced a \$10 million gift to help develop a program for clinical service in the general internal medicine to enable doctors and staff to center their attention on patients.

William T. Solomon, a Dallas businessman chairing UT Southwestern's Innovations in Medicine capital campaign, said the contribution he and his wife, Gay, are making will help highlight clinical service as an integral part of the \$450 million drive to advance research and treatment programs.

In all, he said, about \$100 million will be required to fund the clinical portion of the campaign.

Dr. Kern Wildenthal, UT Southwestern president, said

the Solomons' support will allow implementation of enhanced services in UT Southwestern's general internal medicine division. The division will be named the William T. and Gay F. Solomon Division of General Internal Medicine.

"The intent of the Solomons is to enable general internal medicine to be a proving ground to perfect a seamless system of clinical care, combining exemplary patient-centered services with the latest technology and physician expertise," he said.

Among the clinical initiatives are implementing a new patient-friendly telephone system and installing an electronic medical record system.

A year ago, Solomon and his wife committed a lead gift of \$1 million to the drive.

## City Briefs

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# Powell sees inspectors visit as key to Iraqi situation

By BARRY SCHWEID  
AP DIPLOMATIC WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Colin Powell told senators Thursday that "within weeks" the Iraqi situation will be brought to a conclusion "one way or another."

Speaking to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee one day after laying out the United States' case against Iraq before the United Nations, Powell said a key to winning Security Council support will be this weekend's trip to Baghdad by chief weapon inspectors Mohamed ElBaradei and Hans Blix.

He said council members are looking to see a change in attitude from Iraq, which the United States says is concealing illegal weapons programs. Powell also said that if

Saddam Hussein wanted to show he was cooperating, he would allow the inspectors to meet with scientists and engineers who have worked on weapons programs. "He would not be giving them classes in how to keep secrets," he said.

Powell said the administration would work toward a second U.N. resolution, but it could proceed with war without one. Powell said U.N. Security Council members knew when they approved a resolution last year calling on Iraq to disarm that Iraq would be subjected to military action if it failed to comply.

Powell said that at the time, he told council members who approved the resolution unambiguously that they shouldn't vote for it if they wouldn't support a second resolution "when serious consequences

are called for — Don't play that double game."

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said the trend of world opinion is moving in the United States' direction.

"The world is increasingly seeing this from the United States' point of view — that Saddam Hussein must disarm, if he does not disarm a coalition will be assembled to disarm him," he said. "There may be some corners, some minority opinion that do not believe that, but that is why diplomacy remains important and will continue to be pursued."

Powell said the United States is providing weapons inspectors with "all of the information they can use." He said "60 different sets of data" have been submitted to inspectors.

Asked whether the danger

to the United States was greater from Iraq's weapons programs or from war — and the possibility it could lead to new terrorist attacks, Powell said "I don't think we can simply turn away because we're afraid that if military action is required it would cause some other problems with respect to terrorism."

Powell received effusive praise from committee members, both Democrats and Republicans. Democrats, especially, have been reluctant to endorse war with Iraq even while agreeing that Baghdad has a record of years of defiance.

The committee's top Democrat, Sen. Joseph Biden of Delaware, said "I am proud to be associated with you."

"I think you did better than anyone could have because of your standing, your reputation

and your integrity as it is understood by our European friends as well as others around the world," he said.

But Biden also encouraged Powell to keep seeking support of the members of U.N. Security Council.

"Although it's a Herculean task, I believe that it is possible to bring most along and leave others in a position where they are not objecting," he said.

President Bush, appearing Thursday morning at the National Prayer Breakfast, said a potential war in Iraq and the constant threat of terrorism pose "a testing time for our country."

"One thing is for certain, we didn't ask for these challenges, but we will meet them. I say that with certainty because this nation has strong foundations that won't be

shaken," Bush said

On Wednesday, Powell methodically made his case that Iraq has defied all demands that it disarm. He presented tape recordings of intercepted telephone calls, satellite photos and informants' statements Wednesday that he said constituted "irrefutable and undeniable" evidence that Saddam was concealing weapons of mass destruction.

In Baghdad, Iraqi officials dismissed Powell's case as a collection of "stunts," "special effects" and "unknown sources" aimed at undermining the work of U.N. arms inspectors in Iraq.

As for U.S. allies, most believe more weapons inspections are necessary before any resort to force in Iraq, although French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin, speaking after Powell's presentation of declassified intelligence, left open the use of force as an option. He also called for more inspections in Iraq.

Meanwhile, the U.N.'s chief nuclear inspector said that Iraq has to demonstrate "drastic change" in its cooperation with weapons inspectors.

# NASA widens search for clues to Columbia's demise

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — NASA is casting a wider net in the space shuttle investigation now that it has essentially ruled out a theory that a breakaway piece of foam may have caused Columbia to rip apart.

Other possibilities abound, from an accidental triggering of explosive devices on board to a collision with a piece of space garbage, or perhaps a flaw in a wing that caused the spacecraft to swing out of control and disintegrate moments before it was to land.

Space shuttle program manager Ron Dittemore said every theory was being examined.

"Was it something that happened after launch? Was it something that happened during the entry? Or was it something that happened during

ascent (launch) and we didn't see it? Those are all possibilities," Dittemore said at a news conference Wednesday.

On Thursday, searchers returned to the woods of East Texas and Louisiana in heavy rain to scour the ground for debris that could yield clues to the shuttle's destruction. Reports of debris as far west as Arizona and California — which could help experts determine what parts of the shuttle broke up first — were still unconfirmed Thursday morning.

For days, the investigation into the shuttle's breakup has centered on a 2 1/2-pound chunk of foam insulation that peeled off the external fuel tank during launch and smashed into the underside of

Columbia's wing. The theory was that the collision damaged the thermal tiles that keep the craft from burning up during re-entry into Earth's atmosphere.

But Dittemore said a rigorous analysis concluded that the impact would not be strong enough to doom the shuttle.

"It just does not make sense to us that a piece of debris would be the root cause for the loss of Columbia and its crew," said Dittemore. "There's got to be another reason."

In one of several factors being examined, investigators have noted that during Columbia's descent, its automatic control system struggled to maintain the craft at the precise angle required for a safe

return to Earth.

The autopilot caused the craft to rapidly move its control surfaces — devices like flaps and rudders — and eventually fired small rockets in a vain attempt to keep Columbia in proper alignment.

Dittemore said there was something on the left wing — "what, we don't know" — that caused it to catch the wind and drag the craft toward the left.

The autopilot added "more and more flight control muscle" in an attempt to keep Columbia pointed straight, he said, but just before the last signals from the spacecraft reached Earth, it was clear "we were beginning to lose the battle."

He suggested the drag may have been the result of a rough surface, missing tiles or something wrong with the wing.

Dittemore said engineers are also exploring the possibility that increases in temperature detected on Columbia's left side may have somehow caused the loss of control and breakup of the shuttle.

Just minutes before Columbia fell apart, a rise of 30 to 40 degrees was detected in the left compartment that houses landing gear. There was also a 60-degree temperature rise on the left side of the fuselage, just above the wing. Temperatures were cooler on the right side.

Dittemore mentioned that the shuttle's landing gear compartment contains small explosives designed to deploy the gear if the normal system fails. If heat accidentally triggered the explosives, it could be catastrophic, but Dittemore suggested this was unlikely.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

## REMEMBER

Ed Jarman, the retired Coronado High School science teacher who recommended McCool for the Naval Academy, spoke about McCool's intensity, commitment and dry sense of humor.

Dale Somer, a high school friend of McCool's, fought back tears as he talked about their days together and traveling to Florida at his friend's invitation to watch the space shuttle launch.

Jack Booe, principal of Coronado High School, repeated the eulogy he had given earlier in the week at McCool's alma mater.

The Texas Tech choir sang a special tribute to the fallen astronaut. It was on a compact disc that Husband, the

commander of the space shuttle mission and former member of the Tech choir, had taken with him on the journey into space.

The choir sang "Leonardo Dreams of His Flying Machine," an arrangement based on Leonardo Da Vinci's notes.

A memorial service is planned for 10 a.m., Friday, at Amarillo High School, where Husband graduated in 1975.

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## CHOIR

competed against students in high school, 1A to 5A, including Abilene, Wichita Falls, San Angelo, Midland-Odessa, El Paso, Lubbock and Amarillo regions.

Approximately 35,000 students began the auditioning process in September. The group was narrowed to 226 students who comprise the Texas All-State Mixed Choir.

In the auditions, students perform 60 minutes of music in English and Latin representing classical, baroque, renaissance, and contemporary composers. Students also were asked to sight sing at each audition.

The Texas All-State Mixed Choir performance will be on Saturday, Feb. 15, in the Lila Cockrell Theater in San Antonio as part of the Texas Music Educators Association convention, Feb. 12-15. Music performed by the All-State Choir is typically on the university level. The average SAT of all the All-State music organizations is 1,184.

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

## WATER

bers of the Texas Legislature on water and environmental matters.

He serves as adjunct professor of law at the University of Texas School of Law at Austin and adjunct professor of environmental law at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches.

Stover has been admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Texas, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas, and the Fifth Circuit, U.S. Court of Appeals.

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Why didn't Pampa schools observe MLK Jr. holiday?

As a resident of Pampa for a quarter of a century, and as a parent of three children who went to school here, I am saddened and disappointed to see that Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday was not observed as a school holiday this year. If I remember correctly, it was considered a holiday here during the past two or three years. I do not understand the reluctance on the part of ISD to continue that practice when the rest of the country as well as the surrounding West Texas schools like the ones in Amarillo were observing the holiday.

Believe me, I am not a proponent of more holidays and less work for students, but when the whole nation is remembering a respecting a leader of international stature, it is hard to understand why Pampa has to be the exception. Martin Luther King was a leader of the whole nation and a symbol of civil rights. He adhered to the lofty ideals of great people like Mahatma Gandhi whose philosophy of non-violence was an inspiration for him. We are sending a wrong message to our children and their generation by ignoring this fact and thus trying to erase his legacy.

I really would like to hear from responsible leaders of this community on this matter. I am sure the Pampa ISD has a legal explanation to substantiate their stand. However, is it morally right? That is the question. I know Pampa is bleeding economically, but that should not be a reason to become morally anemic.

Vijay K. Mohan, M.D.  
Pampa

### TODAY IN HISTORY

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Thursday, Feb. 6, the 37th day of 2003. There are 328 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 6, 1952, Britain's King George VI died; he was succeeded as reigning monarch by his daughter, Elizabeth II.

On this date:

In 1756, America's third vice president, Aaron Burr, was born in Newark, N.J.

In 1778, the United States won official recognition from France with the signing of treaties in Paris.

In 1788, Massachusetts became the sixth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1895, baseball legend Babe Ruth was born in Baltimore.

In 1899, a peace treaty between the United States and Spain was ratified by the U.S. Senate.

In 1933, the 20th Amendment to the Constitution, the so-called "lame duck" amendment, was declared in effect.

In 1943, a Los Angeles jury acquitted actor Errol Flynn of three counts of statutory rape.

In 1959, the United States successfully test-fired for the first time a Titan intercontinental ballistic missile from Cape Canaveral.

In 1978, Muriel Humphrey took the oath of office as a United States senator from Minnesota, filling the seat of her late husband, former Vice President Hubert Humphrey.

In 1991, comedian and television performer Danny Thomas died in Los Angeles at age 79.

Ten years ago: Tennis Hall-of-Famer and human rights advocate Arthur Ashe died in New York at age 49.

Five years ago: President Clinton and British Prime Minister Tony Blair redoubled their pledge to use military force against Iraq if necessary; during a joint news conference in which the subject of Monica Lewinsky came up, Clinton said he would "never" resign. President Clinton signed a bill changing the name of Washington National Airport to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport.

One year ago: A federal judge ordered John Walker Lindh, the so-called "American Taliban," held without bail pending trial. Britain's Queen Elizabeth II reached a bittersweet milestone, somberly marking 50 years as monarch on the anniversary of the death of her father, King George VI.

Today's Birthdays: Former President Ronald Reagan is 92. Actress Zsa Zsa Gabor is 86. Actor Patrick Macnee is 81. Actor Rip Torn is 72. Actress Mamie Van Doren is 72. Actor Mike Farrell is 64. NBC News anchorman Tom Brokaw is 63. Singer Fabian is 60. Actress Gayle Hunnicutt is 60. Actor Michael Tucker is 59. Producer-director-writer Jim Sheridan is 54.

# Snow not only wreck cause

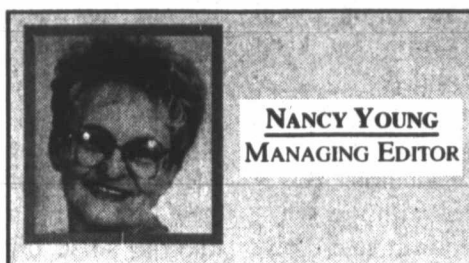
Waking up to the radio news at 5 this morning, I heard the newscaster say that snow was on the ground. I went to the door, flipped on the porch light to see if this meant Stinnett, and sure enough it did. I decided I'd better not dawdle around today and started getting ready to leave for work.

As I started to leave home, I heard reports of a wreck outside of Fritch so I grabbed my battery-operated scanner along with an extra set of batteries. You just never know how long they'll last.

Driving between Stinnett and Berger, snow covered the highway and was continuing to come down. It just looked beautiful. I began to wonder if I had enough vanilla extract to make snow ice cream. My grandchildren think that is the finest delicacy ever discovered! As I pondered the thought of the existence of vanilla in my cabinet for the next few miles, I began to hear more reports of accidents.

Leaving Berger, I was driving slower than usual as I am a believer there is no point in taking chances. Even though the highway was only lightly covered with snow, it does get slick. The driver of the pickup in front of me was also apparently of the same school-of-thought.

Drivers of vehicles behind us were not. One truck passed me at a high rate of speed. Traveling a few miles, I heard a report of a wreck about two miles east



NANCY YOUNG  
MANAGING EDITOR

of Berger on my scanner. As I got closer to Skellytown, I saw numerous vehicles pulling off the north side of the highway. I glanced to the south and saw a vehicle (a pickup, I think) on its top. Preparing to stop, I realized I had forgotten my camera even though I had grabbed extra film - just in case. As many people were stopping, I didn't see the need for me to be there in the way.

Continuing on towards Pampa, I watched as drivers were zipping in and out of traffic apparently oblivious to the dangers of a slick highway. I heard a member of the Hutchinson County Emergency Operations Center come on the radio and ask what was going on. He related he had gone out at 6 a.m. and the streets and highways weren't that bad and had not seen the need to activate the numerous EOC volunteers to travel the highways of the county to provide assistance to motorists as they do in bad weather.

Wishing I had his cell number, I wanted to call and tell him the problem was the idiotic driving on the highway this morning!

Yesterday as I drove home (at the speed limit of 70 miles per hour), a black sports car zipped around me traveling about 90 mph. I watched as he zipped in and out of traffic. Sometimes, he would pass even though it was plainly visible a car was coming in the opposite direction. (And he is certainly not the only person who deliberately pulls in front of an oncoming car on our highways.) The attitude of these drivers, both male and female, seems to be "I'm most important and get out of my way."

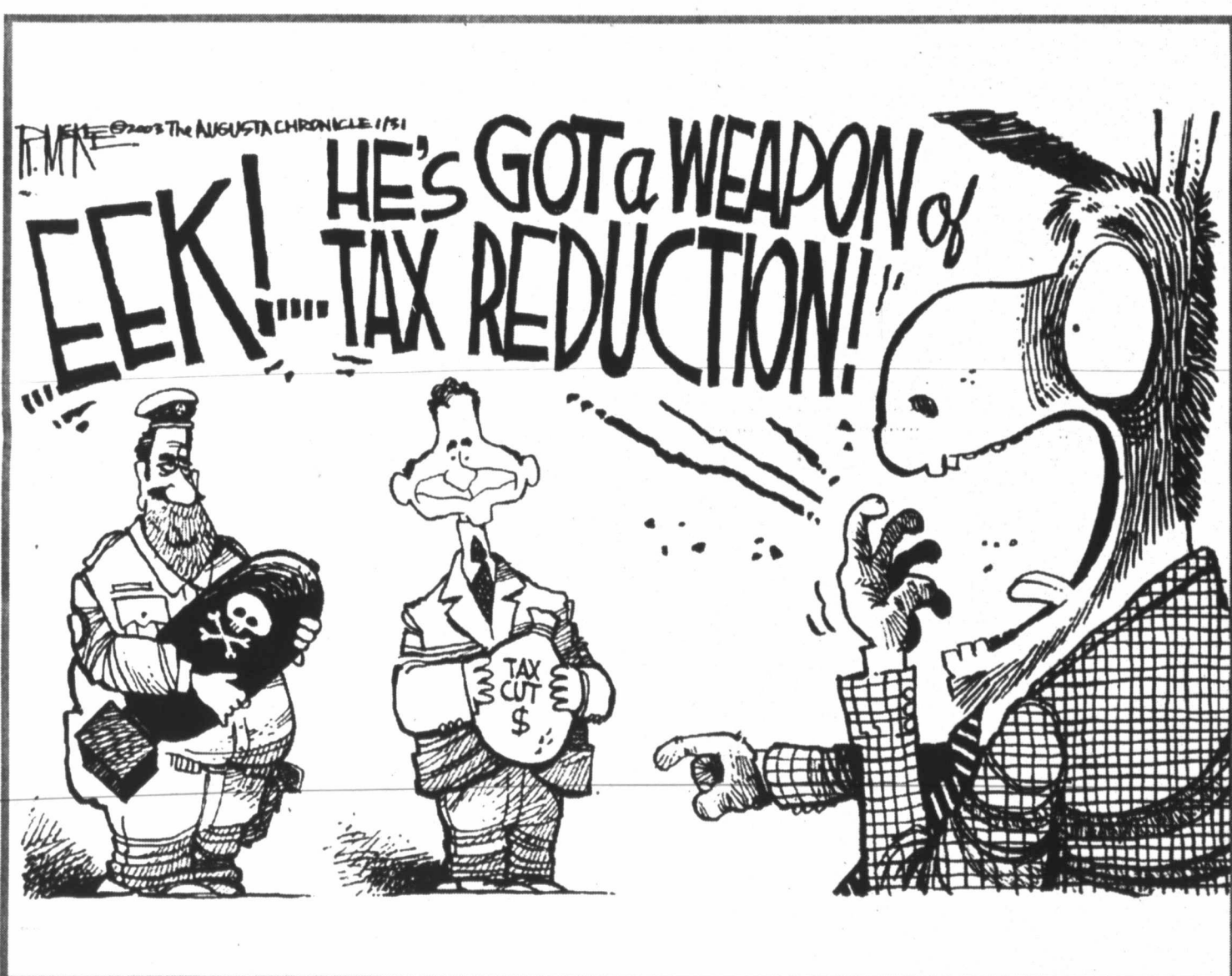
In my younger days this type of driving was called "chicken". I guess I'm just chicken. I get out of their way. What amazes me on a daily basis is that there are not more people killed on our highways.

These aggressive drivers are not going to change. They don't care! If they force people off the road, that's tough. So, to all of you out there, I say drive defensively.

As I'm finishing this column, I've listened to several accident reports (with injuries) on the police scanner. I just hope by the time I go home this afternoon that all the idiots are home or in the coffee shop.

Too, I must remember to pray for them - maybe they won't cause me to wreck.

(Nancy Young may be reached at [nanceyyoung@hotmail.com](mailto:nanceyyoung@hotmail.com))



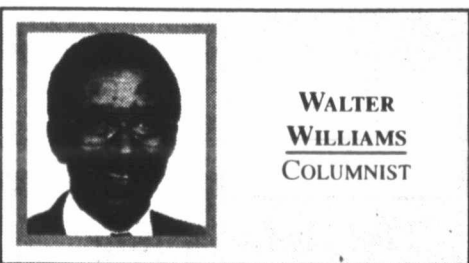
## Students need challenge, not hand-out

Last week's column discussed some of the controversy surrounding the University of Michigan's admissions practices, where blacks and Hispanics are given points based solely on race, and where whites are turned away to admit blacks and Hispanics with much lower academic qualifications.

A few weeks before that, my column discussed the deplorable conditions in Washington, D.C.'s, high schools. At 12 of its 19 high schools, more than 50 percent of the students test below basic in reading, and at some of those schools the percentages approached 80 percent. At 15 of these schools, over 50 percent tests below basic in math. And in 12 of them, 70 percent to 99 percent do so. Each year, more than 80 percent -- and up to 96 percent -- of high school students are fraudulently promoted to the next grade.

Washington's predominantly black high schools are not alone in delivering fraudulent education. In Philadelphia's predominantly black high schools, combined SAT scores of its seniors average between 590 to 800 out of a possible 1600. I suspect that there's little difference between these education outcomes and those in other predominantly black school districts. Indeed, nationally there's over a 200 SAT score gap between blacks and Hispanics on the one hand, and whites and Asians on the other.

For the life of me, setting vested interests aside, I cannot fathom the current



WALTER WILLIAMS  
COLUMNIST

outrage among many in the black community over the University of Michigan affirmative action case and the deafening silence about the day-to-day sabotage of black academic excellence by the public schools that most black students attend. With the deplorable academic outcomes at the high school level, how can anybody reasonably expect for black students to ever be admitted to college on academic merit? The problem is seen in even starker relief looking at what happens when blacks are admitted to college. Only 20 percent complete college in four years, compared to 40 percent for whites and 50 percent for Asians (which is nothing to write home about).

Calls for racial preferences in law schools, medical schools and graduate education in general highlight something else: namely, that the effects of 12 years of fraudulent education cannot be wiped away by four years or so of college. According to a report by Abigail Thernstrom, "The Racial Gap in Academic Achievement," black students in 12th grade dealt with scientific problems at the level of whites in the sixth

grade; they wrote about as well as whites in the eighth grade. The average black high school senior had math skills on a par with a typical white student in the middle of ninth grade. The average 17-year-old black student could only read as well as the typical white child who had not yet reached age 13.

Is inferior black education pre-ordained? Check out Frederick Douglass Academy, a predominately black school, in Harlem, N.Y. It dispels a couple of myths about public schools: the "not enough money" and the "black kids can't compete" myth.

Ninety-eight percent of Frederick Douglass' students graduate with a Regent's diploma, and 95 percent go on to college. Newsweek's magazine survey listed Frederick Douglass Academy as one of the top public schools in the country, based on the number of advanced placement courses it offers and the students' grades on the AP tests.

What's the philosophy that gets that job done? School principal Gregory Hodge says: "You have to demand more of your students, while providing them with the structure to meet those demands. The more difficult the curriculum, the greater the likelihood your students will be successful." So what else is new? Blacks have a long record of excellence precisely in those areas where the competition is the most ruthless and unforgiving: sports and entertainment.

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### DRILLING INTENTIONS

**Intentions to Drill**  
**HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & S.E. CANADIAN Douglas) Mewbourne Oil Co., #3 Jones Trust '21', 2500' from North & 660' from West line, Sec. 221,1,G&M, PD 8200'.**  
**HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & HEMPILL Douglas) Bracken Operating, L.L.C., #1-54 Fillingim, 678' from North & 511' from West line, Sec. 54,A-1,H&GN, PD 8300'.**  
**ROBERTS (WILDCAT & LIPS Mississippian) Range Production Co., #2140 Courson Ranch, 2488' from South & 2492' from East line, Sec. 140,C,G&M, PD 10500'.**  
**ROBERTS (WILDCAT & MIAMI AIRPORT Morrow) J.M. Huber Corp., #1039 Osborne, 1320' from South & 467' from East line, Sec. 39,M-2,H&GN, PD 11250'.**  
**Amended Intentions to Drill**  
**HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & S.E. CANADIAN Douglas) El Paso Production Co., #7 Humphreys '33', 1900' from South & 2380' from West line, Sec. 33,1,G&M, PD 7450'.**  
 Amended location  
**Gas Well Completions**  
**GRAY (WEST PANHANDLE) Gruy Petroleum Co., #3 Howard, Sec. 34,R, A. Howe, spud 8-23-02, drlg. compl 8-26-02, tested 10-7-02, potential 1600 MCF, TD 2528' —**  
**Plugged Wells**  
**GRAY (PANHANDLE) Bradley Operating Co., Inc., East Morse Unit, Sec.**

1,26,H&GN, spud unknown (injection) — for the following wells:  
 #19-W, plugged 1-2-03, TD 2665' —  
 #26-W, plugged 12-28-02, TD 2579' —  
**HANSFORD (PATTEN Krider) Jones Energy, Ltd. (gas) — for the following wells:**  
 #1 Birdwell, Sec. 6,3,SA&MG, spud 4-2-81, plugged 1-10-03, TD 5120' —  
 #1 Palo Duro '159', Sec. 159,45,H&TC, spud 2-27-00, plugged 1-7-03, TVD 3202', MD 4933' —  
**HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) J.B. Watkins, S.B. Burnett Estate, Sec. 127,5,1&GN (oil) — Form I filed in J. Gordon Burch, for the following wells:**  
 #1, spud 8-18-48, plugged 12-18-02, TD 3180' —  
 #2, spud 9-7-48, plugged 12-9-02, TD 3181' —  
 #3, spud 10-7-49, plugged 12-3-02, TD 3186' —  
**ROBERTS (WILDCAT) Strat Land Exploration Co., #2182 Mary, Sec. 182,C,G&M, spud 11-15-02, plugged 12-1-02, TD 8150' (dry) —**  
**WHEELER (PANHANDLE) Rimrock Gas Co., Inc., Locke, Sec. 68,13,H&GN (oil) — for the following wells:**  
 #5M, spud unknown, plugged 12-17-02, TD 2264' —  
 #8M, spud unknown, plugged 1-10-03, TD 2260' —

## Jackson: TV documentary betrayed trust

By MICHAEL McDONOUGH  
 ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

LONDON (AP) — Michael Jackson said Thursday a TV documentary about him was unfair and he felt "more betrayed than perhaps ever before" by the program, in which the King of Pop revealed he sometimes lets children sleep in his bed.

In a statement issued by his London representative, Jackson said British journalist Martin Bashir broke the trust placed in him.

Bashir spent eight months making the 90-minute program, which will be shown in the United States at 8 p.m. EST Thursday on ABC's "20/20."

"I trusted Martin Bashir to come into my life and that of my family because I wanted the truth to be told," Jackson said in the statement, released by his London representative Stephen Lock.

"Martin Bashir persuaded me to trust him, that his would be an honest

and fair portrayal of my life and told me that he was 'the man that turned Diana's life around.'"

Bashir is well known for an interview with Princess Diana, during which she admitted being unfaithful to Prince Charles.

"Today I feel more betrayed than perhaps ever before; that someone who had got to know my children, my staff and me, whom I let into my heart and told the truth, could then sacrifice the trust I placed in him and produce this terrible and unfair program," Jackson said.

"Everyone who knows me will know the truth which is that my children come first in my life and that I would never harm any child."

No one was available for comment Thursday morning at Granada, the TV company which made the documentary.

Jackson said he had received many messages of support from fans in Britain since the documentary was aired on Monday night.

Britain's tabloid press pounced on

the man they call "Wacko Jacko." The Sun said the "shocking confession" Jackson sometimes slept in the same bed with children would end Jackson's career, while the Daily Express said Jackson "faces a wave of revulsion."

In 1993, Jackson was accused of molesting a boy who had stayed at his home. He denied the allegations, and no charges were laid.

When Bashir asked Jackson about his friendships with children, Jackson said: "I have slept in a bed with many children," including actor Macaulay Culkin and his brother Kieran.

"When you say 'bed,' you're thinking sexual," Jackson said. "It's not sexual, we're going to sleep. I tuck them in. ... It's very charming, it's very sweet."

The singer has a 5-year-old son, Prince Michael I, and 4-year-old daughter, Paris, born during his marriage to nurse Debbie Rowe, which ended in 1999. He also has an infant son, Prince Michael II, whose mother has not been identified.

## Amarillo Women's Forum seeking award nominations

AMARILLO — Amarillo Area Women's Forum is currently seeking nominations for its annual Distinguished Service Awards, established to recognize outstanding women who have helped to shape the Texas Panhandle through individual talent and skill. An awards presentation is scheduled Saturday, April 5 at Amarillo Country Club.

The award recognizes visible examples set by women who have paved the way for other women. Since 1975, honorees have been selected in the following categories: arts, business and finance, civic leadership and public service, education, health care, law, science and other fields.

To be eligible for the award, a nominee must be a Texas woman who is a legal resident of the top 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle and who has not previously received the award. The forum encourages re-nomina-

tion of women who have been previously nominated but not selected.

Winners of the award will be chosen on the basis of the individual's significant impact on the Panhandle of Texas through their local communities. The impact should extend beyond professional achievements, according to the award criteria. An anonymous panel of judges, representatives of the Panhandle area, will select recipients on the basis of lasting contributions and achievements.

The deadline for nominations is Feb. 28. Co-chairs of the awards are Natrell Long and Becky Zenor. The 2003 president of Amarillo Area Women's Forum is Jane Juett.

For nominations forms or other information, call Zenor at (806) 358-4870 or Long at (806) 651-2003. Forms should be submitted to Zenor at 2210 S. Bonham, Amarillo, TX 79109.

## Cincinnati City Council expands penalties for hate crime law violators

CINCINNATI (AP) — The Cincinnati City Council has passed an expanded hate-crimes law that allows additional penalties for misdemeanor crimes committed against a person based on sexual orientation.

Under the law, a hate-crime charge filed against someone charged with assault, for example, could effectively double the penalty if police believe the crime was based on sexual orientation.

The amendment, approved 7-2 on Wednesday, also includes crimes based on gender, age or physical or mental disability. The law already covered race, color, religion and national origin.

"It is an issue of tolerance ... and, ultimately, it's about being proud of our city," said Councilman John Cranley, who introduced the amendment. "It is standing up for the dignity of all life."

Most of the debate on the

law, which came Tuesday during an emotional, three-hour meeting, focused on the sexual orientation provision. Cincinnati is the only U.S. city with a charter amendment forbidding enactment or enforcement of laws based on sexual orientation, according to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

"A victory in Cincinnati is especially important because the city has a hostile reputation toward gay people," said Seth Kilbourn, national field director of the Washington-based Human Rights Campaign.

Opponents of the law said they will file a lawsuit challenging the change in the hate-crimes law and target its supporters for defeat in the November election.

They contend that any laws specifically crafted to protect homosexuals amount to special rights not afforded to the general public.

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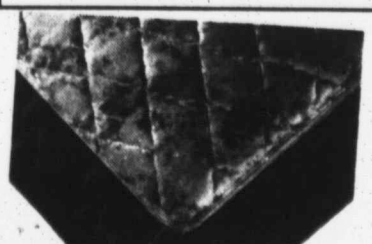
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Thursday, February 6, 2003

**DEAR ABBY**

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanna Phillips

**'Odd Ducks' in Teen Years Can Easily Turn Into Swans**

DEAR ABBY: May I comment on the letter from the girl who has a crush on the "weird" guy in her high school band?

Thirty years ago, I was that weird guy with the burr haircut, buck teeth, horn-rimmed glasses and skinny as a rail. I had a crush on a good-looking blonde, but she was out of my league, so I never asked her out.

Twenty-nine years later, I was on the Internet. Through a classmates reunion site, she and I started chatting. She was divorced, as was I. The more we talked, the more we fell for each other. When I finally decided to visit her, "fireworks" flew.

We have been married one year this week, and it has been one of the most exciting years of my life. Tell "Odd Duck" to hang in there. Things will be great if meant to be.

HERMAN B.  
 WATERFORD, CALIF.

DEAR H.B.: Congratulations on your anniversary. (I'm a sucker for a happy ending!) Many people, like fine wine, improve with age. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I'd like to respond to "Odd Duck in South Texas." Bravo for you, young lady! When I was in high school, I was considered an "odd duck" myself. I didn't drink, smoke, or ride around aimlessly every Friday and Saturday night. I studied, got excellent grades, respected my parents, and for that, I was ostracized by my classmates

and always felt like an outsider. You and your friend Tad should hang in there. When you finish high school, and later, college, you'll realize that the people most worth knowing just might be those "odd ducks."

HILLARY IN WEINER, ARIZ.

DEAR HILLARY: You're right. Some people develop social skills later than others.

DEAR ABBY: I, too, was not the "coolest" kid in high school, and I was also in the band. I was desperately in love with a popular girl I'll call Susan. We were good friends, but it never went further.

Years later, Susan confessed to me that she also had feelings for me, but was afraid her friends would turn on her for not dating someone from the "cool" crowd. Living your life by someone else's standards is not living at all. "Odd Duck's" ugly duckling might someday become a swan.

HAPPILY MARRIED IN PHILLY

DEAR HAPPILY MARRIED: It takes courage to stand by one's convictions. Susan's lack of maturity was its own punishment.

DEAR ABBY: I am an 11-year-old boy, and my mom says if I want something at the store, I have to pay for it myself. I try to do chores for money, but I'm always too busy

with schoolwork. I barely get enough time to play outside. Do you have any suggestions on how to get money?

NEEDS \$\$

DEAR NEEDS \$\$: Talk to your parents and ask them if your chores can be done on the weekends. If you want something badly enough, you'll find the time.

\*\*\*

WORTH REMEMBERING: "People can keep a journal to record their life, their thoughts, their happiness, the events of their families, etc. They can also keep a journal of creative observations, their hopes, their ideas and dreams, as Leonardo da Vinci did. He always had a notebook hanging from his belt to record his observations. I have one constantly in my pocket and on my night table. We must be the source of good ideas and dreams for a better world. We are part of evolution."

ROBERT MULLER

\*\*\*

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**Crossword Puzzle**

**CROSSWORD**  
 By THOMAS JOSEPH

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 30 to Rover

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**Marmaduke**

"If it's that cold out there, I suppose we could give him a lift."

**The Family Circus**

"I was too strong for my shoelace."

**Flo & Friends**

"Did your stocks split, Jack?"

"No...they crumbled."

**For Better or For Worse**

YOU DONE WITH THE PUTER, LIZ? I WANNA USE THE PHONE.  
 JUST A SEC.  
 WHAT'S UP? A FAMILY CRISIS?  
 APRIL WAS CAUGHT KISSING A BOY AT SCHOOL. THE TEACHER SENT HER HOME WITH A NOTE. AN' NOW SHE'S GOT PROBLEMS.  
 HEY, IT'S GONNA HAPPEN, MAN!—ONCE THE HORMONES KICK IN, IT'S GAME OVER!  
 I'D SAY IT'S WHEN ALL THE GAMES BEGIN!

**Zits**

OH WOW, DID YOU JUST GET A HAIRCUT?  
 LAST WEDNESDAY.  
 OH, THAT LONG AGO?  
 I GUESS I DON'T ACTUALLY LOOK DIRECTLY AT YOU VERY OFTEN.  
 HA.  
 NOW, WHEN EXACTLY DID YOU GET GLASSES?  
 WHEN I WAS SEVENTEEN.

**Garfield**

YOU CAN BE REPLACED.  
 ALL RIGHT!  
 THAT WAS AN INSULT.  
 HOW SOON CAN WE HAVE SOMEONE HERE?

**Beetle Bailey**

SARGE! MY STOVE'S ON FIRE! CALL SOMEBODY!!  
 HELLO, MAMA ROSA'S PIZZA?  
 WOOD WALKER .COM

**Marvin**

THUCK THUCK THUCK THUCK THUCK THUCK  
 WHEW! THANKFULLY IT DOESN'T HAPPEN VERY OFTEN.  
 BUT TONIGHT I'M ALL THUCKERED OUT.

**B.C.**

WAIT HERE, BE RIGHT BACK!  
 I WAIT FOR NO ONE!  
 BE RIGHT BACK.

**Hagar The Horrible**

THIS IS A GREAT FRENCH RESTAURANT... BUT THE FOOD IS VERY FATTENING!  
 WHAT'S THE SOUP OF THE DAY?  
 TODAY WE'RE FEATURING "CREAM OF CREAM!"  
 SEE?

**Peanuts**

WHO ARE ALL THOSE PEOPLE DRIVING BY IN THOSE CARS?  
 THOSE ARE PEOPLE GOING TO WORK... WORK?  
 THEY USED TO WAIT FOR THE SCHOOL BUS LIKE WE'RE DOING...  
 NOW THEY HAVE TO GO TO WORK EVERY DAY FOR THE REST OF THEIR LIVES...  
 GOOD GRIEF! WHOSE IDEA WAS THAT?

**Blondie**

THAT'S HARDSCRABBLE BUMSTEAD, A REALLY BAD PROSPECTOR.  
 ALL RIGHT, DAD, HOW BAD WAS HE?  
 HIS MULE FOUND MORE GOLD THAN HE DID.  
 WHERE IS HE TODAY, DADDY?  
 STILL PROSPECTING... BUT THE MULE IS LIVING IN PARIS.

**SOCCE**

CANYON Pampa has the district Tuesday shutout of Pampa each from Nick Ro Crain and Pampa has when a shut Canyon p net. The La came close the girls Canyon with away with in a shoot Canyon 2-0 lead, I lied to tie goal by I force a sho Pampa at 2 p.m. S first districts.

**SOFTBA**

PAMPA national coaches in Optimist program with p.m. Sun Optimist Cl Persons coaching are urged meeting.

**BASKET**

MIAMI Kaylie Jar points as M an 84-55 Higgins in a 2-1A game. Mirium Julie Daven points to M attack. J. Mulke with 13 poi Miami dc 80-34 in the Jeffery E Miami's hig 18 points. R followed wit Taos Poc Higgins. The gam regular sea schools.

**855**

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# SPORTS

**NOTEBOOK**

## SOCCER

**CANYON** — The Pampa Harvesters opened the district soccer season Tuesday with a 5-0 shutout of Canyon.

Pampa got one goal each from Brody Hall, Nick Robbins, Chance Crain and Blake Helms. Pampa had another goal when a shot bounced off a Canyon player into the net.

The Lady Harvesters came close to victory in the girls' match, but Canyon was able to come away with a 3-2 decision in a shootout.

Canyon jumped out to a 2-0 lead, but Pampa rallied to tie the score on a goal by Kori Dunn to force a shootout.

Pampa hosts Caprock at 2 p.m. Saturday for the first district home matches.

## SOFTBALL

**PAMPA** — An organizational meeting for all coaches in the Pampa Optimist girls' softball program will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Optimist Club.

Persons interested in coaching a team this year are urged to be at the meeting.

## BASKETBALL

**MIAMI** — Junior Kaylie James scored 23 points as Miami rolled to an 84-55 win over Higgins in a girls' District 2-1A game.

Miriam Hannon and Julie Davenport added 17 points to Miami's scoring attack.

J. Mulkey led Higgins with 13 points.

Miami downed Higgins 80-34 in the boys' game.

Jeffery Browning was Miami's high scorer with 18 points. Reid Spearman followed with 15.

Taos Pool had 15 for Higgins.

The games ended the regular season for both schools.

## Pampa, Randall square off again in key matchup

**PAMPA** — Pampa battles Randall Friday night with the winner securing second place in the District 3-4A standings.

Pampa and Randall are presently tied for second at 7-3 behind district champ Palo Duro (11-0).

Pampa edged Caprock in a 37-36 squeaker Tuesday as 6-3 seniors Max Simon and Ryan Zemanek scored 12 and 10 points, respectively, for the Harvesters. Zemanek had a dozen rebounds and a pair of 3-point goals. Simon had three steals and two blocked shots to go with 8 rebounds.

Randall also had quite a tussle with Dumas Tuesday night before pulling out a 74-67 victory. Kendall

Webb (5-10 senior) tossed in 28 points and Grant Singleton (6-2 senior) added 12 for the Demons.

The Pampa-Randall showdown tomorrow night at Randall is expected to be one of those down-to-the-wire thrillers. In the first-round meeting, Pampa pulled away in the fourth quarter for a 55-51 victory. There were 13 lead changes in that game.

Chance Bowers (6-1 junior) paced pampa's scoring attack with 15 points, and Zemanek was right behind with 14. Webb led Randall with a 24.

Both teams are headed for the playoffs, but the No. 2 and No. 3 seeds have yet to be decided.

## WT signees



White Deer coach Ruben Guerrero is flanked by Kirk Kelp (left) and Brian Knocke, who signed national football letters-of-intent Wednesday to West Texas A&M in Canyon. Kelp, a defensive lineman, and Knocke, a linebacker, were both all-district players at White Deer this season.

## Big 12 North fell behind Big 12 South on signing day

### Sooners sign 23 players, including 12 from Texas

By The Associated Press

Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops came up with a recruiting class ranked in the top five nationally, but Texas and Texas A&M weren't far behind, and Oklahoma State also did surprisingly well.

There was a common denominator — all four recruited well in the state of Texas.

The Big 12 South left the Big 12 North behind on

Wednesday, the first day of the national signing period for high school football players who now turn their attention to college ball.

Oklahoma, 12-2 in 2002 with a Big 12 title and a Rose Bowl championship, signed 23 players including 12 from Texas and five of the most highly regarded in Oklahoma.

Oklahoma State signed 31, among them one of the nation's top defensive line

prospects and Oklahoma's top quarterback prospect. The Cowboys' total was six more than the NCAA limit, although two count against last year's total and others aren't expected to qualify academically.

"We have another well-balanced class, which seems to be a trademark for us," Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops said. "We never overload at one position but always strive for good balance. I believe we've achieved that once again."

Oklahoma signed four linemen on each side of the ball, three each at linebacker, defensive back and

at running back, two receivers, two tight ends, one quarterback and a punter.

The Sooners landed Courtney Tennial of Glenpool, regarded as the top running back in Oklahoma. They also got defensive lineman Carl Pendleton of Sapulpa, linebacker Dane Zaslow of Edmond Memorial and lineman Brian Zimpel of Broken Arrow.

Robert Meachem of Tulsa Washington, considered the state's No. 1 recruit, had Oklahoma among his final choices but signed with Tennessee.

Oklahoma, as always, had good luck in Texas. Among the signees from south of the Red River were 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.

Stoops said the Sooners may add one player by the end of the week.

"This is another very athletic class," he said. "Many of these athletes play multiple sports and have excellent speed."

## LSU gets top class in country

**BATON ROUGE, La. (AP)** — LSU bolstered an already strong recruiting class with the signing of top quarterback prospect JaMarcus Russell, despite losing another sought-after quarterback to rival Mississippi on Wednesday.

The Tigers brought in an expected strong recruiting class, loaded with talent at positions from wide receiver and running back to linemen and defensive backs.

"I think almost at every position we recruited a player that can upgrade that position at some point in time in the future," LSU coach Nick Saban said.

Saban did it by capitalizing on Louisiana's wealth of home-grown talent, then filling out his recruiting class with several top prospects from the neighboring Gulf states and a big running back from Maryland.

"They have absolutely dominated the state of Louisiana and reached into Florida, Mississippi and Texas and taken away blue chip athletes," said Bobby Burton of Rivals.com. "What's more impressive to me than any single player is the number of top players they have. The depth they have is unbelievable."

LSU's class was ranked No. 1

by the Prep Football Report, Rivals.com and National Blue Chips — three prominent recruiting services. The Tigers were fourth in SuperPrep's rankings.

Russell, a 6-foot-6, 225-pounder who threw for 3,332 yards last season and was named an All-American by Parade Magazine, waited until late Wednesday evening to make his announcement on regional cable television from Atlanta. He picked up a LSU baseball cap to signal his decision.

"I wanna tell all the people back home I'm going to be a Tiger," he said.

## Fort Elliott teams have 10-0 district marks

**BRISCOE** — Fort Elliott boys' and girls' teams closed the District 2-1A season with perfect 10-0 records.

In the boys' game, Fort Elliott won with a 75-31 rout Tuesday night over Allison.

Junior Newman, a 5-9 junior, had 12 points and Junior

Gonzales 11 to lead the Cougars' attack.

The Cougars have an overall record of 22-4.

Allison's scoring honors went to Russell Lonberger, who had 12 points.

Fort Elliott girls chalked up a 49-38 victory.

Sarah Zybach led the Lady Cougars in scoring with 12 points. Tamara Hartline and Brittney Mick followed with 10 each.

Katie Donaldson had 18 points to lead Allison.

Fort Elliott is 20-4 for the season.

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Saturday, Feb. 8 12:00, 4:00 & 7:30

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FEB 6 2003



## Downcourt dribbler



Haley Smith of Lefors dribbles downcourt in an area peewee league basketball game. Moving in to guard her is Ashley Bryon (14) of McLean. Lefors lost by a 28-12 score. Ashley scored 4 points, Emily Jackson 6 and Misty Pairsh 2 for Lefors. The league is in its first year and is for 5th and 6th graders.

## Knight collects 800th win

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Bob Knight is concerned about needing another try for his 800th career win. But not because of the milestone. Knight maintains the big number only proves that he's coached a long time (37 seasons) and doesn't grab his attention. The recent inconsistent performance of his Texas Tech team has, and he's not happy about it.

After a 10-1 start, the Red Raiders (12-5) have lost four of six games since Big 12 play began.

Their 64-59 loss Saturday at Texas A&M ruined Knight's first shot at becoming just the fourth men's basketball coach to win 800 games.

"Our team has had a tremendous slippage from practice to play in the con-

ference season thus far," Knight said. "That slippage has occurred here as well as on the road. It has nothing to do with where we've played."

Texas Tech will be at home Wednesday night to play Nebraska (9-11, 1-6 Big 12), giving Knight a chance to get his latest milestone win in front of an arena full of Red Raiders fans.

Only Dean Smith of North Carolina (879), Adolph Rupp of Kentucky (876) and Mount St. Mary's Jim Phelan (827) have won more than 800 games. With Phelan set to retire after this season, Knight (799-303) would become the active leader.

Knight got his 100th victory Feb. 27, 1971, at Army, where he began his career in 1965. He got Nos. 200, 300, 400, 500, 600 and 700, along

with his three national championships, while at Indiana from 1972-2000.

The coach has never needed more than two tries to reach one of the centurion milestones.

Knight notched his 100th, 200th and 500th wins on his teams' first tries; Nos. 300, 400, 600 and 700 came on his teams' second effort.

Last year, after a one-season hiatus, Knight returned to coaching and took a Texas Tech team that hadn't had a winning season in four years and led it to a 23-9 record and the NCAA tournament.

The Red Raiders were off to an incredible start this season, but have struggled since conference play began last month. Tech has fallen behind early in all six Big 12 games and had to claw its way back into games.

## Minor-leaguers play for love of game

BEAUMOUNT, Texas — Since its inception in 2001, the National Indoor Football League generally has been regarded as a developmental league for talented, young athletes hoping to earn a shot with a higher-profile professional league.

Beaumont Drillers receiver Troy Esprit doesn't quite fit that description.

"I don't have any aspirations to make it to the NFL," said Esprit, a 1993 Hardin-Jefferson graduate who's played the last two years in the Arena and arena football 2 leagues. "I just love to play football. That's why I'm out there."

Esprit hardly is alone in his thinking. Drillers wideout Pat Palmer, a former Lincoln star who's spent the last four years in the NFL, agrees

playing for the Drillers is not necessarily about getting back to The Show.

"If it happens, it happens," said Palmer, the 1998 sixth-round draft pick of the Washington Redskins. "If it doesn't, it doesn't. I've learned to live with it."

Esprit, 28, and Palmer, 26, bring to the table considerably more life experience than many of their NFL counterparts. Among the lessons they've learned along the way there's a lot more to life than making it in the NFL.

"A lot of kids get caught up in trying to make it," said Palmer, who played at Northwestern State from 1994-98. "And they lose their minds and go crazy. I've seen some people like that. It's like chasing a dream."

For a while, both Palmer

and Esprit chased that dream.

"When I started, I had aspirations of getting into the NFL," said Esprit, who played at Grambling from 1993-95. "But hearing all the horror stories, seeing people that had the talent to play but weren't given a chance, or were given a chance and then cut short, I just decided to see where Arena would take me."

## Lefors ends its basketball season

LEFORS — Follett defeated Lefors 78-61 Tuesday night as the regular season came to a close.

Tanner Woods tossed in 31 points to lead Follett in scoring.

Rickey Vaughn had 17 points and Josh Garcia 15 for Lefors.

Follett claimed a 67-38 win in the girls' game.

Cates scored 17 points to lead Follett and Amanda Daugherty had 11 to be Lefors' high scorer. Savannah Smith added 9.

Lefors boys finished the season with an 11-18 record and Lefors girls were 12-15.

## TEXAS FOOTBALL SIGNINGS

DALLAS (AP) — Players who signed national letters of intent Wednesday with major Texas universities:

### BAYLOR

Joshua Bell, db, 6-0, 173, Dallas Skyline HS  
Brulon Davis, db, 5-11, 175, Dallas Carter HS  
Chris Evans, ol, 6-6, 340, Dallas Skyline HS  
Nick Fellows, db, 5-10, 175, Dallas Skyline HS  
Marcus Foreman, lb, 6-1, 210, Waco Midway HS  
Brandon Garrett, rb, 5-10, 205, Hooks HS  
Ryan Havens, k, 5-11, 170, Odessa Permian HS  
Derrick Jones, wr, 6-2, 185, Wylie HS  
Maurice Linquist, db, 5-11, 180, Mesquite HS  
John Mahaffey, ol, 6-5, 305, Tyler Lee HS  
Michael Miller, te, 6-3, 231, Lake Charles, La., Barbe HS  
Jon-Michael Morgan, lb, 6-2, 228, Shreveport Evangel Christian HS  
Brandon Moton, db, 6-3, 180, Pittsburg HS  
Montez Murphy, dl, 6-5, 255, Coffeyville (Kan.) CC  
Nick Pace, ol, 6-3, 270, Katy Cinco Ranch HS  
Terrance Parks, qb, 6-4, 220, Lufkin HS  
Kyle Seals, db, 6-0, 170, Arlington Sam Houston HS  
Chad Smith, ol, 6-6, 290, Allen HS  
Kellen Taylor, ol, 6-5, 310, Richmond Foster HS  
Michael Trice, ol, 6-3, 274, Stephenville HS  
Brandon Whitaker, rb, 5-10, 190, Santa Fe HS  
C.J. Wilson, db, 6-1, 185, Terrell HS  
Dominique Zeigler, wr, 6-3, 165, Harker Heights HS

### HOUSTON

Jeff Akeroyd, ol, 6-3, 270, Lubbock Monterey HS  
Byron Alfred, ol, 6-3, 275, Port Arthur Memorial HS  
Trent Allen, lb, 6-2, 210, Longview Spring Hill HS  
Anthony Aldridge, rb, 5-10, 165, Denton HS  
Donnie Avery, wr, 6-0, 180, Alief Hastings HS  
Dustin Dickinson, ol, 6-4, 270, OL Springtown HS  
Jeff Fillmore, wr, 6-1, 170, Brenham HS  
Austin Griffith, lb, 6-1, 190, Huffman Hargrave HS  
John Harrell, dl, 6-2, 285, Stephenville HS  
Wade Koehl, lb, 6-2, 210, LB Midland HS  
Kevin Kolb, qb, 6-3, 230, Stephenville HS  
Da Vell Lauder, dl, 6-3, 225, Houston Smiley HS  
Marquay Love, dl, 6-2, 295, FW Crowley HS  
Eddie McCray, de, 6-3, 225, DE Baytown Lee HS  
Perry McDaniel, wr, 5-8, 170, Wolfforth Freshman HS  
Gerard Price, db, 5-10, 175, Clear Creek HS  
Jason Price, lb, 6-3, 195, Sanger HS  
Marcus Ross, db, 5-11, 170, Houston Sterling HS  
Roderick Schwartz, ath, 5-11, 180, Bradenton, Fla., Lakewood Ranch HS  
Bennie Swain, wr, 6-2, 175, Houston Madison HS  
Harold Taylor, rb, 5-11, 185, Houston Smiley HS  
Beau Tuft, ol, 6-6, 285, Houston Westside HS  
Jason Wagner, ol, 6-6, 290, Keller HS  
Ricky Wilson, db, 5-10, 180, PA Lincoln HS

### NORTH TEXAS

Josh Alexander, dl, 6-3, 278, FW Southwest HS  
Rendal Bailey, ol, 6-4, 290, FW Christian HS  
Cordale Baldwin, rb, 5-10, 185, Pflugerville HS  
Jeremy Brown, ol, 6-5, 285, Tecumseh, Okla., HS  
Lawrence Brown, de/lb, 6-3, 200, Galena Park North Shore HS  
Blake Burruss, de/te, 6-7, 235, Oklahoma City West Moore HS  
Joey Byerly, qb, 6-4, 215, West Orange-Stark HS  
Lonnie Chambers, ol, 6-3, 284, Trinity Valley CC  
Charles Dupree, de, 6-3, 228, Northeast Oklahoma A&M  
Raifu Durodoye, dl, 6-1, 235, Denton HS  
Allan Harrison, db, 6-2, 188, Reagan County HS  
Maurice Holman, lb, 6-1, 209, Mount Vernon HS  
Eli Hutchinson, de, 6-4, 213, Northeast Oklahoma A&M  
Jonathan Leans, qb, 6-5, 200, Houston Madison HS  
Curt Jones, dl, 6-2, 260, Sinton HS  
Dupree Jones, rb, 5-10, 180, Northeast Oklahoma A&M  
Arther McNaic, lb, 6-0, 260, Northeast Oklahoma A&M  
Zach Muzzy, wr, 5-10, 175, Alvin HS  
Brian Nelson, cb, 6-0, 180, Mansfield Summit HS  
Damion Nobles, ol, 6-4, 290, Navarro JC  
Michael Pruitt, dl, 6-1, 275, Northeast Oklahoma A&M  
Montey Stevenson, dl, 6-2, 240, Alvarado HS  
T.J. Raymond, dl, 6-2, 295, S. Grand Prairie HS  
Adam Vinegas, dl, 6-3, 276, Olathe, Kan., North HS

### TEXAS

Tarell Brown, db, 6-0, 180, North Mesquite HS  
Tim Crowder, de, 6-4, 235, Tyler John Tyler HS  
Scott Derry, lb, 6-3, 230, Pearlard HS  
Eric Foreman, Athlete, 6-4, 215, Corrigan-Camden HS  
Brandon Foster, db, 5-9, 170, Arlington Bowie HS  
Tyrell Gatewood, wr, 6-2, 190, Chapel Hill HS  
Dallas Griffin, ol, 6-4, 275, Katy Taylor HS  
Michael Griffin, db, 6-0, 180, Austin Bowie HS  
Erik Hardeman, rb, 6-1, 220, Pflugerville HS  
Tony Hills, te, 6-6, 260, Alief Elsie HS  
Steve Hogan, te, 6-5, 240, Strake Jesuit HS  
Erick Jackson, db, 6-2, 175, Cedar Hill HS  
Robert Killebrew, lb, 6-2, 210, Spring Klein HS  
Thomas Marshall, Line, 6-6, 310, Dallas Bishop Dunne HS  
Billy Pittman, wr, 6-0, 180, Cameron Yoe HS  
Steve Richardson, db, 5-10, 180, Garland HS  
Limas Sweed, wr, 6-5, 205, Brenham HS  
Kylie Thornton, Line, 6-4, 320, Dallas St. Mark's HS

### TEXAS A&M

Jorie Adams, ol, 6-7, 275, Jasper HS  
Chris Alexander, fb, 5-11, 230, Humble HS  
Derrick Brown, rb, 5-11, 195, Spring Klein Oak HS  
Japhus Brown, db, 6-1, 175, Edna HS  
Joseph Bryant, dl, 6-5, 300, Jasper HS  
Melvin Bullitt, db, 6-0, 176, Garland Naaman Forest HS  
Corey Clark, ol, 6-6, 305, Smithson Valley HS  
Kirk Elder, ol, 6-4, 295, Klein HS  
Chris Harrington, dl, 6-4, 252, Houston St. Pius HS

### TEXAS TECH

Justin Abt, db, 6-0, 175, SA Clark HS  
Gary Anderson Jr., wr-db, 6-1, 190, Little Rock Pulaski Robinson HS  
Joel Armstrong, qb, 6-1, 175, Longview HS  
Scott Austin, ol, 6-3, 265, Tyler Lee HS  
Lute Barber, ol, 6-7, 245, Lubbock Coronado HS  
Biobele Bilaye-Benibo, rb, 6-0, 185, Calallen HS  
Jonathan Cary, dl, 6-3, 255, Palestine HS  
Buck Casson, lb, 6-2, 210, Pontiac, Ill., Township HS  
George Chukwu, dl, 6-1, 275, Fort Bend Bush HS  
Drew Clardy, ot-ds, 6-6, 288, Moss Point, Miss., HS  
Garrett Dornon, lb, 6-2, 210, Bellville HS  
Will Galusha, db, 5-8, 175, Abilene Cooper HS  
Jared Gilbert, lb, 6-0, 220, Alpharetta, Ga., Chattahoochee HS  
Courtney Gordon, dl, 6-3, 235, Gladewater HS  
Nehemiah "Bubba" Heard, rb-db, 6-0, 175, Sinton High  
Robby Heos, ol, 6-3, 250, Pearland High  
Addison Hopkins, dl, 6-5, 240, SA Alamo Heights HS  
Lance Luedeker, lb, 6-0, 210, China Spring HS  
David Perkins, ol, 6-3, 255, Clear Lake HS  
Marcus Rucker, rb, 6-0, 190, Magnolia, Ark., HS  
Eric Sweetser, dl, 6-3, 240, Mobile, Ala., St. Paul's HS  
Jonathan Turner, db, 5-8, 175, Plano West HS  
John Wall, rb, 5-11, 185, Dallas Jesuit HS  
Aubrey White, db, 6-2, 175, Thorndale HS

### SMU

Charlie Berry, dl, 6-3, 250, Dallas Highland Park HS  
Brandon Bonds, dl, 6-2, 305, Cooper HS  
Justin Boren, ol, 6-4, 285, Colleyville Heritage HS  
Kenard Burley, ol, 6-5, 300, Scurry-Rosser HS  
Avery Cleveland, lb, 6-3, 205, Austin LBJ HS  
Jay Mond Cleveland, wr, 5-11, 175, Baytown Lee HS  
Lucky DeLay, de, 6-4, 255, Irving MacArthur HS  
Cedrick Dorsey, ath, 5-11, 190, New Boston HS  
Zach Hall, lb, 6-3, 225, Irving HS  
Desmond Jones, dl, 6-1, 275, Dallas Carter HS  
Richuel Massey, rb, 5-11, 210, Hillsboro HS  
Ricky Joe Meeks, qb, 6-3, 215, Mount Vernon HS  
C.D. Moss, db, 5-10, 180, Copperrus Cove HS  
Cory Muse, LB/te, 6-3, 205, Oklahoma City Millwood HS  
Ervin McGee, db, 5-8, 175, Ardmore, Okla., HS  
Reynaldo Pellerin, wr, 6-3, 190, Spring Westfield HS  
Caleb Peveo, ol, 6-4, 280, Flower Mound Marcus HS  
Chris Phillips, qb, 6-3, 220, Dallas Bishop Lynch HS  
Joe Sturdivant, s, 6-2, 190, Lilburn, Ga., Parkview HS  
Bryan Turner, ol, 6-2, 292, Tyler Lee HS  
Fred Turner, ath, 5-10, 170, Arlington Lamar HS  
Blake Warren, wr, 5-7, 170, Arp HS  
Ryan Wolcott, PK/P, 5-9, 170, Dallas Highland Park HS

### TEXAS

Stephen Hodge, db, 6-1, 190, Richardson Lake Highlands HS  
Jason Jack, dl, 6-3, 280, Humble HS  
Charlie Jefferson, db, 6-2, 190, Denion Ryan HS  
John Kelly, rb, 5-9, 180, Garland Naaman Forest HS  
Erik Mayes, db, 5-10, 175, Humble HS  
Lamar Mitchell, lb, 6-1, 235, Dayton HS  
Tenaha HS  
Mike Montgomery, dl, 6-6, 275, Tenaha HS  
Broderick Newton, db, 6-0, 175, Alledo HS  
Tate Pittman, dl, 6-6, 278, Permian HS, Odessa  
Earvin Taylor, wr, 6-3, 190, Mission HS  
Joey Thomas, te, 6-6, 225, Austin Westlake HS  
Ta Ta Thompson, lb, 6-4, 245, Garland HS  
Cody Wallace, ol, 6-4, 295, Cuero, HS  
Justin Warren, lb, 6-3, 220, Tyler Lee HS  
Chris Yoder, ol, 6-3, 280, Humble Kingwood HS

### TEXAS TECH

Chauncey Clark, de, 6-2, 228, San Francisco (Calif.) CC  
Danie Christian, ol, 6-5, 338, San Francisco (Calif.) CC  
Phillip Daugherty, qb, 6-3, 205, Bridgeport HS  
Keyunta Dawson, de, 6-2, 245, Shreveport Evangel Christian HS  
Joe Garcia, fb, 6-1, 200, Clovis, N.M., HS  
Ben Griffin, ol, 6-4, 278, Ennis HS  
Matt Grissell, ol, 6-4, 275, Houston Bellaire Episcopal HS  
Sione Havili, rb, 6-2, 255, El Camino (Calif.) CC  
Antonio Huffman, cb, 6-0, 175, Garden City (Kan.) CC  
Jamaal Jackson, cb, 5-11, 175, Northwest Mississippi CC  
Chad Johnson, db, 5-11, 185, Shreveport Evangel Christian HS  
Josh Morris, ol, 6-4, 270, Midland HS  
Chris Parker, cb, 5-10, 173, Dallas Sunset HS  
Ryan Phillips, cb, 5-11, 190, Mount San Antonio (Calif.) CC  
Tommy Pratt, dl, 6-2, 265, San Francisco (Calif.) CC  
Taurance Rawls, rb, 5-10, 192, Garland HS  
Alex Reyes, p, 6-1, 200, Allen HS  
Raymond Serres, ol, 6-5, 255, Humble HS  
Jabari Smith, cb, 5-11, 177, Arizona Western CC, Mayer, Ariz.  
Brock Stratton, lb, 5-11, 225, San Antonio Roosevelt HS  
David Weems, te, 6-4, 231, Conroe Oak Ridge HS  
Paul Williams, lb, 6-2, 210, Tyler Lee HS  
Tyler Yenzler, de, 6-4, 220, Midland HS

### TCU

James Battle, qb, 6-1, 200, Denton Ryan HS  
Tommy Blake, rb/ath, 6-3, 230, Aransas Pass HS  
Brian Bonner, qb/ath, 5-11, 190, Beeville Jones HS  
Larry Bradford, db, 6-0, 205, Coffeyville, Kan., CC  
Marcus Crook, wr, 6-0, 190, Lindale HS  
Quinton Cunigan, te/ath, 6-3, 210, Wills Point HS  
Ervin Dickerson, wr, 6-1, 185, Beeville Jones HS  
Marcus Draper, fb, 5-11, 235, Bangs HS  
Trey Englert, te, 6-3, 230, Houston St. Thomas HS  
David Hawthorne, lb, 6-0, 210, Corsicana HS  
Chad Huffman, qb, 6-0, 200, Fort Bend Elkins HS  
William Jackson, lb, 6-0, 215, Whitelight HS  
Matty Lindner, ol, 6-4, 255, Comfort HS  
Raytron Mayfield, rb/ath, 6-1, 195, Dallas Jefferson HS  
Jamison Newby, dl, 6-3, 250, Cleburne HS  
Will Oliver, ol, 6-3, 275, Lindale HS  
Chase Ortiz, lb, 6-3, 240, Clear Creek HS  
David Roach, db, 6-1, 190, Abilene HS  
Wade Sisk, ol, 6-6, 265, Brenham HS  
Freddie Stoglin, rb/ath, 5-9, 175, Brownwood HS  
Loga Teavase, lb, 5-9, 210, Santa Rosa, Calif., JC

### UTEP

Herb City, db, 5-11, 185, Midland HS  
Oniel Cousins, oldl, 6-4, 260, Fullerton, Calif., Eastside Christian  
Quintin Demps, db, 6-0, 190, SA Roosevelt HS  
Matt Ellis, ath, 6-0, 185, Fullerton, Calif., Eastside Christian  
Tim Ford, te, 6-4, 225, Tomball HS  
Devin Johnson, db, 6-1, 190, Amarillo Palo Duro HS  
Jeremy Jones, rb/db, 6-1, 190, San Jose, Calif., Piedmont Hills HS  
James Riley, dl, 6-1, 270, Addison Trinity Christian HS  
Reagan Schneider, pk, 5-11, 165, Smithson Valley HS  
Jake Sears, lb/te, 6-3, 220, Fredericksburg HS  
Siron Simmons, te, 6-2, 230, Crandall HS  
Matt Siska, de, 6-2, 225, Sealy HS  
Emeri Spence, wr/db, 6-0, 200, North Garland HS  
Broderick Watson, db, 5-10, 170, Carrollton R.L. Turner HS  
Michael White, rb, 5-8, 205, Alvin HS



## 1 Public Notice

### THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: The Unknown under the Last Will and Testament of Calvin Isaacs, Deceased; known heirs of Quentin Isaacs, Jr. known heirs of V Calvin Isaacs, III; and known heirs of J. Isaacs, III; and known heirs of J. Burton Isaacs; and persons claiming an or interest in land the Last Will and Testament of Calvin W. Deceased. NOTICE YOU BEEN SUED. MAY EMPLOY A TORNEY IF YOU YOUR ATTORNEY NOT FILE A WRI ANSWER WITH CLERK WHO IS THIS CITATION 10:00 A.M. ON MONDAY NEXT LOWING THE EXTION OF FORTY (42) DAYS FROM DATE THIS CITIA WAS ISSUED. A FAULT JUDGE MAY BE T. AGAINST YOU. WRITTEN ANSW DUE ON: MARC 2003. THE ADDRESS OF CLERK IS: HEMPHILL COUN COURTHOUSE 400 MAIN STREET P.O. BOX 867. CANADIAN, TEX 79014. A BRIEF STATE OF THE NATUR THE SUIT IS AS LOWS:



## TexSC. Feburu

## DRIVER

DRIVER-CC PORT - H teams, solos Solos/Teams looking for e run priority D MORE-PAY ( DRIVERS ENCE? No CDL training lodging and vided. Tuittic \$1,000 bonu dedicated fee portation. I- DRIVER T- Will get you get you paid you miles-Ci Open all day. Training Assi SWIFT TRAI hiring experie ended drivers i ing available. V great benefits. ment. 1-800-66 NOTICE: While the Texas Attore

## Extend

## Horosc

### HAPPY BIRTHD

2003: Many opportunit especially through biggest job will b options. Make w cons a pleasure r could be surprisec summer, you deal more often in ord security you want make a major i adding substantial This decision cov real estate investn you will run strai this year. This per: but somehow emo you are attached, blossom, adding t two have. Spend n er. TAURUS weig

### The Stars Show th

Have: 5-Dyn 3-Average; 2-So-

### ARIES (March 21

★★★★ Move on when you have pl By the afternoon, your feet up on yo tile. You deserve s messages at that ti lates quickly. Toni munchies and drin TAURUS (April 2) ★★★★★ While yc ing to a boss's dir be cleaning up the end in mind. Con more playful, esp additional work. F one who means a l world is your oyst GEMINI (May 2) ★★★★★ Evaluate w

SAVE UP TO 70% ON YOUR PRESCRIPTIONS FROM CANADA DIRECT TO YOU! American Company • Arizona Office Toll Free 1-888-794-5377 www.pdcilp.com

Catch you on the FLIP FLOP COMPANY. Company • O/O Singles • Teams 1-800-CFI-DRIVE www.cfidrive.com

JAY NOVACEK FOOTBALL CAMP. Jay Novacek, Gary Johnston, Troy Altman. "Daily instructions from several of the Dallas Cowboys!" Aug 6-10 • 12th Day Year • Texas A&M University • July 6-10 • "The Best Camp in the USA!" For FREE Brochure call 1-800-555-0801 or visit www.footballcamps.com

Mesothelioma NO FEE FOR FIRST VISIT. May occur 30 to 50 years after exposure to asbestos. Many workers were exposed from the 1940s through the 1970s. Industrial maintenance and operators are among those at risk for mesothelioma, throat cancer or lung cancer. Call us for professional insight. Ryan A. Krebs, MD, JD (Doctor-Lawyer in full time Law Practice) Richard A. Dodd, L.C. Timothy E. Cappolino, P.C. Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Law & Civil Trial Law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization, Corpus, Texas 1-800-460-0606 www.asbestoslaw.com





**Linda C. Daniels**  
KELLER WILLIAMS  
REALTY  
110 W. Kingsmill  
669-2799  
Accredited Buyers Rep



2100 Lynn \$84,000



1024 Charles \$42,000



424 Jupiter \$50,500



930 Mary Ellen \$19,900

**1 Public Notice**

**THE STATE OF TEXAS**  
TO: The Unknown heirs under the Last Will and Testament of Calvin W. Isaacs, Deceased; The unknown heirs of David Quentin Isaacs, Jr.; The unknown heirs of William Calvin Isaacs; The unknown heirs of John C. Isaacs, III; and The unknown heirs of Samuel Burton Isaacs; and to all persons claiming any title or interest in land under the Last Will and Testament of Calvin W. Isaacs, Deceased  
**NOTICE: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. YOU MAY EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY. IF YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY DO NOT FILE A WRITTEN ANSWER WITH THE CLERK WHO ISSUED THIS CITATION BY 10:00 A.M. ON THE MONDAY NEXT FOLLOWING THE EXPIRATION OF FORTY TWO (42) DAYS FROM THE DATE THIS CITATION WAS ISSUED, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU. THE WRITTEN ANSWER IS DUE ON: MARCH 3, 2003.**  
THE ADDRESS OF THE CLERK IS: HEMPHILL COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 400 MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 867, CANADIAN, TEXAS 79014  
A BRIEF STATEMENT OF THE NATURE OF THE SUIT IS AS FOLLOWS:

**1 Public Notice**

The Plaintiff in suit is David Quentin Isaacs, Sr. The suit was filed by Plaintiff as an ancillary action within Case Number 3295 in the 31st District Court in and for Hemphill County, Texas, suit filed by David Quentin Isaacs, Jr. et al. v. David Quentin Isaacs, Sr. et al. for judgment approving the Amended Agreement Pertaining to the Last Will and Testament of Calvin W. Isaacs which has been duly recorded at Volume 527, Page 33 of the Official Public Records of Hemphill County, Texas, for judgment approving partition agreements that affect the following lands:  
a. **Isaacs West Ranch:** Lands located in Hemphill and Roberts County, more fully described at Exhibits One and Two of Correction Partition Deed recorded at Volume 552, Page 246 and 247, Official Public Records of Hemphill County, Texas.  
b. **Isaacs McClellan Creek Ranch:** Lands located in Donley and Gray County, more fully described at Volume 017, Page 79-85, in the Official Public Records of Donley County, Texas, and Page 752, Page 1011, Official Public Records of Real Estate of Gray County, Texas.  
The Attorney for the Plaintiff is Ronald D. Nickum, P.O. Box 1889, Amarillo, Texas 79105 Phone (806)371-8888  
GIVEN UNDER MY

**1 Public Notice**

**HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT, AT OFFICE IN THE CITY OF CANADIAN, HEMPHILL COUNTY, TEXAS, THIS THE 15th DAY OF JANUARY, 2003.**  
CHARLES COLE  
District Clerk  
By: BRENDA PERRIN  
Deputy  
C-2 Jan. 30,  
Feb. 6, 13, 20, 2003

**13 Bus. Opp.**

AAA VENDING ROUTE  
76 Selling Units. Prime locs. \$8930 Invest. 20% down wac. 800-396-9311

**14d Carpentry**

CUSTOM homes, additions, remodeling, residential / comm. Deaver Construction, 665-0447.  
OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction, Call 669-6347.  
ADDITIONS, remodeling, roofing, cabinets, painting, all types repairs. Mike Albus, 665-4774.

**ADDITIONS, remodeling, home repairs.**

30 years local exp. Jerry Reagan, 669-3943

**14e Carpet Serv.**

NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost...It pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541, or from out of town, 800-536-5341.

**14h Gen. Serv.**

IS your House or Foundation Settling? Cracks in bricks or walls? Door won't close? Call Childers Brothers Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling. 1-800-299-9563 or 806-352-9563 Amarillo, Tx.

**14i Plumbing/Heat**

JACK'S Plumbing & Faucet Shop, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115- faucets, plumbing supplies, new constr., repair, remodeling, sewer / drain cleaning, septic systems installed. Visa/MC

**19 Situations**

DAY Care in My Home. \$50 wk per child. Vickie 336-1241 after 5 pm. or come by 1352 Garland.

**21 Help Wanted**

NOTICE  
Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

**21 Help Wanted**

OVERHAUL Mechanic needed in Pampa shop & some fieldwork. Good pay & benefits. Salary depends on exp. call 669-2278 or come by 116 Western St. or 665-2407.

**14n Painting**

50 yr. exp. We paint, dry-wall, texture, comm./ residential. Free Estimates. Happy Painters 665-3214  
INT./EXT. painting, mud tape, blow accoustics. 35 yr. exp. References. Gene Calder 665-4840.

**PAMPA Nursing Center**

currently hiring Certified Nurse Aides. Please apply in person to Mitzi Devoll, R.N., Director of Nurses, 1321 W. Kentucky.

**HIRING in Sports Industry**

Admin. Assist. / Const. Super. / Sales / Const. Crew Openings. Benefits & Bonuses. Apply 94 Main St., Panhandle, Tx., 537-3526.

**TEMPORARY Cook**

must have exp. cooking for large groups. Meredith House, 665-5668 or fax resume to 665-2599.

**69 Misc.**

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

QUEEN Chimney Sweep. Free inspection. Call for appointment 665-9452, if no answer leave message.

**69 Misc.**

Memory Gardens of Pampa is assigning FREE Cemetery Spaces to local VETERANS that qualify and do not own cemetery property SPACES are limited. Call today to receive yours 665-8921

**HANSFORD County Hospital District**

Hospice has opening for full-time RN. Excellent benefits package, salary commensurate with experience.  
Apply at  
707 S. Roland Spearman, Tx.  
Lisa Unruh, HR Mgr  
806-659-5841  
Equal Opportunity Employer

**HANSFORD County Hospital District**

Hospice has opening for full-time RN. Excellent benefits package, salary commensurate with experience.  
Apply at  
707 S. Roland Spearman, Tx.  
Lisa Unruh, HR Mgr  
806-659-5841  
Equal Opportunity Employer

**UNION TANK CAR**

now accepting appl. for rail-road car repair person. Welding exp. a plus. For info. 663-4677.

**FULL Charge Bookkeeper**

needed for full-time position. 3+ years exp. required. Must be proficient in Microsoft Excel, Peachtree exp. helpful. Please fax resume to 806-669-7618, or email treed@umcinc.com

**CNA'S needed.**

Pick up application at the front desk at the Meredith House.

**UNITED MEDICORP.**

a nationally prominent hospital billing and collection company, is seeking a Director to lead its Claims Operations Department in Pampa, Texas. Requirements include at least 5 years of business office management experience, with expertise in billing Medicare, Medicaid, managed care, workers comp and commercial payers. A degree from a 4 year college in business or a related field is strongly preferred. Compensation is commensurate with experience. Please e-mail resume to treed@umcinc.com or fax resume to Toni Reed at (806)669-7618.

**CURTIS COMPANIES LTD.**

is now accepting resumes for an oil & gas secretary. Individual must have knowledge and experience in data entry & proficient in use of Microsoft Word & Excel. Also experience in use of multi-line phone system & two-way radio communications A Plus. No Phone calls will be accepted. Mail resumes to: Attn: Personnel Curtis Companies LTD P.O. Box 1901, Pampa, Tx. 79066-1901.

**DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES**

— Here's how to work it: AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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.

**2-6 CRYPTOQUOTE**

MB DJM GSB SJE GTWEFIWA  
GQFS J EWIZ - JACREFQMN  
KJTA FJUIW KJM WXWT UW  
LRQFW FSW DJM SW BMKW  
GJE - CJDWE FSRTUWT

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: FEEL THE DIGNITY OF A CHILD. DO NOT FEEL SUPERIOR TO HIM, FOR YOU ARE NOT. — ROBERT HENRI

**21 Help Wanted**

ST. Matthew's Episcopal Day School is currently seeking an early child care employee for the afternoon hours of 11-5:30, M-F. Applicants with previous child care experience, good references, and a professional & positive attitude will be considered. Apply at 727 W. Browning

**50 Building Suppl.**

White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291  
HOUSTON LUMBER 420 W. Foster 669-6881

**60 Household**

KENMORE Heavy Duty Plus Electric Dryer. \$40. Call 665-1447.  
BLUE check sleeper sofa, navy & beige print sofa, blue recliner, square coffee table, round table & 4 captains chairs. Cash only. 669-6380.

**96 Unfurn. Apts.**

CAPROCK Apts. has fantastic holiday specials on all 1, 2 & 3 bdr. apts. starting at \$290. 3, 6, 9 & 12 mo. leases avail. Pool, laundry, washer / dryer hookups, club room, on-site management and SOFTENED WATER to all units. 1601 N. Somerville, 665-7149 Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5:30, Sat. 10-4.  
EFFICIENCY. apt. \$225 mo., bills pd. Rooms \$20 day, \$80 wk. & up. air, tv, cable, phone. 669-3221.  
ONE bedroom apts starting at \$200 monthly, bills paid, references required, 665-4842.

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CLEAN 1 bedroom, stove, refrig., all bills paid. 669-3672, 665-9900  
FREE RENT! Pampa Lakeview Apts. 1, 2 & 3 bdr. apts. 2600 N. Hobart 669-7682

**GWENDOLEN Plaza Apts.**

1 & 2 bdr. Gas / water pd. 3, 6 mo. -1yr. lease. 800 N. Nelson, 665-1875.

**NICE 2 bedroom, gas & water paid, HUD, 417 E. 17th.**

Call 669-7518, or 1-806-355-5049.

**98 Unfurn. Houses**

LOWEST Rents in City 1 bdrms., duplexes, & homes- Remodeled, Great Neighborhoods. 665-4274

**PICK UP rental list from Gray Box on front porch of Lakeview Apartments.**

Update each Fri.

**3 bedroom \$350 mo., \$250 dep.**

References 886-1920

**2-3 bedroom houses for rent.**

Call 669-2080.

**1 bedroom, appliances incl. \$250 mo. Ref. & dep. required. 411 Texas.**

669-9817.

**2 or 3 bdr, hookups, HUD ok, fenced yard, \$375 mo., \$250 dep., 1033 S. Faulkner, 806-356-7319.**

**LARGE 2 br., new carpet, w/d hookups, stove/frig., water/gas paid, 665-8550, lv. mess. 662-4675.**

**TWIFORD St., Pampa-2 bdr, \$250 mo., \$100 dep. Call Canadian, 806-323-5840.**

**99 Stor. Bldgs.**

TUMBLEWEED Acres, self storage units. Various sizes. 665-0079, 665-2450.

**AMERICAN Self Storage, 2520 N. Hobart-Pampa.**

806-669-2537, 806-664-1900.

**102 Bus. Rent. Prop.**

OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

**LOWEST Rents in city. Downtown locations, stores, warehouses, rec. facilities Call 665-4274!!**

**121 Trucks**

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

**122 Motorcycles**

FOR Sale 2000 Yamaha 125 dirt bike \$1300. Call 665-2916

**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 & #

**127 Homes For Sale**

Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-3560, 663-1442 669-0007

**2 Bedroom Home 1108 Sirroco**

Central heat & air Call 665-8427

**2 br. brick, Beech st., gar., fenced, new carpet & vinyl, lrg. rooms. C-21 Realtor 665-5436, 665-4180.**

LARGE 2 or 3 bdr, hookups, dining room, fenced yard, \$16,900, 1033 S. Faulkner, 806-356-7319.

**MUST sell 2 houses on same lot 1700 Hamilton**

\$17,500 Firm. Liquor store with land and trailer house \$42,500 Firm. Call 972-334-0370.

**OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 2-4**

OWNER/Agent, 3/2/2, 1610 sq. ft. built in 1985. Brick, wood burner. Huge isolated master with step up tub and separate shower, his and hers sinks and closets. Beautifully landscaped & well maintained. 1429 N. Zimmers \$84,900. Appt. 669-2789, leave message.

**OWNER Will Carry. Lrg. 1 bd., newly carpeted, carpet & storage, 1428 E. Browning, 665-4842.**

SEVERAL 2 & 3 bd houses for sale by owner. Use your tax refund for down pymts. 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, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

**120 Autos**

Quality Sales 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

**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 806-794-9330 (Lubbock) 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 Convertibles, Continentals, Capris, Premiers, 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. AUCTION0013228

1973 Ford Van \$1000.00 or best offer. Please call 665-7992 leave message.

1988 Chevrolet Suburban \$1500.00 or best offer. Please call 665-7992 leave message.

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

1997 Buick Regal for sale All the goodies! Clean & a good price too! Call 665-2437

86 S-10 Blazer 4x4 \$2250, 77 Dodge Van 3/4T \$600, 2000 W. Alcock, 665-1878, 665-6035

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1973 Ford Van \$1000.00 or best offer. Please call 665



# FBI says al-Qaida remains nation's main threat

WASHINGTON (AP) — Amid new concerns about a possible terrorist attack, the FBI says al-Qaida remains the paramount threat to hit targets in the United States even though it is weakened and scattered.

The new assessment, to be presented to Congress next week, says al-Qaida represents the gravest danger even though a number of Muslim extremist groups unconnected to the terror organization also are committed to "jihad," or holy war, against the United States, Israel and other countries.

The report comes amid new jitters about potential terrorist attacks timed to coincide with the Hajj, the annual pilgrimage Muslims make to Mecca. The holy period begins Sunday.

It also comes as the United States amasses military power for a possible war with Iraq to force disarmament. Secretary of State Colin Powell presented evidence to the United Nations on Wednesday to buttress the U.S. position, including assertions that al-Qaida has some ties to Iraq.

The FBI's central conclusion is that "al-Qaida led by Osama bin Laden remains, for the foreseeable future, the most serious threat against the United States," a government official familiar with a declassified version of the assessment said Wednesday.

Other terrorist groups provide "varying degrees of support" for al-Qaida but are less likely to strike within the United States, the report adds.

Recent intelligence, coupled with the Muslim holy days,

## PPW group sponsoring competition

AMARILLO — Panhandle Professional Writers is currently sponsoring the 2003 Frontiers in Writing Contest, an annual event which offers writers a chance to get their work reviewed by editors and agents.

Publishing agents and editors will judge the final rounds of each category. Winners will receive cash prizes and certificates during the Frontier In Writing conference slated June 21 at the Ambassador Hotel in Amarillo.

Contest categories include: Novel, short story, screenplay, memoir, nonfiction book, juvenile, young adult short work, article or essay and two poetry divisions.

Entries must be submitted by March 1.

For more information, contact Marcy McKay at [Fiw2003@yahoo.com](mailto:Fiw2003@yahoo.com) or send a SASE to Frontiers in Writing, P.O. Box 8066, Amarillo, TX 79114.

could lead to a higher level of warning in the nation's terrorism alert system, according to U.S. government officials speaking on condition of anonymity. It now stands at yellow, or elevated, which is the middle tier in a five-color system.

Gordon Johndroe, spokesman for the Homeland Security Department, said the threat level is evaluated daily and there are no immediate plans to raise it.

"We remain concerned about the continued al-Qaida activity overseas as well as al-Qaida sympathizers here in the United

States," he said. "Should additional information and analysis develop requiring the threat level to be raised, we will keep the American public informed as always."

The government official declined to discuss whether the FBI assessment describes a greater danger of terrorism if the United States goes to war with Iraq.

But Germany's top counterterrorism official, Interior Minister Otto Schily, told reporters Wednesday that such a war — which his government opposes — would inflame

Muslim extremists worldwide and increase the terror threat.

"If a war takes place, the emotions will intensify," said Schily, who met this week with Attorney General John Ashcroft and Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge. "It's a matter of concern. You can't exclude repercussions."

The FBI assessment, most of which is classified, will be delivered to members of the House and Senate intelligence committees next week by FBI Director Robert Mueller. Originally promised in 2000, a version was completed just a day before the

Sept. 11 terror attacks and has since been rewritten amid criticism from Capitol Hill for the delay.

The report cites various U.S. intelligence sources as evidence that al-Qaida operatives around the world continue to discuss large-scale strikes against the United States. Al-Qaida is actively attempting to acquire chemical, biological, radiological and even nuclear weapons, the report adds.

The organization remains viable despite being driven from its refuge in Afghanistan, the report says. It cites the October

nightclub bombing in Bali, Indonesia, that killed nearly 200 and November attacks on a resort and airliner in Kenya as evidence the network can still inflict great damage.

The Kenya attacks occurred nearly simultaneously. A vehicle packed with explosives plowed into a hotel, killing 15 people. Minutes earlier, unidentified assailants fired two missiles at an Arkia Airlines Boeing 757, narrowly missing the charter aircraft as it took off from Mombasa airport with Israeli tourists returning to Tel Aviv.

## Economy: Over year productivity grows 4.7 percent

By JEANNINE AVERSA  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — The productivity of U.S. companies dipped at an annual rate of 0.2 percent in the final quarter of 2002, the worst showing in more than a year, as the nation's economic recovery faltered.

The decline came after productivity went up by a strong 5.5 percent annual rate in the third quarter, the Labor Department reported Thursday.

The fourth quarter's performance marked the biggest decline in productivity since the first quarter of 2001, when the economy was heading into its first recession in a decade.

Even with the fourth-quarter decline, productivity for all of 2002 grew by a stellar 4.7 percent, the strongest showing since 1950, and a marked improvement over the 1.1 percent increase posted in 2001. Economists called 2002's performance impressive.

Analysts were predicting a slowdown in productivity growth in the fourth quarter because the economy shifted into a lower gear during the period. The economy grew at a rate of just 0.7 percent in the fourth quarter, a big slowdown from the brisk 4 percent rate registered in the third quarter.

"We had a rollercoaster year in the economy

and productivity followed closely," said Joel Naroff of Naroff Economic Advisers. "With minimal growth during the fourth quarter, it would have been difficult for businesses to adjust rapidly and they didn't."

Naroff predicted productivity would rebound in the current quarter.

New claims for unemployment benefits fell last week by a seasonally adjusted 11,000 to 391,000. That marked a turnaround from the previous week when claims rose by 19,000.

The more stable, four-week moving average of claims, which smooths out weekly fluctuations, last week dipped slightly to 384,750, the lowest level in more than two months.

While the latest jobless claims figures suggested that the pace of layoffs may be stabilizing, the job market, nonetheless, remains sluggish.

Economists believe the nation's unemployment rate probably remained stuck at 6 percent in January, even as the economy added around 69,000 jobs during the month. Such job growth would mark an improvement over December when payrolls were cut by 101,000, but still would be considered below normal. The government will release January's employment report on Friday.

Businesses, facing economic uncertainties, have been wary of making big commitments in

hiring and in capital spending.

The decline in productivity in the fourth quarter pushed up unit labor costs at a rate of 4.8 percent, the biggest increase since the third quarter of 2000. That's discouraging for companies trying to keep a lid on costs. In the third quarter, unit labor costs dipped at a rate of 0.1 percent.

Workers didn't fare as well in the fourth quarter from the previous quarter. Hourly compensation adjusted for inflation rose at a rate of 2.2 percent in the fourth quarter, down from a 3.4 percent advance in the third quarter.

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan and his colleagues have said they are optimistic about the long-term prospects of productivity growth, a key ingredient to the economy's long-term vitality.

Gains in productivity are a crucial ingredient to the economy's long-term vitality. Healthy productivity increases allow the economy to grow faster without triggering inflation. Businesses are able to pay workers more, without raising prices, which would eat up those wage gains.

The Fed last week kept a key interest rate at a 41-year low, with the hope that will spur consumers and businesses to spend and invest more, helping the economy.

President Bush has offered a big package of tax cuts to energize the economy. Democrats have their own proposals.

## Illinois university under scrutiny for sale of biotech pigs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal officials are concerned that pigs that were supposed to be destroyed after a genetic engineering study may have entered the nation's food supply, even though they say there is no health risk.

The Food and Drug Administration said Wednesday it is investigating whether scientists at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign violated regulations requiring them to destroy all pigs involved in the research.

The university may have sent 386 of the animals to a livestock dealer who in turn may have sent them to slaughter, the FDA said.

"We do not believe that there is a public health risk," said FDA Deputy Commissioner Lester Crawford.

The research involved increasing pigs' natural levels of some growth proteins present in meat anyway, Crawford said.

Moreover, none of the pigs originally genetically manipulated were sold, but rather it was their offspring, which purportedly passed multiple tests verifying the piglets hadn't inherited changed genes.

The FDA is trying to verify the genes were not inherited.

While playing down concern about food safety, the FDA characterized the problem as a serious one of scientists possibly breaking rules necessary to ensure that bioengineering research is done properly. If the agency determines those rules were indeed broken, it could impose fines or suspend other university research.

The University of Illinois called the FDA's investigation a surprise to researchers who thought they were following federal rules and had openly discussed how they tested and sold the pigs. They

characterized it as a misunderstanding.

"Whatever requirements the FDA says are now in place, we'll take it from here and we'll meet them. We've done our best to exceed them," said university spokesman Bill Murphy.

"It's another example where the United States government's system for dealing with this new technology has failed the public," said Carol Tucker Foreman, head of the Consumer Federation of America's Food Policy Institute.

The Illinois experiment involved giving two genes, a cow gene and a synthetic one, to sows in hopes of increasing the mother's milk production and her piglets' ability to digest milk so they would grow faster, the university's Murphy explained.

Shortly after new piglets are born, the university does extensive testing to see which of litter inherited that ability. In 2001, researchers told the FDA those pigs that multiple tests showed were not transgenic — normal pigs that were the grandchildren or

great-grandchildren of the originally engineered sows — were being sent to market, while those that did inherit genetic changes were kept for study, Murphy said.

The researchers reported their testing and market practice in scientific journals, he added. The university expressed surprise when FDA inspectors last week objected to the practice.

FDA's Crawford said as a result of the incident, "we will be intensifying these inspections" of biotech researchers.

## Dell removing floppies from desktops

AUSTIN (AP) — Floppy disk drives will soon be history at Dell Computer Corp.

The company plans to stop installing the drives on high-end Dimension computers next month and offer them only as an option, Dell spokesman Lionel Menchaca said Wednesday.

For years, computer users stored data on portable 3-1/2-inch floppy disks. The plastic square disks can hold up to 1.44-megabytes of information.

But Round Rock, Texas-based Dell has seen customers moving toward newer, larger capacity technology — especially portable hard drives and rewriteable CDs.

"The utility of a floppy disk is just no longer there for most users," said Tim Bajarin, president of Creative Strategies, a technology consulting firm in San Jose, Calif.

Floppy disks long ago ceded their turf as the delivery medium for software — CD ROMs and the Internet now handle that task. And many people find a 1.44 MB disk too small to handle the daily data of a digital life — photos, MP3 files, e-mail records.

Dell brand 16-megabyte USB flash memory drives will be offered standard in

Dimension's high-end model first and the company will consider making it available on all desktops depending on customer response, Menchaca said. The keychain-sized USB drives will cost the same as floppy drives, he said.

"We've heard from other vendors that they've been actually questioning the need for floppy drives in light of the keychain storage devices that have come onto the market," Bajarin said.

Persuading some desktop users to drop the floppy could be a challenge, which is why Dell is moving slowly,

Menchaca said. The company no longer provides floppy drives on standard notebook computers.

Apple Computer Inc. stopped including floppy disk drives in Macintosh computers five years ago, and heard grumbles for years from some users. Other PC makers, including Hewlett-Packard, continue to offer floppy drives on desktops.

USB drives are considered "plug-and-go" because they plug into computers and software is easily installed. Drivers are included in Windows XP, which comes standard on Dell's desktops, Menchaca said.

## Gray Co. Spelling Bee set

Herman Vinson, director for the Gray County Spelling Bee, has announced the county-wide bee will be conducted Friday, March 7, at Pampa Middle School Auditorium. Sign-in will be at 8:30 a.m.

The competition will officially get under way at 9 a.m.

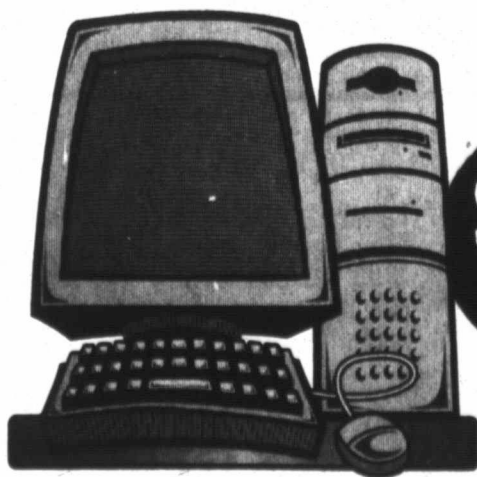
Students in grades five and under will compete for junior champion and students in grades eight and under will compete for senior champion. It is possible for an elementary school student

to win the county title.

The winner will be eligible to compete in the Regional Spelling Bee April 5 at West Texas A&M University.

National Spelling Bee rules will be followed. Deadline for entry is March 4. By that date, Vinson must

have the names of all contestants and alternates planning to participate in the bee. Vinson may be contacted at 669-4900 or via e-mail at the middle school's address.



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