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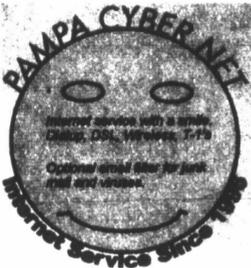
THE Pampa

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2002

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NEWS

Vol. 98 No. 519 - Pampa, Texas
 50 cents Daily - Sunday \$1



WEATHER WEATHER

HIGH	LOW
48	32

STATE

NASA hopes weather allows shuttle to land

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) - NASA hoped the weather at Endeavour's landing site would finally cooperate and allow the space shuttle to touch down after two days of delays.

Clouds, high wind and rain have thwarted efforts to bring Endeavour - the ride home for the international space station's former crew - back to Earth. Wednesday's attempts were canceled while Thursday's opportunities were skipped altogether.

The forecast on Friday was slightly better for two landing attempts.

If Friday's attempts fall through, Endeavour would touch down on Saturday in either Florida or the backup landing site at Edwards Air Force Base in California, said flight director Wayne Hale.

DEATHS

Eddie Maurine Gilmer, 76, homemaker.
Joyce Ann Phipps, 63, homemaker.
E.R. "Junior" Sikes, 81, World War II veteran.

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WEST TEXAS LANDSCAPE

GIFT SHOP

"For All Your Christmas Decorating Needs!"
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Best choice

Curry: WFISD officials 'completely resolved' they picked the right man

By **NANCY YOUNG**
 MANAGING EDITOR

Three representatives of the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees spent Thursday meeting with parents, teachers, school board members, principals, and community members here concerning Pampa ISD Superintendent Dr. Dawson Orr.

Dr. Orr has been named as the lone finalist for the position in the WFISD. A final decision is to be made at the WFISD board meeting on Dec. 16.

Wichita Falls ISD Board President Ken Hines; Vice President Larry Scott; and Secretary Liz Talbert met with approximately 50 individuals during meetings throughout the day, asking about Dr. Orr.

Pampa ISD board trustee, John Curry, talked with Scott, Hines and Talbert at the end of the day yesterday.

He said the WFISD board members reported they were completely resolved that the decision they had made to name Orr as the lone finalist for the top position in that school district was the best choice.

Curry said when the board members requested the meeting with Pampa people they

asked to speak with people who were happy with Orr and people who were not.

In one group, said Curry, the board members told him there were four parents who were opposed to the present block scheduling at Pampa High School. While the parents didn't like the type of scheduling, they were complimentary of the way Dr. Orr has handled their questions and comments.

Curry said he was told all the parents were pleased with Orr's professionalism and that he furnished them any information they requested.

"That is typical Dawson Orr," said Curry. "He's very ethical and has never hidden anything. He's always been upfront."

Curry said while he thinks Pampa ISD is losing a good person, he believes WFISD will be gaining an excellent superintendent.

"I'm going to miss him," said Pat Kennedy, a former longtime school board member. "But I'm grateful we had him as long as we did."

Kennedy said she thought it was a good meeting.

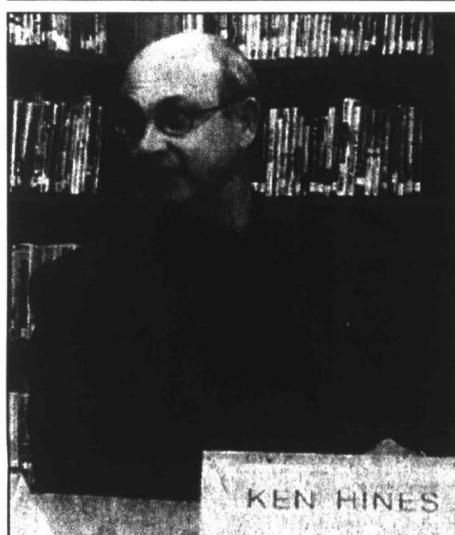
"It was very positive," she said. "No one had anything negative to say about him in the group I was in."

(See CHOICE, Page 4)



(Pampa News photos by Nancy Young)

Pampa Chamber Executive Director Clay Rice and local businessman Bebo Terry participated in a meeting Thursday afternoon between Wichita Falls Independent School District Board Members and community members as the WFISD was seeking input on Dr. Dawson Orr, who is the lone finalist for the WFISD superintendent position. Ken Hines, (left) president of the WFISD school board, said he was extremely pleased with the community's positive comments about Dr. Orr.



KEN HINES

Courtney gets 30 years for diluting drugs

Families struggle through tears, anger

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) - Families of cancer victims struggled through tears and anger and called a pharmacist "a monster in a white coat" before he was sentenced to 30 years in prison for watering down cancer drugs.

After hearing the emotional testimony, U.S. District Judge Ortrie Smith had some harsh words for Robert R. Courtney, who was also fined \$25,000 and ordered to pay \$10.4 million in restitution to his victims.

"Mr. Courtney, your crimes are a shock to the civilized conscience," the judge said Thursday. "They are beyond understanding. I believe you when you say that you don't understand them."

Loleta Hunt spoke of her sister, Roberta Gibson, who died of ovarian cancer after being treated with drugs from Courtney's pharmacy.

Hunt said her mother has not been able to recover from the loss of Gibson, who was the "light and joy" of her mother's life, and who had moved back to Kansas City, Kan., to care for her mother.

"We know that one day we will see Roberta again," Hunt said. "We know that one day our mother will see Roberta again. But what are we supposed to do with today?"

His voice wavering, Smith expressed compassion for Courtney's family, but in

sentencing him to prison, said the ex-pharmacist had likely caused the premature death of at least one patient and unimaginable stress and anxiety to other cancer patients.

A subdued Courtney apologized repeatedly in a soft and shaken voice.

"I have committed a terrible crime that I deeply and severely regret," Courtney said. "I wish I could change everything."

"To my victims and their precious families, I apologize that I brought so much grief and anguish to them."

Courtney also apologized to his family, who sobbed

during his statement and when his sentence was pronounced.

The family declined comment after the hearing.

Defense lawyers, citing Courtney's "sincere remorse" and acceptance of responsibility, urged Smith to impose the lightest possible sentence under the terms of Courtney's plea agreement - 17 1/2 years without parole.

Federal prosecutors asked for the maximum of 30 years for a "cold-blooded" crime they say hastened at least one patient's death.

Prosecutors have acknowledged it would be difficult to prove Courtney's

crimes killed patients. Defense attorney J.R. Hobbs said Courtney was disappointed and would decide whether to file an appeal.

Courtney, 50, pleaded guilty in February to 20 counts of adulterating, misbranding and tampering with the cancer drugs Taxol and Gemzar. Those counts stem from his dilution of 158 chemotherapy doses he prepared at his Research Medical Tower Pharmacy for 34 patients of a Kansas City doctor from March 2001 through June 2001.

In his plea agreement, Courtney admitted diluting drugs in 1992, affecting as many as 4,200 patients, 400 doctors and 98,000 prescriptions.

PEDC board OKs bills in special meeting

With only one item on the agenda of a special meeting Monday afternoon, Pampa Economic Development Corporation (PEDC) okayed the payment of bills.

Disbursements approved for payment from a Nov. 18, 2002, listing totaled \$1,278.13.

The payments included American Mercury Insurance group (property insurance), \$216; Atmos Energy, \$71.82; Xcel Energy, \$65.40; Xcel Energy, \$34.15; Personnel Services (part-time clerical

employee), \$431.64; and Billy Scribner, \$459.12.

PEDC attorney firm Peterson, Farris, Doores & Jones was paid \$3,104.39 for legal fees on the Nov. 25 disbursement list.

On the Dec. 2 disbursement listing, three utility bills totaled \$320.43: Atmos Energy, \$174.05; Xcel Energy, \$77.31; and Xcel Energy, \$69.07.

The special meeting was called because payment of bills was not listed on the regular Nov. 25 meeting.

Treasury Secretary O'Neill resigns

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Bush revamped his economic team Friday as Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill and economic adviser Larry Lindsey resigned at the request of the White House amid growing concern about the ailing economy.

Bush advisers have been increasingly worried that a lagging economy could hamper the president's re-election prospects. The unemployment rate rose to 6 percent on Friday, the highest in nearly nine years.

Presidential advisers do not blame O'Neill, but they've long recognized that a shakeup of the economic team would help indicate Bush was doing everything he could to improve matters.

The resignations came four weeks after Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Harvey Pitt resigned under fire.

O'Neill was the first member of Bush's Cabinet to leave. Officials expected him to be

replaced quickly; a search already was under way.

Among those mentioned as possible successors are Joseph J. Grano Jr., head of UBS Paine Webber in New York; investment counselor Charles Schwab; retired House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Archer, R-Texas; and Sen. Phil Gramm and House Majority Leader Dick Armey, a pair of Texas Republicans and economists who leave Congress in January.

Gramm, however, has just taken a lucrative post at UBS Warburg, an investment banking firm, and is said to be eager to make money after years in the public sector.

Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota, who has frequently criticized Bush's handling of the economy and called on him to fire his economic team, said the shake-up was not enough.

(See O'NEILL, Page 4)

Come Back To Christmas

Saturday, December 7th • Downtown & Coronado Center

Parade Begins At 10 a.m. • Drawings Throughout The Day • Grand Marshal Paulette Kirksey
 For More Information Call The Chamber Of Commerce 669-3241

OBITUARIES

SERVICES TOMORROW

GILMER, Eddie Maurine — 2 p.m., Church of Christ, Wheeler.
PHIPPS, Joyce Ann — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.
SIKES, E.R. "Junior" — 3 p.m., Hobart Baptist Church, Pampa.

JOYCE ANN PHIPPS
 1938-2002

Joyce Ann Phipps, 63, of Pampa, died Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2002, at Amarillo. Services will be at 2 p.m., Saturday in Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with Glen Walton, minister of Bell Avenue Church of Christ in Amarillo, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Phipps was born Dec. 5, 1938, at Childress. She graduated from Childress High School and had been a Pampa resident since 1979, moving from Amarillo.

She was a member of Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Michelle Phipps on Nov. 23, 2001, two sisters,

and seven brothers.

Survivors include her mother, Fay Weatherbee of Pampa; a brother, Bill Weatherbee of Pampa; and three sisters, Eva Todd of Childress, Pearl Taylor of Silver City, N.M., and Jeanette Caines of El Paso.

www.carmichael-whatley.com



EDDIE MAURINE GILMER
 1926-2002

WHEELER — Eddie Maurine Gilmer, 76, died Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2002, at her home in Wheeler. Services will be at 2 p.m., Saturday in Wheeler Church of Christ with the Rev. Andy Taylor, pastor of Trinity Fellowship in Sayre, Okla., and Dr. Shawn Johnson, minister, officiating. Burial will be in Wheeler Cemetery under the direction of Wright Funeral Home.

Mrs. Gilmer was born Sept. 28, 1926, at Bochita, Okla., to Sanford and Sarah Burroughs Miller. She married Edward Leon Gilmer on May 13, 1944, at Taft, Calif., and he preceded her in death in 1995.

She was a homemaker and a member of

Church of Christ in Wheeler. She worked as a seamstress at a former clothing factory in McLean and as a pastry cook at Sparlins Restaurant in Wheeler.

She was also preceded in death by a daughter, Carolyn Gilmer, in 1960.

Survivors include two daughters, Millie Williams and Tillie Snelgrooves, both of Wheeler; four sons, David Gilmer of Briscoe, Tom Gilmer of Amarillo, John Gilmer of Garland, and Mark Gilmer of Wheeler; a sister, Viola Blalock of Edmond, Okla.; nine grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to a favorite charity.

E.R. 'JUNIOR' SIKES
 1921-2002

E.R. "Junior" Sikes, 81, of Pampa, died Thursday, Dec. 5, 2002, at Amarillo, Texas. Services will be at 3 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7, 2002, at Hobart Baptist Church, with the Rev. Jim Powell, minister, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Sikes was born July 29, 1921, at Stephenville. He had been a resident of Pampa since 1948. He was a foreman for heavy equipment operations in pipeline construction for Nelson-Sikes, Inc., for 39 years, and he then worked for D.E. Rice in Borger for approximately eight years, retiring in 1998.

He married Alicia Jo Pratt on Oct. 28, 1962, at Clayton, N.M.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving during World War II, and was a member of the Hobart Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by a son, Robert Sikes, on Aug. 26, 2002.

Survivors include his wife, Alicia Jo Sikes, of the home; two sons and daughters-in-law, Terry L.

and Belinda Sikes of Lexington, Ky., and David R. and Ruth Sikes of Phoenix, Ariz.; a daughter and son-in-law, Janna E. and Keith Hampton of Foster, Okla.; a daughter-in-law, Rhonda Sikes of Pampa; four grandsons, Jonathan Sikes, Bobby Sikes, Eric Sikes, and Aaron Sikes; and four granddaughters, Nicole Sikes, Sarah Sikes, Emily Callen, and Katlyn Hampton.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 6 to 7:30 p.m., on Friday and requests memorials be to Hobart Baptist Church, 1100 W. Crawford, Pampa, TX 79065.

www.carmichael-whatley.com



WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

Today's forecast is calling for partly cloudy skies, highs in the upper 40s, and west winds 5 to 15 mph, shifting to the south in the afternoon. Tonight should be partly cloudy with lows in the lower 30s, and southwest winds 5 to 15 mph. Saturday should be partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s. North winds 5 to 15 mph. Saturday night, mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s. North winds 5 to 15 mph. Sunday, cloudy. Chance of snow. Highs in the mid 30s. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph. Chance of snow 30 percent. Sunday

night, cloudy. Slight chance of snow. Lows in the mid 20s. Chance of snow 20 percent. Monday, partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 40s. Monday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. Tuesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s. Tuesday night, mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s. Wednesday, mostly cloudy. Slight chance of rain. Highs in the mid 40s. Chance of rain 20 percent. Wednesday night, mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. Thursday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s.

STATEWIDE

Skies cleared across much of Texas, pushing temperatures lower overnight in advance of a forecast warming trend for the weekend.

Lows Friday ranged from the upper 20s to lower 30s.

Extremes were 21 degrees at Dalhart and 43 degrees at Galveston.

It was 40 degrees at Wink.

Winds were northerly at 5 to 10 mph, except for light southerly to southwesterly winds across West Texas from the Panhandle to the Big Bend.

Low clouds still covered parts of the

South Plains, Permian Basin, Concho Valley and Big Bend.

Skies should remain clear to partly cloudy through Saturday.

Daytime highs were expected from the 40s in the north and 50s in Central Texas and the far west to near 60 south with mid-60s along the Rio Grande.

Lows overnight should range from the 20s in the north to 30s and 40s in the south and far west.

Highs Saturday were expected in the 40s and 50s with 60s in the south and near 70 along the Rio Grande.

ON RECORD

FIRE

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

Thursday, Dec. 5

4:18 p.m. — Three units and six firefighters responded to a motor vehicle collision at U.S. Highway 60 and Loop 171. No injuries were reported.

5:16 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 1500 block of West Kentucky.

AMBULANCE

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

Thursday, Dec. 5

4:21 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Highway 60 at Loop 171; one patient was transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center (PRMC).

4:47 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to 1900 Hilton Road; one patient was transported to PRMC.

5:11 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility; one patient was transported to PRMC.

ACCIDENTS

Pampa Police Department reported the following accident.

Thursday, Dec. 5

A hit-and-run was reported Thursday involving a 1986 Chevrolet Silverado Suburban which was parked in the 2800 block of North Crest. According to the police report, the Suburban owned by Donald Jeff Seitz, 2800 North Crest, was legally parked and was struck by an unidentified vehicle causing damage. No estimate was available.

POLICE

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

Thursday, Dec. 5

Bobby Ray Howard, 42, Lefors, was arrested on several traffic warrants. The warrants were for running a stop sign, driving with license suspended, failure to maintain financial responsibility, and failure to appear.

Jeremy Allen Teakell, 30, 533 Powell, was arrested on capias pro fine warrants for no valid drivers license and no seat belt.

Delton Eugene McCormick, 46, Lefors, was arrested for possession of a controlled substance over four grams and under 200 grams.

Jimmie Ray Fitzer, 41, 524 Lefors, was arrested for causing bodily injury.

Theft was reported in the 1500 block of West Kentucky. An unknown amount of cash was reported taken.

Bodily injury to a family member was reported in the 1100 block of Prairie Drive.

Charges have been filed against an adult and a juvenile in connection with a criminal mischief. The front windshield and the roof of the car received damages estimated at \$500. The adult suspect has not been arrested, but the juvenile has been referred to juvenile probation office.

An assault to a family member was reported in the 500 block of North Hobart.

STOCKS

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

Wheat	3.66
Milo	3.91
Corn	4.39
Soybeans	4.82
Sunflowers	8.75

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

Occidental	27.51	+0.07
Fidelity Magell	NA	
Pantam	NA	

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

BP	38.71	-0.76
Celanese	22.46	-0.06
Cabot Corp	27.01	-0.44
Cabot Oil Gas	24.60	+0.28
Coca Cola	44.80	-0.23
VLO	35.62	+0.32
Halliburton	19.84	-0.08
Triad Hospitals	32.15	+0.76
NOI	21.67	+0.09
KMI	40.49	-0.15
XCEL	10.12	-0.16
Kerr McGee	46.26	-0.08
Limited	15.22	+0.16
Williams	2.38	NC
McDonalds	18.13	-0.65
Exxon Mobil	34.62	-0.15
Atmos	22.68	-0.17
Pioneer Nat	25.57	+0.27
Penney's	22.71	-0.46
COP	49.73	-0.16
Schlumberger	45.90	+0.24
Tenneco	4.18	+0.03
CVX	67.57	-0.39
Wal-Mart	53.14	+0.12
OKE	18.94	-0.16
NS Group	6.95	+0.04
New York Gold	324.35	
Silver	4.63	
West Texas Crude	27.38	

City Briefs

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

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS Tree Project for Tralee Crisis Center, 310 S. Cuyler 8-5 p.m. Help a victim and her children have a joyful holiday.

CHRISTMAS TURKEYS, smoked or deep fried-\$25. Call 665-7161 or 669-1017 or any KC member.

OPEN HOUSE, Sat. Refreshments, door prize, gift certificates, gift wrapping. Trash & Treasure Shop, 1431 N. Hobart.

BABY'S FIRST Christmas!! Show off your new "Little One!" Deadline, Dec. 18th-noon, \$25 (paid in advance). Please remember Pictures that have a Copyright on them, must be accompanied by a letter of approval from the photographer. Thanks, *The Pampa News*

EARLY CHRISTMAS Sale! 40% off all holiday items: Santas, trees, greenery, ornaments & lights. Lazy S Feed & Garden, 516 S. Russell

POSSIBLE DREAMS Santa's 20% off. Lots of other Christmas Specials! Joys Unlimited 2218 N. Hobart

HOLIDAY SALE - Carousel Expressions, 113 N Cuyler

QUEEN CHIMNEY Sweep, 665-9452 lv. msg.

JEWELRY SALE at the Cottage Collection, booth330. 25% Off all jewelry Dec. 6th and 7th.

REGISTERED LAB puppies, 1 yellow male, 2 black females for sale. 806-835-2373

BEST KEPT Secrets' Open House Dec. 7th. See our ad on page 2 of today's paper.

CHANEY'S, 716 W. Foster, call us for your Christmas parties, 665-2454.

LONE STAR Country Club now open Wed. thru Sat. night. Karaoke with Wild Rose, Wed. & Sat. night.

REMEMBER TO bring your aluminum cans, Sat. Dec. 7th, to the First Presbyterian Church booth at the Come Back To Christmas Celebration. Proceeds benefit "Heifer Project."

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL 2-2 hr. massage gift certificates for \$90 & receive 1 massage for yourself for \$35. Call The Golden Touch, 665-9711 or Danny Degner, 665-6850. Only 25 specials will be sold!

MASSAGE THERAPY Gift Certificates X-mas Specials. Cathy Potter 669-0013.

SADDLE SALE- 10% off. Lazy S Feed & Garden, 516 S. Russell.

MEALS ON Wheels will raffle quilt & trunk Sat. Dec. 7th Downtown if weather permits or United Grocery if weather is bad.

SNOW REMOVAL- Commercial and residential. Discounts for group, 669-0606.

CHRISTMAS TREE Festival at MK Brown Aud., Sat. Dec. 7th-10 a.m.-10 p.m. and Sun. Dec.-8th 1-3 p.m.

NO DANCE Friday night (Dec. 6th) Pampa Senior Citizen's Center.

CORONADO CENTER Open House, Sat. Dec. 7th, 4-6 p.m. Refreshments & Specials at participating Coronado Center stores!!

ONEIDA- 1/2 price sale at On Eagles Wings, 115 N. Cuyler.

THE HOBBY Shop has great Christmas Gift Ideas... Art & Craft Kits, Models, Magic Trick, Frames & More.

DON'T LET a smoking fireplace be the focus of the room. For solutions, come see us at Fireside Comfort, 725 W. Brown, Hwy. 60.

OPEN HOUSE Dec. 6th & 7th, The Cottage Collection. Celebrating 12 years with food, prizes & fun!! Come in & visit. 922 W. 23rd, Pampa-

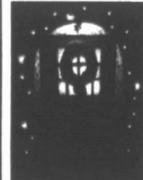
TWILIGHT OPEN House! Dec. 9, 7-9 pm. Sparkling trees & glittering ornaments. Draw for 40-60% off all holiday items. Lazy S Feed & Garden, 516 S. Russell.

Doctor still practicing despite hiring hit man

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston doctor who pleaded no contest this year to charges of hiring a hit man to kill a former patient is still practicing medicine.

And Dr. Armando Sanchez can continue to practice until at least May — more than a year after his trial — under the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners' much-criticized disciplinary process.

Sanchez was charged in 2000 with solicitation of capital murder and pleaded no contest in February. He was sentenced to 10 years' deferred adjudication and 10 years' community supervision, and ordered to pay a \$5,000 fine and perform 500 hours of community service.



Best Kept Secrets'
 Open House &
 Customer Appreciation
 Dec. 7, 2002
 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Free Gift (while supply lasts). We'll pay the Sales Tax, Door Prizes, Refreshments, & all purchases qualify for entry into a drawing for a \$50 & a \$100 Best Kept Secret Gift Certificate. Remember, you can take your receipt of \$10 or more to the Chamber Booth Downtown and be entered into the two drawings for \$500 in Pampa Bucks. Thanks for shopping with BKS!

one DAY

W O N D E R
SATURDAY ONLY SALE

SALE 12.99

REFERENCE POINT®
Chenille turtlenecks,
rollneck, and crew neck
sweaters in solids and
stripes. Selection may
vary by store.

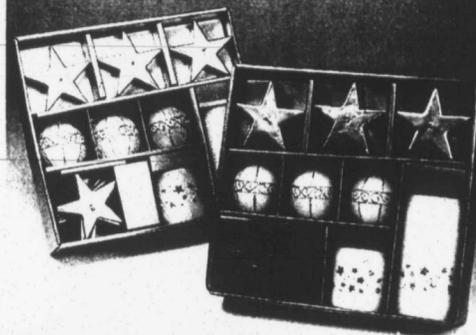
Reg. \$34



SALE 14.99

SILK BOTANICA®
BOXED HOLIDAY
CANDLES

Nine-piece boxed
candle set. Star and
Snowflake designs in
silver or gold
Reg. \$40



Sale 19.99

Famous Maker
Christmas Cookie Jars

Several styles in vibrant
Christmas colors..

Reg. \$60



• ONE DAY SALE • ONE DAY SALE • ONE DAY SALE •

SALE 12.99

SUTTON
CREATION®
Long Sleeve
Soft Acrylic
Mock Neck
Sweaters

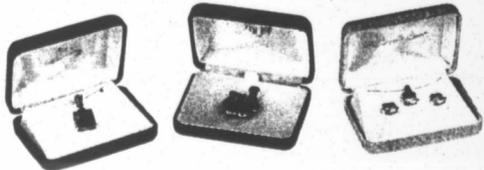
Reg. \$28



SALE 39.99

PERRY ELLIS®
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SALE 16.99

21ST AND STONE®
BOXED STERLING JEWELRY

Choose from Sterling necklaces,
necklaces/earring set and pins. Reg. \$40



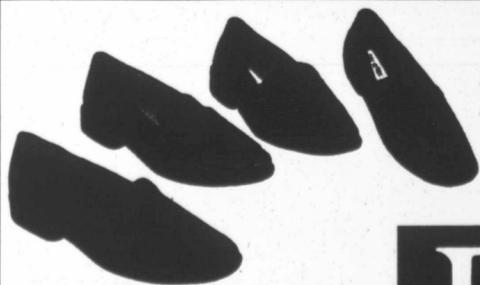
60%-75% OFF

ENTIRE STOCK
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SALE 14.99

EASY STRIDE® &
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SHADOWLINE®
& VANITY FAIR®
SLEEPWEAR
40% OFF

SALE 12.00-25.20

Reg. \$20-\$42



DUNLAPS

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH 9-6, SUNDAY 12-5

CORONADO CENTER

Iraq's declaration of weapons will take weeks to analyze

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Iraq's declaration listing any nuclear, chemical, biological or missile programs will take several weeks to analyze because experts must check it against information in a million-page database, U.N. officials said.

And the analysis can't begin until the document is translated — which could take days or weeks, depending on how long it is.

Iraq has said it will hand over the declaration to U.N. officials in Baghdad late Saturday. Copies will then be flown to Vienna, where the nuclear inspection agency is headquartered, and to New York where chief U.N. inspector Hans Blix and his chemical, biological and missile experts are based, on Sunday.

At U.N. headquarters, the Security Council discussed the logistics of receiving the declaration — and distributing it to the 15 council members — during a closed-door meeting with Blix on Friday.

Norway's U.N. Ambassador Ole Peter Kolby said he thinks Blix should look at the declaration first and then advise the council whether all of it should be released. "There may be information which would be very unfortunate if it gets around," he said.

Council diplomats said Russia was also concerned that the declaration could include, for example, "recipes" for making chemical and biological weapons and other sensitive material.

But Syria's U.N. Ambassador Mikhail

Wehbe said the council must get the declaration quickly. "The Iraqis are very positive in everything — in accepting the resolution, in cooperating fully ... and everything is going smoothly," he said.

The declaration's size, format, and content remain a mystery, though the Iraqi government has repeatedly stated that it does not possess weapons of mass destruction — as the United States and Britain claim.

Ewen Buchanan, spokesman for Blix, said a lot will depend on the length of the declaration and what percentage is in Arabic. Previous Iraqi declarations were in English, accompanied by Arabic documents. But there's no certainty that will be the case this time.

Reports from Baghdad said the document would be 13,000 pages, which could require a massive translation operation. But there was speculation elsewhere it would be shorter.

"The length of time it will take us to analyze the declaration will depend on how long it is and how much information is new," Buchanan said. "Clearly we will analyze it against our existing knowledge. We have a database over one million pages comprising Iraq's earlier declarations, inspection reports, information from supplier governments, and intelligence information."

On Thursday, White House spokesman Ari Fleischer touched on the matter of a lengthy Iraqi reply.

"We'll assess what it says. Depending on how big it is, it'll determine the amount of

time it takes for us to study it," Fleischer said.

The Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency has its own database and will do a separate analysis of Iraq's nuclear program.

Security Council members said they don't expect to have any immediate reaction.

"We will see what inspectors report to us when they receive the Iraqi declaration," said Russia's U.N. Ambassador Sergey Lavrov. "They're professionals. They were hired to do this. So we will expect them to work for their money. It's up to them to decide how much time they need when they see the declaration."

Syria's deputy U.N. ambassador Fayssal Mekdad said when council members receive the declaration, they will send it to their respective capitals to be studied.

U.N. experts will also study it "and then concrete discussion may start at the council analyzing the information," he said.

"Then we give the inspectors time to investigate the correctness or incorrectness of the information," Mekdad said.

Britain's U.N. Ambassador Jeremy Greenstock said he expects the professional analysis to take "some weeks."

"This is all going to take longer than you think," Greenstock said.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

CHOICE

She said Orr has had several other opportunities to move up the career ladder but stayed in Pampa to raise his children.

Max Whitley, a local parent, said the group he was in was composed mostly of parents who have had children graduate from PHS and who still have children in high school.

"There was nothing said about him but good things," he said. "The meetings were very cor-

dial and candid. His people skills, professionalism, leadership and positive outlook were all stressed."

Ramona Hite with PISD said while she didn't want Orr to leave because of many positive changes he's made in the local school district, she's glad for him to have the opportunity to advance in his chosen profession.

"I never heard him use the word 'problem'," said Hite. "He would always refer to it as 'a challenge to be overcome.' It's really nice to work with someone who is that positive."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

O'NEILL

"Firing its economic team is an overdue admission by the Bush administration that its economic policies have failed," Daschle said in a written statement. "However, the fundamental problem is that this administration has no comprehensive plan to get the economy back on track."

Senate Republican Leader Trent Lott said the departures of O'Neill and Lindsey were "an opportunity for the administration to think about the best people to bring in as they try to develop an economic growth package."

Just after the November elections, White House advisers began speculating that Lindsey and O'Neill would be asked to leave. Bush said at the time: "My economic team came in during very difficult times. There was a recession, terrorist attack, corporate scandals. We have done a lot to return confidence and to provide stimulus through tax cuts ... and for that (the team) deserves a lot of credit."

At the White House, press secretary Ari Fleischer said the president credits O'Neill and Lindsey with playing key roles in securing tax cuts and legislation promoting free trade and guaranteeing terrorism insurance to businesses.

"They have both served the president ably and well in

leading the nation from a period of recession into a period of growth," Fleischer said.

Still, senior White House officials said the men had been told their departures would be welcome because Bush wanted to shake up his economic team.

"It has been a privilege to serve the nation during these challenging times," O'Neill said in a letter to the president. "I thank you for that opportunity."

On Wall Street, market reaction to the dual resignations was muted. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 5 points and the Nasdaq was up 6 points in early afternoon trading.

During his nearly two years as treasury secretary, O'Neill's blunt-speaking style served as a lightning rod for detractors and sometimes could even make his supporters wince.

O'Neill, who left his job as chairman of Alcoa, the world's biggest aluminum maker, to take the Cabinet post, touched off a furor when he said he would keep nearly \$100 million worth of stock in the company. Under fire by critics about potential conflicts of interest, he eventually reversed course and sold the stock.

As the president's chief economic spokesman, he was frequently criticized as being either too enthusiastic about the economy's prospects and the stock market or too ho-hum.

When Wall Street reopened after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, O'Neill turned into an economic cheerleader, predicting on Sept. 17 that the Dow Jones industrial average could be approaching all-time highs within 12 to 18 months.

As the stock market melted down that day, O'Neill declared that "the people who sold will be sorry that they did it." He also pooh-poohed the notion that the economy could be headed into a recession. It was.

Early in his term, O'Neill's mixed comments on the U.S. dollar rattled currency markets and perplexed currency traders. He described traders as people who "sit in front of a flickering green screen" all day and were "not the sort of people you would want to help you think about complex questions."

Still, Bush and his aides defended O'Neill's salty style.

"The president enjoys his blunt, plainspoken approach," Fleischer said last year. Despite the controversies around O'Neill, he said, "the president has never had a moment of concern."

O'Neill called the U.S. income tax code "9,500 pages of gibberish." He roiled the Social Security debate by declaring that the able-bodied should save for their own retirement and medical care.

He criticized international bailouts of Russia as "crazy" and called the European Union "off the wall" for rejecting the General Electric-Honeywell merger.

His take on nuclear accidents: "If you set aside Three Mile Island and Chernobyl, the safety record of nuclear is really very good."

O'Neill also tilted against administration dogma — initially questioning the short-term benefits of the Bush tax cut and advocating an aggressive battle to combat global warming.

"I would say that I am not troubled by ruffling some feathers because I think I have been true to what I believe and what I think is right," O'Neill once said.

A bitter, 15-minute verbal duel between O'Neill and Democratic Sen. Robert Byrd of West Virginia over each man's hand-to-mouth beginnings made front-page headlines. Byrd suggested that O'Neill by virtue of his status as a Cabinet secretary and a former corporate titan was out-of-touch with the needs of the average American.

"I started my life in a house without water or electricity," snapped O'Neill who grew up poor in St. Louis, Mo. "So, I don't cede to you the high moral ground of not knowing what life is like in a ditch."

He started his professional life as a computer systems analyst with the Veterans Administration in 1961.

He climbed the ranks — taking a year off to acquire a Master's degree in public administration at Indiana University. He became deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget in 1974 in the Ford administration.

That's where he met Dick Cheney, who as Bush's vice president suggested O'Neill for the Treasury post, and Alan Greenspan, with whom he forged a lasting friendship.

Ice storm devastates the Carolinas

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Despite round-the-clock repair efforts, more than 1.6 million customers remained without electricity Friday in the Carolinas as ice-laden branches continued to fell power lines.

The icy aftermath of the storm Wednesday and Thursday — which many in the Carolinas compared to recent hurricanes for its scale of destruction — proved worse than the storm itself. And across the East Coast,

snow and ice snarled air travel and kept children home from school.

Friday's forecast called for warmer temperatures in the eastern United States, but utilities struggled to make progress as nighttime temperatures dropped to around freezing.

Carolina Power & Light, which reported 350,000 customers without power Thursday night, had 411,000 in the dark Friday morning.

"The tree limbs are still falling and getting tangled up in our power lines," said Mike McCracken, a spokesman for the Raleigh-based utility. "We've made ground in some areas, but in other locations, we've lost ground."



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Venezuela: Oil exports stop, protesters face off in street

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuela's oil exports ground to a halt and protesters faced off on the streets as prospects dimmed for a peaceful resolution to a strike designed to unseat President Hugo Chavez.

After withstanding three days of the nationwide strike with few visible problems, the world's fifth-largest oil industry descended into chaos Thursday. Captains anchored their tankers offshore, tugs stopped towing and dock crews stopped loading oil and natural gas.

As the crisis deepened, the government said it was ready to restart stalled peace talks. Education Minister Aristobulo Istariz, a government delegate, made the announcement late Thursday.

Acknowledging it couldn't fill orders, Venezuela's state oil monopoly freed buyers and sellers from fulfilling their contracts, said Jorge Kamkoff, a vice president of the company. Crude oil futures at the New York Mercantile Exchange rose as the crisis deepened.

The Energy Ministry admitted for the first time that oil loading was being delayed, but claimed all plants were operative. A top Venezuelan oil official met with representatives of the U.S. Embassy to reassure them about long-term supply.

Chavez vowed to use the military to protect the industry, which accounts for 75 percent of exports and half the government's income.

Both sides warned of violence as Chavez supporters and strikers demonstrated in separate rallies in eastern Caracas. National guard troops blocked roads and bridges between the two demonstrations, preventing clashes.

Violence between the two sides killed 19 people during a similar strike on April 11. Dissident officers deposed Chavez the next day, but loyalists restored him two days later after an interim government abolished the constitution, triggering a popular rebellion.

Resentment over the April revolt still runs deep among Venezuela's polarized people.

"We're living a kind of civil Cold War, because we haven't taken to arms yet, but to move from cold to hot all you need is a single badly aimed gunshot," said political analyst Alfredo Keller. "We are moving toward violent confrontation."

Formal peace talks broke down Monday as the strike began, and even informal negotiations mediated by Cesar Gaviria, secretary general of the Organization of American States, collapsed Wednesday just as the two sides were close to a deal.

The deal would have ended the strike, withdrawn the army from the streets and let courts decide on a proposed referendum over Chavez's presidency, a source close to the talks told The Associated Press.

It wasn't clear when new talks would begin, but opposition leader Manuel Cova called the government's return a sign of desperation.

"The government is returning to the table because it has no other solution," he said.

The oil industry began to come apart Wednesday afternoon, when the captain of a tanker announced he had anchored his ship — complete with 280,000 barrels of gasoline — off the western city of Maracaibo. By Thursday night, at least six other captains had done the same.

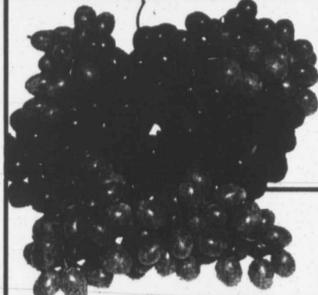
The fate of the Pilin Leon, the tanker that began the rebellion, was unclear. The government said it had seized the ship, but First Pilot Javier Colina said navy officials who boarded told the crew they would look for replacements for the sailors, then left.

Tugboats in Maracaibo Lake, where 1 million barrels of crude are produced daily, joined the strike, refusing to bring ships into port, according to a worker at the largest tugboat company there, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

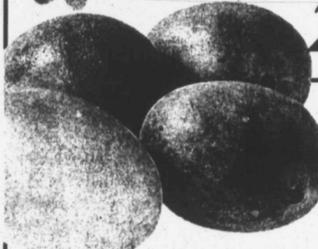
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Hollywood studio shanghai Chinese

SHANGHAI, China (AP) — Universal Studios has reached a preliminary agreement to build a theme park in Shanghai, mainland China's biggest city, the Shanghai government said Friday.

In a written statement, the government called it "an agreement in principle," meaning more negotiations remain ahead. City officials refused to disclose the details.

The Asian Wall Street Journal reported Friday

Plainview to be site of Skatefest 2002

PLAINVIEW — Several bands from across the South Plains will be performing during the 12-hour Skatefest 2002, an event to benefit the Youth Invasion Center in Plainview slated for Saturday, Dec. 7.

The facility contains a half-pipe, fun boxes and many ramps.

The event will begin at noon at the center, located at 109 Broadway in Plainview, and will conclude at midnight. Open skateboarding and rollerblading will be featured from noon to 3 p.m. and again from 5 p.m. to midnight.

A skateboarding competition will be held from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., with practice during the first hour and competition to follow. Only those competing will be allowed to skate at those times.

Bands will be performing throughout the day, beginning with Genuine Article at 2 p.m. Also performing will be Upper Room at 5 p.m., Prodigal at 6 p.m., Felix at 8 p.m., Ruckus and Joe Clay at 9 p.m. and Pure Nickel at 11 p.m.

Admission is \$5 per person, with come-and-go privileges throughout the event. There is no extra charge for the competition. All skaters must wear a helmet. Guests under 18 must have a signed waiver, available at the skate park or at www.youthinvasion.com.

"This event is really just an outreach for the community and it gives kids something to do," said Doug Shelton, event organizer and a volunteer at the center. "We're also hoping to raise lots of money to be able to keep the facility open."

Youth Invasion Center is an outreach ministry of Glad Tidings Worship Center in Plainview.

that the deal could be worth \$870 million. It said Universal will pay \$100 million for a one-third stake, sharing the project with two Chinese government companies. The park could open as soon as 2006, the newspaper said.

An employee at Universal's Shanghai office said managers there were not available for comment.

The announcement appears to open the way for the first international-class theme park in China. It would compete with a new Disneyland scheduled to open in Hong Kong in 2005.

The agreement could give Universal a lead in China's vast market over Disney, which has also reportedly been searching for a mainland theme park site.

Shanghai is an appealing market for foreign investors, with 17 million people and one of China's highest average incomes — about \$1,600 a year.

"Shanghai Universal Studio theme park will be based on many outstanding Hollywood movies, using high technology to let visitors vividly experience for themselves scenes from these movies," the statement said.

Executives from Los Angeles-based Universal, which is owned by France's Vivendi Universal Entertainment, have made repeated visits to China to scout locations in Beijing and the southern city of Shenzhen, as well as Shanghai.

The Shanghai sites were in Pudong, a newly developed district on the eastern edge of the city that is home to futuristic skyscrapers and the city's stock exchange.

One official of the Pudong district government told The Associated Press that the site would take up 2 to 4 square miles, though the Asian Wall Street Journal report said it was less than one square mile. The official refused to give his name.

Universal's Chinese partners will be two city-owned companies — Waigaoqiao Holding Co., a dockyard operator, and Jinjiang Group, which runs another amusement park near Shanghai.

The Shanghai park would be Universal's second in Asia, after one in Osaka, Japan. The company also operates parks in Florida, California and Spain and has said is considering one in Germany.

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Hi-Land Christian to honor pastor for decade of service

Members of Hi-Land Christian Church of Pampa announce a reception for the their pastor Mike Sublett and his family to celebrate 10 years of service from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Saturday, Dec. 7, in the Hi-land Christian Church Fellowship Hall, 1615 N. Banks.

Everyone is invited to come by and wish the Subletts continued blessings and good wishes.

Ten years ago, a trip to college for their daughter became a life changing experience for the entire family.

In August 1992, Mike Sublett, his wife Shari and their family — Christina, Jeff and Chad — left Ontario, Ore., to visit Shari's family in Pampa and to enroll their daughter Christina in college in Oklahoma City.

Deborah Ferrell, Shari's sister, always enjoyed visits with her sister's family. She had been praying for years to have her sister close again. If Mike were to find a church in Texas, they could be together more often and share the joys, and trials raising their families.

Well, the time was right and the stage was set. Hi-Land Christian Church (HCC) was in the process of hiring a

new minister. While Mike and Shari were in town, HCC discovered that the man they had selected to call as preacher had already accepted a position at another church. So the search process had to be started again.

Deborah knew Mike was looking for a new position and considering changing denominations. She asked him if he would consider preaching at HCC that Sunday night. He agreed and the church listened. The church board met with Mike and before he left town they agreed that he would take the job as minister of Hi-Land Christian Church.

Mike and Shari experienced many emotions about the move but were willing to follow God's leading and allow Him to direct their steps. They were thrilled they would be close to Christina while she went to school and that Jeff and Chad would get to know their grandparents on a closer basis and enjoy their cousins. They were a little apprehensive about coming back to their hometown after having been away for so long.

Mike would begin his ministry here the last week in November 1992. Shari, Jeff and Chad stayed in Oregon, so Shari could continue working



(Courtesy photo) Mike Sublett, pastor of Hi-Land Christian Church, is being honored for his 10 years of service there.

while the boys finished the school semester. The plan was for Mike to bring the majority of their belongings with him at Thanksgiving and then he and Christina would go back for Christmas in Oregon.

Then the entire family would arrive in Pampa in January.

On his way from Oregon that November there was a terrible blizzard and he was stranded in New Mexico for two days. Christina and her

Aunt Deborah stayed up most of the night anxiously waiting to hear from him. God's hand was on Mike, and he was protected and kept safe. He arrived in Pampa and preached for the congregation of Hi-Land Christian Church on Nov. 29, 1992.

Since then Christina has graduated from Oklahoma Christian University with a secondary education degree, married a preacher, and produced Mike and Shari's first grandchild, Zachary Michael Mearse.

Jeff, graduated from Pampa High School, attended one year at Oklahoma Christian University, and currently works and lives in Los Angeles.

Chad graduated from Pampa Academy of Christian Education (PACE) and still works and lives in Pampa.

When Mike and Shari left Pampa to attend White's Ferry Road School of Preaching in West Monroe, La., they never considered or imagined they would return to the town of their high school alma mater.

Pampa once again became home for the Subletts, after living in Louisiana, Kansas, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Florida and Oregon. They have re-adjusted well to the

laid-back life in the Texas Panhandle without much difficulty (except when Mike roots too loud for the Denver Broncos).

Over the past 10 years Mike has been coach and assistant coach for the PACE girls basketball team, has been the president of the PACE school board and now serves as a member of that board. He also is currently serving as their athletics director and is the travel plans coordinator for their annual student conventions.

Mike was actively involved in the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs in both Florida and Oregon. He was an integral part in establishing the CASA program in Pampa, working as a member of the steering committee. He served as the first president of the Pampa CASA Board of Directors in 1994 and has been a CASA volunteer since its inception.

Shari is a vital part of Mike's ministry and supports him in his call. She works at Dunlap's Department Store. When opportunities arise you can find Shari (Mike too, when time allows) making a trip to Oklahoma City to spend time with Christina, Adam and Zachary.

RELIGION IN BRIEF

Foundation gives 39 church colleges \$76.8 million to overcome clergy shortages

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Lilly Endowment is granting \$76.8 million to 39 church-related U.S. colleges, Protestant and Catholic, to help overcome growing clergy shortages.

The grants support campus programs that encourage students to consider clergy careers or related forms of service. Over three years, Lilly has granted \$171.3 million to 88 schools.

The foundation "is focused heavily on attracting a new generation of talented ministers for congregations," said Lilly's vice president for religion, Craig Dykstra.

Lilly, the largest religion grant-maker among U.S. foundations, gave \$30,000 each to 135 congregations for clergy to take leaves for renewal programs.

After centuries of escaping destruction, Sarajevo's Haggadah finds a new home

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — It survived the Spanish Inquisition, the Bosnian war and the ravages of time. Now a 600-year-old Jewish manuscript, one of Bosnia's most prized artifacts, is on public display for the first time.

Handwritten on calfskin, the 109-page Passover ritual text was a 14th century wedding present in Spain, which then had a thriving Jewish community. When Spain expelled its Jews in 1492, a refugee took it to Italy. Eventually it ended up in Bosnia and was sold to Sarajevo's National Museum.

During World War II, a Roman Catholic museum director and his Muslim colleague spirited the prized manuscript away from Nazis who wanted to confiscate it. In 1992, during Bosnia's war, a museum official braved Serbian sniper fire to rescue the text.

Now, through efforts of the United Nations Trust Fund, it is on permanent display in the National Museum, in a climate-controlled room alongside Orthodox Christian and Muslim manuscripts.

"That's proof that here not only we can live together, but we used to live together for centuries and hope to continue to live together," said Jakob Finci, head of the country's Jewish community.

German close to the pope is chosen dean of the College of Cardinals

VATICAN CITY (AP) — The Vatican's top theologian, German Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, has been chosen dean of the College of Cardinals, replacing Cardinal Bernardin Gantin, 80, who wants to return to his homeland of Benin.

The title, mainly honorary, makes Ratzinger, 75, a kind of first among equals in the college that elects the pope. Ratzinger continues as head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Vatican office that protects doctrinal orthodoxy.

Christmas pageant takes audience back 2,000 years

AMARILLO — Paramount Terrace Christian Church's annual Christmas pageant at the Civic Center auditorium has established itself as one of the premiere family-oriented holiday traditions in the tri-state area.

The Christmas pageant portrays the true meaning of Christmas by telling the life story of Jesus Christ with the spectacular use of music and drama. Dramatic lighting and special effects enhance the audience's experience, but it is the simple message of the love,

forgiveness and acceptance that Christ brought to this world that touches their hearts and soul. The pageant takes the audience back 2,000 years to experience the life of Christ.

Featuring new music and a completely new script every year, the Pageant always remains fresh and exciting. This year the pageant, "Unconditional Love," is told from the viewpoint of Mr. Thompson, a terminally ill patient, and a hospital volunteer who befriends him and helps him

through the most difficult time of his life.

This year's presentations are Friday, Dec. 20, through Monday, Dec. 23. Evening presentations are at 7:30 p.m. with Saturday and Sunday afternoon matinees at 3 p.m.

Tickets are free from the Music Ministry Office at the east entrance of the church at 4000 Mays Ave. For more information, call the Music Ministry office at (806) 353-6615.

www.ChristmasPageant.com

Church with largest angel museum spared destruction

BELOIT, Wis. (AP) — A small museum that sits on the banks of the Rock River in southern Wisconsin is a heavenly spot for angel lovers.

The Beloit Angel Museum features more than 7,500 angel statues displayed wing-to-wing in a former Roman Catholic church that was spared destruction so it could house the figures.

They come in an amazing variety. There are angels made of resin, porcelain, drinking straws, pasta, coal, tin, ceramic, wood, papier mache, stained glass, pine cones, cornhusks, wax, clothes pins and seal skin. One was made from a dried apple.

There's a firefighter angel, a hunter, nurse, pilot, doctor, bride and groom. One angel is tipsy, another is a bobble-head doll and some are even posing with devils.

Others double as bells, candles, candle holders, vases, smoke alarms, coasters, lip-stick holders, pencil sharpeners and salt and pepper shakers.

The display has made the Guinness Book of World Records and includes angels

from around the globe: Oprah Winfrey donated a collection of black angels.

In a sense, the angels saved the 98-year-old building where they are housed from being demolished.

"What I believe in my heart is the collection happened, the museum happened and it was something that was supposed to happen," said Joyce Berg, 71, who started the collection with her husband, Lowell, in 1976.

Their first two angels came from a Florida antique store.

"As we got involved it snowballed. They just were so sweet and we got caught up in the many, many different kinds there were," Joyce Berg said. "It became a passion and it became our hobby."

The couple used to take about three vacations a year and would buy angels as souvenirs from angel conventions, antique malls or flea markets. They once came home with 165 angels.

The entire collection originally was displayed in their four-bedroom ranch house in Beloit, about 65 miles southwest of Milwaukee, but that

became challenging — the Bergs had to remove doors and install shelves to display all the figures.

In July 1994, while out driving, they noticed St. Paul Catholic Church along the Rock River.

"When we drove past, the doors were open. ... The sun was shining right on them. It was like they jumped right out because they were so noticeable," Joyce Berg said.

The parish was closed in 1988 after the death of its longtime pastor, and the Bergs learned the church was scheduled to be demolished in eight months if it wasn't put to good use.

The Bergs contacted the church's former parishioners, and submitted a museum plan

to city officials, who approved it.

The church, now a historical landmark, was renovated with community development block grants, fund-raisers and volunteer help. The city owns the church and charges the museum \$1 a year for rent.

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Friday, December 6, 2002

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanna Phillips

Teen Tries to Distance Herself From Friend She Can't Avoid

DEAR ABBY: I am a 13-year-old girl in the eighth grade. My problem is a girl in my class, "Angie" thinks she's my best friend. We met in fourth grade, and I felt sorry for her because she didn't have any friends, so I let her hang out with me.

It didn't take long to learn why no one liked her. Angie is insulting, rude, lies, and can't have a conversation without saying something negative about someone else. Avoiding her isn't an option. We live within walking distance of each other, ride the same bus and are involved in many of the same after-school activities.

I have come right out and told Angie to leave me alone, but she thought I was kidding, and I couldn't convince her I was serious. She knows other kids, so I don't see why she can't leave me alone. My friends think it would be a good idea to get her to stop following me around, but no one knows how to tell her to buzz off without being mean.

Please help me, Abby. I want to make the rest of my school year a good one.

SUPER-ANNOYED EIGHTH GRADER

DEAR SUPER-ANNOYED: Talk to Angie privately. She lacks good judgment. You will be doing her a favor to tell her exactly what you have written me. First list the characteristics you like about her, then list the ones that have made you withdraw. Angie needs to under-

stand so she can modify her behavior. You seem to be a nice young lady. Remember that we all have our faults, and give her room — and time — to mature.

DEAR ABBY: A long time ago I promised myself I would wait until I found the right girl before having sex. The "right girl" for me is one who will love me as much as I love her, is easy to talk to, shares similar interests and has respect for herself. As I get older, I'm finding out that not many girls fill those requirements. I don't date much because every girl I think about going out with, I come to find out has slept with a bunch of guys.

It upsets me that in today's world, sex is no longer viewed as something to be shared between two people in love, but as something that just goes along with casual relationships. When I look at the relationships of my friends, I find they are not happy. Most of them don't trust their partners — and for good reason. After the first few dates, if I make no moves beyond some heavy kissing, the relationship seems to grow distant. I am now 23 and worried I won't ever find the right girl for me.

Are my expectations too high?

LOSING HOPE IN SARDIS, OHIO

DEAR LOSING HOPE: Certainly not. It appears you're looking for love in all the wrong places. You won't catch a trout if you're fishing in a herring barrel.

To find a girl whose values mirror your own, an excellent place to look would be a faith-based singles group. Your spiritual adviser can tell you how to find one. I'm sure many young women will appreciate you for who you are once you find them.

CONFIDENTIAL TO MY MUSLIM READERS: Happy Id al-Fitr.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanna 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.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included).

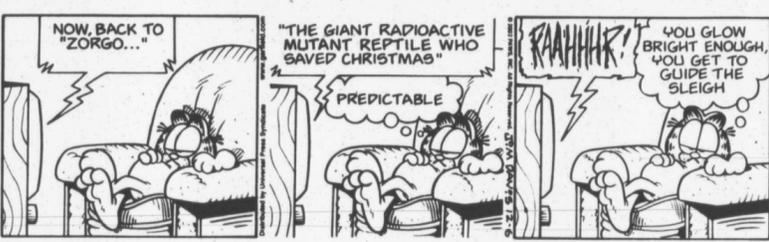
For Better or For Worse



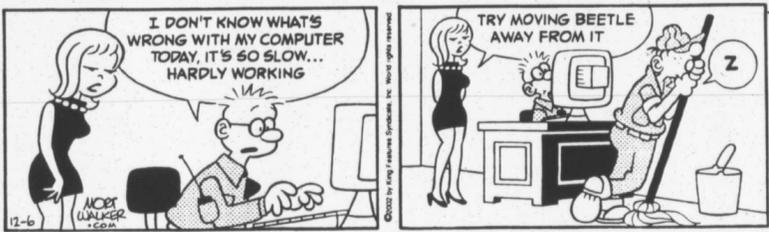
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Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

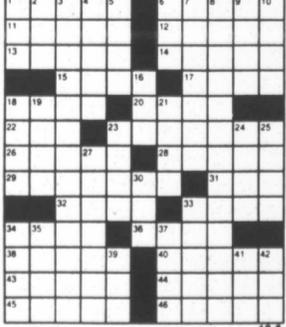
- 1 From Cork, e.g.
- 2 Scoundrel
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- 7 Single issue
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- 9 Sitar's cousin
- 10 Luge
- 16 Word of cheer
- 18 Rosary item
- 23 Selects
- 26 Texas landmark
- 28 Watch
- 29 Bad point
- 31 Sara or Farrow
- 32 Verve
- 33 Sugar source
- 34 Rum cake
- 36 Maintain
- 38 Without help
- 40 Close at hand
- 43 Laundry challenge
- 44 Stones song
- 45 Reviled
- 46 Watermelon waste

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Yesterday's answer

- 19 Key
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- 23 Mrs.
- 24 Buffalo's lake
- 25 Chair
- 27 Scarlett's friend
- 30 Pen contents
- 33 Designer
- 34 Big do
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- 37 Historic times
- 39 Terminus
- 41 Performed
- 42 Agreeable

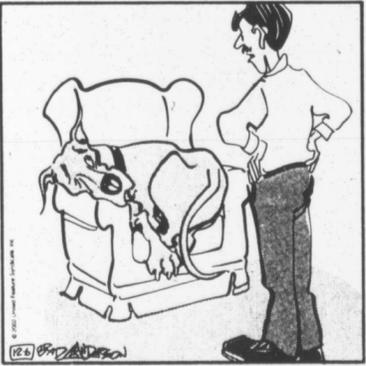
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B.C.



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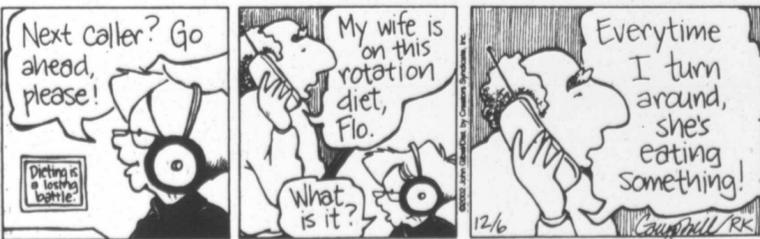
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SPORTS

Franchione introduced as Texas A&M coach

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — The Coach Fran era officially began Friday at Texas A&M with the introduction of new Aggies coach Dennis Franchione.

"It's an exciting time to be here because of the commitment we have to compete at the highest level," Franchione said during a morning news conference.

Franchione agreed to a six-year deal, said Benton Cocanougher, special assistant to Texas A&M President Robert Gates. Details still had to be worked out, but Franchione will receive a salary between \$1.5 million and \$2 million annually, Cocanougher said.

Franchione returns to

Texas after leading the Crimson Tide to a 10-3 finish this season.

However, the team was not bowl eligible because of NCAA sanctions for infractions before his arrival. Before Alabama, Franchione went 25-11 at TCU from 1998 to 2000.

Franchione leaves a contract at Alabama that ran through 2007 and was worth \$1.1 million per season plus incentives. Alabama offered Franchione a 10-year deal reportedly worth \$15 million, for an annual raise of about \$400,000.

"I'm coming here for a lot of reasons," Franchione said. "Tradition and history is certainly a part of that. It's been 21 years I believe since Texas A&M has had a losing

season. That's exciting to me because it's my first time to take one over that has a foundation in place and not coming off a losing season and in 30 years of coaching that's a nice way to get started. I'm certainly ready for that," he said.

A&M board of regents chairman Erle Nye said he celebrated with Gates and other regents Thursday when they learned that Franchione would join the Aggies.

"We think he's special," Nye said. "We think he brings some new perspective to add to a really strong program. I think (change) is healthy. Testing new ideas and having new perspectives is good."

Franchione's hiring ends a busy week at A&M that

started Monday with Slocum's dismissal. The Aggies finished a 6-6 season last week with a 50-20 loss to Texas.

Tuesday, A&M hired former Nebraska athletic director Bill Byrne to replace Wally Groff, who was asked to resign.

Nye praised Slocum for handing his successor a clean, well-run program.

"We made great strides under Coach Slocum," Nye said. "R.C. brought us all this, and I think Coach Fran will do the same and we will go forward."

Earlier in the week there were signs that Franchione was on his way out of Alabama. He canceled speaking engagements Wednesday night in

Columbus, Ga., and Thursday in Montgomery, Ala.

The departure shocked Alabama players and fans, and athletic director Mal Moore, who hired Franchione two years ago.

"It's a shock to all of us, of course, a great loss," Moore said.

Tailback Ahmaad Galloway said the Tide players "are extremely hurt, about as hurt as you can be."

"A lot of guys paid the price and stayed here, but Coach Fran had a decision to make," said Galloway, a senior. "It's a decision that I can never understand or anybody else. When we all lay our heads down at night, we just pray that he made the best decision."

NOTEBOOK

BASKETBALL

WACO, Texas (AP) — Six players scored in double-digits as Baylor trounced Arkansas-Pine Bluff 104-38 on Thursday night.

Melanie Hamerly had 16 points, Sophia Young had 15, Steffanie Blackmon had 13, Jordan Davis scored 11 and Jessica Stratton and Stasha Richards added 10 points apiece for Baylor (6-1).

Stratton hit the go-ahead basket with 18:52 in the first half.

The Lady Bears extended their lead to 45-9 at the half.

Arkansas Pine-Bluff (1-2) only managed 19 percent shooting for the game, compared to 58 percent for Baylor.

Meanwhile, Baylor made 80 percent of its 3-pointers while Arkansas-Pine Bluff hit just 17 percent from beyond the 3-point line.

Nikki Mooney had 11 points for Arkansas-Pine Bluff. Maleka Sweat added seven.

OBITUARIES

NEW YORK (AP) — Roone Arledge, a pioneering television executive at ABC News and Sports responsible for creating shows from "Monday Night Football" to "Nightline," died. He was 71.

The cause of death was complications from cancer, ABC News reported.

CARVERVILLE, Pa. (AP) — Bernard E. "Barney" Berlinger, who earned the prestigious Sullivan Award as the nation's best all-around athlete in 1931, has died of heart failure. He was 94.

A member of the 1928 U.S. Olympic team, Berlinger set numerous track records while at the University of Pennsylvania.

GOLF

PAMPA — The PHS golf team will be extending its ticket sales for the 2003 Ford Ranger Edge pickup truck until Dec. 23. Due to the cancellation of the varsity basketball game Dec. 3, the drawing for the truck will be held at halftime of the varsity basketball game Jan. 2.

Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased from any golf team member, or by calling David Teichmann at Hidden Hills (669-5866), or Donetta Conn (669-3834).

Ticket purchases are tax-deductible and proceeds will go to the high school golf program.

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — Jim Furyk picked his spots at Sherwood Country Club and avoided costly mistakes on his way to an 8-under 64 to take a one-stroke lead in the Target World Challenge.

Nick Price and Padraig Harrington were at 65 after playing without a bogey, but Tiger Woods (68) and Davis Love III (66) went eight consecutive holes without a par.

Flashback

2000: Pampa shut out Randall 31-0 in high school football.

Quarterback J.J. Roark sparked the Harvesters with two touchdown passes to Jesse Tarango (45 yards) and Luis Salazar (9 yards).

Tarango also scored on a 9-yard run.

Pampa wins in OT

CANYON — Pampa advanced to the semi-finals of the Gene Messer Tournament of Champions with an 85-76 overtime win Thursday over Burkburnett.

Pampa meets Canyon at 6 tonight in the WT Fieldhouse. Canyon edged Summit 59-56, also in overtime, in first-round action.

Chance Bowers tossed in 24 points to lead the Harvesters in the win over Burkburnett. Ryan Zemanek, fresh off the football field, followed with 17 points.

The Harvesters outscored their opponents 13-4 in the overtime period.

Willie Fannon led Burkburnett with 20 points and Eric Castillo added 19.

MIAMI — Fort Elliott opened the Tomahawk Classic with a 72-44 win over Shamrock on Thursday in the boys' division.

Kade Zybach was Fort Elliott's high scorer with 17 points. J.R. Kirkland led Shamrock with 12.

Tomahawk Classic Boys Division First Round

Pampa JV 75, Hedley 66
P-Rogers 28; H-Conester 24.

Wheeler 49, Borger JV 48,
W-Spikes 11, Watts 11; B-Barr 11, Cole 11.

Spearman 81, Samnorwood 11
Sp-Kevin Beedy 11, Colton Miller 11; Sa-Jeff Hammond 9.

Follett 73, McLean 36
F-Tanner Woods 19, M-Wallis 8.

Miami 58, Adrian 50
M-Jeffrey Browning 18, A-Reid 18.

Channing 52, Booker 31
C-Grant 26; B-Sena 14.

Girls Division First Round

Hedley 132, Pampa JV 37
H-Bennett 31, P-Callie Cobb 13.

Wheeler 74, Borger JV 35
W-Finsterwald 16; B-Dara Fleming 10.

Kafelnikov not ready to retire despite earlier vow

MOSCOW (AP) — Yevgeny Kafelnikov isn't quite ready to quit.

The two-time Grand Slam tournament champion said Friday he's putting off a decision on whether to retire, even though he said repeatedly that he would walk away if Russia won the Davis Cup.

Russia defeated defending champion France 3-2 last weekend to win the title for the first time. The 28-year-old Kafelnikov lost both of his matches in the final, and was replaced by a younger teammate for the deciding singles match.

Kafelnikov had surgery on a leg vein after the final.

Speaking at a ceremony where he and the other Davis Cup team members were feted Friday, Kafelnikov said he will

High School Basketball

Spearman 95, Samnorwood 23

Sa-Skaggs, points not reported; Sp-Gillespie, points not reported.

Follett 85, McLean 30
F-Cates 22; M-Steel 12.

Miami 51, Adrian 31
M-Walker 9; A-Hutchison 11.

Booker 49, Channing 19
Booker-James 14, Brooks 14; C-Miranda 8.

Lefors 54, Wellington 46
L-Stubbs 12; W-Needham 18.

NAZARETH — The White Deer girls opened the Nazareth Tournament by downing Claude 44-40 Thursday.

Ashley Davis tossed in 17 points to lead White Deer scorers. Valarie Griffith followed with 14.

Claude led 21-17 at halftime.

Claude's top scorer was Melissa Strawn with 11 points. Kendra Skarke had 8.

In the boys' division, White Deer dropped a 72-52 decision to Lipan.

Brandon had 20 points for Lipan.

Brian Knocke paced White Deer with 23 points. Rufus Estrada added 10.

VEGA — Happy defeated Groom 73-54 in first-round girls' action Thursday at the Vega Tournament.

Happy's Brittany Spralging poured in 32 points.

Malorie Homan had 20 points and Amanda Conrad 19 for Groom.

Vega downed Groom 48-36 in the boys' division.

David Martinez had 15 points to lead Vega.

Cody Babcock had 12 points and Lance Ollinger 8 for the Tigers.

try to get back in shape.

"The injury and the surgery which I had may affect my decision to continue or not," Kafelnikov said. "Too little time has passed since Sunday's final, so I haven't had enough time to think it over, weigh pros and cons."

He won the 1996 French Open and the 1999 Australian Open and was briefly ranked No. 1 in 1999.

He had a rocky 2002, with a 34-26 match record. He lost in the second round at the Australian Open, French Open and U.S. Open, and in the third round at Wimbledon.

After losing at the U.S. Open in August, Kafelnikov said that winning the Davis Cup would mean there "would be nothing to accomplish for me."

Hot Shot winners



(Courtesy photo)

Second grade winners in this year's Lamar Hot Shot contest were (from left) **Girls Division:** 1. Arin Rice; 2. Tracy Winters; 3. Breshawna Johnson; **Boys Division:** 1. Jordan Lemons; 2. Drew Facio; 3. Timothy Smith. The contest was held at the Pampa High School MPAC Building.

OU, Buffaloes are ready for their Big 12 rematch

HOUSTON (AP) — Throw out the history for this matchup, because what's happened over the season won't matter to Colorado and Oklahoma when they meet Saturday night in the Big 12 Conference championship game.

At least, that's Oklahoma coach Bob Stoop's opinion.

When Oklahoma capitalized on Colorado's mistakes and took a 27-11 victory on Nov. 2, Colorado coach Gary Barnett thought his team gave the Sooners too many breaks and felt the Buffaloes could do better in a rematch.

"I don't know that it much matters," Stoops said. "They've got to play us twice, too. You make your adjustments — they'll make some, we'll make some — try to make some changes and go after it again."

"They'll have a good feel for us, we've got a good feel for them, so in that way it's a little different. But you go out and have at it again, see what you can do."

Colorado (9-3, 7-1 in Big 12) and Oklahoma (10-2, 6-2) are playing for bigger stakes than in their regular season meeting.

Colorado coach will remind his team how they lost against Oklahoma the first time by giving the Sooners three short drives to touchdowns.

"We get to play a team that beat us. It couldn't be set up any better for us," Barnett said. "In that regard, you go back and look at the first time we played and we felt like we really played well on defense. The dif-

ference was of course the turnovers.

"Oklahoma was better than we were and special teams played better than we did on special teams."

Colorado clinched the Big 12 North title with a 41-27 victory over Iowa State on Nov. 16, joining Nebraska as the only repeat champions in the North.

They followed that with a 28-13 victory over the Cornhuskers.

The Buffaloes beat Nebraska without unanimous All-Big 12 running back Chris Brown, who also will miss Saturday's game with a bruised sternum.

Freshman Brian Calhoun stepped in and gained 137 yards and will get plenty of playing time against Colorado.

"I knew I had it in me, but I didn't know when I was going to do it," Calhoun said. "That's the biggest thing. Every player is going to be great when they just play a great game like Nebraska, I'm just happy that I came out playing like that and had a total team win."

Beating Nebraska with Brown out and running back Bobby Purify hobbled, gave Colorado confidence.

"I knew that I couldn't let up at all. I had to do something to make up for it," quarterback Robert Hodge said. "Fortunately Calhoun stepped up and played great. I know there is going to be times this week when it's going to be third and long or whatever and people are going to be looking at me to step up and make a play and throw it up the field."

The Sooners reached the title game with losses in unexpected

places, first the struggling Texas Aggies and in their last game to rival Oklahoma State, playing better this season, but not expected to beat Oklahoma in successive years.

"We're mad at ourselves because we feel that we could have played better, but we didn't," defensive back Brandon Shelby said. "That's what happens when you don't prepare yourself to play at a high level in the Big 12. You're capable of getting beat by anybody."

The title game is being played in new Reliant Stadium, home of the NFL expansion Houston Texans.

Nutt going to Alabama

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. (AP) — Arkansas football coach Houston Nutt, preparing his team for an appearance Saturday in the Southeastern Conference championship game, says he's had no official contact with Alabama, where officials are looking for a new coach.

Alabama coach Dennis Franchione on Thursday accepted an offer from Texas A&M to take the place of R.C. Slocum, fired Monday after a 6-6 season. At Alabama, Franchione's team went 10-3 this year, his second in the helm of the Crimson Tide.

But Alabama wasn't eligible for a post-season game because the program is on NCAA probation because of recruiting violations before Franchione arrived.

7th graders play Canyon

PAMPA — Pampa met Canyon in girls' 7th grade basketball action earlier this week.

Pampa lost the A game by the score of 45-14.

Scoring for Pampa were Jasmine Moore 6 points, Stephanie Polasek 4, Kathryn Cree 3 and Krishna Henderson 1. Top rebounders were Polasek, Sara Foster and Haili Kotara with 6 each. Trisha Moore and Kayla Mendoza had 2 each and Krishna Henderson 1.

Polasek, Foster and Kotara each had 4 blocked shots, and Henderson 1.

The score in the B team game was 37-9, Canyon's favor.

Pampa players who scored were Emily Woodruff 3 points, Kambra Jimenez 2, Ashley Price 2 and Layce Beesley 2. Rebounders were Logan McDonald with 6, Ashley Price 3, Meagan Crawford 3, Emily Woodruff 2, Layce Beesley 2, Kristen Dunn 2, Kambra Jimenez 1 and Sarah Smith 1. McDonald had a blocked shot.

Pampa hosts Plainview at 5 p.m. Monday for 7th and 8th grade games.

Baseball in brief

NEW YORK (AP) — For more than a decade, Tom Glavine helped put the Atlanta Braves on top. Now, he'll try to topple them.

Glavine, the most sought-after pitcher on the free-agent market, reached agreement with the New York Mets for a three-year contract worth \$35 million.

NEW YORK (AP) — Robin Ventura took a \$3.25 million payout to stay with the New York Yankees. He passed a physical and finalized a \$5 million, one-year contract.

FORT COLLINS, Colo. (AP) — Colorado Rockies pitcher Shawn Chacon was arrested for allegedly hitting a man in the face with a beer bottle during a bar scuffle.

Chacon, 24, faces a charge of third-degree assault, police said. He is scheduled to appear in court Dec. 23 and could be sentenced to up to 18 months in prison and a \$5,000 fine if convicted.

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The Cincinnati Reds and San Diego Padres agreed to trade Ken Griffey Jr. for Phil Nevin last weekend but the deal died when Nevin wouldn't waive his no-trade clause.

DETROIT (AP) — Comerica Park will not be quite so cavernous next season.

The Detroit Tigers are reducing the distance from home plate to the left-center field wall from 395 to 370 feet, where it had been in the ballpark's first three seasons.

SCOREBOARD

BOWLING

Harvester Lanes League Results

Chamber Merchants League (Week 9)

Team	Won	Lost
Fluid Compressor Corp.	4	0
Jernigan Tax Service	4	0
Misfits	3	1
Jake's Bunch	3	1
Team Four	1	3
Coney Island	1	3
Frank's Thriftway	0	4
Pressure	0	4

Week's Top Scores

Men
High scratch game: Terry Ellis 211; High scratch series: Terry Ellis 576; High handicap game: Terry Ellis 234; High handicap series: Terry Ellis 645.

Women
High scratch game: Angie Simmons 191; High scratch series: Jo Jo Hicks 525; High handicap game: Angie Simmons 236; High handicap series: Jo Jo Hicks 660.

Senior League (Week 8)

Team	Won	Lost
Jernigan Tax Service	23	9
Metamucil Maulers	23	9
Team Two	18	14
Ma's Funtime	17	15

Week's Top Scores

Men
High scratch game: Andy Anderson 224; High scratch series: Andy Anderson 621; High handicap game: Charlie Martin 262; High handicap series: Charlie Martin 716.

Women
High scratch game: Ruth Swearingim 199; High scratch series: Ruth Swearingim 513; High handicap game: Ruth Swearingim 238; High handicap series: Ruth Swearingim 630.

HOCKEY

Central Hockey League At A Glance

By The Associated Press

NORTHERN CONFERENCE

Northeast Division

Team	W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
Memphis	13	7	1	27	67	55
Indianapolis	8	4	5	21	42	44
Bossier-Shreveport	6	9	4	16	57	66
Fort Worth	5	11	2	12	43	71

Northwest Division

Team	W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
Tulsa	18	3	0	36	77	45
Oklahoma City	12	6	1	25	69	60
Amarillo	8	8	0	16	37	46
Wichita	4	10	6	14	69	91

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE

Southeast Division

Team	W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
Austin	15	2	1	31	56	30
Laredo	11	6	2	24	76	62
Corpus Christi	9	10	0	18	62	66
San Angelo	8	15	0	16	69	93

Southwest Division

Team	W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
Odessa	13	5	3	29	61	46
Lubbock	9	5	4	22	51	38
New Mexico	10	9	1	21	64	65
El Paso	5	13	1	11	49	71

Note: One point for loss in overtime or shootout. Overtime or shootout losses are only denoted in the OTL column, not the loss column.

Thursday's Game

Corpus Christi 4, San Angelo 2

Friday's Games

Tulsa at Indianapolis
El Paso at Odessa
Fort Worth at Bossier-Shreveport
San Angelo at Corpus Christi
Wichita at Memphis
Amarillo at Austin
Lubbock at Laredo
New Mexico at Oklahoma City

Saturday's Games

Tulsa at Indianapolis
Laredo at Lubbock
San Angelo at Odessa
Memphis at Bossier-Shreveport
Corpus Christi at Fort Worth
El Paso at New Mexico
Austin at Amarillo
Oklahoma City at Wichita

Sunday's Game

Indianapolis at Memphis

National Hockey League At A Glance

By The Associated Press

ALL TIMES EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

Team	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	14	6	1	2	31	60	50
Philadelphia	12	6	6	1	31	61	56
N.Y. Rangers	12	12	4	1	29	78	92
Pittsburgh	11	7	3	3	28	76	68
N.Y. Islanders	9	13	3	0	21	64	82

Northeast Division

Team	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	17	4	3	1	38	86	56
Ottawa	13	7	4	0	30	69	55
Toronto	12	11	2	0	26	76	67
Montreal	10	10	4	1	25	65	80
Buffalo	5	14	4	1	15	52	67

Southeast Division

Team	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	13	8	3	2	31	83	72
Carolina	12	8	4	3	31	68	66
Florida	8	8	6	4	26	67	81
Washington	11	13	2	0	24	67	76
Arlington	7	14	1	2	17	68	92

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

Team	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	15	7	3	1	34	81	63
St. Louis	14	7	3	1	32	86	64
Chicago	11	11	3	0	25	56	57
Columbus	9	12	2	2	22	73	78
Nashville	5	12	4	4	18	53	71

Northwest Division

Team	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	16	6	4	0	36	80	62
Minnesota	13	7	6	1	33	69	58
Edmonton	12	9	4	1	29	67	65
Colorado	8	7	8	3	27	66	64
Calgary	7	13	4	3	21	55	80

Pacific Division

Team	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	16	6	5	1	38	91	57
Los Angeles	10	8	4	3	27	68	67

Anaheim	9	9	6	3	27	62	71
San Jose	9	12	2	2	22	70	79
Phoenix	8	13	4	2	22	65	86

Two points for a win, one point for a tie and overtime loss.

Wednesday's Games

Buffalo 4, Anaheim 0
Florida 4, Carolina 2
Vancouver 3, New Jersey 2, OT
Chicago 1, Ottawa 0
Dallas 5, Montreal 1

Thursday's Games

Boston 4, Atlanta 3, OT
Tampa Bay 3, Edmonton 2
Ottawa 2, St. Louis 2, tie
Detroit 5, Phoenix 3
Philadelphia 3, N.Y. Rangers 2, OT
Minnesota 1, Calgary 1, tie
Nashville 3, Los Angeles 2

Friday's Games

Florida at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Washington, 7 p.m.
Buffalo at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Toronto at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Anaheim at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Detroit at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Montreal at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Columbus at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games

Tampa Bay at Boston, 1 p.m.
St. Louis at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Washington at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Carolina at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Edmonton at Florida, 7:30 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.
Montreal at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
Minnesota at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Nashville at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Columbus at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Boston at N.Y. Rangers, 1 p.m.
Edmonton at Atlanta, 5 p.m.
St. Louis at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Nashville at Anaheim, 8 p.m.

FOOTBALL

National Football League At A Glance

By The Associated Press

ALL TIMES EST

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Miami	7	5	0	.583	287	228
New England	7	5	0	.583	303	251
Buffalo	6	6	0	.500	315	338
N.Y. Jets	6	6	0	.500	255	269

South

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	8	4	0	.667	257	206
Tennessee	7	5	0	.583	275	287
Jacksonville	5	7	0	.417	256	231
Houston	3	9	0	.250	157	288

North

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	7	4	1	.625	303	269
Baltimore	6	6	0	.500	224	250
Cleveland	6	6	0	.500	262	243
Cincinnati	1	11	0	.083	204	335

West

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Oakland	8	4	0	.667	354	258
San Diego	8	4	0	.667	263	265
Denver	7	5	0	.583	295	266
Kansas City	6	6	0	.500	370	312

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	9	3	0	.750	320	187
N.Y. Giants	6	6	0	.500	202	217
Dallas	5	7	0	.417	166	214
Washington	5	7	0	.417	219	280

South

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Tampa Bay	9	3	0	.750	325	250
Atlanta	8	3	1	.708	316	211
New Orleans	8	4	0	.667	345	301
Carolina	4	8	0	.333	158	221

North

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Green Bay	9	3	0	.750	325	250
Chicago	3	9	0	.250	238	300
Detroit	3	9	0	.250	215	331
Minnesota	3	9	0	.250	278	332

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

West

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Francisco	8	4	0	.667	285	259
St. Louis	5	7	0	.417	235	242
Arizona	4	8	0	.333	190	313
Seattle	4	8	0	.333	244	280

Sunday's Games

Houston at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at Dallas, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Washington, 1 p.m.
Buffalo at New England, 1 p.m.
St. Louis at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
Cincinnati at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.
Philadelphia at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.
New Orleans at Baltimore, 4:05 p.m.
Denver at N.Y. Jets, 4:15 p.m.
Oakland at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.
Minnesota at Green Bay, 8:30 p.m.

Monday's Game

Chicago at Miami, 9 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 15

Seattle at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
San Diego at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
New York Jets at Chicago, 1 p.m.
Jacksonville at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Detroit, 1 p.m.
Baltimore at Houston, 1 p.m.
Oakland at Miami, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at New Orleans, 1 p.m.
Washington at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Carolina at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Kansas City at Denver, 4:05 p.m.
Dallas at New York Giants, 4:15 p.m.
Green Bay at San Francisco, 4:15 p.m.

Arizona at St. Louis, 8:30 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 16
New England at Tennessee, 9 p.m.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association At A Glance

By The Associated Press

ALL TIMES EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	15	4	.789	—
Boston	12	6	.667	2 1/2
New Jersey	12	7	.632	3
Orlando	11	8	.579	4
Washington	8	10	.444	6 1/2
New York	5	11	.313	8 1/2
Miami	5	13	.278	9 1/2

Central Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	15	3	.833	—
New Orleans	13	6	.684	2 1/2
Detroit	12	6	.667	3
Atlanta	9	10	.474	6 1/2
Milwaukee	8	10	.444	7
Toronto	6	12	.333	9
Chicago	4	14	.222	11
Cleveland	3	17	.150	13

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	17	1	.944	—
Houston	10	7	.588	6 1/2
San Antonio	11	8	.579	6 1/2
Utah	11	8	.579	6 1/2
Minnesota	10	9	.526	7 1/2
Denver	5	13	.278	12
Memphis	2	17	.105	15 1/2

Pacific Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	16	5	.762	—
Phoenix	9	8	.529	5
Seattle	10	9	.526	5



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1 Public Notice

The Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District, consistent with our statutory authority to conserve, preserve, and protect the Ogallala Aquifer, and in compliance with the rules of the District, will receive public comment in a special meeting of the Board of Directors on Tuesday, December 10, 2002, at 10:00 a.m., in the Panhandle Groundwater District office, 201 W. Third Street, White Deer, Texas, on a High Impact Production Permit request from Petco Petroleum Corporation. The permit request was received on October 29, 2002, and requests a permit for a 2000 barrels per day (or 60 gallons per minute) well, to be located on the NW/4 of Section 86, Block B-2, H&GN Survey, Gray County.

1 Public Notice

proposed permit is available at the Panhandle Groundwater District office, 201 W. Third Street, P.O. Box 637, White Deer, TX 79097.
B-61 Nov. 29, 2002
Dec. 6, 2002

5 Special Notices

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21 Help Wanted

NOTICE
Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.
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SIVALLS Inc. needs an exp. Industrial Maintenance Tech. Electrical exp. is a must! Forklift exp. is a plus. Drug test required. Pampa, Tx. 806-665-7111.
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OWNER Will Finance, Back on the market 1129 Sierra, 3 bd, 1 bath, 2 car gar., cen. h/a, low down payment, low monthly payments, 806-790-0827.
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114 Recre. Veh.

'98 Wanderer 27" 5th wheel, can be pulled w/ 1/2 ton. Loaded. Like new! 669-1484 lv.msg
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FOR sale 1996 Plymouth Grand Voyager, 669-0604, 948 Terry Rd.
83 Jeep CJ7, new paint & tires, 33x1250, 4 in. lift, 6 cyl. Too many items to list. Must see. \$7000. 669-0609.
121 Trucks
FOR Sale 96 GMC Suburban 4x4 and a 90 Montero 4x4. Call 669-7043.

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BEECH - Non qualifying assumption with small down payment. Two bedroom brick on corner lot. Central heat and air. Storm cellar, 2 living areas, 1 & 1/2 baths utility room and single garage. MLS 5705.
BRADLEY - Neat and clean three bedroom home. Bath has new tile. Hardwood floors in part of house. Lovely patio with small pond. Large double carport. MLS 5968.
N. CHRISTY - Nice well kept home. Three bedrooms, nice carpet, central heat and air, large living area, large storage closet in garage. MLS 5823.
CHARLES - nice home on tree lined street. Three bedrooms, 1 3/4 baths, lots of good storage. Some hardwood floors. Central heat and air. Corner built in china hutch and book shelves. MLS 5948.
DOUCETTE - Nice three bedroom home in quiet neighborhood. Some hardwood floors under carpeting. One bath, storage building, single garage. Would make a good rental. MLS 5606.
E. POSTER - Well cared for three bedroom home. All appliances convey with property. Butcher counter tops, shower over tub, storm cellar, central heat and air. MLS 5949.
LEFORS - Four bedroom home with extra large lot. 2 living areas, utility room, large kitchen and a double detached garage. MLS 5742.
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Danny Whitley.....669-9610
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Daniel Schorn.....669-6284
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Lola Strate Bkr.....665-7650
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DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES — Here's how to work it:
A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONG FELLOW
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.
12-6 CRYPTOQUOTE
A Y W P E Y G V N E H W X D A Z Y ;
Z Y N K E W P S V P A Y
L Q E P K N E V , V W Y E I P X S L Z Z
E Y J Y K H Y B Y L J Y I P X K G Y Z U
P K P V W Y K G — K P X G G Y N X
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: I HAVE OFTEN WISHED I HAD TIME TO CULTIVATE MODESTY BUT I AM TOO BUSY THINKING ABOUT MYSELF. — DAME EDITH SITWELL

SIGN ON BONUS REGISTERED NURSES
Pampa Nursing Center has an opening for a REGISTERED NURSE in the position of Charge Nurse. Starting pay is \$24.00 an hour plus we offer a \$2000 Sign-On Bonus
Please contact Vickie Hutton, Administrator or Miti Devoli, R.N. Director of Nurses To set-up an interview call (806)669-2551

Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Dec. 7, 2002:
Your expressiveness draws many to you. You will learn the power of your word, even more so than in past years. What proves to be challenging is expressing anger in a manner that doesn't distance others. A sister or brother could play a significant role in your next year. Ask for more of what you want and need from those in your immediate circle. Travel and foreigners might play a strong role in your life through next summer. If you want to improve your career direction, sign up for a course or network with an eye to new possibilities after summer 2003. If you are single, you will meet people easily, though you might hesitate when making a choice. Understand how much you like playing social butterfly. Still, don't flutter on by someone special. If you are attached, work on your communication, and your relationship will warm up even more. AQUARIUS can be provocative.
The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult
ARIS (March 21-April 19)
Gather with friends, but make strong choices if a partner pushes you in an alternate direction. Keep your priorities in mind when making a decision. Help a loved one get past his or her insecurities, and you'll find that your relationship blooms. Tonight: Know what you want, then go for it.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Someone knows how to push your buttons. Remember, it is in your power how you react. Choose your responses. If you head in a new direction, others could be reactive. Change can be scary. Tonight: A must show, and it could be fun.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
Others present their ideas in a new way. As the result of someone else's approach, you're able to present your ideas differently. Take off on an adventure. Go visit a town known for its holiday displays. Get shopping done as well. Tonight: Opt for different food, music and company.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
Relate on a one-on-one level to an important friend or loved one. Physically throw yourself into a preferred pastime or happening. You connect with a child or loved one even better after you clear the air. Tonight: Take on a fun project or two.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Others seek you out. Answer your phone. Make plans. Clearly, if you thought you might have a quiet day, you can toss your plans out the window. Give in to the whims of those around you, inviting a roommate or family member along. Tonight: Where the party is.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
You might not be as sure of yourself as you'd like to be. Loosen up when dealing with a friend who means well. You could take a comment differently than he or she intended. Head out and start holiday errands. Visit with a friend over hot chocolate. Tonight: Head on home.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Curb your extravagance, and you'll become a lot happier. Your perspective could change dramatically with a conversation. Get to know someone better by doing more together. Let the good feelings flow. Keep sharing. Tonight: Play away.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Be careful how you phrase your dissatisfaction, unless you're up for apologizing. Deal with family. Tighten up your holiday errands and plans. If every-

one wants to get a tree, join in. You don't have to go far to tumble into the holiday mood. Tonight: A favorite meal.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Follow your instincts with neighbors and friends. Talks lead you in a new direction if you're open to revealing more of what is on your mind. Your softness emerges with a friend who really cares. Share more often. Tonight: You don't have to go far.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Expenses could be adding up with the upcoming holiday. Pressure builds, at least in your mind, when you look at your circle of friends and consider all the must-dos. Relax and enjoy the feelings behind the holiday. Tonight: Listen to Christmas music.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Do your thing, but please don't be shocked when you find someone a bit resistant or difficult. Know when to put a halt to a disagreement. Would it be worth appeasing an older relative or friend? Think Christmas. Tonight: Whatever makes you happy.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Step back. Others might find you to be secretive, but you need to distance yourself from the immediate. Hop in the car for a drive to a favorite area. Enjoy doing something totally different. You also might need to take care of an errand or two. Tonight: Express your heartfelt feelings.
BORN TODAY
Merchant Richard Warren Sears (1863), novelist Willa Cather (1873), basketball player Larry Bird (1956)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.
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Baby's First Christmas 2002
The First Christmas Is A Special One
On December 24th, The Pampa News will have a special space just for babies celebrating their first Christmas. The cost to have a picture and brief information about your little one is \$25 paid in advance. The Pampa News must have picture and information by noon, Wednesday, December 18th.

EXAMPLE

Greyson Harmon Heiskell
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Amarillo, Texas

Parents...Kevin & Chantelle Heiskell
Big Sister... Krissy & Big Brother...Taylor

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ID #2095

1500 N. ZIMMERS - \$68,000
ID #2065

2229 N. WELLS - \$49,950
ID #2045

1815 HOLLY - \$92,000
ID #2055



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'03 GMC Sierra 2WD 4-Door

3.9% APR for 60 mo.

\$376⁰⁰ Per Month

Stock #187193 MSRP \$31,000
Suna Discount 2,530
Rebate 2,000
Suna AutoMall SALE PRICE **\$26,500**

48 month SmartBuy @ 7.5% APR w/ \$2,500 Cash down + TTAL
W.A.C. SmartBuy Price: \$29,000

'03 Chevy Silverado 2500HD

3.9% APR for 60 mo.

\$397⁰⁰ Per Month

Stock #146998 MSRP \$33,485
Suna Discount 3,110
Rebate 2,000
Suna AutoMall SALE PRICE **\$28,375**

48 month SmartBuy @ 7.5% APR w/ \$2,500 Cash down + TTAL
W.A.C. SmartBuy Price: \$30,375

'03 Chevy Silverado 3500HD

3.9% APR for 60 mo.

\$347⁰⁰ Per Month

Stock #118140 MSRP \$28,835
Suna Discount 2,262
Rebate 2,000
Suna AutoMall SALE PRICE **\$24,573**

48 month SmartBuy @ 7.5% APR w/ \$2,500 Cash down + TTAL
W.A.C. SmartBuy Price: \$26,000

'03 Chevy C1500 Reg. Cab

3.9% APR for 60 mo.

\$255⁰⁰ Per Month

Stock #182316 MSRP \$35,580
Suna Discount 400
Rebate 2,000
Suna AutoMall SALE PRICE **\$17,900**

48 month SmartBuy @ 7.5% APR w/ \$2,500 Cash down + TTAL
W.A.C. SmartBuy Price: \$19,500

'02 GMC Sierra 1500 4-Door 4x4

0.0% APR for 60 mo.

FALL SAVINGS SPECTACULAR!

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Suna Discount 2,363
Rebate 2,000
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Rebate 2,000
Suna AutoMall SALE PRICE **\$34,397**

48 month SmartBuy @ 7.5% APR w/ \$2,500 Cash down + TTAL
W.A.C. SmartBuy Price: \$36,600

'03 Buick Century

0.0% APR for 60 mo.

\$249⁰⁰ Per Month

Stock #125707 MSRP \$22,730
Suna Discount 1,586
Rebate 2,000
Suna AutoMall SALE PRICE **\$18,650**

48 month SmartBuy @ 4.5% APR w/ \$2,500 Cash down + TTAL
W.A.C. SmartBuy Price: \$20,650

'03 Chevy Z71 Tahoe 4x4

3.9% APR for 60 mo.

\$495⁰⁰ Per Month

Stock #116134 MSRP \$42,809
Suna Discount 1,240
Rebate 2,000
Suna AutoMall SALE PRICE **\$36,995**

48 month SmartBuy @ 7.5% APR w/ \$2,500 Cash down + TTAL
W.A.C. SmartBuy Price: \$38,195

'03 Buick LeSabre

0.0% APR for 60 mo.

\$280⁰⁰ Per Month

Stock #119759 MSRP \$25,730
Suna Discount 1,775
Rebate 2,000
Suna AutoMall SALE PRICE **\$21,955**

48 month SmartBuy @ 4.5% APR w/ \$2,500 Cash down + TTAL
W.A.C. SmartBuy Price: \$23,955

'03 Pontiac Sunfire

0.0% APR for 60 mo.

\$210⁰⁰ Per Month

Stock #190964 MSRP \$18,520
Suna Discount 750
Rebate 2,000
Suna AutoMall SALE PRICE **\$15,770**

48 month SmartBuy @ 4.5% APR w/ \$2,500 Cash down + TTAL
W.A.C. SmartBuy Price: \$17,500

'03 Chevy Monte Carlo SS

3.9% APR for 60 mo.

\$355⁰⁰ Per Month

Stock #225832 MSRP \$29,235
Suna Discount 1,240
Rebate 2,000
Suna AutoMall SALE PRICE **\$25,995**

48 month SmartBuy @ 4.5% APR w/ \$2,500 Cash down + TTAL
W.A.C. SmartBuy Price: \$27,995

'03 Chevy Tahoe 2WD

3.9% APR for 60 mo.

\$380⁰⁰ Per Month

Stock #121598 MSRP \$34,511
Suna Discount 3,011
Rebate 2,000
Suna AutoMall SALE PRICE **\$26,500**

48 month SmartBuy @ 7.5% APR w/ \$2,500 Cash down + TTAL
W.A.C. SmartBuy Price: \$30,500

2002 Chevy Tracker 4x4

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\$318⁰⁰ Per Month • WAC

Suna AutoMall SALE PRICE **\$14,995**

Stock #931671
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Suna AutoMall SALE PRICE **\$13,495**

Stock #29585A
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6.9% APR for 60 mo. available

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Suna AutoMall SALE PRICE **\$16,495**

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- Balance four wheels
- Rotate tires and wheels as recommended
- Inspect tires and wheels for damage or excessive wear

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- '02 CHEVY TRACKER 4X4 - 10K, All-Pwr, Red reduced to \$12,995
- '01 CHEVY MALIBU - 31K, Silver, PW/PL, Cruise, Tilt \$12,499

- '99 HONDA ACCORD - 32K, All Power, Sunroof, Great Car \$14,995
- '01 BUICK LESABRE - Beige \$13,995
- '99 SATURN SC1D - 33K, Great School Car under \$10,000
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- '02 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE - 22K, 2DR, Grt School Car \$13,495
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- '02 GMC ENVY - 20K, All-Pwr, \$10,000 off MSRP \$24,900
- '02 CORVETTE CONV - Blk/Blk, 6K, Demo save \$10,000 off MSRP
- '00 BUICK LESABRE - White, Leather, Loaded \$14,995

- '02 CHEVY MONTE CARLO - Red, Loaded, Fun Car \$16,499
- '02 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX SE - 7K, Wht, 4DR \$18,500
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- '98 GMC 1/4 PK - 56K, Manager Special \$9,995
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M. K. LUMIN

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BY THE A

A look faux pas, quite ex

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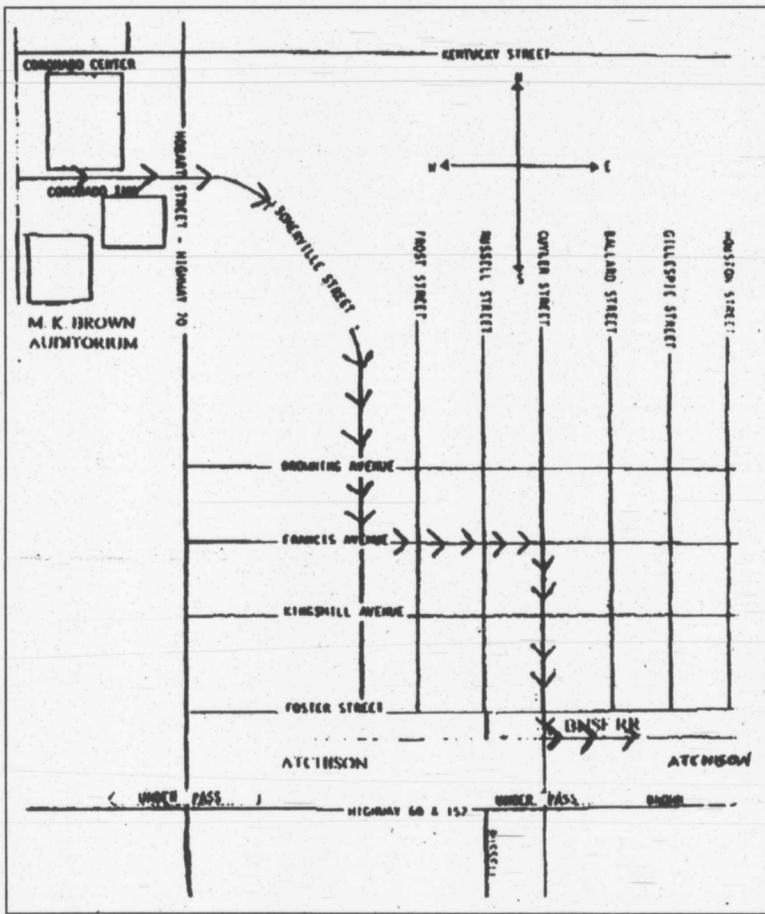
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Come Back to Christmas

Pampa merchants plan Victorian-style celebration



The route for the 2002 Christmas parade which begins at 10 a.m., Saturday.

A Victorian Christmas celebration and shopping event, "Come Back to Christmas," will headline Saturday's festivities in Pampa.

Kicking off the downtown events will be the traditional Christmas Parade at 10 a.m., Saturday. It will begin at the M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium parking lot and end downtown at the Cuyler and Atchison street intersection.

After the parade, the third annual "Come Back to Christmas" event will get underway throughout the city. Many merchants will be dressed in Victorian-style clothing to help set the mood.

Crafts, special sales, a quilt show, five entertainment, a gingerbread house contest, and a ping pong ball drop are among the activities planned. A thousand dollars in Pampa Bucks will also be given away in two drawings.

The first drawing for \$500 in Pampa Bucks will be at 1 p.m. at the Pampa

Chamber of Commerce booth in the 100 block of North Cuyler. The second drawing for \$500 in Pampa Bucks will take place near Santa's house at the Coronado Shopping Center at 4 p.m.

Anyone making a purchase of at least \$10 at any participating merchant on Saturday should take their receipt to the Pampa Chamber booth to receive tickets for the drawing.

In addition, Santa Claus will take part in the parade and will be available throughout the day to listen to children's wish lists.

Additional information about the Christmas parade or the "Come Back to Christmas" event may be obtained by contacting the Chamber office at 669-3241 or stopping by the office at 200 N. Ballard.

"Come Back to Christmas" is sponsored by the Pampa Chamber of Commerce Retail Committee and the Downtown Business Association.

Top holiday faux pas

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A look at the top 10 holiday faux pas, as compiled by etiquette expert Joy Weaver:

— Making excuses when surprised by a gift: People make the situation worse when they make excuses or go overboard with apologies because they don't have a gift to exchange. Just say thank you and follow up with a nice note. You can always send a gift later. A wise move, though, is to be prepared and have several generic gifts on hand.

— Married couples signing holiday cards with the husband's name first: The husband's first name should not be separated from his last name. Many people think the husband's name should go first as in John and Lisa Smith, but the correct way for married couples to write their name is: Lisa and John Smith.

• Sneezing into your social hand: Your right hand is your social hand. You shake hands, pick up utensils and finger foods with your right hand. No one wants to shake hands with someone who has just coughed into this hand.

• Asking someone why he or she is not drinking: There are many reasons people say no to cocktails, and often they are personal. There is no reason to put someone on the spot.

• Waiting until the last minute to RSVP: This gives an

impression that you are holding out for something better and makes it more difficult for the hostess to make plans for the party.

• Forgetting to attach a card to a hostess gift: Always take a hostess gift to a party with an

attached card that has your name on it so the hostess will know who brought the gift.

• Double dipping: Not only is it rude, but it can be a health hazard to dunk food into a dip after you have taken a bite of the food.



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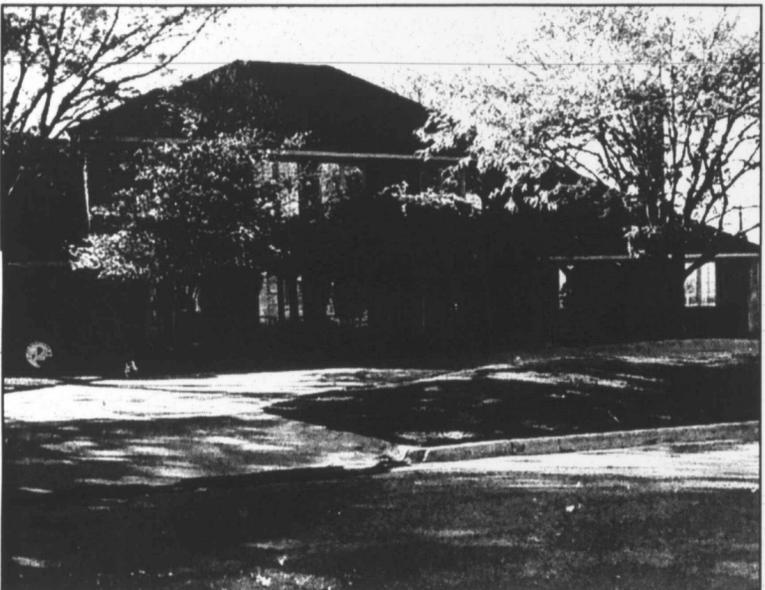
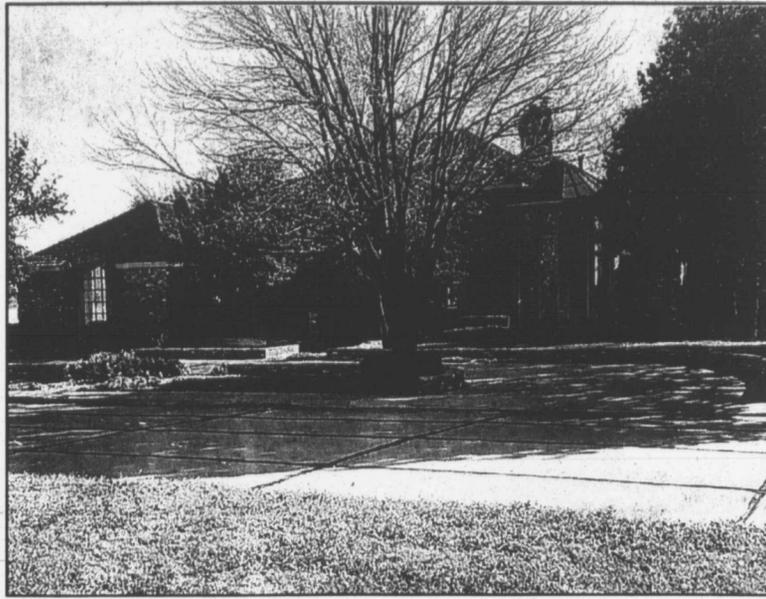
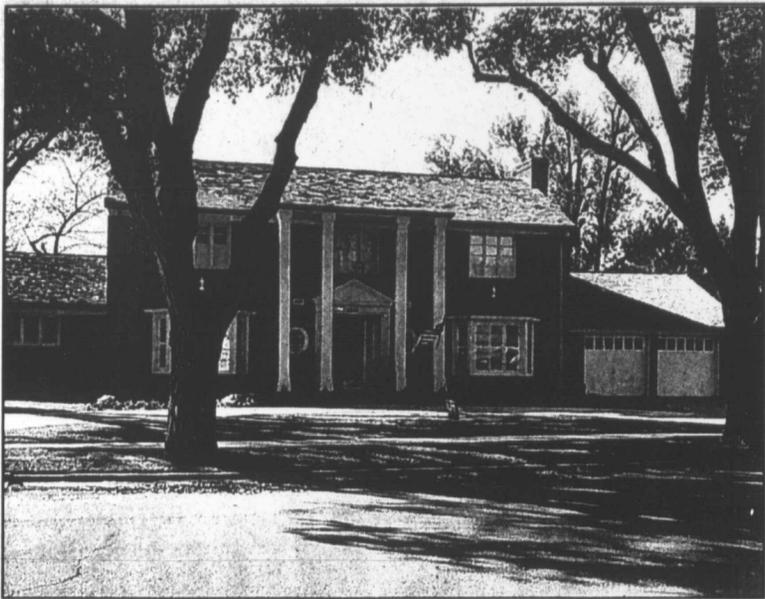
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CELLULARONE



Three Pampa families open their homes for holiday tour

Twentieth Century Cotillion Study Club's Seventh Annual Holiday Home Tour will be conducted from 1-4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 8 in Pampa.

Three homes will be featured in this year's tour — the Bridges home, 1811 Charles; the Stephens home, 2700 Chaumont; and the Curtis home, 2643 Chestnut.

Proceeds benefit Opportunity Plan, Inc., (OPI) an organization based in Canyon that offers low interest loans and scholarships to area college students.

OPI was established by Milton "Buff" Morris, former coach at then West Texas State College in Canyon, when he discovered his athletes needed extra help attending college. OPI has helped more than 10,000 students attend the college or university of their choice. Approximately 700 of those students are from the Pampa area.

For entering college

Twentieth Century Cotillion Study Club sponsors the annual event to raise money for scholarships.

be purchased in advance from any club member or at the door of any of the homes on the day of the tour.

The Bridges Home.

This two-story, colonial style house was built for Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cook in 1950 by builder R.I. Covalt. The home was inspired from a house the couple viewed in Riverside, Calif. They liked the home so much they borrowed its house plans.

Bill and Karen Bridges purchased the home in 2000 and did extensive remodeling. The renovations included an antique fireplace and mantel in the den, floor-to-ceiling bookcases between the den and study, new oak floors in the kitchen, and the addition of a sewing room complete with leopard print carpeting.

The original colored tile walls and floors still remain in all three bathrooms.

The Curtis Home. Jack and Sissy Curtis own this house on Chestnut Drive. It was first built by Roger Hunter for the Billy Hawkins family in 1984. The Curtis' purchased the house in the summer of 1991.

A traditional, two-story home with a circular drive, it includes a river rock patio and fountain as well as a unique pickled pine fireplace cleverly set off by mirrors.

Deep, rich colors blend with warm saltillo tile and hardwood floors. Textured walls, faux painting, and an eclectic collection of crosses also adorn the interior of the house which includes four bedrooms (including a master bedroom on the first floor) and three bathrooms.

The Stephens Home. Norman and Susan Stephens are the third family to reside in the home. The house is known to many as The Dunkel House. It sits on two lots and is located on the green tee of the 15th hole of Pampa Country Club's golf course.

During construction of the house, the Dunkel's made numerous trips to Dallas to design and buy materials for the home which took two years to complete.

The 5,000-plus square foot residence includes a grand staircase, three working fireplaces with carved mantels, a Gentleman's bar, a powder room, and a hot tub courtyard.

freshmen, the application process is usually handled through high school counselors or local civic groups. Students who have completed at least 12 hours of college work should contact the OPI office.

The program operates similar to a production credit association where one borrows what is needed, pays it back, and borrows again.

The local study club has been raising money for OPI since the early 1950's. Early fund-raisers began a cooperative effort with all of the 20th Century Clubs in Pampa.

The Cotillion Study Club began its annual antique show to benefit OPI in the mid-1950's. The first antique show raised \$300.

The 20th Century Cotillion division of OPI has a capital balance of \$109,422.81, all raised from individual donations and fund raisers such as the Holiday Home Tour. This division currently has 10 students enrolled in college and has helped 143 others attend.

Tickets for the Seventh Annual Holiday Home Tour are \$10 each and may

(Courtesy photos)

These three homes will be featured in the Twentieth Century Cotillion Study Club's Holiday Home Tour Sunday, Dec. 8: top left, The Bridges Home; top right, The Stephens Home; and bottom left, The Curtis Home.

* A Christmas Wish * * A Christmas Wish * * A Christmas Wish *

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November 23rd - December 31st
6pm to 10pm Sunday - Thursday
6pm to 11pm Friday & Saturday
Highway 60 East next to Rodeo Grounds

Other Christmas Events in Pampa

December 7th
Parade • Festival of Trees
Craft Show, VFW Post
"Come Back To Christmas"
Downtown Pampa & Coronado Center
Nutcracker, M.K. Brown Auditorium

December 15th
"When Love Came Down"
6:00pm, First Baptist Church

December 8th
Holiday Home Tour

December 15th
Christmas at Calvary, Calvary Baptist Church

Happy Holidays...

As Christmas draws near, we wish you a season with heart warming memories. We hope you take the time to enjoy the many holiday events Pampa has to offer this year with family and friends.

H PAMPA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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By THE

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Ready to ring



(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)

Pampa's Salvation Army's Red Kettles are out for the 2002 Christmas season. Local residents may contribute to the kettles at United Supermarkets and Wal-Mart to assist Pampa families who are in need this holiday season. Board members, left to right, Bob Marx and Katy and Ray Hupp and Salvation Army Captain Gary Stewart were on hand to kickoff the Red Kettle project the day after Thanksgiving.

Picking the right toy for that special child

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Any parent who has wandered into a crowded toy store with a couple of small people in tow knows the pressure of "I want that" versus judging what's appropriate, safe, fun, and educational — not to mention what won't end up ignored the week after the holidays.

Toys, like so many consumer products, get reviews that can help parents narrow the choices. Here's what some of them say:

The trend seems to be drifting back to traditional toys after a period of preoccupation with "smart" toys and high-tech gadgets, say Joanne, Stephanie and James Oppenheim, who rate individual toys in the annual "Oppenheim Toy Portfolio" (\$12 paperback).

They cite classic toys (lots of princesses and frogs), family games, tops, magnets, and aromatherapy as "in" for the coming season. Out are talking dolls, dogs, gross toys, smart toys, noisy toys and bossy toys.

They also caution that marketers of "smart" toys that purport to turn your little one into a future genius are aimed at your vanity rather than reality. "They leave out that developmentally babies learn best through real-life experiences and that too many lights and sounds can stimulate babies to distraction."

In fact, it was a gismo that a baby kicks for simple effects that was highly rated as an educational toy for an infant by the editors of Parents' Magazine, reviewing 700 toys on the market in the November issue. The Playskool Kick Start Air-Tivity Gym (\$35, from Hasbro) has little footpads the youngster can kick to make characters flutter, balls spin and music play.

Their top choice for toddlers was the Eating Bear Puppet (\$20, from Folkmanis), a stuffed bear chewing on an equally stuffed salmon. Among active play toys, the editors liked the

Scream Machine (\$99, from Razor), a trike with attitude, adjustable bucket seat and hand brakes.

For creative kids, what else but something to draw with — in this case the Arti'Stick Window Color (\$15, from Pebeo of America) a medium for making pictures that adhere to windows.

For fantasy play, the top choice was Kid K'Nex Rovin' Rollers (\$20, K'Nex Industries), which kids can build into weird looking things with wheels and bug eyes. The perfect toy for playdates was Frog Tennis (\$20, Hasbro), a table tennis game with a talking frog getting the licks. And in the learning category, the editors recommend Jolie French and Ricky Spanish (\$35 each), dolls that teach their owners new languages.

Child Magazine asked children in Bright Horizons day-care centers around the country

to test the latest in new toys.

The choices, published in the November issue, included the soft-side shape sorter in the form of a little house (\$40, from Small World Toys) for infants. For toddlers, the top choice was the Easel and Art Cart (\$185 from Kids' StudioWorks), an all-in-one

easel and art bin. The Plan Toys Tree House (\$80, from Brio) is a split-level doll house to build, for pre-school kids.

For the over-6 crowd, the top choice was an Electric Guitar for girls (\$269, from Daisy Rock Guitars), a wild-looking affair shaped like a fuchsia flower.

FOTO TIME

Herb Smith
Owner

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Shopping tour helps children buy for family

Volunteers are being recruited to help an estimated 130 children buy gifts for their families in the 2002 Children's Shopping Tour.

Kiwanian Jeff Welborn is leading the recruitment effort to enlist the help of 200 volunteers to help the children select gifts for members of their household during a mass shopping expedition on Dec. 14. Prospective volunteers can call Welborn at 665-4051.

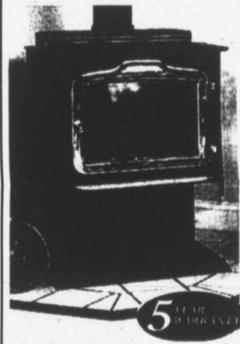
Volunteers will gather at the Pampa Optimist Club, 601 E. Craven, at 7:45 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 14, where they will register in the Optimist Gym and be assigned children. Volunteers chaperoning children will be given the ages and sizes of all people in the children's households.

After an orientation, the chaperones will take the children shopping. Afterwards, the Opti-Mrs. Club sponsors a wrapping party. Then the Optimist Club members cook hamburgers for the children and volunteers.

Donations for the project are tax deductible. Checks should be made payable to the Pampa Optimist Youth Club and sent to the project treasurer, John W. Warner, P.O. Box 645, Pampa, TX 79066-0645.

The project is the result of the combined efforts of the Kiwanis Club, Optimist Club, Salvation Army, Energizer and Aldergate Sunday School classes of the First United Methodist Church, American Red Cross, Tralee Crisis Center, Opti-Mrs. Club, Democratic Club, Rotary Club, First Presbyterian Church, First Baptist Church, First Christian Church, New Life Assembly of God Church, Body of Christ Church, Pampa High School cheerleaders, Harvester basketball team, Lady Harvester basketball team, and others.

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The 26 days of Christmas

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. (AP) — If you like lots of company while you shop for Christmas, you can't do any better than save it for Saturday, Dec. 21.

That will be the busiest shopping day of the season, according to Richard Feinberg, professor of consumer sciences at Purdue University, who tracks such trends.

The next busiest days will be Monday, Dec. 23; Saturday, Dec. 14; Friday, Dec. 20; and Friday, Nov. 29.

Feinberg notes that many consumers think that the day after Thanksgiving is really the busiest day. That may be true in terms of the number of people who turn out to have a look, but it's fifth in terms of sales volume.

This year, the squeeze will be on retailers, because the shopping season — generally assumed to be the day after Thanksgiving until Christmas Eve — is short this year at 26 days. "No law says that you must count this as the official season, though," he says. "In fact, the shopping seasons start earlier and earlier as retailers realize that they cannot wait for consumers to come into their stores."

Feinberg has some other holiday numbers he's crunched:

- Half of all holiday sales will be in malls.
- The malls will draw 200 million consumers for holiday shopping.
- Most malls unveil their decorations on Nov. 1.
- The average number of full-time Santas employed by a mall is one.
- The average number of part-time Santas employed by a mall is one.
- The average number of pictures taken with Santa at a mall is about 11,000.
- Ninety-eight percent of all malls will extend their shopping hours during the season.
- About 10 billion holiday catalogs — about 50 per household — will be mailed.
- Consumers will be spending about \$800 billion during the season.

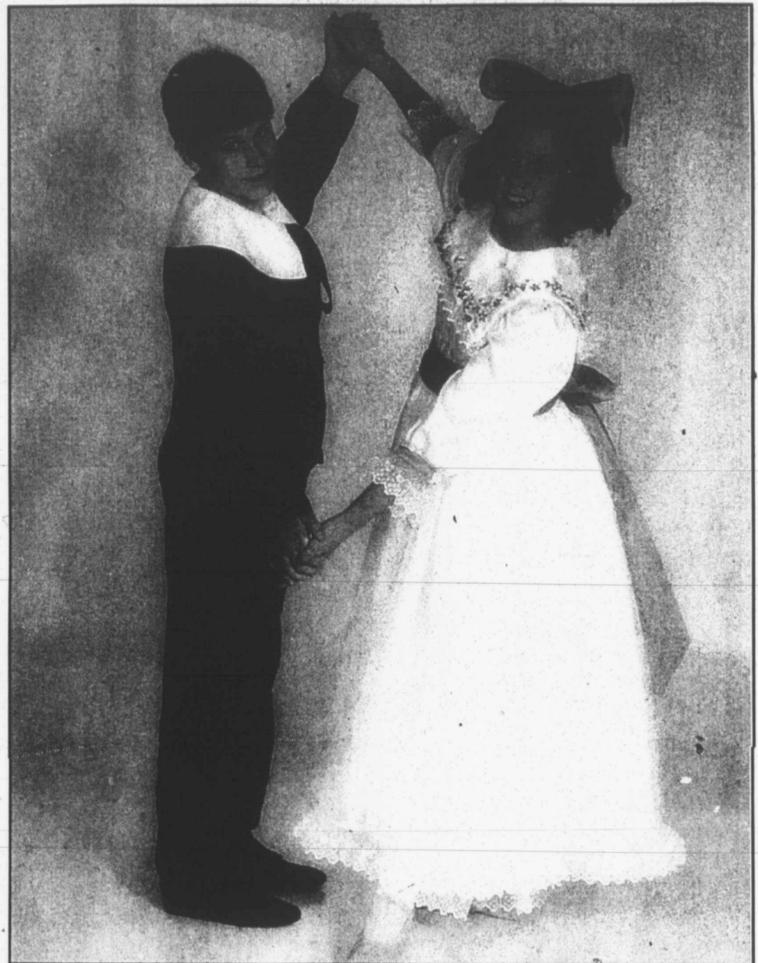
'The Nutcracker' comes alive Dec. 7

Pampa Civic Ballet (PCB), under the direction of Jeanne Willingham, will present its annual production of "The Nutcracker" at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7, at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Emilie Troxell will portray Clara and Dustin Neef the Nutcracker Prince. This year's guest artists will be Amy Earnest and Lance Hardin.

Amy Earnest of Austin is a member of Tulsa Ballet and is a former member of Pacific Northwest Ballet. She has danced with Atlanta Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Hartford Ballet, and North Carolina Dance Theatre. Previous performances include the Lilac Fairy in "The Sleeping Beauty" and principal roles in "Four Temperments," "Prodigal Son," "Apollo," "Western Symphony," "Going for Baroque," Kirk Peterson's "Amazed in Burning Dreams," "Firebird," and "Nutcracker," Alonzo King's "Chants," and "Dreamer." Paul Taylor's "Esplanade," and William Forsythe's "In the Middle Somewhat Elevated."

A native of Chicago, Ill., Lance Hardin has trained with Houston Ballet and studied with Larry Long at Chicago's Ruth Page Foundation. He earned a bachelor of science degree in ballet from Indiana University under the direction of Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux and Jacques Cesbron. He has danced with Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Chautauqua Dance Co., and North Carolina Dance Theatre. Principal roles include Williams Forsythe's "In the Middle of Somewhere Elevated," George Balanchine's "Who Cares," and Alonzo King's "MAP." Hardin is presently affiliated with Milwaukee Ballet.

Current PCB officers are Shannon Buck, president, Peggy David, vice president, Vonna Wolf, treasurer, Mary Wilson, company representative, and Willingham, artistic director. Board members are Linda Johnson, Stephanie Kelly, Cile Taylor, Linda Reed, and Susan Stephens. Company dancers are Deanna McGill, Kaylie Brewer, Clair Boyd, and Wendy Stephens along with junior members, Carrie Angel and Stephens.



(Photo by Carol Fruge')

Emilie Troxell, right, will portray Clara and Dustin Neef, left, the Nutcracker Prince and Herr Drosselmeyer's nephew in Pampa Civic Ballet's production of "The Nutcracker" to be staged at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7, at M.K. Brown Auditorium.



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(Photo by Carol Fruge')

Pampa Civic Ballet. Above, left-right, are Ashley Wheeler, Stephanie Harbeson, Wendy Stephenson, and Krissy Holman, who will also be performing in "The Nutcracker" on Saturday, Dec. 7.

Come Back to Christmas

Gray County Chapter of the American Red Cross, invites the public to its annual Christmas Open House, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7, at the local Red Cross office, 108 N. Russell. The open house is being held in conjunction with the city's "Come Back to Christmas Celebration."

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(Photo by Matt Bradley)
Milwaukee youth take pride in raising talapia fish in tanks in an urban project sponsored by Heifer International.
 Copyright: Heifer International

Church's booth to benefit Heifer Project

On Saturday, Dec. 7, members of First Presbyterian Church plan to participate in the "Come Back to Christmas" celebration by hosting a booth to collect cans and donations for the "Heifer Project," an international agricultural program for the needy.

The local church's goal is to sponsor an "ark." It costs \$5,000 to fill an ark, which might include the following animals - two cows, two water buffalo, two camels, two oxen, two sheep, two llamas, two

hives of honeybees, two donkeys, two trios of ducks, two guinea pigs, two pigs, two trios of rabbits, two flocks of chickens, two flocks of geese, and two goats.

Aluminum can donations can be brought to FPC's booth Saturday at the northeast corner of Cuyler and Kingsmill streets. Cash or check donations are also welcome. All donors will be given a choice of several souvenirs provided by the "Heifer Project."

Heifer Project is a non-government organization

based in Little Rock, Ark., which has been working to help families with agricultural animals and supplies around the world for more than 50 years.

The idea for what became the Heifer Project started in Spain back in the 1930s. Dan West, a mid-western farmer and a youth worker for the church of the Brethren, was lading out cups of milk to hungry children caught in the middle of the Spanish Civil War. He realized that what these families needed was "not a cup, but a cow." He asked

his farming friends back in the United States to donate heifers - young cows who have not borne a calf - so hungry families could feed themselves. In return, those families could help other families by passing on female calves, enabling more families to become self-reliant.

Now Heifer Project International works with agricultural ventures in more than 40 countries from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe, including the United States. A project in Texas, for example, works with the Big Bend International Dairy Goat Association.

First Presbyterian Church of Pampa members have been gathering empty aluminum cans and sending recycling proceeds to Heifer Project for several years.

The church has received from Heifer Project a couple provided by an anonymous foundation that will match three-to-one any contributions sent in with the coupon. That means if \$1,250 is raised locally, the match will increase the



(Photo by Darcy Kiefel)
A young girl in Mexico snuggles with her family's sheep.
 Copyright: Heifer International

total gift to \$5,000. Any money over that amount will also be matched three-to-one.

For more information about Heifer Project International, write P.O. Box 727, Little Rock, Ark., 72203, call them toll free at 1-888-422-1161, or visit the website at www.heifer.org.

For more information on First Presbyterian Church of Pampa, visit them at 525 N. Gray, or phone 665-1031.

Best book choices for holiday gifts

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Books don't require batteries or modems, and they don't torment the reader with pop-up ads. If you give one this holiday season, you're really giving hours of quiet pleasure:

For Young Readers

- "Swan Lake" (North-South Books, \$15.95 hardcover) is Pyotr I. Tchaikovsky's musical ballet tale beautifully retold and illustrated in print by Lisbeth Zwerger. The pictures have a dream-like quality, and the Swan Queen is shown in her finery — with the subtle touch of plumage at her skirts.

- Another romantic classic, "Sleeping Beauty" (SeaStar Books, \$15.95 hardcover), is freshly retold with richly complex illustrations by Kinuko Y. Craft. The illustrator's husband, Mahlon F. Craft, wrote the new text.

- A famed Russian folktale is retold and illustrated by Gennady Spirin in "The Tale of the Firebird" (Philomel Books, \$16.99 hardcover). The story, translated by Tatiana Popova, has new art that draws on the tradition of oriental book illustration, with lavish framing and decoration.

- Once again, here comes Toad (possibly the world's earliest car thief) and his companions in a new edition of Kenneth Grahame's "The Wind in the Willows" (SeaStar Books, \$19.95 hardcover). Youngsters will relate to the rollicking

tales of the irrepressible, irresponsible master of Toad Hall, who gets in and out of predicaments with the help of his loyal but exasperated friends — the Mole, the Rat, the Otter, the Badger, and others living around the River. The new illustrations are by Mary Jane Begin.

- The latest installment about that intrepid dumptruck is here. "Dumpy and the Big Storm" (Hyperion, \$15.99), by Julie Andrews Edwards and Emma Walton Hamilton with illustrations by Tony Walton, tells how cooperation saves the day in a crisis.

- "Stories from the Bible" (North-South Books, \$19.95 hardcover), illustrated by Lisbeth Zwerger, presents excerpts from six texts each from the Old and New Testaments. In the pictures, the characters are shown in relatively modern dress.

- Jerry Pinkney's illustrations for "Noah's Ark" (SeaStar Books, \$15.95 hardcover), on the other hand, take the reader back to the time of the original Bible story. Plants and animals are strongly represented, and readers will be fascinated by the one depicting the Ark under construction.

- Kids interested in natural phenomena will enjoy "When the Giant Stirred" (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, \$18.95 hardcover), written and illustrated by Celia Godkin. This is the story of the evolution of a volcano on a Pacific island and how its eruption affected the lives of the

islanders.

Books for Grownups

- "Cowboy" (Reader's Digest Books, \$32.95 hardcover), by Holly George-Warren, explains that America's most enduringly heroic figure fought it out and shot it out mainly on the sound stages of Hollywood. Though the genre probably got its start with Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and dime novels of a century ago, the cowboy legend began getting serious support from the likes of Tom Mix, Roy Rogers, Gene Autry and Rex Allen of the film era into television, where Marshall Matt Dillon and the Cartwrights held forth. (This also will explain to young baseball fans the identity of that cowboy whose picture was displayed at Edison Field during the recent World Series.)

- The historic view is taken in Page Stegner's "Winning the Wild West" (The Free Press, \$40 hardcover). Tracing the story of the American West through the 19th century, the author recounts the epic struggle to conquer the vast territory — the surveys of Lewis and Clark, the trappers and fur traders, the pioneers trying to lay down roots, clashes with American Indians, the Gold Rush, the cattle business, and ultimate success and prosperity. Larry McMurtry offers the foreword.

- "A Century of Triumph" (The Free Press, \$50 hardcover), by Christopher Chant, tells the story of aviation, now on the eve of its centennial.

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A celebration of light



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Pampa's traditional holiday Celebration of Lights is in full swing at Recreation Park, one mile east of Pampa on U.S. Highway 60. A featured new display is the Wizard of Oz along with the traditional wester, novelty and christmas themes. Funded strictly by donations, the display will be open Fridays and Saturdays, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., and Sundays through Thursdays, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., for the public to drive through the park and view. Celebration of Lights board members, Hoover Fire Department volunteers and local civic groups are among the many who helped set up the displays and man the donation booth. Pictured here are, kneeling from left: Keith Stowers, Bud Rose, Joe Millican and Tres Morris, all of the Hoover Volunteer Fire Department; standing from left, Bill Hildebrandt and Rae Bagley, Celebration of Lights board members; Teresa Snow, Pampa Desk & Derrick Club; and volunteers Pam Millican and Pat Bagley.

Deck the halls

... with holly and pine and roses and nuts and sweets and candles and acorns and fruits and ...

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Using greenery at this time of year reflects a custom predating Christianity, when there would be some sort of midwinter festival to brighten up the dark days and prepare for a new season of planting.

Early ornaments, especially on trees, might have been cookies, wafers (symbolizing the host), roses, nuts and sweets. Lights, in the form of candles, came along in about the 17th century.

Decorations have changed since then, but the intent is still the same: brighten the winter, and celebrate. Here are some things you may be displaying this holiday season:

- A European-style holiday topiary (\$68) from Pierre Deux has glazed orchard fruits, pinecones and evergreens tied with gold-tipped burgundy ribbon. It's 19 inches high and sits in a terracotta pot. Call 1 (888)PIERRE2; on the Web - <http://www.pierre-deux.com>.

- Old style but new, the Holiday Angel chalkware figurine (\$132) by Vaillancourt Folk Art is a bit of Americana. The 4 1/4-inch figure is based on an old mold originally sculpted to form pieces of chocolate candy. This flying angel displays a "Peace on the Earth" banner. Call 1 (877) 665-2244; on the Web - <http://www.valfa.com>.

- Traditional holiday motifs are reinterpreted in crystal ornaments from Steuben. The Ornament Gift Box (\$500) features light-catching versions of an acorn, pinecone, pear and apple. Call 1 (800) 424-4240; on the Web - <http://www.steuben.com>.

- It hardly sounds likely, but brass ornaments (\$17-\$56) from a hardware maker turn out to be the laciest, lightest-looking ornaments around. To All a Good Night from Baldwin shows airborne reindeers pulling Santa in his sleigh over a wintry townscape, while the Sun King shows the classical solar image with swirls radiating from the corona.

- A glittering crystal snowflake with 162 facets (\$55) is Swarovski's 2002 Annual Edition Christmas Ornament. This lightcatcher can be used on a tree, on a mantel, or in a window.

- Celebrate Hanukkah with an elegant menorah (\$325) by Lladro. It's 5 1/2 inches by 12 inches in pale sculpted porcelain, tipped in blue. There also are two driedels (\$100, \$120), similar in composition.

- What's Christmas without a traditional nutcracker? Re-live the enchantment of The Wizard of Oz with a 15 3/4-inch Steinbach Dorothy nutcracker (\$285) from Kurt S. Adler. The other main characters from Frank Baum's story — the Scarecrow, the Tin Man, and the Cowardly Lion — are represented in the Steinbach collection, too.

- A nativity scene showing the holy family, the wise men and an angel is captured in a charming musical snow globe (\$60) from the Bombay Company. The molded base represents the stable and has sculpted shepherds and their flocks.

- The Berry Door Wreath (\$30) from Crabtree & Evelyn also can be used as a table decoration with candles in its 8-inch center.

- Stained glass creations depicting symbols for Christmas or Hanukkah and lit from behind by tea lights are an inspiration by Meyda Tiffany. The designs for Christmas are Santa, Christmas Tree, Angel, Mary with Baby Jesus, Joseph, and the Three Kings. Judaic designs are Menorah, The Driedel and Star of David. The pieces are \$15 to \$30 each. Call 1 (800) 222-4009.

Tree of Angels ceremony set for Dec. 10

In 1991 the tradition of the Tree of Angels was started by the People Against Violent Crime after it was realized that the holiday season poses an extremely difficult time for crime victims and their families, said Melanie Carter, victim assistance coordinator for Gray County.

Tree of Angels was designed in an effort to honor those loved ones who are no longer here to share the holidays with us and show support for

Ornaments honor, support victims of violent crime

survivors of violent crimes, she said.

This year the Panhandle Victim Assistance Coalition is hosting its own Tree of Angels ceremony to honor and support victims and their families in the Panhandle area.

The ceremony is centered around victims' families placing their angels (any ornament that represents their loved ones) on the Christmas tree. It will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10, in the Central Jury Room of the Potter County Courthouse building.

Members of the coalition are extending an invitation to anyone who wants to attend to join them in support of their fellow community family during this difficult time.

Heard-Jones

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Time for holiday celebrations everywhere

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Time for holiday celebrations everywhere...

...In Akron, Ohio

Come to the wedding this Christmas at Stan Hywet Hall in Akron, Ohio. The music room in this Tudor-style mansion, home to rubber baron F.A. Sieberling, was the setting of a Christmas, 1923, wedding of his daughter, Irene. It's being remembered this year for the hall's annual "Deck the Hall!" exhibit, Nov. 1-Jan. 4.

The recreation is based on photographs, family letters and news accounts of the original event, which was considered one of the main events of the year in Akron society.

The tree decorations and an antique prayer bench illustrate the scene of the ceremony. The Great Hall, where guests were received, recalls its huge Christmas tree and trims of holly, poinsettias and red paper bells. The wedding dinner was a formal affair in the dining room, with large tables in a T-formation, set with English china, sterling and crystal. A wedding bell fashioned from lily-of-the-valley will hang between the chandeliers.

The grounds and gardens will be lit by 300,000 colored bulbs.

On the Web - <http://www.stanhywet.org>

...Along the Hudson Shore

Set high on New York's Hudson River shore, historic mansions welcome visitors for both daytime and candlelight holiday tours.

At Philipsburg Manor in Sleepy Hollow, there will be storytelling, singalongs and celebration of Dutch tradition. Daytime tours are Dec. 7 and 8.

A 1940s Christmas is being staged at Montgomery Place at Annandale-on-Hudson, with music (including "White Christmas, introduced during that era), period toys and decorations. The mansion will be open afternoons on Dec. 7, 8, 14, and 15.

The early Victorian period returns to Sunnyside in Tarrytown, home of writer Washington Irving. His "Tales of Old Christmas" will be recited amid 19th century decorations and finery. There will be caroling and cider around a bonfire. Evening candlelight tours are on Dec. 7, 8, 14, and 15.

A classic 18th century Twelfth Night celebration is on tap at Van Cortlandt Manor in Croton-on-Hudson. Decorated with fruits, greenery and a kissing bell, the scene is set as it was when the Van Cortlandts entertained for the holidays. Fiddle music, dancing, bonfire and refreshments are part of the fun. Candlelight evenings are Dec. 21, 22, 28, and 29.

All houses are part of the Historic Hudson Valley network.

On the Web - <http://www.hudsonvalley.org>

...in Old San Antonio

The river glitters like a jeweled necklace in the heart of San Antonio after Nov. 29, when Ed Garza, the mayor of this Texas city, switches on 122,000 lights along River Walk. Then comes a nighttime parade on the river, with sparkling floats (which really float)

carrying bands, celebrities and participants in colorful costumes. The ceremonies inaugurate the Paseo Del Rio Holiday Festival.

On Dec. 8, the San Antonio Conservation Society stages Las Posadas, a re-enactment of Joseph and Mary's search for shelter.

On the Web - <http://www.thesanantonio-riverwalk.com>; <http://www.saconservation.org>

...at Pine Mountain, Ga.

Eight million tiny lights create Christmas roadside scenes for Callaway Gardens' yearly "Fantasy in Lights," Nov. 22-Dec. 28.

New this year is the "Enchanted Rainbow Forest" scene. Favorites from previous years include "Santa's Workshop," "The March of the Toy Soldiers," "Twin Trees," "Twelve Days of Christmas," and "Snowflake Valley."

On the Web - <http://www.callawaygardens.com>

...in Winterthur, Del.

How would the du Ponts celebrate?

The answer comes during the holiday tours, "Yuletide at Winterthur: Decorating for the Holidays," Nov. 9-Jan. 5 at the Winterthur Estate in Delaware.

Once home to Henry Francis du Pont, the house will reflect holiday decorating and exhibit gift wraps from early periods. In the 1830s, for example, gifts were put into traditional Christmas stockings, but in the 1870s, colorful ribbon streamers led the recipients to their gifts. Wrappings in the 19th century tended toward brown and white tissue papers, but in the 20th century the family wrapped its gifts in a DuPont Company introduction, cellophane.

The evolution of the family Christmas tree is also demonstrated.

On the Web - <http://www.winterthur.org>

...in North Carolina

It's fairy tale time at the Biltmore Estate in Asheville.

"Christmas at Biltmore Estate" will feature floral displays evoking classic stories such as "Sleeping Beauty," "Little Red Riding Hood" and the "Frog Prince," among others.

The French Renaissance Biltmore House itself sets the tone, its spires and turrets looking very much part of a fantasy story.

The storybook world includes dozens of trees, hundreds of poinsettias and miles of evergreen roping. Under the Grand Staircase, visitors will find a scene including that spinning wheel on which a beautiful princess pricked her finger and fell into a sleeping spell. Hans Christian Andersen's tale of "The Fir Tree" is recalled in the Banquet Room, where a 35-foot decorated fir is surrounded by woodland companions in a miniature forest of Christmas trees.

Upstairs, in the bedroom of Biltmore's master, George Vanderbilt, visitors will find Arabian exotica from the world of "Aladdin." And in the North Tower Room, any child familiar with the heroine in "Little Red Riding Hood" will recognize the scarlet cloak and baskets ready for a trip to grandma's house.

Tours are available during the day, and at night the house is open for "Candlelight Christmas Evenings," with music.

On the Web - <http://www.biltmore.com>

...in Connecticut

Lanterns will show the way for carolers in Essex, singing as they make their way to see lighted ships at the Dec. 1 "Trees in the Rigging" celebration at Steamboat Dock at the Connecticut River Museum. Before the night is out, Santa arrives by boat.

A period Christmas at Mystic Seaport-Museum of America and the Sea, Dec. 5-22, is recalled with horse-drawn carriages, tavern revelers, and looking for St. Nick.

On the Web - <http://www.ctrivermuseum.org>; <http://www.mysticseaport.org>

New Haven gets its first "ChanukaMania" celebration this year, staged downtown on Dec. 3, while the festival makes its third annual appearance, on Dec. 5, in the West Hartford Center.

Presented by the Connecticut Jewish Ledger, the family festivals will include live entertainment, kosher food and wine, and crafts. The Yale Klezmer Band appears at the New Haven event, while the Klezmen Klezmer Band is featured in West Hartford.

For information, call (860) 231-2424, ext. 3010.

...in New Mexico

Luminarias will light up the historic district in Taos during the holiday season, and the Yuletide in Taos celebration kicks off Nov. 22 with the tree lighting on Taos Plaza.

The celebration draws on

the multicultural makeup of the town, especially its Spanish accent. Los Posadas will be staged at various sites around town Dec. 16-Dec. 24. On Christmas Eve, vespers and a procession of the Virgin Mary proceeds to Taos Pueblo.

On the Web - <http://www.taoschamber.com>

...in Wisconsin

Traditions are preserved for "A Pioneer Christmas" at Old World Wisconsin, the living history museum at Eagle.

Walking tours Dec. 7-8, and Dec. 14-15 enable visitors to see old Christmastime scenes, such as a Yankee farmhouse during the Civil War era, early Victorian customs, an 1880s community Christmas, and a Finnish celebration.

On the Web - <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org>

ry.org.

...in Tennessee

Christmas on a plantation in the early 19th century was celebrated without Santa and decorated trees. At Travellers Rest Plantation & Museum in Nashville during December, the atmosphere is recreated with particular attention to Twelfth Night traditions. Visitors sip wassail and hear about the holiday welcome hosted by the John Overton Jr. family just before the Battle of Nashville.

On the Web - <http://www.travellersrest-plantation.org>

In Chattanooga, a flash of fireworks over the river climaxes the Nov. 29 "Christmas on the River" musical celebration that lights over 120 downtown buildings for the season.

On the Web - <http://www.chattanooga-fun.com>

Come Back To Christmas

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Eat, drink and be merry - gifts of food

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eat, drink, and be merry, for nearly all of these gifts can be ordered by phone or Web:

- Its ingredients are eclectic but with a focus on Texas. The Collin Street Bakery in Corsicana makes its DeLuxe Fruitcake (\$17.95 for the regular 30-ounce cake) with local honey, pineapples and papayas from Costa Rica, white raisins from southern California and cherries from the Midwest and Northwest. The main ingredient specified in the 100-year-old recipe, however, is native Texas pecans — 27 percent of each fruitcake, according to the bakery. A medium (46-ounce) DeLuxe Fruitcake is \$25.95 and a large (78-ounce) size is \$41.95. Don't look for it in stores. Instead call 1 (800) 292-7400; on the Web - <http://www.fruitcake.com>.

- The brothers at the Our Lady of Guadalupe Trappist Abbey in Lafayette, Oregon, get very busy this time of year,

working to bake and fill orders for their fruitcakes and datenut cakes. The fruitcake (\$19.50 for two 1-pound cakes or \$24.50 for a 3-pound cake) is the aged, dark kind with pineapples, cherries, walnuts, pecans and redolent with brandy. The ginger datenut cake (\$19.50 for two 1-pound cakes), is also soaked in brandy and has California dates, walnuts, pecans, cashews, and ginger. Call 1 (800) 294-0105; on the Web - <http://www.trappistabbey.org>.

- From the other side of the nation (DeKalb and Flatbush Avenues in Brooklyn, N.Y., to be exact) come Junior's cheesecakes. The Rosen family has been producing these New York delicacies for three generations and offers not only the classic plain cheesecake for purists but others embellished with fruits, chocolate and other goodies. For example, there's the Black Forest Cheesecake, with Black Forest cherries and Meyer's Rum, or Raspberry Swirl Cheesecake, with French raspberry puree. All

8-inch, 3-pound cakes are \$27.95. Call 1 (800) 958-6467; on the Web - <http://www.juniorscheesecake.com>.

- Some people are nuts about nuts. The new Godiva Nut & Chocolate Collection doubles the temptation. Choose hazelnut, pecan, almond, or macadamia croquants or milk or dark almond bark — all departures from Godiva's Belgian-style shell molded candies. Gift assortments include the 12-piece (\$15), 20-piece (\$25) or 2-piece Petite Packs (\$3 each). The almond barks are \$34 per pound. Call 1 (800) 9-GODIVA; on the Web - <http://www.Godiva.com>.

- A stollen (\$19) is a traditional German holiday dessert bread, rich with candied fruit and almonds. It's available from Lands' End, as is a Gingerbread House Kit (\$29), another old-world tradition. Call 1 (800) 963-4816; on the Web - <http://www.landsend.com>.

- When fruits were scarce, a single orange in a Christmas stocking was considered a special treat. Bring back that singular pleasure with the Clementine Dessert Hamper (\$60) from Manhattan Fruitier. Someone with a sophisticated palate will enjoy the Stilton Hamper (\$70), with English Stilton cheese, pears, dried figs, and crackers. Call 1 (800) 841-5718; on the Web - <http://www.manhattanfruitier.com>.

- A favorite variety pack is Stew's Choice (\$49.99) from Stew Leonard — a

feast of cookies, mints, caramel popcorn, gourmet crackers, Vermont cheddar cheese, apple cider, coffee, and Clover the Cheddar Cheese Cow. Call 1 (800) SAY-STEW; on the Web - <http://www.stewleonards.com>.

- There's something small going on at Harry & David. The firm has come up with cheesecake petits fours that pack a lot of pleasure into a 12-ounce box (\$18.95). Call 1 (877) 322-1200; on the Web - <http://www.harryanddavid.com>.

- A hearty gift would be one of the Two-Steak Gift Boxes of filet mignons (\$59.99 for two boxes of two each) from Omaha Steaks. Call 1 (800) 228-9055; on the Web - <http://www.omahasteaks.com>.

- If you're not sure of your recipient's meat preferences, consider providing a gift certificate to be used at restaurants that include Smith & Wollensky Steak Houses, Park Ave Cafe, Maloney and Porcelli, The Post House, Manhattan Ocean Club, Cite and ONEps. On the Web - <http://www.smithandwollensky.com>.

- Serious cooks appreciate top quality olive oils, so a gift of 2001-Vintage Prato Lungo (\$45 for a 500ml bottle, plus \$6 shipping) from Long Meadow Ranch will be especially prized. For everyday use, the firm offers Napa Valley Select extra virgin olive oil (\$18 for a 375 ml bottle, plus \$6 shipping). Call 1 (877) NAPA-OIL; on the Web - [\[ranch.com\]\(http://www.longmead-ranch.com\).](http://www.longmead-</p>
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- American flavors are celebrated in the Holiday in the U.S.A. gourmet assortment from Windsor Vineyards. It includes Alaskan smoked salmon, Hawaiian kettle corn, Cajun cocktail mix, Wooden Nickel cookies, Cape Cod cranberry candies, Mississippi barbecue sauce, lemony Boston Tea, four flavors of Napa Valley caramels, a minibook of American quotes and your choice of the 1999 Mendocino County Cabernet Sauvignon (\$87) or 2000 Preston Ranch Chardonnay (\$89). Call 1 (800) 333-9987; on the Web - <http://www.windsorvineyards.com>. (The wines cannot be delivered to all states.)

- Not everything that sparkles is golden champagne. One of the newest sparkling wine choices is Ballatore Rosso Red Spumanti (\$8 for 750 ml). A blend of California varietals, it has raspberry and cherry flavors and aromas of blackberry and citrus.

- Subtle oak flavors characterize the 2000 Chardonnay (\$11 for 750 ml) from Gallo of Sonoma. This wine pairs well with cheese and other gourmet treats that seem to be at hand for the holidays.

- Good choices for the host or hostess or for your own table are the Turning Leaf Coastal Reserve wines. The 2000 Pinot Noir (\$10 for 750 ml) comes from North Coast grapes and has a smooth finish with fruit and oak flavors. The 2000 Merlot (\$10 for 750 ml) is made from

Sonoma County grapes and is slightly spicy with blackcurrant and fresh herb notes, with black cherry and plum aromas. The 2000 Chardonnay (\$10 for 750ml) is made from North Coast grapes and is light gold, with apple and vanilla flavors. And the 2001 Sauvignon Blanc (\$7.99 for 750 ml) has tropical flavors with melon and grapefruit accents.

- Not hard to identify Koala Blue wines as imports from Down Under. The label belongs to entertainer Olivia Newton-John and her business partner Pat Farrar, and they've just started marketing in the United States. Choose the Australian Chardonnay 2001 with peach and lemon flavors and a crisp finish, or Australian Shiraz 2000 with berry and spice flavors. Each 750 ml bottle sells for \$6.99.

- Not to forget the person who prefers beer but would like to get festive about it. Heineken is marketing a limited edition 3-liter bottle shaped like a champagne magnum (\$24.99), complete with champagne cork.

- And finally, think of the year-round pleasures of the foodies on your list. The recently re-launched Eating Well Magazine (\$16.97 for four quarterly issues) concentrates on healthful food choices, gourmet recipes, and serious discussion of food issues.

Call 1 (800) 337-0402; on the Web - <http://www.eatingwell.com>.

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Tips for taking care of Christmas trees

Stand It Straight...
CLEMSON, S.C. (AP) — That Christmas tree you brought home from the corner lot no longer has its own roots to stand on, so it's up to you to make sure it stands tall and straight.

Some basic engineering skill will help, advises Ben Sill, civil engineer at Clemson

University. His advice:

- Choose a tree that is symmetrical and has a straight trunk. Lop-sided or crooked trees are accidents waiting to happen.

- Avoid the round Christmas tree stands. Instead, use one with legs — the longer legs the better. These will help redistribute the

weight of the tree.

- Don't crowd the tree into a wall. That can unbalance the tree and make it fall.

- If your tree is still tipsy, adopt what Sill calls "brute-force engineering" — install screw-eye hooks near the top of the window that is the tree's chosen spot. Then run small-gauge guide wires from the screw eyes to the top of tree. "Before, everyone would have to look at the tree, then adjust it to the left, adjust it to the right, and so on," Sill said. "This way, I just get it fairly close, and the problem is solved."

- Now that your tree is up and balanced, start by hanging the heaviest ornaments directly over and parallel to the legs of the tree stand. Sill says this is the "force times distance" argument. OK, you don't understand that? Just do it. It will keep the tree from tipping over.

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These gifts keep giving by helping others

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Buy a gift for someone, or even yourself, and at the same time help others:

The designs are cheery and hopeful, just like the artists. There's a Safari silk scarf (\$39), by Grissel, 13, of Chihuahua, Mexico, and Rachel G., 8, of Woodlands, Texas, which shows jungle animals amid palm trees against a deep red background. Other items based on their design include a tote bag (\$32) and necktie (\$29).

Both artists are kids who have been treated at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. They're just two of many who've participated in the center's Children's Art Project, and their designs have been made into a line of gifts that fund activities to help them enjoy a degree of normalcy while they recover, such as camp, art classes, ski trips, and help in transitioning back to school.

Gifts include jewelry, scarves, ties, tote bags, greeting cards and other items.

For a catalog or orders, call 1 (800) 231-1580. On the Web - <http://www.childrensart.org>.

Artist Robin Richards of Daphne, Ala., has multiple sclerosis, but her work is one way she's dealing with it. "When I paint, I feel like I'm making connections that will keep me going no matter what." Her foil-tipped pear tree holiday card is one of those included in the line of cards and cal-

endars from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Drawn from "The Creative Will" and "MS Through the Eyes of a Child" programs, the cards are \$25 for 25 cards, and "The Healing Power of Creativity" calendar is \$9. All benefit families dealing with MS.

For orders, call 1 (800) FIGHT-MS; on the Web - <http://www.nationalmssociety.org>.

A card you can feel — the image of a snowy Christmas tree is embossed, and the greeting is in Braille — comes from the Hadley School for the Blind in Winnetka, Ill. Designed by Kristina, 8, who is visually impaired, the cards are \$25 for a box of 25. All sales aid the school's programs and its work in distance education.

Call 1 (800) 323-4238; on the Web - <http://www.hadley-school.org>.

There's an important gift offered in this season's Neiman Marcus catalog: an Italian cameo portrait (\$5,000, and allow four weeks) handcarved by Amedeo Scognamiglio and based on a photograph you supply. Part of the proceeds of this gift go to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Call 1 (877) 9NMGIFT; on the Web - <http://www.neimanmarcus.com>.

Jackson is the cuddly bear to be found at The Bombay Company this season, and 10 percent of his sales benefit the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in its fight against childhood cancer. Jackson is a honey blonde and is available in 16-inch

(\$18) or 30-inch (\$135) sizes. The bear is in the stores, but you also can order online at <http://www.bombaycompany.com>.

Joining the lineup of full-skirted, romantic figurines made by Royal Doulton, "Spring Morning" (\$245) is 8 inches high in a white dress with pale green embossed bodice. Designed by artist Nada Pedley, she also wears a pink ribbon symbol on one of her capped sleeves. For each sale of this piece, Royal Doulton will donate \$20 to the American Cancer Society, Breast Cancer Network.

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Teddy Bear, Lenox has created a two-bear gift: a small plush Teddy Bear cradling a patriotic china bear ornament, accented in 24K gold with a red, white and blue vest (\$40). A portion of the proceeds go to the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric Aids Foundation.

The Musical Holiday Snow Globe (\$24.95) is one of the things you'll find in Things Remembered outlets this season. There's also a pewter holiday ornament studded with Swarovski crystals (\$17.95) and the Star Keepsake Box in brushed silver (\$34.95), with five inspirational wishing stars enclosed. For each sale of the snow globe or ornament, \$2 will be donated to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, which helps grant wishes to children with life-threatening illnesses. For each Star Keepsake Box, \$5 will be donated. Call 1 (800) 274-7367; on the Web -

<http://www.thingsremembered.com>.

Gandalf the Wizard-Clown always comes through for the animals. Ten percent from sales of magic essentials such as a collapsible wand (\$11.95), a vaudeville rabbit wand that turns your spectator into a rabbit (\$49.95), or a tuxedo cane that appears out of thin air (\$65) goes to any animal shelter in the United States that the customer selects. These and other gifts can be ordered by calling 1 (800) 388-0708; on the Web - <http://www.magic4pets.com>.

The "Help a Hero" DOGNY dog toy (\$4.99-\$6.99) from Hartz Mountain Corporation benefits the campaign for search and rescue dogs. It comes in three breeds — German shepherd, Labrador retriever, and bloodhound — and each comes with a stars and stripes bandanna. The DOGNY project was established by the American Kennel Club and AKC Companion Animal Recovery in honor of the work done by the animals during the Sept. 11 disaster. Hartz donates \$1 of each sale to the AKC CAR Canine Support and Relief Fund.

And the best things in life are free — like the National Kidney Foundation's organ donor card. Says Dr. William Keane, president of the foundation, "It doesn't require a credit card, cash, or even a gift receipt, yet it's the one gift with enduring value." Talk it over with your family, then call 1 (800) 622-9010 for a free donor card.

Rely on taste, originality for that special present

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Your nearest and dearest want to be surprised, they say, so it's up to you to pick up their subtle hints. If none are found, rely on taste or originality. Some picks to inspire you:

If you have a little loose change, you might just opt for the \$3 million Andy Warhol "Greatest Athletes" pop art shown in the latest Neiman Marcus catalog, or "His and Her" personalized action figures for \$7,500 each.

Otherwise you may find yourself warming to the more truly personal, such as the John Hardy sterling silver lanyard (\$195), to carry an ID badge in style, or the leather cosmetic bag decorated with works by art nouveau artist Gustav Klimt (\$85).

Still, you may be looking for a more spectacular gift for a woman in your life. Follow the lead of the late marketing genius Stanley Marcus and order a "Parfait" (\$1,000) — his inspired packaging of five cashmere sweaters and a nylon scarf stirred into a giant brandy snifter, looking like the world's largest dessert. If you want to top it with a "cherry," the delicacy can include a ruby and diamond ball ring set in white gold (total cost \$11,050) Call 1 (877) 825-8000; on the Web - <http://www.neimanmarcus.com>.

If she could have, Pocohontas might have adorned herself with the new Feathers jewelry from Tiffany & Co. Your own princess will enjoy wearing any of the options offered in this versatile design, a slim abstract feather in precious or semi-precious materials. Find it as a pendant in smoky quartz set in 18K white gold (\$775), in crystal set in 18K yellow gold (\$750), diamond set in 18K white gold (\$3,100), or at the other end of the scale, as a diamond and 18K white gold necklace (\$32,000). There also are earrings, lariats, and bracelets in many other variations, all set with either 18K white or yellow gold.

A new take on a familiar form at Cartier: the limited edition Mustessence ring (\$1,300) ramps on the design of the popular three-gold interlocking ring. In this version, however, the three bands — of white, yellow and pink gold — are of different widths and don't interlock. Rather, the superimposed bands turn without touching. When the wearer takes it off, it can even form a sphere.

She can wear her heart on her sleeve — or at least close to it — if your gift is one of Scott Kay's heart bracelets. A platinum link bracelet with diamonds (\$3,460) features heart and diamond drops suspended from a heart-shaped link.

And the Diamond Information Center reminds you that even though they're the ultimate treasure to bestow, diamonds don't necessarily have to break your personal bank. Right-hand rings — meant to show off personal style rather than marital status — start at \$500 at Fortunoff. Prices for three-stone rings start at \$149 at Zales, while a solitaire ring can be had for as little as \$100 at Kay Jewelers.

Should your recipient travel with small valuables,

give him or her something appropriate to carry them in, such as one of the elegant Petite Minis (\$15) from Wolf Designs. These miniature jewelry cases — great for rings, cufflinks, earrings and such — come in four styles and in black, red, fuchsia, yellow and blue lizard finishes with gold-plated handles.

The woman on the go also would appreciate one of the French tapestry-print travel mates from the Lillian Vernon catalog. These are the fashionable quilted cotton type, zippered, trimmed with burgundy bindings, and personalized with three initials. The set includes a 24-inch duffel (\$34.98), a tote (\$24.98) and a garment bag (\$44.98). Call 1 (800) 545-5426; on the Web - <http://www.lillianvernon.com>.

A new issue from Steuben that the collector would like is the 3 1/4-inch Butterfly crystal sculpture (\$245), with light reflections replicating the color of its wing scales.

For the gastronome on your list, select the Gastronomique plates (\$38 for four) or rapiers (\$42 for four) from Williams-Sonoma. The 8 1/4-inch plates are decorated with 19-century engravings representing French culinary regions and are especially appropriate for serving cheeses and fruits. The oval rapiers, 8 3/4-inches wide, are useful for serving hors d'oeuvres and side dishes.

Then a suggestion for the wine lover: one of the

decanter-glass sets from Reidel Crystal. Choose the Vinum Extreme Cabernet Decanter Set (\$112.90), the Vinum Cabernet Decanter Set (\$109.50), or the Wine Cabernet Decanter Set (\$92.50), each with a decanter and two glasses. These are the classic type oenophiles prefer, so skip the fussy decorated stems and jugs.

Elegant to give and to entertain with, the sterling silver Palladium cocktail shaker (\$2,100) and bar tray (\$1,275) from Tiffany & Co. has art deco glamour.

Italian craftsmanship is celebrated in the Frecklefarm catalog, most specifically the Three Graces photograph album in hand-tooled Florentine leather (\$265). The leaves are cream-colored, bound in onionskin paper, so pressed flowers and other mementoes can be added to the picture collection. Call 1 (800) 481-6337; on the Web - <http://www.frecklefarm.com>.

For the person who loves Americana, consider the 2002 Hitchcock Christmas Chair (\$700) which stencil artist Lori Sokolik has decorated with an old-time New England scene. This is a limited edition from the same company that has been making these stenciled rush-seat chairs for 200 years; the "rush" used is hand-woven dried leaves of female cattail plants. Call 1 (888) 429-5354; on the Web - <http://www.hitchcockchair.com>.

The quiet guitarist? Not a contradiction in terms for the musician in the house. Yamaha's Silent Guitar (\$699) enables the player to practice and perform without disturbing others, via headphones. The instrument has acoustic sound and a sleek, otherworld design.

It's a cross between a toy and basic transportation. The eGO Cycle (\$1,399) rechargeable electric bike will get your recipient around town without exhaustion, and without exhaust. This little buggy gets 25 miles per charge (and you can carry a spare battery), has a top speed of 23 mph, front suspension for a smooth ride, front disc brakes, side and front baskets and a capability of carrying 250 pounds of rider and cargo onboard, plus 100 pounds more of trailer cargo. It can be parked and locked like a regular bike. Call 1 (800) 979-4EGO; on the Web - <http://www.egovehicles.com>.

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