

Great Deals For The Holidays! Ask About Our 2 Months FREE Cellular Connections located at 2145-R N. Hobart

THE Pampa NEWS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2002

Vol. 98 No. 533 • Pampa, Texas
50 cents Daily • Sunday \$1



WEATHER WEATHER

HIGH **LOW**
32 **17**

NATIONAL

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans are counting on Sen. Bill Frist to project the image of a party open to minorities as they prepare to take control of the Senate and confront a host of difficult issues.

The 50-year-old Frist, a wealthy heart surgeon with relatively little national exposure, was set to be elevated by his colleagues Monday to the position of majority leader in the new Congress.

"He personifies not just the rhetoric about idealism but as a life that has been lived," Sen. Dick Lugar, R-Ind., said Sunday. "There are actually hands-on examples of how he will make a difference. And I think it's a very exciting prospect."

DEATHS

- David Cupell**, 50, an Amarillo native.
- Juanita Parcell**, 83, long-time Pampa resident.
- Mervin A. Snapp**, 74, retired district manager for Baker Oil Tools, Inc.
- Paul Wilbur Stobbe**, 55, a Mesquite accountant.
- Ann Keeton Williamson**, 83, an Oklahoma homemaker, antique collector and Realtor.

INSIDE...

- Classified** 7
- Comics** 4
- Sports** 5

WEST TEXAS LANDSCAPE

GIFT SHOP

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Gray County Airport to get improvements

By **NANCY YOUNG**
Managing Editor

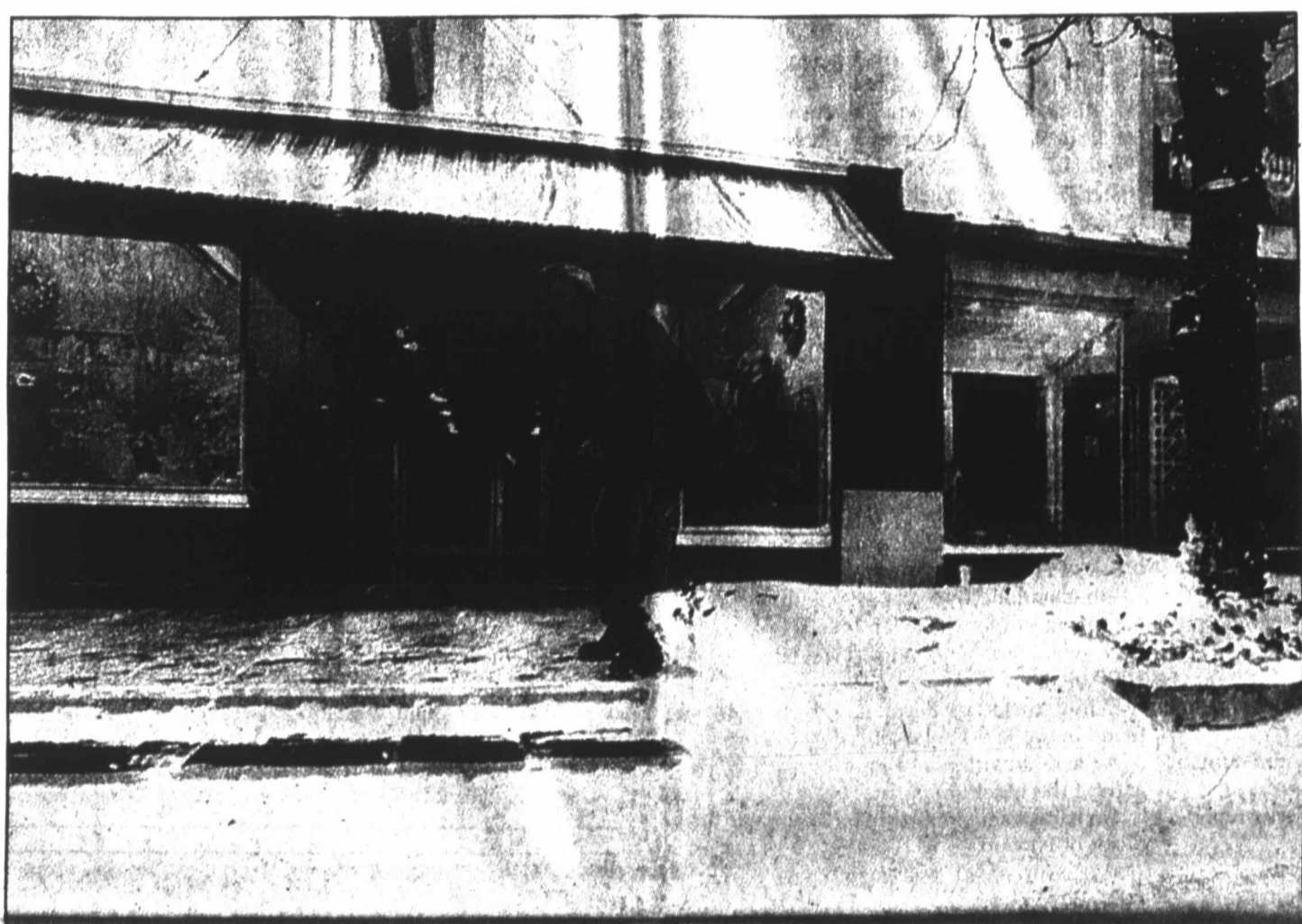
McLEAN — McLean's Gray County Airport will be getting some improvements. Texas Transportation Commission awarded \$98,000 in transportation funds to be used

on the project. The state is contributing 90 percent of the cost of the project. Gray County is furnishing 10 percent. The funds will be used for pavement improvements including sealing runways, taxiway stubs and apron plus re-striping runway markings with

construction starting in the Spring of 2003. The 90 percent of the project costs funded by TxDOT is through the department's Aviation Facilities Grant Program. TxDOT will provide about \$60 million in funding for

planning, constructing and maintaining community airports. According to TxDOT, about 275 community airports in Texas are eligible for funding. Arrivals and departures from community airports account for more than three

million flight hours per year and provide aircraft facilities for agricultural, medical, business and commuter use, said TxDOT officials. Hutchinson County Airport north of Borger also received a TxDOT grant for improvements.



Last minute shoppers will find Pampa stores open today. Cuyler Street merchants like Nick Martin of Carousel Expressions were out cleaning sidewalks this morning as the snow continued to fall.

Pampa does more than dream of a White Christmas

It looks as though the Texas Panhandle will enjoy a White Christmas. While there is something magical about Christmas snow, it also the bane of travelers and emergency workers. U.S. Highway 60 and Interstate 40 as well as secondary roads were reported covered with snow and dangerous today. Law enforcement officials were blaming slick roads on a number of accidents, including one report of a

deer being hit on Interstate 40 near Shamrock. "I-40 and Highway 60 are both snowpacked," Carson County Deputy Sgt. Gay Russell said today. So far, none of the accidents on I-40 as it passes through Wheeler County or Gray County have been serious. Russell said the winter storm that moved through the area apparently went up U.S. 60, dumping snow in Amarillo, Panhandle and Pampa.

Reports this morning indicated that Texas Highway 152 between Pampa and Borger was not in as bad a shape as Texas Highway 136 between Borger and Stinnett. At 8 a.m. today, Canadian reported snow and 32 degrees. Hemphill County officials in Canadian reported deteriorating road conditions. "It's getting slick out there," said Kay Dickey with the Hemphill County Sheriff's Department. "We've already had two

wrecks this morning." Wheeler County officials estimated that they had four to five inches on the ground shortly after 8 a.m. today. "It's coming right straight down," said the dispatcher at the Wheeler County Sheriff's Office. "We have some good snow," said Belinda Daniels at the Shamrock Police Department. Daniels said that they had about three inches on the ground and that it was snowing steadily.

County coffers cash rich due to tax collections

By **NANCY YOUNG**
Managing Editor

Gray County's coffers are up in cash right now due to the property tax money which has been coming in, said County Treasurer Scott Hahn at a recent meeting of the county commission.

Current total assets for the county for the month of November are \$2,270,138.48, said Hahn.

"It (county budget) looks the way we expect it to look basically for November," said Hahn. "We're actually up in cash due to the recent tax collections for next year."

"The crime victim coordinator is going along about like it has with \$8,000 negative at the beginning of the month," he said. Hahn explained that the account is reimbursed each month by the Governor's office.

"I would say we're not going to be in a situation where we're not going to need to loan any money from any fund to another to finish the year," he said. "We have only today's bills and then one more go-round." The commission will hold one meeting - on Dec. 31 - before the end of 2002 and the calendar budget.

Hahn said the county ended November with \$880,000 in courthouse restoration funds. He said the bills to be paid in a few days almost total that amount.

He said, hopefully, the funds from the state will arrive before the next round of checks has to go out in mid-January, 2003.

The health insurance fund had \$107,000 in it at the end of November, said Hahn. "It's still keeping its head above water with a little bit of cushion," said Hahn.

Consumer spending rises 0.5 percent in November, biggest increase since July

By **JEANNINE AVERSA**
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Consumers showed a burst of holiday cheer and boosted their spending by 0.5 percent in November, the biggest increase in four months. The sizable gain in spending followed a solid 0.4 percent increase in October, the Commerce Department said Monday. The report reinforced the belief among economists that consumers will keep their pocketbooks and wallets open wide enough to prevent the economic recovery from fizzling. "Spending is holding up nicely, powered by moderate

gains in income," said economist Joel Naroff of Naroff Economic Advisors. Americans' incomes — including wages, interest and government benefits — rose by 0.3 percent in November for the fourth month in a row. Given the solid income growth and a recent increase in consumers' confidence in the economy, there should be solid gains (in spending) through the next few months, Naroff predicted. "Of course there still is Iraq hovering in the background and that could cause some faltering in demand. But until a war breaks out, if it does, look for the consumer to continue to

play the role of Atlas," he added. Consumers — whose spending accounts for two-thirds of all economic activity in the United States — have been the main force carrying the economy all year. The 0.5 percent advance in spending marked the largest increase since July. So far this year, consumer spending has been supported by a number of factors, including: low interest rates, zero percent financing offers, rising home values and extra cash left from a flurry of home mortgage refinancing. Those factors have been offsetting negative ones including the turbulent stock market.

Prisoners repair bikes for Christmas

ELLSWORTH, Kan. (AP) — Some of Santa's helpers wear prison stripes. Inmates at the Ellsworth Correctional Facility in Kansas are helping to make the holidays a little brighter for needy kids. The inmates are making old bikes as good as new for youngsters whose families can't afford to buy them. Prison officials say by Christmas Eve, the inmates will have rebuilt about 275 bikes. Since 1999, more than 500 used bicycles have been given makeovers. The bikes are donated to service and nonprofit groups for distribution to the kids. And at the Osborn Correctional Institution in Somers, Conn., about a dozen inmates use scraps of fabric from the prison's clothing shop to make rag dolls for needy children. They are learning to sew for a program that makes mattresses and other items for private industry like prisons, hotels and hospitals. With the leftover material, they make the dolls. "We have no use for the scraps," said Michael A. Kiczuk, industries supervisor.

Mary Ellen & Harvester Church Of Christ Free Dinner Christmas Day
11:00 am - 2:00 pm ... For More Information Call 665-0031

Show Your Support For Your Local Pampa Merchants ... Shop Pampa First
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OBITUARIES

DAVID CUPELL
1952-2002

LIBERAL, Kan. — David Cupell, 50, died Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2002, at Via Christi Regional Medical Center St. Francis in Wichita, Kan. Services were to be at 11 a.m., today in First Baptist Church with the Rev. David Bagwell presiding. Burial will be in Liberal Cemetery under the direction of Kitch-Brenneman Funeral Home in Liberal.

Mr. Cupell was born Sept. 23, 1952, at Amarillo, to JoEd and Anita Williams Cupell. He graduated from Hereford High School at Hereford in 1971 and married Connie Alexander on May 26, 1972, at Hereford. He had been a Liberal resident for five years, moving from Amarillo.

He was in the trucking business with his father from 1971-78 prior to working in truck sales and management with Freightliner and Kenworth, currently serving as general manager of Liberal Kenworth.

He formerly was an active member of Kiwanis Club in Amarillo and belonged to First Baptist Church in Liberal and Believers Sunday School Class. He volunteered with

AWANAS program for children.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Anita.

Survivors include his wife, Connie; three daughters, Leigh Ann, Glen of Liberal and twins, Ashlee and Amanda, both of the home; his father, JoEd, of Amarillo; a brother, Albert Cupell of Amarillo; two sisters, JoAnn Stephens of Pampa and Nita White of Amarillo; and a grandchild.

Visitation will be from 9 a.m.-9 p.m., today and from 1-5 p.m., Sunday at the funeral home in Liberal and the family requests memorials be in lieu of flowers to Cupell Children Memorial Fund in care of Kitch-Brenneman Funeral Home, 1212 W. 2nd, Liberal, KS 67901.



MERVIN A. SNAPP
1928-2002

Mervin A. Snapp, 74, of Pampa, died Monday, Dec. 23, 2002, at Pampa, Texas. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Snapp was born Oct. 30, 1928, on a farm near Barnard, Kan. He worked in the oilfield in Kansas before moving to Pampa in 1956. He retired as district manager of Baker Oil Tools, Inc., in 1990, after 35 years of service. He was a member of the Highland Baptist Church and the Top O' Texas Masonic Lodge #1381 AF&AM.

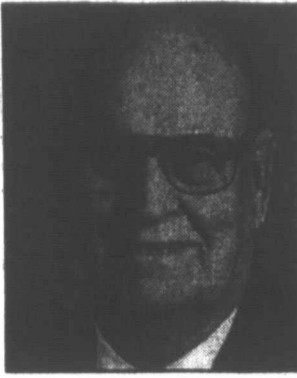
He was preceded in death by his wife of 46 years, Ruth Marie Stewart Snapp; and a sister, Louise Hatfield.

Survivors include three sons and daughters-in-law, Allen and Jan Snapp, Donnie and Rhonda Snapp, and Bill and Carol Snapp, all of Pampa; two daughters

and sons-in-law, Ginger and John Jones and Karen and George Mendoza, all of Pampa; a sister, Nola Gulden of Oregon City, Ore.; 13 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX, 79065; or to Highland Baptist Church, 1301 N. Banks, Pampa, TX 79065.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.



ANN KEETON WILLIAMSON
1919-2002

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — Ann Keeton Williamson, 83, died Saturday, Dec. 21, 2002. Services were to be at 2 p.m. today in Smith and Turner Chapel with burial to follow in Resurrection Cemetery in Oklahoma City. Arrangements are under the direction of Smith and Turner Mortuary in Yukon, Okla.

Mrs. Williamson was born Dec. 5, 1919, at the community of Yates in Hill County, Texas. She was a homemaker who also pursued interests — that

of antique collector, Realtor, and bingo player.

She was preceded in death by two sons, Donald and Billy Ray Tosh.

Survivors include her husband, Bill Williamson, of the home; a son, Richard Tosh of Fort Worth; a daughter, Barbara Foust of Wichita; a brother, Orville Keeton of Texas; a sister, Berwenia Pritchett of Texas; 15 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

PAUL WILBUR STOBBE
1947-2002

MESQUITE — Paul Wilbur Stobbe, 55, died Saturday, Dec. 21, 2002. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Stobbe was born Nov. 5, 1947, at Cleveland, Ohio. He graduated from Cleveland State University with a bachelor of science

degree in business management in 1970 and moved to Mesquite eight years ago.

He was a self-employed accountant for many years.

Survivors include a sister, Anne Stobbe of Pampa. —Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

JUANITA PARCELL
1919-2002

Juanita Parcell, 83, of Pampa, died Friday, Dec. 20, 2002. The body was cremated and consequently will not be available for viewing. No services are scheduled at the present time. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Parcell, a longtime Pampa resident, was born in 1919 at Wyoming. She was a bookkeeper in her uncle's plumbing company for many years.

There are no known survivors, but a host of friends including Mary Stephens of Amarillo.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

ON RECORD

POLICE

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents.

Thursday, Dec. 19

Theft of water was reported by the Pampa Water Department.

Tools were reported stolen out of a vehicle in the 700 block of Kingsmill.

A narcotics search warrant was served on a home at 1145 S. Varnon.

Friday, Dec. 20

An unattended death was reported in the 400 block of North Russell.

A scooter was reported found and turned into PPD.

An assault with minor injuries was reported.

Saturday, Dec. 21

Medication was reported stolen from a house in the 1100 block of Prairie.

Two briskets and a 20 pack of beer were reported stolen from Albertson's.

An antique glass globe for a kerosene lamp was reported stolen from a home in the 500 block of North Roberts.

A junked vehicle was towed in the 300 block of Sunset.

A coat valued at \$178 was reported stolen from a home in the 2500 block of Aspen.

A runaway was reported in the 400 block of North Gray.

An assault with minor injuries was reported.

Sunday, Dec. 22

A stalking incident was reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart.

An abandoned vehicle was reported in the 400 block of North Cuyler.

A vehicle sustained minor vandalism in the 1600 block of West Somerville.

White rocks in a small plastic bag was found in the 1900 block of North Hobart.

An assault with minor injuries was reported in the 1100 block of Darby.

An harassment report was made in the 2400 block of Navajo.

A gas drive-off was reported at Allsup's, 1025 W. Wilks.

A burglary and possession of phernalia report was made in the 1000 block of West Alcock.

Telephone equipment, computer equipment, electronic games and stereo equipment was reported damaged or stolen from a home in the 1100 block of Cinderella.

Monday, Dec. 23

A domestic dispute was reported in the 1800 block of Nelson.

SHERIFF

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

Saturday, Dec. 21

Rosalio Bedolla, 41, 415 Starkweather, was arrested on Hutchinson County warrants charging him with improper window covering, not having liability insurance and failure to appear and a Gray County warrant charging him with aggravated assault.

Kristi McDonald, 23, 900 N. Gray, was arrested on municipal warrants charging her with driving without a license and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Caryn Kalka, 22, Spring, was arrested by

Texas Department of Public Safety troopers on charges of driving while intoxicated.

Justin Kalka, 19, Spring, was arrested by DPS troopers on charges of driving while intoxicated, failure to appear, displaying an expired inspection sticker, speeding and using a driver's license that had been revoked.

Jeffrey Dewayne Hunt, 40, 605 Deane, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of assault and criminal mischief.

Tabatha Herring, 23, 1123 Juniper, was arrested on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and burglary.

AMBULANCE

Pampa Ambulance reported the following emergency calls today.

Friday, Dec. 20

11:11 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2300 block of Price Road and transported one person to Pampa Regional Medical Center (PRMC).

4:51 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 400 block of North Christy and transported one person to PRMC.

5:29 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the

7:23 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of North Russell.

10:54 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of South Russell and transported one person to PRMC.

Saturday, Dec. 21

1:23 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of North Warren and transported one PRMC.

Stores court shoppers with expanded hours, deep discounts

BY ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
AP BUSINESS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP) — Retailers who have watched with dismay as the pre-Christmas rush hasn't produced big bucks are now hoping customers will show up in the next few days — or soon after the holiday season.

"The season is reflecting great spending caution and could be the weakest in a dozen years," said Kurt Barnard, president of Barnard's Retail Trend Report.

Retailers had a good start to the season with a better-than-expected sales during the Thanksgiving weekend, but sales since then have been surprisingly weak. Analysts say consumers have cut back on their spending because of worries about job security and the economy's uncertain recovery.

Giant retailer Federated Department Stores Inc. reported Monday that sales through the seven days ended Saturday "did not strengthen as much as anticipated." As a result, it warned Monday that sales for November and December will most likely be below its goal range of unchanged to up 2.5 percent from a year ago.

Weekend shoppers concentrated on searching out the best prices, and retailers tried to accommodate them with two-for-one specials and other deep discounts.

Sears, Roebuck and Co. offered a 10 percent discount on nearly everything in the store Saturday morning. Gloves and other cold weather merchandise did well, along with digital cameras and jewelry, according to spokesman Ted McDougal.

Still, weekend business was

in line with the company's modest holiday expectations, which is for a mid single-digit sales decline.

K-B Toys Inc. offered discounts of anywhere from 10 percent to 30 percent, but reported that while customer traffic was strong, sales only showed a slight gain from a year ago.

"We are happy that we are holding ground, but we were really hoping for a higher increase," K-B Toys spokesman John Reilly said Sunday.

The retailer is now focusing on the final days of the month to recoup business.

Barnard believes sales at stores that have been open at least a year, known as same-store sales, could fall below his already reduced 2 percent forecast. Same-store sales are considered the best indicator of a retailer's health.

"It was a solid weekend, but retailers needed a spectacular weekend," said C. Britt Beemer, chairman of America's Research

Group. "It was what I expected, but not what I hoped."

Shoppers interviewed this weekend liked the lower prices.

"I guess I am looking for more bargains than normal," said Leon Fenhaus, who found diamond jewelry discounted up to 50 percent at the Empire Mall in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Ronda Golden, from Yukon, Okla., who began her holiday shopping right after Thanksgiving, said she should have waited for a better price.

"I could have gotten a CD burner I bought for my daughter

for half of what I paid," said Golden, who was shopping at the Penn Square Mall in Oklahoma City.

But the heavy markdowns might take a toll on retailers' earnings, an especially painful result, because many merchants hope to bring in half their annual profits during the holidays.

Last week, a number of stores, including Electronics Boutique, Best Buy Co. Inc., and Barnes & Noble Inc. reduced their fourth-quarter earnings.

Even Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the world's largest retailer, is seeing

sales at the low end of its projections for a 3 percent to 5 percent gain in December.

The National Retail Federation, an industry group, was holding on to its optimism, and to hopes that procrastinators will give stores a boost. The NRF estimated that 35 percent of consumers hadn't completed their shopping as of last Monday.

"The season isn't over," Karen MacDonald, a spokeswoman for Taubman Centers Inc., the Bloomfield, Mich.-based mall operator. "We are now in the most important days."

City Briefs

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

50% OFF all Christmas items including Poinsettias. Lazy S Feed & Garden, 516 S. Russell.

CELEBRATIONS CLOSED 25th. We will be open the 26th- all Christmas 55% off. 665-3100, Coronado Center.

CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT holiday deadlines for delivery starts & stops Mon., Dec., 23rd will be by 9:00 A.M., Tues., Dec., 24th will be Mon., by Noon, No Wednesday Paper. Merry Christmas!

COMICS, BABY'S 1st Christmas will be in the 2nd Section of Tues. Dec. 24th, Pampa News. Have a Merry Christmas!!

DUNLAPS EXTENDED Holiday Hours: Today 9-8, Tues 8-5

EARLY DEADLINES for classified line ads, in Pampa News for Thurs.-Dec. 26th, is Tues.-Dec. 24th 10 a.m. Merry Christmas!!

HARVESTER LANES open X-mas at 4pm, 665-3422.

LIFESTYLES DEADLINE (weddings, engagements, baby, club news, newsmakers, etc.) in the Pampa News for Sun., Dec. 29th, is Tues. Dec. 24th, before noon. Happy Holidays to everyone!!

QUEEN CHIMNEY Sweep, 665-9452 lv. msg.

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

A heavy snow warning is in effect today and tonight with a possible snow accumulation of 4 to 6 inches, highs in the mid 30s, and northeast winds 5 to 15 mph. Tonight we should see heavy snow with an accumulation of 2 to 3 inches for a total accumulation of 6 to 9 inches, lows in the lower 20s, and north winds 10 to 15 mph. Tuesday should be cloudy. Chance of snow. Highs in the lower 30s. Northwest winds 5 to 15 mph. Chance of snow 40 percent. Tuesday night, mostly cloudy. Lows around 17. West winds 5 to 10

mph. Christmas Day, mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 30s. Southwest winds 5 to 10 mph. Wednesday night, mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 20s. Thursday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 30s. Thursday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 20s. Friday, partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 40s. Friday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 20s. Saturday, partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s. Saturday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 20s. Sunday, partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s.

STATEWIDE

Sunday was the first day of winter, and Old Man Winter played along, laying a blanket of snow over the Texas Panhandle and northern reaches of the South Plains.

Heavy snow continued to fall early Monday, and the National Weather Service forecast a chance of snow for virtually the entire western half of Texas by Monday night, although the heaviest snowfall will be in the Panhandle.

But snow, and sleet mixed with snow, also was expected Monday night in the Midland-Odessa area, with accumulations up to 2 inches. Light snow was expected Monday night on into far West Texas, especially the mountainous areas, where accumulations of 2 to 4 inch-

es were said to be possible.

Light rain was expected in the San Angelo area Monday night, with a chance of light snow by midnight.

Whether the snow will hang around for Christmas Day was less sure. Temperatures were expected to be down around freezing across northern portions of West Texas on Wednesday, but skies were expected to be clearing by Tuesday night.

Thunderstorms prowled across North Texas and parts of South Texas early Monday, and the Texas Hill Country was under a tornado watch until 10 a.m. — rare for December. The region was expecting thunderstorms, some severe.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

GIFTS

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Reg. to 48.00



\$20

GIFTS UNDER

SALE 11.99

FUDA ACTIVE WEAR SEPARATES
Active Wear Separates in Missy, Petite and Plus. Special sizes not available in all stores.
Reg. 30.00 to 38.00



SALE 12.99

CHENILLE SWEATER

Reg. 36.00

Missy, Petite and Womens Sizes



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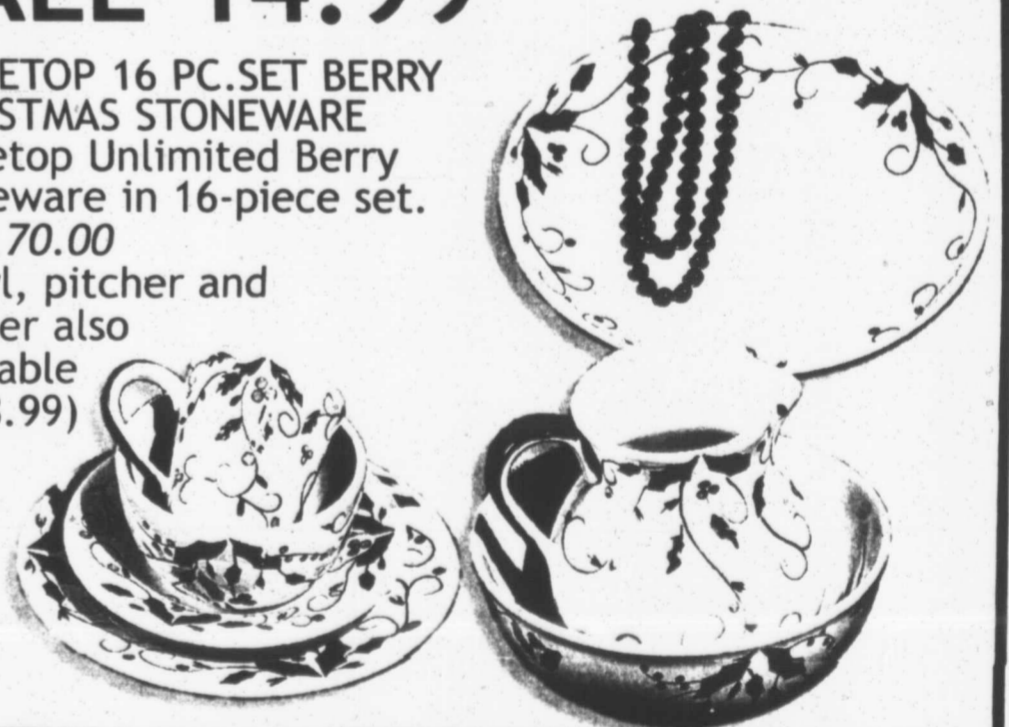
SALE 19.99

NORTHLANDER SUEDE FRONT CARDIGAN SWEATER
60% Off
Reg. 55.00



SALE 14.99

TABLETOP 16 PC. SET BERRY CHRISTMAS STONEWARE
Tabletop Unlimited Berry stoneware in 16-piece set.
Reg. 70.00
(Bowl, pitcher and platter also available at \$8.99)



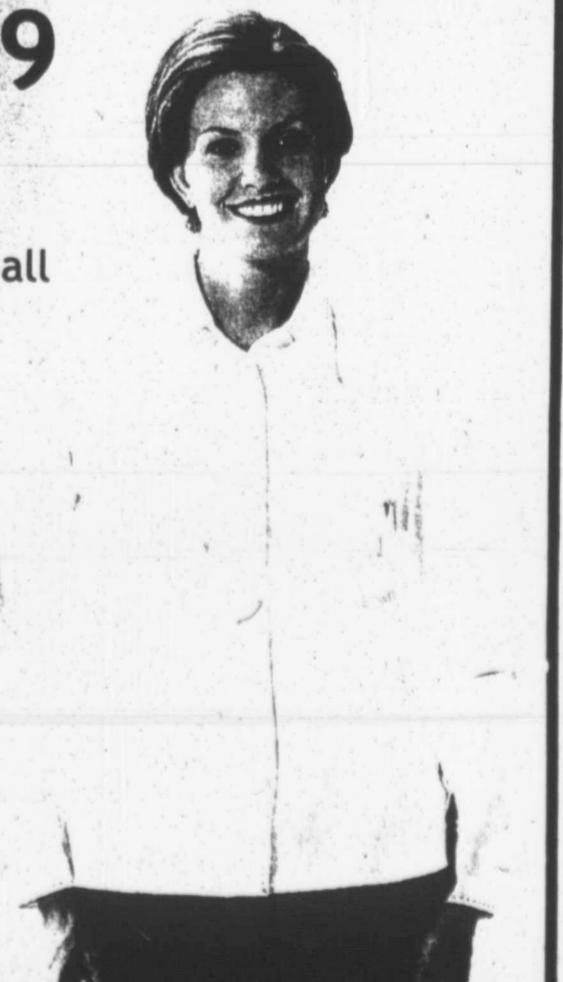
SALE 9.99

CARLIES COURT DOE SUEDE SEPARATES
Doe Suede Separates in Missy, Petite and Plus.
Special sizes not available in all stores.
Reg. 42.00 to 44.00



SALE 12.99

WHITE BLOUSES
Missy and Plus size white blouses. Great selection. Plus sizes not available in all stores.
Reg. 28.00 to 48.00



DUNLAPS

MONDAY 9:00-8:00; TUESDAY 8:00-5:00

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Monday, December 23, 2002

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanna Phillips

Airport Lines Move Faster Once You Follow the Rules

DEAR ABBY: I am a newly hired airport security screener with the Transportation Security Administration. Since many of your readers will travel by air this holiday season, I would like to encourage all of them to visit the TSA's Web site at: www.TSA.gov. This site provides a complete list of what passengers are not allowed to take on board in their carry-on luggage. It is important to know that many items that cannot be brought into the cabin are allowed in the cargo hold.

One of my favorite travel tips comes from frequent fliers. They have stopped using traditional shaving kits and cosmetic bags and instead put their toiletries in clear, resealable freezer bags. When I'm searching a suitcase, the transparent baggies allow me to easily determine if someone has any prohibited items — and it means I don't have to handle the traveler's possessions. One woman even packed her nylons and underwear in plastic bags. It enabled me to adequately "crush and feel" for security purposes without having to paw through her undergarments.

Thanks for getting the word out, Abby. Airline passengers can save themselves (and us) a lot of time by "packing smart."

MARGARET MEYERS
MERION STATION, PA.

DEAR MARGARET: Excellent advice. The quicker and more efficiently travelers can pass through airport security, the safer we'll all be.

DEAR ABBY: Last December you ran a letter in your column from "Feeling Like the Grinch." The writer complained about an elderly neighbor coming over on Christmas morning as gifts were being opened. Let me tell you what happened to us.

When the first grandchild in our family was about 3, my brother reluctantly informed my husband and me that he and his wife wanted to keep Christmas morning "private," and we should discontinue the family tradition of being together at their home for Santa Claus, etc.

At the crack of dawn on Christmas morning, we received an S.O.S. phone call asking us to please forgive them and to get over there fast!

They said when their little boy woke up and walked into the living room, he plopped himself down on the sofa, crying, "Some Christmas — nobody's here!"

Abby, from a child's perspective, sharing can be the whole enchilada.

DOTING AUNT IN GEORGIA

DEAR DOTING AUNT: From the mouths of babes ... The spirit of Christmas is all about sharing. How nice that someone in that family understood it before it was too late.

DEAR ABBY: My father passed away recently. A few years back, my daughter gave both her grand-

parents a personal planning guide to record their individual wishes in making final arrangements. Dad listed exactly how he wanted to be dressed (including wearing his glasses), the hymns he would like sung, the people he had chosen as his pallbearers and the designated stipend for each. He also stated where he kept the deed to the cemetery lots, as well as other important documents we needed after his death.

Abby, it was a blessing to be able to give my father exactly what he wanted. I hope every person reading this will follow suit. It is by far the wisest way one can best serve his or her loved ones.

CAROLYN SALVITTI
AUSTIN, TEXAS

DEAR CAROLYN: Your letter carries an important reminder. The only way to be sure your end-of-life wishes are carried out is to spell them out, orally and in writing. Your father was a wise man.

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

Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 45 German

1 Ensnares steel city

6 In the thick of

10 Competitor

11 Jordan's currency

13 "A Bell for"

14 Michael Caine film

15 Oahu souvenir

16 Sixth sense, initially

18 Middle Earth monster

19 Woodstock performer

22 Hr. part

23 Tops tortes

24 Heathen

27 Iron

28 Actor Bates

29 Go out

30 Woodstock performer

35 Tad's dad

36 Possess

37 "You — here"

38 Sir's counterpart, e.g.

40 Laotian

42 Let up

43 Scout leader?

44 Supporters' votes

DOWN

1 Refrain

2 Bill

3 Use

4 Bad

5 Reddish liqueur

6 Make fit

7 Wire measure

8 Operative

9 Milk sources

12 School break

17 Light source

DAFT APES
SARAH TOSCA
TINAGNE SEPAL
LUGGAGE ALL
LBO TRAINEE
SENORA CARY
DENSE
SPED OLDHAT
HANSOLO ALE
ART RATTLER
FRIED CUTUP
TORRE ABETS
TEAR REDS

Saturday's answer

20 Mideast native

21 Took on coat

24 Broadway's "Game"

25 "Open Sesame" sayer

26 When the stadium fills up

27 Feather-shaped

29 Grass

31 Dwellings

32 Pours

33 Fuming

34 Inert gas

39 Had lunch

41 Distress letters

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STUMPED?

For answer to today's crossword call 1-800-454-7377 99¢ per min., 18 years of age or older only. A King Features Service.

Flo & Friends

OK, what happened to the two packages of Christmas cookies I baked?

There were two?

For Rates or E-mail

ELIZABETH, YOU'RE HOME! I HOPED TO BE HERE EARLIER, BUT WE WERE HELD UP.

I GOT A RIDE WITH SOME FRIENDS. THE WEATHER WAS AWFUL. THERE WAS A WHITE-OUT. WE COULDN'T SEE A THING, SO WE PULLED OFF THE HIGHWAY AND WAITED.

LATER, WE SAW TWO ACCIDENTS AND CARS IN THE DITCH. POLICE WERE EVERYWHERE WITH FLASHING LIGHTS—IT WAS PRETTY SCARY, BUT WE GOT HOME SAFELY!

SORRY I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO GET YOU ANYTHING FOR CHRISTMAS, YET.

THAT'S THE BEST GIFT I COULD GET TODAY!

Zita

WHAT DID YOU TELL YOUR PARENTS THAT YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS?

NOT MUCH, REALLY.

JUST A GIBSON ES-335 RE-ISSUE SEMI-HOLLOW BODY ELECTRIC GUITAR WITH TWO '57 CLASSIC HUMBUCKERS, TUNE-O-MATIC BRIDGE, AND NICKEL-PLATED GROVER TUNERS IN THE ANTIQUE NATURAL FINISH.

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AND A LECTURE ON THE VALUE OF MONEY.

Garfield

THE TREE IS UP, THE LIGHTS ARE ON, AND NOW IT'S SNOWING!

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING MISSING...

BRING IT ON, FAT MAN!

Beetle Bailey

THAT'S THE LAST TIME I'LL TRY THAT TWISTER PUNCH!

Marvin

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

YOU CAN'T COME IN, SWEETIE... MOMMY AND DADDY ARE ER—SHAMPOOING.

IT SURE DIDN'T TAKE LONG TO BREAK OUR SOLEMN PLEDGE TO NEVER LIE TO OUR CHILDREN.

B.C.

WHAT DO I GET FOR A GUY WHO HAS TERRIBLE BODY ODOR BUT DOESN'T KNOW IT?

AS FAR AWAY FROM HIM AS POSSIBLE.

HEH HEH... NO SENSE OF HUMOR.

WHERE THE HECK IS SHE GOING?

Hagar The Horrible

I HAD A LOT OF TROUBLE WRAPPING YOUR GIFT THIS YEAR—I HOPE YOU LIKE IT!

LET ME GUESS...

IS IT SOMETHING FOR MY BOAT?

Peanuts

RATS!

Blondie

I SEE YOU'VE BEEN CHRISTMAS SHOPPING.

HOW'D YOU KNOW THAT?

BECAUSE ALL THE HAIR ON THE BACK OF YOUR NECK IS STILL STICKING STRAIGHT OUT.

SPORTS

NOTEBOOK

BASEBALL

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The Texas Rangers signed closer Ugueth Urbina to a one-year, \$4 million contract with another \$500,000 deferred. Urbina, a two-time All-Star whose 40 saves for Boston last season tied for third-best in the American League, went 1-6 with a 3.00 ERA last season. He had 19 straight saves from April 12-July 3, and blew only six chances all season.

FOOTBALL

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Rich Gannon broke Warren Moon's 11-year-old single-season NFL record for completions in the second quarter of the Oakland Raiders' game against Denver.

Gannon threw a 5-yard pass to Charlie Garner for his 405th completion of the season, breaking the mark set by Moon with the Houston Oilers in 1991. Moon was at the game as a radio commentator.

HOCKEY

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Beating the best team in the NHL gave the Carolina Hurricanes more than confidence. It got the Hurricanes back on their game.

"When you play a team as dominant as Dallas you know you can't cheat (on offense), so you never try to and that's the crux of our game," Carolina coach Paul Maurice said after a 1-0 win over the Stars on Sunday.

"You don't hang in the offensive zone, pinch when you shouldn't or leave the defensive zone early because that team will make you look terrible. So, you play a good solid team game and your defense is always better."

Jeff O'Neill scored with 8:32 left and Kevin Weekes stopped 28 shots for his second shutout of the season in a key win heading into the Christmas break.

The victory over the top scoring team in the league moved the defending Eastern Conference champions into a first-place tie with Tampa Bay at 38 points.

"This is a good way to go into the break — for the coaches, too," said Maurice, whose club rallied for a 3-2 overtime win at Atlanta on Friday night. "You don't have to stew about the last two games that could have gotten away and you're fretting about where the team is at. You know they're going to come back positive and excited about the second half."

"In a lot of ways Christmas kind of closes the book on last season and we can get excited about our push to the playoffs."

O'Neill's team-leading fifth game-winner came two days after he sent the game into overtime against the Thrashers, scoring from his knees.

"I'm trying to put my game together," said O'Neill who has 11 goals after scoring 41 and 31 the last two years. "I've struggled early on and not a lot of good things have happened."



Pampa sisters Tina Skinner and Sandee Stokes (right) were among the 7,161 runners at the White Rock Marathon.

DALLAS — Pampa sisters Sandee Stokes and Tina Skinner proved they can still hold their own in running competition.

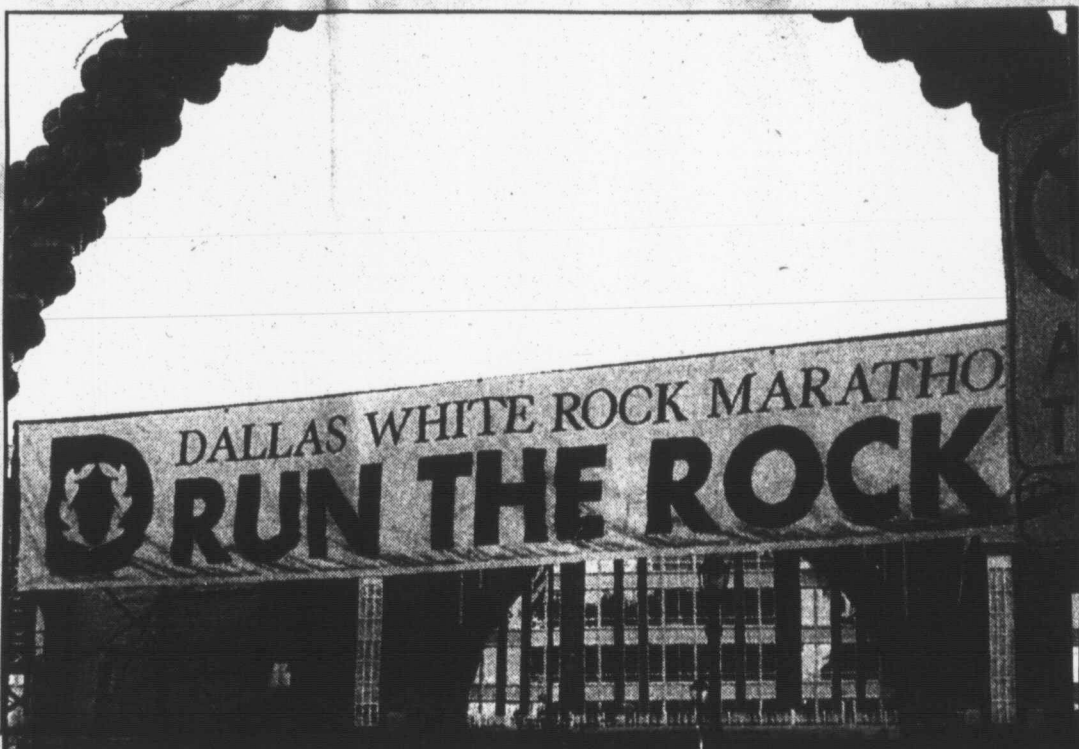
Sandee and Tina entered the White Rock Marathon last weekend in Dallas, and both had respectable finishes in their respective age division.

Sandee placed 16th out of 241 runners in the 30-34 Women's Division while Tina was 23rd out of 227 in the Women's 35-39 Women's Division.

"It went well," Sandee said. "I finished under my goal of four hours. I ran it in 3 hours, 46 minutes and 31 seconds, which was an average of 8 minutes and 38 seconds a mile."

Sandee and Tina Greenway were members of a Pampa High girls' track program that has produced a string of district and regional track titles. Sandee was on the first Lady Harvesters' state championship team in 1986.

The 26.2-mile Dallas marathon started at American Airlines Center and looped around White Rock Lake. Contestants were greeted with quite a show at the starting line. There were red pyrotechnic streamers fluttering in the air as the national anthem was played. The starting line was also decked out with fireworks and confetti.



Both the starting and finishing line was located at the American Airlines Center.

Sister Act

No decision from Jones

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Jerry Jones has always taken pride in his complete control of the Dallas Cowboys. He's also made it part of his business plan to not spend too much on coaches.

Judging by his possible interest in hiring Bill Parcells, Jones might be willing to make big changes if that's what it takes to end the Cowboys' losing ways.

"I think you're touching on issues that are legitimate things I've got to consider," he said Sunday.

Dave Campo is still the team's coach and Jones said he'll likely remain in charge through the season finale Sunday in Washington.

Beyond that, it's tough to say. All Jones would promise is that a decision "is going to be very quick."

"I want to be real clear about something: I have not made up my mind about what we're going to be doing with our head coach," Jones said. "There will be a time frame and it will be soon, just by the nature of it."

Jones apparently began interviewing potential replacements last week when he spent five hours with Bill Parcells.

Fox reported on its NFL Sunday show that a source who spoke with Jones and Parcells on Saturday night said they've agreed to everything except the final contract figure.

Texas holds off Princeton rally

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Rick Barnes admitted it: He probably should have gone to Chris Ogden sooner.

Struggling to find any offensive rhythm against a scrappy Princeton defense, the Texas coach looked down his bench for someone who could hit a big shot.

In goes Ogden, down goes the shot, and 10th-ranked Texas escaped Princeton's upset bid Sunday with a 57-54 victory.

Ogden swished his only shot of the game on a 3-pointer with 3:57 left that gave Texas the lead for good at 51-48.

T.J. Ford would ice the game with four free throws over the final 21 seconds, but it was Ogden's shot that gave Texas the push it needed to win.

"The great thing about depth, you can go down the line and Ogden was ready to play," Barnes said.



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Scoreboard

PRO FOOTBALL

National Football League At A Glance

By The Associated Press All Times EST

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

Table with columns W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA for Miami, N.Y. Jets, New England, Buffalo.

South

Table with columns W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA for x-Tennessee, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Houston, North.

West

Table with columns W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA for Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Baltimore, Cincinnati.

West

Table with columns W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA for x-Oakland, Denver, Kansas City, San Diego, National Conference East.

South

Table with columns W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA for x-Philadelphia, N.Y. Giants, Washington, Dallas.

North

Table with columns W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA for x-Tampa Bay, Atlanta, New Orleans, Carolina.

West

Table with columns W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA for x-Green Bay, Minnesota, Chicago, Detroit.

West

Table with columns W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA for x-San Francisco, St. Louis, Seattle, Arizona.

x-clinched division

Saturday's Games

- Minnesota 20, Miami 17; San Francisco 17, Arizona 14; Philadelphia 27, Dallas 3.

Sunday's Games

- Atlanta 36, Detroit 15; Green Bay 10, Buffalo 0; Washington 26, Houston 10; Carolina 24, Chicago 14; N.Y. Giants 44, Indianapolis 27; Tennessee 28, Jacksonville 10; Kansas City 24, San Diego 22; Cincinnati 20, New Orleans 13; Cleveland 14, Baltimore 13; Seattle 30, St. Louis 10; Oakland 28, Denver 16; N.Y. Jets 30, New England 17.

Monday's Game

- Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay, 9 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 28

- Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, 1:30 p.m.; Kansas City at Oakland, 5 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 29

- Minnesota at Detroit, 1 p.m.; Dallas at Washington, 1 p.m.; Tennessee at Houston, 1 p.m.; Miami at New England, 1 p.m.; Baltimore at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.; Cincinnati at Buffalo, 1 p.m.; Atlanta at Cleveland, 1 p.m.; Carolina at New Orleans, 1 p.m.; Jacksonville at Indianapolis, 4:05 p.m.; Green Bay at N.Y. Jets, 4:15 p.m.; Seattle at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.

Arizona at Denver, 4:15 p.m.; Tampa Bay at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.; Monday, Dec. 30; San Francisco at St. Louis, 9 p.m.

BASKETBALL

Saturday's Major College Basketball Scores

By The Associated Press

EAST

Table with columns W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA for Albany, N.Y., Brown, Conn., Connecticut, N.C.-Asheville, Delaware, Siena, Hartford, Dartmouth, Lafayette, Massachusetts, Niagara, Drexel, Pittsburgh, Rhode Island, Rider, Coppin, Saint Joseph's, DePaul, St. Bonaventure, Kent, St. Peter's, Manhattan, Stony Brook, Hofstra, Syracuse, Georgia Tech, Virginia, Rutgers, West Virginia, Tennessee.

SOUTH

Table with columns W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA for Alabama, Birmingham-Southern, Austin Peay, Middle Tennessee, Chattanooga, Samford, Davidson, Washington & Jefferson, East Carolina, Campbell, Florida, Miami, Georgia Southern, Wagner, Kentucky, Indiana, LSU, Arizona, Louisiana Tech, Jackson, Mississippi, Nicholls, N.C. State, Fairleigh Dickinson, N.C.-Wilmington, Texas-San Antonio, Norfolk, UNC-Greensboro, S. Carolina, The Citadel, Southern Miss., Ark.-Little Rock, UAB, Alabama A&M, UCF, Florida Gulf Coast, Va. Commonwealth, TCU, Wake Forest, St. John's, Winthrop, E. Kentucky, Wofford, King, Tenn.

MIDWEST

Table with columns W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA for Akron, Radford, Bowling Green, Urbana, Butler, Saint Louis, Chicago, N. Iowa, Cleveland, Boston, Creighton, Nebraska, E. Michigan, Gardner-Webb, Ill.-Chicago, Wis.-Green Bay, Illinois, Missouri, Ind.-Par., Indpls., Bradley, Kansas, UCLA, Marquette, Elon, Michigan, Vanderbilt, Michigan, South Florida, Murray, Evansville, N. Illinois, Illinois, Ohio State, Seton Hall, Oklahoma, Wichita, SE Missouri, SW Missouri, Toledo, Arkansas, UMKC, Youngstown, W. Illinois, Concordia, W. Michigan, Virginia Tech, Wis.-Milwaukee, Loyola of Chicago, Wisconsin, Texas Southern.

SOUTHWEST

Table with columns W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA for Arkansas, SW Texas, Lamar, Texas-Pan American, Oklahoma, Georgia, Oral Roberts, MSU, Rice, Colorado, SMU, Baylor, Sam Houston, Texas-Dallas, San Diego, Houston, Texas Tech, New Mexico, UTEP, Tennessee.

FAR WEST

Table with columns W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA for Arizona, Purdue, BYU, UC Santa Barbara.

Cal Poly-SLO 73, E. Illinois 70, OT; Cal St.-Fullerton 62, Sacramento 54; Hawaii 68, New Orleans 56; Idaho 81, Oregon 68; Montana 75, Loyola Marymount 68; Montana 74, Idaho 68; N. Arizona 92, Tenn.-Martin 76; Nevada 88, Portland 79; Pacific 70, San Jose 61; S. Utah 69, New Mexico 57; San Diego 73, UC Riverside 62; Southern Cal 89, La Salle 63; Stanford 77, UNLV 66; Utah St. 66, Weber St. 64; Washington 83, Fla. International 48; Washington St. 78, High Point 71; Wyoming 85, Prairie View 55.

TOURNAMENT

Golden Bear Classic Championship: California 77, Louisiana-Lafayette 61; Third Place: Detroit 79, Grambling St. 52; Maine Holiday Tournament First Round: Jacksonville St. 94, Maine-Machias 61; Maine 100, Husson 68; San Juan Shootout Semifinals: Auburn 63, Denver 58; Troy St. 73, Duquesne 69; Consolation Bracket: James Madison 88, Puerto Rico-Mayaguez 58; Northeastern 91, Sacred Heart 74.

National Basketball Association

By The Associated Press All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division: Boston 18, New Jersey 18, Philadelphia 18, Orlando 15, Washington 12, New York 8, Miami 9; Central Division: Indiana 19, Detroit 18, New Orleans 18, Atlanta 11, Milwaukee 10, Chicago 10, Toronto 8, Cleveland 5.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division: Dallas 22, San Antonio 17, Houston 15, Utah 14, Minnesota 15, Memphis 8, Denver 6; Pacific Division: Sacramento 22, Phoenix 16, Portland 15, Seattle 14, L.A. Clippers 12, L.A. Lakers 11, Golden State 9.

Saturday's Games

- Atlanta 79, Philadelphia 77; Boston 89, Cleveland 82; Minnesota 98, Houston 86; New Jersey 100, Detroit 92; Chicago 110, Indiana 103; Milwaukee 94, New York 90; San Antonio 92, Washington 81; Phoenix 110, Sacramento 101; Portland 81, Seattle 80; L.A. Clippers 92, Denver 89.

L.A. Lakers 109, Toronto 107, OT; Miami 92, New York 84; Sacramento 103, Golden State 88.

Monday's Games

- Miami at Cleveland, 7 p.m.; Atlanta at Indiana, 7 p.m.; Milwaukee at Orlando, 7 p.m.; Chicago at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.; Utah at Houston, 8:30 p.m.; New Orleans at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.; Washington at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.; Seattle at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

Tuesday's Games

No games scheduled.

Wednesday's Games

- Detroit at Orlando, 2 p.m.; Boston at New Jersey, 6 p.m.; Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, 8:30 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

Weekend Sports Transactions

By The Associated Press

BASEBALL

American League

ANAHEIM ANGELS—Named Tyrone Boykin manager for Arkansas of the Texas League; CLEVELAND INDIANS—Agreed to terms with OF Chris Magruder on a minor league contract; TEXAS RANGERS—Signed RHP Ugueth Urbina to a one-year contract.

TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Agreed to terms with RHP Tanyon Sturtzo on a one-year contract.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Agreed to terms with 1B Mark Grace on a one-year contract; COLORADO ROCKIES—Agreed to terms with RHP Scott Elarton on a one-year contract; SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS—Signed INF Neifi Perez to a two-year contract.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

NBA—Suspended Portland G-F Bonzi Wells two games, and fined F Rasheed Wallace \$15,000, and suspended Golden State F Chris Mills three games for fighting after a game on Dec. 20.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS—Recalled G Jean-Francois Labbe from Syracuse of the AHL; DALLAS STARS—Recalled C Jim Montgomery from Utah of the AHL; PHILADELPHIA FLYERS—Recalled LW Guillaume Lefebvre from Philadelphia of the AHL; ST. LOUIS BLUES—Reassigned F Justin Papineau to Worcester of the AHL.

BOWLING

Harvester Lanes

League Results Lone Star League (Week 14)

Table with columns Team, Won, Lost for Pampa Transmission, Now & Then, Harvester Cafe, Whitehead Cattle Co., Schiffman Machine, Quality Sales, UMC, GB's Contractors, Week's Top Scores, High scratch game: Carla Schiffman 244, High scratch series: Carla Schiffman 647, High handicap game: Amber Lee 261, High handicap series: Amber Lee 668.

Harvester Women's League (Week 13)

Table with columns Team, Won, Lost for O'Brien Enterprises, Peggy's Place, Schiffman Machine, Davis Minit Mart, Rug Express, Harvester Lanes, Coney Island, Gymnastics of Pampa, Big Uns!, Week's Top Scores, High Scratch game: Peggy Chase 232, High scratch series: Peggy Chase 618, High handicap game: Jo Hicks 263, High handicap series: Jo Hicks 620, WIBC 200 High Game Award: Jo Hicks 223.

College football season had plenty of the unexpected

By The Associated Press

Notre Dame introduced Tyrone Willingham as its head coach on the first day of 2002, hoping its second choice could return a once-proud program back to prominence.

It's safe to say that in one full year, Willingham has more than accomplished that feat.

On the first day of 2003, the Fighting Irish will play in the Gator Bowl against North Carolina State — completing one of the most surprising story lines in a college football season that saw plenty of the unexpected.

There was Miami right on top — again. The Hurricanes

started 2002 with the school's fifth national title after beating Nebraska 37-14 in the Rose Bowl. Now they carry a 34-game winning streak into the Fiesta Bowl, where they hope to win a second straight championship despite losing 12 starters.

Their opponent: Ohio State, which will play for the school's first national title since 1968. It wasn't easy for the Buckeyes to go 13-0 — they won six games by a touchdown, or less.

But the Buckeyes did not have to play Iowa, which won 11 games for the first time in school history behind Heisman Trophy finalist Brad Banks.

One of the year's best performers beat Banks out in an unexpected Heisman victory. USC quarterback Carson Palmer entered 2002 with a 16-16 career record as a starter, but turned his career — and the Trojans — around en route to the Heisman Trophy, becoming the first winner from the West Coast since USC's Marcus Allen in 1981.

Georgia won its first SEC Championship since 1982, and Alabama went 10-3 under Dennis Franchione despite NCAA sanctions. He left the Crimson Tide for Texas A&M in early December.

The vote for most surprising story this season, though,

has to go to Notre Dame. The Irish finished the regular-season 10-2, the school's most wins since 1993. They completed the third-best turnaround in school history.

When he was hired, he had one goal — resurrection. "That's why I'm here," Willingham said. "To reach that level of excellence that this university has always had. I believe it can be accomplished."

Willingham came from Stanford and stepped into a messy situation. Bob Davie was fired Dec. 2, 2001, after going 5-6, and Notre Dame hired former Georgia Tech coach George O'Leary in mid-December.

O'Leary resigned five days after being hired because of inaccuracies on his resume about his academic and athletic background. In came Willingham.

Even further tainting Notre Dame's image, three players were kicked off the team in May after a woman said she was raped.

But Willingham made people forget about the bad times. Notre Dame started the season 8-0 but finishing undefeated wasn't meant to be — the Irish lost 17-14 to Boston College and 44-13 to USC.

Miami proved again it is the top team in the country after completing a second straight undefeated season.

The Hurricanes' winning streak ties Penn for the sixth-longest in Division I-A history.

"I may be the luckiest coach in the world," coach Larry Coker said.

Coker's next challenge comes against Ohio State. The Buckeyes started the season ranked No. 13 but walked a thin line all the way to Tempe, Ariz.

"You can talk all you want about how we don't deserve to be here, we don't deserve this, we don't deserve that," Ohio State tailback Maurice Clarett said. "But we don't apologize for winning. We won 13 games — that's all that matters."

Not much settled as final week looms

By The Associated Press

It's the most muddled playoff picture in NFL history.

Entering the final week, the playoff possibilities in the AFC are almost as wide open as they were in Week 1, when 32 teams started 0-0.

Even though Oakland and Tennessee won their way in Sunday, things stayed just as confusing. So much so that the NFL office worked overtime into the night, poring over computer printouts and spreadsheets while sorting through the more arcane tiebreaking formulas, such as strength of schedule and strength of victories.

It probably won't be decided by the ultimate — a coin flip — but at this point, who knows? After all, there are six AFC teams at 8-7 entering the final week and all are alive for the playoffs and Miami, New England and the New York Jets all can win the AFC East.

"It's going to come down to the final straws and we don't need to get sweaty palms," New York Giants coach Jim Fassel said. "We need to just get ready to go out and play

another football game."

Oakland and Tennessee became the first two AFC teams to clinch playoff berths entering the final week of the regular season. Jacksonville and Buffalo lost and were eliminated.

But going into the final week, only four of the 16 teams in the AFC were mathematically out of the playoff race. The Jets ensured that with a 30-17 win over New England on Sunday night that kept them alive along with Baltimore, which at 7-8 still has a remote chance of making the playoffs.

"As crazy as this whole season has been around the league, when we were standing here 16 weeks ago probably the No. 1 thing we talked about was being in position to win the division and we have that," Miami coach Dave Wannstedt said.

The NFC situation was more simplified, although the final two wild-card berths will go down to the final week.

Philadelphia (12-3), Green Bay (12-3), Tampa Bay (11-3) and San Francisco (10-5) have won the four divisions with the Eagles, Buccaneers and

Packers — in that order — in line for a first-round bye and home-field advantage.

The 49ers are locked into position — they will be the fourth seed, playing at home the first week against one of the wild-card teams.

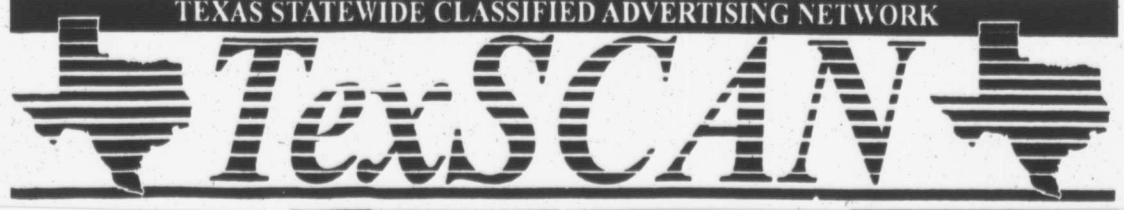
"There's still three teams that we have to prepare for," 49ers coach Steve Mariucci said. "Right now, everybody is a possibility."

Atlanta (9-5-1) and the Giants (9-6) currently lead for the two wild-card spots with New Orleans (9-6) third.

The Giants' 44-27 victory at Indianapolis combined with New Orleans' 20-13 loss to Cincinnati (2-13) gave New York the lead over the Saints because they are 3-2 against common opponents to 2-3 for New Orleans.

In the AFC, that kind of scenario is the rule.

The known factors are the South champion Titans (10-5) and West champion Raiders (10-5). If both teams win next week, the Raiders will be the top seed in the conference and Tennessee will be seeded second because the Raiders beat the Titans 52-25 on Sept. 29.



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CITATION BY PUBLICATION The State of Texas To: **Lorrie Michelle Fulton**, Respondent in the herein styled and numbered cause: You are commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Petitioner's Original Petition in Suit Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. of the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation, that day being January 6, 2003, a default judgment may be taken against you. Issued, signed and sealed on November 21st, 2002. Sonya Shieldknight, Clerk 100th Judicial District Court Carson County, Texas P.O. Box 487 Panhandle, TX 79068-0487 By: Celeste Bichsel Deputy B-64Dec. 2.9,16,23,2002

1 Public Notice

NOTICE OF INTENT TO INCORPORATE UNDER PRESENT NAME Notice is given that pursuant to Article 1302-2.02 of the Texas Miscellaneous Corporation Act, MAC SUPPLY, a proprietorship whose owners are Royce E. Waldrip and wife, Belinda S. Waldrip, intend to incorporate such business under the name MAC SUPPLY, INC., a Texas corporation, effective as of January 1, 2003. All accounts payable of such proprietorship will be received and paid by the corporation at 2706 Beech, Pampa, Texas 79065. B-73 Dec. 16,23,30,2002 Jan. 6, 2003

3 Personal

BEAUTICONTROL Cosmetics sales, service, makeovers. Lynn Allison 1304 Christine, 669-3848

5 Special Notices ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

10 Lost/Found LOST white Shih-Tzu dog, no collar or tags, male. Child's pet. 669-3351.

LOST puppy 3 mo. old Shih-Tzu, blue collar by High School. Reward. 665-1063

14b Appli. Repair DEC. Special for Military Servicemen's Wives (called to Active Duty only). Appli. Repairs -No Serv. Charge, parts & tax only! Williams Appli. Service, 665-8894.

14d Carpentry CUSTOM homes, additions, remodeling, residential / comm. Deaver Construction, 665-0447.

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

14d Carpentry

ADDITIONS, remodeling, roofing, cabinets, painting, all types repairs. Mike Albus, 665-4774.

ADDITIONS, remodeling, home repairs. Over 30 years local exp. Jerry Reagan, 669-3943

14e Carpet Serv. NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost...It pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541, or from out of town, 800-536-5341.

14h Gen. Serv. COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

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

CERAMIC TILE WORK Keith Taylor, 665-0328

CONCRETE Work, new construction, remodel, repair, & removal. Ron Schwoppe, 669-0606.

BACKHOE & Loader Work, demolition, topsoil, sand, gravel. Snow Removal. Ron Schwoppe, 669-0606.

14n Painting

50 yr. exp. We paint, dry-wall, texture, comm./residential. Free Estimates. Happy Painters 665-3214

INT/EXT. painting, mud tape, blow acoustic. 35 yr. exp. References. Gene Calder 665-4840.

14s Plumbing/Heat

COME BY & see our full line of Premier Faucets. Traditional, Designer and Euro style faucets carry a lifetime warranty at great prices!! New distributor of Moen faucets! Chief Plastics, 1237 S. Barnes, Pampa, 665-6716, toll free 800-649-6716.

21 Help Wanted

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

VIP Home Care Pediatrics is hiring RN's and LVN's. Many shifts and days avail. Competitive salary. Come join our team of excellent Pediatric Nurses. Call 806-359-8512 or 806-355-9191, or apply at 6300 I-40 West, Suite 104, Amarillo.

FRONT Desk Clerk needed, typing & computer skills required. Apply in person, only at Best Western Northgate Inn.

HEALTHPRO PHC Primary Home Care attendants needed in Pampa and surrounding areas to perform light housekeeping and personal care. Please call Ann @ 1-888-922-0599.

NEW YEAR On the Slopes! Great entry level job, no exp. needed. Start Now! Call Teresa @ 888-876-2339.

NURSES Unlimited, Inc. needs attendants to assist with personal care, meal prep, and light housekeeping in White Deer area, part-time basis. Please call 1-888-859-0631 M-F: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. EOE.

SALARY PLUS Salary PLUS Commission Family Man or Woman who needs to earn \$500. per week If you have a sales personality & desire an above average income Call Daniel 669-7605

PHARMACY Tech needed. Keyboarding a must, honest, dependable & enjoys working with people. Send reply to Box 60, c/o Pampa News, Po Box 2198, Pampa, Tx. 79066

EXPERIENCED COOK Morning Shift Great Benefits & Hours Random Drug Testing Required Apply in Person 1020 E. Frederic 2 p.m.-5 p.m.

50 Building Suppl.

HOUSTON LUMBER 420 W. Foster 669-6881

JOHNSON HOME FURNISHINGS Rent 1 piece or house full Washer-Dryer-Ranges Bedroom-Dining Room Livingroom 801 W. Francis 665-3361

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

FOR Sale: Desk-top computer with monitor, 2 Lap-Top computers, Computer monitor, light fixtures, Sony digital camera. 806-236-4165

NEED to Lease 35-5500 Sq. Ft. building w/wash Sump in one area. Call 915-677-5555 24 hrs.

MOVING must sell: 20 hp. Murray 52 in. cut riding mower, 2 yrs. old, \$1200. Quadra Fire wood-pellet insert, 1 yr. old, \$1300. 806-665-7787

MESQUITE Firewood \$145 Cord Before 9 am or After 7 pm 664-7157

WEDDING Dress, Mary brand, sz. 4, white tulle, spaghetti straps, beaded bodice, \$300. 683-4344.

OAK & also mesquite firewood. Delivered, stacked, \$175 cord. 779-3284, 779-2255.

2 LOTS in Howardwick, at Greenbelt Lake. Taxes paid up until 10-1-2003. \$1400. 806-665-3354.

80 Pets & Suppl.

CANINE and Feline grooming. Boarding. Science diets. Roysse Animal Hospital, 665-2223.

PET Patch, 866 W. Foster, 665-5504. Grooming by Mona, fresh, salt fish, sm. animals, supplies. In-nova dog & cat food.

60 Household

HOUSTON LUMBER 420 W. Foster 669-6881

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MOVING must sell: 20 hp. Murray 52 in. cut riding mower, 2 yrs. old, \$1200. Quadra Fire wood-pellet insert, 1 yr. old, \$1300. 806-665-7787

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80 Pets & Suppl.

SMALL breed dogs to give away. Come by 520 Jean.

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96 Unfurn. Apts.

CAPROCK Apts. has fantastic holiday specials on all 1, 2 & 3 bdr. apts. starting at \$290. 3, 6, 9 & 12 mo. leases avail. Pool, laundry, washer / dryer, hookups, club room, on-site management and SOFTENED WATER to all units. 1601 N. Somerville, 665-7149 Mon-Fri: 8:30-5:30, Sat. 10-4.

CLEAN 1 bedroom, stove, refrig., all bills paid. 669-3672, 665-5900

FREE RENT! Pampa Lakeview Apts. 1, 2 & 3 bdr. apts. 2600 N. Hobart 669-7682

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

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

PICK up rental list from Gray Box on front porch of Lakeview Apartments. Update each Fri.

2-3 bedroom houses, 509 N. Dwight, 704 Somerville cent. H/A, call 669-2080.

NICE 3 bedroom, washer / dryer hookups, attached garage, \$400 mo. 312 Anne, 669-2139.

403 N. Somerville, 3 bdr., dining rm., breakfast rm., dble. car, \$350 mo. + dep. 665-2254.

AVAIL. 1-1-03, nice 2 bdr. 1 1/2 bath duplex, quiet neighborhood, 1 car garage, 1019 N. Wells

3 bdr. hookups, HUD ok \$425 mo., \$350 mo. dep. 1033 S. Faulkner, 806-356-7319

EFFICIENCY apt. \$225 mo., bills pd. Rooms \$20 day, \$80 wk & up, air, tv, cable, phone. 669-3221.

FURN. Unfurn. 1-2 bdr. apts. All bills paid. Starting \$250. Courtyard Apts., 1031 N. Sumner 669-9712.

NICE brick garage apt. \$200 mo. 665-4842.

NICE large 1 bdr. apt. Bills paid. \$350 mo. 665-4842.

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

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

103 Homes For Sale

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

3 bdr. on Wells st. New carpet, cent. heat & air, garage, fence. C-21 Realtor, 665-5436, 665-4180.

3 bedroom, garage, carpet. Small down, owner carry. 665-4842.

WE are moving & need to sell our neat & spacious 2 story, 4 bdr., 2 full ba., 2 liv. areas home. Must see to appreciate. 901 E. Francis. Call 665-7815.

115 Trailer Parks

TUMBLEWEED Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

Quality Sales 1300 N. Hobart 669-0433 Make your next car a Quality Car

Doug Boyd Motor Co. "On The Spot Financing" 821 W. Wilks 669-6062

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

96 Cavalier Conv. 4 cyl., air, ac, CD, pw, ps, pb, ABS, cc, AB 101K, \$4150. 669-2715.

90 Acura Integra GS Hatchback, 2 dr., red, new tires, well maintained. \$2750. 669-9474.

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES — Here's how to work it:

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

12-23 CRYPTOQUOTE

RDFY: ARY JSCBY IRYQY
ODG BCL YLWDO ODGQ
BDQL DL ARY BDX CLK

TDGJ. — TDGQBY GLZLDIL
Saturday's Cryptoquote: WE WISH YOU A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON, WITH HOPES FOR A TRULY PEACEFUL WORLD IN THE FUTURE. — YOUR PUZZLE FRIENDS

Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2002.

You sense a great deal of excitement in the air as your birthday rounds the corner. You will tend to want to explore and try different things, be it foods or expanding your knowledge of different cultures. Some of you will opt to travel more or go back to school. If you are single, a relationship will build later in the year, sometime in the fall. This person could be very special to you. If you are attached, your relationship will develop to a new peak because of your natural willingness to understand and grow. The two of you might decide to explore somewhere totally new together. Learn to walk in your partner's footsteps as well. VIRGO opens doors for you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ***** Extremes punctuate last-minute happenings, as well as your whole day, for that matter. Others might really enjoy being with you. Be ready for the unexpected with a loved one. Someone close could be so generous that you are surprised by what comes up. Tonight: Just let it all happen.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ***** Your extra efforts make a big difference in how you handle someone. Others could be a bit uptight, but your creative and dynamic approach loosens up the moment. Your caring seems to warm up a close, uptight associate. Tonight: Use your imagination.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ***** Opt to stay close to home. Everything seems to fly in many differ-

ent directions. You attempt to achieve key results involving an important person in your life. Recognize your limits within the immediate situation. Tonight: Share your feelings.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ***** Stay cheered up no matter what goes down or what others might think. Your ability to share feelings on a deeper level wins you quite a few friends. Touch base with the many you really care about. Tonight: Finish off last-minute errands.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ***** Hopefully you have saved some extra funds to handle last-minute expenses. Consider getting a couple of last-minute presents just in case you forget someone or something. Visit with a friend you really care about. Tonight: Treat someone to dinner.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ***** Your smile wins many favors. Right now, use that gift to help others relax and make last-minute decisions. You might be a bit overwhelmed by all that you hear. Be sensitive to someone who might not be quite as happy as you are. Tonight: Do more sharing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ***** Take your time before you decide which path to follow. Step back and do some hard thinking. Perhaps you have pushed someone away without intending to. Tonight: Lay back for now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ***** Join your friends. Make the most out of an opportunity that heads your way. You could be a bit tired or dragged down by recent holiday celebrations. Understand what is enough. Think through a decision. Tonight: Where the gang is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** You really want to make an effort toward others. Touch base with a loved one who means a lot to you, who might not be part of your personal holiday celebration. Take time for those who are a part of your life, but not in your immediate circle. Tonight: A must appearance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ***** Consider your options involving a loved one at distance. You manage to take care of and touch base with those who are close to you. A change in plans might prove delightful and quite rewarding. Don't get stuck. Tonight: Try something totally different.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***** Others come forward, and you will choose whom you want to be with. You enjoy relating on an one-on-one level most. Opt for more togetherness. Work as a team with a key partner. You'll enjoy yourself to the max. Tonight: Say "yes" to an invitation.

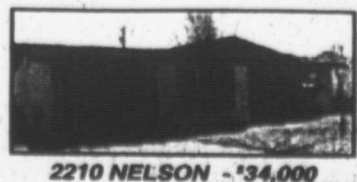
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ***** Respond to inquiries. What's going on behind all the questions is that others want to know that you're OK with the holiday season. Make an extra effort to respond to the many inquiries. Make decisions carefully in the next few days. Tonight: Where your friends are.

BORN TODAY Singer Ricky Martin (1971), John, King of England (1167), billionaire Howard Hughes (1905)

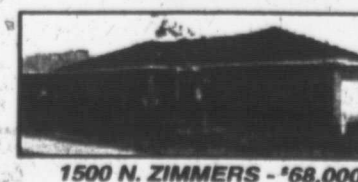
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106 E. Francis
806-669-3248
www.myhome-advisor.com
24 hr. information line
1-800-218-7578



2210 NELSON - \$34,000 ID #2096



1500 N. ZIMMERS - \$68,000 ID #2085



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



1815 HOLLY - \$92,000 ID #2055

Scoreboard

PRO FOOTBALL

National Football League
All Times EST

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Miami	9	6	0	.600	354	274
N.Y. Jets	8	7	0	.533	317	319
New England	8	7	0	.533	354	322
Buffalo	7	8	0	.467	352	388

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Tennessee	10	5	0	.667	354	321
Indianapolis	9	6	0	.600	329	300
Jacksonville	6	9	0	.400	315	295
Houston	4	11	0	.267	210	343

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	8	5	1	.607	339	307
Cleveland	8	7	0	.533	320	304
Baltimore	7	8	0	.467	285	320
Cincinnati	2	13	0	.133	270	429

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Oakland	10	5	0	.667	426	304
Denver	8	7	0	.533	355	337
Kansas City	8	7	0	.533	467	375
San Diego	8	7	0	.533	305	336

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Philadelphia	12	3	0	.800	408	231
N.Y. Giants	9	6	0	.600	310	272
Washington	6	9	0	.400	287	351
Dallas	5	10	0	.333	203	309

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Tampa Bay	11	3	0	.786	324	179
Atlanta	9	5	1	.633	386	290
New Orleans	9	6	0	.600	426	378
Carolina	6	9	0	.400	248	296

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Green Bay	12	3	0	.800	381	286
Minnesota	5	10	0	.333	352	406
Chicago	4	11	0	.267	281	364
Detroit	3	12	0	.200	270	413

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-San Francisco	5	0	.667	.347	347	320
St. Louis	6	9	0	.400	285	349
Seattle	6	9	0	.400	324	341
Arizona	5	10	0	.333	255	380

Arizona at Denver, 4:15 p.m.

Tampa Bay at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 30
San Francisco at St. Louis, 9 p.m.

BASKETBALL

Saturday's Major College Basketball Scores

By The Associated Press

EAST

Albany, N.Y. 69, Robert Morris 67
Brown 75, Cent. Connecticut St. 67
Connecticut 117, N.C.-Asheville 67
Delaware 87, Siena 78
Hartford 59, Dartmouth 44
Lafayette 54, Massachusetts 52
Niagara 88, Drexel 72
Pittsburgh 87, Rhode Island 71
Rider 66, Coppin St. 47
Saint Joseph's 65, DePaul 62
St. Bonaventure 93, Kent St. 80
St. Peter's 74, Manhattan 72
Stony Brook 65, Hofstra 52
Syracuse 92, Georgia Tech 65
Virginia 61, Rutgers 57
West Virginia 65, Tennessee 62

SOUTH

Alabama 69, Providence 61
Alabama St. 58, Birmingham-Southern 53
Austin Peay 79, Middle Tennessee 71, OT
Chattanooga 77, Samford 68
Davidson 125, Washington & Jefferson 44
East Carolina 86, Campbell 61
Florida 94, Miami 93, 2OT
Georgia Southern 90, Wagner 81
Kentucky 70, Indiana 64
LSU 66, Arizona 65
Louisiana Tech 73, Jackson St. 68
Mississippi 63, Nicholls St. 52
N.C. State 104, Fairleigh Dickinson 65
N.C.-Wilmington 71, Texas-San Antonio 60
Norfolk St. 75, UNC-Greensboro 70
S. Carolina St. 78, The Citadel 66
Southern Miss. 70, Ark.-Little Rock 54
Tennessee Tech 75, North Texas 60
UAB 91, Alabama A&M 69
UCF 68, Florida Gulf Coast 63
Va. Commonwealth 91, TCU 78
Wake Forest 84, St. John's 72
Winthrop 84, E. Kentucky 73
Wofford 89, King, Tenn. 52

MIDWEST

Akron 97, Radford 67
Bowling Green 76, Urbana 48
Butler 68, Saint Louis 46
Chicago St. 67, N. Iowa 63
Cleveland St. 70, Boston U. 56
Creighton 81, Nebraska 73
E. Michigan 78, Gardner-Webb 63
Ill.-Chicago 78, Wis.-Green Bay 71
Illinois 85, Missouri 70
Ind.-Purd. Indpls. 75, Bradley 73
Kansas 87, UCLA 70
Marquette 89, Elon 57
Michigan 70, Vanderbilt 66
Michigan St. 65, South Florida 56
Murray St. 76, Evansville 58
N. Illinois 72, Illinois St. 65
Ohio St. 71, Seton Hall 54
Oklahoma St. 68, Wichita St. 58
SE Missouri 70, SW Missouri St. 53
Toledo 90, Arkansas St. 73
UMKC 71, Youngstown St. 59
W. Illinois 97, Concordia, Ill. 78
W. Michigan 75, Virginia Tech 54
Wis.-Milwaukee 100, Loyola of Chicago 80
Wisconsin 81, Texas Southern 58

SOUTHWEST

Arkansas 70, SW Texas 60
Lamar 67, Texas-Pan American 63, OT
Oklahoma 89, Georgia St. 62
Oral Roberts 96, MVSU 63
Rice 80, Colorado 61
SMU 66, Baylor 58
Sam Houston St. 87, Texas-Dallas 57
San Diego St. 71, Houston 61
Texas Tech 85, New Mexico St. 84
UTEP 91, Tennessee St. 72

FAR WEST

Arizona St. 70, Purdue 53
BYU 69, UC Santa Barbara 56

Cal Poly-SLO 73, E. Illinois 70, OT

Cal St.-Fullerton 62, Sacramento St. 54

Hawaii 68, New Orleans 56

Idaho St. 86, E. Oregon 68

Montana 75, Loyola Marymount 68

Montana St. 74, Idaho 68

N. Arizona 92, Tenn.-Martin 76

Nevada 88, Portland 79

Pacific 70, San Jose St. 61

S. Utah 69, New Mexico 57

San Diego 73, UC Riverside 62

Southern Cal 89, La Salle 63

Stanford 77, UNLV 66

Utah St. 66, Weber St. 64

Washington 83, Fla. International 48

Washington St. 78, High Point 71

Wyoming 85, Prairie View 55

TOURNAMENT

Golden Bear Classic

California 77, Louisiana-Lafayette 61

Third Place

Detroit 79, Grambling St. 52

Maine Holiday Tournament

First Round

Jacksonville St. 94, Maine-Machias 61

Maine 100, Husson 68

San Juan Shootout

Semifinals

Auburn 63, Denver 58

Troy St. 73, Duquesne 69

Consolation Bracket

James Madison 88, Puerto Rico-Mayaguez 58

Northeastern 91, Sacred Heart 74

National Basketball Association

By The Associated Press

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	18	9	.667	—
New Jersey	18	9	.667	—
Philadelphia	18	10	.643	1/2
Orlando	15	13	.536	3 1/2
Washington	12	14	.462	5 1/2
New York	8	16	.333	8 1/2
Miami	9	18	.333	9

Central Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	19	8	.704	—
Detroit	18	8	.692	1/2
New Orleans	18	10	.643	1 1/2
Atlanta	11	15	.423	7 1/2
Milwaukee	11	15	.423	7 1/2
Chicago	10	17	.370	9
Toronto	8	19	.296	11
Cleveland	5	24	.172	15

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	22	4	.846	—
San Antonio	17	10	.630	5 1/2
Houston	15	11	.577	7
Utah	14	12	.538	8
Minnesota	15	13	.536	8
Memphis	8	21	.276	15 1/2
Denver	6	22	.214	17

Pacific Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	22	8	.733	—
Phoenix	16	11	.593	4 1/2
Portland	15	11	.577	5
Seattle	14	14	.500	7
L.A. Clippers	12	16	.429	9
L.A. Lakers	11	18	.379	10 1/2
Golden State	9	18	.333	11 1/2

Saturday's Games

Atlanta 79, Philadelphia 77

Boston 89, Cleveland 82

Minnesota 98, Houston 90

New Jersey 100, Detroit 92

Chicago 110, Indiana 103

Milwaukee 94, New York 90

San Antonio 92, Washington 81

Phoenix 110, Sacramento 101

Portland 81, Seattle 80

L.A. Clippers 92, Denver 89

L.A. Lakers 109, Toronto 107, OT

Miami 92, New York 84

Sacramento 103, Golden State 88

Monday's Games

Miami at Cleveland, 7 p.m.

Atlanta at Indiana, 7 p.m.

Milwaukee at Orlando, 7 p.m.

Chicago at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.

Utah at Houston, 8:30 p.m.

New Orleans at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.

Washington at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.

Seattle at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

Tuesday's Games

No games scheduled

Wednesday's Games

Detroit at Orlando, 2 p.m.

Boston at New Jersey, 6 p.m.

Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, 8:30 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

Weekend Sports Transactions

By The Associated Press

BASEBALL

American League

ANAHEIM ANGELS—Named Tyrone Boykin manager for Arkansas of the Texas League.

CLEVELAND INDIANS—Agreed to terms with OF Chris Magruder on a minor league contract.

TEXAS RANGERS—Signed RHP Ugueth Urbina to a one-year contract.

TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Agreed to terms with RHP Tanyon Sturtz on a one-year contract.

National League

ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Agreed to terms with 1B Mark Grace on a one-year contract.

COLORADO ROCKIES—Agreed to terms with RHP Scott Elarton on a one-year contract.

SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS—Signed INF Neifi Perez to a two-year contract.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

NBA—Suspended Portland G-F Bonzi Wells two games, and fined F Rasheed Wallace \$15,000, and suspended Golden State F Chris Mills three games for fighting after a game on Dec. 20.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS—Recalled G Jean-Francois Labbe from Syracuse of the AHL.

DALLAS STARS—Recalled C Jim Montgomery from Utah of the AHL.

PHILADELPHIA FLYERS—Recalled LW Guillaume Lefebvre from Philadelphia of the AHL.

ST. LOUIS BLUES—Reassigned F Justin Papineau to Worcester of the AHL.

BOWLING

Harvester Ladies League Results

Lone Star League (Week 14)

Team	Won	Lost
Panpa		



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

2001 Williston.....\$79,900
2607 Seminole.....\$68,000
2630 Navajo.....\$42,000
424 Jupiter.....\$50,500
623 Roberta (2 Houses).....\$28,500
930 Mary Ellen.....\$19,900
Allison Tx.....\$30,000
W. of Lefors w/Acres.....\$90,000

511 E. 2nd Lefors w/Shop.....\$60,000
Rabbit Lane Lots.....\$37,500
1027 S. Hobart.....\$25,000
1024 Charles.....\$42,000
1008 E. Browning.....\$12,500
113 & 115 W. Kingsmill.....\$79,900
Tignor & McCullough 138 Acres

HOUSES FOR RENT
1311 N. Russell.....2/1/1
1105 N. Starkweather.....3/2/CR
Call Our Office For
Other Listings Available

BEST AVAILABLE COPY
"Five Star Service"
Integrity and Honesty
Solid Work Ethic
Product Knowledge
Old Fashioned Standards
Genuine Interest

The Pampa News CLASSIFIEDS

1 Public Notice

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
The State of Texas
To: **Lorrie Michelle Fulton**, Respondent in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause:
You are commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Petitioner's Original Petition in Suit Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship "or" before 10:00 o'clock a.m. of the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation, that day being January 6, 2003, a default judgment may be taken against you.
Issued, signed and sealed on November 21st, 2002.
Sonya Shieldknight, Clerk 100th Judicial District Court Carson County, Texas P.O. Box 487 Panhandle, TX 79068-0487
By: Celeste Bichsel Deputy B-64Dec. 2.9,16,23,2002

NOTICE OF INTENT TO INCORPORATE UNDER PRESENT NAME
Notice is given that pursuant to Article 1302.2.02 of the Texas Miscellaneous Corporation Act, MAC SUPPLY, a proprietorship whose owners are Royce E. Waldrip and wife, Belinda S. Waldrip, intend to incorporate such business under the name MAC SUPPLY, INC., a Texas corporation, effective as of January 1, 2003. All accounts payable of such proprietorship will be received and paid by the corporation at 2706 Beech, Pampa, Texas 79065.
B-73 Dec. 16,23,30,2002 Jan. 6, 2003

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3 Personal

BEAUTICONTROL Cosmetics sales, service, makeovers. Lynn Allison 1304 Christine, 669-3848

5 Special Notices
ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

10 Lost/Found
LOST white Shih-Tzu dog, no collar or tags, male. Child's pet. 669-3351.
LOST puppy 3 mo. old Shih-Tzu, blue collar by High School. Reward. 665-1063
LOST puppy 3 mo. old Shih-Tzu, blue collar by High School. Reward. 665-1063

14b Appl. Repair
DEC. Special for Military Serviceman's Wives (called to Active Duty only). Appl. Repairs - No Serv. Charge, parts & tax only! Williams Appl. Service, 665-8894.

14d Carpentry

ADDITIONS, remodeling, roofing, cabinets, painting, all types repairs. Mike Albus, 665-4774.

ADDITIONS, remodeling, home repairs. Over 30 years local exp. Jerry Reagan, 669-3943

14e Carpet Serv.
NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost. It pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541, or from out of town, 800-536-5341.

14h Gen. Serv.
COX Fence Company Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

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

***CERAMIC *TILE WORK**
*Keith Taylor, 665-0328

CONCRETE Work, new construction, remodel, repair, & removal. Ron Schwoppe, 669-0606.

BACKHOE & Loader Work, demolition, topsoil, sand, gravel. Snow Removal. Ron Schwoppe, 669-0606.

14s Plumbing/Heat

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

Larry Baker Plumbing Heating / Air Conditioning Borger Hwy. 665-4392

14t Radio/Tv
RENT TO RENT RENT TO OWN
We have tv's, VCR's, camcorders, to suit your needs. Rent by hour, day, week. We do service on most major brand of tv's & VCR's. Call for estimate. Johnson Home Entertainment, 2211 Perryton Prkwy. 665-0514.

21 Help Wanted

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

VIP Home Care Pediatrics is hiring RN's and LVN's. Many shifts and days avail. Competitive salary. Come join our team of excellent Pediatric Nurses. Call 806-359-8512 or 806-355-9191, or apply at 6300 I-40 West, Suite 104, Amarillo.

HEALTHPRO PHIC
Primary Home Care attendants needed in Pampa and surrounding areas to perform light housekeeping and personal care. Please call Ann @ 1-888-922-0599.

50 Building Suppl.

HOUSTON LUMBER
420 W. Foster
669-6881

60 Household
JOHNSON HOME FURNISHINGS
Rent 1 piece or house full Washer-Dryer-Ranges Bedroom-Dining Room Livingroom
801 W. Francis 665-3361

69 Misc.
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FOR Sale: Desk-top computer with monitor, 2 Lap-Top computers, Computer monitor, Light fixtures, Sony digital camera. 806-236-4165

NEED to Lease 35-5500 Sq. Ft. building w/wash Sump in one area. Need yard space 1-2 acres. Call 915-677-5555 24 hrs.

MOVING must sell: 20 hp. Murray 52 in. cut riding mower, 2 yrs. old, \$1200. Quadra Fire wood-pellet insert, 1 yr. old, \$1300. 806-665-7787

MESQUITE Firewood
\$145 Cord
Before 9 am or After 7 pm 664-7157

WEDDING Dress, Mary brand, sz. 4, white tulle, spaghetti straps, beaded bodice, \$300. 683-4344

OAK & also mesquite firewood. Delivered, stacked, \$175 cord. 779-3284, 779-2255.

2 LOTS in Howardwick, at Greenbelt Lake. Taxes paid up until 10-1-2003. \$1400. 806-665-3354.

80 Pets & Suppl.

SMALL breed dogs to give away. Come by 520 Jean.

95 Furn. Apts.
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CLEAN 1 bedroom, stove, refrig., all bills paid. 669-3672, 665-5900

FREE RENT!
Pampa Lakeview Apts. 1, 2 & 3 bdr. apts. 2600 N. Hobart 669-7682

GWENDOLEN Plaza Apts. 1&2 bdr. Gas / water pd. 3.6 mo.-lyr. lease. 800 N. Nelson, 665-1875.

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

PICK up rental list from Gray Box on front porch of Lakeview Apartments. Update each Fri.

2-3 bedroom houses, 509 N. Dwight, 704 Somerville cent. H/A, call 669-2080

NICE 3 bedroom, washer / dryer hookups, attached garage, \$400 mo. 312 Anne 669-2139.

403 N. Somerville, 3 bdr., dining rm., breakfast rm., dble. gar., \$350 mo. + dep. 665-2254.

AVAIL. 1-1-03, nice 2 bdr. 1 1/2 bath duplex, quiet neighborhood, 1 car garage, 1019 N. Wells

3 bdr., hookups, HUD ok \$425 mo., \$250 dep. 1033 S. Faulkner, 806-356-7319

3 br., 2 ba., 2 1/2 a., w/d, att. gar., strg. bldg., cellar. 732 Bradley, \$350 mo. Avail Jan. 1st. 669-6948

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DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES — Here's how to work it:
A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW
One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's. X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

12-23 CRYPTOQUOTE
R D F Y : A R Y J S C B Y I R Y Q Y
O D G B C L Y L W D O O D G Q
B D Q L D L A R Y B D X C L K
T D G J — T D G Q B Y G L Z L D I L
Saturday's Cryptoquote: WE WISH YOU A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON, WITH HOPES FOR A TRULY PEACEFUL WORLD IN THE FUTURE. — YOUR PUZZLE FRIENDS

Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2002.
You sense a great deal of excitement in the air as your birthday rounds the corner. You will tend to want to explore and try different things, be it foods or expanding your knowledge of different cultures. Some of you will opt to travel more or go back to school. If you are single, a relationship will build later in the year, sometime in the fall. This person could be very special to you. If you are attached, your relationship will develop to a new peak because of your natural willingness to understand and grow. The two of you might decide to explore somewhere totally new together. Learn to walk in your partner's footsteps as well. **VIRGO** opens doors for you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
***** Extremes punctuate last-minute happenings, as well as your whole day, for that matter. Others might really enjoy being with you. Be ready for the unexpected with a loved one. Someone close could be so generous that you are surprised by what comes up. Tonight: Just let it all happen.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
***** Your extra efforts make a big difference in how you handle someone. Others could be a bit uptight, but your creative and dynamic approach loosens up the moment. Your caring seems to warm up a close, uptight associate. Tonight: Use your imagination.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
***** Opt to stay close to home. Everything seems to fly in many different directions. You attempt to achieve key results involving an important person in your life. Recognize your limits within the immediate situation. Tonight: Share your feelings.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
***** Stay cheered up no matter what goes down or what others might think. Your ability to share feelings on a deeper level wins you quite a few friends. Touch base with the many you really care about. Tonight: Finish off last-minute errands.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
***** Hopefully you have saved some extra funds to handle last-minute expenses. Consider getting a couple of last-minute presents just in case you forget someone or something. Visit with a friend you really care about. Tonight: Treat someone to dinner.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
***** Your smile wins many favors. Right now, use that gift to help others relax and make last-minute decisions. You might be a bit overwhelmed by all that you hear. Be sensitive to someone who might not be quite as happy as you are. Tonight: Do more sharing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
***** Take your time before you decide which path to follow. Step back and do some hard thinking. Perhaps you have pushed someone away without intending to. Tonight: Lay back for now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
***** Join your friends. Make the most out of an opportunity that heads your way. You could be a bit tired or dragged down by recent holiday celebrations. Understand what is enough. Think through a decision. Tonight: Where the gang is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

***** You really want to make an effort toward others. Touch base with a loved one who means a lot to you, who might not be part of your personal holiday celebration. Take time for those who are a part of your life, but not in your immediate circle. Tonight: A must appearance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
***** Consider your options involving a loved one at distance. You manage to take care of and touch base with those who are close to you. A change in plans might prove delightful and quite rewarding. Don't get stuck. Tonight: Try something totally different.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb 18)
***** Others come forward, and you will choose whom you want to be with. You enjoy relating on a one-on-one level most. Opt for more togetherness. Work as a team with a key partner. You'll enjoy yourself to the max. Tonight: Say "yes" to an invitation.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
***** Respond to inquiries. What's going on behind all the questions is that others want to know that you're OK with the holiday season. Make an extra effort to respond to the many inquiries. Make decisions carefully in the next few days. Tonight: Where your friends are.

BORN TODAY
Singer Ricky Martin (1971), John, King of England (1167), billionaire Howard Hughes (1905)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.
© 2002 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

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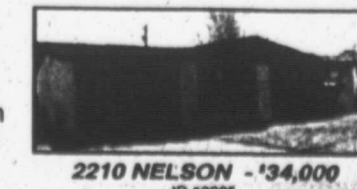
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106 E. Francis
806-669-3248
www.myhome-advisor.com
24 hr. information line
1-800-218-7578



2210 NELSON - \$34,000
ID #2008



1500 N. ZIMMERS - \$68,000
ID #2005



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



1815 HOLLY - \$92,000
ID #2055

To Mother's House We Go In One Of These Great SUVs

2002 GMC YUKON SLT, 4X4
TV-DVD, Leather, Heated Memory Seats, On Star, 15,000 Miles

2002 MITSUBISHI MONTERO XLS, 4X4
Third Row Seats, All Power Options, 14,000 Miles

2002 FORD EXPLORER XLT, 4X4
Third Row Seats, All Power Options, 26,000 Miles

2002 NISSAN XTERRA SE, 4X4
Sporty SUV, 22,000 Miles

2000 CADILLAC ESCALADE 4X4
The Ultimate Luxury SUV, You Deserve It!

1999 GMC SUBURBAN SLS, 4X4
All Power Options, 35,000 Miles, Local Owner

2002 DODGE DURANGO SPORT, 2K4
Great SUV, Great Price

2002 FORD WINDSTAR SE
Quad Seats, CD, All Power Options, 22,000 Miles

2002 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SPORT
Quad Seats, CD, All Power Options, 29,000 Miles

2001 CHEVROLET ASTRO LS
All Power Options, 4.3 Vortec V6

BILL ALLISON AUTO SALES
1200 N. HOBART 665-3992

103 Homes For Sale
Twila Fisher
Century 21 Pampa Realty,
665-3560, 663-1442
669-0007

3 bdr on Wells St. New carpet, cent. heat & air, garage, fence. C-21 Realtor, 665-5436, 665-4180.

3 bedroom, garage, carpet. Small down, owner carry. 665-4842.

WE are moving & need to sell our neat & spacious 2 story, 4 bdr., 2 full ba., 2 liv. areas home. Must see to appreciate. 901 E. Francis. Call 665-7815.

115 Trailer Parks
TUMBLEWEED Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

120 Autos
Quality Sales
1300 N. Hobart 669-0433
Make your next car a Quality Car

Doug Boyd Motor Co.
"On The Spot Financing"
821 W. Wilks 669-6062

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

96 Cavalier Conv., 4 cyl., a/t, ac, CD, pw, ps, pb, ABS, cc, AB 101K, \$4150. 669-2715.

90 Acura Integra GS Hatchback, 2 dr., red, new tires, well maintained. \$2750. 669-9474

Khmer official gets life

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — The three men stand bare foot on muddy ground in a farm house. Their shirts hang loose, their faces grim and covered with thick beards.

That was how Australian David Wilson, Briton Mark Salter and Frenchmen Jean-Michel Braquet appeared in a photo taken after Khmer Rouge rebels ambushed their train and took them captive on July 26, 1994.

It was the last image the world was to see of the three men in their 20s.

On Monday, a Cambodian court convicted and sentenced Sam Bith, a 69-year-old former Khmer Rouge commander, to life in prison for masterminding the abduction and murder of the three tourists.

Sam Bith became one of the highest-ranking members of the genocidal communist regime — which turned Cambodia into "the killing fields" during late 1970s — to be tried in a court of law.

Peter Wilson, the father of David Wilson, praised the sentence but doesn't believe Sam Bith had sole responsibility for the deaths. "It seems they have lumped him with full responsibility," he said.

The kidnapping took place in Phnom Voar, or Vine Mountain, a former Khmer Rouge stronghold 62 miles southwest of the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh.

After being overthrown by a Vietnamese invasion in 1979, the Khmer Rouge were scattered in pockets across Cambodia, waging guerrilla war against the central government. Ambushing and robbing trains was one way to sustain themselves before their struggle ended four years ago.

More than a dozen Cambodians died in the 1994 ambush, when the guerrillas, said to number about 200, attacked the train.

The Khmer Rouge demanded a ransom of \$150,000 for the release of the three Westerners. But negotiations were halted after allegations emerged that different government negotiators were trying to profit from attempts to secure their release.

War on Iraq could be costly for Israel

By DAN PERRY
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel hopes a U.S. war on Iraq will eliminate one of its sworn enemies and chasten others — but the cost could be very high if Saddam Hussein attacks the Jewish state with biological or chemical weapons, or his friends use the occasion to strike it on other fronts.

Israelis are eager to see the ouster of Saddam, who in 1991 hurled 39 Scud missiles at them in an effort to draw Israel into the war and drive a wedge between the United States and its Arab allies; Israel held back, and some say its prized deterrence was hobbled as a result.

Israel believes Iraq today has biological and chemical weapons, but there are many unknowns including whether it can mount them on missiles, whether Saddam would issue such an order, and whether it would be obeyed. There is also the possibility of a non-conventional bomb delivered by a plane or other means.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and other leaders warn Israel will defend its citizens if attacked — but a desperate Saddam would be difficult to deter if his very aim is to draw a counterattack to redefine the war and enable his regime, somehow, to survive.

Hundreds of U.S. soldiers are to arrive in Israel this week for joint exercises to integrate two different anti-missile systems that are part of final preparations for a possible Iraqi attack. Israeli soldiers also have

reportedly been training with chemical agents, learning how to detect them to warn the public in case of an attack.

If Israel is hit, its decision on how to respond could be gut-wrenching.

Sharon, in almost two years in power, has shown a great sensitivity to the position of the United States, whose support has been critical in his struggle to crush the Palestinian uprising and sideline Yasser Arafat. U.S. pressure on Israel not to respond, or to use measured force, would certainly be a factor.

Israeli security officials say that since a nonconventional attack would expose the falsehood of Iraq's claims that it does not possess such weapons, Israel must also plan for the scenario of an attack with conventional weapons.

But many believe that even in such a case Israel will have to act in order to preserve — or reestablish — its deterrence.

Shmuel Sandler of the Tel Aviv-based BESA Center for Strategic Studies said the deterrent capability — which for decades helped Israel stave off the hostile intentions of an Arab world whose population is many times its own — has been battered two decades "in which Israel failed to win decisively on any front."

The list includes — in addition to the non-response to Saddam's Scuds in 1991 — an 18-year occupation of parts of Lebanon that ended in a unilateral and unconditional pullout in 2000; the first Palestinian uprising

that led to a since-collapsed peace deal with the Palestinian Liberation Organization in 1993; and the slow bleed of the current conflict with the Palestinians.

Few believe Israel would avoid retaliating to a biological or chemical attack that causes many casualties — but no one can say how it would strike back.

Israel is reputed to have a significant nuclear capability — but what kind of attack, with how many casualties, would justify using it? Beyond the unimaginable loss of innocent life, such an attack would break a taboo, expose Israel's nuclear hand and possibly invite similarly catastrophic retaliation.

For Israel to consider nuclear weapons, "it needs to be a very extreme situation (in which) there will be a biological strike of such magnitude that Israel will have to respond," said Ephraim Kam of the Tel Aviv-based Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies.

The experts say it is in Israel's interest to avoid being challenged to respond.

That means relying on the United States to quickly seize control of western Iraq, the only place from which Iraqi Scuds can reach Israel, depending on the new Arrow missile defense system to knock down anything that does get through — and, essentially, hoping for the best.

Another danger Israel could face is an upsurge in Palestinian terrorism or an effort by the Iranian-backed Hezbollah militia in Lebanon to

broaden the war by attacking Israel with missiles.

Of particular are the oil refineries in the northern port of Haifa, well within Hezbollah's range. An attack that hits them and spews poison all over the area, where a half-million people live, is one of the "mega-terror" scenarios Israelis dread.

Israeli military planners are looking into ways to eliminate that threat, a goal that would require not only an air and artillery assault against Hezbollah's positions but also a ground move, and the risk of drawing in Syria, which effectively controls Lebanon, as well.

Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz said Dec. 16 that, "if Hezbollah opens a second front against Israel by using long-range rockets against the northern part of the state of Israel we won't have much choice."

Would the removal of Saddam herald a new era of moderation in the region?

Kam said it might embolden moderates and persuade hardline regimes from Teheran to Damascus to stop funding and providing shelter to terror groups.

"It would send a clear signal to the radical elements ... that the United States is ready to use force to ensure its interests against those who threaten stability," he said.

But others warn of a political and terrorist backlash against what could be perceived as new effort at Western colonialism.

Time magazine names whistleblowers Persons of Year

NEW YORK (AP) — The year's biggest scandals — the intelligence failures before the Sept. 11 attacks and the collapses of Enron Corp. and WorldCom Inc. — earned three whistleblowers the honor of Time magazine Persons of the Year.

In its issue reaching newsstands Monday, Time called Coleen Rowley, Cynthia Cooper and Sherron Watkins "ordinary people who did not wait for higher authorities to do what needed to be done."

Time's 2002 picks are unusual in that most people cited by the magazine in the past have been well-known public figures. Last year's selection was New York

Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, for his conduct in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Rowley, Cooper and Watkins were selected "for believing — really believing — that the truth is one thing that must not be moved off the books, and for stepping in to make sure that it wasn't."

Rowley, 48, was the FBI agent based in Minneapolis whose scathing memorandum to FBI Director Robert Mueller last May said agency headquarters ignored her pleas

in the weeks before the Sept. 11 attacks to aggressively investigate Zacarias Moussaoui, now charged as an accomplice. In later Senate testimony, Rowley charged that the FBI was plagued by "careerism" and bureaucracy.

Cooper, 38, was an internal auditor at WorldCom who alerted the telecommunications firm's board of directors to \$3.8 billion in accounting irregularities. A month later, WorldCom declared the biggest corporate bankruptcy in U.S. history. Investigators

have since uncovered more than \$9 billion in accounting fraud at WorldCom.

Watkins, 43, was a vice president of Enron, who warned company chairman Kenneth Lay in 2001 that the firm could collapse as a result of extensive false accounting. Enron also filed for bankruptcy, and Watkins resigned last month.

"It's an amazing recognition. ... It's still sinking in," Watkins said Sunday. "It is mindboggling and amazing because we are just ordinary

average Americans."

In an earlier interview with Time editors, Rowley, Cooper and Watkins said some colleagues now hate them for exposing the mistakes of their bosses.

"There is a price to be paid. There have been times that I could not stop crying," Cooper said.

The trio symbolized a critical struggle in the country to restore trust in disgraced institutions, from business firms to the Catholic Church, Time managing editor Jim Kelly told The Associated Press.

"All three are just resolute in standing up for what is right," Kelly said. "All three of them are made of very strong character."

Swamp rats big source of cash in Louisiana

LULING, La. (AP) — Cajun country's No. 1 nuisance — 10-pound swamp rats with orange buck teeth and webbed feet — are Kyle Loupe's cash cow.

Emerging from the bayous in an airboat splattered with blood and Spanish moss, Loupe plunks down more than 1,200 tails that once wagged from Louisiana's reviled rodents known as nutria, and will collect \$4,824 in return.

Loupe owes the windfall to Louisiana's three-week-old, \$4-a-tail-bounty program that aims to wipe out 400,000 nutria this winter, and save an eroding coastline that's been disappearing at an estimated rate of 30 square miles a year.

Nutria, a non-native species that has overrun Gulf of Mexico wetlands since the value of their fur plummeted in the early 1980s, devour

plants that keep the soil from washing away.

"The nutria run away, but they're not that quick," said Loupe, who picks off the pests with his .22 rifle. "Sometimes you see two, three, four on a hill, and you get all of them. There's none that gets away."

Louisiana has tried just about everything to get rid of the rodents. Nutria cuisine didn't catch on, and nutria fur coats fell out of favor. Sheriff's deputies still shoot them for target practice, and recreational nutria hunting had its debut last year.

Now, it's time for the professionals.

About 400 hunters and trappers have signed up for the bounty system — known as the Nutria Control Program. In the first week, they turned in 4,863 of the long, hairy tails.

"I expect us to be collecting 8,000 a week, maybe 10,000 if we really get on a hot streak," said Jeff Marx, a state biologist.

Nutria were imported from Argentina in the 1930s because state officials believed they would enhance the fur trade. Among those raising nutria were Tabasco hot sauce founder E.A. McIlhenny.

But no one anticipated the animals' prodigious breeding prowess, or their enormous appetite. Alligators are the only predator that commonly eats nutria, and as the gator population dropped, the rodents have enjoyed free rein to chomp their way through the marshes.

MOW fund-raiser



(Courtesy photo)

LeJa Kennedy won this handsome trunk in a drawing conducted recently by Pampa Meals on Wheels. The fund-raiser netted approximately \$1,000 for the organization. The trunk was donated by Joe Autry. MOW is currently offering cookbooks for sale as part of yet another fund-raiser, each features recipes from board members, staff, and volunteers. For more information or to place an order, call 669-1007.

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EMAIL: deede@pan-tex.net • pamnews1@pan-tex.net
This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily except Saturdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Days, by The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, Pampa, Tx. 79065. Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, Texas 79066-2198.

Publisher: L.W. McCall
Editor: Dee Dee Laramore
Managing Editor: Nancy Young
Circulation Manager: Dean Lynch
Advertising Manager: ReDonn Woods
Composition Supervisor: Brenda Cook

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