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THE Pampa NEWS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2003

Vol. 98 No. 562 • Pampa, Texas
50 cents Daily • Sunday \$1



WEATHER WEATHER
HIGH 58 LOW 45

LOCAL
Lefors ISD board meets Thursday

LEFORS - Lefors Independent School District Board of Trustees will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13, in the Lefors High Library, 209 Fifth St. Annual review of the superintendent is on the agenda as well as a report by the superintendent. Also on the agenda is personnel, text books, budget amendments and finances, current billings and tax collections.

STATE
Medical group deploys

FORT HOOD, (AP) - An Army medical company was scheduled to deploy from Fort Hood on Wednesday. The Army would not disclose how many members of the 13th Corps Support Command would be deployed or where they would go.

DEATHS

- Wilbert Ray Babb, 72, services pending.
Charles Boyles, 76, Pampa schools alumnus.
Phyllis Clark, 61, rural mail carrier.
Donnie Gamble, 51, services pending.
Constance "Connie" Pritchett, 69, homemaker.
Frances Ruth Bowers Walls, 82, educator.

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Budget cuts affect CCPC

By NANCY YOUNG
MANAGING EDITOR

Local and area college administrators are cutting costs. Some are likely to be painful.

Cutting \$193,000 from Clarendon College's budget will have a million-dollar impact on the economy of the Clarendon-Pampa area, said College President Miles Shelton.

However, he said classes are not going to be cancelled.

Texas' state agencies must cut their budgets and the effects are being felt across the state. Pampa is feeling these effects, too.

Clarendon College-Pampa Center has begun the cutting process as all community colleges are also affected by Gov. Rick Perry's directive to slash all state agencies' budgets by at least seven percent.

Spending only on absolute necessities seems to be the watchword.

Travel, equipment purchases and hiring have all been frozen in attempts to meet the governor's directive, said

Shelton. Layoffs are anticipated, but college leaders say it won't be faculty members.

"No instructors will be let go at the college's Pampa Center campus," said Pampa Center Dean Joe Kyle Reeve.

Shelton said the community college system based in Clarendon has been told to cut a little more \$193,000 from it's state appropriations.

"That's just as hard for us to do as it is for Amarillo College to cut \$1.5 million," he said.

He said studies have proven that for each dollar invested in higher education that there is a \$5 return to the area.

"When we lose nearly \$200,000 of our budget, we're going to lose \$1 million to the area. Somehow the significance of that has been lost in this," he said. "The ripple effects are tremendous."

Shelton said the administration has begun identifying areas to cut.

"We're going to do this without impacting the students

(See CCPC, Page 4)

Grand jurors indict woman, 23, in death

By NANCY YOUNG
MANAGING EDITOR

A 23-year-old Pampa woman has been indicted by the 31st Judicial District Grand Jury on second degree manslaughter in connection with the death of a 74 year old resident.

Niecy Allene Davis, 1329 Terrace, was indicted in the Nov. 16, 2002, death of Dorothy Pinson Fuller, 74, 1121 Mary Ellen.

At the time of the incident, Pampa police said the elderly woman was apparently walking west across Barnes Street when she was struck by a northbound car about 8 p.m. that Saturday night. She died at 9:30 p.m. at Pampa Regional Medical Center.

Officers said Fuller appeared to have been struck

by a 1996 green Buick Skylark. Police said the driver and a passenger in the car left the sedan and fled on foot.

Davis was arrested about an hour after the accident by Texas Department of Public Safety troopers. She was charged with intoxicated manslaughter with a vehicle.

Appearing before 31st District Judge Steven Emmert six days later, Davis' \$100,000 bond, which had been set by Justice of the Peace Kurt Curfman, was reduced to \$50,000.

Judge Emmert set several conditions on Davis when she appeared in his court on Nov. 22. Those conditions were as follows: (1) she was not to operate any motor vehicle; (2) she was to report

(See DEATH, Page 4)



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Pampa City Commissioner Faustina Curry voices objections concerning proposed increases in penalty fees on late utility bills. Despite opposition by Curry and Commissioner Jeff McCormick, the first reading of the proposed ordinance increasing penalty fees from five to 10 percent was approved by the commission.

City raises rates

In a 3-2 vote, commissioners decide to increase fees for late payments, reconnects & hot checks

By DAVID BOWSER
STAFF WRITER

The Pampa City Commission approved of raising penalties on late utility bills, spending more than \$100,000 on seal coating city streets and selling a crane from the old U.S. Bus building to a new company.

They deferred adopting an antenna policy and setting lease rates until their next meeting.

They also set the election schedule for this spring's city elections, made minor adjustments to the city budget, reappointed members of a city board and approved the sale of some tax property.

In a narrow 3-2 vote at their meeting Tuesday night at city hall, the Pampa City Commission approved the first reading of a city ordinance that would raise penalty fees for late utility payments to 10 percent, raise fees for reconnection of discontinued services and raise fees for returned checks.

City Commissioners Faustina Curry and Jeff McCormick opposed the proposed fee hikes. Curry said she worried that the increase might be a burden on residents with fixed incomes who have trouble meeting the billing cycle. She said she preferred to keep the late charge at five percent.

The city staff, however, reported that less than 10 percent of the late fees were charged to people on Social Security.

During the pre-meeting work session, Commissioner McCormick said he feels the increase would be an unnecessary burden on residents that might be struggling.

Commissioner Robert Dixon noted that the

city spends \$10,000 a year sending out second notices.

Commissioner Jeff Andrews said that perhaps the increase would encourage people to sign up for direct payment of their utility bill.

The proposed fee increases still face a second and final reading.

The city commission also approved the low bid of \$102,694.16 by Lewis Construction, Inc., of Dumas, to seal coat Pampa streets.

Richard Morris, the city's director of public works, said it is part of a \$400,000 project approved in 2001. The initial seal coating that year cost \$184,388.48 and covered 12 miles. This year's seal coating will cover five miles of city streets.

The city commission also approved the PEDC's plan to sell a second crane in the old U.S. Bus building, 822 E. Foster, to a company that had bought the first one.

The sale price was \$5,000 for the crane and the company agreed to move the crane with no charge to the city.

The commissioners also approved the sale of tax property 932 E. Denver to Richard L. Shay for \$101. Shay, who lives at 928 E. Denver, indicated that he wanted to demolish the remnants of the structure on the lot and expand his yard.

Danny Winborne, the city's code enforcement officer, said Shay had been keeping the lot mowed and cleared of weeds.

Commissioners deferred adopting an antenna policy and setting lease rates until their next meeting, in order to have more time to review

(See RATES, Page 4)

Roberts Co. plows new ground on water issue

By DAVID BOWSER
STAFF WRITER

MIAMI - For the second time, the Roberts County Commission tabled a petition to establish a fresh water supply district.

In November, Mesa Water, Inc., a group of Roberts County landowners led by rancher and Dallas businessman Boone Pickens, petitioned the county commission in an effort to establish a fresh water supply district that would cover about 46,000 acres of Roberts County.

That move was seen as an effort by Mesa to gain the ability to finance a pipeline through which the landowners could transport water from beneath their ranches to metropolitan areas down state.

Such an entity would also have tax-

ing powers within the district and the power of eminent domain throughout the state.

The Roberts County Commission at the time tabled Mesa's petition while a private property takings impact study was performed.

This week, a group of Roberts County residents presented the commissioners with a petition calling for a countywide fresh water supply district.

Again, the commissioners tabled the petition, signed by 67 registered voters in Roberts County and another 15 property owners not registered to vote in the county, until a private property takings impact study could be performed.

Jim Allison of the Allison and Bass law firm in Austin, who had performed the takings impact study concerning the Mesa petition, was assigned the

task of doing a second takings report, this one on the county as a whole.

Roberts County Judge Vernon Cook expects the new takings report to be ready by March 10, the next commissioners meeting.

At the hearing Monday before the Roberts County Commission, David Holt, a Pampa attorney representing Mesa, told the commissioners that the organizers of the countywide fresh water supply district had only petitioned for such a district to thwart Mesa's efforts.

Ron Nickum, an Amarillo attorney representing 115 landowners with about 190,000 acres of water rights in Roberts and Hemphill Counties, told the commissioners that his clients would opt out of a countywide district.

In addition to Holt and Nickum, Katie Howard, an Austin attorney rep-

resenting the Courson Family Land Partnership, spoke against the countywide fresh water supply district.

Roberts County residents Wilbur Killebrew, Seth Davidson, Carl Williamson and Richard Kent spoke in support of the countywide district.

John R. Spearman, a member of the Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District board of directors, also spoke to the issue.

Last year, the PGWCD issued high impact pumping permits to the Mesa landowners, but those permits are dependent upon Mesa finding a buyer for their water. Without a buyer, the Mesa permits expire after five years.

"There are a lot of legal questions here," Judge Cook said.

There is the question of how the county commission should approach

(See WATER, Page 4)

FEB 12 2003

OBITUARIES

WILBERT RAY BABB

Wilbert Ray Babb, 72, of Pampa, died Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2003, at Amarillo. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-

Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa. —Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

CHARLES BOYLES 1926-2003

CHEROKEE, Okla. — Charles Boyles, 76, died Friday, Feb. 7, 2003. Graveside services will be at 9 a.m., Thursday in Fort Bliss National Cemetery at El Paso. A memorial service is scheduled Friday at Farmington, N.M. Arrangements in Cherokee are under the direction of Lanman Funeral Home of Helena, Okla.

Mr. Boyles was born March 30, 1926, at Breckenridge, to Skillern Dean and Vera Leone Yager Boyles. He attended attended junior and senior high school in Pampa and Texas A&M and Sul Ross University, where he was voted an All-American. He also spent many years competing in professional rodeo and the collegiate rodeo team at Sul Ross University. He married Bea Kenamer on Dec. 18, 1946.

He was honored in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities and was

elected to the Hall of Honor at his university alma mater.

He was a coach and an educator, teaching at the junior high, senior high and college levels. He was involved in Methodist Youth Groups and had been active in First Methodist Church since childhood.

He was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving during World War II.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and a son, Charles Gibson.

Survivors include his wife, Beatrice, of the home; two daughters, Ann Retherford of Bayfield, Colo., and Martha Royster of Cherokee; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Charlie Boyles Memorial Scholarship Fund in care of Lanman Funeral Home, Inc., of Cherokee.

PHYLLIS CLARK 1941-2003

Phyllis Clark, 61, of Pampa, died Monday, Feb. 10, 2003. Services will be at 2 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 13, 2003, at Carmichael-Whately Colonial Chapel with Mr. Kent Smith officiating. Burial will be at 11 a.m., Friday, Feb. 14, 2003, at Gaines County Cemetery in Loop, Texas, under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Clark was born Nov. 26, 1941, at Seagraves. She married Raburn Clark on Aug. 19, 1966, at Seagraves. She moved from Seagraves to Skellytown in 1982 and was a member of Skellytown First Baptist Church.

She worked as a Class A rural mail carrier for Skellytown since 1982.

Survivors include her husband, Raburn

Clark, of the home; a son, Justin Clark of Skellytown; a daughter and son-in-law, Amber and Dan Mosley of Thousand Oaks, Calif.; and two sisters, LaNell White of Wichita Falls and Pat Nelson of Seagraves.

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



DONNIE GAMBLE 1952-2003

Donnie Gamble, 51, of Pampa, died Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2003, at Amarillo. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Gamble was born Jan. 1, 1952, at Murfreesboro, Tenn. He had been a Pampa resident for 26 years and married Jenny Lee on April 7, 1973, at Pampa.

He worked at several grocery stores and was employed at Wal-Mart for five years.

He was a member and minister of the

Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Hugh Gamble.

Survivors include his wife, Jenny, of the home; two sons, Scotty Gamble and Samuel Gamble, both of Pampa; a daughter, Julie Morgan of Pampa; two brothers, James Gamble and Buddy Gamble, both of West Texas; a sister, Wanda Paddock of Slidell; and two grandchildren.

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

CONSTANCE 'CONNIE' PRITCHETT 1934-2003

Constance "Connie" Pritchett, 69, of Pampa, died Monday, Feb. 10, 2003. The body was cremated. No services are scheduled at this time. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Pritchett was born Jan. 18, 1934, at Boston, Mass. She married Bob Pritchett on Aug. 30, 1957, at Waltham, Mass.

She came to Pampa in 1976 and was a Catholic.

Survivors include her husband, Bob, of the home; two daughters, Lesley Helm and Laura Pritchett, both of Pampa; a sister, Janice Martin of Cape Coral, Fla.; and two grandchildren.

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

FRANCES RUTH BOWERS WALLS 1921-2003

Frances Ruth Bowers Walls, 82, of Pampa, died Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2003, at Amarillo, Texas. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Walls was born Feb. 21, 1921, in Hereford. She was reared in Miami and was a 1938 graduate of Miami High School. She attended Texas Tech University in Lubbock and received her B.A. degree and M.Ed. degree from West Texas State University in Canyon. She received her M.S. degree in library science from East Texas State University in Commerce.

She taught elementary school at Laketon, Miami and Pampa and later became library coordinator for the Pampa Independent School District, retiring in 1982.

She married G.M. "Arkie" Walls on Oct. 1, 1939, in Elk City, Okla.

She was a member of the First United Methodist Church, both in Miami and Pampa. She was a member of the Crusaders Sunday School Class in Pampa, the Kappa Kappa Iota Teacher's Sorority, Pampa Classroom Teachers Association, T.E.A., N.E.A., Friends of the Library and Pampa Retired Teachers Association.

She helped farm with her husband during the summer months.

Survivors include her husband, G.M. "Arkie" Walls of Amarillo; three sons and daughters-in-law, G.M. Walls, Jr. and wife Diana of Pampa, Wilbur Walls and wife Judy of Lake Tanglewood and Steve Walls and wife Diane of Hurst; four grandchildren, Autumn Smith and Trae Walls, both of Pampa, Alicia Walls of Amarillo and Jordan Walls of Hurst; three step-grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 1981, Pampa, TX 79066-1981, or to a favorite charity.

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



SERVICES TOMORROW

BOYLES, Charles — 9 a.m., Fort Bliss National Cemetery, El Paso.

CLARK, Phyllis — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

ON RECORD

SHERIFF

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

John Hardy King, 51, 1608 Box 19, was arrested on a Gray County warrant for driving with license suspended.

N. Sumner, was arrested on a federal probation violation.

Dillon Downs, 26, Rt. 1,

POLICE

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents:

Tuesday, Feb. 11

Attempted burglary of a local business in the 1400 block of North Hobart was reported. Damage to the back door was estimated to be \$50.

A wallet and contents were reported stolen in the 700 block of Malone. Estimate of loss was \$60.

Phone harassment was reported in the 600 block of Duncan.

A runaway was reported.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 2100 block of Mary Ellen. Estimate of loss was \$150.

Theft of identification was reported to Pampa PD.

A local business in the 200 block of East Brown reported the theft of a one liter bottle of whiskey. Estimate of loss was \$27.99.

Wednesday, Feb. 12

Phone harassment was reported to the Pampa PD.

City Briefs

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WASHER & Dryer for sale. See at 731 N. Faulkner.

ACCIDENTS

Pampa Police Department reported the following accident:

Tuesday, Feb. 11

2:25 p.m. — According to police reports, Heather R. Burkhalter, 16, 1601 Christy, was driving a 1998 Pontiac Grand Am on Randy Matson when she attempted to make a left turn onto Hobart. Driving a 2002 Toyota Avalon, Herman Lewis Meers, 55, Rt. 1, Box 13A, was sitting at a red light on Hobart when Burkhalter struck the vehicle he was driving. No injuries were reported. Burkhalter was cited for improper left turn.

4 p.m. — Cynthia Ann Vargas, 43, 601 N. Russell, was cited for fail to stop and exchange information, disregard stop sign and fail to change address on drivers license following an accident. According to police reports, Vargas was driving a 1981 Chevrolet Custom Deluxe pickup eastbound on Cook when she ran a stop sign at the intersection of 800 West Somerville and 400 West Cook and then left the scene without exchanging information. Nell Swinford Foster, 77, 714 E. Kingsmill, was driving a 1969 Ford F100 pickup when she was struck by the vehicle driven by Vargas. No injuries were reported.

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

Today, partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Warmer. Lows in the mid 40s. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph. Thursday, cloudy. Chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 50s. South winds 10 to 20 mph. Chance of precipitation 50 percent. Thursday night, mostly cloudy. Chance of rain showers. Lows in the mid 40s. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph. Chance of rain 40 percent. Friday, partly cloudy. Slight chance of rain. Highs in the mid 60s. North winds 5 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 20 percent. Friday night, cloudy. Slight chance of rain and snow. Lows in the lower 30s. Chance of rain and snow 20 percent. Saturday, cloudy and cooler. Slight chance of rain and snow. Highs in the mid 40s. Chance of rain and snow 20 percent. Saturday night, cloudy. Chance of snow. Lows in the mid 20s. Chance of snow 30 percent. Sunday, mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s. Sunday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s.

STATEWIDE

Warm weather will continue over the state through Friday, with partly to mostly cloudy skies. A chance of rain is forecast over most of the state beginning Thursday and will stay in the forecast through Saturday. Rain will be likely in south central and west central Texas on Thursday. Beginning Saturday temperatures will cool down about 10 degrees in north and west Texas.

THE Pampa NEWS

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This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily except Saturdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Days by The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, Pampa, Tx. 79065. Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to the 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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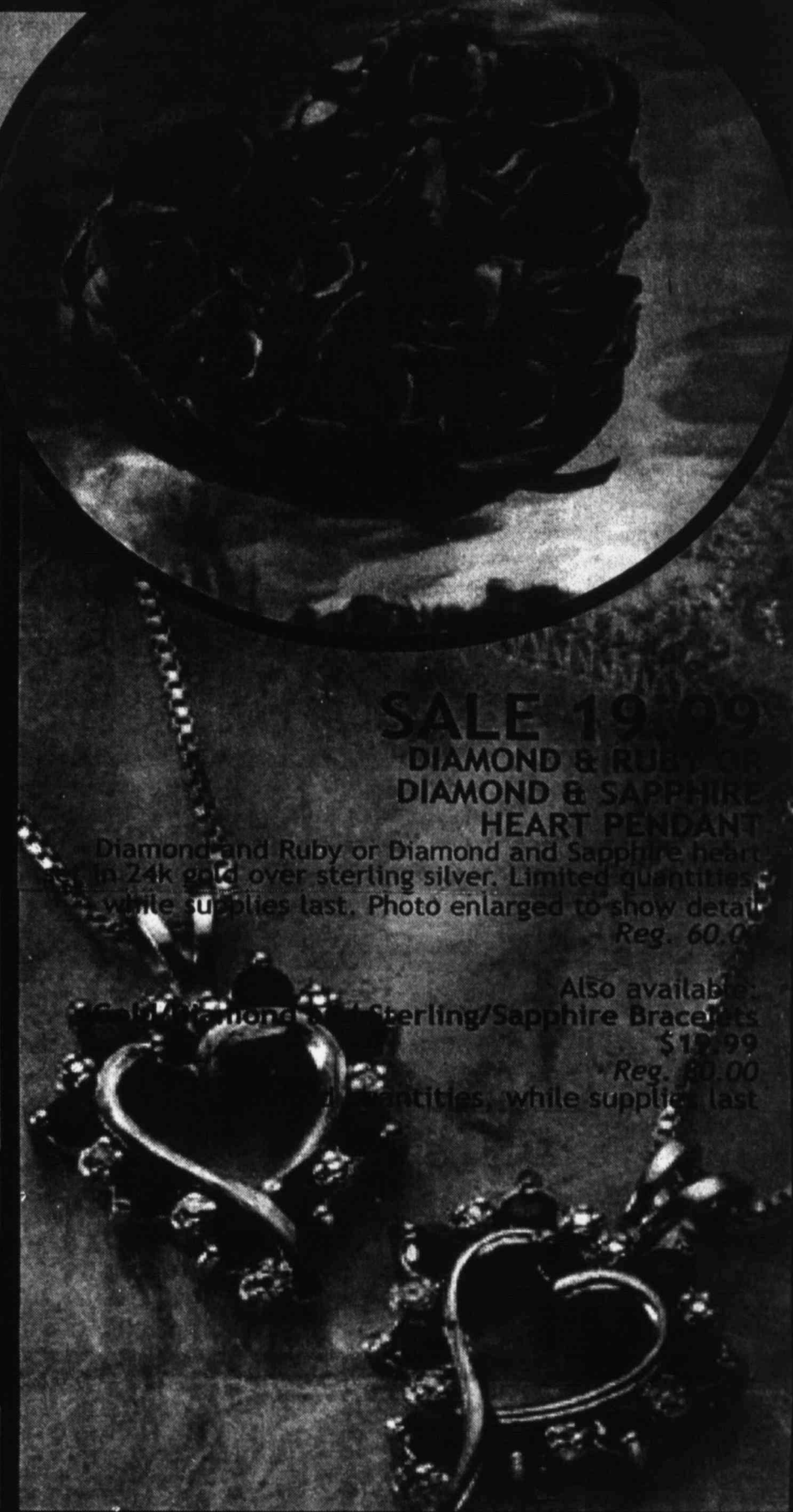
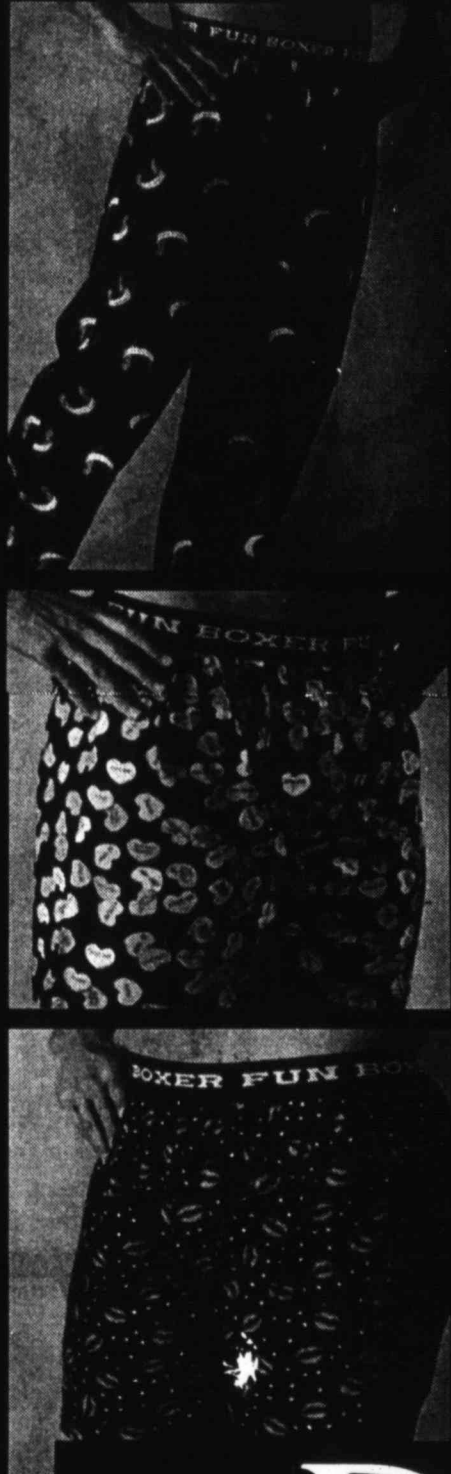
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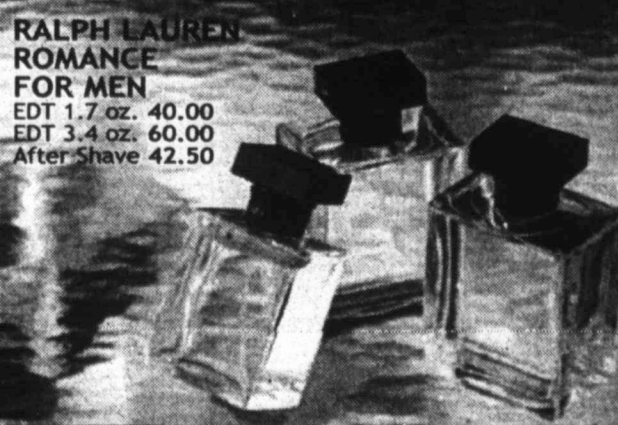
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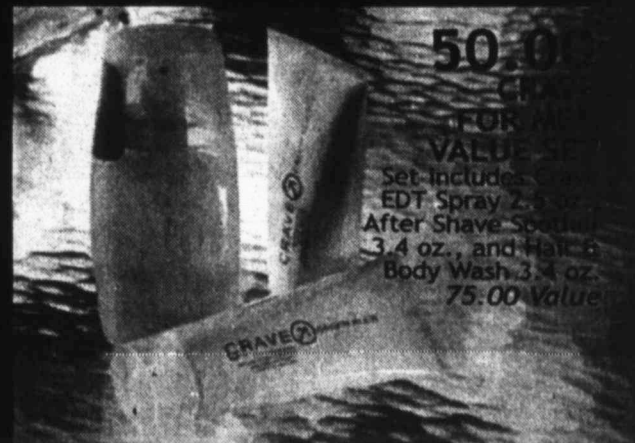
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CIA chief: Intelligence points to imminent attacks

WASHINGTON (AP) — Air defenses around the nation's capital have been strengthened amid a heightened terrorism alert and a warning from CIA director George Tenet that al-Qaida attacks could occur as early as this week, defense officials said Wednesday.

Avenger anti-aircraft missiles have been stationed around Washington, along with extra radars, and the Air Force has stepped up its combat air patrols over the capital, they said.

In testimony Wednesday before the Senate Armed Services Committee, meanwhile, Tenet reiterated that the danger of attack is rising.

"If given the choice, al-Qaida terrorists will choose attacks that achieve multiple objectives, striking prominent landmarks, inflicting

Washington's air defenses strengthened

mass casualties, causing economic disruption and rallying support through shows of strength," the CIA director said. "The bottom line here, Mr. Chairman, is that al-Qaida is living in the expectation of resuming the offensive."

Tenet said on Tuesday that new intelligence information led to last week's raising of the national terror alert level to "orange," the second highest level of five. The information came from "multiple sources with strong al-Qaida ties," Tenet said without providing details.

"The intelligence is not idle chatter on the part of terrorists and their associates," Tenet said Tuesday. "It is the most specific we have seen, and it is consistent with both our knowledge of al-Qaida's doctrine and our knowledge of plots this network — and particularly its senior leadership — has been working on for years."

The information pointing to imminent attacks was gathered in the United States and overseas, said FBI Director Robert Mueller, who joined Tenet and other intelligence chiefs to brief the Senate Intelligence Committee in

an annual public session on threats to national security.

The CIA director said the information suggests the attack may involve a "dirty bomb" — a weapon that spreads radioactive material over a wide area — or chemical or poison weapons. Officials last week worried the attack could be timed to coincide with the hajj, a Muslim holy period this week.

Mueller and Tenet said the U.S. government has no specific information pointing conclusively to where, when or how terrorists would strike. They said raising the national alert level — and taking security measures at government and business centers — makes it more difficult for the terrorists to carry out an attack.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

DEATH

to the Adult Probation Office every Monday and Friday for a urinalysis test for alcohol and drugs; and (3) she could not leave Gray County.

Davis was arrested Jan. 9 on a bond surrender charge because she did not follow the conditions set out by Judge Emmert and her bond was surrendered, according to officials.

She remained in the Gray County jail this morning.

Additional indictments returned by the 31st District Grand Jury included:

- Donald Joe Sears, 30, 1016 Duncan, was indicted on driving while intoxicated-sub-

sequent offense, enhanced, second degree;

- Howell Ted Campbell, 70, Moscow, Kan., was indicted on two offenses - driving while intoxicated-subsequent offense, enhanced, first degree; and aggravated assault, enhanced, first degree.

- Danny Greg Tucker, 44, 508 Sumner, possession or transport of certain chemicals with intent to manufacture controlled substance, second degree;

- Michael Wayne Blalock, 45, 714 E. Frederic, possession or transport of certain chemicals with intent to manufacture controlled substance, second degree;

- Johnny Joe Rosalez, 44,

1012 E. Campbell, driving while intoxicated-subsequent offense, enhanced, second degree;

- Michael Craig Knutson, 44, 1012 N. Terry Road, possession of controlled substance with intent to deliver, first degree;

- Kevin Michael O'Neal, 40, 1840 Holly Lane, possession of controlled substance with intent to deliver, enhanced, first degree;

- Daniell Ray Duree, 18, 1128 Crane, possession of controlled substance with intent to deliver, first degree; and

- Roberto Juarez-Hernandez, 24, Nashville, Tenn., unlawful transport, state jail.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

CCPC

or classes," he said.

Projected cuts of \$116,000 have been identified, said Shelton. "We still have to find \$77,000 more," he said. "I anticipate layoffs."

"It is very difficult. It's late in the fiscal year and it makes for a difficult time," he said. "We have a hiring freeze on except for critical personnel."

Reeve said 204 students are enrolled in classes at Clarendon College's Pampa Center. He also said approximately 100 Pampa High

School students are taking dual-credit classes at CCPC.

Shelton said the college also conducts classes for inmates at the Jordan Unit.

"We are trying to be prudent and diligent," said Shelton. "What we are doing now will set the stage for a continued and smooth operation."

He said personnel cuts will be considered by CCPC Board of Regents when they meet at noon Thursday at the Pampa Center. The governing board meets at least once a year at the Pampa location and they will be touring the facilities, he said.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

RATES

the present policy and review a proposed contract with Centramedia Online Services, who wants to put an antenna on a city tower.

The commission also approved the first reading of an amendment to the city budget. The amendment, John Horst, the city's finance director, explained, shifts money between accounts. There is no increase or decrease in the budget.

In other business, the commission re-appointed Matt Hinton, Mike Albus, Larry Baker, Hugh Hall, John Wagner and Bobby Burns to the Construction Board of Appeals.

In their work session, commissioners discussed the possibility of cutting the number of advisory boards that serve the city.

Commissioners also

approved extensions of agreements with White Deer, Skellytown, Lefors, Miami and Groom for animal control services.

Bill Hildebrandt of the city staff said Pampa gets fewer than 25 calls a year from the surrounding cities and that they bring the animals to Pampa. Pampa animal control officers don't go to the cities.

The commission approved the election order for Pampa's general election on May 3, for mayor, the post presently held by Lonnie Robbins; city commissioner, Ward 1, now held by Jeff McCormick, and city commissioner, Ward 3, now held by Robert Dixon.

Monday, Feb. 17, will be the first day to file an application for a place on the ballot. March 19, will be the last day to file.

The commission also voted to change their next meeting from the fourth

Tuesday of the month, which would fall on Feb. 25, to Thursday, Feb. 27. Mayor Lonnie Robbins and City Manager Mitch Grant will be in Austin meeting with legislators on Feb. 25.

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

WATER

the subject of a fresh water supply district and what criteria they should use in ruling on each of the petitions.

There is the question of procedure on how and when a landowner can withdraw from such a district.

There is a question of how a smaller district, such as the one proposed by Mesa, can expand.

In many instances, Judge Cook said, the law is not clear on these issues, and the Roberts County Commissioners Court is plowing new legal ground.

ON RECORD, CONT. FROM PAGE TWO

AMBULANCE

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

Tuesday, Feb. 11

9:38 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of North Russell; one patient was transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

2:30 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC; one patient was transported to BSAW in Amarillo.

Wednesday, Feb. 12

4:19 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of Mary Ellen; one patient was transported to PRMC.

5:18 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the Jordan Unit; one patient was transported to PRMC.

6:43 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of Russell; one patient was transported to PRMC.

STOCKS

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

Wheat	3.38	XCEL	10.63	-0.17	
Milo	3.96	Kerr McGee	39.72	-0.35	
Corn	4.49	Limited	11.66	+0.06	
Soybeans	4.92	Williams	2.87	-0.16	
		McDonalds	13.85	-0.05	
		Exxon Mobil	33.00	-0.37	
		Atmos	21.76	+0.57	
		Pioneer Nat	24.72	-0.25	
		Occidental	28.98	-0.05	
		Fidelity Mageln	NA		
		Penney's	18.08	-0.10	
		Puritan	NA		
		COP	48.34	-0.17	
		Schlumberger	38.57	-0.43	
		Tenneco	2.41	+0.02	
		R&R Sales True Value Hardware	CVX	63.58	-0.25
		Co. of Pampa	Wal-Mart	47.36	+0.11
		BP	37.81	-0.29	
		OKE	16.68	-0.13	
		Celanese	19.72	-0.73	
		NS Group	7.40	+0.05	
		Cabot Corp.	23.23	-0.12	
		Cabot Oil Gas	23.10	-0.31	
		Coca Cola	39.88	+0.88	
		New York Gold	363.67		
		VLO	37.27	-0.54	
		Silver	4.58		
		Halliburton	19.54	-0.05	
		West Texas Crude	34.44		

FIRE

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

Tuesday, Feb. 11

2:31 p.m. - One unit and three firefighters responded to a hazardous material spill from a minor motor vehicle collision at Randy Matson and Hobart streets.

3:39 p.m. - One unit and two firefighters responded to a grass fire on Loop 171, northeast of Pampa. A controlled burn had gotten out of control.

5:50 p.m. - One unit and four firefighters responded to M.K. Brown Auditorium, 1100 Coronado Dr., to present an orientation program for prospective firefighters.

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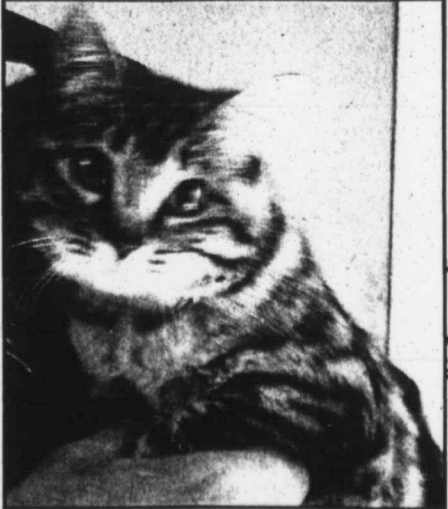
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Hy-Tech Communications (806) 274-7452	GRINER Griner Ford, Inc. (806) 733-2431	Pampa Communications (806) 665-1663	Zink Consulting (806) 435-2200	R&R Sales True Value Hardware (806) 659-3762	Ware Chevrolet (806) 826-3026
WT Services (806) 273-2092	PAMPA Dobson Cellular 2131 Pannoyon Pkwy (806) 665-0600	PARHAMBLE Lane & Company, Inc. (806) 537-3537	SHAMROCK Ware Chevrolet (806) 256-3860	WELLINGTON Langford Communications (806) 447-1004	Wireless Works (806) 898-1800
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"Tilly"
Tilly is a young female gray tabby. She would make a wonderful pet. Come by today to take her home with you.



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For information about these pets or any other contact the Animal Shelter at 669-5775 or come by their location at Hobart Street Park.

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Doc before

WASH A federal that whi Oklahoma "assassin and mass FBI secret ness fami blow up th federal bui learn of a ed that bombing building. The obtained gence t McVeigh c bomb in did not war managers according t uments tha munication in the pre gence failu "It is the tion— inte way and t black hol Sanders, a enforcemen reviewed d by The Ass Those two separ

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Wiscon money

WEST BE — A woman stand trial for \$18,000 from set up to pay relating to leukemia. Michelle charged with felony theft years in pris Several wi during a prel Tuesday that set up under of Linda," donations to bone marrow for Meyer's Mueller. Meyer alle in an Octob taking the m confronted wi from a bone company, Was

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Documents: Feds warned of attack before Murrah building blew up

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal informant warns that white separatists in Oklahoma are threatening "assassinations, bombings and mass shootings." The FBI secretly interviews a witness familiar with a plot to blow up the Alfred P. Murrah federal building. Other agents learn of a book being circulated that promotes a truck bombing of a government building.

The U.S. government obtained all of this intelligence before Timothy McVeigh detonated his truck bomb in 1995, but officials did not warn federal buildings managers in Oklahoma, according to government documents that detail miscommunications similar to those in the pre-Sept. 11 intelligence failures.

"It is the lack of coordination — intelligence going one way, and then going into a black hole," said Robert Sanders, a former top law enforcement official who reviewed documents obtained by The Associated Press.

Those documents show two separate federal law

enforcement agencies had information before the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing that suggested white supremacists living nearby were considering an attack on government buildings.

Officials at FBI headquarters in Washington were so worried that white separatists at the Elohim City compound in Muldrow, Okla., might lash out on April 19, 1995 — the day Timothy McVeigh chose — that a month earlier they questioned a reformed white supremacist familiar with an earlier plot to bomb the same Murrah Building that McVeigh selected.

"I think their only real concern back then was Elohim City," said Kerry Noble, the witness questioned by the FBI on March 28, 1995, just three weeks before McVeigh detonated a truck bomb outside the building and killed more than 160 people.

Noble told AP his FBI questioners appeared particularly concerned about what Elohim City members might do on April 19 because one of their heroes, Wayne Snell,

was being executed that day, and another, James Ellison, was returning to Oklahoma after ending parole in Florida.

FBI officials confirmed Noble's account.

Snell, Ellison and Noble had plotted to attack the Murrah building in 1983 with plastic explosives and rocket launchers, according to Noble and FBI officials. The plan never reached fruition, and the group was arrested in 1985 after a siege with law enforcers in Arkansas.

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, said Wednesday the information gathered by AP "is another example of the problems federal law enforcement bureaucracies have with connecting the dots, seeing the big picture, sharing information and preventing attacks, whether it's domestic terrorists like militia groups or foreign terrorists like the 19 hijackers."

The FBI wasn't alone in its concerns back in 1995, according to thousands of pages of federal investigative memos and handwritten notes obtained by AP.

NATO hunts way to overcome veto

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — With the United States warning the credibility of the alliance was at risk, NATO sought a compromise Wednesday that would persuade France, Germany and Belgium to drop their veto of plans to boost Turkey's defenses against an Iraqi missile attack.

After intensive overnight negotiations between capitals, NATO diplomats said the United States had agreed to eliminate two elements from its original proposal for pre-war planning: a request that European troops fill in for U.S. forces moved from the Balkans to the Persian Gulf, and a request that European forces step up guard duties at U.S. bases in Europe.

Alliance officials said both those issues were being dealt with at a bilateral level — Germany, for example, deployed hundreds of soldiers at U.S. bases last month.

That would leave the options on the table focused entirely on Turkey's request for help through the dispatch of AWACS radar planes, Patriot anti-missile batteries and specialized units to counter poison gas or germ warfare attacks.

NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson was hoping that would persuade the

French, Germans and Belgians to drop their objections and start to patch up the alliance's worst internal dispute in years.

For almost a month, the holdouts have blocked the start of military planning to help Turkey, saying the move would send a signal that NATO is engaged on an irreversible path of war and would undermine U.N. efforts to end the Iraq crisis peacefully.

"The alliance is breaking itself up because it will not meet its responsibilities," U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell warned in Washington Tuesday as the stalemate dragged on.

The division in the alliance threatens U.S. efforts to rally support in the U.N. Security Council for military action against Iraq. France and Germany, joined by Russia and China, are seeking more time for stronger U.N. inspections in a proposal opposed by Washington and London.

NATO's dispute intensified Monday when Turkey invoked the alliance's mutual defense treaty to ask for assistance, but was rebuffed by the three. Critics on both sides of the Atlantic said the holdouts sent a dangerous message of disunity to the Iraqi leadership.

Officials say Eoff plotted to kill federal prosecutor

SEATTLE (AP) — A man charged with trying to blow up a motel with a pipe bomb also plotted to have the federal prosecutor handling his case killed, authorities allege.

Prosecutors said in court documents that Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce Miyake was pulled off Evert Linnell Eoff's case this month because Eoff allegedly wanted to have him murdered. Miyake was replaced by two other prosecutors.

"As a result of Eoff's actions, it no longer is ethically possible for Bruce Miyake to serve as the prosecutor in this case," U.S. Attorney John McKay wrote in documents filed in U.S. District Court in Tacoma.

The alleged plot touched a nerve at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Seattle, where prosecutors are still stunned by the unsolved slaying of another federal prosecutor, Thomas C. Wales, in October 2001.

Eoff and Robert A. Stanard, both of Port Angeles, were

arrested during a traffic stop in Sequim on Nov. 13, 2001, the Peninsula Daily News reported. Police said they had a pipe bomb in their car and were on their way to motel.

The two were first charged federally last April 24. That indictment accused them of trying to blow up the motel.

A superseding indictment last Dec. 19 alleged that Eoff, Stanard and at least one other person were conspiring to kill another individual, identified only as A.M., by placing a bomb outside that person's motel room. Port Angeles police said the motel guest had reported a crime the day before.

Pilgrims continue hajj ritual

MINA, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Muslim pilgrims symbolically stoned the devil Wednesday for a second day in this tent city just outside Mecca, a day after 14 worshippers were trampled to death during a ritual fraught with danger because of overcrowding.

Chanting "Allahu Akbar," or "God is Great," pilgrims threw seven small pebbles at each of three gray stone pillars in the last ritual of the five-day hajj, or annual pilgrimage. The ritual, which symbolizes the rejection of earthly temptations, will be repeated Thursday as the hajj winds down.

"I am very scared because of the huge crowd," said a 43-year-old Egyptian pilgrim, Abdel-Qader Hussein. "I have two kids with me, so I will try to go as late as possible when there are less people."

Watched by guards and policemen, pilgrims are directed to approach the stoning site in orderly waves to avoid disasters like Tuesday's that left 14 people dead and 15 others with minor injuries.

The deaths took place when a group of pilgrims finished the ritual and was leaving as another wave entered, swelling the crowd dangerously on a market street. Three Indians, four Pakistanis, two Egyptians, an Iranian, a Yemeni and a Sudanese were killed. Two others had not yet been identified.

Following Tuesday's disaster, Saudi authorities said they had strengthened emergency services. Eight medical units were set up around the pillars to deal with any stampedes.

"We have increased the level of coordination among all concerned authorities to avoid what happened (Tuesday)," said Othman al-Maymani, Mecca's province health affairs director.

Maryland court to rule on death penalty

ROCKVILLE, Md. (AP) — Maryland's highest court halted an execution so it can hear an appeal arguing that the state's standard of evidence for death sentences is unconstitutional in light of recent U.S. Supreme Court rulings.

The Court of Appeals decision to hear the case could affect the sentences of Maryland's 11 other death-row inmates if the state's death penalty law is deemed unconstitutional.

The court on Tuesday delayed the execution of Steven Oken, who had been scheduled to die the week of March 17, until at least May when it plans to hear the case. Oken was convicted of the 1987 slaying of newlywed Dawn Marie Garvin.

Oken's attorney, Fred Warren Bennett, argues in his appeal that Maryland's law does not force juries to give enough weight to factors that might discourage the death sentence.

Bennett contends that recent Supreme Court decisions set a high bar for juries considering evidence in the death-penalty phase of a trial.

Maryland's law requires juries to use a "preponderance of evidence" standard when weighing the aggravating factors of a case against factors that might benefit the defendant.

But Bennett argued the Supreme Court cases

show a jury must use the much tougher standard of "beyond a reasonable doubt" and give much more scrutiny to factors that might discourage a death sentence.

State Solicitor General Gary Bair responded that several courts, including the Supreme Court, have rejected similar arguments by Oken before.

Former Gov. Parris Glendening imposed a moratorium on the death penalty while a study was being conducted on the state's use of the death penalty. The study found that race and jurisdiction play significant roles in whether a criminal is sentenced to death in Maryland, and concluded that blacks who kill whites are statistically more likely to be charged with a capital offense.

While Gov. Robert Ehrlich has lifted the moratorium, Lt. Gov. Michael Steele has called for further study. Attorney General Joseph Curran has advocated its abolition, and lawmakers have filed several bills that would narrow prosecutors' discretion in seeking capital punishment.

"We anxiously await the court's decision and we'll let the judicial process play its course," said Shareese DeLeaver, a spokeswoman for the governor.

Wisconsin women charged with allegedly stealing money from mother's leukemia treatment fund

WEST BEND, Wis. (AP) — A woman was ordered to stand trial for allegedly taking \$18,000 from a bank account set up to pay for treatments relating to her mother's leukemia.

Michelle S. Meyer, 31, charged with one count of felony theft, faces up to 15 years in prison if convicted.

Several witnesses testified during a preliminary hearing Tuesday that a bank account, set up under the name "Love of Linda," was to handle donations to pay for testing bone marrow to find a match for Meyer's mother, Linda Mueller.

Meyer allegedly confessed in an October interview to taking the money after being confronted with an unpaid bill from a bone marrow testing company, Washington County

Sheriff's Detective Mark Sette said.

Meyer allegedly said she used the money to pay bills because a mortgage company was foreclosing on her home, a criminal complaint said.

Meyer's attorney, Daniel Fay, argued the case should be dismissed.


"There was nothing, in any way, that limited (Meyer's) authority to use that money for any purpose she saw fit," he said. "The fact she wrote checks out to herself, so what? She might be guilty of something but not what is charged here."

Washington County Circuit Judge Andrew Gonring

ordered Meyer to return to court for an arraignment March 12.


"None of those funds were to be used to benefit anyone but Mrs. Mueller, and certainly not the defendant," Gonring said.

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Feb. 12th register to win a Jewelry Set
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FINAL DESTINATION 2 R
Monday - Thursday 7:00
Friday 7:00, 9:30
Saturday 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
Sunday 2:00, 4:30, 7:00

HOW TO LOSE A GUY IN 10 DAYS
PG-13 Monday - Thursday 7:15
Friday 7:15, 9:45
Saturday 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
Sunday 2:15, 4:45, 7:15

KANGAROO JACK PG
Monday - Thursday 7:00
Friday 7:00, 9:30
Saturday 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
Sunday 2:00, 4:30, 7:00

DARKNESS FALLS PG-13
Monday - Thursday 7:15
Friday 7:15, 9:45
Saturday 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
Sunday 2:15, 4:45, 7:15

Daredevil Starts Friday 2-14-03

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WEDNESDAY • FEBRUARY 12, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Bathroom Window Reveals More Than Neighbors Know

DEAR ABBY: My next-door neighbors are nice people, but I'm faced with a problem I don't know how to solve. Their bathroom faces my driveway. They have a coating on their bathroom windowpanes, but it isn't as opaque as they think. There is no other window covering.

Abby, I am greeted nearly every morning with the sight of the man of the house stepping in and out of the shower, sitting on his "throne," etc. I can even tell if he's reading the newspaper.

This morning I went out to my car and could see him through the glass as clear as day. It was hardly a vision of loveliness. Even my friends have witnessed this unforgettable sight. It is embarrassing.

Please print this. I hope my neighbors see this letter and finally put an end to the "show."

SEEN IT ALL IN MINNEAPOLIS

DEAR SEEN IT ALL: It's not enough to hope your neighbors read Dear Abby and recognize themselves. If you cannot find the courage to tell them the naked truth face-to-face, mail them a sweet note suggesting either a "cover charge" or another form of window covering. If they don't believe you, invite the wife over so she can see for herself. They need to know they're overexposed.

DEAR ABBY: I have single-handedly raised my 16-year-old daughter, "Jenna," for the past nine years. Now, at 16, begging me to let her live with her father and his wife, who live about an hour and

half away. Jenna wants to finish high school there. Over the years, she's visited her father every other weekend and for six weeks during the summers. They spoil her rotten.

Last year, Jenna witnessed her

stepmother being handcuffed and taken away in a police car. The charge was forging prescriptions for a controlled substance — her second felony. Although this woman has been clean and sober for six months, prior to that arrest she was an addict for years. Her grown son, his girlfriend and their baby also live in my ex-husband's home.

I am convinced that Jenna should continue living with me and remain in the school where she is enrolled. She's a good student with many friends. Now she is furious with me because I won't give in to the pressure that she and her dad's household are putting on me to allow her to move. (They've promised to buy her a car.)

Am I wrong to hold to my decision against this move because I feel it is not in Jenna's best interest?

MOTHER KNOWS BEST IN VIRGINIA

DEAR MOTHER: Stand your ground and follow your instincts. I see no compelling reason why your daughter should be uprooted from an atmosphere in which she is thriving — good grades and good friends — and placed in such a non-traditional household.

While her stepmother's recovery is admirable, and seems to be on its way, there is no guarantee she won't slip. It's not a chance you want to take.

DEAR ABBY: I have a complaint about my husband "Pete's" generosity to others.

Pete is a golf professional and is asked almost weekly by family and friends to get them golf equipment at cost. It takes up a big chunk of his time to order and ship out the clubs, shoes, etc. — not to mention trying to get these folks to pay for their orders.

Do these Sunday golfers ever do anything nice for Pete? No! He won't turn down their requests because he can't stand the thought of someone not thinking he's a good guy. I say this needs to stop.

Please help me convince my husband that these freeloaders are just that.

FRUSTRATED WIFE IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR WIFE: The man you married is either a good Samaritan or a severely addicted people pleaser. I don't blame you for being tee'd. However, until he's ready to see that friendship is a two-way street, he won't change — nor is he going to accept unsolicited advice from me.

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

For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

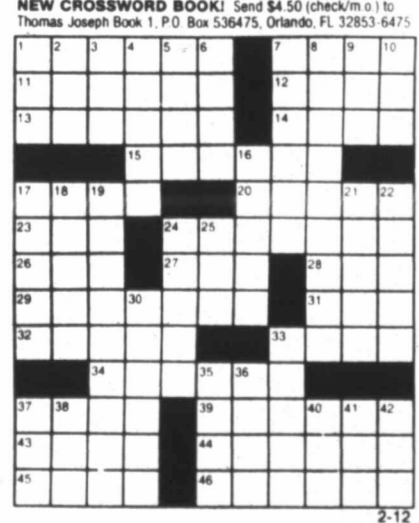
ACROSS

- 1 Jazz fan
- 7 Entree —
- 11 Jim Palmer, once
- 12 Eject
- 13 Sneaker features
- 14 Command to Spot
- 15 Skin art
- 17 Stock exchange?
- 20 Flat floats
- 23 Clerk on "The Simpsons"
- 24 Beer
- 26 Attain
- 27 Nonsense
- 28 Copy
- 29 Unex-

JOINT WISPS
AGREE ADLAT
CLOWNAROUND
KEN NIP GEE
LIMES
LEWIS DOLES
ARAB LAVA
PAGER BAYED
LITER
SPA PEA BOO
HORSEAROUND
ALTEN DISCO
MOATS SLIER

Yesterday's answer

- 3 Diner dessert
- 4 Paint layers
- 5 Emmy-winning Alan
- 6 Final, e.g. "Forget it!"
- 8 Summarily
- 9 Mex. neighbor
- 10 Pig's digs
- 16 Easy gaits
- 17 Orlando team
- 18 Verdi creation
- 19 Gasping
- 21 Lukewarm city
- 22 Flight makeup spot
- 24 Spectrum maker
- 25 Fish
- 30 Drew eggs
- 33 Nebraska close
- 35 Docking city
- 36 "Do — others ..."
- 37 Chum
- 38 Literary collection
- 40 Flock father
- 41 Count start
- 42 Unite



STUMPED?

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Marmaduke



The Family Circus



Flo & Friends



Pampa's team Harvest for Level Baptist 49er

SANTA CRUZ — The Santa Cruz 49ers are pleased every year to have Dennis Erickson as their coach — even after a courtship. Erickson, the 49ers' offensive coordinator, was named Seattle Seahawk coach in 1997 over the 49ers. He said he would be a comfort for any job in Francisco, with George Seifert and establishment that was at this time, going to have

SPORTS



(Photo by Jerry Heasley)

Pampa's Chance Bowers (on floor) scrambles for a loose ball while teammates Max Simon (33) and Clayton Hall (15) get set to join in. The Harvesters defeated Plainview 58-57 last night and will now get ready for Levelland, their bi-district opponent at 6 Tuesday night at Wayland Baptist University.

49ers hire Erickson as new head coach

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — The San Francisco 49ers surprised everybody by choosing Dennis Erickson to be their next coach — even Erickson himself. After a whirlwind weekend courtship, Erickson was hired by the 49ers on Tuesday to succeed Steve Mariucci. The former Seattle Seahawks coach leaves Oregon State, where he went 31-17 over the last four seasons. He said he wouldn't have left a comfortable college existence for any job except the one in San Francisco, where Bill Walsh and George Seifert won Super Bowls and established a winning tradition that was irresistible.

"A week ago, or four days ago at this time, I had no idea I was going to have the opportunity to

be the 49ers' coach — no idea at all," Erickson said Tuesday night in Corvallis, Ore., where he said goodbye to his Oregon State players. "It just happened."

"To compete for a world championship, I guess, is the itch I had to scratch. That's basically what it boils down to."

Erickson spent much of last week persuading high school players to sign with Oregon State. At the time, the veteran coach said, he had no idea he was a strong candidate to replace Mariucci.

Erickson got the job even though San Francisco had concentrated its search on NFL defensive coaches since owner John York surprised his front office by firing Mariucci.

Erickson has a background as an offensive guru on a series of successful college teams, and he's expected to retain three of Mariucci's offensive assistants next season.

PHS girls beat Palo Duro, 3-1

AMARILLO — The Pampa girls' soccer team improved to 2-1 in District 3-4A with a 3-1 win Monday over Palo Duro.

Stefani Goldsmith led the Pampa offense with two goals. Kori Dunn added one.

Palo Duro is 1-2 in district. The Lady Harvesters host Berger at 12 noon Saturday.

Pampa rallies by Plainview to close regular season

PAMPA — Pampa came from behind to defeat Plainview 58-57 Tuesday night in a dramatic District 3-4A finale at McNeely Fieldhouse.

The two teams traded the lead nine times in the first quarter, but Pampa never regained the lead until the final seconds when Ryan Zemanek completed a three-point play, scoring a putback and a free throw to give the Harvesters the one-point margin of victory.

Plainview was ahead by four (33-29) at halftime and built that lead to as much as 10 in the second half. The Harvesters trimmed the lead to four (46-42) going into the

fourth quarter. Zemanek's short jumper tied the score at 55-all, but Plainview went ahead again 57-55 on Taber Minner's layup with 35 ticks left. Next came the deciding points from Zemanek, who was fouled after converting an offensive rebound. His tie-breaking free throw came with 12 seconds remaining.

The Bulldogs came up empty on a couple of attempts just before the final buzzer sounded. Plainview's Xavier Hall, who finished the night with 24 points, misfired on a jumper and Pampa's Max Simon was there to block a shot on a Bulldog putback.

Simon had a solid all-around game for the Harvesters, scoring 18 points while pulling down 7 rebounds and blocking five shots.

The Harvesters will play Levelland at 6 p.m. Tuesday night in the bi-district round of the playoffs in Plainview. That game will be played at Wayland Baptist University's Hutcherson Center.

Pampa 14 29 42 58
Plainview 16 33 46 57
Pampa - Max Simon 18, Ryan Zemanek 9, Brittin East 9, Chance Bowers 8, Collin Bowers 6, James Silva 4, Clayton Hall 2, Johnny Moore 2. **Three-point goals:** East 1.
Plainview - Xavier Hall 24, Todd Jeffress 10, Dominic Jackson 10, Taber Minner 7, Joe Urbana 3, Danny Garcia 2, John Moll 1. **Three-point goals:** Hall 4.

Broncos, Chargers to visit Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Texans will resume their budding rivalry with the Dallas Cowboys in August, only this time the game won't count.

The Texans, who won their first-ever regular-season game 19-10 over the Cowboys at Reliant Stadium in September, will visit Texas Stadium for their second game-in the 2003 exhibition season.

The Texans will open the preseason at home against the Denver Broncos, followed by the trip to Irving, a return home to face the San Diego Chargers and a trip to play

Super Bowl champion Tampa Bay in the finale.

Dates and times have not

been announced, though all the games will be played in August.

Sign-ups scheduled Feb. 24 for volleyball mini-league

PAMPA — Pampa Junior Volleyball Mini-League for third and fourth grade girls will be held at the middle school gym.

Sign-ups will be Feb. 24-28.

Interested girls can fill out registration forms at the elementary schools. Those forms can be turned in during sign-up week.

Cost is \$20.

This is a three-week mini-league that includes two 1 1/2-hour practices per week. Basic volleyball skills will be taught

and participants will receive a league t-shirt and ribbon at the end of the league.

Practices will be on Tuesday and Thursday (March 18 & 20), Tuesday and Thursday (March 25 & 27). Games will be played on Tuesday and Thursday (April 1 & 3).

If more information is needed, contact coach Kendra Reeves or coach Deanna Polasek at Pampa Middle School, 669-4900, ext. 37.

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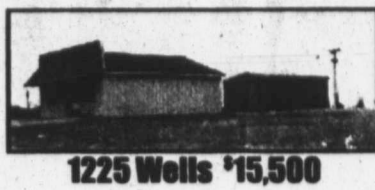
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Rule 38
Docket No. 10-02333587
NOTICE OF APPLICATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the GRUY PETROLEUM MGMT. CO., P.O. BOX 140907, IRVING, TX, 75014-0907 has made application for a density exception...

1 Public Notice

of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicants representative Don Aldridge, Sr. Regulatory Analyst, at 469-420-2728. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission at (512)463-6899.

1 Public Notice

line and 425' from the west line of lease. 2020' from the north line and 425' from the west line of survey, Field rules of the Panhandle, West field are 330/660, 640 acres. This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 3500 feet. PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF Rule 38(h)(3), this application may be granted administratively if no protest to the application is received...

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CLUB BIARRITZ HAS FILED AN APPLICATION FOR PRIVATE CLUB LICENSE WITH TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION AT THE LOCATION OF 618 W. FOSTER, PAMPA, GRAY COUNTY, TEXAS, 79065. OFFICERS BEING RODNEY EARL YOUNG, PRESIDENT, SHELLY RAE BRITTON, SECRETARY.

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FEB 12 2003

Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Feb. 13, 2003: Understand your limits, and you might stay out of trouble. You do have a tendency to go overboard. Consider options more carefully that involve your professional life...

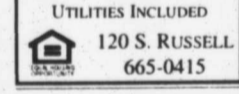
take time to balance your checkbook. ***** Listen to a friend. This person might have good intentions, but he or she is also a source of general wildness. You might want to think twice before jumping on this bandwagon because of the end results to your life...

***** Others put their best foot forward; why shouldn't you? With all the good will that surrounds you, you could make waves. Work as a team, and you'll gain results quickly. Let others express their feelings. Teamwork proves very powerful. Tonight: Allow another to have it his or her way.

***** Take your time finishing up details. You could be much happier if you just keep a low-key pace. Clear your desk and get done what you need to. A co-worker could choose to clear the air in an important discussion. Feelings run deeper than you were aware of. Tonight: Play it easy.

***** You understand much more than you realize about a loved one or a child. Think through a decision more carefully that surrounds a long-term love relationship. Feelings are abundant. Sort them out before you make a major decision. Tonight: Play away.

BORN TODAY
Country singer and actor Tennessee Ernie Ford (1919), French painter, graphic artist Zao Wou-Ki (1921), entrepreneur L.L. Bean (1873)
Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.
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Disputes over farm aid, Alaska bogging down spending bill

By ALAN FRAM
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fights over farm aid and logging in Alaska are hindering the crafting of a House-Senate compromise \$396 billion spending package for this year, but leading lawmakers still hope Congress will finish the wide-ranging bill by week's end.

Alaska lawmakers ran into opposition from moderate Republicans, Democrats and environmentalists for trying to exempt their state from a ban imposed by President Clinton on roads and other development in many large parcels of federal land.

The proposal could open vast portions of the state's huge Tongass and Chugach national forests to commercial logging, though Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, said the effect would be limited.

"They're not going to use the environmental lobby to tell lies about my state," Stevens

told reporters.

Another impasse was over \$3.1 billion the Senate included in its version of the bill to help farmers this year.

Stevens and House Appropriations Committee Chairman Bill Young, R-Fla., discussed the farm aid Tuesday with Vice President Dick Cheney. But disagreements remained over administration demands to pay for the farm aid with cuts in the overall spending bill or other agriculture programs. Cheney also suggested halving the farm assistance, but lawmakers resisted.

The House and Senate also are at odds over who should receive the farm money. The Senate would distribute the money to growers not hurt by the drought, and House members want the measure more targeted at those whose farms have suffered.

The revival of enormous federal deficits has pressured President Bush to keep the bill's price tag from ballooning further than it already has. But senators from farm states

staggered by years of drought are insisting on some aid.

"The only thing that will make everybody happy is to get this bill out of here," Young told reporters.

The overall measure would finance every agency except the Pentagon for the remaining 7 1/2 months of the federal budget year. Leaders are eager to move on to tax legislation and focus attention on a possible war with Iraq.

Other disputes also simmered, such as whether to curtail federal subsidies for unprofitable long-distance Amtrak routes. Bargainers were ready to provide \$1.05 billion for the ailing commuter train line, most of the \$1.2 billion the railroad wanted.

Democrats were also trying to restore \$200 million for land conservation.

"This is the Whack-a-Mole bill," Stevens said of the bill's problems, referring to the popular boardwalk arcade game. "Every time you knock one down, two pop up."

Lawmakers were refusing to disclose details of the enormous bill until the final version is completed. According to aides and lobbyists, the emerging compromise also includes:

—\$250 million to fight famine in Africa, half the \$500 million Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla., pushed through the Senate;

—\$1.4 billion to battle AIDS in Africa and elsewhere overseas, including \$100 million out of a \$180 million amendment added in the Senate by Sens. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., and Mike DeWine, R-Ohio.

—\$31.8 billion for highways, more than \$8 billion higher than Bush originally proposed due to waning federal gasoline tax collections.

—\$34 million for the U.N. Population Fund's international family planning efforts. The money is unlikely to be spent because Bush could withhold it if he should decide, as he did last year, that the agency tolerates coerced abortions in China, which the U.N. agency denies.

Federal Reserve's Alan Greenspan joining critics of Bush tax plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan has added his very influential voice to the group questioning President Bush's new \$1.3 trillion package of tax cuts, saying they would make a bad deficit outlook even worse.

The White House sought to limit the damage from Greenspan's remarks while Democrats said the criticism sounded the death knell for a package that was already facing serious questions in Congress.

Greenspan was certain to face further questions on the economic outlook and Bush's tax plans during an appearance

Wednesday before the House Financial Services Committee.

The Fed chairman two years ago gave critical support to Bush's first round of \$1.35 trillion in tax cuts. But he said another round was unnecessary, throwing cold water on the new proposal during an appearance before the Senate Banking Committee on Tuesday.

While saying he has long favored the centerpiece of the plan, eliminating taxes on stock dividend payments to investors, Greenspan said the government could not afford the \$1.3 trillion

price tag for all the tax cuts given the projections for large budget deficits during the same period.

Many private economists praised Greenspan's candor, saying he would have suffered a loss in credibility if he had endorsed the new tax cuts in light of rising budget deficits.

"Greenspan has torpedoed this round of Bush tax cuts with his testimony," said David Jones, chief economist at Aubrey G. Lanston & Co. in New York.

Sung Won Sohn, chief econ-

omist at Wells Fargo in Minneapolis, said Greenspan's reservations about the impact of further tax cuts on the deficit will force the administration to scale back its proposal.

"I don't think the Bush plan is dead," Sohn said, "but without the blessing of Chairman Greenspan and lingering doubts among some Republicans, the program will have to go through substantial modification in Congress before it becomes law."

Delivering a basically upbeat forecast of economic

prospects, Greenspan said the stop-and-go recovery from the 2001 recession should gain strength this year, especially after the current uncertainty over a possible war with Iraq dissipates.

If that forecast proves correct, Greenspan said, then the economy won't have a need for further stimulus from tax cuts.

"I am one of the few people who is still not as yet convinced that stimulus is a desirable policy," Greenspan told the Senate panel on Tuesday.

Greenspan cautioned senators that Congress needed to "be very careful not to allow deficits to get out of hand," especially in light of the looming retirement of the baby boom generation.

Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., called Greenspan's remarks "a kiss of death" for the Bush package. Sen. Kent Conrad, D-N.D., the Budget Committee's top Democrat, said Greenspan had been "clear and unambiguous about the importance of curbing deficits."

The White House noted that Greenspan did restate his long-held view that the current policy of taxing dividend income twice — once at the corporate level and again when investors receive the dividend payments — should be eliminated.

However, Greenspan said the Bush proposal to eliminate taxes on dividends, which

would cost \$385 billion over 10 years, should be paid for either by raising other taxes or cutting government spending.

Republicans, who happily pointed to Greenspan's endorsement of Bush's first tax cut in 2001, were upset over the new remarks. Sen. Jim Bunning, R-Ky., complained to Greenspan, "You are once again interjecting yourself into matters in which you have no business."

Arkansas governor expecting car plant

LITTLE ROCK (AP) — Tuesday that he expects a large corporation will locate a plant in Marion within 2 1/2 years.

"We've played in the big leagues," he said on the "Arkansas Ask" program on public television. "We know my needs. Now we can sell that site."

Last week, Toyota Motor Corp. said it would pass on the Marion site and instead build an \$800 million truck plant in San Antonio. The eastern Arkansas site was a finalist for the plant. Arkansas development officials said then that work was underway to attract another company to the 5,000-acre site.

In Marion, city economic development director Kay Brockwell said Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corp. was looking at several locations in Marion, as well as others outside Arkansas.

Democrats appear ready to filibuster

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Democrats say they will filibuster Washington lawyer Miguel Estrada's confirmation to the federal appeals bench because he stonewalled them last year when they asked him about his judicial philosophy.

President Bush on Tuesday called the Democratic plan to block his most-favored judicial nominee "shameful politics," as the Republican and Democratic parties started a high-stakes tug-of-war over the man who could be the first Hispanic on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Estrada is a member of the law firm that represented Bush in his successful Supreme Court fight for the presidency. He came to the United States from Honduras as a teenager and graduated from Harvard Law School in 1986. He has practiced constitutional law and argued 15 cases before the Supreme Court.

But Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota accused Estrada of refusing to explain what his judicial philosophy would be if he became a federal judge. The D.C. circuit, which is evenly split between judges appointed by Republican and Democratic presidents, has been a steppingstone to the U.S. Supreme Court.

"Every nominee who comes before the Senate has the obligation to be forthcoming with information about his position, with information about his record," said Daschle. "Until he does, we don't believe that it is in the Senate's best interest to allow this confirmation to go forward."

Senate parliamentary rules allow the minority to use a filibuster to effectively reject a measure or nominee with just 41 votes. The Senate has 51 Republicans, 48 Democrats and one independent.

"We have enough votes to sustain our position," Daschle said.

Poll: Majority would get vaccine

WASHINGTON (AP) — Public anxiety about a possible smallpox attack has not diminished in the past year since the mail attacks with another deadly substance, anthrax, put the nation on edge, an Associated Press poll indicates.

The number of people who say they're worried about a smallpox attack, 54 percent, was close to the 53 percent who felt that way in November 2001, according to the poll conducted for the AP by ICR/International Communications Research of Media, Pa.

Women were more likely to be worried than men.

Michaele Tharett says she would probably get smallpox vaccinations for herself and her child if the vaccine became available. More than half of American adults said they would get vaccinated if it were available, and six in 10 parents said they would want their children vaccinated, the poll found.

The vaccine will be available to adults who request it, probably beginning this summer, although federal officials are not recommending the vaccine because of the risks involved.

Children won't be able to get it unless a bioterror attack were to occur, federal officials say. Ethical and safety concerns bar children from clinical trials being conducted now, meaning the vaccine cannot be licensed for them, officials said in December. It's unclear at what point, if ever, it might be available for children.

The number of adults who said they would get the smallpox vaccination was 54 percent, down slightly from 61 percent in November 2001, the poll found.

"When it gets to the point that they're serious, I will research it and probably get it for myself and for my son," said Tharett, a 45-year-old government worker from Arlington, Texas. "I'd get it for my son before I get it for myself. I want him to go on."

Smallpox was eradicated in the 1970s and, while experts fear that terrorists or hostile nations could unleash it in an act of bioterror, President Bush has said there is no immediate threat.

Ben Murray of Franklin, Ind., says he's researching the smallpox vaccine to determine the threats, and he probably will want it for his young children, a 4-year-old son and a 1 1/2-year-old daughter.

"You think about your kids more than you do yourself," said Murray, who works in advertising. "It's something I would worry more about with them."

In the poll, parents were asked simply if they would get their children vaccinated, without any reference to current government policies.

State officials have begun vaccinating workers in emergency rooms and people on smallpox response teams. The effort is off to a slow start, with many hospitals and workers refusing to participate. One reason is that people injured by the vaccine may not be compensated for medical bills or time lost from work.

Diane Robbins, 44, an emergency room nurse from Chester, S.C., said she's been searching the Internet for information on the vaccine and expects she eventually will get it.

"I don't really know for sure if I have a choice," she said.



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