38

STATE

Governor sets date

for special election

AUSTIN (AP) — A special election to fill the seat of resigning state Sen. Teel Bivins

will 'be Jan. 20, Gov. Rick Perry announced Monday.

Bivins, an Amarillo Republican nominated by

President Bush to be ambassador to Sweden, is leaving the office Jan. 12. His Senate district covers 26 counties in West

DEATHS

William E. Campaigne, 88.

Billy Joe Hagerman, 68,

Agnes Watson Hall, 91,

Juanita 'Sis' Massengale.

95, teacher, business owner.

Classified11

Comics 8

Editorial4

Sports9

Beautiful

Paving Stones.

You Can Install Yourself

WEST TEXAS

LANDSCAPE

120 S. HOBART

669-0158

INSIDE...

construction company owner.

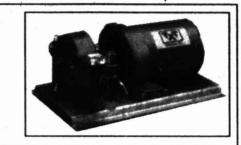
services pending.

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Pampa, Texas ou cents Daily • Sunday \$1

PEDC board ponders land offers

BY MARILYN POWERS STAFF WRITER

Corporation board Monday.

Jimmy Townson, Jeanne Townson

The group offered \$80,000 for the ten notice of termination of the lease." business, which the PEDC had fore-Two Pampa parties expressed inter- Heard in a verbal three-month agree- were at the PEDC meeting. est in buying Crall Products on West ment. The business has continued to PEDC president.

and Larry Norton spoke as principal ment signed, and Mr. Heard hasn't paid to send out to get money coming in." lease, and we'd need to give him writ- employee Greg Campbell, who has

Crall Products employees walked closed on and leased back to Curtis out at 4 p.m. yesterday, and several asked Towry how long he had known

Highway 152, with one party offering a operate, although Heard has not paid years, and we're going downhill fast," bid of \$80,000, at a meeting of the the \$1,000 monthly rent for November said Mike Towry. "We decided to walk about three days that the offer would Pampa Economic Development and December, said Doug Locke, out today because, more than likely, be made to purchase the business. we're not going to get paid. There's no "There hasn't been a lease agree- cash flow. We haven't made anything before now," Allison said concerning

owners of N&T Specialty Welding and his last month's rent," said Vanessa "What are we supposed to go home Manufacturing, and Pampa attorney Buzzard, attorney for the PEDC. "My and tell our kids?" said Wanda Monday's meeting was their first Bob Finney spoke as their legal repre-feeling is, there is no existing formal Campbell, wife of Crall Products chance to talk to the PEDC about the

PEDC board member Bill Allison about N&T Specialty Welding and "I've been at Crall Products for 10 Manufacturing's interest in Crall Products, and he said he had known for

> "I wish we'd known about this the purchase proposal.

> N&T representatives responded that (See PEDC, Page 3)

Wind, snow hamper two fire probes

BY DEE DEE LARAMORE Office in Lubbock is to come

EDITOR

Freezing rain, snow, and high winds this morning hampered investigations of two apartment fire on Dec. 4.

Pampa firefighters in five "He'll be finishing the fire trucks responded to a report of investigation today." Dunham a mobile home ablaze in the said of the state fire marshal's 700 block of East Frederic, the investigator. site of another fire on Oct. 8.

nation of what caused it," said trailer house suffered burns in Deputy Chief Randy Dunham. the October fire. At that time. "The weather is not helping. Stevens determined the fire with (the investigation)."

Marshal Gary Stevens plans to structed of bricks set around a go to the scene this afternoon metal pan. when the winter storm is expected to have passed ing in a building behind the through the area.

of the Texas Fire Marshals. No injuries were reported.

to Pampa today to continue his investigation of the fire that claimed the life of William R. Provence 61

Provence was found dead fires here, including the fatal in his burned apartment at 521 Montague about 10 p.m. on At 11 p.m. Monday, nine Thursday, Dec. 4.

Charles M. Ashley, 57, the "We don't have a determi- resident of the older model had started as a result of a He said that Pampa Fire homemade fireplace con-

Ashley apparently was livburned trailer at the time of Investigator Richard Beals last night's fire, Dunham said.



(Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers)

Kendra Hart of Pampa reads the information on one of the Salvation Army Angel tags at Wal-Mart. Few shoppers were braving the 15-degree wind chills caused by a temperature of 29 degrees combined with northwest winds of 31 miles per hour, gusting to 38 mph, at 10 a.m. today.

Angels and bells herald help for Pampa's needy

By MARILYN POWERS STAFF WRITER

City to receive 1,000 foot-long trout at Recreation Park today

Ice fishing, anyone?

City officials announce the imminent release of 1,000 rainbow trout averaging 12 inches in length into City Lake at Recreation Park, east of Pampa.

The load of fish are to arrive in Pampa today, said Shane Stokes, city recreation superintendent.

Transported from Dundee Fish Hatchery by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Inland Fisheries Division, this is the first of two shipments of trout. The second shipment is scheduled for mid-February, Stokes

The City of Pampa has participated in the trout stocking program since 1993. As part of the program, the state will match the 1,000 trout at its own expense.

State fishing regulations, enforced by Texas Parks & Wildlife Department game wardens, apply at Recreation Park, a public waterway.

Generally, a fishing license is not required for persons 17 and under or born before Sept. 1, 1930. Persons not falling into either category are required to purchase a license and a freshwater trout stamp.

The daily catch limit on trout is five per day.

Pampa Salvation Army's annual Angel Trees

havè a merry Christmas. ed in the Angel Tree program, and more applisaid Captain Gary Steward of the Pampa for needy clients for Christmas.

Salvation Army. returned with gifts by Monday. Units I ringers, "This is the community coming Regional Medical Center and Wal-Mart each families that go without if not for the Salvation

have Angel Trees. Applicants are screened by the Salvation Army, and children who are chosen to partici- 9 p.m. daily except Sundays until Dec. 24. pate in the program have an angel cutout hung age, sex, clothing sizes and toy preference.

Persons wishing to help a needy child may take one of the angels on the tree and buy cloth- organizations and civic clubs looking for a ing and other gifts for the child. The gifts community project." Guess said of the should be returned to the Salvation Army, 701 Salvation Army holiday programs. S. Cuyler, along with the bottom portion of the angel tag which shows the child's information donation toward any of the Salvation Army holand code number.

All gifts should be unwrapped and bagged or at 665-7233.

begins Dec. 20.

Bell ringers are stationed at United and bell ringers are seeking holiday-spirited. Supermarket, the U.S. Post Office and Wal-Pampans to help needy children and families. Mart. The bell ringers each have a red Salvation Army kettle to collect monetary donations. As of Monday, 319 children were represent. Funds collected by the bell ringers will go to the Angel Tree and food basket programs. The cants were to be interviewed that afternoon. Salvation Army plans to provide food baskets

It's critical for the people in our communi

Volunteers are needed to act as bell ringers on a Christmas tree at various businesses in Guess said. Anyone interested in being a bell town. The cutout includes the child's first name. ringer may call her at 662-1011 or 665-4428 and leave a message.

"This is a perfect opportunity for high school

iday activities may contact the Salvation Army



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boxed together. Deadline for turning in gifts is Dec. 15. Delivery of gifts to the recipients

Fifty-two Angel Tree angels had been ty," said Brenda Guess, coordinator for the bell Supermarket. The Pampa News, Pana together for our own people. There could be Bell imgers will collect funds from 9 a.m. to

Anyone wishing to volunteer for or make a



HAGERMAN, Billy Joe — Funeral mass, 10 a.m., St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Pampa.

AGNES WATSON HALL

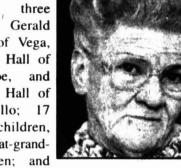
1912-2003

Agnes Watson Hall, 91, died Monday, Dec. 8, in Pampa. Services will be at 2 p,m. Thursday in Carmichael-Whatley Colonial with Truman Teel, Church of Christ evangelist from Del City, Okla., officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Hall was born July 25, 1912, in Red Boiling Springs, Tenn. She married Rayburn Hall on June 29, 1929, in Kiowa County, Okla. He preceded her in death on Dec. 22, 1974. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1962. She was a member of Wells Street Church of Christ. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include three daughters, Myrtis Jones of Pampa and Gayle Caudell and Joyce

Bryant, both of Guymon. Okla.; three sons, Gerald Hall of Vega, Curtis Hall of Briscoe, and Bruce Hall of Amarillo; 17 grandchildren, 39 great-grandchildren; and



nine great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a great-granddaughter, Caitlin

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

BILLY JOE "BILL" HAGERMAN

1935-2003

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

snow in the afternoon with accumulations of Thursday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the

up to 3 inches, highs in the upper 30s and north upper 20s. Friday, partly cloudy. Highs in the

STATEWIDE

up after a day of severe thun-

derstorms, according to a

East Texas will be clearing

Today's forecast is calling for a chance of lower 50s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Billy Joe "Bill" Hagerman, 68, died Saturday, Dec. 6, in Pampa. Vigil services will be at 6:30 p.m., today, Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2003, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel, and funeral mass will be at 10 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2003, at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church with the Rev. John Valdez, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Born Oct. 6, 1935 at Sweetwater, Okla., he was a graduate of Kelton High School and Draughns Business College. He was a member of the Army National Guard from 1953 until 1965, being discharged with the rank of Sgt. 1st Class. He married Freda Hall on Nov. 18, 1955, at Pampa. He worked for the U.S. Postal Service as a postman from 1959 until 1983. He was the owner and operator of Hagerman Construction at the time of his death. He was a member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Proud Heritage Tractor Club, and the Golden Spread Antique Machinery Association. His volunteer activities included the Freedom Museum, the Old Mobeetie Jail,

winds 25 to 35 mph. Tonight should fall on

partly cloudy skies in the evening then clear-

ing with lows in the lower 20s and northwest

winds 20 to 30 mph. Wednesday should see

sunny skies. Highs in the mid 40s. North

winds 10 to 20 mph. Wednesday night, mostly

clear. Lows around 20. Southeast winds 10 to

15 mph. Thursday, mostly sunny. Highs in the

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Designs

xpressions

BEST FINAN

By The Associated Press

mild weather Wednesday

Texas should see mostly

and he was construction supervisor at the Super Playground.

Survivors include his wife, Freda Hagerman of the home; three sons, B. Jay Hagerman of Pampa, Rick Hagerman and wife Carla of Lexington, Ky., and Mark Hagerman and wife Tina of Plainview; two daughters, Kim Davis and husband Paul of Tulsa, Okla., and Joanna Young and husband Mark of Brownwood; four brothers, Charles Hagerman and wife Naomi of Sweetwater, Okla., Verlin Hagerman and wife Debbie of Roscoe, Dale Hagerman and wife Dottie of Hinton, Okla., and Glenn Hagerman and wife Linda of Oklahoma City, Okla.; one sister, Rita Butler and husband Charlie of Weatherford, Okla.; 11 grandchildren, Mike, Matt and Holly Davis of Tulsa, Okla., Adam and Travis Hagerman of Pampa, Kristen and Clayton Hagerman of Plainview, Dean and Tobee Hagerman of Lexington, Ky., and Kalin and Kyra Young of Brownwood.

The family requests memorials be made to the Freedom Museum Building Fund, 600 N. Hobart, Pampa, Texas, 79065.

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

lower 50s. Friday night, partly cloudy. Lows

around 30. Saturday, mostly cloudy. Breezy.

Highs in the upper 30s. Saturday night, mostly

cloudy. Breezy. Lows in the mid 20s. Sunday,

partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 30s. Sunday

night, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s.

Monday, partly cloudy. Windy. Highs around

National Weather Service

forecast. Partly cloudy skies

in the region will clear up by

midday with highs in the

lower 50s and winds up to 25

will see mostly sunny skies,

highs in the 60s and 10 mph to

Temperatures in North

Central Texas will see light

Texas will remain in the mid

50s through Wednesday, with

winds Wednesday, coupled

with sunshine and a high near

hit freezing overnight.

highs will be near 50.

sunny with highs near 55.

Have

a happy

holiday.

sunny skies and light winds.

20 mph winds all day.

South Texas and the Coast

WILLIAM E. 'BILL' CAMPAIGNE

William E. "Bill" Campaigne, 88, died in Seguin on Monday, Dec. 8, 2003. Services are pending.

JUANITA 'SIS' MASSENGALE 1908-2003

Juanita "Sis" Massengale, 95, of Pampa, Texas, died Monday, Dec. 8, 2003, at Pampa. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Massengale was born Jan. 4, 1908, in Bell County, Texas, and came to Pampa that same year. She was a graduate of Miami High School and attended West Texas State Teachers College in Canyon. She was the first student and the last teacher at the "Little Red Schoolhouse" north of Pampa.

She married Joe Massengale on Dec. 21, 1935, in Pampa. He preceded her in death in 1986.

She owned and operated Hoover Mercantile and the Post Office in Hoover. She was a member of the First Baptist Church. She was a member of the Wayside Club.

Survivors include a daughter, Nita Tomlinson and husband Mart of Marble Falls; a granddaughter, Cara Tomlinson of Austin: and two sisters, Minnie Olive Jackson and Roberta Pugh, both of Pampa.

The family requests memorials be to American Cancer Society, c/o Gerry Caylor, 2130 Charles, Pampa, TX 79065.

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

ON RECORD

SHERIFF

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

Monday, Dec. 8

Lisa Hively, 37, 820 Beryl, was arrested for failure to identify and evading arrest.

Jayson Dwight Williams, 30, 1048 Huff, was arrested for driving while intoxicated, criminal mischief over \$50 and under \$500, and three capias pro fines.

POLICE

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents and arrests.

Sunday, Dec. 7

Theft by deception and forgery were reported at the police department. The incident occurred in the 800 block of North Dwight.

Monday, Dec. 8

Lost property was reported in the lobby of the police department. A cell phone was lost at an unknown location. No estimate of loss was reported.

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart. A juvenile was arrested in connection with the incident, and was also cited for no valid driver's license and minor in possession of

Michael Lynn Wood, 31, 417 Hughes, was arrested for violation of a promise to appear on a speeding charge.

Susette Stubbs Rangel, 21, 1144 Terrace, was arrested for capias pro fines on charges of no headlights, no insurance and failure to

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45.49

Celanese

AMBULANCE

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

Monday, Dec. 8

7:30 a.m. – A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of North Wells and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

7:54 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing home and transported a patient to PRMC.

11:13 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to Baten Prison Unit and transported a patient to

1:53 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 2200 block of North Dwight on a call for lifting assistance.

4:53 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to 18th and Banks streets. No transport.

5:21 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to Baptist-St. Anthony's West, Amarillo.

6:26 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 500 block of Doucette and transported a patient to PRMC.

9:17 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 700 block of North Sumner and transported a patient for pickup by LifeStar helicopter.

11:10 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 700 block of East Frederic on a fire stand-

FIRE

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

Monday, Dec. 8 7:55 a.m. – One unit and three firefighters responded to the 1500 block of West

4:42 p.m. – One unit and three firefighters responded to Naida and Carter streets on a hazardous material spill caused from a leaking battery.

Kentucky on a call for medical assistance.

6:28 p.m. – One unit and three firefighters responded to the 500 block of Doucette on a call for medical assistance.

9:32 p.m. – One unit and three firefighters responded to the 700 block of North Sumner on a call for medical assistance.

11 p.m. - Five units and nine firefighters responded to a structure fire in the 700 block of East Frederic. (See related story on page

City Briefs

+0.01 -0.72 -0.03

-0.05 -0.42 +0.12 +0.53 NC -0.18 +1.15

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

56, though temperatures could ANGELS, ANGELS we some relief from Tuesday's day special! Come by and Foster, 669-1730. snowfall as skies clear up and pick an angel off our Christtemperature rise to near 45, mas tree! 8-5 p.m. The Pampa though wind chill will keep News, 403 W. Atchison. temperatures near zero early

in the morning. By Thursday, **EXTRA SPECIAL** X-mas Gift, 3-2hr massages with Hot In Far West Texas and the Stones, Oils Therapy & relax-Permian Basin, skies will be ing massage, The Golden Touch, 665-9711/665-6850

> KNIGHTS OF Columbus Holiday Turkeys for sale. Rick 665-2500, Jerry 665-0840, Jim 669-0468, or Jack 665-7161. Deadline is Dec. 14th.

MELISSA THOMAS forhave Salvation Army Angels! merly of Chez Tanz, now at Kept Secrets Thurs. Dec. 11th The Panhandle will see Help make someone's Holi- Downtown Nails, 107 W. 5-8pm See our ad on page 2

> **OPEN HOUSE** Today December 9th 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm Drawing, Taste Testing, gourmet food baskets, free gift with purchase of \$5.00 or More! Trees -live & cut, Wreaths, Garland, exclusive dealer of Clayworks Christ-Villages, Artificial Christmas Trees, Ornaments & Decorations. West Texas Landscape & Gift Shop120 S. Hobart, 669-0158, Mon.-Sat. 9AM-6PM

OPEN HOUSE at Best

BRIGHTEN YOUR Smile for the holidays! Dr. Greg Kelly's dental office is offering their yearly Winter White Sale with discounts on in-office & take-home teeth whitening! Call for information 665-1625.

RHEAMS DIAMOND Shop Open til 8 p.m. for Christmas register, for Free "Diamond Ring", from 6 p.m.-8 p.m. only.

SHIH-TZU PUPPIES. Call 669-7732

Now Open Allison's Quality Quick Lube

1807 Alcock, next to Peggy's *oil change, transmission change, state inspections, free pick up and delivery, call 688-0042

Three found dead in Plano home

PLANO (AP) — A couple and their teenage daughter were found dead with gunshot wounds after police went to their Plano home to check on the family's welfare.

The bodies of James 56, Deborah Woolverton, Woolverton, 47, and their 19year-old daughter, Jennifer

Woolverton, were discovered Monday morning in different bedrooms, said spokesman Carl Duke.

"When officers arrived, they found cars in the driveway, but no one answered the door," Duke said. "They went inside and found three bodies, all dead from gunshot wounds."

offer.

Jimmy To N&T was pre percent down, effort of good Products. \$72,000 woul months, or N that time, N& the insurance, ble tax to be p He asked for i ried until N&7 in full, a casl and release of filed on the pr

"We are p the doors an employees to couple of days nesses and e mately 60 per have the whe this business.

Ogallala resource netwo Plains-Ogallala is hosting a col Preserving Wealth," on Fe

The confer at the Hor Building at Second and I 8:30 a.m. until Community H schools will als ties for the con

Organizers residents of Ogallala Aquit Texas Panhandles, Mexico, south and southwest

Darryl Birke tor of Ogall describes the c attempt to und more than a cor

"Before anyt the lifeblood of than simply foc water as a com

Cable custo country are b programming a thanks to mu investment ca have made in according to a cable industry c conducted by

Accounting Of

The GAO st

Quality-Adjuste the Real Price Service," accor release from Pampa, showe inflation-adjus hour of viewing decreased ove years, going (than 15 percent industry costs ming and labor at a rate higher

"This study Cabie ONE has sion," said Terr al manager. "V vide our custo best possible q ming and serv possible value.

> The study r operators have than \$75 billion to upgrade wi install digital and provide in services, the re "The study

> > WHEN, WHAT TO EYES SHOULD MINIATURE



16 sh days to

added up to lay

PEDC

Jimmy Townson said that N&T was prepared to pay 10 percent down, or \$8,000, "as an effort of good faith," for Crall Products. The remaining \$72,000 would be due in six months, or May 8, 2004. At that time, N&T would "pick up the insurance, and all applicable tax to be prorated," he said. He asked for interest to be carried until N&T paid the balance in full, a cash warranty deed and release of all liens to be filed on the property.

"We are prepared to open the doors and put potential employees to work within a couple of days. I own two businesses and employ approximately 60 people. I think we have the wherewithal to run this business. I think it would

be in the best interests of the community to run this facility," said Jeanne Townson.

A woman from Crall Products told PEDC board members that payroll was due Friday and "it's iffy if they'll be able to make it."

"N&T Specialty Welding has applied to do business as a corporation. I am expediting their charter application to Austin," said Finney.

"They're ready to proceed. They are also interested in purchasing equipment the PEDC owns inside that building. They are prepared and ready to move forward and make a deposit this evening," he said.

Finney requested title insurance and payment of current ad valorem taxes owed on the property through Dec. 31 if the N&T bid was accepted.

"Arrangements can be made

for these folks to go to work as if nothing has ever happened," Finney said of the Crall Products employees. "N&T can come in right now and make it work at Crall. They want to keep that business going."

"I've been at National Oilwell for 31 years, and a foreman there for 10 to 12 years. I believe we have the expertise and knowledge to kick this thing off and make it work," said Norton.

Mark McVay also spoke to PEDC board members about buying Crall Products. He said he represented Hal Cree.

"We have an interest in the

property, but we are not ready to make a proposal tonight. We are possibly interested in the property and the business, and running the business, too," McVay said.

"We weren't aware the property was up for sale. We thought it was under lease. We have investigated the property, building and contents. Based on the nature of our existing business, we are interested in that property and building and potentially the business," he

"We have \$196,000 invested in this," said board member Steve Phillips concerning Crall

PEDC board members went into executive session to consult with Buzzard about the offer to buy Crall Products. Within 30 minutes, the executive session ended and the board made a counterproposal.

"I move to sell the property for \$125,000, due on closing, with a small amount down. The equipment note of \$44,593 would also be picked up by the

buying entity," said PEDC board member Dalton Lewis. An emergency special session was suggested for Wednesday to further consider the potential sale of Crall Products. Allison seconded the move, which passed unanimously.

Finney asked if a copy of the note and list of equipment owned by PEDC could be made available, and also if title insurance and any due ad valorem taxes would be provided. Board members said the PEDC would pay for title insurance and ad valorem taxes up to the date of the sale.

"We are making you this counteroffer. If you come back with other offers, we would entertain them," Locke said.

Finney asked if the PEDC would furnish a letter to the buyer saying that the verbal lease for \$1,000 per month is in default. He was assured that the letter would be provided. Finney asked Buzzard to fax the letter to him.

Finney then asked if the amount quoted on the equipment note was principal only or included interest, and Locke said the board would check and get a corrected amount, but he felt that the quoted amount did not include interest.

"My understanding is that there is other equipment and other lienholders out there, primarily NBC Bank," Locke

Finney asked if the notes could be separated and separate offers made. "Anyone can make any offer they wish, but it would be advantageous to get an offer for all of it," said board member Phillips.

N&T representatives then left the meeting, but returned minutes later with a proposal for \$100,000 for the buildings and land at Crall Products.

"We are not interested in the equipment at this time," said Jeanne Townson when she offered the \$100,000 'We have access to new

equipment," Jimmy Townson

posals to buy Crall Products 200 W. Foster.

would be discussed at the special session Wednesday, and no further action would be taken Monday.

"What do I do with my people?" Jeanne Townson asked!

"We recommend they go to, work tomorrow," Locke said.

"Our advice to Crall employees was to go back to work until this could be decided," Phillips said.

In other business, 213 acres in the Industrial Park were sold to Raymond Barrett for \$70,000.

"That's the only offer we've had. I think he has a partner. If he accepts the environmental study, that releases us from liability," Allison said.

Members voted unanimously to accept Barrett's bid for the acreage as a cash transaction, with acceptance of the environmental impact study done on the property. The PEDC will provide title insurance, and Gray County Title was chosen to do the title search.

Current officers of the board were re-elected by acclamation. They are Locke, president; Gary Sutherland, vicepresident; and Steve Phillips, secretary-treasurer. Sutherland was absent at Monday's meet-

Board members approved a bid of \$3,962 for directors' and officers' insurance for the coming year. The bid was almost \$400 less than last year's pre-

Action on other insurance was tabled at the meeting. Included were land liability insurance and insurance on Crall Products.

Two bills were approved for payment. The monthly services charge of \$1,200, payable to the City of Pampa, was approved for payment, as was the \$3,962 premium just passed for directors' and officers' insurance.

The next meeting of the PEDC board will be an emergency special session at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, in the city commission chambers Board members said pro- on the third floor of City Hall,

focus on water as

Preserving our Common Wealth," on Feb. 7 in Nazareth.

The conference is to be held at the Home Mercantile from knowledgeable hydrolo-Building at the corner of Second and Leo streets from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Nazareth Community Hall and Nazareth schools will also serve as facilities for the conference.

residents of the southern Ogallala Aquifer region of the Oklahoma and eastern New Mexico, southwest Colorado, and southwest Kansas.

tor of Ogallala Commons, Tech University. Dr. Judy local citizens. The conference registration on the day of the describes the conference as an Reeves and Dr. Ken Rainwater will also feature exhibit booths conference is \$30 per person, attempt to understand water as will address, "History and from various organizations, and does not guarantee lunch. more than a contested commod-Hydrology of the Southern with break periods throughout

the lifeblood of creation. Rather outlining key features of the

Ogallala Commons, a ference will highlight a more fun-rivers, plus a presentation on of Water." Presentations will be resource network for the High damental notion that water is a future modeling of Ogallala given by a representative of Plains-Ogallala Aquifer region, resource that belongs to us all, is hosting a conference, "Water: and that we, in a very real sense, belong to the water," he said.

"To give content to this notion, not only will we draw gists, farmers, agency workers, and grassroots activists, but also from art, poetry, and everyday human experiences of water. Anyone interested in how we as a region can preserve, protect, Organizers hope to gather and restore water resources will find resources, networks, and information at this meeting.

The conference begins with an opening ceremony led by poet and singer-songwriter Andy Wilkinson of Lubbock, Darryl Birkenfeld, coordina- and artist Tina Fuentes of Texas cies, as well as state entities and Ogallala Aquifer Region." "Before anything else, water is Short presentations are planned networking.

Aquifer Depletion by Jarret Mesa Water and by Dr. Edward Atkinson from Panhandle Barbanell from the University Regional Planning Commission in Amarillo.

After lunch, participants can choose from five workshops: Land Management Options, Resources: Water Reuse, Rainwater Harvesting, and Well Capping, Water & Community Economic Development and Water, as well as Public from the gathering. and Cultural Education Awareness Concerning Water.

Each workshop will feature presenters from the five-state region, representing national organizations and federal agen-

than simply focusing on owning Southern Plains water cycle: in the late afternoon with lalacommons.org, or call Darryl water as a commodity, this con-springs, draws, playa lakes, and "Marketing the Commonwealth Birkenfeld at 806-938-2529.

"Common. Property Arrangements: Toward a Water Republic on the High Plains." Ogallala Commons, a Taking Care of Existing Water resource network for community development in the High Plains-Ogallala Aquifer region, will offer a report on its upcom-

ing projects for 2004, with input

of Utah, who will speak on

Registration for the conference is \$30 per person and must be sent in by Feb. 2 to guarantee lunch. An early registration discount fee of \$20 per person is available if registration is received by Jan. 20. Walk-in

To obtain a registration form the day for exhibit viewing and and a complete conference brochure, visit the Ogallala The conference will wrap up Commons website: www.ogal-

Popular syndicated TV and Lifetime, as well as 24-

include the \$40 billion invest- and high standards," Harris

Cable ONE is the cable divi-



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GAO study: Cable operators increase value, services Cable customers across the million miles of fiber optic country are benefiting from line, installing more than 30 shows cost \$1 million. In the hour customer services centers programming and new services million digital converter boxes past five years, the annual cost many cable companies, includ-

thanks to multi-billion-dollar investment cable operators active digital facilities in more have made in recent years, than 90 percent of American according to a new study of homes today," Harris said. cable industry quality and price Accounting Office.

The GAO study, "Assessing Pampa, showed that the real, inflation-adjusted price per hour of viewing basic cable has decreased over the past six years, going down by more than 15 percent, although cable industry costs for programming and labor have increased at a rate higher than inflation.

"This study reinforces what Cabie ONE has seen as its mission," said Terry Harris, general manager. "We strive to provide our customers with the best possible quality programming and services at the best possible value.

The study noted that cable operators have invested more than \$75 billion across the U.S. to upgrade with fiber optics. install digital converter boxes and provide interactive digital services, the release stated.

"The study showed that this added up to laying more than 1



Dec. 9 16 shopping days to Christmas and providing access to inter-

price paid for producing and acquiring programming has offered to U.S. customers ing commitment to service Quality-Adjusted Changes in gone up substantially and labor the Real Price of Basic Cable costs have increased five times Service," according to a press the rate of inflation in the past release from Cable ONE in five years, according to facts cited in the study.

NBA has increased from \$278 to introduce.

ment that basic cable networks said. have made since 1996 for programming such as Discovery, sion of The Washington Post A&E, The Weather Channel Company.

of television rights for the ing Cable ONE, are beginning million to \$765 million while "We're proud to be able to NFL costs rose from \$1.1 bil- offer the latest in digital, Cable prices fairly reflect lion in 1997 to \$2.27 billion in HDTV and Internet modem conducted by the General industry costs, given that the 2003, according to the release. technology to our customers Other new cable benefits while maintaining our ongo-

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Texas Editorial

Bush's trip to Baghdad: Superb morale booster

From the Austin American-Statesman:

It didn't take long for the cynics and critics to attack President Bush for his surprise Thanksgiving Day visit to war-ravaged Baghdad.

It was a political stunt, they carped, mere public relations. It placed the president in harm's way unnecessarily for little more than an empty gesture. It was pure symbolism without substance, done to advance Bush's re-election effort.

But that misses the importance of a president of the United States visiting a war zone and the real, noticeable effect it had. The torrents of criticism also miss the point about the value of symbols and gestures, especially when they come from the leader of the free world.

Bush's 2 1/2 hour visit to Baghdad was a superb morale booster for the troops. It demonstrated his appreciation for, and confidence in, those whose boots are on the ground. And it proved again his bold approach to his job and his willingness to take chances and do the unexpected. It also sent a message to the Iraqi people about Bush's commitment to the cause of Iraqi freedom.

Certainly the long abused people of Iraq took notice of the American president's words to them: "You have an opportunity to seize the moment and rebuild your great country, based on human dignity and freedom. The regime of Saddam Hussein is gone forever."

Further, Bush's surprise visit was a boost for most Americans, particularly those with family members in the military. The war in Iraq has been a difficult one for Americans to cope with because it turned into a fight against faceless terror.

It was also the perfect way to show there has been progress against the terrorists. The almost daily body count, the palpable fear and a generalized worry about the eventual outcome are a constant concern. Air Force One's landing and Bush's appearance on the ground was designed to show that the situation in Baghdad is improving, that the terror attacks have declined and American and coalition casualties are dropping.

No, the president's Thanksgiving Day surprise was not just political showmanship. It was a bold statement with positive consequences. And it was a courageous move, too. A cargo plane was hit by a shoulder-fired missile last weekend as it was taking off from the Baghdad airport.

The criticism that follows the president's every step is to be expected. Bush would have been criticized just as harshly if he'd spent a quiet Thanksgiving Day at with his family at the Crawford ranch. Anything a president does has a political aspect to it and will be battered by his adversaries. The battle against his critics is the one fight no president can win.

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Pampa News welcomes and encourages readers to express their opinions on issues of public interest and concern. However, we also reserve the right to accept or reject any let-

ter for publication. Letters must be 300 words or less. Letters submitted for publication must be neat and legible, typed if possible, or at least handwritten in a clear manner. All letters will be edited for length, clarity, spelling, grammar, and taste. We will not publish anonymous letters, letters that are potentially libelous, or personal attacks. Submission of a letter does not guarantee its publication nor can we guarantee a date of publication.

Letters submitted must include name, address, phone number and signature for verification. Addresses and telephone numbers will not be printed, unless requested for a specific rea-

Due to volume and repetition, we will limit submissions from the same person to two letters per month.

Poetry, candidate or political endorsements, letters to third parties and "thank you" letters will not be published except at the discretion of the editor, depending on general interest.

Letters may be dropped off at the office, 403 W. Atchison, or mailed to The Pampa News, Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066.

Don't let the Grinch take it all

Remember the Dr. Seuss tale of the Grinch who stole Christmas from all the Whos who lived in Whoville? He sat up on his mountain perch and watched the Whos prepare for the holiday, getting angrier and angrier because he envied their happiness. Rather than join them, however, he decided to take their happiness away from them. By golly, he'd steal all those material things - trees, decorations, food, presents - from them and then they'd be miserable and sad just like him.

We citizens of the United States and of Texas, specifically, have a Grinch standing over us, too, this Christmas. He's watching, waiting, preparing to take away more of our material things.

Unlike the Grinch, he won't commit this act in one fell swoop. He's already begun taking our material things away from us. He started out small, but gradually the amount he takes increases and increases.

The Grinch is governmental taxation. I'm not against paying taxes. Sorry,

want them, we must pay for them. police protection, smooth streets, safe seems that many of the lawmakers in



water that tastes good, and consistent trash removal.

I want a state that provides top level public education for our children and strong enforcement of state laws (which should be kept at a minimum).

I want a nation that provides for the common defense and embodies freedom for all, based solely on the U.S. constitution.

These things all cost money. I'm not naive enough to think that all this suddenly appears out of thin air.

Each day, more news articles discuss how the myriad different levels of government are coming up short of cash. And it seems like the only way this problem can be corrected is by finding folks, but the amenities that go with a new ways to tax the public - each solucivilized society do not come free. If we tion becoming more and more creative.

Most disturbing is the apparent trend I want to live in a town with effective in Texas toward a state income tax. It

Austin believe it is the only way to solve the state's financial problems.

The average citizen now pays approximately 22 to 25 percent of his or her salary for federal income taxes. That does not include city, county, and sales taxes that are paid.

God only asks for 10 percent of the harvest. I believe that it would be fair and equitable for our government to set the same rate. By that, I mean 10 percent total to be divided between the city. state, and national government. I also believe the 10 percent assessment should go across the board. If you make \$1 in 2003, you pay 10 cents to the government. If a company (including nonprofits) makes \$100 million in 2003, it pays 10 percent of that.

Throw away the tax forms. No more loop holes and tax breaks.

No budgets should be set until the entities know exactly how much they'll receive in taxes. And there's nothing but a zero balance budget.

It's time we told the Grinch that that's all he's going to get and he's going to have to make do with what he's

If the taxes keep rising, he's liable to find out Who's Who in Whoville.



Neither separatism nor alliance

Two much-discussed recent news developments: Democratic second-tier presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich is talking about finding a wife (dozens have applied), and liberals are talking about setting up a new television network (as though they don't have plenty already). Why not combine the two desires by producing a show, "Joe President," in which cuties would compete for the hand of the next president, only to find out later that he's a political

I should add a parental advisory, of course: Kucinich must have kinky tastes, since he only wants a wife who demands "universal single-payer health care" -- but that's his choice. And that's the subject of a more important debate: How will liberty be preserved when many liberals favor socialistic approaches and some small but ardent religious groups demand theocratic approaches of various kinds?

Part of the answer comes from James Madison and other fathers of the Constitution: maintain political and social pluralism. Madison in The Federalist Papers predicted accurately that American society "will be broken into so many parts, interests and classes of citizens that the rights of individuals or of the minority will be in little danger from interested combinations of the majority."

Another part comes for our growing theological diversity. America over the past two centuries has become pluralistic by God's providence, as tired and



MARVIN OLASKY COLUMNIST

poor immigrants from all over the world came to our shores, often bearing religious beliefs far different from those typical in 18th century America. George Washington, instead of urging equal treatment of Jewish citizens, could have pushed for a "Christians Only" plank. Irish Catholics in the 1840s could have been told, "Go home and starve." Immigrants at Ellis Island a century ago could have been checked for not only tuberculosis but spiritual problems. I'm glad that none of those events occurred.

In recent years, the trend has escalated. Immigration reform in the 1960s opened the doors to more Buddhists and Hindus. Crucially, many evangelicals have not explained well their faith to their children, and some have not taught about God's grace by showing mercy to others. That's why those who blame immigrants for American spiritual and moral decline are wrong: Descendants of the Founders have often been the worst offenders. Many have treated the Christianity that animated their ancestors as a vestigial organ, and have made at best a nominal show of reverence. Some lead anti-Christian parades.

(So as not to be misunderstood, let me nuance a position on immigration.

When others want to come here to enjoy the essentials of what makes America so attractive in the first place, fine -- but we need to shape and steer the immigrant experience so those essentials aren't lost. For example, a common language and a common commitment to work have been great strengths of America. Multilingualism and welfare availability for immigrants could help to destroy precisely what has made America attractive.)

But back to the main point: Like it or not, today we have pluralism by providence, an abundance of Madisonian factions, religious and temporal. Christianity (in terms of more than nominal identification) is a minority religion in America, a faction powerless to dominate others. That realization should free non-Christians from fear of religious domination, and it should push Christians to work alongside other groups that also oppose the truly aggressive force of our age, secular lib-

Author-theologian Francis Schaeffer emphasized the importance of falling neither into separatism nor into easy alliance. Instead, he urged Christians to think through co-belligerency, working in coalition with other groups against a common enemy, while retaining independence. Sometimes we may find strange bedfellows. And that's my advice to Dennis Kucinich: You can find lots of backers for your singlepayer schemes, but if your future wife is not one of them, you can still get along.

The TC Coliga with h "We se you are









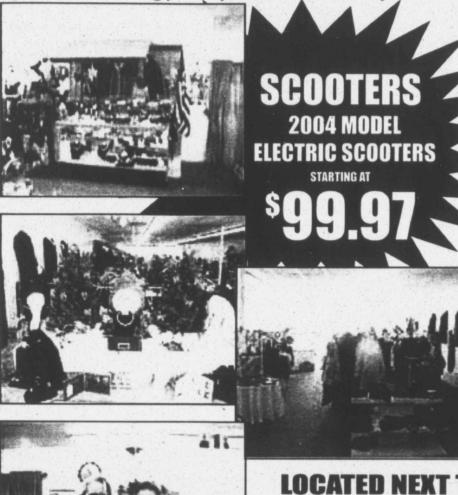




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First Powered Flight

KITTY HAWK, NC - From the earliest times, people have dreamed of flying. Yesterday, on December 17, 1903, Orville and Wilbur Wright made the dream come true with a 12-second, wobbling flight of 120 feet over the sands of Kitty Hawk, NC. Wilbur and Orville Wright made the first lasting, controlled flight in powered aircraft.

The news was gree

Get the facts! Read the newspaper clipping above and tell:

WHO:

Standards Link: Structural Features of Informational Text: Understand structural

The Widhes Flyer

Orville and Wilbur Wright were bicycle makers in Dayton, Ohio. They loved to tinker and solve problems. They solved many of the flight-related problems that had stumped people for years.

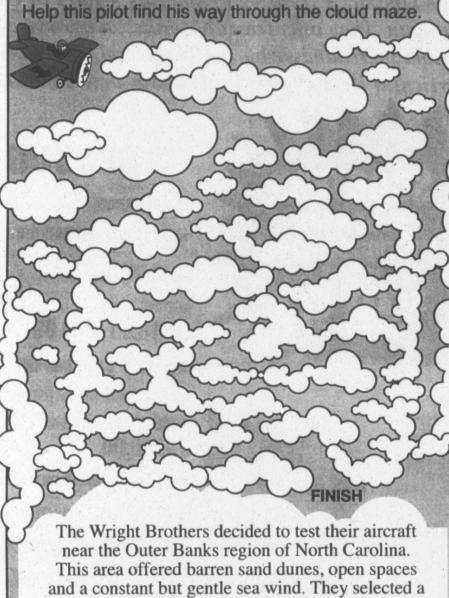
The brothers spent many years studying the early experiments in flight.

With the help of a mechanic, Charlie Taylor, the Wrights designed and built a gasoline engine light enough and powerful enough to propel an airplane.

Orville and Wilbur created an airplane design that allowed the airplane to make controlled turns.

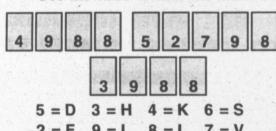
Draw the missing side of the Wright Brother's historic airplane, called Flyer.

Today's Kid Scoop page looks at the Wright Brothers – the inventors of the world's first powered airplane.



group of large sand dunes about four miles south of the village of Kitty Hawk.

Use the code to find the name of the sand dunes.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple

Pretend you were there the day of the Wright Brothers' historic

through the five or more would use to you saw, thought and felt.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write simple narratives including sensory

flight. Look newspaper for words that you write about that day. Use these words and write a report about what

Weekly Writing

No More Airplanes

If there weren't any airplanes, a lot of things would be different. Cars and trains would be used for transportation. Mail would be a lot slower. Gas prices would probably go up. Ships would be in use a lot more, too. We are very lucky we have airplanes today.

> Brianna, 6th Grade

If there were no more airplanes, my dad would not have a job. I think we would have to use giant catapults to fling things across the earth.

> Ricky, 3rd Grade

If there were no airplanes, we would have to drive or take a train. If we wanted to go to another country we'd have to take a boat there. It would be hard to get to far away places. I also I think the world would be very polluted because there would be many more cars.

Lauren, 5th Grade

If there were no airplanes, no one would ever get to go to Hawaii. Some people might not be able to visit their families. We need airplanes.

Monica, 5th Grade

No more airplanes, are you crazy? How will we get our mail from long-distance friends or family? It would be harder to travel and it would take twice the time. My friend, who is as cool as an ice cube, couldn't go skydiving any more. To take airplanes away, you'd have to be insane.

Conor, 6th Grade

If there were no more airplanes it would be like going back in time. We would have to use other modes of transport like trains and ships. It would take days or weeks to get to another country instead of hours.

Christopher, 4th Grade

If there were no airplanes, the Twin Towers would still exist and there would be no war.

> Aaron, 4th Grade

If there were no airplanes, I think the scientists would develop more helicopters and hot-air balloons that would take people long distances.

> Andrew, 7th Grade

Flight Basics

Standards Link: Math: Symmetry.

ave you ever noticed that the wings of birds and planes are curved? A curved wing is called an airfoil. Because of the curve, air rushing over the top of the wing has farther to go than under the wing, so it moves faster. Faster-moving air has a lower pressure, so the wing is lifted by the higher air pressure below. Which duck is different

Standards Link: Life Science: Animals have structures that serve different functions in survival

Double

ORVILLE WILL JR DAYTON HAWK **AIRFOIL TAYLOR MECHANIC ENGINE GASOLINE** PROPEL WHEEL **FLYER** WINGS DAY

AIR

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

YCENILOSAG AIRFOILETN DNWURINATO LAIRBIYRRT EHGHGLEVWY PCTNOYIKIA OEERLLBWND RMRFLOSAGL PWHEELSHSB

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognizing identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

BEYONDKIdScoop

Transportation Types

from the rest?

Find newspaper pictures of different ways people travel. Glue these onto a piece of paper labeled "Modern Transportation." On another sheet of paper, draw a picture of what you think transportation in the future might look like. Label your drawing "Future Transportation." Standards Link: Understand how different environmental characteristics affect transportation



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you think is amazing. Provide three or more details that show this. Deadline: Jan. 4, 2004

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Please include your school and grade.

By SANO

ASSOCIATE SEOUL, North Ko will freeze it program if takes the con its list of te nations and economic ai Yonhap news If this der

Korea also sa ond round o aimed at pers to dismantle i programs. "In return our nuclear a States must try's name fro

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"Resumpt talks will er whether there our proposal f actions," the "We make it never freeze o for nothing." During a f

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willingness to development. inspections, exports and fi nuclear wear return, it der and humanita assurances, d new power pla The Nor

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in Monday's Dick Jack, th at Wexham Slough, west "When he had a fracture he had some blood vessel it, he had eigh

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that, an entire



Report: North Korea willing to deal

By SANG-HUN CHOE ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) North Korea said Tuesday it will freeze its nuclear weapons program if the United States takes the communist country off its list of terrorism-sponsoring nations and provides fuel and economic aid, South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported.

If this demand is met, North Korea also said it will join a second round of six-nation talks aimed at persuading Pyongyang to dismantle its nuclear weapons

"In return for the freezing of our nuclear activities, the United States must remove our country's name from the list of terrorism sponsoring countries; lift its political, economic, military sanctions and blockade; and give us heavy oil, electricity and other energy assistance from the United States and neighboring countries," North Korea's Foreign Ministry spokesman was quoted as saying by its official news agency, KCNA.

KCNA was monitored by Yonhap.

"Resumption of six-nation talks will entirely depend on whether there is an agreement on our proposal for these first phase actions," the spokesman said. "We make it clear that we will never freeze our nuclear program for nothing."

During a first round of talks between the United States, Russia, China, Japan and the two Koreas, held in August in Beijing, North Korea recommended a package deal in which each side take four steps. It seemed to be saying Tuesday that the sides should at least reach agreement to the first set of actions.

Under its initial proposal, North Korea would declare its willingness to give up nuclear development, allow nuclear inspections, give up missiles exports and finally dismantle its nuclear weapons facilities. In return, it demanded economic and humanitarian aid, security assurances, diplomatic ties and

new power plants. The North had wanted

Washington to issue the security assurances simultaneously with a Northern renunciation of its nuclear weapons program, while the United States wanted the North to move first.

Last week, the United States, Japan and South Korea worked out their own statement on how to end the nuclear crisis, and has asked China to deliver it to North

The U.S.-backed proposal calls for unidentified "coordinatsteps" to dismantle Pyongyang's weapons program. But notably missing from the reported proposal are details of economic aid for North Korea and a clear demand that North Korea rejoin the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which it quit earlier this year.

South Korean officials did not immediately react to North Korea's counterproposal.

The United States, China, Russia, Japan and the two a clandestine nuclear weapons

Koreas have been trying for weeks to jump-start a second round of six-way talks on easing tensions. The first round of talks in Beijing ended without much progress, and they had hoped for a new meeting in mid-December.

Meanwhile, a nine-member European Union delegation left for North Korea on Tuesday for a three-day trip aimed at salvaging the proposed second round. The diplomats will later visit Seoul.

Impoverished North Korea has often tried to use the nuclear confrontation with the United States and its allies as a means to win badly needed economic aid and diplomatic recognition.

North Korea's energy woes deepened when the United and its allies cut off 147 million gallons of annual free oil shipments late last year after U.S. officials accused North Korea of running program in violation of international agreements.

Angered by North Korea's nuclear ambitions, the U.S. allies also suspended construction of two new nuclear power plants in North Korea early this month.

Meanwhile, the U.S. State Department has been listing North Korea as a sponsor of terrorism since 1988 because of its alleged involvement in the bombing of a South Korean airliner in the skies near Myanmar in 1987. All 115 people aboard the Korean Air flight died.

For years, North Korea has protested its listing, which effectively blocks its access to cheap loans from international organizations, such as the World Bank, as well as trade with most Western countries. The United States and its allies have also moved to tighten sea and air patrols to block illicit missile exports, a key source of hard currency for Pyongyang.

Bomb near Red Square kills at least five people

MOSCOW (AP) - A bomb exploded outside an exclusive hotel across from Moscow's Red Square on Tuesday, killing five people, injuring at least nine others and sparking fears of a new wave of terrorism in the heart of the Russian capital.

The ITAR-Tass news agency reported that the explosion was caused by a female suicide bomber, and that an undetonated explosive was found on the bomber's body.

Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov told the Interfax news agency that there was at least one and possibly two female bombers and that they asked a passer-by the way to the lower house of parliament. The blast was not far from the Kremlin.

Russian held parliamentary elections on Sunday, and authorities had warned that terrorists might try to disrupt voting. Forty-four people were killed when a suicide bomber attacked a train in southern Russia last week.

"Evidently, the bomb went off by accident," Luzhkov told Interfax, speaking of Tuesday's bombing. "The National Hotel was not the place where the suicide bombers had planned to stage the explosion."

Moscow police were cautious about calling the blast a terrorist act, saying initially that it could have been caused by a commercial dispute. However, as investigators probed the site, they, too, thought that the explosion was a politically motivated, said spokesman. The Federal shattered windows. Beside treating the bombing as ter- to be a body lying on the

A preliminary investiga- Christmas tree.

tion indicated that the blast occurred outside the car, Gildeyev said. Interfax reported that a headless female body was lying near the site of the blast, near a black briefcase that authorities thought might contain more explosives.

The force of the blast was equal to 11 pounds of TNT, ITAR-Tass reported.

A robot inspected the blast site and shortly afterward an explosion could be heard from across the street. It was unclear where exactly that explosion occurred, but it appeared to have been set off by a water cannon.

The robot then was seen maneuvering between two bodies. Gildeyev said that all undetonated explosives at the site had been destroyed by early after-

Five people were killed, three were injured, and seven were given first aid on the spot and released, said Natalia Alisiyenko of Moscow police. Gildeyev, another police spokesman, said nine people had been hospitalized. Luzhkov's spokesman, Sergei Tsoi, told reporters that 13 people had been

The blast occurred outside the National Hotel, which sits on a corner diagonally across from a gate leading into Red Square and the Kremlin. The State Duma is located nearby, across the capital's most elegant shopping street.

Television pictures showed a black Mercedes, its windows blown out and its door ajar, as white cur-Yevgeny Gildeyev, a police tains billowed in the hotel's Security Service was also the car was what appeared ground, obstructed by a

Salvation Army meal



On Thanksgiving Day, Salvation Army staff, board members and volunteers were found busily cooking, packaging and delivering Thanksgiving dinners with all the trimmings to approximately 50 Meals on Wheels clients. These clients also received goodie bags prepared by workers from the League of Mercy. Above: (Front row, left-right) Bob Marx and Robert Chancellor; (back, 1-r) Capt. Patricia Steward, Julie Schuneman, Kathy Chancellor, Emily Elliott, Ginger Roberts, Sandra Schuneman, Johnnie Marx, Hope Baker, Ray Hupp, Katy Hupp and Capt. Gary Steward. Not pictured: Leona Willis and Judy Elliott.

Osbourne resting in British hospital after emergency surgery

Osbourne fractured several bones including a neck vertebra in an all-terrain vehicle accident but the injuries are "not a major problem," a doctor said Tuesday.

Osbourne, 55, was "stable and comfortable" after emergency surgery that restored the flow to a blood vessel damaged in Monday's accident, said Dr. at Wexham Park Hospital in Slough, west of London.

'When he was admitted, he had a fractured left collarbone, he had some damage to the blood vessel that is underneath it, he had eight fractured ribs on the left side and, in addition to that, an entirely stable fracture

LONDON (AP) — Ozzy to one of the vertebrae in his fuels huge speculation in the neck," Jack said. "This is not a major problem."

> He said doctors planned to reassess Osbourne's condition later Tuesday morning.

Osbourne sustained the injuries while riding a quad bike, or all-terrain vehicle, on his Buckinghamshire property in southern England.

His U.S.-based publicist Dick Jack, the medical director Cindy Guagenti said the singer was taking a day off from promoting the British release of "Changes," a duet with his daughter, Kelly, when the accident occurred. The song is a likely contender for the Christmas No. 1 spot in Britain's singles charts - a hotly disputed distinction that

British media.

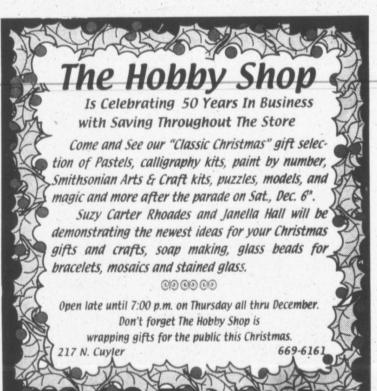
Osbourne's publicists in Britain could not immediately be reached for comment about how the accident occurred and whether it might affect the record's chances of success.

Ozzy Osbourne, who grew up in Birmingham, central England, rose to stardom with heavy metal group Black

launching a solo career.

His fame grew hugely after he became the subject of hit reality-TV series Osbournes." The MTV show featuring the rocker, wife Sharon and their children Kelly and Jack, started production about a month ago on its third season, scheduled to begin Jan.









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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

DOWN

1 Greedy

desire

Fighters

2 Rock's

3 Young

hopper

4 Request

5 Buttes

6 Finishes

7 Finishes

planter

9 Carnival

8 Fancy

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10 Marsh

14 Mink's

16 Locker

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TUESDAY - December 9, 2003

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

High School Reunions Require Degree of Humor

DEAR ABBY: I saw the letter you printed from the 79-year-old woman who was concerned about going to her class reunion because she had been very promiscuous back in high school and had bedded about a third of the boys in her class.

When I read the letter to my husband, he looked at me and said, "Did you write that letter?" Should I hit my husband on the

head with my marble rolling pin or trash his golf clubs — or both? HELEN IN TACOMA

DEAR HELEN: None of the above. But if it were true, I'd hide the yearbook.

DEAR ABBY: This is in response to "Former Belle of the Ball," the 79year-old lady who's reluctant to attend her 60th high school reunion.

My siblings and I were all born, reared and educated on the West Coast. One of my baby sisters was popular in high school and wouldn't think of missing a reunion. Sis was, and still is, the girl with the perfect skin, perfect body, perfect career, etc., even after two husbands and four children.

Sis related this story to me after attending her 25th high school reunion. When she made her entrance, not only was there no drum roll or trumpets to announce her arrival, no one recognized her. She later admitted that she didn't recognize any of them, either, name tags and all.

Then something interesting hap-pened. People began approaching Sis's husband, saying, "I remember you!" He's usually socially retiring, but after people persistently ignored his protests, he settled into enjoying being identified by various people as everyone from the quarterback of the football team to the class president. One woman even pointed to a picture in the class almanac and announced, "There

you are. I could never forget you!" None of those people could possibly have known him from high school.

Yesterday's answer

29 Self

31 Finish

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33 Somewhat

34 - Vegas

35 Vinegar's

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19 Sleigh

20 Winter

21 Spigot

22 Primary

color

23 Squid's

home

28 Made the

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more

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NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.50 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, PO. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

25 Nuisances 37 Kipling

ringers

weather

My brother-in-law was born, raised and educated on the East Coast.

Frankly, I think that someone showing up at a 60th class reunion would be tickled to see anyone from the graduating class, even if he or she didn't recognize the person. I hope she followed your advice and went.

COLLEEN IN FAIR OAKS, CALIF

DEAR COLLEEN: So do I. As your sister's experience demonstrates, the one thing that a person attending any class reunion should never be without is a sense of humor.

DEAR ABBY: I hope you are going to give us the follow-up story of the 79-year-old woman who slept with two-thirds of the boys in her high school class and everyone knew it. Did she go to the reunion? What happened? You owe it to your readers.

RICHARD P., WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR RICHARD: One of the frustrating aspects of my job is not always knowing how things turn out. If I had to make a guess, I'd say she probably went and was voted most popular girl at the reunion.

"Former Belle of the Ball" if you see this column, Please let us know. Your fan club is waiting.

*** 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.

Good advice for everyone - teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

For Better 'r For Worse













Garfield

HECTOR?







Beetle Bailey





Marvin







10 8 28 DE



"Shame on you!"

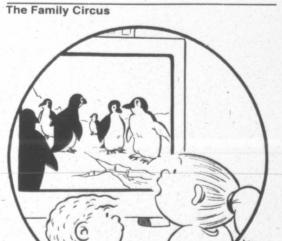
B.C.







Haggar The Horrible



"At the South Pole the poor penguins can't go any farther south for the winter." I NEVER KNOW WHAT TO SAY TO A WOMAN! DISCOVER SOMETHING YOU HAVE IN COMMON AND TALK ABOUT IT!



Peanuts







Flo & Friends







Blondie





BASEBAL

ARLING Rangers clai Jason Tyne from Tam Monday.

Tyner, native who s A&M, hit .27 for the Devil son, playing field. He wa pick by the N in 1998.

BASKETBA Florida m top spot in T Press colleg poll, the third there has bee team.

The Gator up one spo Kansas, whic Stanford on Jayhawks he ranking for j after replacing the Huskies v the preseasor two weeks (season.

No. 2 Cor and No. 3 N each moved u the rankings moved up t fourth, and K which last from No. 6 to back to fifth.

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being No. 1. unanimous cl top spot in T Press women ketball Top after rallying point deficit fe tory at Southe It's the

Connecticut tying Tennes most appearar UConn gained ranking on Jar after beating t to replace th rankings. In this v

Tennessee rep

No. 2 — the I 1) dropped to 3 Duke (5-1 Texas Tech moved up Stanford ren and was follo State, Purdue and Georgia. NEW YOL The NBA e option to exter tive bargainin with players 2004-05 seaso **GOLF** THOUSAN

son in golf car iar conclusion Woods was Tour player of the fifth straig rowly beating Woods faile PGA Tour mo major champic first time since his peers decid was the best or

Calif. (AP) -

including two Championship lowest scoring was second or list, despite pla times.

Woods wor



BASEBALL

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The Texas Rangers claimed outfielder Jason Tyner off waivers from Tampa Bay on Monday.

Tyner, a Beaumont native who starred at Texas A&M, hit .278 in 46 games for the Devil Rays last season, playing most in center field. He was a first-round pick by the New York Mets in 1998.

BASKETBALL

Florida moved into the top spot in The Associated Press college basketball poll, the third straight week there has been a new No. 1

The Gators (5-0) moved up one spot to replace Kansas, which lost 64-58 to Stanford on Saturday. The Jayhawks held the No. 1 ranking for just one week after replacing Connecticut; the Huskies were on top for the preseason and the first two weeks of the regular season.

No. 2 Connecticut (6-1) and No. 3 Missouri (3-0) each moved up one place in the rankings. Duke (5-1) moved up two places to fourth, and Kansas (3-1) which last week soared from No. 6 to No. 1 — fell back to fifth.

Connecticut tied Tennessee for No. 1 at being No. 1.

The Huskies were a unanimous choice for the top spot in The Associated Press women's college basketball Top 25, one day after rallying from a 15point deficit for a 72-69 victory at Southern California.

It's the 90th poll Connecticut has topped, tying Tennessee for the most appearances at No. 1. UConn gained its first No. 1 ranking on Jan. 17, 1995 after beating the Lady Vols eto replace them atop the rankings.

In this week's poll, Tennessee replaced Texas at No. 2 — the Longhorns (7-1) dropped to fifth, and No. 3 Duke (5-1) and No. 4 Texas Tech (8-0) each moved up one spot. Stanford remained sixth and was followed by Penn State, Purdue, Minnesota and Georgia.

NEW YORK (AP) -The NBA exercised its option to extend the collective bargaining agreement with players through the 2004-05 season. **GOLF**

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — A wild season in golf came to a familiar conclusion when Tiger Woods was voted PGA Tour player of the year for the fifth straight time, narrowly beating Vijay Singh.

Woods failed to win the PGA Tour money title or a major championship for the first time since 1998. Still, his peers decided his season was the best on tour.

Woods won five times, including two World Golf Championships, had the lowest scoring average and was second on the money list, despite playing only 18



(Pampa News photo by Ben Briscoe)

Sophomore Angela Henthorn (left) and senior Jessica Hall were among the Pampa swimmers who had their best times at the Charger Invitational.

PHS swimmers better their times at Charger Invite

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. said Pampa coach Gregory Elliott, 200 individual med-

Tough competition Miller. brought out the best in the weekend's Charger Invitational.

Several PHS swimmers not only bettered their best times this season, but had career bests at the Albuquerque, N.M. meet. Junior diver Whitney Penrod set a new school diving record with 260.55 points in off." the 1-meter diving event.

with five of the top teams in New Mexico and last year's New Mexico State High School champions, the Academy Chargers from Albuquerque, entered in it,"

Pampa placed 12th in the girls division.

team to still do that well at that altitude is nothing short Miller said. "All the long hours and hard work the team does is now paying

Pampa is entered in the "This was a large meet Seminole Meet on Saturday.

Pampa swimmers who freestyle had career and season best times at the Charger Johnson Invitational are listed below:

Anglin, 200 freestyle; D.J. record (260.55 points).

ley and 100 freestyle; Whitney Penrod, Pampa swimmers at last boys division and 13th in the freestyle; Tyler Wishon, 50 freestyle and 100 freestyle; "Albuquerque is more, Derek Wishon, 100 butterthan a mile high and for the fly; Jessica Hall, 100 breast

> Season bests: 200 medof outstanding," coach ley relay (Kandice Maddox, Jessica Hall, Whitney Penrod and Jessica Howe): 200 freestyle relay (Kandice Maddox, Jessica Hall, Angela Henthorn and Whitney 400 Penrod); relay: Wishon, Derek Wishon, Joe and Anglin); Whitney Penrod, 1-Career bests: Russell meter diving, new school

Coronado defeats Pampa with fourth-quarter surge

win over Pampa Monday night in the WT Fieldhouse.

The Harvesters never trailed until there was 1:30 left in the third quar- Coronado with 13 points and Pampa ter. Pampa led by as much as 10 Keaton Harris followed with 11. , P - Chance Bowers 14, Clayton Holmes 4, Ryan Torres 3; 3-point points in the first half and there

rallied in the second half for a 55-48 half before the Mustangs ran off six straight points late in the fourth quarter.

> Anthony Durham

CANYON — Lubbock Coronado were 11 lead changes in the second Chance Bowers with 14 points. Bowers 7, Jed Martin 6, Jaret Katara Clayton Hall followed with 10.

> on Friday night. paced Lubbock Coronado12 23 39 55

The Harvesters play at Dimmitt

14 27 38 48

2; 3-point goals: Martin 2.

L - Anthony Durham 13, Keaton Harris 11, Seth Schulz 6, Jared Rooker 5, Stoney Prescott 5, Cory Smith 4, Hunter Harris 4, Jonathan Leading Pampa scorer was Hall 10, Andy Rodgers 9, Collin goals: Prescott 1, Torres 1.

Texas going to Holiday Bowl to play Washington State

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas is headed to the Holiday Bowl, it just isn't the holiday trip the Longhorns wanted.

Instead of playing in the Bowl Championship Series, the No. 5 Longhorns (10-2) accepted an invitation Sunday to play in their third Holiday Bowl in four seasons. The Longhorns will face No. 15 Washington

State (9-3) on Dec. 30. The game in San Diego will be televised nationally on ESPN.

"We're disappointed," said Texas coach Mack Brown, whose team got bumped from the BCS when Kansas State thumped Oklahoma in the Big 12 title game Saturday night.

"But we're also excited

about the chance to play Washington State."

By winning the Big 12, the Wildcats — who lost to Texas 24-20 this season — grabbed the Big 12's automatic BCS berth and a trip to the Fiesta Meanwhile the Sooners,

who beat the Longhorns 65-13 and were ranked No. 1 most of the season, are going to the Sugar Bowl to play for the national title.

BCS rules don't allow more than two teams from a single conference to play in BCS games.

Had the heavily-favored Sooners beaten Kansas State, Texas - ranked sixth in the BCS standings - was likely headed to the Fiesta Bowl with an at-large bid.

Instead it's back to San Diego, where the Longhorns lost to Oregon 35-30 in 2000 and beat Washington 47-43 in 2001. It was in 2001 when Texas lost the Big 12 title game and a national championship berth by two points to Colorado.

Texas and Washington State's only previous meetings were in 1954 and 1961, both Texas wins in Austin.

Brown said he watched K-State's win on television at home. He said he wasn't as shocked as others might be that the Wildcats won.

The surprise was how easy Kansas State made it look.

"I expected it to be an absolute fight to the end," Brown said.

The Texas players were

disappointed about missing the BCS again, but said they'll be ready to play Washington State.

"You can't ever complain about a bowl game. We have no doubts in our minds that we are going to take care of Oklahoma could have made business," said offensive line- the difference for his team. man Tillman Holloway

"Our guys have been through a whole lot worse than this, (but) I'm probably glad we're not playing today,"

Texas was 4-2 in October after the loss to Oklahoma but rallied with six straight wins to qualify for a BCS berth.

bunch. They were given up for dead six weeks ago." Brown said. "All we can do know is play great and try to

Brown refused to say Texas was the victim of bad

"I don't believe in luck or bad luck," he said, noting that a win over Arkansas or

We don't need to allow someone else to have our destiny in their hands," Brown said. "If we win one or two other games, we're not waiting at the end of the year for a score from another game."

Still, Brown questioned the BCS process, which "This team has overcome a allows Oklahoma to play for a national title without winning its conference title, and Big 12 title game format.

AMERICAN By The Associated Press North Pct PF N.Y. Jets x-Kansas City 0 .385 240 255 11 All Times EST PF PA 2 0 .846 388 267 **AMERICAN** South Denver. Baltimore CONFERENCE 233 0 .615 331 251 0 .615 324 PF PA East 10 Indianapolis 10 Cincinnati Oakland 297 0 .231 229 305 Pct PF 0 .769 372 281 0 .538 281 10 Pittsburgh San Diego 3 y-New England Tennessee 0 .385 250 284 0 .231 247 349 .846 0 .692 347 261 209 Cleveland Miami Houston 0 .308 212 250 0 .615 241 203 317 0 .385 211 West Buffalo Jacksonville 4 0 .462 214 200

401 (K) ROLLOVERS made easy Joe Harper Edward Jones



Toys For Tots Tournament will be held Saturday at Harvester Lanes, 1401 S.

Squad times are 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Entry fee is eleven dollars for adults and seven dollars for youth.

Bowlers are required to bring a new toy unwrapped upon check-in. Five dollars will be added to the entry fee if the gift is wrapped.

Scholarship awards will be available for youth bowlers. Adult handicap is 80 percent of 200. Youth handicap is 90 percent of

If more information is needed on the tournament, call 665-3422.





Florida takes over at No. 1 in college basketball poll

By JIM O'CONNELL AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Three weeks, three No.

Florida moved into the top spot in The Associated Press college basketball poll Monday, the third straight week there has been a new

The Gators (5-0) moved up one spot to replace Kansas, which lost 64-58 to Stanford on Saturday. The Jayhawks held the No. 1 ranking for just one week after replacing Connecticut; the Huskies were on top for the preseason and the first two weeks of the regular

Stanford, which beat a No. 1 team for the third time in school history, had the week's biggest jump, moving from 21st to 13th.

The last time there were three No. 1 teams in as many weeks was the end of the 1999-00 season, when Stanford, Cincinnati and Duke each had a stay on top in the final three polls.

The record for consecutive polls with a different No. 1 is seven. From Jan. 3 to Feb. 14, 1994, the top teams were: Arkansas, North Carolina, Kansas, UCLA, Duke, North Carolina and Arkansas.

Florida was No. 1 for the regardless of what our rank- - fell back to fifth. first time in school history last season, holding that spot for one week. The Gators lost 70-55 to Kentucky in their first game as a No. 1 team then.

The Gators host Maryland on Wednesday, and they play at Louisville on Saturday.

"We're in the middle of a long race, and it's just started. It's very early in the season, and I feel like we're still learning who we are as a team," Florida coach Billy Donovan said Monday.

"We moved to No. 1, which is always great, but my total focus is for our team to continue to improve ing is. We've got two very difficult tests this week and our sole focus is on improving as a basketball team."

Florida received 46 firstplace votes and 1,732 points from the national media

No. 2 Connecticut (6-1) and No. 3 Missouri (3-0) each moved up one place in the rankings. The Huskies got nine first-place votes and 1,593 points, while the Tigers were No. 1 on six ballots and drew 1,512 points.

Duke (5-1) moved up two places to fourth, and Kansas (3-1) — which last week soared from No. 6 to No. 1

Texas, North Carolina, Kentucky, Arizona and Georgia Tech rounded out the Top 10,

Seven teams received first-place votes this week, two fewer than last week. Georgia Tech had four No. 1 votes, while Texas and North Carolina had three each, and Kentucky had one.

Oklahoma moved up three places to 11th and was followed by Saint Joseph's, Stanford, Illinois, Wake Forest, Purdue, Gonzaga, Cincinnati, Syracuse and Pittsburgh.

The last five ranked teams

Marquette, Wisconsin, Iowa and Dayton.

Iowa and Dayton are newcomers, replacing Notre Dame and Oklahoma State.

The biggest drop was by Michigan State, from No. 5 to No. 21. The Spartans (3-3) lost to Duke and Oklahoma last week, and it doesn't get easier this week, with a game against Kentucky.

Other upcoming meetings between ranked teams: Texas vs. Arizona in the Jimmy V Classic at Madison Square Garden on Tuesday: Purdue at Oklahoma on Thursday; Missouri plays Gonzaga in Seattle; and Marquette at Arizona.

Tiger captures PGA's Player of Year award

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — Tiger Woods' least productive season since 1998 was still enough for him to be voted PGA Tour player of the year.

He didn't win a major.

He didn't even win the PGA Tour money title.

But when the votes from more than 200 of his peers were tallied, Woods had just enough to edge Vijay Singh and win the award for the fifth straight time, and the sixth time in his seven full seasons on tour.

"There's a tremendous of satisfaction because it just shows that guys on the tour respect that I was consistent, that I've won numerous times," Woods said. "I think that's what the award reflects.'

It wasn't the slump that some made it out to be, despite failing to win a major for the first time since 1998.

Woods still led the PGA Tour with five victories, Championships. His 68.41 adjusted scoring average was the second-lowest in history, earning him a fifth straight Vardon Trophy.

The PGA Tour does not release final votes, but it was believed to be one of the closest races since the award began in 1990.

Ben Curtis was voted rookie of the year for winning the British Open in his first appearance at a major. Peter Jacobsen was voted comeback player of the year for winning the Greater Hartford Open at age 49, his first tour victory in eight years.

Woods became the first player since Greg Norman in 1995 to win the award without capturing a major champi-

While Woods has said majors are the most meaningwas clear that more went into

Mickey Mantle's 1957 MVP

award sold for \$275,000

Monday night in an auction

of items belonging to the

family of the late New York

including other awards, con-

tracts and a prize watch —

were offered Monday at

Madison Square Garden by

the Guernsey's auction house.

The items came from the col-

lection of Mantle's widow

tion the items to celebrate

Mantle's career and "to share

the great treasures and fine

heritage with the millions

who adored him," Guernsey's

the priciest of the 300 items,

all of which sold, according

The 1957 MVP award was

The family chose to auc-

The hundreds of items —

Yankees star.

and two sons.

said in a release.

"Number of wins and quality for the entire year," Woods said. "I had the second-lowest scoring average in tour history next to mine in 2000, so that shows I played at a consistent level for the entire

Singh was equally consistent, winning four times — in the winter, spring, summer and fall - and ending Woods' four-year reign atop the money list with \$7.5 million in 27 tournaments, nine more than Woods played.

The 40-year-old Fijian was consistent from start to finish, and he was particularly strong at the end of the year with two victories and eight straight finishes in the top 10 as he surged past Woods to win the money title.

"He was more consistent than he's ever been," Woods said. "Toward the end of the year, he just got on a roll and was very consistent with his game. He had a lot of confiincluding two World Golf dence. It just seemed like every single week he was in the top 10. That's what it's all about."

> Singh finished ahead of Woods in three of the majors, although neither won any of the four Grand Slam events.

Masters champion Mike Weir, U.S. Open champion Jim Furyk and Davis Love III, whose four victories included The Players Championship, also were on the ballot.

Woods last month won the points-based PGA of America player of the year award for the fifth straight year.

These honors usually have been decided by the end of the summer. This was the closest race since 1998, when Mark O'Meara's two majors were voted ahead of David Duval's four tour victories, money title and the Vardon Trophy.

That was the only season ful criteria in these awards, it Woods failed to win a major

Seltzer and Associates, a pub-

lic relations firm working for

Mantle's 1962 MVP award

sold for \$250,000, and his

1956 Silver Bat batting title

award fetched \$270,000.

Mantle's Hall of Fame gold

sional contracts signed by

Mantle. His first one, which

gave him a \$1,150 bonus and

\$140 a month to play for the

Independence (Mo.) Yankees

in 1949, sold for \$55,000. His

last contract, with the New

York Yankees in 1968 for

be released Tuesday, Anello

1995, in Dallas of liver can-

The total sale price would

Mantle died Aug. 13,

\$100,000, sold for \$23,000.

Also on sale were profes-

watch sold for \$9,500.

the auction house.

Mickey Mantle 1957 MVP

NEW YORK (AP) - to Kim Anello, of Nancy

award fetches \$275,000

Lamar trounces Texas Southern, 79-67

By MICHAEL A. LUTZ AP SPORTS WRITER

BEAUMONT, Texas (AP) - "Billy" Ball" is back at Lamar University where it all started 29 years ago and it couldn't be a better situation for Billy Tubbs.

Tubbs is his own boss as athletic director and basketball coach at his alma mater. His homecoming got even sweeter Monday night when the Cardinals beat Texas Southern 79-67, marking Tubbs' 600th victory as a head coach.

"I do like the AD (athletic director)," Tubbs joked. "He's been very kind to me. A lot of times he gives me suggestions and I just do them. You might say we work hand-in-hand. I've never been closer to an AD."

Lamar President Dr. James Simmons summoned Tubbs back home last season to serve as athletic director. Simmons also persuaded Tubbs to add coaching to his duties this season.

Tubbs' name recognition has meant more fans in the seats at Cardinals home games. Season ticket sales are up by 400, with attendance at about 4,000 in Tubbs' first season as head coach.

That's just the beginning in the master plan of Tubbs and Simmons, who want to return the school to the glory days when Tubbs was the coach from 1976-80, leading the Cardinals to their first NCAA playoff appearances.

"He's a teacher of basketball," Simmons said. "You don't get 600 victories without knowing how to teach. seasons he's going to tell the athletic Lamar is used to. director to fire him."

decide to bring his old friend back to the campus. Tubbs hopes to put the Cardinals back on the basketball map and then let the spotlight fall on the

Tubbs goes along with the promotions that praise his Billy Ball style an entertaining up-tempo style of offense spiced with a pressing defense.

"It's fine if they want to call it Billy Ball, but I can't wait until our program is about the players," Tubbs said. "I think it will happen. Hopefully, this can kind of jump starts us.'

Tubbs' victory Monday brought added attention to the Lamar rebuilding program. Tubbs became the 28th NCAA Division I-A coach to get his 600th victory. Dean Smith of North Carolina is the all-time leader with 879 victories.

Trailing 35-34 early in the second half, the Cardinals used a 10-0 run that included four points by Teddy Davis, for a 44-35 lead and they never trailed again. Gil Goodrich scored all 12 of his points in the second half.

Davis, a junior college transfer, confessed he didn't know about Tubbs' background before coming to Texas. "I hadn't heard of him but my par-

ents had and I did some research and found out he was a great coach," Davis said. "I'm glad I came here and I'm happy he chose me."

Tubbs wants to return Lamar to those days of glory in the same way they got there the first time.

"We haven't played the style of basketball that Lamar cut its teeth on in years," Tubbs said. "We played an exciting style of basketball, which was He told me when he has a few losing up tempo basketball. That's what

"We wanted to restore the winning Tubbs' name recognition and his habit but also the type of basketball our fine record as a coach helped Simmons fans grew up on and want to see again."

lubbs' recognition has meant fans more in the seats at Cardinals home games. Season ticket sales are up by 400, with attendance at about 4,000 in Tubbs' first season head as coach.

Tubbs isn't ready to start counting his milestones.

"I appreciate it. It's a nice honor. but I'm not going to tear up," Tubbs said. "I'll try but I don't think it's in

Tubbs entered the game with a 599-298 record in his 29th year of coaching. His teams have played in 12 NCAA tournaments, including his; 1988 Oklahoma Sooners team that reached the Final Four.

He's not ready to say how long he'll coach or how long it will take to get the Cardinals to the level he and Simmons want.

"The AD and I have decided I can coach as long as I want to and I think the president concurs," Tubbs said. "If we win a conference championship and get to the Sweet 16, I doubt I'd repeat."

Although, "if I get to 700, I could reach 800 in 10 more years," Tubbs teased. "I've averaged over 20 wins a season in my career. But I'll stay in touch with reality."

Rams working on achieving consistent 'Instant defense'

Just what the St. Louis Rams were looking for to go with their high-scoring offense: Instant defense.

Aeneas Williams made two interceptions — the first for a 46-yard touchdown — in a 24-second span just before halftime as St. Louis clinched a spot in the NFC playoffs with a 26-20 win Monday night over the Cleveland Browns.

Williams' two lightningquick picks enabled the Rams (10-3) to score 14 points in the final 1:04 of the second quarter, giving St. Louis a 23-

"This was certainly amazing," Williams said. "Who ever sees stuff like that?"

Jeff Wilkins kicked four field goals — 26, 28, 29 and 37 yards — for the Rams, who won have five straight, nine of 10 and advanced to the playoffs for the fourth time in five

The win kept St. Louis on pace with Philadelphia in the race for home-field advantage in the playoffs. The Rams can win their third NFC West title next Sunday in St. Louis with a victory over second-place Seattle (8-5).

"This is just one step,"

Rams receiver Dane Looker attempts just before halftime the Browns all the way back CLEVELAND (AP) said. "We're excited but not overly excited."

St. Louis had to withstand a valiant comeback by the Browns (4-9), who were making their first regular-season appearance on "Monday Night Football" since 1995.

Quarterback Tim Couch replaced Kelly Holcomb and rallied Cleveland, but was stripped of the ball by Rams defensive end Brian Young on fourth down with 1:51 left, and St. Louis ran out the

Marshall Faulk rushed for 102 yards on 24 carries, the fourth straight game the Rams' do-it-all back has broken 100.

St 7 went just 7-9 last season, missing the playoffs for the first time since 1998. They're glad to be going again.

"It's sweet to get back," Williams said. "We've kind of been under the radar most of the season, which is OK. But the coaches have always talked about what is possi-

Couch went 6-for-9 for 98 yards and threw a 28-yard TD pass to Quincy Morgan after replacing Holcomb, whose two interceptions in three pass

doomed the Browns.

"To give up 14 points like that is unforgivable," said Holcomb, whose first season as a starting quarterback has not gone well. "It's all on me. You can't make mistakes like that. They got 14 points off

the game, Following Browns coach Butch Davis refused to say who his starting quarterback would be next week in Denver. "We'll talk about it tomor-

row. I'm sure we'll have a decision to make first thing in the morning," Davis said. The Browns have been rav-

aged by injuries all season and they may have lost four more players to season-ending Kicker Phil Dawson broke

his left arm making a tackle in the second half. Right guard Chad Beasley fractured his right ankle on the first drive after halftime. Also, defensive end

Courtney Brown (arm) and running back James Jackson (knee) were injured in the first half and did not return.

But Cleveland didn't quit, and twice had the ball down 26-20 in the final minutes. Couch, though, couldn't bring and they dropped their fourthstraight.

Young's strip sealed it for St. Louis' overlooked defense, which recorded five sacks and forced four turnovers.

defense "Our resilient," Williams said. "We made stops when we had to."

The Rams' offense failed to get into the end zone in the first half, relying on three field goals by Wilkins to take a 9-7 lead before Williams bailed St. Louis out.

The 35-year-old cornerback stepped in front of a pass intended for Quincy Morgan and took it back for his ninth career interception return for a TD and his 12th return for a score — one shy of the career record for defensive TDs held by Oakland's Rod Woodson. Two plays later, Williams

again picked off Holcomb, bringing it back to the Browns' 20. "He baited me on those,"

Holcomb said. "I made some" . bad decisions. You can't do that."

St. Louis quarterback Marc Bulger capitalized on the turnover, hitting Isaac Bruce with a 16-yard scoring pass - . the only TD scored by the Rams' offense.

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Yesterday's Cryptoquote: WE EXPECT MODERN YOUTH TO BE STRONG, COURAGEOUS AND PREPARED TO PAY MORE TAXES THAN THEIR FATHERS. — ANONYMOUS

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HOTOSCOPE BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

Dec. 10, 2003:

ners. Often confusion sets in when it need not happen. Quiet discussions on a Tonight: Work on Santa duties. one-on-one level draw a new set of reac- CANCER (June 21-July 22) tions. You often find others rigid and career grow and develop to a new level. ble before October. If single, next fall you will meet someone significant with whom you might want to warm up your

3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

life. You could be pushed by a boss to view. Tonight: Follow your pals. produce more and put in overtime. Know LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) when enough is enough, though how you Tonight: Pace yourself.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

being. Stay anchored in what you want, Tonight: Keep your eye on your needs. but you don't need to be defensive. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) messages. Tonight: Out and about.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, revolve around the holidays and your Tonight: Adjust plans if need be long-term wishes. Your desires do count, SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You cannot be clear enough with part- even if it means taking a strong stand. ** * Expressing your pointions could Think before you take a strong action. cause an associate to ston. vall you. This

*** Though the Moon in your sign now, work within the immediate realm inflexible. You will learn to either bypass certainly gives you the edge, you might with others. Your thoughts do count, as them or ignore their behavior. Many need to do a better job of listening, someone lets you know. Tonight: Indulge opportunities drop on you professionally. Someone close might challenge you and a loved one. Don't say no to possibilities. Let your not want to hear your opinion. The only CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) way through this is to listen, and then do *** You have other opinions, and Pay raises and promotions become possi- your thing! Tonight: Whatever makes associates are likely to take a counter-

you smile LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

someone shares. For the moment, don't * * Take your time making decisions express your thoughts, knowing that your winter. If attached, you will need to work that involve work. You could be so time will come soon enough. In fact, on your interpersonal discussions, as unnerved by someone close that you your perspective will transform. Tonight: often you come from very different might not be sure what you want to do. Go along with plans. points of view. CANCER helps you Do nothing for now; you could be a little AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) **** Not everyone agrees with out of sorts. Tonight: Relax. your ideas. Avoid causing yourself

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll *** You might want to rethink what unusual stress about what might be going Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; is going on within a special relationship. on. Instead, consider more carefully Your ability to understand others needs options that surround you personally. to come out rather than having a major Focus on getting the job done. Tonight: disagreement. You cannot change others' Bring extra work home if necessary. *** Express your commitment to minds, but you can express yourself. You PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) building more solid foundations in your can also illuminate the other point of **** Your laughter and lighthearted manner might cause friction where you least expect it. Be somewhat

* * * You might want to re-evaluate a easygoing in how you handle a loved one say it is a whole different matter. decision involving your family or your or a friend. Please note: Not everyone is domestic life. If a particular person con- in the mood you're in. Others might be tinues to cause the level of uproar in your very tense. Tonight: Go off and enjoy. * * * * Reach out for others. life that he or she is causing, you might Conversations remain key to your well- need to distance yourself considerably. BORN TODAY Actress Susan Dey (1952), poet Emily

Dickenson (1830), TV journalist Chet You're very serious about what you are *** Take an overview rather than Huntley (1911) saying. Convey your opinion with gen- getting involved in a personal situation. tleness. Return calls. Carefully listen to Laughter makes a difference, though another might not see it the same way. Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at Keep the chuckles to yourself, but do try http://www.jacquelinebigar.com. ** Carefully examine expenses that to explain where you are coming from

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Grandparents... Dwayne & Cindy Hall,

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12 — Tuesday, December 9, 2003 — THE PAMPA NEWS FluMist may receive boost

receive boost from shortage of flu vaccine

By STEPHEN MANNING AP Business Writer

COLLEGE PARK, Md. (AP) — Shortages of flu shots could boost disappointing sales of the needle-free vaccine FluMist this winter, but analysts say the drug's long term outlook is dogged by a high price and limits on who can use it.

The news last Friday that the nation's two producers of traditional flu vaccine injections have run out of stock and won't be able to produce more this season has led some health agencies and consumers to turn to FluMist.

There is plenty of the nasal spray vaccine available — only 400,000 doses out of the roughly 4 million doses made by Gaithersburg-based MedImmune and its partner, Wyeth, have been distributed to pharmacies and flu vaccine sites

State health agencies are recommending that healthy people between the ages of 5 and 49 use FluMist and save what remains of the traditional vaccine for others.

Until last week, MedImmune had a hard time selling FluMist. Its wholesale price of \$46 per dose is much higher than the cost of flu shots. And the drug — originally billed as a painless alternative for those scared of needles — hasn't been approved for use by toddlers and seniors.

At pharmacies in 33 Giant Food grocery stores in Virginia, FluMist sales tripled last week over the previous week, company spokesman Jamie Miller said. FluMist sells for \$59.95 at Giant, while a flu shot is \$20, he said.

while a flu shot is \$20, he said.

"FluMist will probably be the last place to turn," said Philip Nadeau, an analyst with SG Cowen Securities. "I think most physicians would think that FluMist is better than nothing."

MedImmune spokeswoman Jamie Lacey said it was too early to tell how the vaccine shortage would affect FluMist sales.

FluMist, which contains a live but weakened flu virus, is meant to be a painless alternative to the traditional flu injection, which is made from a dead flu virus.

MedImmune hoped FluMist would be a block-buster drug, much like its childhood respiratory drug Synagis that had \$668 million in sales last year. The company pumped \$25 million into an ad campaign touting the drug to consumers and another \$25 million pitching it to pharmacies.

But the drug's introduction was hampered by several factors.

Citing safety concerns, the Food and Drug Administration did not approve FluMist for children under 5 years and those above 50, the two groups at the greatest risk for the flu.

Then in October, Wal-Mart backed out of an agreement to stock FluMist in its pharmacies.

MedImmune and Wyeth now offer a \$25 mail-in rebate for FluMist customers to try to cut the cost, but the high price will remain a stumbling block beyond this flu season, said analyst Dennis Harp of Deutsche Bank-North America.

Chiron and Aventis
Pasteur, the two producers of
vaccine shots, will likely produce more doses next year to
avoid shortages, he said,
threatening to leave
MedImmune with an overpriced product and not much
of a market.



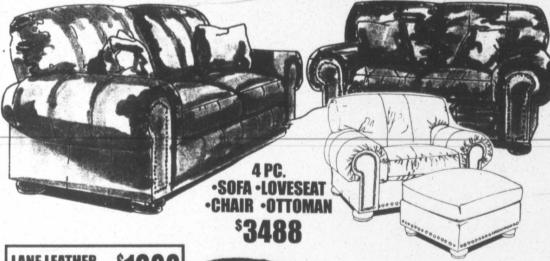
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