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LOCAL
Board of Miami ISD to convene Monday

MIAMI — Miami Independent School District Board of Education will meet at 7 p.m., Nov. 17, at the school administration office. On the board's agenda will be a resolution on school finance update, TASB policy update 71 and discussion on the extended warranty of a pickup. In addition, the board will hear financial reports on the cafeteria, fund balances, transportation and others.

STATE
Body parts discovered in Houston apartment

HOUSTON (AP) — Police were hunting Thursday for a woman and two children who lived in an apartment where the dismembered body of a man was found in plastic bags. The identity of the man was not immediately known and an autopsy was planned. It also was unknown if the body was of a man who also lived at the place. The missing woman's mother went to the apartment to see her daughter and had a maintenance man open the door after no one answered her knock. The body parts were found inside the apartment.

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Beautiful Paving Stones... You Can Install Yourself!

WEST TEXAS LANDSCAPE
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(Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers)
Travis Golding of Pampa is the new district executive for the Santa Fe District of Boy Scouts of America.

Area Boy Scout council gets new district exec

By MARILYN POWERS
 STAFF WRITER

Travis Golding has been named district executive for the Santa Fe District of Boy Scouts of America.

Golding moved to Pampa from Florida about three weeks ago to take up his new duties. He was born and raised in the Dallas area and earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Stephen F. Austin State University.

He has lived in the Florida Keys for the past seven years, where he worked with the Boy Scouts and also ran an aquatics high adventure camp. He has been involved in Scouting for eight years.

Golding will be responsible for Boy Scouts and volunteers in Carson, Gray, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Roberts and Wheeler Counties. There are currently 1,000 Scouts in the Santa Fe district, and 300 adult volunteers working with them, Golding said.

"Every day, I visit at least one county," he said. "My duties are the three Rs: recruiting children and teens, recruiting volunteers, and raising money."

Golding plans to visit elementary and middle schools, and churches, on a regular basis in each county of his area.

"For example, recently I went and talked to kids at Groom Elementary School. The next night, I went back and talked to parents and the Cub Scout master, and helped get kids signed up who are interested in Scouting," Golding said.

"I participated in the Pampa schools' health fair this week. I had six kids want to become Cub Scouts. I can put them in contact with the adults for their areas," he said.

The Boy Scouts are divided into Cub Scouts for first through fifth grades, Boy Scouts for sixth through 12th grades, and Venturing Crews for ages 16 to 21.

Volunteers are divided into Scout masters, Cub masters and den leaders. Training for volunteers is held in Amarillo.

"We always can use as many adults as possible. It's a volunteer-run organization," Golding said.

The district executive's position is salaried, with an office in the Santa Fe District offices. District offices are in Amarillo, where they were moved from Pampa 13 years ago.

Anyone interested in volunteering, becoming a Boy Scout or donating to the non-profit agency can call Golding at (806) 358-6500 or e-mail him at jgolding@bsmail.org.

Todd Alvey agrees to reimburse fund

By DAVID BOWSER
 STAFF WRITER

The Gray County Attorney this week denied that an investigation into his office operations had anything to do with his resignation, but a statement released by the Special Prosecutor tells a different story.

David Scott, a Perryton lawyer, was hired by 31st District Attorney Rick Roach as a Special Prosecutor in the case.

Roach said that Texas Ranger Gary Henderson brought the matter of irregularities in the Gray County Attorney's office to his attention. Roach said that because of his working relationship with County Attorney Todd Alvey as prosecutors, Roach named Scott as Special Prosecutor with full power to investigate and determine action in the case.

"Todd Alvey, County Attorney, and I have entered into an agreement by which Mr. Alvey will resign his office," Scott said. "Mr. Alvey will not seek or serve in an office in Gray County or an office serving Gray County that administers public funds

until April 1, 2005. Mr. Alvey will reimburse Gray County the sum of \$2,000,000."

Scott said his investigation indicated some money from the County Auditor's hot check fund was missing and was not reported to either the County Auditor or to law enforcement officers. Scott said misleading statements were also made to Gray County Judge Richard Peet regarding the missing money.

"Mr. Alvey deposited his own money into the hot check fund to cover some of the money missing," Scott said.

A clerk in the County Attorney's office reported the missing money, Scott said, and was wrongfully fired. She was later rehired by the county and works for a different office holder.

"I believe that the agreement is in the best interest of the people of Gray County," Scott said. "The people of Gray County will avoid an expensive and lengthy trial and will have a County Attorney not impaired by an indictment. I have consulted with each of the victims and with the investigating officer. I have their approval of the agreement."

Traffic stop nets 170 pounds of pot

By MARILYN POWERS
 STAFF WRITER

A pair of travelers on Interstate 40 in Gray County last night were traveling a little lighter after they were relieved of 170 pounds of marijuana and taken to Gray County Jail.

Public Safety Trooper Daimon Jones pulled over the eastbound 2004 Chrysler Town and Country at 11:30 p.m., Wednesday for a traffic violation. During the stop, Trooper Jones found the marijuana inside three large gift-wrapped boxes.

Texas Department of (See STOP, Page 2)

'Classic Christmas' lights decorate downtown trees

Christmas lights will shine on Pampa's downtown streets again this year, as the Downtown Business Association decorates trees for the holiday season in a "Classic Christmas" theme.

Association members plan to have their lights in place and turned on by Nov. 22, in conjunction with the opening night of the annual Celebration of Lights display at Recreation Park.

"Coming up with funds to light the trees is always hard. We depend on donations from the public," said Ken Rheams, DBA vice president.

In the past, the association of downtown merchants has raised funds from a circus raffle and downtown street party.

"We hope the lights give the downtown

shoppers the sense of a friendly hometown atmosphere, especially during the holidays," said Rheams. "We also want to attract more out-of-town shoppers with the nice display."

Estimated cost for each tree to have lights hung and maintained, as well as new lights bought, is \$60 per tree. With at least 34 trees on Cuyler Street and several side streets downtown, estimated overall costs are over \$1,500 for the area, Rheams said.

Individuals or businesses wishing to make a donation or sponsor one or more trees may send donations to Downtown Business Association, c/o Tree Lighting Fund, P.O. Box 2180, Pampa, TX 79066-2180, or bring donations to Rheams Diamond Shop, 111 N. Cuyler.



(Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers)
Ken Rheams and Pam Hernandez of Rheam's Diamond Shop, 111 N. Cuyler, begin decorating a tree in front of the store with Christmas lights. Downtown merchants plan to have the downtown shopping area lighted by Nov. 22 for a "Classic Christmas."

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CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS
 beginning November 22 at the Recreation Park every evening after dark
CHRISTMAS PARADE ... "A CLASSIC CHRISTMAS"
 sponsored by the Pampa Chamber of Commerce • Saturday, December 6th beginning at 1:00PM



Sharon McKee

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1632 N. Faulkner ... Reduced
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11931 Ragsdale ... \$165,000

2000 Christine ... \$75,000
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2216 Dogwood ... \$37,000
Grandview-Hopkins ... \$90,000
932 Terry Dr ... \$53,900

821 N. Dwight ... \$28,900
2270 FM 2386, White Deer ... \$219,500
820 N. Gray ... REDUCED
1236 Darby ... \$54,000
1314 Kingsmill ... \$32,500



Sandra Schuneman

OBITUARIES

SERVICES TOMORROW

GILREATH, Florence "Flo" — Graveside services, 2 p.m., Fairview Cemetery, Pampa.

TROUT, Ella Jane Bradley — 2 p.m., First Baptist Church, Mobeetic.

Army plague researcher voices shock at transport of samples

By **BETSY BLANEY**
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — A plague researcher for the Army testified Thursday that she was shocked when she learned that a Texas Tech University professor personally transported samples of potentially deadly bacteria from Africa.

Thomas Butler, 62, is on trial on multiple felony counts stemming from his report of stolen bacteria responsible for bubonic plague, including charges of illegally transporting the vials.

Patricia Worsham, who works in the plague division at the U.S. Army Research Institute for Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick in Maryland, said she discussed possibly obtaining samples from Butler. But she said she had no idea he had personally brought them on a plane from Tanzania.

"I would have run screaming from the room," said Worsham, who said she had exchanged e-mails with Butler about the samples. "That is a type of violation of the law that I would not want to become involved with, that

my institute would not want to become involved with."

Butler faces 69 felony charges in connection with his Jan. 14 report that 30 vials were stolen from the university lab, an incident that sparked a bioterrorism scare in this West Texas town. The renown plague researcher later admitted to accidentally destroying the vials, according to testimony.

Butler is accused of smuggling plague bacteria and illegally transporting it, lying to federal agents and filing a false income tax return. He also faces theft, embezzlement and fraud charges.

His defense team has portrayed him as a dedicated researcher who was doing plague research for the government — the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Army and the Food and Drug Administration. His attorneys say he did not do anything criminal.

In other testimony Thursday, a CDC official said he spoke to Butler the day the vials were reported missing and characterized their conversation as "odd."

Kenneth Gage, a plague surveillance and control offi-

cer at the CDC's Fort Collins, Colo., office, said he spoke to Butler in an effort to establish just how dangerous the vials could be.

Butler had taken the samples to the Colorado facility in June 2002 for diagnostic testing. In their conversation, Gage testified, Butler seemed more concerned about test results that showed not all of the vials tested positive for plague than the fact they were missing.

"It was somewhat frustrating," Gage said. "We didn't know if they had been stolen by terrorists. We needed to know what the situation was."

Within hours of the report of missing vials, scores of federal agents descended on the city and a frantic search for the vials ensued. It ended when Butler gave FBI agents a written statement in which he acknowledged a "misjudgment" in not telling his supervisor that the vials had been "accidentally destroyed," according to testimony.

Prosecutors allege that Butler reported the vials as missing in retaliation for and to deflect attention from difficulties with the university's Institutional Review Board.

According to attorney, family pressures pushed Dallas gunman over the edge

DALLAS (AP) — Francisco Fuentes spent part of his youngest daughter's birthday at his attorney's office discussing how to defend himself against what he contended were false charges that he assaulted his former wife's boyfriend and violated custody orders.

A day later, Fuentes was dead — shot by Dallas police following a nine-hour standoff in which the truck driver had barricaded himself in an apartment, brandished a shotgun and kept three daughters and his ex-wife hostage. Two men, including the ex-wife's boyfriend, were killed and four police officers were wounded.

Fuentes, 32, was nervous and clearly under pressure, said his attorney, Phillip Wainscott.

But he said there was no early warning that his client was contemplating the homicidal violence that erupted inside his former wife's apartment early Wednesday morning.

"He just snapped, and people do terrible things when they snap," Wainscott, a retired Dallas police officer with 20 years on the force, told The Dallas Morning News in Thursday's editions.

The stress on Fuentes included his divorce in July, losing a house to foreclosure proceedings in the same month, a personal bankruptcy filing and four criminal charges against him.

After eight years of marriage, Fuentes and Sonia Gonzales divorced in Ellis County, according to police and court records. Custody disputes over the couple's three daughters followed. The custody fights were complicated, said Wainscott, by the divorce court judge's orders granting Fuentes regular visitation rights to his daughters but requiring him not to come near their mother.

Melissa Miller, a longtime friend, said she had sometimes

acted as a go-between to pick up the girls.

"But a lot of times, they weren't there when we went to pick them up," she said. "And the children were telling him things, like that they were not being treated right. He felt hopeless that he wasn't able to protect his kids."

Miller, who lives with her children in a Lancaster house owned by Fuentes, said he stayed in the home on Tuesday night and she noticed nothing unusual about his behavior. When she woke up Wednesday, he was gone but had left a note. She said she knew something bad might happen.

"It just said things like to tell certain friends and family that he loved them and for me and the kids to stay in the house and not come out," said Miller. "It was just typical Cisco, trying to take care of everyone."

She said she knew that Fuentes was not going to harm the children.

"He's been an awesome dad since the day they were born," said Miller. "This stuff ripped him inside out, it tore him up that there was nothing he could do about it."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

STOP

Arrested were Phillip Mark McAllister, 58, Los Angeles, Calif., and Dereck Charles Diggs, 27, Evanston, Ill. They are each charged with possession of marijuana over 50 pounds and under 2,000 pounds, a second-

degree felony. Both remained in Gray County Jail this morning pending bond hearings.

Estimated street value of the marijuana is slightly more than \$100,000, according to a DPS spokesperson.

ON RECORD

SHERIFF

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

Wednesday, Nov. 12

Brooke Leigh Malone, 27, 915 Christie, was arrested for theft over \$1,500 and under \$20,000 by deception.

Benjamin Joseph Minyard, 21, 1216 Darby, was arrested for theft by check.

Thursday, Nov. 13

Phillip Mark McAllister, 58, Los Angeles, was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety for possession of marijuana over 50 pounds.

Dereck Charles Diggs, 27, Evanston, Ill., was arrested by DPS for possession of marijuana over 50 pounds and under 2,000 pounds.

POLICE

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents and arrests.

Monday, Nov. 10

Burglary of a habitation was reported in the 700 block of North Banks. Entry was through a window. A refrigerator was taken. Estimated loss was \$100.

A stolen pickup was recovered in the 400 block of North Faulkner.

Criminal mischief was reported at the closed J&J Food Mart, 404 N. Ballard. A window was broken. Estimated damage was \$400.

Tuesday, Nov. 11

Theft was reported in the 400 block of North Nelson. A vehicle tire was taken. Estimated loss was \$150.

Theft was reported in the 700 block of Frost. Water service was stolen. The connection was turned off, and charges are being filed. Estimated loss was \$48.

Wednesday, Nov. 12

Criminal mischief over \$50 and under \$500 was reported in the 700 block of North Nelson. A car was vandalized and had its tires flattened. Estimated damage was \$75.

Found property was reported in the 1200 block of Christine. A bicycle was found in the front yard of a residence.

Cameron Gene Ellis, 23, 1037 Vamon, was arrested for disorderly conduct/unreasonable noise and failure to appear.

Assault on a family member, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia was reported in the 500 block of South Somerville. Lenora Ruth Goldthrite, 36, 521 S. Somerville #8, was arrested in connection with the marijuana and drug paraphernalia, and was charged with possession of marijuana under 2 ounces.

FIRE

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

Wednesday, Nov. 12

12:13 p.m. — Two units and six firefighters responded to the 1100 block of East Kingsmill on an electrical fire. The fan blower on a heater malfunctioned, burning the electrical motor up and smoking up the interior of the structure.

7:52 p.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to a vehicle fire 3 1/4 mile east on Highway 70 and Loop 171.

STOCKS

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa

Wheat	3.51	KMI	53.26	+0.34
Milo	4.02	XCEL	16.55	-0.05
Corn	4.50	Kerr McGee	40.94	+0.30
Soybeans	6.94	Limited	17.39	+0.27
		Williams	9.15	-0.03
		MCD	26.20	-0.04
		XOM	36.07	+0.05
		Atmos	24.60	+0.01
		Pioneer Nat	27.00	+0.06
		JCP	24.01	-0.05
		COP	57.16	+0.10
		SLB	46.91	+0.22
		Tenneco	5.55	+0.06
		CXV	25.32	+0.61
		Wal-Mart	56.03	-1.93
		OKE	20.01	-0.06
		NS Grp	7.86	-0.07

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

QXV	35.98	-0.04	New York Gold	394.05
HP	42.34	-0.26	Silver	5.31
Celanese	34.37	-0.09	West Texas Crude	31.33
Cabot Corp	28.34	+0.04		
Cabot Oil/Gas	26.57	+0.04		
Coca Cola	46.80	-0.28		
VLO	43.18	-0.07		
HAL	24.05	+0.13		
Trud	30.06	+0.54		
NOI	19.50	+0.25		

ACCIDENTS

Pampa Police Department today reported the following motor vehicle accidents.

Tuesday, Nov. 11

7:37 p.m. — A 1995 red four-door Chevrolet Corsica, driven by Brandon Lee Woodward, 19, of 1021 S. Dwight, collided with a 1984 gold and white Chevrolet Silverado pickup driven by Jesse Garza Martinez, 44, of Sundown, in the 1200 block of North Hobart. Woodward was cited for running a red light.

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

The forecast today is calling for a 70 percent chance of rain with highs around 40 and southeast winds 5 to 10 mph. Night should fall on cloudy skies and come with a 30 percent chance of rain. Lows in the lower 30s and south winds 10 to 15 mph. Friday should see mostly cloudy skies. Warmer. Highs in the upper 50s. South winds 15 to 20 mph. Friday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph. Saturday, partly cloudy.

Highs in the lower 60s. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph. Saturday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Sunday, partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s. Sunday night, partly cloudy. Lows around 40. Monday, partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s. Monday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s. Tuesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s. Tuesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Wednesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s.

City Briefs

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

CALF FRIES Moose Lodge tonight, 7 p.m. Members & guests.

HARVESTER SPIRIT Like Western Decor? Incredible intarsia wood creations, elk, a racoon, a wolf. Layaway now for Christmas. North Fork Antiques. Tues.-Sat., 10-6. McLean.

CHRISTMAS OPEN House. Nov. 13, 14, 15. Refreshments. Vintage decorations. Quality antiques. Open Tue.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Thurs. until 7 p.m. until Christmas. North Fork Antiques, McLean.

HUGE ESTATE Sale, combining items from several estates. Dishes, furniture, antiques, collectibles. North Fork Overflow, two doors north of North Fork Antiques in McLean Nov. 13, 14 & 15, 10 am - 6 pm.

FALL FESTIVAL St. Vincent's de Paul Catholic School Fri. Nov. 14th 6:00-10:00! Food, Gifts, Games, Silent Auction and Book Fair!

JUST IN time for the Holidays. Shelly's Housecleaning service to fit your busy schedule. Weekly, biweekly, or just occasionally. Local references available, 665-8603

FALL IS finally here! With our large selection, let us outfit you & your little ones, for less. Twice Is Nice.

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

FLU SHOTS, at United Pharmacy, Fri. Nov. 14th, 9:30-5 p.m., \$15 or free with Medicare B.

LIKE WESTERN Decor? Incredible intarsia wood creations, elk, a racoon, a wolf. Layaway now for Christmas. North Fork Antiques. Tues.-Sat., 10-6. McLean.

NOW OPEN, 300 W. Foster, crafts, collectibles, antiques, cedar furniture, etc. Wed. thru Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-5.

PAMPA OFFICE Supply Christmas Shop 4 Hour Sale, 9-1 p.m., Sat. Nov. 15. Lots of 1/2 price merch. Come shop for your Christmas Bargains!

PAMPA SENIOR Citizens Center Will Not Have A Dance Fri. Night.

THE COTTAGE Collection, 922 W. 23rd, invites you to Open House Sat. Nov. 15th. Register for gift certificates and enjoy refreshments.

Freeman's
fresh flower market
410 E. Foster Ave. ~ 669-3334

* 4 DOZEN ROSES
CASKET SPRAY
\$99

* 4 DOZEN
CARNATIONS
CASKET SPRAY
\$49

*Color based on Availability

State s record in seco royalty

MONTGOMERY (AP) — An Alabama court today accused Exxon of shortchanging the state by not paying royalties on natural gas royalties. The state attorney general said the company's record verdict in the first trial, the state attorney general said, was a bigger verdict. State attorney general Robert H. Johnson Jr. said Wednesday that the state's \$9.3 billion. "There is an Exxon Mobil who understands state money," state attorney general Johnson said. Attorneys for the state said the company's record verdict in the first trial, the state attorney general said, was a bigger verdict. State attorney general Robert H. Johnson Jr. said Wednesday that the state's \$9.3 billion. "There is an Exxon Mobil who understands state money," state attorney general Johnson said. Attorneys for the state said the company's record verdict in the first trial, the state attorney general said, was a bigger verdict. State attorney general Robert H. Johnson Jr. said Wednesday that the state's \$9.3 billion. 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State seeking record award in second gas royalty trial

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Alabama's suit accusing Exxon Mobil of shortchanging the state on natural gas royalties produced a record verdict of \$3.5 billion at the first trial. In the retrial, the state wants an ever bigger verdict.

State attorneys asked a jury Wednesday to return a verdict of \$9.3 billion.

"There is one language Exxon Mobil understands and understands real well — money," state attorney Robert Cunningham told the jury.

Attorneys for Irving, Texas-based Exxon Mobil said the company had followed its leases with the state for natural gas wells in state-owned waters along the Alabama coast and owes the state nothing.

"In the end what the state is asking you to do is change the deal," company attorney Chris King said.

Closing arguments in the four-week trial were conducted Wednesday, and jury deliberations were scheduled Thursday.

The state sued Exxon Mobil in 1999, contending the company had intentionally deducted too much in expenses for operating its natural gas wells along the Alabama coast and had defrauded the state out of millions in royalties.

A Montgomery jury in 2000 returned a record verdict of \$3.5 billion — six times the state's previous record — but it was overturned by the Alabama Supreme Court, which said the jury was wrongly allowed to see an internal memo. That prompted a new trial that began Oct. 20.

Cunningham said Alabama drafted a unique lease for oil companies drilling along the coast. He said the lease required oil companies to pay royalties on gross proceeds, but Exxon Mobil deducted expenses like it would have on traditional, industry-friendly leases for processing the natural gas.

Cunningham said the state had been shorted \$63.6 million in royalties and that the loss could have climbed to as much as \$930 million over the 30-year life of the natural gas field in Mobile Bay. He asked the jury return a verdict 10 times the potential loss, or \$9.3 billion.

State attorney Jere Beasley said anything less than \$4 billion "would be a clear victory for Exxon."

Exxon Mobil's attorneys said its interpretation of the lease followed memos from the state Conservation Department that said the company could deduct the "reasonable direct cost of manufacture and transportation."

Major Medicare legislation may be near passing

By MARK SHERMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — As congressional negotiators neared a compromise agreement on creating a prescription drug benefit for older Americans, supporters urged colleagues to focus on the big picture, not objectionable details.

"Everybody will have something in it they do not like, myself included," Sen. John Breaux, D-La., said.

Breaux was the first Democrat to get behind a proposal crafted by Republican leaders of the House and Senate to scale back their demand for competition between traditional Medicare and private insurance plans. Breaux called it "a middle-of-the-road deal."

The bill would provide prescription drug coverage for the elderly and carve out a vast new role for private insurance companies in the government-run Medicare program.

GOP congressional offi-

cialists said the administration was ready to embrace the agreement, and President Bush was scheduled to discuss Medicare at an appearance in Florida on Thursday. GOP leaders said they also expected the backing of the politically influential AARP, with 35 million members age 50 and over.

But the supporters of the legislation face critics in both parties.

Moderate Senate Republicans said they are wary of the proposal for competition, the last major obstacle to a compromise. Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, said she is concerned the proposal "could have the ability of eroding traditional Medicare."

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., whose support was crucial to the bipartisan Medicare bill the Senate passed earlier this year, said the remaining requirement for direct competition was too broad. "We can't accept a proposal that's going to threaten the whole

Medicare system," Kennedy said.

Under the compromise proposal, the legislation would create a temporary, three-year program of competition in four large metropolitan areas, plus one other region of the country. The Health and Human Services Department would have authority to extend the program for an additional three years, after which it would end unless Congress intervened.

Democrats argued the result of the GOP-sought change would be to raise premiums for those who remain in traditional Medicare. Estimates by Medicare's experts point in that direction, with premium prices varying widely from region to region.

Republicans insisted the provision was needed to help curtail future Medicare costs.

After years of political gridlock and months of private negotiations, GOP congressional officials announced plans to have the

deal formally ratified by congressional negotiators early next week, and brought to the House and Senate for votes in the following days.

Many details of the emerging agreement were sketchy, and subject to change as Republicans work to firm up support. But passage of the emerging bill would mark the most dramatic overhaul of Medicare since the program was created at the height of the Great Society in 1965.

Beginning next year, older Americans would be eligible to purchase a discount card that the administration estimates would yield savings of 15 percent or higher off the cost of drugs.

The broader drug benefit would become effective in 2006, with people offered the chance to purchase coverage at a monthly cost of \$35 a month. Those with low incomes would receive subsidies for the premium, deductibles and co-payments involved, and the poorest would be required to

pay as little as \$2 per prescription.

At the same time the legislation would create a new drug benefit, it also would usher in a new era of private insurance under Medicare.

Private companies would be encouraged to offer coverage under preferred provider organizations, a form of managed care in which patients pay more for care from doctors outside their network, but also receive preventive care benefits.

Apart from the drug benefit and new system of private health care, officials said the measure would include steps to ease the availability of lower-cost generic drugs. On another point, though, no change was expected in the ban on the importation of brand-name prescription drugs from Canada and other countries where they are often sold more cheaply than in the United States. Current law requires the Food and Drug Administration to certify the medicine's safety before imports are allowed.

National scores indicate math up, reading steady among fourth, eighth graders

WASHINGTON (AP) — From understanding algebra to analyzing data, the nation's fourth-graders and eighth-graders are getting better at math, new test scores show.

Still, more than two out of three students still don't know as much as they should about math, according to government standards.

In reading, meanwhile, the performance of students in grades four and eight largely held steady over the past year, following a trend in which math gains have been more pervasive.

Just as with math, more than two-thirds of students tested in reading did not achieve at the level test organizers say is the goal — "proficient," which means having a demonstrated ability to understand challenging subject matter and apply it to real-world situations.

The 2003 scores, based on representative samples of students, come from the test considered to be the nation's report card: the National Assessment of Educational Progress. A marker of progress over time, it shows math scores are clearly moving in the right direction.

Compared to their peers in 2000, when the math test was last given, fourth-graders and eighth-graders made sizable gains at every level, from the lowest performers to the top achievers. Black and Hispanic students reduced their performance gap with white students.

"It's working, and to me, that's very exciting," said Betsy Wiens, a middle-school math teacher in Topeka, Kan., and co-chairwoman of her state's math standards committee. Kansas, among other steps, offered summer math academies to help teachers under-

stand how to engage students in the subject.

"Obviously we're not there yet, but change is not going to be quick," Wiens said. "When you change a system, it just takes time."

Nationwide, 77 percent of fourth-graders reached at least a basic level in math, meaning partial mastery of skills needed for solid academic work. That's up from 65 percent three years ago. Among eighth-graders, 68 percent performed at basic or better, up from 63 percent.

"The achievement levels represent very challenging standards, so when you have

these kinds of increases, they're to be celebrated," said Bella Rosenberg, an education policy specialist at the American Federation of Teachers. "It's important for people to understand that 'basic' is a pretty high standard — and 'proficient' is a very high standard."

In fact, the oft-quoted achievement levels are unrealistic and unfair, said Gerald Bracey, a George Mason University professor and prominent critic of the test's scoring.

Less than a third of students in both grades can do math at a proficient level based on the

test, which is sanctioned by Congress and run by the Education Department.

Such results are increasingly significant because the national test is being used, more than ever, to check whether the states are challenging their students.

This round of scores marks the first time all 50 states were

required to take part in the test as a condition of receiving federal money. Now, every two years, new national scores will come out in grades four and eight for reading and math. If students do well on state tests but not on the national assessment, states will probably face greater pressure to explain why.

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TEXAS EDITORIAL

National energy bill unlikely to lessen foreign dependence

From the Houston Chronicle:

The national energy bill long sought by the Bush administration has been hung up in a congressional conference committee for a variety of causes. However, the overriding reason the bill is bogged down is because the legislation is being crafted more to reward narrow parochial interests than to achieve the goal of increasing and protecting the nation's energy supply.

U.S. Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham said Monday that President Bush would sign a bill even if it did not allow oil and gas drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. No matter how valuable an energy source ANWR might become after 10 years of exploration and pipeline construction, there is no reason to hold national energy policy hostage to a single source.

Some Senate Democrats vowed to go to the wire to keep ANWR free of drilling rigs, but U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay of Sugar Land probably killed any chance of exploring ANWR for the time being. DeLay recently announced to some of his colleagues that ANWR was just the first step toward opening many federal preserves to mining and drilling. His declaration added credence to charges that few scenic vistas will be safe from commercial exploitation.

Unfortunately, without ANWR, the legislation will do too little to expand U.S. energy supplies or lessen dependence on foreign oil. The bill's final version, with its focus on corn-based ethanol, could tighten U.S. gasoline supplies.

Ethanol enjoys a 5.2-cent-per-gallon tax break when mixed with gasoline. A proposal to double use of ethanol in motor fuels would benefit few Americans, constrict gasoline refining capacity and reduce highway funds for the entire nation. To keep the highway trust fund whole, congressional Republicans propose to end the gasoline tax break and transfer the money directly from taxpayers to ethanol refiners and blenders.

Leave aside, for a moment, the fact that making and distributing ethanol requires almost as much energy as it gives off when burned in car engines. There is little evidence that it reduces smog, the only other justification for the whole enterprise. Furthermore, because ethanol can make up only 5 percent of gasoline blends (as opposed to 10 percent for other additives), the more ethanol Congress requires to be used, the fewer gallons of fuel will be available.

The contents of the proposed bill remain secret, even to some members of the committee, but there is no indication that the bill will increase vehicle gas mileage or open the offshore waters of Florida or California to oil and gas production — measures that would reduce dependence on foreign oil more quickly than drilling in ANWR.

In the end, the bill that emerges from the conference committee is likely to be more of a tax-cutting bill for industry than an energy-providing bill for the public.

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MAD applies to '04 election

You might remember MAD — the Cold War policy of Mutually Assured Destruction in which the United States and the Soviet Union each planned to obliterate the other in the event of a nuclear attack. Well, among themselves, the Democratic presidential candidates have triggered their own version of mutually assured destruction.

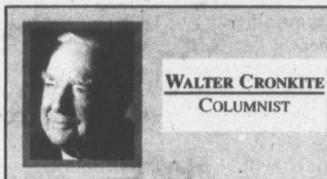
If the economic gains being reported now prove to be a genuine start of recovery, it could put a big dent in the Democrats' 2004 campaign plans. But right now, they are facing another formidable danger.

For some weeks now, a visitor from Mars, observing his first election campaign, could be forgiven if he thought the leading candidates for the Democratic nomination were advance men for George Bush, so eagerly have they been tearing each other down.

Most of these forays into political fratricide have targeted discrepancies between past and present positions on a variety of issues, implying deviousness or inconstancy or both.

And most have been aimed at front-runner Howard Dean. Richard Gephardt denounces Dean for flip-flopping on Medicare, having previously supported cuts in the program. John Kerry contrasts a statement Dean made in the immediate aftermath of 9/11, suggesting we might need to re-evaluate some of our civil liberties, with his present attacks on the USA Patriot Act.

For his part, Dean likes to borrow the late Paul Wellstone's quip: "I belong to the Democratic wing of the Democratic Party," the implication being that his



WALTER CRONKITE
 COLUMNIST

opponents aren't real Democrats. And Dean accuses Gephardt, Kerry, Joe Lieberman and John Edwards — all members of Congress, all supporters of the war resolution — of trying to get off that hook by asking questions now that they should have asked before voting for the resolution.

The newcomer, Wesley Clark, who entered the race flying so high, might have been brought down the most, at least in the short term. The former general has been fired upon because of remarks he made in support of the Bush team while he was still in uniform — implying that he is not a true Democrat, but merely a political opportunist.

On a lighter note: In one recent debate, Dean called Kerry's positions "Bushlite." A questioner told Lieberman the phrase also is the rap on him, but Lieberman indicated that he thought "Bushlite" fit better on Clark. And so it goes.

Interestingly, these candidates do agree on quite a number of important things, including a more cooperative foreign policy in place of Bush's unilateralism and a "war on terrorism" that includes relieving the desperate conditions in countries where terrorism is spawned. They agree that Social Security and health care must be reformed, that the promise to leave no child behind must be

truly kept and funded, that Bush's relentless dismantling of hard-won environmental gains must be reversed, and, last but not hardly least, they share a passionate desire to expel Bush and what they call the radical right from the White House and break their grip on Congress.

Of course, there are serious issues of substance and of detail separating candidates, and to some extent this is both natural and healthy. Resolving such conflicts is how any party composed of different interest groups develops its platform and game plan for the general election. But the personal attacks the candidates have been making on one another are anything but healthy.

Without making any judgment about the accuracy of individual charges, these attacks uniformly ignore any possibility that the accused might have, with time and experience, simply changed his mind on an issue (of course, the outrage caused by Dean's Confederate flag gaffe should be classed as a self-inflicted wound).

But one thing should be obvious to everyone: The damage done will not go away after the nominee is chosen. It will persist, and it will be used by the Republicans against whomever the chosen one might be. Indeed, the leading Democrats might be writing the Republicans' campaign book for them.

A contested primary always is a process of elimination. For the Democrats, the problem with this one is that it threatens to eliminate them all.

(Write to Walter Cronkite c/o King Features Syndicate, 888 Seventh Ave., New York, NY 10019, or e-mail him at mail@cronkitecolumn.com.)



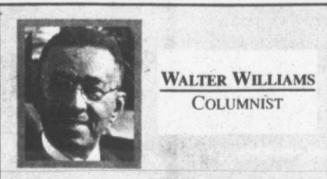
Gephardt provides public service

Presidential aspirant Rep. Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., unwittingly performed a public service in his address to the Teamsters Local 238 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, last month. He revealed the true agenda behind so much of the support for minimum wages. He pledged that if he became president he'd press the World Trade Organization to establish an international minimum wage — one that he says is high enough so that American workers are not competing with slave, sweat-shop and child labor around the world.

History has seen many calls for minimum wages for the same reason — to eliminate competition with workers who'd work for less. During South Africa's apartheid era, white unionists argued "in absence of statutory minimum wages, employers found it profitable to supplant highly trained (and usually highly paid) Europeans by less efficient but cheaper non-whites."

One South African union leader said, "There is no job reservation left in the building industry, and in the circumstances I support the rate for the job (minimum wages) as the second best way of protecting our white artisans."

The South African Nursing Association condemned low wages received by black nurses as unfair. Some nurses said they wouldn't accept wage increases until the wages of black nurses were raised. These are but several of



WALTER WILLIAMS
 COLUMNIST

numerous examples of calls for minimum wages cited in my 1989 book, "South Africa's War Against Capitalism." You can bet the farm that these calls for minimum wages for blacks didn't represent white compassion for the welfare of blacks. Minimum wages are simply one of the most effective tools in the arsenals of racists everywhere.

I'm not charging Gephardt with racism. He claims he just wants to end policies that have left millions of Americans suffering economically and workers overseas denied opportunity for a better standard of living. That's his stated intention, but when we analyze the effects of policy, we can almost always ignore policy intentions.

One effect of minimum wages is that of discrimination against the employment of less-preferred workers. A worker might be less-preferred in the eyes of a particular employer in a number of ways. He might be low-skilled, less intelligent, or a different nationality or race. Put yourself in the place of an employer, and ask: If the law requires me to pay, say, \$9 an hour, no matter whom I hire, does it

pay me to hire someone who has skills enabling him to produce only \$5 worth of value per hour? Most people would view hiring such a worker as a losing economic proposition.

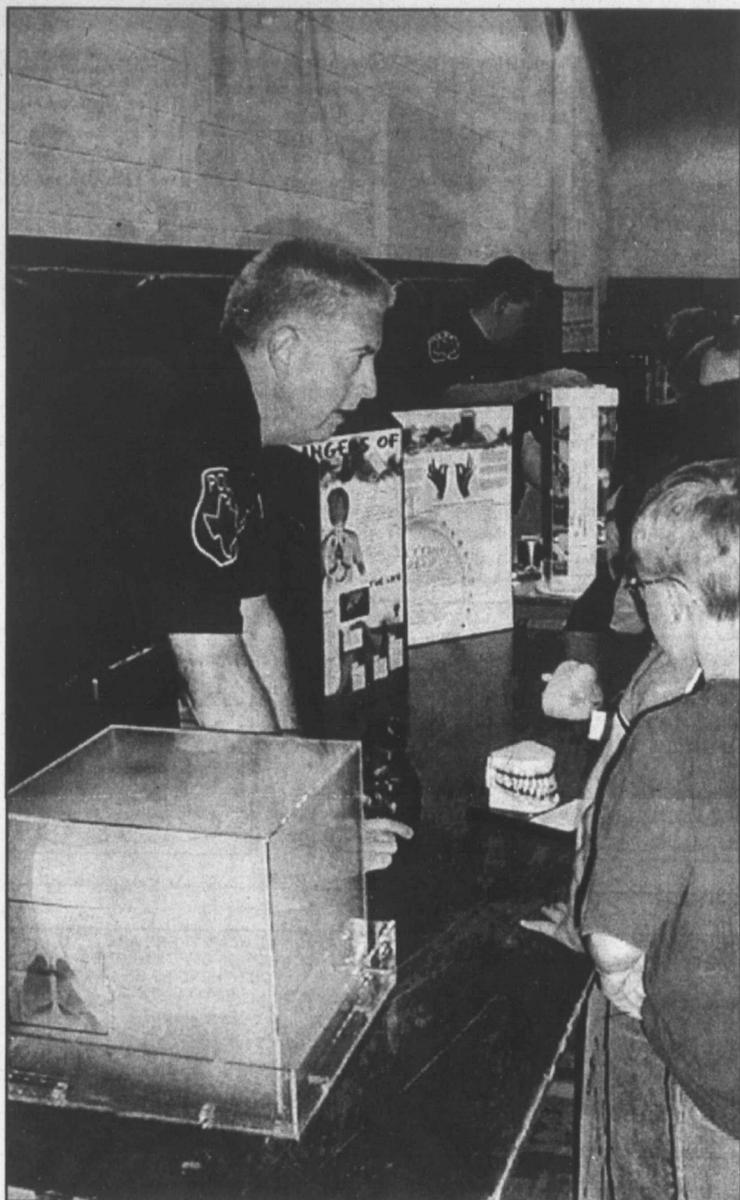
Are low-skilled workers made better or worse off as a result of the \$9 minimum wage? It's almost a no-brainer to conclude that being hired at \$5 an hour puts more food on the table than not being hired at \$9. What's more, minimum wages reduce training opportunities. Most of us gain skills through on-the-job training. Minimum wage laws deny that opportunity.

A more insidious effect of minimum wages, as racists everywhere know, is that it lowers discrimination costs. Say a white and a black were equally productive and an employer prefers white workers to black workers. Since he has to pay \$9 an hour no matter whom he hires, the cost of discriminating against the black worker is zero. But if it were legal for the black worker to offer a lower price, there'd be a cost to discrimination. That's precisely why South African whites demanded that blacks be paid the minimum wages — they wanted to cheapen discrimination costs.

Gephardt's speech is to be commended for its public service, namely that of revealing the underlying motive for minimum wages: making sure that one class of workers doesn't have to compete with another.

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'Giving drugs the slip'



(Courtesy photo)

Pampa PD Chief Trevlyn Pitner discusses the effects of smoking with students at Travis Elementary during Red Ribbon Week recently.



(Courtesy photo)

Omar Marquez, a Travis Elementary student, on "Give Drugs the Slip Day" during Red Ribbon Week recently.



(Courtesy photo)

Kolbi and Nathan Furgason "show off shades" during Red Ribbon Week recently at Travis Elementary.

Western lifestyle under surveillance prior to bombing of Saudi compound

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — The foreigners who lived in the mainly Arab residential compound devastated by a suicide bombing say they were visited by Saudi religious police three months ago, putting them on notice that their Westernized lifestyle was under scrutiny.

Saudi and U.S. officials have blamed Saturday's attack, which killed 17 people, on al-Qaida, the militant Muslim terror network blamed for the Sept. 11 attacks and a sworn enemy of the Saudi ruling family, which it accuses of being insufficiently Islamic and too close to the United States.

Most of the residents of the Muhaya compound were

Lebanese. The bodies of five Lebanese killed in the Riyadh explosions were returned home late Wednesday for burial. About 500 relatives, some weeping, gathered at Beirut's international airport as the bodies arrived.

The bodies of a Lebanese boy and girl remained in Saudi Arabia where their injured parents were still recovering.

Four Egyptians killed in the Riyadh attack were flown home Thursday. Other victims came from Saudi Arabia and Sudan.

The choice of target in the attack, which hit mostly Arabs and Muslims, has baffled many in the region. It may be an indication al-Qaida's rage is directed as much at

Muslims seen as having slipped from the religion's true path as at Western "infidels."

Muhaya was typical of compounds housing members of the large contingent of foreign workers in Saudi Arabia: a place where non-Saudis could escape rules banning alcohol and mixing of men and women in public and requiring women to cloak and veil themselves when outside their homes.

Muhaya had a coffee shop where men and women sat together chatting over water pipes and watching foreign movies and other entertainment on a big screen television. It was next to a pool where women swam in bikinis.

Agents of the Saudi religious police — the Committee for the Propagation of Virtue and Prevention of Vice — roam Saudi streets and shopping malls berating or even manhandling those who violate the social code. Its chief holds the rank of Cabinet minister in a kingdom where the royal family retains power in part with the support of conservative religious authorities.

Some Saudis chafe at the religious restrictions. Saturday's bombings and similar attacks in Riyadh in May have sparked debate about whether the strict form of Islam preached in Saudi Arabia fosters intolerance and extremism.

Japanese woman, world's oldest person, dies at ripe old age of 114

TOKYO (AP) — A 114-year-old Japanese woman who had assumed the title of the world's oldest person just weeks ago died Thursday, a city spokesman in Hiroshima said.

Mitoyo Kawate, born on May 15, 1889, died of pneumonia, said Masatoshi Yamada. Kawate had been hospitalized earlier in the day when her condition worsened.

London-based Guinness World Records recognized Kawate as the oldest person alive on Oct. 31 after the previous record-holder, Kamato Hongo from southern Japan, passed away.

It was not immediately clear who the world's oldest person is now that Kawate has died. It may be Ura Koyama, a 113-year-old woman from the southern main island of Kyushu, who became Japan's oldest person. Koyama was born Aug. 30, 1890.

Kawate, who had four chil-

dren, was a farmer in Hiroshima until she was 100 years old, Yamada said. She is survived by a son and a daughter, but details about grandchildren or other relatives were not immediately available.

Kawate had a weakness for custard cakes and liked to sing, but her condition had weakened in the past two years, a caretaker said earlier this month. She had lived in a nursing home for the past 10 years.

Japan has lost three world record holders for longevity in recent months. Hongo's death was preceded by the death of the world's oldest man, 114-year-old Yukichi Chuganji, on Sept. 29.

Kameni Nakamura, 109-year-old man in Okinawa prefecture, is Japan's oldest man.

Japan leads the world in longevity thanks in part, experts say, to the traditional Japanese diet which is low in fatty foods.

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THURSDAY • NOVEMBER 13, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Pastor's Affair With Woman Was in Fact Sexual Abuse

DEAR ABBY: I read with interest the letter from "Fallen and Wants to Get Up." She's the woman who had an affair with her pastor and quit his church in an attempt to end it, but he wouldn't leave her alone. She also mentioned he pockets some of the tithe money.

Your advice to her was right on. She should report the "Pastard" (kudos for the nickname!), however, there is more going on than an affair. "Fallen" has been sexually exploited by that slimeball. The emotional damage experienced by these victims is devastating. Many of them become suicidal. They don't understand what happened to them.

We are taught to place unquestionable trust in professionals in the helping professions. When ethical boundaries are crossed or nonexistent, these victims are severely damaged. This is a subject no one wants to talk about. Sexual misconduct and/or exploitation by a professional — be it a pastor, doctor, psychiatrist, psychologist, teacher, lawyer, firefighter or policeman — is a criminal offense in 24 states.

Allow me to direct your attention to www.advocateweb.org. We provide support, resources and a community of survivors for these victims. We understand how "Fallen" feels. We educate the public as well as offending professionals. We will help her and others to understand and heal from this gross violation.

CINDY BOLING, VICE PRESIDENT, ADVOCATEWEB

DEAR CINDY: I'm pleased to help. "Fallen's" letter brought in a flood of mail. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Your response to "Fallen" was a good start, but it didn't go far enough. In addition to being a thief and a hypocrite, Pastor Jones is also a sexual predator. It is always the pastor's responsibility to set the boundaries, just as it is with any other professional.

"Fallen" should contact the Faith-Trust Institute (www.faithtrustinstitute.org) for support on her journey of healing from this insidious form of abuse.

SEMINARY STUDENT IN INDIANA

DEAR SEMINARY STUDENT: Thank you for wanting to help. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Having been on the staff of two large churches and on the executive leadership board of my former church, I predict that the larger church body will do nothing — or, if pushed, will do everything in their power to deflect blame to the weakest person.

Pastors and many church members are well-connected in the community. Maintaining the image of the church is more important to them than disciplining their own or caring for a repentant member. "Fallen" does not appear to be strong enough to see her husband, her lover and her church turn into enemies.

NO NAME, NO CHURCH

DEAR NO NAME: Don't bet on it! All she needs is God on her side, a good lawyer, and to understand the extent to which she has been victimized.

DEAR ABBY: Your response to the fallen wife and mother was on the mark. However, I take exception to the "Pastard" remark. We have enough foul language in this world without your adding to it.

C.F. IN FRESNO, CALIF.

DEAR C.F.: I have received both castigation and congratulation for my remark. I don't regret coining the term. The B-word is more accurate, but this is a family newspaper.

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.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds) to Dear Abby — Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

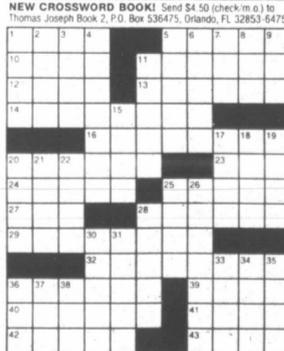
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS 43 Feed the swine for battle
1 Prepares for battle
5 Rival of Harry Potter
10 Yard divisions
11 Cleared
12 Last of the Stuarts
13 Snacked
14 Mast platform
16 Shirley Temple movie
20 Frivolous quality
23 White House nickname
24 Without warmth
25 Scout's work
27 Rap's — Def
28 Trio doubled
29 Paving material
32 Santa's landing place
36 Overseas
39 Vase item
40 Rather
41 Floor piece
42 Highly competitive
- DOWN
1 From a distance
2 Nevada city
3 List of choices
4 Lettering
18 Wood-aid
5 Salivate
6 Harsh
7 Fire
8 Horseshoe shape
9 Unusual
11 Diary bit
15 Obligation
17 Diplomat's need
26 Pros



Yesterday's answer

- 28 Den
30 Task
31 Aussie critter
33 Labor on a fjord
35 Minimal sound
36 Toward the wake
37 Inlet
38 Tear



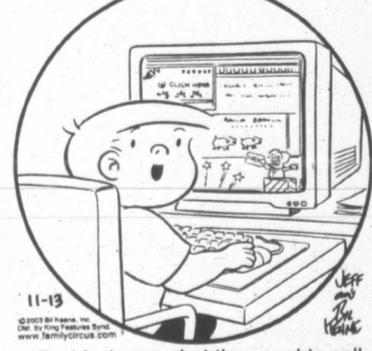
11-13

Marmaduke



"You mean now we have to drive his girlfriend home, too?"

The Family Circus



"Daddy, know what they oughta call these animated computer ads? 'E-motion'!"

Flo & Friends



WRESTL...
PAMPA Harvester Booster Club spaghetti sup 7 p.m. in the cafeteria. Spagetti are five doll may be purch wrestler or member. For tion, call 440
FOOTBA...
CANTON — John Elv Sanders, bot year of eligi list of 25 se induction Football Ha 2004.
The semi chosen by th of selector announced li nes. Amom tions were v Cliff Branc and Steve T also listed teams playe Ken Stabler Ray Guy.
DALLAS Southern M had some aw coming off th ty. Never, the Mustangs bec Still, seco Phil Bennet t dent in his pl program that the same sin powerful pro a stunning ha "Not winn pointing," s who is 3-1 Mustangs. "E discouraged. there."
Boosters h same thing fr sors Mike Ca Rossley, and see results. SMU has winning seas 15, and that ago.
All fans'arc progress. "I exper rebuilding th we're not doi Ryan Phillips, uate and investor. "If C doesn't perfor year there sho questions — b about what is need some t dence of impr
The Musta even this bad first year ba NCAA shut d gram for a y school volun two to clean violations. went 2-9.
With game: Rice (2-7) a TCU, SMU tied the scho losses. At least th and '95 team in a single v Mustangs' on season was they were 0-9. SMU h outscored 325 on a 10-game l Only a 12-ga Army is lon Division I-A so

SPORTS

Wheeler, Miami enter football playoffs

WHEELER — Wheeler draws a tough opponent right out of the box in a Class 1A bi-district clash at 7:30 Friday night at Highland Park.

The Mustangs go against Farwell, which logged an 8-1 record this season. The Harris Ratings have Farwell favored by four points.

"We're going to have to show up with our A game against Farwell. They have a good tandem of running backs and big, physical linemen up front. They don't pass the ball a lot, but they do a good job when they do," said Wheeler head coach Jim

Verden.

The Steers, which haven't made the playoffs since 1999, suffered its only loss to district opponent Nazareth.

Farwell beat Bovina 46-7 last weekend to qualify for the playoffs. Steers' signal-caller Jason Johnson threw for 173 yards and three touchdowns.

Wheeler (6-4) clinched the playoffs with a 34-7 win over Clarendon last weekend. The Mustangs have now been to the playoffs eight consecutive seasons.

Senior running back Josh Miller rushed for 1,046 yards and 16 touchdowns to lead

the Wheeler offense into the playoffs. Senior quarterback James Chapman threw 7 touchdown passes and amassed 892 yards through the air.

This will be Wheeler's final season in 11-man football. The Mustangs are dropping to six-man.

MIAMI — Avoiding costly injuries. That's one of the reasons Miami is in the playoffs again.

"We haven't had a kid miss a workout all season. I don't know how lucky you can be," said Miami head

coach Danny James.

Miami kicks off the Class 1A six-man playoffs by meeting Valley at 6 Friday night in the bi-district round at Groom High School.

The Warriors finished the regular season with an impressive 9-1 record while Valley takes an 8-2 record into the playoffs.

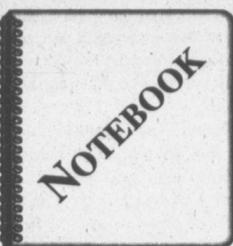
"Valley started out No. 2 in the state, but they got a couple of their kids hurt and they dropped in the polls," said coach James. "However, their quality of play hasn't dropped any. They have a very physical team. They come right at

you and try to jam it down your throat."

Miami has a group of experienced players who have bonded together the past two seasons.

"We've been real fortunate not to have any injuries," James said. "Consistency in our personnel throughout the season has really helped us. We haven't had to move people in and out."

The Warriors' starting lineup will have Ean Miller at center, Oak Hale and Kyler Roach at ends; Jeffrey Browning at quarterback, Kris Roach at fullback, and Chris Brewer at tailback.



WRESTLING

PAMPA — The Harvester Wrestling Booster Club is having a spaghetti supper tonight at 7 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

Spagetti supper tickets are five dollars apiece and may be purchased from any wrestler or booster club member. For more information, call 440-1234.

FOOTBALL

CANTON, Ohio (AP) — John Elway and Barry Sanders, both in their first year of eligibility, head the list of 25 semifinalists for induction to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2004.

The semifinalists were chosen by the Hall's board of selectors from the announced list of 67 nominees. Among other selections were wide receivers Cliff Branch, Art Monk and Steve Tasker, who is also listed as a special teams player; quarterback Ken Stabler; and punter Ray Guy.

DALLAS (AP) — Southern Methodist has had some awful years since coming off the death penalty. Never, though, have the Mustangs been 0-10.

Still, second-year coach Phil Bennett remains confident in his plan to rebuild a program that hasn't been the same since their once-powerful program came to a stunning halt.

"Not winning is disappointing," said Bennett, who is 3-19 with the Mustangs. "But I am not discouraged. We will get there."

Boosters have heard the same thing from predecessors Mike Cavan and Tom Rossley, and have yet to see results.

SMU has had just one winning season in the last 15, and that was six years ago.

All fans are asking for is progress.

"I expected some rebuilding this year and we're not doing that," said Ryan Phillips, a 1991 graduate and real-estate investor. "If Coach Bennett doesn't perform well next year there should be some questions being asked about what is going on. We need some tangible evidence of improvement."

The Mustangs weren't even this bad in 1989, their first year back after the NCAA shut down the program for a year and the school voluntarily made it two to clean up rampant violations. That squad went 2-9.

With games left against Rice (2-7) and No. 10 TCU, SMU already has tied the school record for losses.

At least the 1990, '91 and '95 teams also mixed in a single victory. The Mustangs' only winless season was 1960, when they were 0-9-1.

SMU has been outscored 325-101 and is on a 10-game losing streak. Only a 12-game skid by Army is longer among Division I-A schools.

Rebecca Taylor wins Level 6 All-Around title at District 1 Gymnastics Championship

Gymnastics of Pampa gymnast Rebecca Taylor won the Level 6, 12-year-old All-Around title at the District 1 Championships recently.

She earned the District All-Around title with a score of 34.5. The Championship title meant an undefeated District season for the first-year, Level 6 gymnast.

Rebecca also won District titles on floor exer-

cise (9.15), and on uneven bars (9.05). She earned silver medals for her vault (8.4), and balance beam (7.90).

Her bar score was a personal best.

Rebecca's performances at District qualified her for the North State Semi-Finals, where she competed in the Senior A Division. She had solid performances and placed 12th on uneven bars (8.2), and 18th in All-

Around (34.1).

Her other scores were 9.125 on floor exercise, 8.775 on vault, and 8.0 on balance beam.

From the Semi-Finals, Rebecca has qualified for the Level 6 State Championships to be held in Euless this weekend.

The meet will feature over 200 gymnasts from across the state. Rebecca is making her first trip to a state championship meet.

No RB controversy for Cowboys; Hambrick still starter

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Adrian Murrell, two games into his NFL revival, was carrying the ball at the end, sealing the latest Dallas Cowboys' latest win with two key third-down conversions. Troy Hambrick watched from the sideline.

"Troy shouldn't be looking over his shoulder," Murrell said. "Don't take anything from me being in the game for a couple of minutes in the fourth quarter."

That was the same message from Bill Parcells.

The Cowboys coach said there is no running backs controversy. Hambrick remains the starter and will continue to share carries, likely with Murrell for now.

"They're telling me I'm benching Hambrick and all of this stuff. It's ridiculous. You gotta use the players you have," Parcells said. "I'm hopeful we can use two guys to carry the ball a little bit. I don't think I envision a 50-50 ratio but I'd like him (Murrell) to get carries every week. He gives us something we really haven't had in the early part of the sea-

son."

While Hambrick is more of a bruising, hard-nosed inside runner, Murrell can be an elusive outside-the-tackles runner.

Murrell hadn't played in the NFL game since 2000 before re-signing with the Cowboys two weeks ago. He ran 16 times for 76 yards in Sunday's 10-6 win over Buffalo, including 11 carries for 46 yards in the fourth quarter. The last was a third-down run for 17 yards in the final minute.

Running with a bruised quadriceps muscle and bruised shoulder, Hambrick finished with 13 carries for 33 yards against the Bills. He gained 100 yards on 21 carries a week earlier against Washington.

Parcells wanted to get Murrell some more touches after he had nine carries for 20 yards and two catches for 22 yards in his Dallas debut against the Redskins. He insisted he didn't realize Murrell had so many carries against the Bills, and scoffed at suggestions that a running back switch was in the

works.

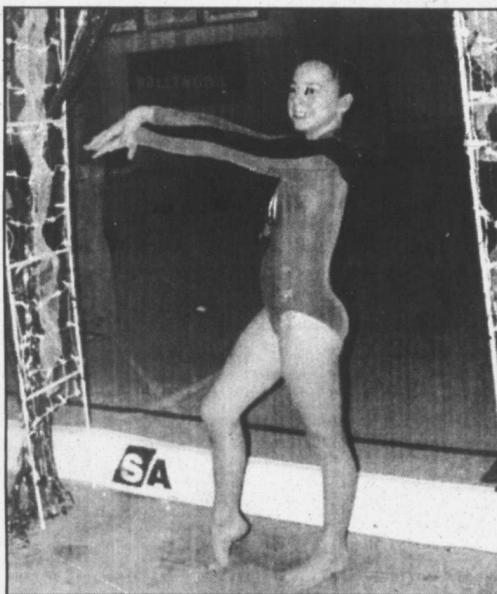
"Now wait a minute ... he has 25 carries for what, 100 yards. I wouldn't say that's lighting it up," Parcells said. "I'd say that's pretty good production. I mean Hambrick had 100 yards last week."

A 1,000-yard rusher from 1996-98, Murrell had last played as a backup for Washington in 2000. He came back this summer, spending three weeks in training camp with Dallas because he wanted to play for Parcells. He was told up front that he'd be released before the opener because of salary-cap reasons, but to stay in shape because he might be called back.

The call came when Richie Anderson had to miss the Washington game because of a shoulder injury.

"Right now, I'm still trying to feel my way through. It's still Hambrick's job. I don't want to take anything from him," Murrell said. "I look at it week to week. There are no guarantees."

Murrell is living in a local hotel, paying his rent weekly.



Pampa gymnast Rebecca Taylor will be making her first trip to the State Championships.

2003-2004 Pampa High Basketball Schedules

Boys	Nov.
18-Amarillo High, 7:45 away; 21-Lubbock Estacado, 7:30 WT Event center; 25-Borger 7:30 home; 28-Amarillo Tournament.	Dec.
2-Perryton, 7:30 away; 4-Canyon Tournament; 8-Lubbock Coronado, 7:30 WT Event Center; 12-Dimmitt, 7:30 away; 16-Clovis, N.M., 7:30 home; 19-Hereford, 7:30 home; 29-Lubbock Caprock Tournament.	Jan.
6-Palo Duro, 7:30 away; 9-Dumas, 7:30 home; 16-Caprock, 7:30 away; 20-Randall, 7:30 away; 23-Plainview, 7:30 home; 30-Palo Duro, 7:30 home.	Feb.
3-Dumas, 7:30 away; 10-Caprock, 7:30 home; 13-Randall, 7:30 home; 17-Plainview, 7:30 away.	Girls
Nov.	18-Amarillo High, 6 away; 20-Frenship Tournament; 25-Borger, 6 home; 28-Amarillo ISD Tournament.
Dec.	2-Perryton, 6 away; 5-Liberal, Kan., 6 home; 9-Randall, 6 home; 12-Plainview, 6 away; 19-Hereford, 6 home; 29-Caprock Tournament.
Jan.	6-Palo Duro, 6 away; 9-Dumas, 6 home; 16-Caprock, 6 away; 20-Randall, 6 away; 23-Plainview, 6 home; 30-Palo Duro, 6 home.
Feb.	3-Dumas, 6 away; 10-Caprock, 6 home.

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Hidden Hills Seniors Long-Short Scramble

1. Travis Taylor, Joe Mabry, Nathan Lancaster and Richard Abbott, 141.

2. Gerry McCabe, Jim Bridges, Jess Mathis and Duane Cash, 145.

3. Harley Knutson, Ralph Wilson, Jack Davis and Bob Brandon, 147.

4. Bill Hammer, Carroll Pettit, Bill Brown and Troy Bennett, 148.

Closest to pin: Duane Cash, No. 8.

Spurs down Nets in first meeting since NBA Finals

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Tim Duncan not only beat the Nets again, he made them play scared.

That was the assessment of New Jersey coach Byron Scott after the two-time defending Eastern Conference champions lost to Duncan and the San Antonio Spurs 85-71 Wednesday night in their first meeting since the NBA Finals.

"It's the first time we played that way, just scared to play," Scott said after the Nets lost for the fifth time in eight games.

"I don't know if it's because we didn't get off to a good start playing a team that has all its weapons. They want to get back on track, and it looked like we were scared to play the

way we're capable of playing."

Duncan had much to do with that with a season-high 31 points and 12 rebounds to overshadow a 14-point, 13-assist, 12-rebound triple-double by Nets guard Jason Kidd.

Kidd, who spurned a free agent offer from the Spurs in the offseason, deferred to Scott on whether the Nets played scared.

"He has a better view than I do," Kidd said. "If that's what sees, if that's the case, we've got to find some way to get the enjoyment back into the game and have some fun and not make it such a struggle."

Nothing was a struggle for Duncan, who hit 12 of 19 shots from the field and blocked

three shots, including two by Kidd in the third quarter.

"He's a pretty smooth character," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said of Duncan. "The game is really easy for him, the game of basketball. He really understands what's going on. He is enjoying his teammates. He is a great player. I don't know what else to tell you."

Tony Parker added 17 points in just his second game of the season and Manu Ginobili had 12 points and eight rebounds as the Spurs won their second straight game since Duncan and Parker returned to the lineup.

Kenyon Martin added 14 points and 10 rebounds in his first game since spraining his

left ankle Oct. 31.

The Nets couldn't overcome long stretches of cold shooting — another reminder of what happened in the finals when New Jersey allowed San Antonio to go on a series-deciding 19-0 run in Game 6.

A 3-for-14 slump at the end of the second quarter came during a 21-5 spurt that gave the Spurs a 49-33 halftime lead.

Parker started the run with four straight points, Duncan added six and Malik Rose had five, including a tip just before the halftime buzzer.

The disappointingly small crowd of 13,286 was starting to grumble when the game turned on a spectacular block by Martin early in the third

quarter. Duncan got the rebound in the lane and went up for a jump hook with his arm fully extended. Martin came from the baseline and blocked the shot well above the rim, swatting the ball into the stands.

Duncan and Spurs coach Gregg Popovich both felt the officials missed a goaltending call.

"It sparked them and they scored about 90 in a row," Popovich said. "It was like we weren't there any more. It was 5-on-0."

New Jersey closed the quarter with a 17-4 run to pull to 63-56. The deficit was reduced to three points in the fourth quarter, the last time at 67-64 on a jumper by Martin in the

lane. Ginobili had a three-point play and a layup to spark a 16-5 spurt that included a pair of 3-pointers from the left corner by Bruce Bowen and one by Parker.

Notes: The triple-double was the second of the season for Kidd and the 52nd of his career. ...Kerry Kittles got a technical from referee Violet Palmer for arguing a foul call. ...Nets F Brian Scalabrine missed the game with a hip pointer. ... Kittles and Richard Jefferson added 13 points apiece for New Jersey, which shot 36 percent from the field. ...The win was the Spurs first in three road games. ...New Jersey is 1-3 at home. They were 33-8 last season.

NFL STANDINGS

FOOTBALL									
National Football League									
At A Glance									
By The Associated Press									
All Times EST									
AMERICAN CONFERENCE									
East									
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA			
New England	7	2	0	.778	184	155			
Miami	5	4	0	.556	168	141			
Buffalo	4	5	0	.444	149	158			
N.Y. Jets	3	6	0	.333	166	173			
South									
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA			
Indianapolis	7	2	0	.778	254	171			
Tennessee	7	2	0	.778	255	174			
Houston	3	6	0	.333	162	244			
Jacksonville	2	7	0	.222	172	231			
North									
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA			
Baltimore	5	4	0	.556	206	182			
Cincinnati	4	5	0	.444	186	200			
Cleveland	3	6	0	.333	135	171			
Pittsburgh	3	6	0	.333	176	217			
West									
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA			
Kansas City	9	0	0	1.000	287	150			
Denver	5	4	0	.556	210	171			
Oakland	2	7	0	.222	162	211			
San Diego	2	7	0	.222	174	243			
NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
East									
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA			
Dallas	7	2	0	.778	181	136			
Philadelphia	6	3	0	.667	159	166			
N.Y. Giants	4	5	0	.444	172	195			
Washington	4	5	0	.444	176	212			
South									
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA			
Carolina	7	2	0	.778	178	163			
New Orleans	4	5	0	.444	189	205			
Tampa Bay	4	5	0	.444	188	141			
Atlanta	2	7	0	.222	157	250			
North									
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA			
Minnesota	6	3	0	.667	251	205			

Bryant to make first appearance today before Colorado trial judge

EAGLE, Colo. (AP) — Kobe Bryant will be back in a Colorado courtroom Thursday for his first hearing before the judge that will preside over his sexual assault trial.

During his initial appearance in state district court, the Los Angeles Lakers' guard is expected to be formally advised of the charge against him, his rights and the penalty he faces if convicted.

Judge Terry Ruckriegle also could adjust Bryant's \$25,000 bond and set dates for upcoming hearings, including an arraignment. Bryant could enter a plea, though that isn't expected.

Both sides typically discuss plea arrangements in advance with the judge, but those conversations haven't occurred, prosecution spokeswoman Krista Flannigan said Wednesday. After a plea, a trial must be scheduled within six months.

Attorney Dan Recht, past

president of the Colorado Criminal Defense Bar, said Bryant's attorneys probably will ask for an arraignment later this year to delay the start of the trial.

"My guess is the defense wants the trial to start after the basketball season," Recht said.

Bryant, 25, is accused of raping a 19-year-old woman June 30 at a mountain resort near Edwards where she worked and he was a guest. Bryant says the two had consensual sex.

If convicted, Bryant would face four years to life in prison and 20 years to life on probation.

This week's brief hearing will occur between Lakers home games Wednesday and Friday. Bryant's attorneys had sought to allow him to skip his Aug. 6 appearance in Eagle County Court, but they made no such request for Thursday's hearing.

During his preliminary hearing last month, a sheriff's investigator testified the woman's blood was found on Bryant's T-shirt. Defense attorneys suggested the woman was promiscuous.

Attorneys for media organizations including The Associated Press are appealing a judge's decisions to close portions of that hearing involving testimony about Bryant's statements to police.

In filings made public Wednesday, media attorneys argued Judge Frederick Gannett wrongly concluded Bryant's fair-trial rights would be threatened by leaving the preliminary hearing and records open to the public.

The attorneys also asked to be allowed to present oral arguments on unsealing the records from the preliminary hearing.

Many other court records and investigative files remain sealed.

Roddick clinches year-end Number One ranking

HOUSTON (AP) — As recently as 2000, Andy Roddick was playing in junior tournaments.

Just 12 months ago, he was ranked 10th, too low to qualify for the season-ending

Tennis Masters Cup. Now he's No. 1, assured of becoming the 13th player — and second-youngest — to finish a year atop the ATP Tour computer rankings.

And he owes at least a tip of the hat to Andre Agassi.

By recovering from a terrible start Wednesday night to beat No. 2 Juan Carlos Ferrero 2-6, 6-3, 6-4 at the Tennis Masters Cup, Agassi guaranteed that Roddick's points total for 2003 can't be topped.

"Glad I could help. I aim to please," Agassi said with a smile.

"It's an incredible accomplishment, especially the way he's done it, coming on late in

the year. He has a lot to feel proud about," added Agassi, who ended 1999 at No. 1.

Roddick's breakthrough season began to take shape in January at the Australian Open, where he outlasted Younes El Aynaoui 21-19 in the longest fifth set in Grand Slam history. That allowed the American to reach his first major semifinal.

He also made the semifinals at Wimbledon, then claimed his first Grand Slam title at the U.S. Open by beating Ferrero. Roddick replaced the Spaniard at No. 1 last week.

"I'm incredibly honored to finish the year as No. 1, but I'm probably more proud to be the sixth American ever," the 21-year-old Roddick said.

Only Lleyton Hewitt, who was 20 in 2000, has been a younger No. 1.

"It's hard to reflect on what

a year this has been, but I'm incredibly fortunate to be playing at home in the United States. To be able to share all of this with my friends and family is better than I could have ever imagined," Roddick said.

He also probably should thank Agassi for splitting with coach Brad Gilbert early last year. Roddick is 46-6 (a winning percentage of .885) since hiring Gilbert right after a first-round loss at the French Open.

Roddick can add what would be a season-leading seventh title of 2003 by winning the Tennis Masters Cup. After winning his opening round-robin match Tuesday, he was slated to face No. 6 Rainer Schuettler (1-0) on Thursday.

Also on Thursday's schedule: No. 4 Guillermo Coria (0-1) vs. No. 7 Carlos Moya (0-

1), and No. 5 Agassi (1-1) vs. No. 8 David Nalbandian (1-1) for a semifinal berth.

Wimbledon champion Roger Federer (2-0) already qualified for the semifinals when he beat Nalbandian 6-3,

Stars drop below .500 with loss to Red Wings

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Stars were projected to be a serious contender for the Western Conference title before the season. Now, they're not even a .500 team.

"This team was always tough to play against," Stars center Stu Barnes said. "We certainly have gotten away from that."

Steve Yzerman and Pavel Datsyuk each scored twice and the Detroit Red Wings extended the Stars' losing streak to four games with a 6-2 victory Wednesday night.

"Hockey's not the sort of

game where you can throw a switch and all of a sudden things are going right," Barnes said. "It's got to build and be a concerted effort."

Brenden Morrow's goal at 11:42 of the second period pulled Dallas within 3-2, but the Stars had no answers for the Red Wings' three-goal third-period breakout.

Bill Guerin also scored for the Stars, who have lost four in a row for first time since the 1995-96 season. The Stars (7-8-1) haven't been under .500 after 16 games since that same season.

champ needed to get at least that far to have a chance at overtaking Roddick.

"To be No. 2 isn't bad," Ferrero said in Spanish. "I had a very good year. I'm very pleased with the whole year."

"When you get in a situation like this, you work your way out of it," Stars coach Dave Tippett said. "There are no easy solutions. You can't just show up because you're the Dallas Stars."

Detroit defenseman Mathieu Schneider came up with a key goal when his short-handed tally 59 seconds into the third period restored his team's two-goal lead.

In the first period, Schneider was struck in the face by a puck, a wound that required several stitches.

Got game? Excess meat can be donated to needy

By DAVID SIKES
Corpus Christi
Caller-Times

CORPUS CHRISTI — I really could use a bigger soup pot rather than more freezer space.

Have you noticed that chest freezers now are being sold at grocery stores? Right there in the aisle near the entrance. Smart marketing, huh? Those folks know that Coastal Bend hunters and anglers tend to be one in the same and often this means the tiny compartment above our refrigerators are bulging with fish and game.

At my house, the start of

hunting season sparks an annual tradition. It's time again for my empty-the-freezer gumbo. Maybe I'll make two batches this year.

My freezer — I don't have a chest type — would be even more cramped if I weren't so selective about the fish I keep. Obviously, I can't practice catch & release in the field. But I try to remember the lesson Dad taught me. Eat what you bag and shoot only what you (or friends) will consume.

Sometimes I'm not as diligent in this as Dad would have wanted. And I admit that I have allowed freezer burn or spoilage to claim

Texas Outdoors

meat and fish that should have been eaten. Not so much any more, though. How about you?

Well I have a painless solution. And it doesn't involve limiting your hunting or fishing enjoyment. Instead, this suggestion is about expanding your circle of friends, so to speak.

I'm talking about donating game to needy folks in the community. There are several ways to do this. One is to enlist an organization called Hunters for the Hungry, which coordinates a

program that distributes mostly venison to shelters and food pantries. This program also accepts cash donations to defray the processing fees paid by hunters for donated game.

Unfortunately, some of the meat markets tell me that the rules for processing wild hogs where meat is sold are in a state of flux.

Some other shops only deal in deer and exotics. So call ahead if you'd like to donate pigs or other game.

Most processors charge about \$25 for processing big game for donations. They will deliver the meat for you

to one or more shelters of their choice. Please don't ask if you could deliver the meat yourself after having it processed for the discounted price. It's been attempted.

This past hunting season, Hunters for the Hungry in Texas donated 118,994 pounds of processed game statewide.

That's a 29-percent increase compared with last season. More than three-fourths of this was venison; 16 percent was wild hog and 8 percent was other meat.

Hunters for the Hungry is administered by the Texas Association of Community Action Agencies, with fund-

ing through a Community Food and Nutrition Program grant from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

Geese are accepted at some locations in Texas, but few around the Coastal Bend. However, some local shelters will take waterfowl directly, along with other game.

For donations of meat that already is processed and frozen, either contact a shelter or call the toll-free number for Texas Association of Community Action Agencies. Ask about the Share Our Surplus program.

5 Special Not
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10 Lost/Found
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10 Lost/Found

LOST on 11/05 brown female Chesapeake Bay Retriever with blue collar. Lost between Pan-tex & Panhandle. 806-670-3094

FOUND hammer on N. Hobart. Call to identify, 662-1252.

11 Financial

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OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.
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14h Gen. Serv.

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14h Gen. Serv.

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14h Gen. Serv.

LONESTAR CHIMNEY SWEEP now taking apps. NO MESS. 669-1562

14n Painting

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14s Plumbing/Heat

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

Larry Baker Plumbing

Heating/ Air Conditioning Borger Hwy. 665-4392

21 Help Wanted

DENTAL ASSISTANT, primarily chairside. Part-time. Experience desirable, but not necessary. Send resume to Box 76, c/o Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, Tx. 79066

21 Help Wanted

TEXAS Rose is now taking applications for kitchen help. No Phone Calls Please!

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or Nita Massey at 806-779-2469
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BORN TODAY
Artist Claude Monet (1840), Indian prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru (1889), British royal Prince Charles (1948) ***

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.
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21 Help Wanted

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

CNA'S needed for 3-11 & 11-7 shift. Great benefits. Apply in person, St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle 537-3194.

CALDWELL Productions needs Shop Mechanic. Exp required. 6 pd. holidays & 1 week pd. vacation per year. Call 665-8888 or apply 2 mi. W. on Hwy 60.

LVN needed for Family Medicine Center. Send Resume to 3023 Perryton Pkwy, Suite #101, Pampa Tx 79065

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80 Pets & Supp.
All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." State law also forbids discrimination based on these factors. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

1 bdr. apt., furn. or unfurn. Starting at \$275. All utilities pd. Courtyard Apts., 1031 N. Sumner, 669-9712.

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

1991 Jeep Cherokee
4x4 \$2500 or OBO
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121 Trucks
82 Chevrolet Pickup for sale, Crate 350 engine, good work truck, \$2200. 669-6833 lv. message.

ACCEPTING sealed bids on 2000 Chev. pu. 271. Lefors FCU reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Call 835-2773 for more info.

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1985 Toyota 4x4, extra cab pickup. Call 665-7657 after 6 p.m.

Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Nov. 14, 2003:
You make money because of a unique talent that emerges this year. Either others jump on the bandwagon, making this self-expression possible and lucrative, or else a very special opportunity comes to you. You will actively seek out others, and instinctively know what to say and do. Your popularity rises to a new level. Friends surround you, and something you really want comes to fruition. If you are single, you will make a new friend at a distance. This person could be quite special in your life, and quite different. You meet others through your friends. If you are attached, your relationship will blossom if, together, you focus on a common goal. Express your caring through buying something you both want. **CANCER** cares.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

*** You might have a slow start to the day, but you need to get going. Once into the swing of things, you seem to be able to accomplish nearly anything. Good feelings surround a special relationship at work. Make plans together for lunch. Tonight: Happy at home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

***** Your ability to put a situation in perspective makes a big difference in how you handle an emotional matter. You might defy a change, yet you want to make the jump. Do it today, as it could make all the difference. Tonight: Out and about.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

***** Your friendly manner hits a home run with those in your life, especially an associate and a family member.

You might not want to talk about what is on your mind. Use special care financially. Luck still is in your corner, my dear Twin. Tonight: First, decide how much you want to spend this weekend.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

***** Not everyone feels the way you do, but you do know how to open people's minds. Your emotional creativity springs forth, adding to your resourcefulness. A romance becomes even more fun and caring, if you allow it. Tonight: Whatever makes you happy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

*** Read between the lines, understanding what might be going on. Your instincts might be right-on with a partner's spending or a problem. Look past the obvious with a financial matter. You know what is happening. Tonight: Hop on home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

***** Friendship holds a key role in your life. A loved one actually might be jealous and cause a rumpus. Be sensitive to helping this person past this issue. You're unusually lucky with love and romance right now. Tonight: Your wish is another's command.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

***** How you think and what you do might change your tune in the next few days. Experiment with possibilities. Ask for more information. Your willingness to dig in and get past a problem awes those without your creativity. Tonight: Leader of the gang.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

***** You go overboard. What is new about that situation? You might not be comfortable with a personal situation that takes you in a new direction. Someone could be far more passionate and peppery than you'd anticipated.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

***** Work on a closer and stronger connection with a key partner, friend or associate. Your instincts tell you what to do, while others express their deeper feelings. A boss values your input. Leaving work could be difficult, as last-minute items hold you up. Tonight: Be a duo.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

***** What you say does make a difference, especially to someone who takes you seriously and can be somber as well. Others seek you out because they trust you. Accept a compliment from a loved one and a friend. Tonight: The only sin you can commit is to be alone.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

***** Spending needs to be tamed. Either find a way of putting in overtime and/or structure a better holiday budget. A partner will pitch in with ideas. Think carefully, but express your optimism. A must appearance actually could be fun. Tonight: Leader of the gang.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

***** Your fiery nature right now gets a project off the ground. You might not like what you hear, but you will feel better once a child or loved one confesses. Take off as soon as you can. Make the most of the weekend. Tonight: Others surround you like bears around honey.

BORN TODAY
Artist Claude Monet (1840), Indian prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru (1889), British royal Prince Charles (1948) ***

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\$202 QN mattress set, brand new never used with warranty, QN Pillow top double sided mattress set new, still pkgd, warr. list \$550, sell \$236, Full Pillow top Double sided mattress set new, still pkgd, warr. List \$400, sell \$208, Full size mattress set new, never used \$180, \$230 King mattress set, brand new, still pkgd, warranty, \$268 King Pillow top mattress set, brand new, still pkgd, warranty, Queen Cherry sleigh bed, new, still boxed, List \$750 sell \$399, new 7 pc QN cherry wood bdrm set w/sleigh bed, still boxed, sell \$999, new 7 pc QN Pinewood bdrm set w/4 poster bed, still boxed, \$999. Call 806-517-1050.

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

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES — Here's how to work it:
A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW

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

11-13 CRYPTOQUOTE
M V O N G J P W C G Z J B X P Z C Z S C G W
N O N G ' Z N I L N G Y P Z N G I P G I Z
J B J Q V Y U C G W E C Z X P S X P N S .
— V Z Y N X M C Q I P
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: TELEVISION HAS PROVED THAT PEOPLE WILL LOOK AT ANYTHING RATHER THAN EACH OTHER. — ANN LANDERS

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69 Misc.

WANTED: Responsible Party to take on small monthly pymts on High Definition Big Screen TV. 1-800-398-3970.

SEASONED Oak Firewood delivered and stacked \$175 cord, 779-3284, 662-6161.

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MILLER Bobcat 225NT Welder-8500 watt generator-50 ft. ground-100 ft. lead-like new. \$1950, 665-5883.

POOL Table-Sears. All accessories. 3 months old. \$180.00 Call 665-0007

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1016 Sirroco, 8 a.m.-? Sat. & Sun. Lots of kid's toys & clothes, lots of misc.

HOUSEHOLD, linens, up to size 18 clothing, furn. guns, Christmas & misc. Fri. 14, & Sat. 15, 8:30-5:30 2119 Christine.

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FREE Kittens & Momma Cat. Call 665-0201.

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\$100 all male! 665-2977 or 662-3159

TWO Chihuahua puppies
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95 Furn. Apts.

HOUSEHOLD, linens, up to size 18 clothing, furn. guns, Christmas & misc. Fri. 14, & Sat. 15, 8:30-5:30 2119 Christine.

COLE Addition, 3 br, garage, and carport remodeled bath, and other, new roof. Realtor 665-4180.

FSBO 3/1/1 c/h, large garage, Owner will Carry, 1337 Starkweather, 355-9088.

FSBO 4 bd., 3 1/2 ba., 3 car gar, 2 lvg, 2 WBFP, basement, dining, brkfst. Apprx. 3700 sq. ft. 669-2911 or 663-7604.

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412 Hughes- 2 bd, 2 bath, 1 car garage, low down payment, low monthly payment.

413 Pitts- 2 bd, 2 bath, 1 car garage.

Contact Milton
806-790-0827

WHITE Deer-701 Pop-ham, OWC, 3-2, large lot, \$1,000 down, \$320-5yrs, \$200-10 yrs, 848-2517, 662-8566

105 Acreage
5 acre tracts on paved road, 2 miles from Pampa. \$2500 per acre, financing available. Call 665-4842.

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

116 Mobile Homes
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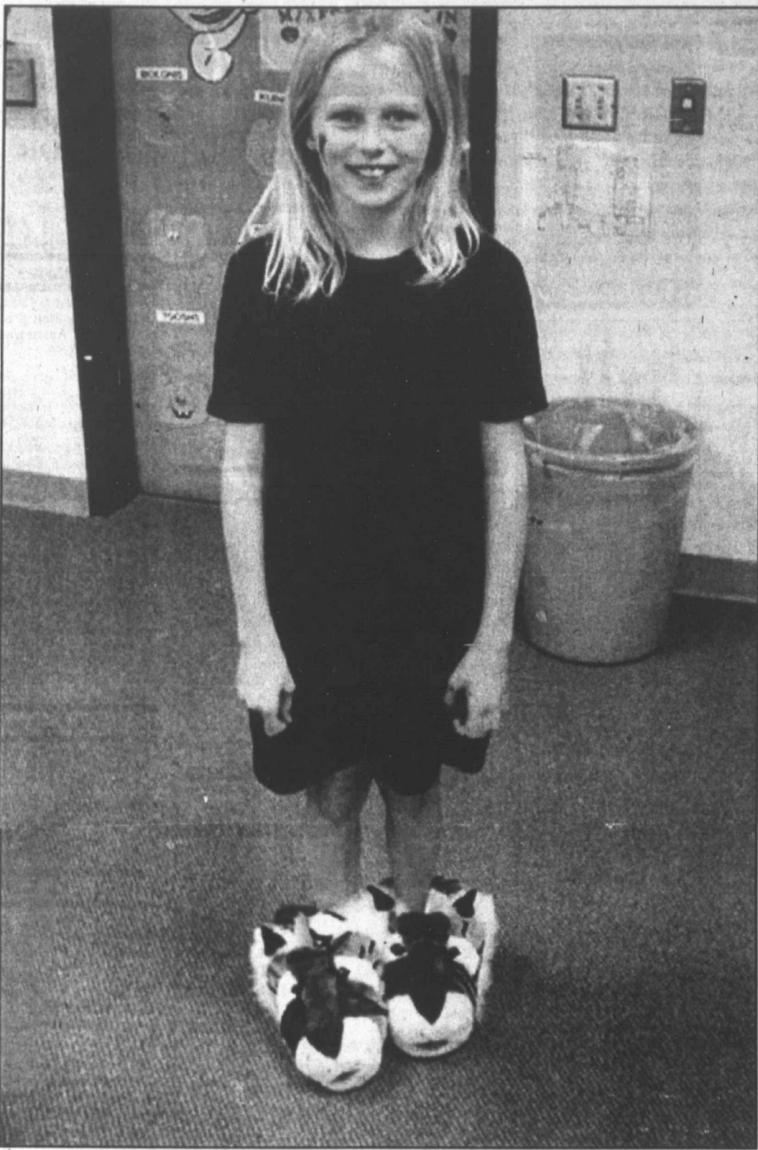
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1991 Plymouth Voyager Grand LE, good tires, rear defroster & heater Call 665-4866

1991 Jeep Cherokee 4x4 \$2500 or OBO
Call 665-7792

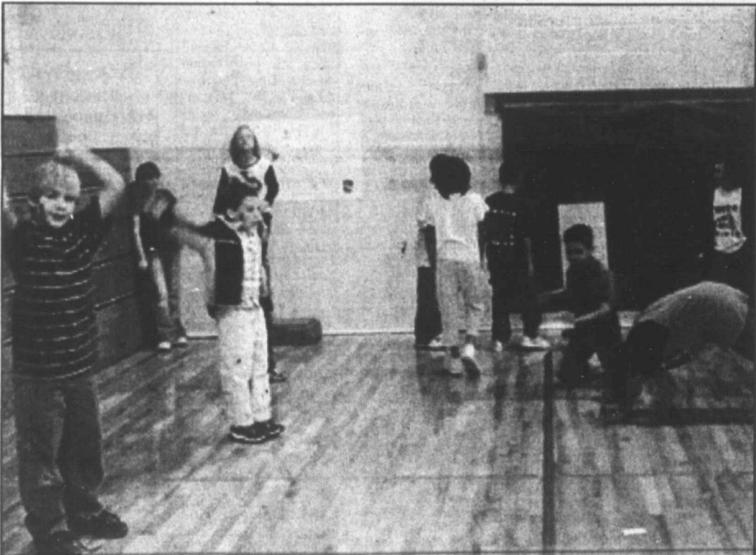
121 Trucks
82 Chevrolet Pickup for sale, Crate 350 engine, good work truck, \$2200. 6

'Giving drugs the slip'



(Courtesy photo)

Stephany Van Buskirk on "Give Drugs the Slip Day" at Travis Elementary during Red Ribbon Week recently.



(Courtesy photo)

Travis Elementary students participated in Fitness Center during Red Ribbon Week activities recently.

South Carolina community split over armed drug raid at school

By PAMELA HAMILTON
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

GOOSE CREEK, S.C. (AP)

— This small community just a few miles north of Charleston is split over whether police went too far last week when they conducted a high school drug sweep with their weapons drawn.

More than 100 Stratford High School students were ordered to crouch in a hallway, some restrained with plastic handcuffs, while 14 officers and a dog searched for drugs.

No drugs were found and no arrests were made.

Some parents are angry over the treatment of their children — captured on surveillance video and seen repeatedly on national television news programs. Others, including some students and the school principal, say the Nov. 5 sweep was necessary to combat a growing drug problem at the school.

The aggressiveness of the officers has brought scrutiny from several civil rights groups including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which says black students were targeted in the search. State police and other outside agencies have been asked to investigate.

"I personally think it went too far," said 17-year-old Jeff Carver, one of the students in the hallway while police searched book bags. "They didn't have to point guns and things."

Carver, who stood up during the raid after he heard a dog barking, was sent to the principal's office for disobeying orders and suspended for three days. A dozen students who police say disobeyed orders were restrained.

"I'm angry," parent Sharon Smalls said at a Berkeley County school board meeting Tuesday. "My child was slammed to the ground with a gun to his head. Someone has to take responsibility."

Stratford High School, nestled among trees near the end of a winding road lined with upscale homes, seems an unlikely place for drugs. The town of Goose Creek has 29,000 residents and a median family income of \$45,919 — well above the state median of \$37,082.

But two arrests for drug distribution have been made at the school so far this academic year. And while no drugs were found during the raid, a dog reacted to narcotics residue in some book bags.

Monique Gonzalez, a senior

at the school, says she saw students during the raid running from campus, dumping drugs along the way.

"There were kids throwing pills and things in the bushes. People were taking bags out and throwing them on the ground," said Gonzalez, who was at a shopping center less than 200 yards from the school during the raid.

Principal George McCrackin has said he asked police to come to the school to curb an "influx of drug activity."

"I think it was awesome," said Kristal Totolo, one of about 2,600 students who was not in the hallway during the raid. "I feel 10 times safer knowing that the principal cares about it. He's not letting it go."

Robin Stout says she is among the small group of parents who support the principal 100 percent. Stout believes drug use has increased at the school from the time her son graduated in 1997 to this year when her daughter began ninth grade.

"If I was going to place blame, it would have to be on the kids that have been bringing drugs to school," Stout said. "I wouldn't blame the school. I wouldn't blame the police department."

DRILLING INTENTIONS

Intentions to Drill

HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Peak Operating of Texas, L.L.C., #5053 Barker, 467' from North & 1410' from West line, Sec. 2, —, Camp County School Land, PD 14895'. Recompletion

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Patina Oil & Gas Corp., PD 1300', for the following wells:

#0814P Noah, 467' from South & 1650' from West line, Sec. 8,4,AB&M.

#5501P Pearson, 527' from North & 990' from East line, Sec. 55,M-1,H&GN.

WHEELER (S.W. BRISCOE Upper Morrow) Newfield Exploration Mid-Con., Inc., #202 Pannell, 2540' from South & 1050' from West line, Sec. 2, —, Camp County School Land, PD 14895'. Recompletion

WHEELER (WILDCAT & STILES RANCH Granite Wash) Bravo Natural Resources, Inc., #3069 Atherton, 467' from North & East line, Sec. 69,A-7,H&GN, PD 14000'.

WHEELER (WILDCAT & STILES RANCH Granite Wash) Newfield Exploration Mid-Con., Inc., #4 Britt Ranch 'D' 5, 1980' from South & 735' from East line, Sec. 5,2,B&B, PD 13640'.

WHEELER (WILDCAT & WHEELER PAN Hunton) Brigham Oil & Gas, L.P., #1 Eula Clay '30', 300' from North & 2340' from East line, Sec. 30,A-7,H&GN, PD 16500'.

Amended Intention to Drill

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & HEMPHILL Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star Ltd. Partnership, #5 Hobart '49', 2107' from

North & 247' from East line, Sec. 49,A-2,H&GN, PD 12500'. Amended to change well location — Rule 37

Oil Well Completions

ROBERTS (COURSON RANCH Upper Morrow) Range Production Co., #3-150 Courson Ranch S. PA-2, Sec. 150,C,G&M, spud 8-20-03, drlg. compl 9-3-03, tested 10-22-03, flowed 30 bbl. of 42 grav. oil + no water thru 4/64" choke on 24 hour test, GOR 7967, TD 9250', PBTD 9150' —

Gas Well Completions

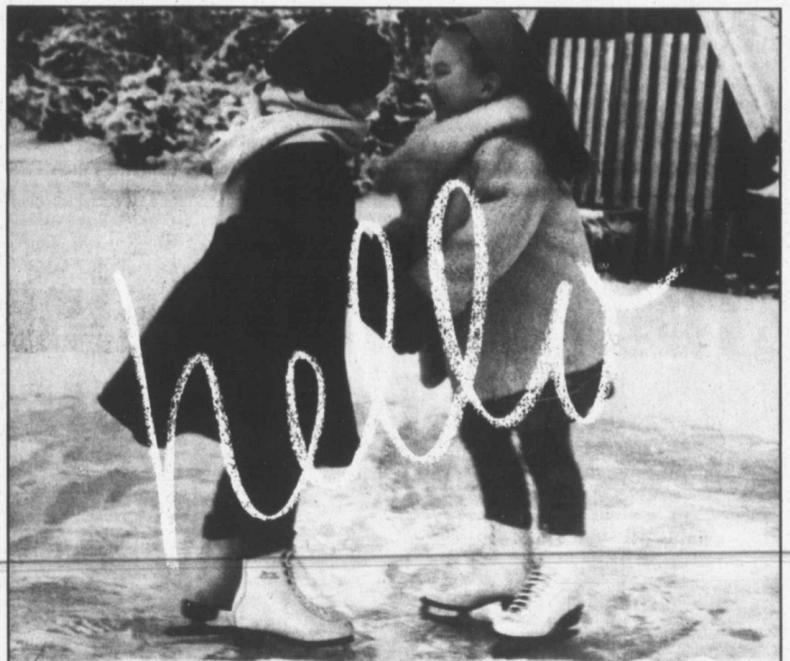
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Dominion Oklahoma Texas E&P, Inc., #4 Hemphill-Walser '11', Sec. 11,4,AB&M, spud 8-5-03, drlg. compl 8-17-03, tested 9-24-03, potential 2245 MCF, TD 11715', PBTD 11595' —

HEMPHILL (N.W. CANADIAN Douglas) Bracken Operating, L.L.C., #3091 Nix 'A', Sec. 91,42,H&TC, spud 8-19-03, drlg. compl 8-29-03, tested 10-14-03, TD 6930' —

WHEELER (ALLISON-BRITT 12350') Bravo Natural Resources, Inc., #2 Elmore '32', Sec. 32,RE,R&E, spud 7-14-03, drlg. compl 8-5-03, tested 9-3-03, potential 1206 MCF, TD 12770', PBTD 12750' —

WHEELER (STILES RANCH Atoka) Apache Corp., #1-A Stiles Ranch, Sec. 4,A-3,H&GN, spud 8-6-03, drlg. compl 8-30-03, tested 9-24-03, potential 122 MCF, TD 17235', PBTD 15750' Plug-Back

Wheeler (WEST-PARK Atoka) BP America Production Co., #103 Basin Royalty, Sec. 3,L, J.M. Lindsey, spud 6-6-03, drlg. compl 6-18-03, tested 8-27-03, TD 20358', PBTD 14485' — Plug-Back



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