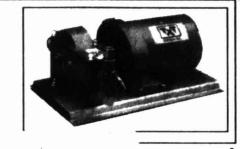
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vol. 99 No. 822 • Pampa, Texas 50 cents Daily • Sunday \$1

HIGH

Low 60

BRIEFS

Pampa High band plans Christmas concert

The annual Pampa High School Nona S. Payne Band Concert is scheduled at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18 at M.K. Brown Auditorium. The high school and jazz bands will be performing a number of Christmas

The bands are under the direction of Bruce Collins and Jason

Lenders sinking nation's soldiers into debt

FORT STEWART, Ga. (AP) -On Gen. Screven Way, the onemile strip of fast-food joints and pawn shops leading to the front gate of Fort Stewart, getting a cash loan of \$100 to \$500 is about as easy as buying a cheeseburger.

Numerous strip-mall business es bear names like Check Into CA\$H ("Need Cash Today? It's Easy as 1-2-3"). First American Cash Advance, Gold Check C.S. Payday Advance, and PJ Cash and Military ("Civilian Welcome")

retired administrator.

Inside								
Classific	20	d				•		.7
Comics								
Sports	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	.5

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Firefighters battle wind *and* fire

By David Bowser STAFF WRITER

The sky over the east side of Pampa was filled with gray, acrid smoke Tuesday as Pampa firefighters battled a house fire in the 1600 block of Dogwood Lane in

▶ Pampa firefighters change air packs while fighting a blaze at the Marty and Melissa Scott home at 16th and Dogwood **Tuesday as Fire Chief** Kim Powell, left, directs the efforts. The fire is currently under investigation, Fire Marshal Gary Stevens said earlier today. No one was injured in the conflagration, Fire Marshal Gary Stevens said.

winds.

Fire units were called to the home of Marty and Melissa Scott shortly after noon Tuesday

strong, bitter north after neighbors reported burst through the roof.

Fire officials said the blaze apparently spread throughout the attic of the house before flames

Firefighters raced

home in an effort to

past the Christmas tree of work on that house." in the livingroom and Jim Hollingswood, a tore at the ceiling of the neighbor across the two hours to bring the street, said of the Scotts.

Hollingswood said "They've done a lot his house had burned in

> It took firefighters blaze under control.



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Blackstone Capital makes offer for Celanese AG

By MARILYN POWERS STAFF WRITER

Blackstone Partners has offered to buy all outstanding shares of Celanese AG in a voluntary public offer of EUR (Euro dollars) 32.50 per share, or \$40.30 per share in U.S. dollars, according to Celanese AG's corporate center in Kronberg, Germany. Total value of the offer is EUR 3.1 U.S. dollars.

yesterday in response to the offer. Celanese AG's shares were selling at \$35.80 on Monday, at \$40.06 yesterday, cer of Celanese.

and at \$40.20 today. Quotes

The Celanese AG Board of Management supports the offer, as does Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, the largest shareholder, according to a press release from the chemical company.

We will continue on our path to growth and productivbillion, or \$3.84 billion in ity. We believe that Blackstone as a strong partner Share prices began rising will provide Celanese with financial strength to realize opportunities," said Claudio Sonder, chief executive offi-

Blackstone for the three days, provided by enthusiasm for the achieveing to the press release. As a financial investor, Blackstone indicated it will not assume

expressed management team.

Edward Jones Investments of ments of Celanese to date and board of management and I absence of a material adverse Capital Pampa, were as of 9.30 a.m. for the company's strategic have examined very carefully change with respect to and restructuring initiatives—the merits of this proposal for which are underway, accord- all stakeholders and we support it," Sonder said.

The proposed offer is subject to regulatory approvals operating responsibilities, but and other mostly customary will work with Celanese's conditions such as a minimum

acceptance of 85 percent of "My coileagues on the the outstanding shares and the

> accordance German takeover Blackstone has four weeks to prepare an offer document describing the details of the

(See CELANESE, Page 3)

Squirrel bites hand that tries to rescue it, official says stay clear of injured animals

By MARILYN POWERS STAFF WRITER

A Pampa woman was treat-

ed for an animal bite Tuesday when she tried to help an injured squirrel in the 500 block of Lefors Street.

Pampa Police Officer Keith Morris responded to a call concerning the incident. The woman had picked up the injured squirrel, which then bit her.

Animal control officers were called to remove the squirrel, which was shipped to Austin today for testing. The woman went to Pampa Regional Medical Center's emergency room for treatment of the bite.

"Our concern on any animal bite is potential exposure to rabies. We need to have the animal observed and examined, or euthanized and tested," said Monty Montgomery, Pampa animal control officer.

Any warm-blooded mammal has the potential to transmit rabies, Montgomery said. although certain mammals such as skunks are more apt to transmit rabies. Animals transmission, he said. that are sick or injured raise the risk factor for rabies

Montgomery recommends (See SQUIRREL, Page 2)



(Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers)

A squirrel pauses in a tree in the 1300 block of Christine this morning. A Pampa woman was bitten by an injured squirrel Tuesday when she picked it up.

City Commissioners vote to give Keeton 'key' to city

By David Bowser STAFF WRITER

December 27 will be

George Keeton Day in Pampa. It will also be George Keeton's 104th birthday.

Pampa Commission, in a special meeting Tuesday, unanimously approved a resolution designating Dec. 27. George Keeton Day and giving him a key to

had asked the commission at their Dec. 9 meeting to name a park after Keeton, Danner's grandfather.

Mayor Lonny Robbins, during Tuesday afternoon's special meeting, said the city had no policy on such actions, and he hesitated to name a park after a person without some

research into the idea. "We need to be careful

about naming something that has already been named," Robbins said. "We don't have a policy for that.

Initially, Robbins indicated that he would like to postpone the question until it could be researched.

Commissioner Faustina Curry said that she had already been approached by several people who wanted the city Monty Danner of Lubbock commission to name things after their relatives.

> Curry suggested planning a walk from Pioneer Cottage to Atchison Street and let people buy bricks with their names on them as a way of saluting friends and relatives. She noted that Pampa High School has such a program for alumni and

(See PARK, Page 3)



ON RECORD

POLICE

the following incidents and arrests.

Sunday, Dec. 14

Theft was reported at Movie Gallery, 1615 N. Hobart. A DVD movie valued at \$20 was taken.

Terry Gene Washington, 47, 1611 Christine, was arrested for interference with an emergency call.

Tuesday, Dec. 16

An animal bite was reported in the 500 block of North Lefors. The victim received treatment for a squirrel bite. (See story, page 1.) Disruption of class was reported at Pampa

Middle School, 2401 N. Charles. Theft under \$50 was reported in the 1500 ure to appear.

Today's forecast is calling for mostly sunny

skies, highs around 60 and west winds 5 to 15

mph. Tonight should fall on mostly clear skies

with lows in the upper 20s and north winds 10

to 15 mph. Thursday should see mostly sunny

skies. Highs in the lower 50s. North winds 15

to 20 mph. Thursday night, mostly clear. Lows

in the upper 20s. Northwest winds 5 to 10

mph. Friday, mostly sunny. Highs in the lower

60s. Southwest winds 5 to 15 mph. Friday

Pampa Police Department today reported block of North Hobart. The victim bought a gift card for \$25 from an individual. The card had never been activated and is believed to have been stolen from a place of business.

> Clifford Lee Brown, 22, and William H. Hatt. 20, both of 1334 Coffee #2, were arrested at United Supermarket, 1420 N. Hobart, for theft under \$50. Taken were three toy slingshots with a total estimated value of \$4.50.

Wednesday, Dec. 17

Luke William Pryor, 19, 1141 Juniper, was arrested on a Randall County motion to revoke concerning a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon, plus warrants for no insurance, no seat belt, no driver's license and two charges of fail-

night, partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s.

Saturday, partly cloudy. Highs in the upper

50s. Saturday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the

mid 30s. Sunday, mostly cloudy. Highs in the

lower 50s. Sunday night, mostly cloudy. A 20

percent chance of rain after midnight. Lows in

the mid 30s. Monday, mostly cloudy with a 20

percent chance of rain. Highs in the upper 40s.

Monday night, partly cloudy. Lows around 30.

Tuesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s.

Tonight, the deep south will like-slight chances of precipitation

Early next week, a front will

Tuesday's temperatures

ranged from 78 degrees at

Corpus Christi to an overnight

low of 10 at Marfa. No rain was

The West Texas forecast

skies today through Saturday.

through Saturday, except for

some 40-degree days in the

northern Panhandle. Overnight

lows will be in the teens and 20s

in the north, and lower 30s in the

south. On Sunday it will be

colder in the Panhandle, with

The rest of the region will

Monday: highs in the 40s and

50s. A slight chance of snow is

forecast in the Panhandle

Sunday night and Monday, oth-

erwise no precipitation is

South Texas will be sunny

today, a little cloudier for the rest

of the week. Highs will be in the

60s today. It will warm into the

70s as the week progresses

except in Southeast Texas,

which will remain in the 60s.

expected in West Texas.

reported in Texas cities.

bring cooler temperatures and

FIRE

received the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Tuesday, Dec. 16

Pampa Fire Department and 14 firefighters responded to the 1600 block of Dogwood Lane on a structure fire. Fire officials said the fire is still under investi-12:04 p.m. - Eight units gation and could not com-

ment further at this time.

5:44 p.m. – One unit and three firefighters responded to a motor vehicle accident at Kentucky and Price Road. No injuries were reported.

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

AMBULANCE

Tuesday, Dec. 16

7:55 a.m. – A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of South Dwight and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center 10:20 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to Baptist-St Anthony's West, Amarillo.

12:08 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 1600 block of Dogwood on a fire stand-

5:43 p.m. – A mobile ICU responded to Price and Kentucky. No transport.

9:24 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of North Wells and transported a patient to PRMC.

Wednesday, Dec. 17

2:47 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to PRMC. No patient.

Soybean The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are fur-Celanese Cabot Corp. Cabot Oil Gas ... 29.51 .50.64 -0.04 Coca Cola .43.89 .25.21 -0.21 +0.07

STOCKS

CORRECTION

New York Gold

West Texas Crude

In an article that ran on the front page Monday, a fire which destroyed a home at Williston and Randy Matson occurred at approximately 9:30 p.m. Sunday.

OBITUARIES

SERVICES TOMORROW

LEDBETTER, W.M. "Bill" — 2 p.m., First United Methodist Church, Pampa.

W.M. 'BILL' LEDBETTER

1912-2003

W.M. "Bill" Ledbetter, 91, of Pampa, died Fellowship Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2003. Services will be at 2 Class. p.m. Thursday in First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Scott Penrod, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Born Jan. 3, 1912, at Dallas, Mr. Ledbetter was a 1930 graduate of Oak Cliff High School in Dallas and held a bachelor of science degree from Southern Methodist University (1934). He married Elaine Walker on June 26, 1942, at Tonkawa, Okla.; she died May 8, 2002.

He coached football, taught math and science at high schools in Milford, Canon, St. Jo, Texas, and Blackwell, Okla., and was a high school football and basketball official.

He worked for Skelly Oil from 1942 until retiring as personnel administrator in 1977.

He was active in First United Methodist Church, serving as chairman of the finance committee, the house and grounds committee for 16 years, and the administrative board. For several years, he belonged to WinSome Sunday School Class and was a member of Men's

He held membership

and was past president of Pampa Rotary Club and Knife and Fork Club. He volunteered with Meals

Wheels and organized Skel-Tex Credit Union. Survivors include a cousin, Leonard Sullivan of Waxahachie; and his caregivers,

Maria Vasquez, Emma Trejo and Kelly Collins,

all of Pampa. The family requests memorials be to Pampa Meals on Wheels, P.O. Box 939, Pampa, TX 79066-0930; or to WinSome-Fellowship Sunday School Class in care of First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 1981, Pampa, TX 79066-1981.

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

City Briefs

the 60s. Highs will be in the 50s in — ly see freezing temperatures in the — over the state.

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement calls for clear to partly cloudy

AVAIL. SOON 107 N. Cuyler (tormerly Fototime). Sat. 13th & 20th, 9-2 p.m. for Highs will be in the 50s and 60s

By The Associated Press

The state will see seasonable

temperatures for the rest of the

week, with daytime highs mostly in

CHRISTMAS Dance, Fri. Dec. 19th, 7 p.m.,

CHRISTMAS

EARLY ADVERTISING

ad in Thurs. Dec.18th paper!

Pampa Senior Citizens Ctr.

vour choice \$20, 717 N. Hobart. Hurry-going fast!!

quality Thai food. 665-4561.

Deadlines for the Pampa News, for the week of Christmas!! 669-2525. See display

Need more space or better lo- packing & shipping needs. cation? Ray Duncan 669-3333 New shipment of silver jewelry! New location-1320 N. Banks. See our ad in the Feist.

PACK-N-MAIL

STATEWIDE

will see some 40-degree days.

Thursday. The northern Panhandle

some northern areas especially on north and west.

THAI-D RESTAURANT highs in the 40s across the (next to Hastings), enjoy our daily buffet! Seafood dinner see colder temperatures on

buffet. Serving fresh high

X-MAS DECORATIONS Installed, Daniel, 665-4219

Episcopal bishops organizing rival 'network' Salina, Kan.; and Albuquerque, The proposed platform says

PITTSBURGH (AP) Thirteen bishops have agreed to N.M. form a network of dioceses and congregations that disapprove of the Episcopal Church's consecration of an openly gay bishop.

Pittsburgh Bishop Robert W. Duncan will be the moderator of the new Network of Anglican Communion Dioceses and Parishes, which he said is not breaking with the Episcopal Church, the U.S. branch of the global Anglican Communion.

Dioceses joining the network are Duncan's see in Pittsburgh and those based in Albany, N.Y.; Fresno, Calif.; Charleston, S.C.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Orlando, Fla.; Parrish, Fla.; Dallas; Fort Worth; Peoria, Ill.; Springfield, Ill.:

The purposes of the network is "to tell the truth to America that the Episcopal Church is telling a lie with the things they approved this summer," Duncan told The Associated Press Wednesday.

Bishops, clergy and lay delegates from the dioceses will hold a constituting convention in Plano, Texas, Jan. 19-20 to approve an organizational "charter" and a theological plat-

The 15-point draft platform, posted on the network's new Web site Wednesday, says progay actions by the Episcopal Church and the Vancouver diocese of the Anglican Church of Canada have "torn the fabric" of worldwide Anglican Communion and violated trust with other branches Christianity.

adherents oppose all actions of Episcopal conventions, bishops and priests that contradict "the church's commonly accepted scriptural teaching on marriage."

Conservative Episcopal leaders have debated various ways to protest the national church's leadership following the consecration of the Rev. V. Gene Robinson as the church's first openly gay bishop.

Another point of contention is the church's vote to recognize though not endorse — the fact that some bishops are allowing same-sex blessing ceremonies.

"The Episcopal Church, in approving same-sex blessings and the consecration of the new bishop of New Hampshire, is saying God approves of this. God doesn't approve of this and that's a huge lie," Duncan said.

DEAN'S PHARMACY





Jim Pepper

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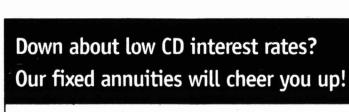
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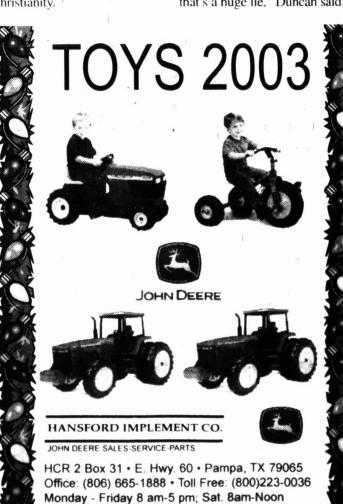
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Club recently out one law ment officer

firefighter to for the year Highway Par David O'Bric named "Outstanding Enforcement of the Year" a Roberts "Outs Firefighter Year.'

According news release t Kiwanis, O'Br viously works **Gray County 5** Office for fiv prior to joini Highway where he con \$48,990 in money, 732 of marijuana, ered five stole cles and ma arrests, all in 2

O'Brien ser field training his Daimon Jones

offer to Following re German regula intends to pu document and der offer.

In accor German take Celanese boar ment and sup will express opinions to sha they have rece ined the offer board of ma

the Freedom M a similar progra "That would to do something

Curry sugges Dec. 27 George giving him the k "I think a Day with a pro

good idea," she She also sug ing a long term situations after tion about renar

The commiss ered changing t Hobart Stree Hobart/Keeton

Commission Dixon noted th not named for T.D. Hobart, 1 Street, which T.D. Hobart.



Pampa Kiwanis said of him, "There is Club recently singled out one law enforcement officer and one firefighter to honor for the year 2003. Highway Patrolman David O'Brien was Kiwanis "Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer ed into the communiof the Year" and Tim ty. After I was mar-Roberts "Outstanding ried and our child Firefighter of the came, he helped out

news release from the Kiwanis, O'Brien previously worked with Gray County Sheriff's Office for five years prior to joining the Highway Patrol where he confiscated \$48,990 in drug money, 732-pounds of marijuana, recovered five stolen vehicles and made 24 arrests, all in 2003.

field training officer for his partner. Daimon Jones, who

no limit to his giving. Four years ago I came here as a single officer. He included me in his family get togethers, fed me many meals and helped me be acceptwhen my wife was ill. According to a He is an outstanding person and an outstanding law enforcement officer."

> O'Brien and wife Valerie have a daughter, Kaitlyn, and a son, David, Jr. Mrs. O'Brien is employed part-time at North Gate Inn as well as with Justice of the Peace Joe Martinez.

O'Brien was chosen for the honor O'Brien served as from within his department.

Tim Roberts, an

equipment operator for Pampa Fire Department, currently oversees the First Safety House Program for Pampa. A Pampa firefighter since 1998, Roberts educates kids on fire safety and how to

Prevention Week, Roberts uses something called a recently went through borrowed from the City of Canyon, to bring his message home to school chilrespond in case of a

Each year during living room kitchen area. "Å little

Fire Safety House, the Fire Safety House and a week later was credited with saving her grandfather's life because of what she dren. The "house" is had learned (from actually a trailer con- Roberts presentation). sisting of a bedroom, An ounce of prevention was worth more School. than several pounds of cure," said John Warner, the Kiwanian who made the presen-

Tim and wife Angela have two children, Michael and Kenzie. Mrs. Roberts teaches at Stephen F. Austin Elementary

serves as deacon at Calvary Baptist Church.

"He is an outgoing, helpful person," said Deputy Chief Randy Dunham. "He has a very friendly personality. He helps with a lot of the 'in house' projects we do on

Roberts maintenance of our trucks. This last year his captain was off with health problems. Tim stepped up to the captain's position for quite awhile and did a great job."

> Roberts was chosen for the honor by members of Pampa Fire Department.



(Courtesy photo)

(Left-right) Lynn Allison, president of the local Kiwanis Club, hands a plaque to Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer of the Year David O'Brien while Kiwanian John Warner looks on.



(Courtesy photo)

Outstanding Firefighter of the Year, Tim Roberts, center, receives a plaque from Lynn Allison, left, president of Pampa Kiwanis Club, while Kiwanian John Warner looks

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

CELANESE

to shareholders. Following review by a German regulator, Blackstone intends to publish the offer document and launch the tender offer.

accordance with German takeover law, the Celanese board of management and supervisory board will express their reasoned opinions to shareholders once they have received and examined the offer document. The board of management can Corporation, the largest

make only preliminary comments on the proposed offer at this time, according to the press release.

As of Sept. 30, Celanese had 49.32 million shares outstanding excluding the dilutive effect of stock options, of which approximately 55 percent are held by institutional investors, 10 percent by retail investors and six percent by employees and retirees. Kuwait Petroleum shareholder with approximately 29 percent of outstanding shares, has said that it will accept the offer and

CONT. FROM PG ONE

SOUIRREL

keeping some distance away touching it or picking it up.

or the police immediately

The injured squirrel should tomorrow for testing, which is being done as a precautionary measure, Montgomery said. Testing should be completed no later than 5 p.m. Friday, and the woman and her doctor will be notified of the results, he

chemicals company with five main businesses: Acetyl Chemical Intermediates. Acetate Products, Technical Polymers Ticona and Performance Products. The company has 24 production plants and six research centers in 10 countries, mainly in North America, Europe and Asia. Further information is available on the company's web-

The Blackstone Group is a global investment firm founded in 1985 and headquartered

site, www.celanese.com.

Celanese AG is a global in New York. Blackstone's human resources manager of policy is to only pursue transactions that are fully supportget company.

that they've expressed confidence in our management," said Dawn Clendening,

Pampa's Celanese plant, this morning in response to the ed by management of the tar- offer by Blackstone. She said no information was available "I think it's pretty positive yet on any impact the acquisition of shares by Blackstone would have on the Pampa



John Mann Lawver

115 W. Foster "Across From The Coney" 806-665-2555

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

PARK

the Freedom Museum USA has a similar program for veterans.

"That would be a good way to do something," Curry said. Curry suggested designating

giving him the keys to the city. "I think a George Keeton

Dec. 27 George Keeton Day and

Day with a proclamation is a good idea," she said. She also suggested develop-

ing a long term policy for such situations after Robbins hesitation about renaming a park.

The commission had considered changing the name of the Hobart Street Park to Hobart/Keeton Park.

Commissioner Robert Dixon noted that the park was not named for Pampa pioneer T.D. Hobart, but for Hobart Street, which was named for T.D. Hobart.

Dixon suggested that the city change the name of Central

"I've talked to many people about this," Dixon said. "Not one is opposed to naming a park after him."

"I don't think we need to be naming any park until we get more information." Commissioner McCormick.

Dixon, questioning a delay, said it was something that the family had wanted and said that Keeton was not in good health.

"It's a milestone when someone reaches 100-years-old," Dixon said. "I think we should

In the end, the commission opted for designating Dec. 27, George Keeton Day and giving him a key to the city.

PET OF THE WEEK

Lady... This gray female

adult cat needs a home.

She's sweet and curious.

Call or come by today.

Products, tender its shares.

from any animal that appears to be sick or injured, and not "Leave it alone and call us

because of the potential of being exposed needlessly to rabies or other dangers," he said. Sick or injured animals are more likely to bite, he said.

YOU SHOULD KNOW BY NOW THAT SANTA DOESN'T WRITE BACK



Dec. 17 8 shopping days to Christmas

Limited Time Offer - Public Notice To All Residents of Gray County, Texas

You May Qualify For A Free Burial Space!

Memory Gardens Cemetery and Mausoleum 23rd & Price Road ~ Pampa, Texas

Since talking about cemetery property is not the most popular subject in the home today, we would like to give families in our area, who do not already own cemetery property, one complimentary grave space in one of our finest gardens.

We feel that it is better to discuss this subject at a time when you do

not need it rather than at a time of death. This way there are no mistakes to be made and the entire family will know exactly what your wishes are!

There is absolutely no obligation and you are not required to purchase anything in order to receive this valuable burial space and information. This program is designed to establish good will in the community it services and to help build additional heritage for our cemetery.

If you would like to receive the above information, all you need to do is simply fill out the coupon below and mail it back to us.

Join the thousands of families who already own in one of the nicest, best kept cemeteries in the State of Texas.

Mail the below postage paid card today or call 806-665-8921.

Without cost or obligation I would like to receive information on the following:

- One Complimentary Burial Space
- ☐ Side By Side Burial Spaces
- ☐ Above Ground Mausoleum
- □ Free Veterans Space
- I already own cemetery property elsewhere and would like information on transfers
- Free Family Record Guide
- □ Information On Cremation
- Complimentary Legal Will Kit

Married Yes

Mail to Memory Gardens Cemetery of Pampa, PO Box 1972, Pampa, TX 79066-1972 Name Address State City

Phone No Veteran Yes____ Age_

The COLD is Here... Please Protect Your **Animals From The Cold North Wind** For information about these pets or any other contact the Animal Shelter at 669-5775 or come by their location at Hobart Street Park. NEW HOURS Monday-Friday 9-6, Office Open To The Public 5-6 p.m., Closed Weekends & Holidays **Sponsored By The Pampa News** Lost Your Pet? Call the Animal Shelter first! Leave a detailed message with your phone number

Public comment period open on watercraft rule

FRITCH — Lake Meredith National Recreation Area has published in the Federal Register a proposed rule concerning the continued use of personal watercraft within the recreation area. The proposed rule was based on the preferred alternative in the Draft Environmental Assessment, which was released to the public in March.

The proposal for continued personal watercraft use is as fol-

-Establish the following back covers on the lake as nowake zones: North Turkey, Bugbee Canyon, North Canyon, South Canyon, Sexy Canyon, Amphitheater Cove, coves between day markers 9 and 11, Fritch Canyon and Short Creek (plus Evans Canyon and Canal Canyon should the water level ever rise to a certain height.)

—Enhance PWC user education through interpretive talks, onsite bulletins and brochures for PWC registrants and visitors who rent PWC; educate PWC users about the advantages of using watercraft with cleaner-burning engines.

-Prohibit PWC fueling on the lake except at the marina fuel dock, with an attendant providing the fuel service.

-Permit PWC fueling by operators onshore and out of the water.

-Prohibit carrying of extra fuel on PWC.

-Continue to monitor water quality tests on Lake Meredith, available from other agencies.

Individual parks are required to determine whether personal watercraft use is appropriate based on an evaluation of that area's enabling legislation, resources and values, other visitor uses, overall management objectives, while being consistent with National Park Services criteria for management.

Two other alternatives were presented in the draft EA including a no personal watercraft alternative. The alternatives may be reviewed and considered and comments submitted on the proposed rule by logging on to www.npa.gov/lamr on the Internet, clicking on management docs then clicking on Economic Analysis on PWC's.

The comments submitted by the public on the draft EA have

both documents will be incorporated into the final rule making.

The comment period is open for 60 days. The proposal was published in the Federal Register Dec. 12. If you wish to see Federal Register publication, http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/the_federal_register/indexes.html on-line.

Submit your written comments by mail to: Superintendent, Fritch.

not been incorporated into the proposed rule. Comments on Lake Meredith National Recreation Area, PO Box 1460, Fritch, TX 79036, Fax: (806) mail:LAMR_Superintendent@nps.gov. If you comment by email include "PWC rule" in the subject line and your name and return address in the body of your Internet message. Also, you may hand deliver comments to the Superintendent, Lake Meredith National Recreation Area, 419 East Broadway,

blessing proposed NYSE overhaul

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal regutial conflicts of interest, the principle by lators are giving their blessing to a proposed overhaul of the New York Stock Exchange while urging further governance changes in the future as the exchange emerges from a scandal prompted by its former chairman's lavish pay.

The Securities and Exchange Commission was voting Wednesday to approve the plan proposed by the NYSE's interim chairman, John Reed, and endorsed last month by 98 percent of the exchange's members. The plan would establish a smaller and more independent board of directors to oversee regulation of the nation's largest stock exchange and appointment of a chief regulatory officer.

A lawsuit alleging fraudulent trading, filed against the NYSE by the biggest U.S. pension fund and announced Tuesday, may have been at least partly intended to grab the SEC commissioners' attention as they prepared to vote on the proposal.

SEC approval is required for the plan to go forward. Commission Chairman William Donaldson, who headed the NYSE in the early 1990s, has called the proposal a "substantial and critical first step toward revamping its governance structure."

Despite lapses — notably trading abuses now under investigation - and poten-

which the NYSE polices itself is sound and should be maintained, Donaldson has said. He has rejected the notion that the SEC or another independent body should assume direct regulatory oversight of the

Officials of the biggest U.S. pension funds, controlling hundreds of billions of dollars in nine states, have insisted that the proposed reforms are insufficient to restore investors' trust shattered by revelations this summer of the \$188 million pay package of then-chairman Dick Grasso. He was ousted in September.

Several lawmakers have questioned the adequacy of the NYSE proposal, noting that the board members supervising the exchange's regulation would be up for election annually by the member firms being regulated.

"The SEC is falling short," Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C., a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, said Tuesday. Strict separation between the exchange's regulation and commercial operations is needed, he said.

The largest pension fund, the \$154 billion California Public Employees Retirement System, announced Tuesday it is filing a class-action lawsuit against the NYSE and seven trading firms, alleging

that fraudulent practices cost it millions of dollars in recent years. The pension fund is seeking an unspecified amount of money, but fund officials said it could add up to hundreds of millions of dollars if other parties join the suit.

Law professor John Coffee, director of Columbia University's Center on Corporate Governance, suggested that the timing of news of the CalPERS suit, a day before the SEC's vote on the exchange's reform plan, had been no coincidence.

"I read this complaint as much more a political act to implement a political strategy than litigation," Coffee said Tuesday. "I think CalPERS wanted to make it very clear to the SEC that they would be coming in for criticism if they approve modest reforms" for the exchange.

The suit names seven specialist trading firms that CalPERS says defrauded the fund, which has \$60 billion invested on Wall Street. Specialist firms make a market in stocks assigned to them by matching buyers and sellers on the NYSE trading

The exchange has said it is examining nearly 1 million trades over a three-year period and has found substantial evidence that specialists may have improperly intervened in transactions.

The SEC also is investigating.

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advance.

Organizers gearing up for another musical performance

CANADIAN - Prairie music as did several hun- his wife and two children, Rivers Musical will present its, Holiday Season show at 7:30 p.m., on Dec. 20 at Middle School Auditorium, 404 S. 6th

"We have been in regular contact with the North another appearance at the show," reported Jay Godwin, a founder of Prairie Rivers Musical. "He was here last year and dreds of regular folks!"

Regular performers who are presently committed include Scott Campbell, Frankie McWhorter, Mary Lynn Schafer, Ridgway, Hank & Venita Mcpherson, Wayne Wright, Pole, and, SANTA CLAUS George Briant, and Jay songs will be featured for has promised he will make Godwin. Guests who are the first half and Jolly St. presently committed include Dale Jenkins and daughter Kayla.

> David Jenkins, fiddle player from Leedy, Okla.,

all of whom play fiddle!

"If things work out, we may have as many as seven or eight fiddle players at one time, at least for a couple of tunes," Godwin said. "It promises to be a really good show. Christmas Nick is expected to arrive just before the intermission to visit with all the children."

There is no admission

features theatre type seating in an alcohol and smoke free environment. Coffee, hot chocolate, soft drinks, and cookies will be available at the intermission.

Godwin reminds everyone to come and enjoy an evening full of LIVE classic country, western swing, honky-tonk, gospel, and traditional Christmas music. "We promise you a great atmosphere and good music!" he exclaimed.

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apparently enjoyed the is returning, possibly with charge and the Auditorium (806) 323-6213. Exernthing for the Cowhon, Commind a Combined Combined on the Carol Stribling COMPLETE AUCTION SERVICE **ESTATES** • LIQUIDATIONS **We Hold Auctions Anywhere - Anytime** BONDED & LICENSED FOR YOUR PROTECTION THE PAMPA NEWS 1504 N. Hobart 806-665-2925 LYNDON LOYD AUCTIONEERS **BULLETIN BOARD** WHEELER, TEXAS 806-256-5850 onsuelos Cellular Innovations. Sp. Citizen Discou STACY HINKLE CELLULAROUSE Take-Out (806) 665-6105 2217 Perryton Parkway Pampa, Texas 79065 (806) 665-0370 Cell: (806) 662-0029 2218 N. Hobart Pampa, TX 79065 Culliga 806-779-2485 800-873-4842 A PROUD PAST WITH A SOLID FUTURE ALLISON AGENCY TIM, FATHEREE HELEN ALLISON TYLER ALLISON Home Health REPRESENTING LOCAL CHAPTER #262 603 N. Grove St. www.topotexaswater.com P. O. Box 47 McLean, Texas 79057 623 W. FOSTER LYNN SWANSON, RN PAMPA, TEXAS 79065 ADMINISTRATOR DIRECTOR OF NURSING PROPERTY • CASUALTY • LIFE INSURANCE

FOOTB

NEW Coach Jir fired by Giants at t pointing s ball sou Associate Wednesda The sor

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FI 1993: C three-run Pampa past in high action. Winning

Danny Frye

SPORTS

FOOTBALL

NEW YORK (AP) -Coach Jim Fassel will be fired by the New York Giants at the end of a disappointing season, two football sources told The Press Associated Wednesday.

The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Fassel would coach the team's remaining two games. A Super Bowl team three seasons ago and expected to contend again, the Giants (4-10) have lost six straight games to drop to last place in the NFC East.

BASKETBALL

SAN ANTONIO (AP)

 San Antonio Spurs coach Gregg Popovich signed a contract extension through the 2007-08 sea-

Popovich, who is also the team's general manager, has led the Spurs to a pair of NBA championships during his seven years as coach, including last season's victory over the New Jersey Nets.

Popovich has a career record of 355-195.

BASEBALL

SAN ANTONIO (AP)

A Bexar County official said Tuesday he has been talking to investors about trying to bring the Montreal Expos to San Antonio, but said he thinks it is "highly unlikely" that it will

Nelson Wolff, the chief elected official in Bexar County, said the only way the plan could work is in a shared agreement with Monterrey, Mexico, or some other city. Under such a plan, the National League team would play some of its games in Monterrey and some in San Antonio.

Flashback

1993: Chris Poole hit a three-run homer to lift Pampa past River Road 8-5 in high school baseball action.

Winning pitcher was Danny Frye.

Pampa has weekend games with Herd, Clovis

PAMPA — Pampa gets the ago. District 3-4A basketball season under way Friday night with Hereford coming to McNeely Fieldhouse.

Hereford is in a rebuilding stage this season with only one starter (senior forward Seth Hoelscher) returning for coach Clint Coley. The Whitefaces will be among only a handful of teams that will be shorter than the Harvesters. Senior forward LaMark Williams at six-foot is listed as their tallest player.

Hereford has a 6-7 record and posted a big win Monday, defeating Class 5A Lubbock Monterey 53-49. Whitefaces had 22 points from 5-10 guard Danny Garcia, who was a parttime starter a year was entered in The Gene

The Harvesters beat Dimmitt on Friday to snap a four-game losing streak. Pampa got 22 points from Andy Rodgers while Brittin East had 18 and Jed Martin 10.

Although Hereford is the district opener, PHS head coach Jeff Reed may be more excited about the Saturday night meeting with Clovis, N.M. in McNeely Fieldhouse. Clovis is where Reed grew up.

"This will be the first time I've coached against my hometown. I'm real nervous about it, but I'm also looking forward to the game," Reed

Earlier this month, Pampa

New PHS head wrestling coach Josh Cadenhead watches intently in a

recent match at McNeely Fieldhouse. Pampa hosts Dumas in a dual at 7

Thursday night. Cadenhead, who graduated from Hardin-Simmons

7th B - lost to Clovis

Tournament stats: Alex

Tabby Courter - 6 pts

Emily Watson - 4 pts.

Kamy Miller - 3 pts.

Katelin Wall, Teysha Parker &

Victoria Campbell - 2 pts.

Week's Top Scores

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Nichols, who has a 108 average.

Marshall - 12-29 lost to

Borger - 16-26 in the 2nd

University in 2002, is a Vernon native

7th grade girls basketball tour-

nament held in Canyon this

past weekend are as follows:

Marshall - 22-54

the 2nd round

7th A - lost to Clovis

lost to Borger - 42-58 in

Tournament stats: Holly

Winegeart & Lauren Smith -

Kamie Doughty, Jessica Miner

& Libby Dyson - 7 pts. Each

Kelby Doughty - 5 pts.

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pts.

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Each

Bowling

Coney Island

Harvester Lanes

pt. each

Messer Tournament of Champions, which was won by Clovis. The Wildcats, unbeaten at 5-0 going into the tournament, downed Amarillo High 59-55 in the finals.

Clovis, ranked in the top 10 in New Mexico, is led by Pinckney Domenique Easterlin. Pinckney was named the Most Valuable Player in the Tournament of Champions and Easterlin was high scorer with 15 points against the Sandies.

"Anybody who can beat Amarillo High has got to be pretty good," coach Reed said. "I believe they're still unbeat-

Gametime for the Pampa-Clovis boys is 7:30.

(Pampa News photo by Ben Briscoe)

Pampa girls will be trying to break into the District 3-4A win column against Hereford. The Lady Whitefaces

dropped their district opener to Palo Duro 45-33. Carlie Henson, a 6-0 senior, is Hereford's top returning

Henson had 12 points in the loss to Palo Duro. Kali Gerber (5-11 senior) is another standout player.

The Lady Harvesters are looking to rebound after two district losses to Randall (53-36) and Plainview (52-38).

Pampa had a good outing against Plainview, the No. 1 ranked team in Class 4A, and a three-time defending state champion.

Pampa jumped to a 6-0 lead and trailed by only a field goal at the end of the first quarter. Pampa went on another 6-0 run in the third quarter, but couldn't overcome a 28-10 halftime deficit. Senior guard Abbi Covalt was Pampa's top scorer with 13 points.

The Lady Harvesters stayed close for three quarters against Randall in their district opener. Senior guard Stacey Johnson had 18 points to lead

Pampa and Clovis girls tip off at 6 Saturday night.

The Lady Wildcats beat No. 13th-ranked Frenship 61-47 on Dec. 15. Aimee Hilburn, a sophomore, has been one of the Clovis standouts. She had 15 points against Frenship.

Benson undecided on future

AUSTIN (AP) - Texas tailback Cedric Benson said he's still undecided about whether to leave for the NFL after this season but hinted Tuesday that he's seriously considering staying with the Longhorns for his senior year.

Benson told reporters after practice he believes he could be drafted late in the first round, but recognizes that another good season in college could improve his draft status and his potential contract.

"The way things are rolling right now, keep them rolling next season, you've got a chance to increase your money by another six million," dollars he said. "What would you

Asked if he was saying he was staying at Texas, Benson said, "It was kind of a hint, huh? I don't know. Things could change."

The fifth-ranked Longhorns (10-2) play Washington State (9-3) Dec. 30 in the Holiday Bowl in San Diego.

Benson said a chance to win a national title next season could inspire him to

"That would be the neatest thing," he said.

Benson rushed for 1,277 yards and 20 touchdowns during the regular season. He's the third Longhorns back to post three 1,000-yard seasons in a career.

Benson, who said he's been "50-50" on what to do, said he's trying to keep his decision from becoming a distraction during bowl preparations.





Joe Harper

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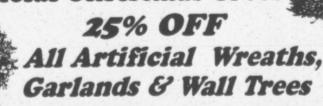
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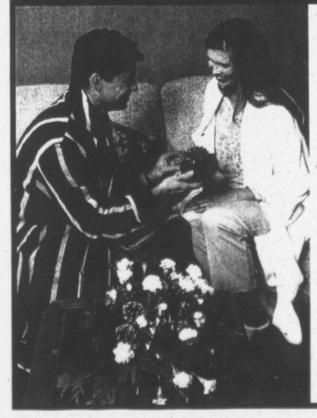
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Red Sox, A-Rod meet with union

BOSTON (AP) — The if there was a renegotiation of much-discussed, long-awaited the record \$252 million, 10trade that would send AL MVP Alex Rodriguez to Boston is moving closer to fruition.

Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein and the Texas Rangers shortstop met with an official from the baseball player's union Tuesday to discuss the blockbuster deal, and Rodriguez's agent, Scott Boras, was planning to join them Wednesday for more talks.

"They're moving and plodding along," Boras said before heading to New York.

Gene Orza, the union's No. 2 official, confirmed that a meeting took place but wouldn't comment on its substance. The union would get involved

year contract Rodriguez signed three years ago; any change would have to add some benefit for the player, according to baseball's labor contract.

The Rangers and Red Sox owners have been discussing a swap of Rodriguez for Red Sox outfielder Manny Ramirez, the sport's only \$20 million men. Talks have bogged down over the sheer magnitude of the money involved - more than \$300 million remaining on the contracts. including deferred money - and the Rangers' demand that Boston pay a big chunk of Ramirez's salary in addition to more than \$179 million due Rodriguez.

"At this time, negotiations are at a sensitive point," Texas owner Tom Hicks said in a statement. "Due to this fact, we will have no further comment on this situation today."

Boston has balked at paying part of Ramirez's salary. Even without it, the Rangers would already save about \$81 million in the deal. Talk has recently, focused on whether the Red Sox would include another player in lieu of cash.

Epstein declined to comment on the negotiations, and president Larry Lucchino has said the team was going into "radio silence" on the talks until they conclude, one way or the

turn to injured McNair Titans may

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - The Tennessee Titans hoped to rest banged-up quarterback Steve McNair this week.

Billy Volek's lacerated spleen put an end to those plans.

McNair is nursing an injured ankle and right calf, but because Tennessee has yet to secure a playoff spot, he might be called upon against the Houston Texans on Sunday.

That's because Volek, a little-known backup, is out for the season after being hurt Sunday while leading the Titans to a 28-26 victory over the Buffalo Bills.

That leaves rookie Jason Gesser, signed as an undrafted free agent, as the only healthy option. Gesser has yet

said it was too early Tuesday to say if McNair would start Sunday. But he said his star quarterback was willing, if not altogether healthy.

"The fact of the matter is Steve was ready last week, and he was wanting to play,"

McNair received three hours of treatment Tuesday and was no longer wearing a protective boot on his left

Meanwhile, the Titans were negotiating with former backup quarterback Neil O'Donnell, a 13-year veteran who was cut after training camp but still has a home in Nashville. Fisher said O'Donnell was flying to Nashville on Tuesday to try to work out a contract.

"He's very interested in

of Nashville. "But it has to make sense for both sides."

O'Donnell said if he makes the trip to Houston he would be ready to play Sunday.

Volek played well in McNair's absence, throwing for two touchdowns and running for another. The injury wasn't announced until Monday night, when Volek was hospitalized.

"After the game, he was on a high," said Volek's father, John. "Then on Monday morning, he let us know that he and Steve were going to practice, and that he still felt

Fisher said doctors believe Volek will not need surgery to remove his spleen. He should be fully recovered in eight to 12 weeks, Fisher said.

Titans linebacker Keith Bulluck understands Volek's disappointment of being unable to help the team clinch a playoff spot. Tennessee can qualify for its fourth postseason berth in five years with a win or a loss by Baltimore, Cincinnati or Miami.

Wrestler wins award



Wrestler Krysten Miller, 8, (second from right) of Pampa displays the award she won after placing second at the Panhandle Nationals in Amarillo. Krysten is a member of the Pampa Takedown Club.

Uncertainty continues at Nebraska after the meeting and they were

not allowed to talk to reporters

But there were reports that

many players expressed frustra-

tion about the secrecy of the

the possibility of not practicing,

and even boycotting the Dec. 29

Alamo Bowl game against

indicated they would leave

Nebraska if Pelini is not named

Pelini said he came in at the

end of the meeting and was the

voice of reason for the players. It

is understandable that some

players are upset with the situa-

tion, Pelini said, but added that

Several players reportedly

Some reportedly discussed

search for a new coach.

Michigan State.

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) -Nebraska interim head coach Bo Pelini on Tuesday dismissed reports of player unrest on the football team over uncertainty surrounding the head coaching position.

"That's absurd. It's ridiculous," Pelini said after practice. "Make no mistake, I am in charge of this football team.

"There doesn't need to be 170 voices — there needs to be one voice," he said.

NU athletic director Steve Pederson fired head coach Frank Solich late last month and appointed Pelini, the defensive coordinator, as interim head

Nebraska's players met behind closed doors Monday.

Players declined to comment

he hopes they use it as a learning to introduce the new coach.

NEW ORLEANS (AP) Persuading good players to come to long-struggling Memphis was a tough task for Tigers coach Tommy

He made a point of recognizing those who had faith in him after Memphis (9-4) won its first bowl game in 32 years Tuesday night — a 27-17 victory over North Texas (9-4) in the New Orleans Bowl.

West.

"These guys had to buy into a dream of what it could be, not what it was because it wasn't very good," West said. "We had always been the type that had to learn how to handle adversity, now we've got to learn how to handle success, but I don't think that'll be a problem."

Danny Wimprine, who grew up in New Orleans, threw for 254 yards and accounted for two touchdowns to lead the Tigers' attack.

Wimprine, a junior, was born about a decade after Memphis' last bowl appearance — a 28-9 victory over San Jose State in the 1971 Pasadena Bowl. Memphis has been bad for most years since, including last season, when the Tigers went 3-9.

"It's been a long time coming for this university," Wimprine said. "All those seniors, those guys who have been here through so many tough times ... to go out as winners makes me feel great for this team."

Wimprine had played in the Superdome three times before, winning Louisiana high school championships with John Curtis and a regular-season game for Memphis over Tulane this season.

He was named the MVP of Tuesday night's game, the first of 28 college bowls this

"This is a great place for me," Wimprine said. "It's just another memory to add to the collection, and this is probably the best one."

Memphis was without its running DeAngelo Williams, who was the Conference USA player of the year. But Wimprine moved offense early by completing his first 10 passes, including sideline bombs of 63 yards to Darren Garcia and 50 yards to Mario Pratcher. Both passes set up TDs as the Tigers took a 17-3 lead. Wimprine finished 17-of-23 with no interceptions.

Wimprine's touchdown pass was a 10-yard bullet to Chris Kelley as the receiver crouched in tight coverage the sideline. Wimprine also ran for a 7yard score on a quarterback draw, the game's first touch-

"He made some outstanding throws. He's a smart quarterback. He moves around the pocket well," North Texas coach Darrell Dickey said. "We hadn't given up a ton of big plays, but they hit us for some." North Texas' Patrick

Cobbs, the nation's leader in yards rushing per game with 157, gained 110 yards and scored two touchdowns. Scott Hall threw for 152

yards, completing several long passes in the second half on two touchdown drives as North Texas kept it

CANADIAN - Canadian girls opened the District 6-2A season Tuesday night with a 67-33 victory over Sanford-Fritch.

Shila Province led the Lady Wildcats in scoring with 17

North Texas falls in New Orleans Bowl close well into the fourth

"We talked things out," Pelini

"I'm proud of the way they're

Pelini and assistant head

But that hasn't stopped the

rumor mill from churning out a list

of possible replacements for

Solich, including past and present

NFL coaches Tom Coughlin,

Dave Wannstedt, Butch Davis,

Bill Cowher, Monte Kiffin, Al

Saunders, Dennis Green and

not comment until he is ready

Pederson has said he will

Steve Spurrier.

handling the situation," he said.

coach Turner Gill are the only

two known applicants for the

"There are no issues."

North Texas has represented the fledgling Sun Belt Conference in all three New Orleans Bowls and won the game last year against Cincinnati.

The Mean Green made it 17-10 when Cobbs burst through a hole outside the left tackle and broke free for a 35-yard score.

But after North Texas' defense played a nearly flawless third quarter, a mistake by that unit allowed Memphis to regain a twotouchdown lead. North Texas appeared to have forced a punt just outside its own 40 when LaKendus Cole was tackled on a screen play for a loss.

But Adrian Awasom was flagged for a 15-yard facemask penalty that gave Memphis a first down on the North Texas 21. Several plays later, Cole squirmed into the end zone on a 5yard run up the middle for a 24-10 lead.

Memphis needed the cushion as Hall completed two long passes in a 5-play, 86-yard drive made it 24-17 when Cobbs bowled his way into the end zone from 2 yards out.

Memphis then used up 4:47 on an 11-play drive that ended with Stephen Gostkowski's 42-yard field goal with 2:26 left.

"They responded whenever we seemed to have the momentum," Dickey said.

Canadian wins district opener

Shelly Adams had 14 points for Sanford-Fritch.

Carlee Culver and Tandi Rankin added 14 points each for Canadian.

For the season, Canadian has a 10-2 record.

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to play a down in the NFL. joining the club," Fisher said. So it looks as if the Titans O'Donnell arrived at the (10-4) will turn to McNair, Titans complex Tuesday night one of the NFL's most and said he was hopeful of reaching an agreement quickdurable quarterbacks. He has played with injuries often ly. during a streak of 43 straight "We'll sit down and hear what (the Titans) have to starts that ended last week. Titans coach Jeff Fisher say," O'Donnell told WZTV DEADLINES FOR Christmas CLASSIFIED LINE ADS AND CITY BRIEFS Insertion Date Deadline Wed., Dec. 24th.....Tues., Dec. 23, 10:00am i Fri., Dec. 26th......Wed., Dec. 24th, Noon ROP DISPLAY AND CLASSIFIED DISPLAY (Boxed Ads) 2

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Duncan, 669-3333.

Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-3560, 663-1442 1109 Hobart, 2 houses:

3 or 4 bdr., 2 ba., and 2 bdr., 1 ba., stable. Call 662-7118 or 665-3669. 2612 Chestnut 4 bd., 3 1/2 ba., 3 car gar, 2 lvng, 2 wbfp, bsmt, dining, brkfst. Apprx. 3700 sq. ft. 669-2911 663-7604. 3 bdr., fenced, corner lot, good condition. Owner will carry with \$1000 down. Call 665-4842.

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HOROSCOPE BY JACQUELINE BIGAR HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Dec. 18. 2003:

Investigate offers that come your way this year. What happens could be very exciting if you make the right choices. You have an unusual talent or gift that helps you make money, or at least allows you to draw unusual business opportunities. Curb a tendency to go overboard. You might even be looking at a sweet tooth. If you are single, no one can or will question your desirability. The real issue is what you want. Again, you might need to determine how you want to "experience" yourself with someone. Only then will you know where you are going. If you are attached, the more you share, the closer you will become. Both

helps you get what you want. The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive;

of you could have a banner year. LIBRA

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) * * * * Others reach out for you; as a result, you could easily go on overload. How much can you handle? That might be the real question. You feel very good about a boss or close associate. Share your feelings more often. You will like the results. Tonight: Go along with

another's wishes. TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

* * An even, gentle pace allows you to see a situation differently. You could feel overworked. Examine what is going on with a key associate who controls the purse strings. Through detaching you'll get the answers. Tonight: Do what you

find most relaxing. GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ** * * You still might be more play-

ful than you realize. A partner or dear

friend might adore your uproar, but others seem a bit jumpy or on edge. You have the ingenuity to get around obstacles - yours or others". Tonight: Beam

in what you want.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) * * * Slow down and spend some longoverdue time with a child or loved one. How you say what you need could make all the difference in its reception. Deal with basics at home or with whatever daily activity you choose. Tonight: Get some extra zzz's.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) * * * * Take the initiative, especially at work. Again, be careful with that special someone who often expresses or demonstrates stronger feelings than you are comfortable with. Actions often

speak more than gifts; remember that fact this holiday season. Tonight: Join a favorite pal.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) * * You make money through a natural talent or gracefulness. Still, be careful with spending, as you could easily go overboard in wanting to indulge a loved one. Carefully think through a decision that revolves around family. Tonight:

Order in: LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) * * * * You cruise over any problems

you encounter. You express unusual effectiveness and caring by just being yourself. A purchase for your home or family could make a big difference in the quality of your life. Others gravitate toward you. Tonight: You're the cat's

** * Knowing when not to get

involved is a unique Scorpio talent. Use

it. You might like to reverse direction and

steer away from trouble. Express your

unusual financial sense and gentle way.

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Vanish while you can. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) **** Don't hem and haw. The moment is now to ask for more of what you want and desire. Someone close to you might question what you are doing. Could there be such a thing as explaining too much? Tonight: Where the action is.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) * * * Venus bestows a kindness and gentleness upon you that others cannot deny. Your happy ways will take you in a new direction professionally if you play your cards correctly. The boss wants toe show you how exceptional your work is.

Tonight: Work as late as need be. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) * * * Your ability to see the big picture is helpful to you, but maybe not to others if you cannot explain it. A meeting. might be very important. You easily could be overly sensitive right now. Use caution with someone you meet today or

in the near future. Tonight: Rent a movie on the way home

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) * * * * Let a partner share what he or she thinks he or she has to offer. You might be delighted by news from another source but might not be sure what to do with it. The best action right now is no

Steven Spielberg (1947), actor Brad Pitt

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com. © 2003 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

action. Tonight: Snuggle in. gin, citizenship, age, handicap, disability or veteran status. **BORN TODAY** Musician Keith Richards (1943), director

Red Sox, A-Rod meet with union

much-discussed, long-awaited trade that would send AL MVP Alex Rodriguez to Boston is moving closer to fruition.

Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein and the Texas Rangers shortstop met with an official from the baseball player's union Tuesday to discuss the blockbuster deal, and Rodriguez's agent, Scott Boras, was planning to join them Wednesday for more talks.

"They're moving and plodding along," Boras said before heading to New York.

Gene Orza, the union's No. 2 official, confirmed that a meeting took place but wouldn't comment on its substance. The union would get involved

BOSTON (AP) — The if there was a renegotiation of the record \$252 million, 10year contract Rodriguez signed three years ago; any change would have to add some benefit for the player, according to baseball's labor contract.

> The Rangers and Red Sox owners have been discussing a swap of Rodriguez for Red Sox outfielder Manny Ramirez, the sport's only \$20 million men. Talks have bogged down over the sheer magnitude of the money involved - more than \$300 million remaining on the contracts, including deferred money - and the Rangers' demand that Boston pay a big chunk of Ramirez's salary in addition to more than \$179 million due Rodriguez.

"At this time, negotiations are at a sensitive point," Texas owner Tom Hicks said in a statement. "Due to this fact, we will have no further comment on this situation today."

Boston has balked at paying part of Ramirez's salary. Even without it, the Rangers would already save about \$81 million in the deal. Talk has recently focused on whether the Red Sox would include another player in lieu of cash.

Epstein declined to comment on the negotiations, and president Larry Boston Lucchino has said the team was going into "radio silence" on the talks until they conclude, one way or the

Titans may turn to injured McNair

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The Tennessee Titans hoped to rest banged-up quarterback Steve McNair this week.

Billy Volek's lacerated spleen put an end to those plans.

McNair is nursing an injured ankle and right calf, but because Tennessee has yet to secure a playoff spot, he might be called upon against the Houston Texans on Sunday.

That's because Volek, a little-known backup, is out for the season after being hurt Sunday while leading the Titans to a 28-26 victory over the Buffalo Bills.

That leaves rookie Jason Gesser, signed as an undrafted free agent, as the only healthy option. Gesser has yet to play a down in the NFL.

So it looks as if the Titans (10-4) will turn to McNair, one of the NFL's most durable quarterbacks. He has played with injuries often during a streak of 43 straight starts that ended last week.

Insertion Date

Titans coach Jeff Fisher

said it was too early Tuesday to say if McNair would start Sunday. But he said his star quarterback was willing, if not altogether healthy.

"The fact of the matter is Steve was ready last week, and he was wanting to play," Fisher said.

McNair received three hours of treatment Tuesday and was no longer wearing a protective boot on his left

Meanwhile, the Titans were negotiating with former backup quarterback Neil O'Donnell, a 13-year veteran who was cut after training camp but still has a home in Nashville. Fisher O'Donnell was flying to Nashville on Tuesday to try to work out a contract.

"He's very interested in joining the club," Fisher said.

O'Donnell arrived at the Titans complex Tuesday night and said he was hopeful of reaching an agreement quick-

"We'll sit down and hear what (the Titans) have to say," O'Donnell told WZTV

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Safe Holiday

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Tues., Dec. 23rd......Fri., Dec. 19th, 10:00am

Wed., Dec. 24th.....Fri., Dec. 19th, noon

Fri., Dec. 26th......Mon., Dec. 22nd, 10:00am

Sun., Dec. 28th.....Tues., Dec. 23rd, noon

WILL CLOSE AT 2:00 PM

On December 24[™] &

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of Nashville. "But it has to make sense for both sides."

O'Donnell said if he makes the trip to Houston he would be ready to play Sunday.

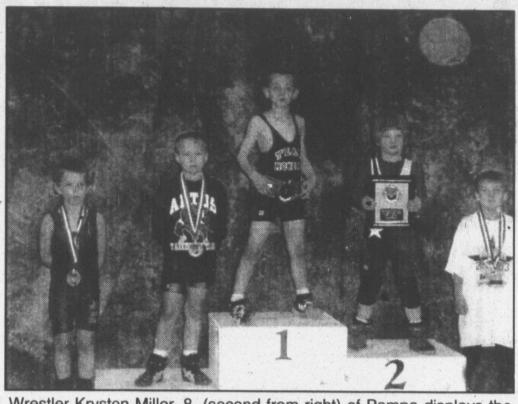
Volek played well in McNair's absence, throwing for two touchdowns and running for another. The injury wasn't announced Monday night, when Volek was hospitalized.

"After the game, he was on a high," said Volek's father, John. "Then on Monday morning, he let us know that he and Steve were going to practice, and that he still felt sore."

Fisher said doctors believe Volek will not need surgery to remove his spleen. He should be fully recovered in eight to 12 weeks, Fisher said.

Titans linebacker Keith Bulluck understands Volek's disappointment of being unable to help the team clinch a playoff spot. Tennessee can qualify for its fourth postseason berth in five years with a win or a loss by Baltimore, Cincinnati or Miami.

Wrestler wins award



Wrestler Krysten Miller, 8, (second from right) of Pampa displays the award she won after placing second at the Panhandle Nationals in Amarillo. Krysten is a member of the Pampa Takedown Club.

Uncertainty continues at Nebraska

after the meeting and they were

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) -Nebraska interim head coach Bo Pelini on Tuesday dismissed reports of player unrest on the football team over uncertainty surrounding the head coaching position.

"That's absurd. It's ridiculous," Pelini said after practice. "Make no mistake, I am in charge of this football team.

"There doesn't need to be 170 voices — there needs to be one voice," he said.

NU athletic director Steve Pederson fired head coach Frank Solich late last month and appointed Pelini, the defensive coordinator, as interim head

Nebraska's players met behind closed doors Monday. Players declined to comment

not allowed to talk to reporters But there were reports that

many players expressed frustration about the secrecy of the search for a new coach. Some reportedly discussed

the possibility of not practicing, and even boycotting the Dec. 29 Alamo Bowl game against Michigan State.

Several players reportedly indicated they would leave Nebraska if Pelini is not named head coach.

Pelini said he came in at the end of the meeting and was the voice of reason for the players. It is understandable that some players are upset with the situation, Pelini said, but added that he hopes they use it as a learning

"We talked things out," Pelini

"I'm proud of the way they're handling the situation," he said. "There are no issues."

Pelini and assistant head coach Turner Gill are the only two known applicants for the

But that hasn't stopped the rumor mill from churning out a list of possible replacements for Solich, including past and present NFL coaches Tom Coughlin, Dave Wannstedt, Butch Davis, Bill Cowher, Monte Kiffin, Al Saunders, Dennis Green and Steve Spurrier.

Pederson has said he will not comment until he is ready to introduce the new coach.

NEW ORLEANS (AP) -

Persuading good players to come to long-struggling Memphis was a tough task for Tigers coach Tommy West.

He made a point of recognizing those who had faith in him after Memphis (9-4) won its first bowl game in 32 years Tuesday-night — a 27-17 victory over North Texas (9-4) in the New Orleans Bowl.

"These guys had to buy into a dream of what it could be, not what it was because it wasn't very good," West said. "We had always been the type that had to learn how to handle adversity, now we've got to learn how to handle success, but I don't think that'll be a problem."

Danny Wimprine, who grew up in New Orleans, threw for 254 yards and accounted for two touchdowns to lead the Tigers'

Wimprine, a junior, was born about a decade after Memphis' last bowl appearance — a 28-9 victory over San Jose State in the 1971 Pasadena Bowl. Memphis has been bad for most years since, including last season, when the Tigers went 3-9.

"It's been a long time coming for this university," Wimprine said. "All those seniors, those guys who have been here through so many tough times ... to go out as winners makes me feel great for this team."

Wimprine had played in the Superdome three times before, winning Louisiana high school championships with John Curtis and a regular-season game for Memphis over Tulane this season.

He was named the MVP of Tuesday night's game, the

North Texas falls in New Orleans Bowl

first of 28 college bowls this

"This is a great place for me," Wimprine said. "It's just another memory to add to the collection, and this is probably the best one."

Memphis was without its

running DeAngelo Williams, who was the Conference USA player of the year. But Wimprine moved offense early by completing his first 10 passes, including sideline bombs of 63 yards to Darren Garcia and 50 yards to Mario Pratcher. Both passes set up TDs as the Tigers took a 17-3 lead. Wimprine finished 17-of-23 with no interceptions.

Wimprine's touchdown pass was a 10-yard bullet to Chris Kelley as the receiver crouched in tight coverage the along sideline. Wimprine also ran for a 7yard score on a quarterback draw, the game's first touchdown.

"He made some outstanding throws. He's a smart quarterback. He moves around the pocket well," North Texas coach Darrell Dickey said. "We hadn't given up a ton of big plays, but they hit us for some." North Texas' Patrick

Cobbs, the nation's leader in yards rushing per game with 157, gained 110 yards and scored two touchdowns.

Scott Hall threw for 152 yards, completing several long passes in the second half on two touchdown drives as North Texas kept it

CANADIAN — Canadian girls opened the District 6-2A season Tuesday night with a 67-33 victory over Sanford-Fritch.

Shila Province led the Lady Wildcats in scoring with 17 close well into the fourth

North Texas has represented the fledgling Sun Belt Conference in all three New Orleans Bowls and won the game last year against Cincinnati.

The Mean Green made it 17-10 when Cobbs burst through a hole outside the left tackle and broke free for a 35-yard score.

But after North Texas' defense played a nearly flawless third quarter, a mistake by that unit allowed Memphis to regain a twotouchdown lead. North Texas appeared to have forced a punt just outside its own 40 when LaKendus Cole was tackled on a screen play for a loss.

But Adrian Awasom was flagged for a 15-yard facemask penalty that gave Memphis a first down on the North Texas 21. Several plays later, Cole squirmed into the end zone on a 5vard run up the middle for a 24-10 lead.

Memphis needed the cushion as Hall completed two long passes in a 5-play, 86-yard drive made it 24-17 when Cobbs bowled his way into the end zone from 2 yards out.

Memphis then used up 4:47 on an 11-play drive that ended with Stephen Gostkowski's 42-yard field goal with 2:26 left.

"They responded whenever we seemed to have the momentum," Dickey said.

Canadian wins district opener

Shelly Adams had 14 points for Sanford-Fritch.

Carlee Culver and Tandi Rankin added 14 points each for Canadian.

For the season, Canadian has a 10-2 record.

POLICIES. respons insertion reserves NOTICE... to adver familial : State lav for real advertise

5 Special Notice ADVERTISING al to be placed Pampa News, M placed through t

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> One le for the t apostrop hints. Ea 12-17

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Horos

HAPPY BIRTH 18, 2003 Investigate offe this year. What exciting if you You have an helps you make you to draw un ties. Curb a ter You might eve tooth. If you a issue is what yo need to deterr "experience" Only then will going. If you ar share, the close of you could ha helps you get w

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NOTICE... 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.

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21 Help Wanted

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14d Carpentry

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

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Foundation Leveling. 1-800-299-9563 or 806-14d Carpentry CUSTOM homes, addi-352-9563 Amarillo, Tx. tions, remodeling, resi-♦ Taylor

dential / comm. Deaver Construction, 665-0447. OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Con-Floor Tile & Regrouting struction. Call 669-6347.

5 Special Notices

ADVERTISING Materi-

al to be placed in the

pa News Office Only.

Keith 665-0328 or lv. msg DAILY CRYPTOOUOTES — Here's how to work it: AXYDLBAAXR

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

Handicap Conversions

Shower Installation

12-17

CRYPTOQUOTE

XBMD-ATMDC DBTXU

ECCW NBG OABP SCOMD

UYBAZ-ZCAP OTQXGACU.

GMEMBLM

OAGUZATZ

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: IF ALL THE YEAR WERE PLAYING HOLIDAYS, TO SPORT WOULD BE AS TEDIOUS AS TO WORK. — SHAKESPEARE © 2003 by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

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SUPERIOR Quality Kensington replacement windows and doors. Guaranteed 30% fuel savings! Also steel & vinyl siding. Shawn Deaver Const. 662-2977 or 665-0354. HUSBAND for Hire. Will do most household repairs. References. Milton Brown, 664-0171 (cell#). LONESTAR CHIMNEY

SWEEP now taking appts. NO MESS. 669-1562 Jerry's Floor Installation Service. Carpet restretch ing, ceramics, hardwood, laminates, vinyl, carpet. Over 25 yrs. exp. 664-7959 (c) 868-2016, Miami

14n Painting

INT/EXT. painting, mud tape. 35 yr. exp. Referen-ces. Call Gene Calder

665-4840. 50 yr. exp. We paint, dry-Ceramic Tile Works♦ Happy Painters 665-3214

wall, texture, comm./ residential. Free Estimates.

Faxed Applications will

GIS and familiarity with ortho maps is preferable. calls please. will require travel 90% of the time with applicant providing their own reliable trans-

Application portation. form FSA-675 can be obtained from USDA-FSA at Gray County FSA Office, 12125 E. Frederick TX, or by calling (806)665-6561. Completed application forms must be returned to the Gray County FSA Office and must arrive by January 12, 2004 to be considered.

not be accepted. USDA is

an EEO employer.

21 Help Wanted

JACK'S Plumbing Faucet Shop, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115- faucets, plumbing supplies, new constr., repair, remodel-TEXAS Rose is now taking, sewer / drain cleaning applications for kitching, septic systems instal-

en help. No Phone Calls SONIC is now taking applications. Apply in person, 1418 N. Hobart,

WEEKEND RN needed, 7 a.-3 p. shift Sat. & Sun.

St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle. Apply in person or call Kay 537-3194. NOTICE Readers are urged to fully

investigate advertisements

which require payment in

advance for information, services or goods. DRIVER needed for Pizza Hut Delivery. Apply at 1500 N. Banks. No phone

TRACTOR trailer driver. Tanker exp. helpful, home often. Good pay & benefits, Rimarc Transportation, 1-800-831-9563.

GIRLING Health Care, Inc. Home Care attendants needed in Pampa and surrounding areas to help with light housekeeping and personal care. For more info. call 1-866-747-0173 toll free or 806-747-0173. EOE

PETCO Petroleum is hiring an exp. backhoe operator. Holidays, vacation, ins., 401K. Call 806-669-3947 lv. msg. EOE.

21 Help Wanted

CARPENTER needed F/T NEED Cashier / Deli Worker, 2pm to 10pm. Needs transportation and hand tools, drug test Apply in person, 1020 E. maybe required 665-4274 Frederic.

50 Building Suppl.

669-6881

60 Household

White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291 **HOUSTON LUMBER** 420 W. Foster

FREE Pitt/ Blue Heeler,

95 Furn. Apts. \$202 QN mattress set.

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 ON Pinewood bdrm set w/4 poste still boxed, \$999. Call 806-517-1050 NICE roll-top desk, 50 in.

long with oak swivel chair, \$295. Chest type deep freeze \$50 running 18 cu. ft. Cash. 665-6980

69 Misc.

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

LRG. rolls Christmas paper, gift bags, ribbons, bows, tags! Warner-Horton, 900 Duncan 8-5 M-F

Memory Gardens of Pampa is assigning Cemetery Spaces to local VETERANS

that qualify and do not own cemetery property SPACES are limited Call today to receive yours

SEASONED Oak Fire wood, delivered stacked. \$175 cord. 779-3284, 662-6161.

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69 Misc.

GREAT For Winter coats, warm. comfortable motorcycle style. Wholesale price. S-XXL. 665-4451.

80 Pets & Suppl.

FEMALE Dachshund free to good home. Call

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All real estate advertise erein is subject to th Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it ille gal to advertise "any preference, limitation, o discrimination because of race, color, religion sex, handicap, familia status or national origin or intention to make any such preference, limita ion, or discrimination State law also forbid discrimination based or these factors. We wil any advertising for rea estate which is in viola ion of the law. All per sons are hereby in formed that all dwellings idvertised are available

EFFI. apt. \$300 mo., bills pd. Rooms \$24.50 day, \$100 wk. & up, air, tv, cable, phone. 669-3221.

Bent Creek Apartments Lovely 2 & 3 bdr. apts. *All single story units *Electric Range *Frost-free Refrig. Rlinds & Carnet *Washer/Dryer connec *C H/A, walk-in closets Exterior Storage *Front Porches **HUD Accepted** 1400 W. Somerville

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96 Unfurn. Apts.

Pampa 806-665-3292

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On-site management SOFTENED WATER

1601 W. Somerville Pampa 806-665-7149

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LAKEVIEW Apts. 1-2-3 bedrooms \$99 -first month rent 669-7682

NICE 1 or 2 bedroom, N. Gray st. References required. Call 669-9817.

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VERY clean 1 bdr. Appliances, w&d conn. Water & gas paid. References HUD approved. 665-1346

97 Furn. Houses

bdr, fenced yard, 1006 Twiford \$295 mo \$125 dep. 665-8320

CONOCO Phillips, Borger Refinery and NGL Center is looking for motivate individuals with a desire to join our Team. We are looking for applicants with a positive attitude who get along well with people. You should be able to demon strate that you have a good work ethic, you are reliable, you have a good safety re cord and a willingness to do whatever it takes to get the job done. We are hiring for entry level positions within our Maintenance function (Yardman) with pro gression into our Operations and Maintenance Crafts. The beginning rate of pa for a Yardman is \$13.68/ hr with increases to \$17.35/hr in eighteen months. A this time, the top wage rate for an Operations employee is \$26.32/hr and \$25.61/hr for a Maintenance Craft position. To be considered you must have the following:

- 1. A minimum of a High School Education or equivalent. A current valid drivers license.
- 3. Experience in construction, maintenance, or operations within an industrial environment, which can include refineries, chemical plants, manufacturing plants, machine shops, fab shops, commercial construction or oil field servicing. Applicable agricultural and military experience will also be considere
- 4. Individuals with technical training and demonstrated skill in one or more of the following areas will also be considerd:
 - · Electrical · Instrument
 - Machinist
 - Millwright (pumps, compressors, engines, etc.)
 - · Heavy Equipment Operator(big trucks, backhoes, dozers
 - · Pipefitter/Boilmaker

Applications must be completed at the Texas Workforce Commission Office lo cated at 1224 N. Hobart, Ste. 101, Pampa, Tx. Applicants MUST apply in person At the time applications are completed, resume with work history must be attach-

ed. Applications will be taken beginning Monday, December 15, 2003 through Wednesday, December 31, 2003. Job order #77550138

98 Unfurn. Houses

PICK up rental list from Gray Box on front porch of Lakeview Apartments. Update each Fri. NEW Mgmt.! N&L Investments. 1, 2 & 3 brm., apts., duplexes, homes & commer. prop. 665-4274; 3 bdr. 1113 Huff, c h/a: 313 N. Faulkner, 1141 Juniper, 637 N. Dwight 2 bdr. HUD avail. 669-2080 LEASE w/ option to buy. Nice, clean, brick, 3-1-1, c h/a. \$530 mo. + dep. 1905 N. Banks. 669-6121 3 bdr., just remodeled, near Travis. \$500 mo. 665-4842, 662-3572.

HOUSE for Sale or rent 2 Bdr brick w/garage. 30k to sell. \$450/mo to rent. 527 Red Deer. 665-6719 BRICK 2/1/1, 600 Powell, \$425 mo, 3 br, 1 ba, 600 Lefors, \$385 mo. both fenced yards, both \$150 dep. 665-8320

99 Stor. Bldgs.

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102 Bus. Rent. Prop.

FICE Space for rent ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841. LOWEST Rents in City!

Downtown locationsstores, warehouses, rec. facilities Call 665-4274!! AVAILABLE soon! 107 N. Cuvler (formerly Fototime). Need more space or better location? Call Ray Duncan, 669-3333.

103 Homes For Sale

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

1109 Hobart, 2 houses: 3 or 4 bdr., 2 ba., and 2 bdr., 1 ba., stable. Call 662-7118 or 665-3669. 2612 Chestnut 4 bd., 3 1/2 ba., 3 car gar, 2 lvng, 2 wbfp. bsmt. dining, brkfst. Apprx. 3700 sq. ft. 669-2911 663-7604. 3 bdr., fenced, corner lot, good condition. Owner will carry with \$1000 down. Call 665-4842. COLE Addition, 3 br, ga-

rage, and carport remodeled bath, and other, new roof. Realtor 665-4180. WE MUST sell our home. Great starter or rental prop. 2 bdr., 1 ba. 914 S. Nelson, Pampa. \$15,000 obo. 355-3357.

5 acre tracts on paved road, 2 miles from Pampa.

105 Acreage

\$2500 per acre, financing available. Call 665-4842. 115 Trailer Parks

TUMBLEWEED Acres. Storm Shelters, fenced,

stor. bldg. avail. 665-

116 Mobile Homes BDR., 2 BATH MO-BILE home w/ lot for sale, in Pampa. \$14,000 cash. 376-1173, 676-2323

ask for Anna Romero. 120 Autos

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Doug Boyd Motor Co.

"On The Spot Financing" 821 W. Wilks 669-6062 CULBERSON-STOWERS

Chevrolet-Pontiac-Buick GMC-Olds-Cadillac 805 N. Hobart 665-1665 1993 Ford EconoLine, \$2500 or OBO.

Call 665-7792 1984 4x4, GMC Subur ban, \$1,200 OBO, 665-7792, 207-0040.

HOTOSCOPE BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

18, 2003: Investigate offers that come your way this year. What happens could be very exciting if you make the right choices. You have an unusual talent or gift that helps you make money, or at least allows you to draw unusual business opportunities. Curb a tendency to go overboard. You might even be looking at a sweet tooth. If you are single, no one can or will question your desirability. The real issue is what you want. Again, you might need to determine how you want to "experience" yourself with someone. Only then will you know where you are going. If you are attached, the more you share, the closer you will become. Both of you could have a banner year. LIBRA

helps you get what you want. 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) * * * * Others reach out for you; as a result, you could easily go on overload. How much can you handle? That might be the real question. You feel very good about a boss or close associate. Share your feelings more often. You will like

the results. Tonight: Go along with another's wishes.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) * * An even, gentle pace allows you to see a situation differently. You could feel overworked. Examine what is going on with a key associate who controls the purse strings. Through detaching you'll get the answers. Tonight: Do what you

find most relaxing. GEMINI (May 21-June 20) * * * * You still might be more playful than you realize. A partner or dear

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Dec. friend might adore your uproar, but others seem a bit jumpy or on edge. You have the ingenuity to get around obstacles - yours or others' Tonight: Beam

in what you want. CANCER (June 21-July 22)

* * * Slow down and spend some longoverdue time with a child or loved one. How you say what you need could make all the difference in its reception. Deal with basics at home or with whatever daily activity you choose. Tonight: Get some extra zzz's. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) * * * * Take the initiative, especially at work. Again, be careful with that spe-

cial someone who often expresses or

demonstrates stronger feelings than you

are comfortable with. Actions often speak more than gifts; remember that fact this holiday season. Tonight: Join a

favorite pal. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) * * You make money through a natural talent or gracefulness. Still, be careful with spending, as you could easily go overboard in wanting to indulge a loved one. Carefully think through a decision

that revolves around family. Tonight:

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) * * * You cruise over any problems you encounter. You express unusual effectiveness and caring by just being yourself. A purchase for your home or family could make a big difference in the quality of your life. Others gravitate

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) * * * Knowing when not to get involved is a unique Scorpio talent. Use

it. You might like to reverse direction and

steer away from trouble. Express your

unusual financial sense and gentle way.

toward you. Tonight: You're the cat's (1963)

Others want to be around you. Tonight

CANADA DRUG SERVICE

SAVE up to 85%

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NO FEES

Serving thousands of Seniors!

FREE OUOTES

806-358-2029

TOLL FREE 1-866-358-2029

1944 Civic Circle-Wolflin Square

Vanish while you can. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) **** Don't hem and haw. The moment is now to ask for more of what you want and desire. Someone close to you might question what you are doing. Could there be such a thing as explaining too much? Tonight: Where the action is. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

* * * Venus bestows a kindness and gentleness upon you that others cannot deny. Your happy ways will take you in a new direction professionally if you play your cards correctly. The boss wants to show you how exceptional your work is. Tonight: Work as late as need be.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) * * * * Your ability to see! the big picture is helpful to you, but maybe not to others if you cannot explain it. A meeting might be very important. You easily could be overly sensitive right now. Use caution with someone you meet today or

in the near future. Tonight: Rent a movie

* * * * Let a partner share what he or

she thinks he or she has to offer. You

might be delighted by news from anoth-

on the way home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

er source but might not be sure what to do with it. The best action right now is no action. Tonight: Snuggle in. **BORN TODAY**

Musician Keith Richards (1943), director

Steven Spielberg (1947), actor Brad Pitt

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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ConocoPhillips

WEDNESDAY - December 17, 2003

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Teenager Gets Grounded For Sky-High Phone Bill

DEAR ABBY: My 13-year-old daughter, "Karen," met a boy on the Internet. I guess she felt she needed to talk to him because she called him on the telephone. Unfortunately, he lives in Spain, and she ran up an \$1,100 phone bill. Karen had no idea it cost that much to call him, and of course she didn't ask for my

I grounded Karen until she works off the debt, which will probably take six months. I also took away her phone and Internet privileges and made her quit the school volleyball team.

Karen has ADHD, so we've had some problems with her in the past. I don't want to overreact and make her rebel or run away like I did when I was her age. What I do want is to teach her responsibility. What do you think?

UNHAPPY MOM IN OHIO

DEAR UNHAPPY: I don't blame you for being angry, but you have gone a little overboard. It's time to reconsider the multi-ple punishments you've levied on your daughter. You say you don't want to overreact or make her rebel. Yet you have cut off her contact with the outside world no phone, no Internet, no sports. I agree she should pay at least part of the phone bill, but as she does, you should gradually reinstate her privileges.

DEAR ABBY: You dispensed some wonderful advice in your Thanksgiving Day column. You wrote, "If you're feeling down and want an instant 'upper,' the surest way ... is to do something nice for someone else." I'd like to echo your sentiments and encourage vour readers to keep the doldrums at bay by volunteering.

Volunteering not only benefits the recipients of service, but often the volunteer feels better as a result of giving back. Volunteering reduces social isolation and disconnection, boosts spirits, combats stress and

builds stronger communities. According to the most recent

Marmaduke

study by the Points of Light Foundation and Indiana University, respondents said that volunteering as a family improves communication, promotes positive values, emphasizes the importance of teamwork, teaches kids empathy, respect, friendliness and tolerance, and creates a new generation of dedicated volunteers.

Please encourage your readers who might be dreading this holiday season to volunteer. Giving to others is the best way to nourish your

ROBERT K. GOODWIN,
PRESIDENT AND CEO,
POINTS OF LIGHT FOUNDATION

DEAR ROBERT: Thanks for an inspiring reminder that the surest way to forget your own troubles is to do something nice for those less fortunate. The adrenaline rush you'll get is more powerful than speed, and the "high" is perfectly legal. Everyone has something to give, and the most precious gift isn't money — it's time.

Readers, to find projects in your local communities or wherever you spend your holiday vacations, call toll-free (800) 865-8683 and enter your ZIP Code, or visit www.1-800-Volunteer.org. Families can find project ideas, activities for kids and other helpful resources by exploring the Web site. Since the holiday season is upon us, don't procras-tinate. Reach out and grab the opportunity to help someone.

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

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







Zits







Garfield







Beetle Bailey







Marvin







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Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts







cousin













down! 7 Poker bet

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

45 Nourish

46 Fanatic

ACROSS

1 "Calm

11 Steeproofed 2 One home kind 12 Fast 3 Hockey runne 13 Co-star of 4 Map "Diner areas

5 Poker 14 Singer Paul declara-15 Conclusion tion 17 Play 6 Look after divisions 20 Secluded

21 Shocking 7 Designer valleys Coco 23 Baseball's 8 Stay calm 24 Change Gehrig 9 Annoy 10 Pod item 24 Holler 26 Like some 16 Did verbs nothing Abbr. 17 Linda 27 Have

debts 28 Mine rock 29 Like some sweet potatoes **31** Use a

straw 32 With 13-Across. "Sea of Love' co-star 33 Ohio

team 34 Marked down 37 Tree part 39 Compiled book

43 Different 44 Honey suckle's



Yesterday's answer

35 First

name

daughter

36 Judy's

37 Game

caller

38 Bullring

18 Reef

19 Free

makeup

"That's what Santa Claus should have - a vertical takeoff and landing jet."

Sometimes I think he just likes to listen to

his own voice."

The Family Circus