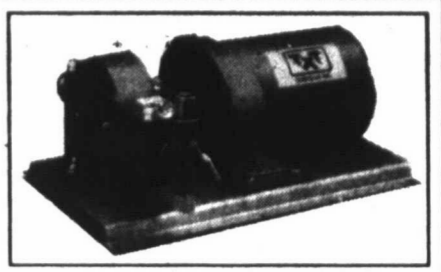


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THE Pampa NEWS

MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2004

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LOCAL
Chisum to speak at next API meeting

The Panhandle Chapter of American Petroleum Institute will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22, at Pampa Country Club.
 During the meeting, State Rep. Warren Chisum will present legislative updates for the oil and gas industry.
 The meal, a barbecue buffet, will be served at 7 p.m. at a cost of \$15 per person. Door prizes are being furnished by Baker Oil Tools of Pampa. API memberships will be available at the door.

DEATHS
 Florence Enola Moody Drake, 93, homemaker.
 Mary Ellen Mills, 71, housekeeper.

INSIDE...
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Tree Planting Season Is Here

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Who will win Iowa Demo caucus?

By DAVID ESPO
 AP SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Presidential hopefuls want to know

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Democratic presidential rivals made the final rounds Monday of a closely contested Iowa caucus campaign, the opening of the fight to pick a general election challenger to President Bush.
 "Everybody's got to do well or win," said Rep. Dick Gephardt, underscoring the stakes for Howard Dean and Sens. John Edwards and John Kerry as well as himself.
 Dean pronounced himself "ripping, roaring, ready to go" as he sought to validate his front-runner's credentials despite recent surveys showing slip-

page. "We got an early lead, that lead is gone now, and it's just going to be up to the people of Iowa," he said.
 "If we win tonight it's going to be very difficult to stop us, the ultimate comeback kid."
 The strain of nonstop campaigning was taking its toll.
 Kerry, who has surged in late polls, skipped morning events because of a throat hoarse from a final weekend of campaigning.
 Edwards, whose poll support also has increased in the race's final days, contended his campaign could weather

a loss in Iowa.
 "We've already accomplished so much here in Iowa, and the people's response to what I want to do has been amazing," he said.
 "Everybody's got to do well or win. I think that's my test as well," said Gephardt, who won the caucuses in 1988 and whose aides have said anything less than a victory would drive him from the race.
 Two other major contenders — Sen. Joseph Lieberman and retired Gen. Wesley Clark — skipped the caucuses to seek support for the New Hampshire

primary Jan. 27.
 By the numbers, Iowa's caucuses offered scant reward — first claim in a fight over 45 national convention delegates out of 4,322 who will attend next summer's national convention.
 Iowa Democrats had the power to confer more than that when they settled in for an evening of politicking in 1,993 precinct caucuses. They offered instant campaign credibility for the winner.
 While the contenders spent months and millions wooing a single-state constituency, the final surveys judged the race too close to call.
 They couldn't take into account the
 (See IOWA, Page 3)

CRMWA water purchase may avoid shortage in area's future

By DAVID BOWSER
 STAFF WRITER

PLAINVIEW - Pampa City Manager Mitch Grant said he thinks the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority's plan to purchase more water adjoining their Roberts County well field is a good one.
 Earlier this month, CRMWA announced it was buying almost 9,000 acres of water about from the Duncan Ranch. The property adjoins the CRMWA Roberts County well field, stretching CRMWA's water west into Hutchinson County.

Grant said the board of directors at their quarterly meeting here last week approved the sale. The contract now has to be approved by the individual member cities.
 CRMWA provides water for 11 cities in the Texas Panhandle and South Plains, including Pampa.
 Initially, all the water came from Lake Meredith, a reservoir formed by the damming of the Canadian River in the 1960s, but in the 1990s, the water authority purchased 42,765 acres of water rights in Roberts County. The 8,777 from the Duncan Ranch will be added to that well field

although CRMWA General Manager Kent Satterwhite said there are no immediate plans to drill any wells on the Duncan Ranch.
 The ground water from Roberts County was originally supposed to add to the quantity and improve the quality of the Lake Meredith water. CRMWA started pumping water from Roberts County a little over a year ago, but because of pump problems, the well field is not yet producing at full capacity.
 Chad Pernel said of the 26 wells planned, 22 are in operation, one is expected to on line this week, another is scheduled to begin pumping in February, and the final two will be in production by March.
 Due to dry conditions throughout the Southwest, there has been little water flowing into the lake, making the Roberts County well field even more important.
 The water level at Lake Meredith continues to drop.
 "We received essentially zero inflow in the last two months," Satterwhite said. "It's been the worst inflow year ever."
 The year 2002 was the worst year ever until 2003, he said.
 (See CRMWA, Page 3)

Chilly car wash



(Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers)
 Jose Garcia of Pampa doesn't let a temperature of 25 degrees at 9:30 this morning stop him from washing accumulated dirt from his vehicle at Mc's Car Wash, 1901 N. Hobart. The wash job on Garcia's vehicle may not last long, however, as more wintry precipitation was forecast for the area tomorrow and Wednesday.

Seven candidates vie for Bivins' seat

By BETSY BLANEY
 ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

A diverse group of candidates are vying to fill Teel Bivins' District 31 state senate seat, including a former Amarillo mayor, a Permian Basin oilman, a farmer, a restaurateur and an education consultant.
 In all, seven candidates are running in Tuesday's special election to fill the seat vacated by Bivins. The Republican, who had served in the Senate since 1989, resigned Jan. 12 after being nominated by President Bush to become

ambassador to Sweden.
 Bivins has not endorsed any candidates, which includes lone Democrat Elaine King Miller of Amarillo. Four of the candidates are from the Permian Basin and three are from the Panhandle.
 The winner of Tuesday's election will have to run in the March 9 primary. If no candidate garners 50 percent of the vote, a runoff between the top two vote-getters will be held before the primary.
 The first possible date for such a runoff is Feb. 17. Gov. Rick Perry will select the exact date.
 The 26-county district stretches across 15 counties in the Panhandle, south along the New Mexico border and includes several counties in Permian Basin, as well as the cities of Mjldland and Odessa.
 Top issues include education funding, water, agriculture and the region's oil and gas industry.
 Two Republicans appear to be front-runners: Odessa restaurateur Bob Barnes and Kel Seliger, who served four terms as Amarillo's mayor.
 Seliger, 50, wants to continue Bivins' strong conser-
 (See BIVINS, Page 3)

Cattlemen lay groundwork in IBP trial

By DAVID BOWSER
 SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

MONTGOMERY, Ala. -- Testimony will resume Tuesday in the class-action lawsuit brought by cattlemen against the world's largest beef packer. Federal courts will be closed Monday for Martin Luther King's birthday.
 As the first week of testimony drew to a close here Friday, lawyers for cattlemen suing IBP continued to lay the groundwork of their case before the five-man, seven-woman jury, going over the details and definitions that are key to their case.

The lawsuit was filed in 1996 at a time of low cattle prices by six cattlemen from Alabama, Nebraska, Kansas, Montana and South Dakota, accusing what was then IBP, of manipulating the cattle market in violation of the Packer and Stockyards Act of 1921. In 2002, their case was declared a class action lawsuit involving more than 30,000 cattlemen who sold cattle to IBP on a cash basis between Feb. 1, 1994 and Oct. 31, 2002.
 The cattlemen's attorneys indicate damages could run more than \$2 billion dollars. Attorneys for Tyson said there is no way of knowing how many cattlemen might actually be involved.

Under the class-action certification in December 2001, anyone who sold cattle to IBP in the cash market from Feb. 1, 1994, to Oct. 31, 2002, would be a plaintiff, although they may elect to opt out of the suit.
 "It is unknown exactly how many cattle producers this includes," said Gary Mickelson, Tyson spokesman.
 "This is America's cattle case," David Domina, Omaha, Neb., attorney for the cattlemen. Domina told the jury that case involved 31,800 cattlemen and 4,000 feedyards who sold cattle to IBP during the specified time period in the cash market. What was unfair about the transactions, Domina said, was that

IBP had special contracts with only a few other producers.
 While IBP claims these contracts were at the request of the producers, Domina claimed such contracts were not available to smaller producers. The contracts were available only to large operations.
 These contracts, according to Domina, produced a captive supply of cattle, that is, cattle that were essentially already sold or controlled by the packer well ahead of their slaughter date. These contracts allowed the packer, he said, to controlled the supply of cattle and therefore the price in viola-
 (See TRIAL, Page 3)

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U.N. atomic agency, U.S., Britain agree on dismantling Libya's nuclear program

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — The U.N. atomic watchdog agency will verify the scope and content of Libya's nuclear program, and U.S. and British experts will remove suspect materials from the North African country under an agreement reached Monday.

The agreement — hammered out by International Atomic Energy Agency chief Mohamed ElBaradei, U.S. Undersecretary of State John Bolton and William Ehrman, a top British disarmament expert — appeared to settle a dispute over who should be in charge of scrapping Tripoli's weapons programs.

The United States had pressed to supervise the process and destroy any materials capable of being used in a weapon, while the IAEA had contended it should have sole responsibility for the mission.

Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi announced last month his country was giving up its programs to develop weapons of mass destruction after months of secret talks with the United States and Britain.

The IAEA has said Libya was nowhere near producing a weapon, while Washington and London contended it was further along than the agency realizes.

"It was a very productive meeting. I think we're on the

same page with the IAEA on this very important project," Bolton told reporters after the session at the U.S. mission in Vienna.

ElBaradei called the meeting "very constructive," adding: "I think it went very well."

"We have agreement on what needs to be done," he said. "Clearly the agency's role is very clear — that we need to do the verification. A good part of the program needs to be eliminated, it needs to be moved out, and we clearly need the British and American support with logistics."

Libya recently ratified the nuclear test ban treaty and next

month will become a party to the convention prohibiting chemical weapons. Once it gets sufficient support worldwide to enter into force, the test ban treaty bans any nuclear weapon test explosion in any environment.

ElBaradei and a team of IAEA experts recently visited four once-secret nuclear facilities in the Libyan capital of Tripoli. Since then, both IAEA inspectors and joint U.S.-British teams have been to Libya to take stock of its nuclear programs.

U.S. helicopter hits house, killing 11: Afghan officials

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP) — A U.S. helicopter attacked a house in a village in southern Afghanistan, killing 11 people, four of them children, Afghan officials said Monday.

The U.S. military said it conducted a weekend raid in the area in which it killed five armed militants. It said it had no information about civilian casualties.

The attack occurred around 9 p.m. Sunday in Saghatu, a village where U.S. forces hunting for Taliban insurgents had carried out searches the day before, said Abdul Rahman, chief of Char Chino district in Uruzgan province.

"They were simple villagers, they were not Taliban. I don't know why the U.S. bombed this home. We have informed our authorities," he told The Associated Press by telephone in the southern city of Kandahar.

The governor of Uruzgan, Jan Mohammed Khan, confirmed Rahman's account that four men, four children and three women were killed in a U.S. bombing.

He said U.S. authorities had told him they seen ammunition in their search of the village.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

CRMWA

In October, CRMWA members voluntarily took a five percent reduction in their water allocations for 2004, rather than turning to their drought contingency plan.

With the new wells pumping, CRMWA officials said they will be able to pump 53,000 acre-feet of water this year, the maximum they're allowed under their Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District permits on an emer-

gency basis. Normally, they would only be allowed to pump 40,000 acre-feet.

Satterwhite said CRMWA is still looking for more water rights. He said they hope to obtain another 100,000 to 150,000 acres of water rights.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

BIVINS

vatism, said Bryan Eppstein, Seliger's consultant. Eppstein touted Seliger's record as Amarillo mayor and city commissioner.

During his tenure, Seliger reduced property taxes by a third after backing a sales tax in a referendum election, lowered the crime rate in Amarillo and helped to create thousands of new jobs.

Mayors in several Permian Basin cities, as well as the group Texans for Lawsuit Reform, have endorsed Barnes.

The 50-year old said he would look for inefficiencies in administration spending to

find extra dollars to put into education.

He said he opposes a state income tax and would consider a sales tax option that would not be detrimental to luring business and industry to Texas.

"I'm open-minded and don't have all the answers, but one thing I'm good at is thinking outside the box," he said.

Another GOP candidate, Jesse Quackenbush, an attorney and restaurant owner from Amarillo, switched parties after losing the District 87 election in November 2002 to incumbent state Rep. David Swinford.

Quackenbush said he advo-

cates a tax on recyclables — glass and plastic bottles and plastic bags — to help pay for education.

A 2-cent tax on bottles alone could bring in about \$600 million while creating jobs, raising money and reducing trash, he said.

"This is my idea on how to fund public education and at the same time clean up the environment," Quackenbush said.

The other Republican candidates are businessman Kirk Edwards, 44, of Odessa; farmer Lee Gibson, 50, of Dumas, who has served on the local school board for 13 years; and oilman Don Sparks, 64, from Midland.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

IOWA

relative strengths of get-out-the-vote organizations that are unusually important in caucuses.

Gephardt and Dean, a former Vermont governor, were given the edge there, while polls suggested Sens. Kerry and Edwards had late support coming their way.

Adding another element of uncertainty, a large percentage of potential caucus-goers told pollsters they might change their mind at the last minute.

One of them was Mary Beth Hill, a resident of Des Moines who has heard each of the contenders speak at least once and attended Kerry's rally Sunday night.

"It's my last chance to get a firsthand impression," said Hill, adding that while she leans toward Dean, her decision was not yet final.

"It's a question of electability for me," she said, stressing that her overriding goal is to help nominate a Democrat who can deny Bush a second term.

More than halfway across the state, Bettie Spaight of Cedar Rapids heard Edwards speak and said she, too, has yet to settle on a candidate. "If we could have a little bit of each of them in one candidate, that would be ideal," she said.

She can't, and Kerry, Dean, Gephardt and Edwards all presented their electability credentials as they crisscrossed the state on Sunday, the last full day of campaigning.

Edwards, a first-term senator from North Carolina, said he could defeat Bush where the president is strongest. "The South is not George Bush's back yard," he said of the Texas-reared president. "It

is my back yard and I will beat George Bush in my back yard, and you can take it to the bank."

Dean sought to make the same point, traveling south during the day to attend church in Plains, Ga., with former President Carter. "It doesn't really matter what state is your home state. What matters is the message you present to the people," Carter said.

Later, back in Iowa, Dean said: "We're going to reach out to the 50 percent of Americans who have quit voting because they can't tell the difference between Democrats and Republicans anymore, and give them a reason to vote again."

Kerry, accompanied by a man whose life he saved in combat, touted his experience as a Vietnam veteran and for-

ign policy credentials gained in nearly two decades in the Senate. He said Bush wants to turn the campaign into a referendum on the war in Iraq and the battle against terrorism.

If the president does, he said, "I have three words for you that they will understand. Bring it on."

Gephardt, with strong labor backing, has long claimed he is the Democrat with the best chance to beat Bush in midwestern industrial states.

The Missouri congressman added that he is the candidate who can appeal to hard-pressed working families, and punctuated his claim with a remark that drew laughter.

"I'll be the only person who serves eight years in the White House and is still paying college loans" for his children's education, he said.

TRIAL

tion of the Packers and Stockyards Act.

Thomas Green, Washington, D.C., based attorney for Tyson, in his opening statement, told the jury that this case was between two groups of cattlemen.

"We're caught in the middle," Green said. "Some want to sell their cattle this way. Some want to sell their cattle that way. We'll buy them however they want to sell them."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

As opening statements turned to testimony, Domina had Jeff Biegert, Laramie, Wyo., cattleman who has feedyards in Nebraska, explain how forward contracting worked.

Traditionally, if a cattleman wanted to assure a price for his cattle, he would offer a futures contract on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange for a specific month. Through an open market, someone else would buy that contract.

Biegert said that using the futures market is a transparent

way of contracting those cattle because the contracts are public records and prices are set in a public forum.

The problem with the forward contracting under formal or informal agreements between the packer and the large cattlemen, he said, is that no one knows exactly how many cattle the packers control. They are private transactions and there is no transparency, Biegert said. Other types of contracts between the packer and cattlemen raise similar issues.

Federal Consumer Protection has confirmed the fuel saving claims in this advertisement.*

\$22,000 awarded for device that increases gas mileage

WASHINGTON - After a five year study, the Consumer Protection Division of the federal government concluded: "Independent testing shows greater fuel savings with the Platinum Gas Saver than that claimed by the developer, National Fuelsaver Corp."

The government validated this fuel saving technology with an award of \$22,000 because the Platinum Gas Saver is the only known

method of dispensing platinum economically into engines, and platinum is the only known material that allows 22% more of each gallon to burn inside the engine.

Theoretically, burning 22% more of each gallon inside the engine translates directly into 22% more miles per gallon.

In addition to the fuel savings, the Gas Saver has received patents for cleaning out carbon and raising octane,

making higher priced gasoline unnecessary for most vehicles.

Joe Robinson, the developer, commented: "We have sold a half million Gas Savers. To our surprise, as many people buy the Gas Saver because it extends engine life by cleaning out the abrasive carbon as buy it to increase gas mileage or raise octane."

For further information call:
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*To receive the government's written conclusions, email your name and telephone number to nationalfuelsaver@cox.net



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DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Target of Classmates' Teasing Needs Someone on Her Side

DEAR ABBY: I am a girl in the fourth grade, and there are some mean people in my class. They're always making fun of this girl from China.

When I see them teasing her, I want to be nice to her — but I'm afraid if I am nice to her, they will make fun of me.

I am one of the cool kids. Abby, please tell me if I should be her friend.

TRYING TO BE NICE IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR TRYING: You are an intelligent, compassionate girl. The time to be a friend is when somebody needs one, and your classmate certainly needs one now. One effective way to defuse this kind of harassment is to speak up and say that you don't think what the bully is saying is funny.

Another way is to tell your parents, your teacher and the principal what is happening. That girl is being harassed because of her race — and it is against the law for it to be ignored. So don't wait. Speak up now. I commend you for writing.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 38-year-old divorced mother of two boys, ages 12 and 14. My boyfriend, "Nat," is divorced and has no children. We've been dating for three years. He is my best friend, and we get along great.

I am very much in love with Nat, but he says he will never marry again. I try dating other men, but they don't measure up to Nat. It seems Nat could get along fine without me in his life. I don't feel the same. Tell me, Abby, what's his problem?

WAITING IN THE SOUTHWEST

DEAR WAITING: Nat doesn't have a problem. You do. You have fallen in love with a man who has made it clear that he is unwilling to make a commitment to you and the boys. I give him credit for being honest with you.

DEAR ABBY: My co-worker's 20-year-old son recently committed

suicide. His mother was a single parent and the young man had long-standing emotional problems.

We are a department of about 20, and all her co-workers felt heartsick for her. All of us contributed toward the funeral spray.

When the funeral arrangements were finalized, the information was e-mailed to only about half of us. The rest — including me — were not invited. On the day of the funeral, the "invitees" came to work dressed in dark suits. It was very awkward.

While it is true that a grieving mother is justified in doing whatever makes her comfortable, I feel my feelings were not considered at all. I am deeply hurt that my gesture of sympathy was unappreciated.

SLIGHTED IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR SLIGHTED: Get over it. Your co-worker lost her child. You seem to feel that because you weren't invited to the funeral you somehow lost face. A funeral is not a party. It's also not a social gathering. Your grieving co-worker wanted those people to whom she felt closest around her when she buried her son. She does not deserve to be criticized for it.

CONFIDENTIAL TO "FEELING REVENGEFUL IN CLEVELAND": In the words of Martin Luther King Jr., whose birthday we remember today: "To retaliate in kind would do nothing but intensify the existence of hate in the universe. Along the way of life, someone must have sense enough, and morality enough, to cut off the chain of hate."

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

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

The Pampa News Comics

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Beetle Bailey



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B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



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Blondie



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 43 Lion

1 Oodles sounds

6 Talk show 44 Transmit

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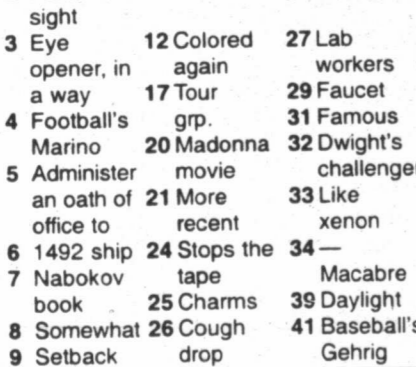
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42 Musical

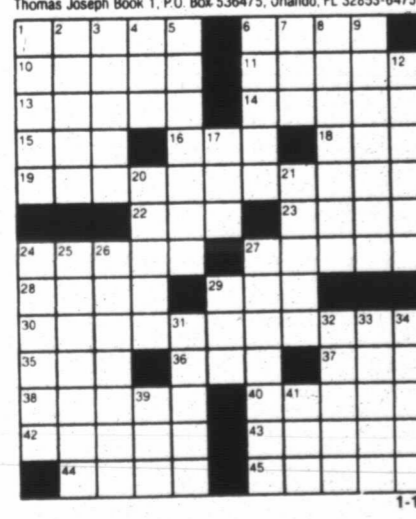
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Saturday's answer



NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.50 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



1-19

Marmaduke



"Come back, you Houdini!"

The Family Circus



"Billy! Do you realize you're asking to be written out of the feature?"

Flo & Friends



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Dear Members,

Happy New Year! It is early in the year but we are already in full swing at the Chamber. We have had five meetings so far and tomorrow is our monthly luncheon. We still have the Tourism Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 27th at 2 p.m. All of our meeting times and days are listed in our monthly calendar mailing. The holidays provided a nice break, but it is great to be back and geared up for another busy, productive and fun year ahead of us.

Hopefully you will be able to attend tomorrow's luncheon. We will have a great meal provided by R&R Catering along with an interesting program to be brought to us by City of Pampa Finance Director John Horst. He will discuss city finances with an emphasis on sales tax revenue which was up well over projections for 2003. John will also discuss where each of the sales tax components go and he will give examples of what is and what is not taxable.

As always, we invite all of our members to take part in one or more of our committees. These committees include Membership, Retail and Tourism. New ideas and added enthusiasm are always welcome. Keep in mind that we also can use assistance with each of our annual events such as our banquet, Pampa Partnership Golf Tournament, Business Expo, Tri-State Seniors Golf Tournament, College Rodeo, Country Fair, the Christmas parade and holiday promotion. So let us know which of these yearly functions you would like to assist with.

One more item of note, we now have new Chamber directories. Our publisher, Lawton Printing, has done an outstanding job on these directories and we want all of our members to have one. The directories are available to the public and we include them in all of our relocation packets, information packets and several members use them for recruiting purposes.

It looks as though 2004 will be an exciting year in Pampa and our surrounding area. As always, the Chamber staff looks forward to being of service to our members and our community. Let's all look forward to a great year of working together.

Sincerely,



Clay Rice
Executive Director
Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce

January Chamber Luncheon

Tuesday, Jan. 20 at 11:45 a.m. in the M.K. Brown Room of the Pampa Community Building.
Speaker: City Finance Director John Horst
Sponsor: Memory Gardens of Pampa
Caterer: R&R Catering

Welcome New Members

Megan's Biscuits & Burgers
2505 Perryton Parkway
Alex Ulibarri, Manager

Easley Animal Hospital
8741 Loop 171
Ronald Easley, DVM



(Courtesy photo)

Pampa Chamber of Commerce Goldcoats welcome "Create-A-Beat" After School Program, 1615 N. Banks. Goldcoats (l to r): Gladys Vanderpool, Bob Marx, Linda Daniels, Roy Morriss, and Darville Orr. Create-A-Beat Staff (l-r): Mike Sublett, Julie Long, Tamra Burns, Katy Hupp and Angi Woelfe.

Remember to support our Chamber Members Businesses including these:

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Ford Family Chiropractic
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665-7261
Dr. Mark W. Ford, Jr. |
| Cellular One
1329 N. Hobart
669-3435
LaTonne Douglas | Christmas Lighting Exhibits
Celebration of Lights
822 E. Foster
Rae Bagley |
| Dobson Cellular Systems
2131 Perryton Parkway
665-0500
Staci Cochran | Clinics - Medical
Family Medicine Center
3022 Perryton Parkway
665-0801
Dr. Keith Black
Dr. Robert Julian
Dr. Nam Lee
Dr. Dan Powell |
| Totally Wireless
2145B N. Hobart
669-1551
Linda Ellis | Urology Clinic
2931 Perryton Parkway
665-6511
Dr. Rene Grabato |
| Cemeteries
Memory Gardens of Pampa
23rd & Price Road
665-8921
Daniel Zuniga | Texas Plains Women's Center
3023 N. Perryton Parkway,
Suite 205
665-9900
Dr. J. Scott Ellis |
| Check Cashing Services
Mr. Payroll
309 N. Hobart (inside Allsup's)
669-2274
Delta Broadbent | |

Year in Review



Gray County Courthouse Dedication



2003 Las Pampas Koi & Water Garden Club Pond Tour



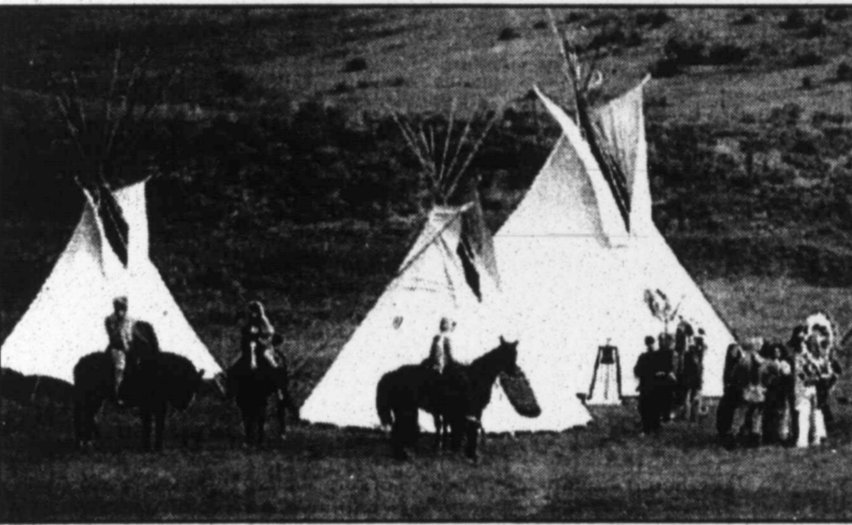
2003 Business Expo



2003 Annual Banquet and Citizen of the Year Awards



Pampa Citizens of the Year Thelma Bray and Mike Porter share the honor of being Grand Marshals for the 2003 Christmas Parade.



Red River Indian War re-enactments for "Discover America"



2003 Chautauqua



Goldcoats welcomed many new businesses, including Cellular Innovations.



A crowd waits for the "Shop Pampa & Win" drawing.

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AP Poll: Concerns about health care, jobs edge up

By WILL LESTER
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — Concerns over health care and unemployment have edged higher in the public's consciousness over the last year as worries about the overall economy eased, an Associated Press poll found.

As domestic concerns shift, worries about terrorism continue to loom large, as they have for more than two years, according to the poll conducted for the AP by Ipsos-Public Affairs.

The poll offers a glimpse of Americans' leading concerns at a time with Democrats starting to choose a presidential nominee with Monday's Iowa caucuses and President Bush spelling out his election-year agenda in the State of the

Union address Tuesday.

When asked in an open-ended question to name the most important problems facing the United States, 21 percent cited terrorism as a top concern — about the same proportion that have done so each quarter in the past year. Nearly one-third called terrorism a top problem in January 2002.

"I think the most important problem is, containing terrorism," said Bonnie Arnold, a 62-year-old paralegal from Walnut Creek, Calif. "It changes our way of life. I lived with the cold war, all my life, now this has replaced it. It's like a sword hanging over our heads."

When the poll was taken in early January, the nation was still under a heightened terror alert that has since been lowered.

Republicans were nearly twice as likely as Democrats to mention terrorism as one of the most important problems.

Democrats were twice as likely as Republicans to say health care was one of the most important problems. Minorities were twice as likely as whites to say unemployment was a major concern.

Improving signs from the economy recently have lessened worries that it is one of the most important problems. A year ago, 36 percent identified the economy as a top problem, double the 18 percent who gave that answer in the new poll.

When asked an open-ended question, poll respondents must offer an answer that comes to mind, rather than choose from a list of options given to them. They were allowed to

offer more than one top problem in their answer.

Concerns about other issues affecting people's economic security have been growing.

Health care costs were mentioned by 19 percent in the poll, up from 11 percent a year ago and 5 percent two years ago. Unemployment was mentioned by 14 percent, up slightly from 9 percent a year ago.

Over the last year, Americans' feelings about their economic welfare have been boosted by a third round of tax cuts that took effect during the summer, continued low interest rates that have spurred record home sales and an improving stock market.

Signs of an improving labor market have been halting. The government reported earlier this month that

the unemployment rate dipped to 5.7 percent in December, the lowest level in 14 months. But payrolls rose by only 1,000 jobs in December, a tiny fraction of the 100,000 that analysts had hoped would be created.

The war in Iraq, a dominant issue in campaign debate this year, was mentioned by 5 percent as one of the most important problems.

Regarding health care costs, twice as many women (26 percent) as men (13 percent) cited that as a top problem.

The AP-Ipsos poll of 1,000 adults was taken Jan. 5-7 and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

On the Net:
Ipsos-Public Affairs
<http://www.ipsos.com/ap>

King's widow calls for reconciliation of conservatives, liberals

By LOUISE CHU
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

ATLANTA (AP) — The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s widow called Monday for an end to acrimony in politics as Americans paused to remember the slain civil rights leader.

Coretta Scott King talked last year about avoiding war in Iraq, and her plea for nonviolence returned this year. "Peaceful

ends can only be reached through peaceful means," she said in her annual King Day address.

This year, with the presidential contest looming, Mrs. King also talked about peace at home.

"The noblest goal is not conquest of enemies but reconciliation with adversaries. We must remember in this election year that Republicans and Democrats, conservatives and

liberals, we are all sisters and brothers," she said.

The audience at Ebenezer Baptist Church, where King preached until his assassination in 1968, included King's children, sister and other dignitaries. Hymns were led by the chorus from Morehouse College, King's Atlanta alma mater.

Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin drew a thunderous standing ovation for her barbs at President Bush.

"Perhaps some prefer to honor the dreamer while ignoring or fighting the dream," she said. "For those of us who hold elective office, the public policy we advocate and adopt — from foreign affairs to domestic budgeting — tells the real story

of our celebration of Dr. King's legacy. ... Can't we protect our borders and promote peace around the world?"

On King's actual birthday last week in Atlanta, hundreds had protested President Bush's visit to King's tomb, chanting, "Peace, not war; that's what Martin stood for."

King would have turned 75 on Thursday.

In Tallahassee, Fla., about a dozen students walked out Monday before Gov. Jeb Bush, the president's brother, spoke at historically black Florida A&M University. In a statement, the students criticized his views on affirmative action, among other things.

The governor said the stu-

dents have every right to express their views. Jeb Bush also said Florida A&M's success "could not have occurred without the struggles that Dr. King and many others a generation ago undertook."

The daylong celebrations of King Day were to include memorials, church services and volunteer projects around the country. Organizers of holiday events have long emphasized the importance of community service, exhorting citizens to "Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On. ... Not a Day Off."

In Dallas, hundreds of spectators cheered and clapped as floats and marching bands paraded through city streets.

"The struggle is not over,"

said parade organizer Daryl Blair. "That's just not for blacks, that's for whites alike. We have to understand that this is a melting pot and the civil rights movement was about unity, not just for the black race but for mankind."

The Rev. Vashti Murphy-McKenzie, the first female bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, told a holiday breakfast gathering in Boston that some progress has been eroded.

"The chipping away of minority set-asides, the chipping away of scholarships for minority students, affirmative action forever under attack — that says it's good, but it's not good enough," she said.

'Pastures of Plenty'



(Courtesy photo)

Ronnie Holmes, left, president of Pampa Community Concert Association, and Kent Olson, PCCA presentation chair, visit during a recent planning session. The Vanaver Caravan's "Pastures of Plenty - Woody Guthrie in Dance and Music," a concert association presentation, is scheduled at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 20, at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Memberships/tickets will be available at the door. For more information, contact Holmes at 665-2631.

CLUB NEWS

Club news is published strictly on a first come, first serve basis due to space limitations. The deadline each week for Sunday's paper is Wednesday at 5 p.m., (Tuesday at 12 noon on holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas.) The deadline does not guarantee publication that week. Thank you.

Progressive TEEA

Progressive Texas Extension Education Association Club met Jan. 8 at the home of Mary Ann Bailey with President June Rowan presiding.

The following business was conducted and announcements made:

—Roll call was answered with "What Is a Friend?"

—Rowan gave a report on the Council meeting.

—Helene Baumgardner read minutes from the previous meeting, and Bailey delivered the treasurer's report.

—Ruth Barrett discussed with the membership suggestions for Council fund-raisers.

—District Spring Meeting is scheduled April 13 at First United Methodist Church in

Canyon.

—Beulah Terrell reported on donations to the Department of Human Resources.

—The annual budget was voted on and passed.

—The program was presented by Barrett on "Heritage - You Got It."

—The next Council meeting is scheduled Jan. 19.

—Members presented Rowan with a gift for her service as club president. Rowan also won the hostess prize.

The next meeting will be at 2 p.m. Feb. 12 at the home of Geneva Barton, 2238 Duncan.

Altrusa

Altrusa International Inc., of Pampa met Jan. 13 at Pampa Country Club with President Billie Sue Evans presiding. Billie Dixon and Diann Birdsall served as greeters. Dena Castleman attended as a guest.

The following business was conducted and announcements made:

—Evans reviewed her goals for the club year.

—Mary McDaniel and Brenda Tucker were recognized for their appearance in the district newsletter, "News of the Mighty Ninth."

—Terry Gamblin present-

ed the Accent on procedures for electing the Nominating Committee.

—Rochelle Lacy and Susan Winborne were granted a three month and a six month leave of absence, respectively.

—Anne Stobbe, Kerrick Horton, Tucker and Gamblin were elected to serve on the Nominating Committee. The slate of officers will be presented at the February business meeting.

—Add an Altrusan Day is scheduled for 12 noon Jan. 21 at Lovett Memorial Library. Members were encouraged to bring guests.

—Members were urged to participate in National Random Act of Kindness Week celebrated Feb. 9-15.

—Birthday greetings went to Chleo Worley, Birdsall, Louise Bailey and DeLynn Gordzelik.

The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Jan. 20 at Pampa Country Club.

Heritage Art Club

Heritage Art Club met recently at Lovett Memorial Library. Roxanne Hendrix and Betty Hannon were the hostesses.

The following business was conducted and announcements made:

—Hendrix delivered the program on decorated tassels.

—Secret pal gifts were exchanged and the door prize given away.

Heritage Art Club meets the first Monday of each month at Pampa Senior Citizens Center. New members are welcome. For more information, contact Betty McCracken at 665-1597.

PTI

Preceptor Theta Iota Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi met Jan. 12 in the home of hostess Carol Carpenter with President Monica Leonard officiating.

The following business was conducted and announcements made:

—Plans are under way for a pre-party and dinner for Valentine's sweethearts, Pat Kindle and Ann Franklin.

—Carpenter read an article entitled "Will You Pass It On."

The next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 22 at Lampliter Restaurant.

Timeless Treasures

Timeless Treasures Quilt Guild will meet at 9:30 a.m. Jan. 31 in the Disciple Center of First Christian Church in Guymon, Okla. Participants should bring salads for lunch.

The morning program will be delivered by members of Panhandle Piecers Quilt Club of Guymon. Approximately 70 quilts will be shown and each person will provide information about patterns and other related details.

Four separate mini workshops will be held in the afternoon with Judy Rice, Leanne Chaffin, Mollie Mathis, Anna Mayer, Mary Anne Mayer and Barbara Bohlander.

Rice and Chaffin will present a workshop on "Strip Prairie Points." Mathis in bias binding techniques, Anna Mayer in watercolor quilts using fusible interfacing, and Mary Anne Mayer and Bohlander in English paper piecing.

New members are welcome. For more information, call (580) 338-6488 or e-mail jamfast@hotmail.com.



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