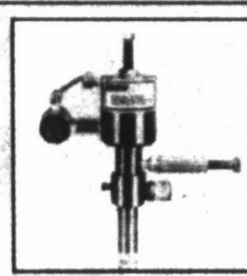


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LOCAL
Medical fund set up for Lefors toddler
 A fund to help with medical expenses for Taylor Shaller, 3, of Lefors has been set up at National Bank of Commerce, 1224 N. Hobart. Taylor is the daughter of Irene and David Shaller of Lefors and Heidi and Steve Phelps of Pampa.

DEATHS
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No link, so far, between murders

Local investigators find no evidence connecting Jane Doe with Okla. killings

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 EDITOR

Despite the similarities to a woman found murdered near Grapevine, Gray County authorities say no evidence links her killing to an unidentified woman found murdered near Interstate 40 last October.

"Right now, we don't have any evidence it is linked," said Chief Deputy Kelly Rushing of the Gray County Sheriff's Office which handling the investigation of the I-40 murder.

Earlier this week, an Associated Press article reported that Grapevine

and Oklahoma authorities are sharing information on seven murders, six of prostitutes discovered in or near creeks or ponds in Oklahoma.

The latest victim, Jo Pipestem, 19, was discovered Feb. 1 in Big Bear Creek of Texas 360 in the Fort Worth suburb of Grapevine, according to AP reports. Police do not know where Pipestem was killed, but believe she may have been picked up in southern Oklahoma, the AP reported.

Pipestem, like the Gray County Jane Doe, are both Native Americans, authorities say. Jane Doe was last seen at a truck stop at Sayre, Okla., authori-

ties have said. Both bodies, nude, were apparently dumped off the side of the roadway.

Unlike the other victims, Jane Doe was not left near a creek or pond, but on an access road off of Interstate-40 near the Johnson Ranch Road in southwest Gray County. According to autopsy reports, she died of massive injuries and had been run over by a vehicle.

Jessica Brown of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation in Oklahoma City told the Associated Press that it's possible that the Grapevine victim's death could be connected to five suspicious deaths of

Lawton, Okla., women between Aug. 9, 1999, and Jan. 2, 2000. Their nude bodies were found in rural areas near Lawton. A sixth body found Jan. 1 was discovered in a creep bed in Pottawatomie County, Okla., southeast of Oklahoma City.

"We're, of course, working to find out if there is any connection (to the other murders), but nothing we have right now that points to any," Rushing said.

"We don't even have our victim identified," he added. "We pursue those kind of leads until we do find

(See LINK, Page 3)

Two constable spots contested in primary

By MARILYN POWERS
 STAFF WRITER

Seven of the nine county positions up for election this year have incumbents running unopposed in the March 9 primary race.

Positions up for election include county attorney, district attorney, sheriff, tax assessor/collector, county commissioners for Precincts 1 and 3, and all constables. Precincts 1 and 3 share one constable, and Precincts 2 and 4 have one constable each.

Deadline for filing as a candidate in the primary was Jan. 2. No Democrats filed as candidates in any of the races. Write-in candidates are not included in the primary.

Winners in the March primary will advance to the November general elections. November winners will take office Jan. 1, 2005.

Incumbents running unopposed on the Republican ticket March 9 are Joshua M. Seabourn, county attorney; Rick Roach, district attorney; Don B.

(See PRIMARY, Page 3)

City election set May 15

By MARILYN POWERS
 STAFF WRITER

Some Pampa residents will have an opportunity to vote on their city commissioner May 15 when Wards 2 and 4 go to the polls in a city election.

Filing dates for candidates to enter the races are Feb. 14 through March 15. Persons interested in running for one of the seats on the city commission may pick up a packet in Room 205 at City Hall. No fee is charged to file as a candidate in the city races.

Ward 2, currently represented on the city commission by Jeff Andrews, is the northeast section of town. Its

boundaries include Perryton Parkway, Hamilton Street, Harvester Avenue, Mary Ellen Street and Red Deer Creek, and extends to the city limits on the north and east.

Ward 4, currently represented by Faustina Curry, is located in the southwest quadrant of the city. Its boundaries include Kentucky Avenue, Red Deer Creek, Cuyler and Barnes Streets, and extends to the city limits on the south and west.

Early voting in the election will be April 28 through May 11 in Room 205 at City Hall. Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the

(See CITY, Page 3)

Jury ponders five questions in IBP trial

By DAVID BOWSER
 SPECIAL TO THE PAMPA NEWS

MONTGOMERY, Ala. -- As a jury here began its third day of deliberations this morning in a lawsuit that accuses the world's largest beef of using captive supplies of cattle to force down the cash cattle market, it faced five questions.

Cattle feeders are suing packer IBP, now Tyson Fresh Foods, accusing the packer of manipulating the cash market for cattle going to slaughter in violation of federal law.

U.S. Senior District Judge Lyle Strom told the jury Tuesday when they began their deliberations that they must specifically decide if there is a nationwide market for fed cattle, if IBP's use of captive supplies had an anticompet-

itive effect on the cash cattle market, if IBP had a legitimate business reason for using captive supplies, if the use of captive supplies caused the cash market for cattle to decline and if IBP's use of captive supplies financially injured each and every member of the plaintiffs' class.

Under the court's definition, captive supply refers to cattle purchased by a packer through marketing agreements or alliances, formula sales, forward contracts, or joint ventures, and which do not constitute cash market transactions. The term cash market refers to cattle transactions where the price or base price was negotiated at the time of sale and where the cattle were delivered for slaughter within seven days.

While six cattlemen initiated this suit, the lawsuit was certified a class-

action case in 2002. IBP's lawyers claim that there is no way of knowing exactly how large that class is. The cattlemen suing the packer say it is more than 30,000 cattlemen and 4,000 feedyards that sold cattle to the packer in the cash market between Feb. 1, 1994, and Oct. 31, 2002.

Judge Strom said the class included in the lawsuit will ultimately have to be determined by the jury hearing the case.

In instructing the jury, the judge told them Tuesday that if they answer no to any of the first five questions concerning captive supply and the cattle market, then that was all they needed to do. If, however, the answer to each of the five questions was yes, then they were to consider two more questions.

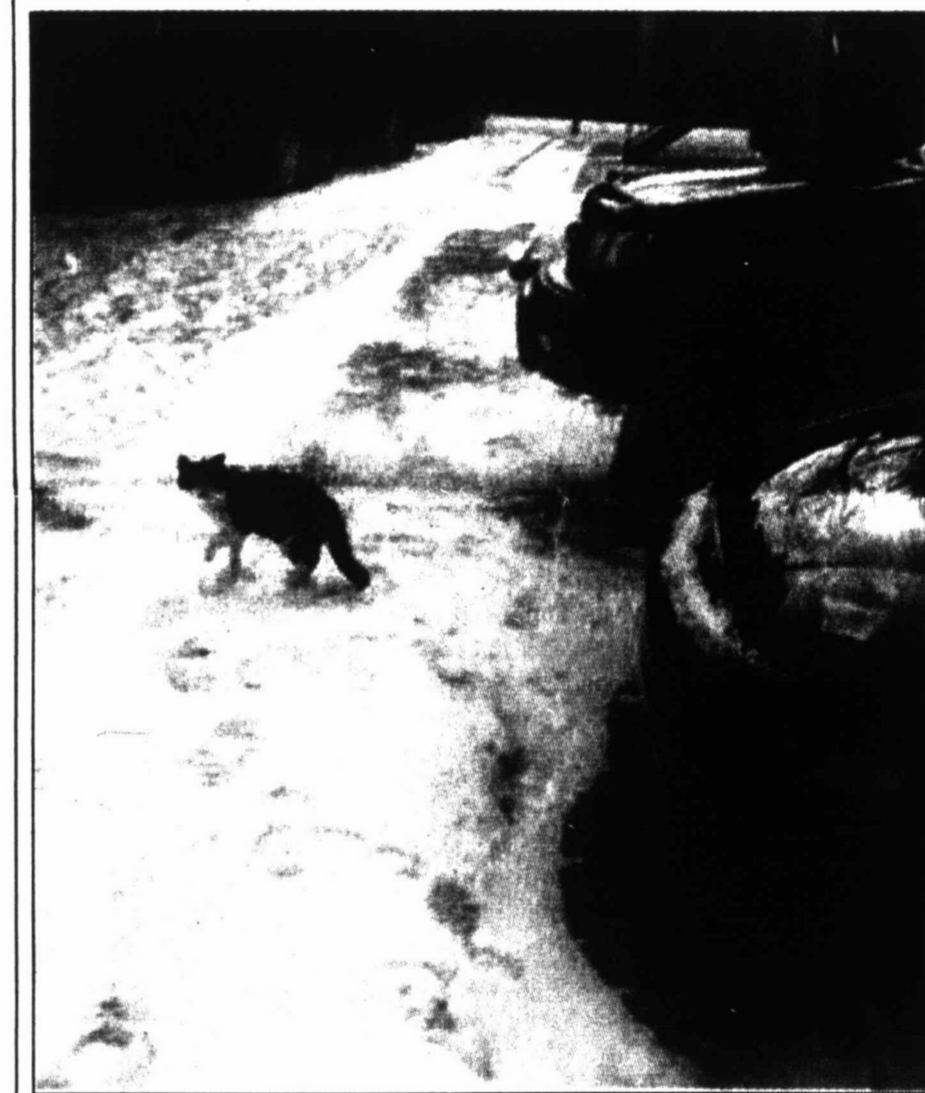
Judge Strom told the jury that if

their unanimous answer was yes to the five questions, then they were to decide a dollar amount of damages to the cash market for the period covered in the lawsuit. They were also to decide whether IBP's use of captive supply depressed the cash cattle market for fed cattle by an equal percentage for each year of the class period, and, if so, by what percentage.

The cattlemen, using a flat rate determined by their expert witness Dr. Robert Taylor, an agricultural economist from Auburn University, claim the damages should be more than \$2.1 billion.

IBP attorneys say a flat rate can't be used because prices at different IBP packing plants varied during the eight years and nine months covered by the lawsuit.

Cold kitty cat



(Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers)

This cool cat tiptoes through the snow at Caprock Apartments this morning with an air of disgust at the wintry conditions. Snowfall which began Wednesday evening caused slick pavement and frosted auto glass for Pampans to cope with this morning.

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(Courtesy photo)

Wind turbines dot the prairie near White Deer.

White Deer joins Wind Power Trail

WHITE DEER — White Deer City Council voted recently to join the Wind Power Trail — the nation's first interstate tourism project devoted to alternative energy and historic vintage windmill collections. The trail, developed by a consortium of communities and tourism agencies, goes from Lawton, Okla., to Lubbock, and includes numerous small towns along the way. Visitors will be able to visit some of the largest wind turbines in America as well as the nation's foremost collections of vintage windmills. Designed to get travelers off the main highways and into rural communities, the project consists of trail maps, an audio CD, and a website (www.windpowertrail.com).

Texas communities along the trail include Spearman, White Deer, Canyon, Plainview and Lubbock. Amarillo is notably absent from the trail despite the project's regional flavor, interstate partnerships and leadership from the Lubbock Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Seth Davidson, tourism project developer from Miami, believes that "this is a classic case of small and large communities working together

to achieve the common goal of publicity, economic development, and tourism. Having strong support from communities like White Deer, Lubbock and out-of-state entities like the Oklahoma Department of Tourism makes all the difference."

White Deer provides the only commercial wind farm venue on the Texas side of the trail. Visitors will be able to enjoy the scenic lineup of the Panhandle's most noticeable landmark — giant wind turbines turning in the wind. The project will give travelers a chance to experience and to learn about the machinery that produces renewable energy, about the potential for wind power and about the historic importance of traditional windmills.

Trail publicity will include promotion at the June 2004 International Windmill Trade Fair in Shattuck, Okla., and a publicity booth at the 2004 Route 66 Festival in Tulsa, Okla.

Many Route 66 tourists will likely detour from the "Mother Road" in order to see the wind turbines and experience the Main Street, USA ambiance of White Deer and other towns on the trail.

FDIC, FBI investigate Internet e-mail fraud

At approximately 12 p.m. (EST) on Jan. 23, FDIC Consumer Call Centers in Kansas City, Missouri, and Washington, D.C., began receiving a large number of complaints by consumers who received an e-mail that has the appearance of being sent from the FDIC.

The e-mail informs the recipient that Department of Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge has advised the FDIC to suspend all deposit insurance on the recipient's bank account due to suspected violations of the USA Patriot Act.

The e-mail further indicates that deposit insurance will be suspended until personal identity, including bank account information, can be verified.

This e-mail was not sent by the FDIC and is a fraudulent attempt to obtain personal information from consumers. Financial institutions and consumers should NOT access the link provided within the body of the email and should NOT under any circumstances provide any

personal information through this media.

The FDIC and the FBI are attempting to identify the source of the emails and disrupt the transmission.

Until this is achieved, consumers are asked to report any similar attempts to obtain this information to the FDIC by sending information to alert@fdic.gov.

LINK

something, but, as of now, we aren't able to connect them."

A week ago, a small group of local citizens gathered for a brief service as the unidentified woman found in Gray County was buried at Fairview Cemetery in Pampa.

Meanwhile, Gray County Sheriff's deputies continue to

try to find out who the woman was, who killed her, and why.

She is described as being 5'8" tall, weighing 134 pounds, between the ages of 35 and late 40s. She had medium length, dark hair, long fingernails and a five-inch scar on her mid-abdomen.

She was last seen at the Flying J Truck Stop at Sayre,

Okla., about 2 a.m., on Oct. 16. She was known to be carrying a black and tan backpack and a small, soft-sided bright blue Igloo cooler.

She was believed to have been wearing pants, a shirt, and an overshirt, resembling men's clothing. None of the items or clothing were found with the victim. Investigators believe she caught a ride traveling west from the truck stop.

Three trucks were seen at about 6 a.m., Oct. 16, pulled off of I-40 near the location where the woman's body was found less than two hours later.

Anyone with information regarding the Gray County victim can contact the local sheriff's office at 669-8022.



This artist rendering of the unidentified murder victim's face was provided by Gray County Sheriff's Office.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

PRIMARY

Copeland, sheriff; Gaye L. Whitehead, tax assessor/collector; Joe H. Wheeley, Precinct 1 commissioner; Gerald Lee Wright, Precinct 3 commissioner; and James H. Lewis, Precincts 1 and 3 constable.

Incumbent Christan R. Lockridge, Precinct 2 constable, is opposed by Christopher B. (Chris) Didway and Manny Holden.

Incumbent Frank W. Sparling Sr. of McLean, Precinct 4 constable, is being challenged by Johnnie Max Carpenter, Marvin D. (M.D.) Fletcher, Michael L. (Mike) Nicholson and former Gray County sheriff Randy P. Stubblefield.

The Pampa News will publish one photo and news story per candidate. Candidates may schedule an interview by contacting Marilyn Powers at 669-2525, extension 326, and leaving a message.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

CITY

close of business on May 7.

The May 15 election may be held at Lovett Memorial Library due to the high school prom being scheduled on that date at M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium, said Mitch Grant, city manager.

For more information, call the city secretary's office at 669-5750.

Gray Co. spelling bee set for March 5

The annual Gray County Spelling Bee will be held on Friday, March 5, in the Auditorium at Pampa Middle School, 2401 Charles, announced Herman Vinson, director of the event.

Contestants should plan to arrive by 8:30 a.m. in order to sign in and draw for spelling order. The competition will begin at 9 a.m. Vinson asked that he be contacted by March 3 with the names of contestants and alternate contestants that will be attending at 669-4900, or by e-mail at the school address.

Students in grades five and below will compete for Junior Champion, he said, while students in grades eight and below will compete for Senior Champion. It is possible for an elementary school student to win the county title and become the Gray County champion, he explained.

The National Spelling Bee rules will be followed, Vinson said. The Gray County winner will be eligible to com-

pete in the Regional Spelling Bee on Saturday, March 27, to be held on the campus of West Texas A&M University in Canyon. The afternoon competition, open to the public, will begin at 1:30 p.m. in the Mary Moody Northern Concert Hall. There is no charge.

High Plains Art Show results

A multitude of artists from throughout the area participated in the High Plains Art Festival held at Roberts County Museum in Miami recently. Peggy Sirey of Goodwell, Okla., took Best of Show honors.

The following is a complete list of the winners:

Adults Division. Grant Johnson, Pampa, first place; Linda Nowell, Pampa, second place; and Lois Minnick, Pampa, third place.

15-18 Age Division. Jennifer Myers, McLean, first place; Katie Baehler, Spearman, second place; Sami Cazares, Spearman, third place; Michael Lozano, Spearman, fourth place;

Emily de la Garza, Spearman, fifth place.

11-14 Age Division. Lane Douglass, Miami, first place; Paul Lewis, Canadian, second place; 3-Blake Baker, (town not listed) third place; Dawson Clark, Wheeler, fourth place; Ryan Alexander, Canadian, fifth place.

6-10 Age Division. Chloe Zedlitz, Pampa, first place; Rachel Andrews, Pampa, second place; Kara Stabel, Pampa, third place; Elizabeth Terry, Pampa, fourth place; Quincy Webb, Lipscomb, fifth place.

0-5 Age Division. Lindsey Thompson, Pampa, first place; Edy Brainard, Canadian, second place.

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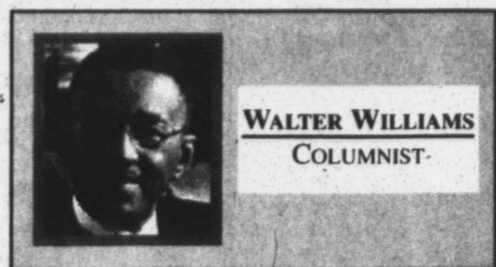
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Having been deserted by her husband, my mother worked. That meant that my one-year-younger sister and I often lunched by ourselves during our pre-teen years. Being bigger and stronger than my sister, quite often there wouldn't be a fair division of the food, especially the desserts.



WALTER WILLIAMS
COLUMNIST

Coming home from work, Mom would be greeted by sob stories about my lunchtime injustices. There came a time when Mom got fed up with the sibling hassles — but she didn't admonish us to be more caring, fair, sensitive and considerate of one another. She just made a new rule: whoever cuts the cake (pie, bread, meat, etc.) gives the other person the first selection. With that new rule in place, you can bet that when either my sister or I cut any food that was to be divided between us, the portions probably didn't differ by one microgram.

mine, or whether my sister was doing the cutting, or whether I was — the cake-cutting outcome was just.

This year, billions of dollars and billions of hours will be spent campaigning for this or that candidate in our national elections. Can we argue that the nation's welfare is served best by picking the "right" person? I think not. The nation's welfare is served best by focusing not on political personalities, but on neutral rules of the game and their even application and enforcement.

You say, "That's a nice story, Williams, but what's the point?" The point is that the principle underlying Mom's rule is precisely the kind of rules necessary to promote a civilized society. In general, the kinds of rules that we want are those that promote justice, whether it's our best friend or our worst enemy who happens to be the decision-maker. In the case of Mom's rule, it didn't make any difference whether I hated my sister's guts that day, or she hated

Think for a moment about sports — say, basketball. Teams play one another. One team loses and the other wins, but they and their fans leave the stadium peacefully and most often as friends. Why? The game's outcome is seen as fair because there are fixed, known, neutral rules evenly applied by the referees. The referee's job is to apply the rules — not determine the game's outcome. Imagine the chaos on the court and among the fans if one team had its paid referees to help it win, while its opponent had theirs.

In the political arena, the Framers gave us reasonably fair and neutral rules of the game, otherwise known as the United States Constitution. If our government acted, as the Framers intended, as a referee and night watchman, how much difference would it make to any of us who occupied the White House or Congress? It would make little, if any. It would be just like our basketball game example. Any government official who knew and enforced the rules would do. But increasingly, who's in office is making a difference, since government has abandoned its referee and night watchman function and gotten into the business of determining winners and losers.

In many places around the world, the prospect of, or the result of, national elections leads to all manner of violence and mayhem. Why? Because the political arena plays a much larger role than ours in determining winners and losers, and in some cases who wins can literally mean life or death. We need only look at the history of countries in Africa, the Middle East and Southeast Asia. Where governments decide winners and losers, the most effective coalitions are those based on race, religion, region and ethnicity — the bloodiest coalitions in mankind's history.

So which is it: Do we want government as referee and night watchman or the decider of winners and losers?

Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Pampa News*.

TEXAS EDITORIAL

Let Vietnam remain in the past and judge candidates on merits

From the Feb. 5 Austin American-Statesman:
 It is too early to declare U.S. Sen. John Kerry the Democratic Party nominee for president, but in recent memory, no candidate has won so many early contests and not been nominated.

This weekend's caucuses in Michigan, Washington and Maine, and next week's primaries in Virginia and Tennessee may help the Democrats still doing battle keep going until the Super Tuesday primaries March 2. But it's hard to see retired Gen. Wesley Clark, former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean and U.S. Sen. John Edwards unhorsing Kerry after his string of early victories.

In fact, the national campaign between Kerry and President Bush already is under way, though it is being played out on the back pages. Kerry is attacking Bush on the economy, his budget and the war in Iraq at his regularly scheduled campaign stops.

Because Bush isn't actively campaigning — though Kerry's delegate count may stir Bush to get on the trail sooner — he's vulnerable, and it's showing. Bush's poll numbers are slipping as the Democrats gather the nation's attention, his budget is taking shots from all sides, and the level of spending and debt incurred under his administration worries many in both parties.

Kerry's liabilities will be highlighted when Bush engages him directly. The senator's shape-shifting political record, his confusing views and votes on the war in Iraq, and his party's opposition to free trade will become major issues in this long election year.

But the first bout between Bush and Kerry, being fought by their seconds, has been over their military service more than 30 years ago. Although a debate over the wisdom, prosecution and efficacy of the Iraq war is expected to be a defining issue in the campaign, the candidates began it by reversing roles and refighting the Vietnam War.

Democrats, who long opposed the Vietnam War, have been assailing Bush for serving stateside as a pilot in the Air National Guard and ostensibly cheating on that service. Having forgotten President Clinton's antimilitary draft-dodging, Democrats are emboldened by comparing Bush's safe military stint with Kerry's heroism as a Naval officer in Vietnam.

Republicans are lashing back, defending Bush's record as commander in chief and, in some quarters, denouncing Kerry for leading opposition to the Vietnam War when he returned. Faulting Kerry for opposing a war he deemed not worth the sacrifice of more Americans is bitterly wrong. Kerry earned with his blood the right to speak out against the war.

But attacking Bush for his National Guard duty is just as ignoble. It is difficult today to see clearly through the haze of 35 years and realize how troubling the Vietnam War was for young men in the late 1960s. Some served stateside as Bush did; others fought in the war with Kerry. Some moved to Canada, and others wriggled out of any military duty under a variety of excuses.

Using today's standards to judge who was right and who was wrong then is misguided. No one who didn't have to decide can say today what he would have done in 1969. What's important in assessing Kerry and Bush as they seek the White House is what they've done in their lives since that troubling time.

As the presidential campaign shifts into a higher gear, it emboldens neither Democrats nor Republicans to argue that Kerry and Bush are defined by Vietnam and its aftermath. Voters should judge them by their actions in office and their promise for the future. Vietnam is long past, and its legacy should be left to history, not this campaign.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Thursday, Feb. 12, the 43rd day of 2004. There are 323 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

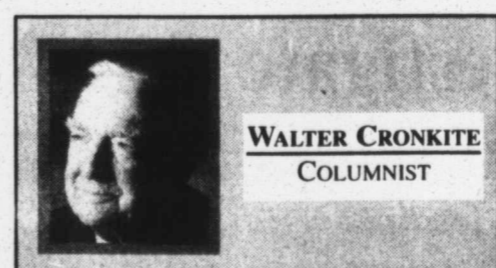
On Feb. 12, 1809, Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president of the United States, was born in present-day Larue County, Ky.

On this date:

In 1554, Lady Jane Grey, who'd claimed the throne of England for nine days, and her husband, Guildford Dudley, were beheaded after being condemned for high treason.

Not intelligence, but unintelligence

Even before David Kay's bombshell statement on the absence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, the story of things gone wrong began to leak from fissures in the Bush administration's facade of self-righteous certainty. But, having just resigned as head of the search for those weapons, Kay's statement had weight. Assumptions of blame focused, of course, on the CIA and other spy agencies whose faulty intelligence had misled America into war. Kay himself tightened that focus by saying the intelligence community owed the president an apology.



WALTER CRONKITE
COLUMNIST

He and unnamed CIA and congressional officials held the White House blameless, saying they found no evidence that analysts had altered their findings due to White House pressures.

But the story that had been building for some weeks was more complicated than that. It was developed most fully, perhaps, in an article in the January/February issue of *The Atlantic* magazine by Kenneth Pollack, a former CIA analyst and member of President Clinton's National Security Council (he also wrote the book "The Threatening Storm: The Case for Invading Iraq").

In the *Atlantic* piece, he told of disagreements among intelligence analysts and of their disagreements with the way the White House used their information. Pollack said conditional, tentative assessments and caveats that analysts included in some of their key conclusions were sometimes stripped away to make the most forceful argument possible for the need to attack Iraq and to do it quickly. Pollack wrote that former

colleagues complained to him about the use of their worst-case scenarios as though they were established facts.

CIA Director George Tenet last week insisted that the White House "never told us what to say." But in a spirited defense of his agency to an audience at Georgetown University, he confirmed the story that CIA analysts had not been in agreement on several points and had not agreed with the White House claim of urgency.

Regarding the estimate of danger sent to the president, Tenet said: "Analysts differed on several important aspects of [the Iraqi threat], and those debates were spelled out in the estimate. They never said there was an imminent threat." But whether or not anyone told the White House the threat was "imminent," the American people certainly were given the impression that it was and that no time could be wasted in removing it. As National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice put it, "We don't want the smoking gun to be a mushroom cloud."

But let me add a caveat of my own here. Regardless of what the White House did with it, the fact that the CIA produced flawed intelligence about Iraq can hardly be disputed. The Clinton administration was given the same

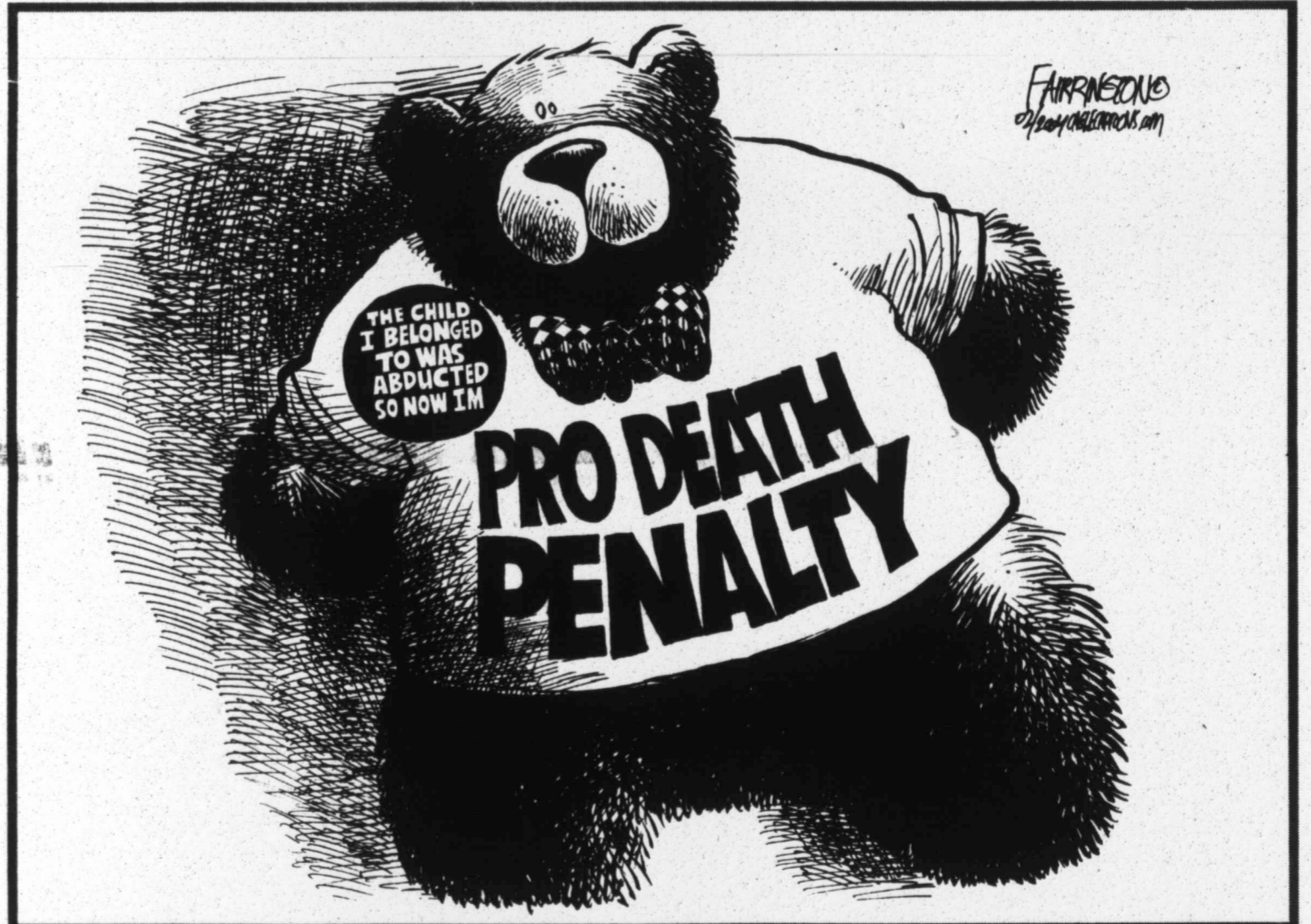
information. And Tenet himself acknowledged that his agency had passed on to the White House some unreliable and even fabricated intelligence.

As it became clear that we went to war on the basis of false assumptions, if not false pretenses, Democrats and Republicans demanded an investigation. Despite his original opposition, Bush yielded and has now appointed a commission with at least a semblance of political impartiality. Democrats will be included. However, some of the more skeptical congressional observers feel the commission is tainted by the fact that the president appointed its members without consulting Congress.

Meanwhile, the Democrats look with deep suspicion on Bush's designation of March 2005 as the date for the commission's report — five months after the election. Of course, the election could be affected by leaks along the way, and the Democrats can certainly be counted on to agitate for a pre-election date for that report.

However, the damage done by our rush to war and by the crumbling of that war's primary justification already has deeply troubled many Americans who now realize that under George Bush the United States has suffered a major self-inflicted wound. The experts will be a long time calculating the full costs, but the voters just might add it up themselves next November.

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



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U.N. official shares Bush's concern over trafficking of nukes

By VANESSA GERA
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — The head of the U.N. nuclear agency demanded Thursday that the world's nuclear powers do more to stop the spread of nuclear weapons, saying that he shares President Bush's sense of urgency over the atomic black market.

Mohamed ElBaradei, the director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, called on the United

States and the other declared nuclear powers to relinquish their nuclear weapons as part of a global effort to make it impossible for nuclear weapons to fall into the hands of terrorists.

"If the world does not change course, we risk self-destruction," ElBaradei said in an op-ed piece published Thursday in the New York Times.

Bush argued in a speech Wednesday that international efforts to combat the spread of weapons of

mass destruction have been neither broad nor effective enough and require tougher action from all nations.

"The greatest threat before humanity today is the possibility of secret and sudden attack with chemical or biological or radiological or nuclear weapons," Bush said.

Bush's remarks came after reports have surfaced of a clandestine black market apparently headed by Abdul Qadeer Khan, who once headed the nuclear program in Pakistan.

Khan and middlemen in five countries allegedly supplied nuclear technology and expertise to Iran — which denies running a weapons program — and to Libya, which has owned up to having weapons of mass destruction or programs to make them.

Pakistani officials have also said Khan's network had supplied North Korea.

"I have the same concern and sense of urgency expressed by President Bush to shore up the non-proliferation regime and global secu-

urity system," ElBaradei said in a brief statement released by his headquarters in Vienna.

However, Bush singled out the IAEA for criticism, calling for the creation of a new agency committee to focus on safeguards and verification and to ensure that nations comply with international obligations. He also complained that nations such as Iran, which has been under investigation for proliferation, has been allowed to sit on the IAEA board of governors.

In Haiti, looting, attacks proliferate as death toll rises

GONAIVES, Haiti (AP)

— President Jean-Bertrand Aristide vowed to serve out the rest of his term despite an armed uprising that has left at least 47 dead, sparked looting and reprisal killings, and weakened his presidency.

The United States has ruled out intervention, but the White House rebuked Aristide's government for the violence and called on the leader to respect human rights.

Wearing stolen police helmets and carrying stolen weapons, rebels on Wednesday patrolled the streets of Gonaives, Haiti's fourth-largest city, in a search for detractors and government supporters. One accused government hitman was doused with gasoline and set ablaze; another was shot to death.

In the port city of St. Marc, south of Gonaives, police attacked rebels who were holed up in a slum and gunmen loyal to Aristide torched homes. Photographers saw three dead bodies with bullet wounds to their heads. Witnesses said the victims were anti-Aristide activists.

The armed revolt has spread to several towns since beginning last Thursday in Gonaives, about 60 miles north of the capital, Port-au-Prince, but it has reached somewhat of a stalemate and much of the island nation of 8

million remained quiet.

Aristide's government faced a test Thursday as the Democratic Platform, a broad coalition that has distanced itself from the bloody revolt, has called for a massive demonstration against his leadership.

Anger has been brewing in Haiti since Aristide's party swept flawed legislative elections in 2000. The opposition refuses to join in any new vote unless Aristide resigns, which he refuses to do before his term ends in 2006.

Aristide vowed to stay in office through the end of his term and said the rebels — whom he labeled terrorists — were allied with the political opposition.

"They suffer from a small group of thugs linked to the opposition ... acting on behalf of the opposition," Aristide said Wednesday at his first news conference since the uprising began.

"I will leave the palace Feb. 7, 2006," he said in the capital, without addressing how he planned to put down the insurrection. His officials have said that, to prevent civilian casualties, any counterattacks must be part of a strategy that could take time to plan.

The same rebels who began the uprising have said they were once armed by Aristide's government.

Windham teachers help inmates to learn a trade

AUSTIN — Helping Texas prisoners become industry-certified, productive, free-world employees is the challenge of Career and Technology Education teachers in the Windham School District. This month, 181 Windham CTE teachers statewide are being recognized during Vocational Education Week (Feb. 9-15) for efforts to help offenders learn valuable job skills and avoid returning to prison.

These correctional educators are certified by the Texas Education Agency and are also required to hold appropriate industry certification for their trade, making them some of the most highly certified vocational instructors in Texas.

"Industry certifications earned by Windham students assure employers that certificate holders are equipped with valuable skills, knowledge, and work competencies," said Marjie Haynes, Windham Division director for instruction. "These portable credentials are based on industry standards, which provide a clear description of jobs and skills needed to succeed in the free world. The standards are a common language among employers throughout the nation, marking a certificate holder as a competent craftsman who is able to do a required job.

Last school year, CTE instructors trained 15,298 offenders. Current courses include specialized training in 32 trade areas such as automotive electronics, plant maintenance, business computer information systems and landscaping.

Other courses include computer maintenance technician, computer-aided drafting, mill and cabinetmaking, plumbing, construction carpentry and electrical trades.

The newest CTE program is business information management and multimedia, offering offenders training in digital aspects of the printing industry.

Opportunities to earn industry certifications are also accompanied by chances to gain work experience during incarceration. Offenders who complete Windham CTE programs are frequently assigned to related jobs within the prison system. While gaining work experience, their labor offsets the cost of incarceration. Windham CTE students may also volunteer for community service projects within prison walls, such as building cabinets or framing new homes for Habitat for Humanity families.

WSD was created in 1969. It has been accredited by the Texas Education Agency since 1970.

Hamas leaders threatening retaliation

By IBRAHIM BARZAK
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — The militant group Hamas warned Thursday that it would strike Israelis everywhere in retaliation for the killing of 15 Palestinians during a search for militants in the bloodiest day of fighting in the Gaza Strip in 16 months.

Group leader Mahmoud Zahar said on Israel Radio that the military wing had urged all of its cells in Gaza and the West Bank to attack. Similar calls in the past have been followed within days — sometimes hours — by suicide bombings in Israel.

"The military wing expects that the operations will be there (Israel) at any time," Zahar said.

Some analysts linked the stepped-up violence to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's proposals for a unilateral pullout from most of Gaza. Many Israelis, including the military's intelligence chief, are concerned such a move might be viewed by Palestinians as a sign of weakness. Analysts warned more military action in the territory could lie ahead.

If peace talks fail, Sharon has said he will remove up to 17 of 21 Israeli settlements in Gaza and impose a temporary boundary in the West Bank. Israel captured the two areas, where the Palestinians hope to declare an independent state, in the 1967 Mideast war.

Senior military officers have said privately that they believe pressure needs to be increased on the Palestinians ahead of any withdrawal.

Israel's army will "continue to flex its muscles" with operations in the Gaza Strip, while Hamas will continue its efforts to take control of the area, wrote military analyst Ze'ev Schiff in the Haaretz newspaper Thursday.

Another Hamas leader, Abdel Aziz Rantisi, posted a statement on the group's Web site on Thursday, promising Israelis the group would take revenge. In more than three years of fighting, 455 people have died in suicide bombings carried out by Hamas and other militant factions.

"You will weep blood rather than tears," Rantisi said. "You will not escape punishment for such a heinous crime."

The fiercest fighting on Wednesday took place in the Shajaiyeh neighborhood of Gaza City. Twelve militants, including the son of a prominent Palestinian leader and a senior Hamas activist, were killed and more than 40 were wounded, Palestinian doctors said.

In a separate raid in the Rafah refugee camp along the Gaza-Egypt border, troops killed three Palestinians, including a militant, as they searched for tunnels used for arms smuggling. The forces demolished three houses and razed citrus and olive groves.

The army said it had entered the Gaza City neighborhood to search for militants who fire rockets at nearby Jewish settlements. It said the fighting broke out after militants fired missiles at Israeli tanks.

Among the dead were Mohammed Hilles, 18, the son of Ahmed Hilles, the top leader of Yasser Arafat's Fatah faction in Gaza, and senior Hamas activist Hani Abu Skhaila.

The fighting was the deadliest in Gaza since 19 Palestinians were killed in clashes in Khan Younis on Oct. 7, 2002.

Later Wednesday, thousands of people marched in funeral processions for some of the militants. Masked men in military-style uniforms carried bodies on stretchers, while others fired machine guns into the air and called for revenge.

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White House releases more military records

By ALLEN G. BREED
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

The White House released more documents to support President Bush's service in the Alabama Air National Guard, while several members of the Guard unit said in interviews they don't remember ever seeing Bush at their Montgomery base.

But, they told The Associated Press, that doesn't mean he didn't serve.

Bush, who piloted jets as a Guard 1st lieutenant in Texas, was assigned temporarily to the unit in Alabama in 1972, where he worked on a political campaign for a family friend. Democrats have charged there is no proof that Bush actually showed up for duty.

"I don't remember seeing him. That does not mean he was not there," said Wayne Rambo, who was a first lieutenant with the 187th Supply Squadron at Dannelly Air National Guard Base at the time. The AP contacted more than a dozen former members of the unit on Wednesday, and none could recall ever running into Bush.

However, all were quick to point out that it was a large unit with up to 800 members and Bush was not a celebrity then.

Retired Maj. Norman Rahn, 74, who was

with the 187th Tactical Reconnaissance Group in 1972-73, said he doubts anyone would remember an out-of-state pilot who spent a total of six to 10 days on base in a three-month period 32 years ago.

"He was not a member of our unit," Rahn told the AP on Wednesday. "We didn't own him."

The White House hardened its defense of Bush's National Guard service, saying documents released Tuesday and Wednesday had proven that Bush fulfilled his military obligation.

Bush's spokesman, Scott McClellan, said requests for additional records show that some people "are more interested in trolling for trash for political gain" with the presidential election nine months away.

The White House late Wednesday released a copy of a dental evaluation Bush had at Dannelly on Jan. 6, 1973, which McClellan said documented that the president had served in Alabama as required.

The White House obtained the dental record, along with other medical records it did not release, from the Air Reserve Personnel Center in Denver, McClellan said. The record was accompanied by a statement from Dr. Richard J. Tubb, the president's current physi-

cian, who stated that he read Bush's records, which covered a period from 1968 to 1973, and concurred with the doctors' assertion that Bush was "fit" for service.

"The records reflect no disqualifying medical information," Tubb said.

Meanwhile, a retired Texas National Guard officer said Wednesday he overheard a conversation in 1997 between then-Gov. Bush's chief of staff, Joe Allbaugh, and then-Adjutant Gen. Daniel James of the Texas Air National Guard in which he contends those two men spoke about getting rid of any military records that would "embarrass the governor."

Former Lt. Col. Bill Burkett told the AP that he saw documents from Bush's file discarded in a trash can a few days later at Camp Mabry in Austin, Texas. Burkett described them as performance and pay documents. He said the documents bore the header: "Bush, George W. 11t." — meaning first lieutenant.

James and Allbaugh denied the allegations, which Burkett said he had previously discussed on Web sites and in letters to Texas legislators in 1998.

"The alleged discussion never happened," said James, who appointed by the president in 2002 to lead the Air National Guard. "I have

never been involved in, nor would I condone any discussion or any action to falsify any record in any circumstance for anyone."

Allbaugh, now a Washington lobbyist, told The Dallas Morning News that Burkett's assertions were "hogwash."

Bush, who spent most of his service in Texas, received permission to perform his duties in Alabama while working on the unsuccessful U.S. Senate campaign of Winton "Red" Blount, a family friend.

Democrats say they want to see paperwork that would shed light on why Bush missed an annual physical exam in May 1972. The White House says he did not need to get one because he was not flying at the time.

Democrats have been delving into Bush's service ever since Vietnam veteran John Kerry became the Democrats' presidential front-runner. The party chairman, Terry McAuliffe, helped resurrect long-running questions about Bush's record when he charged that the president had been "AWOL," or absent without leave, during his time in Alabama.

Bush enlisted in the Texas Air National Guard at Ellington Air Force Base in May 1968. In May 1972, records show he requested and got permission to perform non-flying duties in Alabama.

Jury in Martha Stewart trial hears tape of broker's interview with SEC

NEW YORK (AP) — Headphone-equipped jurors heard Martha Stewart's stockbroker give his account of her sale of ImClone Systems stock in a recording the prosecution claims is dotted with lies.

The recording of broker Peter Bacanovic's interview with the Securities and Exchange Commission in February 2002 is the first time jurors at the stock-trading trial have heard either defendant speak.

In the interview, played Wednesday, Bacanovic describes a plan he and Stewart made in December 2001 to sell her 3,928 shares of ImClone if it fell to \$60 per share. She sold on Dec. 27 — just before the stock dropped on bad news.

"How low does this have to go before you're prepared to part with this?" Bacanovic

claims he asked Stewart.

When Stewart said she didn't know, Bacanovic said he suggested, "Well, how about \$60 a share? Does that sound reasonable?"

He said she answered, "Yes, sure, \$60."

The government contends Stewart and Bacanovic hatched the story to cover the real reason for the sale on Dec. 27, 2001 — that Bacanovic sent word to Stewart that ImClone CEO Sam Waksal was trying to dump his shares.

Prosecutors followed the Bacanovic tapes by calling the witness stand an FBI special agent who took notes in each of Stewart's two interviews with the SEC in 2002.

By placing the two elements of the case back-to-back, prosecutors hoped to draw out inconsistencies in the explanations

Stewart and Bacanovic gave in early 2002 for the ImClone sale.

For example, special agent Catherine Farmer said Stewart claims in the interviews to have spoken to Bacanovic when she sold. Bacanovic said Stewart had spoken to Douglas Faneuil, Bacanovic's assistant.

Stewart also told the SEC that she and Bacanovic had not discussed Waksal in early 2002, when news was breaking of an investigation into Waksal's suspi-

Veterinarians implant lenses in blinded, starving owl

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — A great horned owl found starving in the wild because it had gone blind could be released this spring after having new lenses implanted in its eyes.

The owl, named Minerva by medical personnel, underwent two hours of eye surgery Jan.

22, and Dr. Chris Murphy said she was in good condition during a follow-up exam Wednesday.

"Perfect," said Murphy, a board-certified veterinary ophthalmologist. "Ounce for ounce, this is considered one of the toughest birds on the face of the earth."

Minerva was found in emaciated condition in early December, after someone told

stock was falling when he left a message for her on Dec. 27 — only that he and his assistant "gave her the price of the stock."

That statement contradicts testimony earlier this week from Stewart's personal assistant, who said she took down this message from Bacanovic on that day: "Peter Bacanovic thinks ImClone is going to start trading downward."

In the recording, Bacanovic claims Faneuil alerted him on

Dec. 27 that ImClone was trading near \$60. He says he thought: "I just had this conversation. This is someone who gets irascible. And I thought, 'So much for the vacation.'"

Bacanovic was on a holiday vacation in Florida at the time.

The government claims the recording also includes lies in Bacanovic's account of meeting with Stewart after the sale. He claims they discussed Waksal but not her ImClone transactions.

wildlife rehabilitators Sue and Jerry Theys an owl had been sitting on a fence for three days.

Sue Theys, who netted the owl, said she suspected the owl had cataracts. After a local veterinarian confirmed the diagnosis, the couple brought the owl to Murphy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine.

Murphy had a pair of lenses on hand that had been custom-

made six years ago for another great horned owl that proved to be an unfit candidate for the surgery. The lenses were designed by Murphy and Dr. Chuck Stuhr, and were made for free by Storz Ophthalmics, a company that has been bought by Bausch & Lomb.

With Murphy supervising, Dr. Renee Carter and fellow resident Katie Diehl implanted the new lenses.

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Activists unhappy with water rights case

SAN DIEGO (AP) — An effort to save two rare fish more than a decade ago could come back to haunt environmentalists after a recent court decision awarded millions of dollars in compensation to farmers who lost water in the process.

If the December ruling by a federal judge survives expected legal challenges, the government could find itself forced to pay much more for efforts to protect endangered fish, draining resources away from conservation.

The eventual result would have implications across the West, where the federal government often clashes with property owners in attempts to save species on the brink of extinction.

"There may be implications for how the Endangered Species Act is implemented," said Alf W. Brandt, the Interior Department lawyer who argued the government's case. "There may be implications for how water diversions are made."

The case stemmed from the government's efforts to protect endangered winter-run chinook salmon and threatened delta smelt between 1992 and 1994 by withholding billions of gallons from farmers in California's Kern and Tulare counties.

Court of Federal Claims Senior Judge John Wiese ruled that the government's halting of water constituted a "taking" or intrusion on the farmers' private property rights. The Fifth Amendment to the Constitution prohibits the government from taking private property without fair payment.

Wiese's Dec. 31 ruling, which awarded \$26 million to a

Path clearer for asbestos settlement

PITTSBURGH (AP) — A federal bankruptcy judge dismissed all claims by insurance companies in the Halliburton Co. asbestos settlement case on Wednesday, saying they had no standing to challenge the agreement.

U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Judith Fitzgerald ruled that because Halliburton and its subsidiaries would be making direct payments to the victims, "insurers are not affected directly or indirectly" and cannot intervene.

Halliburton, the Houston-based oil services and construction conglomerate, last month filed a pre-negotiated bankruptcy petition in Pittsburgh for eight subsidiaries to settle about 400,000 asbestos and 21,000 silica claims for \$4.17 billion in cash and stock. If approved, the deal would settle all current and future asbestos claims against the company once run by Vice President Dick Cheney.

More than 20 insurance companies objected, saying lawsuit creditors favor the plan because Halliburton will pay only \$2.78 billion, or nearly \$7,000 in cash to settle each current claim. Historically, asbestos claims settle for about \$920 each, the insurers said.

Insurers sought to derail that settlement, fearing Halliburton or its subsidiaries would file insurance claims at a later date.

In her ruling Wednesday, Fitzgerald said that policies written by the insurance companies would determine whether or not Halliburton could file claims, and those arguments were for another court to hear.

"(Insurers) are not being asked or compelled to do anything right now," Fitzgerald said.

The insurers claimed Halliburton misused bankruptcy laws to get a leg up on the asbestos claims and that its subsidiaries shouldn't qualify for Chapter 11 protection, which is meant to help financially distressed companies pay off debts.

group of California farmers for the water diversion, is a clear victory for champions of property rights, who have sought to rein in what they see as regulatory excesses committed in the name of the environment.

"What the court found is that the government is certainly free to protect the fish under the Endangered Species Act, but it must pay for the water that it takes to do so," said Roger J. Marzulla, the attorney representing the water districts that brought the claim.

Environmentalists called the ruling a stealth attack on the Endangered Species Act that could gut efforts to preserve species in the future by making them too costly to enforce.

"The purpose of these suits is simply a backdoor attack on

environmental laws," said Barry Nelson, a senior policy analyst with the National Resources Defense Council. "And frankly, it's to bust the federal budget as the price tag for complying with environmental-protection laws."

Along the California-Oregon line, for example, a similar court case could leave the government with a \$100 million bill for water diverted from farmers in 2001 for species protection.

Wiese's ruling could also have a significant impact in California, where courts have halted diversions of water to protect the environment, said John D. Echeverria, executive director of the Environmental Law and Policy Institute at the Georgetown University Law Center.

"Although this is a case against the United States, it might well lead to billions of dollars in claims against the state of California," Echeverria said.

The question now is whether the Justice Department will choose to appeal. If the ruling is appealed and upheld, efforts to protect fish throughout the West could become even more costly.

The U.S. Forest Service is being sued over a plan to close irrigation ditches in the Methow Valley in Washington state to provide additional water for endangered fish runs. In New Mexico, the Bureau of Reclamation is seeking court approval to take water from farmers and cities to help the endangered Rio Grande silvery minnow.

South Korean scientists cull stem cells from cloned human embryo

WASHINGTON (AP) — Researchers in South Korea have become the first to successfully clone a human embryo, and then cull from it master stem cells that many doctors consider key to one day creating customized cures for diabetes, Parkinson's and other diseases.

This is not cloning to make babies, but to create medicine.

It's sure to revive international controversy over whether to ban all human cloning, as the Bush administration wants, or to allow this "therapeutic cloning" that might eventually let patients grow their own replacement tissue.

Embryonic stem cells are the body's building blocks, cells from which all other tissue types spring. They're present in an embryo only days after conception and are ethically sensitive because culling stem cells destroys the embryo.

Scientists have used therapeutic cloning to partially cure laboratory mice with an immune system disease. And they know how to cull stem cells from human embryos left over in fertility clinics.

But attempts to clone human embryos — so the resulting stem cells would be genetically identical to the patient who needs them — have failed until now.

Scientists from Seoul National University say they succeeded largely because of using extremely fresh eggs donated by South Korean volunteers and gentler handling of the genetic material inside them.

The lead scientist, veterinary cloning specialist Woo Suk Hwang, will unveil the research Thursday at a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement

of Science. Details will be published in the journal Science.

It's elegant work that provides long-anticipated proof that human therapeutic cloning is possible, said stem-cell researcher Dr. Rudolf Jaenisch of the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research in Cambridge, Mass.

Still, "it's not of practical use at this point," Jaenisch cautioned.

Years of additional research are required before embryonic stem cell transplants could be considered in people, he stressed.

But it's sure to renew debate over whether all forms of human cloning should be banned. The House last year voted to do that, but the Senate stalled over whether there should be an exception for some research.

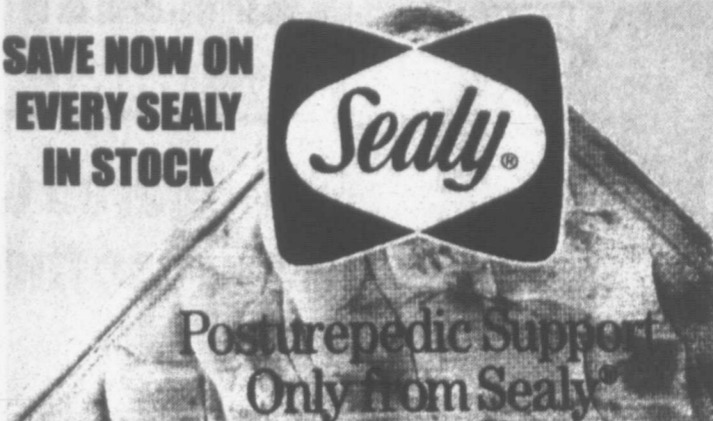
U.S. scientists almost universally want a ban on cloning for reproduction, because the high rate of birth defects in cloned animals shows the technique is too dangerous.

But the South Korean research is "one tiny step closer to some medical use. It would be a wise thing to support," said Laurie Zoloth, a Northwestern University bioethicist. "It is clearly time — now that it is more tangible — to set in place a process where we can have some kinds of experiments supported and some things banned."

Internationally, the United Nations recently postponed a decision on what kinds of human cloning to ban. The United States is pushing for a total ban; Britain is leading the call for cloning for medical experiments to be left unhindered.

The Seoul researchers collected 242 eggs from 16 unpaid volunteers. Each woman also donated some cells from her ovary.

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THURSDAY • February 12, 2004

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Full-Figured Girl Must Learn To Choose the Right Clothes

DEAR ABBY: I would like to reassure "Darlene in Dallas," the 12-year-old girl who is looking for ways to make boys realize she is more than her ample bustline. I feel her pain. I have been full-busted most of my life, beginning with a DD prior to high school and continuing up from there.

As an image consultant, I advise my clients how to dress for a particular effect.

First, she should not be ashamed of her figure. She is special and beautiful — and not just because she is well-endowed. She doesn't need to wear tents, but she should choose tops that skim the body rather than tight or low-cut garments that accentuate her cleavage.

Interesting jewelry, hair clips or headbands will draw the eye upward to her face and take the emphasis away from her chest.

If she has shapely legs, she should wear skirts and pants with funky patterns. That, too, will draw the eye away from the bustline.

And above all, she should learn to love herself. I wish her my best. She is not alone.

DIANE D., NORWICH, CONN.

DEAR DIANE D.: Bless you for lending your expertise. A number of readers responded to that letter with helpful suggestions. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Tell her to buy some "birth control glasses." A pair of unflattering glasses will stop any boy dead in his tracks. My sister got a pair of nonprescription glasses for that very reason.

WALLY IN AUSTIN

DEAR WALLY: Really? My mother used to say that men who don't make passes at girls who wear glasses are asses. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Please tell "Darlene in Dallas" to ask her mother or another adult to take her to a lingerie store for a proper brassiere fitting. There are bras specifically designed to minimize a woman's size. Good

support is a necessity for large-breasted girls and women to prevent back, shoulder and tissue/nerve damage. I know this from experience. BEEN THERE, TOO

DEAR B.T.T.: What a great suggestion. I'm sorry I didn't think of it.

DEAR ABBY: I must take issue with your response to the 12-year-old girl who wants boys to like her for who she is and not because of her big bust. You suggested she "impress them with attributes she wants them to notice..."

A 12-year-old wants to attract boys, and you want to give her a healthier way to do it. As a psychologist who works with children and adolescents, I have seen firsthand the devastating consequences of sexual behavior in those who are so young. That girl should focus on developing interests other than boys. She should explore her talents, get involved in helping others through volunteer work, participate in sports, spend time with her girlfriends, talk to her brother, father, pastor or rabbi — anything other than worry about better ways to attract boys.

PH.D. IN YORBA LINDA, CALIF.

DEAR Ph.D.: I agree that ideally Darlene should be encouraged to focus her attention on developing her talents and personality. However, at 12 she is receiving attention from boys, and she needs to learn how to handle it now.

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.)

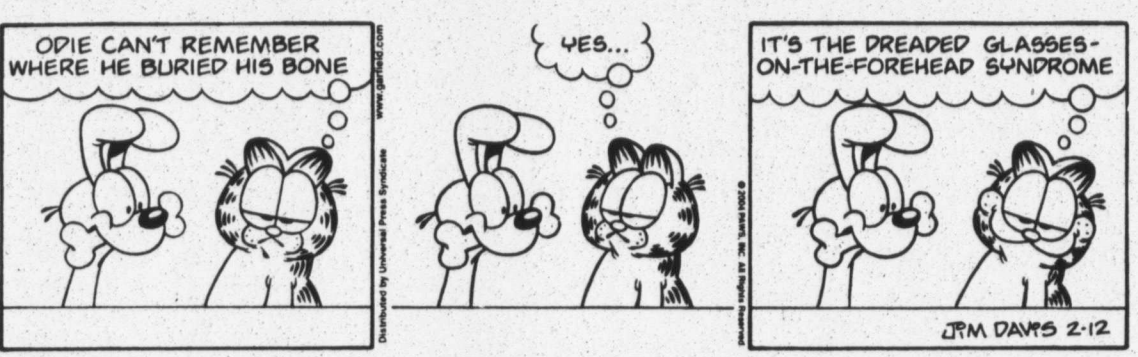
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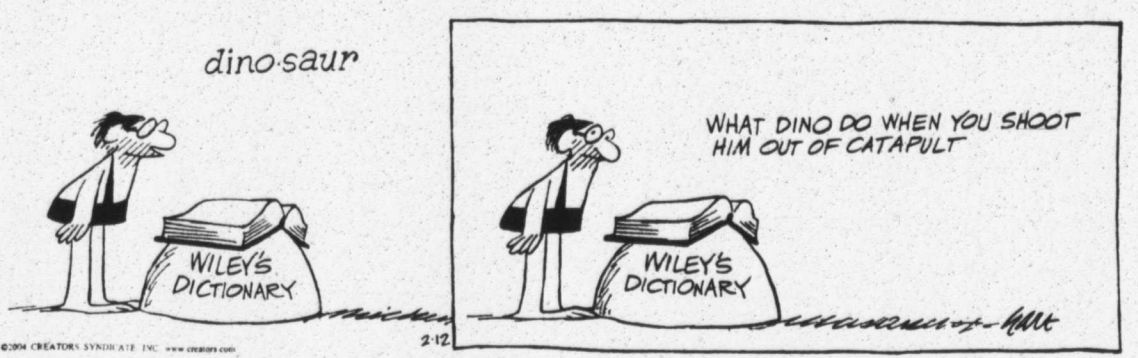
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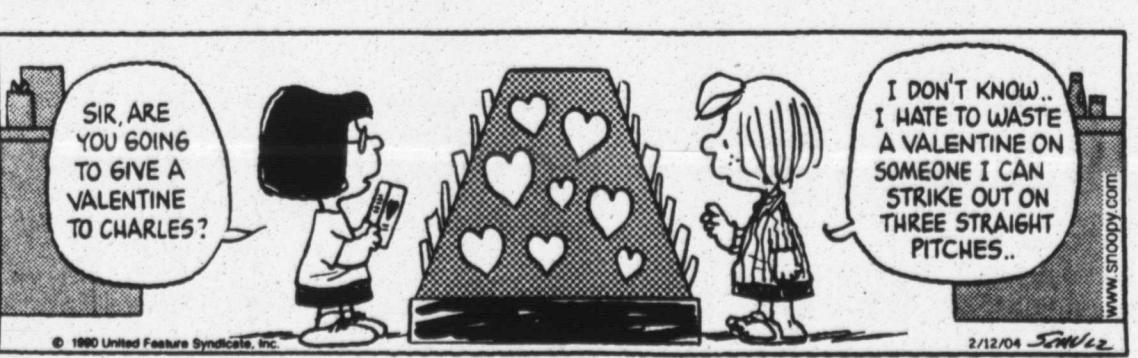
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Hagar The Horrible



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Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

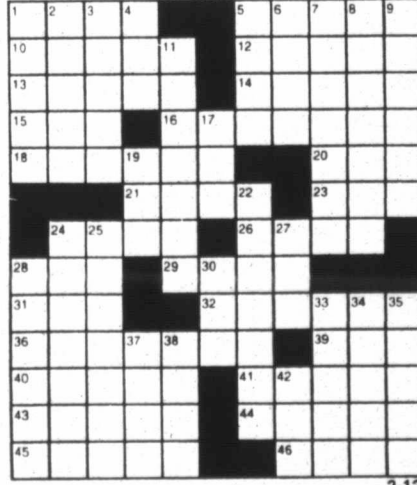
ACROSS 46 Colors

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- 15 Reactor part
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- 21 Visionary
- 23 Fitting
- 24 Go by
- 26 Whirlpool
- 28 Scot's topper
- 29 Ump's call
- 31 Mine material
- 32 Letter writer, of a sort
- 36 Black cat
- 39 Eroded
- 40 "Frasier" pooch
- 41 Hawk's grasper
- 43 New Hampshire city
- 44 Without break
- 45 Summed

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- 6 Sighed word
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- 10 Rice
- 11 Infinite character
- 12 Corrected
- 13 Lair
- 14 Kansas
- 15 City
- 16 Hurricane
- 17 Big galoot
- 19 Double curve
- 20 Cite
- 21 Marched
- 22 Corrected
- 23 Lair
- 24 Kansas
- 25 City
- 26 Hurricane
- 27 Big galoot
- 33 CBS founder
- 34 Expiate
- 35 Gives for a while
- 36 Fork
- 37 Feature
- 38 Follow
- 42 Connect-ing word

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Yesterday's answer

Marmaduke



The Family Circus



"Everybody come look! Daddy says he's gonna put on his thinking cap!"

Flo & Friends



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SPORTS

Harvesters close homecourt season against Randall

PAMPA — Randall may be out of the playoff picture, but the Raiders could still spoil post-season plans for Pampa.

Randall, despite its 2-8 District 3-4A record, is certainly capable of pulling off an upset. The two teams meet at 7:30 Friday night in McNeely Fieldhouse in the final home game for the Harvesters.

Pampa and Randall have met twice before this season. Randall claimed a 50-32 win in the Gene Messer Tournament and Pampa bounced back to take a 54-53 squeaker in the first round of district.

Guard play from Pampa's Jed Martin and Randall's Nathan Maxwell stood out in that district clash. Martin tossed in 21 points and Maxwell had 24.

Pampa is 5-5 in district and 10-17 for the season. Randall is 2-8 and 6-20.

Pampa exploded for 30 fourth-quarter points to rally by Caprock 50-47 in a junior varsity boys' game Tuesday night. Pampa, which had shooting problems the first three quarters, was trailing by 16 points going into the fourth quarter. They caught

fire and were a perfect 4 of 4 from three-point range to close the gap and take the lead from Caprock.

Pampa had only 6 turnovers to help overcome the poor shooting night.

Braydon Barker had 15 points along with 4 steals to lead Pampa JVs. Sharod Young followed with 13 points, Tyler Hall had 9, Eric Kingcade 3, Weston Teichmann 3, Brett Ferrell 3, Aaron Anguiano 2 and Craig Crowell 2. Barker hit 3 three-point goals, while Hall and Teichmann had 1 each. Anguiano led the team on the boards with 6 rebounds.



(Courtesy photo)

Flyers open gymnastics season

M.G. Flyers Tumbling and Trampoline Team traveled to Dalhart for their first meet of the season.

The Division I gymnasts and the Division II gymnasts competed in three events--trampoline, double-mini and tumbling.

Alex Collins received a 2nd place silver medal in tumbling, a 3rd place bronze medal on trampoline and a 1st place gold medal on double mini; Sarah Gordzelik placed 8th in tumbling, 7th on trampoline and received 3rd place bronze medal on double mini; Jacie Ketcherside received a gold medal for her 1st place in tumbling, 8th place in trampoline and 6th place on double-mini; Jonah Munsell

placed 3rd and received a bronze medal in tumbling, placed 1st with a gold medal on trampoline and received a 1st place and a gold medal on double-mini; Stephanie Ronquillo placed 9th in tumbling, 6th on trampoline and 5th on double-mini; Cynthia Schepp placed 7th in tumbling, 6th on trampoline and received a 3rd place bronze medal on double-mini; Caylee Steward placed 7th in tumbling, 2nd place silver medal on trampoline and 3rd place bronze on double-mini; Leah Wilson received a 1st place gold medal on trampoline and a 2nd place silver medal on double-mini.

bling, received a silver medal, placed 1st and received a gold medal on trampoline and a 1st place gold medal on double-mini; Monica Schepp placed 2nd and received a silver medal in tumbling, a gold medal 1st place on trampoline and a 3rd place bronze medal on double-mini; Caylee Steward placed 7th in tumbling, 2nd place silver medal on trampoline and 3rd place bronze on double-mini; Leah Wilson received a 1st place gold medal on trampoline and a 2nd place silver medal on double-mini.

M.G. Flyers are coached by Madeline Graves, Shauna Munsell and Jeremy Huffman.

Clarett to enter draft after judge refuses to stay ruling

NEW YORK (AP) — With a federal judge leading the way, Maurice Clarett is headed to the NFL.

U.S. District Judge Shira Scheindlin refused to suspend her ruling that the Ohio State running back and other younger players are eligible to play in the NFL.

"Maurice Clarett's going to be in the draft," Clarett's attorney, Alan Milstein, said right after Scheindlin's decision Wednesday.

Scheindlin said Clarett could face "very detrimental" harm if he was excluded from the draft. She said the harm to the NFL will be minimal, even if it succeeds on appeal, and she predicted that few younger players would enter the draft.

"At worst, the NFL will

be forced to tolerate the handful of younger players who are selected in the 2004 draft. What would amount to a one-year suspension of the league's eligibility rule scarcely imposes any great hardship on the NFL or its teams," she said.

Last week, Scheindlin concluded that an NFL rule barring eligibility to Clarett and other young athletes from April's selection process violates antitrust laws.

On Wednesday, she rejected the NFL's arguments that she must suspend the effect of that ruling.

Scheindlin said the NFL's concern that younger players may over-train or resort to steroid use to better qualify for the draft "makes no sense" in arguing for a stay

since players must announce they are entering the draft by March 1.

"It is extremely unlikely that younger players will over-train or turn to steroid use in the period between now and the end of the month," she said.

NFL lawyer Gregg H. Levy said the NFL would ask the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to stay Scheindlin's ruling while it appeals the case.

He said he wasn't surprised by the ruling, and that the appeals process would begin soon.

"Mr. Milstein is ahead at the end of the first period," Levy said, but added that the NFL was confident of its chances before the 2nd Circuit. "There, the game starts over."

Lady 'Horns hold off A&M

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — It took Texas a little over 16 years to return to No. 1. The long climb back might explain why the Longhorns had such a hard time defending their ranking the first time out.

Heather Schreiber scored 16 points and Texas fought off pesky Texas A&M 66-55 Wednesday night with timely 3-point shooting.

Tiffany Jackson scored 13 points and grabbed 11 rebounds for the Longhorns (22-2, 10-1 Big 12), who had to overcome a sloppy offense that produced a season high-tying 23 turnovers.

"I've had more fun at the dentist than I did during that game," Texas coach Jody Conradt said. "They play with reckless abandon. That made it hard for us. I knew it would be a struggle."

The Aggies put a scare into Texas two weeks earlier, but the Longhorns managed to win 64-62 in College Station. Texas A&M did it again with aggressive rebounding and a scrappy defense.

The Aggies had 16 steals and after some early problems routinely denied Texas from dumping the ball low to the frontcourt tandem of Jackson and Stacy Stephens.

Toccarra Williams scored 22 to lead the Aggies (8-14, 1-10). Tamea Scales had nine points and 11 rebounds.

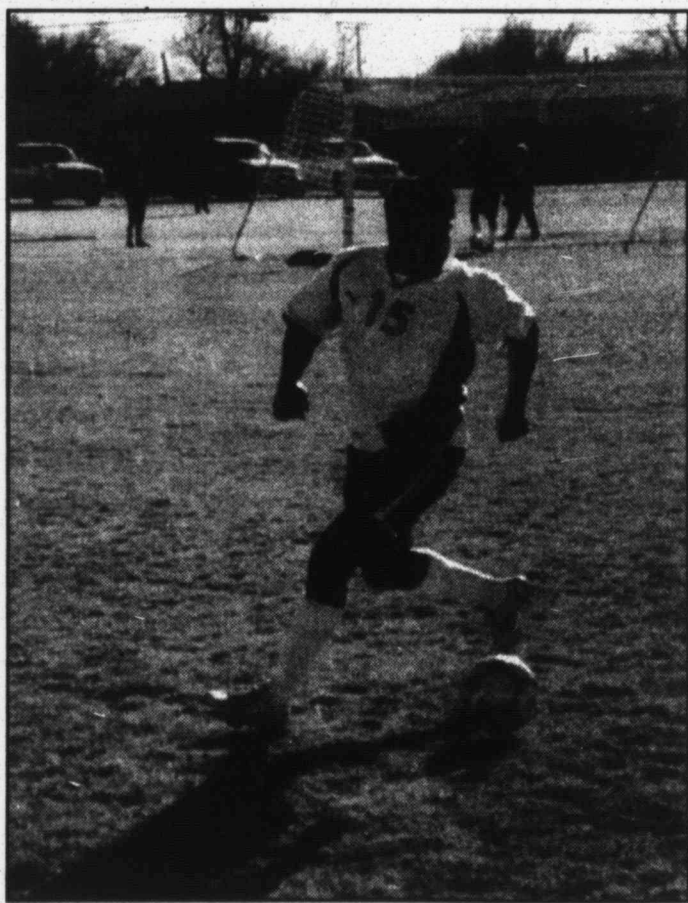
Jamie Carey scored 12 for Texas. She and Schreiber hit six of Texas' seven 3-pointers. Schreiber hit a pair of 3s to end a Texas scoring skid at the end of the first half, and Carey hit two in the second that keyed Texas runs.

They spoiled Texas A&M coach Gary Blair's hopes for a huge upset.

"I went to see 'Miracle' with my family Saturday night," he said. "I forgot to take my team."

Texas took over the No. 1 spot Monday for the first time since the week of Dec. 28, 1987. The Longhorns lead the nation in victories, having won eight straight and 15 of their last 16.

Soccer action



(Pampa News photo by Ben Briscoe)

Pampa's Dannie Meza looks for a teammate in Tuesday's soccer match with Canyon. The Harvesters travel to Caprock on Friday for a District 3-4A clash.

Wheeler closes season with wins over Clarendon

WHEELER — Wheeler closed the season with a 50-46 win over Clarendon Tuesday night.

Brad Masters had 14 points and Hector Emiliano 10 to lead the Wheeler offense.

Drew Sell had 13 points for Clarendon.

The Mustangs finish with a 16-12 record.

In the girls game, Wheeler captured a 47-35 victory.

Andrea Jones was

Wheeler's high scorer with 12 points. J'Shay McCasland followed with 9.

Claudia Thomas had 16 points for Clarendon.

Wheeler had a 12-10 record.

Flashback

1953: Fred Woods scored 15 points and Jimmy Bond followed with 12 as Pampa defeated Odessa 64-44 in a high school basketball game.

The victory gave the Harvesters a 9-0 record.

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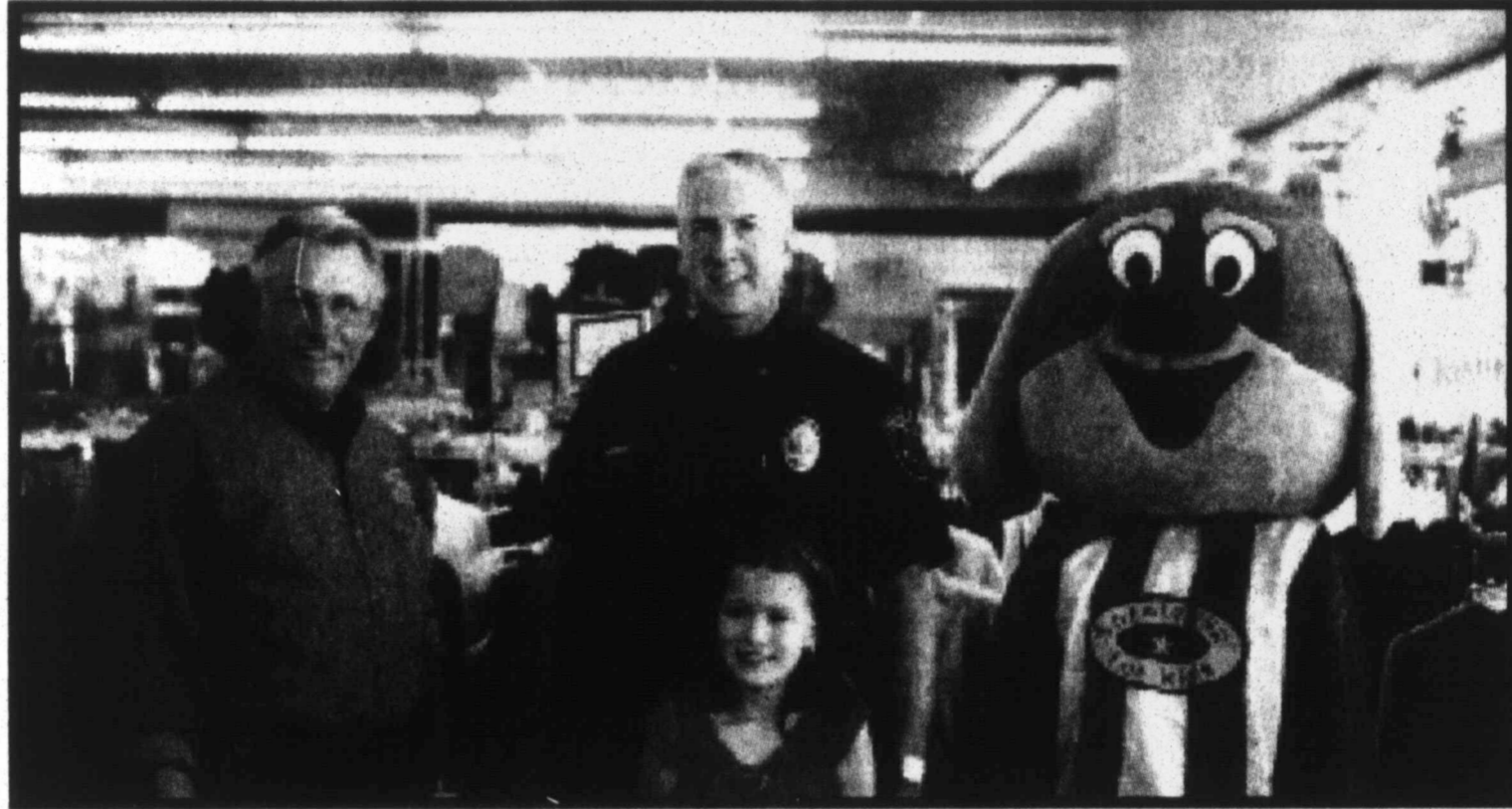
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Kid Print

Local PD participates in child identification program sponsored by local entities ...

Beall's department store in Coronado Center hosted "Kid Print" recently with the help of Pampa Police Department, Crime Stoppers and Pampa Junior Service League. During this special child identification program, officers from PPD took fingerprints of each participating child to give to the parents in the event the child should wind up lost or missing.



■ Pampa News photos by L.W. McCall, publisher

