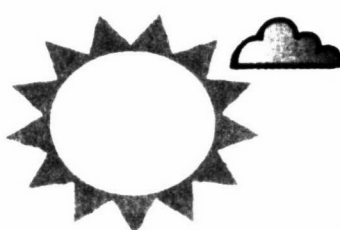


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## Today's weather



H 90 L 30

## Deaths

- Sammie Lee Dougherty Atherton, 77**, former educator.
- Irene Graves Dodd, 83**, ex-social worker.
- Wanda Elizabeth Lacy Etheredge, 80**, active in church member.
- Wayne D. Howell, 94**, oilfield worker.
- Mary Rosalie O'Grady Johnson, 87**, PHS graduate.
- Iva Sybil Studebaker, 94**, cafeteria cook.
- Roberta Akin Ware, 74**, avid golfer.

# Area seeing new drilling boom

*Lord, if you'll give me just one more boom, I promise not to waste it.*

— 1980s-era bumper sticker

By **MARILYN POWERS**  
Staff Writer

Increased oil and gas drilling activity in the eastern Texas Panhandle has amounted to a boom, the first seen in about 20 years in the area.

"We've had a pretty good little boom for the past year or so," said Tony Johnson, drilling superintendent for Leonard Hudson Drilling Company Inc.

Increased density drilling in the Granite Wash Zone, a geological formation in Hemphill and Wheeler Counties is one reason for the heightened activity. Forty-acre spacing was originally required for drilling but that regulation has been relaxed and some given approval for 20-acre spacing, Johnson said.

More activity means more jobs, Johnson said his company had hired 10 more people in the past year, bringing the total from 130 to 140, and the hiring isn't over yet.

"We're building another rig specifically to target that

Granite Wash Zone. That'll put another 16 to work" when the rig is finished and operating, he said.

Leonard Hudson Drilling, which drills wells for oil and gas operations, currently has several rigs working south of Canadian, some for crude oil but mainly for natural gas drilling.

*'We've had a pretty good little boom for the past year or so.'*

**Tony Johnson**  
Drilling superintendent

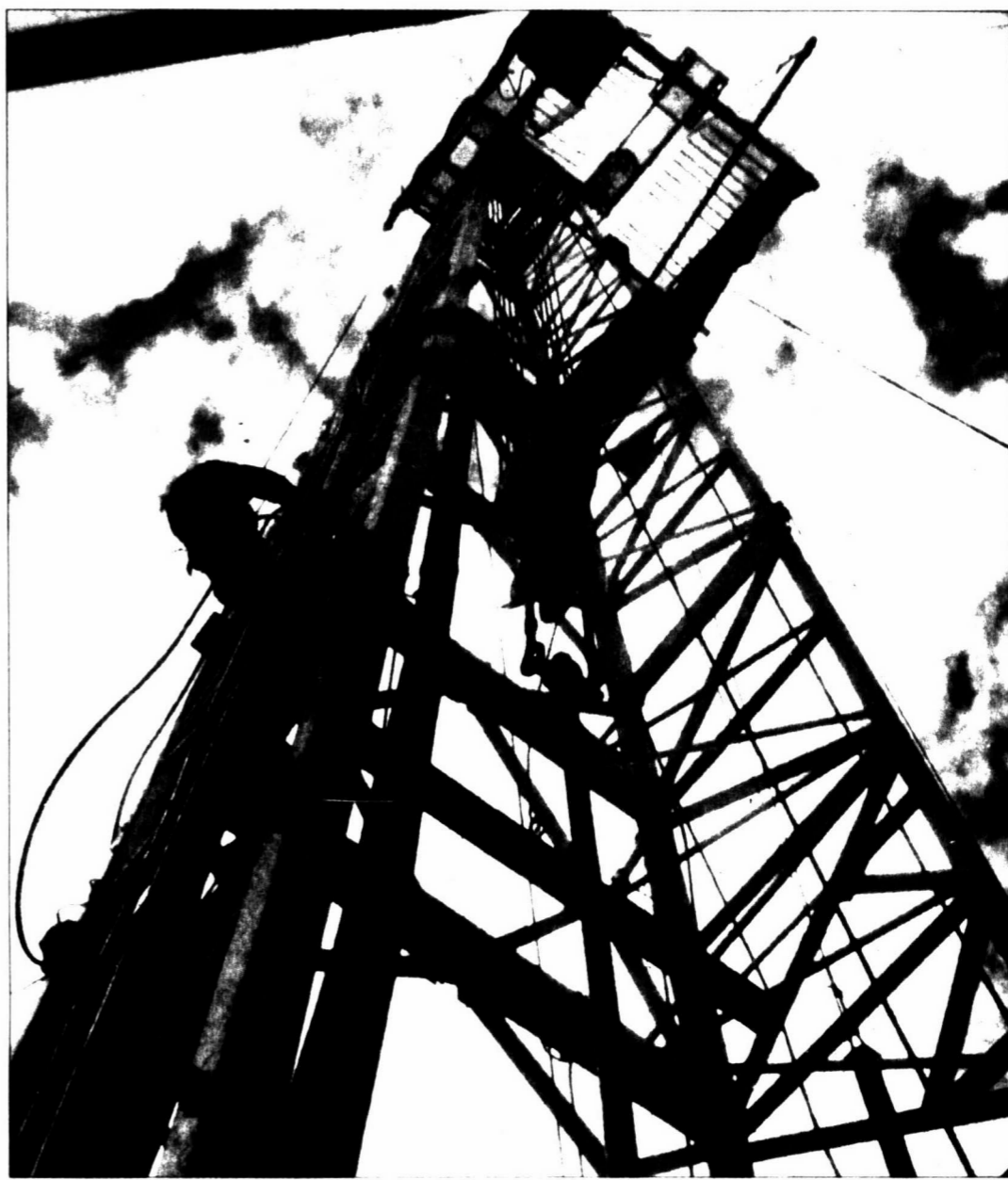
The boom means more jobs and other economic benefits for the area, but there is a downside.

"Heating bills will be ugly this winter if we get a real bitter winter. Natural gas prices are in the seven- to eight-dollar

range right now," Johnson said.

Wayne Hughes, executive vice president of the Panhandle Producers and Royalty Owners Association in Amarillo, traces the origins of the current increased drilling activity further back, to Sept. 11, 2001, when terrorists attacked the World Trade Center in New

See **BOOM**, Page 1-B



(Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS)  
**James Reed of S&K Oilfield Services climbs down from the upper levels of Leonard Hudson #10, a drilling rig near the Washita River just off Highway 83 south of Canadian.**

# Special day to honor the late Ted Gikas

By **DARLENE BIRKES**  
For The News

Ted Gikas will be honored at special events scheduled for Friday, Nov. 26, in Pampa. The long-time Pampa benefactor and co-owner of the Coney Island Café for over 50 years passed away Oct. 4, at the Texas Veterans Home in Big Spring.

Ted Gikas Day will be proclaimed at 10:45 a.m. in front of the Coney Island Café on 114 West Foster with City Manager John Horst reading the proclamation.

At 1 p.m., a memorial service will be conducted by Ernie Wilkinson, Deacon, at the St. Matthews Episcopal Church, Ward and Browning Streets. Opera star Mary

Jane Rose Johnson will sing special music during the service.

A reception will be held at 1:45 p.m. in the St. Matthews Episcopal Hall. Several musicians will perform, including Dorothy King, violinist, and Christine Kroebel, classical guitarist and an AFS exchange student from Germany.

Ted was born Sept. 23, 1924, in Lincoln, Neb. His parents had immigrated to the United States from Greece with his Uncle Bill Coronis. They moved to Borger in 1926 during the wild oil boom days and opened a hat-

tery on main street. Coronis operated The Buffalo Café at Main and 6th.

After Coronis was hijacked twice at gunpoint, he moved to Burk Burnett, and then to Pampa. John moved to Pampa to help him in 1946 and Ted followed five years later when Coronis died.

The Gikas boys were quite patriotic and volunteered to serve during WWII. "We all wanted to go," said Ted in an early interview. "We wanted to do our part because we love America." Ted served in a training unit of the Signal Corps attached to the Air Force.

The brothers were extremely generous in the Pampa community. John served many breakfasts to more than 150 men at the First Baptist Church, furnished ham and meat for hospitality dinners, funeral dinners, senior adult events, etc.

Ted gave hams, sandwiches, desserts and contributions to many Pampa organizations, including the Pampa Fine Arts Assn., Pampa Area Foundation for Outdoor Art, American Red Cross, Salvation Army, ACT 1, Chamber of Commerce, Senior Citizens, and White Deer Land Museum. He was a collector of art, served on several boards and was often a silent benefactor.

See **GIKAS**, Page 5

## Excerpts

### Soldier writes about experiences in Iraq

**TEMPLE, Texas (AP)** — Dr. Paul Hill, a 71-year-old psychiatrist from Temple, just returned from three months in Iraq as a member of the stress combat unit. During that time, he wrote several e-mails to his brother, Lucius Hill, of Riviera Beach, Fla. Here are some excerpts:

On Oct. 11, he wrote: "One NCO (non-commissioned officer) I saw yesterday has had his vehicle blown up and members of his squad wounded three times in the past week. Nevertheless he feels personally responsible for his men and everything that happens to them. Despite his own symptoms (throws up before every mission) he will not leave his men. The courage of these soldiers is incredible. I wish we could do more for them."

"I dread the trip home, but I will feel better when there are no mortars, I don't have to pack a pistol all the time and I can use the bathroom in the same building where I sleep, and see my family."

On Oct. 25, he wrote: "The other big news from here is that I was awakened at 0445 by a loud explosion. The mortar hit about 10 feet behind the shower trailer in which I took a shower the night before, about 50 feet from the trailer in which I live. There was one soldier killed and one wounded (not seriously)."

"Makes me feel 'mortal.' In fact when I went to Vietnam I was 10 feet tall and bullet proof. I'm no longer bullet proof. I keep thinking how reassured we all are that combat is over with as announced by Bush from the aircraft carrier."

# Congress debates \$388 billion bill

By **ALAN FRAM**  
Associated Press Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Republicans guided a \$388 billion domestic spending bill toward congressional passage on Saturday, hoping to climax lawmakers' lame-duck session by shipping President Bush a measure that clamps down on spending from education to clean energy projects.

In a rare Saturday session that leaders hoped would be their last business day of 2004, the House and Senate planned votes on the massive legislation — six weeks after the government's new budget year started. In what is becoming an annual rite on Capitol Hill, lawmakers and their staffs had just a few hours before votes were to be cast to sort through the complex bill, which combined with explanatory documents measured 14 inches tall.

"We intend to make sure we're not going to have any wild spending spree like we've had in the past," said Rep. Pete Sessions, R-Texas, as House debate began.

Many Democrats were expected to support the measure because of the many popular programs it finances. Even so, they complained that Republicans were forcing a bill through Congress that was too stingy to many programs and that

See **CONGRESS**, Page 5

# U.S. forces find four decapitated bodies

**BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP)** — Insurgents attacked a police station Saturday in a Sunni Muslim neighborhood in Baghdad where U.S. and Iraqi troops raided a major mosque the day before in a crackdown on Sunni militants. Iraqi officials were trying to identify four decapitated bodies found in Mosul.

American and Iraqi forces detained 30 suspected guerrillas overnight in Mosul, the U.S. military said Saturday.

In western Baghdad, heavy fighting broke out between gunmen and Iraqi National Guards and American troops. Three Iraqi National Guardsmen were killed by roadside bombs in the same area, police said.

In the nearby Khadra area, two U.S. troops on patrol were injured when a roadside bomb exploded near their convoy, said policeman Ali Hussein of the Khadra police station. The U.S. military had no immediate confirmation of the incident.

Insurgents also attacked a police station in northwestern Baghdad with rocket-propelled grenades and small arms fire, witnesses said. On Friday, Iraqi and U.S. forces raided the nearby Abu Hanifa mosque — one of the country's most important Sunni mosques — in an operation that appeared to be part of a crackdown on militant clerics opposed to the U.S.-led attack on Fallujah.

The four decapitated bodies, whose identities have not been established, were found Thursday and have been turned over to Iraqi authorities, said Lt. Col. Paul Hastings, a spokesman for Task Force Olympia.

Three of the bodies were found by the road in a northeastern neighborhood of Mosul; the fourth was discovered in city's southwestern section, he said.

On Friday, a statement posted on an Islamist Web site in the name of Jordanian terror leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's group said it had "slaughtered" two Iraqi National Guard officers "in the presence of a big crowd" in Mosul. The claim included no photos or video and could not be verified.

There was no way of saying whether the bodies had been decapitated in a public manner, as the Web site claimed, said Hastings, adding that U.S. troops were "not able to identify them and say whether they were bodies of Iraqi National Guard, police or just anybody."

During raids on Friday, Iraqi commandos and U.S. forces detained 30 suspected militants, the military said. The men are in custody and undergoing interrogations.

In central Mosul, Iraq's third-largest city with more than a million residents, Iraqi commandos from the Interior Ministry arrested 23 people suspected of planning and conducting attacks against American and Iraqi troops.

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# BBB accepting entries for ethics awards

AMARILLO — The Better Business Bureau® of the Texas Panhandle in partnership with the T. Boone Pickens College of Business at West Texas A&M University is seeking entries for the 2005 BBB Torch Awards for Marketplace Ethics®.

According to a press release from the Amarillo

BBB, the marketplace ethics torch awards have since 2000 honored businesses demonstrating high standards of behavior, adhering to truthful and honorable advertising and sales practices, and with a reputation for noteworthy contributions to their industries and to the communities in which they do business.

To be eligible for the awards, companies must submit a complete application. Any size business can apply and membership in the BBB is not a requirement. Applicants do have, however, to be in good standing with the BBB.

"Our judges are always challenged with the quality of applicants and this year

we expect their job will be just as difficult," said Janna Kiehl, executive director at the Amarillo BBB. "The Texas Panhandle has a large reserve of high quality, valuable businesses. We expect we will see another large group of applicants this year."

"For profit business throughout the Panhandle

area with a commitment to ethics are encouraged to apply for the award," said Kiehl. Only those making application for the award will be considered.

To find out more, contact the BBB at (806) 379-6834. For entry forms and guidelines, log onto [www.amarillobbb.org](http://www.amarillobbb.org) on the World Wide Web.

Individuals may also nominate a company for an award. The BBB will contact the company with any outside nominations.

Winners will be announced Thursday, Feb. 17, at a banquet in the Amarillo Civic Center Heritage Ballroom.

The entry deadline is Friday, Jan. 14.

## Obituaries

### Services tomorrow

- Services today**  
**WARE**, Roberta Akin — 2:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, Wheeler.
- Services tomorrow**  
**ATHERTON**, Sammie Lee Dougherty — 2 p.m., First Baptist Church, Wheeler.  
**DODD**, Irene Graves — Graveside services, 11 a.m., Fairview Cemetery, Pampa.  
**ETHEREDGE**, Wanda Elizabeth Lacy — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.  
**STUDEBAKER**, Iva Sybil — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

### Roberta Akin Ware, 74

WHEELER — Roberta Akin Ware, 74, of Wheeler, died Thursday, Nov. 18, 2004.

Services are scheduled at 2:30 p.m. today in First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Ricky Carstensen, pastor of the church, and the Rev. Erron Mercer, pastor of Cornerstone Church of Wheeler, officiating.

Burial will be in Wheeler Cemetery under the direction of Wright Funeral Home of Wheeler.

Mrs. Ware was born Sept. 13, 1930, at Oklahoma City, Okla., to Robert Howe and Bessie May Akin. She attended Oklahoma A&M University where she met and later married Nicholas D. Ware, Jr. on June 18, 1949; he died in 2003.

The couple moved to Wheeler and established Ware Chevrolet.

Mrs. Ware was a member of Thursday Review Club, Western Lonestar Senior Ladies Golf Association and Shamrock Ladies Golf Association.

She belonged to Wheeler First United Methodist Church and was an avid card player.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister.

Survivors include three sons, Bobby Ware, Kent Ware and Gary Ware, all of Wheeler; two daughters, Janice Barr of Cary, N.C., and Niki Cooper of Lubbock; a sister, Patsy Brooks of Eureka Springs, Ark.; and 13 grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to First United Methodist Church of Wheeler.

### Iva Sybil Studebaker, 94

Iva Sybil Studebaker, 94, of Pampa, Texas, died Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2004, at Pampa.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday, Nov. 22, 2004, at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with Dr. Johnny Funderburg, pastor of the First Baptist Church, officiating.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2004, at the Evergreen Cemetery in Minco, Okla., with the Rev. Eddie Critchfield, pastor of the Southern Heights Baptist Church of El Reno, Okla., officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa and Huber-Reynolds Funeral Home in Minco, Okla.

Mrs. Studebaker was born Nov. 15, 1910, in Canadian County, Okla. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1935.

She married Lonnie Bill Studebaker on Feb. 26, 1932, in Cordell, Okla. He preceded her in death in 1989.

She was a cafeteria cook for the Pampa Independent School District for 20 years.

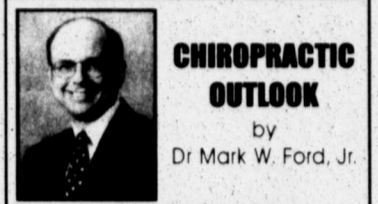
She was a member of the First Baptist Church.

She was also preceded in death by a sister, Ella Mae Schrantz; and two brothers, Burel Parker and Darrel Parker.

Survivors include two sons, Bill Studebaker and wife Jerry and Russell Loy Studebaker, both of Tulsa, Okla.; one granddaughter, Susan Rush and husband Steve of Porter, Okla.; and three great-grandchildren, Stephanie Henson and husband Aaron, Rusty Rush, and Branton Rush and wife Melissa; and one great-great-granddaughter, Andrea Rush.

Mrs. Studebaker will lie in state Tuesday morning until service time at Huber-Reynolds Funeral Home.

—Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whitley.com](http://www.carmichael-whitley.com).



**CHIROPRACTIC OUTLOOK**  
 by  
 Dr. Mark W. Ford, Jr.

### ERGONOMIC CHAIRS REDUCE BACK PROBLEMS

In an office environment, a person spends most of the day sitting down. This can easily strain the structures in the lower spine and significantly harm an individual's back, especially with improper posture and support. Using an ergonomically designed chair can greatly reduce the possibility of developing or aggravating back problems. Chiropractic Doctors recommend that people use ergonomic chairs with an adjustment lever for altering height. A comfortable seat will be about 16 to 21 inches off the floor. A person should keep both feet flat on the ground, with arms at the height of the desk and thighs horizontally aligned. The padded seat must comfortably contain any size user. Under normal conditions, a standard chair is 17 to 20 inches in width. It will be deep enough for an individual to sit against the backrest, while leaving approximately 2 to 4 inches between the back of the knees and the seat of the chair.

Armrests should be adjustable, so a user can relax the arms and shoulders. The elbow and lower arm, but not the forearm, should be lightly supported while typing. The chair should swivel, allowing the person to easily turn and reach different locations of the desk without stretching. Ask your chiropractor to provide additional information on which chair to choose to obtain maximum efficacy.

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## Record

Continued from Page 2

to a minor motor vehicle accident at Hobart and Somerville streets. No injuries were reported.

3 p.m. — One unit and two fire-

fighters responded to a grass fire but were canceled en route. The reported fire fell under the jurisdiction of the Hoover Volunteer Fire Department.

3:23 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a minor motor vehicle accident at 18th and Duncan streets. No injuries were reported.

## Gray County Weather

Today: A 50 percent chance of rain. Cloudy, with a high around 46. Wind chill values between 31 and 36. East wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Tonight: A 40 percent chance of rain. Cloudy, with a low near 37. Wind chill values between 29 and 34. East-south-east wind around 15 mph.

Monday: A 40 percent chance of rain. Cloudy, with a high near 49. South southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Monday Night: A chance of rain, mixing with snow after 4 a.m. Cloudy, with a low around 34. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph.

## University benefactors to gather for meeting

CANYON — New board members and officers for 2005 will be recognized when benefactors gather for the West Texas A&M University Foundation's Annual Meeting and Donor Appreciation Dinner.

The festivities, including a special performance by the WTAMU Chorale, will begin at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30 at the Dr. Hazel Kelley Wilson Banquet Hall on campus.

Reservations are required and must be made by Wednesday, Nov. 24.

Speakers for the evening will be Dr. Jim Clark, dean

of the College of Agriculture, Nursing, Science and Engineering, and Dr. Troy Johnson, dean of enrollment management.

Clark will talk about the University's newest programs in agriculture, including agriculture education and the Ph.D. in agriculture program.

Johnson's topic will be "We Are in A Great Era in WT's History." He will elaborate on the current building phase on campus, the University's expanding enrollment and the high quality students WTAMU is attracting.

General membership in the WTAMU Foundation is a \$150 annual contribution. With endowed assets of approximately \$13.5 million, the Foundation now funds more than 940 student scholarships annually and serves as the University's primary fund-raising vehicle, according to Caroline Chamblin, executive director of development.

Members of the Foundation Board of Directors whose terms expire this year are Dr. Robert Beckley, immediate past president of the board,

Bill Dickey and Lois Rice.

For more information about the WTAMU Foundation or for member reservations for the annual meeting and dinner, contact the Office of Development at 806-651-2070.

Those arriving early are invited to take part in the Carol of Lights at 6 p.m. on the south side of Old Main as holiday lights illuminating the campus will be switched on during a short program led by University President Russell C. Long and featuring the WTAMU choirs.

## Soybean rust confirmed in U.S.

AUSTIN — While soybean rust has been confirmed in Louisiana, Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs said today that the Texas Department of Agriculture has already secured exemptions for products to control the disease.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approved six products under Section 18 quarantine exemption in July. They expire March 1, 2007.

Soybean rust is caused by two fungal species, *Phakopsora pachyrhizi* and *Phakopsora meibomia*, and is spread primarily by wind-borne spores that can travel long distances. For more information, visit the U.S. Department of Agriculture's soybean rust page at [www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/isues/sbr/sbr.html](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/isues/sbr/sbr.html).

The products approved include:

- Propiconazole, formulated as Tilt, Propimax and Bumper;
- Myclobutanil, formulated as Laredo EC and

Laredo EW; and —Tebuconazole, formulated as Folicur.

All applicable directions, restrictions and precautions on the EPA registered product labels, as well as restrictions within the EPA approval notices, must be followed.

**FOOT FACTS BY BROWNS SHOE FIT CO.**

80% DEFECTS, AGE 20... Although almost all children have perfect feet at birth, by 10 years of age 50% have foot defects. At age 20, when feet are fully developed, the tragic ratio of 80% foot defects is reached. Doctors tell us that most of these foot defects are caused by shoes that don't fit properly. Corns, callouses, bunions, malformed toes, crippled feet - this is the life-long burden we endure for lack of proper shoe fitting and foot care during childhood. Wise parents will find other places to economize and insist upon quality shoes, correctly fitted, and, most important, not outgrown, for their children.

**Pampa ISD Event Calendar**

Watch this space every Sunday for a weekly listing of non-athletic events from every campus in our school district

**Events for Pampa ISD for the week of November 21 - November 27**

**All Campuses • School Holiday • November 24-26**

**Austin Elementary**  
 November 22 • 8:00-3:00 • Booster Club Bake Sale

**Lamar Elementary**  
 November 23 • 5:30-6:00 • FRED Celebration

**Wilson Elementary**  
 November 23 • 5:30-6:00 • FRED Celebration at Lamar

For the most up-to-date Pampa ISD information, Go to the school website at [www.pampaisd.net](http://www.pampaisd.net). From the parent information drop-down menu, click on the Pampa ISD Event Calendar

This PISD Events Calendar courtesy of the Gray-Roberts County Farm Bureau Agents  
 Ray Boring • Brandon Wheeler • Ricky Martin

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NOV 21 2004

# Viewpoints

## Never too old to learn something new ...

Earlier this week, our church organist Loralee Cooley handed me a press release about a joint Thanksgiving service to be held next Tuesday.

She left me speechless. Not because the joint service was unusual, but because I had no idea that next week was Thanksgiving.

Since I had been blissfully unaware of the nearness of the pending holiday, I had made no preparations for the annual Laramore family event that I would be hosting in my home in a matter of days.

I guess I better get on the "Butterball."

\*\*\*

Thanksgiving was the

subject of another news release I received recently. In it, I learned a fascinating new fact that put a different twist on the history of Thanksgiving in our country.

George Washington was not only the father of our country, he is the father of our nation's Thanksgiving celebration.

Apparently, the first president is the first to officially set aside a day to reflect on our blessings and give thanks for them.

Washington first mentioned the possibility of a national Thanksgiving day in a confidential letter to James Madison in August 1789, according to the release from Rebecca Ryser

of mountvernon.org. Washington had been in office only a few months. He asked Madison for advice on presenting the idea of "a day of thanksgiving" to the Senate.

By the end of September 1789, a resolution was introduced to the House of

**Dee Dee Laramore**

Editor



Representatives. The committee put the resolution before the president and within days, Washington had issued the first national Thanksgiving Proclamation. The proclamation was

printed in newspapers, including the Oct. 9, 1789 issue of "Pennsylvania Packet and Daily Advertiser." It set aside Thursday, Nov. 26, 1789 as a "day of public thanks-giving" for the "People of the United States."

History shows Washington knew the importance

of giving thanks. During the Revolutionary War, according to the news release, Washington would order special thanksgiving services for his troops after successful battles, as well as

publicly endorse efforts by the Continental Congress to proclaim days of thanks usually in recognition of military victories and alliances.

Colonists even before the Pilgrims often established "Thank Days" to mark certain occasions. These solemn one-time events could occur at any time of the year and emphasized prayer and spiritual reflection.

Abraham Lincoln is generally considered as the president who started Thanksgiving with a proclamation issued in 1863. According to Ryser's article, Lincoln appears to have been following Washington's example. Lincoln issued his proclama-

tion on the same day as Washington, Oct. 3, and marked the same Thanksgiving Day as Washington's — Thursday, Nov. 26, setting Thanksgiving as the last Thursday of November.

Thanksgiving became a legal holiday in 1941 when Congress named the fourth Thursday in November as a national day of thanks. Congress did this after a public outcry over President Roosevelt's attempt to prolong the Christmas shopping season by moving Thanksgiving from the traditional last Thursday to the third Thursday of November.

See **NEW**, Page 5

## Today in History

By the Associated Press

Today is Sunday, Nov. 21, the 326th day of 2004. There are 40 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

Forty years ago, on Nov. 21, 1964, New York's Verrazano Narrows Bridge, connecting Brooklyn and Staten Island, opened.

### On this date:

In 1789, North Carolina became the 12th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1877, inventor Thomas A. Edison announced the invention of his phonograph.

In 1934, the Cole Porter musical "Anything Goes," starring Ethel Merman as Reno Sweeney, opened in New York.

In 1942, the Alaska highway across Canada was formally opened.

*'A concept is stronger than a fact.'*

— Charlotte P. Gilman  
American lecturer and author (1860-1935)

In 1969, the Senate voted down the Supreme Court nomination of Clement F. Haynsworth, the first such rejection since 1930.

In 1973, President Nixon's attorney, J. Fred Buzhardt, revealed the existence of an 18 1/2-minute gap in one of the White House tape recordings related to

Watergate.

In 1979, a mob attacked the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan, killing two Americans.

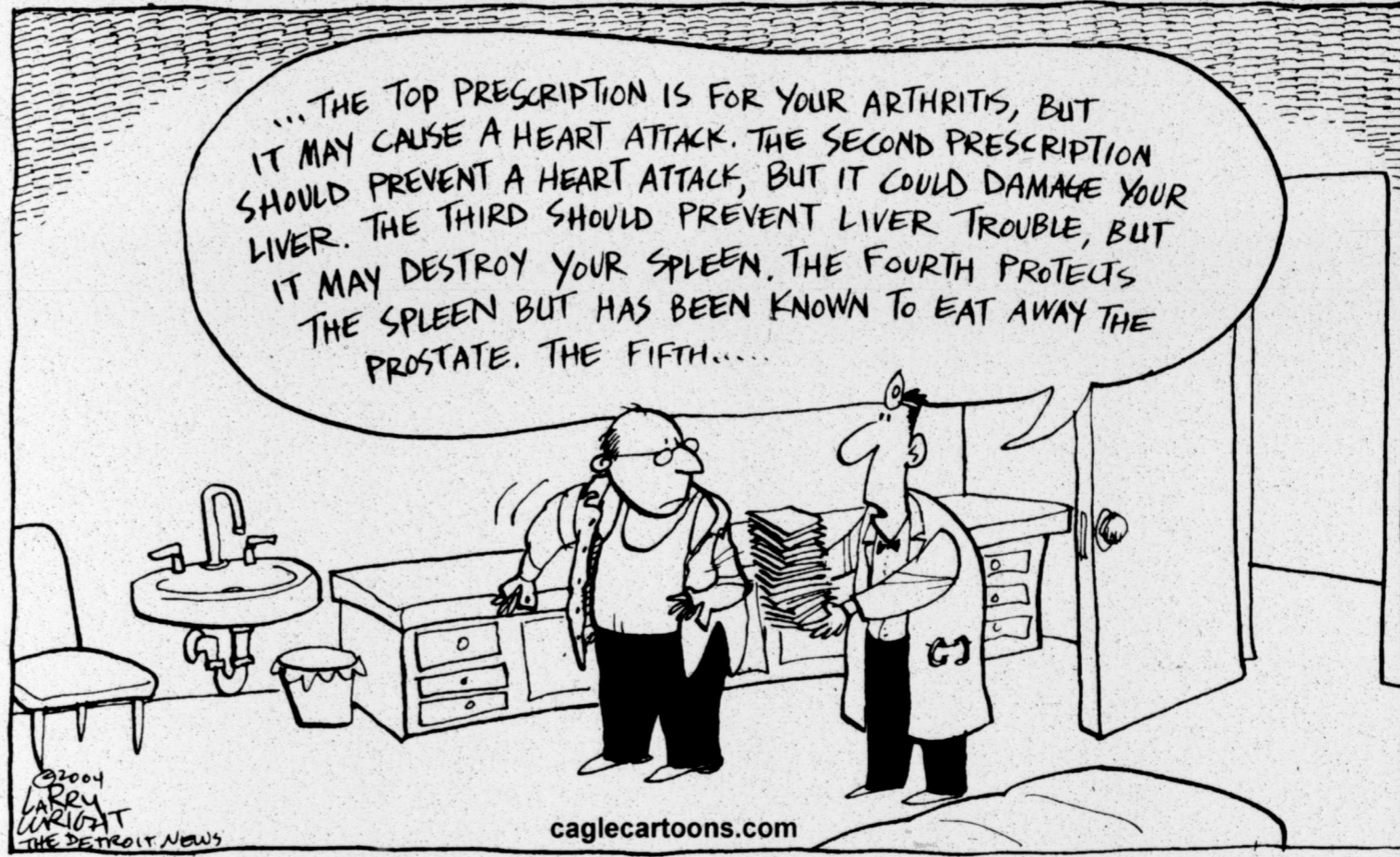
In 1980, 87 people died in a fire at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

In 1980, an estimated 83 million TV viewers tuned in to the CBS prime-time soap opera "Dallas" to find out "who shot J.R." (It turned out to be Kristin Shephard, played by Mary Crosby.)

In 1989, the proceedings of Britain's House of Commons were televised live for the first time.

**Ten years ago:** North Carolina Sen. Jesse Helms, a Republican, remarked in a newspaper interview that President Clinton "better have a bodyguard" if he were to visit North Carolina; Helms later called his comment "a mistake." NATO warplanes bombed an air base in Serb-held Croatia that was being used by Serb planes to raid the Bosnian "safe area" of Bihac.

**Five years ago:** President Clinton, speaking at a conference in Florence, Italy, called on prosperous nations to spread global wealth by helping poor countries with Internet hookups, cell phones, debt relief and small loans. China completed its first unmanned test of a spacecraft meant to carry astronauts.



## No training can make up for experience

Too much is expected, I think, of today's youngsters if we think they're going to recognize terms we tossed about conversationally a half-century ago. They're apt to manage "Of-course-I-know-what-you're-talking-about" smiles, but they are bluffing for sure. They hope such words will go away and never be heard again. Bluffs are big in every generation.

If you disagree with this observation, you likely are bluffing. It's like the guy who argues that if you believe you have no faults, you can add one more to the list.

Anyways, this was a generational thing. The young

undertaker had been trained to cope with all situations that could reasonably be anticipated, but so are teachers, doctors, lawyers and the rest. No matter how intense and detailed the training may be, teachers readily admit that many real-life situations encountered up the way will fall into the vast crevices of the unexpected, unknown and/or unexplored. Such situations are simply facts of life to be faced straight on, then usually tossed aside with a laugh.

**Dr. Don Newbury**

Columnist



and her "Sunday dress" seemed always to be capped off with the heavy jewelry.

"Mother loved these brooches, and I just know would want them on," the daughter said. When she handed them to him, his

hand dropped like a plane hitting an air pocket. (Thrown, they would have been lethal weapons.)

"These are really heavy," he thought, but he assured her the brooches would be included as adornment was finalized.

The "search engine" in his mind was purring. "What in the world are brooches?," he pondered. At mortuary school, they mentioned that some folks would insist that favorite "ear bobs" should be on grandma's ears.

Aha!, he thought. Wheels turned as his thoughts tumbled about. Maybe "ear

See **TRAINING**, Page 5

## Physicians should acknowledge their mistakes

Victoria Advocate on doctors should acknowledge their mistakes:

Most of us have gone to doctors who thought either that they were God or that they sat at God's right hand. More than any other profession, except perhaps lawyers, doctors traditionally have seen themselves as all-knowing and infallible.

We all know that doctors make mistakes — as does every human being — but it has been rare for them to come down from Mount Olympus and acknowledge their fallibility.

That longtime tradition is beginning to change as some medical schools and hospitals reformulate their ethical standards. Part of the reason

is to encourage health care consumers to take greater responsibility for their own well-being, which requires that doctors fully inform them.

Another big part of the reason is that doctors can save themselves and their patients much grief by acknowledging when they make mistakes, then quickly rectifying them to the greatest extent possible.

Health care reporting organizations, both inside and outside of government, are less willing to excuse or

cover up medical mistakes now. In some states — although Texas is not yet among them — medical licensing boards are cracking down harder on truly negligent doctors.

More than anything else, though, the medical malpractice crisis is prodding doctors to admit mistakes.

"The hos-pitals in the University of Michigan Health System have been encouraging doctors since 2002 to apologize for mistakes. The system's annual attorney fees have since dropped from \$3 mil-

lion to \$1 million, and malpractice lawsuits and notices of intent to sue have fallen from 262 filed in 2001 to about 130 per year," The Associated Press reported.

The Veterans Affairs hospital in Lexington, Ky., pioneered the "Sorry Works" concept in 1987 after swallowing \$1.5 million in costs from two malpractice cases.

The hospital decided to move away from the "shut up and fight" strategy health care providers and insurers had long followed, and it wound up significantly lowering its liability costs.

The Illinois General Assembly is considering legislation for a pilot program

See **DOCTORS**, Page 5

### Texas Thoughts

Victoria Advocate

**THE PAMPA NEWS**  
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## Congress

Continued from page 5

contained buried that might not on their own.

"This procedure the odor wafts shining sea," said Hastings, D-Fl.

Final dispute swept away before midn when lawmakers effort to block to shift some private comp

## Woodrow

Woodrow Elementary School announced its the second six ing period of school year.

**First Grade**  
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## Gika

Continued from page 5

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# Congress

Continued from Page 1

contained buried provisions that might not have survived on their own.

"This process smells, and the odor wafts from sea to shining sea," said Rep. Alcee Hastings, D-Fla.

Final disputes were not swept away until shortly before midnight Friday, when lawmakers dropped an effort to block Bush's drive to shift some federal work to private companies. House

*'This is a lean and clean package that adheres to the budgetary limits agreed to by the president and Congress.'*

— Rep. Bill Young  
R-Florida

Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas, helped win an extra \$300 million for NASA, pushing the space agency's total over \$16 billion.

While the bill was loaded with thousands of projects for lawmakers' home dis-

tricts, it most of all reflected the hardball realities of deficit politics. Congress' Republican majority balanced generous increases — like a 12 percent boost for the FBI to \$5.2 billion and more aid for the refugee catastrophe in Sudan — with

cuts in some programs and token increases for others.

"This is a lean and clean package that adheres to the budgetary limits agreed to by the president and Congress," said Rep. Bill Young, R-Fla., chairman of the House Appropriations Committee and a chief author of the bill.

Among the victims were Bush priorities like education, which would grow by less than 2 percent to nearly \$57 billion. The National Endowment for Democracy, which buttresses democratic institutions abroad, got \$60 million of the \$80 million he

wanted, while his FutureGen program to promote clean-burning power plants got \$18 million — one-thirtieth of what the White House proposed.

To help pay for some of the bill's initiatives, a 0.83 percent cut was imposed on the agreed-upon level of every program.

Many Democrats were expected to grudgingly support the measure, realizing that the alternative the White House was offering — simply continuing last year's spending levels — would be even tighter and lack hometown projects.

# New

Continued from Page 4

Some things never change

\*\*\*

As we celebrate the national day of thanks, don't forget to remember our nation's leaders. Especially remember our soldiers in your prayers. They're the ones giving their lives for those things for which we're thankful. And remember, too, their families who are celebrating this day with an empty chair at the table.

Write to Editor Dee Dee Laramore at editor@thepampa.com.

## Woodrow Wilson Elementary Honor Roll

Woodrow Wilson Elementary School recently announced its honor roll for the second six-weeks grading period of the 2004-2005 school year.

**First Grade.** Jake Bennet, Raul Cortez, Jose Garcia, Austin Hendricks, Jonathan Mabra, Lizza Olivas, Amanda Ramirez, Ana Rivera, Irene Rodriguez, Chance Slater, Ashley Solis, Layne Stevens, Weston Hendricks, Deedra Lenz, Austin Miranda, Gabriela

Perez, Nikki Rodriguez, Katanna Shay, Marcy Wilson, Chance Butler, Matthew Foreman, Andrea Cotter, Mercedes Granados, Erik Vizcaino, MacKenzie Dull, Alyssa Parks, Brak Giles, Tanner Swaney, Cameron Schaub.

**Second Grade.** Nikki Dabbs, Conor Bressler, Jesse Rivera, Allison Noble, Travis Williams, Genesis Delatorre, Janette Leal, Brianna Melton, Eduardo Pepi, Dakota Roberson,

Sierra Sieber, Ray Thompson, Aron Avila, Olga Garcia, Trace Leftwich, Adrian Lopez, Ivette Medina, Saritza Melendez, Samantha Rivera, Alex Salazar, J.T. Skinner, Ashley Stark, Kristian Vizcaino.

**Third Grade.** Shay Shook, Mayra Tinajero, Angel McBee, Marisa Fuentes, Cori Cox, Krysten Miller, Jade Smiles, Michael Foreman, Steven Carver, Savanna McPherson, Vanessa Ramirez, Sydney

Taylor, Pamela Whinery.

**Fourth Grade.** Renee Baggerman, Tre Beistle, Miguel Blanco, Kelsey Brookshire, Junior Davila, Dusty Davis, Riley Douglas, Nathan Fuentes, Keenan O'Dell, Brenda Renteria, Johnathon Rowell, Summer Sieber, Destaney Vasquez, Brittany Weatherford, Isabella Wilson, Martecia Alexander, Omar Carrasco, Katrina Casey, Carlos Dominguez, Rosa Hernandez, Toby Hess,

Victoria Orona, Daniel Ortiz, Michael Steadman, Jared Willis.

**Fifth Grade.** Caylee Steward, Meganne Longo, Nicole Brashears, Devin Asencio, Courtney Ward, Mario Rivera, Cody Parks, Carmen Marin, Joseph Vizcaino, Brienne Moyer.

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# Gikas

Continued from Page 1

A Pampa tradition, the Coney has been the gathering place for a lot of former students returning for reunions. The historic café has drawn many celebrities, including Bob Wills, Van Cliburne after the first concert at M.K. Brown Auditorium, the former world champion cowboy Larry Mahan, and even a group of NASA scientists. Former soldiers dropped by because of the 1940s hit song "All Alone on a

Saturday Night," which mentions the "Coney" and was written by another visitor and returnee, Woody Guthrie. New York firemen visited on their cross-America goodwill tour after 9/11. Former Pampan Tom Dodge of the Texas Co-Op Power once wrote, "We are glad to hear of someone who finds a spot and stays there, because we know it takes character to stay in one place and be happy."

He noted that Pampans seem proud that the community has a tradition and the two brothers have kept that tradition going in downtown Pampa. The Coney Café has been featured in television programs, several newspapers

and magazines across Texas.

When they were no longer physically able to work, Ted and John sold the café to Roger and Brenda Donelson in 2001. Brenda's sister Linda Austin, an employee since 1971, became the manager. Ted and John were glad to keep it with someone whom they knew.

"We want to keep it much the same — making everyone feel welcome when they come in," Austin once said.

Pampans will have the opportunity to honor and to remember during Ted Gikas Day this Friday. "We urge you to attend the events," said Lilith Brainard, PFAA Board member.

# Doctors

Continued from Page 4

to try "Sorry Works" in two hospitals in the state to see if it actually saves money.

Alternative dispute resolution, including mediation,

is increasingly used as an alternative to going to court in other areas. "Sorry Works" is a useful way of expanding this in health care disputes.

If the malpractice crisis continues to grow, it ultimately will limit access to health care providers and health care itself. That is

not good for either providers or consumers. Legitimate ways to counter this trend will help both.

Of course, doctors who acknowledge mistakes should mean it when they say they are sorry. Doing so does not excuse them from responsibility for fixing those mistakes, to the

extent that doing so is possible, or paying financial recompense, when that is necessary. But it could remove lawyers and that cost from the process. Nor can "Sorry Works" become a free pass for bad doctors, who still should be weeded out of the profession.

# Training

Continued from Page 4

bobs" clip on and brooches are for pierced ears, he reasoned. He remembered that the woman was glancing at her mom's ears, so maybe that was a clue, too.

A few hours later, she was back to make sure her mom looked "just right" for the upcoming viewing. "I think the brooches would look better on her dress than her ears," she observed, sighing as if recognizing instantly that it was a generational thing.

"You get another chance," she said, and sailed off on a quick errand while the young mortician made amends. He resolved that in the future when he didn't know, he'd simply ask. That's a good thing.

Similarly, the young radio personality was fairly bursting with desire to use a "brand new" word: "verbatim." He THOUGHT he knew its meaning. Alas, he got it backwards.

That's right. He guessed at it, his bluff verbalized. "I don't recall the exact words," he purred, "But verbatim, the victim said."

A young preacher faced a hairy situation. Church fathers gathered to discuss the issue. Several hours deep into deliberations, a deacon asked, "What did they teach you to do at seminary in situations like this?"

"At seminary, they taught us NEVER to get into situations like this," he admitted.

Yep, after the "play-likes," theories and case studies comes real life. And a mighty big heap of it falls between the cracks.

Paul Harvey will have a field day with Martha Stewart's recent announcement of her plans to write a book about her incarceration. Initially, she feigned desires to begin her prison stretch ASAP so she could be out in time to plant her spring garden.

Just as we thought! Now we know "the rest of the story." Martha understands publishing deadlines, press runs, book promotions and sales cycles. Lessee, if she's out of the brig in February, finishes her book in April, completes proofing by July, has them in hand by September and then reviews/interviews/signings in October, guess what? Why that will be just in time for St. Nick.

Yeah, this falls into the

"dog bites man" category. You can bet Martha's not bluffing, and that's the truth.



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Olivia's auxiliary fo announce t Holiday Ceremony Amarillo Hospice f Sumner or 23, beginn The cerem open to th The Ceremony i Angels ma raiser, "Lig With eac light will Hospice throughout son. Each l tribute in m one or in h special. Donator

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## DRILLING INTENTIONS

**Intentions to Drill**  
**GRAY (PANHANDLE)** Mon Corp., Wm. Jackson, Sec. 90,B-2,H&GN, PD 3400', for the following wells:  
 #16, 1304' from North & 371' from East line of Sec. #17, 1501' from North & 456' from East line of Sec.  
**GRAY (PANHANDLE)** Mon Corp., #24 Wm. Jackson NCT-1, 1142' from North & 330' from East line, Sec. 60,B-2,H&GN, PD 3400'.  
**HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Patina Oil & Gas Corp., #1224P Carr '12', 1541' from South & 922' from East line, Sec. 12,4,AB&M, PD 13500'. Rule 37**  
**HEMPHILL (WILDCAT**


**& HEMPILL Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star, L.P., #23 Hobart Ranch '20', 1630' from North & 1724' from West line, Sec. 20,A-1,H&GN, PD 13500'. Rule 37**  
**HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & HEMPILL Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star, L.P., Hobart Ranch '50', Sec. 50,A-2,H&GN, PD 13500', for the following wells:**  
 #21, 2509' from North & 1334' from East line of Sec.  
 #23, 487' from North & 1802' from East line of Sec.  
 #24, 467' from North & 441' from West line of Sec.  
 #25, 1652' from North & 2546' from West line of

Sec.  
**HUTCHINSON (WEST PANHANDLE) SNW Operating Co., #1R Johnson 'O', 803' from South & 1470' from East line, Sec. 1,X-03,H&OB, PD 3400'.  
**ROBERTS (WILDCAT & MORRISON RANCH Lower Morrow) Mewbourne Oil Co., #1 Morrison '36', 760' from South & 2150' from East line, Sec. 36,42,H&TC, PD 11200'. Rule 37.**  
**WHEELER (WILDCAT & BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Peak Operating of Texas, L.L.C., Finsterwald-Dobbs, Sec. 51,M-1,H&GN, PD 14200', for the following wells:**  
 #4051, 1340' from**

South & 2000' from East line of Sec.  
 #5051, 660' from South & West line of Sec.  
**WHEELER (WILDCAT & STILES RANCH Granite Wash) Apache Corp., #2068 Stiles Ranch, 660' from North & 467' from West line, Sec. 68,A-7,H&GN, PD 17000'.  
**Application to Plug-Back**  
**WHEELER (DYCO Granite Wash) Philcon Development Co., #4 Lohberger, 2100' from North & 2000' from East line, Sec. 13,RE,R&E, PD 13850'.  
**Applications to Recomplete**  
**HEMPHILL (FELDMAN Tonkawa) Snyder Partners, #294******

Humphreys, 1370' from North & 1220' from East line, Sec. 29,1,G&M, PD 10460'.  
**HEMPHILL (GILL RANCH Brown Dolomite) Devon Louisiana Corp., #2014 Mathers, 1375' from South & 467' from West line, Sec. 14,A-2,H&GN, PD 8500'.  
**Gas Well Completions**  
**GRAY (EAST PANHANDLE) Gryu Petroleum Mgmt. Co., #4 Johnson, Sec. 185,E,D&P, spud 6-11-04, drlg. compl 6-14-04, tested 7-23-04, potential 264 MCF, TD 2775' —**  
**HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Dominion Oklahoma Texas E&P, Inc., #6802****

Grant Meek, Sec. 68,M-2,H&GN, spud 7-2-04, drlg. compl 8-5-04, tested 9-22-04, potential 5298 MCF, TD 11799', PBT 11787' —  
**HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Peak Operating of Texas, L.L.C., #3059 L.A. Johnson, Sec. 59,M-**  
 See DRILLING, Page 8

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## Toll roads may be Texas' future

AUSTIN (AP) — Sal Costello schedules his appointments to avoid rush-hour traffic leading from his Circle C neighborhood south of Austin into downtown.  
 The marketing consultant would rather start and finish his days late than sit with other cars backed up at red lights and choke on the exhaust fumes hanging in the air during peak traffic times.  
 That's why he and thousands of others in his neighborhood anxiously awaited completion of a new bridge that would avoid the lights and keep traffic moving. Then came the stunning announcement: To use the bridge, drivers would have to pay a toll as high as 70 cents.  
 "Uh, no," Costello said. "That bridge has been promised for many, many years as a freeway. We've already paid for it."  
 The bridge turned into the flash point of a contentious debate over the state's ambitious new plan to use and tollways and bonds to help pay for new transportation

*'Traffic congestion in Texas cities is getting so bad it's affecting their ability to attract jobs and deteriorating the quality of life.'*

— Mike Krusee  
 Legislator

projects in Texas.  
 The Texas Transportation Commission on Thursday adopted the 2005 Statewide Mobility Program, with about \$15.4 billion going to the state's eight largest metropolitan areas over the next decade.  
 The plan was developed from regional plans, nearly all of which include toll roads, and includes \$3 billion in bond proceeds — a first for Texas transportation planning.  
 Transportation Commissioner Hope Andrade of San Antonio called the statewide plan "visionary and creative."  
 But Costello described it differently when talking about the \$2.2 billion plan for the Austin area, which

includes six new toll roads over the next decade.  
 "This whole thing is a scam," said Costello, whose organized opposition to the toll plan led planners to the bridge near his house a tollway. "It stinks and it reeks and people know it."  
 But state leaders say toll roads provide Texas a way to keep traffic moving.  
 "Traffic congestion in Texas cities is getting so bad it's affecting their ability to attract jobs and deteriorating the quality of life," said state Rep. Mike Krusee, the Republican chairman of the House Transportation Committee.  
 Krusee sponsored the law in 2003 that opened the door for the tollway road

expansion.  
 He lives in the Austin suburb of Round Rock and commutes to the Capitol in the worst traffic congestion for a mid-size city in America, according to the 2004 Urban Mobility Report compiled by Texas A&M University researchers.  
 The same study listed congestion in Dallas and Houston among the worst for large metro areas.  
 Supporters say toll roads speed up road building because they require less state and federal money. And, given political reluctance to raise gasoline taxes and vehicle registration fees, Texas has few other options.  
 "It's like you're building an economic engine," Krusee said. "By providing the seed money to get roads started, cities in Texas are going to have more options than any in the United States."  
 Critics like Costello say they support toll roads if they planned and paid for

See TOLLS, Page 8

## Hospice Tree Lighting Ceremony set Nov. 23

Olivia's Angels, support auxiliary for BSA Hospice, announce the 16th Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony to be held in Amarillo at the BSA Hospice facility, 800 N. Sumner on Tuesday, Nov. 23, beginning at 5:30 p.m. The ceremony is free and open to the public.  
 The Tree Lighting Ceremony kicks off Olivia's Angels major holiday fund raiser, "Light Up a Life."  
 With each \$10 donation, a light will shine on the Hospice Holiday Tree throughout the holiday season. Each light represents a tribute in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special.  
 Donations toward the Tree

support the special needs of the terminally ill and their families in the BSA Hospice program.  
 Each tribute is hand-printed in the Olivia's Angels "Book of Lights" which remains on display in the Hospice facility foyer throughout the Holiday season.  
 Olivia's Angels was founded in 1989 by a concerned and dedicated group of individuals who worked to establish a permanent fund for special needs of hospice patients and their families.  
 For more information about donations to the Hospice Holiday Tree call Joan Douthit at (806) 212-8787.

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NOV 21 2004

## RRC sets allowables

AUSTIN — The Texas Railroad Commission recently set November 2004 natural gas production allowables for prorated fields in the state to meet market demand of 17,764,181 Mcf (thousand cubic feet).

For these fields, the November 2004 allowable represents a decrease of 11,174,929 Mcf when compared to actual production of 28,939,110 Mcf in November 2003. In setting the November 2004 allowable, the Commission used historical production figures from November 2003 and producer forecasts for the November 2004 demand, and then adjusted the figures to account for such factors as well capability, new wells in a field, etc.

Texas natural gas storage reported by the Commission

for September 2004 is 319,421,771 Mcf compared to 278,783,910 Mcf in September 2003. The October 2004 gas storage estimate is 334,190,530 Mcf.

Gas well gas from prorated fields accounts for seven percent of total gas well production in Texas.

Preliminary statewide production reported for August 2004 is 28,503,133 barrels of crude oil and 379,737,127 Mcf of gas well gas.

The Commission's estimated final production for this month can be obtained by multiplying these preliminary production totals by a production adjustment factor of 1.0416 for crude oil and 1.1132 for gas well gas. (These production totals do not include casinghead gas or condensate.)



## Cable One fund-raiser

Terry Harris, general manager of Cable One, and Donna Litterell, marketing manager, with Captain Gary Steward, of the Salvation Army, recently. Through its November fund-raising campaign, Cable One was able to donation a check in the amount of \$275 to the Salvation Army.

## CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
Pampa, Texas

Recreation Park on Highway 60 East

November 20 Through December 31

6-11 PM Sunday - Thursday • 6-11 PM Friday & Saturday

Pampa invites you to visit our Winter Lighting Fantasy where the animated Santa feeding the Reindeer will greet you. Animated Rodeo Displays join in the season's festivities.

Fun and fanciful displays. Displays of the Nativity and other religious scenes add to the pleasure of the holidays. Several new displays will add that sparkle and wonder to your holiday.

Other events to be enjoyed in Pampa:

December 4-5..... Festival of Trees  
December 4..... "Snacks With Santa" St Matthews Episcopal Church  
Christmas Parade..... A "Texas Tumbleweed Christmas" 1:00 p.m.  
"The Nutcracker" Pampa Civic Ballet.....M.K. Brown Auditorium, 7 pm  
December 12..... "Tour of Homes", Twentieth Century Cottillion Club

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## Drilling

Continued from Page 7

1,H&GN, spud 1-8-04, drlg. compl 3-2-04, tested 8-4-04, potential 2650 MCF, TD 13400', PBDT 12605' —

WHEELER (WILDCAT) Brigham Oil & Gas, L.P., #1-99S Mills Ranch, Sec. 99,13,H&GN, spud 2-3-04, drlg. compl 9-15-04, tested 10-5-04, potential 13706 MCF, TD 23510' — Sidetrack

### Plugged Wells

CARSON (PANHANDLE) JIRO, Jordan, Sec. 103,4,I&GN (oil) — Form 1 in Bell Oil & Gas Co., for the

following wells:

#1, spud in March 1949, plugged 10-19-04, TD 3156' —

#4, spud 5-11-49, plugged 10-27-04, TD 3180' —

#5, spud 12-23-49, plugged 10-25-04, TD 3196' —

#6, spud 4-28-50, plugged 10-20-04, TD 3156' —

## Tolls

Continued from Page 7

with tax dollars. Drivers should also have viable options to avoid toll roads, they say.

But the Austin plan would place tolls on most of the highways running through the city, except for Interstate 35. It would put collection booths on some roads Costello says were already

paid for with tax money.

"That's a double tax," Costello said. "In the past, when they did toll roads they were whole new roads, whole new options that complemented the daily highways. Here they'll have a captured audience of people going to work and school ... They have hijacked all the highways."

About 600 people packed a July public hearing of the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization but failed to stop the Austin toll plan.

Angered by the vote of approval, Costello started a recall petition drive against Austin Mayor Will Wynn and the city council mem-

bers who supported the toll

road plan. He said he has more than 21,000 of the 40,000 signatures he needs.

Wynn, who campaigned on a promise to address traffic problems, has defended his vote, saying that if he's run out of town, "I'm determined not to be stuck in traffic on the way out."

Toll roads are a central part of Republican Gov. Rick Perry's \$175 billion Trans-Texas Corridor transportation initiative he proposed in 2002.

A Perry spokesman has said the governor does not support tolls on existing roads, although it's something the governor believes should be left to local gov-

ernments.

Krusee said the Legislature will likely address the toll plan again in 2005 to more clearly define how freeways can be converted to tollways and how revenues raised from tolls can be spent.

He contends tollways take Texas in the right direction and predicts every major road project in the state will be soon be built with tolls or bonds.

"I think within two years, it will be 100 percent," Krusee said.

On the Net:  
Texas Transportation Department:  
<http://www.dot.state.tx.us>

## Light up a Life - Honor a Memory

### Olivia's Angels Hospice Holiday Tree

Your gift of \$10.00 in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special will help light the BSA Hospice Holiday Tree which shines throughout the Holiday Season

Join us for the Tree Lighting Ceremony  
Tuesday, November 23, 2004  
5:30 p.m.

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City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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In \_\_\_\_\_ Honor \_\_\_\_\_ In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Please send notice of this gift to \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

If you want to honor more than one person, please enclose the above information on another sheet of paper  
Make checks payable to Olivia's Angels - BSA Hospice - 800 N. Sumner - Pampa, Texas 79065.  
For More information call (806) 665 - 6677

## This Holiday Season Adopt A Friend

Meals on Wheels is sponsoring a program for the Holidays that allows individuals to pay for patrons that are presently receiving meals, but do not have the ability to pay, or can only pay the minimum of .25 cents per meal. This is approximately 60% of our patrons. With increased gasoline and food prices, the cost of each meal is averaging \$4.00. This leaves us with quite a large deficit for each meal. If you would like to pay for the meals of a patron for one week - \$20.00; one month - \$80.00; or one year \$960.00, please fill out the form below and return with your check to: Pampa Meals on Wheels, P.O. Box 939, Pampa, Texas 79065, or bring to our office located at 302 E. Foster.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Donations Are Tax Deductible



# Winter: A special time for donating blood

By **JAMES T. RUTLEDGE, Ph.D.**  
Coffee Memorial Blood Center CEO

AMARILLO — Nov. 2nd saw what some say was an official record snowfall at Rick Husband International Airport of 8.4 inches.

It didn't really slow us down. We went to work pretty much as usual. We voted. Many schools were delayed but most opened at some point that election day. After all, it had been warm, so the streets cleared quickly and a lot of us in the Amarillo/Canyon area went about our normal business.

But at Coffee Memorial Blood Center, "our business" was seriously cut back. Even as the snow stopped falling the next morning, only seven people came to our main facility on Coulter Drive to donate blood. Twenty-three people donated at community blood drives the day the snow started, but we were forced to cancel all our drives the next

day and the following morning due to safety concerns for our staff, and an expected low turnout.

Do you suppose that the need for blood for patients throughout the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles declined during those first few days of November? No. If anything, the need was greater, as is often the case when the weather is bad.

I'm told by "old timers" that one predictor of harsh winter weather, especially a winter accompanied by lots of snow, is the height sunflowers reach during the preceding summer. Based on the one my wife treasures in her garden, carefully transplanted from a roadside stop a few years ago, we're in for a long, hard winter.

What are we at Coffee Blood Center to do?

Every winter there are days like we had early this month — bad weather and too few

blood donors. And yet, more than 100 pints of blood from more than 100 different blood donors will be needed each of these days for patients whose lives can only be sustained through the transfusion of donated blood products. They are your family members and loved ones, the fellow next door, the child born prematurely, the patients undergoing cancer treatment. They are those who did not plan to be in a traffic accident that day or people for whom a new liver or kidney has just become available to be transplanted immediately.

We are, unfortunately, losing ground in our efforts to collect enough blood for patients in our service area. Over the past two years, blood transfusions in local hospitals have increased dramatically (more than 17 percent), while blood donations have risen only slightly (2.2 percent).

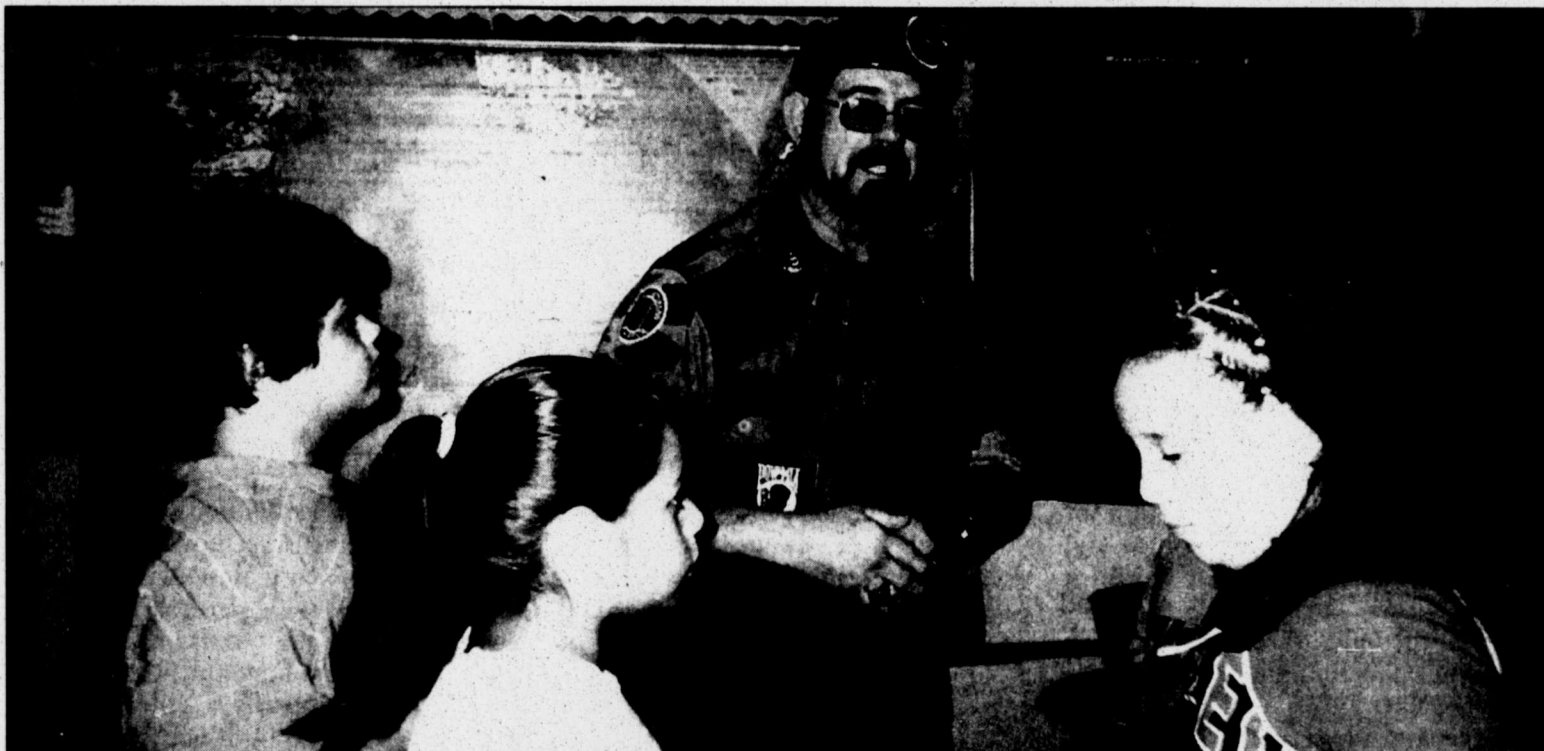
Here on the High Plains, we pride our-

selves on our friendliness, our care and concern for others — for long-time residents, newcomers and visitors alike. What could be better evidence of these values than to make certain, absolutely certain, that blood is always there when it's needed?

One out of every three of us will, at some point in our lives, need a blood transfusion. So, if you qualify as a blood donor, please make an appointment and donate this winter — as frequently as your schedule and our rules permit. If you are part of the half of the population who cannot donate, please encourage those in the community where you live and work, those with whom you go to school and church, to donate blood, especially when the weather is bad and we need it most desperately.

The life you save may, in fact, be your own, or someone you care deeply about, or someone you will never know.

## Veteran visit



Vietnam veteran Myron Peterson visits with Nevada Granger, Serena Reyes and Aribel Martinez during a special Veteran's Day program at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School.

## Company, association seek hero nominees

Cellular One®, according to a news release, and Cellular Telecommunications & Internet Association, the international association for the wireless communications industry, are currently seeking local heroes who used wireless phones to save lives or to provide assistance in an emergency situation.

Through VITA (Latin for "life") Wireless Samaritan Awards, Cellular One and CTIA honor such heroes and recognize the role wireless technology can play in emergencies.

Anyone in the community can nominate friends, neighbors and loved ones who have used their wireless phones to summon help in an emergency.

To enter, submit your story in 100 words or less along with the appropriate contact information to your local Cellular One store or e-mail your submission to [media@wwireless.com](mailto:media@wwireless.com).

The following contact information is necessary to enter: Customer's name, mailing address, daytime, business, and cellular phone numbers; city and state where incident occurred; and date of incident.

Submissions may also be faxed to (425) 586-8084 or submitted on-line at [CellularOne.com/VITA](http://CellularOne.com/VITA).

VITA rules and nomination details are also available at the web site.

Entries are being accepted through Feb. 28, 2005. Winners may be invited to Washington, D.C., to attend an awards ceremony and reception.

The news release reports that every day nearly 200,000 emergency service calls are made from wireless phones — about 140 calls per minute.

These calls alert emergency personnel of accidents, report drunk drivers, catch criminals and provide safety assistance.

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CELLULAR ONE

NOV 21 2004

# 'Experimental' forest thrives in central North Dakota

DENBIGH, N.D. (AP) — A small forest that took root as an experiment some 70 years ago remains a largely overlooked oddity in a state known as the least-forested in the nation. But it has helped grow jobs and sprout millions of seedlings far beyond North Dakota.

The 636-acre Denbigh Experimental Forest was established in 1931 by the federal government to test which types of trees would survive the harsh climate and sandy soils of the upper Midwest.

More than 40 species were planted from throughout the United States, Europe and Asia. Today, about 30 species not only survive, but thrive, said Roy Laframboise, a nursery manager

with the North Dakota Forest Service in nearby Towner.

"It's time to take the 'experimental' out of the name," Laframboise said. "A tremendous amount of tree species have passed the test of time."

The hardy seed stock from the forest is highly sought after. The nursery sells about 1.3 million seedlings a year, about 40 percent of which come from the forest, Laframboise said. Tree plantings from the forest have provided wind protection for crops, communities and wildlife throughout the United States and Canada, he said.

"This forest has been very important to the state of North Dakota, and it continues to make tremendous contributions,"

Laframboise said.

Eighty-nine-year-old Helen Carpenter remembers when the forest was planted. Its seed supply has helped provide many jobs in Towner, where Carpenter lives, including her own job at the nursery the last 43 years.

Carpenter sorts and packs seedlings for shipment, working alongside about 35 people, most of them elderly. She was one of three women who used to climb large conifer trees to pick their cones. She was taken off that job a few years ago, but claims she can still shimmy a 40-foot-tall pine tree.

"I'm proud of this forest, definitely," Carpenter said. "It's likely the only forest in existence that requires a sign from the highway pointing out that it is, indeed, a forest, said Tom Berg, a state forester in Bottineau.

"It just looks like another windbreak out there until you get close enough to it," he said.

Much of North Dakota is prairie, and less than 1 percent of the land is forested.

Except for occasional gun blasts from squirrel hunters, there is quiet

within the mile-square Denbigh forest. Signs point out stands of Scotch pine, Siberian larch, Black Hills spruce, Russian olive, Rocky Mountain juniper and other species.

Wild turkeys, porcupines, elk and an occasional moose are found here.

Spent shotgun shells and deer tracks are common on the forest floor, spongy from layers of pine tree needles and other vegetation. This is ground that was once overplowed and overgrazed during the early part of the 20th century, leaving wind-blown sand dunes and economic hardship.

"This once looked like the Sahara Desert," Laframboise said. "The transformation has made this an extremely unique place."

McHenry County residents and

state officials pushed the U.S. Forest Service to plant trees on the land, similar to efforts in Nebraska and Kansas at the time. The idea was to provide a source of trees to farmers for windbreaks and timber for barns, fences and telephone poles.

"It was done to stabilize the soil and to stabilize the economy,"

Laframboise said. Proponents envisioned a forest as large as 480,000 acres that would cover parts of McHenry, Pierce and Bottineau counties.

R. Douglas Hurt, who heads the history department at Purdue University, said experimental forests were common in farm states in the 1930s. "They are amazing footprints of the past," he said.

See FOREST, Page 11

*'It's time to take the 'experimental' out of the name. A tremendous amount of tree species have passed the test of time.'*

— Roy Laframboise  
Nursery manager

*'It just looks like another windbreak out there until you get close enough to it.'*

— Helen Carpenter  
Nursery worker

## Museum walk-through heart restarts after makeover

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — As Philadelphia's science museum pondered an update of its giant walk-through heart, an annual destination for area schoolchildren for 50 years, designers wondered whether to add a modern twist.

Given the nation's health woes, a 21st century heart might boast a bypass valve or stent.

The idea, while seriously considered, was ultimately nixed. The Franklin Institute heart should remain a healthy one, they decided.

"This is an icon and people love it. Touching things people love can be a dangerous thing," said Steve Snyder, the museum's vice president for exhibits and programs.

For Philadelphia-area baby boomers, annual class trips often meant visits to the Liberty Bell or the Franklin Institute heart, whose narrow passages and thumping audio (buh-BOOM, buh-BOOM) both frightened and delighted those who entered.

Melissa Rihm Thibault, of Raleigh, N.C., remembers "the thrill of walking through the corridors of the huge, backlit heart's interior, with the rhythmic beat surrounding me."

"It is a memory I can call up 30 years later!" she wrote in one of dozens of nostalgic tributes to the heart posted on the institute's Web site.

In October, a new crop of schoolchildren clambered through the imaginative, \$2 million revamped heart as it reopened after a six-month makeover.

"I thought it was an amazing part of your body," a wide-eyed Lauren Myers, 10, of Wilmington, Del., exclaimed as she exited.

*'This is an icon and people love it. Touching things people love can be a dangerous thing.'*

— Steve Snyder  
Museum VP

The two-story heart, a papier-mache-on-metal creation, opened as a temporary exhibit called "The Engine of Life" in January 1954 and quickly became the museum's signature attraction. The model underwent two earlier facelifts, but even now survives pretty much intact, save for some fresh paint and new details.

The exhibit designers — including recruits from Disney and toy maker K'Nex — saved their best work for the

surrounding displays in the newly enlarged exhibit hall.

Visitors can try to lower their heart rates in a dark meditation booth, play a pinball machine to see how various cultures treated heart ailments (in Meso America A.D. 600, crushed pinewood was rubbed on the chest) or stand on a scale to estimate how much blood their bodies contain (nearly 1 gallon per 100 pounds, or 7 percent of body weight).

And every school should have a vending machine like the one here.

It doesn't dispense real food, but instead provides humorous nuggets about the wisdom of our food choices. Want that large bagel with cream cheese? It'll cost you, to the tune of 550 calories and 13.5 grams of saturated fat. But the chocolate bar isn't all bad, providing at least a measure of protein and magnesium.

The bagel addict might head straight to the nearby operating theater for an early look at his future — open-heart surgery. Borrowing a page from the real-life medical programs on cable television, a TV screen in the dummy's chest cavity shows footage from a quadruple bypass.

Younger tykes can skip the gory reality and instead crawl through giant tube-shaped arteries on the floor, at

See MUSEUM, Page 11



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## Coat drive

Dustin Larkin, Worshipful Master of Masonic Lodge #966, left, and Capt. Gary Stewart of the Salvation Army stand beside one of the barrels placed around the city to collect new or gently-used coats for kids in need. Pampa Masonic Lodge #966 held its annual Coat Drive on Saturday, Nov. 20. The Masonic Lodge along with collaboration from the Salvation Army hope to provide kids in need with new or gently-used coats for the winter season. Last year's Coat Drive provided more than 300 coats for kids in need. Donations were placed in marked barrels at various locations including United Supermarket, Bob Clements Dry Cleaning, Jiffy Cleaners, Wal-Mart, and Wayne's Western Wear. Dry cleaning for the coats donated has been provided free of charge by Jiffy Cleaners and Bob Clements Cleaners.

## PPHM sees permanent automobile collection installed

CANYON — "Cruisin' the Panhandle Plains," the fourth installment of Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum's automobile exhibit "Let the Good Times Roll," will open Nov. 19 at PPHM in Canyon.

The exhibit will showcase historic cars from the permanent collection including the oldest known surviving automobile associated with Canyon, a 1910 Zimmerman made in Auburn, Ind. The two-cylinder car was owned by Louis T. Davault, Sr., a news release from PPHM says.

Other cars in the exhibit include a 1915 Detroit Electric sedan, a 1915 Ford Model T touring car, a 1929 Ford Model A roadster, a 1930 Buick coup, a 1930 V-16 Cadillac sedan, a 1933 Pierce-Arrow limousine and a 1948 Chevrolet Club Coupe.

See AUTO, Page 11

## Art

HARLIN (AP) — Archaeologists discovered facts near Sevier that they say are 5,000 years old, providing new insight into early people on the coast.

The items include protective clay and underground part of a nomadic group of gatherers.

## Aust

Austin School re... its honor... and six... period of... school ye... SEC... A Ho... Bolton, J... Jaycee... Dewitt, J... Gee, A... Hailee... Lesley, C... Macie... Miner, C... Makenna... Sandefur... Chris S... Johnatha... Sullivan... Marlee Y... AB H... Chennau... Holsey,

## Fore

Continued

Experim... part of... Franklin R... 100-mile... zone" from... north Texas... tree-planting... intended to... sion and... storms, usi... from a Dep... program.

Hurt said... thought too... many, inclu... and it quickl... onset of Wor... "It was a... gram that... was dead-in-

## Aut

Continued

Elbert Nunn... Amarillo... Company d... 1900s and... Amarillo... 1916. Nunn... alternative... and drove it... many years... H.T. Mag... Phillips 66

## Mus

Continued

least until... plaque block... The exhibi... appeal to a... and attentio... half the mu... annual visit... and about 35... groups... Museum... they compet... games, scho... the nearby... family's tin... exhibit wher... to scatter, th... moment," Sr... The rejuven... part of \$61... renovations... museum, a... Revival b...

# Artifacts may date to Rio Grande Valley's earliest Indians

HARLINGEN, Texas (AP) — Archaeologists have discovered a cache of artifacts near South Padre Island that they say could be up to 5,000 years old, potentially providing new clues about early peoples of the Texas coast.

The items, found in a protective clay dune about 6 feet underground, appear to be part of a fishing camp for a nomadic group of hunter-gatherers, archaeologist

Robert Ricklis said. They include fragments of shell tools, chipped flint projectile points, and a fish earbone, or otolith, that can be analyzed for information about the bay environment of the time.

Ricklis said the find is significant because so little is known about the ancient Rio Grande Valley. Most early manmade items would have been eroded by sand and sea air, or washed out by the ever-changing course of the

waterways of the Rio Grande basin near the Mexican border.

"We don't have a chronology for the Rio Grande Delta," said Ricklis, who works for the Corpus Christi office of Coastal Environments Inc., an archaeological research company based in Baton Rouge, La. "We really have no idea of what the culture's prehistory was."

The artifacts were found

in May during the environmental company's archaeological survey of the Bahia Grande, a 6,000-acre lowland between Brownsville and Port Isabel. The survey was required before the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service proceeds with plans to restore wetlands lost to the digging of the Brownsville Ship Channel during the 1930s.

Geologists say the Gulf of Mexico once reached as far west as Starr County and the

Mexican state of Coahuila. Paleo-Indians — the term for ancient peoples who roamed the Southwest — may have seen the Gulf's final rise and retreat about 10,000 years ago, said Tony Zavaleta, an anthropologist at the University of Texas-Brownsville.

Ricklis said he believes the artifacts come from a later group of peoples who belonged to the archaic period, 7,500 B.C. to A.D. 750,

which is characterized by grinding tools and certain types of projectile points.

The artifacts have not yet been carbon dated, so Ricklis bases his estimate on the shape of the projectile point and what's known about the Laguna Madre, the bay between South Padre Island and the mainland. He said the items were at least 1,000 years old, and he

See VALLEY, Page 14

## Austin Elementary Honor Roll

Austin Elementary School recently announced its honor rolls for the second six-weeks grading period of the 2004-2005 school year.

### SECOND GRADE

**A Honor Roll.** Taylor Bolton, Bennett Cambern, Jaycee Devoll, Erika Dewitt, Lena Dyer, Jenna Gee, Alec Hendricks, Hailee King, colton Lesley, Ciara Little.

Macie Loggins, Joshua Miner, Caragan Niccum, Makenna Rex, Zachary Sandefur, Bailie Scott, Chris Smith, Greg Smith, Johnathan Stevens, Blaze Sullivan, Micah Wilson, Marlee Youree.

**AB Honor Roll.** Phyllis Chennault, Spencer Holsey, Quila Martinez,

Carleton Patton, Stacy Ramirez, Skyler Winborne, Bien Zeta.

### THIRD GRADE

**A Honor Roll.** Paul Cuellar, Savannah Davis, Kaylie Evans, Christian Free, Brandon Gage, Trae Hannon, Josh Hernandez, Hunter Hughes, Madison Joyce, Allison Leigh, Klayton Miller, Alexa O'Brien, Caden Sander, Kelly Silva, Emily Terry, Bailey Wichert.

**AB Honor Roll.** Destry Baten, Jessie Dixon, Mattie Eldridge, Jake Freelen, Taylor Giles, Leann Hinton, Tanner Logan, Casey Martindale, Kiersten Newton, Jacob Sexton, Taylor Smith, Katy Velasquez, Samantha Woodruff.

### FOURTH GRADE

**A Honor Roll.** Patterson Alvey, Megan Billington, Jocelyn Brady, J.T. Brown, Bethany Casas, Jonathan Cox, Ryne Davis, Caleb Dunham, Kate Ellis, Madison Fatheree.

Rachel Jones, Michael Landsverk, Nicholas Nelson, Arin Rice, Ryan Smith, Austin Starbuck, James Thompson, Adam Williams, Cheyenne Young.

**AB Honor Roll.** Rachel Andrews, Cole Buck, Taylor Dalton, Robin Doan, Sydney Hoelting, Riddhi Jani, Cameron McDonald, Caitlin Pruitt, Dakota Watson.

### FIFTH GRADE

**A Honor Roll.** Shawn Armstrong, Garrett Beard,

Talor Bowen, Lindsey Brown, Brenden Burrell, Autumn Chidester, Delaney Clendening, Heather Coffee.

Latigo Collins, Cole Engle, Tara Garcia, Zac Hernandez, Austin Hinkle, Logan Karbo, Taylor Kennedy, Kirsten Kuhn, Shannon Leigh, Tierra Lewis, Ryan Pearson, Megan Pirtle, Landon Powell, Kaitlynn Ramirez, Caitlin Sieck, Kara Stabel, Elizabeth Terry, Kailyn Troxell, Jessica Zellefrow, Justin Zeta.

**AB Honor Roll.** Jessica Butler, Sam Cain, Magely Cerda, Callie Hampton, Bree Howard, Harley Jacobs, Destiny Terry.

## Forest

Continued from Page 10

Experimental forests were part of a larger plan by Franklin Roosevelt to plant a 100-mile wide "shelterbelt zone" from North Dakota to north Texas, Hurt said. The tree-planting plan was intended to reduce wind erosion and eliminate dust storms, using local labor from a Depression-era jobs program.

Hurt said the idea was thought too grandiose by many, including foresters, and it quickly faded with the onset of World War II.

"It was a make-work program that fizzled out and was dead-in-the-water when

all the money was dedicated to the war," Hurt said. "And of course after 1942, there was no longer an unemployment problem in the United States."

The U.S. Forest Service manages the Denbigh forest, but hasn't allocated any money to it for years, Laframboise said. The agency used to give a few thousand dollars annually to the state for trails, fire-breaks, brush clearing and weed control.

Today, the focus is mainly on the more than 1 million acres of grasslands in the state, said Bryon Stotts, a forester at the agency's Lisbon office.

"It is an interesting and unique place," Stotts said of Denbigh forest. "But it has been feral land that has been

left alone to do what it's doing."

Stotts said he sees tourism and recreational opportunities for the forest, but getting the money to build trails and facilities has been tough. The federal agency is looking for volunteer groups to help out with maintenance.

"We'd like to make it something more than it is now, because it certainly has that potential," Stotts said.

Besides supplying seed stock for the state tree nursery at Towner, members of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa in Rolette County are allowed to harvest aspen trees from the forest to build replica lodges, Stotts said.

Laframboise worries the Denbigh forest may remain a mystery along the side of U.S. Highway 2, and that

someday it will be forgotten.

"I'd like to see more interest in it so more people can appreciate it," he said. "I believe states that don't have many trees have a greater appreciation for them."

## Auto

Continued from Page 11

Elbert Nunn, who owned Amarillo Telephone Company during the early 1900s and purchased the Amarillo Daily News in 1916. Nunn bought the early alternative energy car new and drove it in Amarillo for many years.

H.T. Magness, a Friona Phillips 66 agent, purchased

the 1915 Ford, one of the last Model T's made with a brass radiator, from its original owner in Haskell County in the 1930s. The 1929 Ford roadster is representative, the news release says, of the first Model A's manufactured and belonged to Bob Lindsay of Borger.

The 1930 Buick coupe is typical of upper-middle-class autos of the period in contrast to the more popular Ford Model A. The 1930 Cadillac sedan has a V-16 engine and was purchased

new by Joe B. Bowers, a Gray Co. rancher.

The largest and most expensive automobile in the exhibit, the 1933 Pierce-Arrow limo was donated to PPHM by the late Jack Taylor of Canyon. Clarendon artist Harold Dow Bugbee, the first curator of art at PPHM, owned the 1948 Chevrolet Club Coupe. He used it as his "painting car" when he went out to do art work in Palo Duro Canyon and elsewhere.

opened in 1933. To trumpet the new show, the museum is temporarily broadcasting the iconic heartbeat audio on outside speakers, where it can be heard on nearby Logan Circle.

Student-teacher Michael Penner, of Maple Shade, N.J., had one last idea for the exhibit as he tried to steer his

third-grade charges through the crowded hall.

"They should test the heartbeats of all the teachers trying to keep tabs on students," he said.

On the Net: The Franklin Institute: <http://www.fi.edu/tfi/exhibit/s/biosci.html>

## Museum

Continued from Page 11

least until they reach the plaque blockage.

The exhibit is designed to appeal to a variety of ages and attention spans; about half the museum's 750,000 annual visitors are families and about 35 percent school groups.

Museum officials know they compete against soccer games, school activities and the nearby multiplex for a family's time. "If it's an exhibit where the family has to scatter, then that's a lost moment," Snyder said.

The rejuvenated heart is part of \$61 million in gallery renovations under way at the museum, a grand Classical Revival building which

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# Sports Day

## ‘Next Sunday’ keeps Parcels motivated

IRVING, Texas (AP) — By lunchtime Thursday, Bill Parcels already had five voice mails from friends, all with pretty much the same message.

“They’re saying, ‘Hang in there. Do your best,’” he said. “It’s like a funeral.”

The condolence calls are coming because his Dallas Cowboys are 3-6, with five losses in their last six games. More people have been dialing since a horrendous performance against Philadelphia before a national television audience Monday night. The 49-21 loss was among the most lopsided losses of Parcels’ career, the third time this season that’s been said.

While Parcels appreciates the callers’ intentions — especially when it is former players who are trying to cheer him up — he doesn’t want to get dragged down by what’s gone wrong. He prefers to absorb himself in trying to get the next one right.

“There’s always next Sunday,” he said. “That’s the saving grace. It really is. Even if next Sunday don’t turn out well, there’ll always be the next Sunday. You have another opportunity to do something. That’s what you look forward to.”

Parcels tries to set the same agenda with his players. Although he told them to aim for 4-4 when the team was 2-4, now he’s trying to keep them locked into the ol’ one-game-at-a-time mindset. This week, he’s talked only about playing at Baltimore on Sunday, avoiding speeches about what he hopes to accomplish the final seven games.

“I think that is one of the things you have to be very careful of,” he said. “Around here right now the state of the union is the priority for a lot of other people. That can’t be my priority. At some point and time we can address that, but certainly not right now.”

Parcels isn’t happy that this poor season has sparked talk that he might quit coaching after this season. Parcels chided ESPN analyst Steve Young for talking about it on the air, saying, “What does he know? I haven’t talked to him in two years. He doesn’t know anybody I know.”

However, given the chance to set the record straight, Parcels didn’t make any declarations.

“I’m working. That’s all I can tell you,” he said. “I don’t know. I don’t have a crystal ball. OK? I don’t have a crystal ball. I’m trying to get to Baltimore. That’s what I’m doing. That’s what coaches do. It’s football season. That’s what you do.”

“When football season is over, you think about what you have to do next year. It’s as simple as that. So, just because somebody is running their mouth with no basis for that I can’t respond to all of those.”



Members of the Pampa Takedown Club are, from left to right, front row- Andrew Smith, Derrick Maxwell, Joseph Slatton, Colton Collins, Carlos Regalado and Troy Brooks. Back row- Corbin Ramirez, Krysten Miller, Dustin Frazier, Cody Schiffman, Steven Botello and Jeremy Maxwell.

## Pampa Takedown Club wrestlers nab hardware at Borger tournament

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS  
Sports Editor

The Pampa Takedown Club took part in the Borger Classic Kickoff wrestling tournament last Saturday, considered one of the toughest tournaments of the season.

The BCK attracts contestants from Colorado, New Mexico, Kansas and throughout the Texas Panhandle.

Of the 15 members of the PTC, 10 took part in the Nov. 13 tournament in Borger.

Among those placing within their weight classes were Carlos Regalado (3rd), Andrew Smith (2nd & 3rd), Carlton Patton (3rd), Cody Schiffman (2nd), Joseph Slatton (6th), Mike DeArman (3rd), Jeremy Maxwell (3rd) and Krysten Miller (1st).

The Pampa Takedown Club is expecting their group of young wrestlers to do very well this season. The PTC still has openings for those interested in wrestling. For more information, call 669-1767 or 664-3263.

## DON'T CALL MOVERS YET

## Baseball owners delay vote on Expo's

CHICAGO (AP) — Baseball wasn't exactly quick to find the Montreal Expos a new home, and that's not about to change now.

Expected to rubber-stamp the Expos' proposed move to Washington, Major League Baseball owners instead made the surprise decision Thursday to table the vote. Commissioner Bud Selig blamed internal “housekeeping” issues, and said the move will still take place, with a vote by owners coming before Dec. 6.

“We will get this done,” Selig said. “We just weren't quite ready with a lot of details. We like to have all the details done before we vote. Nothing more than that.”

Good thing, because the Expos' movers are already unpacking in Washington. Season tickets went on sale Thursday morning, and the team announced that manager Frank Robinson agreed to a one-year contract extension through next season.

Baseball officials also said they plan to announce by Friday when the franchise will be renamed.

“We didn't consider any contingencies, we didn't consider any other options,” said Bob DuPuy, baseball's chief operating officer. “We fully expect to play in RFK next year, and we're planning on it.”

The Expos' agreement with Washington calls for funding for the new stadium to be in place by Dec. 31. The District of Columbia government has delayed approval of funding for a new stadium, but Selig and DuPuy said that wasn't the reason for the delay Thursday.

“The mayor believes he has the votes to pass, and we expect that to happen,” DuPuy said.

Plans are to build the ballpark along the Anacostia River, about a dozen blocks south of the U.S. Capitol, and begin play there in 2008. The agreement estimates the cost of refurbishing RFK Stadium, land acquisition and ballpark construction at \$435 million. The money would come from a new tax on the city's largest businesses, a tax on baseball-related income and lease payments by the team's new owners.

But some D.C. council members have claimed costs would be far higher, perhaps \$600 million or more. District of Columbia Council Chair Linda Cropp postponed a Nov. 9 vote on the deal, saying the District should spend two weeks seeking private financing.

The council now has a vote scheduled for Nov. 30. The council must vote on the package a second time, as well, and that vote could come Dec. 14.

“Baseball is watching what is taking place here in the District, and if I were them, I wouldn't vote either,” said Councilman Jack Evans, chair of the council's Finance and Revenue Committee.

“I've said all along that if the district fails to act, baseball will go elsewhere,” Evans added. “Their action, by delaying their vote, only reinforces the fact that if we fail to act, baseball will go somewhere else.”

That's not likely — not with so much already invested in moving the team to Washington. When asked if he could see anything that would keep the team from playing in Washington next year, Selig replied, “(I) do not.”

Selig declined to describe exactly what did delay the vote, but one could be baseball's negotiations with Baltimore Orioles owner Peter Angelos.

Angelos had previously objected to having a team move just 40 miles from his Camden Yards stadium, but gave his blessing in September after reaching an understanding with baseball that protects him financially.

A baseball official, speaking on condition of anonymity, has said previously that an appraiser would value the Orioles franchise and the commissioner's office would guarantee its value for a period of time. The commissioner's office also would guarantee Baltimore's locally generated revenue for a period of time and assist in the creation of a regional sports network.

“That wasn't the real reason, but certainly I would hope that everything is completed before we vote so we can move on,” Selig said of negotiations with Angelos. “There's a lot of work to do.”

Baseball owners did not vote on the \$223 million sale of the Milwaukee Brewers from Selig's family to Mark Attanasio because the commissioner's office has not finished processing the transaction. But Attanasio met with the ownership committee as well as members of the executive council, and Selig said he expected a vote soon, probably by conference call.

“They are proceeding expeditiously,” Selig said. “Hopefully we'll be able to bring that to conclusion in the very near future.”

Selig didn't give a timetable on when owners might vote on the proposed appointment of Jeff Moorad as chief executive officer of the Arizona Diamondbacks. Moorad, a high-profile agent, was picked by the team's controlling investors in August to replace founding CEO Jerry Colangelo, but cannot take over until other baseball owners approve.

*‘We didn't consider any contingencies, we didn't consider any other options. We fully expect to play in RFK next year, and we're planning on it.’*

— Bob DuPuy  
Chief Operating Officer,  
Major League Baseball

## Eli Manning gets start

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

When it was announced Eli Manning would start for the New York Giants against Atlanta on Sunday, the Falcons quickly became 2 1/2-point favorites in a game that opened at pick 'em.

Ben Roethlisberger's success aside, that's the perception of rookie quarterbacks — they cost their team almost a field goal, especially when they have a leaky offensive line and are facing a good pass rush.

But Tom Coughlin made the switch in part because Kurt Warner has been tentative in the Giants' last four games, three of them losses. Coughlin's reasoning: Manning gets rid of the ball faster and is at the point where he's comfortable with the system.

Both teams are like most of the league — unpredictable.

In losing three of four, the Giants were beaten by Detroit and Chicago at home and by Arizona on the road, all games they could have (some say “should have”) won. They won at Minnesota as an underdog.

The Falcons were beaten in Kansas City 56-10 but came back the next week to win at Denver.

One more thing: The Giants have lost at home to Atlanta in each of the last two seasons, but Michael Vick was hurt both times. Two years ago, Doug Johnson was the quarterback, last year it was Kurt Kittner. Johnson is now Tennessee's third-stringer, and Kittner has been cut this year by the Falcons, Bengals, Giants, Patriots and Steelers. Because neither Johnson nor Kittner is playing this week, and because New York's offensive line — which has allowed 24 sacks in the last four games — will be cut en masse if it doesn't protect the future of the franchise ....

GIANTS, 20-19  
New England (minus 3) at Kansas City (Monday night)  
Another one of those Monday nighters that looked good on paper when it was scheduled. PATRIOTS, 34-20

Indianapolis (minus 7) at Chicago  
Lovie Smith should be a coach of the year candidate for winning three straight with Craig Krenzel at QB. COLTS, 27-17

Pittsburgh (minus 4 1/2) at Cincinnati  
The Steelers keep the hammer down. STEELERS, 27-13

Washington (plus 10 1/2) at Philadelphia  
The Redskins' defense can control the Eagles to a point. But that Washington offense ...

EAGLES, 23-6  
Dallas (plus 8) at Baltimore  
The way the Cowboys are playing defense, even the plodding Ravens' offense can score.

RAVENS, 24-13  
Green Bay (minus 3) at Houston  
Another offensive challenge for the Texans, who have allowed 80 points in their last two games.

PACKERS, 34-27  
Denver (minus 4) at New Orleans  
Who knows with the Saints, but ...

BRONCOS, 31-20  
San Diego (minus-4) at Oakland  
There's no reason for a San Diego slide here.

CHARGERS, 37-27  
Tennessee (off) at Jacksonville  
David Garrard will be a big-time QB some day.

JAGUARS, 20-3  
New York Jets (pick 'em) at Cleveland  
No trick plays, Herman.

JETS, 20-20  
Detroit (plus 7 1/2) at Minnesota  
The Vikings' losing streak ends here.

VIKINGS, 27-20  
St. Louis (minus 1) at Buffalo  
Remember that the Rams are the only team to lose to Miami.

BILLS, 24-20  
Miami (plus 10) at Seattle  
The Seahawks might be as unpredictable as the Rams. But they won't lose to the Dolphins.

SEAHAWKS, 24-13  
San Francisco (plus 8) at Tampa Bay  
The 49ers are fighting for the No. 1 draft pick.

BUCS, 27-10  
Arizona (off) at Carolina  
“Off” is for Jake Delhomme. “Coach of the Year” is for Dennis Green if Cards make playoffs.

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# NASCAR title contenders face countless possibilities

HOMESTEAD, Fla. (AP) — Forget about strategy. The five drivers competing for the Nextel Cup championship have no choice other than to race for a victory.

With only 82 points separating leader Kurt Busch from fifth-place Mark Martin, with Jimmie Johnson, Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jeff Gordon and Dale Earnhardt Jr. in between, there are countless possibilities going into the season-ending Ford 400 at Homestead-Miami Speedway on Sunday.

But it all starts with a victory. After stumbling at the start of NASCAR's new 10-man, 10-race playoff-style championship, Johnson has charged back into contention with four wins in the last five races.

Just 18 points back, he can claim the championship by winning Sunday and leading the most laps if Busch finishes second without leading any.

"There's a lot of pressure that I feel the 97 team is under," Johnson said of Busch. "We've been in that position through this season and we've had bad luck with that pressure on our shoulders."

"I like the position that both Hendrick cars are in. We're very close to Kurt in points. We just have to go out, be aggressive, race hard. That's what both teams are very good at."

Gordon is 21 points behind Busch under a scoring system that gives the race winner 10 points more than the runner-up. Any driver leading a lap gets five bonus points and the driver leading the most laps gets five more.

A second-place finish by Busch would prevent Gordon from winning his fifth NASCAR title.

"I think it's nerve-racking and intense no matter where you're at," Gordon said. "You've got to go out there and run hard."

Gordon figures Busch is definitely in the best position, though.

"The closest thing that I have to compare to this would be when Mark Martin, Dale Jarrett and myself were going for the championship in '97," said Gordon, who wound up beating Jarrett for the title by 14 points that year.

"I had the points lead by a small margin, and it was a good position to be in because it was our championship to lose, and we knew that," he said. "Those other guys really had to be on the huge offense."

"If I had my choice, I'd want to be in Kurt's position, but I do like the fact we get to go out there and go for broke. We know we have to lead laps and win the race."

Busch appeared well on the way to the championship before an engine failure slowed his momentum at Atlanta and let the other contenders back into the fray. Since then, he has finished 10th at Phoenix and a struggling sixth last Sunday at Darlington.

But if Busch wins Sunday or finishes second and leads a lap, he will get his first Cup title no matter what the other drivers do.

"We need to go out and attack the racetrack this weekend, to lead laps and to make sure that we do our job at the end of the race," Busch said.

The job is tougher for Earnhardt and Martin, who trail Busch by 72 and 82 points, respectively. They need to substantially outrace the others.

*'We need to go out and attack the racetrack this weekend, to lead laps and to make sure that we do our job at the end of the race.'*

— Kurt Busch  
Driver, NASCAR Nextel Cup

## Saints lineman and mother have special relationship

By Mary Foster  
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — New Orleans Saints defensive end Charles Grant has a unique way of preparing for games.

He imagines the players that line up across from him are the men who beat her over the years, the employers who took advantage of her or the people who ran out on her.

"Then I just go out and do to them what I wanted to do to all those other people," said Grant, who is tied for fourth in the NFL with 7 1/2 sacks.

"Everybody knows about Charles' mama," teammate Will Smith said. "I think it's great how they're really special to each other."

Theresa Warren, is a combination of mother, sister and friend to Grant. Their bond was forged over hard years when she worked for low wages as a single mother to take care of Charles, his younger brother and his grandmother.

"She was always looking out for us, doing for us," Grant said. "She's the person I'm closest to now. She's the person I always count on."

Grant was born on Sept. 3, 1978, in Colquitt, Ga., about four hours south of Atlanta, when his mother was 15.

"I had to drop out of school," Warren said. "I didn't mind. I just wanted to make sure things were better for Charles."

Warren said she worked by sewing in local factories, earning minimum wage and frequently putting in 12-hour days.

"We went through some bad times," Warren said. "We never went hungry, but there wasn't much money for other things. Charles never got all the fancy shoes or clothes like much of his friends had."

Grant still bears emotional and physical scars from his early childhood.

Warren was making dinner while the brothers played in front of the fireplace. Grant's younger brother, Renaldo, pushed him too close to the flames and Grant's pants caught fire.

Grant was hospitalized with third-degree burns.

*'She was always looking out for us, doing for us. She's the person I'm closest to now. She's the person I always count on.'*

— Charles Grant  
Defensive End, New Orleans Saints

"They tried to take him and his brother away from me," Warren said. "They said I was leaving them home alone. But I never left them home alone."

When Charles was 6 and Renaldo was 3, they were sitting on their mother's bed watching television. A friend of Warren's was putting a handgun under the mattress when it discharged accidentally, hitting Renaldo in the head, killing him.

"I had nightmares about it for a long time," said Grant, who has Renaldo's nickname NaNa tattooed on his arm. "I still miss him. I have his picture on the mantle at home. Someday I'm going to have a Pro Bowl jersey and I'll put it by his picture. I promised him that."

After Renaldo's death, Warren

turned to drugs.

"I smoked marijuana, I did crack, I tried everything," Warren said.

After about six months, Warren said she gave up everything except the marijuana, which she continued to use for years.

By the time he was 17, Warren said Grant realized what was going on.

"I don't do that anymore," Warren said. "Charles got after me about it. He said, 'Why are you doing that when I'm doing everything I can for you?' He was really disappointed in me."

Grant played three years at Georgia before the Saints made him a first-round draft pick in 2002. He started all 16 games last season and led the team with 10 sacks and three forced fumbles and had 53 tackles.

Warren is still looking out for him, attending every home game and talking to him about his play. She even went through his offseason workouts with him.

"If I ever have any problem with Charles, I just call his mother," coach Jim Haslett said with a laugh. "She'll have him back in line in no time."

Things have gotten much better for Grant and his mother. She married Ralph Warren 15 years ago, the man Grant considers his father.

Grant and Ralph Warren, who worked two jobs for years — as a janitor in a nursing home and delivering furniture — are starting a trucking company.

When Grant signed his NFL contract, he wanted to build a big new house for his mother. She wanted no part of it.

"I wouldn't have known what to do in a mansion," Warren said. "I told him I just wanted a nice trailer."

Grant got her one — a five-bedroom trailer that sits on 25 acres of land, still in Colquitt.

## Nation's leading rusher misses Thursday night game with injury

JONESBORO, Ark. (AP) — North Texas freshman Jamario Thomas, the nation's leading rusher, missed Thursday night's 31-7 victory over Arkansas State with a hamstring injury.

Thomas, averaging 189.9 yards per game, needed 155 yards to surpass Ron Dayne's NCAA Division I-A freshman rushing record of 1,863 yards.

"Jamario went out and warmed up and wanted to go very badly," North Texas coach Darrell Dickey said. "But he didn't feel like he could push off and didn't know if he could be as productive as he wanted."

Thomas, who ran for 200 or more yards in each of his last five games to match an NCAA record, was injured in the

fourth quarter of Saturday's win over Idaho and was listed as questionable all week.

James Mitchell, subbing for Thomas, ran for 166 yards and a touchdown.

North Texas' win extended its conference winning streak to a nation-leading 25 games.

The game was the Sun Belt finale for the Mean Green, but Thomas still has a chance to break the record when his team plays in the New Orleans Bowl on Dec. 14.

Dickey expects Thomas to start in the bowl game.

"We dug ourselves a pretty big hole at Darlington," said Earnhardt, who finished 11th last Sunday after pitting late in the race for a battery change. "It will be difficult to climb out and still win this championship. We're going to have to be the best team at Homestead as well as the luckiest."

Martin, a four-time series runner-up, would need even more good fortune than Earnhardt.

"We're going to go to Homestead and race for a win," said Martin, who finished second at Darlington to remaining viable in the Chase. "I don't really think all of those other guys are going to have a bad race, but we can't control that. We can only control what we're doing on the track and try to get the best finish we can."

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Freshmen at Plainview • 6:00pm  
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TUESDAY • NOV. 23  
Jr. Varsity at Borger • 7:30pm  
Varsity at Borger • 7:30pm  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY • NOV. 26 & 27  
Amarillo Varsity Tournament in Amarillo  
TBA

**GIRL'S BASKETBALL**  
MONDAY • NOV. 22  
Freshmen at Amarillo Black • 6:00pm  
TUESDAY • NOV. 23  
Jr. Varsity at Borger • 7:30pm  
Varsity at Borger • 6:00pm  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY • NOV. 26 & 27  
Amarillo Varsity Tournament in Amarillo  
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# Whitey Walker Gang rivaled Bonnie and Clyde

Members of the Whitey Walker Gang were contemporaries of Bonnie and Clyde who were killed on May 23, 1934.

But as the Barrow Gang was being shot to pieces and receiving much publicity, the Walker Gang was doing what it planned to do and drove in the night to its next destination.

By 1934, members of the

Walker Gang were all together in the Walls Unit and Huntsville where seven men would attempt to escape.

The cast for the Texas Death Row House Escape included Whitey Walker and Blackie Thompson; Joe Palmer and Raymond Hamilton, members of the Barrow Gang who had escaped from Eastham Prison Farm near Weldon, Texas, on

Jan. 16, 1934; Charles Frazier (real name Eldridge Roy Johnson), who was known for his many successful escapes; Roy Alvin Johnson, youngest member of the Walker Gang; and Hub Stanley.

Walker planned the escape. Frazier arranged for guns to be smuggled in to the escapees, and an ex-convict had keys made in the machine shop for the cell doors.

On July 22, 1934, at 4:20 p.m., nearly all of the Wall's prison population was attending a baseball game in a stadium next to the prison.

A guard bringing the evening meal to those in prison was overpowered by Frazier and two trustees were made to unlock Thompson's cell.

The other escapees could then unlock their cell doors with the keys made by the ex-convict.

Frazier, Hamilton, Palmer and Thompson ran from the Death House and were joined by Walker, Johnson and Stanley. They moved to the picket at the entrance of the lower yard gate and broke the lock.

Then they ran to the machine shop, grabbed bolt cutters and ran to the fire house to break a chain that secured an extension ladder.

Hamilton, the first to climb up the ladder, was followed by Palmer and then

**Eloise Lane**  
White Deer Land Museum, Pampa



Thompson. As Hamilton, Palmer and Thompson were going down the steps outside the wall, shots were heard from guards who had arrived on the scene. Johnson received a flesh wound and surrendered.

Stanley took cover behind some cordwood. Walker, who was hampered by recovering from a broken arm, was killed with one bullet as he was attempting to climb the ladder inside the wall.

Frazier was shot four times and taken on a stretcher to the hospital.

The three men who successfully made it over the wall — Hamilton, Palmer and Thompson — ran and jumped on the running boards of waiting cars that left at high speed to take them to freedom — which did not last very long.

Palmer was recaptured on Aug. 8, and Hamilton was recaptured on the following April 5. They were returned to the Death House without any hope of repeal and electrocuted on May 10, 1935 (death date on Palmer's gravestone.)

A few months after escape, Amarillo police got word that Thompson was using a house in town as his base of operation, and there were rumors that he was intending to rob a bank in Amarillo.

On the evening of Dec. 6, 1934, Thompson was spotted in a black Ford V-8.

A posse of city and county

officers pursued him in a high-speed chase from a point on East 10th Avenue to a field along old Highway 66 about 15 miles east of Amarillo.

When the posse got close enough, one of the deputies shot a rear tire, causing Thompson's car to careen off the highway. Thompson was well-armed when he left the car, but he was blinded by the lights of the sheriff's car and soon slumped to the ground, his body riddled with 17 bullets.

Pat McConal, who wrote about the gang in his book "Over the Wall," did not know that his research for a graduate paper would evolve into a "first-rate volume with fresh insights and new information" about the outlaws roaming the country during the Great Depression.

Although he realized that the story might arouse painful memories for some, he had told it, and he was glad to put it to bed.



(Left-right) Roy Johnson, Joe Palmer, Raymond Hamilton, Bryan "Whitey" Walker and Irvin "Blackie" Thompson. Permission to the use jacket cover was courtesy of Patrick M. McConal.

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## Artifacts

Continued from Page 14

believes more study will determine they are even older than that. He has recommended more digging be done.

Zavaleta agreed that the area is one of the most historically significant, yet neglected, sites in Texas.

Andrew Elliott Anderson, one of the few archeologists to concentrate on the area, documented nearly 400 Indian site locations between 1908 and 1944.

When the ship channel was being dug, Anderson scooped artifacts that fell from the mud, including fossil fragments of mammals from the Pleistocene era (1.5 million to 11,000 years ago) and a bright red pot with the cremated remains of a child.

Anthropologists know roaming groups such as the Coahuiltecans regularly visited the area to hunt, fish and gather fruits and berries, and that by the time Spanish explorers arrived, there were thriving villages. But scientists know little about earlier peoples.

"Once you get to five thousand and beyond that, you get into a whole different type of archaeology," Zavaleta said.

Tom Hester of the University of Texas-Austin, considered the authority on South Texas archaeology, said the early days of the Rio Grande Valley are full of mysteries, including evidence of cemeteries for otherwise wandering peoples.

"Why did they return to a special site to bury the dead? Was it their way of defining territory?" he asked.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife has decided to move at least one of the planned flooding channels so as not to disturb the site.

"We want to take a more detailed look at it to make sure there wasn't something missed," said John Wallace, manager of the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge.

"The intent is to find a spot free of artifacts."

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## Clare choir

CLARE Department present in two scheduled Monday and Tuesday At 7 p.m. in Campus Center, Clarendon At 6 p.m. will perform Brown A Kentucky Under Kuhnert, from the with trad well as ne "We in holiday concert an al Christ "These st hours, bot ing for th that their we enter Membe Choir in Crouch Pampa. Both ce the public Kuhnert a

## Region sched

Herman Gray Cou news re Spelling Friday, Fum at Par Contes plan to an sign in a The comp Academic director b constan for the s reached a the schoo Student will com champion eight and or cham mentary county t County sp Nation said, wi County w pete in scheduled Canyon I The af open to t 1:30 p.m. Admissio

## Canada recyc

CANA Canadian with Environn Recycling This la communi resident t news r Regional reported Panhar Partnersh of 14 par PEP's pr recycling collective

## NEW! DENT

Green

# Lifestyle

## Clarendon campus choirs set concerts

CLARENDON — The Music Department at Clarendon College will present its annual Christmas Concert in two separate performances scheduled Monday, Nov. 22 in Clarendon and Tuesday, Nov. 23 in Pampa.

At 7 p.m. Monday, the Clarendon Campus Choir will go on stage at 7 p.m. in Harned Sisters Fire Arts Center, 1122 College Drive in Clarendon.

At 6 p.m. Tuesday, the Pampa choir will perform in the atrium of M.K. Brown Academic Center, 1601 W. Kentucky, in Pampa.

Under the direction of Brian Kuhnert, both groups, a press release from the college said, will entertain with traditional Christmas favorites as well as new holiday selections.

"We invite everyone to kick-off the holiday season by attending either concert and singing along to traditional Christmas carols," Kuhnert said. "These students have spent countless hours, both in and out of class, preparing for these concerts, and we hope that their hard work will be enjoyed as we enter the Christmas season."

Members of the Pampa Campus Choir include Michelle Cox, Callie Crouch and Julian George, all of Pampa.

Both concerts are free and open to the public. For more information, call Kuhnert at (806) 874-4836.

## Regional spelling bee scheduled in spring

Herman Vinson, director for the Gray County Spelling Bee, reports in a news release that Gray County Spelling Bee will be conducted on Friday, Feb. 18, 2005, at the auditorium at Pampa Middle School.

Contestants, Vinson said, should plan to arrive by 8:30 a.m. in order to sign in and draw for spelling order. The competition will follow at 9 a.m. Academic advisors should contact the director by Feb. 15 with the names of contestants and alternate contestants for the spelling bee. Vinson may be reached at 669-4900 or via e-mail at the school address.

Students in grades five and below will compete for the title of junior champion while students in grades eight and below will compete for senior champ. It is possible for an elementary school student to win the county title and become the Gray County spelling bee champ.

National Spelling Bee rules, Vinson said, will be followed. The Gray County winner will be eligible to compete in the Regional Spelling Bee scheduled Saturday, March 5, 2005, at Canyon High School in Canyon.

The afternoon competition will be open to the public and will begin at 1:30 p.m. with an opening ceremony. Admission is free.

## Canadian earns 2004 recycling PEP award

CANADIAN — The city of Canadian was recently recognized with the 2004 Panhandle Environmental Partnership Annual Recycling Award.

This last year the small Panhandle community diverted 270 pounds per resident through its recycling award, a news release from Panhandle Regional Planning Commission reported.

Panhandle Environmental Partnership is a cooperative made up of 14 Panhandle communities. One of PEP's primary goals is to facilitate recycling in the Panhandle through collective marketing efforts.

### NEWSMAKERS

DENTON — Kelli Renee Green was recently awarded a masters of library and information science degree from the University of North Texas at Denton.



Green

Green is the daughter of Kent and Linda Olson of Pampa.

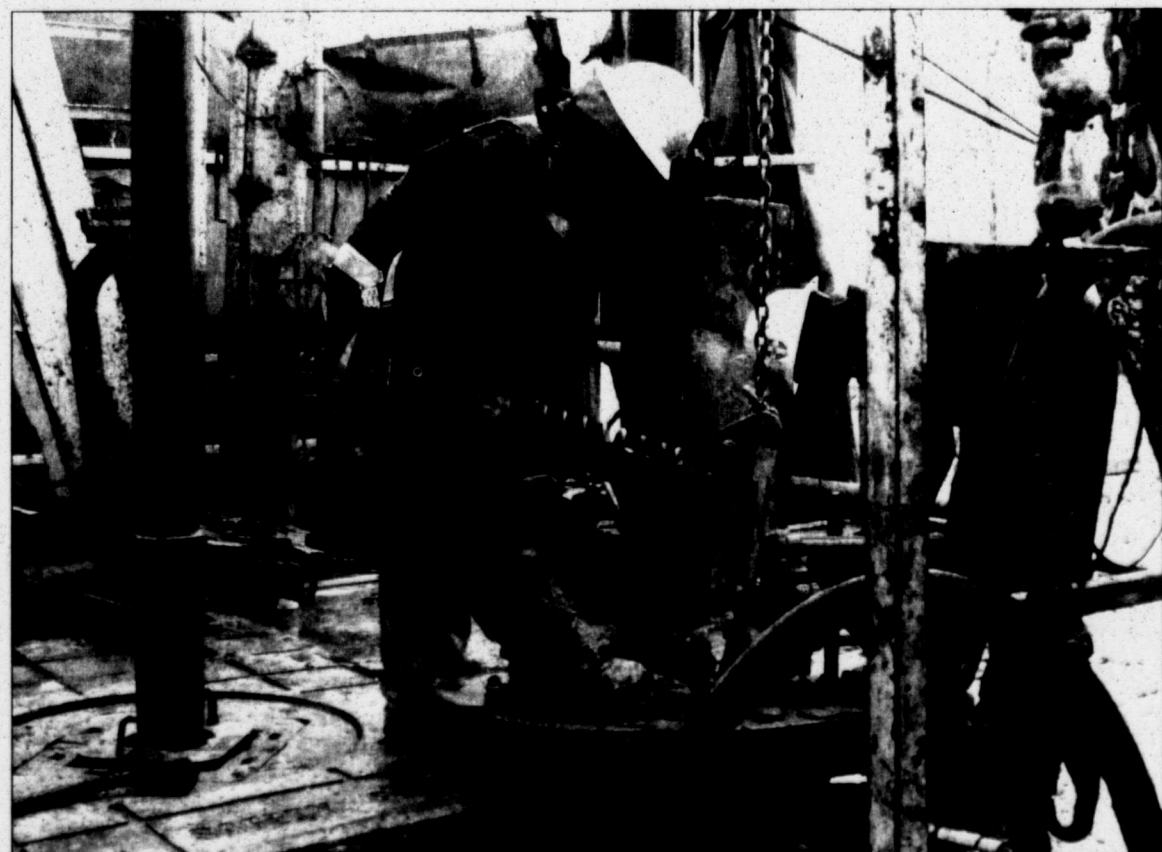


A narrow perch gives one rig worker a bird's-eye view as he waits to stab pipe on Leonard Hudson Rig #10 south of Canadian.

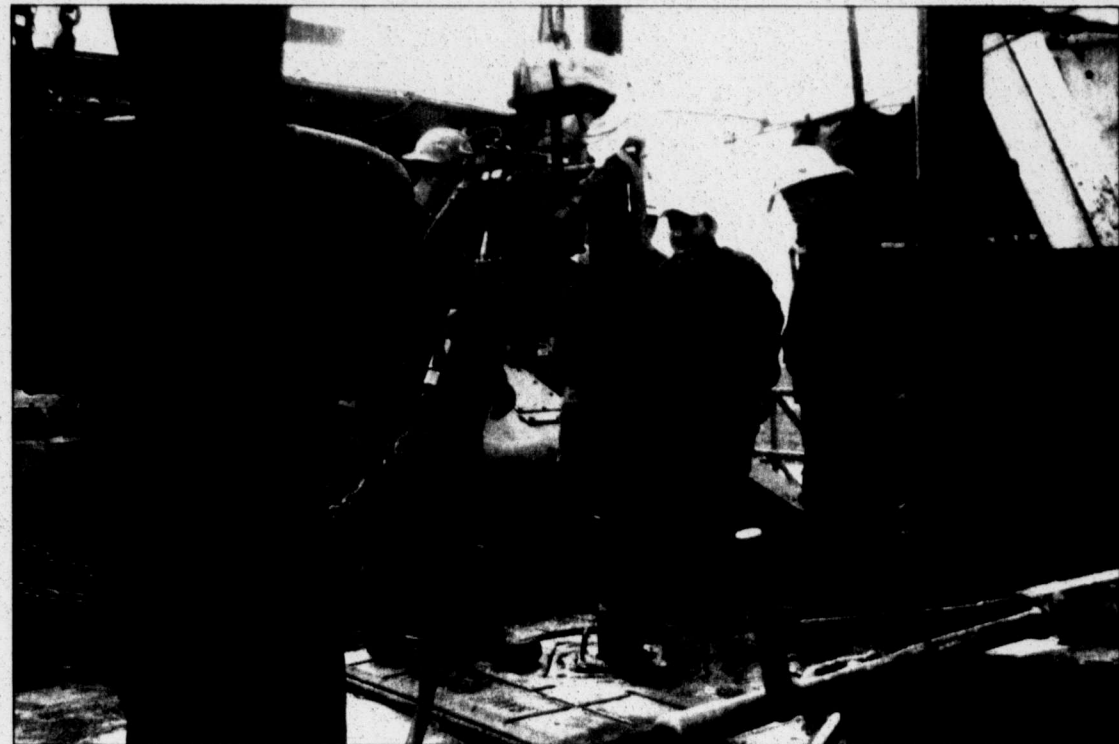


Brandon Bowman, left, has his left hand on the casing tongs and his right on gray backup tongs as Karl Eubanks helps position the tools.

## Photos by Marilyn Powers



James Reed, left, and Karl Eubanks rig up tongs to make up casing. At left is a red guide shoe at the opening of the well, with a joint of black casing attached to it.



Rigging up tongs are, from left, Chad Veazey, Doug McGinley, John Wadsworth and Juan Salazar.

## Boom

Continued from Page 1

York City and the Pentagon in Washington D.C.

"9/11 is the base of all new economic activity in the U.S. The fear over terrorism is a factor, and the economy continues to grow," Hughes said.

"As long as the economy grows at this pace, and as long as there are problems in the Middle East, we'll have increased drilling activity," he said.

The most activity in the Panhandle right now is a 10-mile stretch along the county line between Wheeler and Hemphill Counties, Hughes said.

"The average daily rig population out there right now is right at 20. That's the highest concentration in the Panhandle in 55 years," he said.

The activity would not be so abundant without adequate prices to fuel it.

Recent price quotes for crude oil produced in the Panhandle are \$45 per barrel, an all-time high, Hughes said. Natural gas prices two years ago were right at \$4, but are currently around \$7.60, he said.

"The highest price for our crude oil previous to this

was \$35 a barrel," he said. As recently as January 2002, crude oil sold for less than \$20 a barrel. But "natural gas is really the hot item in the Panhandle these days," he said.

Although the Granite Wash Formation is getting the "most prominent play," increased drilling activity is also present in southern Wheeler County and north of Amarillo, Hughes said.

necks each shift, three shifts per day, averaging \$15 an hour paid to the roughnecks, that's \$540,000 per day in payroll, or \$197 million per year," Hughes said.

The average drilling rig at location will employ about 100 persons in addition to the roughnecks, he said. These include workers for service companies such as cementing companies, mud companies, water haulers, and pipe companies.

Those costs must be paid, along with marketing, transportation and taxes, Hughes said.

"Those things are what drives up the price of a gallon of gas. The actual price in Texas right now is 42 cents a gallon.

"At best, we only get 90 percent of the price at which natural gas sells. And that's before any penalties are imposed for

high nitrogen or sulfites, transportation costs, and other costs," Hughes said.

The profits to be made are apparently sufficient to exceed the costs of production right now, however. The amount of drilling activity in the area shows no signs of slowing down, at least for awhile.

Another boom is under-way.



A block used to raise and lower pipe and casing dwarfs the men beneath it. From left are Doug McGinley, Karl Eubanks and Chad Veazey.



A drilling rig decked out in red, white and blue in Hemphill County.

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# Couple celebrating 50 years together

Today is the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Don Skinner of Pampa who will celebrate the occasion with a reception hosted by family from 2-5 p.m. Dec. 5 at Pampa Optimist Club.



Mr. and Mrs. Joe Don Skinner

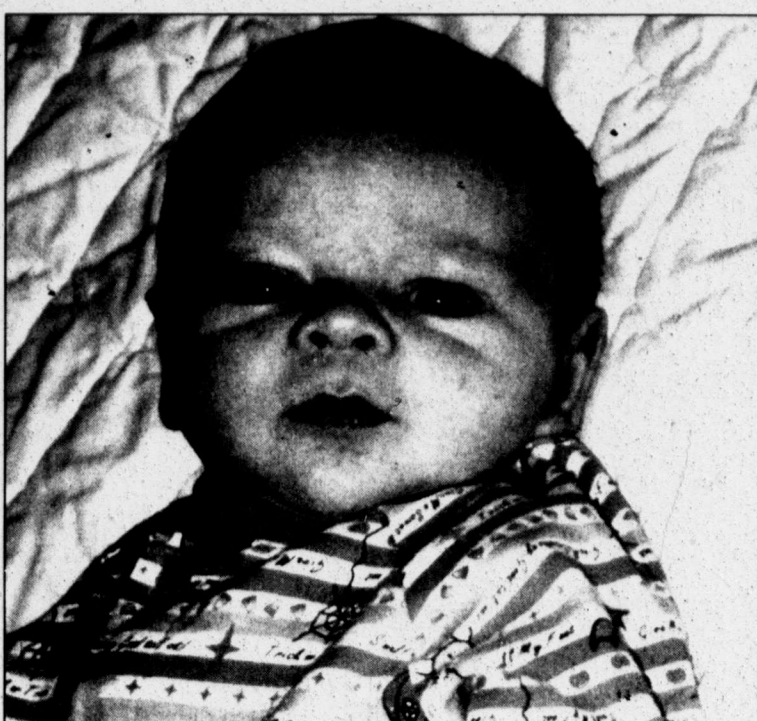


Mr. Skinner worked at Cabot Corporation for 41 years, retiring Jan. 30, 1997. He is a member of Optimist Club.

Mrs. Skinner was an employee with the City of Pampa for 20 years, retiring Dec. 31, 1996. She is an

Opti-Mrs. Club member. Children of the couple are Joe Skinner, Jeff and Kim Skinner and Jerry Skinner, all of Pampa. They have nine grandchildren.

## Cradle call



### Kaegan Dean Massey

Kaegan Dean Massey was born at 10:15 a.m. Sept. 21 at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo, to Kalee Mills and Jeremy Massey of Panhandle. At birth, the infant weighed 7-pounds, 12 3/4-ounces and was 20 1/2-inches long. Relatives include grandparents, Rick and LaDaina Mills of Pampa, Mahryhia Mills, Debbie and Mikal Martin and Keith and Barbara McWhorter, all of Panhandle, Robert and Shirley Mills of Childress and Joyce and Jim Phillely of Amarillo; great-grandparents, David and Jeanette Massey of Amarillo; and great-great-grandparents, Ethel Henson and Ethel Kennann, both of Amarillo, Evelyn McWhorter of Memphis and Clarice Hall of Clarendon.

## Menus

Week of November 22-26

### Pampa Schools

**MONDAY**  
Breakfast: Pancakes and sausage on a stick.  
Lunch: Pizza or macaroni/cheese, green beans, corn, applesauce.  
**TUESDAY**  
Breakfast: Toast.  
Lunch: Steak fingers or

chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, salad, pears, rolls.  
**WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY**  
Holiday.  
**Lefors Schools**  
**MONDAY**  
Breakfast: Cold cereal, toast, juice, milk.  
Lunch: Chicken nuggets

or mini corn dogs, potatoes, beans, tropical fruit salad bar.  
**TUESDAY**  
Breakfast: Cold cereal, toast, juice, milk.  
Lunch: Sack lunch.  
**WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY**  
Holiday.  
**Kid's Cafe-Lamar**  
**TUESDAY**  
Enchiladas, Spanish rice, pinto, beans, peach crisps.  
**THURSDAY**  
Holiday.  
**Kid's Cafe-Wilson**  
**MONDAY**  
Sloppy Joes, pickles, chips, fruit.  
**WEDNESDAY**  
Tacos, Spanish rice, pinto beans, cake.  
**Senior Citizens**  
(Carry-out lunches must be ordered no later than early Tuesday morning.)  
**MONDAY**  
Chicken fried steak or chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes, spinach,

beets, beans, banana nut cake or chocolate pie, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.  
**TUESDAY**  
Turkey/dressing, giblet gravy, mashed potatoes, Italian green beans, yams, pumpkin spice cake, cherry cobbler or fruit cups, cranberry sauce, deviled eggs, stuff celery, olives/pickles, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.  
**WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY**  
Holiday.  
**Meals On Wheels**  
**MONDAY**  
Spaghetti/meat sauce, green beans, bread sticks, salad, peaches.  
**TUESDAY**  
Polish sausage, cheese grits, mixed greens, cake.  
**WEDNESDAY**  
Tater tot casserole, cabbage, blackeyed peas, pumpkin bars.  
**THURSDAY-FRIDAY**  
Holiday.

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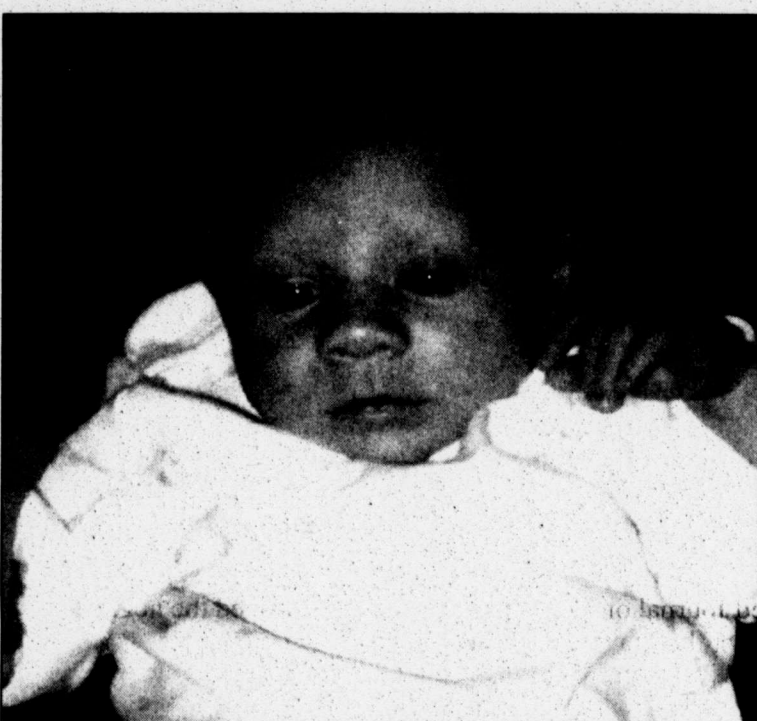


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### Lifestyles Policy

- The Pampa News will not be responsible for photographs used in announcing births, weddings, engagements or anniversaries. We also reserve the right to refuse publication of photographs of poor quality. Photographs cannot be returned unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. They may be picked up in the office after appearing in the paper.
- All information must be submitted by 5 p.m. Wednesday (12 noon Tuesday before a holiday such as Thanksgiving or Christmas), prior to Sunday insertion.
- Engagement, wedding and anniversary news only will be printed on Sunday.
- Engagement announcements will be published if the announcement is submitted at least one month before the wedding, but not more than three months before the wedding.
- Bridal photos and information will not be accepted in The Pampa News office later than one month past the date of the wedding.
- Anniversary announcements will be published for celebrations only of 25 years or more and will not be published more than four weeks after the anniversary date.
- Birth announcements will only be published for 0- to 3-month-olds. (See form for more details.)
- Forms are available from the office 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday, or by sending a SASE to The Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.
- Two anniversary pictures may be placed for a \$25 charge or four extra lines may be added to announcements for \$25 (\$50 for both).



### James Summerlin Jr.

James Wesley Summerlin Jr. was born at 6:48 a.m. Oct. 10 at Baptist-St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo, to Cassy and Wes Summerlin of Amarillo. At birth, the infant weighed 6-pounds, 5 1/2-ounces and was 19-inches long. Relatives include grandparents, Jay and Anita Urbanczyk; great-grandparents, Peg Baker of Amarillo, the late Bob Baker and the late Richard and Beth Bichsel; and a great-grandmother, Maxine Slagle of Amarillo.

### 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. This changes to 12 noon Tuesday on holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas. Meeting the deadline does not guarantee publication that week. Thank you.  
Progressive Texas Extension Education Association Club met Thursday, Nov. 11 at the home of president and hostess, Eva Dennis. The following business was conducted and announcements made:  
—Roll was taken. Members responded by sharing a favorite Thanksgiving recipe.  
—Dennis distributed new year books.  
—A letter concerning The Festival of Trees was read.  
—Lenny Howard delivered the treasurer's report.  
—June Rowan gave the Council report.  
—A fund-raiser was tabled until spring.  
—A district officer training was held.  
See CLUB, Page 7-B

## Festival of Trees

December 3, 4 & 5, 2004  
M.K. Brown Auditorium

The Pampa Garden Club is proud to sponsor the Festival of Trees again this year. We hope to make the festival a bigger and better event this year. That is only possible by community participation. We would like to invite you to share "The Magic of Christmas" with us by participating in the 2004 Festival of Trees. If you joined us last year we welcome you back and if you have not had a tree entered before we ask that you join the festivities this year. Once again this year's trees or ornaments may be sold. A Garden Club member will be at the festival to write the name and phone number of the interested buyer on the back of the ornament or on the name sign of the tree. It will be your responsibility to contact that person, collect money, and deliver trees or ornaments. All trees available for sale must have a sign stating so. Trees may also be donated or just picked up by the exhibitor. Please include a sign to be placed under your tree stating your name or organization's name. If you are interested and need a tree please contact Ruth Barrett at 665-5050. If you have other questions about the festival please call Debbie Davis at 665-0123 or Robin Parsley at 669-2790. Entry deadline is Nov. 29, 2004.

**Dates To Remember**  
**Tree Set Up...** Thursday, December 2 from 1 pm - 7pm  
**Public Viewing...** Friday, December 3 from 10 am - 5 pm;  
Saturday, December 4 from 10 am - 10 pm; Sunday, December 5 from 1 pm - 5 pm  
**Tree Take Down...** Sunday, December 5 at 5 pm

Name of Organization	Phone
Adult-Individual	\$10.00 Entry Fee
Adult-Club	\$10.00 Entry Fee
Commercial - Business	\$10.00 Entry Fee
Church - Groups	\$10.00 Entry Fee
Youth - Clubs, Schools	\$10.00 Entry Fee
Table Top Tree Displays	\$5.00 Entry Fee

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## Women's Res to fe thar

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# Medical

## Women's health

### Research: More to female health than meets eye

CHICAGO (AP) — Beyond the tired clichés and sperm-and-egg basics taught in grade school science class, researchers are discovering that men and women are even more different than anyone realized.

It turns out that major illnesses like heart disease and lung cancer are influenced by gender and that perhaps treatments for women ought to be slightly different from the approach used for men.

These discoveries are part of a quiet but revolutionary change infiltrating U.S. medicine as a growing number of scientists realize there's more to women's health than just the anatomy that makes them female, and that the same diseases often affect men and women in different ways.

*'Women are different than men, not only psychologically (but) physiologically, and I think we need to understand those differences.'*

— Dr. Catherine DeAngelis  
Editor

"Women are different than men, not only psychologically (but) physiologically, and I think we need to understand those differences," says Dr. Catherine DeAngelis, editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

DeAngelis, who became the journal's first female editor in 1999, says she has made it a mission to publish only research in which data are broken

down by sex unless it involves a disease that affects just men or women.

In recent months, two medical textbooks billed as the first devoted to gender differences in all areas of medicine, not just reproductive medicine, were published; a widely cited Journal of the AMA report re-emphasized the neglected fact that lung cancer, not breast cancer, is the No. 1 cancer killer among women; and the American Heart Association announced the first-ever heart disease prevention guidelines tailored specifically for women.

And this fall, the office of Surgeon General will issue its first-ever report on osteoporosis. The crippling bone-thinning disease disproportionately affects women, who lose the bone-protecting effects of estrogen at menopause. The report will emphasize prevention — and that it's not just a woman's disease — 20 percent of patients are men, said Wanda Jones, director of the Office on Women's Health at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The gender-based medicine movement isn't an effort to diminish the importance of breast cancer, but is meant to emphasize that "we have more than one body part, folks. Up until now ... that awareness just hasn't been there," said Sherry Marts of the Society for Women's Health Research. That organization seeks to expand the definition of women's health beyond breast and reproductive health, what some call "bikini medicine."

Until the 1990s, scientists frequently excluded women from medical research, including drug studies. It was largely out of concern over effects on reproduction but also because of a long-standing belief that men and women "were biologically the same except for their reproductive organs," Marts said.

Recent discoveries suggest that genes, hormones and lifestyle may be behind many of the differences. For example:

- Heart attacks in women frequently don't involve chest pain and may involve more vague, flu-like symptoms.
- Women who don't smoke appear to be more susceptible to lung cancer than nonsmoking men. Women also tend to get lung cancer at younger ages than men, and they appear to metabolize cancer-causing substances differently than men.
- Women are less likely than men to get oral cancer.
- Women are more prone to autoimmune diseases, including lupus, rheumatoid arthritis and multiple sclerosis, in which disease-fighting mechanisms mistakenly attack the body's own tissues.

### Drug-resistant staph causing worry

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — Flesh-eating bacteria cases, fatal pneumonia and life-threatening heart infections suddenly are popping up around the country, striking healthy people and stunning their doctors.

The cause? Staph, a bacteria better known for causing skin boils easily treated with standard antibiotic pills.

No more, say infectious disease experts, who increasingly are seeing these "super bugs" — strains of Staphylococcus aureus unfazed by the entire penicillin family and other first-line drugs.

Until a few years ago, these drug-resistant infections were unheard of except in hospital patients, prison inmates and the chronically ill. Now, resistant strains are infecting healthy children, athletes and others with no connection to a hospital.

"This is a new bug," said Dr. John Bartlett, who chairs the committee on antibiotic resistance at the Infectious Diseases Society of America. "It's a different strain than in the hospital ... more dangerous than other staph."

"Primary care physicians and ER doctors, they don't all know (about this) and should," he said.

Bartlett, a professor at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, treated three young Baltimore area women this year who

*'This is about as serious an infectious disease emergency as you can get.'*

— Loren G. Miller  
Physician

got pneumonia from this community-acquired resistant staph. All had to be put on breathing machines, and one died, he said.

The infections will be a hot topic at the society's annual meeting this week in Boston. The group has been warning that drug companies aren't developing enough new antibiotics to avert a crisis.

Among the case reports to be discussed:

—In Los Angeles, doctors at UCLA Medical Center treated 14 people with necrotizing fasciitis, informally known as "flesh-eating bacteria," over a 14-month stretch through April. Three needed reconstructive surgery and 10 spent time in intensive care.

"This is about as serious an infectious disease emergency as you can get," said Dr. Loren G. Miller. "We don't know how these people got the infection — there doesn't seem to be a common thread."

—In Corpus Christi, Texas, doctors at Driscoll Children's Hospital saw

fewer than 10 cases a year of community-acquired resistant staph infections in the 1990s, then saw 459 in 2003, with 90 percent in healthy children. Half were admitted to the hospital to get intravenous antibiotics; a few developed life-threatening lung and heart infections or toxic shock syndrome.

—A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study shows another new twist: The resistant staph strain caused pneumonia in 17 people, killing five, during last year's flu season. Only one had any risk factors for the infection.

"Nobody dreamt when we were in medical school that this would ever enter the community," said Dr. Rajendra Kapila of University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in Newark.

He has treated several patients with the infections at University Hospital there, including an itinerant golf caddy who kept getting abscesses on his neck until he landed in the hospital two years ago. Kapila linked the infections to abrasions from the man's golf bag strap.

In August, a man in his 40s with severe back pain turned out to have such a severe staph infection in his

See STAPH, Page 12-B

### Federal agency blocks imports on a couple of supplements

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Food and Drug Administration recently warned consumers not to buy or use Actra-Rx or Yilishen because the supplements contain an ingredient that could lower blood pressure to unsafe levels.

The FDA also instructed employees to block imports of the supplements, calling them "dangerous ... and even life-threatening."

Actra-Rx and Yilishen are promoted on Web sites as erectile dysfunction treatments that enhance men's sexual performance.

Despite an all-natural label, Actra-Rx capsules contain prescription strength levels of sildenafil, the active drug ingredient in Viagra, according to a letter published in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Viagra, produced by Pfizer, was approved by the FDA to treat erectile dysfunction. The recommended dose is 50 milligrams. Some men take as little as 25 mg. or as much as 100 mg.

According to "Sex, Lies

and Niagra," published in the Feb. 4, 2004 issue of JAMA, chemical analyses found an average of 55 milligrams of sildenafil per capsule of Actra-Rx and Niagra Actra-Rx, another name under which the product has been sold.

"The use of such nonprescription substances may present health risks for individuals with contraindications to the use of sildenafil," wrote the authors.

Follow up testing by the FDA confirmed Actra-Rx contained prescription-strength levels of sildenafil.

A spokesman for the supplement's manufacturer, Los Angeles-based Body Basics, declined comment. The company's Web site continues to advertise Actra-Rx as a "natural sexual enhancer" available in starter kits of 10 pills for \$78.99.

According to the FDA, sildenafil can interact with certain prescription drugs that contain nitrates or nitrites in illicit substances, significantly lowering blood pressure to unsafe levels.



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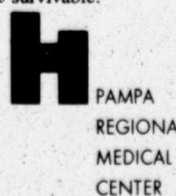


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NOV 21 2004

THE PAMPA NEWS COMICS

# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am an openly gay man, out of the closet at work, at college and with friends. I'm out to everyone except my family, who have made it clear that being gay is unacceptable.

I spent years trying to change my sexual orientation, which I now know to be about as achievable as changing the color of my eyes.

I don't know how to come out to my family, or if I even should. The only family member who knows said, "They'll only hear what they want to hear, and they don't want to hear this."

A friend recently asked me what would happen if I was in a relationship. Would I hide forever or come out by saying, "Folks, meet my boyfriend!" He said I should come out for ME, not for them.

Right now I'm confused. One of my family members is disabled and I don't know if the news would kill him. What's the wisest thing to do? -- ALMOST OUT IN CANTON, OHIO

**DEAR ALMOST OUT:** In all the time I have been associated with this column -- and it's decades -- I have never heard of anyone "dying" from being told that a family member is gay. In fact, the family usually has had some inkling by the time the person chooses to say it.

In your case, the "wisest thing to do" would be to contact Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) and request information about how to come out to your family. At the same time, ask for literature that will help your family understand that sexual orientation isn't something a person "chooses" on a lark, nor is it something for which a person should be punished. PFLAG can be reached at: [www.pflag.org](http://www.pflag.org); or by e-mail:

[info\(at\)pflag.org](mailto:info(at)pflag.org); or at 1726 M St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

I hope your family is willing to broaden their perspective. If not, the loss will be theirs, because it appears you already have other sources of emotional support. Good for you, because people who are happy and involved with others live fuller, more productive lives than those who stay locked in emotional isolation.

\*\*\*\*\*

DEAR ABBY: I'm a widowed 48-year-old grandmother raising three beautiful grandchildren, who has been lucky enough to find a really special man I'll call "Dale."

I have had four major relationships in my life. The last two have ended with their deaths. The first -- my late husband -- died in a work-related car accident. The second died of an aortic aneurysm.

Dale has proposed marriage and I said yes; however, my doubts are linked to the adage, "It comes in threes," and I'm afraid I'll lose him too. If this seems silly, I'm sorry. I loved both of the men who died, and after the last one I swore never to love like this again. However, God says, "Never say never." Can you help me? -- GUN-SHY IN PHOENIX

**DEAR GUN-SHY:** Consider this: The only thing sillier than bowing to your superstitions would be to sacrifice a mutual love out of fear. You can't change what happened in the past, but if you think positive and concentrate on the present, the future will take care of itself. In a sense, we all "place our bets and take our chances" because in life there are no guarantees. The secret is to think positive.

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## For Better Or Worse



## Zits



## Garfield



## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



## Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

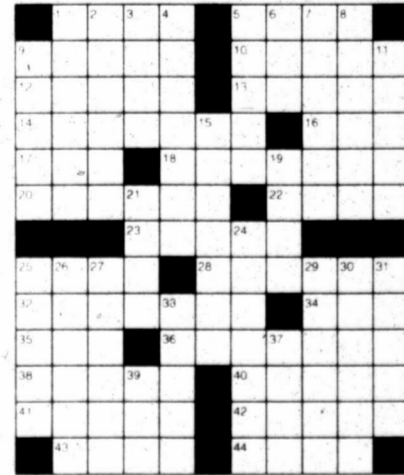
#### ACROSS

- 1 Diet no-no, perhaps
- 5 Wide-eyed
- 9 Spirit
- 10 Rich veins
- 12 Last letter
- 13 Beethoven's "Joy"
- 14 Chance to win back a title
- 16 Old French coin
- 17 Pilot's estimate, for short
- 18 Eats a lot, in slang
- 20 More protracted
- 22 Stable diet
- 23 Good quality
- 25 Ring
- 28 Warnings
- 32 Wyoming city
- 34 Direction suffix
- 35 Curve
- 36 Peaceful place
- 38 Collectively
- 40 Pickup, e.g.
- 41 Principle

#### DOWN

- 1 Wake up
- 2 Company firer
- 3 Latvia's capital
- 4 Liverpool quartet
- 5 Hilo hello
- 6 Olympus resident
- 7 Black Sea port
- 8 "Scram!"
- 9 Cook's mushroom
- 21 Big do
- 22 Sister of Orestes
- 25 Pigtail
- 26 Breadwinner (queued up)
- 27 Secret room
- 29 Lower
- 30 There are 13 in a hand of bridge
- 31 Like conga lines
- 33 Fountain orders
- 37 In -- (queued up)
- 39 Headed

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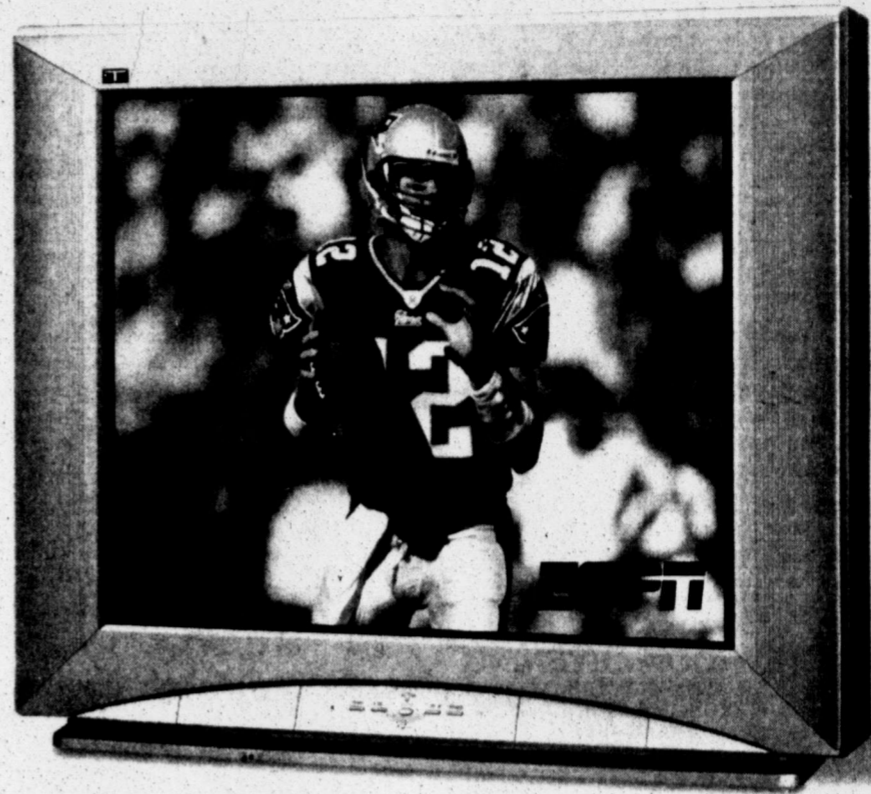
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# Entertainment

## Report: Networks inching towards ethnic diversity

LOS ANGELES (AP)— A coalition pushing for greater ethnic diversity on television said last week the picture is brighter, with one network even earning A-plus grades for hiring more Hispanic actors and producers.

But the four major broadcast networks must increase and intensify their efforts to reflect the diversity of America, including Asian-Americans and American Indians, the Multi-Ethnic Media Coalition said.

"We've had five years of doing this and we can see the trend is upward, always upward, but slowly," said Alex Nogales, president of the National Hispanic Media Coalition, part of the multi-ethnic coalition.

Among areas of improvement for Hispanics on prime-time programming: ABC, given A-plus marks for its inclusion of Hispanic stars, writers and producers; an A-plus to CBS for the number of Hispanics in recurring roles

and an A-plus to Fox for Hispanic directors.

Networks received overall grades, with ABC and Fox earning Bs, CBS getting a C-plus and NBC earning a C.

Other subcategories included Hispanic casting in reality shows, with NBC earning an F.

Asian-Americans and American Indians have less to celebrate, according to the coalition. (Black representation on TV is monitored by the NAACP, which did not participate in the coalition evaluation.)

"Native Americans are the invisible Americans. We're not acknowledged anywhere," said Mark Reed, coalition co-chairman. The ABC miniseries "Dreamkeeper" included rare contemporary American Indian characters, he said.

"We're still stuck in the era of leather and feathers," Reed said.

For Asian-Americans, some progress in the management ranks has yet to

result in increased on-screen depictions, said Karen Narasaki, chairman of the Asian Pacific American Media Coalition.

"What's become clearer to us is it's much harder to change the industry. There are some real barriers to entry that we haven't been able to break," she said. All the networks earned overall Cs on Asian-American diversity.

Narasaki cited disappointment over two new series that blew an opportunity for hiring Asian-American actors: NBC's police drama "Hawaii" and Fox's "North Shore."

Despite their Hawaiian settings, neither reflected the state's majority Asian-American population, Narasaki said.

"In 'North Shore,' only one of the eight (lead) characters was Asian-American, and he was the bartender. 'Hawaii' had even less diversity than 'Hawaii Five-O' did, which was 20 years ago," she said.

## Kristen Bell's star quality no mystery

By FRAZIER MOORE  
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP)— At 24, Kristen Bell looks young even for a 17-year-old, which is the age of the sleuthing title character she plays on UPN's "Veronica Mars."

Sometimes it gets old. "I'm carded for R-rated movies," she reports. "And I get talked down to a lot. When I try to go rent a car or buy an airplane ticket or other stuff adults do, I get, 'Okaaaaaaaay, honey.'"

"I remember when I was 18, getting crayons in a restaurant."

That may be. But spend more than 30 seconds with Kristen Bell — or just take in one of her performances — and you get the message: She is not to be dismissed. A fine-featured blonde little more than 5 feet tall, she is sure to make a big impression.

She played the president's college-age problem child kidnapped in the David Mamet thriller "Spartan," and a chaste-looking grifter who was beaten to death on HBO's frontier drama "Deadwood."

She was the daughter of a drug addict in the Lifetime movie "Gracie's Choice" and the daughter in the Los Angeles Opera production of Stephen Sondheim's "A Little Night Music."

"The first week I was there," says Bell, meaning Los Angeles, where she moved two years ago after college and several stage roles in New York. "I booked the season premiere of 'The Shield.'" On this gritty FX cop drama, she played a gang member's girlfriend who was raped and tattooed on the face.

But that year, she wasn't so successful landing a series.

"I tested like eight times and booked nothing," she says, "and every show I tested for got picked up — like 'Skin' and that Norm Macdonald show. It was very grounding to be that close to so many things and not get them."

Grounding?  
"Well, yeah," she declares, too tactful to brand them "instant flops" outright. "When I saw them, I learned how you can get excited easily. You need to pick your role really

wisely.

"This pilot season, I read 'Veronica Mars,'" she says, flashing an incandescent smile. "Ten pages in, I knew I would kill to get it."

That wasn't necessary. In September, Bell premiered as the star of this hip high-school whodunit (airing 9 p.m. EST Tuesday).

In the rich seaside community of Neptune, Calif., the series' sadder-but-wiser heroine has assumed a daunting challenge: To get to the bottom of a squalid crime that cost her father his job as the sheriff, spurred her mother to leave home, and turned Veronica into an outcast, where before she was thick with the In crowd. Her best friend was murdered.

After school, Veronica helps her dad (Enrico Colantoni) at his struggling private investigation agency, while her pixyish but bold style has helped earn the show — along with Bell's pitch-perfect performance — rave reviews.

Though no ratings blockbuster, "Veronica Mars" has now won a full-season order.

"She's a girl who's not afraid to speak her mind, but she's not annoying," says Bell. "She can be really strong, but without being butch. And since my parents split when I was 2, I love the fact that she's from a single-parent family."

But more than anything, Bell bonds with her character through their shared loss of a cherished friend.

"When I was 17, my best friend was killed in an automobile accident," she explains, calling the tragedy "both the best and worst thing that has ever happened to me. I think I'm a happier person because of it, as weird as that is to say, because, once you learn not to take people for granted, you live a lot happier life."

Growing up in Detroit, Bell was "an outgoing kid" who went on her first audition at 11. A community theater production, "that is where I met Jenny, my girlfriend who was in the car accident."

But Bell, struck by an unexpected case of jitters, almost quit before she ever got started.

*'She's a girl who's not afraid to speak her mind, but she's not annoying. She can be really strong, but without being butch. And since my parents split when I was 2, I love the fact that she's from a single-parent family.'*

— Kristen Bell  
Actress

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## THE PAMPA NEWS

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Insertion Date	Deadline
Wed., Nov. 24th	Tues., Nov. 23, 10:00 am
Fri., Nov. 26th	Wed., Nov. 24th, Noon

**ROP DISPLAY AND CLASSIFIED DISPLAY**

Mon., Nov. 22nd	Fri., Nov. 19th, 10:00am
Tues., Nov. 23rd	Fri., Nov. 19th, 10:00am
Wed., Nov. 24th	Fri., Nov. 19th, noon

**NO THURSDAY PAPER**

Fri., Nov. 26th	Tues., Nov. 23rd, 10:00am
Sun., Nov. 28th	Tues., Nov. 23rd, Noon

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# Gulf states tally oyster losses in the wake of Hurricane Ivan

CODEN, Ala. (AP) — Oyster reefs in Alabama suffered severe damage from Hurricane Ivan's wave surge, which flushed out an estimated 80 percent of the \$4 million crop, disrupting the livelihood of some 200 oystermen who work the reefs in winter.

"These reefs belong to everybody in the state when you consider all the restaurants that benefit from the shellfish," said Avery Bates, a Bayou La Batre oysterman and vice president of the Organized Seafood Association of Alabama. "It

hurts so bad."

He said some of the oyster fishermen have relocated to Mississippi, which like Louisiana had less Ivan damage. Florida, battered by four hurricanes, clearly suffered damage to some of its oyster reefs although just how severe a loss is still being assessed.

The reefs were the hardest-hit among Gulf states, said Vernon Minton, of Gulf Shores, chief of the state's marine resources, who estimated it could take two years to restore them.

Gulf states' oyster reefs

could be partly restored through a \$9 million federal grant for oyster-bed reseeding and rehabilitation.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration will determine how the funds will be distributed to affected areas in Alabama, Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Replanting of shell on the reefs is not expected to happen until spring.

It takes about 18 months to three years for a young oyster to regenerate to harvest size, says Leslie Craig, a marine habitat restoration expert at

NOAA.

To reseed the reefs, Craig said, Alabama will likely want to use some large-scale deployment of shells off barges with high-powered hoses. Fishermen could assist by reseeding shallower areas.

At Dauphin Island, state Marine Resources biologist Mark Van Hoose said divers, staking out yard-length grids, measured the reefs for productivity in August, then again after Ivan struck.

"The loss on Cedar Point is about 80 percent of oysters per acre," Van Hoose said.

Cedar Point is the main reef near Dauphin Island.

An Auburn University shellfish project at its lab on Dauphin Island also is helping with some reef losses. In the wake of Ivan, marine biologists have dropped some 55,000 fingernail-size oysters on the Cedar Point reef.

That's a small contribution compared to the hundreds of thousands of oysters washed away by Ivan. But the juvenile oysters planted were "extras" — surplus oysters from a research project into low-oxygen tolerant oysters, said Rick

Wallace, director of the university's Marine Extension and Research Center in Mobile.

"With the storm, it just seemed like a good opportunity to help the industry," Wallace said.

Most of the donated oysters will be mature enough to start spawning in the spring. They are highly prolific reproducers, with one female releasing millions of eggs in a spawning season. Minton said it's hard to estimate how many of those eggs will survive because oysters have a high mortality rate.

## HOROSCOPE... SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, Nov. 21, 2004:

You have a way of invigorating others, as well as yourself. Your enthusiasm and joie de vivre help others bypass negativity. Still, play it cool with partners financially; not everyone has your devil-may-care attitude. Someone might be inordinately uptight. In fact, let this person function as "master of the finances," as you tend toward risk-taking. You will get what you want through drive, networking and Lady Luck. If you are single, a friend could be instrumental in meeting someone special. In fact, this relationship could develop from a friendship. If you are attached, work as a team to fulfill a longtime goal. Let your imagination flow with this person. ARIES can be provocative. Express your goals more frequently.

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

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) **★★★★** Your renewed energy might put a crink in the concept of a quiet Sunday. You want to take off and do the unexpected. Impulse rules as you do only what you want. Spontaneity becomes a byword. Laughter is infectious. Thank goodness! Tonight: Try a new restaurant or cuisine.

This Week: You hit your power days Monday and Tuesday. Use timing, please.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) **★★★** Stand back and do more thinking rather than acting. You might opt for a discussion with a partner or playmate. As a result, you feel much more connected with your needs as well as a significant other. Partnerships play a greater role in the near future. Tonight: Low profile.

This Week: Lie low until Wednesday, when the Moon makes you a star. Others are likely to go along with your plans.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) **★★★★** Others are running the show, even if you would like to think otherwise. Laugh and play along with those you care about. Kick up your heels; get into a group event or project. You discover the more the merrier. Laugh. Tonight: Follow another's lead; don't push to have plans your way.

This Week: On Monday and Tuesday, zero in on what you want. Let situations develop the remainder of the week.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) **★★★★** Take charge and make a needed move. You could discover that someone might mean well but winds up putting more work on you. Listen to a suggestion. Follow through on what you know works. Don't accept any new burdens. Tonight: Take an older relative or friend to dinner.

This Week: Take your bows and accept your responsibilities. You head for the winner's circle after Tuesday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) **★★★★** Your fiery side emerges, as you opt to look at the big picture. You might want to let go of a problem and visit a nearby friend. Putting distance between yourself and your life helps you see where there really isn't a problem. Tonight: Try a new restaurant.

This Week: Extend yourself and attempt to see the big picture. You might want to take an overview before taking a stand.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) **★★★★** A key loved one reaches out and helps you get past what you see as a problem. Could you be making something harder than it needs to be? Listen to this trusted buddy and work together. Tonight: Dinner for two.

This Week: Work as a team. If you feel something is amiss, dig into facts. You are far more resourceful than you realize.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) **★★★★** Others present options, and you get the opportunity to see "yes" or "no." Talk through what you see as problems, loosening up and gaining a new perspective. Go along with others. Be experimental and see what happens. Tonight: Just don't be alone.

This Week: Others play their cards. Hold yours close to your chest. Remember, you don't have to reveal anything just yet.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) **★★★★** Turn your attention to the practical -- making money and covering all bases during this winter holiday season. The traditional gifts might not be necessary, but some item or gesture that reflects your caring. Use that incredible imagination, please. Tonight: Straighten up your desk at home.

This Week: Dig into work. You need to clear out a lot of paperwork and handle details. Midweek, socialize more.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) **★★★★★** The Sun barrels into your sign today, adding to your energy and vigor. Your more playful side comes out. You act like a kid at Christmas. Add this joyousness to your immediate atmosphere. Tonight: Have fun. Enjoy the loved ones you're with.

This Week: Your ingenuity finds answers. Integrate them once you are sure of your ideas.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) **★★★★** Build on present foundations. Make your family your highest priority. You succeed beyond any limits you might have imagined. Be willing to reveal more of yourself. A partner loosens up with your mood. Tonight: Stay close to home.

This Week: A personal issue must be settled if you are going to get any work done.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) **★★★★** Friends surround you, making nearly anything possible. Put on your dancing shoes and head out the door. There is no reason to say no. Look at ways of making what you desire possible. Fatigue could hold you back. Take a nap! Tonight: You want to be out with friends.

This Week: You speak your mind easily. Research facts and make sure you feel secure.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) **★★★** Expenses could get out of whack. Try to move away from impressing others, and instead maintain your responsibilities. Make a frugal Christmas list, but add in personal experiences, such as a visit to the zoo for a child or a backrub for a loved one. Tonight: Work on your Christmas list.

This Week: Balance your checkbook or handle a money issue at work. From Wednesday on, schedule meetings and become proactive.

**BORN TODAY**  
Football player Troy Aikman (1966), actress Goldie Hawn (1945), philosopher Voltaire (1694)

\*\*\*  
Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.  
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## Gorillas in Congo park struggling

**KAHUZI-BIEGA NATIONAL PARK, Congo (AP)** — Beneath a pair of extinct volcanic peaks in eastern Congo, on the edge of a verdant tropical rain forest, an enormous silverback gorilla named Chimenuka lounges on his back, two feet propped against a tree.

The burly animal shows little interest in a small team of machete-wielding Pygmy trackers, park rangers and armed guards who've come to check on him — until they take one step too close.

In a second, the 400-pound gorilla springs upright, beating his chest, grunting and charging forward, forcing his guests to cower before slipping away on all fours into a curtain of thick underbrush.

Encounters like these once lured tourists from around the world to the misty highlands of Kahuzi-Biega National Park, where gorilla tourism was born in the 1970s. But a decade of turmoil, a 1998-2002 civil war and fresh fighting this summer have decimated the region's eastern lowland gorillas and driven tourists away.

Today, not even the experts really know how many gorillas are left.

"It's tragic. Nobody has been able to conduct a full survey in a decade," says Innocent Liengola of the Wildlife Conservation Society. "Most areas are too insecure to visit."

In late October, the New York-based organization resumed a head-counting operation in Kahuzi-Biega that was called off in April when Liengola and his colleagues were forced to flee amid volleys of automatic weapons-fire — a firefight, authorities said, between rebels from neighboring Rwanda and a local pro-government militia called the Mayi Mayi.

Eastern lowland gorillas, the tallest apes on Earth, live only in Congo and inhabit a broad band of forests stretching from Lake Albert near the Ugandan border to the northern tip of Lake Tanganyika on the frontier with Burundi.

Conservationists say a deadly combination of poachers, refugees, miners and combat have devastated the gorillas' habitat and population, but by how much, they can only speculate.

The Atlanta-based Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International believes the apes' numbers have plummeted 70 percent in the last decade — to 5,000 from around 17,000 in 1994.

Patrick Melman, a Dian Fossey researcher in the eastern Congolese city of Goma, acknowledges the figures are only "an estimate," but says they are based on data available, including that from Kahuzi-Biega, where park rangers and researchers visit dozens of gorillas daily.

*'It's tragic.  
Nobody has been  
able to conduct a  
full survey in a  
decade.'*

— Innocent  
Liengola  
Wildlife  
Conservation Society

## HOROSCOPE... MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, Nov. 22, 2004:

You have the capacity to understand others deeply. You possess allure and desirability that last all year long. You will land on your feet no matter what. Remember: You are like a cat with nine lives. Don't push too hard. Think about what in your life you would like to change. Get to work on this project, as you start a new 11-year life cycle your next birthday. Let go of what doesn't work. Focus on daily work and day-to-day life. Learn effective ways to let go of stress. If you are single, you might not want to share everything about your family right away. Be careful how much you let others know. If you are attached, lie back and be more open and vulnerable. ARIES pushes you hard.

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

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) **★★★★** Others dominate, but you insist on making your voice heard. Opportunities arise left and right for those who are open to other people. Let your daydreams take form. Share them with a friend or a group. Together you'll find a way. Tonight: Whatever you want.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) **★★** Know when to muzzle yourself and say little. Now is a good time to express your feelings about a work project. Others will jump on the bandwagon and agree with you. Talk through what seems like a vague plan. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) **★★★★** You get more done than you thought possible. You have a gentle

manner that moves others and helps them work efficiently with you. What seems like a far-out idea could become a reality. Do necessary research. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) **★★★★** Take your place in the natural order of events. Others look to you for ideas, brainy solutions and to assume their responsibilities. You can do it, if you want. Don't feel insecure. Someone cares a lot about you but might not have stated his or her feelings yet. Tonight: Out late.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) **★★★★** Be willing to not get plugged into what's going on around you. Pull away, detach and take an overview. How you feel and what you share can open up a relationship. If someone is a bit flaky, make it OK. Tonight: Think of a special getaway for the weekend.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) **★★★★** Someone you care about has a lot of feedback and interest in your handling of finances. You know the right words to use to tell someone to butt out without this person even realizing he or she has been told to scat! Tonight: Dinner for two.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) **★★★★** Others want what they want, and let you know it loud and clear. The smart thing to do is to let others have their way and see what happens. Your creativity will save the day if there is a problem. A meeting is strategic. Tonight: Go along with plans.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) **★★★** Easy does it. Venus moves into your sign today, adding to your already sexy allure and charisma. You say the right thing at the right time. You will land on your feet no matter what happens if you focus on work. Tonight:

Take a brisk walk and release some tension.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) **★★★★** Whatever you decide to apply yourself to works like magic. You have ideas, creativity and magnetism on your side. Still, you might take someone's statement too seriously. Be aware of this trait for the next few weeks. Tonight: Let your hair down. Join friends more often.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) **★★★★** A personal matter weighs on you. Check out the pros and cons of a decision, keeping in mind your long-term goals. No one can stop you but you. Be careful handling money; it could sift through your hands. Tonight: Head on home.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) **★★★★** Your ideas are well received, to your delight. Even a boss or superior praises you for your work or project. You know what you are doing. Trust your instincts. Return calls. You get important information. Tonight: Catch up on another's news.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) **★★★★** Right now, money becomes an even higher priority than before. You have a lot of daydreams you would like to live out this holiday. Your instincts help you with finances, but don't get carried away by spending. Tonight: Shop for your holiday cards.

**BORN TODAY**  
Tennis player Billie Jean King (1943), actress Jamie Lee Curtis (1958), actress Mariel Hemingway (1961)

\*\*\*  
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is L O N G F E L L O W

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

**11-20 CRYPTOQUOTE**

G O G K : A N S F J S K G J M J A N S  
P F E Q O ' P N F T F Y Q O J ' A I G L .  
" Z G E O F J K S , N G U S J ' A M I S S J  
L F Y C S R F E S ? " — I Z S G B S E  
Y J B J F P J

**Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THINKING IS THE HARDEST WORK THERE IS, WHICH IS THE PROBABLE REASON SO FEW ENGAGE IN IT.**  
— HENRY FORD

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HOUSE for sale. 1200 sq. ft. 2 br. 1 bath. Good condition. Home will need to be moved. Call First Baptist church of Miami for more info. (806)868-3351 or (806)868-5321.

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**106 Coml. Property**

2222 Perryton Parkway, Vacant Commercial Lot. Price Reduced by 1/2. C-21 Realtor, 665-4180.

**120 Autos**

SEALED Bids are being accepted for a 2002 Dodge Durango. Bid sheets may be picked up from the Pampa Teachers Federal Credit Union at 808 W. Francis, November 22nd-December 3rd, 2004 during the hours of 9:00-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m. Sealed bids will be taken through December 3, 2004. Opening of the bids will be December 6, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. Pampa Teachers Federal Credit Union reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

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**BEECH** - Great location with formal dining room, large family room plus office, covered patio, three bedrooms. New sewer and alloy, woodburning fireplace. New exterior paint. Kitchen has ceramic tile flooring, double garage. MLS 6451.

**CHARLES** - Nice two bedroom home in the Austin School area. Deck in front. Vinyl in kitchen and bath, kitchen has been redone with new cabinets, recent plumbing from house to alley. Central heat and air, single garage. MLS 6385.

**DEANE** - Brick home with vinyl siding and shutters. 2 or 3 bedrooms, central heat and air, has a large room above garage that could be another bedroom. 3 storage buildings, single garage. MLS 6485.

**GRAPE** - Two story brick home with fireplace, three bedrooms, 2 3/4 baths, covered patio, storage building, central heat and air, 2 living areas, utility room and double garage. MLS 6103.

**HARVESTER** - Really nice two bedroom condo, central heat and air. Woodburning fireplace. Shelves in garage. 1 3/4 baths, large living area. An activity room and pool are available. MLS 6513.

**LEA** - Open floor arrangement. Three bedrooms, large living room, central heat and air, woodburning fireplace, handicapped accessible bathroom, double garage. MLS 6398.

**LYNN** - Immaculate home with great street appeal. Kitchen has built-in hutch. Large living area with french doors opening to covered patio. 2 storage buildings, three bedrooms, central heat and air. 1 3/4 baths, double garage. MLS 6431.

**MARY ELLEN** - Nice three bedroom home with well kept yard. Central heat and air plus baseboard heat (totally electric) steel siding. 1 3/4 baths, storage room behind double garage, washer, dryer, refrigerator, and range stays with sale. OE.

**MARY ELLEN** - Very attractive 2 bedroom with lots of storage and large master. Storm cellar, central heat and air, mock fireplace. Double detached garage. MLS 6412.

**MAGNOLIA** - Lots of room in this three bedroom home. Has 2 living areas. Dining room, breakfast area in kitchen. Lots of storage and cabinets. 20' x 24' drive through garage/shop in back. Utility room, dinya siding. MLS 6350.

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NOV 21 2004

# AFI trying to show us the money quotes with top 100 list

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Humphrey Bogart, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Jack Nicholson are competing in a war of words.

The American Film Institute is surveying Hollywood types for the top 100 quotes from U.S. movies, with contenders including Bogart's "Here's looking at you, kid" from "Casablanca," Schwarzenegger's

"I'll be back" from "The Terminator" and Nicholson's "You can't handle the truth!" from "A Few Good Men."

Chosen from 400 classic lines of dialogue, the winners will be revealed in the CBS special "AFI's 100 Years ... 100 Movie Quotes" in June.

"Great movie quotes become part of our cultural vocabulary,"

said Jean Picker Firstenberg, AFI director.

The top 100 will be chosen through ballots sent to 1,500 directors, screenwriters, actors, critics and others in the film business.

Other contending quotes include Clark Gable's "Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn" from "Gone With the Wind," Mae West's "Why don't you come up and see me?"

from "She Done Him Wrong," Tom Hanks' "Houston, we have a problem" from "Apollo 13," Cuba Gooding Jr.'s "Show me the money" from "Jerry Maguire" and the "Star Wars" gang's "May the Force be with you."

The quotes range from the first full sound feature film with Al Jolson's "Wait a minute, wait a minute. You ain't heard nothin'

yet" from 1927's "The Jazz Singer" to creepy creature Gollum (Andy Serkis) hissing "My precious" in 2002's "The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers."

The TV special is the eighth top-100 list for the AFI, whose previous specials included best U.S. films, comedies, love stories, movie tunes and heroes and villains.

## Staph

Continued from Page 3-B

spinal cord he was paralyzed permanently, Kapila said.

Dr. John Segreti, an infectious disease specialist at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, estimates about 1 in 10 patients, some with prior health problems, die from the infec-

tions.

Dr. Dan Jernigan, a CDC epidemiologist, said athletes, children and military recruits are at higher risk. They are more likely to get cuts and scrapes and share close quarters and items such as towels and soap. Another factor is overuse of antibiotics, which tends to kill weak bacteria and help harder ones develop resistance.

"Clinicians will have to think differently about skin infections," Jernigan

said. "We treat most skin infections without ever testing them."

Testing will tell whether a strain is antibiotic-resistant, but the tests are expensive.

There are no national statistics on these infections, but health authorities are debating requiring doctors to report them.

CDC has reported on numerous infection clusters, including Colorado fencing club members, college football players in Pennsylvania and Los Angeles, and high school wrestlers in Indiana, and dozens of Pacific Islanders in Hawaii. Many patients were hospitalized, including most of the athletes. At least two outbreaks have occurred among Native Alaskans since 1996, with many cases linked to steam baths.

In New Jersey, infection clusters were reported in 2003 and earlier this year involving two high schools and members of one family.

In Stafford, Texas, Janet Johnson's 13-year-old son Nicholas had such a severe infection — apparently after a minor football injury last October — that he was hospitalized for 5 1/2 weeks and nearly died. The staph infected his lungs, blood and bones, destroying hearing in one ear and making it difficult to walk.

"He was like a stroke victim," she said, but he's doing much better now thanks to extensive physical therapy, repeated surgeries and continuing use of antibiotics.

On the Net:  
Infectious Diseases Society of America: <http://www.idsociety.org>


### Ways to prevent spread of staph

By The Associated Press

Antibiotic-resistant staph infections, usually involving the skin, are showing up more often among healthy people. Here are some prevention tips:

- Wash hands thoroughly and often with soap and water.
- Keep cuts and abrasions clean and covered with a bandage until healed.
- Avoid contact with other people's wounds or material contaminated by wounds.
- Do not share items such as razors, soap, ointments and balms, towels or wash cloths, clothing or uniforms.
- If participating in contact sports, cover cuts, scrapes and other wounds with a bandage. Shower with soap immediately after each practice or game. Wipe down all nonwashable equipment (mats, head protectors, gymnastics equipment, etc.) with alcohol or antibiotic solution after each person uses it.
- If caring for someone with an infection at home, wash hands with soap after each physical contact and before going outside. Only use towels for drying hands once. Change and launder linens frequently, right away if they are soiled.
- When contact with body fluids is expected, wear disposable gloves and wash hands after removing them.
- See a physician promptly if you have a suspicious skin sore or boil.

Sources: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, physician interviews.



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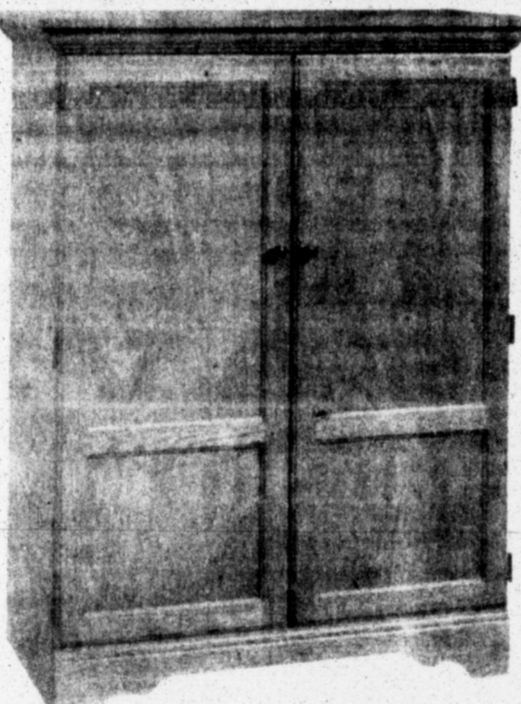
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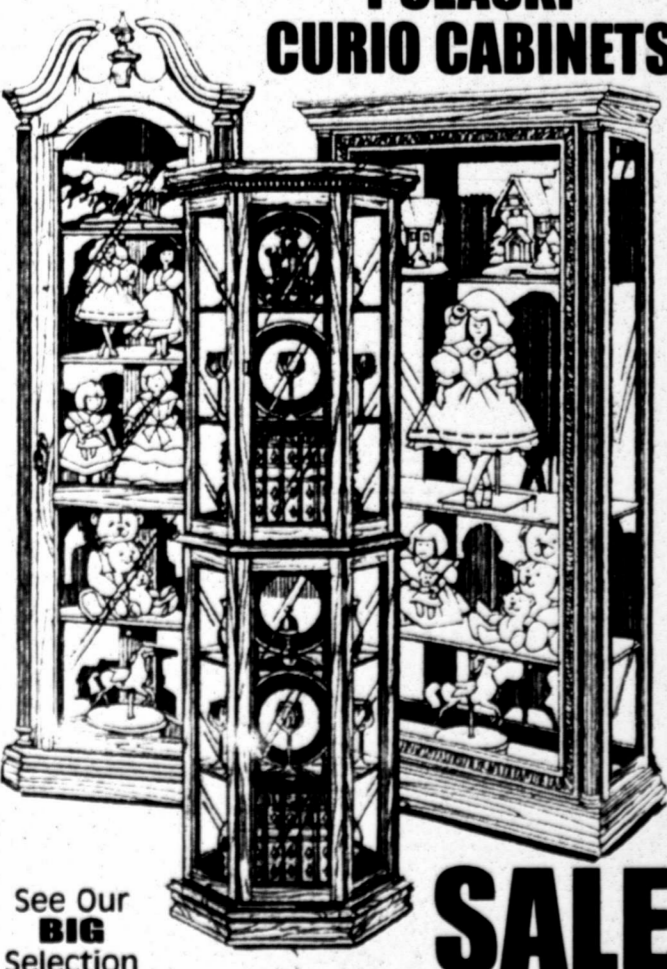
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