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Today's weather



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Deaths

Lou Wayne McBee, 68, National Guard veteran.

Jean Rushing, 73, former justice of the peace.

JoLynn Vise, 41, services pending.

White House

Bush urges America to give generously

CRAWFORD, Texas (AP) — President Bush issued a holiday-season call on Americans to volunteer and give to charity — "to share our blessings with the least among us."

He singled out for special praise those who have given time and energy to U.S. troops stationed around the world.

"The greatest challenges of our time have come to the men and women who protect our nation," Bush said in his weekly radio address Saturday.

"Like generations before them, today's armed forces have liberated captive peoples and shown compassion for the suffering and delivered hope to the oppressed," Bush said. "In the past year, they have fought the terrorists abroad so that we do not have to face those enemies here at home."

Bush said there was much to appreciate this Thanksgiving weekend. "We're grateful for our beautiful country, and for the prosperity we enjoy. We're grateful for the chance to live, work and worship in freedom," Bush said.

"We also recognize our duty to share our blessings with the least among us," the president said. "Throughout the holiday season, schools, churches, synagogues and other generous organizations gather food and clothing for their neighbors in need. Many young people give part of their holiday to volunteer at homeless shelters or food pantries."

"On Thanksgiving, and on every day of the year, America is a more hopeful nation because of the volunteers who serve the weak and the vulnerable."

Business incubator not hatched yet

City expects to advertise for bids in December, city manager says

By **DAVID BOWSER**
Staff Writer

The City of Pampa is expected to begin advertising for bids in December to build a business incubator in the old U.S. Bus Building, 822 E. Foster.

Pampa City Manager John Horst said they had just completed working out the specifications on the bid before Thanksgiving.

Dan Redd with the West Texas A&M University's Enterprise

Network said he hopes to see any construction work begin in January so the incubator can be up and running by Spring.

"We are a multi-business incubator," Redd said, sitting in his Amarillo office. "What we do is work with early stage and start-up and some mature companies."

He said that with the Pampa incubator, for instance, there might be some companies that don't need space.

"But they do need the training and

the consulting and the mentoring and the hand-holding that we do with companies," Redd said.

He said they work with basic income companies.

"We do not deal with retail or restaurant," Redd said, although there are people at their Amarillo incubator facility who do delve into that.

But Redd said the Pampa incubator would not deal with anything that deals with taking an economic pie and cutting it up into smaller pieces.

"What we are wanting to do is bring new money into the communities and make the economic pie larger," Redd said.

A basic income company, he said, is defined as a company that would be located in the Pampa or Gray County area, but it would derive 70 to 75 percent of its income or sales from outside the area.

"Those are the companies that we deal with, work with, look for," Redd

See **INCUBATOR**, Page 5

Soul of a poet

By **DAVID BOWSER**
Staff Writer

On a cold wet Saturday, Sarah Gill Northcutt sat listening to her husband play his washtub bass, joining in on a raucous song with her spoons.

Although Northcutt does an amazing job laying down a percussion line with the beat of the wooden spoons, her true talent lies with the written word.

Best known for her cowboy poetry, Sarah said she can't remember a time when she wasn't writing. She still has fond memories of writing poetry in the third and fourth grades.

Born in Pampa, Sarah grew up in the Roberts County seat. The daughter of a man in the oil business, she said she grew up all over West Texas.

Eventually, her family moved back to Miami where she finished high school.

"I've been there since 1958," she said.

She met her current husband, Jimmy Northcutt, as she traveled the entertainment circuit of the Texas Panhandle.

"We worked together at Creek Wood Ranch," she said of a guest ranch near Palo Duro Canyon. "I'd see him in Lubbock at the National Cowboy Symposium and at the Big Texan."

Her unique musical ability went

well with her husband's washtub bass playing, but it was her cowboy poetry that took her to the prestigious National Cowboy Symposium.

Held early each September in Lubbock, she was invited back again and again, becoming a mainstay of the annual event that draws an audience and performers from around the world.

In addition to the cowboy symposium, Northcutt has performed at the State Fair of Texas and the Fort Worth Livestock Show. For a while, she was a regular at the Big Texan in Amarillo.

"Jimmy and I perform at youth camps, schools and for civic clubs," she said.

'My great-grandfather was a poet. It's written on his tombstone.'

— Sarah Gill Northcutt
Poet

She was the headline entertainment for the Miami Chamber of Commerce banquet this fall and earlier this month she recited some of her works for a private party at River Breaks Ranch just north of Amarillo.

While performing work keeps her busy, it's the quiet creative moments of writing that drive her.

Her professional writing career started with a mentor and friend, Marianne McNeil Logan.

"I went to a writer's workshop," Northcutt said.

It was a Panhandle Professional Writers workshop in Amarillo, organized by Logan.

"Marianne said she had a friend in Spring, Texas, that was putting together an anthology of cowboy

See **POET**, Page 5



Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

Poet Sarah Gill Northcutt

'Beaver moon' casts cold light this weekend

By **DAVID BOWSER**
Staff Writer

The bright full moon over the weekend is known as the Full Beaver Moon or Full Frost Moon, according to the Farmers Almanac.

It marked a time to set beaver traps before streams and lakes froze. According to lore, trapping beaver under such a moon ensured a supply of warm winter furs.

Another interpretation of the term Beaver Moon is that this is the time when beavers were actively preparing for winter.

According to Irish legend, this cycle of the moon is when winter descends upon the earth and outward growth slows.

Irish custom claims this is a time for inner growth. While the earth is resting, it

See **MOON**, Page 5



Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

Under the Beaver Moon, sits a pumpjack wrapped with Christmas lights. The pumpjack is part of Pampa's Celebration of Lights at Recreation Park.

Prairie chickens return to court

By **DAVID BOWSER**
Staff Writer

A small brown bird in Hemphill and Wheeler counties is apparently headed back to the courthouse.

Four environmental groups filed a 60-day notice of intent to sue the day before Thanksgiving, accusing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of not protecting the lesser prairie chicken under the Endangered Species Act.

The small bird is found in southeastern Colorado, eastern New Mexico, southwest Kansas, western Oklahoma and the Texas Panhandle.

In June, 1998, the Fish and Wildlife Service designated the lesser prairie chicken as warranting protection under the Endangered Species Act, but was precluded by higher priority species.

A number of lesser prairie chickens working groups have been formed, including in the eastern Texas Panhandle, in an effort to expand the bird's numbers and keep the prairie chicken from being listed as endangered.

Canadian and Hemphill County officials have based a growing nature tourism industry on the lesser prairie chickens.

Hemphill County ranchers Jim Bill Anderson and Mike Arrington offer tours to birders wanting to see the lesser prairie chicken during "booming" or mating season, when the males dance for the attention of the female birds.

See **BIRDS**, Page 5

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Obituaries

Services tomorrow

McBEE, Lou Wayne — Memorial services, 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.
RUSHING, Jean — 11 a.m., Central Baptist Church, Pampa. Graveside services, 3 p.m., Shamrock Cemetery, Shamrock.

Lou Wayne McBee, 68

Lou Wayne McBee, 68, of Pampa, died Thursday, Nov. 25, 2004, at Amarillo.
 Memorial services are scheduled at 2 p.m. Monday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with Dallas Sargent, a cousin of Mr. McBee's of Kingfisher, Okla., officiating.
 Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.
 Born Dec. 31, 1935, at Borger, Mr. McBee grew up

in Skellytown and had been a Pampa resident since 1992, moving from Arkansas.
 He had been a foreman with B&B Solvent since 1996, was a member of the Moose Lodge and was a veteran of the National Guard.
 Survivors include his wife, Deborah Enloe, of the home; six sons, Mike McBee and Greg McBee, both of Phoenix, Ariz., and Jonathan McBee, Billy McBee, Danielle McBee and David McBee, all of Europe; three

sisters, Catherine Dorsey of Alanreed, Doris Pickering of Clinton, Ark., and Winona Thomas of Stinnett; and two brothers, Kenneth McBee of Little Rock, Ark., and Silas Don McBee of Skellytown.
 In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be to American Cancer Society, c/o Gerry Caylor, 2130 Charles, Pampa, TX 79065.
 —Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

Gray County Weather

Today: A 30 percent chance of rain, mainly after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high around 50. Wind chill values between 27 and 32. South southeast wind between 15 and 20 mph.
 Tonight: A chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low near 31. Wind chill values between 20 and 25. South southeast wind 10 to 15 mph becoming north northeast. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.
 Monday: Snow likely. Cloudy, with a high around 33. Windy, with a north

northeast wind between 20 and 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.
 Monday Night: Snow likely. Cloudy, with a low around 25. North northeast wind between 15 and 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.
 Tuesday: A 40 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a high around 34.

Jean Rushing, 73

Jean Rushing, 73, of Pampa, Texas, died Thursday, Nov. 25, 2004, at Amarillo, Texas.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday, Nov. 29, 2004, at Central Baptist Church with the Rev. Norman Rushing, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Childress, the Rev. Charlie Floyd, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Texola, Okla., the Rev. C.W. Parker, pastor of Central Baptist Church, and the Rev. Rick Parnell, associate pastor of Central Baptist Church, officiating.
 Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Monday, Nov. 29, 2004, at the Shamrock Cemetery in Shamrock under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.
 The daughter of E.J. and Frances Norman, she was born Ethra Jean Frances Norman on Jan. 30, 1931, in Morse, Texas. She was



Rushing

reared in Wellington. She was a 1948 graduate of Wellington High School where she was a featured baton twirler with the Skyrocket band.
 She married Bill Rushing on March 1, 1949, in Wellington. The lived in the Shamrock area for several years.
 She worked as a clerk for the Texas Department of Public Welfare in Shamrock for 10 years. Her husband entered the pastorate in 1968, and she served with him in churches in Plainview, Lela and Samnorwood, Texas.

Upon the death of her husband in 1979, she was appointed Justice of the Peace at Shamrock.
 She moved to Pampa in 1980 where she lived until her death. She was a faithful member of the Central Baptist Church where she enjoyed her Sunday School class and many friends.

Survivors include two sons, Kelly Rŕushing and wife Gimmye of Pampa and Norman Rushing and wife I.B. of Childress; one brother, Reece Norman and wife Gloria of Grandfield, Okla.; her stepmother, Thelma Norman of Childress; six grandchildren, Tracey Levick of New Jersey, Patsy Guy and husband David of Fort Riley, Kan., Jennifer Jones and husband Daimon and Valerie Rushing, all of Pampa, Julie Wirt and husband Jared and Billy Rushing, all of Canyon; and seven great-grandchildren, Charlie Murphy of Arkansas and Amy Levick of New Jersey, Emma Guy and Leigha Guy, both of Fort Riley, Kan., Jacob Wirt and Jadon Wirt, both of Canyon, and Jaxon Jones of Pampa.

The family requests memorials be to Central Baptist Church Building Fund, 513 E. Francis, Pampa, TX 79065.
 —Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

JoLynn Vise, 41

WHEELER — JoLynn Vise, 41, of Wheeler, died Saturday, Dec. 27, 2004, at Wheeler. Services are pending

under the direction of Wright Funeral Home of Wheeler.

CITY BRIEFS

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

2 M. gold club chairs, exc. cond. Cheap. 669-9879.

KAREN'S KITCHEN, 716 W. Foster, Sun. 11-2. Chicken broccoli rice casserole, salmon patties, enchiladas. All You Can Eat \$6.50.

PARTY TRAYS for holidays. We deliver! Hoagies Deli, 665-0292.

ANGIE MARTINDALE with 129 points of Pampa, local winner of the Pampa News Football Power Points Game and regional winner Leroy Romero, Belen, N Mx. with 136 points.

LONESTAR BAR, 1300 S. Barnes. Mon. Night Football, new 13 ft screen tv, pool, foosball, munchies. Happy Hour, \$1 longnecks, 5-7 p.m.

POTTERY BY Linda Nowell for sale at Pampa Custom Framing, 107 N. Cuyler.

DECORATE COOKIES at Lovett Library on Sat., Dec. 4th at 10 a.m. All children welcome for this free program. Call 669-5780 for info.

LONESTAR CHIMNEY Sweep, for appts. 669-1562.

RIP'S BARBER Shop, 1224 N. Hobart, NBC Plaza Rm#1. 665-5515, Tues-Fri, 8:30-5:30.

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Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department on Saturday reported the following arrests, according to Gray County Sheriff's Office jail records.

Friday, Nov. 26
 Rick Marsh, 44, 619 N. Sumner, was arrested for no seat belt, for failure to appear and for failure to maintain financial responsibility.

Donnie Dewayne Johnson, 54, 312 1/2 N. Wells, was arrested for criminal trespass.

Richard Charles Munoz, 20, 1415 W. Harvester, was arrested on a capias pro fine for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Saturday, Nov. 27
 Christopher Louis Smith, 26, 510 N. Perry, was arrested for assault causing bodily injury.

Sheriff

Gray County Sheriff's Office on Saturday reported the following arrests.

See RECORD, Page 3



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 One Would Like This Year....

The Gift That Gives All Year

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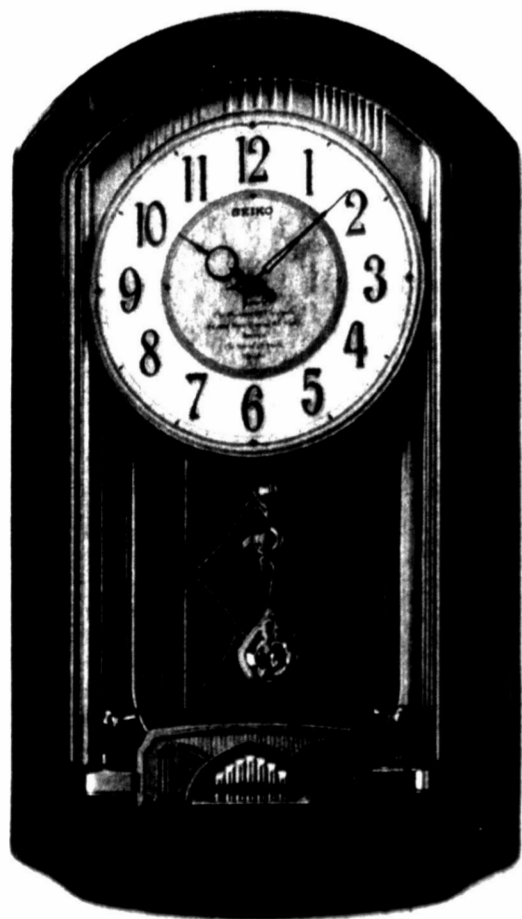
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Lions Club Sweetheart

Lindsey Dale Ammons, daughter of Dale and LeeAnn Ammons, granddaughter of Jim and Joyce Cantrell and Tom Ammons, all of Pampa, is October Pampa Lions Club Sweetheart of the Month. Her honors, activities and accomplishments include Lady Harvesters volleyball and basketball (lettered, three years), top 10 percent of her class, D-FY-IT, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Concert Choir, Show Choir, member and National Honor Society officer, PHS student body treasurer, Rotary Youth Leadership Award and Camp RYLA participant. Ammons attends First Baptist Church, where she is an active leader in her youth group, sings in a vocal ensemble and has been involved in several mission trips including City Church in Amarillo and a two-week trip to California this past summer. Her future plans are to study sports medicine or sports physiology at a college or university, possibly Oklahoma State University, Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Hardin-Simmons University or West Texas A&M University.



▶ Lindsey Dale Ammons

Lamar honor roll

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

A HONOR ROLL

Second Grade. Bobbi Cortez, Terry Botello, Julian Silva, Jacob Nelson, Kenny Ledford, Ty'Randa Archie-Johnson, Tiah Brown, Darlene Chavez, Ana Cota, Karen Duarte, Yesenia Soria, Luis Nery, McKinley Nunn, Kaycee Sellers, Montre Williams.

Third Grade. Macy Cochran, Jathan Miller.

Fourth Grade. Johnny Price.

Fifth Grade. Sarai Soria, Andra Cortez, Dakota Davis, Brandon Cox.

AB HONOR ROLL

Second Grade. Destiny Masias, Valeria Sandoval, Sarai Zarate, Aubrey Grubitz, Leobardo Lopez, Gabriella Rodriguez, Samantha Van Houten, Petra Campos, Rebekah Foster, Mireya

Salazar, Landon Wright.

Third Grade. Samuel Cervantes, Jonathan Fogle, Makayla Gonzalez, Katie Hulsey, Irasema Madrid, Alex Marrufo, Rudy Ramirez, Michelle Rivera, Korbin Ramirez, Cory Ponce, Mark Harris, Gatlin Taylor, Daysy Vasquez, Danielle Vizcaino, Fredrick Jackson, Fernando Retana.

Fourth Grade. Zachery Wolfe, Bianca Apodaca, Freddy Benitez, Zephyr Ellis, Keri Hulsey, Abby Jones, Mariela Resendiz, Abigail Salazar, Samuel Smith, Jessica Kenney.

Fifth Grade. Lovteisha Dunn, Nicholas Glover, Jose Granados, Michael Rossiter, Isaac Silva, Careem Williams, Danielle Williams, Spencer Estes, Miguel Pacheco, Iris Wheat, Kendra Boaz, Kayla Brown, Danny Estep, Adrianna Holguin, Angelica Lopez, Victoria Saiz, Cornelio Soto, Elizabeth Willis-Fagg.

FOOT FACTS BY BROWNS SHOE FIT CO.

EXERCISE FOR FOOT HEALTH... I wonder how many of us realize what a change TV has made in the life of children. Prior to TV, children played many more outdoor games. Hide-and-seek, games of tag, pump-pump-pullaway were popular. Kids did more roller skating, used push-scooters, coaster wagons. The feet and legs really got a workout. Kids were really active ... you seldom saw an over-weight child. I wonder if they weren't better coordinated and healthier. It certainly is the kind of exercise that promotes foot health. We should encourage our youngsters to get all the healthful outdoor exercise possible.

Record

Continued from Page 2

Friday, Nov. 26

Josh Guadalupe Magana,

17, 436 S. Hughes, was arrested on a bond surrender for assault causing bodily injury.

Saturday, Nov. 27

Jerwoody Moler, 18, 701 N. Somerville, was arrested for public intoxication.

Fire

Pampa Fire Department reported the following call during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. Saturday.

Friday, Nov. 26

10:09 p.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to the 2100 block of Alcock and pulled a light meter that was causing some electrical problems.

Latin America

Guatemala tackles squatter problem

TUCURU, Guatemala (AP) — For four years, President Alfonso Portillo ignored a growing movement of poor people setting up camps on private property across Guatemala.

The situation is now a headache for his successor, Oscar Berger, who took office last January and is trying to deal with court orders that his government clear squatter settlements from more than 150 big farms.

Squatters sometimes resist police raids, arguing they have nowhere else to live.

The problem made national headlines in August when police evicted 600 squatters from a farm in Nueva Linda, about 110 miles southwest of Guatemala City, by setting their shacks on fire and shooting tear gas. A melee erupted that resulted in the deaths of eight farmers and four police officers.

The squatters were back within three weeks and are seeking compensation from the government. It has paid \$57,000 so far — \$2,500 to each of the eight families that had a relative killed and the rest for lost crops and property.

On Oct. 13, the government's human rights ombudsman issued a report that accused police of unjustified homicide and chided authorities for not doing enough to prevent the violence. The report has led the Congress and government prosecu-

tors to open investigations.

Land disputes are common across Latin America, where titles are often unclear and where the poor and landless rarely have the resources to acquire living space.

'Movements that say they are looking for a solution to agrarian conflict insist they need land to produce corn and beans. ... It would be better to negotiate a change in crops so that they can have a chance at exporting and making money.'

— Carlos Zuniga
Director of the Agricultural Chamber

In Guatemala, about 70 percent of the rural population is fighting over land ownership, says Walter Pop, an analyst for an advocacy group dedicated to farmer and Indian rights.

Squatters who set up the small, northern mountain communities of Chichicaste, Covadonga and Sepacay, all within a few miles of each other, say they have few other options.

Last May, police evicted about 400 people from the settlements. But the squatters, who fled when they saw the nearly 300 officers arriving, simply returned and rebuilt after the raid.

Many squatters feel they have a right to the land after spending a lifetime living on it.

In the town of San Juan Chamelco, 130 miles northeast of Guatemala City, Gilda de Mo was recently kicked off land where she had spent all of her 21 years.

"My dad is 54, and he was born there," she says. "Nobody who lived there has anywhere else to go."

Since being evicted, she and her husband and two children have been living in a small shack without drinkable water or electricity, which they rent for \$8 a month. She earns \$5 a day sorting cardamom and her husband makes \$150 a month as a security guard.

Carlos Zuniga, the director of the Agricultural Chamber, an association that represents most of Guatemala's big farmers, says the problem stems from the country's lack of economic development.

Baseball-sized snail may threaten Texas rice crop

HOUSTON (AP) — Agriculture officials are worried that a nonnative snail the size of a fist may grow to threaten the Texas rice crop.

Authorities have discovered the channeled applesnail bodies of water in Southeast Texas, including the Chambers County Golf Course pond.

"So far, these snails have not infested areas sufficiently in Texas to cause damage," Lyubov Burlakova, an adjunct biology professor at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, said in Friday's editions of the Houston Chronicle.

"But once a species invades, it needs time to establish. So you don't see the bad effect for a time. Then it booms, and it's too late," Burlakova said. The channeled applesnail is native to South America and may have been in the area for a decade.

Because of the discovery, research scientists, including Burlakova, started a study this month of the

snail's lifestyle and to project its potential danger to rice crops and aquatic habitat in Texas.

The golf course is about 40 miles east of Houston, not far from Interstate 10.

The snails have been found in a few bayous in Harris, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston and Waller counties, according to a U.S. Department of Agriculture survey started four years ago.

Robert Howells, a Texas Parks and Wildlife research biologist, theorizes the snail may have been released by someone tired of keeping it in an aquarium or water garden before the species was

outlawed in Texas in 2001.

Most of the snails found at the Chambers County Golf Course were large and fully grown, Burlakova said.

"It could be that they eat everything and not enough food is left to encourage reproduction," she said.

The snail was initially imported from South America to Taiwan in 1979 and then other Southeast Asian countries in the 1980s because entrepreneurs hoped to start an Asian escargot market.

The snail was eventually released into the wild when no one developed an appetite for it.

CHRISTMAS ON OUR TOWN SHOP PANHANDLE

December 2, 2004

All day until 8:00 P.M.

PHS Band Concert 8:15 P.M. — 9:00 P.M.

Christmas sales, door prizes
Chamber of Commerce gift certificate drawings
PHS Band concert at War Memorial Building

Many unique stores with lots of gift selections for Christmas

For more information call 537-4325

PAMP

Pampa Independent School District

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 28 - December 4

Austin Elementary

December 1 • Kathi Appelt • Visiting Author • Morning

December 3 • Crazy Days

Lamar Elementary

December 1 • Kathi Appelt • Visiting Author • Afternoon

Travis Elementary

December 2 • Kathi Appelt • Visiting Author • Afternoon

Wilson Elementary

December 2 • Kathi Appelt • Visiting Author • Morning

Pampa Junior High School

November 29 • Food Drive Begins

December 1-3: 05-4:00 • 6th Grade Band Rehearsal

Pampa High School

December 1 • Career Clinic

December 2 • All Region Band Auditions

December 4 • Choir Auditions • Dumas

December 4 • SAT • Library

For the most up-to-date Pampa ISD information, go to the school website at 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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Viewpoints

Thanksgiving vs. side effects of getting older

Our reporter Marilyn Powers talks about her dachshund having to lay down beside his stomach to sleep after he's eaten too much.

That pretty much describes Thanksgiving at the Laramore house.

We were blessed to have a house full of visitors this year. There wasn't a bed, a couch and very little floor space that wasn't occupied. Vic and I, our two grandchildren and Sam, the kitty, took up residence in our travel trailer parked in the driveway. We even had guests come in shifts.

We ate two turkeys, one large ham, and all the trim-

mings. I mean ALL the trimmings. There aren't enough trimmings left now to decorate our Christmas tree.

While preparing salad for the Thanksgiving meal Thursday morning, I realized that I was humming, "Come ye thankful people, come. Raise the song of harvest home. All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin."

Suddenly, the hymn seemed more meaningful to me than ever before.

Everything went fine, except for the unfortunate burned watermelon incident. But that will have to wait for another column.

My friend Cindy from

Louisiana spent the week prior to Thanksgiving getting ready to move into her new home built by her new husband.

"I just read your story about Thanksgiving and was reminded that last year the holiday was quite different for you and the year before that, it was different for me," she wrote in an e-mail to me Monday. "Our boys were overseas and there were empty seats at the dinner table."

"As Rachel (her daughter)

was wrapping the china and crystal she came to the glass with a red, white and blue ribbon tied to the stem.

The glass was at the empty place that was set at the table the year Heath (her son that's close to my son's age) was overseas.

"Rachel asked if I wanted her to take the ribbon off. Because Heath is now safely home I started to say, 'Yes,' but my heart wouldn't let me.

I wanted to be reminded

of all the other men and women whose places will be empty at the family Thanksgiving table.

I also wanted to be reminded of how much we miss those family members who are not with us for whatever reason. I think I have just stumbled across a new family tradition."

Cindy inspired me to leave an empty seat at our table this year, too — for those we love who could not be with us and for those who fight that we may have the freedom to share such a day.

We called our son Dave in Newport News, Va., and found he was thinking about the soldiers, too.

As he watched news coverage of the soldiers in Iraq being served Thanksgiving dinner, he couldn't help but remember what it was like to be there this time last year.

Part of him wanted to be back there, he said, part of him never wants to go there again.

"Sometimes holidays are bittersweet," I wrote to Cindy.

"The older I get, the more I realize that all of my holidays are bittersweet," she wrote back. "I guess that is just one more stinking side-effect of growing older."

You have to be growing older to realize just how right she is.

Dee Dee Laramore
Editor



Today in History

By the Associated Press

Today is Sunday, Nov. 28, the 333rd day of 2004. There are 33 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 28, 1942, nearly 500 people died in a fire that destroyed the Coconut Grove nightclub in Boston.

On this date:

In 1520, Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan reached the Pacific Ocean after passing through the South American strait that now bears his name.

In 1919, American-born Lady Astor was elected the first female member of the British Parliament.

'I am not sure that God always knows who are His great men; He is so very careless of what happens to them while they live.'

— Mary Hunter Austin
American novelist and playwright (1868-1934)

In 1925, the Grand Ole Opry, Nashville's famed home of country music, made its radio debut on station WSM.

In 1943, President Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josef Stalin met in Tehran during World War II.

In 1944, the MGM movie musical "Meet Me in St. Louis," starring Judy Garland, opened in New York.

In 1958, the African nation of Chad became an autonomous republic

within the French community.

In 1964, the United States launched the space probe Mariner 4 on a course to Mars.

In 1975, President Ford nominated Federal Judge John Paul Stevens to the U.S. Supreme Court seat vacated by William O. Douglas.

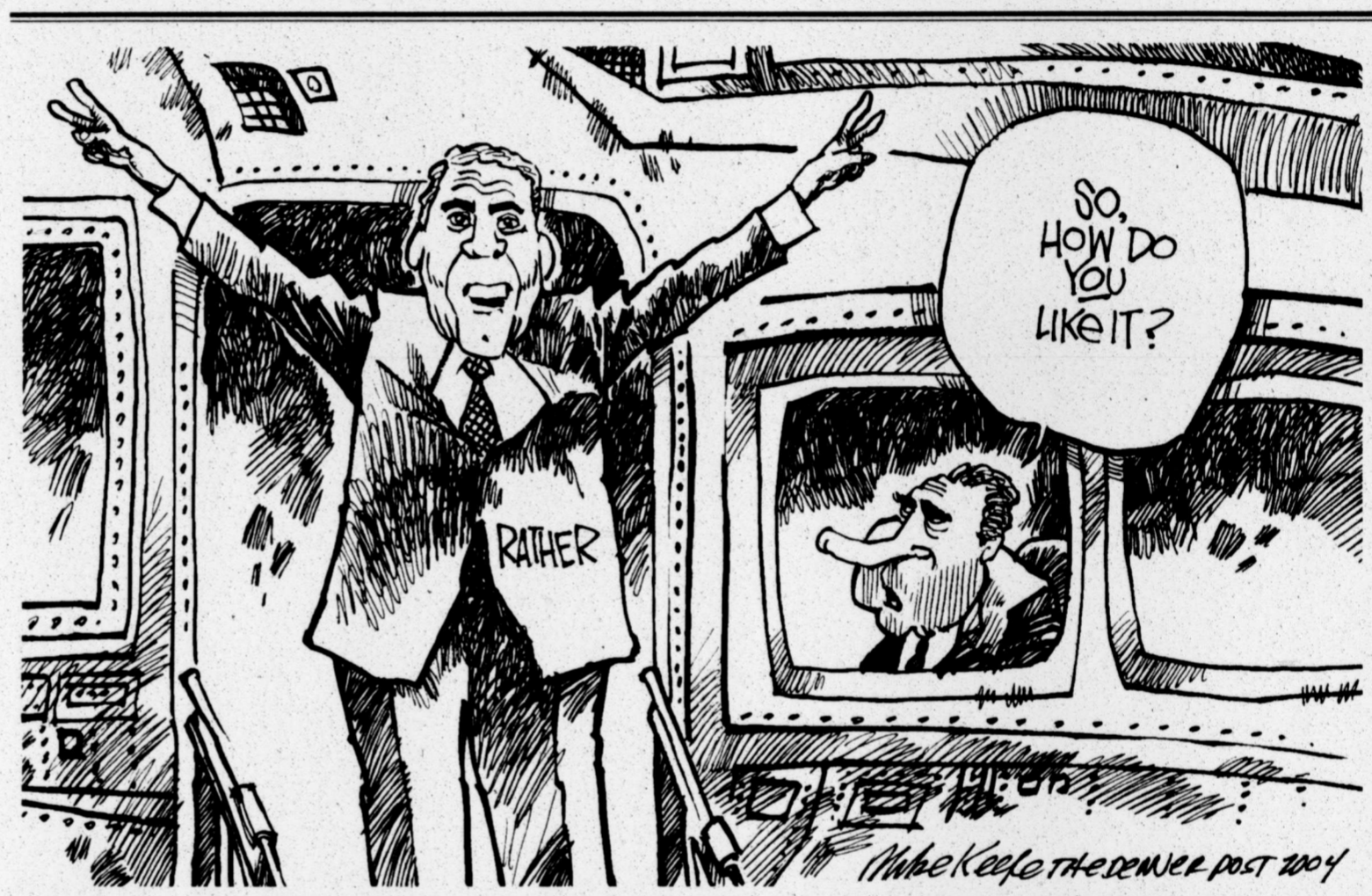
In 1979, an Air New Zealand DC-10 en route to the South Pole crashed into a mountain in Antarctica, killing all 257 people aboard.

In 1990, Margaret Thatcher resigned as prime minister of Britain during an audience with Queen Elizabeth II, who conferred the premiership on John Major.

Five years ago: Hsing-Hsing, the popular giant panda who arrived in America in 1972 as a symbol of U.S.-China detente, was euthanized at age 28. (Officials at Washington's National Zoo decided to end the panda's life because of his deteriorating health.)

One year ago: President Bush returned to his ranch in Crawford, Texas, after a secret, nearly 36-hour journey that took him to Iraq for a Thanksgiving visit with U.S. troops.

Today's Birthdays: Recording executive Berry Gordy Jr. is 75. Former Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo., is 68. Singer-songwriter Bruce Channel is 64. Singer Randy Newman is 61. Movie director Joe Dante is 58.



Fat, yellow poultry not popular

Pity marketing and advertising people on whose shoulders are weighty responsibilities for product sales. Much is expected of their creative genius, and some of them have much to overcome.

Take company names for starters. Specifically, let's talk "Smuckers." Lots of "creative ideas" went the way of the wastebasket before someone said, "With a name like 'Smuckers,' it has to be good."

Boy, has that line worked. Their jelly doesn't stick to the grocery shelf; it flies right off. For generations, we've bought the notion that the jelly is good because the company ad campaigns assure us that it has to be.

Then, there are those who don't have to be extremely creative if their boss has the "right" name — particularly if

the head man is willing to wear pilgrim hats, read funny lines on a TV commercial and maintain solemn gazes to rival Mount Rushmore.

Enter Lonnie "Bo" Pilgrim who leads the second-largest poultry processing plant in the nation. Why wouldn't he wear a Pilgrim hat for commercials, why wouldn't his rambling estate be dubbed "Cluckingham Palace" and why wouldn't he be grateful that the two year-ending holidays — Thanksgiving and Christmas — call for heaping helpings of turkey and chicken?

This poultry magnate

credits his decision to accept Christ as a 10-year-old in 1939 for the beginning of a life of purpose, success, fulfillment and witness. It was a critical juncture; his father died the same year.

Not many years later, Henrietta — his very first chicken — was hatched and — at the risk of compressing history too tightly — his "Pilgrim's Pride" is now a 2.5 billion dollar poultry empire.

He pioneered boneless chicken, calling the process a "mind-boggling thing." "Bo" came up with the plan as he took it easy around the house, recuperating from a heart attack. (His company still will have nothing to do with fat yellow chickens.)

"Bo," his family and partners "talk the talk" and "walk the walk." The company has built a prayer tower in downtown Pittsburg to provide sanctuary for people who've reached the bottom of despair and makes countless gifts to educational causes.

Check with the folks at First Baptist Church in the small East Texas community. They'll tell you that he's almost always present and almost always in the background. True, his commercials are often "off the charts," but once he takes off his Pilgrim duds, he sits quietly among the flock.

What a paradox, a company solidly entrenched on the New York Stock Exchange, yet headed by a man self-dubbed as a "Trustee of the

See NEWBURY, Page 5

Dr. Don Newbury
Columnist



Shakeup at Central Intelligence Agency

Everyone knew a major shake-up was due at the Central Intelligence Agency. Well, under newly installed director Porter J. Goss, the earthquake has begun.

With a mandate to overhaul the dysfunctional spy agency, Mr. Goss has provoked several top-drawer resignations, and more are expected. It has become clear that the CIA over the past two decades has become overly bureaucratized and risk-averse.

Echoing earlier criticism, Michael Scheuer, who headed the CIA's Osama bin Laden unit until 1999, says the agency's problems come

from bad senior management, particularly an unwillingness to upset the status quo. Mr. Scheuer left the CIA to protest what he called "scapegoating" the clandestine service for 9-11 failures that belong to those at the agency's top levels.

An internal Goss memo made public recently raises witch-hunt fears. It said that agency workers must "support the administration and its policies in our work." But

it also said, "We provide the intelligence as we see it and let the facts alone speak to the policymaker." This probably is a reference to Mr. Scheuer's best-selling "Imperial Hubris," written pseudonymously with agency permission.

Days ago, Mr. Scheuer observed tartly that senior CIA officials were pleased by his book's slamming of Mr. Bush, but tried to gag him when they realized their own incompetence was his

real target. Chainsaw Porter may be onto something.

As a former CIA agent and erstwhile head of the House Intelligence Committee, Mr. Goss is in a good position to know what the agency's problems are. If his purge rids the agency of bureaucratic deadwood inhibiting necessary reform, it will be a service to the nation. But if he's undertaking retribution against personnel judged as politically disloyal, then this is a disaster in the making. In time, Mr. Goss' path will be clear, but for now, guarded hopefulness is the most reasonable stance.

Texas Thoughts

The Dallas Morning News

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Incubator

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Redd said that he plans on getting together with Horst and Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce director Clay Rice over the next several months and start setting up some marketing luncheons.

"As we get ready to open the incubator up," he said, "we will want the community to know about it."

Redd said he's planning on a community meeting one evening or several community luncheons and inviting different people to the

meetings.

"I don't know people in Pampa," Redd said, "but people over there know people and they can say this guy has an idea or this guy's working out of his garage and doing this. Those are the kinds of people we want to visit with and talk with and get involved in the incubator."

The incubator is a state-sponsored program, Redd explained.

"We bring \$50,000 to each one of our communities for renovation of a building," he said.

The city will own the building, Redd said. The Enterprise Network has already given the city \$25,000 for renovations. The second \$25,000 payment will be made when the ren-

ovations are complete.

"We bring money to the communities for renovations," he said, "but sometimes the communities can't do it within that amount, and they have to pony up a little bit of money."

Redd said that the construction of the facility in Pampa is all that he's waiting on.

"This thing's drug out for quite a while," Redd said. "We need to get it moving."

The incubator will share the U.S. Bus Building with McCarty-Hull, a distributing company that is using part of the building for a warehouse.

The Enterprise Network already has a number of incubators around the Texas Panhandle. The facility in Amarillo, Redd said, is about

half full.

"The Dumas incubator opened in May," Redd said, "and it is totally full."

The Borger incubator that opened in July is a little more than half full, he said.

"Childress probably has another 60 days of construction on their building," Redd said. "I'm hoping it will be open in late January."

Tulia has a U.S. Department of Agriculture grant to renovate their building. Redd said, they are waiting for the paperwork to clear on it.

"The USDA has already verbally said everything is okay," Redd said.

The opening date of the Pampa incubator now rests with the city and the contractors who win the construction bid.

Birds

Continued from Page 1

Various ranchers in Hemphill and Wheeler counties have worked with the Fish and Wildlife Service and Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife to provide habitat for the lesser prairie chicken, but the environmentalists threatening to sue dismiss these efforts, claiming the prairie chicken remains an unprotected candidate

species.

Conservation groups petitioned the Fish and Wildlife Service to list the lesser prairie chicken as threatened and designate critical habitat on Oct. 5, 1995.

The Fish and Wildlife Service issued a 90-day finding for the species on July 8, 1997, that the small bird was declining in population. Eleven months later, the federal agency made a 12-month finding saying that listing the lesser prairie chicken was warranted, but precluded by work on other actions.

Following a legal challenge in 2001, by the Center for Biological Diversity, the same Tucson, Ariz., based group that petitioned to have the Arkansas River shiner listed under the Endangered Species Act, the Fish and Wildlife Service reported the range of the lesser prairie chicken had declined by 78 percent in 1963 and had declined 92 percent since the 19th Century.

While the Arkansas River shiner, including the minnow's Canadian River popu-

lation, was listed, the legal battle over critical habitat for the small fish continues.

With regard to the lesser prairie chicken, the coalition of environmentalists are particularly critical of the oil and gas industry, saying that exploration along the Texas-New Mexico state line has damaged the prairie chicken's habitat, although local ranchers both there and in Wheeler County report that drilling pads appear to be a favored location for the bird's mating dance.

In addition to the Center

for Biological Diversity, the environmental coalition includes the Forest Guardians, the Chihuahuan Desert Conservation Alliance and T&E, Inc.

Moon

Continued from Page 1

is a time for contemplation and to tie up loose ends.

Celtic tradition suggests it is a time to dress in black, purple and blue to honor the

sleeping earth and burn full moon incense (a mixture of anise, lavender and rosemary) or mugwort or patchouli. Feasts during this time are supposed to include vegetables that grow beneath the ground, such as onions, potatoes and garlic.

The beaver moon is just one of 12 traditional names

for full moons each month throughout the year.

There's the Wolf Moon, the Snow Moon, the Worm Moon, the Pink Moon, the Flower Moon, the Strawberry Moon, the Buck Moon, the Sturgeon Moon, the Harvest Moon, the Hunter's-Moon, the Beaver Moon and the Cold Moon.

Names for the moon at different times of the year developed before modern calendars and were a way for ancient peoples to keep track of time, according to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or NASA. The names still remain part of Moon lore.

Poet

Continued from Page 1

poetry and wanted to know if I had anything humorous," Northcutt said.

Northcutt submitted a poem and it was selected.

"That was my first poem to be published," she said.

The anthology is "Texas Rib Ticklers," published in 1991, but while it was her first literary effort to be published, it certainly wasn't her last.

"I had a poem published in the Quarter Horse Journal in June," she said.

One of her essays will be published in Guidepost Magazine in December.

Northcutt said it's ironic,

but poetry runs in her veins.

Several years ago, Northcutt's mother took a vacation and traveled to Wales to visit the family's country of origin.

The tombstones there in the family cemetery are large and tall with the history of each person inscribed upon them.

"My great-great grandfather was a poet," Northcutt

says, a smile softening her features. "It's written on his tombstone."

Northcutt still maintains a residence in Miami, commuting between there and her husband's rural home outside Canyon.

At times, it seems her home is on the road, but her soul still spills out on paper, bit by bit, the soul of an artist.

Newbury

Continued from Page 4

Lord" who delights in passing out printed "good news" salvation plans, usually with \$20 bills tucked inside.

At East Texas Baptist University, they're crediting him for stimulating chapel attendance. Last year, he passed out the tracts (each with \$20 bills) to several hundred students gathered for chapel, eager to learn more about salvation (and, of course, to graciously accept the cash bonuses).

When he later visited another university, "Bo" made the same announcement. First, though, he admonished the audience to "turn off cell phones."

So, as you "chow down" on wonderful poultry dishes, be thankful for a man who has taken life in general — and the poultry industry in particular — to a new level with the kind of generosity, Christian witness and integrity that millions of Americans deeply admire.

Poultry, like swine, make the supreme sacrifices. It seems now that everything about them is being marketed, except, perhaps, chirps and gobbles/oinks and squeals.

I think, however, that "Dixie is being whistled" if many Americans really expect artificial Christmas trees made of multi-colored turkey feathers to ever catch on. What if they get wet? Why they'll be described the same way kids are once they

come in out of the rain. "Your hair looks like matted turkey feathers!" we exclaim.

And that, gentle readers, is why I believe these trees will be dragged straight to garages, parked there permanently, right next to the Edsels.

Oh, who is that guy over there on the phone, the one in the pilgrim hat? That's "Old Bo," trying to convince American Airlines that if they'll stuff turkey feathers

into their pillows just once, it just might start a whole new kind of stuffing.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Who got the pulley bone?

Dr. Newbury is an author/speaker/columnist. His Idle American column appears weekly in 100 newspapers in Texas and Oklahoma. Contact him at 817.447.3872 or by e-mail: newbury@speakerdoc.com.

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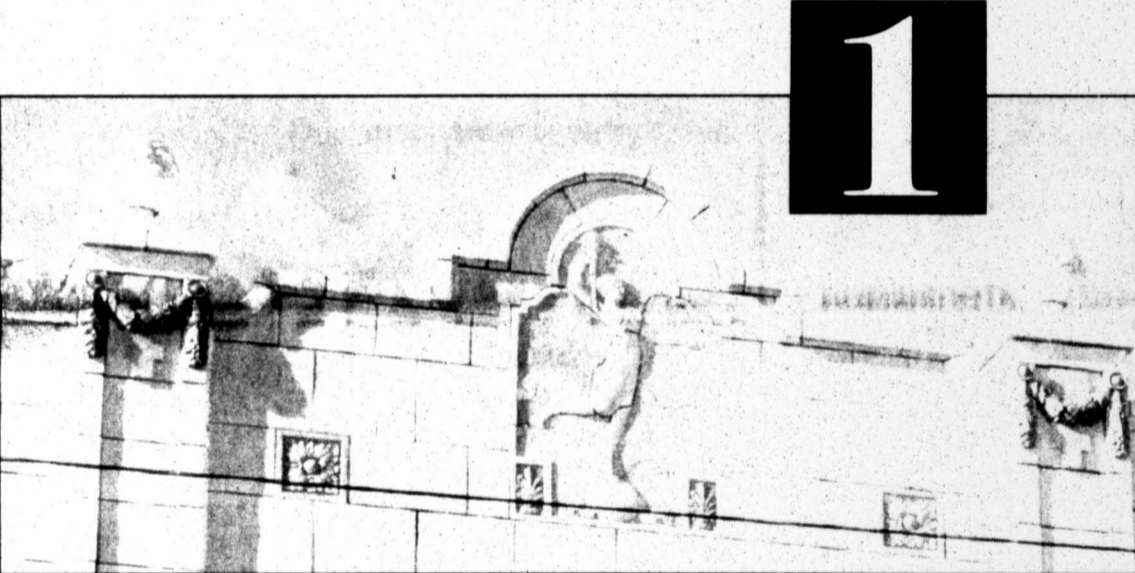
Identify the location of the 3 pictures below. These pictures were taken within the city limits of Pampa. Bring your answers to THE PAMPA NEWS at 403 W. Atchison by 5:00 pm on Thursday, December 2nd. One winner will be chosen from the correct entries. You must be 16 yrs of age or older to play.

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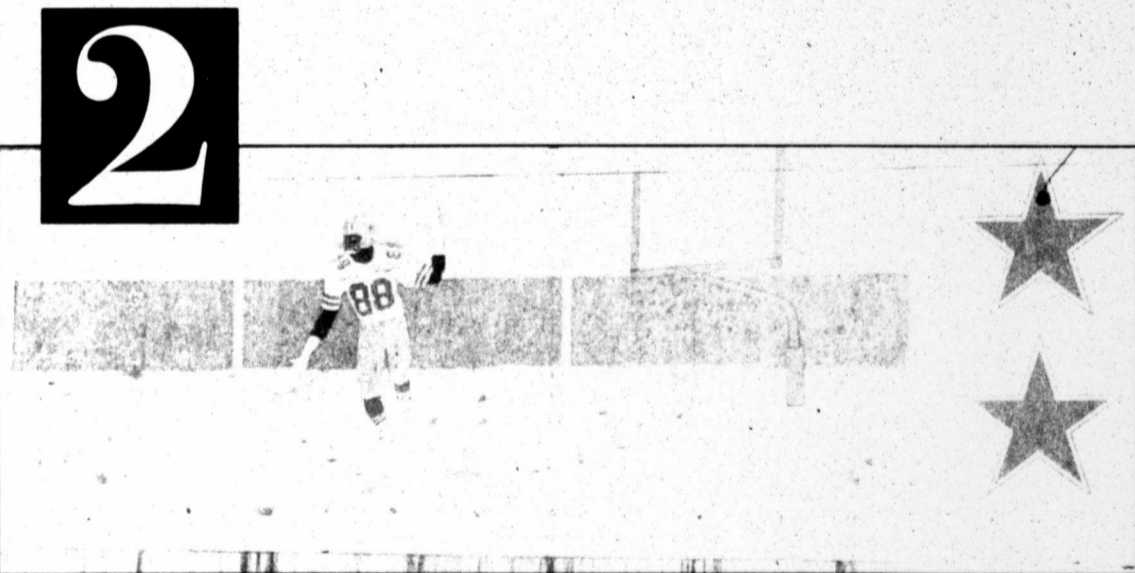
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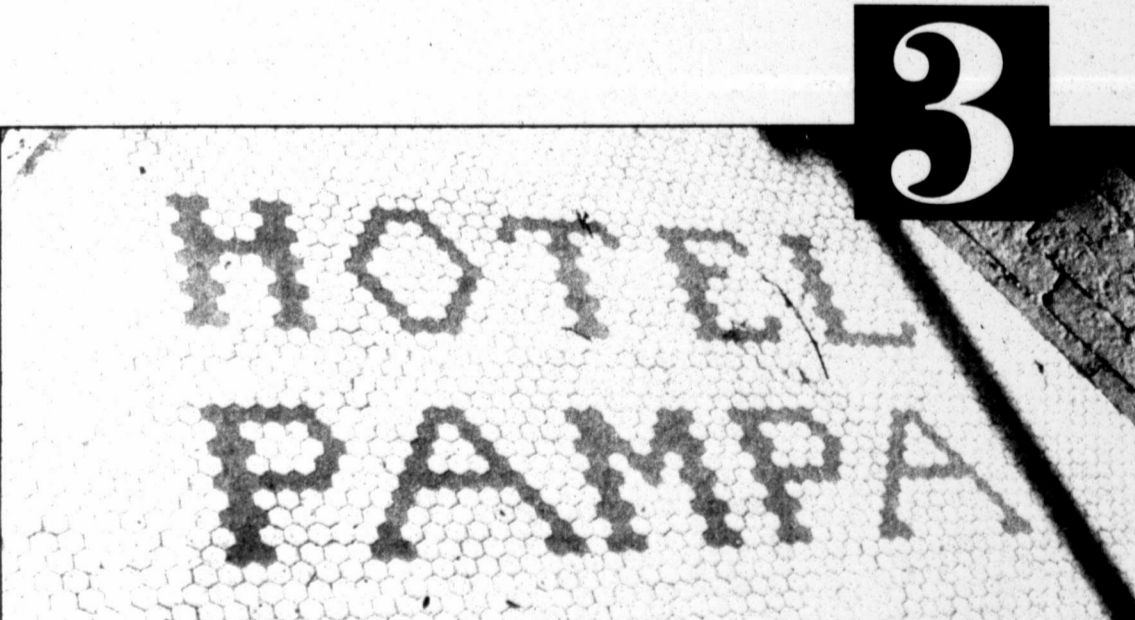
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Picture 2

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Picture 3

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Drilling Intentions

Intentions to Drill
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Brown Dolomite) Kaiser Francis Oil Co., #17 Fillingim-Teas '87', 2648' from North & 2671' from East line, Sec. 87,M-1,H&GN, PD 5050', SWD Well
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Patina Oil & Gas Corp., PD 13500', for the following wells:
 #6807P Meek '68', 1363' from North & 1867' from East line, Sec. 68,M-1,H&GN.
 #4217P Teas '43', 1120' from North & 1000' from East line, Sec. 43,M-1,H&GN.
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star, L.P., Francis, Sec. 58,M-1,H&GN, PD 13500', for the following wells:
 #1658, 1640' from South & 467' from East line of Sec. #1758, 1400' from North & 467' from East line of Sec. #1858, 2200' from North & 1600' from West line of Sec. #1958, 2300' from North & 467' from West line of Sec. #2058, 467' from North & 2400' from West line of Sec. #2558, 1800' from North & 467' from West line of Sec.
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & GIT MO Morow) Brighton Energy, L.L.C., #1401 Dillman, 1980' from North & East line, Sec. 14,1,I&GN, PD 11600'.
HEMPHILL 9WILDCAT & HEMPHILL Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star, L.P., #13 Hobart Ranch '67', 256' from South & East line, Sec. 67,A-2,H&GN, PD

13500' (BHL: 467' from South & East Sec. line) Directional Well - Rule 37
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & HEMPHILL Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star, L.P., #22 Hobart Ranch '20', 1257' from South & 1357' from West line, Sec. 20,A-1,A&GN, PD 13500'. Rule 37
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & MATHERS RANCH Douglas) Peak Operating of Texas, L.L.C., #6 Wright '123', 2600' from South & East line, Sec. 123,41,H&T,C, PD 8000'.
ROBERTS (WILDCAT) Range Production Co., #27 Courson Ranch S PA-11, 4024' from North & 895' from West line, Sec. 7,A,H&GN, PD 6500'.
ROBERTS (CLARK MARTIN Granite Wash) J-T Exploration, Inc., #3093 Martin Trust, '751' from North & 985' from East line, Sec. 93,C,G&M, PD 9700'.
ROBERTS (LARD RANCH Granite Wash 'C') Grayhawk Operating, Inc., #1060 Lard Ranch, 2400' from South & 1000' from West line, Sec. 60,C,G&M, PD 8600' (BHL: 500' from South & West Sec. line) Horizontal
 Applications to Plug-Back
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & ALLISON PARKS Granite Wash) Chesapeake Operating, Inc., #3 Lee, 660' from North & 1320' from West line, Sec. 5,M-1,H&GN, PD 15000'.
WHEELER (WILDCAT & WEST BRITT RANCH Granite Wash 'A') Chesapeake Operating, Inc., #201 Kiker, 1538' from North & 2762' from West line, Sec. 1,1,B&B, PD 15000'.

Amended Intentions to Drill
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Patina Oil & Gas Corp., #0802P Noah, 550' from North & 2470' from East line, Sec. 8,4,AB&M, PD 13500'. Amended location
HEMPHILL 9WILDCAT & BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star, L.P., #3 Meadows '5', 630' from South & 1730' from East line, Sec. 5,4,AB&M, PD 13500'. Amended to change Lease Name - Rule 37
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & N.W. MENDOTA, S.W. Granite Wash) Pablo Energy, Inc., #1-51 Campbell Ranch '51', 757' from South & 635' from West line, Sec. 51,1,I&GN, PD 12200'. Amended to change well location & acreage
Oil Well Completions
WHEELER (WILDCAT) Patina Oil & Gas Corp., #1 W.R. Hefley, Sec. 13,A-8,H&GN, spud 8-14-04, drlg. compl 9-8-04, tested 9-12-04, flowed 426 bbl. of 28 grav. oil + 47 bbls. water thru 24/64" choke on 24 hour test, csg. pressure 1220 psi, tbg. pressure 498 psi, GOR 1525, TD 15907, PBTD 5900' —
 Plugged Wells
CARSON (PANHANDLE) Luxor Oil & Gas, #1 Deahl 'C', 3045 from South & 368' from East Lease line, Sec. 2,—,BS&F, spud unknown, plugged 9-29-04, TD 3091' (oil) — Form 1 in Cities Service Oil & Gas
CARSON (PANHANDLE) Oneok Field Services Co., #McConnell, Sec. 46,4,I&GN, spud unknown, (LPG Storage) — Form 1 in

Dorchester Corp., for the following wells:
 #3, 98' from South & 100' from East Lease line, plugged 6-18-04, TD 1685' —
 #4, 350' from South & 493' from West Lease line, plugged 6-23-04, TD 1578' —

GRAY (PANHANDLE) Oilwell Operators, Inc., #15 Gray, 2310' from South & 330' from East Lease line, Sec. 102,B-2,H&GN, spud 4-7-69, plugged 10-4-04, TD 3172' (oil) — Form 1 in Cree Oil, Inc.
GRAY (WEST PANHANDLE) Pantera Energy Co.,

#1 Mongole, 660' from North & East Lease line, Sec. 211,B-2,H&GN, spud 12-17-37, plugged 9-17-04, TD 2710' (gas) — Form 1 in Hagi, Harrington & Marsh
HEMPHILL (S.E. CANADIAN Douglas)
 See DRILLING, Page 8



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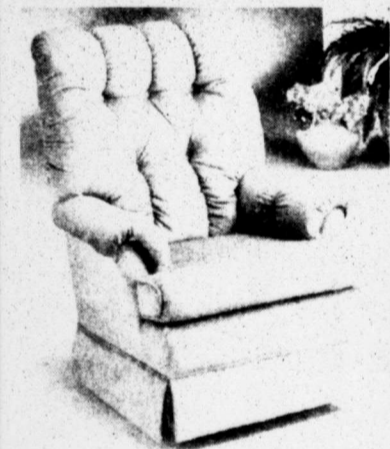
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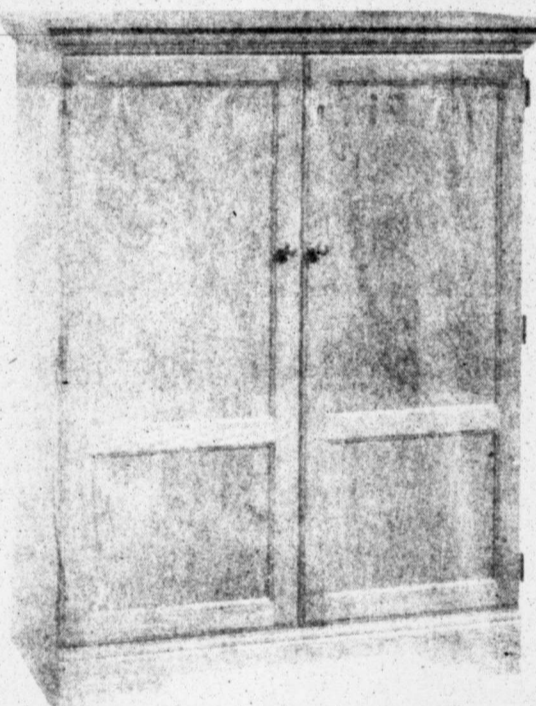
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Drilling

Continued from Page 7

Empire Operating, Inc., #1 Fisher Estate, W.M. Dewey Survey, spud unknown, plugged 10-1-04, TD 8100' (gas) —

HEMPHILL (WEST CANADIAN Upper Morrow) Chaparral Energy, L.L.C., #1 Mae E. Yokley, Sec. 113.42, H&GC, spud unknown, plugged 6-7-04, TD 10690' (gas) —

HEMPHILL (HUMPHREYS Cleveland) ConocoPhillips Co., #25 McQuiddy 'H', 660' from South & East Lease line, Sec. 6, 1.G&M, spud 4-19-78, plugged 7-27-04, TD 12520' (gas) —

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) Harken Exploration, #B4 Cal Merchant 'A', 6258' from North & 990' from West Lease line, Sec. 37.47, H&TC, spud 1-12-78, plugged 7-26-04, TD 3954' (oil) — Form 1 in W.R. Edwards, Jr.

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) J.M. Huber Corp., Crosby & Hatcher 'A', Sec. 3, M-24, TCRR (oil) for the following wells:

#3, 3089' from North & 330' from West Lease line, spud 5-7-43, plugged 8-25-04, TD 3281' — Form 1 in Skelly Oil Co.

#9, 3809' from North & 965' from West Lease line, spud 3-11-79, plugged 8-27-04, TD 3357' — Form 1 in Getty Oil Co.

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) J.M. Huber Corp., #9 Herring, 5335' from South & 2390' from East Lease line, David Luce Survey, spud 3-19-39, plugged 8-12-04, TD 2846' (gas) —

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) J.M. Huber Corp., #42 Herring 'A', 330' from North & 1650' from East Lease line, E. Almaguer Survey, spud 4-6-56, plugged 8-10-04, TD 3222' (oil) — Form 1 in Skelly Oil Co.

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) J.M. Huber Corp., #142 South Herring, 1650' from South & 990' from East Lease line, Sec. 6, J.H&GN, spud 6-21-78, plugged 9-2-04, TD 3137' (oil) —

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) NISPOL, Inc., Bryan Mayfield Unit (injection) — Form 1 in J.M. Huber Corp., for the following wells:

#804, 2970' from South & 330' from West Lease line, Sec. 4, R-2, D&P, spud 4-13-43, plugged 9-16-04, TD 3288' —

#9021, 330' from South & 1650' from West Lease line, Sec. 2, M-24, TCRR, spud 2-16-49, plugged 9-20-04, TD 3286' —

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) SNW Operating Co., #223 C.L. Dial, et al, 1430' from North & 1032' from East Lease line, Sec. 24.47, H&TC, spud unknown, plugged 9-9-04, TD 2970' (oil) —

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) SNW Operating Co., #1 Whittenburg '57', Sec. 57.46, H&TC, spud unknown, plugged 9-28-04, TD 2588' (oil) —

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) Stallion Energy, Inc., #D-10 Luca, 330' from North & 2779' from West Lease line, Sec. 6, — J.M. Swisher, spud unknown, plugged 9-14-04, TD 3241' (dis)

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) WBD Oil & Gas, Inc., #4 C.E. Dunaway, Sec. 7, M-16, AB&M, spud unknown, plugged 7-29-04, TD 3276' (oil) —

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) W.O. Operating Co., #10W H.C. Pitcher, et al, Sec. 19, M-21, TCRR, spud unknown, plugged 10-6-04, TD 3200' (dis) —

HUTCHINSON (WEST PANHANDLE) KAT Energy, Ltd., #1 Dancier-Cheatham, 990' from South & 1650' from East line, Sec. 38, 7, A&B, spud unknown, plugged 9-1-04, TD 3082' (gas) —

ROBERTS (CATS CREEK Lower Cherokee) Raylee Operating Co., Morrison, Sec. 8, 44, W. Simms (oil) — for the following wells:

#208, spud 10-20-04, plugged 7-23-04, TD 9386' — Form 1 in Macdonald Explorations

#308, spud 4-1-81, plugged 8-3-04, TD 8609' — Form 1 in Tenneco Oil

#408, spud 2-8-84, plugged 8-6-04, TD 8729' — Form 1 in Tenneco Oil

#508, spud 4-21-84, plugged 7-16-04, TD 8681' — Form 1 in Tenneco Oil

ROBERTS (PARSELL Lower Morrow) Range Production, #7 Ben Hill, 1320' from South & 1520' from West Lease line, Sec. 144.42, H&TC, spud unknown, plugged 6-23-04, TD 11330' (gas)

WHEELER (CANDICE Morrow) CoconoPhillips Co., #1 Shelton 'C', 1320' from North & West Lease line, Sec. 78, A-5, H&GN, spud 8-24-62, plugged 8-13-04, TD 13053' (gas) —

WHEELER (GAGEBY CREEK Hunton) CoconoPhillips Co., #2 Carwile 'A', 990' from North & East Lease line, Sec. 99, A-5, H&GN, spud 11-13-75, plugged 9-9-04, TD 14908' (gas) —

WHEELER (PANHANDLE) Dominion Oklahoma Texas E&P, Inc., #23 P.M. Keller, 330' from South & 990' from West Lease line, Sec. 48, 24, H&GN, spud 3-15-78, plugged 6-28-04, TD 2600' (oil) — Form 1 in Royal Oil & Gas



These students auditioned with 650 other students from the surrounding area schools for All-Region Honor Choir. A concert with the All-Region Choir was recently held at Amarillo Civic Center in Amarillo. The clinicians for the honor choir were Glenda Casey of Houston, Suzanne Aylor of Oklahoma City, Okla., Doug McCause of Canyon and Reggi Fowler of Amarillo. Above: (Top row, left-right) Daryl Moore, Krista Roy, Matricia Davis, Jessica Baggerman, Nicki Cole, Chandler Talley, Diana Mechelay; (fourth row) Kamy Miller, Oscar Retana, Jordan Eakin, Rikki Beesley, Mikah Howard-Cahill, Kaitiin Winegeart, Shelby Wisdom; (third row) Mary McKay, Whitney Wade, Brenna Albracht, Bernardo Casanova, Caitiin Hampton, Erin Buck, Keonti Nickelberry; (second row) Jennifer Huffhines, Rebecca Taylor, Nolan Burr, Coleby West, Haley Clark, Garrett Sewell, Trevor McVay, Jonathan Polasek; and (first row) Tonya Kiper, Joseph Mechelay, Evan McElwain, Lysnie Guyer, Matt Kelley, Garrett Ericson, Cali Gibson, Jacquelyn Karson, Rachel Andorfer.

USDA offering tips on safe holiday cooking

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has an array of information available to help consumers prepare a safe, easy and delicious holiday meal.

New this year is "Let's Talk Turkey, A Consumer Guide to Safely Roasting a Turkey."

Every facet of getting a turkey from the grocery store to the dinner table is included - buying fresh vs. frozen, safe thawing methods, stuffing, roasting and even storing and reheating leftovers.

The brochure and other information related to turkey preparation can be printed from the FSIS Web site at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>.

Other publications available on the FSIS Web site can answer a myriad of holiday-related food safety questions.

Here are some frequently-asked questions from fact sheets that can be found by clicking on "Fact Sheets" on the FSIS site.

You can select either "Poultry Preparation" or "Seasonal Food Safety."

Consumers may wish this holiday season to access USDA's toll-free Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-674-6854.

Via the hotline, food safety experts are available to answer your cooking questions weekdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Eastern time.

American Spirit quilt show results

The American Spirit Quilt Show put on by Panhandle Piecemakers Quilt Guild recently at M.K. Brown Auditorium was, according to organizers, a success.

Winners at the quilt show came from throughout the area and are listed below by category:

Applique Machine Quilted. Donna Myers with "Chanticleer & Co.," Carol Willis, "Just Beachy"; Dee Locke, "Grandmother's Flower Garden."

Pieced Machine Quilted. Jane Jacobs, "Autumn Splendor"; Susie Edwards, second and fourth, "Country Harvest" and "Courthouse Steps"; Connie Parks, "Double Twist."

Hand Quilted. Jean Powell, "Basket of Flowers"; Harlene Smith, second and third, "Cabin In The Woods" and "Luscious Lily"; Thelma Matthews, "Autumn Nosegay."

See QUILTS, Page 9

Advertisement for Ted Humo's Quality Sales featuring various car models and prices. The ad is framed with a decorative border of pine branches and a large banner at the top that says "'Tis the Season for a GREAT DEAL!'. Below the banner, several cars are displayed with their respective prices and features. The cars include: '04 F-250 LARIAT CREW CAB (\$35,995), '03 FORD SUPER CREW LARIAT (\$25,975), '02 FORD ESCORT (Only \$99.99 A Mo. w.a.c.), '04 CHEVY AVEO (Only \$166.11 A Mo.), '02 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS (Only \$249.99 A Mo. w.a.c.), '01 JEEP CHEROKEE CLASSIC (Only \$268.37 A Mo. w.a.c.), '00 JEEP WRANGLER (Only \$15,995), SPECIAL OF THE WEEK '04 CHEVY TAHOE LS (\$21,995), '00 DODGE CUMMINGS DIESEL (\$18,450), '02 FORD EXPLORER (Only \$17,995), '03 PT CRUISER (\$11,995), and '03 CHEVY LS S-10 (Only \$309 A Mo. w.a.c.). At the bottom, there are three small portraits of Ted, Harold, and Jeff, along with the contact information for Ted Humo's Quality Sales: 1300 N. Hobart • 669-0433. The ad also includes financing details: 10% Plus TT&L Down 60 Months @ 4.5% W.A.C. and the slogan 'COME SEE.'

Rem

CANYON times past w the 23rd Holiday Fe Dec. 4 in Facility at University. The celel

Par holi

Pampa annual proo Nutcracker" 7:30 p.m. S in M.K. Br under the di Willingham sound ma Goode stags This year will featur two guest a York — Con BV Kimura.

Accordin release from "Born in Cornel Crab ing at 14. San Francis and later American E member of Ballet for l City Balle Ballet of Ch years. He l principal g many comp the Pacific I Ballet Austi Providence, Project. Fr was a prir Joffrey Ball 2003 he "Casablanca between Wa Angeles l Currently a at Broadwa he perform Slavemaster a swing fo and Nation tions of 'F Opera.' "

"BV Kim Centre d Internationa France from with Rosella has been a 20th Cent Brussels, a Ballet de l She has pe sionally in Printemps. 'Greek Dan re Pour Orchestre,' sur Ma 'Dionysos,' L'Amour M Pour le 'Wien,' 'W 'Sleeping B Pas de D Gem Stone: Brillante' to Awards re finalist Prix Bronze priz Concourse J Danielle the part of O Davis the N Additiona for the up production lowing: Jay Jo Melissa M

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Continue Special T Davis, "Piec Jolene Julia 1997"; De "Butterflies Gayle Wilsa Robin." Small Williams, Spring"; S "Friendship Wilson, "Se Jacobs, "T Play." Wearabl Seaman fi "Quilted El and "Raggy Stampe sec "Paper Pie "Jacket Jazz

Renaissance Holiday Feast to be served Dec. 4 at WTAMU

CANYON — The holidays of times past will be celebrated during the 23rd annual Renaissance Holiday Feast set for Saturday, Dec. 4 in the Alumni Banquet Facility at West Texas A&M University.

The celebration begins at 6:45

p.m. with the traditional wassail bowl. A renaissance feast will follow at 7 p.m.

Servers and performers will be dressed in festive costumes to reflect the renaissance theme. Entertainment for the evening, provided by WTAMU students, will

bring to life the music of the sixteenth century. The WTAMU Chamber Singers and the Matilda Gaume Early Music Consort will perform.

Seating is limited and reservations are required. Reservation deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesday,

Dec. 1. Corporate seating is \$250 for a table of eight. Tickets for open seating are \$25 for general admission, \$20 for WTAMU faculty and staff members, \$12 for students, \$9 for WTAMU students with I.D. and \$7 for WTAMU students with meal cards. A scholar-

ship donation of \$10 per ticket minimum includes preferred seating.

Tickets are available at the Jack B. Kelley Student Center Information Desk or by calling 806-651-2394.

Pampa Civic Ballet to present yearly holiday 'Nutcracker' performance

Pampa Civic Ballet's annual production of "The Nutcracker" will be staged at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, in M.K. Brown Auditorium under the direction of Jeanne Willingham. Dennis Dehn is sound man and Jimmy Goode stage manager.

This year's performance will feature the talents of two guest artists from New York — Cornel Crabtree and BV Kimura.

According to a press release from PCB:

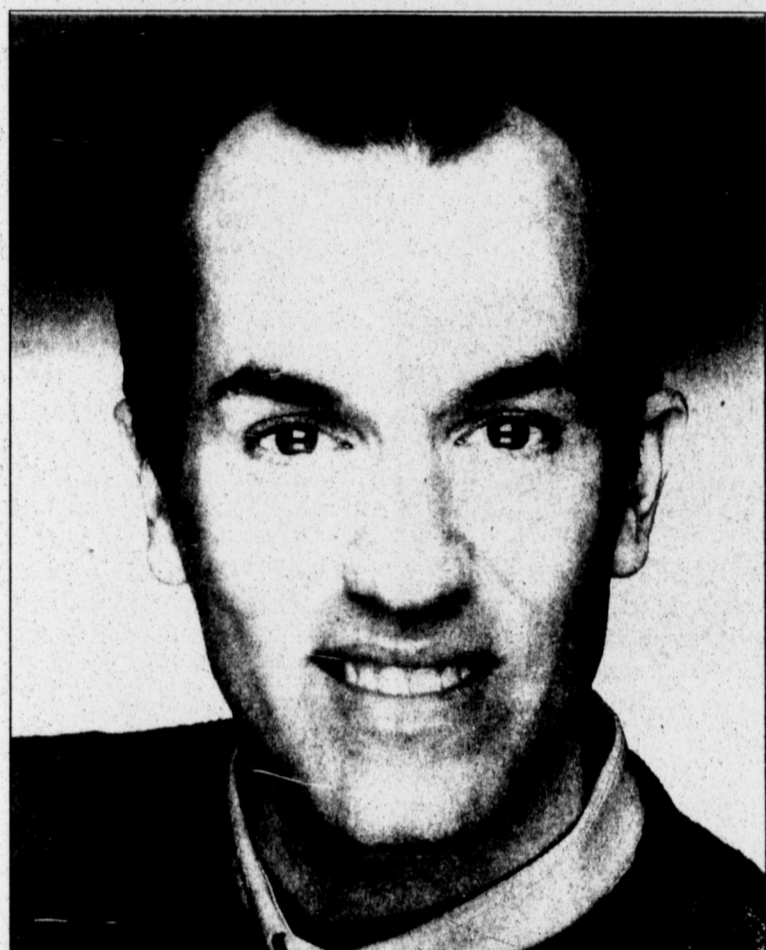
"Born in Tripoli, Libya, Cornel Crabtree began dancing at 14. He attended the San Francisco Ballet School and later the School of American Ballet. He was a member of New York City Ballet for 10 years, Miami City Ballet and Joffrey Ballet of Chicago, each for 2 years. He has appeared as principal guest artist with many companies, including the Pacific Northwest Ballet, Ballet Austin, Festival Ballet Providence, and The Daring Project. From 2000-01 he was a principal with the Joffrey Ballet of Chicago. In 2003 he performed in 'Casablanca,' a collaboration between Warner Bros. & Los Angeles Dance Theatre. Currently a faculty member at Broadway Dance Center, he performs the roles of Slavemaster/Solo Dancer as a swing for the Broadway and National tour productions of 'Phantom of the Opera.'"

"BV Kimura studied at the Centre de la Danse International in Cannes, France from 1979 to 1983 with Rosella Hightower. She has been a member of the 20th Century Ballet in Brussels, and the Junne Ballet de France in Paris. She has performed professionally in 'Le Sacre de Printemps,' 'Le Concours,' 'Greek Dance,' 'Concerto en re Pour Violon et Orchestre,' 'Improvisation sur Mallarme III,' 'Dionysos,' 'Ce Que L'Amour Me Dit,' 'Messe Pour le Temp Future,' 'Wien,' 'Wien,' 'Napoli,' 'Sleeping Beauty,' 'Bluebird Pas de Deux,' 'Precious Gem Stones,' and 'Allegro Brillante' to mention a few. Awards received include finalist Prix de Lausanne and Bronze prize Tokyo Ballet Concourse Junior Division."

Danielle Wall will play the part of Clara and Tanner Davis the Nutcracker Prince.

Additional cast members for the upcoming holiday production include the following:

Jay Johnson, Host; Melissa Moore, Hostess;



Cornel Crabtree

Deanna McGill, Nanny; Dustin Whinery, Fritz; Glennette Goode, Herr Drosselmeyer; Tanner Davis, Nathaniel; Jordan Dodge, Toy Soldier; Claire Boyd, Mechanical Doll; Erin Buck, Dancing Bear; Madison Joyce, Dacie McGill, Ashlyn Paronto, Taylor Ann Smith and Brooke Woelfle, Children (little girls); Kyle Anaya, Jace Jenkins, Tyler Montgomery, Duy Nguyen and Brendon Woelfle, Children (little boys).

Bailey Joyce, Tiny Tot; Michaela Blaylock, Quila Martinez, Vanessa Ontiveros and Aston Sims, Little Cousins; Kendall Aikin, Stephanie Allen, Rachel Andrews, Marissa Fuentes, Savannah Hulse, Riddhi Ani, Susie Joiner, McKinley Nunn and Cheyenne Williams, Clara's Friends; Shawna Salazar, Grandfather; Erika Dodge, Samantha Kelly and Kaitlin Winegeart, Maids; Jessica Baggerman, Shauna Friend, Monica Kohler, Stephanie Paronto, Maegan Wheeler and Angi Woelfle, Guests (ladies); Cory Baker, Chase Brewer, Taylor Fatheree, Kendall Hunt, Jessie Parsley and Christopher Smith, Guests (gentlemen); Angela Woodin, Grandmother.

Elyxcus Anaya, Kayla Cox, Robin Fernuik, Bailey

Read, Kayla Ware and Cassidy Winegeart, Dream Fairies; Erin Buck, Samantha Kelly, Kaitlin Winegeart and Maegan Wheeler, Midnight Fairies; Jessica Baggerman, Mouse King; Dustin Whinery, Soldier/trumpeter; Jace Jenkins and Taylor Montgomery, Cannons; Kyle Anaya, Marissa Fuentes, Duy Nguyen, Riddhi Ani, Cullen Sutherland, Cheyenne Williams and Brendon Woelfle, Troupes; Dacie McGill, First Mouse; Quila Martinez, Second Mouse; Harper Kelly, Adeline Little, Elise Kennedy and Ashlynn Organ, Black Mice; Sheyane Anaya, Michaela Blaylock, Briana Harris, Bailey Joyce, Anna Kim, Mary Grace Little, Vanessa Ontiveros, Ashleigh Pulatie, Ashten Sims, Ashten Snapp and Kami Ware, Gray Mice.

Deanna McGill, Snow Queen; Cornel Crabtree, Snow King; Maegan Wheeler, First Snowflake; Jordan Dodge, Claire Boyd, Pas de Deux; Jessica Baggerman, Claire Boyd, Erin Buck, Jordan Dodge, Shauna Friend, Glennette Goode, Samantha Kelly, Maegan Wheeler and Kaitlin Winegeart, Snowflakes (group 1); Elyxcus Anaya, Kayla Cox, Robin Fernuik, Monica Kohler, Bailey Read

and Kayla Ware, Snowflakes (group 2); Sheyane Anaya, Madison Bolch, Briana Harris, Makenna Henderson, Caylee Hill, Grace Hudson, Bailey Joyce, Harper Kelly, Elise Kennedy, Anna Kim, Adeline Little, Mary Grace Little, Katherine Maxwell, Haylei McCall, Duyen Nguyen, Katelyn Peters, Kennedi Phillips, Jodie Pingel, Ashleigh Pulatie, Abby Sims, Kami Ware and Janae Williams, Little Harp Angels.

BV Kimura, Sugar Plum Fairy; Kayle Cox and Kayla Ware, Pages; Kendall Aikin, Stephanie Allen, Elyxcus Anaya, Jessica Baggerman, Robin Fernuik, Monica Kohler, Bailey Read, Shawna Salazar and Angela Woodin, Trumpeters; Glennette Goode and Melissa Moore, Spanish (Hot Chocolate); Jordan Dodge and Cornel Crabtree, Arabian (Coffee); Kendall Aikin, Stephanie Allen, Elyxcus Anaya, Jessica Baggerman, Robin Fernuik, Monica Kohler, Bailey

See BALLET, Page 10

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Quilts

Continued from Page 8

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Small Quilt. Debbie Williams, "The King of Spring"; Susie Edwards, "Friendship Flag"; Gayle Wilson, "Sew Glads"; Jane Jacobs, "Teddy Bears at Play."

Wearable. Freddie Seaman first and third, "Quilted Elegance Jacket" and "Raggy Jacket"; Sharon Stampe second and fourth, "Paper Pieced vest" and "Jacket Jazz."

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TPMHMR board of trustees convenes monthly meeting

AMARILLO — Texas Panhandle Mental Health Mental Retardation board of trustees reported in a press release activities from its most recent monthly meeting.

According to the press release: "The 78th Legislative Regular Session had profound effects on the mental health, mental retardation and chemical dependency service delivery system throughout Texas. Specifically, the amendment of Texas Health & Safety

Code ... required a local MHMR Authority (LA) to assemble a network of service providers in which the LA may only serve as the provider of last resort. Texas Panhandle MHMR as the Local Authority (LA) for the top 21 counties of the Texas Panhandle, in accordance with the state Performance Contract, is required to plan, develop policy, coordinate, allocate and develop resources for mental health and mental retardation service in the area.

"TPMHMR has developed a Network of Providers by considering public input, ultimate cost benefit, and client care issues to ensure consumer choice and best value. The Planning and Network Advisory Committee (PNAC) provides oversight of this process.

"The LA has procured services through competitive and non-competitive methods such as Request for Proposal (RFP), Informal Solicitation, Request for

Application (RFA, i.e. Open Enrollment) and by other non-competitive allowable methods."

Jerry Williams, Planning and Network Advisory Committee chair, addressed the board on PNAC related activities and recommendations.

Jim Conner, director, Mental Retardation, discussed with the board the proposed respite relocation, and a review of the agency's Provider of Last Resort Plan was presented by Nona

Rivas, director, Contracts and Credentialing.

The board ratified the re-appointment of Sharon Braddock of Pampa as trustee and approved the first-time appointment of Buck Formby of Stinnett.

In other matters, TPMHMR is promoting the Shining Star Tree project. Ornaments with individual requests from qualifying clients will be displayed on Christmas trees in the lobbies of participating banks. Gifts are returned to the

bank lobbies and gathered and dispersed by the agency.

The "Wish Upon a Star" Christmas luncheon is scheduled from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Dec. 3 at Polk Street United Methodist Church in Amarillo.

TPMHMR is looking at expanding mental retardation services in the Panhandle. The center often assists individuals in finding and keeping a job; provides independent living skills

See MHMR, Page 11

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Ballet

Continued from Page 9



BV Kimura

Read, Shawna Salazar and Angela Woodin, Arabian Corps de Ballet.

Kayla Cox, Kayla Ware and Cassidy Winegeart,

Chinese (Tea); Claire Boyd, Jordan Dodge and Maegan Wheeler, Reed Pipes (Marzipan); Erin Buck, Shauna Friend, Samantha Kelly and Kaitlin Winegeart, Peppermint;

Freda Hagerman, Mother Ginger; Madison Joyce, Dacie McGill, Ashlynn Paronto, Ashton Sims, Taylor Ann Smith and Brooke Woelfle, Ginger Cookies (girls); Rachel Andrews, Michaela Blalock, Susie Joiner, Quila Martinez, Vanessa Ontiveros and Cassidy Winegeart, Ginger Cookies (boys); Jessica Baggerman, Claire Boyd, Erin Buck, Jordan Dodge, Shauna Friend, Samantha Kelly and Kaitlin Winegeart, Waltz of the Flowers Group I; Elyxcus Anaya, Kayla Cox, Robin Fernuik, Monica Kohler, Bailey Read and Kayla Ware, Walts of the Flowers Group II; Glennette Goode and Maegan Wheeler, Grapes; and Deanna McGill, Dewdrop Fairy.

Deanna McGill has studied dance with Willingham for 27 years and belonged to PCB for 14 years. She received the Margaret Moore Scholarship for Excellence in Dance in 1990 and earned a scholarship from Lone Star Ballet, dancing in the company's "Nutcracker" for two years.

She has performed in the outdoor musical "TEXAS" with leads in the "Cowboy and the Lady" and "Fire Ballet." She appeared in the World Trade Market in England.

McGill, the mother of 7-year-old Dacie McGill, has assisted Willingham with PCB's "Nutcracker" for 10 years and teaches dance with Create-a-Beat.

Goode, a 33 year student of Willingham, has soloed in PCB productions and studied tap, jazz and Spanish. She is best known for her Spanish solos and character roles.

She has acted as scenic design director and stage manager with husband Jimmy since returning to Pampa in 1984, crafting many costumes for "The Nutcracker."

PCB Executive Board members oversee the ballet, now in its 33rd season. Board members are Shannon Buck, president; Stephanie Kelly, vice president; Vonna Wolf, treasurer; Linda Reed, secretary; McGill, company representative; Willingham, artistic director; and Laura Allen, Linda Johnson, Lora Baggerman, Mary Wilson and Janet Whitsell, all board members.

El Paso boot-maker caters to film world

EL PASO (AP) — Tres Outlaws makes cowboy boots the old-fashioned way and owner Jerry Black isn't modest about the quality.

"I think I make the best boots in the country," said Black, who operates a 10-person shop near the U.S.-Mexico border. "We make them the way they were made 100 years ago. ... They'll last forever and fit perfect. If you can't wear them all day the first day, then there's something wrong."

Tres Outlaws' reputation for quality and durability is what's earned the company some famous customers.

The shop recently made a custom pair for California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger with detail work that included the governor's seal, the Golden Gate Bridge, redwood trees and the Hollywood sign.

Celebrities Michael

Douglas, Jane Fonda, Tom Hanks, Steven Spielberg, Clint Black, Bruce Willis, Madonna, Bruce Springsteen, James Gandolfini and Sean Penn also own Tres Outlaws boots, Black said.

'Their work confounds and astounds other bootmakers. They have incredible visions.'

— Tyler Beard
Author

Tyler Beard, a leading authority on cowboy boots who's written three books on the subject, called Black and his partners "mad but brilliant wizards." He counts

Tres Outlaws among the top three bootmakers in a world where cowboy boots have acquired a "cult following."

"Their work confounds and astounds other bootmakers. They have incredible visions," said Beard, who's books include "Art of the Boot."

The cowboy boot evolved from the first cattle drives in the late 1800s, Black said. Hollywood cowboys Tex Ritter and Tom Mix helped make ornate boots famous.

In 1992, when Beard wrote his first cowboy boot book, there were about 300 bootmaker using old leather working techniques. Now, he said, the number is about 50. "It's definitely a dying art," he said.

The hours of handwork that go into each pair make Tres Outlaws' boots expensive — the least expensive costing about \$600 and the most expensive ranging into the thousands of dollars.

In a workshop filled with tanned leather and radios tuned to different stations, the craftsmen — and one craftswoman — work. The leather is hammered, clipped, stretched, glued and stitched on turn-of-the-century sewing machines. One machine was owned by Black's grandfather.

"They are simple to work, low maintenance, but the parts are almost not available," Black said.

Along with using old machines, the artisans use old techniques.

Small wooden pegs hold the soles to the boots. The pegs, made by only one company in the United States, are lemon wood and swell more than the leather when wet, holding the sole in place.

"It can do that for a lifetime," Black said.

And Tres Outlaws still puts three peg rows on the

See BOOTS, Page 11



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Bring your tickets to the drawings on December 4th where we'll give away \$1,000 worth of Pampa Bucks in two drawings worth \$500 each. The first drawing will be at the intersection of Cuyler & Kingsmill immediately following the parade and the second will be near Santa's House at the Coronado Shopping Center at 5:00 p.m.

YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN

Hard coal, hard life in anthracite mines

By HELEN O'NEILL
AP Special Correspondent

HEGINS, Pa. (AP) — The scars are barely visible. Only in the evenings, when the men wash away the day's grime, do they come to light.

Thin squiggly lines and fat creases, and sometimes great gouges torn from their skin. The strangest thing about the scars is their color.

They are a deep and startling blue. They tell a story of a dark, dangerous world that men cling to, women fear, and sons stubbornly follow their fathers into, even though there is little money, little future, and very little hope.

It is a world outsiders rarely see. Like the scars, it is largely hidden.

There are perhaps 100 independent anthracite miners left in Pennsylvania, working their tiny family mines.

They work against the odds. There is little market left for anthracite, a hard clean coal that once heated most of the homes in the eastern United States. Bituminous coal, dirtier but easier to mine, is cheaper. Machines do the work in big company-owned mines. Power plants and steel mills buy the cheaper coal.

So fewer and fewer men crawl into the coal holes.

There are just 12 family anthracite mines left in Pennsylvania, down from 60 in 1995 and 140 a decade earlier.

"We're dinosaurs," cries David A. Lucas, a barrel-chested, 53-year-old miner known as David A., whose father and grandfather mined the "hard coal" before him, and whose 29-year-old son, David "Junior" Lucas, would too if only he could make a living doing so. Instead, Junior has turned to welding.

Deep inside his mine, the elder Lucas' eyes pierce the dark. "In a couple of years," he says, "we'll be extinct."

They are descendants of bootleggers, miners left jobless after the Depression and the coal strikes of the early 20th century, who in desperation sank shafts on the abandoned workings of the big collieries. At first they were prosecuted, but over the years agree-

ments were worked out and the bootleggers became legalized.

Ties to family are one reason they fight for a way of life that seems doomed. But there are more subtle reasons.

"Listen," David A. Lucas says, tapping with his pick, 300 feet underground in the upper level of D & D Anthracite, which he owns with his brother Daryl "Bimmer" Lucas. The lower level, another 300 feet down, was shut down by mine inspectors after it flooded.

"If you listen," Lucas says, still tapping, "the vein speaks."

These are the things that speak to Lucas: The creaking of the oak beams hammered into the roof. A sudden hiss of air. A puff from the flame in the safety lamp used to detect deadly methane gas, or indicate "black damp" pockets where there is no oxygen.

The sounds tell Lucas whether it is safe to blast. They tell him when he should flee.

To enter the Lucas mine, the men crawl

into a coal buggy, which is lowered into the shaft. Bimmer operates the hoist from giant levers in a shack on top. The same buggy is used to haul out five-ton loads of coal.

David A. spends six or seven days a week in the mine with the Lucases' one employee, their 42-year-old cousin, Ernie Lucas.

"Down here there are no problems," Ernie says, as he crouches in the gangway. "Down here, it's peaceful."

He shovels a load of coal into a machine called a mucker. It trundles out again. At the other end of the tunnel, David A. will load the buggy and Bimmer will hoist it to the surface.

The dank tunnel reeks of danger, but the miners rarely speak of it.

"Fear," says David A., "has no place underground."

In this particular week the Lucases mine about 75 tons of coal, which they sell to a local processing plant for \$35 or \$40 a ton. After expenses, they each take home about \$75, though the amount varies week to week.

The Lucases have lost count of times they have been cited for violations of safety, health and other regulations — citations they claim are often frivolous.

See MINE, Page 14

'Down here there are no problems. Down here, it's peaceful.'

— Ernie Lucas
Mine worker

Area Five Star Girl Scout Council seeking Women of Distinction nominees

AMARILLO — Five Star Girl Scout Council is currently seeking nominations for its 2005 Women of Distinction Awards. Nominees are being sought from throughout the council's five-state jurisdiction,

a news release from the council states.

According to the release, the award was created to recognize the achievements of former Girl Scouts' or current or past Girl Scout leaders who

serve as positive role models for girls.

Award recipients will be notified in January and will be formally honored at a banquet March 4 in Amarillo. The Five Star Council

serves girls in five states and 30 counties of the Texas Panhandle.

For more information or a nomination form, call (806) 356-0096. Deadline for entries is Dec. 10.

MHMR

Continued from Page 10

training as well as socialization opportunities and behavioral supports; pro-

vides respite for caregivers; monitors health needs; and assists with money management and other specialized services.

For more information, contact (806) 351-3212.

TPMHR's STAR Program now

serves as the area's Universal Child Abuse Prevention provider. The goal of STAR is to offer education and resources to alleviate child abuse in the area. The center plans to add one employee to the UCAP program.

Boots

Continued from Page 10

inside, two on the outside, because, "When you ride a horse, in the stirrup, you put more pressure on the inside

than the outside," Black said.

One capitulation to modern technology is the thread used, which is a durable braided nylon instead of the flax-type material used 100 years ago, Black said.

However, patterns remain hand-stitched.

Black said a computer can stitch flawlessly, creating a pattern in minutes that takes hours by hand. However, slight variations in handmade boots make them unique and the rows of stitching can be much closer than those made on a computer-driven machine, he said.

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Sports Day

Turnovers too much for Pampa

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

It didn't take long to get the scoring started in the Class 4A semi-final playoff game between the Pampa Harvesters and Aledo Bearcats.

Pampa won the initial coin toss and deferred to the second half. Senior Seth Foster then teed up the ball and laid leg to it. As usual, the kick found its way to the opposing end zone. However, Aledo running back Ryan Christian decided to bring the ball into the filed of play. And what a decision it was. 102 yards later, Christian gave his team an early 6-0 lead. The extra point attempt was good. And with little more than just seconds gone in the first quarter, Aledo held a 7-0 lead over the Harvesters.

Sharod Young would take the ensuing kickoff and run it back to the Pampa 23-yard line. That's where quarterback Tyler Doughty and his team would begin and impressive 8-play drive that got Pampa to within the Bearcat 10-yard line. However a fumble (recovered by Young) would force Pampa into a third-and-16 situation, which the Harvesters tried to overcome with a double-pass attempt that Aledo intercepted in the end zone.

The two teams would spend the rest of the quarter swapping possessions with Aledo running back Christian gobbling up yards. But the Harvester

defense making everything else tough for the Bearcats. Q.B. Cobb looked good in his first game back following the early game injury against Andrews.

With roughly 11 minutes to play in the second quarter, Aledo was driving in for another score when Pampa's Cam Seger managed to strip the ball from Christian and took off for a 75-yard Harvester touchdown. Foster's extra point attempt was blocked. But Pampa had closed the gap with 10:50 to play in the half, 7-6.

The Harvester defense, feeding off Seger's big play, promptly took the field and held Aledo to a four-and-out possession. Young took the Bearcat kick off back to the Aledo 40-yard line. And Doughty became a man possessed. Three straight pitches to junior Brody Smith and Doughty leading the way with big blocks gave Pampa the ball first-and-goal at the Bearcat three yard line. Brody wasted no time in finding the end zone from there. The 2 point attempt failed.

With 7:40 to play in the half, Pampa led 12-7.

Aledo would score on a 13 play, 80-yard drive with 2:30 to go. A converted 2-point attempt gave the Bearcats a 15-12 lead, which it held to the break.

The second half of the game was all Bearcats. Christian turned up the heat rushing. Aledo was also assisted by Pampa turnovers.

Aledo scored midway through the

third quarter on a 39 yard run by Christian. The Extra point was good and the Bearcats moved out to a 22-12 lead. Christian would later add another touchdown run following a Pampa fumble with just over five minutes to play in the third. The extra point stretched the Bearcat lead to 29-12.

Hoping to ignite a Harvester surge, Sharod Young to the ensuing Bearcat kick off in his own end zone, but was only able to make it to the Pampa 6-yard line before being tackled.

Three plays later, Pampa faced a fourth-and-short situation from near its own 15. Doughty kept the ball on a fake, but fell short of the first down marker. Aledo took over on downs near the Harvester 15-yard line with time running out in the third quarter. Just two plays later, Brittin East would snag a Tyler Watts second-and-ten pass attempt, giving Pampa the ball and some hope.

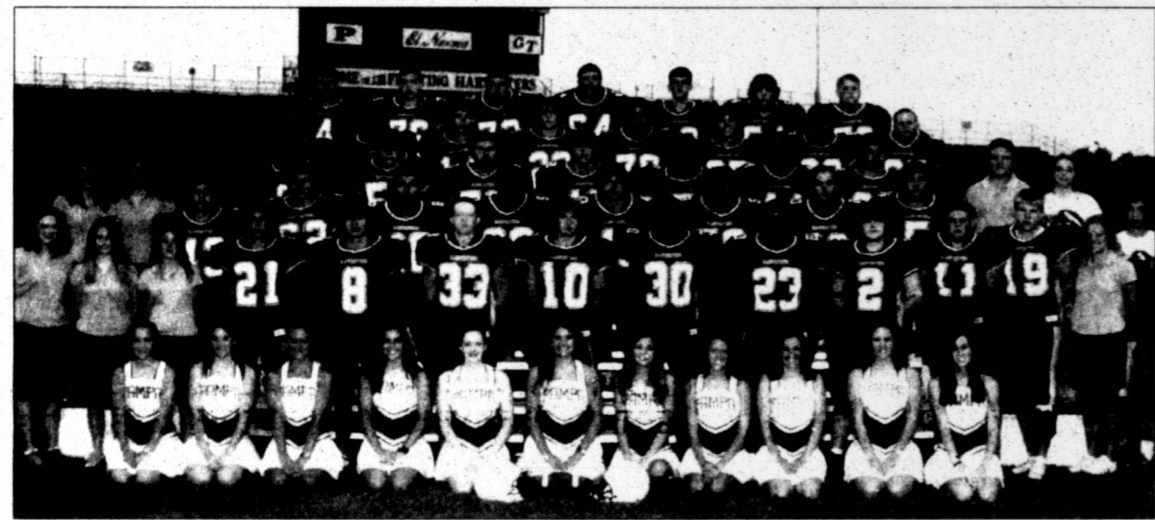
With Aledo leading 29-12 at the start of the fourth quarter, and following East's interception, Pampa was only able to move the ball to its own 20 yard line. Facing a fourth-and-five, Doughty took the snap from center and booted one of his trademark quick-kicks. A flag for roughing the kicker was thrown on the play which would have given the Harvesters great field position and a fresh set of downs.

See PAMPA, Page 13

Bandit bucket



Lefors Lady Bandit Valerie Willis prepares to take a shot from the charity stripe in a game against Higgins this past Monday. Willis finished with 11 points in the 31-23 win. Haley Smith had 12 points. Misty Parish, 2 points; Emily Jackson, 2 points; Ashlyn Johnson, 2 points; Rebecka Lawrence, 2 points.



The 2004 Pampa Harvester varsity football team finished the season with a record of 8-5. Pampa went 3-1 in district play and 2-1 in the playoffs. Pampa began the season with the theme, "Protect the Tradition." Based on this team's performance, the rich tradition of Pampa football is well intact.



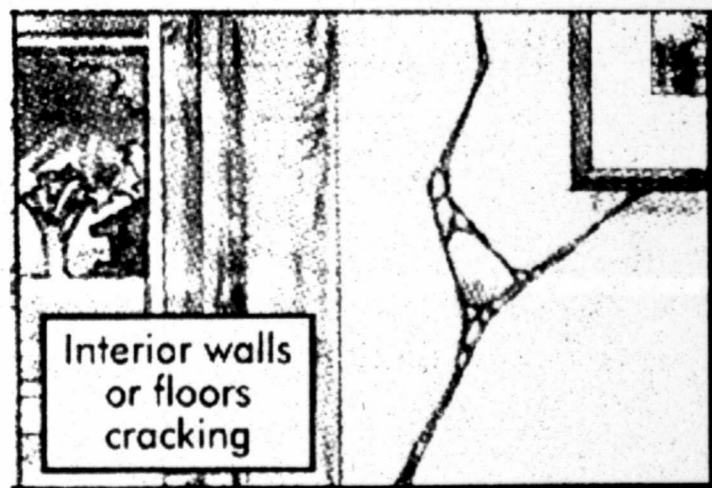
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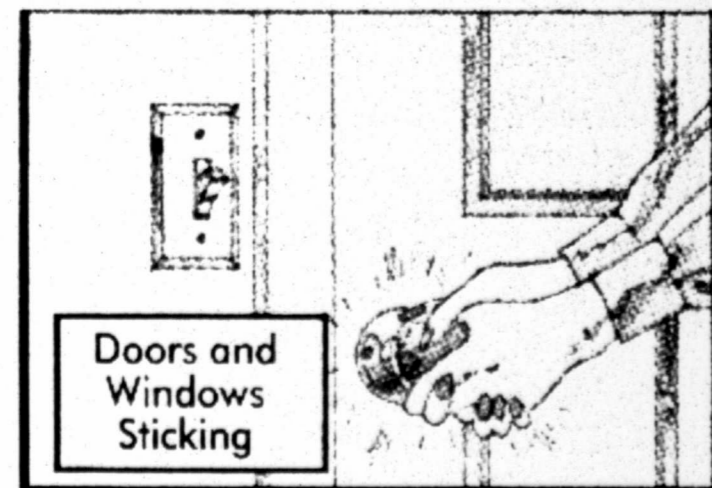
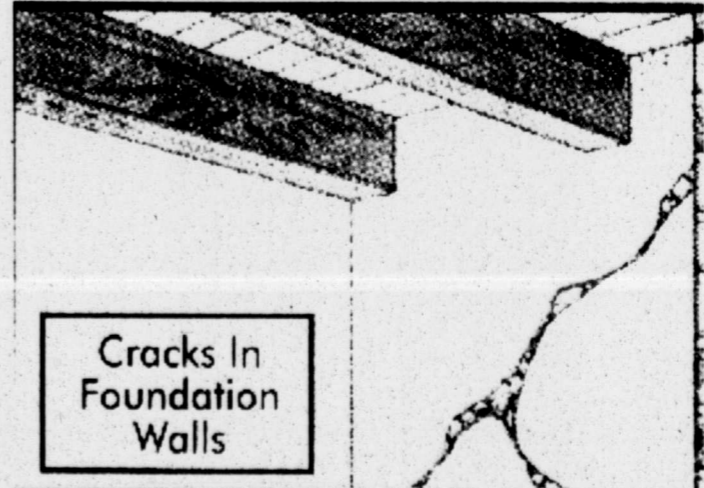
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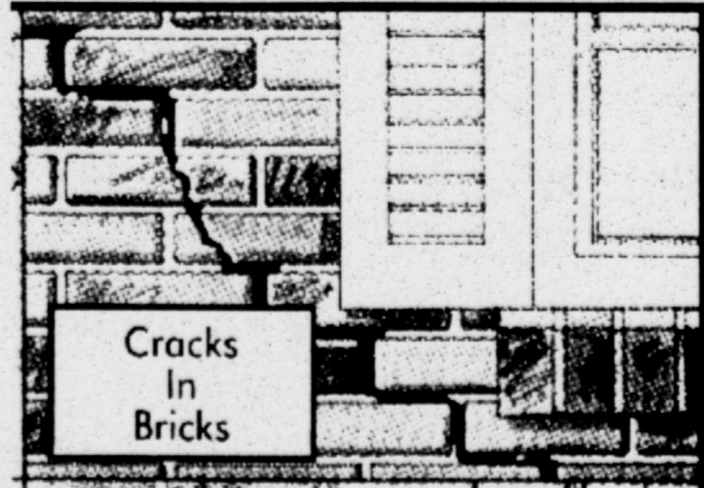
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UTEP Miners 66, Arizona Wildcats 65

LAS VEGAS (AP) — UTEP's Filiberto Rivera made a trio of 3-pointers with under seven minutes to play as the Miners topped Arizona State 66-65 Friday night in the Las Vegas Invitational.

UTEP survived a last-second shot that rimmed in and then out. Arizona State's Tyrone Jackson drove the length of the court with seconds to play, missing a driving lay-up as the clock expired.

UTEP overcame a double-digit first half deficit for the victory. Rivera's first 3-pointer gave the Miners just their second lead of the game, 53-52,

with 6:32 to play. He followed with a pair of 3-pointers minutes later, the second of which gave UTEP a 61-57 advantage it would not relinquish.

Omar Thomas had a game-high 26 points and 11 rebounds for the Miners, while Jason Williams and Rivera added 13.

UTEP did a majority of its damage in the second half with Arizona State's star player, Ike Diogu, on the bench with four fouls. Diogu finished with 15 points in just 25 minutes. However, he had only four points in the second half.

Diogu did extend his string of consecutive games of scoring in double

figures to 62, currently the longest streak in the nation.

Steve Moore had a team-high 16 points for the Sun Devils and Bryson Krueger added 12. Krueger hit four first-half 3-pointers, including three in the game's first five minutes as the Sun Devils built a 25-17 at the 8:17 mark.

UTEP (3-0) advances to Saturday night's title game against Southern Illinois, and Arizona State (2-1) will face Vanderbilt in the third-place game.

Southern Illinois beat Vanderbilt 67-53 in earlier action.

Grizzlies' Brown retires

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Hubie Brown said he stepped down as the coach of the Memphis Grizzlies for two reasons: He lost his spirit, and because of medical issues he wants kept private.

"I need on a daily basis an energy and a stamina, and then with me it's a spirit," Brown said Friday at a news conference.

"But the key is spirit. See, the spirit is what gives you the passion on a daily basis."

"One day you wake up, you don't have that, and that's when you've got to understand that it's a time you've got to walk."

The 71-year-old Brown announced his retirement Thursday night, just seven months after he was selected NBA Coach of the Year for the second time in his long career.

Brown led Memphis to a franchise-best 50-32 record last season and its first playoff appearance. He was given medical clearance to return for his third season with the Grizzlies and had said he had no hesitation coming back.

But he announced his retirement a day after the Grizzlies fell to 5-7 with a 93-84 loss to the Seattle SuperSonics. Brown is 424-495 in the NBA and 528-559 including ABA games. "We're going to miss this man tremendously, and more importantly, I think his footprints here ... will be hard to fill," Grizzlies pres-

ident Jerry West said. Lionel Hollins was named the team's interim coach and was with the team in Minneapolis for its game Friday night against the Timberwolves.

Brown said his medical problem developed about three weeks ago.

"People are thinking catastrophic levels. ... We're not talking about that," Brown said, declining to be more specific. "I've had things come up that your body gives you a warning sign."

Brown, who led the Kentucky Colonels to the ABA championship in 1975, returned to coaching in 2002 after a 16-year break during which he became a TV analyst.

He also coached the Atlanta Hawks from 1976-81 and the New York Knicks from 1982-86.

At every stop, Brown's teams won more games in his first full season than in the previous year.

Brown leaves as the winningest coach in Memphis history with an 83-85 record.

Can't touch this



Pampa News photo by BEN BRISCOE

Sonni Jo Armstrong blocks Cassidy Wingert from the Holmes team at a recent Pampa Optimist Youth Club basketball game.

No. 6 Texas 26, No. 22 Texas A&M 13

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Moments after Texas beat Texas A&M, Longhorns coach Mack Brown was busy lobbying for an at-large bid to the Bowl Championship Series.

"If you've got a vote, vote for us," Brown said, pleading directly to voters in The Associated Press writers poll. "I'm asking you to do that and I'm asking everyone across the nation. This team deserves to be in the BCS. They deserve to go more than some teams that are being talked about."

On Friday, No. 6 Texas (10-1, 7-1 Big 12) guaranteed at least another week of arguing over just who belongs in the BCS, beating Texas A&M 26-13. Cedric Benson ran for 165 yards and a touchdown in the Longhorns' fifth straight

victory over the Aggies.

Texas, which lost out on the BCS last year when Kansas State beat Oklahoma in the Big 12 title game, could get its first BCS bid if the Longhorns get a big enough boost in the standings to pass fourth-place California.

California, which only a week ago thought it had locked up a berth in the Rose Bowl, needs a victory Dec. 4 at Southern Mississippi to fight off the Longhorns, who are fifth in the standings.

And Boise State could ruin the party for both of them. If the Broncos creep into the top six in the BCS, they would join Utah in the two at-large berths, knocking Texas and California out of the mix.

Pampa

Continued from Page 12

However, the officials waived-off the penalty, saying later the kicker must be lined up at least seven yards behind the line in order to be protected by the call. Doughty, they said, was no more than five yards behind the line.

Pampa would hold Aledo to a short set of downs and a punt, getting the ball back at its own 22-yard line with just over nine minutes to play in the game.

However, just a few plays later, Doughty would have the ball knocked from his hands and Aledo would recover. Christian soon followed that up with a 25-yard touchdown run. The Bearcats led 36-12 with 8:03 to play. Neither team would score again.

Pampa was able to overcome the stunning start by Aledo, and managed to stay with them, 15-12, in the first half. Christian had the 102-yard kickoff return as well as 91 yards on 18 carries at the break. Pampa's Brody Smith had a good first half, rushing for 69 yards on only eight carries. Where Aledo had a 102 net yards in the half, Pampa had 130.

However it would be poor field position and turnovers that would keep Pampa from leaving Pennington Field with the

win Friday night. Christian would finish the night with 31 carries for 195 yards and four touchdowns. Pampa's Brody Smith ended with 15 carries for 98 yards.

Pampa Coach Heath Parker is fond of telling his team, "You measure success by the effort you give." On Friday night, the Harvesters never gave up. They attempted to overcome every challenge, every obstacle placed in their path. If the measure of success is the effort you give, then 2004 was a very successful season for the Green and Gold of Pampa.

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Pampa Harvester Sports Schedule

FOOTBALL

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BASKETBALL

MONDAY • NOVEMBER 29

Pampa Freshmen Boys vs. Randall • 6:00 pm at Pampa
Pampa Freshmen Girls vs. Hereford • 6:00 at Hereford

TUESDAY • NOVEMBER 30

Pampa JV Boys vs. Perryton • 6:00 pm at Pampa
Pampa JV Girls vs. Perryton • 7:30 at Pampa
Pampa Varsity Boys vs. Perryton • 7:30 pm at Pampa
Pampa Varsity Girls vs. Perryton • 6:00 at Pampa

THURSDAY • DECEMBER 2

Pampa JV Boys at Miami Tournament
Pampa JV Girls at Miami Tournament
Pampa Varsity Boys at Canyon tournament

WRESTLING

MONDAY • NOVEMBER 29

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Lifestyle

NEWSMAKERS

SAN ANTONIO — Air Force Airman Meagan B. Wood recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio.



Wood

During the six weeks of training, Wood studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

In addition, recruits who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Wood is the daughter of Linda Lane of Pampa and John Wood of Claremore, Okla.

She is a 2004 graduate of Pampa High School.

CANYON — West Texas A&M University brought home a grand prize plus more awards than any other school for top regional honors at the National Broadcasting Society (NBS) Region 4 convention held recent in Houston.

WTAMU earned 39 awards to qualify for national NBS competition in the spring 2005.

"This is a record for us — 39 is the largest number we've ever won," Dr. Leigh Browning, assistant professor of mass communications and director of broadcasting, said. "We are very, very proud. The students did an outstanding job."

The Region 4 competition includes colleges and universities from Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Louisiana.

The awards represent work on WTAMU-produced audio and video pieces. WTAMU students took the grand prize for commercials, promos and public service announcements (PSAs) in both the audio and video categories with its Maroon Productions piece on "We're Your Future."

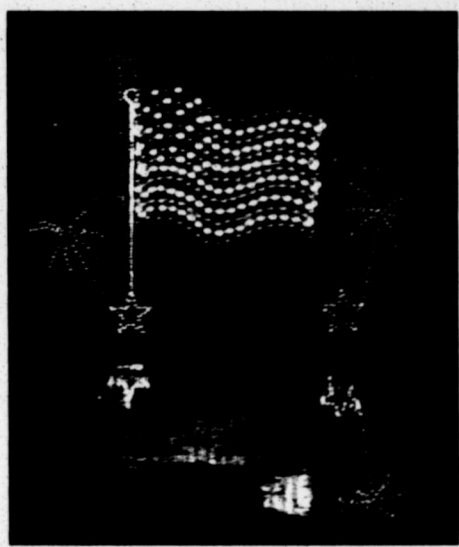
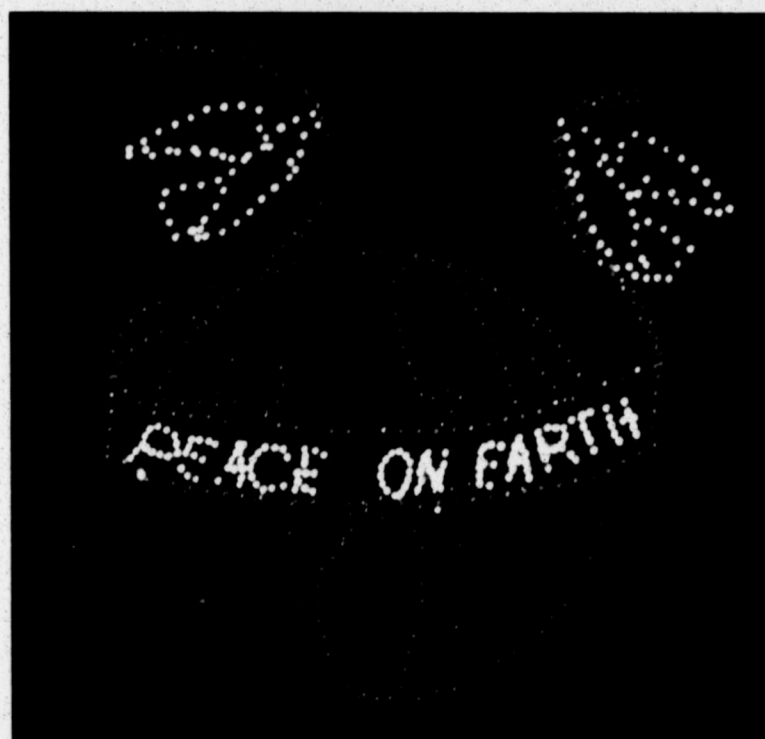
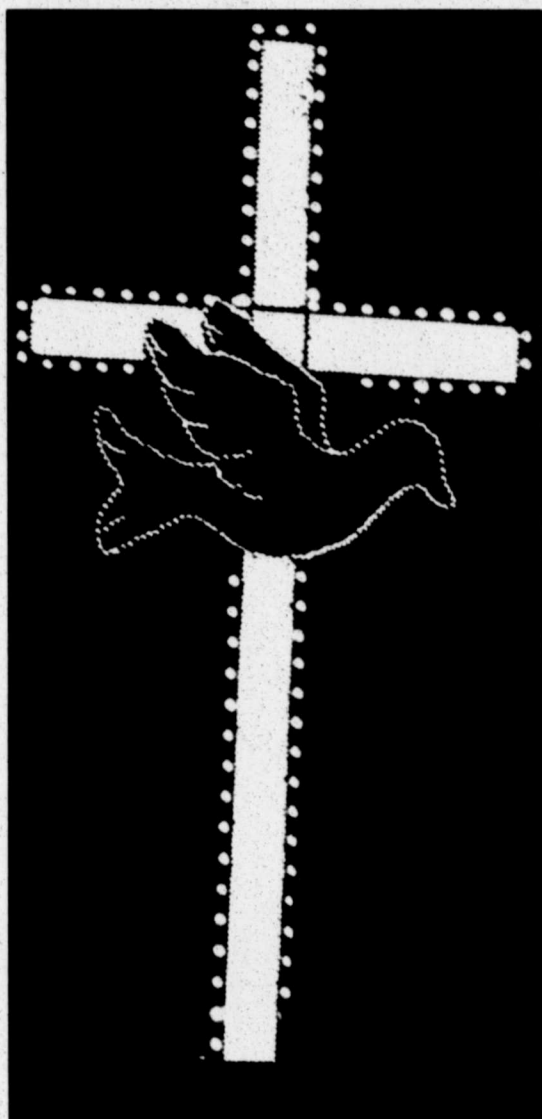
In video competition, WT earned eight first-place wins for a total of 14 video awards in 13 categories. In the audio category, WT earned another eight first-place wins along with top honors for its KWTS web site.

In the audio portion of the competition, Maroon Productions took first, second and third place in the commercial category for the three "We're Your Future" spots.

Student winners from Pampa include Price Hall, sophomore broadcasting major, second in audio comedy program, "Blaze of Glory"; and A.J. Swope, junior broadcasting major, first in audio music variety/special program, "Guitar Gods Intro," first in video instructional/industrial/promotional, "Buff Branding," and second in audio comedy program, "Blaze of Glory."

Christmas scenes on display at Recreation Park

Let Christmas shine!



Story and Photos by Marilyn Powers

The 10th annual Celebration of Lights is now open at Recreation Park, east of Pampa on Highway 60. Displays include both painted and lighted scenes, like those on this page. Hours for viewing are 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays through Thursdays, and 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. There is no admission charge, but donations are accepted to be used for the project.

Other holiday activities include several on Saturday, Dec. 4. At 1 p.m. is the Christmas parade. The unveiling of the Nativity which was copied from a 1947 Pampa display will be at 5:30 p.m. at Burdette Park, north of the Hughes Building.

"The Nutcracker" will be performed by Pampa Area Ballet at 7 p.m. at M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium. The annual Festival of Trees will be Dec. 4 and 5 at the auditorium.



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Texas judges poised to ask state legislature for raise

FORT WORTH (AP) — The top judges in Texas, among the lowest paid in the

country, are taking the unusual step of asking the Legislature for a raise.

Judges say they will ask legislators to give the judiciary its first raise in seven years — a tall order considering the regular session beginning in January will also address school finance, Child Protective Services and other important issues.

While they are in no way near poverty, some in the legal profession worry that the quality of Texas' judges

could suffer because of inadequate pay.

"If the Legislature doesn't address this now, I think you'll see a flight from the judiciary," Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Wallace Jefferson told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram for a story in Thursday's editions. "You'll lose experience, predictability and stability of the law."

Deborah Hankinson quit as a Texas Supreme Court justice two years ago, in part, because she knew she could

make more than the \$113,000 a year she earned on the state's highest civil court. First-year lawyers can earn \$125,000 or more.

"Your law clerk would leave the Texas Supreme Court and make more money as a first-year lawyer than the judges," Hankinson said. "I see judges bailing out all the time."

Texas' judges rank 39th in the country for pay to jurists on its highest courts and 34th for what it pays it

appeals court judges, studies indicate.

Former Texas Supreme Court Justice Craig Enoch served on the bench for 22 years before retiring from the high court this year. He said money was a major factor.

"In the general scheme of things, judges are paid fairly well," Enoch said. "The difficulty is that you ask them to perform in an environment that is expected of someone doing a level of

business at a CEO level."

The last time lawmakers approved a raise for the state's 523 sitting judges was in 1997.

That was when lawmakers set the salary for the justices on the state's two highest courts at \$113,000 a year, with the appellate judges' pay fixed at \$107,350 and trial court judges' at \$101,700.

Gov. Rick Perry vetoed the last proposed judicial pay raise in 2001.

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Science

Building a better turkey through biotech

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Most of the turkeys gracing the nation's dinner tables this holiday season have been selectively bred for their white meat for so many generations that simply walking can be a problem for many of the big-breasted birds and sex is no longer possible.

A small research team is hoping to come to the rescue, employing the latest in biotechnology to chart the genetic map of America's favorite Thanksgiving meal and eventually alleviate the breeding problems.

The idea is to identify specific genes that produce desirable traits such as salmonella resistance, strong leg muscles and, of course, big breasts. That would do away with much of the guesswork involved in traditional breeding methods as farmers try to match birds that appear to have the sought-after qualities.

"Improved meat quality or disease resistance will probably be the first application resulting from this research," said Kent Reed, a University of Minnesota researcher leading the effort to map the turkey's genome.

Since the human genome was mapped in 2001, the genetic codes of all sorts of creatures have been published in record time and for much less money than the \$3 billion it cost to catalog human genes.

It's slow going for the turkey. With

just \$1 million in funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and two commercial poultry interests, Reed hopes to publish by year's end a guide to roughly 300 turkey genes, and have twice that many by next Thanksgiving.

'Improved meat quality or disease resistance will probably be the first application resulting from this research.'

— Kent Reed
Researcher

That's far short of the 25,000 genes each gobbler is estimated to possess. The work is moving much slower than with other animal genome efforts, in part because the funding is comparatively paltry and few researchers are giving the turkey much attention.

That's nothing new for the turkey, which sits in the shadow of the chicken in terms of scientific, industrial and government support. It's been all downhill for Meleagris gallopavo, the scientific name for the wild turkey, since Ben Franklin failed in his bid to

make it the national bird.

Unfortunately, the turkey's genetic sequence isn't particularly useful in the development of human medicines or the furthering of basic science, two big priorities when it comes to getting federal money for a genome project.

The industry's \$3 billion in annual U.S. sales can't compare to more popular livestock like the cow, pig and chicken that have had their genetic sequence published with commercial backing.

Reed and a few other scientists labor on, insisting that their work will help an industry solve a health care problem that afflicts many of the 267 million turkeys sold each year. They also hope for breakthroughs for turkeys resulting from the publication of the entire chicken genome earlier this year.

"We are going to make the animals' lives better," said researcher David Harry, a Napa-based poultry industry consultant. Harry helped start the turkey genome project when he was at Nicholas Turkey Breeding Farms in Sonoma, one of the largest U.S. breeders and a co-founder of the project.

Surmounting the sex problem poses a bigger challenge. Because the toms' breasts are so big, female turkeys need to be artificially inseminated. Identifying sex genes vital to reproduction would be a start, researchers say.

For Black Family Channel, values count

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Robert Townsend first caught the film industry's eye with 1987's "Hollywood Shuffle," a clever satire about black actors trapped in demeaning roles. Now he wants the country to pay attention to what he calls a new kind of television, entertaining but with a sense of responsibility, especially toward young black Americans.

Black Family Channel, which Townsend joined as president and chief executive officer of production

five months ago, is starting an ambitious slate of eight new programs geared for children, teenagers and families.

"With this network, we want to give people a sense of quality, integrity programming that speaks to them," Townsend said. "We don't want to be an old-school network where people don't want to tune in, but we want to get back to some of those old-fashioned values."

He cites Bill Cosby as an inspiration, both for Cosby's groundbreaking '80s sitcom

and for his provocative argument that black youth is being undermined by factors including poor parenting and attitudes toward language.

"Everything that Bill Cosby is saying about families working together ... (that) we've got to reprogram these kids and we've got to shake it up, that's what we're doing," Townsend told The Associated Press.

It's as big a change for the channel as it is for Townsend, who moves from writing, directing, acting and producing to steering a rare minority-owned and operated TV channel (co-founders include boxer Evander Holyfield, baseball's Cecil Fielder and attorney Willie E. Gary.)

The major competitor is BET, Black Entertainment Television, owned by media giant Viacom Inc. and criticized in the past for giving viewers more music programming flash than substance.

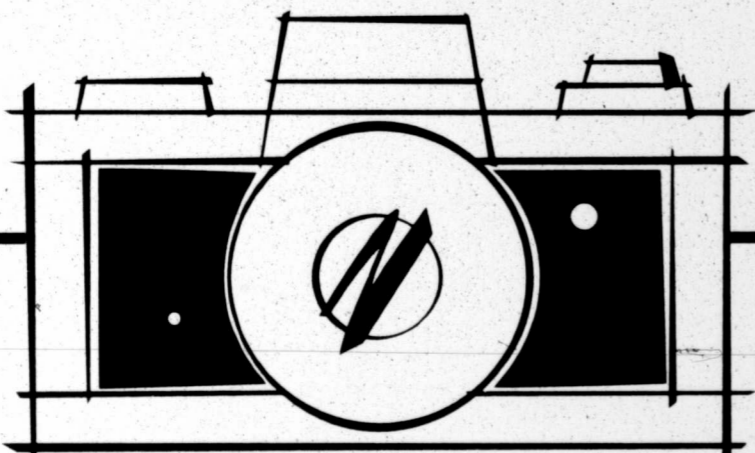
Townsend — whose projects have ranged from TV and film comedies ("The Parent Hood," "The Meteor Man") to drama ("10,000 Black Men Named George") — figures his eclectic body of work prepared him to run a network.

While the career change is abrupt for Townsend, the channel is undergoing a more gradual transition.

Begun in 1999 as the Major Broadcasting Cable network, Black Family Channel will keep elements of the gospel programming that was part of its original mission. Music programs and documentaries also remain in place.

Following a plan of adding programming blocks, the channel was launching five new Thursday night shows this past week. An "urban kids programming block" of three new daytime

See TOWNSEND, Page 7-B



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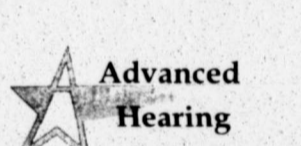
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Other events to be enjoyed in Pampa:

- 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 Ball M.K. Brown Auditorium , 7 pm
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Alternative may serve as well as vaccine

LUBBOCK — A press release from Randy Christian & Partners in Lubbock reports that national statistics project as many as 60 million Americans will contract the flu this year. Experts agree, the release said, that flu vaccine shortages could easily increase that number dramatically.

West Texans, however, are preparing for the season with record sellout, the release states, of a new homeopathic formula created as an alternative to the flu shot, Dr. Malouf Abraham's ImmunaFlu — introduced in pharmacies and supermarkets throughout West Texas — is already selling out across the region, according to many area pharmacists and supermarket managers.

"I trust Dr. Abraham and our patients do too, especially with the incredible results they're getting with Allernon. ImmunaFlu is hard to even keep in stock," said Bill Hite, Heard-Jones pharmacist in Pampa.

Homeopathic medicines, designed to treat everything from allergies to common colds, have proved to be highly effective for many Americans and Europeans for hundreds of years. For the coming flu season, a number of homeopathic treatments are available to the general public. But it's Dr. Abraham's remedy, the news release said, creating the biggest local impact.

"So many of our customers are looking for an alternative to traditional over-the-counter remedies that often produce uncomfortable side effects," said Susan Sexton, whole health category manager for United Supermarkets. "Dr. Abraham's allergy relief formula has already been a No. 1 seller, and now ImmunaFlu is selling out just as quickly. I've never seen a more popular product in all my time of working for United."

Local pharmacists also point out that many area businesses are purchasing bulk numbers of the product for their employees in hopes of maintaining a healthy staff despite the lack of flu vaccine.

With over 30 years of treating more than 46,000 patients

in his small clinic in Canadian the release said, Dr. Abraham previously developed Allernon, natural homeopathic allergy relief drops taken as an alternative to antihistamine pills and shots. Both ImmunaFlu and Allernon are geared toward balancing the immune system and building resistance to allergies, colds, the flu and other illnesses.

ImmunaFlu can be used in combination, the release said, with flu shots for the elderly and others at high risk for the flu, and is a positive natural alternative for those in good health who want to take every precaution during the upcoming cold and flu season.

Dr. Abraham, 65, is a well-known, highly respected physician in West Texas, with regular radio programs, television appearances and a PBS series focused on "Mind, Body and Spirit" — the key ingredients, he says, to living a balanced life.

"The immune system is the thing we must have in balance," Dr. Abraham said. "I created ImmunaFlu to balance us naturally as we combat this season's bout."

For years, homeopathic remedies have been the staple of health food gurus and yoga practitioners, but not anymore, the release said. Allernon, and its cousin ImmunaFlu, aren't alone out there. America is turning its eye to this 250-year-old science, the release reports, which uses minute portions of active ingredients to leave "energy imprints" in formulas that treat everything from overactive thyroids to debilitating allergies.

"A lot of people take too much medicine," Abraham said. "Most medicines are chemicals and they have a lot of side effects. As a society, we need to work more with our own immune systems and avoid getting sick in the first place."

Dr. Abraham began his quest as a physician, the release said, when the Air Force drafted him out of medical school during the Vietnam War. He was assigned to treat allergies of military personnel coming back from the jungles, many of

'Most medicines are chemicals and they have a lot of side effects. As a society, we need to work more with our own immune systems and avoid getting sick in the first place.'

— Dr. Malouf Abraham
ImmunaFlu maker

See ImmunaFLU, Page 9-B

Cast-off fat from plastic surgery proves potentially valuable to some research

Dr. Robert Ersek, a 66-year-old plastic surgeon, invited reporters to his Texas operating room recently and, in front of their cameras, proceeded to liposuction himself.

After numbing the skin near his navel, he slipped in a hollow tube about a quarter-inch wide and moved it back and forth until it had sucked out about half a pound of fat.

Ersek's office throws away tons of liposuctioned fat every year. But he shipped his own to a California company for processing and long-term stor-

age of some of the cells from that fat.

Why did he do that? It turns out the type of cell being stored for Ersek is medically promising. In fact, an international group of scientists is meeting this week in Pittsburgh to discuss its potential.

Medical value? In fat? The waist product most people want to get rid of?

It's true. As members of the fledgling International Fat Applied Technology Society will discuss at their meeting, fat is a little-discussed source of stem cells, those versatile biological building blocks that can morph into a variety of tissues. Fat-derived stem cells, researchers say, might someday provide replacement tissue for treating such conditions as Parkinson's disease, heart attacks, heart failure and bone defects.

"We're trying to make fat do good," says IFATS presi-

dent Dr. J. Peter Rubin, assistant professor of plastic and reconstructive surgery at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

The fat-derived cells, which are being studied by relatively few labs, aren't the ones that store fat. Instead, they're found in between fat-storing cells. They're an example of so-called "adult" stem cells, different from the controversial embryonic stem cells.

When stem cells are taken from an embryo, the embryo is destroyed. That's abhorrent to people who consider an embryo to be developing human life. President Bush has restricted federal money for research into embryonic stem cells, a step that Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry has said he will reverse if elected.

Some who oppose research into embryonic stem cells champion the cause of adult stem cells,

which are found in bone marrow and elsewhere and theoretically could be taken from the very people who will be treated with them. In recent years, scientists have found evidence that adult cells can turn into a wide variety of cell types.

While such studies have focused largely on cells from marrow, fat has "certainly been overlooked as a potential source of stem cells," says Dr. Adam Katz, a plastic surgeon who studies the fat-derived cells at the University of Virginia. Actually, it's probably the most practical source, he said.

Why? Fat is plentiful and researchers say it's easy to harvest — much easier than marrow, for example. Just about everybody, even slender people, carries enough to yield a good

See FAT, Page 9-B

Vitamin E could make heart disease worse

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Vitamin E supplements — taken by many Americans in hopes of warding off heart disease — do not work, and may actually make the condition worse, researchers say.

"People take vitamin E because they think it's going to make them live longer.

This doesn't support that at all," said Dr. Edgar Miller of Johns Hopkins University, who led the new analysis.

The study was reported recently at an American Heart Association conference in New Orleans and was also published online by the Annals of Internal Medicine. Many Americans continue

to take vitamin E despite Heart Association guidelines saying it doesn't work and recent research suggesting it can interfere with statin drugs.

The study was an analysis of 19 previous studies involving a total of about 136,000 people who took vitamin E alone or in combination with other vitamins.

Those taking 400 international units per day or more — the amount in most vitamin E supplements — had 10 times the risk of dying as those taking 200 units or less.

Most multivitamins contain 35 to 40 units of vitamin E, which the study suggests might be slightly beneficial for health, Miller said.

"I spend all my time trying to tell patients why they should not take vitamin E," Dr. Raymond Gibbons, a Mayo Clinic cardiologist and American Heart Association chairman "Too often in terms of the supplements there's very scant science. In this area, we have the science. Vitamin E doesn't work."

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Healthbeat: Yawning, snoring could be sleep apnea

WASHINGTON (AP) — Do you yaw throughout the day or get sleepy while driving? Does your family complain about loud snoring?

You might be one of the millions of Americans with undiagnosed sleep apnea, which causes more than fatigue — it also seems to spur heart disease and other serious illnesses. Not to mention up to a sevenfold increase in the chance of a car crash.

Now Medicare is considering paying for home sleep testing, to make diagnosis easier. And federal health officials are hunting ways to get the people at highest risk of this stealthy disorder tested and treated.

"We need to develop some very aggressive strategies," says Dr. Carl Hunt, sleep chief at the National Institutes of Health.

Often dismissed as bad snoring, sleep apnea is far more serious: Sufferers actually quit breathing for 10 to 30 seconds at a time as their throat muscles temporarily collapse.

They jerk awake to gasp in air more than 10 times an hour, exhausted each morning because their brains never got enough deep

Sleep apnea

Often dismissed as bad snoring, sleep apnea is far more serious: Sufferers actually quit breathing for 10 to 30 seconds at a time as their throat muscles temporarily collapse. They jerk awake to gasp in air more than 10 times an hour, exhausted each morning because their brains never got enough deep sleep.

sleep.

An estimated 18 million Americans have sleep apnea, and more than half aren't diagnosed, according to NIH estimates.

Patients don't remember the nightly breathing struggle, and often don't see a doctor unless a family member complains about the snoring and choking.

Apnea is most common among middle-aged men, but can even strike children if they have enlarged tonsils and adenoids.

Being overweight increases the risk, as does having small airways or apnea in the family.

Some 1,400 deaths from car crashes each year are caused by drivers with apnea, notes a study from the University of California at San Diego.

Worse, research suggests apnea sufferers are at significantly increased risk of

high blood pressure, heart attack, congestive heart failure, stroke and diabetes. Why? Apnea stresses the body by preventing important blood-pressure lowering that occurs during normal deep sleep, and seems to alter blood chemistry in ways that can spur cardiovascular disease.

Research is just starting on whether alleviating apnea prevents those serious diseases, cautions Dr. David White, director of sleep disorders at the Harvard-affiliated Brigham & Women's Hospital.

There are a variety of apnea treatments that relieve the fatigue, however.

The most common is called CPAP, a mask that blows air through the nose while sleeping.

Dental devices can hold airways open; the Food and Drug Administration has begun considering whether

any should be sold without a prescription. Surgery can widen or prop open airways.

But to get treated, people must know to seek testing. NIH is considering a campaign to get people at high risk screened; CPAP manufacturers recently launched an apnea education Web site www.sleepapneainfo.com.

And Medicare is debating whether to pay for home sleep testing, a move proponents say could also spur more interest by both patients and other insurers.

Diagnosing apnea requires measuring how people breathe as they sleep, often performed in professional sleep laboratories that many sleep-medicine specialists — who run them — consider best.

It does provide more measurements, including tracking of brain activity.

But, "there is a major

access problem," says Dr. Terence Davidson, director of the UC-Davis sleep laboratory, who petitioned Medicare to make the change.

Sleep labs are expensive — testing costs \$900 to \$1,500 compared with \$250 to \$500 for home tests — and there are long waits for openings in some parts of the country, Davidson says. "An Iowa farmer may have to drive 300 miles and wait three months."

With home testing, either a technician or the patient hooks up a portable version of a sleep-lab's respiratory machine at bedtime, and a doctor later checks the recordings.

Fourteen studies of more than 700 patients found home testing reliable, Davidson told Medicare advisers last week.

Medicare's advisers voted that they had "moderate

confidence" in the effectiveness of home testing. Medicare officials will analyze that vote and public comments on the issue before a decision expected early next year.

Don't wait to get festered, advises Coleman Flaherty, 43, of Dorchester, Mass.

Fatigue snuck up on Flaherty after he put on weight that when an injury stopped his usual workouts.

Finally, he mentioned snoring to his doctor, and is enrolled in a major study of CPAP's long-term effects.

"I've gone back to the gym, my quality of life has improved," said Flaherty, who popped out of bed before 7 a.m. last weekend to spend time with his kids. "I don't know why I waited."



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by Dr. Mark W. Ford, Jr.

RELIEVING SCIATICA PAIN

The term "sciatica" refers to the pain that begins at each side of the lower back and moves down behind the thighs and to the feet. The discomfort is caused by compression of nerve roots in the lower part of the spine or the sciatica. It is best to see a Doctor of chiropractic when experiencing sciatica. In the meantime, however, you can take some steps to relieve the pain.

A cold pack or application of ice can decrease inflammation and numb sore tissue, reducing some of the pain in the sciatic nerve. An ice massage is an option for applying cold to the area. First, freeze water in a paper cup. After it is frozen, cut the top half of the cup off and expose the ice. Then apply the ice directly to the skin in a circular motion over the most painful area.

The ice will first burn, similar to eating something cold too quickly. Eventually, the skin will become numb. To prevent frostbite, do not continue after numbness occurs. This process usually takes about five minutes, depending on the thickness of the area treated. Using ice wrapped in a towel or a commercial ice pack for 10 minutes several times daily can also provide relief until you see your Doctor of Chiropractic.

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Dr. Mark W. Ford, Jr.
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ImmunaFlu

Continued from Page 8-B

whom were suffering from extreme allergic reactions.

Abraham observed that traditional treatments being prescribed were often acting more as a band-aid than as a cure. He also witnessed that his patients were suffering from multiple side effects of chemical-based

medicines.

After thinking of a way to make the medicine much milder and more effective, Abraham began concocting vaccines that treated not just the specific allergen but also built up immunities for real, long-term health.

His allergy shots, the release noted, had positive results and ultimately led to Dr. Abraham's 30-year career in private practice in Canadian.

Following retirement in 2001,

after his patients continued to request prescriptions for his shots, he began to research the latest advancements in natural treatments and worked with a small laboratory in Southern Indiana to create his homeopathic formula.

Through the course of the next year, Dr. Abraham and his partners developed his formula for natural, prescription-free, homeopathic droplets.

"I am using the respiratory 'dead germ shot' I've used for 40 years in

the development of ImmunaFlu," Dr. Abraham explained. "Ideally the whole family should begin ImmunaFlu and continue it through the cold and flu season."

In light of the new curb on flu vaccines, Dr. Abraham's ImmunaFlu may indeed be just what the doctor ordered.

For more information about Allernon or ImmunaFlu, visit www.allernon.com on the World Wide Web or simply call 1-877-255-3766.

Fat

Continued from Page 8-B

supply of cells for their own treatment.

Fat produces so many stem cells that there's no time-consuming need to grow more of them in the lab. Giving up some fat isn't likely to be medically dangerous. And after all, who'd object?

"This is the only stem cell that people will pay you to take out of them," says Kevin Lee, chair of the neuroscience department at the University of Virginia.

While Ersek's self-liposuction was meant to publicize the idea of banking one's own fat-derived cells for future use, researchers say doctors may one day remove fat right when the cells are needed.

To be sure, the research into fat-derived cells is still in very early stages and many questions remain. Katz, in fact, says he's not even convinced the cells deserve to be called stem cells, because he's not sure they really do turn into other kinds of cells when transplanted into the body. Nonetheless, he says they do show promise for being used someday to treat disease.

Rubin says there's good evidence the fat-derived cells can morph into bone, cartilage, skeletal muscle, blood vessel tissue and fat, at least in the laboratory, with suggestive evidence they can also turn into heart muscle and nerve cells.

Lee says people look at him askance when he talks about research into fat-derived cells, but some studies point to a possible payoff.

Last May, scientists reported that such cells could turn to bone and heal defects in the skulls of mice.

Korean scientists reported last year that when they put human fat-derived cells in the brains of rats that had simulated strokes, the animals showed some improvement.

Lee has found the cells will migrate to damaged

brain areas in rats and turn into what looks like brain cells, though it's not clear yet whether the cells hook up with neighbors to form working circuits.

Dr. Kai Pinkernell, a cardiovascular researcher at Tulane University, says he found an encouraging result in pigs that were given experimental heart attacks.

When he took fat-derived cells from the pigs and put them into the hearts of the same donor animals, those hearts began to work better.

In fact, they worked just as well as hearts that received stem cells from marrow, the gold standard for this kind of experiment, he said.

But how? The standard explanation would be that the cells, sensing that the heart needed new muscle to replace tissue lost in the heart attack, morphed into heart muscle.

But Pinkernell said he can't prove that. He also says he's more interested in the results than the explanation.

Katz, the skeptic about whether such cells really change identities, said they could be producing therapeutic effects in other ways.

Maybe they're alerting other stem cells that already live in the target tissue or that show up from the marrow, he said. Or maybe they're stimulating the growth of new blood vessels that speed up healing.

Dr. Marc Hedrick, presi-

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THE PAMPA NEWS COMICS

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Our son is 8 months old, and my wife is busy planning his first birthday party. The party will be in February, which makes it too cold for anything outside. She plans to invite 50 guests, including children.

Our house is small, so she wants to rent a hall and have the party catered. Is this too much for a first birthday party? We're saving for a new house, and what she has in mind will be expensive.

My wife says I'm cruel for not supporting her idea of a big bash for our son. I think that having our immediate family together, healthy and alive, is special enough. Am I being a curmudgeon? -- SENSIBLE IN NORRIS-TOWN, PA.

DEAR SENSIBLE: You're not a curmudgeon -- you are someone who has his eye on a goal and hasn't lost his perspective. The party your wife is planning is really for her, not the baby. All a child that age needs for his birthday is his mommy, his daddy, and a few close relatives to celebrate the occasion with a cake he can put his hands and face into -- and, of course, a camera.

DEAR ABBY: I am pregnant with my first baby. For some reason, almost every woman I speak to feels the need to tell me about the hell I am about to endure. Apparently I will never spend another minute alone with my husband. My car will be ruined, and my house will be a permanent disaster. Very few people tell me how wonderful it is to be a mom.

I would just ask that when a woman is expecting, please don't assume it's a license to complain about how terrible it was when your children were young. My husband and I planned this pregnancy, but if I had heard half the horror stories I've heard in the past several months, I probably

would have taken a different route. -- MOM-TO-BE IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

DEAR MOM-TO-BE: If parenthood didn't have many rewards, do you think that these doom-spreaders would have had more than one child? While it's only logical that having children is a life-changing experience, it is also an individual process. For some people the adjustment may be painful. However, for many others, the changes are welcome and the joys are bountiful. Think positive and tune the naysayers out.

DEAR ABBY: I read your column on the Internet. I'm in a relationship with a great guy, "Ryan" and I have been together for almost five years -- more than half of it long-distance.

This might seem like a little thing, but whenever we talk on the phone or e-mail and say, "I love you," or "I miss you," Ryan always says, "I love you MORE," or "I miss you MORE."

Sometimes I feel hurt and sometimes it makes me angry. When I ask why he says "more," he always says something sweet to deflect it, but my antennae are wiggling like crazy.

I love Ryan and believe he loves me -- but what makes him feel a need to "best" me in this? Am I making too much of a simple statement? -- CONFUSED IN QUITO, ECUADOR

DEAR CONFUSED: Only Ryan can answer your first question. As for your second question, perhaps it's time to stop and analyze why you are put off. Love isn't a contest, and many readers would think they were in heaven if the person they cared about returned their expressions of affection with "ditto, and more so."

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For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Thatcher's fond of party

7 Ben's "Good Will Hunting" costar

11 Grove fruit

12 Storybook villain

13 Lay waste to

14 Movie princess

15 Articles wildly

16 Neon and helium

17 Hand over

18 Easter event

19 Rating unit

21 Obtained

22 Sherlock's house-keeper

25 Acapulco aunt

26 Words of understanding

27 Pay no heed to

29 Bend

33 Dull routine

34 "Love Story" writer

35 Talk crazily

36 Physician



Yesterday's answer

8 Way back

9 Checked the fit of

10 Serving Mesopotamia

16 Avant

18 VCR

20 One of the bases

22 Wandering worker

23 Met by chance

24 Clinched

25 River of

28 Leading

30 Spy

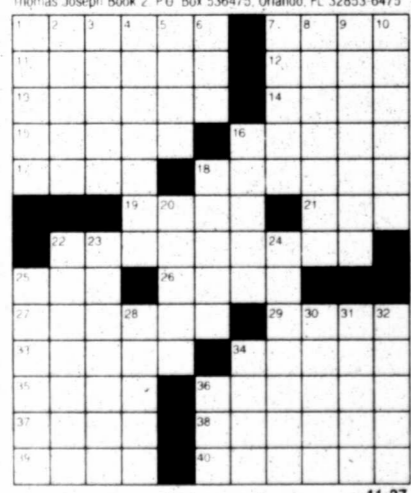
31 Daytona

32 Schemes

34 Big rig

36 Chart

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B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Nov. 28, 2004: You have the much more of life. You must they seem on behind you. Tr Work on being more reasonable their way, beca them. Saying " space will bec Others simply and come fr grounds. If you meet new peop ly. Date as muc will meet som who will be a f are attached, a on private tim adores you.

The Stars Sho You'll Have: 5 3-Average; 2-5

ARIES (Marcl ★★★ You hav putting your f exaggerating z what you say. Others appear Gain insight b ing the Sunda some extra snc This Week: H ments first. M ativity into a p TAURUS (Ap ★★★ You car pull it in seve cannot change ance. Avoid Paul. Plan on cost or many l prises you wi Tonight: Find This Week: brainstorming Much emerge tions.

GEMINI (M ★★★ Your high, but ot Surprise a fa with an older always valued noon to be Tonight: Pay l This Week: F eymaking ven

HAPPY BIF Nov. 29, 200 and intuitive right director timeout to wal feel. Your six for you. You your imagina thing possibl experts if ne surges. Make ideas in a not friends will love life. Yo someone you You will ha romance wit attached, you closer from sJ time together deal with dee Th Day You'll Positive; 3- Difficult

ARIES (Mar ★★★ Yo flak anno cannot. Boss an associate through. Toge good will ye anything. To both ends. TAURUS (f ★★★ H your mind ca ference in th You know he those around moment. Yo teamwork. Tl GEMINI (M ★★★ Oth to your effor

Festival of Trees



Pampa Garden Club is gearing up for its annual Festival of Trees slated Dec. 3-5 at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Deadline for entries is Nov. 29. For guidelines or an entry form, contact Debbie Davis at 665-0123.

News transition doth not mark end of a tradition

NEW YORK (AP) — Tom Brokaw leaves this past week, Dan Rather in March. But the broadcast network evening news as an institution isn't going anywhere.

The ABC, CBS and NBC nightly newscasts don't have nearly the influence, or the viewership, they did before viewers could get news instantly on their pagers, telephones or cable TV. It's a different world.

Despite the onset of a personnel transition following the remarkable 20-plus year reigns of Brokaw, Rather and Peter Jennings, the broadcasts seem on firmer ground than they did five years ago, when there were many questions about their survival.

"I think the institution still provides the most serious and well-organized look at what's happening in our world every day and in these times, especially, it's a great service. It's as simple as that," said Brokaw, whose last NBC "Nightly News" newscast is on Wednesday.

Most evenings, nearly 30 million people watch one of the three programs. Ratings have been sinking steadily, but that's the case for most shows in a fragmented television world; evening news ratings have dropped at a rate 4 percent slower than prime-time broadcast fare over the past decade, according to Nielsen Media Research.

For all the attention they get,

the three cable news networks — Fox News Channel, CNN and MSNBC — don't even get 4 million viewers combined in an average prime time.

All of the evening newscasts seemed to go through some sort of identity crisis in the pre-Sept. 11, 2001 world, wondering if a mostly no-nonsense look at the day's top stories made sense anymore.

Those days are gone, said Andrew Tyndall, a news consultant whose firm, ADT Research, studies the content of each newscast.

"They're very much like they were in the late 1980s, when they were still the flagship newscasts of the networks," he said. "They're serious newscasts dealing with domestic policy, politics and international news, with very little human interest, little water-cooler material. It's a hard newscast."

They all run a lot of health coverage, since most of their viewers are over 50, he said.

All had stories on House Majority Leader Tom DeLay's ethics problems this month. That's a story the network morning shows would barely touch, Tyndall said, evidence that the content of morning and evening newscasts are becoming more distinct.

To a large degree, the serious turn is a function of the times we live in.

"For a while there, to say that something was a foreign news story was to be using a term that was offensive in some newsrooms," said "Nightly News" executive producer Steve Capus. "I think what Sept. 11 said was that we shouldn't be afraid to cover the world and America was hungry for a trusted service to look at what's going on around the world."

News executives say the evening programs have tried to be more explanatory, recognizing that many viewers have already had a chance to see headlines elsewhere.

Yet the presence of cable news is deceptive. Following industry leader Fox News, these networks have become more talk, less straight news over the last few years.

The notion that people can work late, skip the broadcast evening news and catch up later on cable isn't necessarily true. Try to find a serious newscast on these networks in prime time, at least before Aaron Brown on CNN at 10 p.m. Eastern time, and you'll be out of luck.

Even CNN Headline News — a dependable network that rotates newscasts every half-hour — plans to experiment with prime-time talk shows in the next year.

The services that were supposed to make the evening news obsolete are instead giving the broadcasters an opening.

Outside of the newsmagazines, the nightly news programs have also become one of the last refuges for packaged reports, where a correspondent gathers material throughout the day for a prepared story.

Missouri's oldest full-time state employee says she's not ready to call it quits just yet

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Missouri's oldest full-time state employee figures she's got 10 more years to go before it's time to retire. By then, her age will be in triple digits and she can "take four or five years off and party."

Office manager Dave Hostetler said she has the best attendance record in the office. The job, combined with dancing at least four times a week, keeps her going.

"Just think about it, 90 years old and working with a smile every day at the DMV, one place most people don't like to go," said Raymond Hune, division director for the department. Arn, a widow, has two children, five grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren and another on the way.

Arn, a widow, has two children, five grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren and another on the way.

For the past 5 years, Arn has worked as a greeter at the DMV, helping people

Jones, friends celebrate hits of fifty years

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — George Jones says he gets a kick out of hearing the way other singers approach the songs he made famous 30, 40, or 50 years ago.

Beginning Thanksgiving, he now has plenty to keep him amused.

Public television stations around the country will begin airing "George Jones, 50 Years of Hits: A Soundstage Special Event," with Alan Jackson, Kenny Chesney, Harry Connick Jr., Aaron Neville, Vince Gill, Amy Grant, Uncle Kracker, Kris Kristofferson, Emmylou Harris, Randy Travis and several others dipping into his lengthy catalog.

The special was taped recently at Nashville's BellSouth Acuff Theatre. Jones, 73, joins in on a number of duets.

"It was really a different experience to sit there and listen to each one of them sing their rendition of one of my songs," Jones said Tuesday. "It's a big honor."

The biggest surprise, he says, was Christian singer Amy Grant.

"She chose to do 'Bartender Blues,'" Jones said with a chuckle. "I said, 'Amy, you've been known for your gospel songs. Why did you pick this one?'" She said, "I really don't know. I know it sounds funny, but for some reason I really liked that song." She did a bluesy type version of it and it was fantastic."

Asked about a few of his other guests, Jones had plenty of praise.

Harry Connick Jr.? "He came to my house and acted like he'd been knowing me for 50 years. He's a really nice guy. I fell in love with his personality."

Aaron Neville? "He had a big hit on 'The Grand Tour.' I love the way that man sings, especially when he sings a country song."

Uncle Kracker? "Usually, those type of singers don't get into a straight, simple country song. I thought he did a heck of a good job."

The TV special ties to "George Jones — 50 Years of Hits," a three-disc compilation on Bandit Records released Nov. 9.

The set spans Jones' career from "Why Baby Why" in 1955 to his rendition of "Amazing Grace."

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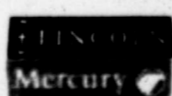
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