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THE PAMPA NEWS

January 26, 2005 Volume 100 • No. 1168 50¢ Daily • Sunday \$1

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Today's weather



H 54 L 30

Deaths

Sherry Kaye Hancock, 63, Avon salesperson.
Betty Jean White Lash, 79, services pending.
Lillian A. Mullinax, 95, services pending.

Odds & Ends

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — When five dozen roses didn't work, an estranged husband took out a full-page newspaper ad to ask his wife for forgiveness.

Larry, who declined to give his last name, sent the \$17,000 apology to Marianne, his wife of 17 years. She left him almost two weeks ago, he said.

Larry, who lives in Orlando, said his wife is staying with her parents near Jacksonville. But they blocked him from entering their gated community and she changed her cell phone number so he can't contact her.

A relative told him that Marianne saw the advertisement.

"She said my wife read the ad and started crying. But so far I've had no response from her," Larry said.

But the ad drew the attention of many other readers, who contacted the paper.

"They want to know if she has responded and if they have worked things out," said Jay Weimar, director of display advertising. "We tell them we are pulling for him."

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — "Old School" partying got some Duke University students into new trouble.

In what police say was an homage to the Will Ferrell movie "Old School," students were found in a fraternity house basement with an inflatable pool, a bounty of baby oil and bikini-clad babes.

Police came upon the scene early Sunday after responding to a noise complaint.

"Inside were several of America's future, re-enacting a scene from the movie 'Old School,' where females wrestle in a pool of lubricants," police Sgt. D. Gunter said.

Three city officials up for re-election

By **DAVID BOWSER**
Staff Writer

Mayor Lonny Robbins and City Commissioners Jeff McCormick and Bob Dixon are up for re-election this spring.

City elections for mayor and city commissioners Ward 1 and

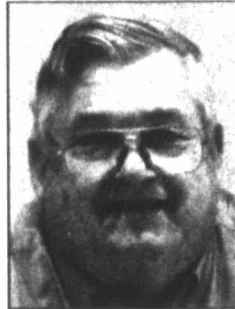
Ward 3 are set for May 7. The sole polling place, M.K. Brown Auditorium, will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day, City Secretary Phyllis Jeffers said.

Early voting will begin April 20 and continue from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays in

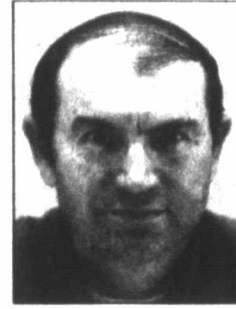
Room 205 of Pampa City Hall, she said. Applications for mail-in ballots can be sent to Jeffers at P.O. Box 2499, Pampa, TX 79065.

Applications for mail ballots must be

See **ELECTION**
Page 2



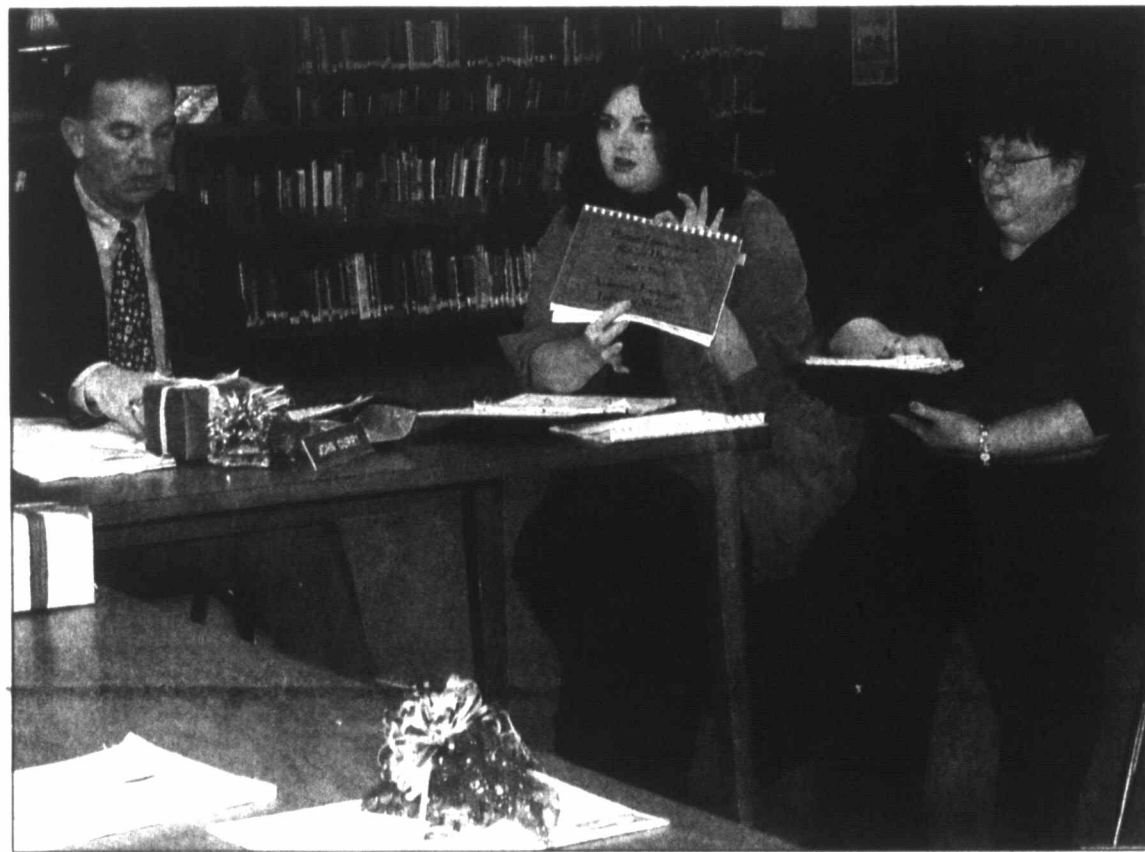
Dixon



McCormick



Robbins



Tonya Larkin, center, presents the state's Academic Excellence Indicator System report to Pampa ISD's school board. Pictured with her are, from left, Board Member John Curry, and Dana Cargill, the school district's elementary curriculum coordinator.

Pampa ISD test scores show successes, areas to improve

By **DEE DEE LARAMORE**
Editor

"We've got a lot of work to do. I don't mean just as a district but as a state and a nation," notes Tanya Larkin, Pampa Independent School District secondary curriculum coordinator.

Larkin knows this through results from two evaluations — the state's Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) and the federal Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

Both evaluations come from the "No Child Left Behind Act" intended to upgrade public education throughout the nation.

Larkin reported on both evaluations at the Pampa ISD Board of Education meeting last week.

Pampa ISD as a district received an academically acceptable accountability rating for 2003-2004 school year. This rating is derived primarily from the Texas

See **SCORES**, Page 3

PGWCD board denies Mesa Water's request for rehearing

By **DAVID BOWSER**
Staff Writer

WHITE DEER — The Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District said no to Mesa Water, Inc.

At their monthly meeting here Thursday, the board of directors denied a request from Mesa and the Courson Family Land Partnership for a rehearing on the district's water depletion rule.

C.E. Williams, the district's general manager, said that the district had responded to previous issues raised by Mesa and Courson attorneys in drafting the final rule. He noted that neither party raised new issues nor did they have representatives at the last hearing on

the proposed rules. After outlining the actions available to the board — grant a rehearing, deny a rehearing or leave the issue alone for 90 days and let the rehearing be denied by law — John McKissack, representing Potter County, moved that the board deny the request for rehearing. The motion passed 7-1, with Kim Flowers of Roberts County the only dissenting vote.

In other business, the PGWCD board held a public hearing on a single well permit request by PETCO Petroleum Corporation. Williams said the hearing basically concerns a name change on the permit.

See **REQUEST**, Page 2

City sets May 7 as Election Day

By **DAVID BOWSER**
Staff Writer

Pampa City Commission set May 7, for city elections with the sole polling place at M.K. Brown Auditorium.

The city election will be for the positions of mayor, city commissioner from Ward 1 and city commissioner from Ward 3.

The incumbent mayor is Lonny Robbins. The incumbent Ward 1 city commissioner is Jeff McCormick. The incumbent Ward 3 city commissioner is Robert Dixon.

At their regular meeting Tuesday afternoon in Pampa City Hall, the city commission set the schedule for city elections (see related story), appointed new members to two city advisory boards, set a date for a budget work session and changed the zoning on a former dental clinic.

They also discussed the cost of a sewage lift station, the lease on the U.S. Bus Building and tax abatements for a proposed motel.

The commission heard a report from City Commissioner Faustina Curry on the Texas Department of Transportation's plan to cut

down trees along U.S. Highway 60 in Gray County and a report from Pampa Director of Public Works Richard Morris on a Canadian River Municipal Water Authority meeting in Plainview last week.

Charlene Martinez, 48, 1609 Mary Ellen, employed by Pampa Independent School District at Austin Elementary, was named to the Lovett Memorial Library Board.

"She is bilingual," said Commissioner Curry, "and I think she'll be a real asset to the library."

Lance DeFever, 2415 Evergreen, a funeral director; Lesley Gershmel, 1608 N. Christy, a counselor with Pampa Independent School District; Russell S. Tapp, 1922 Fir, a funeral director, and Mike Ehrle, 1601 W. Somerville, news director of KGRO-KOMX radio station, were appointed to the Parks, Recreation and Auditorium Advisory Board.

The commission set 2 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 8, prior to that day's regularly scheduled 4 p.m. city commission

See **CITY**, Page 3

Stock options

Celanese Corporation offering stock to public

By **MARILYN POWERS**
Staff Writer

Celanese Corporation, a global chemical company with a plant near Pampa, began selling shares of stock in its company last Friday, Jan. 21.

"We are in a quiet period right now. We are not allowed to comment on anything," said Dawn Clendening, public relations representative for the Pampa Celanese plant, by telephone concerning the initial stock offering.

The company's initial public offering of 50 million shares of its Series A Common Stock was priced

at \$16 per share, according to a press release issued by the company.

Celanese also granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to 7.5 million additional shares of its Series A Common Stock to cover over-allotments, if any.

Celanese announced last Friday that it priced its offering of its 4.25 percent Convertible Perpetual Preferred Stock, liquidation preference \$25 per share, according to the release.

The size of the offering of the preferred stock was increased from 8 million shares to 9 million shares.

All the shares were sold by Celanese Corporation.

The company is listed as CE on the New York Stock Exchange.

"Celanese holds worldwide leading positions in its key products and world-class process technology."

The Celanese portfolio consists of four main businesses: Chemical Products, Acetate Products, Technical Polymers Ticona and Performance Products," according to the news release.

The global parent holding company is Celanese Corporation, headquartered in Dallas.

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Obituaries

Sherry Kaye Hancock, 63

Sherry Kaye Hancock, 63, of Lawton, Okla., died Monday, Jan. 24, 2005, at Lawton.



Hancock

Graveside services are scheduled at 2 p.m. Thursday in Memory Gardens Cemetery in Pampa with the Rev. Carl Novian, associate pastor of First Baptist Church of Pampa, officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Hancock, a 20-year resident of the Pampa area prior to moving to Lawton in 1978, was born Nov. 8, 1941, at Pampa. She was an Avon sales representative for many years and a Baptist.

Mrs. Hancock was preceded in death by two husbands, Darrell Lee Thomas and Frank Onofry Hancock.

Survivors include four sons, Bryan D. Thomas of Lawton, James C. Thomas and Edward R. Thomas, both of Wichita Falls, and Christopher L. Thomas of Phenix City, Ala.; and five grandchildren.

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

Betty Jean White Lash, 79

Betty Jean White Lash, 79, of Pampa, died Tuesday, Jan. 25.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Lillian A. Mullinax, 95

Services are pending for Lillian A. Mullinax, 95, of Pampa, who died Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2005, at Amarillo.

Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

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

Services tomorrow

HANCOCK, Sherry Kaye — Graveside services, 2 p.m., Memory Gardens Cemetery, Pampa.

Gray County Weather

Today: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 54. Wind chill values between 27 and 32. North wind around 10 mph becoming east.

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 30. Wind chill values between 21 and 26. East southeast wind around 10 mph.

Thursday: A 40 percent chance of rain. Cloudy, with a high around 43. Wind chill values between 22 and 31. Southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Thursday Night: A 40 percent chance of showers. Cloudy, with a low near 32. Wind chill values between 23 and 28. South southeast

wind between 15 and 20 mph.

Friday: A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 50. South southeast wind around 15 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 31. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest.

Saturday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 54. West southwest wind 5 to 15 mph becoming south southeast.

Saturday Night: A slight chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 30. Southeast wind 10 to 15 mph becoming north. Chance of precipitation is 20

percent.

Sunday: A slight chance of rain and snow before 9 a.m., then a slight chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high around 45. North northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low near 29.

Monday: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 42.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 28.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high around 50.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Atebury Grain of Pampa.

Wheat 3.07
Milo 3.14
Corn 3.64
Soybeans 4.56

The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.

OXY 57.25 +0.30
BP PLC ADR 59.61 +0.93

Cabot Corp. 35.12 +0.12	Atmos. 27.01 +0.12
Cabot Oil Gas. 45.34 +0.04	Pioneer Nat. 35.82 -0.13
Coca Cola 41.46 +0.22	JCP 41.62 +0.24
VLO 48.93 +0.47	COP 89.98 +1.08
HAL 42.70 +0.10	SLB 66.72 +0.24
TRI 40.75 +0.70	Tenneco 15.98 +0.05
NOI 36.32 +0.02	CVX 53.33 +0.29
KMI 74.73 +0.54	Wal-Mart 53.59 +0.31
XCEL 18.07 +0.11	OKE 27.68 +0.08
Kerr McGee 59.09 -1.42	NS Grp 28.16 +0.27
XOM 51.63 +0.30	New York Gold 422.40
Limited 23.03 +0.18	Silver 6.69
Williams 15.80 +0.07	West Texas Crude 49.41
MCD 32.12 +0.18	

Election

Continued from Page 1

received no later than the close of business on April 29, Jeffers said.

"Candidates packets are ready to go," Jeffers said.

Feb. 5 is the first day to file an application for a place on the ballot.

March 7 is the last day to file. March 14 is the final day for a write-in candidate to declare candidacy.

Drawing for place on the ballot will be at 9 a.m., March 15, in the City Secretary's office. March 15 is also the last day for a candidate to withdraw from the general election.

April 7 is the first due date for reports of campaign contributions and expenditures.

by opposed candidates and specific-purpose committees supporting or opposing candidates. It is also the last day for submitting voter registration applications for voting in the May 7 election.

April 19 is the last day for the city to get an application for a mail-in ballot from a voter in person. April 29 is the last day for the city to receive an application by mail for a mail-in ballot.

April 20 is the first day of early voting in person. April 29 is the due date for

filing the second campaign contributions and expenditures report.

May 3 is the last day of early voting in person.

May 7 is Election Day.

Pampa City Commission will meet in special session on May 17 to canvass the vote, declare the election results and swear in the newly-elected candidates.

While the voter turn-out for the last city elections was light — 718 votes cast — the election covered only two wards, Ward 2 and Ward 4. Of those races, only one was contested.

In the last mayoral race, Jeffers said, there were 1,829 votes cast, but then all three races, mayor and commissioners for Ward 1 and Ward 3, were contested.

"Five people were running for mayor," Jeffers said.

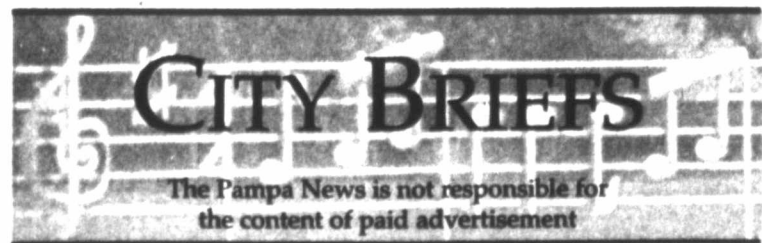
The City Secretary said there are about 12,000 registered voters in Pampa.

Jeffers said that commissioners are elected at large. That means that all voters, no matter what ward they live in, can vote in any commissioner race. Commissioners, however, have to live in the ward they represent.

"There are no residential requirements for mayor," Jeffers said, "other than he or she must live within the city limits."

'There are no residential requirements for mayor other than he or she must live within the city limits.'

—Phyllis Jeffers
City Secretary



\$REWARDS\$ LOST Chocolate Lab. Red collar w/ a blue & a green tag. Call 440-1381.

COMPUTER SICK? Call Mike @ 665-2760. Repair & Networking. References available.

MCLEAN NEWSPAPER Carrier needed. Apply in person at *The Pampa News*, 403 W. Atchison, Pampa. No phone calls, please.

MADLINE GRAVES Dance & Gymnastics Center, 1345 S. Hobart. Starting a cheer-dance team combo. Auditions will be held during reg. class. Registration & Class (begin) Thurs. Jan. 20, 4:30-5:30, Ages 7 - 18 Accept-

Perry touts job creation effort

AUSTIN (AP) — Improving public education and maintaining a prosperous business climate are themes Gov. Rick Perry planned to highlight Wednesday in his "State of the State" speech to the Legislature.

The governor also was releasing specifics of his budget proposal. In it, he suggests \$600 million more

in general state spending than the bare-bones budget laid out by the Legislative Budget Board, according to a copy of the plan obtained by the Austin American-Statesman.

Perry wants to pull about \$1 billion from the state's rainy day fund to pay for shortfalls this year in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program

and for an emerging technology fund to spur collaboration between businesses and universities.

Perry's budget also calls for the creation of a \$30 million incentive fund for making films in Texas. Film industry insiders have warned that Texas must work to retain the film business that blossomed over the last decade.

Request

Continued from Page 1

Williams told the board that PETCO had leased the operating rights to an existing 4-inch well on 320 acres in Gray County. With no opposition, the permit was changed by unanimous vote.

A number of other single well permits were also approved. They were for Curtis Schaefer in Donley County, Richardo Gonzales in Gray County, Roberto Anquilio in Gray County, Currie Smith in Carson County, Bill Housley in Carson County, Allen Kelson in Potter County and A.C. Smith in Carson County.

The board also approved initial production permits for Nick Thomas, Carol Neef and Kay Waggoner in Roberts County; William O. Stroud Irrevocable Trust and James Stroud in Roberts County, and the Locke Cousins

Partnership in Gray and Roberts County.

Thomas Grantham of Grantham, Cory and Heare, P.C., will review the district's 2003-2004 audit, the district's first audit subject to Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) standards. Grantham said that although the standard varied from previous audits, there was no need to amend the district's budget this fiscal year.

The board also heard from Chad Pernell, assistant manager of the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority, on actions taken at the quarterly CRMWA meeting in Plainview the day before.

CRMWA had approved an agreement to exchange 16,000 acre-feet of water rights in Carson County for City of Amarillo water rights in Roberts County. CRMWA also approved the purchase of 8,777 acres of water rights from the Duncan Ranch in Hutchinson and Roberts counties.

Pernell told the PGWCD board that these actions will put CRMWA in a better position with regard to declines in the water level at Lake Meredith, the primary source of water for the 11-city water authority, which includes Pampa, and meet the requirements for PGWCD's depletion rule. He said it would give CRMWA time to develop other water projects.

The PGWCD board also discussed replacing their Precipitation Enhancement Program meteorologist, who resigned and moved back to Florida. Charles Bowers, board president, appointed himself, McKissack, Flowers and Williams to a committee to investigate combining their cloud-seeding program with the North Plains Ground Water District's program in a cost-saving move.

The committee is expected to meet with North Plains Ground Water District officials on Feb. 2 in Borger.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents and arrests today.

Tuesday, Jan. 25
Fifteen traffic stops were made. Vehicle accidents were reported in the 2200 block of North Hobart and the 1200 block of North Hobart. Driving while intoxicated was reported in the 100 block of North Cuyler.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1800 block of North Sumner, and the 500 block of South Somerville.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at Pampa High School, 111 E. Harvester, and in the 300 block of North Sumner.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1000 block of Ripley, the 2600 block of Le-Ana, and the intersection of Lincoln and Dwight streets.

A prowler was reported in the 2300 block of Rosewood Lane.

Warrant service was rendered at City Hall, the 2000 block of Williston, and the 700 block of East Frederic.

Possible assault was reported at One Medical Plaza.

A gas drive-off was reported at Allsup's, 1025 W. Wilks.

Disorderly conduct/other was reported at Pampa High School.

Disorderly conduct/noise was reported in the 1100 block of Sierra Drive.

Burglary of a building was reported at Rosie's Bar, 758 W. Brown. Compact discs, a CD player, pool cues and a speaker were taken, for an estimated loss of \$4,470.

Burglary was reported in the 300 block of North Naida.

Criminal mischief was reported at Pampa Junior High School, 2401 N. Charles, and in the alley of the 600 block of North Wells and Nelson. A gas meter sustained approximately \$250 in damage.

A narcotics drug law report was checked at Ripley and Faulkner streets.

A welfare check was made in the 1400 block of West Somerville.

A silent/abusive 911 call

was received in the 400 block of North Christy.

Theft was reported in the 2500 block of Duncan.

Theft of a dog valued at \$1,200 was reported in the 1000 block of Prairie Drive.

Charles Mathis Ashley, 57, 707 E. Frederic, was arrested in the 700 block of East Frederic for accumulation of trash and failure to appear on a charge of accumulation of trash.

Zenaida Margarita Salazar, 31, 509 Hazel, was arrested in the 300 block of East 17th for theft by check over \$20 and under \$500.

Wednesday, Jan. 26
Tammy Diane Ryals, 32, 630 N. Christy, was arrested in the 1500 block of Lincoln for theft over \$50 and under \$500, no insurance, and no driver's license.

Accidents

Pampa Police Department today reported the following motor vehicle accident.

Tuesday, Jan. 25
A 1999 Lincoln Town Car driven by Linda Jean Norris, 63, 2521 N. Charles Street and a 2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee driven by Sheila Potter Brewer, 51, 1141 N. Terrace St., collided in the 2200 block of North Hobart St. Norris was cited for unsafe pass to the right.

Sheriff

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests today.

Tuesday, Jan. 25
Robert Stanley Latham, 33, Tempe, Ariz., was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety for possession of between one and four grams of a controlled substance, no valid driver's license, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Justin Louis Martinez, 19, Amarillo, was arrested on a bond forfeiture for terroristic threats.

Lucinda Dawn Tollison, 27, Skellytown, was arrested on a bond surrender for criminal trespass.

Joseph Allen Barker, 22, Borger, was arrested for theft under \$1,500 with prior conviction.

Robert Scott Paradise, 25, San Angelo, was arrested for violation of a protective order and burglary of a habitation with intent to commit assault.

Fire

Pampa Fire Department responded to the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Tuesday, Jan. 25
6:30 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a lifting assist in the 800 block of North Frost.

8:42 p.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to a broken riser spewing natural gas in the 600 block of North Dwight. Firefighters plugged the riser and turned it over to Atmos Energy employees for repair.

Ambulance

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Tuesday, Jan. 25
9:19 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Pampa Regional Medical Center and transferred a patient(s) to Northwest Texas Hospital, Amarillo.

1:21 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transferred a patient(s) to N.W.H.

6:19 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 800 block of Frost and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

9:04 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transferred a patient(s) to N.W.H.

Correction

In a notice of the upcoming Pampa City Commission meeting printed in the Monday edition, the days for early voting in the May city elections were incorrect. Early voting will begin April 20 and continue from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays in Room 205 of Pampa City Hall. Applications for mail-in ballots can be sent to City Secretary Phyllis Jeffers at P.O. Box 2499, Pampa, TX 79065.

Scores

Continued from

factors such as rates and graduation. An acceptable means that 50 percent of students passed the writing and language part of the exam, passed the math 25 percent pass rate.

To receive recognition, 70 percent of students must pass all TAKS test. Exemption is given when 90 percent of all students pass the test.

These ratings are individual schools district as a whole. Pampa ISD school recommended by Austin and Travis of the campuses as acceptable.

TAKS testing implemented gradually become difficult. This spring students will take the TAKS test. The students took more time than the standard.

"They have to correct answers students have to the test is supported," Larkin board.

Despite this, students improved remained the same.



Countin

Margrette Ni Southside Se al public for and noodles.

City

Continued fr

meeting in the time of their session.

City Manager said he wanted revised competition with commissio cuss the possible another animal cer, a suggesting Tuesday's Commissioner

The commis: the first read the zoning of 1121 N. Frost family dwelling hood service.

Going into session, the commission reviewed the apparently successful performance.

"John," said Robbins, after the commission session, "you excellent job."

Commission reported on Department Transportation

Scores

Continued from Page 1

factors such as drop out rates and graduation rates. An acceptable rating means that 50 percent of the students passed the reading, writing and language arts part of the exam, 35 percent passed the math portion and 25 percent passed the science.

To receive recognized status, 70 percent of all students must pass all parts of the TAKS test. Exemplary status is given when 90 percent of all students pass the TAKS.

These ratings are given to individual schools and to the district as a whole. Two Pampa ISD schools earned recommended ratings — Austin and Travis. The rest of the campuses were rated as acceptable.

TAKS testing is being implemented over time, gradually becoming more difficult. This spring, Texas students will take the standard TAKS test. Last year, the students took a test that was more difficult than the prior year, but not as difficult as the standard.

"They have to have more correct answers and more students have to pass — and the test is supposed to be harder," Larkin told the board.

Despite this, Pampa ISD students improved or remained the same in all

areas, except for 8th grade. School officials do not know the reason for the drop in this area. The evaluation has served its purpose, however, by red-flagging an area where extra attention is needed.

"We have far more areas of improvement, where we've made more gain than areas where we have loss," Larkin said.

"Are we improving at the same level as other districts?" asked John Curry, board member, at last week's meeting.

Larkin said she did not have other districts' reports, but she could compare Pampa ISD with the region and state.

In those areas, Pampa scored in line with the region and state, sometimes exceeding those scores, but generally slightly lower.

"I'd say my interest would be in keeping track with the state and the region," Curry said.

Larkin said school officials will focus on areas where the gap between scores is increasing or decreasing.

"Each campus has a plan to fix its needs," Larkin said. "The campus plans were presented to the board earlier this (school) year."

For example, Austin Elementary is recognized and received Gold Performance Awards (GPA) in reading, math and writing. Austin officials plan to maintain or improve their scores in these areas, but work harder on improving the school's science scores.

Travis Elementary, the other recognized school in the district earned GPAs in reading, math and science, so officials there plan to focus on the student's writing skills and improve scores there while maintaining or improving the other scores.

Pampa ISD officials also are keeping close watch on the performance of the district's economically disadvantaged, a subgroup of students determined by whether they're eligible for free or subsidized lunches.

This subgroup is more important than others, Larkin said, because more than 40 percent of the district's students belong to the group and it encompasses most students who are in other subgroups, generally divided by race or learning ability.

"On all tests, Pampa's economically disadvantaged are below the region and state," Larkin said.

'Each campus has a plan to fix its needs.'

— Tonya Larkin
Secondary curriculum coordinator



Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

Counting up receipts

Margrette Nickelberry figures up the receipts for Tuesday's lunch at the Southside Senior Citizen's Center. Lunch each Tuesday is open to the general public for a \$5 donation. Next Tuesday the menu will be Swedish meatballs and noodles, broccoli, fried okra, rolls and desert.

City

Continued from Page 1

meeting in City Hall as the time of their budget work session.

City Manager John Horst said he wanted to go over the revised compensation plan with commissioners and discuss the possibility of hiring another animal control officer, a suggestion made during Tuesday's meeting by Commissioner Bob Dixon.

The commission approved the first reading changing the zoning of a building at 1121 N. Frost from single family dwelling to neighborhood service.

Going into executive session, the commission also reviewed the city manager's apparently successful performance.

"John," said Mayor Lonny Robbins, after reconvening the commission in public session, "you're doing an excellent job."

Commissioner Curry reported on the Texas Department of Transportation's plan to cut

down trees along U.S. Highway 60 between Potter County and the Oklahoma state line. TxDOT said the trees need to be removed because they present a safety hazard for drivers.

"It's a confusing situation," Curry said.

A member of the 20-person group established by the TxDOT to study the issue, Curry said there are a number of hazards along U.S. 60, including the curves in the road, the banking of the ditches on either side of the highway and highway signs and power poles.

She said that while TxDOT performed studies to make sure that cutting down trees along the highway right-of-way didn't harm birds or wildlife, it could hurt the people who live in the area, particularly those who have worked hard to develop an ecotourism industry.

Curry noted that while people have been killed on the curves in the road, none have been killed because of trees.

She also said that there is a great deal of distrust

among the committee members appointed by TxDOT of Mark Tomlinson, the Amarillo area district engineer overseeing the project.

"It's a very difficult situation," Curry said.

City Manager Horst told the commissioners that adding a sewage lift or pumping station on the north side of Pampa would cost about \$170,000 for the station, not including land, engineering and other associated costs.

The total cost to build the lift station, Horst said, would be between \$390,000 and \$450,000. He said a number of questions remain about where and when to build a lift station.

Horst said there is some indication that developers may build homes in the area. He said a motel to be built near the Pampa Regional Medical Center was planning a small lift station for their project.

"The longer we wait," said Commissioner Jeff McCormick, "the more it's going to cost."

— To be continued in the Thursday edition.

Pampa's ED tested at 67 percent, the region's tested at 84 percent and the state's at 79 percent for all tests.

Larkin cautioned that only two years of data is available so far on TAKS, which makes it impossible to see any real trends or patterns.

Unlike the AEIS, AYP is an all or nothing evaluation. "You either make it or you don't," Larkin said.

All Pampa schools passed AYP with the exception of Pampa Junior High.

"All the middle schools everywhere took a hit," she said, explaining that the way the AYP evaluation includes special education students made most junior highs fail to meet the federal standards.

AYP only recognizes scores from one percent of special education students,

any other special ed students' scores whether they pass or fail is counted as failing.

The 1 percent standard hurt junior highs more than elementary or high schools because special education at all grade levels are included in junior high, while only 3rd grade and 5th grades in elementary and 10th grades at high schools are considered.

"It doesn't hurt the kids at all," Larkin emphasized, "it's just an accountability for school districts."

She said the federal guidelines are intended to push school districts into mainstreaming more students who have low IQs as soon as they are performing at their IQ level, leaving only the profoundly retarded in special education.

Pampa ISD has appealed

on the basis that the district is following the state's law regarding special education students. The district has not received a formal ruling, but officials feel that the appeal will be granted.

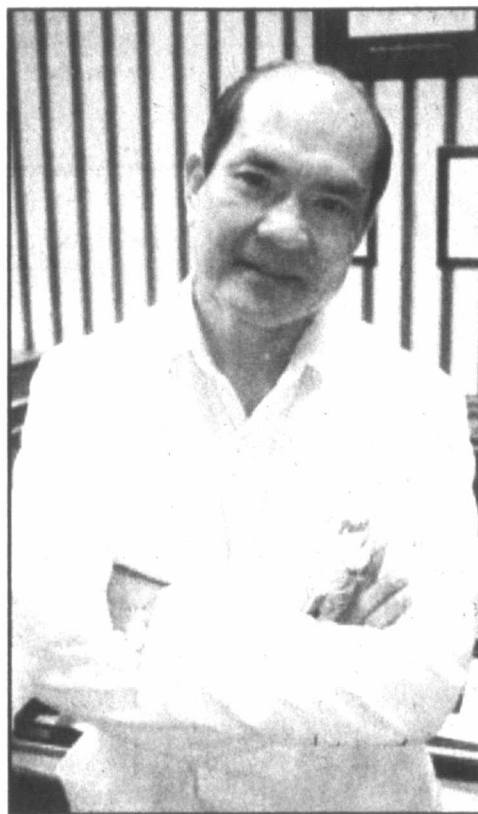
"We're not pleased with where we're at," Larkin said of the evaluations, "but happy with what we've gotten done."

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Viewpoints

Publisher's migration: From trees to plains

Two weeks ago I was in Jonesboro, La., sitting in my morning advertising meeting when I received a phone call that immediately changed my career. "We would like you to move to Pampa, Texas to work as publisher of The Pampa News." I was filled with excitement, joy, and nervousness. I moved to Pampa from Jonesboro located in north Louisiana and is a 10-hour drive from Gray County. In 2003 I had been transferred from Alabama to Louisiana. It has been an

interesting migration. In north Alabama there were tall mountains and a lot of trees. In Louisiana there were no mountains but plenty of trees, and as I drove into north Texas there were no mountains, no trees, and plenty of oil fields and cattle farms. Although the scenery may be different, I am still excited about my new job and the challenge of each new day. My first day in Pampa was cold and the wind blew all day long. I settled into my hotel room unsure of

what the next day would bring. After a long night of tossing and turning, I decided that my attempt at sleep was futile so I showered and started planning for the day. My second day in Pampa was off to a good start as the temperature warmed and the wind chill was at least staying above the freezing mark. I spent the day driving up and down the streets of

Pampa trying to learn my way around town. I noticed how some businesses on the south end of town had closed down and new businesses seemed to be opening or coming soon towards the north side of Pampa. The next day I began work at the office, meeting the staff, finding my way around the building, and getting settled into my new job.

I have met many people over the past week and everyone has been helpful and courteous. While shopping for business cards I met Nita Brown, the store manager, and Eric West who was doing some shopping of his own. Although it took several trips, Amber and the ladies at Cellular One helped me establish my cell phone account. I visited several businesses in Pampa and people seem to be both excited and optimistic about the future

prospects for the city. Some of the local business people I met included Lynn Allison, Ted Hutto, Carol Stribling, Donald Whitney, and Barbara Ketcherside. I met Vonda Higgins at the Chamber of Commerce and then I spent some time with Clay Rice, the executive director. The people of Pampa care a great deal for their city and it shows in their enthusiasm. With this type of support Pampa is headed in the right direction and I am excited about the future.

Sean Smith
Publisher



Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 26, the 26th day of 2005. There are 339 days left in the year.
Today's Highlight in History:
 On Jan. 26, 1788, the first European settlers in Australia, led by Capt. Arthur Phillip, landed in present-day Sydney.
On this date:
 In 1802, Congress passed an act calling for a library to be established within the U.S. Capitol.
 In 1837, Michigan became the 26th state.
 In 1841, Britain formally occupied Hong Kong, which the Chinese had ceded to the British.
 In 1861, Louisiana seceded from the Union.
 In 1870, Virginia rejoined the Union.
 In 1911, the Richard Strauss opera "Der Rosenkavalier" premiered in Dresden, Germany.
 In 1942, the first American expeditionary force to go to Europe during World War II went ashore in Northern Ireland.

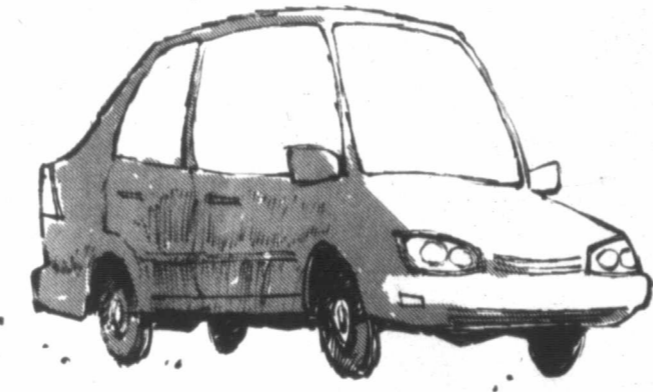
'Common sense is the collection of prejudices acquired by age 18.'

— Albert Einstein
German-born physicist

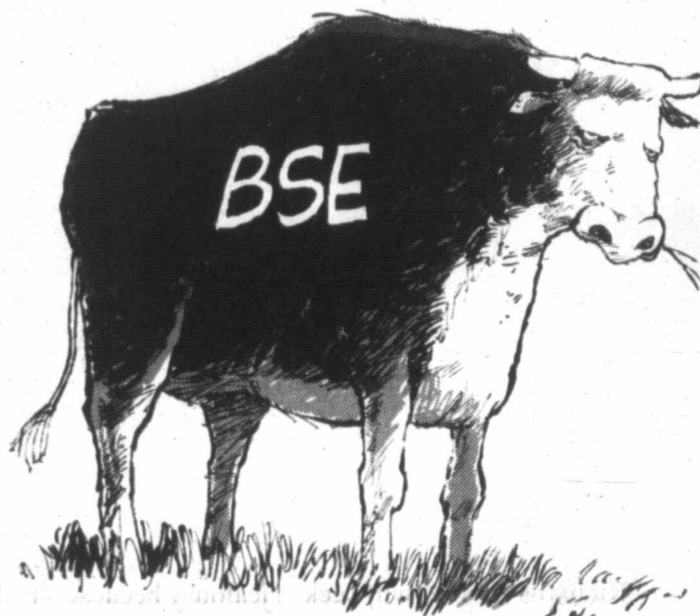
Ten years ago: A little more than three weeks after Republicans had taken control of Congress, the House endorsed a balanced-budget amendment to the Constitution designed to eliminate chronic federal deficits.
Five years ago: The grandmothers of Elian Gonzalez hugged and kissed the 6-year-old boy during a tense, 90-minute meeting in Miami Beach, Fla., that had been arranged by the U.S. government. Tennis great Don Budge, who in 1938 became the first Grand Slam winner, died in Scranton, Pa., at age 84.
One year ago: The White House retreated from its once-confident claims that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction; Democrats swiftly sought to turn the about-face into an election-year issue. Lionel Tate, the Florida teen who'd killed a 6-year-old playmate and became the youngest defendant in the nation to be locked away for life, was released after three years behind bars. At least 16 people were killed in the collapse of a building in Nasr City, Egypt.
Today's Birthdays: Actress Anne Jeffreys is 82. Actor Paul Newman is 80. Actress Joan Leslie is 80. Cartoonist Jules Feiffer is 76. Sportscaster-actor Bob Uecker is 70. Actor Scott Glenn is 63. Singer Jean Knight is 62. Activist Angela Davis is 61. Rock musician Corky Laing (Mountain) is 57. Actor David Strathairn is 56. Singer Lucinda Williams is 52. Rock singer-musician Eddie Van Halen is 50.



REALITY CHECK...



THIS KILLED 42,643 AMERICANS IN 2003



THIS HAS KILLED 0

Cleaning room not on schedule

This morning, on my way out the door heading to school, I panicked. With just three minutes until I had to hop in my car and start driving to my first period class, I could not find my math homework. After a frantic search I discovered that it was buried deep beneath an extremely disorganized pile of papers concerning my other classes and different miscellaneous matters. With only 30 seconds to spare before I had to leave, I made a decision. Right then and there I declared that I would clean my room tonight. The mess is not contained just to my desk area. No, I am notorious for also have stacks of clothes lining the carpet and droves of empty diet cola cans adorning

my furniture. For me, this has been a long-term problem. When I was in a talent show in the second grade I remember joking in my stand-up comedy routine that I finally decided to clean my room last night and while doing so, I found a baby brother I did not even know I had. Since then the problem has progressed. I feel at this point I might even find an entire immediate family I did not know I had living under the mess. It is, without a doubt, time for me to organize my bedroom. The rest of my life has long

been a thankful servant to manners of organization. My day planner outlines every moment of my week in 15-minute increments. My folder system for each class keeps careful track of my notes from lectures and my on-line calendar reminds me of upcoming due dates and deadlines. Therefore, it is clear my bedroom is the one area of my life that organization has yet to touch. That is all about to change. This is an ever-preserving matter because I will be heading to college next year and will share a room with someone else for the first time. Under

this new situation it would be outright rude of me to continue my sloppy bedroom upkeep, especially since I will not only be sharing a room with someone else, but that room will be just a tiny bit larger than my closet is now. While it is clear that something has to be done, I am already regretting my morning declaration because my day planner does not allow it. This mode of organization tells me that I will not have enough time to clean my room until this weekend. While putting-off the gruesome job of cleaning is so heart wrenching to me, I will simply have to vow to keep my homework papers at the top of the unruly stacks of papers until I can get the task done.

Ben Briscoe
News Intern



Lies finally catch up with Coleman

Tom Coleman's lies finally caught up with him. Last week, the former Swisher County law officer was convicted of perjury in a case that drew international attention to glaring injustices in the West Texas town of Tulia. Yet Coleman, whose discredited testimony sent dozens of people to prison, won't do jail time. He received probation. You might remember that Coleman's trumped-up drug charges in 1999 prompted the arrest of 45 Tulia residents, most of them African American. Of those, 38 were convicted on the lone testimony of Coleman, who did

n't use audio or video equipment to verify the alleged drug buys he claimed to have made from Tulia residents. So how did Coleman keep track of the people and drug buys? He told the court at the time that he scribbled names and dates on his leg, thigh and other body parts. Never mind that some people named by Coleman had ironclad alibis or that the claim itself that the tiny farming town in the

Panhandle could sustain 45 drug traffickers was highly suspect. Nonetheless, Swisher County juries sent dozens of people to prison solely on Coleman's say-so. Local and national civil rights groups, including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the American Civil Liberties Union, charged that the drug busts were racially motivated. Coleman is white. Revelations by the outside lawyers and the media

unraveled Coleman's testimony, exposing his lies. The cases likely wouldn't have gone forward were it not for an overzealous prosecutor whose behavior in the Tulia trials has come under the scrutiny of the State Bar of Texas for ethics violations. The case became an embarrassment for Texas. In August 2003, Gov. Rick Perry pardoned 35 of the 38 Tulia defendants who went to trial or accepted plea agreements. Last year, the 45 who were arrested in the bogus sting won a \$6 million settlement in a lawsuit

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Dallas to settle four lawsuits

DALLAS (AP) — Plaintiffs in at least four of nine federal lawsuits stemming from the police scandal that sent innocent immigrants to jail over faked drug evidence will receive settlements from the city, according to lawyers and court filings.

cases were brought on behalf of George Sifuentez, Lorenzo Escamilla, Jacinto Jesus Mejia and Israel Pineda. Informants in their arrests had planted bundles of a white powder, sometimes billiard chalk, and then led police to begin court filings.

Two of the four settlements handled by a Dallas attorney were disclosed in federal court records. Plaintiff's attorney Tony Wright told The Dallas Morning News on Tuesday that his clients in two of the other civil rights cases also had reached agreements with the city, but declined to disclose the dollar amounts because it could jeopardize settlements between the city and other plaintiffs.

'I'm confident that we will bring closure to most of those cases in the near future.'

— Madeline Johnson
City attorney

"The city has made a significant offer, from their point of view," said Wright, adding that his clients were reluctant to take the offer but chose to avoid a lengthy legal fight. "The city did the right thing."

The four cases involving Hispanic men falsely arrested in 2001 were scheduled for trials in the next several months. Monetary payouts were not disclosed Tuesday.

"We've made significant progress," said City Attorney Madeline Johnson, declining to comment specifically about the settlements. "I'm confident that we will bring closure to most of those cases in the near future."

Wright's four settled

false felony prosecutions. The lawsuits were filed against the city, fired narcotics officers Mark Delapaz and Eddie Herrera and former Chief Terrell Bolton. Three informants went to federal prison in the scheme.

Settlement talks continue in several of the remaining lawsuits, court records show. The city and former police officials involved in 2001 arrests of more than two-dozen innocent people based on bogus drug evidence were accused of civil-rights violations or of creating an environment that allowed them.

Johnson said the cost of any settlements related to the scandal would be made public once all the deals are finalized.



Scholarship recipient

On Veteran's Day Whitney Wichert, center, presented a speech for the local Veteran's of Foreign Wars post and was awarded a scholarship in the amount of \$500. Congratulating Wichert is Rod Porter, left, and Danny Martin, right, post commander.

Lawyer: Prosecutors withheld evidence in case

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A former U.S. Naval Academy midshipman serving a life sentence for her role in a teenager's slaying amid a love triangle wants a new trial, her attorney says.

Diane Zamora's attorney, David Richards, said Tarrant County prosecutors withheld crucial evidence supporting Zamora's innocence. Zamora contended that she did not help her boyfriend kill high school classmate Adrienne Jones, 16, almost a decade ago.

Withholding evidence from Zamora's trial attorneys, either accidentally or intentionally, would have violated a rule that requires sharing crucial evidence with the defense.

Richards said he will seek a hearing in Tarrant County state District Judge Mike Thomas' court, which could return the case to the Texas

Court of Criminal Appeals. Mike Parrish, Tarrant County's lead prosecutor in the case, called Zamora's latest appeal "completely bogus."

"Our lawyers have not withheld anything that was in their possession or their knowledge," said Chuck Mallin, chief of the Tarrant County district attorney's appellate division.

Zamora, who was convicted in 1998, is in protective custody at Gatesville's Mountain View Unit.

She and her former boyfriend, former U.S. Air Force Academy cadet David Graham, are serving life sentences in Jones' slaying. Prosecutors said Zamora wanted Jones dead out of jealousy because she thought Graham had had sex with the Mansfield High School sophomore.

Graham, who was 18 at

the time of his arrest, confessed to the slaying but later denied being present and said he lied to protect Zamora. He had said he lured Jones for a ride with him in 1995. The girl was struck with a dumbbell, then shot.

Zamora said at her trial that Graham killed Jones alone.

Prosecutors contended that Zamora and Graham plotted to kill Jones after Graham had sex with Jones upon their return from a cross-country meet in Lubbock.

Richard contends prosecutors failed to reveal that a Mansfield cross-country coach and a classmate were willing to testify that Graham could not possibly have had sex with Jones as he was alleged to have.

Coach Lee Ann Burke and Wendy Bartlett, a former

teammate of Graham and Jones, testified at Graham's trial five months after Zamora's. According to their testimony, Graham left the school after returning from Lubbock, leaving Jones and Bartlett behind to stow equipment. Bartlett also testified that Graham, gave Jones a ride home.

"From these witnesses, the state knew, and should have known, that the testimony it sponsored in support of a sexual encounter between Jones and Graham was probably false," stated Richards' petition, filed last week.

Lies

Continued from Page 4

against Coleman and the counties and cities involved in the drug task force that carried out the bogus drug busts.

Coleman could have been sent to prison for 10 years on the aggravated perjury con-

viction. Instead, he got 10 years on probation. He got a huge break.

Unfortunately, Coleman couldn't be tried for the greater wrong the discredited testimony he gave at the defendants' trials because the statute of limitations had expired.

But the lesser lie he made to a court certainly displayed a blatant disregard for the

legal process, his badge and the truth. Coleman's "worthless words," as described by prosecutor Rob Hobson, who tried the perjury case, cost people their freedom, severed mothers and fathers from their children and cast a racial cloud over Texas justice that has yet to dissipate.

For that, Coleman gets to walk.

Calendar of Events

- Pampa Community Concert Association** Presents "Live on Stage" 2004-05 concert series includes the following programs: Rhythm in Shoes on Oct. 26; pianist Richard Glazier on March 19; and Southern Fried Jazz Band on April 7. Each concert will get under way at 7:30 p.m. at M.K. Brown Auditorium in Pampa. Additional concerts, some with other performers, have been scheduled in area towns. For more information on any of these events or a complete area concert schedule, contact Ronnie Holmes, PCCA president, at 675-2631.

- Several courses, worth varying continuing education units,** will be offered in the area for individuals with pesticide applicator licenses. The courses will include the following: Crop Production Clinics on Jan. 13 in Spearman and on Jan. 14 in Panhandle; West Rolling Plains Chemical Conference, Jan. 18, Dickens; Ornamental & Turf, Jan. 20, Texas A&M Research and Extension Center; Right of Way, Jan. 25, TAMREC; Hemphill County Ag Day, Jan. 27, Canadian; and Grain Elevator Workshop, Feb. 8, Amarillo Civic Center, Amarillo. For more information, contact Gray County Cooperative Extension office at 669-8033.

- Palo Duro Handweaver's Guild** will meet all 7:30 p.m. Jan. 27 in Amarillo. The meeting is open to individuals interested in weaving, spinning, dyeing or fiber arts. For more information, call Becky at (806) 358-2765.

- Amarillo College's Lamplight Youth Theatre Company** will present "Broadway Tonight: A Musical Review" at

7:30 p.m., Jan. 28 and 29 and at 2:30 p.m. Jan. 30 in Ordway Hall on the AC campus. Adult admission is \$8. Student admission is \$5. For ticket information, call (806) 371-5353. The theatre company will, in addition, present a silent auction fund-raiser Jan. 24-30. Items are listed on-line at www.amarillo.tv/lamp-light.

- The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center** has announced the following upcoming breast cancer screening clinics: Jan. 31, Shepherd's Crook Nursing Agency, 916 N. Crest, both in Pampa. Participants will receive a low-cost self-exam mammogram and a breast health appraisal along with individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are by appointment only. For more information, call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673.

- Southwest Farm & Ranch Classic** will be staged Feb. 3-5 at Lubbock Memorial Civic Center in Lubbock. The new indoor show will feature unique events, entertainment and demonstrations along with a large exhibit area of commercial agricultural exhibits and displays. Show goers will be able to pick and choose from a full schedule of entertainers and family programs each day of the event. Local health organizations will conduct health checks and a blood drive is planned Saturday. If interested in exhibiting or attending the show or for more information, call (806) 798-7825 or e-mail swclassic@cox.net.

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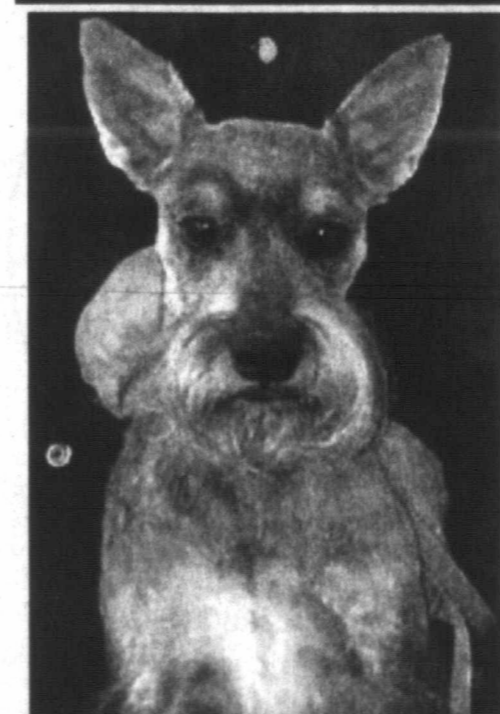
Fall/Winter Fashions On Women's And Children's Clothing
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The Spring merchandise has already begun to arrive and we need to make room! Take advantage now of HUGE DISCOUNTS on Fall & Winter items* and save 50%-70%. Don't miss out on this opportunity to SAVE. This sale only happens once a year, so don't miss out! Sale begins this Thursday!! We still offer the familiar Brands of high quality products for every budget, plus we've added more new Brands that we hope you will enjoy!

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THE PAMPA NEWS COMICS

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I have been going out with "Elijah" for a year and a half. I love him, but sometimes he tries to get me to do things I really don't want to do sexually. I don't know how to tell him no, because I don't want him to hate me. I feel pressured every time I'm with him, and sometimes I'm scared to be alone with him. What should I do? I need help. -- **WORRIED GIRLFRIEND IN N.C.**

DEAR GIRLFRIEND: The most difficult word to say is also one of the shortest. It's "no." And yet the inability to say that simple word can complicate a person's life in ways you can't imagine.

If Elijah is pressuring you to do things you're not ready for, then as much as you love him, he is proving that he doesn't love you. If he would "hate" you for saying no, then he didn't love you to begin with -- you are being used. If you allow it to continue, it will make you feel ashamed and guilty, which can cause you problems in the future.

Please consider what I have said and strictly limit the time you spend alone with him. It's called avoiding temptation.

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Len," is a good person, but he never shows me any affection. Over the past three years, we might have kissed only six times.

I recently learned that Len has a stash of what he calls "glamour shots" of women. I call them porno. Len insists that it's normal for men to look at these kinds of things. We have had many fights over it and his not wanting to be with me sexually.

I am not unattractive. I have tried everything to interest him. He promises to change because

he loves me, but nothing changes. We have tried counseling -- it didn't help.

Abby, I love my husband, but I am very lonely. I would do anything to please him, but he'd rather fantasize over an image on paper than be with me. I realize that sex isn't everything, but what about me and my needs? I work, take care of the kids, cook everything. I feel like his roommate. -- **WANTS A HUSBAND**

DEAR WANTS A HUSBAND: When a spouse substitutes "glamour shots" for a sex life with his partner, it's time to admit there is a serious problem. However, nothing will change until your husband faces it and decides to do something about it. He could be addicted to porn. He may have erectile dysfunction. The place to start is at his doctor's office with a complete physical examination.

DEAR ABBY: My parents have money troubles from time to time. I am only 12 and live with my mom, dad, baby sister and little brother. I sometimes wish I was older so I could have a job and help out my family.

My parents have given me everything I wanted, but in return all I've given my parents is grief. I want to help with bills and stuff, but I'm too young to have a job. What's another way I could get money? -- **BIG SIS IN TUCSON**

DEAR BIG SIS: You appear to me to be a caring and responsible girl. Tell your parents what you have in mind, and ask if they would permit you to start a car-washing or baby-sitting business for families in your neighborhood. Whether or not they take you up on it, I'm sure they'll be proud of you and touched by your offer.

For Better Or Worse



Zits



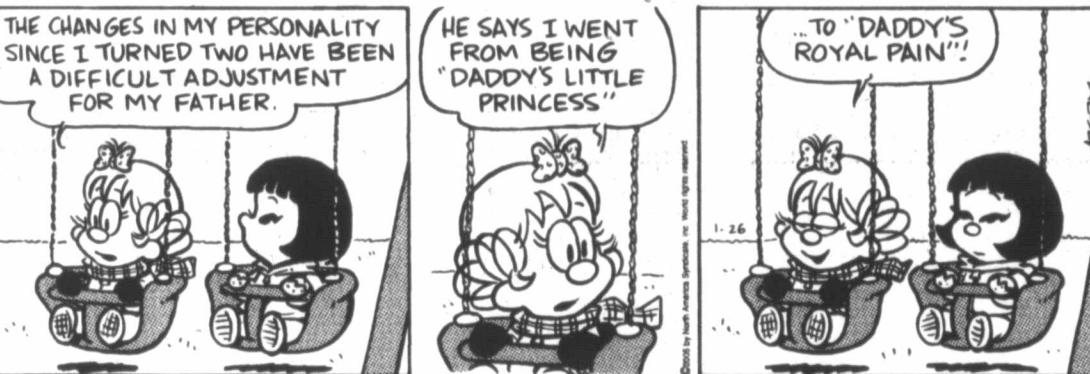
Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

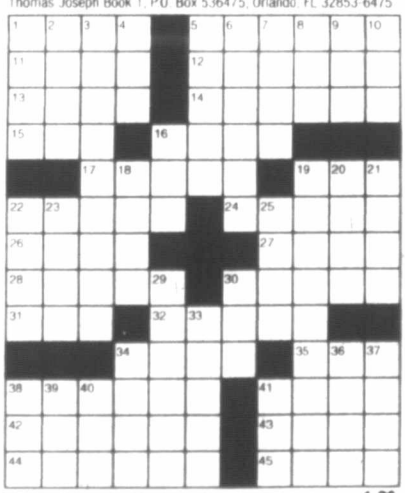
- 1 Havana's land
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- 11 Vaccine type
- 12 Slianted
- 13 Monster
- 14 You can take it to the bank
- 15 Favorite
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- 19 Moonshine holder
- 22 Admit
- 24 Steak choice
- 26 Final, for one
- 27 Horse strap
- 28 Cook's wear
- 30 "Divine Comedy" writer
- 31 Gift-tag word
- 32 Last letter
- 34 Norse god
- 35 Chart
- 38 Give a hand to
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- 8 Up in years
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- 10 High card
- 16 Shipping unit
- 18 Long ride
- 19 MVP of Super Bowl III
- 21 DNA carrier
- 22 Tree part
- 23 Trade show
- 25 Toot one's own horn
- 29 "Forget it!"
- 30 Beastly character
- 33 Furry creatures
- 34 Pamplona cries
- 36 Choir member
- 37 Lacking funds
- 38 Period
- 39 Chemical suffix
- 40 "Cold Mountain"
- 41 All the rage

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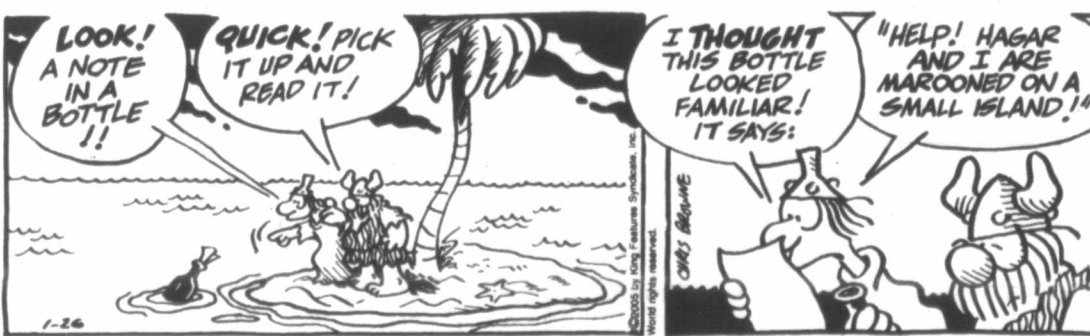
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Sports Day

Harvesters out-kick Lubbock for 5-2 win

When the Harvester varsity soccer team for the wind in the second half, it was all over for visiting Lubbock High.

Junior forward Nick Robbins scored twice to open the scoring for Pampa (3-5-1), first with a penalty kick in the 15th minute, then off an assist from Adam Brown in the 26th minute.

The Westerners (1-4) answered each time, however,

But some opportunistic play by their senior forwards to salvage a 2-2 tie at the half.

Senior midfielder Andrew Fraser was the first to kick off a Harvester scoring barrage in the second period by winning a misplaced goal kick, and darting up field to put away an unassisted score.

Drew Morrison capitalized on a well-placed ball by Chase

Phillips in the 66th minute of play, while freshmen Rusty Snyder and Tanner Dyson combined for one last score in the 74th minute.

The 5-2 victory was truly a flexing of the offensive muscle, as Pampa out shot their opponents, 17-6. Coach May applauded the work of center midfielders Fraser and Morrison for a strong effort on both ends of the

'When the midfield dominates like that, we can really do some great things on offense.'

— Byron May
Head Coach, PHS Soccer

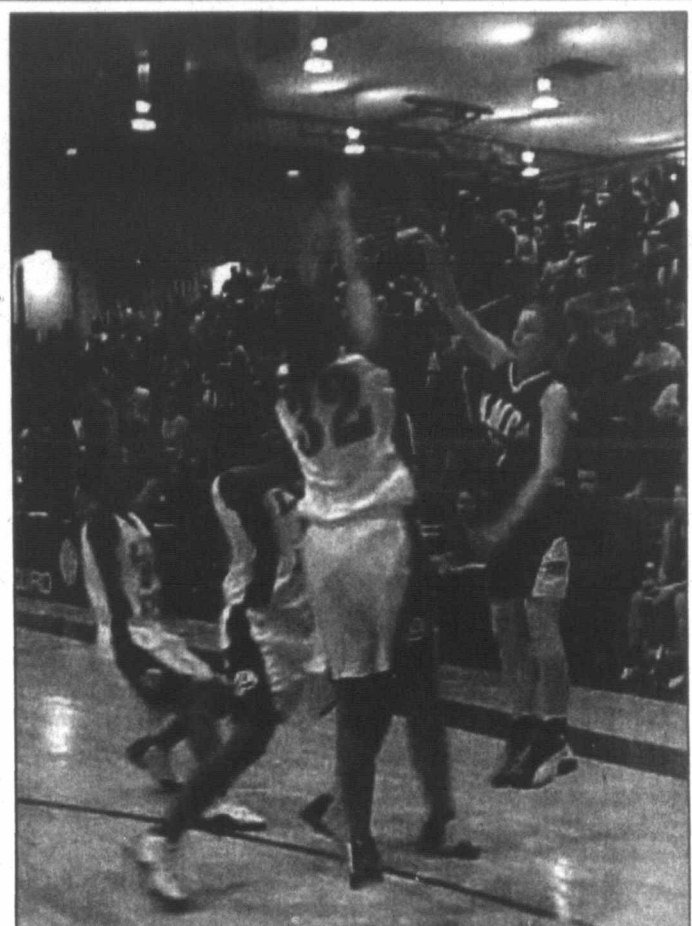
field. "Our defense is strong enough to do a solid job against most everybody we play," he said. "When the midfield dominates like that, we can really do some great things on offense."

Notes: The Harvesters will travel to Abilene for a doubleheader in Shotwell Stadium against Abilene High and Stephenville this Saturday.



Pampa News photos by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Having a very un-Britteni-like night, Pampa's Britteni Rice (above) is consoled by Lady Harvester assistant coach Valeree Valdez late in the third period of last night's game at Palo Duro. Rice would later return to the game to score some late points from inside the paint and from the foul line as well. (Right) Under pressure from a swarm of Lady Dons, Pampa's Audrey Dunn fires a shot toward the basket.



Lady Dons near perfect in opening period, take two game lead in District 3-4A with 59-36 win over Pampa's Lady Harvesters

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

Turnovers and miscues sealed the early fate of the Lady Harvesters at Palo Duro last night.

The Lady Dons converted nearly every Pampa first period turnover into points. Palo Duro pressed Pampa from the start and held the Lady Harvesters to just three shots from the field in the period. PD's ability to fire and score from beyond the arc was almost clinic-like. By the end of the period, Palo Duro had raced off to an 18-4 lead and never looked back. Pampa fell to the Lady Dons, 59-36.

Despite the Lady Harvester's

best efforts, Palo Duro continued to pick up the pace in the second period, adding another 13 points to its total while holding Pampa to just seven. At the break, Pampa was behind, 31-11.

The second half was a better one for Pampa. In particular, the fourth period.

Britteni Rice, who had been held in check to that point, came off the bench after receiving some words of encouragement from assistant coach Valeree Valdez and scored all 12 of her points in the final period of play. In fact, Pampa outscored Palo Duro, 17-14 in the fourth period.

Other scorers last night include

Callie Cobb and Jackie Gerber with six points each, McKensie East added eight points.

The loss drops Pampa's record to 12-14, 4-2 and tied with Randall for second place in District 3-4A with only four games remaining in the regular season. Palo Duro improves to 19-6, 6-0.

The Lady Harvesters will host Hereford (8-19, 2-4) Friday night at The Pit. Game time is 6 p.m.

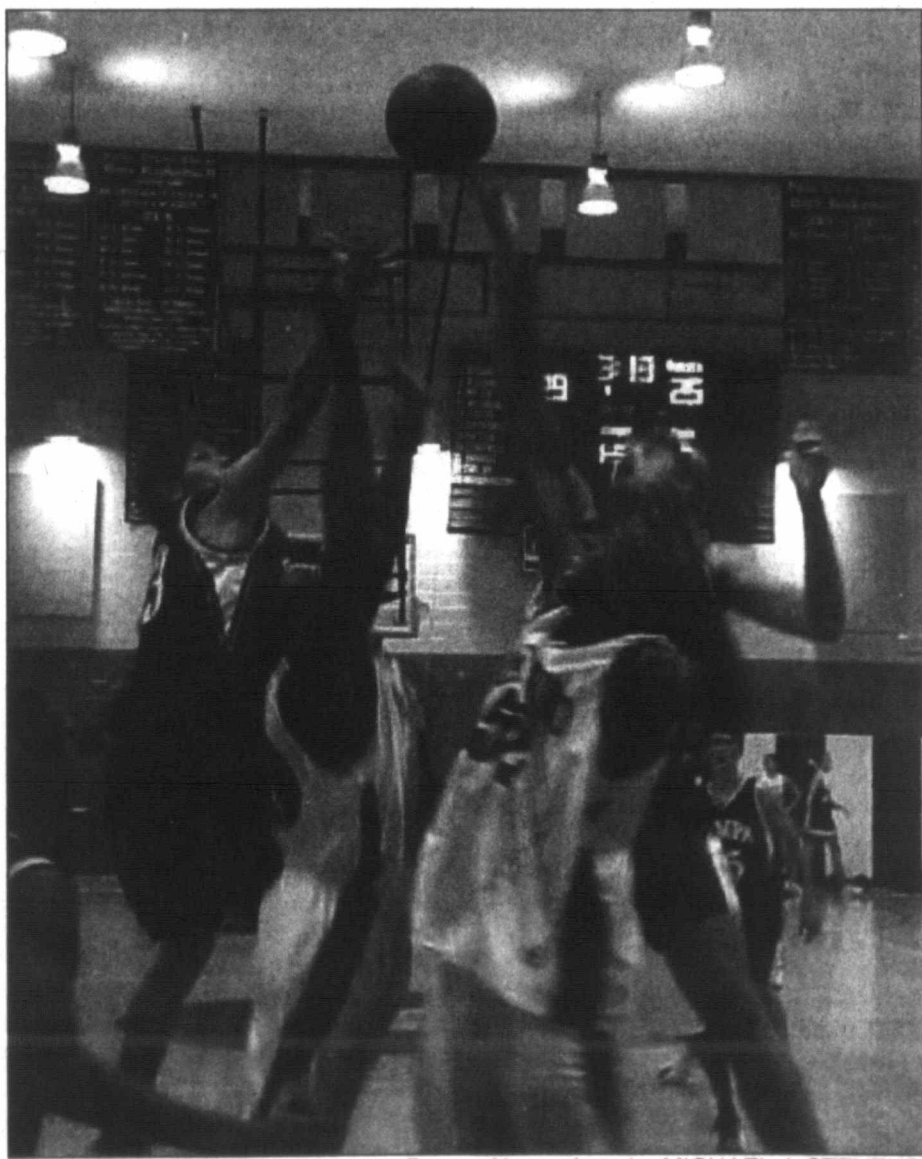
Note: The Pampa junior varsity team gave Palo Duro all it wanted last night before the final buzzer sounded. Pampa, unable to recover from a rough second period, fell to the Dons, 56-48.

Michigan suspends point guard Horton

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — Point guard Daniel Horton was suspended from Michigan's basketball team a day after being charged with domestic violence for allegedly choking his girlfriend.

Horton is free on a \$5,000 personal recognizance bond,

but Amaker said he will not travel with the team when it plays at Michigan State on Thursday and is banned from all team activities including practice. If convicted of the misdemeanor charge, he could face up to 93 days in jail and a \$500 fine.



Pampa News photo by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Along with a couple of Palo Duro defenders (white jerseys), Pampa's Brandon Johnston (left) and Jarett Kotara (right) fight for a rebound during last night's game against the Dons in Amarillo.

Tale of two halves, Pampa loses to Palo Duro 75-55

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

Last night's meeting between Pampa and Palo Duro in Amarillo got off to an odd start, even before the teams took the floor. There was no Pledge of Allegiance (it was not offered prior to the girl's game either). And Dons head coach, Jeff Evans, appeared to signal Pampa head coach Jeff Reed to wave off player introductions. And throughout the contest, the Palo Duro public address announcer seemed to provide color commentary for the home team.

All this in a game many thought Palo Duro had won before it was ever played. By the time the first half was over, many were aware the Harvesters didn't come as a sacrifice, they came to compete.

Pampa and Palo Duro went at it tooth-and-nail in the first period, matching each other bucket-for-bucket. After the first period, Pampa was in it, 21-18.

The Green Team would continue to scrap through most of the second period as well. Brittin East and Jarett Kotara were busy at both ends of the floor with

rebounds and field goals. Clayton Hall pumped in some shots as well. However, a late run by the Dons allowed them to take a 38-28 lead into the locker room at half-time. "We were right there," said Reed. "The game plan was working."

Palo Duro shifted gears in the second half. They picked up the pace, running Pampa up and down the court - pressing them along the way. And they started talking. You could hear PD players offering comments to Pampa players following missed Harvester shots throughout the third period and into the fourth. Palo Duro's Justin Butler got into the ear of Pampa's Jarett Kotara after Kotara missed a put-back opportunity. The Dons - in particular Austin Johnson - talked to the referees, who appeared to listen. They pointed out court and uniform violations. They pointed out Clayton Hall's bloody nose while Hall stood at the foul line. Did the talk have any impact on the game? Reed doesn't think so. "We had a couple of guys who were a little angry after the game," he said. But added that the anger was not so much about the

"trash talk", but because his team didn't seem to get the same level of respect from the referees. "Yes, Austin got some Michael Jordan calls," said Reed. "But you still have to play the game. You need to get beyond that and execute the game plan."

The Dons, led by Wes Shaw (22 points) and Johnson (21 points), outscored Pampa in the second half, 47-35 en route to the 75-55 win.

Despite the loss, Reed believes there is some good that came out of this game. "Our guys now know they can play with them (Palo Duro)," Reed said. "They also know you cannot play catch up with a team like Palo Duro."

The two teams will meet again Feb. 11, here in Pampa. "We will need to be on fire," said Reed. "Catch them having a bad night, and anything is possible. But we will never lay down for them."

The loss drops Pampa's record to 14-9, 2-2. Palo Duro improves to 20-3, 4-0.

Pampa will face Hereford at The Pit Friday night. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

Is there a doctor in the house who will tell T.O. 'No?'

By JIM LITKE
Associated Press

The reason an athlete visits an orthopedic surgeon as opposed to a faith healer should be evident: You can't always count on divine intervention.

And so while it was uplifting to hear Terrell Owens say, "Spiritually, God is healing me and I'm way ahead of where a lot of people expect me to be," it's a good thing he bothered to get a second opinion. Even if it wasn't the one he wanted, it was the one Owens needed.

A month ago, Dr. Mark Myerson needed two screws and a plate to put

Owens' right ankle back together. After Tuesday's weekly checkup, Myerson said he was pleased with his patient's recuperation, but still refused to clear him to play in the Super Bowl.

Yes, Owens looked healthy patrolling the sideline in Philadelphia last Sunday, waving a towel and whipping up the home crowd. But that means something only if he's auditioning for the cheerleading squad. The guys on New England's defense can appreciate a courageous comeback story more than most, but once Owens sets foot inside the lines, that won't keep them from going after his bum ankle.

Myerson reasoned it takes eight to

10 weeks to recover from the surgery; when the Eagles and Patriots meet Feb. 6, Owens will have on been the mend and rehabbing for about 6 1/2. Still, the team's doctors and trainers apparently have the final say. If they green-light Owens for the Super Bowl, the only place any of them should be allowed to operate an X-ray machine is at an airport.

It's easy to understand the temptation on all sides, of course. Games that mean as much to a player as the Super Bowl only come along every so often, and pro football careers are notoriously short and risky to begin with.

See OWENS, Page 8

Former Packer Martin dies

HOUSTON (AP) — Charles Martin, the former Green Bay Packer who body-slammed Chicago Bears quarterback Jim McMahon into the turf and ended his season in 1986, has died. He was 46.

Martin, who played for the Packers, Houston Oilers and Atlanta Falcons during his five-year career, died Sunday at Memorial Southwest Hospital in Houston, a hospital spokesman said.

"He probably died from complications of his renal (kidney) disease," Dr. Charles Aramburo, Martin's surgeon, told Houston television station KRIV on Tuesday. "We are still waiting for the results from the autopsy which will be definitive."

In 1986, Martin slammed McMahon to the turf after a play had ended. McMahon was out for the rest of the season with a shoulder injury. Martin was ejected from the game and was suspended for two more games.

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Owens

Continued from Page 7

On top of that, the most inspirational moments in sports are about guys playing with pain that makes you wince just reading

about it. The hands-down winner in the category is Muhammad Ali fighting all 12 rounds against Ken Norton in 1973 after his jaw was busted by a punch in the second. But it's hardly the only one.

Last October, it was Curt Schilling busting the stitches holding together a frayed tendon so he could work seven innings of Game 6 against the Yankees. Three decades earlier, it was Willis Reed dragging a bum leg into the center circle for the jump ball against Kareem Abdul-Jabbar in Game 7 of the 1970 NBA Finals. And then there was Kirk Gibson's gimpy-kneed tour of the bases after his walk-off homer against the A's All-Star closer, Dennis Eckersley, in Game 1 of the 1988 World Series.

If those moments sent chills down your spine, imagine the effect it had on the field.

"When he hit that ball," Oakland shortstop Walt Weiss said about Gibson back then, "it was almost surreal. As devastating a blow as it was, I remember running off the field and saying, 'Man, that was unbelievable.'"

And while football may be the one sport that rivals

boxing in its physical demands, there are plenty of inspirational tales to go around. The best of that lot is about Rams defender Jack Youngblood.

In the first half of a 1979 playoff game against the Cowboys, he was chopped by two Dallas linemen, causing his left fibula to snap above the ankle. Youngblood talked the trainers into taping him up at halftime, finished that game and played the next two wearing a brace. The Steelers spoiled any chance of a happy ending by beating the Rams in the Super Bowl.

"I was nine years in the league at that point in time," Youngblood recalled during an interview on his return to the Hall of Fame in last year. "I didn't know whether I would have another opportunity or not, to tell you the truth."

Similarly, this is Owens' ninth season in the league. Orthopedic medicine has made significant strides in the intervening years, but miracles remain outside its reach.

If Owens is counting on one of those, or relying on the opinion of the company doctors, he'd do well to remember why Myerson said no in the first place.

His decision absolves the doctor of any blame should Owens re-injure the ankle — or worse.

But more likely, Myerson made it knowing the sheer number of disastrous outcomes are what make the rare successes so memorable.

A career, after all, is a terrible thing to waste.

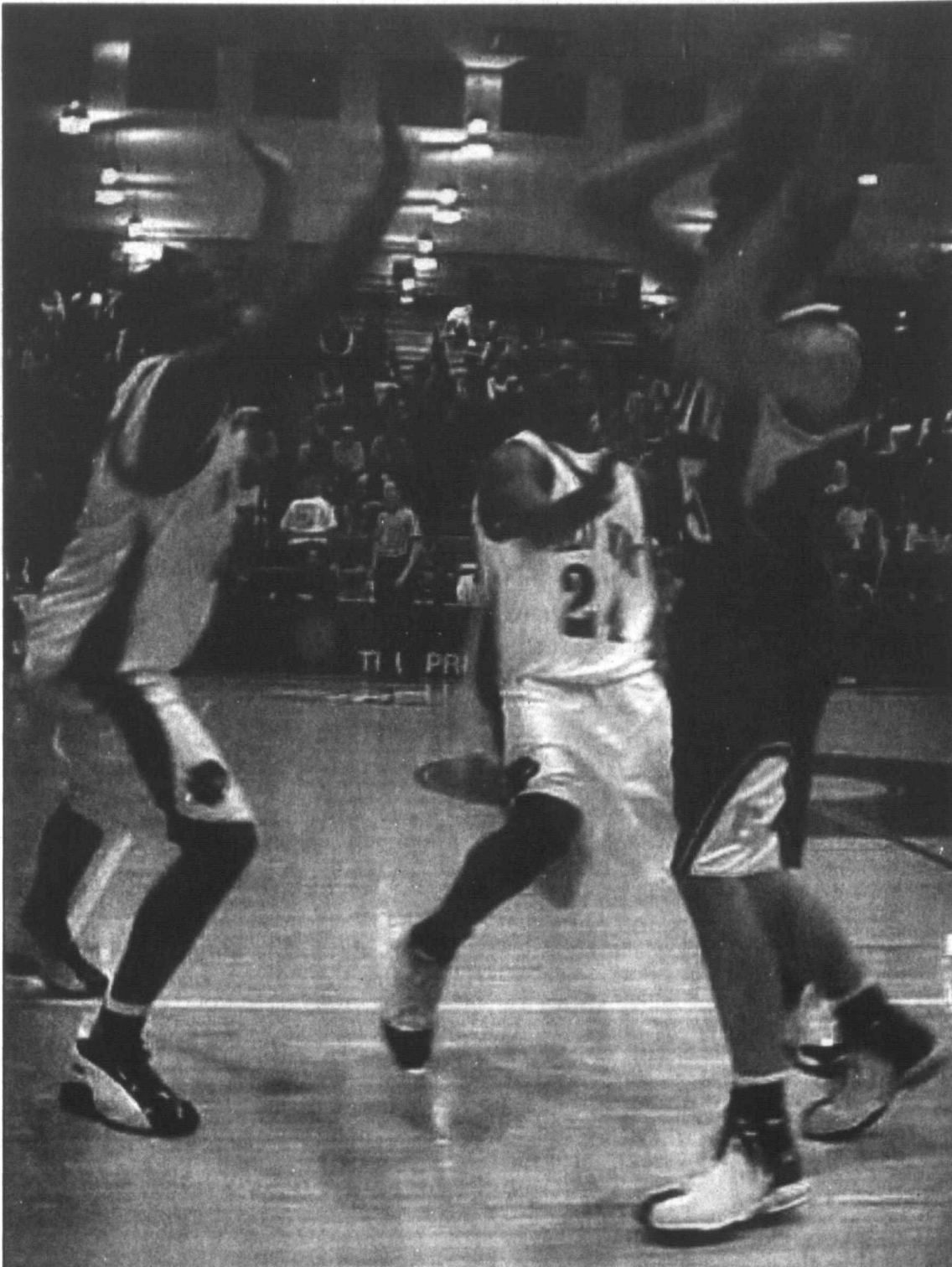
Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at jlitkeap.org

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Pampa News photo by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Under pressure

Being pressed by a couple of Palo Duro defenders, Pampa's Clayton Hall (right) looks for an open Harvester teammate in last night's game against the Dons. Pampa lost to Palo Duro, 75-55.

Central Hockey League

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NORTHERN CONFERENCE						
Northeast Division						
	W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
Bossier-Shreveport	22	10	4	48	116	98
Tulsa21	15	3	45	129	129	
Fort Worth	20	13	4	44	104	101
Oklahoma City	14	18	7	35	115	120
Memphis	16	21	2	34	120	147
Northwest Division						
	W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	27	5	5	59	137	72
Wichita	25	10	2	52	134	101
New Mexico	18	14	4	40	122	130
Topeka	12	25	3	27	104	140
SOUTHERN CONFERENCE						
Southeast Division						
	W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
Corpus Christi	19	13	5	43	124	123
Austin	19	15	2	40	106	109
Laredo	17	15	2	36	107	83
Rio Grande Valley	11	24	2	24	82	138
Southwest Division						
	W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
San Angelo	21	13	3	45	106	111
Lubbock	19	14	2	40	99	91
Amarillo	18	13	4	40	93	99
Odessa	14	14	7	35	94	100

NOTE: Two points are awarded for a win, one point for loss in overtime or shootout. Overtime or shootout losses are only denoted in the OTL column, not the loss column.

Tuesday's Games
 Tulsa 5, Topeka 3
 Oklahoma City 4, Corpus Christi 3, SO

Wednesday's Game
 Austin at Laredo

Thursday's Games
 New Mexico at Lubbock
Odessa at Amarillo
 Corpus Christi at Wichita

No new proposal from NHL

NEW YORK (AP) — Here's what will be missing from the next round of hockey negotiations: commissioner Gary Bettman, union chief Bob Goodenow and a new proposal from the NHL.

What will be present is the small hope that the hockey season can be saved.

"I think the setup of these meetings is what's important in terms of the small-group dynamic, the open discussion and dialogue," NHL chief legal officer Bill Daly told The Associated Press from Toronto, the site of Wednesday's negotiations with the players' association.

"It's less formal or structured than the meetings we've had in the past, and I think that's helpful to the process," he said.

For that reason, no new proposals will be presented.

Just like last week, when talks were held for two days, discussions will continue in three-man groups and without Bettman and

Goodenow. Both sides believe an open dialogue will help generate ideas better than working on a formal proposal.

"The players' association said that they felt like we should kind of work through possible joint solutions to this and at least hear what each other has to say," Daly said.

But time is running short to make a deal and save the season.

"We're in a critical stage, and that means we're down to days," Daly said. "We'll try to move the process forward and try to get a resolution."

NHLPA senior director Ted Saskin declined comment until after Wednesday's meeting.

It was Vancouver center Trevor Linden who came up with the idea last week to talk with just six people in the room. Linden, the NHLPA president, invited Harley Hotchkiss — the chairman of the board of governors.

- 1 Public Notice**
 The Pampa Independent School District will receive sealed proposals for the following Third-Administrators until 5 p.m., March 7, 2005, at the Carver Center, 321 W. Albert, Pampa, Texas 79065.
 Section 125 Administration
 Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plan Administration
 Section 403 (B) (B) Administration
 Packets, specifications and additional information may be obtained from Carol Fields, Director of Finance, 321 W. Albert, Pampa, Texas 79065, phone 806/669-4700. Proposals may be received or mailed to 321 W. Albert, Pampa, Texas 79065-Attention "THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATION POSALS". The school district reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals submitted and to waive formalities and technicalities.
 B-58 Jan. 26, 30.
- 3 Personal**
 CERAMIC tile, Floor tile, kitchen, etc. & remodeling. Barraza 665-3453 lv
- 5 Special Notices**
 ADVERTISING Material to be placed in Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office
- 10 Lost/Found**
 FOUND sm. white brown female dog (Jack Russell) by Pampa City Pool. 669-68
- FOUND. Silver Sheriff w/ distinct mark Between Pampa & Lytown. Call 662-11
- 13 Bus. Opp.**
 BARBER / BE Shop for sale. Great location!! Call 341-0675
- ABSOLUTE GOLDMINE 60 vending machines. exc. locations. A \$10,995. 800-234-6
- 14d Carpentry**
 Carpentry, Roofing, placement window siding & trim Jerry Las 669-9991, 662-8
- NEW Const., remodeling replacement with Shawn Deaver 662-2977, 665-035
- OVERHEAD REPAIR Kidwell construction. Call 669-
- ADDITIONS, re-roofing, painting, all types Mike Albus, 665-4
- 14e Carpet Serv**
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- 14h Gen. Serv.**
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- 14s Plumbing/E**
 JACK'S Plumbing Faucet Shop, 715 1st, 665-7115- plumbing supplies, const., repair, dr., ing, sewer / draining, septic system led. Visa/MC
- Larry Bak Plumbing Heating/ Air Conditioning Borger Hwy. 66

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Section 125
Administration
Section 457
Deferred Compensation
Plan Administration

Section 403 (B) (B)(7)
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B-58 Jan. 26, 30, 2005

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CERAMIC tile works. Floor tile, kitchen, shower & remodeling. Jesus Barraza 665-3453 lv.msg.

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FOUND. Silver Schnauzer w/ distinct markings. Between Pampa & Skellytown. Call 662-1176.

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Needed for a busy Chiropractic Clinic in Pampa. Fax Resume to (806)665-0537.

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HEMPHILL Co. Deputy Sheriff. Must be Telesco cert. Send resume: Hemphill Co Sheriff, P.O. Box 117, Canadian Tx. 79014. Attn: Gary Henderson.

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69 Misc.

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EXPERIENCED Caregivers Needed. Call Visiting Angels, 806-353-3590.

CROW HOLLOW, L.L.C. has the following position open: **Night Crew.** Please fax resume to 806-856-5374, or apply in person, 3900 County Road 23, Hedley, Tx. (2.5 miles west of Hedley), or contact the Maintenance Mgr., Keith Christopher, 806-930-2567. Crow Hollow offers great pay and good benefits.

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69a Garage Sales

INSIDE Sale, 709 Deane, off the 900 block of E. Kentucky. Books, clothes, toys, cookstove, 5th wheel hitch, more! 10-5, Thurs., Fri., Sat.

ESTATE Sale: 1917 Duncan. Thurs., Fri. 10-6 p.m., Sat. 10-2 p.m.

EVERYTHING Goes! Cash Register, Pictures, Tbl. & Chairs, Shelves, Glass Counter, Lamps, Dolls, Dishes & More! Gypsy Cove, 1425 Alcock

75 Feeds/Seeds

ROUND bales of CRP Hay, \$25. I load, you haul. 669-7143.

ALFALFA Hay For Sale. \$4.50 a bale. Good Quality. 15 mi. E. of McLean. Call (806)248-1021

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95 Furn. Apts.

Beautifully furn. 1 bdr. starting at \$350. We pay gas & water, you pay elec. 3&6 mo. leases. Pool & laundry on site. **Caprock Apts.** 1601 W. Somerville 665-7149 Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5:30 Sat 10-4

EFFICIENCY APT., cable tv, maid service. Total only \$125 wk., \$400 mo., all bills paid. 669-3221.

96 Unfurn. Apts.

AVAILABLE NOW! 1 bdrm unfurn. apts. Newly remodeled. \$250-\$300 per month 665-4274

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SENIORS OR DISABLED RENT BASED ON INCOME. 1200 N. WELLS 669-2594

CAPROCK APARTMENTS

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GWENDOLEN Plaza Apts., 1&2 bdr. Gas / water pd. 3, 6 mo.-1yr. lease. 800 N. Nelson. 665-1875.

LAKEVIEW Apt. 1 & 2 bdr. unfurn. apt. avail. Ref., dep. req. 669-2981 or 669-4386

SCHNEIDER HOUSE APARTMENTS SENIORS OR DISABLED RENT BASED ON INCOME UTILITIES INCLUDED 120 S. RUSSELL 665-0415

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Jan. 27, 2005:

You would be well advised to juggle your different interests this year. Often, when you make a strong statement, you discover that others have strong reactions. In fact, you learn new ways of stating your thoughts so that others can hear you. Work demands a lot of effort, both physically and mentally. Often, you discover that you are exhausted. You will push yourself physically. If you are single, you could meet someone who might be more of a problem than a positive influence. He or she could be emotionally unavailable. You might not want to plunge into romance very quickly. If you are attached, relating takes diplomacy and skill. Use it. VIRGO can be so fussy you might want to avoid this person.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★ You are juggling different sides of a problem. Your perspective and different approach might be hard to communicate. Others also might be difficult. Keep facts and opinions to yourself. Take time for a walk or stress-buster at lunchtime. Tonight: Off to the gym.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ The best intentions fall apart. Whatever effort you put out, events seem to backfire. Unexpected developments take you to a new level. Don't get into the problems of the moment. Remain centered. Tonight: Use your imagination.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★ Stay centered, realizing what

95 Furn. Apts.

1 bedroom, furnished, bills paid from \$200 mo., 520 N. Frost. Call 665-4842 or 662-3572.

Beautifully furn. 1 bdr. starting at \$350. We pay gas & water, you pay elec. 3&6 mo. leases. Pool & laundry on site. **Caprock Apts.** 1601 W. Somerville 665-7149 Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5:30 Sat 10-4

EFFICIENCY APT., cable tv, maid service. Total only \$125 wk., \$400 mo., all bills paid. 669-3221.

96 Unfurn. Apts.

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SCHNEIDER HOUSE APARTMENTS SENIORS OR DISABLED RENT BASED ON INCOME UTILITIES INCLUDED 120 S. RUSSELL 665-0415

103 Homes For Sale

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

BY Owner. 2547 Duncan. Oversized Garage. 3/2/2. Huge Kitchen. Must Sell 82K 665-0008, 282-5205

HOUSE for sale, in LeFors. Needs lots of TLC. Call 835-2773.

Low Down, Low Monthly, Bad Credit, No Problem! 400 South Popham in White Deer. Newly remodeled. 2-3 bedroom, 1 bath on large corner lot. Call Joe at (806)336-1740 or Milton (806)790-0827

BY Owner. Very nice Duplex. 1014 & 1016 N. Dwight. Both sides, 3br., 2 ba., 2 car gar. \$125,000 OBO 664-3317, 662-9487

MAD? Banks don't give house loans due to credit problems, I do! LD Kirk Homeland Mortgages (254)947-4475 www.homeland46.com

REAL nice 3 bdr., 1 ba. with att. gar. Cent. heat. Hdwd. floors in bdrms. Christine st. \$495, dep. \$300 and a Darling 2 bdrm., 1 ba., det. gar., dishw., gar. dr. opener. Magnolia. \$325, dep. \$200. 665-7007

2 bdr. duplex with carport. HUD approved. Good neighborhood. Call 806-886-5754.

3 bdr., near High School, recently remodeled, c. heat, c. air, fence, gar. Realtor 665-4180, 665-5436.

2 bedroom house, near Pampa high sch., newly painted. \$350 month. Call 665-4842.

99 Stor. Bldgs.

TUMBLEWEED Acres, self storage units. Various sizes. 665-0079, 665-2450.

OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

LOWEST Rents in City! Downtown locations-stores, warehouses, rec. facilities Call 665-4274!!

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REAL nice 3 bdr., 1 ba. with att. gar. Cent. heat. Hdwd. floors in bdrms. Christine st. \$495, dep. \$300 and a Darling 2 bdrm., 1 ba., det. gar., dishw., gar. dr. opener. Magnolia. \$325, dep. \$200. 665-7007

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Grieving relatives try to identify more than 250 killed in stampede

WAI, India (AP) — Thousands of sobbing relatives struggled to identify the blackened and bruised bodies of loved ones in a hospital Wednesday, a day after a stampede during a religious procession to a hilltop temple killed at least 258 people and injured 200 in western India.

The chain-reaction tragedy began when several Hindu pilgrims inside the temple fell on a slippery floor and were crushed to death by the crowd. Word of the accident then trickled out to some of the hundreds of thousands of pilgrims climbing toward the hilltop on a narrow walkway.

Angered over the deaths, some pilgrims began setting the shops lining the path on fire, sparking a stampede that killed at least 258 people, including 156 women, Subha Rao, the top district administrator, told The Associated Press.

'A couple of devotees slipped and fell on the floor. A mob from behind walked over them.'

— Chandrakant Kumbhar
Police chief

Nomeo Yerunkar, 45, was among an estimated 300,000 devotees who had gathered for an annual Hindu festival coinciding with the full moon on Tuesday. He was on the downward journey from the hilltop temple when the stampede broke out.

"The crowd began pushing and I saw people falling like sacks on top of each other. I started shouting for help, but there were no policemen," Yerunkar recalled.

"Nobody paid any attention. As

the bodies piled, I picked up coconuts and started throwing on the mob to alert them. An electrical pole came down from the crush of the pilgrims," he said, weeping uncontrollably.

Yerunkar said he helped pull 15 people alive from a mound of bodies. "But I couldn't find my wife Nirmala. I kept shouting for her."

He fainted after he identified his wife's body, wrapped in a white sheet, at the Wai hospital on

Wednesday. They had been married for 22 years.

Police chief Chandrakant Kumbhar said the tragedy began when the temple floor became slippery from a ceremony that involved breaking coconuts in front of a deity. Some pilgrims fell and were trampled to death by others propelled forward by the mass of people behind them trying to get into the temple to make offerings.

"A couple of devotees slipped and fell on the floor. A mob from behind walked over them," Kumbhar said. "When their relatives, who were still climbing the stairs, heard the news, they became angry and set fire to some shops."

The fires were set along a packed, narrow walkway lined with tea stalls and shops leading up a hill to the temple. They set off what witnesses

said was a stampede of screaming crowds fleeing in horror.

"People were running down the hill — it was madness," said Vijay Wankhede, who has a small shop near the temple.

Late Tuesday night, police and firefighters loaded bodies onto buses while sobbing relatives carried the crushed remains of their family members down the narrow hill path near Wai, about 150 miles south of Bombay.

Broken coconuts, torn shirts and shattered bangles lay on a slippery, wet floor outside the temple. Hundreds of stainless steel plates, traditionally used to make offerings of sweets and flowers to the gods, were strewn across the floor streaked red with vermilion powder used in the offerings.

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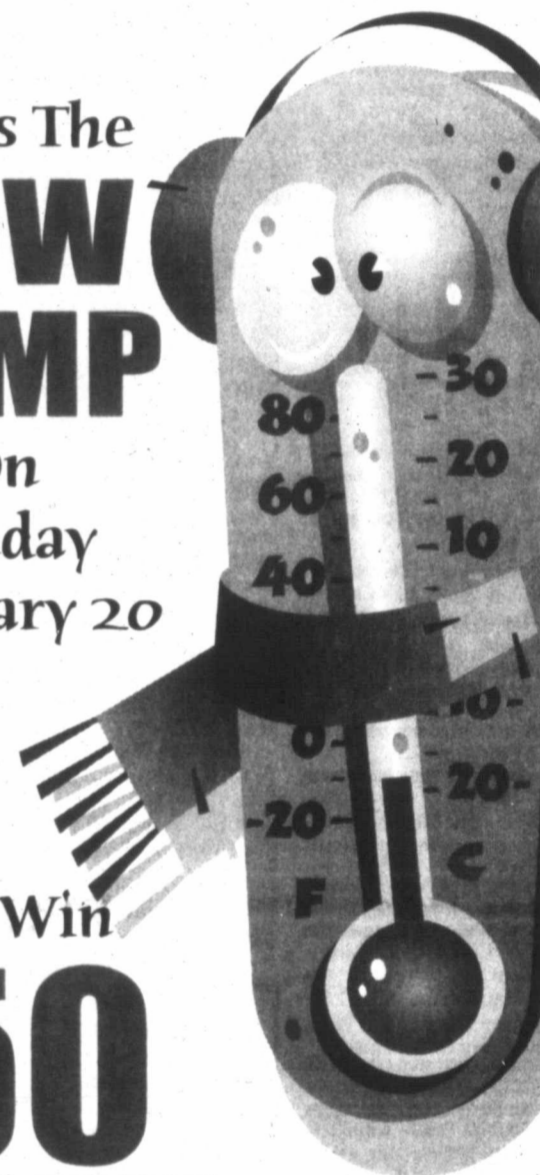
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