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Winter weather awareness day scheduled Tuesday

The Texas and Oklahoma Divisions of Emergency Management have joined the National Weather Service to designate Tuesday as Winter Weather Awareness Day. The purpose of Winter Weather Awareness Day is to focus public attention on winter weather safety and preparedness.

Weather across the Texas and Oklahoma panhandles is known for its sharp outbreaks of extreme cold, often accompanied by ice and snow. With no strong influence of an El Nino or La Nina present this season, the winter outlook has less certainty

than when these influences are pronounced. The National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center is forecasting near normal precipitation, but above normal temperatures for the 2005-06 winter season.

During the 2000-01 winter season, a total of 46.3 inches of snow fell at the National Weather Service in Amarillo. This was also a year when there was no significant El Nino or La Nina. This remains the third snowiest winter season on record. During that winter, 20.6 inches of snow fell from Dec. 25-27, making this the greatest single snowstorm

event during any December on record. The 21.2 inches of snow for the month was also a December record. Records date back to 1892. Last winter, a total of 40.3 inches of snow fell, including nearly 10 inches on the November presidential election day and nearly a foot of snow over spring break in March. Amarillo's season average is 15.6 inches.

In the Texas and Oklahoma panhandles there have been more winter related fatalities since 1950 than the combined total from lightning, tornadoes, and flash floods. 70 percent

of winter-related fatalities are vehicle related, usually where winter weather directly results in a traffic accident, or from exposure to the cold once a vehicle becomes stranded. Many more indirect deaths can be attributed to traffic accidents related to winter weather but are not recorded as winter weather deaths.

The National Weather Service in Amarillo urges people of the Texas and Oklahoma panhandles to take time now to prepare for winter weather. This includes assembling a survival kit for your home in the

See WEATHER, Page 3

FRED BROWN TREE AND TURF

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Pampa News Photo by DENNIS SPIES
Fire Chief Powell is comfortable in her job.

Fire chief followed dad's advice

By DENNIS SPIES
Editor

Kim Powell took her father's advice and followed a career that made her happy.

"I went to Tech to be a chemical engineer, but the calculus threw me," she said.

The Pampa Fire Chief's father told her to pursue a career doing something she wanted to do. Since she had trained with the Lefors Volunteer Fire Department since she was 16, she knew what that would be.

"Eddie Joe Roberts was

chief in Lefors, and he trained some women separate from the men," she said. "The women handled the fires during the day because the men were working their regular jobs."

Powell was certified as an Emergency Medical Technician at 18 when she was at Frank Phillips College in Borger, and has been with the Pampa Fire Department for 20 years.

She said when she applied at the department, she was the only woman who tested.

"We had a written test and

an agility test," she said. "I took the written test with about 30 men. I didn't want to go back when they posted the scores. But then someone said I had the fourth highest score."

She said when she went back to take the agility test with three other men, one of them did not show up, and one didn't have a valid driver's license. She and the remaining man were hired.

Powell said she loves fire service because of the different

See POWELL, Page 3

Annual Festival of Trees continues this afternoon



Pampa News photos by MARILYN POWERS
Pampa Garden Club's annual Festival of Trees continues from 1 to 4 p.m. today at M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium. Trees, both traditional and fanciful, are decorated in a variety of themes for the event. Snowmen such as this one, left, sporting Harvester colors and waving a Pampa banner, decorate one tree. Each snowman wears the colors and banner of a different regional school, such as WTA&MU and OU. Altrusa Club of Pampa's tree, above, was decorated by Pat Johnson, left, and Annette Chase.

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Improved irrigation scheduling network helps make every inch of moisture count

By KAY LEDBETTER
Texas A&M News

AMARILLO — With high fuel prices, no producer wants to pump more water than necessary to raise a crop.

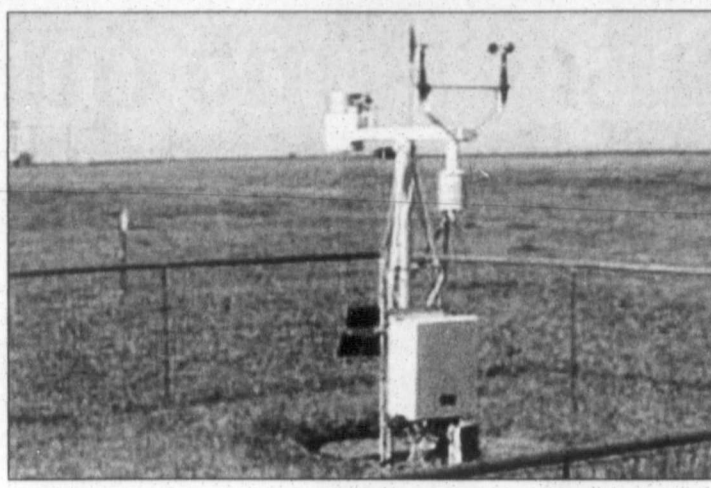
But does a recent rain necessarily mean the crop doesn't need to be watered? Do high winds make a difference on how soon the crop needs its next drink? And just how much should be applied?

The Texas High Plains Evapotranspiration Network can take much of the guesswork out of agricultural irrigation and provides that information on a daily basis, said Thomas Marek, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station agricultural engineer.

Evapotranspiration describes crop water demand, combining evaporation and transpiration, or water use by the plant. Reference crop evapotranspiration or potential evapotranspiration is an estimate of the water requirements for a well-watered reference crop used for modeling purposes.

The network utilizes this information as an irrigation-scheduling technology tool. It has been upgraded and made more user-friendly, with a new database and interface allowing users to get the data in several formats and plot them over the Web, Marek said. The changes came as a result of producers requesting a way to narrow the information they received, he said.

Marek and Dr. Dana Porter, Texas Cooperative Extension irrigation specialist and Experiment Station



Texas Agricultural Experiment Station photo by THOMAS MAREK
Weather stations throughout the High Plains region collect daily data to help area producers estimate crop water needs and schedule irrigations.

engineer from Lubbock, will unveil the latest changes and capabilities at the Panhandle Farm and Ranch Management Symposium on Dec. 1. The presentation will take place during the Amarillo Farm and Ranch Show.

Evapotranspiration is calculated by applying climate data, such as temperature, solar radiation, wind and relative humidity. This data is collected from different weather stations to estimate the water demand for a specific Panhandle area.

Some state networks use alfalfa as a reference or "control" crop, but the Texas High Plains network uses a well-watered tall fescue grass as a reference crop, which is more suited for the region, Marek said.

Irrigation water experts from the Experiment Station, as well as Extension and the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Service at Bushland, have been

involved in the development of precision crop water-use measurement instrumentation for several decades.

The North Plains Evapotranspiration Network in Amarillo and the South Plains Evapotranspiration Network in Lubbock were established in the 1990s to provide accurate, convenient and timely agriculturally based meteorological data to producers and agriculture researchers.

Network weather stations are located at Bushland, Chillicothe, Canyon, Dalhart, Dimmitt, Earth, Etter, Farwell, Halfway, Lamesa, Lubbock, Morse, Munday, Perryton, Wellington and White Deer. Stations will be added soon at Lockney and Pecos.

Additional data features and applications, including lawn and turf water-use estimates, have been added to the network site, expanding the clientele base, Marek said.

A new listserv, or auto-

mated e-mailing system, allows weather station outputs and data files to be e-mailed to users rather than faxed. A user can now easily select single or multiple stations from which to get crop water use and meteorological data on a daily basis.

The new database Web site is located at <http://txhighplainset.tamu.edu>. It provides convenient access to the network data sets, background information on data applications, network structure, and other information and tools.

Users can select hourly or daily data for specific dates and get the information in either a data table, text file, graph or advance graph form. This should assist in getting detailed data needs met in a timelier manner than through the conventional request process, Marek said.

Current electronic users can continue to download the daily files through the current Web site, but the new site has query or search capability for individual data parameters (soil temperature or wind speed, etc.).

The network coverage represents approximately 4 million acres. More than 800 pages of irrigation information based on meteorological data are disseminated daily to producers. This is accomplished through about 400 faxes and 400 Web-based downloads, Marek said.

"Knowing how much crop water is required in real time is key to true irrigation scheduling for area producers and is what the (network) provides in a direct, user-friendly format," he said.

Foreign Language Department to present Raul Cortez concert

The Pampa High School Foreign Language Department will present Raul Cortez in concert at M.K. Brown Auditorium at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Cortez is an accomplished vocalist and guitarist. He will perform traditional and seasonal songs in Spanish.

The department extends an invitation to the community to attend this multi-cultural event according to a press release from Beth Anne Preston in the Spanish Department at PHS.

Pampa High School foreign language students will also perform traditional Spanish and Latin Christmas

carols.

Cortez, a native of Chihuahua, Mexico, began to play the guitar at the age of 6. He is from a musical family and has participated in singing competitions at the state level.

When he was 18, he and his father and brothers formed a musical group in Ciudad de Chihuahua. He moved to Pampa in 1998 and has been performing in many venues in the Panhandle.

Tickets may be purchased at the door. Individual tickets are \$10, and family tickets are \$15.

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Application deadline is Feb. 1, 2006.

For more information, call (806)651-2599 or go to www.wtamu.edu/academic/ess/edu/pace.

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School board meets Monday

Pampa's Independent School Board will meet at 6 p.m. Monday to allow discussion and planning of the Facilities Study Committee.

The meeting will be held at the Pampa Junior High School library, 2401 Charles St.

Pete Laney says he won't run again

AUSTIN (AP) — Former Texas Speaker Pete Laney announced Friday he will not run for another term to his state House seat.

The Democrat from Hale Center, who was forced to leave the speaker's office and rejoin the House rank-and-file after Republicans won a majority of the chamber's seats in 2002, declined to say why he decided not to run in 2006.

"I'm looking at other things, but we'll make those decisions at a later time," Laney, 62, told The Associated Press. "We're making one decision at a time. After 33 years, this is a pretty big one to make at one time."

In a statement, Laney said he plans to continue his involvement in government and become "more involved in programs to advance the importance of public service."

Laney, a West Texas cotton farmer and used-car salesman, was first elected to the House in 1972 and rose through the legislative ranks at a time when conservative rural Democrats ruled state government.

He had served as House speaker since 1993, enjoying support from both sides of the aisle. In 2000, Republican George W. Bush, the outgoing Texas governor, asked Laney to introduce him on national television after Bush was declared the winner of the divisive presidential election.

Powell

Continued from Page 1

aspects of the job and that fire service is team oriented.

"The group culture is a team effort with 24 guys who make up the department," she said.

She said she likes to hire local people who have a sense of community who will stay longer on the job. Local hires are then sent to school either in Kilgore or Amarillo.

When she became fire chief about seven years ago, she encountered some resistance from some of the men under her.

"Capt. Don Hendricks helped and trained me," she said. "He stood up for me. Gary Ensey is another one who believed in me and stood up for me."

There is not nearly the resistance from younger workers now.

"Culturally, it's not a big deal now," she said about a woman supervising young men.

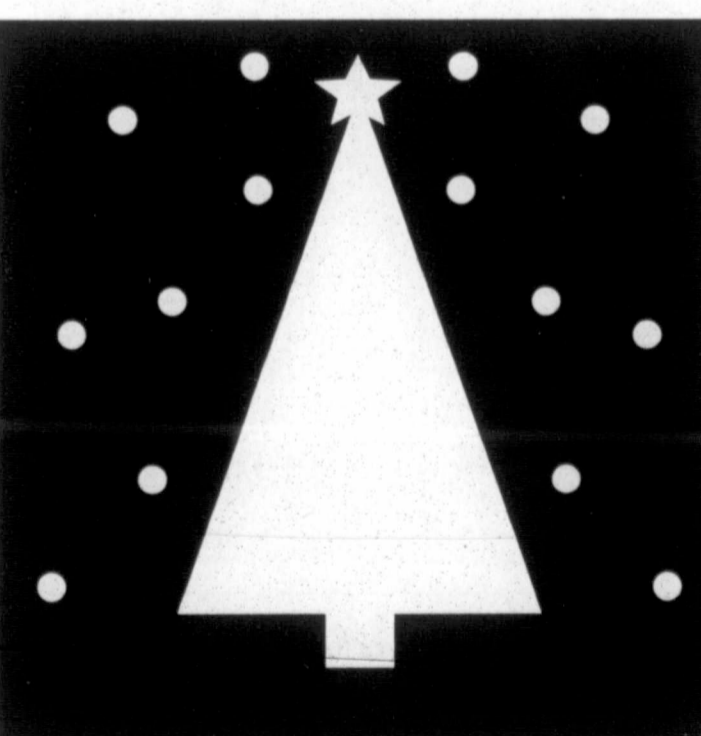
She dismisses the fact that she is one of probably three paid female fire chiefs in the country.

"It's all about the guys our there," she said, nodding her head toward the firehouse outside her office. "They are the ones who deserve the recognition."

Weather

Continued from Page 1

event electrical power is disrupted and you become isolated in your home for several days. It is also important to keep a survival kit in your vehicle in the event you become stranded while traveling. Preparing now can be a life-saving decision.



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Pampa Independent School District

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

Pampa ISD Events For The Week Of December 5 - December 10

Pampa High School

December 5 • Parent Support Group • Room 113 7:00pm

December 5 • All Night Party Meeting • 7:00pm

December 6 • Spanish Concert • MK Brown 1:00pm & 6:00pm

December 7 • Baseball Booster Meeting • Library 7:00pm

December 8 • Credit By Exam

December 8 • Choir Christmas Concert 1st Christian Church 7:00pm

December 8 & 9 • Drama Play • Auditorium 7:00pm

December 10 • Children's Shopping Tour • Optimist Club 8:00am-12

December 10 • Student Council Christmas Party

Pampa Learning Center

December 6 • Christmas Extravaganza • 10:00am

Pampa Junior High School

December 5 • Choir Caroling Party

December 5, 6, 7 • 6th Band Rehearsal • Auditorium 3:35-4:30pm

December 8 • 6th Band Christmas Choir Concert • PJH Auditorium 7:00pm

Austin Elementary

December 7 • 4th-5th Grade To PJH "Code of Honor" Assembly

December 8 • 5th Grade Choir Program • 9:30am

Lamar Elementary

December 6 • 4th & 5th Grade "ROCK" Music Program • 9:00am

December 6 & 8 • Kid's Cafe • 5:30-6:30pm

December 6 & 8 • Family Literacy Night • 6:00-7:30pm

December 7 • 4th & 5th Grade To PJH "Code of Honor" Assembly

December 8 • Parent Make And Take • 10:00am-2:00pm

Travis Elementary

December 9 • 3rd Grade To Nutcracker In Amarillo • 8:00am-2:30pm

Wilson Elementary

December 5 & 7 • Family Literacy Night • 6:00-7:30pm

December 5 & 7 • Kids Cafe • 5:30-6:30pm

December 7 • ESL • 1:00-3:00pm

December 9 • 2nd Grade Christmas Caroling • 1:30pm

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

Viewpoints

Cheney's secret visit raises some questions

The recent visit by Vice President Dick Cheney was entirely unremarkable except for the cloak of secrecy that made a lot of folks wonder just what was going on.

If it was just a simple hunting trip to see T. Boone Pickens and shoot at some birds or other wildlife, why not just come out in the open and say so?

A hunting trip by the vice president of the United States is not exactly classified as top secret information. Why pretend that it is?

We heard about the impending trip a few weeks before it occurred, but trying to nail it down or get someone on the record to confirm it was almost impossible.

Reporter Marilyn Powers, who was working on the story, called Cheney's office.

The people she talked to said they would not say anything on the record except that they were not authorized to disclose any information about Vice President Cheney.

The man is a public figure, a civil servant. Is anyone authorized?

I even asked a friend who works for the government in D.C. if he could find someone to confirm the trip.

He was met with silence from an acquaintance in a position to know travel plans for top politicians.

This was no state secret. After seeing Secret Service guys in suits with guns and communications equipment hanging around town, you got the notion that something was up.

One of them even lied to Powers, telling her he was

with an oil company waiting for a ride.

It is almost as if the man exists only in a cloud somewhere, able to peek in and out at will, and thumb his nose at the citizens who pay his salary.

Dennis Spies
Editor

Columnist Dennis Palmitier called the vice president's office last week and was stonewalled as we were. He finally talked to someone who did not know that Lyndon Baines Johnson was a former President.

After the arrogant paranoia of Cheney's office staff, we tried some local people.

The motel people where the Secret Service was housed attributed the reser-

vations they had to a local basketball tournament.

No one wanted to talk. No one could say, "Why yes, Vice President Cheney is going to Texas to visit Boone Pickens and do some hunting."



That would have been too practical. Instead it was a trip clothed in secrecy which raised more questions.

Is someone hiding something?

Why pick Pampa, Texas? Why not a location with trees and rivers where the wind does not blow so hard?

Was Cheney secretly trying to raise funds for the Republican Party?

What was with all the cloak and dagger stuff, the furtive hiding and tiptoeing around?

Why was everyone connected with this trip sworn to secrecy?

Did he threaten to torture them, or tell them he would cut off their thumbs, ears and tongues if they said anything?

Why was everyone so terrified? The atmosphere of fear is appalling in a democratic society.

Someone from the motel even contacted us and wanted to know where and how we got our information. Has the paranoia spread that far?

Have we come so far as to use fear to control people's lives?

The paranoia we dealt with is unsettling. Perhaps that is the way they do things

in the Beltway. It is not the way these events should be conducted in a free and open society.

Ruling with fear does little for the exchange of open ideas. It only makes those who are manipulated more paranoid and they sow the fear factor on others.

It is a vicious cycle, and all because of secrets.

Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely, a wise man said.

Especially when there are secrets where none need be.

When you stop and think about it, Cheney's trip to Pampa was not that big a deal. He was here. So what?

Yes, average people were interested. After all he is a powerful public figure.

But why was all the secrecy, hiding and stonewalling necessary?

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, Dec. 4, the 338th day of 2005. There are 27 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 4, 1783, Gen. George Washington bade farewell to his officers at Fraunces Tavern in New York.

On this date:

In 1816, James Monroe of Virginia was elected the fifth president of the United States.

In 1875, William Marcy Tweed, the "Boss" of New York City's Tammany Hall political organization, escaped from jail and fled the country.

In 1918, President Wilson set sail for France to attend the Versailles Peace Conference.

'Beauty is the promise of happiness.'

Stendahl (Henri Beyle)
French author and critic (1783-1842)

In 1942, President Roosevelt ordered the dismantling of the Works Progress Administration, which had been created to provide jobs during the Depression.

In 1942, U.S. bombers struck the Italian mainland for the first time in World War II.

In 1945, the Senate approved U.S. participation in the United Nations.

In 1965, the United States launched Gemini 7 with Air Force Lt. Col. Frank Borman and Navy Cmdr. James A. Lovell aboard.

In 1978, San Francisco got its first female mayor as City Supervisor Dianne Feinstein was named to replace the assassinated George Moscone.

In 1980, the bodies of four American churchwomen slain in El Salvador two days earlier were unearthed. Five national guardsmen were later convicted of murdering nuns Ita Ford, Maura Clarke and Dorothy Kazel, and lay worker Jean Donovan.

In 1984, a five-day hijack drama began as four armed men seized a Kuwaiti airliner en route to Pakistan and forced it to land in Tehran, Iran, where the hijackers killed American passenger Charles Hegna.

Ten years ago: The first NATO troops landed in the Balkans to begin setting up a peace mission that brought American soldiers into the middle of the Bosnian conflict.

Five years ago: In a pair of legal setbacks for Al Gore, a Florida state judge refused to overturn George W. Bush's certified victory in Florida and the U.S. Supreme Court set aside a ruling that had allowed manual recounts.



Writer daring to tip at windmills ...

A mind, the well-worn commercial reminds, is a terrible thing to waste. David Harris-Gershon, a high school teacher in Washington, D.C., is eager to begin graduate study to improve his mind, but so far, hasn't found any underwriters.

And it's not as though he hasn't expended creative efforts that go substantially further than "the old college try."

A University of Georgia graduate, David teaches Judaic studies and film at the Charles E. Smith Day School in suburban Maryland. His wife, mother of a 2-year-old with another child due in March, teaches alongside. They make the 40-minute drive together daily.

David's dream, however, is full-time graduate study to

hone writing skills. So far, no investors have stepped forward to underwrite his three-year stint in graduate school. He believes the additional time and focused study of an M.F.A. degree will help to deepen his craft and enhance his teaching of the writing art.

So serious is he that he's offering 20 percent of his writing profits up the way in exchange for \$100,000 pledged in an Internet auction — up front.

If you want to get in on the bidding and learn more details, check his Web site at www.mywritingfund.com

He's determined not to go into debt, and figures the 100

grand is about the amount needed to keep his family going for three years.

So far, there have been no bidders, but more than 2,000 Web site "hits" suggest that interests have been piqued.

And, as he puts it, "just one investor is needed."

The 31-year-old educator knows he is in uncharted waters. While eBay and other "buy whatever you want here" sites are rife with unusual items, an auction calling for bidders to "trust and obey" may be a stretch.

But, it has generated calls from the Washington Post, Associated Press, National Public Radio and other media. And mine as well.

My Uncle Clarence warned about buying "a pig in a poke." He was a pay as you go guy. He said "you buys your ticket and you takes your chances rat now" — not rat like a mouse, but "rat" now.

Still, folks spend money on worse odds daily with the purchase of tens of millions of dollars in lottery tickets. A friend says that if you really want to win the lottery, simply raise your window — that the odds of buying a winning lottery ticket and one blowing in through the window are about the same.

David, mum on his project at school, has received more than 100 e-mails and phone calls from inquiring media reps. Thankfully, more than 90 percent offered congratulations for his ingenuity.

See WRITER, Page 7

Don Newbury
Columnist



Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ Nov. 27

Houston Chronicle on the future of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's political party:

For six decades, there was little question what Ariel Sharon would do with political or military might. Though he describes himself as a frustrated farmer, Israel's prime minister spent his life in battle: He fought Egypt in 1973's Yom Kippur War; led Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon, with its shameful Sabra and Shatila massacres; combated the second intifada, which started after Sharon's provocative visit to the Temple Mount.

Israel's Temple, Sharon has often said, is the one goal that informs his

choices. But this month he dumbfounded observers by announcing this goal is no longer best pursued by the far-right Likud Party he founded 30 years ago. Instead, Sharon has founded the new, apparently centrist Forward Party, which will emphasize peace-seeking and likely form a coalition with the dovish Labor Party. If elections were held today, the Israeli newspaper Yedioth Ahronoth reported, Sharon's new party would sweep 33 Knesset seats, followed by Labor with 26. Likud would snare only 13 seats.

Yet Sharon's split from Likud still throws observers into a frenzy of guesswork. His stunning actions raise the same questions as his 2003 announcement that Israeli troops and residents would leave the Gaza Strip.

The questions of intent that teemed around Gaza now apply to Sharon's

new party. What is Sharon's real purpose? Is it to consolidate other settlements? Or is it to start productive, two-sided peace talks that would include the fate of Israel's settlements on the West Bank?

This September, Sharon, the lifelong warrior, told the United Nations, "The right of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel does not mean disregarding the rights of others in the land ... 1/8 We 3/8 have no aspirations to rule over them. They are also entitled to freedom and to a national, sovereign existence in a state of their own."

Many who cannot forget the butchery in Lebanon will trust neither Sharon's changed words nor the stated goals of his new party. Others recall that it took the ferociously anti-com-

See SHARON, Page 7

THE PAMPA NEWS

403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065

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Publisher: Sean Smith

Editor: Dennis Spies

Advertising Director: ReDonn Woods

Composing Supervisor: Brenda Cook

Circulation Manager: Leon Watson

This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily, except Saturdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day, by The Pampa News. Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.

All carriers are independent contractors and The Pampa News is not responsible for advance payments of two or more months made to the carrier. Please pay directly to the Pampa News any payment that exceeds the current collection period. There are no mail subscriptions available within the city limits of Pampa. Mail subscriptions must be paid three months in advance.

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Food program now available at child, adult day care centers

AUSTIN — Nutritious free meals are available to participants at more than 1,600 adult and child care centers in Texas, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission has announced.

The Child and Adult Care Food Program, funded by the U.S.

Department of Agriculture, reimburses centers and day care homes for the meals. The program serves all enrolled children and adults at participating centers without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

Children who are participating

in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or Food Stamp Programs are automatically eligible to receive the free meals. Adults are automatically eligible if they receive Supplemental Security Income or Medicaid benefits or are a member of a food stamp house-

hold.

To find out whether a center or day care home near you participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, look for the official poster, "Building for the Future," or ask the center's director or day care home provider for information

Program eligibility is based on household income. For example a family of one with a household income equal to or less than \$17,705 per year or \$1,475 per month is eligible to participate. For each additional family member add \$6,031 per year or \$503 per month.

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Local 20th Century Cotillion Club organizing 2005 Holiday Home Tour

Twentieth Century Cotillion Club is once again organizing a Holiday Home Tour this Christmas season. The tour, now in its 10th year, will include the homes of Bob and Liza Harrison, Jeff and McKinley Quisenberry and Chris and Jodi Roden.

The tour will be conducted between 1 and 4 p.m. Dec. 11.

The Harrison Home, 1413 N. Russell. This prairie-style two-story home was built between 1912 and 1917 for Charles and Gertrude Osborne by their son-in-law Noah Parker. It was originally located southeast of Pampa on the loop just past the overpass. The Harrisons purchased it in September 1999.

The Harrisons painted it yellow with white trim and added porch railings and a



The Harrison Home, 1413 N. Russell.

See TOUR, Page 9



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NEW SELECTION OF FASHION PURSES

WATCH FOR OUR WEEKEND SPECIALS IN THIS THURSDAY'S PAMPA NEWS

Portfolio strategist to address next investment series at WT

CANYON — Mamundi Subhas, chief financial officer and senior vice president of Neuberger Berman LLC, is the scheduled guest speaker at the Wednesday meeting of the West Texas A&M University College of Business Investment Series.

The luncheon and meeting begin at 11:45 a.m. at the Amarillo Club. The public is invited to attend; however, seating is limited and reservations are appropriate. Contact Dr. Anne Macy, associate professor of finance and director of the Investment Series, at 806-651-2523 or at amacy@mail.wtamu.edu.

Subhas is an expert in portfolio policies and asset allocation with a particular emphasis on bonds. He will present his portfolio strategy ideas for 2006.

"We are very fortunate to have Mr. Subhas as a speaker," Macy said. "He is well known within the investment community for his expertise on interest rate effects on portfolios. With a new Federal Reserve chairing and increasing interest rates, his comments and suggestions will be relevant and useful to all investors."

Before joining Neuberger Berman LLC, Subhas co-headed the high-yield rating team at Moody's Investor Services. He previously has worked at Prudential Securities and for the WEFA Group.

As an educational

See SERIES, Page 9

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Drilling Intentions

Intentions to Drill
GRAY (PANHANDLE) Mon Corp., #15 J.H. Palmer, 827' from South & 1549' from West line, Sec. 31,B-1,H&GN, PD 3600'.
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & ALLISON-PARKS Granite Wash) Chesapeake Operating, Inc., #301 Eden, 660' from North & 2150' from West line, Sec. 1,Z-1,ACH&B, PD 16000'.
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Brigham Oil & Gas, L.P., #2 Hobart '59', 1600' from South & 90' from West line, Sec. 59,A-1,H&GN, PD 13200'.
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Forest Oil Corp., John C. Vise, Sec. 52,M-1,H&GN, PD 133500', for the following wells:
 #1352A, 1650' from South & 2310' from West line of Sec.
 #1452A, 1650' from South & East line of Sec.
 #3052A, 1650' from South & 990' from West line of Sec.
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Noble Energy Production, Inc., #4229P Teas '42', 1150' from South & 467' from West line, Sec. 42,M-1,H&GN, PD 13500'.
HUTCHISON (WEST PANHANDLE) Pantera Energy Co., PD 3400', for the following wells:
 #1 Gibson, 330' from South & West line of Sec. 15,X02,John H. Gibson Survey.
 #2 Kelly, 648' from North & 1662' from West line, Sec. 30,y,A&B.
HUTCHINSON (WEST PANHANDLE) Cecil Pruett Estate, #3 Pruett 'B', 2175' from South & 330' from East line, Sec. 2,1,B&B, PD 3223'. Recompletion
SHERMAN (TEXAS HUGOTON)

Craig B. Wood or Dianne Monroe, #2 Craig, 1250' from South & East line, Sec. 11,3-T,T&NO, PD 3500'.
WHEELER (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Forest Oil Corp., Finsterwald Dobbs, Sec. 51,M-1,H&GN, PD 13500', for the following wells:
 #1051, 1650' from North & 2310' from West line of Sec.
 #1351, 2310' from South & 990' from West line of Sec.
WHEELER (FRYE RANCH Granite Wash) Forest Oil Corp., #1429 Frye Ranch, 990' from North & 1650' from East line, Sec. 29,A-3,H&GN, PD 15200'.
WHEELER (FRYE RANCH Granite Wash) Forest Oil Corp., #1629 Frye Ranch, 1650' from South & East line, Sec. 29,A-3,H&GN, PD 15400'.
WHEELER (WILDCAT & LISTER Granite Wash) Noble Energy Production, Inc., #5004 Moore, 467' from North & 660' from West line, Sec. 50,A-7,H&GN, PD 14000'.
WHEELER (WILDCAT & ATILES RANCH Atoka) Chesapeake Operating, Inc., #1 Brummett '22', 1980' from South & West line, Sec. 22,A-3,H&GN, PD 16000'.
Oil Well Completions
WHEELER (FRYE RANCH Granite Wash 'A') Dominion Oklahoma Texas E&P, Inc., #4 Frye '2', Sec. 2,5,B&B, spud 9-2-05, drlg. compl 9-18-05, tested 10-25-05, flowed 127.7 bbl. of 59.6 grav. oil thru 22/64" choke on 24 hour test, GOR 5082, TD 12600', PBDT 12475' —
Gas Well Completions
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) B&W Operating, L.L.C., #3 Meadows '4', Sec. 4,4,AB&M, spud 3-28-05, drlg. compl 4-14-05, tested 10-6-05,

potential 336 MCF, TD 11600' —
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Dominion Texas E&P, Inc., #4 Lola '235', Sec. 235,C,G&MMB&A, spud 6-13-05, drlg. compl 6-29-05, tested 9-21-05, TD 13200', PBDT 12820' —
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Encore Operating Co., L.P., #1238 Meek, Sec. 23,C,G&MMB&A, spud 5-16-05, tested 10-19-05, potential 48 MCF, TD 13200', PBDT 13109' —
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Forest Oil Corp., #9048A Irene Dixon, Sec. 48,A-2,H&GN, spud 8-20-05, drlg. compl 9-10-05, tested 10-22-05, TD 12930', PBDT 12786'.
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Forest Oil Corp., #1852 John C. Vise, Sec. 52,M-1,H&GN, spud 8-15-05, drlg. compl 9-10-05, tested 10-2-05, TD 13550', PBDT 13540'.
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Forest Oil Corp., #2030A Walsler, Sec. 30,A-2,H&GN, spud 7-18-05, drlg. compl 8-13-05, tested 10-8-05, TD 12944', PBDT 12760' — Form 1 filed in Peak Operating
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Noble Energy Production, Inc., #5402P Vandiver, Sec. 54,M-1,H&GN, spud 4-7-05, drlg. compl 4-23-05, tested 8-4-05, TD 11823', PBDT 11800' — Form 1 in Patina Oil & Gas
HEMPHILL (HEMPHILL Granite Wash) Cimarex Energy Co., #1069 Hobart Ranch, Sec. 69,A-2,H&GN, spud 6-18-05, drlg. compl 7-10-05, tested 10-28-05, potential 2020 MCF, TD 12800', PBDT 12707' —
HEMPHILL (N.W. MENDOTA Granite Wash) Pablo Energy, Inc.,
 See INTENTS, Page 9

Bishops told to bar gays from seminaries

By The Associated Press
 A Vatican letter sent privately to Roman Catholic bishops worldwide instructs them to bar men "with homosexual tendencies" from being rectors or teachers at seminaries.
 The letter, dated Nov. 4, accompanied advance copies of the "instruction" on gays in the priesthood that was released publicly on Tuesday by Rome's Congregation for Catholic Education. That congregation also is currently supervising inspections of all 229 U.S. seminaries and has directed visiting teams to look for "evidence of homosexuality" on campus.
 The cover letter was first reported on by America's Catholic News Service and will be published in Origins, its periodical that prints texts of church documents.
 The letter tells bishops that the new Vatican document "does not call into question the validity of" previous ordinations of priests "with homosexual tendencies" or of priests for whom "such tendencies have manifested themselves after ordination," although they are expected to maintain celibacy.
 It then prohibits gays from leading or teaching at seminaries. "Because of the particular responsibility of those charged with the formation of future priests, they are not to be appointed as rectors or educators in seminaries," the letter says.
 The Vatican instruction itself prohibits seminary enrollment and ordination for men who are actively gay, have "deeply rooted homosexual tendencies" or "support so-called gay culture." Those with only "transitory" homosexual tendencies must be celibate three years before ordination.
 The letter also reports that the Vatican has been working on the issue of gays in the priesthood since 1996, long before a sex abuse crisis hit the American clergy.
 The idea originated when the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith led by then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger — now Pope Benedict XVI — asked the education congregation to prepare an instruction on homosexuals and priestly vocations.
Sharon minister Richard Nixon to bank up the credibility to forge a bond with China. Israelis, who vote in an early election this March, will be watching closely to learn the Forward Party's real vision. Palestinians, with their own elections in January, should do all in their power to engage the new Sharon and consign the old, implacable leader to history.
 Continued from Page 4

Writer

Continued from Page 4

sadly, there hasn't been a call from Oprah.
 A few callers have heaped on castigations, accusing him of soul-selling and such. If you check out his Web site, you'll see in his blogs a convincing rebuttal, naming numerous authors of note have written at the behest of patrons.
 May he be spared the sting of an anonymous letter received from a peeved reader of one of my first college newspaper epistles: "If I couldn't write better than you, I'd stick the quill back in the goose," the letter read.


 It is easy, of course, to tell folks how to invest, and even easier to be dead wrong. My record is not good, since I've always bought "sweet chariot" stocks.
 When I buy them, they swing low.

 He's in the second month of auctioning efforts, determined to stay the course. Some might think of him as a Don Quixote, whistling The Impossible Dream as he takes on windmills.
 I have read every word on his Web site, and spoken with him on the telephone. I am convinced that he is extremely talented and as serious as a funeral. I do not discount the possibility of his name one day being well-known in publishing circles.
 I may well kick myself, figuring that while there's no way I could put my hand on \$100,000, I might be able to put together 100 people who could toss in a thousand bucks each. They might consider it a scholarship for a worthy recipient, particularly in view of his goal to remain a teacher.

 A few of his students read something about the project, and told him they'd like to help him with bake sales.
 It would take a lot of sales to raise this kind of bread, but it says much of what they think of their teacher, whom I wish well.

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Medical

Curing common cold and flu myths — rethink your approach

(NAPSA) — When the sniffles and aches invade your home this year, it might be time to reconsider your approach. Millions of Americans get a cold or the flu each year and, for many, acting on common misconceptions about treatments may actually prevent them from getting better faster. "The best approach to treating symptoms is to talk to your pharmacist or doctor," said Lindsey Stephens, pharmacist and director for

Medicine Shoppe International, Inc. "There are countless old wives' tales about colds and the flu but your pharmacist can help identify remedies for your individual symptoms." So what's true and what's myth? Medicine Shoppe Pharmacists have identified three popular cold and flu misconceptions as well as tips for avoiding a cold or the flu. Myth 1: Getting a flu vaccine can give you the flu.

Flu vaccines are not live viruses and cannot give you the flu. But some people may have reactions to the shot or inhalation, including achy muscles, fever and drowsiness. Myth 2: Antibiotics can cure the flu. Most flus are viral illnesses, not bacterial, so antibiotics are not usually the best treatment option. Instead, treat the flu with rest, fluids and medications such as pain relievers and decongestants

that relieve symptoms. Myth 3: The more vitamins you can take, the better. Taking a multivitamin helps strengthen your immune system but excess vitamins are eliminated by the body. For some people, unpleasant symptoms such as stomach discomfort may occur due to unabsorbed vitamins in the intestinal tract. Talk to your pharmacist to find the right balance for your health. There are proactive meas-

ures to protect your family from viruses this season. Pharmacists suggest: -Getting a flu shot. Even if you had one last year, get it again. Flu viruses change each year and immunity declines over time. -Taking a daily multivitamin. Strengthen your immune system with the recommended amount of vitamins and minerals. -Considering a zinc regimen. If you feel a cold coming on, try a zinc supplement,

which is intended to shorten the duration of a cold. -Talking to your pharmacist. If you do get sick, your pharmacist can help you choose the best medicine to treat your symptoms. If your symptoms persist for longer than a week, check with your doctor. For more information on medications or to find the nearest Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy and upcoming flu vaccine clinics, visit medicineshoppe.com.



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PAMPA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Fish makes a great source of protein

(NAPSA) — To help combat the child obesity problem that affects an estimated nine million American children ages 6 to 19, the American Heart Association and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's new guidelines encourage children to eat more lean meats, such as fish.

The AHA is recommending children eat fish at least twice a week for its health benefits. The USDA also recommends that children eat more fish in the new "MyPyramid for Kids" — a supplement for children ages 6 to 11, to the food guide MyPyramid, released earlier this year.

MyPyramid is a personalized, interactive food guidance system based on the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans developed by a 13-member committee whose scientific research formed the basis for the recommendations.

MyPyramid is catered to an individual's nutritional needs and the new supple-



ment provides kids with a fun, interactive game and the proper tools to eat a healthier diet and lead a more active lifestyle.

In the AHA guidelines, canned light tuna, salmon and other fish are cited as being rich in heart-healthy omega-3 fatty acids. These fish are also high in protein and are low-calorie and low-fat, when compared to other protein sources, such as beef.

"Fish such as canned tuna and salmon are a great source of omega-3, which helps with heart problems," said Sharon McNeerney, registered dietician. "These fish are also a great source of lean protein, which is essential to the diets of growing

children. "It is important to teach kids healthy eating habits at an early age to help them lead healthy lives today and in the future."

Chicken of the Sea's culinary expert, Lena Cutler, has come up with some fun ideas to get kids to enjoy eating fish in a healthy way:

- Substitute fish in your favorite recipes — try using tuna or salmon burgers or fish tacos.
 - Add fish to enhance a dish that is already popular with kids — mac 'n' cheese, pizza, etc.
 - Get kids involved with meal planning — let them choose recipes they like and find ways for them to help in the kitchen.
 - Since most kids already like tuna sandwiches, try improving the health benefits by reducing the amount of mayonnaise used in the filling and/or substituting with light mayonnaise or light sour cream.
- For seafood recipe ideas that you and your kids can make together, visit www.chickenofthesea.com.

Uninsured can get help

(NAPSA) — What would you do if someone said that you could get help paying for your medicines? Would you want to find out how to get help? Or would you think you don't qualify?

Well, if you are uninsured, you may be able to get help even if you think you make too much. There are hundreds of programs available to help uninsured Americans pay for their medicines.

Some programs give medicines free-of-charge to people with low yearly incomes. Other programs help people who make more to get savings on the price they pay at their pharmacy.

There are nearly 46 million Americans who do not have insurance to help pay for health care. Without insurance, it can be difficult to pay for hospital stays, doctor visits, medical tests and prescription medicines. It is important to see the doctor before you get really sick, and it is important to follow the doctor's plan to help you get better. Sometimes that plan includes taking medicine regularly.

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THE STORY OF
Warren L. Hasse
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Because of Harrington Cancer Center, Warren Hasse was able to attend pre-treatment orientation classes that answered every question he had about cancer and the treatment process. The Harrington Cancer Center Pampa Clinic also allowed him to visit with a doctor in his hometown. Most importantly, Harrington Cancer Center gave Warren a team of volunteers, nurses and doctors who were with him every step of the way.

Today, feeling good is a daily activity for Warren Hasse. He would tell you that making people feel good... through outstanding treatment, exceptional education, devoted social services and timely clinical research... is a daily mission for Harrington Cancer Center.

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Intents

Continued from Page 7

#3036 Campbell Ranch '36', Sec. 36, 1, 1&GN, spud 8-12-05, drlg. compl 9-11-05, tested 10-28-05, TD 11470'
ROBERTS (ALPAR-PEARSON Brown Dolomite) Latigo Petroleum Texas, L.P., #5 Courson Ranch '136', Sec. 136, C, G&M spud 6-3-05, drlg. compl 6-9-05, tested 8-8-05, potential 711 MCF, TD 4300', PBD 4080'
WHEELER (ALLISON-BRITT 12350') Chesapeake Operating, Inc., #5 Elmore '21', Sec. 21, RE, R&E, spud 5-9-05, drlg. compl 5-26-05, tested 7-8-05, potential 3612 MCF, TD 13100', PBD 13057'
WHEELER (BUFFALO WALLOW

Granite Wash) Dominion Oklahoma Texas E&P, Inc., #8 Zybach '65', Sec. 65, M-1, H&GN, spud 8-9-05, drlg. compl 8-29-05, tested 10-10-05, TD 13862', PBD 13791'
WHEELER (J.J. CREEK) Forest Oil Corp., #2055 Austin, Sec. 55, A-4, H&GN, spud 12-11-04, drlg. compl 12-31-04, tested 10-17-05, TD 13977', PBD 13888'
WHEELER (LOTT RANCH 14500') Newfield Exploration Mid-Con., Inc., #1 Michelle, Sec. 1, —, CCSL, spud 6-2-05, drlg. compl 6-24-05, tested 10-24-05, potential 762 MCF, TD 14558', PBD 14543'
WHEELER (STILES RANCH Granite Wash) Apache Corp., #503 Stiles '3', Sec. 3, A-3, H&GN, spud 3-3-05, drlg.

compl 7-29-05, tested 10-7-05, potential 14034 MCF, TD 14400', PBD 14351'
WHEELER (STILES RANCH Granite Wash) Newfield Exploration Mid-Con., Inc., #606 Britt, Sec. 6, 1, B&B, spud 5-25-05, drlg. compl 6-23-05, tested 10-25-05, TD 14950', PBD 14950'
Plugged Wells
HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) Energy 2000, Inc., Tracy, Sec. 15, X-02, H&OB (oil) — Form 1 filed in Hooks Brothers Oil Co., for the following wells:
 #1, 330' from South & West Lease line, spud unknown, plugged 11-7-05, TD 3175'
 #2, 990' from South & 330' from West Lease line, spud unknown, plugged 11-2-05, TD 3175'
 #3, 990' from North & 330' from West

Lease line, spud 4-3-84, plugged 11-1-05, TD 3165'
 #4, 330' from North & West Lease line, spud 4-19-84, plugged 10-28-05, TD 3175'
 #5W, 330' from North & 990' from West Lease line, spud unknown, plugged 10-26-05, TD 3174' (disposal)
HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) Energy 2000 Inc., Johnson, Sec. 66, 46, H&TC (oil) — Form 1 in Baker & Hagi, for the following wells:
 #1, 330' from South & West Lease line, spud 5-8-52, plugged 11-14-05, TD 2773'
 #2, 330' from South & 990' from West Lease line, spud unknown, plugged 11-9-05, TD 2770'

Tour

Continued from Page 6

bright blue front door. The interior consists of six bedrooms and three baths.

In 2003, the Harrisons hosted an Osborne family reunion. The Osbornes presented the Harrisons with a framed history of the house which is currently displayed at the foot of the stairs.

The Quisenberry Home, 101 W. Virginia. The Quisenberry home was built in 1953. It consists of two bedrooms and two baths and has had many



The Roden Home, 116 Walnut Road.

owners and many additions over the years. An upstairs has been added and the

basement completed within the last 10 years.

The home was designed along an open floor plan with large windows. Each of the two bedrooms include a full bath and a walk-in closet. The exterior landscaping is accented by a limestone walkway and stepped patio, and a brick and iron fence wrap around the front of the house.

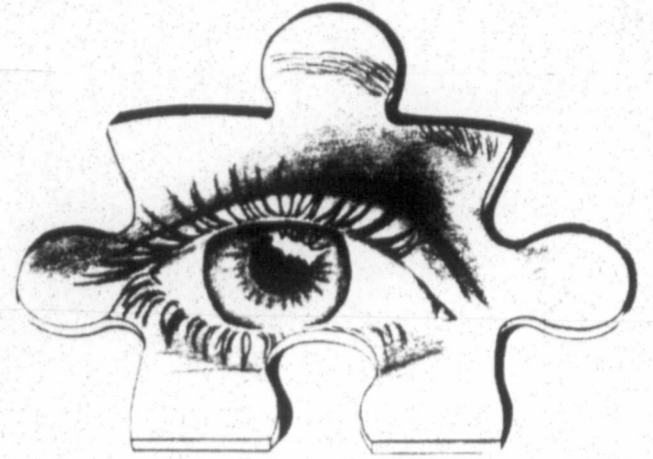
The Roden Home, 116 Walnut Road. Situated in Walnut Creek, the Roden home was completed in 1983 by Chester and Vivian Huff. The Rodens purchased it in the summer of 2000. A split-level home, the ground level contains a

tilled entryway and wood paneling. To the left of the entryway, a living area is graced by a brick fireplace. The home includes a kitchen, dining area, downstairs game room, ground-level patio, kids rooms with 3/4 bath, master bedroom and bathroom, laundry room, and a multipurpose room.

Proceeds from the tour will benefit The Opportunity Plan, Inc., a non-profit organization that provides scholarships to needy college students. Tickets will be available at the door of each home for \$10 apiece. For more information, call 669-0148.



The Quisenberry Home, 101 W. Virginia.



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ANSWER: Yes, many insurance plans cover routine eye exams under the preventative care provisions of the policy. This examination includes screening for cataracts and glaucoma, and eye health examination and vision testing. If your examination is related to such concerns as diabetes, eye infection, eye injury or glaucoma for example then this examination will be considered medical and not routine. We are providers for many plans including: BCBS, Aetna, IMS, United Health, Icon, and First Care. Since coverage can vary we suggest that you call our office with specific insurance questions.

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RRC sets December allowables

AUSTIN — The Texas average rig count as of Nov. 18 was 657, representing about 44 percent of all active land rigs in the United States. In the last 12 months, total Texas reported production was 318.1 million barrels of oil and 5.7 Trillion cubic feet of natural gas. Texas natural gas production represents approximately 29 percent of total U.S. natural gas demand.

The Texas Railroad Commission's estimated final production for September 2005 is 22,375,461 barrels of crude oil and 405,872,598 Mcf of gas well gas.

The commission derives final production numbers by multiplying the preliminary September 2005 production totals of 20,630,160 barrels of crude oil and 338,086,296 Mcf of gas well gas by a production adjustment factor of 1.0846 for crude oil and 1.2005 for gas well gas.

(These production totals do not include casinghead

gas or condensate.)

Texas natural gas storage reported by the commission for October 2005 is 326,305,422 Mcf compared to 344,632,557 Mcf in October 2004. The November 2005 gas storage estimate is 334,426,673 Mcf.

The Texas Railroad Commission's Oil and Gas Division set initial December 2005 natural gas production allowables for prorated fields in the state to

meet market demand of 18,953,057 Mcf (thousand cubic feet).

In setting the initial December 2005 allowables, the commission used historical production figures from previous months, producers' demand forecasts for the coming month, and adjusted the figures based on well capability. These initial allowables will be adjusted after actual production for December 2005 is reported.

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Series

Cont. from Page 6

resource, the Investment Series provides a link between West Texas A&M and the business community. Quality lecturers provide valuable information to interested members of the community. Finance majors gain useful practical experience with the Student Managed Investment Fund, which provides scholarships to deserving students.

Since 2001, the Investment Series has provided more than \$38,000 in scholarships to students in the College of Business.

THE SWAN

Trinity Fellowship Church Christmas Banquet

Special Entertainment by Dr. Dennis Swanberg

Affectionately known as "The Swan"

Wednesday, December 14 at 6:30 p.m.

M.K. Brown Heritage Room

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You can pick up tickets at Trinity Fellowship Church
 at 1200 S. Sumner

Limited number of tickets available.
 No reservations accepted by phone.

Sports Day



With teammate Bradley Johnson (#30) ready to help, Pampa senior Aaron Anguiano (#25) out-jumps an El Paso Parkland player for a rebound during Friday's 62-47 win over the Matadors.

Pampa manhandles Matadors

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

A different Pampa team took to the floor at the First United Bank Center Friday afternoon for a consolation game against El Paso Parkland on day two for the 2005 Kids Inc. Gene Messer Tournament of Champions. This team controlled the game start to finish, dropping the Matadors 62-47.

A day before, the Harvesters were frustrated by Abilene Cooper who handed Pampa its first loss of the season.

Pampa was dominant Friday afternoon, forcing the Matadors into poor shot selections while controlling the offensive boards.

The Harvesters seemed to take advantage of almost every Parkland mistake, leading by as much as 30 points for much of the second and third quarters.

Tyler Hall and Sharod Young paced Pampa with 16 points each, both sitting along with the other starters by game's end.

Brody Smith, Aaron Anguiano, Ryan Torres, Bradley Johnson and Andrew Winton all got plenty of playing time and secured the Harvester win.

Pampa (8-1) was scheduled to meet Lubbock Trinity at 1:15 p.m. Saturday at Canyon High School to determine the tournament's fifth place finisher.

THE SPIRIT OF THE GAME

Disagreements remain on prayer in sports

By NANCY ARMOUR
Associated Press

There are signs of faith and prayer everywhere you look in sports these days.

The huddle of players kneeling in prayer on the field after every NFL game. Basketball players making the sign of the cross before shooting a free throw. Fingers pointed toward the sky after home runs and touchdowns. Signs for chapel services in baseball clubhouses. Bible study and Christian fellowship groups at high school and college campuses across the country.

"I don't think a relationship with the Lord only occurs in church or only in your own private lives," says Washington basketball coach Lorenzo Romar. "Every moment you walk, you want to live in such a manner that you are acknowledging God's presence. You're trying to be his advocate, his ambassador. I don't think we turn it on and off."

But not everyone is comfortable inviting God into the game. Five years after the Supreme Court reaffirmed a ban on officially sponsored prayer in public schools with a ruling that said students couldn't lead crowds in prayer before football games, the question of who can pray together — and how — is far from settled.

A New Jersey high school football coach filed suit against his district two weeks ago, asking for the right to pray with his team before games. Marcus Borden had prayed with his East Brunswick players for years until some parents complained this fall and he was ordered to stop.

The family of a former New Mexico State football player plans to file a federal suit, claiming he was discriminated against because he's Muslim. MuAmmar Ali says he was criticized for reciting a prayer from

the Quran instead of the "Our Father" the rest of the team was saying after practice, and was questioned about al-Qaida.

Air Force coach Fisher DeBerry was told last year to remove a banner from the locker room that displayed the "Competitor's Creed," including the lines, "I am a Christian first and last ... I am a member of Team Jesus Christ."

"A lot of these issues are manifestations of things that are good. Mainly, that we have pluralism," says Richard Garnett, a professor of constitutional law at Notre Dame. "We are committed to two different values, government neutrality and the freedom of speech. I wouldn't want to give up one for the other."

But trying to find a middle ground is difficult, and sometimes painful.

Mustafa Ali, MuAmmar Ali's father, used to think society could use more prayer in public arenas. He and some of his co-workers have moments of prayer at work, and neither he nor his son objected when the Aggies ended practice with a prayer. But MuAmmar says he was criticized when he and two other Muslim players held their hands up to their faces and recited the opening chapter of the Quran.

MuAmmar Ali says coach Hal Mumme later called him into his office to ask about al-Qaida. Ali, the team's leading rusher last year, lost his starting job after the season opener and was later dismissed from the team.

A law firm hired by New Mexico State to investigate a grievance filed by the American Civil Liberties Union on Ali's behalf said it found no evidence of religious discrimination. But Ali's father says the family plans to pursue its complaint in a federal suit. A call to New Mexico State was not immediately returned.

Giants, Cowboys poised to take control of NFC East

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — The New York Giants and Dallas Cowboys each own a 7-4 record that includes a three-game winning streak, victories against three common opponents and a three-point loss at Seattle.

Despite the preponderance of threes, at least one member of the Cowboys thinks there is little similarity between the teams.

"I think they are a much better football team right now," wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson said. "They beat the Washington Redskins; Washington beat us. They had no problem handling the Philadelphia Eagles, where we had to

come from behind to try to beat the Eagles. They beat the Denver Broncos; we didn't beat the Denver Broncos. When you start to factor in all of those things, then they are a better football team."

What Johnson's analysis failed to include was that the Cowboys also own a 16-13 overtime victory over the Giants that has become the dominant theme as the two longtime rivals prepare to meet Sunday at Giants Stadium.

Dallas' win on Oct. 16 has set clear parameters for Sunday's game: a Cowboys win not only would put them a game ahead in the NFC East race, it would guarantee them the advantage in any

tiebreaker with the Giants. Dallas coach Bill Parcells framed the distinction in broader terms.

"I think this is an important game, but for the winner this will just be one of several important games that are following," he said. "For the loser, it will put the pressure on them to pretty much have to pick it up the rest of the way or they could be in jeopardy."

The two storied franchises have not played a game of this magnitude this late in the season since they entered the last game of the 1993 season at Giants Stadium with 11-4 records. Coincidentally, the Cowboys won that game 16-13 in overtime.

Also under the heading of coincidence: both teams are seeking to rebound from overtime losses. Dallas had its three-game winning streak snapped on Thanksgiving by Denver; handed a chance to take the lead in the NFC East, New

York lost to Seattle three days later when Jay Feely missed on three field goal attempts that would have won the game.

Penalties have been the Giants' Achilles heel for most of the season, and they have accumulated the third-most infractions in the NFL. A week ago they were penalized 16 times, 11 times for false starts caused in part by the Seahawks' noisy fans.

"There's nothing you could say about it. They threw the flags, there's no way of getting around it," said guard David Diehl. "It's a question of, do you bounce back from it or do you let it linger, and we're not going to let it linger."

A recent concern for Dallas has been its rushing attack. Since the return of running back Julius Jones from an ankle injury three games ago, the Cowboys ran for just 58 yards against the Eagles and 85 yards against Denver. The second-year back, who has 1,368 yards and 10 touchdowns in his first 16 NFL games, missed the first game against the Giants.

The Dallas defense came through in that game, stopping the Giants on 10 of 11 third-down chances. That negated a similarly inspired effort by New York's defense, which forced four turnovers and three times

gave the offense the ball inside the Dallas 40. Some Giants said Dallas' defensive switches caught them unprepared.

"They did a good job of switching things up on us, but we still had opportunities to make plays, we just didn't do it," said quarterback Eli Manning. "We'd make a big play, then we'd have a false start, or a sack. Those are the ones that are going to hurt, the plays where you're losing yardage. You can have an incompleteness or a run for 1 or 2 yards, but when you have negative plays, that's what's going to hurt you."

With Philadelphia sinking quickly out of sight in the division race, Sunday's game will go a long way toward crowning a new division champion for the first time since 2000, the last time a team other than the Eagles finished first.

"It is a five-game season right now," said Giants coach Tom Coughlin. "Each game is singularly important. All five will determine our fate, Dallas' fate, whatever team you want to mention that has a chance to be in the hunt. It is a wonderful time of the year. You have worked your tail off to get to have a meaningful December. We have a meaningful December. It is energizing."

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Worrell back in Bay area

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Reliever Tim Worrell is returning to San Francisco after agreeing to a \$4 million, two-year contract with the Giants.

Worrell, who pitched in San Francisco from 2001-03, had a strong finish to 2005, going 1-0 with a 0.90 ERA in his last 18 outings for the Diamondbacks.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Major League Baseball owners will consider a proposal to shift the site of a new Washington Nationals stadium, District of Columbia Council members said following a one hour meeting with baseball's point man on lease negotiations.

The council sought the meeting with Chicago White Sox owner Jerry Reinsdorf to express concerns about the escalating costs.

Reinsdorf told council members that baseball owners were not impressed with the Nationals' first-year attendance of about 2.7 million, Councilman Jim Graham said.

Rangers name Servais, Kerfeld to development posts

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The Texas Rangers named former major league catcher Scott Servais their director of player development and Charlie Kerfeld a special assistant to the general manager on Thursday. Servais replaced Dom Chiti, who recently became the team's bullpen coach. Since ending his 11-season playing career in 2002, Servais had been a roving minor league catching instructor for the Chicago Cubs.

Kerfeld spent the last three seasons as a professional scout with Seattle (2003-04) and San Diego (2005). The former major league reliever will evaluate players on the major and minor league levels for the Rangers, and assist in international scouting efforts. The Rangers also promoted Tim Ireland to manager of the Oklahoma RedHawks, their Triple-A affiliate. Ireland was the club's

baserunning and bunting coordinator last year after manager.

2005-2006 College Football Bowls

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tuesday, Dec. 20
New Orleans Bowl
At Lafayette, La.
Payout: \$750,000
Arkansas State (6-5) vs. C-USA, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Wednesday, Dec. 21
GMAC Bowl
Mobile, Ala.
Payout: \$750,000
C-USA vs. Toledo (8-3), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday, Dec. 22
Las Vegas Bowl
Payout: \$750,000
BYU (6-5) vs. Pac-10, 8 p.m. (ESPN) Poinsettia Bowl
At San Diego
Payout: \$750,000
Colorado State (6-5) vs. Navy (6-4), 10:30 p.m. (ESPN2)

Friday, Dec. 23
Fort Worth (Texas) Bowl
Payout: \$750,000
C-USA vs. Big 12, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Dec. 24
Hawaii Bowl
At Honolulu
Payout: \$750,000
C-USA vs. WAC, 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Dec. 26
Motor City Bowl
At Detroit
Payout: \$750,000
Akron (7-5) vs. Big Ten, 4 p.m. (ESPN)

Tuesday, Dec. 27
Champs Sports Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Payout: \$862,500
ACC vs. Big 12, 5 p.m. (ESPN) Insight Bowl
At Phoenix
Payout: \$750,000
Arizona State (6-5) vs. Rutgers (7-4), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Wednesday, Dec. 28
MPC Computers Bowl
At Boise, Idaho
Payout: \$750,000
Boise State (9-3) vs. ACC, 4:30 p.m. (ESPN) Alamo Bowl
At San Antonio
Payout: \$1.65 million
Big Ten vs. Big 12, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday, Dec. 29
Emerald Bowl
At San Francisco
Payout: \$750,000
Utah (6-5) vs. ACC, 4:30 p.m. (ESPN) Holiday Bowl
At San Diego
Payout: \$2 million
Pac-10 vs. Big 12, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Friday, Dec. 30
Music City Bowl
At Nashville, Tenn.
Payout: \$780,000

ACC vs. Big Ten, Noon (ESPN) Sun Bowl
At El Paso, Texas
Payout: \$1,575,000
Big Ten vs. Pac-10, 2 p.m. (CBS) Independence Bowl
At Shreveport, La.
Payout: \$1.2 million
Big 12 vs. SEC, 3:30 p.m. (ESPN) Peach Bowl
At Atlanta
Payout: \$2.35 million
ACC vs. SEC, 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Dec. 31
Meineke Bowl
At Charlotte, N.C.
Payout: \$750,000
Big East vs. ACC, 11 a.m. (ESPN2) Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.
Payout: \$1.5 million
Fresno State (8-3) vs. C-USA first selection, 1 p.m. (ESPN)
Houston Bowl
Payout: \$1.2 million
TCU (10-1) vs. Big 12, 2:30 (ESPN2)

Monday, Jan. 2
Cotton Bowl
At Dallas
Payout: \$2.5 million
SEC vs. Big 12, 11 a.m. (FOX) Outback Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
Payout: \$2.85 million
Big Ten vs. SEC, 11 a.m. (ESPN) Gator Bowl
At Jacksonville, Fla.
Payout: \$1.6 million
ACC vs. Louisville (8-2), 12:30 (NBC) Capital One Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Payout: \$5.312 million
Big Ten vs. SEC, 1 p.m. (ABC) Fiesta Bowl
At Tempe, Ariz.
Payout: \$14-17 million
BCS vs. BCS, 5 p.m. (ABC) Sugar Bowl
At Atlanta
Payout: \$14-17 million
BCS vs. BCS, 8:30 p.m. (ABC)

Tuesday, Jan. 3
Orange Bowl
At Miami
Payout: \$14-17 million
BCS vs. BCS, 8 p.m. (ABC)

Wednesday, Jan. 4
Rose Bowl
At Pasadena, Calif.
Payout: \$14,998,000
BCS1 vs. BCS2, 8 p.m. (ABC)

Saturday, Jan. 14
Las Vegas All-American Classic
9:30 p.m. (CSTV)

Saturday, Jan. 21
East-West Shrine Classic
At San Antonio
4 p.m. (ESPN2) Hula Bowl
At Honolulu
7 p.m. (ESPN2)

Saturday, Jan. 28
Senior Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
4 p.m. (ESPN)

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Pampa Harvester Sports Schedule

BASKETBALL

MONDAY • DECEMBER 5
Lady Harvesters 9th vs Palo Duro • 6:00pm at Palo Duro
Pampa Jr High Girls vs Plainview • TBA at Pampa

TUESDAY • DECEMBER 6
Lady Harvesters vs Tascosa • 6:00pm at Tascosa
Harvesters JV vs Tascosa • 6:00pm at Tascosa
Lady Harvesters JV vs Tascosa • 7:30pm at Tascosa
Harvesters Varsity vs Tascosa • 7:30pm at Tascosa

DECEMBER 8 - DECEMBER 10
Pampa Jr High Girls at Canyon Tournament • TBA
Pampa Jr High Boys at Plainview Tournament • TBA

WRESTLING

MONDAY • DECEMBER 5
Pampa Jr High vs Dumas • 7:00pm at Dumas

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 10
Harvesters at Tucumcari Tournament • 9:00am

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Proposals sought for Private Stewardship Grants program

ARLINGTON, Va. — The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently announced it is seeking proposals for conservation projects on private lands through its Private Stewardship Grants Program. For FY 2006, approximately \$6.5 million is available through this grant program to support on-the-ground conservation efforts on private lands. Proposals must be submitted to the Regional Offices of the Service by Jan. 23, 2006.

As envisioned by President Bush, this program provides federal grants on a competitive basis to individuals and groups engaged in voluntary conservation efforts on private lands that benefit imperiled species such as federally listed endangered or threatened species as well as proposed, candidate and other at-risk species. Landowners and their partners may submit proposals directly to the service for funding to support those efforts.

In September 2005, the service awarded 72 grants totaling more than \$6.5 million to

individuals and groups to undertake conservation projects for endangered, threatened, and other at-risk species on private lands in 38 states and one territory.

For more information regarding this grant opportunity and on how and where to submit proposals, visit the service's Private Stewardship Grants Web site at http://endangered.fws.gov/grants/private_stewardship.html. The Private Stewardship Grants Program is identified in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance as number 15.632.

You may also contact U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Branch of State Grants, Endangered Species Program, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 420, Arlington, VA 22203; or phone (703) 358-2061.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The service manages the 95-million-acre

National Wildlife Refuge System, which encompasses 545 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas.

It also operates 69 national fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resources offices, and 81 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign and Native American Tribal governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Assistance program, which distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to State fish and wildlife agencies.

For more information about the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service visit our homepage at <http://www.fws.gov>.

Dobson collecting used cell phones to benefit children

Dobson Cellular Systems is urging residents and customers to bring in their old or no longer used wireless phones during the holiday season.

With more than 100 million cell phones purchased each year, Dobson saw a clear need to launch a recycling campaign. In order to make the best use of this worthy program, Dobson aligned with the Children's Organ Transplant Association. All of the proceeds from the recycling program benefit children in need of life-saving tissue and organ transplants.

From now through Jan. 1, Dobson will be collecting the used cell phones. Residents can bring the phones to any participating Dobson store or can visit www.restartphones.com for a prepaid envelope.



Pampa Civic Ballet, under the direction of Jeanne Willingham, presented its annual production of "The Nutcracker" Saturday at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Appearing as Little Harp Angels were Lacey Jade Bilyeu, Hope Broadbent, Kaylee Broadbent, Tori Dalton, Olivia Flores, Annalee Ford, Hannah Grange, Kaleigh Harrison, Alyssa Hart, Arianna Hart, Christina Hart, Makenna Henderson, Caitlyn Herman, Lillian Johnson, Bailey Joyce, Shelby Langley, Whitney Lance, Adeline Little, Kira McClelland, Molly Nelson, Mayce Ogle, Jodi Pingel, Meredith Pooley, Taiten Sanders, Kami Ware, Kalen White and Natalie Winborne.

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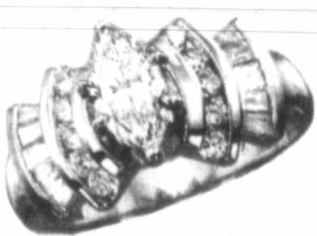
ALIGNMENT

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM MON-FRI • SAT 8:00 - NOON

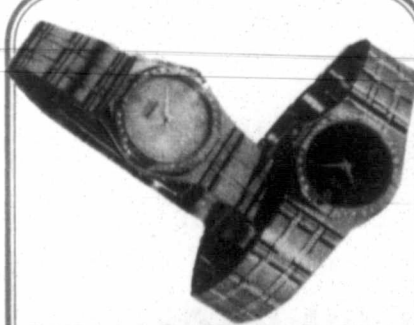


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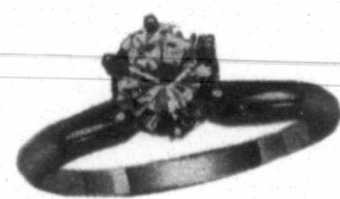
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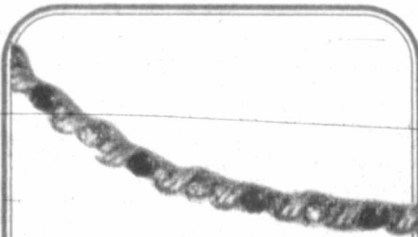


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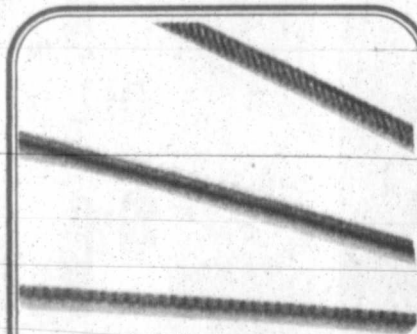
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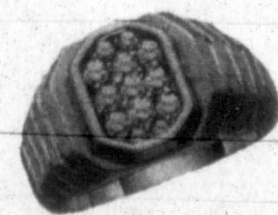
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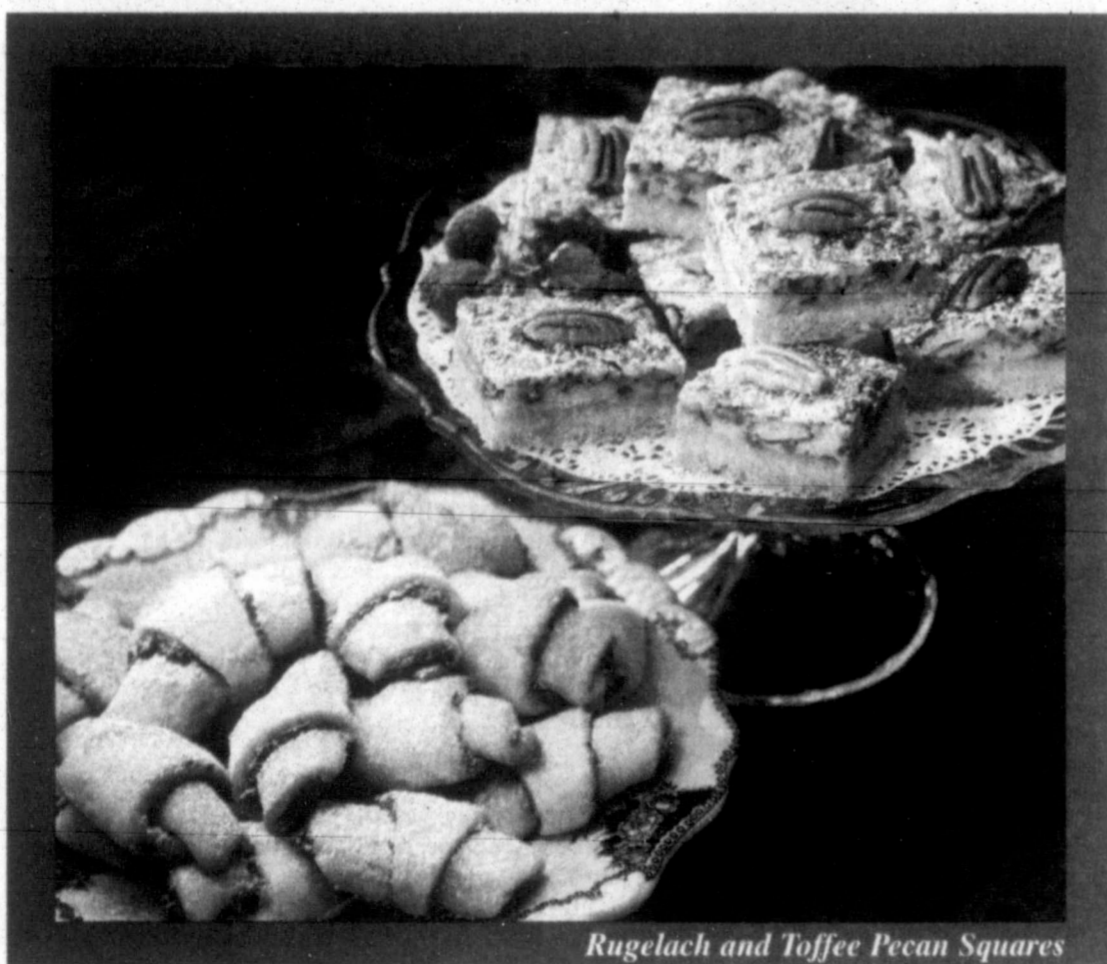


Delightful Holiday Desserts

Butterscotch Berry Tart and Caramel Swirled Cheesecake

FAMILY FEATURES EDITORIAL SYNDICATE

Master holiday entertaining this year with decadent desserts that are simple to make. For the chocolate lovers, create a batch of truffles using chocolate frosting as the base ingredient. Make extra and surprise the hostess at your next holiday party. Keep a variety of ice cream toppings on hand — they're the perfect way to enhance any dessert. Swirl caramel or butterscotch topping into cheesecake batter for an irresistible twist on the traditional favorite. Or, for a lighter dessert, serve a fresh berry tart, drizzled with caramel or butterscotch topping. Whether you're hosting a holiday dinner for the entire family or a casual dessert party, these recipes are sure to please all your guests. For more delicious recipes and cooking tips, visit www.smuckers.com and www.pillsburybaking.com.



Rugelach and Toffee Pecan Squares

Rugelach

- 1-1/4 cups butter, softened, divided
- 2 tablespoons plus 1/3 cup sugar, divided
- 1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 2 cups Pillsbury BEST All Purpose or Unbleached Flour
- 1/2 cup finely chopped dates
- 1/2 cup finely chopped pistachios
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1 tablespoon powdered sugar
- Crisco No-Stick Cooking Spray

In large bowl, combine 1 cup butter, 2 tablespoons sugar and cream cheese; beat until light and fluffy. Add flour to butter mixture; blend well. Shape dough into ball; divide into 4 pieces. Shape each piece into ball; flatten into 1/2-inch-thick disk. Wrap each in plastic wrap; refrigerate 1 hour for easier handling.

Heat oven to 375°F. Grease 2 cookie sheets or spray with no-stick cooking spray. In small bowl, combine dates, pistachios, 1/3 cup sugar, cinnamon and 1/4 cup butter; blend well.

On floured surface with floured rolling pin, roll out 1 disk of dough at a time to 1/8-inch thickness, forming 12-inch round. (Keep remaining disks refrigerated while working.) Sprinkle 1/4 of date-nut mixture onto round; press into dough slightly. Cut round into 16 wedges. Roll up each wedge from curved edge to point. Place on greased cookie sheets.

Bake 13 to 18 minutes or until light golden brown. Immediately remove from cookie sheets; place on wire racks. Cool 30 minutes or until completely cooled. Sprinkle with powdered sugar.

Makes 64 cookies

Toffee Pecan Squares

- Base**
- 1 (18.25-ounce) package Pillsbury Moist Supreme Yellow Cake Mix
 - 1/2 cup butter, softened
 - 1 egg

- Filling**
- 1 (14-ounce) can sweetened condensed milk (NOT evaporated)
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 - 1 egg
 - 1 cup toffee bits
 - 1 cup chopped pecans
 - Powdered sugar and pecan halves, to garnish (optional)

Preheat oven to 350°F. In large bowl of mixer, combine all base ingredients; blend at low speed until crumbly. Press in bottom of ungreased 13 x 9-inch pan. Bake 15 to 20 minutes or until light golden brown.

In large bowl, combine condensed milk, vanilla and egg; mix well. Stir in toffee bits and pecans. Pour filling evenly over warm base. Return to 350° oven; bake additional 20 to 25 minutes or until filling is set. Cool 1 hour or until completely cooled. Cut into squares.

If desired, sprinkle each bar with powdered sugar and top with a pecan half. Store in refrigerator.

Makes 36 bars

Butterscotch Berry Tart

- 1 cup Pillsbury BEST All Purpose or Unbleached Flour
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 6 tablespoons Crisco Butter Flavor All-Vegetable Shortening, chilled
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons toasted slivered almonds
- 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons Smucker's Seedless Red Raspberry Jam, divided
- 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons Smucker's Butterscotch Topping, divided
- 5 cups fresh berries (strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, blackberries) quartered if large

Preheat oven to 375°F. Combine flour, sugar and salt in food processor; blend 10 seconds. Add shortening, blending until mixture resembles coarse meal. Add egg and vanilla and almond extracts. Process until moist clumps form, turning processor on/off to scrape sides.

Gather dough into ball and, using floured fingertips, press onto bottom and up sides of 9-inch tart pan with removable bottom. Press 1/2 cup almonds over bottom of crust. Spread 1/2 cup jam over almonds followed by 1/2 cup butterscotch topping.

Bake tart until crust is golden at edges and jam is thick and bubbly, about 40 minutes. Cool completely on rack. Push up pan bottom to release tart.

In large bowl, toss berries with remaining 2 tablespoons to coat. Top tart with berries; sprinkle remaining 2 tablespoons almonds around edge of tart. Drizzle remaining 2 tablespoons butterscotch over top.

Makes 8 servings

Easy Truffles

- 1 (12-ounce) package (2 cups) semi-sweet chocolate chips
 - 1 teaspoon orange extract
 - 1 can Pillsbury Creamy Supreme Chocolate Fudge or Chocolate Frosting
- Toppings:** coconut, chocolate sprinkles, ground nuts and/or cocoa

Melt chocolate chips in medium saucepan over low heat, stirring constantly; remove from heat. Stir in orange extract and frosting; blend well. Refrigerate 1 to 2 hours or until firm.

Place toppings in pie pans. Scoop mixture into 1-inch balls (will be sticky); drop each onto topping of choice. Roll to coat. Place in foil candy cups, if desired. Store in refrigerator.

Makes 72 truffles

Caramel Swirled Cheesecake

- 1 (8-ounce) package of cream cheese, softened
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1 tub (4 cups) whipped topping, thawed and divided
- 1/2 cup Smucker's Caramel Microwave Topping, divided
- 1 (9-inch) prepared graham cracker crust

Beat cream cheese and sugar in large bowl with mixer until smooth. Gently stir in 3 cups whipped topping (reserve 1 cup for garnishing). Add 1/4 cup caramel or butterscotch topping into mixture and mix thoroughly. Spoon mixture evenly onto crust.

With knife, make 3 deep S-shaped channels in batter and fill each with remaining topping. With knife, draw 2 more channels in opposite direction to swirl batter and create marble effect. Spread remaining whipped topping evenly over top of batter.

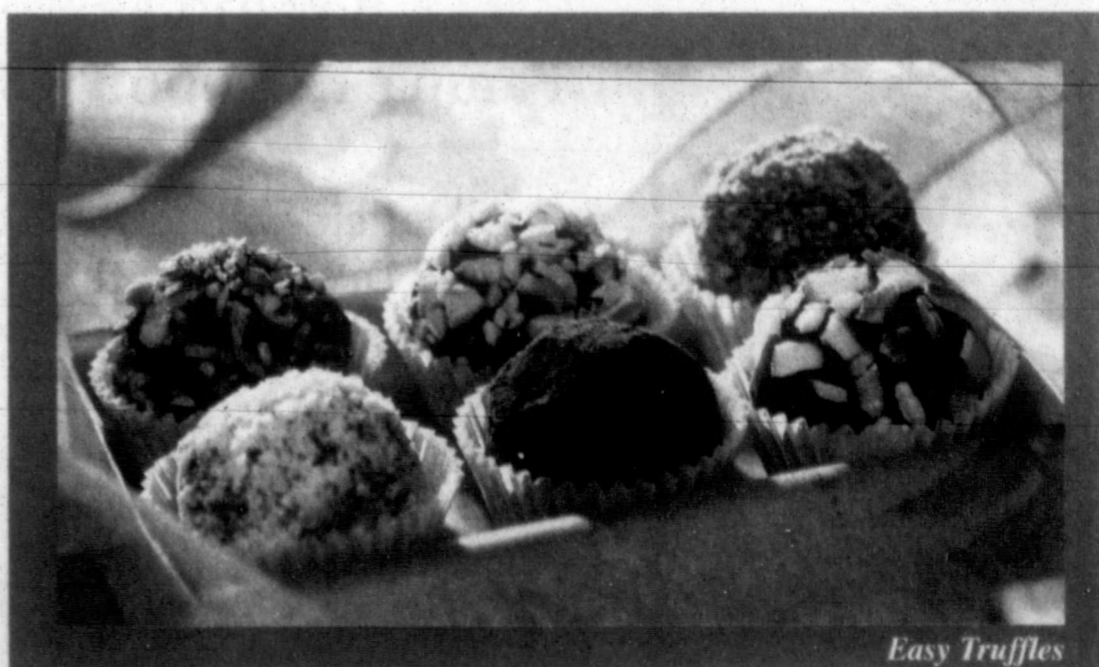
Decorate with remaining caramel or butterscotch topping. Refrigerate until set.

Makes 8 servings

Host a Sweet Gathering

No time to host a holiday dinner? Dessert parties are one of the easiest ways to entertain during this busy time of year. Here are a few tips for a successful event:

- Bake batches of plain sugar cookies and invite guests to decorate them.
- Serve a selection of regular and flavored coffee. Provide cinnamon and chocolate-coated spoons for added flavor.
- Set up a personalized dessert station. Offer pound cake or angel food cake, fresh fruit and toppings such as chocolate sauce or whipped cream.
- Decorate a large table with festive holiday decorations and use clear plastic plates and flatware for easy clean up.



Easy Truffles

NEWSMAKERS

Navy Seaman Recruit Joshua L. Tabor, son of Sheila L. and Gary D. Tabor of Pampa, and fellow shipmates recently returned to sea after their two-month long inport period while assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk forward deployed

to Yokosuka, Japan. Sailors worked long hours with civilian contractors to complete 85 contractor jobs, 246 ship repair jobs and more than 700 ship's force jobs to ensure the ship was ready to get underway.

The Kitty Hawk Strike Group is the largest strike group in the Navy and is composed of the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk, Carrier Air Wing 5, guided-missile cruisers USS Chancellorsville and USS Cowpens, and destroyer Squadron 15.

Carriers like USS Kitty Hawk are deployed throughout the world to maintain U.S. presence and provide rapid response in time of crisis.

See NAMES, Page 7-B

MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY
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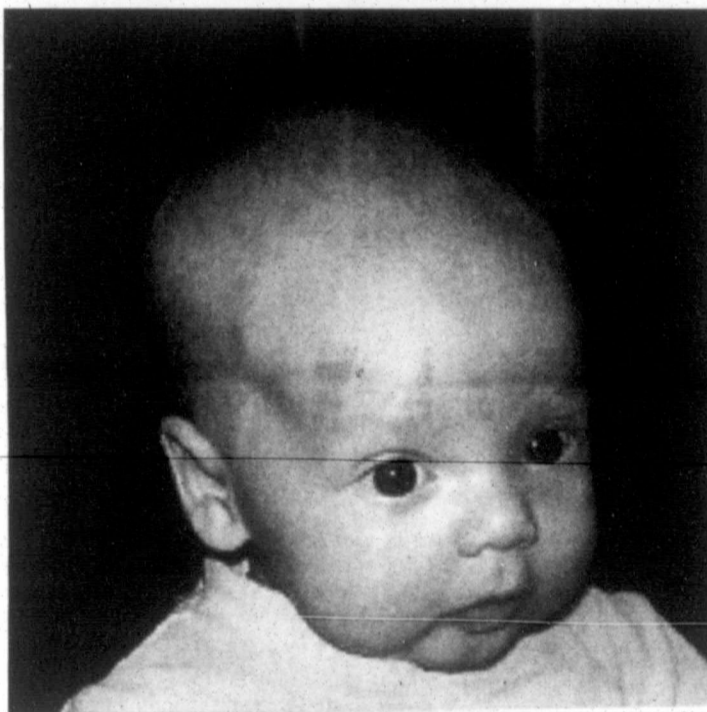
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James/Peters

Nonnie James and Jacob "Buzz" Peters, both of Lubbock, plan to wed Jan. 7 at Wolfforth. The bride-elect is the daughter of Gary and Sharon James of Pampa. She graduated from Texas Tech University and is currently a teacher for Brownfield Independent School District in Brownfield. The future groom is the son of Pedro and Elizabeth Peters of Seminole. He is self-employed.

Cradle call



Dean Garrett Craddock

Dean Garrett Craddock was born at 3:42 p.m. Oct. 23 in Pampa, to Hugh and Jennifer Craddock of Pampa. The infant weighed 9-pounds and was 21-inches long at birth. Relatives include a brother, Harrison; and grandparents, Mark and Becky Craddock of Pampa and Mike and Jayne Jones of Brownwood.

Menus

Week of December 5-9

Pampa Schools	gravy, corn, bread, dessert.
MONDAY	Kid's Cafe-Lamar
Breakfast: Blueberry pancake and sausage on a stick.	TUESDAY
Lunch: Fish strips or steak fingers, baked beans, potatoes, peaches, rolls.	Corndogs, French fries, pork beans, dessert.
TUESDAY	THURSDAY
Breakfast: Toast.	Chicken spaghetti, green beans, salad, rolls, dessert.
Lunch: Chicken and noodles or pizza, corn, broccoli, fruit.	Senior Citizens
WEDNESDAY	MONDAY
Breakfast: Breakfast pizza.	Chicken fried steak or stir fry chicken/rice, mashed potatoes, Italian green beans, beets, beans, German chocolate cake or banana pudding, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.
Lunch: Barbecue on a bun or chicken nuggets, potato rounds, English peas, fruit.	TUESDAY
THURSDAY	Baked cod/rice or Swiss steak, boiled potatoes, brussels sprouts, corn cobettes, beans, strawberry cake or coconut cream pie, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.
Breakfast: Sausage, biscuits.	WEDNESDAY
Lunch: Turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, green beans, cranberry sauce, fruit cups, chiffon tarts, rolls.	Roast beef brisket/brown gravy or cook's choice, mashed potatoes, peas, carrots, beans, angelfood cake or chocolate pie, slaw, tossed or jello salad, hot rolls or cornbread.
FRIDAY	THURSDAY
Breakfast: Cereal, toast.	Chicken strips or beef enchiladas, tater tots, Mexican rice, cheese hominy, beans, devilsfood cake or bread pudding, slaw, tossed or jello salad, jalapeno cornbread, hot rolls or cornbread.
Lunch: Crispy tacos or hamburgers, pinto beans, lettuce/tomatoes, apple-sauce, cornbread muffins.	FRIDAY
Lefors Schools	Catfish/hushpuppies or Swedish meatballs/noodles, potato wedges, spinach, beans, brownies or tapioca cups, slaw, tossed or jello salad, garlic bread sticks, hot rolls or cornbread.
MONDAY	Meals On Wheels
Breakfast: Cold cereal, toast, juice, milk.	MONDAY
Lunch: Chicken fajitas, rice, broccoli/cheese, peaches, bread sticks.	Barbecue, potato salad, baked beans, pudding.
TUESDAY	TUESDAY
Breakfast: Cold cereal, toast, juice, milk.	Hamloaf, hominy casserole, asparagus, pineapple.
Lunch: Burritos, salad, oranges, cookies.	WEDNESDAY
WEDNESDAY	Chicken, dressing, gravy, English peas, Yamboree.
Breakfast: Cold cereal, toast, juice, milk.	THURSDAY
Lunch: _____ Chicken nuggets, baked potatoes, vegetables, rolls, fruit.	Shepherd's pie, pickled beets, corn, salad, peaches.
THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Breakfast: Cold cereal, toast, juice, milk.	Chicken nuggets, baked potatoes, peas/carrots, cookies.
Lunch: Pizza, salad, apples, chocolate cake.	
FRIDAY	
Breakfast: Cold cereal, toast, juice, milk.	
Lunch: Barbecue on a bun, pickles, tater tots, corn, jello.	
Kid's Cafe-Wilson	
MONDAY	
Beef/cheese nachos, salad, beans, rice, dessert.	
WEDNESDAY	
Hamburger patties, mashed potatoes, brown	

Bridal Registry

Elizabeth Sprinkle & Jonathan Smith

Kimbra Peirce & Matt Phillips


Nonnie James & Jacob Peters

Abbie Niles & Jesse Francis

Mary Grace Fields & Paul Rayburn

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Tuesday, December 6, 2005
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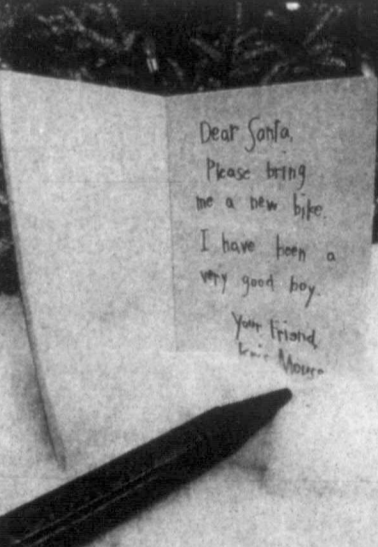
or

Wednesday, December 7, 2005
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

BSA Hospice Facility - 800 N. Sumner
There is no fee to attend.

To register, please call
(806) 665 - 6677
(800) 658 - 6985





Santa, All I Want For Christmas Is...

See what's at the top of the "wish list" for our area children this Christmas, as Santa shares some of his favorite holiday letters with you.

Send All Letters For Santa To:

Santa Claus
c/o Pampa News
P.O. Box 2198
Pampa TX 79066

All letters will be printed December 15th in a special section of The Pampa News

All letters must be received by December 9th 5:00 p.m


Lifestyles Policy

1. The Pampa News will not be responsible for photographs used in announcing births, weddings, engagements or anniversaries. We also reserve the right to refuse publication of photographs of poor quality. Photographs cannot be returned unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. They may be picked up in the office after appearing in the paper.
2. All information must be submitted by 5 p.m. Wednesday (12 noon Tuesday before a holiday such as Thanksgiving or Christmas), prior to Sunday insertion.

3. Engagement, wedding and anniversary news only will be printed on Sunday.
4. Engagement announcements will be published if the announcement is submitted at least one month before the wedding, but not more than three months before the wedding.
5. Bridal photos and information will not be accepted in The Pampa News office later than one month past the date of the wedding.
6. Anniversary announcements will be published for celebrations only of 25 years or more and will not be published more than four weeks after the anniversary date.
7. Birth announcements will only be published for 0- to 3-month-olds. (See form for more details.)
8. Forms are available from the office 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday, or by sending a SASE to The Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.
9. Two anniversary pictures may be placed for a \$25 charge or four extra lines may be added to announcements for \$25 (\$50 for both).

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Cradle call



Matthew Kyle Erickson

Matthew Kyle Erickson was born at 8:30 a.m. Nov. 7 at Pampa Regional Medical Center, to the Rev. Michael and Jerri Erickson of Pampa. The infant weighed 8.5-pounds at birth and was 21-inches long. Relatives include grandparents, James and Martha Thompson of Canyon and Keith and Fern Erickson of Wayne, Neb.



Abigail Naomi Johnson

Abigail Naomi Johnson was born at 7:28 a.m. Nov. 10 at Covenant Lakeside Hospital in Lubbock, to Bryan and Tiffany Johnson. The infant weighed 7-pounds, 4-ounces at birth and was 20-inches long. Relatives include a sister, Lexie; a brother, Alex; grandparents, Chris Johnson and the late Rose Johnson of Pampa, Jerry and LaNay Hall of Spring and Mark and Melissa Hampton of Wheeler; great-grandparents, Betty Johnson, Correne Nichols and Joe and Sue Hall, all of Pampa, and Jack and Bernice Hefley of Mobeetie; and a great-great-grandmother, Opal Hefley of Wheeler.

'Goblet of Fire' meant for the movies

"Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" is meant for the movies. It's the most cinematic of J.K. Rowling's books because it's so event driven. After attending the Quidditch World Cup, Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) and his friends Hermione (Emma Watson) and Ron (Rupert Grint), head back for their fourth year at Hogwarts.

The school is hosting the Tri-Wizard Tournament, a contest in which a witch or wizard from three competing schools competes in three dangerous tasks. Although Cedric Diggory (Robert Pattinson) has already been chosen to represent Hogwarts and Harry is not old enough, his name comes out of the goblet, which chooses the competitors, as well. In between the tournament's tasks Harry has to ask a girl to the Yule Ball, deal with tensions with his friends and face the signs that Lord Voldemort (Ralph Fiennes) may rise to power again.

Because Goblet has so

much ground to cover, it is considerably condensed from the book. And it's the first time that major things are changed, and not merely left out. That's understandable given time constraints, and the main problem isn't what was changed, but what was omitted.

The film jumps from one event to the next. A lot of



Anita Hacker
Guest Reviewer

things happen, but it kind of feels like nothing really happens.

This could have been solved by including more explanation of Barty Crouch's (Roger Lloyd-Pack) relationship with his son and the villain, Barty Crouch Jr. (David Tennant). This would tie the events together, making it flow more easily. Also, without the back-story, Crouch Jr.'s motivation is unknown. As the main bad guy of the movie, besides Voldemort, that's not acceptable.

Besides those few issues, director Mike Newell and the actors do a fantastic job of bringing "Goblet" to life.

It's an exciting, thrilling ride from start to finish. Harry's fight with Ron and other moments dealing with the teenager's personal relationships are particularly well written and acted.

When Harry's name

comes out of the goblet, the look on Ron's face is the perfect mixture of anger and jealousy. Grint once again proves that his comic timing is impeccable, but shows off

See HACKER, Page 8-B

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I were married for 35 wonderful years, and Christmas was our favorite time of year. As I sit here this morning, I remember all the time we wasted worrying about getting the "perfect" gift for everyone, when in reality the most perfect gift you can give is yourself and your love. We had seven beautiful kids, 23 beautiful grandchildren and five adorable great-grandchildren, so it took a lot of time to shop for everyone. I realize that the most perfect gift would be to have my darling husband here with us. He passed away Oct. 10, 2003. I now understand that the perfect gifts were the love and closeness we shared together, and you can't buy that in any department store. So, Abby, please suggest to your readers that when they're agonizing about finding the perfect gift, they should look right under their own noses. They may find they already have it. — **MISSING HIM IN OHIO**

DEAR MISSING HIM: Thank you for the poignant reminder that too often we take for granted those intangibles that are the most precious. You and your darling husband shared a life together filled with an abundance of riches. I hope that knowledge will bring you comfort during this time and for the rest of your holiday seasons to come.

DEAR ABBY: Please warn your readers that their Web pages and blogs could stand in the way of securing a job! Just as employers have learned to read e-mail and blogs, they have learned to screen candidates through their sites. Many people in their 20s and 30s wrongly believe their creations are entertaining and informative. Employers are not seeking political activists, evangelizers, whiners or tattletales.

They do not want to find themselves facing a lawsuit or on the front page of a newspaper because a client, patient or parent of a student discovered a comment written by an employee. The job market is tight, and job seekers must remember their computer skills can either help them land a position or destroy a job prospect. — **CHICAGO EMPLOYER**

DEAR EMPLOYER: You have opened up a line of thought I'll bet a lot of job applicants -- and future job applicants -- have never considered. Googling a name isn't difficult, and it could lead to an applicant's blog. Most bloggers write to be read, and invite people to comment. Thank you for the reminder that those who blog should remember that they are open to public scrutiny, and that if they apply for a job, everything about them will be considered -- including their blog. Prospective employers are certainly within their rights to make decisions based upon what they read.

DEAR ABBY: Last week, my family suffered the loss of my grandfather. He was Catholic, the only Catholic in our immediate family, and his funeral was held in a Catholic church as he wished.

When it came time to receive communion, a family friend encouraged my grandmother and the rest of the non-Catholic family members to receive communion. Should we have received communion out of respect for our grandfather, or was it right to stand by our own beliefs? — **GRIEVING IN VIRGINIA**

DEAR GRIEVING: You showed respect for your grandfather by attending his funeral. Communion is a sacred rite in which only practicing Catholics participate. You were correct to refrain from doing so.

For Better Or Worse



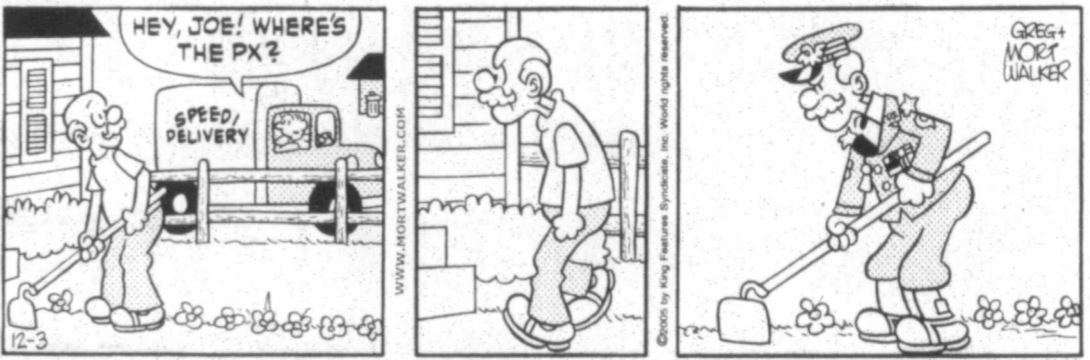
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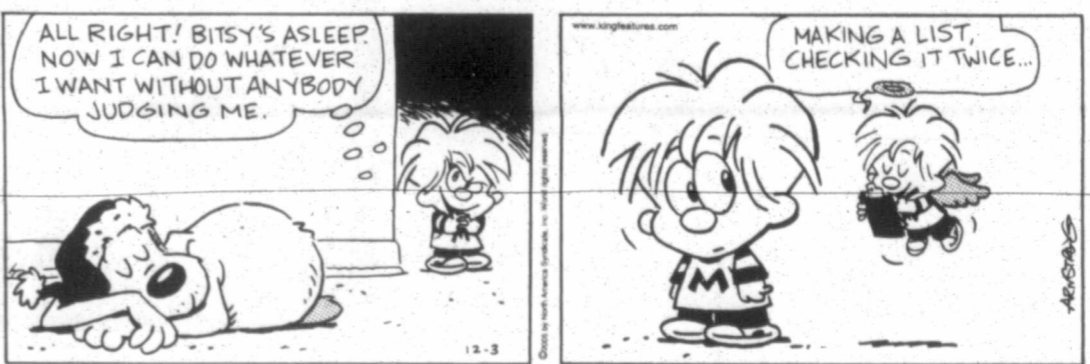
Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 40 "Middle-march" tormentors
41 Squalid
6 Coffee-bar order

DOWN 1 Semi-precious stone
13 Laundry challenge

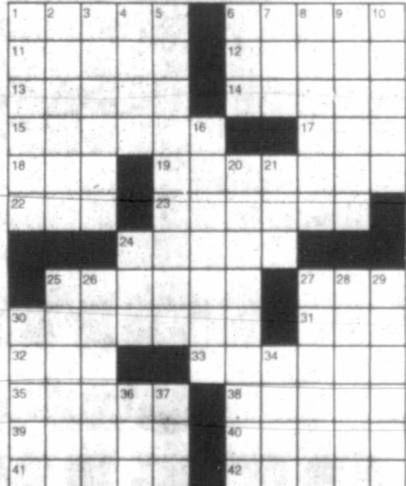
14 Less diluted
15 Bill of "Twister"
17 Monk's title
18 Lamb tender
19 "Semi-ramide" composer
22 Swell, to surfers
23 Queued up
24 Flight feature
25 Clear out
27 Water cooler
30 Somewhat sweet
31 Price percentage
32 Rascal
33 Game quest
35 Makes invalid
38 "Bubbles" writer
39 Parts of hearts

REBID CAFES
EVADE AMORE
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GOLD STOP
MAAM ETTU
ALT ENHANCE
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URAL DUNE
MONK YARN
ANTES LATER
SCENE OMEGA
TERSE TAROT

Yesterday's answer

8 Designer Pierre
9 Milestone
10 Physicist Enrico
16 Hardly stars
5 Ladies of Spain
6 Dance maneuver
7 Down Under bird
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28 Spot for some lemons
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Madeline Graves School Of Dance

presents

SCROOGE JAZZED UP LIKE THE DICKENS

Monday December 12 • 7:00PM • MK Brown Auditorium

Public Invited - No Charge



Cast: Rebekah Bartell, Edy Brianard, Mikaela Clark, Elysa Clements, Allison Cooper, Carly Crockett, Jordan Curfman, Jacklyn Cargill, Kimberly Curtis, Audrey Cotton Gracey Durham, Jenna Gee, Jada Hathaway, Addison Hinkle, Alyssa Hoelting, Sydney Hoelting, Lauren Jones, Taylor Jefferies, Natalie Knowles, Kaylee Keith, Delaney Logue, Micaela King, Bailey Knutson, Jonah Munsell, Joseph Munsell, Jenna Munsell, Destiny Meers, Kalli Marak, Paige Parker, Allison Pooley, Caire Porter, Marisela Rodriguez, Monica Schepp, Cindy Schepp, Jana Shults, Emily Swanson, Bethany Strange, Caylee Steward, Olivia Tyler, Angel Villarreal, Abby Weaver, Allison Whitson, Ashley Williams, Tristen Winkler, Cheyenne Whittington, Danielle Zuniga, Chris Steward.

Scrooge Jazzed Up Like The Dickens is a modern day jazzed up version of the Charles Dickens classic, A Christmas Carol. The script was adapted by Roe. Madeline Graves and Shauna Munsell arranged and taught all of the original choreography and dances.

Along with the production of Scrooge, the students who are title holders from M.G. Productions will also be performing the winning routines.

The Madeline Graves Dancers and Flyers will also be performing at Clarendon College on Wednesday, Dec. 14th in the atrium from 6:00 to 6:30. The public is invited to attend - no charge.



Ad Courtesy Of Pampa Regional Medical Center

SUNDAY AFTERNOON / EVENING

Table with columns for time slots (12pm to 10pm) and rows for various TV channels (KACV, KAMR, KCIT, etc.) listing programs and their descriptions.

MONDAY AFTERNOON / EVENING

Table with columns for time slots (12pm to 10pm) and rows for various TV channels (KACV, KAMR, KCIT, etc.) listing programs and their descriptions.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON / EVENING

Table with columns for time slots (12pm to 10pm) and rows for various TV channels (KACV, KAMR, KCIT, etc.) listing programs and their descriptions.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON / EVENING

Table with columns for time slots (12pm to 10pm) and rows for various TV channels (KACV, KAMR, KCIT, etc.) listing programs and their descriptions.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including channel logos and program names like THURS, FRIDA, SATU, and various channel identifiers.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON / EVENING

Table with columns for time slots (12pm to 10pm) and rows for various TV channels (KACV, KAMR, KCIT, etc.) listing programs and their descriptions.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON / EVENING

Table with columns for time slots (12pm to 10pm) and rows for various TV channels (KACV, KAMR, KCIT, etc.) listing programs and their descriptions.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON / EVENING

Table with columns for time slots (12pm to 10pm) and rows for various TV channels (KACV, KAMR, KCIT, etc.) listing programs and their descriptions.

Names

Continued from Page 2-B

The ship serves as a highly visible deterrent to would-be aggressors and is equipped with the most versatile and powerful weapons and aircraft available. Tabor is a 2004 graduate of Pampa High School. He joined the Navy in November 2004. Bob and Nancy Poole, owners of Pack 'N' Mail in Pampa, recently attended a regional meeting of the Associated Mail & Parcel Centers in Austin. The Pooles participated in several workshops and received certification in both basic and advanced packing classes. Combined, the couple has more than 10 years of experience in the mail industry. Pack 'N' Mail is an Authorized Shipping Outlet for UPS as well as a Fed Ex Authorized Shipping Center besides shipping through the U.S. Postal Service. "We've already experienced an uptick in shipping," Nancy said, "as customers seem

to be shipping more gifts instead of traveling great distances this year." The Pooles recommend shipping early to avoid disappointment. Size and weight restrictions/requirements are available through Pack 'N' Mail. All items should be packaged, the Pooles said, in sturdy boxes free of brown paper, strings, "Scotch" masking or duct tape and no newspaper as packing material. Items that are fragile should be double-boxed with at least 2-inches of packaging between the inner and outer boxes. It is also a good idea to call ahead or ship to a business address to make sure the package is received at the time of delivery. Enclose an extra address label inside the package in case the outside is damaged during shipping or the outside label becomes illegible. Pack 'N' Mail is an Associated Mail & Parcel Centers member. CLARENDON — Clarendon County Livestock Judging Team recently competed at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Ky., and finished in 10th place out of 27 teams. Garrett Holder was named the fifth high individual of the contest and also placed

second high in oral reasons. Jordan Hicks was awarded with second high individual honors in the swine division. Team members for this contest were Garrett Holder, Tyler Winter, Tanner Winter, Keith Hunt and Jordan Hicks. CLARENDON — Clarendon College Horse Judging Team competed at the American Quarter Horse Association World Show held recently in Oklahoma City, Okla., and placed third overall out of seven teams. Team members were Lacey Isabell, Amy Northcutt, Jonathan Spreng, Elizabeth Voskamp and Jamie Voskamp. In individual categories, the team placed second in halter, third in performance, and second in reason. Gray County Treasurer Lee Cornelison was recently elected to the board of directors of the County Treasurer's Association of Texas during CTAT's 57th annual conference in Kerrville. The board's function is to serve the membership of county treasurers in Texas

and to assist the president in planning and producing educational events as well as keeping the membership current in legislative and judicial changes. Besides being elected to the CTAT board, Cornelison was appointed to the Legislative Committee, responsible for more clearly defining the responsibilities and functions of the office of county treasurer and for working with the legislature to reach a cooperative working relationship between counties and lawmakers. Texas county treasurers will next meet in March at Texas A&M University. Required continuing education units will be presented by V.G. Young Institute of County Government, Texas Cooperative Extension. Cornelison became a certified county investment officer in 2003 and is among the newest elected treasurers to serve on the CTAT board and the Legislative Committee.



Cornelison

EXTENSION TRAINING

Master Marketer Program set for January in Amarillo

By KAY LEDBETTER
Texas A&M News

AMARILLO — The profit margin is so minimal in grain crops, producers need a way to lock in a profit, according to one Panhandle producer.

Nathan Sargent of Stinnett has found a way. He just needs to get more proficient at it, he said.

Sargent is planning to attend a second Master Marketer Program training to increase his proficiency with futures, something he expects to pay off in the long run.

Master Marketer is a national award-winning risk management education program provided by Texas Cooperative Extension. Students learn how to develop marketing plans, evaluate marketing alternatives, manage production and price risk, and execute a risk management and marketing plan, Amosson said.

The 64-hour curriculum is offered as four, two-day sessions held every two weeks. It is the most intensive

marketing/risk management training provided by Extension anywhere in the U.S., he said.

The next Master Marketer Program will be held in Amarillo, starting in January.

Increasing net returns by as much as \$250,000 in the next 10 years can be a reality, said Dr. Steve Amosson, an Extension economist here and program coordinator.

In a two and one-half day post-training survey, previous Master Marketer participants indicated their gross income increased by more than \$30,000 annually on average, based on what they had learned in the training.

"There is no reason that program graduates shouldn't receive this level of increased returns for the next 10 years," Amosson said.

After attending classes in Vernon, Sargent said he was able to market some grain and make more money than if he hadn't had the class.

"Taking the class is like any other tool," he said. "You have to learn to use it and

'Taking the class is like any other tool. You have to learn to use it and once you use it, there's always a chance of upside profit. It was worth the price of the class.'

—Nathan Sargent

Crop producer from Stinnett

once you use it, there's always a chance of upside profit. It was worth the price of the class."

With markets so volatile, Sargent said he wanted a way to lock in prices because they change so rapidly. By taking the class, not only did he get to hear experts on the futures market, but he was able to learn from other producers what they are doing, he said.

"Interested participants should weigh carefully the registration fee, the time commitment and travel costs associated with the program against the potential of a \$250,000-plus increase in returns during

the next 10 years before signing up for the program," Amosson said. "Personally, I can't think of a good reason not to sign up for the program."

At the sessions, professionals in industry and universities from across the country teach a wide range of topics to enhance marketing/risk management skills. Case studies, group discussions and simulation exercises will be used wherever possible, Amosson said.

Students will gain experience with tools they can use on their own farm and ranch

See PROGRAM, Page 12-B

Events calendar

• **Pampa Community Concert Association** Presents "Live on Stage" 2005-06 concert series includes the following programs: Susan Egan, Broadway vocalist, Feb. 18, 2006; St. Petersburg Classic Ballet, March 4, 2006; and The Coats, vocal harmonic band, April 30, 2006. Additional concerts, featuring with other performers, have been scheduled in area towns. For more information, contact Ronnie Holmes, PCCA president, at 665-2631. PCCA memberships are available.

• **The Annual Festival of Trees** will be Saturday and Sunday at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Hours are 9:30 a.m.- 10 p.m. Saturday and 1-4 p.m. Sunday.

• **The Texas Department of State Health Services** will be offering immunization clinics for vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases. Flu vaccines may also be offered at designated clinics. The TDH will charge money to help with the cost

of keeping the clinic open. The amount charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay. The following clinic will be offered: 9:30-11:45 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, TDH, 736 S. Cuyler, Pampa.

• **The downtown merchants** of McLean will host an old-fashioned Christmas from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday and from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday.

• **Lovett Memorial Library** will host a free Christmas Craft Day beginning at 10 a.m. Dec. 10 at the library. Projects will include gift bags, cards and more. All materials will be provided. At 10 a.m. Dec. 13, the library will hold a Christmas party for its Story Time program. For more information on either event, call the library at 669-5780 or visit www.lovettlibrary.org on the Internet.

• **Coffee Memorial Blood Center** of Amarillo will conduct a blood drive from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 15 in the atrium of Celanese administra-

tion building. A Christmas ornament will be given to every donor.

• **The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center** has announced the following upcoming breast cancer screening clinic: Dec. 27, Shephard'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.

• **If your church no longer** participates in "Angel Food Ministries," Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship Church, 1733 N. Banks, will be happy to serve you. For more information, call the Rev. Epperson at 848-2183, prompt 2, or 662-8532. Please leave a message.

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Hacker

Continued from Page 3-B

his dramatic chops as well. Watson continues to be the most natural of the three, and plays Hermione more confidently than ever.

Radcliffe, like the others, is great when playing the teenage issues, but when he gets into the more deadly and climactic scenes he's not quite where he should be. When he finally meets Voldemort at the end of Goblet, his fear and anger aren't completely believable. As the movies get darker and more intense, he needs to step up each time, and he hasn't done that yet.

The other actors that stand out in the film are Pattinson as Cedric Diggory, Miranda Richardson as the inflammatory reporter Rita Skeeter, and Fiennes as Voldemort. In the book, Cedric is a nice, respectful competitor, but in the film he's more than that. Pattinson gives him an easy confidence and cool, like the high school god. Richardson is charmingly vindictive and inappropriate — the perfect Rita Skeeter.

Most importantly, Fiennes brings Lord Voldemort to life. His reappearance in Goblet is one of the most

important scenes in the entire series, and Fiennes doesn't disappoint. It's an understated performance that is utterly creepy. When he is finally able to touch Harry, the rage and excitement in his eyes are real. The makeup job is also fantastic. It's simple and scary, and you can also still see Fiennes underneath, which is appropriate because Voldemort was once a good-looking man.

"Goblet of Fire" is a great movie because it lets you escape into another world, and it takes you through moments of comedy, tense action and tragedy. It's heartbreaking when Harry returns from his dual with Voldemort clutching Cedric's dead body. When the students' cheers turn into gasps, and the wails of Cedric's father (Jeff Rawle) mix with the mournful music, it's clear that the wizarding world is no longer the same.

Although the film has its flaws, the story is exhilarating and moving, and the filmmakers were able to capture that.

B+
—Anita Hacker was born and raised in Pampa. She graduated from Pampa High School in 2001 and is a recipient of the Eugene and Daniela Anderson Scholarship.

Club news

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

Altrusa

Altrusa International Inc., of Pampa met Nov. 29 at Pampa Country Club with Vice-President Joan Gray-Soria presiding. Tery Gambelin and Ruby Roysse served as greeters. Guests included Pam Ashford, Jim Ashford, Jason Bagwell, Jennifer Baggett, Sharon Braddock, Bryan Gordzelik, Duane Harp, Eileen Kludt, Lary Norton, Mike Schale, Bill Willis and Shane Williams.

A candle lighting ceremony was held as a tribute to Billie Dixon, recently deceased Altrusa President. The accent, delivered by

DeLynn Gordzelik, was also dedicated to Dixon.

The following business was conducted and announcements made:

—Edna Hickman reported that 42 gift bags were delivered to Schneider House residents recently.

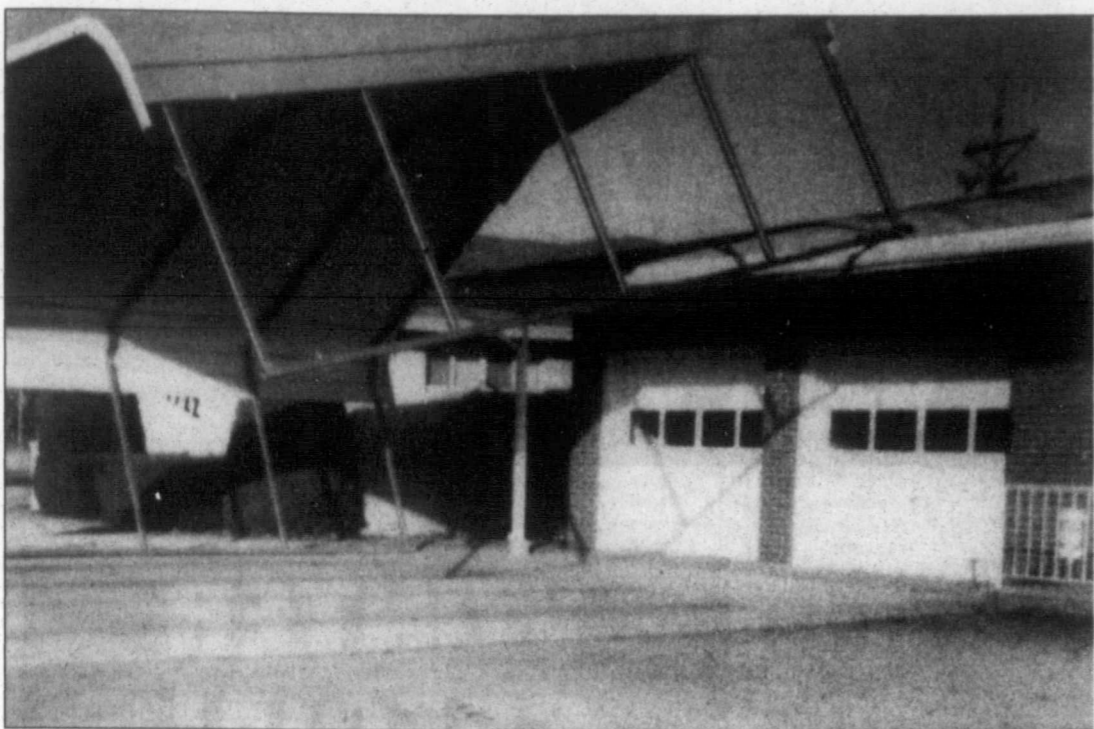
—Members met to decorate the Altrusa entry in Festival of Trees.

—The Altrusa Christmas reception is scheduled at 2 p.m. Dec. 11 at the home of Barbara Hahn.

—Lynn Switzer, district attorney, presented a power-point presentation on methamphetamine. She spoke on the effects of meth on business owners, taxpayers, families and friends and pointed out telltale signs to watch. She reported that more than 12 million Americans have tried meth and approximately 1.5 million are current users.

The next meeting will be at noon Dec. 13 at Pampa Country Club.

Wind damage



Courtesy Photo

This carport canopy at the home of O.B. and Jean Elkins on Aspen Drive, was fastened to the concrete driveway before high winds Wednesday afternoon uprooted it. Wind gusts that day were recorded at 57 mph.

Secret agency would spur development of vaccines

WASHINGTON (AP) — By creating a federal agency shielded from public scrutiny, some lawmakers think they can speed the development and testing of new drugs and vaccines needed to respond to a bioterrorist attack or super-flu pandemic.

The proposed Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Agency, or BARDA, would be exempt from long-standing open records and meetings laws that apply to most government departments, according to legislation approved Oct. 18 by the Senate health committee.

Those exemptions would streamline the development process, safeguard national security and protect the proprietary interests of drug companies, say Republican backers of the bill. The legislation also proposes giving manufacturers immunity from liability in exchange for their participation in the public-private effort.

"We must ensure the federal government acts as a partner with the private sector, providing the incentives and protections necessary to bring more and better drugs and vaccines to market faster," Sen. Richard Burr, R-N.C., said when the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions approved the bill.

The agency would provide the funding for development of treatments and vaccines to protect the United States from natural pandemics as well as chemical, biological and radiological agents.

It is the secrecy and immunity provisions of the legislation that have alarmed patient rights and open government advocates. The agency would be exempt from the Freedom of Information and Federal Advisory Committee acts, both considered crucial for monitoring government accountability.

"There is no other agency that I am aware of where the agency is totally exempt either from FOIA or FACA," said Pete Weitzel, coordinator of the Coalition of Journalists for Open Government. The coalition is an alliance of journalism groups, including the American Society of Newspaper Editors and Associated Press Managing Editors, that wrote to lawmakers seeking amendments to the bill. "That is a cause for major concern and should raise major policy concerns," Weitzel said.

Burr spokesman Doug Heye said the pro-

visions would keep competitors from gaining proprietary information through FOIA. However, confidential business information already is exempt from FOIA.

"There's no secrecy involved in BARDA," Heye said. "That is absolutely false. This is an agency that will be putting out information daily."

Some Democrats question whether the public would accept drugs or vaccines developed in conjunction with the agency, citing the abortive 2003 effort to vaccinate 500,000 front-line health care workers against smallpox. Only about 40,000 workers ultimately received the vaccine amid concerns about the vaccine's safety, which health authorities initially downplayed.

"Republican leaders in Congress are now proposing a plan that would make exactly the same mistake," Sen. Chris Dodd, D-Conn., said in a statement. "Their plan will protect companies that make ineffective or harmful medicines, and because it does not include compensation for those injured by a vaccine or drug, it will discourage first responders and patients from taking medicines to counter a biological attack or disease outbreak."

The bill does provide for limited compensation. However, another provision would grant drug companies immunity unless "willful misconduct" can be shown.

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America said it was reviewing the bill. Another industry group, the Biotechnology Industry Organization, declined comment.

The National Vaccine Information Center, an advocacy group, called the legislation "a drug company stockholder's dream and a consumer's worst nightmare."

The proposed law comes amid growing concern about pandemics and the government's ability to meet such threats. For instance, the United States needs another three to five years to develop the manufacturing capacity to produce 300 million doses of flu vaccine, Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt said Nov. 20 on NBC's "Meet the Press."

The agency would improve on Project BioShield, a barely two-year-old program also meant to encourage production of vaccines and drugs, Heye said.

Senate eyes regulating chemical plants

WASHINGTON (AP) — After years of policing itself, the nation's chemical industry may face broad federal regulation of security at its plants to safeguard against terror attacks.

Under a draft Senate plan obtained by The Associated Press, chemical plants that fail to create, update and submit security plans for their facilities could be shut down by the Homeland Security Department.

The draft bill addresses some longtime concerns about vulnerabilities at the nation's 15,000 privately operated chemical plants. It would expand federal regulatory authority over chemical plants, but set no specific minimum standards that the industry would have to meet in securing its facilities.

Environmental experts said Friday the plan does not go far enough to protect communities in the event of a chemical leak.

Counterterrorism experts put the chemical industry at the top of the list of likely terror targets. Currently, the chemical industry regulates itself with voluntary measures to secure plants from terrorism, but congressional investigators have revealed spotty results in how well the industry is prepared to respond if there is

an attack.

About one-fifth of the nation's chemical facilities are close to population centers. Homeland Security has identified 297 chemical facilities where a toxic release could affect 50,000 or more people.

Under the draft legislation chemical manufacturers would be required to assess potential security gaps and tailor specific solutions on a plant-by-plant basis. Both the assessments and solutions would then be submitted to Homeland Security for approval.

Chemical manufacturers would also be required to create or update existing emergency response plans.

Repeated failures to comply could lead the Homeland Security secretary to "issue an order for the chemical source to cease operation," according to the draft plan.

Homeland Security would be required to develop certain security standards for plants that would be grouped into tiers, based on the level of risk they pose to surrounding communities.

The Senate is expected to begin considering a final copy of the Republican-authored legislation in coming weeks.

Senators receive Pentagon briefing on propaganda program in Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — A key senator and the country's top military commander said Friday that a Pentagon propaganda program was part of an effort to "get the truth out" in Iraq.

Leaving a Pentagon meeting with Defense Department officials, Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman John Warner, R-Va., said the program, which pays to plant favorable stories with Iraqi journalists and newspapers, is a serious problem.

Warner told The Associated Press that, "Things like this happen. It's a war. The disinformation that's going on in that

country is really affecting the effectiveness of what we're achieving, and we have no recourse but to try and do some rebuttal information."

And Gen. Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, added that, "We want to get the facts out. We want to get the truth out."

Warner met with chief Pentagon spokesman Lawrence Di Rita and members of Pace's staff, but only bumped into Pace on his way out of the building.

Meanwhile, a Pentagon spokesman said Friday that it is not clear whether the program violated the law or Pentagon policy, a Defense

Department spokesman said Friday.

"You can do something perfectly legal, but that is inconsistent with the policy or procedures of the department. Just because it's legal doesn't mean it's the right thing to do," said spokesman Bryan Whitman. He said the department is still gathering information on the matter.

Warner initially requested a Capitol Hill briefing for the committee, but committee spokesman John Uilyot said those plans were changed "at the Pentagon's request."

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, Dec. 5, 2005:
It might be wise to keep your head clear. Holding back could be more difficult than you anticipated. If you let tension or anger build, you could be accident-prone. You need to let off steam. Design different ways to accomplish this task. Some might take up a new hobby or exercise. Sometimes you think that communicating is enough. Actions count too. A smile and cheery hello could make or break many people's day, including your own. If you are single, you will meet people easily. Getting along with someone on a day-to-day basis is another story. Do not commit to a long-term bond this year. Also, check out people carefully. If you are attached, you will discover that your relationship benefits enormously from conversations and time alone together. AQUARIUS understands you well.

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 in the mood to slamdunk a project and cheer yourself on, but others might be creating obstacles left and right. Your finances, as well as a partner's perspective, could be reining in your spending. OUCH! Tonight: Your drive tosses you into the winner's circle!
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You go to the head of the class, whether you want to or not. The problem with all the authority will be the many demands you get left and right. You could lose your temper, and somehow you feel locked into a pattern. Tonight: Step above all that is happening.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Your detachment will make or break your day. Others can, and might very well, be tough to deal with. Your abilities to understand others' needs and to solve situations brings a smile to your face, as well as maybe another person or two. Tonight: A mind treat.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Work with individuals rather than grouping others together. If you keep your goals in mind, you won't be thrown off track. In fact, you will be able to achieve the kind of rapport and understanding you desire. Tonight: Fulfill a request.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ You certainly could, and easily might, rain on another's, or quite a few people's, parade. If you discover that someone is losing it right in front of you, think about what you might have done to provoke this response. Tonight: Let others dominate.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Your ability to function in the workplace might separate you from many. How you see a situation could radically change because of how co-workers express their feelings. News also might jolt you out of or into a depression. Tonight: Easy does it.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You could find someone unusually challenging about what he or she thinks you need to do. This situation probably involves both of you and an emotional or financial risk. Tonight: Play it cool, and you might get what you want.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ You might inadvertently challenge someone, especially when you see how he or she reacts. You might want to hunker down and be a little less visible; otherwise, you could find yourself in a difficult situation. Tonight: Anchor in.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You might be pushed beyond your normal level of what needs to happen. If you are tired, take a walk. Do what you must to energize yourself. A perky smile and an understanding manner take you far. Tonight: Hang out with friends.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might believe that you have a knockout answer, but, surprise of surprises, others just might not agree. Without getting involved in a dangerous risk, you can test the waters on your own. Tonight: Play the conservative Goat. Ultimately, you will be happier.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You could easily be in the thick of things and could find it difficult to pacify a family member. A matter involving the home could keep you on your toes. Tonight: Feeling great.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Know when to pull back and follow through on what you need to do. If you don't, you could find yourself surrounded by a bit of an uproar and difficult people. Even if you are dying to blow off steam, what's left unsaid might be all the better. Tonight: Quit while you are ahead.

BORN TODAY
Physicist Sheldon Glashow (1932), singer Little Richard (1932), singer John Rzeznik (1965)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.
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Dec. 13

TDA changes licensing regs

AUSTIN — Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs recently announced changes to the Texas Department of Agriculture's license expiration procedures.

Effective Oct. 1, 2005, new pesticide applicator licenses will expire on the anniversary date they were issued. A pesticide dealer license will expire on the last date of the month of the second anniversary it was issued.

For licenses renewed before Oct. 1, pesticide applicator licenses will continue to expire on Feb. 28 of each year for commercial and non-commercial applicators and Feb. 28 five years after they were issued for private applicators. Dealer licenses expire on Dec. 31 of odd numbered years.

While the majority of pesticide applicator renewals will still fall on the Feb. 28 date, Combs said she hopes the new system will eventually distribute the workload throughout the year so that licenses can be issued quicker.

New licenses for nursery/flower, rose grading, vegetable seed, grain warehouse and eggs also will expire on the anniversary date they were issued.

If you need additional information, contact TDA at (800) TELL-TDA.

Viticulture short course in offing

LUBBOCK — Those interested in commercial wine-grape production and vineyard management should make plans now to attend a Texas viticulture short course. The course, presented by Texas Cooperative Extension and Texas Tech University's Extended Studies, is set for Jan. 18-20, 2006, at the Texas Tech University Center in Junction.

Topics will include wine grape physiology, vineyard establishment and management and pest management. A field trip to a local vineyard will provide hands-on experience in pruning practices and a discussion of vine-training methods.

Registration costs \$395 per person before Jan. 1, 2006, and \$450 thereafter. Enrollment is limited to 50 participants on a first-come, first-enrolled basis.

There are several ways to register:

Visit <http://www.dce.ttu.edu> for online enrollment;

Print and fax a completed registration form and credit card information to (806) 742-7277; or

Call (806) 742-7200, ext. 270.

Program

Cont. from Page 8-B

operations when they leave the class, he said.

The first two-day session is set for Jan. 11-12. The registration fee for the program is \$250, which includes noon meals and educational materials.

Partial program costs are covered by grants from sponsors, including the Texas Farm Bureau, the Cotton State Support Committee and the Risk Management Program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

For more information or to register, contact the local Extension agent or call Amosson at (806) 677-5600.

Due to the hands-on nature of the course, attendance will be limited. The deadline for registration is Jan. 3, but Amosson warned the class is filling fast, so producers should not wait to register.

Farm Scene: Virginia ag official seeks to preserve farmland

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — Virginia's top agriculture chief wants the state to invest in programs that protect farmland and forests from being sold for development.

Robert Bloxom, the state's secretary of agriculture and forestry, received recommendations recently from a task force that said the state should provide funds for local programs that pay farmers in exchange for giving up development rights.

The programs — known as purchase of development rights programs or PDRs — guarantee land remains farmland, forest or open space, instead of being sold for something such as housing plots.

About a half dozen Virginia cities and counties have PDR programs, but they are locally funded.

"Now it's the state's turn to join in ... to help the localities in this battle to preserve our farmland and our forest land," Bloxom said, speaking at the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation's 80th annual convention early last week.

Virginia lost 23,360 acres of farmland and more than 22,000 acres of forest to development each year between 1992 and

1997, the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Farmland Preservation Task Force noted.

With the average age of Virginia farmers at 56 years, farms and forest businesses will disappear at an increasing rate over the next decade without programs to help farmers find alternatives to liquidating their assets to support themselves in retirement, the task force's report said.

An estimated \$25 million to \$50 million would be needed to get things started, said William P. Dickinson, deputy secretary of agriculture and forestry. The money could be held in a pot for use as matching funds, he said.

The task force also wants to see 30 more localities establish PDR programs by 2010, and a total of at least 70 localities adopt and fund PDR programs by 2020.

"We do not see PDR programs as the be-all and end-all for saving farmland," Dickinson said. "It is one tool."

Having land available to farm in the future is a big concern for young farmers, said Gray Coyner, a member of the farm bureau's board of directors.

Rotary meeting



Cindy McElvoy, bookkeeper and social service worker for The Salvation Army, addressed a local Rotary Club meeting recently. McElvoy discussed The Salvation Army's Angel Tree and bell ringer programs. Volunteer bell ringers are needed and donations are welcome. For more information, contact The Salvation Army at 665-7233 or 665-6755.

Lefors ISD honor roll

Lefors Independent School District announced its honor roll for the second six-weeks grading period of the 2005-06 school year.

A Honor Roll. Drake Evan Jackson, Amanda Rena Lawrence, Emily JoAnn Jackson, Gabriel Heath Miller, Haley Jeannette Smith, Jeffrey Kyle Smith, Seth Edward Scully, Dylan Ward Connell, Brian Tyler McBee, Amber Lee Shephard, Colten Jarrett

Helfer, Taylor Mckenze Overstreet, Jacob Grant Gething, Harli Nicole Jernigan, Kurtis Wayne Murray, Brian Wesley Jameson.

AB Honor Roll. Joseph Cameron Barnes, Edward Palmer Boaz, Britney Nicole Coombes, Tabitha Shae Courter, Trever Nicholaus Czubinski, Matthew Taylor Daugherty, Lindsay Gail Duckworth, Devan Nacona Franks,

Sharon Brooke Franks, Blake Thomas Fry, Seth Zachary Fry, Autumn Richelle Gifford, Darian Leigh Harkcom, Dillon Wayne Helfer, Krista Nichole Hendrickson, Amanda Beth Hicks, Stormy Annette Rose Howard, Tyler Keegan Jernigan, Ashlyn Denea Johnson, Joey Kyle Johnson, Lacie Brianne Johnston, Braden Bradford Kidd, Colten Jade Landrum,

Rebecca Joyce Lawrence, Khori Aleene Lott, Kyndan Lee Lott, Xavier Cole Lund, Abigail Paige Maness, Jathen Quade Miller, Valerie Brooke Miller, Andrew Hayden Morriss, Shayley Renee Morriss, Spencer Hagen Nicholson, Timbra Bethanne Overstreet, Tycee Clairea Overstreet, Dakota Wakely Pairsh, Brandon Lynn Parsley, Kaitlynne Michelle

Porter, Ashley Nicole Primeaux, Tanner Michael Ray, Keenan J. Santacruz, Alana Len Shephard, Ashley Nicole Shephard, Aurora Ashleigh Smolin, Aaron Keith Spotts, Jeremy Lucas Sprouse, Rachael May Stubbs, Jacqueline Jonelle Tinney, Shelby Anne Whatley, Alicia Ann Whitehead, Ashley Nichole Woodard, Kayla Michelle Wyant.

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