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SEE PAGE 7



# THE PAMPA

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Thursday, December 15, 2005

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## Developer eyes Pampa for low-income housing project

By DAVID BOWSER  
Staff Writer

R.J. Collins, president of Tejas Housing and Development, wants to build 76 town homes in Pampa for low-income housing.

In a presentation to the Pampa City Commission this week, the Austin developer of lower income housing projects in the state said he intends to use tax credit funding from the state to help finance the

project. Collins said federal tax credits are allotted to each state based on population.

"It's \$1.90 for each individual living in the State of Texas," Collins said. "That's about \$32 million."

The State of Texas then allocates those funds throughout the state.

Pampa, which is in region one of the program, is classified by the state as a rural area and is eligible for only 76 units.

A tax credit is an indirect way to finance low-income housing, Collins said.

"A tax credit is a dollar per dollar reduction in the federal tax liability to the investor," he said.

An investor buys tax credits to lower the amount of taxes he pays, and the state gives the money to the developer in the form of a grant, not as a loan.

"It's not to be paid back," Collins

said. That essentially lowers the amount of money the developer has to put into the project. It also restricts rent to lower income tenants.

"The tax code classifies the low to moderate income as 60 percent of the median income or less," Collins said.

See HOUSING, Page 3

## Report card on election very good They come bearing gifts

By DAVID BOWSER  
Staff Writer

The report card on the Nov. 8 economic development election is in and Pampa city officials are happy with their grade.

"There were no substantial errors," said City Secretary Phyllis Jeffers.

The only problem cited by Ann McGeehan, director of elections for the Texas Secretary of State, was a procedure that was not followed when the early voting ballot board processed the mail-in ballots.

McGeehan said that according to the election inspector, Mary Ann Conkel, assigned to Pampa mail ballots which are rejected, should not be opened.

Jeffers said that dealt with only three ballots out of 3,297 cast in the election.

The city secretary said the turnout might have set a record for local elections.

"In my 21 years of conducting elections in Pampa," Jeffers said, "this was the largest turnout."



Pampa News Photo by DENNIS SPIES

The Pampa Peace Officers Association delivered gifts to the Salvation Army's Angel Tree at the Salvation Army office this morning. Seated, from left, are Corey Hernandez of Pampa Police Department, Mayce Ogle, Connie Lockridge with the 31st District attorney's office, and Casey Ingersoll with PPD. Standing from left are Sgt. Alvin Johnson of PPD, Chris Lockridge, Gray County constable and Capt. Gary Steward of the Salvation Army.

## Water rules appear to be working OK

By DAVID BOWSER  
Staff Writer

WHITE DEER -- The new Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District rules appear to be working, according to C.E. Williams.

Under the new rules, adopted by the district this past year, metering analysis indicated five areas of concern with regard to water tables across the seven-county district.

Those five areas, in Gray, Carson, Armstrong, Donley and Wheeler counties, were the subject of discussion during Tuesday's PGWCD monthly meeting here.

"You can't say that we passed those rules for our own benefit," Williams said, noting that three of the five areas directly involved board members.

Under the new rules, drops in the water table beyond the allowable rate of decline are brought to the attention of the landowners with the hope that the landowners can remedy the situation without the district having to take action.

"By doing the analysis,"

See WATER, Page 3

## Gray County man sought in aggravated kidnapping case

By MARILYN POWERS  
Staff Writer

A Gray County man is being sought by law enforcement as a suspect in a recent aggravated kidnapping, in which he allegedly held a woman against her will for a week at a house in Alanreed.

The victim, who lives in Amarillo, called Gray County Sheriff's Office on Dec. 6 to report the kidnapping, which occurred Nov. 29 in McLean. She was able to get away from the man on Dec. 5, according to Lt. Joe B. Hoard of the sheriff's office.

The woman was in McLean to

visit a relative at a nursing home when she was allegedly abducted by the man, Hoard said.

"He physically assaulted her and put a knife to her throat and face," Hoard said. "He took her to his house in Alanreed and would not let her leave."

"The victim and suspect have known each other for some time," he said.

The victim reportedly suffered small cuts to the throat and stomach as a result of the incident.

See KIDNAP, Page 3

## County clerk Winborne to run again

By MARILYN POWERS  
Staff Writer

Gray County Clerk Susan Winborne wants the opportunity to complete the implementation of new electronic voting machines for Gray County.

Winborne has filed for re-election on the Republican ticket for a third four-year term in office.

"One of my main goals is implementation of the new voting equipment. I want everyone to feel comfortable voting with the new machines," she said.

The new electronic machines are mandated by federal law and must be used in all elections beginning Jan. 1, 2006.

Winborne began serving as county clerk on Jan. 1, 1999. Some of her accomplishments in office include computerizing all office functions, implementing a program to access and print birth certificates from all Texas counties, computer data entry of real estate records from 1990 forward which are accessible on a public viewing station, and the switch to the new

electronic voting machines.

"I have considered it a privilege to serve as the county clerk for the past seven years. It is a very challenging and rewarding position with a wide variety of responsibilities. I hope to continue serving the citizens of Gray County in this capacity," she said.

Winborne is a 1969 graduate of Pampa High School. She completed a two-year secretarial course at West Texas State University in 1971, and

See WINBORNE, Page 3



Winborne

## White Deer Land Museum New Year's Eve Party

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## Obituaries

### Ruth B. Allston, 94

Ruth B. Allston, 94, of Pampa, Texas, died Dec. 14, 2005, at Terrell, Texas. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Allston was born April 13, 1911, in Fort Smith, Ark. She married Oliver W. "Ollie" Allston on June 29, 1929, in Amarillo, and he preceded her in death.

She was an active member of the First Christian Church for over 50 years. She was a secretary and bookkeeper for Martin-Turner Insurance Agency, retiring after 20 years of service.

Survivors include one son, Tom Allston of

Amarillo; one daughter, Charlotte Owens and husband Angus of Forney; two grandsons, Stacy Allston of Austin and Aaron Allston of Round Rock; one brother, Howell Bailey of Pryor, Okla.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family requests memorials be to First Christian Church, 1633 N. Nelson, Pampa, TX 79065.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 6-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16, 2005.

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

### LaNella Hensley, 65

LaNella Hensley, 65, of Pampa, Texas, died Dec. 12, 2005, at Amarillo, Texas.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, 2005, at the Durham Community Building in Durham, Okla., with the Rev. Rick Parnell, associate pastor of the Central Baptist Church of Pampa, and the Rev. Ray Smart, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Durham, officiating.

Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery in Durham, Okla., under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Ms. Hensley was born Nov. 28, 1940, in Crawford, Okla., to Leslie Landon Hensley and Kate Ella Jones Hensley. She lived in Crawford until the family moved to Durham, Okla., in 1957. She attended school in Durham until the school's closing in 1958 and transferred to Reydon, Okla., where she graduated in 1960.

She had been a resident of Pampa since 1964, working for Marie Foundation and Cabot Corporation, retiring from Cabot in

1999. She was involved in many activities and community organizations including Meals on Wheels, the American Business Women's Association, Durham Quilting Bees and Durham Willing Workers Club.

She was a member of the Central Baptist Church in Pampa. She was preceded in death by her mother, Kate Ella Hensley, in 1946; and her father, Leslie Landon Hensley, in 1991.

Survivors include three brothers Marvin Hensley and wife Eltha of Pampa, Morris Hensley and wife Francis of Killeen, and Wilbur Hensley and wife Eva of Raywood; two nephews; six nieces; many great-nephews, great-nieces and cousins; one aunt, Erma Hensley of Cheyenne, Okla.; and one uncle, Bill Jones of Dumas.

The family requests memorials be to First Baptist Church, Rt. 1, Box 5, Durham, OK 73642.

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



Hensley

## Gray County Weather

Today: Mostly sunny with a high near 45. Wind chill values between 17 and 27 early. Northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy with a low around 24. North-northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph becoming calm.

Friday: Partly cloudy,

with a high around 40. Wind chill values between 18 and 28. South-southeast wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low near 23. Wind chill values between 11 and 21. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.

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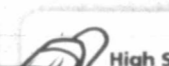
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## Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of White Deer.

Wheat	3.24
Milo	2.81
Corn	3.79
Soybeans	4.80

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

OXY	84.07	-0.56
BP PLC ADR	66.36	-0.89
Cabot Corp	35.57	-0.19
Celanese	18.68	-0.02
Cabot Oil Gas	47.50	-0.41
Coca Cola	41.03	-0.06
VLO	108.85	-0.85
HAL	65.95	-0.59
TRI	40.83	-0.63
KMI	93.48	-0.26
XCEL	18.83	-0.03
Kerr McGee	94.64	-0.41
XOM	59.59	-0.27
Nat'l Oilwell	NA	NA
Limited	23.15	-0.21
Williams	24.33	-0.29
MCD	35.49	-0.01
Atmos	26.51	-0.06
Pioneer Nat	53.90	-0.29
JCP	54.54	-0.12
COF	58.37	+0.13
SLB	101.81	-1.07
Tenneco	17.54	-0.09
CVX	58.83	-0.45
Wal-Mart	49.23	-0.28
OKE	28.02	-0.07
NS Grp	42.74	+0.05

New York Gold	505.60
Silver	8.39
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## CITY BRIEFS

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

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## Emergency Services

### Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Twenty-six traffic stops were made. A traffic complaint was noted in the 2400 block of Charles.

Traffic accidents were investigated in the 1300 block of North Hobart, the 600 block of North Dwight and the 800 block of Ford.

Alarms were checked in the 2000 block of North Charles, the 2500 block of North Perryton Parkway and the 200 block of North Gray.

Thefts were reported in the 1200 block of Crawford where chrome wheels worth \$800 were taken; the 2800 block of North Charles where a CD player valued at \$64.88 was taken; and three others were reported in the police department lobby.

Burglary was reported in the 2500 block of North Perryton Parkway where two windows valued at \$500 were taken, and burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 100 block of East Harvester where medication valued at \$31 was missing.

A vehicle valued at \$1,500 was reported stolen in the 900 block of North Nelson, and a stolen vehicle was reported in the police department lobby.

Interference with an emergency telephone call was investigated in the 2200 block of Evergreen.

Harassment was reported in the 600 block of Wells.

Program presentations were made in the 2300 block of Primrose and the 300 block of West Albert.

911 hang-up calls were reported in the 2200 block of Evergreen and the 500 block of Magnolia.

Escorts and assisting other agencies were noted in the 100 block of West 30th, the 300 block of East Brown, the 700 block of North Wells, the 1800 block of North Duncan, and the 200 block of North West.

Motorist assistance was provided in one unidentified location and in the 500 block of North Powell.

Welfare checks were made in the 900 block of South Nelson, the 2200 block of North Hobart and the 100 block of East Craven.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 600 block of North Gray and the 800 block of North Wells.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of

North Dwight.

Warrant service was attempted at one location.

An assault was investigated in the 800 block of North Wells.

A suspicious person was reported in the 500 block of West Oklahoma and a suspicious vehicle was reported in the 600 block of West Oklahoma.

### Accidents

Pampa Police Department today reported the following motor vehicle accidents.

#### Wednesday, Dec. 14

A 2000 Dodge Durango driven by Melford Neal Hanks, 26, of 313 Tuke and a 2005 Dodge Caravan driven by Sheila Raulston, 62, of 2226 N. Williston collided in the 1300 block of North Hobart. Hanks was issued citations for failure to control speed and no liability insurance. There were no noted injuries.

A 1990 Ford F150 driven by Robert James Hicks Jr., 37, of Skellytown and a 2002 Chevrolet Suburban driven by Fidel Raul Mendoza, 27, of 400 N. Christy collided in the 600 block of North Dwight. Hicks was charged with backing without safety, and no proof of financial responsibility. There were no noted injuries.

#### Thursday, Dec. 15

A 1998 Ford F150 driven by Michael Grajeda, 26, of 517 N. Faulkner was driving westbound in the 300 block of Ford when he attempted to turn south on the 700 block of South Gray. He lost control and hit the curb. Grajeda was being chased by police and fled the scene on foot.

### Sheriff

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

#### Thursday, Dec. 14

Tyson Dean Beck, 32, of Pampa was arrested on a charge of interfering with a 911 call.

James Shawn, 22, of Pampa was arrested on a charge of theft by check.

Edward Briley, 27, of Pampa was arrested on a charge of theft.

Victor Manuel Contreras, 17, of Pampa was arrested on charges of public intoxication and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Nicholas Lee Brookshire,

26, of Pampa was arrested on a capias pro fine charge of disorderly conduct.

Justin Wehrenberg, 17, of McLean was arrested on a charge of evading arrest with a vehicle.

Tony Murphy, 33, of Colorado City was arrested on a bench warrant of credit card abuse.

Dee Anna Music, 33, of Sonora was arrested on a charge of probation violation, possession of a controlled substance.

### Fire

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

#### Wednesday, Dec. 14

7:33 a.m. — Three units and eight personnel responded to the 2000 block of Charles where food burned on a stove set off an alarm.

2:35 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 200 block of West on a medical assist.

6:17 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 1800 block of Duncan on a medical assist.

6:50 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 200 block of West on a medical assist.

### Ambulance

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

#### Wednesday, Dec. 14

7:51 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1900 block of Sumner and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

12:07 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 300 block of East Brown and transported a patient to PRMC.

12:57 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1900 block of Hilton Road and transported a patient to PRMC.

1:54 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient to the 1200 block of North Wells.

2:35 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 300 block of North West and transported a patient to PRMC.

6:17 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1800 block of North Duncan and transported a patient to PRMC.

## Redistricting arguments to go before high court

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Supreme Court said Thursday it would hear oral arguments on constitutional challenges to Texas' redrawn congressional boundaries on March 1.

That means the court will consider whether the current districts are legal just six days before the state's March 7 primaries.

A decision is expected by the end of June, before the

court's summer recess. If the high court finds Texas' existing congressional districts unconstitutional, it could send the redistricting map back to the Texas Legislature.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott has said elections will go forward under the existing districts.

The court will hear arguments from four separate appeals by critics of the Texas map that have been consolidated in one case.

The Texas Legislature redrew its congressional districts in 2003 under pressure from former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay.

He wanted more Republicans in Congress because he thought that would better reflect the state's voting patterns, and he opposed the map drawn by a court in 2001 that was less Republican-friendly.

A Texas prosecutor is investigating campaign funding for several Republican legislative candidates in 2002. Their victories gave Republicans the majority in the state House needed to redraw the districts.

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## Kidnap

Continued from Page 1

On Dec. 5, the victim convinced the suspect that she had a doctor's appointment in Amarillo, and he took her to Amarillo for the appointment, Hoard said. She went in to the doctor's office and called Amarillo Police Department, ending her reported captivity.

"We are not releasing the names of the suspect or victim at this time due to the fact that the case is still

under investigation," Hoard said. No arrests have been made.

Aggravated kidnapping is defined as intentionally or knowingly restraining another person and using or threatening to use deadly force, inflicting bodily injury, abusing the victim sexually, or exhibiting a deadly weapon in the course of the kidnapping, according to the Texas Penal Code. Punishment for the first-degree felony is five to 99 years in prison and a maximum fine of \$10,000.

## Meth bust made on I-40 near Groom

Department of Public Safety troopers arrested a man from Oklahoma on Interstate 40 Sunday after they discovered more than six pounds of methamphetamine hidden in his vehicle.

Troopers stopped a 1997 Ford pickup eastbound on I-40, east of Groom, for a traffic violation.

Later, 3,132.60 grams of crystal methamphetamine, a little over six pounds, was found hidden in the spare tire. The meth has an estimated value of \$250,608.

## Water

Continued from Page 1

Williams said, "people can make changes without the need for the district to be a heavy-handed regulator."

He said the new rules are pretty well working like the board thought they would, although there were some unanticipated results.

"In a lot of the areas we thought would show problems," Williams said, "some did and some didn't."

He said the most notable result revolved around the thickness of the saturated sand formation that holds the fresh water in the

Ogallala Aquifer that lies under much of the district.

Those areas with thin saturated formations are a bigger problem than the thicker saturated formations.

"When you lose a foot of water in a 10-foot thick formation," Williams said, "it's more dramatic than losing a foot of water in a 500-foot thick formation."

He said the thickness of the formations drove the process more acutely than they expected.

Williams said that the district was planning on holding five informational meetings after Christmas and that there would be a public meeting concerning the new rules and the results of the district's monitoring in the spring.

In other business, the board approved Initial Production Permits on 139,924 acres for landowners selling water to the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority. Williams said that 65 permits covering 108,943 acres were existing permits that were amended to show CRMWA as the sole owner. The remaining 39 permits covering 30,981 acres were new permits. Most of the 104 permits were for Roberts County. Twenty-eight of the permits were in Gray County. Five were in Wheeler County.

There were also seven permits for one-inch wells approved. All were in Potter County.

## Housing

Continued from Page 1

The median income in Gray County is \$49,300.

"That means a family of four cannot exceed \$29,580 on an annual basis in order to be eligible for one of the lower income town homes," Collins said. "These units will rent from \$203 for a one-bedroom unit to \$650 for a three-bedroom unit."

The rents will vary depending upon the number of people in the family and their income.

"We plan to build town homes here," Collins said.

The property development, he said, will be professionally managed and include a community building, a pool, washer and dryer hookups, attached garages, social services and a maintenance staff.

"It will be a gated community," Collins said.

He said that renters have to have jobs and there will be a criminal background check on each renter.

Typically, Collins said most of their clients are single parents.

Of the 76 units, 73 will be for low-income housing, he says. Three will rent at the market price.

Collins said he's planning on building 12 one-bedroom units, 36 two-bedroom units and 28 three-bedroom units.

Collins said that time is critical in the project because pre-applications opened for tax credit money on Dec. 9. That window closes on Jan. 9. The pre-application process gives developers an idea of how many applications will be made from across the state.

"They'll be about 250,000 applications filed," Collins said.

He estimated that only about 50,000 would be funded.

"Once we get through the pre-applications," Collins said, "we kind of know where we stand."

The applications are due March 1, he said. The tax credit awards will be made about July.

If he is awarded the tax credit funds, Collins said he plans on starting construction in the first quarter of 2007. The project should be complete in the first quarter of 2008.

"We'll probably start leasing in September, 2007," Collins said.

Under state regulations, Collins has to solicit funds from the local community. He is asking for \$73,073

from the city. That can be in kind, which could include property, utilities or taxes.

"The state scores each one of these applications based on points," Collins said. "That is \$1,001 per low income unit. That equals 12 points."

There were five rural development applications in region one last year, Collins said. Two of them had contributions from the local community. Three of them didn't. The three that didn't have contributions didn't get allocation of tax credit funding.

Collins said he's found two pieces of property that would be suitable. Both are near Wal-Mart.

Mayor Lonny Robbins asked if he would consider other parts of town.

Commissioner Faustina Curry said that she had seen some housing that Collins had built in Amarillo and that they were run down.

Collins said that he had done that with a partner and had sold out to the partner. Collins said he has six properties that he is now operating and they are all well maintained.

The commission has until the end of February to consider a commitment to the program.

## Winborne

Cont'd from Page 1

earned an associate degree in business from Clarendon College in 1992. She has met the continuing education requirement as county clerk for the seven years of her time in office.

She is a member of the County and District Clerks' Association, the Pampa Gold Coats, the Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce, First Baptist Church of Pampa, and the boards of directors of Panhandle Community Services and Panhandle Transit District. She is a charter member and past president of Celebration of Lights.

Winborne and her husband of 35 years, Danny, have two children, Lisa and Matt, and two granddaughters, K'Lyn and Hailee King.

**Double MUSHROOM SWISS BURGER**

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# Heard-Jones

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# Viewpoints

## The recipe for a good or bad dream ...

Dreams, aren't they interesting? If you can remember them, that is. I seldom do.

Well, scientists are now engineering mice with "small" quantities of human brain cells, according to a recent Associated Press story by Paul Elias, AP biotechnology writer.

What does this science have to do with dream science? Not much, I suppose, but doesn't it sound like the perfect recipe for a nightmare?

I mean, animal and human DNA all thrown together — what gruesome possibilities does that bring to mind? Sounds like the basis of a future sci-fi/horror cult classic.

"(T)he work adds to the growing ethical concerns," Elias writes, "of mixing human and animal cells when it comes to stem cell and cloning research. After all, mice are 97.5 percent genetically identical to

humans." Well, that's something I wish I now didn't know.

Some of that research sounds truly ground-breaking. Elias reports that University of California-Irvine research with rabbit and chicken eggs has generated breakthrough results. When paralyzed mice were injected, for instance, with human nerve cells, they walked.

My, that makes you want to throw ethics prematurely out the window, doesn't it?

All this sounds like the makings of a bad (or good) dream to me, and speaking of dreams, I need an ending for one. Perhaps you can help me.

First, let me explain something that might seem a trifle baffling. I am absent from the dream I find so perplexing. In fact, I don't even have a walk-on role. Since I often dream dreams that I have no part or presence in

and that, moreover, are peopled by persons I've never seen or heard of, my dreams sometimes feel more like cinema than subconscious reality.

I wonder what Freud would make of that? Either my alter ego is comatose or my life is too uneventful to spawn even a semi-normal dream cycle. How perturbing. Let's move on.

OK, "The Dream." The dream involves a mystery that involves a gun. Hint: I awoke with the distinct impression the gun in question was most certainly *not* lost.

The setting is the darkest of nights. Lightning is present and rain is pouring down. Two elderly ladies are struggling up three slippery, rain-

soaked, wooden steps which lead up to an old-timey porch that stretches across the length of the house. Don't ask me how I know, but both ladies are characters.

The first old lady is helping the second old lady up the steps. Midway up, the second old lady slips and loses her purse which is a rather compact, no-nonsense black bag. It lands directly in front of them with little scattering of contents — that I can remember.

My impression of the house the steps lead up to is dark, wood frame, two-storied, somewhat old-fashioned. Contrarily, no light beams from the door which is open but guarded by a screen. The first old lady

manages to shepherd the second old lady inside the house which is pitch black. The first old lady goes through the house turning on lights. They both dry off. They remember the purse. (They're old. I guess they are forgetful?)

Then, to the best of my recollection, the first old lady backtracks and fetches the purse from the porch while the second old lady waits impatiently for her return.

The first old lady rejoins her friend in the house, shuts the door and sets the purse on a smallish antique side table. The second old lady brusquely retrieves her purse from the table, delves into it for a tissue.

"Where the heck is my gun?" she barks, none too happy, peering and pawing into the black bag's enormous depths.

The first old lady returns to the porch, which is affect-

ed by no apparent cracks or crevices, and after a thorough search finds no hint of a firearm.

What truly intrigues me about this dream is — what happened to the gosh-darn gun? I get the notion it was there. Do you suppose someone crept onto the porch and made off with it? Is someone stalking these two old ladies?

I just hate it when a dream leaves me hanging. For those of you who have more imagination than I apparently do, put an end to this mystery. Help me move on. And, please, do not say they simply misplaced the gun and found it later. Trust me. That just does not fit with the creepy atmosphere of this dream.

My e-mail address is lifestyles@thepampanews.com. (No text attachments, please. I am not permitted to open them.) Until next time — sweet dreams.

**Skyla Bryant**

News Editor



## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Dec. 15, the 349th day of 2005. There are 16 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 15, 1944, a single-engine plane carrying band-leader Glenn Miller disappeared over the English Channel while en route to Paris.

On this date:

In 1791, the Bill of Rights went into effect following ratification by Virginia.

In 1890, Sioux Indian Chief Sitting Bull and 11 other tribe members were killed in Grand River, S.D., during a fracas with Indian police.

In 1916, the French defeated the Germans in the World War I battle of Verdun.

In 1938, groundbreaking ceremonies for the Jefferson Memorial took place in Washington, D.C.

In 1939, the motion picture "Gone With the Wind" had its world premiere in Atlanta.

In 1944, American

forces invaded Mindoro Island in the Philippines.

In 1961, former Nazi official Adolf Eichmann was sentenced to death by an Israeli court.

In 1964, Canada's House of Commons approved dropping the "Red Ensign" flag in favor of a new design.

In 1965, two U.S. manned spacecraft, Gemini 6 and Gemini 7, maneuvered to within 10 feet of each other while in orbit.

In 1979, the deposed Shah of Iran left the United States for Panama, the same day the International Court of Justice in The Hague ruled that Iran should release all its American hostages.

Ten years ago: President Clinton defied a deadline for turning over a former aide's Whitewater notes, prompting a deeply divided Senate investigative committee to vote to challenge him in federal court. (The White House agreed six days later to turn over the notes.) French rail workers voted to end a three-week strike.

Five years ago: The long-troubled Chernobyl nuclear power plant in Ukraine was closed for good. Federal regulators ordered an overhaul of California's electricity market in a push to control skyrocketing prices and curtail supply shortages.

*'Experience is a good teacher, but she sends in terrific bills.'*

— Minna Antrim  
American writer  
(1856-1950)

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THE DETROIT NEWS

## I.M. isn't short for 'idiot machine'

I remember when the Internet existed only for e-mail. Communication was limited to sending text messages from computer to computer. While faster than the U.S. Postal Service, it was hardly "real-time communication." These days, sophisticated software has taken real-time communication to the next level: Instant Messengers.

An instant messenger is a program that runs on your system all of the time. When you are online, it notifies you when your friends go online. Of course, your friends, also using the instant messenger, are notified that you are online. But that's not all. The programs allow you and your friends to communicate directly, either through text, voice, or video.

Basically, six major

instant messengers exist today: America Online Instant Messenger (AIM), Microsoft Instant Messenger, ICQ, Jabber, Yahoo, and Trillian Basic. All of them are free, but offer different features.

**A I M**  
(<http://www.aim.com>)

By far, the most popular instant messenger is AIM. However, before you immediately go out there and download it, understand why they wear that title. By default, all 20 million AOL users have built-in instant messaging (whether they use it or not). Therefore, AOL can claim the largest user base. Most people end up getting AIM, though, because of one little impor-

tant fact: Most instant messengers do not interoperate with instant messengers made by other companies. In other words, if your friend is

on ICQ and you are on AIM, you cannot chat. One exception exists to this rule, Odigo, but I'll get to that later.

**MSN IM** (<http://messenger.msn.com>)

With the advent of Windows XP, Microsoft is working overtime to become the dominant instant messenger.

If you have a copy of XP on your system, you will immediately notice that MSN IM is automatically loaded. However, using it

requires that you have a Microsoft Passport. Basically, this Passport is a secure way of verifying your identity to your friends and online retailers. Some are concerned about the "privacy" issue on this one, though. Exactly what is Microsoft doing with all of that personal information?

**ICQ** (<http://icq.com>)

One of the best known instant messengers is ICQ (<http://www.icq.com>). The name is actually a play on words. "ICQ" sounds like "I Seek You."

ICQ was originally developed by an Israeli company named Mirabalis which was then bought by AOL. So, yes, that means AOL owns AIM and ICQ. I keep expecting them to merge the two, but it hasn't happened yet.

See I.M., Page 5

**Eric Spellmann**  
Columnist



## Condi may rise to be next GOP star

The most recent poll by Scott Rasmussen shows Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice moving up from 19 percent of the vote in the 2008 Republican primary to 24 percent. That moves her into second place, right behind former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, who continues to lead the pack at 26 percent.

Sen. John McCain (Ariz.), who had previously been running second, slipped to 21 percent. Lagging behind were former House Speaker Newt Gingrich (Ga.) at 7

percent and Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (Tenn.) at 5 percent. None of the others was above 5 percent.

It has been a good month for Rice, even as President Bush has run into a mass of troubles. Her favorability in the Fox News poll tops 70 percent, and her successes in negotiating an extension of American military bases in Central Asia

and in working out an accord between Israel and the PLO on the Gaza Strip crossings demonstrated great effectiveness.

**Dick Morris**  
Columnist



And, as Rice has been moving up, her potential competitors for the GOP nomination have been running into trouble. Giuliani now faces the possibility of an indictment of Bernard Kerik on allegations he took bribes during

his tenure as Giuliani's corrections commissioner, before the mayor named him to lead the Police Department. A high-profile scandal affecting the poster boy of the Giuliani administration will do the former mayor no good. Nor will Rudy's support for choice on abortion, backing for gun control and support for gay civil unions help him much in the GOP field.

McCain, for his part, seems to be placing himself

See CONDI, Page 5

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# I.M.

Continued from Page 4

## Jabber (<http://www.jabber.com>)

More and more companies are setting up their own internal instant messaging solutions. Only Jabber has taken advantage of this trend by offering a turn-key server. The machine with a 25-user license runs around \$2,500. The Jabber client (program employees use) is nothing to write home about, though.

## Yahoo (<http://messenger.yahoo.com>)

When Yahoo entered this market years ago, they made quite a splash by being one of the first companies to offer free video conferencing. Today, they are pushing their free PC-to-PC calls. I've tried it and am quite impressed. Their program also has a very neat feature that lets you drag and drop photos onto your buddy icons to quickly get them delivered. One of their cheesiest features is

IMvironments. Basically, it's stationary for your instant messages. It puts graphics and animations behind your conversations.

## Trillian Basic (<http://www.trillian.cc>)

Of all the Instant Messengers I have come in contact with, the one I use the most (and exclusively) is Trillian Basic. As with Odigo, it is completely interoperable with all of the other Instant Messengers. However, Trillian's interface is much easier to use (and look at).

As an aside, remember that in order to use the voice or video communication features of these programs, both computers must have a webcam, sound card, microphone, and speakers. Fast Internet access is also advised, but not critical. Today's compression techniques allow even slow Internet connections to have good audio/video quality.

Regardless of which instant messenger you choose, you'll open a brand new world of communication options. If you use them enough, the savings, in long distance charges alone, will pay for your Internet Access.

See you in Cyberspace!

# Condi

Continued from Page 4

out of the mainstream of GOP politics, teaming with Virginia's Sen. John Warner and South Carolina's Sen. Lindsey Graham in demanding tough legislative controls over interrogation of terrorist suspects, much to the dismay of Vice President Cheney. Already, Rasmussen reports that the Arizona senator is the first choice of those who disapprove of Bush's handling of the presidency, a poor base from which to seek the Republican nomination. Once again, McCain is proving that he would rather be right than be president and is demonstrating how to accomplish his goal.

Frist has not recovered from his loss of power to the Gang of 14 in the Senate or his overreaching in threatening to use the nuclear option of eliminating the filibuster of judicial nominees. His support of stem-cell research, while commendable, cuts across his efforts

to court the religious right. Most of all, the basis of his financial world — his investment in hospital conglomerate HCA Inc. — has come under SEC scrutiny because the senator sold his shares one month before their price dropped 9 percent in one day, based on a warning from the company about potentially weakened earnings. Whether this sale turns out to smack of insider trading or not, the affair may sap his viability as a GOP contender.

And Allen has suffered a loss of prestige with the victory of Democrat Jerry Kilgore over Republican Tim Kaine for governor in his home state after the senator had vigorously backed the unsuccessful GOP contender.

All this inside baseball two years before the start of the campaign may mean little in the end, but it does go to show what might become the future dynamic of the Republican race: Non-candidate Rice scores diplomatic triumphs that raise her support and political attractiveness while the other con-

tenders for the nomination are embroiled in the unseemly art of politics, facing the usual round of negatives, investigations and embarrassments.

Rice repeatedly denies any interest in running for president but may have to spend the next two years facing a boom in the demand for her to run. The looming threat of Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.) and Rice's excellent performance as secretary of state are kindling a boom for her candidacy akin to those that animated Dwight D. Eisenhower's

1952 run and Robert F. Kennedy's 1968 bid for the Democratic nomination.

Will Rice eventually be overpowered and convinced to run? I believe that this woman will do her duty to her country, as she always has. If it is clear that only she can defeat Hillary and the others who might be able to do so — Guiliani and McCain — falter early in the process, then she will run. If her supporters build it, she will run.

—Dick Morris was an adviser to Bill Clinton for 20 years.

## 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 on any of these events or a complete area concert schedule, contact Ronnie Holmes, PCCA president, at 665-2631. PCCA memberships are available.

• **The Amarillo SPCA** will be having photos with Santa for your pet(s) at PetSmart in Amarillo between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Dec. Saturday and Sunday. Cost is \$9.95 or \$8.95 with a PetSmart Pet Perks Card. For more information, contact the SPCA at (806) 374-0704.

• **The next Pampa Christians Dance** will be from 8-11 p.m. Saturday with Earl Witt at the Sportsman's Club on South Barnes. Admission is \$6 per person. No smoking or alcohol allowed. For more information, call 665-7059.

• **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.

• **USDA cost-share funds** have been released for the 2006 Environmental Quality Incentives Program. Farmers and ranchers can apply for Farm Bill conservation programs through the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Eligible producers may apply for cost share assistance on conservation practices that will address the identified resource concern recognized by the Local Work Group. Practices are implemented through EQIP. The NRCS determines eligibility. The Gray County USDA Service Center will be accepting EQIP applications through Feb. 17. To obtain an EQIP application or for more information, call (806) 665-1751, ext. 3 or log onto [www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov) on the Internet.

• **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 if your call is not answered.

• **Angels Have Wheels** program helps eligible seniors or disabled individuals receive electric wheelchairs through Medicare. For more information, call 1-800-810-2877.

• **Just Between Friends** in Amarillo will be supporting the Eveline Rivers Christmas Project by collecting donations of gently used winter coats or stuffed animals. For more information or to make a donation, call (806) 355-4256.

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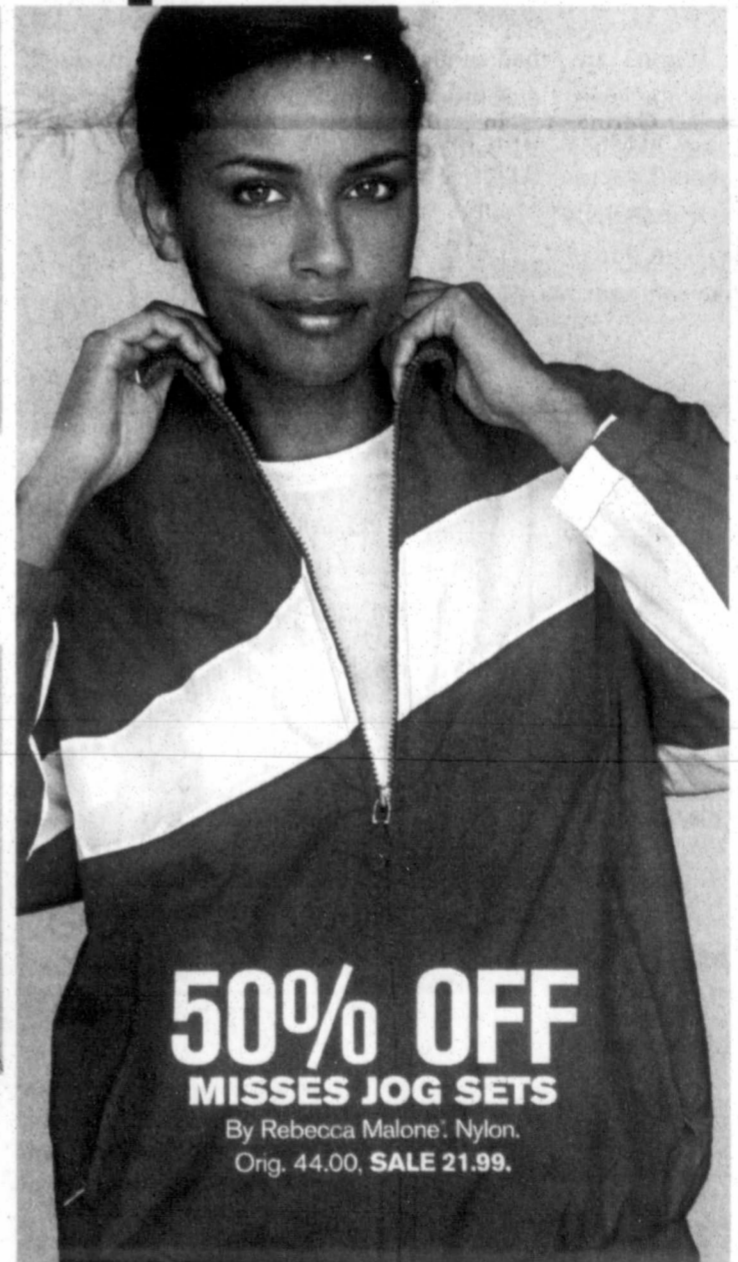
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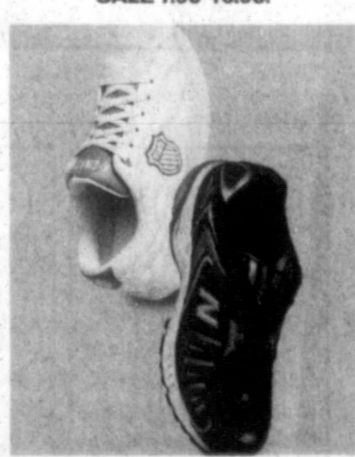
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# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** The letter about the man who parades around naked in front of his daughters after his shower prompts my letter. His stated reason is he claims he's hot and needs to air-dry his hemorrhoids. Well, my advice for him is to wrap a towel around his waist, go straight to his bedroom, shut the door and do his "airing" there. Then if he wants, he can stand on his head and air-dry them as long as he darn well pleases. When he's done, he can get dressed and join the family. And if this doesn't please him, send him to a shrink. — **SIMPLE SOLUTION, TWIN FALLS, IDAHO**

**DEAR SIMPLE:** The mail that poured in regarding that letter -- and scolding me for my lighthearted answer -- was all over the map on this subject. Your solution is a good one, but read on:

**DEAR ABBY:** My father also did that, and I turned out just fine. I'm female, 37, happily married with no emotional scars. Unless the wife has reason to think he's a predator, she should relax. Americans -- and I am one -- are far too hung up on nudity. — **BETTINA IN CROSSVILLE, TENN.**

**DEAR ABBY:** Only people with dirty minds equate nudity (especially that of a family member) with sex. Those girls are probably so used to it by now they think nothing of it. I suspect this is a power struggle between the husband and wife, and it's none of the mother-in-law's business. — **DISGUSTED IN CANADA**

**DEAR ABBY:** The father's actions are criminal. He's sexually abusing the eyes and emotions of those unwilling witnesses. The wife and mother-in-law should document the times and dates of these assaults. With that documentation they can force Dad into therapy long enough to root out

the evil beginnings of this perverse behavior. — **PSYCHOTHERAPIST FROM NEW JERSEY**

**DEAR ABBY:** I am European. For us, it is completely normal to see our parents naked. There is nothing abnormal or wrong about it. — **YASMINE (U.S. AIR FORCE)**

**DEAR ABBY:** I almost spewed my coffee when I saw the letter about the guy letting his hemorrhoids air-dry in front of his daughters. Can I say one word here? Bathrobe! — **PAUL IN FAIRBORN, OHIO**

**DEAR ABBY:** You should have advised "Disgusted" to tell her daughter to try once more to calmly and intelligently reason with her husband. And if that doesn't do the trick, the daughter should inform her mother-in-law about his behavior. One call from his mother, and I'll bet the practice would stop! — **VIVIAN IN MASSACHUSETTS**

**DEAR ABBY:** I'd get a video camera and film him without his knowledge. Then, when his family comes to visit over the holidays, I'd announce that I have a "special home video" to show. Maybe when everyone has seen him like that, her husband will make an appointment with a surgeon to have those hemorrhoids removed. — **BERNIE IN AYLETT, VA.**

**DEAR ABBY:** I had a similar problem with my husband and son. Every night they'd come to the dinner table and eat their meal shirtless. Finally, I decided I'd had enough -- so I calmly took off my shirt and proceeded to eat my meal. (They got the message!) — **DAWNELLE IN ALTUS, OKLA.**

## For Better Or Worse



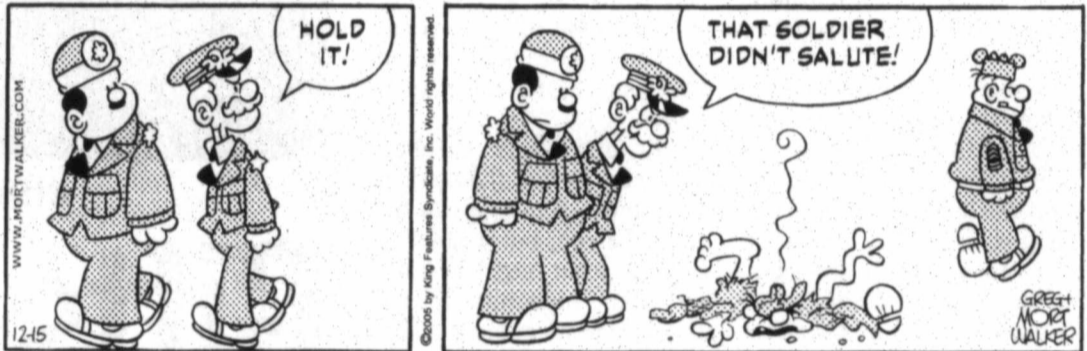
## Zits



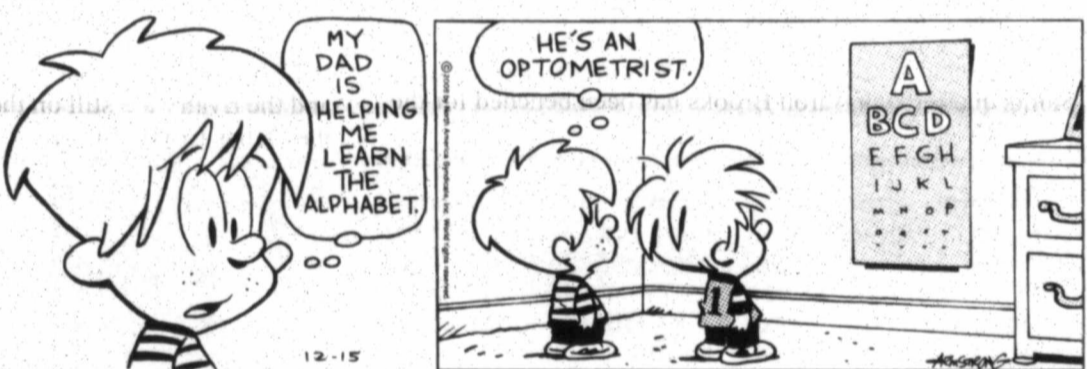
## Garfield



## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin

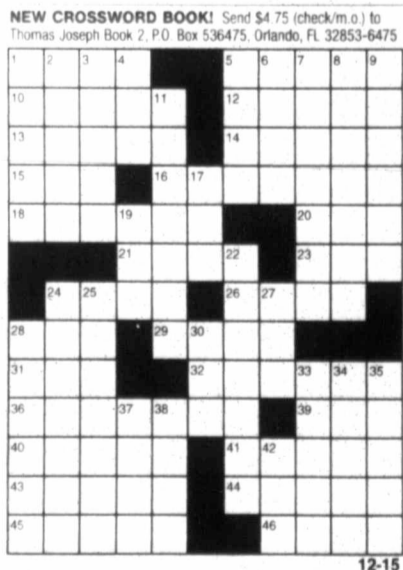


## Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 45 Furtive
  - 1 Field looks yield
  - 46 Hot
  - 5 Runner's quest
  - 10 Spanish bombshell
  - 12 News subject
  - 13 Hollywood mover
  - 14 Sold for 15 Devilfish
  - 16 Just for kicks
  - 18 Anxious Worker
  - 20 for one
  - 21 Lends a hand
  - 23 Was a pioneer
  - 24 Frost
  - 26 Low digits
  - 28 Grasp
  - 29 Ignored the limit
  - 31 "bodkins!"
  - 32 Riding need
  - 36 Just for kicks
  - 39 Shearling's dad
  - 40 Book's page number
  - 41 Aristocracy
  - 43 Putting to work
  - 44 Nomad
- DOWN**
- 1 Spanish
  - 2 Daughter of Lear
  - 3 Daisy type
  - 4 Desk-set item
  - 5 Designer Wang
  - 6 Egg outline
  - 7 Fit for defending
  - 8 Menu section
  - 9 Excited
  - 11 Rank cigars
  - 17 Bush-ranger Kelly
  - 19 Block
  - 22 Traveling trunk
  - 24 Rudolph feature
  - 25 "Not true!"
  - 27 Strange
  - 28 Blunder
  - 30 Letter before omega
  - 33 Computer part
  - 34 Milkweed product
  - 35 Abrasive stuff
  - 37 Sly signal
  - 38 Swine
  - 42 — Lobos



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## Marmaduke



"Are you going to bring every kitten in from the cold?"

## The Family Circus

By Bil Keane

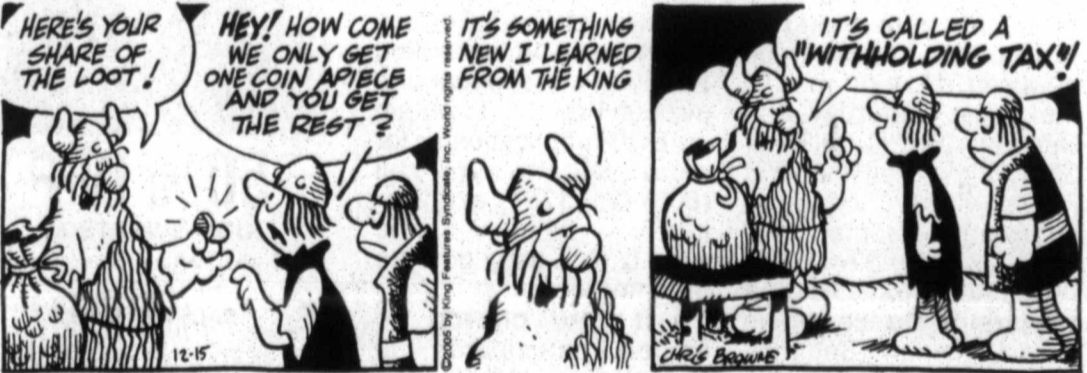


"That tree goes up so high they might have a REAL angel at the top."

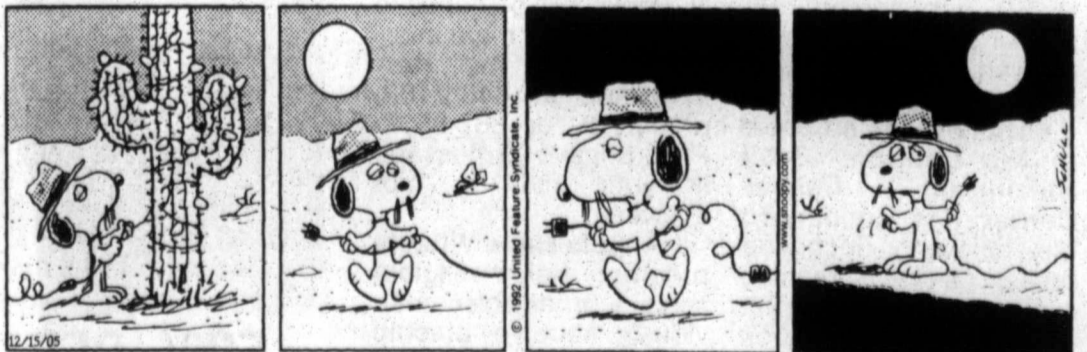
## B.C.



## Haggar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie



## Flo & Friends



# Sports Day

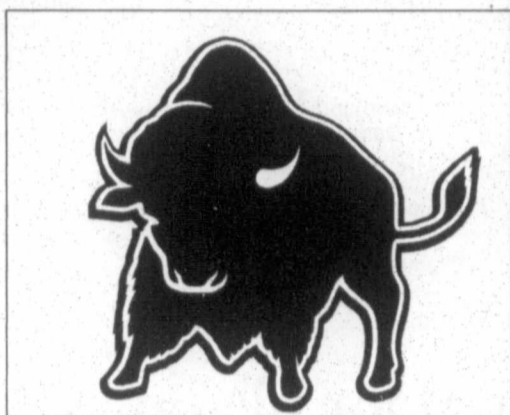
## Rematch: Buffs host Aggies in final game before break

CANYON — The West Texas A&M Buffaloes will play their final game of 2005 before the Christmas break layoff when they host Oklahoma Panhandle State University on Saturday at 7 p.m., at the First United Bank Center. The Buffs have already defeated OPSU once this season, as WTAMU opened the season at OPSU with a 77-67 win on Nov. 15.

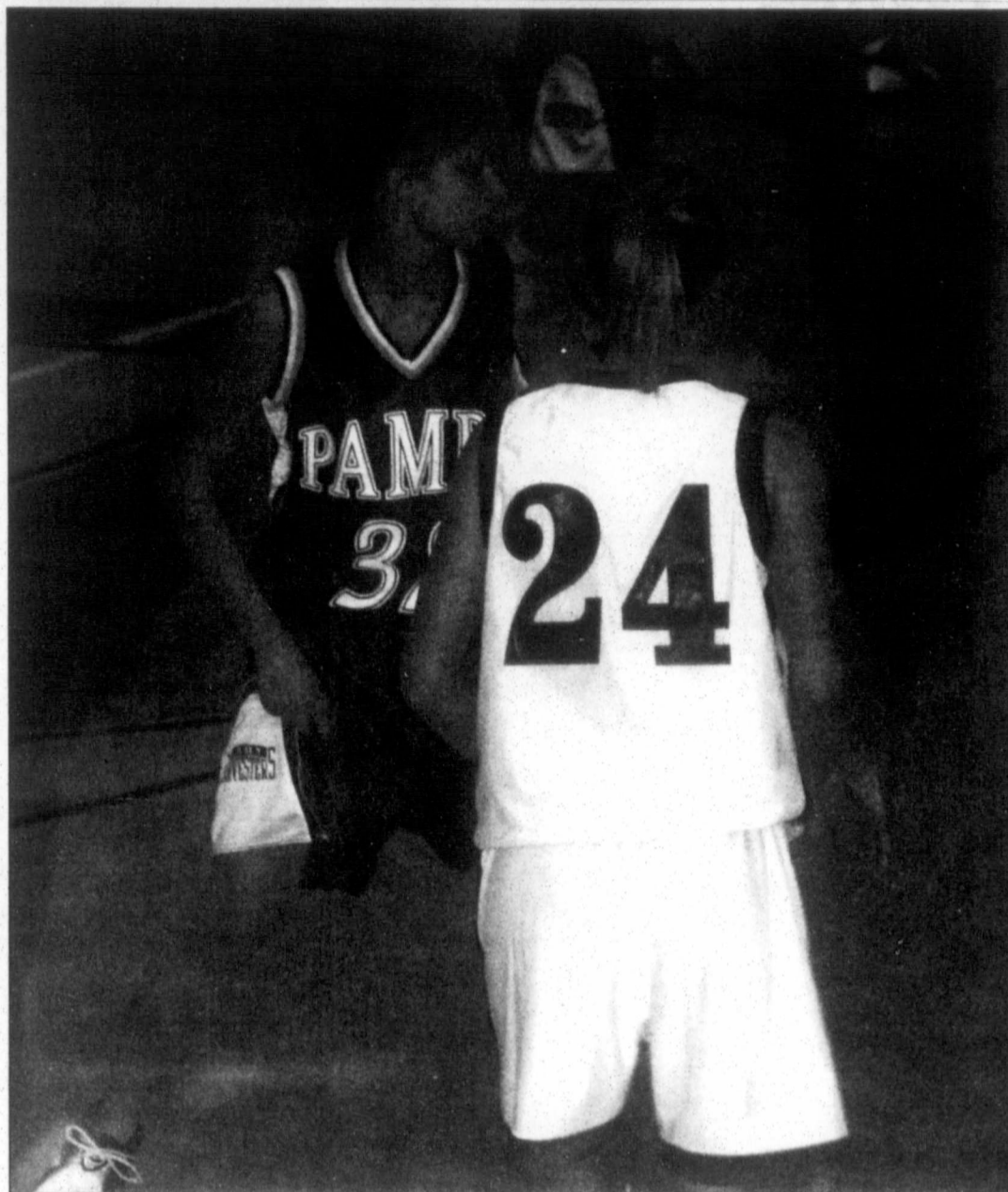
The Buffs had a successful past weekend, as they won both of the games on their home court. On Thursday night, WTAMU defeated 1-27 foe Lubbock Christian University for the second time this season, 74-53. The second game of the weekend for the Buffs came against the highly touted Texas A&M University-Commerce. TAMU-Commerce was the LSC North pre-season favorites and brought a seven-game winning streak into the match-up with WTAMU. Amid all of that, the Buffs emerged with a hard fought, 69-62 victory, which keeps WTAMU a perfect 4-0 on its home court this season.

Buff's On The Air and On The Web

Listen to Buff basketball action on the Buffalo Sports Network on KGNC 710 AM, with broadcasts starting 30 minutes before tip-off. Fans can also listen to the broadcasts via the Internet at [www.gobuffs-go.com](http://www.gobuffs-go.com), the official web site of WTAMU Athletics. There, fans can additionally access rosters, schedules, statistics and press releases of the Buffs and Lady Buffs throughout the year.



## Clearing a path



Courtesy photo

Junior Halie Skinner takes position on a Lady Bulldog defender during Tuesday's game between Pampa and Borger. The Lady Harvesters took the road win, 64-39.

## Culberson Stowers, TWS win volleyball divisions

City of Pampa  
Fall Mixed Volleyball  
Final League Standings

Competitive Division	Wins	Losses
Culberson Stowers	10	0
C-21/T.M.S.	5	5*
B & H	5	5*
PRMC	5	5*

Doug Boyd 3 7  
NBC 2 8  
\*on tie breaker system

Recreational Division	Wins	Losses
Triangle Well Service	10	0
Gold Diggers	7	3
Jay's Drive Inn	5	5
Domino's	2	8
Army National Guard	1	9

## Brooks benched for season

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Struggling New Orleans Saints quarterback Aaron Brooks has been benched for the rest of the season.

Coach Jim Haslett said he was replacing Brooks with Todd Bouman because of the Saints' 3-10 record.

Brooks has thrown 17 interceptions and 13 touchdown passes this season, marking the first time in his career he's had more interceptions than scoring passes.

## Revenge, rivalry and playoffs on Cowboys' minds

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Revenge and the rivalry are still on the minds of the Dallas Cowboys.

Yet they know so much more is at stake this time when they play at Washington, the longtime NFC East rival that beat the Cowboys in September when Santana Moss caught two long touchdown passes in the final four minutes.

"They want to keep their playoff hopes alive, and so do we," guard Marco Rivera said Wednesday.

"It doesn't go any farther than the fact that it's playoff position here," tight end Dan Campbell. "That's what we're looking at. We know we need this win."

Dallas (8-5) goes into Sunday's game tied with Atlanta and Minnesota for the NFC's last playoff spot, with the Redskins (7-6) just a game back.

This time, the rivalry is more like it used to be when the Cowboys and Redskins were both still fighting for the playoffs late in the season. It's

been more than a decade since the rivals have played each other late with so much on the line.

With one victory in Washington, coach Bill Parcells' team can accomplish so much:

— Add a win in the second-longest rivalry in team history (91 games, two less than Philadelphia, though the Cowboys' 54 wins against Washington are more than they have against anybody else).

— Avenge that stunning 14-13 loss to the Redskins, only Dallas' second loss in the last 16 meetings in the series.

— Stay on pace in the NFC playoff chase, with just two games left after the Redskins.

The loss against Washington was the first in a series of close losses by the Cowboys this season. Their five losses are by a combined 20 points, with two losses ending on field goals as time expired.

While all the losses are tough,

watching Moss streak down the field for TDs of 39 and 70 yards in the final 3:46 was difficult.

"It took a while for that one to sink in," Campbell said. "I was in shock for a few days after that one because I didn't really understand what really had happened there."

The Cowboys has played so well before Mark Brunell's two perfect strikes to Moss, up 14-0 and seemingly headed for a 2-0 start. There was more to blame than just the secondary for allowing Moss to break free; the offense managed only one first down and punted the ball right back to Washington after Moss' first touchdown.

But that was a long time ago — and before there was any talk of playoff implications like there are this week.

Parcells insists he doesn't dwell on what happened the final four minutes on that Monday night in September.

See RIVALRY, Page 8

### HO, HO, HO

#### A little ditty from me to you

Michael J. Stevens  
Sports Editor



Just days before Christmas, I sit at my desk, looking disheveled, even grotesque.

Here it is, Thursday, a column is due, yet my mind is a blank, my thoughts are askew.

I study the sports world in search of a topic, my vision is blurred, somewhat myopic.

What can I say that hasn't been said?  
What can I write that hasn't been read?

My choices are narrow, my options are few, so I've made up my mind, yes, here's what I'll do.

Gonna write me a poem, a bit of an ode, here in my office, my humble abode.

Hunting and pecking, the words start to form, a small electric heater to keep my feet warm.

OK, nothing I'm writing is making much sense, where I was loose and relaxed, now I'm just tense.

Why in the world can't I think of a column?  
If I had a "life line" I'd probably call'em.

So maybe that last one was pushing it some, it wasn't a gem or lyrically plumb.

I can tell you this, it's been a real blast, covering sports in the year past.

But this time of year can get a bit rough, local sporting events, there just ain't enough.

Kids are on break, their vacations begin, the Fab Five Picks are growing a bit thin.

Don't cry or pout, things will get better, even if you don't get all you asked in your letter.

I'll leave you with this, be you friend, foe or creditor, Merry Christmas to all from your local Sports Editor.

## U.S. government shuts Cuba out of World Baseball Classic

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.S. government is shutting Cuba out of the inaugural World Baseball Classic, citing the standing embargo against the communist island nation.

The Treasury Department told Major League Baseball of its decision Wednesday, said Pat Courtney, a spokesman for the commissioner's office.

The sport's first World Cup-style tournament, originally to include 16 teams, was jointly organized by the commissioner's office and the players' union. It runs from March 3-20 in the United States, Puerto Rico and Japan.

Organizers will work to have the decision reversed, said Paul Archey, the senior vice president of Major League Baseball International, and Gene Orza, the chief operating officer of the Major League Baseball Players Association.

A permit from the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control is necessary

because of U.S. laws governing certain commercial transactions with the Fidel Castro-controlled nation.

"We are very disappointed with the government's decision to deny the participation of a team from Cuba in the World Baseball Classic," Archey and Orza said. "We will continue to work within appropriate channels in an attempt to address the government's concerns and will not announce a replacement unless and until that effort fails."

See OUT, Page 8

## Armstrong faces defamation charge

ROME (AP) — Lance Armstrong has been ordered to stand trial in Italy on charges of defaming cyclist Filippo Simeoni.

Armstrong's lawyer in Italy, Enrico Nan, said Thursday that the seven-time Tour de France champion was indicted Wednesday and scheduled to go to trial March 7.

Nan said Armstrong does not face jail time, but could be fined if convicted.

Armstrong is being investigated for pursuing Simeoni during an early stage breakaway in last year's Tour de France and reportedly threatening him for testifying about doping abuse in the trial of an Italian doctor associated with the American.

Simeoni told an Italian court in 2002 that doctor Michele Ferrari advised him to take performance-enhancing drugs. Later, Armstrong reportedly called Simeoni a liar, and the Italian sued for libel.

Ferrari was given a 12-month suspended jail sentence in October 2004 for sports fraud and malpractice. He has always denied he dispensed illegal substances to athletes and is appealing the sentence.

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THIS REMINDER FROM THE PAMPA POLICE DEPARTMENT - BECAUSE WE CARE!

# Rumor: Boring consulted Donkey; Hooper still leads Fab Five

## Week 16 Games

Tampa Bay @ New England  
 Kansas City @ NY Giants  
 Denver @ Buffalo  
 Arizona @ Houston  
 Carolina @ New Orleans  
 NY Jets @ Miami  
 Philadelphia @ St. Louis  
 Pittsburgh @ Minnesota  
 San Diego @ Indianapolis  
 Seattle @ Tennessee  
 San Francisco @ Jacksonville  
 Cincinnati @ Detroit  
 Cleveland @ Oakland  
 Dallas @ Washington  
 Atlanta @ Chicago  
 Green Bay @ Baltimore  
 Southlake Carroll vs. Katy  
 Tatum vs. Hutto  
 Celina vs. Omaha Pewitt  
 Stratford vs. Big Sandy

**Cumulative totals:** Hooper 206-74, Stokes 204-76, Boring 194-86, Smith 186-90, Stevens 183-97.



**Michael J. Stevens**  
 Last Week: 12-8-0 (4)

New England  
 NY Giants  
 Denver  
 Houston  
 Carolina  
 Miami  
 St. Louis  
 Minnesota  
 Indianapolis  
 Seattle  
 Jacksonville  
 Cincinnati  
 Oakland  
 Washington  
 Chicago  
 Green Bay  
 Southlake Carroll  
 Tatum  
 Celina  
 Stratford



**Sean Smith**  
 Last Week: 14-6-0 (3)

New England  
 NY Giants  
 Denver  
 Arizona  
 Carolina  
 Miami  
 St. Louis  
 Pittsburgh  
 Indianapolis  
 Seattle  
 Jacksonville  
 Cincinnati  
 Oakland  
 Dallas  
 Chicago  
 Green Bay  
 Southlake Carroll  
 Hutto  
 Celina  
 Big Sandy



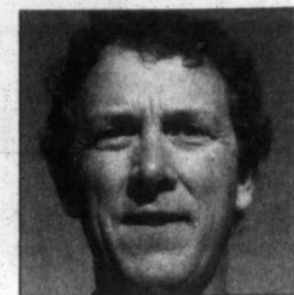
**Donny Hooper**  
 Last Week: 17-3-0 (1)

New England  
 Kansas City  
 Denver  
 Arizona  
 Carolina  
 Miami  
 St. Louis  
 Pittsburgh  
 Indianapolis  
 Seattle  
 Jacksonville  
 Cincinnati  
 Cleveland  
 Dallas  
 Chicago  
 Green Bay  
 Southlake Carroll  
 Tatum  
 Omaha Pewitt  
 Stratford



**Ray Boring**  
 Last Week: 17-3-0 (1)

New England  
 NY Giants  
 Denver  
 Arizona  
 Carolina  
 Miami  
 St. Louis  
 Minnesota  
 Indianapolis  
 Seattle  
 Jacksonville  
 Cincinnati  
 Cleveland  
 Dallas  
 Chicago  
 Green Bay  
 Southlake Carroll  
 Tatum  
 Omaha Pewitt  
 Stratford



**Shane Stokes**  
 Last Week: 16-4-0 (2)

New England  
 Kansas City  
 Denver  
 Houston  
 Carolina  
 Miami  
 St. Louis  
 Pittsburgh  
 Indianapolis  
 Seattle  
 Jacksonville  
 Cincinnati  
 Oakland  
 Dallas  
 Chicago  
 Baltimore  
 Southlake Carroll  
 Tatum  
 Celina  
 Stratford

## CHL Standings

NORTHERN CONFERENCE						
Northeast Division						
	W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
Youngstown	10	12	1	21	74	83
Boss-Shreveport	9	9	2	20	64	60
Fort Worth	8	12	2	18	58	78
Memphis	7	11	1	15	56	72
Northwest Division						
	W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	17	5	1	35	86	72
Wichita	14	4	3	31	88	68
Oklahoma City	12	10	0	24	79	70
Tulsa	9	9	2	20	59	65
SOUTHERN CONFERENCE						
Southeast Division						
	W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
Laredo	14	7	2	30	85	65
RG Valley	10	10	1	21	74	73
Corpus Christi	9	10	1	19	62	61
Austin	9	11	0	18	55	73
Southwest Division						
	W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
Odessa	12	7	3	27	67	62
Lubbock	12	10	1	25	65	63
Amarillo	7	10	2	16	62	69

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

**Wednesday's Game**  
 Oklahoma City 2, Colorado 1, SO

**Thursday's Game**  
 Austin at Corpus Christi

**Friday's Games**  
 Odessa at Amarillo  
 Fort Worth at Bossier-Shreveport  
 Youngstown at Colorado  
 Austin at Laredo  
 Wichita at Oklahoma City  
 Corpus Christi at Rio Grande Valley  
 Memphis at Tulsa

## Houston excited for big opportunity

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. (AP) — Cedric Houston tried to do so much with his first few carries last week, he literally tripped over himself.

Filling in for Curtis Martin can do that to a player. Houston gets another chance to build off his first career start when the Jets play Miami on Sunday. The rookie running back has come a long way in a short time, overcoming an overactive thyroid to become the most improved player for New York.

"When I first got out there, it was like everybody was everywhere and I was just trying to run away from a black jersey," Houston said when recalling his start against Oakland. "I expect myself to be a lot more patient running the ball, hopefully find some of those cutback lanes in the Miami defense."

Houston learned about patience after the Jets took him in the sixth round. Because his thyroid condition left him overweight and out of shape, Houston had to work extra hard during offseason training activities and camp. He used to get winded after a few minutes of exercise, and it took between four and five months for him to feel in tiptop shape.

Plus, he was behind Curtis Martin and Derrick Blaylock on the depth chart. Houston figured he would get little playing time this season when he got here, especially since Martin rarely misses games. That all changed when Martin decided to have season-ending surgery

on his right knee. Blaylock was already out with a broken foot.

"I kind of lucked up because Curtis — he hardly ever misses games," Houston said. "When coach told me Curtis wasn't playing I was kind of shocked. At the same time I knew I had to be out there and play."

Houston ended with 74 yards on 28 carries, helping the Jets to their biggest rushing output of the season with 184 total yards. He also scored his first career touchdown, then found the referee who took the ball when the play was over and asked if he could keep it. The ball is in Houston's locker, and he plans to give it to his mother.

Coach Herman Edwards called Houston the most improved player on the team because of all he has had to overcome.

"He got in shape, changed his body around, he just kept working," Edwards said. "Around the fifth week of the season, the light went on for the guy and he just kept practicing. It's a great story for his perseverance and what he's gone through."

Houston played his senior year at Tennessee with the condition because it went undiagnosed. He first learned there was a reason for his symptoms at the combine in February. Though Houston felt sluggish, jittery and sweated profusely with the Volunteers, Tennessee team doctors said he was out of shape.

## Out

Continued from Page 7

In Cuba, top sports officials met late Wednesday to discuss the issue, but no statement was immediately issued.

Organizers had said the Cuban team likely would have included only players currently residing in Cuba and not defectors such as Jose Contreras, Orlando Hernandez and Livan Hernandez, who have become major league stars.

*"Generally speaking, the Cuba embargo prohibits entering into contracts in which Cuba or Cuban nationals have an interest."*

— Molly Millerwise  
 Spokesperson, U.S. Treasury

In the tournament schedule announced last week, Cuba was to play its three first-round games in San Juan, Puerto Rico, facing Panama on March 8, the Netherlands on March 9 and Puerto Rico the following day. If the Cubans advanced, they would also have played their second-round games in Puerto Rico.

"It is our policy that we do not confirm, deny or discuss licenses," Treasury spokeswoman Molly Millerwise said in an e-mail to The Associated Press. "Generally speaking, the Cuba embargo prohibits entering into contracts in which Cuba or Cuban nationals have an interest."

Rep. Jose Serrano, a New York Democrat, said Tuesday that he is circulating letters to be sent to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Treasury Secretary John Snow asking that Cuba be allowed to play.

"Let's leave the politics out of this," Serrano said in a statement. "The World Baseball Classic should not be tainted by our grudge against Cuba's government. Cuba produces some of the finest baseball talent in the world and they deserve to participate."

## PAMPA OPTIMIST YOUTH CLUB

### Baseball registrations end today

Today from 5:15 to 7 p.m. at the Pampa Optimist Club is the last scheduled day to register for Optimist Boys' Basketball, according to Huey Green, Commissioner. The program is for boys in the third, fourth, fifth and sixth grades.

"We plan to place no more than nine on a team," Green said. When the teams fill up, we will put any late signups on a waiting list."

The league is divided into the third and

fourth grade division and the fifth and sixth grade division. Games are played in the Optimist gym. The season consists of a regular season and is followed by a city tournament.

"We will determine the number of teams we will have from the number of boys who register," Green continued. "We will hold our draft after the first of the year. Practice and games will begin next month."

A playing fee of \$35 is requested.

## Rivalry

Continued from Page 7

"No, I put that one behind me," Parcels said Wednesday. "They've had a couple of disappointing losses too, as have most of the teams still in contention. There are a lot of if-onlys on the part of a lot of teams. That was then, this is now. We have to be ready to play good football this week."

So it couldn't be a good sign that Parcels wasn't pleased with practice Wednesday, though he wouldn't elaborate on what was wrong.

"I don't know that I could tell you everything in this setting," Parcels said, then trying to downplay his own assessment.

"It's my problem. I'll see if I can get it squared away."

**Notes:** Rookie DE Chris Canty, who started last week against Kansas City, missed part of practice Wednesday with a sore ankle. ... A choir from Happy Hills Farm, a residential school for at-risk kids based near Fort Worth, serenaded Cowboys players and staff with Christmas carols outside the locker room Wednesday. CB Terence Newman stood in briefly with the kids, then stepped in front and did a couple of dance moves before "directing" the singers by waving his arms a few times. ... DE Junior Glymph, a 270-pounder signed from Atlanta's practice squad Tuesday, isn't likely to play this week even if Canty doesn't. "I just had a space on the team and I was trying to look ahead," Parcels said.

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

12-15 CRYPTOQUOTE SLX OUA ELN EUASM U LUIIF OUIJKUTX MLNYQB QXUJA SN ZXXI LKM ONYSL MLYS UAB LKM DLXDZGNNZ NIXA

TJNYDLN OUIV Yesterday's Cryptoquote: WE ARE AT ONCE THE BENEFICIARIES AND THE VICTIMS OF OUR GREAT TECHNOLOGY. WHAT MAN MAKES REMAKES MAN. — JAMES FEIBLEMAN

21 Help Wanted

EARN EXTRA INCOME! with a PAMPA NEWS NEWSPAPER ROUTE Apply in person 403 W. Atchison Pampa

PART TIME INSERTER Needed immediately! About 20 hrs. per week. Must work every Sat. Apply in Person The Pampa News 403 W. Atchison Pampa No phone calls please

PART-TIME Teller needed. 20 hrs. per week Full benefits. Bring resume to Bank of America, 100 N. Cuyler, Pampa.

LVN needed for 3-11. Full-time w/benefits differential. St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle, (806)537-3194.

PHYSICIAN Assistant wanted for busy orthopedic practice. Salary is competitive and insurance will be provided. Please send resume to Box 06, c/o Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, Tx. 79066-2198.

NEEDED: Accountant at St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle, 537-3194.

WANTED: A Mechanic To Work On A Volkwagen Transmission. 665-0008 or 282-5205.

TOP O' Texas Oilfield Service-Class A CDL Drivers. Benefits. Apply 408 S. Price Rd, Pampa.

Loan Representative For financing program in hospital setting. Professional, organized individual with phone, computer & data entry skills required. Must have transportation, valid license / ins. Bilingual (Spanish) is a plus. Fax salary history and resume to 972-606-1312 or email to: jobs@mtpr.com

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21 Help Wanted

DRIVERS Needed! \$14 per hour. Must be 21 with CDL & Tanker endorsement. Will drive in Okla. & Tx. Dunn's Tanker Service, 580-303-0909.

APPLICATIONS accepted for Pulling Unit Operator and Floor Hand-Wages based on exp. 11805 W. McCullough, Pampa.

CALDWELL Production needs Oilfield Pulling Unit Operator. Paid holidays, 1 wk paid vacation per yr. Top wages for top operator. Hwy. 60 West, Pampa, 665-8888

50 Building Suppl. White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

60 Household MATTRESS SALE 3 weeks Only! Xtra Thick Pillow Top w/Box Twin \$189 Full \$229 Queen \$259 King \$319 806-677-0400

HOT TUBS Closeout on all 2005 Models. Full Warr. Lounger, Redwood Cab. Ozonator, Aroma Therapy, Waterfall, Cover. Starter kit 6 person-\$3600 SAVE \$\$\$\$ while supplies last! 806-670-9337

FREE Refrigerator. Still Runs. No Room to Keep. 700 Doucette.

69 Misc. ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

SEASONED Oak Firewood, delivered and stacked. 779-3284.

HANDMADE Kid Saddle. Gently used. \$425. Call 665-9452 or 663-3300.

69a Garage Sales DEBBIE'S Bits & Pieces. We buy & sell used furniture & estates. 1 piece or complete house. 903 S. Main, Borger, 273-2905. Open 10-6 pm. Tues-Sat.

GARAGE Sale. Blue-White Glassware. Western Books. 509 Powell

76 Farm Animals

6 month old Sorel Tennessee Walking Colt, has no papers. Call 806-323-8914.

80 Pets & Suppl.

FREE Puppies. German Shepherd Mix. 204 Birch in Skellytown. 848-2351.

95 Furn. Apts.

NEWLY remodeled. New ownership. Security Officer on duty. 1 bdr.-\$385, 2 bdr.-\$490, all bills pd. Limited openings. Courtyard Apts., 669-9712.

PICK up rental list from Gray Box on front porch of 125 S. Houston, Pampa. Update each Fri.

LRG. 1 bedroom house, \$225 month, 1420 E. Browning. 665-4842.

(2) 3 bedroom homes for rent, in excellent condition. Call Shed Realtors, 665-3761.

UPDATED 3 bdr. w/ laundry rm. in great neighborhood. 2122 Hamilton. \$750 mo. 665-5667

3 bdr., w/d hookup, c. heat, new paint/carpet. 328 Sunset. \$450 mo., \$350 dep. 665-8550, 662-4675

2 br., 1 ba., central heat & air, fenced yard, oversized garage. Deck in back. Call 665-4033.

Caprock Apts. 1601 W. Somerville 665-7149 Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5:30 Sat 10-4

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

100 Rooms For Rent HOTEL DAVIS 116 1/2 W. Foster 440-1066 Rooms \$80 wk., bills paid

102 Bus. Rent. Prop. OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

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

103 Homes For Sale Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-3560, 440-2314 669-0007

3/1/75/2 2133 Williston No Owner Finance 440-1818

3/2 Brick Home w/ fpl. 2 Car Gar., Lrg Lot, Patio. 2529 Aspen. By Appt. Call 806-231-1438.

3BR., 1ba., gar., stor. bid. 1600 sq ft outside city limits. Owner will fin. w/ down payment 664-8153.

BY Owner. 3 bdr., 2 3/4 ba., 2 liv. areas, dbl. gar. 1701 Grape. 665-4961, 290-2803, by appt. only.

LARGE, spacious rooms. Harvester St. Condo 2 bdr., 2 ba., gar., fence. Realtor C-21, 665-4180

MCLEAN TX 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths. Double Car Garage. Storage Building, Storm Cellar, Barn, City Utilities on 25 Acres of Land. Call 806-779-2859, or 806-334-8569

104 Lots 2 Mansoleum Crypts Side by Side \$3995.00 Call 440-2449

106 Coml. Property FOR Lease Warehouse on N. Hobart. 1500 sq. ft. Call Jannie Lewis Broker, 665-3458.

115 Trailer Parks TUMBLEWEED Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

120 Autos 1996 Ford Mustang GT. Call (806)663-6904.

WELL maintained, White 1997 Pontiac Sunfire Gt, 2 dr, fully loaded, retail \$4,200 will sell for \$3,200, less than 100,000 mi., new tires, all less than 2 yrs old, 806-688-0119, Pampa. Call between 9-5. Serious Buyers Only!

121 Trucks '03 Ford F250 supercrew. V8, loaded, bed cap, nerf bars, 106,000 mi. \$19,900 obo. Call 595-0219 cell#

2004 Avalanche, has conversion pkg and new tires. 1999 Chev. Blazer, high mileage, but good cond. 835-2773 for more info.

122 Motorcycles 2004 Honda Forman ATV for sale. Call for more information 806-595-0036.

ACCOUNTANT Immediate opening for a degreed accountant, 2-3 yrs. experience. Competitive pay scale - full time employment -excellent benefit package, including medical, dental, 401(k), paid vacation & holidays. Pre-employment drug test required.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Dec. 16, 2005: This year, you are coming from a point of view that is often processed at length. Downtime is very important to your thinking, decisions and general well-being.

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK TexSCAN Week of December 11, 2005 ADOPTION Notes: It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption.

Baby's First Christmas Deadline 5 PM, December 19th Published December 25th Photos need to be of baby only Releases needed for copyright photos Payment in advance

## Food drive



Pampa Junior High Vice Mayor and Mayor, Kayla Ware and Kimberly Curtis, show a chart where PJHS students kept track of the total cans brought by each homeroom during the recent Green Team Food Drive for 2005. Students collected 4,003 cans for donation to the Salvation Army.

## Kazakhstan launches oil pipeline to China

ASTANA, Kazakhstan (AP) — Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev on Thursday ceremonially opened the taps of a new pipeline carrying oil from one of the region's greatest energy powers to one of its hungriest consumers, China.

The 625-mile pipeline designed to carry 140 million barrels of oil a year opens a huge market for the Central Asian nation expect-

KazMunaiGaz company in the capital Astana. The pipeline is a 50-50 joint venture between state companies China National Petroleum Corp. and KazMunaiGaz.

"It will work for the good of our two peoples," Nazarbayev said.

Until now, the main route for Kazakh oil exports has been the Caspian Pipeline, which was launched in 2001 to join the giant western Tengiz oil field with Russia's Black Sea port of Novorossiisk.

The new pipeline starts in the central Kazakh town of Atasu and runs to the Altaw Pass in northwestern China. It will initially carry oil from the Kumkol field in central Kazakhstan, which is being worked by CNPC following its acquisition of the field's operator earlier this year.

By 2011, when it reaches full capacity, the pipeline is expected to be used to ship oil from Russia's western Siberia.

China is so desperate to expand its energy imports that both Russia and Kazakhstan will be able to benefit for a long time to come, said Konstantin Batunin, an oil and gas analyst at Alfa Bank in Moscow.

"China's demand for oil is becoming comparable to that of the United States and judging by their economic growth, they will be needing lots of oil. One cannot expect Russia and Kazakhstan to be competing for the Chinese market in the foreseeable future," he told The Associated Press.

*'China's demand for oil is becoming comparable to that of the United States and judging by their economic growth, they will be needing lots of oil.'*

— Konstantin Batunin  
Oil/gas analyst

ed to become one of the world's top oil exporters. Kazakhstan is aiming to more than double its production from 1.3 million barrels to 3 million barrels a day by 2015, the Oil Ministry says.

For China, the new route is a key step toward securing adequate foreign energy supplies for its booming economy. Out of China's total oil consumption last year of 6.7 million barrels a day, almost half came from imports, according to figures from oil company BP PLC.

The oil-rich former Soviet republic's first pipeline bypassing Russia began to fill with oil as Nazarbayev pushed a button at the headquarters of the national

## Prairie Rivers musical set

CANADIAN — Prairie Rivers Musical will present its Christmas Season show at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in the Canadian Middle School Auditorium.

"We have been in regular contact with the North Pole, and Santa Claus has given his cowboy promise that he will make an appearance at the show," reported Jay Godwin, a show organizer. "He showed up last year and now tells us he had so much fun with the children, and the music was so good, that he will be coming."

The show continues a tradition of not charging for admission in an atmosphere of no smoke or alcohol.

Christmas songs will be featured for the first half and Santa is expected to arrive just before intermission to visit with the children.

"Prairie Rivers Musical is very proud of its, live music venue," Godwin noted. "We've been at this for six

and one-half years and we still have a great time."

Regular performers include Wayne Wright, Dale and Kayla Jenkins, George Briant, Frankie McWhorter, Hank and Venita McPherson, Lonnie Cox, Mary Lynn Schafer, Phil Ridgway and Godwin.

"We are real pleased to have Kelli Harbin of Littlefield, Texas, joining us Saturday night. She was the first recipient of the Frankie McWhorter Music Scholarship. She is a well-seasoned, but young, fiddle player, full-time college student, and violin instructor," Godwin said, adding "you will really enjoy her music."

Come and enjoy an evening of live traditional Christmas, classic country, western, gospel, and old time music in a family oriented show.

For further information, call 806-323-6213

## Alaskan volcano restless

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — A sulfurous steam plume, hundreds of miniature earthquakes and a new swath of ash on snowy Augustine Volcano have scientists looking for a possible eruption in the next few months.

The 4,134-foot volcano hasn't shown such signs since it last erupted in 1986, when ash from a 7-mile-high column drifted over Anchorage, the state's most populous city, and kept flights out of the skies over Cook Inlet.

"It's steaming more vigorously right now than it has at any point since 1986," Steve McNutt, research professor of volcano seismology with the Alaska Volcano Observatory, said Wednesday.

The observatory has been monitoring the uninhabited volcanic island more closely since bumping its status up to code yellow from green on Nov. 29. Code yellow means the volcano is restless and showing signs of an eruption.

Steam mixed with sulfur dioxide gas has been billowing vigorously since late

last week from a space between lava domes formed during Augustine's most recent eruptions, in 1976 and 1986.

The presence of sulfur, one of the main magmatic gases, is a sign that molten rock has moved closer to surface, McNutt said.

Residents on the Kenai Peninsula about 50 miles across Cook Inlet have reported the rotten-egg smell of sulfur fumes floating into their communities.

"On Sunday night I woke up with the taste of sulfur in the back of my throat," said Kevin Seville, who lives in the Russian and Alutiq village of Nanwalek.

Seismometers have recorded more than 170 small temblors over the last week, and 74 on Sunday alone. The average for the past 15 years has been about one to two per week.

The jump is "very dramatic," McNutt said. But he noted the magnitudes — less than 1 — were still smaller than the bulk of the earthquakes preceding the 1986 eruption.



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QUEEN SET **\$499**

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TWIN SET **\$499**

FULL SET **\$549**

KING SET **\$899**

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