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Local organizations plan Christmas Day, eve events

By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer

THE PAN

A number of Christmas activities are still available for Pampans to participate in, as shown by the partial list below.

· The Celebration of Lights Christmas display at Recreation Park continues nightly through Dec. 31.

· Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ will provide its 20th annual free Christmas dinner from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Christmas Eve in the church's Fellowship Hall, located immediately south of the church's main building at 1342 Mary Ellen.

The church-wide outreach project is a service for the entire community, not limited to church members. Entire families help with the cooking, serving, decorating and greeting guests.

The meal will consist of turkey, dressing, ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, corn, cranberry sauce, and homemade desserts and dinner rolls.

"Even though this event only happens once a year, we hope that it is representative of our desire

to be there year-round for those who are in need in our community. We are happy that we have this opportunity to share the Lord's bountiful blessings with others during this holiday season. We hope to have a house full," said Rodney Tedford, minister.

The church will also deliver Christmas dinner for the Meals on Wheels program.

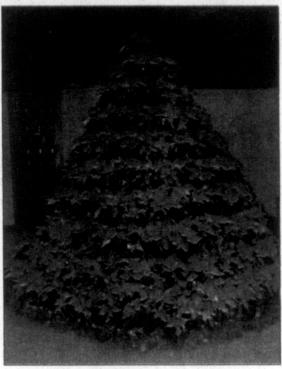
· St. Matthews Episcopal Church, 727 W. Browning, will conduct Christmas Eve services for all who wish to attend. The early service begins at 5:30 p.m., and the late service begins at 11 p.m., both on Dec. 24.

On Christmas Day, St. Matthews will have normal services at 8 a.m., followed by Holy Eucharist at 10:30 a.m.

· The Salvation Army is holding an open house from 4 to 6 p.m. Christmas Day at its office, 701 S. Cuyler. Refreshments will be served.

• A Christmas service will be held between 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. at First Assembly of God, 500 S.

See EVENTS, Page 2



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

First Baptist Church's Christmas decorations include a 10-foot tall tree made of 250 poinsettias, an annual tradition at the church. The tree is located in the church lobby.

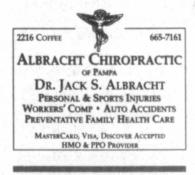


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Donovan Boling, 18, hoovers mid-air as his skateboard takes him for a ride at skateboard park.

Japan hands U.S. beef growers gift

By DAVID BOWSER Staff Writer

AMARILLO -- The Japanese have handed U.S. cattlemen a Christmas present. "Certainly, it's better than the Christmas of 2003," says

for the Texas Cattle Feeders with Association headquartered in Amarillo.

Before December 2003, international trade accounted for about 10 percent of the beef the United States produced annually. When a Canadian Burt Rutherford, spokesman cow was found Dec. 23, 2003,

bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or BSE, or disease, in mad cow Washington State, the international markets closed to U.S. beef. Since then several have opened, but Japan, the largest

See BEEF, Page 2



Pampa News photos by DAVE BOWSER

Albert Tambunga, 15, takes to the air on a recent cool, but sunny afternoon at Pampa's skateboard park.

STATE

New caseworkers coming online

AUSTIN (AP) - The first Child Protective Services caseworkers hired after lawmakers ordered an overhaul of the child welfare system have completed training and will start work this month and in lanuary, state officials said Wednesday.

About 170 caseworkers hired after Sept. 1 underwent 12 weeks of training, twice as much as new caseworkers used to receive, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services said in a statement. They will be assigned to offices throughout the state.

Lawmakers ordered the overhaul after several high-profile child homicides in cases where CPS workers investigated parents but left the children in their care.

Child Protective Services receives conservatorship of home alone boy



Vanderpool's office. By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer The custody hearing was

held Dec. 7 in Gray County A Pampa boy found home Courthouse. alone by Pampa police on

The boy, the son of Aug. 13, 2004, has been Margaret Stevens of Pampa, placed in the permanent was found alone at 414 E. managing conservatorship of Browning after an anony-Child Protective Services, mous caller to Pampa emeraccording to Judge Phil gency services said the child

had been living alone at the house, according to police records.

The home was filled with debris, animal feces and urine, and dirty clothing, according to police.

"There was little furniture in the house, trash was heaped in the kitchen and

living room, and dirty clothes were strewn about the bedroom floors. There were several pets at the residence that were covered with fleas. Throughout the house also, feces, urine and vomit from the pets was discovered on the beds, furniture and floors," according

a Pampa Police to Department news release.

The pets included at least two cats, a Chihuahua, a guinea pig and a turtle. The boy, who was 11 at the time of the visit by police, was taken into custody by Child

See CPS, Page 2



White Deer Land Museum New Year's Eve Party Saturday, December 31, 2005 • MK Brown Heritage Room • 8:00 pm to Midnight Silent Auction and Dance • Tickets \$35.00 per person for more information call 669-8041 or 662-2727

Obituaries

John Quincy Holt, Jr.

John Quincy Holt, Jr., 82, of Pampa, Texas, died Dec. 20, 2005, at Pampa. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 23, 2005, at Carmichael Whatley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Doug DuBose, retired Baptist minister, officiating.

Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Holt was born April 3, 1923, in Davidson, Okla. His family moved to Caddo Mills in 1934, and he attended schools in Josephine. He joined the U.S. Army Air Force on Oct. 17, 1942, and served for three years.

He married Martha Brummett in Holt 1945 at San Marcos, and returning

from the service, they made their home in Pampa in 1946.

He worked for Cabot Carbon Black for 39 years at the Pampa plant, serving as foreman and later safety man. He was a member of the First Baptist Church, the Sonshiners and the Sonshine Club.

He was a longtime member of the Pampa Odd Fellow Lodge #934, serving as Noble Grand and District Deputy Grand Master,

Continued from Page 1

importer of U.S. beef prior to Christmas,

2003, waited until this month to reopen its

announcement that the Japanese market is

open very much as a positive thing,"

Rutherford says. "This is positive."

been a top priority to reopen it.

"I think the entire industry looks at the

Since Japan had been the number one

"Long term, Japan represents a very sig-

market for U.S. beef, Rutherford said it had

nificant market for us," Rutherford said, "but

I think we have to keep in mind that we're

not going to get back to where we were prior

to December 2003 right away. It's going to

the Australians have conducted over the past

two years to replace U.S. beef with

hands," Rutherford says. "In reality, I think

all we really want in this deal is simply the

opportunity to go into that market and com-

He points to the aggressive marketing that

"They haven't been sitting on their

Beef

market.

take a while.

Australian beef.



and was a member of the Pampa Rebekah Lodge #355. He was a volunteer for the Top O' Texas and Quivira Girl Scout Councils, helping with the day and troop camps.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Pearl Holt; and three brothers,

> Tommy Holt, Weldon Holt and George V. Holt.

Survivors include his wife, Martha Holt, of the home; two daughters, Nancy Kay Cates and husband Phil of Dripping Springs and Barbara Ann Holt of Pampa; two grandsons, Andrew Cates of Dripping Springs and John David Cates and wife Ruth of Austin; five sisters, Lydia Castle of Greenville, Loma Wilson and husband Bob of Dallas, Sue Cupp and

husband James of San Antonio, Mary Hamil and husband Bill of Mesquite and Patsy Douthit and husband James of Caddo Mills. The family requests memorials be to a

favorite charity. The family will be at 1619 N. Sumner in Pampa

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

pete, and we now have that opportunity." Prior to their closing their border to U.S. beef, Japan imported about \$1.4 billion of beef from the United States annually.

Ironically, the United States has reported only two animals with BSE. The one in Washington State that came from a herd in Canada and an older cow last summer in East Texas. Japan has reported 21 cases of the disease.

BSE is transmitted in cattle through feed contaminated with tissue from infected cattle. The U.S. has had rules in place now for almost 10 years to prevent feed from becoming contaminated with tissue of infected cattle. The cow in East Texas was old enough to have possibly been fed contaminated feed.

The feed ban went into effect following an outbreak of BSE in England in the 1990s.

The USDA has tested more than a half million cattle in the United States for BSE. The East Texas cow was the only native animal to have been found with the disease.

BSE is a degenerative nerve disease and is thought to be linked to a fatal human disease called new variant Creutzfeldt Jakob disease. Researchers say, however, that the disease is passed on through eating nerve tissue such as brain or spinal cords, not through muscle cuts like steak or roasts.

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Emergency Services

North Starkweather.

was broken.

Davis.

dent.

Internet.

N. Hobart.

unknown.

lobby.

reported in the 2400 block of

Fir. A window valued at \$75

A disturbance was report-

A domestic disturbance

Assault causing bodily

enhanced, was reported in

the 300 block of North

Roberta. An arrest was made

in connection with the inci-

the police department lobby,

concerning threats over the

in the police department

Assault was reported in

Identity theft was reported

Theft was reported at

Burglary was reported at

Allison's Quality Quick

Lube, 1807 Alcock. A candy

machine was damaged and

money was taken. Estimated

value of damage and loss is

Accidents

Pampa Police Department

Tuesday, Dec. 20

8:03 a.m. - A 2001 Ford

Mustang, driven by Lindzi

Nichole Schaible, 17, 1201

N. Mary Ellen, and a 1985

Ford Club Wagon E150 van,

driven by Francisco Silva

involvement as indicating

the boy had emotional and

October 2004 by a Gray

County grand jury in 223rd

District Court on a second-

degree felony charge of

On Nov. 8, the first day

Stevens was indicted in

behavioral problems.

abandoning a child.

today reported the following

motor vehicle accident.

United Supermarket, 1420

violence,

was reported in the 2200

block of Evergreen.

injury/family

ed in the 700 block of North

Pampa PD

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

Eight traffic stops were made. A vehicle accident was reported at the intersection of Harvester and Red Deer streets.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 1000 block of Baer.

Two alarms were reported.

Found property was reported in the police department lobby and in the 300 block of East Browning. Lost property was report-

ed in the police department lobby. A checkbook of unknown value was lost. Suspicious person calls

were received from the 2000 block of North Hobart, the 1100 block of East Foster and the 100 block of West Francis.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway and from Highway 60 West. A 911 hangup call was

received from the 700 block of Deane Drive.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of North Davis and the 2600 block of North Hobart.

Harassment was reported in the 600 block of North Cuyler.

Violation of a protective order was reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart.

Criminal trespass was reported at Hastings Books, Music and Videos, 1201 N. Hobart.

Continued from Page 1

Protective Services caseworkers, and the animals were removed to Pampa Animal Shelter,

Information gathered by police indicated that the of trial on the charge how had been living alone at against Stevens she nled the house for one to two months. Stevens would bring food to him once or twice a week, according to the PPD news release. Stevens said in custody hearings that she was living with Larry Davis at 1704 Hamilton at the time the child was removed from her custody. She claimed that her son also lived at Davis' home and had been alone at the Browning Street house, their former residence, for just a few hours because she had gone shopping in Amarillo and he did not want to go.

Vigil, 59, 513 S. Ballard, Criminal mischief was collided at the intersection reported in the 1100 block of Browning and Red Deer Criminal mischief was streets.

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

Tuesday, Dec. 20

Mark Allan Haynes, 37, 305 Roberta, was arrested in the 300 block of Roberta by Pampa Police Department for assault causing bodily injury/family violence, enhanced.

Fire

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

Tuesday, Dec. 20 7:48 p.m. – Three units and eight personnel responded to Gray County Sheriff's Office on a false alarm.

Ambulance

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

Tuesday, Dec. 20

1:49 p.m. – A mobile ICU unit responded to Lefors. The call was disregarded before arrival.

7:41 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 2700 block of West Hobart and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

William Kleinpeter of Amarillo, the child's therapist, recommended against the child testifying in the trial against his mother.

"The therapist was concerned the child would have a psychotic or rageful episode," Switzer said at the time.

"My greatest concern was for the victim, and I felt that I didn't need to subject him to any more trauma," she said. "Everyone in the room was attempting to act in the best interest of the child, including my client. My client did not want him to go through the stress of testifying," said David Scott of Perryton, Stevens' attorney in the criminal trial. "She admitted on the stand that she made a mistake," he said of his client.



We have a lot to be thankful for during the holidays because of you, our friends and neighbors. It is a pleasure to serve this community. *Enjoy the season*.



Ben Watson, AAMS 408 W. Kingsmill Ste. 197A 806-665-3359



Duane Harp, AAMS 1921 N. Hobart 806-665-6753



Tom Reynolds 1540 N. Hobart 806-665-7137

> Edward Jones MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

The boy was described as a "special needs" child by CPS caseworkers, who cited evaluations done at school and after CPS

Events

Continued from Page 2

Cuyler. Tonya Witt, guest

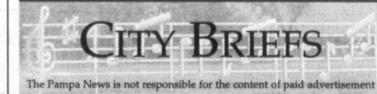
soloist of Plano, will sing.

The Christmas story will be

light communion will be held.

Switzer.

First Presbyterian Church, 525 N. Gray, will hold its annual Christmas Eve service at 11 p.m. Saturday in the church sanctuary. An informal Christmas



1 KARAT VVS 2 E-Color Diamond, Goldkraft Jewelers

CHRISTMAS DINNER, Thur. Dec. 22nd, 10:45-12:45. Call in take-out orders Wed. nior Citizen's Center. \$5.

COME JOIN us as we celebrate the Christmas season You are invited to our Open House Dec. 22nd, Noon-5pm Edward Jones, Duane Harp, 1921 N. Hobart

guilty in 223rd District Judge Lee Waters' court. She was sentenced to 10 years and a \$1,000 fine. The 10-year sentence was commuted to seven years' probation, and Stevens was required to serve 21 days in Gray County Jail, "one day for each day she left that child alone," said 31st District Attorney Lynn

Stevens was also required to perform 240 days of community service. Prospective jurors had already been summoned and qualified by Judge Waters, and jury selection was set to begin at 1:30 p.m. Nov. 8, when the prosecuting and defense attorneys learned that Dr.

Stevens was granted visitation with her son by Vanderpool at the Dec. 7 hearing.

Vanderpool hears child abuse and neglect cases in several eastern Panhandle counties, including Gray.

related, and a special candle- carol sing-along will begin at approximately 10:40 p.m. in the church narthex, prior to the service.

> On Christmas Day, a potluck brunch will be held at 9:30 a.m. in the church parlor, followed by an informal service.

· First Baptist Church, 203 N. West, will hold a Christmas Eve service at 6 p.m. Saturday. Fellowship and refreshments will be shared at 5 p.m. prior to the service.

· St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church will have Mass at 5:30 p.m. and midnight on Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day, there will be a 9:30 a.m. Mass and a noon Spanish Mass.

 Trinity Fellowship Church, 1200 S. Sumner, will have Christmas Eve services at 6 p.m. Saturday in lieu of services on Christmas Day.

· First United Methodist Church, at the corner of Foster and Ballard streets, will hold a candlelight and communion service at 6 p.m. Saturday. The church will hold a regular 10:30 a.m. service Sunday.

21st or Thurs 22nd, before 9:30 am. Members & their guests welcome. Pampa Se-

101 S. Hobart - 665-3500 Shop open nightly til 8 pm. Register for pair of diamond earrings, 6-8 pm. only.

PAMPA SENIOR Citizen's Center, will be closed Fri. Dec. 23rd. Merry Christmas!

PRESTIGE AUTOBODY

& Accessories will be open

till 8:00 pm this Thursday.

Come by and register for a

Free Tool Box to be given

away Christmas Eve at Noon.

DIAMOND

RHEAMS

The Pampa News — Wednesday, December 21, 2005 — 3



At the Create-a-Beat Christmas Program, Macy Cochran and Erika DeWitt sing "We Can Make A Difference" not only with their voices, but also with their hands by signing the song.

Senate nears showdown over drilling for oil in Alaskan wildlife refuge

By H. JOSEF HEBERT Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) -Congress is moving toward a Christmas week showdown that could end a quarter-century fight over whether to exploit the nation's largest untapped reservoir of oil beneath the frozen tundra of

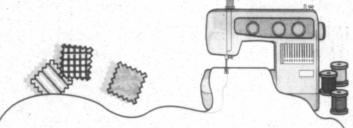
'The extreme environmentalists think it's their playground, that they should set the policies for Alaska.

> - Sen. Ted Stevens R-Alaska

playground, that they should set the policies for Alaska," Stevens said, reminding colleagues on the Senate floor Tuesday that a majority of the Senate repeatedly has voiced approval for drilling, only to be thwarted by filibusters.

A decade ago a Republican-led Congress





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an Alaska wildlife preserve.

With a critical vote scheduled for Wednesday in the Senate, drilling proponents argued that the oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge would reduce U.S. reliance on imports and increase national security. Opponents feared development would harm an environmental treasure teeming with wildlife.

Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, who has fought to allow oil exploration and development in the refuge's coastal plain since 1980, angered many of his Senate colleagues by attaching the drilling measure to a mustpass defense spending bill.

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Senators determined to protect the refuge from development found it difficult to oppose the politically popular defense bill, which has money for troops in Iraq, relief for Katrina hurricane

victims and help for lowincome families to pay energy bills.

"This is nothing more than legislative blackmail," fumed Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., an ardent opponent to opening the Alaska refuge to oil companies.

Democrats and a few moderate Republicans said they were ready to filibuster bill, prompting the Republican leaders to scramble for the 60 votes needed to cut off debate. Neither side dared predict victory, since one or two senators could mean the difference.

"This is a power play ... simply a misuse of power,' complained Sen. Harry Reid, the Democratic leader from Nevada, alluding to the use of the defense spending bill and funding for hurricane victims to try to force through the contentious Alaska drilling measure known as ANWR.

Senators grumbled at being kept in session nearly to Christmas because of the legislative standoff. But Stevens was unapologetic and unrelenting.

He called the development of ANWR's oil a matter of national security because the country needs all the domestic oil it can get, said it was a fitting subject for defense legislation and dismissed environmenarguments that talists' drilling would jeopardize the refuge's wildlife.

"The extreme environmentalists think it's their lions of migratory birds.

••• HOLIDAY IDEAS •••

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used a parliamentary maneuver to get an ANWR bill successfully past a filibuster, only to have it vetoed by President Clinton. This time President Bush has made ANWR drilling one of his top priorities and is eager to sign a bill.

Drilling opponents long have argued that ANWR's oil should not be exploited because of the coastal plain's fragile ecosystem and its wildlife. While the region looks bleak during its long winters and oil can be seen seeping from some of its rock formations, the coastal strip also is the calving ground for caribou and home to polar bears, musk oxen, and the annual influx of mil-

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Meet Mallard Fillmore's creator, Bruce Tinsley

Bruce Tinsley, 47, is the bio. creator of the syndicated conservative comic strip "Mallard Fillmore," a daily and Sunday fixture in 450 newspapers around the country. Mallard Fillmore an "Amphibious-American" who works as a newsduck at a Washington, D.C., TV station - does daily unto liberals what Garry Trudeau's "Doonesbury" does unto conservatives: mock and annoy them. I talked to Tinsley recently by telephone from his home near Indianapolis:

Q: What exactly is it that you do for a living?

A: I sit around in my underwear all day and draw my comic strip.

Q: For someone who doesn't know who Mallard became the only conserva-Fillmore is, give us a brief tive in the broadcast news-

A: Mallard really is about as close to me as you can get. He is a conservative reporter in a liberal newsroom, if liberal newsroom isn't redundant. The difference is that I spent a long time working in print newsrooms, working for newspapers. When Mallard was going into syndication, my editor said, "Well, well, wait a minute. This might not set well with a lot of newspaper editors. You're making fun of editors in particular and Boston mainstream print journalism in general." He said, "What do print journalists hate more than anything - more than conservatives? They hate broadcast journalists." And so that's when Mallard

room in Washington.

Q: The Boston Globe said your strip was "really hateful, nasty, ill-informed and/or mean-spirited." How do you plead?

A: Wow. They didn't throw in "homophobic," "Nazi" or "baby-killer"? That's

pretty Bill much it. They're Steigerwald right on Columnist target for t h e

ence. I get more hate mail

from Boston and Los

Angeles than I get from any-

where else combined. As far

as responding directly to

those charges, I think they

all must have the same play-

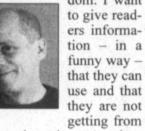
book, because so much of

audi-

my hate mail sounds so much alike.

Q: What are your motives for doing Mallard? A: What I want to accom-

plish with Mallard more than anything is to skewer the sacred cows and smash the icons of conventional wisdom. I want



many other places, particularly in the mainstream media and at their colleges and universities and in their pop culture. For example, I just did a series about Warren Farrell's book, "Why Men Earn More." Back dur-

and Kerry were saying, "Well, yes, of course, it is unfortunate that women only make 82 cents on the dollar of what men earn" and they each had their own solutions. Most people just accept that as the way it is, but the data indicate that it is a lot more complicated than that. When men and women work the exact same jobs at the same number of hours, women in many cases actually make more than men. There are a whole lot of dangerous jobs, and lonely jobs, like commercial fishermen, that women don't want to take. So it's not discrimination.

ing the campaign, both Bush

Q: Who are you political heroes – dead or alive?

A: Dead would have to be Edmund Burke and Al Capp, who used to draw "Li'l

Abner" and who had an epiphany and changed from being a liberal to a conservative about two-thirds through his career. At the top of the living list has to be William F. Buckley. I've been reading him forever, it seems like.

Q: Who are your mosthated enemies - humans and institutions?

A: I don't think I really have any most-hated human enemies. Maybe I should. Maybe I should just for interviews like this. As far as institutions go, I really hate the status today of the public education institution. I'm often accused of being antieducation, but on the contrary, it's because I care so much about education.

See TINSLEY, Page 5



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 21, the 355th day of 2005. There are 10 days left in the year. Winter arrives at 1:35 p.m. Eastern time.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 21, 1620, Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower went ashore for the first time at present-day Plymouth, Mass. On this date:

In 1804, British statesman Benjamin Disraeli was born in London

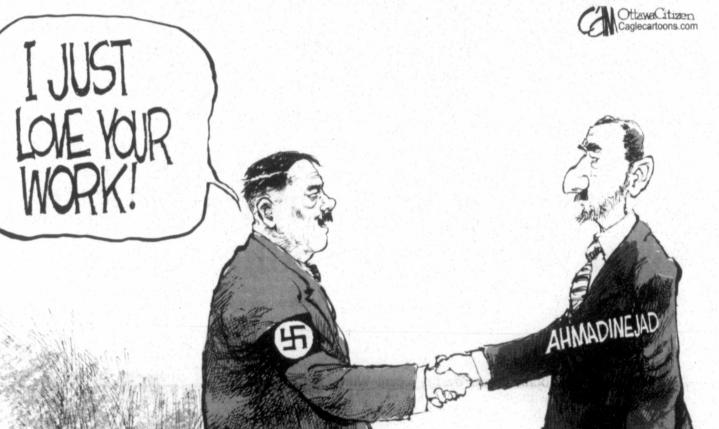
In 1898, scientists Pierre and Marie Curie discovered the radioactive element radium.

The time will come when Winter will ask us: 'What were you doing all the Summer?''

> — Bohemian proverb

In 1914, the first feature-length silent fīlm comedy, "Tillie's Punctured Romance,' was released. In 1942, the Supreme Court ruled all states had to recognize divorces granted in Nevada. In 1945, Gen. George S. Patton





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died in Heidelberg, Germany, of injuries from a car accident.

In 1948, the state of Eire (formerly the Irish Free State) declared its independence.

In 1968, Apollo 8 was launched on a mission to orbit the moon

In 1971, the U.N. Security Council chose Kurt Waldheim to succeed U Thant as Secretary-General.

In 1978, police in Des Plaines, Ill., arrested John W. Gacy Jr. and began unearthing the remains of 33 men and boys that Gacy was later convicted of murdering.

In 1988, 270 people were killed when a terrorist bomb exploded aboard a Pam Am Boeing 747 over Lockerbie, Scotland, sending wreckage crashing to the ground.

Ten years ago: The House approved sweeping welfare reform that President Clinton said he would veto. (He later signed a revamped version.) A train collision outside Cairo, Egypt, claimed 75 lives. The city of Bethlehem passed from Israeli to Palestinian control.

Five years ago: President-elect Bush resigned as governor of Texas; Lt. Gov. Rick Perry was sworn in to replace him.

One year ago: A suicide bombing at a mess hall tent near Mosul, Iraq, killed 22 people, including 14 U.S. service members and three American contractors. Two French reporters held hostage for four months in Iraq were released. The Associated Press told the Bowl Championship Series to stop using its college football poll to determine which teams would play for the national title and in the most prestigious bowl games.

THE PAMPA NEWS

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'Peace' does not mean end to fighting

After a newspaper ran Mark Twain's obituary, the story goes, he protested that the reports of his death had been "greatly exaggerated"; so, too, the media accounts of an emerging national consensus against the War in Iraq are considerably at variance with what Americans are actually thinking.

A recent Fox News poll, completed Nov. 30, suggests that while half of Americans would like to see a schedule for withdrawal of U.S. troops, a majority feel the war has done good things and a larger majority feel that there were weapons of mass destruction in Iraq when Bush told us there were

By 52 percent to 27 percent, Americans believe that "the world would be worse. off if the U.S. military had not taken action in Iraq and Saddam Hussein were still in

Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

Dec. 12

Fort Worth Star-Telegram on the drama of Texas redistricting:

The re-redrawing of Texas' congressional districts in 2003 was a power ramrodded through the play, Legislature -- with great consternation and excessive expense -- at the behest of U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay. That much we already knew.

At that time, DeLay was the domineering U.S. House majority leader who had engineered a GOP takeover of the Texas House and then parlayed it into a redistricting plan that would give Republicans control of the Texas dele-

power." By 59-20, they feel "Success," for example, Iraq would've been worse off if we hadn't acted. Asked what they believe

about WMDs in Iraq, 61 percent said there were still such weapons there or that there had been WMDs in the country but

that they Dick were Morris destroyed or moved. Columnist Only 28 percent

agree that Iraq had no WMDs.

These data show that Americans are still largely in sympathy with our objectives in Iraq and accepting of our reasons for entering the war - two good reasons for the Democrats not to overplay their hand in opposing

The irony of this war is that the normal definitions of words do not really apply.

does not mean military victory on the battlefield, but a political victory in creating a stable, democratic, elected government in Iraq that can wage its own war and protect itself against terrorists. 0 r



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of

that an Iraqi government will be battling its own terrorists with less and less American intervention or support.

Similarly, "defeat" does not mean that the terrorists prevail militarily - but that they force a political decision to withdraw American troops before the Iraqi government and military can take over the task of selfdefense.

Even the political interface with the military operations is not what it appears to be. President Bush has been re-elected commander-inchief for the next three years. No congressional majority will ever muster the gravitas to cut off funding for the war. Our troops are there to stay as long as he wants them to.

With his apparent resolve, there is no real likelihood that we will be "defeated" in Iraq. We really won't leave until the job is done. Obviously, in three years, 80 percent of Iraq can figure out how to govern, conciliate, rule and, if necessary, suppress the other 20 percent.

But the war will erode Bush's popularity every day that it continues to rage and Americans die. There is no way around this central fact of our political life. No spin-

See MORRIS, Page 5

gation to Congress. That remapping, which drew bizarrely shaped districts designed to oust a number of incumbent Democrats, proved even more bruising than the Democrat-engineered gerrymandering of 2001, which featured its own bizarre districts that kept Democrats in power. We already knew that redistricting

for the second time in a decade was done to boost the Republican advanthe plan. tage in Congress, not necessarily to increase the number of competitive districts. What we didn't know was that the Republicans also were getting a hand from Justice Department officials.

The Washington Post reported that six lawyers and two analysts in the department concluded that the Texas redistricting plan would violate the

Voting Rights Act by diluting the voting power of blacks and Hispanics. However, that interpretation was overruled by department higher-ups, who approved the plan. After the Post uncovered a memo revealing the original recommendation against the map, Justice officials said the department's ultimate decision was vindicated because a three-judge panel had upheld

But as Rick Hasen, a professor at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, noted in an interview, the Justice Department and the court were considering different issues, and the court's ruling had nothing to do with the Justice Department finding.

See LINES, Page 5

tra

Da

Tinsley

Continued from Page 4

Q: Is there anyone you wish you could be tougher on than you are tough on?

A: Yes there is. I can think of one person. I would be a lot tougher on President Bush if there weren't already so many people out there doing it for me. I've never been a big fan of the Iraq

the beginning. But I have been very careful in my dealings with that issue because I feel like a), so many other people have it covered, and b), I don't want to be associated with all those people who are out there calling Bush a Nazi and a terrorist all those Hollywood types. I like the president. I wish he were more conservative, just as I wished his father was more conservative. I just

war. I had my doubts from criticized him (G.W.) a few days ago for being a bigspender. I've been hitting Republicans pretty hard lately. When you look at the budget and everything, I can't tell the Republicans from the Democrats anymore in Congress.

Q: Is there any issue that is too tough or too politically incorrect for you to take on? A: I don't think so. I haven't found it. I do a lot of stuff about racial issues. My

critics often charge that this cartoon is racist or whatever. But to my mind what is racist is policies like affirmative action that treat one group of people different from another, or say that Asians don't count as minorities because they are too successful.

Q: What's the worst thing a political cartoonist can do?

A: To try to see what public opinion is like, and follow public opinion, instead of being completely honest

The Pampa News — Wednesday, December 21, 2005 — 5

about how he or she feels. Q: How do you keep from becoming just a right-wing version of your nemesis, Garry Trudeau?

A: I don't think I do. I'll criticize conservatives and Republicans when I think

they are wrong. I'm unapologetically conservative. I'm not a journalist. The difference between me and most reporters for The New York Times is that I admit I am coming from a biased point of view.

-Bill Steigerwald is a columnist at the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review.

Pet of the Wee

Morris

Continued from Page 4

ning, Iraqi elections or presidential speeches can do much to alter it. Bush will probably leave office with much diminished popularity and the Democrats will probably make large gains in the elections of 2006 and 2008 because of the cost of the war in Iraq.

Will the war have been worth it? Probably. Iraq will likely emerge as a key regional ally. And the demonstration of American resolve will hugely boost

Continued from Page 4

The memo is unlikely to have any

impact on an appeal of the redistricting

case pending before the Supreme Court.

That appeal raises the question of when

chances for a comprehensive deal between Israel and the Palestinians. North Korea is sounding more intimidated every month. The global coalition against Iran and Syria is forged in the wake of Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's commitment to multilateralism in the shadow of Bush's willingness to go it alone if Europe won't move ahead.

How will history treat it all? As George Bernard Shaw put it in "The Devil's Disciple": "History, sir, will tell lies as usual."

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

redistricting is so motivated by partisan

politics that it becomes unconstitutional.

It may be that there's little the courts can

do to deter the roughest hardball politics.

process have to be disturbed when institu-

tions that are supposed to serve all the

people appear to be advancing the inter-

ests of a single political party.

Still, believers in the democratic

Bailey & Miles

These two male kittens are black with golden colored eyes. They are full of energy and love ... call or visit the shelter today!



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For information about these pets or any other contact the Animal Shelter at 669-5775 or come by their location at Hobart Street Park.

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hold stray animals for 72 hours only. So PLEASE call us as soon as your pet is missing! sponsored by ... The Pampa News

Lines

Events calendar

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 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 selfexam 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 the 2006 for Quality Environmental Program. Incentives

 Pampa Community 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 on



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the Internet. Pampa High School will host "Financial Aid Night" at 7 p.m. Jan. 5 in school the library. Counselors at PHS will discuss and explain grants, scholarships, work-study and loans to interested parents of upperclassmen.

 College-bound high school students have until Jan. 6 to register to take the ACT exam on the next nationwide test date, Feb. 11. Late registration will be conducted until Jan. 20 and will include an extra fee. Normal cost of the ACT is \$20 or \$43 with the optional writing test. Students can register online at www.actstudent.org or by mail. Registration materials are available from high school guidance counselors.

People in the news

NEW YORK (AP) -David Gilmour, best known as singer and guitarist of Pink Floyd, has scheduled 10 U.S. and Canadian dates in April in support of his upcoming solo studio album, "On an Island."

Gilmour said the tour is set to begin April 4 at Radio City Music Hall in New York.

"I've had a fantastic time making 'On an Island' and really want to perform tracks from it, along with my more Earl's Court in 1981. familiar repertoire," he said.

"On an Island" will be released in March. The title track teams Gilmour with David Crosby and Graham Nash.

"I'm rather hoping that

with this tour announcement people will believe me when I say, 'Honestly, this is the only band I plan to tour with!"' the 59-year-old entertainer said.

Pink Floyd reunited this summer for a Live 8 benefit concert in London. It was the first time Gilmour, drummer Nick Mason, keyboard player Richard Wright and bassist Roger Waters had appeared onstage together since a concert at London's

Gilmour's tour also will include performances in Toronto (April 9-10), Chicago (April 12-13), Oakland, Calif., (April 16-17) and Los Angeles, (April 19-20).

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By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Some years ago, I responded to your Operation Dear Abby program. I thought it would be neat to have a pen pal while I was in high school. I'm happy to report that I got much more than I ever dreamed of. I began writing to Karl, and we corresponded for more than a year before we were able to meet in person. When we did meet, we both felt an immediate attraction to each other -- but as fate would have it, he was stationed overseas again and I was leaving for college. Fortunately, we reconnected and began to date exclusively. To make a long story short, we recently celebrated our 15th wedding anniversary. We are each other's best friend and feel blessed to have three beautiful children. Thank you, Abby, for bringing us together. -- KATHY K., ROANOKE, VA.

DEAR KATHY K.: Thank you for an upper of a letter. Many love stories began with Operation Dear Abby, and continue to be created through OperationDearAbby.net -- the online version that now operates 24/7 year round. I'm pleased that writing to a member of the armed services was not only rewarding for you, but also became the pathway to your future. Readers, as I am sure you already know, this is a time of year when our young men and women in the military feel most poignantly their separation from their families and the people they love. While it is not within our power to make that go away, it does present an opportunity to show them we appreciate the fact that they are fulfilling their duty at the risk of their own safety. Today, and during the rest of this holiday season, won't you please make a special effort to let them know they are in our thoughts and prayers.

Go to www.OperationDearAbby.net and send a message of support. It'll mean the world to them.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter is an attractive, well-educated, single, professional woman in her early 40s. She is gay. I have known about her sexual orientation since she was in high school and have always been supportive. We have enjoyed a good relationship. I have been friendly to my daughter's same gender friends in the past, until she moved into the home of a divorced woman who claims she is also gay. Abby, this woman is in her mid-40s. She has two children, ages 5 and 12, from her previous marriage to a man. There is significant financial advantage for her to have my daughter move in with her. Between you and me, I don't believe that she is really gay. Is it possible for a woman to become gay after many years of marriage that produced two children? Thanks for your help. -- PERPLEXED MOTH-**ER IN THE EAST**

DEAR PERPLEXED: Yes, it is possible for a person to discover that she (or he) is gay after having been married and having children. Usually, the person felt a samesex attraction much earlier, but denied it and married, hoping the feeling would go away. Many years -- sometimes decades -later, the man or woman realizes that something is "missing," meets someone, and the feelings return stronger than ever. And that's when they finally come out.[r1]

For Better Or Worse





KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU THE PLANETS MAY AROUND YOU! THE TELESCOP ND WE WATCHED THE BEENSAYING GIRL IN





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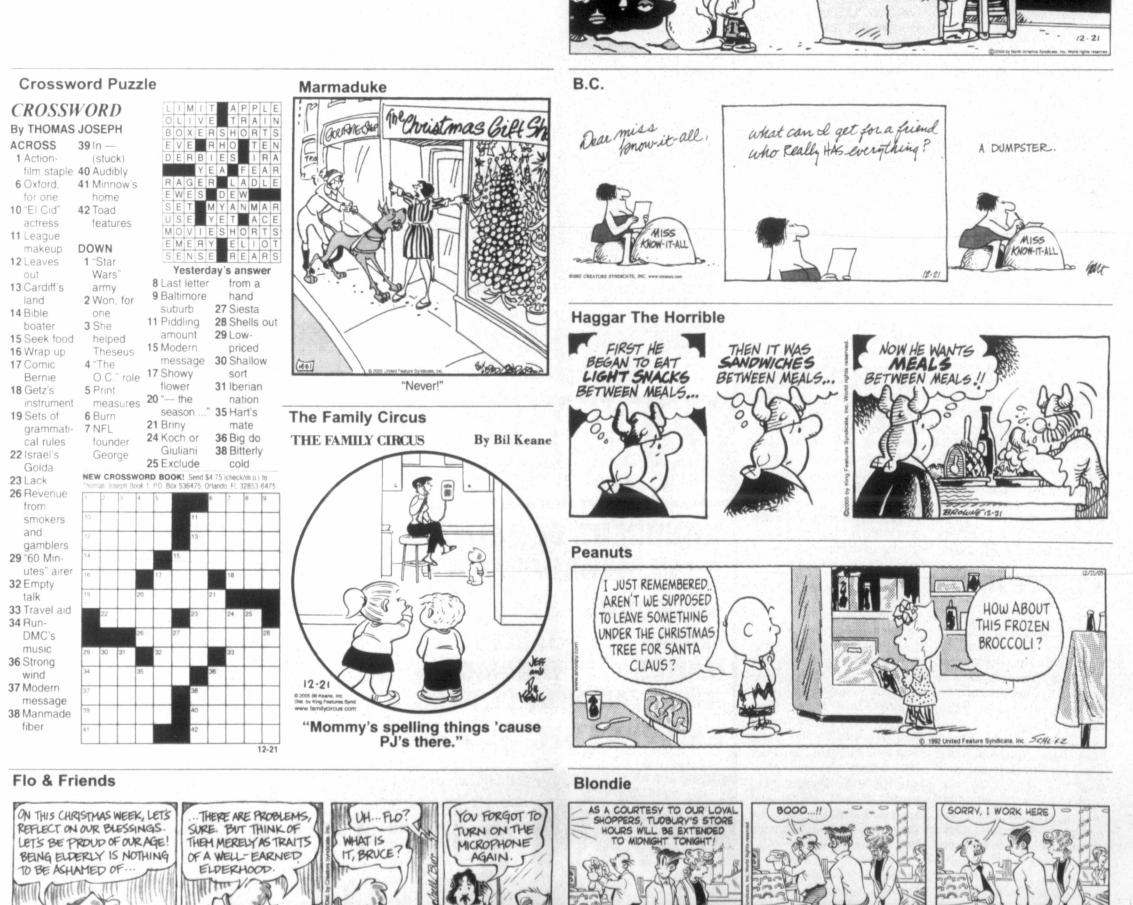
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The Pampa News — Wednesday, December 21, 2005 — 7

JIFFY CLEANERS

Sports Day

Plainview trip unkind to Pampa

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS Sports Editor

The road was unkind to the traveling Harvesters Tuesday night as all four Pampa varsity and junior varsity basketball teams fell to Plainview. The teams will be off for a week before resuming play Dec. 29 when the varsity teams will compete in tournament play.

Harvesters

Plainview 77, Pampa 54

The Harvesters and Bulldogs have been building quite the rivalry of late with each team holding a home court advantage. Tuesday night was no exception.

Pampa entered Plainview's gym with an 11-2 record. Plainview did so with a mark of 9-5. The one thing Harvesters head coach Dustin Miller knew going into this game is his was now a marked team, one for which opponents would be prepared for. The Bulldogs did their homework.

The two squads played a double-digit first quarter, Plainview outscoring Pampa 23-18. Points would not come as easy in the second period. The Bulldogs did manage to add 12 points to their total, but Pampa was held to just six in the quarter.

At the break, the Bulldogs held a 35-24 advantage over the Harvesters.

Pampa mounted a bit of a charge in the third, staying even with the host team 20-19, but trailing as the fourth period began (55-43).

Pampa has been down before and able to come back but Tuesday night, the Green Team was simply unable to overcome the Bulldog's lead. Plainview would go on to outscore Pampa 22-11 in the final period to seal the win.

Tyler Hall led Pampa in scoring with15 points. Sharod Young had 11.

The junior varsity boys fell to Plainview, 79-63.

Lady Harvesters

Plainview 55, Pampa 43

The first half of Tuesday night's meeting between Pampa and Lady Bulldogs would be a tough one for the visiting Lady Harvesters. Pampa was outscored in the half, 31-17 (15-9, 16-8).

Pampa came out of the locker room in the third quarter

and dropped 18 points on Plainview while the Lady Bulldogs scored 11. As the final period began, the Lady Harvesters were down by only seven, 42-35. However, they would only add eight more points to their total while Plainview scored 13.

Britteni Rice added 22 points to her season total. Callie Cobb scored 15 points.

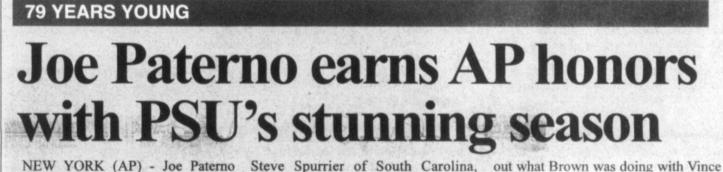
Pampa falls to 7-10 for the season.

The Lady Harvesters JV team lost to Plainview, 75-31.





Pampa's Eric Kingcade takes a free throw shot **Tuesday night.**



doesn't have to say "I told you so." George O'Leary of Central Florida JoePa, who turns 79 on Wednesday, and Tommy Tuberville of Auburn, last

George O'Leary of Central Florida Young.

"We got some great ideas," Joe

& LAUNDRY We Won't Leave You Hanging Out To Dry! MON-FRI 7 AM-6 PM · SAT 9 AM-12 AM 1807 N. Hobart 806-669-7711 877-874-0907 **Tuxedo Rental Drapes & Alterations** The Schneider House 120 South Russell • Pampa 806-665-0415 Jost Arter ame Sweet Sweet Senior Living At Its Best Now Leasing Apartments 1222 \$ 160 Pam Apartments 220 806-669-2594 1200 N. Wells • Pampa Texas >>> *</

got an early birthday present Tuesday when he was an overwhelming choice as The Associated Press college football coach of the year.

So much for critics who said the game had passed him by.

Not that he's gloating about Penn State's resurgence.

"The only thing I wanted to do is try to get us back to where we were a good football team and we could be very competitive and make some plays we hadn't made," he said. "We got that done and I feel good about that."

After four losing seasons in the last five years, Paterno and the Nittany Lions rebounded in 2005 to go 10-1, share the Big Ten title and earn a spot in the Bowl Championship Series.

Mart

For that, Paterno received 45 of 65 votes from media members on AP's college football poll board. Texas' Mack Brown was second with eight votes after leading the Longhorns to a perfect regular season and a spot in the Rose Bowl. Notre Dame's Charlie Weis and Southern California's Pete Carroll, whose Trojans will face Brown's Longhorns for the national title, got three votes each.

West Virginia's Rich Rodriguez received two votes. Les Miles of LSU, year's winner, each received one vote. "It's very flattering," Paterno said.

"I think anytime, regardless of whether it be my first year or my 50th year, to have people recognize what's been done is very, very ... uplifting. The only thing I feel sometimes is that the head coach gets too much credit. I think sometimes it ought to be coaching staff of the year."

Despite going 4-7 in 2004, Paterno was convinced that the Nittany Lions were on the verge of good things.

In search of playmakers, he landed two of the nation's top recruits in speedy receivers Derrick Williams and Justin King. By doing so, Paterno showed that he and his staff, led by recruiting coordinator and former Penn State quarterback Mike McQueary, were still capable of bringing in blue-chippers.

Paterno believed in quarterback Michael Robinson, who spent three seasons moving from passer to runner to receiver, and gave offensive coordinator Galen Hall and quarterbacks coach Jay Paterno the job of building a system around the multidimensional senior.

Hall and Jay Paterno, Joe's son, went to Texas in the offseason to check

Paterno said. "It was a big help to us, it really was."

Robinson and the fast frosh made the Nittany Lions explosive again, and JoePa had himself a 21st century offense to go along with a rugged defense, led by a throwback Penn State linebacker, junior Paul Posluszny.

The Nittany Lions had signature wins over Ohio State and Wisconsin and rose to No. 3 in the nation. In Paterno's 40th season, Penn State was just a couple of seconds away from going unbeaten. Its only loss was 27-25 at Michigan, on a last-play touchdown.

Paterno now has 353 victories. Only Florida State's Bobby Bowden (359) has more among Division I-A coaches, and the two will meet in the Orange Bowl on Jan. 3, Penn State's BCS debut.

Few outside Happy Valley saw this coming.

From 2000-04, Penn State was 27-33 overall, 16-24 in the Big Ten, with seven victories combined in 2003-04. Nevertheless, Paterno has never tied success solely to wins and losses.

See HONORS, Page 8

Rivera plans to play this weekend

Damon, Yankees reach **\$52 million dollar deal**

NEW YORK (AP) -Johnny Damon gives the Yankees their first big-time leadoff hitter since Chuck Knoblauch was at the top of the order a half-decade ago an era when New York won three straight World Series titles and four consecutive AL pennants.

Damon's decision to bolt Boston and accept a \$52 million, four-year contract from the Yankees on Tuesday night also provides New York with a center fielder who covers a large amount of ground.

Details of the deal were still being negotiated and Damon must pass a physical, a baseball official said on condition of anonymity because negotiations were not yet final. The physical could take place Thursday,

allowing the deal to be

completed this week. Moving from Fenway Park to Yankee Stadium will mean a change of style and scenery for the longhaired, bearded Damon - a fan favorite in Boston for his scrappy play and scruffy look. A razor is in his future because New York owner George Steinbrenner bans beards and long hair.

"Sad to say bye to some of the greatest fans in the world. Unfortunately they had to see this day, but it's time for me to move forward," Damon told WBZ television in Boston. "They were coming after me aggressively. We know George Steinbrenner's repu-

See DAMON, Page 8

tation

including playoffs with IRVING, Texas (AP) -Cowboys offensive lineman Marco Rivera hopes to play this week even though his neck was so stiff and sore Tuesday that he couldn't turn his head without rotating his whole upper body.

Rivera strained his neck after being flipped and landing on his head near the end of Dallas' 35-7 loss to the Redskins. He spent Sunday night in a Washington-area hospital, but returned home the next day after tests and scans were negative.

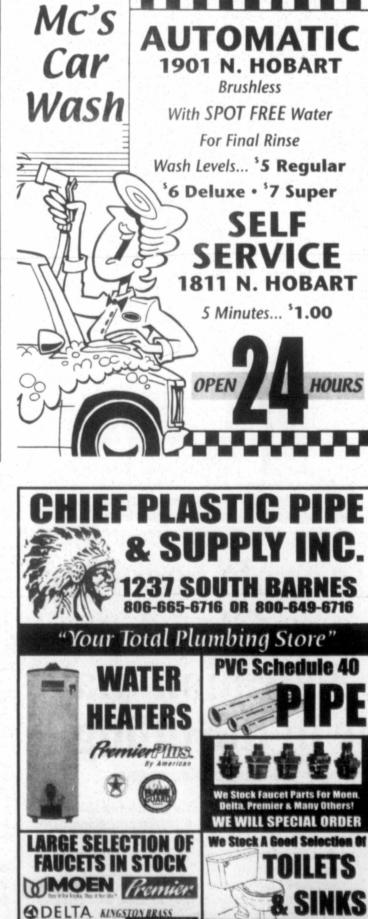
"I'm stiff right now," Rivera said Tuesday, when he was no longer wearing a neck brace. "The doctor said I'm going to feel the effects for a couple of days. ... It's just more of a muscle ache and having a really, really sore neck.'

Rivera has started 113 consecutive games - 120 Green Bay before signing a \$20 million, five-year contract with Dallas in March. The three-time Pro Bowl guard said he's going to do "everything possible" to be ready to play Saturday at Carolina. "I've been known to do

those kind of things before," Rivera said. "I've played with bad knees and broken hands, and stuff like that. I'm just going to take the same attitude."

Rivera said he pulled to block on a running play, and got flipped when a defender went through his legs. He was taken off the field on a stretcher.

"It was kind of a strange feeling, it went down my arm, and had the (feeling of) pins and needles in my hands," Rivera said. "But I never lost any kind of sensation anywhere."



LARGE INVENTORY... HARD TO FIND PLUMBING PARTS

Paterno was hurting the

school by refusing to let go, have had to eat their words. But don't expect Paterno

"To be honest, I really

have never thought that way. It's not my nature," he

said. "I'm not a vindictive

guy. I don't read the papers.

job to do and I realize the

alumni, if they're interested

in your program, are going

to die when you lose and so

forth, and a lot of them get

carried away," he said. "What good does it do

for me to say, " told you

realize the media's got a

to call out his critics.

Honors

Continued from Page 7

"I never felt bad when we were 4-7 last year because I thought we had a bunch of kids that never quit," he said. "And that's the joy of coaching. It isn't 8-3. It isn't 10-1. It isn't 11-0. It isn't any of that stuff. It's did you get the most out of your football team."

Now Paterno is in vogue again. Maybe more than ever before.

The doubters who cried for change, who thought

Damon

Continued from Page 7

SO.

"He always wants to have the best players, and I think he showed that tonight. He and Brian Cashman came after me hard," he said, referring to New York's general manager.

Damon will hit at the top of a potent lineup that includes Derek Jeter, Gary Sheffield, AL MVP Alex Rodriguez, Hideki Matsui and Jason Giambi. The bottom of the order has Jorge Posada, Robinson Cano and the designated hitter (or the first baseman spelling Giambi).

Bernie Williams' defense declined significantly over the past four seasons, although he is expected to remain with the Yankees as a reserve in a deal where only the performance bonuses remain to be negotiated. And while Damon's arm is not much better, the two-time All-Star will get to a lot more balls in the gaps.

Agent Scott Boras had been seeking a seven-year contract for Damon. The offer Damon accepted was the same as the deal Matsui agreed to with the Yankees last month -\$13 million annually.

Damon said Boston did not attempt to match New York's offer.

"A good leadoff hitter is tough to find, and I think that New York just found the best leadoff hitter in the game," he told WBZ.

Damon is the first star player to switch sides in the Red Sox-Yankees rivalry over the past few years, although role players such as John Olerud, Alan Embree, Ramiro Mendoza and Mike Myers have done it.

"We were notified at 11:55 tonight that Damon had accepted an offer from the Yankees," Red Sox president Larry Lucchino said in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

New York, baseball's first team with a \$200 million payroll last season, had a relatively quiet offseason until now. The Yankees, eliminated by the Los Angeles Angels in the first round of the AL playoffs, were overshadowed by the splashy Mets, who acquired slugging first baseman Carlos Delgado from the Florida Marlins and signed free-agent closer Billy Wagner to a \$43 million, four-year contract.

Damon, who turned 32 last month, led Boston with a .316 batting average. He had 197 hits and scored 117 runs. When Myers finalized his contract with the Yankees last week, he gushed about the prospect of having Damon in New York's lineup. "I would put the over/under on Damon scoring 125, and I'd take the over any day of the week," Myers said. "I think the fans would absolutely love him there, just his hustle and his passion for the game, the way he goes about his business. I think he'd fit in great in the clubhouse, even though I don't know what the clubhouse is.'

Central Hockey League standings; Gorillas continue winning streak

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NORTHERN CONFERENCE

Southeast Division

	W L OTL Pts GF GA
Bossier-Shreveport	11 9 2 24 75 65
Youngstown	10 13 1 21 74 84
Fort Worth	8 13 3 19 63 89
Memphis	8 13 1 17 63 79
Northwest Division	
	W L OTL Pts GF GA
Colorado	18 6 1 37 88 74
Wichita	14 6 3 31 93 79
0111 0'	14 10 0 20 00 72

Oklahoma City Tulsa 11 SOUTHERN CONFI Southeast Division

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	14 6 3 31 93 79
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	15 8 3 33 95 74

13 10 1 27 85 79

Odessa Lubbock Amarillo NOTE: Two points are awarded for a win, one point for **Tuesday's Games** Amarillo 5, Corpus Christi 1 Memphis 4, Austin 1 Wednesday's Games Lubbock at Odessa Tulsa at Colorado Austin at Fort Worth **Thursday's Games** Wichita at Bossier-Shreveport

Corpus Christi

Southwest Division

Austin

W L OTL Pts GF GA 13 8 3 29 74 69 12 11 1 25 69 68 10 10 2 22 72 73

loss in overtime or shootout. Overtime or shootout losses are only denoted in the OTL column, not the loss column.

11 12 1 23 70 74

9 13 2 20 62 88

Amarillo at Youngstown

DALLAS DEFENSELESS

Bryant unstoppable against Mavs

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Kobe Bryant made a conscious decision to attack the Dallas Mavericks.

They were defenseless to stop him. Spurred by an annoying defeat two nights earlier, Bryant scored a careerhigh 62 points in just three quarters Tuesday night, leading the Los Angeles Lakers to a 112-90 victory over the Mavericks.

"I was so frustrated from the last loss that I just tried to will us to victory," Bryant said. "It just got to a point where I just wanted to assert myself and wanted to just continue to attack and attack them.

"Even if they were going to send two guys at me, I was going to attack them and let them know I was coming after them and just send a message." Message received.

"He had it all working tonight," Mavericks coach Avery Johnson said. "It was like he was in the gym by himself, working on all of his moves. He got to the free-throw line, he made 3s, he made in-between shots, he just got on one of those incredible rolls.

"We tried everything. We tried different people on him, we tried giving him different looks, and he pretty much outscored us by himself."

That's literally what happened when Bryant left the game, he had outscored the Mavericks by himself, 62-61. The 27-year-old Bryant, who brought a 31.3-point average into the game, shot 18-of-31, including 4-of-10 from 3-point range, and made 22 of 25 foul shots while playing only 33 minutes He scored 24 points Sunday night in a 76-74 loss to the Houston Rockets a total he matched in the first 16 1/2 minutes of this game. "I told them, 'I'll fix it tonight,'" he said, referring to his teammates.

leading 95-61.

"I've never seen anyone score 62 points," Lakers center Chris Mihm said. "That third quarter was something else. He was scoring at will.'

The Lakers outscored the Mavericks 42-17 in the period to break the game open.

The previous Lakers record for points in a quarter was 24 shared by Bryant and Hall of Famers Jerry, West and Elgin Baylor.

The NBA record for points in a quarter is 33 by George Gervin for San Antonio in 1978. Denver's David Thompson scored 32 in a quarter the same season, and Wilt Chamberlain scored 31 in a quarter for Philadelphia in 1962, when he set the single-game NBA record with 100 points.

Baylor scored a franchise-record 71 points on Nov. 15, 1960, at New York. Bryant's total is the sixth-highest in club history and the most for the Lakers since Chamberlain scored 66 at Phoenix on Feb. 9, 1969.

The capacity crowd of 18,997 began chanting, "We want Kobe! We want Kobe!" early in the final period, but with the Lakers holding an insurmountable lead, there was no need for coach Phil Jackson to put the 6-foot-6 star back in.

"It was a 30-point basketball game that point and that's not the s the game," Jackson said. "I did ask Kobe if he wanted to go back in and contend for the (franchise) record. He asked me what I thought, and I said, "It's a 30-point game.

kind of an early Christmas present to them," Bryant said.

Bryant became the first NBA player to reach 60 points since Philadelphia's Allen Iverson scored 60 in a 112-99 victory over Orlando last February.

His total was the highest in Staples Center history, surpassing the 61 points Shaquille O'Neal scored against the Clippers on March 6, 2000 -O'Neal's 28th birthday.

"I've seen a few 60-point ballgames in my time, but none of them had been done by the third quarter," said Jackson, who coached Michael Jordan in Chicago. "His 30-point third quarter was incredible."

Bryant reached the 50-point plateau for the sixth time in his career, and the first since March 28, 2003, against Washington. Cleveland's LeBron James had the previous single-game high this season with 52 points on Dec.

Nobody else scored in double figures for the Lakers (14-11), who won for the eighth time in 10 games. The loss was just the second in 10 games for the Mavericks (18-7). The other defeat was a 109-106 setback to the Lakers on Dec. 12 in Dallas, when Bryant scored 43 points.

Dirk Nowitzki had 18 points and 11 rebounds to lead the Mavericks. Like Bryant, he sat out the fourth quarter Devin Harris also scored 18 for Dallas before fouling out with 3:15 to play. Johnson said before the game he would use "the whole team" to guard Bryant, and several different Dallas players gave it a go with very little success. "He really found his rhythm early, and at that point he was unstoppable, Nowitzki said. "Whatever we did, he shot over us, he swept to the basket, he got to the line and was shooting 3-pointers as well. We tried to doubleteam him, and in transition he plays 1on-4. But if he makes it, there's not much you can do about it.'

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Earlier in the day, the Yankees reached a preliminary agreement on a \$2 million, one-year contract with reliever Octavio Dotel, who is recovering from elbow surgery.

"I feel very happy with this contract," Dotel said. "This team has a lot of tradition, and it pleases me to know that they want me to pitch for them."

Dotel would get a \$250,000 bonus if added to the 25man active roster and could earn \$3 million more in performance bonuses based on games. His deal contains an additional \$2.5 million in bonuses based on games finished, in case he is traded to another team.

He had 36 saves for Houston and Oakland in 2004 but struggled last season with Oakland, going 1-2 with seven saves and a 3.52 ERA before he went on the disabled list May 20. From April 30 to May 11, he blew four saves in five outings.

Dotel had reconstructive elbow surgery June 6 to repair a torn ligament. He hopes to be pitching by midseason.

"What I do know is that it's going to help me to go back to what I like and that is to be a closer," he said.

With the Yankees, Dotel joins several newcomers in the bullpen: right-hander Kyle Farnsworth and left-handers Ron Villone and Myers. New York has struggled to find middle-inning pitchers in recent years, and setup man Tom Gordon left to become the Philadelphia Phillies' closer.

Bengals receiver hints Christmas celebration may be in the offing

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI - Bengals receiver Chad Johnson suggested he has a special touchdown celebration planned for Cincinnati's game on Christmas Eve - one that will top his Riverdance, his end zone putt and his sideline proposal from earlier this season.

Johnson said he hit a deer on a highway and kept the unhurt animal in his garage, hoping to use it as a prop for an upcoming touchdown celebration.

Even if Johnson is serious - coach Marvin Lewis would certainly put his foot down. So Johnson's scheme may never get beyond the talking stage.

And fix it, he did. Bryant scored 15 points in the first quarter, 17 in the second, and a franchise-record 30 in the third before taking a seat for good with the Lakers Staples Center in front of our fans -

Bryant matched his previous career high of 56 points by making two free throws with 1:02 left in the third quarter. He went on to score six more points in the period, capping his amazing night by making a long 3-pointer with 4.4 seconds left.

As the period ended, Bryant held a hand to his ear, and the volume increased even more. Bryant then called it a night

"It's a great feeling, to do it here at

Arkansas State's remarkable season ends with loss in New Orleans Bowl

LAFAYETTE, La. (AP) - Arkansas State's improbable season is finally over, and coach Steve Roberts can look back on it with pride.

"There is nobody outside of our locker room that felt we could accomplish what we accomplished this year," Roberts said after the Indians' 31-19 loss to Southern Mississippi in the New Orleans Bowl the first of the season's 28 bowl games.

"There's nobody outside of our locker room that predicted that we could be in the situation that we were in," he said.

Shawn Nelson caught two second-half touchdowns, and Cody Hull added 161 yards rushing Tuesday night to lead Southern Mississippi. But Arkansas State performed admirably, preventing the Golden Eagles from taking control until well into the second half.

Arkansas State (6-6) was in its first bowl since moving back up from Division I-AA before the 1992 season. The Indians tied for the Sun Belt Conference title and became the first team besides North Texas to represent the league in the New Orleans Bowl. North Texas went the last four years, winning once.

"I am proud to be a football coach of champions," Roberts said. "I am very pleased with the way they represented Arkansas State University tonight."

For Southern Miss, the win was a happy ending to a season of turmoil. The Golden Eagles had two games postponed in September because of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, had to relocate temporarily to Memphis and played nine games in nine weeks to end the regular season.

Fittingly, they ended their season with a struggle in Lafayette, where the New Orleans Bowl was moved because of Katrina.

"We became closer as a football team and we rallied behind each other," coach Jeff Bower said. "It's been a long time since we have seen the kind of emotion that this football team displayed this season."

Arkansas State tied the game at 17 in the third quarter on Nick Noce's 2-yard pass to Manuel Burton, but Dustin Almond answered with a 29-yard toss to Nelson to make it 24-17.

Johnson ejected from game

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Dallas Mavericks coach Avery Johnson was ejected from Tuesday night's game against the Los Angeles Lakers after being hit with two technical fouls early in the third quarter.

Steve Javie called technicals on Johnson and Mavericks star Dirk Nowitzki with 10:16 left in the period after Nowitzki was inadvertanly struck in the face by Kobe Bryant but was called for a foul.

Johnson picked up his second technical 2 1/2 minutes later, leaving with the Mavericks trailing 68-50. Bryant had 41 points at that stage - five shy of his season high.

Knight still an intense coach

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) - It's been quite an unusual 40th season for Texas Tech coach Bob Knight so far: His successor has already been picked, he's off to his worst start in a decade, but he's still got the same intensity that helped him win three national championships with Indiana.

"I'm still coaching. My name is still on there as the coach," the 65-year-old Knight said. "My name's on there, then that's what I'm doing."

Knight, with 860 career wins, needs 20 to overtake Dean Smith for No. 1 on the all-time list. But with a team that's struggling and 19 games remaining before postseason play, passing Smith seems like it will have to wait for next season

After last year's team made a surprising run to the round of 16 in the NCAA tournament, this year's Red Raiders (6-5) are the most inexperienced team Knight has ever coached. There are seven freshmen and one junior college transfer on the roster. The influx of new players and the fact that several interior players have been hobbled by injuries means Knight is off to his slowest start as a coach since 1995 at Indiana.

We've got an awful lot of work to do to be competitive," Knight said. "Forgetting the injuries, we're not where I had hoped we would be at this point."

Knight said he's "disappointed" so far by this team, which plays Arkansas (8-2) for the first time since 1991 Wednesday in Dallas.

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1 Public Notice NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice us hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Noal Hayden Jones. Deceased, were issued on December 19, 2005, in Docket No. 9247, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: De NELDA JEAN BURKE

The residence of the Independent Executrix is in Gray County, Texas. The post office address is: 409 N. Gray, Pampa, Texas 79065. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by

DATED the 19th day of December, 2005. By: Harold L. Comer

State Bar Card 046410000

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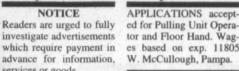
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Dec. Understand that you really cannot con-This year, be willing to revise your opinions and work on new premises. Happy close to home. Detachment and perspective separate CANCER (June 21-July 22) you from many other people in your

errands before joining a pal.

★★★★ You might become a little crazy with last-minute gifts or events. Consider buying a lottery ticket. You find that you cannot hold yourself back. A child or loved one could be testy. Remember that the holidays stress out many people. Tonight: Make sure you have mistletoe

trol anyone but yourself. Let go and become more comfortable. Tonight: ★★★ You're still carrying a lot of

**** You might want to think through a decision before acting on it. You could create a lot more work for vourself or cause a hassle. Discuss implications before acting. Tonight: Handle LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

celebrations are. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

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weight on your shoulders. Do what you

must, but put a limit on what you will do.

Remember, you, too, should be enjoying

yourself. Make special plans with a par-

★★★★ You might need to make some

calls and reach out to those at a distance

Don't forget to stop for a CD or DVD,

whether it is for you or someone else.

Remember the more spiritual tone of this

holiday. Tonight: Do something special

 $\star \star \star \star$ Make time for a person who is

mportant in your life. He or she adores

ent or older relative. Tonight: Out late.

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environment. Travel, meeting different

types of people and/or education will

also separate you from others. Your live-

ly style makes a big difference in how

you handle various situations in your life.

Often, you will take time to start from

ground zero. If you are single, romance

will mark your year. A different social

crowd helps you step into a new relation-

ship. If you are attached, understanding

each other better comes by walking in

each other's shoes. VIRGO helps you see

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

the other side.

 $\star \star \star \star$ Develop a penchant for details now rather than later out of necessity. Make a list and make sure you do everything you need to before the weekend. Your efficiency counts. Tonight: A change in plans or an unexpected visitor is likely.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ Think of a child who might need some extra care or who could be neglected in some way. Embody the true holiday spirit and express universal caring. A partner or dear loved one could be quirky. Tonight: Let your hair down. GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

*** You might have difficulty with others, especially someone who could have you tossing your hands in the air.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ Your good intentions come through with everyone but a family member. You might find that this person is really out of sync and that there is nothing you can do. Give him or her space to work through a problem. Tonight: Get into the moment

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★ News might send you into a tizzy. Not everyone feels like you do, and you get the message loud and clear. How you deal with someone could be very different from how you'd intended to. Try not to get into a verbal battle or power struggle. Tonight: Take some time for yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You find that friends and meetings will work for your purposes. You achieve your goals because of others. Do be careful with money, as you could easily go overboard, forcing you to adjust

you. You might exchange gifts early or simply do something special together. Cement this bond by not taking this person for granted. Tonight: Opt for one-onone time rather than being with the gang. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Others want to celebrate. You might have a difficult time maintaining your share in a project. You are aware that responsibilities come first. Don't break into celebration until you finish your to-do list. Tonight: Just don't be alone.

BORN TODAY

TV journalist Diane Sawyer (1945), first lady Lady Bird Johnson (1912), baseball player Steve Garvey (1948)

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AIRLINE MECHANIC - Rapid training for high paying Aviation career. FAA predicts severe shortage. Financial aid if - job placement assistance. Call qualify AIM 1-888-349-5387.

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A BARGAIN - 75 Acres - \$34,900. Rolling hills, good brush, rock outcroppings. Trophy deer habitat. Good highway access. Easy terms. Perfect for hunting retreat. Texas Land & Ranches, 1-877-542-6642

AFFORDABLE HILL COUNTRY hunting property. Why lease when you can own? 1 800-876-9720. ranchenterprisesltd.com

BREWSTER COUNTY, 176+ acres at \$235 per acre, south of Sanderson, deep canyons and rough terrain, deer, quail, and javelina. Owner financed, 5% down. 1-830-885-4578.

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ALL STEEL BUILDINGS! Up to 50% off. Engineered for Hurricane Coast. Ship factory direct for quick delivery. 24x30 up to 100x200 Call Metalcraft Buildings now! 1-800-499-6401 - Eddie.

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on site. "Down Town" tion Across The Street From Coney Island. 113 W. Foster. 663-0285. Also Apt For Rent.



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National Oilwell Varco Human Resources Department Hwy. 60, 5 Miles West of Pampa Pampa, Texas 79065 806-661-4155 phone 806-661-4157 fax Equal Opportunity Employer

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.

CRYPTOQUOTE

QZJUY	YSAOY	, SZOS	SUAK	RD
ској	BZKI	TKRTFK	ЕКҮС	QKIE
UISR	S Z K	МХІNКЈ	R D	S Z K
		– MCJR otoquote: ISU		
HAVE OU	UR RECOL	LECTIONS OF	F OUR EA	RLIER

.

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 locationsstores, warehouses, rec. facilities. Call 665-4274.

103 Homes For Sale

Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-3560, 440-2314 669-0007

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

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

104 Lots

2 Mausoleum 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.

116 Mobile Homes

4 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home w/ private lot (lot has storage building), fireplace, utility room, walk in closets. Owner will finance w/ nice down pay ment or \$10,000 cash. 886-1248 After 5:00.

120 Autos

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

121 Trucks

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

FLATBED FOR TRUCK 669-2286 after 6:30 pm.

'03 Ford F250 supercrew V8, loaded, bed cap, nerf bars, 106,000 mi. \$18,500 obo. Call 595-0219 cell#

10 — Wednesday, December 21, 2005 — The Pampa News

Judge rules 'intelligent design' not part of public education

Pennsylvania public school district will nation decision to introduce intelligent abandon its practice of teaching "intelligent design" before lessons on evolution after a federal judge ruled that the concept is "the progeny of creationism."

denounced the Dover Area School Board in

design into the science curriculum violates the constitutional separation of church and state.

The ruling was a major setback to the U.S. District Judge John E. Jones intelligent design movement, which is alsowaging battles in Georgia and Kansas.

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) - A a ruling Tuesday, saying its first-in-the- Intelligent design, or ID, holds that living organisms are so complex that a higher force must have created them.

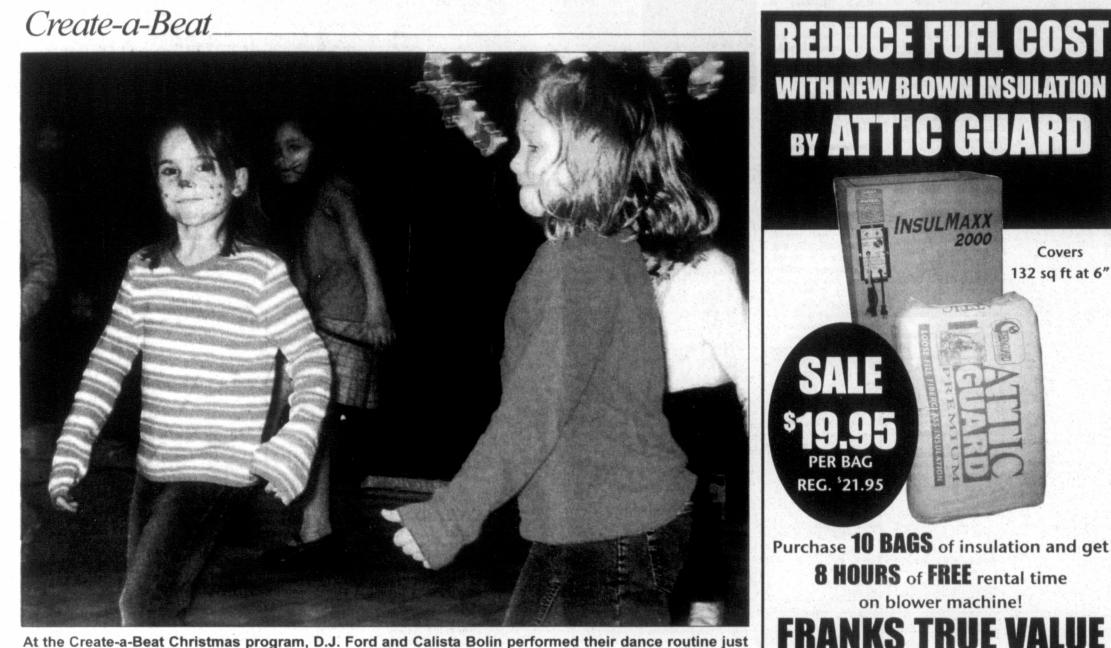
> "It was an effort to include intelligent design and treat it as science, disparaging evolution along the way," said Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. "That will

not stand."

401 N. BALLARD

The dispute was one of the biggest courtroom clashes between faith and evolution since the 1925 Scopes Monkey Trial. It also divided Dover and surrounding Dover Township, a rural area of nearly 20,000 residents about 20 miles south of Harrisburg.

> Covers 132 sq ft at 6'



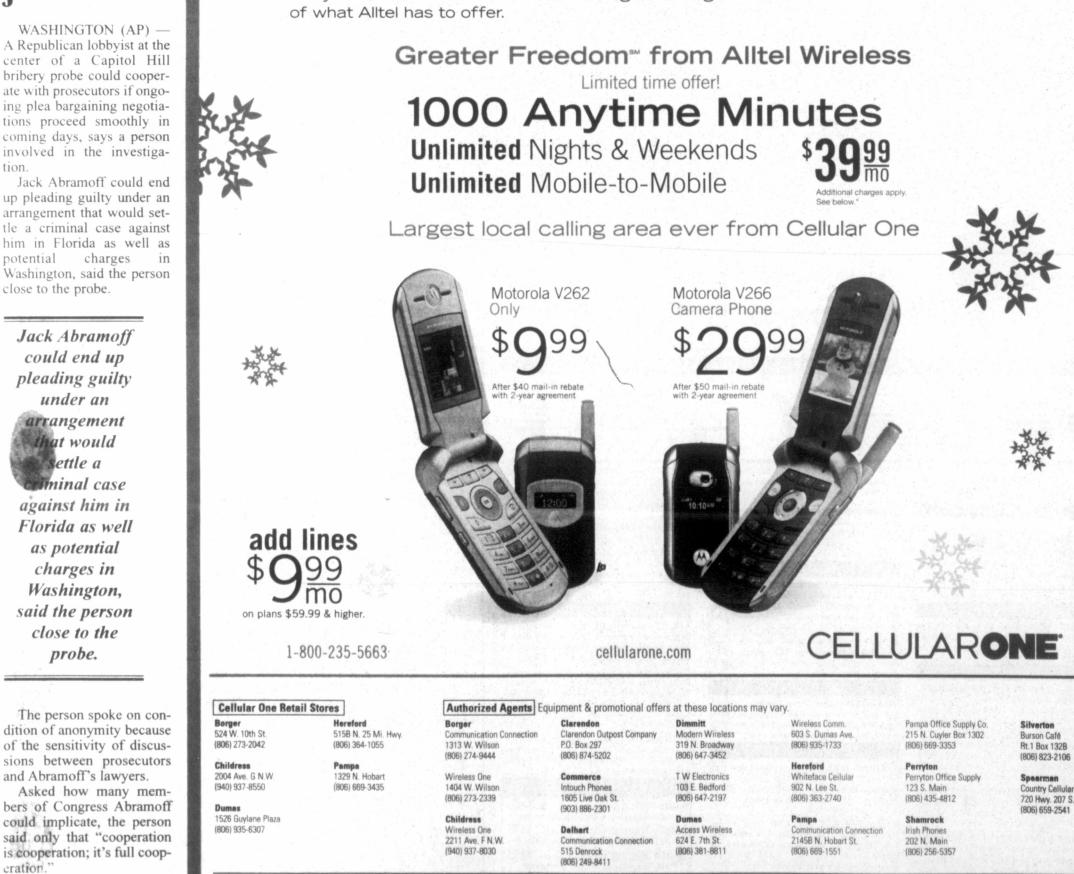
At the Create-a-Beat Christmas program, D.J. Ford and Calista Bolin performed their dance routine just like dance instructor, Mrs. Angi Woelfle, had taught them.

Abramoff probe now at critical juncture

tion.

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out.

An agreement could be

reached quickly, as early as

"the beginning of next week," though the person cautioned that unspecified issues remain to be worked