





## Obituaries

### Services tomorrow

**CROUCH, James "Jimmy"** — 2 p.m., First Baptist Church, Pampa.  
**CRUTCHER, Chester Allan** — 2 p.m., First Baptist Church, McLean.  
**HAIDUK, Adrian F. "Duke"** — Funeral mass, 10 a.m., St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Amarillo.  
**LUCAS, Ann Elizabeth** — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directions Colonial Chapel, Pampa. Graveside services, 2 p.m., Memorial Park Cemetery, Amarillo.

### James 'Jimmy' Crouch, 75

James "Jimmy" Crouch, 75, of Pampa, Texas, died Jan. 4, 2006, at Pampa. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 6, 2006, at First Baptist Church with Dr. Johnny Funderburg, pastor, and the Rev. Richard Bartel, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, officiating.



Crouch

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

Mr. Crouch was born June 30, 1930, in Pampa, where he had been a lifelong resident and a graduate of Pampa High School. He married Kay Lanette Howell on June 2, 1960, in Spearman.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean Conflict, and was discharged with the rank of Sergeant.

He owned and operated Crouch Office Equipment & Supply for 10 years and then worked for Pampa Office Supply and Fugate Office Supply for a total of 30 years. He was a member of the First Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Kay Crouch,

of the home; one son, James Kirt Crouch and wife Cindy of St. Louis, Mo.; two daughters, Candace Kay Thompson of Pampa and Marsha Layne Matthews and husband Gary of Seminole; one sister, Nelda Johnson and husband Joe of Pampa; four grandsons, Colton Crouch of St. Louis, Mo., Ryan Thompson of Pampa, Cody Matthews of Lubbock, and Ben Matthews of Austin; one granddaughter, Lindsey Thompson of Pampa; three nieces, Beth Johnson, Cindy Blackman, and Cathy Glade; two nephews, Brad Johnson and Dan Dear; and one

sister-in-law, Pat Dear and husband Ed of Spearman. He was preceded in death by his parents, James Thomas and Emma Elizabeth Crouch. The family requests memorials be to Alzheimer's Research in care of Alzheimer's Association, 1400 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, TX 79106, or First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 621, Pampa, TX 79066-0621.

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

He was preceded in death by his parents, James Thomas and Emma Elizabeth Crouch.

The family requests memorials be to Alzheimer's Research in care of Alzheimer's Association, 1400 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, TX 79106, or First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 621, Pampa, TX 79066-0621.

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

### Adrian F. 'Duke' Haiduk, 80

Adrian F. 'Duke' Haiduk, 80 age 80 (1925) died Jan. 3, 2006, in Amarillo.

Rosary services will be held today, Thursday, Jan. 5th at 7 p.m. in Schooler Funeral Home Brentwood Chapel.

Funeral mass will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 6th at St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

Arrangements are by Schooler Funeral Home, 4100 South Georgia, Amarillo.

Mr. Haiduk was born in White Deer on Nov. 3, 1925, to Benjamin and Tekla Haiduk. He graduated from White Deer High School in 1943. He joined the United States Navy in August 1944 and was honorably discharged in June 1946 after serving aboard the USS Ashland, LSD 1 in the South Pacific. He then went on to graduate from West Texas State University.

Mr. Haiduk married Joyce Duffy on Dec. 27, 1950. Mr. Haiduk retired from Texaco Refinery after 31 years.

He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church where he sang in the choir, served as a communion minister to the home bound, served on numerous committees and was a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Mr. Haiduk was a Meals on Wheels volunteer, an avid gardener, enthusiastic traveler and enjoyed oil painting. He was preceded in death his parents a sister, Helen Chaffee; and a son-in-law Robert Gist Knupp, Jr.

Survivors include his wife, Joyce, of the home; daughters Carla Knupp of The Colony, Texas, Vicki Haiduk of Richardson, Texas, and Robin Haiduk of Amarillo, Texas; son, Michael Haiduk of Beaumont, Texas; sisters, Regina Hawkins of Tallahassee, Florida, and Emma Kuehler and husband Pete of Panhandle, Texas; brothers, Fred Haiduk of Amarillo, Texas and Bert Haiduk and wife Glenna of Lubbock, Texas; granddaughter, Rachel Cook-Norris and husband Rob of Lubbock, Texas; and grandsons, Nathan and Travis Haiduk of Beaumont, Texas.

The family suggests memorials be to Bivins Memorial Nursing Home, 1001 Wallace Blvd. Amarillo, TX 79106, or Hospice Care of the Southwest, 1500 Coulter, Suite 3, Amarillo, TX 79106.



Haiduk

### Ann Elizabeth Lucas, 58

Ann Elizabeth Lucas, 58, of Pampa, died past 20 years and attended Central Baptist Church.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Lowell Schmidt, pastor of First Church of the Nazarene, officiating.

Graveside services are scheduled at 2 p.m. Friday in Memorial Park Cemetery in Amarillo with the Rev. Jerry Thomas, pastor of North Beacon Church of the Nazarene of Amarillo, officiating.

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

Mrs. Lucas was born April 26, 1947, at Plainview. She had lived in Pampa for the

Survivors include a daughter, Anna Kathleen Kane of Pampa; two sons, Troy Allen Lucas and Ricky Joe Lucas, both of Amarillo; her mother, Elizabeth Broutherton of Pampa; an ex-husband, Billy Joe Lucas of Amarillo; nine grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The family requests memorials be to Coronado Healthcare Center, 1504 W. Kentucky, Pampa, TX 79065 or to Meredith House, 812 W. 25th, Pampa, TX 79065.

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



Lucas

## Stamp

Continued from Page 1

stamps for those services arrive.

The first-class rate change is from the current rate of 37 cents to the new rate of 39 cents. A 39-cent first-class stamp currently available shows the Statue of Liberty in front of a U.S. flag.

Two-cent stamps currently available include an illustration of a Navajo silver and turquoise necklace.

The Pampa post office has two designs of the 39-cent stamps in the books of 20, costing \$7.80. The new

first-class stamps are also available at customer service windows in sheets and in rolls of 100.

"They've been on sale here for three weeks now," Baggett said of the 39-cent stamps.

The Pampa post office has experienced a higher-than-normal volume of mail in recent days, probably in anticipation of the rate change, Baggett said. Increased activity at the post office is expected to continue early next week due to customers buying the new stamps, she said.

Postage may also be purchased online at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com) or by calling 1-800-STAMP24.

## Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Abtebury Grain of White Deer:

Wheat ..... 3.49  
 Milo ..... 3.00  
 Corn ..... 3.99  
 Soybeans ..... 5.19

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

OXY ..... 84.05 -0.90  
 BP PLC ADR ..... 66.99 +0.14  
 Cabot Corp ..... 36.76 -0.11

Celanese ..... 19.61 -0.19  
 Cabot Oil Gas ..... 46.93 -1.73  
 Coca Cola ..... 40.88 +0.06  
 VLO ..... 54.40 -0.51  
 HAL ..... 65.08 -1.04  
 TRI ..... 39.79 +0.24  
 KMI ..... 93.61 -0.78  
 XCEL ..... 18.63 -0.03  
 Kerr McGee ..... 92.98 -1.76  
 XOM ..... 58.45 -0.12  
 Nat'l Oilwell ..... 68.61 -1.23  
 Limited ..... 22.74 +0.69  
 Williams ..... 23.73 -0.32  
 MCD ..... 33.90 +0.08  
 Atmos ..... 26.62 -0.13

Pioneer Nat. .... 52.88 -0.93  
 ICP ..... 56.33 -0.90  
 COP ..... 59.65 -0.35  
 SLB ..... 103.97 -0.77  
 Tenneco ..... 20.36 +0.19  
 CVX ..... 58.58 -0.33  
 Wal-Mart ..... 46.07 -0.27  
 OKE ..... 27.61 -0.05  
 NS Grp ..... 44.21 -0.77

New York Gold ..... 534.30  
 Silver ..... 9.13  
 West Texas Crude ..... 63.42

## Tour

Continued from Page 1

2003, and went into effect Jan. 1. Beneficiaries eligible for Medicare Parts A or enrolled in Part B can join a prescription drug plan, but will not be automatically enrolled. They must select a drug plan (either stand-alone or integrated with a Medicare health plan or Private Fee-for-Service Plan), have a retiree or union plan with equivalent prescription drug benefits or a new Medicare supplement plan with equivalent prescription drug benefits.

"These changes mark the biggest transformation Medicare has ever undergone in its 50-year history," said George Smith, M.D., president of Senior Products for Humana's Southwest Region which includes Texas, New Mexico and Colorado. "While it is very exciting, we know it can also be confusing for beneficiaries. Through our RV tour, we are able to help people

with Medicare better understand what decisions they need to make."

The RVs will visit approximately 500 Wal-Mart, Sam's Club and Neighborhood stores as well as senior and community centers across the country. Visitors will receive CMS-approved literature. They can take advantage of free consultations providing information about the new changes in Medicare, important dates leading up to the enrollment process, steps they need to follow to prepare for enrollment choices and numbers to call for additional information.

"Helping educate people with Medicare about the changes they will be facing with their prescription drug options is a priority at Humana," Smith said. "We know from our 20 years of experience in Medicare that the more people understand their benefit options, the better they will choose and use their benefits. The RV tour provides a unique opportunity for us to meet people where they are in their communities and personally address any questions or concerns they may have."

Humana Inc., headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky, is one of the nation's largest publicly traded health benefits companies, with approximately 7 million medical members. Humana offers a diversified portfolio of health insurance products and related services — through traditional and consumer-choice plans — to employer groups, government-sponsored plans, and individuals.

## Emergency Services

### Pampa PD

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

Thirteen traffic stops were made. Vehicle accidents were reported at the intersection of Starkweather and Tying streets, the intersection of Duncan and Harvester streets and twice in the police department lobby.

One burglar alarm was reported. Agency assistance was rendered in the 600 block of East Browning, the 11700 block of Highway 152 and twice in the 400 block of North Starkweather.

Warrant service was attempted at four locations, resulting in at least one arrest.

Welfare checks were made in the 300 block of East Brown and the 400 block of Hughes.

A civil matter was reported in the police department lobby.

Found property was reported in the 2700 block of Duncan.

Lost property was reported in the police department lobby.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported at the intersection of Harvester and Magnolia streets.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 400 block of Graham and the 300 block of North Nelson, where an arrest for failure to identify was made.

A prowler was reported in the 900 block of Barnard.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 2300 block of Rosewood, the 1100 block of Seneca and the 700 block of North Russell.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 900 block of South Nelson. A house window was broken. Estimated cost of damage is \$50.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 900 block of North Frost.

Harassment was reported in the

400 block of North Frost and the 400 block of North Russell.

Identity theft was reported in the police department lobby.

Theft was reported in the 600 block of North Frost. A dog valued at \$1,500 was taken.

Theft was reported in the 200 block of North Cuyler. A cell phone valued at \$200 was taken.

Theft was reported in the 900 block of Barnard. An identity card, Social Security card and cash were taken. Estimated value of loss is \$47.

Assault was reported on two occasions in the police department lobby.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1100 block of East Kingsmill.

Public intoxication was reported at the intersection of Finley and Murphy streets.

### Sheriff

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

#### Thursday, Jan. 5

Tina Marie Selby-Williams, 34, of Pampa, was arrested in the 300 block of North Nelson by Pampa Police Department for failure to identify.

### Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the following accident today.

#### Wednesday, Jan. 4

4:34 p.m. — A 1993 Plymouth Laser, driven by Steven Russell White, 28, of Shamrock, and a 2000 Chevrolet Tracker, driven by Paula Louise Morgan, 53, 1200 N. Wells, collided in the 200 block of West Kingsmill. No injuries were

reported. White was cited for making an improper right turn. Morgan was cited for unsafe passing to the right.

### Fire

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

#### Wednesday, Jan. 4

7:03 — One unit and three personnel responded to Duncan and Harvester on a minor motor vehicle accident.

#### Thursday, Jan. 5

12:29 a.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to a trash fire in the 900 block of Duncan. A pile of Christmas trees were ablaze. The firefighters extinguished the fire and mopped up foam.

### Ambulance

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

#### Wednesday, Jan. 4

9:35 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Pampa Regional Medical Center and transferred a patient to BSA in Amarillo.

10:28 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 600 block of East Browning and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

12:44 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 500 block of Doucette. No transport.

#### Thursday, Jan. 5

2:02 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1300 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

## CITY BRIEFS

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

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# Sharon in serious condition after brain surgery

By STEVE WEIZMAN  
Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM (AP) — Prime Minister Ariel Sharon fought for his life Thursday following seven hours of emergency surgery to stop widespread bleeding in his brain.

The massive stroke made it unlikely that he would return to power.

Vice Premier Ehud Olmert was named acting prime minister and convened the Cabinet for a special session, where Sharon's

line that said: "The last battle."

Palestinians followed reports on Sharon's condition with a mix of apprehension and glee, and some officials said they feared the dramatic events would derail Jan. 25 parliament elections in the West Bank and Gaza. Despite his pullout from Gaza last year, Sharon is still widely reviled in the Arab world for his tough actions against Palestinians.

Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas contacted Israeli officials to express concern over Sharon's health, an Abbas aide said.

Close Sharon associates said they did not expect him to return to office.

Despite his illness, Israel's elections will be held as scheduled on March 28, Attorney General Meni Mazuz said after the Cabinet meeting. Sharon had been expected to easily win re-election at the head of the moderate Kadima Party he created to free his hands for further peace moves with the Palestinians.

Many Israelis see Sharon — an overweight war hero and longtime hawk who changed tack and withdrew from the Gaza Strip last year — as the best hope for achieving a peace deal with the Palestinians. His illness would create a power vacuum in the government and cloud Kadima's prospects.

Sharon was put in an ambulance at his ranch Wednesday evening after complaining of feeling unwell. The stroke happened during the hourlong drive to Hadassah, Dr. Shmuel Shapira told Channel 10 TV. At Hadassah, doctors put him on a respirator and began emergency surgery about midnight (5 p.m. EST Wednesday).

Doctors said they had stopped the bleeding during initial surgery, but Sharon was sent back to the operating room because a brain scan showed he required more treatment. He later had a second scan before being moved to the ICU, Mor-Yosef said.

**Sharon's sudden turn for the worse, at the height of his popularity, stunned Israelis, who had relied on the tough ex-general to steer them through turbulent times. Rabbis called Israelis to flock to synagogues and say special prayers.**

large chair at the center of the long oval table remained empty. "This is a difficult situation that we are not accustomed to," Olmert told the somber ministers.

A brain scan after surgery showed that the bleeding had been stopped, and the 77-year-old prime minister was transferred to the intensive care unit, said Dr. Shlomo Mor-Yosef, the director of Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem.

At a midafternoon briefing, Mor-Yosef said Sharon was in serious but stable condition on a respirator in "deep sedation." He will remain sedated for another 24 hours at least, Mor-Yosef said.

Sharon's sudden turn for the worse, at the height of his popularity, stunned Israelis, who had relied on the tough ex-general to steer them through turbulent times. Rabbis called Israelis to flock to synagogues and say special prayers.

The daily newspaper Yediot Ahronot ran a head-

## Monthly retail sales pointing to respectable holiday season

NEW YORK (AP) — A burst of shopping just before and after Christmas helped many of the nation's big retailers meet their modest December sales goals, giving the overall industry a respectable but not spectacular holiday season.

As merchants began reporting their December results Thursday morning, the complete picture was not immediately known, but the early winners included Costco Wholesale Corp., Nordstrom Inc. and Limited Brands Inc.

"It looks good so far. The results are better than expected," said Ken Perkins, president of Retail Metrics LLC, a research firm in Swampscott, Mass.

Perkins noted that 77 percent of the merchants that reported so far exceeded expectations.

After an uneven start to the holiday season, many retailers struggled in December, as shoppers appeared to prolong their buying even later than in the past. There were a number of factors at play, including Hanukkah falling particularly late this year, on Dec. 25,

and the New York City transit strike, which occurred in the critical final days before Christmas, hurting retailers in Manhattan.

Gift card sales also pushed December business into January or even later; gift card sales are only recorded when they are redeemed.

Costco posted a 7 percent gain in same-store sales, or sales at stores opened at least a year. Same-store sales are considered the best indicator of a retailer's health. The results beat the 6 percent estimate from analysts surveyed by Thomson Financial. Total sales rose 10 percent.

Nordstrom had a 7.7 percent gain in same-store sales, much better than the 3.8 percent Wall Street expected. Total sales rose 10.7 percent.

Talbots Inc. had a 1.1 percent gain in same-store sales, missing analysts' 1.5 percent projection. Total sales rose 3 percent.

Limited Brands Inc. had a solid 3 percent same-store sales gain, though it was less than the 3.4 percent forecast. Total sales rose 5 percent.

### FALLOUT

# GOP politicians warned against trying to limit Abramoff reforms as they scramble to return his contributions

WASHINGTON (AP) — As politicians led by President Bush scrambled to ditch campaign contributions from disgraced lobbyist Jack Abramoff, former House Speaker Newt Gingrich cautioned Republicans they risk losing control of congressional majorities if they try to put all the blame on lobbyists. "You can't have a corrupt lobbyist unless you have a corrupt member (of Congress) or a corrupt staff. This was a team effort," Gingrich told a Rotary Club lunch in Washington on Wednesday. He called for systematic changes to reduce the enormous financial advantages that incumbents have in congressional elections.

As head of a conservative movement based on ethics concerns and promises to curb federal growth, Gingrich led the GOP in 1994 to its first House majority in 42 years. But he decided to resign in 1998 when Republicans lost seats a year after Gingrich himself was fined \$300,000 for violating House rules barring the use of tax-exempt foundations for political purposes.

He said the GOP leaders, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., and House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., need to resist mere "lobbyist bashing" and push campaign finance changes, along with smaller and more effective government.

"If they intend to retain a majority, then ... they need to take the lead in saying to the country we need to clean this mess up," Gingrich told

reporters. "But any effort to push this under the rug, to say this is just one bad apple: That's baloney."

So far the primary response by politicians has been to separate themselves from campaign contributions they took from Abramoff or Indian tribes he represented — either by returning them or donating them to charity.

not surprising given that Abramoff, a friend of DeLay's, gave far more to them than to Democrats.

The scandal's effect on the 2006 election was on the mind of many who jettisoned the donations.

"I wish it hadn't happened because it's not going to help us keep our majority," conceded Rep. Ralph Regula, R-Ohio.

As Abramoff pleaded guilty to a second set of felony charges Wednesday, this time in Florida, officials said Bush's 2004 re-election campaign intended to give up \$6,000 in donations from the lobbyist, his wife and a client.

A spokeswoman for Blunt, Burson Taylor, said, "While we firmly believe the contributions were legal at the time of receipt, the plea indicates that such contributions may not have been given in the spirit in which they were received."

Rep. Bob Ney, R-Ohio, under federal investigation over his links to Abramoff, joined in the rush.

The Republican scramble to shed cash that once was eagerly sought underscored the potential political problem the party faces in this election year.


Gingrich told reporters he thinks Republicans should elect a permanent replacement for DeLay. In addition to links with Abramoff, the Texan is battling campaign finance charges in his home state of Texas but hopes to regain his leadership post.

*'I wish it hadn't happened because it's not going to help us keep our majority.'*


— Rep. Ralph Regula  
R-Ohio

In just the two days since Abramoff pleaded guilty Tuesday in Washington to three federal felonies, more than 40 elected federal officials have given up Abramoff donations, joining a dozen who did so last year.

This week's list was headed by Republicans Bush, Frist, Hastert, House Majority Leader Roy Blunt of Missouri and former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay of Texas, who faces legal problems of his own. But some Democrats joined in, including Sen. Hillary Clinton of New York. Republicans dominated the list —



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# Viewpoints

## Proposed RFID chip may cost taxpayers bundles

Citizens Against Government Waste, a private, non-profit, watchdog group dedicated to rooting out pork barrel spending in Washington and elsewhere, recently posted a story on its Internet Web site decrying the Real ID Act passed, it says, by the U.S. government in May 2005.

In an effort to discourage hedonistic Congressional spending and misguided federal snooping, CAGW has served up a petition with some 5,000 signatures to the Department of Homeland Security.

In its petitions, CAGW is urging Departmental Secretary Michael Chertoff to reconsider implementing the act's proposed new identification program which calls for driver's licenses to be embedded with a highly sophisticated type of computer technology.

Why the protest by CAGW and its faithful members? Well, because the act, in CAGW's own words, "places a heavy implementation and cost burden on state and local governments, especially departments of motor vehicles, taxpayers, and

drivers. DHS will soon set forth specific guidelines for states to implement the new federal requirements, and the RFID chip is one of the main technologies being considered to protect the embedded information."

According to CAGW, 49 states currently employ magnetic stripes or 2-D technology with "minimal identity theft problems." Plus, CAGW says, the current

technology "is inexpensive, easily produced, and many states already use a storage system to keep the information secure."

CAGW estimates that if this new RFID chip is allowed to go forth the cost of driver's licenses will be astronomical, passing on rate increases of up to 800 percent to taxpayers.

"The cost of a drivers' licenses could rise by 260-

800 percent," CAGW reports, "from \$10-25 to at least \$90."

And how much more will it take to upgrade systems across the national board to handle the new technology? CAGW puts the projected cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$17.4 billion.

If you think this monetary price tag too high, then consider how such technology may be used to collect far more than the information stored on a standard driver's license.

"The extensive storage space on RFID chips," the

CAGW says online, "also poses a threat to personal privacy. The government could mandate that information other than that contained on current licenses must be stored on the chips, including health records, travel sequencing, relatives' information, and more. In addition, information on RFID chips can be remotely accessed by unauthorized persons."

How much personal liberty will we Americans part with for the sake of national security, the illusion of "safety"? How do we decide which risk is too high?

**Skylla Bryant**

News Editor



## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Jan. 5, the fifth day of 2006. There are 360 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 5, 1896, the Austrian newspaper Wiener Presse reported the discovery by German physicist Wilhelm Roentgen of a type of radiation that came to be known as X-rays.

On this date:

In 1589, Catherine de Medici of France died at age 69.  
In 1781, a British naval expedition led by Benedict Arnold burned Richmond, Va.

In 1895, French Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, convicted of treason, was publicly stripped of his rank. (He was ultimately vindicated.)

In 1925, Nellie T. Ross succeeded her late husband as governor of Wyoming, becoming the first female governor in U.S. history.

In 1933, the 30th president of the United States, Calvin Coolidge, died in

*'Wisdom is divided into two parts: (a) having a great deal to say, and (b) not saying it.'*

— Anonymous

Northampton, Mass., at age 60.

In 1949, in his State of the Union address, President Truman labeled his administration the Fair Deal.

In 1970, Joseph A. Yablonski, an unsuccessful candidate for the presidency of the United Mine Workers of America, was found murdered with his wife and daughter at their Clarksville, Pa., home. UMWA President Anthony Boyle and three others were convicted of the killings.

In 1981, British police charged truck driver Peter Sutcliffe with murder; he was later convicted of killing 13 women as the "Yorkshire Ripper."

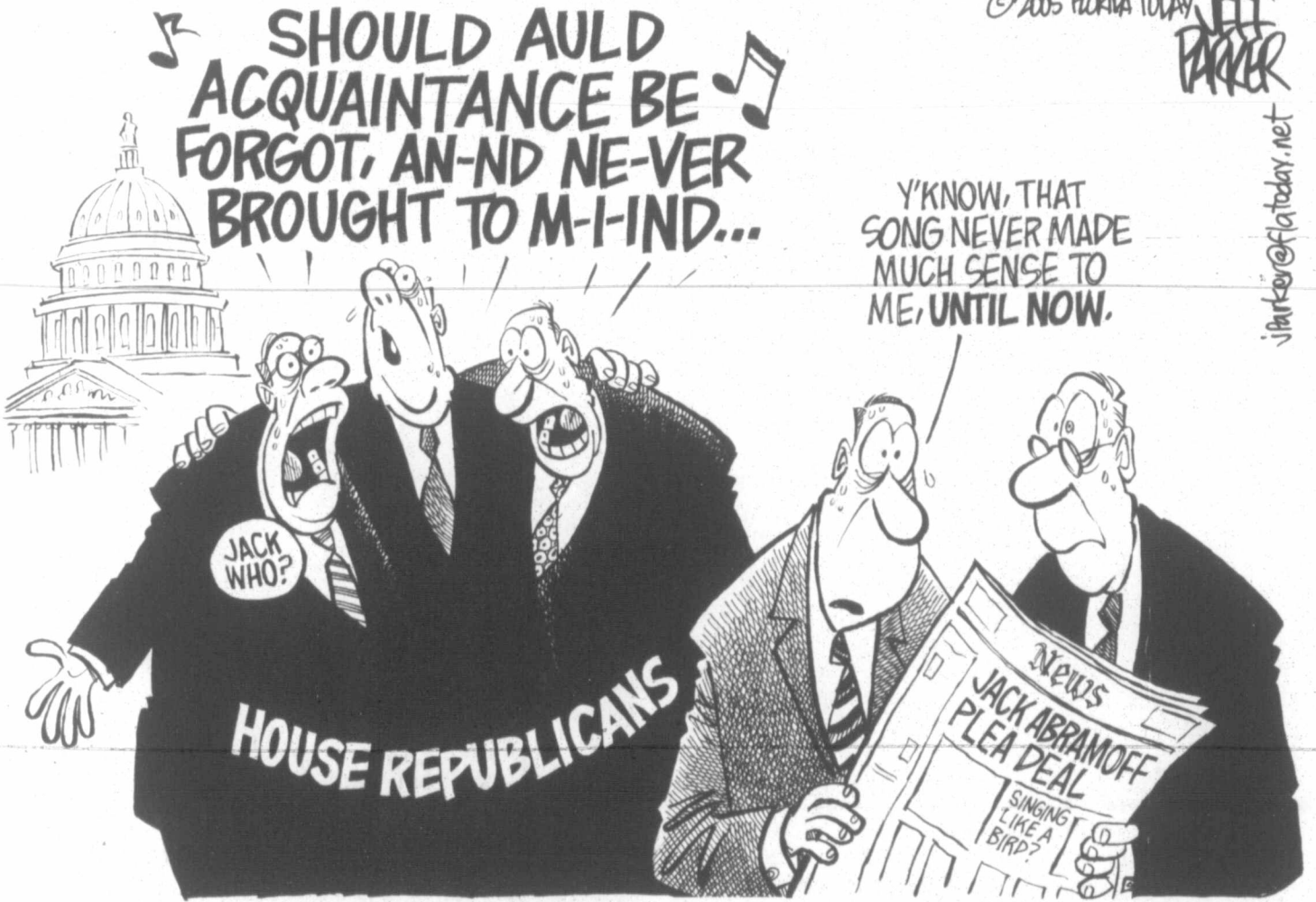
In 1994, Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, former speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, died in Boston at age 81.

In 1998, Sonny Bono, the 1960s pop star-turned-politician, was killed when he struck a tree while skiing in South Lake Tahoe, Calif.; he was 62.

Ten years ago: An end to a three-week-old partial government shutdown was in sight as the House acted to restore the jobs and wages of hundreds of thousands of federal workers. Lawyers for Hillary Rodham Clinton released sought-after billing records that were discovered the day before in a White House office. Japanese Prime Minister Tomichi Murayama resigned.

Five years ago: In a blizzard of last-minute executive orders, President Clinton curtailed road building and logging on federal forest land.

One year ago: President Bush opened a new drive for caps on medical malpractice awards, contending the limits would lower health care costs. The bodies of 18 young Iraqi Shiites taken off a bus and executed in December 2005 were found in a field near Mosul. Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun, a Marine charged with desertion in Iraq after mysteriously disappearing from his post was again declared a deserter — this time for failing to report to his U.S. base.



## This is a list of top seven tech questions

Over the last few years, I've discovered that most all tech support questions focus on a few key subjects. In fact, I find myself on a weekly basis answering many of the following questions. I thought you might find the answers helpful.

1. How do I stop those annoying pop-up ads?

The best pop-up blocker I've found is also free! The Google toolbar (<http://toolbar.google.com>) does a great job at stopping these little windows. In addition, you get an easy way to search the Web!

2. What is spyware and how do I stop it?

Spyware is any software that secretly monitors your computer activities and reports them to a third party. Many advertising sites use spyware to track your purchases so that they can better target their advertising. However, some spyware can be used to steal your identity. To discover and remove spyware, get "Spybot: Search and Destroy," (<http://www.spybot.info>) a great free program. Also

check out Microsoft's free anti-spyware program (<http://www.microsoft.com/Security>). You will be surprised how much spyware you already have.

3. Is there a "free" way to prevent viruses?

While Norton and McAfee control the majority of anti-virus software marketshare, they are not the only games in town. If you're looking for a good, free alternative, check out AVG Anti-virus (<http://free.grisoft.com>). The program and all updates are completely free for personal use. If you need a quick scan, check out Housecall (<http://housecall.antivirus.com>). It'll check your system via the Web.

4. When I try to defrag my system, it constantly starts over. Why?

As files are saved on your system, they are chopped up to fit in the available storage spaces (clusters). To retrieve

a file, your system must put these pieces back together. If these pieces are next to each other physically (contiguous), the retrieval happens much quicker.

Defragging rearranges the clusters so that they are contiguous.

However, if the Windows Defragmenter detects another program opening and saving files on your hard drive, it will start over (as the contents have changed). This can effectively prevent the defragmentation procedure from ever completing.

The best way to defrag is to boot your system into "Safe Mode." To do that, restart your system and continuously tap the F8 key until a menu appears. Choose "Safe Mode" with your cursor keys and hit enter. Once it finishes booting, you'll be able to defrag with no interruptions.

5. My friends send me e-mail "warnings" and stories.

How do I know if they're true?

Most e-mail warnings and stories are false and are started by pranksters to see how "far and wide" their joke is e-mailed. To encourage forwarding, they often tempt you with phrases like, "Send it to your closest five friends and something neat will happen on your PC." Before you forward one of these hoaxes to everyone in your address book, check its validity at Snopes (<http://www.snopes.com>). It'll save you some embarrassment.

6. What's the best way to speed up my system?

First, destroy any spyware (see question 2), remove any programs you no longer use, and defragment your system (see question 4). If your system is still unbearably slow, consider purchasing more RAM. This low-cost investment can more than double your PC's performance, depending on how you have it configured. I've seen many "obsolete" systems

See SEVEN, Page 5

**Eric Spellmann**

Columnist



**THE PAMPA NEWS**  
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## Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ Dec. 26

The San Antonio Express-News on the winners and losers of 2005:

Despite the festive season — which compels us to be generous in spirit, if not in fact — people like to divide society into two camps.

No, not red states and blue states. Winners and losers.

This year saw plenty of both, the winners helping us soar to heights that seemed even greater when the losers sent us plummeting back to Earth.

Some of those losers, like New Orleans, filled us with sadness, while others, like Michael Brown, filled us

with contempt.

But all were a significant part of 2005.

Losers

Michael Brown, the former head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, received one of the most wildly inaccurate televised performance reviews in history. "Brownie, you're doing a heck of a job," President Bush told him. That was Sept. 2, a few days after Hurricane Katrina struck; one week later, he was stripped of the duties that inspired the praise.

During a forum last winter in San Diego, Lt. Gen. James Mattis, a career infantry officer, likened war to a game.

"You know, it's a hell of a hoot," he said, according to the Associated Press. If you detect a foul odor coming

from Jourdan, don't blame the sewer. Blame officials who turned the sewer into a drowning pool. A public works supervisor ordered city employees to drown stray dogs at the sewer plant.

The Rev. Pat Robertson, apparently misinterpreting the gospel on his television show, called for the CIA to "take out" Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez.

NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue, rejecting San Antonio as a candidate to become the new home of the New Orleans Saints, said the league had no plans to move into small markets, thus angering a "small" town with big dreams.

See 2005, Page 5



# 2005

Cont. from Page 4

The chupacabra lost some of its luster when a creature in Elmendorf, believed to be the goat-eating monster of lore, was determined to be a mangy coyote.

To list all the reasons the Texas Legislature makes the loser list would require a book. No matter. All you need is one — education funding.

Pundit Armstrong Williams should have put his integrity on eBay; he received \$240,000 to shill for the White House. He wasn't the only journalist with a PR problem. New York Times reporter Judith Miller, jailed for refusing to reveal the source of a CIA leak, left the newspaper after editors determined her relationship with the administration was a little too cozy. And Bob Woodward, a Washington Post editor, came clean — belatedly — about his knowledge of the leak.

San Antonians did a double take when they realized the wrong Castro was aboard the City Council barge in the Fiesta River Parade. It seems Julian, in the midst of a mayoral race, had a previous engagement. So he sent his twin brother, Joaquin, to represent him.

**Winners**  
San Antonio: With the arrival of companies such as Toyota and Washington Mutual as well as the National Security Agency, thousands of jobs are headed here. The city got a boost in prestige when AT&T Corp. and SBC Communications merged,

making this city the headquarters for the new company, AT&T Inc., and Brooke Army Medical Center was designated as the site of a military medical center.

San Antonians deserve praise for aiding the victims of two hurricanes — Katrina and Rita. Some donated money; others volunteered at shelters. Some even opened their homes to the evacuees.

Bexar County jurors will get a bump in their daily pay, from \$6 to \$40, starting next year.

Local homeless people will get some relief — literally — after the city earmarked \$500,000 to install two self-cleaning toilets downtown.

Mayor Phil Hardberger injected the city with something it desperately needed — a dose of adult leadership.

Throughout the area, people made up for the 20 long months they endured without trips, which had been banned from the market because of their possible connection to mad cow disease.

Relieving some of her desperation, Eva Longoria received a Golden Globe nomination as best actress for her role as Gabrielle Solis in "Desperate Housewives."

Voters approved a retooled \$450 million bond package for the Alamo Community College District.

The San Antonio Spurs defeated the Detroit Pistons for the NBA Championship, giving this town something it has grown to love — a parade in June.

And so ends our list; may 2006 have more winners and fewer losers.

# Seven

Continued from Page 4

become usable again with this simple upgrade. Contact your PC's manufacturer for more information or give our friendly techs a call at 806-353-0004.

7. How do I stop junk e-mail (spam)?

First, realize that junk e-mail is a fact of life. You will not be able to completely stop it. However, the Federal Government (specifically, Congress) is working on a way to outlaw many of the deceptive practices used to send this junk. Until then, the burden falls on your shoulders.

Fortunately, there are some specific, easy steps

you can take to significantly reduce the torrent of spam in your inbox. However, space doesn't allow me to continue here. But, you can get my full, three-page "How to Stop Spam" report for free by signing up for my e-mail newsletter. Simply go to my Web site (<http://www.EricSpellmann.com>) and type in your e-mail address.

I will only use your address for the newsletter and will not sell or give it to anyone else. The newsletter comes out twice a month and is full of tips and tricks to help you use your PC more efficiently. In fact, all of the tech questions above were selected from previous issues. It's free, so what are you waiting for?

See you in Cyberspace!

# Events calendar

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

• **The Kwahadi Kiva Indian Museum** will host the Kwahadi Indian Dancers on the dancers 40th Annual Winter Night Ceremonials at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 6, 7, 20, 21, 27, 28 and Feb. 25 at the museum in Amarillo. Dinner will be served prior to the show. Reservations are recommended. For more information, call the museum at (806) 335-3175.

• **CASA of the High Plains** will host an informational meeting at 6 p.m. Jan. 9 in fellowship hall of Highland Baptist Church, 1301 N. Banks. Come and find out how you can become a Court Appointed Special Advocate to speak for kids.

• **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](http://www.actstudent.org) or by mail.

• **The next Southwest Cowboy Poetry Breakfast** will feature Hody Porterfield and is scheduled Jan. 14 at the Big Texan in Amarillo. For more information, call (806) 353-5617 or (806) 374-4354.

• **This month's Third Thursday of the Month** at Amarillo Museum of Art will feature classical guitarist Svetlana Petrey from 6-9 p.m. Jan. 19. Petrey was born and raised in Russia. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the museum at (806) 371-5050.

# Drilling Intentions

## Intentions to Drill Week preceding the week of Dec. 29

HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Noble Energy Production, Inc., Sec. 13,4,AB&M, PD 13500', for the following wells:

#1318P Carr, 1075' from North & 2500' from East Sec. line.

#1323P Carr '13', 1700' from North 2500' from East Sec. line.

#1324P Carr 1525' from North & 467' from East Sec. line.

#1326P Carr, 2300' from South & 1925' from East Sec. line.

HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Noble Energy Production, Inc., PD 13500', for the following wells:

#4128 Hefley, 1755' from South & 1113' from West line, Sec. 41,M-1,H&GN.

#5625 Keeton, 1500' from South & 467' from East line, Sec. 41,M-1,H&GN.

#4418P Willis 'A', 745' from North & 2250' from East line, Sec. 44,M-1,H&GN.

HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star L.P., Meadows '5', Sec. 5,4,AB&M, PD 13500' for the following wells:

#23, 2090' from North & 467' from East Sec. line.

#28, 1425' from South & 2447' from East Sec. line.

WHEELER (WILDCAT & B&B Atoka Granite Wash) Chesapeake Operating, Inc., for the following wells:

#2 Jones '22', 1980' from South & East line, Sec. 22,RE,R&E, PD 16000'.

#2 Jones '31', 1980' from South & East line, Sec. 31,RE,R&E, PD 16000'.

#2 Hamilton, 660' from South & 1980' from East line, Sec. 39,A-4,H&GN.

WHEELER (FRYE RANCH Granite Wash 'A') Dominion Oklahoma Texas, E&P, Inc., #4 Young '32', 933' from South & East line, Sec. 32,A-3,H&GN, PD 12988'.

WHEELER (WILDCAT & STILES RANCH Atoka) Apache Corp., PD 18000', for the following wells:

#201 Stiles '1', 1980' from South & East line, Sec. 1,—,AB&M.

#803 Stiles '3', 2040' from South & 467' from East line, Sec. 3,A-2,H&GN.

## Week ending Dec. 29

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & WEST PARK Atoka) Chesapeake Operating, Inc., #5 Lee '5', 1980' from South & East line, Sec. 5,M-1,H&GN, PD 16000'.

ROBERTS (WILDCAT & CREE FLOWERS Wolfcamp Dolomite) Strat Land Exploration Co., #2079 Kim, 1300' from North & 2050' from West line, Sec. 79,C,G&M, PD 4400'. Rule 37

ROBERTS (N.W. MENDOTA, S.W. Granite Wash) Unit Petroleum Co., #5 Waterfield, 1000' from South & 2483' from East line, Sec. 101,C,G&M, PD 11250'.

ROBERTS (WILDCAT & RED DEER CREEK Granite Wash) Gruy Petroleum Mgmt. Co., #0606 Bryum, 2300' from South & 467' from East line,

Sec. 6,B-1,H&GN, PD 11300'.

WHEELER (BUFFALO WALLOW A Chert Zone) Philcon Development Co., #2 Lohberger, 660' from North & 990' from East line, Sec. 13,RE,R&E, PD 15206'. Recompletion

WHEELER (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Dominion Oklahoma Texas E&P, Inc., #4 Zybach '65', 1200' from South & 750' from East line, Sec. 65,M-1,H&GN, PD 3500'.

WHEELER (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star, L.P., Hefley, Sec. 47,M-1,H&GN, PD 14000', for the following wells:

#1647, 495' from South & 1900' from East Sec. line.

#2047, 1950' from North & East Sec. line.

WHEELER (WILDCAT & STILES RANCH Atoka) Chesapeake Operating, Inc., #4 Ledbetter '66', 2173' from South & West line, Sec. 66,A-7,H&GN, PD 16000'.

## Gas Well Completions Week preceding the week of Dec. 29

HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Forest Oil Corp., #1148A Irene Dixon, Sec. 48,A-2,H&GN, spud 9-15-05, drlg. compl 10-4-05, tested 10-29-05, TD 12983', PBDT 12877' —

HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Noble Energy Production, Inc., #1222P Carr '12', Sec. 12,4,AB&M, spud 6-21-05, drlg. compl 7-2-05, tested 10-20-05, TD 11680', PBDT 11616' — Form 1 in Patina Oil & Gas

HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Noble Energy Production, Inc., #5530P Carr '55', Sec. 55,M-1,H&GN, spud 7-2-05, drlg. compl 7-20-05, tested 10-20-05, RS 11885', PBDT 11780' — Form 1 in Patina Oil & Gas

HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Noble Energy Production, Inc., #2712 Flowers 'A' Sec. 27,A-1,H&GN, spud 6-17-05, drlg. compl 7-4-05, tested 10-20-05, TD 11450', PBDT 11340' — Form 1 in Patina Oil & Gas

HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Noble Energy Production, Inc., #4113P Hefley, Sec. 41,M-1,H&GN, spud 6-23-05, drlg. compl 7-6-05, tested 10-20-05, TD 11870', PBDT 11780' —

HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Noble Energy Production, Inc., #6801P Meek '68', Sec. 68,M-1,H&GN, spud 7-8-05, drlg. compl 7-23-05, tested 10-20-05, TD 11895', PBDT 11780' — Form 1 in Patina Oil & Gas

HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Noble Energy Production, Inc., #6825P Meek '68', Sec. 68,M-1,H&GN, spud 7-14-05, drlg. compl 7-29-05, tested 10-20-05, TD 11975', PBDT 11896' —

HEMPHILL (HEMPHILL Granite Wash) Cimarex Energy Co., #1170 Hobart Ranch, Sec. 70,A-2,H&GN, spud 7-17-05, drlg. compl 8-9-05, tested 11-9-05, potential 2356 MCF, TD 12800', PBDT 12670' —

ROBERTS (RED DEER CREEK Granite Wash) Cimarex Energy Co., #1526

Marion Osborne, Sec. 26,B-1,H&GN, spud 7-12-05, drlg. compl 8-10-05, tested 10-31-05, potential 581 MCF, MD 10450', PBDT 10356' — Horizontal

ROBERTS (RED DEER CREEK Granite Wash) Cimarex Energy Co., #7035 Osborne, Sec. 35,B-1,H&GN, spud 8-15-05, drlg. compl 8-30-05, tested 11-9-05, potential 5619 MCF, TD 10500', PBDT 10407' —

## Week ending Dec. 29

HEMPHILL (ALPAR Tonkawa) Mewbourne Oil Co., #1 Forgye '84', Sec. 94,41,H&TC, spud 11-14-05, drlg. compl 15-05, tested 11-20-05, TD 8550', PBDT 8484' — SWR #10 has been approved to commingle

HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Forest Oil Corp., #1353 Barker, Sec. 53,M-1,H&GN, spud 9-4-05, drlg. compl 9-28-05, tested 10-12-05, TD 13440', PBDT 13325' —

HEMPHILL (S.E. CANADIAN Douglas) Forest Oil Corp., #6 Wright '123', Sec. 123,41,H&TC, spud 12-17-04, drlg. compl 12-25-04, tested 10-17-05, TD 7745', PBDT 7596' — Form 1 in Peak Operating

HEMPHILL (HEMPHILL Granite Wash) Cimarex Energy Co., #1169, Hobart Ranch, Sec. 69,A-2,H&GN, spud 7-18-05, drlg. compl 8-14-05, tested 11-9-05, potential 3866 MCF, TD 12800', PBDT 12700' —

MOORE (WEST PANHANDLE) Fortay, Inc., #1R Michael Scott, Sec. 189,3-T,T&NO, spud 9-2-05, drlg. compl 9-2-05, tested 9-5-05, TD 3047' —

ROBERTS (WEST LIPS Cleveland) BP America Production Co., #41 Courson Ranch 'B' 1, Sec. 31,A,H&GN, spud 6-13-05, drlg. compl 7-1-05, tested 9-8-05, TD 8650', PBDT 8570' — SWR #10 to commingle has been applied for

WHEELER (IVESTER Atoka) Sanguine Gas Exploration, L.L.C., #105 Sallie, Sec. 5,L,J.M. Lindsey, spud 6-25-05, drlg. compl 9-23-05, tested 10-15-05, TD 16400' —

## Plugged Wells

### Week ending Dec. 29

GRAY (PANHANDLE) Caldwell Production Co., #1108 Pampa Unit, 335' from South & 1150' from East Lease line, Sec. 126,3,I&GN, spud unknown, plugged 12-13-05, TD 3286' (oil)

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) C&C Oil Producers, Gulf Pan-Cline-Fee, Sec. 40,V, E.V. Hedgecoke (oil) — Form 1 in Gulf Oil, for the following wells:

#2, 330' from North & East Lease line, spud 8-12-26, plugged 11-16-05, TD 3020' —

#4, 660' from North & West Lease line, spud 7-3-40, plugged 12-5-05, TD 3009' —

#5, 330' from South & 1190' from East Lease line, spud 3-21-46, plugged 11-22-05 —

#7, 660' from North & 1593' from West Lease line, spud 5-21-69, plugged 12-13-05 —

#8, 628' from South & 2253' from East Lease line, spud 8-30-69, plugged 12-16-05 —

# Gray County awarded funds from National Board Program

Pampa United Way announced that Gray County has been chosen to receive federal funds in the amount of \$10,476 through the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program.

The national board is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from The Salvation Army, the American Red Cross, the United Jewish Communities, Catholic Charities, USA, the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the

U.S.A., and the United Way of America.

A local board is charged with distributing funds appropriated by Congress to augment existing food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

The local board will determine how the funds are to be distributed among the county's emergency food and shelter programs. This board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive funds available under this phase of the program.

The local board is com-

prised of the following individuals, organizations and agencies: Pampa United Way, Gray County judge, Ministerial Associations, City of Pampa representative, The Salvation Army, Pampa Meals on Wheels, Good Samaritan Christian Services, Southside Senior Citizens Center, Tralee Crisis Center and Harvest House.

Under the terms of the grant, local agencies singled out for funding must:

— be private voluntary non-profits or units of gov-

ernment; — have an accounting system;

— practice nondiscrimination;

— have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs; and

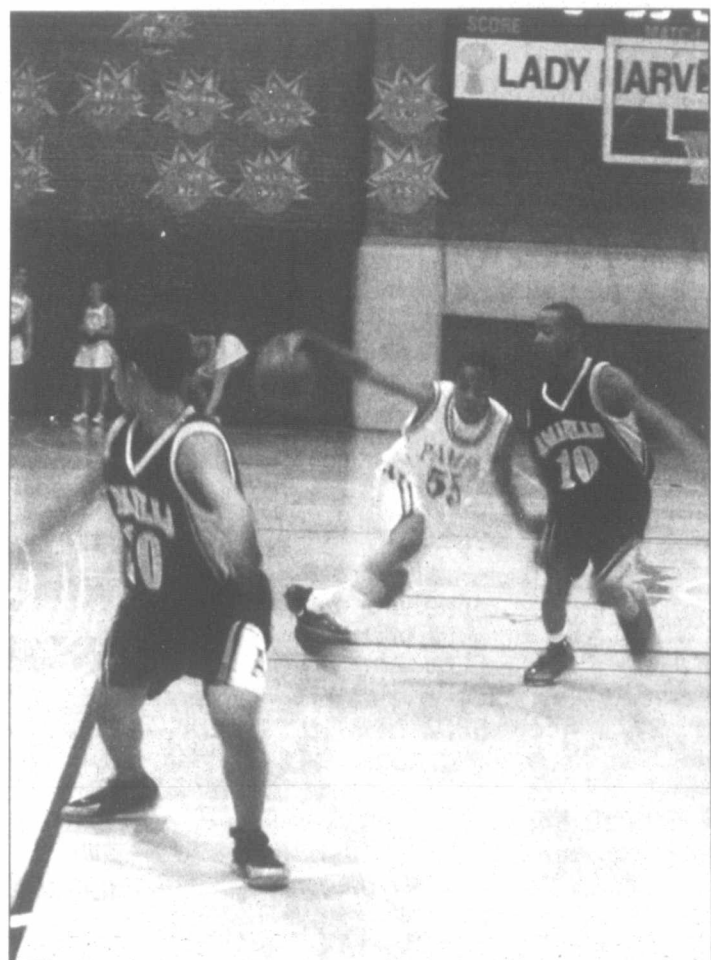
— have a voluntary board if they are a private voluntary entity.

All qualifying agencies are urged to apply. To apply or for more information, contact Katrina Bigham of the local United Way at 669-1001.



# Sports Day

## Ball control



Pampa News photo by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Trent Young (white) splits a pair of Sandie players as he crosses the timeline Tuesday night. Young and his teammates will compete in the Perryton JV Tournament which got under way today.

### PAMPA IN ACTION

## PJHS basketball team in Perryton; wrestlers travel to Hereford

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS  
Sports Editor

#### Basketball

The Pampa Junior High School 7th and 8th grade basketball teams will host Westover Park this afternoon. Game times are 5 p.m. for the 7th grade A-team and the 8th grade B-team. The 7th grade B-team and 8th grade A-team games will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The Pampa junior varsity team will take part in the Perryton JV Tournament which began today and will last through Saturday. Game times were unavailable.

#### Wrestling

The Pampa Junior High School wrestling team will travel to Hereford today to compete in the Hereford Junior High Tournament.

The PHS varsity team will be in Hereford Friday and Saturday to take part in the Hereford Rumble.

## Maxwell, Covalt, McGuire and Haynes take scramble

Senior Scramble  
Hidden Hills  
Golf Course  
Jan. 4, 2006

1st Place (60)  
Eldon Maxwell  
Ray Covalt  
John McGuire  
Waldon Haynes

2nd Place (61)  
Bill King

Jim Bridges  
Jack Davis  
Buddy Briley

3rd Place (62)  
Jim Brashears  
O.K. Lee  
Howard Musgrave  
Richard Abbott

Closes to the Pin  
Jim Cantrell (No. 6)  
Jerry Davis (No. 15)

## Bush calls Mack Brown to congratulate 'Horns

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush on Thursday called Texas coach Mack Brown to congratulate the Longhorns on their dramatic Rose Bowl win.

"Congratulations on a wonderful moment," he said, according to press secretary Scott McClellan. "Tell the team congratulations, we're proud of them."

Vince Young scrambled for an 8-yard touchdown with 19 seconds left and the Longhorns beat top-ranked USC 41-38 on Wednesday night, winning their first outright national championship since 1969.

The president apparently fell asleep during the game but woke up in time for the exciting ending.

McClellan said Bush wished Brown and the Longhorns all the best, and said that he looked forward to having them visit the White House soon.

Bush is a former Texas governor. His daughter Jenna is a UT graduate.

## Fantastic Five Football Picks

Due to space limitations, moved from today's Sports Day to Friday's edition. This week's Fantastic Five Football Picks will be

# No. 2 Texas 41, No. 1 USC 38



PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — Vince Young bounced on his toes, trying to buy himself some time and searching frantically for a way to win a championship.

And then he took off. With the national title down to a final play, fourth down and 5 yards to go, Young scrambled untouched for an 8-yard touchdown with 19 seconds left and the No. 2 Longhorns stunned No. 1 Southern California 41-38 in the Rose Bowl on Wednesday night.

"Do whatever it takes," Young said. He did it all — and made sure that Texas was second no more to USC and its Heisman Trophy twins, Reggie Bush and Matt Leinart.

It was the ultimate revenge for Young, the bitterly disappointed runner-up to Bush for the Heisman Trophy last month.

At the Heisman presentation, Young had a blank stare and reluctantly clapped after he lost in a landslide to Bush. After winning the biggest team prize of all, he beamed with a satisfied smile, hugging anyone he could find.

On a night when he ran for 200 yards and passed for 267 more, Young capped a performance that Texas fans will remember forever by scoring his third TD and running for a 2-point conversion to end Southern Cal's 34-game winning streak and deny the Trojans an unprecedented third straight national championship.

"It's so beautiful," Young said as he received the MVP crystal. "Don't you think that's beautiful? It's coming home all the way to Austin, Texas."

The Longhorns were a unanimous No. 1 in the final Associated Press Top 25 and won the Bowl Championship Series title with the victory in the Rose Bowl.

"This is what it's all about, 41-38 in the final game," said Leinart, the Trojans quarterback and Heisman winner a year ago. "You couldn't ask for anything better. This was a great football game. We gave our hearts, they gave their hearts, and they came out on top."

The Longhorns (13-0) won their 20th in a row. USC (12-1) lost for the first time since a triple-overtime defeat to California on Sept. 27, 2003. Its 34-game winning streak is tied for sixth all-time in Division I-A, behind Oklahoma's 47-game run from 1953-57.

"Well, we couldn't stop them when we had to," USC coach Pete Carroll said. "The quarterback ran all over the place."

"This is their night," he said. "It's

wonderful doing what we've been doing. We didn't get it done."

After the trophy presentation, Young draped his arms around two teammates' shoulders and the three of them sang "We are the champions."

Later, he ran into Leinart and Bush as the USC players walked past the Texas locker room and greeted each with a hug.

Texas coach Mack Brown took Bush aside near the entrance to the locker room and told him, "I thought it was a classy game. Nobody could stop anybody."

*'It's so beautiful. Don't you think that's beautiful? It's coming home all the way to Austin, Texas.'*

— Vince Young  
QB, University of Texas

When the game was over, Texas players streamed onto the field with the Longhorns' first outright national title since 1969. Young stood on the sideline in a sea of falling confetti, arm raised toward the crowd, and senior tackle William Winston unfurled a big, white Longhorns flag.

While the Longhorns' band blared "The Eyes of Texas" in front of a sea of burnt orange, the USC players looked startled.

Some put their hands to their heads, while others dejectedly took off their helmets.

Said Leinart: "I still think we're a better football team. They just made the plays in the end."

Leinart did his part in his final college game while Bush was less than his best. Leinart passed for 365 yards, and his 22-yard TD strike to Dwyane Jarrett put USC ahead 38-26 with 6:42 left.

Earlier, Bush soared into the end zone on a 26-yard run, part of his 82 yards rushing. He also had 95 yards on six catches — and a boneheaded lateral that swung momentum Texas' way in the first half.

"It's been a great run. We've done some special things," Bush said. "I don't think we should be ashamed about anything."

In a game that produced more than 1,100 yards, a defensive stand was key for Texas.

On fourth-and-2 from USC's 45-yard line with 2:09 left, Carroll gambled. He decided to try to seal the game with his vaunted offense, dubbed by many the best ever in college football, and keep the ball out of Young's hands.

"We knew if we got that fourth-and-2, that was going to be the ball game," All-America defensive tackle Rod Wright said.

But when LenDale White came up inches short, Wright and other Texas defenders jumped in the air and

charged off the field as Young trotted on.

"If you make that first down, you're squatting on the football to win the game," Carroll said. "We just missed it. By what — two inches?"

Young stood in the pocket and passed the Longhorns to a first-and-10 at the 13. After a 5-yard scramble, he misfired on two passes to set up fourth-and-5 at the 8.

The Trojans brought pressure, as they did all night, but Young slid away from it and looked for a receiver. Instead, he found a lane and raced to the right pylon.

"I went through all my progressions, so I just took off with it," Young said. The Longhorns erupted. One pounded the turf as he lay face down on the turf, while the shocked Trojans futilely looked toward officials, hoping they'd say Young stepped out of bounds.

USC had one last chance, and it wasn't a good one. On the last play of the game from just beyond midfield, Leinart's pass sailed high over Jarrett's head around the 25.

With two of the most storied programs in college football, teams seemingly destined to decide the national title this season, the Rose Bowl was dripping with pageantry and tradition. Tommy Trojan atop Traveler galloped along the USC sideline. Meanwhile, big ol' Bevo, the Longhorns' beloved steer, guarded the Texas tunnel.

The Trojans think of the Rose Bowl as their home away from home — no team has won the "Granddaddy of Them All" more often. But a Texas-sized contingent of Longhorns fans turned half the hallowed stadium burnt orange and was loud enough to force USC into at least one penalty for delay of game.

Texas led 16-10 at halftime, but being behind after two quarters was nothing new to the Trojans. Four times this season they trailed after 30 minutes and regained control in the third quarter.

And that's what they did again, forcing a punt by Texas and driving 62 yards on seven plays with White finishing with a 4-yard run that made it 17-16 USC.

Young, back at the site of his breakout performance last year against Michigan, responded with a 14-yard touchdown run, reaching a long arm toward the pylon to make it 23-17.

On fourth-and-1 from the Texas 12, White burst through the line for a touchdown, his third of the game that made it 24-23.

On the second play of the second quarter, Bush bolted down the middle for 37 yards with a screen pass, but inexplicably pitched the ball sideways to unprepared teammate Brad Walker. Texas All-America defensive back Michael Huff fell on the loose ball, and Bush came off the field with his hands on his helmet, shaking his head, looking as baffled as anyone by what he had just done.

## AP Top 25 Poll

(AP) — The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, final records, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Texas (65)	13-0	1,625	2
2. Southern Cal	12-1	1,560	1
3. Penn St.	11-1	1,484	3
4. Ohio St.	10-2	1,428	4
5. West Virginia	11-1	1,325	11
6. LSU	11-2	1,314	10
7. Virginia Tech	11-2	1,197	12
8. Alabama	10-2	1,081	13
9. Notre Dame	9-3	1,019	5
10. Georgia	10-3	994	8
11. TCU	11-1	937	14
12. Florida	9-3	817	16
12. Oregon	10-2	817	6
14. Auburn	9-3	799	7
15. Wisconsin	10-3	786	21
16. UCLA	10-2	778	17
17. Miami	9-3	589	9
18. Boston College	9-3	545	19
19. Louisville	9-3	410	15
20. Texas Tech	9-3	359	18
21. Clemson	8-4	339	23
22. Oklahoma	8-4	329	—
23. Florida St.	8-5	232	22
24. Nebraska	8-4	128	—
25. California	8-4	45	—

Others receiving votes: Toledo 35, Tulsa 34, Michigan 26, Nevada 25, Navy 20, Iowa 19, Fresno St. 8, Virginia 7, Boise St. 3, Kansas 2, N.C. State 2, Northwestern 2, Arizona St. 1, Georgia Tech 1, Missouri 1, South Carolina 1, Utah 1.

## USA Today Top 25 Poll

The top 25 teams in the final USA Today college football coaches' poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, final records, points based on 25 points for a first-place vote, through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Texas (62)	13-0	1550	2
2. Southern Cal	12-1	1483	1
3. Penn State	11-1	1421	3
4. Ohio State	10-2	1357	4
5. LSU	11-2	1281	10
6. West Virginia	11-1	1235	11
7. Virginia Tech	11-2	1176	12
8. Alabama	10-2	1066	13
9. TCU	11-1	914	14
10. Georgia	10-3	900	8
11. Notre Dame	9-3	866	6
12. Oregon	10-2	837	5
13. UCLA	10-2	774	17
14. Auburn	9-3	760	7
15. Wisconsin	10-3	739	20
16. Florida	9-3	718	18
17. Boston College	9-3	584	19
18. Miami (Fla.)	9-3	558	9
19. Texas Tech	9-3	422	15
20. Louisville	9-3	342	16
21. Clemson	8-4	310	23
22. Oklahoma	8-4	274	NR
23. Florida State	8-5	209	22
24. Nebraska	8-4	109	NR
25. California	8-4	68	NR

Others receiving votes: Tulsa 52; Nevada 35; Michigan 32; Toledo 18; Navy 17; Iowa 15; Boise State 7; South Carolina 7; Georgia Tech 5; Arizona State 2; Northwestern 2; Rutgers 2; North Carolina State 1; Utah 1; Virginia 1.

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**5 Special Notices**

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**10 Lost/Found**

LOST: Brown & white male Chihuahua, answers "Sidney." \$50 Reward. 665-8949, or Courtyard Apts. #111 or #122.

LOST orange male Pomernian, 1000 bl. Duncan area. Reward. 665-3150 or 665-2539.

FOUND Christmas night, 4 mo. old fem. kitten @ Courtyard Apts. Call 669-9712 to describe.

**14d Carpentry**

**Carpentry, Roofing, Re-**placement windows, steel siding & trim Jerry Nicholas 669-9991, 662-8169

**HANDYMAN,** home maintenance, Small jobs or you just need a hand, call Mike 595-0219.

**OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR** Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

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**NU-WAY** Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost...it pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541, or from out of town, 800-536-5341.

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**IS your House or Foundation** Settling? Cracks in bricks or walls? Door won't close? Call Childers Brothers, Inc. Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling. 1-800-299-9563 or 806-352-9563 Amarillo.

**RICHARD'S** General Building, Additions, carports, porches, garages, fences, roofing, painting, texturing, sheetrock, Call Richard, 273-2907, 886-0267. Fully Insured.

**COX Fence Company.** Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

**14s Plumbing/Heat**

**Larry Baker Plumbing** Heating/ Air Conditioning Borger Hwy. 665-4392

**14s Plumbing/Heat**

**JACK'S Plumbing & Faucet Shop,** 715 W. Foster, 665-7115- faucets, plumbing supplies, new constr., repair, remodeling, sewer / drain cleaning, septic systems installed. Visa/MC

**14t Radio/Tv**

**QUALITY TV Service,** 827 W. Francis, Pampa, Specializing in large screen and projection TV Repair. Professional Service. Call 665-0010 or 662-0652

**21 Help Wanted**

**NOTICE** Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

**CRALL PRODUCTS**

Immediate Openings •Welders •Painter/Sandblaster 40hrs + wk. Salary based on exp. Apply in Person: W. Hwy 152, Pampa

**21 Help Wanted**

**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.

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

**C.N.A. needed.** Full-time w/ benefits. St. Ann's Nursing Home in Panhandle. 537-3194.

**FULL Time Teller / Scanner.** Please apply at Bank of Commerce, 201 N. Main, McLean, Tx.

**Hiring Company Drivers**

**Earn \$700-\$1300 per week. Local hauling / 5 day work week, day shift. Great benefits. Paid weekly-direct deposit. Paid vacation. 401K. Dedicated tractors. Class A CDLX required.**

Call 806-669-9091

**21 Help Wanted**

**Fleet Mechanic Diesel Mechanic with Tank Exp. & Tools A-CDL-X plus Competitive Salary Great Benefits, 401K Pampa Terminal Call Johnny or Steve 806-669-9091**

**Innovative Staffing Solutions, LLC Career Opportunities**

**Road Construction** General Laborers & Road Flaggers in Canadian, Texas

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**Utility Assistants** Based in Pampa Some travel & overnight stays required

Contact Us Today **NBC Plaza II, Suite 11 1224 N. Hobart Pampa, TX 79065 806-665-2991 www.issllc.com**

**No Fees To Applicants EEO EMPLOYER**

**CTW Brake Rims Inc.** Is now accepting applications for welder/fabricators • competitive pay • 50+ hrs./week • health insurance • paid holidays Apply in person @ 8855 County Rd 12 1/2 Hwy 60 East. 665-0289

**21 Help Wanted**

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

**SIVALLS Inc.** is looking for welder fabricators and lay-out fabricator. Welding and drug tests req. Benefits: health ins., profit sharing, 401K, 8 paid holidays and 10 days vacation per year. 806-665-7111, Pampa.

**FULL-TIME Yard/Delivery Worker.** Must have good driving record. White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard.

**NEED Exp. Cook.** Apply in person at Granny's Home Cookin', 328 E. Frederic. No Phone Calls

**W&W FIBERGLASS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS FOR CDL TRUCK DRIVERS**

Field Labor/Swamper Fiberglass Manufacturing General Labor \*40+ hrs/ wk \*Salary based on exp. Apply in person: 100 N. Price Rd., Pampa

**HOSTESSES & Kitchen Help** Needed. Apply in Person Only At Dyer's BBQ.

**Nurse Aid \$300 Sign-On Bonus**

**Wheeler Nursing and Rehabilitation** is seeking caring, dedicated employees for the position of 6-2 P.M. Nurse Aid (will certify). Please apply in person to Donna Cox RN DON, 1000 S. Kiowa

**Wheeler Nursing & Rehab.** Dietary Position-Nursing Home. FT Cook & Dietary Aide. Competitive wages, exp. preferred but will train. Apply in person to Megan McKinley 1000 S. Kiowa, Wheeler Tx

**TRUCK DRIVER** New Pay Increase! 401k, medical ins. & pd. vacation. Must have current CDL, pass drug test, DOT physical, good driving record.

**BOURLAND LEVERICH SUPPLY** Hwy. 152 West Pampa, Tx. Apply in person 8 am-5 pm, Mon.-Fri.

**WAIT Staff** needed. Apply in person before 11 am. or after 2 pm. Dixie Cafe, Pampa.

**JOB Opening for Assembly Work.** Must Have Integrity, Be Punctual & Reliable. Will Train. Valid Texas Drivers License & Background Check Required. Call Jim @ 665-5010.

**FULL TIME DEPENDABLE SALES PERSON NEEDED** Apply in person at Rheams Diamond Shop 111 N. Cuyler, Pampa

**CALDWELL** Production needs Secretary. Oil & Gas related exp. preferred. 1 wk. vacation, 6 pd. holidays. Hwy 60 West, Pampa. 665-8888.

**OILFIELD** Trucking Co. needs Truck Pusher and Winch Truck Drivers. 806-669-3133, 866-415-4104

**SONIC DRIVE-IN** is now accepting applications for dependable, mature, enthusiastic, friendly crewmembers for all shifts, all positions. Apply in person at 1404 Hobart EOE

**QUALITY Control Manager** for welding code shop. Must be detail oriented, have ASME exp. and good organizational skills. Apply in person, Fluid Compressor Partners, 2538 W. Kentucky.

**21 Help Wanted**

**D.E. CHASE, INC.** 1445 S. Barnes Pampa, Tx. TRUCK DRIVERS WANTED

4 days on / 2 days off Medical & Dental Ins. Uniforms Monthly Safety Bonus Retirement Plan

**Requirements:** CLASS A CDL DOT Physical Tanker Endorsement

Must pass DOT Drug Screen

**Apply in person NO PHONE CALLS!**

**PART Time Home Provider** needed M-F. Must be dependable. 1-800-892-3301, call M-F, 8-5.

**CSR** needed for local insurance agency. Please fax resume to (806)665-4443.

**CERTIFIED Pharmacy Tech.** Full time with exc. hours. Resume to Box 08, c/o Pampa News, Po Box 2198, Pampa, Tx. 79066

**FRONT desk, night audit,** long term. Apply in person. No phone calls. Best Western Northgate Inn.

**NEED Class A CDL Driver.** Experience and references required. Must have clean driving record. Pre-employment drug test required. Apply in person. West Texas Landscape, Pampa, ask for Jeff.

**TIG Welder** with RIG. Stainless and Carbon. X-Ray to B31.3 Chapter 9. East North Carolina project. 6-8 months. Drug test. Call 318-614-9167.

**JANITORIAL** help wanted cleaning local grocery store. Call 806-681-1626.

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

**60 Household** REFRIGERATOR/Freezer. Whirlpool, atm. mod. side by side, clean. \$175. Call 665-9337.

**OVERSTOCK** on All Mattress Sets Smooth Top 1 yr T \$90, F \$120, Q \$230, K \$320 Pillow Top (Thick) T \$205, F \$260, Q \$300, K \$400 806-677-0400

**MATCHING** Kenmore washer/dryer, works good. Tappan range, 40 in. stove. 806-669-9568

60 in. glass & brass dining table w/ 6 chairs. Numerous baby items. Call 665-7401.

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

**WANTED:** Responsible party to take on small monthly Payments on High Definition Big Screen TV. 1-800-398-3970.

**FREEZING** in Texas? 1/2 Cord mixed firewood \$100. Call Jo 806-334-0652, or John 662-6402.

**2005 Polaris Sportsman** 90 ATV. Great starter 4-wheeler for a child. Great condition. 662-1316.

**2003 Honda Foreman** 450S 4-wheeler w/snow plow, winch, exc. shape, low miles. 662-1316.

**PRO-FORM 820** Elliptical Exerciser with advance console to monitor heart rate, pulse rate, time, speed, distance. Can also be connected to home stereo etc. Brand new. \$180. 665-6853 after 5:00

**69a Garage Sales** 1816 Lynn, 9 am.-7 Fri. & Sat. Lots of kid's stuff, toys.

**69a Garage Sales**

**DEBBIE'S** Used Furniture. We buy & sell 1 piece or complete house. 903 S. Main, Borger, 273-2905, 886-0268 Tues-Sat.

**STORE CLOSING SALE** (due to parents are ill) All merchandise, fixtures decorations up to 50% off Spoiled By Right 302 W Foster 665-0990 10:30 AM - 5:30 PM

**77 Livest/Equip.** FREE FISH For Pond, Lake, & Tank Stocking. ONE WEEK ONLY 10", 12", 14", 16" Larger size fish available for immediately delivery. Due to late summer spawn in 2005, we are stuck with over 10 million 10"-16" fish that we must place somewhere, somehow, during the next 10 days, in order to make room for our smaller fish!!! OUR LOSS IS YOUR GAIN.

We just have too many fish to eat, and we can't afford to feed them all until early summer when early market is better!!! You may pick and choose from: Channel Catfish, Bass, Black Crappie, Hybrid Bluegill, Coppernose Bluegill, Redear, or Triploid Grass Carp!!! FREE Delivery Too. All Fish Are Delivered Direct To Your Pond, Lake, or Tank!!! All Fish Are Guaranteed To Live, Thrive & Reproduce.

**NOW** is the perfect time of the year to stock for early spring fishing! All fish are big enough to catch & eat in 60-90 days. Let us turn your pond or lake into a trophy fishing hole!!! HELP US... And Help Yourself.

**No Limit, No Minimum.** Will stock any size pond, lake, or tank. Call Today. Arkla-Texoma Fish Hatchery, Lonoke, Arkansas. Phone: 1-501-538-1261

**98 Unfurn. Houses** PICK UP rental list from Gray Box on front porch of 125 S. Houston, Pampa. Update each Fri.

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

**DUPLEX:** 3 bdr., 2 ba., fireplace, double gar. \$695 mo., \$350 dep. Call 665-5315 or 665-4726.

2 br., gar., work shop, lrg basement for extra bedroom. \$500 mo. 662-7557

2BR., 1ba., ch/a, siding, storm windows. 236 Henry, and only \$400 per month. Call 665-1665.

**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.

**DOWNTOWN** Building for Sale or Lease. 3 offices with bathrooms & lots of storage. Apt. with kitchen & bathroom, central heat/air, rear garage & storage. Call 665-6035 or 663-0285.

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

129 Walnut Drive, "Walnut Creek" Home. 3 br., 3 b., 4 c g; storm cellar; more.

By appt. 868-6971 Lorene Paris or 665-3761 Shed Realty

2 br., gar., work shop, lrg basement for extra bedroom. OWC. 662-7557

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

**MAD?** Banks don't give house loans due to credit problems, I do! LR Kirk Homeland Mortgages (254)947-4475

**OWNER** Finance, 612 N. Wells, 3 bdr., 1 ba. Down paym negotiable. \$450 mo. 669-3065, 662-7828.

**Beautifully** furn. 1 bdrs. starting at \$360. We pay gas & water, you pay elec. 6 mo. leases. Pool & laundry on site. Caprock Apts. 1601 W. Somerville 665-7149 Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5:30 Sat. 10-4

**Owner Will Finance** Low Down Low Monthly 1129 Juniper. 3br., 1ba., ch/a, fp., Tile & Carpet Floors Call Milton (806)790-0827

**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 Janie Lewis Broker, 665-3458.

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

**120 Autos** 2002 Chev. Suburban Z71 pkg., 4x4, quad leather seats, cd & cassette, power, 60,000 miles. Light hail damage to hood, \$19,000. Jason Abraham 323-8260 or 323-2700.

'00 Honda Accord Ex 2 door coupe. Red 81k mi. New tires. Exc. cond. \$11,950. Alt. 5, 826-5809



**NATIONAL OILWELL VARCO**

In order to keep up with our increasing demand for oilfield services, National Oilwell Varco's Service Dept. is looking for welders, shop mechanics, and field service employees. If you have mechanical, pneumatic, or hydraulic repair skills, or are trainable in these areas, and are looking for a company that offers a positive work environment, a great benefit package with retirement, paid holidays, vacation, and uniforms, fax resume to 806/669-9825 (Pampa, TX).

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**PREGNANT? THINKING ADOPTION?** Talk with caring people specializing in matching birthmothers with loving families nationwide. Expenses paid. Toll free 24/7. One True Gift Adoptions, 1-866-921-0565.

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**DRIVER - COVARIANT TRANSPORT.** Excellent pay and benefits for experienced drivers. O/O, solos, teams and graduate students. Bonuses available. Refrigerated now available. 1-888-MORE PAY (1-888-667-3729).

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**DRIVERS - OTR HOLIDAY** Cash\$5. Class "A" CDL. 1 year OTR. From start, get extra \$800 first 8 weeks. Then .03 cpm to \$4,000. Call FFE Transportation, 1-800-569-9232.

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Friday, Jan. 6, 2006: You are full of cheer and happiness this year, though often your mood might not coincide with others'. Be more sensitive to those in your immediate circle, especially to your family and those in your home environment. You will make an investment involving real estate or your own home. Do be careful, as you might be too willing to spend. If you are single, you might be a bit shy when meeting new people. Honor those feelings, because that trait will be part of your desirability. If you are attached, share your vulnerabilities more often. Debate and brainstorm. Both of you should have different feelings. ARIES could be demanding.

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

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ You are a pistol when left alone. Use your energy to create more of what you want. Pressure builds with a boss or someone you need to answer to. Your imagination takes you in new directions; let it. Tonight: Find your friends.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) ★★ Proceed with a plan, but be willing to step behind the scenes. You'll make a big difference if you are willing to try something different or walk a new path. A low profile works. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Your friends help you hit a home run. You'll gain when dealing with groups as opposed to individuals. Keep your total vision in mind when taking action. As a result, you'll stay ahead of

possible problems. Not everyone has your perspective. Tonight: Follow the crowds.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ Others could be a source of tension, no matter what you do or which way you head. Know when to toss your hands in the air. You might need to set a precedent and stay ahead of the game. You cannot get into trivial matters. Tonight: Accept your role in the lime-light.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ Fatigue could play into your decisions and plans. You might want to lighten your load somehow. Avoid heavy physical effort and use your mind when you can. Others inspire you to a new level. Listen well. Tonight: Take off ASAP.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ What might seem to be fun and easy ultimately could cause problems in a stable situation. Know when to back off and do something totally different. What you might feel is an unpredictable approach to your life could work. Tonight: Talk to your pal.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Defer to others. You get feedback from those around you that helps you make a decision. Still, you might be held back by a practical concern. Though you might like to risk, something holds you back. Tonight: Listen to the other side.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ What you say or even think might not conform to what you are hearing. Opt for practical, real facts rather than intellectualizing. You'll come out on top if you work on the physical, material level. Tonight: Make it early.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ Your creativity points to success and/or a new outlet. You might go overboard in making a dream a reality. Curb any wildness or riskiness; it can only backfire. Emotions run high when dealing with a potential or actual loved one. Tonight: Think before you leap.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ Calm down before you cause a problem by being stubborn and bullheaded. You need to invest in a security-related matter. Money could dribble through your fingers if you are not careful. Tonight: Anchor in.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ Your imagination lights your conversations and adds to others' ability to relate. You have a great time wherever you are. Investigate news that you feel could be a bit off. You might need to do this search to convince yourself. Tonight: Out with favorite people, favorite places.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ Friends might have a personal agenda when they make suggestions. When dealing with someone you need to answer to, you are nearly intuitive, if not feeling. Let others understand what you normally keep to yourself. Tonight: Don't go overboard.

**BORN TODAY** Pollster Lou Harris (1921), actor Danny Thomas (1914), French leader Joan of Arc (1412) \*\*\*

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

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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.

**1-5 CRYPTOQUOTE**

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QZU JN INKU, JFUT IQM NMDT  
INKU XZNK JFU IFYDSZUM.  
XNZ JFU IFYDSZUM QZU JFU  
KQBUZW NX KUM. KQZYQ

**K N M J U W W N Z Y**  
Yesterday's Cryptquote: NEXT TO ENTERTAINING OR IMPRESSIVE TALK, A THOROUGH-GOING SILENCE MANAGES TO INTRIGUE MOST PEOPLE. — FLORENCE J. HARRIMAN



# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 43-year-old gay male who has always wanted to be a father. Last night I informed my parents about my decision to adopt a boy who is 7. My parents reacted as if I'd walked in and told them that I had murdered someone. My mother said she was disgusted and became almost physically ill. My father was less dramatic but no less displeased. I have no past history that would cause them to react this way, nor do I have any criminal past (or present) that would cause them to react so vehemently against adoption. I don't understand what their problem is. I know they worry that the child will come with familial baggage and I'll be expected to support others -- or that any inheritance I receive will go "outside the family." However, my blood family ends with me, whether or not I adopt. My parents are considerably older. Is there something I am not aware of from the World War II era that would cause my folks to be so opposed to adoption? I'd appreciate some advice as I navigate this difficult time. -- **TAKEN ABACK IN GEORGIA**

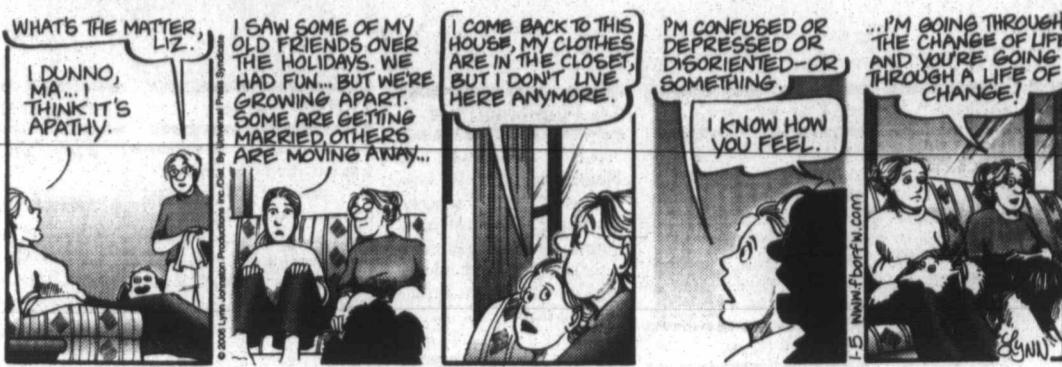
**DEAR TAKEN ABACK:** Your mother could still believe the homophobic and mistaken notion that a gay man adopting a boy means he will molest the child. That would explain her extreme negative reaction to your good news. My advice is to talk frankly with both of your parents and make sure they understand that according to an article published by the American Academy of Pediatrics back in 1994, "Most child abuse appears to be committed by situational child abusers who present themselves as HETEROSEXUALS." (The italics are mine.) Also, "Children raised in gay or lesbian households do not show any greater incidence of homosexuality or gender identity issues than other children." Further, according to the American Psychological Association, "there is no evidence to suggest that lesbians or gay men are unfit to be parents or that psy-

chosocial development among children of gay men and lesbians is compromised in any respect relevant to that among offspring of heterosexual parents. ... Indeed, the evidence to date suggests that home environments provided by gay and lesbian parents are as likely as those provided by heterosexual parents to SUPPORT and ENABLE children's psychosocial growth." (Italics are mine.) Not knowing your parents, I don't know the basis of their beliefs. However, it might be helpful if you were to contact P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) and get their literature to share with your parents. You can contact P-FLAG by going to [www.pflag.org](http://www.pflag.org) or writing to 1726 M Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Please don't put it off. While it's not impossible to teach an old dog new tricks, it can take time to broaden the horizons of people whose minds have been closed for half a century or more. My advice is to start ASAP. I wish you luck.

**DEAR ABBY:** When my father and I are in his car and he's taking me somewhere, he tries to scare me by touching my knee and saying, "BOO!" I have told him I don't like it and asked him not to do it anymore, but he keeps on doing it. He thinks it's funny, but I don't. Am I overreacting? -- **UNCOMFORTABLE IN MONMOUTH, ILL.**

**DEAR UNCOMFORTABLE:** No, you are not. Your father's behavior is inappropriate and a little sadistic. He shouldn't be touching you in a way that you have asked him not to. Tell your mother that he's making you uncomfortable, and if that doesn't end it, tell a trusted teacher or counselor at school.

## For Better Or Worse



## Zits



## Garfield



## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



## Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

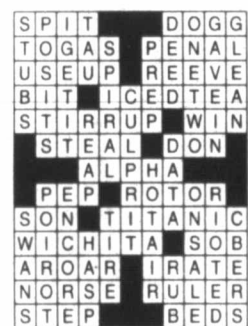
By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS**

- 1 Homeless org.
- 2 Rights child
- 3 Ticks off
- 4 Purplish
- 5 Trunk
- 6 Seraglio
- 7 Apple
- 8 Peruvian coin
- 9 Attempted film
- 10 Stocking shade
- 11 Ice-cream parlor
- 12 A Baldwin
- 13 Seldom
- 14 1998 Wes Anderson film
- 15 Intellect
- 16 Tom of "Papa-razzi"
- 17 One-time Atlanta arena
- 18 Comic Martha
- 19 Important times
- 20 Summer coolers
- 21 Ship-to-ship call
- 22 Soldier of fortune, for short
- 23 Spoil byproduct
- 24 Leading arena
- 25 Lake Turkana setting
- 26 Releases from
- 27 Also not
- 28 Heads to the hangar
- 29 Patchy-barked tree
- 30 Arduous
- 31 Grand
- 32 Taylor's successor
- 33 English counties
- 34 Race finish
- 35 Spots
- 36 Luge, e.g.

**DOWN**

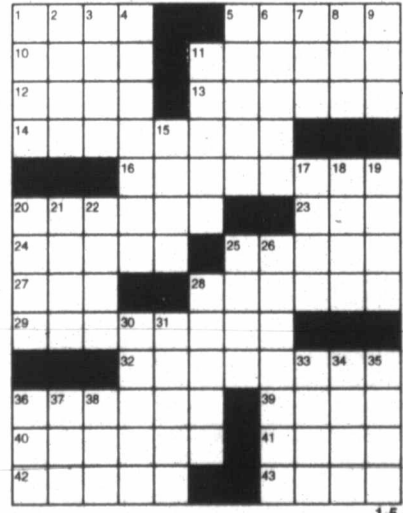
- 1 Erode



**Yesterday's answer**

- 20 Summer coolers
- 21 Ship-to-ship call
- 22 Soldier of fortune, for short
- 23 Spoil byproduct
- 24 Leading arena
- 25 Lake Turkana setting
- 26 Releases from
- 27 Also not
- 28 Heads to the hangar
- 29 Patchy-barked tree
- 30 Arduous
- 31 Grand
- 32 Taylor's successor
- 33 English counties
- 34 Race finish
- 35 Spots
- 36 Luge, e.g.

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## Marmaduke

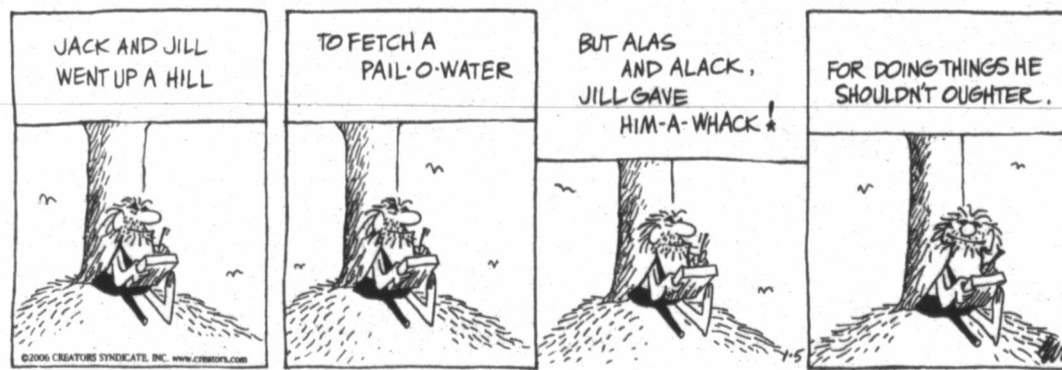


## The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



## B.C.



## Hagar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie



## Flo & Friends

