

Tomorrow's Weather

Record breaker

HIGH 39 LOW 24

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**Lady Harvester** points record. SEE PAGE 7

Rice breaks



See expanded weather on Page 2

# THE PAN

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### Tennessee man arrested here confesses, gets 25 years in death

By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer

A Tennessee man who was arrested in Pampa on Dec. 26, 2004, after a local resident observed blood on his clothing and in his car was sentenced Nov. 30 to 25 years in prison after he confessed to the shooting death of his roommate.

Thomas Eric Holt, 32, of Knoxville was traveling west on Interstate 40 through Gray County when he exited the interstate highway to use the Western Union office at Albertson's supermarket in Coronado

Holt received money at the Pampa Western Union, and then went to a local Allsup's to get something to eat, according to then-Pampa Police Det. Connie Lockridge.

He met up with a local resident at the Allsup's, Lockridge said. While Holt was at the convenience store, another resident observed that he had blood on his clothing

and in the car he was driving.

The observant resident called police, and officers responded. Holt was allegedly found to be in possession of a controlled substance and was arrested.

He was booked into Gray County Jail at 6:10 p.m. Dec. 26, 2004, by Officer Casey Ingersoll, according to jail records. He was also discovered to be wanted on Tennessee fugitive warrants for theft and failure to

A Tennessee indictment charging Holt with felony murder, first-degree murder and theft was handed up Jan. 11.

The car Holt had been driving in Pampa was seized by Pampa police. The car was reported by Knoxville media to be a 1998 Plymouth Breeze owned by the shooting victim, Dewayne Lee Cates, 27. Cates' body

See HOLT, Page 3

### Chamber to hold lighting contest

The Chamber of Commerce has announced it will conduct a Christmas Lighting Contest called "Light up the Night." Any business or residence is eligible to participate.

The cost to enter is \$10 and the winner will receive \$100 in Pampa Bucks. The deadline to enter is Dec. 15 and the winner will be announced at the December Chamber luncheon at noon on Dec. 19.

The December luncheon will be special because the Pampa Show Choir will perform.

The cost to come to the luncheon is \$10 per person and it is open to the public. The lunch will be catered by Texas Rose Steakhouse and the menu will consist of grilled shrimp skewers, chicken cordon bleu, garlic mashed potatoes, wild rice, mixed vegetables, tossed salad, and homemade yeast rolls.

Call 669-3241 to make reservations or for more information.



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Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH

The Blessing Tree at Tralee Crisis Center, 310 S. Cuyler, is adorned with ornaments that list items needed by clients and their children. The public is invited to come by before Dec. 15 and help those troubled by domestic abuse to have a happier holiday season.

### Tralee tree up again this year

**By KERRI SMITH** 

Tralee Crisis Center has once again decorated a tree in their office at 310 S. Cuyler with ornaments that list items needed by clients and their children to help during the holidays. The ornaments can be chosen between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday until Dec. 15. They ask that the gifts be returned wrapped with the ornament attached.

The Blessing Tree has three different types of ornaments. The round ornaments list one item that is needed by the client or child. This was done so a person can buy just one item if preferred or choose multiple tags if they want to donate more. The snowman ornaments list items needed by the local shelter that houses victims of domestic abuse, such as cleaning supplies or gift cards from Wal Mart and United that can be used on a variety of products. The house ornaments list office supplies needed by the Tralee administrative office.

Angie Cortez, receptionist at Tralee Crisis

Center, said, "This helps ease the stress that families are going through during the holiday season. These clients and children are having a hard enough time trying to make ends meet after leaving an abusive environment, so hopefully these gifts they receive give them the hope to move forward with their lives."

Executive Director Lori Covil said that if people want to help but do not have the time to stop by their office, they can call and have the staff tell them some of the items that are listed on the ornaments or they can always donate money that can be used for a multitude of things.

Cortez said that when she's getting a list together of what the family wants to ask for, the clients never want to ask for items for themselves, only their children. She tries to encourage the women to ask for things that make them feel feminine, like perfume or bath products. These women aren't used to pampering themselves, but it is important for

See TRALEE, Page 3

### Schneider House plans open house on Saturday

By KERRI SMITH Staff Writer

The Schneider House Apartments, located at 120 S. Russell, will hold an open house from 2 - 4 p.m. on Saturday. The Cruisers will be present with their antique cars and will

provide rides for those interested.

"We want to invite everyone to come and look around and see exactly who we are and what we offer," Manager Jay Combs said. "Many seniors choose to live here so they aren't a burden to family members and they also value the freedom they have by living in their own apartment."

To qualify for an apartment at the Schneider House, you have to be age 62 or older or be on disability. They offer one and two bedroom apartments which have a full bath and kitchen. All of the apartments have smoke alarms that are connected directly to the fire department. There are also emergency pull cords in the bedrooms and bathrooms of all the

The rent amount is set based on the income of the resident. HUD does help pay the rent in many cases. Schneider House pays the utilities and any repairs that need to be done in the apartment or to the appliances. The only other financial responsibility the tenant pays besides rent is cable and phone service.

Combs said Schneider House is not an assisted living facility. The tenants set their own schedules, plan their own meals and have visitors as often as they like. She said a lot of the seniors who do not like to cook have Meals on Wheels deliver or just go out to eat.

If tenants need assistance with medication and bathing, Accolade and Shepards Crook Home Health Care can come in to assist with those

Once a month, the tenants get together and have a pot luck dinner. They bring various covered dishes and Schneider House provides the

See HOUSE, Page 3



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH

The lobby of the Schneider House apartments is decorated for the Open House on Saturday. This is an area where residents can get together and visit, play games or watch television.



FLIGHT UP THE NIGHT

CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CONTEST SPONSORED BY THE PAMPA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANY BUSINESS OR RESIDENCE IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE. ENTRY FEE IS \$10 AND THE WINNER RECEIVE \$100 IN PAMPA BUCKS. DEADLINE TO ENTER IS FRIDAY, DEC. 15. THE WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED TUESDAY, DEC. 19 AT THE CHAMBER LUNCHEON. TO ENTER VISIT THE CHAMBER OFFICE OR CALL 669-3241.







Partly cloudy

**Mostly sunny** 

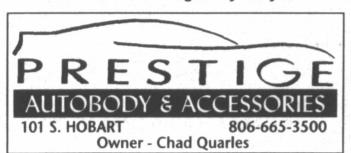
Thursday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 39.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 24.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 52. Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 32.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 57. Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 33.

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### **Punishment phase begins** in smuggling deaths

HOUSTON (AP) — Prosecutors told a jury Wednesday that a truck driver convicted for his part in the nation's deadliest human smuggling attempt should be sentenced to death because he committed a heinous and cruel act of violence that resulted in 19 deaths.

Tyrone Williams was convicted Monday by a federal jury for his role in the deaths of the illegal immigrants who died of dehydration, overheating and suffocation inside his sweltering tractor-trailer.

The same jury began hearing evidence Wednesday in the punishment phase of Williams' retrial to determine if he should be sentenced to death or up to life in prison.

In his opening statement, Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel Rodriguez said prosecutors will show Williams intentionally committed an act of violence that created reckless disregard for human life by not freeing the immigrants trapped in his trailer.

Williams transported more than 70 immigrants during a May 2003 smuggling attempt from South Texas to Houston. During the nearly four-hour journey, the heat inside the trailer became unbearable, forcing the immigrants to peel

off clothes and punch out taillights in attempts to let air in and to signal for help.

"We are going to ask you to sentence this defendant to death for each of the 19 people he killed," Rodriguez said.

Prosecutors said they would present about 25 witnesses during the punishment phase, including testimony about Williams' prior convictions. One of those was for stabbing a person

Craig Washington, Williams' defense attorney, chose to make his opening statement later in the punishment phase. He previously said he plans on calling 20 witnesses, including the truck driver's family and friends.

Before Rodriguez gave his opening statement, U.S. District Judge Lee Rosenthal read jurors a preliminary version of the instructions they will use during sentencing deliberations.

Rosenthal told jurors that Williams' attorneys will make several arguments against their client receiving a death sentence, including that other equally culpable members of the smuggling ring are not being considered for such a punishment and that Williams has shown remorse and can be rehabilitated.

### **Obituaries**

WHITE DEER, Texas --Ernie Bill Terry, 75, of White Deer, died Dec. 5, 2006, at Pampa, Texas. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors

of Pampa. Mr. Terry was born Aug. 6, 1931, in Borger, to Cleo Tom and Cammie Elmore Terry. He was a 1949 graduate of White Deer High School. He married Carolyn Sue Groninger in Raton, N.M.

He was a rancher, farmer and founder of B&B Solvent in 1955. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of White Deer. He served on

#### **Ernie Bill Terry, 75**

He received the

32nd degree of the Ancient Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for Southern Jurisdiction of the United State, being a member for 50 years of the Valley of El Paso Orient of Texas on Terry April 18, 2005.

Survivors include his wife, Sue Terry, of the home; two sons, Tam Terry and wife Shela of White Deer,

the White Deer School and Bebo Terry and wife Board from 1965 until 1970. Dana of Pampa; one daugh-

ter, Tonya Homen and husband John of White Deer; six grandchildren, Shaffel Amanda husband Phillip, and Tyler Terry, all of Lubbock, Carmen Terry Alexandria, Va., Justin Freeman of

White Deer, and Elizabeth Terry and Emily Terry, both of Pampa; and five stepgrandchildren, Justin Homen of White Deer,

Chris Homen and Malorie Homen, both of Groom, Jodi Homen of Amarillo, and

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Misty Homen of Fort Worth. He was preceded in death by his parents, Cleo Tom and

Cammie Terry. **MEMORIALS:** Baptist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 337, White Deer, TX 79097, or Pampa Sheltered Workshop, P.O. Box 2808, Pampa, TX 79066-2808.

-Sign the on-line regiswww.carmichaelwhatley.com.

### **Emergency Services**

#### Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24hour period ending at 7 a.m. today. Eight traffic stops were made.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 100 block of East Harvester.

Calls concerning animals were received from the 1900 block of North Wells, the 700 block of North Russell, the 1000 block of North Somerville, the 500 block of Magnolia, the 800 block of North Russell, the 400 block of Hill, the 300 block of Jean, and on three occasions from an unreported location.

Lost property was reported from an undisclosed location and from the 1300 block of North Hobart.

Found property was reported at the intersection of Starkweather and Yeager streets.

Warrant service was attempted on two occasions.

A runaway was reported in the 200 block of North Faulkner.

A suspicious person call was received from the 300 block of East Disorderly conduct was reported

in the 2400 block of Charles. Violation of a city ordinance was

reported in the 700 block of North Frost.

Assault was reported in the police department lobby.

An arrest was made in the 1000 block of North Sumner in connection with a follow-up investigation of possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia,

and interference with public duties. Theft was reported in the 600 block of North Wells.

Burglary was reported in the 1100 block of South Wells. Taken were a desktop computer, computer monitor, and bathroom vanity cabinet. Estimated value of loss is \$250.

Burglary was reported in the 300 block of Miami.

#### Fire

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls during the 24hour period ending at 7 a.m. today. Tuesday, Dec. 5

5:23 p.m. - One unit and three personnel responded to the 400 block of West McCullough on an odor inves-

9:56 p.m. - One unit and three personnel responded to the 1100 block of Alcock on a medical assist.

#### **Sheriff**

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrest today. Tuesday, Dec. 5

Vicki Broadstreet, 48, of Pampa was arrested in the 1000 block of North Sumner by Pampa Police Department for delivery of a danger-

#### **Ambulance**

Guardian EMS Ambulance Service was dispatched on the following calls for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Tuesday, Dec. 5 1:51 p.m. – A transport was made from the 1300 block of West

7:51 p.m. – A response to a call was made to an unreported location in Gray County.

9:54 p.m. - A response to a medical assistance call was made in the 1100 block of West Alcock.

Wednesday, Dec. 6

4:08 a.m. - A response to a call was made in the 800 block of North

#### Utility criticized for prolonged outage; thousands still without power

Though power has been restored to most areas hardest hit by the first winter storm of the season, Missouri's utility regulators are frustrated that more hasn't been done to prevent widespread outages.

About 99,100 Ameren Corp. customers were still without power today in Missouri and Illinois, the St. Louis-based utility compa-

ST. LOUIS (AP) - ny, Ameren Corp. reported. Missouri Public Service Jeff Davis, his voice rising, Ameren predicted that service for most customers would be restored by tonight, but it said homes and businesses in some rural areas could be without

> Crews had restored power to more than 300,000 customers since the Dec. 1

power until Friday.

Frustrations with the prolonged outage prompted the

Commission to summon Ameren's chief operating officer to a meeting Tuesday. Commissioners weren't satisfied with Executive Vice President Thomas Voss' explanation that the ice storm was the worst to hit the St. Louis since Dec. 31, 1978, and that most of the damage was caused by trees rooted on private property.

chairman Commission

noted it was Ameren's fourth major, prolonged outage in three years. Davis and other commissioners demanded Ameren come up with suggestions to prevent such widespread blackouts.

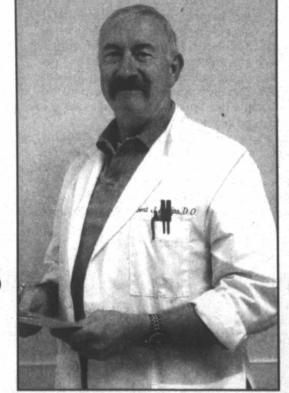
Sixteen deaths in Missouri and Illinois have been blamed on the storm and its aftermath. At least a halfdozen storm-related deaths were reported in other states.

### **ACCEPTING MEDICAID**

"I will open my practice in Pampa beginning December 6. Although I accept various types of insurance, my focus will be on the Medicaid population."

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Deer.	XOM 77.70 -0.36
Wheat	Nat'l Oilwell 66.63 -0.50
Milo 6.14	Limited 31.23 -0.16
Corn	Williams 27.84 +0.07
Soybeans	MCD 42.58 -0.17
	Atmos 32.69 -0.13
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y.	Pioneer Nat 43.62 +0.08
Stock Market quotations are fur-	JCP 79.05 +0.52
nished by Edward Jones & Co.	COP 68.79 +0.70
of Pampa.	SLB 67.13 -0.18
OXY50.50 +0.14	Tenneco 24.04 -0.24
BP PLC ADR68.16 -0.45	CVX 73.86 -0.09
Cabot Corp 41.93 +0.04	Wal-Mart 46.72 +0.24
Celanese 23.00 +0.36	OKE
Cabot Oil Gas 66.91 -0.34	NS Grp NA NA
Coca Cola 48.15 +0.15	
VLO55.86 +0.06	New York Gold647.90
HAL33.15 -0.06	Silver14.03
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KMI 105.35 +0.05	

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### Commission sees 'grave and deteriorating' situation in Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States faces a "grave and deteriorating" situation after nearly four years of war in Iraq, a highlevel commission warned bluntly today, prodding

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best your 688right President Bush to launch a prospects can be improved," takeover of Congress in last diplomatic offensive to stabilize the country and allow withdrawal of most combat troops by early 2008.

"There is no path that can guarantee success, but the

the commission said after its review of a war that has taken the lives of more than 2.900 U.S. troops and grown so unpopular at home that it helped trigger a Democratic

month's elections.

The commission recommended the United States reduce "political, military or economic support" for Iraq if the government in Baghdad cannot make substantial progress toward providing for its own security. Portions of the report were obtained by The Associated Press.

President Bush received the report in an early morning meeting at the White House with commission members. He pledged to treat each proposal seriously and act in a "timely fashion."

He was flanked by the commission's co-chairmen, former Secretary of State James A. Baker III, and former Rep. Lee Hamilton in a remarkable scene — a president praising the work of a group that had just concluded his policy had led to

The report painted a grim picture of Iraq nearly four years after U.S. forces toppled Saddam Hussein. It urged Bush to embrace steps he has thus far rejected, including a call to involve Syria and Iran in negotiations over Iraq's future.

It warned that if the situation continues to deteriorate, there is a risk of a "slide toward chaos (that) could trigger the collapse of Iraq's government and a humanitarian catastrophe."

"Neighboring countries

could intervene. ... The global standing of the United States could be diminished. Americans could become more polarized," commissioners said.

With diplomacy under way, the report said, the U.S. should increase the number of combat and other troops that are embedded with and supporting Iraqi Army units.

"As these actions proceed, U.S. combat forces could begin to move out of Iraq. ... By the first quarter of 2008, subject to unexpected developments in the security situation on the ground, all combat brigades not necessary for force protection could be out of Iraq."

### House

Continued from Page 1

meat. This is a good way for everyone to get together and visit.

There are also weekly activities that are planned. BINGO is held every Wednesday night and different musicians come in on Thursday evenings to play music and they usually bring some food along. Combs said the tenants enjoy getting together and listening to the music and many times get a card or domino game going. She said that some people even get up and dance.

The Schneider House was originally built in 1927 as the Schneider Hotel with 110 rooms for visitors to use while traveling to Pampa during the oil boom. It was the largest and best hotel for many years. Business starting dropping off in later years due to people arriving in cars instead of on the train. So, in 1948, Alex Schneider Jr. sold the hotel and it became the

Pampa Hotel. The Pampa Hotel was in operation until it closed in 1969. It remained empty for almost 20 years and seemed destined to become an old dilapidated building. But, in 1986, Wiley Hicks Jr. Inc. won a bid to renovate the building and turn it into senior apartments. The building was completely gutted except for the concrete floor decks and masonry exterior walls. Over a 10-month period, the building transformed into the current Schneider House Apartments and November of 1987 the first tenants moved in and made this their new home.

The apartment building was sold to a new owner in August. It is not owned by a corporation, but instead by Dan Jensen of Orange,

For information regarding the open house or apartments that are available to rent, call 665-0415 between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., Monday through Friday.

#### E. coli outbreak forces Taco Bell to remove onions

SOUTH PLAINFIELD. N.J. (AP) — Taco Bell today ordered the removal of green onions from its 5,800 restaurants nationwide after samples appeared to have a harsh strain of E. coli.

The fast-food chain, whose restaurants were linked to a recent outbreak of E. coli in three states, said preliminary testing by an independent lab found positive results for the strain.

Taco Bell said that the tests are not conclusive, but that it immediately notified health authorities and its restaurants while it awaits a final analysis.

"In an abundance of caution, we've decided to pull all green onions from our restaurants until we know conclusively whether they are the cause of the E.coli outbreak," said Greg Creed, president of Irvine, Calif.based Taco Bell.



The Public is Welcome!

### Holt

Continued from Page 1

was found on Christmas Day 2004 by some of his relatives.

Holt confessed to seconddegree murder in Knoxville

and received the maximum Tennessee sentence for the crime, 25 years. PPD Sgt. Corey Brown

and Ingersoll were scheduled to be among those from Pampa who were to testify in Holt's trial.

"We found a car rental receipt in the vehicle. We

called the phone number on it and the woman who answered said the car was rented to her son, who was murdered two days ago," said Brown of the events surrounding Holt's Pampa arrest. "Then we asked for the phone number to call the police there."

### **Tralee**

Continued from Page 1

them to relax and feel good about themselves.

Another way the public can help during Christmas is to donate a dinner for a family. For Thanksgiving, the center had people drop off entire meals or the

ingredients to make a complete meal and they want to duplicate this for Christmas.

"Sometimes a group of people can get together and each donate a few items and then put it together before they bring it in," Covil said. "One could donate the meat, another vegetables and someone else could provide the dessert or the ingredients to make a pie or cake."

The center hopes to have all of the dinner donations dropped off around Dec. 20

"We do not want perishables here too soon or they will ruin, but we do want a turkey to be dropped off early enough to have time to defrost," Covil said.

For questions regarding the Blessing Tree or donating money or food, call 669-1131.



### Merry Christmas!!!!

Annual Open House Eastern Texas Panhandle Chapter of the

American Red Cross Invites You

108 N. Russell · Pampa, Tx From 1:00pm till 6:00pm Thursday, December 7th Please come join us for some Christmas Joy & Fellowship!

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# Viewpoints

# Dems' weakness on Iraq Bush's strength

over whether the sectarian violence in Iraq is a civil war or just a question of religious fanatics slaughtering each other, President Bush faces dealing with a reluctant Iraqi prime minister who seems utterly incapable of doing his job in the midst of the chaos that surrounds him.

While many in the defeatist media seem to be enjoying what they see as the president's dilemma in deciding how to force Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki to quash the violence in Baghdad and surrounding areas, they seem unaware that the president can deal with Maliki from a position of real strength, thanks to the Democrats.

Instead of playing the

While the media dither hard-nosed U.S. commander-in-chief and publicly humiliating the chief of state of a sovereign nation by ordering him to do what he must do to end the violence – or else – the president needs only to point out the inevitable consequences if he doesn't act decisively.

What will happen, he can tell Maliki, will be out of his

The consequences, he can say, will come about not because he, President Bush, will take some retaliatory action, but from the Democrats who control Congress and will surely use their newfound power to force a hasty withdrawal of U.S. troops, thus bringing down Maliki's government, giving victory to international terrorism, and turning the entire Mideast into a powder keg with the fuse already lit.

That's Bush's real negotiating strength Democrats' wimpishness in the face of the worst challenge facing the West since h e

Muslims stood at the Michael gates of Reagan Vienna in 1683. Columnist

Unlike the heroic Polish King

Jan III Sobieski, who stood at the gates of Vienna and fought and defeated the Islamists and thereby saved Europe, the Democrats appear willing to step back this time and open the gates in this latest episode of the

centuries-long, never-ending war to impose Islamist rule upon the entire world.

That's all Mr. Bush needs to say to Maliki: Get tough or prepare for the Democrats to get out and leave you and Iraq to the tender mercies of

> Iran Osama bin Laden, and heads will roll, including yours. That's no

Syria

idle threat. If the violence in Iraq continues to shatter any semblance of stability, drawing the U.S. deeper and deeper into a senseless battle between two fanatic Islamic religious factions and cost-

ing us more American lives

while the Iraqi government allows it to continue, the Democrats will de-fund U.S. involvement and Maliki will be on his own.

If you want to cut through the fog of war and all the media disinformation masquerading as reporting, it's important to understand what is happening in Iraq.

During Saddam Hussein's dictatorship the country was run by Iraq's Sunni minority, and they subjected the Shiite majority to the most brutal repression with great enthusiasm, and at great profit to themselves. They were Saddam's well-paid hit men.

The Shiites have long memories, and they are acting on them now, especially given the fact that the Iran and al Qaeda backed insur-

gency with all its terrors is directed at them and the U.S. forces trying to enforce peace.

The end result has been the creation of militias on both sides, with the Sunnis getting support from al Qaeda and Syria, and the Shiites getting support from Iran. Maliki, who seems to be caught in the crossfire. has pretty much come down on the side of Shiites and their fanatic principal supporter, Muqtada al Sadr, who enjoys huge popular acclaim in the Shiite community.

The Iraqi government must adopt a truly neutral stance and go after both sides and disarm their armed militias. The U.S. cannot and should not do the job. This

See REAGAN, Page 5

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### Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 6, the 340th day of 2006. There are 25 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

'Each and every one of

us has one obligation,

during the bewildered

days of our pilgrimage

here: the saving of his

own soul, and

secondarily and

incidentally thereby

affecting for good such

other souls as come

under our influence.'

— Kathleen Norris

American author

(1880-1960)

On Dec. 6, 1889, Jefferson Davis, the first and only president of the Confederate States of America, died in New Orleans.

On this date:

In 1790, Congress moved from New York to Philadelphia. In 1884, Army engineers completed construction of the Washington Monument.

In 1921, British and Irish representatives signed a treaty in London providing for creation of an Irish Free State a year later on the same

date.

In 1923, a presidential address was broadcast on radio for the first time as President Coolidge spoke to a joint session of Congress.

1947. In Everglades National Park in Florida was dedicated President Truman.

In 1957, America's first attempt at putting a satellite into orbit failed Vanguard TV-3 blew up on the launch pad at Cape Canaveral, Fla.

In 1969, a free concert by The Rolling Stones at the

Altamont Speedway in Livermore, Calif., was marred by the deaths of four people, including one who was stabbed by a Hell's Angel.

In 1973, House minority leader Gerald R. Ford was sworn in as vice president, succeeding Spiro T. Agnew.

In 1982, 11 soldiers and six civilians were killed when an Irish National Liberation Army bomb exploded in a pub in Ballykelly, Northern Ireland.

In 1989, 14 women were shot to death at the University of Montreal's school of engineering by a man who then took his own life.

Ten years ago: Stock markets around the world plunged after comments by Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan were taken to mean that U.S. stock prices were too high. Former NFL commissioner Pete Rozelle died in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., at age 70.



### Education should be an explanation

survey of 14,000 college freshmen and seniors reveals an unacceptable level of ignorance about the nation's history, economics and its place in the world.

Intercollegiate The Studies Institute authorized the survey, which was conducted by the University of Connecticut's political-science department. In a random sampling, students from 50 colleges and universities were given a 60-question test with multiplechoice answers. The results were dismal.

Despite being at war with Iraq, 45 percent couldn't identify the Baath Party as the main source of support Saddam Hussein. Incredibly, nearly 6 percent said it was Israel!

Some 75 percent couldn't identify the purpose of the Monroe Doctrine, and nearly 50 percent didn't recognize the first sentence of the Declaration Independence. And so on.

This was not a trick quiz, and these were not poor students from slum schools. phase of American history

It is not a surprise that a Some of the most expensive next to the Revolution. colleges and universities in the country were included, and their students did not fare well.

I think this is a residue of the 1960s and 1970s. If you

Charley

Reese

Columnist

ever wondered where the Vietnam Era's antiwar demonstrators and hippies went, the

answer is to and media universities offices. They were of a mind that it is more important to knock America than to explain it, but education should be about explanation, not polemics or politics.

It's my belief that if people don't understand the South, including Confederacy Reconstruction, then they don't understand America. If you've been taught that it was a civil war, which is a misnomer, that it was "all about slavery," then you've been robbed of the knowledge of the most important Some perceptive histori-

ans have called that period French America's Revolution. It was a clear break from the constitutional republic to a nationalistic

> ment, which became, as predicted, an empire.

govern-

course, slavery was

part of the cause, but no large event has a single cause. Alexander Stephens said that slavery was the question but not the principle. What he meant was that the principle was constitutional government, which many in the North thought was not as important as abolishing slavery. There were also economic factors and cultural factors.

British novelist The Charles Dickens observed, "The Northern onslaught upon slavery is nothing more than a piece of specious humbug designed to conceal its desire for economic con-

trol of the Southern states." A good book on this subject is "When in the Course of Human Events" by Charles Adams.

There are easily more books in print about that war than about the American Revolution, but most of the interest has centered on the battles. Unless you are a professional military man or a hobbyist, studying battles is a worthless pastime. What Americans need to know is what led up to the war and what followed the war.

Jefferson Davis' "The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government" and Alexander Stephens' "A Constitutional View of the War Between the States" will take you through it step by step. Davis was president of the Confederate States of America, and Stephens was vice president.

The point of it all is that to do our duty as citizens, we must know the history of our country and the principles on which it was founded. Obviously, modern educa-

See REESE, Page 5

### THE PANDA NEWS

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### Texas Thoughts.

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

Nov. 26 San Antonio Express-News on major moves by MADD:

Mothers Against Drunk Driving is wisely pushing to reduce deaths and injuries from drunken driving.

The group, together with national transportation organizations, launched a campaign last week to require devices

for DWI offenders that disable a vehicle if alcohol is detected on a driver's breath.

Drivers wouldn't be affected if their blood alcohol content is within the legal limit. And those who are legally drunk couldn't get on the road.

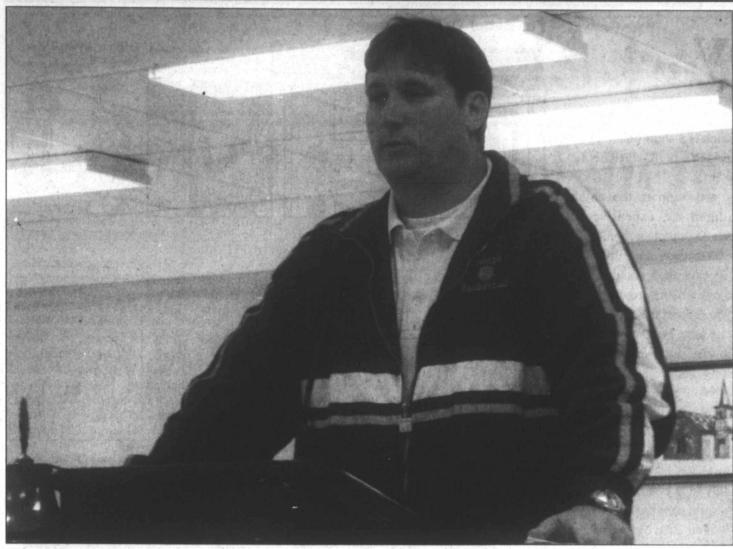
These devices already are required in several states for convicted DWI offenders.

According to MADD, nearly 13,000 people are killed annually by drunken drivers. Many more are injured.

Last year, New Mexico required the devices after a first DWI offense, and the number of alcohol-related fatalities in the state dropped 12 percent.

As the holiday season approaches, the potential for drunken driving accidents increases as people often drink too many holiday spirits.

Don't drink and drive, and don't let others drink and drive. The risk is too



Coach Dustin Miller spoke at a recent Lions Club meeting in Pampa

### Reagan

Reese

Cont. from Page 4

tion is failing many stu-

dents in that respect.

Maybe 100 years ago,

ignorance didn't matter

so much, but our margin

of safety is gone, and we

absolutely cannot expect

to maintain this country

with yahoos who get

their education from tele-

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Continued from Page 4

means turning the battle over to the Iraqi army, seeing that they are adequately trained and equipped, and setting them free to do what has to be done without political interference from the government.

All this will require patience and forbearance on our part. We'd better be prepared to exercise both. The stakes are too high to do otherwise.

In the meantime, let the president

deal from the position of strength the Democrats have unwittingly given him.

—Mike Reagan, the eldest son of the late President Ronald Reagan, is heard on more than 200 talk radio stations nationally as part of the Radio America Network.

#### LIFE OF A TRAVELING SALESMAN

### Durable car goes 1 million miles

MILWAUKEE (AP) — As a traveling salesman, Peter Gilbert has put a few miles on his car — 1,001,385 miles, to be precise.

It took the Glendale man 17 years to cross the million mile mark with his 1989 Saab 900 SPG. He recently donated the durable vehicle to the Wisconsin Automotive Museum after Saab verified the mileage.

The transmission was rebuilt at 200,000 miles and the hood and a few other parts replaced after eight deer collisions, but otherwise it has original equipment.

Gilbert bought the Saab for \$29,000. It was his treat after a divorce, and he took meticulous care of it. He used premium, synthetic oil in oil changes, changed the

tires every 45,000 miles and strictly followed the maintenance schedule.

He drove the car seven days a week, racking up the miles as his work took him through rural Wisconsin.

"When I hit 600,000 miles, the car still wasn't burning oil," Gilbert said. "That's when I thought it could go a million miles."

But Wisconsin's harsh winters took a toll on the car. Its sporty exterior still looks good, but road salt has rusted its frame. Gilbert realized it might no longer be safe if he hit another deer or had a serious accident.

"There was no point in driving the car any longer," he said. "Even though it might have gone another million miles." Medical Plaza • 202 S. McGee • 273-7118

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#### Events calendar

• BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, will host a free "Grief: What to Expect during the Holidays" workshop from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Thursday. Preregistration is required. For more information, call 665-6677.

The **Texas Department** of State Health Services will be offering immunization clinics for vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases. The TDH will charge money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay. The following clinic will be offered: 9:30-11:45 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m., Dec. 20, TDH, 736 S. Cuyler, Pampa.

 The Comprehensive Breast Center of the Don Sybil Harrington Cancer Center has announced the following upcoming breast cancer screening clinic: Dec. 20, Hemphill County Hospital, in Canadian; and Dec. 26 and Jan. 23, Shepard's Crook Nursing Center, 916 N. Crest, in Pampa. Participants will receive a low-cost self-exam mammogram and a breast health appraisal along with individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance.

All exams are by appoint-

ment only. For more information, call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673.

• The next monthly Cowboy Poetry Breakfast will be at 8 a.m. Saturday at the Big Texan in Amarillo. Tibb Burnett will be the featured entertainer.

 Amarillo Museum of Art will have its annual "Children's Christmas Workshop" from 10-11:30 a.m. Saturday. The event is open to children between the ages of 4 and 10. Participants will make Christmas ornaments and cards. Music will be heard and refreshments served. Cost of the workshop is \$15. Pre-registration is required as attendance is limited. For more informa-

tion, call (806) 371-5050.

• Twentieth Century
Cotillion Study Club's
11th Annual Christmas Tour
of Homes will be conducted
from 1-4 p.m. Sunday in
Pampa. Proceeds will benefit an educational loan and
scholarship plan for area
residents. The tour will

include the Bridges home at 505 N. Gray; the Sherrill home at 1015 Deer Place; and the Stevens home at 1001 Deer Place. Tickets are \$10 and will be available at all three homes the day of the tour.

### Pet of the Week



SASHA

AND

SAGE

These cuties are female black kittens. Sasha and Sage are calm in nature. They love to sit and watch the world around them. They can be adopted together or separate. Visit us today!

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

HOURS: Monday - Sunday 9 am - 5 pm • Closed All Major Holidays Office Open To The Public Monday - Sunday 5 pm - 6pm FOUND A PET? Let us know ... we might be able to help them find their home.

LOST YOUR PET? Come by the shelter every 2-3 days to check for your animal. We hold stray animals for 72 hours only. So PLEASE call us as soon as your pet is missing! sponsored by... The Pampa News



## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Steve's," daughter by his first marriage has a mentor at work who keeps trying to "borrow" him as her escort to the company Christmas party. Steve and I have been married nine years, and this is the third time she has tried to pull this stunt. I don't believe my husband is interested in her, but everyone at the company knows he is married, and for her to show up with him as her escort is highly insulting to me. Steve agreed on the phone to go with her this afternoon and told me about it when I got home from work. I told him how I felt, and he immediately said he wouldn't go -- he hadn't realized it would bother me. I told him he now "has to" go or she will think I am threatened by her. My stepdaughter evidently doesn't see a problem with it, as she's the one who called to facilitate the woman asking my husband. (I wonder how she'd have felt if her mother were still married to her dad?) Yes, my husband is a fun, entertaining person. Are my pantyhose in a knot over nothing? - OFFENDED, NOT **THREATENED** 

**DEAR OFFENDED:** Your husband may be "fun and entertaining," but he is also married -- and that means he's out of the escort pool. He should not attend the function without you, and his daughter and her "mentor" were out of line to ask.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have two children, 15 and 17. Many of their friends are becoming single parents. Not wanting that for my children, I talk to them and urge them not to have babies until they're ready to be good parents. You are so good at coming up with lists for things, Abby. Could you compile a list of criteria for what makes a really good parent? It would be nice to show them what that adds up to. -- NANCY IN FLAGSTAFF, ARIZ.

DEAR NANCY: I'm pleased to help. However, I'm sure my readers will want to

add to the list, which is a short one. ARE YOU READY FOR PARENT-HOOD?

(1) Can you support the child financially? Children are expensive. I always urge people to complete their education and delay parenthood until they are self-supporting, in case they should find themselves in the role of sole provider.

(2) Can you support the child emotionally? Babies are cute, but they are also completely helpless and emotionally needy. While some young women say they want a baby so they'll have someone to love them, the reality is it's the parent's responsibility to love and sacrifice for the child. In plain English, this means the end of a normal teenage social life because babies are extremely time-consuming.

(3) Are you prepared to be a consistent parent? Children learn by example -- both good and bad. Are you prepared to be a role model for the behaviors you want your child to mimic? Because mimic they do. They learn more from what they observe than what they're told.

(4) Have you read up on child development? Are your expectations of what a child should be able to accomplish as he or she reaches various chronological milestones realistic? Ditto for your partner, whether or not he or she is the child's biological parent.

(5) Are you prepared to put someone else's needs before your own for the next 18 to 21 years? Remember, babies can't be returned to the manufacturer for a refund if you're not 100 percent satisfied. Sometimes they come with serious challenges. Can you cope with those realities? If the answer to any of these questions is no, I strongly advise postponing parent-

#### For Better Or For Worse



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#### Garfield



#### **Beetle Bailey**







#### Marvin





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#### **Crossword Puzzle**

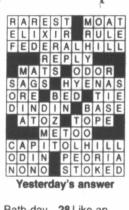
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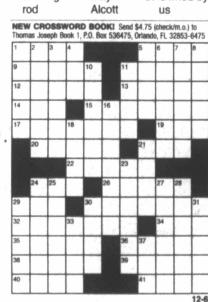
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#### Marmaduke



"I shouldn't have told him I was cooking a big bird for Christmas dinner."

#### The Family Circus THE FAMILY CIRCUS

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#### Haggar The Horrible



#### **Peanuts**

By Bil Keane



#### Flo & Friends

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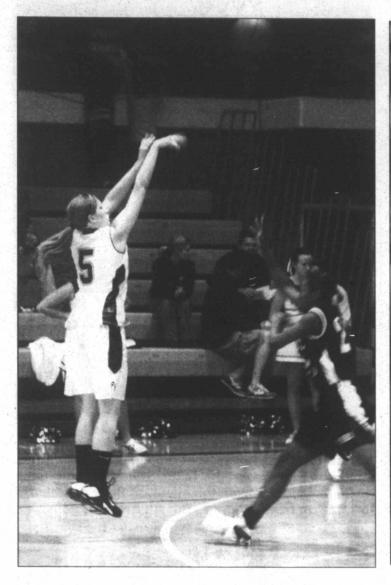


#### **Blondie**



# Sports Day

## A record-breaking night for Britteni Rice





Photos by SHEILA WINTON

Britteni Rice takes a three-pointer from beyond the arc Tuesday night. At right, the Pampa senior acknowledges the appreciation of the crowd after she broke the all-time scoring record for the Lady Harvesters.

By DONNY HOOPER Special to The News

Pampa Harvesters, backed by a record setting performance by Britteni Rice, defeated the Tascosa Lady Rebels 52-46 Tuesday night at McNeely Field House.

Rice became the career scoring leader at Pampa High School, surpassing Yolanda Brown's 17-yearold record of 1,644 points.

She only needed 15 points to break the record and after several missed shots she finally got it with 1:31 left in the third quarter on an 8-foot jump shot that rolled around the cylinder before finally falling in.

Rice finished the game with 24 points and now has a total of 1,654 in her career with several weeks of the season left.

She was honored at midcourt following the victory and recognized by her teammates and fans.

Following a wave from Rice to the crowd, her teammates ran onto the floor and tackled her, celebrating the accomplishment.

"It meant a lot to me to have them come out there like that," said Rice. "To get the win was most important to me but to have the record now will always be special."

The Lady Harvesters led the Rebels in three out of the four quarters. Two other Pampa teammates ended in double figures - McKensie East with 11 and Hailie Cotara with 10.

Pampa improved to 6-6 on the season and will travel to Canadian this Friday night.

Girls JV: Pampa 41, Tascosa 34.



Empty seats at McNeely Fieldhouse mean some fans missed out on a special evening.

### Harvesters take care of Rebs, avenge earlier loss in tourney

By JORDAN REAGAN Special to The News

Pampa's senior Tyler Half poured in 1 points and pulled down 11 rebounds as Pampa defeated the Tascosa Rebels at McNeely Field House Tuesday night.

After three quarters of falling short on the to finish in double figures. scoreboard, the Harvesters pulled out all the stops during the fourth quarter to win the game by 3 points, 64-61.

Pampa trailed by 2 points after one quarter of play, while sophomore Matt Smith sank 8 of the Harvester's first 12 points.

Physical play and solid defense kept the score close going into halftime as Tascosa

Opening up the second half, Tascosa

advantage going into the final 8 minutes.

As the fourth quarter began, Pampa freshman Alex Clendenning seemed to spark the Harvesters' offense with 7 of his 12 points.

Throughout the night, Pampa's offense spread the ball nicely, allowing four players

The Harvesters' defense, led by the quick footed junior Shavious Kelley, forced the majority of Tascosa's 23 turnovers during the fourth quarter.

With less than 2 seconds left on the clock, sophomore guard Blake Sieck nailed 2 crucial free throws, putting Pampa up for good.

Tuesday night's victory avenged a previous loss handed them by the Rebels in the championship game of the Lion's Club invioutscored Pampa 13-12 to take a 3-point tational held in here on November 25.



Photo by SHEILA WINTON Shavious "Shavo" Kelly (10) passes the ball to Trent Harris (55) during the Harvesters' win over the Tascosa Rebels Tuesday night.

## Why 'Bama can't get its phone calls returned

AP Sports Columnist

The only coach to climb out from under Paul "Bear" Bryant's lengthy shadow has some strong opinions about who should be the next coach to try. He didn't sound surprised, though, that no one from Alabama has called to ask for them.

"I've got a name or two," Gene Stallings said in a telephone interview Tuesday night from his home in Texas, "but I'm not going to tell you."

The gravelly voice on the other end sounded no different than it had late on New Year's Day in New Orleans in 1993, when the Crimson Tide upset Miami to win its sixth Associated Press national championship and the first since Bryant turned the trick for the fifth time 13 seasons earlier. The first two coaches hired after the Bear couldn't do it, and neither have any of the four since Stallings left after the 1996 season.

One of them, Mike Price, never got the chance; months after taking the job but before he coached a game, Price spent a boozy night in the company of strippers and soon found himself in the unemployment line. The last to try, former 'Bama quarterback Mike Shula, was fired late last month following a 6-6 season that ended with three consecutive losses

"It's been a while since I coached, but if the folks back there want to know what I think," Stallings added, "they can ask me. I think there are two or three out there, honestly, that would be pretty good coach-

A shortage of names isn't the problem vexing athletic director Mal Moore and his search committee. It's finding somebody on their wish list who thinks the job is as good as they do. Good luck with that.

Steve Spurrier of South Carolina and Nick Saban of the NFL's Miami Dolphins took their names out of consideration over the weekend, and Jim Grobe made it a threesome Tuesday when he said again, "I'm a Wake Forest guy.

By coincidence, Moore, president Robert Witt and the latest front-runner for the job, West Virginia coach Rich Rodriguez, all happened to be in New York the same evening for the 49th annual College Football Hall Fame ceremony. Apparently, they're even

staying at the same hotel. But whether the \$3 million a year 'Bama officials are reportedly offering will be enough for what used to be one of the most prestigious jobs in college football but now looks like one of the most thankless — is any-

"There was a time when only the top 10 teams were on TV, now everybody is on nearly every week. You know what that means about talent spreading out," said Stallings, who moved back to Texas after his stint with the Crimson Tide, and now serves on A&M's Board of Regents.

"I just read in the paper the other day where the average Division I-A coach is making \$97,000 a game. And just think," he chuckled, "used to be that a coach would move for another \$100,000 a year."

Used to be that when top programs like Alabama or Miami had a vacancy to fill, they hung out a sign and the best, brightest and most experienced lined up outside like day laborers. Now those schools are lucky to get their

phone calls returned. Even mid-major programs offer Monopoly money these days and the dispersion of talent has made it possible for a coach to become a star almost anywhere. Winning programs fill stadiums and get invited to the best bowls, and the men who run them are coveted every bit as much as CEOs who can turn red ink black. Fewer and fewer coaches who achieve that in one town feel compelled any more to start over in another, let alone in places like Miami and Alabama,

where tradition and a glorious past weigh heavily on a

coach's future.

Making matters worse, Southeastern Conference rivals Florida, Tennessee and LSU have won national championships since Stallings was at Alabama and intrastate rival Auburn has become a perennial contender. Bryant's name, the 'Bama tradition and the fight song still have plenty of cache with one generation,

but it doesn't lock up

recruits who only know about the Crimson Tide what

they've seen on PlayStation. "Right Realistically? I'd say we're about middle of the SEC pack," Stallings "Because of coach Bryant, we were always expected to be top 10 in the country, and we were for a while. I believe we could be again, too. There's no shortage of people out there who would like the job, and some who could do it, but maybe not the same ones who would

pacify the base. "That said, I'm not sure why they're so anxious to a proven coach. Somewhere along the line, there needs to be some loyalty both ways, maybe commit to a guy with smarts and see it through. I recall Bob Stoops was an assistant at Florida when Oklahoma gave him his shot," Stallings added. "That hasn't worked out too badly."

No it hasn't. Stoops was hired in 1999 to resuscitate a Sooner program that had tried three coaches in the previous 10 years. In short order, he delivered a national title, four conference titles and five BCS bowl games.

Yet Stallings demurred again when asked where the next Stoops was hiding out.

"But I will offer this bit of advice to the committee

without a call," Stallings said. "Whoever they hire better be tough-minded and have all the self-confidence in the world. There's a lot of people in the stands there with an opinion and if you listen, it won't be long before you're sitting with them."

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

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### Gymnastics of Pampa will celebrate its 30th anniversary

Gymnastics of Pampa, located north of town on Loop 171, is currently experiencing a milestone in its commercial history. The gym will, during an afterschool open house, celebrate its 30th anniversary Dec. 11 and 14 with students, their families and members of the entire community.

Gymnastics of Pampa, a cheerleading, tumbling and trampoline school owned and operated by Kristi Hughes Petty, was founded by Petty's parents, the late Fred and Lola Hughes, in 1976.

The Hughes' saw the need for such a school after looking for a place in the immediate area for their daughter to train. They ended up traveling back and forth to a gym in Amarillo. Fred Hughes, who took gymnastics as a teenager, began coaching at the Amarillo club while his daughter trained and eventually decided to take the next step.

Gymnastics of Pampa was initially located downtown on Foster Street and was equipped with tumbling mats, beams and various other used equipment along with a few trampolines. In the beginning, the entire family pitched in at the gym – Fred, Lola, Kristi and their other child Lee.

In a few years, the program grew quickly with the Hughes' traveling to many communities in the Panhandle to share their love of gymnastics. By 1979, Gymnastics of Pampa had outgrown its original headquarters and moved to its present location on Loop 171, then a brand-new facility.

The original purpose and goal of the gym was to provide recreational gymnastics to the community. However, the

Hughes' soon realized a need for competitive gymnastics existed, and in 1981 Gymnastics of Pampa had its first Junior Olympic All-Around Texas State Champion gymnast in Petty.

In subsequent years, Fred Hughes coached two more All-Around State Champions – Joana (Barbaree) Stevens and Christa (West) Perry. Lola Hughes coached Jenny Roden to the gold in the All-Around at the Texas State Special Olympics.

After Fred Hughes passed away from a brain tumor in 1996, Petty took charge of the school which currently serves some 175 students. Lola Hughes preceded her husband in death in 1993.

Since its inception, Gymnastics of Pampa has had a number of gymnasts win individual golds at the state level and many more earn all-around medals.

"This year, Gymnastics of Pampa is offering competitive tumbling and trampoline, because so many more children can be involved in it than in allaround gymnastics competition," Petty said. "Children can start competing at a lower level and at a younger age, plus the hours of training required to prepare for meets is much less.

The program has had at least one gymnast or more qualify for state each year since 1978. Petty credits much of the school's success to her strong Pampa staff, including Kathey Rice and Carrie (Whinery) Reagan. Rice has been with the school since 1991.

"Kathey Rice has developed one of the best cheerleading programs in the Panhandle," Petty says. "She has aided hundreds of junior high and high school age girls to successfully tryout and

make cheerleader in their school."

Rice, according to Petty, boasts an extensive knowledge of tumbling. She has worked with the competitive team at the gym for years and is currently developing a competitive all-star cheerleading program that she hopes to have up and running by the fall of next year.

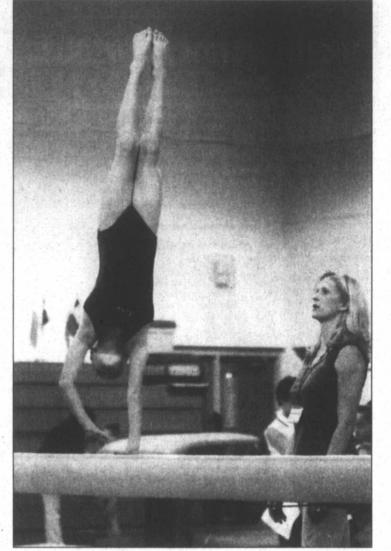
Tryouts for the competitive squads, which will go by the name of "Gymnastics of Pampa's House of Cheer," are planned this coming spring.

Teaching everything from parent and tot gymnastics to competitive tumbling and trampoline, Carrie (Whinery) Reagan has been a fixture at the gym for many years, taking competitive gymnastics as a child from Mr. and

"She has a rare gift of patience with children," Petty said, "and has the ability to get on their level to teach them gymnastics skills. Carrie has a very deep background in gymnastics and loves sharing her knowledge with chil-

In addition to its open house, an "Ex-Team Member Reunion" is scheduled at the gym along with a weeklong "Parent Participation" event. The reunion will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16. For more information about "Parent Participation Week," call the gym at 669-2941.

"We are proud of the legacy that Fred and Lola Hughes left behind for many generations of area children," Petty said. "We take great pride in continuing to pass on their love of gymnastics, and their love of children."



Courtesy photo

Kristi (Hughes) Petty, right, coaches her daughter, Madison Fatheree at the Texas State Championship in 2003. Madison won the silver on floor exercise, a bronze on beam and was 8th All Around.

### Busy Red Sox add Drew, Lugo; Maddux headed to Padres

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP) — The Boston Red Sox were the busiest team on the second day of baseball's winter meetings, adding right fielder J.D. Drew and shortstop Julio Lugo to their everyday lineup.

The San Diego Padres also made a splash Tuesday, putting Greg Maddux in their starting rotation.

But while a few free agents finally got snapped up, not a single trade had been completed halfway through the meetings.

"I do believe the freeagent market is kind of holding off a little bit the trade front, because there are so many free agents still available," New York Mets general manager Omar Minaya said.

That could change soon. The Mets were close to sending pitcher Brian Bannister to Kansas City for reliever Ambiorix Burgos, a he wants to leave Boston,

person familiar with the talks said, speaking on condition of anonymity because the trade hadn't been finalized. The deal was contingent on both teams being satisfied with medical data.

In another possible swap, the Chicago Cubs appeared to be discussing deals involving outfielder Jacque

Boston's attempts to deal Manny Ramirez appeared to be slowing. But the Red Sox did reach preliminary agreements on a \$70 million, fiveyear contract with Drew and a \$36 million, four-year deal with Lugo. If healthy, Drew would bat behind David Ortiz and Ramirez in the

middle of the order. "With David and Manny, if they want to walk those guys, we want them to pay a steep price," Red Sox man-

ager Terry Francona said. Ramirez at times has said which annually explores trades for him without making one. Giants general manager Brian Sabean joked about a possible Ramirez trade, saying "it might be a four-way." He hinted that he'd been in the suite of Red Sox GM Theo Epstein.

"Boston has vats of Starbucks coffee, cafeteria vats," Sabean said.

Maddux and the Padres, meanwhile, closed in on a \$10 million, one-year contract, a deal that would contain a player option for 2008. Agent Scott Boras, without indicating a team, said Maddux's deal "was moving positively ... but not done

Details on Maddux's

potential contract with the Padres were disclosed by two people familiar with the talks who spoke on condition of anonymity because no deal had been finalized.

"Southern California was always a place Greg wanted to play. He was very happy in L.A. last year," Boras said. "San Diego also has an environment for his family. His decisions are based primarily on his family.'

Boras said Barry Zito, another client, was "geographically free." Zito, the top available free-agent pitcher, could wind up with a contract of six or seven years, a length that might

eliminate several suitors. "In the marketplace there have been three-year deals given for guys that have had substantial injury histories," Boras said. "Last year, we got a five-(year) deal for Kevin Millwood. Zito has pristine durability. He's never missed a start. So definitely he's going to be someone that's in that range."

San Francisco and Barry Bonds' agent talked for the second straight day about a deal to keep the left fielder with the Giants.

"We do have a lot of dialooking for work on a team Indians.

with a chance to make the postseason, as a left fielder, DH or a combination of

Oakland was hoping to reach an agreement with Mike Piazza, also represented by Borris' agency, to become its designated hitter. That deal could be struck Wednesday.

In Tuesday's announced free-agent agreement, reliever LaTroy Hawkins and the Colorado Rockies finalized a \$3.5 million, one-year contract. logue with them," Jeff Borris Reliever Joe Borowski and said. "I'm not frustrated. It's outfielder David Dellucci a business. ... His status is a were to take physicals healthy, 42-year-old unem- Tuesday, a step toward finalployed baseball player. He is izing contracts with the

### Special Olympics ends season with tournament

Special Olympics Bowling ended Kinsey Smith. their season with a tournament on Nov. 18 at Western Bowl in Amarillo. Pampa had 28 bowlers who participated in this tournament.

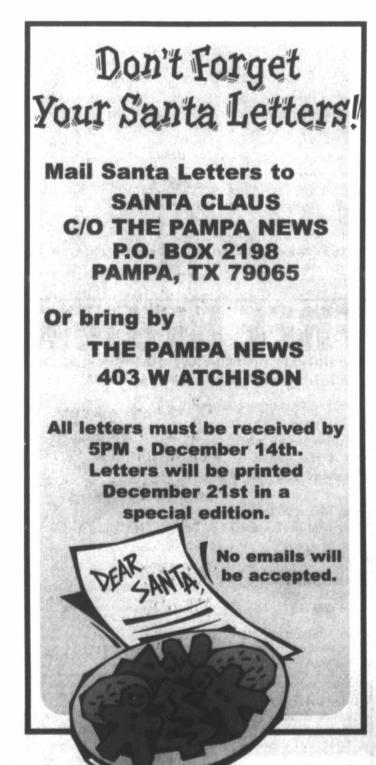
The gold medal winners were Debbie Ellis, Chase Cook, Wauneta Reece, Ashley Abbe, Chris Bradley, Taisey Phillips, Hector Estrada, Eric Knott and

Silver medals were awarded to Ronnie Tucker, Jennifer Roden, Tina Hinson, Shawn King, Ronnie Jenkins, Liberty Bloxum and Kevin Reece.

Winners of bronze medals were Amee Street, Linda Lou Pierce, Amy Hammer, Tollie Jinks, Kasey Smith, Cordell Schneider and

Fourth place ribbons were given to Lisa Busby, Cody Dyer, Bobby Garcia,

Joann Morehart and Donald Stuart. The athletes and volunteers also enjoyed a dinner and dance at Westover Junior High School which was catered by Rosa's Restaurant of Amarillo.





Riley & Molly Brooks

Chance & Bailey

Sam & Twila Brooks

Paul & Martha Simpson

Brother & Sister...

Grandparents..

### Canyon's Lowe holds good lead LAS VEGAS (AP) —

racing win was her most impressive.

Maben, of Spur, Texas, won her fourth round in an arena-record time Tuesday night in the sixth round of the National Finals Rodeo.

Maben's time of 13.58 seconds bested Tammy Key's 13.63 in 2002, and lifted Maben from third to first in the world standings with \$145,008. Mary Burger of Pauls Valley, Okla., who placed third in the round in 13.73, stayed in second with \$141,895. Brittany Pozzi of Victoria, Texas, falls from first to third with \$134,806. Maben said her horse,

Bubba, couldn't have run the barrels any better. "If (the dirt) has a little slide to it where they can get

a hold of it, he can go and leave the barrels," she said. In bareback riding,

defending world champion and world standings leader Will Lowe of Canyon, Texas, continues to hold a sizable lead. Runner-up Andy Martinez of Pavillion, Wyo., trails by just over

\$74,000. Lowe, who placed Kelly Maben's latest barrel seventh in Tuesday's round, has earned \$62,406 at the NFR and now has \$214,331 in world earnings. Brandie Halls, of Carpenter, Wyo., placed second in the round with a time of 13.71.

In steer wrestling, Luke Branquinho of Los Alamos, Calif., narrowed the lead of Dean Gorsuch of Gering, Neb., to just over \$4,000 by tying for first with a time of 3.7 seconds. Gabe Ledoux of Kaplan, La., tied with Branquinho and Gorsuch placed ninth in the round.

"When you get to Vegas, there is so much excitement that I try to block it out and go make good runs," Branquinho said. "It's worked out three times. The other three times, not so good. I've got four steers left and, hopefully, I can do it good there.'

In bull riding, B.J. Schumacher of Hillsboro, Wis., took over the world standings lead from Matt Austin of Wills Point, Texas, who withdrew from further competition on Sunday.

**5 Special Notices** 

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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** 

AJF OJ OPF NMH APJGF PFMZO PMG HJO QFMZHFC APYQF UJVHI OJ PJLF, OJ QJTF MHC

OJ LVO YOG OZVGO YH QYSF. R J G F L P B J H Z M C

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THE URGE TO GAMBLE IS SO UNIVERSAL AND ITS PRACTICE SO PLEASURABLE THAT I ASSUME IT MUST BE EVIL. — HEYWOOD BROUN

Riley & Molly Brooks

Chance & Bailey

Sam & Twila Brooks

Paul & Martha Simpson

Brother & Sister.

Grandparents..

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Dec. 7, 2006:

For a flexible Sagittarian, many opportunities head your way. In fact, what you might have liked or wanted a few years ago could be dramatically different from today. Charisma helps you on your path. Your personal growth directly impacts every aspect of your life. You also have a very gentle and appealing manner about you. If you are single, you might go as far as craving a close tie. Lady Luck and need merge to make what you want a reality. If you are attached, more quality time with your sweetie makes you happier than you think. CANCER reads you cold.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

\*\*\*\* You might be energetic. You might want to revise plans for someone you really care about. Follow your heart and touch base with your inner self. Be yourself, and you'll make positive choices. Tonight: Mosey on home. TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

\*\*\*\* You have much to smile about. You feel more comfortable than you have in a long time dealing with finances and key associates. A partner or associate is on the same page as you.

Revise plans and ideas. Tonight: Out and GEMINI (May 21-June 20) \*\* You seem to enjoy spending more than ever, and with the excuse of the holidays, you could cause yourself trouble,

big-time. A little thought and a conversa-

tion with a creative person help you find

better solutions. Tonight: Beam in what

vou want. CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ The Moon in your sign makes you number one - or at least you should feel like that. Revise your plans with an eye to enjoying your day even more. You might have an admirer where you least expect it. Tonight: What would make you

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Example

\*\*\* Know when to slow down, like today. In fact, you can be instrumental in what happens but still maintain a low profile. Someone else could get the kudos, which might bother you. Don't let it. Tonight: Vanish. You don't have to tell everyone everything.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) \*\*\*\* Your aim is excellent. Your

actions hit the bull's-eye. If you don't like what you draw, then you might need to look at your true intentions. Sometimes we think we want one thing but actually want another. Tonight: Happiest among the crowds. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Others always expect a lot from you - today is no different. In fact, though you might need to make an adjustment mentally and/or with plans, you head down a different route. A friendship could be testing your patience. Tonight: Know when to put a halt to

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

\*\*\* You might want to change directions, and for good reason. New information casts a different light on personal matters. You gain understanding. Financial matters improve if you use your knowledge well. Tonight: Let your mind wander.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

\*\*\*\* You might need to revamp your approach as events unfold. You don't always reveal the real you. Being authentic with a partner could make all the difference. Don't get stuck. Tonight: Be with a special person

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

\*\*\* Others' actions force you to rethink a decision and take in what is happening in a new way. You might not have as much control as you would like right now. Don't fight city hall. Listen to suggestions. Tonight: Choose plans that have you out and about.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) \*\*\* You are determined to get done what you must. You will hit a problem or two on the way. You might need to reorient your thinking and plans. Friends

could become a touch strange. If you are too tired to continue, say so. Tonight: Some time off. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

\*\*\*\* Your creativity surges to a new level, opening nearly any door. Nothing is impossible — remember that. A new relationship will warm up considerably. Don't add more than what really exists. Your imagination is wild. Tonight: Get into the weekend spirit early.

BORN TODAY Singer Tom Waits (1949), author, political activist Noam Chomsky (1928), soccer player John Terry (1980)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com. © 2006 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

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### FEMA continues to squander millions Red Hat Dollies

WASHINGTON (AP) — One year after Katrina, the government is still squandering tens of millions of dollars in wasted disaster aid, including \$17 million in bogus rental payments to people who had already received free trailers and apartments, federal investigators said today.

At the same time, the Federal Emergency Management Agency has recovered less than 1 percent of the \$1 billion it wasted on fraudulent hurricane assistance after the August 2005 storm, highlighting a need for stronger controls the next time a major hurricane strikes.

report by the Government Accountability Office paints a picture of an agency still struggling — at significant taxpayer expense — to find the balance between distributing quick aid to those in need while guarding against substantial abuse.

Last week, a federal judge in Washington ordered the Bush administration to resume housing payments for thousands of people displaced by Katrina, criticizing FEMA for a convoluted application process. FEMA is appealing that ruling.

The GAO audit found that numerous aid applicants received duplicate rental aid, with FEMA in one case providing free apartments

to 10 people in Plano, Texas, while sending them \$46,000 to cover out-of-pocket housing expenses.

Another \$20 million was wasted on thousands of individuals who claimed the same property damage from both Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. FEMA also paid at least \$3 million to more than 500 ineligible foreign students in the stricken Gulf Coast, the report

"Ineffective preventive controls have resulted in substantial fraudulent and improper payments," GAO investigator Gregory Kutz told a Senate hearing. "The additional examples of potentially fraudulent and improper payments in our testimony today show that our estimate of \$1 billion in improper and/or fraudulent payments is likely understated.'

He described FEMA's approach of "shooting money out the door" and recouping bad payments later as badly misguided since only pennies on the dollar are typically recovered. He estimated that tens of thousands of people sought to defraud the government after Katrina and Rita.

"I hope FEMA has learned the costly lesson," Kutz said .



Merry Christmas to Pampa's Red Hat Dollies. This purple tree, entered in the annual Festival of Trees recently, was decorated by Katherine and Natalie

### Woes plague shuttle Discovery

CANAVERAL (AP) Continually worsening weather forecasts and two late-breaking technical worries created uncertainty today about the planned night launch of the space shuttle Discovery.

NASA meteorologists downgraded the chance for good weather at the scheduled 9:35 p.m. EST Thursday launch time to only 40 percent with low, lingering clouds more likely than not to prevent liftoff.

"The forecast has trended toward the worse," NASA shuttle weather officer Kathy

Winters said Wednesday morning.

Along with concern about the weather, engineers planned to spend much of today trying to decide whether the two technical problems — a brief power surge and concerns about a glue that helps protect seals in the solid-fuel rocket boosters — were minor

It was too early to tell if these would postpone Discovery's launch, launch integration manager LeRoy Cain said at a Tuesday evening news conference.





#### **EXECUTIVES TO MOVE**

### Yahoo shakes up team

**FRANCISCO** Yahoo Inc. (AP) announced its biggest executive shake-up in more than five years, including placing Chief Financial Officer Susan Decker in charge of ad sales in a move that may signal her anointment as successor to the company's top job.

Shares of Yahoo, which have struggled this year as the stock of competitor Google has flourished, fell 52 cents, or 2 percent, to \$26.91 in morning trading today on the Nasdaq Stock Market.

Under the overhaul announced late Tuesday, Yahoo vowed to rein in a sometimes-rambling product expansion that has bogged down its earnings growth and threatened its position as the Internet's most popular site as more buzz built up around upstarts like MySpace and YouTube.

The streamlining will bunch Yahoo's disparate operations into three core groups focused on its Web site's audience, advertising network and technolo-

Decker will assume an even more prominent management role and Dan Rosensweig, the company's chief operating officer, will be shown the door in March when the makeover is expected to be completed. Lloyd Braun, a former executive for ABC who ran Yahoo Media Group, resigned.

Farzad Nazem, Yahoo's chief technology officer, will remain in that posi-

Sunnyvale-based Yahoo plans to hire a new executive to run the unit focused on satisfying Yahoo's 418 million registered users. Like Decker and Nazem; the new executive will report to Chairman Terry Semel, who will remain chief executive despite recent criticism of his performance.

Decker's promotion appears to anoint her as the 63-year-old Semel's likely successor. Highly regarded by investors, Decker will remain CFO until a replacement is found.