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# **Day-after shopping**, gift returns slow

**By KERRI SMITH** Staff Writer

> Pampa retail stores early the day after Christmas. The stores were uncharacteristically empty.

Wal-Mart's customer service counter had no one in up to the counter and be line around 9 a.m. to return helped immediately. He said or exchange items. This is very unusual according to Susan Toten who has been working at Wal-Mart for years.

"In the past two hours, after Christmas shopping. we'ye only had 28 customers in the store to make returns where everyone was this or exchanges. Normally we have people lined up and

they have to wait for a while," Toten said. "We Customers were not in expect longer lines this afternoon.'

> Jerry Franklin from Canadian was in Wal-Mart to return toys and clothes. He was very excited to just walk the clothes he brought in were the wrong size and the toys were extras from his grandkids. He was on his way to Amarillo to do some

Toten said that might be See **RETAIL**, Page 3

Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH

John McGuire of Pampa, left, and his son Rick McGuire of Waco were in Bealls to exchange a shirt that was the wrong size. Helping them is Bealls associate Rhonda Barnet.



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PAMPA COMM

# **Gray County escapee remains at large**

### **By MARILYN POWERS** Staff Writer

An inmate who escaped from a work detail at Gray County Jail in the early morning hours Friday is still at large and thought to have left Gray County and the Panhandle area, according to a press release from Gray County Sheriff's Office.

William Carl Troglin, 41, of from the Texas Department of Criminal

Zephyrhills, Fla., escaped from a work detail at approximately 3 a.m. Dec. 22 at the jail, said Lt. Joe B. Hoard of GCSO in the release.

Troglin was reported seen in the area of Schwan's Fine Foods and Halliburton Energy Services, both on County Road 12 1/2 east of Pampa, at escape. Troglin reportedly was barefoot about 7:15 a.m. Friday. Search dogs

Justice's Jordan Unit were brought to Halliburton to search the oil field service company's grounds as employees were told to wait inside buildings for the search to be completed.

"He was able to remove his restraints and fled," Hoard said of Troglin's See ESCAPE, Page 3

### RUG RATS Moving along **Professional Carpet**



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH

A crew from Fuller Framing from Amarillo added on to the old Royse Animal Hospital at 1939 N. Hobart last week. Once construction is complete in about one month, the building will be the new home of a branch of Pamcel Federal Credit Union, according to the general contractor on the job, Bob Sanders from Sanders Construction.

# Troglin Vandals with eggs can cause damage

### **By KERRI SMITH** Staff Writer

Vandalism seems to be running rampant around town recently and part of that is vehicles being egged. A local auto paint shop and several Web sites give information about the damage eggs do to the paint on cars and also advise on how to clean the mess up without doing more damage.

Apparently, if eggs are left long enough on a car they can do permanent damage to the clear coat or paint. The worst damage will be seen if the egg has "baked" onto the car in hot weather. When evidence of egging

is seen, you should clean it up as soon as possible. The longer an egg sits on the car the more damage will be done.

"Egg, if left long enough, can eat through the clear coat and paint," Chad Quarles, owner of Prestige Auto Center, said. "I have not repainted any cars in town recently due to egg, but it can do a lot of damage."

He said if a car needs to be repainted they would have to strip the car down to the metal.

In regard to cleanup, Quarles suggests mixing

See EGGS, Page 3

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# **PGWCD** approves tax abatement for Bell Helicopter

### **By DAVID BOWSER** Staff Writer

WHITE DEER -- The Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District board of directors met Dec. 22 and approved a tax abatement for Bell Helicopter Textron in Amarillo, approved an Amarillo Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone and agreed to filing a friend of the court brief in Amarillo's lawsuit against Premium Standard Farms over water usage.

In their last meeting of the calendar year, the water district board also approved a water conservation

equipment loan of \$90,000 for a half-section center pivot sprinkler system in Carson County. The loan funding comes through the Texas Water Development Board.

They also approved permits for ~ 1,500. seven domestic wells and one irrigation well.

George Herring with Bell Helicopter appeared before the board to request a tax abatement for the company's Amarillo facility. The last tax abatement ran out for the company, which employs about 1,000 people, in September 2005. The new agreement, approved by

the water board, would begin in January, 2007, and would have a life of five years.

Herring said he hopes that the Bell operation will grow to employ

Over the past six years, the tax abatement by the water board has amounted to \$23,800.

The agreement also has to be approved by the City of Amarillo, Amarillo College and Potter County, the three other taxing districts in which the Bell facility falls. The board also heard from Vicky

Covey with the City of Amarillo,

who was requesting approval of Amarillo's Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone, which the board approved.

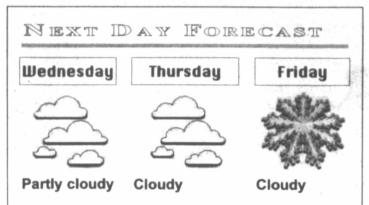
Under that agreement, the water district would continue to collect taxes at the present level, but increased collections as values in the city's central business district rise with would be siphoned off for reinvestment in the zone.

Consultants for the project, Covey said, project that the amount raised for reinvestment could reach

See WATER, Page 3



### 2 — Tuesday, December 26, 2006 — The Pampa News



Wednesday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 62. Wind chill values between 24 and 30 early.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 36. Wind chill values between 28 and 33.

Thursday: A 20 percent chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 49.

Thursday Night: A chance of rain before 8 p.m., then a chance of rain and snow between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m., then a chance of snow after 10 p.m. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Friday: A chance of snow before 1 p.m., then a slight chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 39. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of snow. Partly cloudy, with a low around 25. Wind chill values between 10 and 20.

### () This information brought to you by...



## **Emergency Services**

### Sheriff

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

### Saturday, Dec. 23

Clayton Durand Johnson, 42, of Pampa was arrested in the 1100 block of Varnon Drive by Pampa Police Department for possession of less than two ounces of marijuana.

Faith Danyell Vespestad, 18, of Pampa was arrested in the 2800 block of Christy by PPD for theft under \$50.

Dusty Curtis Cook, 19, of Pampa was arrested in the 600 block of Lowry by PPD for public intoxication -- minor.

### Sunday, Dec. 24

Allen Lee Baumgardner, 44, of Pampa was arrested in the 200 block of North Naida by PPD for possession of drug paraphernalia and warrants for no driver's license, no insurance, and failure to appear.

Estevan Portillo, 34, of Pampa was arrested in the 700 block of North Christy by PPD for possession of a controlled substance at a correctional facility, possession of drug paraphernalia, and three warrants for animal at large. Don Goin Abney, 57, of Pampa was arrested in the 1200 block of East Francis by PPD for assault causing bodily injury/family violence and interfering with an emergency call.

## **Obituaries**

25, 2006, at Pampa. Services

Carmichael-Whatley

Mr. Haynes was born

August 31, 1932, in

Mobeetie. He had been a res-

ident of Pampa since 1950.

He married Elnora Black on

Corporation as a warehouse

supervisor, retiring in 1987

after 32 years of service. He

was a veteran of the U.S.

Army, serving in the Korean

Audry Clouia Huff, 95, of

Pampa, Texas, died Sunday,

Services will be at 2 p.m.

Carmichael-Whatley

Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2006,

Colonial Chapel with

Dwight Brown and Rodney

Tedford, minister of Mary

Ellen & Harvester Church of

Burial will be in Memory

Audry Huff was born Feb.

7, 1911, in Stonewall

County, Texas, to Frank and

Arshno Hale. She married

Marvin Ernest "Pike" Huff

on Sept. 14, 1926 in

Clairemont, Texas. Audry

and Pike came from Kent

County to Roberts County in

1929 to the Emmett Lefors

Pampa, Texas, formerly of

23, 2006, at Pampa.

McLean, Texas, died Dec. sisters.

Services were at 2 p.m. to preach when he

Christ, officiating.

Gardens Cemetery.

in

Dec. 24, 2006 in Amarillo.

He worked for Cabot

Jan. 26, 1956, in Pampa.

pending

Funeral Directors.

are

## Services tomorrow.

with

New

the

Senior

golfer,

They

from

the

Demonstration Huff

volunteer with the Coronado

She was preceded in death

by a son, Marvin Dean Huff,

in 1939; by two daughters,

Mary Ellen Moore, in 1999

and Moleta Clark in 2005;

and by five grandchildren,

Club, and was a

Hospital Auxiliary.

horse

Country Club.

HUFF, Audry Clouia - 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

### **Chubby Dale Haynes**, 74

Chubby Dale Haynes, 74, Conflict, He was a member 'Survivors include his of Pampa, Texas, died Dec. of the VFW, Pampa Senior ' wife, Elnora Haynes, of the home; one daugh-

Citizens Center, Tri-State Senior Golf Association, West Texas and Mexico Golf Association, and Pampa He was an avid enjoyed

racing, Haynes

working in his yard, and spending time with Pampa; three grandchildren, his grandchildren and great-Tammy May and husband grandchildren. Bryan of Pampa, Wade

Shirley Hoskins, 62

Shirley Hoskins, 62, of Services are pending with Funeral Directors of Pampa. Pampa, died Dec. 26, 2006. Carmichael-Whatley -Sign the on-line register

ter, Teresa Bruce

Wayne of Pampa;

and

Haynes

Reynolds

Glorice

ters,

one

husband

### Audry Clouia Huff, 95

Ranch where five of their Robert Allen Smith, Walter children were born. Dean

Dr. Buell T. Wells, 95

half brother and three half from 1950 - 1957. Then

include seven daughters, Virginia Horton and husband Red, Ann Banister and husband Kelsey, and Judy Grant, all of Amarillo, Norma Mitchell

Ponds, Douglas

Smith and Joe

Survivors

Marvin Mitchell.

Pike

Banister,

and husband Jack of Geronimo, Okla., Mellvinia Stocking and Monty Schaub and husband Robert, all of Pampa, and Dian Smith of Denver, Colo.; two sons, Rusty Huff of Pampa and George Huff of Hereford;

He was preceded in death one son, Curtis by his parents; one sister of Glenna Matheu; and one Lubbock; two sisgreat-grandchild. Wauline MEMORIALS: and Briarwood Full Gospel Jones, Church Building Fund, 1800 both of Pampa; W. Harvester, Pampa, TX brother, Walden Haynes of 79065.

-Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichaelwhatley.com.

Bruce and wife Season of

Houston, and Chrissy

Haynes of Amarillo; and

three great-grandchildren,

Taylor May, Westin Bruce

and Garret Haynes.

book at www.carmichaelwhatley.com.

two sisters, Velma Fay Murphy of Plainview and Geraldine Meriman of Lubbock; one brother, Frank Henry Hale of Spur; son-inlaw, Bill Moore of Sedalia, Mo.; 28 grandchildren; 35 great grandchildren; and 23 great-great-grandchildren.

**MEMORIALS:** Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ, 1342 Mary Ellen, Pampa, TX 79065.

SPECIAL NOTICE: The family will be at 2725 Comanche in Pampa and they will receive friends from 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

-Sign the on-line regisbook ter at www.carmichaelwhatley.com.

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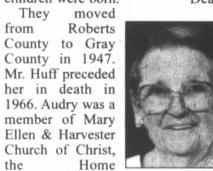
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Pasa

ere

Dr. Buell T. Wells, 95, of son, Morris Wells, and by his McLean for seven years Baptist Convention. He served two times in McLean went to Fort Worth for a total of 15 1/2 years.

In 1995, he married Joann Carroll Miller Murray.



Jimmie Ray Fitzer, 45, of Pampa was arrested in the 2200 block of North Nelson by PPD on a bond surrender for possession of dangerous drugs.

Amber Svoboda, 26, of Minneapolis, Minn., was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

### Monday, Dec. 25

Lee Bret Dillman, 46, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO on a bond surrender for a Randall County charge of theft by check.

Mark Channing Melton, 41, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO on a bond surrender for fraudulent use of identifying information.

### Tuesday, Dec. 26

Adam Jared Robertson, 18, of Pampa was arrested in the 2200 block of Hamilton by PPD for minor in possession and failure to appear.

### Fire

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today.

### Sunday, Dec. 24

6:06 p.m. - Two units and six personnel responded to the 300 block of Canadian on a good intent call. A reported structure fire was a family barbecuing.

9:53 p.m. – One unit and two personnel responded to the 500 block of Lowry on arcing power lines.

#### Monday, Dec. 25

11:02 a.m. - Two units and five personnel responded to the 2500 block of Mary Ellen on a storage shed fire.

4:06 p.m. – One unit and three personnel responded to the 1000 block of South Somerville on a medical assist.

9:52 p.m. - One unit and three personnel responded to the 1900 block of North Wall on a medical assist.

### **Tuesday**, Dec. 26

2:12 a.m. - One unit and three personnel responded to the 1100 block of Neel on a medical assist.

### Ambulance

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls. Sunday, Dec. 24

8:23 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

11:07 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to Baten prison unit and transported a patient to PRMC.

12:04 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient to PRMC.

12:37 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1000 block of South Christy and transported a patient to PRMC.

5:25 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to Golden Plains Community Hospital in Borger and transferred a patient to PRMC.

### Monday, Dec. 25

3:12 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 12000 block of Highway 60 East and transported a patient to PRMC.

today, Dec. 26, 2006, at The First Baptist Church in old. He McLean, with the Rev. Norman Rushing and the Rev. Rick Parnell, of the Central Baptist Church of Pampa, officiating.

Burial will be in Hillcrest Cemetery in McLean, Texas. Buell Wells was born in

Russellville, Ky., to Charles W. Wells and Addie Lyon Wells on Aug. 31, 1911. He married Margaret Talley in February 1934. She preceded him in death after 43 years of marriage. He was also preceded in death by his

was 15-years served many churches and at one time he had five small churches at one time. He was a school teacher,

Buell was called

pastor, and worked Wells for the Home Mission Board for many

years. He came to Amarillo in 1949 to have a school of missions in Amarillo and Borger. While he was here, McLean called him to be their pastor. He served in

Church. Later he was the pastor of the First Southern Baptist Church in Hammond, Ind. Buell had the

B.H.

honor of being called as pastor of his home church in Russellville,

as pastor of the

Ky. Buell also served two terms on the board of directors of the Golden Gate Seminary in San Francisco. Buell served many churches in Tennessee, Kentucky, Texas, Indiana, and served on the Illionois

Survivors include his wife, Joann of Pampa; a daughter, Lequita Cowherd of Shelbyville, Ky.; a daughter-in-law, June Wells of Broken Arrow, Okla.; three grandsons; one granddaughter; 14 great-grandchildren; stepgrandchildren; nine three stepchildren, Dana Miller, Diane Baggerman, and Delynn Weller; and four

great-great-grandchildren. MEMORIALS: Central Baptist Church, 513 E. Francis, Pampa, TX 79065.

Stocks	
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The following grain quotations are provided by    Attebury Grain of White Deer.    Wheat  .4.53    Milo  .6.25    Corn  .7.21    Soybeans  .5.41    The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market    quotations are furnished by Edward Jones &    Co. of Pampa.    OXY	Cabot Oil Gas  62.26  +0.33    Coca Cola  .48.47  +0.09    VLO  .52.29  +0.70    HAL  .31.65  +0.19    TRI  .42.33  -0.08    KMI  .105.72  +0.21    XCEL  .23.07  +0.07    Anadarko  42.62  +0.48    XOM  .76.19  +0.78    Nat'1 Oilwell  .62.45  +0.19    Limited  .29.16  -0.56    Williams  .26.57  +0.15    MCD  .43.68  +0.11	Pioneer Nat    40.11    -0.01      JCP    78.36    -1.21      COP    71.95    +0.90      SLB    63.39    +0.50      Tenneco    24.86    +0.22      CVX    73.25    +0.52      Wal-Mart    45.43    -0.11      OKE    43.35    +0.23      NS Grp    NA    NA      New York Gold
Celanese	Atmos	

# Texas high court to tackle religious freedom law

AUSTIN (AP) — When a pastor set up a rehabilitation program for prison parolees across the street from his church, the city of Sinton stepped in to stop it.

Now, nearly eight years after then-Gov. George W. Bush endorsed a law to curtail government limits on religious practices, the city's action is the center of a legal case scholars and activists say will test the law and others like it around the country.

The Texas Supreme Court has agreed to consider whether Sinton's zoning ordinance — which prohibited parolees from living within 1,000 feet of churches and therefore shuttered the pastor's program - violated the state Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

Oral arguments are expected in March or April.

national impact because the Texas law is similar to laws in other states, said Kelly Shackelford of the Liberty Legal Institute, a nonprofit organization that focuses on religious issues and First Amendment rights.

The outcome could have a

Also joining the fight on behalf of the church are the American Civil Liberties Union and the American Center for Law and Justice,

founded by Christian broadcaster Pat Robertson. "It's significant," said Shackelford, whose organization frequently files lawsuits related to religious freedoms.

"What kind of powers does government have to look at a church, say they don't like it, and ban it from the city?"

In 1999, the Legislature passed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act with help

from Bush, who held a news church in Sinton, a few miles conference with various religious groups to support it.

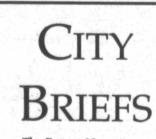
"This country was founded on the rock of religious freedom," Bush said at the time. "Texas intends to restore it."

Under the law, state and local governments must show a compelling interest, such as protection of public health or safety, before limiting the practice of religion.

Supporters said it was designed to tackle such cases as children who were not allowed to make up school work missed for religious holidays or efforts to prevent someone from wearing religious garb into a courtroom.

In this case, Rick Barr, pastor of Grace Christian Fellowship, had set up his in 1999 in two homes near his

north of Corpus Christi.



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### Continued from Page 1

morning, in Amarillo instead of Pampa.

Betty Belflower of Pampa and Melinda Herron of Grandview were enjoying the crowd-free shopping. They were buying Christmas merchandise in Wal-Mart that was marked down 50 percent.

"We are buying the blowup snow globes that were \$129 and are now \$60 and

were



# Water

### Continued from Page 1

as much as \$259 million from all taxing entities, which include the City of Amarillo, Amarillo College and the Amarillo Hospital District. The Amarillo Independent School System funding mandates.

used for landscaping, park- servation districts concern-

against Premium Standard Farms, a state district judge in Dumas has ruled that water production has to be measured in gallons per minute.

Jarred Atkinson, assistant city manager for the City of Amarillo, asked the water district to file an amicus brief, a friend of the court it in reserve instead. brief, saying that the measurement of water can be in would not be part of the acre-feet or tract size as coalition because of state well as gallons per minute. Atkinson said he has also said that Amarillo had com-The monies could be talked with other water con-

field that the city of Amarillo claims is pumping 4.5 to 5.5 acre-feet of water per year.

Amarillo has had the water rights beneath the land surrounding the Premium Standard Farms' well field since 1954, but has not pumped it, holding

The North Plain Water Conservation District rules allow two acre-feet per acre of water rights. Atkinson plained to the North Plains Water Conservation District, but when the district took no action, Amarillo filed suit, seeking a temporary injunction to force the district to do something. The case is expected to go before the Seventh Court of Appeals in Amarillo in an expedited appeals process in January.

we will use them next year,' Belflower said. Also in their shopping carts Christmas cards and ornaments

Dunlap's and Bealls were also empty this morning. Rhonda Barnet from Bealls said they kept expecting the people to bring in exchanges, but they just were not there.

"We had to be at work at 8 a.m. this morning, which is earlier than usual for us, and we just haven't had any customers," Barnet said. She

Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH Betty Belflower of Pampa, left, and Melinda Herron of Grandview were taking advantage of the clearance prices on merchandise this morning by load-

ing up their carts with Christmas items that were

thought the lack of returns might be due to more people buying gift cards and that way people could buy what they wanted. Another thought was that people

marked down 50 percent at Wal-Mart.

were just sleeping in this morning. She hoped the crowds

would be in later today so

The sheriff's department

Jail records for Dec. 16 indicate that Troglin had

been arrested at 5:35 p.m.

by a GCSO deputy on

her day would be busy, but she hoped those coming in would come a little at a time instead of all at once.

ing and buying property.

The reinvestment zone has been set up for 30 years so bond issues would be a potential source of funding, she said.

PGWCD will have one member appointed to a nine-member board for the reinvestment zone.

In Amarillo's lawsuit

ing rate of production methods.

The brief, he explained, has nothing to do with the merits of the case, but only with the accepted measurements of water production.

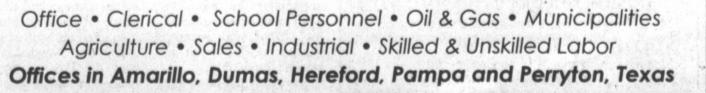
The case revolves around a half section in Hartley County where Premium Standard Farms has a well

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Escape is conducting the investigation of the escape, assisted by other agencies. Continued from Page 1

and wearing an orange jail-issue jumpsuit at the time of his escape.

The escapee had not been located as of press time today.

"Investigative leads developed since his leaving have led investigators to believe that Troglin has left Gray County and the Panhandle area," Hoard said. "He should be considered dangerous."

charges of theft over \$50 and under \$500 and having a wrong or fictitious license plate. He remained in the county jail until his escape Friday pending bond on the misdemeanor charges.

Anyone with information concerning Troglin is asked to call the sheriff's department at 669-8022.

sit for 15 to 20 minutes.

# Eggs

### Continued from Page 1

Dawn dishwashing soap with warm water and carefully wiping off the mess with a soft cloth.

Several Web sites suggest carefully removing any eggshell that is loose. A soft towel should then be used to wipe off as much as possible. Another clean towel should be soaked in a solution of half warm water and half white vinegar. That towel should be placed on the egg stain and allowed to

17

Remove the wet towel and wipe away the remnants and dry with another clean soft towel. Quarles said he has never

heard of anyone using this vinegar technique and is concerned it might do more damage. That is why he advises using a less corrosive cleaner like dishwashing soap.

If permanent damage has occurred and repainting is necessary, you should contact your insurance company and see if this vandalism is covered under your policy.

# Viewpoints

**Preparing for a New Year's bash** 

this first day after Christmas, I thought I'd attempt a post-holiday version of Clement Moore's classic, "'Twas the Night Before Christmas."

'Twas the day after Christmas

And all through the house Not an unwrapped gift

was left For me or my spouse.

The stockings were empty

of all that they held

And the tree was stripped of ornaments and felled. The gift wrap and bows of

bright holiday hue Were wadded up and bagged, no longer to view.

Empty boxes were nested and stacked to take

Out to the Dumpster for good housekeeping's sake.

Hubby and I in our coats prepared to sally Forth to take our boxes

and bags to the alley.

We opened our back gate and, laden with trash,

Marilyn Beheld s u c h **Powers** a vision as Staff Writer made our teeth gnash.

Others

had had the same idea as me and spouse,

But had beaten us in getting trash out of the house.

The Dumpster was filled, even to overflowing,

With wrapping which the playful

wind was now blowing About the alley and over the fences Causing

neighbors to view their yards with winces.

Every Dumpster in sight was filled past the brim With bags and boxes and

dead holiday trim. We carried our rubbish back inside our gate

In hopes that Sanitation would not run late.

We waited with hope and anticipation

For a trash truck to help our situation.

The next morning we heard the welcome beeping Of the trash truck as it was slowly creeping

Toward our Dumpster

with many a clatter Of lids as Dumpsters were emptied of matter.

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So we gathered up boxes and bags yet again And as the laden truck left we called to the man

Cheerily driving away with his load,

"Thank you!" He waved as he drove to the road. We gleefully disposed of

our post-Christmas trash And returned home to pre-

pare for a New Year's bash.



# **Racial profiling practiced by physicians**

Today in History

### **By The Associated Press**

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 26, the 360th day of 2006. There are five days left in the year. The seven-day African-American holiday Kwanzaa begins today. This is Boxing Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 26, 2004, more than 200,000 people, mostly in southern Asia, were killed by a tsunami triggered by the world's most powerful earthquake in 40 years beneath the Indian Ocean.

On this date:

In 1776, the British suffered a major defeat in the Battle of Trenton during the Revolutionary War.

Time is the longest distance between two places."

— From "The Glass Menagerie" by Tennessee Williams (1911 - 1983)

opened on Broadway.

In 1941, Winston Churchill became the first British prime minister to address a joint meeting of the U.S. Congress.

In 1944, during the World War II Battle of the Bulge, the embattled U.S. 101st Airborne Division in Bastogne,

President George Washington was eulogized by Col. Henry Lee as "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen.'

1799.

former

In

In 1917, during World War I, President Wilson announced the U.S. government would take over operation of the nation's railroads.

In 1931, the Pulitzer Prize-winning musical play "Of Thee I Sing"

Belgium, was relieved by units of the Fourth Armored Division.

In 1944, Tennessee Williams' play "The Glass Menagerie" was first performed publicly, at the Civic Theatre in Chicago.

In 1972, the 33rd president of the United States, Harry S. Truman, died in Kansas City, Miss.

In 1980, Iranian television footage was broadcast in the U.S., showing a dozen of the American hostages sending messages to their families.

In 2003, an earthquake struck the historic Iranian city of Bam, killing at least 26,000 people.

Ten years ago: Six-year-old beauty queen JonBenet Ramsey was found beaten and strangled in the basement of her family's home in Boulder, Colo. (To date, the slaying remains unsolved.)

Five years ago: The Arabic TV station Al-Jazeera aired new videotaped excerpts of Osama bin Laden in which the al-Qaida leader condemned the U.S. as a nation that committed crimes against millions of Afghans.

Hundreds of Iraqi Kurds, Afghans, Iranians and other refugees from a Red Cross center in France began two days of attempting to cross illegally into Britain through the Channel Tunnel, shutting down train traffic. Actor Sir Nigel Hawthorne died in Hertfordshire, England, at age 72.

One year ago: Survivors wept and prayed beside mass graves and at beachside memorials in Indonesia, marking one year since earthquake-churned walls of water crashed ashore in a dozen nations, sweeping away hundreds of thousands of lives.

# The Pampa News

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Charges of racial, religious and ethnic profiling swirl in the wake of US Airways' removal of six imams. According to police reports, the men made anti-American statements, were praying and chanting "Allah," refused the pilot's requests to disembark for additional screening and asked for seat-belt extensions for no obvious reason. Three of the men had no checked baggage and only one-way tickets.

According to the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), five of the men have retained lawyers and are probably going to bring a discrimination lawsuit against US Airways.

Racial profiling controversy is nothing new. For a number of years, black Americans have made charges of racial profiling by police and store personnel who might give them extra scrutiny. Clever phrases have emerged, such as "driving while black" and now

"flying while Muslim," but versy. Mortality rates for they don't help much in terms of understanding. Let's apply some economic analysis to the issue.

God, or some other omniscient being, would never racially profile. Why? Since He is all-knowing, He'd know

who is and Walter is not a ter-Williams rorist or a criminal. Columnist We humans are not allknowing.

While god would have perfect and complete information about everything, we humans have less than perfect and incomplete information. That means we must use substitutes such as guesses and hunches for certain kinds of information. It turns out that some physical attributes are highly correlated with other attributes that are less easily, or more costly, observed.

a

Let's look at a few, and the associated "profiling," that cause little or no contro-

cardiovascular diseases were approximately 30 percent higher among black adults than among white adults. The Pima Indians of Arizona have the world's highest known diabetes rates. Prostate cancer is nearly

twice

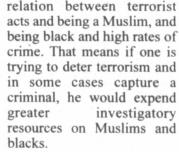
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white

common among black men as men. Would anyone bring racial

profiling charges against a doctor who routinely ordered more frequent blood tests and prostate screening among his black patients and more glucose tolerance tests for his Pima Indian patients? Of course, God wouldn't have to do that because He'd know for sure which patient was more prone to cardiovascular disease, prostate cancer and diabetes.

It is clear, whether we like it or not, or want to say it or not, that there is a strong cor-



A law-abiding Muslim who's given extra airport screening or a black who's stopped by the police is perfectly justified in being angry, but with whom should he be angry? I think a Muslim should be angry with those who've made terrorism and Muslim synonymous and blacks angry with those who've made blacks and crime synonymous. The latter is my response to the insulting sounds of car doors locking sometimes when I'm crossing a street in downtown Washington, D.C., or when taxi drivers pass me by.

It would be a serious misallocation of resources if air-

See WILLIAMS, Page 5

# America is leaking blood and dollars overseas

Bush, like a dog coming out of a creek, will shake off all of the advice he's been given and plod along in Iraq as he has in the past. He is not a man, in my opinion, who takes advice or admits he made a mistake.

That's too bad as far as the troops are concerned. They will go on getting killed and wounded, and won't accomplish a thing. The lack of accomplishment won't be their fault. Nobody can accomplish the impossible, and I think repairing the ethnic, tribal and sectarian divides at this point has become impossible. I saw a small news story

great deal about how we fail at imperialism. According to the story, the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad has 1,000 employees, and exactly six of that

number are Charley fluent in Reese Arabic. You can be a Columnist tourist in a foreign country

knowing the language, but

not an occupier or an intelli-

gence officer. That situation

is so utterly ridiculous that it

makes you wonder if per-

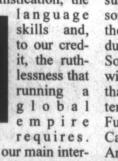
haps the U.S. government

really does take a racist atti-

without

Come January, President the other day that said a tude toward Americans of Arab descent.

> I've always argued that the American people are not cut out to be imperialists. We lack the sophistication, the



Furthermore, our main interests are in our own country. We don't have disinherited second sons looking for a career in the colonial service. For most Americans, there is no place on earth they'd rather be than right here in the U.S.

Frankly, we're no good at overthrowing governments. Half the time, even if we succeed, we end up with some guy who's worse than the one we dumped. We dumped Ngo Dinh Diem in South Vietnam and ended up with a succession of more than 20 corrupt incompetents. We swapped Fulgencio Batista for Fidel Castro. We abandoned Anastasio Somoza and got Daniel Ortega, and I won't go into some of the horrors we sponsored in Africa.

We've been suckered and See REESE, Page 5

The Pampa News — Tuesday, December 26, 2006 — 5

# **Ban on pet projects** won't stop horse trading of them

WASHINGTON (AP) -Democrats may have declared a one-year moratorium on pet projects treasured by members of hardly stop horse trading in Washington or moves by lawmakers to try to steer taxpayer money back home. Nor will it touch billions of dollars in already budgeted Pentagon earmarks, which go to everything from

research into better body

armor for overseas troops to

finding bone marrow match-

**Obey and his Senate** counterpart Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., have promised to eliminate lawmakers' pet projects as they fashion a catchall spending bill to close out about \$463 billion in unfinished budget business dumped on them by outgoing Republicans.

Appropriations Committee Chairman David Obey, D-Wis.

Earmarks have exploded in number and cost under Congress, but the move will GOP control of Congress and Congress got a black eye when former Rep. Randy Cunningham, R-Calif., admitted taking \$2.4 million in bribes in exchange for earmarking projects to defense contractors. The Bush administration and budget hawks have protested in vain. Obey and his Senate

counterpart Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., have promised to eliminate lawmakers' pet projects as they fashion a catchall spending bill to close out about \$463 billion in unfinished budget business dumped on them outgoing

Byrd and Obey plan to fund most domestic agency accounts at 2006 levels, with some increases to avoid layoffs of federal employees and for politically sensitive programs such as veterans' medical treat-

es to treat leukemia patients. ment.

The temporary ban on earmarks — footnotes in spending bills that lawmakers use to deliver federal bacon to their states — has been greeted with applause by budget hawks and is seen as a savvy political move. But many in the rank and file are not happy.

wish me a Merry Christmas," said incoming

by Republicans. have announced a

Some of the money to pay for such add-ons will come from accounts used by lawmakers to send earmarks back to their districts and states. But Congress is unlikely to drain all the money from such accounts which run the gamut from agricultural research, "I've had my share of flood control and grants to calls and they weren't to local police and fire departments, among many others.

# **Poor record keeping plagues AIDS effort**

### **By RITA BEAMISH Associated Press Writer**

HEALTH

WASHINGTON (AP) - Even officials Bush administration acknowledge it was a lot to expect all at once: rush billions of dollars of help into AIDS-stricken nations, demand quick results from U.S. contractors, and then expect those contractors to produce tidy progress reports.

In the end, it was too much.

Government auditors found that accurate record keeping and monitoring often took a back seat in President Bush's three-year-old, \$15 billion plan to fight HIV/AIDS in African and other poor countries.

The Bush administration says the situation has improved greatly because it has imposed tighter, standardized reporting systems on groups that receive U.S. money to ensure the accuracy of their reported results.

Lapses in verification, confusion over how to measure results and errors in counting people served by anti-AIDS programs were significant enough that at least one member of Congress wants lawmakers to investigate.

"While the Global AIDS pandemic is an urgent humanitarian crisis that demands a rapid response, we cannot sacrifice results and accountability for speed," said Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Calif.

While the Global AIDS pandemic is an urgent humanitarian crisis that demands a rapid response, we cannot sacrifice results and accountability for speed."

> — Rep. Barbara Lee D-Calif.

Rep. Henry Waxman, incoming chairman of the Government Reform Committee, agreed that Congress should probe accountability questions raised by government auditors.

Ambassador Mark Dybul, the administration's global AIDS coordinator, said there is a growing "culture of accountability" in the nations receiving U.S. help, and he is confident the overall numbers reported for the program are now accurate.

Early problems were expected as the administration demanded quick

results from its contractors, Dybul said.

"You could've waited for three years to get all these systems in place, and an awful lot of people would have died," he said. "Our approach was get the services out, start moving the programs.

"In many of the cases where they say we can't find documentation, that doesn't mean people aren't getting services; that just means the reporting systems are not in place."

Auditors nonetheless plan to recommend improved reporting methods to ensure "reasonable assurance that what they say was done was actually carried out," said Joe Farinella, the assistant inspector general for the U.S. Agency for International Development which conducted the audits.

He cited "a constant challenge of insuring the quality of the data reported."

"It's not good enough for the auditors to hear from the mission that we did A, B and C but we can't prove it to you, or there's no documentation to prove that we did it."

The investigators focused on groups caring for infected people and AIDS orphans, and working to prevent spread of the disease.

See AIDS, Page 7



port security intensively **liams** screened everyone. After all, intensively screening someone who had a near Continued from Page 4 zero probability of being

a terrorist, such as an 80year-old woman using a walker, would not only be a waste but it would take resources away from screening a person with a much higher probability of being a terrorist.

You say, "Williams, are you justifying religious and racial profiling?" No. I'm not justifying anything any more than I'd try to justify Einstein's special law of relativity. I'm trying to explain a phenomenon. By the way, I think some of the airport screening is grossly stupid, but I'm at peace with the Transportation Security Administration. They have their rules, and I have mine. One of mine is to minimize my association with idiocy. Thus, I no longer fly commercial.

-Dr. Williams serves on the faculty of George Mason University as John M. Olin Distinguished Professor of Economics.

# Reese

have played the fool in every country we've intervened in. I wouldn't be surprised at all if half Continued from Page 4 the secret bank accounts in Switzerland were

owned by American "allies," past and present. When President Carter sat down with Anwar Sadat and Menachem Begin to broker a peace treaty, what happened? The Israelis stuck him with a \$4 billion tab to cover their cost of leaving the Sinai, and the Egyptians stuck him with a promise of \$2 billion a year in foreign aid, which we're still paying. And I've yet to see a modern trade deal that was to our advantage.

Years ago a merchant mariner laughingly told me how the Colombians would run around scooping up derelicts to show off to some visiting American official "as jailed communists." Of course, when the American big-shot left, the derelicts were let go.

We the people need to force Uncle Sucker to come home while he still has a shirt and pants. Other than rebuilding Europe and Japan after World War II, I cannot think of a single foreign-policy success. Considering what's happened to our manufacturing base, maybe those weren't successes after all. Ronald Reagan is credited with ending the Cold War, but I think the Russians just went bust before we did.

Now we're leaking blood and billions in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the Boy Emperor is determined to prove everybody else in the world wrong - at the cost of other people's lives, of course. I won't be surprised at all if he bombs Iran. Now, that'll be a party you will want to miss.

-Write to Charley Reese at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando, FL 32802.

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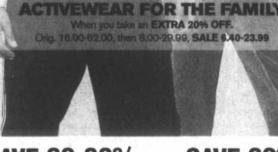
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# Big sock winner\_



Kyler Cook is the winner of the National Bank of Commerce giant stocking drawing.

# **Report: Citgo** plans no further refinery sales in coming year

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) - The head of Venezuela-owned Citgo Petroleum Corp. said the company plans no further sales of refineries or other major assets next year, according to a media report.

Houston-based Citgo, which is wholly owned by Venezuela's state oil company, sold its minority share in a Texas refinery to Lyondell Chemical Co. for \$2.1 billion earlier this year.

"In 2007, we are not planning the sale of any of our

'In 2007, we are not planning the sale of any of our assets in other companies.

If reports show us that profits are not the most optimum, we will probably leave that market and concentrate on the sales of other byproducts."

> — Felix Rodriguez Citgo president

companies," **Citgo President** Felix Rodriguez told Venezuela's online Panorama newspaper in comments published over the weekend.

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Rodriguez added, however, that Citgo would continue to review the profitability of its asphalt-producing business.

"If reports show us that

profits are not the most optimum, we will probably leave that market and concentrate on the sales of other byproducts," he said. Citgo Asphalt Refining Company is a leading supplier of asphalt on the U.S. east coast.

The company plans to maintain refinery production at about 840,000 barrels a day for the next four years and, instead of expanding its business, concentrate on producing better quality products, such as low-sulfur diesel and lubricants that are in line with U.S. market regulations, Rodriguez told Panorama.

'Today, the company is working and seeking an equilibrium between the minimum investment necessary and (maximum) profits," Rodriguez was quoted as saying.



COURTESY PHOTO







# AIDS

### **Continued from Page 5**

They found that in Guyana, the AIDS program reported inflated numbers to Congress in its annual report. The government claimed

## Punch anyone?\_

5,200 AIDS orphans received care in that country, but auditors documented fewer than 300, many of them not even affected by AIDS. The opposite occurred in South

Africa, where some provincial governments refused to disclose information on AIDS tests and counseling, causing "severe under-

reporting" of how many benefited from U.S.-backed services, auditors said. Officials said that problem was now resolved.

After reporting that millions of people were reached by massmedia promoting sexual abstinence and use of condoms, the administration now has dropped that measurement completely, on grounds that it is impossible to know how many people hear radio messages.

Tracking orphan care has been a problem. Because local groups were simply tallying individual handouts like meals or clothing, the administration imposed a new rule in July stating that a child can only

be counted as receiving care if provided with three of six key services.

Development experts say that some of the new religious and community organizations doing the AIDS work were ill-equipped for the reporting demands that accompanied U.S. grants.



COURTESY PHOTO Mackenzie Smith leads her mom toward the punch bowl after performing two solos in the CREATE-a-Beat! Christmas program recently.

'As is standard for

this type of surgery,

the governor will be

kept for observation

for three days."

— Dr. Kevin

Orthopedic surgeon

Ehrhart

# **People in the news**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Gov. Arnold

Besides performing, Rodriguez was also



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Schwarzenegger will need crutches, screws to secure his thigh bone and several weeks of recovery after undergoing surgery on his broken leg, his surgeon said.

The 59-year-old governor, actor and former bodybuilder was scheduled for surgery this morning in Los Angeles to repair his fractured right femur, which he broke while skiing with his family in Sun Valley, Idaho, during the weekend.

"As is standard for this type of surgery, the governor will be kept for observation

for three days," said Dr. Kevin Ehrhart, the orthopedic surgeon performing the surgery.

Ehrhart, who repaired former President Reagan's broken hip in 2001, said Schwarzenegger's recovery would take about eight weeks and cables and screws would be used to secure his upper right thigh bone.

He said he had spoken with Schwarzenegger since the accident and described the governor as "very comfortable."

Schwarzenegger was admitted to an undisclosed Los Angeles hospital Monday. While he is under anesthesia, expected to last no longer than two hours, Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante will be acting governor, said Andrea Lynn Hoch, the governor's legal affairs secretary.

Schwarzenegger does not intend to delay his second inauguration, scheduled for Jan. 5, said spokeswoman Julie Soderlund.

The fracture is the governor's third medical problem in just over a year. In January, he needed 15 stitches to repair his cut lip after colliding with a car while riding his motorcycle in Los Angeles. He also spent several hours at a University of California, Davis, hospital last December with a rapid heartbeat while he had stomach flu.

Officials haven't said which trail the governor was skiing at Sun Valley when he broke his leg. The resort has a black diamond trail dubbed "Arnold's Run" in honor of Schwarzenegger.

WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (AP) -Paul Rodriguez, Dane Cook, Paul Mooney, John Lovitz and other comedians dished out a free Christmas meal and a side of standup to more than a thousand people at a comedy club.

The slate of comedians performed for more than 1,400 people Monday at the Laugh Factory, said owner Jamie Masada.

tapped to carve a turkey.

"This really is my family," Rodriguez told KCBS-TV. "All these comedians you see out here, they might be very sarcastic on stage and say rude things, but deep down inside they are softies."

Masada described the event, which marked its 28th year, as a "little party" for those who have nowhere else to go on Christmas.

"They're down on their luck," he said. "We try to make them feel a bit better, we give them laughter."

> LOS ANGELES (AP) -Michael Jackson is suing his former accountants, claiming they withdrew \$2.5 million a year from his bank accounts but did not properly pay his bills.

The lawsuit by Jackson and MJJ Productions Inc. was filed Thursday in Los Angeles Superior Court against Bernstein, Fox, Whitman, Goldman & Sloan, alleging negligence and breach of fiduciary duty.

The lawsuit asks for unspecified damages and for an accounting of money the defendants received for services.

Jackson hired the Los Angeles-based firm in 2003 for bookkeeping, opening bank accounts and filing personal, corporate and real estate taxes, the lawsuit stated. However, Jackson alleges the accountants hired people and entered into contracts on his behalf without getting his permission

The accountants also did not communicate directly with Jackson or keep him apprised of his financial affairs, according to the lawsuit.

BRANSON, Mo. (AP) - Comedian Gallagher, known for smashing watermelons during his performances, was accused of shoving an audience member here last summer and now faces a lawsuit.

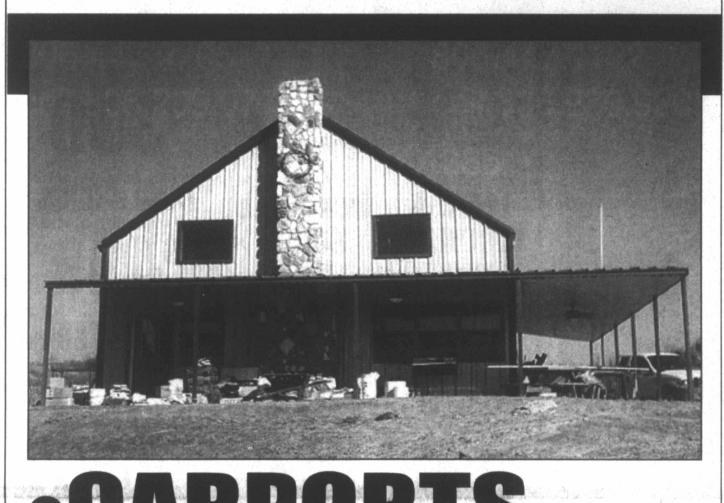
Leo Gallagher, 59, was to perform at the Moe Bandy Theater in Branson from June 16 through Sept. 4.

The promoters that brought the comedian to the southwest Missouri' resort town, Miami-based Branson Partners LLC, sued Gallagher for breach of contract after his shows were canceled because of the allegations from a theater employee.

Marcy Kowalski alleged the comedian swore at her and bruised her arm when he pushed her back into her front-row seat.

8 — Tuesday, December 26, 2006 — The Pampa News

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# **Islamic forces retreat in Somalia**

### **By SALAD DUHUL** Associated Press Writer

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MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) Islamic fighters retreated today as Somali government and Ethiopian troops advanced on three fronts in a decisive turn in the battle for control of this Horn of Africa nation.

Somalia's internationally backed government called on the Council of Islamic Courts to surrender and promised amnesty if they lay down their weapons, spokesman Abdirahman Dinari said from Baidoa, the seat of the interim administration.

Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, whose military openly joined the war Sunday after weeks of quietly aiding the Somali government, said his forces had completed about half their mission.

"As soon as we have accomplished our mission — and about half of our mission is done, and the rest shouldn't take long --we'll be out," Meles told reporters in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.

Sheik Sharif Sheik Ahmed, leader of the Council of Islamic Courts' executive body. said the group had told its troops to withdraw from some areas.

"The war is entering a new phase," he said. "We will fight Ethiopia for a long, long time and we expect the war to go everyplace."

Ahmed declined to explain his com- dictator in 1991, plunging the country into be behind the 1998 bombing of the U.S. ments in greater detail, but some Islamic anarchy. Warlords remained largely in con-

include suicide bombings in Ethiopia's capital. Patrick Mazimhaka,

deputy chairman of the African Union Commission, expressed support for Somalia's government and defended Ethiopia's military advances. "If Ethiopia feels suf-

ficiently threatened, then we recognize the right of Ethiopia to defend itself if it thinks its sovereignty and its security are under direct threat," he said. The United Nations

helped set up the acting government in the arid, impoverished nation two years ago, but the administration was not able to extend its influence out-

side Baidoa, which is about 140 miles Islam is reminiscent, to some, of northwest of Mogadishu, the country's nominal capital.

Somalia has not had an effective government since warlords overthrew a longtime ment says four al-Qaida leaders, believed to

leaders had threatened a guerrilla war to trol until this summer, when the Islamic

movement seized power in Mogadishu and much of southern Somalia.

Experts fear the conflict could engulf the region. John Prendergast, a senior adviser with the International Crisis Group, said the war "dangerously escalates regional tensions and leaves the Horn of Africa less secure than it has been in a long time."

Some analysts also fear the Islamic movement hopes to make Somalia a third front, after Afghanistan and Iraq, in militant Islam's war against the West.

The group's often severe interpretation of

Afghanistan's Taliban regime --- ousted by a U.S.-led campaign in late 2001 for harboring Osama bin Laden. The U.S. governembassies in Kenya and Tanzania, are now leaders in the Islamic militia.

The African Union, Arab League and a regional group known as IGAD were scheduled to take up Somalia at a meeting Wednesday designed to restart peace negotiations between the Somali government and the Islamic movement.

But Ahmed rejected any suggestion of peace talks and appeared unbowed by his group's losses.

Skirmishes were continuing today.

A witness in the town of Bur Haqaba reported hearing explosions nearby after two Ethiopian jets flew overhead.

"I saw two helicopters, I heard the sounds of bombs at Lego village," Mohamed Abdulle Siidi said by telephone. The account could not be confirmed.

Islamic militiamen withdrew more than 50 miles to the southeast from Daynuney, a town just south of Baidoa. The retreat along the western front followed the bombing by Ethiopian jets of the country's two main international airports.

Advancing government and Ethiopian troops captured Bur Haqaba, one of the Islamists' main bases after it was abandoned early today.

See WAR, Page 11

# Stores count on **post-Christmas** shopping to meet their sales goals

### By ANNE D'INNOCENZIO **AP Business Writer**

pre-

NEW YORK (AP) — The she wasn't about to let the nation's retailers ushered in the post-Christmas shopping season today by slashing prices even more on holiday items and stocking up on

cold rain falling outside deter her.

"Everything is so marked up. This is the best time to shop," Dunn said. "This is for

### Lawsuit: Funeral home company failed to pay overtime

PITTSBURGH (AP) — One of the world's largest providers of funeral and cemetery services has failed to pay millions of dollars in

lawsuit.

back wages and overtime, in Pittsburgh against Service according to a class-action Corporation International. Attorney Charles H. Saul,

The suit was filed this who filed the suit, said as month in U.S. District Court many as 6,000 current and

former workers could be involved. The total amount of back wages and overtime could be between \$40 million and \$70 million, Saul said.



Experts fear the conflict could engulf the region. John Prendergast, a senior adviser with the International Crisis Group, said the war "dangerously escalates regional tensions and leaves the Horn of Africa less secure than it has

been in a long time."

fresh merchandise.

With the 2006 Christmas season falling short of sales expectations for

many merchants, the retail industry hoped that shoppers, armed with gift cards, would spend freely in the weeks ahead on discounted items as well as full-priced merchan-

Federated Department Stores Inc.'s Macy's opened its doors at 7 a.m. and offered discounts ranging from 50 percent to 75 percent. Toys "R" Us Inc. offered 50 percent discounts on selected toys. The toy seller was also showcasing hot toys from 2007 in its stores.

next year. Dunn said she received gift cards for Christmas but was-

n't using them now. "I'll use them later for something for myself," she

said. After a stronger-thanexpected turnout on Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, stores

struggled through the first two weeks of December as consumers returned to malls and stores at a disappointing paced. Stores did get a latebuying sales surge in the final days of the pre-Christmas season, but it was not enough to meet holiday sales goals.

A big negative factor this season was mild temperatures throughout most of the country, which depressed sales of winter items like coats and snow boots. Based on data

dise. That would boost business in December and in the fourth-quarter.

Department Federated Stores Inc.'s Macy's opened its doors at 7 a.m. and offered discounts ranging from 50 percent to 75 percent. Toys "R" Us Inc. offered 50 percent discounts on selected toys. The toy seller was also showcasing hot toys from 2007 in its stores.

Merchants "are going to use all 31 days in December," said Marshal Cohen, chief analyst at NPD Group Inc., a market research company in Port Washington, N.Y.

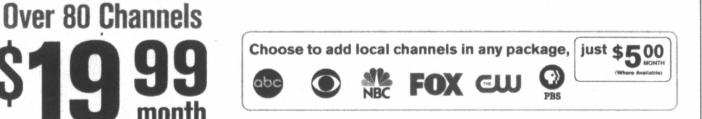
At Carousel Mall in Syracuse, N.Y., there were more mall walkers than shoppers when J.C. Penney opened its doors at 6 a.m. Pat Dunn of Syracuse, who was browsing around the housewares section looking for sale items, said her trek was an annual affair. And, she said,

11

released late Sunday by ShopperTrak RCT Corp., sales for both Friday and Saturday generated a com-bined \$16.2 billion, with Saturday's business totaling \$8.72 billion. But Bill Martin, co-founder of ShopperTrak, said he had expected the finale to be stronger; because it wasn't, stores need a good post-Christmas season to meet ShopperTrak's 5 percent holiday forecast.

The post-Christmas season has become more important with the increasing popularity of gift cards. Gift card sales are only recorded on retailers' balance sheet when cards are redeemed.

According to BigResearch, which conducted a poll for National Retail the Federation, consumers are expected to spend a total of \$24.81 billion on gift cards this holiday season, up from \$18.48 billion last year.



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# Earthquake strikes off Red Kettle volunteers southwestern Taiwan creating giant wave

A powerful quake struck off the bureau said. southwestern Taiwan today, triggering a potentially destructive tsunami that was toward headed the Philippines on the second anniversary of the deadly waves that killed thousands in south Asia.

The quake, with a magnitude of between 6.7 and 7.2, was felt throughout Taiwan, Japan's Meteorological Bureau said. It swayed buildings and knocked objects off the shelves in the capital, Taipei.

The bureau said the 3foot-high tsunami was expected to hit Basco in the Philippines.

"There is a possibility of a

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — destructive local tsunami,"

Taiwan's Central Weather Bureau said the quake measured magnitude 6.7, while the U.S. Geological Survey and Japanese bureau put it at magnitude 7.2.

No damage or injuries were immediately reported. The Central Weather Bureau said a 6.4 magnitude aftershock struck a nearby area about nine minutes later.

The initial tremor was centered at sea about 13 southwest miles of Hengchun on the southern tip of Taiwan, the bureau said. Hengchun is about 260 miles south of Taipei.

### Bush to spend New Year's at ranch

WASHINGTON (AP) ---President Bush is leaving for a weeklong trip to his Texas ranch, where he and his advisers will rethink U.S. involvement in Iraq. The the Union address on Jan. president also will work on an upcoming speech outlining what he says will be a new way forward in the war.

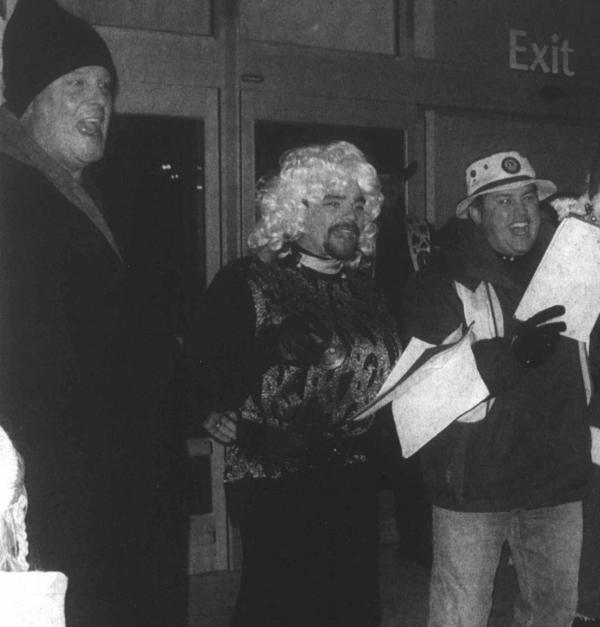
The White House said the president, saddled with low approval ratings for his handling of Iraq, will be consulting, not making final

decisions, at the National

Security Council meeting on Thursday at his ranch in Crawford. He is expected to deliver a speech on Iraq sometime before the State of 23.

He and first lady Laura Bush were to leave Washington this morning, returning Jan. 1.

Bush spent the Christmas holiday with his family at the Camp David presidential retreat in Maryland.



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The Lions Club recently rang the bells and sang to receive donations for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign. To attract more attention, some of the members decided to dress up. Pictured left are Lance DeFever, Brad Pingel as Dolly Parton, Rusty Tapp and Scott Rankin as Santa. That evening the Lions Club raised about \$1,000.

World briefly ...



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SUNDAY, DEC 31

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U.S. military death toll in Iraq exceeds number of deaths in Sept. 11, 2001 attacks

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) -At least 36 Iraqis died today in bombings, officials said, including a coordinated strike that killed 25 in western Baghdad. Separately, the deaths of six U.S. soldiers pushed the American toll beyond the number of victims in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

The three coordinated car bombs in western Baghdad injured at least 55 people, said a doctor at Yarmouk hospital, where the victims were taken. The attacks occurred in a mixed Sunni and Shiite

neighborhood. In separate attacks, a bomb exploded in a central Baghdad market, killing four people and wounding 15 others, police said. Two roadside bombs targeted an Iraqi police patrol in an eastern neighborhood of the capital, killing four policemen and injuring 12 people.

In Kirkuk, 180 miles north of the Iraqi capital, another roadside bomb killed three civilians - including an 8year-old girl - and wounded six other people, police said. The U.S. military today

announced the deaths of six more American soldiers, pushing the U.S. military death toll since the beginning



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of the Iraq war in March 2003 to at least 2,978 — five more

The U.S. military today announced the deaths of six more American soldiers, pushing the U.S. military *death toll since the* beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003 to at least 2.978 ...

than the number killed in the Sept. 11 attacks in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania.

The milestone came with

### the deaths of the three soldiers Monday and three more today in roadside bomb attacks near Baghdad, the military said.

Asian nations remember the 230,000 killed in the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami

KHAO LAK, Thailand (AP) — It's been two years since Dorothy Wilkinson's fiance and his parents were swept away by the Indian Ocean tsunami, but she still feared returning to where she lost them and the tears well up when she talks of it.

But like scores of other survivors of the 2004 disaster that claimed an estimated 230,000 lives in a dozen nations, Wilkinson, 38, came back today to the beaches where the tsunami struck to pay respects and take another tentative step toward rebuilding her own life.

"This is a time to remember those people who we lost." said Wilkinson, a native of England, at a memorial service. "I'm still sad. I don't want to spend Christmas at home. It is too lonely."

It was on Dec. 26, 2004, that a magnitude-9.0 earthquake off Indonesia's Sumatra island spawned the giant waves that fanned out across the Indian Ocean at jetliner speeds, leaving at least 230,000 dead and millions of homeless in its wake.

Mourners across the region marked the anniversary by visiting mass graves, lighting candles along beaches, and observing moments of silence. But another push was under way, as volunteers and residents took steps to protect against future tsunamis.

Parents of slain U.S. soldiers make pilgrimage to Iraq to see where their children died

LYERLY, Ga. (AP) -After her son Justin was

See BRIEFS, Page 11



# High Plains Cruisers\_

The High Plains Cruisers recently donated 37 bags of nonperishable items to the residents of the Schneider House. Cruisers pictured: Winfred and Linda Simmons, Audrey and Cleo Meaker, Nancy and Raymond Swaney, Amy and Kathy Hammer and Denver and Walker Bruner.

# Scientists to build genetically engineered peanuts

ALBANY, Ga. (AP) — A leading industry group has given scientists the go-ahead to build genetically engineered peanuts that could be safer, more nutritious and easier to grow than their conventional version.

The work could lead to peanuts that yield more oil for biofuel production, need less rainfall and grow more efficiently, with built-in herbicide and pest resistance — traits that have already been engineered into major crops such as cotton, corn, soybeans and canola.

For consumers, the work could lead to peanuts with enhanced flavor, more vitamins and nutrients, and possibly even nuts that are less likely to trigger allergic reactions, a life-threatening problem for a small percentage of the population and a major food industry A few researchers have been genetically modifying peanuts for at least a decade, but their discoveries have had little

impact because the industry, fearing a consumer backlash, was reluctant to support the work.

peanut-producing countries, China and India, working aggressively on transgenic peanuts, the American Peanut Council and its research arm, the Peanut Foundation, this month approved a major policy change. The council represents all segments of the industry — growers, shellers, exporters and manufacturers.

genetically engineered peanuts.

The work is expected to cost about \$9.5 million and will require university, government and industry support.

COURTESY PHOTO

"It's a significant redirection in their thinking," said Peggy Ozias-Akins, a University of Georgia horticulture professor who has been working with genetically modified peanuts since the late 1990s.

The foundation also called for additional genome studies to learn more about the location and function of the natural peanut genes.

Because peanuts are considered a minor crop, their genetics still have not been studied as extensively as major crops such as soybeans, Ozias-Akins said.

Peanuts are believed to have origi-

# Briefs

### Continued from Page 10

killed serving in Iraq, a grieving Jan Johnson resolved to see the place where he died and to better understand why it happened.

Johnson and her husband, Joe, who also served in Iraq, were among a group of seven parents who lost children in the war who were picked to travel to northern Iraq in November as a scout team for a bigger trip next year.

"I wanted to go see where my son died," she said. "You hear in the news how bad Iraq is, that it isn't worth saving. ... I wanted to go find out for myself."

Family members of U.S. casualties of war have made pilgrimages in the past to Vietnam and other war zones where their sons and daughters died.

But the fighting in Iraq was far from over, so a similar journey seemed unlikely until a nonprofit organization called America Moving Forward decided to organize a trip. 'Godfather of Soul,' legendary singer James Brown, dies of heart failure at 73

ATLANTA (AP) — James Brown, the undeniable "Godfather of Soul," told friends from his hospital bed that he was looking forward to performing on New Year's Eve, even though he was ill with pneumonia. His heart gave out a few hours later, on Christmas morning.

The pompadoured dynamo whose classic singles include "Papa's Got A Brand New Bag" and "I Got You (I Feel Good)" died Monday of heart failure, said his agent, Frank Copsidas of Intrigue Music. He was 73.



### Life doesn't always happen during business hours....



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A few researchers have been genetically modifying peanuts for at least a decade, but their discoveries have had little impact because the industry, fearing a consumer backlash, was reluctant to support the work.

However, with the two leading

The foundation urged scientists to move ahead with "due diligence" on

nated in South America at least 3,500 years ago. Farmers in the Southern U.S. only started cultivating them in the early 1900s when the boll-weevil made it nearly impossible to grow cotton. Now they're grown in 15 states from Virginia to New Mexico.

# War

### Continued from Page 9

"We woke up from our sleep this morning and the town was empty of troops, not a single Islamic fighter," Ibrahim Mohamed Aden, a resident of Bur Haqaba said.

Islamic fighters were also reportedly retreating on two other fronts.

On the southern front, government troops captured Dinsor, the government spokesman, Dinari, said. On the northern front, government and Ethiopian troops entered Bulo Barde, where just two weeks ago an Islamic cleric said

anyone who did not pray five times a day would be executed.

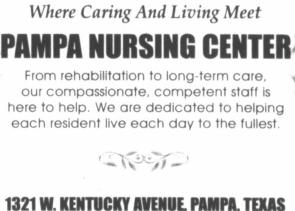
Government and Ethiopian troops also were headed for Jowhar, 55 miles north of Mogadishu, after driving Islamic troops from Bandiradley, Adadow and Galinsor.

No reliable casualty reports are available. Both sides have claimed to have killed hundreds of their enemy, but independent observers were not given access to the battlefield.

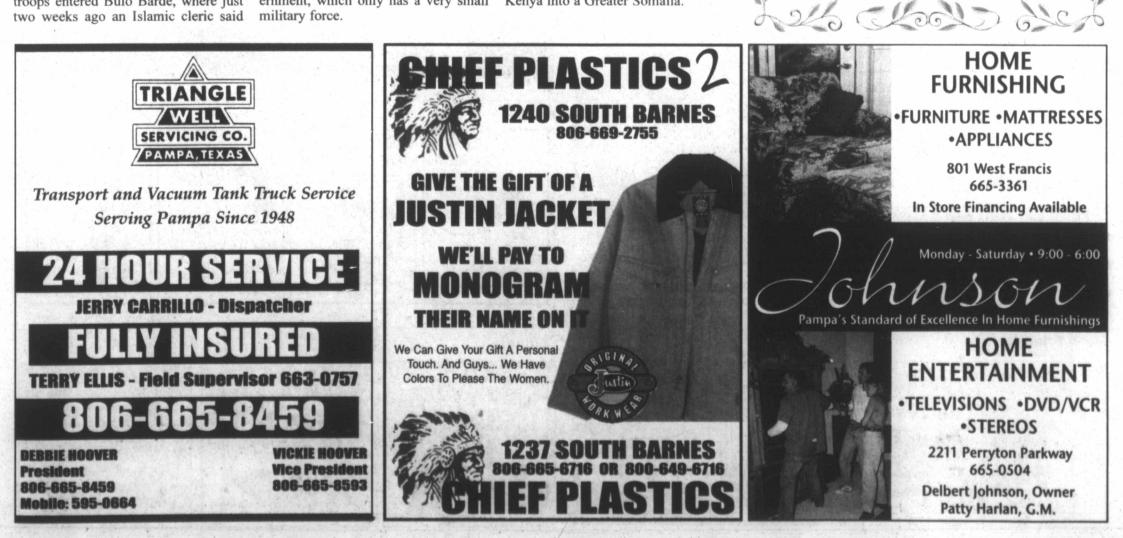
Ethiopia's prime minister announced Sunday night that he had sent troops into Somalia to fight international terrorists, defend Ethiopian interests and prop up the besieged U.N.-backed government, which only has a very small military force. But Meles has said he does not intend to keep his forces in Somalia long, perhaps only a few weeks. He has told visiting dignitaries that his goal is to severely damage the Islamic movement's military capabilities and allow both sides to return to peace talks on even footing.

Meles said he would not send troops into Mogadishu, but instead encircle the city to contain the Islamic forces.

Ethiopia and Somalia have fought two wars over their disputed border in the past 45 years, and the Islamic movement has said it want to incorporate ethnic Somalis living in eastern Ethiopia, Djibouti and northeastern Kenya into a Greater Somalia.



### 321 W. KENTUCKY AVENUE, PAMPA, TEXA: PHONE: 806-669-2551 FAX: 806-665-1722



12 - Tuesday, December 26, 2006 - The Pampa News



By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** Two years ago, I divorced my abusive husband of 23 years. However, when he remarried I fell apart. Friends we have in common tell me they are happy, and his new wife is "good for him." Thoughts of why he could change for someone else, but not for his own family (we had two sons) eat me up. It has been a year since his wedding, and I am still hurting as if I want him back. Please help me. -- CRYING IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR CRYING: Dry your tears and straighten up. Your husband and his new wife are still newlyweds. Leopards don't change their spots. His abuse of her may not have begun yet, because most abusers take some time to chisel away at their victim's self-esteem before the actual abuse starts happening. Also, these "common friends" may not be privy to what goes on behind closed doors. Most abused women blame themselves for it, and are so ashamed they keep it a secret. Because you are still hurting and comparing yourself unfavorably to the "new" missus, it's time to talk to your doctor about a referral to a licensed psychotherapist who can talk this out with you. It will be money well spent. Consider it a shortcut to feeling better about yourself and the wise decision you made to get away from your abuser.

DEAR ABBY: My sister, "Lindy," has lived with my fiance, "Reid," and me since the death of our mother two years ago. Dad died when I was 12, so there was no other option for my sister. Everything was going fine until a month ago, when Lindy told me she was pregnant. I was upset because she is only 17. Lindy insisted that things were going to be "fine" because the baby's father was older and well-off. One night last week, Lindy and Reid (who is 28) sat me down to have a talk about her pregnancy -and told me that Reid is the father of the baby! I am devastated at their betrayal. I

can't believe that Reid, the love of my life, and my little sister, whom I'd considered my best friend, would sleep together. I have let them both live with me and carried them financially for the last two years. I am beside myself and don't know what to do. I want to kick them out, but I'm afraid for the baby, and I can't just turn my sister out into the streets. I love my fiance and can't bear to let him go, but his actions have proven that he doesn't love me like I love him. You're the only person I can talk to about this. Please help me, Abby. - BETRAYED **IN THE MIDWEST** 

DEAR BETRAYED: Call off the engagement and get your two-timing deadbeat "fiance" out of there immediately. You have been his meal ticket for far too long. What your sister did might be chalked up to immaturity, but Reid is an adult. Do not let it escape you that he has used you both. If you can handle it, let Lindy stay until she's 18 and has her high school diploma. That way, she can provide for herself and the baby if she decides to keep it. The baby is not your responsibility; it is Lindy's and Reid's. If you remember that, you'll shield yourself from pain and aggravation in the future.

DEAR ABBY: Could you settle an argument between me and my husband? We've been married only four months. I get out of the shower and dry off, or walk into the bedroom to dry off. He says I should dry off in the shower. Who is correct? -- ANN **FROM FLORIDA** 

DEAR ANN: You should dry off wherever you are more comfortable drying off, and if your controlling new husband doesn't like it, then HE should dry you off in the shower.

### **For Better Or For Worse**







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### Garfield



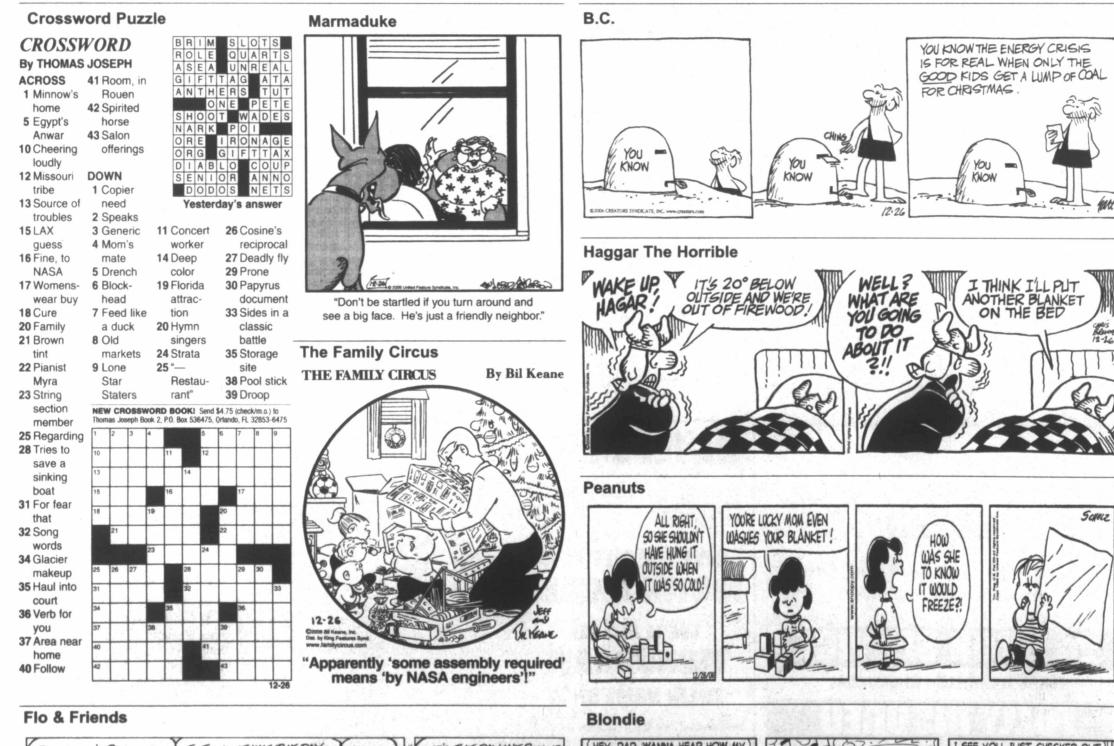
### **Beetle Bailey**













# Sports Day

# **Cowboys lose their Romo-mentum with T.O.'s former teammates**

IRVING, Texas (AP) -The Philadelphia Eagles were supposed to get buried by December road games against all three division foes, especially with retread backup Jeff Garcia running the offense.

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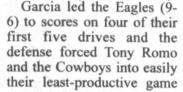
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Turns out, that challenge was exactly what they needed to grab control of the NFC East.

After close calls in Washington and New York, Garcia and the Philadelphia defense made it a clean sweep with a surprisingly easy 23-7 victory over the Dallas Cowboys on Monday.



of the season. The victory ---actually fourth straight — clinched a wild-card berth and moved it into first place in the division with one game left in the season.

Philadelphia coach Andy Reid laughed about how easy it's been since his club was 5-6 after losing Garcia's first start.

"We thought it would be a cakewalk," he said with a wry smile. "Every one of those games has been huge. The guys have buckled down against some good teams. Our players knew what was ahead of them. Everybody really pulled closer together."

The Eagles can win the division for the fifth time in six years by beating Atlanta

Sunday. home Philadelphia's Philadelphia also could clinch if Dallas loses its finale to Detroit.

> The only way the Cowboys (9-6) can win the NFC East is by beating the Lions and by the Falcons knocking off the Eagles. Dallas no longer has a shot at the conference's No. 2 seed and a first-round bye; this game clinched that for New Orleans.

> Garcia was 15-of-23 for 238 yards with a touchdown and an interception, and ran for 43 yards. Brian Westbrook ran for 122 yards and Correll Buckhalter had 38 yards and a touchdown.

> Garcia set the tone with four third-down conversions on the opening series, then a 25-yard touchdown pass to

barely covered Matt Schobel. After the defense made three straight goal-line stands against Marion Barber, the NFC touchdowns rushing leader, Garcia moved Philadelphia from its 4-yard line to the Dallas 2, setting up the first of three straight field goals by David Akers.

Garcia was able to work fast or slow. His quickie drive started at the Eagles 35 with 29 seconds left until halftime and ended with Akers' second field goal; the drawn-out one burned exactly 7 minutes off the clock in the fourth quarter, leaving Dallas only 6:47 to try mounting a comeback.

"I saw us take control of the game," Garcia said. "It wasn't about them, it was

about us."

The Cowboys never led and hardly threatened, setting a season-low for points by 10 and yards by 119. It also was their second straight falling-on-their-face performance in a high-profile home game. Dallas was stomped 42-17 by New Orleans in a game for the second-best record in the NFC.

"We were noncompetitive," coach Bill Parcells said, adding he told the team the same thing. "There's nothing good to say. We just didn't make any plays at all, either side of the ball. Just awful."

With a somber tone contrasting the goofy Cowboysbranded Santa hat on his head, Terrell Owens griped:

"I need to be more involved in the offense" at least three times in a news conference.

He absolved Romo for it, hinting as he'd done before that the play calling is to blame. He insisted that he needs more balls early rather than late, a strange statement considering both his catches - for 23 yards, with a 14yard touchdown - came in the first half.

As for himself, Owens didn't see anything wrong with visiting the Eagles at their hotel Sunday night ("That's my time, you know? ... I'm not going to shy away from my friends for anybody") and had an excuse for dropping a deep pass at a pivotal time in the game.

# **Broncos stay in wild card hunt with luck on their side**

DENVER (AP) — Rod Smith credited the weather. John Lynch claimed there was an element of luck involved. Mike Shanahan simply pointed to something more spiritual

A botched extra point on a snowy Sunday sealed Denver's 24-23 win over Cincinnati, preventing the Bengals from clinching a playoff berth and putting the Broncos in the driver's seat for a wild-card spot.

Brad St. Louis' long snap on an extra point in the final minute sailed wide of holder Kyle Larson, keeping Shayne Graham from even attempting his 159th straight conversion.

"I don't know if it's ever happened in my career," Lynch said. "Sometimes, luck plays a part of it."

Shanahan thought Arvella Bowlen, the mother of owner Pat Bowlen, who died Wednesday at the age of 90 after a long illness, was pulling strings for the Broncos.

"I think she had something to do with that extra point," Shanahan In a week where a blizzard blew through town — shutting down the Pittsburgh at home next week and ed.

airport for two days and dumping nearly 30 inches of snow on the city - it's only fitting that weather played a role in the game. The snow picked up intensity as the game went along.

"The snow came along at the right time," Smith said.

The Bengals (8-7) just needed to beat Denver to clinch a playoff spot. Trailing 24-17 late in the fourth quarter, Cincinnati drove 90 yards and scored when Carson Palmer threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to T.J. Houshmandzadeh with under a minute left.

Usually, Shanahan wouldn't watch an extra point, thinking it's almost automatic. He made an exception.

"I was looking at it because the conditions were tougher than normal," he said.

The snap was wobbly and bounced away from Larson. Cincinnati recovered an onside kick but was offsides and had to re-kick. and Quincy Morgan fielded it to seal the win.

Now, the Bengals need help to

hope the New York Jets lose their final game against Oakland.

"It was a tough way to lose a football game," Cincinnati coach Marvin Lewis said. "That play at the end was not why we lost the game. We continue to hurt ourselves."

The Bengals turned the ball over four times, including a fumble recovery and an interception from Champ Bailey, who had his leagueleading ninth pick and also helped limit Chad Johnson to three catches for 32 yards.

Denver (9-6) can clinch a playoff spot with a win next week against San Francisco or a loss by Kansas City to Jacksonville.

"It was a playoff atmosphere out there," said Lynch, who caused Rudi Johnson to fumble on a hit in the fourth quarter. "It was two teams knowing it's an extremely important game."

That's why cornerback/nickel back/safety Domonique Foxworth collapsed in the locker room after the game. Foxworth, who said he was fine and wasn't taken to the get the wild card. They must beat hospital, was completely exhaust-

"Kid played his heart out," Lynch said.

"It was real tough, but we didn't play well enough to win the game," said Chad Johnson, who fumbled in the second quarter. "This loss was a lot more than just a bad snap."

Rookie Jay Cutler was sensational during a 99-yard drive in the third quarter that culminated with Mike Bell's 2-yard run. It gave Denver a 21-17 lead it wouldn't relinquish as Jason Elam tacked on a 24-yard field goal in the fourth quarter.

"On that drive we were in a rhythm," Smith said. "When we're in that rhythm, he's in that rhythm. He's done a good job of leading us.'

Cutler, who had a 1-yard touchdown pass to Tony Scheffler and a 39-yard pass to Javon Walker, became the first NFL rookie quarterback to throw for multiple touchdowns in each of his first four games. He finished 12-for-23 for 179 yards and one interception, which came on the first play of the

### Woods named **AP Male Athlete** of 2006 in close vote over L.T.

**By The Associated Press** Tiger Woods had an answer for everything.

When he missed the cut at the U.S. Open for the first time in a major — his first tournament after his father died of cancer — some questioned whether he could rekindle his desire to dominate. He never finished worse than second in stroke play the rest of the season.

Phil Mickelson emerged anew as a serious threat to Woods' domain by winning his second straight major at the Masters and nearly making it three in a row at the U.S. Open. Woods responded by winning the next two majors.

And there remained skepticism about his latest swing change, put to rest by a year that ranked among Woods' best ever on the PGA Tour. He won eight times in 15 starts, six in a row to close out his season, two more majors to reach 12 for his career.

# **Texans pull away from Colts with Dayne leading the way**

Dayne tucked the ball, took the hit and limped off the field in the second quarter against Indianapolis.

Although his right ankle was throbbing, there was no way Dayne was going to let it ruin the best game of his seven NFL seasons.

1999 The Heisman Trophy winner rushed for a career-high 153 yards rushing and two touchdowns Sunday, and Kris Brown kicked the winning 48-yard field goal as time expired to lift the Houston Texans to a 27-24 win over the Colts.

Davne carried a careerhigh 32 times, despite taking a hard hit on his ankle from Colts linebacker Gary Brackett. Dayne had the ankle re-taped, something he said he'd never done in a game, then carried 20 more times against the NFL's worst rushing defense.

"It was real sore," Dayne said. "I just kept going out there and every time I'd run and somebody might fall on

HOUSTON (AP) — Ron it, I would come out. Then I would just go back out there even without them telling me to. I just wasn't going to be denied today."

> Dayne topped 100 yards for the first time since September 2001, when he played for the New York Giants. He was cut by the Giants and then by Denver before the Texans signed him a week before this season.

Dayne has rushed for 429 yards and five touchdowns in Houston's last four games, the best stretch of his career. For the first time since college, Dayne said he's finally getting the chance to show what he can do.

"I never really had the opportunity to carry the ball this many times, week after week," Dayne said. "When I was in New York, I would get 100 (yards), then I would probably get the ball two or three times the next game. The Texans believe in me and they gave me an opportunity. I knew I could run the ball.'

Especially against the Colts' defense.

Indianapolis (11-4) came into the game allowing 173 yards rushing per game. The Texans rushed for 191 yards, the seventh opponent to run for at least 186 on the Colts.

"It's really disappointing for us not to come through with a win down here," said Colts coach Tony Dungy. "But that's the way everything's been this year."

Dayne ran five times for 21 yards on the Texans' opening drive and finished it with a 3-yard TD run. Dominic Rhodes fumbled on the Colts' second play from scrimmage and Dayne scored again five minutes later to put the Texans up 14-

"It's been fun," Dayne said of his season in Houston. "Each week I get the ball, I'm trying to show Coach (Gary Kubiak) that I want to be here and I want to help this team win. I'm going to do what I have to do to help this team."

Peyton Manning went 5for-5 on the Colts' ensuing drive and found Marvin Harrison deep down the middle for a touchdown late in the first quarter.

Manning hit Aaron Morehead for another score midway through the second quarter. On that drive, Manning went over 4,000 yards passing for the seventh time in nine seasons, a new NFL record.

But with Dayne and rookie running back Chris Taylor gaining chunks of yardage on clock-chewing runs, Manning knew the Colts' offense wasn't going to have many chances to score.

And he was right.

The Colts ended up with only six possessions and scored on four of them. But after Manning tied the game at 24-all with another TD pass to Harrison with 2:41 left, David Carr and the Texans drove 31 yards and killed all but three seconds, setting up Brown's winning kick.

The much-maligned Carr went 16 of 23 for 163 yards, guiding Houston to its first win over the Colts in 10 tries

"Eyery time we play them I say the same thing: 'You've got to run the ball,"' Carr said. "And then when you run the ball, the pass protection speaks for itself. When you run the ball like that, they can't rush you and do what they do."

Manning finished 21-of-27 for 205 yards. Even though the Colts were already AFC South champions, Manning is worried about how the team is playing.

"This is a critical time for us," Manning said. "This is the time when people on the outside will start pointing fingers. As a team we need to stay together and guys just need to do their jobs a little bit better across the board and all three phases of the game."

About the only thing he couldn't answer was how he was voted AP Male Athlete of the Year.

Woods won the award over San Diego Chargers running back LaDainian Tomlinson, with tennis great Roger Federer a distant third. The 31-year-old Woods ties the record of 4 wins set by Lance Armstrong, who won the last four years.

While pleased to hear he had won the award, Woods was perplexed it did not go to his good friend Federer, who continues to dominate tennis. Woods was in Federer's box at Flushing Meadows when the Swiss star captured the U.S. Open.

"What he's done in tennis, I think, is far greater than what I've done in golf," Woods said. "He's lost what ... five matches in three years? That's pretty good."

Federer actually has lost a few more than that, but not many. His record in 2006 was an amazing 92-5, including 12 singles titles.

# Colt Brennan breaks more records, helps defeat ASU at Hawaii Bowl

HONOLULU (AP) - As a walk-on at Hawaii, Colt Brennan was determined to redeem himself and create something special.

He's done that and more. Brennan broke the NCAA single-season record for touchdown passes with 58, throwing five in the second half to lead Hawaii to a 41-24 victory over Arizona State on Sunday night in the Hawaii Bowl.

Brennan, 33-of-42 for 559 yards, threw a 7-yard scoring pass to Ryan Grice-Mullen on the Warriors' second

11

series of the second half to offer me something that's break the previous mark of 54 set by Houston's David Klingler in 1990, also against the Sun Devils.

The game capped his breakout season, during which he led the nation in TD passes, passing yards, total offense, passing efficiency, points responsible for and completion percentage.

Brennan, who finished sixth in the Heisman Trophy voting, said he'll most likely return for his senior year. "They're going to have to

impossible to turn down, and I mean impossible to turn down," he said. "If not, I'm just going to come back and enjoy myself." Jason Rivers also tied a

school mark with 14 receptions and set the Hawaii record with 308 yards, the most in a bowl game since 1937. NCAA records don't go back any further.

Grice-Mullen grabbed the record TD pass with one hand, made a move and leaped across the goal line for the touchdown that gave Hawaii a 17-10 lead.

"When they show that touchdown to break the record, it's going to be an unbelievable receiver making an unbelievable catch and me not doing much," Brennan said.

After throwing the pass, Brennan hugged coach June Jones and waved No. 1 as teammates lifted the junior into the air with the crowd of 40,623 cheering wildly.

Brennan tied the record on the previous series, throwing a 38-yard pass to a wide open Rivers for his 54th TD.

Brennan and Rivers, selected the co-MVPs for Hawaii, also teamed on the final touchdown pass, a 79-yarder late in the fourth quarter.

"He just kept hitting all night. We really had something special this year," Rivers said.

Hawaii (11-3) matched the school mark for most wins in a season, set in 1992 when the team went 11-2.

The Sun Devils (7-6) concluded their disappointing season, unable to send coach Dirk Koetter out with a win. He coached his final game after being fired last month. Dennis Erickson has been hired to take over the team.

Koetter went 40-34 in six seasons, including 2-19 against ranked teams and 21-28 in the Pac-10. He also led the Sun Devils to four bowl games.

Koetter said he plans on enjoying Christmas and resting before trying to find a new job.

"I'm a football coach. I'll be coaching," he said. "Don't feel sorry for us. We'll be fine."

## Cotton bid shows Nebraska progress under Callahan

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) -Two years after failing to. qualify for a bowl, Nebraska is playing in January again.

That's the key indicator of progress under third-year coach Bill Callahan, fullback Dane Todd says.

The 22nd-ranked Cornhuskers (9-4) were scheduled to fly today to Dallas, where they'll play No. 10 Auburn (10-2) in next Monday's Cotton Bowl.

"We didn't go anywhere two years ago, and now we're going to a very nice bowl game, so that's obvious progress," Todd said. "No one can deny that."

Nebraska was a regular participant in New Year's bowl games under Tom Osborne, but the Huskers haven't played in January

since losing to Miami in the 71-year-old Cotton is regardnational championship Rose Bowl game after the 2001 season.

Callahan, who replaced the fired Frank Solich in 2004, lost four of the last five games his first season to finish 5-6 and end Nebraska's NCAA-record 35-year bowl streak.

Last year the Huskers returned to the postseason with a 32-28 Alamo Bowl victory over Michigan, giving them three straight wins to end the year.

This season Nebraska swept through the Big 12 North and was invited to the Cotton Bowl after losing 21-7 to Oklahoma in the conference championship game. In the era of the Bowl

Championship Series, the

ed as a second-tier bowl. But officials with the traditionrich game are studying ways to get into the BCS mix when the series' contract expires in 2010.

"It used to carry a lot more significance when there were just a couple Jan. 1 games," Todd said. "Now that there are so many games Jan. 1 and later, the day itself isn't significant. But the bowl game is significant. The Cotton Bowl is a great game to go to, and we're excited about it.

The Huskers will have their fourth opportunity of the season to beat a Top 10 opponent. They haven't knocked off a team of that stature since Oklahoma in 2001. This year they lost to

Southern California, Texas and Oklahoma.

Auburn tied for second place in the Southeastern Conference's West Division. The Tigers were ranked as high as No. 2 in October, and they have the nation's thirdbest record over the past three seasons at 32-5.

This will be the fourth alltime meeting between the schools --- Nebraska won the first three — and first since 1982.

"When you get to play an SEC team like Auburn in the Cotton Bowl, it's a great opportunity to cap the thing off the right way," defensive end Jay Moore said. "This is a good way to get back to where we need to be."

# Steelers out of playoffs, suffer 2nd loss to Baltimore

PITTSBURGH (AP) -The Baltimore Ravens are everything the Pittsburgh Steelers expected to be this season.

Their quarterback doesn't get rattled by big-game pressure or hostile surroundings. Their running game is productive, consistent and frequently extends drives. Their defense, if not the best in the league, might be close to it.

So perhaps it was only fitting the Ravens not only won the AFC North — a few months after Steelers linebacker Joey Porter all but predicted Pittsburgh would win it — but ended any opportunity the Super Bowl champions had of repeating.

This time it was Ravens 31, Steelers 7, Pittsburgh's worst loss at home since Heinz Field opened in 2001.

A month ago, it was Ravens 27, Steelers 0 in Baltimore, in what Hines Ward called the worst Steelers loss he could remember.

So the now-eliminated Steelers (7-8) won't be surprised if the Ravens (12-3) do what the Steelers themselves did last season by rolling through the playoffs and winning the Super Bowl, right? After all, Baltimore has a chance to be top-seeded and secure home-field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs.

# A real-life Philly underdog claws his way back toward the top

### By JIM LITKE AP Sports Columnist

The best Philadelphia sports story these days isn't the one packing them in at the box office.

Jeff Garcia's story has plenty in common with "Rocky Balboa" underdog gets an unlikely big fight late in his career — but he didn't rely on screenwriters, stunt doubles and Hollywood clout to make it come true. All he needed was a chance.

"It's not about looking too far in the future," Garcia said after orchestrating the Eagles' knockout of the Cowboys, 23-7 on Monday, for his fourth consecutive win. "It's about playing today.'

Two months shy of his 37th birthday and coming off failed stints in Cleveland and Detroit, it's no surprise Garcia and the Eagles are trying to stay stuck in the present. Barely a month ago, they looked like NFC East roadkill at 5-6.

With a win next week over Atlanta, Philadelphia can clinch its fifth division title in six seasons. All because Garcia is better at coming back than Rocky, too. He'd need all his fingers and most of his toes to count the number of times something good was supposed to happen, only to see just about every opportunity choked off faster than a passing lane.

Garcia was a high school star in Gilroy, Calif., who attracted so little attention from college programs that he wound up playing in his hometown at Gavilan College, where his father, Bob, was athletic director and football coach. He earned honorable mention as a junior college All-American and promotion to San Jose State, where Garcia became the starting quarterback for three years. He left as the school's alltime leader in total offense, but still couldn't convince scouts he had a future in the game.

Undrafted by NFL, Garcia spent the next five seasons in the Canadian Football League, put up eye-popping numbers in the last four, and finally squeezed his way into the big time. He got his break in San Francisco when Steve Young went down with a concussion in 1999, turned in three consecutive Pro Bowl seasons, but was looking for a job after the 2003 season and a fallout with then-teammate Terrell Owens.

During the week leading up to Monday's game, Owens, who

64-yard

burst of breakaway speed,

Leon Washington moved the

New York Jets closer to the

gain on a screen pass set up

the winning field goal with

10 seconds left, and the Jets

overcame rainy weather, a

sputtering offense and two

late scores by the Miami

Dolphins to win 13-10 on

The Jets (9-6) will clinch

an AFC wild-card playoff

berth if they beat Oakland

(2-13) in their final regular-

now things are finally in our

control," first-year coach

Steady rain mired the Jets

in a punting contest for three

"It's nice to know that

season game Sunday.

Eric Mangini said.

Washington's

Monday night.

playoffs.

Philadelphia before moving on to Dallas, said, "I don't have anything against the guy." Which was funny, since T.O. ripped Garcia in a book and a handful of interviews, on one occasion even questioning his sexuality.

"It's not about me or Jeff," Owens added, "and I commend him on the job he's doing there." Right.

Before the game, though, Owens also told ESPN he would like nothing more than to catch a late touchdown pass to ruin Philadelphia's season for the second year in a row. That was a notso-subtle reference to Owens' running feud with former teammate and Philly quarterback Donovan McNabb, which ultimately wrecked the Eagles' season.

But in a roundabout way, McNabb may have gotten the last laugh. Eagles coach Andy Reid went looking for a backup for McNabb last spring and took a chance by signing Garcia on the rebound from a brief, disastrous stop in Detroit. It's no exaggeration to say Garcia looked washed up in the preseason. However, Reid kept both him and A.J.

wore out his welcome in Feeley as backups, a move that looked plenty smart to everybody but Philly's notoriously tough fans when a season-ending knee injury took McNabb out of the picture in November.

The faithful howled for Feeley, but Reid saw something in Garcia that he liked. The quarterback had mastered the 49ers' version of the West Coast offense and his teacher from those days, Marty Mornhinweg, was now offensive coordinator for the Eagles. All that familiarity did the lot of them very little good in Garcia's first start, a 45-21 loss at Indianapolis. But what Philly fans, his teammates and maybe even the staff had underestimated was their quarterback's ability to take a punch.

There are plenty of ways to quantify Garcia's recuperative powers during the winning streak - he's been the league's highestrated passer in that stretch, totaling almost 1,100 yards and nine touchdowns — but it's been the leadership that Owens so often mocked that's rallied the Eagles to his side.

"The point in the season when he came in, this team needed a fighter," running back Brian

Westbrook said. "When Jeff got in there, he showed he's a fighter."

"Not only is he making big plays and showing leadership on the field," linebacker Jeremiah Trotter said, "he's running around like a crazy man and cheering for the defense. Last week, he even kissed me on the helmet after a play, which I didn't like all that much."

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But there's no arguing with results. Reid has throttled back his passing attack and featured more short throws to maximize Garcia's skills. All the inspirational stuff, though, has been a bonus.

"It's real exciting for this team to have come together like they're coming together and just playing all out from top to bottom. There's not a single guy who's not putting everything out there during the week of preparation and then following through," Garcia said, "on game day."

Let him have a few more days like Monday down the stretch and somebody had better call rewrite.

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press.

# N.Y. Jets one win away from playoffs after defeating Miami

# Rutgers looking for bowl win to cap historic season

PISCATAWAY, N.J. (AP) - The Rutgers football program has reached unparalleled heights in the last four months, but it's a safe bet the nine-game winning streak, No. 7 ranking and bushels of postseason awards will feel anticlimactic if the Scarlet Knights don't wind up with the first bowl win in school history next week.

Few players would admit that, mind you. They have been too well schooled by coach Greg Schiano to prepare for and play each game in a vacuum, oblivious to hype and history.

It is hard to apply the "just another game" theory to Thursday's Texas Bowl matchup with Kansas State, however. The game will serve as the culmination of the best season in school history, and also will mark the final game for several players who helped rebuild the program's foundation under Schiano.

"Five years," fullback Brian Leonard said, pausing to mull it over this week. "It seems like two. Not even. Obviously time flies when you're having fun. But it's coming to an end, my time's up now and it's time for these young guys to take it to the next level."

The next level would have to include a bowl win, something the Scarlet Knights barely missed out on last year when they fell to Arizona State 45-40 in the Insight Bowl.

MIAMI (AP) — With a Dolphins with scoring drives couple of quick cuts and a of 80 and 68 yards.

> "This is the type of game you want to win," Jets linebacker Anthony Schlegel said. "This was a playofftype game. We probably will find ourselves in this situation if we are in the playoffs — a tight game, on the road. This tells us we can pull these kind of games out."

> Miami kicked a tying field goal with 2:09 left, but on the Jets' next play, Washington caught Pennington's pass in the flat and broke into the second-

"Leon is faster than most people," Pennington said.

"It's obviously a play that is not meant to go that far," Miami's Jason Taylor said. "The defense let the team down.'

Washington's dash set up quarters, and all of the points came in the final 17:25. In a 30-yard field goal by Mike the final period, New York Nugent. answered scores by the

For the Dolphins (6-9), the

season for Nick Saban in his 13 years as a college and NFL coach. Miami was eliminated from the playoff race a week ago.

defeat ensures the first losing

The rain resulted in a succession of errant and dropped passes — and 18 punts. A mishandled snap spoiled a field goal try by New York. Dolphins cornerback Eddie Jackson left the game with a knee injury when he stumbled and fell on the slippery field without being hit.

"It was an awful game for a long time," New York receiver Laveranues Coles said. "But we still picked up the win."

When the Dolphins' scoreless streak reached six quarters, Cleo Lemon replaced Joey Harrington at quarterback to start the second half. A third-year pro, Lemon threw his first NFL touchdown pass and finished

Miami Heat celebrates Christmas with win over Los Angeles

MIAMI (AP) — Growing up, Dwyane Wade was always around a television when it was time for the NBA's annual Christmas

game telecast. "You always watched," Wade said, "because something exciting always happened."

He wasn't watching on Monday — because he was the one providing the excitement.

dismissed all Wade pregame suggestions that his Christmas would be a 1-on-1 showdown against Kobe Bryant, then turned the matchup of two of the NBA's best scorers into a one-sided battle. He had 40 points and 11 assists, leading Miami to a 101-85 win over the Los Angeles Lakers — the third straight Christmas win for ward Dorell Wright said.

the Heat in the series.

"Makes it great, man, makes it great," Wade said. "To be playing on Christmas is great. ... And we can go home and continue enjoying Christmas Day knowing that you played an unbelievable game, knowing that your team played well and that you got a win. Ain't too many things better than that.'

Wade made 12 of 20 shots from the floor, 15 of 16 from the line, and got a huge ovation from another sellout Miami crowd when leaving with 57.9 seconds remaining.

The praise kept coming postgame, too.

"An outrageous night," Heat coach Pat Riley said.

"Flash, man," Heat for-

"That boy's got something."

"Pretty entertaining to watch," added Heat center Alonzo Mourning. "He's a special player."

Meanwhile, Bryant ---who entered the game as the sixth-leading scorer in the league at 27.8 points never got rolling. He missed his first six shots, finished 4of-17 from the floor and with 16 points, one over his season-low.

"You have to let it go," Bryant said. "It was disappointing, but we have two more games on this trip. It's a long season. We are 18-10. Now it is time to move on." Jason Kapono had 11

points and Wright added 10 for the Heat, who won for the fourth time in five games.

Ronny Turiaf had 13

11-for-16 for 104 yards. "We decided to go with Cleo to see if he would give us a little bit of a spark," Saban said. "He did a decent job of moving the team a couple of times.

Miami's Ronnie Brown, back in the lineup after missing three games with a hand injury, rushed for 110 yards on 18 carries. But the Jets scored on their final three possessions to pull out the win.

After Lemon hit Randy McMichael on a 7-yard touchdown pass to put the Dolphins ahead 7-3, New York regained the lead on Pennington's 31-yard scoring pass to Jerricho Cotchery.

A funny bounce then produced the game's only turnover — and the tying field goal for Miami.

A short punt by the Dolphins took a backward hop before deflecting off the

arm of Jets blocker Brad Kassell, and Miami's John Denney recovered at the Jets 42. Eight plays later, Olindo Mare kicked a 25-yard field goal.

Saban opted to kick rather than trying for a first down on fourth-and-1.

"Some guys wanted to go for it and some guys wanted to kick it," Lemon said. "When it's all said and done, coach Saban's got to make that decision."

Jackson sustained a knee injury in the second quarter and was on crutches after the game.

Coles was briefly knocked out of the game when Zach Thomas delivered a jarring hit. "I was woozy for a long time," Coles said. "I look OK now, but looks can be deceiving."

points and Luke Walton 21st consecutive contest as added 10 for the Lakers.

"I told my coaches at halftime that I thought I would stay in the locker room and watch 'A Christmas Carol' and they could go out and do the rest of this game the way we were playing out there," Lakers coach Phil Jackson said. "I did not feel we were right from the opening tap in this game."

This Christmas 'meeting lacked the hype of the previous two, where the reunions of teammates-turned-rivals Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal created no shortage of interesting storylines.

But the feud between the two thawed last year, and O'Neal wasn't in this game. The Heat center — who's appeared in only four games this season — missed his

he continues to recover from knee surgery.

Even without him, Miami has won a season-best four straight at home and is back to within a game of .500 at 13-14.

'To win this game was big," Heat forward Antoine Walker said. "It's good for the whole team, for Dwyane, for Shaq. He told us before the game he really wanted us to win this game.'

O'Neal pulled Wade aside for a pregame chat, delivering another pregame message to the star guard.

"I told him just go out and play your game and mix it " O'Neal said. "And he up. did that. That's why he's the best."

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Century	Melba M	Ausgrave		BILITY, LIFE,	plus shift differential.	Qualifications: strong marketing, salesman-	70 Furn. Apro.	of extras. 2 covered pa- tios. 669-1574, 886-1207
	Jim Dav	idson (BKR)662-9021		RANCE PAID ON	Panhandle 537-3194.	ship, organizational and		108.009-15/4, 880-1207
	Donna C	Courter		REN, DOT MEDICAL,		leadership skills; college		
Real Estate For The Real Worl	d Zeb Salla	ors	UNIFORMS, HON	<b>AE EVERY NIGHT</b>	NURSING	degree preferred, may		Owner Will
Pampa-MLS Amarillo-MLS	5				<b>OPPORTUNITIES!</b>	substitute a minimum of	1=1	Finance
Visit CENTURY 21 COM	MUNITIES <sup>™</sup> on A	AOL@Keyword:CENTURY 21		ST HAVE		7 years of direct related	EQUAL HOUSING	E/Z Terms
erage A Home A Minute represents an average bas 997 Century 21 Real Estate Corporation* and <sup>14</sup> trade	sed upon all homes bought or sol rmark and servicemark of Centus	id through CENTURY 21 franchlies during 1995 ry 21 Real Estate Corporation Equal Housing Opportunity EACH		MAT AND TANKER	RNs/LVNs	experience. Salary: 65k	All real estate advertised	1333 Garland
FICE IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED				GAND PREVIOUS	#12-hour shifts	plus benefits, depending	herein is subject to the	2 bedroom, 1 bath
				ENT RECORD	*You get every other	on qualifications. Mail resume to Panhandle	Federal Fair Housing	1012 0
				RUG AND	weekend off	Worksource, 1224 N.	Act, which makes it ille-	1012 Duncan 2 bedroom, 1 bath
			ALCOHO	L RECORD	*Work approximately 15	Hobart Ste. 101, Pampa,	gal to advertise "any	2 brarooni, r baar
					days per month	TX 79065, attn. Kathy	preference, limitation, or discrimination because	Call Joe
					CNAs: \$500	Cota. Resumes accepted	of race, color, religion,	806-336-1740
HAPPY BIRTHDAY for	r Wednesday,	be upset at your lack of attentio	0	" if need be. Tonight:		until February 1, 2007 or	sex, handicap, familial	or
Dec. 27, 2006:		ability to juggle many demands			sign on bonus	until position is filled. Pampa EDC is an Equal	status or national origin,	Milton
Your home and personal		thoughtful of those around you w		<b>S</b> (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)	"Ask for details!	Opportunity Employer.	or intention to make any	806-790-0827
even more important than		the day. Tonight: Still enjoying		creativity and imagina-	*All shifts available	opportunity Employer.	such preference, limita-	
You might want to make		moment.		erge. You are full of great	Positions require Texas	Market and a second	tion, or discrimination."	
society, but be realistic abo		CANCER (June 21-July 22)		ship turns up the temper-	State License of Certifi- cation. For additional in-	SONIC DRIVE-IN is	State law also forbids	<b>BOB CLEMENTS</b>
you feel good. Your ins		★★★ Be ready to stand up		your affection through a	formation. please call	now accepting appli-	discrimination based on	CLEANERS
come through for you in a		counted. Whatever needs to be			(806)273-3785, or apply	cations for dependa-	these factors. We will not knowingly accept	
in your sign adds a co		certainly a snap for you. Plug into		(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)	in person:	ble, mature, enthusi-	any advertising for real	Building & Equipment
resourcefulness. If you are		ect. You'll gain a great sense of		nood swings, though for		astic, friendly crew- members for all	estate which is in viola-	75 yr old business
criminating as to the pers		plishment. Visit with an older		ou might want stay close	BORGER	shifts, all postions.	tion of the law. All per-	Interested Buyers
close, as desirable as he	or she might	who needs attention. Tonight: C		ight tend to hold in a lot	HEALTHCARE	Need early crew	sons are hereby in-	May Look At Books
seem. This person might s	sense a vulner-	late.	of your thoughts	s. Venus moves into your	1316 S. Elorida	team for new 6AM	formed that all dwellings	\$350,000
ability in you. If you are a	attached, shar-	I EO (July 22 Aug 22)	sign, adding to	a sense of well-being.			advertised are available	
		LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)			-	opening. Apply in-		Contin
ing more of your fears wi	ill open a new	★★★★ Walk in another's shoe	s. Read Others pick up	on this. Tonight: Happy	Bornar	opening. Apply in- person at 1404 Ho-	on an equal opportunity	Century
path. Trust your instincts a	and share them	**** Walk in another's shoe between the lines. You will be abl	s. Read Others pick up e to get close to home.	on this. Tonight: Happy	Borger Equal Opportunity	opening. Apply in-		Century
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