



Tomorrow's Weather

HIGH 31
LOW 22

See expanded weather on Page 2

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Photo left courtesy of Pampa Fire Department. Photo right by KERRI SMITH
Firefighters Leroy Cox, left, and Craig Harkcom rescue the duck from the lake at Recreation Park. They scooted out on the ice in a boat loaned by Ronnie Woods. Firefighters turned over the duck that they named "Forrest Gump," to Animal Control. Sandy Burns, holding Forrest, is caring for and feeding the animal until he can be released back into the park. E.W. Mason, right, is the person who noticed the stranded duck.

Firefighters rescue duck from frozen park lake

By KERRI SMITH
Staff Writer
The stuck duck has been rescued. Firefighters put together a rescue plan Thursday evening to save the duck that was either frozen or hung on something in the lake at Recreation Park. The duck is fine and being cared for at Animal Control and it will be released at the park after the next round of bad weather passes.

E.W. Mason notified the newspaper office Wednesday of a duck that was in the same spot in the middle of the lake and had been there for about three days. He was worried that it was hung up on something. People from the Parks and Wildlife Department and Animal Control investigated and decided the duck was frozen in the ice and would probably just free itself after moving around enough to melt the ice around

him. The fire department was notified about the animal, and they sprang into action around 5 p.m. Thursday, according to Deputy Chief Randy Dunham. They needed to find a flat bottom boat to scoot out on the ice in case it broke. "We called Police Chief Trevlyn Pitner and he told us of a friend that had a boat like that so we contacted him," Dunham said. "Ronnie Woods

brought his boat out to the lake and let us use it in the rescue, so we need to thank him for assisting us in this effort." Dunham said that along with himself, five other firefighters were involved in the rescue — Fire Chief Kim Powell, Training Officer Jerry Tomashik, Captain Clyde Scifres and equipment operators Craig
See DUCK, Page 3

Cold chore



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH
Marisela Lujan pumps gas at the Valero station on Hobart Thursday. She wanted to fill up before bad weather hits. There is a 70 percent chance of snow tonight with a low of 22.

Salvation Army wants to use Baker school for kids' club

By KERRI SMITH
Staff Writer
The Pampa Independent School District held a regular board meeting Thursday evening and approved purchases that were over \$10,000, approved additional professional development absences for some staff, discussed committees to study dress code and grade level schools and heard a request from the Salvation Army to use Baker Elementary School for a boys and girls club. The board approved purchase orders for heating and electricity that were \$51,377 and \$14,814 respectively. They also approved multiple purchase orders for new computers for each of the elementary schools, as well as the middle and high schools. Eight staff members needed approval to go over the eight day limit for professional

training and the board voted to approve these. The training these staff members are attending are workshops, seminars, conferences and other meetings related to their teaching responsibilities. Two committees were formed including board members, teachers, community leaders, parents and students. Derrell DeLoach will chair the committee that will study the standard of dress for students and staff. The board will consider uniforms, a structured dress code or leaving the dress code the way it is currently. "We need to do research and see what has worked and not worked for other school districts in regards to the dress code," DeLoach said. "We need to get a lot of public input
See PISD, Page 3

Junior Livestock Show to be held this weekend

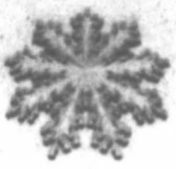


Organizers are gearing up for the annual Gray County Junior Livestock Show Saturday at Clyde Carruth Pavilion in Pampa. The show will get under way at 8 a.m. and will include goats, lambs, steers and barrows. Weigh-in began Wednesday and continued through today. A sale on Monday will conclude the annual event. The sale will start at 5:30 p.m. with a meal at M.K. Brown Auditorium in Pampa.

The following area 4-Hers and FFA members will be exhibiting at the upcoming show: Hilary Thomas, Laura Kirkland, Darion Snell, Gatlin Taylor, Zach Licklider, Emily Licklider, Bill Haley, Bobby Haley, Thomas Haley, Roper Sweeney, Kiesha Johnson, Weston Hendricks, Austin Hendricks, and Ty Youree. Also Marlee Youree, Joey
See SHOW, Page 3



Laura Kirkland of Gray County 4-H exhibits her steer at the Top O' Texas show held recently. She is among exhibitors at this weekend's Junior Livestock Show/

NEXT DAY FORECAST

Saturday	Sunday	Monday
		
Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy

Saturday: Snow likely. Cloudy, with a high near 31. Wind chill values between 13 and 21. South-southeast wind between 5 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70 percent. New snow accumulation of around 4 inches.

Saturday Night: A 50 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 22. Wind chill values between 10 and 18. South-southeast wind 10 to 15 mph becoming west.

Sunday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 35. North-northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 19. North-northeast wind around 10 mph.

Monday: A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 30. North northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Monday Night: A 20 percent chance of snow. Partly cloudy, with a low around 18. North-northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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Obituaries

Euna Inez Norton, 82

Euna "Inez" Norton, 82, went to meet her Lord on Wednesday, January 17, 2007. She was born in Pampa, Texas, June 18, 1924, to Artie and Gurtie (Holmes) Shaw. Inez married Jim Norton on April 14, 1941. They resided in Durango, Colo., most of their married life. When they retired they moved to Bloomfield, N.M. Inez is survived by her husband, Jim of 67 years whom resides in Bloomfield; children, Linda Norton of

Bloomfield and Denny Okla., Dillon Lammon and Norton of Durango. Inez is also survived by three grandchildren, Jimmy Bartholomew of Salisaw, Okla., Wendy Oldham of Vernal, Utah, and Crystal Lammon of Durango; seven great-grandchildren, Lacy, Taylor and Dallas Oldham of Vernal, Utah, Clint and DeCheyna Bartheolomew of Salisaw,

Okla., Dillon Lammon and Camile Albo of Durango. She is also survived by numerous nephews and nieces.

Inez was loved dearly by everyone in her church, her friends and her family.

Visitation will be Saturday, January 20, 2007, from 1 to 5 p.m. at Cope Memorial Chapel, 404 W. Arrington, Farmington.

Service will be Monday, January 22, 2007, at 10 a.m. at Aztec Baptist Church, 1219 South Main Ave., Aztec, NM 87410. Pastor Don Stackpole will officiate.

She will be laid to rest at Greenmont Cemetery in Durango, Colo. Graveside services will be conducted by her nephew Pastor Ted Huntington.

Inez is in the care of Cope Memorial Chapel, Farmington, (505) 327-5142.



Norton

Emergency Services

Sheriff

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

Thursday, Jan. 18
Larry Lynn Hendrix, 51, of Amarillo was arrested by GCSO for bond surrender out of Potter County on a charge of assault causing bodily injury.

Sidney Bowers, 43, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa Police Department in the 600 block of East Frederic for DWI, 3rd or more offense, failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to yield right of way.

Bruce Christian, 26, of Pampa was arrested by PPD for theft by check.

Friday, Jan. 19
Travis Selby, 32, of Pampa was arrested by Department of Public Safety for possession of a controlled substance.

lobby.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 800 block of North Somerville where minor injuries that did not need medical attention occurred.

Thefts were reported in the 1200 block of North Williston and the 1200 block of North Hobart where \$341 in cash was taken.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1200 block of North Williston where a CD player valued at \$200 was taken.

Crossing guard duty was provided at five locations.

Calls concerning animals were reported in the 1900 block of North Duncan, the 300 block of North Dwight, the 1200 block of East Francis, the 400 block of South Starkweather, the 800 block of East Francis, the 2600 block of North Seminole, and at two undisclosed locations.

A civil matter was reported in the police department lobby.

A 911 hangup call was received from the 300 block of South Miami.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of North Duncan, the 800 block of East Foster and the 1800 block of North Christy where a vehicle door valued at \$1,500 was damaged.

An alarm was investigated in the 400 block of North Somerville.

A narcotics violation was reported in the 800 block of North Dwight.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of North West.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the

900 block of North Somerville.

Criminal trespass was reported at a location on Highway 60 East.

Assistance to other agencies was made at the intersection of Gwendolyn and Sumner.

Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents today.

Thursday, Jan. 18
6:37 p.m. — A 1999 Ford Taurus driven by Atziri Arit Murgado, 15, of 433 Yeager, and a 1999 Saturn SL1 driven by Courtney Renee Linn, 16, of 2317 N. Cherokee, collided at the intersection of North Hobart and West Randy Matson. There were no injuries reported. Murgado was cited for unsafe lane change and violation of driver's license restriction.

6:40 p.m. — A 1995 Ford F150 pickup driven by Sidney David Bowers, 43, of 1408 S. Barnes, and a 2004 Nissan Frontier pickup driven by Domingo Valentin Navarette, 49, of 1016 Prairie, collided at the intersection of East Frederic and South Barnes. The collision caused the Nissan Frontier to collide with a 2005 Chevrolet Tahoe driven by Janell Gunsolus Dunnam, 59, of Wheeler who was exiting a private drive in the 500 block of South Barnes. There were no reported injuries. Bowers was cited for failure to yield right of way and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

Fire

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

Thursday, Jan. 18
11:36 a.m. — Two units and six personnel responded to the 1800 block of Lynne on a smoke scare.

5:06 p.m. — Four units and six personnel responded to Recreation Park on an animal rescue and freed a duck frozen on the lake.

6:38 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the intersection of Hobart and Randy Matson on a vehicle accident.

6:43 p.m. — One unit and four personnel responded to the intersection of Highway 60 and Barnes on a vehicle accident.

Ambulance

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls in the period between 7 a.m. Wednesday and 7 a.m. today.

Wednesday, Jan. 17
10:22 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Pampa Regional Medical Center and transported a patient to the 2200 block of Evergreen.
4:51 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1400 block of Somerville and transported a patient to PRMC.

Thursday, Jan. 18
12:39 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of Crane Road and transported a patient to PRMC.

5:40 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to an undisclosed location.

10:18 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of North Sumner.

AAA: Gas prices continuing to decline statewide

HOUSTON (AP) — Retail gasoline prices continue to fall across Texas, according to the weekly AAA Texas gas price survey released Friday.

The survey showed that regular, self-serve gasoline was retailing for an average of \$2.11 per gallon statewide, 6 cents less than last week. Nationally, the retail price averaged \$2.21 per gallon, down 7 cents from last week.

"The key to lower prices will be if crude oil remains near its present level or moves even lower in the days and

weeks ahead," said auto spokeswoman Rose Rougeau. "Pump prices have steadily declined for the past three weeks of the new year."

Crude oil prices fell Thursday below \$50 a barrel on New York markets for the first time since May.

The highest gas prices in the Texas survey this week were in the Austin area, where they averaged \$2.17 per gallon, down 4 cents from last week. The cheapest gas was in Corpus Christi, where it averaged \$1.98 per

gallon, down 8 cents from last week.

These are average per-gallon prices of regular, self-serve gasoline in Texas metro areas and the change from last week, according to today's AAA Texas Weekend Gas Watch:

Austin-San Marcos — \$2.174, down 3.6 cents
Amarillo — \$2.112, down 6.8 cents
Beaumont — \$2.061, down 7.6 cents
Corpus Christi — \$1.981, down 8.4 cents



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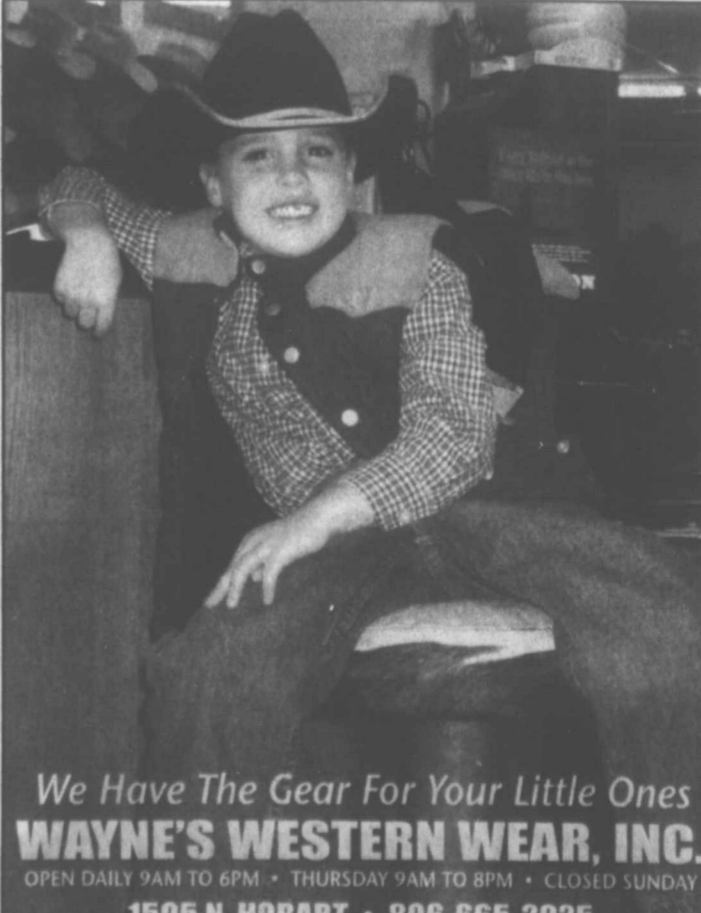
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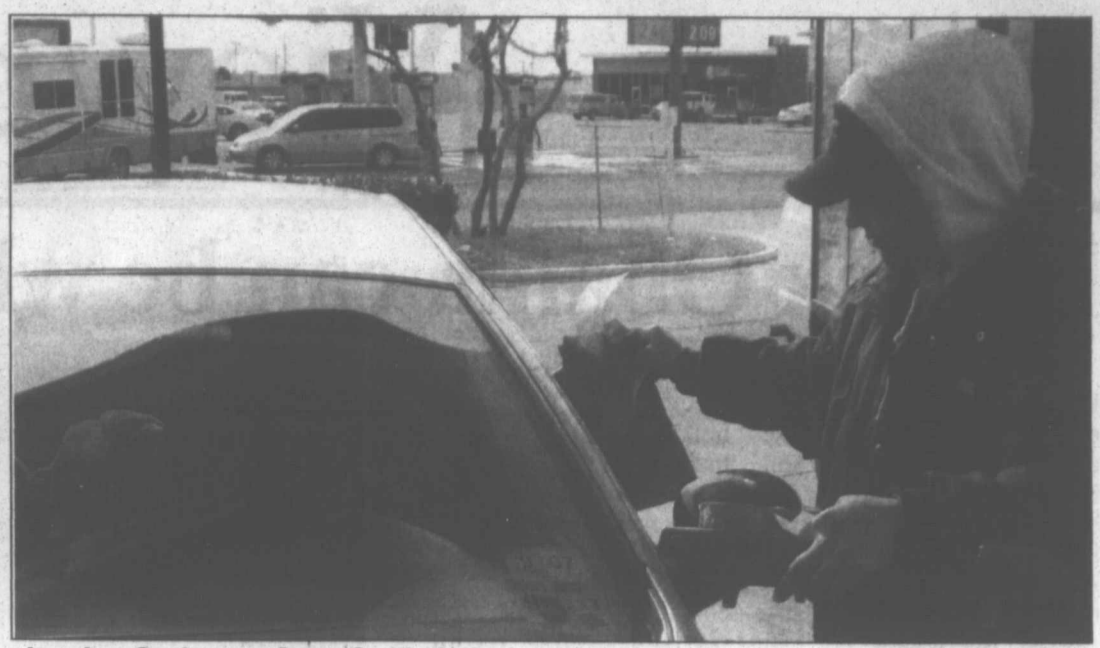
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Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH

The forecast is calling for icy weather again this weekend, and Rene Garrison is getting prepared by buying ice melt at Barlett's Lumber and Hardware from cashier Gail Organ, left. Garrison said this product will be used at Bob Douthitt Autos to clear the walkways.



Jessica Ontiveros from Sonic is bundled up to serve lunch Thursday to Riley Atwood. She could be cold this weekend as forecasters are calling for a 70 percent chance of snow tonight with a low of 22. Saturday's high should reach 31 with a 70 percent chance of snow.

House votes to provide protection for pages

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House voted today to overhaul the board that supervises its congressional page program, seeking to close the book on a sordid e-mail and sex scandal that sullied its reputation and became a Campaign 2006 issue.

Specifically, lawmakers voted 416-0 to provide that both parties have equal say in overseeing the program, as old as the institution itself.

The purpose of the resolution the members approved today was to ensure that teen-age pages no longer are vulnerable to the kinds of electronic-message come-ons associated with now-resigned Rep. Mark Foley, R-Fla.

The bipartisan resolution resulted from the failure of the House Page Board's past Republican chairman, Illinois Republican John Shimkus, to

notify other board members that Foley had sent questionable e-mails to a former page.

Pages are high school students who learn about Congress while running errands and attending a congressionally-run school.

The new, eight-member board will include an equal number of lawmakers from each party and include a former page and the parent of a current or former page. The board also would have to meet regularly.

Foley resigned his seat last September after news accounts revealed how he became acquainted with male pages while they worked in Congress, and then sent them the improper messages after they left — including sexually explicit instant messages.

The sponsors of the resolution are Reps. Dale Kildee, D-Mich., and Shelley Moore Capito, R-W.Va., two page board members who were never informed by Shimkus of Foley's questionable e-mails to a former page until the lawmaker resigned last Sept. 29.

Shimkus had learned of Foley's e-mails in November 2005. While he went with the House clerk to confront Foley, Shimkus never convened a page board meeting and Foley failed to stop his messages to male former pages.

"The board must not only be free of partisanship, but must function so all of the members have access" to allegations of misconduct, said Rep. Juanita Millender-McDonald, D-Calif., chairman of the Committee on House Administration.

Motorola to cut 3,500 jobs as profits fall

CHICAGO (AP) — Motorola Inc. CEO Ed Zander said today the cellphone maker will cut 3,500 jobs, or 5 percent of its work force, as it moves to improve operating costs after a disappointing fourth quarter.

Zander, speaking to analysts at a meeting in New York, said the move will save the company about \$400 million over two years. The cuts from Motorola's work force of about 70,000 are to be spread across the company globally and completed in the first half of 2007.

The world's No. 2 handset manufac-

turer also said it will beat Wall Street estimates for 2007 sales by as much as \$3 billion, forecasting a full-year total of \$46 billion to \$49 billion. Analysts had predicted sales of \$45.9 billion.

The announcements sent Motorola's stock surging despite a fourth-quarter earnings report that showed profits down 48 percent from a year earlier on a stumble in operating results from its handset business.

Shares rose 58 cents, or 3.1 percent, to \$19.29 in morning trading on the New York Stock Exchange. The stock began the session down 9 percent this

year after a 9 percent decline in 2006.

The Schaumburg, Ill.-based company had warned two weeks earlier that results would come in well below expectations after a decline in operating profitability.

Zander said a variety of factors, including missed forecasts, had resulted in a worse-than-expected quarter despite strong sales. He said Motorola is sticking with its strategy, which many analysts had said was in need of overhaul following the company's Jan. 5 profit warning.

PISD

Continued from Page 1

and see if they will embrace and support the options we are considering. We just want to make sure whatever we decide improves the discipline and academics at our schools."

Greg Brown will chair a committee to study the advantages and disadvantages of grade level schools.

"We need to explore every

possibility and do our research," Brown said. "We need to make sure that we research transportation and housing along with the pros and cons of grade level schools. The members of the committee need to make sure the research they do is based on fact and not on their opinions."

Captain Mark Martin from the Salvation Army spoke to the board about the possibility of either buying Baker Elementary School or getting it donated to them. He would like to renovate the school that is no longer

in use for a girls and boys club for the community.

"Pampa needs a place that children between the ages of 6 and 12 can go play and interact with other kids," Martin said. "Kids need a place where they can go and feel safe. We would make it as accessible to everyone by making the membership fees very low and affordable."

Martin and board members discussed different possibilities, but the first thing that needs to be done is have the building inspected and checked for structural safety. Martin also said that if the board agrees to let them use the old school building, the entire process from beginning to end could take three to five years.

Duck

Continued from Page 1

Harkcom and Leroy Cox. He said they tied a rope on the boat and scooted it out a little at a time until they reached the duck. Then, the firefighters on the shore pulled them back in with the duck. Luckily, the ice did not break and everyone got back to shore safely.

There is one question though — what was wrong with the duck and why was he stranded out in the middle of the lake? That question will probably never be answered. The duck was not frozen in the ice because it was solid underneath him. He was not hung up on anything that was keeping him out there. Burns thinks maybe he is just anti-social and wanted to be alone.

So, the firefighters decided he was just a "little slow" and was confused, so they named him "Forrest Gump." Maybe he couldn't get his footing on the ice, but all of the other ducks

were walking on it just fine. Maybe he was hurt, but Sandy Burns at Animal Control checked him out and he is fine. He was just a little hungry.

The firefighters turned Forrest over to Animal Control and Burns is going to keep him there until the next impending snowstorm passes.

"This duck is fine, but he was pretty hungry," Burns said. "We are feeding him corn and birdseed and are going to keep him here until after the next storm passes to make sure he is fine and then we will release him in the park probably some time next week."

Burns said she will also go out and check on the other ducks in the park and give them some food also. She usually feeds them when the weather is bad and the people who normally go out and feed them cannot get out to the park.

Mason was relieved to know the duck was rescued and doing OK. Mason went to Animal Control this morning and said hello — Forrest seemed to say thank you back.

Show

Continued from Page 1

Johnson, Shelby Whatley, Macy Cochran, Lariat Lowrey, Brittany Chisum, Blake Chisum, Kyler Payne, Meagan Crawford, Emily Nicklas, Kaylan Smith, Kellan

Quarles, Alexandra Stevens, and John Baggerman.

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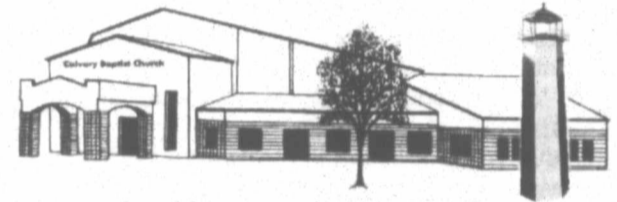
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Viewpoints

Barack Obama can be whatever he wants to be ...

Those who deride Sen. Barack Obama's (D-Ill.) lack of experience and criticize the broad generalities and banalities that festoon his best-selling book miss the key point: His inexperience is an asset because he enters national politics as a blank canvas on which he can paint whatever he chooses. With only two years in the Senate, he is less like a politician running for president than like a general — think Eisenhower in 1952 or even the abortive candidacy of Colin Powell in 1995 — or a businessman, like Ross Perot in 1992.

It's not that he doesn't have a record. It's that the record doesn't really matter because it is so short. His Senate tenure is so abbreviated that he can be whatever he says he is, not just as a

political contrivance to get elected, but genuinely to articulate a philosophy and make it his guiding principle both while seeking office and serving in it. He's that virginal.

So far, Obama seems very conscious that his liberal, party-line voting record is not a good foundation for his national ambitions. He seems aware that the country wants more of a post-partisan, embodying the consensus to which Americans have come over these recent dangerous and bitter years.

American politics alternates between periods in which we welcome partisan debate and those in which we demand consensus and conclusion. Confronted by new issues we turn to the left and to the right and ask each side to develop its ideas and

flesh out its alternative for our consideration.

During these times, moderates and synthesizers are doomed to defeat since they seem to ignore the problem, while polarizing figures take over. But once the debate has run its course, we make our collective national decisions and are no longer in the mood for unending debate. We want our will to be done by our elected officials with no more quarreling or sniping.

Obama has the opportunity to embody the emerging consensus, a broad national agreement reached from observation of trial and error over the past half decade.

The bloody futility of our efforts to build a nation in Iraq have left us still committed to aggressive efforts to hunt down terrorists but determined to extricate ourselves from the mire.

The effectiveness of our homeland security efforts and our concomitant horror at instances of imprisonment and unnecessarily intrusive government investigations have led us to demand a balance between aggressive investigation and protection of civil liberties. We want terrorists caught, interrogated, and locked up, but not tortured or sadistically humiliated.



Dick Morris
Columnist

Obama's book reflects an intuitive grasp of this emerging consensus even if his voting record does not signal his agreement with it.

But if the Illinois senator decides to articulate this synthesis, the question will be whether he can find sufficient traction on the center-left to give his candidacy viability. He will have to compete for that ground with Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-N.Y.), but her reputation for strident advocacy and take-no-prisoners partisanship will likely give him an edge in going after Bill Clinton's former constituents among the New Democrats. And Obama enjoys an ethnic and demographic base that can augment his converts among moderate white Democrats.

John Edwards, for all of

the eloquence of his announcement statement, is ultimately running on the issue of national poverty against a woman and an African-American. That's not going to work. His campaign might have gained traction against another field of candidates, but it is unlikely that he can get it on track against these two particular opponents.

So we wait for Barack Obama to define himself. If he runs to the left, he will be a worthy successor to Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton. If he runs to the center, he might be a successor to Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. He might just make it to the White House.

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

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Jan. 19, the 19th day of 2007. There are 346 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Two hundred years ago, on Jan. 19, 1807, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee was born in Westmoreland County, Va.

On this date:

In 1736, James Watt, inventor of the steam engine, was born in Scotland.

In 1809, author Edgar Allan Poe was born in Boston.

In 1853, Giuseppe Verdi's opera "Il Trovatore" premiered in Rome.

In 1861, Georgia seceded from the Union.

In 1937, millionaire Howard Hughes set a transcontinental air record by flying his monoplane from Los Angeles to Newark, N.J., in seven hours, 28 minutes and 25 seconds.

In 1944, the federal government relinquished control of the nation's railroads following settlement of a wage dispute.

'Truth is not a diet but a condiment.'

— Christopher Darlington Morley
American journalist
(1890-1957)

In 1955, a presidential news conference was filmed for television for the first time, with the permission of President Eisenhower.

In 1966, Indira Gandhi was elected prime minister of India.

In 1970, President Nixon nominated G. Harrold Carswell to the Supreme Court; however, the nomination was defeated because of controversy over Carswell's past racial views.

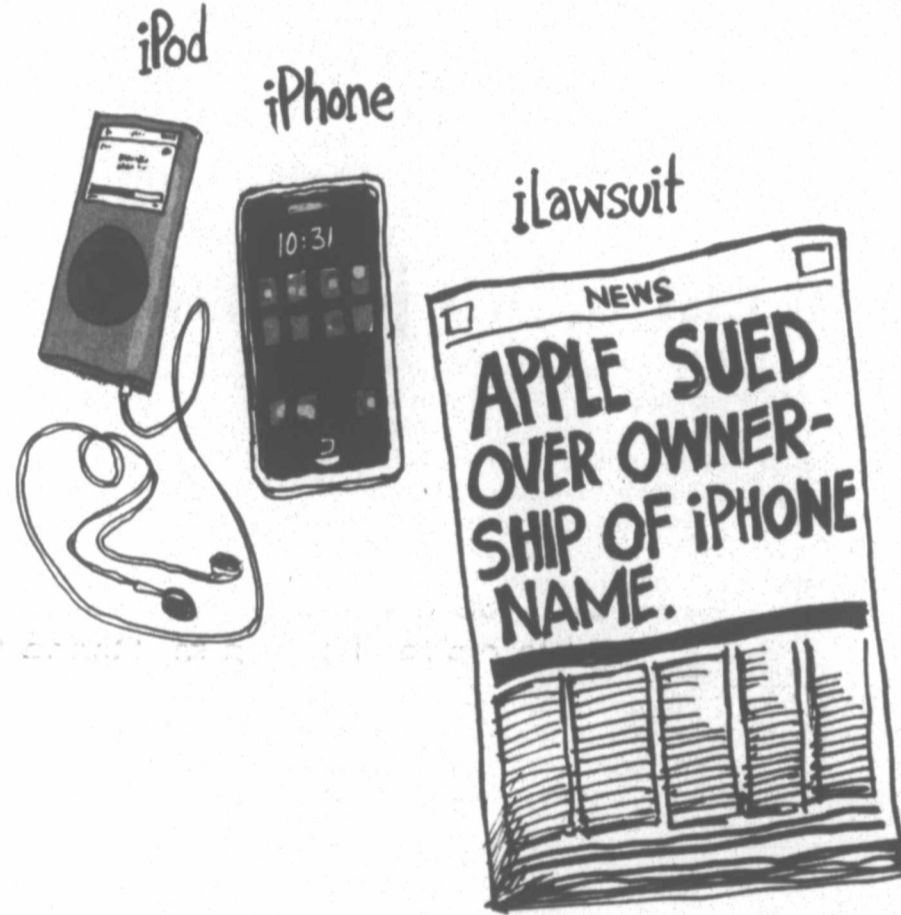
In 1977, in one of his last acts of office, President Ford pardoned Iva Toguri D'Aquino, an American who'd made wartime broadcasts for Japan.

Ten years ago: Yasser Arafat returned to Hebron for the first time in more than 30 years, joining 60,000 Palestinians in celebrating the handover of the last West Bank city from Israeli control. In Albania, riot police beat demonstrators demanding restitution for money lost in pyramid schemes. "The English Patient" won best picture and "Evita" won in the category of best movie musical or comedy at the Golden Globes.

Five years ago: Israeli troops set off a powerful explosion that gutted the official Palestinian broadcasting building, dealing another retaliatory blow to Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Authority.

One year ago: Osama bin Laden, in an audiotape that was his first in more than a year, said al-Qaida was preparing for attacks in the United States; at the same time, he offered a "long-term truce" without specifying the conditions.

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Book all about Israel's bad influence

Scott Ritter, a former U.N. arms inspector in Iraq, has written a book, "Target Iran," in which he accuses the Israeli government and its American lobby of pushing the U.S. into attacking Iran.

Ritter writes, "Let there be no doubt: If there is an American war with Iran, it is a war that was made in Israel." He accuses some members of the lobby of dual loyalty and urges that the American Israel Public Affairs Committee be required to register as a foreign agent.

He also blasts the Israeli lobby for its use of the Holocaust and for crying anti-Semitism every time Israel is criticized. "This is a sickening trend that must be ended," he writes.

By coincidence, an Israeli general has verified everything Ritter says. According

to an article published in Today.AZ on Jan. 2, Israeli Brig. Gen. Oded Tira published a statement urging an all-out effort by Israel and its lobby to push a U.S. attack on Iran.

"President Bush lacks the political power to attack Iran," the general is quoted as saying. "As an American strike in Iran is essential for our existence, we must help him pave the way by lobbying the Democratic Party (which is conducting itself foolishly) and U.S. newspaper editors. We need to do this in order to turn the Iran issue to a bipartisan one and unrelated to the Iraq failure."

The general urges the Israeli lobby to turn to Hillary Clinton and other

potential presidential candidates in the Democratic Party so that they support immediate action by Bush against Iran. The lobby must also approach the Europeans, he adds, so Bush won't find himself isolated, and he calls for Israel to "clandestinely cooperate with Saudi Arabia so that it also persuades the U.S. to strike Iran."

As Ritter says, a U.S. war in Iran will be a war made in Israel.

Of course, Israel's American supporters, most of whom are ignorant of nuclear energy, ignorant of the history of Israel and ignorant of the people in the Middle East, will trot out their usual specious argu-

ments. But let's lay out the undeniable facts. Israel considers Iran its main threat. Israel wants a U.S. attack against Iran. The Israeli lobby does what the Israeli government tells it to do. Anybody who claims the Israeli lobby is just another lobby is either ignorant or lying. The Israeli lobby is the second most, if not the most, powerful lobby in America.

So, sit back and watch the Israeli amen corner start the propaganda to push America to war with Iran just as it did in the case of Iraq. It will try to have you believe that Iran can make nuclear weapons as easily as baking cakes. The truth is that even if Iran decided to seek nuclear weapons, the Iranians are a good 10 years away from having any. The truth is that

See REESE, Page 10

Charley Reese

Columnist



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Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around the nation:

■ Jan. 9

Benton County Daily Record, Bentonville, Ark., on the U.S. military:

No matter what differences of opinion flare up in regard to the war in Iraq — between Democrats and Republicans, between our government and the Iraqi government, between the Bush administration and foreign heads of state — the people caught squarely in the middle of each and every debate are, as they have been all along, the men and

women of the U.S. military.

... The president will no doubt encourage us, in promoting his new approach, to join him in supporting the troops. Meanwhile Dems, while debating the president every inch of the way, will assure us that they, too, have the troops' best interests in mind.

We basically believe both parties, just as we believe that the vast majority of Americans support our men and women in uniform. ... Another thing we believe: Americans are able to distinguish between supporting our troops and supporting this war. They know that one can see this conflict as a mis-

take and still support our troops as strongly as those who see the conflict the way the president professes to see it — as essential to national security. ...

... From this point forward, we'd like to see Democrats and Republicans alike set the talk aside and show support for our troops by managing this conflict responsibly. That means treating it like a war, instead of a hot-button political issue. And that will mean finding common ground. ...

On the Net:
http://nwnews.com/bcdr/Editorial/44091/

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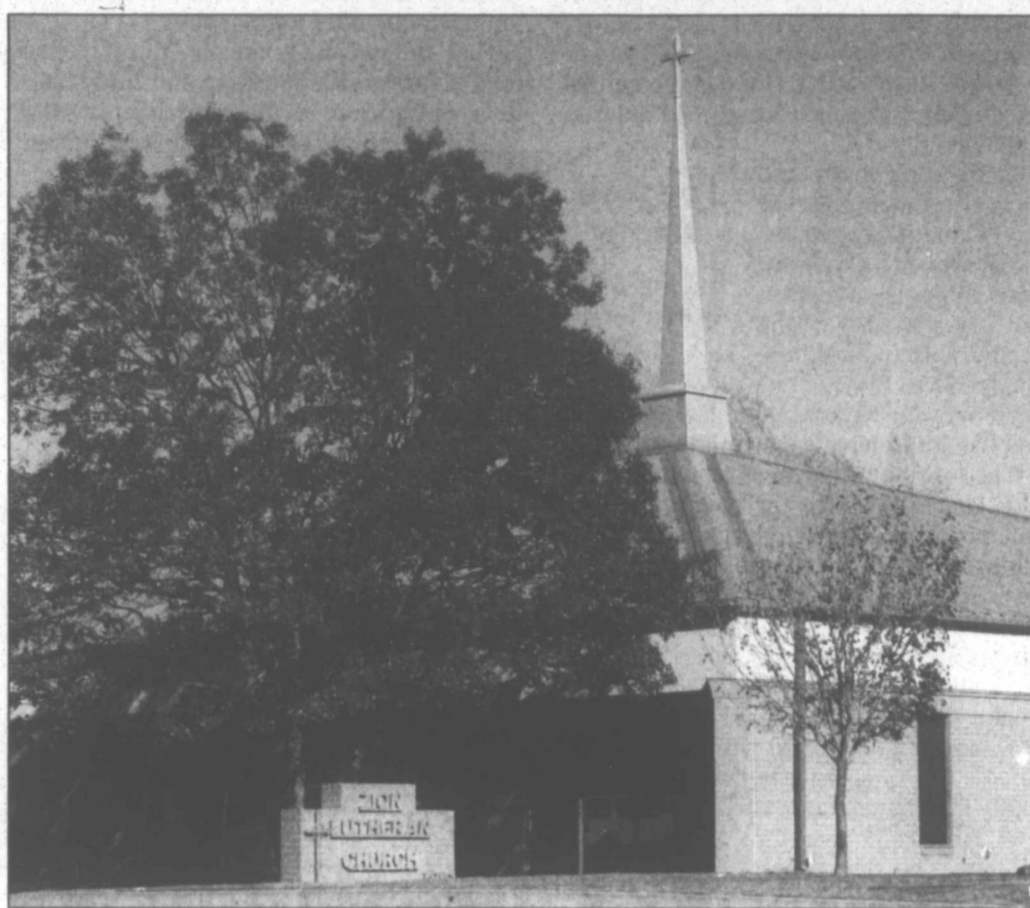
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Zion Lutheran Church

Church name: Zion Lutheran Church, 1200 Duncan, 669-2774.

Minister: Rev. Michael Erickson.

Services: Sunday — 9:15 a.m. Sunday School / Bible class, 10:30 a.m. Divine Service.

Activities: Big Z Barbecue each May, Vacation Bible School each summer, lemonade stand at Chautauqua each year.

Members: On an average Sunday about 75.

Denomination: The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod.

How long here: Since 1941 - 65 years.

Goals: We have purchased a Corpus for our large cross in the sanctuary and are awaiting arrival from Italy.

Other activities: We actively support Good Samaritan services here in Pampa.

Main goal: The main goal of our church is to proclaim the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ for all people and to administer the Holy Sacraments according to the Sacred Scriptures.

Church message: We preach Christ and Him crucified. We teach that a person is saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone.

Responsible parties: Rev. Michael Erickson.

Information: Zion Lutheran is a faithful congregation in proclaiming and teaching God's Word and administering the blessed Sacraments.

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Religion

MINISTER'S MUSINGS

The teacher I owe the most

I recently received a card in the mail that took me back to one of the most important days of my entire life. It was at Pampa High School in the spring of 1967. I was a junior and had just finished my final class period of the day — athletics.

Actually it was a mini-basketball period, but not with Coach Culley because that was a violation of the rules. After I had showered, Coach Culley asked me to come into his office. That usually wasn't a good thing.

For my sophomore and junior years, I had competed in both basketball and speech. The seasons competed for the same time slot. What I had done for two years when there was a conflict on the same weekend was to play in the basketball game one time and then compete in the speech tournament the next time.

Usually there were about four conflicts each year, so I missed two basketball games and two speech tournaments.

Coach Culley told me that he had high hopes for the team next year and reminded me that it would be my senior year as a Harvester. He told me that even though I

wasn't a starter, I was the sixth or seventh man and that he needed me at every game.

He wasn't mean, he was even nice; and I understood his position. But that meant that I would have to miss the speech tournaments.

I don't think that I had ever felt so much pressure in my whole life. I kind of walked around school for a few minutes and then made my way up to the speech/drama room on the second floor.

Mrs. Virginia Myers was still there, and I asked if I could have a few minutes.

I told her about my meeting with Coach Culley and asked her for counsel. Those words sound so strange. Usually I wasn't listening to anyone's counsel. I was one of the true "hard-heads," but on that afternoon I was all ears.

Her words changed my life. "Mike, I don't know what to tell you to do. You have to make that decision. But I can tell you that whatever you decide will be fine with

me and won't have any effect on you competing in the other tournaments."

That floored me. You see, I was pretty good at persuasive speaking and could help the speech team at the tournaments. She was only thinking about me.

Then she did offer one bit of counsel that changed my life. "One thing that might help is to decide if basketball or speech will help you the most in your future life."

WOW! That made everything so clear for me. Looking back on that day now, I believe that it was the Lord using Mrs. Myers's counsel to point the way. I thanked her and told her that I wouldn't be missing any speech tournaments.

I went to the locker room, emptied my basketball locker, went into Coach Culley's office, returned all of my equipment, told him that I wouldn't be playing basketball my senior year and thanked him for everything that he'd done for me.

I never felt so free and content. I felt like it was one of the first times that I made a great decision for my future.

The card I received was from Mrs. Virginia Myers. She was my hero in high school. I have thought of her hundreds of times since then and I have used her as an illustration in countless sermons. That afternoon in 1967 she had no idea of the impact it would have on my life. I don't know what I would have done if she hadn't been there. Thanks, Mrs. Myers.

And just in case you are a teacher, please remember that you can never overestimate the importance of what you do. You will have some of those moments when a student is at a critical crossroad in his/her life and comes to you.

See those times for what they are, don't take them for granted. Those are the moments when you will be altering the future for decades, maybe even longer. May God bless you and the counsel you give. God bless.

The Rev. Name
Church
down here



New African churches mix Christianity with other beliefs

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — On a rocky hilltop in Johannesburg, a priest leads his congregation in an all-night prayer vigil. His is not a religion for the fainthearted: At the core of his faith is the unshakable conviction that the Bible is a simple, straightforward road map to the hereafter.

"The Bible is the way it is. It doesn't change. It needs no explanation. You just have to follow it," said Molefa Mojela, the priest of the Edumisweni Apostolic Church of Christ.

Yet, the congregation also holds beliefs many consider outside the bounds of mainstream Christianity.

Members of Mojela's church venerate and fear ancestors who they believe can help or harm them. They are convinced witches and evil spirits walk among them. They look to prophets to heal the sick, and trust in the power of magic and the

benefits of animal sacrifice.

The Edumisweni congregation is one of the thousands of African initiated churches, sometimes called Spirit Churches, which first appeared near the start of the

last century in reaction to the hegemony of white mission churches.

The congregations share much with Pentecostal Christianity, emphasizing the Holy Spirit, healing through prayer and speaking in tongues. But they also freely adopt what they consider important in African culture — veneration of ancestors, belief in witchcraft, faith in the power of magic, called muti, and the ability of prophets or sangomas to harness that power.

"Africans want their own religion," Mojela said. "They want to pray and worship in their own language." Once a predominant form of Christianity throughout the continent, the churches

are losing their popularity in most of Africa. A younger generation is seeking out the more modern congregations that emerged starting in the 1970s that are still uniquely African in worship style but closer theologically to Pentecostal or mainline Protestant groups in the West.

However, in South Africa, where suspicion of white culture remains strong, the old-style churches are still growing, according to Allan Anderson, professor of global Pentecostal studies at the University of Birmingham in England.

"The memories of apartheid are still fresh," said Anderson, who earned his doctorate in South Africa and has done extensive research here.

The vibrance of the congregations can be seen in the Edumisweni church's worship.

Late on a Saturday night

with just the light of the African moon, faithful gather in the

Melville Koppies, a wild and sometimes dangerous green belt almost in the shadow of the city center. They wear homemade robes emblazoned with a cross to help repel evil spirits and build small fires to ward off the chill. They face east and pray together while they await the rising sun, the symbol of the beginning of all things in life.

During the night-long vigil a new initiate, preparing for her baptism later at a dam below the hills, is doused with milk.

"It is part of a ritual cleansing of the spirit," Mojela's Mojela said. "We believe in the power of prophets to use some substances to drive away evil spirits and change a person's luck."

Many join the church seeking help for a medical problem, Anderson said. Traditionally, Africans believe that ancestors look after their descendants, revealing themselves in dreams or through a sangoma, or prophet. In Mojela's church, the faithful believe that animal sacrifice such as the ritual killing of a cow or

the slaughter of a goat, chicken or sheep can appease an angry ancestor and in other cases help promote healing or drive away evil spirits.

Some congregants are polygamous, saying the practice, which is part of traditional African belief, also can be found in the Old Testament. They believe that condemnation of polygamy by Christian missionaries was an attempt to impose European culture — not spread Christianity. Some believe missionaries went as far as hiding Old Testament references to plural marriage, Anderson said.

And, like many independent churches in the United States, there is no special training for clergy.

"We don't have to teach anyone religion," Mojela said. "We just read the Bible together and discuss what it says."

'The Bible is the way it is. It doesn't change. It needs no explanation. You just have to follow it.'

— Molefa Mojela
Priest of the
Edumisweni Apostolic
Church of Christ

Holy Spirit finds those who hunger and thirst for righteousness ...

"Blessed are they which do hunger after righteousness, for they shall be filled." (Matthew 5:6)

I do not recollect what caused that verse to hit me heavily, but it did.

Righteousness? To refresh my memory I went to Smith's Bible Dictionary, and here is what I read: "Holiness, justice, rectitude; — The righteousness of Christ includes His spotless holiness and His perfect obedience to the law while living on earth, and His suffering its penalty in our stead."

As we study this verse, let us keep in mind the promise that "they shall be filled." Birth brings an appetite. Natural and spiritual. You need not fear spiritual obesity. The lack of an appetite can cause malnutrition. Beware when you have less interest in worship services.

King David said, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." (Psalms 122:1)

After that verse of scripture hit me heavily, I heard a minister preaching a good sermon in which he said, "Not many people are hungering after righteousness these days."

The scriptures are being fulfilled. Many church members are lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God.

St. Paul hungered after righteousness until he was filled. After being filled, he had a burden for his kinfolk. He had kinfolk who were on their way to the lake of fire. St. Paul could see the reality of that lake of fire.

That it troubled him greatly, he said, "I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh." (Romans 9:3)

I am convinced that there were days when Paul was so burdened that he could not be a "jolly" man.

Today Christians are so greatly swooning in joy until

they have forgotten that they have kinfolk and friends who are soon going to hell where the fire is never quenched.

Today, among the Pentecostals, ministers are taught to preach what the people want to hear to grow large churches. Something has left most people not hungering and thirsting after righteousness. The hungering and thirsting referred to by Jesus is more than a 60 second notion to fill our souls. It's the true cry of the whole heart to be filled with the fullness of God.

The false prophets are so caught up with the dollar that they have led people to seek God for profit. They are so sure that they are right that they are going to talk back to God at the judgment.

They get people to hungering after profit instead of righteousness.

No one gets filled with the spirit, as Jesus promised, until they hunger and thirst to be in the likeness of Christ.

In Isaiah Chapter 58, the people were so highly trained in fasting and praying to promote their cause — their religion resembled true worship so much — that the people began to protest against God's failure to listen to them.

God's answer was, to paraphrase, 'In your fasting, you still hold to your love of pleasures, you fast for publicity, not for humility.' The need today is a hunger for righteousness more than large churches. David could only be satisfied when he would awake in the likeness of the Lord. (Psalms 17:15)

I am a strong believer in obeying the requirement of Jesus when He answered the question: "Are there few that be saved?" He said, "Strive to enter in, for many shall seek to enter in and shall not be able." (Luke 13:24)

A half-hearted desire doesn't get anybody to heaven. Prepare to meet thy God.

Archie Cooper
Pentecostal
Holiness



"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"

This old hymn is a United States spiritual folk song which was composed in 1872 by Wallis Willis, a one-time slave for the Choctaw Indians. He was inspired by the Red River which reminded him of the Jordan River and of the prophet Elijah being taken to heaven by a chariot. Some latter day sources imply that this song had some hidden lyrics referring to the Underground Railroad. The song today has a large association with the English Rugby Union and is regularly sung at national rugby union team matches. It was popularized by the Jubilee Singers from Fisk University in Nashville during tours of the United States and Europe.

Ref: Wikipedia

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I'm active-duty military but retiring within a year with no plans for future employment as yet. My wife is 38 and I am 39. We have three children, ages 20, 18 and 15. My wife has the urge to have another child, but I don't want to have another one. I have been looking forward to the time we would have alone with each other. I also know that our debt-to-income ratio is poor, and I was looking forward to climbing out of the red. Another child will not help things. Our relationship has been rocky for the past four years - and up and down most of our 19 years of marriage. However, we always managed to bounce back. I'm afraid if I don't give in to another child, it will be the straw that breaks the camel's back, and she'll resent me to the point that we won't be able to get over it. We are in counseling, but it hasn't seemed to help. We are told to "compromise," but I don't know how to compromise over a situation like this. I'd do anything for her, but I just feel like this isn't the right thing for us to do at this point in our lives. Please help me keep this family together and still make everyone happy. I really need your help. — **ROCK AND A HARD PLACE IN VIRGINIA**

DEAR ROCK: Babies are blessings, but they can also stress a troubled marriage past the breaking point. Perhaps it's time you went for a different kind of counseling - financial counseling. A financial counselor should be able to tell you if you can afford another child, and what the sacrifices will be if you do decide to have one. Your marriage has always been troubled. I'm not sure you can keep your family together and make everyone happy. Three children do not seem to have brought you and your wife closer. It's important that you be true to yourself.

DEAR ABBY: I was abused by both my parents when I was younger. Although

there were short periods when they were kind, the bad far outweighed the good. I am a decent person. I don't break the law. I don't do drugs. I pay my taxes on time, hold down a job and have friends. But I no longer love my parents. I don't mistreat them, but neither do I love them. I have gotten therapy and moved on, at least as much as I can in a relationship where the other parties have no desire to change their behavior. Does this make me a bad person? — **"MICKEY" IN MASSACHUSETTS**

DEAR "MICKEY": Not in my book. That your heart is not filled with bitterness for those who abused you, and that you have managed to move on, means your therapy was successful. To repeatedly invite yet another dose of pain makes no more sense than to repeatedly touch a hot stove. Not wanting a close relationship with people who cause you pain is healthy.

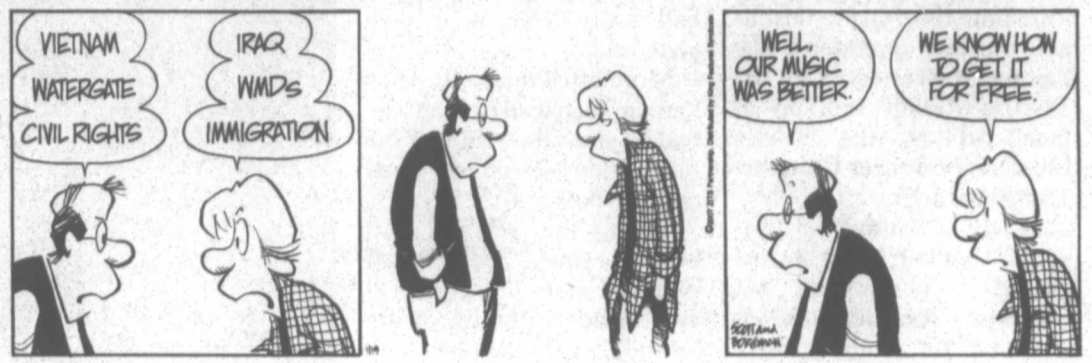
DEAR ABBY: My girlfriend's sister asked me to pitch in on a gift for their mother. Because it was easier for everyone, I simply wound up buying the gift. My girlfriend's sister promised to pay half the cost. Since then, the gift has been given - and "Sissy" acts like she went in on it, but she hasn't paid me. I don't want to seem like a pest over this, and it's likely I'll be a part of the family someday. Do I ask my girlfriend's sister for the money, or keep my mouth shut and learn an expensive lesson? — **BRIAN IN PENNSYLVANIA**

DEAR BRIAN: Ask for the money - once. If it's not forthcoming, recognize that "Sissy" is a flake. This may seem like an expensive lesson, but in the long run - if you join the family - you'll recognize you got off cheap.

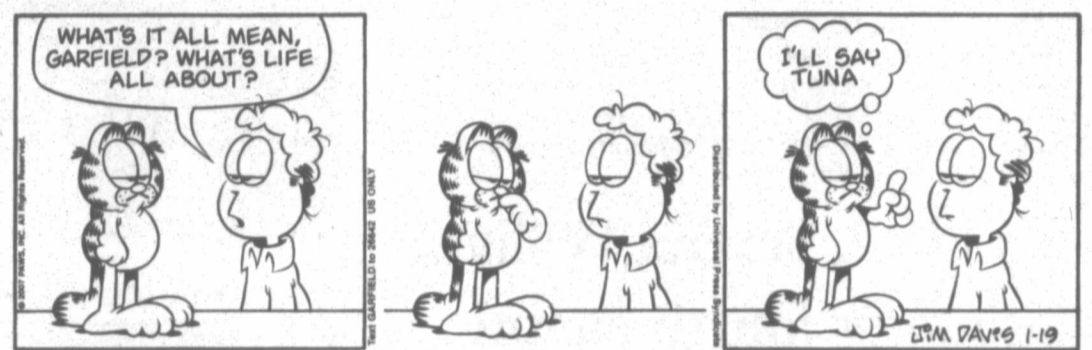
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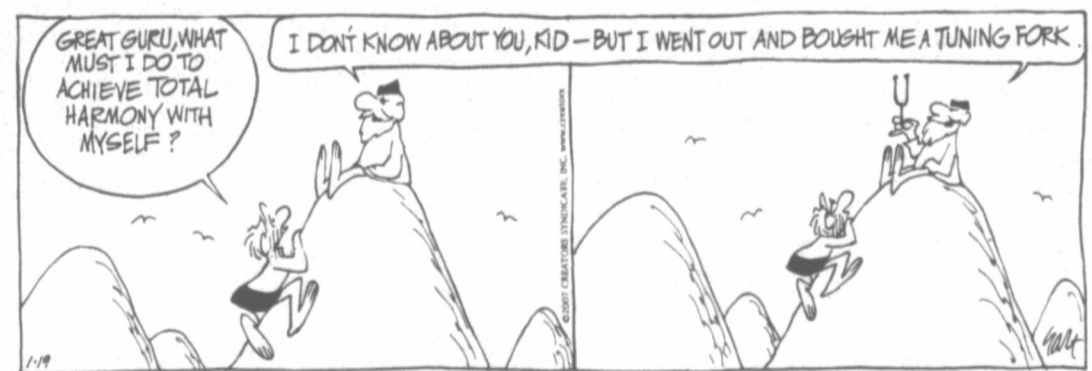


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Sports Day

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By JORDAN REAGAN
Sports Editor

In order to make up for lost game time due to unsuitable weather conditions, The Pampa Harvesters and the Tascosa Rebels met up to face off at the Travis Elementary Soccer Complex Thursday night.

In cold, windy, yet drivable weather, both teams played an intense game that ended in a 2-all tie.

In the 5th minute, Rusty Snider assisted Tanner Dyson with Pampa's first goal against the Rebels.

Late into the first half, Snider scored the second goal for the Harvesters, assisted by Doc Mackie in the 28th minute.

Though Pampa had a 2-0

advantage going into half-time, it was clear that the boys had trouble keeping the ball away from their own goal.

More often than not, when Pampa managed to get the ball to the other side of the field, they scored or came close to doing so.

When the second half began, and the teams switched sides, Tascosa had the wind blowing from behind, which helped them to keep Pampa from working their offense even more.

In the 65th minute, Tascosa's Jason Cunningham scored their first goal, followed by Tyler Downey with 7 minutes remaining to tie the game.



Pampa News photo by Jordan Reagan

Mid/Forward Mitsu Terada drives the ball away from Pampa's goal to keep it going in the right direction..

Roddick, Serena Williams into their fourth round

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Sixth-seeded Andy Roddick outlasted Marat Safin 7-6 (2), 2-6, 6-4, 7-6 (2) today to reach the fourth round of the Australian Open.

Safin, the 2005 champion and former world No. 1, was seeded only 26th as he comes back from a knee injury that kept him from defending his title last year. That meant one of the highly ranked players would have to face him early in the two-week tournament.

Roddick drew the unenviable task and showed his confidence is high again after a malaise that dropped him out of the top 10 last year before he convinced Jimmy Connors to coach him.

"The one guy you don't want to play in the third round is probably him," Roddick said. "There wasn't a whole lot between us, to be honest. I just tried to tough him out.

"He's one of the best in the world, so I definitely had to pick up my game in the third and fourth sets. Anything less than that and I would probably would be

going home."

Serena Williams, also plagued by a bad knee last year and unseeded after winning here in 2005, rallied after No. 5 Nadia Petrova served for the match at 6-1, 5-3, showing that she still has superb skills and a strong will to win.

Top-ranked Roger Federer had an easier time against 25th-seeded Mikhail Youzhny, beating last year's U.S. Open semifinalist 6-3, 6-3, 7-6 (5).

Second-seeded Amelie Mauresmo, the defending women's champion, beat Eva Birnerova and next plays Lucie Safarova, who advanced when Anastasiya Yakimova retired with a back injury. Other women's winners were No. 3 Svetlana Kuznetsova, No. 7 Elena Dementieva, No. 10 Nicole Pietrangeli and No. 16 Shahar Peer.

For more than three hours, Roddick and Safin exchanged 130 mph-plus serves, stinging groundstrokes, crisp volleys and deft drops, leaving the packed stadium enthralled and applauding every point.



Pampa News photo by Jordan Reagan

Pampa defender Andrew Van Houten sends the ball flying toward Tascosa's goal in the second half.

Lady Green Team puts up a fight against Westover Park

By JORDAN REAGAN
Sports Editor

If you have not had an opportunity to watch the 8th grade girls basketball team this season, you have missed some great basketball.

This was evident Thursday night at Pampa Junior High School, where the Lady Green Teamers hosted the Lady Warriors of Westover Park.

Kylee Wyatt, who scored a team high of 17 points,

nailed a short jumper at the buzzer to put Pampa ahead at the end of the first quarter 10-8.

Westover outscored the Lady Green Team in the second quarter to take a 25-23 halftime lead.

Pampa fell behind by as many as 9 points in the 3rd quarter which ended with a 36-30 Lady Warrior advantage.

The Pampa girls looked very sharp in the fourth with

Wyatt's offensive rebound that pulled Pampa ahead 44-43 with 1:44 remaining.

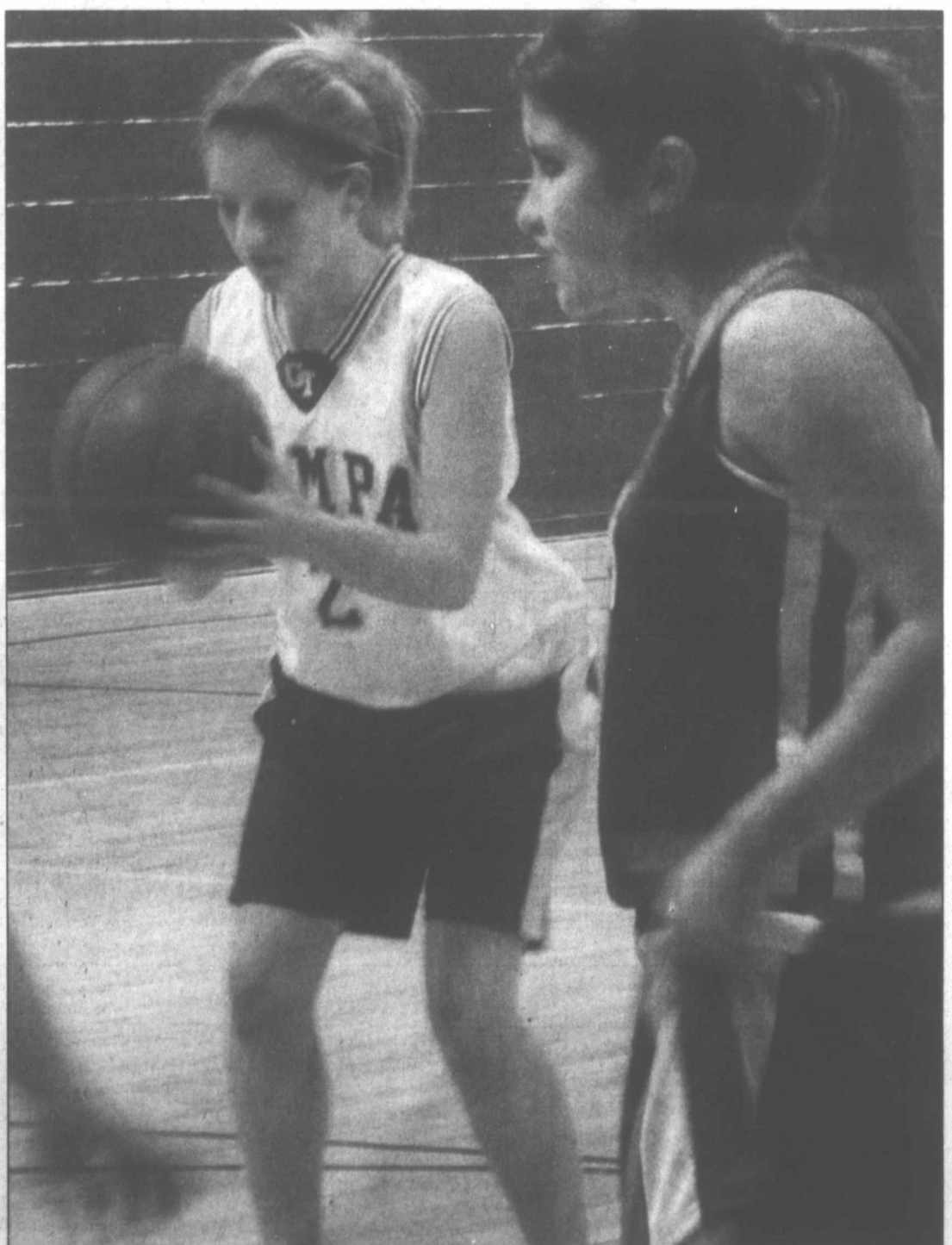
But as the final buzzer sounded, the Pampa girls were on the losing side of a great ball game, 47-44.

In the early game, the girls B team led by Liz Hoelting with 11 points suffered a 60-21 setback at the hands of the Lady Warriors of Westover Park.



Pampa News photo by Jordan Reagan

Coach Sarah Corse talks with her girls during a time out in the fourth quarter.



Pampa News photo by Jordan Reagan

Eighth grader Kylee Wyatt, who led her teammates, prepares for a free throw.

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ASSOCIATED Ambulance Authority of Clarendon has full time and part time EMT basic positions available.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Jan. 20, 2007: Lady Luck walks in stride with you this year.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ***** Enjoy the fact that you can do nearly no wrong right now.

people will revitalize your thinking. Don't let a mundane problem ruin the moment. Tonight: Make the bohemian choice.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) *** You might be dealing with fatigue or a low-level depression. Get out and be physical.

be glum. Tonight: Say "yes." SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** Your enthusiasm is contagious.

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

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Drilling Intentions

(Week ending Jan. 4)
Intentions to Drill
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Noble Energy Production, Inc., #7027P Brotherton, 1608' from South & 652' from East line, Sec. 70, M-1, H&GN, PD 13900'.
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Noble Energy Production, Inc., #1219P Carr '12', 520' from North & 1540' from West line, Sec. 12, 4, AB&M, PD 135000'.
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Noble Energy Production, Inc., #4618P Graham, 467' from North & 4211' from East line, Sec. 46, A-2, H&GN, PD 13900'.
HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Noble Energy Production, Inc., #6823P Meek '68', 1928' from North & 1982' from East line, Sec. 88, M-1, H&GN, PD 13500'.
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & N.W. MENDOTA Granite Wash) Mewbourne Oil Co., #1932 Arthur Webb, et al 'S', 2547' from South & 882' from East line, Sec. 193, C, G&MMB&A, PD 11000'.
ROBERTS (WILDCAT & R.F.C. Upper Morrow

Range Production Co., #308A R.D. Mills, 8553' from South & 10956' from West line, Clay County School Lands, PD 12500'.
ROBERTS (WILDCAT & McMORDIE Upper Morrow '9922') Texakoma Operating, L.P., #1 McMordie '90', 660' from South & 1800' from East line, Sec. 90, C, G&M, PD 10500'.
WHEELER (PANHANDLE) Viking Ventures, L.L.C., #4 Bradshaw, 1650' from North & 990' from East line, Sec. 26, 13, H&GN, PD 2300'.
WHEELER (WILDCAT & STILES RANCH Atoka) Apache Corp., #604 Stiles '4', 2150' from North & 467' from East line, Sec. 4, A-3, H&GN, PD 18000'.
WHEELER (STILES RANCH Granite Wash) Newfield Exploration Mid-Con., Inc., #11 Britt Ranch 'C' 35, 1110' from South & 1077' from West line, Sec. 35, A-3, H&GN, PD 15850'.
Plugged Wells
HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) Enid Operating, Inc., #1 Andrew, Sec. 1, J, H&GN, spud unknown, plugged 10-6-06, TD 3060' (oil) — Form 1 in W.R.

Edwards, Jr. HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) Enid Operating, Inc., Little Rascals, Sec. 38, 47, H&TC (oil) — Form 1 in W.R. Edwards Jr., for the following wells:
 #1, spud unknown, plugged 9-21-06, TD 3023' —
 #2, spud unknown, plugged 9-19-06, TD 3050' —
HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) Enid Operating, Inc., #1 Cal Merchant, Sec. 37, 47, H&TC, spud unknown, plugged 10-3-06, TD 2970' (oil) — Form 1 in W.R. Edwards, Jr.
HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) Luxor Oil & Gas, Inc., #51 Barnhill, Lot 3, 2, G. Martinez, spud unknown, plugged 8-31-06, PBTD 3650' (disposal) —
HUTCHINSON (WEST PANHANDLE) Stallion Energy, L.L.C., #A-3 Herring 'A&B', E. Almaguie, spud 2-3-40, plugged 9-26-06, TD 3149' (gas) — Form 1 in Panhandle Producing
ROBERTS (McMORDIE RANCH 9700') Chesapeake Operating, Inc., #3 Mills, Track 4A, CCSL, spud unknown, plugged 10-20-06, TD 9250' (gas) —

Reese

Continued from Page 4

Iran, even if it had nuclear weapons, is no threat to the U.S.
 All of which reminds me of my favorite undiplomatic comment by a diplomat. Some time ago at a private party in London, the French ambassador said of Israel, "Why does the world put up with such a (expletive) little country causing so much trouble?" Outraged British Zionists demanded his recall, but

the French government ignored them.
 Sooner or later, Americans are going to wake up to the fact that Israel's influence on the American government is detrimental. If Israel wants a war with Iran, let the Israelis fight it. Of course, seeing how poorly they did against Hezbollah, I suspect that the Israelis, despite their public threats, would not choose to fight the Iranians.
 In my opinion, Americans who want American youth to die and bleed for the benefit of a foreign country are guilty of more than dual loyalty.
 —Write to Charley Reese at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando, FL 32802.

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