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See expanded weather on Page 2

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**SEE PAGE 6**

# THE PAMP

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Pampa News photos by KERRI SMITH  
City of Pampa employee Dwayne Waldrip operates a backhoe at the site of a water main break on the west side of the downtown fire station, at Frost and Foster streets. Work on the break began at 9 p.m. Sunday in what has become a cold-weather tradition in Pampa of breaking water mains in cold weather. The break near the fire station resulted in water flowing along curbs and adding to slick surfaces already present on surrounding streets.



**Igloo fun**

Courtesy photo  
Matthew, 7, and Daniel Winton, 9, enjoy an igloo built by their older brother Andrew, 18, and Tyler Hall, 18 (not pictured). Tyler and Andrew spent several hours building the approximately 4 1/2 to 5 feet tall igloo on Saturday. The younger two boys are hoping to have several days to enjoy the igloo before it melts.



## City digs out from 8 inches of snow

By MARILYN POWERS  
Staff Writer

Snowfall totaling approximately 8 inches in the Pampa area led to cancellation of some church services Sunday and delays in the start of the school day this morning.

Pampa Independent School District delayed classes for two hours. St. Vincent's School, Grandview-Hopkins Elementary School, St. Matthews Day School and Pampa Community Day Care opened at 10 a.m. Lefors ISD delayed classes for 1 hour and 15 minutes, while McLean ISD postponed classes for one hour.

Freezing rain began falling across the area Friday evening, followed by snow on Saturday. Area-wide accumulations ranged from four to five inches in Hemphill and Wheeler counties to between eight and 10 inches in Amarillo, with 11 inches reported by the National Weather Service office outside Amarillo. Pampa's total was about eight inches.

Precipitation began Friday evening, but no vehicle accidents were reported to Pampa Police Department until 8:34 a.m. Saturday at Allsup's, 309 N. Hobart, where a pickup towing a goose neck trailer northbound on Hobart Street attempted to turn west onto Alcock Street but was unable to complete the turn. The driver then tried to turn in to the parking lot at Allsup's, on the corner of Alcock and Hobart streets, but lost control.

The trailer jackknifed, causing the driver to lose control and hit a light pole. The trailer then slid around and hit the driver's side of the vehicle and knocking out the back window, according to police reports.

No injuries were reported in connection with the one-vehicle accident, and no citations were issued.

Further accident reports followed quickly on the heels of the first, despite blading of some streets by city crews on road graders. Saturday accidents were reported at 9:20 a.m. at the intersection of Hobart and Francis streets, at 9:45 a.m. in the 800 block of North Hobart, at 11:06 a.m. at the intersection of Hobart and Alcock streets, at 5:14 p.m. in the 500 block of West Brown, and at 12:19 p.m. Sunday in the 1600 block of North Hobart, where the driver of a 1990 Chevrolet Suburban applied his brakes but was unable to stop and collided with the back end of a 2005 Pontiac Grand Am in the 1700 block of North Hobart.

No injuries were reported in the Sunday accident, and no citations were issued.

The wintry precipitation may cause headaches for travelers and some others, but it will be beneficial for the area's agricultural industry, said local meteorologist Darrell Sehorn of KGRO-KOMX radio station.

"Moisture content for this snowfall is 82/100ths of an inch," Sehorn said. "That's

See SNOW, Page 3

**THE HARLEM AMBASSADORS vs THE PAMPA THRASHERS**

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**NEXT DAY FORECAST**

**Tuesday**

**Wednesday**

**Thursday**



**Mostly sunny Mostly sunny Mostly sunny**

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 38. Wind chill values between 7 and 17. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 23. Wind chill values between 14 and 19. Northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 41. North wind around 10 mph.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 24. North northwest wind around 5 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 46. Northwest wind around 5 mph becoming southwest.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 27. Southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

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**Pickens gives \$5 million to fund brain research**

RICHARDSON, Texas (AP) — Texas oil tycoon T. Boone Pickens has donated \$5 million to The University of Texas at Dallas to fund education and research in brain science.

The donation will enhance the faculty, facilities and research programs at the soon-to-be dedicated Frances and Mildred Goad Building, the new home for the Center for BrainHealth, said Dr. Sandra Chapman, director of the Center for BrainHealth.

"You can't help but be impressed by the research going on at the UT Dallas

Center for BrainHealth and their commitment to lead the way nationally in this very important field," Pickens said in a statement. He's making the gift through his newly formed charitable foundation.

Funds from the donation will create the T. Boone Pickens Distinguished Chair in Clinical Brain Science, the T. Boone Pickens Virtual Learning Center, and facilities and research programs at the Center for BrainHealth.

The center is part of the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences.

**Obituaries**

**Services tomorrow**

ANGEL, James W. — 2 p.m. at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel.

**James W. Angel, 70**

James W. Angel, 70, died Saturday, January 20, 2007, in Pampa.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with Nathan Bailey of the Wells Street Church of Christ officiating.

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

Mr. Angel was born November 17, 1936, in Groom. He married Imogene Steele on July 17, 1957, in Borger. She preceded him in death on February 12, 2004. He was a truck driver for Triangle Well Service for 20 years. He had been a resident of Pampa since 1973. He was a member of the Wells Street Church of Christ.

Survivors include two sons, Terry Angel and Steve Angel both of Pampa; one sister, Ruby Denton of Groom; one sister-in-law, Francis Allen of Plainview; two nieces, Ruby Jewell Jaco of Canadian and Fran Billington of Amarillo; six grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter. He was preceded in death by a son, Darrell Duane Angel, in 1990, and two brothers,

Waylon Angel and Allen Angel.

Memorials may be to Wells Street Church of Christ Building Fund, c/o Monty Joiner, P.O. Box 744, McLean, Texas 79057.

SPECIAL NOTICE: Family will be at 2320 Rosewood.

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

**Gary Lee Scivally, 55**

Gary Lee Scivally, 55, died Friday, January 19, 2007, in Pampa.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with Pastor Paul Nachtigall, of Highland Baptist Church, officiating.

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

Mr. Scivally was born on January 26, 1951, in Amarillo. He married

Rosann Ailport on June 19, 1986, in Dalhart. He was a route salesman for Cook Book Bread Co., and a former assistant manager of the Amarillo Transit Department in Amarillo. He had been a resident of Pampa since 2003. He was a Baptist. He was an avid fisherman, hunter and camper.

Survivors include his wife, Rosann Scivally of Pampa; two daughters, Brandie Haire and husband Randy of Pampa and Lori

Hanke and husband Chauncey of Amarillo; one son, Scottie Ailport and wife Kandice of Pampa; one brother, Paul Scivally Jr. and wife Sue of Bay Town; eight grandchildren, Tanner Haire of Clarendon, Jonathan Haire, Zachary Haire, Parker Ailport, Dalton Ailport, and Wyatt Ailport all of Pampa, and Havanna Rex and Maddison Hanke, both of Amarillo; one nephew, John Scivally and wife Heather of Lubbock; two great-

nephews, Jacob Scivally and Bryan Scivally, both of Lubbock; and many cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Paul Sr. and Aline Scivally.

SPECIAL NOTICE: The family will receive friends from 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

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

**Iva Mitchell Alexander, 82**

LEFORS — Iva Mitchell Alexander, 82, died Sunday, January 21, 2007, in Canadian.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Alexander was born June 24, 1924, in Bitter Creek, Texas. He came to Pampa in 1962 from Breckenridge, Texas. He married Helen Florence Noel on March 24, 1944, in Archer City, Texas. She preceded him in death on July 5, 1988.

He later married Sybil Nelson on March 13, 1989 in Wheeler. He worked for Sinclair and Arco for 35 years, retiring in 1980. He was president of the Little League Association and the

volunteer fire department in Breckenridge.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Miami. He was a veteran of the U. S. Navy during World War II, serving on the USS McFarland, a Navy destroyer. He was an avid hunter and outdoorsman, and was always willing to help others.

Survivors include his wife, Sybil Alexander of the home; one son, James Alexander & wife Marlene

of Miami; one stepson, Larry Nelson of Briscoe; one stepdaughter, Susan Thompson of Lazbuddie; one brother, K. C. Alexander of Hurst; one sister, Ina Faye Bussell of Grand Prairie; two grandchildren, Greg Alexander of Elk City, Oklahoma, and Misty Barton of Spearman; five stepgrandchildren, Danny Nelson of Pampa, Jimmy Nelson of Briscoe, Keri Nelson of Elk City, Oklahoma, Debbie Hall of Clarendon, and Sheri Cox of

Broken Arrow, Oklahoma; four great-grandchildren; Blake Barton, Blaine Barton, Brooke Barton and Olivia Alexander; and several step-great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the Hemphill County Hospice, 1020 S. 4th, Canadian, Texas 79014 or a favorite charity.

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

**Emergency Services**

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 72-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

**Friday, Jan. 19**

Nineteen traffic stops were made, resulting in at least one arrest.

A traffic complaint was received from the 1200 block of Christine.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the 200 block of West 28th and the 100 block of South Cuyler.

Calls concerning animals were received from the 200 block of Tignor, the 1600 block of North Dwight, the 1300 block of East Kingsmill, the intersection of Huff Road and Varnon Drive, the 2300 block of Comanche, and on three occasions from an unreported location.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 2300 block of Alcock.

Lost property was reported

in the 1200 block of South Farley.

A suspicious person call was received from the 1200 block of East Frederic.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the intersection of Tyng and Starkweather streets.

Silent/abusive 911 calls were received from the 2200 block of North Sumner, the 1300 block of West Kentucky, and the 700 block of East 16th.

Disorderly conduct was reported at the intersection of Randy Matson and Duncan streets and the 1600 block of North Hobart.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 1600 block of Highway 60 East.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 600 block of Plains, the 1200 block of East Foster, and the 1100 block of East Francis, where the incident was verbal only and no injuries were reported.

A narcotics violation was reported in the police department lobby.

Possession of more than four ounces but less than five pounds of marijuana, evading arrest/detention, and a foot pursuit were reported in the 1100 block of Varnon Drive. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Four burglar alarms were reported.

Theft was reported in the

1100 block of Sierra. A cell phone valued at \$200 was taken.

A gas drive-off was reported at Allsup's, 1025 W. Wilks. Fuel valued at \$30 was taken.

**Saturday, Jan. 20**

Three traffic stops were made, resulting in at least two arrests.

Traffic complaints were received from the intersection of Hobart and Alcock streets, the intersection of Brown and Hobart streets, the 1200 block of North Hobart, on two occasions from an unreported location, on two occasions from the intersection of Crest and Sierra streets, the 700 block of East Kentucky, the 900 block of Jordan, the 2400 block of Chestnut, and the 1400 block of North Hobart.

Motorist assistance was rendered in the 1000 block of East Harvester, the intersection of Hobart and Harvester streets, the 1000 block of North Hobart, on two occasions at an unreported location, and the intersection of Hobart and Alcock streets.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the 300 block of North Hobart, the intersection of Hobart and Francis streets, the 800 block of North Hobart, the intersection of Hobart and Alcock

See SERVICES, Page 3

**CITY BRIEFS**

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 Milo ..... 6.66  
 Corn ..... 7.37  
 Soybeans ..... 5.99

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

OXY ..... 44.75 NC  
 BP PLC ADR ..... 64.46 -0.06  
 Cabot Corp ..... 46.09 -0.40  
 Celanese ..... 25.00 -0.23  
 Cabot Oil Gas ..... 60.74 +0.89  
 Coca Cola ..... 48.25 -0.01  
 VLO ..... 52.09 +1.05  
 HAL ..... 29.74 +0.37  
 TRI ..... 42.43 -0.27  
 KML ..... 106.40 -0.02

XCEL ..... 22.97 NC  
 Anadarko ..... 43.21 +0.26  
 XOM ..... 73.38 -0.15  
 Nat'l Oilwell ..... 59.59 +1.39  
 Limited ..... 28.41 +0.02  
 Williams ..... 26.57 +0.22  
 MCD ..... 44.29 -0.52  
 Atmos ..... 31.38 -0.04  
 Pioneer Nat ..... 39.54 +0.16  
 JCP ..... 81.95 -0.74  
 COP ..... 64.25 +0.30  
 SLB ..... 62.16 +1.16  
 Tenneco ..... 26.14 -0.07  
 CVX ..... 72.03 -0.29  
 Wal-Mart ..... 47.76 -0.55  
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## Services

Continued from Page 2

streets, and the 500 block of West Brown. Calls concerning animals were received from the 700 block of Deane Drive, the 1600 block of Christine, the 1100 block of Varnon Drive, and on two occasions from the 200 block of Tignor.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 1100 block of South Finley.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 300 block of North Warren.

A suspicious person call was received from Hobart Street.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 1100 block of South Finley, the 1200 block of North Hobart, and on two occasions from the 200 block of North Naida.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1800 block of Evergreen.

Telephone harassment was reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1100 block of Varnon Drive.

Theft was reported at Frank's Foods, 300 E. Brown. Taken were various food items and razors, with total estimated loss of \$27.

### Sunday, Jan. 21

Three traffic stops were made.

Traffic complaints were received from the 800 block of East Francis, on two occasions from the 1000 block of South Faulkner, on two occasions from an unreported location, and the 50 block of South West.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 1600 block of North Hobart.

Calls concerning animals were received from the intersection of 20th and Duncan streets, the 800 block of Lea, the intersection of Campbell and Henry streets, the 2100 block of North Wells, and on two occasions from an unreported location.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 400 block of North Dwight and the intersection of Highway 60 and Loop 171.

Found property was reported in the 600 block of North Wells.

One suicide attempt was reported.

A civil matter was reported in the 600 block of Plains.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 700 block of Mora and the 1000 block of East Kingsmill.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 400 block of Rose and the 2600 block of North Hobart.

Harassment was reported in the 300 block of North Roberta.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 800 block of North Nelson.

Two burglar alarms were reported.

### Monday, Jan. 22

Motorist assistance was rendered in the 900 block of West 19th.

One open door was checked.

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

### Friday, Jan. 19

Johnne Richard Fulton, 65, of Humble was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety for driving while license is invalid.

Edward Lee Briley Jr., 28, of Memphis was arrested in the 1100 block of Varnon Drive by Pampa Police Department for possession of more than four ounces but less than five pounds of marijuana and evading arrest/detention.

### Saturday, Jan. 20

John Ashley Duttlinger, 25, of Williamsport, Md., was arrested in the 200 block of West Brown by PPD for driving while intoxicated.

Jesus Alberto Montelongo, 25, of Pampa was arrested in the 100 block of North Hobart by PPD for driving while intoxicated.

### Sunday, Jan. 21

Nicholas Lee Brookshire, 27, of Pampa was arrested in the 800 block of North Wells by PPD for assault causing bodily injury.

Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents today.

### Friday, Jan. 19

4:32 p.m. — A 1997 Dodge Ram 1500, driven by Charles Leon Martin, 70, of 214 N. Sumner, and a 2001 Oldsmobile Alero, driven by Rachel Villarreal, 43, of 821 E. Gordon, collided in the 100 block of South Cuyler. No injuries were reported. Martin was cited for backing without safety.

### Saturday, Jan. 20

11:06 a.m. — A 1997 Ford F250, driven by Chad Wilbur Hapeman, 28, of 330 Davis, towing a goose neck trailer, collided with a light pole in the 300 block of North Hobart. No injuries were reported, and no citations were issued.

### Sunday, Jan. 21

12:18 p.m. — A 2005 Pontiac Grand Am, driven by Christina Renee Vaughn, 19, of 1132 Terrace, and a 1990 Chevrolet Suburban, driven by Manuel Galavje Pepi, 56, of 510 N. Ward, collided in the 1700 block of North Hobart. No injuries were reported, and no citations were issued.

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

### Friday, Jan. 19

9:08 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

12:06 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 12000 block of Frederic. No transport.

3:30 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

3:56 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of Huff and transported a patient to BSA in Amarillo.

7:20 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient to PRMC.

### Saturday, Jan. 20

3:29 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to BSA.

### Sunday, Jan. 21

12:17 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to an undisclosed location on Hobart. No transport.

12:29 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 900 block of South Osborne and transported a patient to PRMC.

12:53 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of Duncan and transported a patient to PRMC.

4:25 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient to PRMC.

5:24 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of Locust and transported a patient to PRMC.

7:35 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the Baten Unit and transported a patient to PRMC.

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

### Saturday, Jan. 20

11:17 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 300 block of North Hobart on a vehicle accident to clean up hazardous material.

### Sunday, Jan. 21

11:57 a.m. — One unit and four personnel responded to the 400 block of Jupiter on an electrical short.

12:54 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 1000 block of Duncan on a lifting assist.

## Snow

Continued from Page 1

an average amount. You usually get one inch of moisture from 10 inches of snow."

Total precipitation for January in the Pampa area is 1.02 inches, Sehorn

said, which is ahead of the area average of 52/100 inch for the month.

The twice-normal amount of moisture for January continues a trend from December, when the area received four inches.

"December was one of the wettest in our recorded history," Sehorn said. "Normally, we get about half an inch

in December."

Total rainfall for Pampa in 2006 was 21.09 inches, the average amount normally received in a calendar year in the area, even though the first half of the year saw drought conditions across the area.

"The last half of the year put us back to normal," Sehorn said.

## Senators seek support for troop resolution

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two leading Senate Democrats are seeking to dispel concerns that a resolution on Iraq doesn't go far enough, saying it would make a strong statement to President Bush that a troop increase is wrong.

"It will be a very powerful message if a bipartisan majority of the Congress say that they disagree with the increased military involvement in Iraq," said Sen. Carl Levin, chairman of the Armed Services Committee.

Division over whether Democrats should push a stronger measure could spell defeat for the resolution, he cautioned.

"The worst thing we can do is to vote on something which is critical of the current policy and lose it," said Levin, D-Mich. "If we lose that vote, the president will use the defeat of a resolution as support for his public policy."

Bush, meanwhile, says in a new interview that the best way to convince skeptics "that this makes sense is to implement it and show them that it works."

He also told USA Today in today's editions he will argue in his State of the Union speech next week that "what happens in Iraq matters to your security here at home."

Asked in the interview, conducted Friday, whether Iraq would be a prob-

lem after he leaves office in January 2009, Bush said: "The war on terror will be a problem for the next president. Presidents after me will be confronting ... an enemy that would like to strike the United States again."

The new Democratic-led Congress heads this week toward its first vote on the war, with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee planning to begin debate Wednesday on the nonbinding resolution condemning Bush's plan to send 21,500 more troops.

The proposal is largely symbolic and would have no effect on money for troops. It states that "it is not in the national interest of the United States to deepen its military involvement in Iraq, particularly by escalating the United States military force presence in Iraq."

The resolution has caused some division among Democrats who want to go further by cutting money for new troops; moderates in both parties who want softer language; and Republican leaders who have pledged to filibuster.

On Sunday, Levin and Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., who sponsored the resolution with Republicans Chuck Hagel of Nebraska and Olympia Snowe of Maine, said their proposal was a first step. Other measures, such as limiting federal appropriations for the war, could come later if needed, they said.

Biden, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, played down the notion that support could splinter over how far lawmakers should go to restrain the president's power to wage war. He said he expected that each of the half-dozen competing proposals to oppose the war would get an airing.

"I don't think there's any muddled message here," Biden said. "They'll all get a chance to get voted on — basically all of them. And I think we'll have some discussion."

The proposals to limit the war vary. Rep. John Murtha, D-Pa., and Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., say they want to cut money for new troops to prevent the deployments. Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., has a proposal that would cap troops at existing levels.

Republican Sen. Gordon Smith of Oregon said he was wary of the term "escalating" in the resolution and was working with Sens. Susan Collins, R-Maine, and Ben Nelson, D-Neb., on a "constructive, nonpartisan resolution that expresses the opposition of the Senate to the surge."

Bush is expected to address the Iraq war in his State of the Union speech Tuesday and renew his calls to work together with Democrats on a bipartisan way forward.

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# Viewpoints

## On meter maids and Democrats ...

There are only two words you need to know to understand the meaning of government: meter maid.

Though maybe I'm still bitter.

I live in a wonderful suburban community, six miles from downtown Pittsburgh. Its main street is lined with pubs and shops and stores. I spend many days writing there in a coffee shop.

But my writing has been difficult of late — difficult because of our meter maid.

She's an extraordinary woman, a legend in these parts. No sooner does a meter pin drop and the meter "expire" than she is there. Park beyond the white lines? She'll nail you 15 bucks for that. Dare to park one second beyond the two-hour limit?

She'll nail you 15 bucks for that, too.

I am punished repeatedly for these offenses. I thought it was funny at first — funny at how prolific our meter maid really is. But after thinking about what it really means, I don't think it's so funny any more.

My meter maid is a perfect reflection of what is so worrisome about government — a perfect example of the unintended consequences and perverse incentives that only government can create.

A town like mine SHOULD have parking meters and parking rules. Lawbreakers who abuse them SHOULD be punished. It's necessary to preserve order — to keep patrons mov-

ing in and out, so that shop owners and the town may flourish.

But it is my meter maid who has become the aggressor. She's a master of her art. Her ticket pad is her blank canvas — she can saunter past 10 cars in 10 seconds and whip out 10 tickets without breaking stride.

**Tom Purcell**  
Columnist



It matters not if you're old and feeble and your doctor's appointment ran a few minutes over. Who cares if you're a shop employee unable to find a long-term parking spot. It will do you no good to park outside of the painted lines

so the car behind you has room to get out.

You will be punished.

You will be punished because there's profit in it — profit for the government. With every stroke of the pen, my meter maid is essentially printing money — and, possibly, generating funds toward the annual meter maid ball (a cause, my dear meter maid, to which I contribute generously every year).

It's certainly not the meter maid's fault that she responds to such incentives — misdirected incentives that ultimately anger patrons and

hurt the businesses and town the regulations were designed to benefit. The government is in the business of misdirected incentives.

Take poverty. Years ago, LBJ unleashed a flurry of government programs to eliminate it. We've spent well over a trillion dollars since and all our good intentions got us is more poverty.

It's not that I dislike government. I liked the federal loans that got me through Penn State. I like the world's finest highway system that allows me to travel freely state to state. I loved the way local police nabbed the fellow who hit-and-ran my car.

I just don't trust government.

Which brings us to the

Democrats. Democrats love government. They think the good intentions of government can solve all the woes of the world. And now that they're running Congress, they'll surely try to do just that.

They'll promise to "fix" our health care troubles by having the government take them over, which will increase our troubles and limit our health care.

They'll "fix" Social Security by raising taxes and growing the program, only to hurt the economy and ultimately damage the program.

They'll "fix" the gap between rich and poor by raising taxes on the rich, which will further slow the

See PURCELL, Page 8

## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, Jan. 22, the 22nd day of 2007. There are 343 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 22, 1917, President Wilson pleaded for an end to war in Europe, calling for "peace without victory." (By April, however, America also was at war.)

On this date:

In 1901, Britain's Queen Victoria died at age 82.

In 1905 (New Style calendar), thousands of demonstrating Russian workers were fired on by Imperial army troops in St. Petersburg on what became known as "Bloody Sunday."

In 1907, 100 years ago, the Richard Strauss opera "Salome" made its American debut at the Metropolitan Opera in New York; its racy content (including the Dance of the Seven Veils) sparked outrage.

In 1938, Thornton Wilder's play "Our Town" was performed publicly for the first time, in Princeton, N.J.

In 1944, during World War II, Allied forces

*'To be capable of respect is today almost as rare as to be worthy of it.'*

— Joseph Joubert  
French moralist  
(1754-1824)

began landing at Anzio, Italy.

In 1957, suspected "Mad Bomber" George P. Metesky was arrested in Waterbury, Conn. (He was later found mentally ill and committed to a mental hospital until 1973.)

In 1973, the Supreme Court handed down its Roe v. Wade decision, which legalized abortion.

In 1973, former President Lyndon Johnson died at age 64.

In 1987, Pennsylvania treasurer R. Budd Dwyer, convicted of defrauding the state, proclaimed his innocence at a news conference before shooting himself to death in front of horrified spectators.

In 1995, Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy died at the Kennedy compound at Hyannis Port, Mass., at age 104.

Ten years ago: The Senate confirmed Madeleine Albright as the nation's first female secretary of state and former Republican Sen. William Cohen as defense secretary.

Five years ago: Kmart Corp., the discount chain that gave America the BlueLight Special, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. Jack Shea, a gold medal-winning speedskater and patriarch of the nation's first family with three generations of Olympians, died in Lake Placid, N.Y., of injuries suffered in a car accident; he was 91.

One year ago: Evo Morales, Bolivia's first Indian president, took office with a promise to lift his nation's struggling indigenous majority out of centuries of poverty and discrimination. Kobe Bryant scored 81 points, the second-highest in NBA history, in the Los Angeles Lakers' 122-104 victory over the Toronto Raptors.



## When Bush declared war on the world ...

The U.S., after training and egging on the Ethiopians to intervene in the Somali civil war, is now bombing and strafing Somalis. The government "suspects" they might be al-Qaida.

That is a load of horse apples. You can't identify people, much less their politics, from an airplane or a helicopter. Air power always kills innocent civilians. That obscene euphemism "collateral damage" changes neither the facts on the ground nor the immorality of the act. I assume most Americans still think it is immoral to kill innocent people.

It amazes me how the talking class in this country can agonize, expostulate, groan and moan, condemn and abhor the deaths that result when some desperate youth straps a bomb to his waist and detonates it in Israel. Yet, when bombs fall from the sky or are detonat-

ed in another country, the talking class shrugs. To paraphrase the poet Gertrude Stein, a bomb is a bomb is a bomb. How it's delivered is irrelevant. A bomb by any other name kills as certainly.

And what are we doing back in Somalia? Chasing so-called terrorists is the party line, but since when does it require a foreign army, helicopter gunships and bombers to chase down a few al-Qaida people? No, the truth is that we backed the warlords against an Islamic group, and when the warlords failed, we brought in the Ethiopians.

It is true, I believe, that one reaps what one sows, and by the time this administration is out of office, it will

have sown so much hatred for America that there will be enough to last for generations.

It all began with one faulty premise. The attack on the World Trade Center was carried out by a single organization, al-Qaida. Hamas had not attacked us; Islamic Jihad had not attacked us; the Taliban had not attacked us; the guerrillas in the Philippines, Somalia, Colombia and wherever else in the world they exist had not attacked us. We had been attacked by one single organization, which had publicly declared war on us and had attacked us before overseas.

President Bush had a choice. He could have retali-

ated against the people who had attacked us. If he had done that, we would have had one enemy to deal with. Instead, Bush declared a global war on global terrorism. He was, in effect, declaring war on the world. That was the keystone stupid mistake. Invading Iraq, which had nothing to do with the attack on us, was a second stupid mistake.

Furthermore, terrorism is a tactic. When the Clinton administration decided to bomb Serbia, that was practicing terrorism. If you want to know what real terror is, just wait until, God forbid, you're on the ground and somebody is dropping high explosives on you. A human being is defenseless against an aerial attack.

You can't, of course, declare war on a tactic, and at any rate, the cowardly

See REESE, Page 8

**Charley Reese**  
Columnist



## Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ Jan. 15

The Dallas Morning News on proposed coal plants have hidden costs:

TXU's proposal to build 11 conventional coal-burning power plants is an example of doing things pretty much the way they've always been done. And while that may be good business for TXU in the short term, it's not good business for Texas as a whole.

Coal is plentiful and cheap, but it also burns dirty. TXU has vowed if it gets the OK to build to slice nitrogen oxide, mercury and sulfur dioxide emissions 20 percent from current levels by 2010.

That's good to hear; nationwide, power plants account for about two-thirds of all sulfur dioxide, 22 percent of nitrogen oxides, 40 percent of carbon dioxide and about one-third of mercury emissions. Stir a large quantity of these emissions together and they can cause serious medical problems as well as cripple local economies.

For those reasons, we don't think the TXU reduction is bold enough in a state that already has more than its share of dirty power plants. And it does nothing to address carbon dioxide an unregulated emission from coal-burning plants that contributes to global warming.

Worst of all, adding these conventional facilities will shift intangible costs from the TXU plants to business-

es and citizens across Texas.

Here's what we mean.

Power plants have a 30- to 50-year life, so we're talking a long-term business commitment that will shape the state's energy future for decades. And it affects more than TXU's bottom line:

Bad air increases health care costs. Bad air makes it more difficult for North Texas companies to expand and attract top talent.

Bad air makes North Texas less competitive as the threat hangs overhead of onerous sanctions for noncompliance with federal smog guidelines.

Texas Business for Clean Air, a newly formed coalition of executives, is trying to get those points across to

See OPINION, Page 8

**THE PAMPA NEWS**  
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# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** My roommate, "Jeff," and I got into a huge fight last week and he kicked me out. My mother took me in and said if I ever moved back in with him, she'd "disown" me. While I was living with my mother, I had trouble finding employment. While I was with Jeff, I received offers of employment from no less than three companies. I have spoken with Jeff since the incident. He apologized and wishes I'd move back in. He realizes he acted like an idiot. I would like to move back with him so that I can have a job, but I don't want to make my mother angry. Also, I don't think that living with her is healthy for me right now. Please advise ASAP. — "PAMELA" IN CLEVELAND

**DEAR "PAMELA":** While it may not be "healthy" to live with your mother right now, moving back in with a roommate who kicks you out when he loses his temper does not seem like a wise move either. You did not make clear why you can't take the job(s) you were offered and live with her. If the problem is geographic, perhaps you should explore what other arrangements you can manage, because you have no guarantee that Jeff would not evict you repeatedly. The goal to aim for is to be independent, able to stand on your own two feet, and beholden to no one.

**DEAR ABBY:** I lost my wife, "Vicki," six months ago. She was the love of my life, and it was unexpected. I am raising our two children, ages 5 and 8, by myself. I now understand why so many women say they have a hard time finding someone special. What does a widower have to do to find someone special when he has kids? — MR. LONELY IN DETROIT

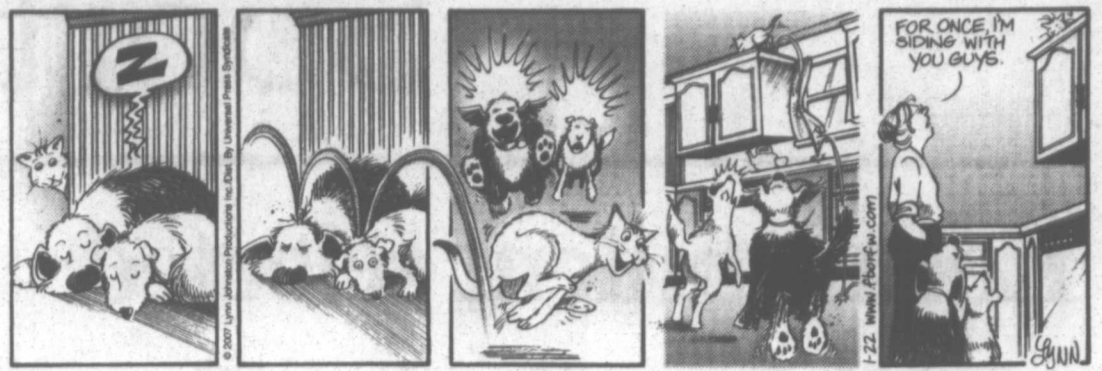
**DEAR MR. LONELY:** Please accept my deepest sympathy for the loss of your wife.

I'm sure she won't be easily replaced. The first thing to do is start from square one and remember that dating is a hit-and-miss proposition, and few people hit the jackpot the first time. You will find a special someone in places where nice people congregate. In your case, it might be during kids' activities at school and church, or the PTA. There is also an organization called Parents Without Partners that has been around for a long time. The membership is largely female. Contact it by logging onto [www.parentswithoutpartners.org](http://www.parentswithoutpartners.org), or by calling the toll-free phone number, (800) 637-7974, for the location of a chapter near you.

**DEAR ABBY:** I see my hairdresser every four weeks to have my hair colored. I used to be a chestnut brunette, but time has taken its toll. My problem is, she doesn't always take the dark color off my face around the hairline. I always thought it was done when the color was shampooed out, but today I had to go back to work after my appointment and one of my co-workers pointed it out. I don't want to change hairdressers because she gives me a great cut and style. Isn't taking the hair color off the skin a normal part of this procedure? — RING AROUND THE FACE

**DEAR RING:** It certainly is. I don't know whether your hairdresser was rushed, ran out of tint-remover or was having a bad day, but part of the service is to make sure the customer leaves without any telltale traces of "work" having been done. You should definitely speak to her about it, because her work was substandard.

## For Better Or For Worse



## Zits



## Garfield



## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



## Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Garbage boat
  - 5 Dance keyboard units
  - 10 Turner of Hollywood
  - 11 Movie genre
  - 13 Manipulative sort
  - 14 Land west of the Urals
  - 15 Speak haltingly
  - 17 — Magnon man
  - 18 Fullbacks' wear
  - 19 Spigot
  - 20 Office-holders
  - 21 Sharpen
  - 22 Bawl out
  - 25 Element number 5
  - 26 Bottle plug
  - 27 Mouse chaser
  - 28 Gangster's gun
  - 29 Playthings for Zeus and Hera
  - 33 Brewery product
  - 34 Behind the times
  - 35 Man of the cloth
  - 37 Peace symbol
- DOWN**
- 1 Melting snow
  - 2 Social group
  - 3 Ryan of "Love Story"
  - 4 Insomniac's quaff
  - 5 White sale buy
  - 6 Sees the sights
  - 7 Bungle
  - 8 Test monitor
  - 9 Maria Callas, for one
  - 12 Resume business
  - 16 Fix
  - 21 Winter quaff
  - 22 Pickle
  - 23 Engine fluid
  - 24 Hospital worker
  - 25 Homer's son
  - 27 Enumerates
  - 29 Antlered animal
  - 30 Previously
  - 31 Invigorate
  - 32 Hearty dishes
  - 36 Try the tea

**HATARI MUSH**  
**AZALEA ONTO**  
**SULTAN TIER**  
**TROOP PECAN**  
**YEENS SALOME**  
**ANTI RED**  
**DIXIELAND**  
**PEN LESS**  
**AMAZED TOSS**  
**RICES TAROT**  
**SLAT FOIBLE**  
**ELSA ARRIVE**  
**SETS TEETER**

### Saturday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Sold \$4.75 (check/m.o.) by Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

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## Marmaduke



"Well, if it isn't Mr. Too-Much-Holiday-Gorging."

## The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



"Hold it, Jeff! Are you sure you want to throw that at a woman carrying doughnuts?"

## B.C.



## Haggar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie



## Flo & Friends



# Sports Day

## Local student selected to All Star Rodeo Team

DENVER -- Leaders of the National High School Rodeo Association (NHSRA), the oldest youth rodeo organization in America, appointed Kalynn Jones of Pampa to the Wrangler High School All Star Rodeo Team, the first-ever corporate-sponsored youth rodeo team.

The Wrangler High School All Star Rodeo Team is fashioned after Wrangler's Champion Pro Rodeo Team, which includes superstars like Ty Murray, Joe Beaver, Dan Mortensen, Charmayne

James, and Hall-of-Famer Jim Shoulders.

Jones earned a position on the Wrangler High School All Star Rodeo Team based upon leadership qualities, academic eligibility and athletic achievements.

"We are excited to again this year expand Wrangler's rodeo sponsorship program at the high school level," said Karl Stressman, special events manager for Wrangler Rodeo. "As always, it gives us a tremendous sense of pride to associate the Wrangler brand with promis-

ing young men and women. We're confident each member of the team will be an outstanding goodwill ambassador for the sport of rodeo."

Members of the Wrangler High School All Star Rodeo Team receive official competition apparel consisting of Wrangler Twenty X shirts embroidered with the team logo and two pairs of competition jeans.

In addition, team members receive an official team certificate signed by rodeo greats Jim Shoulders and Ty Murray.



Kalynn Jones, holding her official team certificate and wearing her official competition apparel she received as an All Star Rodeo Team member.

## Harlem Ambassadors bring show to Pampa audience

The internationally-acclaimed Harlem Ambassadors will visit Pampa for a game against "The Pampa Thrashers" at Clifton McNeely Field House at 7 p.m. Feb. 10, as a stop on their 2006-2007 tour that is scheduled to cover more than 40 states and will also star in Canada and Asia.

The Harlem Ambassadors offer a unique brand of Harlem-style basketball, featuring high-flying slam dunks, dazzling ball-handling tricks and hilarious comedy routines. The Ambassadors are led by returning veterans Ketrick "Jazz" Copeland and B.J. "Sugar Bear" Patman and will feature Wesley College superstar TiNeisha Turner as their show player.

For nine seasons, the Harlem Ambassadors have shared their amazing basketball skills and comedy genius with communities around the world. A major

focus of the Ambassadors is to serve as positive role models for youth. "Kids are heavily involved in all of our shows," Jazz said. "We try to get every kid in the gym involved in the show in some way or another; by playing games, dancing or just sitting on our bench and meeting our players."

The Ambassadors set themselves apart from other "Harlem" teams by working with local not-for-profit and service organizations and holding Harlem Ambassadors shows as community fund-raising events. For Pampa's event the Ambassadors have been partnered with the Chamber of Commerce as a fund-raising event.

The Ambassadors have worked extensively with organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Boys & Girls Clubs, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Police Athletic/Activities Leagues

and the American Red Cross as well as Rotary, Lions and Kiwanis clubs in communities throughout the U.S. Those shows have helped raise millions of dollars, an accomplishment of which Ambassadors President Dale Moss is very proud.

"It feels good to be able to provide quality entertainment and create memories that the fans will take with them," Moss explained. "We're able to give even more when we can help provide funding for a Habitat for Humanity house or new computers for the school library, and that feels great."

Tickets are \$5 students / \$8 adults in advance, and \$7 students / \$10 adults at the door.

Children 4 & under admitted free.

You can purchase tickets at The Chamber of Commerce, Sears, One Stop Flooring, United and Bob Clements Cleaners.

## Pampa Soccer Association to begin spring registration

Pampa Soccer Association spring season sign ups begin Feb. 1 and will run through March 1, which is also the day practices will begin.

The opening day games start the season off on March 24, as the season hopes to wrapped up by May 5.

There will be a player's fee of \$45, which includes the registration fee and uniform.

Registration will be held

at T-Shirts and More.

The Pampa Soccer Association had a great turnout in the fall registration, exceeding the organization's expectations.

The organization is hoping for more youth ages 4-18 in the community to get involved this spring and build more teams for the both the boys and girls.

As far as the players that registered in the fall are concerned, they will reside on

the same team.

Two of our U10 Girls coaches will travel to Denton, Texas for a coaches clinic hosted by the North Texas Soccer Association on Feb. 16-17.

They will learn philosophies on coaching, how to identify the needs of the players, organization of practices, parent/team management, and will also further their physical knowledge of the game.

## Coming up in local sports:

### Girls Basketball-

Mon.	Freshmen v. Dumas	Away	6 p.m.
Tues.	JV v. Dumas	Away	6 p.m.
Tues.	Varsity v. Dumas	Away	7:30 p.m.

### Boys Basketball-

Tues.	JV v. Dumas	Away	6 p.m.
Tues.	Varsity v. Dumas	Away	7:30 p.m.

### Boys Soccer-

Tues.	Pampa v. Wichita Falls Rider	Away	6 p.m.
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## No. 5 Blake loses to Gonzales

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — James Blake refused to make excuses. He played well; Fernando Gonzalez was simply too good.

The 10th-seeded Gonzalez ended Blake's hopes of reaching the Australian Open quarterfinals, carving out a 7-5, 6-4, 7-6 (4) victory Monday in a display of high-quality tennis.

"I'm sure there's a million reasons, a million excuses I could come up with," a dis-

appointed Blake said. "He played better than me today. Served better, returned better. There were a few points there I'd love to have over again, but that's the way it goes. He played great on the big points."

Gonzalez, meets the winner of the match between second-seeded Rafael Nadal and No. 15 Andy Murray.

"I know that I have a really tough match on the next round, too," Gonzalez said.

"But I trust in my game the way that I'm playing. I feel that I can beat anyone."

Like Gonzalez, fourth-seeded Kim Clijsters stayed hot, too, beating No. 15 Daniela Hantuchova 6-1, 7-5 after dropping only nine games in her first three matches. She next faces off-court friend Martina Hingis, the three-time champion here who struggled before dispatching 19th-seeded Li Na 4-6, 6-3, 6-0.

## Bears, Colts head to Miami for an already historic Super Bowl

By DENNIS WASZAK Jr. AP Sports Writer

Their longtime friendship made the day even more poignant.

Lovie Smith and Tony Dungy advanced to the Super Bowl with their teams on Sunday and gave the NFL a historic moment that was 41 years in the making.

As the first black head coaches to make it to the nation's uber sporting event, they couldn't help mentioning how special it was to be there together.

"It means a lot," Dungy said after his Indianapolis Colts beat New England 38-34 in the AFC title game.

"I'm very proud of being an African-American. I'm very proud of Lovie."

Smith got there first, when his Chicago Bears won the early game and the NFC title by rolling over the New Orleans Saints, 39-14.

Asked who he'd like to play on Feb. 4 in Miami, Smith didn't hesitate with his answer:

"We have to play someone

and, in my perfect world, I would like to see the Colts be that team."

"Tony Dungy has done an awful lot for our game," Smith said. "He hasn't had a chance to coach in the Super Bowl. I would love to see it."

Four hours later, it was a done deal.

"I'm happy for both coaches," Colts defensive end Dwight Freeney said. "I hope we get to the point we don't have to hear about it."

Las Vegas oddsmakers made Indianapolis the early

favorite by a touchdown.

"I'll feel even better to be the first black coach to hold the first black coach to hold the world championship trophy," Smith said.

It won't be easy, though, especially the way Peyton Manning and the Colts are playing.

"I just wanted to do my job and do my job well," the Colts quarterback said. "I didn't think I needed to be super. I just needed to be good."

Manning has been dogged for years by critics who said

his greatness was diminished by the fact he couldn't win a big game. After leading his team back from an 18-point deficit, he finally has the chance — on football's biggest stage.

"It sounds good," a beaming Manning said. "It really does."

For the next two weeks, Smith and Dungy figure to be in the spotlight as much as Manning, perhaps more so.

Smith was one of Dungy's assistants when they were

with Tampa Bay from 1996-2000, and they established a friendship that has grown in the years since.

When Dungy started in Tampa, there were just three black head coaches in the NFL. This season, there were seven.

Now, there will be two in the Super Bowl.

"Any time you're the first person to do anything, regardless of your race or anything like that, it's special," Bears running back Thomas Jones said.



Tristen Morgan and Kirsten Hood played on a team together in the fall season, and if they register for the spring, they will still be on the same team.

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Pampa High School's Choral Department will present its annual Evening on Broadway this weekend. Show Choir members are, top row, from left, Aaron Pepper, Jonathan Maciel, Bobby Sikes, Natasha Bailey, Hector Leal and Ben Gibson. Middle row from left, Michael Foreman, Whitney Morris, Angela Mechelay, Coleby West, Maegan Patterson, Katie Holmes, Erika Silva, Irwin Kuehn and Breanna Beesley. Bottom row from left, JaCee Villarreal, Hailey Acker and Michael Fernuik. Directors are Fred Mays and Wanetta Hill. The event is a fund-raiser for the choir's trip to New York City in May. There will be a silent auction each night of the performances.

## Annual show choir event scheduled this weekend

The Pampa High School Show Choir's annual Evening on Broadway will be held this weekend at M.K. Brown Auditorium.

The dinner and program showcase the talent of the choir. The choir as a whole and individual members will perform Broadway tunes.

The shows will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Reservations must be made in advance, and can be made by contacting a PHS choir member, or the Choir office at 669-4800.

Tickets are \$30 which includes a \$10 catered meal and a \$20 donation toward the choir's trip to New York City in May.

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## Many think country headed down wrong track

By **DARLENE SUPERVILLE**  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans seem sour on the state of the union in advance of President Bush's address on the subject. A poll finds most believe the country is on the wrong track — a complete flip from five years ago.

Most people also are not confident that Bush and the Democrats who now control Congress and share responsibility with him for running the country can work together to solve its problems, an Associated Press-AOL News poll finds.

At the same time, Americans see the president as likable, decisive and strong — but also stubborn. And only a minority think he is honest — 44 percent, down from 53 percent two years ago.

Bush delivers his State of the Union address Tuesday night, nearly two weeks after he told the nation he is sending 21,500 additional U.S. troops to Iraq in a new effort to end violence there.

The White House says the speech

will focus on a few issues, energy and health care among them, on which Bush might be able to reach agreement with Democrats, who control the House and Senate for the first time during his two-term presidency.

Two-thirds of Americans, 66 percent, think the country is on the wrong track. That's about the same as a year ago, when 65 percent thought so, the poll found.

That's a stark reversal from mid-January 2002, when 68 percent said the country was on the right track and 29 percent said it was not. Then, the nation was still coming to grips with the terrorist strikes four months earlier on New York and Washington that killed nearly 3,000 people. And, U.S. troops Bush sent to Afghanistan had toppled the Taliban government that harbored the terrorists believed responsible.

After the U.S. led an invasion of Iraq in March 2003, public support for the mission there began to slide as the war continued, the U.S. death toll climbed

and the violence raged on.

John Raab, 77, of Allentown, Pa., a conservative Republican, said the United States can change course "if people rally around the president and he can get this fiasco in Iraq under control."

Kerry Moore-O'Leary, a 31-year-old Democrat from Boston, said it will take new leadership.

"I really think the only time we are going to see some real changes is when we elect a new president," she said. "Even people who are moderate Republicans are going to say that we need someone who's a breath of fresh air."

Lawmakers in both political parties have promised more bipartisanship and comity since the November elections, when voters took away the reins of Congress from Bush's Republican Party.

But the public appears largely skeptical of those pledges.

## Reese

Continued from Page 4

Congress didn't require a declaration of war, as was its constitutional duty. And that is how we got into the mess we are in. It started with bad decisions, first on the part of the voters, and secondly on the part of the

people we elected.

So, never let anyone tell you that elections don't matter. The day after Election Day, 100 percent of the power resides in 435 congressmen, 100 senators and one president. Their decisions can lead us to doom or to glory, to poverty or to prosperity, to war or to peace.

With our national debt at

\$8.6 trillion, with our military stretched to the breaking point, with most of the world hating us for our behavior, we don't have a lot of margin of error left. We'd better do better than voting for Mr. and Ms. Smiley Face.

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

## Opinion

Continued from Page 4

lawmakers and regulators. Its arguments must make a good amount of sense because the group has won the support of about 50 influential bosses across the

state.

David Litman, a coalition co-founder, makes the case like this: TXU is transferring its costs "up the smoke-stack" and out to the public. In other words, cheap and plentiful energy isn't necessarily the best option, especially if the short-term decision presents serious irreversible consequences.

This debate is about much more than how quickly TXU deserves a green light to build its plants. The state owes all its citizens and businesses a decision that will assure that both our air and our economy remain vibrant.

Simply put, foul air is bad for lungs and for business.

## Purcell

Continued from Page 4

economy and make all of us poorer — especially the poor.

The Democrats will unwittingly unleash a legion of federal meter maids who will regulate, monitor and punish — and unwittingly accomplish the opposite of whatever they were hired to accomplish.

I hope they're less proficient than my meter maid. It's like she drops out of the sky every time a meter expires. If only Osama Bin Laden would park in my town. He'd be found, cuffed and standing before the magistrate inside of 48 hours.

—Tom Purcell is a humor columnist nationally syndicated exclusively by Cagle Cartoons.

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