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# January sales tax check to city up from last year

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

"We're up!" said Pampa City Manager John Horst with regard to the January check for sales tax revenues.

The City of Pampa received a check from the state comptroller's office this month for \$393,735.44 for sales taxes collected in November. Almost \$100,000 of that will go to the Pampa Economic Development Corporation.

"We were pleasantly surprised

#### again this month," Horst said.

The city's revenues from sales taxes have consistently been above the previous year revenues for the same months and well ahead of what had been budgeted.

"January's revenues were up 40 percent over budget," Horst said. "It was an increase of \$98,000 over the same month last year."

The city's part of the check was \$295,301.58, compared to \$197,547.55 for January, 2006. The city had budgeted for an income of \$210,826.61 for the month.

The Pampa Economic Development Corporation will get \$98,433.86.

"For the first four months of this fiscal year," Horst said, "we're 19 percent over budget."

The books show that Pampa has received \$1,103,365.34 for the first four months of the fiscal year, or \$177,671.45 ahead of what had been budgeted.

The economic development corporation has received \$367,788.45 in the past four months from sales tax revenues.

At the current rate of sales tax revenues, the city could end up with more than half million dollars in excess by the end of the fiscal year next September. Estimates indicate that at the current rate, the city could have \$527,816.48 in cash beyond the \$2,950,000 budget they adopted for the 2006-2007 fiscal year.

### **City meeting** A gobbling good time

### postponed **By DAVID BOWSER**

Staff Writer Due to a procedural problem, Tuesday's Pampa City Commission meeting was postponed for a week.

On Jan. 30, the city commission will consider on first reading a resolution approving an economic development grant to MXT, LLC, for the creation and retention of jobs.

They will also consider on second and final reading an ordinance amending their budget and shifting money toward tourism and promotion.

City Manager John Horst said the city traditionally dedicates about 14 percent of the hotel/motel tax for tourism and promotion of Pampa. The initial city budget dedicated \$20,000 of









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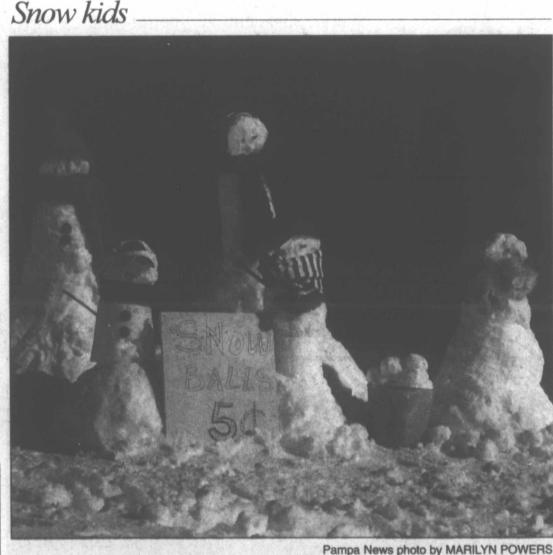
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Ronnie Harvill Ow

See CITY, Page 3

Pampa News photo by KERRI SMITH

Wild turkeys congregate near a house on Holly Street recently. A group of approximately 30 birds is frequently seen by the Country Club golf course.



Cara Morris built five child-sized snowmen in her front yard in the 1800 block of North Zimmers to represent her five grandchildren. The snow kids are trying to peddle snowballs at a nickel each.

# **PISD** to discuss building project, construction

### By DAVID BOWSER Staff Writer

special meeting A Thursday evening of the Pampa Independent School District will revolve around construction and portable buildings for Pampa High School.

Meeting at 6 p.m. at the Center Carver Administration Office, the school board trustees will consider a contract with Parkhill, Smith and Cooper Architects, which helped develop a plan for renovating and expanding the high school and building a new junior high.

The school board will also discuss the construction project, consider a construction manager, discuss demolition of the Pampa High School woodshop, consider purchase of portable buildings for classrooms at the high school and consider Barry Haenisch.

leasing office space for district use.

The board will also discuss revisions to the local purchasing and acquisition policy, consider bids for a baseball scoreboard and discuss a security fence at Pampa Junior High School.

Because the district's fund balance has increased more then expected, the Facility Committee has proposed using the extra money to demolish Sam Houston School, roofing one of the elementary schools and redoing the track or replacing the seating at Harvester Field. The school board will consider a budget amendment for those projects in the amount of \$1,103,508.

The board will hear a quarterly investment and financial report and will also evaluate the performance of Superintendent



### **Obituaries**

Ronnie Wilbon, 55, of Pampa, died Jan. 22, 2007, at Pampa. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Wilbon was born Sept. 24, 1951, at Amarillo and had been a

lifelong Pampa resident, graduating from Pampa High School in 1970.

He worked for Highland General Hospital for a number of years and was a welder for Texas Pipe and Metal for several years.

Thursday	Friday	Sunday
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Alternation and	The second section of the	Sugar an announcement
- See		

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 46. Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 27. Wind chill values between 19 and 24.

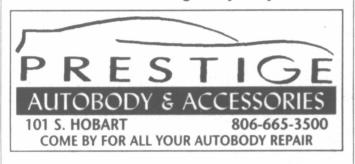
Friday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 46. Westsouthwest wind around 10 mph.

Friday Night:Partly cloudy, with a low around 25. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Saturday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 40. Northnortheast wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 21. North-northeast wind around 5 mph becoming south-

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



#### **Ronnie Wilbon**, 55

Mr. Wilbon was a member of St. Mark CME Church and The Tree Club.

He was preceded in death by his parents, L.C. and Vera Wilbon. Survivors include a daughter, Patricia Kelly of Plainview; a sis-

lobby.

Sumner streets.

block of Darby.

Varnon Drive.

block of Hughes.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

reported the following inci-

dents for the 24-hour period

ending at 7 a.m. today.

one arrest.

ment lobby.

Pampa Police Department

Five traffic stops were

Traffic complaints were

made, resulting in at least

received from the 1300

block of East Kingsmill, the

intersection of Kentucky and

Hobart streets, the 900 block

of Schneider, and the 1800

reported in the police depart-

A vehicle accident was

Calls concerning animals

were received from the 100

block of North Sumner, the

500 block of North Warren,

the 500 block of West

Brown, the 1300 block of

South Hobart, the 700 block

of North Naida, the 1000

block of North Frost, the

police department lobby, and

made in the 600 block of

North Dwight and the 300

was reported in the 400

An abandoned vehicle

Welfare checks were

an unreported location.

block of North Warren.

block of Hughes.

block of North Sumner.

ter, Jo Ann King of Dallas; four brothers, twin Donnie Wilbon, Herbert Wilbon, both of Pampa, Freddy Wilbon of Tulsa, Okla., and Billy Wilbon of Houston; and a granddaughter.

Memorials may be made to St.

taken.

dents today.

phone valued at \$190 was

Accidents

Pampa Police Department

Saturday, Jan. 20

9:46 a.m. - An unknown

vehicle and driver collided

with a 2004 Nissan Titan,

driven by Simp Troy

McClendon, 32, of 1106 N.

Russell, at the intersection of

Hobart and Gwendolyn

Monday, Jan. 22

N. Sumner, in the 1100 block

vehicle and driver then fled

the scene. No injuries were

get the

SIGNAL

reported the following acci-

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-Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

an incident which occurred reported, and no citations in the 100 block of East were issued. Harvester in which a cell

### Sheriff

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

Tuesday, Jan. 23

Duane Waldrop, 42, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for assault causing bodily injury/family violence.

Alfredo Campos Jr., 49, of Pampa was arrested in the 600 block of Yeager by Pampa Police Department for theft by check.

Jeffery Price Rodgers, 39, of Guymon, Okla., was arrested by GCSO for no driver's license, displaying expired license plates, expired Texas registration, a capias pro fine for failure to appear, and a bond surrender for possession of a controlled substance.

Koby James Hathcoat, 38, of Pampa was arrested by PPD for criminal mischief and disorderly conduct.

#### Fire

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

Tuesday, Jan. 23 7:31 a.m. - One unit and five personnel responded to the 800 block of Gwendolyn on a medical assist.

8:02 a.m. - Two units and eight personnel responded to the 2700 block of Randy Matson on a structure fire. 8:48 a.m. - One unit and five personnel responded to the 1200 block of North Hobart on an odor investigation. 12:56 p.m. - One unit and three personnel responded to the 2100 block of Lea on a lifting assist. 2:04 p.m. - One unit and five personnel responded to the 1200 block of Finley on a lifting assist. 6:21 p.m. – One unit and three personnel responded to the 1100 block of Sirroco on an odor investigation.

in the 100 block of East Harvester. No injuries were reported in connection with Alanreed. No injuries were

tinuing. Three burglar alarms were

A runaway was reported in the police department

A suspicious person call

was received from the inter-

section of Gwendolyn and

A silent/abusive 911 call

Disorderly conduct was

A domestic disturbance

Aggravated assault with a

reported in the 1000 block of

was reported in the 400

deadly weapon was reported

in the police department

lobby. The incident involved

was received from the 1100

North Hobart. of Duncan. The unknown Theft was reported on two

occasions in the police department lobby, including

streets and then fled the a motor vehicle and occurred scene. McClendon then struck a 2004 Ford 4x4, driven by Carla Norris, 51, of

the incident. An investigareported, and no citations tion into the incident is con-

Taurus, owned by Geneva

6 p.m. – An unknown vehicle and driver collided with a parked 1996 Ford

were issued.

checked.

reported.

One open door was

A gas drive-off was reported in the 1900 block of Zuilimaco Zamora, of 524

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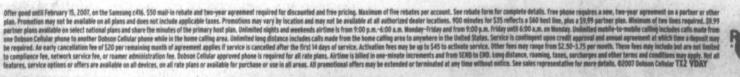
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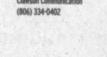
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See RECORD, Page 3

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ANNIE FULLER is the winner of the First Word Find Game that was in the Pampa News Thur., Jan. 18. Game Two is due back Fri., Jan. 26 -Play & Win.

**DRAIN STOPPED?** Why wait? Call Ingram & Son Plumbing Heating & Air. (M12466), at 665-8317.

FUN, FRIENDLY part-time sales assoc. for Julie's Hallmark, 125 W. Kingsmill.

WOULD YOU like a career in Fire Service? Informational meeting by Pampa Fire Dept., Tues., Jan. 30, 7pm., MK Brown Room, Chamber of Commerce, 200 N. Ballard, south entrance. Must be 18 yrs. old, high sch. diploma or GED. Captain Tomaschik 669-5800.

# **Boaters urged to get permits**

FRITCH --- With snow on the roads and ice on the lakes, this might seem like an odd time to think about fishing! However, spring is just around the corner, and boaters are reminded that they will need a Lake Meredith boating permit to put their boats on the lake.

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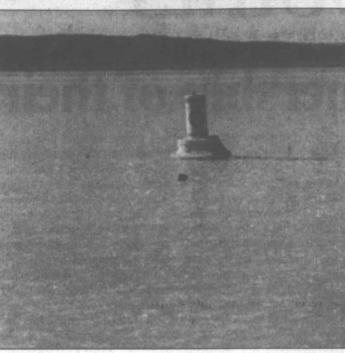
A boat permit is required on all personal watercraft (jet skis), all motorboats, and all sailboats 14 feet in length or longer.

Permit costs remain the same as last year:

One-day permit - \$4. Three-day permit - \$10. Annual permit — \$40.

Holders of Golden Age and Golden Access park passes may purchase the boating permits for half price at park headquarters only.

Permits can be obtained 24 hours a day from a VenTek machine in the lobby of Lake Meredith park headquarters, 419 E. Broadway, Fritch, Texas, or inside park headquarters during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday).



Courtesy photo Some ice covers part of Lake Meredith this week, but it won't be there this spring.

Permits may also be National Park Ranger or obtained at CJ's Bait Shop, Fritch Fortress Road, Fritch, Texas, and the Marina at Lake Meredith, Sanford-Yake Road, Fritch, Texas.

Boaters are reminded that they may obtain a free Boat Safety Inspection from any

PRMC and transferred a

patient(s) to BSA Hospital

ICU unit responded to the

2000 block of Randy

Matson and transported a

2:16 p.m. – A mobile ICU

unit responded to the 800

ed a patient(s) to PRMC.

patient(s) to PRMC.

10:27 a.m. - A mobile

Center.

in Amarillo.

Texas State Game Warden. These voluntary inspections ensure vessels have all the necessary safety equipment on board.

For more information, contact park headquarters at 806-857-3151.

# Record

#### **Continued from Page 2**

#### Ambulance

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

Tuesday, Jan. 23 7:32 a.m. – A mobile ICU unit responded to the 800

block of North Nelson and

3:18 p.m. - A mobile ICU transported a patient(s) to Pampa Regional Medical unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient(s) 10:13 a.m. - A mobile to a nursing facility in ICU unit responded to McLean.

9:37 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 200 block of North Russell and transported one patient to PRMC.

Wednesday, Jan. 24

12:06 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1000 block of Huff Road and transported one patient block of 25th and transport- to PRMC.

### **Peace mom** Sheehan drops suit

WACO, Texas (AP) -War protester Cindy Sheehan has dropped her lawsuit challenging county camping and parking bans near President Bush's Crawford ranch.

Fort Worth attorney David Broiles, who represents Sheehan's group, asked to withdraw the lawsuit. U.S. District Judge Walter S. Smith Jr. of Waco approved the request Monday.

Broiles originally filed the suit in Waco's federal court but withdrew it in August after Smith ruled the county's ordinances were constitutional and declined to issue an order to keep the county from enforcing the ordinances.

Later, Broiles filed a similar claim in state district court, but the county's attorney succeeded in getting the lawsuit transferred back to federal court because of the constitutional claims.

### **COP CORNER**

#### DANGER, THIN ICE!

Hasn't all this cold weather been something? The snow and ice make for some beautiful landscapes, but the wrecks and falls can have a major impact on our lives.

We have received several calls concerning the lake at Recreation Park. The lake is frozen over solid, or so it seems, to some people, but you never really know. I really can't imagine why anyone would take a chance of falling through the ice and drowning.

In the frigid water temperature of the lake, you will have only a few minutes before hypothermia will set in. That is if you are still afloat. The shear shock of the cold water may send you to the bottom.

Even if you have someone see you fall in, the time it takes to make a rescue attempt will probably be



Courtney

too long. The persons that have been out on the ice have been identified as "kids."

Parents, have a talk with your children and tell them not to walk on the ice. Everyone else, please don't take a chance. We have enough tragedies in our lives. Falling through the ice and dying is one that is preventable.

Cop Corner is provided Pampa Police Department and Lt. Fred Courtney.

## Family found safe, dad arrested

ELKHART, Ind. (AP) — A tip from a pizza man and a secret message in a phone call helped lead to the arrest of a man accused of abducting his ex-girlfriend and their four children after shooting a man.

The clues came during a three-day search for the family that ended with their dramatic but peaceful rescue at the motel where they were staying with the suspect, Jerry D. White.

Someone wired money to White after the abduction and authorities are trying to determine who that was, Detective Sgt. Bill Wargo said at a news conference Wednesday. Police would not say how much money was involved.

Although police had extended their search for the family to Chicago and said they had gotten tips from throughout the Midwest, they said Wednesday they had believed since the night of the abduction Saturday that the victims were still in the area. The motel was just 4 miles from the family's home.

White faces charges of attempted murder and several counts of confinement, and prosecutors will review whether further charges will be added, Wargo said.

Wargo said he knocked on the door of the motel room about 8 p.m. Tuesday and Kimberly Walker opened it.

"She was sobbing hysterically and physically shaking like I've never seen anybody shake," Wargo said. "I asked her if she was Kim. She very hesitantly shook her head yes."

Within minutes, police had rescued Walker and her children and captured White, her former boyfriend and the father of the children, as he tried to escape through a motel air duct, Wargo said.

Authorities said they didn't know how long Walker and her children, who range in age from 16 months to 9 years old, had been at the Sleepy Hollow motel with White, 30, of Chicago.

•



the tax, but Horst said the hotel/motel tax was up this year and that about \$9,100 of the tax was needed to

Robin Bailey, finance direcbring the city's commitment to tourism and promotion tor. up to the 14 percent.

The commission will also hear staff reports on the communications tower from Ken Hall, emergency management coordinator, firefighting rig from Fire and a sale tax report from Chief Kim Powell.

They will also hear an update on the landfill from Donny Hooper, assistant

director of public works, and an update on a grass

Pet of the Week

Don't forget to check your pets water daily and make sure they are protected from the winter cold!

> Four puppies available... they are cuties males & females

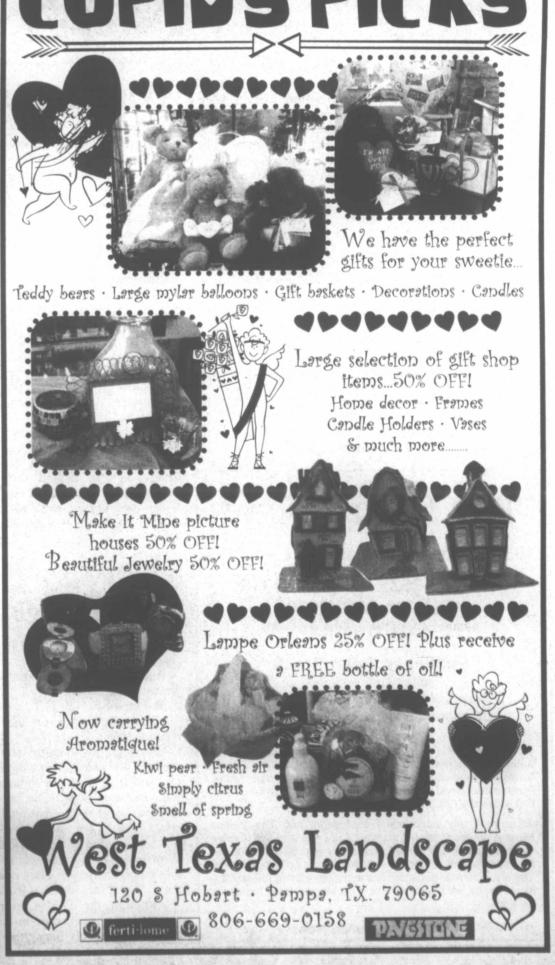
The mom of these cuties is a medium sized Red Terrier cross. She is house broken and will make a wonderful companion ... visit us today!

White adult male poodle. This guy has a very calm, sweet personality. He has tons of love to give to his new family.

This beautiful kitten is full of fun and personality ... visit us today!

1.00

For information about these pets or any other contact the Animal Shelter HOURS: Monday - Sunday 9 am - 5 pm • Closed All Major Holidays FOUND A PET? Let us know ... we might be able to help them find their home? LOST YOUR PET? Come by the shelter every 2-3 days to check for your animal. We



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- Wednesday, January 24, 2007 — The Pampa News

# Viewpoints

# Molesters often take ownership of their victims

trying to understand why Shawn Hornbeck, the youngster kidnapped fourand-a-half years ago, remained a captive despite being on his own much of the time.

All the would-be psychologists on TV and in the press have been speculating wildly, coming up with a myriad of reasons such as a case of the Stockholm syndrome, for example, as to why the youngster did not flee his alleged captivity when he had many opportunities to get away from his alleged kidnapper.

None of these people know what they are talking about. They don't have the vaguest idea of what goes on in the mind of a young boy

The media is beside itself who has been sexually abused by an adult, as I assume was the case with Shawn.

> I do. Only those who have had that horrific experience understand what can undoubtedly happened to Shawn Hornbeck, and I'm although this man was one of them.

When I was 8-years-old I was sexually abused by a man who ran an after-school day camp. And after that first molestation, I was literally me. blackmailed into silence by him, making it possible for him to continue to molest me for a year without fear of being exposed.

People who wonder why child victims of sexual abuse remain silent about their experiences have to understand that after that first

ownership of the youngster for a variety of reasons including shame and threats to tell his parents their child is a sexual deviant.

In my case, the reason why I didn't run away molesting

me for a Michael year was Reagan simply this: He owned Columnist As

wrote in my book,

"Twice Adopted," which I urge parents to buy and read carefully for their children's sake (you can get it at Amazon.com), "It doesn't matter if you are molested once or a thousand times; it's

episode the molester takes the first incident that does the damage. That first act solidifies the molester's ownership of you."

Although I have no way of knowing if Shawn allowed himself to be photographed in a compromising situation as I was, if that was the case

with him the molester's ownership was solidly confirmed. I allowed my abuser to take nude

photos of me much against my will. He used those photos to blackmail me into silence by threatening to show them to my mother. That thought terrorized me. And it was enough to keep me silent.

I thought that if my mother saw those pictures she would know that I was what I then believed myself to be - evil. Another hold a molester has over his victim, you see, is his understanding that

his victims come to believe

that the molestation is their

fault, and their deep shame and guilt ensures their silence. A lot of people who are now speculating about the reason Shawn Hornbeck failed to flee are implying that he could have escaped countless times. They do not understand that his captivity did not involve being physically shackled and chained, but instead he was mentally imprisoned by fear of the exposure of his shame. He would have seen himself not

as an innocent victim of sexual molestation, but as his molester's partner in it.

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That feeling of partnership grows out of the victim's belief that even if they consider that the first sexual act was the abuser's fault, they share the blame for all the subsequent acts.

And if there were photographs, as there were in my case, the threat of his parents ever seeing them and believing their son was the real guilty party is terrifying.

From my own experience, I know that it's easier to put a gun in your mouth and pull the trigger than it is to tell your mother or your father what some man has done to vou.

See REAGAN, Page 5

## Today in History

#### By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 24, the 24th day of 2007. There are 341 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 24, 1848, James W. Marshall discovered a gold nugget at Sutter's Mill in northern California, a discovery that led to the gold rush of '49.

On this date:

In 1742, Charles VII was crowned Holy Roman Emperor during the War of the Austrian Succession.

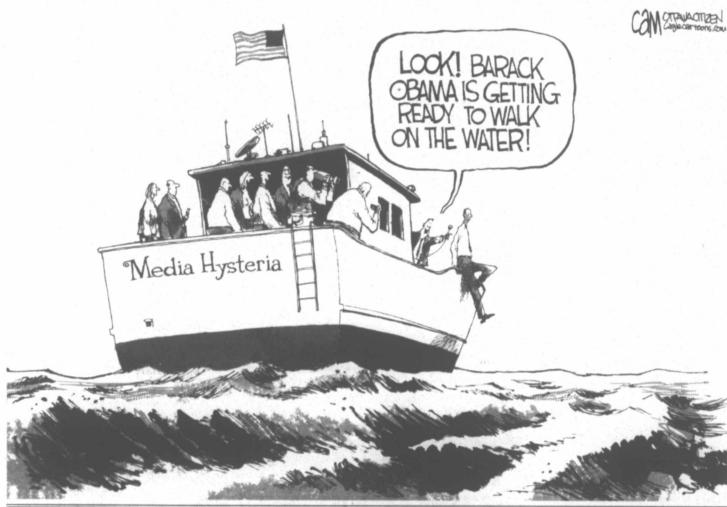
In 1924, the Russian city of Petrograd (formerly St. Petersburg) was renamed Leningrad in honor of the late revolutionary leader (however, it has since been renamed St. Petersburg).

'The most fatal *illusion is the* settled point of view. Since life is growth and motion, a fixed point of view kills anybody who has one.'

In 1943, President Franklin Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill concluded a wartime conference in Casablanca, Morocco. In 1965, Churchill

died in London at age 90

1972 In



— Brooks Atkinson American drama critic (1894-1984)

Supreme Court struck down laws that denied welfare benefits to people who had resided in a state for less than a vear.

In 1978, a nuclearpowered Soviet satellite, Cosmos 954. plunged through Earth's atmosphere and disintegrated,

scattering radioactive debris over parts of northern Canada. In 1987, gunmen in Lebanon kidnapped educators Alann

Steen, Jesse Turner and Robert Polhill and Mitheleshwar Singh (all were eventually released).

In 1989, confessed serial killer Theodore Bundy was put to death in Florida's electric chair.

In 1993, retired Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall died in Bethesda, Md., at age 84.

In 2003, the new Department of Homeland Security officially opened as its head, Tom Ridge, was sworn in.

Ten years ago: The White House released guest lists showing that in the year and a half before his re-election, President Clinton had invited more than 400 of his party's top financial supporters to coffee klatches for informal chats about his policies. Publix Super Markets, accused of relegating women to dead-end, low-paying jobs, agreed to pay \$81.5 million dollars to settle a class-action lawsuit.

One year ago: Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito won a 10-8 party-line approval from the Senate Judiciary Committee. Armed men seized two German engineers from a car in northern Iraq (both were later released).



#### 403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065

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## Washington perks up for lobbyists, money

Fellow columnist Molly Ivins has launched a crusade of sorts to end what she calls "this evil war."

I'm afraid that columnists, other than having the ability to occasionally embarrass a politician who still has a conscience, are pretty much without influence in the corridors of Washington. There, the lobbyist and his money get the attention.

Nevertheless, it won't hurt to enlist in Miss Molly's crusade. It is definitely an evil war. Let's go over some of the reasons it deserves that adjective.

One, it is a war of aggression. Iraq had not attacked us, had not threatened to attack us and lacked the capability to attack us. Iraq had no connection with al-Qaida. Saddam Hussein's Baathist government was a secular government. Al-

### Texas Thoughts.

#### **By The Associated Press**

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

#### Jan. 14

Houston Chronicle on Darfur genocide:

One of the few hopeful details about the civil war in Sudan in which 300,000 civilians have died and about a third of the population been made into internal refugees is that international players could help end it. We haven't helped that much, but Texas lawmakers are showing sparks of activism in meeting this moral challenge. They need to fan their interest into national leadership.

Although the U.S. Congress has called Darfur a genocide-in-action, the persecution of civilians, the rape of

least a pseudo-religious organization. Osama bin Laden despised Saddam Hussein, who in turn despised him. Finally, Iraq had nothing whatsoever to do with the attack on the World

Trade Center. Charley There was, Reese morally, no difference Columnist between our invasion of Irag and

Hitler's invasion of Poland.

the American public on false pretenses. Saddam Hussein had no weapons of mass destruction. In case you have a short memory, that was the justification for the war right up to the day of the invasion. The Bush administration would have you believe that everybody thought Saddam Qaida is a religious - or at had weapons of mass

destruction. That is a lie. The U.N. inspectors didn't think he did. Scott Ritter, a former arms inspector, didn't think he did. For what it's worth, I didn't think he did, and several of our European allies

had extreme

doubts on the matter. Saddam Hussein had complied or was in the process of complying

with all U.N. resolutions.

But weapons of mass destruction weren't the only deception practiced on the American people. Defense officials said U.S. troops would be greeted with sweets and flowers (they were greeted with bullets instead). Defense officials said the war would pay for itself with Iraqi oil revenues (the cost is now approaching half a trillion of our dollars). Civilian defense officials. scoffing at professional advice, said the war could be fought with very few troops. Soldiers were told that it would be a short war. Remember the phrase "The way home leads through Baghdad"?

Three, it was a bungled war. There were enough troops to defeat Saddam's dilapidated and technologically inferior army, but not enough to provide security for the country. The orgy of looting, while American troops stood by and watched, was the first step toward a disastrous occupation.

The occupation itself has been a tragic farce. Political cronies and even the sons and daughters of rich donors staffed the occupational gov-

See REESE, Page 5

thousands of girls, the charring of villages goes on and on. President Bush, who brokered an end

to a previous Sudanese civil war, now has Iraq to contend with. The United States needs Sudan's cooperation in the war against al-Qaida, even though the same officials preside over the Darfur bloodbath. There's also been active obstructionism from China and Russia, whose oil business in Sudan kept them from voting for United Nations intervention.

But there are new tactics under way from the United States. Newly energized leadership of U.S. Sens. John Cornyn and Kay Bailey Hutchison, both Texas Republicans, is one of the more promising signs.

Texas exercises a special leverage on

national policy toward the Sudan catastrophe, experts say. Evangelical churchgoers here were persistent and finally influential in resolving one Sudanese war already: the North-South conflict that embroiled Muslims and Christians.

Christian activists in Midland pressed Khartoum and Washington both to end that violence, and it worked. President Bush showcased his leadership in taking that conflict to heart. Reportedly, the onslaught of ethnic cleansing in Darfur troubles him deeply, too.

Texas voters and lawmakers can reinforce that concern. They can remind Bush that Darfur is the 21st

See OPINION, Page 5

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# **Bulsh urges Congress to give Iraq policy a chance to work**

#### **By DAVID ESPO** AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) President Bush's push for a new immigration policy and his acknowledgment of global climate change as a serious concern won praise from presidential candidates in both parties Wednesday even as they split on partisan lines over Iraq.

Bush appealed to Congress in his State of the Union speech to give his Iraq strategy a chance to work, running into a wall of skepticism, especially from Democrats who control the House and Senate.

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That response carried over into the morning talk shows, where Democratic presidential aspirants Barack Obama and Bill Richardson voiced firm opposition to Bush's troop escalation. "He has not made the case," Obama, an Illinois senator, said on CBS' "The Early Show."

Two Republican presidential hopefuls — Arizona Sen. John McCain and former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani — countered that there is no choice but to give

Bush's plan a chance to succeed. "It's the only game in town," McCain said on the same program. Giuliani, on NBC's "Today' show, said: "I believe we should give the president the support to do

this." Bush also urged lawmakers in his speech Tuesday night to send him legislation helping more Americans afford health insurance, reduce the nation's dependence on foreign oil, overhaul immigration laws and renew his signature No Child Left Behind education program. He declared climate change a "serious challenge" but did not endorse proposals for mandatory reductions of greenhouse gas emissions

"The idea of climate change finally passed his lips," Obama said. "That's long overdue."

McCain also welcomed Bush's acknowledgment, while saying "of course" the U.S. needs to go farther than Bush has proposed on the issue. "We've got to start reducing these greenhouse gas emissions before our planet is unalterably heated, and the consequences of that are catastrophic," he said on today to plug his energy proposals CNN.

Richardson, the New Mexico

'The idea of climate change finally passed his lips. That's long overdue.'

— Barack Obama Ill. Democratic senator

governor, predicted Bush and the Democratic Congress will be able to work together on a comprehensive plan to control illegal immigration. McCain agreed: "We can come together on that issue." Bush flew to Wilmington, Del.,

at a DuPont Co, facility where scientists conduct research on biofuels such as cellulosic ethanol, made from wood chips, switch grass and parts of the corn plant other than the kernels used in traditional ethanol.

But Democrats kept the spotlight on the war, as the Senate Foreign Relations Committee took up a nonbinding measure that rejects Bush's planned troop increase as "not in the national interest of the United States."

As is customary, Republicans cheered longer and louder than Democrats on Tuesday night when Bush walked down the middle aisle of the House chamber to deliver his annual address to Congress and the nation.

But it was the Democrats' turn to whoop it up when the president remarked he was the first chief executive to "begin the State of the Union with the words Madam Speaker." Rep. Nancy Pelosi, the first female House speaker, was seated next to Vice President Dick Cheney on the dais behind the

president, and smiled and reached down to shake Bush's hand.

In power for the first time in a dozen years, Democrats have talked optimistically of finding common ground with the president and Republican lawmakers on immigration, education and other areas.

But they voiced concern with his proposal to subject a portion of some taxpayers' employer-provided health insurance to taxes, and were unenthusiastic about his proposals on energy.

"For me, the president's speech was more notable for what he didn't say on global warming than what he did say," said Sen. Barbara Boxer. The California Democrat advocates steps to halt the gradual rise in the earth's temperature.

The president called for greater domestic oil production as well as an effort to more than quadruple the nation's production of alternative fuels over the next decade.

The war is an issue apart - a conflict that helped Democrats win control of Congress in last fall's elections.

# Opinion

#### **Continued from Page 4**

century Rwanda. They can also try remedies that no one at any level tried during that last genocide.

"Texas and the Texas political field have so much more access than anyone else" to the White House, one Sudan human rights specialist said. "These are all his former colleagues, his supporters, his friends."

Lawmakers Cornyn and Hutchison seem to be acting on this insight. Passive on this matter last year, by fall they'd become leaders. Both sponsored a resolution warning Khartoum that barring U.N. peacekeepers would lead to punitive measures. Khartoum missed a deadline to act by Jan. 1 now the administration has to follow up with the stick.

Cornyn also showed his new commitment to ending Darfur's liquidation of civilians in his first opinion piece of the

new year. He acknowledged that most Americans just don't have Darfur on their radars.

"Most Americans are only vaguely aware of the genocide," he wrote. "The horror is occurring in a remote country, and the government has excluded international news media from covering the crisis. But any effective campaign to alleviate suffering in Darfur must start with public awareness both to educate the public and pressure the Sudanese for a resolution.'

All civil conflicts are cruel. Darfur is distinguished by the overwhelming power of one side and its strategy of eliminating a whole people. It is genocide, of the same class as Rwanda and Cambodia.

By emerging as leaders on Darfur, Cornyn and Hutchison goad both constituents and the White House to seek answers. Both lawmakers need to keep flexing their muscles persuasion, education, informed legislation until the human destruction ends.

# Reagan

#### Cont. from Page 4

My advice to all the amateur psychologists telling us what happened to Shawn is to just plain shut up. If you haven't been there yourself you don't know what you are talking about. Leave the kid alone, he's been through enough grief.

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

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### Reese

#### **Continued from Page 4**

ernment. Lucrative contracts were handed out without bidding. Corruption is rampant. All the Baathists who could run the government were fired. Some 400,000 soldiers were fired and found themselves with no income and lost pensions. One CIA man supposedly said, "Now you've (expletive) 400,000 men, and they have guns."

More than 3,000 Americans have died since George Bush proclaimed "mission accomplished" during that photo stunt aboard an aircraft carrier. The Iraqi peo-

ple are clearly worse off now than they were under Saddam Hussein, who, after all, only killed his political enemies, and only when they rebelled. Now, no Iraqi feels safe.

George Bush launched that evil war ignorant of Iraq, ignorant of the Middle East and ignorant of military strategy. He has no exit strategy. He can't even define what we would consider a victory. If Bush is sane, then he's dullest blade in the Bush family kitchen.

Those are harsh words, but not nearly as harsh as the consequences of his evil war for America and the American people.

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

### Events calendar

 The Amarillo Museum of Art will offer several classes and workshops for children, teens and adults starting in February and will host a visiting artist workshop series later in the spring. Classes/workshops will include Art Adventure, Drawing & Painting and Flower Power for children; Spring Break Camp for Teens; Focus on Clay, Copper Enameling, oil painting, acrylic painting for adults and more. Visiting artists will include Jakki Kouffman (Landscape Painting in Palo Duro Canyon); Connie Connally (Plein-Air into Abstraction); Chris Stanley (Potter Lost Potter Found); and James Watkins (Alternative Firing Methods). For more information or to register, contact the museum at (806) 371-5050.

**College-Pampa** Clarendon Center, 1601 W. Kentucky, has extended its on-campus enrollment period for the spring semester. The deadline to register for classes is now 4:30 p.m. Thursday. For more information, contact CCPC at 665-8801.

• The Jerry Jeff Walker concert scheduled Jan. 13 at the Globe-News Center for the Performing Arts in Amarillo is postponed until Friday due to inclement weather. For more information, call (806) 378-3096.

· Ten free flowering trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation throughout the month. The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's

Trees for America campaign. The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between Feb. 1 and May 31 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge. Members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's colorful bimonthly publication, "Arbor Day" and "The Tree Book" with information about tree planting and care. To receive the free trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to Ten Free Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, by Jan. 31. For more information, check out the foundation's Web site at www.arborday.org on the Internet.

 BSA Hospice will offer a volunteer training and community education class in eight sessions from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Feb. 6-March 1 at 800 N. Sumner. To register for the free training, call 665-6677 or 1-800-658-6985.

 Texas Beef Council and Texas **Cooperative Extension** will conduct "Beef 706" at Texas A&M University Feb. 7-9. The program will focus on the steps involved with cattle from live evaluation to grid marketing to boxed beef fabrication. It is free to both cattlemen and agents. For more information, call 669-8033. To register, call 1-800-846-4113.

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6 — Wednesday, January 24, 2007 — The Pampa News



**DEAR ABBY:** I know you hear this all the or time, but I really can't believe I'm writing ar to you. I'm a 41-year-old professional man or with a great job and a loving family. I have Ar always had a temper, but I'm usually pretty Mr good at keeping it under control. I don't get d physical when I'm angry, but I do yell and br scream a lot. My wife and teenage daughters get out of my way when I lose it, but I know they're worried about my behavior. Abby, the holiday season really got to me this year. Some financial bonuses I was the expecting didn't come through. The pressure to spend and buy for Christmas was overwhelming, and we ended up spending more than I had planned. Instead of being w

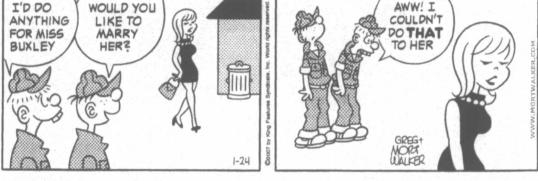
know they're worried about my behavior. Abby, the holiday season really got to me this year. Some financial bonuses I was expecting didn't come through. The pressure to spend and buy for Christmas was overwhelming, and we ended up spending more than I had planned. Instead of being joyous, the holidays were anything BUT. There was a big blowup, and I said some ugly things to my wife and daughters -things I deeply regret. My wife told me that you had written something about anger. Can you tell me what it was and how I can get it? I'm serious about changing my behavior before it escalates. -- JAMES IN FORT WAYNE, IND.

**DEAR JAMES:** I congratulate you for recognizing that you have a problem and for deciding to do something about it. I'm pleased that you are not one of those who become physical when pressure or frustration build to the breaking point. However, it is important that you get to the triggers that cause you to become verbally abusive to your family, because the damage caused by hurtful words can last a lifetime. My booklet, "The Anger in All of Us, and How to Deal With It," contains tips and insights that should be helpful for you in redirect**ing those unhealthy** habits into acceptable ways of expressing your emotions. You can order it by sending a business-size, selfaddressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to Dear Abby --Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. Anger can be a healthy emotion -- but not if the anger is controlling you and hurting the people you love.

**DEAR ABBY:** I accidentally found out that my husband had bought a cell phone for another woman (on OUR family plan!) and has been calling her three to five times a day, sometimes hiding in our garage or waiting until I leave the house on an errand. Also, he has been baby-sitting her son in his office every day after school. Abby, this woman does not even have a job. She is just too lazy to pick up her kid. I told him to get rid of her or I am leaving. Am I being unreasonable? -- FURIOUS IN DAYTON, MINN.

**DEA**? **FURIOUS:** Unreasonable? Not at all. Pragmatic, absolutely. Unless your philandering spouse is willing to forgo the other woman and work on healing your relationship, your marriage appears to be over. It is quite unusual for a man to babysit someone else's child the way your husband has been doing. Has it occurred to you that her child might also be his? Check it out. You deserve to know the truth.

#### For Better Or For Worse COME ON, SHIIMSA, LET'S FIND A LESS HOSTILE ENVIRONME MAN, THE REC ROOM IS A APRIL, YOU COULD, TIDY UP A LITTLE! HOW CAN YOU STAND LINING IN ALL THIS PILED A BUNCH O CLUTTER Zits DUDE, YOU'RE CAN'T BELIEVE ITSTHE THAT YOU THAT MY MOM THIS HAPPENED NEGLECTED TO FORGOTAN NOTICED SOAKED! SECOND AGAIN! TELL ME IT WAS TIMETHIS UMBRELLA RAINING. WEEK! Garfield "SURPRISE YOUR LOVED ONE WITH THIS SPECIAL GIFT THAT WILL LAST FOR ALL ETERNITY" COMES WITH A WARRANTY' ETERNITY AIN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE **Beetle Bailey** I'D DO WOULD YOU AWW! I COULDN'T ANYTHING LIKE TO





Marvin

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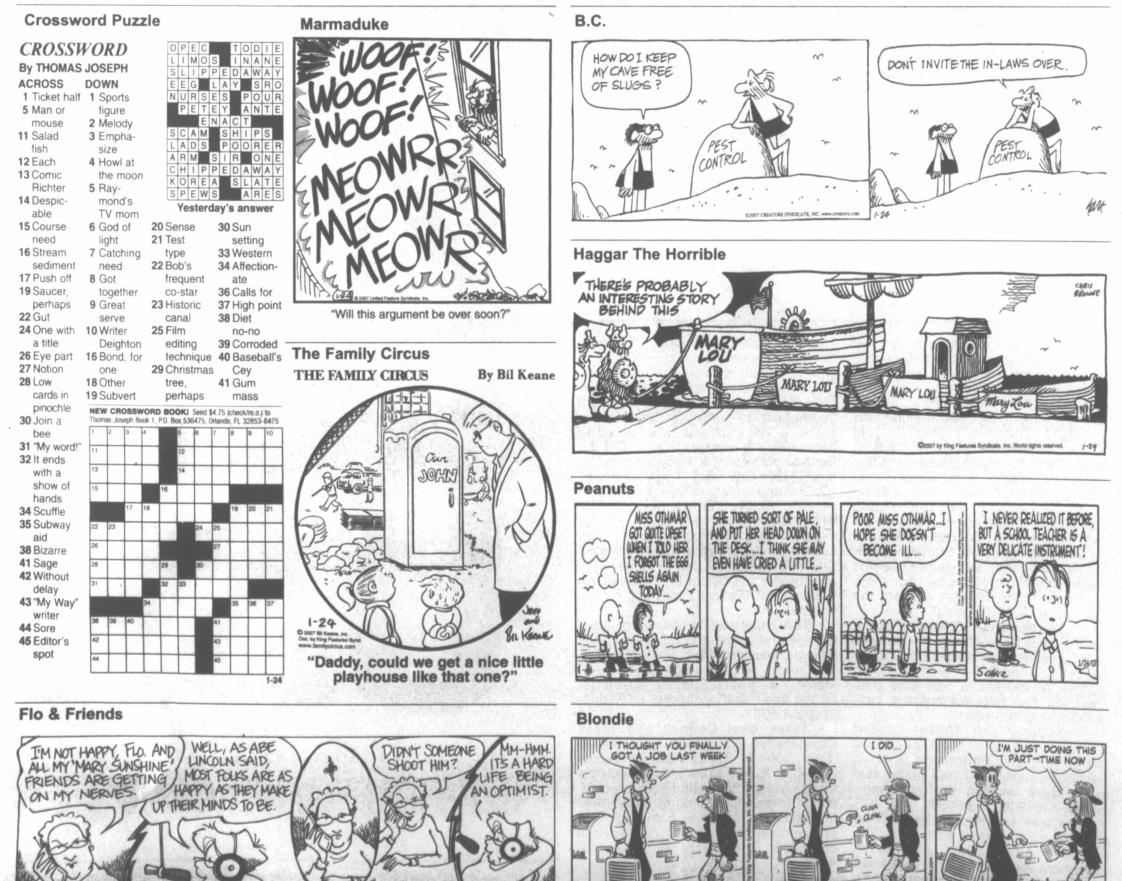
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The Pampa News — Wednesday, January 24, 2007 — 7

# **Sports Day**

# Harvesters, Ladies defeat Dumas on their own court

#### **By JORDAN REAGAN** Sports Editor

Tuesday night proved to be a good night for Pampa Basketball as both the boys and the girls traveled to Dumas and walked away with a win.

Senior Britteni Rice led the Lady Harvesters to a 59-55 victory over the Dumas Demonettes Tuesday night with 27 points, 10 rebounds, 3 steals and 3 assists.

For the second time this month, the Pampa girls have defeated Dumas, this time on Dumas' court.

Also stepping up to help the team were Haili Kotara with 8 points, McKensie East with 6 points and 7 rebounds, and Tamara Trevathan with 5 points and 4 steals.

Last time the Lady Harvesters faced off with Dumas, on Jan. 5, the game was a little less close, as Pampa won by 7 points, 63-56.

Tuesday's In game, Trevathan helped seal

Pampa's win in the end by executing 2 big steals with less than 2 minutes on the clock.

The girls are now 11-13 and 3-3 district.

As for the boys, they were led to a 68-54 victory over Dumas by senior Tyler Hall with 27 points.

Sophomore Matt Smith also helped the team with 9 points.

Pampa outscored the Demons through the first 3 quarters by no less than 3 points each time.

When the Harvesters were outscored by Dumas in the fourth quarter, Pampa had a lead solid enough to still walk away with the win.

Now with a 4-22 record, and 1-3 district, the Harvesters will face off with Caprock at 7:30 p.m. on Friday in Pampa.

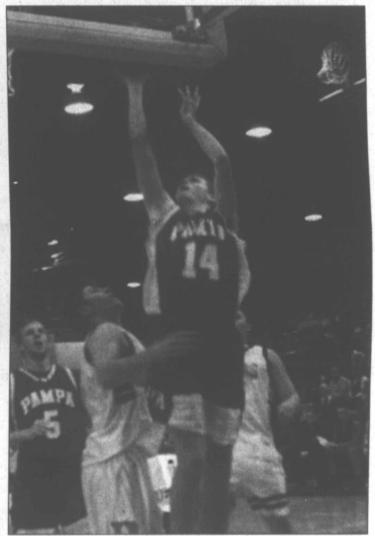
The JV teams also traveled to Dumas, both suffering losses.

The girls were defeated, 37-28, and the boys lost 83-54.



Haili Kotara shoots for 2 against Dumas on Tuesday night. Kotara helped the team with 8 points.







Senior Tyler Hall takes a jump shot during Tuesday's game against Dumas. Hall had 27 points in all.

Alex Clendening gets under the goal for 2 points.

# **Dallas Mavericks reach 35 wins for the season, 'scary' status**

than 60 games last season to reach 26 double-doubles. He topped that mark in 2007 on the Tuesday night after only 43 outings.

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defending Nowitzki's Western Conference champion Dallas Mavericks are also ahead of schedule, beating the Orlando Magic 111-95 for their 35th win of the season.

Nowitzki had 33 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists, and Josh Howard added 25 points. It was the

It took Dirk Nowitzki more ahead of last season's franchise-record 60-win pace. How good is Dallas? To weak Eastern

Conference, scary good. "We're about as hungry as it gets," Nowitzki said. "We were so close last year. It was a very, very disappointing loss at the end. But more than anything it's motivation for us to work even harder this year."

For the second consecutive night, after beating the Miami Heat in a rematch of last year's NBA finals, the Mavericks' 21st victory in Mavericks led from begin-

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — 22 games, and it kept them ning to end. Dallas was up 16 at the end of the first quarter and pushed the margin to 25 points in the second with a 15-5 run capped by Nowitzki's three-point play. The Mavericks kept it around 20 points most of the second and third periods.

Orlando pulled within 11 points in the third with a 13-4 run, but it happened with Nowitzki resting.

It was the closest the Magic had been since 8 minutes into the first quarter, and aside from a quick basket to begin the fourth, it was the closest they would come.

Dallas rattled off six unanswered points, including a fast-break dunk from Nowitzki, to put the lead back at 14 and out of Orlando's reach.

"We saw a pretty good team," Magic coach Brian Hill said. "Obviously, we can't spot a team a 16-point first quarter, especially a good team like that, and win the game. They ran by us early in the game, shot over us, went around us to start the game and we tried to play catch-up from that point on. It was too hard to do with a team of this caliber."

points for the Magic and keyed the third-quarter run that brought Orlando back into the game. Hedo Turkoglu scored 17, Grant Hill had 15 points and Dwight Howard finished with 15 points and 14 rebounds.

Dwight Howard attempted only 10 shots from the field, even though all three Dallas big men (Eric Dampier, DeSagana Diop and DJ Mbenga) were in foul trouble most of the game.

Jason Terry had 14 points and six assists for the

Jameer Nelson scored 23 Mavericks, and Devin Harris had 13 points.

> Nowitzki scored at will on a 12-for-17 performance of mid-range jumpers, layups and drives - and the rest of the Mavericks weren't far behind in the first half. Dallas shot 26-of-40 from the field, including 8-of-11 by Josh Howard for 18 points in the period.

Josh Howard went cold in the second and third quarters, scoring seven points on 1-for-7 shooting.

Orlando hit 44 percent for the game, to 55 percent for the Mavericks.

### Melt it like Beckham: Becks, Posh figures from London unveiled in New York City

anticipated move to the

United States in the spring,

and took place to the strains

"America," the museum

David Beckham, known

as Becks, and his pop star

wife, known as Posh,

announced earlier this month

that they'd be moving to Los

Angeles. He signed a five-

year contract with the Los

Angeles Galaxy soccer team,

and she's been seen in the

Diamond's

of Neil

said.

NEW YORK (AP) - In the real Beckhams' hotly terms of soccer skills, this David Beckham can't hold a candle to the real one.

Waxen figures of Beckham, one of the biggest soccer stars in the world, and his wife, Victoria, a former Spice Girl, were unveiled Tuesday at the Madame Tussauds New York wax museum.

The figures, imported from London, will be on display for two weeks. Their appearance was in honor of area hunting for a home for their family.

Their wax figures were decked out in American flags for their U.S. debut. Becks, 31, is dressed in a tuxedo, while 32-year-old Posh is wearing a green gown with a long slit on the side.

The waxy couple are posed at the Times Square museum with her head resting on his chest and his arm wrapped around her shoulder.

# **Coming up in local sports:**

#### **Girls Basketball-**Thurs.-Sat.- Fresh. at Canadian Tournament Away TBA Fri.- Varsity v. Caprock Home 6 p.m. Fri. - JV v. Caprock Home 7:30 p.m. **Boys Basketball-**Fri.- JV v. Caprock Home 6 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Home Fri.- Varsity v. Caprock **Girls Soccer-**TBA Fri.-Sat.- San Angelo Tournament Away **Boys Soccer-**TBA Fri.-Sat.- San Angelo Tournament Away Wrestling-Sat.- Caprock Quad. Away 12 p.m.

8 — Wednesday, January 24, 2007 — The Pampa News

# AFC's superiority doesn't Freshman Girls make Colts a Super cinch

#### **By BARRY WILNER** AP Football Writer

because the Just Indianapolis Colts will represent the vastly superior AFC doesn't make them a Super cinch in Miami.

While the AFC went 40-24 against the NFC, including 3-1 for the Colts, the Chicago Bears aren't exactly an also-ran out of the weaker conference. Their 15-3 record is no mirage, even if 13 of those victories came within the NFC.

For more pertinent numbers, try these: 44 takeaways during the season, tops in the league, and another five in the playoffs. The four in the NFC title game against New Orleans, the top-rated offense in football, led to a rout.

And these: Chicago has man.' scored 66 points in two postseason games. That 33-point average is far better than Indy's 25.3.

Put the stats aside, though, because what the Bears achieved in 2006 and the first month of 2007 generally was against softer opposition than what the Colts faced. Look to this, instead: Chicago has just as many playmakers as Indy. It's just as well coached. It has five players with Super Bowl experience; the Colts have five who could play on Feb.

Plus, the Bears still have a mammoth boulder on their shoulder, even as a conference champion.

"We know what they're saying, that no matter who we would have played in the cial teams theme, while

Super Bowl, we'd be underdogs," safety Chris Harris said. "We use that as fuel."

Here's some more: Peyton Manning is likely to get more attention in Miami and more air time and more headlines than all of the Bears combined. Not that the best quarterback of his generation doesn't deserve the acclaim. But the best Bears team in two decades could get somewhat ignored.

"As far as us being underdogs, if you look at what all the Colts bring to the table, I could see why they would make us underdogs," Bears coach Lovie Smith said, "but we've been in that role before and our guys like the underdog role.

"I wouldn't bet against the Bears if I were a betting

Neither would we with a 7-point spread. Here's a few reasons why the Bears just might do what the Patriots managed in 2002 and the Broncos in 1998, and upset a solid favorite.

- There is one major mismatch here: on kick returns. The Bears have the league's most productive unit, led by All-Pro returner Devin Hester. The rookie set an NFL record with six runbacks for touchdowns, and the Colts are very vulnerable.

Last Sunday, Ellis Hobbs, hardly in Hester's class, had six kickoff returns for 220 yards, including 80- and 40varders that set up scores for New England.

Further along on the spe-

Indy's Adam Vinatieri is the best clutch placekicker in history, Chicago's Robbie Gould has had one of the most impressive seasons ever. Gould showed he has plenty of Vinatieri in him with a 49-yard field goal in overtime to beat Seattle in the Bears' first playoff game. The Bears have several potential difference makers on defense, led by linebackers Brian Urlacher and Lance Briggs, and end Adewale Ogunleye, Alex Brown and sack-happy rookie Mark Anderson. It's a fundamentally sound unit with only one weak spot, at tackle without injured star Tommie Harris.

Yet, the Bears completely shut down the inside running of the Saints, and the Colts don't have as dangerous a power rushing attack. Indy's Joseph Addai and Dominic Rhodes / could struggle against the very active Urlacher and Briggs.

- Sure, Manning has all the credentials and Rex Grossman all the question marks. The last time the quarterbacking seemed so one-sided, it was St. Louis? Kurt Warner against New England's Tom Brady. Anyone remember how that turned out?

— The letdown factor. If either side could succumb to it, is it the Bears, who are have made playing the norespect angle an art form?

Or is it the Colts, who finally got past their nemesis. the Patriots, and finally got Manning and Dungy to a Super Bowl.



Serina Wagner steals the ball from a Hereford guard during last week's game.



Brooklyn Barker calls for the ball in last week's game at Hereford.

Gonzalez upsets Nadal; Sharapova, Clijsters advances to semifinals





11 year-old Austin Johnson, of Pampa, shot his first deer on the morning of Dec. 24th at Stubbs Ranch.

# N.C. state bar files more ethics charges against Duke lacrosse prosecutor

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — The state bar has added ethics charges to a complaint filed against the prosecutor who brought sexual assault charges against three Duke lacrosse players, accusing him of withholding DNA evidence and misleading the court.

The new charges by the North Carolina State Bar against Durham County District Attorney Mike Nifong were announced Wednesday and could lead to his removal from the state bar, according to a copy of the updated complaint.

Nifong's office arranged for a private lab to conduct DNA testing as part of the investigation into allegations three men raped a 28-yearold woman hired to perform as a stripper at a party thrown by the lacrosse team last March.

genetic material from several men on the woman's underwear and body, but none from any lacrosse player. The bar complaint alleges results those weren't released to defense lawyers in a timely fashion and that Nifong repeatedly said in court he had turned over all evidence that would potentially benefit the defense.

Nifong's actions constitute a "systematic abuse of prosecutorial discretion ... prejudicial to the administration of justice," the complaint read.

Nifong appeared with his attorney at a procedural conference Wednesday morning to discuss scheduling and other administrative details of the ethics complaint.

Last month, the bar charged Nifong with violating four rules of professional conduct by making mislead-Those tests uncovered ing and inflammatory com-

ments about the athletes under suspicion. Citing the conflict of interest created by the ethics charges, Nifong asked the state attorney general's office to take over the lacrosse case.

Attorney General Roy Cooper has pledged a thorough review of the remaining charges pending against lacrosse players Dave Evans, Collin Finnerty and Reade Seligmann. While Nifong dropped rape charges in late December after the accuser changed a key detail in her story, they are still charged with sexual offense and kidnapping.

All have strongly maintained their innocence.

Defense attorneys were able to determine from other documents produced by Nifong that there may be additional test results they had not seen, the new ethics complaint said. They filed a

motion in December that described the missing tests in detail.

At a hearing Dec. 15, the director of the DNA Security Inc. testified that he and Nifong agreed to include only DNA matches - and not the results finding no matches between the accuser and the tested players - in the report on his testing results. During the hearing, Nifong said he wasn't aware the test results were excluded from the report.

"The first I heard of this particular situation was when I was served with these reports - this motion on Wednesday of this week," Nifong said, according to the bar complaint.

Outside of court, the bar complaint said, Nifong gave a different version of events to a reporter. "We ... were trying to avoid dragging any names through the mud."

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Fernando Gonzalez rode his big serve and even bigger forehand to knock second-ranked Rafael Nadal out of the Australian Open and advance to his first Grand Slam semifinal.

Shedding the inconsistencies that hampered him in the past, Gonzalez was simply dominating in a 6-2, 6-4, 6-3 victory that took just over two hours. The Chilean broke Nadal five times, and his 41 winners were almost triple Nadal's 14. His 10 aces gave him 76 in five matches for the tournament lead; Andy Roddick is second with 71.

The 10th-seeded Gonzalez said he may have never played better.

"I played really unbelievable tennis," he said. "I hope to continue this week. I am trying to slice more, trying to run more. I used to just hit, hit, hit, and maybe I win the point."

Nadal said he was hampered by pain in his left leg that cropped up after his last match, a five-setter against Andy Murray.

"I can't run a lot," he said, adding that he hopes to play Davis Cup in a week but will go to a doctor first. "It was difficult to play one match like this, quarterfinals of one Grand Slam, with pain."

Gonzalez next plays Germany's Tommy Haas on Friday. The 12th-seeded Haas saved a match point before upsetting No. 3 Nikolay Davydenko 6-3, 2-6, 1-6, 6-1, 7-5.

Fourth-seeded Kim Clijsters, starting her farewell tour, earlier beat friend Martina Hingis 3-6, 6-4, 6-3 to advance to the women's semifinals. She will face top-seeded Maria Sharapova, who advanced to the semifinals for the third straight year with a 7-6 (5), 7-5 win over Anna Chakvetadze, a fellow 19year-old Russian.

Sharapova double-faulted on break point three times, but she had the only point on serve in the tiebreaker.

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"It was very difficult, I didn't feel like we had a lot of easy rallies," Sharapova said. "I felt I had to work on every point."

Twenty of Gonzalez's winners came off his stinging forehand, one of the best in the game, which kept Nadal off-balance and unable to get into the long rallies that he relishes.

"I think that my forehand was the key of the match," Gonzalez said. "I've been playing really good, feeling the ball, defending, serving really well and, of course, hitting my forehand all around the court."

Gonzalez broke Nadal twice in the first set and again in the opening game of the second when the Spaniard crashed a forehand into the net on double breakpoint.

Gonzalez saved a breakpoint in the eighth game with a stunning forehand swipe, and took a 2-0 lead when Nadal's service return landed long on set point.

Nadal called for a medical time-out because of his leg after the third game of the third set. He had to leave the court for treatment.

Gonzalez pounced on a second serve at break point in the fifth game of the third set, ripping a forehand winner for a 3-2 lead.

'Nadal sent a pair of forehands wide on the last two points while serving at 3-5 to surrender the match.

"If I am playing bad, you can go home and say 'disappointing,' " Nadal said. "But today I just say, well, I can't do more. I try my best."

Clijsters wasn't sure how she won after making 62 unforced errors and dropping serve five times.

"I still am asking myself," said the 23-year-old Belgian.

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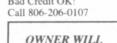
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