

**Tomorrow's Weather**

HIGH  
60  
LOW  
28

See expanded weather on Page 2

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# THE PAMPA NEWS

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**Fire**

Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

The occupants of a house in the 900 block of Wilcox were not at home at the time of a fire Wednesday morning at their residence, but their pet cat died as a result of the blaze. Pampa Fire Department, Pampa Police Department and Guardian EMS Ambulance Service were among those responding to the emergency call. Fire Chief Kim Powell surveys the damage.

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## PGWCD casts votes for GCAD directors

**By DAVID BOWSER**  
 Staff Writer

**WHITE DEER** -- The Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District board of directors cast their votes for Nancy Coffee, Darville Orr and Marshall Hopkins for Gray County Appraisal District directors this week.

At their meeting here Wednesday, the district picked three of four people nominated for the appraisal district. Some 14 taxing entities in Gray County will also vote this month. The newly elected directors will be seated Jan. 1.

The Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District board also heard the year-end report for the district from C.E. Williams, the district's general manager.

"Overall," Williams said, "it was a pretty good year."

He said the district expenses came in under budget. Last spring's state legislative session dealt mostly with surface water issues rather than groundwater issues.

The board discussed changing the boundaries of the district's precincts. They will likely decide next month whether to take action on such a change.

John R. Spearman Jr., a Gray County rancher and president of the groundwater district, said they have discussed changing precinct boundaries before for a variety of reasons.

Williams said the problem now is that many of the precincts cross county lines.

"Precincts are in multiple counties," said Tom Cambridge, board member from Amarillo.

Spearman represents parts of three counties. Billy Van Crawford represents parts of two counties. Charles Bowers represents parts of three counties. Phillip Smith represents parts of two counties.

In many instances, it is difficult to tell exactly where the precinct boundaries lie. That can be confusing for voters, Williams said.

With elections now requiring electronic voting machines, Williams said it would probably be more efficient to redraw precinct boundaries along county lines. That way elections could be held in conjunction with county elections. The district could then contract with the counties in the district for electronic voting machines. Otherwise, the district would have to buy the electronic voting machines and pay to have them programmed.

Five of the district's board members come up for election in May. They are Phillip Smith, John R. Spearman Jr., Kim Flowers, Jason Green and Tom Cambridge.

The other four -- Danny Hardcastle, Charles Bowers, See PGWCD, Page 3

## Firefighters association able to give socks, shoes

**By KERRI SMITH**  
 Managing Editor

The Pampa Firefighters Association, Local 3293, would like to thank the Pampa residents who generously contributed to their shoe fund this year. The firefighters did not know how they would raise the money after not having a haunted house this year, but after a story came out in the newspaper asking for assistance this was not a problem any more.

Association President Craig Harkcom said that once the call went out to area residents asking for assistance, the money donations started coming in.

"We started receiving donations from Pampa residents the afternoon the article came out in the newspaper," Harkcom said. "It was amazing to see how fast people come to the aid of those in need, especially children. The association received over \$3,000 to put into our shoe fund and that will allow 114 Pampa children to purchase much needed shoes."

Harkcom said they received the names of these children from school nurses and administrators. Once the association had enough money to accommodate all of the children, they approached The Shoe Dept. This shoe store worked with the firefighters and together they came up with a plan to allow children to make purchases there.

"The firefighters printed up vouchers and took them out to the local schools," Harkcom said. "The nurses See SHOES, Page 3

## LOCAL AWARD

### National Oilwell Varco, local Workforce honored

**By KERRI SMITH**  
 Managing Editor

National Oilwell Varco (NOV) and the Panhandle Workforce Development Board were recently honored at the Texas Workforce Conference in Houston.

NOV received the Employer Award of Excellence for the 26-county area in the Texas Panhandle, which is served by the Panhandle Workforce Development Board. The award recognizes employers that are both actively involved with their local workforce board and have had a positive impact on their community and employees.

"When businesses recognize the value of partnering with their local workforce system, the entire state of Texas benefits," said Ron Lehman, Commissioner Representing Employers for the Texas Workforce Commission. "I commend National Oilwell Varco and the Panhandle Workforce Development Board for their successful partnership."

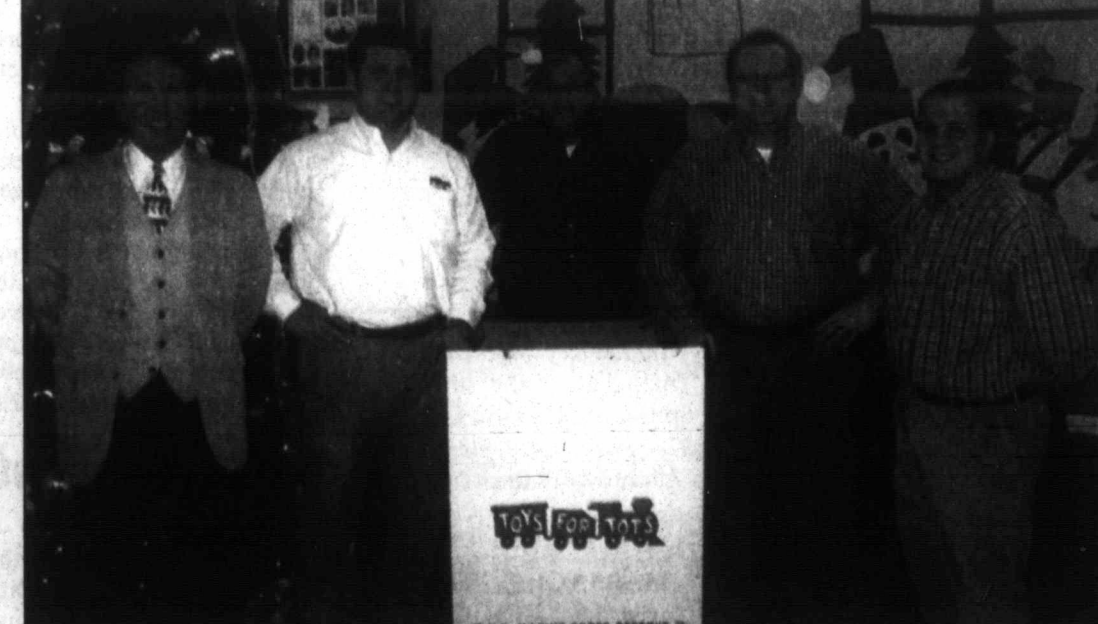
NOV, which manufactures and exports equipment for the oil and gas exploration industry, uses the services of the Panhandle board to recruit personnel. The company employs approximately 400 workers and subcontracts with a variety of other area businesses for goods and services.

Employees receive on-site training in basic skills, measurement and calibration. Offsite training in welding is also provided through community college courses.

The Panhandle Workforce Development Board also received the Best Overall Board Performance Award at the conference, along with a \$75,000 check to enhance local services. This group was competing for this honor with 15 other comparably funded workforce boards from around the state.

Factors used to make the selection included client job placement and educational attainment rates. This is the second See AWARD, Page 3

## Toys for tots



Pampa News Photo by CHRISSY SMITH

Fenton Motors, 123 N. Hobart, will accept Toys for Tots donations through Dec. 22. All of the toys that are donated will be given to Tralee Crisis Center to distribute locally to children in need.

**Have A Safe & Happy Holiday!**

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**CHRISTMAS DINNER**

Tuesday, December 25th from 11:00am to 2:00pm at the Fellowship Hall of Mary Ellen & Harvester Church of Christ  
 1342 Mary Ellen - located across from Pampa High School  
 Free To Everyone

**NEXT DAY FORECAST**

<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
		
<b>Sunny</b>	<b>Cloudy</b>	<b>Sunny</b>

**Friday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 60. Wind chill values between 27 and 37 early. West-southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Friday Night:** A chance of rain before midnight, then a chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 28. Wind chill values between 15 and 25. Windy, with a southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north-northwest between 25 and 30 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50 percent.

**Saturday:** A 30 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 33. North-northwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**Saturday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 25. West northwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south-southwest.

**Sunday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 41. South wind around 15 mph.

**Sunday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 26. South-southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

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SANTA GIFTS FOR MEN

## Epic steak house to close its doors after 57 years of service

By **JAYNA BOYLE**  
San Angelo  
Standard-Times

SAN ANGELO, Texas (AP) — The first grill that Karen Zentner's father cooked with hangs on the wall of Zentner's Steak House.

At the end of December, the grill comes down from the wall and with it comes the end of an era.

The steak house, well-known throughout West Texas, will close, ending 57 years as a Zentner family establishment. No one in the owners' families is interested in taking over.

The end, though, sparks an expansion for another family restaurant owner. Henry Hogeda, owner of

and his son, Henry Hogeda Jr., are buying Zentner's and plan to remodel it, put in new equipment and rename it.

Karen Zentner, vice president of The Original Zentner's Steak House Inc., said she is sad to close the restaurant, but also relieved. "I just can't keep going," she said.

Both she and Paul Hudman, Zentner's president, have had heart attacks and other health issues that make it difficult to continue running the steak house.

Karen Zentner and Hudman had been quietly trying to sell the restaurant for several months. They declined to say how much they sold it for.

"I grew up in the restaurant business," Zentner said. "This is the end of a legend."

Another San Angelo steak house icon, Zentner's Daughter, is not affiliated with Zentner's Steak House and is not affected by the sale, so it will be doing business as usual.

Hudman said Zentner's Steak House has prided itself on its loyal customers, and although it has seen a few changes over the years, the food has basically stayed the same.

Zentner buys local meats, and a butcher cuts them fresh every morning, Karen Zentner said.



**Dec. 20**  
**5 shopping days to Christmas**

## CITY BRIEFS

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

**BEAUTIFUL LARGE** Poinsettias on sale! Call Pampa Flowers, 669-3334 to order one today!

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**MASSAGE THERAPY** Christmas Gift Certificate Special. Call Cathy Potter or Holly Coutts, 669-0013.

**DRS. SIMMONS & Sim-**mons will be closed Dec. 24-28. We will be open Mon. Dec. 31.

**PAMPA OFFICE Supply -** The Christmas Shop has gift wrap, gift bags, money cards, Holiday paper & plastic plates, napkins, gifts, & more.

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# Obituaries

## Services tomorrow

**BROWN, Olene** — 2 p.m., First Baptist Church, McLean.

### W. 'Vivian' Griffin, 88

W. "Vivian" Griffin, 88, of Pampa, died Dec. 19, 2007, at Panhandle. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Griffin was born Aug. 3, 1919, in Mangum, Okla. She married Boise Griffin on May 14, 1937, in

Mangum; he died May 29, 2001.

Mrs. Griffin was a homemaker. She moved to Pampa in 1951 and belonged to Briarwood Church.

She was preceded in death by a son, Dale Griffin in 1989; 10 siblings; two grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Survivors include two daughters, Ronda Rider of Odessa and Wilma Blackwood of Moore, Okla.; a sister, Fern Reister of California; four grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and 11 great-great-grandchildren.

**MEMORIALS** — Briarwood Church, 1800 W. Harvester, Pampa, TX 79065.

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

## Emergency Services

### Pampa PD

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

Fifteen traffic stops were made, resulting in one arrest.

Traffic complaints were reported in the 11000 block of Highway 152 and the 900 block of East Browning.

Accidents were reported in the 600 block of North Nelson, and the intersection of Highways 60 and 70.

Animal control officers made calls concerning animals in the 500 block of Doyle, the 1000 block of Darby, the intersection of Nelson and 21st, and the 1100 block of Juniper.

An escort was provided in the 1600 block of North Nelson.

A civil matter was reported in the 800 block of North Hobart.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 800 block of East Francis, the 800 block of North Nelson and the 500 block of Carr.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of East Harvester.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the police department lobby.

Assault against a family member was reported in the 2300 block of Primrose.

Assault was reported in the 800 block of East Browning.

Suspicious persons were reported in the 2100 block of Alcock, the 100

block of East Harvester, and the intersections of Sumner and 19th and Gray and Tuke.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway.

Theft was reported in the 1600 block of Christine and the 1000 block of North Hobart.

Burglary was reported in the 300 block of West Foster.

Five alarms were reported.

### Sheriff

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

**Wednesday, Dec. 19**  
Bryan Humphrey, 19, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa Police Department for burglary of a building.

Robert Lee Meeks, 39, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for issuance of bad check.

Cynthia Ann Meeks, 48, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for failure to display a valid driver's license.

Patric Mize, 26, of Lefors was arrested by PPD for no insurance, no seat belt and no valid driver's license.

### Fire

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

### Wednesday, Dec. 19

10:43 a.m. — Six units and 13 personnel responded to the 900 block of Wilcox on a structure fire.

9:43 p.m. — Three units and nine personnel responded to the 11000 block of Eshom on a structure fire.

### Ambulance

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

**Wednesday, Dec. 19**  
10:44 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 900 block of South Wilcox on a fire standby.

12:49 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 700 block of North Gray and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

4:34 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of North Nelson. No transport.

5:17 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of Schneider. No transport.

6:06 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

9:45 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 11000 block of Eshom on a fire standby.

### Thursday, Dec. 20

4:28 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to NWTX.

## Bush reserving judgment on destruction of tapes

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush said Thursday he will reserve judgment on his administration's destruction of CIA interrogation tapes until several inquiries are finished. "Let's wait and see what the facts are," Bush said.

The destruction in late 2005 of the tapes, showing harsh treatment of two terrorism suspects, is being investigated by the Justice Department, the CIA itself and by several congressional panels.

Bush stuck to the White House line that he personally did not know about either the existence of the tapes or their destruction until he was briefed earlier this month by CIA Director Michael Hayden.

"Sounds pretty clear to me when I say I have — the first recollection is when Mike Hayden briefed me. That's pretty clear," Bush said.

Congressional Democrats condemned the destruction of the tapes and a federal judge ordered Justice Department lawyers to appear before him Friday to discuss whether destroying the tapes violated his 2005 order to

preserve evidence in a lawsuit brought on behalf of prisoners at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Bush said that he believed the ongoing investigations by his administration, "coupled with oversight provided by the Congress, will end up enabling us all to find out what has happened."

"Until these inquiries are complete, I will be rendering no opinion from the podium," he added.

Turning to domestic issues in a year-end news conference, Bush complained Congress had stuffed a spending bill with hundreds of projects he called wasteful and instructed his budget director to explore options for dealing with them.

Bush said that a \$555 billion measure passed by Congress Wednesday night before breaking for the holidays contains some 9,800 so-called "earmarks," or projects usually benefiting only one state or congressional district.

"So I am instructing Budget Director Jim Nussle to review options for dealing with the wasteful spending in the omnibus bill," Bush said.

However, without line-item veto

powers, Bush's ability to block spending on specific projects appears limited. Presidential authority to strike, or veto, individual projects and other spending items from appropriations bills was overturned by the Supreme Court in 1998.

The president did praise Congress for sending him "a spending bill to fund the day-to-day operations of the federal government. They passed this bill without raising taxes." But he complained that the measure was done so late in the year that it could slow the processing of tax returns to millions of Americans.

He said his administration would "work hard to minimize" such a delay. Bush did not get specific when asked about proposals to stimulate the economy but said "we'll consider all options."

The Commerce Department reported Thursday that the economy sprinted ahead at its fastest pace in four years during the summer, although it is expected to limp through the final three months of this year as the housing and credit crises weigh on individuals and businesses alike.

## Mother of astronaut aboard international space station dies

HOUSTON (AP) — NASA was reassigning the duties of an astronaut aboard the international space station as he grieved for his mother, who was killed when a train struck her vehicle.

Rose Tani, the 90-year-old mother of astronaut Daniel Tani, died Wednesday in the Chicago suburb of Lombard.

Daniel Tani, 46, is believed to be the first American astronaut to lose a close family member while in space, NASA spokeswoman Nicole

Cloutier said. A NASA flight surgeon in Mission Control used a private radio line to inform Tani of his mother's death and offer any help he might need.

Police said Rose Tani stopped behind a school bus at a railroad crossing and then drove around the vehicle, bypassing the lowered crossing gate. The train struck Tani's vehicle on the passenger side and pushed it down the tracks before stopping.

Paramedics took Rose Tani to a hospital, where she was pronounced dead.

"He is obviously pretty sad," the astronaut's brother, Richard Tani, said in Thursday's edition of the Chicago Sun-Times. "He was pretty close to her. We are all close to her. She was loved by everyone."

Daniel Tani was supposed to fly home aboard Atlantis on Wednesday, but the shuttle's flight was postponed until January due to a fuel gauge problem. The earliest he could return to Earth at this point is late next month.

"Before anyone launches, they understand that unfor-

tunate things could happen and that's unfortunately part of the difficulties, hardships and risks of space flight," NASA spokesman Jim Rostohr said in Thursday's edition of the Chicago Tribune.

Rev. Rob Hatfield, a senior minister at First Church of Lombard United Church of Christ, told the newspaper the astronaut's siblings spoke to him Wednesday evening. The Sun Times said Daniel Tani's wife also spoke with him about the accident.

Reading



Courtesy Photo  
Jo Sikes, Children's Librarian for Lovett Memorial Library, gives free books to these students. From left are Hunter Heiskell, Baylon Baxley, Sikes, Brooklyn Hood and Cassie Estrada.

# Senate votes to give WTA&M \$1.16M

WASHINGTON - Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, today announced Senate passage (76-17) of the FY2008 Omnibus Appropriations Bill, which includes \$1.16 million she secured for air quality and environmental research at West Texas A&M.

"I am pleased the Senate has passed this funding, which will help improve the quality of the air we breathe by supporting advanced research at West Texas A&M on the environmental impact of agricultural waste," Sen. Hutchison said.

The funding was included in the Fiscal Year 2008 Consolidated Appropriations Bill, a broad, "omnibus" spending package, which passed the Senate today. The bill will next go to the House for concurrence, and then sent to the President to be signed into law.

The funding provided in the bill will support a collaborative research effort in cooperation with Texas A&M University and Kansas State University designed to address the environmental challenges and air quality concerns associated with open-lot concentrated animal feeding operations.

Party



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH  
Karla Nanez, left, and Maciee Voss enjoy their Christmas party at St. Matthew's Pre-K class.

## Thieves saw off 500 parking meters

ATLANTA (AP) — Thieves have sawed off more than 500 downtown parking meters from their posts this year and walked away with them, city officials said.

The city of Atlanta has had to replace about 39 percent of its parking meter inventory this year because of the thefts. Although the meters don't contain much

money, it costs about \$500 to replace each one, said Sandra Jennings, deputy commissioner for the city's transportation office.

"Someone was actually cutting the pole and taking them so they could somehow open the meter head to get the money out," Jennings said.

The city is replacing them with more secure meters.

Jennings said the parking meter program pays for itself.

Despite the thefts, little is being done to catch the parking thieves. That's because city officials do not file police reports on the stolen meters, Jennings said. The city's police department said thefts that are not reported are not investigated.

## Shoes

Continued from Page 1

and school personnel will distribute those vouchers to the students before the kids get out of school for the Christmas break. The parents can then take the children shopping at The Shoe Dept. but they will only be allowed to purchase socks and shoes with these

vouchers.

"We wanted to come up with a way for these vouchers not to be abused and used to purchase other items. So, The Shoe Dept. will make sure that is the only thing these vouchers are used for."

The firefighters association could not have a haunted house this year in the old Baker Elementary School and did not find another place to have it. They are actively looking for a site to have a haunted house again next year. Harkcom said this is a fun

way to raise money for their shoe fund and it also gives the kids of the community a fun place to go on Halloween.

"We just wanted to say thanks for your support raising money for these children and we wanted to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year," Harkcom said. "We would also like to let everyone know we really appreciate their support during the election this past November in getting the collective bargaining proposition passed."

## PGWCD

Continued from Page 1

Billy Van Crawford and Jim Thompson -- will be up for election in May, 2010.

"We have elections in alternate years," said Yvonne Thomas, administrative assistant for the district.

Flowers has already announced that she does not intend to run for re-election. She said earlier this fall that Boone Pickens, a Roberts County rancher and Dallas

businessman, had shown an interest in running.

Candidates must file with the water district beginning Feb. 10 and no later than March 11, according to Anita Haiduk, the district's permitting clerk.

While there was some discussion about changing the district's precincts to match county precincts, Williams said the county precincts are based on population and can change every 10 years based on census data. The water district's precincts, however, are based on land size. Each water district precinct needs

to be similar in area, not population, he said.

"Our precincts don't match the county's precincts," said Smith.

The board approved drilling permits for one-inch wells to Lewis and Liz Kemp in Bishop Hills northwest of Amarillo in Potter County; Maston Courtney near Bishop Hills in Potter County, and Dominion Homes, east of Amarillo in Potter County.

They also approved an eight-inch well permit for Lance Williams east of Panhandle in Carson County.

## Pampa choir member makes Pre-Area Choir



JaCee Villarreal, a senior at Pampa High School and a member of PHS Concert Choir and Show Choir, was selected to the Pre-Area Choir recently in Dumas.

Villarreal, a second soprano, auditioned with students from this Region for five coveted spots for the Texas All-State auditions to be held in January in Abilene.

At this audition, she will compete with top singers from two north Dallas and Ft. Worth regions, Wichita Falls, Abilene, and Lubbock along with the Panhandle Region.

## Award

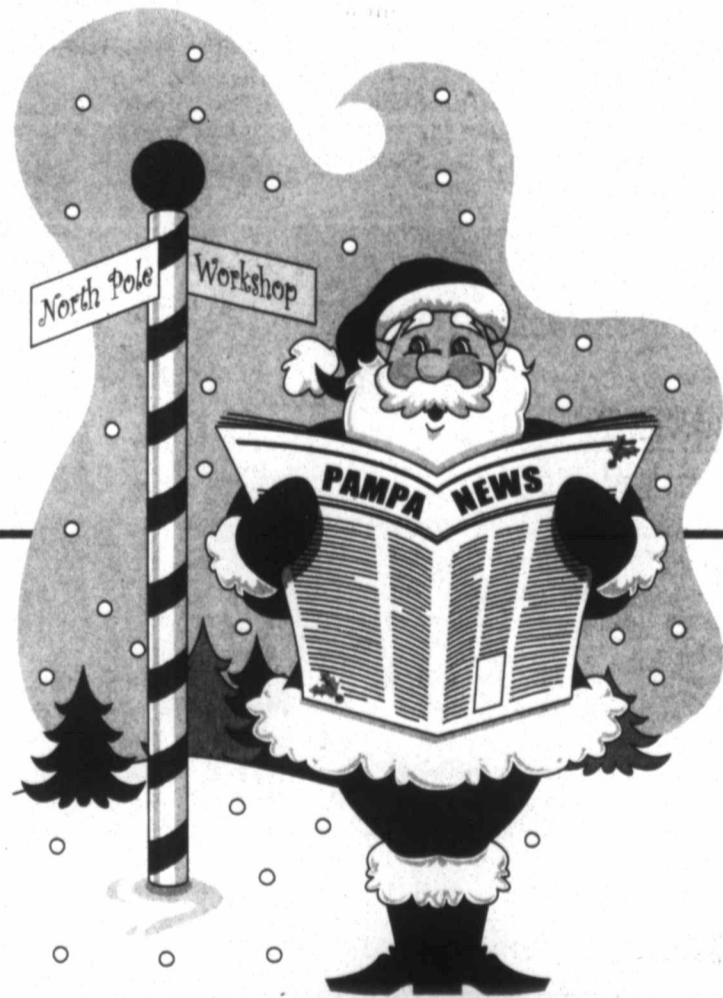
Continued from Page 1

year in a row that this board has won the award.

The Panhandle Workforce Development Board is one of 28 such

groups in Texas. Its primary goal is to meet the needs of employers and employees through locally designed, market-driven workforce development initiatives.

Interested parties can take advantage of related services by visiting one of the eight Panhandle WorkSource offices in the region, calling 1-877-967-5228, or visiting the Web site [www.PanhandleWorkSource.com](http://www.PanhandleWorkSource.com).



# CHRISTMAS EARLY DEADLINES

WE WILL BE CLOSING AT 1:00PM ON MONDAY DECEMBER 24 AND REMAIN CLOSED TUESDAY DECEMBER 25

**NO PAPER ON TUESDAY DECEMBER 25**  
**CLASSIFIED LINE ADS**


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WEDNESDAY, DEC 26	MONDAY, DEC 24-NOON

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# THE PAMPA NEWS

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The children of  
**Rex and Pat Britton**  
cordially invite you  
to attend a  
**SURPRISE**  
Anniversary Party  
honoring their parents  
55 years of matrimony  
on Sunday December 23, 2007  
from 2 to 5 pm  
at The Britton home  
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Pampa, Tx.



Please remember this is a surprise!  
So do not mention it to Rex or Pat

# Viewpoints

## New driving course offers unique slant on training

I recently received an electronic news release crowding about a new driver-safety training program. The program — touted as being a boon to both law enforcement AND pet lovers — targets drivers who ferry animals about. The so-called “intensive” training is offered through Wag’N Enterprises over the course of two days.

Wag’N Enterprises claims the training teaches drivers how to maintain on-the-road safety with people and pets.

This is, I admit, an idea that has me a little intrigued.

I have two dogs of the large-breed variety. One, whom I call Honey, is a medium-size large-breed dog. The other is a black Labrador retriever I call Jetta. She is rather large and in-your-face.

Honey is a dream while road-tripping. She enjoys going bye-bye.

Jetta is a nightmare. I fear the Wag’N Driving Safety Training Course would be a waste of her time and my money.

Where Honey sits beside me in pure bliss, Jetta sits ON me, making shifting gears almost impossible,

and I drive a standard. While Honey drinks in the surrounding scenery, Jetta paces and/or vomits and/or TRIES to vomit ... on my lap.

Truth to tell, I can quite sympathize with Jetta’s car sickness as I, too, sometimes succumb to this aggravating malady, but at least I can dose myself with Dramamine.

Hmm, I wonder if there is a pet-med formulated to

work like Dramamine? Come to think of it, Wag’N Enterprises safety course might actually be perfect for Jetta.

According to the e-news release, each day of the training is facilitated by Tom Bullins, a man described as both a defensive driving and an anti-terrorism authority.

An anti-terrorism expert might be able to hold his own against Jetta who, by

the way, isn’t vicious. Oh, au contraire. She is, um, quite friendly in an overwhelming, overpowering, chaotic kind of way.

“In the Wag’N Training Course,” the e-news release says, “participants engage in such exercises as breaking, turning, skid control, weight transfer control, throttle control, off road recovery, and others all focused on the key element of a pet being involved in the situation. Participants will be taught the fine art of accident avoidance, distracted driver circumstances, instinctive reaction,

and multiple lane avoidance with and without a pet mannequin onboard.”

Well, I don’t think such a training would be wholly effective without the troublesome passenger in residence. And it most definitely isn’t worth some \$2,950 unless Jetta is allowed to participate.

After all, I wouldn’t spend that kind of money unless the canine in question was being inflicted on others besides myself for a change ... then you could nix out the training — almost — and call it a vacation.

**Skyla Bryant**  
News Editor



## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Dec. 20, the 354th day of 2007. There are 11 days left in the year.

**Today’s Highlight in History:**  
On Dec. 20, 1803, the Louisiana Purchase was completed as ownership of the territory was formally transferred from France to the United States during ceremonies in New Orleans.

**On this date:**  
In 1790, the first successful cotton mill in the United States began operating at Pawtucket, R.I.

In 1860, South Carolina became the first state to secede from the Union.

In 1864, Confederate forces evacuated Savannah, Ga., as Union Gen. William T. Sherman continued his “March to the Sea.”

In 1945, the Office of Price Administration announced the end of tire rationing, effective Jan. 1, 1946.

In 1968, author John Steinbeck died in New York at age 66.

In 1976, Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley

*‘I long ago came to the conclusion that all life is 6 to 5 against.’*

— Damon Runyon  
American writer  
(1884-1946)

died at age 74.

In 1978, former White House chief of staff H.R. Haldeman was released from prison after serving 18 months for his role in the Watergate cover-up.

In 1987, more than 4,300 people were killed when the Dona Paz, a Philippine passenger ship, collided with the tanker Vector off Mindoro island.

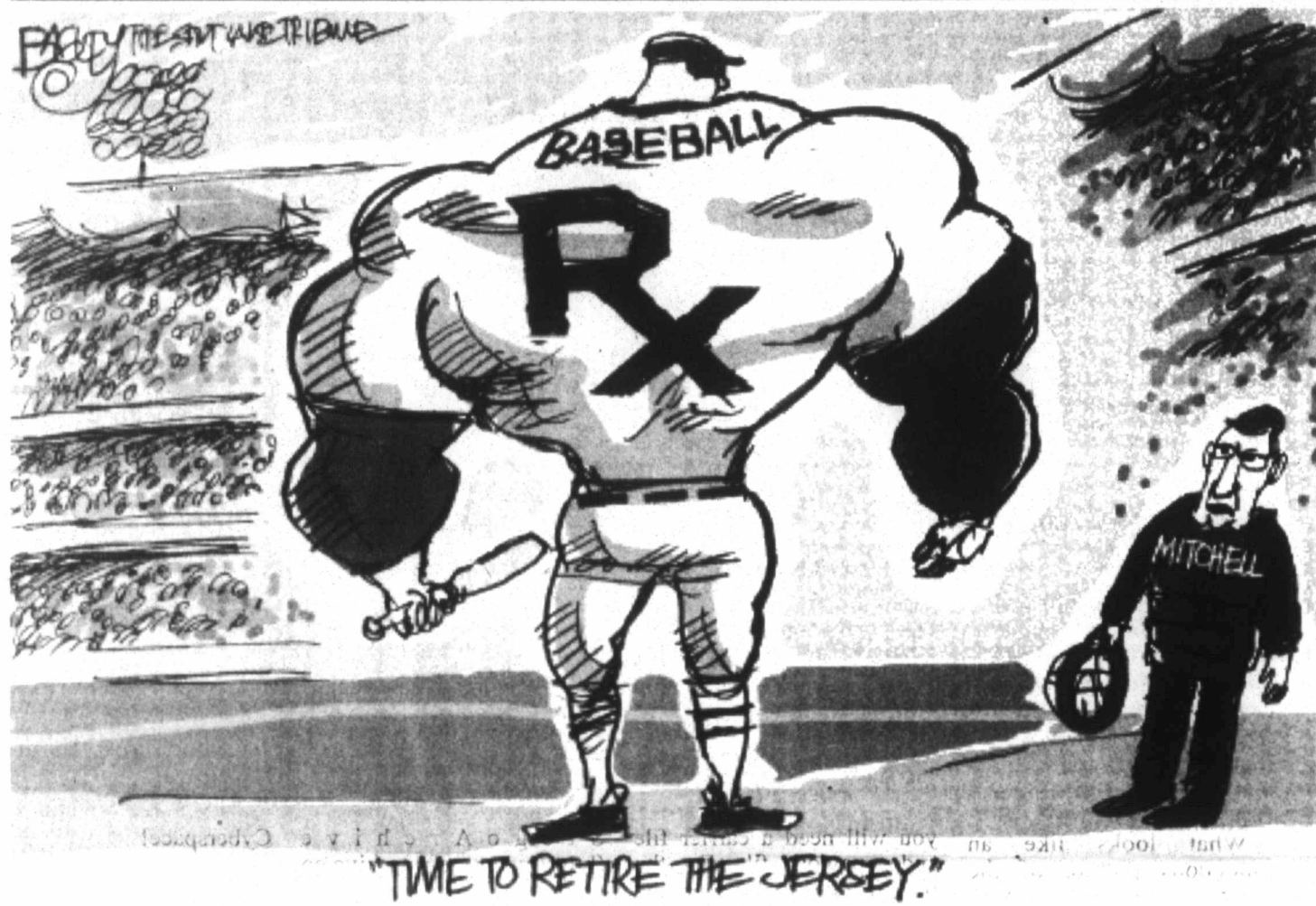
In 1989, the United States launched Operation Just Cause, sending troops into Panama to topple the government of Gen. Manuel Noriega.

In 1999, the Vermont Supreme Court ruled that homosexual couples were entitled to the same benefits and protections as wedded couples.

Ten years ago: President Nelson Mandela stepped down as leader of South Africa’s governing African National Congress. Pope John Paul II sent Christmas greetings to the Cuban people in advance of his visit to the island.

Five years ago: Trent Lott resigned as Senate Republican leader two weeks after igniting a political firestorm with racially charged remarks. The nation’s 10 biggest brokerages agreed to pay \$1.44 billion and fundamentally change the way they did business to settle allegations they’d misled investors by hyping certain companies’ stocks. Ted Williams’ eldest daughter, Bobby-Jo Williams Ferrell, dropped her objections to her siblings’ decision to have the Hall of Famer’s body frozen at a cryonics lab in Arizona.

One year ago: Acknowledging deepening frustration over Iraq, President Bush told a news conference he was considering an increase in American forces and warned that the next year would bring more painful U.S. losses. Recently sworn-in Defense Secretary Robert Gates made an unannounced visit to Iraq.



## Spy vs. spy: Hiding data in plain sight

The War on Terrorism has recently brought to light a relatively new form of “spy vs. spy” technology — steganography. Whoa, I know that’s a big word, but stick with me. I’ll explain it in plain English. But first, some foundational information. ...

### Grab Your De-Coder Ring

As children, we quickly discovered the weakness of hard-copy, handwritten intelligence transmission (passing notes). If anyone intercepted the important message before it reached the recipient, the once private message quickly became public, along with our embarrassment.

(Sidenote: I learned this life-lesson all too quickly when I attempted to send a folded “Will you go with me?” note to my “first love” in seventh grade English class. It was intercepted en route by a girl we will call,

“Nellie” (as in Little House on the Prairie “Nellie”) and broadcast school-wide. Ironically, despite that incredible public humiliation, my “first-love” forgave my indiscretion and, 11 years later, became my wife.)

### Eric Spellmann

Columnist

this “character-for-character” technique.

### Scrambled or Over-Easy?

A stronger form of message control was needed. Enter, encryption. To oversimplify the process, a computer uses incredibly complex mathematical techniques to scramble the message into an unreadable format. Only by knowing the algorithm used to create the code could a person de-code the message. The only way to break such encryption is usually through what we call “brute-force cracking.” Rooms full of computers run every possible mathematical permutation until the encryption is broken. Depending on the strength of the encryption, this process can take days,



months or even years.

### Files in Disguise

But what if there were another way to protect your sensitive files? Instead of using “Einstein-ian” mathematical formulas to scramble a file, what if you could simply hide it “within” another file? Therein lies the roots of steganography.

For this process to work, you must have two files — the “payload” and the “carrier.” A computer hides the payload in the carrier by storing the payload in unused portions of the carrier file. For instance, let’s say you had a picture of a friend standing in front of the Grand Canyon. The computer would store the payload file in the large, single-color portions of the picture, such as the sky and canyon walls. The picture would look the same, and, except for a file size increase, no one would

See SPELL, Page 5

## THE PAMPA NEWS

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Advertising Director: ReDonn Woods

Composing Supervisor: Brenda Cook

This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily, except Saturdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day, by The Pampa News. Periodicals postage, paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.

All carriers are independent contractors and The Pampa News is not responsible for advance payments of two or more months made to the carrier. Please pay directly to the Pampa News any payment that exceeds the current collection period. There are no mail subscriptions available within the city limits of Pampa. Mail subscriptions must be paid three months in advance.

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## Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

Dec. 7

Odessa American on steroid testing: Its possible that, in the rush to implement a steroid testing program for Texas high school athletes, that more problems than answers will be raised. Regardless, politicians seem hell-bent to get the costly and perhaps contentious process up and running.

This despite the fact that there’s no real indication that steroid use is a widespread practice among Texas athletes.

Now there are, no doubt, some youngsters using steroids. But is it such a pressing problem that we have to spend millions of taxpayer dollars to go off on a half-cocked witch hunt? This is

another example of the Texas Legislature cooking up a bill that sounds good at first blush and gets pushed into law by a lot of influential people wanting to “do the right thing.”

But when it comes to converting words into deeds, its not as simple as it seemed when the idea was formed.

It would have been far more prudent to have named a committee or task force of coaches, athletic directors and even student athletes to study the possibility of steroid testing and come up with ways to implement a fair and relatively simple way of doing the testing. Instead, lawmakers charged off like stampeding cattle and managed to impose a relatively short time frame to get the program up and running.

As a result, there are bound to be snags and snafus, some of which will probably result in lawsuits. So whos

going to pay for the resulting litigation? And will legal challenges result in delays and even suspension of testing?

With all of these unknowns at work, maybe it would be better if the deadline for having a steroid testing program in place was pushed back so better planning can be done to eliminate the inevitable kinks and perhaps even loopholes that will be found.

Besides, we seem to be forgetting that first line of defense, and the most effective, against the use of steroids by Texas youngsters is at home. Parents are more likely to be able to prevent abuse than any system of testing on the part of any governmental entity.

Instead of providing a miracle cure for what may not even be a big problem at all, Texas politicians have opened a huge can of worms. URL: <http://www.oaoa.com>

ARUBA CASE

# Officials gear up to present evidence

By MARGARET WEVER  
Associated Press Writer

ORANJESTAD, Aruba (AP) — Prosecutors on Thursday plan to divulge evidence they gathered over the last eight months against three young men who will not be charged in the disappearance of Natalee Holloway because it was not sufficient to charge anyone.

Prosecutors will detail what they had touted as "new incriminating evidence" at a news conference at the Aruban prime minister's office, two days after they dismissed their case against the suspects — a Dutch college student and two Surinamese brothers.

The Aruban prosecutors say they still believe the trio were involved in the American teenager's disappearance, but cannot prove a crime was committed because her body was never recovered. They have said they focused on cell phone calls and text messages between the suspects.

On Wednesday, Holloway's family blamed mistakes by Aruban investigators for bringing the case to a dead end after more than two years of searching.

Holloway's stepfather, Jug Twitty, said he believes witnesses in the Dutch Caribbean island of Aruba know what happened but are not coming forward, and he criticized prosecutors' decision to dismiss the case against the only known suspects.

"It's also I think a sad day for the Aruban people because the officials there are inept," Twitty told The

Associated Press in a telephone interview from Birmingham, Ala. Natalee's mother, Beth Twitty, referred a reporter's questions about the handling of the case to Jug Twitty.

*"There are also people I believe that know what happened but won't say anything because they have to live on that island."*

— Beth Twitty

The Aruba Public Prosecutor's Office said Tuesday it will not charge the three young men who were seen leaving a bar with Holloway on May 30, 2005, the night the 18-year-old vanished during a trip to the island with members of her high school graduating class.

Jug Twitty said Holloway's mother was considering appealing the prosecutor's decision and hoped a new search by a Texas-based private group in the waters off Aruba might find Holloway's body.

"I can't say we're optimistic," Twitty said.

The three suspects — Joran van der Sloot and brothers Deepak and Satish Kalpoe — were re-arrested last month and questioned for several days

before their release. Prosecutors said they still believe the young men played a role in Holloway's disappearance, but they cannot prove it without recovering her body.

Detectives are assigned to review any new evidence that surfaces in the case, said John Pauly, a communications consultant for the prosecutor's office.

Van der Sloot, 20, a college student who was re-arrested in the Netherlands, declined to comment when reached Wednesday morning at his parents' home in Aruba.

"I'm sorry but I really have better things to do than this, OK?" he told the AP over the phone.

Jug Twitty, who recently divorced Beth Twitty, said police botched the investigation from the start by waiting nine days to arrest the three suspects, giving them "plenty of time to cover their tracks."

"There are also people I believe that know what happened but won't say anything because they have to live on that island," he said.

Complaints the last two years about the handling of the investigation prompted calls for a tourism boycott by officials in the United States, including Alabama Gov. Bob Riley.

"We'll be glad when it's out of the media ... We've suffered enough," said John Herbert, a receptionist at the Arubiana Inn on the island of white sand beaches off the coast of Venezuela.

## Death sought for accused spree killer

AUSTIN (AP) — Travis County prosecutors said they will seek the death penalty for a man accused of fatally shooting six people in a cross-country rampage this summer.

The Wednesday announcement was welcomed by the brother of one of the people allegedly slain by Paul Devoe, 44.

"I think it's a good call," said Brian Griffith of San Antonio, whose sister Paula Griffith was one of four people shot in the head in her Austin-area home in late August. "It's not like a drug deal gone bad. Give me a good reason for shooting two kids in their own home."

Devoe, a carpenter and painter, is accused of killing six people in Texas and Pennsylvania. Among them were Paula Griffith, Devoe's 46-year-old ex-girlfriend, along with her boyfriend, her 15-year-old daughter and her daughter's teenage friend.

Devoe is also accused of killing a bartender in Marble Falls before the quadruple slaying, and then fatally shooting a woman in Greencastle, Pa., and stealing her car as he fled from Texas to New York. He was arrested in New York after U.S. marshals tracked him to a friend's house on eastern Long Island.

A Travis County grand jury indicted Devoe last month on a charge of capital murder. The indictment listed the deaths of two of the people he's accused of killing in Paula Griffith's home.

Prosecutors have said Devoe was only indicted on two of the four Jonestown killings to give prosecutors a second chance to charge Devoe if he is acquitted in the first case. They said they would present evidence of the entire killing spree at trial, because it all happened in the same criminal transaction.

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## Spell

Continued from Page 4

know the two files co-existed ... which brings us to the War on Terrorism. Seems these radical psychopaths are using steganography to communicate with terrorist cells around the world.

What looks like an innocuous picture of the Eiffel Tower, may in fact, contain the full plans for a coordinated terrorist attack. Since steganography is still so new, military officials are

just now learning to search for such hidden messages.

**Protect Your Files**  
But, as with all technologies, steganography has its legitimate uses. If you need to hide a file, or securely send a message where the intermediary receivers are unknown, consider this process.

As I mentioned earlier, you will need a carrier file and a payload file. For the best results, make sure the carrier file is at least eight times as large as the payload.

So, if your payload file is 30k, you will need a carrier

file of at least 240k.

In addition, you will need steganography software. For those willing to part with \$59.95, the commercial software, Steganos Privacy Suite (http://www.steganos.com), has the easiest interface. But, if your wallet is a bit light, check out the long list of freeware located at StegoArchive (http://www.stegoarchive.com).

For a fascinating and quick example of steganography, check out Spam Mimic (http://www.spam-

mimic.com). This site will hide a short message in a seemingly spam-ridden message, and then decode it on command. What better way to send a secret message than through spam!

As steganography grows in usage, you may want to give that downloaded picture a second look.

I'll see you in Cyberspace!

## Huckabee takes flack for his stance on meth offenders

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — Republican presidential candidate Mike Huckabee can find plenty of parallels between his native Arkansas and Iowa when it comes to methamphetamine: Both are small states battling increased use of the drug through stricter laws.

But Republican presidential rivals Mitt Romney and Fred Thompson are tagging Huckabee as soft on crime because of a 2005 Arkansas law he signed as governor that gave some meth offenders more credit for good behavior. Instead of serving only 70 percent of their sentences, they'd only have to serve at least half if they behaved.

"Mike Huckabee's solution? Early releases for meth dealers!" Thompson's campaign proclaimed.

Opponents also point to Huckabee's record of pardons and commutations: He had a hand in twice as many as his three predecessors combined, granting 1,033 pardons and commutations in his 10 1/2 years in office. The acts of clemency benefited the stepson of a staff member, murderers who worked at the governor's mansion, a rock star and inmates who received good words from their pastors.

Huckabee's rivals are struggling to overtake his campaign, which is surging nationally and in Iowa, where caucuses open the presidential nominating season on Jan. 3.

Iowa, like many states, also has had to grapple with methamphetamine abuse. Earlier this year, the Drug

Enforcement Administration called meth the principal drug of concern in Iowa. Arkansas and Iowa both have enacted measures restricting access to the principal ingredients in methamphetamine.

Both states have seen some progress with the new laws. Arkansas Children's Hospital last year said it saw a 63 percent drop in patients admitted with burns related to methamphetamine production since the state adopted a law, also in 2005, to control the sale of drugs containing pseudoephedrine.

In Iowa last year, there

were 345 methamphetamine lab incidents, a steep drop from the 1,500 reported in 2004, according to the governor's drug control policy office. So far this year, 164 lab incidents have been reported.

"It's rare that you run into someone who isn't affected directly or indirectly by it," said Gary Kendall, director of the Iowa governor's drug control office. "We're a small enough state and it's a large enough problem that I think a person who doesn't pay attention to it would be an exception."

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## People's Choice revamping awards show amid Hollywood strike

By LYNN ELBER  
AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The People's Choice Awards had the red carpet yanked out from under it Wednesday as fallout from the Hollywood writers strike grew.

The ceremony, which typically airs live, will be taped for a Jan. 8 telecast on CBS, a spokeswoman for the show said. Queen Latifah, who previously was announced as host, will be part of the new format.

The Writers Guild of America, which has been on strike for seven weeks, already had flexed its muscle by refusing to participate in the Academy Awards and Golden Globes, the ceremonies that represent Hollywood's biggest promotional showcases.

"We realize there are pressing

issues facing the entertainment industry, including the WGA strike, and out of respect for everyone involved this provided an opportunity to pilot a new format this year," awards spokeswoman Jeannie Tharrington told The Associated Press.

The show will include pre-recorded acceptance speeches by winners as well as their responses to questions sent in by fans, according to a People's Choice statement.

The "new approach will give fans a more personal glimpse into the lives of their favorite actors and musicians," awards President Fred Nelson said in a statement.

The People's Choice ceremony gives the public the chance to choose its favorite music, television and film entertainment. The show is produced by Sycamore

*'We realize there are pressing issues facing the entertainment industry, including the WGA strike, and out of respect for everyone involved this provided an opportunity to pilot a new format this year.'*

—Jeannie Tharrington  
Award spokeswoman

Production, a wholly owned subsidiary of Procter & Gamble Productions.

"The show will go on," CBS, the ceremony's longtime home,

said in a brief statement. "The People's Choice tradition on CBS will continue and we plan to introduce some new ideas in the process."

This year's ceremony drew 11.3 million viewers.

With the Screen Actors Guild preparing for its own negotiations with producers next year and stars showing firm support for striking writers, the question has been whether presenters — or even nominees — would show up for an awards show boycotted by writers.

The guild's action is an attempt to bring the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers back to the table and reach a favorable deal on issues that include compensation for digital media, labor experts said.

Meanwhile Wednesday, chief union negotiator John Bowman

said the guild is pursuing agreements with several small independent producers that would allow at least some members to return to work.

Bowman said he hopes to have deals in place in time to make an announcement next week. He wouldn't identify the production companies but said the agreements would address writers' demands for compensation for work appearing on the Internet, a central issue.

He spoke with reporters after attending a hearing of the Los Angeles City Council's housing, community and economic development committee, which urged both sides to return to the bargaining table.

Meanwhile, economists told the committee that although the strike is costly to the local economy, it is not crippling.

## Obituaries in the news ...

Ken Lennox  
OCEANPORT, N.J. (AP) — Ken Lennox, a former

racing director at Monmouth Park who worked at the track for more than 40 years, has died. He was 88.

Lennox died Tuesday at Monmouth Medical Center in Long Branch, said Bob Kulina, Monmouth Park's general manager.

Lennox began at the track as a stall man, then worked as a paddock judge, placing judge, steward and racing secretary before becoming director of racing. He retired in 1986.

He managed Monmouth Park's racing department at a time when the track attracted premier horses such as Buckpasser, Foolish Pleasure, Alydar, Ruffian and Spectacular Bid.

Bill Strauss  
WASHINGTON (AP) — Bill Strauss, who founded the political satire group Capitol Steps, has died. He was 60.

Strauss died Tuesday at his home in McLean, Va., the musical troupe announced. He had been battling pancreatic cancer since 1999.

Strauss, a Harvard-trained lawyer and Senate subcommittee staffer, got the idea of forming Capitol Steps in 1981 after hosting a party that ended with a jam session around the piano in which partygoers riffed on parodies of Reagan-era newsmakers.

Months later, the group made its debut at the office Christmas party of Strauss' employer, Sen. Charles Percy, R-Ill.

Capitol Steps initially consisted of Senate staffers

who set out to satirize the people and places that employed them. They regularly performed for free at parties and in church basements. Today, Capitol Steps is a \$3 million-a-year industry with more than 40 employees who sing and satirize at venues nationwide. The group has recorded 27 albums.

Made up mostly of Republicans, with a few Democrats and independents, Capitol Steps has always tried to be equal-opportunity satirists, co-founder Elaina Newport said.

Besides founding Capitol Steps, Strauss co-authored six books about different generations of Americans and co-founded Cappies, a high school critics and awards program focusing on the arts.

Rose Tani  
LOMBARD, Ill. (AP) — Rose Tani, the mother of a NASA astronaut who is currently aboard the international space station, died when a train struck her vehicle, police said. She was 90.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

## California citrus growers sue Florida

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — For decades, a common fungus found on citrus in California was so insignificant that farmers say they nearly forgot about it.

So they were taken by surprise earlier this month when Florida began quarantining truckloads of oranges, a move that has threatened to cut off one of California's most lucrative domestic markets for oranges, lemons and grapefruits.

The move has also prompted a lawsuit by the California citrus industry, which exports about \$75 million worth of citrus to Florida each year.

"We've stopped shipping to Florida. It's hurting," said Joel Nelson, president of the California Citrus Mutual, a nonprofit representing farmers who grow 200,000 acres of citrus. "The retail stores are crying, the trucking companies are crying. This affects a lot of people, all along the line."

California growers are convinced the quarantine is retaliation for federal rules banning Florida orange exports to California, Texas and other citrus-growing states to prevent the spread of the more infectious citrus canker disease.

Florida officials say that's not so. "They say (the fungus has) been in California for years, so why do we need to do this now? Well, frankly, we were not aware of how much it was in California and our job is to protect our growers," said Liz Compton, spokeswoman for the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

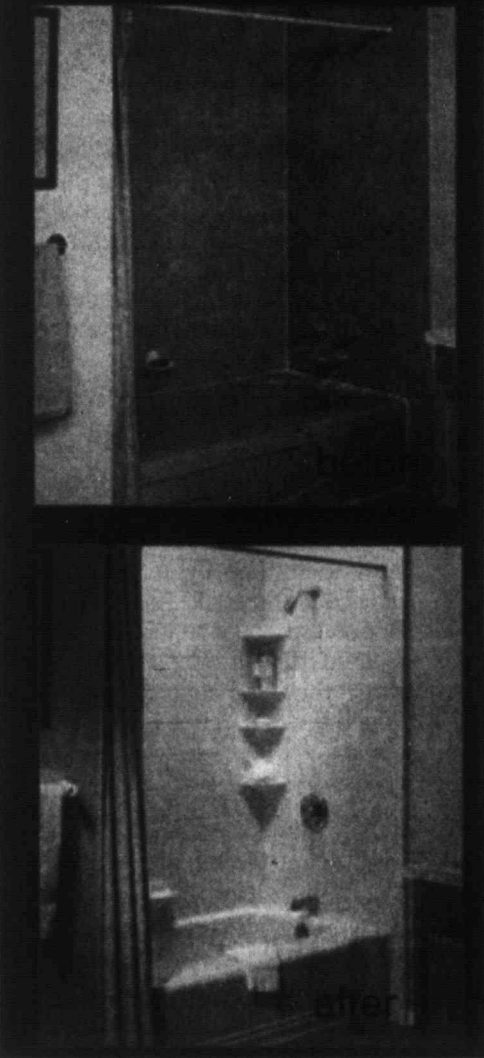
Growers and agriculture officials faced off in state court in Tallahassee on Tuesday in a battle over the validity of the Dec. 7 quarantine. California sought an emergency injunction to lift it but Circuit Judge William Gary ruled against California on Wednesday, deciding in part that the state had failed to show the rule is unconstitutional or that it is likely to suffer irreparable harm pending final resolution of the lawsuit.

At issue is Septoria citri, a common fungus the U.S. Department of Agriculture has classified as a disease

See CITRUS, Page 8

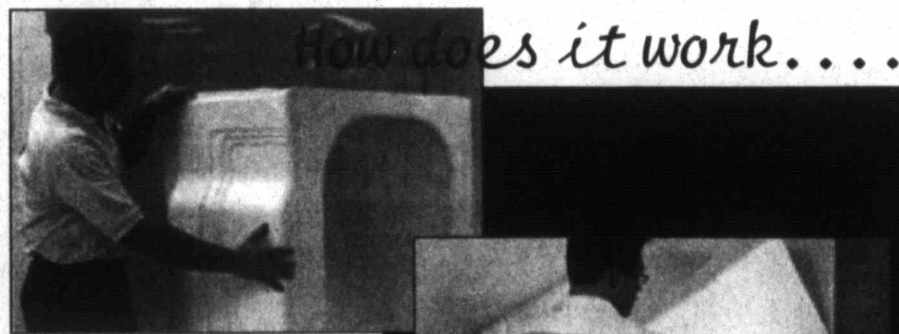
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# Citrus

Continued from Page 6

of minor significance to citrus crops. The disease first appears as small, pitted lesions and ultimately can cause premature fruit drop.

Under the quarantine, every container of California citrus must be inspected for fungus spots, treated with a fungicide and stamped with a certificate authorized by the state.

The fight is unusual territory for the nation's two citrus titans. The Florida and California industries have traditionally been cordial, in large part because their markets are different: Most of Florida's crop is crushed for juice, while most of California's is sold as whole fruit.

California growers have been shipping about 7,000 tractor trailers full of citrus to Florida annually.

Steve Lyle, spokesman for the California Department of Food and Agriculture, said he does not believe any California grower has become certified to meet Florida's stringent new requirements. Growers say they will not be able to fully meet the requirements before the end of the season.

To meet the requirements, California growers and shippers say they will have to radically change the way they package and haul California citrus to Florida and elsewhere.

Rarely does one tractor trailer deliver to just one state. To meet the new requirements, growers will have to tailor shipments to Florida and document them, a process that will cost more, require more trips and drive up prices, growers say.

Florida state regulators say they must protect Florida growers who have been forced to destroy entire groves to deal with citrus canker, greening disease and leaf miner. Septoria citri, which is not found in Florida, could scar more of the state's harvest, they say.

In the lawsuit, California growers — led by the citrus nonprofit and Sunkist Growers — claim the ban on California imports violates interstate commerce and discriminates against California products.

"This action is not to protect the health and safety of the Florida citrus industry, but is an improper bur-

den upon interstate commerce that protects the Florida fresh industry at the expense of the California fresh industry," the lawsuit reads.

**BISMARCK, N.D. (AP)** — Farmers and ranchers spend more money on health insurance than most Americans, a new report has found.

Farm and ranch families spent an average of \$7,247 on health insurance in 2006, according to The Access Project, a research organization at Brandeis University in Boston, which conducted the survey.

The report, released Tuesday, found that one in four producers have financial problems because of the cost of health insurance.

"It is generally considered that spending 10 percent of one's income on health costs is an indicator of excessive health burden," said lead researcher Jeffrey Protas, a professor at Brandeis University. "For many in our sample, this was certainly the case."

The researchers' sample included more than 2,000 farmers and ranchers in North Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska and South Dakota.

The report said families who farm and ranch in those states are at a disadvantage because they often have to purchase health insurance in the individual market, instead of getting it as part of a group plan provided by an employer.

The study found that 36 percent of families surveyed are paying an average of \$4,359 more than their counterparts who get insurance through an employer.

"It's getting to be such a burden that some of them are just going underinsured or uninsured," said Wade Moser, executive director of the North Dakota Stockmen's Association.

Moser said loan interest payments used to make up the single largest expense in ranching. Now it's health insurance, he said.

Moser said he would like to see rules allowing farmers and ranchers to deduct their personal health care costs from their taxes in the same manner that business owners can deduct the cost for their employees.

"That is their business, and they are the employees," he said.

## SURVIVAL

# Man lost in mountains for three days says faith kept him alive

By **JULIET WILLIAMS**  
Associated Press Writer

**PARADISE, Calif. (AP)** — A man who was lost in the mountains along with his three children for three days during a snowstorm said he was terrified they wouldn't make it out alive, but he remained strong for his children and relied on his faith.

Frederick Dominguez and the children, who vanished while looking for a Christmas tree, were rescued Wednesday by a helicopter from a snowy ravine, just as another storm was bearing down in the foothill region about 100 miles north of Sacramento.

"You just want your kids to be safe and you're just praying, 'God, keep my kids alive,'" Dominguez told reporters at Feather River Hospital in Paradise.

The rescue came as relatives and friends were starting to lose hope. One snowstorm had covered the family's tracks, and an even bigger storm was hours away from burying the four even deeper.

"I'm just amazed how well they did," Lisa Sams said after seeing her children and ex-husband for the first time since they went missing. "It was like butterflies in my stomach, like if you were going to go on a very first date."

The four appeared to be in good shape as they bounded from a California Highway Patrol helicopter that ferried them to safety in two trips; Alexis, 15, and Joshua, 12, were taken out of the woods first. Their 38-year-old father smiled at cheering relatives and friends later as he and his 18-year-old son, Christopher, emerged from the aircraft.

They were taken to the hospital and checked for dehydration,

hypothermia and frostbite, physician Kurt Bower said. They were released within hours.

"I'm surprised how good they are," Bower said. "There's a miracle from God in there somewhere."

After he had been checked at the hospital, Dominguez described three harrowing nights in the wild as he tried to keep his children from panicking and succumbing to

snow around the family's parked pickup truck, obliterating its tracks. The family went missing about 25 miles northeast of Chico, near the hamlet of Inskip.

By Wednesday, the storm had dumped more than a foot of snow in the mountains, leaving wind-driven drifts 7 feet high in some areas.

The family members — found less than a mile and a half from the road — said they got lost by going from pine tree to pine tree, trying to find the perfect Christmas tree, until they realized they were lost.

"I just remember walking and walking and thinking, 'We're not going to make it.' I remember being really, really scared," Alexis told CNN Wednesday night.

They eventually wandered into a culvert that allowed a creek to flow beneath a dirt road, and stayed there until their rescue. It was a miserable place — dark, cramped, wet and cold — but provided just enough shelter.

One night it rained, sending snow melt shooting through the tunnel. At one point, Alexis lost a shoe and slept a night with her foot exposed. Dominguez ripped his sweat shirt and tied the shreds around her foot, rubbing it to keep it warm.

Outside, they used twigs and branches to create an SOS — "Help."

They used humor and songs from church to lift their spirits.

The breakthrough in the search came mid-afternoon Wednesday when the highway patrol helicopter spotted the father atop a small bridge and landed nearby, sinking into 2 feet of snow. Dominguez said he ran across rocks and snow in his bare feet when Alexis heard the helicopter.

**"I said, 'Son, I would tell you what I bought you for Christmas if I thought we weren't going to make it,'" Dominguez recalled. "My kids were relying on me, and I'm scared, but you can't tell them you're scared."**

the numbing cold. Joshua needed constant reassurance.

"I said, 'Son, I would tell you what I bought you for Christmas if I thought we weren't going to make it,'" Dominguez recalled. "My kids were relying on me, and I'm scared, but you can't tell them you're scared."

The ordeal began Sunday, when Dominguez and the children left church and headed to the mountains to cut a tree for Christmas. Because the father had custody of his children at the time, his ex-wife did not know they were missing until she learned Joshua failed to show up at school Monday.

By the time authorities learned they were missing and began their search Monday night, the first storm had dumped 8 inches of

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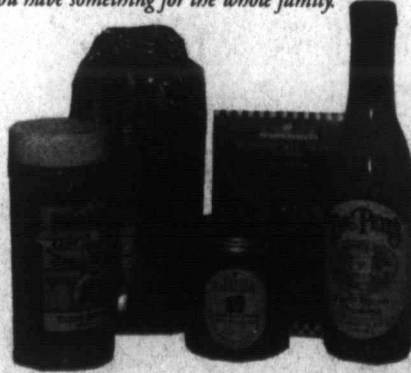
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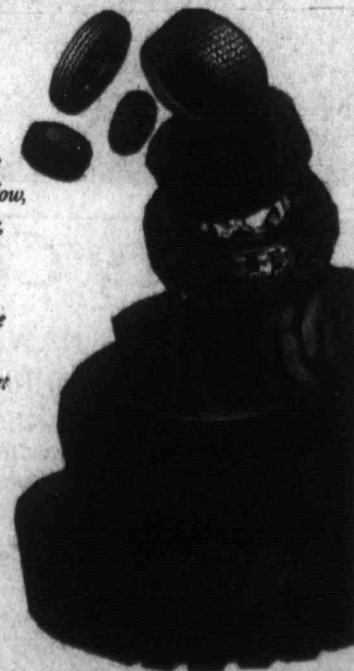
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# Study: Risk of death greater for uninsured cancer patients

ATLANTA (AP) — Uninsured cancer patients are nearly twice as likely to die within five years as those with private coverage, according to the first national study of its kind and one that sheds light on troubling health care obstacles.

People without health insurance are less likely to get recommended cancer screening tests, the study also found, confirming earlier research. And when these patients finally do get diagnosed, their cancer is likely to have spread.

The research by scientists with the American Cancer Society offers important context for the national discussion about health care reform, experts say — even though the uninsured are believed to account for just a fraction of U.S. cancer deaths.

An Associated Press analysis suggests it is around 4 percent.

Those dealing with cancer and inadequate insurance weren't surprised by the findings.

"I would just like for something to be done to help someone else, so they don't have to go through what we went through," said Peggy Hicks, a Florida woman whose husband died in August from colon cancer.

Edward Hicks was uninsured, and a patchwork health care system delayed him from getting chemotherapy that some argue might have extended his life.

"He was so ill. And you're trying to get him help and you can't, you can't," said his 67-year-old widow.

The new research is being published in CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians, a cancer society publication. In an accompanying editorial, the society's president repeated the organization's call for action to fix holes in the health care safety net.

"The truth is that our national reluctance to face these facts is condemning thousands of people to die from cancer each year," Dr. Elmer Huerta wrote.

Hard numbers linking insurance status and cancer deaths are scarce, in part because death certificates don't say whether those who died were insured.

An Associated Press estimate — based on hospital cancer deaths in 2005 gathered by the U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality information and other data — suggests that at least 20,000 of the nation's 560,000 annual cancer deaths are uninsured when they die. Experts said that estimate sounds reasonable.

That's around 4 percent of the total cancer death toll. One reason is that most fatal cancers occur in people 65 or older — an age group covered by the federal Medicare program. Another is that more than 80 percent of adults under 65 have some form of coverage, including private insurance or the Medicaid program for the poor, according to various estimates.

Some are enrolled in Medicaid or other programs after diagnosis, when the condition worsens and their finances erode. But such 11th hour coverage can be too late; early detection is the key to catching many cancers before they've grown beyond control, experts said.

"Insurance makes a big difference in how early you are detecting disease," said Ken Thorpe, an Emory University health policy researcher.

In the new study, researchers analyzed information from 1,500 U.S. hospitals that provide cancer care. They focused on nearly 600,000 adults under age 65 who first appeared in the database in 1999 and 2000 and who had either no insurance, private insurance or Medicaid.

Researchers then checked records for those patients for the five years following. They found those who were uninsured were 1.6 times more likely to die in five years than those with private insurance.

More specifically, 35 percent of uninsured patients had died at the end of five years, compared with 23 percent of privately insured patients.

Earlier studies have also shown differences in cancer survival rates of the unin-

See **CANCER**, Page 10

*'I would just like for something to be done to help someone else, so they don't have to go through what we went through.'*

— Peggy Hicks  
A Florida woman

## COURT SETTLEMENT

# Both sides criticized for plea deal in BP explosion case

HOUSTON (AP) — A \$50 million fine being proposed as criminal punishment for BP PLC's deadly 2005 plant explosion is insufficient and simply "part of the ordinary cost of doing business" for the company, attorneys for victims of the accident said in court documents Wednesday.

Federal prosecutors who brokered the plea agreement with the London-based oil giant were also criticized by victims' attorneys.

"The Government was unduly and unnecessarily generous in these negotiations ... only a very substantial penalty well in excess of \$50 million would send the message to BP ... that laws of the United States of America are designed to take the profit out of crime," attorneys David Perry, Edward Mallett, Brent Coon and Mark Lanier wrote in their 43-page motion asking that the plea agreement be rejected by a judge.

The victims' attorneys argued BP could pay a fine of \$1.6 billion or more, which they allege is the profit BP made at the Texas City plant prior to the accident that killed 15 workers and injured more

than 170 others.

In a statement, BP defended the plea agreement.

**The victims' attorneys argued BP could pay a fine of \$1.6 billion or more, which they allege is the profit BP made at the Texas City plant prior to the accident that killed 15 workers and injured more than 170 others.**

"We hope that in considering the plea agreement the court will recognize the public benefit that will come from encouraging companies to act as BP Products has in the aftermath of the tragedy at Texas City," the company said.

Abe Martinez, one of the prosecutors on the case, did not immediately return a telephone call from The Associated Press late Wednesday seeking comment.

In October, BP and the Justice Department agreed that the London-based company would plead guilty to a felony, pay a \$50 million fine and be on probation for three years for its role in the explosion at the refinery.

The fine and plea were part of an agreement by BP to pay \$373 million to settle various criminal and civil charges.

The oil company was set to formally enter its guilty plea in court last month. But several attorneys for victims of the blast objected.

U.S. District Judge Lee Rosenthal is expected to make a decision on the plea agreement by Feb. 4.

Victims' attorneys have argued the plea deal lacked a detailed account of BP's recent history of fines it has paid for other violations and gave BP some form of immunity because a subsidiary is named as the only defendant in the agreement.

They also objected to requests by BP and prosecutors to bypass a presentence report in the case. Such reports are standard in criminal cases and offer a judge a wide range of information, such as a

See **BP**, Page 10

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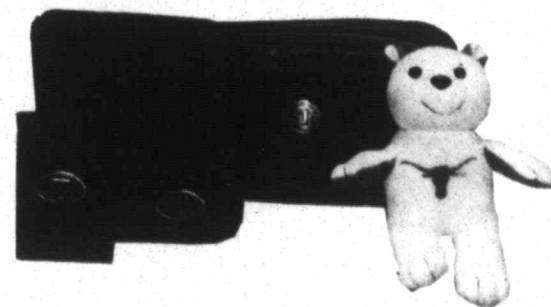


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# S. Korean president-elect says won't mince words with N. Korea

By **BURT HERMAN**  
Associated Press Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — President-elect Lee Myung-bak said Thursday he would not shy from criticizing North Korea's authoritarian regime, ending a taboo by a decade of liberal South Korean leaders who have aggressively sought closer ties with Pyongyang.

Lee, who won a landslide victory in Wednesday's vote, represents the conservative opposition Grand National Party

*'I think unconditionally avoiding criticism of North Korea would not be appropriate. If we try to point out North Korea's shortcomings, with affection, I think that would make North Korean society healthier.'*

— Lee Myung-bak  
President-elect

election — besting his closest rival by more than 22 percent. Under the past two liberal presidents, South Korea had failed to publicly raise human rights problems in North Korea out of concern its criticism may anger Pyongyang and complicate reconciliation between the countries that remain technically at war. The 1950-53 Korean War ended with a cease-fire that has never been replaced by a peace treaty.

The two Koreas embarked on unprecedented rapprochement after their leaders met for their first-ever summit in 2000, and the South is now North Korea's No. 2 trade partner after communist ally China.

The South also has been a main food donor for the impoverished North, but international monitors have raised questions about its ability to verify if aid gets to the needy and is not diverted to the military.

Later Thursday, Lee met U.S. Ambassador Alexander Vershbow and said he would move the alliance with Washington forward.

"I think the Korea-U.S. relations lacked trust a bit for the past five years," Lee told the ambassador. "I hope (the relations) would be on more harmonious terms for the sake of national interests of both countries."

Lee earned his victory on a wave of discontent for incumbent President Roh Moo-hyun, who many believe bungled the economy and dragged down the Asian nation's rapid growth.

Voters also appeared willing to overlook accusations of ethical lapses that dogged Lee throughout his campaign. Just days before the vote, the parliament approved an independent counsel investigation into alleged stock manipulation by Lee that is to be completed before the Feb. 25 inauguration.

Lee has said he will step down if found at fault. Kang Jae-sup, chairman of Lee's Grand National Party, asked President Roh on Thursday in a radio interview to veto the independent counsel bill to allow for a smooth transition of power.

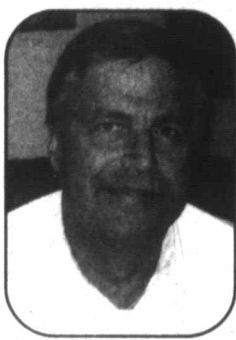
However, presidential spokesman Cheon Ho-seon said the request has not yet been discussed. Another spokesman Oh Young-jin noted Roh had earlier expressed his intention to sign the investigation bill.

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that has been heavily critical of the South's engagement policy toward the North.

The new leader, a pragmatic former Hyundai CEO, is considered less hard-line, although he has called for stricter reciprocity from Pyongyang for Seoul's aid.

"I think unconditionally avoiding criticism of North Korea would not be appropriate," Lee told a news conference the day after the election. "If we try to point out North Korea's shortcomings, with affection, I think that would make North Korean society healthier."

Lee also urged North Korea to dismantle its nuclear weapons program and said Seoul would open normal trade only after Pyongyang disarms.

"The most important thing is for North Korea to get rid of its nuclear weapons," he said. "Full-fledged economic exchanges can start after North Korea dismantles its nuclear weapons."

The North this year began disabling its main nuclear facility under an international accord with the U.S. and other regional powers — the first time Pyongyang has scaled back its development of atomic weapons. North Korea has promised to declare all its nuclear programs by the end of the year that will be eventually dismantled.

Lee won 48.7 percent of the Wednesday vote with the largest margin of victory ever in a South Korean presidential

## Cancer

Continued from Page 9

sured and insured, but they were limited to specific cancers and certain geographic areas.

The new findings are consistent across different racial groups. However, the fact that whites have better survival rates cannot be explained by insurance status alone, said Elizabeth Ward, the study's lead author.

The researchers were not able to tell if the numbers were influenced by patients' education levels, or by other illnesses.

Experts said the study also hints at problems with quality of care after diagnosis: such as whether the patient got the appropriate operation from a high-quality surgeon, whether the tumor was thoroughly evaluated by a high-quality pathologist, and whether there was access to needed chemotherapy and radiation.

"The differences that we see in outcomes after people are diagnosed, even among those with early stage disease, suggests that problems with quality of care may be an important reason," said Dr. John Ayanian, professor of medicine and health care policy at Harvard Medical School. He didn't participate in the cancer society study.

The study makes an even stronger statement about the

role insurance plays in the timing of screenings and how that can raise the likelihood of a late-stage diagnosis, experts said.

A Kaiser Family Foundation survey last year of 930 households that dealt with cancer found that more than one in four uninsured patients delayed treatment — or decided not to get it — because of the cost.

Such was the case of Edward Hicks.

The retired laborer, had surgery for colorectal cancer in 2005 and was thought to be clear of the disease. Chemotherapy was suggested after the surgery, but he didn't get it.

In February of this year, his wife grew worried when he lost energy and appetite. In April, he told her he felt a lump in his stomach.

Hicks, who lived in Fort Meade, Fla., couldn't get an appointment with a specialist, but a family doctor

checked him into a hospital and specialists saw him in late May. They said he was terminal but that chemotherapy might extend his life a little, his wife said.

She was able to get donated chemotherapy drugs from a pharmaceutical company, but it took time to arrange the treatments, which didn't start until mid-June. Meanwhile, her husband's health deteriorated. In July, after just a few treatments, he stopped the chemo, saying it was too hard. He died on Aug. 21, at age 64.

Friends and family told Peggy they believe he would have lived longer had he got chemo earlier, when he was stronger. She doesn't agonize over that, she said, trusting in God's will.

But the devil's in her mailbox — she is facing a \$21,000 hospital bill and other costs from his death.

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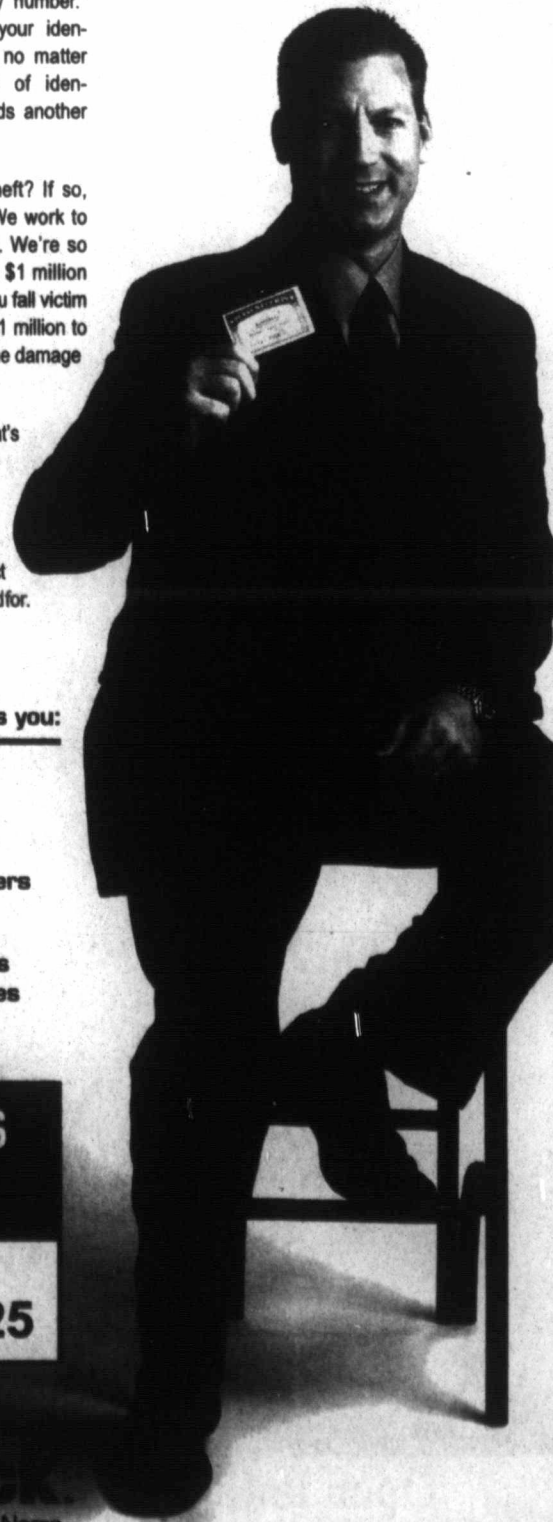
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## BP

Continued from Page 9

defendant's criminal history, that is used in determining a final sentence.

Wednesday's court documents reiterated many of these same arguments.

While the victims' attorneys are asking the plea deal be rejected, they did offer ways they believe the plea agreement can be bolstered if approved.

They asked Rosenthal to order that BP create and

implement an ethics and compliance program that would monitor its operations at the refinery. The judge was also asked to appoint an independent engineering expert or experts to help implement the program.

The attorneys also asked that BP Global, the parent company, be required contractually to provide the necessary funding needed to bring the plant into lawful compliance before the end of BP's probation.

The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, one of several agen-

cies that investigated the accident, found BP fostered bad management at the plant and that cost-cutting moves by BP were factors in the explosion.

Victims' attorneys allege BP is "back to its old ways" by not properly inspecting and maintaining equipment at the plant after being required to do so by federal officials following the blast.

BP said it is investing \$1 billion to refurbish the refinery, which has kept it at half capacity since September 2005, resulting in the loss of billions of dollars of revenue.

"We have apologized for the harm caused by our mistakes and we will now, as part of this agreement, plead guilty to a felony and pay the largest criminal fine ever under the Clean Air Act, a fine that is 100 times the statutory maximum," BP said, adding it has also spent more than \$1.6 billion to compensate victims of the explosion and their families.

The explosion at the plant, about 40 miles southeast of Houston, occurred after a piece of equipment called a blowdown drum overfilled with highly flammable liquid hydrocarbons.

The excess liquid and vapor hydrocarbons then were vented from the drum and ignited as the isomerization unit — a device that boosts the octane in gasoline — started up. Alarms and gauges that were supposed to warn of the overfilled equipment didn't work properly.

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# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** I have found the man I will be with for the rest of my life. I knew from the moment I met him that he was The One. We are very happy and very much in love. Ever since I was about 9, my mother and I have had our palms read, our tarot cards done, charted our birth signs, etc. It's a little superstitious, but hey -- we have fun with it. We still do it to this day. When I was 17, our palm reader proceeded to tell me about my life and explained that I will have two husbands, and my first husband will die. Abby, I can't stop thinking about this, and when I do I can't hold back the tears. I can't tell my boyfriend because, as anyone would, he'll think I am being silly. I wouldn't take this so seriously if the palm reader hadn't been so accurate regarding past experiences in my life. I need some sort of relief from my fear because I'm afraid that when we're married I'll always be waiting for the day my husband doesn't come home. Please help me. -- **MISERABLE IN MILWAUKEE**

**DEAR MISERABLE:** I live in a community where psychics and palm readers are as omnipresent as head lice. While some of them can be remarkably accurate in their predictions, others are charlatans. What your letter illustrates is that while palm reading, tarot, etc. can make for lively entertainment, superstition can be a powerful and destructive force. May I point out that statistically most women outlive men. Viewed in that light, what your psychic told you wasn't necessarily bad news. It could be interpreted to mean that you will have a long and happy union with the man you love. And when he predeceases you -- as most men do -- you will once again find love. And, honey, from my perspective, that's GOOD news.

**DEAR ABBY:** Allow me to share with your readers an idea that can help others. Many charitable organizations mail out

cards, wrapping paper and note cards with requests for contributions. If they aren't needed, please donate them to nursing homes or assisted-living centers. Many people who live in such places cannot afford to buy cards, paper, etc. for loved ones. Also, old paperback novels and magazines are always appreciated. -- **AMY IN VIRGINIA BEACH**

**DEAR ABBY:** I love your idea. Now let me share another one -- for travelers who accumulate extra soaps, shampoos, hair conditioners and body lotions in hotels. These items can be donated to homeless shelters to be given to those less fortunate.

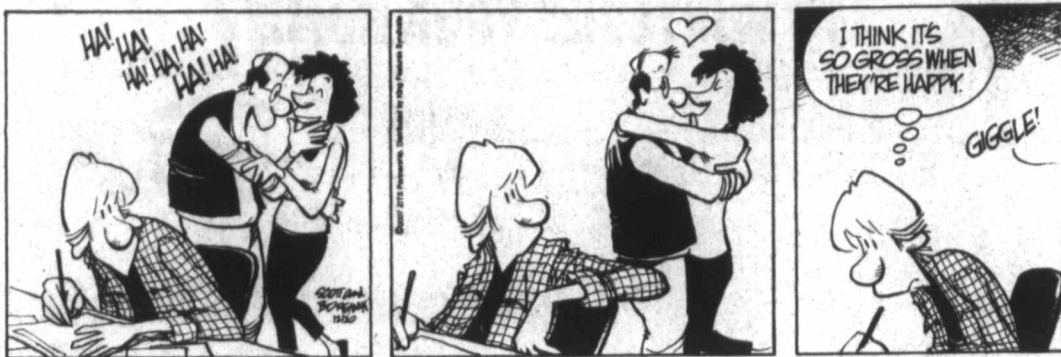
**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 26-year-old female and work closely with a 45-year-old man. This man frequently asks me very personal questions and pushes his religious ideas on me. I have told him I do not share his religious beliefs and don't wish to discuss them at work, but it hasn't worked. How do you politely, but forcibly, tell a co-worker that he is overstepping his bounds when he doesn't seem to know when to stop? -- **JEWISH GAL IN MARYLAND**

**DEAR JEWISH GAL:** Tell your co-worker you respect his religious beliefs and you expect him to respect yours because you are happy with them. Then say that you will tolerate no more of his efforts at conversion because they are bordering on harassment -- and if he continues you will report him to your supervisor or the boss. You have a right to work free of religious harassment, and if your boss doesn't put a stop to it, you could bring legal action or file a claim with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

## For Better Or For Worse



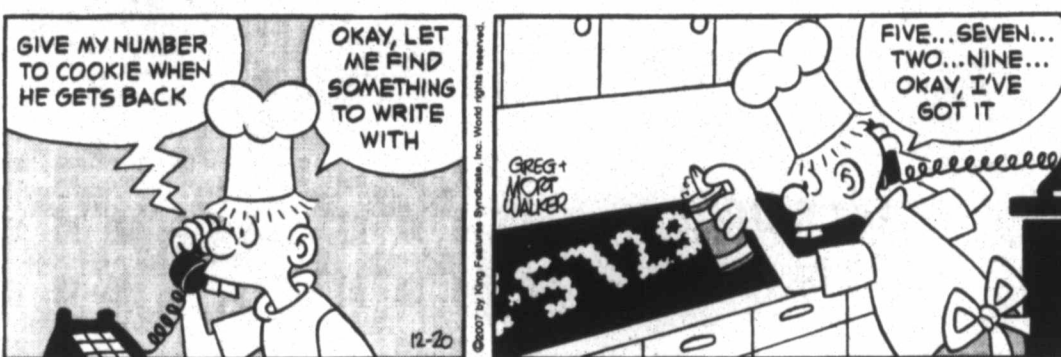
## Zits



## Garfield



## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



## Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

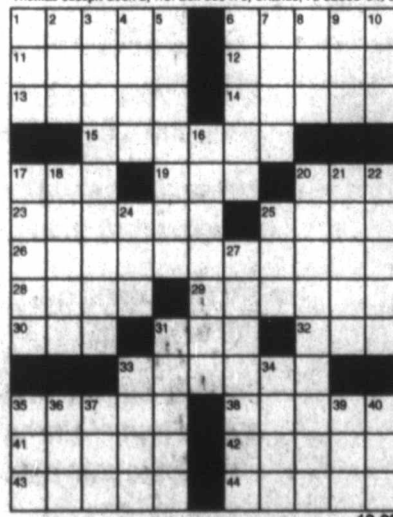
ACROSS DOWN

- 1 Truman's birthplace
- 6 Poet
- 11 Spry
- 12 Fixed proportion
- 13 Moved a raft
- 14 Oversaw a game
- 15 Maintained
- 17 Used to be
- 19 Taxing org.
- 20 Boater or bowler
- 23 Wise goddess
- 25 Sampras of tennis
- 26 Globe
- 28 Elbow
- 29 Submit
- 30 Compass dir.
- 31 For each
- 32 Utter
- 33 Salad veggie
- 35 Puzzle-book features
- 38 Texas landmark
- 41 Be real
- 42 Used a trail
- 43 Tycoon
- 44 Use up

LOSES MAST  
UNCAP SABER  
DEITY ALIVE  
LIES SWEDEN  
URN DAB END  
MOCKEDUP  
NEIL GOAL  
MUCKEDUP  
HEM SOS DNA  
ADAGIO PEGS  
IGLOO AUDIT  
TETON SPINE  
IRAN HANGS

**Yesterday's answer**  
18 Friend of  
31 Ashen  
6 Horse  
D'Arlag-  
33 Musical  
play  
nan  
20 Sign of  
34 Docking  
disbelief  
spot  
21 Heart  
35 Sister of  
parts  
Jo. Army,  
and Beth  
22 Micro-  
36 Fireman's  
scopic  
tool  
24 -- out a  
living  
37 Pimple, in  
25 Stock  
slang  
17 Nest  
holder  
39 Gents  
40 Bizarre  
27 Outcasts  
40 Bizarre

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## Marmaduke



"We taught him to sit, now he won't stop."

## The Family Circus

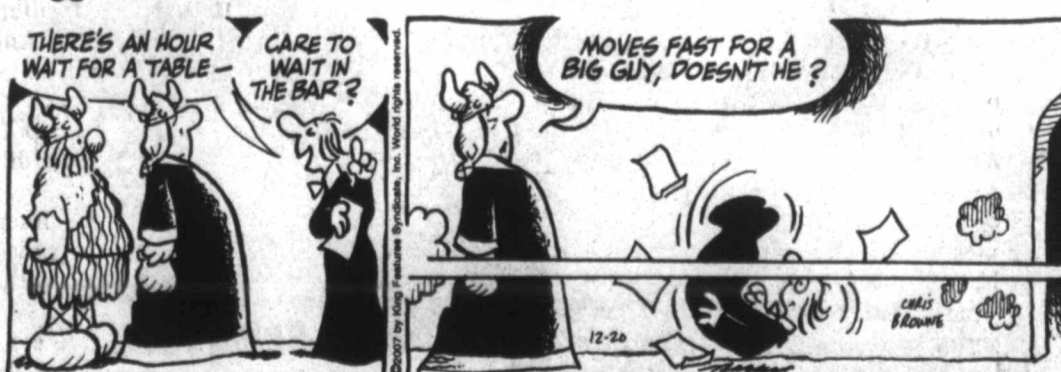
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



## B.C.



## Haggar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie



## Flo & Friends



# Sports

## Dolphins, Parcels near 4-year deal to lead football operations

DAVIE, Fla. (AP) — Bill Parcels has a home in South Florida. He's about to have a job there, too.

Parcels and Miami owner Wayne Huizenga agreed Wednesday on a four-year

contract to be the Dolphins' vice president of football operations, according to ESPN, which employs the two-time Super Bowl-winning coach as an analyst. The move was swift and

somewhat surprising. Parcels entered Wednesday on the cusp of accepting the job of rebuilding the Atlanta Falcons, then rebuked them in the afternoon — having apparently struck a deal with

Miami. The Dolphins declined comment, only saying no contract has been signed, and no one at Huizenga's business office was authorized to comment when

reached Wednesday evening by The Associated Press.

Miami's players were also caught off-stride by the news, which broke after they finished practice.

"I don't know anything,"

defensive end Jason Taylor said.

So, for the second time in less than a week, an off-field story is dominating the conversation at Miami's training

See DEAL, Page 14

## Gymnastics Camp



Courtesy photo

The following students from Madeline Graves Dance and Gymnastics and Starz Gymnastics center of Amarillo attended Gymnastics/Cheer camp recently: Back row, (L-R) Coach Sherry Forgerson, Madeline Graves, Cheyenne Williams, Jacie Ketcherside, Cassi Denton, Sarah Schoenrock, Jenna Munsell, Jenna Gee, Danielle Zuniga, and visiting Coach Christina Clifton. Second row, (L-R) Kirrah Powell, Adisson Hinkle, Sarah Gordzelik,

Kenzie Riddle, Olivia Tyler and visiting students Krista Smith and Breanna Davis Third row, (L-R) Joseph Munsell, B.J. Ketcherside, Jonah Munsell, and visiting student Chase Cook. Fourth row, (L-R) visiting student Kendall Cook, Blayke Breeding, Mika Bell and Chaney McCuiston Front row: Harli Jernigan. Not pictured: Austin Breeding, Coach Rachel Swires and Coach Nikki Chavez.

## Tony Parker sues Web site over claims he cheated on Eva Longoria

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Tony Parker has sued a celebrity gossip Web site that published stories claiming he had an affair with a model.

The San Antonio Spurs star sued X17online.com on Wednesday in Superior Court, alleging it posted a series of "false and defamatory" stories claiming Parker cheated on his wife, actress Eva Longoria. He's seeking at least \$40 million in damages.

"This is false. It never happened. And X17 had to know that the story was false, or, at the very least, it had to have entertained serious doubts about the credibility of its supposed source," the lawsuit said.

The lawsuit also alleged that X17 never contacted Parker, Longoria or their representatives before running the stories, and refused to retract them after being told the claims were false.

An after-hour call to

X17's Beverly Hills office was not returned.

Last week, the Web site posted a story that said the model Alexandra Paressant told X17 that she had a two-month affair with Parker. The story said Paressant told X17 she attended Parker's wedding last summer, where the French soccer star Thierry Henry introduced her to the basketball star.

"No one from X17 attempted to contact Mr. Henry, who ... would have told them in no uncertain terms that this woman was not at the wedding," the lawsuit said, adding that Parker has never met anyone named Alexandra Paressant.

"If this woman exists, he has no way of knowing whether she is one of the many fans who have, from time to time, managed to obtain his cell phone number and called or left messages or who may have engaged him in conversation."

## Dirk Nowitzki scores final 8 to let Mavs hold off Suns

DALLAS (AP) — Two weeks ago, the Dallas Mavericks were dragging, facing questions about what happened to the team that 67 games last season.

Steve Nash and the Phoenix Suns probably wish they'd caught the Mavs right about then. Because on Wednesday night, Dallas sure looked crisp.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 31 points, including the Mavericks' final eight, giving Dallas just enough to hold off the Suns 108-105 Wednesday night in yet another intense, entertaining game between the Western Conference rivals.

While the final score was close — decided, in fact, when Nash airballed a 3-pointer in the closing seconds — the Mavericks were in control all night. They never trailed, led by 17 at the end of the first quarter and were up by 14 midway

through the fourth.

No matter how many times Phoenix rallied, Dallas always had an answer.

"It's starting to click," swingman Jerry Stackhouse said. "When we knew it was time to get serious, we've gotten serious. Quite frankly, in those early games, we didn't get serious. We thought we were going to kick it in gear and we didn't. Since we got focused and lit a fire under guys, we've been pretty good."

The Mavs have won four straight and six of seven, enough to tighten up the top of the West standings. Dallas is 18-9, narrowly behind Phoenix (18-8) and San Antonio (18-7).

Nowitzki is a big reason for the surge. This was his second straight 31-point effort and the fourth time he's scored in the 30s the last eight games.

Afterward, though, he was

thinking more about the narrow escape.

"We've got to do a better job at the end," he said. "We're fortunate to get the win. We got off to a great start, but then they got layups and three-point plays to get back in it."

This was the first meeting between Nowitzki and Nash since the big German was named MVP, which gave the good buddies the last three awards. It also was their first meeting in Dallas since a double-overtime thriller in March, when Amare Stoudemire scored 41 and Nash scored Phoenix's final 10 points to snap the Mavericks' 23-game home winning streak.

This game was intense, exciting and even physical from the start, probably tempting many East Coast television viewers to consider staying up late to keep

See MAVS, Page 14

## Gay's jumper at the buzzer gives Grizzlies 88-85 win over Spurs

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — After blowing a 23-point lead, the last-place Memphis Grizzlies stunned San Antonio with one big shot.

Rudy Gay hit a 3-pointer over Tim Duncan as time expired to give Memphis an 88-85 victory over the Spurs on Wednesday night.

The play wasn't even set up for Gay. The first option was for the inbounds pass to go to Mike Miller, who led the Grizzlies with a season-high 31 points. But Miller was guarded, so Gay fired from 27 feet.

"I had Tim Duncan on me, and he really didn't get to me fast enough. I put it up, and it went in," Gay said. "You've always got questions when you take a shot like that, but it felt good, and that's all you can say."

Manu Ginobili's dunk with 2.4 seconds left tied the score at 85. After a Memphis

timeout, Juan Carlos Navarro threw the inbounds pass to Gay, who dribbled toward the top of the key and got off a shot as the horn sounded, handing San Antonio its third straight road loss.

The last time the Spurs dropped three in a row away from home was in April 2005.

Duncan expected Gay to try and get closer, and that gave the forward enough room to shoot.

"I think he got a little too comfortable," Duncan said. "I thought he would take at least one more dribble in, and I could contest something at the top of the key. Instead, he pulled a 3 (with) a hand up, and the rest is history."

Miller shot 12-of-18 from the field, and Gay finished with 23 points. Damon Stoudamire and Navarro had 10 points apiece.

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**THE PAMPA NEWS**

**Two Pampa men injured in rollover**  
By JORDAN REAGAN  
Two Pampa men were injured in a one-car accident Tuesday morning on Highway 101 East. According to a DPS report, the accident occurred when the driver failed to maintain control of the vehicle.

**CC to hold first nursing graduation**  
By KEVIN SMITH  
The Central Community College will hold its first nursing graduation ceremony on Wednesday, December 19, at 7 p.m. in the Pampa Community Center.

**GCSO warns residents of possible identity theft operation via phone**  
By MARLYN POWERS  
City Council Sheriff's Office is warning residents about a possible identity theft operation in which the perpetrator uses a computer to impersonate a local business and contact residents via phone.

**Cable ONE announces 2008 price adjustments**  
After not raising rates since 2005, Cable ONE is announcing price adjustments for 2008. The adjustments will be effective January 1, 2008.

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# Howard scores 21, McGrady hurt in Orlando's win over Rockets

HOUSTON (AP) — Orlando's star of the past got hurt and the Magic's star of the present carried them to a victory.

Dwight Howard had 21 points, 11 rebounds and three blocks and the Magic took advantage of former Orlando star Tracy McGrady's absence in the second half to beat the Houston Rockets 97-92 on Wednesday night.

Yao Ming scored 19 on 7-for-18 shooting and had 17 rebounds in the first faceoff of the season between two of the game's best centers.

"It was a good matchup," Howard said. "I thought I did a better job of not letting him get to the middle, making him shoot fadeaways, instead of letting him get into a good rhythm."

Rafer Alston and Bonzi Wells added 17 points apiece for Houston, which cut Orlando's lead to one with a late rally before losing for the sixth time in nine games.

McGrady left with a sore left knee at halftime after going 1-for-10 from the field in the first half. He bruised the knee in Saturday's loss to Dallas and went 5-of-18 from the field in that game.

McGrady said he didn't ask to come out of the game.

"Doctors, coaches and trainers saw how I was moving out there and decided to shut me down," said McGrady. "Playing on one leg like that, when you're putting so much pressure on that leg, the leg that feels good, there is a chance you can injure that leg. And that basically is why they decid-

ed to take me out of the game."

McGrady won the scoring title twice when he played for Orlando between 2000-04. He ranks eighth in scoring this year, averaging 24 points, and without him, the Rockets looked like they had little chance against the first-place Magic.

Orlando led 44-40 at halftime, then stretched the lead to 13 in the third quarter as Houston's offense mostly misfired. The Rockets went 8-for-23 from the field in the quarter and Houston native Rashard Lewis sank a 3-pointer 15 seconds into the fourth to put Orlando up 74-62.

Yao scored on two putbacks during Houston's last-ditch 12-4 run that cut Orlando's lead to 93-92.

After the game, Yao was beating himself up for earlier miscues. He finished with three turnovers, compared to Howard's one.

"I made some low-level mistakes," Yao said.

Keyon Dooling hit two free throws with 12.3 seconds remaining to stretch the lead to three. Luther Head missed a long jumper from the top of the key with about two seconds left. Hedo Turkoglu rebounded and sank two free throws with 0.8 seconds left.

"We just willed ourselves to get a win," Howard said.

Keith Bogans added 14 points and 10 rebounds for the Magic, who beat Houston for just the second time in 11 meetings.

"That might've been my favorite game of the year,"

said Orlando coach Stan Van Gundy. "They defended us well, we turned it over, we had trouble making decisions. We just played extremely hard."

The Magic missed 11 of their first 12 shots and trailed 16-5. The Rockets converged on Howard every time he touched the ball, daring Orlando to shoot from the outside, and the Magic missed their first six 3-point tries.

Houston would've led by more, but McGrady was off-target from the start and seemed to be limping.

"I thought I'd give it a go," McGrady said. "I obviously wasn't myself out there."

The Rockets play in Denver on Thursday night and Coach Rick Adelman

wasn't sure if McGrady would play.

Alston carried the Rockets' offense early, hitting three 3-pointers and scoring 13 points in the first quarter and a half. Alston picked up a loose ball, Orlando's eighth turnover, and started a fast break that ended with Wells' dunk that put the Rockets up 37-27.

The Magic then launched a 15-0 spurt to take their first lead, as the Rockets' offense started to fall apart. Houston missed nine straight shots during Orlando's run and 12 of its last 13 shots before halftime.

McGrady didn't come out with the team at the start of the second half, and Orlando mounted an 11-4 run early in the third quarter.

## Schilling calls on Clemens to give up Cy Youngs if Rocket doesn't clear name

BOSTON (AP) — Boston Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling called on Roger Clemens to give up the four Cy Young Awards he's won since 1997 if he can't clear his name from allegations that he used steroids to prolong and enhance his career.

"If he doesn't do that then there aren't many options as a fan for me other than to believe his career 192 wins and three Cy Youngs he won prior to 1997 were the end," Schilling wrote Wednesday in his blog, 38pitches.com. "From that point on the numbers were attained through using (performance-enhancing drugs). Just like I stated about Jose (Canseco), if that is the case with Roger, the four Cy Youngs should go to the rightful winners, and the numbers should go away if he cannot refute the accusations."

Schilling noted in the 3,200-word posting that he was a fan of the seven-time Cy Young Award winner who owed much of his success to a stern talking-to he received from Clemens when Schilling was a young pitching prospect.

"His 'undressing' of me and lecture were a major turning point," Schilling said. "I've always respected his career accomplishments and regarded him as the greatest pitcher to ever play the game."

But, having called on Canseco to give up his 1988 AL MVP award, and noting also the unrefuted evidence against Barry Bonds, Schilling acknowledged he could not avoid questioning Clemens' accomplishments as well.

"Can you separate what Barry is accused of from what Roger is accused of?" Schilling said. "If ... both of these men end up being caught, what does that say about this game, us as athletes and the future of the sport and our place in it? The greatest

pitcher and greatest hitter of all time are currently both being implicated, one is being prosecuted, for events surrounding and involving the use of performance enhancing drugs. That (stinks). ... The sport needs fixing."

Clemens was the biggest name in the report by former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell that detailed the widespread use of performance-enhancing drugs in baseball. Clemens has denied using performance-enhancing substances.

The Rocket's last four Cy Young Awards came in 1997, 1998, 2001 and 2004. Many of the allegations against Clemens in the Mitchell Report came from former trainer Brian McNamee, though none pertain to 1997 or 2004. Mitchell wrote McNamee said he injected Clemens with steroids in 1998 while with the Toronto Blue Jays, and steroids and human growth hormone in 2000 and 2001, while with the New York Yankees.

Schilling commended those who've apologized for using performance-enhancing drugs, and called on everyone accused to prove their innocence or apologize for their mistakes.

"The world is full of good to great people that have made mistakes of this magnitude or worse," Schilling wrote. "These guys made mistakes, and I do mean mistakes. They didn't accidentally do this, this was a conscious decision with far reaching implications and they should be held accountable."

While calling Canseco's "entire career, all of it, is a sham" and saying "he was never in his life a major league player," Schilling also acknowledged that many of Canseco's claims about other steroid users have been corroborated.

## After hearing it from coach and fans, Knicks regroup to beat Cavs

By The Associated Press

Two days after hearing it from coach Isiah Thomas and hours after fans rallied to call for Thomas' firing, what could be more untimely than a visit from LeBron James and the defending Eastern Conference champion Cleveland Cavaliers?

Fortunately for the Knicks, the Cavaliers aren't impressing anyone on the court, either.

So everything turned out all right Wednesday night for the Knicks, who got their

biggest — and easiest — win of the year over the Cavaliers, 108-90 to send Cleveland to its ninth loss in 11 games.

"I understand how important it is to make people feel good when they leave this arena," Thomas said. "That is what we are trying to do. We understand the frustration and we want to please them."

James had 32 points, eight rebounds and six assists for Cleveland, which had little energy two nights after a double-overtime victory

over Milwaukee. Drew Gooden was the only player in double figures with 11 points.

Cleveland's slide has left it at 11-15, eighth-best in the conference by a hair ahead of Milwaukee, New Jersey and Philadelphia. The Knicks are 8-17.

"It's our job to go out there and play hard, and play with pride and heart like he said," Quentin Richardson said. "Regardless of anything else that's going on, it's our job to go out and play with full effort."

## Chris Simon draws 30-game suspension, longest in history

UNIONDALE, N.Y. (AP) — To his coach and teammates, Chris Simon isn't the stick-swinging, skate-stomping fiend outsiders view him to be.

To the NHL, he is an out of control enforcer who keeps pushing the league to never before seen heights of discipline.

The New York Islanders forward was hit with a 30-game suspension Wednesday, breaking the mark of 25 he set in March with a ban that stretched into this season.

Simon, on a leave of absence from the team following the Saturday night dustup with Pittsburgh's Jarkko Ruutu, will miss more than a third of the season and can't return until Feb. 21 against Tampa Bay.

"Chris is a good, solid guy," teammate Bryan Berard said. "He does have that switch where he can snap, and I think that's why he's been in the league for so long. It's

a tough sport."

The 35-year-old player left the Islanders on Monday to receive counseling, then met with league disciplinarian Colin Campbell on Tuesday. Campbell had said Simon would receive drug and alcohol treatment, but the NHL later clarified that Simon's treatment simply will take place under the auspices of the league and union's substance abuse and behavioral program.

Counseling details are kept confidential. Islanders spokesman Chris Botta confirmed drugs and alcohol are "not the issue."

"The doctors who oversee the substance abuse aspect of the joint NHL/NHLPA program also oversee the aspect of behavioral health," league spokesman Frank Brown said. "It would be improper to draw any inference as to whatever treatment or counseling they may be providing."

winning streak.

"We need to get off to better starts," Nash said. "We have to be more consistent with our effort, especially at the start of the game."

Shawn Marion had 23 points and 10 rebounds for Phoenix. Grant Hill had only nine points and four assists, but they included a dunk over 7-footer DeSagana Diop and a perfect lob for a buzzer-beater by Marion at the end of the first half. Hill also defused a three-on-one fast break at the end of the first quarter.

Howard had 23 points and seven rebounds, and Devin Harris scored all 21 of his points over the first three quarters. Erick Dampier had eight points — all in the first quarter — plus 10 rebounds and five blocks. Nowitzki grabbed nine rebounds and Jason Terry had 13 points.

Although Dallas led 37-20 after one quarter, Phoenix didn't go away.

The Suns got within 64-63 early in the third quarter on a drive by Nash in which he spun backward and fed Marion for a dunk. Then the Mavs came back with seven straight points. Soon after, Stoudemire made consecutive baskets, the second a wide-open dunk he savored by hanging on the rim. He walked away pounding his chest, screaming, "Let's go!"

## Owens playfully tells Jessica Simpson to back off

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Terrell Owens has a message for Jessica Simpson: Stay away.

The 27-year-old singer-actress has become Public Enemy No. 1 among Dallas Cowboys fans because of a link being made between her appearance at Sunday's game and the poor performance of her new boyfriend, quarterback Tony Romo.

Asked Wednesday about the Simpson scenario, Owens playfully chimed in: "Right now, Jessica

Simpson is not a fan favorite — in this locker room or in Texas Stadium."

Late Wednesday, Owens further clarified the tone of his statements.

"Man, I was joking," he said. "Everyone was laughing, right?"

The Cowboys lost 10-6 to the Philadelphia Eagles and Romo had what was statistically the worst game of his career, all while Simpson sat in a luxury box wearing a pink No. 9 jersey she proudly showed off for television cameras.

The problem for her is, Romo's previous worst game came last December at home to the Eagles when then-girlfriend Carrie Underwood was in attendance.

"With everything that has happened, obviously the way Tony played and the comparison between her and Carrie Underwood, I think a lot of people feel like she's kind of taken his focus away," Owens said, echoing the chatter on sports-talk radio and blogs.

## Deal

Continued from Page 13

complex.

The first revelation came last Friday: Huizenga had been in talks about selling the team to two real estate developers for about \$1.4 billion, although it seems that deal has since unraveled and there's no immediate plans by the owner, to sell even a portion of the franchise.

And now this: Parcels, who previously coached the Giants, Patriots, Jets and Cowboys, is apparently set to return to the NFL.

"Really?" defensive lineman Vonnie Holliday said when told by The AP about Parcels' apparent interest in the Dolphins. "You can't

control it. But somebody like the Big Tuna, regardless of who's in the front office or who's not, brings a lot of respect and a lot of credibility with him. ... If you're a free agent out there, that might draw you in."

When the Falcons announced Parcels turned them down — while also releasing that he was in negotiations with the Dolphins — several Miami players were playing cards and dominoes in the locker room.

"We met with him this morning to complete the contract. At that time, we were made aware by Parcels that he was considering a revised offer from the Miami Dolphins," Falcons owner Arthur Blank said. "He later informed us that he would not be signing a contract with us."

Many Dolphins immediately turned their attention to the television, seeking more information. Clearly, the mere mention of Parcels coming to Miami created an immediate buzz.

"I have a lot of respect for what he's been able to do in other places and I'd expect, if he did come in here, for him to do the same," Holliday said. "I don't know what's going to happen upstairs. I have no idea. I have a lot of respect for (GM) Randy Mueller, as well. But my interest is in what's best for this team and getting us in the right direction."

With his team mired in the longest playoff drought in franchise history — six

years and counting — Huizenga has long sought different ways of doing exactly that. If that contract gets signed, bringing in the 66-year-old Parcels might wind up being the latest big Huizenga move.

In January 2004, he hired Miami's greatest player, Dan Marino, as senior vice president of football operations, a job created just for him. Marino resigned from the loosely defined role 22 days later, saying he didn't want to change his lifestyle.

Later that year, Huizenga hired coach Nick Saban away from LSU; he lasted only two seasons in Miami before bolting after the 2006 campaign to return to college football at Alabama.

"Bill Parcels," Holliday said, pausing and smiling. "That's a big name."

## Mavs

Continued from Page 13

watching.

"It was wild and woolly out there," Suns coach Mike D'Antoni said. "Bodies were flying everywhere. I've got to give them credit, they got this one. They were the aggressors from the start. We came back, but we couldn't get over the hump."

Stoudemire started 2-of-10, but found a groove down the stretch, scoring seven of Phoenix's last nine. He was 5-of-5 from the field and 4-of-4 from the line in the fourth quarter and finished with 25 points, eight rebounds and four blocks.

Nash had 21 points, eight rebounds — and eight stitches — to close a gash in his chin opened by a stray elbow in the fourth quarter. That might explain why he had only three points in the period and why his last shot came up so short after making a move on Josh Howard to clear some room.

"I got a good look at it," Nash said. "But after the up-fake, I didn't have my feet set so it was short."

The Suns were coming off handing the Spurs their first home loss, but didn't get much carryover. They're in a 2-4 skid since a five-game

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# Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!

The Pampa News

**5 Special Notices**

**ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.**

**10 Lost/Found**

LOST in Travis area Male Gray & White Toy Chihuahua. Call 665-2454

**13 Bus. Opp.**

GREAT investment opp. Pampa motel. Retired couple or individual. 665-1875, 806-383-1985.

**14b Appli. Repair**

CALL TODAY! We repair appliances in your home. Washers, dryers, refrigerators, stoves, dishwashers. 806-341-7170. Can haul off old appliances. Stan's Appliance

**14d Carpentry**

Carpentry, Roofing, Replacement Windows, steel siding & trim. Continuous gutters. Jerry Nicholas 669-9991, 662-8169

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

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NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost...It pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541, or from out of town, 800-536-5341.

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HOUSE Cracking? In bricks or walls? Childers Brothers, Inc. 800-299-9563, 806-352-9563

COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

CERAMIC tile work. Remodeling floor, shower, kitchen. Texture, painting, dry wall. Free esti. Call 665-3453 leave message. Jesus Barraza.

HANDYMAN: Painting, carpentry, fencing, welding, hauling, cleanup. Remodeling. 662-2566

**14s Plumbing/Heat**

JACK'S Plumbing, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115. Plumbing, repairs, new constr., & septic sys.

Larry Baker Plumbing Heating/Air Conditioning Borger Hwy. 665-4392

**19 Situations**

HOUSECLEANING, private home care sitting. References avail. Call Susie Q's, 779-8853.

**21 Help Wanted**

**NOTICE** Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

FT RN needed at Parkview Hospital Home Health, Wheeler. Please contact Susan Leffew, RN, Director, at 806.826.1370 or you can pick up application at 306 E. 9th, Wheeler, TX.

**Int-Tim Home HealthCare**  
is now taking applications for **HOME PROVIDER (PAMPA AREA)**  
CALL 1-800-892-3301 (ASK FOR MINERVA) OR Apply in person at, 1201 N. Hobart, Space D (Coronado Center)

BRITKARE Home Medical seeks a DME Tech for our Pampa location. Responsibilities incl. delivery, set-up, cleaning and pick up of DME equip., supplemental oxygen and supplies to home care patients. Requirements for the position are good driving record; pass drug screen, ability to lift 150 lbs. Salary DOE, hours are M-F, 9-6 w/ alternating on-call. For immediate consideration please fax resume or apply to Jennifer Bouessa, 806-351-0071.

PARKVIEW Hospital now accepting appli. for Full-Time Registered Nurse, for the 7pm-7am shift. Competitive salary. Exc. benefits. Mileage pd. Call Sue Stiles, DON, or apply in person, 901 Sweetwater St., Wheeler, Tx., 806-826-1370.

PARKVIEW Hospital now accepting appli. for Full-Time Nursing Asst. for the 3pm-11pm shift, and Part-Time Nursing Asst. for 11pm-7am shift. Competitive salary. Exc. benefits. Mileage pd. Call Sue Stiles, DON, or apply in person, 901 Sweetwater St., Wheeler.

**21 Help Wanted**

FULL & Part Time Caterer Needed. Sundays Off, Apply in Person at Dixie Cafe.

**NEWSPAPER CARRIER NEEDED FOR MIAMI, TX ROUTE**

APPLY IN PERSON

The Pampa News  
403 W. Atchison Pampa

Front Office / Insurance Team Members Needed In a Busy Chiropractic Office Put Your "People Skills" To Work! Fax resume to (806)665-0537

POST OFFICE NOW HIRING. Avg. Pay \$20 / hr. or \$57K annually including Federal benefits and OT. Paid Training, Vacation, FT / PT. 1-866-483-6490. USWA.

KOYOTE Trucking needs Full-Time flat-bed truck driver. 2 years driving exp. req. 806-665-0984.

**21 Help Wanted**

**DirecTV Satellite Installers Needed!** We need full-time, hard working individuals with strong customer service skills. We provide excellent wages, medical/dental/vision/401K benefits, PAID TRAINING & Free DTV! Call 800.411.4374 or go to [www.premiercomm.com](http://www.premiercomm.com) for further info.

KFC is hiring for all positions and all shifts. Apply in person, at 2201 N. Hobart. No phone calls please!

WANTED Church Piano Player to play contemporary worship music, on Sun. mornings 10-11am/ \$50 per week. 665-0804.

**PART TIME INSERTER** Needed immediately! About 20 hrs. per week. Must work every Sat. & be 18 yrs. old. Apply in Person The Pampa News 403 W. Atchison Pampa No phone calls please

WHEELER Nursing & Rehab has Nurse aide openings-all shifts. Will train & certify competitive pay, shift differential. Apply in person, 1000 S. Kiowa, Wheeler, TX. See Donna Cox DON or Angie Kincannon ADON.

IMMEDIATE OPENING FOR TUBULAR PURCHASING position. Previous exp., plus. Computer exp. req. ONLY QUALIFIED APPLICANTS NEED APPLY! Excellent benefits. APPLY / resumes being accepted at W-B Supply Co., 111 Naida St., PO Drawer 2479, Pampa, EOE.

**21 Help Wanted**

BANK Of Commerce of McLean is presently taking applications for a full-time Customer Service Rep. Please come by 201 N. Main for an appli.

**W&W TANK CO.**

Looking for Shop & Production Labor Immediate Openings w/ 48+ hours / week Wages based on exp.

Apply in person 100 N. Price Rd. Pampa

JANITOR- full & part-time job. No experience needed, will train. To apply call, 665-2667.

NEED Office Assistant. Apply at 800 N. Nelson, Mon.-Fri., 8am-6pm. No phone calls please.

NEED handyman for different properties. Plumbing a plus! Must have own tools & transportation. Apply at 800 N. Nelson, Mon.-Fri., 8am-6pm. No phone calls please.

PART-TIME Provider needed for Pampa public gym, very new Hot Springs hot tub. Just in time for Christmas! Call 440-4072 for more info.

NEEDED: RN-16 hrs. on weekends, Fri. & Sat. 10:30pm-7am. 537-3194. St. Ann's Nursing Home. Would consider 2 RN's alternating weekends.

NEEDED: Either FT 3-11 LVN or CMA. Exc. benefits avail. A Christian and family oriented environment. St. Ann's Nursing Home, 537-3194.

NEEDED: DRIVER w/ CDL-B, Hazmat, Tanker, Airbrakes endorsements. M-F, ins., 401K, home nightly.

Call 806-683-5649 or 806-440-1505

Call 662-4494 or 664-3318



**Kentucky Fried Chicken in Pampa is looking for an Assistant Manager. Must be available for all shifts! \$26,000 per year plus Bonus. Please fax resume to 1-866-315-4709**

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

**12-20 CRYPTOQUOTE**

T P J T N T B J D Y D B D C T U Z J C R I

O X R C A J U J D C Z C Y X Z

U G T E O J D H X Y V E D I W R J N D I H

X D N R W O X T Y X Z N Z T I Y

— O D G C R I N D S I Z J

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD. — NELSON MANDELA

**49 Pools/Hot Tubs**

HOT TUB HOLIDAY SPECIAL All new Loaded, Therapeutic, Spas Lifetime Warranty Starting at \$2900.00 806-677-0400

**50 Building Suppl.**

White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

**60 Household**

HOLIDAY MATTRESS SPECIAL Mattress Set w/4" pillow-top Q-\$399, K-\$459 20 yr. war. Free Layaway 806-677-0400

USED Clothes Dryers for sale. Guaranteed. \$50-\$100. Call 662-7557.

**69 Misc.**

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

LIGHTED Christmas Village. All or part for sale. See in window at 119 S. Cuyler. 662-7557.

2 SEATER Go Kart, like new Bio Force home gym, very new Hot Springs hot tub. Just in time for Christmas! Call 440-4072 for more info.

BUNK beds, bdr. furniture, dinettes, desks, refrigerator \$175, much more. Red Barn, Sat. 10-5 or by appt. 665-2767.

**75 Feeds/Seeds**

BLUE STEM GRASS HAY FOR SALE 806-883-2152

**80 Pets & Suppl.**

FREE to good home black female lab mix. Prefer country home. Call 440-5299 after 7pm

Doberman Puppies For Sale Call 662-4494 or 664-3318

**80 Pets & Suppl.**

NEWLY RENOVATED! No dep. or fees Rent starts at \$400. 1 & 2 bdrms. 817-789-0644 or 817-422-7727

**Best Quality in Pampa!**

NUMEROUS Houses, Apts., Duplexes & Commercial properties thru-out Pampa for rent. Call 665-1875 or 665-4274.

THE Schneider House, now leasing apts. Seniors or disabled, utilities included. Stop by 120 S. Russell or call 665-0415.

**PAMPA MANOR** SENIORS OR DISABLED ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE W/D CONNECTIONS 2700 N. HOBART 665-2828

OWNER FINANCE Low Down & Payment

1333 Garland 3 bdr., 313 Miami 2 bdr., 341 Miami 3 or 4 bd.

Habia Espanol Call Joe 806-336-1740

Owner Finance! 1018 Duncan 1333 Garland both 2 bdr., 1 ba. Bad Credit Ok! EZ Terms 665-4595

**105 Acreage**

4 acres for rent or lease. Perfect for animals or equipment storage. Call 664-2655 or 665-6600.

**115 Trailer Parks**

TUMBLEWEED Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

**80 Pets & Suppl.**

PUPPIES, shots & wormed. Cocker, Pugs, Papillons, Bichons, Bassets, Sm. Chihuahua, Dachshund, White Schnauzer. e-mail pics & deliver. 1-580-655-4688, cell 580-497-7526.

**95 Furn. Apts.**

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LAKEVIEW Apt. 1 & 2 bdr. unfurn. apt. Call for availability. References & deposit req. 669-4386

99 Stor. Bldgs. TUMBLEWEED Acres, self storage units. Various sizes. 665-0079, 665-2450.

PORTABLE BUILDING HOLIDAY SPECIAL

FRI. DEC. 21st ONLY 9am-6pm.

New Inventory To Choose From!! West of Pampa on Amarillo Hwy. 806-584-7594

102 Bus. Rent. Prop. OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

DOWNTOWN office space for rent. Utilities & cleaning service provided. Ample parking. 669-6823.

103 Homes For Sale Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-3560, 440-2314 669-0007

FOR Sale By Owner, 2 bdr., 1 ba., 2 living areas. I will finance. Call 806-379-6919.

HIGHEST CASH PAID FOR HOUSES! CALL 665-1875

LRG. 1 bdr. house. \$1000 down, \$300 mo. 1416 E. Browning. Call 662-7557.

MOVE In Ready! 3 bdr., 1.75 ba., 1682 sq. ft. Fireplace, all appliances, lots of storage, double garage. New roof. Nice neighborhood. 1818 Evergreen. Call 662-2029 for more information.

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Habia Espanol Call Joe 806-336-1740

Owner Finance! 1018 Duncan 1333 Garland both 2 bdr., 1 ba. Bad Credit Ok! EZ Terms 665-4595

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4 acres for rent or lease. Perfect for animals or equipment storage. Call 664-2655 or 665-6600.

**115 Trailer Parks**

TUMBLEWEED Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Friday, Dec. 21, 2007:  
You could be full of energy this year. Though dynamic, often your ideas fall on deaf ears, which sometimes frustrates you. Learn to let others take credit for your ideas, and suddenly you'll get results. Lead others to your conclusion. Allow your ego to take a step back. If you are single, many people might demonstrate more than a casual interest. Pick and choose with care. If you are attached, allow your sweetie to play a stronger role in your bond. Remember, it is a partnership! GEMINI can be challenging or nurturing.

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

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) \*\*\* You could feel vaguely out of sorts for a good part of the day. Ideas stream in from out of left field, and you also might be uncomfortable about the costs. Mid-afternoon, you get a second wind. Postpone as much as possible. Tonight: Hanging out is fun.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) \*\*\* Though you might feel on top of the world, and perhaps a touch skeptical about a boss's or someone else's suggestion, trying to make a difference could be close to impossible. Deal with Santa errands at the end of the day. Tonight: Treat someone to eggnog or a seasonal happening.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) \*\*\* You might not be as right-on as you'd like to be. Make that OK, as you could be a touch exhausted or questioning another's actions. In the late after-

noon, your mind grasps what it previously could not. Act now. Tonight: On top of the world.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) \*\*\* Though you might like to be more sure of yourself, you still need to act. In a sense, a partner is unintentionally sabotaging you. Act on what you want directly. Avoid a conflict, and take your space if possible. Tonight: Choose something quiet.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) \*\*\* Yes, you might have too much to do, but you will accomplish it all. You will feel better than you have in a long time. By late afternoon, you start making plans to get together with friends and loved ones. Tonight: Christen the weekend in style.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) \*\*\* Take an overview even if others are too triggered to detach. Knowing how to pull out of a difficult situation could become a specialty. You also might not be seeing the whole situation clearly. Listen to your inner voice. Tonight: A must show.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) \*\*\* Reach out for someone you care about. How you are dealing with a situation could change dramatically. Listen to your inner voice with a partner. You might not be able to see eye to eye right now. Let it go, and you both will be happier. Tonight: Opt for something very different.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) \*\*\* Others dominate. You might have a lot of ideas, but no one wants to listen. Put on a great piece of holiday music and relax. Later this afternoon, others seem more willing to talk turkey. Make time for a special person. Tonight:

Under the mistletoe. **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) \*\*\* How you deal with someone could be much different in the p.m. You might feel as if you are getting nowhere fast in the morning, yet you'll greet success late afternoon. Use timing and get results. Tonight: In the whirlwind of life.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) \*\*\* Someone simply does not get what you believe is a novel idea. Though this lack of response could be disappointing, why let it bother you? Make time for what you need to do later today. Remember yourself in the many errands you run. Tonight: Take it easy.

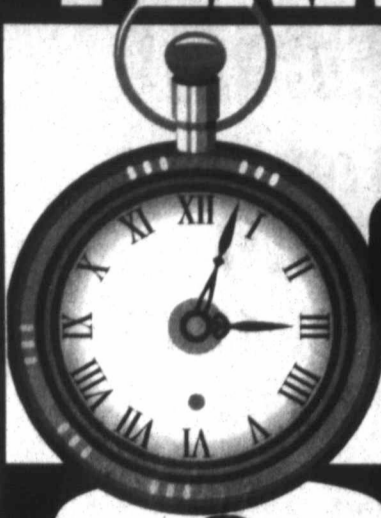
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) \*\*\* Your imagination might prove to be more of a delight to you. Someone around you simply does not get it. Don't let this lack of response get to you. Be happy without approval. Late afternoon, fun appears. Tonight: Paint the town red.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) \*\*\* Speak your mind, and others will listen. Sometimes you might confuse an issue rather than help it. If you would like to hang out and not make important statements, all will flow. Pressure builds on the home front. Tonight: Head home early.

**BORN TODAY**  
Track star Florence Griffith Joyner (1959), actress Jane Fonda (1937), actor Ray Romano (1957)

\*\*\*  
Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.  
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# TEXAS FURNITURE



## 2007 YEAR-END COUNTDOWN

SALE ENDS DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>

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YEAR END SALE **\$499 • \$599**



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CHOICE OF OAK OR CHERRY FINISH

• QUEEN SIZE BED ONLY **\$999**  
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### SEALY POSTUREPEDIC

TWIN SET <b>\$499</b>	QUEEN SET <b>\$649</b>
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TWIN SET <b>\$699</b>	QUEEN SET <b>\$799</b>
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TWIN 2 PC SET <b>\$249</b>	QUEEN SET <b>\$399</b>
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MARSEILLE  
**PILLOW TOP**  
LUXURY  
QUEEN SET  
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6 MONTHS NO INTEREST FINANCING WITH APPROVED CREDIT

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

# Nicaragua appeals acquittal of American, halting release

By BAYARDO MENDOZA  
Associated Press Writer

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP)—Nicaraguan prosecutors on Wednesday filed an appeal to the country's Supreme Court to overturn the acquittal of a U.S. man on charges of killing his Nicaraguan girlfriend, blocking efforts to win his release.

Eric Volz, 28, of Nashville, Tenn., will continue to be held under custody until the appeals process is exhausted, said prosecutor Isolda Ibarra.

Nicaragua authorities avoided releasing Volz following a ruling by an appeals court on Monday to overturn his conviction and 30-year prison sentence in the death of Doris Ivania Jimenez, 25. The case has struck an emotional chord in Nicaragua, given the brutality of the crime.

*"Today we presented the appeal, and the law is clear: that the release is suspended until the high court rules on the case."*

— Isolda Ibarra  
Prosecutor

"Today we presented the appeal, and the law is clear: that the release is suspended until the high court rules on the case," Ibarra

said.

Ibarra said there is no time limit for the Supreme Court to act on the case. She argued that the lower court that threw out Volz's conviction had violated judicial norms by "rejecting witness testimony."

Volz and a Nicaraguan man, Julio Martin Chamorro, were sentenced in February for the death of Jimenez, who was found raped and strangled in November 2006 in a clothing store she owned in Rivas, 55 miles south of Managua. The appeals court upheld Chamorro's conviction.

Volz has proclaimed his innocence from the beginning, saying he was in Managua, two hours away from Rivas, when the crime occurred. At that time, Volz had lived for two years in Nicaragua, where he founded a bilingual magazine called "El Puente" or "The Bridge." He also worked as a real estate broker.

Prior to Wednesday's announcement, U.S. State Department spokesman Tom Casey had told reporters that the U.S. officials "want to see him (Volz) be able to depart the country and return to his family."

Volz's mother, Maggie Anthony, arrived in Nicaragua on Wednesday to press for the release of her son, who is being held under guard at a hospital for treatment of kidney stones.

"What I am asking the authorities is that, according to the court's ruling, my son should be freed," Anthony told local reporters through an interpreter.

Volz's lawyer, Fabbrith Gomez, accused officials of "a big delaying tactic" to keep Volz from being freed before prosecutors could file the appeal.

Nicaraguan officials have openly criticized the appeals court decision to overturn Volz's conviction. The head of the office of the Attorney General for the Promotion of Human Rights, Omar Cabezas, called the ruling "monstrous, repugnant."

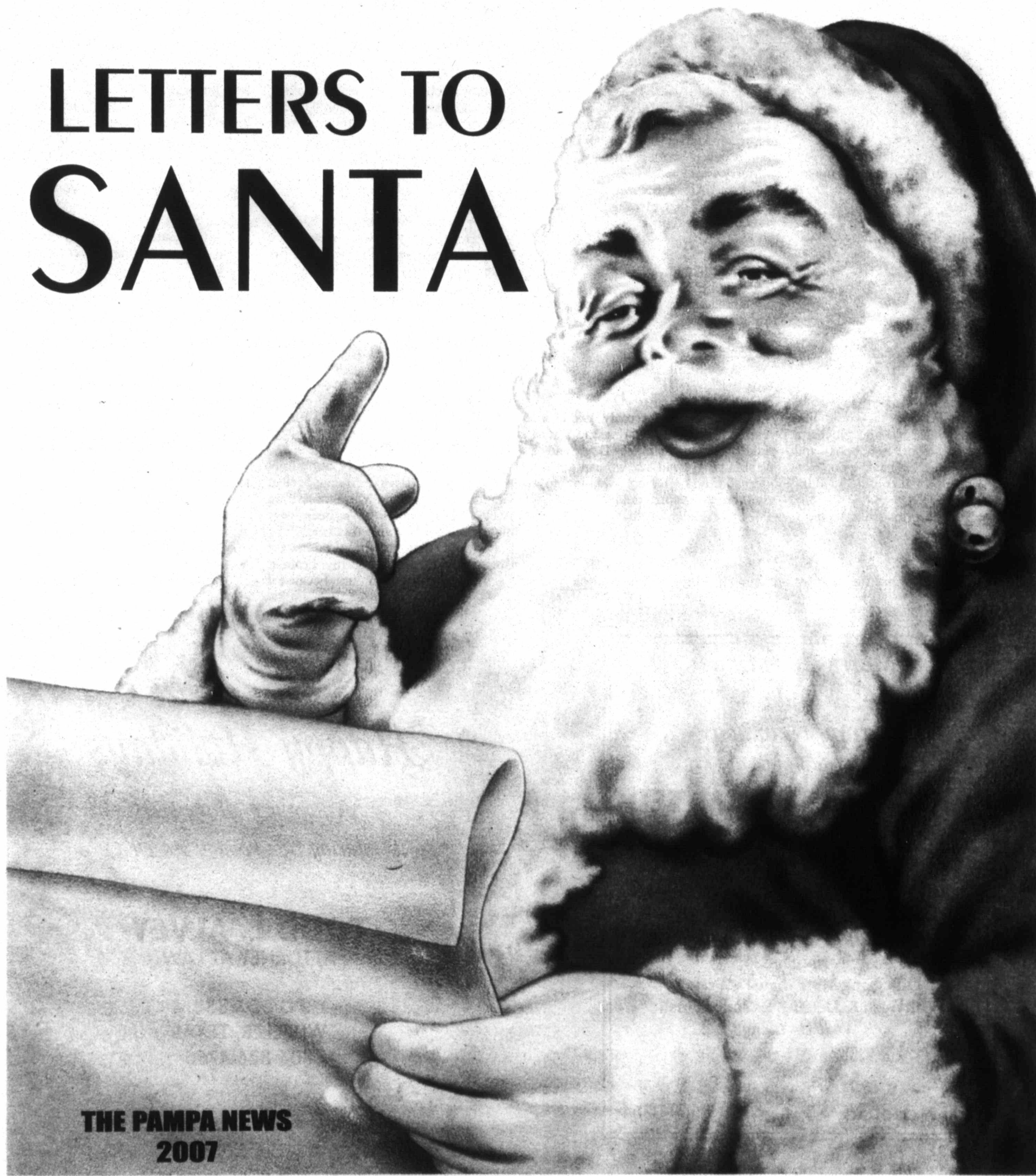
Mayra Sirias, coordinator of Nicaragua's Network of Women Against Violence, condemned Volz's acquittal as "the product of a corrupt judicial system that let a killer and rapist go free."

## Events calendar

- **Pampa Book Club** will review the following books in the coming months: "Memory Keepers Daughter" by Kim Edwards, Jan. 9; "I Heard That Song Before" by Mary Higgins Clark, Feb. 13; "Night" by Elie Wiesell, March 12; "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" by Betty Smith, April 9; and "Walking Drum" by Louis L'Amour, May 14. The club meets at 10 a.m. the second Wednesday of each month in the Texas Room at Lovett Memorial Library in Pampa.
- **The 2008 High Plains Irrigation Conference & Trade Show** will be Jan. 16 at the Amarillo Convention Center in Amarillo. The event will be presented by Texas Cooperative Extension and Texas Agriculture Irrigation Association. CEUs for pesticide applicators, certified crop consultants and certified irrigation designers will be available. For more information, call (806) 677-5600.
- **The 82nd Airborne Division Association, Inc.**, open to Airborne veterans from the 11th, 13th, 17th, 82nd, 101st and today's special forces, will hold and/or celebrate several national activities including Static Line Awards, April 9-12, Atlanta, Ga.; All American Week, May 19-25, Fort Bragg, N.C.; and National Convention, Aug. 13-16, St. Louis, Mo. The only requirement for members is that they have their jump wings. For complete details and material for membership, call or e-mail, 1-937-898-5977 or Srgabn@aol.com. The association consists of 100 chapters across America and 30,000 active members.
- **Manhattanville My Soldier** is seeking volunteers to "adopt" a deployed United States Servicemember. To find out more, visit [www.mysoldier.com](http://www.mysoldier.com) on-line or write to: Manhattanville College My Soldier Department, 2900 Purchase St., Purchase, NY 10577.



# LETTERS TO SANTA



**THE PAMPA NEWS**  
**2007**

# Letters to Santa ...

To: Santa Clause  
North Pole 85921

Dear Santa,  
I've been a real good gril this year.  
and I'd realy like it if you birng me a

1. Lap top computer
2. pogo stick
3. stilts
4. trampoline
5. blue tenashose
6. sweningset
7. digi makeover
8. sowingmashean
9. cloths
10. Jirli

—Love, Ashlynn Organ

Dear Santa,

I am little so my mommy is writing for me. For Christmas, I would like some new pajamas, hat and gloves, a toy truck, a ball, some new books and some new clothes. Thank you. Say "hello" to Mrs. Clause and the reindeer.

—Love, Juan Carlos Salazar Jr., 1 1/2

Dear Santa,

How are you? How are the reindeer

and Mrs. Clause? I am good. For Christmas, I would like a Spongebob CD and DVD, Hannah Montana book, eraser, makeover with my friends, a coat, watch, a brush and ring.

Merry Christmas.

—Love, Alexis Salazar, 5

P.S. And a hat please. I will leave you cookies and milk.

Dear Santa,

I would like a:

lova lamp  
mathing outfits for me and my amar-  
ican girl doll  
some arts and crafts

Thanks!!

—Avery Smith, 7

Dear Santa,

I have ben realy, realy good this year. Will you pleze bring me a new pink bike, one Slinkee Dog, and a Webkinz. My Dad sez we can get the Nternet at home for my Webkinz now. I will lev you some cookes.

—Love, Halle Smith, 5

Dear Santa,

I have been nice this year!! I want is a pink nintendo DS. My little sister

wants a kitchen. I will leave cookies, milk and carrots for Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blixen. But dont for get the most famous reindeer of all Rudolf. I hope you have a good year see you soon.

—Love, Echo, 10

Dear Santa, I was good and bad this year. Hopefully you will bring me a black nintendo D.S. Please bring my little sister Lea a kitchen. Merry Christmas.

—Love, Bryce, 7

Dear Santa,

I want these things for Christmas, please:

Breaktoy  
Real Gujiar

—Thanks, Kooper Brandon Smith, 4

Dear Santa,

I am 1-years-old. My mommie, Nonna, Mema Becky, Mema Melba, Grandma Gerken and Mimi think I am swell. They think I have been very nice, sweet and lovable this year.

I would like cars and boots for Christmas. Please bring my brother, Lachy, something very nice because I

love him alot.

If you need any help, just let me know. I have the best helpers in the world – Daddy, DadDad, PaPa Glen, Papa Randy, PaPa Paul, PaPa Frank and Uncle Ricky

—Love always, Baby Aidan

Dear Santa,

I am 4-years-old, and my name is Lachy J. Belcher. I have been very nice this year.

My baby brother, Aidan, has been good, too. Please bring him a squeaky toy.

My daddy wants a sword, and my momma wants a dollie.

I would like to have a barbecue grill like my dad's and DadDad's. I want all the Power Rangers and a lot of stuff. Also, boots like PaPa Randy.

For my cousin Abi, I want a Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer because she wants one. Arionna needs a squeaky toy like Aidan.

—Love, Lachy

Dear Santa,

I am trying to be good, but it is hard.

See **LETTERS**, Page 3

*Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year  
from all of us at*

**MUFFLER'S UNLIMITED**

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*wishing you all the best  
during this holiday season*

**TODD L. ALVEY**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

PO BOX 380  
WHEELER, TEXAS  
806-826-3766

# Letters

Continued from Page 2

Can you please bring me a Barbie get well dog and a Fur Reat Friends Parrot and please bring my sister Bailee, a t-shirt that says "I love my Little Sister." And can you please bring my daddy an Xbox 360? I will leave you cookies and milk.

—Love, Caitlynn Budd

Dear Santa,

I want a wii and a Nintendo DS. And hopefully some new stuff for my pet rats. And some new gamecube games.

—Sincerely, Maddie

P.S. take care of Rudolph

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I want the playstation2 and the FiFa 2008 soccer game please the playstation 2 and the FiFa 2008 soccer game are in Wal-Mart. Thank you

Merry Christmas Santa Claus

—Julio Arturo Mariscal Pinedo

Dear Santa,

Merry Christmas! I would like a baby doll with a bed and stroller. I would like a Tinkerbell Tent and sleeping bag. Thank you, Santa. I love you!

—Love, Kaydee Sue, 2

Dear Santa,

How are your reindeer? This is what I want for Christmas. I would like a NFL football, a Texas Tech Jersey and helmet, a deck of cards, and batteries.

I would also like a tent for my room. There will be cookies waiting for you. If you have time could I get a ride in your sleigh?

—Love, Drake, 6

Dear Santa,

For Christmas, I would like some transformers optomus prime, turbo boat, Air Hog fighting heicopters, and some Hot wheels. I have been very good this year so I hope you bee watching. Thank you, Santa.

—Jonathan Rangel, 5

Dear Santa,

for christmas I want a house of Barbise and a pony real that's all I want.

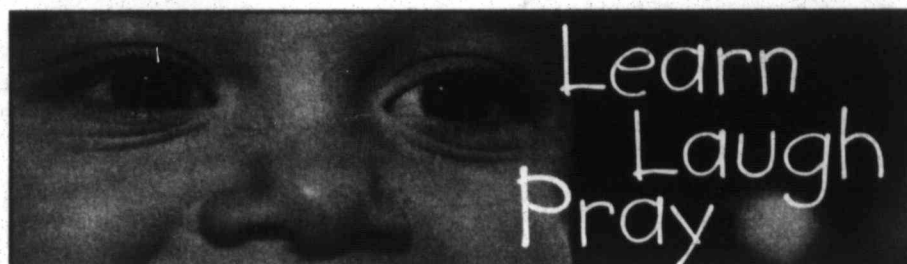
My name is America. Merry Christmas Santa

—America Mariscal

Dear Santa,

I would like  
1. 2 Barbies

See LETTERS, Page 4



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## IN THIS HOLY SEASON



*May the light of His love shine down upon you and your family during this season of enlightenment, and may the true meaning of the yuletide reside with you at Christmas.*

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PHARMACY**

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# Letters

Continued from Page 3

2. Barbie house  
3. Barbie car  
Thank you.  
—Rhys Shields, 3

Dear Santa,  
I would like  
1. Speed  
2. Elephant game  
3. Legos  
Thank you.  
—Tyler Frye, 3

Dear Santa,  
I would like  
1. Baby doll  
2. Barbie  
3. Barbie movie  
Thank you.  
—Julie Bruce, 3

Dear Santa,  
I would like  
1. Princess Barbie  
2. Cinderella doll  
3. Baby doll  
Thank you.  
—DaBria Smith, 3

Dear Santa,  
I would like  
1. 2 Baby dolls  
2. Barbie  
3. Baby doll clothes  
Thank you.  
—Emmi Schmitt

Dear Santa,  
I would like  
1. Puzzles  
2. Baby doll  
3. Barbie  
Thank you.  
—Lara Johnson, 3

Dear Santa,  
I would like  
1. Race car mustang  
2. truck  
3. Cars movie  
Thank you.  
—Gage Cole, 3

Dear Santa,  
I would like  
1. Barbie  
2. Pink Princess dress  
3. Island Barbie  
Thank you.  
—Sascha Johnson, 3

Dear Santa,  
I would like

1. See-saw  
2. Blocks  
3. Baby doll  
Thank you.  
—Samantha Price, 3

Dear Santa,  
I would like  
1. Spiderman blanket  
2. Hulk toy  
3. Spiderman coloring book  
Thank you.  
—Collin Harlan, 3

Dear Santa,  
I would like  
1. Spiderman DVD  
2. Superman blanket  
3. Truck  
Thank you.  
—Austin Bruce, 3

Dear Santa,  
I would like  
1. Train and tractor  
2. Car  
3. Barnyard movie  
Thank you.  
—Anthony Ryan, 3

Dear Santa,  
I want a Hulk toy Move the  
Bee move Hulk move Sata  
Cluas 3-the move naeblord 2 a

bike fantaie 4 ose of the silver  
surfer the move game the Bee  
game 3 the game fantaie 4 rise  
of the silver sufer the game  
clesh Hulkstush and cloch  
P.S. Thank you  
—Austin Blow

Dear Santa,  
all I want for christmas is  
my mom, dad, grandma's, and  
brothers, and maybe one or  
two toys.  
—Sara Blow

Dear Santa,  
As Christmas get's closer  
the more hustle and bustle  
there is. I bet you've gotten  
lot's of letter's from people all  
around the world.It's the sec-  
ond of December and I don't  
want to be to late or to early to  
turn in my letter so I decided  
to sent it today.Man oh man! I  
am so excited. Here's the  
thing's my family want.

Mom: Bowflex  
Dad: socks and shirts  
Shelly: T.V. (A medium one  
with fairly big screen)  
Kaylin: Karaoke Machine  
Merry Christmas!  
—Your Believing Freind,

Kaylin Morrison

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I like your  
Santa Claus dress and I love  
you. I have a Santa Claus  
book, and I see your picture  
on it shushing the man. Bye,  
bye, and I will send you this  
card. I want a robot.  
—Noah Land, 4

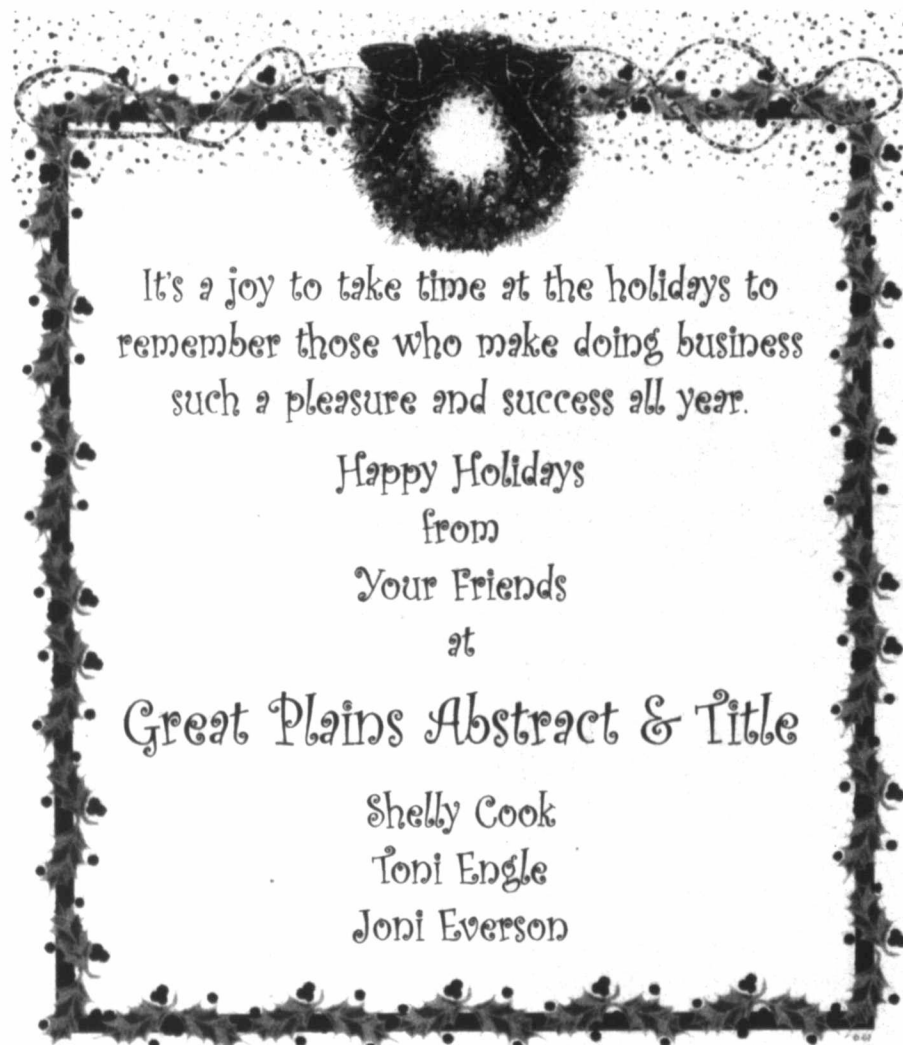
Dear Santa,  
Hello. I want jingle bells,  
stuffed bear. Hi, reindeer.  
—Macy Pitner, 4

Dear Santa,  
I want to give you a present.  
Bring me a toy, a remote con-  
trol robot with guns and armor  
so he can't die.  
—Jaden McDowell, 4 1/2

Dear Santa,  
I want presents.  
—Aaron Mayberry, 4

Dear Santa,  
If you have a general that  
the doors open, I want one, a  
rappitor, a fire truck, some

See LETTERS, Page 5



It's a joy to take time at the holidays to  
remember those who make doing business  
such a pleasure and success all year.

Happy Holidays  
from  
Your Friends  
at

Great Plains Abstract & Title

Shelly Cook  
Toni Engle  
Joni Everson



Merry Christmas!  
From All Of Us

We extend our sincere gratitude  
For your trust and confidence in us,  
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Wonderful, blessed holiday season.

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"Jesus is the Reason for the Season"

# Letters

Continued from Page 4

kind of new car.

—Duncan Youree, 4

Dear Santa,

I want a sock monkey. I want some toys. I want a ball popper that makes noise. I want a play kitty. I want a car-wash toy. I want a slide. I want some blocks. I would like some play food. I want some balloons that don't pop or let the air out. I want a bear. I want a movie, some play-doh. I want a TV in my room. I want a lot of party bags.

—Easton Whatley, 4

Dear Santa,

I want a Diego Rescue Center, Diego Traveler, an elephant for Diego to ride.

—Chandler Coronis, 4

Dear Santa,

Gun, roping box, steer, roping chute, horse, another gun. That's all.

—Crowley McCuiston, 4

Dear Santa,

I want some Star War guys. Have a good winter. We need some presents. I want the Chipmunk movie and a telephone.

—Seth Erickson, 5

Dear Santa,

I love you. Bring me presents. Come to my house, Santa. Make me sit on your lap.

—Seth Reppart, 4

Dear Santa,

I want to write to your reindeers. I want a Spiderman guy and doggie.

—Thomas Reagan, 5

Dear Santa,

I want trains and clothes and toys. That's all and I want lots of presents.

—Tiegan Lewis, 4

Dear Santa,

I want some presents. I like for Santa to come over here and have some cookies. I want Santa to come to school so everybody can see you.

—Aiden Pickrell, 5

Dear Santa,

I want a Barbie Jeep. I like you, Santa, and I love you, Santa.

—Jayci Carroll, 4

Dear Santa,

I want a guinea pig, new play-doh, new toothbrush and toothpaste, a dog.

—Chandler Petty, 4

Dear Santa,

1. Yellow Lap Top  
2. Sponge Bob Tv  
3. I Pod  
4. MP3 Player  
5. Nintindo Games  
6. Yellow Cell Phone  
7. CDs  
8. DVDs  
9. Sponge Bob CD Best Day Eaver

10. MIO PUP  
11. Puppy Now's grow's In 4 Days

12. Yellow car  
13. Make Up  
14. Bird  
15. Hamsters white girls  
16. Fish  
17. Troy Posters Ashley Posters

18. Sister Sister Posters  
19. Sponge Bob stuff  
20. I Cat  
21. I Dog That Taps foot  
22. Sponge Bob Phone  
23. TinkerBell Stuff  
24. Big Sponge Bob Ball  
25. Razor Phone Pink  
26. Lip gloss  
27. Hanna Montana Stuff  
28. Body GLetter Gel  
29. girl stuff  
30. Bells  
31. Cat and Dog Stuff  
32. Games  
33. Christmas stuff  
34. Jesus Stuff  
35. fLowers  
36. I wish Casey was my sister

Thank You, Santa.

—Love, Lindsay

Dear Santa,

1. Laptop pulple  
2. Ipod  
3. BookLight  
4. HeLies  
5. Mlopup  
6. CD's  
7. Sponge Bob movies  
8. Now's and grow's  
9. Spy gear  
10. Nintindo games  
11. a car that a 10 year old

can ridelh

12. Sponge Bob Lamps  
13. Make up  
14. kitten folders  
15. glow stars  
16. yellow cellphone  
17. fuzes  
18. Hamsters girls  
19. Hight Lighters  
20. troy posters  
21. Vennesa stuff  
22. Hight School Myzickel stuff and games  
23. AIdog that tap's foot  
24. ICat  
25. Hight School Muzickel Shirts

26. Soft Covers  
27. tinker Bell Jellrey  
28. SpongeBoB Chere  
29. Big tingerBell chere  
30. girl chrush  
31. Sponge Bob tv  
32. Sherk therp  
33. Bells  
34. Angels  
35. Jesus crosses.  
36. I wish Lindsay was my sister.

Thank you, Santa.  
—Love you from Casey

Dear Santa,

My name is Brayden. I am 2-years-old. I have been fairly good. I want a trai track for Christmas. I will leave cookies and milk on the table for you.

—Love, Brayden Reed

Dear Santa,

My name is Haley Williams. I am 5-years-old. I have tried to be good. I would like a Game Boy for my age, a Baby Alive with a stroller and may be a Bear Factory.

—Love, Haley

Dear Santa,

How is Mrs. Claus, and I would like a binder that is blue. I would also like a Magnetix, some Hot Wheels cars, a flying helicopter with a remote that you can control it and maybe a Game Boy. I am 7-years-old, and my name is Joseph Williams. I have tried to be a good boy.

—Love, Joseph Williams

Dear Santa,

My name is Noah. I am 3-years-old. Please bring me a toy. I am a pretty good boy most of the time.

—Love, Noah

Dear Santa,

You are my best friend. I have been tring to be good but, I get mad at my cousin Chistian to much, but plece do'nt give me a bag of col.

—Makayla Waddell, 9

Dear Santa,

I've trieb my Best to BE Good This year  
But pleASE Don't Give Me a Bag of Coal.

—Love, Christian Porter, 5

Dear Santa,

I want Rock band or gautar hero gocart Bilge or avacir-fourwheeler a big remotecontrol Hummer or a remotecontrol Airplane or a remotecontrol boat pirates of the Cabriban T.V from Braden Kidd, 8 years old

My little Brother Tayte Kidd would like a Harley Davison Track to ride in, a train set and a cars T.V and cars mat to play with his cars on. from Tayte Kidd, 2 years old

P.S. Happy Birthday to Jesus

—Braden Kidd, 8

Dear Santa,

I want a real pony, so I can ride. And a lot of Princess stuff because that is my name. Tell your reindeer I said "hello." Please bring my big brother some games for his Game Boy.

Love you.  
—Hannah Phelps, 2

Dear Santa,

I want some games for my Game Boy. And a lot of Cars stuff for my room. Please bring my sister that is 2 My Pony. And tell your reindeer I said "hello."

Love you.  
—Jacob Phelps, 7

Dear Santa,

How are you doing? I have been very good this year. I would like a laptop computer and a BB gun and a set of marbles. I would also like a boxing game. Could you bring a Little Tikes Workshop for my brother Evan? He has been kind of good.

Be careful coming to Pampa!

—Love, Colton Kelley, 6

Dear Santa,

Please bring me a truck and a globe.

—Love, Evan Kelley, 21-months

Dear Santa,

I'm only 4-months-old, so my mommy is writing this for me. I would like to have some noise toys and some toys you think will be good for me.

Love you.

—Dillan Yearwood, 4-months

Dear Santa,

I would like a Bratz Doll and HairClips

—Nataleigh

Dear Santa,

I want a teddyBear  
I want a BaBy doll  
I want a guitar  
I want a hat  
I want a PLAYcar  
I love you  
—Bailey Knutson

Dear Santa,

Hi, it's Garrett. Mommy is writig this because I don't know how.

I have been a good boy this year!

I want a tractor with big, big tires, Lightning McQueen and The King, and Chick Hicks. A helicopter with mater inside, too.

A boat with two props and a woody and a Buzz Lightyear. I want lots of big trucks with trailers and army guys. I will leave you some M&M cookies, too!

P.S. Can you bring my baby sister, Abby, some girl presents?

—Love, Garrett Carroll, 3

Dear Santa,

My mom says I can't have a sleigh, but I really want one. Does Rudolph's nose really light up in the dark? I don't know what else to ask for.

—Love, Kahlan Reeves, 4

Dear Santa,

I want a General Lee that the doors open and has two tires. I also want a fire truck. Raptors are cool, too!

—Love, Duncan Youree, 4

See LETTERS, Page 6

# Letters

Continued from Page 5

Dear Santa,  
Thanks for all the presents last time. I would like a backpack with white stripes and pink polka-dots. Why do you say "ho, ho, ho?"

—Love, Hannah Harris, 4

Dear Santa,  
I want a phone and a computer desk just like Mom's. I also need a new kitten. Mom wants a couch with a pillow. A little car would be cool.

—Love, Aaron Mayberry, 4

Dear Santa,  
Give me some presents, please. Thank you for giving me presents and toys. I love you. I love my toys. I love God.

—Love, Karennah McDonough, 4

Dear Santa,  
Your reindeers can fly? I like your toys. I really want a Spiderman and a Star Wars toys.

—Love, Thomas Reagan, 5

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I would like a Pirates of the Caribbean calendar. The movies I want are Stardust, Shrek 3, Harry Potter 5, Santa Clause 3 Under Dog, and Bring It on in It to Win It.

The games I want are Twister, and Life. I want a Pirate pillow, Heroes T-Shirt and action figures Heroes paintings a Lilkinz Labrador, Lints Milk Chocolate, Guitar Hero 2, PSP, Brain Age, Nintendogs Chihuahua, a cell phone, fashion studio, Bubbly Bath, Kirsten the American Girl, Sleepy Time Tea, hot chocolate, Aly & AJ CD, Hairspray, a new TV, all the Marvel movies, all the Tree House books, and a picture of your reindeer.

Get my mom the movie Fame, and my dad Texas Tech golf balls. Get McKinley boots and Chichi doggie treats.

P.S. Don't forget to wish Jesus and Chichi a happy birthday.

—Love, Dacie McGill

Dear Santa,  
My name is Cody Epperson I am 7 yrs. old. I would like  
1) gamboy advance game  
2) shirts  
3) air plane  
4) football guatiar  
5) games

I will leave milk and cookes.

—Love you, Cody Epperson

Dear Santa,  
Mommy is typing this for me. I have been good this year. I would like any trucks, balls and a bike. Please tell Mrs. Santa "hello." Merry Christmas!

Thanks and I love you!

—Tayler Joe Hinson, 2

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good GIRL this year! I want a Game Boy and Makeup.

I love you and I will leave you cookies

—Jaydin Rickles

"Dear" "Santa,"

I want a new gameboy micro a new bike a three bulb Flash-light some little ninga bikes some little cars. I love you Santa.

—Dannon Rickles

Dear Santa,  
Gl prw tttw tded  
—Jade Stone, 5

Dear Santa,  
I am 9 years old and I have been a good girl. I would like some new clothes and some dress shoes. Also I would like an nintendo DS. Please bring something for my cousins, Cade, Brock, Megan, Brennan. Also my brothers J.T. and Jacob. Don't forget my Aunt Chloe, she will be 2 months old on Christmas day.

Merry Christmas, I will have cookies and egg nog for you.

—Love Jaycee Brown, 9

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas I would like pirate toys, The Wiggles CD, a computer, Legos, crayons, Pirates of the Caribbean 3 movie, a charlie brown toy, toy cars, flip-flops, shoes like

Sissy's (converse), new clothes, A notebook like the one from Blue's Clues, big boy cups (to drink out of), Playhorse Disney Coloring Books, The Dootlebops toys, Rooney's Guitar (from The Dootlebops, a new toothbrush, and a Lightning McQueen Blanket.

Thank you very much for reading my letter. I have been a very good boy this year. Merry Christmas!

—Dominick Parsons

Dear Santa,  
My name is Dasen SeLLers and I'm 9 1/2 yrs. old. I would like a Mac Truck with a trailer that hooks on. I've been a good boy this year.

My little brother is Kaden Sellers, he is 5 months old. He would like a cho cho train for Christmas. I Love him so much.

I Love you too Santa Clause  
—Dasen & Kaden

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year. I want I want a Pinkjeep aploayhorse.

I want ateddybear  
—Courtney Parsons, 5

Dear Santa,  
I have bin really good I would like a soccer ball.

trampoline  
doodle cat and  
heelys.

thank you  
Santa  
—Jadyn Parsons, 6

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year. I want a ps3, heelys, Shrek puzzle and a soccer goal. I hope you are doing well. thank you Santa

—Love, Jordan Parsons, 8

Dear Santa,  
I have been very good this year, so I would like a Game Boy DS, a rodeo toy, red chaps, motorcycle.

Thank you very much!  
—Love, Kaiden

Dear Santa,  
I have been very good this year, so I would like morracas, apron with a baker's hat, Dora kitchen with dishes, puppets for a puppet show, baby with

blue clothes, dress up clothes with shoes.

—Love, Adyson

Dear Santa,  
I want a motorcycle with fire on it. I also would like a HUGE robot and another robot with guns and knives. I also want a car that can fly. I have been very, very good this year.

—Love, Jaden

Dear Santa,  
I have been very, very good this year, so I would like trailers that hook to trucks and three tractors.

Thank you!  
—Love, Drew

Dear Santa,  
I have been very good this year. I would like a bunch more trains, walkie and Dordan, and that is all. Thank you!

—Love, Rieley

Dear Santa,  
I have been very, very good this year, so I would like baby dolls, baby bed, necklaces for my babies, toy lady bugs, chalkboard and chalk, big baby with a baby bottle, baby bottles.

Thank you, Santa!  
—Love, Klappo

Dear Santa,  
I have been very good this year, so I would like little baby reindeer, little baby puppy, little baby kitty and little baby giraffe.

—Love, Ashley

Dear Santa,  
I have been very, very good this year, so I would like blue airplane, purple, pink and red Transformer, blocks, lots of Transformers.

—Love, Kasey

Dear Santa,  
I have been very, very good this year, so I would like a wii, games for the wii, more PlayStation games.

Thank you, Santa!  
—Love, Stephen

Dear Santa,  
I have been very, very good this year, so I would like choo choo train, fire truck, car

game.

Love you, Santa!  
—Ethan

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Spiderman toy.

—Love, Devin

Dear Santa,  
I would like some Shake-N-Go Crashers. That's all.

—Love, Drake

Dear Santa,  
I would like toys, some trucks, a new bike.

—Love, Gage

Dear Santa,  
I would like a swimming baby and a Barbie that can swim. Also some diapers.

—Love, Natalie

Dear Santa,  
I would like a robot for Christmas.

—Love, Harley

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Princess Cash Register and a ball.

—Love, Lorell

Dear Santa,  
I would like a kitchen for Christmas.

—Love, A.J.

Dear Santa,  
I would like some toys, just toys for Christmas.

—Love, Macey

Dear Santa,  
I would like a baby doll and some new toys.

—Love, Jaidyn

Dear Santa,  
I would like some toys please.

—Love, Cynric

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I want:  
A new saddle  
A baby brother  
One of Your reindeer and  
A choclote lab  
—Love, Maggie Hernandez, 6

Dear Santa,  
what I want for Christmas is a new hunting game for my

See LETTERS, Page 7

# Letters

Continued from Page 6

playstation 2. How are doing, are you feeling fine? Is Mrs. Cluase feelling good? Are your elves working hard? How about your reindeer, are they feeling fine? I've been good most of the time. The way I've been good is, that I've been making good grades, I have a lot of stickers and just three bad numbers.

—By Chase

Dear Santa,  
My name is Andy. I am 2-years-old. My mom helped me write this letter to you. I should be on your good list, so could you please bring me some cars and Transformers and some dinosaurs like my brother? Also, some new clothes would be nice.

P.S. I will have Mommy leave you some of my milk and cookies.

—Andy Quezada, 2

Dear Santa,  
How many reindeer do you have How many elves do you have Hi Santa have a good trip. I have been a good boy please bring me Dinosaurs a toy puppy and a toy elephant and pokemon

toys.

—Love, Julian Arreola, 7

Dear Santa,  
How are you and Mrs. Claus? I have been a good girl this year. I would like a Wii game and some dress up clothes for Christmas. Can you bring my baby brother Britten a fire truck? My sister Bailey wants a Life game and Madison would like a cell phone. I will leave you some cookies and milk.

—Love, Morgan Joyce

Dear Santa,  
My name is Trinity. I am 2-years-old. I want a puppy for Christmas (mine ran away). And I want my mommy to come home. I miss her and love her very much. I have been very good.


—Love, Trinity

Dear Santa,  
I want a toy that has a horse and a cow and a dog and a cat I also want a Book animals and some candy and a easy Bake oven

—Daylee Grace Bowman

Dear Santa,  
Please Bring Me Pigiit a licamera

See **LETTERS**, Page 8



**WARREN CHISUM**


State Representative For The 88th District  
PO Box 2910 • Austin, Texas 78768-2910  
512-463-0736  
PO Box 2061 • Pampa, Texas 79066-2061  
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*Season's Greetings*

*May the magic of the season make all your dreams come true.  
Thank you for helping us to realize ours.*

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*New Hours... Mon.-Sat. 7am-8pm • Sun. 8am-8pm  
We Delivery Tuesday & Thursday ... Call For Details*

## Letters

Continued from Page 8

Games Leapster Brats Deconations  
Baby Alive And My Brothber wants  
Rocks And canDy We Will Make  
Cookies For You

I love You  
—Abbie Scott, 5

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a toy with candy  
inside, and a watch because me and  
Abbie is big. Also, please bring me lots  
of rocks because my mommy won't let  
me have any. I want a "W" with a hat.  
I'm being good sometimes.

Me and Abbie is going to make  
cookies and hot chocolate.

I love you, Santa.  
—William, 3

Dear Santa,  
I want a hannah montana doll, a  
squackers mccaw bird and a bean bag.  
also please bring my baby brother  
Colen a toy box.

be safe.  
—Jilian Hopson, 7

Dear Santa,  
I hope you have a great christmas my

wish list is our generation horse – white  
littlest pet shoppe town  
Hannah Montana Dance Mat  
four wheeler  
BaBy crib.  
I will leave cookies and milk.  
I Love you!  
Thank you!  
—Hannah Ball

Dear Santa,  
Merry Christmas.  
for Christmas I want BaBy My little  
pony, BaBy Doll that laughs and cries,  
crib, bottle, four wheeler, Thank you  
I love you  
—Lesley Ball, 6

Dear Santa,  
I wont the crismas doll  
I wont Shrek the third movie  
I wont Brats the movie  
I wont girl crush  
I wont Brats computer  
I wont a tede Bere  
I wont Imme  
I wont the movie of echanteck  
I wont a nickles  
I wont a tecnox  
I wont fur Beres  
I wont pet dogs  
I wont prinses casel  
—Gretchen Puentes, 7

See **LETTERS**, Page 10



## Sending Our Best At The Holidays

Greetings of the season are headed your  
way. We wish you a very Merry Christmas  
and thank you for your valued business.



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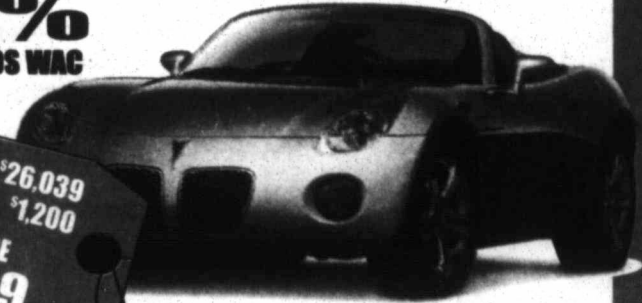


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# Letters

Continued from Page 8

Dear Santa,  
Ainsley  
Resau Unit  
dineorsor spics  
townsen  
Dora house  
lland prinses movie  
Santa Clause give what  
every u want  
—K. Garden, 5

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy! I  
want a big ball and maybe a  
little tiny ball, some little foot-  
ball players and a big sword.  
I will have milk and cookies  
for you on a little table. Thank  
you, Santa. Tell Rudolph to be  
careful. Oh, I want Bob the  
Builder toys, too!  
—Love, Huston Skinner, 3

Dear Santa,  
I want a ball, candy cane  
—Love, Jordon

Dear Santa,  
I want a koosh ball, doll

—Love, Brandy

Dear Santa,  
I want new clothes, jewelry,  
candy cane.  
—Love, Conchis

Dear Santa,  
I want Hot Wheels, pickup  
truck, Little Einsteins  
—Love, Lucas

Dear Santa,  
I want rocket, ball, candy  
cane.  
—Love, Tyler

Dear Santa,  
I want pillow, country  
music  
—Love, Cory

Dear Santa,  
I want toy cars, candy cane  
—Love, Michael

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy this  
year. Please bring me a tele-  
scope. Please bring my sister  
something, too. I will have a  
snack for you and the rein-  
deer.  
—Love, Cayson Steward, 4

Dear Santa,  
I have been a very good boy  
this year. Please bring me a  
rainforest jumperoo. I would  
also love anything that lights  
up or plays music.  
—Love, Cameron Trey  
Johnston, 2-months

Dear Santa,  
I have been a very good boy  
this year. Please bring me a  
work bench, so that I can build  
things with my daddy and my  
Pepa. I also need a toy box for  
all of my toys.  
—Love, Gunnar Kyle  
Pierce, 1

Dear Santa,  
I am 3-years-old. I try so  
hard to be good. I love Cars. I  
want a real Nemo, not the  
stuffed one. I made reindeer  
food at the Discovery Center  
for your reindeer. I will leave  
you some cookies and food  
for your reindeer.  
—Loves, James, 3

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I want a Wii  
with the game Smack VS Raw  
2007, Nike shocks the color

black and white, CellPhone,  
IS3 with rockband, A new TV,  
a new chires Jersey, A  
Horsemask the color Red, alot  
of clothes, mini ninja motor-  
cycle that uses gas, a black  
laptop, a black Ninntendo DS,  
heelys.  
—Love, Lorenzo Venzor

Dear Santa,  
I want clothes for  
Christmas and a Bratz toy  
with a Camera and I want six  
cameras and I want a pink lap-  
top and a picture of you.  
—Love, Sheylah Arreola

Dear Santa,  
I want toy horses for  
Christmas. Also Lightning  
McQueen cars and some Go  
Diego Go toys. Please.  
—Love, Sebastian Venzor

Dear Santa,  
I want like a token parit an  
a teluf or an a to twins BaBy  
dol and hug frum u  
—Love, Preslee

Dear Santa,  
How many reindeer do you  
have? For Christmas I want

toys puppy and dinasaur toys  
elephant And pokemon toys.  
—Love, Julian, second  
grade

Dear Santa,  
My brother, Andy wants  
cars and bugs.  
—Love, Andy

Dear Santa,  
My name is Summer and I  
am 8 years old! I have been  
good all year! Would you  
please bring me a Hannah  
Montana doll, a Carrie  
Underwood CD and a play  
cell phone with a case? My  
brother, and I will leave car-  
rots for the raindeers and  
cookies and milk for you!  
I love you  
—Summr Van Buskirk

Dear Santa,  
My name is Robert and I  
am 4-years-old! I have been  
good all year! Would you  
please bring me a fire truck,  
ambulance, a coloring book  
with colors  
I love you  
—Robert Van Buskirk  
See LETTERS, Page 11

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*Merry Christmas!  
from all of us at the  
Coronado Center*

# Letters

Continued from Page 10

Dear Santa,

I have tried to be a good girl for Christmas and can I have this stuff for Christmas.

I want a butterscotch pony and a movie about horses and a movie real life about Santa and can I have a picture of all of your elves all of them and I want a big big big big big stuffed horse huge one and can I have a canopy and the color I want it to be is red white and pink with some pretty flowers probly some purple flowers and this is for you I am going to get you some cookies and milk just the way you like it yummmmm sound good to me.

wish you a Merry Christmas!!!!!!!

—Hannah Nichols, 7

Dear Santa,

I want a space toy that flies in the air and has a rocket that shoots out. I wish you could get me a rescue pack with Diego and animals. Could you also get me a bird like Hannah has? I have been good, and I will leave you some cookies.

—Love, Hunter Nichols, 4

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl. I want a beach ball, football, high heels, cat and a motorcycle for Christmas. I will leave you milk and cookies.

I love you!

—Jordan Perry, 3 1/2

Dear Santa,

I would like smarter than A fifth grader. Baby a-live wet and wiggles, bratz snowcone maker, video camera, make me up game, make up vanity, puppy, bratz make over doll.

Thank you

—Callin

Dear Santa,

My name is Coleton Ingram. I am 10-years-old.

For Christmas, I would like a motor scooter, a toy castle with knights Star War movies set. A pet turtle. Golden Com pus movie Under dog movie playstation 2 and WII

I will leave you oatmeal raisin cookies and a glass of milk

—Your friend, Coleton Ingram, 10

Dear Santa,

My name is Dillon Ingram. I am 3-years-old. My sister Aubrie said I have been a pretty good boy this year.

I want a tractor, a barn and a truck and trailer. I want some tractor boots really bad. We will have cookies and milk for you by the fireplace.

—Love, Dillon Ingram, 3

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl. I am so excited. I am 6-years-old. Santa, please bring me lots of surprises. I want for Christmas a Cabbage Patch kid that I push their hair it turns different colors. Bratt CDs, Hannah Montana CDs, and country CDs. The puppy that does whatever you say like a real puppy.

—Love, Aubrie Ingram, 6

Dear Santa,

I want a real cat  
2 Remote control helicopters

Sponge Bob movies

Colering Books

Sponge Bob Games

Hot Wheels

Backpack

—Love, Raiden, 6

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl. I would want a mood ring! and I would want a necklace.

—Your friend, Avery Hoganson

Dear Santa,

I want a box of army guys and some tanks. And get me two cool Transformers - the helicopter and Optimus Prime. And can I have an elf too please? To help clean my room.

—Davey O'Brien, 7

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I would like a John Deer tractor. Thank you for bringing my baby sister early. Will you please bring her some toys also.

I love you.

—Madox

Dear Santa,

I relly wanta nintendo DS and and a game Cod need for speed carbon for a persent. I want paul to stay with us because he's so funny and I hope I'm on the good list.

—Love David Soria, 7

Dear Santa,

My name is Michael Adamson. I am 5 1/2-years-old. I have tried really hard to be good this year. Mommy and Daddy say I have done a good job.

For Christmas this year, I want a Smart Cycle, The Simpson's Game for my Playstation, Shrek the third game for my Playstation, The Bee Movie game for my Playstation.

My sister Michaela wants a DVD player for her room and new clothes. Could you bring my mommy a razor phone because she needs one? My daddy would like new chrome parts for his Harley and a helmet.

I will help my sister and Mommy make cookies for you. We don't have a chimney this year, so you can come in through the front door.

—Thank you, Michael Adamson

Dear Santa,

I what a puppy for me and bares to for me to and I what some new socks for me to and a hot tub for me to. and a horse for my sisher and me to I what a for my Caesy and T.R. and for my little Derrius he was a PSP for him and for me I what a toy dog for me.

—Love Shyday Smith, 7

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I woud like

1. IPSP

2. IDS

3. 1 pLayStayshm 2

4. 4 men

5. 4 horses

6. 2 Trucks

7. 2 Traylers

8. 1 hamster

9. 1 gutara

10. 1 green Laser Lite

11. 1 pair of wats

12. 2 pairs of long sleed underarmer

13. 1 CD of golider buy

Hope you have a safe trip

—Love, Carter, first grade

Dear Santa,

I would like 2 puppies, small table, an chairs, Christmas tree for my room, moon sandal, llxxlrl doll, houses talking, Baby I Lopel Cinderaa rkeriavery

Merry Christmas! Merry Christmas!

—Avery

Dear Santa,

My name is Coen Rome Shephard, and I am 2-years-old. I've been very good this year and would like some presents for Christmas.

I would like a John Deere Gator, a Diego toy, and toys for my big sister, Jaryn. Thank you, Santa, and Merry Christmas.

—Love, Coen Shephard, 2

Dear Santa,

My name is Jaryn Elizabeth Shephard, and I am 4-years-old. I've been very good this year and would like some presents for Christmas.

I would like a Barbie jeep, a talking parrot and an airplane for my little brother, Coen. Thank you, Santa, and Merry Christmas.

—Love, Jaryn Shephard

Dear Santa,

I am 4-years-old. My name is Jetta I really have been good my teacher sister doesn't always think that way, but please bring me a horse It is at Wal-Mart It is really big And a bunch more toys, too.

Thank you.

—Love, Jetta Miller

Dear Santa,

I'm a good boy. Please bring me a Power Ranger phone, so I can be a Power Ranger and tools. I'll have cookies and milk for you. I will make them myself.

—Love, Walker Bruner, 3

Dear Santa,

Please bring me a red wagon. And a play-school computer, so I will leave my Pop's alone. I tried to be a good baby. I will try not to eat the cookies Walker leaves out.

—Love, Cooper Bruner, 1

Dear Santa,

My brother, Jake, is to small to write you a letter, but

he has been kinda good not as good as me he needs a teyte help him walk and for his teeth. We love you.

—Jake Miller

Dear Santa,

I am just a little bitty boy. I am only 4-months-old, and I have tried my hardest to be real good. Just bring me any toy you think I will like! Thank you, Santa!

—Love, Jake, 4-months-old

Dear Santa,

thank you for bregian us presentis lase yier. Me and my family loved them presentis. thes yier I want a modrsikl and a chair to sit in. and I want a camera to and I want a new coat to and I want a per of sum cowgirl pants to and I want a care baer to and I want baers to and I want a cuptr to and I want a bike to and I want a boy dog to and I wanta cow-girl hat to and I want a pur of clos to and thas it. Happy Christmas

—Love Alex, 8

Dear Santa,

I want an i Pod. I want a traplen. I want a DS. I want my family to be home. I want a stuffed horse. Then just surprise me.

—Love, Jacey Steel, 7

Dear Santa,

I want a babyaly and a car for Christmas. Santa I believe an you. Santa I want to see you and your reindeer want it Christmas time. and we will be good all of us Santa.

—Love, Inashia Henderson

Dear Santa,

I want for Christmas is a Gameboy and it hafs to come with some Games and the only person I believe in you Santa.

—From: Allison Armendariz, 7

Dear Santa,

I went for Christmas is a peeonoe (piano) and I went some boots pink boots teo se and a champulino and a new and wii a big angel like twice as big as me and I went it to be white for my mom and went a red dress for me and I went it

See LETTERS, Page 12

# Letters

Continued from Page 11

to be red and white on the bottom white and top you. I want to give a prasant for mis. townson can you please santa went to give her is a hot tub and I want new shoes size 3.

—Love, Alexandra Galvan, 8

Dear Santa,  
I hope I am on the good lest. I want my friend's to be happy! and I want a we for Christmas a big nutcrickear and a stero and a ealf for Christmas and a ride on your sleigh and a reindeer and some supplies for my school and laptop and I went the color of it to be red and blue

—Love, London Lowrey, 8

Dear Santa,  
I relly went The Racket Fishing Rod for me and my timley so when we go fishing we can use them and we can catch the Big fish

—Love, Keon Mathis, 8

Dear Santa,  
I want a wii but I don't now wat my fimaly want's for Christmas I hav 2 brothers and I have 2 sistres I now wat my big brother want's for Christmas he want's the new PSP's for Chritmas but I want a wii I like your randess and your elf's my mom want lit ms. get a wii oh I want a mod-osikol I radey have a go crat and I want a sed

—Love Amaliel Hernandez, 7

Dear Santa,  
what i want sack ofron stuff. and a pano of shoe's. A big nutcracr. A phone. A mini icebox.

—Love, Nikky Smith, 8

Dear Santa,  
I want a Playstachous 2 and a X box 3 sixte and some games and a little mackachro car the big ones not a little ones I chanch my minde I want a big mockinx konshow. and eney theng that you want to giv me

I like what you gave me last Christmas

—from Nathan Herrera, 7

Dear Santa,  
Sonta I a wtubenlo Hedgam ntein I a spunbobsp wi anis for my boy veas I awta hin ethermy balf I wtaDS I wta h som tholio XXXW

—Jacob

Dear Santa,  
Tank you for my gift law year. This year I want a psp and mio pup, and a Barbie dall. Love, Blanca, and Merry Christmas

—Blanca

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for my gifts last year. This year I awnt my Happy end a girl friend my Dog.

—Love, Yetzy

Dear Santa,  
This year I want a aar Hogs and a spidr-man drese ples Santa claus I will let you milke and cookies

—Love, Cristobal

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for my gif last year. This year I want a Idog

—Love, Corina

Dear Santa,  
Can you breing me clos and a wii. I love you Santa Claus.

—Love, Carla

Dear Santa,  
I want a x box and a game for my play staishon and a Nitend des but I want a will happy neg year I will leave you milk and cookies haf a good day Mary Chismas

—Love, Gabriel

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for my gifts last year. This year I want a Baby aluive, Wii. I hope you have a happy Christmas

—Love, Estefani

Dear Santa,  
Thank y for my present last year This year I whont seven gamse and I Hope you hav a good crimus Hear is whun uv the gamse atuckur the toy bots The godenkumpes smack Down VS Raw ecw 2008

—from Alex

Dear Santa,  
This year I want a puppi Happy Christmas Love Ailen and ay Hay a snow man and you Santa maki Christmas Santa and Ailen

—Ailen

Dear Santa,  
thank you for my gift. Last year this year I want a howes of BarBis and a baby ulav and a rel puppy and a cupur and a hill and a breees so Santa claus were do you live I want to see you

—Love, Sarai

Dear Santa,  
I want a XBOX 360  
I want a playsatasin  
I want a psp  
I want a now bike  
I want a nindods  
I want a Laptop  
—Love, Ismael

Dear Santa,  
thank You for my gifts last year This year I want a igod and a XeXchlee and a skatBord.

—Love, Ismael Miranda

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for my gifts last year. This year I want a playstaishon and a fifa game I will leave you milk and cookies. And I wish you good luck. Tell the raindeers hello and Mrs. Claus love

—from Alexis

Dear Santa,  
This year I want a Ramot car and a drift car and a Hot whels cars I wich you wvde hav a grat time. Yrar and say halow to bigtSan and doner and rudof and Santa Clas II give you choodess and milk

—Love, Ezequiel

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for my gifts last year. This year I want baby Alaiv and Thing like the Doctors usd. I will let y some milk and cookies

—Love, Esmeralda

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for the giffs los year This yer I wat a daeden-dae DS and a scatborerd.

—Love, Nelson

Dear Santa,

Can you breing a Lentendo exbox end a I wna end a ball all of rurup I hope you have a very good Christmas end a happy new year I will leave you milk end cookies

—Love, Jose

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for my gif last year. I want a Leanlendo Perry and a chuo shuo momy make me beter and a baby born. I hop you have a happe Christmas. I will leve you milk and cookies.

—Love, Katia

Dear Santa,  
Tank you for my gifts last year This year I want baby born a game boy and choo chool Mamy Mack Me beter I hope you have a happe Christmas I will live you milk and cockes have a very good Chrismas.

—Love, Joseline

Dear Santa,  
thank you for my gifts los year this year I want a PSPanda i pod and a boxDog.

—Love, Paola

Dear Santa,  
how aer you and and Mrs Clous is ruaolphs nesessining i wat a lagitgiter and aps3.

—Love, Andrew

Dear Santa,  
here is wete i weat a hanah Monntanne clos and hannah stuff and a latett Kerfer hiy hiles new shous a new clos mikerfone harestoff a ipod and a fone and a slay I and a dog a cat

—Marlee David

Dear Santa,  
haw are you giys doing haws rowtoff an dll the others randeer and miss claus doing but how are you and haw are the elfs doing I hop you have a safe trip. I hope I have x-bax and a Ps-3.

Thank you!

—Love, Matt

Dear Santa,  
I hope you have a safe trip I want a bratdoll and a borbiy and makeup and a robotpuppy and with that I want a boy-bratdoll I want a writers workshop and a cuputer and a

noow game boy and a boths for my Borbig thank you Santa Claus

—Love, Madison Roby

Dear Santa,  
how r you I want a Nintindo D.S and a Playstachin 2 and a game with it name sand an Jrese. I want a laptop shelv. I want a rile Nintindo D.S and a lap top shev. thank you

—Love, Salvador Lopez

Dear Santa,  
how are you'r rain dear's and missis. clous We hope you are safe on yo'r trip. all I wont for Chrstmas is makeup and a soft blanket and a grat Christmas Merry Christmas thank you!

—Love: Mycaela Colpetzer

Dear Santa,  
Howareyoudoing I wood like a bariebe dar and a game I wonta doll I wanta wii for Christmas I want makeup and a robot puppy workShop anda comeputr andaspd ployer

—Love, Erika

Dear Santa,  
How are you and is Mrs. Claus doing good and is Roodoffs nose gloing good and I wish you a good flite on Christmas and for Christmas I would like a pony for Christmas Thank you!

—Love, Monica Apodaca

Dear Santa,  
How are you and Miss Claus doing? I hope you have a save trip coming to town. I wat some dall cous for my dall. And I wat a merry Christmas. You have a merry Christmas too. I wata Bok for good Christmas. Thank you

—Love, Jennifer Price

Dear Santa,  
how are you doing Santa Claes and Mrs. Claes and are the rander doing aock and I hope you have a safe cripe and I will lefy cooks and mike too and I won't Heles and a lagetgtare and a skate droder

—Love, Jayden

Dear Santa,  
yo quiero una muneca grande de mi tamallo y lo

See LETTERS, Page 13

# Letters

Continued from Page 12

quiero bebe so ase de todo quiero la ropa y zapatos. Es todo, Gracias.

—Love, Aide

Dear Santa,

Santa clos yo quiero una muneca grande de mi lamano y llo quiero o tra-cosa mas y es un. BeBe Se mea yase de todo y quiero laropa yzapatots to do. Gracias.

—Love, Wendy

Dear Santa,

Hola Santa Clous Yo quiero que troigas jugetes a todos los ninos del mundo para mi tambien quiero una motot y un gameboy que tengas un felis biaje gracias

—Nelson Garcia

Dear Santa,

I wan't a Xbox. And a new pear of shoes. And new clothes and a artset. and I want a Transformer. And I wan't a remote control race car. How is Mrs. Clause is doing? thank you.

—Love, Moses Avila

Dear Santa,

How are you doing and Mrs. claus and you raindeer doing and Elvs I want a gatar for Christmas and some new dolls for Christmas and they are cool and some books

Thank you.

—Briana Harris

Dear Santa,

I want for Christmas is a dvd plager and a feideio game what is a tranes-formers game and I want Christmas you is merry thank you

—Love, Brandon

Dear Santa,

My name is Misael Tiinajero I am 6 years old for Christ mas I want a PSP with a gangsteesgameand a computer and my sister wans Dora stuff for little kids.

—Love, Misael Tinajero, 6

Dear Santa,

how. are you doing? how is Miss Claus dooing? to I hoppy she is doing fin? Now you now what for Christmas is a Play Stashin and a psp and a Xbox360 Ples Santa can you bring me that I hopy you can bring me that

—Love, Corbin Anguiano

See **LETTERS**, Page 14



## Merry Christmas!

from the staff and owners of

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Hunter Hall, Jessica Hall,  
Faith Hall, Brayden Dyson  
and Carrie Angel

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Happy Holidays  
from our  
families to yours!

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# Letters

Continued from Page 13

Dear Santa,  
We hope you get here safely. And home safely. We hope that you are not sick on Christmas. On Christmas I want a Babg Alive. And a Babby set. Thank you SantaClaus.  
—Love, DAsia Smith

Dear Santa,  
for Christmas I ple you for a Game Sergro and I nion boy and dad and my mom my sister an I for give you We just for and you and like dermo-seve I like yor slai all then  
—Sergio Resendez

Dear Santa,  
what for Christmas is a bike a baby alive and a car one that you can make vidoes and a br car and a doll a doll can belike my sister I hope I can see and santa I hope I can see your slay across the moon because your my only Santa I love.  
—Nakiya Henderson

Dear Santa,  
I won't a perne of shoos and a brebegee sum book's too for Chi I hope you can do if you are rill no afus or that is if i ok. do bleve but afr bity don't is okl but they won't get nat for Christmas but Christmas is not for pres it is becse Jesus is a God.  
—Iyanna Calarida

Dear Santa,  
I you can give me d's and a new t.v. a new bratz dall a new finds and vilash for crimse sa new sutes and a new for crimses and an ew regng dime reging fr smis a new clase nixy and and if Mrs. clos she can came weth you to dilivetr prapit for chrine  
—Brittney Nolte

Dear Santa,  
Santa, I went a xbox thin I a wii and a towe thrus and a towe and a nwe rarrag and and a rru caw and a hat and mab a bus and a Pey3 and gas and tws and ap and a box of tows and rast gal and a fit gam and a ckaj and a cupr and hot whdms and a racry and a muc and

a trgy and  
—Prince Wilbon

Dear Santa,  
I v clik a breos I kor or a vieogame for chts pes chimis citsff me. Chims i fun chimsi is cool fun I is the mos vad ft time wco toun bekas we going sing my hot becos we aep going  
—Santa Villarreal

Dear Santa,  
what I want for cristmas is baby aliv bog and gril and baby we and wigl. And a capechach doll. and clothes  
—Shelby Burnett

Dear Santa,  
I what a big box of toys and bikes that look like the christmas tree. that well look cool and I want the movie a beat sherk the Christmas and the mov a beat alive and the check munts and a play staychen games and playstaychen three with games.  
—Gabriel Cervantes

Dear Santa,  
if you giv me some I want

cry if you do give me some pesst I will cry and Santa Love you and I you are unchafe me Christmas and if I good or bad I thing on the good list and of my frieds or on good list or bad list I thing there on the good list  
—Vanessa Cabrales

Dear Santa,  
I want Roller Skaters and a toy, a Santa Toy, and another toy, a Rudolph toy, and another toy. I like Toy Story and I want a piggy bank and another Santa toy. I want a horsey. And that's it.  
—Love, Taylor Maddux (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,  
I want a lot of presents! I want a doll that you can take care of and love it forever. And I want a computer and a TV so I can watch Cinderella. I want make-up, I want a DVD player for my new TV. Oh, I don't need no make-up. I forgot that my mom told me that I couldn't have any make-up.  
Thank you.

—Love, Myra Villanueva (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,  
Ok, I want a monster truck and Thomas the Train. I want a car and a boot and some cookies too because I don't have no cookies at home.  
—Love, Mathew Tice (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,  
I want a dress, and I was thinking a teddy bear, high heels, a chair to put in my room, and I was thinking a little puppet. Oh and a princess teddy bear, and I want the chair to be a princess chair and I was thinking a princess box and some princess jewelry and princess TV.  
—Love, Taiten Sanders (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,  
Ummm, a bracelet, the movie Hairspray and I don't know what else I want. Well, I never have make-up, I lost my make-up and I want some  
See LETTERS, Page 15

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# Letters

Continued from Page 14

more. I don't want that much. What about Barbies? Am I going to get some Bratz or not? A monkey! I want a real monkey. I don't know what I will name him, but I will find out. Umm, ok, I don't know. I'm thinking. Ok, I want nails.

—Love, Nataleigh Box (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,

I want a little doggie, a bracelet, a barbie, a teddy bear, Cinderella book. I want a ... blanket with boots and Dora and new Crayons for my brother and me, too, and I want a new lunch box, and a purse, a pencil, and that would be all.

—Love, Jasmine Galvan (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,

I want the Transformer DVD and a dinosaur, The Bee Movie, cars to race, I want a real skeleton with arms, I

want a puzzle, and amotorcycle, and a dinosaur movie, and Scooby Doo painting, and I want a sword.

—Love, Isaiah Vigil (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,

I want a candy cane, gloves, I want some snow, I like the winter, I like my family. For Christmas I want good presents only. I want a remote control truck, I like to play with cars. I like to hunt with dad. I don't know what else I want. That's it.

—Love, Luke Masters (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I want a Hannah Montana wig and a charm bracelet, and I want you to get my brother Santos something, he wants a charm bracelet with the Power Rangers and he wants a box of cars. I also want a puppy necklace and that's all.

—Love, Aislinn Ortega (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,

I want a REAL monster truck and a car that crashes into a dragon and I want a Power Rangers helmet and I want my own locker at my house and I want a new brother and that's it!

—Love, Hunter Henderson (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,

I want presents. Blue presents. Santa Clause's tractor, I want Thomas the Train.

—Love, Corby Unruh (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,

Santa can you bring me hats and shoes and a computer!? And I like the color pink. I also would like a puppy ... I like balloons and I like my mom and my sister. Thank you Santa.

—Love Marleyne Briseno (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,

I lost my Game boy and the charger doesn't work, so can I get a new one? I want something for my little brother, Sebastian. My mom told me

that he wanted a lunch box because he always wants to take mine.

—Love, Jorge Renteria (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,

I want a Dora game and Dora toy and I want Bratz stuff and Barbie. I like Bratz movies. I like clothes, my favorite color is pink. I already have Dora shoes.

—Love, Brianna Montero (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,

I want a diary and a teddy bear. I want a Scooby Doo book to read and I want a picture of Santa (you). And I kind of want a book of Santa and I want a horse, not the life horse, only a toy horse. And I want ... a Christmas tree.

—Love, Emma Doucette (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,

Ummm, I want a Barbie bicycle, ummm a baby, ummm a robe, a doll, a guitar, and, a backpack for my sister, and then nothing else.

—Love, Zapryce Johnson (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,

I want a Dora play set, and ummm, I need a Dora pillow, Dora radio because the other Dora radio doesn't work, and a Dora toy like a baby doll.

—Love Destiny Slater (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

Dear Santa,

A pink bike, Bratz, Barbies, a computer, a new backpack, a radio ... a pink radio, brand new clothes, ... Ok, I can't think. A little play Barbie truck and a Barbie blanket, and that's not it. I want head phones, and did I say computer? And I am trying to think. A little puzzle. Candy canes. Some books. My own TV. Oh, and I want a horse too ... That's all!

—Love, Natalie Silva (St. Vincent Pre-K class)

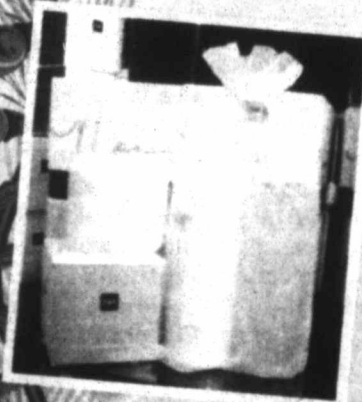
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