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SEE PAGE 7



THE PAMPA NEWS

Monday, November 28, 2005

Volume 101 • No. 1427

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City asks for volunteers to serve on new EDC board

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

The Pampa City Commission is looking for a few good men and women.

They're searching for potential members to serve on the board of directors of Pampa's new economic development corporation.

In a special meeting today, the commission announced that anyone interested in serving on the board of directors for the new Pampa Economic Development Corporation

needed to apply in writing.

Meeting at noon today in the commission chambers at city hall, the commission said potential board members should write a letter indicating their desire to serve and outlining their qualifications.

At their regular session Nov. 22, Commissioners Faustina Curry and Brad Pingel said they had both been approached by people wanting to volunteer.

The commission is expected to vote on the articles of incorporation

for the economic development corporation at their next regularly scheduled meeting on Dec. 13.

In order for the articles of incorporation to be accepted, the PEDC board or directors must first be in place, according to City Attorney Don Lane.

The commission will review the letters and resumes received prior to and at their next regular commission meeting on Dec. 13.

"That's the only meeting we'll have in December," Pampa City

Manager John Horst said today.

The voters of Pampa approved a half cent sales tax on election day, Nov. 8, that will fund the economic development corporation.

This is the second economic development corporation that Pampa has had.

Citizens voted to dissolve the first one in 2000. The new EDC is being formed under a different section of state law, Horst said, that allows closer supervision by city commission.

Early Christmas



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Christmas came a little early for Sydney McDonald, daughter of Amber Adkins of Pampa. When Adkins saw a large stuffed Rottweiler in the Quality Sales dealership, she asked owner Ted Hutto if he would sell it to her for her daughter. Hutto donated the giant stuffed animal for Sydney's first Christmas. Sydney was born 15 weeks early, Jan. 27, at home. She weighed one pound, 12 ounces at birth.

Substances to be identified

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Substances seized in two incidents involving Gray County Sheriff's Office are on their way today to Texas Department of Public Safety's Amarillo laboratory for identification, according to Lt. Joe B. Hoard of the sheriff's office.

A call at 4:02 p.m. Saturday reporting a reckless

driver eastbound on Highway 60 from White Deer led to a traffic stop at the intersection of Price Road and the highway.

Deputy Scott LaRue and Pampa Police Officer Joey Williams received verbal consent from the driver to search the van, Hoard said. They also searched the driver, Daniel James Sears, 27, of Miami and reportedly

found a white crystal substance in his pocket.

Sears was arrested and booked into Gray County Jail at 4:45 p.m., where he was charged with possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance.

"He also had a leafy green substance in a plastic baggie," Hoard said.

See DRUGS, Page 3

City beautification group has new name

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Clean Pampa has a new name.

A new sign at the organization's office at 836 W. Foster reads, "Keep Pampa Beautiful." The sign was completed last week, said Dorothy Clark, executive director.

"Our name change became legal Aug. 24. We had to change it because we're becoming affiliated with Keep America Beautiful, and they now require that," Clark said.

Keep Pampa Beautiful's next campaign will be the Chipping of the Greens, held after Christmas each year to provide Pampa residents with a way to dispose of their Christmas trees and other live greenery from the holiday.

Trees may be brought to the parking lot at the old Warner-Horton Supply

building, 900 Duncan. No flocked trees will be accepted, Clark said.

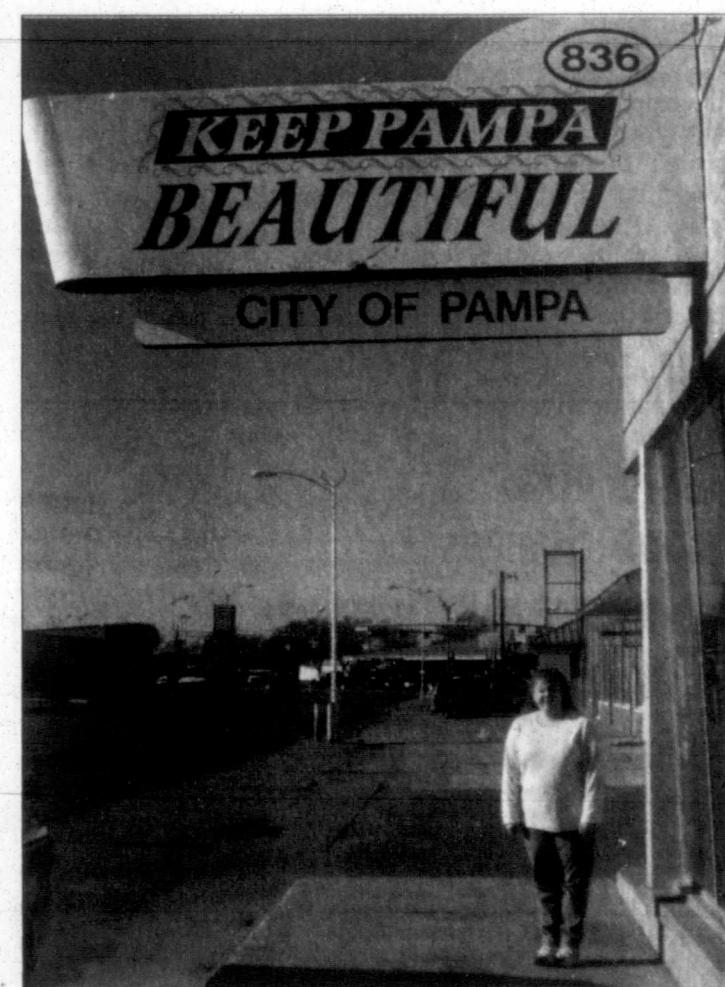
The pile of greenery will be chipped into mulch on Jan. 21. The mulch is free to anyone who brings their own container for it, and leftover mulch will be taken to the city landfill and added to the mulch pile there, Clark said.

"It is illegal to put trees beside or inside Dumpsters," she said.

Keep Pampa Beautiful's other programs include Household Hazardous Waste Day, the Adopt-A-Park program, the EcoPhone program, and recycling telephone books and ink jet cartridges. They also participate in the Adopt-A-Highway program.

Each year, usually in the autumn, a Household Hazardous Waste Day is scheduled. On that day, resi-

See NAME, Page 3



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Dorothy Clark, executive director of Keep Pampa Beautiful, stands beneath the organization's new sign which was completed last week.

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Obituaries

Paul Turner, 85

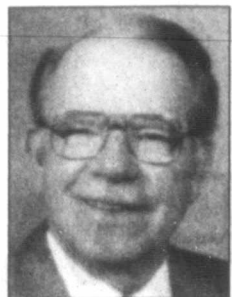
Paul Turner, 85, died Sunday, Nov. 27, in Pampa.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2005, at the First Baptist Church with the Rev. John Glover, associate pastor of Field Street Baptist Church in Cleburne, and Dr. J o h n n y Funderburg, pastor, officiating.

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

Mr. Turner was born on Sept. 20, 1920, at Stroud, Okla., and had been a resident of Pampa since 1939. He married Minelle Baird on Dec. 22, 1940, in Pampa. He worked for Panhandle Industrial for 53 years, serving as president of the company from 1976 until his retirement in 1992.

He was a member and deacon of First Baptist church and a member of Everyman's Bible Class. He also taught Sunday school



Turner

classes for many years to 9-year-old boys and high school seniors.

Mr. Turner was a member of the Pampa Economic Development board for several years, a member of Pampa Masonic Lodge #966, and a former member of the Pampa Rotary Club.

He loved to hunt, fish, garden and play golf. He was also an avid bird watcher and lover. Mr. Turner was preceded in death by a daughter-in-law, Lynn Turner, in 1999 and by seven sisters.

Survivors include his wife, Minelle Turner of the home; two sons, Dan Turner and wife Terrie of Dumas and David Turner of Bristow, Okla., four grandchildren, Shane Turner and wife Krista of Dalhart, Alison Edwards and husband Chris of Washington, D.C., Carson Cahall and husband Kevin of Shawnee, Okla., and Jaclyn Turner of Bristow, Okla.; and four great-grandchildren, Buddy and Jacob Cahall, both of Shawnee, Okla., and Matthew and Morgan Turner, both of Dalhart.

The family requests memorials be to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 621, Pampa, TX 79066.

Willa Laurel Singleton Fillingim, 87

BRISCOE — Willa Laurel Singleton Fillingim, 87, died Friday, Nov. 25, 2005 in Amarillo.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 27, 2005 at the First Baptist Church in Wheeler. The Rev. Aaron Laverty, pastor of Gageby Baptist Church, officiated.

Burial was in the Gageby Cemetery in Gageby, Texas, under the direction of Wright Funeral Home of Wheeler.

Mrs. Fillingim was born May 30, 1918 in Lipscomb County to William and Flora Rose. She married Hershall Singleton, who preceded her in death in 1945. She married E.G. Fillingim on May 9, 1946. He preceded her in death in 1999.

She was a graduate of Booker High School and attended West Texas Normal College. She moved to Hemphill County where she was an active member of the

Gageby Baptist church.

She was preceded in death by a son, Gerry Fillingim; her parents; two brothers, Houston Rose and Virgil Rose; and one sister, Elma Rives.

Survivors include two daughters, Laurel Hershman of Wheeler and Lajo Crownover of Briscoe; one son, Gayle Singleton of Colony; six sisters, Faye Sell of Amarillo, Joyce Hardage of Chelsea, Okla., Rose Tettors of Prescott, Ariz., Gay Andler of Breaux Bridge, La., Eda Bynam, of Moss Point, Miss., and Vea Fillingim of Wheeler; 12 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

The family requests memorials be to Rainbow Acres, P.O. Box 1326, Camp Verde, AZ 86322-1326 or Adam Tipps, c/o Dick Irvine, Briscoe, TX.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents and arrests today.

Saturday, Nov. 26

Twenty-eight traffic stops were made. Traffic complaints were received from the 1800 block of Williston and the 1000 block of Huff Road.

Motorist assistance was rendered at the intersection of Alcock and Hobart streets.

Fire department assistance was rendered in the 600 block of East Frederic.

Law enforcement assistance was rendered at the intersection of Price Road and Highway 60.

A welfare check was made in the 600 block of North Nelson.

One business check was made.

Suspicious person calls were received from the intersection of Browning and Starkweather streets and the 300 block of East Brown.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the intersection of Oklahoma and Love streets.

Disorderly conduct/noise was reported in the 1200 block of Williston, the 200 block of North West, the 500 block of Lowry, the 2200 block of North Hobart, and the 300 block of North Summer.

Failure to identify was reported in the 500 block of Sloan. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Telephone harassment was reported in the 2600 block of Seminole.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 300 block of Anne. A hole was punched in a wall. Estimated cost of damage is \$100.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 400 block of North Starkweather.

Lost property was reported in the police department lobby. A wallet, cash, driver's license, and debit card were lost.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1400 block of North Russell.

Burglary of a building was reported in the 2500 block of West Kentucky.

Theft was reported in the 2100 block of North Faulkner. A mop and yard rake were taken. Estimated value of loss is \$15.

Theft was reported in the 2300 block of Comanche. A bird house and flower pot were taken. Estimated value of loss is \$55.

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1000 block of Prairie Drive.

Heather Hutchison, 34, 425 Carr, was arrested in the 400 block of Carr for disorderly conduct/language.

Dustin Jay Williamson, 21, 1824 Dogwood, was arrested in the 1200 block of North Hobart for racing on highway, no insurance, and failure to change address.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Atchafalaya Grain of White Deer:

Wheat	3.06
Milo	2.58
Corn	3.57
Soybeans	4.41

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

XXV	79.06	-0.90
BP PLC ADR	66.82	-1.01
Cabot Corp.	34.67	+0.08
Celanese	17.50	-0.02
Cabot Oil Gas	42.43	-1.46
Coca Cola	43.00	+0.20
VLO	98.26	-3.02
HAL	63.69	-1.33
TRI	41.97	NC
KMI	87.29	2.31
XCEL	18.84	-0.05
Kerr McGee	87.29	-2.31
XOM	59.45	-0.66
Nat'l Oilwell	60.15	-2.38
Limited	22.41	-0.06
Williams	21.83	-0.52
MCD	33.75	+0.29
Atmos	26.86	-0.26
Pioneer Nat	52.30	-1.61
JCP	53.41	-0.69
COP	62.91	-1.09
SLB	96.18	-0.85
Tenneco	17.04	+0.09
CVX	58.18	-0.36
Wal-Mart	49.90	-0.59
OKE	27.71	-0.31
NS Grp	39.70	-0.65
New York Gold	492.87	
Silver	8.12	
West Texas Crude	58.20	

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Services tomorrow

TURNER, Paul — 10:30 a.m. First Baptist Church.

New CPR guidelines issued

DALLAS (AP) — lines.

Updating the way everyday people do CPR, new recommendations urge many more chest compressions for victims of cardiac arrest.

The revised guidelines issued today by the American Heart Association on cardiopulmonary resuscitation advise giving 30 chest compressions — instead of 15 — for every two rescue breaths.

"Basically, the more times someone pushes on the chest, the better off the patient is," said Dr. Michael Sayre, an Ohio State University emergency medicine professor who helped develop the new guidelines.

"When you stop compressions, blood flow stops," said Mary Fran Hazinski, a clinical nurse specialist at Vanderbilt University Medical Center who also helped develop the guide-

"You have to make up for that lost ground," she said. "We think that the fewer the interruptions, the better for blood flow."

The guidelines also recommend cooling cardiac arrest patients for 12 to 24 hours to about 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Two significant studies have shown that practice can improve survival and brain function for those who are comatose after initial resuscitation.

More than 300,000 Americans die each year of cardiac arrest, when the heart suddenly stops beating. The heart association estimates that more than 95 percent of cardiac arrest victims die before they get to the hospital.

Studies show that the chest compressions create more blood flow through the heart to the rest of the body.

Weather

Today: Partly cloudy, with a high near 48. Wind chill values between 12 and 22 early. Windy, with a north northwest wind 25 to 30 mph decreasing to between 15 and 20 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 24. Wind chill values between 16 and 21. North northwest wind around 10 mph.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 54. Wind chill values between 15 and 25 early. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south southwest.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low near 27. Wind chill values between 19 and 24. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high around 56. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming northwest.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 27. North northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 44. North wind 10 to 15 mph becoming east southeast.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 27. South southeast wind around 10 mph.

Friday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 51.

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transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

Sunday, Nov. 27

3:25 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1200 block of North Wells and transported a patient to PRMC.

7:45 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1500 block of North Faulkner and transported a patient to PRMC.

7:39 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 400 block of Rose. No transport noted.

Monday, Nov. 28

12:38 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1200 block of Charles and transported a patient to PRMC.

12:43 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 700 block of Davis and transported a patient to PRMC.

1:54 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1300 block of Garland and transported a patient to PRMC.

6:05 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1200 block of North Wells and transported a patient to PRMC.

Correction

An article in Sunday's The Pampa News incorrectly related the days for a tree display and bake sale sponsored by the Pampa Garden Club. The tree display and bake sale will be Saturday and Sunday at M.K. Brown auditorium.

Death sentence sought for man on trial for rape, death of girl, 11

SARASOTA, Fla. (AP) — A former auto mechanic should be executed because he killed Carlie Brucia in order to cover up evidence that he had kidnapped and raped the 11-year-old girl, a prosecutor said Monday.

Joseph Smith's desire to avoid arrest for the abduction and sexual battery of the girl was one of six "aggravators" that justify a recommendation of death, prosecutor Debra Riva told jurors on the first day of the sentencing phase of Smith's trial.

Smith wanted "to eliminate Carlie as a witness," Riva said. "The defendant did not have to kill the girl."

Other aggravating circumstances, Riva said, include that the victim was under 12, Smith was on probation for possession of cocaine at the time of the murder, and the slaying was premeditated and "heinous, atrocious and cruel."

Defense attorney Carolyn DaSilva asked jurors to recommend sparing Smith's life. She noted that he had battled back pain, depression and drug addiction for the past dozen years, and said relatives, friends and a drug-addiction expert would testify how "a man with good qualities could have fallen so far."

"You will hear from witnesses who can tell you about Joe's good qualities ... even though he was unable to control his drug addiction," DaSilva said. "You will hear from people who care about Joseph Smith, and that his life has value."

Her slaying received worldwide attention because her abduction on Feb. 1, 2004, was captured by a car wash surveillance camera. Her body was found five days later outside a church.

Circuit Judge Andrew Owens, who ultimately will decide the sentence, said he would give the jurors' recommendation "great weight."

Sunday, Nov. 27

Twelve traffic stops were made, one of which resulted in an arrest for possession of drug paraphernalia. A traffic complaint was received from the 400 block of North Wells.

Emergency medical services assistance was reported in the 1200 block of North Wells.

Three business checks were made. Two business alarms were reported.

An unattended death was reported in the 2200 block of Charles.

A suspicious person call was received from the 1200 block of North Hobart.

A prowler was reported in the 800 block of Scott.

Disorderly conduct/fighting was reported in the 200 block of North Russell.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2300 block of Rosewood.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 1200 block of Duncan.

Theft was reported in the police department lobby. The incident occurred in the 400 block of Jupiter. A snow globe valued at \$140 was taken.

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported in the police department lobby. The incident occurred in the 1000 block of South Banks. The vehicle is valued at \$3,000.

Seth Elias Simpson, 17, 2001 N. Williston, was arrested in the 2000 block of Coffee for possession of drug paraphernalia and prohibited substance in a correctional facility.

Sheriff

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

Saturday, Nov. 26

Daniel Sears, 27, Miami, was arrested for possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance.

Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents today.

Wednesday, Nov. 16

12:10 p.m. — A 1995 Chevrolet 1500, driven by Carol Lou Vincent, 49, 727 Magnolia, and a 2001 Chevrolet Malibu, driven by Anite Gill Swart, 49, Miami, collided at the intersection of Perryton Parkway and 28th Avenue. No injuries were reported. Vincent was cited for failure to yield right of way.

Wednesday, Nov. 23

1:50 p.m. — A 1996 Chevrolet 1500, driven by Dean Laverne Crow, 70, 2237 Williston, and a 2004 Ford Crown Victoria, driven by Ronda McKee Hensley, 51, McLean, collided at the intersection of Perryton Parkway and Hobart Street. Hensley was taken to Pampa Regional Medical Center by private conveyance for possible injuries. Hensley was cited for failure to yield at a stop sign.

Fire

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

Saturday, Nov. 26

1:30 p.m. — Four units and 10 personnel responded to a structure fire in the 600 block of East Frederic.

Ambulance

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

Saturday, Nov. 26

1:52 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Highway 60 and Barnes on a fire standby.

9:20 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1700 block of Dogwood and

First big snowstorm of season brings blizzards, tornadoes

DENVER (AP) — The first big snowstorm of the season closed hundreds of miles of major highways across the Plains states today, part of a treacherous system that also sent tornadoes ripping through Arkansas and Kansas.

Six-foot drifts were common in eastern Colorado, western Kansas and Nebraska, the National Weather Service said. Wind up to 60 mph piled drifts 3 feet high in Pierre, S.D., where state government offices were closed. Snow fell as far south as the Texas Panhandle.

Four highway deaths were blamed on the weather.

Most of a stretch of more than 330 miles of Interstate 70 was closed Monday because of poor visibility in blowing snow from the Denver area east to Russell, Kan., stranding travelers headed home after Thanksgiving. One accident

involved up to 25 cars Sunday.

"We'll just go when it's safe. We have a four-wheel drive vehicle but that doesn't make you any safer in this," said Julie Ward of Wichita, Kan., who got one of the last rooms available at the Tyme Square Inn in Limon, Colo.

More than 300 stranded travelers were put up for the night in Goodland, Kan., at a National Guard Armory, a church and a field house. Others slept on pews at the First Baptist Church in Limon, Colo.

"You can't even see," said Bill Kanitig of the Sherman County, Kan., sheriff's office. "The highway is snowpacked, and it's slick and everybody's sliding off."

The South Dakota Highway Patrol shut down a 175-mile stretch of I-90 on today from Kadoka to Mitchell. In central Nebraska, a 60-mile stretch of I-80 was closed today

from North Platte east to Lexington. Numerous other highways were closed across the Plains. The Minnesota State Patrol urged people not to travel in the northwestern part of the state, and schools in large parts of western Minnesota were closed.

The National Weather Service posted blizzard warnings and winter storm warnings for parts of Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota and Minnesota.

Wind, snow and ice snapped power lines and blacked out thousands of customers in eastern South Dakota. "A couple of the lines around Huron had icing to the diameter (of a) softball," said Tom Glanzner, a spokesman for NorthWestern Energy.

High wind or tornadoes destroyed at least eight homes in Arkansas. Officials planned to assess other reports of damage today.

About 7,500 homes were without power in Arkansas late Sunday, Entergy spokesman James Thompson said.

A tornado damaged more than 30 homes at Fort Riley, Kan. A fort spokesman, Army Maj. Christian T. Kubik, said 17 families were homeless.

"We were fortunate nobody was hurt," he said.

Grass fires driven by the storm system's wind blackened thousands of acres in parts of six Texas counties and in Oklahoma. Several homes were destroyed in the two states and hundreds of families had to evacuate in Oklahoma, authorities said.

In the Colorado mountains, the storm brought 26 inches of new snow to the Steamboat Springs ski resort over the weekend. Two cross-country skiers were found in good condition Sunday after being missing overnight about 25 miles

north of Steamboat Springs.

One driver was killed Sunday near Little Rock, Ark., when a suspected tornado scattered debris across a highway and overturned

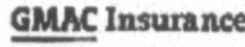
cars, police said. Ice and blowing snow were blamed for one death each in Kansas, South Dakota and Nebraska.



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Bush presses for new immigration strategy

WACO, Texas (AP) — President Bush is trying to build support for a comprehensive immigration strategy even though Congress has shelved the issue for now.

Republican congressional leaders have postponed work on immigration proposals until early next year, partly because lawmakers are divided over the scope of such changes and whether foreigners illegally working in the United States should be allowed to stay.

The president was leaving his Crawford, Texas, ranch after spending nearly a week there for Thanksgiving, to pitch his plan in Tucson, Ariz., on Monday, and El Paso, Texas, on Tuesday. The border states are home to GOP senators who have been vocal on the need to change immigration laws but who aren't entirely sold on Bush's vision.

The president's plan pairs a guest worker program for foreigners with border security enforcement, an attempt to satisfy both his business supporters,

who believe foreign workers help the economy, and his conservative backers, who take a hard line on illegal immigration.

In Tucson, the president planned to aim his remarks at those conservatives, emphasizing his proposals to secure the border, remove people who enter the country illegally and strengthen enforcement of immigration laws.

Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., asked Bush in a letter Monday to encourage bipartisan and realistic reforms to immigration laws.

"Enforcement alone does not work. Unless we address the gap between our immigration laws and reality, illegal immigration will not stop and the situation on the border will continue to be chaotic," Reid said.

The Democrat implored Bush to "stand up to the right wing of your party and stand up for what is right" by taking more than an enforcement-only approach to illegal immigration.

The president's two-day push on bor-

der security and immigration comes a month after Bush signed a \$32 billion homeland security bill for 2006 that contains large increases for border protection, including 1,000 additional Border Patrol agents.

Bush has been urging Congress to act on a guest worker program for more than a year. Under his plan, undocumented aliens would be allowed to get three-year work visas. They could extend that for an additional three years, but would then have to return to their home countries for a year to apply for a new work permit.

The guest worker program has met some resistance in Congress, where several bills on the issue have been introduced.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., along with Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., has proposed providing illegal aliens in the United States visas for up to six years. After that, they must either leave the United States or be in the pipeline for a green card.

Drugs

Continued from Page 1

Both substances were among those sent to Amarillo today.

Sears remains in jail as of press time today in lieu of \$3,000 bond, according to jail records.

Also submitted for testing at the DPS lab is a clear baggie of powder which was recovered Tuesday when officers went to the 1200 block of East Foster in an attempt to serve a warrant.

Gray County sheriff's officers and Pampa police officers drove to the house of a man to serve a warrant on him, and saw a woman at the location.

"They believed they had warrants on the female at

the time; a subsequent check showed they did not," Hoard said.

Officers attempted to make contact with the woman, who started walking.

"As she was walking, she threw something into a carport in the 1200 block," Hoard said.

Officers retrieved the baggie of powder from the carport where they had seen her throw something, and arrested the woman.

The woman is identified as Valerie Lynn Greene, 31, of Amarillo. She was booked into Gray County Jail at 5:40 p.m. Tuesday by Deputy Robert Douglas on a charge of possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance. She was released Friday on \$3,000 bond, according to jail records.

5 dogs that mauled woman, 76, put down

THORNDALE, Texas (AP) — Five dogs that mauled a 76-year-old woman to death in her front yard were euthanized Monday, authorities said.

A sixth dog in the pack had been shot and killed by the woman's husband.

Lillian Loraine Stiles was riding on a lawn mower in her front yard Saturday when she was confronted by the dogs, described as a pit bull-rottweiler mix, said Milam County Sheriff Charlie West.

Investigators think Stiles was heading back into her house after getting off the lawn mower when she was attacked. She suffered severe bites over her entire body and was pronounced dead at her home, authorities said.

Weldon Smith, of

Rockdale, tried to help Stiles and was bitten on the leg. He ran to alert the woman's husband, Jack Stiles, who was inside the couple's home.

The animals belonged to Stiles' neighbor, Jose Hernandez. West said he was unaware of previous complaints or reports regarding the dogs. The dogs will be checked for rabies, said Nell Dohnalik, a spokeswoman for the sheriff's department.

The sheriff's department will send the findings of its investigation to the Milam County District Attorney's office, which will decide if any criminal charges will be filed against Hernandez.

Lillian Loraine Stiles is survived by her husband, three children, seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Name

Continued from Page 1

dents may bring hazardous waste items for disposal. Items accepted include some which may not be disposed of in household trash, such as paint, oil and oil filters.

Used, discarded cell phones are collected by Keep Pampa Beautiful for EcoPhones, a Texas-based cell phone and in jet cartridge recycler. EcoPhones refurbishes the phones or recycles them according to Environmental Protection Agency regulations, thus preventing potentially hazardous waste from being incinerated or disposed of in landfills.

Collection boxes for the used cell phones may be found at Frank's Foods, 300 E. Brown; United Supermarket, 1420 N. Hobart; Communication Connections, 2145 N.

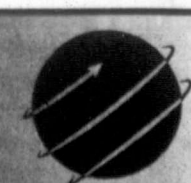
Hobart; and the Keep Pampa Beautiful office.

Ink jet cartridges are collected by Keep Pampa Beautiful for sale to a cartridge refill business, in order to raise funds for operating expenses.

Telephone books are collected each year for recycling. Keep Pampa Beautiful currently has boxes at the Community Building, 200 N. Ballard, for used telephone books. Other collection boxes may sometimes be found at the post office and Pampa Regional Medical Center, Clark said.

"We're hoping to do a lot more, once we get affiliated with Keep America Beautiful. Then we can apply for grants to continue current programs and start new ones," Clark said.

Clean Pampa was begun in 1981; Clark became executive director in May. The organization is funded by the City of Pampa and through donations, which are tax-deductible.



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Viewpoints

Oil profits, the price of gas and the future ...

As Texans made sacrifices to help our Louisiana neighbors and prepared to endure a hurricane of our own, we noticed the price of gasoline rising. Several weeks later, ExxonMobil posted its highest quarterly profits ever of almost \$10 billion. When the price of gasoline rises, it affects almost everyone's day-to-day life; and when the price rises substantially, it can have a serious effect on everyone's livelihood, from airlines to agriculture. With that in mind, the Senate wanted to take a closer look at the industry, so we invited some oil-company executives to speak on the matter at a Senate hearing.

Profits are a normal and important facet of capitalism. Without the incentive to make profits, people will not

risk their hard-earned cash to open up new businesses, providing the goods and services we all need.

At the same time, it is disconcerting to hear about record oil profits at the very moment we are seeing prices rise at the pump. If it were found that prices were being set, not by the free market, but by secret agreements not to compete, then Congress would be sure those practices were punished.

However, many of us remember that it was not long ago that the oil industry was going through a tough time. A sober look behind the headlines of record profits is revealing. For every dollar they take in, the oil industry earns an average of less than \$.08. Even ExxonMobil only managed

to earn just under \$.10 for every dollar it took in. The profit margins in the oil industry are actually well below those in many other industries.

Contrast ExxonMobil's \$.10 per dollar margin with Microsoft and Citigroup, each of which had profits of over \$.33 per dollar. Other companies, like Merck, Cingular and IBM and all had profit margins at least twice that of Exxon.

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita were major reasons prices rose this autumn. Oil platforms in the Gulf of Mexico endured sustained winds of 175 mph, which caused substantial damage to

much of our oil infrastructure: 35 platforms were destroyed and 16 more were badly damaged. By early October, over 90 percent of oil production in the Gulf of



Kay Bailey Hutchison

U.S. Senator

Mexico was shut down.

Even worse, much of the oil that we did have could not be turned into gasoline. With Rita bearing down on them, refineries from Lake Charles, Louisiana to Corpus Christi, Texas, were forced to shut down. Combined, we lost the capacity to refine 20 percent of the oil consumed daily in the U.S. Before the hurricanes, oil refineries

were operating at 97 percent of capacity, so the shutdowns caused a substantial disruption in the supply of gasoline, forcing prices higher.

The supply of gasoline is vital to our economy and security. We need to have greater refining capacity so that when some plants are forced to shut down others can pick up the slack. However, right now extensive and arcane federal regulations discourage businesses from making additional investments in refineries. In fact, no new refinery has been built in the U.S. since 1976.

To open a new refinery now, a company has to follow expensive and time consuming permitting requirements, often fraught with

lengthy regulatory delays. Businesses contemplating such a long-term investment must consider, not just the environmental regulations that exist today, but also the regulations Congress or state governments might decide to impose upon them in the future. The legal climate is so unpredictable that businesses have chosen not to build new plants. To resolve this, Congress needs to provide businesses with a predictable and secure legal regime which will allow them to expand with confidence.

Since there is only so much oil in the ground, we also must diversify and start using new sources of fuel. There has been much talk

See **FUTURE**, Page 5

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Nov. 28, the 332nd day of 2005. There are 33 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 28, 1942, nearly 500 people died in a fire that destroyed the Coconut Grove nightclub in Boston.

On this date:

In 1520, Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan reached the Pacific Ocean after passing through the South American strait that now bears his name.

In 1919, American-born Lady Astor was elected the first female member of the British Parliament.

In 1925, the Grand Ole Opry, Nashville's famed home of country music, made its radio debut on station WSM.

'The first duty of love is to listen.'

— Paul Tillich
American theologian
(1886-1965)

In 1943, President Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josef Stalin met in Tehran during World War II.

In 1958, the African nation of Chad became an autonomous republic within the French community.

In 1964, the United States launched the space probe Mariner IV on a course to Mars.

In 1975, President Ford nominated Federal Judge John Paul Stevens to the U.S. Supreme Court seat vacated by William O. Douglas.

In 1979, an Air New Zealand DC-10 en route to the South Pole crashed into a mountain in Antarctica, killing all 257 people aboard.

In 1985, the Irish Senate approved the Anglo-Irish accord concerning Northern Ireland.

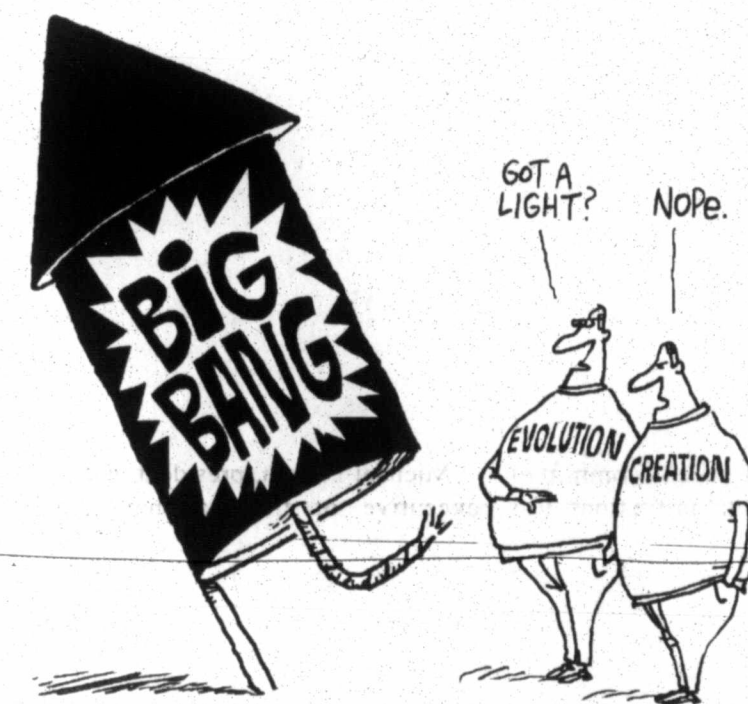
In 1990, Margaret Thatcher resigned as prime minister of Britain during an audience with Queen Elizabeth II, who conferred the premiership on John Major.

Ten years ago: President Clinton continued to press his case for sending 20,000 U.S. ground troops to Bosnia. President Clinton signed a \$6 billion road bill that ended the federal 55 mph speed limit.

Five years ago: George W. Bush's lawyers asked the U.S. Supreme Court to bring "legal finality" to the presidential election by ending any further ballot recounts; Al Gore's team countered that the nation's highest court should not interfere in Florida's recount dispute. Former Texas Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez, who'd served 37 years on Capitol Hill, died in San Antonio at age 84.

One year ago: NBC Sports chairman Dick Ebersol was injured, his son Teddy among three people killed, in a plane crash outside Montrose, Colo.

Mike Lester / Pampa News Tribune
www.CagleCartoons.com



Student loan rip-off test of GOP rhetoric

Special-interest legislation doesn't get much more obnoxious than the bill making its way through Congress to clamp down on students and former students who want to refinance their loans at lower interest rates. They are about to be severely punished for seeking not only an education but a debt-free life afterwards.

While homeowners can refinance their mortgages as often as they want and relieve themselves of high-interest debt when rates cycle downward, student and former-student debtors are only permitted to refinance once for the lifetime of the loan! And now the House is considering legislation that would stop students who are in school from keeping their current interest rate of 4.75 percent and would instead force them to pay 7.9 percent, creating a

lifetime burden entirely unjustified by the lending market.

Many students are locked into rates that approach 9 or 10 percent, reminders of the grim economic days of the early 1980s, and find themselves with no flexibility. Frequently, students use their once-only refinancing option shortly after graduation and find themselves helpless as the market interest rates drop ever lower.

Home-mortgage refinancing, often similarly guaranteed by Fannie Mae, has become a huge industry and has given many families alternatives to bankruptcy as they face huge debt burdens. But student loan refinancing

— beyond the one shot now permitted — is blocked by special-interest regulation and legislation.

The legislative efforts by special interests reflect the power of the once quasi-public body Sallie Mae (Student Loan Association), which has now cut off all connection with the government and instead become a profit-making company unrelated to the government called the SLM Corp.

With a 25 percent share of the student loan market — more than six times that of its rivals — SLM has cashed in on federal guarantees against defaults on the one hand and blocked student



Dick Morris

Columnist

refinancing on the other. As a result, according to columnist Terry Savage, writing for thestreet.com, SLM has made a profit of 1 percent over its loan volume of \$100 billion — \$1 billion in profit!

Since student loans constitute one-quarter of all outstanding loans, SLM has huge market power that it has not hesitated to translate into political clout through campaign contributions that water and nourish the Republicans who control the legislative process. In all, the SLM PAC contributed almost \$140,000 to the members of the House Education and the Workforce Committee to lock in their preferential treatment.

Once SLM abandoned its federal charter and went into business for itself, this pub-

See **MORRIS**, Page 5

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ **Nov. 21**

The Dallas Morning News on avian flu vaccination:

If avian flu were to pass into the general population now, the United States, like the rest of the world, would be unready. Experts predict millions could die. Few vaccine production facilities operate in the United States; most of the vaccine Americans could access is made outside the country. In the case of a worldwide health panic, there is no guarantee that nations in which those vaccine plants are located would allow the lifesaving serum to leave the country.

Why is the U.S. capacity to manufacture vaccines against seasonal influenza or any number of possible pathogens close to nonexistent? Simple economics. Producing vaccines is a high-risk, low-reward enterprise. There is no guarantee that the huge investment necessary for research and development of vaccines is going to pay off, given fluctuating demand.

And because of the breakneck speed at which companies would have to produce a vaccine once a specific health threat is identified, there is practically no time to test the serum adequately for safety. Vaccine makers would open themselves up to liability lawsuits that could destroy their companies.

The Biodefense and Pandemic Vaccine and Drug Development Act

now before Congress would provide market and other incentives to pharmaceutical companies to encourage vaccine production. The most controversial provision would effectively protect vaccine makers against personal injury lawsuits, though it would provide for some compensation in the event of adverse health effects.

Trial lawyers and their Democratic allies are up in arms over the proposal, but unless the U.S. government takes up vaccine manufacturing on its own, the industry's concerns are reasonable and should be accommodated.

We cannot expect to be protected from risk entirely. Americans must decide whether they'd rather run the

See **FLU**, Page 5

Judge in Indian case shows love for Texas, holds little back

By JENNIFER TALHELM
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth may have long ago chosen to work in straight-laced Washington, but he radiates his love for his home state of Texas.

The Reagan appointee has been known to appear at conferences wearing his 10-gallon hat and a shirt sewn like the Lone Star State flag. When he shakes your hand, friends say, he grips your shoulder so hard your whole body rocks back and forth with the movement.

Given his good ol' boy image and conservative background, much has been made about how Lamberth has handled the case for which he is best known in Washington these days — a class-action lawsuit by thousands of American Indians accusing the Interior Department of mishandling more than \$100 billion in royalties from their lands back to 1887.

The nearly 10-year-old case, known as Cobell v. Norton, involves the dry question of

whether the government adequately kept records to show how it handled money from oil, gas, grazing and other royalties it has held in trust for Indians.

Lamberth's decisions, however, have been anything but boring. Fans and detractors alike have marveled at how this cowboy has sided with the Indians.

Twice, Lamberth ordered the department to disconnect its computers from the Internet for failing to provide adequate security for the Indians' trust records. He has held Interior Secretary Gale Norton and her Clinton-era predecessor, Bruce Babbitt, in contempt for their handling of the trust fund.

Often, the Court of Appeals has reversed Lamberth's opinions, including the contempt order against Norton. This month, that court vacated Lamberth's order that the government do a detailed historical accounting of the money it owes the Indians.

The Bush administration has become so frustrated with Lamberth that it has taken the unusual step of asking he be removed from the case.

Lamberth is highly respected as a judge nevertheless. The Almanac of the Federal Judiciary rated him "tops in legal ability," but also warned: "He is no shrinking violet. He can get angry."

In a ruling in July, Lamberth let loose against the Interior Department. He called it a "pathetic outpost" and said the Indian royalties case "serves as an appalling reminder of the evils that result when large numbers of the politically powerless are placed at the mercy of institutions engendered and controlled by a politically powerful few."

Lawyers say Lamberth holds government attorneys to the same high standard as private-sector lawyers, something few federal judges do. They say he gets frustrated when the government is less than candid in court, and he has been known to sanction agencies when they don't follow the rules.

"He really does view everyone in government as having a strong duty to the people," said Mark Nagle, a lawyer who has worked for Lamberth.

In an interview with The

Associated Press, Lamberth said he bases his decisions on the law and doesn't worry about what others think. "I don't shrink from making decisions, even controversial ones," he said.

A native of San Antonio, Lamberth, 62, earned his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Texas. He was drafted out of law school in 1967 and entered the Army Judge Advocate General Corps during Vietnam. Until he was appointed to the bench in 1987, he worked in the civil division of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Washington.

Early in his career, Lamberth was confronted with cases involving government wiretaps and other lawsuits in which the government wanted to gather information or keep it secret from the people.

He said he learned a lot about the government from those experiences. Ultimately, he said, he tried to demonstrate that no one is above the law by making sure the government never got away with lying to the court or Congress. And that desire has been reflected

in his opinions ever since.

During the Clinton years, Lamberth attracted national attention by allowing conservative watchdog Larry Klayman to take sworn depositions from and subpoena a long list of administration officials. Among other things, Klayman accused the Commerce Department of selling trips on official trade missions to Democratic donors.

Lamberth was criticized for it, and Klayman was dismissed as a gadfly. But Lamberth said it was difficult to deny Klayman the right to depose people when he kept "finding another government misstatement under every rock he turns up."

In the end, Lamberth said, the public was served because the administration was forced to provide hidden documents and information.

Lamberth was so associated with Klayman's attack on President Clinton that many were surprised when the judge was equally hard on President Bush's officials in the Indian trust case.

Some mentally ill still able to buy guns

WASHINGTON (AP) — In Alabama, a man with a history of mental illness killed two police officers with a rifle he bought on Christmas Eve.

In suburban New York, a schizophrenic walked into a church during Mass and shot to death a priest and a parishioner.

In Texas, a woman taking anti-psychotic medication used a shotgun to kill herself.

Not one of their names was in a database that licensed gun dealers must check before making sales — even though federal law prohibits the mentally ill from purchasing guns.

Most states have privacy laws barring such information from being shared with law enforcement. Legislation pending in Congress that has bipartisan support seeks to get more of the disqualifying records in the database.

In addition to mandating the sharing of mental health records, the legislation would require that states improve their computerized record-keeping for felony records and domestic violence restraining orders and convictions, which also are supposed to bar people from purchasing guns.

Similar measures, opposed by some advocates for the mentally ill and gun-rights groups, did not pass Congress in 2002 and 2004.

The FBI, which maintains the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, has not taken a position on the bill, but the bureau is blunt about what adding names to its database would do.

"The availability of this information will save lives," the FBI said in a recent report.

More than 53 million background checks for gun sales have been conducted since 1998, when the NICS

replaced a five-day waiting period. More than 850,000 sales have been denied, the FBI reported; in most of those cases, the applicant had a criminal record.

Legislation sponsored by Rep. Carolyn McCarthy, D-N.Y., says millions of records are either missing or incomplete. "The computer is only as good as the information you put in it," McCarthy said.

In the Alabama case, police say Farron Barksdale ambushed the officers as they arrived at the home of his mother in Athens, Ala., on Jan. 2, 2004. Barksdale had been committed involuntarily to mental hospitals on at least two occasions, authorities said.

Facing the death penalty, he has pleaded not guilty and not guilty by reason of mental disease and defect.

The shootings led Alabama lawmakers to share with the FBI the names of people who have been committed involuntarily to mental institutions. But just 20 other states provide NICS at least some names of people with serious mental illness, a disqualifier for gun purchases under federal law since 1968.

Shayla Stewart had been hospitalized five times in Texas, twice by court order. Yet Stewart was able to buy a shotgun at a Wal-Mart in 2003 because Texas considers mental health records confidential.

The same is true in New York, where Peter Troy was twice admitted to mental hospitals but bought a .22-caliber rifle that he used in the shootings inside a Long Island church in March 2002. Troy is serving consecutive life terms for the killings.

As a result of the church shootings, McCarthy and Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., introduced legislation that year to close the gaps in the background check system. The bill would have

required the states to give the FBI their records and provided \$250 million in grants to cover their costs.

The bill passed the House without opposition but stalled in the Senate. In 2004, the measure again had the support of lawmakers who support gun rights, but it did not pass Congress.

McCarthy, whose husband was among six people shot to death on a Long Island Rail Road train in 1993, has introduced it again this year, but it has not yet been taken up by a House Judiciary subcommittee.

Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, a National Rifle Association board member, was a sponsor of the bill in the last Congress and continues to support it, spokesman Dan Whiting said. The NRA supports the concept, but it has not taken a position on McCarthy's legislation, spokesman Andrew Arulanandam said.

Michael Faenza, president and chief executive of the National Mental Health Association, said forcing states to share information on the mentally ill would violate patient privacy and contribute to the stigma they face.

"It's just not fair. On the one hand, we want there to be very limited access to guns," Faenza said. "But here you're singling out people because of a medical condition and denying them rights held by everyone else."

Several states have determined that they can flag residents who should not be allowed to buy a gun without compromising the privacy of mental health patients, said Matt Bennett, a spokesman for Americans for Gun Safety, which supports the bill.

Larry Pratt, executive director of the Gun Owners of America, said adding records to the database is the wrong idea. "Our idea of improving NICS is to abolish it," Pratt said.

Future

Continued from Page 4

about investing in alternative energy sources for years, but often it has been all hat and no cattle.

This year, Congress took serious measures to address this problem in the energy bill. We provided numer-

ous incentives for businesses to invest in and start using alternative sources of fuel. We provided production tax credits, encouraging businesses to produce clean, renewable energy such as wind, biomass, and geothermal power. We also encouraged businesses to buy more of these renewable resources by offering businesses tax credits for purchasing alternative fuel and hybrid vehicles. We even provided a 30 percent credit for

investments in alternative refueling stations, to make the practical side of the transition to new fuels more feasible. If just 20 percent of cars used fuel cell technology, we could cut oil imports by 1.5 million barrels every day.

By addressing the real underlying problems, we can make serious headway in fulfilling America's energy needs.

Morris

Continued from Page 4

lic-private hybrid should have lost its quasi-governmental status and been forced to compete in the private marketplace like anyone else. All regulations restricting refinancing or consolidation should be repealed. If there was ever an area in which the

Republicans should effectuate their rhetoric and deregulate, this is it.

Student loans are the shackles that most young people take into the rest of their lives after leaving school. Keeping this debt hangover large and rendering it inflexible is about as anti-family a policy as you can get, forcing young people to postpone starting families because of the load of debt with which they begin life burdened. Yet it is the Democrats, led by Sen. Ted Kennedy (Mass.), who are most

vociferous in battling for deregulation.

For President Bush, desperately seeking traction with which to regain his popularity, a crusade on behalf of student debtors, announced in his State of the Union speech, might be just the ticket. He could help himself get out of political red ink by mitigating the financial red ink in which an entire generation finds itself mired.

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

Flu

Continued from Page 4

risk of a vaccine shield that might work badly or take their chances

with no shield at all. The former is unfortunate, but, given the immensity of the avian flu threat, the latter is unacceptable.

After stripping it of a dangerous provision that would exempt a

newly created government biomedical agency from the Freedom of Information Act thus protecting its workings from necessary public oversight Congress should waste little time in passing this legislation.

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Shelly Cook Escrow Officer

Sports Day

Pampa goes undefeated en route to LCI crown

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

The superb start to the 2005-2006 Harvesters varsity boys basketball campaign continues as Pampa went undefeated in the Lions Club Invitational over the weekend.

Pampa dropped Austin Can Academy Friday night at McNeely Field House, 84-63. They hooked up with Texas Can Academy of Dallas in round two Saturday afternoon, taking that game 82-71.

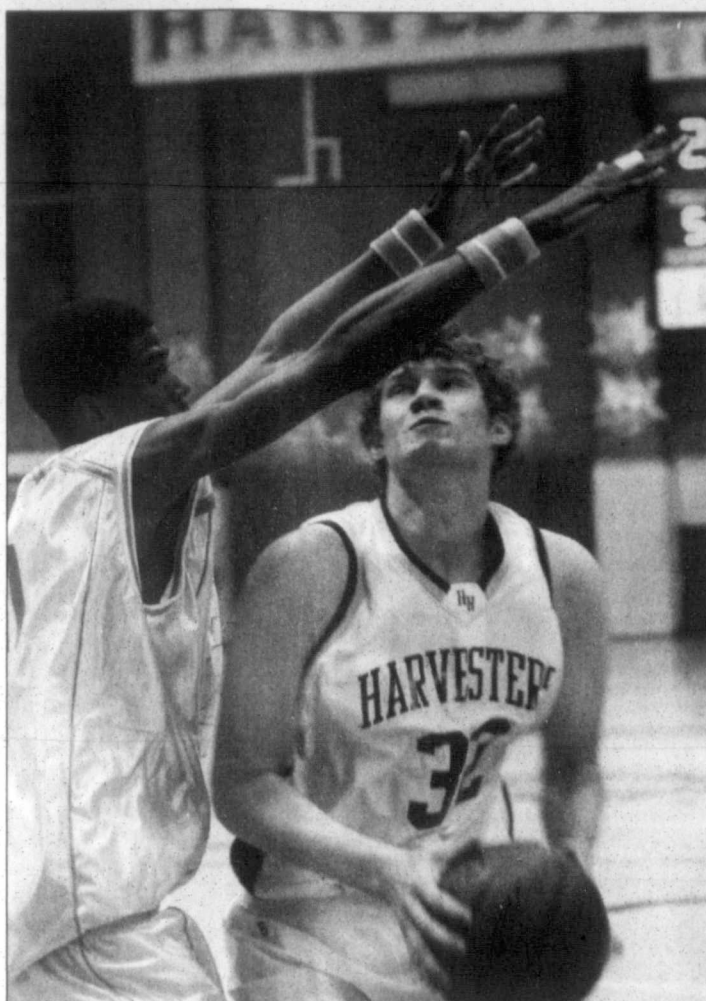
That set up a championship meeting between Pampa and Borger Saturday night. The Harvesters defeated the Bulldogs for a second time in less than a week, 74-55, to take the LCI championship.

Jarett Kotara, Tyler Hall and Sharod Young were named to the LCI All-Tournament Team, as was Borger's Nathan Purswell and Shade Haddox. Young

averaged 18.7 points per game during the tournament. Hall carried an 18 point average while Kotara finished with 17.3 per contest.

Coach Dustin Miller notes the play of Braydon Barker, saying he was solid with the ball all weekend, especially from the 3-point line. Miller also praised Matt Smith for his performance throughout the tournament, highlighting Smith's 19-point outing against Texas Can Academy, which happened to take place on Smith's 15th birthday.

All-in-all, Miller is please with how his team played over the weekend. "It was good for us to win a tournament, especially one we were hosting," said Miller. He continued, "We had great support from the community and I think overall the tournament was a huge success."



Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

Senior Jarett Kotara battles to the basket Saturday afternoon against a Texas Can Academy defender. Pampa won the game, 82-71.

Lions fire Mariucci

DETROIT (AP) - The disappointing Detroit Lions fired coach Steve Mariucci and some of his assistants on Monday, a team official told The Associated Press.

After Detroit lost 27-7 to the Atlanta Falcons on Thanksgiving to fall to 4-7, reports swirled that the team was considering firing Mariucci. When Mariucci was not let go over the weekend, some thought his job was safe for the final five games of the regular season.

The Lions called an afternoon news conference that will feature team president Matt Millen.

Mariucci and the assistants were fired late Monday morning, said the team official, who spoke with the AP on the condition of anonymity because the team had not yet made the official announcement.

The Lions have lost four of five games since a solid start put them atop the NFC North with the Chicago Bears. The team has collapsed on and off the field

with players failing to produce and some bickering with one another and questioning the coaches' game plans.

Mariucci's record with the Lions was 15-28. His hiring was hailed by fans and media alike, but he was not able to turn around a team that has won one playoff game since 1957.

Mariucci has more than two years remaining on the \$25 million contract he signed in 2003. The Michigan native came to the Lions from San Francisco, where he was 60-43 over six seasons.

Mariucci was cut some slack in the past because the team he inherited was crafted by Millen, but expectations were high heading into his third season.

"I think we need to (make the playoffs). We want to, and we're going to make it happen," Mariucci said before the season. "If we win 10 or 11 ballgames and make the playoffs, it would make us happy and make the fans happy."

Kidd scores 35 win over Lakers

(AP) - LOS ANGELES (AP) - Jason Kidd scored six of his season-high 35 points in overtime, and also had eight rebounds and 12 assists Sunday night, leading New Jersey over the host Lakers.

The Nets won despite Kobe Bryant's 46 points - an NBA single-game high this season. Bryant scored all but seven of his points after half-time, but only one in the overtime period.

Bryant shot 14-of-36 and 14-of-16 from the foul line.

Nenad Krstic had 20 points and a season-high 13 rebounds before fouling out with 1:14 to play in the fourth quarter for the Nets (6-7), who handed the Lakers their sixth loss in eight games. New Jersey never trailed in snapping a three-game losing streak.

Mavs sign swingman Griffin

DALLAS (AP) - With their swingman depth depleted by injuries, the Dallas Mavericks re-signed free agent Adrian Griffin on Monday in time for him to be in the lineup at Toronto.

Griffin played 69 games for the Chicago Bulls last season, averaging 2.2 points, 2.1 rebounds, 1.4 assists and 1.00 steal in 9.7 minutes a game. He started 157 games for Dallas in the 2001-02 and '02-03 seasons.

Swingman was supposed to be a strength for Dallas, but that was before Jerry Stackhouse was injured, Doug Christie was waived because of injuries and Josh Howard was injured Saturday night. Keith Van Horn also has been slowed by a hand problem.

Stackhouse has yet to play this season. Howard is expected to miss at least two games because of a sprained ankle.

Griffin fills the vacancy created when Christie was waived.

'TIS THE SEASON

Phrases that frighten me this time of year

There are a few phrases I have come to fear this time of year, and neither has anything to do with the mall, a jolly man in a red suit or deer that can fly.

"You're doing a great job, but..." and "Some of the other parents asked me to visit with you..." Two phrases that instantly cause my heart to beat faster and the hair on the back of my neck to stand up. I hear them, and others, almost all basketball season long. And with great frequency.

Some are direct. Polite but direct "Really enjoy what you do. But why do you seem to take so many pictures of (player's name)? There are other players on the team too."

Others will sort of dance around, getting their point across subliminally. "That was a great article, about the game. I didn't see (player's) name though. I must have missed it. Oh well, keep up the good work." The missing player is usually their child.

Both are parent-speak for "Why don't you take more pictures of, and write about my kid?"

Oddly, I understand how they feel. But to assume I take the pictures or write what I do in order to purposely lift one or two players above the others is to accuse me of biased journalism.

Well, I can't have that now, can I? So I decided to conduct a little experiment over the weekend to prove what I do during this time of year is right and justified.

Basketball is a fast game with plenty of motion. As I do not have the luxury of high-dollar equipment, I make do with what I have. I've learned in

order to afford myself the best opportunity to capture a basketball photo, I generally have to stand under or near the basket for what amounts to a head-on shot. Usually a player shooting the ball, looking to pass the ball or going after a rebound. Anything with motion in a poorly lit gym is almost impossible to capture. McNeely Field House is my toughest challenge.

For example, during the boys and girls games against Borger last week, I shot a total of 176 pictures. I found

Michael J.
Stevens

Sports
Editor



roughly 12 in all that are usable. Of those, most were the coaches and players during a time-out, or a player taking a foul shot. I call these 'stagnant shots.'

This is why you tend to see some of the same players.

So when David Bowser called me last Wednesday and asked if I would like him to take pictures at the Lions Club Invitational, I was ecstatic. This meant I would be able to get pictures from that tournament as well as the girls' tourney in Amarillo. Better yet, I wanted to see who Bowser shot more pictures of. Keep in mind, he has no idea who these kids are or their talent level. He will only see photo opportunities.

Guess what. He shot the same players in action that I tend to get. His pictures are much better of course (someone gave him a new camera they wanted him to try).

Basketball - in particular high school basketball - is unique in the world of 'team' sport. Often there will be one or two players that seem to stand out during a game. And despite one's best efforts, these players tend to get photographed more than others. Only because they happen to be the ones that handle the ball more. And when it comes to writing about a game, my information is derived directly from what I receive from the coaches. If a player is not mentioned, it is only because his or her information was not included. Space can also be a factor from time to time.

My job, first and foremost, is to report on Pampa sports. To try and tell the story as best I can within the time and space allowed that day. I am not here to purposely provide materials for 'scrapbooking' or to help a parent add to his/her child's sports portfolio. These are by-products of what I do.

If you honestly believe I am not taking enough pictures of your child or writing about him/her enough, please feel free to fill the void. Send me a photo. Provide me some stats. I have never turned any such offering down.

A handful of misguided parents appears convinced I exclude players with malice. At the same time, the players, coaches - and parents who know better - seem pleased with my performance. If you don't mind, I think I will stay the course.

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Rally cry



Head coach Troy Fry rallies his troops during the Lady Harvesters game Friday night against Canyon at the AISD Girls Basketball Tip-Off Classic in Amarillo.

Pampa News photo by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

AP Top 25 poll

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

(AP) - The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Nov. 26, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Southern Cal (55)	11-0	1,615	1
2. Texas (10)	11-0	1,570	2
3. LSU	10-1	1,447	3
4. Penn St.	10-1	1,430	4
5. Virginia Tech	10-1	1,332	5
6. Ohio St.	9-2	1,276	7
7. Notre Dame	9-2	1,252	6
8. Oregon	10-1	1,144	8
9. Auburn	9-2	1,126	9
10. Miami	9-2	989	10
11. UCLA	9-1	942	11
12. West Virginia	9-1	932	12
13. Georgia	9-2	899	13
14. Alabama	9-2	758	14
15. TCU	10-1	740	15
16. Louisville	8-2	600	17
17. Florida	8-3	542	19
18. Texas Tech	9-2	512	18
19. Boston College	8-3	396	21
20. Michigan	7-4	340	22
21. Wisconsin	9-3	317	24
22. Clemson	7-4	225	23
23. Fresno St.	8-3	203	16
24. Georgia Tech	7-4	187	20
25. Iowa	7-4	91	25

Others receiving votes: Oklahoma 73, South Carolina 64, Florida St. 24, UCF 20, Boise St. 15, Nevada 13, California 10, Nebraska 8, Northwestern 8, Colorado 7, Minnesota 6, Toledo 6, Iowa St. 4, UTEP 2.

Former Cowboy Irvin arrested

DALLAS (AP) - Former Dallas Cowboys receiver Michael Irvin was charged with misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia after Plano police officers searched his vehicle during a traffic stop.

Irvin, an ESPN analyst and semifinalist for the Pro Football Hall of Fame, told The Associated Press late Sunday that the drug pipe found in his car belonged to a friend of 17 years who left a Houston rehab center and came to Irvin's house in Carrollton for Thanksgiving. Irvin wouldn't reveal his friend's name.

Irvin said he put the pipe in his car because he didn't want it in his house where his children might find it. He said he planned to drive somewhere the next day, like a grocery trash bin, and throw the pipe away but forgot.

"It's a situation that is not as it seemed," said Irvin, whose voice was choked with emotion during the telephone conversation.

"I know the type of demons they have to fight and I am going to help them, because it's the only way I can keep them from getting to my family. I have to clean up my friends because they are around my boys. It's upsetting."

Irvin was arrested on an outstanding warrant for speeding in Irving after being pulled over Friday afternoon for speeding in Plano. Irvin said he thought he had paid the outstanding ticket.

Irvin paid a fine on the speeding ticket and posted bond on the drug paraphernalia

possession charge. He was released about an hour after he was pulled over.

Irvin was a member of three Super Bowl championship teams with the Cowboys. Asked how this kind of publicity might affect his chances of induction into the hall of fame, Irvin said his helping his friends are more important.

"The whole thing means such a great deal for me, and hopefully one day it will be there," Irvin said. "But my friends and my family mean a little more. I would rather be helping them, even if it hurts that."

In 1996, Irvin pleaded no contest to felony cocaine possession in exchange for four years of deferred probation, a \$10,000 fine and dismissal of misdemeanor marijuana possession charges. Irvin said Sunday he's always been transparent and open about his issues in the past, and now wants to help others through those same problems.

Irvin holds Cowboys records for catches (750), receiving yards (11,904) and 100-yard games (47), including a team-record seven in a row in 1991.

ESPN said it has spoken to Irvin, who will still appear on the network Monday as an analyst.

"We've talked to Michael, who explained the situation to us the way he did to the AP, and we will continue to talk with Michael," ESPN spokesman Josh Krulowitz said. "But you can expect to see him on 'Monday Night Countdown' on Monday evening."

Funk takes six skins Sunday

LA QUINTA, Calif. (AP) - Fred Funk won the final \$550,000 and six skins Sunday, for a total of \$925,000 and 15 skins in his first try in the Skins Game.

Funk clinched the record-setting victory when Tiger Woods missed an 8-foot birdie putt. The 49-year-old Funk became the oldest Skins Game winner, and took all \$700,000 available on Sunday.

Woods won the other \$75,000, on the

third hole Saturday. Annika Sorenstam was shut out for the second straight year, and Fred Couples also was blanked.

Before the made-for-TV tournament, Woods told Funk he'd never live it down if Sorenstam outdrove him on even one hole. It happened on the third hole Saturday, and Funk good-naturedly pulled a pink skirt over his pants and finished the hole.

DALLAS COWBOYS

Eagles file tampering complaint charges

NEW YORK (AP) - The Philadelphia Eagles have filed a tampering complaint against the Dallas Cowboys after Dallas owner Jerry Jones suggested on a radio show that his team is often interested in players such as suspended wide receiver Terrell Owens.

"In general, I am a risk-taker. We've gone down that road," Jones said when asked if the Cowboys might be interested in Owens. "I probably have a propensity to try and make things work. ... A top receiver could flourish with Drew Bledsoe. That's always appealing."

NFL spokesman Michael Signora confirmed Sunday the Eagles filed the complaint over Jones' remark and said "the matter is under review."

Owens was suspended for four games by

the Eagles on Nov. 5 for criticizing quarterback Donovan McNabb, fighting with team "ambassador" Hugh Douglas and other actions deemed detrimental to the team. Last Tuesday, the suspension was upheld by an arbitrator.

After the suspension ends, the Eagles are expected to deactivate Owens for the rest of the season. He is expected to be traded or released for next season.

NFL bylaws prohibit "any interference by a member club with the employer-employee relationship of another club or any attempt by a club to impermissibly induce a person to seek employment with that club or with the NFL."

The Eagles' complaint was first reported by Fox.

Saints get back in win column

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) - The New Orleans Saints returned "home" and got back in the win column.

Aaron Brooks threw three touchdown passes, and New Orleans broke a six-game losing streak with a 21-19 win over the New York Jets on Sunday night. It was a return trip to Giants Stadium for the Saints, who lost their "home" opener at the stadium earlier this season, but fared better this time around as the visiting team.

"I told them we are 1-1 at home," coach Jim Haslett said. "It's a better feeling tonight."

The Saints (3-8) were forced to play in East Rutherford on Sept. 19 against the New York Giants after Hurricane Katrina devastated the New Orleans area and ruined the Superdome. The Saints lost that game 27-10, and receiver Joe Horn later said the NFL was making a "mockery" of the team.

"We have been faced with so much adversity that we are always playing away basically," Brooks said. "We are not in the Superdome, so it is another place we have to go and play at to get another victory."

The Saints had to sweat through this one at the end because the Jets (2-9) had a chance to win. But Mike Nugent, who kicked a career-high four field goals, came up short on a 53-yard attempt with 15 seconds left.

"We still almost let it slip away, but we didn't _ and almost doesn't count," Horn said. "I wish and hope for those 45-minute games where we score 35 and they score 13. Every week is a nailbiter to the end, and our team is better than that."

When the ball left his foot, Nugent thought he had just kicked the winning field goal.

"I thought it was going to go," Nugent said. "It kept sailing and sailing and then at the last second, it just didn't get the last few feet."

Brooks, who finished 17-of-23 for 181 yards, put the Saints in position for the win with his third touchdown of the night _ a 30-yard pass to Devery Henderson that gave New Orleans a 21-19 lead

with 8:32 left.

"It's huge anytime you get a victory, regardless of how it comes," safety Dwight Smith said. "We passed a test and hopefully we'll build from here."

Brooks Bollinger was 19-of-28 for a career-high 251 yards and a touchdown, one of the few positives in the Jets' sixth straight loss.

"It's just disappointing," Bollinger said. "You just want a win so bad, obviously since I've been starting I haven't won one, so I really wanted to help us win a game. To come up short again, it's tough."

Also, Curtis Martin became the fourth NFL player to rush for 14,000 yards, reaching the mark with a 23-yard run in the first quarter. He joined Emmitt Smith (18,355), Walter Payton (16,726) and Barry Sanders (15,269) as the only players to reach the milestone.

"As a professional, you would trade all the milestones for a win," said Martin, who had 91 yards. "It really doesn't matter if we are going to the playoffs or not, 3-8 would have meant everything to me tonight."

Nugent's 29-yard field goal in the first quarter gave New York a 3-0 lead _ the first time the Jets scored in the opening quarter since Week 2 against Miami, when Chad Pennington was still the quarterback.

The Saints quickly erased the deficit by driving 70 yards, capped by Donte Stallworth's 21-yard TD catch.

Nugent made it 7-6 on the Jets' next possession with a 45-yard field goal, but the Saints again came right back on Zach Hilton's 15-yard reception.

The Jets thought they closed the deficit just before halftime when Bollinger threw a 28-yard pass for Laveranues Coles in the corner of the end zone. But replay officials overturned it because Coles bobbled the ball as he was going down.

"Wow, that was a shock!" Horn said. "But I take my hat off to the ref for that call."

Rams 33, Texans 27, OT

HOUSTON (AP) - Ryan Fitzpatrick made the most of his unexpected NFL debut.

The third-string rookie quarterback threw a 56-yard scoring pass to Kevin Curtis in overtime Sunday to rally the St. Louis Rams from 21 points down in a 33-27 win over the hopeless Houston Texans.

"It's a lot of fun for people who've supported me," Fitzpatrick said. "Hopefully, I get some more opportunities. When the opportunities come, I'll just keep trying to take advantage of them."

Fitzpatrick, a seventh-round draft pick from Harvard, completed 19 of 30 for 310 yards and three touchdowns in less than three quarters of work. He replaced Rams' starter Jamie Martin, who went out after a hit to his head by DaShon Polk late in the first quarter.

"It was sort of a situation where you're not the starter and you get thrown in, so you don't have much time to think about it," Fitzpatrick said.

For a while, it looked like his debut would be a footnote in a rare easy victory for the Texans (1-10).

Houston led 24-3 at halftime and 27-17 in the final minute before Fitzpatrick lofted a 43-yard touchdown pass to Isaac Bruce with 26 seconds left.

The Rams then recovered an onside kick, Fitzpatrick hit Torry Holt for a 19-yard gain and Jeff Wilkins booted the tying field goal with four seconds remaining.

"I felt sick out there," Texans center Steve McKinney said. "I was so

disgusted I wanted to throw up. It's really hard to lose a game when you're up 10 points with 30 seconds to go _ but we did."

Houston got the ball first in overtime but punted. Fitzpatrick then hit Curtis on a quick screen and the speedy receiver outspurred the Houston defense for the winning score.

"I knew there was no way we were going to lose that game," Fitzpatrick said. "You sort of get that feeling out there, of invincibility, with the way the offense was playing late and the way the defense really stepped up."

The Texans, meanwhile, suffered the largest collapse in franchise history after a playing their best first half of the season.

Carr threw three touchdown passes in the opening half, tying a career high. He was so excited about his 10-yard TD pass to Corey Bradford with 20 seconds left in the second quarter, he playfully tackled Bradford in the end zone.

"We felt better than we probably felt in a long time on offense," said Carr, who went 13 of 17 for 171 yards in the opening half.

Fitzpatrick, it turns out, was the ideal person to lead the Rams' rally. Four years ago, as a Harvard freshman, Fitzpatrick guided the Crimson back from a 21-0 halftime hole to beat Dartmouth 31-21.

"I was actually thinking about that game," Fitzpatrick said. "The biggest thing when you're in those situations is you need to get everyone around you fired up."

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104 Lots

2 Mausoleum Crypts Side by Side \$3995.00 Call 440-2449

106 Coml. Property

FOR Lease-warehouse with loading docks. 2 acres, all fenced. Jannie Lewis 665-3458.

115 Trailer Parks

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

120 Autos

1999 Chrysler Concorde. Leather, Loaded, Sunroof, Sharp. \$4500 obo. Call 665-0008.

96 Unfurn. Apts.

1 bdr. apt. All bills paid. Clean, newly remodeled. 1111 S. Banks. Call 665-0379.

BEAUTIFUL 2 bdrm., park view. \$450 mo., \$200 dep., water/gas pd. 710 N. Russell st. Apt. #5. Aft. 6 pm. 665-5531.

GWENDOLEN Plaza Apts., 1&2 bdr. Gas / water pd. 3, 6 mo.-1yr. lease. 800 N. Nelson, 665-1875.

LAKEVIEW Apt. 1 & 2 bdr. unfurn. apt. avail. Ref., dep. req. 669-2981 or 669-4386

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NEWLY remodeled. New ownership. Security Officer on duty. 1 bdr.-\$385, 2 bdr.-\$490, all bills pd. Limited openings. Court-yard Apts., 669-9712.

98 Unfurn. Houses

PICK up rental list from Gray Box on front porch of 125 S. Houston, Pampa. Update each Fri.

99 Stor. Bldgs.

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

102 Bus. Rent. Prop.

OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months-free rent. 669-6841.

LOWEST Rents in City! Downtown locations-stores, warehouses, rec. facilities. Call 665-4274.

103 Homes For Sale

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665-3560, 440-2314
669-0007

3 Br. 2 Ba. Brick, Dbl Gar., Ch/a. Christine St. Price Reduced! Realtor C-21. 440-1100, 665-4180

3 BR., 1ba., storm cellar, ch/a. Close to Travis School, needs some interior work. \$22,500.

96' Ford Ext. Pickup. \$3000. Call 664-2753

3/2 Brick Home w/ Fire Place. 2 Car Gar., Lrg Lot, Patio. By Appt. Call 806-231-1438.

BY Owner. 3 bdr., 2 3/4 ba., 2 liv. areas, dbl. gar. 1701 Grape. 665-4961, 290-2803, by appt. only.

GREAT Buy! 129 Walnut Dr., 3 bdr., 3 ba., brick, c h/a, fpl., 3 car att. gar. 1 det. gar., cellar. 9 ac. Shed Realty 665-3761, Lorene Paris 868-6971.

MIAMI, Tx. 3 bdr., 2 ba., brick, 2 liv. areas, fpl., air, heat pump, gar., carpet, cellar. 431 S. Harvey \$5500. Shed 665-3761, Lorene 868-6971.

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120 Autos

1999 Chrysler Concorde. Leather, Loaded, Sunroof, Sharp. \$4500 obo. Call 665-0008.

'91 Ford Explorer 4WD power win/locks. 200K miles \$2500 OBO. AND '99 Chevy Z-71 X-Cab (Tommy Liff) Power win/locks, 120K Miles, \$12,995 OBO 669-1842

1996 Ford Mustang GT. Call (806)663-6904.

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AUSTIN SCHOOL DISTRICT			North and North East
2700 Duncan	\$245,000	4/2/5/2 - 3830 SF/GCAD	
2715 Aspen	\$169,500	4/2/2 - 2780 SF/GCAD	
1940 Fir	\$160,000	4/4/2 - 3178 SF/GCAD	
2522 Evergreen	\$137,500	3/2/2 - 1850 SF/GCAD	
2639 Fir	\$125,000	3/2/2 - 1595 SF/GCAD	
1344 Hamilton	\$85,000	3/2/75/1 Det - 1987 SF/GCAD	
2425 Christine	\$77,000	3/2/2 - 1562 SF/GCAD	
2133 Mary Ellen	\$76,500	2/1/2 - 1516 SF/GCAD	
2525 Charles	\$74,500	3/2/2 - 2019 SF/GCAD	
1826 Hamilton	\$72,500	4/2/2 cp - 2196 SF/GCAD	
2216 Evergreen	\$69,900	3/1/75/2 - 1413 SF/GCAD	
1424 Williston	\$59,900	3/1/75/2 - 1464 SF/GCAD	
1205 Charles	\$57,500	2/1/5/1 - 1490 SF/GCAD	
1420 Hamilton	\$49,900	4/1/75/1 - 1377 SF/GCAD	
1113 E. Harvester E2	\$48,000	2/1/75/1 - 1479 SF/GCAD	
1327 Charles	\$43,500	3/1/1 Det - 1120 SF/GCAD	
2126 N. Russell	\$38,000	2/2/None - 1485 SF/GCAD	
1013 Mary Ellen	\$32,000	2/1/1 - 1280 SF/GCAD	
2118 Williston	\$19,900	2/1/1 - 962 SF/GCAD	

LAMAR SCHOOL DISTRICT			South West
321 N. West	\$210,000	5/4/5/2 - 3829 SF/GCAD	
1512 Oklahoma	\$71,500	2/1/2 - 1669 SF/GCAD	
1119 S. Dwight	\$49,900	4/2/5/2 - 2408 SF/GCAD	
712 Magnolia	\$45,000	3/1/1 - 1272 SF/GCAD	
304 N. West	\$39,900	2/1/5/1 cp - 2288 SF/GCAD	
1125 S. Dwight	\$28,500	2/1/1 - 1021 SF/GCAD	
821 Talley	\$12,000	2/1/None - 680 SF/GCAD	
936 S. Nelson	\$8,500	1/1/1 - 560 SF/GCAD	

TRAVIS SCHOOL DISTRICT		West and North West
1912 Lynn	\$162,500	3/2/1 - 2494 SF/GCAD
1933 Lea	\$89,900	3/1/75/2 - 1820 SF/GCAD
1520 N. Zimmers	\$87,500	3/1/75/2 - 1542 SF/GCAD
2232 N. Sumner	\$79,500	4/1/5/2 - 1894 SF/GCAD
2132 N. Wells	\$45,000	3/1/2 - 1454 SF/GCAD
625 N. Wells	\$38,000	3/2/1CP 1612 SF/GCAD
1100 Seneca	\$35,000	3/1/75/1 CP 1156 SF/GCAD
2130 N. Nelson	\$32,000	3/1/75/1 1352 SF/GCAD
623 Roberta	\$28,500	2/1/1 - 845 SF/GCAD
638 N. Banks	\$23,000	3/1/None 1197 SF/GCAD

Bush official sees opening for overhaul of welfare system

WASHINGTON (AP) — The administration's point man on tightening welfare requirements says he senses that Congress is closer to making significant changes to the program than at any time during President Bush's tenure.

"I can almost taste it," said Wade Horn, an assistant secretary within the Health and Human Services Department.

Democratic lawmakers don't believe Horn is correct, but say that

if he is, the overhaul will occur without bipartisan support.

Bush has proposed that participants work longer hours to maintain eligibility for cash assistance and other forms of aid. He also wants to raise the bar for states by requiring that a greater percentage of their welfare population find work — or the states risk financial penalties.

Since the original legislation calling for changes in welfare expired in 2002, Congress has

approved 11 short-term extensions. A more permanent extension requires reauthorization of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.

But lawmakers have been unable to agree on how to do that — mainly because of money.

The House included welfare changes within a bill that reduces government spending by \$50 billion over the next five years. The Senate also approved a bill cutting spending by \$35 billion. Once

negotiators from both chambers bridge the differences, they will submit a final "reconciliation bill" that cannot be filibustered. That means supporters would have to find only 51 votes in the Senate — not 60.

Horn's optimism stems from history. The welfare legislation approved in 1996 was also part of reconciliation legislation that could not be filibustered.

Rep. Sander Levin, D-Mich., noting that 98 Democratic repre-

sentatives voted for changes to the welfare program back in 1996, said he senses no Democratic support for the legislation passed by the House.

The changes approved in 1996 set limits on how long people could obtain cash assistance. Since the law went into effect, the welfare rolls have dropped from about 4.4 million families to under 2 million.

The president and many lawmakers say, however, that momentum has stalled.

Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum to host 29th annual holiday open house

CANYON — The Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum will celebrate the Season with its 29th annual Holiday Open House. This family event is scheduled for from 6-9 p.m. Dec. 2 and from 2-6 p.m. Dec. 3 at the museum.

Bring family and friends to enjoy the festive decorations throughout the museum. Children can visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus at the 1915 kit house, and listen to stories in Storyteller's Corner.

A special area has been set aside for children's crafts and activities. The young and the young at heart will enjoy musical presentations by local groups, and the opportunity to talk to costumed role players and sing along with the piano player in Pioneer Town.

Musical entertainment by area choirs, schools and musicians add to the festivities. Pianos for the event are provided by Jent's of Amarillo.

Don't miss the opportunity to meet friends and welcome the Holiday Season. Admission will



Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon will host a Holiday Open House with Santa and Mrs. Claus from 6-9 p.m. Dec. 2 and from 2-6 p.m. Dec. 3 at the museum.

be free to the open house — a gift to continued support throughout the area and community for their year.

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Doubling global work force helps Fed in inflation fight

WASHINGTON (AP) — While Alan Greenspan has won praise for his successful 18-year battle to keep inflation under control, he's the first to say he's had a lot of help. Among those most responsible are tens of millions of workers in China, India and Eastern Europe.

Adding all those workers to the global economy has made the Federal Reserve's inflation-fighting job easier by increasing competition. That has helped hold down labor costs and prices.

It has come at a cost: Many of the jobs being done overseas used to be in America.

Last week, General Motors Corp. announced plans to cut more than a quarter of its North American manufacturing jobs and close 12 facilities by 2008. Those cuts will be added to the more than 3 million manufacturing jobs that have been lost since mid-2000.

"U.S. manufacturing jobs have withered over the past five years and many of those jobs are never coming back," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com, a private consulting firm.

For those U.S. workers who still have jobs, the pressure on their wages has intensified as companies use the threat of moving more production overseas as a way to extract concessions from their U.S. workers.

This phenomenon has hit manufacturing the hardest. But service workers are starting to be hurt as well. The ability to transmit digitally massive amounts of information to faraway places has led companies to send overseas jobs in such high-tech areas as architecture, computer software, medical services and engineering.

"It is one thing to celebrate keeping inflation in check. It is another thing to celebrate that living standards are stagnant or falling for most American workers," said Thea Lee, policy director for the AFL-CIO.

All the goods flowing into the U.S. from overseas have produced a record trade deficit that must be financed by borrowing from abroad.

In 1987, the year Greenspan took over as Fed chairman, the U.S. had a deficit in its current account, the broadest measure of trade, of \$160.7 billion. Last year, that

deficit set a record of \$668.1 billion and is projected to go even higher this year.

Like most economists, Greenspan is an ardent supporter of free trade and has said the current account deficit should improve gradually without destabilizing the U.S. economy.

Other economists worry that foreigners suddenly might decide to stop holding so many U.S. investments, driving down the dollar's value against other currencies, as well as U.S. stock and bond prices.

Greenspan also has a benign view about how the U.S. can deal with workers who have lost jobs and or seen their wages depressed because of foreign competition. He thinks the country can solve this problem by doing a better job of educating workers so they have the skills they need for the high-tech jobs of the future, rather than the low-skill jobs that increasingly are moving to other countries.

That solution, Greenspan believes, will help combat the growing wage inequality in the U.S. This trend has seen incomes for high-income Americans rise sharply while the wages of low-income workers have been stagnant.

According to figures from the Census Bureau, the top 20 percent of U.S. households earned 50.1 percent of all income last year while the bottom 20 percent received just 3.4 percent of total income.

Other analysts are not so sure that Greenspan's approach will work, especially given that high-tech jobs are being sent to countries with well-educated workers who earn far less than Americans.

"The idea that you can educate yourself out of this problem is not accurate any more," said Jared Bernstein, an economist at the Economic Policy Institute, a liberal think tank in Washington.

Greenspan had a different worry in recent congressional testimony. He said the Fed and other central banks will have to be diligent about fighting inflation once the beneficial effect of the huge increase in the global work force begins to wane.

Greenspan will step down as Fed chairman at the end of January, so that will be a problem for Ben Bernanke, his designated successor.

'It is one thing to celebrate keeping inflation in check. It is another thing to celebrate that living standards are stagnant or falling for most American workers.'

—Thea Lee
AFL-CIO policy director

PRODUCT TESTERS NEEDED TO COMPLETE STATEWIDE STUDY

GOOD NEWS: First test results show that new hearing device helps improve natural hearing.

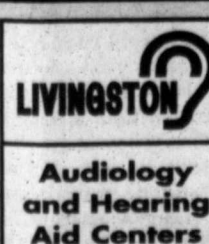


"As part of this statewide product study, five leading manufacturers of hearing aids are looking for people that will qualify as product testers to try a new innovative hearing solution," said Richard Davila of Livingston Hearing Aid Centers. "We are proud to participate in this study and each qualified participant will be paid \$50 to complete the study (a nominal security deposit is required)."

If you are having hearing problems and have considered trying hearing aids, this product study is an excellent opportunity to try the latest in digital hearing technology.

These new hearing devices allow you to experience increased sound quality without the "plugged up" sensation of traditional hearing aids.

To see if you qualify to participate in this study, call the location nearest you for an appointment.



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