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High today 57
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 For weather details see
 Page 2

**College info
 hotline available**

AMARILLO — Sen. Teel Bivins (R-Amarillo) is announcing the availability of a toll-free college information hotline this weekend only, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jan. 13-14. The hotline may be reached at (877) 782-7322.

This service is sponsored by Texas Association for College Admission Counseling and Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators and will be staffed by financial aid advisers and other experts as well as Spanish-speaking counselors.

"It's a whole new job market," Bivins said. "We have a growing need for better educated people to join our workforce and the people staffing this special hotline this weekend could help you change your life."

Young performers' competition Saturday

AMARILLO — Amarillo Symphony Guild will host the 2001 Young Performers' Competition Saturday, Feb. 24 at Amarillo College Concert Hall in Amarillo.

Contest categories are Piano, String, Vocal and Wind/ Percussion. Winners in each division will receive a cash award of \$250 and will be featured in a recital.

The overall grand prize winner will receive a total cash award in the amount of \$500 and will take the stage with the Randel Chamber Orchestra in the spring.

The entry fee is \$25 and is due, along with entry form and picture, by Friday, Jan. 26. For more information, contact Robyn Rhodes at (806) 359-8160 or Amarillo Symphony Office at (806) 376-8782.

- John Faye Green, 86, homemaker
- Ruby Wright, 77, homemaker

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Editorial4
Sports7

Hobart Park Lake?



Hobart Street Park has become a shallow-water lake as 15 inches of snow from a recent storm melts, but large drifts block the water from running off. The "lake" may get deeper tonight and tomorrow, when weather forecasters predict more rain and snow will fall.

Pit bulldog owner gets second citation

The owner of a pit bulldog that was shot and killed by Pampa police on Friday has been cited a second time — this time for allowing the remaining dog to run loose on Saturday, police reported.

Brian Mann, 417 Yeager, was cited by Animal Control officers on Friday after police were called to the 400 block of Yeager about 4:45 p.m. in connection with a report of two pit bulldogs attacking pets and chasing children.

Upon arrival, officers said they found two pit bulls attacking a golden retriever.

The officer said they managed to chase one of the pit bulls off, but the other charged them, growling. The two officers shot the dog, three times.

(See OWNER, Page 2)

DA Roach to review dismissal of charges in Canadian case

District Attorney Rick Roach said today that he will review child endangerment and child abandonment charges against a Canadian teenager to see if the case should be brought before a grand jury.

Charges against Caryn Brown, 19, of Canadian, were dismissed after her boyfriend, Leland Milburn, 24, was found not guilty in the death of her son, two-year-old Brendan Tyler Brown.

Hemphill County Justice of the Peace Franke

Hill dismissed the charges against Brown on Dec. 18, about a month after the Milburn trial. He said the charges were dropped at the request of then District Attorney John Mann.

Milburn was found not guilty in mid-November following a trial in Amarillo in the death of the Brown baby.

Brendan Tyler Brown was found dead in Milburn's bed after the baby and his mother spent the night on May 25, 1999, at Milburn's

(See ROACH, Page 2)

Teacher insurance proposals, lower surplus greet lawmakers

AUSTIN (AP) — It's never exactly smooth sailing when the Texas Legislature meets. But Gov. Rick Perry expects a fairly calm ride as lawmakers begin their new session Tuesday.

"I think we're looking at a relatively quiet session, with the normal give and take and back and forth relative to legislative debate," said Perry, sworn in as governor less than three weeks ago.

But shortly before lawmakers convened Tuesday some controversy surfaced. The Texas League of United Latin American Citizens gathered to protest what it considers to be too few Hispanics on key state Senate committees.

Acting Lt. Gov. Bill Ratliff last week angered top Latino senators when he failed to appoint

any of them to the Senate's redistricting committee. He later named Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, to the panel.

Texas LULAC executive director Vincent Ramos said the group is asking Ratliff to be more sensitive to the Hispanic community but that it is not issuing him an ultimatum.

"Once we start seeing Latinos on key committees, I guess that will be a beginning," Ramos said.

Some of the pressure present during the 1999 legislative session, when then-Gov. George W. Bush was preparing for his presidential bid, will be off state lawmakers this time.

Indeed, no major tax cuts or tax increases are

(See LAWMAKERS, Page 2)

Reducing dirt cover at landfill meet topic

How to possibly reduce the amount of dirt required each day a daily cover at the city's landfill is a top item for discussion when the City Commission meets for its work session at 5 p.m. today at City Hall. The regular meeting follows immediately after a 6 p.m. public hearing.

City Manager Bob Eskridge told commissioners in a memo that the "hydromulch" method will be talked about. He said if the amount of cover dirt can be reduced it will save landfill space.

At the public hearing, commissioners will hear comments concerning the planned rezoning of all of Block 1 of the McMurtry Additor from a single-family 2 district to a multi-family district. The block is where the old "Rose" home is located.

Regular agenda items include:

- Approve disbursements dated Nov. 30
- Accept Pamhandle Regional Narcotics Trafficking Task Force Interagency Agreement
- Consider the appointment of one person to the Golf Advisory Board

Quite frankly... Homeland is going to close. What do you think about it?



"I hate to see anything close except beer joint. They can all close!"

-- Beth Sutherland



"I think it's sad. We will lose another business in Pampa."

-- Pat Marchman



"It's another blow to Pampa's economy, and it's sad to see people who are good employees lose their jobs ..."

-- Darla Brown



"I am really sad to see Homeland close. I hate to see businesses close in Pampa."

-- Cindy Theis



"I've lived here since I was 5-years-old, and I've seen a lot of businesses close. It always hurts ..."

-- Henrietta Yates

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Calendar of events

PAMPA PRISON MINISTRY

The Pampa Prison Ministry meets the first Tuesday of every month at Central Baptist Church located at Francis and Starkweather at 7 p.m. sharp. For further information call Bob Andersen 665-4252 or J.B. Walker at 669-2266.

PANHANDLE ALLIANCE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL

A support group for the mentally ill and family members meet the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at 218 N. Russell. There is no charge. For more information or if you need a ride all Sharon King, 665-2818.

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

Pampa Chapter No. 65, Order of the Eastern Star, has changed their meeting nights from the first and third Tuesdays to the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. at 420 West Kingsmill.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST

Macedonia Baptist Church, 441 Elm, conducts prayer services at 7:30 a.m., 12 p.m. and 6 p.m. daily for the citizens of Pampa - the churches, the schools, etc. All are cordially invited to come and pray. For more information, call 665-4926.

OPEN DOOR ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Open Door Alcoholics Anonymous at 910 Kentucky (across from Albertson's) meeting schedule - seven days a week - two meetings a day - noon till 1 p.m. no smoking, and Tuesday and Thursday 8-9 p.m. call 665-9702 for information.

TRALEE CRISIS CENTER

Women's Support Group for Child Management offers parenting skills to assist parents and children in dealing with anger and behavioral issues resulting from peer pressure, sibling rivalry, family violence and/or sexual abuse from 7-8 p.m. Thursdays. For more information, call Tralee Crisis Center, 669-1131.

MONTHLY GOSPEL SINGING

First Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock, hosts a Gospel Singing from 2-4 p.m. every second Sunday of the month. Pastor Albert Maggard and the congregation of First Pentecostal cordially invites the public to attend. Singers and musicians from area churches participate in this informal congregational singing and enjoy various special vocal and instrumental presentations.

MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE

Pampa Ministerial Alliance will hold its Annual Thanksgiving Service at 7 p.m., Nov. 21 at Calvary Baptist Church, 900 E. 23rd. Over 10 churches are involved in presenting the annual event which is free and open to the public.

GRAY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Gray County Genealogical Society will not meet in the month of December. The January meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. at Lovett Memorial Library and will feature a hands-on orientation to the Internet.

PAMPA BOOK CLUB

Pampa Book Club will meet at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 10 at Lovett Memorial Library. The group will discuss "East of the Mountain" by David Guterson. Visitors are welcome.

QUICK TASP

Clarendon College-Pampa Center will conduct a Quick TASP exam beginning at 9 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 10 at CCPC located at 1601 W. Kentucky. Cost of the examination is \$29 to be paid in the form of a check or money order. Participants must submit a government-issued photo ID such as a driver's license and a Social Security Card at the time of examination and are advised to bring a calculator.

MISS TOP OF TEXAS AREA

The Third Annual Miss Top of Texas Area Scholarship Pageant will be held at 7 p.m., Jan. 27, at Frank Phillips College in Borger. The pageant is the preliminary competition to the "Miss Texas" pageant slated in July in Fort Worth. To be eligible to compete, participants must be between the ages of 17-24, must be at least a senior in high school and must be currently attending or plan to attend college. To enter or for more information, call (806) 273-7168 or (806) 857-3804. Winners will receive a \$250 cash scholarship, a \$250 wardrobe allowance, an official crown and will travel to compete in the Miss Texas Pageant.

SQUARE HOUSE

Carson County Square House Museum in Panhandle will offer a photo preservation workshop from 7-9 p.m., Jan. 11, and a china painting class from 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays beginning Jan. 16 in Hazelwood Education Building, 5th and Elsie in Panhandle. The workshop will be facilitated by Christy Sanders, "Creative Memories" consultant of Dumas, and will include a \$10 fee. Participants should bring five to seven pictures to work with. The china painting class will be facilitated by Janice Sackett of Pampa, a 30-year art educator in the public school system. Cost of the class will be \$10. For more information or to RSVP, call the museum at (806) 537-3524.

3D PROGRAM

Free weekly classes for the Christ-centered 3D program featuring the three Ds — Diet, Discipline and Discipleship — will begin soon. The program will tailor an eating plan to suit the individual tastes and lifestyles of each participant. For more information, contact Judith Loyd, 665-6127; Jamee McCarty, 669-7869; or Frankie Hildenbrand, 669-3713.

MS. TEXAS SENIOR PAGEANT

Ms. Texas Senior Pageant officials are currently seeking participants and corporate sponsorships for the 14th annual Ms. Texas Senior pageant scheduled March 23-24 at the Ramada Market Center in Dallas. For more information, contact Nell Coleman, state director, at (972) 239-3342, or Red Walker, executive director, (972) 270-5944.

WATERPARK OF TOMORROW CONTEST

Schlitterbahn Waterpark Resort in New Braunfels is currently sponsoring "Waterpark of Tomorrow," a waterpark design contest for middle school classes. The winning class will be invited to explore the science and math behind waterpark rides during a free trip to Schlitterbahn's Sixth Annual Aqua Lab slated from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., May 18. Entries for the contest must be postmarked no later than April 2, 2001. Complete details are available in the entry package.

To receive a package, register for Aqua Lab or for more information, call Schlitterbahn's Group Sales Department at (830) 608-8532.

AYUSA

Academic Year in the U.S.A. International, a non-profit student exchange program, invites high school students to apply for the Congress-Bundestag scholarship, a full scholarship for one year to study in Germany. Deadline for application is Dec. 1. For more information, call 1-800-727-4540, ext. 567 or visit www.ayusa.org/usagermanyscholarship on the World Wide Web.

HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL

First Presbyterian Church, 525 N. Gray, is currently accepting aluminum cans for recycling. Proceeds will benefit Heifer Project International, an Arkansas-based service organization which provides livestock (chickens, pigs, sheep, cattle) along with training and

support services to families and communities worldwide. For a limited time, donations will be matched 3-1 by a private foundation. HPI is a non-denominational not-for-profit agency. For more information, call the church office at 665-1031. Office hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-12 noon, Friday and before 10:45 a.m. Sunday. For more information about HPI, call 1-800-422-0474 or visit <http://www.heifer.org>, on the Internet.

HCC DIALOGUE

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center will hold "Dialogue," a patient/family education support group sponsored by the cancer center and the American Cancer Society, Thursdays from 12 noon-1:30 p.m. this month. For more information, call Gerry Kelly at (806) 359-4673, ext. 235 or Stan McKeever at (806) 359-4673, ext. 141 or toll-free at 1-800-274-4673.

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Angel Tree program



(Special photo)

Lt. Delores Watts of the Salvation Army hands a gift certificate to a recipient of the Salvation Army Angel Tree program recently. Thanks to the giving of the community all 458 angels received clothing and a new toy.

PPW meeting, workshop in offing

AMARILLO — Panhandle Professional Writers' monthly meeting will begin with registration at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 20, at Amarillo Senior Citizen's Center in Amarillo. The focus of the meeting will be "Writing Professionally," a program geared especially for writers planning to enter PPW's annual writers contest (deadline March 15) or preparing work for submission to editors and agents during the Frontiers in Writing Conference June 8-9.

The program will be presented free of charge to participants.

Kimberly Willis Holt, winner of the 1999 National Book Award for Young Peoples Literature for "When Zachary Beaver Came to Town," will speak at 10 a.m. on "The Joy of Rewriting."

Holt's first novel "My Louisiana Sky" won a PPW contest and received many awards including American Library Association Top 10 Best Books for Young Adults in 1999. It was the first children's book to win Louisiana Literary Award and has been made into a feature film scheduled to air on Mother's Day on Showtime. Her second book, "Mister and Me" was a Texas Bluebonnet Book and made New York Public Library's Top 100 Books.

Holt will be available for a book-signing during the meeting.

At 1 p.m., Karen D. Smith and Kim Campbell of Author Helper, a comprehensive critique service, will address "First Impressions Do Make a Difference with Contest Judges and Publishing Editors." Contests provide an opportunity to catch an editor's attention and can often lead to a book contract. Smith and Campbell will share secrets to help contestants make their material shine starting with the first sentence.

Karen D. Smith also writes for the Amarillo Globe-News and has earned various journalistic awards. Campbell teaches screenplay writing at Amarillo College and has won a number of contest awards in screenplay, novel-length mainstream, suspense and women's fiction. In addition, she has been published in "Writer's Digest."

Lunch will be served between the morning and afternoon sessions at a cost of \$7. Reservations are required. A short business meeting will be held between sessions. For lunch reservations, contact Ginger Porter by Wednesday, Jan. 17 at (806) 371-8114 or via e-mail at signtag@netzero.net. For more information, call Nan Rinella, publicity chair, at (806) 359-6181/0439 or visit PPW's website at <http://users.arn.net/~ppw> or call the "IN TOUCH" hotline, (806) 376-1000 code 1247.

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Report: Lack of ID check led to prison escape

Failure of a South Texas prison officer to check identification made the escape of seven convicts possible, according to a report set to be released this week on the breakout that included weapons thefts and a police officer's slaying.

The report, which is set to be released Thursday, will list the correctional officer's failure to follow prison procedure as just one factor in the Dec. 13 escape, Mac Stringfellow, chairman of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice, told the Houston Chronicle.

Stringfellow said the officer's failure to check the identification of a "worker" — actually a disguised prison inmate — he let outside the compound and into a guard tower was one of the most significant of several security breaches at the Connally Unit.

Had the prison officer followed the prescribed procedure, the inmates would have remained confined in the prison yard, Stringfellow said.

"Because their jobs are so important, if they fail to follow procedures and guidelines, then this sort of thing can happen," he said. "That's where the problem lies."

But guards at the Connally Unit — the maximum security facility from which the inmates escaped — say they are being made scapegoats. Two guards, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told the San Antonio Express-News the escape resulted from carelessness of low-level employees and misplaced priorities of high-level prison officials.

Although several guards clearly failed to follow prison procedures, they said their carelessness reflected larger security flaws.

Those problems include inadequate training, persistent staff shortages, diminished hiring standards, poor pay and experience. As greater numbers of more experienced officers leave, they are replaced by the young and inexperienced, if they are replaced at all, the guards said.

Prison policy prevents the guards from speaking to reporters. "Corrections officers are left between a rock and a hard place," said Larry Blanchard, a Beaumont-based field representative for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, the union that represents corrections officers. "It's a difficult job to do as it is, and there are not enough of them to have sufficient security measures in place."

On Monday, Acting Lt. Gov. Bill Ratliff called for the Senate Criminal Justice Committee to look into causes of the escape.

Ratliff remains a senator from Mount Pleasant and is fulfilling a two-year term of Rick Perry, who became governor after President-elect George W. Bush resigned.

"If there is anything we can do now to eliminate the chance of a similar incident happening again, let's do it now," Ratliff said.

No date for the meeting has been set. Stringfellow said that he doesn't object to a legislative hearing but that the report would not sugarcoat facts surrounding the escape.

"It points fingers where fingers need to be pointed," he said. The two guards disputed the notion offered by Texas Department of Criminal Justice spokesmen that the prisoners were supervised during lunch on the day they escaped.

The guards said that while a maintenance supervisor remained in the area where the inmates ate lunch, he was on his own lunch hour and wasn't monitoring the inmates in the hours leading up to the escape.

Rewards totaling \$200,000 have been offered for information leading to the capture of the fugitives, who are accused in the Christmas Eve slaying of an Irving police officer. Police ask that anyone with information call a nationwide hotline at 1-800-737-8143 or 911.

Edwards ordered to report to prison

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — After two dozen investigations, two acquittals and one mistrial, former Gov. Edwin Edwards appears headed for a federal prison.

The silver-haired gambler was sentenced Monday to 10 years in prison and fined \$250,000 for extorting payoffs from businessmen applying for riverboat casino licenses.

"Let me say to friend and foe alike that this is not over with. It's been going on for four years, and as they say in the opera, the fat lady has not yet sung," Edwards said.

Edwards, 73, was convicted in May of 17 counts of racketeering, extortion, fraud and conspiracy. His son Stephen and three others were also found guilty.

The four-term Democratic governor was ordered to report to prison Feb. 5, but a court battle is expected over whether he can remain free while he appeals.

"A long sentence is effectively a death sentence," said Edwards' lawyer Dan Small, who immediately filed notice of appeal.

Prosecutors also said they planned to appeal the sentence, which they called too lenient. Edwards could have received the maximum of more than 11 years in prison and a \$500,000 fine.

In an interview on the courthouse steps Monday, Edwards, flanked by his wife and children, flatly denied the allegations. He also joked: "I have to make arrangements to find Candy a new husband and pay my bills."

The younger Edwards was sentenced to seven years in prison and fined \$60,000. His lawyer, Jim Cole, said it was a case of guilt by association.

"The jury's verdict is largely a product of Stephen Edwards' last name," he said. "He's swept along by whatever they think of his father."

The Edwardses' co-defendants,

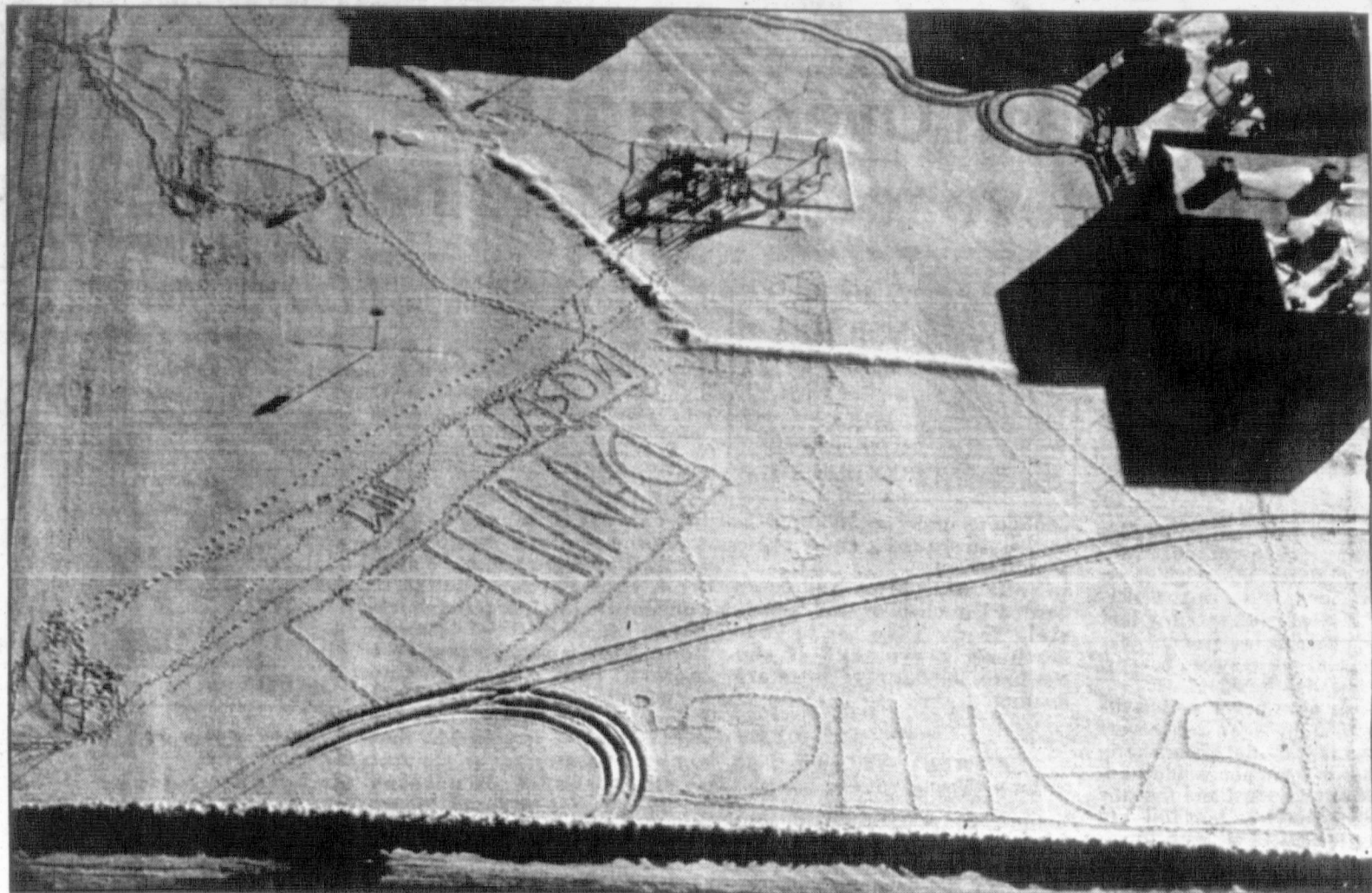
former gubernatorial aide Andrew Martin, cattleman Cecil Brown and businessman Bobby Johnson, all were sentenced to around 5 1/2 years in prison and fined \$50,000 each.

The casino schemes took place after Edwards was out of office in 1991, and continued through his fourth and final term as governor from 1992 to 1996 and after he left office but retained considerable political clout.

The case came to light in 1997, when FBI agents raided Edwards' home and office, seizing records and more than \$400,000 in cash. Prosecutors built their case on 1,500 hours of telephone conversations secretly recorded by the FBI and testimony from businessmen such as former San Francisco 49ers owner Eddie DeBartolo Jr., who said Edwards extorted \$400,000 from him.

Defense attorneys said there was no smoking gun tying Edwards to the scheme.

Eye in the sky ...



Pampa pilot Harlan Yates flew around the Gray County area after the big snowfall and his passenger, Grover Black, captured this photo from high above Lamar Elementary School. Names, letters and children's footprints were visible from the vantage point.

Chavez case an early test for Bush

WASHINGTON (AP) — In an early test, President-elect Bush must decide whether to stand by his labor secretary-designee, Linda Chavez, in light of revelations that an illegal alien lived with her for a year and did some housework.

How he deals with the political crosscurrents tugging at Chavez and two other conservative Cabinet nominees will tell a lot about Bush's presidential mettle. So far, the Texan has displayed his famous sense of loyalty — with just a hint of the political pragmatism that longtime observers say will ultimately guide his decision.

"She's certainly qualified to be Cabinet secretary," Bush told reporters in Austin, Texas, qualifying the lukewarm endorsement with hedge phrases on her account of events: "from what I've read" and "as far as I can tell."

Advisers said he built himself wiggle room in case Chavez's explanation doesn't pan out after an internal inquiry. And new revelations could surface now that she's under Democratic scrutiny.

"He will want to watch the politics unfold on this and other controversial nominations before making his move," said University of Texas political scientist Bruce Buchanan.

He noted that Bush stood behind a state health commissioner for a year until the appointee's racially insensitive remarks became a liability late in the presidential campaign.

Chavez, a favorite of social conservatives who were the core of Bush's political operation, provided a room and hundreds or thousands of dollars to an illegal immigrant from Guatemala who did various chores around her house. The situation recalls the "Nannygate" episodes that derailed two of President Clinton's attorney general selections in the early days of his administration.

Bush's advisers say there is a significant difference: Chavez

never employed Marta Mercado, they say. She took the woman in and gave her money as an "act of compassion," according to Bush advisers who were careful to note they were relying thus far on her word alone.

Chavez told Bush aides that she did not know Mercado was in the country illegally until the woman had left her Maryland home. However, Mercado said in an interview with The Associated Press Monday that she told Chavez about her illegal status after moving in late 1991. A friend of Chavez, Abigail Thernstrom, told The New York Times it was her recollection that Chavez was aware the woman was in the country illegally.

And Sandra Johnson, a maid at a Chavez neighborhood home where Mercado did house work for pay, told the AP that she was certain the Guatemalan woman

was working rather than simply accepting donations "because she has three girls back in her country that she had to support."

Chavez, like the rest of Bush's top candidates, was asked to provide tax histories for domestic help but she initially did not mention Mercado, Bush aides said, presumably because she didn't consider the woman an employee.

Bush officials are carefully reviewing FBI interviews with Chavez and Mercado, along with their own discussions with Chavez, to determine whether the nominee has abided by the law and been up front with them.

"We are going to gather a lot of facts before we have much to say," said Bush spokesman Tucker Eskew.

Bush's loyalty has its limits. He won't defend somebody who isn't straight with him, associates

say, and he has a history of knowing his political limits.

Buchanan said Bush stood firm behind longtime aides during the campaign's rough spots. "But this is not the same situation. Ms. Chavez was picked in part to make conservatives happy and has no personal history with Bush. So loyalty doesn't come into play," he said.

"What comes into play is Bush's desire not to be seen as being scared off by political pressures of a fight. They may be forced to pull the plug but certainly won't do so unless he's forced by prevailing political interests," Buchanan said.

If Bush decides to fight for Chavez's nomination, aides say they are well-armed — particularly if Mercado would be willing to testify about the personal troubles that brought her to Chavez's doorstep.

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Parents Clash Over Daughter's Need to Grieve for Her Grandma

DEAR ABBY: My mother passed away unexpectedly last year, following a cerebral hemorrhage and weeklong coma.

My wife and I have a 10-year-old daughter and a son who is 5. At my wife's request, our children did not attend the funeral or unweiling (we are Jewish). She thought it would be inappropriate to subject them to events they would not understand.

I agree somewhat, but only in regard to my little boy, since he's only 5 and doesn't understand much about death. My daughter, on the other hand, has a clear understanding. She cried terribly last year upon hearing her grandmother had died, and she has seen how my mother's death affected me.

My kids have never visited the grave, also at my wife's insistence. I want to take my daughter there, but my wife fears she would have nightmares afterward and that the experience could be harmful. My daughter has asked me many times to take her. She says she doesn't understand why we left her out of the funeral, etc. Now I don't know what I should do.

I wanted to include her in everything — the funeral, unweiling and graveside ceremony. I still want her to see the beautiful memorial stone put up in honor of my mother's memory. Abby, who is right on this subject, me or my wife?

SAD AND CONFUSED
DEAR SAD AND CONFUSED: You are. When a child is old



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

enough to understand and asks to be included, that child should be.

Your daughter has been denied the closure she desperately needs. Take her to your mother's grave, and if she needs to, let her cry. Tears are healing.

DEAR ABBY: You gave good advice to "Young, but Not Foolish."

She's the 17-year-old girl in love with a man of 25, whose mother married a man nine years older, but didn't want her daughter to do the same. You told her to listen to her mother. The 17-year-old may be totally "in love" with the 25-year-old man, but she should give some thought to the age difference.

When I was 15, I started dating a man 23. We dated for four years and were married six months ago. I am now 19. My husband is 27. I love him very much, but sometimes I feel I missed out on my carefree years by being with an older guy. My husband is already talking

about starting a family before he gets much older. I feel I'm too young to be a parent. I want to go out during the week and have some fun, but he works hard and comes home from work dead tired every night.

These are only a couple of things this young woman should be taking into consideration.

OLD AT 19

DEAR OLD AT 19: You haven't asked for my advice, but please allow me to offer some. It appears you have gone from your parents' house to your husband's. Before embarking on the adventure of parenthood, stop and ponder for a moment that it is a lifetime responsibility. You should not become a parent until you are sure you're ready — and by that I mean you are able to support a child should something happen to your husband. Please give what I have said careful thought.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby's "Keepers," P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61064-0447. (Postage is included.)

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For Better or For Worse



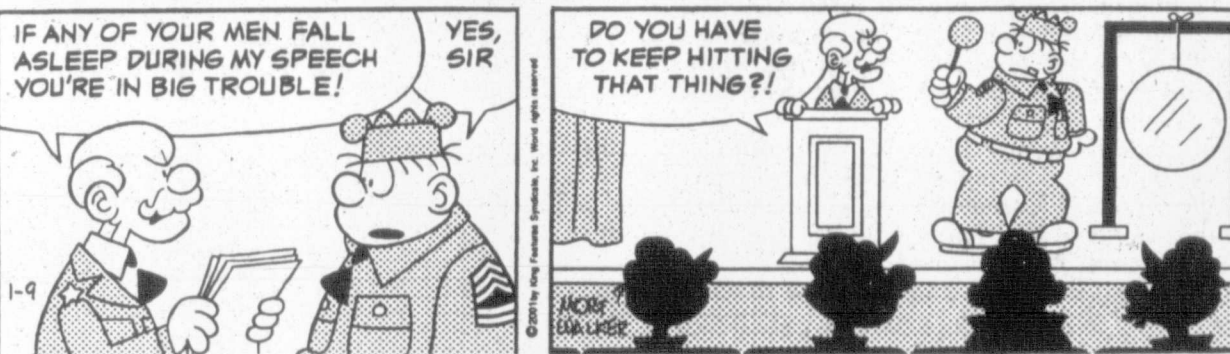
Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



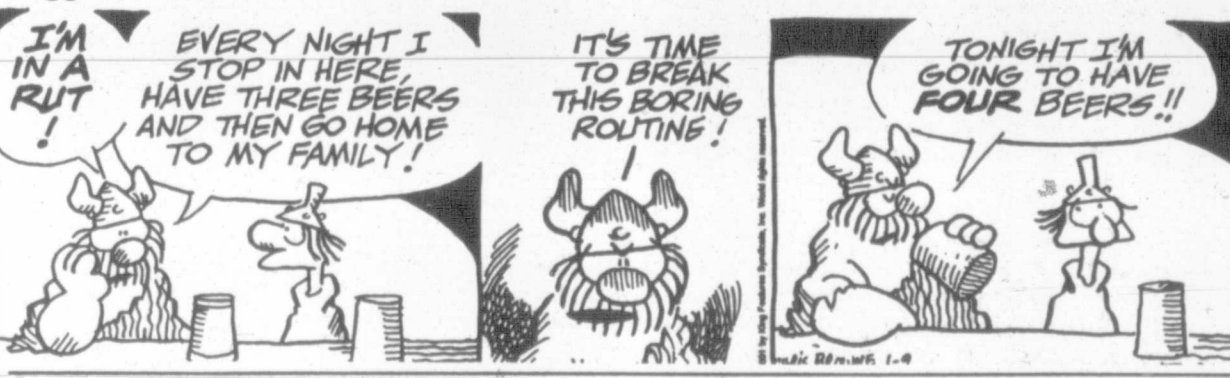
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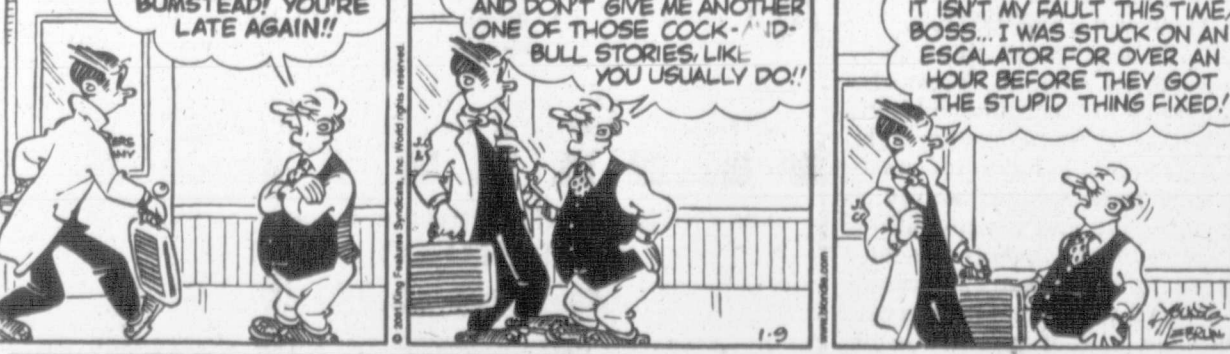
Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



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Mallard Filmore



Horoscope

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 10, 2001

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

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)

Confusion strikes, but no one can straighten out a mess like you can. Optimism surrounds ideas, relationships and work. In fact, all you have to do is express your intentions. Mix-ups occur with a child or new love interest. Read through a ruse. Tonight: A midweek break.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Know which side your bread is buttered on. Think through a decision before you announce it. You might be inordinately impulsive because of gossip. Someone does know how to trigger you. Focus on work. Be more image-conscious. Tonight: Put your feet up. You've done enough!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

You flip-flop as new information comes forward. Nothing is black-and-white right now. Think in terms of resolution and answers, but don't expect immediate results. Listen well, but do your own research. Refuse to work with hearsay. Tonight: With friends.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

You might shake your head at what others spout. Find someone in the know. Avoid gossip. Talk to a trusted

associate and say what is on your mind. Do nothing halfway. You could decide that someone might be delusional. Be nice. Time will tell! Tonight: Pay bills. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

You're personality plus. You might not agree with another. Don't make a big deal out of a misunderstanding. Try to understand this person's thinking, and you might be able to sort out a problem. A friendship lights up your day. Emphasize what you want. Tonight: Anything is possible. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Step back and clear the cobwebs from your mind. You find a child or loved one to be disruptive. Get down to basics. Emphasize work and efficiency. You might want to reorganize. You're in the public eye, whether you like it or not. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Focus on your long-term goals. You could find a family member to be quite disruptive. This person knows how to get to you. Don't pretend you are immune. A friend helps you understand this person better. Do needed research, and reach out for others. Tonight: Togetherness counts. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You're in the limelight. Listen carefully to another. What he is saying isn't what you hear. Clarify what is happening with a family member. Take responsibility at work. A partner gives you feedback. Stay focused on your job and on getting your work done. Tonight: In the limelight. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Take the high road and don't make a financial decision more compli-

cated than it needs to be. Think carefully about a child or loved one who is close to you. Others give you feedback that stops you in your tracks. Stretch and use your ingenuity. Tonight: Follow the music. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

A dream might send you into a tizzy. Check out what you think might happen, as opposed to what is reality. Don't sell yourself short, and stay centered despite what is going on. Your work deserves applause. What is wrong with asking for a pay raise? Tonight: Say yes to another's offer. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

What seemed like a problem will iron itself out if you ask the right questions. Someone feels strongly about an opportunity or problem. You see an unusual path that others don't. Use your creativity and dynamic energy when solving problems. Tonight: Others make offers. Pick and choose. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

An even pace gets you far with another. Pressure builds with a friend. Don't listen to another's snappy words. Understand what makes someone tick, if you can pull away from a problem. Revise your thinking about a project. Aim for creativity and efficiency. Tonight: Get some needed exercise.

BORN TODAY
Singer Pat Benatar (1953), boxer George Foreman (1949), actor Ray Bolger (1904)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.

Crossword Puzzle

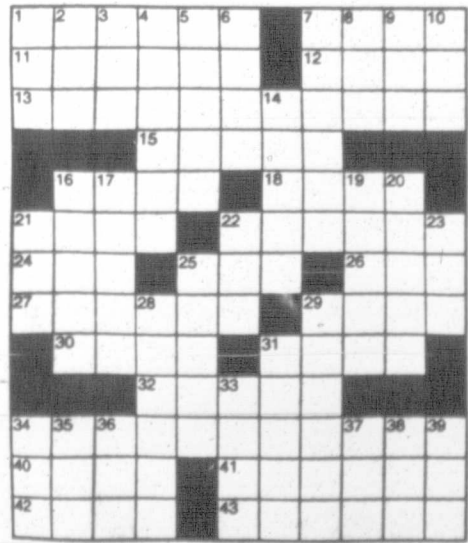
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS
- 3 Enjoy the slopes
- 7 Composer Bartok
- 11 Invite on a date
- 12 Frankenstein's aide
- 13 Relaxing Miles and Wang
- 15 "Believe" singer
- 18 Pals
- 21 Like some dorms
- 22 Shredded
- 24 In the fashion of
- 25 Vat
- 26 "The Matrix" hero
- 27 Chatty bird
- 29 Sea movement
- 30 Flight part
- 31 Arrive
- 32 Honshu home
- 34 Excluding
- 40 Software holder
- 41 Menu item
- 42 Help in crime
- 43 Fume
- DOWN
- 1 Brit's raincoat
- 2 Volcano output

MARSH	ACRES
ALOHA	CHICK
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PETE	HOW
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BOON	ATHOME
LUNGS	SAVOY
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PROFILES	
BAH	PEEN
EXUDE	AGATE
ALLEN	RULER
MEANT	SPEAR

Yesterday's answer

- 21 Upper limit
- 22 Boy king, for short
- 23 "The Raven" writer
- 25 November stone
- 28 Turn down
- 29 Shoe part
- 31 River vessel
- 33 Snapshots
- 34 Medicine overseer, initially
- 35 Umbrella part
- 36 Language suffix
- 37 Hockey's Bobby
- 38 Exploit
- 39 Newsman Koppel



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-7377/99¢ a minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Marmaduke



The Family Circus



"Do I hafta wear this uniform again today? All my friends have seen it."

No

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SPORTS

Notebook

BASKETBALL
BOSTON (AP) — Rick Pitino resigned as coach and president of the Boston Celtics, unable to restore the NBA's most successful franchise to its former glory.

Assistant coach Jim O'Brien was hired as interim head coach. Pitino was 102-146 overall with the Celtics.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rod Strickland of the Washington Wizards was arrested and charged with drunken driving in another legal entanglement for the disgruntled guard.

Strickland hasn't played in nearly two weeks because of an injured shoulder and a clash with management over his work habits. He has asked to be traded from the team with the NBA's second-worst record.

Strickland completed a year's probation and 30 hours of community service work for a 1998 conviction for driving under the influence. He was acquitted of a similar charge in 1999.

Connecticut was No. 1 in The Associated Press women's basketball poll for the 29th straight time and Baylor joined at No. 23, its first national ranking since 1978.

Arizona made the poll for the first time this season, at No. 22. Xavier and Utah dropped out.

HOUSTON (AP) — Retired Houston Comets star Cynthia Cooper was hired to coach the Phoenix Mercury of the WNBA.

Cooper will replace Cheryl Miller, who resigned in December after four years on the job.

Cooper, 37, retired as a player after helping lead the Comets to a fourth consecutive league title last year.

BASEBALL
Outfielders — Johnny Damon and Ben Grievie and reliever Roberto Hernandez were dealt in a nine-player trade involving the Kansas City Royals, Oakland Athletics and Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

The trade sent Damon from the Royals to Oakland, moved Grievie from the Athletics to Tampa Bay and sent Hernandez from the Devil Rays to the Royals.

Catcher A.J. Hinch and reliever Cory Lidle were the only other major league players in the deal.

MILWAUKEE (AP) — A judge approved a partial settlement of \$12,375,000, for the families of ironworkers killed in a 1999 crane collapse during construction of Miller Park.

In addition to that payment for compensatory damages, the agreement approved by Milwaukee County Circuit Judge Dominic Amato also calls for the plaintiffs not to seek any more than the amount covered by insurance.

CHICAGO (AP) — Harold Baines is going to keep up his quest for 3,000 hits with the Chicago White Sox.

The designated hitter, who needs 145 hits to reach 3,000, agreed to a minor-league contract, about six hours before the deadline for him to re-sign with his former team. The White Sox invited him to spring training as a non-roster player.

In 21 seasons, Baines has hit .291 with 384 home runs and 1,622 RBIs.

OLYMPICS
INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Bela Karolyi, who coached three Olympic gold medalists, is out as coordinator of the USA Gymnastics women's national team. He was hired as coordinator in November of 1999.

Karolyi, who helped Nadia Comaneci, Mary Lou Retton and Kerri Strug win gold medals, had retired after the 1996 Olympics. He was a member of the U.S. coaching staff at five Olympics (1984, 1988, 1992, 1996 and 2000). In 1991, he coached the U.S. women's team that won silver at the world championships.

Pampa takes on Randall tonight

PAMPA — Pampa takes on a top 20 team when Randall comes to town for a District 3-4A clash tonight in McNeely Fieldhouse.

The Raiders have a sparkling 19-1 record and are a perfect 3-0 in district play. The Harvesters are 14-9 for the season and 1-2 in district.

Keenan Hooker (6-0 senior) and Calvin Nite (6-6 senior) have been the backbone of Randall's attack. Nite had 18 points and Hooker 16 in Randall's 67-46 win over Caprock last Friday night.

Randall is ranked among the top 20 Class 4A teams in the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches poll.

The Harvesters desperately need a win to stay alive in the district race after dropping their last two games. Shooting problems plagued the Harvesters in a 55-39 loss to Canyon last Friday night. Pampa hit only 15 of 50 field goal attempts.

Pampa girls will also be looking to turn things around. Defending state champion Canyon handed Pampa an 85-50 setback last weekend and Randall could be almost as tough. They are coming off a 78-19 rout of Caprock.

The Lady Raiders have a talented 6-footer in the middle in sophomore Kara Cornelius. Keelie Sherrod (5-6 senior), Jennifer Arenas (5-7 sophomore) and Michelle Martin (5-4 senior) are quick, good shooters.

The Lady Harvesters are led by 5-8 senior Chasity Nachtigall, who is averaging 12 points a game.

Pampa is 6-10 overall and 2-3 in district. Randall is 14-7 and 3-2.

The Pampa-Randall girls' game tips off at 6 in McNeely.

Mum's the word as Ravens prepare

OWINGS MILLS, Md. (AP) — Brian Billick stepped behind the microphones to face the media, scanned the crowded room and saw his boss staring right back at him.

"As you can tell," the Baltimore Ravens coach told the throng, "I've brought my muzzle with me."

Moments after the trash-talking Ravens backed up their brash comments Sunday with a 24-10 victory over the Tennessee Titans, owner Art Modell said his team was "too bold" in the days before the game. He then promised that things would be different this week prior to this Sunday's AFC championship game against the Oakland Raiders.

If Billick's 45-minute news conference Monday was any indication, Modell got his message across.

The second-year head coach lauded Oakland quarterback Rich Gannon, spoke in glowing terms of opposing coach Jon Gruden and called the Raiders the most balanced team left in the playoffs.

Either Billick truly respects the Raiders, or he's fearful of giving them footage to run on the scoreboard. Moments before kickoff Sunday in Nashville, the JumboTron showed a film of Billick saying there was nothing to fear about playing in Adelphia Coliseum.

The team echoed that sentiment throughout the week.

The Ravens' haughty attitude came from the fact that they had already beaten the Titans, their AFC Central rivals, on the road earlier this season and split the previous four games against Tennessee.

Whereas the Titans were a familiar foe, the Raiders are relatively unknown to the Ravens, who haven't played in Oakland since relocating from Cleveland in 1996.

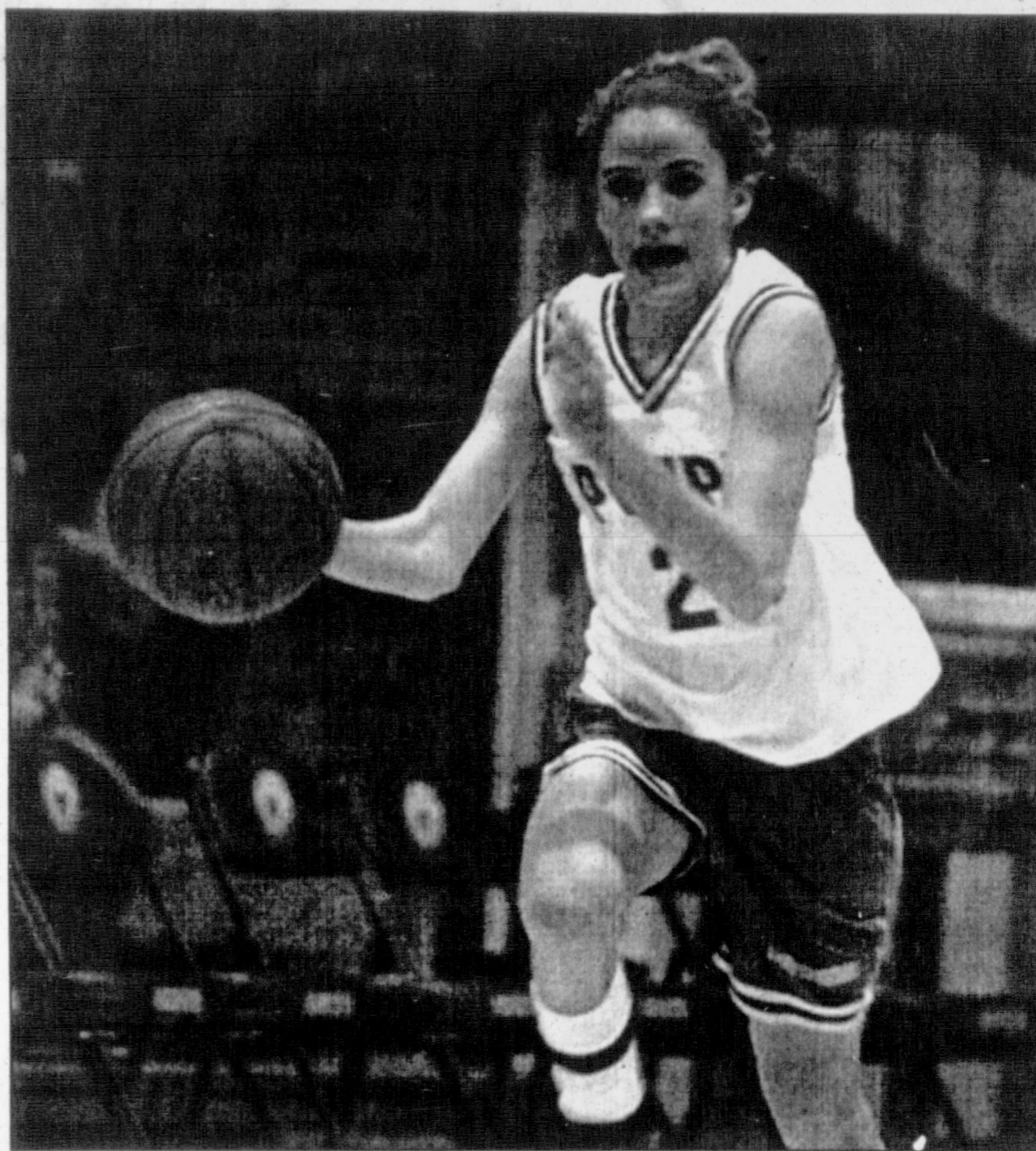
"The thing is, we don't know much about them," Baltimore tight end Shannon Sharpe said. "We knew so much about Tennessee, but it's hard to talk trash about somebody you don't know anything about. With the exception of me and (former Denver Broncos tackle) Harry Swayne, there's not a whole lot of guys who played the Raiders before."

Having played for the Broncos for 10 seasons, Sharpe is probably the Ravens' best authority on the Raiders, whose rivalry with Denver was established long before Tennessee and Baltimore became antagonists.

Sharpe learned something more about the Raiders on Saturday, when he watched Oakland defeat the Miami Dolphins 27-0.

"They dominated Miami. There's no question that we've got our work cut out for us," Sharpe said. "They've got the No. 1 rush offense and a quarterback who scrambles around and makes plays. They're also very talented on the defensive

Focused



(Special photo by Jerry Heasley)
 Tara Jordan, #23 on Pampa High School's dynamite 9th Grade girls basketball team, focuses on her goal as she dribbles down court during the 9th Grade Lady Harvester's game against Hereford at Pampa Monday night. The 9th graders are presently 14-0 for the season.

Former Baylor coach Reedy faces charges for incident

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — Former Baylor football coach Chuck Reedy faces burglary and aggravated criminal domestic violence charges after entering the home of his estranged wife.

Richland County assistant prosecutor Johnny Gasser said the 51-year-old Reedy, who also was an assistant at South Carolina and Clemson, forced his way into Janet Reedy's Irmo home early Sunday, slammed her to the floor and pinned her down.

Sheriff's spokesman Joseph Pellicci said Janet Reedy, 38, had bruises on her arms.

In court Monday, Gasser said the couple's 11-year-old daughter saw part of the attack and told deputies that her father was throwing and breaking things in the house.

The Reedys separated in September after 22 years of marriage and have restraining orders requiring the other to stay away.

Circuit Court Judge Thomas Cooper said Monday he would let Reedy out on \$5,000 if he wears an electronic ankle that will send an alert if Reedy comes within one mile of his wife's home or work.

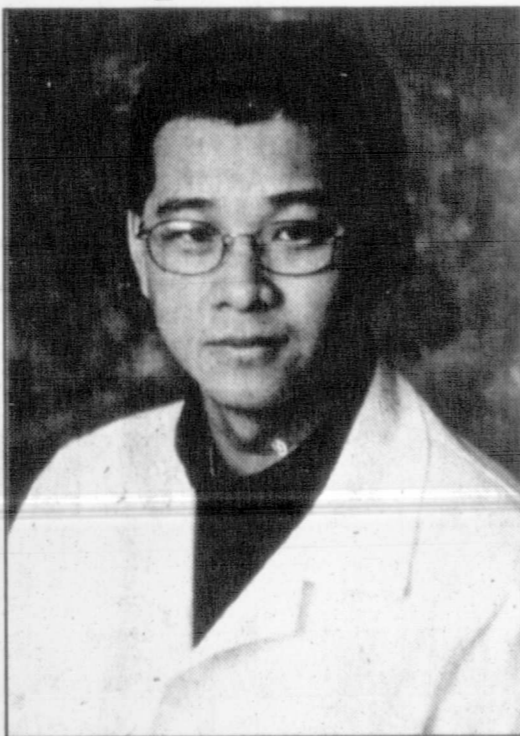
Neither the former coach nor his wife, who was a teen-ager when the couple married, spoke at Reedy's hearing.

If convicted, Reedy faces as much as 25 years in prison.

Reedy was offensive coordinator in Brad Scott's final season at South Carolina. He also was an assistant at Clemson under Danny Ford.

Reedy was head coach at Baylor from 1993-96, posting a 23-22 record. His 1994 team lost to Washington State in the Alamo Bowl.

He currently is a partner in Palmetto Management Co., which operates two Columbia restaurants and about a dozen Subway sandwich shops.



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- Master of Science, Biology
 University of Illinois
- Medical School Midwestern University-
 Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Residency, Family Practice Carle
 Foundation Hospital - University of Illinois

Dr. Kim is joined in Pampa by his wife Sora and children Joseph and Anna. Dr. Kim has relocated from Urbana, Illinois to establish his practice here as a member of the Family Medicine Center. He is welcomed to the practice by Drs. Black, Julian, Lee and Powell.

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~ Business Review ~

Pampa Nursing Center

Pampa Nursing Center is home to residents from Pampa and the surrounding area. The center provides medical care to the patients who cannot provide home care for themselves. Some are patients on a long term basis while others are at the facility temporarily. Private rooms as well as semi-private rooms are available for the patients at the nursing home which

has a 82-bed capacity. Also housed at the Pampa Nursing Center is an Alzheimer's Unit. Twenty patients are currently living at the 26-patient capacity facility which is separate from patients in the nursing home. The Alzheimer Unit has a separate area for activities. Patients from both programs join together at times for special activities.

Charlotte Willett, LVN, is Admissions Coordinator at the local facility. She said the local facility has Medicare beds and has the distinction that any beds at the facility are certified as Medicare beds.

The local facility has a qualified physical therapy team to provide therapy for the patients at the facility. An occupational therapist and speech therapist are also on staff.

Willett said the current Activities Director Kristie Fuller has been with the nursing home for five

years. "She organizes many activities for the patients," said Willett. "Once a week a local country and western band plays at the nursing home for the patients. They really enjoy it." The dining area doubles as an activity area for the home residents. As Christmas music plays throughout the nursing center, patients enjoy visiting in the dining/activity area in the afternoons.

Patients enjoy playing Bingo twice a week, said Willett. She said they also enjoy dominoes and the penny game.

Each year the patients ride on a float in the rodeo parade. While they aren't in the annual Christmas Parade, many enjoy going to the parade to watch it. The residents also traveled to Groom to view the cross

State Representative Warren Chisum joined the residents for a patriotic celebration this past Fourth of

July. She said there are many experienced professionals on the staff. Administrator Dorothy Westbrook has 30-plus years on staff in long term care while Tava Porter, RN-DON, has 15 years in long term care. Dietary Manager Sharon Brown has been with the facility for 13 years.

Medical directors are Dr. Craig Shaffer and Dr. Simoneta Soriano. Both are local physicians.

Approximately 75 employees assist the patients with medical care and their everyday needs. Registered nurses, licensed vocational nurses and certified nurses aides are among those who provide medical care.

Department employees who focus on housekeeping, laundry, dietary and maintenance also provide needed services for the patients.

Willett said, "We're one big happy family here."



(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)

Pampa Nursing Center nurses Suzzie Sawyer, LVN, Barbara Patrick, LVN, and Teresa Anguiano, LVN, supervise nursing care and charting for the many patients at the local nursing center.

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