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 For weather details see Page 2

No winner in Lotto game

No ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.
 The ticket was worth an estimated \$4 million.
 The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 54 were: 8-18-21-28-33-40.
 Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$6 million.

Rabid foxes rabies bait target

SAN ANTONIO (AP) Rabid foxes are a new target in a long running program of air-dropping rabies vaccine baits in South and Central Texas.
 The Texas Department of Health program, now in its seventh year, has eliminated the last traces of the canine rabies strain in dogs and tree-ranging coyotes that spread the disease in South Texas.
 An outbreak of dog rabies has killed at least two people and hundreds of pet dogs in the past dozen years.
 The eradication program, which has included the first large-scale use of an oral rabies vaccine in the United States, resumed Wednesday from Cotulla.

- **Lola Ett Broom, 97**, homemaker.
- **Lorene Lawrence, 81**, homemaker.
- **George Mitten Jr., 71**, accountant.
- **Eddie John Pannell, 91**, retired employee of Skelly Oil Company.
- **M.L. Rowan, 70**, cattle truck driver.
- **James H. Strawn, 86**, owner-operator Strawn Farm and Ranch Supply.

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New landfill cover to save money, space

By KATE B. DICKSON
 Associate Publisher

Rather than using dirt all the time, a new method of daily cover at the landfill will conserve space thus ultimately lengthening the life-span of the facility which will result in saving money.
 Public Works Director Richard Morris said workers now place a six-inch layer of dirt over each day's garbage. It's a state regulation that landfill deposits be covered daily.
 The inches of dirt add up over time taking away space thus shortening the life of a landfill cell.
 "It can get real expensive real fast," Morris told City Commissioners this week with regard to opening new cells at the landfill.
 The alternate cover will be sprayed on wet and it

will harden in a thin layer to cover the refuse, Morris said.
 The \$30,000 machine to be purchased is called a landfill Hydroseeder. He said many people are familiar with similar machines that are used for seeding along highways.
 A wood fiber and recycled newsprint mix combined with a tacky substance comprises the cover and it is especially formulated to protect from rain and wind.
 But Morris said winds at Pampa's landfill are so strong some days that dirt will have to be used then because the spray from the machine would blow away.
 Morris said even if the machine and spray mix can only be used half the time, it will still result in a dollar savings based on saved landfill space.

Public radio effort Friday meet topic

The Board of Directors of High Plains Public Radio will hold an open meeting in Canadian Friday to discuss the current project to bring public radio to the Northern Texas Panhandle.
 The meeting will begin at 12 noon at the Palace Theatre, 210 Main Street. Lunch will be available from the concession items at the Palace, or participants are invited to bring a brown bag lunch.
 High Plains Public Radio currently serves residents of Western Kansas, portions of South eastern Colorado and the Oklahoma Panhandle, and Amarillo. It can be heard in Amarillo at 94.9 FM and 91.3 FM.
 HPPR has been working for the past two and a half years to expand its coverage to include Hansford, Ochiltree, Lipscomb, Hutchinson, Roberts, Hemphill, Carson, Gray and Wheeler counties.
 A new 100,000 watt tower will be centrally located to deliver programming that includes in-depth news, classical, jazz and folk music, and a variety of other information and entertainment programs currently not available in the area.
 Any residents of the new coverage area are invited to attend and participate in the public meeting on January 12. A High Plains Public Radio board meeting will follow at 1 p.m. and is also open to the public.
 For more information, contact Project Director Skip Mancini at 1-800-678-7444.

Courthouse repairs ...



(Pampa News photos by Nancy Young)

Larry Andrus of the courthouse maintenance staff repairs a rusted pipe extending into the boiler in the basement early today. He is kept continually busy making such repairs at the 70-year-old Gray County Courthouse.

Frequent repair jobs plaguing courthouse

By NANCY YOUNG
 Managing Editor

Repairs to the boiler faced Larry Andrus, head custodian/maintenance, when he arrived for work at the Gray County Courthouse this morning.
 The courthouse restoration project cannot come too soon to help the structure built in the 1930s.
 The plumbing repair situation is not unusual to Andrus. He is constantly making repairs to the 70-year old structure, said County Judge Richard Peet. "We are just doing piecemeal patching," said Peet. "We haven't had the money to do all the needed repairs, and we repair what we have to do when it breaks."
 Andrus replaced leaking and rusted out pipes going into the boiler in the courthouse basement this morning. Other pipes going into the boiler are visibly rusted and appear to soon need replacement in the very near future.
 Additionally, one sewer pipe has a hole approximately the size of a half dollar, and a large crack extending two to three feet long. Another sewer pipe has also cracked, and is



An original 1930s electrical board is in use at the courthouse.

(See COURTHOUSE, Page 2)

Rezoning sought for block, Rose house

No complaints arose in public hearing this week on a proposal to rezone the block, that includes the "Rose house" at 505 N. Gray, from single family to multi-family. The house is for sale.
 In order for the rezoning to be enacted, City Commissioners will have to vote for it on two readings at subsequent meetings.
 The rezoning request was put forth by Mary Jane Rose Johnson representing the Rose estate, Building Official Danny Winborne told City Commissioners during a Tuesday work session.
 Winborne said the rezoning request was made

in order to make the property eligible to become a Bed and Breakfast facility. He said, however, there are "no concrete plans" for that use.
 In answer to a question, Winborne said if the change in zoning is approved it means the house and property on the block can be used for any permissible project under multi-family zoning rules. This includes apartments.
 Winborne said letters about the rezoning request had been sent to neighbors, none of whom have complained.
 "The thing I hear is that it is an historic house and it would be nice to keep it," Winborne said.

Pam Apartments residents fall prey to possible scam

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 Staff Writer

Residents of a local retirement complex have become victims of a possible scam that played on a sense of compassion for one of their neighbors, the complex's manager warned today.
 Pam Bolton, manager of the Pam Apartments, 1200 N. Wells, said she first learned about the problem when a resident called her Monday afternoon.
 The resident told her that she looked up and "a girl" was in her apartment, Bolton said. The woman said she was trying to get some money together for her grandmother who lived in the apartment complex. The grandmother's car had run out of gasoline, the resident was told.
 The visitor then told the woman, "Your doorbell rang," and when the woman went to

check her door, the girl left. Afterwards, the woman found her billfold was missing.
 "That's the only time that happened," Bolton said.
 Alarmed, Bolton began asking other residents if they had had something like that happen.
 "Of the 96 people who live here, 90 percent said the girl had come to their door asking for help for their grandmother who lived at the apartments. They got from \$10 to \$1 from almost all of them," Bolton said. The residents have given her two descriptions, that she feels may or may not be the same person.
 "One said she has auburn hair, is of medium height, and one described her as 'well endowed,'" Bolton said.
 (See SCAM, Page 2)

Regional drug task force pact gets ok

Pampa's participation in the Panhandle Regional Narcotics Trafficking Task Force is paying off in several ways including the serving of more local search warrants, Police Chief Charlie Morris told the City Commission this week.
 Commissioners on Tuesday were reviewing, and did approve, the interagency agreement that comes up for reapproval each year.
 "We've increased the number of local search warrants the task force serves," the chief said. "For a time there was a period when we served about one a week. Now we're doing one about every two weeks."
 Morris said the task force has become more active in Pampa than in some times past and there has been more contact with the command staff.
 Pampa supplies one officer to the task force and uses grant money to pay for a second officer. Both have been spending a lot of time working cases here, he said.
 Asked about getting cases prosecuted, Morris said a number of cases have been presented to the district attorney.
 "We had a number of cases left over [from previous District Attorney John Mann] ... this [new District Attorney Rick Roach] is a whole new ball game."

Student leadership reception set

Pampa ISD Board of Trustees will sponsor a Student Leader Reception at 5 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 18 in the high school library.
 The reception is organized in an effort to recognize students who volunteer with organizations and activities that benefit and add to the quality of the high school.

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Daily Record

Services tomorrow

BROMLOW, Jack J. — 2 p.m., First Assembly of God Church, Gage, Okla.
BROOM, Lola Ett Scott — Graveside services, 3 p.m., Eastview Cemetery, Vernon.
LAWRENCE, Lorene — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.
MITTEN, George Jr. — 10 a.m., Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home Chapel, Perryton. Burial, 4 p.m., Chapel Hills Memorial Gardens, Oklahoma City, Okla.
PANNELL, Eddie John — 10:30 a.m., Wheeler First Baptist Church, Wheeler.

Obituaries

LOLA ETT BROOM
 CHILDRESS — Lola Ett Scott Broom, 97, sister of a Pampa resident, died Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2001. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Friday in Eastview Cemetery at Vernon with the Rev. Johnny Robertson, a United Methodist pastor of Childress, officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Johnson Funeral Home.
 Mrs. Broom was a homemaker and a native of Lamar County.
 Her husband, Homer Scott, preceded her in death in 1945.
 Survivors include a daughter, Winda Allison of Childress; two sons, Tex Arlen Scott of Metairie, La., and Tommy V. Scott of Springtown; two sisters, Murle Anderson of Smyrna, Ga., and Edna Maxwell of Pampa; 12 grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

LORENE LAWRENCE
 MOBEETIE — Lorene Lawrence, 81, died Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2001, at Pampa. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in Carmichael-Whately Colonial Chapel in Pampa with Andy Wilson, minister of Jehovah's Witnesses, officiating. Burial will be in Mobeetie Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.
 Mrs. Lawrence was born Dec. 22, 1919, in Hemphill County and had been a lifelong resident of the Mobeetie area. She married Britt D. Lawrence on March 9, 1941; he died in 1974.
 She was a member of Jehovah's Witness in Pampa.
 Survivors include four sisters, Minnie Evans of Pampa, Eunice Scay of Canyon, Ida Mae Sinclair of Amarillo and Susie Rhoades of Sulphur Springs; and numerous nieces and nephews.
 The family requests memorials be to a favorite charity.

GEORGE MITTEN JR.
 PERRYTON — George Mitten Jr., 71, a former Pampa resident, died Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2001. Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday in Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Steve Ulrey officiating. Burial will be at 4 p.m. in Chapel Hills Memorial Gardens at Oklahoma City, Okla.
 Born at Oklahoma City, Mr. Mitten moved from Pampa to the Perryton area in 1980 and was an accountant.
 Survivors include a daughter, Cassie Mitten of Atlanta, Ga.

EDDIE JOHN PANNELL
 WHEELER — Eddie John Pannell, 91, died Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2001. Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday in Wheeler First Baptist Church with the Rev. Toby Henson officiating. Burial with Masonic graveside rites will be in Wheeler Cemetery under the direction of Wright Funeral Home of Wheeler.
 Mr. Pannell was born June 25, 1909, at Sallisaw, Okla., to Homer and Bertha Pannell. He married Gladys Standridge on Dec. 11, 1928, at Sallisaw. He came to Wheeler County in 1928 and farmed near Briscoe until 1951. He moved to Skellytown in 1953 and worked for Skelly Oil Company for 20 years.
 After retiring in 1973, he returned to Wheeler where he belonged to Berean Sunday School Class and served as a deacon at First Baptist Church. He was a 50-year member of Masonic Lodge.
 He was preceded in death by three children, Betty Dean Pannell, in 1933; Freddie Pannell, in 1948; and Dortha Calcote, in 2000.
 Survivors include his wife, Gladys of Wheeler; a daughter, Imogene Murray of Childress; a son, Eddie John Pannell Jr. of Briscoe; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandchild.
 The family requests memorials be to First Baptist Church of Wheeler, Meals on Wheels or American Cancer Society.

M.L. ROWAN
 AMARILLO — M.L. Rowan, 70, died Saturday, Jan. 6, 2001, at Shamrock. Graveside services were to be at 1:30 p.m. today in Groom Cemetery at Groom with the Rev. Kenneth Smith officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Blackburn-Shaw Funeral Directors Memorial Chapel of Amarillo.
 A native of Wheeler County, Mr. Rowan moved to Amarillo in 1986. He drove a cattle truck and was a Baptist.
 Survivors include his wife, Loretta Rowan; two stepdaughters, Michelle Rinehart of Dallas and Brenda Hollingback of Amarillo; a stepson, Allen Dale Bruce of Huntsville; and five grandchildren.

Fires
 Pampa Fire Department responded to the following call during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.
 Thursday, Jan. 11
 4:23 a.m. — Two units and six firefighters investigated a possible fire in the 1300 block of Rham. No fire was found.

Obituaries (cont.)

JAMES H. STRAWN
 SPEARMAN — James H. "Jim" Strawn, 86, a former Pampa resident, died Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2001. Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday in First Baptist Church with the Rev. John Denton officiating. Burial will be in Hansford Cemetery under the direction of Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home.
 Mr. Strawn was born at Center and had been a Spearman resident for the past 42 years, moving from Pampa. He owned-operated Strawn Farm and Ranch Supply of Spearman and was a member of First Baptist Church.
 Survivors include two sons, Rodney Strawn of Spearman and Tom Strawn of Oklahoma City, Okla.; a sister, Pauline Williams of Irving; and a brother, L.C. Strawn of Tucumcari, N.M.

Police report

Pampa Police Department reported the following arrests and incidents during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.
 Tuesday, Jan. 9
 Theft of \$356 in household and personal items was reported to have occurred in the 600 block of Naida.
 K9 Officer David Conner and Nick, the K9 narcotics search dog, assisted the Texas Department of Public Safety with a drug search at Loop 171 and U.S. 60. The search revealed a small amount of a controlled substance. One person was taken into custody on charges of possession of a controlled substance, over one gram and under four grams.
 Wednesday, Jan. 10
 Michael Jimmy Martinez, 36, 1032 Neel Rd., was arrested in the 1000 block of Huff Road on five outstanding municipal warrants — two for animal at large, two for no rabies vaccine, and one for failure to appear.
 Theft of three gallons of gasoline from a 1986 Ford pickup was reported in the 600 block of Christy.
 Animal at large, a horse, was reported in the 900 block of Love.
 A representative of Pizza Hut Delivery, 1500 N. Banks, reported theft of \$160 in cash.

Sheriff's Office
 Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.
 Tuesday, Jan. 9
 Matthew Benton, 77, Amarillo was arrested for violation of probation — driving while intoxicated.
 Wednesday, Jan. 10
 Vernon E. Herring, 38, 220 N. Houston was arrested by the Texas Department of Public Safety for driving while intoxicated, breath test refusal, and violation of the open container law.
 Richard Bruce Melanson, 44, 915 N. Somerville, was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

Accidents
 Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.
 Wednesday, Jan. 10
 Sometime between 7 a.m. and noon, an unknown vehicle struck a parked 2000 Dodge Intrepid, owned by Paul Nachtigall, 1821 N. Christy, in the parking lot at Pampa Regional Medical Center. The unknown vehicle struck the Dodge in the back left quarter and left the scene.
 3:54 p.m. — A 1997 Dodge Ram pickup driven by Montana Logan Farnum, 17, Route 1, Box 1505, collided with a 1994 Buick Century driven by Jerrica Suzanne Mote, 18, Route 1 Box 150F, at the intersection of Hobart and Cook streets. Farnum was cited for failure to yield right of way at a stop sign. No injuries were reported at the scene.

Ambulance
 Rural/Metro made the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.
 Wednesday, Jan. 10
 2:15 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 300 block of South Henry and transported one to PRMC.
 4:37 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported one to the 300 block of South Henry.
 Thursday, Jan. 11
 4:24 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded on a stand by to the 1300 block of Rham on a possible structure fire.

Stocks
 The following grain quotations are provided by Aitchery Grain of Pampa.

Wheat	2.76
Milo	1.44
Corn	2.79
Soybeans	4.07

 The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation.

Occidental	23.9/16	up 1/8
Fidelity Magelln	118.77	up 1/16
Panfund	18.68	up 1/16

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

BP Amoco	49	up 1/2
Cabot	26 3/16	up 1/16
Cabot O&G	29	up 5/8
Chevron	8 3/16	up 1/16
Coca Cola	58 1/2	dn 5/8

Columbia/HCA	39.05	up 0.61
Enron	70 7/16	up 1/2
Halliburton	40 1/4	up 15/16
KMI	46 11/16	up 3/16
Kerr McGee	67 1/8	up 1/2
Limited	16 1/2	dn 1/16
McDonald's	33 1/16	dn 1/8
Exxon Mobil	82 9/16	up 1 9/16
New Amos	25 5/16	up 1/16
XCEL	25	dn 3/4
NOI	38 1/8	up 1/16
OKE	47 1/8	dn 1 3/16
Penney's	12 3/16	up 3/8
Phillips	55 3/8	up 1/16
Power Nat.	18 15/16	dn 1/16
SLB	80 1/8	up 1 7/8
Tenneco	3 1/4	up 1/16
Texas	50 7/8	up 1/16
Ultramar	29 3/4	up 1/4
Wal-Mart	52 1/16	up 3/8
Williams	35 1/16	nc

New York Gold	264.90
Silver	4.55
West Texas Crude	28.65

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

SCAM

The other description is that she's medium height, thin — about 110 pounds, with shoulder-length hair, dark brown and stringy," she said.
 "They've been all over this place," she said.
 Most of the residents were contacted on Sunday evening and again Monday morning. Some were visited twice, Bolton said.
 "Sometimes they said they

were selling magazines and they needed money in advance," she added.
 She said a small white car may be involved in the scam, also.
 Bolton said Pampa police have been investigating the reports. "The police came out and did all they could," she said. "On Sunday evening, they really worked on it."
 Police Chief Charlie Morris and Deputy Chief Terry Young were out of the office and not available for comment about the

incident at press time today.
 "This has just infuriated me," she said. "I've put out a bulletin and asked them to lock their doors and storm doors because of the one where (the suspect) just walked in. That goes against our rules because it's so hard to open those storm doors, but I just want them to be safe."
 "I think the rest of Pampa needs to know what's happening," Bolton said. "I just want (the suspects) to be caught and prosecuted."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

COURTHOUSE

approximately four feet long.
 Judge Peet pointed to a length of pipe which had previously been replaced with PVC pipe, as he described part of the piecemeal projects which Andrus is faced with on a regular basis.
 The plumbing problems will be corrected and the original electrical wiring will be replaced with the \$3.8 million grant Gray County received from the Texas Historical Commission several months ago.
 "So many people in the county don't realize how bad the situation is at the courthouse," said Peet. "They don't realize what we're looking at."
 Original electrical wiring which dates back 70 years is also still in use at the building. Some of the wiring has been replaced as it has broken, but much of the original wiring is still in use.
 The county judge said he and the staff are constantly replacing blown fuses due to the wiring limitations.
 Peet and the four Gray County Commissioners have been working towards the restoration project for over a year. Recently, the commission approved having office personnel move out of the courthouse in the spring so contractors can replace the plumbing and wiring.

Kenneth Smith of Southwest Securities in Dallas spoke to the commission in December regarding purchasing certificates of obligation for an additional \$1.3 to \$1.5 million to get the repairs made.
 Cost of the bonds to the taxpayers would be 1.1 cents per \$100 valuation of property, said Peet. For a \$25,000 home the bonds would add \$2.78 per year to the tax bill.
 The certificate of obligation bonds may be okayed by the county commission without a vote of the people, he said. Peet said if five percent of the qualified voters sign a petition against the purchase of the bonds, an election of county voters would be required.
 The commission has not okayed the purchase of the bonds. The issue is expected to be addressed at the first commission meeting in February, he said.
 Peet said, by law, with certificates of obligation once the bond debt is paid, the tax is removed.
 "These repairs, and many, many more, are going to have to be made very soon," said Peet. "It would really be nice for the taxpayers for the state to be paying 72 percent with the \$3.8 million restoration funds and the local taxpayers to only have to pay 28 percent of the total costs."
 Peet also said cracks in the facade on the exterior of the county structure will be corrected in the restoration project.

Report: Elderly sisters victims of carbon monoxide, hypothermia

WEISHAMPLE, Pa. (AP) — 71-year-old Margaret Wolfgang of Williamstown, said she last spoke with them before Christmas.
 "I guess a cold spell or something came," she said. "I don't even know the whole story."
 "They were peculiar, let's face it," said Wayne Wolfgang, whose brother is married to Margaret.
 The three elderly sisters went to school for a time, and two once worked at a factory. Mostly, though, they spent their days working the land or sitting inside the dilapidated, two-story farmhouse, about 40 miles northeast of Harrisburg.
 That's where Ida Knorr, 82, and sisters Sally, 78, and Mildred, 73, were found dead Tuesday, around a coal-burning stove in the kitchen.
 Roger Neumeister, a neighbor who farmed their land in recent years, found their bodies after someone noticed newspapers piling up in the mailbox dating back to Jan. 3.
 The sisters probably had been dead for five or six days. The temperature in the house when police arrived Tuesday night was 22 degrees.
 "This happened during the day — the lights weren't on," said Neumeister, 66. "Although they're the kind of people who would sit in the dark."
 Preliminary autopsy reports suggested the sisters died of some combination of carbon monoxide poisoning and hypothermia, state police Sgt. David Shinskie said Wednesday.
 Soot had built up in the stove's pipe, causing carbon monoxide to back up in the kitchen, police said.
 The sisters' youngest sibling,

helped their mother grow produce and make milk and butter from the farm. Their father worked the early shift in the mines, then picked up the farm goods and went on his "market route" to neighboring towns.
 The older sisters dropped out of school at an early age, although Margaret, the only sibling to marry, went to high school, Neumeister said.
 As they entered middle age, Ida and Mildred Knorr got their first jobs outside the house, working in a garment factory.
 Neumeister believes they received some type of retirement income from those jobs. "I actually don't think they were quite as poor as they thought they were," he said.
 Neumeister had told Ida Knorr that he would no longer be farming their land after this season because of declining grain prices. He wonders if they had become discouraged, and given up on life.
 "I pitied them," he said. "I hope they didn't die on account of this."

As young girls, the sisters had continued to pump moisture into the region.
 The area of precipitation extended from Childress to Midland in the west, from Junction to Victoria in the south and northeastward to the Red River.
 Amounts over a 24-hour period exceeded an inch in several parts of the Hill Country and in Southeast Texas, the National Weather Service said.
 Fog shrouded parts of the Panhandle and South Texas, with visibilities of a quarter-mile at Amarillo and Childress and less than a mile at other locations. The weather service posted a dense fog advisory.
 Early-morning temperatures fell into the 20s in the Panhandle and the mid-30s from the South Plains to northeastern Texas. Readings in the south were generally in the 40s, except for along the Gulf coast and deep south with temperatures in the 50s and 60s.
 Readings included 33 degrees at Junction and 53 at Brownsville.
 Winds in the southern areas of the state varied in direction at under 10 mph. A westerly wind of 5 to 10 mph prevailed in the far west, with easterly to southeasterly conditions elsewhere.
 Patchy dense fog was predicted through Friday in North Texas, with decreasing cloudiness and some sunny skies in the western and central regions.
 Daytime highs should range from the mid 40s in the northeast to lower 70s in the Big Bend and other parts of the south and west.
 Lows overnight were expected to fall into the 30s in the west and near 40 in South Texas.

Man confesses to setting fire at activist's home

BAYTOWN, Texas (AP) — A Houston area man has confessed to setting a blaze that gutted the house of a Harris County drug and gang activist.
 Egan Thomas told law officers on Wednesday he set fire to Milton Collins' house for "\$100 and four rocks of cocaine."
 Collins had recently pledged to rid his neighborhood of drugs and gangs and said earlier the fire was a "direct retaliation" to his reform efforts and the publicity he has received.
 Collins and his 11-year-old grandson were not injured in the fire at his McNair home Monday night.

Man confessed to setting fire at activist's home

City Briefs

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

CLEARANCE SALE, Tralee Re-Sale Shop, 308 S. Cuyler, 1/2 price on all winter clothing.

NEW CELLULAR phone accessories for sale inside Cottage Collection. Animal & Character print, solid colors and clear faceplates. Booth #480.

NO SENIOR Citizen's Dance.

SALE 75% Off all Christmas & Christmas candy thru Sat. 13th. Celebrations, 665-3100. Free in-town delivery.

Weather focus

PAMPA — Today, decreasing cloudiness and becoming sunny by this afternoon with highs around 50. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph. Decreasing and becoming southwest this afternoon. Tonight, mostly clear. Lows in the lower 30s. South winds around 10 mph. Friday, increasing clouds with highs 57 to 61. South winds 15 to 20 mph. Friday night, cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows 34 to 38. Saturday, cloudy with a chance of rain or snow. Highs in the upper 40s. High Tuesday, 38, and the overnight low, 33.

STATEWIDE — Light rain and fog or drizzle extended across much of Texas Thursday morning as an upper-level low pressure system and Pacific front

Man confesses to setting fire at activist's home

City Briefs

Next time your church, school or other group has an outing or hosts and event take along a Community Camera. 669-2525

Ca
 PAMPA AREA CO
 Pampa Area office is open Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, call 661-ADHD/AG
 If interested in Sport Group call OPEN DOOR
 ANO
 Open Do
 Anonymous (across from ing schedule week — two noon till 1 p. Tuesday and meetings are more informal
**TRALEE C Women's Su Child Manage ing skills to children in d and behavior from peer prey, family viol abuse from 7. For more info, Crisis Center, LAS PA GARDEN AT Las Pampa We Society meets of each month Elementary Sch mation, contact 665-6138 or La MINGLE G First Pente Church, 1700 Gospel Singir every second month. Pastor and the cong Pentecostal co public to atb musicians frc participate in gregational si various specia mental presen
 PHS SCH
 Pampa High clubs, organiz or groups inte ing scholarshi seniors. The s for any amou will make the able to senior of February. I tion, contact. Billie Lowrey;
GRAY GENEALOC Gray Coun
Janu: Reco
AUSTIN — Texas governu George W. 1 January 2001 Recognition across the st opportunity t tion and bols of the role elec cation play in and schools.
 Bush said: "Young pec Star State's resource, and our most imp ty. In towns a out Texas, loc board memb guide schools the will of the ensure that accountability stay where th the residents o
 "Texas has school board sending the lar ed officials in school boards locally elect serve three-ye pay. These d women make; and work to excellence and students, teach trators."
 "The Texas School Board and serves lo across the Lon has designated School Board I to raise awar members' con ing children academically."
 "I encourage nize school b their service throughout th Their commit excellence he
PAM CINE MOVIE 665-**

Calendar of events

PAMPA AREA LITERACY COUNCIL

Pampa Area Literary Council office is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, call 665-2331.

ADHD/ADD SUPPORT GROUP

If interested in the ADHD/ADD Sport Group call Connie at 669-9364.

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. and 8-9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday noon meetings are non-smoking. For more information, call 665-9702.

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.

LAS PAMPA WATER GARDEN AND KOI SOCIETY

Las Pampa Water Garden and Koi Society meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Austin Elementary School. For more information, contact Sharon Andrew at 665-6138 or Lance DeFever.

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.

PHS SCHOLARSHIPS

Pampa High School is seeking clubs, organizations, individuals or groups interested in establishing scholarships for high school seniors. The scholarships can be for any amount. The high school will make the scholarships available to senior students at the end of February. For more information, contact Starla Kindler or Billie Lowrey at 669-4800.

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.

RED CROSS CLASSES

Gray County chapter of the American Red Cross will offer CPR/First Aid Classes from 5-9 p.m. Jan. 24 and 25 and again from 3-7 p.m. Feb. 21 and 22 at the local Red Cross office, 108 N. Russell. A fee will be charged to all participants and is available by calling the ARC office at 669-7121. Registration is required.

PARENT/TEACHER ORGANIZATION

A Parent/Teacher Organization meeting is scheduled at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 16, in the library of PHS. Counselors from the high school will be discussing enrollment procedures for students. All parents are urged to attend.

ACS LOOK GOOD ... FEEL BETTER

The American Cancer Society will present the program "Look Good ... Feel Better" from 1-3 p.m. Jan. 13 at the ACS office at 3915 Bell Street in Amarillo. The program is aimed at helping cancer patients cope with the unpleasant side effects of cancer treatments. Cosmetology professionals will demonstrate techniques how to compensate for hair loss through the use of turbans and scarves. To register or for more information, call the ACS at (806) 353-4306 or 1-800-ACS-2345.

CPS LUNCHEON

The Contract Procurement Center in Amarillo will sponsor a business luncheon for small, minority and women entrepreneurs from 11:45-1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16 at Luby's Cafeteria, 4530 Canyon Dr., Amarillo. The guest speaker will be David D. Terry, director of Client Services with West Texas A&M University, Office of Business Services. For reservations or for more information, contact Edmond Esparza, (806) 372-3381.

ANTIQUA SHOW

Continental Shows, Ltd., will host an Antiqua Show and Sale at Amarillo Civic Center Jan. 12-14. The show will include china, cut glass, art glass, toys, furniture, pottery, quilts, textiles, primitives, jewelry, art and much more. Show hours will be from 12-8 p.m. Friday, 12-7 p.m.

Saturday and 12-5 p.m. Sunday. One admission fee of \$3 will cover all three days. Children are free when accompanied by an adult.

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, a 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.

TRAIL RIDE OF THE MILLENNIUM

"The Journey" will celebrate the first Butterfield Overland Stagecoach Run in 138 years with the "Historic Trail Ride of the Millennium!" The trip will begin March 24, 2001, in Springfield,

Mo., and will conclude May 25 in Tombstone, Ariz. The event will raise money for Special Olympics, St. Jude's Children's Hospital and Children's Miracle Network, both by the sale of tickets and by corporate sponsorship. For more information, contact "The Journey" at (417) 255-2390 or visit www.thestagecoachjourney.com on the Internet.

AAA INTERNSHIPS

American Angus Association and the "Angus Journal" will offer three summer internships to college students who want to learn more about breed association work. The paid internships will begin approximately June 1, 2000, and will conclude mid-August. Application deadline is Feb. 15, 2001. For more information, call (816) 383-5100.

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.

MISS TEXAS TEEN

Miss 2001 Texas Teen pageant officials are seeking participants for the contest to be held April 6-8 at Crown Plaza Hotel in Houston. The winner will receive a \$30,000 scholarship and will represent the state at the Miss 2001 United States Teen pageant slated July 12-21 in Orlando, Fla. For more information or to obtain an application, call (832) 721-4USA; fax (281) 370-8944; e-mail Bikini-USA@pdq.net; or visit www.missunitedstatesteen.com on the Internet. Deadline for application is March 6.

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.

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

The Texas Department of Health will be offering immunization clinics for vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases including polio, diphtheria, lock jaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, rubella, mumps, HIB (haemophilus influenzae Type B) and chickenpox (varicella). Flu vaccines will also be offered at designated clinics. The TDH will charge money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay. The following clinics will be offered: 9:30 a.m.-12 noon and 1-4 p.m., Jan. 17, Pampa Family Clinic, 700 W. Kentucky; 10 a.m.-12 noon, 1-3 p.m., Jan. 25, Wheeler School, Wheeler.

HARRINGTON CANCER CENTER

The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center has announced the following upcoming breast cancer screening clinics: Jan. 9, Lovett Memorial Library, 302 N. Main, McLean; Jan. 15, Family Care Center, 1010 S. Main, Shamrock; Jan. 17, Hemphill County Hospital, Canadian; Jan. 23, First Baptist Church, 411 S. Omohundro, White Deer. Participants will receive a low-cost self-exam mammogram and a breast health appraisal along with individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are by appointment only. For more information, call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673.

BOY SCOUTS

The Golden Spread Council of Boy Scouts of America is open to boys between the ages of 6 and 18 and includes a 27-county area in the Texas Panhandle. The BSA program includes Club Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturing, a new program for 14- to 20-year-old

boys and girls. For more information, call (806) 358-6500.

ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION

Ten free flowering trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation throughout this month. The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign. The 10 trees are two White Flowering Dogwoods, two flowering crabapples, two flowering pears, two Washington Hawthorns and two American Redbuds. The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between Feb. 1 and May 31 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge. Members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's colorful bimonthly publication, "Arbor Day" and "The Tree Book" with information about tree planting and care. To receive the free trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to Ten Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410.

CASE

Cultural Academic Student Exchange is seeking families of all types — retired couples, couples with children, single parent families and childless couples — to host a high school exchange student. For more information, call 877-846-5848.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG BOOKLET

The Cost Containment Research Institute in Washington, D.C., recently published a 32-page booklet, "Free & Low Cost Prescription Drugs." The revised third edition provides information on how and where to get free and low cost prescription drugs. Consumers can obtain a copy by sending \$5 to cover printing, postage and handling to: Institute Fulfillment Center, Prescription Drug Booklet #: PDF-370, P.O. Box 462, Elmira, NY 14902-0462. The information is also available at www.institute-dc.org.

COTTONWOOD SPRINGS GUEST RANCH

January Special
\$75 Per Night
665-7126

January celebrated as School Board Recognition Month across Texas

AUSTIN — In one of his acts as Texas governor, President-Elect George W. Bush proclaimed January 2001 School Board Recognition Month. Districts across the state will use this opportunity to show appreciation and bolster understanding of the role elected boards of education play in their communities and schools.

Bush said: "Young people are the Lone Star State's most precious resource, and their education is our most important responsibility. In towns and cities throughout Texas, locally elected school board members govern and guide schools in accordance with the will of the people. They also ensure that control of and accountability for the schools stay where they belong — with the residents of that community."

"Texas has more than 7,000 school board members, representing the largest group of elected officials in the state. Most school boards consist of seven locally elected trustees who serve three-year terms without pay. These dedicated men and women make policy, set budgets, and work to ensure academic excellence and accountability for students, teachers, and administrators."

"The Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) represents and serves local school boards across the Lone Star State. TASB has designated January 2001 as School Board Recognition Month to raise awareness of the board members' contributions in helping children learn and succeed academically."

"I encourage all Texas to recognize school board members for their service to communities throughout the Lone Star State. Their commitment to quality and excellence helps give students

the opportunity to reach their full potential."

TASB Executive Director James Crow said, "School board members serve as advocates for our children first and foremost, protecting each child's opportunity to maximize his or her potential. Trustees offer vision, knowledge, leadership, and dedication, and work purely for the common good. It is important to recognize the many contributions made by our locally elected school board members and support them as they tackle the demanding and rewarding task of educating our youth."

"Local trustees work with community leaders, families, and educators to develop sound edu-

cational policies in their districts," Crow continued. "They help us to set high standards in the education system and encourage us to strive to reach those goals. The results of this cooperative effort are reflected in a generation of Texas children who are more prepared to be our nation's leaders."

"Today's schools face great challenges and great opportunities, making the school board's role more critical than ever before. We hope every community will acknowledge the thousands of trustees, and particularly their local school board members, who make the time to care about Texas children and their futures," Crow concluded.


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This is my brother Omar.
He had a hole in his tummy.
A bullet hit him.
I saw red grass.
A gun was in the garage.
I didn't mean to shoot daddy's gun.
I didn't mean to shoot daddy's gun.



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Please lock up your gun.

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THE Pampa NEWS

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Inside the Beltway
with
Rep. Mac Thornberry

Where do we go from here?

I have to admit that I am one of those who believe we are just now about to enter the new millennium. My wife says it does not matter, but I argue that if there never was a year zero, we did not complete 2000 years until the end of the year 2000. And if we are just entering the new century and new millennium, maybe we have another chance to evaluate where our nation stands, without all of last year's hype.

Given all that the country has been through in the past few weeks, a lot of questions come to mind. We stand at the pinnacle as the most powerful, most prosperous country in the history of the world. Will we stay that way?

I do not believe that the United States will be conquered from the outside. There are certainly enormous security challenges before us, such as the spread of terrorism and of weapons of mass destruction. The world is shrinking, and we cannot pretend that we are unaffected by problems elsewhere. But I have come to believe that the biggest hurdle to our staying on top is internal.

The media has been full of stories about the deep divisions in the country. Certainly if we analyze the exit polls from the recent elections, there are startling contrasts in the voting patterns of urban and rural voters, of men and women, of whites and blacks.

Diversity has always been one of America's strengths. From the beginning, people have come here from all over the world seeking freedom and a better life, bringing their culture and heritage with them. America has benefited from that wealth of energy and talent which people of different faiths, different backgrounds, and different perspectives bring.

As we have seen in the Balkans and elsewhere, if differences are allowed to take center stage, people will splinter into opposing groups causing mistrust, suspicion, and hostility. Then, it is easy to lose touch with our common heritage or Lincoln's "mystic chords of memory." Throughout our history, people in the United States have been able to pull together, recognizing that we have differences, but always remembering that those things that we have in common as Americans are stronger than whatever differences we may have.

Unfortunately, we have been seeing a disturbing trend. Some individuals and groups seem to exploit — or even create — differences among us, for their own selfish purposes. They seem to thrive on the very divisiveness and hostility that poses a threat to our overall strength as a nation.

Some so-called "leaders" try to get more television time, more followers, and more influence by playing up real or imagined grievances. One well-known person actually called for his followers to take to the streets to protest the outcome of the presidential election. A whole industry has grown up with groups that send out inflammatory mail on some issue which then asks for a contribution to help fight some "evil."

These folks have no interest in working together to accomplish good things — that would rob them of the issues that give them power. They profit from polarization. Division is their currency, and the national news media often provides amplification for their voices. We have seen much of that in Florida in recent weeks.

We may see some of that in Washington, too. President-elect Bush has made it clear that he will reach out to Democrats. He has a history of doing so in Austin, and he knows he will have to have some of their votes to make progress on his agenda.

The bigger question is whether they will meet him halfway? We have found that when some in Congress get their way, it is hailed as "bipartisanship"; when they do not get their way, it is labeled "extreme partisanship." Bipartisanship has to be a two-way street, but some politicians may think they are better off politically by fanning the flames of divisiveness and exploiting feelings of outrage and injustice.

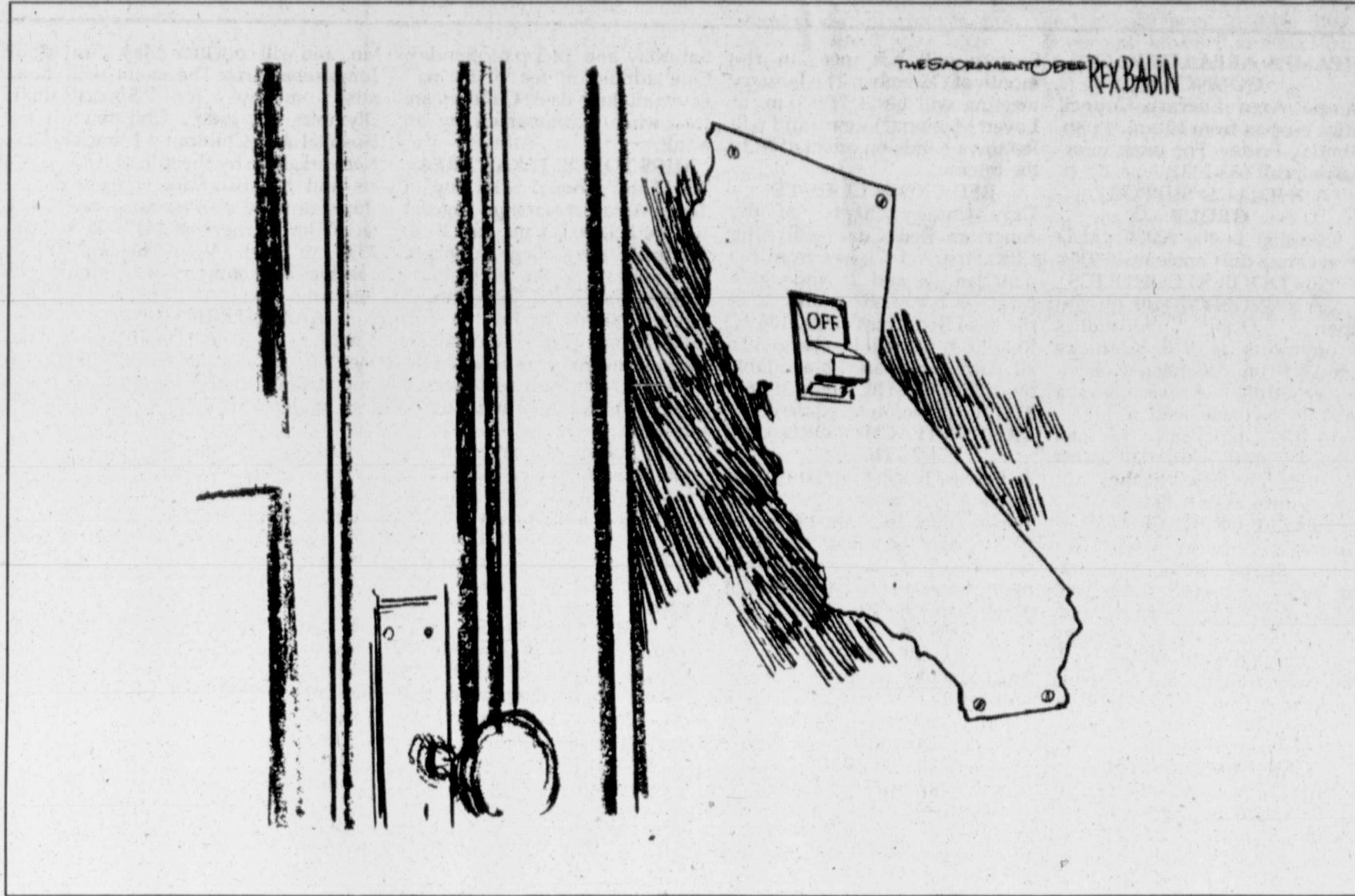
So what do we do in the face of those who try to gain power and influence by dividing Americans? Clearly, we will always have differences of opinion, but we have to put greater emphasis on all that we have in common — those values and ideas which unite us.

For example, all Americans should have a good understanding of American history. In recent years, it seems that studying the Founding Fathers, the Revolutionary War, and those ideas which make America special are not "politically correct." Too many people today are not familiar with the basic precepts about freedom and the role of government contained in our Declaration of Independence. When speaking before a group of new citizens, school groups, or a local Rotary club, I have found that reminding people of those "self-evident" truths can be as uplifting and unifying now as at any time in our past.

We also have to unite against those who would whip up prejudice or envy or ignorance to pit one American against another. We should have little tolerance for these tactics. True leaders bring out the best in us, not the worst; appealing to "the better angels of our nature" as Lincoln put it.

In his concession speech, Vice President Gore said, "... that which unites us is greater than that which divides us." For well over 200 years it has been so, but we cannot assume that it will be so indefinitely. Each of us has a responsibility to preserve and strengthen those American ideals for the new millennium, whenever it starts.

VIEWPOINTS



Gee, it's great to feel so great

If you've seen me around the past few days, I'm sporting a new hairdo. It's my REAL hair. There's not much there, but it's all mine.

After wearing a wig for the nearly 10 months, it surely is good to be 'natural' again.

In February, 2000, I began several months of chemotherapy treatments. I was told I would probably lose my hair after two or three treatments, and I naturally hoped I would be the exception. I wasn't. But imagine my surprise when my hair began falling out the 15th day after the first treatment!

After having baby fine hair for over 50 years, I was really amazed about how long it took for it to fall out. As I told my brother, "Wow! Mother be surprised to know I had this much hair!"

All joking aside, it was traumatic. Of course, the loss of eye lashes and eyebrows didn't help. I was so excited a few months ago when I got to shave my legs, and I haven't complained since then about that chore. It sure beats the alternative.

As my hair continued to fall out and it was apparent I was going bald, my daughter-in-law accompanied me to get a wig on March 21. A few days later my hair dresser shaved my head of the few remaining hairs which were left. A former classmate of my daughter, she cried and



Nancy Young

Managing editor

I was trying to comfort her.

My 6-year-old granddaughter, Peyton, asked me when my hair would grow back. I thought it would be around Halloween, but having experience with children I told her Christmas. I surely am glad I did. She asks enough questions.

Now, I've always like my hair short, but I haven't ever worn it this short. At least really short hair on women is currently in style. DeeDee Laramore measured the longest hair we could find on my head, and it is an inch-and-one-half. Right on! I purchased a one-half-inch curling iron to add a little curl to the top, but I have a little 'natural curl' in the back. This is a first.

Having had naturally straight hair all my life, this seems quite strange. I've always been so thrilled three of my four children got their

father's hair, and have some curl.

Now about the color — it is going to have to have some help. It came in natural, and my hair hasn't seen the natural color in over 40 years. It's not going to continue to be natural either.

A few gray ones have also popped up. They are going to go the way of the Hair Color Fairy, too. I have nothing against gray hair — I just don't want it. As long as there are hair color products, I don't intend to have it. Yes, I admit it. I'm vain, but I don't want gray hair.

Now I don't have to worry about a gust of Panhandle wind blowing my "hair" off as happened to me one day last spring. I was exiting the local hospital after having blood work when one of those famous gusts blew my hair right off.

A man who was approaching was doing his best not to show his shock. I'm sure he was trying to decide what was "politically correct" in such a situation. Don't think Amy Vanderbilt has ever addressed this issue in her etiquette books. If it happens to you, please help run the "hair" down. I thought mine might get to Perryton before I got it back.

I feel great. All my tests continue to have excellent results. One week ago today, it was a year since my battle began with the cancer. It is sure great to feel so great, and to have hair.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Jan. 11, the 11th day of 2001. There are 354 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 11, 1935, aviator Amelia Earhart began a trip from Honolulu to Oakland, Calif., that made her the first woman to fly solo across the Pacific Ocean.

On this date:

In 1757, the first secretary of the U.S. Treasury, Alexander Hamilton, was born in the West Indies.

In 1805, the Michigan Territory was created.

In 1885, Sir John A. Macdonald, the first prime minister of Canada, was born in Glasgow, Scotland.

In 1861, Alabama seceded from the Union.

In 1913, the first sedan-type automobile, a Hudson, went on display

at the 13th Automobile Show in New York.

In 1942, Japan declared war against the Netherlands, the same day that Japanese forces invaded the Dutch East Indies.

In 1943, the United States and Britain signed treaties relinquishing extraterritorial rights in China.

In 1964, U.S. Surgeon General Luther Terry issued the first government report saying smoking may be hazardous to one's health.

In 1973, owners of American League baseball teams voted to adopt the designated-hitter rule on a trial basis.

In 1978, two Soviet cosmonauts aboard the Soyuz 27 capsule linked up with the Salyut 6 orbiting space station, where the Soyuz 26 capsule was already docked.

Ten years ago: The United States

and Iraq intensified their rhetoric, with Secretary of State James A. Baker III telling Air Force pilots in Saudi Arabia, "We pass the brink at midnight January 15," and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein boasting of his army's readiness.

Five years ago: Addressing pointed questions about the first lady, President Clinton offered a rousing defense of his wife, Hillary, during a news conference. The space shuttle Endeavour blasted off on a nine-day mission. Ryutarō Hashimoto was chosen the new prime minister of Japan. Funeral services were held for former French president Francois Mitterrand.

One year ago: Whittling away more of the federal government's power over states, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled, 5-4, that state

employees cannot go into federal court to sue over age bias. Carlton Fisk and Tony Perez were elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Today's Birthdays:

Producer Grant Tinker is 75. Producer David L. Wolper is 73. Actor Rod Taylor is 71. The prime minister of Canada, Jean Chretien, is 67. Actor Mitchell Ryan ("Dharma and Greg") is 67. Rock musician Clarence Clemons (Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band) is 59. Country singer Naomi Judd is 55. Golfer Ben Crenshaw is 49. Singer Robert Earl Keen is 45. Actress Kim Coles is 39. Actor Jason Connery is 38. Rhythm-and-blues singer Maxee Maxwell (Brownstone) is 32. Singer Mary J. Blige is 30. Musician Tom Rowlands (The Chemical Brothers) is 30. Actress Amanda Peet is 29.

A holiday with British Communist Party

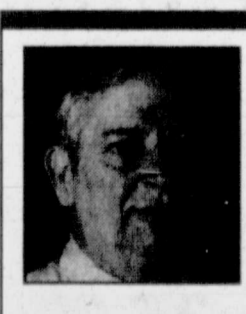
One of my most memorable Christmas Eves was spent with a member of the British Communist Party. I learned a lot that evening — but not about ideology.

At 19, more or less on a whim, I had purchased a one-way ticket on the Ile de France, a grand old ship that was Ernie Hemingway's favorite, to England. One way was all I could afford, and I shared a room on the lower deck, just above the engine room.

Those old liners had a strong class distinction. There was first class, second class or cabin class and tourist. Those of us in tourist were not allowed on the decks of our betters. Our spot outside was on the bow with the anchor. And that suited me just fine.

I actually did what Leo DiCaprio did in the movie about the Titanic. It is a great feeling to wedge yourself right where the bow comes to a point and ride the great Atlantic swells with a 42,000-ton ship behind you. I did not proclaim myself king of the world. That's not my style. But I enjoyed the experience tremendously.

Nor did I fall in love with a rich girl. I spent most evenings drinking with a British doctor, a Mexican architect and a Yugoslav giant who referred to himself in the third person as "Papa." He was very proud of his bullet scars from some past Balkan war. One night, he pounded the table with his ham-sized fist and announced, "When Papa feel like singing, Papa sings." And



Charley Reese

Syndicated columnist

he did.

It was through reading (Dickens, Kipling, Thackeray, Austen, the Brontës) that I had developed a great love of England sight unseen. To this day, I love both the countryside and London, the only large city in the world that I would care to live in. It doesn't get any better than a stroll through St. James Park, no matter what the season.

I managed to talk my way into a job as a caption writer (a caption is the print at the bottom of a news picture) with Planet Newspictures Ltd., a subsidiary of United Press. We were in a quaint wood building, four stories tall but barely one room wide, in Johnson's Court, just off Fleet Street. Except for the bureau chief, I was the only American, and I worked six days a week on a rotating shift.

My British friends (me mates, as they would

say) invited me to holiday dinners, and one of them was a courier who was often kidded about being a member of the Communist Party. He was a communist but an awfully nice guy. I agreed to his invitation, and he instructed me to meet him at the Nottinghill Gate subway station.

As the day approached, I began to have regrets. Nottinghill Gate in those days was a run-down area, and I visualized a dreary evening in a dreary flat. When I got there, however, we grabbed a bus that took us farther out into the suburbs of London.

Finally, we arrived at a grand two-story house, where he introduced me to his mother and father. His father was manager of a General Electric plant and hardly a member of the proletariat. My friend's parents later confided to me, when he was out of the room, that he had suffered brain damage in a motorcycle accident and had become almost childlike. His vision of the Communist Party was a young boy's romanticized version.

The old saying about never judging a book by its cover was certainly true in that case. His home was by far the most affluent that I visited while in London. All of my other fellow workers were indeed true working-class guys, several of them cockneys.

My London stay was a grand adventure and has left me with warm memories of Christmas in the city of Charles Dickens.

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Favored Son Gets Mom's Rings And Daughter Now Feels Hurt



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

DEAR ABBY: About four years ago, my dad bought my mother a beautiful set of diamond rings to upgrade the set he had given her many years ago when they first married. My mother gave her smaller rings to my brother, who then proposed to his girlfriend and later married her. I thought it was very nice of my mother, and I was happy for my brother.

Last month, my father died. While my brother and I were staying at her house, my mother gave my brother her new set of diamond rings and told him to give them to his wife.

My brother and I have often joked about how he is her favorite child. (For instance, one year my folks gave him a camcorder and I got a dozen pairs of stockings.) There is nothing in our history that would warrant this favoritism. We both were always responsible, hard-working children and adults.

I am extremely hurt and do not know how to get past the pain. Have you any suggestions?
DESPERATELY NEEDS ADVICE,
NEW ORLEANS

DEAR NEEDS ADVICE: Yes. Tell your mother exactly how you feel and why. Allowing this to fester will only make it worse. It does appear that your brother is the favored child — and it is not a joking matter. The answer you receive may not be to your liking, but it's better than not knowing. In

fact, the truth may set you free. P.S. Under the circumstances, I commend you for having such a good relationship with your brother.

DEAR ABBY: My best girlfriend recently informed me that her son and his girlfriend are engaged. They plan to be married in six weeks. Apparently, her future daughter-in-law is expecting in March. She told me that the wedding will be for immediate family members only — parents, grandparents and godparents.

They have already made arrangements to have a big wedding one year from the date of their marriage. I am unsure if I should send a wedding gift now (which would be a check), or wait until the "big" wedding. I would like to do something. What would you suggest?

We sent the couple an engagement gift as soon as we heard the news. I'd really appreciate your input, Abby.
UNSURE IN ILLINOIS

DEAR UNSURE: Since you have already given the young couple an engagement gift and you are not attending the "small" wedding, wait until you are invited to the "big" celebration before giving them anything more than your heartfelt good wishes.

P.S. Offering to host a baby shower would be a caring and supportive gesture.

DEAR ABBY: You said you thought it wouldn't be easy to top the story about the 50th anniversary reception collection basket. Allow me to try:

We were invited to a couple's home for a party to celebrate their 10th wedding anniversary. When we arrived, there was a prominently displayed money tree. Of course, all the guests ended up covering the branches with "leaves" of money. Several days later, we learned that the happy couple had been in the midst of getting a divorce before the party, but needed extra cash, so they decided, "Why not?"

We certainly hope the divorce was a friendly one, because I don't think they have any other friends left after that scam.

DUMBFOUNDED IN CALIFORNIA
DEAR DUMBFOUNDED: Your letter is a first. Surely no one can top this one.

Horoscope

FRIDAY, JAN. 12, 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)

**** Easy does it. Though you might be in the mood to tear through your lists of what to do, you might want to guard against carelessness. If you are to get anything done, screen your calls. Laugh as you revamp plans not once but perhaps several times. Tonight: Relax with favorite friends.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

***** Your creativity points the way to making money and gains. You have an astute financial sense as it is. Now you have an opportunity to enhance your security. A child or loved one enjoys teasing you. Go with the flow. Proceed carefully with a flirtation. Tonight: Kick up your heels.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

***** If you can avoid going to work, do so. Listen to your inner needs right now. Opportunities come to those who do this. Laughter surrounds you once you relax and let go. Share an invitation with those who are close to you. Tonight: Happy at home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

***** You might not always be sure about what to do or which way to go. Communication sets your mind adrift.

Invite others to join you in your mental wanderings. Make calls and reach out for someone at a distance. Go for what you want. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

***** At some point, you might decide to curb frivolous spending that involves a friend or a longtime desire. Knowing when to say "Stop" can make all the difference. You will find many inexpensive ways to enjoy yourself. Tonight: Help others enjoy living as much as you enjoy it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

***** Your smile wins friends. Your perspective changes considerably because of a boss or a respected personality in your life. Listen to what this person is saying. Avoid going overboard with your responses, if possible. Tonight: You're empowered. Seize the moment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

*** Step back and listen to what others say. You don't have to agree. Your vision of what is possible could change substantially as a result. Use care with a co-worker who clearly cares a lot. A gentle approach works when trying to draw others' good will. Tonight: Shhh. You don't have to tell.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

***** Aim for what you want. Network and broaden your horizons in your professional and personal lives. Not everything is as it seems. You need to gain. Tonight: Wherever you are, the party is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

***** You might not exactly be sure of what another wants. In fact, there is so much action around you that you might not know what is what. Get into the

joyful nature of the day. Tonight: Cheer in the weekend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

***** Make an effort toward a friend or loved one at a distance. You might not have spoken to this person in a while. You enjoy catching up on news. Be extremely caring to a loved one who might be a bit fragile. You really don't realize how much your efforts mean. Tonight: How about some live music?

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

***** Laughter marks a relationship. You also might add some of the old sizzle to your life. A loved one adores you and makes it clear just how much he likes being around you. Express your joyousness. Others like being with you. Tonight: Togetherness works.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

***** Others surround you and cannot get close enough to you. Your charisma and magnetism peak. Know what you want, as many offers come your way. Excitement marks your home life. A new home or a positive domestic change lingers on the horizon. Tonight: Let your popularity speak.

BORN TODAY
Amazon.com founder Jeff Bezos (1962), radio personality Howard Stern (1954), boxer Joe Frazier (1943)

For a personal consultation with a psychic, call (900) 000-0000, \$3.99 per minute. You can request your favorite psychic. Rotary or touch-tone phones. Must be 18 or older to call. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.

Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

- 1 Catch sight of
- 5 Singer Payne
- 10 Burger accomp-
- 11 Tandy's frequent co-star
- 12 Stephen Baldwin's brother
- 13 Out of sight
- 14 Library fixture
- 16 Watchmen
- 20 Moves stealthily
- 23 Actress Long
- 24 Grazing groups
- 25 Some Picassos
- 27 Gerund end
- 28 Graduate's pride
- 29 Chef's aid
- 32 Feature of a Punch puppet Actor
- 36 Depardieu
- 39 Approve
- 40 Draws out
- 41 Cellar item
- 42 Narnia's creator
- 43 Call for

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Yesterday's answer

- 18 Layer
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- 37 Genesis name
- 38 Theater feature

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STUMPED?

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

Marmaduke



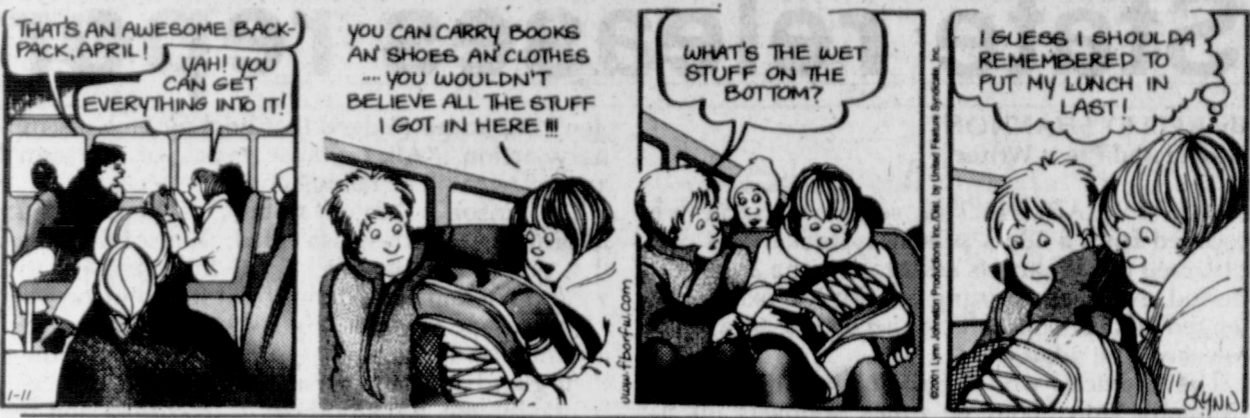
"Why is your head where the peanuts are supposed to be?"

The Family Circus



"Jeffy, I ask the same thing in my mirror every morning."

For Better or For Worse



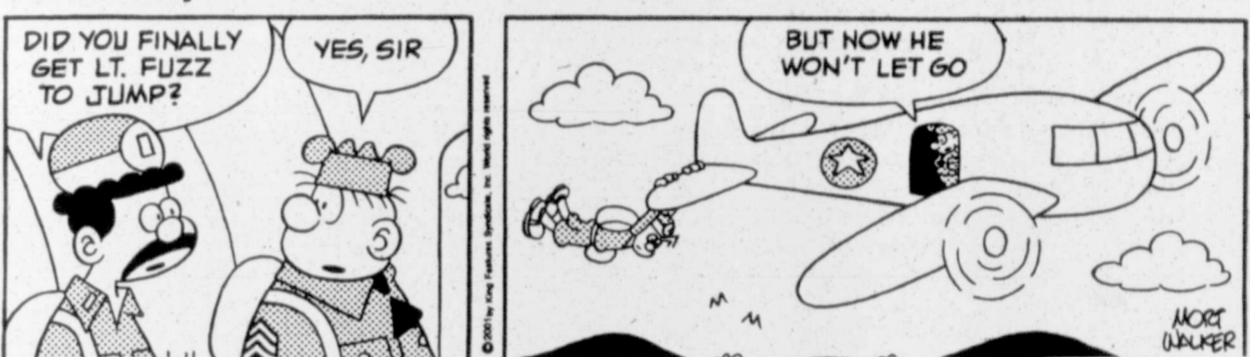
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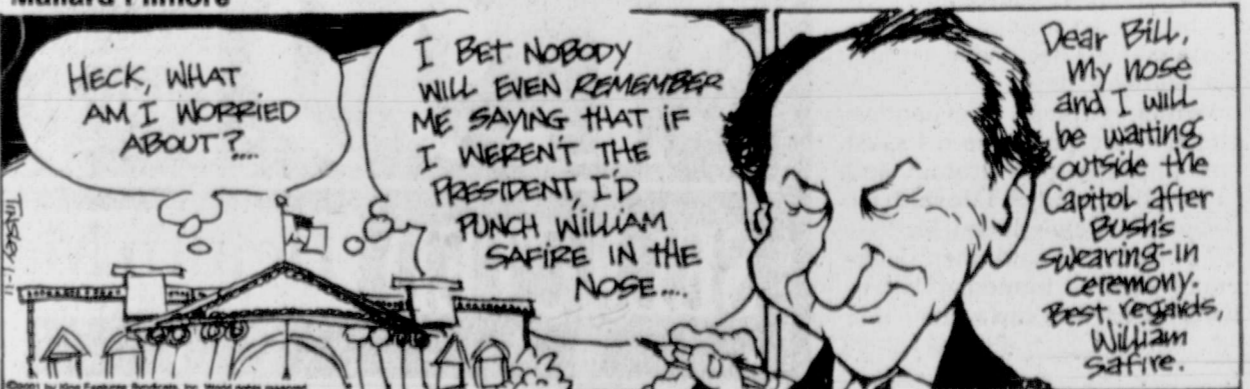
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SPORTS

Notebook

BASKETBALL

PAMPA — Pampa freshmen girls pushed their perfect record to 14-0 with a 45-30 win over Hereford earlier this week.

Stacey Johnson and Jennie Waggoner led Pampa in scoring with 15 points each.

The Pampa freshmen were the winners of the Perryton Tournament last weekend.

Abbi Covalt had 11 points and Jennie Waggoner 10 as Pampa opened the tournament with a 27-25 win over Dumas.

In the finals, Pampa defeated Perryton 37-31.

Jennie Waggoner's 19 points led Pampa. Tara Jordan followed with 8.

PAMPA — The City of Pampa Recreation Department will be sponsoring men's and women's basketball leagues for ages 16 and up.

Men's Competitive, Recreational and Women's Open divisions will be offered.

In addition, this year the city will offer a Men's Over 35 division.

Entry deadline will be Jan. 17 at 5 p.m., and the season begins on Jan. 24.

Entry fee (sponsor's fee) is \$200 and player's fee is \$10 per player with a minimum of 10 players.

Roster forms, fact sheets and league by-laws are available at the Recreation Office at 816 S. Hobart. For more information, please contact Shane Stokes at 669-5770 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

FOOTBALL

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Dick Vermeil is finally set to return to the NFL as coach of the Kansas City Chiefs.

Now that the NFL has issued a compensation ruling, the Chiefs have called a news conference for Friday to formally introduce Vermeil, according to The Kansas City Star.

The newspaper also reported in Thursday's editions that Vermeil last week agreed to a three-year, \$10 million contract.

Kansas City pried Vermeil out of his consultant's contract with St. Louis, and the NFL ruled Wednesday it will cost the Chiefs a second- and third-round draft pick and Vermeil \$500,000 he was paid this season by the Rams.

Chiefs president Carl Peterson said it's fair compensation for "the premier football coach in the National Football League."

"Dick Vermeil's record speaks for itself," Peterson said Wednesday following NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue's ruling. "I think it was appropriate for a Super Bowl coach. This man has been successful at everything he's ever done."

Vermeil, who retired after coaching the Rams to last year's Super Bowl title over Tennessee, said he, too, was pleased.

"I thought they made it fair. I feel good about it. I'm glad the Rams got something," Vermeil said from his home in the Philadelphia area. "They were good to me for three years. This is a way of paying something back to them."

Asked when the Chiefs would begin working out contract particulars with Vermeil, Peterson said, "When does the next plane from Philadelphia get in?"

Peterson and Vermeil were coaches together at UCLA more than two decades ago. Their friendship deepened when Vermeil led the 1980 Philadelphia Eagles to the Super Bowl while Peterson was director of player personnel.

Peterson tried to talk his buddy out of retirement when he was first put in charge of the Chiefs in 1989. He wound up with his second choice, Marty Schottenheimer.

Pampa swimmers take third at Fort Stockton

FORT STOCKTON — The Pampa swim team competed in the Fort Stockton Invitational last weekend. Both the Pampa girls and boys teams placed third overall.

Pecos placed first in both division while Andrews was second in the men's division and Abilene Wylie was second in the girl's division. All the swimmers had an excellent meet, said Pampa coach Amy Howard.

Andrea Branchetti for the Pampa girls won both the 100 backstroke and 500 freestyle. Teammate Misty Moman won the 100 butterfly.

Pampa's next competition will be Friday and Saturday at the Lubbock Invitational. Both 4A and 5A teams will be competing in order to get their best times before the district meet Jan. 26-27.

Pampa's individual results at Fort Stockton are as follows:

Girls

200 medley relay: 1. Andrea Branchetti, Megan David, Misty Moman and Tamra Henthorn, 2:07.03.

200 freestyle: 2. Tamra Henthorn, 2:17.57; 10. Jessica White, 2:36.27.

200 Intermediate: 2. Misty Moman, 2:43.01.

50 freestyle: 8. Megan David, 29.77; 30. Kendra Strickland, 37.05.

100 butterfly: 1. Misty Moman, 1:11.65.

100 freestyle: 2. Tamra Henthorn, 1:03.20.

500 freestyle: 1. Andrea Branchetti, 5:35.93; 10. Jessica White, 7:06.10; 17. Kendra Strickland, 8:06.35.

100 backstroke: 1. Andrea Branchetti, 1:04.53.

100 breaststroke: 4. Megan David, 1:22.95; 5. Jessica Hall, 1:27.81.

400 freestyle relay: 1. (Andrea Branchetti, Megan David, Misty Moman and Tamra Henthorn, 4:12.11.

Boys

200 medley relay: 5. (Doug Warren, Willie Griffin, Ben Whitten and Clay David), 1:58.94; 12. (Kody Kirkland, Julian George, Alan Arzola and Garrett Johnston), 2:13.94.

200 freestyle: 2. Clay David, 2:04.50.

200 intermediate: 9. Julian George, 2:53.04; 11. Alan Arzola, 2:57.42; 12. Jason Kilhoffer, 3:28.11.

50 freestyle: 8. Garrett Johnston, 26.63; 18. Kody Kirkland, 28.66; 27. Jon Sturgill, 31.28.

Diving: 11. Jon Sturgill, 125.75.

100 butterfly: 7. Ben Whitten, 1:11.13; 10. Garrett Johnston, 1:16.35; 11. Cameron Cargill, 1:40.89.

100 freestyle: 2. Willie Griffin, 55.17; 3. Clay David, 56.23; 7. Doug Warren, 58.62; 27. Michael Martinez, 1:13.90.

500 freestyle: 3. Willie Griffin, 5:35.29; 21. Cameron Cargill, 8:04.91.

200 freestyle relay: 11. (Garrett Johnston, Kody Kirkland, Alan Arzola and Julian George), 1:57.73; 15. (Cameron Cargill, Michael Martinez, Jon Sturgill and Jason Kilhoffer), 2:18.90.

100 backstroke: 4. Doug Warren, 1:07.13; 6. Kody Kirkland, 1:09.62; 14. Michael Martinez, 1:26.39.

100 breaststroke: 7. Ben Whitten,

1:17.56; 11. Alan Arzola, 1:24.76; 400 freestyle relay: 2. (Doug Warren, Ben Whitten, Clay David and Willie Griffin), 3:45.67; 12. Cameron Cargill, 5:13.86.



Pampa High swim team members are: (front row, from left) Julian George, Richard Rodrigues, Alan Arzola, Kelley Stowers, Michael Martinez and Jason Kilhoffer; (second row, from left) Charlie Graves, Tamra Henthorn, Jon Sturgill, Joe Johnson, Cameron Cargill, Andrea Branchetti and Ben Whitten; (third row, from left) Coach Amy Howard, Misty Moman, Jessica White, Jessica Hall, Kendra Strickland, Megan David, Desiree Vigil and Coach Dean Birkes; (fourth row, from left) Clay David, Michael Eskridge, Willie Griffin, Garrett Johnston, Doug Warren, Matt Strickland and Kody Kirkland.

Pampa visits Borger for district contests

PAMPA — Both the Pampa boys and girls teams visit Borger for more District 3-4A basketball action Friday night.

Both Pampa and Borger boys have 1-3 district marks. Pampa girls are 2-4 in district play while Borger is 5-1.

Both Pampa teams are in desperate need of victories after double losses to Randall on Tuesday night.

The Lady Harvesters fell to Randall by the score of 61-34.

Jennifer Orenas was the top scorer, for Randall with 15 points. Kara Cornelius followed with 8.

Scoring for Pampa were Ashley Derington with 8 points, Jennifer Lindsey 7, Chasity Nachtigall 7, Lindsey Naron 6, Charity Nachtigall 4 and Stephanie Cameron 2.

Keenan Hooker tossed in 26 points to lead Randall past Pampa 68-38 in the boys' game.

Pampa's high scorer was Gary Alexander with 15.

Randall was ranked No. 7 in the state going into the game.

Coaches want 5-year players

ATLANTA (AP) — If the coaches had their way, college football players could stay on the field for five years. Don't expect the NCAA to go along with the idea.

"It probably makes too much sense to pass," admitted Grant Teaff, executive director of the American Football Coaches Association.

The group, finishing its four-day annual convention, voted Wednesday night to make several proposals to the NCAA rules committee next month.

The most radical: an extra year of eligibility for players, who currently are allowed to play four seasons during a five-year period.

"I don't understand any negatives," Georgia Tech coach George O'Leary said.

Teaff pointed out that players take an average of 4.6 years to graduate anyway, so they should have the option of playing an extra season rather than redshirting. Coaches like the idea because the extra players — Teaff estimated nine or 10 per year at a Division I-A school — would make it easier to cope with injuries.

But the NCAA defeated a similar proposal in 2000.

"There's a feeling that you're stringing things out for the players rather than having them move on with their lives," Washington coach Rick Neuheisel said.

Others who scored for Pampa were Adam Rodgers with 6 points, Max Simon 4, Jon East 4, Dustin Johnson 3, Kyle Francis 3, and Chadd Platt 3.

Pampa boys had Borger's number in a pair of non-district games, beating the Bulldogs 66-51 and 58-53 in the Tip-Off Classic in Amarillo. However, the Bulldogs are always tough on their hometown.

Kendrick Dickson (6-0 junior) and Gabriel Garcia (5-10 junior) have provided much of Borger's offense. Garcia had 12 points and Dickson 7 in Borger's 55-43 loss to Canyon on Tuesday night.

Pampa and Borger girls have met once before this season with the Lady Bulldogs taking a 69-51 decision in the Lake Meredith Classic.

Welcome to the Raider Nation

ALAMEDA, Calif. (AP) — Fans of the Oakland Raiders have names like Skull Man, Spike and Dark Raider. They lurk in places like the Black Hole.

Welcome to the Raider Nation.

The Oakland Raiders, playing host to an AFC title game for the first time since 1980, say their wacky fans will be a distinct advantage on Sunday when they play the Baltimore Ravens for the conference championship.

"Relentless support," coach Jon Gruden said of his team's fans. "Relentless."

The Raiders (13-4) have a distinct home-field advantage in the playoffs, having lost only one game at home this season. The fans, Gruden and the players say, are part of the reason.

Often, die-hard fans arrive at the Coliseum as early as 3 a.m.

on game day, jockeying for the best tailgate position in the parking lot.

And they don't take kindly to those who have taken up with the team now that they're winning. A banner in the north parking lot before the Raiders divisional playoff game against the Miami Dolphins read "Welcome Bandwagon Fans!" above a drawing of an obscene gesture.

Silver and black is required. Chains and dog collars have always been de rigeur. And the latest accessory is a "Chucky" doll from the "Child's Play" series of horror movies.

Although the origins are unclear, it has been said that Gruden resembles Chucky when he's angry. So fans put blond hair, headsets and Raiders garb on their dolls.

When asked about the phenomenon, Gruden seemed amused, if not perplexed.

"All I know is there's some comparison between me and some horror character," he said with a smile.

Eighteen-inch Chucky dolls, not normally found in your corner toy store, were going for as much as \$42 on eBay's auction Web site this week.

The Raiders' fans may seem a bit extreme in the San Francisco Bay area, more accustomed to the civilized, wine-drinking boosters of the San Francisco 49ers, but there are actually stadiums that are just as inhospitable.

"Every stadium is a little bit different, but that's a unique environment to go into," Ravens coach Brian Billick said.



S. Caleb Kim, DO Family Practice

- Bachelor of Science, Physiology University of Illinois
- 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.

**Family Medicine Center • 3023 N. Perryton Pkwy.
Suite 101 Pampa, Texas 79065**

**For Appointment Information
Call 806-665-0801**

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Pampa middle school girls win basketball game at Hereford

Pampa Middle School girls basketball resumed this past Thursday with the Lady Patriots traveling to Hereford.

In all but one of the 7th and 8th games, Pampa led throughout only to give up the leads late in the game. The 7th B girls came away with the only win of the day in a defensive 16-10 victory and improved their district record to 2-4. High scorer in the game was Courtney Crawford with 6, Ashlee Lucas, Audrey Dunn both had 4, and Krissi Alexander followed with 2.

The 7th A, Hereford came back to win 39-35 over Pampa. "We just run out of gas in this one," said Coach Jennifer Leonard. "After the long holiday layoff, they just couldn't keep the lead. Six

players scored in the game with Morgan Meharg leading the way with 10, Mariza Scott chipped in 8, Jackie Gerber had 6, Callie Cobb with 5, Felicia Urban 4, and And Destinee Manhart added 2. The loss drops 7th A to 2-4 in district.

Lady Patriot 8th graders A lost in overtime 34-33 but Coach Janyth Bowers was all smiles as two of her starters came back after injuries and played well. Becca Gindorf, played in her first game in over 6 weeks, scored 10 and had an outstanding game, said Bowers.

Another starter Chera Chavado is back and gave us a much needed boost, she added. Leading the game in scoring for Pampa was Lindsey Ammons with 16, Brittany Adams hit 4, Chavado and Erin

Winegeart each had 2. The 8th A is now 2-4 in district.

The 8th B lost the lead and the game late in the 4th to go down to defeat 24-20. "We really got a great game from Heather Dildy all around, but once again could not hold on to the lead," Coach Bowers stated. "Heather had a team high 8 points and played the best game of her season," she added.

Also helping out in the scoring were Deidra Warden with 4, Autumn Schaub, Garnet Skinner each had 3 and Jerrica Timmons finished with 2. The losses make the 8th B now 1-5 for the district.

The Lady Patriots resume play Jan. 11 at home against Dumas. Games are played at the PMS gyms starting at 5:30 and 6:45.

Scoreboard

FOOTBALL

NFL Playoff Glimpse

By The Associated Press

All Times EST

Saturday, Dec. 30

Wild-card Playoffs

Miami 23, Indianapolis 17, OT

New Orleans 31, St. Louis 28

Sunday, Dec. 31

Baltimore 21, Denver 3

Philadelphia 21, Tampa Bay 3

Sunday, Jan. 7

Baltimore 24, Tennessee 10

New York Giants 20, Philadelphia 10

Sunday, Jan. 14

NFC Championship

Minnesota at New York Giants, 12:30 p.m. (FOX)

AFC Championship

Baltimore at Oakland, 4 p.m. (CBS)

Sunday, Jan. 28

At Tampa, Fla.

AFC champion vs. NFC champion, 6 p.m. (CBS)

Pro Bowl

Sunday, Feb. 4

NFC vs. AFC, 5:30 p.m. at Honolulu (ABC)

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Wednesday's Major College Basketball Scores

By The Associated Press

EAST

Binghamton 72, Army 55

Canisius 95, Siena 77

Cent. Connecticut St. 80, Sacred Heart 63

Connecticut 73, Pittsburgh 53

Drexel 68, Penn 63

Duquesne 83, Rhode Island 69

Fairfield 84, Niagara 82, 2OT

Georgetown 86, Morgan St. 68

Hofstra 57, Manhattan 43

Holy Cross 68, Colgate 55

Lehigh 90, Lafayette 80

Maine 86, Hartford 76

Navy 89, Bucknell 67

New Hampshire 87, Vermont 69

Rider 84, Iona 81

St. John's 73, Boston College 71

St. Joseph's 76, George Washington 71

SOUTH

Belmont 88, W. Carolina 75

Duke 84, N.C. State 78

Elon 88, Liberty 82

Florida 81, Mississippi St. 80

Georgia 85, Auburn 80

Kentucky 69, South Carolina 63

Louisville 87, Tulane 84, OT

N.C.-Asheville 72, Charleston Southern 65

N.C.-Wilmington 66, High Point 48

North Carolina 86, Maryland 83

Old Dominion 74, William & Mary 54

South Alabama 74, W. Kentucky 66, OT

South Florida 78, Charlotte 71

Southern Miss. 63, DePaul 49

VMI 71, Furman 66

Va. Commonwealth 72, George Mason 65

Vanderbilt 71, LSU 67

Virginia Tech 85, Miami 74

Winthrop 80, Gardner-Webb 71

MIDWEST

Bowling Green 90, Buffalo 75

Bradley 76, St. Illinois 65

Kent St. 94, N. Illinois 68

Loyola, Ill. 57, Wis.-Green Bay 55

Marquette 47, Cincinnati 44

Miami (Ohio) 73, Cent. Michigan 61

Michigan St. 84, Northwestern 53

Penn St. 78, Ohio St. 75

Purdue 73, Wisconsin 67

Toledo 74, E. Michigan 55

SOUTHWEST

Houston 67, UAB 65

Mississippi 53, Arkansas 48

Rice 75, Texas-Pan American 71

Texas 63, Kansas St. 41

FAR WEST

Fresno St. 94, TCU 82

Missouri 82, Colorado 76

Michigan State bounces back; Boston College loses first game

By The Associated Press

Michigan State had no trouble rebounding from its first loss of the season. Boston College has to try to do the same.

With freshmen Zach Randolph and Marcus Taylor inserted into the starting lineup for the first time, the No. 3 Spartans beat Northwestern 84-53 Wednesday night.

"I thought it was a good way to bounce back even though we looked a little sluggish early," said coach Tom Izzo, whose team's 23-game winning streak was snapped Sunday at Indiana.

Elsewhere, previously unbeaten No. 23 Boston College, one of the biggest surprises early in the season, lost 73-71 to St. John's when the Eagles couldn't get a shot off on their final possession.

"It's terrible, really terrible," Eagles sophomore guard Troy Bell said. "We know what it's like to lose 12 straight, and we'll definitely bounce back."

There are two remaining unbeaten teams: No. 12 Georgetown, which beat Morgan State 86-68, and No. 1 Stanford.

In other games involving ranked teams, it was No. 2 Duke 84, North Carolina State 78; No. 9 North Carolina 86, No. 14 Maryland 83; No. 13 Connecticut 73, Pittsburgh 53; No. 8 Florida 81, Mississippi State 80; Purdue 73, No. 17 Wisconsin 67; No. 20 Mississippi 53, Arkansas 48; and No. 23 Texas 63, Kansas St. 41.

No. 3 Michigan State 84, Northwestern 53

The Spartans (13-1, 2-1 Big Ten) extended the nation's longest home winning streak to 37 by beating Northwestern (7-8, 0-3).

Andre Hutson had 19 points, nine rebounds and a career-high five assists, and Charlie Bell scored 15 points.

Randolph had 11 points and seven rebounds, and Taylor had four points and seven assists.

"I was pleased with the change in the lineup," Izzo said. "I thought early, Zach played extremely well and hard. Marcus getting seven assists was good."

St. John's 73, No. 24 Boston College 71

At New York, Bell had 23 points as the Eagles (11-1, 2-1 Big East) fell victim to some late heroics by Red Storm freshman guard Omar Cook.

Cook, who had 19 points and 13 assists, broke the game's

final tie with a 3-pointer with 34 seconds to play, giving St. John's (8-6, 2-1) a 72-69 lead.

Bell then scored on a putback with 21 seconds left before Cook hit one free throw with 17 seconds to play. Alpha Bangura knocked the ball away from Kenny Harley in the final seconds to clinch it.

No. 12 Georgetown 86, Morgan State 68

Ruben Boumtje Boumtje had 19 points, and host Georgetown scored the game's first 18 points against Morgan State (2-10).

The win improved Georgetown's record to 14-0, the second-best start in team history. It ties the mark set by the 1989-90 team and is second only to the 1984-85 Hoyas, who won their first 18 games.

No. 2 Duke 84, NC State 78

Shane Battier and Jason Williams scored 22 points apiece for Duke (14-1, 3-0 ACC), which extended its ACC record road winning streak to 21 straight.

Duke beat N.C. State (8-5, 0-2) for the eighth straight time.

No. 8 Florida 81, Mississippi St. 80

Brett Nelson hit a jumper with five-tenths of a second left as Florida won at Mississippi State.

But in the midst of the celebration, Florida (11-2 1-1 SEC) failed to realize that there was still time left on the clock. Players ran on the court from the sideline, and a one-shot technical foul was assessed.

Antonio Jackson made the free throw, but the Bulldogs (9-3, 1-1) couldn't convert a desperation heave.

No. 9 North Carolina 86, No. 14 Maryland 83

Joseph Forte scored 20 of his 26 points in the second half as visiting North Carolina held off a rally by Maryland.

It was the ninth straight win for the Tar Heels (12-2, 3-0 ACC), who let a 19-point lead dwindle to 80-77 with 27 seconds left.

Terence Morris had 21 points and 12 rebounds for the Terrapins (11-4, 2-1).

No. 13 Connecticut 73, Pittsburgh 53

Taliek Brown had 10 points and 10 assists to lead Connecticut past visiting Pittsburgh (9-5, 1-2 Big East).

Reserve Edmund Saunders scored 15 points for the Huskies (13-2, 2-1) and led the team with eight rebounds.

Purdue 73, No. 17 Wisconsin 67

Rodney Smith scored 19 points, including a go-ahead 15-foot jumper with 1:47 left, to lead host Purdue (11-3, 3-0 Big Ten).

Kirk Penney's 3-pointer with 18.7 seconds left closed the Badgers (10-3, 1-2) to 70-67, but Purdue sealed the win with free throws.

No. 20 Mississippi 53, Arkansas 48

Jason Holmes beat the shot

clock with a 3 from the corner that put visiting Mississippi ahead to stay.

Mississippi (14-1, 2-0 SEC) trailed by 12 in the first half after missing 19 of its first 23 shots. Arkansas (9-5, 0-2) went more than eight minutes with-

out a field goal in the second half.

No. 23 Texas 63, Kansas St. 41

Chris Owens had 14 points and 15 rebounds, and Texas recovered from poor first half of shooting to beat visiting

Kansas State (7-6, 1-1 Big 12).

After shooting just 6-of-36 from the floor in the first half, Texas (12-2, 2-0 Big 12) broke it open in the second with a 12-0 run that turned a close game into a 37-21 lead.

Free Agent Signings

NEW YORK (AP) — The 90 free agents who have signed, with name, position, former club if different, and contract. The contract information was obtained by The Associated Press from player and management sources. For players with minor league contracts, letter agreements for major league contracts are in parentheses:

AMERICAN LEAGUE

ANAHEIM (5) — Re-signed Gary Disarcina, ss, to a \$320,000, one-year contract; re-signed Tim Belcher, rhp, to a minor league contract (\$750,000); signed Pat Rapp, rhp, Baltimore, to a \$2 million, one-year contract; signed Ismael Valdes, rhp, Los Angeles, to a \$2.5 million, one-year contract; signed Jorge Fábregas, c, Kansas City, to a \$500,000, one-year contract.

BALTIMORE (3) — Signed Pat Hentgen, rhp, St. Louis, to a \$9.6 million, two-year contract; signed David Segui, 1b, Cleveland, to a \$28 million, four-year contract; signed Mike Bordick, ss, New York Mets, to a \$9.5 million, two-year contract.

BOSTON (5) — Signed Frank Castillo, rhp, Toronto, to a \$4.5 million, two-year contract; re-signed Tim Wakefield, rhp, to a \$6.5 million, two-year contract; re-signed Pete Schourek, lhp, to a minor league contract (\$1 million); signed Manny Ramirez, of, Cleveland, to a \$160 million, eight-year contract; signed Kent Mercker, lhp, Anaheim, to a minor league contract (\$750,000).

CHICAGO (4) — Re-signed Jose Valentin, ss, to a \$15.5 million, three-year contract; re-signed Cal Eldred, rhp, to a \$1 million, one-year contract; signed Sandy Alomar Jr., c, Cleveland, to a \$5.4 million, two-year contract; re-signed Harold Baines, of, to a minor league contract (\$1 million).

CLEVELAND (2) — Signed Ellis Burks, of, San Francisco, to a \$20 million, three-year contract; signed Juan Gonzalez, of, Detroit, to a \$10 million, one-year contract.

KANSAS CITY (1) — Signed Doug Henry, rhp, San Francisco, to a \$2.75 million, two-year contract.

MINNESOTA (1) — Signed Tom Prince, c, Philadelphia, to a minor league contract (\$400,000).

NEW YORK (5) — Re-signed Paul O'Neill, of, to a \$6.5 million, one-year contract; signed Joe Oliver, c, Seattle, to a \$1.25 million, one-year contract; signed Mike Mussina, rhp, Baltimore, to an \$88.5 million, six-year contract; re-signed Luis Sojo, inf, to a \$500,000, one-year contract; re-signed Dwight Gooden, rhp, to a minor league contract (\$500,000).

OAKLAND (1) — Signed Mark Guthrie, lhp, Toronto, to a \$3.6 million, two-year contract.

SEATTLE (4) — Signed Jeff Nelson, rhp, New York Yankees, to a \$10.65 million, three-year contract; re-signed Jay Buhner, of, to a \$1.85 million, one-year contract; re-signed Tom Lampkin, c, to a \$1.2 million, one-year contract; signed Bret Boone, 2b, San Diego, to a \$3.25 million, one-year contract.

TAMPA BAY (1) — Re-signed Ozzie Guillen, inf, to a minor league contract (\$550,000).

TEXAS (6) — Signed Andres Galarraga, 1b, Atlanta, to a \$6.25 million, one-year contract; signed Mark Petkovsek, rhp, Anaheim, to a \$4.9 million, two-year contract; signed Ken Caminiti, 3b, Houston, to a \$3.25 million, one-year contract; signed Alex Rodriguez, ss, Seattle, to a \$252 million, 10-year contract; re-signed Ruben Sierra, of, to a minor league contract (\$400,000); re-signed Mike Munoz, lhp, to a minor league contract (\$500,000).

TORONTO (4) — Re-signed Mickey Morandini, inf, to a minor league contract (\$500,000); signed Dan Plesac, lhp, Arizona, to a \$2.4 million, one-year contract; re-signed Alex Gonzalez, ss, to a \$20 million, four-year contract; signed Jeff Frye, 2b, Colorado, to a \$1 million, one-year contract.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

ARIZONA (3) — Re-signed Armando Reynoso, rhp, to a \$6.5 million, two-year contract; signed Mark Grace, 1b, Chicago Cubs, to a \$6 million, two-year contract; signed Reggie Sanders, of, Atlanta, to a \$1.5 million, one-year contract.

ATLANTA (4) — Signed Dave Martinez, of, Toronto, to a \$3 million, two-year contract; signed Rico Brogna, 1b, Boston, to a \$1.5 million, one-year contract; signed Kurt Abbott, 2b, New York Mets, to a minor league contract (\$600,000); re-signed John Burkett, rhp, to a \$1.75 million, one-year contract.

CHICAGO (5) — Signed Julian Tavarez, rhp, Colorado, to a \$5 million, two-year contract; signed Jeff Fassero, lhp, Boston, to a \$5.1 million, two-year contract; signed Todd Hundley, c, Los Angeles, to a \$23.5 million, four-year contract; signed Tom Gordon, rhp, Boston, to a \$4 million, two-year contract; signed Jason Bere, rhp, Cleveland, to a \$4.5 million, two-year contract.

CINCINNATI (1) — Re-signed Mark Wohlers, rhp, Cincinnati, to a \$1.5 million, one-year contract.

COLORADO (4) — Re-signed Todd Hollandsworth, of, to a \$5.5 million, two-year contract; signed Denny Neagle, lhp, New York Yankees, to a \$51 million, five-year contract; signed Mike Hampton, lhp, New York Mets, to a \$121 million, eight-year contract; signed Ron Gant, of, Anaheim, to a \$2.05 million, one-year con-

tract.

FLORIDA (1) — Signed Charles Johnson, c, Chicago White Sox, to a \$35 million, five-year contract.

HOUSTON (3) — Signed Jose Vizcaino, inf, New York Yankees, to a \$1.5 million, two-year contract; signed Charlie Hayes, 3b, Milwaukee, to a minor league contract; signed Kent Bottenfield, rhp, Philadelphia, to a \$2 million, one-year contract.

LOS ANGELES (2) — Signed Andy Ashby, rhp, Atlanta, to a \$22.5 million, three-year contract; re-signed Darren Dreifort, rhp, to a \$55 million, five-year contract.

MILWAUKEE (2) — Re-signed James Mouton, of, to a minor league contract (\$300,000); signed Jeffrey Hammonds, of, Colorado, to a \$21.75 million, three-year contract.

NEW YORK (6) — Re-signed John Franco, lhp, to a \$10.5 million, three-year contract; re-signed Turk Wendell, rhp, to a \$9,399,999.99, three-year contract; re-signed Rick Reed, rhp, to a \$21.75 million, three-year contract; signed Kevin Appier, rhp, Oakland, to a \$42 million, four-year contract; signed Steve Trachsel, rhp, Toronto, to a \$7 million, two-year contract; signed Steve Ontiveros, rhp, Boston, to a minor league contract (\$500,000).

PHILADELPHIA (4) — Signed Jose Mesa, rhp, Seattle, to a \$6.8 million, two-year contract; signed Rheel Cormier, rhp, Boston, to an \$8.75 million, three-year contract; signed Ricky Bottalico, rhp, Kansas City, to a \$1.5 million, one-year contract; re-signed Brian R. Hunter, 1b, to a minor league contract (\$500,000).

PITTSBURGH (2) — Signed Terry Mulholland, lhp, Atlanta, to a \$6 million, two-year contract; signed Derek Bell, of, New York Mets, to a \$9 million, two-year contract.

ST. LOUIS (4) — Signed Bobby Bonilla, of, Atlanta, to a \$900,000, one-year contract; signed Shane Andrews, 3b, Chicago Cubs, to a minor league contract (\$750,000); signed Bernard Gilkey, of, Boston, to a minor league contract (\$700,000); signed John Mabry, of, San Diego, to a minor league contract (\$800,000).

SAN DIEGO (4) — Re-signed Tony Gwynn, of, to a \$2 million, one-year contract; re-signed Ed Sprague, 3b, to a minor league contract (\$575,000); signed Alex Arias, 3b, Philadelphia, to a \$1.3 million, two-year contract; re-signed Dave Magadan, 3b, to a \$575,000, one-year contract.

SAN FRANCISCO (3) — Re-signed Mark Gardner, rhp, to a \$2 million, one-year contract; signed Shawon Dunston, ss, St. Louis, to a \$1 million, one-year contract; signed Eric Davis, of, St. Louis, to a \$1.5 million, one-year contract.

Stars get road win at Atlanta

ATLANTA (AP) — Thanks to Marty Turco, the Dallas Stars never looked like a team in turmoil.

Turco stopped 31 shots for his third straight victory in place of suspended star Ed Belfour, and Brett Hull scored twice as Dallas beat the Atlanta Thrashers 3-2 Wednesday night.

"This team is back to normal, if not stronger and better," Turco said.

Belfour left the team in Boston on Saturday and was suspended after a dispute with coach Ken Hitchcock. The 35-year-old goalie rejoined the Stars on Tuesday, but did not play against Atlanta. He is expected to start Friday night against Detroit.

Turco beat Boston on Saturday and followed it up two nights later with a road win over the New

York Rangers. The 25-year-old rookie is unbeaten in his last five starts.

"He's held us in a couple of games now," Dallas forward Brendan Morrow said. "We gave up some chances we don't usually give up. He deserves a lot of credit for these six points."

Prosecutor: Guards allowed inmates to have sex at governor's residence

By AMY GEIER
Associated Press Writers

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — In the latest twist in the state's ongoing prison sex scandal, two guards have been charged with allowing inmates to have sex at the governor's residence. The South Carolina Corrections Department has been under fire since August when news accounts emerged of employees having sex with inmates. Wednesday's charges involve guards Freddie Priester and Demont Gilbert and four minimum-security inmates who worked at the governor's mansion complex and temporary residence, handling maintenance, housecleaning and cooking. Gov. Jim Hodges' office said personnel changes at the Corrections Department may be made. "We're shocked, disgusted, furious," said Hodges' spokesman Morton Brilliant. The charges also prompted an outcry from a top lawmaker. "It's long past time that the ultimate in discipline be levied against those employees in the Department of Corrections," said Sen. Greg Ryberg, chairman of the Senate Corrections and Penology Committee. "An example has to be set. We need to get this ship back on a level course." Neither guard is charged with having sex with

the inmates, and prisoners told investigators they did not use the Hodges' bedroom or have encounters while the governor, the first lady or their two sons, ages 5 and 7, were home, said Richland County chief prosecutor Barney Giese. Priester allegedly left his post at the temporary residence while Nancy Mulwee and Antoine Frazier had sex, according to an arrest affidavit. Priester and Gilbert are also accused of failing to report sexual encounters between those prisoners and inmates Michelle Mathias and Todd Johnson. The encounters began in April and ended in December, the affidavit said. Mathias became pregnant, and Priester tried to arrange an abortion for her, the affidavit says.

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Gilbert allegedly advised her to drink bleach to induce an abortion. Corrections Department spokesman John Barkley said he did not know the status of Mathias' pregnancy. He said he was unsure what discipline the inmates might face. Barkley said women prisoners will no longer be assigned to the governor's home or buildings on the mansion grounds. He said Johnson, Mulwee and Frazier were serving time for possession of crack cocaine, while Mathias was serving five years for arson. Priester, 49, and Gilbert, 22, spent Wednesday night in jail. Both were suspended without pay on Dec. 13.



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1 Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JULIA MORGAN WILLIAMS, Deceased, were issued on January 8, 2001, in Docket No. 8711, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas to JOHN E. BAILEY. John E. Bailey is a resident of Gray County, Texas. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate, addressed as follows:
John E. Bailey
Independent Executor
Estate of Julia Morgan Williams, Deceased
c/o Don R. Lane
Attorney at Law
P. O. Box 1781
Pampa, TX 79066-1781
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 8th day of January, 2001.
John E. Bailey
H-19 Jan. 11, 2001

3 Personal

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START immediately: Clerical person to work in Information Systems Dept. Must type, possess good office skills, basic knowledge of computers and MS Office. Duties incl. answer Help Desk lines, enter calls, use Reflexions/AS400. Starting pay \$7, raises, benefits. Mike Turner (806)663-4680 M-F, 9-2 p.m. to apply.

IRWIN Auto Co. is hiring technicians, etc. benefits, competitive pay plan. Contact Bob Cox at 806-435-3663 or FAX resume to 806-435-3033.

DRS. OFFICE, Exp. Required, minimum of 2 yrs., seeking knowledgeable person(s) in filing insurance, collections, coding & medical terminology. NURSE - exp. required minimum 2 yrs. RN or LVN, in surgical nursing & exp. in Dr. office setting. Pick up appl. at 100 W. 30th, Suite 108, 9-4 p.m. No phone calls. No experience, need not apply.

CASHIER needed at Hoagies Deli, Coronado Center. Apply in person. No phone calls.

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White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

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HOUSTON LUMBER 420 W. Foster 669-6881

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69 Misc.

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POLARIS 500 ATV, 4 wheel drive, 600 miles. Call 779-2112 in McLean.

ADDING to collection: need items from old Pampa Ice Plant. Contact (806) 467-2958 in evenings.

COMPUTER, 14-month old. IBM, AMDK7, 600 MHz, 20 G.H.D., 128 RAM, DVD ROM, CDR-RW, with monitor, desk & chair. \$600. 17" monitor \$100. 17" Satellite Dish welded on trailer \$350. 665-6863.

SONY PLAYSTATION 2 for sale. New, seal unbroken, \$400. 665-8380.

80 Pets & Suppl.

CANINE and Feline grooming. Boarding. Science diets. Roysse Animal Hospital, 665-2223.

PET Patch, 866 W. Foster, 665-5504. Grooming by Mona, fresh, salt fish, sm. animals, supplies. Beef 'N' More dog & cat food.

ABOUT Town Dog Grooming. Pick up & Delivery Service. Kelly Culver, 665-5959

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GIVE away to good home full blood black Lab, about 1 yr. old. Call 669-6089.

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EFFICIENCY, apt. \$225 mo., bills pd. Rooms \$20 day, \$80 wk & up, air, tv, cable, phone. 669-3221.

ONE/TWO bdrm., furn./unfurn. All utilities paid, starting at \$250, \$100 dep. Courtyard Apts., 1031 N. Sumner, 669-9712.

\$299 MOVE IN 2600 N. Hobart Lakeview Apts 669-7682

1 bdr. apt., 1336 N. Coffee, \$225 mo. + elec. + \$100 dep. 662-3400, 883-2461.

2 bdr., \$400, mo., \$150 dep., built-in, cov. parking. Ref. Ref. Coronado Apts., 665-0219.

CAPROCK Apts., 1,2,3 bdrm starting at \$249. All utilities included available. 3 & 6 mo. leases. Pool, washer/dryer hookups in 2 & 3 bdrm, fireplace. 1601 W. Somerville, 665-7149. Open Mon-Fri 8:30-5:30, Sat 10-4, Su 1-4.

CLEAN 1 bedroom, stove, refrigerator, all bills paid. 669-3672, 665-5900

GWENDOLEN Plaza Apts., 1 & 2 bdr., gas, heat & water incl., 3-6 mo. lease. 800 N. Nelson, 665-1875.

LRG. 1 bdr. Newly redecorated, appli. Water & gas paid. References. Call 665-1346.

MEREDITH House Assisted Living has a studio apartment avail. Call 665-5668, Lic# 000434.

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1 bdr. furnished, Dogwood Apts. References and deposit required. 669-2981, 669-9817.

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Helms proposes aid be channeled through private groups

By GEORGE GEDDA
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Jesse Helms wants to replace the "cold, heartless" U.S. foreign aid agency with taxpayer-supported religious and other nongovernmental organizations that do humanitarian work overseas.

Helms, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said Thursday that if his proposal is implemented, he will support for the first time an increase in foreign aid allocations. Helms always has been skeptical of the efficiency of the U.S. Agency for International Development's foreign assistance programs.

"I intend to work with the Bush administration to replace AID with a new International Development Foundation, whose mandate will be to deliver block grants to support the work of private relief agencies and faith-based institutions," Helms said.

As groups worthy of support, he mentioned Catholic Relief Services, World Vision and Samaritan's Purse, based in Helms' home state of North Carolina.

Helms, a Republican like President-elect Bush, spoke of his ideas in a speech prepared for delivery

at the American Enterprise Institute, a conservative research group.

He said he wants to build on a campaign pledge by Bush to look first to religious institutions, charities and community groups when his administration sees a responsibility to help people.

Bush plans to establish an "office of faith-based programs" in the White House to tap resources of the nation's religious organizations to deal with domestic social problems such as poverty, alcohol and drug abuse and affordable housing.

"I submit to you, my friends, that the wisdom of this 'compassionate conservative' vision must not stop at the water's edge," Helms said.

Religious leaders and analysts meeting Wednesday in Washington discussed the idea and questions it is raising, such as the threat to churches' independence and the separation of church and state.

A poll released at the meeting by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life underlined a delicate balance between government financing of religious groups and fears of government money being used by them.

Just under half, 44 percent, said giving government money to religious groups is a good idea, even when their programs promote religious mes-

sages. Another fourth, 23 percent, said such programs are a good idea, but only if they stay away from religious messages. And 31 percent said that arrangement always is a bad idea. The poll, produced by the nonpartisan group Public Agenda, was taken in November of 1,507 adults and has an error margin of 3 percentage points.

AID officials were unavailable Wednesday night for comment on Helms' suggestions. The agency has cooperated for years with private voluntary organizations, including those affiliated with religious groups, presently involving some 300 such groups.

The senator said he was giving the speech in the context of the new opportunities for foreign policy innovations that he said will be available when Bush is inaugurated on Jan. 20.

As an example, Helms confidently predicted a more assertive U.S. foreign policy toward Cuba under Bush to bring about the demise of President Fidel Castro.

"Like a cat with nine lives, Fidel Castro is about to survive his ninth U.S. president," he said. "Well, I have a message for Mr. Castro: the last of the cat's nine lives has begun."

As for his criticism of AID, the agency maintains it has a long record of achievement in helping people overseas fight poverty and disease, recover from natural disasters and promote democratic reform.

AID's Web site says more than 3 million lives are saved every year through USAID immunization programs. It also says AID-sponsored oral rehydration is credited with saving tens of millions around the globe.

Highlighting its role in economic development, AID also says 43 of the top 50 consumer nations of American agricultural products were once U.S. foreign aid recipients.

AID says the programs have been carried out at relatively low cost — 0.5 percent of the federal budget.

Government weighing steps to speed switch to new digital technology

WASHINGTON (AP) — Digital television promises clearer pictures, more channels and new data services — but it hasn't yet delivered brisk sales.

The industries involved are all pointing fingers at one another. Now, the government is looking at stepping in to speed up the process.

Broadcasters say digital TV sets are too expensive and argue their digital programming must be offered immediately on cable systems to reach a wide audience. TV makers assert that broadcasters have not produced enough compelling content to make people want to buy digital TVs. And cable companies say carrying digital broadcast channels right now — while they must still offer the same programming in analog format — could force them to drop popular cable programs from their lineup.

The Federal Communications Commission, which has set a soft deadline of 2006 for the switch from analog to digital TV, is expected to address some of these issues Thursday.

Broadcasters want the commission to require that all new TVs be capable of receiving digital signals, saying this would give them a large enough audience to spur the development of new digital programming. Currently, digital TV sets are sold separately and cost several thousand dollars.

Broadcasters are supposed to return their analog channels by 2006 or when digital television reaches 85 percent of the market — whichever is later. In the interim, stations will have two channels — one in digital and the other in analog format — so people can still watch broadcast shows on their existing analog TVs.

"Reaching the 85 percent digital penetration level that Congress required before analog television broadcasting comes to an end will require that new receivers be capable of handling digital signals," Edward O. Fritts, the broadcast industry's chief lobbyist, wrote commission members this month.

FCC Chairman William Kennard last year recommended that Congress order the agency to

adopt a 2003 deadline by which all new TV sets can receive digital signals. TV makers argue that any requirement would limit choice by driving up prices.

"It's an unnecessary tax on consumers," said Michael Petricone, vice president of technology policy for the Consumer Electronics Association. He said consumers already have a number of ways to upgrade to digital television, including integrated TV sets and special set-top boxes.

The FCC also plans to address another thorny question raised by broadcasters, who want both their analog and digital signals carried by cable companies during the transition.

Currently, cable operators are legally obligated to carry analog broadcast TV channels in their cable lineups. That ensures that cable customers can still see over-the-air programming — like NBC or Fox — they would normally receive for free.

Broadcasters say that during the move to digital, when they are sending out signals in analog and digital format, cable companies should pass through both of these to consumers. About two-thirds of Americans get their television signals via cable.

Cable companies say they don't object to carrying digital signals, once broadcasters complete their conversion. But they argue that carrying both analog and digital channels on their systems would use up too much of their capacity and force them to knock some popular shows off their systems.

"We oppose having to carry duplicate versions of every broadcast station because it would come at the expense of cable programming network with a strong following," said Dave Beckwith of the National Cable Television Association.

Industry sources expect that the FCC won't force cable operators to carry both broadcast signals. But the agency may grant a petition by a station in Stuart, Fla. — which broadcasts only in digital — to be carried in analog format on area cable systems.

BRIEFS

Hard-liner Sharon campaigns peacefully

JERUSALEM (AP) — Smiling, white-haired and portly, candidate Ariel Sharon holds a small child, every bit the gentle, grandfatherly type, in a new campaign ad preview shown on Israeli television. It's part of what supporters and rivals alike call the new, soft image of the hawkish general-and-longtime politician whom Palestinians blame for touching off violence when he visited a disputed Jerusalem holy site on Sept. 28. Enjoying a double-digit lead in polls over Prime Minister Ehud Barak, with elections set for Feb. 6, Sharon formally kicked off his campaign with a Jerusalem rally Wednesday night.

Bridgestone president resigns after recall

TOKYO (AP) — The president of Bridgestone Corp. will resign in a bid to retain investor confidence in the Japanese tiremaker following a massive recall at the company's U.S. subsidiary, the company announced Thursday. Yoichiro Kaizaki, who also is chief executive, will step down in March. His replacement is company director Shigeo Watanabe, who will try to improve Bridgestone's global management system. Nashville, Tenn.-based Bridgestone/Firestone Inc. was forced to recall 6.5 million tires in the United States — most installed on Ford Explorer sport utility vehicles — because of tread separations that the government linked to 148 deaths.

Health secretary pick has long ties with tobacco

WASHINGTON (AP) — President-elect Bush's choice to head the Department of Health and Human Services has traveled the world with tobacco lob-

bysts and raised tens of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions from tobacco interests. Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson also has been criticized for delaying his state's entry into the lawsuit against tobacco companies and for proposing to use only \$5 million of Wisconsin's \$170 million-a-year share of the lawsuit settlement on smoking prevention. Thompson ultimately signed a bill that provided almost five times that amount for anti-smoking efforts. During 14 years as governor, he signed into law four separate tobacco tax increases and a ban on smoking in the state Capitol.

Clinton expresses regret for GIs' killing of South Koreans

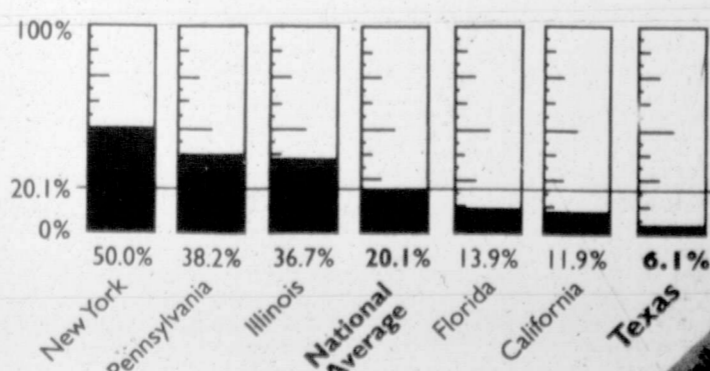
WASHINGTON (AP) —

President Clinton intends to issue a written statement of regret that South Korean civilians were killed at the hands of American troops during the Korean War, senior administration and defense officials said. Clinton decided not to make a formal apology but instead to express regret Thursday at the loss of innocent lives in the 1950-53 conflict, said the officials, who discussed the matter Wednesday on condition they not be identified. Clinton's statement will be timed with the planned release of the Pentagon's final report on an Army investigation of a July 1950 incident in which American soldiers reportedly killed a significant number of South Korean civilian refugees near the hamlet of No Gun Ri.

College Notes

How Does Texas Measure Up?

Estimated Percentage of Full-time Undergraduates Receiving Need-based Grants by State (Academic Year 1998-99)



Source: Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation.
 Source: National Association of State Student Grant Aid Programs.
 Source: New York Higher Education Services Corporation.
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