

Harvesters drop last game to Hereford ...

See Page 5

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Museum has unusual valentine on display ...

See Page 3

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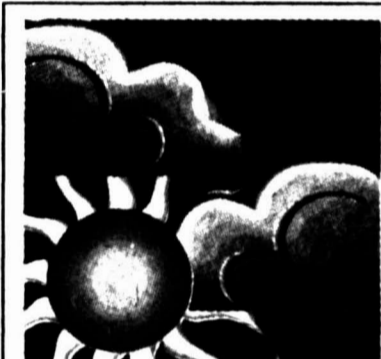
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For weather details see Page 2

Former deputy gets 25 years in prison
HOUSTON (AP) — A former marshal's deputy has been sentenced to 25 years in prison for stealing cash and cocaine from a drug courier.
Keith E. Wagner, 40, a former marshal's deputy for Pasadena, was the first of four law enforcement officers and two civilians to go to trial in Harris County for drug crimes after kicking in the door of a house to steal money and drugs on Oct. 21, 1999.
On Tuesday, a jury deliberated for about five hours and issued Wagner's sentence. Wagner must serve 12 1/2 years before he is eligible for parole.
Wagner was fired from the Pasadena marshal's department shortly after he was arrested in October 1999. Before serving in Pasadena, he had worked for the Houston Police Department for nine years.

- **Wilber Burch Beck, 86**, retired Mobeettie city clerk.
- **Alleith Elizabeth Elliston Curry**, former teacher, arts patron.
- **Mary Louise Franklin, 81**, retired cook, homemaker.
- **Don Harrison, 56**, employee of Pampa Concrete.
- **Terry Harrison, 51**, employee of National Oilwell.
- **David A. Hunter, 66**, former Pampan.
- **Anna Jacqueline 'Jackie' Tate, 80**, homemaker.

Classified 7
Comics 4
Sports 5

PAMPA'S CINEMA 4
MOVIE HOTLINE
665-7141

DNA results on two items raise question

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
Staff Writer

A Dallas forensic laboratory's written report of DNA tests conducted on evidence from the 1993 murder of a Pampa woman and her two sons indicates that blood found on two items could not be linked to the woman nor to the man convicted of killing her.

District Attorney Rick Roach said he received the official report Monday from GeneScreen, a Dallas laboratory which performed genomic and mitochondrial DNA testing on evidence submitted in July 2000 by John Mann, former district attorney.

Roach said he would fax and mail the reports to Skinner's attorneys Doug Robinson of Washington, D.C., and Steven Losch of Longview.

"I have an ethical obligation to provide this to them since it contains evidence that might be exculpatory," Roach said, adding, "There will be no more testing without a court order."

The 15 pieces of evidence included in the GeneScreen study had been collected by law enforcement officials after the murder of Twila Busby and her two adult mentally impaired sons, Elwin Caler and Randy Busby, at their home on New Year's Eve 1993. Henry Watkins Skinner was convicted and sentenced to death for the triple murders by a Fort Worth jury in 1995.

(See DNA, Page 2)

County pledges lake reclamation project assistance

By NANCY YOUNG
Managing Editor

Gray County will continue to work with the U. S. Forest Service on the Reclamation Project of Lake McClellan.

Reggie Blackwell of the U.S. Forest Service asked Gray County Commissioners Court recently if the county would be willing to help with the funding to finish the Lake McClellan project. He said the total project cost is estimated to be approximately \$20,000, and requested half the cost from Gray County.

Precinct Three County Commissioner Gerald Wright said this was the first time in 15 years the U. S. Forest Service has asked for funding from Gray County.

Blackwell said it would be a "bare bones operation." He also said if there is not enough rain causing a flow into the lake the dredging won't continue. He said the project would include a booster pump, salaries for two count employees, additional equipment and dirt.

(See LAKE, Page 2)

Traffic stop yields arrests

A Pampa trio was in Gray County jail today in lieu of bond after being arrested Tuesday on a traffic stop.

David Otis Seeman, Jr., 43, 705 N. Somerville, and Shanna Eve Lambunga, 38, 436 Crest, were charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. Seeman and Lambunga were being held in lieu of \$500 in municipal fines.

Michael David Gerik, 42, 519 Frost, was being held in lieu of \$2,500 bond on charges of driving while intoxicated, subsequent offense.

Gray County Justice of the Peace Kurt Curtman set bond. Officers said Gerik was pulled over shortly before 8:30 p.m. Tuesday in the 500 block of East Crawford.

Pampa police officers arrested Gerik on charges of driving while intoxicated. A subsequent investigation, authorities said today, resulted in Seeman and Lambunga, passengers in the car, being charged with possession of drug paraphernalia.

A love story ...



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Ethan and Monica Hutchinson of Pampa and sons, Lucas, Reece, and Tyler, are this year's winners of the 2001 Valentine's Day Contest sponsored by the Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce.

Husband's letter touches hearts of contest judges

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
Staff Writer

A young husband's heartfelt letter penned in the middle of the night touched the judges for the 2001 Valentine's Day Contest sponsored by the Greater Pampa Chamber of Commerce.

Ethan Hutchinson's love and sincerity as he told of the strength and love his wife Monica demonstrated through a difficult pregnancy and premature birth of twin sons punctuated the 300-word entry that won this year's contest.

As a result, Monica received a huge surprise, lots of presents from local merchants, and the knowledge that her husband loves and appreciates her enough to tell the world.

Ethan Hutchinson's love and sincerity as he told of the strength and love his wife Monica demonstrated through a difficult pregnancy and premature birth of twin sons punctuated the 300-word entry that won this year's contest.

"I ran across the application while I was going through the newspaper and filled it out late one night," Ethan explained. "Monica didn't know I did it."
He wrote about what he felt was "an amazing story of love, dedication and a learning experience."

Married five years and the parents of a son,
(See LETTER, Page 2)

Sheriff's 'Dirty Dozen' shrinks by one

The Gray County Sheriff's "Dirty Dozen" most wanted list shrunk by one this week.

Blanche Carey, 34, 1160 Prairie Dr., was in Gray County jail today after Justice of the Peace Kurt Curtman denied bond.

Chris Lockridge, Gray County Constable for Precinct 2, arrested Carey about 8 p.m. Tuesday. Carey was wanted for violation of probation in connection with a conviction of possession of a controlled substance - cocaine.

This was the second arrest this year of a person listed on Sheriff Don Copeland's Dirty Dozen list.

David Wayne Shook, 27, was arrested on New Year's Day in Redding, Calif. Shook was also wanted for violation of probation. He had earlier been convicted on a charge of burglary of a habitation.

Sheriff Copeland maintains his "Dirty Dozen" list of most wanted criminals on his internet web site, <http://pan-tex.net/usr/s/sheriff/>.

Quite frankly... What would you like for Valentine's Day?



"For him to make me feel special by spending time with me and telling me he cares."
— Fayetta Millikan



"To go out to dinner with me and have a very romantic evening."
— Isaac Silva



"I just want yellow roses from my darling husband."
— Alexia Arrington



"I want a single red rose because it is more romantic than 12."
— Sarah Baxter



"I would like some roses. I love roses."
— Joyce Hadley

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Daily Record

Services tomorrow

BECK, Wilber Burch — 2 p.m., First United Methodist Church, Mobeetie.
CURRY, Alleith Elizabeth Elliston — 2 p.m., First United Methodist Church, Pampa.

Obituaries

WILBER BURCH BECK

MOBEETIE — Wilber Burch Beck, 86, died Monday, Feb. 12, 2001, at Pampa. Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday in First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Gary Jahnel and the Rev. Jim Sinyard, associate pastor of Carpenter's Church of Pampa, officiating. Burial will be in Mobeetie Cemetery under the direction of Wright Funeral Home of Wheeler.

Mrs. Beck was born April 3, 1914, in Lee County, N.M., to A.A. and Lucy Agnes Pounds Burch. She graduated from Mobeetie High School and was a longtime resident of the community, moving there as a child and remaining until relocating to Pampa in 1993. She married Otis Glen "Jingles" Beck on Dec. 22, 1934, at Wheeler; he died April 30, 1970.

For several years, she worked as a sales clerk at Montgomery Wards and was later city secretary of Mobeetie, holding the office from 1977 until retiring in 1990.

She belonged to First United Methodist Church of Mobeetie and previously served as Sunday school teacher and choir director.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Glynda and Wayne Leatherman of Pampa; a sister, Alice Flaherty of Bend, Ore.; a brother, C.W. Burch of Mobeetie; and two grandsons and a granddaughter-in-law, Allen and Shanna Leatherman and Chris Leatherman, all of Pampa.

The family requests memorials be to First United Methodist Church of Mobeetie or to BSA Hospice.

ALLEITH ELIZABETH ELLISTON CURRY

Alleith Elizabeth Elliston Curry of Pampa died Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2001. Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday in First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Todd Dyess, pastor of the church, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.



Mrs. Curry was born at Hereford, Texas, to Fannie and Byrle Elliston, panhandle pioneers. She was a longtime civic volunteer and patron of the arts. She graduated from Hereford High School and West Texas State College with a degree in fine arts. She taught in the Miami and Pampa schools. While teaching in Miami, she met her husband, Bob Curry. They were married on Jan. 15, 1937.

As a patron of the arts, Mrs. Curry was actively involved in Pampa Community Concert Association for years, serving as vice president, making local arrangements for each concert for 25 years. She was a charter member of Pampa Fine Arts Association. She regularly brought outstanding artists to Pampa to conduct watercolor, oil and pastel workshops. She was an officer of Friends of Fine Arts at West Texas A&M University. She was a charter member of Amarillo Art Alliance.

For years, Mrs. Curry created decorations for major banquets, conventions and special events in Pampa, and she was known for her award-winning home Christmas decorations. She was also an accomplished watercolor, oil and pastel artist. As a civic volunteer, Mrs. Curry was active in Parent Education, charter member of Hospital Auxiliary, charter member of Junior Service League, member of 20th Century Forum, Cub Scout and Boy Scout volunteer, the mother of two Eagle Scouts, sponsor of the Pampa High School social group, Kit Kat Club and member of First United Methodist Church.

Survivors include her husband, Bob, of the home; two sons and daughters-in-law, Don and Sue Curry of Fort Worth and John and Faustina Curry of Pampa; a brother, Francis "Scoop" Elliston of Wallace, Idaho; and three grandchildren, Ward Curry of Fort Worth, and Faustine Curry and Stewart Curry, both of Pampa.

The family requests memorials be to First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 1981, Pampa, TX 79066-1981; or to West Texas State A&M University Art Program, P.O. Box 60747, Canyon, TX 79016.

MARY LOUISE FRANKLIN

GUYMON, Okla. — Mary Louise Franklin, 81, died Sunday, Feb. 11, 2001, at Liberal, Kan. Services were to be at 2 p.m. today in First Baptist Church with the Rev. Derek Cox officiating. Burial will be in Elmhurst Cemetery under the direction of Bunch-Roberts Funeral Home.

Mrs. Franklin was born and raised at Burneyville, graduating from Burneyville High School in 1937. She married Loyd J. Franklin in 1951 at Ardmore, Okla.; he died in 1990. The couple moved to Guymon from Skellytown, Texas, in 1967.

She was a cook for the Guymon school system as a cook as well as a homemaker. She belonged to First Baptist Church, where she was active in Prime Timer's Group, and to Guymon Lionsess Club.

She had been a Liberal resident for the past two years.

Survivors include two sons, Mike Franklin of Guymon and Les Franklin of Liberal; a daughter, Carol Fletcher of Amarillo; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Lions Eye Bank or Gushland Baptist Kids Church. Memorials will be accepted at the funeral home.

DON HARRISON

Don Harrison, 56, of Pampa, died Monday Feb. 13, 2001. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Harrison was born May 21, 1944, at Tabor, Iowa. He married Terry Voit on Nov. 26, 1971, at St. John, Minn.

Mr. Harrison and his wife died Feb. 13 together in a plane crash north of Pampa.

He was a U.S. Army veteran and a batcher for Pampa Concrete for 12 years. He moved to Pampa in July 1981 from Glenwood, Iowa. He was a member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Pampa Masonic Lodge 1381 AF & M, El Paso Scottish Rite and Pampa Shrine Club.

Survivors include two daughters, Amy Harrison and Trudy Sprinkle, both of Pampa; a son, Todd Harrison of Pampa; a brother, Dwight Harrison of Rochester, Minn.; a half-brother, Bryce Loeschke of Hopkins, Minn.; and three grandchildren.

The family requests memorials to the Khiva Temple Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 328, Amarillo, TX 79108.

TERRY HARRISON

Terry Harrison, 51, of Pampa, died Monday, Feb. 13, 2001. Services are pending Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Born Oct. 17, 1949, at St. Cloud, Minn., Mrs. Harrison married Don Harrison on Nov. 26, 1971, at St. John, Minn.

Mrs. Harrison and her husband died Feb. 13 together in a plane crash north of Pampa.

She was an employee of National Oilwell Services where she had worked for four and one-half years. She was senior payroll clerk.

She moved to Pampa in 1981 from Glenwood, Iowa. She was a member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church and Perceptor Chi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority.

Survivors include two daughters, Amy Harrison and Trudy Sprinkle, both of Pampa; a son, Todd Harrison of Pampa; her mother, Theresa Peterson of Waite Park, Minn.; her grandmother, Loretta Voit of Waite Park; a brother, B.J. Voit of Vernon Hill, Ill.; and three grandchildren.

The family requests memorials to the Beta Sigma Phi Scholarship Fund, 2228 Dogwood, Pampa, TX 79065.

DAVID A. HUNTER

TEXARKANA, Ark. — David A. Hunter, 66, formerly of Pampa, died Sunday, Feb. 11, 2001. Services were to be at 11 a.m. today in United Pentecostal Church at Mena, Ark., with the Rev. Scott Sharman, the Rev. J.D. Langford and the Rev. Jack Smith officiating. Burial will be in Pinecrest Memorial Park with military honors.

Arrangements are under the direction of Hall Funeral Service of Mena.

Mr. Hunter was born Jan. 13, 1935, at East St. Louis, Ill., to Joe Lee and Eunice Laura Hunter. He married Mardelle Barnett in 1955 at Mena. He lived in Pampa for over 50 years, owning-operating Hunter Decorating there for more than 40 years. He owned-operated De Loma Real Estate Inc., in Pampa, and coached baseball and basketball for Optimist International. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Pampa and was a former member of National Association of Realtors and Texas Association of Realtors.

He was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving aboard the USS Hamul AD20 during the Korean Conflict.

Survivors include his wife of 45 years, Mardelle, of Texarkana; a son, Joe Hunter of Friendswood; three daughters, Phyllis Sharman of Fort Worth, Linda Langford of Sylmar, Calif., and Lisa Stiles of Richmond; a sister, Mary June Hardison of Riverside, Calif.; and 10 grandchildren.

LAWRENCE M. "MUTT" SCRIBNER

Lawrence M. "Mutt" Scribner, 80, of Pampa, died Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2001, at Amarillo. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in Barrett Baptist Church with the Rev. J.C. Burt officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Scribner was born Jan. 28, 1921, at Mobeetie. He married Bonnie Alexander on July 20, 1946, at Mobeetie. He had been a resident of Pampa since 1951, moving from Mobeetie. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Force, serving during World War II.

He retired from Celanese in 1983 as a welder. He was a self-employed carpenter. He helped in the building of Barrett Baptist Church and in the remodeling of the Mobeetie Jail. He enjoyed renovating antique tractors.

He was a member of Barrett Baptist Church, a member of Proud Heritage Farm Equipment Club and a past president of Celanese Retirees.

He was preceded in death by three brothers, Johnny Lee Scribner, Dalton Scribner and Jerald Scribner.

Survivors include his wife, Bonnie, of the home; two sons, Myron Scribner of Haslet and Billy Scribner of Pampa; a daughter, Becky Mayfield of Pampa; two brothers, Glen Scribner of Canyon and Archie Scribner of Dumas; four sisters, LaNelle Leonard of Canyon, Ola Mae Williams of Rubottom, Okla., and Naomi "Dutch" Elliott and Marie Kilcrease, both of Pampa; seven grandchildren, Anna Bagley of Chicago, Ill., Julie Morris of Amarillo, Garrett Scribner of Hobbs, N.M., Misty Scribner of Houston, Laura Scribner of Haslet, Brandon Mayfield of Pampa and Lindsay Scribner of Lubbock; and four great-grandchildren, Amanda Bagley and Emily Bagley, both of Chicago, Hunter Scribner of Haslet and Eddy Morris of Amarillo.

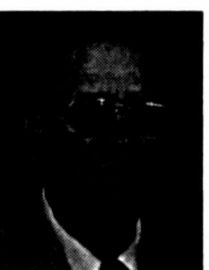
The family requests memorials to be Barrett Baptist Church Building Fund, 903 E. Beryl, Pampa, TX 79065.

ANNA JACQUELINE TATE

SILVERTON — Anna Jacqueline "Jackie" Tate, 92, of Graham, formerly of Silvertown, died Sunday, Feb. 11, 2001. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in First Baptist Church with the Rev. Edwin Norris and the Rev. Dick Roehr officiating. Burial will be in Silvertown Cemetery under the direction of Myers-Long Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Tate was born at Matador and married Freeman Tate in 1939 at Shamrock. She belonged to First Baptist Church of Silvertown.

Survivors include her husband, Freeman; a daughter, Jackie Crawford of Graham; a sister, Gaylia Long of McLean; and a grandchild.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

DNA

In the trial, prosecutors produced DNA evidence from blood stains found on Skinner's clothing to show that the blood on his shirt belonged to Twila Busby and the blood on his pants came from her two sons.

Since 1998 Skinner's attorneys have asked for the DNA testing of a number of items gathered from the murder scene including fingernail clippings from Twila Busby's hands, hairs found in her hands and on her body, and a rape kit.

In May and June of 1999, a team of investigative journalism students from Northwestern University of Chicago, Ill., came to Pampa to study the Skinner case. Their professor, David Protes, called for testing of the evidence, saying the university would pay for tests if necessary.

After Protes and Mann clashed on a nationally-televised program Court TV, Mann said he would have anything tested that Protes wanted if Protes would come to Pampa and review the facts of the case with him, something he said the students failed to do. Protes agreed to talk with Mann by telephone and through e-mail, but declined to come to Pampa, citing scheduling problems.

In July, Mann sent these 15 items to GeneScreen for testing, according to the laboratory report: a hair sample from the living room, hair and fiber samples from Twila Busby's right hand, hair standards, combings and fingernail clippings from Twila Busby, two different sets of hair and fiber samples from Twila Busby, Twila Busby's Dalchem kit, hair from ax handle, cigarette butt, blood on the cover of a blue notebook, hair from paper towel around a cassette tape, hair on tape found on the back bedroom door, gauze with bloodstain, cassette tape with blood, gray top tube of blood from Henry Watkins Skinner.

Mann announced in a Dec. 24, 2000 Pampa News article that he had received a verbal report from Bill Watson of GeneScreen that strands of hair found in Twila Busby's hand belonged to Skinner. Mann also said in the article that, "in all the sampling, there has been no DNA from a third person."

However, a copy of the report states in its conclusion that: "The profile from the gauze with bloodstain is from an unknown male individual."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

LETTER

Reece, now 2, the Hutchinsons learned they were pregnant again in January 2000. This time, he wrote, Monica became terribly ill and experienced numerous complications.

"Monica had such a high hormone level from the pregnancy that it made her severely sick, but she was still keeping up with Reece," he said.

As the pregnancy problems continued, doctors discovered that Monica was carrying twins. In April, she began leaking amniotic fluid.

"The doctor told me I needed to stay in bed, but I didn't have anyone to help me take care of Reece," Monica added.

"(The doctors) were really suggesting that we abort but we couldn't. We're Christians and we just couldn't do that. I believed that God put these babies in my body and I couldn't do that. So I began to pray," she said.

"After a pretty exhausting battle, our twin boys were born in June, three months premature," Ethan wrote.

"I had carried them to 26 weeks, the minimum time," Monica remembered.

They named Reece's brothers Lucas and Tyler.

"That was the beginning of another extensive battle and times were very scary," Ethan wrote.

The babies experienced many of the side effects of premature birth — brain bleeds and lung development problems. Doctors warned the twins' sight may be impaired.

"There was a lot of emotion involved," Ethan remembered. "I look back and realize we were running on adrenaline."

The couple worked, took care of Reece, and traveled back and forth from the neonatal unit at BSA hospital in Amarillo almost daily. Friends and relatives helped whenever they could, but the stress was still tremendous.

"It made our marriage totally different," Monica said. "You start out so in love, but when you go through something like this either your marriage will get stronger or fall apart."

The twins stayed in the hospital until October, but their homecoming opened up a whole new area of difficulties for the young family.

"That was another battle to work through," Ethan wrote. "You see there is a lot of care that needs to be taken with children that have gone

The profile of the cassette tape with blood is a mixture of two unknown individuals. No conclusion could be reached concerning the hair from the living room, the hair from the abdomen of Twila Busby, the hair from the cassette tape and the hair from the back bedroom door."

Mann had not returned a call from the Pampa News by late Tuesday. According to a person in his Pampa law office Tuesday, he was to be at a hearing in Hemphill County Wednesday morning.

Although some of the evidence was inconclusive or unknown, the report confirms that the blood on the notebook, the hair from Twila Busby's back, the hair from her left hand, and the hair from the ax handle belonged to Twila Busby. According to the lab report, Skinner was identified as the contributor of the DNA found on the cigarette butt and both Twila Busby and Skinner's DNA was found on the hair from Twila Busby's right hand.

It was not immediately clear from the report what results were obtained from the Dalchem (rape) kit.

Despite the GeneScreen findings, Roach said he believes Skinner is guilty of the murders.

"The jury has spoken. The man was convicted and the case was upheld on appeal," Roach said.

He said none of the items tested by the lab were compared with the DNA of Randy Busby or Elwin Caler.

The blood on the cassette tape could easily belong to Randy Busby and Caler, Roach said, because it was a favorite tape of both of them. The DA also said one of the young men was a diabetic whose fingers were pricked often to have his blood sugar level tested.

Roach explained that the bloody piece of gauze was found on a sidewalk outside the Busby residence by investigators "and could have belonged to anybody."

Skinner's attorney, Doug Robinson, when contacted by the Pampa News Tuesday, said he had not yet received the GeneScreen reports and could not comment until he had seen them and had the opportunity to review them.

Roach said Gray County will be charged from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for the DNA tests. Neither the District Attorney's Office nor the Gray County Auditor's Office had received an invoice from the laboratory by late Tuesday.

through what our kids have endured."

Both boys remain on oxygen to help with their growth. They go through an intensive cycle of physical and respiratory therapy, as well. Monica and Ethan share these duties.

On the night Ethan wrote his "love letter" for the contest, he was taking a few precious moments to rest late in the night. At this quiet time, his admiration for his wife's quiet fortitude spurred him to enter the contest, never dreaming his would be the winning entry.

Last Thursday, Monica received a telephone call from the Pampa Chamber office notifying her that they had won the contest.

"I thought, oh my gosh! I've never won a contest in my life," she said. She immediately called her husband to tell him the news.

"I was surprised — real surprised," Ethan said. "Monica called and told me, 'Ethan, we just won a contest!' And I said, 'I know what one you mean.'"

"I was hoping we would win for Monica, but I didn't really expect to," he added.

As winners, the couple received a bouquet from Freeman's Florists, a dozen roses from Roberta's, a necklace from Rheam's Diamond Shop, a certificate for dinner from the Texas Rose Steak House, a basket of goodies from Celebrations, as well as gifts from Best Kept Secrets, A Custom Scent, All its Charm and Petal Pusher.

The Hutchinsons have decided to save one gift, a certificate to spend the night at the Hughey House Bed and Breakfast, for later. They say they'll redeem that certificate on June 10 when they celebrate their seventh wedding anniversary. "I could not have asked for a better wife and companion and mother for my children," Ethan wrote. "I reflect on the past year and what my wife has been through and the emotions she has dealt with. My wife has been through a lot. She has been strong and at times carrying me through; unselfish and loving to her husband and three boys."

"You don't realize the strength you have until you go through something like this," Monica said. "If I hadn't had God to lean on, I don't know what I would have done."

"My wife has sacrificed a lot for her family," Ethan concluded in his letter. "And this Valentine's Day, I want her to know how much she means to us. She deserves it!"

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

LAKE

He said he would meet with his superior and convey that Gray County is interested in continuing with the reclamation project without committing the county additional funding.

County Judge Richard Peet said he would hate to stop the project at this point due to all the work which has been done the past two years. "I feel we should at least look into it," he said.

Precinct One Commissioner James Hefley indicated he would support the project. Precinct Three Commissioner Joe Wheeler said he would support part time help in the summer on the project and said he has one employee who has operated a dredger.

Blackwell said a new concessionaire, Rocky Mountain Recreation Company, has been selected at Lake McClellan.

He said the continued upgrade of facilities at Lake McClellan will include reconstructing the Southside Campground. He said all old restrooms are scheduled to be replaced. He said the project is planned to reconstruct the Southside Campground and replace the old vault toilets.

City Briefs

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

BREAKFAST, LUNCH - deliver!! The Hamburger Station, 665-9131, 5 a.m.-4 p.m.

MEALS ON WHEELS Gar. Sale & Collections, open Mondays 2-5 p.m., Old Clarendon College bldg. at Frost & Cook streets.

BRING YOUR favorite Valentine to The Black Gold Restaurant. She will love our specials! Wed. only 5 p.m.-10 p.m.

NOW HAVE Shoe Spikes. Walk safely on ice & snow. Can carry in purse or glovebox. \$20 total price. 665-4129.

COMFORTERS AND Bedspreads, drycleaned or laundered 1/2 price at Comet Cleaners.

OIL FILLED Radiator Heaters now in stock. Frank's True Value, 401 N. Ballard, 665-4995.

CURVES IS proud to announce the opening of our Tanning Salon, formerly known as Annie's Tan 'N'. Come by or call 308 W. Foster, 669-7660, 665-5940.

SALE 25% off on all Valentine, excluding Balloon offer (Buy one Mylar, get 2 Latex free.) Let us make a special gift for your sweetheart. Celebrations 665-3100. Free in-town delivery.

LIMITED SPACE for Austria, Germany, and Switzerland tour with Wanetta Hill May 30 - June 14. Deadline is Mon., Feb. 19. Contact 669-7685.

W.O.T.M. SADIE Hawkins Dance, "The Renegade" Sat. 8-1 a.m. Members & guests.

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Unusual Valentine on display at museum in Pampa

Present day valentines are associated with lace-trimmed red hearts, flowers and chocolate candy, but the White Deer Land Museum has on display a valentine which shows none of these objects. It is the valentine that Phillip Claude Ledrick had made for Fannie May White in 1896.

St. Valentine, who lived in the late third century A.D., was a Christian martyr killed during the reign of Emperor Claudius. Although he has long been considered the patron saint of lovers, the custom of sending valentines on his feast day (Feb. 14) is not connected to the saint.

Museum Mementos
Eloise Lane
White Deer Land Museum



In the late Middle Ages, there was a belief that birds began to mate on Feb. 14. This notion probably suggested that lovers should exchange messages and gifts on that date. At one time, it was the custom for young people of both sexes to meet on the eve of St. Valentine's Day. Each person drew a name of the opposite sex from a number of names placed in a common receptacle. Each gentleman got a lady for his valentine and he became the valentine of a lady. The gentlemen remained bound to the services of their valentines for a year. After postal systems were

organized, the practice of mailing homemade valentine messages became common. The greeting card industry in the United States now prints millions of valentines each year. These are usually in verse form and tender in nature, but sometimes comic and coarse. Present day valentines are associated with lace-trimmed red hearts, flowers and chocolate candy, but the White Deer Land Museum has on display a valentine which shows none of these objects. It is the valentine that Phillip Claude Ledrick had made for Fannie May White in 1896.

Claude Ledrick and his brother, Lee Ledrick, were the sons of Henry Ledrick and Amanda Jane "Jenny" (Lard) Ledrick. The family came from Young County to Roberts County in 1886 and established the Ledrick Ranch on a league of school land located on Chicken Creek. (State Highway 70 runs through the Ledrick Ranch.) Although many Indians still roamed the country at that time, the Ledricks got along well with them. Fannie White, daughter of Isaac White and Elizabeth

Doherty White, was born in 1878 near Abilene, Kan. The Isaac White family came to Roberts County in 1888 and settled on Wolf Creek.

Claude Ledrick and Fannie White were married in 1901. For several years, they lived on the Ledrick Ranch, but in 1907 they moved to Pampa and built a home at 421 E. Kingsmill. They had no children.

Claude continued to ranch, but both he and his brother, Lee, took part in Pampa's growth and became directors of Gray County State Bank. Claude (P. C.) Ledrick was on the school board when the tan brick school building was constructed at 126 W. Francis.

Claude Ledrick died in 1943 and Fannie White Ledrick died in 1959.



Claude and Fannie Ledrick (both photos). Pictures taken from "A History of Miami and Roberts County."



(Photo courtesy of White Deer Land Museum)

The Valentine exhibit above features a Valentine made by P.C. Ledrick for Fannie White in 1896 and includes a sketch of Fannie White on her honeymoon in 1901. The couple was attending the Pan-American Exposition in New York City. The Valentine itself says: "Fannie White, Compliments of P.C. Ledrick, St. Valentine's Day."

Calendar of events

WHITE DEER LAND MUSEUM

White Deer Land Museum (112-116 S. Cuyler) winter visiting hours are 1-4 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. No charge for admission; elevator provided.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Planned Parenthood of Amarillo and the Texas Panhandle is changing its hours. It is now open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 408 W. Kingsmill, Ave., #175-A, in Pampa. For more information or for an appointment, call 665-2291. Planned Parenthood is a not-for-profit health care organization.

Sunflower seminar in offing at Dumas

DUMAS — In response to high natural gas prices, a seminar is scheduled to help local producers consider confection and oil sunflowers as a low input crop. The event will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, Feb. 19, at the Moore County Community Building in Dumas, Texas.

Contracting opportunities are currently available in this area, and receiving points have been established for both oil and confection sunflowers. With the number of corn acres expected to decrease this planting season because of high input costs, more and more producers are looking towards a low input crop to save money, and sunflowers can do just that.

"We know natural gas prices have producers scratching their heads about what to plant this year. We just want to help them consider all their options," said Wayne Monroe, a district sales manager for Triumph Seed, one of the companies sponsoring the meeting.

Producers will hear from Texas Agricultural Extension Service about agronomics, entomology and herbicide concerns of sunflowers. Additionally, 1.5 CEUs will be offered for attending the meeting.

In addition to Triumph Seed, representatives from SIGCO Sun Products and Northern Sun will be on-hand to discuss marketing options for the coming year. There is no cost to attend the meeting and refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact Wayne Monroe at (806) 670-1894 or Derek Racca at 1-800-530-4789.

serving women and men in 17 offices covering 26 counties in the panhandle.

HIGH PLAINS EPILEPSY ASSOCIATION

High Plains Epilepsy Association of Amarillo, funded in part by Pampa United Way, will have a licensed social worker in Pampa from 9:30-12 noon the second Tuesday of each month at Pampa Community Building, 200 N. Ballard. The program assists people with epilepsy and their families. To make an appointment, contact the Amarillo office at 1-800-806-7236.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

The local Alzheimer's Support Group meets regularly at 7 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency, 916 N. Crest. For more information, call Dauna Wilkinson, 665-0356.

PRE-SCHOOL STORY HOUR

Lovett Memorial Library will sponsor a pre-school story hour at 10 a.m. every Tuesday this fall beginning Sept. 5. The free program is open to children 18 months to 5 years of age and will include stories, crafts and other activities. No registration is required. For more information, call the library at 669-5780.

GED TESTING

Clarendon College-Pampa Center will conduct GED testing at 9 a.m. Feb. 26 and March 26. Test-takers must bring a government-issued picture ID such as a driver's license and a Social Security card. Pre-registration is not required. Cost is \$45 or \$10 for each re-test.

CLASS OF 1961

Pampa High School Class of 1961 will hold its 40th class reunion this year. Anyone interested in helping

plan and organize the event should contact Zip Swartz at 665-5532.

MASONIC LODGE #966

Pampa Masonic Lodge #966, 420 W. Kingsmill, will host the District Deputy Grand Master with a meal at 6:30 p.m., Feb. 15.

PAPL MEETING

The Panhandle Association of Petroleum Landmen will gather for social hour at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 15 at Dyer's Bar-B-Que in Amarillo. Members are admitted free. Cost to non-members is \$30. Monthly meetings are held the third Thursday of each month, September through May.

PAMPA AREA CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

The Pampa Area Cancer Support Group for individuals, families and friends who have been touched by cancer will meet at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 15, in the cafeteria of the Pampa Regional Medical Center, One Medical Plaza. Program for this month's meeting will be the video "Getting On With It." Refreshments will be served after the meeting. The public is invited. For more information, call 665-4742 or 665-2654. For a ride, call Betty Whitson after 5 p.m. at 669-2198 or Linda Norris at 665-2654. In case of inclement weather, call ahead in case meeting is canceled.

CGCS MEETING

Gray County Genealogical Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 26 in the Education Classroom of the Gray County Sheriff's Office. The program will be the Genealogy/History Connection Video "The Sweetwater Story." The facilitator will be Bobbie Hill of Old Mobeetie Jail Museum.

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FEB

14

2001

Real Sweethearts Spread Valentine Cheer All Year

DEAR READERS: A Happy Valentine's Day to one and all! There may be snowdrifts on the ground or rain clouds in the forecast, but regardless of what the weatherman says, there's sunshine and springtime in our hearts.

So, be a sweetheart: Call someone who's alone to say, "I'm thinking about you." If you know someone who's in a nursing home, take some flowers. Put your discarded belongings in a box and call Goodwill. Donate some blood. Listen to your teen-ager. Tell your parents you think they're great. Tape a love note to his (or her) mirror. Forgive an enemy. Send a donation to Meals on Wheels or the Salvation Army.



Abigail Van Buren
SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

And, if you love someone — tell him (or her) now; please don't wait until next Valentine's Day to be a sweetheart again.

LOVE, ABBY

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 27-year-old woman with a master's degree. I have a great job at an Internet company. Last summer, my closest friends and I traveled to three foreign countries, saw four plays, three baseball games, one soccer match and seven concerts. So what could possibly be the problem?

My family is concerned that I do not have a boyfriend. They can't understand how I can be 27 and unmarried, let alone without a "sig-

nificant other." My father is worried that my "eggs will dry up"; my mother "only wants me to be happy." Mother calls only to ask if I am dating anyone, and when I tell her about my adventures, she always says it would be so much nicer with a boyfriend.

I know people have more serious problems, but this is something many single people deal with, and quite frankly, it is very frustrating. There are many more facets to my life than husband-hunting, but my parents aren't interested in anything else.

Abby, please tell your readers who are parents that a constant barrage of relationship questions every time they talk to their child is not going to make it happen any faster. When it does happen, we will joyfully tell them all about it.

SINGLE AND PSYCHED
IN HOBOKEN, N.J.

DEAR SINGLE AND PSYCHED: I'll go even further than you're asking me to. Parents who constantly harp on the "have you

found a boyfriend (or girlfriend)" question subtly undermine their children's self-esteem, force them into a defensive posture, and reduce their likelihood of finding someone. People who are happy with their lives and proud of their accomplishments are far more attractive candidates for a meaningful relationship than those who are made to feel their achievements and interests are not important.

DEAR ABBY: I have had many personal problems over the years. Earlier this year, after years of hard work, I finally received my college degree.

I am hurt that the few people in my life didn't even take the time to send me a congratulatory card. What do you think of this, please?

ROBIN IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR ROBIN: If you sent graduation announcements to the people in your life, and they didn't respond, I don't blame you for being hurt. Throw yourself a graduation party, invite your family and friends, and celebrate your achievement. You've earned it. Congratulations.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61064-0447. (Postage is included.)

Horoscope

THURSDAY, FEB. 15, 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)

Others might be effusive about feelings and choices. Surprises follow when spontaneity rules. Join in the happy spirit of the moment. Be creative and seek out as much information as you can. Read between the lines with a loved one. Tonight: Try a new restaurant.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Deal with others on a one-on-one level, reviewing possibilities that surround your life directions. Deal with an associate about money. Unexpected behavior comes from those you generally look up to. What is going on here? Opt for that new look. Why not? Tonight: Quality time with a loved one.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Others surprise you, and you respond enthusiastically once you get past your immediate reaction. Not everyone thinks or acts the same way, even in the same circumstances. Put on your private-eye outfit and figure out what is going on. Tonight: Laugh and swap jokes with a friend.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

You might attempt to make sense where there is no logic. Concentrate on what you do have control of, rather than what you don't. Stay upbeat in your deal-

ings. Be aware of another's feelings, even though they might be uncomfortable to acknowledge. Tonight: Try a stress buster.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Sift through distractions. Others want you for different reasons. Juggle your schedule, but don't lose sight of your goals and directions. Unexpected developments with a partner or new friend could have you sitting on your haunches. Tonight: Be playful.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You might decide that the time has come for a change in your day-to-day life. You suddenly embrace a new attitude, diet or job while others react. Actually, you have many more options than you are aware of. Just allow them to unfold. Honor your need to help others. Tonight: Put your feet up.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Kept talking, even in the face of startling news. You might have a difficult time believing what you are hearing. A child or loved one creates a maze of confusion. Either enjoy it or pull out. Reach out to someone at a distance. Anything is possible. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You might not be sure about what is happening with a loved one whom you count on to be stable. Recognize what a whirlwind you are in. Deal with expenditures with a disciplined hand, as difficult as that might be. Brainstorm with friends. Viable solutions appear. Tonight: Fun doesn't need to be expensive.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Anything is possible right now. Don't underestimate the power of your

personality and the radiance of your smile. A conversation gets skewed and goes in a new direction. Lose your need to control, and you will love the results. Others naturally work with you. Tonight: Smile more.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Take your time about making decisions. Your finances seem to swing like a pendulum. This too shall pass, but you must do your homework, as presently you pulled the financial wild card. Energy extremes fluctuate. Schedule yourself carefully. Evaluate more of what you want. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Listen to your inner sense with another. Choose to not blurt out your opinions but rather to play diplomat. As a result, you get strong answers. Meetings prove to be unusually productive and significant. You get positive answers. Make time for a dream session in which your ideas can float. Tonight: Beam in whatever you want.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

You might have to take command of the ship, even if you are uncomfortable. Not everything is as you would like. Carefully think through a decision that might be worrying you. Nothing needs to be said just now. Your intuition helps you with a higher-up. Tonight: Work late.

BORN TODAY

Suffragist Susan B. Anthony (1820), actress Jane Seymour (1951), cartoonist Matt Groening (1954)

Crossword Puzzle

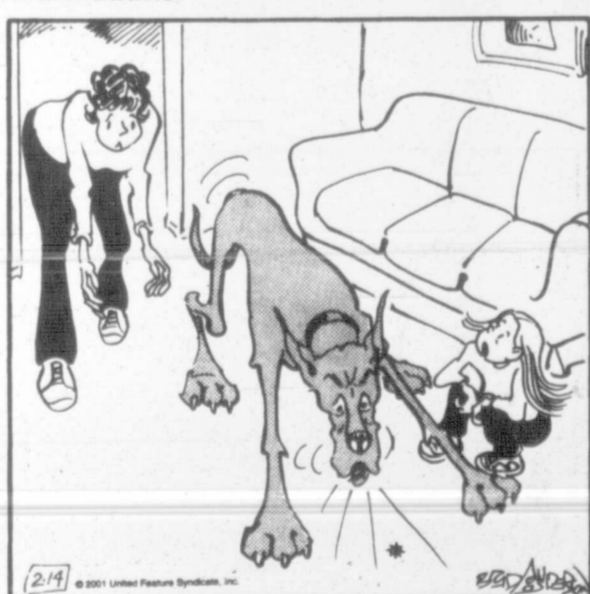
By THOMAS JOSEPH

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 - The "Waste Land" poet
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YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

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RENEW	HOGGY

Marmaduke



"Marmaduke found your missing earring, but he thinks it's a bug."

The Family Circus



"Cupid's mommy should've made him play with rubber-tip arrows."

For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore



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.

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SPORTS

Notebook

SOCCKER

PAMPA — Pampa defeated Borger 5-2 in a District 3-4A girls' soccer match Tuesday.

Sara Scott, and Ashley Everson each scored a goal and Misti Northcutt added a penalty kick as Pampa took a 3-0 halftime lead.

Borger rallied early in the second half to score twice, but Jessica Burns and Heidi Amundsen each added a goal for Pampa before time expired.

Northcutt had three assists and Vigil one for the Lady Harvesters.

BASKETBALL

PAMPA — Pampa freshmen boys ended the basketball season with a 57-42 win over Borger earlier this week.

Johnny Moore was Pampa's high scorer with 17 points, followed by Troy Ludvick 15.

Pampa competed in the District Tournament last week and defeated Caprock 57-48 in a first-round game.

Moore's 14 points led the team in scoring. Colin Bowers and Aaron Silva followed with 12 each.

Palo Duro beat Pampa 60-48 in the second game.

Bowers had 23 points and Silva 15.

The tournament was single-elimination.

In a regular-game prior to the District Tournament, Pampa defeated Tascosa by the score of 67-62.

Bowers had 18 points and Silva 16.

HOCKEY

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — If Dallas Stars coach Ken Hitchcock had his way, goaltender Ed Belfour would be leading the NHL with eight shutouts instead of seven.

Belfour stopped 23 shots Tuesday night in a 2-1 victory over the Nashville Predators. But he lost the shutout with 1:15 remaining when Patric Kjellberg poked a rebound past Belfour for a goal.

Hitchcock thought shouldn't count since he felt the Predators interfered with his goalie.

"He deserved a shutout. We deserved a shutout," Hitchcock said.

Belfour, suspended by Hitchcock for three games in January, wasn't as upset with missing his first shutout since Dec. 10. It was his best performance since that suspension and a huge improvement after giving up eight goals to the Los Angeles Kings Jan. 30.

He now is 3-0-1 in his last four starts and called the game a good boost for both himself and the Stars, especially after a slow start the first 10 minutes.

"After that, we gained momentum as the game went on. I felt strong myself and confident. It's good for myself to have a game like that.

As a team, it builds their confidence and mine too," said Belfour, who needs only eight more victories to notch 30 or more wins for a fourth straight season with Dallas.

Brett Hull scored on a power-play goal in the first period and Mike Modano added a goal and an assist as the Stars outshot Nashville 35-24 and beat the Predators for the third time in one-goal games between the teams this season.

Belfour made those goals stand up as he had several nice saves. His best came in the final two minutes, when he jumped up to block a high shot by Cliff Ronning with his shoulder; he now is 5-0-0 against Nashville.

"He's been really building as the second half goes on, and that's a good sign for all of us," Modano said of Belfour.

Nashville outplayed Dallas in the opening minutes, and the Stars didn't even get a shot on goal until nearly five minutes had passed.

Harvesters lose to Herd in season finale

HEREFORD — Hereford defeated Pampa 70-47 Tuesday night in the final game of the basketball season for the Harvesters.

Hereford, who clinched the runnerup spot in District 3-4A play, advances into the playoffs with a 27-4 record. The Whitefaces were 12-2 in district.

Pampa finished fourth in district with a 6-8 record. For the season the Harvesters finished at 19-15.

Hereford's scoring leader was Slade Hodges with 21 points. Cody Hodges followed with 13.

Adam Rodgers tossed in 11 points to lead the Harvesters. Tanner Hucks had 8 points while Gary Alexander and Max Simon added 7 each.

Pampa trailed by only two (16-14) at the end of the first quarter, but Hereford started pulling away and led by 14 (39-25) at halftime.

Others with points for the Harvesters were Kyle Francis 5, Kirk George 4 Chadd Platt 3 and Dustin Johnson 2.

Pampa beat Hereford 45-35 in the junior varsity game.

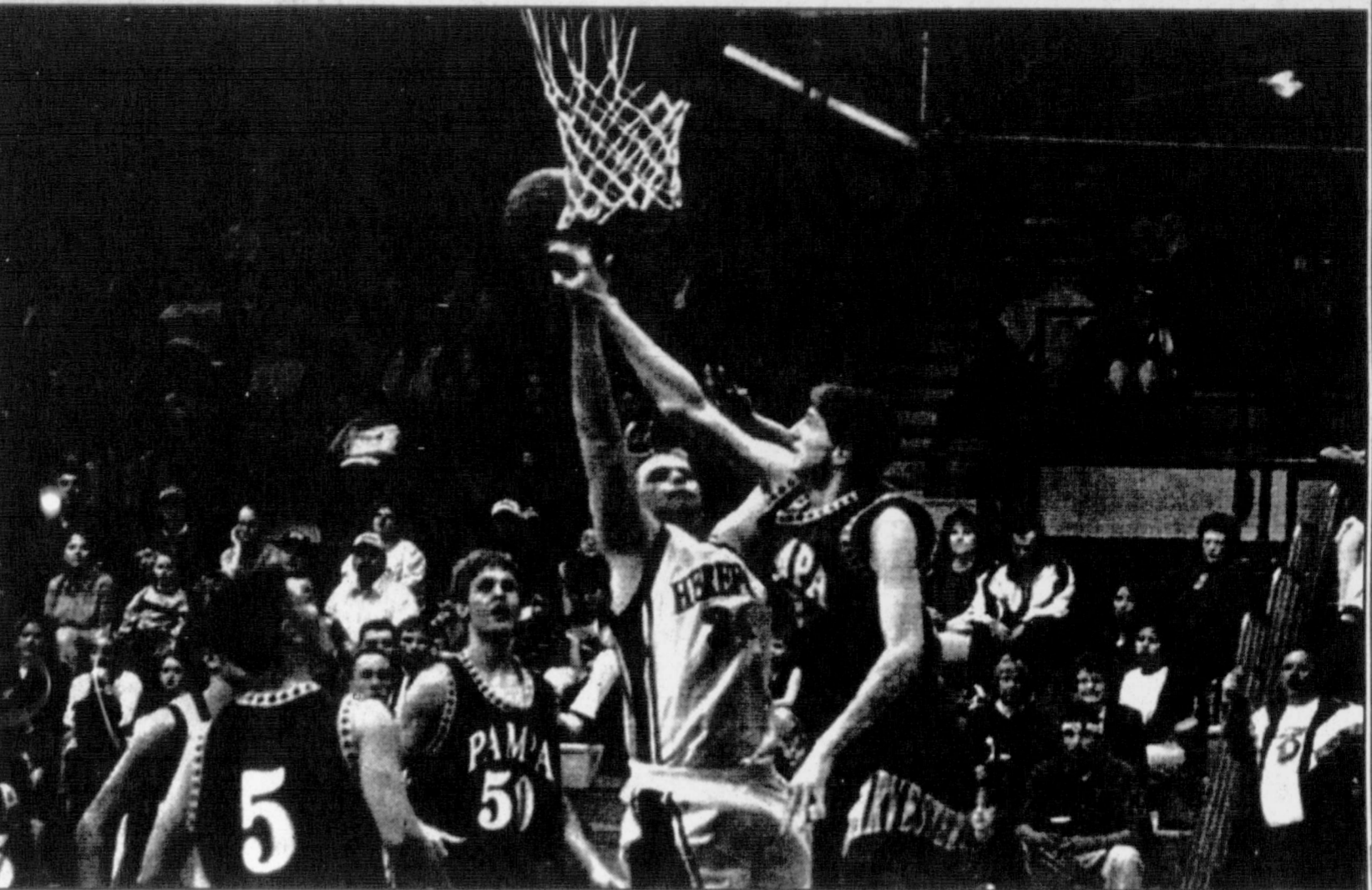
Pampa JV 45, Hereford JV 35

Pampa defeated Hereford 45-35 last night to clinch second place in the District Junior Varsity standings.

Carlos Silva had 11 points and James Silva 10 to lead Pampa JVs in scoring.

G. Gonzalez was Hereford's high scorer with 10 points.

Ryan Zemanek had 9 points and led Pampa in rebounds



Pampa senior Kirk George blocks a shot by Hereford's James Stowe in the Harvesters' last game of the season. Looking on are teammates Kyle Francis (5) and Adam Rodgers (50).

(Photo by Jerry Hestley)

with 7.

Tyler Ross had 8 points and 6 rebounds.

Pampa JVs finished the season with a 11-2 record overall and 10-4 in district.

Fort Elliott 53, Texline 25

AMARILLO — Fort Elliott breezed past Texline 53-25 Tuesday night in the bi-dis-

trict round of the Class 1A girls' playoffs.

Tamara Hartline had 16 points, Kirbie Kinnaman 15 and Ashley Estes 13 to lead Fort Elliott.

Mary Gutierrez was Texline's high scorer with 16 points.

Stratford 54, Shamrock 53

PAMPA — Jessica Young connected on a 3-point goal with 18 seconds to go to give Stratford a 54-53 victory over Shamrock in Class 1A girls' bi-district action Tuesday night in McNeely Fieldhouse.

Young finished the night with 13 points. Carla

Matthews was Stratford's high scorer with 19.

Vanita Wright had 14 points to lead Shamrock. Kelli Gilbert and Kacie Schlegel added 9 each.

Stratford advances with a 23-6 record while Shamrock ends its season at 20-7.

Baylor uses snub as motivation for big victory

WACO, Texas (AP) — The last time Baylor had beaten a ranked team, it came against a No. 25 squad and took two overtimes.

It had been so long since the Bears had beaten a Top 10 team that the last victim was Arkansas, back when the schools were Southwest Conference rivals.

So maybe it wasn't so ridiculous that Kenny Gregory, star of No. 6 Kansas, considered losing to Baylor something that just doesn't happen to the Jayhawks.

It did Monday night. Fired up by Gregory's off-hand remark, Baylor pounced on a Kansas squad that really was taking the Bears lightly and pulled out a stunning 85-77 victory.

"He pretty much dissed us, said we're not capable of beating them," Baylor guard DeMarcus Minor said. "When they'd close to

four or five, his statement would pop into your head.

"We didn't panic. But they have to panic because they just got beat by Baylor."

Jayhawks coach Roy Williams actually began panicking long before tipoff because he sensed his team wasn't ready.

"I didn't like the feel they gave me," he said.

Baylor (16-6, 5-6 Big 12) ambushed Kansas (19-4, 8-3) from the start, taking a 10-0 lead by hitting wide-open shots and playing tenacious defense. The lead reached 25 by halftime, marking the largest deficit Kansas has faced after one half in the 13 years Williams has coached there.

"I don't know that I've ever been part of a more complete breakdown," he said.

The Jayhawks made several charges in the second half, but the Bears never gave in. They remained

calm even after their 27-point lead was whittled to four.

Baylor coach Dave Bliss called time-out and gave his squad a reality check. He asked them how they would have felt if before tipoff he offered them the chance to be up by four with only a few minutes left. The obvious answer refocused and re-energized them as they grew the lead back to 10.

In ending a 17-game losing streak to ranked teams, the Bears became the first team in 22 games to shoot more than 50 percent against Kansas. They made 52 percent and were never below break-even the entire game.

Baylor had never beaten Kansas in six previous tries. The Bears' last victory over a Top 10 team was in 1990 against the Razorbacks.

The Jayhawks lost on a Monday night for the third

straight week. The previous losses were to Big 12 leader Iowa State and perennially strong Missouri.

In rationalizing those losses, Gregory said, "It's not like we lost to (Texas A&M) and Baylor," teams Kansas had been 12-0 against all-time.

The star of this show was Terry Black, who scored 20 points while making 8-of-10 shots, most of them dunks and nearly all of those worthy of highlight films.

Black jokingly downplayed the victory, saying: "It wasn't like we beat Duke or North Carolina. It was only Kansas."

Maybe in a few years that will be the attitude at Baylor. In less than two seasons, Bliss has the program headed in the right direction.

The Bears are assured of their first winning season since 1996-97. If they can get on a late-season roll, they

can start thinking about their first postseason berth since the NIT in 1990 or even their first NCAA trip since 1988.

For now, Bliss and Baylor can celebrate one sweet victory.

"This isn't going to change the face of mankind, but it gives our players a lift," Bliss said. "This vindicates our hard work."

Fans felt their loyalty was vindicated, too. The largest crowd in four years at the Ferrell Center was treated to yellow T-shirts on their way in and before they left many of them celebrated the victory on the court.

"College basketball is meant to be fun. Baylor has gone through some periods where it hasn't been some fun," Bliss said. "A lot of people enjoyed it tonight. Hopefully they enjoyed it enough that they'll keep those yellow shirts and wear them again."

Babe Ruth Park to have new look

PAMPA — "New" is the word this year for the Pampa Optimist Babe Ruth Baseball League.

"We are in the process of building a new Babe Ruth Baseball Park," said Kevin Davis, Optimist President. "We have a new sprinkler system ready to put in as soon as the weather will permit. We will have new lights, new stands and a new look for Babe Ruth Baseball this year."

Davis said a new Babe Ruth League for 13 year old players will be formed "if we can get at least 48 players to sign up." Davis said that 42 seventh-graders have already indicated an interest in form-

ing a league just for 13s.

Larry Craig has been appointed by the Pampa Optimist Youth Board of Directors to serve as Commissioner of the League. Craig has also been selected to chair the rebuilding of the park. Craig has coached Optimist baseball for nine years. He has been employed by Celanese Corporation for the last 11 years where he serves as training coordinator.

Craig and wife, Melany, are the parents of three baseball players: Charlie, 17, Hunter 15 and Jake 13. "If for some reason the 13 year old league doesn't make it, we plan to have games every week just for

13s so that they will have the opportunity of getting extra playing time," Craig said. "This is the time of year our family looks forward to because our family's summers have revolved around Optimist baseball for the last nine years."

The Babe Ruth League had an organizational meeting Monday night at the Optimist building to begin planning for the upcoming season.

Attending were Davis, Craig, Bill Simon, Charlie Miller, Ricky Joe Martin, Billy Willingham, Jimmy Barker, David Teichmann and John Warner, the Optimist Baseball-Softball Coordinator this year.

THE Pampa NEWS

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FEB 14 2001

Pampa has U-14 team entered in High Plains Volleyball League

PAMPA — A group of local girls have formed an Under 14 club team and are participating in competition under the supervision of the High Plains Volleyball Association.

The Pampa Patriots Volleyball Club 141, coached by Jimmy Baird, was formed at the beginning of this year with the purpose of improving skills in volleyball, providing opportunities for advancement, increasing exposure for each team member and securing means to offset financial costs for training qualified coaches and role models.

The HPCA (High Plains Volleyball Association),

located in Amarillo, is a not-for-profit volunteer organization which currently fields as many as 15 teams in as many as seven age divisions, including 18 and under.

They compete in the Sun Country region of USA Volleyball. The Pampa club is in the U-14 Division and competes in various tournaments selected by the club members, and coaching staff, who must be IMPACT-certified.

To date, Pampa has competed in two area tournaments, which included teams from West Texas and some from New Mexico. On Jan. 20, the club entered the High Plains 12's & 14's in Amarillo and placed in a

tie for fifth out of 18 teams in the Under 14 Division.

Then on Feb. 10-11, the team played in the Crown of Texas Volleyball Tournament and also tied for fifth out of 16 teams.

"The Pampa girls have played quite well and are getting notice from the opposing coaches for their good play," said Baird.

The team is continuing to practice for the upcoming matches in the tournament, which has yet to be announced.

Pampa team members include Lindsey Ammons, Payton Baird, Lauren Boles, Alyssa Bromwell, Teryn Garner, Jackie Gerber, Diana Resendiz, Jennie Rogers and Jaclyn Spearman.

Scoreboard

HOCKEY						
Western Professional Hockey League						
At A Glance						
Eastern Division						
W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
Austin	34	15	4	72	193	133
B-Shreveport	33	16	2	68	182	124
Tupelo	31	20	4	66	204	159
Corpus Christi	28	22	3	59	166	184
Monroe	26	21	5	57	168	188
Lake Charles	21	25	4	46	158	188
Fort Worth	12	34	4	28	139	201
x-Central Texas	14	18	5	33	104	128
Western Division						
W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
New Mexico	35	13	2	72	205	179
Odesa	27	15	7	61	180	153
Lubbock	28	20	4	60	193	167
Amarillo	22	22	7	51	168	195
San Angelo	21	25	7	49	158	210
El Paso	21	22	6	48	143	152
x-ceased operations						
NOTE: Two points are awarded for a victory, shootout losses earn one point and are referred to as ties.						
Tuesday's Games						
Odesa 6, Corpus Christi 4						
New Mexico 2, El Paso 1						
Austin 3, Lubbock 1						
Tupelo 4, Monroe 1						
Wednesday's Games						
Tupelo at Monroe						
San Angelo at Amarillo						
Lubbock at Fort Worth						
Shreveport at Lake Charles						
Thursday's Game						
Odesa at Lubbock						
PRO BASKETBALL						
National Basketball Association						
At A Glance						
All Times EST						
EASTERN CONFERENCE						
Atlantic Division						
W	L	Pct	GB			
Philadelphia	37	14	.725			
Miami	31	20	.608			
New York	29	19	.604	6 1/2		
Orlando	25	23	.521	10 1/2		
Boston	22	28	.440	14 1/2		
New Jersey	17	35	.327	20 1/2		
Washington	12	38	.240	24 1/2		
Central Division						
W	L	Pct	GB			
Milwaukee	29	19	.604			
Toronto	27	23	.540	3		
Charlotte	27	25	.519	4		
Indiana	21	28	.429	8 1/2		
Cleveland	20	28	.417	9		
Detroit	19	31	.380	11		
Atlanta	16	34	.320	14		
Chicago	7	42	.143	22 1/2		
WESTERN CONFERENCE						
Midwest Division						
W	L	Pct	GB			
San Antonio	32	16	.667			
Utah	32	18	.667			
Minnesota	32	19	.627	1 1/2		
Dallas	31	20	.608	2 1/2		
Denver	28	24	.538	6		
Houston	26	25	.510	7 1/2		
Vancouver	14	36	.280	19		
Pacific Division						
W	L	Pct	GB			
Portland	36	15	.706			
Sacramento	32	15	.681	2		
L.A. Lakers	32	16	.667	2 1/2		
Phoenix	29	20	.592	6		
Seattle	28	24	.538	8 1/2		
L.A. Clippers	16	35	.314	20		
Golden State	15	34	.306	20		
Monday's Games						
No games scheduled						
Tuesday's Games						
Charlotte 77, Indiana 66						
Toronto 120, Cleveland 105						
Miami 101, L.A. Clippers 99, OT						
L.A. Lakers 113, New Jersey 110, OT						
Sacramento 97, Utah 94, OT						
Philadelphia 107, Milwaukee 104						
Chicago 96, Atlanta 92						
San Antonio 104, Dallas 92						
Houston 99, Washington 89						
Denver 96, New York 77						
Vancouver 99, Boston 98						
Portland 109, Minnesota 88						
Phoenix 93, Golden State 83						
Wednesday's Games						
Milwaukee at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.						
New Jersey at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.						
L.A. Clippers at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.						
L.A. Lakers at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.						
New York at Utah, 9 p.m.						
Minnesota at Phoenix, 9 p.m.						
Thursday's Games						
Detroit at Indiana, 7 p.m.						
Miami at Toronto, 8 p.m.						
Cleveland at Dallas, 8 p.m.						
Washington at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.						
Boston at Seattle, 10 p.m.						
Sacramento at Portland, 10 p.m.						
Golden State at Vancouver, 10 p.m.						
COLLEGE BASKETBALL						
NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION						
EAST						
Connecticut 82, Boston College 71						
Long Island U. 88, St. Francis, NY 83						
Loyola, Md. 72, St. Peter's 64						
Miami 68, Syracuse 57						
Penn State 67, Penn 53						
St. Joseph's 71, Temple 62						
Stony Brook 74, Md.-Eastern Shore 65						
SOUTH						
ETSU 84, UNC-Greensboro 75						
Florida 81, LSU 74, OT						
Wofford 105, Chattanooga 69						
MIDWEST						
Illinois 68, Wisconsin 67						
SW Missouri St. 76, N. Iowa 67						
Wis.-Green Bay 60, Loyola, Ill. 56						
SOUTHWEST						
Texas 73, Texas Tech 56						

Sparring session



(Special photo)

Thirteen-year-old boxer Celia Moria works on her technique with trainer Abel Rios at the Youth Survival Club of Pampa. Celia is one of four female boxers from Pampa entered in the Regional Golden Gloves Tournament this weekend in Lubbock. Celia's goal is to become a professional boxer. This will be the first match for the local girls' team.

Benson might contend again in NASCAR's premier event

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Watching Johnny Benson contend in the Daytona 500 wouldn't seem so strange, not after what happened a year ago in NASCAR's premier event.

In that race, Benson led for 39 laps and nearly pulled off one of the biggest upsets in history before being overwhelmed by a pack of drafting Fords whose drivers decided it was better to follow Dale Jarrett.

They were right. Jarrett won for the third time, and Benson settled for 12th place.

Now he's back with one of the fastest Pontiacs and will start sixth Thursday in one of two qualifying events to set most of the field for Sunday's \$11 million race. And this time, the 37-year-old driver from Grand Rapids, Mich., can relax.

"Last year, we went without a sponsor and pretty low in the points, so we were sweating making the race the whole time," Benson said.

After the impressive run at Daytona, a sponsor developed, then stopped paying the bills. The team came close to leaving the car at the shop, but another sponsor permitted it to complete the season an impressive 13th in the standings.

This year, Valvoline has come aboard in a unique arrangement of sponsorship and part ownership in the car. So, Benson is happy.

"This year, we are not worried about sponsors anymore," he said. "And we aren't worried about provisionals because we are 13th in points."

Without enough owners points, a team cannot get in a race with one of seven provisional starting spots. It must qualify as one of the 36 fastest cars.

Benson backed up his 500 performance by leading for 21 laps in the July race at Daytona before finishing 13th, proving again that he can go fast on the 2 1/2-mile oval.

"But it sure didn't look that way to Benson and crew chief James

Ince in the days leading up to the last year's 500.

"We struggled in the qualifying race, and I remember telling James that if we didn't get the car fixed, we were going to miss the race," Benson said. "We hung on and made it, and then we did pretty good in the 500."

Because of that, Benson has hopes for another impressive run Sunday. Also, the sponsorship has enabled the team to test more frequently and log considerable wind-tunnel time.

Should those factors make him a legitimate contender in the season-opening race? Benson thinks they might, but won't predict the kind of success he had last year.

But he thinks he'll be very competitive. Another sign of confidence might be the team's decision to leave last year's Daytona car in the shop in North Carolina and use another.

"Everyone is going to say we almost won twice, but we think we have a better car," Ince said of

Francis hits 29 points as Rockets win over Wizards, 99-89

HOUSTON (AP) — Steve Francis remembers that he wasn't recruited hard by the University of Miami when Leonard Hamilton was the coach there.

On Tuesday night, Francis tried to give Hamilton one more reason to be sorry, scoring 29 points in the Houston Rockets' 99-89 victory over Washington Wizards.

Francis also thought he heard Hamilton tell his players to play off him Tuesday.

"I have known him since recruiting in high school, and their coach is a friend of mine," Francis said. "But he was calling for them to back off me, and that hurt my feelings a lot. I felt good enough to take some 3s.

"It made me a little mad. I wanted to show him I'm the same guy I was in college. I wanted to show him I can still light it up the same way."

Hamilton was surprised Francis was incensed.

"I was just having fun with him," Hamilton said. "When I was at Miami, I didn't realize how much he liked Miami,

and he's never let me forget it since."

Francis was just part of the show Tuesday. Hakeem Olajuwon continued to prove he can still play, finishing with 15 points, 20 rebounds, three blocked shots and four steals.

"Twenty rebounds, wow," Washington's Mitch Richmond said. "He helped his team win and he is still a big factor. He's aging with grace. He has rededicated himself to the Rockets for the rest of the year, and he wants to leave on good terms."

"Any time you have a player like that who can change the game in so many ways, you have a dangerous weapon."

Popeye Jones said he was the same as the old Olajuwon.

"Dream tricked me a couple of times out there," Jones said. "But he's crafty like that. He's one of the all-time greats."

Coach Rudy Tomjanovich especially likes what Olajuwon does for the defense.

"He's the anchor of our defense," Tomjanovich said. "His quickness and his hands were just unbelievable on some of those steals tonight."

The 38-year-old Olajuwon, in his 17th pro season, has averaged 17 points, 12.7 rebounds, 3.2 blocks and 2.7 steals the last four games. Tuesday's 20 was Olajuwon's highest rebound total since he had 20 on Feb. 16, 1998, against the Clippers.

"I don't like comparing myself then and now," Olajuwon said. "I just like to see what I can do now. I think I still have room for improvement."

"I think I'm on top of my game physically. My lifestyle and my game can't be any better. I'm feeling very good."

Richard Hamilton led Washington with 24 points. Juwan Howard added 15 as the Wizards lost their fourth straight.

The Rockets outscored Washington 10-0 early in the third to open a 64-51 lead with 7:25 left. The lead crested at 15 before the Rockets settled for a 78-65 advantage at the end of three.

Washington outscored Houston 10-4 in the first 3:44 of the fourth to close the margin to 82-75.

But two straight 3s by Francis pushed it back to 88-

75, and the Wizards got no closer than seven after that.

Notes: Houston is 15-3 vs. Eastern Conference teams this

season. ... Houston won its seventh straight over Washington at the Compaq Center. ... Point guard Rod Strickland, who has rarely played the last six

weeks, is also skipping the four-game road trip. He told the team Monday that his hamstrings were too sore for him to play.

Aikman has extended deadline

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys now have an extra week to decide if they want to bring quarterback Troy Aikman back for the 2001 season, the player's agent says.

Agent Leigh Steinberg told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram in Wednesday's editions that the due date for the \$7 million bonus that the Cowboys owe Aikman for extending his contract by six years has been pushed forward to March 15.

The deadline was supposed to be March 8, but was moved after the NFL delayed the start of its league year from Feb. 15 to March 2.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones has said that he expects to make a decision before the due date. Jones said earlier it was not in the team's best interest to delay a decision because the makeup of the

roster and the Cowboys' philosophy in 2001 hinge on whether Aikman returns.

Aikman, 34, missed the final two games last season. He suffered his second concussion of the season, and the 10th of his 12-year NFL career, when he was tackled by Washington linebacker Lavar Arrington on Dec. 10.

The team doesn't have to pay Aikman his bonus if they cut him or if he decides to retire before the due date.

Although Aikman has given no indication publicly if he plans to continue his career or retire, Steinberg says the player wants to keep playing.

Because of that, a decision could come quickly, Steinberg said Tuesday. He said that when the Cowboys decide what they want to do, both sides can hammer out a new or restructured deal.

Cowboys officials did not

return a telephone call from The Associated Press to the Valley Ranch headquarters early Wednesday.

Steinberg told the newspaper he didn't want to speculate whether Aikman might play for another team if the Cowboys decide they don't want him back.

"I don't want to complicate things," the agent said.

Steinberg, citing former 49ers quarterback Steve Young's retirement in June 2000, said he believes it would be better if Aikman had more time to make a decision.

Meanwhile, Steinberg said he has held no discussions with the Cowboys about acquiring San Diego Chargers quarterback Ryan Leaf as a possible replacement for Aikman. The Chargers were expected to put Leaf, another Steinberg client, on the trading block.

New York Yankees are looking to be Number One again

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — When the Yankees open spring training Wednesday, it could be the beginning of the end of an era.

Paul O'Neill says it will be his last season. Tino Martinez and Scott Brosius are in the final years of their contracts, as is manager Joe Torre.

Still, there is another championship to be won, always the focus on the Yankees. Last October, they became just the fourth team to win three straight World Series titles.

"I want to look back when I'm all done and say I played at the beginning of this spurt and played all the way through it," O'Neill said. "With the core of people coming back, this is still the team that

won the championships. A couple years down the road, it might not be the same team anymore."

Only two teams put together longer streaks: the Yankees of 1936-39 and the Yankees of 1949-53.

The run for No. 4 — and the fifth in six seasons — begins Wednesday when pitchers and catchers report. Many of the Yankees have been in Florida for weeks, working out at New York's minor league complex.

"You get excited about spring training because hopefully one or two of our young kids could make the big league club and help the New York Yankees win," vice president of player personnel Billy

Connors said.

The most notable departure during the offseason was David Cone. New York offered to bring him back following a 4-14 season, but he would have had to win the No. 5 starter's job in spring training.

Instead, he signed with Boston. Mike Mussina, given an \$88.5 million, six-year contract, is the chief addition, joining Roger Clemens, Orlando Hernandez and Andy Pettitte in the rotation.

"It's unbelievable," left fielder Shane Spencer said of the Yankees' rotation. "(Other) teams will be like, 'Who are we going to put our No. 1 against? We have potentially four No. 1s.'"

The fifth spot is open. Cuban

defector Adrian "El Duque" Hernandez — not related to "El Duque" — has looked impressive in early workouts and lefty Randy Keiser also figures to get a chance.

While closer Mariano Rivera is back and left-hander Mike Stanton returns as a setup man, right-handed setup man Jeff Nelson returned to Seattle after five seasons with the Yankees.

Ramiro Mendoza, who missed most of last season because of shoulder problems, is throwing following surgery but the Yankees likely will limit his innings. Lefty Allen Watson, also coming back from an injury marred season, is not expected to be ready for opening day.

New York has brought in a half-dozen pitchers to audition for the role, a group that includes Dwight Gooden, Brian Boehringer, Scott Kamieniecki, Darrell Einertson and Ed Reynolds.

The everyday lineup is set, barring injuries. The only questions are whether second baseman Chuck Knoblauch has solved his throwing problems and whether Spencer has healed following knee surgery.

"The elbow is good. No problems," said Knoblauch, who arrived at spring training a month early.

Spencer expects his surgically repaired knee to be ready for opening day.

"I'm doing pretty good," he said Tuesday. "I'm doing all the little things I need to do. Hopefully by the second week of spring training, I'll be playing some games."

With catcher Jorge Posada coming off his best season, and Derek Jeter and Bernie Williams coming off typically strong seasons, the Yankees seem solid up the middle.

"The start of spring training is exciting," Yankees director of player development Rob Thomson said. "You've had the whole winter off. You kind of go through depression the first couple weeks after the season is over. You don't have that fill of intensity and competitiveness. It's nice to get back into it."

Mid-East: Bush administration blames both sides for spreading violence

By BARRY SCHWEID
AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration, invoking traditional evenhanded diplomacy, is criticizing both Israel and the Palestinians for escalating violence that could dim already faint hopes for resuming peace talks.

In a tough statement Tuesday, the State Department condemned both Israel's use of helicopter gunships and Palestinian attacks on settlements and motorists and the use of mortar fire.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said the escalating violence was producing "a new cycle of action or reaction, which can become impossible to control."

"Our assessment is the events of the last 48 hours represent a serious deterioration of the security sit-

uation on the ground at a time that we all recognize is very, very sensitive," he said.

His remarks came several hours before a Palestinian driver crashed a bus into bus stop crowded with Israeli soldiers and civilians during morning rush hour Wednesday, killing eight and injuring 20 in the deadliest attack by Palestinian militants in nearly four years.

The turmoil coincided with a visit to Washington by three senior Israeli aides of Prime Minister-elect Ariel Sharon. They conveyed a message to White House and State Department officials that negotiations could not be held with the Arabs under threat of attack.

Stressing that Sharon would proceed with care, Moshe Arens, a former Israeli defense and foreign minister, said, "First and foremost, the Palestinian violence that has been going on for the last few

months has to cease if we are to have productive negotiations."

Standing alongside Arens in the White House driveway, another former Israeli ambassador to Washington, Zalman Shoval, said, "We have conveyed the message the prime minister-elect of Israel, Sharon, is determined to pursue the track of peace, the aim of peace, provided the other side understands that while shooting is going on, violence is going on, it is very difficult to discuss peace."

Still, after the three emissaries met with Condoleezza Rice, President Bush's national security adviser, Shoval said: "We are willing to go a long way if the other side reciprocates."

Wednesday, they had a meeting set with Secretary of State Colin Powell, whose repeated calls for calm have not been heeded.

Palestinian lawmaker Hanan Ashrawi, also in

Washington, denounced Sharon as a war criminal "who should not be raising the peace flag" and said outgoing Prime Minister Ehud Barak had launched a campaign of political assassinations.

Powell is due to fly to the Middle East on Feb. 23 for talks with Sharon, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and other Arab leaders to gauge prospects for reopening Arab-Israeli peace talks.

"We are coming to a friendly administration, which we know quite well," Shoval said. "We want to bring to everyone's attention what the new government's position on the peace process will be."

That, he said, is to pursue peace energetically. "But we will not do it under fire. We will not do it while terrorism is going on."

Ashrawi praised the Bush administration, saying it had abandoned a pro-Israel peace process in favor of real peacemaking.

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Richard Peet
Gray County Judge
Feb. 7, 14,
21, 28, 2001

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PMCU is now accepting bids thru Feb. 26, 2001, on a 1999 Ford Taurus SE, 4 dr., 47,374 mi. Call 665-8875 or see at 1021 N. Somerville. PMCU reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

125 Parts & Access.

NOW Open Hardin Auto Salvage, (formerly Pampa Garage & Salvage), 748 S. Price Rd. 665-5831.

Texas round up ...

Court documents defy Anna Nicole Smith's claim she was 'penniless'

HOUSTON (AP) — Former stripper and Playboy Playmate Anna Nicole Smith tells jurors she was "penniless" in early 1995 as her ailing husband's son took control of family finances and systematically cut her off, yet bank records are telling another story.

Testifying in the 4 1/2-month-old inheritance trial over oilman J. Howard Marshall II's fortune, the 33-year-old Smith said stepson E. Pierce Marshall was handling his father's affairs as early as December 1994, months before he formally took guardianship of the 90-year-old multimillionaire.

She said it was Pierce Marshall's influence that limited the cash and gifts flowing from the wheelchair-bound oil baron to his wife, then a fashion model and B-movie actress. She told tabloid television shows in early 1995 — and the jury this week — that she was so broke her electricity was cut off in her New York and Los Angeles homes.

But Rusty Hardin, an attorney for Pierce Marshall, guided Smith through page after page of bank records Tuesday, showing she was solvent and cashing checks for tens of thousands of dollars in 1995.

At one point, Smith denied paying a Houston attorney who helped her mount a legal challenge to Pierce Marshall's guardianship, then backtracked when Hardin produced a check with her signature. She also denied meeting with the attorney in February 1995, while her husband was hospitalized for pneumonia, even though a detailed bill showed otherwise.

Smith also said some family members and at least one personal aide were authorized to draw on her account. One of those checks, for satellite television service, was dated one day after her husband died in August 1995.

Customers flood florists, candy stores to make Valentine's Day purchases

DALLAS (AP) — Love and business are both in full bloom for Valentine's Day, the holiday that brings a boon to florists and candy stores everywhere.

"It's the biggest holiday for us," Arthur Miron, owner of Floral World on the appropriately named Lovers Lane in Dallas, said Tuesday.

He predicted an all-night vigil at the store after a crunch of shoppers on the eve of Valentine's, then again on Wednesday morning.

For Michael Todora, owner of Roses & More in Dallas, it was much the same story on Tuesday. Todora was still preparing hundreds of delivery orders almost three hours after his shop closed.

"We're so worn out, we're going to be closed Friday and Saturday just to recuperate," said owner Michael Todora. "This is one of three or four days of the year that florists have to make their money."

The holiday is also a popular time for confectioners.

Brian McCallister, who runs La Chocolatiere in Dallas, said he welcomes crowds of husbands and boyfriends scrambling to make last-minute purchases.

"I would be a wealthy man if it were like this everyday," McCallister said.

The lines of people start at the check-out counter, snake around candy-filled tables and makes its way outside of the store. People were waiting at the door as early as 6 a.m., McCallister said.

Giant of the deep: Discovery may be Gulf's third largest

HOUSTON (AP) — A new deepwater Gulf of Mexico discovery contains an estimated 500 million barrels of oil in what two petroleum companies contend is the region's third largest such find.

Crazy Horse North, the new field, is five miles northwest of its namesake, the Crazy Horse field, which oil prospectors say holds an estimated one billion barrels of oil — the Gulf's largest field ever found.

Executives at BP and Exxon Mobil suspected after the Crazy Horse Field was discovered that another substantial reservoir lay nearby, said Jim Farnsworth, BP's vice president of deepwater exploration.

"We had an inkling that there was a separate structure to the north, but we viewed it as a higher risk," Farnsworth told the Houston Chronicle for Wednesday's online edition.

London-based oil giant BP Amoco, which last year became the second major petroleum company to own Houston-based Vastar Resources, is now the largest producer in Gulf waters up to 1,500 feet deep.

The company, second only to Shell Oil Co. in production in all Gulf water depths, owns 75 percent and operates both Crazy Horse and Crazy

Horse North fields, with Exxon Mobil owning the remaining 25 percent.

Crazy Horse and Crazy Horse North together will hold estimated reserves in excess of 1.5 billion barrels, according to BP. Company officials have predicted that the Crazy Horse discoveries, among others, will allow them to produce 800,000 barrels a day from the deepwater Gulf over the next decade, compared with current totals of about 150,000 a day.

Dave Blackwood, BP's vice president of deepwater development, said Crazy Horse and Crazy Horse North are expected to be in full production by 2005.

Senate holds confirmation hearings for FEMA nominee

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pledging to work closely with state and local governments to respond to disasters, Joe Allbaugh assured senators Tuesday that he would be a "doer" as President Bush's director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"It's a good fit," Allbaugh said at his confirmation hearing before the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee. "I'm a doer. I consider the agency a 'doing' agency."

FEMA is best known as the agency that provides emergency assistance in the wake of natural disasters. It also administers the National Flood Insurance Program and Project Impact, an effort to develop storm- and flood-resistant communities.

Allbaugh was warmly welcomed by both Democrats and Republicans and is expected to be easily confirmed.

He was Bush's 1994 gubernatorial campaign manager and the former governor's chief of staff, where he oversaw office administration and its relationship with state agencies and legislators.

As Bush's chief of staff in Texas, Allbaugh helped shape the governor's office response to natural disasters such as tornados, floods and hurricanes. He sometimes joined state emergency workers as they surveyed disaster damage.

If confirmed by the Senate, Allbaugh will replace James Lee Witt, who is credited with reviving the agency.

Finally, a president who gets by in another tongue

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush speaks a Tex-Mex kind of Spanish — some of this language, some of that one. Polished, it's not.

Yet as he may show in Mexico this week, he's the first U.S. president reasonably proficient in another language since Herbert Hoover, who once translated a Latin manuscript on mining.

Bush's ability to converse in Spanish is an oddity. The second-language skills of U.S. presidents have declined as America's position in the world has risen.

As leaders in other nations took up English, it became less important for American presidents to speak anything else.

While Bush struggles with Spanish, much like he sometimes stumbles through English, he's doing much better than most native English-speakers in this country, Spanish-speakers say.

It's a handy skill: The Hispanic population is expected to top 34 million next year, surpassing non-Hispanic blacks to become the largest minority group.

"We are now one of the largest Spanish-speaking nations in the world," Bush told Latinos in the campaign. "Yo quiero construir puentes, no paredes." ("I want to build bridges, not walls.")

Not that he's bilingual.

"That would be a stretch," said Lisa Navarrete of the National Council of La Raza, a Hispanic civil rights organization. "Bush's Spanish is very colloquial, with Tex-Mex Spanish and everything else mixed in."

"But he seems much more comfortable in the language than any president we've ever had."

Atlantis astronauts to conduct 100th spacewalk in U.S. history

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Thomas Jones and Robert Curbeam Jr. have a rendezvous with history — just as soon as they go outside.

The two astronauts from space shuttle Atlantis were set Wednesday to begin the 100th spacewalk in U.S. history, continuing a mark first established in 1965 by Edward H. White II.

Jones and Curbeam were to put the finishing touches on the international space station's newly installed science laboratory Destiny and perform some final chores during their historic spacewalk — the third and final of their mission.

The bulk of their mission's objective — to mount and install the \$1.4 billion Destiny on space station Alpha — have been done on their previous spacewalks.

Clinton commotion just keeps going and going and going ...

WASHINGTON (AP) — George Bush did the dishes and walked the dog, Jimmy Carter contemplated his memoirs. Ronald Reagan rode off to the ranch. Most ex-presidents spend their first months out of office quietly, readjusting to private life.

Bill Clinton? Well, it's as if he never left. He's still Topic A on TV talk shows, dominating headlines, attracting jostling crowds and providing mountains of fodder for critics from the right, not to mention an outburst or two from his own party.

"He's larger than life," said Columbia University historian Henry Graff. "He kind of encourages it." The former president was greeted like a rock star Tuesday in New York City when he turned up in Harlem to check out potential office space after his earlier plan to rent an expensive spread in midtown Manhattan drew strong criticism. "We love you!" adoring fans called out.

The Clinton commotion is everywhere. On Capitol Hill, a House committee is expanding its investigation into Clinton's pardon of fugitive financier Marc Rich, and a Senate panel is taking its own look at the pardon. At the White House, work goes on to sort out gifts that Clinton and his wife sent back under fire. There is even theoretical talk about whether Clinton could be impeached again.

The pardon is such a touchy subject that a Democratic senator, Joseph Biden of Delaware, suggested on the Sunday talk-show circuit that Clinton may have been "brain-dead when he did that one."

While other recent ex-presidents waited months before joining the paid lecture circuit, Clinton gave his first paid speech — a \$100,000 appearance at a Morgan Stanley Dean Witter & Co. conference in Florida — barely two weeks after leaving office. Company officials caught so much flak from clients that they apologized. Word surfaced Wednesday that London-based firm UBS Warburg has backed away from having the ex-president speak because of the controversies surrounding him.

For his part, President Bush found himself answering questions yet again Tuesday about his predecessor, and suggested he's coming down with a case of Clinton fatigue.

"My attitude is, it's time to move on," Bush said.

Clinton's "last acts continue to haunt him," said George Washington University historian Leo Ribuffo.

Opinion is divided, however, on how much of the recent controversy Clinton has brought upon himself by ill-thought and clumsy actions and how much of it is generated by vindictive critics who just won't let go.

Clinton spokeswoman Julia Payne complains that Republicans are just "piling on."

Just like old times, former White House spokesman Joe Lockhart was on morning TV on Tuesday defending Clinton and complaining that Republicans have set "a new standard for criticism of ex-presidents."

Ribuffo said the controversies have sticking power because the things Clinton is being criticized for "are so Clintonesque."

It's not as if other ex-presidents haven't popped back into the news — they just usually wait a while. Former President Bush went home to Houston and virtually vanished for a time after ceding the White House to Clinton.

"I am staying away from the head table, for the most part, and I am out of the interview business," Bush wrote two weeks after leaving office.

He described himself as the guy who loads the dishwasher, starts the coffee machine and walks the dogs. He delivered his first paid speech four months after leaving office, but has kept a fairly low profile. "There was something about his upbringing that didn't allow him to want to hog the show," Graff says of Bush, a patrician New Englander.

Reagan signed a book deal and began delivering speeches after his exit from the White House but quickly made it clear that he "genuinely enjoyed retirement" in California, says Ribuffo.

Carter, for his part, went home to Plains, Ga., to nurse his wounds and contemplate what he described as "an altogether new, unwanted and potentially empty life."

Fixing up his home was useful therapy after Reagan defeated him, as was beginning work on his memoirs. Virtually all speaking invitations were declined for months. It was years before the ousted president rebounded to claim his place as a peacemaker in trouble spots around the world and a tireless advocate for housing the poor.

At 54, Clinton is the youngest former president since Theodore Roosevelt. He's settling in New York, which Hillary Rodham Clinton represents in the Senate, because he didn't really have a home to return to. Don't look for him to fade away anytime soon.

As Clinton himself told cheering supporters in a farewell speech on Inauguration Day, "I left the White House, but I'm still here. We're not going anywhere."

On the Net: National Archives Clinton-years site: <http://www.clinton.nara.gov/>

Mother of emaciated man charged in his death

PASADENA, Texas (AP) — The mother of a 33-year-old suburban Houston man who died weighing 88 pounds has been charged with failing to ensure his medical needs were met.

Ambulance workers in Pasadena, southeast of Houston, called police Feb. 1 when they found an emaciated Erich Grammer lying in a fetal position covered with dried feces in the home he shared with his 74-year-old mother, Marcella S. Grammer.

Erich Grammer died Feb. 7 at Columbia Bayshore Medical Center. The Harris County Medical

Examiner's office said gangrene had left his bones exposed and he also suffered from kidney failure, emaciation and open sores.

Authorities charged his mother with failure to obtain necessary medical assistance and injury to the disabled. Officials said Erich Grammer was mentally retarded, had been diagnosed with scoliosis and cerebral palsy and had to use a wheelchair.

An affidavit for the arrest warrant said Marcella Grammer told police she thought she did the best she could to tend to his needs.

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PHS business students observing BPA Week

Pampa High School business students are currently observing Business Professionals of America Week, organizing a variety of activities to promote the celebration, including an open house slated from 7:30 a.m.-10 a.m. Friday in the Vocational Building.

BPA is a national vocational student organization for students preparing for careers in the business world. Its mission is to improve the present-day workforce through the advancement of leadership, citizenship, academic and technological skills of its members at the secondary and post-secondary education level.

Through co-curricular programs and services, members of BPA compete in demonstrations, testing their business and technological skills — thereby developing their professional and leadership skills, teaching each

member to effectively communicate with one another and with professionals across the nation as well as encouraging them to get involved in the betterment of their community through service projects.

For more information about Business Professionals of America or to obtain a part-time business education student through the cooperative program, contact Sherrell Wheeler at the high school.

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