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# Pampa

Vol. 97 No. 216 • Pampa, Texas  
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## Grand jury: No wrongdoing in election

By NANCY YOUNG  
Managing Editor

No wrongdoing was decided by the 31st Judicial District Grand Jury investigation Thursday into allegations of voter tampering in connection with the recent Pampa Economic Development Corporation election.

In a news release issued Thursday by the District Attorney's office and signed by Linda Ellison, the assistant foreperson of the Gray County Grand Jury, it stated, "that absolutely no evidence of any impropriety or illegality has been found."

Subpoenaed by the grand jury in the investigation were three members of the Concerned Citizens group — Jim Terry and his wife, Pat, and Dalton Lewis.

Concerned Citizens was the driving force which circulated a petition to bring the issue of the dissolution of the economic development group to an election

**"The investigation was very thorough in its scope and explored all areas of any impropriety which had been alleged."**

— In press release from  
Gray County grand jurors

duct the investigation. He said Eskridge received the complaint Oct. 30 from a citizen whom he declined to identify.

Eskridge said at the time he had a citizen call him concerning the allegation. He said he called Chief Morris and requested a Texas Ranger be brought in to investigate to determine if any laws had been violated.

The city manager also sent out a letter to all city employees telling them if any pressure was put upon them by anyone connected with the city in regards to the PEDC election that they were to contact Ranger Henderson.

The release signed by Ellison stated, "The investigation was conducted by Texas Gary Henderson, at the direction of the Grand Jury. The investigation was very thorough in its scope and explored all areas of any impropriety which had been alleged."

of the voters. In the Nov. 6 election, 3,190 Pampans cast ballots with those who wanted to dissolve the PEDC coming out on top 1,786 to 1,404.

Also subpoenaed were City Manager Bob Eskridge and Pampa Police Chief Charlie Morris.

The news release stated that the City of Pampa and particularly its manager, Eskridge, and Chief Morris, "acted in a highly professional manner in immediately addressing the allegations of illegal-

ity and in seeking an outside investigation and that no further action regarding this matter is necessary."

On Nov. 1, five days before a special election was held to decide the fate of the PEDC, an investigation was under way into a complaint that one or more city employees had pressure put upon them by supervisory personnel to vote a certain way in the Nov. 6 election.

At that point, Chief Morris called in Texas Ranger Gary Henderson to con-

## Sales tax receipts continue to climb

By KATE B. DICKSON  
Associate Publisher

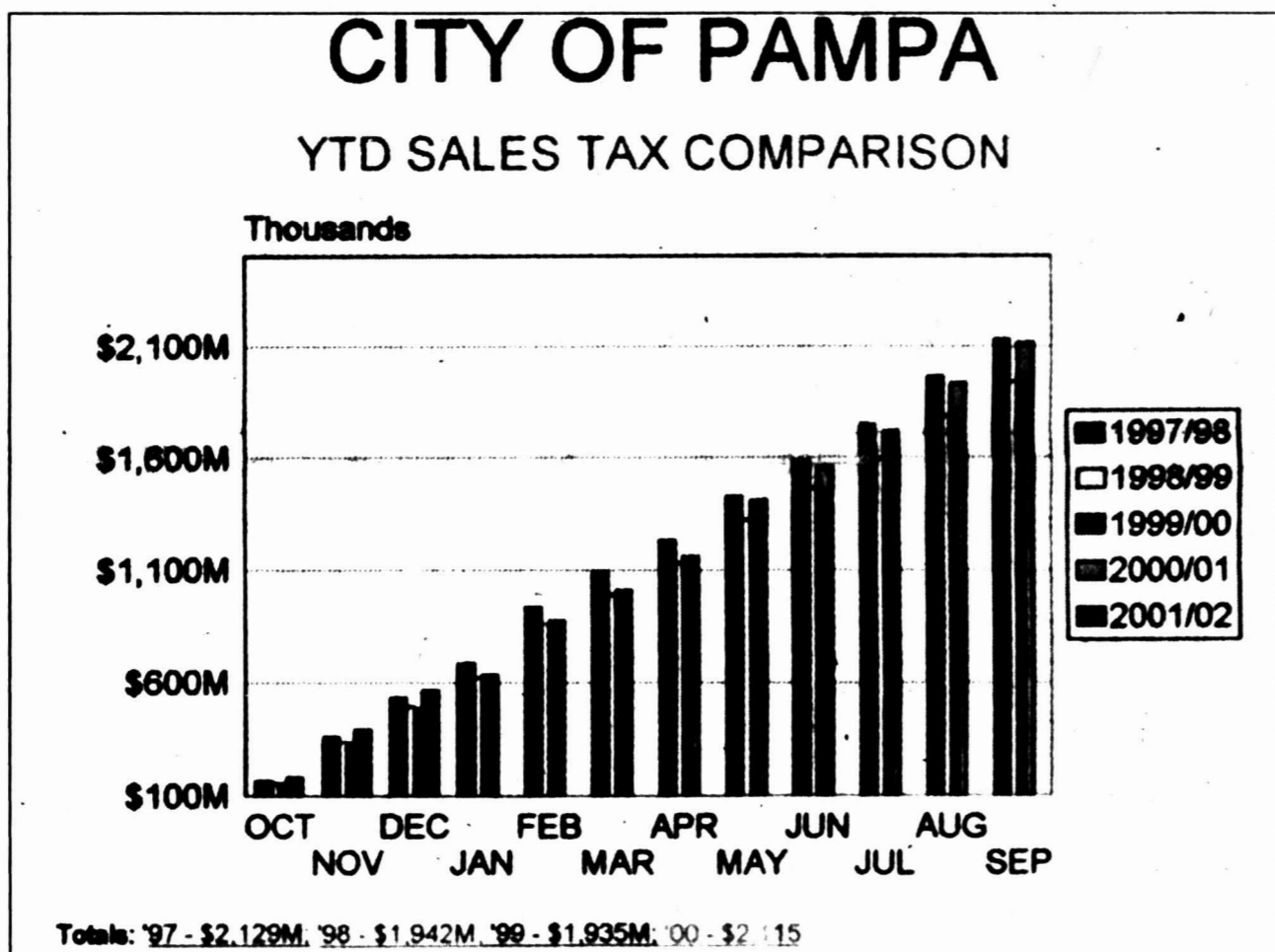
Downtown Business Association President ReDonn Woods said, "For the last several months merchants have offered more discounts than they have in the past and at the same time, consumers are trying to support the Pampa economy."

Woods also said car sales have risen recently in Pampa and elsewhere due to zero interest loans that began being offered after the Sept. 11 terrorist attack.

Horst said he's talked with some local merchants about their sales including one who told the finance director his sales are up 25 percent over last year. Others have told him their sales are about even.

"The only thing I can think of that's increasing the sales tax is there could be more people from the surrounding area shopping in Pampa than going to Amarillo," Horst said today. "I don't have any facts to support this theory but it is certain that more retail dollars are

(See RECEIPTS, page 2)



It's good news for citizens and local merchants again this month as sales tax receipts continue to climb.

The latest report is for sales made during October and it reflects a gain of 16.46 percent over the same time period last year, said City Finance Director John Horst. The number is also 25 percent over what was budgeted.

In all, the city collected \$233,993.80 for October with \$175,495 going to the general fund and \$58,498 due the Pampa Economic Development Corporation.

With three months of sales taxes in the bank so far this fiscal year, the receipts are running 16.78 percent ahead of the same time period last year and 25.40 percent over budget, Horst said.

In dollars to date, \$566,834 has been collected for August, September and October as compared to \$485,390 during the same time period last year.

High, 57  
Low, 33  
For weather details,  
see Page 2.

**Historical commission sets workshop Feb. 20**  
AUSTIN — On Feb. 20 in Amarillo, the Texas Historical Commission will conduct a workshop explaining the application process and requirements for four popular THC programs — the Texas Main Street Program, the Texas Heritage Trails Program, the Certified Local Government Program and the Visionaries in Preservation Program. The three-hour plus workshop will begin at 1 p.m. For more information, contact THC's Community Heritage Development Division at (512) 463-6092.

**DPS: School threat deemed not credible**  
AUSTIN (AP) — The Department of Public Safety said Friday that the vague terrorist threat against an unknown Texas school has been deemed not credible by the FBI.

"At this time, there is no information to suggest that a threat to a Texas school exists," said DPS spokeswoman Tela Mange.

The threat warning was withdrawn Friday morning and Texas law enforcement officials stress that Texas schools are safe, Mange said.

State officials and the FBI alerted schools throughout Texas on Wednesday that the vague threat suggested two people may retaliate against an unknown Texas school for the U.S. bombing in Afghanistan.

- Michael T. Cornelison, 18, college student.
- Nelce Laverne Johnson, 64, former Pampian.
- Eddie O. Woolsey Reed, 89, homemaker.
- Dorothy Sikes, 80, homemaker.

- Classified .....13
- Comics .....10
- Religion .....7
- Sports .....11

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## Clean Pampa to sponsor 'Chipping of the Greens'

Clean Pampa, Inc. is sponsoring the "Chipping of the Greens" again this year for the Christmas tree recycling. The date — 9 a.m., Jan. 19 at Warner-Horton Supply parking lot.

The safe and efficient method of Christmas tree disposal is designed to save valuable landfill space, eliminate fire hazards by prompt removal, enable the solid waste department of the city to concentrate on increased residential refuse and reduce solid waste operational costs.

The city side-loader trucks are only able to pick up dumpsters and not designed to pick up the left-over Christmas trees, so please do not put the trees in

alleys or alley dumpsters.

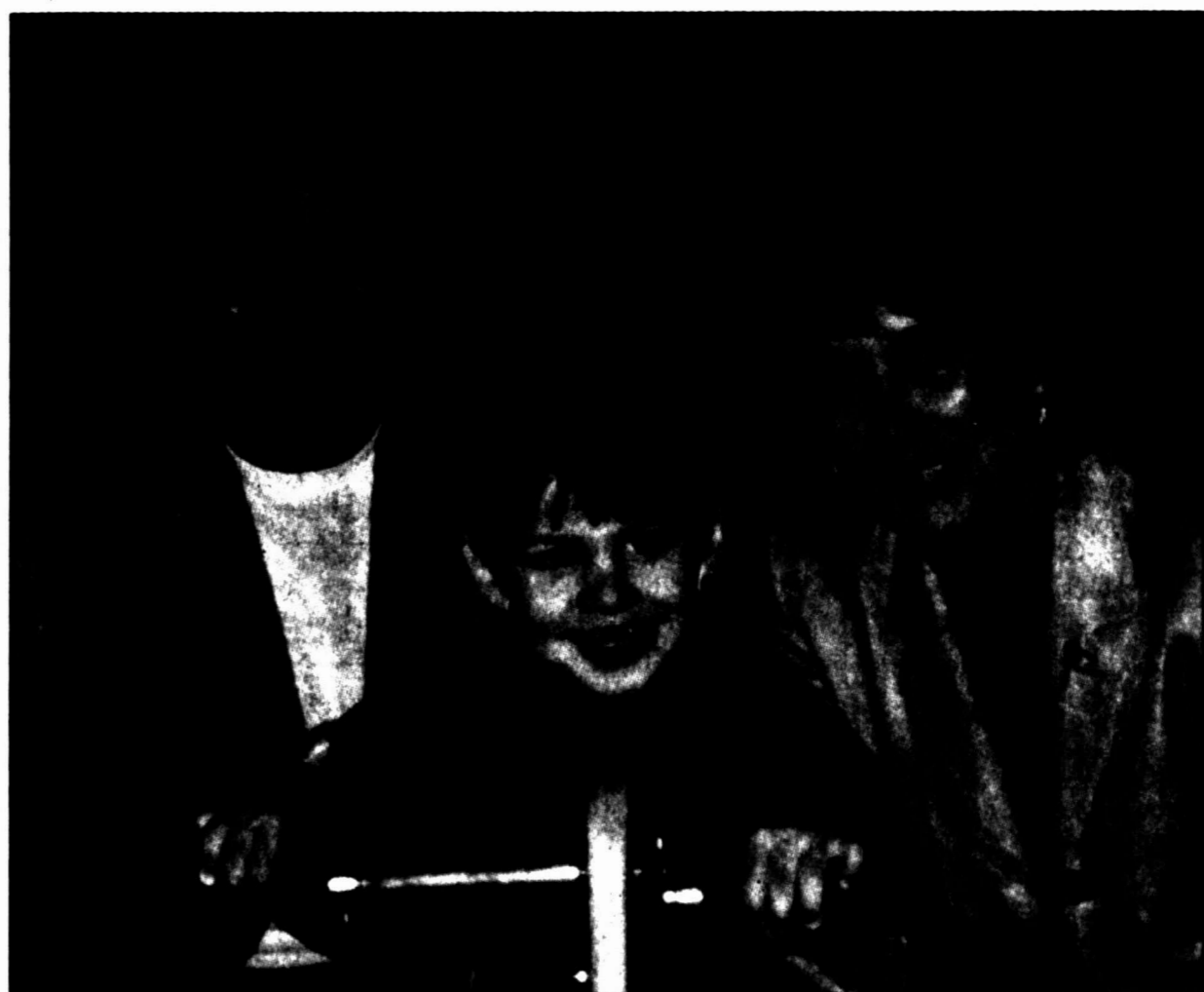
After Dec. 26, people are invited to bring their Christmas trees, completely stripped of ornaments, to the parking lot at Warner-Horton Supply, 900 N. Duncan. Place trees away from driveway entrances where the designated barricades are located.

The trees will be chipped into mulch and will be available, free of charge, across the street from Hobart Street Park.

"Chipping of the Greens" is free, but Clean Pampa, Inc. accepts donations.

For more information, call Clean Pampa, Inc., at 665-2514.

## Gift of mobility



Flanked by Jeff and Linda Booth of Lone Star Construction in Amarillo, 4-year-old Hassan Nichols of Pampa is all smiles as he tries out his new AmTryke. Lone Star and an anonymous Pampa donor made it possible for Hassan to receive the therapeutic tricycle for children with disabilities. Hassan is the son of Stewart and Karina Nichols. The AmTryke can be powered by hands, feet, or both, creating an opportunity for independence for these children. The Southwest Chapter of AMBUCS in Amarillo sponsors the AmTryke Ambility Program. To learn more about the program, call Jeff Booth at 806-355-8112.

## Traffic flow needed for decision

The city's Traffic Commission is awaiting recent traffic flow figures for 25th Street from Duncan east before deciding upon a signage recommendation to send the City Commission.

That's according to Doug Locke, chairman of the traffic commission, who said the issue of traffic flow there was revisited at the Thursday night meeting.

Previously, the traffic commission authorized a temporary signage change to test 25th Street being a through street, he said. Once the November traffic flow numbers are in hand they will be compared to the study to be made during the temporary change.

Jim Braxton told the Commission he wants to keep the current traffic patterns, Locke said.

At the previous meeting, multiple residents of the area said they want to change the traffic flow so that 25th Street will be more a through street with the north/south streets having stop/yield signs.



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# Judge orders man indicted in terrorist attacks sent for trial

By LARRY NEUMEISTER  
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Four men who quickly became FBI targets in the days following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks appeared before judges, but only one was facing charges related to terrorism.

In one courtroom Thursday, a Virginia man whose phone number was found inside a car registered to one of the hijackers pleaded guilty to forgery. In another, two men arrested with boxcutters on a train the day after the attacks were charged with conspiring to commit credit card fraud.

Only Zacarias Moussaoui, a 33-year-old Frenchman who has been jailed since August, stands charged in the Sept. 11 attacks. He was denied bail Thursday and ordered sent to Alexandria, Va., for trial.

Moussaoui walked into U.S. District Court in Manhattan in handcuffs and shackles. He didn't enter a plea and only nodded in the direction of Judge Barbara Jones when she asked if he understood his rights.

After Moussaoui's indictment Tuesday on six conspiracy charges, four of them punishable by death, Attorney General John Ashcroft described him as an "active participant" in the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon that left 3,200 people dead or missing.

The indictment said Moussaoui's activities mirrored those of the 19 hijackers as he attended flight school, opened a bank account with cash, bought flight deck videos and looked into crop dusting planes. He was detained Aug. 17 on immigration charges after he aroused suspicion trying to pay cash for flight lessons in Minnesota.

Jones denied him bail, saying: "There are no conditions or combination of conditions that would safeguard the community."

Moussaoui's court-appointed lawyer, Donald DuBois, accused the government of failing to properly identify his client, declining to pay a \$40-per-day material-witness fee to his client and improperly videotaping his attorney-client confer-

ences. His client wanted to donate the daily material witness payments to the orphans of Chechnya, he said later.

The attorney also asked the judge to keep Moussaoui in New York at least another day because a lawyer was flying from France to meet with him, but the judge declined. Details of the transfer were not released.

Moussaoui's arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 2 on conspiracy charges for terrorism, aircraft piracy, destruction of aircraft, use of weapons of mass destruction, murder and destruction of property. The indictment says Moussaoui worked with 23 co-conspirators to murder thousands.

Asked if his client feared the potential death penalty, the lawyer said, "He's not scared." He said Moussaoui was facing threats and harsh physical treatment in jail, and had protested his conditions.

In another courtroom, in Alexandria, Va., Mohamed Abdi, whose first name and phone number were found on a map in a hijacker's car left at Dulles International Airport, pleaded guilty Thursday to forgery for signing his landlord's name on a \$220 rental subsidy check.

Abdi, a Somali native and naturalized U.S. citizen, "may be a witness to the most heinous crime ever perpetrated on America," prosecutor Rob Spencer has said. Abdi has never been charged in the attacks.

Attorney Joseph Bowman said Abdi "has been beating his brains out to figure out how his name and phone number ended up in that car." He said the map may have been left in a car Abdi donated to the Salvation Army.

In the case of the two men detained Sept. 12 after they were found with boxcutters on an Amtrak train in Fort Worth, Texas, a law enforcement source told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity Wednesday that investigators no longer believe they were connected to the attacks.

The two were charged Thursday with conspiring to commit credit card fraud. The criminal complaint identifies one as Syed Gul Mohammed Shah, with an alias of Ayub Ali Khan, the name that has appeared in published reports.

## Coats for Kindness



(Courtesy photo by Debra Lindsey)

Second grade students from Travis Elementary collected more than 80 coats and blankets for the Good Samaritan House in Pampa. James Richardson, volunteer for Good Sam's accepted the coats. Pictured are, back row, James Richardson, Janie Street, Chelsey McCallum, Blake Sark, Miranda Patterson, Reid Miller, Jose Cabrales, and Raegann Roden. Front row, Kolbi Furgason, Brittany McCallum, Calysta Cook, Taylor Smith and Braden Russell.

## Texas Round Up

### Education secretary urges schools to be vigilant

HOUSTON (AP) — With Texas schools still on alert after a terrorist threat, an adviser to U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige is urging parents to make sure an emergency plan exists where their children attend classes.

Paige said Thursday that schools, which formerly had to heighten their security to protect students from internal threats involving other pupils bent on committing mass shootings, have a broader challenge since Sept. 11. "Not only must we deal with the Columbine and Paducah and Jonesboro type issues," Paige said, "but now you have the terrorism situation stacked on top of it."

That's where an emergency management plan such as that maintained by counties comes into play, said former Houstonian Eric Andell, Paige's adviser on safety issues in the Department of Education.

"The schools alone," said Andell, a former state appellate judge and juvenile judge in Houston, "can't protect the schools."

On Wednesday, the FBI and state officials announced what they called a potential "low-level" and "vague" threat that two peo-

ple may retaliate against an unknown Texas school for the U.S. bombing in Afghanistan.

No reports of any incidents or pranks were received Thursday by authorities after the unverified threat, but they noted that campus security remained on alert statewide.

### Schedule for shuttle return unaltered by navigation glitch

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — NASA says a malfunction with a navigation device on space shuttle Endeavour shouldn't affect plans calling for the ship to leave the international space station on Saturday and return to Earth early next week.

One of three inertial measurement units on the shuttle started having problems early Thursday, setting off an alarm in the cockpit after the astronauts had gone to bed. It was taken off-line and another unit took over.

The unit in question appears to be working normally now but it's not being used until engineers figure out what caused the malfunction, flight director Wayne Hale said. An intermittent electrical failure in circuitry might be to blame.

"Failure of any one (unit) is not an impact to the mission dura-

tion," Hale said. "We expect to have a full normal mission duration (and) landing on Monday."

The shuttle only needs one of the units to fly but having two that work properly is preferred so there is a backup available, Hale said.

But if another were to fail — considered highly unlikely — the shuttle would be forced to return to Earth.

Meanwhile, space station Alpha's outgoing crew on Thursday continued preparing for its return home aboard Endeavour after having spent the last four months on the orbiting outpost.

### Fort Bend Democrat cites election incidents in complaint

HOUSTON (AP) — Citing what she calls irregularities during the Houston mayoral runoff election, the chairwoman of the Fort Bend County Democratic Party has asked the U.S. Justice Department to investigate.

A small portion of southwest Houston juts into Fort Bend County, and those neighborhoods are predominantly black. Lee Brown, the city's first black mayor, carried the precincts by an overwhelming margin in winning the Dec. 1 runoff.

## A FEAST OF HOLIDAY BARGAINS

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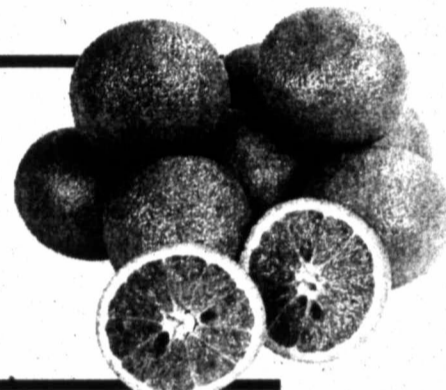
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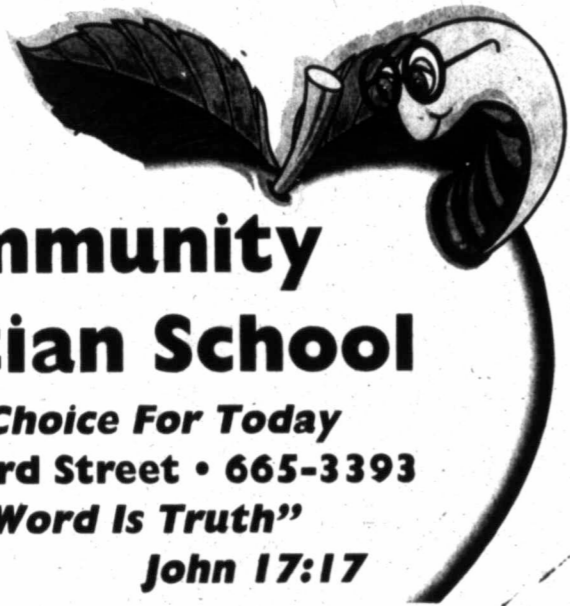


# ON THE FAMILY

**DR. JAMES DOBSON** is a psychologist, author and president of Focus on the Family, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of the home.



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**Q** Philosophically, I recognize the need to take charge of my kids, but I'd like more specifics. Give me a step-by-step approach to discipline that will help me do the job correctly.

**A** Let me outline six broad guidelines that I think you'll be able to apply. These principles represent the essence of my philosophy of discipline.

First: Define the boundaries before they are enforced. The most important step in any disciplinary procedure is to establish reasonable expectations and boundaries in advance. The child should know what is and what is not acceptable behavior before he is held responsible for those rules. This precondition will eliminate the sense of injustice that a youngster feels when he is punished for his accidents, mistakes and blunders. If you haven't defined it, don't enforce it.

Second: When you are defiantly challenged, respond with confident decisiveness. Once a child understands what is expected, she should then be held accountable for behaving accordingly. That sounds easy, but as we have seen, most children will assault the authority of their elders and challenge their right to lead. In a moment of rebellion, a little child will consider her parents' instructions and defiantly chose to disobey. Like a military general before a battle, she will calculate the potential risk, marshal her forces, and attack the enemy with guns blazing.

When that nose-to-nose confrontation occurs between generations, it is extremely important for the adult to win decisively and confidently. The child has made it clear that she's looking for a fight, and her parents would be wise not to disappoint her!

Nothing is more destructive to parental leadership than for a mother or father to disintegrate during that struggle. When the parent consistently loses those battles, resorting to tears and screaming and other evidence of frustration, some dramatic changes take place in the way they are "seen" by their children. Instead of being secure and confident leaders, they become spineless jellyfish who are unworthy of respect or allegiance.

Third: Distinguish between willful defiance and childish irresponsibility. A child should not be punished for behavior that is not willfully defiant. When he forgets to feed the dog or make his bed or take out the trash-when he leaves your tennis racket outside in the rain or loses his bicycle-remember that these behaviors are typical of childhood. It is the mechanism by which an immature mind is protected from adult anxieties and pressures.

Be gentle as you teach him to do better. If he fails to respond to your patient instruction, it then becomes appropriate to administer some well-deserved consequences (he may have to work to pay for the item he abused or be deprived of its use, etc.). Just remember that childish irresponsibility is very different from willful defiance, and should be handled more patiently.

Fourth: Reassure and teach as soon as the confrontation is over. After a time of conflict during which the parent has demonstrated his or her right to lead (particularly if it resulted in tears for the child), the youngster between 2 and 7 (or older) may want to be loved and reassured. By all means, open your arms and let her come! Hold her close and tell her of your love. Rock her gently and let her know, again, why she was punished and how she can avoid the trouble next time. This moment of communication builds love, fidelity, and family unity.

Fifth: Avoid impossible demands. Be absolutely sure that your child is capable of delivering what you require. Never punish him for wetting the bed involuntarily or for not becoming potty-trained by 1 year of age, or for doing poorly in school when he is incapable of academic success. These impossible demands put the child in an irresolvable conflict: There is no way out. That condition brings inevitable damage to human emotional apparatus.

Sixth: Let love be your guide! A relationship that is characterized by genuine love and affection is likely to be a healthy one, even though some parental mistakes and errors are inevitable.

Dr. Dobson is president of the nonprofit organization Focus on the Family; P.O. Box 444, Colorado Springs, CO. 80903; or [www.family.org](http://www.family.org) Questions and answers are excepted from "Solid Answers," published by Tyndale House.

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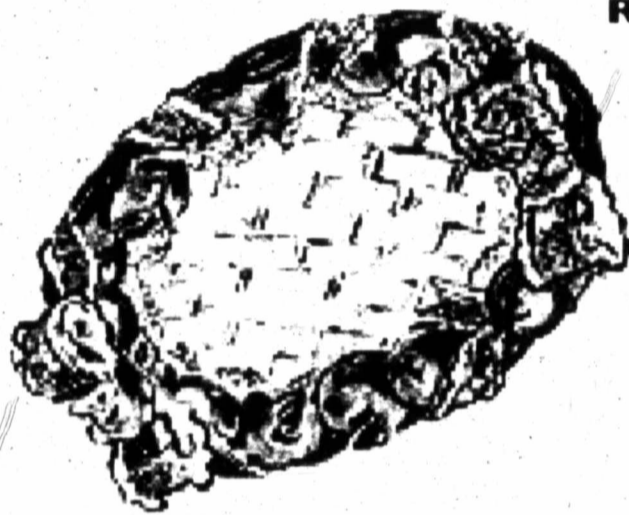
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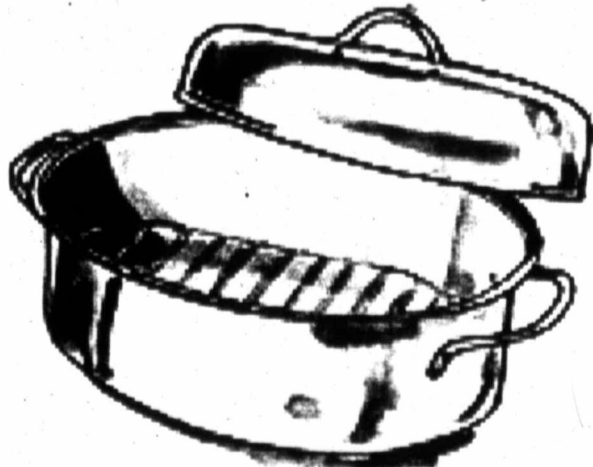
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Harold & Wendy Eggert.....1435 N. Sumner  
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Highland Baptist Church  
Paul Nachtigall, Pastor.....1301 N. Banks  
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Rev. Thomas J. Patterson.....912 S. Gray  
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Rev. Heiodoro Silva.....1541 Hamilton  
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Rev. Bob Davis.....836 S. Gray  
Trinity Baptist Church (McLean)  
Pastor: James Mantooth. 603 Commerce St.

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St. Mary's (Groom)  
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St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church  
Father John Valdez.....810 W. 23rd

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## Church of Christ

Central Church of Christ  
Dan Chaney, Minister.....500 N. Somerville

Church of Christ (Lefors)  
Rick Pierce.....215 E. 3rd

## Church of Christ

Tim Walkar, Pulpit Minister  
.....Mary Ellen & Harvester  
Church of Christ (Groom)  
Delton McGuire.....101 Newcome  
Church of Christ (McLean)  
Jim Reyna.....4th and Clarendon St.  
Church of Christ (White Deer)  
Don Stone.....501 Doucette  
McCullough Street Church of Christ  
Frankie L. Lemons, Minister 738 McCullough  
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## First United Methodist Church (White Deer)

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Rev. Jim Teeter.....311 E. 5th. Lefors  
St. Marks Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
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St. Paul United Methodist Church  
Rev. Jim Teeter.....511 N. Hobart

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Pastor Agustin Vasquez.....500 N. Duncan  
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Redeeming Grace Mission  
Liz Sculthrop, Mission Pastor..422 West St.  
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Patricia Steward.....S. Cuyler at Thut  
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Lonny Robbins, Pastor.....1200 S. Sumner

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Rev. Ben Corbitt, Pastor.....610 Naida  
First Pentecostal Holiness Church  
Rev. Albert Maggard.....1700 Alcock  
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Music Makers of several (Shaun) portray

## Cand

The soft glow will bathe the Pentecostal H 1700 Alcock, d Christmas cand at 6 p.m. Sunda A longtime inspiring time tures devotiona musical selection a groups from t Organized a "The Light of program was fi Mary Maggard tuned it from ye In some year

## Storie

HOUSTON — Segal certainly w prayer. He knew it g together in a con and support. Bu seemed a sterile t Then in 1981 was shot in the H dead in a gas stat As he sat in the room facing bleak son's condition, prayer. "I think praye very theoretical th he said. "But here the ground and the mud and I gu over. When you a and turn over, w You see the stars. The story of

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# RELIGION

## 'Christmas at Calvary' present to community

There's a "song in the air" this Christmas at Calvary Baptist Church, 900 E. 23rd. "Christmas At Calvary," an evening of Christmas music presented by the music department at Calvary Baptist Sunday night, Dec. 16, at 6 p.m. in the church's worship center. Theme of the program is how music is interwoven into the Christmas season, especially Christmas carols. The program even allows the audience to enjoy Christmas music performed by children and preschoolers. The choirs consist of a Preschool Choir, two Children's Choirs, and the Adult Choir. In addition, "Shekinah Glory," an ensemble of eight adults, will sing several selections during the program.

Christmas at Calvary will also include drama that involves children, Sandy Crosswhite, and a live nativity scene. Calvary Christmas Orchestra, directed by Jason Jones, will accompany several of the choir selections, in addition to playing by themselves. The 20-piece orchestra is made up of Calvary Baptist Church musicians and Pampa High School band members. Highlight of the evening will be the finale, performed by the adult choir and orchestra. They will join together to conclude the evening with a stirring arrangement of the "Hallelujah Chorus," from Handel's *Messiah*. "Christmas at Calvary" is free to the public. Seating will be on a "first come" basis.



Music Makers Choir (1st - 3rd grade) sing in last year's "Christmas At Calvary." The choir will be one of several performing again this year. Inset, the Hon family (left to right: Jennie, Trey, & Shaun) portray Mary, Joseph, and the baby Jesus in last year's "Christmas At Calvary."

## Candlelight service open to all

The soft glow of candlelight will bathe the sanctuary of First Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock, during its annual Christmas candlelighting service at 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16. A longtime tradition, the inspiring time of worship features devotional statements and musical selections by individuals or groups from the congregation. Organized around the theme, "The Light of the World," the program was first developed by Mary Maggard, who has fine-tuned it from year to year. In some years, the speaking

parts have been done by the ladies. On other occasions, men have handled this responsibility. In some presentations the youth of the church perform the program. Through all these variations, the basic theme has been maintained for the past two decades. The service continues to be one of the highlights of the Christmas season. Audience involvement adds an interesting feature to the service. Before the conclusion, all lights in the sanctuary are turned off and the only illumination is

from the glow of candles held by everyone present. With all the rush and stress of the busy Christmas season, the service provides a time of meditation and chance to remember the "Light of the World" who came to Earth that first Christmas, bringing the light of life to a world in darkness. Pastors Albert and Mary Maggard join with the congregation in declaring this service the church's Christmas gift to the community. They extend an invitation for everyone to attend.

### Singles Ministry plans New Year's Eve dinner, dance

AMARILLO — Singles Ministry of Paramount Terrace Christian Church, 4000 Mays, plans an area-wide Singles New Year's Eve dinner and dance at the Amarillo Civic Center Grand Plaza. The event begins at 7 p.m. and will continue until 12 a.m., Dec. 31. Dress will be church attire to semi-formal. A photographer will be available at 6:30 for personal photos. The evening includes a guest speaker, dinner and dance in an alcohol- and smoke-free atmosphere. Deadline for purchasing tickets is Saturday, Dec. 22. For more information and ticket prices, contact Penny Lawlis or Mike Nuthman at Paramount Terrace Christian Church, 353-6615.

## Stories in rabbi's book run from tragic to funny

HOUSTON — As a rabbi, Jack Segal certainly was no stranger to prayer. He knew it gathered people together in a community of faith and support. But sometimes it seemed a sterile topic, he said. Then in 1981 his son Michael was shot in the head and left for dead in a gas station robbery. As he sat in the hospital waiting room facing bleak news about his son's condition, Segal turned to prayer. "I think prayer was to me a very theoretical thing" until then, he said. "But here I was down on the ground and my face was in the mud and I guess I just turned over. When you are on the ground and turn over, what do you see? You see the stars." The story of how Michael

recovered well enough to graduate with honors from the University of Texas and eventually become a social worker in a Houston hospital opens Segal's new book, *When Man Closes Doors, God Opens Windows*. Segal started the book after he retired as senior rabbi of Congregation Beth Yeshurun in Houston in 1996. The book's 24 stories run from the tragic to the humorous and are taken from Segal's life as well as his years of experience as a rabbi, 32 of them at Beth Yeshurun.

"In this book are stories you would never imagine happening to a rabbi," said Segal, who continues to serve the congregation as rabbi emeritus. After serving as the rabbi of Congregation Beth Yeshurun and in his role as rabbi emeritus, Segal has developed an unofficial fan club of sorts. "For members of the congregation, he was there during important life events such as births, deaths and marriages," said Terry Rubin, a member of Congregation Beth Yeshurun.

In the 16 years she has known Segal, he has shared stories and jokes with the congregation, Rubin said. Though often funny and sometimes repeated, the tales also served a pedagogical purpose, she said. By the time the stories were about his son's shooting, the congregation had learned some of the lessons. "When he cried, the congregants cried with him," Rubin said. "I think the congregation was able to offer support in this time because we learned from him how to do that."

**Let's Talk Real Estate**

by **Jim Davidson**  
Realtor  
WHAT BUYERS WANT

For many buyers, the decision to move is often prompted by the desire for more bedrooms. Whether the extra bedroom is used for sleeping, a guest room, an exercise room, a child's playroom, or hobby room/office, buyers want the versatility that the extra space affords them. With this in mind, sellers are encouraged to purge their homes of clutter to free up as many rooms as possible that could qualify as bedrooms. As for the master bedroom, most prefer to have it separated from the home's other sleeping quarters. And while the kitchen continues to remain the focus of a majority of buyers, many are placing increasing emphasis on such exterior features as a porch, deck and patio.

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# Attack bodes ill for India-Pakistan relations

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Relations between India and Pakistan were already dismal before the terrorist attack on India's Parliament building. Now they may be in a downward spiral.

Though few have publicly blamed Pakistan for the suicide attack that claimed 12 lives Thursday, there is concern it will increase tension between the nuclear rivals.

"It can't get worse, short of war," said K.P.S. Gill, one of India's leading anti-terrorism experts.

Predictions were just as grim across the border.

"Relations between the two countries will nose-dive further," said Riffat Hussain, chairman of defense and strategic studies at Quaid-e-Azam University in Islamabad. "If they don't accuse Pakistan, they have no one else to blame but themselves."

Gunmen with explosives stormed the red sandstone complex and began firing in what has been called the worst breach of state security since the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1984.

Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee vowed revenge.

"Now the fight against terrorism has reached its last phase. We will fight a decisive battle to the end," Vajpayee told the nation.

Vajpayee and India's senior leaders on Thursday were careful not to even whisper blame against Pakistan, with whom India has fought three wars since independence from Britain in 1947.

But by Friday, many other Indians were pointing straight at Pakistan and Afghanistan, and to the al-Qaida terrorism network blamed for the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks against the United States.

"For long, we have waited for Pakistan to stop aiding terrorism in this country," said Vijay Kumar Malhotra, a senior leader of Vajpayee's party and member of Parliament. "India should attack and destroy the terrorist camps in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir."

India has long accused Pakistan, today a key U.S. ally in its global war on terrorism, of fomenting terrorism by training and supporting the Islamic militants who have waged a 12-year insurgency in the disputed Himalayan province of Kashmir. The Islamic separatists are fighting for an independent Kashmir or a merger with Muslim Pakistan. Islamabad insists it offers the "freedom

fighters" only moral and diplomatic support.

India blamed Pakistan for the suicide attack that killed 40 people at the Kashmir state legislature on Oct. 1. A Pakistan-based militant group claimed credit, then later denied involvement.

Pakistan's military leader, President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, was quick to condemn the attacks on Thursday.

"I was shocked to learn about the attack earlier today by armed intruders," Musharraf said. "I have been saddened by the loss of life and the injuries suffered by Indian security personnel in the attack."

But two words in Musharraf's

statement — calling the attackers "armed intruders" instead of "terrorists" — raised eyebrows and suspicion in New Delhi on Friday.

Pramod Mahajan, India's parliamentary affairs minister, was asked if the attackers were from Pakistan.

"General Musharraf called them 'armed intruders.' He was not even ready to use the word 'terrorists,'" Mahajan told Star News TV. "That should be enough to answer your question."

Kanti Bajpai, a professor of disarmament at Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi, said Musharraf made a grave error.

"Musharraf should call them terrorists," he said. "His statement, that's asking for trouble."

Bajpai noted that India blames Pakistan for having supported the Taliban, which harbored the al-Qaida terrorism network blamed for the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States. He expects India to retaliate against Pakistan.

"They may take their time over it, to show the world that they did it with due process, but I think the chances are pretty high," he said.

J.N. Dixit, a former foreign secretary and high commissioner to Pakistan, said Thursday's strike should be a warning to the United States that its global war on terrorism had failed in India.

## Festival of Trees



(Community Camera photo)

Clara Quarry of Pampa Garden Club shows off the tree PGC recently entered in the annual Festival of Trees.

## EU summit in Brussels to launch reform talks

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — From the war in Afghanistan to last-minute preparations for the euro single currency, European Union leaders face a range of pressing issues at a summit that opened Friday.

The gathering in the royal palace at Laeken — a suburb of Brussels — will also launch a fresh round of

reform talks to prepare the 15-nation bloc for the impending expansion of the Union to 27 members within the next decade.

The government leaders will also try to finalize plans to equip the EU with its own 60,000-strong military force to give it more clout on the world stage.

Officials expect the two-day sum-

mit to go into overtime as other international issues, including the Balkans and Afghanistan, occupy the majority of work on the first day.

"Its agenda is a particularly heavy one and should see us take important decisions for the immediate and longer-term future of our Union," Belgian Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt, who will chair the summit, said in his invitation letter to his European colleagues.

EU leaders will also discuss lingering problems surrounding the introduction of euro coins and notes, which will come into circulation Jan. 1.

First on the agenda and most urgent to many, will be bolstering coordination to fight terrorism and hunt down suspects wanted for the Sept. 11 attacks on New York and the Pentagon.

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi had objected to the considerable range of crimes covered by a proposed EU-wide arrest warrant. But he finally ceded this week to pressure from his partners to accept the new warrant, which is expected to come into effect by 2004.

## Israeli troops enter West Bank following air raids

By MARK LAVIE  
Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM (AP) — Six Palestinians were killed early Friday during Israeli incursions into West Bank villages, following two days of Israeli air strikes in retaliation for Palestinian attacks, jeopardizing a U.S. truce mission.

U.S. envoy Anthony Zinni met with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon late Thursday, seeking clarifications about how an Israeli Security Cabinet decision to stop contacts with Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Authority will affect his cease-fire talks.

Early Friday, Israeli tanks and troops moved into three large West Bank villages — Dura, near Hebron, and Salfit and Assira Ashmalia, near Nablus. Israeli forces searched the villages and made arrests. Six Palestinian policemen were killed in clashes in Salfit, Palestinian doctors said.

The Israelis arrested 20 people in Salfit and 10 in Dura, Palestinian security officials said. Salfit is in a Palestinian-controlled area. Dura and Assira Ashmalia are under joint Israel-Palestinian control. The Israelis destroyed two houses in Salfit, Palestinians said.

In a statement, the Israeli military said soldiers exchanged fire with armed Palestinians in Salfit, killing five and wounding four and making arrests. In Assira Ashmalia, the military said it arrested 13 Palestinians. The statement said Israeli forces warned Palestinian security before the incursions and also arrested a Hamas activist in Dura and another in Hebron.

In Gaza, Palestinians said Israeli tanks and bulldozers entered a refugee camp across from a bloc of Israeli settlements and destroyed 10 houses and a factory. Three people were hurt, one seriously. The Israeli military said its forces destroyed a number of buildings to reduce gunfire at the settlements.

Arafat aide Nabil Abu Rdenah charged that Israel is trying to sabotage international peace efforts. "This is a comprehensive war against the Palestinian people, its elected leadership and the peace process," he said.

On Thursday, Israeli warplanes and helicopters blasted Palestinian security buildings for

the second day in a row, retaliation for Palestinian attacks Wednesday that killed 10 Israelis and wounded 30.

Palestinians said a police medical facility was hit in one strike. Doctors said 15 people were injured, none seriously.

Helicopters fired missiles at a security building next to a mosque, where windows were shattered from the blast. Witnesses said Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, the spiritual leader of the militant Hamas, and the group's spokesman, Mahmoud Zahar, were in the mosque at the time. They were not hurt.

Yassin was supposed to be under house arrest since Dec. 6, part of Arafat's announced crackdown on militant groups. The arrest triggered a clash between Palestinian police and Hamas supporters, in which a protester was killed.

Later, Palestinian officials said Yassin, a quadriplegic, had agreed to abide by the terms of the house arrest, and police were withdrawn.

Yassin's attending a mosque Thursday was concrete evidence backing up statements from Palestinian officials, who said they could not continue their operations against the militants because of the Israeli strikes. Arafat aide Nabil Abu Rdenah called the strikes an Israeli "declaration of war."

Palestinians also suspended a day-old order closing all offices of Hamas and Islamic Jihad, radical Islamic groups that have claimed responsibility for dozens of bombings, including suicide attacks, that have killed scores of Israelis and injured hundreds.

Responding to the Wednesday attacks, the Israeli air force pounded Palestinian buildings as the Security Cabinet declared that Arafat was "directly responsible" for the attacks and cut off all contact with him and the Palestinian Authority.

That put Zinni on the spot. Since his arrival on Nov. 26, he has been meeting with Arafat, Sharon and other officials, trying to arrange a truce to end more than 14 months of fighting. Since he arrived, 60 Palestinians and 44 Israelis have been killed. The Palestinian toll included 19 armed attackers and 10 suicide bombers.

## TV soap opera about polygamist rocks Arab world, angers women

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Hajj Metwalli has three wives and is considering a fourth. He's happy, his wives consider themselves lucky, and the soap opera about their fictional lives has set off a debate across the Arab world about polygamy, Islam and love.

The daily drama, "The Family of Hajj Metwalli," was the most watched program on Egyptian television and drew wide audiences on at least 12 other Arab channels during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, traditionally a stage for splashy TV shows.

Islam allows men to take up to four wives on the condition that he treat each equally. But critics argue that being fair to four women is impossible outside Metwalli's charmed and fictional life.

Those who consider the show fantasy find it amusing. Many women are angry, while some men envy Metwalli.

Yehia Khalil, an Egyptian jazz musician, is no fan. He didn't like the idea of Metwalli's lifestyle dominating the small screen during Ramadan, when families are glued to their TV sets more than the rest of the year.

"We don't need this backward idea that money buys everything, including women. There was no mention of love in those marriages," Khalil said.

Mustafa Moharam, the series' script writer, said he was happy he had succeeded in getting people talking.

"I wanted to throw a stone in stagnant waters, I meant to push people to think and discuss relations between husbands and wives and the controversial issue of polygamy," Moharam said.

He added he wanted to encourage marriage, as he believes that the number of single people from both sexes is alarming.

"Unmarried women suffer much more than the first, the second or even the third wife," Moharam said.

His Metwalli is a rich fabrics merchant in his late 50s. The wives dance at each others' weddings and live in harmony in the same building — albeit in separate luxury apartments Metwalli visits according to a strict schedule.

"I'm very upset because this series is forging religious consciousness, deforming the value of marriage, and humiliating women by presenting them as objects and slaves," said Zeinab Radwan, who teaches religion at Cairo University.

"Are we promoting the culture of the harem at the beginning of the 21st century? What is this backwardness?" wrote leftist journalist Farida Al-Naqash.

Nowadays, polygamy is uncommon in Arab and Islamic countries. It is legal in countries including Egypt and Saudi Arabia, but banned in Tunisia and Turkey.

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WASHING Congress long-awaited bill that gives missile defense in two decades.

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# Congress sends Bush \$343 billion defense bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress sent President Bush a long-awaited \$343 billion defense bill that gives full funding to his missile defense program while providing the largest military pay raise in two decades and a round of base closures.

An impasse caused by strong opposition to Bush's call for more base closings delayed the bill for a month. Congress ultimately agreed to one round in 2005; two years later than Bush wanted.

The vote in the House on Thursday was 382-40, followed several hours later by a 96-2 vote in the Senate.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, who threatened to recommend a veto if the bill did not include a base-closing round in 2003, would not say Thursday whether the 2005 round in the legislation would allay that threat. "I'm going to have to sleep on that," he told reporters at the Pentagon.

The defense legislation authorizes spending by the Defense Department and military efforts of the Energy Department for the budget year that began Oct. 1. It contains a \$33 billion increase, up 10.6 percent, over 2001 spending, matching Bush's request. A separate appropriations bill must be passed before the money can actually be spent.

In another action Thursday, the Senate unanimously gave final approval by voice vote to the intelligence authorization bill approved Wednesday by the House, sending that to Bush as well.

The intelligence bill places new emphasis on human spy networks and increased analysis of raw data, and calls for an increase of about 8 percent in spending. The actual spending on intelligence has generally been kept secret but has been estimated at about \$30 billion for the past few years.

Under the defense bill, military service members would get a minimum 5 percent across-the-board pay raise — a 10 percent increase in some cases — effective Jan. 1. "The most generous pay raise in 20 years" was the assessment of Rep. Bob Stump, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee.

The bill provides more help with housing costs and a major boost in construction spending, including

improvements to family housing. "Halfway around the globe, thousands of sons and daughters are engaged in a noble cause against the forces of evil and intolerance," said Stump, R-Ariz. He said the bill provides the necessary resources and tools to accomplish that task and ensure they come home safely.

Yet the bill also "has something in it to disappoint virtually everyone involved," said Stump, who opposed base closings. Like other opponents, he opposed shutdowns while the nation is both at war and mired in an economic slump.

Rumsfeld pushed hard for a base-closing round in 2003, saying it could save \$3 billion or more a year that could be spent on essential military activities. He criticized the legislation Thursday.

The Pentagon, he said, would be stuck maintaining and protecting up to one-quarter more bases than it needs, diverting dollars and military personnel from accomplishing "something truly important with respect to the war on terrorism, and it's a shame."

On missile defense, Bush would get his full \$8.3 billion request, a \$3.1 billion increase over 2001. Bush notified Russia Thursday that the United States was pulling out of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty because it would impede progress on the program.

Of the \$8.3 billion, Bush could use \$1.3 billion for anti-terrorism efforts instead if he wants.

The defense bill includes another \$7 billion for anti-terrorism spending, a \$1 billion increase from 2001.

Regarding base closings, the president, in consultation with congressional leaders, would appoint a nine-member base closing commission in March 2005. That May, the defense secretary would submit a list of facilities to be closed.

It would take seven members to add a facility to that list, but just a simple majority to remove one. The president could approve that list and send it to Congress, or reject it and send it back to the commission. Neither Congress nor the president could make changes to the list.

Previous closing rounds — in 1988, 1991, 1993 and 1995 — led to the closure or realignment of 451 installations, including 97 major ones.

# Education plan passes House, heads for Senate

By GREG TOPPO  
AP Education Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate is expected to hand President Bush a bipartisan victory next week on his top domestic priority, taking up his education bill after House lawmakers passed it by a wide margin.

If the Senate passes the bill Tuesday as expected, Bush could sign it before Christmas.

"These landmark reforms will bring purpose to a federal law that has lost its focus and never met its promise," said Rep. John Boehner, R-Ohio, who chaired the House-Senate education conference committee. The House approved the bill Thursday on a 381-41 vote.

Foremost among the bill's proposals is a requirement that millions of students take annual reading and math tests. For the first time, the scores could affect how much federal funding schools get and how they spend it.

The House vote was hailed by both Democrats and Republicans. Lawmakers spent months refining the massive Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which provides most of the funding and overall regulation for K-12 education.

"We can no longer accept the level of failure that we have in the past, and this legislation says that we won't," said Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., who helped write the bill.

During last spring's debate, the legisla-

tion was criticized by both liberals and conservatives — mainly for what was left out. Conservatives complained that removing government vouchers, originally sought by Bush, meant the bill was little more than an expensive testing mandate without an "escape valve" for families whose children attend low-scoring schools.

On Thursday, several voted to reject the measure, including Majority Whip Rep. Tom DeLay of Texas. In all, 33 Republicans, six Democrats and both of the House's independent members voted against the bill.

Several Democrats said it's still unclear whether the funding included in the bill will help low-income students.

"It is a giant step forward, but we are still far away from making sure poor children do not end up with a poor quality instructor and poor quality teaching materials," said Rep. Chaka Fattah, D-Pa.

In addition to testing, the bill would require schools to adopt plans to close the achievement gaps between low-income and middle-class students and between white and minority students.

States and school districts also would get more freedom in how they spend federal dollars. Money intended for teacher improvement, for example, could instead pay for salary increases or additional instructors.

Districts would have to submit annual "report cards" showing a school's standardized test scores compared with other schools, both locally and statewide.

Schools would have to test students with limited English skills in English after students had spent three consecutive years in a U.S. school. Schools also would also get a share of Bush's signature reading program, which provides nearly \$1 billion per year for the next five years, in hopes that every student can read by third grade.

Overall, the bill authorizes \$26.5 billion in federal spending on elementary and secondary education in the 2002 budget year, which began Oct. 1. That would be about \$8 billion more than the year before, and about \$4 billion more than Bush requested, but nearly \$6 billion less than Senate Democrats wanted. The actual amount could be lower, once Congress makes its yearly specific spending decisions.

The annual state reading and math tests, to be given to all students in grades three through eight, would gauge the effectiveness of schools, especially those serving poor students. Those with persistently low scores would have to give some of their federal aid to students for tutoring or transportation to another public school. More aid would flow to schools where scores do not improve for two years in a row, but if scores do not rise afterward, a school's staff could be changed. The tutoring provision was added to the bill in the spring after Republicans failed to gather enough support for vouchers.

On the Net:  
House: <http://www.house.gov>

# GOP staunchly refuses to limit debate on farm legislation

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Democrats are accusing Republicans of putting farm subsidies at risk by delaying reauthorization of agriculture and nutrition programs.

"The money is in deep jeopardy" if Congress doesn't agree quickly on a new farm policy, said Senate Budget Committee Chairman Kent Conrad, D-N.D. New budget forecasts to be issued in January may pressure Congress to cut back on agricultural subsidies, he said.

Republicans say Democrats are trying to rush passage of a bad bill that would ultimately hurt farmers.

Farm groups have been pushing Congress to finish work on the legislation before the end of this year. The House approved an overhaul of farm programs in October, but the Senate has yet to finish work on its version.

The Senate on Thursday failed to agree when to finish work on a Democratic-authored bill, falling seven votes short of the 60 necessary to limit debate and restrict amendments. The vote was 53-45. Democratic leaders said they would try again next Tuesday.

Mary Kay Thatcher, a lobbyist for the American Farm Bureau

Federation, suggested Republicans could pay a political price for the vote. "Virtually every farm group is saying this is a 'gotta-do' situation," she said.

But Republicans say the Democratic bill, which would reauthorize farm programs through 2006, would stimulate excess production and hold down commodity prices. The bill would increase crop subsidies by as much as 20 percent.

"It would have really short-changed farmers and rural interests for the Senate leader to ramrod through partisan legislation," said Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa.

Republicans said there wasn't enough time for Congress to reach agreement on new farm policy before January, even if the Senate approved the Democratic measure.

There are "wide gaps of differences" between the Senate and House bills, said Sen. Thad Cochran, R-Miss. The last time Congress rewrote farm policy, in 1996, negotiators took several weeks to work out an agreement on the final version.

Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, conceded that Congress was unlikely to finish work on the legislation

before January or February. "But I never say 'No.' I never give up," he said.

The House legislation provides lower crop subsidies than the Senate Democratic measure, but gives farms more money in fixed payments. The Bush administration has criticized both bills, which would increase farm spending by more than \$70 billion over the next 10 years. The limit, set in a congressional budget agreement, is an increase of nearly 80 percent.

Existing farm programs don't expire until next fall, but agricultural interests are worried that money for their subsidies will shrink after a new budget forecast is issued in January.

Sen. Tim Hutchinson, an Arkansas Republican who faces a tough reelection race in 2002, sided with Democrats in voting to limit debate on the bill, as did three northeastern

GOP senators, Lincoln Chafee of Rhode Island and Maine's Susan Collins and Olympia Snowe.

Meanwhile Thursday, the Senate waded through some of the dozens of amendments to the bill that could eventually be proposed.

The Senate agreed, by a 51-46 vote, to ban most meatpackers from owning their own livestock, a restriction intended to prevent processors from controlling supplies of cattle and hogs. The ban, proposed by Sen. Tim Johnson, D-S.D., would not apply to processors owned by farmers.

The Senate narrowly rejected a proposal by Sen. Christopher Bond, R-Mo., to allow the White House to reverse decisions by government agencies that might harm farmers. Environmentalists said the measure could have made it impossible to enforce the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act and other laws.

# California: New rules to provide cleaner air to poor communities

EL MONTE, Calif. (AP) — The nation's most influential state-level, air-quality agency unanimously approved a policy aimed at focusing more effort on pollution problems in predominantly poor neighborhoods and on areas whose residents are more likely to be sickened by toxins.

The rules are aimed at creating "environmental justice" by requiring the California Air Resources Board to fully consider how its decisions affect poor and minority neighborhoods. "It's obvious these communities are exposed to higher levels of pollution," said Alan C. Lloyd, board chairman. "It seemed we weren't capturing all the effects (of pollution) because we were focusing on one pollutant at a time."

The board has long concentrated on regional pollution issues such as smog but now plans to expand its efforts and focus on other toxic threats, including diesel exhaust.

Although Thursday's vote was unanimous, some board members were concerned about the ruling's language. Two members opposed language calling upon the board to "especially" consider low-income and minority communities.

State legislators who helped pass a 1999 law calling for state environmental justice policies urged the board not to weaken its proposed policy's language.

The air board proposal calls for more aid for "all communities, especially low-income communities and communities of color." The state law uses the word including instead of especially.

Assemblyman Marco Firebaugh, D-Los Angeles urged the board to commit specific resources to environmental justice," saying: "Absent sufficient resources, this is a policy on paper."

More than 200 people attended the board's meeting, which concluded late Thursday.

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Friday, December 14

Page 10

## Dinner Partner's Payment Plan Is Difficult to Swallow

DEAR ABBY: One of the perks of my job is receiving free or discounted meals at local restaurants. Last week I was invited to dine at one of the best restaurants in town. I thought that "Tess," one of my co-workers, might also enjoy it, so I invited her to share the meal with me. I warned her that we would probably be expected to pay for part of the dinner. She said that would be fine.

Halfway through the meal, our server informed us that we would be expected to pay 50 percent of the bill. Tess told me she had forgotten her wallet, and asked if I'd pick up the tab. She promised to pay me back, so I agreed. Then she said she could afford to pay me only \$1 from each future paycheck, and asked if it was all right for her to order a \$10 dessert as well.

Abby, I was so shocked I could hardly respond. At that rate it will take her a year to pay me back! I understand that people are having a hard time in this economy, but Tess and I are paid the same. I don't exactly have a bundle of money to spare either. How should I handle this?

**FLABBERGASTED IN OREGON**  
DEAR FLABBERGASTED: Keep meticulous records, put your hand out every payday — and pray she gets a Christmas bonus.

DEAR ABBY: I want to tell you how my 10-year-old daughter handled a bully. One day after school, she came home and told me about

### Dear Abby

Is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

the physical and verbal abuse she was experiencing at the hands of a boy in her class. It was never-ending. I asked if she wanted me to intervene. She said she wanted to handle the situation herself.

I then suggested she keep a diary of all the things this boy said and did to her. I told her to take her diary to the principal when she felt she had enough evidence to support her case. After several weeks, I got a phone call from the principal of her school. She had just seen my daughter and her diary. The boy and his parents were called in immediately. The abuse stopped that day. She never had another problem with him.

Trying to handle the problem herself gave my daughter a sense of power, confidence and control over her own life. Let me add, I was monitoring the situation from a distance. Had my daughter not been taken seriously by the principal, I would have stepped in.

Today my daughter is a senior in high school — an outgoing, happy, kind, confident young woman. Maybe her story will help someone else caught in this situation.  
HEATHER'S MOM, MESA, ARIZ.

DEAR MOM: Your suggestion is an excellent one. As with any other form of harassment, documenting the incidents and building a body of evidence was vital. I hope other victims of bullying will learn from your letter. You and your daughter handled the situation beautifully.

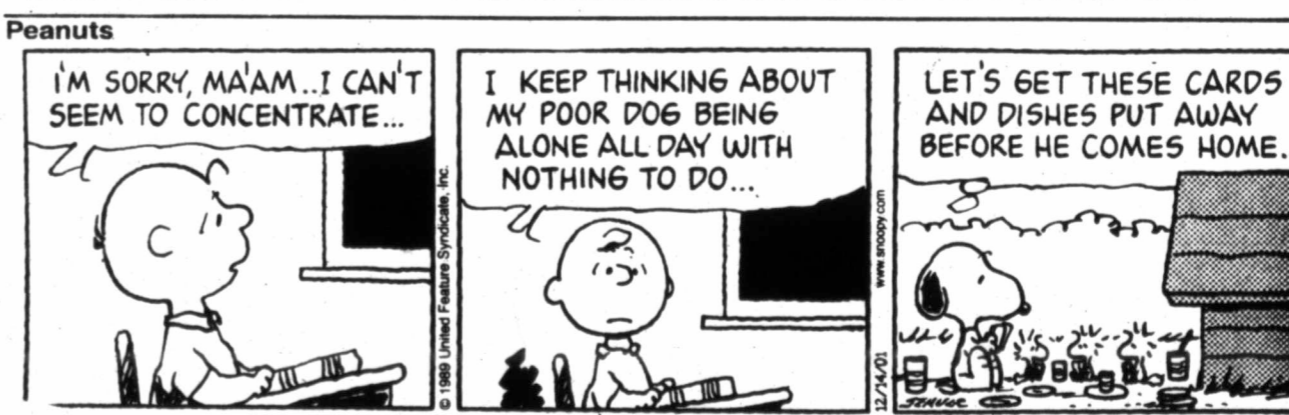
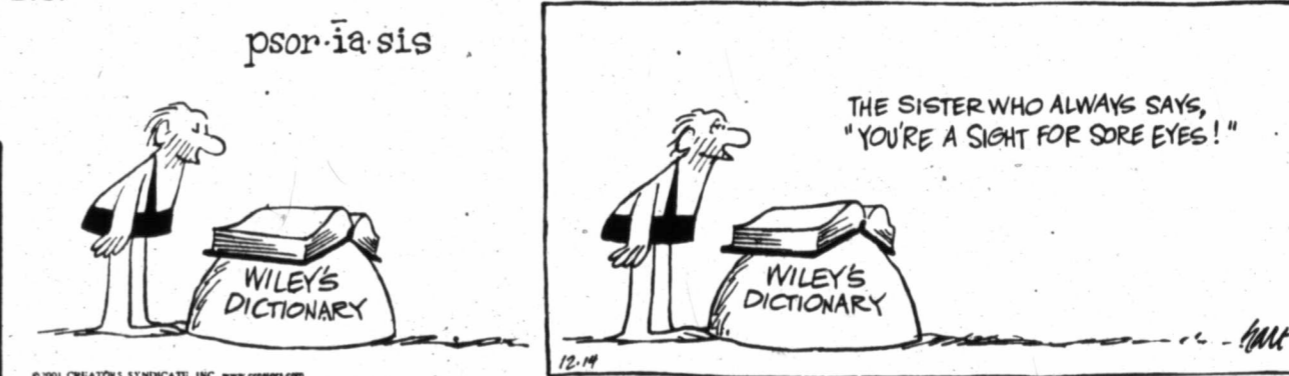
DEAR ABBY: I have been shopping with my mother to find a dress for her to wear at my wedding next spring. She wants to wear a tuxedo-style jacket with a long, straight skirt and a red or white bustier. Abby, my mother just doesn't get it. She thinks the Madonna lingerie look is appropriate, and she intends to wear it to my wedding whether I like it or not.

Any thoughts on this?  
EMBARRASSED BRIDE-TO-BE

DEAR BRIDE: Just one: If there's any chance the mother-of-the-bride's outfit will distract attention from the bride, the outfit should be saved for another occasion.

Dear Abby is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)



### Crossword Puzzle

#### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

#### ACROSS

- 43 Trig
- 1 Pants with concern ridges
- 6 Lama's land
- 11 Alaska native
- 12 Steer
- 13 clear of
- 14 Stair part
- 15 Pigeon's place
- 16 Cain raiser
- 17 Signing, for short
- 18 Knight address
- 19 Crayon material
- 20 Treasury Dept. div.
- 21 File menu choice
- 23 Toadies' answers
- 25 Treaty org. since 1948
- 27 Old French coin
- 28 Spelling expert?
- 30 Word on an octagon
- 33 Evergreen tree
- 34 Bond rating
- 36 Pitching stat
- 37 Finals
- 39 Basketball pioneer
- 40 Holman
- 40 Perch
- 41 U of the UN

SLAG	SPORE
LAMA	SPURON
ALOT	PIGGED
MAKENICE	
MAKETIME	
GARAGE	COY
RUINS	REEVE
ARC	MALTED
MAKELIKE	
MAKEGOOD	
MALONE	ALMA
AWARDS	NEED
PEPYS	TONS

#### Yesterday's answer

- 1 Loving touch
- 2 "Twelfth Night" role
- 3 Harvey Keitel
- 4 Bill attendees
- 5 Has permission to
- 6 Pre-fax messages
- 7 Carrier's partner
- 8 Harvey Keitel film
- 9 Mystery awards
- 10 Prom attendees
- 17 Has permission to
- 22 Corrode
- 24 Call for help
- 26 Less common
- 28 Actress Ryder
- 29 Crone
- 31 Grove product
- 32 Glib talk
- 33 Wild
- 35 Houston player
- 38 Man, for one
- 42 Boater or bowler



### The Family Circus



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### Not

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Wilmington

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State: \_\_\_\_\_

# SPORTS

## Notebook SOCCER

**PAMPA** — An organizational meeting to start a Pampa Wrestling Booster Club will be held at 7 Monday night in the high school library.

The booster club will be for both high school and middle school wrestling teams.

All interested persons, not just parents, are urged to attend the meeting and help form a club.

## BASKETBALL

**PAMPA** — Pampa hosts Hereford at 7:30 tonight in a District 3-4A girls basketball game in McNeely Fieldhouse.

Pampa is 0-1 in district play and 2-9 for the season, while Hereford is 1-0 in district and 6-6 overall.

**LEFORS** — Andrew Johnson and Ricky Vaughn combined for 42 points to lead Lefors past Higgins 68-59 in high school basketball action

Johnson, a 5-10 senior, scored 22 and Vaughn, a 6-2 post, added 20 for the Pirates.

Lefors led 36-32 at half-time. The Pirates pulled further away in the third quarter, outscoring the visitors 23-12.

Zak Scales led Higgins with 29 points. Taos Pool followed with 12.

Higgins won the girls' game by a score of 67-34.

Higgins was led in scoring by Julie Mulkey's 22 points.

Savanah Smith and Katie Barnes had 10 points each for Lefors.

Higgins also got 14 points from Colleen Goff.

## BASEBALL

**HOUSTON (AP)** — The Houston Astros chose left-handed pitcher Justin Lamber for its Triple-A New Orleans Zephyrs on Thursday during the Rule 5 Draft in major league baseball's winter meetings in Boston.

Lamber was 0-2 with a 5.50 earned run average and one save in 19 relief appearances this year with Wichita, Kansas City's Double-A team. He was 4-4 with a 1.71 ERA with two saves over 20 games for Class A Wilmington.

## Pampa gymnasts have outstanding showing at Texas State Meet

**FORT WORTH** — Team Pampa gymnasts Kelby Doughty, Lacie Thompson and Brittny Warminski had an outstanding showing at the Level 6 Texas State Championship.

Ten-year-old Kelby Doughty, who was making her first trip to a state meet, placed in all four events and in the All-Around. She tied for 17th place on vault a 9.1 and also tied for 17th on bars with a 9.05. She finished 25th on floor exercise with an 8.95 and was 32nd on balance beam with an 8.85. Her 35.95 in the All-Around was good for 21st place.

Lacie Thompson and Brittny Warminski competed in the 12-year-age group at Level 6.

Lacie tied for 10th place on balance beam with an outstanding routine. Her score for beam with a 9.125. She also placed

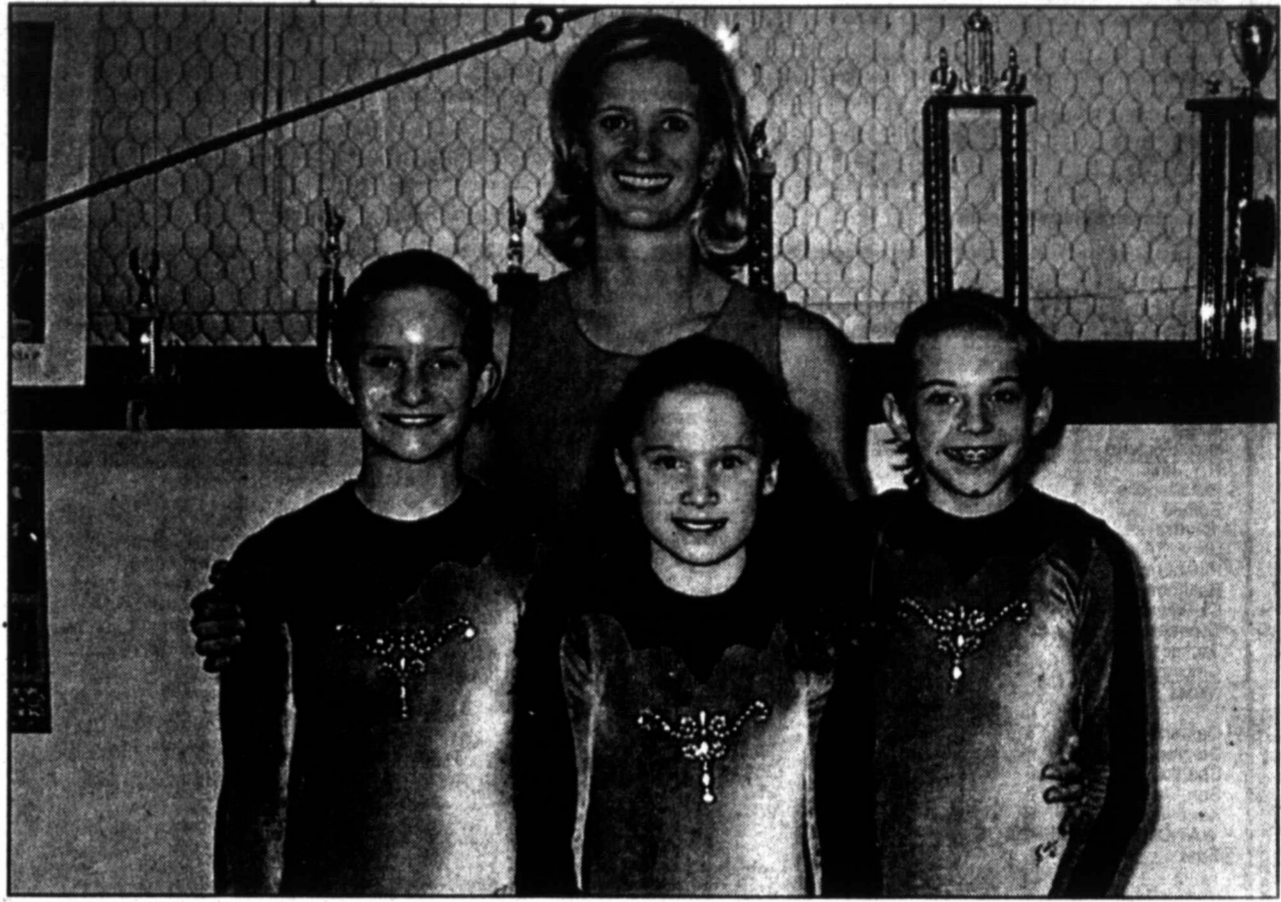
22nd on uneven bars with a score of 9.0 and was 29th on floor exercise with an 8.825.

Her All-Around score was 35.55 and was good for 28th place.

Brittny had solid performances at the meet. Her 9.05 score on vault gave her 20th place.

"I was very proud of all the girls. Not only did they perform well, but they maintained confidence and composure at state," said their coach, Kristi Fatheree. "There were over 250 gymnasts entered in the Level 6 state meet, so to place all three girls was wonderful. Kelby did an awesome job for her first state meet."

The three gymnasts are currently training for Level 7 and will enter their first Level 7 meet in January.



Courtesy photo  
Coach Kristi Fatheree with Pampa gymnasts (from left) Lacie Thompson, Kelby Doughty and Brittny Warminski.

## National Finals Rodeo Results

**Thursday**  
At Thomas and Mack Center  
Las Vegas

Purse: \$4.6 million

All-Around

World standings: 1, Cody Ohl, Stephenville, Texas, \$296,419. 2, Trevor Brazile, Pueblo, Colo., \$216,247. 3, Jesse Bail, Camp Creek, S.D., \$204,563. 4, Scott Johnston, Gustine, Texas, \$186,121. 5, Cash Myers, Athens, Texas, \$180,123. 6, Blair Burk, Durant, Okla., \$147,670.

Barrel Race

Seventh Round: 1, Bobby Mote, Redmond, Ore., 84 points on Brookman Rodeo's Moon Beam, \$13,522. 2, Larry Sandvick, Belle Fourche, S.D., \$2, \$10,687. 3, Forest Bramwell, Pagosa Springs, Colo., \$1, \$8,070. 4, (tie), William Pittman II, Florence, Miss.; James Boudreaux, Cuero, Texas; and Jason Jeter Fort Worth, Texas, \$9, \$3,780.

Average: 1, Lan Lajeunesse, Morgan, Utah, 580 points on seven head. 2, Bobby Mote, Redmond, Ore., 569. 3, Clint Corey, Powell Butte, Ore., 568. 4, Forest Bramwell, Pagosa Springs, Colo., 566.

World standings: 1, Lan Lajeunesse, Morgan, Utah, \$152,841. 2, Bobby Mote, Redmond, Ore., \$131,225. 3, Kelly Wardell, Bellevue, Idaho, \$107,066. 4, Larry Sandvick, Belle Fourche, S.D., \$104,183. 5, Pete Hawkins, Weatherford, Texas, \$99,686. 6, Forest Bramwell, Pagosa Springs, Colo., \$98,373.

Steer Wrestling

Seventh Round: 1, Cash Myers, Athens, Texas, 3.2 seconds, \$13,522. 2, Rope Myers, Van, Texas, 3.5, \$10,687. 3, (tie), Chad Biesemeyer, Stephenville, Texas, and Brock Andrus, St. George, Utah, 3.6, \$6,870. 5, (tie), Todd Suhm, Brighton, Colo., and Teddy Johnson, Checotah, Okla., 3.8, \$2,835.

Average: 1, Rope Myers, Van, Texas, 25.7 seconds on seven head. 2, Bob Lummus, Folsom, La., 28.3. 3, Bryan Fields, Conroe, Texas, 31.7. 4, Birch Negaard, Buffalo, S.D., 31.9.

World standings: 1, Rope Myers, Van, Texas, \$116,207. 2, Bob Lummus, Folsom, La., \$106,701. 3, Brock Andrus,

St. George, Utah, \$99,915. 4, Chad Biesemeyer, Stephenville, Texas, \$97,689. 5, Bryan Fields, Conroe, Texas, \$92,698. 6, Todd Suhm, Brighton, Colo., \$88,173.

Team Roping

Seventh Round: 1, Wade Wheatley, Stephenville, Texas, and Kyle Lockett, Ivanhoe, Calif., 4.2 seconds, \$13,522. 2, Travis Tryan, Billings, Mont., and Matt Robertson, Augusta, Mont., 4.6, \$10,687. 3, Daniel Green Oakdale, Calif., and Allen Bach, Millsap, Texas, 4.9, \$8,070. 4, David Key, Ledbetter, Texas, and Dugan Kelly, Paso Robles, Calif., 5.0, \$5,671. 5, Charles Pogue, Ringling, Okla., and Britt Bockius, Claremore, Okla., 5.1, \$3,490. 6, (tie), Richard Eiguren Jordan Valley, Ore., and B.J. Campbell, Benton City, Wash.; and Kevin Stewart Glen Rose, Calif., and Martin Lucero Stephenville, Texas, 5.3, \$1,091.

Average: 1, Blaine Linaweaver, Leavenworth, Kan., and Jory Levy, Twin Oaks, Okla., 53.5 on seven head. 2, Speed Williams, Jacksonville, Fla., and Rich Skelton, Llano, Texas, 65.7. 3, David Key, Ledbetter, Texas, and Dugan Kelly, Paso Robles, Calif., 80.6. 4, Kevin Stewart, Glen Rose, Texas, and Martin Lucero, Stephenville, Texas, 82.9.

World standings (headers): 1, Richard Eiguren, Jordan Valley, Ore., \$123,442. 2, Speed Williams, Jacksonville, Fla., \$121,352. 3, Frank Graves, Poplarville, Miss., \$99,362. 4, Travis Tryan, Billings, Mont., \$97,948. 5, Wade Wheatley, Hughson, Calif., \$91,537. 6, Clay Tryan, Billings, Mont., \$85,451.

World standings (heelers): 1, B.J. Campbell, Benton City, Wash., \$122,351. 2, Rich Skelton, Llano, Texas, \$121,352. 3, Monty Joe Patska, Turlock, Calif., \$99,156. 4, Caleb Twisselman, Sahta Margarita, Calif., \$87,641. 5, Clay O'Brien Cooper, Glen Rose, Texas, \$83,753. 6, Matt Robertson, Augusta, Mont., \$83,597.

Saddle Bronc  
Seventh Round: 1, Scott Johnston, Gustine, Texas, 86 points on Buettel Brothers and Cervi Rodeo's Brown Bomber, \$13,522. 2, Billy Etbauer, Edmond, Okla., 84, \$10,687. 3, Glen

O'Neill, Water Valley, Alberta, \$8,070. 4, (tie), Rod Hay, Wildwood, Alberta, and Rod Warren, Big Valley, Alberta, 80, \$4,580. 6, Tom Reeves, Stephenville, Texas, 79, \$2,181.

Average: 1, Denny Hay, Mayerthorpe, Alberta, 539 points on seven. 2, Red Lemmel, Faith, S.D., 492 on six. 3, Scott Johnston, Gustine, Texas, 479. 4, Tom Reeves, Stephenville, Texas, 475.

World standings: 1, Glen O'Neill, Water Valley, Alberta, \$178,680. 2, Tom Reeves, Eagle Butte, S.D., \$170,203. 3, Dan Mortensen, Billings, Mont., \$138,353. 4, Scott Johnston, Gustine, Texas, \$123,601. 5, Rod Hay, Wildwood, Alberta, \$117,640. 6, Billy Etbauer, Ree Heights, S.D., \$112,657.

World standings: 1, Herbert Theriot, Poplarville, Miss., 7.5 seconds, \$13,522. 2, Brent Lewis, Pinon, N.M., 8.2, \$10,687. 3, Joe Beaver, Huntsville, Texas, 8.5, \$8,070. 4, and 5, Cody Ohl, Stephenville, Texas, and Trevor Brazile, Pueblo, Colo., 8.9, \$4,580. 6, Blair Burk, Durant, Okla., 9.0, \$2,181.

Average: 1, Cody Ohl, Stephenville, Texas, 59.0 seconds on seven. 2, Ricky Canton, Cleveland, Texas, 66.5. 3, Blair Burk, Durant, Okla., 80.10. 4, Jerome

Schneeberger, Ponca City, Okla., 86.3.

World standings: 1, Cody Ohl, Stephenville, Texas, \$222,026. 2, Fred Whitfield, Hockley, Texas, \$135,998. 3, Brent Lewis, Pinon, N.M., \$135,938. 4, Blair Burk, Durant, Okla., \$132,817. 5, Trevor Brazile, Pueblo, Colo., \$132,621. 6, Jerome Schneeberger, Ponca City, Okla., \$109,037.

Bull Riding

Seventh Round: 1, Cody Hancock, Taylor, Ariz., 84 points on Bad Company's Smokeless Abacadabra, \$13,522. 2, and 3, Jesse Bail, Camp Creek, S.D., and Blue Stone, Ogdan, Utah, 82, \$9,378. 4, Philip Elkins, Granbury, Texas, 80, \$5,671. 5, Lee Akin, Weatherford, Okla., 79, \$3,490.

Average: 1, Philip Elkins, Granbury, Texas, 501 points on six. 2, Blue Stone, Ogdan, Utah, 438 on five. 3, Jesse Bail, Camp Creek, S.D., 422. 4, Cody Hancock, Taylor, Ariz., 413.

World standings: 1, Cody Hancock, Taylor, Ariz., \$120,191. 2, Jesse Bail, Camp Creek, S.D., \$118,372. 3, Blue Stone, Ogdan, Utah, \$116,648. 4, Mike Moore, Fort Collins, Colo., \$112,624. 5, Philip Elkins, Granbury, Texas, \$105,492.

6, Lee Akin, Weatherford, Okla., \$104,632.

Barrel Racing

Seventh Round: 1, Kay Blandford, Sutherland Springs, Texas, 13.93, \$13,522. 2, Janet Stover, Rusk, Texas, 13.97, \$10,687. 3, and 4, tie Kelly Yates, Pueblo, Colo. and Sherry Cervi, Marana, Ariz., 14.02, \$6,870. 5, Rachael Sproul, Arlee, Mont., 14.03, \$3,490. 6, Tami Fontenot, Ethel, La., 14.12, \$2,181.

Average: 1, Janet Stover, Rusk, Texas, 97.55 on seven runs. 2, Kappy Allen, Austin, Texas, 99.47. 3, Gloria Freeman, Calhoun, Ga., 99.56. 4, Tami Fontenot, Ethel, La., 100.13.

World standings: 1, Kelly Yates, Pueblo, Colo., \$138,427. 2, Janet Stover, Rusk, Texas, \$134,458. 3, Charmayne James, Athens, Texas, \$98,954. 4, Tona Wright, Moriarty, N.M., \$82,562. 5, Janae Ward, Addington, Okla., \$81,153. 6, Sherry Cervi, Marana, Ariz., \$78,865.

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# Analysts predicting recession to be over by late spring

WASHINGTON (AP) — Retail sales plunged by a record 3.7 percent last month as the holiday shopping season was getting under way. But more recent information looks brighter for the economy, suggesting the huge wave of job layoffs is abating.

Noting the new government reports Thursday, analysts said they still believe the current recession, the country's first in a decade, will be a mild one that will be over by late spring.

The Commerce Department report on retail sales showed the big decline in November following an even larger increase of 6.4 percent in October. Both figures were records under the government's current tracking system, which goes back to 1992.

Both months were whipsawed by auto sales, which soared in October as dealers offered zero-rate financing deals to lure shoppers back into showrooms after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, only to retreat in November.

In addition to the big swing in auto sales, retail activity in November was also depressed by falling gasoline prices, which pushed sales at service stations down.

Without those special factors, retail sales would have posted a 0.1 percent increase in November.

Analysts said this showed that the consumer sector, which accounts for two-thirds of total economic activity, was not collapsing despite all the bad news this fall — from the terrorist attacks to the layoffs and

confirmation that the country is in a recession.

"With the economy in the doldrums and unemployment rising, consumers are being smart. They haven't stopped shopping, they've only stopped buying everything in sight," said Oscar Gonzalez, economist at John Hancock in Boston.

The government said new claims for unemployment benefits fell by 88,000 for the first week in December, the biggest decline in nine years, and a hopeful sign, analysts said, that the country may have seen the worst of the layoffs.

Last week's drop pushed the level for new layoffs down to 394,000, significantly below the peak of 505,750 hit in mid-October.

Unemployment in November surged to a six-year high of 5.7 percent, reflecting 800,000 new layoffs in just October and November, the worst two-month performance in more than two decades.

Analysts said the big improvement in unemployment filings and the underlying strength in retail sales supported their view that the recession will be ending by late spring.

"Consumers have turned cautious but they haven't packed it in and there has been a clear improvement in the job market," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Economy.com.

Wall Street, however, was not cheered by the glimmers of an economic rebound, focusing instead on new profit warnings at high-tech companies. The

Dow Jones industrial average lost 128.36 points, or 1.3 percent, to close at 9,766.45.

A third report Thursday showed that prices at the wholesale level, led by another big decline in energy costs, fell for a second straight month. The Labor Department said its Producer Price Index dropped by 0.6 percent in November following a 1.6 percent decline in October.

The Federal Reserve cut interest rates for an 11th time on Tuesday, pushing a key rate to its lowest level in 40 years. However, the reduction was only by a quarter point, instead of the bolder half-point moves the central bank had been employing, signaling to many economists that the Fed is close to the end of its credit easing.

Minutes of the Fed's November meeting that were released Thursday supported that view. They showed that three Fed policy-makers had preferred a smaller quarter-point cut at that meeting even though in the end all 10 voted in favor of the half-point cut that was made on Nov. 6.

Gasoline prices tumbled 10.3 percent at the wholesale level last month after an even bigger 21.2 percent drop in November. Food prices were also down for a second straight month, 0.8 percent in October following a 0.4 percent decline in October.

Excluding the volatile food and energy sectors, the core rate of wholesale inflation posted a small 0.2 percent increase following a 0.5 percent drop in October.

The government will release the November report on inflation at the consumer level on Friday and analysts believe that figure will also be well-behaved, reflecting big declines in gasoline pump prices.

The retail sales report showed that auto sales, which had surged a record 24.2 percent in October, fell 11.9 percent in November. Sales at specialty clothing stores were down 0.6 percent and general merchandise stores showed a 0.1 percent decrease, but sales at furniture stores, sporting goods stores, electronic shops and restaurants all posted increases.

## Charges against Russian to be dropped

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — A Russian computer programmer accused of violating electronic-book copyrights will avoid possible prison time and a fine by testifying at his company's trial.

Dmitry Sklyarov, 27, had been charged in the first criminal prosecution under the 1998 Digital

Millennium Copyright Act. He could have faced up to five years in prison and a \$500,000 fine.

Sklyarov and his employer, ElComSoft Co. Ltd. of Moscow, were charged with releasing a program that lets readers disable copyright restrictions on Adobe

Systems Inc. electronic-book soft-

ware. The program is legal in Russia.

Adobe's eBook Reader gives publishers a format for selling books online. It is designed to prevent the transfer of materials between users and devices without publishers' consent.

Sklyarov found flaws in the software's encryption scheme and created ways for users to make backup copies of e-books or transfer them to other devices, such as handheld computers. ElComSoft used the techniques in a program it sold as the Advanced eBook Processor.

After the software became available for download in the United States, for around \$99, Adobe complained to the FBI.

Sklyarov was arrested after speaking at a hacking convention in Las Vegas on July 16. He was freed on bail in August but was required to remain in California while the case proceeded. He now will be allowed to return home with his wife and two children.

"With this agreement, Dmitry gets everything he could get from an acquittal, and more. The indictment will be dismissed eventually, he gets to tell his story truthfully without pressure from the government, and he gets to go home now, rather than wait in the U.S. while the case is fought," said Sklyarov's attorney, John Kecker.

Adobe eventually dropped its support of the case after Internet policy groups threatened to boycott the company's products.

Sklyarov became a cause celebre for tech professionals who believe the 1998 law has been wrongly interpreted by U.S. law enforcement officials to encompass programs used to disable copy-protection software.

His defenders have argued that if such activity is banned as criminal, it will discourage the very programming creativity required to produce quality digital security.

## FDA: ARC violating blood safety regs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Frustrated by years of trying to get the American Red Cross to correct violations of blood safety rules, the government is asking a federal judge for authority to levy fines that could total millions of dollars.

The Food and Drug Administration insisted the nation's blood supply is safe. But it asked a federal judge to hold the Red Cross in contempt of court, charging the charity with "a cavalier disregard" for federal regulations that dates back 16 years.

"Persistent and serious violations" continue despite a 1993 federal court order mandating improvements, the FDA said in an unprecedented motion filed Thursday in U.S. District Court in Washington.

The Red Cross, which provides about 45 percent of the nation's blood supply, said it will fight the health agency. In a statement, the Red Cross said the FDA wants to take action "beyond the legal authority granted by Congress."

The agency's most recent inspections of Red Cross facilities have found:

—Release of blood possibly tainted with cytomegalovirus, which can kill, blind or cause brain damage in newborns.

—Failure to properly defer certain donors with syphilis, and failure to properly update and check a national registry of unsuitable donors.

—Computer errors that could cause the release of blood before it has finished all safety testing.

The Red Cross has invested more than \$280 million to upgrade its blood operations to meet FDA requirements, and believes "the nation's blood supply has never been safer than it is today," the statement said.

A hearing was scheduled Friday before Judge John Garrett Penn, who ordered the two sides into

mediation last summer when the FDA first sought to fine the Red Cross.

In its filing, the FDA sought permission to fine the Red Cross \$10,000 a day for each new violation it discovers. If blood has to be recalled, fines could climb to \$50,000 per unit of recalled blood.

Those fines could add up to millions of dollars a year.

"FDA is acting today to ensure that the American Red Cross takes much more seriously its role as guardian of the safety of the nation's blood supply," said the FDA acting commissioner, Bernard Schwetz.

"Unfortunately, to date ARC has exhibited a corporate culture that has been willing to tolerate an unacceptably low level of quality assurance and a lack of concern for the public it is supposed to serve," he said.

The violation of a single rule doesn't necessarily mean a health hazard, the FDA said, because regulations set overlapping safeguards of the blood supply.

"The risk of not receiving a needed transfusion far outweighs the risk of receiving blood," Schwetz said.

Even so, former Red Cross President Bernadine Healy publicly acknowledged some violations were "near misses."

The FDA action is the latest in a series of recent public problems for the Red Cross. It came under sharp criticism and had to backtrack from a plan to divert some of the half-billion dollars donated to help the terrorist victims to other uses. Healy resigned amid the controversy.

At the same time, the Red Cross provoked tension with other blood banks by seeking massive blood donations following Sept. 11, even after it became clear supplies were sufficient. It wound up discarding some 6 percent of donated red cells.

## Judge likens Marc Rich attorneys to 'lobbyists' in pardon case

NEW YORK (AP) — A federal judge said lawyers for Marc Rich acted "principally as lobbyists" in helping the fugitive financier win a pardon from President Clinton and must hand over documents withheld from a grand jury investigating the controversial pardon.

U.S. District Judge Denny Chin said attorney-client privilege does not protect the materials from release.

"The Marc Rich lawyers were acting principally as lobbyists, working with public relations specialists and individuals — foreign government officials, prominent citizens and personal friends of the president — who had access to the White House," Chin wrote. "They were not acting as lawyers or providing legal

advice in the traditional sense."

After the ruling, which did not give details of what is in the materials, Rich lawyer Laurence Urgenson said: "We're reviewing the opinion and considering our options."

Rich was indicted in 1983 on federal charges of evading more than \$48 million in income taxes and illegally buying oil from Iran during the 1979 hostage crisis. Rich, ex-husband of Denise Rich, a major financial contributor to the Democratic Party, left the United States before he was indicted and has been living in Switzerland.

He received one of 176 pardons and clemencies Clinton issued on his last day in office, Jan. 20.

The pardons and commuta-

tions prompted congressional hearings and an investigation by federal prosecutors in New York.

Clinton said in February that he granted the Rich pardon based "on the merits as I saw them, and I take full responsibility for it."

He rejected any suggestion that he granted the pardon because of political contributions or donations Rich's ex-wife made to the Clinton library foundation.

Clinton spokeswoman Julia Payne referred queries to the former president's lawyer in Washington, David Kendall, who did not return a telephone call seeking comment.

Former White House counsel Jack Quinn, whose work on behalf of the Rich pardon received special note in the judge's ruling, also did not return a call.

The judge said Quinn was hired not because of his legal skills but because he was "Washington wise" and understood "the entire political process."

"He was hired because he could telephone the White House and engage in a 20-minute conversation with the president," the judge said. "He was hired because he could write the president a 'personal note' that said 'I believe in this cause with all my heart,' and he would know that the president would read the note and give it weight."

Quinn and Denise Rich have denied allegations that the pardon was tied to her political contributions.

Lawyers for Rich's pardoned business partner, Pincus Green, also must release documents, the judge said.



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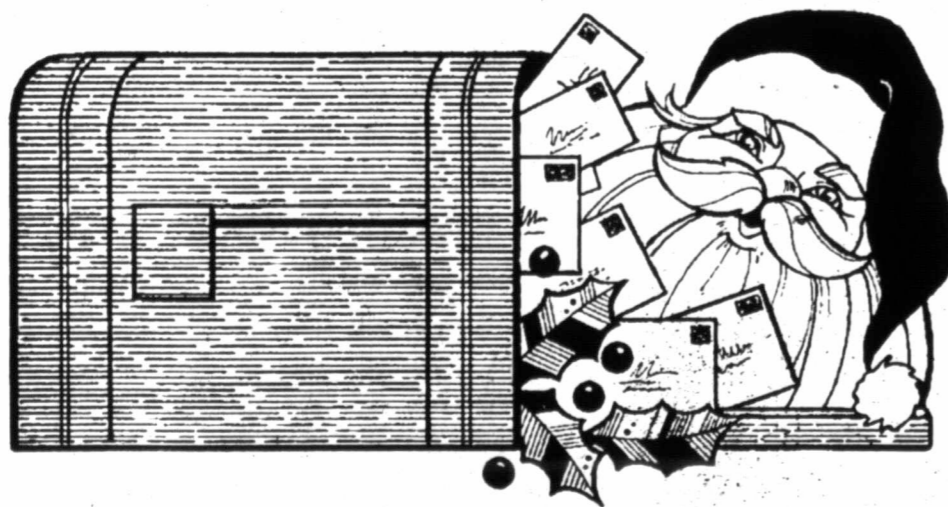
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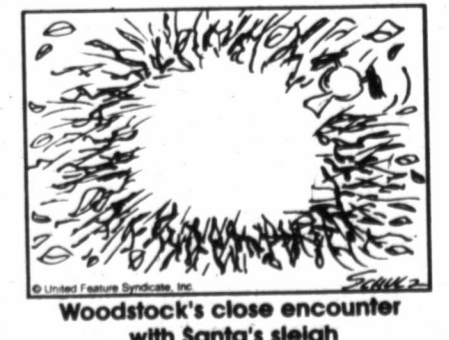


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