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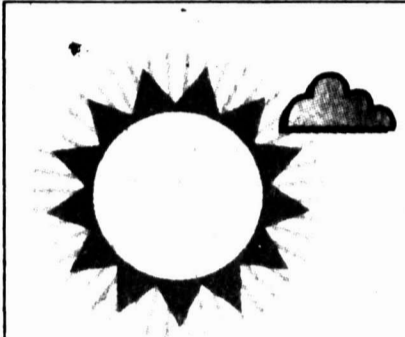
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High, 63
Low, 25
For weather details, see Page 2

PHS choirs to give Christmas concert

The Choral Department at Pampa High School will present its Christmas concert at 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 20 at First Christian Church.

Participating in the program will be the Mixed, Concert and Show Choirs, all under the direction of Fred Mays; and the Treble and Women's Choirs, under the direction of Wanetta Hill.

Police offer tips for safe holiday

- With the holiday shopping season in full swing, the Pampa Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit wants to make sure it's a safe time, too.
- Here are some tips that, if practiced, can help all of us avoid becoming a victim of crime this season.
- Do not carry large amounts of cash; keep cash and your identification separate on your person
 - Keep your purse or wallet close to you
 - Never overload yourself when carrying packages to your vehicle; make more trips
 - Have your car keys in hand when approaching your vehicle
 - Look inside your car before getting in
 - Do not leave packages exposed in your vehicle; use the trunk when possible
 - Shop during daylight hours, whenever possible
 - If you must shop at night, go with a friend or ask a security guard to escort you

- Edward Lee 'Edbo' Bryan**, 67, construction company owner.
- B.E. 'Bud' Bussard**, 91, Lipscomb County native.
- William 'Bill' Kelley**, 76, retired seismic crewmember.
- Margaret Trout**, 92, homemaker.

Classified	9
Comics	6
Editorial	4
Sports	7

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Election observer's report offers praise

One problem noted: TV camera allowed

By **DAVID BOWSER**
Staff Writer

An election observer is giving Pampa a clean bill of health on November's referendum on the Pampa Economic Development Corporation.

In a record turnout, voters in Pampa decided on Nov. 6 to do away with the PEDC.

The Texas Secretary of State sent Jean Lackey to observe the voting procedure and observe the election.

Lackey said that she was in Pampa because at least 15 local voters had requested the presence of an observer.

In her report, Lackey praised Election Judge Maxine Hawkins' work at the polls.

"The election judge was very nice and overall did an excellent job," Lackey said in her report.

The only problem noted by Lackey was that a television cameraman from Amarillo was allowed inside the polling place.

"You see the President getting his picture taken in the polling place," Hawkins said.

There was no mention in the report of a Pampa News photographer being asked to leave the polls.

"Overall, everything ran smoothly," Lackey reported. "The judge and her staff worked very hard and did an excellent job."

Lackey also commended the Early Voting Ballot Board for an excellent job.

"Voter turnout was excellent all day," Lackey said.

City Secretary Phyllis Jeffers said that the election drew more voters than any other in which she's been involved in her 19 years with the city.

There are 12,410 registered voters in Pampa, Jeffers said. Slightly more than 25 percent, 3,190, voted in the election.

The final tally was 1,786 to dissolve the PEDC, and 1,404 to keep it.

An election was called on whether to

keep the PEDC or shut it down after more than a 1,000 Pampa citizens signed a petition asking for the dissolution of the organization. Many questioned the financial condition of the PEDC. There was also an outcry about PEDC officials covering rent at M.K. Brown Auditorium for a public meeting with National Pig Development and paying for lodging for the NPD officials in connection with their efforts to move to Gray County.

As a result of the election, the PEDC will not be allowed to enter into any more agreements, but it will remain in existence until all debts are paid off. Those debts will be paid off by the year 2006. The PEDC owes approximately \$2.7 million.

Head-on collision takes lives of two

Canadian woman in critical condition

By **DEE DEE LARAMORE**
Editor

MIAMI — Two people died and a third is critically injured as a result of a head-on collision on U.S. 60 Monday evening, approximately three miles west of Miami.

A Canadian man, Robert Lewis, 78, died at the scene of the two-vehicle wreck, according to Texas Department of Public Safety Trooper David O'Brien. O'Brien investigated the accident, assisted by officers from the Roberts County Sheriff's Department.

Benjamin Franklin "Bud" Bussard, 91, of Amarillo died several hours later at Northwest Texas Hospital (NWH) in Amarillo after being transported there by Life Star Helicopter, O'Brien said.

The third person involved in the wreck, Florence Lewis, 77, of Canadian, Lewis' wife, remained in critical condition this morning in NWH's intensive care unit, officials said. She was also transferred to the Amarillo hospital by helicopter

after being treated at Pampa Regional Medical Center.

O'Brien said the crash occurred at 7 p.m., Monday, when a 1989 Ford pickup driven by Bussard, crossed the center stripe. The right front passenger side of the westbound pickup struck the right front of an eastbound 2000 Ford passenger van driven by Mrs. Lewis, he said.

The pickup came to rest lying on its side, officials said.

Both vehicles were traveling at or under the speed limit and all three occupants were wearing seatbelts, according to the DPS report.

O'Brien said he did not know of any contributing factors at this time.

Services for Mr. Bussard are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors in Pampa.

Arrangements for Mr. Lewis are pending with Stickley-Hill Funeral Home in Canadian.

Mr. Bussard was born Nov. 13, 1910 in Lipscomb County. He moved to Amarillo from Lipscomb County in 1932. He graduated from Lipscomb High School and Fleming Business College in Amarillo. He married Buna King in 1938 in Amarillo.

(See **WRECK**, Page 3)

Watch out! New signs ahead



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)
Mark Bolton and Donna Jones install a new street sign at 25th and Chestnut. A string of new signs in the area will change the traffic flow on 25th Street.

By **KATE B. DICKSON**
Associate Publisher

All north and southbound traffic from Duncan Street east to Seminole must now yield to traffic on 25th Avenue — a total change from what has been the rule during the past 15 years.

Public Service Superintendent Kimberly Lincycumb said today's change is a temporary one made at the request of the city's Traffic Commission which is studying traffic flow patterns there.

The streets affected are Aspen, Beech, Evergreen, Fir, Chestnut and Dogwood, Lincycumb said.

Before the change, Lincycumb said a traffic count was made which will be compared to the count to be taken after the sign change.

In all, she said, a dozen new yield signs have gone up and a dozen yield and stop signs have come down.

"Basically, everything is just the opposite," she said.

"We need to stress to motorists that they be careful in this area," Lincycumb said, noting that sometimes drivers don't notice sign changes at first.

"Right now we have even

(See **SIGNS**, Page 3)

For a job well done



(Pampa News photo by Kate B. Dickson)
About 60 people were on hand Friday at Pampa City Hall to wish Rick Stone well on his retirement as sanitation superintendent. Fellow city employee Ruth Williams of the public service department congratulated Stone and admired one of his gifts — a watch with the City of Pampa logo on its face. Stone served with the city for more than 10 years.

Local grand juries issue indictments

Gray, Lipscomb hand up true bills

By **KATE B. DICKSON**
Associate Publisher

Charges connected with the death of a child, multiple driving while intoxicated offenses and a shooting highlight the most recent indictments returned by a Gray County Grand Jury.

A sealed indictment charged 19-year-old Connie Lerma of 520 N. Frost No. 6 with injury to a child in connection with the Dec. 21, 2000, death of her 4-month-old daughter, Rosa Matice. (See Monday's Pampa News for more details.)

Other Gray County indictments follow.

Oscar Ontiveros Ruiz, 37, 425 N. Russell, aggravated assault in connection with the April 4, 2001, shooting of Jesus Jordan Carrillo who records say was shot in the chest, left arm and right thigh. Bond was set at \$10,000.

Charles Washington Petit, 62, Wheeler, driving while intoxicated-subsequent offense. Bond

was set at \$5,000 and an interlock device is required on his auto. Records say Petit was convicted in 1995 in Wheeler County for driving while intoxicated/second offense and was convicted in 1992 in Collingsworth County for driving while intoxicated.

Sharon Ruth Cook, 42, Amarillo, driving while intoxicated/subsequent offense. Bond was set at \$2,500 and an interlock device is required on her auto. Records show she was convicted for previous driving while intoxicated offenses in 1992 in Hutchinson County and in Roberts County in 1996.

Grand jury indictments returned last week in Lipscomb County include David Shawn Scogin, 24, Booker, failure to register as a sex offender.

Joseph Lee Maxwell, 18, Amarillo, aggravated robbery.

James Dean Hamlin, 43, Booker, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and escape.

Diane Shawn, no age listed, Follett, theft over \$1,500 but under \$20,000.

John Charles Sansing, 31, Booker, theft over \$1,500 but under \$20,000.

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Worst of fighting over; U.S. special forces still in Tora Bora

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP) — Tribal Afghan fighters withdrew artillery and heavy weapons Tuesday from the mountain stronghold of Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network in eastern Afghanistan, signaling the worst of the fighting was over.

U.S. special forces were remaining in the area of Tora Bora — though they may also leave soon — a leading tribal commander, Hazrat Ali, said.

The American and Afghan forces have been going cave to cave in the mountainous region, looking for stragglers and sifting through piles of abandoned documents, passports and other evidence left behind when al-Qaida fighters fled.

They were also searching for bin Laden, who some had said was present during at least part of the battle, when hundreds of bin Laden's al-Qaida fighters withstood an assault from American bombers and the tribal eastern alliance for days until their hasty retreat.

Ali on Tuesday declared the operation completed. He was quoted by the Afghan Islamic Press agency as saying there was no information that more al-Qaida fighters remained in the caves.

As his forces withdrew, a tank crawled along a dusty, narrow valley road, followed by troops in pickup trucks. Villagers came out and waved.

"Al-Qaida is finished. I am now going to go home," one soldier said.

Mohammed Aman Khiri, another commander, said he doubted bin Laden was still in the area — if he had been there at all.

"If Osama is here, they would be fighting us, but in this case I don't think Osama is in Tora Bora because they are not fighting. Now, maybe he has gone somewhere else, or maybe he is dead," Khiri told reporters.

At a U.S. base in southern Afghanistan, Marines raised an American flag bearing scrawled messages of vengeance and anguish, which flew briefly at the World Trade Center ruins in New York.

It was a gift from the New York Police Department, which lost 23 officers in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, and will be returned to them.

"They took 23 great cops. Pay back time," read one unsigned note.

The dead officers' names, and those of 17 sailors lost in last year's suicide bombing of the USS Cole in Yemen, were handwritten on the flag's white stars.

Two U.S. C-130 aircraft reported they came under missile fire from hostile ground forces overnight after leaving Kandahar. But the Central Command in Tampa, Florida, later said the crew had seen muzzle flashes that "were part of an end of Ramadan celebration."

Meanwhile, the war against al-Qaida was extended beyond Afghanistan's borders. In a remote part of central Yemen, on the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula, Yemeni special forces fired tanks and artillery Tuesday, trying to capture five suspected bin Laden supporters, according to tribal elders and sources familiar with the operation.

Security officials in Marib province, 100 miles east of the capital, San'a, confirmed that special forces were pursuing several men wanted by the government. Other sources in the region said the assault came after members of the Abida tribe refused to hand over at least five men suspected of belonging to al-Qaida.

The sources said at least one of the men was a non-Yemeni Arab who previously was in Afghanistan.

Pakistan deployed reinforcements on its border with Afghanistan and patrolled with helicopter gunships in an effort to block escape routes from Tora Bora. But the frontier is laced with goat paths that have served for decades as routes for smuggling goods and infiltrating fighters.

A few hundred al-Qaida fighters of the estimated 1,000 to 2,000 Afghans. At the Torkham border crossing, families lugged bags of food, clothes and holiday presents through the gate.

In southern Afghanistan, a tribal intelligence officer said Taliban leader Mohammed Omar had fled to Baghran, in the foothills of the south-central mountains, with 300 to 400 fighters, but there was no immediate plan to pursue him.

"Every hour, we're getting reports of where he is," from contacts in the area, said Haji Gulalai, intelligence chief for Kandahar's governor, Gul Agha.

"America knows where he is. But we need to be in the same area to help guide any bombing," Gulalai told The

Associated Press. "Without our help, America will end up bombing civilian areas. We haven't yet given the green light to the Americans to start bombing."

Baghran is a gateway to the unguarded northern frontier to Turkmenistan, a notorious smugglers' track toward the break-away republic of Chechnya, where bin Laden's support remains strong.

Gulalai gave no indication that bin Laden was in central Afghanistan, but some experts believe Baghran would be a logical refuge for the prime suspect behind the Sept. 11 attacks in the United States.

Pakistan says it has arrested 88 al-Qaida members in recent days. Some were believed to have been questioned by U.S. officials.

Three al-Qaida captives were transferred to the warship USS Peleliu, along with an American and an Australian who fought for the Taliban.

"There are still any number of al-Qaida loose in that country," Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said Monday. "That is why we are there, that is why we are chasing."

Palestinian militants, Arab press criticize Arafat

JERUSALEM (AP) — After calling for an end to Palestinian attacks, Yasser Arafat found himself under criticism Tuesday from both Palestinian militants at home and some quarters of the Arab press abroad.

Moreover, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said the speech by the Palestinian leader has not produced any let up in attacks against Israelis, and the United States was calling on Arafat to act against militants.

In the Gaza Strip, meanwhile, Israeli security forces arrested 10 Palestinians in two separate incidents, the Palestinians said.

The Israelis stopped three cars and detained six Palestinians at a checkpoint near a Jewish settlement in southern Gaza, both sides said. At the northern end of Gaza, Israeli troops fired on a group of Palestinian men, injuring one and arresting four, the Palestinians said.

Arafat demanded an end to shootings, suicide bombings and mortar attacks against Israel in a speech Sunday, and pledged to arrest Palestinians who carried out violence.

But two militant groups, Hamas and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, issued statements rejecting Arafat's call to stop attacks and suicide bombings.

Arafat also faced unusually strong criticism from some of the Arab press.

The Saudi Arabian newspaper al-Watan belittled Arafat's call to stop attacks. "Is there a name for all of this other than surrender?" the newspaper asked in an editorial.

Abdel Bari Atwan, editor of al-Quds al-Arabi, a London-based Arabic newspaper, said it was time for Arafat to retire as the Palestinian leader.

"There is one honorable exit for Palestinian President Yasser Arafat: it is to declare to his people in another television speech the dismantling of the (Palestinian Authority) and for him to return back to live respectfully in his home."

Despite Arafat's speech, the violence has not slowed.

Three Palestinians were shot to death by Israeli troops Monday, including a 12-year-old boy, and Arafat accused Israel of stepping up its military actions.

Also, four Israelis were shot and wounded, including a 3-year-old boy, in a trio of roadside shootings carried out by Palestinian gunmen Monday and Tuesday.

In a leaflet, the Al Aqsa

Martyrs Brigade, associated with Arafat's Fatah movement, claimed responsibility for two shooting attacks Monday, saying they were retaliation for the shooting deaths of Palestinians earlier in the day.

"Israel is equally fed up with words and promises," Sharon said in a statement issued by his office Monday night. "Israel wants actions and results."

Sharon's Cabinet broke off contacts with Arafat last week and declared him "irrelevant" following a deadly attack on an Israeli bus. The Israeli government has reacted with skepticism to Arafat's speech, repeatedly accusing Arafat of failing to act against militants.

Palestinian authorities say they have detained 180 suspected militants in recent weeks, though Israel counters that there has been no reduction in attacks.

The recent spate of suicide attacks against Israel damaged Arafat's standing in the world and gave Israel "greater freedom of action," said Lt. Gen. Shaul Mofaz, the chief of staff of the Israeli army.

Palestinian militants, meanwhile, were critical of Arafat's speech.

It was "very bad, it indicated defeat," said Abdel Halim Izzedine, an Islamic Jihad leader in Jenin in the northern West Bank. The group has claimed responsibility for multiple suicide attacks.

"To declare that our martyrs are not martyrs and they did a bad thing, this we cannot accept," he said in a reference to Arafat's declaration that his government has always denounced suicide bombings.

Said Siam, a Hamas official, said he understood the pressure Arafat is under, but "the Palestinian people will not accept death without self-defense."

Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat appealed to the United States to send envoy Anthony Zinni back to the area. Zinni left over the weekend after nearly three fruitless weeks of trying to arrange a truce.

In Washington, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said the United States supported Palestinian statehood and had not changed its view that Israel must give up land in the West Bank and Gaza and stop Jewish housing construction in those areas.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

SIGNS

more traffic in those neighborhoods because people are out looking at Christmas lights," she said.

One of the ideas behind the change is to see if removing stop signs on 25th increases traffic flow there and takes some of the load off 23rd Avenue, Lincycumb said.

She plans to have the results of the flow study ready for the next Traffic Commission meeting on Feb. 14.

"It's one of those things where some people want the change and some people don't," she said.

At last week's Traffic Commission meeting, Robert Jacobs addressed the group about area changes that have boosted traffic over the past 15 years.

Among those he said are more homes, conversion from a junior high to a middle school with more students, the building of Calvary Baptist Church and increased business and medical center additions north on Perryton Parkway.

CONT. FROM PAGE ONE

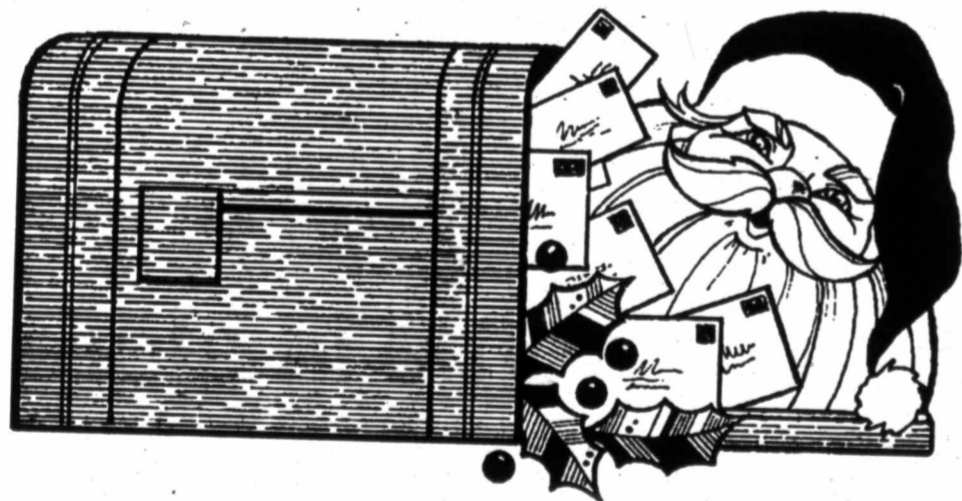
WRECK

She died in 1988.

He was longtime owner and operator of Bud's Office Supply in Amarillo. He was a member of the West Amarillo Christian Church and the ABC Club.

He is survived by a daughter, a son, five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

The family requests memorials be to West Amarillo Christian Church, 3701 Soncy Road, Amarillo, TX 79119.



Send Your Letter To Santa!

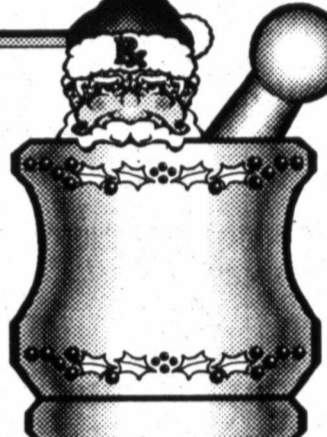
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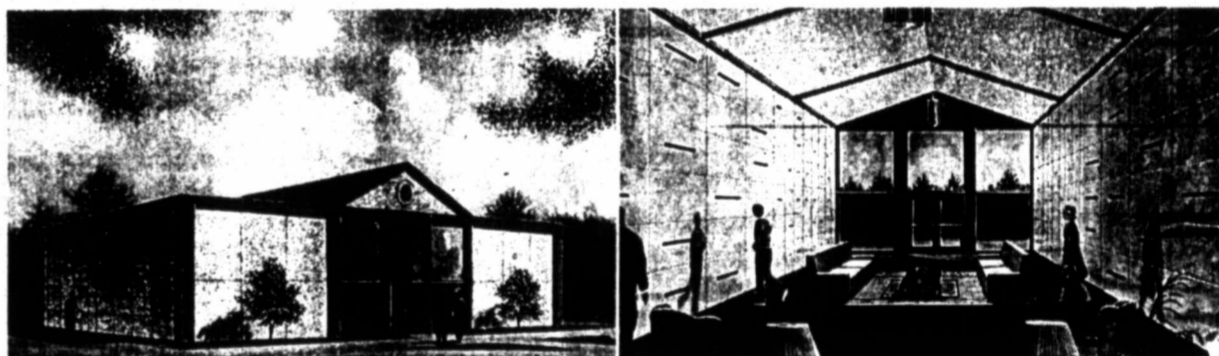


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~ Business Review ~

Holiday loans available at Sun Loan

Sun Loan Company has been in Pampa since 1996. The business offers small loans to Pampa-area residents. The local business specializes in small signature loans ranging from \$100 to \$500. The loan can be secured with collateral if needed.

Pampa's Sun Loan staff, Manager Lisa Coble and Assistant Manager Myrna

Rodriguez, are ready to provide any help to local residents.

Extra money is always helpful to customers during the Christmas Holidays and the Pampa Sun Loan office is available to help local residents. Sun Loan will extend their hours, and will be open on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Increasing the hours during the holiday season will provide additional time for customers to conduct business.

Sun Loan provides loan services on a walk-in-basis. Applications by telephone are also welcome. Sun Loan is licensed by the State of Texas and all applications are subject to Sun Loan credit policy.

In business for five years in Pampa, Sun Loan's local office opened Sept. 16, 1996, at its current location at 1534 N. Hobart.

Sun Loan is one of 138 company branches in seven states. Besides Texas, Sun Loan has offices in Oklahoma, Missouri, New Mexico, Illinois, Utah and Nevada.

The small loan company is a division of Brundage Management Corporation headquartered in San Antonio.

Loans are available at Sun Loan from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and during the holidays on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Lisa and Myrna want to assist in helping Pampa-area residents have a great Christmas holiday. They welcome customers to come in for Christmas Loans

during the busy holiday season.

Sun Loan Company is also offering electronic filing for faster tax refunds this year. Taxpayers can receive their income tax refund in two-four business days. The office will begin doing e-file on Jan. 11, 2002.

"Everyone is welcome to come in before then and get signed up with Sun Loan," said Lisa.

Sun Loan Company also sells Continental Car Club. This service is not for only customers of Sun Loan, but is for anyone needing this service. A three month subscription runs as low as \$18 per month. "This club gives you peace of mind, knowing that when the unexpected expenses of travel occur, you can

call on your club for these outstanding aids and expense reimbursements," she said.

The local business office is

located at 1534 N. Hobart in Pampa. Additional information can be obtained by calling Lisa or Myrna at 806-665-6442.



Lisa Coble, local store manager, and her assistant, Myrna Rodriguez, are available to loan money for that something extra for the holidays at the local Sun Office. The two women may be contacted at 1534 N. Hobart in Pampa.

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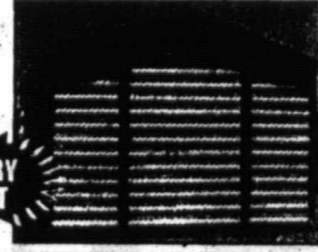


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Tuesday, December 18

Page 6

Cute Puppy Grows Up to Get Dumped on a Country Road

DEAR ABBY: You printed a letter concerning the cruelty of abandoning pets. The following is a true story of what can happen:

My sister-in-law's family acquired a darling black-and-white fuzzy puppy that grew into a big, shaggy mess. I'm sorry to say the poor dog was taken into the country and dumped by the side of the road. Our little niece loved that dog and mourned for her "Bootsie" for some time.

Several months later, my sister-in-law overheard her daughter on the front porch asking excitedly, "Bootsie! Where have you been all this time?" Yes, it took a few months, but Bootsie found his way back home. I like to think my sister-in-law and her husband learned their lesson.

The kindest thing you can do for a pet you can no longer keep is to take it to your local humane society or animal shelter. In this case, Bootsie beat the odds — many pets don't. Dumping an animal at the side of the road is almost always a sure and painful death.

AUNT IN SONOMA, CALIF.

DEAR AUNT: Dumping animals is also against the law in the state of California. Please inform your sister-in-law. It could mean the difference between life and death for Bootsie, should the parents repeat their "solution" for getting rid of Bootsie. Read on:

Dear Abby

Is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Thank you for the letter from "Pet Lover in Tenino, Wash.," regarding the tragedy of abandoned pets. The senseless act of disposing of a pet by throwing it into the street creates many victims, including thousands of drivers who are involved in accidents because they strike an animal or swerve to avoid one, those who must remove the injured or dead bodies from busy highways and freeways, those who give up much of their personal lives to become "rescuers," and those who find these terrified and starving creatures in their yard or neighborhood and must take them to the shelter. In the meantime, the owner goes merrily on, without remorse or regret.

Your readers may be pleased to know about S.B. 237, which became law in California in September 2001 and provides for road signs to be placed at the state line on all major highways entering California, warning of the misdemeanor and penalty of up to six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine for abandoning any animal — including reptiles and exotic animals. S.B. 237 also provides that this information will be printed in the

California Department of Motor Vehicles "Handbook for Drivers" in five languages (English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese and Tagalog) and will be included as a question in at least 20 percent of California drivers' tests.

We hope that S.B. 237 will serve as model legislation for other states; and, as sponsor of the bill, I would be pleased to work with anyone who wants to pass similar legislation.

PHYLLIS M. DAUGHTERY, DIRECTOR, ANIMAL ISSUES MOVEMENT, LOS ANGELES

DEAR PHYLLIS: My heartfelt congratulations for a job well done, one that's just beginning. Thank you very much for your letter and for offering to help animal activists nationwide to draft similar legislation in the other 49 states. Although it may be difficult to enforce, I hope it serves as a deterrent.

Readers interested in more information should write the Animal Issues Movement, 420 N. Bonnie Brae, Los Angeles, CA 90026, or write via e-mail to animalisu@aol.com.

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

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Wildwood



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

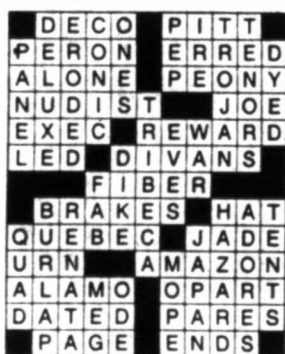
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 47 Lairs

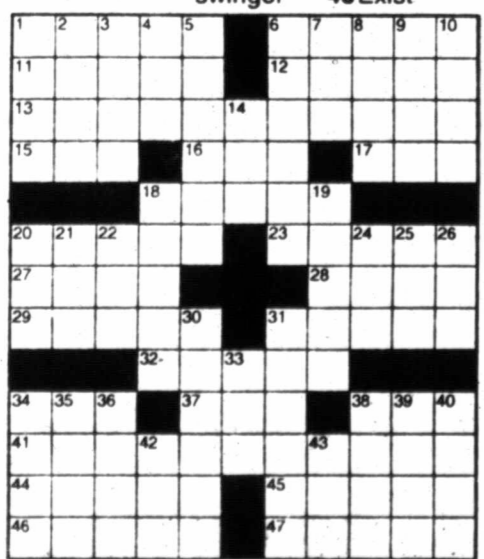
- 1 Tough puzzle
- 6 Bed boards
- 11 Sufficient
- 2 Hooded snake
- 3 "Two Tahitian Women" painter
- 5 Further more
- 6 Umbrella part
- 17 Boot part
- 8 Wild
- 10 Explorer John
- 23 Rescued
- 27 Skunk's weapon
- 28 Goose egg
- 29 Kind of children's book
- 31 LBJ, for one
- 32 King with the golden touch
- 34 Use a stool
- 37 Knight address
- 38 Beast of burden
- 41 "Le Chateau Noir" painter
- 44 Concur
- 45 Band-leader Shaw
- 46 Musical sounds

DOWN

- 1 Hemingway nickname
- 2 Mideast nation
- 3 Tater
- 4 Building wing
- 5 Rue
- 6 Sees the seas, in a way
- 7 Fireplace sight
- 8 Border
- 9 Jazz combo
- 10 Rational
- 14 Broadcast
- 18 Public meeting
- 19 Takes it easy
- 20 Beat walker
- 21 Fuss villain
- 22 Jazz variety on
- 24 Baffle
- 25 Historic time
- 26 Put on
- 30 Zodiac sign
- 31 Fictional swinger
- 33 Conk out
- 34 Tiff
- 35 "Othello" villain
- 36 Rotate
- 38 Picnic pests
- 39 Agitated state
- 40 Takes in
- 42 Grant's foe
- 43 Exist



Yesterday's answer



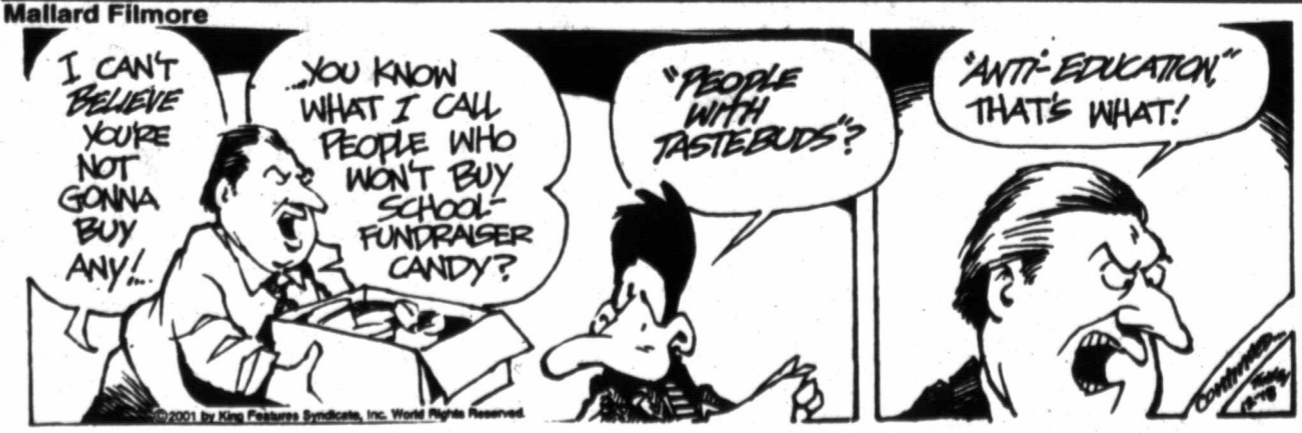
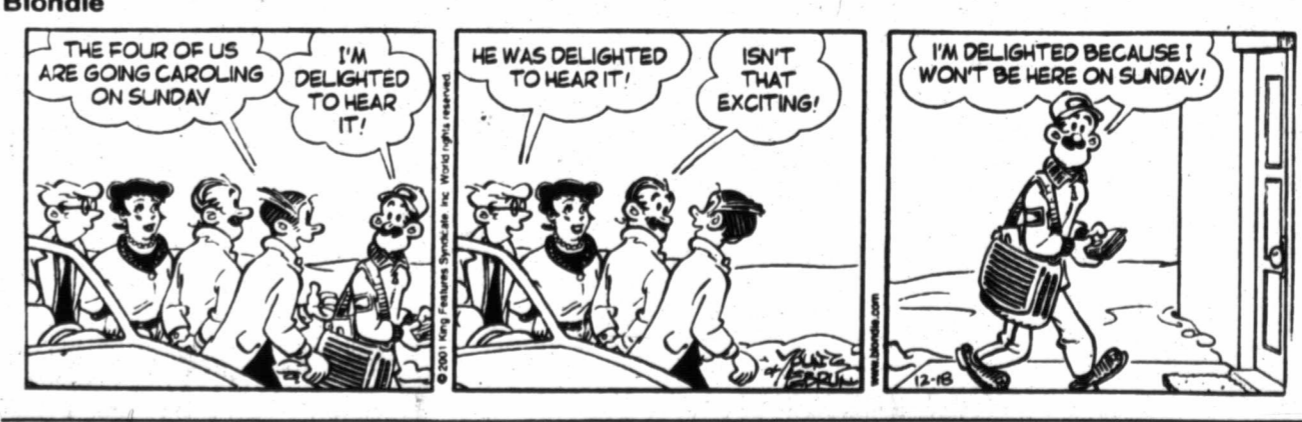
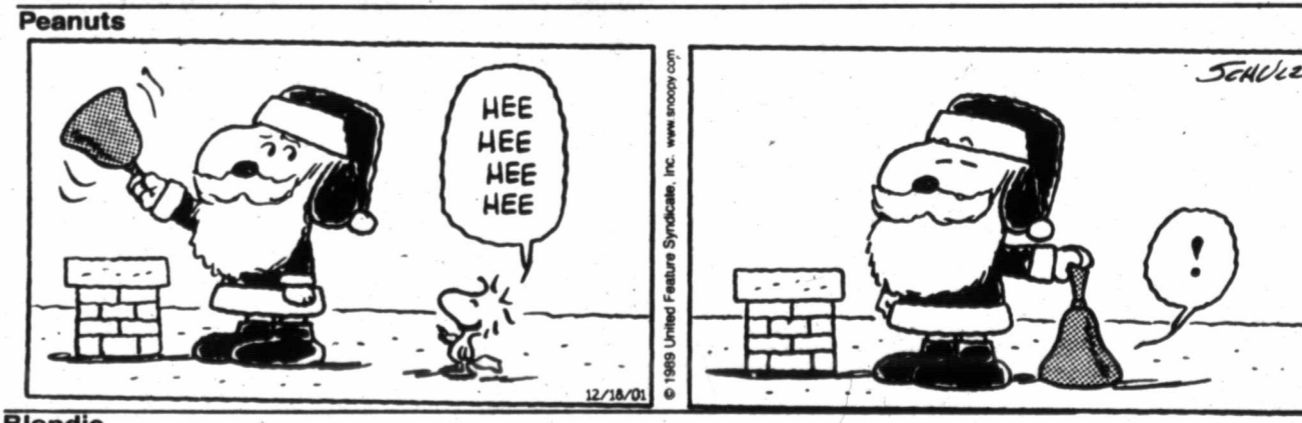
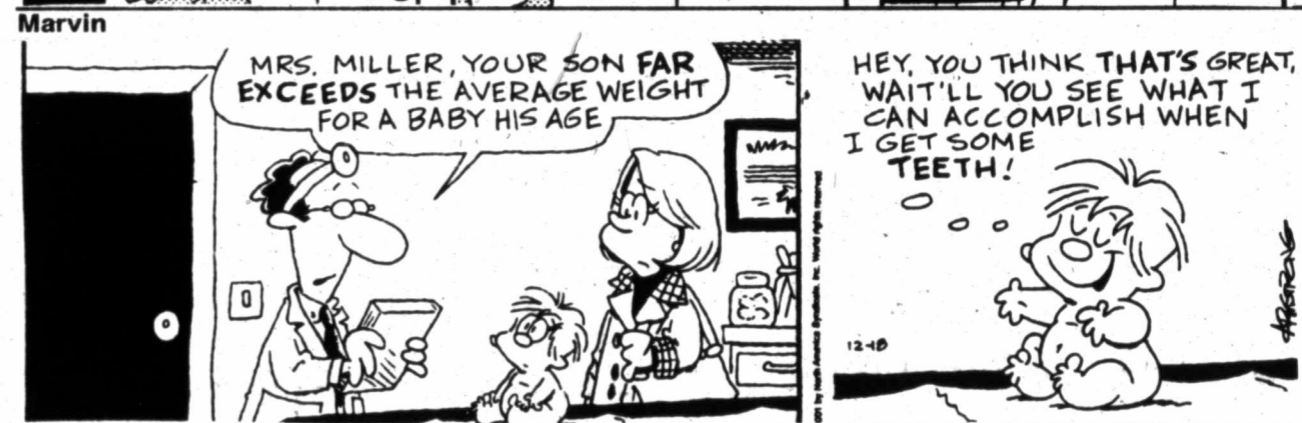
STUMPED?

For answer to today's crossword call 1-900-454-7377. 99¢ per minute, 18 years of age or older only. A King Features Service.

Marmaduke



The Family Circus



No FOOT

NEW This time ing wa quickly. And 1 A da Cleveland other ob overturn ing call b fans go Orleans. Unlike Cleveland last 48 Browns' to be play these fan less than There charges in disorder and battle were Superdon

BASKE

SPRING — Southba basketba Hinson game bal He hands to be spec And i keeps pla Monday 12 foe Te will nee chocola- the truck

Wallace, rebounder had 22 rebounds Missouri 76-65 in the Las was Walla double in he's a rebounds "I think best player said Re Southwest guard and teammate Southwest Plains.

BASEBA

CLEVEL John Rocke in after b Cleveland dealt by Texas, on minor leagu ball source the deal Associated

Rocker, w racial, ethn minorities article led to for two wee be reunited new Ranger ager John H The sourc the conditio said the c announced noon. Rocker wi teammate w fielder Carl went to Texa lier this mon

CLEVELA Ricky Gutie three-year c Cleveland In replace Robe second base played just 2 ond, none si the Houston

NEW YO Rondell Whit million, two with the New BOSTON Developer F dropped out for the Bosto is talking to about buildi on his land according to to the negotia McCourt F would only b um on his city's financia wins the bid team. But he is no one other bi about cutting may talk to permission fro

SPORTS

Notebook FOOTBALL

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — This time, the bottle throwing was over almost as quickly as it started.

And 13 people went to jail. A day after fans in Cleveland threw bottles and other objects to protest the overturning of a game-deciding call by replay, a section of fans got rowdy in New Orleans.

Unlike the fans in Cleveland, who caused the last 48 seconds of the Browns' loss to Jacksonville to be played a half-hour later, these fans delayed the game less than a minute.

There were 13 arrests on charges including drunk and disorderly, resisting arrest and battery. Another 15 people were ejected from the Superdome.

BASKETBALL

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (AP) — Southwest Missouri State basketball coach Barry Hinson doesn't give out game balls to his players. He hands out candy, M&Ms to be specific.

And if Mike Wallace keeps playing like he did Monday night against Big 12 foe Texas A&M, Hinson will need to order the chocolate-covered candy by the truckload.

Wallace, the 10th-leading rebounder in the country, had 22 points and 16 rebounds to lead Southwest Missouri over Texas A&M 76-65 in the first round of the Las Vegas Classic. It was Wallace's sixth double-double in eight games, and he's averaging 11.1 rebounds a game.

"I think Mike is one of the best players in the country," said Robert Yanders, Southwest Missouri's point guard and a junior college teammate of Wallace at Southwest Missouri-West Plains.

BASEBALL

CLEVELAND (AP) — John Rocker, who never fit in after being traded to Cleveland last season, was dealt by the Indians to Texas, on Tuesday for a minor league pitcher, baseball sources familiar with the deal told The Associated Press.

Rocker, whose remarks on racial, ethnic and sexual minorities in a magazine article led to his suspension for two weeks in 2000, will be reunited in Texas with new Rangers general manager John Hart.

The sources, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said the deal could be announced Tuesday afternoon.

Rocker will also now be a teammate with volatile outfielder Carl Everett, who went to Texas in a trade earlier this month from Boston.

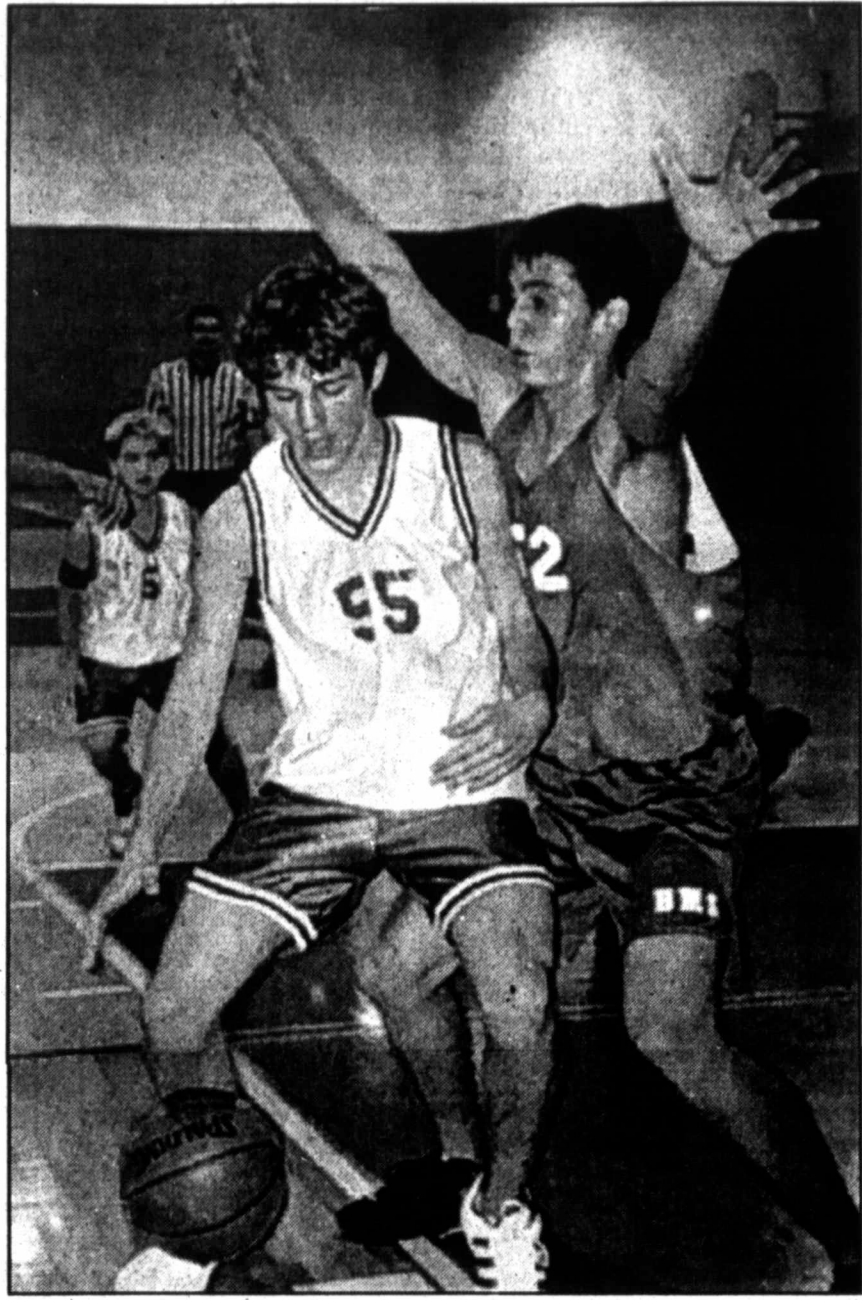
CLEVELAND (AP) — Ricky Gutierrez signed a three-year contract with the Cleveland Indians and will replace Roberto Alomar at second base. Gutierrez has played just 27 games at second, none since 1997 with the Houston Astros.

NEW YORK (AP) — Rondell White signed a \$10 million, two-year contract with the New York Yankees.

BOSTON (AP) — Developer Frank McCourt dropped out of the bidding for the Boston Red Sox but is talking to another group about building a stadium on his land near downtown, according to a source close to the negotiations.

McCourt had said he would only build the stadium on his site near the city's financial district if he wins the bidding for the team.

But he is now talking to one other bidding group about cutting a deal and may talk to others if given permission from the team.



(Pampa News photo by Tess Kingcade)

Chris Smith (55) tries to maneuver under the basket for a shot in an 8th grade basketball game against Borger.

Pampa 7th grade boys win at Borger tourney

BORGER — Pampa's 7th grade team competed in the Borger Tournament last weekend.

Pampa won one of three games, defeating Dumas 45-37. Michael Robinson and Brett Ferrell led the team in scoring with 12 points each.

Borger Tournament

7th Grade A Division

Plainview 4 21 32 39
Pampa 11 28 31 37
Pampa: Ferrell 9, Johnson 7
Panhandle 12 24 34 42
Pampa 14 22 35 41
Pampa: Schultz 13, Ferrell 11
Pampa 19 32 38 45
Dumas 8 15 24 37
Pampa: Robinson 12, Ferrell 12

7th Grade B Division

Borger 9 23 34 40
Pampa 3 6 12 14
Pampa: Clark 4, Eakin 4

Plainview 16 23 31 41
Pampa 5 8 12 18
Pampa: Van Houten 5, Clark 4
Dumas 12 20 27 36
Pampa 2 8 12 18
Pampa: Clark 6, Goldsmith 6

Pampa vs. Borger (regular-season games)

8th Grade Division

Borger A 50, Pampa A 41
Pampa: Barker 13, Robbins 6, Teichmann 4, Hickman 2, Torres 2, Kotara 2, Lowery 2, C. Smith 2
Borger B 39, Pampa B 22
Pampa: Franks 6, Moler 4, Goldsmith 4, Scott 4, Holloman 2, Davis 2.

7th Grade Division

Borger A 41, Pampa A 10
Pampa: Schultz 5, Crowell 2, Harris 2, Ferrell 1.
Borger B 40, Pampa B 16
Pampa: Goldsmith 5, Jonas 4, Van Houten 2, Pepper 2, Clark 2, Dixon 1.

Arena manager sends apology letter to Knight

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — The general manager of the Compaq Center in Houston sent a letter Monday to Texas Tech coach Bob Knight apologizing for confronting him after the coach disparaged the building.

However, arena manager Jerry MacDonald did not retract in the letter his claim that Knight let loose with a flurry of profanities and offered to fight him. MacDonald apologized for his behavior and remarks about his response to Knight about what the coach said about the arena's locker rooms. He said in the letter that he overreacted to Knight's remarks.

"I overstepped myself and hope that you will not hold my facility nor my company responsible," MacDonald's letter states. "It is not

the normally accepted behavior of my company for any member of its management to behave in a less than professional and customer oriented way."

MacDonald was not available by telephone for comment Monday.

At a post-game news conference following the Red Raiders' 89-72 victory over Louisiana-Lafayette on Monday night, Knight said he had conveyed through Tech sports information director Randy Farley what had happened and would not discuss further the conversation he and MacDonald had. happened.

Texas Tech athletic director Gerald Myers said the president of the holding company, SMG, that owns the Compaq Center expressed his concerns and apology by phone to Knight.

Cowboys' Smith wants 30-carry games back

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Emmitt Smith's eyes danced and he grew animated as he recalled the Christmas present that made him happiest.

"It was this electric football game," Smith said Monday, making noises to show reporters in the Dallas Cowboys dressing room the sounds it made.

"Couldn't get enough, huh?" someone asked him.

"Oh, that was the start," Smith said. "That was the start. I think the two teams I had were the Minnesota Vikings and the Steelers. We ran the ball a lot. I don't think you COULD pass in that game."

Smith wished out loud that the Cowboys had the same devotion to the running game. After averaging 23 carries in the previous two games — victories over the Washington Redskins and the New York Giants — Smith expected the same against Seattle.

Instead, Smith had just 12 carries for 39 yards and fullback Troy Hambrick had one carry for 3 yards in a 29-3 Seattle victory. Quarterback Quincy Carter was the leading rusher with 40 yards on 6 carries. The Cowboys went to the air 33 times and rushed the ball only 21 times.

"I don't know why we had to abandon the run right away. The score was 10-3, then 12-3, then 15-3. But, you just try to do the best you can when your number is called, and that's what I'm trying to do. If my number isn't called, there's nothing I can do about it," Smith said.

Cowboys coach Dave Campo said he would have liked to have gone with a strategy of running Emmitt, Emmitt, Emmitt at Seattle, "but the circumstances forced us out of it."

"We were just too inconsistent. We just weren't able to move the chain. We had a number of three plays and out, instead of going 4 yards, 3 yards, 3 yards. I bet we were third-and-7, third-and-8 a bunch," Campo said. "In every area, we lacked focus. Some of our guys were pulling off their blocks early."

The Cowboys penetrated Seattle territory only four times — three in the first half and once at the very end with the Cowboys trailing by 26.

As late as the fourth quarter, Campo said, he thought the Cowboys would pull the game out as they changed to a strategy of trying to throw to wide receivers Rocket Ismail or Joey Galloway.

"Part of it is a learning thing for the quarterback. Quincy threw the ball well, and that was a positive. A few times, he was a little bit late getting the ball off, and one time, we almost had what would have been a completion to Rocket for 50 or 60 yards. Quincy was throwing it into the wind and needed to throw it harder. It's a learning thing," Campo said.

"No question we took a step backward with this game. For the second straight week, we had some crucial penalties. I don't question anybody's effort, but we have to play with more focus," Campo said.

Eleven games into the season, Smith has only 690 yards. He must average 104 yards a game over the Cowboys' final three games if he is to achieve his 11th straight 1,000-yard season. He is in a tie with Barry Sanders for the NFL record of 10 in a row.

Not since his rookie season in 1990 has Smith gained fewer than 1,000 yards.

"Sure, getting a thousand means a lot," Smith said. "Getting 100 yards in a game is the mark you strive to get in a game, and 1,000 yards is the mark you strive to get in a season."

McLean girls win tournament title

LEFORS — McLean defeated Lefors 42-35 last weekend to win the girls' championship in the Lefors Tournament.

Nikki Hefley was high scorer for McLean with 19 points. Danielle Dampier followed with 6.

Samantha Cenicerros was high-point scorer for Lefors with 12 points. Katie Barnes chipped in 10 points.

Lefors reached the finals by defeating Holy Cross 49-46. Barnes was high-point girl with 16 points, followed by Cenicerros with 14, Savannah Smith 11 and Amanda Daugherty 8.

In the boys' division, Channing downed Lefors 35-21 in the finals.

Channing was led in scoring by Lane Grant with 16 points.

Ricky Vaughn had 11 points to lead Lefors. Andrew Johnson was next with 8.

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Fire causes extensive damage to New York cathedral

By ALAN CLENDENNING
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Fire broke out Tuesday morning at the historic Cathedral of St. John the Divine, with flames shooting from the Episcopal church that has been under construction for more than a century.

Part of the roof of an adjoining three-story gift shop caved in but no injuries were reported.

The Christmastime fire, which was brought under control within 2 1/2 hours, was largely contained in the main cathedral area, according to fire officials, who said they expected widespread smoke and water damage. The cause of the blaze was under investigation.

Up to 200 firefighters were called to the scene at about 7 a.m., an hour before the first Mass of the day at the world's largest gothic cathedral. Smoke poured

from the gift shop, and scores of onlookers stood by.

"There were clouds of black smoke 40 feet high. The winds were blowing it all over the place," said Juan Cruz, a mechanic who saw the fire on his way to work at nearby Columbia University. On the church grounds two blocks from the blaze, about a dozen members of the Cathedral School's basketball team were led to safety by staff, said Cindy Arlia, the school's business manager. Arriving parents were told to return home with their children.

Among them was, Margaret Hurwitz, who was with her 12-year-old son, Nicholas.

"We were just crying all the way down here," she said.

"You know, after the World Trade towers, you want something to be secure," Hurwitz said. "This is where we came that day."

Thousands of people visit the cathedral every day, and a half million a year, cathedral spokesman Jere Farrah said. Two Masses are traditionally held on Christmas, each of which typically attracts as many as 5,000 people.

The cathedral is home to many priceless artifacts, according to Farrah, including a collection known as the Barberini tapestries, which date to the 17th and 18th centuries. The tapestries, woven on the pope's official looms, depict the life of Christ. It was uncertain if the tapestries were damaged in the fire.

The cathedral is on Manhattan's Upper West Side in the Morningside Heights neighborhood. The Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia says the church is the world's largest gothic cathedral.

The first stone was laid in 1892, but construction has never been completed, and work has continued until World War II. When construction resumed in 1982 after a 41-year break, jobless local youths were trained in old-fashioned stonemasonry methods.

Cathedral organist Dorothy Papadakos said the organ was the city's fourth largest and dates to 1910.

"We were going to do 'The Messiah' in two days," she said, "but I don't think it's going to happen."

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HOW TO PLAY

Select a winner from each of the week's games, listed below. Select in descending order of your CONFIDENCE in your choices. Win points at left for each correct selection toward possible total of 136 points. See complete rules below. You must be at least 8 (eight) years old to enter. To enter, clip along dotted line, then place game entry in POWER POINTS container at co-sponsor's retail outlet(s). Entrants must list name, address and phone number below.

LIMIT: You may enter only once weekly.

DEADLINE: 2 P.M. FRIDAY

TIEBREAKER 1 Total points scored (both teams) in CARDS game.

TIEBREAKER 2 Total offensive yards (both teams) in this game.

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

Miami at New England	Detroit at Pittsburgh
Philadelphia at San Francisco	Jacksonville at Minnesota
Tennessee at Oakland	New Orleans at Tampa Bay
Buffalo at Atlanta	St. Louis at Carolina
Chicago at Washington	San Diego at Kansas City
Cincinnati at Baltimore	Seattle at NY Giants
Cleveland at Green Bay	NY Jets at Indianapolis
Dallas at Arizona	

POWER POINTS OFFICIAL RULES

- Object of the game is to amass as many of the 136 possible points as you can. Simply review the week's schedule of games, listed on entry form, and decide which game you are SUREST of picking a winner in. Write the name of your projected winner on the 16-point line. If that team wins its game that week, you win 16 points. Write the name of your second-surest winner on the 15-point line, and so on down to the 1-point line, which game you figure to be a loss-up. Next, fill in Tiebreaker 1, the total points scored by both teams in the week's designated game. If this step fails to produce a winner, the judges will apply Tiebreaker 2, total offensive yardage from scrimmage in this game. If a winner still doesn't emerge, a drawing will be held among those contestants still tied. Decisions of the judges are final. The weekly Southwest winner of the contest will receive \$1,000.
- Any entry form that does not contain a legible name, address, etc., will be disqualified.
- Entries that fail to forecast a winner from each and every game will be disqualified, as will entries that fail to distinguish between the Jets and Giants of New York and other similar teams.
- No points are awarded on tie games or in case any game is not played for any reason during its scheduled week.
- Entering POWER POINTS constitutes permission by contestant for his or her name and photograph to be used for news and reasonable promotional purposes at no charge.
- Employees of this newspaper and their immediate families are ineligible to participate.
- Any inquiry about or protest of weekly results must be made by noon on the Friday following the announcement of winners.
- No purchase necessary. Facsimile game entry forms will be accepted. Enter contest by dropping entry form into POWER POINTS container at participating co-sponsors.
- Weekly deadline for entry will be 2 p.m. Fridays except when noted otherwise on weekly entry form.
- Neither this newspaper nor any co-sponsor will be responsible for illegible entry forms or those lost, stolen or damaged in any way.
- Limit: one entry per person per week. Each entry must represent the original work of one entrant; "group" entries, "systems" or other attempts to enter multiple entries will be disqualified. Filing out extra forms and putting your friends' and relatives' names on them violates this rule. Any such entries are destroyed prior to grading.
- Contestants must have reached the age of eight (8) years by the Sunday of any week's play.

PAMPA SPORTS SCHEDULE

Monday - December 17
Basketball
Pampa 7th - 8th Grade Girls host Hereford, 5:30 p.m.
Pampa 7th - 8th Grade Boys at Hereford, 5:30 p.m.

Friday - December 21
Basketball
Pampa High School Boys and Girls Teams host Dumas, 6:00 p.m.

Local Activities Are Not Included In The Power Points Contest

House building increases; info lifts Wall Street

By JEANNINE AVERSA
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Housing construction jumped by 8.2 percent in November to the highest level since January as builders bet that low mortgage rates would continue to lure prospective buyers.

Builders broke ground last month on a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.65 million housing units, an 8.2 percent increase over October's level, the Commerce Department reported Tuesday.

On Wall Street, the news lifted stocks. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 92 points and the Nasdaq gained 19 in the first half-hour of trading.

The bigger-than-expected increase in housing construction came even as consumer confidence fell to a 7 1/2-year low in November and the employment picture worsened. The nation's unemployment rate climbed from 5.4 percent to 5.7 percent and payrolls fell sharply.

Low mortgage rates are a key reason that the housing and construction markets have remained stable even as the national economy has been suffering through a recession since March.

The average interest rate on a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage was 6.7 percent in November, compared with 7.7 percent for the same month a year ago.

Builders say low interest rates and solid appreciation in housing values are motivating new home buyers.

A survey released Monday by the National Association of Home Builders cited these factors as reasons that builders are more optimistic about sales prospects for December as well as within the next six months.

"The very favorable interest-rate environment and strong investment potential of homeownership are proving to be powerful incentives for buyers whose jobs have not been impacted by recent economic weakness," said Bruce Smith, president of the National Association of Home Builders.

"Builders remain concerned about the situation in some markets, particularly in the Midwest, where job losses have been most concentrated," Smith added.

The 8.2 percent rise in housing construction, which followed a 4 percent drop in October, pushed the level of starts to the highest point since January, when they grew at a rate of 1.67 million units.

In addition to low mortgage rates, economists said, mild weather in November was a factor in the increase.

In November, construction of single-family homes rose 3.2 percent to a rate of 1.26 million units, after registering a 3.4 percent decline the month before.

Construction of apartments, condominiums and other multi-family housing soared by 30.1 percent last month to a rate of 346,000, following a 2.9 percent drop in October.



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Cynthia Hannon-Leach - Owner • Ginger Jernigan - Sales Manager

669-1551

*This sale valid at Cellular Connections only. See store for details. Offers good for a limited time on new activation on select rate plans only and are subject to change without notice. Not available in all areas. Unlimited weekend minutes are for calls made from 9:00 p.m. Friday to 11:59 p.m. Sunday from within home calling area only. Additional fees apply for taxes, assessments, surcharges, roaming, long distance or other toll charges. Incoming and outgoing calls are rounded up and billed in full-minute increments from the time the network begins to process the call (before the call rings or is answered) through its termination. W.A.C. 18 month contract required. Other restrictions may apply.

