

Daily Record

Services tomorrow

ENGEL, Joe — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whalley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

Obituaries

JOE ENGEL

Joe Engel, 43, of Pampa, died Sunday, Dec. 23, 2001, at Amarillo, Texas. Services will be at 10 a.m., Thursday in Carmichael-Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Lynn Hancock, pastor of the Briarwood Full Gospel Church, and Mr. Wallace Bruce officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whalley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Engel was born May 13, 1957, in Houston. He was a graduate of Clarendon College with an associates degree in auto mechanics. He moved to Pampa in 1980 and worked for Culberson-Stowers Chevrolet in the 1980s and 1990s as a mechanic. He later worked as an independent auto mechanic.

He was an avid hunter and softball player. Survivors include a daughter, Destiny Engel of Pampa; a son, Micheal Engel of Pampa; two brothers, Greg Engel of Columbia, Missouri, and Fred Epperly of Lake Fork; and a special friend, Pam Lorenson of Pampa.

The family requests memorials be to Make A Wish Foundation, 2324 Lakeview Drive, Amarillo, TX 79109; or to BSA Hospice, P.O. Box 950, Amarillo, TX 79176.

ANNA SCOTT

WHITE DEER — Anna Scott, 85, died Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2001, at Panhandle, Texas. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whalley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Scott was born March 3, 1916, at Jamestown, Tenn. She married Floyd Turner on July 13, 1934; he died in 1968. She later married Floyd Scott on May 21, 1985, at Pampa. A longtime Gruver resident, she moved to Pampa and later to White Deer in the mid-1980s. She was a homemaker and a member of First Baptist Church of Pampa and Pampa Senior Citizens.

Survivors include her husband, Floyd, of White Deer; two daughters, Floyce Corcoran of Pampa and Carolyn Hardesty of Rock Springs, Wyo.; a son, David Turner of Gruver; a half-sister, Charlene Branum of Amarillo; a step-sister, Bertha Johnson of Amarillo; seven grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Ambulance

Rural Metro Ambulance Service responded to the following calls during the 48-hour holiday period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Monday, Dec. 24

10:52 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of South Love and transported one to Pampa Regional Medical Center (PRMC).

1:02 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing center and transported one to PRMC.

2:06 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred one to a local nursing center.

Tuesday, Dec. 25

3:42 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of North Zimmers and transported one to PRMC.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Anthony Grain of Pampa.

Wheat	2.36	up 0.06
Milo	3.38	up 0.08
Corn	3.60	up 0.39
Soybeans	3.50	up 0.34
Oil Sunflowers	8.35	up 0.01

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

Occidental	26.87	up 0.46
Fidelity Magellan	103.82	up 0.19
Fairfax	17.54	up 0.03

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

HP	45.78	up 0.61
Celanese	19.13	up 0.07
Cabot	34.96	up 0.16
Cabot O&G	23.80	up 0.15
Chevron/Texas	90.17	up 1.62

Coca Cola	48.55	up 0.18
Enron	0.70	up 0.06
Halliburton	13.34	NC
KMI	57.00	up 1.20
Kerr McGee	53.74	up 0.68
Limited	14.84	up 0.39
McDonald's	26.19	up 0.34
Exxon Mobil	40.01	up 1.01
New Atmos	21.24	NC
NCEL	27.89	up 0.34
NOI	20.35	up 0.47
OKE	17.79	up 0.19
Penney's	26.27	up 0.46
Phillips	60.36	up 0.76
Pioneer Nat	19.29	up 0.19
SLB	54.70	up 1.60
Tenneco	1.92	up 0.03
Irad Hospitals	30.30	up 0.58
Ultramar	50.02	up 0.22
Wal-Mart	58.08	up 0.95
Williams	23.86	up 0.61

New York Gold	278.05
Silver	4.54
West Texas Crude	NA

Missing boy's shoe found in lake at Possum Kingdom State Park

CADDO (AP) — A small black tennis shoe found in Possum Kingdom Lake gave searchers their first major clue to the whereabouts of a 6-year-old boy missing since Saturday. The shoe was found Tuesday in a crevice in some rocks near the shoreline about three-quarters of a mile southwest of a spot where dogs had picked up Ira Clutter's scent on Monday, said Kristin Everett, spokeswoman for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents during the 48-hour holiday period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Friday, Dec. 21

8 a.m. — A 1989 Buick owned by William R. Wilson, RR 1, Box 570, on private property at 1901 N. Hobart reportedly rolled backwards and struck a building owned by James Lee McDonald, 2413 Comanche. The vehicle then left the scene. Damage was estimated at \$400. No citations were listed on the police report.

12:39 p.m. — A 2001 Chevrolet Silverado pickup driven by Rickie Eugene Cates, 39, 600 N. Banks, and a 1981 Chevrolet Silverado pickup driven by Jeremy Wade Jochetz, 24, 800 N. Dwight, collided at Banks and Gwendolyn streets. Cates was cited for failure to yield right of way at a stop sign. No injuries were reported at the scene.

3:45 p.m. — A 1991 Pontiac driven by Nancy Jo Lewis Adams, 45, Skellytown; a 1998 Plymouth Voyager minivan driven by Donna Layne Carnagey, 37, 1017 Terry; and a 1993 GMC Sierra pickup driven by Rosie Hartley Kirklun, 60, 926 Campbell, collided in the 200 block of West Kentucky. Adams was cited for failure to control speed. No injuries were reported at the scene.

Sunday, Dec. 23

9:59 a.m. — A 1985 Ford F150 XLT pickup driven by Suzanne Seidel Nix, 59, 349 Sunset, and a 2001 Nissan sentra driven by Sarah-Beth Meelee McCall, 17, 2364 Beech, collided in the 2200 block of North Perryton Parkway. Nix was cited for unsafe lane change. No injuries were reported at the scene.

Monday, Dec. 24

2:50 p.m. — A 1999 Ford F150 pickup owned by Miramantes Humberto Estrada of Denver, Colo., and a 2000 Ford Escort driven by Jesus Soto, 22, 101 S. Nelson, collided in a private parking lot in the 300 block of East Brown. After a short discussion, the driver of the pickup left the scene without leaving information required by law, according to the police report. No injuries were reported at the scene. No citations were listed on the report.

3:29 p.m. — A 1999 Chevrolet Cavalier driven by Amber Lynette Teakell, 19, Flagstaff, Ariz., and a 1996 Saturn SC2 driven by Monica Rebecca Hernandez, 23, Borger, collided at Hobart and 18th streets. No injuries were reported at the scene. No citations were listed on the report.

Tuesday, Dec. 25

4:38 p.m. — A 1993 GMC Jimmy SUV driven by Finis Calvin Gee, 43, 1104 Juniper, and a 1992 Buick LeSabre driven by Mickey Sue Johnson, 79, 1001 N. Sumner, #11, collided at Hobart and 17th streets. No injuries were reported at the scene. No citations were listed on the report.

8 p.m. — A brown unknown vehicle backed into a legally parked 1988 Pontiac Bonneville owned by Lony Edwards of Friona in the 1700 block of Garland and left the scene.

Fires

Pampa Fire Department responded to the following calls during the 48-hour holiday period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Monday, Dec. 24

4:52 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a carbon monoxide check in the 1300 block of Garland. A high level of the toxic gas was found. Firefighters turned off the heating system. The home's occupants left until repairs could be made.

Tuesday, Dec. 25

4:34 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a motor vehicle collision at 17th and Hobart streets. No injuries were reported.

Emergency numbers

Ambulance	911
Crime Stoppers	669-2222
Energas	1-888-Energas
Fire	911
Police (emergency)	911
Police (non-emergency)	669-5700
SPS	1-800-750-2520
Water	669-5830

CHRISTMAS

Fortunately, firefighters only responded to two calls over the holiday. On Christmas Eve, a Pampa family's carbon monoxide detector went off, alerting them to the presence of the deadly odorless gas.

After finding a high level of the gas at 1313 Garland, shortly before 5 p.m., firefighters turned off the heating system. The family left the home until the heater could be repaired.

Then on Christmas Day, firefighters were called to a minor vehicle collision at 17th and

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Hobart Street. No one was injured in the mishap, officials said.

Pampa Police Department reported several Christmas-related calls. Christmas decorations were reported as stolen in one instance, while there were domestic calls during the holiday period.

Also, Star War figures and a PlayStation were reported stolen.

Several alcohol-related offenses were reported which are common during holidays. Driving while intoxicated, domestic calls, minor in possession and thefts were all reported by local law enforcement.

Several City of Pampa employees worked during the holiday period. Saturday, several downtown streets were closed for a short period of time while city employees battled a problem with a water main. Then on Sunday, the employees had to repair and clean up along Browning Avenue after a sewer main broke.

Further details concerning the water problems were unavailable from city officials at press time today.

Nancy Young and Dee Dee Laramore contributed to this report.

Police report

Pampa Police Department reported the following calls and arrests during the 48-hour holiday period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, December 22

Daniel W. Walker, 30, 734 Murphy, was arrested on capias profine warrants for unrestrained child, no seat belt and speeding.

Marshall Clayton Johnson, 36, 1441 Charles, was arrested on warrants for no drivers license, no seatbelt, and failure to appear.

An amplifier was reported taken out of a vehicle in the 300 block of North Sumner. Estimated loss was \$950.

A telephone harassment call was reported in the 500 block of North Doucette.

Criminal mischief was reported to the Pampa Police Department. According to the report, a window was broken out of a vehicle. Estimate of damage was \$300.

Pampa Police Department investigated a report of domestic assault at One Medical Plaza. The assault was reported to have occurred in the 1400 block of North Banks.

A burglary was reported in the 1000 block of Mary Ellen. A PlayStation valued at \$300 was reported taken.

Star Wars action figures were reported taken in the 1100 block of Terrace. Estimated loss was \$860.

Christmas lawn decoration were reported taken from the 2600 block of North Cherokee. Estimated loss is \$70.

A report of a tool box missing from the back of a pickup was made to PPD. The complainant said the tool box contained assorted tools valued at \$600.

Clothing and CDs were reported taken from a vehicle in the 100 block of North Hobart. Estimated loss was \$1,100. Police reported no forced entry into the vehicle.

An evading arrest was reported in the 1100 block of West Alcock.

Sunday, December 23

Domestic violence was reported in the 1100 block of East Kingsmill. The report stated the victim required medical treatment due to minor injuries.

Police reported to the owner of a vehicle that a window had been broken out at a residence in the 1000 block of North Somerville. The criminal mischief damage was estimated at \$300.

A minor in possession was reported in the 1100 block of South Farley.

Telephone harassment was reported in the 400 block of North Somerville.

A report of deadly conduct was made by PPD in the 1500 block of North Faulkner.

A gasoline drive-off was reported in the 1000 block of North Wilks.

A criminal mischief was reported in the 2400 block of North Dogwood. A window was reported broken out of a vehicle with an estimated \$120 in damages.

Six windows were reported broken at a residence in the 500 block of Lefors was reported along with a back door kicked in. Damages were estimated at \$295.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2200 block of Perryton Parkway. Several eggs were thrown at a business. The police report stated damage was minimal.

Monday, December 24

Donald Ross Haynes, 37, 628 Roberta, was arrested for theft over \$50 and under \$500.

Edd Garden Drew, 44, 1032 S. Love, was arrested on a warrant for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Tuesday, December 25

Grover Norris Black, 63, 1404 N. Banks, was arrested for unlawfully carrying a concealed weapon.

Benjamin David Frogge, 17, 1921 Dogwood, was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

Weather

PAMPA — Today, mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 50s. West winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tonight, clear. Lows in the mid 20s. Southwest winds 5 to 10 mph. Thursday, partly cloudy.

Highs in the mid 40s. North winds 10 to 15 mph. Thursday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 20s. Friday, mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 40s.

Friday evening, partly cloudy. Saturday, partly cloudy. Lows 15 to 25. Highs near 40. Sunday and Monday, cloudy with a slight chance of snow. Lows near 20. Highs in the mid 30s.

New Years Day, partly cloudy. Lows 15 to 20. Highs in the mid 40s. High for Tuesday was 45, and the overnight low was 18.

STATEWIDE — Sunny skies and cool temperatures will prevail over Texas today.

Temperatures will remain mostly steady over the state this week and Saturday, with skies increasingly cloudier by the weekend. Cooler temperatures are forecast Sunday over most regions, with a chance of rain or snow in the Panhandle and North Texas by Sunday night.

Temperatures ranged from 61

degrees at Brownsville on Christmas Day to 12 degrees last night at Marfa.

In West Texas, highs will be in the 50s today with sunny skies. Lows tonight will range from the 20s to mid 30s.

Thursdays, highs will range from the mid 40s in the Panhandle and South Plains to the mid 60s south and west.

Temperatures will hold steady through the weekend with cloudier skies. A slight chance of snow is forecast for the Panhandle on Sunday.

In North Texas, sunny today, with highs in the mid 40s to the mid 50s. Tonight, lows will range from the upper 20s to the mid 30s. On Thursday, it will be sunny with warmer temperatures. Temperatures will be slightly cooler Friday and Saturday over the region.

Sunday, mostly cloudy and colder, with a slight chance of rain or snow Sunday night through Monday over an area ranging from Waco in the south, north to the Red River and areas east.

In South Texas, temperatures today will range from the low 50s north to near 70 in the

Valley, with sunny skies. Lows will be slightly below freezing tonight in the north. Warmer

across the region on Thursday, with partly cloudy skies. Friday, cooler temperatures will reach the Hill Country and southeast Texas, with temperatures remaining warm over the weekend in the south.

City Briefs

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

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Rescue work continues amid the WTC wreckage

By STEPHANIE GASKELL
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The search for bodies in the World Trade Center wreckage stopped only briefly for Christmas services, then continued, with the crews determined to help console grieving families by bringing home the missing.

"In a weird way, it would be like a gift for somebody," said emergency services police officer Patrick Shea, who spent the holiday sifting through the debris.

Christmas Day marked 15 weeks since Sept. 11, when two hijacked jetliners crashed into the trade center towers and left nearly 3,000 people dead or missing.

The remains of several victims were found Christmas Eve as crews reached what had been the underground levels of the trade center.

The rescue workers at the site Christmas Eve and Christmas Day had volunteered to be there. Many said their families missed them on Christmas, but they noted that it was nothing like what victims' relatives were going through.

"If you have to work on Christmas, as far as a fireman is concerned, this is the place to be," said New York firefighter Tom Sweetman.

Huge crowds of locals and tourists also gathered at the site to pay their respects. Veronique Fellous, who traveled from Paris to celebrate the holiday in New York, said she wanted to be there to feel like part of the community.

Army National Guard Sgt. Enrique Guadalupe spent the day escorting dozens of victims' families to a viewing platform at the site. He said it was an honor to be working at the site on Christmas.

"They go in one way, and when they come out, they have a whole different expression," he said. "I guess they feel some sort of closure."

Workers gathered inside a giant tent on the site throughout the day, where Salvation Army volunteers served a Christmas meal of prime rib, turkey and ham.

Christmas was also a working holiday for many National Guardsmen across the country who patrolled airports, bridges and other potential terrorist targets.

"It's been a pretty upbeat day, considering," said Los Angeles firefighter and guardsman Steven Monteilh, who was patrolling the Burbank Airport outside Los Angeles. "People are in a festive mood. They're less stressful, less in a rush, less snappy. I think that's the holiday that brings that out in people."

President Bush said in his Christmas message that Americans across the country were thinking of the families who lost loved ones, both in the Sept. 11 attacks and on the battlefield in Afghanistan.

"This is a day on which we give thanks for the wonder of God's love, for the blessings we have received, and for the families we love," Bush said. "And this year all of these things seem particularly important."

In Afghanistan, American forces far away from loved ones celebrated Christmas with carols, touch football and turkey dinners.

At Bagram air base, north of the capital, Kabul, the troops also received a Christmas card from local Afghan residents. It was written mostly in Dari, the local language, but it said in English, "Merry Christmas."

Shoppers hit the malls, but sales remain bleak

NEW YORK (AP) — Bargain-hunters headed to malls the day after Christmas as merchants slashed prices even further to clear out products from the holiday season. But even if sales are brisk this week, it probably won't save retailers from their worst shopping season in a decade.

Some shoppers were surprised Wednesday to find few people waiting outside stores to hit sales early.

"Everyone had such good sales before Christmas," said Sally Moore-Rafferty of Selkirk, N.Y., minutes before the doors opened for Macy's post-Christmas sale at the Colonie Center Mall, near Albany, N.Y.

With a disappointing pre-holiday shopping season behind them, retailers are setting their sights on the post-Christmas selling period, slashing already discounted prices to draw shoppers back to stores.

The seven days leading up to the New Year typically account for about 10 percent of total holiday sales, but this year those results were more important than usual. Merchants are hoping the deals attract enough business to compensate for otherwise dismal results. They also need to make room for spring goods, which start coming in at the end of the month.

"Retailers have to be concerned with

getting their stores ready for the spring selling season, and they must sell everything by mid to late January — no matter what the cost," said C. Britt Beemer, chairman of America's Research Group, based in Charleston, S.C.

Beemer noted that retailers don't want to repeat the mistakes of a year ago, when they couldn't move merchandise fast enough. "A lot of retailers were still having clearance sales in February, and couldn't bring in their spring merchandise," he said.

Many stores had cut back on holiday inventories because of the slowdown, but those efforts weren't enough. As a result, discounts began early.

The markdowns intensified as Christmas approached, with some stores offering discounts of up to 75 percent off, typical of what customers would find during post-holiday sales. Some of the biggest sales were for sweaters, coats and other heavy winter apparel because demand was stymied by warmer-than-usual weather.

Kurt Barnard, president of Barnard's Retail Trend Report, based in Upper Montclair, N.J., expects shoppers to find "discounts galore."

"There is no question that customers will enjoy extraordinary opportunities for extraordinary bargains," he said.

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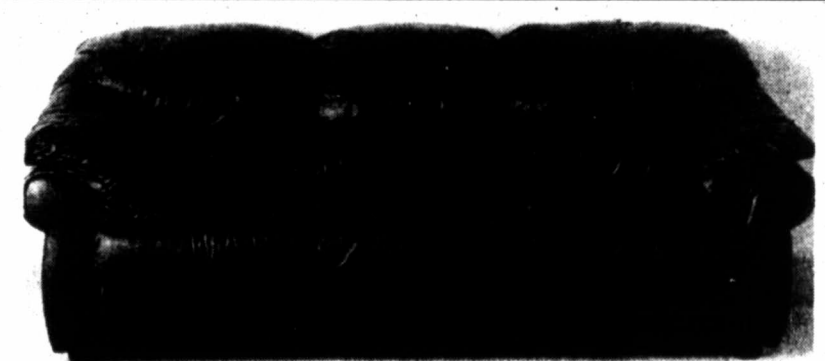
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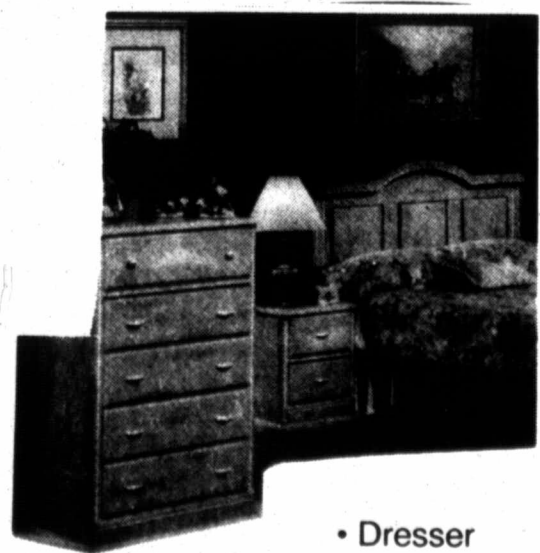
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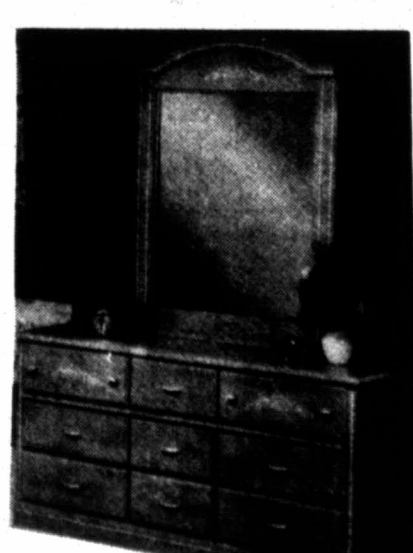
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Award-winning high school paper's hard-edge reporting rocks the boat

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The Register is recognized as one of the best high school newspapers in the nation, but it isn't receiving much praise from some school administrators, teachers and parents.

The student reporters have been focusing on hard news, including student drug use, and just won their second straight "Best of Show" honor from the National Scholastic Press Association and the Journalism Education Association.

But critics say the Register also sensationalizes some coverage and they would rather see stories about school activities, such as talent shows and plays.

Principal Gary Thompson was especially upset with the Register's front page Oct. 31: One story was about a football player who was allowed to play in spite of an injury that should have sidelined him; another, on a student's methamphetamine use, he described as almost a "how-to" article.

They don't feel it represents Central High School very well," said Thompson, principal for the 2,400-student school.

Thompson said he doesn't plan to censor the Register. However, he said the paper should better represent Central High School, whose alumni include Hollywood legend Henry Fonda, NFL Hall of Fame running back Gale Sayers, and billionaire investor Warren Buffett's four children.

The football story Oct. 31 said school administrators knew the player was ineligible because he was charged with assault, yet he played in five games. Thompson said his biggest concern was that the article included the minor's name.

Thompson-in-chief Matt Wynn said he used the article and said he used it because the student already knew who the player was and booted him at a pep assembly.

The Register's 17-member staff is criticized for neglecting

their other classes and putting too much time into the school's monthly full-color, broadsheet newspaper, which has included 40 pages and a 36-page news-magazine. Students worked on the paper at school until at least 11:30 p.m. on weeknights until Thompson recently imposed a 10 p.m. curfew.

Kirk Wynn, Matt's father, said his son may be tired, but the paper has revitalized his interest in school.

"It has a lot to do with finding that one teacher you really relate to," Kirk Wynn said.

That teacher is Matt Deabler, the school's journalism teacher and seven-year advisor. Deabler worked as a television intern and has degrees in print and broadcast journalism.

The newspaper's staff claims administrators are trying to discredit the publication and fear it could lead to censorship. Deabler does not want the paper to become a public relations tool for the school.

"That's not what journalism is," he said.

Deabler said he saw the problem coming. He had received memos questioning his decisions, and he knew some school board members were unhappy with past stories.

Matt Wynn sees it all as an attempt to alter the paper's content.

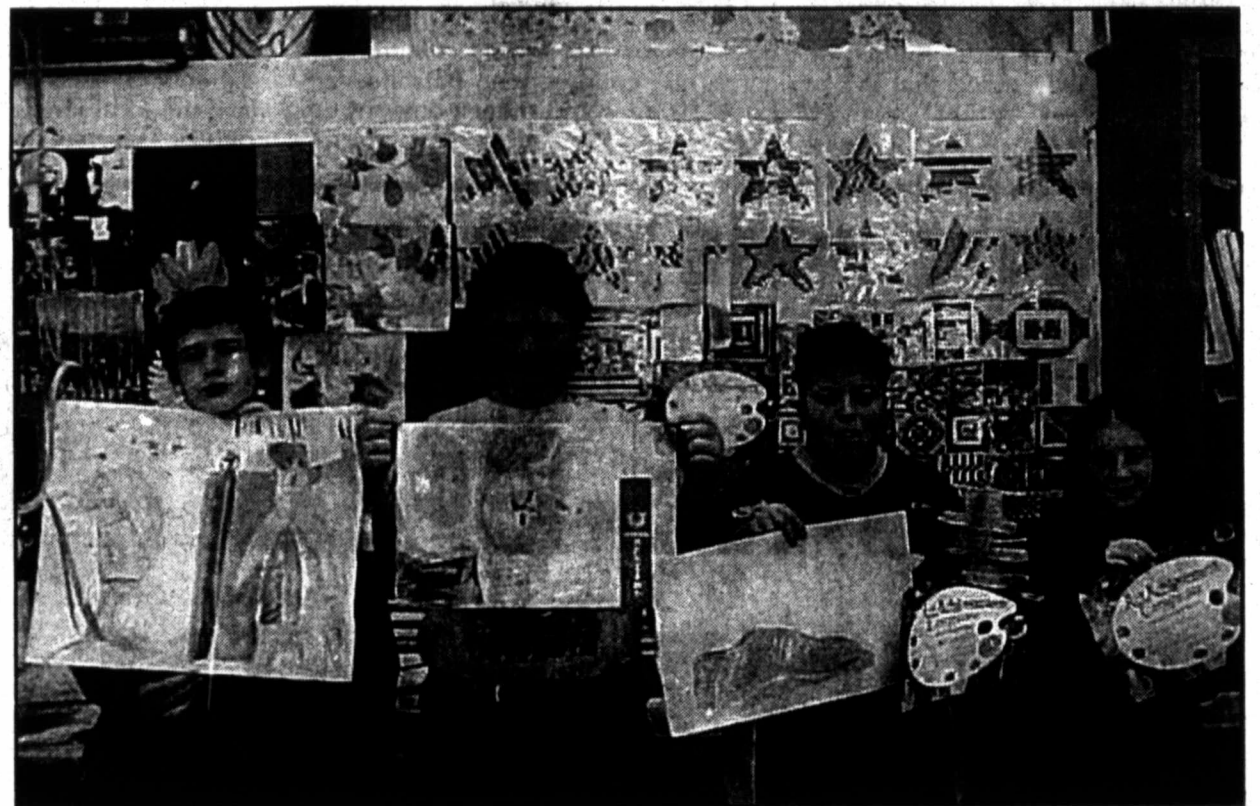
"It's not censorship in its purest form, which is tripping a lot of people up," he said.

He has been contacted by the Student Press Law Center in Arlington, Va., and may take legal action, depending on what happens.

Professional journalists and newspapers are rallying behind the paper. Made aware of the Register's accomplishments by Wynn and former Central students around the country, reporters from the Washington Post and Kansas City Star have written letters of support. Another has called from the Boston Globe.

The Society of Professional Journalists and university journalism departments also have written, expressing their concerns about the potential loss of what they see as an outstanding program.

Middle school art show



(Courtesy photos)

Students in Mr. Jordan's art classes at Pampa Middle School recently hosted an Art Show. Some of the winners included: (top photo) Veronica Vela, second place, Colored Acrylic Painting; Logan Howard, third place, Black and White Pencil Drawing; and Lisa Rodriguez, first place, Color Pencil Drawing. (Bottom) Thomas Poplin, special award, Colored Tempera Painting; and Michael Kane, four place, Color Tempera Painting and honorable mention, Map Pencil Drawing; Justin Mears, honorable mention, Toothpick Sculpture and Shoe Drawing; and Kenzie Clendennan, third place, Paper Mosaic Picture.

THE Pampa NEWS

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Still no justice for little JonBenet

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — Five years have passed since 6-year-old JonBenet Ramsey was found strangled in the basement of her family's home, and police have yet to charge anyone in the death of the child beauty queen.

It was early Dec. 26, 1996, when JonBenet's mother, Patsy Ramsey, called 911 and reported finding a ransom note on the back stairs of their upscale Boulder home. Hours later, John Ramsey found his daughter's body in the basement.

The chilling note demanded \$118,000 in exchange for JonBenet's life.

"Listen carefully!" it began. "We are a group of individuals that represent a small foreign faction. We respect your business

but not the country that it serves. At this time we have your daughter in our possession."

The five years that followed JonBenet's death have seen spin-off criminal cases and lawsuits, infighting among police and prosecutors and a grand jury investigation. But no indictments have followed, and authorities seem as far as ever from establishing who killed JonBenet.

Police say JonBenet's parents remain under suspicion. The Ramseys repeatedly have professed their innocence and maintained that an intruder killed JonBenet.

No break is likely without new forensic technology or new evidence, legal analyst Scott Robinson said.

"Short of something relatively astounding, JonBenet's death will never become the subject of a criminal trial," he said.

The Ramseys' attorney, Lin Wood, said charges probably will never be filed unless experienced new investigators take over.

The Ramseys declined to be interviewed, but told the Rocky Mountain News earlier this month they believe authorities have failed them and their daughter.

"Our strength comes from our innocence," John Ramsey said. "We cannot sit idly by for JonBenet's sake, for the sake of the next child this person will attack, if still alive. This is not right. Our government has failed, and our intention is to hold them accountable."

The Ramseys have since moved to Atlanta, but the curious still seek out their former home. Its new owner recently got the address changed and young evergreen trees on the front lawn help block the view.

JonBenet's grave near Atlanta also attracts visitors, many of whom leave small angels or stuffed animals.

Tensions among police officers, the Ramseys and the prosecutor flared almost immediately after JonBenet's body was found. They disagreed on conditions for interviews, and neither parent was formally interviewed by police until four months later.

Former District Attorney Alex Hunter was accused of hindering the police investigation, which he denied.

Hunter, former Police Chief Tom Koby and several of the detectives have since resigned or retired.

Today, four police investigators and one commander are still assigned to the case, but no one has worked it full-time for at least a year, said Police Chief Mark Beckner, who inherited the case in 1998 after Koby resigned.

"You can't turn the clock back," Beckner said. "We all wish it never happened, but we have to go forward and move on. You do the best you can."

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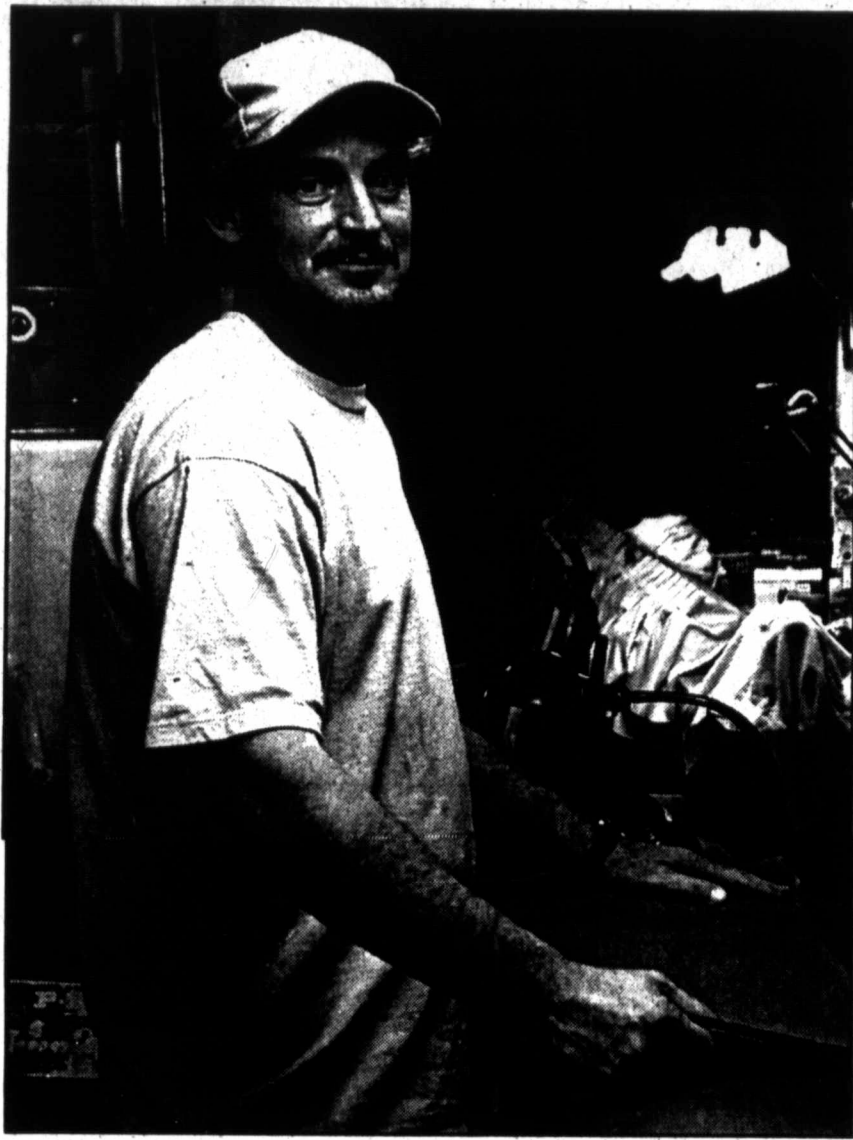
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~ Business Review ~

Vogue Cleaners cleaning up Pampa



(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)
James Gray, an employee at Vogue Cleaners located at 1524 N. Hobart, provides excellent care and treatment to the garments in the cleaning process at the local Vogue Cleaners. He has many years experience as do most other employees at the local cleaning establishment.

Vogue Cleaners offers many services to its customers that none of its competitors provide, said Dorothy Rosenbach who, along with her husband, Don, own the business.

Particular cleaning for particular people is the motto at the local business. "We try to do the best that can be done," she said.

Hand pressing shirts is one of the many services provided at the local business at 1524 N. Hobart. Dorothy said her staff is quite skilled in hand pressing, and the quality is much better than machine pressed.

The business also is the only cleaning establishment in town to use Smithsonian wedding boxes to preserve wedding dresses for their customers.

Smithsonian Institute Museum uses the special boxes to preserve historical garments and clothing of historical figures at their famous museum in Washington, D.C.

"The late President John F. Kennedy's suit is stored in one of the Smithsonian boxes," said Dorothy. "If those boxes are good enough to preserve his clothes, it ought to be good enough for the wedding dresses."

Special attention and care is given to the wedding dresses by the staff at the local business. "We are very proud of what we do with the wedding dresses," she said.

Dorothy also said the business will assist in restoring old wedding dresses. Recently, she and

her staff restored a 40-year-old wedding dress which had been worn by a woman and her daughter was wearing the same dress at her wedding.

She said a guest at the wedding held 40 years prior spilled a beverage on the dress that day and the dress was not cleaned until prior to the daughter's wedding.

Vogue Cleaners was able to get the stain out, she said. Dorothy spent many long hours beading the dress to cover the rust stains on the lace caused by the long period of time in the fabric.

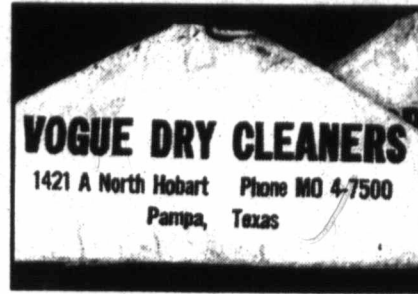
She and her staff also made alterations to the dress. "It was a lengthy process, but it was very worthwhile," she said. "It was a gorgeous dress."

Also, Dorothy said Vogue Cleaners is the only cleaners in town to provide petroleum cleaning to the garments and fabrics for its customers.

She said the odor caused by other chemical cleaning agents is not present at Vogue's Cleaners. "We believe in being kind to the clothes and to the bodies which wear them," she said.

"We send out our customers' leather products to be cleaned, just as do all the other cleaners in town," said Dorothy. "The quality of services provided to the leather-cleaners we use is excellent."

She also said the local business sends out western hats to be cleaned and blocked, and said the people provide outstanding quality of work.



(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)
These early-day Vogue hanger covers were discovered at an estate here recently.

The Rosenbach's have been in business in Pampa since June, 1983.

"We provide a drapery service to our customers in which we will take down the drapes, clean them and rehang them," she said. She said the local business also has a special drapery machine.

She also mends sweaters and provides beading to garments. "We try our ultimate for all our customers," she said. Quilts and

comforter cleaning are also a specialty of the business as well as antique linens.


The local business provides all kinds of window treatments for the home. Not only do they cleaning the window coverings and sell custom made drapes, but they sell blinds and all types of covering for the windows.

The cleaners also has a 24-hour drop box for the customers. Customers may simply drop the fabric in the box with their name and any instructions attached. Also, Vogue has a drive-up door for customer convenience.

"We try to do the best that can be done," she said.

Dorothy is very proud of her staff. "All employees are experience," she said. "And we have the best alteration lady in town. We try the ultimate for our customers."

Hours for the local business are 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m.-1p.m. on Saturday.



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Wednesday, December 26 Page 6

Operation Dear Abby Goes to the Internet

DEAR ABBY: Our country and our world are experiencing some trying times. In times such as this, Americans reach out to each other and rely upon our strength and traditions.

Many years ago, you started one such tradition — Operation Dear Abby — designed to bring a touch of home to our troops stationed overseas. This year, because of fears of mail-tampering, Operation Dear Abby was reluctantly suspended by the Department of Defense. When that happened, something, very traditional and American was taken away by terrorists.

While I understand the rationale behind the cancellation, we don't want Osama bin Laden and his terrorists to win — and some American airman, soldier, sailor or marine far from home to feel forgotten. Although we can't give terrorists access to our GIs by mail, it is still possible to send our holiday greetings to the troops.

Let's not give in! Let's continue the tradition of Operation Dear Abby, but in a different format. What we need is a network or Web site where greetings can be sent to a hub and directed to the troops. While it won't be the same as receiving a greeting card that can be posted in their locker, they'll still be getting the message that we support them, and that they're in our hearts and prayers.

As a senior officer in the armed forces, I know how much Operation Dear Abby means to our troops far from home. So, what do you say, Abby?

Dear Abby

Is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

DEAR BRIG. GEN. CALLENDER: I say, full speed ahead!

When I received the news that Operation Dear Abby had been suspended, I was bitterly disappointed that such a worthwhile program had become a casualty of war. Since its inception in 1967, it has been a valuable morale-booster for the military as well as Americans of every age here at home. And thousands of readers wasted no time in writing and e-mailing me to say how disappointed they were.

Well, I have wonderful news. Thanks to the Department of Defense, Operation Dear Abby is off the ropes and back in fighting form! Not only that, it has taken a giant leap forward onto the Internet.

OperationDearAbby.net is private and secure because it is powered by AnyServiceMember.Navy.mil and it serves all branches of our armed forces.

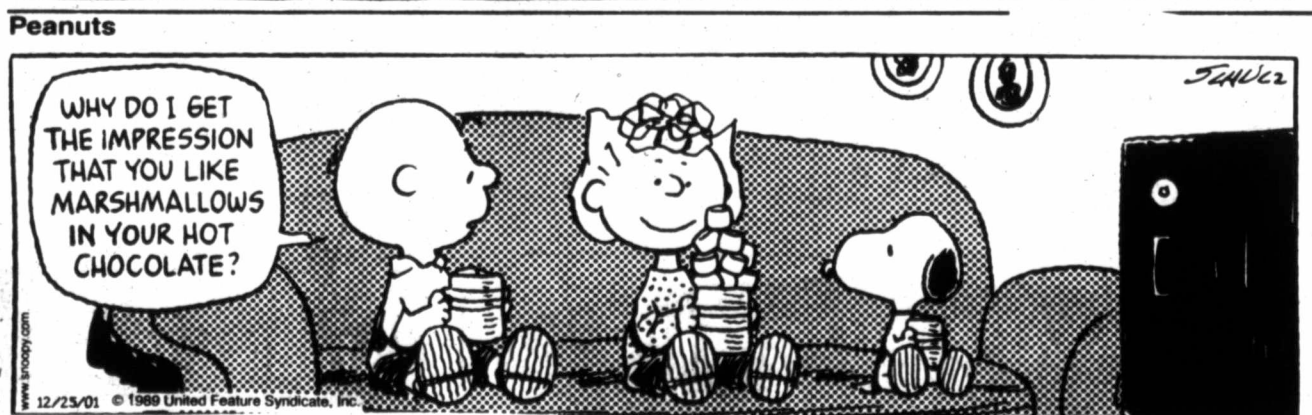
In the past, readers have complained because Operation Dear Abby was limited to Nov. 15 to Jan. 15. OperationDearAbby.net will be year-round. And more

wonderful news — all messages will be relayed to our troops via a secure military site, which means they'll be bug-free and virus-free in every sense of the word.

So, Dear Readers, if there's a message in your hearts you would like to convey to our heroic service members worldwide during this holiday season, now's the time. Christmas and New Year's are just around the corner. Go to your computer, type in www.OperationDearAbby.net and show our troops how much we support them. If you're not computer literate, ask a computer-savvy friend to help you send a message. This year, it's more important than ever to let our troops know they're appreciated and remembered.

Love, and Happy Holidays, JEANNE PHILLIPS a.k.a. ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

Pauline Phillips and her daughter Jeanne Phillips both share the pseudonym Abigail Van Buren. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- Jeweler's unit
- Dirties
- Playing marble
- "Be quiet!"
- Sentry's question
- Snaky fish
- Knight title
- roll
- Meeting
- Border
- Swindle
- Tag info
- Wall builder
- Was too fond
- Swear
- Towel inscription
- Jelly buy
- Frolics
- Baseball legend
- Mel
- Whopper
- Stolen
- Regardless of the weather
- Words to live by
- Coloration
- Farm animals
- Javelin

DOWN

- Sidewalk eateries
- Concur
- Train supporters
- Had a bite
- Stress
- Derision
- Rowboat need
- Expecting trouble
- Treat as a celebrity
- Furious
- Singer with the Belmonts
- Garbage boat
- Locks
- Middling
- Mediterranean island
- Hindu incarnations
- Raids
- Riots
- Locks
- Oafs
- German river
- Pacific island
- nation
- Take the wheel
- Born
- With it

Yesterday's answer

SCRAP SHOD
CHORE CAMEL
RISKS ALIBI
ALE TON NAN
MISTERSPOCK
TIRE RULE
BARBS CASED
ERIE PAN
CAPTAIN KIRK
AMI LET RAN
LANGE ATONE
MITER TINGE
COOT APSES



CROSSWORD

12-25

STUMPED?

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SPORTS

Pampa boxers compete at Amarillo Mavericks Club

PAMPA — The Youth Survival Boxing Club of Pampa was entered in an invitational tournament last weekend at the Mavericks Boxing Club.

Teams from Hereford, Lubbock, Odessa, Plainview and other clubs went against Amarillo's best box-

ers. Nikki Medley and Chris (Cookie) Perez represented Pampa in the tournament.

"Nikki was not matched because her opponent was 19 and was more experienced in the Open Class," said club founder J.R. Moreno. "Nikki wanted to

test her skills, but the coaches decided not to risk it. Although Nikki is a skillful boxer with a lot of ring experience, she's not quite ready to turn Open."

Perez, however, was able to display his ring experience. With six bouts to his credit, the 6-1 Perez went up against a much-taller Hereford boxer, who had fought 10 times.

In the opening round, Perez threw a few jabs, then followed up with a series of combinations, knocking his opponent down for the 8 count.

For the second time, Perez knocked his opponent against the ropes with another right cross to the face for the victory.

"Chris is a tall boxer with a very long reach and he's being coached by our new trainer, Mike Holliman. This guy is really doing a good job with these kids," Moreno said. "He has a lot of experience in boxing and training. His amateur record speaks for itself. Coach Michael

Chaney also works hard to get the kids in shape."

Holliman and Chaney are getting their boxers ready for some tough matches in January, Moreno pointed out.

"It's time once again for the kids to give it all they've got. Training and exercising, running every day, working out on the heavy bags, shadow boxing and hitting the speed bag," Moreno said.

Their next fight will be in the Lubbock Golden Gloves Tournament.

They will be going against the Lubbock Warriors, a West Texas team that has

been winning championships for decades.

"Our boxers, however, have been holding their own against Lubbock. Last February, they brought home seven boxing titles. They've also brought home several team trophies," Moreno said.

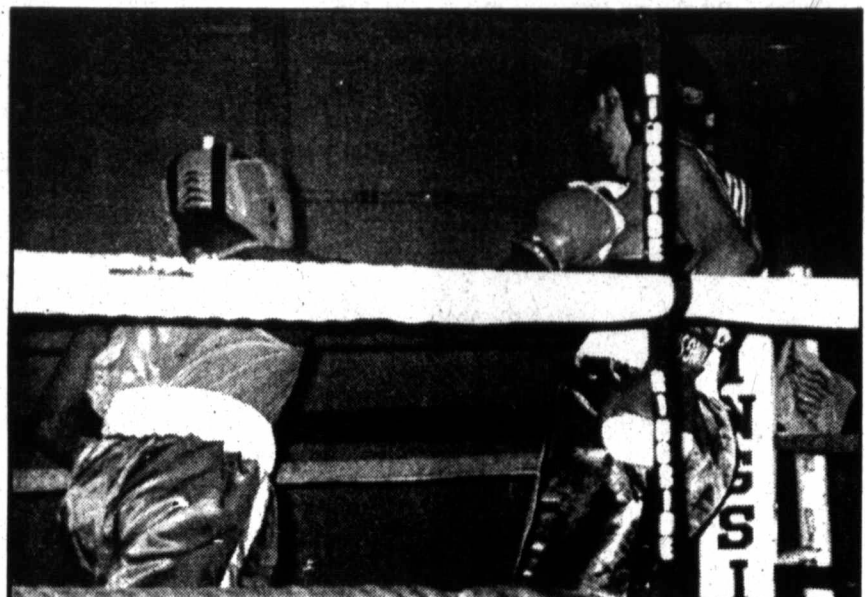
Perez, along with boxing champions Ivan Perez and Luis Aguilar, and the rest of the club boxers are preparing for tough matches against the Warriors.

"These kids are very proud to represent their home town against other boxing clubs," Moreno said. "It's time again to re-license our boxing club.

Without a license our kids cannot compete. Some of these kids will be looking for sponsors."

The USA Boxing license fee is \$35 for each boxer, which also includes their insurance. Pampa coaches will be making a trip to become certified for their coaching license. The Youth Survival Boxing Club will have five licensed, certified coaches to teach and train in Pampa.

"They have to pass a number of tests to keep the club open," Moreno added. "The club also to be registered with USA Boxing."



Chris "Cookie" Perez (left) lands a right cross to his Hereford opponent, knocking him against the ropes. Perez won all three rounds of the match at the Amarillo Mavericks Club.

Blue team wins All-Star Classic

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Forget the quarterbacks.

It was the defensive players who dictated play in the Blue's 28-10 victory at the Blue-Gray All-Star Classic on Tuesday.

Northwestern linebacker Kevin Bentley set up a touch-down with a first-quarter interception for the Blue and had 16 tackles. Algie Atkinson of Kansas returned a late fumble 11 yards for a score.

For the Gray, the star was Mississippi State defensive back Shawn Byrdsong, who batted down seven passes and had an interception.

On the other side of the ball, the short practice schedule clearly wasn't enough for the offenses to click.

"Offense takes a little time to get used to," said Gray running back Tyree Foreman of Virginia. "You've got to come together and have a little continuity."

"A week's not enough time to get that. Some teams work all year and don't get that."

The Gray squad turned the ball over five times, and none of the quarterbacks on either team reached 100 yards passing.

The defenses had no such trouble, with Bentley and Byrdsong earning MVP honors.

"We jelled as the week went on, almost as if we had been a team for a while here," Bentley said.

Byrdsong got a confidence boost early in his switch from safety to cornerback.

"The first play of the game they ran a hitch on me and I was on it," he said. "I knew right then it was going to be a pretty good day."

The Gray managed just one first down in its first three fourth-quarter possessions before Atkinson's score off Byrdsong's fumbled punt.

The Gray's opening drive of the final quarter ended with Foreman losing a fumble on fourth-and-2 from the Gray 42. The Blue's David Hills then missed a 30-yard field goal.

Of the four quarterbacks, only Alabama State's Darnell Kennedy (99 yards) and Virginia's John Welsh (91) approached 100 yards.

Penn State running backs Omar Easy and Eddie Drummond both had short touchdown runs, a nice finale to a topsy-turvy senior season. The Nittany Lions began 0-4 and missed a bowl game with a 5-6 record.

"This is a bowl game for me right here," said Easy, voted the Blue's outstanding offensive player with a team-high 49 yards rushing. "It was fun. We meshed as a team from all over the country and came together for a win."

Todd DeLamielleure of Hofstra shared defensive honors for the Blue with 10 tackles, one for a loss.

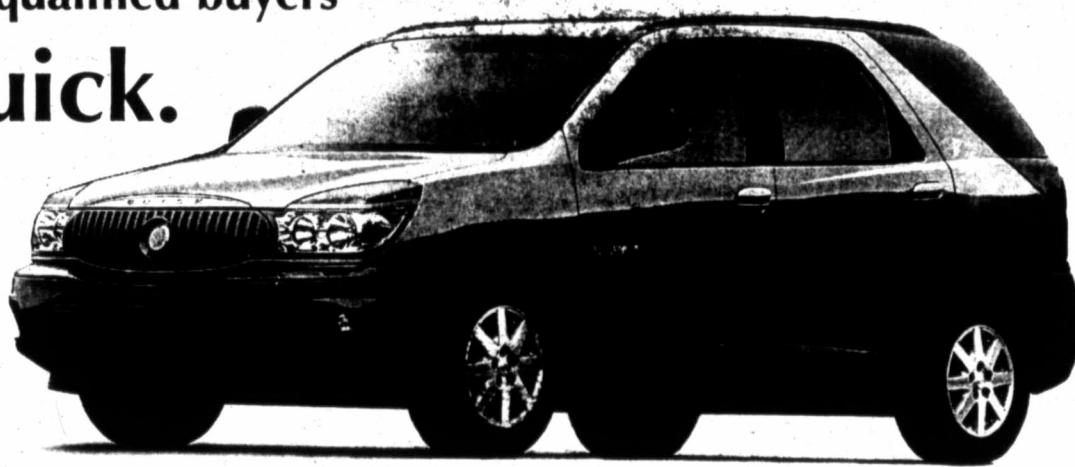
Foreman rushed for 56 yards to earn offensive honors for the Gray. Nate Morrow of Vanderbilt (15 tackles) was voted the team's top defensive player.

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KEEP AMERICA ROLLING

Fire damages Alamodome

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A three-alarm fire that caused an estimated \$100,000 damage at the Alamodome forced the San Antonio Spurs to move their practice Tuesday to Trinity University.

Alamodome officials said the Spurs' Wednesday night game with the Dallas Mavericks would not be affected by the fire nor will Saturday's Alamo Bowl between Texas Tech and Iowa.

Smoke poured from vents on the east side of the dome as fire officials searched for almost an hour for the source of the fire. It was traced to a storage room where the old HemisFair Arena basketball court floor was smoldering.

"They suspect this thing was smoldering awhile before it ignited into flame," fire spokesman Tommy Thompson said.

Harvey Martin: Too Nice became Too Mean

GRAPEVINE, Texas (AP) — When the Dallas Cowboys drafted Harvey Martin as a virtual unknown out of East Texas State University in 1973, he was a mild-mannered defensive end who used to help fallen foes to their feet.

Martin, who died Monday night of pancreatic cancer at 51, was in jeopardy of being cut during his rookie season, former teammate and road roommate-to-be Drew Pearson recalled Tuesday.

Pearson later learned how the 6-foot-5, 250-pound Martin altered his attitude after a meet-

ing with defensive coordinator Ernie Stautner.

"Ernie sat him down and told him, 'You're not going to make the team. You're too nice,'" Pearson said. "Harvey changed overnight. All of a sudden, 'Too Nice' became 'Too Mean.'"

Martin soon became notorious for his rough style. Without as much as flinching, he would smack unsuspecting quarterbacks with his forearm or step on downed offensive linemen. He also had a quick temper and bravado.

The week before the Cowboys played the Washington Redskins

on Dec. 16, 1979, Martin received a funeral wreath, purportedly sent by the Redskins. On it said, "Sympathy for an Impending Loss."

Days later, after the Cowboys won 35-34, Martin was still fuming. He marched into the Redskins' locker room and threw the wreath smack into the middle of their prayer huddle, yelling, "Take this back to Washington with you!"

Maureen Porter, spokeswoman for Baylor Health Care Center, said Martin died Monday night at Baylor Medical Center in Grapevine.

Martin's health deteriorated quickly in recent months, said Ed "Too Tall" Jones, the Cowboys' other defensive end in the Martin era.

"This is devastating to me," Jones said. "Less than a year ago, Harvey and I were making personal appearances together."

He led the Cowboys in sacks seven times, leading former Dallas coach Tom Landry to call Martin the team's best pass-rushing defensive end ever. Martin led in sacks from 1974-77, 1979-80 and 1982. He holds the Cowboys record for career sacks at 114.

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 Games of Dec. 29-30

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DEADLINE: 2 P.M. FRIDAY

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

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

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

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

* Matchup at www.usaonline.net/power

136 TOTAL POINTS

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State(zip) _____
 Day Phone() _____
 Night Phone() _____

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 polling 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

Thursday - December 27
Basketball

Pampa High Girls at the Ardmore Holiday Festival

Pampa High Boys at the Caprock Tournament in Lubbock

Local Activities Are Not Included In The Power Points Contest

Utah beats USC in Las Vegas Bowl

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Pete Carroll thought he had Southern California heading in the right direction at the end of his first season as coach.

Instead, the Trojans got knocked flat in the Las Vegas Bowl by Utah, which stayed on the successful run it started when Ron McBride arrived in Salt Lake City 12 years ago.

Adam Tate rushed for 103 yards and a touchdown, and Utah's defense limited USC to 1 yard rushing as the Utes won in Las Vegas for the second time in three years, beating the Trojans 10-6 Tuesday.

The Utes (8-4) outgained USC 358-151 and won with their defense, which embarrassed the Trojans (6-6) and snapped their four-game winning streak. USC came to Las Vegas expecting a big win against a third-place team from a midtier conference — but went home wondering what went wrong.

"I don't think they thought we were comparable to them," said McBride, who won for the third time in six bowl trips since 1990. "They didn't think we were in the same league. They were destroying teams in the last five weeks of the season ... but it's a funny game."

After scoring its only touchdown on the first possession of the second half, USC didn't get across the Utah 40 for the rest of the day as linebacker Sheldon Deckart and the Utes' defense, missing two starters, still dominated.

"The thing I feared the most was that they would come in here and run the football at us, hold the ball and use the clock up," Carroll said. "They were able to do that."

NFL glance

All Times EST

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-New England	10	5	0	.667	333	266
Miami	9	5	0	.643	289	269
N.Y. Jets	9	5	0	.643	275	259
Indianapolis	5	9	0	.357	367	434
Buffalo	2	12	0	.143	244	377

Central

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Pittsburgh	12	2	0	.857	301	179
Baltimore	9	5	0	.643	274	240
Tennessee	7	7	0	.500	277	324
Cleveland	6	8	0	.429	237	253
Jacksonville	6	8	0	.429	255	223
Cincinnati	4	10	0	.286	177	265

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Oakland	10	4	0	.714	360	280
Denver	7	7	0	.500	307	293
Seattle	7	7	0	.500	248	263
Kansas City	5	9	0	.357	272	297
San Diego	5	10	0	.333	310	296

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	9	5	0	.643	302	174
N.Y. Giants	7	7	0	.500	248	263
Arizona	6	8	0	.429	248	316
Washington	6	8	0	.429	196	276
Dallas	4	10	0	.286	209	302

Central

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Chicago	11	3	0	.786	281	190
x-Green Bay	10	4	0	.714	332	228
Tampa Bay	8	6	0	.571	289	253
Minnesota	5	9	0	.357	274	347
Detroit	1	13	0	.071	255	390

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-St. Louis	12	2	0	.857	430	243
x-San Francisco	11	3	0	.786	305	255
Atlanta	7	7	0	.500	264	325
New Orleans	7	7	0	.500	323	331
Carolina	1	13	0	.071	240	342

x-clinched playoff spot
 y-clinched division

Saturday's Games
 New England 20, Miami 13
 San Francisco 13, Philadelphia 3
 Tennessee 13, Oakland 10

Sunday's Games
 Atlanta 33, Buffalo 30
 Chicago 20, Washington 15
 N.Y. Giants 27, Seattle 24
 St. Louis 38, Carolina 32
 Pittsburgh 47, Detroit 14
 Baltimore 16, Cincinnati 0
 Kansas City 20, San Diego 17
 Tampa Bay 48, New Orleans 21
 Jacksonville 33, Minnesota 3
 Arizona 17, Dallas 10
 Green Bay 30, Cleveland 7
 N.Y. Jets 29, Indianapolis 28

Open: Denver

Saturday, Dec. 29
 Baltimore at Tampa Bay, 9 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 30
 Buffalo at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
 Atlanta at Miami, 1 p.m.
 Chicago at Detroit, 1 p.m.
 Arizona at Carolina, 1 p.m.
 San Francisco at Dallas, 1 p.m.
 Minnesota at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
 Cleveland at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
 Kansas City at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
 Indianapolis at St. Louis, 1 p.m.
 Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
 N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia, 4:05 p.m.
 Seattle at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.
 Oakland at Denver, 4:15 p.m.
 Washington at New Orleans, 8:30 p.m.
 Open: New England

New Orleans focuses on security for Mardi Gras celebrations

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — With the nation more aware than ever of its vulnerability to terrorism, this famously carefree city is going to great lengths to beef up security before the crowds arrive for Mardi Gras.

Ed Muniz, a councilman in suburban Jefferson Parish and the captain of Endymion — one of the biggest parade clubs in New Orleans — is confident that security measures will allow the city's celebrations to be a success.

"Everybody's vigilant, and watching, and if there's a problem then overnight things could change," Muniz says. "But if there's been no problems between now and the time of our parades, we'd expect crowds to be as big as ever."

The Carnival season, which ends with Mardi Gras on Feb. 12, turns much of New Orleans and numerous communities across Louisiana into giant public parties with streets mobbed with people in costume. This year, the Super Bowl will bring even

more people to New Orleans on Feb. 3, right in the middle of Carnival.

In a city dependent on tourism, officials are hoping increased visibility of police will ease the minds of those attending the events.

"Since Sept. 11, we've had to go back and review emergency plans not just for major events but overall," said Marlon Defillo, New Orleans deputy chief of police. "We've had to include other agencies that may not have been involved before, like the National Guard ... and we've had to include issues that may involve terrorism."

During the Super Bowl, the Louisiana Superdome will be fortified as never before. For the first time, the U.S. Secret Service is handling stadium security. A no-fly zone extending miles from the stadium will be in effect during the game.

On the days before and after the big game, the city's parade clubs, called krewes, will be taking to the streets with their costumes and floats.

Anna Mae Sciarrotta, owner of a formal wear shop, generally does big business during Mardi Gras, when the dozens of area clubs hold black-tie balls. But she senses some hesitation from this year's participants.

"People are asking how late they can come in to rent their tuxedos. They don't want to commit to spending the money until the last minute," Sciarrotta said. "I know some of the wives feel like they're afraid to ride — that something would happen during the parade."

Eleven krewes have had substantial cancellations since September for Mardi Gras, but mostly for logistical reasons. Those krewes had to reschedule their parades after the Super Bowl was pushed back one week, because of a delay in the NFL season prompted by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Muniz's parade was not affected by the Super Bowl change, but he anticipates that higher security will put an end to some Endymion traditions, such

as meeting the parade's celebrity guest — this time actor Jason Alexander — with a brass band at the airport.

"It really gets them in the mood, but I guess we may not be able to do that this year, with all the security at the airports," Muniz said.

Some of the Mardi Gras parades are also going patriotic this year to show the Big Easy's support for an uneasy nation.

Organizers of one of the parades — which features a turban-clad figure in its marquee float — changed the turban to now look like it is made from an American flag, and the figure will be wearing a red and white costume and holding American flags.

"He's going to be really patriotic this year," says Brian Kern, spokesman for Mardi Gras World, the leading float-building business in New Orleans. "Hopefully, that way, he won't get pelted too badly" by the beads and other trinkets that spectators catch during Carnival parades.

The Pampa News

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69 Misc.

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Horoscope

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Dec. 27, 2001:

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ***** You're fiery and full of spark. Finally, you can do "your-thing," whatever that might look like. Use your imagination when making plans. Express your feelings to a friend who really understands. Someone's perspective always proves to be helpful. Tonight: Visit with your pals.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ***** Your Expenses gain your attention. You might be playing games with your head and need to manage your funds differently. Ask for insight from someone who generally gives you good advice. Get some extra work done. You'll feel better. Tonight: It could be a late night.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ***** Express yourself through ideas and more spiritual actions. You might want to sign up for a mind or emotionally expanding workshop, making more of what is available to you. Through this growth, consider the impact it has on your work. Tonight: Whatever the Twins want.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ***** Listen to a partner and take his or her advice more seriously. Investigate or research a personal interest. You find more knowledge a great help in creating financial and emotional success. Carefully evaluate a change that involves a partnership. Tonight: Dinner for two.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ***** Encourage others to assume a more dominant attitude in your relationships. Being naturally extroverted, you easily make decisions. Join friends. Work on being a follower, even if it might be a bit difficult. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ***** Someone you already do a lot for seeks you out, asking you to pitch in again. You opt to speak your mind and share more than usual. Use your creativity at work and in your home life. Others look to you for suggestions. Take a strong stand. Tonight: Oct late.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ***** Take an overview when people get a bit crazy. A child or a loved one adds to your creativity. You're full of ideas. Spill them out and let others work with them as well. A key friendship fills you with inspiration. This person often serves as a muse. Tonight: Go with something different.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ***** Carefully review a situation that involves a loved one or family member. You might not be seeing this person clearly, or you might not be getting the whole story. Let a partner reveal what he or she knows. Together you'll figure this out. Tonight: Go along with someone's wishes.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** Listen to what is happening within someone as he or she spills the beans. You might be delighted by what is revealed. It might confirm what you have been thinking. Your sixth sense comes through for you. Learn to follow your instincts more often. Tonight: Accept an invitation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ***** Your ability to get the job done only adds to your popularity. You see your ventures far differently than others see them. Allow more creativity to spin out, especially when brainstorming with someone about a work or money matter. Even you could be amazed! Tonight: Indulge in a stress buster.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***** You're full of energy and light. Others find you to be unusually imaginative and creative, ready to try new ideas. In fact, your openness could create a lot of hassles for you, if for no one else. Invite a couple of friends along on your adventures. Tonight: Only where the action is!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ***** Stay in if you want. You don't need to respond to other situations or work. You probably need some time alone. Think about your needs first then be concerned with family. You might need some daydream time. Do just that. Tonight: Be a couch potato.

BORN TODAY

Astronomer Johannes Kepler (1571), German-American actress Marlene Dietrich (1901), French chemist Louis Pasteur (1822)

India gearing up for war

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — India said its missiles were "in position," air force jets flew near the Pakistan border every few minutes and frontier forces exchanged gunfire Wednesday as the two nuclear-armed nations prepared for a war both say they don't want.

India's Cabinet Committee on Security was meeting Wednesday evening to discuss further diplomatic pressure on Pakistan, including a possible ban on Pakistan airline flights, abrogation of a water treaty, downgrading of embassies, and cancellation of Pakistan's "most favored nation" trading status.

"Missile systems are in position," Defense Minister George Fernandes told Press Trust of India. India's arsenal includes medium-range Russian missiles and the Indian-made Prithvi I, which can be fired from a mobile launcher and has a range of 93 miles.

Pakistan and Indian news media reported that Pakistani missiles — including medium-range Chinese-made weapons — had also been put on alert, while troops on both sides moved toward the border.

Both sides' missile systems can be converted to deliver nuclear warheads, but it is not clear whether such steps have been taken.

There are daily exchanges of gunfire between the troops, beginning with smaller weapons and escalating into mortar fire into bunkers.

Tensions have increased since a Dec. 13 suicide attack on Parliament that India blames on Pakistan-based militants. India says Pakistan's spy agency sponsored the attack with the help of two Islamic militant groups — the Lashkar-e-Tayyaba and Jaish-e-Mohammed — which are battling to end Indian rule in Kashmir.

Pakistan froze the assets of both groups and briefly detained the leader of Jaish-e-Mohammed on Tuesday, but New Delhi said this falls far short of its demand that the groups' activities be halted and their leaders arrested and handed over to India.

"We do not want war, but war is being thrust on us and we will have to face it," Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee said at a public address at his residence on Tuesday, celebrating his 77th birthday.

India and Pakistan have fought three wars since their violent division at independence from Britain in 1947. Two of the wars have been over Kashmir, the mostly Muslim Himalayan region that is divided between them. Both claim all of it.

Pakistan's military leader, President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, assured his country on Tuesday that the armed forces "are fully prepared and capable of defeating all challenges."

India recalled its ambassador from Islamabad and announced plans to shut down train and bus service between the two countries on Jan. 1, saying the diplomatic offensive is intended to pressure Musharraf to take strong action against the guerrillas.

Islamic militants have carried out strikes in the Indian part of the Kashmir region since 1989, fighting for independence or merger with Pakistan in an insurgency that human rights groups say has killed more than 60,000 people. India says the militants have also struck elsewhere, including at Parliament, where 14 people, including five attackers, were killed.

Musharraf condemned the Parliament attack, but said he would take no action without proof against the militants, whom he calls "freedom fighters." He denies that his government aids or has any control over them.

India is also lobbying for international pressure on Pakistan, comparing the militants with the terrorist network that the U.S.-led coalition is fighting in Afghanistan.

Soldiers traveled to the border state of Rajasthan by train Wednesday and air force jets flew over the border town of Jaisalmer every seven minutes.

However, despite anti-aircraft batteries posted at airports and the army turning schools into bunkers, there were signs that war was not the first priority.

"I don't think anyone in India wants war and I don't think anyone in the subcontinent wants war," former Indian prime minister I.K. Gujral said on independent Star News television Wednesday.

Ancient Buddhist treasures emerge from troubled Muslim Central Asia

TERMEZ, Uzbekistan (AP) — Surrounded by war, political volatility and hostile governments, archaeologists are hemmed in as they try to uncover one of Buddhism's richest civilizations from the forbidding landscape of Central Asia.

In the 1st to 7th centuries, the Kushan Buddhist empire was a crucial East-West crossroads, in a land then known as Bactria. Now it spreads across at least four countries: Afghanistan and the former Soviet republics of Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

No major foreign archaeological team has ventured into Afghanistan for more than 20 years because of war, and the Taliban infuriated experts around the world earlier this year by destroying two towering statues of Buddha hewn from a cliff-face near Bamiyan in the 3rd and 5th centuries.

Even with the U.S.-led rout of the Taliban, continued banditry means it could be a long time before serious research resumes in Afghanistan. Tajikistan's chronic instability and Turkmenistan's restrictive regime also keep researchers away.

That leaves scholars confined for now to the portion lying in Uzbekistan, also a largely Muslim state but one with a secular government keen to distance itself from Islamic intolerance.

"While the Taliban were destroying their heritage, the Uzbeks are conserving theirs," said Barry Lane, director of the Uzbek office of UNESCO, the U.N. cultural heritage agency.

Long before Islam arrived in Central Asia, hundreds of Buddhist monks once prayed in solitary mud brick chambers built into barren slopes. On festival days, columned temples lined with frescoes of crimson-robed hunters spilled with spectators.

Nearly 2,000 years later, Uzbek border guards pace the blistered earth, past spiked and electrified fences and huge, scoop-like radar complexes aimed at Afghanistan, just across the Amu Darya River.

Where they can do their work safely, archaeologists from Japan, France and elsewhere are burrow-

ing deeply into the clay, unearthing Buddha statues covered over by remnants of centuries of Muslim life.

Today's borders make the work "awkward and incomplete," says Tukhtash Annayev, a prominent historian and archaeologist in the Uzbek river port of Termez.

Termez is a stagnant, medium-sized city, but it was the Buddhist center of Central Asia during the Kushan empire's heyday. Historians say it played a key role in exporting Buddhism to Tibet and parts of China.

Many Uzbeks would be surprised to hear that.

On Muslim holidays, women in headscarves and men with long gray beards recite prayers outside dusty cave entrances at the Hakim at-Termizi mausoleum complex near Termez, a shrine to a 9th century Muslim ruler. Asked why, one woman replies simply, "It's our holy place."

Yet the caves predate Uzbekistan's 1,200-year Islamic history and are believed to have served as quarters for Kushan Buddhist monks.

As Termez prepares to celebrate its 2,500th birthday, schools are starting to teach pupils about the region's pre-Muslim history, including its Buddhist era and the preceding centuries when it was populated by Alexander the Great's followers.

The Museum of the History of the Uzbek People in the capital, Tashkent, boasts a display of Greek coins and column capitals next to Buddhist frescoes and statues.

In Tajikistan, civil war with Islamic extremists during much of the 1990s halted nearly all archaeological digs.

Restoration is still under way on a 42-foot-long, supine Buddha statue found in the 1960s. The "Buddha in Nirvana" statue, of barklike clay, rests in the capital's yet-to-open Museum of Antiquities, near chunks of carved limestone awaiting the money and skilled experts needed to make them exhibit-ready.

Fox hunters, protestors at odds in Britain

LONDON (AP) — Thousands of scarlet-clad riders fanned out across the British countryside Wednesday in traditional post-Christmas fox hunts — while protesters gathered to demand the government ban the sport.

Some 30 hunts were scheduled the day after Christmas, traditionally the busiest date in the fox-hunting calendar. More than 150 riders and 2,000 foot followers were expected at Prince Charles's favorite hunt, the Beaufort Hunt in Badminton, western England.

Fox hunting was suspended in February because of the foot-and-mouth epidemic, but several hunts were granted licenses to resume on Dec. 17.

Anti-hunting groups said they would protest across the country. Past protests have been marked by

sabotage and egg-throwing common tactics.

Several hunts decided not to gather in their traditional town-center meeting places Wednesday.

"The hunters are running scared," said Douglas Batchelor, chief executive of the League Against Cruel Sports.

Hunters at Maldon in eastern England said they had decided to meet on private land rather than in town, but said the change was motivated by precautions against foot-and-mouth disease rather than by protesters.

"Meeting in somewhere like a gated field will make it much simpler to ensure that everyone is properly disinfected — that's the reason for the change," said a spokeswoman for the pro-hunting Countryside Alliance.

Hunting is a highly emotive issue for Britain, an animal-loving country that also cherishes its traditions. While some people delight in the sight and sound of horsemen galloping after a pack of hounds, many are revolted by the idea of wild animals being torn apart by dogs.

Opinion polls have consistently indicated that a majority of Britons oppose using dogs to hunt down and kill foxes.

But many rural Britons say city-dwellers don't understand the need to control the fox population, and argue that a ban would eliminate thousands of jobs in the countryside.

Prime Minister Tony Blair's Labor Party government has long promised to ban hunting with hounds, but legislation has met opposition in the upper chamber of Parliament, the House of Lords.

Centennial diorama contest



(Courtesy photo)

Austin Elementary School's award-winning dioramas, marking Gray County's Centennial in 2002, are currently on display downtown in the former Pampa Hardware Store window, 120 N. Cuyler. Cash prizes were awarded by the Gray County Centennial Committee. Above: (front row, left-right) fourth grade winners Mitchell Killgo, first, Lauren Roberts, second, and Kade Wilson, third; Kay Crouch, Artist in Residence, and teachers Brenda Stevens, Lori Wilson and Susan Slaybaugh. Also displayed is an old-fashioned tumbleweed Christmas tree.

Report: Death toll in Indonesia train crash may reach 54

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Rescuers have pulled 30 bodies from the debris left by a collision of two overcrowded trains in Indonesia, but media reports Wednesday said that as many as 54 people may have died.

The driver of one of the trains apparently fell asleep and ran a red light Tuesday, plowing into a train standing in the station in Brebes, in central Java, about 160 miles east of Jakarta, officials said. At least 47 injured people were being treated in local hospitals.

The Jakarta Post and other news media put the death toll at 54, even though rescuers have reported finding only 30 bodies so far. Rescuers were still trying to cut into the steel carriages to find more people inside.

The accident was the latest in a series on the

island nation's underfunded and overcrowded railways. It has led to calls for the minister of transport and senior officials at the state-run railways to step down. Officials have launched an investigation into the cause of the accident.

As many as 1,200 passengers were on each train. Two other train accidents also happened Tuesday, killing three and injuring 45 in East Java province.

Indonesia is in the midst of its busiest travel time, with people gathering in their home towns for Christmas and for Islamic holidays in the mostly Muslim country.

At least 170 people have been killed in 13 crashes this year on Indonesia's railways. In September, 40 passengers died not far from the site of Tuesday's collision.

Electric car winner



(Pampa News photo by ReDonn Woods)

Ray Thornton, right, recently won a Kevin Hardwick Number 29 electric car courtesy of Culberson Stowers. The car was presented by Chris Pope, left.

Dutch doing away with guilder

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands (AP) — After spending 776 years together it should be hard to say goodbye. But the down-to-earth Dutch expect the death of the guilder to be quick and unannounced.

The nation of 16 million will be the first to forever empty its wallets of the familiar coins and notes and replace them with euros. The changeover begins Jan. 1, and the government has opted for a four-week blitz transition — the swiftest among the 12 countries embracing the historic currency switch.

"We're capable of doing it faster than any other member states, so we will," said Finance Ministry spokesman Raymond Salet. "We are the only country that will do it in a month."

While many European shops and businesses will continue to accept national currencies alongside the euro for up to two months, the guilder will become defunct on Jan. 28. After that, only banks will take in old bills and change.

Ireland will be next, losing its

pound for good on Feb. 9. Virtually all other European countries will continue to accept the old currencies until the end of February.

To speed things along, the Dutch government is giving everyone aged 6 and over a free starter kit of the eight new coins, which add up to 3.88 euros, worth about 3.50.

The new currency is identical in all 12 countries, but each government gets to put a symbol of its choice on one side of the coins. In the Netherlands' case, it's Queen Beatrix.

Henny Hardy, a 76-year-old Amsterdam woman, was among the first to pick up her set at a post office this month, and smiled as she studied the glistening new coins, embossed with the face of her queen.

"We didn't have any say in the matter, but it's really very practical," she said.

The starter kits can also be bought, and millions of euros are already in circulation, but the real work still lies ahead and promises to be a logistical feat.

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